



CONNECT  
PUERTO RICO®

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## Connect Puerto Rico Releases New Broadband Availability Figures

***Availability of fixed wireless broadband at the basic speed tier  
increased in Puerto Rico by over 14 percent***

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**San Juan, PR** – New research unveiled today by Connect Puerto Rico shows that the number of households in Puerto Rico with access to fixed wireless broadband has increased by 14.5 percent since October 2012.

“Though advances in broadband access are being made, 145,000 households remain without broadband to empower them with the life-changing benefits of this technology,” said Chris Pedersen, director of program outreach for Connect Puerto Rico. “The [Puerto Rico Broadband Strategic Plan](#) represents a comprehensive, multi-sector effort that sets forth goals to close this gap.”

Nonprofit Connect Puerto Rico has been working since 2009 to evaluate broadband access, adoption, and use in Puerto Rico and promote the economic, educational, health, safety, and quality of life benefits derived from this increasingly needed technology.

### ***Among the key findings in this report:***

- 56.54% of Puerto Rico’s households now have access to fixed wireless broadband availability of at least 768 Kbps download/200 Kbps upload. That is an increase of 14.5% from October 2012

- Broadband at the basic 768 Kbps download/200 Kbps upload tier is available to 89.66% of Puerto Rico households, up from 85.75% last October (excludes mobile and satellite services)
- 89.42% of Puerto Rico households now have access to fixed broadband at advertised speeds of 3 Mbps download/768 Kbps upload, which is an increase from 84.97% one year ago (excludes mobile and satellite services)

The Puerto Rico fixed broadband access network continues to grow. During the second half of 2012, broadband service was made available for the first time to 53,759 homes across Puerto Rico, 4% of all households (excluding mobile and satellite services).

In total, by December 2012, 89.42% of households had fixed broadband available at 3 Mbps download /768 Kbps upload speeds. Across Puerto Rico 145,000 homes (10%) still have no access to home fixed broadband service at any speeds (excluding mobile and satellite services).

Adoption rates in Puerto Rico continue to lag behind the US mainland. In 2012, only 35% of households across the island subscribed to fixed broadband service, compared to 70% of households average across the mainland.

Last year, Connect Puerto Rico released an innovative new broadband mapping tool called [My ConnectView™](#), offering unmatched views of Puerto Rico's technology landscape. Residents and businesses are encouraged to use the interactive map to find area providers and help validate the data. To report that broadband is not available in a given area, consumers can fill out a [broadband inquiry](#).

Connect Puerto Rico's research was conducted as part of the State Broadband Initiative grant program, funded by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The data were gathered in accordance with the requirements of the Notice of Funds Availability and subsequent clarifications set forth by the NTIA.

The process begins by contacting all known providers in Puerto Rico and providing information about the broadband mapping project. Information on broadband service areas is collected from each provider through voluntary participation and is subject to confidentiality protections. The data is then independently verified through engineering studies, site visits, propagation models, and consumer feedback. This data is critical for effective federal, state, and local planning initiatives to ultimately advance the universal use of broadband. More information about the broadband mapping process is provided in the [Broadband Mapping FAQ](#).

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**About Connect Puerto Rico:** Connect Puerto Rico was commissioned by the Puerto Rico Office of the Chief Information Officer to work with each of the commonwealth's broadband providers to create detailed maps of broadband coverage and to assess the current state of broadband adoption, community-by-community, across Puerto Rico. Connect Puerto Rico will continue to develop and update the broadband data over time, ensuring that territory policymakers and citizens alike are equipped with this important information. Connect Puerto Rico's efforts are funded by the United State Department of Commerce's State Broadband Initiative grant program through the National

Telecommunications and Information Administration.

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