

Rural Broadband

Solutions-Oriented, Community-Based

Iowa Communications Alliance Fact Sheet – By the Numbers

Rural Iowa Broadband Providers: Laying the Groundwork for Innovation in Rural Iowa

For more than 60 years, rural telecommunications providers have gone above and beyond to build the infrastructure that allows our country's most rural markets to access the same technologies found in our nation's largest cities, such as high-speed Internet, video and voice services. Iowa Communications Alliance members are delivering services that make rural markets vibrant places to live, work, raise a family and remain competitive with technological innovation.

- The Alliance's membership is made up of nearly **130** independent telecommunications and broadband providers.
- Alliance members serve customers in the rural populations of **97 counties** with headquarters in **65 counties**.

Rural Iowa Broadband Providers: Helping Move Rural Iowa Forward

Rural broadband providers have been key contributors to Iowa communities for decades. These markets rely on us not only to meet today's demand for modern telecommunications technology but to plan for the future so that rural communities are not left behind. Many jobs in the Iowa telecommunications industry require a high level of skill and expertise.

- According to a Wichita State University analysis, the average annual wage of an Iowa telecom company employee was nearly **\$54,000** or **113%** of the average median wage of Iowa counties.
- There are only **14 counties** (mostly urban) in Iowa with a median wage above the average annual telecom employee wage.
- For every telecom job in Iowa, the indirect/induced jobs supported in the community is 1:1.05. That is, **10 telecom jobs** will have a ripple effect on an additional 10.5 jobs in the local economy or a total of **20.5 jobs**.
- Alliance members are active in their communities with **97%** of them donating money to community programs with **89%** of them donating volunteer hours to charitable programs and events.

Rural Iowa Broadband Providers: Advancing the Promise & Opportunity of Modern Technology

With decades of leadership driving progress and growth in rural markets long ago left behind by the large telecommunications companies, we are leading the way to ensure that educational environments and small-town markets are growing at the same pace as modern technology. Without Alliance members, many local businesses, civic institutions, schools and libraries would not have access to broadband services that are heavily relied upon in rural communities.

- In addition broadband and voice services, more than **75%** of Alliance members offer video services to their customers, including IP-based television services and traditional cable TV, and **50%** provide wireless communications service.