

WORST CONNECTED CITIES 2016

Source: 2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table B28002

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Using data from the 2016 American Community Survey (ACS) released in September 2017 by the U.S. Census Bureau, NDIA ranked all 185 U.S. cities with more than 50,000 households by the total percentage of each city's households lacking fixed broadband internet subscriptions. Note, this data is not an indication of availability of broadband service but rather subscription of home broadband service.

The term "Fixed broadband Internet" as used by the Census includes wireline broadband technologies (cable Internet, DSL, fiber to the premises) as well as satellite and "fixed wireless" technologies. It does not include 3G and 4G mobile service such as one purchases for a smartphone, or non-broadband connections like dial-up modems.

Data caps are the primary reason to assess subscription rates of fixed home broadband service as compared to mobile service.

Worst-Connected Rank	City, State	Total households	Number of households without fixed broadband	Percent of households without fixed broadband
1	Brownsville, TX	50,289	33,711	67.03%
2	Detroit, MI	259,295	147,067	56.72%
3	Hialeah, FL	75,222	42,258	56.18%
4	Shreveport, LA	75,509	38,200	50.59%
5	Memphis, TN	256,973	126,428	49.20%
6	Cleveland, OH	168,306	81,757	48.58%
7	Laredo, TX	69,849	33,077	47.36%
8	Miami, FL	172,748	81,424	47.13%
9	Jackson, MS	64,929	30,351	46.74%
10	Topeka, KS	51,471	23,775	46.19%
11	Newark, NJ	99,576	45,896	46.09%
12	Syracuse, NY	56,295	25,571	45.42%
13	Mobile, AL	79,188	35,906	45.34%
14	Chattanooga, TN	72,349	32,073	44.33%
15	Dayton, OH	58,722	25,988	44.26%
16	Birmingham, AL	90,117	39,707	44.06%
17	Springfield, MO	74,126	32,499	43.84%
18	Akron, OH	83,071	35,736	43.02%
19	Rochester, NY	84,688	36,364	42.94%
20	Dallas, TX	514,588	215,419	41.86%
21	Buffalo, NY	106,139	44,426	41.86%
22	San Bernardino, CA	57,920	24,224	41.82%
23	Paradise, NV	90,237	37,545	41.61%
24	New Orleans, LA	154,355	64,113	41.54%
25	Milwaukee, WI	228,283	94,579	41.43%