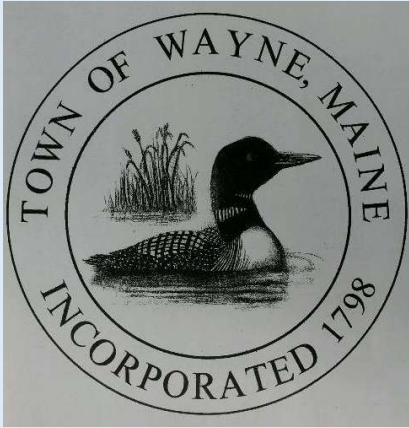


Improving Internet Access in Wayne







Why improve internet access?

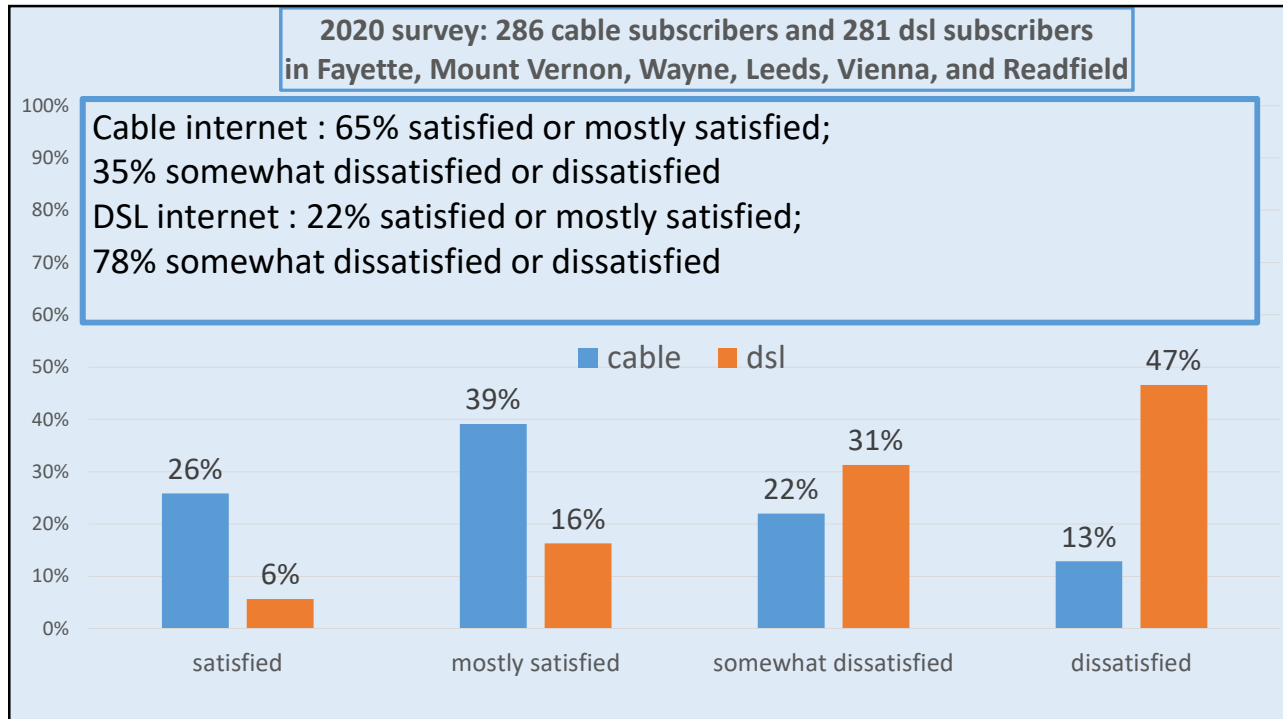
- Help students get an education.
- Enable residents to work from home.
- Help all access information and services.
- Reduce isolation by connecting with family and friends, and accessing health and other supports.
- Increase employment and encourage business development.
- Encourage our young people to stay or return to our communities.



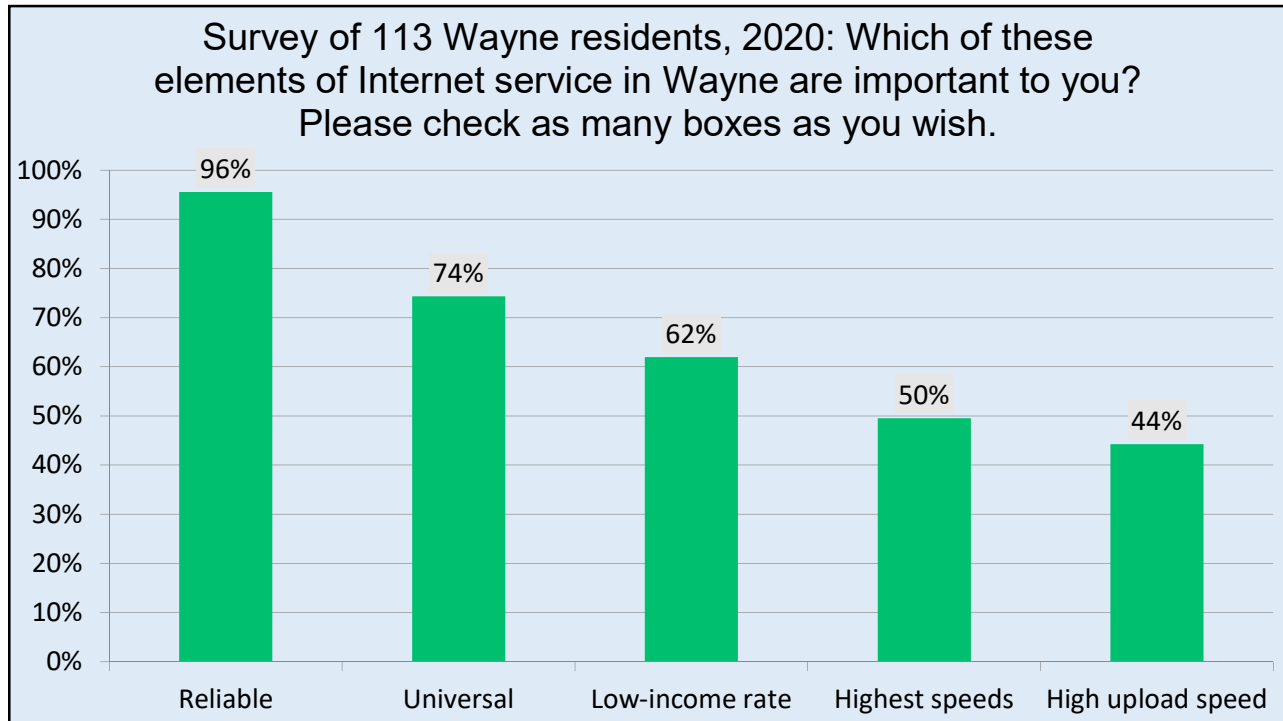
In the words of Wayne residents

- *Not available to everyone. Our road just recently got DSL, but it's slow, and not available to everyone. It's 2020 and with COVID going on everyone needs to have access to it.*
- *It buffers too much and kicks you off. This is critical when taking online college classes.*
- *I end up using my hotspot because of how slow and bad the internet service is here during the summer when a lot of people are here. It makes it hard to work.*
- *Just like electricity and phones, Internet access is a necessary utility. Everything I do needs an Internet connection.....working from home during the pandemic, tv, news, movies, weather, Telehealth appointments, communicating with family, etc.*

Type of internet service	Advantages	Disadvantages
Wireless (including cell phone, satellite) 	No need for network of wires or fiber. Available everywhere the wireless signal reaches.	Low speed. Affected by weather and location. Expensive. Unreliable at present.
DSL (phone line) 	Available in many places not served by cable internet.	Speeds can be slow based on location and distance from facilities. Unreliable for most.
Cable internet 	Meets FCC broadband standard. Relatively fast download (TO user) speeds. Relatively reliable.	Speeds can slow if surrounding homes are using it. Relatively low upload (FROM user) speeds. Not available in many locations in our towns.
Fiber to the home 	Exceeds all current speed standards. High download and upload speeds. Has capacity for future uses. Speeds do not depend on use by surrounding homes.	Not presently available in our area. Will require some kind of public private partnership to build out a network that serves all.



Approximately 75% of homes in Wayne are on roads where Cable internet is available. Some of those homes are not served because of the high cost of bringing service up driveways. Homes on other roads have access to lower-speed, less reliable DSL internet, or no internet service at all.



What are our options?

- Do nothing. Accept inequality of opportunity in town.
- Negotiate with our cable company or phone company to extend reliable high speed service (broadband) throughout the town.
- Find another internet provider who will build a network and serve unserved parts of town.
- Build a network that serves our entire town (possibly with other area towns) and contract with a provider for internet service and system maintenance.

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