



A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the [Iowa Communications Network](#)
Weekly Update: January 27, 2022

New Internet2 Backbone Uses a Range of New Technologies

Internet2 has finished the transition of its research and education network traffic to the fifth-generation backbone that interconnects with 37 state and regional networks, serving every state in the country.

Source: Telecompetitor



ICN is Iowa's only authorized anchor giving exclusive access to Internet2 services and research facilities for our education users.

Iowa Related

[Broadband dashboard launches to help providers, governments, find innovative internet solutions](#)

The dashboard is a series of maps that allow governments and providers to align in new and innovative ways to find solutions for a lack of high-speed internet presence in the region.

Source: Business Record

[Fort Dodge Fiber debuts](#)

The new municipal broadband utility will be capable of bringing fiber optic cable to every address in the city.

Source: Fort Dodge Messenger

Sector Related

Government

[Treasury Department Rescue Plan Act Rules Improve Broadband Funding](#)

Treasury released updated guidance in the form of a Q&A document to explain how local governments would be able to build and partner for needed networks.

Source: Broadband Breakfast

[How States Are Using Pandemic Relief Funds to Boost Broadband Access](#)

As of November, legislatures in nearly half of the states had appropriated ARPA money for infrastructure grants to ensure that broadband services reach unserved and underserved areas.

Source: Pew Trusts

Healthcare

[Getting Telehealth Where It's Needed When All Hell Breaks Loose](#)

Expanding broadband and health care services is also essential for helping communities during and

after tornadoes and other natural disasters.

Source: Government Technology

[Why telehealth is primed to gain even more momentum in 2022 and beyond](#)

Recent study highlighting how virtual care can cut healthcare costs.

Source: eMarketer

Education

[Report on School Connectivity for E-Rate Funding Year 2021](#)

Findings on the nation's progress toward meeting the FCC bandwidth goal of 1 Mbps/student.

Source: Benton Institute

Public Safety

[2022 Will Bring New Cyber Threats. Are Police Departments Ready?](#)

Police departments across the country suffered a slew of damaging ransomware attacks in 2021.

What should law enforcement agencies really be concerned with in 2022?

Source: Governing

Cybersecurity

[5 Ways to Help Employees Be Privacy Aware](#)

Use this tip sheet for ideas to promote awareness about the importance of respecting privacy, safeguarding data and enabling trust throughout the workplace.

Source: National Cybersecurity Alliance

[National Science Foundation Awards \\$29 Million In New Cybersecurity Scholarships](#)

In exchange for receiving a scholarship, students will agree to work in cybersecurity jobs for federal, state, local or tribal governments after their graduation.

Source: Forbes

Digital Divide

[How a Best Buy Teen Tech Center in South Memphis is working to 'bridge the digital divide'](#)

A place for middle and high school students to get hands-on experience to explore their interests in programming, photography, filmmaking, music production and recording, and fashion and accessory design.

Source: The Commercial Appeal

The Iowa Communications Network is a state-of-the-art fiber optic network providing high-speed Internet, data, voice, security, and consulting services to Iowa's healthcare, education, government, and public safety sectors.