



Broadband Data Collection

Bulk Availability Challenge Quick-Start Guide

Step 1: Download the Fixed Availability Data Reported on the FCC's National Broadband Map

Entities that wish to file bulk fixed availability challenges must first download the fixed broadband availability data reported on the National Broadband Map. Visit www.BroadbandMap.gov, click on "Download" and select the state, technology, and data as-of date you wish to download. A Comma Separated Value (CSV) file will download. You can also access the data via an API (see the [BDC Public Data API Specification](#) for information on how to do that).

The downloaded file will contain Location IDs from the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric ([Fabric](#)) for each location where any fixed service provider reported broadband availability. If you think it will be helpful to tie Location IDs back to geographic coordinates and/or addresses to generate your bulk fixed availability challenge data, you will need to obtain a license to access the Fabric data. Information about how to do that is available at: <https://help.bdc.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/sections/10419330460827-Access-the-Fabric>.

Specifications for the data downloads from the National Broadband Map are available at <https://us-fcc.app.box.com/v/bdc-data-downloads-output>.

Step 2: Review the Fixed Availability Data to Identify Potential Fixed Availability Challenges

Using the publicly available data, an entity may identify locations where it has actual knowledge or has aggregated information from individuals that the provider has misreported its fixed service. The data shown on the map indicate the reported technology and the maximum advertised speed, not quality of service or network performance. The reported service is available if the provider can install the service within 10 business days of a request for a standard installation fee. The speed reported can only be challenged if the provider does not offer that service tier for sale at the reported location. Speed tests that show the purchased speed is not being delivered are not the basis for a challenge. There are ten reasons for fixed availability challenge data being submitted for a location:

1. Provider can connect the location but not within 10 business days of a request.
2. Provider did not install the service at the agreed-upon time.
3. Provider requested more than the standard installation fee to connect the location.
4. Provider does not offer any service at this location, including with the selected technology.
5. Provider does not offer the technology entered in the technology field above for purchase at, or reported the wrong technology for, the location.
6. The reported maximum advertised speeds are not available for purchase at this location from this provider and technology.



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7. The actual speed of the service does not match its advertised speed (Bulk Crowdsourcing only).*
8. No wireless or satellite signal is available at this location.
9. Provider needs to construct new, non-standard equipment to connect this location.
10. Provider makes broadband available at the location but does not appear on the Broadband Map (Bulk Crowdsourcing only).*

**Values 7 and 10 may only be entered for bulk fixed crowdsourcing data and cannot be used as the basis for a challenge.*

Bulk challenges can be based on knowledge of infrastructure, information collected from consumers, or other information gathered by the challenger. More information on bulk fixed availability challenges is available at <https://help.bdc.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/10389893104923-Overview-of-Bulk-Fixed-Availability-Challenges>.

A detailed tutorial video providing an overview of bulk fixed availability challenges is available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vKL_p8ieFD0.

Step 3: Compile Evidence Supporting the Availability Challenge

A bulk availability challenger must provide supporting evidence, including information about the data and process used to prepare their challenges. The evidence must be location-specific and show that the reported availability is not accurate. Tips for submitting a successful fixed availability challenge, including examples of evidence supporting a challenge at <https://help.bdc.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/12000296843291-How-to-Submit-a-Successful-Fixed-Availability-Challenge>.

Step 4: File Bulk Fixed Availability Challenge Data

If an entity believes that it has identified locations where fixed broadband service availability is misreported, it can file a bulk challenge, or a proposed set of corrections, to the availability data. Bulk fixed availability challenge data must align with the data specifications <https://us-fcc.app.box.com/v/bdc-bulk-fixed-challenge-spec>.

An article to assist entities with formatting bulk fixed challenge data is available at <https://help.bdc.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/10390523851803-How-to-Format-Bulk-Fixed-Challenge-and-Crowdsourcing-Data>.

Entities should submit bulk fixed availability challenges in the BDC system at www.bdc.fcc.gov. A video tutorial that walks filers through the submission process is available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XaOlwJN_1RY.