Small Town and Rural Connectivity

T-Mobile is expanding its network, services, and retail presence to meet the needs and aspirations of Americans in small towns and rural areas who may not have had compelling choices for connectivity until now. Despite the many added challenges of bringing service to rural areas, T-Mobile has made rural deployment a priority, and we’re already delivering real results in rural wireless network coverage, rural retail services, and rural in-home broadband.

In the three years that have passed since merging with Sprint, T-Mobile has rapidly deployed its industry-leading 5G network to reach over 326 million people with our Extended Range 5G and 275 million people with super-fast Ultra Capacity 5G. And the company is moving aggressively to compete for rural customers by offering them access to the best 5G network in the country. T-Mobile recently invested $304 million in more than 7,000 county-based 2.5 GHz spectrum licenses. These new licenses cover 81 million people—primarily in rural areas. Our investments will enable T-Mobile to expand Ultra Capacity 5G coverage to new communities and significantly increase bandwidth in many places Ultra Capacity 5G already covers.

With T-Mobile, more than 50 million households—a third of them in rural America—are now eligible for 5G Home Internet. And T-Mobile is rapidly expanding reliable broadband coverage to hundreds of historically underserved areas across the country, including to 32 cities and towns in California; 81 cities (nearly 5 million homes) in Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma; and 64 cities and towns (more than 9 million homes) in Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania; and 70 cities and towns (more than 6 million homes) throughout Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Meanwhile, T-Mobile is delivering on its promise to provide small towns (50,000 people or fewer) with grants totaling $25 million to fund community projects over five years—up to 100 towns a year with up to $50,000 in funding each.

T-Mobile is already seeing rapid increases in our subscriber base in these areas. Today, a third of T-Mobile’s new accounts come from rural areas.

WE SAID:
When T-Mobile first announced the merger in 2018, the company made a commitment to doing its part to close the digital gap between rural and urban areas. Recognizing that consumers in many rural areas had limited choices for wireless service and rural incumbents’ failure to deliver the quality of service rural Americans deserve, T-Mobile committed to leveraging its 5G network to become an aggressive new competitor in rural America. Within six years of closing, T-Mobile committed to offering 5G service to 90% of the rural population with speeds of 50 Mbps or better, and 5G service with speeds of 100 Mbps or better to 66.7% of the rural population. T-Mobile has already met its three-year milestone, well ahead of schedule.

WE DELIVERED:
T-Mobile’s Extended Range 5G already covers nearly every American household, and the company is investing heavily to blanket tens of millions of additional households in rural America with Ultra Capacity 5G. At the same time, T-Mobile has leveraged its 5G network to disrupt the in-home broadband segment and compete aggressively for rural Americans. Independent observers have said that “based on recent activity, the focus on rural isn’t just talk.” They have added a “third of T-Mobile’s net new accounts are coming from rural areas” and said that “T-Mobile is seeing the most rapid movements in its brand reputation in smaller markets and rural areas.”

Thanks to our industry-leading 5G spectrum assets made possible by the combination with Sprint, T-Mobile is disrupting the traditional in-home broadband landscape with its 5G Home Internet offerings in many areas of the country, including many rural areas.

With prices at just $50 per month (including taxes, fees, and the cost of equipment), and backed by our Price Lock guarantee, T-Mobile now offers 5G Home Internet service to more than 50 million households nationwide—with a third of those in rural areas where there were previously no or very limited options for broadband.