

How Should I Format My Mobile Broadband Subscription Data?

Data Fields

Your Mobile Broadband Subscription data should be arranged in a comma-delimited text file with the following 5 data fields:

Field	Description	Type	Example
State	2-digit FIPS Code for the state. A list can be found at https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/?cid=nrcs143_013696 .	Text	01
Minimum Downstream Bandwidth	Minimum downstream bandwidth of the service offering in Mbps. If the downstream bandwidth of the service offering is advertised in a range, enter the low end of the range or the minimum bandwidth of the service offering. If no downstream bandwidth is mentioned in marketing, enter the minimum downstream bandwidth subscribers to that service offering should expect to receive. You can enter up to 3 places after the decimal (e.g., 768 kbps would be entered as 0.768).	Float	3
Minimum Upstream Bandwidth	Minimum upstream bandwidth of the service offering in Mbps. If the upstream bandwidth of the service offering is advertised in a range, enter the low end of the range or the minimum bandwidth of the service offering. If no upstream bandwidth is mentioned in marketing, enter the minimum upstream bandwidth subscribers to that service offering should expect to receive. You can enter up to 3 places after the decimal (e.g., 768 kbps would be entered as 0.768).	Float	0.768
Subscribers	In-service connections in this state where the device and subscription permit the user to access the lawful Internet content of the user's choice at information transfer rates exceeding 200 kbps in at least one direction. For more information, see Mobile Broadband Subscription Terms .	Integer	100
Subscribers, Consumer	Of the total number of subscribers, the number that are not billed to a corporate, non-corporate business, government or institutional customer account. Please note that you should enter the number of subscribers rather than a percentage of the total.	Integer	57

Records should be unique by State, Downstream Bandwidth and Upstream Bandwidth. For example, if a provider has mobile wireless broadband connections in service in a particular state at two different downstream bandwidths, then the data should contain two records for that state.

If we were to place the values in the “Example” column from the table above into a comma-delimited format for upload, they would make a single data row (record) like this:

01, 3, 0. 768, 100, 57

The data row above can be translated as saying that at the time of the “as of” date for the filing, in state 01 (Alabama), the filer has a total of 100 mobile broadband subscribers in service with an advertised bandwidth of 3 Mbps downstream and 0.768 Mbps upstream, of which, 57 subscribers (not 57%!) are not billed to a business account.

An Example

Say that your company currently has subscribers to two mobile services that offer access to the internet at bandwidths of at least 3/0.768 Mbps and 1/0.2 Mbps in a number of states in the southeast U.S. If you tally your subscribers by state and by service, the result is:

State Code (FIPS)	Downstream Bandwidth (Mbps)	Upstream Bandwidth (Mbps)	Total Subscribers	Consumer Subscribers
01	3	0.768	201	195
12	3	0.768	322	320
13	3	0.768	323	321
22	3	0.768	2454	2097
28	3	0.768	54	50
45	3	0.768	204	201
51	3	0.768	454	204
01	1	0.2	401	395
12	1	0.2	522	520
13	1	0.2	623	521
22	1	0.2	454	96
28	1	0.2	74	50
45	1	0.2	604	601
51	1	0.2	654	604

The comma-delimited, plain text file containing these data opened in a text editor like Notepad should look like this:

