



# News Release

## **AT&T Invests More Than \$1.5 Billion Over Three-Year Period to Connect Local Customers in Alabama**

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, June 14, 2021- [AT&T\\*](#) is proud to connect customers across the country by continuing to grow the nation's best network<sup>1</sup>. From 2018-2020, we expanded coverage and improved connectivity in more communities by investing more than \$1.5 billion in our wireless and wireline networks in Alabama.

AT&T's commitment to communities across the country continues and spans all layers of our network—from fiber to 5G to [FirstNet®](#). These investments are essential to connecting our customers with their family, friends and colleagues by increasing the network's speed, reliability, coverage and overall performance.

"By continuing to build state-of-the-art infrastructure in our state, AT&T is making business growth possible and assuring that our residents, both rural and urban, have the tools needed to stay connected – especially in times like these when connections are needed most," Governor Kay Ivey said. "Announcements like AT&T's confirm our work to expand opportunities and resources for Alabamians is being realized."

In 2021, we are increasing our fiber footprint by 3 million customer locations across more than 90 metro areas that we currently serve, including in Alabama. We also recently announced that AT&T will invest \$2 billion over the next 3 years to help address the digital divide nationwide. AT&T further improved critical communications for Alabama's first responders and improved public safety with [FirstNet®](#) – America's public safety network.

"In today's new normal, connections are more important than ever," said Robin Stone, interim executive director of the Business Council of Alabama. "We appreciate AT&T's 140 plus year commitment to Alabama and sustained infrastructure investment that keeps us connected to loved ones, business opportunities, first responders, school, news and entertainment and more."

"AT&T's more than 140-year commitment to investing in Alabama proudly continues," said Wayne Hutchens, President of AT&T Alabama. "By enhancing our network all across the state, we help drive economic impact with connections for new businesses as well as for those that already call Alabama home. Helping to ensure Alabama residents, businesses and communities stay connected to what matters most, especially now when it matters most, is who we are."

More details about our wireless coverage in Alabama, and anywhere in the U.S., can be found on the [AT&T Coverage Viewer](#). For updates on the AT&T wireless network, please visit the [AT&T network news page](#).

### **Expanding Access to Fiber**



In order to meet the continual demands for reliable, high-speed connections in our increasingly virtual world, we are looking to the future and investing in solutions like fiber around the country.

AT&T Fiber® offers speeds of nearly 1 GIG<sup>2</sup> for both upload and download, which provides plenty of bandwidth for consumers and businesses and creates a better internet experience for bandwidth-heavy applications like video conferencing, virtual learning, telehealth, and gaming that are growing in popularity and importance. It has also proven to be 99% reliable<sup>3</sup> and offers consistently fast speeds, even during peak times.<sup>4</sup>

**Is fiber available in my area?** We currently offer AT&T Fiber in more than 90 metro areas across the U.S. AT&T Fiber is currently available in more than 400,000 locations across Alabama, including in parts of more than 20 counties and 50 cities.

### **Bringing fast, reliable, secure AT&T 5G to more Americans**

AT&T is also unlocking the power of 5G for consumers, businesses and first responders:

- **AT&T 5G**, delivered over sub-6 spectrum sets us up to offer a better wireless experience with greater capacity to enable faster responses on capable devices. AT&T offers fast, reliable and secure 5G to 240 million people in 14,000 cities and towns nationwide including Anniston, Birmingham, Butler, Dothan, Florence, Gadsden, Huntsville, Mobile, Tuscaloosa, Cleburne County, Franklin County and Lamar County.

To check out the latest fiber pricing options head to [att.com](https://att.com) and to learn more about AT&T 5G, visit our [AT&T 5G site](#).

### **FirstNet: Dedicated to America's First Responders**

We are committed to improving public safety infrastructure. As a part of that commitment, we have invested and built FirstNet in public-private partnership with the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) – an independent agency within the federal government. FirstNet is the *only* nationwide, high-speed broadband communications platform dedicated to and purpose-built for America's first responders and the extended public safety community.

- **Expanding to serve:** FirstNet focuses on where first responders need connectivity. We've moved quickly to deliver more coverage, boost capacity and drive new capabilities for first responders. Using all AT&T LTE commercial spectrum as well as high-quality Band 14 spectrum, FirstNet covers **2.71 million square miles nationwide**. And we're actively extending the reach of FirstNet in Alabama to give agencies large and small the reliable, unthrottled connectivity and modern communications tools they require.
- **First responder-centric 5G:** FirstNet subscribers in parts of 38 cities and more than 20 venues now have access to AT&T 5G+. Our [approach to 5G](#) for public safety is unlike anything else. We've upgraded the dedicated FirstNet network core to enable 5G connectivity that is being built to intuitively optimize the experience for America's first



responders. First responders maintain voice communications with *always-on* priority and preemption on LTE, while the FirstNet network determines the best route for data traffic with compatible devices, whether that's 5G+ or LTE spectrum.

The FirstNet network is providing Alabama public safety with truly dedicated coverage and capacity when they need. These advanced capabilities enable FirstNet to help fire, EMS and law enforcement personnel save lives and protect their communities.

### **The Connect America Fund**

Through our participation in the FCC's Connect America Fund universal service program, we are helping to meet the connectivity needs of customers in largely rural areas and to expand the opportunities enabled by internet access. By the end of 2020, we offered high-speed internet access to nearly 67,000 locations across Alabama in mostly rural areas through technologies like Fixed Wireless Internet.

FirstNet and the FirstNet logo are registered trademarks and service marks of the First Responder Network Authority. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.

<sup>1</sup> GWS awarded AT&T Best Network OneScore 2020. GWS conducts drive tests for AT&T and uses the data in its OneScore analysis.

<sup>2</sup> Speeds vary and not guaranteed. Internet speed claims represent maximum network service capabilities and based on wired connection to gateway. Actual customer speeds may vary based on a number of factors and are not guaranteed. Download speeds for Internet 1000 are typically up to 940Mbps due to overhead capacity reserved to deliver the data. For more information, go to [www.att.com/speed101](http://www.att.com/speed101).

<sup>3</sup> Based on network availability.

<sup>4</sup> Based on wired connection to the gateway.

### **\*About AT&T Communications**

We help family, friends and neighbors connect in meaningful ways every day. From the first phone call 140+ years ago to mobile video streaming, we @ATT innovate to improve lives. AT&T Communications is part of AT&T Inc. (NYSE:T). For more information, please visit us at [att.com](http://att.com).

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