



AT&T Invests More Than \$30 Million Over Three-Year Period to Connect Customers in Southeast Ohio

MARIETTA, Ohio; May 4, 2022 – AT&T* is proud to connect customers across the country by continuing to grow the nation’s best¹ wireless network. From 2018-2020, we expanded coverage and improved connectivity in more communities by investing more than \$30 million in our wireless and wireline networks in the Southeast Ohio region that includes Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry, and Washington counties. This investment includes new cell sites, addition of wireless and wired network capacity, and new broadband network connections.

“These broadband expansion projects are critical for those lacking internet access in Southeast Ohio, giving them more of an opportunity to work online, learn online and participate in the modern economy,” said Lt. Governor Jon Husted. “On the state level, we look forward to continuing efforts to close the digital divide through the Ohio Broadband Strategy, and we support private investments that make expanded internet a reality.”

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. AT&T also improved critical communications for Ohio’s first responders and improved public safety with FirstNet® – America’s public safety network.

Last year, we also announced that AT&T will invest \$2 billion over the next 3 years to help address the [digital divide](#) nationwide.

“AT&T’s investment in Southeast Ohio confirms our commitment to expanding coverage and helping to boost the local economy,” said AT&T External Affairs Director BJ Smith. “We keep Ohioans connected to their loved ones and their work, while helping to ensure the efficiency of their local public safety personnel.”

Via its participation in the FCC’s Connect America Fund Phase II (CAFII) program, AT&T has also made a high-speed internet service option available to more than 11,000 rural homes and small businesses in Southeast Ohio, primarily via the use of Fixed Wireless Internet (FWI) technology.



More details about our wireless coverage in Southeast Ohio, 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](#).

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 through both AT&T 5G and AT&T 5G+:

AT&T 5G, using low-band 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 highly secure 5G to more than 255 million people in more than 18,000 cities and towns nationwide including many parts of Southeast Ohio.

- **AT&T 5G+** is our name for 5G delivered over a millimeter wave spectrum. Its super-fast speeds make it ideal for high-traffic areas and places like stadiums, arenas, school campuses, hospitals and will help unlock unprecedented experiences in iconic destinations and key venues. AT&T 5G+ is currently available in parts of 38 cities and more than 35 venues across the country.

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 [2.81 million square miles nationwide](#). And we've extended the reach of FirstNet in Southeast Ohio, deploying Band 14 technology on dozens of cell sites in this region 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 44 cities and 35 venues now have access to AT&T 5G+ using millimeter wave spectrum. 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 Southeast Ohio public safety with truly dedicated coverage and capacity when they need it. These advanced capabilities enable FirstNet to help fire, EMS and law enforcement personnel save lives and protect their communities.

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.

¹ AT&T awarded Best Network by GWS OneScore 2021. GWS conducts paid drive tests for AT&T and uses the data in its OneScore analysis. AT&T 5G requires compatible plan and device. 5G not available everywhere. Go to att.com/5Gforyou for detail

***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.

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