

How Alternative Connectivity Options Stack Up Against Fixed Wireless

Fixed wireless makes it possible for businesses in even the hardest-to-reach areas to access fast, reliable internet connectivity. Here's how the technology compares to the other connectivity options that are out there:



Fixed Wireless vs. Cable

Cable requires physical cable lines to be installed – making access impossible in many rural areas. Fixed wireless, on the other hand, delivers connectivity via radio waves that disseminate from a tower.



Speed: Both fixed wireless and cable offer comparable broadband speeds.¹ Fixed wireless providers can offer even higher speeds through dedicated internet access (DIA) services for a higher price.



Cost: Cable companies often offer low introductory rates, then increase the costs after the first year (in some cases, even 6 months). A good fixed wireless provider starts at a set rate – and keeps that rate consistent for the life of the contract.



Accessibility: Because of cable's infrastructure requirements, it's available in busier urban areas – but typically not in less populated, rural areas. Fixed wireless access can be made available in urban and hard-to-reach locations.

Fixed Wireless vs. DSL

DSL uses phone lines to provide internet connectivity, making it more easily available than cable – but it requires the business to have phone service.



Speed: Typical DSL download speeds range between 1Mbps to 7Mbps,² making the technology insufficient for businesses doing a high volume of video conferences or communicating with remote workers.



Cost: DSL pricing varies by provider – but for slower speeds than all other options, it's a classic case of “you get what you pay for.”



Accessibility: Because of its reliance on phone lines, DSL is widely available.

Fixed Wireless vs. Fiber

Similar to cable, fiber optic internet connectivity requires infrastructure installation – which means it's not likely to be available in all the areas that can be reached by fixed wireless service.



Speed: Fiber internet is known for its high speeds – usually in the 20Mbps to 500Mbps range³ – and fixed wireless speeds are comparable depending on the provider. Fixed wireless can offer even higher speeds of up to 20 Gbps through DIA.



Cost: Because of fiber's infrastructure requirements, it has a larger upfront cost than fixed wireless, which does not require extensive setup.



Accessibility: Fiber is only available in buildings that are “lit” with fiber optic cable infrastructure – so businesses in remote geographical areas often do not have access.

Fast, Reliable Connectivity for Hard-to-Reach Areas

BeyondReach specializes in delivering fixed wireless connectivity to hard-to-reach and hard-to-serve areas.

Get in touch with us to learn more.

SOURCES:

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