

Hotspot Program

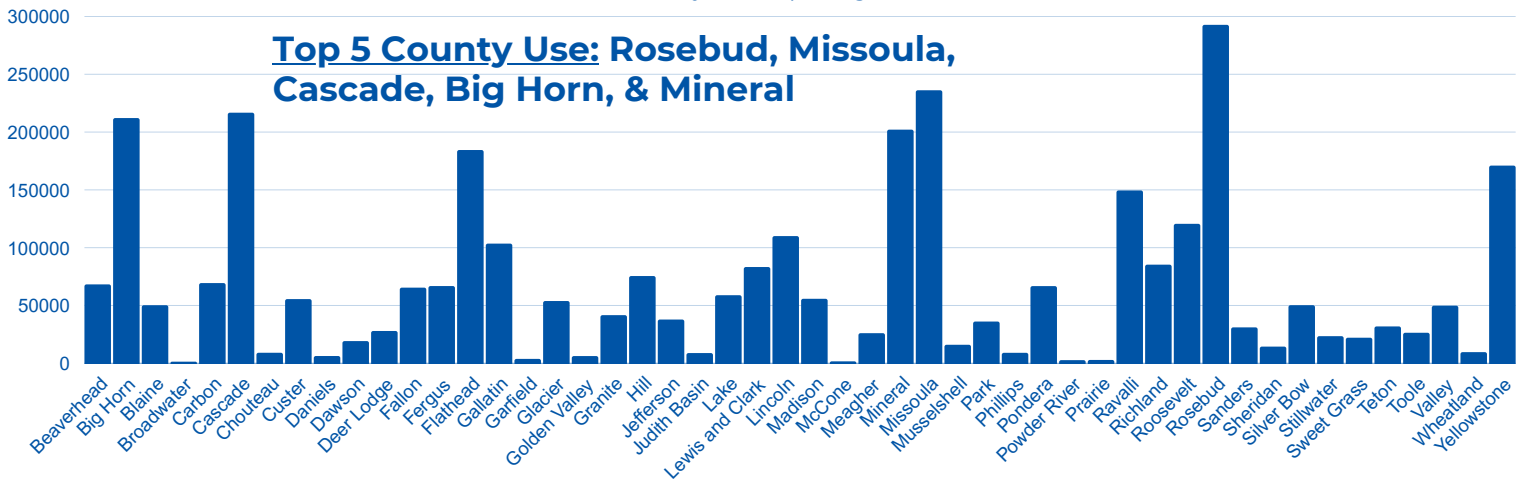
Montanans can checkout hotspot devices from their local participating libraries. A hotspot device is a small portable 'router' that creates a wi-fi network to connect devices to the internet using a cellular signal.

<p>3.34 Million GB Data Used FY20-FY25</p>	<p>859 Hotspots in Circulation</p>	<p>88 Libraries Participating</p>	<p>50 Counties Currently Participating</p>	<p>951,424 GigaBits (GB) of Data Used FY24</p>
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Fiscal Year 2024 Hotspot Program Data.

Total Data Use 2020-2024

For Currently Participating Counties



Montanans have utilized hotspots in numerous ways over the past 4.5 years. Uses range from keeping up with current events, connecting with family and friends, accessing telehealth services, filling out required online forms (social services/taxes), completing homework, and everything in-between. Internet access has continued to be a challenge for many Montanans, but local Libraries have been able to help bridge that gap since initiating the Hotspot Lending Program.

Rural and Urban Hotspot Use:

Rural Montana Libraries had **6.520 Gigabits** of data use per capita, while Urban Montana Libraries had **1.736 Gigabits** of data use per capita. Rural and urban areas are defined by the 2020 Census. Hotspot data use is from Montana Public Libraries.

Urban Public Libraries:
1.74 GB

Rural Public Libraries:
6.52 GB

To learn more contact:
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