

CBRS in the Midwest



How shared spectrum is supporting businesses, communities, and innovation across America's heartland.

The Midwest is home to some of the nation's largest manufacturing, agricultural, healthcare, logistics, and educational institutions—all of which depend on reliable connectivity to compete and grow. Across the region, organizations are using CBRS to expand broadband access, modernize operations, and support innovation. Their experiences demonstrate how shared spectrum has become an important resource for communities and businesses across the region.

Regional Impact



Connecting Communities

Across the Midwest, CBRS is helping expand connectivity where traditional broadband can be difficult or costly to deploy. Rural broadband providers are using the technology to reach underserved communities, while healthcare organizations are improving patient care through secure wireless connectivity. For example, Memorial Health System in Springfield, Illinois, used CBRS to extend secure connectivity beyond the hospital, allowing nurses to triage and monitor patients outdoors during the COVID-19 pandemic while also supporting applications such as asset tracking and critical communications.



Supporting Business

The Midwest's manufacturing, agricultural, and logistics sectors are increasingly turning to private wireless networks powered by CBRS. John Deere has deployed CBRS-based private 5G at manufacturing facilities in Iowa and Illinois to improve factory connectivity and support automation, with the company describing private 5G as the default connectivity platform for new production areas.

In Indiana, Toyota has implemented a private 5G network using CBRS to support Industry 4.0 applications across its manufacturing operations, demonstrating how shared spectrum can improve productivity while providing secure, reliable connectivity inside large industrial facilities.



Driving Innovation

CBRS is enabling organizations across the Midwest to modernize operations without relying solely on traditional Wi-Fi or public cellular networks. At Foxconn's manufacturing facility in Wisconsin, CBRS connects industrial equipment and mobile machinery over a private wireless network, supporting more flexible factory operations.

Universities and researchers are also helping advance shared-spectrum technologies. Researchers at the University of Notre Dame have published real-world studies of commercial CBRS deployments in South Bend, Indiana, contributing to a better understanding of how shared spectrum performs in operational environments and informing future wireless innovation.

Why It Matters

From factories and farms to hospitals, schools, and rural communities, CBRS is supporting a diverse range of users across the Midwest. The region's broad adoption of shared spectrum illustrates that CBRS is more than a wireless technology; it is helping strengthen economic competitiveness, expand connectivity, and support innovation across the region.

Additional Examples of CBRS Across The Region

Illinois and Indiana	John Deere	Manufacturing
Missouri	Hurst Greenery	Agriculture
Ohio	The Ohio State University	Education
Minnesota	Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport	Transportation/Logistics
Michigan	Barger Creek Wireless	Rural Broadband
Wisconsin	Lambeau Field	Sports & Entertainment

CBRS Champions in the Region

Many of the organizations headquartered or operating in the region submitted comments to the FCC asking commissioners not to raise power levels in the band. They reminded them that CBRS was intended for low-power usage because it reduces interference concerns and increases opportunities for businesses of all sizes to build their own networks.

Illinois	KWISP Internet	Serves 600 customers using CBRS.
Indiana	Wisper ISP	Serves 12,000 families and businesses using CBRS.
Iowa	Bits of Technology Wireless	Serves 1,600 customers using CBRS.
Michigan	MetaLINK Technologies	Serves 4,000 customers using CBRS.
Minnesota	Southeast MN Wifi	Serves 100 customers using CBRS.
Missouri	Ridgetop Networks	Serves 400 customers using CBRS.
Ohio	Amplex Internet	Serves 1,500 customers using CBRS.
Wisconsin	Interlakes Wireless	Serves 1,100 customers using CBRS.

Learn More

- CBRS in Action
- CBRS Powers American Manufacturing Report
- Valo Analytica Study
- Federal Communications Commission 17-258 Docket