



# How FirstNet Will Help Agencies Improve Public Safety

## Five Benefits of Wireless WAN Through Nationwide First Responder Network

Today first responders use the public cellular network for much more than two-way radios. LTE has made wireless Internet a key tool for data, video, and other high-speed features. However, during natural disasters and other emergencies, wireless networks can become overwhelmed with citizen traffic, leaving first responders unable to effectively communicate, coordinate response, and use mission-critical safety and rescue technologies. Here are five ways FirstNet, the first nationwide broadband network dedicated to public safety, will address challenges and help first responders save lives and secure communities<sup>1</sup>:

### 1. Unified Communications Between Agencies

There are more than 10,000 incompatible and often proprietary radio networks that first responder agencies use for communication with each other during emergencies — making it difficult to work together to save lives. FirstNet is a nationwide, interoperable LTE network dedicated to public safety, giving agencies the ability to ensure unified communications.



### 2. Priority for Public Safety

Public safety personnel including law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics, and other responders need true priority on wireless networks to ensure their communications needs are always met. FirstNet is reserved for public safety, so when citizen traffic floods networks, first responders retain the ability to use their mission-critical safety and rescue technologies.



1 Source firstnet.gov

### 3. Improved Situational Awareness

High-speed data, location information, images, and video can save lives when seconds count. With FirstNet, organizations can use a wide variety of devices and applications — smartphones, tablets, laptops, CAD systems, GPS for location tracking, and more — to better and more quickly collaborate around real-time data during time-sensitive scenarios.



### 4.

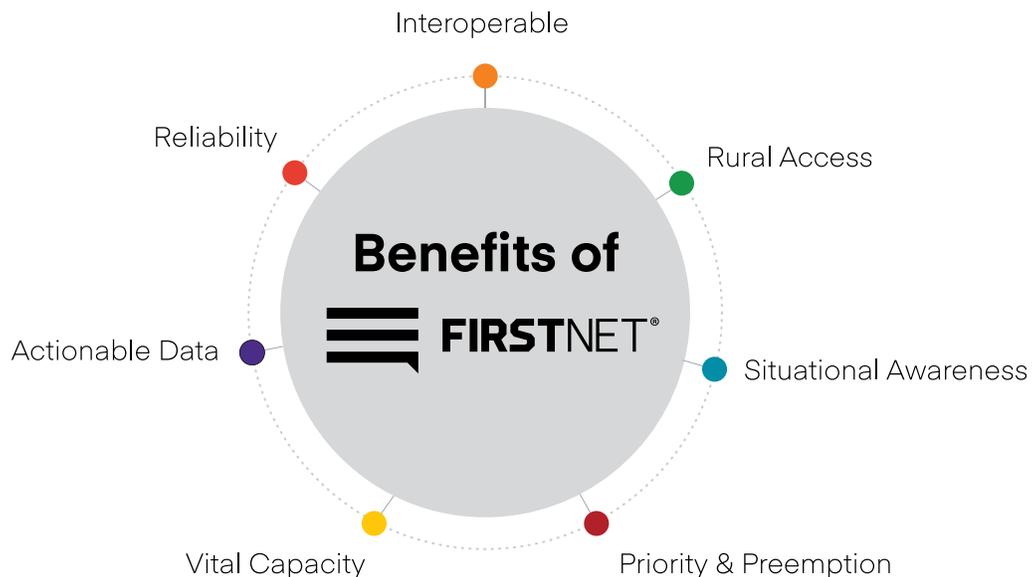


### Reliable Access in Rural Areas

Emergencies happen everywhere, not just in large cities. With high-power towers that cover more territory with less infrastructure than satellite, FirstNet drastically improves coverage in rural areas and enables agencies to do their jobs without interruption during critical times.

### 5. Ample Capacity at Big Events

Beyond emergencies, public safety organizations also need capacity to communicate and send data during large events such as concerts, festivals, and sporting events. When huge crowds gather in one location, FirstNet makes it easier for first responders to access robust network capacity.



Learn more about network solutions for first responders: [cradlepoint.com/first-responders](https://cradlepoint.com/first-responders)