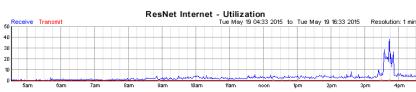
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## **Bandwidth Quota**

Bandwidth is the amount of network traffic that can flow through the network. The Residence Halls have their own Internet connection that is not shared with the rest of campus. Despite the size and speed of our connection, it is still a limited amount of bandwidth for off-campus connections.

To provide a fair amount of bandwidth for all residents, ResNet has a bandwidth quota system for all users. The bandwidth quota operates on a rolling seven days, meaning all traffic conducted 7 days ago drops off at midnight each night. The cap is currently 200 gigabytes combined incoming (download) and outgoing (upload) traffic per each 7 day period for all network devices registered to your BearPass Login. You can check the status of how much bandwidth you have used by logging into <a href="http://resreg.missouristate.edu">http://resreg.missouristate.edu</a>.

Below, you can see a graph of the current network use (a graph for the campus' current Internet usage can be found on <u>Networking Service's site</u>). The blue line is inbound traffic and the red line is outbound traffic.



We have specifically set the bandwidth quota to be high enough so that the vast majority of users will never approach this limit through normal network usage. The limit is designed to protect the network from the small percentage of users who are generally responsible for the excessive bandwidth consumption that affects everyone on the network. The university network has always been a shared resource intended for academic and research use by residents. Personal use of network resources is perfectly acceptable as long as this usage does not adversely affect fellow residents. If your use of network resources negatively impacts others, you may have your data port shut off without prior warning. Access to the network is a privilege that may be revoked if used inappropriately.

## Bytes @ Night

Bytes @ Night is a service offered to all residence hall students to provide more total bandwidth. For the time being, it has been disabled. Once we have more information about our network's utilization, it will be re-instituted. We will make an announcement at that point.

## What happens if I exceed my bandwidth limit for the week?

If you exceed 90% usage of the alloted bandwidth, you will be sent a warning email. This warning should give you time to modify your activity so that you do not exceed the limit. If you do exceed the limit you will still be able to access the internet, but your connection speed will be temporarily reduced to that similar to dial-up and you will no longer be able to access wireless. Your connection will remain in this state until enough of your previous traffic has been removed from your traffic profile to bring you below the quota. Please be aware that continued excessive traffic while in penalty can potentially keep you in penalty.

## Common reasons for going into penalty

Some things you can do to help from going over your bandwidth quota would be:

- 01. Many malware programs use your computer's Internet connection to help them spread. If you have an anti-virus program, we recommend updating it and running a virus scan. If you don't have an anti-virus program, you can download one for free from <u>our list of recommendations</u>.
- 02. Avoid streaming media such as Internet radio and television non-stop. Turn it off when you are not listening or watching it. Even if their data stream is small, it can quickly accrue a significant amount of traffic. This can also include other applications that involve steaming media, such as Skype or other software.
- 03. Lastly, file-sharing or downloading programs (Limewire, BitTorrent, etc.) typically cause the highest amount of network traffic. Because of the impact these programs have on the network, and since these programs have a high probability of introducing spyware and viruses to your system, we **strongly** recommend avoiding their use.

Additionally, the use of such programs for the purpose of getting music may break copyright law and violate

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our <u>Acceptable Use Policy</u>. For more information regarding the legality of of file-sharing, please, see ResNet's <u>copyright page</u>. We recommend using legal sources for downloading music; for a thorough compilation of music services, please see our list of <u>legal alternatives</u>. Of course, excessive use of these services can also increase your download traffic. As always, make sure to check your usage summary at <a href="http://resreg\_missouristate.edu">http://resreg\_missouristate.edu</a> if in doubt.

If you have any questions about this information, please feel free to contact either the ResNet Offices (417 836-6100) or the open access computer labs (417 836-5891 opt. #4) for assistance.

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