

# Understanding Net Neutrality: Five Myths Debunked

When it comes to net neutrality there is a lot of misinformation and confusion. Let's set the record straight.



**MYTH: This debate is between those who favor net neutrality and those who oppose it.**

All sides in this debate [strongly support an open internet with](#) policies that protect consumers. The argument revolves around the legal authority the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) uses to enforce those rules.

**MYTH: If the FCC repeals Title II, consumers will not be protected.**

False. The repeal actually strengthens consumer protections by placing one watchdog, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), over the entire internet. The top agency in charge of protecting consumers from shady business practices of all kinds, the FTC has a proven, two-decade track record and the staff and resources to carry out this responsibility. And they can do all this without the destructive, investment dampening baggage of Title II.

**MYTH: The FCC is trying to kill net neutrality.**

Like all parties involved, FCC Chairman Ajit Pai [is committed](#) to net neutrality. He opposes regulating consumer broadband service like a utility. His November announcement to bring Title II to a vote moves consumers one step closer to fair, modern rules ensuring an open internet for all Americans.



### **MYTH: Title II utility regulation doesn't hurt broadband investment.**

It doesn't take an economist to figure out that imposing the threat of 100 pages of 1930s regulations onto modern consumer broadband services is hardly a stimulus plan. Since Title II was imposed on broadband networks in 2015, investment [has declined](#) even as internet traffic [has increased](#). Net neutrality rules should protect consumers, innovation AND investment in better, stronger networks for us all.

### **MYTH: Today's leading internet companies—like Amazon, Google and Netflix—would not exist without Title II regulations.**

Not true. These companies grew to global supremacy in the absence of Title II rules. Title II has nothing to do with consumer benefits and everything to do with business benefits to internet companies, some of the most dominant corporations

in the U.S. today. Even-handed, modern rules of the road are needed that apply to ALL companies with the ability to impact consumers' online experience. Only then will consumers, innovation and up-and-coming online players truly be protected.

**USTelecom** supports modern and fair open internet standards that ensure all consumers have access to modern, open, high-speed broadband.