# Data Rate

The data rate was 100 BPS from initiation to about 1997. A series of studies and development contracts in the 90s created the 300 / 1200 BPS capability. In some part this was aided by the advent of 3 axes stabilized satellites that no longer were encumbered by the satellite switching antenna noise that was a feature of the early spin stabilized satellites. Although it must be said that the intermediate satellites with despun antennas were also lower noise.

Almost the last of the 10,000 plus 100 bps DCPs have been replaced by 2016. Although a quick check of the NOAA DADDS database shows 3257 messages that use 100 bps each day and 3025 DCPs in the data base with that capability. An estimate of the number of DCPs at 100 BPS based on 8 reports per day is 400. This is a small percent of the 750,000 messages per day and 28,000 active DCPs. An interesting feature is that even after of nearly 20 years of HDR availability the system DCPs have not completely turned over.