

They provide connectivity between geographically dispersed sites, allowing organizations to share data, resources, and services across their network infrastructure. WAN technologies include Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP), Frame Relay, Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM), and modern Internet Protocol (IP) based solutions. Examples of WAN implementations include corporate networks connecting branch offices, internet service provider (ISP) networks, and global enterprise networks.

### 3- Other Types of Networks:

**Metropolitan Area Network (MAN):** A Metropolitan Area Network (MAN) covers a larger geographical area than a LAN but smaller than a WAN, typically encompassing a city or metropolitan region. MANs connect multiple LANs within a city to facilitate data sharing, internet access, and communication between businesses, government agencies, and educational institutions. They often utilize high-speed fiber-optic cables or wireless technologies such as WiMAX to provide connectivity over a metropolitan area.

**Virtual Private Network (VPN):** A Virtual Private Network (VPN) enables secure, encrypted connections over public networks such as the internet, allowing users to access resources remotely while maintaining privacy and security. VPNs create a private tunnel between the user's device and the VPN server, encrypting data transmission to prevent eavesdropping or interception. They are commonly used for remote access to corporate networks, secure communication between branch offices, and safeguarding online privacy and anonymity.

**Wireless LAN (WLAN):** Wireless LANs (WLANs) utilize wireless communication technologies, such as Wi-Fi, to connect devices within a limited area without the need for physical cables.