

## Partnerships in action: Expanding broadband access

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# Strategic alliance across the Department of Commerce

- Department of Commerce, Commerce Implementation and Coordination Office
- National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
- U.S. Census Bureau

### Expand broadband access



- **Program Objective:** Expand equitable broadband access to connect every American to reliable, high speed, affordable broadband.
- **Census Data Sources:** ACS data on broadband adoption, demographic data across different geographic areas, educational and labor force data
- Notional data products:
  - Use places and/or clusters of census blocks to identify areas that are completely outside of coverage areas or are outside of 25/3 coverage areas. This could help identify areas where extending infrastructure would service a larger number of households.
  - Use household level modeling to identify households that do not have access to broadband and/or have not adopted broadband. Identify categories based on analysis of variables like income, age, and race.
  - Develop a broadband subsidy index that would identify areas where 25/3 broadband access is available but is not being adopted, likely due to the cost of the service relative to income levels.
  - Develop a set of broadband need indexes that differentiate between broadband availability vs. adoption.

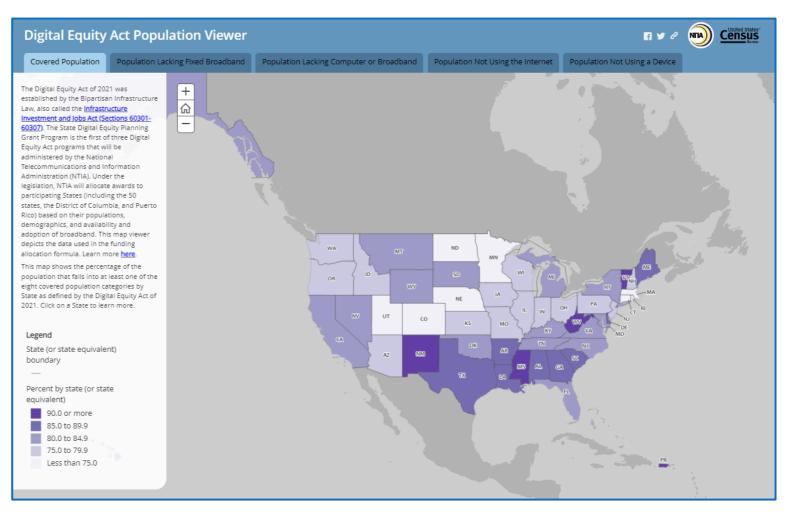


#### NTIA Partnership: Digital Equity Act Population Viewer

- Phase 1 (May 2022):
  - Released Digital Equity Act
    Population Viewer
- Phase 2 (November 2022):
  - Update Digital Equity Act Population Viewer to include Covered Population for counties and census tracts, as well as Puerto Rico

#### • Future work:

- Revisions/Enhancements to the Digital Equity Act Population Viewer
- Incorporation of more granular geographic area data that may include small area modeling techniques, alternative broadband measures, and demographic and socioeconomic measures, etc.





## Next steps from Chief Data Officer's Perspective

Oliver Wise, Chief Data Officer, Department of Commerce





- Develop standing Metrics Working Group to arrive at a methodology for calculating department-wide metrics
- Identify data standards to facilitate data linkage
- Develop common frameworks for providing an equity lens in program monitoring and evaluation





## Discussion