

Resources for further Information

Federal Communications Commission, reports and data

Interactive maps that allow you to search for data on a location and to make comparisons.

The broadband maps (see the one on deployment) are useful for mapping high-speed internet deployment (infrastructure), though a census tract is marked as served if even one address in the tract could get broadband access within a certain time period. This overstates availability in some rural areas and tribal communities. Still, it is the best data on broadband availability, and goes down to the census tract level.

They also publish data on broadband subscriptions, but only in categories (0-20%; 20-40%, etc.) This is less useful than the new American Community Survey data.

Some of the maps on health and broadband and other areas are useful for showing needs.

<https://www.fcc.gov/reports-research/maps/>

2nd link is for the 2010 National Broadband Plan that Congress ordered the FCC to create

<https://transition.fcc.gov/national-broadband-plan/national-broadband-plan-executive-summary.pdf>

American Community Survey, 2017 estimates

Bureau of the Census data

Available by search on American Factfinder, Quickfacts for US

Go to link (see data for US), but select geography (type in your county name) and select computers and internet use from drop-down menu. This data is for the percentages of households and won't match the Pew Research Center data exactly, which is for individuals. But, it is available for communities down to the census tract.

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US#>

Broadband Data Portal, Arizona State University

Historical data on % of population with broadband subscriptions since 2000 for large counties that census releases data on (also pages with 50 largest cities and metros are in the menu on the left). Data was estimated with multilevel models, since the American Community Survey did not include questions on the internet until 2013. The 2013 and 2014 American Community Survey data is also here. Project was supported by the National Science Foundation.

Scroll down to DATA, then click County Time Series (either wide or long format).

Further down the page, you can click on the 2013CountyACSFactFinder link or 2014CountyACSFactFinder link.

<https://policyinformatics.asu.edu/broadband-data-portal/dataaccess/countydata>

National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Broadband USA portal for webinars, articles, reports, data, blog

Information on federal programs, including grants

<https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/>

Broadband USA resources tab is worth exploring, including this Digital Inclusion guide to help communities to plan initiatives

https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/bbuser_connectivity_with_purpose_digital_inclusion.pdf#contentarea

NTIA's Data Central (with reports and Data Explorer), which includes questions on activities online, barriers to internet use and more information than the American Community Survey. But, the data is for the nation (and sometimes states) rather than counties.

<https://www.ntia.doc.gov/category/data-central>

U.S. Department of Agriculture, rural broadband initiatives

<https://www.usda.gov/broadband>

Pew Research, Internet and Technology, leading source of national surveys, reports; recent and detailed data and reports regarding trends in internet use

<http://www.pewinternet.org/>

For a quick look at current and historical data on internet use, broadband, mobile and social media, see Pew's Fact Sheets –

<http://www.pewinternet.org/fact-sheet/>

Smart Communities Evaluation Overview and Highlights

Reports on program evaluation on Chicago's Smart Communities program, including evidence of neighborhood-level change, city-wide surveys and follow-up surveys with participants. Funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Partnership for a Connected Illinois (grant from Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program, U.S. Department of Commerce)

https://policyinformatics.asu.edu/sites/default/files/%5Bterm%3Aname%5D/%5Bnode%3Acreate%3Acustom%3AYm%5D/smartcommunities_overviewhighlights_4.pdf

Provided by Karen Mossberger, Ph.D.

Arizona State University

March 2, 2019 workshop on Bridging the Digital Divide

National Association of County Collectors, Treasurers and Finance Officers