



Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity

Utah's Digital Connectivity Plan

PUET Interim Committee
Rebecca Dilg, Director
Sep 17, 2024

Utah Internet Facts in 2024

America's 10 Best States for Infrastructure



4. Utah

“Utah’s power grid is among the nation’s most reliable and broadband connectivity is excellent.”

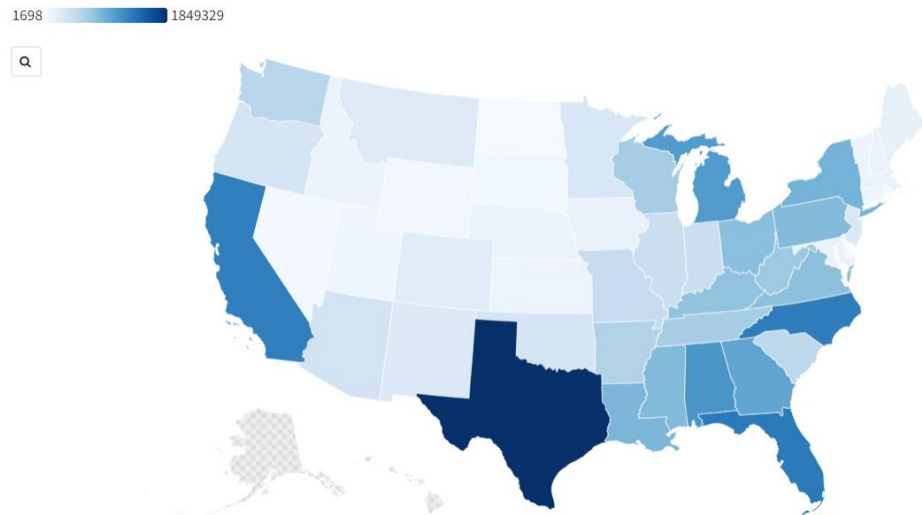
Affordable broadband access:
35%

www.cnbc.com

Utah Internet Facts

<https://broadbandnow.com/Utah>

- **Utah's Internet Ranking**
Coverage, speed and availability:
13th
- **Wired or Fixed Wireless Broadband Access:**
96.5%
- **Access to Wired Low-Priced Broadband Plan:**
33.3%
- **Access to Fiber-Optic Service:**
47.1%

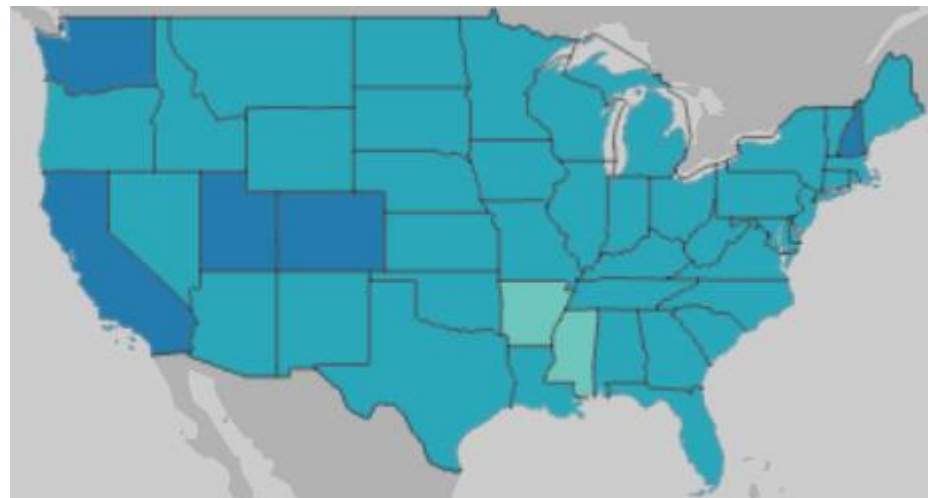
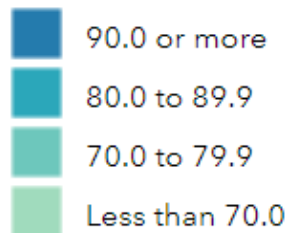


Source: [BroadbandNow Research](#)

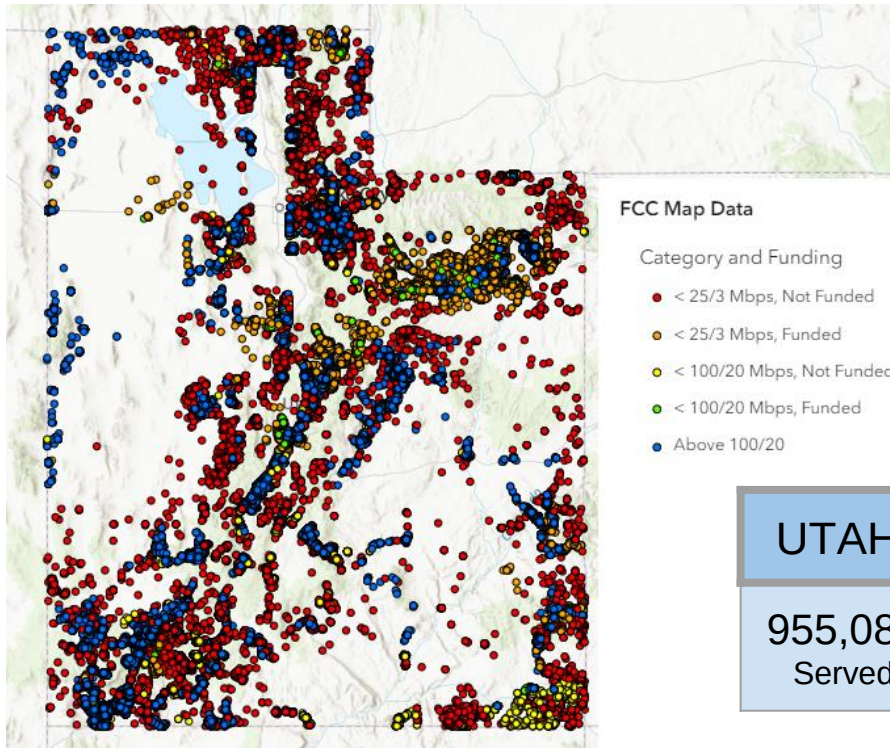
Utah Internet Facts

US Census Bureau

Percentage of households with a
broadband subscription



Based on FCC Broadband Availability Map



Unserved: Without 25/3 Mbps
download/upload broadband speeds

Underserved: Without 100/20 Mbps
download/upload broadband speeds

UTAH = 1,018,752 Broadband Serviceable Locations

955,082
Served

20,438
Underserved

43,232
Unserved

63,670 Total
un/underserved



Utah Broadband Center

Re-established legislatively July 1, 2021- GOEO

- Funded State Broadband Grant
- Utah Broadband Alliance
- Statewide Broadband Availability Maps
- Speed Test Campaign (speedtest.utah.gov)
- Federal Grants
- Utah Broadband Advisory Commission



Utah Broadband Center Advisory Commission

Utah Broadband Advisory Commission Utah Code 36-29-109

Members include:

- Two members each of the Senate & House of Representatives
- GOPB Executive Director
- 4 Public Sector Professionals:
 - Utah Division of Indian Affairs
 - Utah Education & Telehealth Network (UETN)
 - UDOT Fiber Optics Director
 - Division of Public Utilities

The Commission solicits input from relevant stakeholders, makes recommendations, reviews strategic plan drafts, and recommends changes to the Utah Broadband Center with respect to:

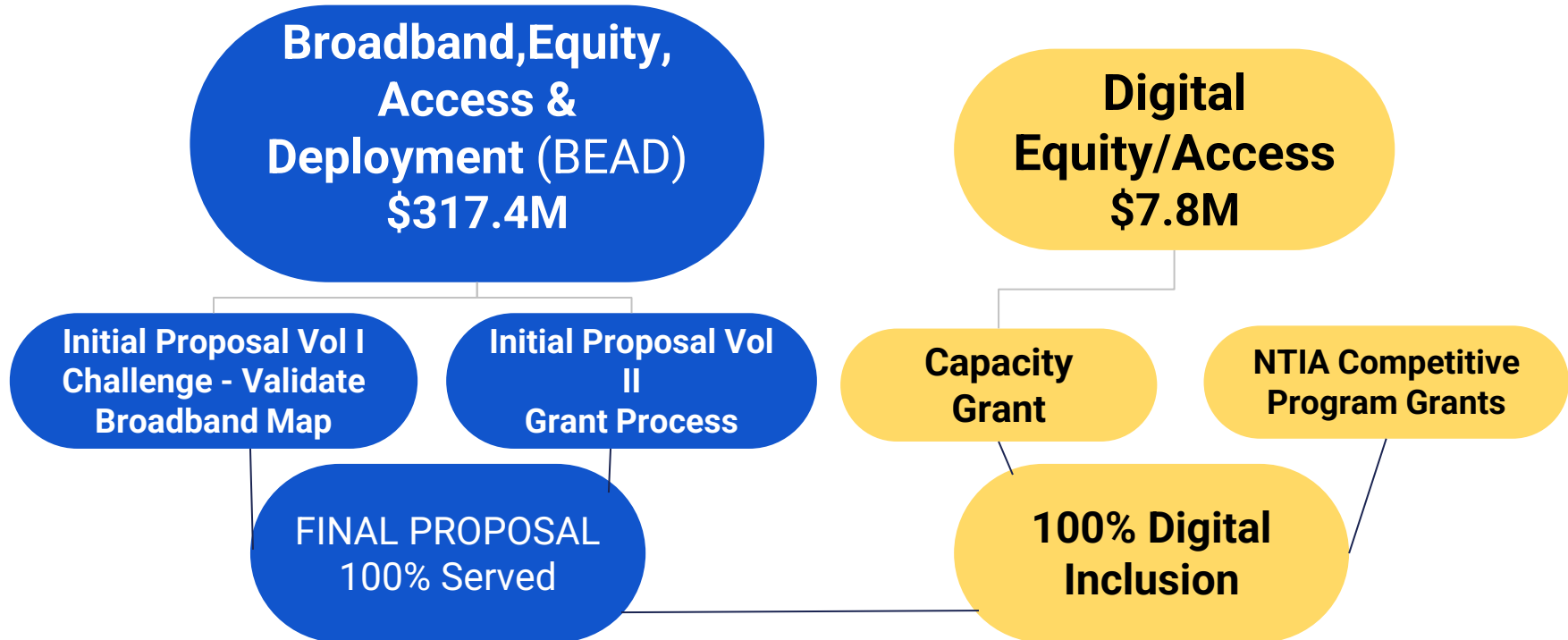
- Strategic plan development
- Application for and use of broadband infrastructure funds

1-State Grant- Broadband Access Grant

- Funded with ARPA Capital Project Funds \$15M (today) + match
- 3,665 broadband unserved/underserved locations (\$5,400/drop)
- 135 miles of fiber
 - Box Elder County - 8 communities = 2740
 - Montezuma Creek - (Navajo Nation) = 97
 - Millard County - Meadow/Kanosh (Paiute)= 473
 - Croydon = 56
 - West Mountain = 1095
 - White Hills = 125+
 - Hi Country /SL County = 299



2-Federal Grant - IIJA State Administered





UTAH'S DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY PLAN

BEAD

To guide the state in facilitating increased availability, accessibility, and affordability of high-speed internet infrastructure for the benefit of all Utahns.

Objectives:

- Expand broadband
- Work with Internet service providers & communities
- Maximize funding
- Strengthen Utah's economy through employment, education, telehealth, commerce & quality of life

Goal:

100% availability

Digital Equity/Access

To realize a Utah where all are invited to fully participate in modern society through access to affordable high-speed, safe and reliable devices, and training to achieve digital independence.

Key Barriers:

Affordability
Rural/Tribal
Digital Literacy
Devices
Cybersecurity

Covered Populations:

Disabled
Low-income
Language
Aging
Minority
Rural
Incarcerated

Challenge Process

63,670 Total un/underserved prior to challenge

OVER 32,000

UNIQUE LOCATIONS
CHALLENGED



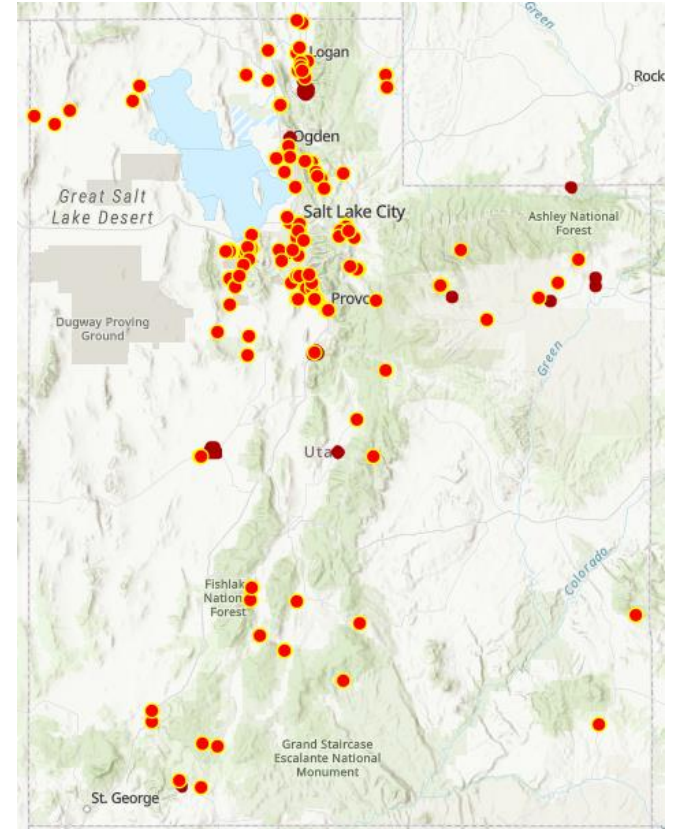
36

INDIVIDUAL
LOCATION
CHALLENGES



81

BULK
LOCATION
CHALLENGES



PARTNERS



BEAD

Next: Grant Process

- 6-months - Registration, pre-application & formal application
- Based on un/unserved census blocks
 - 71K census blocks in Utah ~7,356 are BEAD eligible
- Utah Project Funding Areas (UPFA)
- Final Proposal with all subgrantees - 365 days
- Four-years - 100% availability
- Digital Access Capacity Grant ~ January 2025

THANK YOU



Governor's Office of
Economic Opportunity

BUSINESS.UTAH.GOV