Granville County Townhall
Sept. 18, 2023

N.C. Department of Information Technology
Division of Broadband and Digital Equity

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DEPARTMENT OF
INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY

THE NEED: BROADBAND USAGE BY HOME

	Light Use (Basic functions: email, browsing, basic video, VoIP, Internet radio)	Moderate Use (Basic functions plus *one* high-demand application: streaming HD video, multiparty video conferencing, online gaming, telecommuting)	High Use (Basic functions plus *more than one* high-demand application running at the same time)
1 user on 1 device	Basic	Basic	Medium
2 users or devices at a time	Basic	Medium	Medium/Advanced
3 users or devices at a time	Medium	Medium	Advanced
4 users or devices at a time	Medium	Advanced	Advanced

Basic Service = 3 to 8 Mbps*　　　**Medium Service = 12 to 25 Mbps**　　　**Advanced Service = More than 25 Mbps**

*Mbps (Megabits per second) is the standard measure of broadband speed. It refers to the speed with which information packets are downloaded from or uploaded to the internet.

Source: https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/household-broadband-guide

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IT'S TIME TO CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE IN NORTH CAROLINA

At least 1.1 million North Carolina households lack access to high-speed internet, cannot afford it or do not have the skills needed to take advantage of the digital economy. Gov. Roy Cooper has a plan to close the digital divide to achieve digital equity for all North Carolinians.

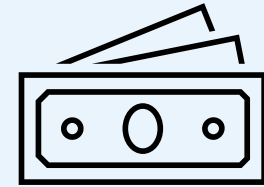# DIGITAL DEVICES, SKILLS & AFFORDABILITY

328,000

Estimated N.C. households without a home laptop or desktop computer

91%

of N.C. jobs require some digital skills

1/3

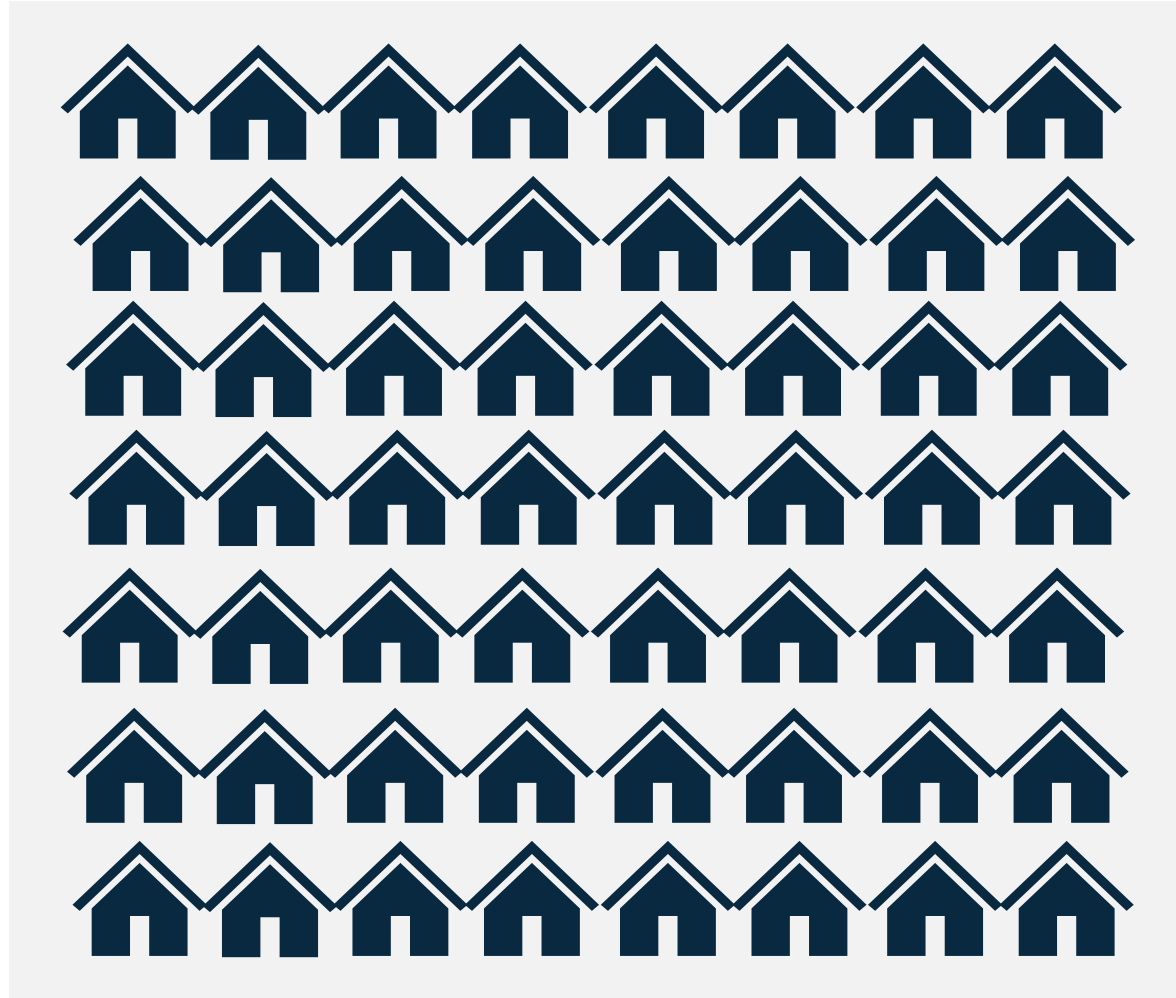of U.S. workers don't have foundational digital skills
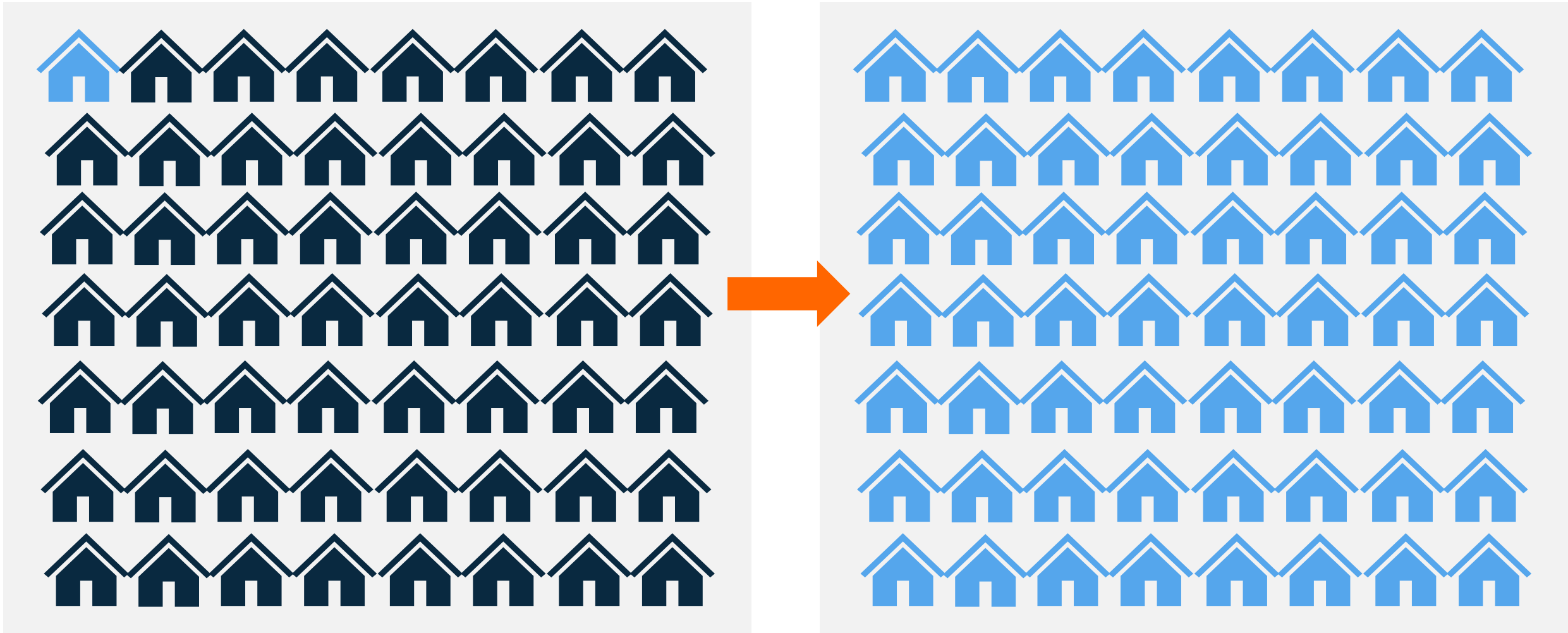
1.3M

N.C. households would have to pay more than 2% of their annual income to afford broadband cost of $60/month

Sources: 2017-2021 Census Five-Year American Community Survey data

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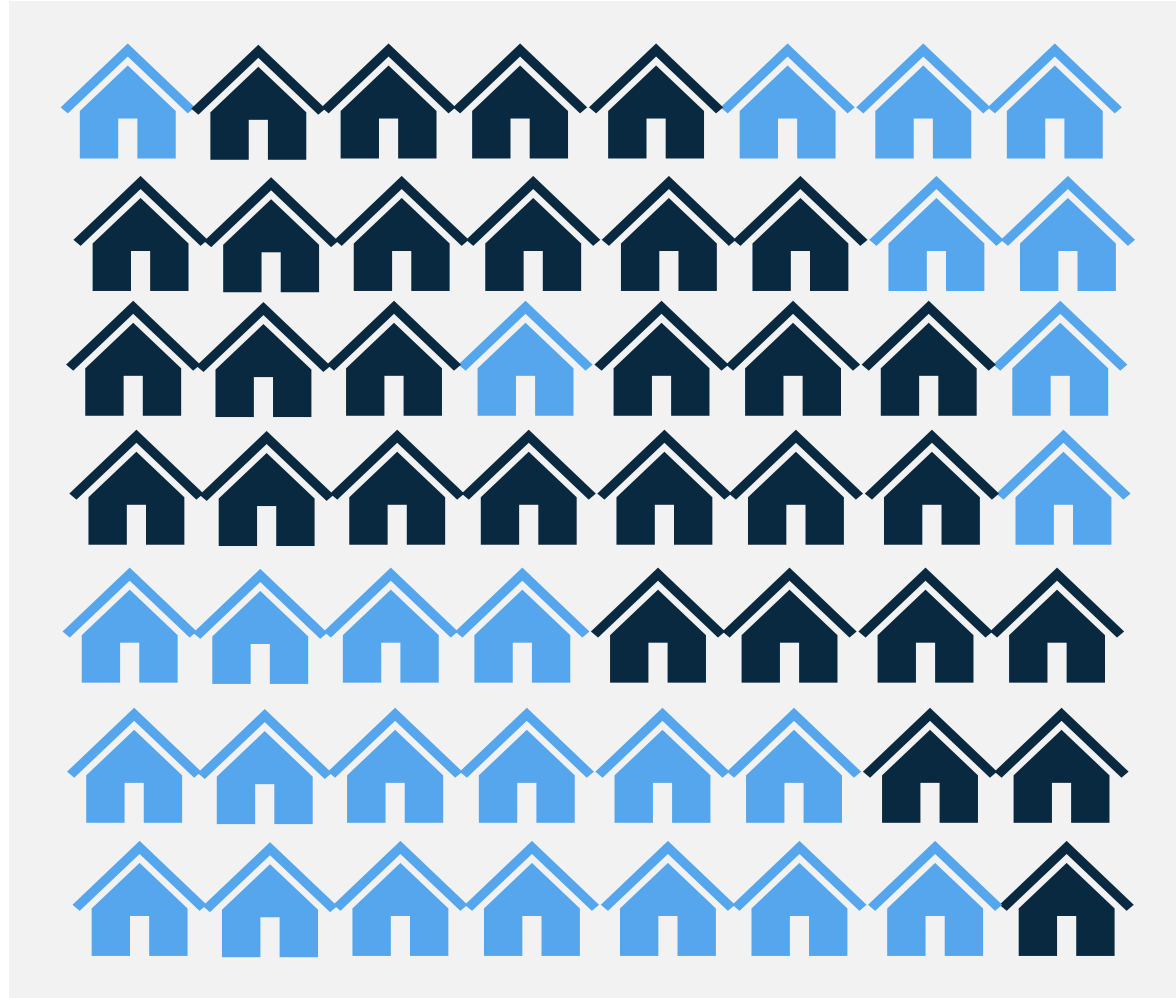
BROADBAND MAPPING: FCC FORM 477 DATA

BROADBAND MAPPING: FCC FORM 477 DATA

If one household in the census block is served, the <u>entire</u> census block is considered served

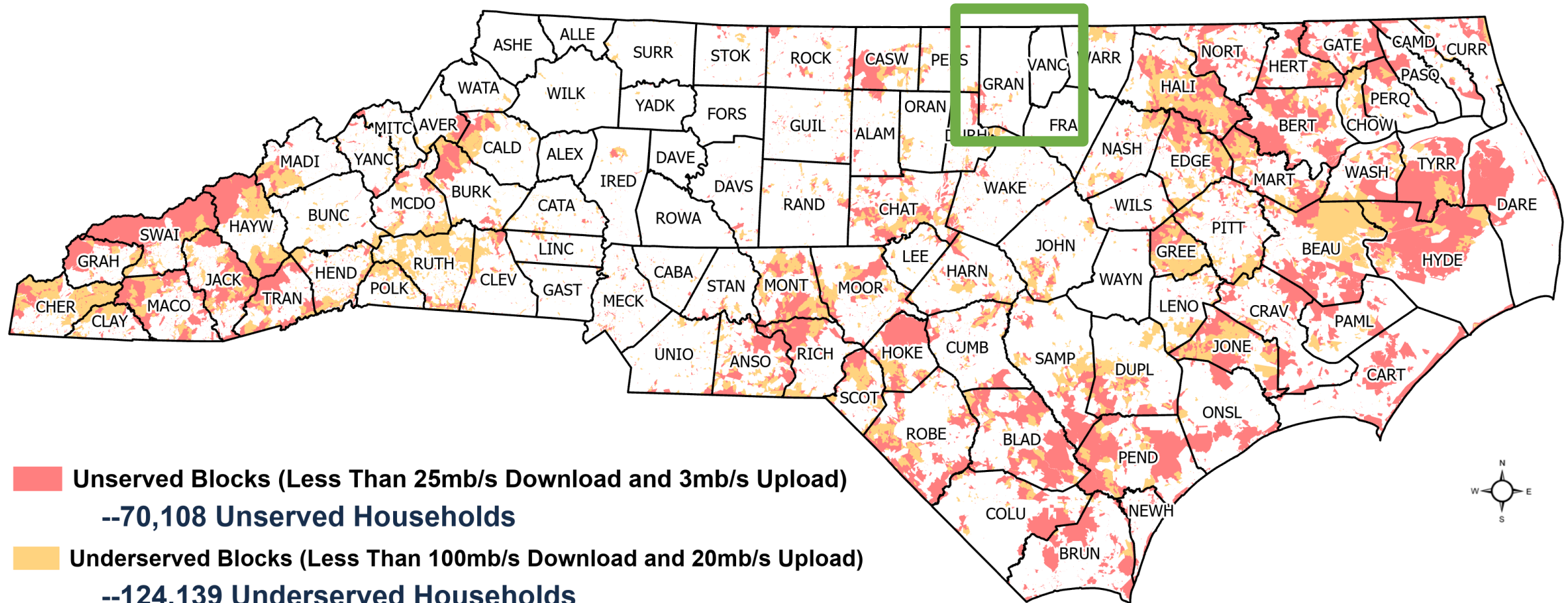**NCDIT** NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

BROADBAND MAPPING: FCC FORM 477 DATA

NC BROADBAND PROFILE
Evolving identification of Unserved Locations

Form 477 – Census Block Level Reporting – December 2021

Unserved Blocks (Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload)
--70,108 Unserved Households

Underserved Blocks (Less Than 100mb/s Download and 20mb/s Upload)
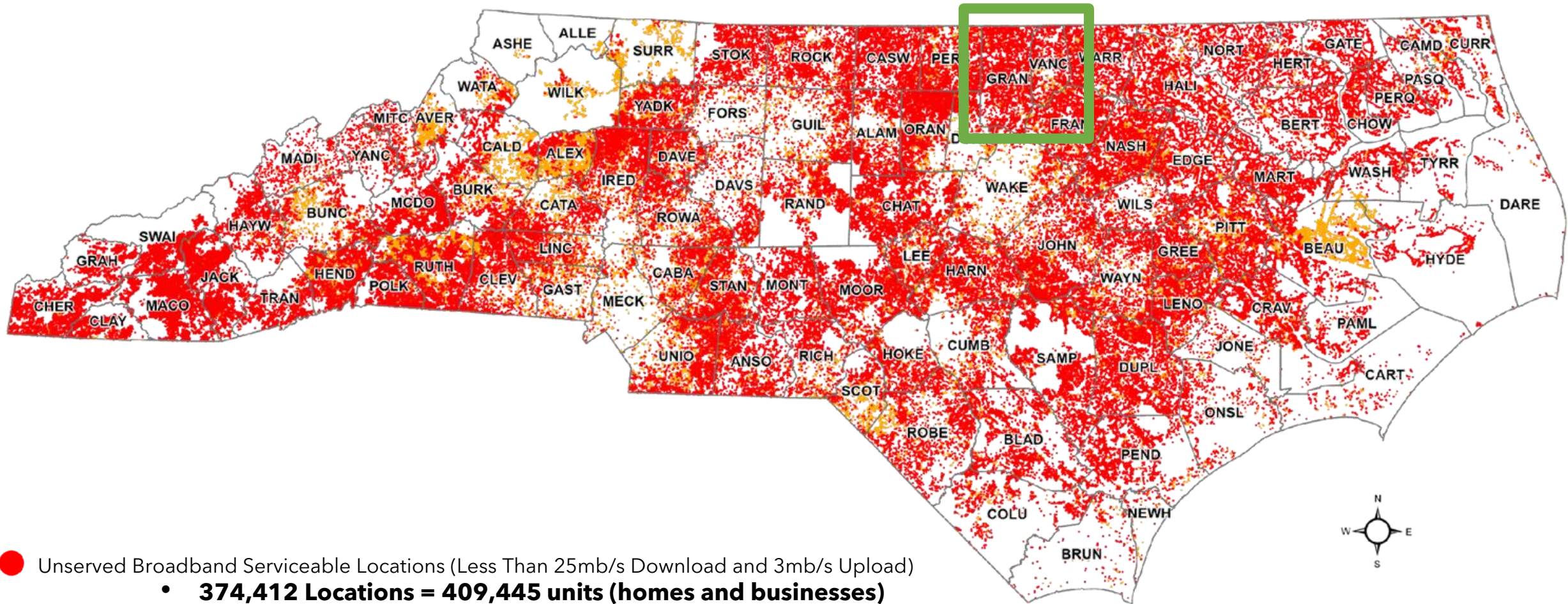--124,139 Underserved Households

NC BROADBAND PROFILE
Evolving identification of Unserved Locations

New FCC Broadband Data Collection Serviceable Location Fabric – December 2022

🔴 Unserved Broadband Serviceable Locations (Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload)
- **374,412 Locations = 409,445 units (homes and businesses)**

🟠 Underserved Broadband Serviceable Locations (Less Than 100mb/s Download and 20mb/s Upload)
- **127,956 Locations = 145,778 units (homes and businesses)**

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FCC Reported Unserved Locations

Count of Unserved

Percent Unserved

High   High

Low   Low

Unserved Locations from the FCC Broadband Data Collection have been aggregated into hexagon-shaped bins to show both the count and percent of unserved locations within each bin. Darker shades of pink indicate higher total counts of unserved locations. Darker shades of blue indicate a higher percentage of locations within a bin are unserved. Darker shades of purple indicate both a higher total of unserved locations and a higher percentage of total locations within a bin are unserved.

▲ NC Broadband Survey - Unserved Responses

○ GREAT Award Locations (ARPA Funded) - Contingent

● GREAT Award Locations (ARPA Funded) - Contracted

● GREAT Award Locations (State Funded)

▊ GREAT Award Areas (State Funded)

▨ FCC Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Grant

▨ Other Federal Grants

GRANVILLE COUNTY ESTIMATES

Percent Unserved *
(No Service 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload or Greater)

28.95%   7,473 Total Locations

Percent Underserved *
(No Service 100mb/s Download and 20mb/s Upload or Greater)

3.8%   980 Total Locations

Percent with Fiber Broadband Available *

1.27%   328 Total Locations

Percent with DSL Only *

33.16%   8,560 Total Locations

Percent with Broadband Subscription **

68.45%

Percent with No Internet Access **

13.41%
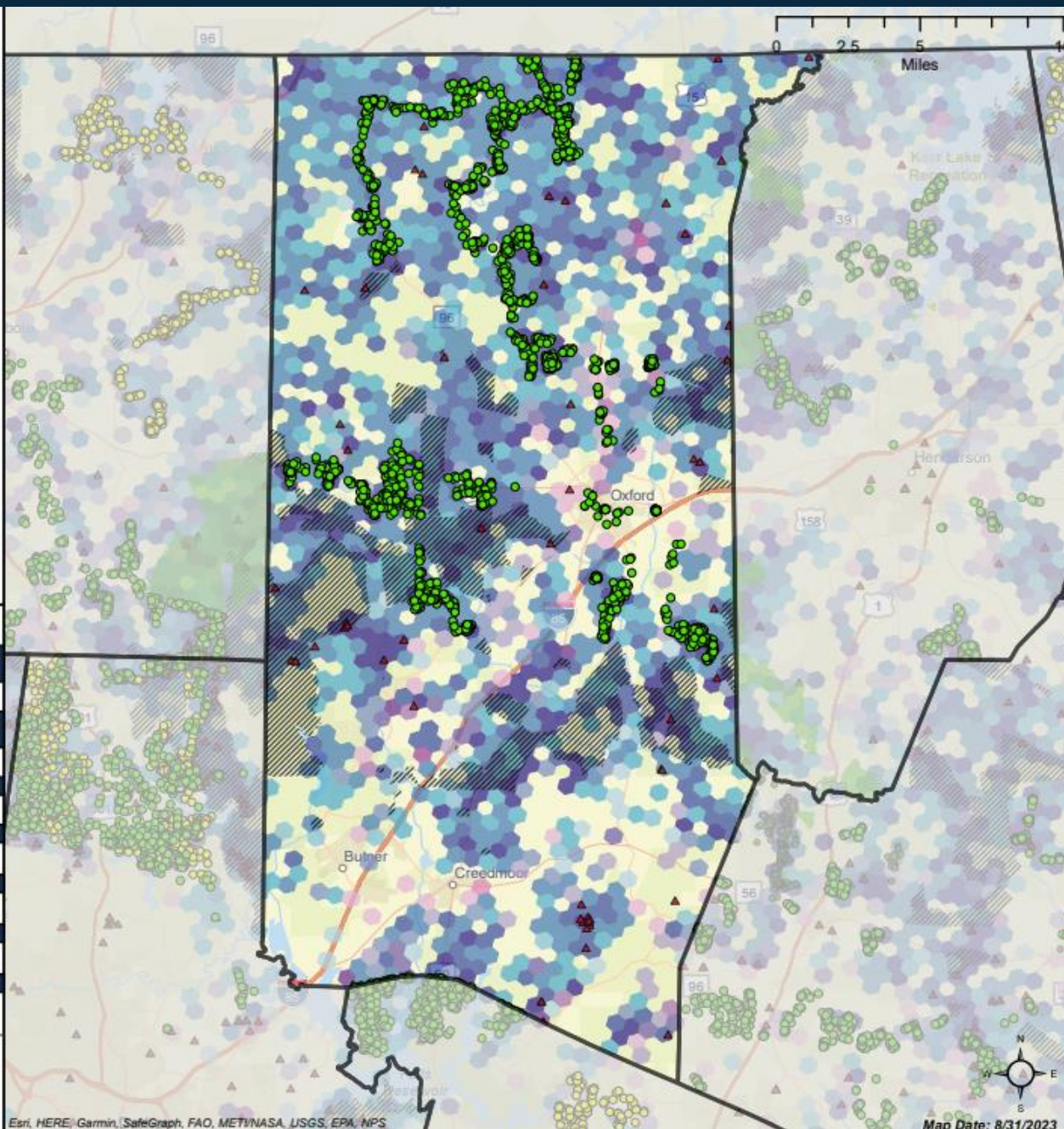
Percent with No Internet Devices **

7.83%

DATA SOURCES:
*FCC BDC - Federal Communication Commission Broadband Data Collection
Published June 2023 (Data as of December 31, 2022)

**ACS - U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2017-2021
5-Year Estimates

Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, FAO, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS

Map Date: 8/31/2023

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING

INFRASTRUCTURE

Ensure availability of internet service at speeds of at least 100/20 Mbps for more than 98% of North Carolina households

$350M   GREAT Grant

$400M   Completing Access to Broadband (CAB)

$90M   Stop-Gap Solutions

$100M   Broadband Pole Replacement Program

$1M   Broadband Mapping

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GRANVILLE COUNTY

GREAT Grant Award Locations (ARPA)
- Contingent
- Contracted

GREAT Non-Awarded Remaining Eligible Locations
-

Avg Cost Per Location
$3.5k

Total Project Cost
$6.7M

Total Grant Amount
$4M

Total Match Amount
$2.7M

Total Awarded Locations
1,914

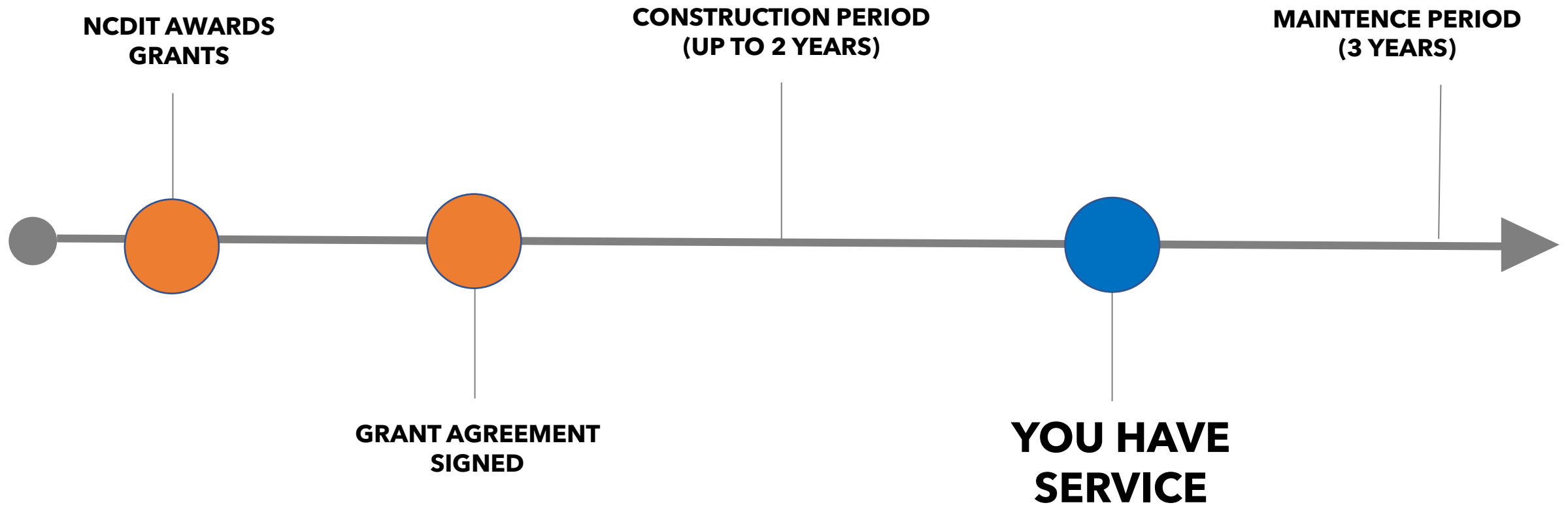**Households Served**
1,880

Businesses Served
34
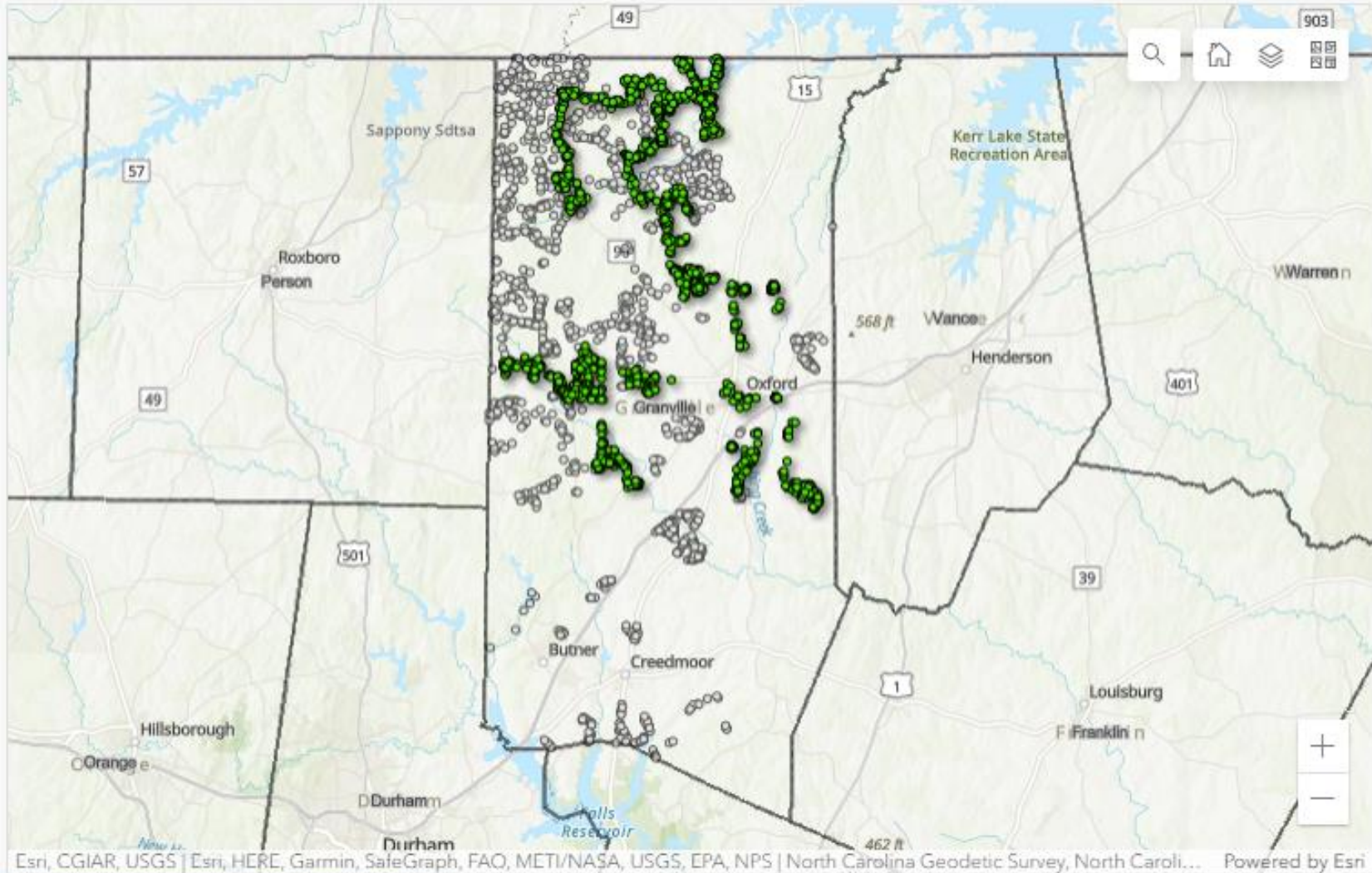
FIND YOUR LOCATION

nconemap.gov/pages/broadband
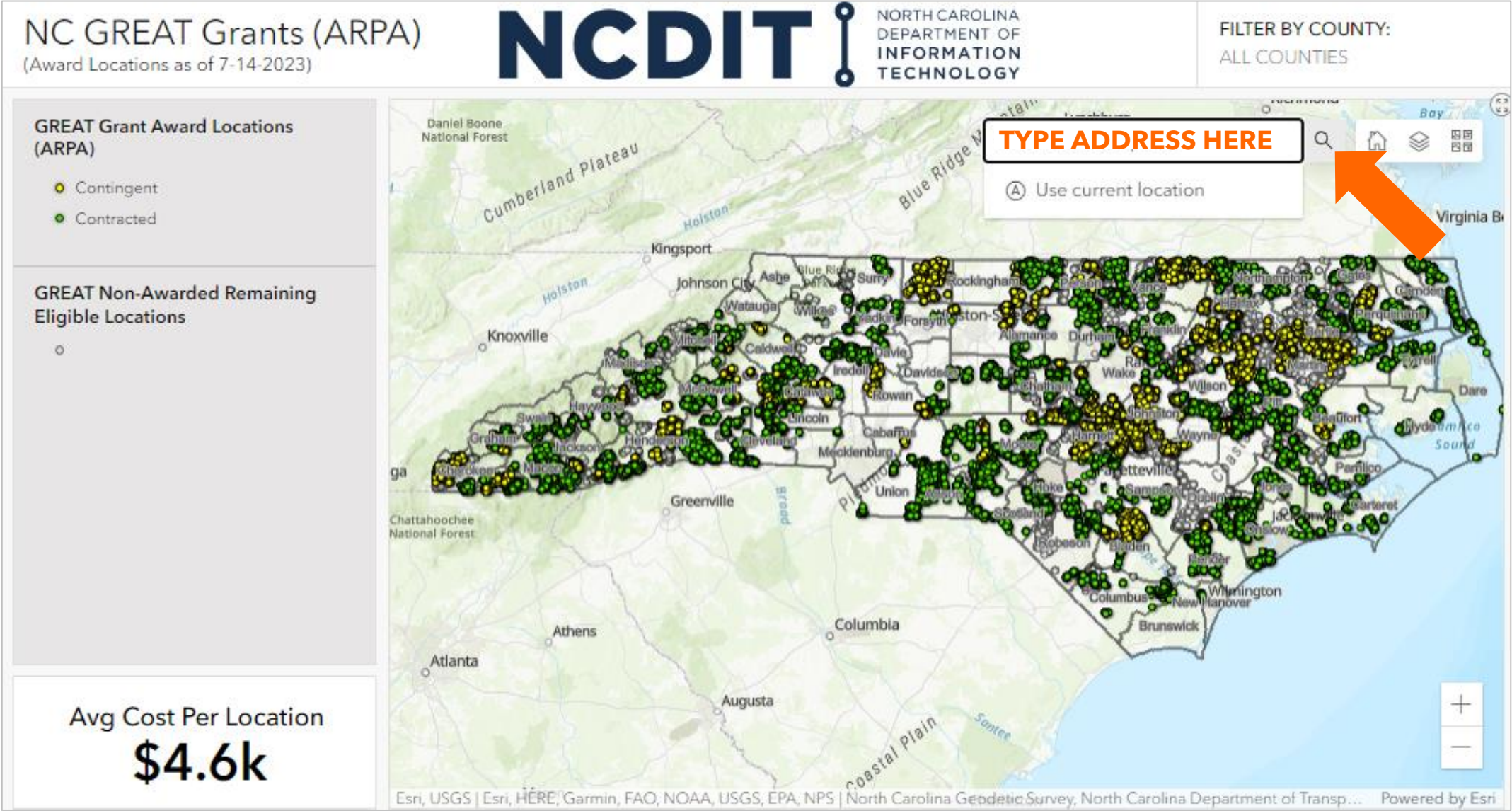
GREAT GRANT PROJECT TIMELINE

NCDIT AWARDS GRANTS

CONSTRUCTION PERIOD (UP TO 2 YEARS)

MAINTENCE PERIOD (3 YEARS)

GRANT AGREEMENT SIGNED

YOU HAVE SERVICE

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FCC BROADBAND MAP

https://fundingmap.fcc.gov

FCC BROADBAND MAP

https://fundingmap.fcc.gov

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING

AWARENESS AND DIGITAL LITERACY

Improve awareness and enable North Carolinians to realize the benefits of high-speed internet through digital literacy and upskilling aimed at accessing the digital economy:

- Increase enrollment in the Affordable Connectivity Program

- Increase access to devices for households

- Increase access to high quality digital literacy and skills training

- Build local digital equity capacity

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AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM (ACP)

- The Affordable Connectivity Program provides:
  - Up to a $30 per month discount on internet services;
  - Up to a $75 per month discount on tribal lands
  - $100 discount for a laptop, computer or tablet bought through a participating provider

- Some ways to qualify for the discount:
  - Have income at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines
  - Participate in certain assistance programs like SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline
  - Are approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program

- 850,606 households enrolled; Goal for reach 1 million households by December 2023

- Encouraging internet service providers to participate and provide $30/month plan

- Visit getinternet.gov to enroll

BROADBAND EQUITY, ACCESS, & DEPLOYMENT (BEAD) PROGRAM

- Supports the creation of community-centric solutions and provides resources to community organizations to help scale digital literacy programs

- Projects will be used to share best practices and show successful models of state-community partnerships

- Projects should aim to help the following groups:
  - Low-income households
  - Aging populations
  - Incarcerated individuals
  - Veterans
  - People with disabilities
  - People with language barriers
  - Racial and ethnic minorities
  - Rural inhabitants

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BEAD FUNDING
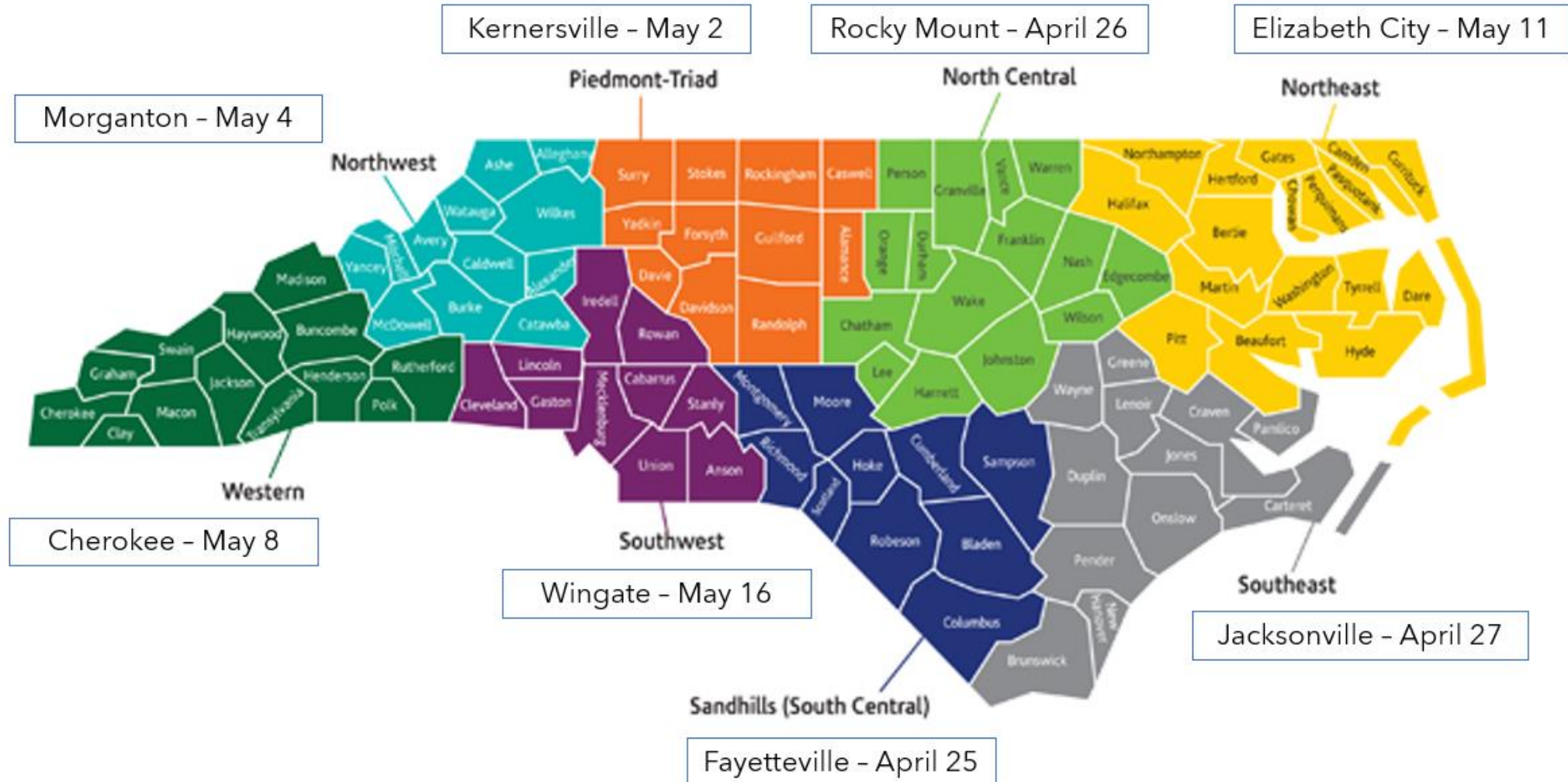
Awarded $1.53 billion to make sure all North Carolinians can access reliable high-speed internet

Eligible uses of funding include:

- Infrastructure for homes and businesses

- Upgrades to infrastructure for community anchor institutions

- Mapping and data collection

- Internet and Wi-Fi infrastructure for multi-family residential buildings

- High-speed internet adoption, including affordable internet capable devices and sign-up assistance

- Training and workforce development
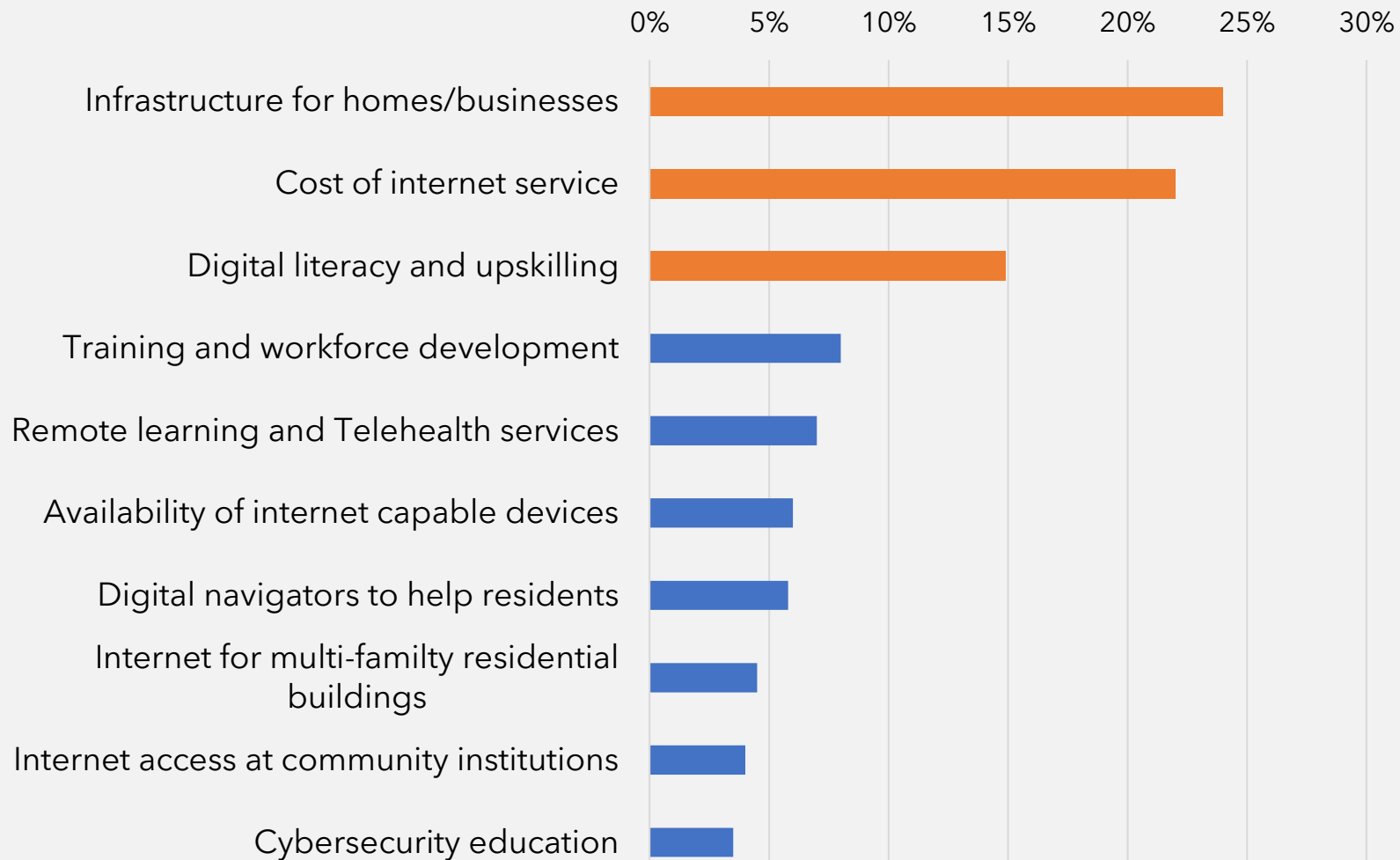
- Digital equity programs

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REGIONAL SESSIONS

Kernersville – May 2

Rocky Mount – April 26

Elizabeth City – May 11

Morganton – May 4

Cherokee – May 8

Wingate – May 16

Jacksonville – April 27

Fayetteville – April 25

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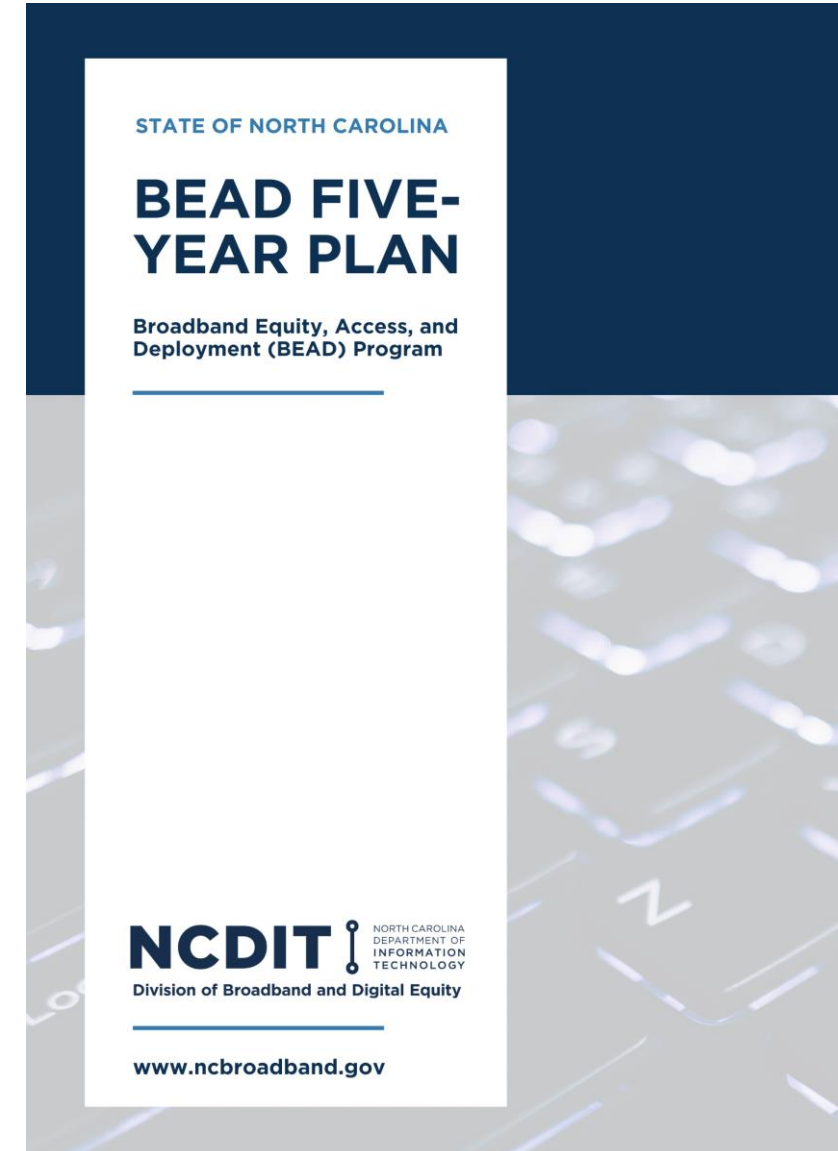INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY

KEY TAKEAWAYS: REGIONAL SESSIONS

Three Biggest Community Broadband Issues

BEAD FIVE-YEAR PLAN

- Made the draft BEAD five-year action plan available for public comment on June 26

- Refined plan based on comments received (partners listed in plan), and then submitted it to NTIA on July 28

- Plan was approved by NTIA in August

- Approved plan is available at https://www.ncbroadband.gov/documents/bead-5-year-plan-final/download?attachment

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

BEAD FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program

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www.ncbroadband.gov

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Take the five-minute N.C. Broadband Survey

- Helps us direct broadband funding and solutions to expand high-speed internet to communities across the state

- Includes a speed test to show how fast your current internet is

- No internet? Call or text "internet" to 919-750-0553

- Take the survey at ncbroadband.gov/survey

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Make your community aware of the Affordable Connectivity Program

- Materials in English and Spanish are available at ncbroadband.gov/ACPmaterials

Take the state's first Digital Equity Survey

- Share individual needs for accessibility and affordability of digital devices and the internet as well as digital skills needed to safely access online resources

- Available in top languages/dialects spoken in the state

go.ncsu.edu/DESurvey

RESURCES

- **BEAD and Digital Equity planning information:**
  ncbroadband.gov/BEAD

- **N.C. Broadband Survey:**
  ncbroadband.gov/survey

- **Affordable Connectivity Program:**
  getinternet.gov

- **Digital Equity Survey**
  go.ncsu.edu/DESurvey

- **Questions? We can help!**
  broadband@nc.gov

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