



# SC Broadband Advisory Council

*Enabling South Carolinians to Thrive in the Global Digital Economy*

South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff | April 11, 2023

# Agenda

---

**Welcome / Roll Call**

Jim Stritzinger, Co-Chair  
Anna Berger, Co-Chair

---

**SC Broadband Office Update**

Jim Stritzinger, ORS

---

**SC Digital Equity Office Update**

Sara Pincelli, Admin

---

**NTIA BEAD/DE Strategic Framework**

Tony DeLisi, Ernst & Young

---

**Other Business**

All

---

**Next Meeting – Tuesday, Jul. 18, 2023**  
**Adjourn**

All

---

# South Carolina

## Best Available Technology

September 30, 2022

### Best Available Technology (type | capability)

- Fiber | Speeds  $\geq$  100 Mbps/100 Mbps (symmetric)
- Cable (DOCSIS 3.1+) | Speeds  $\geq$  100 Mbps/100 Mbps
- Cable (DOCSIS 3.0) | Speeds  $\geq$  100 Mbps/20 Mbps
- Cable (DOCSIS  $<$  2.0) | Speeds  $\geq$  25 Mbps/3 Mbps
- VDSL (Fiber-To-The-Curb) | Speeds  $\geq$  10 Mbps/1 Mbps
- ADSL2, ADSL2+ | Speeds  $\geq$  6 Mbps/1 Mbps
- Fixed Wireless | Speeds  $\geq$  10 Mbps/1 Mbps
- ADSL | Speeds  $\geq$  3 Mbps/768 kbps
- Consumer Complaint
- No Internet Service Available
- Zero Households

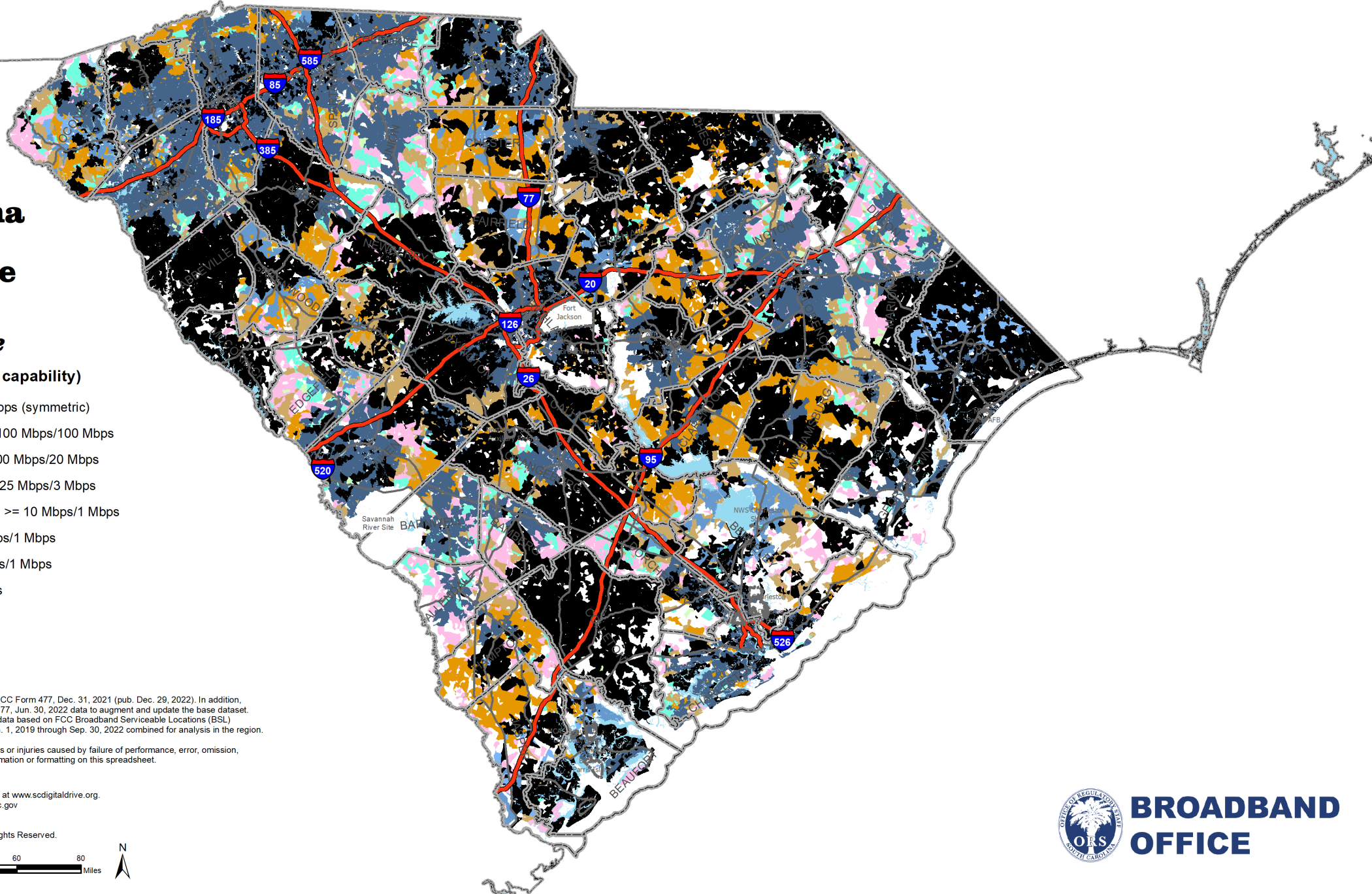
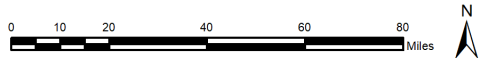
Data Sources: Based on SC Broadband Office (SCBBO) analysis of FCC Form 477, Dec. 31, 2021 (pub. Dec. 29, 2022). In addition, multiple Internet Service Providers have contributed their FCC Form 477, Jun. 30, 2022 data to augment and update the base dataset. Satellite and mobile broadband services are excluded. Demographic data based on FCC Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSL) Dec. 2022 information. Ookla® Speedtest Intelligence® data from Jan. 1, 2019 through Sep. 30, 2022 combined for analysis in the region.

The SC Broadband Office is neither responsible nor liable for damages or injuries caused by failure of performance, error, omission, inaccuracy, inaccessibility, incompleteness or any other errors in information or formatting on this spreadsheet.



Additional broadband information may be found at [www.scdigitaldrive.org](http://www.scdigitaldrive.org).  
Submit comments or questions to [maps@ors.sc.gov](mailto:maps@ors.sc.gov)

© Copyright 2023 SC Broadband Office  
South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff. All Rights Reserved.



**BROADBAND OFFICE**

# South Carolina

## Areas of Need

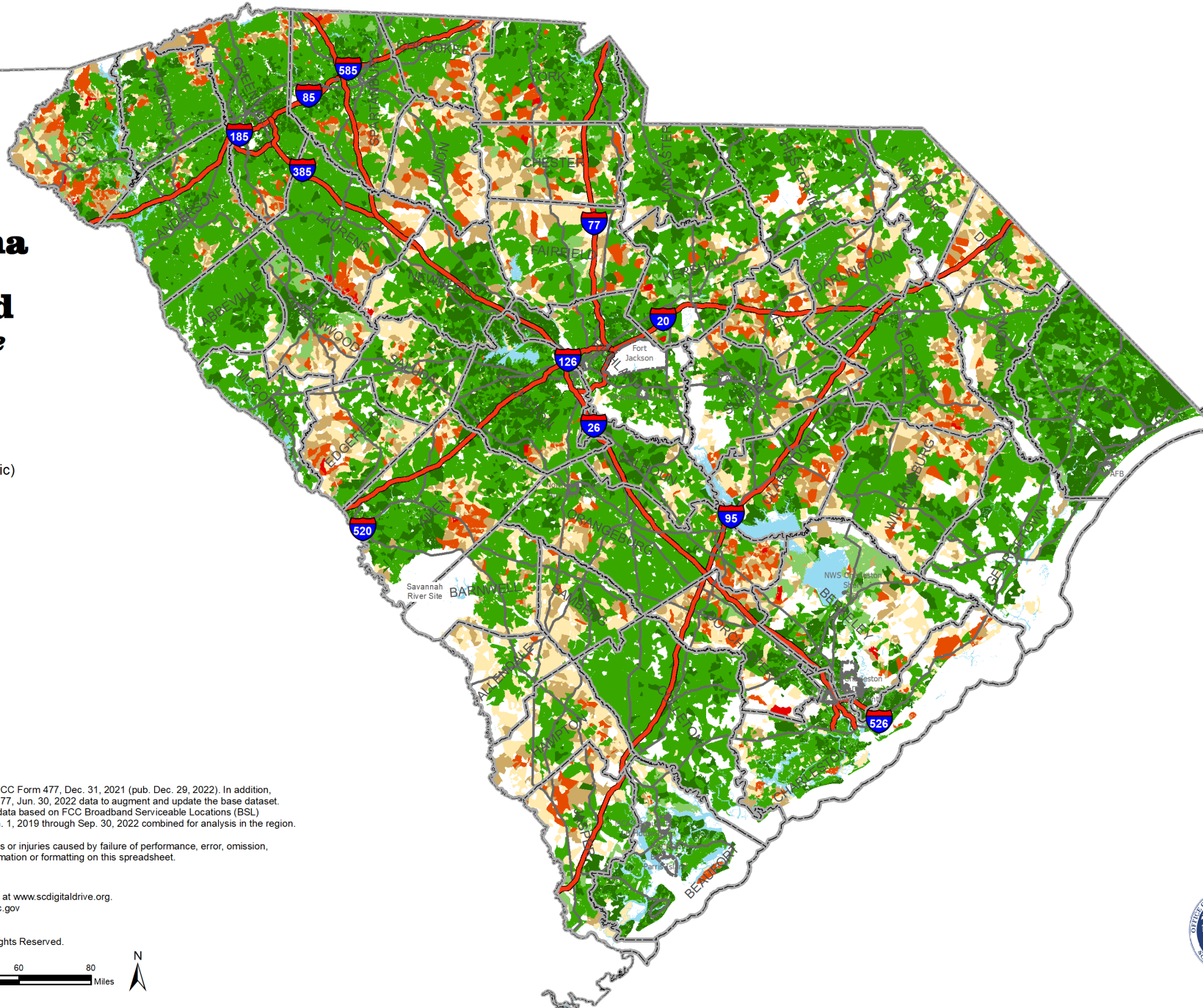
September 30, 2022

### Speed Tiers (download / upload)

- >= 100 Mbps / 100 Mbps (symmetric)
- >= 100 Mbps / 20 Mbps
- >= 25 Mbps / 3 Mbps

### Unserviced Housing Units

- 100 or more
- 26 - 99
- 11 - 25
- 1 - 10
- Zero



Data Sources: Based on SC Broadband Office (SCBBO) analysis of FCC Form 477, Dec. 31, 2021 (pub. Dec. 29, 2022). In addition, multiple Internet Service Providers have contributed their FCC Form 477, Jun. 30, 2022 data to augment and update the base dataset. Satellite and mobile broadband services are excluded. Demographic data based on FCC Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSL) Dec. 2022 information. Ookla® Speedtest Intelligence® data from Jan. 1, 2019 through Sep. 30, 2022 combined for analysis in the region.

The SC Broadband Office is neither responsible nor liable for damages or injuries caused by failure of performance, error, omission, inaccuracy, inaccessibility, incompleteness or any other errors in information or formatting on this spreadsheet.



Additional broadband information may be found at [www.scdigitaldrive.org](http://www.scdigitaldrive.org).  
Submit comments or questions to [maps@ors.sc.gov](mailto:maps@ors.sc.gov)

© Copyright 2023 SC Broadband Office  
South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff. All Rights Reserved.






**BROADBAND OFFICE**

# South Carolina






## Planning

December 31, 2024




### Speed Tiers (download / upload)

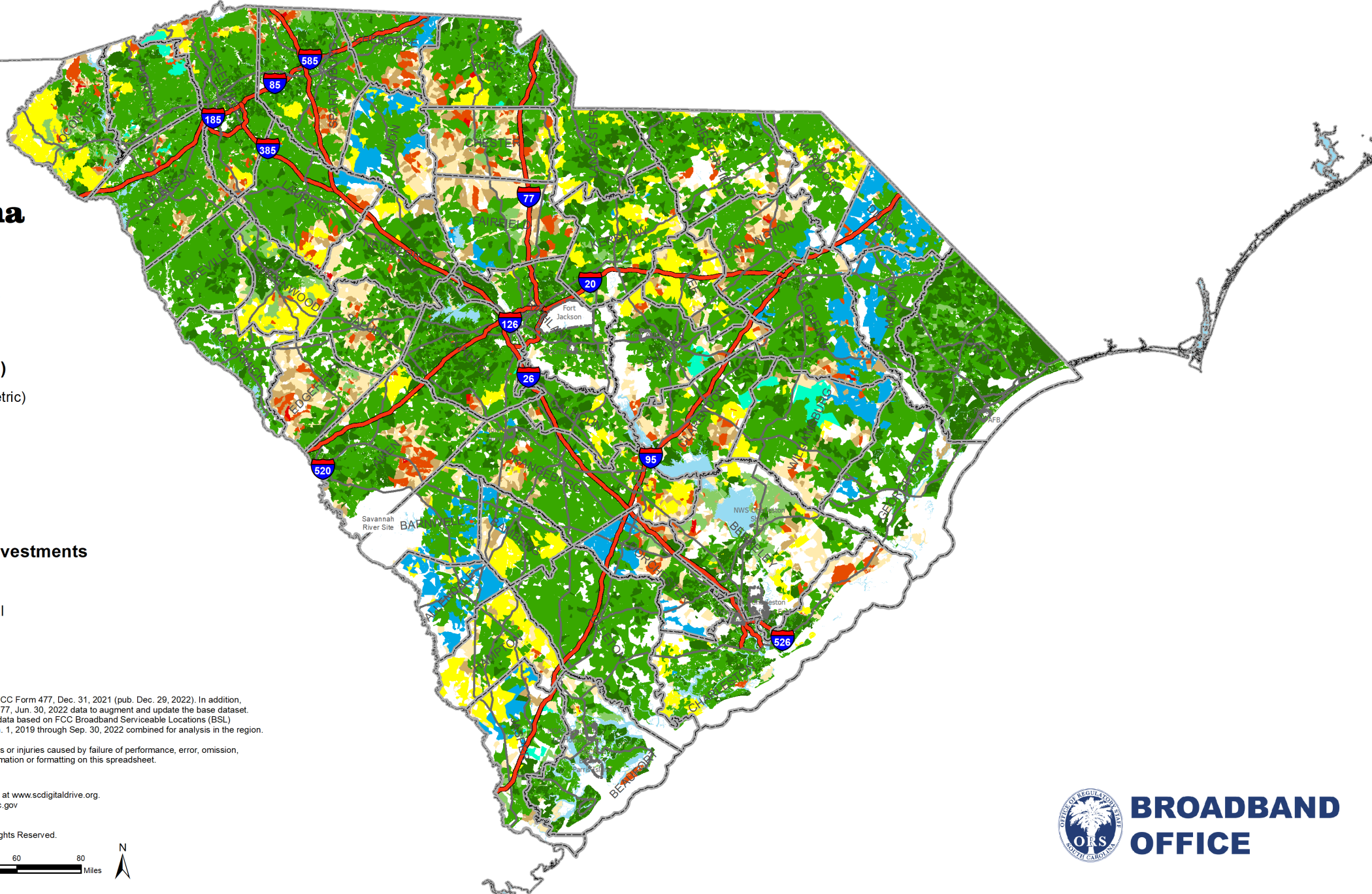
-  >= 100 Mbps / 100 Mbps (symmetric)
-  >= 100 Mbps / 20 Mbps
-  >= 25 Mbps / 3 Mbps

### Unserviced Housing Units

-  100 or More
-  26 - 99
-  11 - 25
-  1 - 10
-  Zero

### Managed Investments

-  State
-  Federal
-  Private



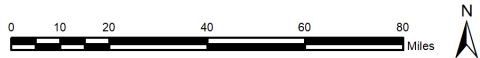
Data Sources: Based on SC Broadband Office (SCBBO) analysis of FCC Form 477, Dec. 31, 2021 (pub. Dec. 29, 2022). In addition, multiple Internet Service Providers have contributed their FCC Form 477, Jun. 30, 2022 data to augment and update the base dataset. Satellite and mobile broadband services are excluded. Demographic data based on FCC Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSL) Dec. 2022 information. Ookla® Speedtest Intelligence® data from Jan. 1, 2019 through Sep. 30, 2022 combined for analysis in the region.

The SC Broadband Office is neither responsible nor liable for damages or injuries caused by failure of performance, error, omission, inaccuracy, inaccessibility, incompleteness or any other errors in information or formatting on this spreadsheet.



Additional broadband information may be found at [www.scdigitaldrive.org](http://www.scdigitaldrive.org).  
Submit comments or questions to [maps@ors.sc.gov](mailto:maps@ors.sc.gov)

© Copyright 2023 SC Broadband Office  
South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff. All Rights Reserved.



**BROADBAND OFFICE**

# South Carolina Statewide

## Statistics

September 30, 2022



### Population

Population estimates are calculated by multiplying Dec. 2022 FCC Broadband Servicable Locations (BSL) times an approximate residents per BSL.

### Public K-12

K-12 student data reflects the subset of public school students which have been geocoded as of September 30, 2022. Student data was provided by the SC Department of Education.

### Housing Units

A housing unit is a house, an apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms, or a single room that is occupied (or if vacant, is intended for occupancy) as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live and eat separately from any other persons in the building and which have direct access from the outside of the building or through a common hall. Dec. 2022 FCC BSL data is used in all calculations.

### Qualified HU

Qualified Housing Units (HU) are located within Difficult Development Areas (Qualified Census Tracts) as determined by US Housing and Urban Development utilizing Census 2010 format. Census 2020 translation was done by the SC Broadband Office (SCBBO).

### ACP

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more.

Data Sources: Based on SCBBO analysis of FCC Form 477, Dec. 31, 2021 (pub. Dec 29, 2022). In addition multiple Internet Service Providers have contributed their FCC Form 477 Jun. 30, 2022 data to augment and update the base dataset. Satellite and mobile broadband services are excluded. Demographic data based on FCC BSL Dec. 2022 information. ACP eligibility information provided by Education SuperHighway and enrollment reported by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) through Sept. 30, 2022.

The SCBBO is neither responsible nor liable for damages or injuries caused by failure of performance, error, omission, inaccuracy, inaccessibility, incompleteness or any other errors in information or formatting on this map.

Additional broadband information may be found at [www.scdigitaldrive.org](http://www.scdigitaldrive.org).  
Submit comments or questions to [maps@ors.sc.gov](mailto:maps@ors.sc.gov)



# BROADBAND OFFICE

© Copyright 2023 SC Broadband Office  
South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff. All Rights Reserved.

US Census	Population		Housing Units	
2010	4,625,364		2,137,683	
2020	5,118,425	10.7%	2,344,963	9.7%
September 30, 2022	5,187,053	12.1%	2,488,040	16.4%

CURRENT	Current Below 25↓ Mbps Download / 3↑ Mbps Upload							
	Population		Public K-12		Housing Units		Qualified HU	
September 30, 2022	274,097	5.4%	34,696	4.7%	137,004	5.5%	17,744	13.0%

ACCESS					
Fiber		Cable		Copper	
1,257,047	50.5%	2,170,076	87.2%	2,026,228	81.4%

ADOPTION					
Fiber		Cable		Copper	
412,630	16.6%	1,201,871	48.3%	259,085	10.4%

ACP Enrollment							
Subscribers		Service		Device		Devices	
262,617	30.0%	\$5,853,217		\$517,419		5,189	

INVESTMENTS managed by:	Projected Investment Impact							
	Population		Public K-12		Housing Units		Qualified HU	
Federal	33,760		4,183		16,858		3,150	
State	84,836		10,489		42,892		5,245	
Private	6,738		749		3,271		186	
<b>Total</b>	<b>125,334</b>		<b>15,421</b>		<b>63,021</b>		<b>8,581</b>	

FUTURE	Remaining Below 25↓ Mbps Download / 3↑ Mbps Upload							
	Population		Public K-12		Housing Units		Qualified HU	
December 31, 2024	148,763	2.9%	19,275		73,983	3.0%	9,163	



# SOUTH CAROLINA DIGITAL DRIVE

Tools and resources to inform consumers and stakeholders

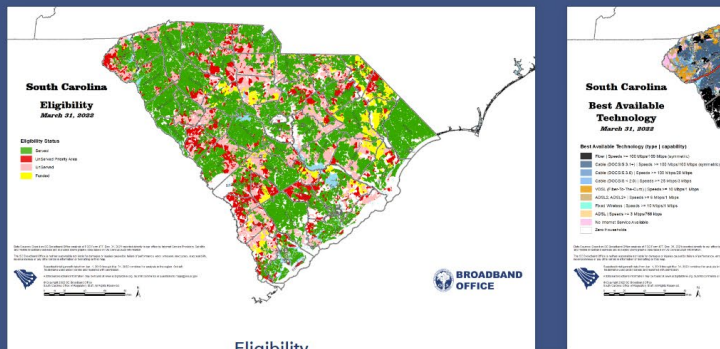
Don't have access to internet? Take the [Need Internet](#) survey

Search for maps by county and type

Current Total Housing Units  
With At Least  
25↓ Mbps / 3↑ Mbps Service  
**2,164,673\***

Current Total Housing  
Without  
25↓ Mbps / 3↑ Mbps S  
**181,715\***

Explore  
Maps



### SC Broadband County Dashboard March 2022

Private Member  
Private Organization

#### Summary

The Dashboard allows users to view general broadband statistics at the SC county level. Much of the data reflected in the Dashboard is based on Federal Communication Commission data submissions. The Dashboard uses data from Internet Service Providers (ISPs). Dashboard data is updated periodically - At a minimum 2 times per year. For questions about the Dashboard data, please contact the Broadband Office via [mapping@ors.sc.gov](mailto:mapping@ors.sc.gov).

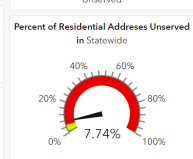
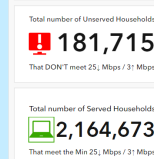
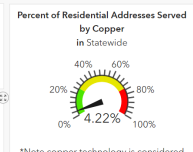
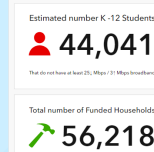
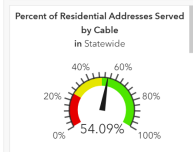
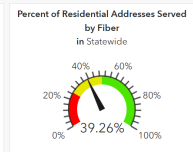
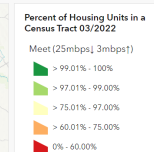
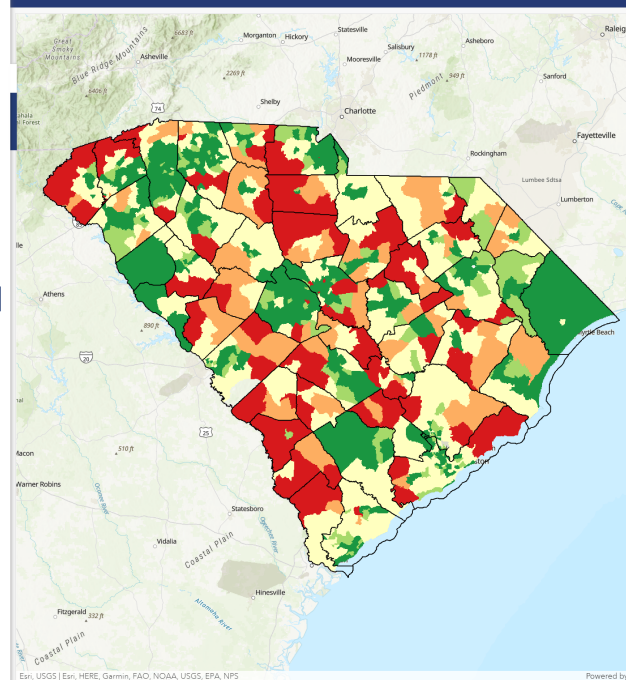
Read More

View Full Details

#### Details

- Dashboard Dashboard
- June 17, 2022 Date Updated
- June 15, 2022 Published Date
- Public Anyone can see this content
- No License Provided Request permission to use

### SC Broadband Dashboard March 2022 Data



# AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

Act 244 (H. 4408) \$400 Million for SC Broadband Infrastructure

Enacted  
May 13, 2022

State Fiscal  
Recovery Fund

- \$214.2 Million

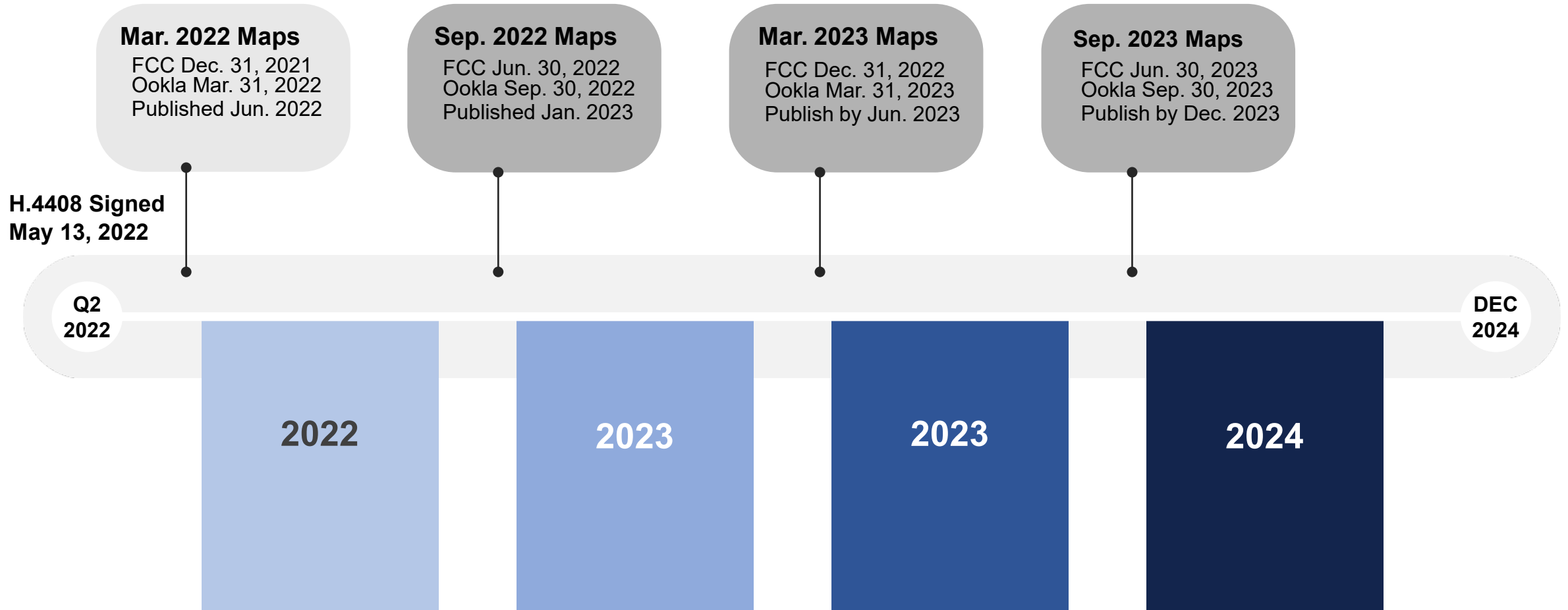
Capital  
Projects Fund

- \$185.8 Million

The funds in the ARPA Broadband Account shall be used to expand broadband infrastructure to households, businesses, and communities in the State that are unserved or underserved by broadband services.



# SC BROADBAND INVESTMENT ROADMAP



# ARPA Capital Projects Fund



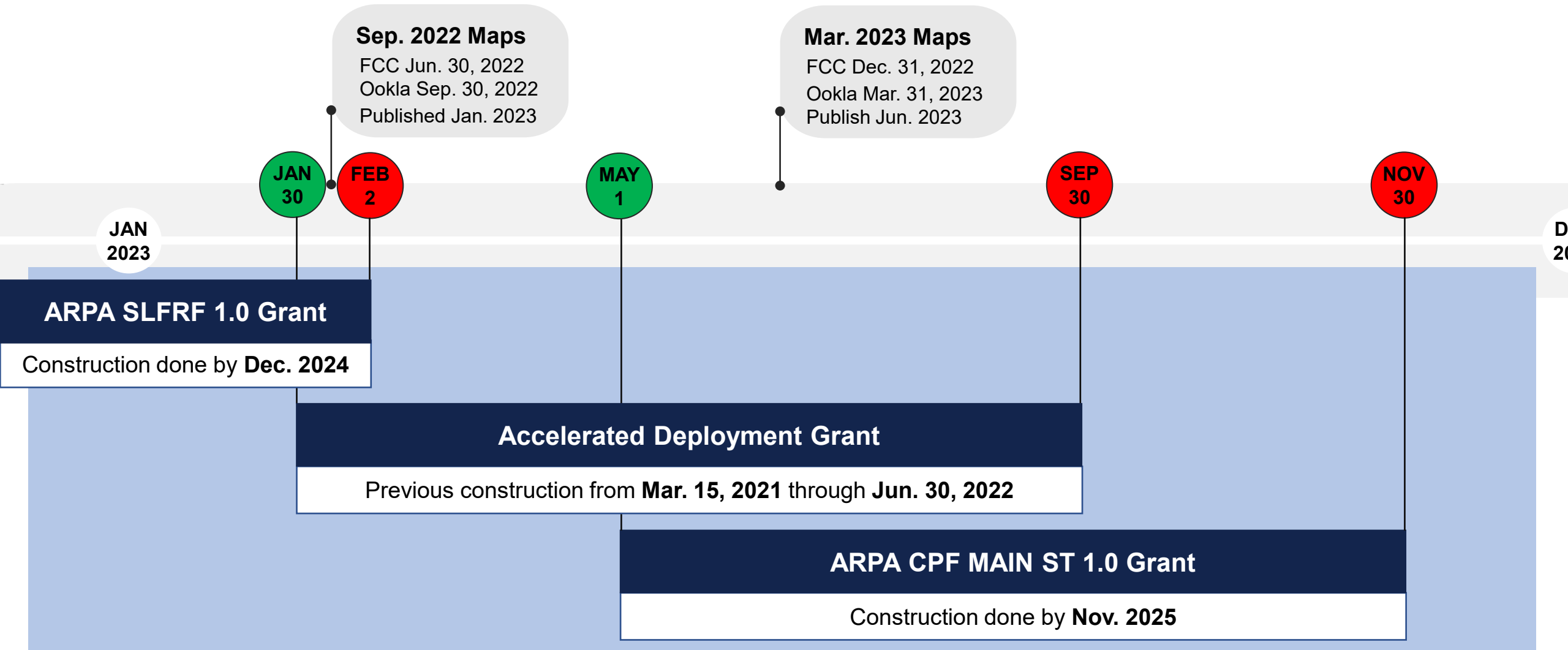
## Unserved 2020 Census Blocks with:

- 1) More than 20 public K-12 student households; **or,**
- 2) Difficult Development Areas (HUD); **or,**
- 3) No Internet Service Provider (ISP); **or,**
- 4) **Underserved Main Street Communities**

**Requires 100 Mbps Symmetric (100/100)**

*Source: H.4408, Section 9: Priority must be given to unserved areas with no current Internet Service Provider, Difficult Development Areas as identified by U.S. Housing and Urban Development, and census blocks that have a high concentration of unserved public K-12 student households as documented by the South Carolina Department of Education. Capital Projects Fund plan approved by US Treasury on March 7, 2023.*

# 2023 SC BROADBAND GRANT PROGRAMS



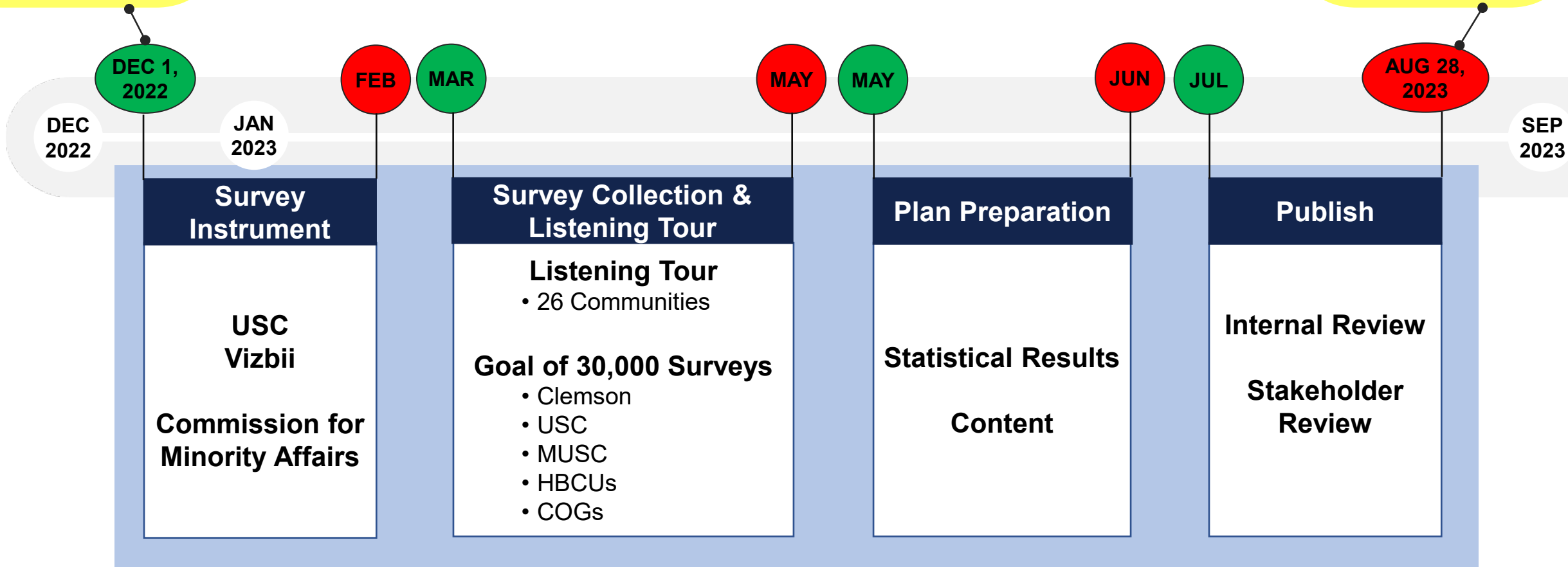
*\* All dates are subject to change without notice.*

# BEAD / DE Planning Process

BEAD / DE Planning Funds Received

270-Day Shot Clock from Fund Receipt!

5-Year Plan Due to NTIA





**SCAN CODE**  
or visit  
**GetConnectedSC.org**

**YOUR INPUT = BETTER INTERNET**

# **GetConnectedSC Survey Instruments**

## **Residential Survey**

## **Business/Organization Survey**

## **County/Municipal Survey**

- **Local Government Capabilities**
- **1 Survey per County/Municipality**
- **Infrastructure Inventory → Opportunities for Investment**

# On The Road with Get Connected SC

Get  
Connected  
SC

BETTER  
INTERNET  
FOR A  
BETTER  
SOUTH  
CAROLINA

- **Fairfield** | March 14, 2023
- **Anderson** | March 21, 2023
- **Williamsburg** | March 23, 2023
- **Oconee** | March 29, 2023
- **York** | March 30, 2023
- **Union** | April 4, 2023
- **Bamberg** | April 5, 2023
- **Spartanburg** | April 5, 2023
- **Barnwell** | April 5, 2023
- **Jasper** | April 6, 2023

# Coming to a County Near You Soon...

## Charleston

- **Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 10:30 am**  
McClellanville Town Hall, Council's Chambers  
405 Pinkney Street  
McClellanville, SC 29458

## Marion

- **Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 6:00 pm**  
Marion County Administration Building  
Room: Council Chambers  
2523 East Highway 76  
Marion, SC 29571

## Clarendon

- **Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 2:00 pm**  
Harvin Clarendon County Library  
215 N. Brooks Street  
Manning, SC 29102

## Greenwood

- **Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 2:00 pm**  
The Arts Center of Greenwood  
Calhoun Mays Reception Hall  
120 Main Street  
Greenwood, SC 29646

## Florence

- **Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 6:00 pm**  
Continuum Community Center  
208 West Main Street  
Lake City, SC 29560

**Make Sure to check [GetConnectedSC.org](https://www.getconnectedsc.org) for the most recent date and location details!**

**Get  
Connected  
SC**

BETTER  
INTERNET  
FOR A  
BETTER  
SOUTH  
CAROLINA



# Thank you!

**Jim Stritzinger**  
**Director, SC Broadband Office**  
jstritzinger@ors.sc.gov

Office: (803) 737-0825  
Mobile: (803) 606-6398

**Mike Shealy**  
**Director, SC Digital Equity Office**  
mike.shealy@admin.sc.gov

Office: (803) 612-9057  
Mobile: (803) 315-4449



# South Carolina State Broadband Office



## Overview of 5-Year-Action Plan, Digital Equity Plan and Initial Proposal

April 11, 2023

Section 1

# Overview

# 5-Year Action Plan, Digital Equity Plan & Initial Proposal



- ▶ **5-Year Action Plan / Initial Proposal:** To be eligible for the \$42.5b Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) funding program, an Eligible Entity that receives Initial Planning Funds (as South Carolina did on December 8, 2022) must submit a Five-Year Action Plan. An Initial Proposal must be submitted later (see below for dates). While there is overlap between the two documents, and the Five-Year Action Plan will inform the Initial Proposal, they also cover different activities and sections, as outlined below.
- ▶ **Digital Equity Plan:** For those states seeking to access the remaining State Digital Equity Grant Program funds (totaling \$2.69b), a Digital Equity Plan will be a key component of any application.

These three documents will inform a more concise strategic broadband summary which will be submitted to the SC General Assembly and made public.

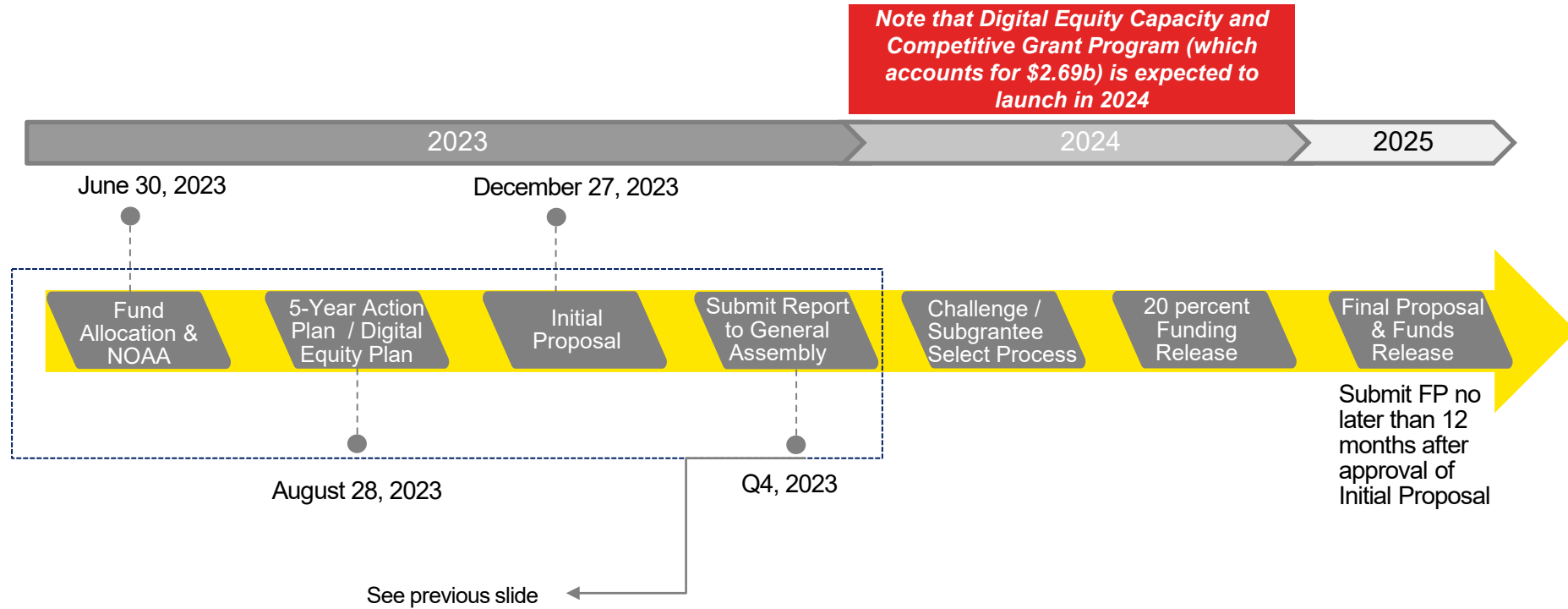
	5-Year-Action Plan	Digital Equity Plan	Initial Proposal
Overview	Establishes State's broadband goals and priorities and serves as a comprehensive needs assessment that will inform future plans such as the Initial and Final Proposals.	Establishes a State's vision, goals and strategy for digital equity, with broadband affordability and adoption as key tenets.	Establishes how the State will ensure that every resident has access to reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband and the competitive process for selecting subgrantees.
Key Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documenting resources available</li> <li>• Needs and gaps assessment</li> <li>• Evaluating current and future state</li> <li>• Identifying priorities and activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholder outreach</li> <li>• Documenting assets and existing plans</li> <li>• Needs assessment (emphasis on covered populations)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outline long-term objectives</li> <li>• Describe how Community Anchor Institutions were determined</li> <li>• Describe challenge process</li> <li>• Provide climate threat assessment</li> </ul>
Key Sections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vision, goals and objectives</li> <li>• Existing programs</li> <li>• Partnerships, asset inventory</li> <li>• Obstacles and barriers</li> <li>• Key execution strategies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategy and objectives</li> <li>• Asset inventory</li> <li>• Coordination and outreach strategy</li> <li>• Implementation strategy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A template has not been released yet, but key sections will likely cover the activities above and intended use of the first 20% of funding, subgrantee selection process, etc.</li> </ul>
Submittal Date	270 days after receipt of planning funds <b>August 28, 2023</b>	One year after receipt of planning funds <b>August 28, 2023<sup>1</sup></b>	180 days after NOAA of BEAD program <b>Dec 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023<sup>2</sup></b>

<sup>1</sup>Given the significant overlap between the 5-year Action Plan and Digital Equity Plan, South Carolina is targeting submitting both concurrently

<sup>2</sup> Notice of Available Amounts (NOAA) is expected June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

# Timelines

- Once the Five-Year-Action, Digital Equity, Initial Proposal and General Assembly Report are submitted in 2023, future activities include conducting a challenge process, the release of 20% of the total funds, the submittal of a Final Proposal, and finally the release of the full amount of BEAD funding upon approval of the Final Proposal.



- ▶ To assist with the development of the three documents (5-Year Action Plan, Digital Equity Plan and Initial Proposal) states are retaining the help of consultants, partners (i.e. universities, associations and nonprofits), and departmental staff to focus on key activities to complete certain sections of the documents. The status of those activities is presented below:
- ▶ South Carolina has utilized BEAD planning funds and engaged partners since 2022 in an effort to proactively engage with the process.

Key Activity	Description	Status
Create Marketing Strategy	Develop strategic marketing/branding strategy. Develop website and videos. Evaluate advertising opportunities.	Largely complete – See <a href="http://getconnectedsc.org">getconnectedsc.org</a> website.
Develop Asset Inventory	Identify hard assets (e.g., towers, buildings, utility poles) and soft assets—or efforts (e.g., programs, activities, strategies, skills, technical assistance) that can be leveraged to close the digital divide.	In progress – Clemson University undertaking asset mapping activities.
Stakeholder Outreach – Surveys	Design multiple custom surveys depending on target audience (i.e. residential, business, municipal etc.) to identify obstacles and barriers to reliable and affordable high-speed internet. Coordinate with partners for distribution to diverse SC citizens and stakeholders.	In progress – Residential, Business/Organization and Gov/Municipal surveys designed. Several thousand complete.
Stakeholder Outreach – Listening Tour	Conduct listening tours in communities across the state that represent a diversity of perspectives.	In progress – 10 events completed.
Identify Obstacles and Barriers	Identify obstacles or barriers that are preventing broadband access in the state and build measures to remove these obstacles or barriers in an effective manner.	In progress – stakeholder outreach (surveys, listening tours) and asset inventory will inform this section.
Develop Planned Activities and Key Execution Strategies	Identify activities and strategies to implement state goals and objectives.	Pending – Will start at conclusion of stakeholder outreach
Draft Plans	Develop 5-Year Action Plan, Digital Equity Plan and Initial Proposal (see slide 2 for additional info).	In progress – Certain sections of the 5-year Action Plan have been drafted and discussed with SCBBO for review.