



## **FACT SHEET:**

### ***“The Broadband Landscape in the State of Texas: Assessment at a State, Regional & Local Level, and Recommendations for Broadband Expansion”***

#### **Framing**

- This is the first-ever detailed assessment of the broadband market for the state of Texas, conducted by the Connected Texas project.
- The completed report is a step forward in providing a baseline for increasing high-speed Internet access and adoption across Texas.
- It is critical to understand who does not have access to broadband and why people who have broadband service available to them are not using it.

#### **Key Findings**

- The following statistics are based on terrestrial broadband. Mobile, satellite and commercial services are not contemplated.
- 96.63% of households are served by 768 Kbps download speeds and faster.
- 3.37% of households, or approximately 294,110 are unserved across Texas.
- 95.30% of Texas households are served by download speeds of 3 Mbps and faster.
- 4.70%, or approximately 347,219 households, are unserved or underserved.
- 96% of households in Texas have broadband available; county availability estimates vary greatly. They range from 0% to 100%.
- There is a big gap between the availability of broadband and the adoption of high-speed Internet service in Texas households.
- While 96% of Texas households have broadband available, only 62% are subscribing to the service.
- 38% of Texas households do not use the broadband that is available to them.
- Approximately 7.1 million households in Texas have broadband available, but for various reasons do not subscribe.
  - Of the 38% of Texans without a home broadband connection:
    - 30% - Cite lack of interest
    - 27% - Don't have a computer

- 21% - Say it's too expensive
  - 12% - Lack broadband availability at their home
- Texas Population Groups most at risk of “digital exclusion:”
  - Older people
  - Ethnic minorities
  - People with disabilities
  - People with low income or low education

## **Background**

- The report is a milestone in the Connected Texas project, a **partnership** between the Texas Department of Agriculture and the Connected Texas initiative. The Public Utility Commission of Texas and the Texas Department of Public Safety are also instrumental in the project.
- **The state enlisted the national nonprofit Connected Nation**, through its subsidiary Connected Texas, to:
  - Create detailed maps of broadband coverage
  - Accurately pinpoint remaining gaps in broadband availability & adoption
  - Support the Broadband Task Force in the development of a statewide broadband expansion plan
  - Launch regional technology teams to tackle broadband barriers at the local level
- **This in-depth report is helping Texas lead the way in the NTIA's mandate to all states** to make quality broadband service available across the country. The U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) funded the work behind this report.