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Appendix G: Reading Level Improvements & Consolidated Questions

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Reading Level: 8.4

Word Count: 838

Estimated Reading Time: 3.5 minutes

Module 05: Device Ownership

This section of the assessment explores four themes:

- **Broadband Adoption and Use:** Who is using the Internet? Are there digital divides?
- **Digital Inclusion:** How can we ensure that people are included?
- **Digital Skills:** Do residents have an opportunity to learn digital skills?
- **Device Ownership:** Do people have access to the devices they need to learn, create and participate?

Device ownership at the state and national level

Device ownership by household	WA	US
Percent of households having a mobile phone	83.1%	81.5%

Percent of households having a laptop	60.9%	57.6%
Percent of households having a desktop	48.2%	43.7%
Percent of households having a tablet	42.5%	38.4%
Percent of households having a tv box	38.6%	31.3%
Percent of households having a wearable	3.4%	2.4%

Source: U.S. Census Digital Nation Supplement to Current Population Survey with additional Internet questions – July, 2015.

This table shows the type of Internet-enabled devices that Americans have in their homes. Use the NTIA Digital Nation Data Explorer to explore how these measures have changed over time or to look at how the figures vary in specific demographics such as sex, age, income, education, race and ethnicity, or geography. Digital Nation data is statistically valid at the state and national level.

The [U.S. Census American Communities Survey](#) includes a number of questions about computer, smart phone, tablet, and Internet use. More detailed [demographic](#) and geographic can also be queried using the “Types of Internet Subscriptions by Selected Characteristics” (Table S2802). In late 2018, at the end of the five-year ACS survey cycle, this data will be available for most counties and census-designated places in the country.

The national data on Internet subscription is listed below.

Internet Subscriptions in the United States	Households	Percent
Total Households	118,860,065	
With an Internet subscription:	97,307,412	81.9%
Dial-up with no other type of Internet subscription	510,666	0.4%
Broadband of any type	96,796,746	81.4%
Cellular data plan	81,066,266	68.2%

<i>Cellular data plan with no other type of Internet subscription</i>	12,405,627	10.4%
Broadband such as cable, fiber optic or DSL	80,017,971	67.3%
Satellite Internet service	7,450,939	6.3%
Without an Internet subscription	21,552,653	18.1%

Computer Ownership in United States Households	Households	Percent
Total Households	118,860,065	
Types of Computers		
Has one or more computing devices	106,118,106	89.3%
Desktop or laptop	91,941,841	77.4%
<i>Desktop or laptop with no other type of computing device</i>	9,843,608	8.3%
Smartphone	90,893,712	76.5%
<i>Smartphone with no other type of computing device</i>	8,445,396	7.1%
Tablet or other portable wireless computer	68,649,291	57.8%
<i>Tablet or other portable wireless computer with no other type of computing device</i>	1,269,379	1.1%
Other computer	3,610,014	3.0%
<i>Other computer with no other type of computing device</i>	32,654	0.0%
No computer	12,741,959	10.7%

Local assessment of national data

Does the information shown above fit with your experience of device ownership levels in your community?

1 = Poor 5 = Excellent N/A or Don't Know

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Local commentary on national data

Does the information shown above fit with your experience of device ownership levels in your community? If it is different, how so?

Please describe:

Local data on device ownership

If you conduct surveys on device ownership, please provide a link to your data.

No responses are available

Assessment of device ownership

How would you describe the level of device ownership in your community?

1 = Poor 5 = Excellent N/A or Don't Know

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Access to devices for low-income individuals – scale

Does your community take steps to make sure low-income individuals have access to computing devices?

1 = Poor 5 = Excellent N/A or Don't Know

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Access to devices for low-income individuals – scope

Does your community take steps to make sure low-income individuals have access to computing devices?

Please check all that apply:

- ☐ There are physical spaces that provide open access to computers and the internet. This could include public libraries, educational institutions, government offices, or community centers.
- ☐ Our public library, educational institution, or community center loans out devices so people can use them outside of the building.

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- ☐ Our school has one-to-one computing to make sure that all students have access to devices.
 - ☐ Residents are aware of service provider programs for discounted devices.
 - ☐ Discounted software is available to area residents. This may include software provided by banks, nonprofits, schools, or businesses.
 - ☐ We have a computer refurbishing program for computer recycling and reuse.
 - ☐ I don't know.
 - ☐ Other (please specify)

Aspirations for device ownership

We have seen shifts in how devices are used by residents and business owners. Which device types and population segments are of current concern or focus in this community at this time? What changes would you like to see over the next one to two years?

Please describe:

Links to local resources

Links to resources that you would like to record in your plan.

Resource name and URL

[1] Federal Communications Commission, 2015 Broadband Progress Report, February 4, 2015, <https://www.fcc.gov/reports-research/reports/broadband-progress-reports/2015-broadband-progress-report>