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Appendix G: Reading Level Improvements & Consolidated Questions

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Reading Level: 8.9

Word Count: 1406

Estimated Reading Time: 5 minutes

Module 02: Adoption & Use

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?

Internet use in your state and the nation

The first table shows the percent of adults (ages 15 and older) using the Internet anywhere, at home, at work, or at a third place. The second table shows the percent of school-age and preschool children using the Internet at school and home.

Use of Internet (People ages 15 or older)	US	ST
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Percent of adults using the Internet somewhere	76.3%	%
Percent of adults using the Internet at home	70.4%	%
Percent of adults using the Internet at work	32.9%	%
Percent of adults using the Internet at a third place	47.5%	%
Percent of adults using the Internet at work	32.9%	%
Percent of adults using the Internet at a third place	47.5%	%

Use of Internet (Pre-school and school age children, at home and school)	US	ST
Percent of school-age children using the Internet at school	49%	%
Percent of school-age children using the Internet at home	60%	%
Percent of pre-school children using the Internet at home	40.7%	%
Percent of pre-school children using the Internet at school	17%	%

The above table shows *where* people use the Internet. 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.

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

Home Internet connections in your area – U.S. Census

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%

Source: U.S. Census American Communities Survey – one-year data.

The U.S. Census American Communities Survey conducts annual “long form” surveys across the country that include a few questions about computer and Internet use. On completion of the five-year survey cycle, the ACS will provide detailed information on computer and Internet use for any “census-designated place.”

Home broadband subscription by census tract – FCC Form 477

The FCC calculates broadband subscription levels by census tract based on information submitted from Internet Service Providers. This map shows the percent of households in each census tract that subscribe to wireline or fixed wireless broadband at service levels of at advertised speeds of at least 10 Mbps download and 1 Mbps upload. This analysis shows the household broadband subscription level by quintile across all wireline (aDSL, cable, fiber) and fixed wireless (fixed wireless and satellite) providers.

Source: Form 477 data, submitted to the Federal Communications Commission by Internet Service Providers – June 2016. Tiger, 2016.

Local assessment of national data

Do these figures seem accurate based on your experience of local adoption levels?

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

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Local commentary on broadband adoption and use

In what ways does your experience or data on broadband adoption and use in your community differ from the Digital Nation dataset?

Please describe:

Local data on broadband adoption and use

If your community has conducted surveys on broadband adoption/use, please provide a link to your data.

Resource name and URL

Poverty level by Census tract

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Communities Survey – 2016.

Trends indicate that those who do not subscribe to home Internet services are lower income, less educated, and older.

Barriers to home broadband adoption

Barriers to Home Broadband Adoption	WA	US
Barrier: Too expensive (percent)	40.4%	39.5%
Barrier: Not needed or interested (percent)	37.8%	35.8%
Barrier: No or inadequate computer (percent)	14.3%	13.3%
Barrier: Can use elsewhere (percent)	5.7%	6.9%
Barrier: Not available in area (percent)	5.8%	3.6%

Barrier: Privacy or security concerns (percent)	0%	2.3%
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Source: U.S. Census Digital Nation Supplement to Current Population Survey with additional Internet questions – July 2015.

This table shows the barriers generally cited for not having broadband at home. 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.

Who is not using the Internet?

People Not Using the Internet	WA	US
Percent of adults not using the Internet somewhere	19%	23.7%
Percent of adults not using the Internet at home	25.3%	29.6%
People 15 or over with HS degree or less who do not use the Internet	30.8%	38.5%
People 15 or over with a disability who do not use the Internet	30.5%	35.2%
People 65 or older who do not use the Internet	35.8%	43.8%

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

This table shows which demographic groups in your community are not using use the Internet. 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.

Digital divides in the nation and in your state

Which households don't subscribe to broadband at home? Where are the digital divides in your state?

Households that Don't Subscribe to the Internet	WA	US
Households not using the Internet	593,679	33,426,581

Households with income less than \$25K with no Internet at home	8.3%	12%
Households outside metropolitan area without Internet at home	4.2%	5%
School-age children not using the Internet at home (percent)	32.2%	40%

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

This table shows variations in home broadband adoption based on household-level demographics. Use the NTIA Digital Nation Data Explorer to explore how these measures have changed over time or to look at how the figures vary according to income level and other demographics. Digital Nation data is statistically valid at the state and national level.

Local commentary on broadband adoption/divides

While the Digital Nation data indicates adoption trends and digital divides at the state and national levels, these trends may or may not be relevant to your community. Please indicate which trends and gaps are of the greatest concern to your community.

Please describe:

Assessment of broadband adoption and use

How would you describe broadband adoption and use in your community?

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

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Aspirations for broadband adoption and use

What changes would you like to see in the next one to two years in broadband use across your locality? How do broadband adoption levels – and any associated divides – impact your community?

Please describe:

Links to local resources

Links to resources that you'd like to record in your plan.

Resource name and URL
