

Every Texan Connected: Working with Covered Populations

January 24, 2023



TEXAS BROADBAND
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE



INSTITUTE FOR
Local Self-Reliance



Agenda



- Welcome and Introductions
- TDOP Covered Populations
- The Three D's
- Will your Community Co-Design Solutions to Reach the TDOP Goals?
- Program Highlights: Solutions Underway
- Prepare Now: Strategies to Address Needs
- How to use ILSR's Telehealth Report
- Practical Application and Q&A Session

TDOP Covered Populations

Covered Populations (TDOP - Page 16-18)

- Statewide digital opportunity planning process, including:
- 26 public engagement meetings
- 37 stakeholder focus groups with outcome area leaders
- Regional leaders and members of eight “covered populations” that are listed

Quick Guide



Texas Digital Opportunity Plan

DRAFT – November 2023

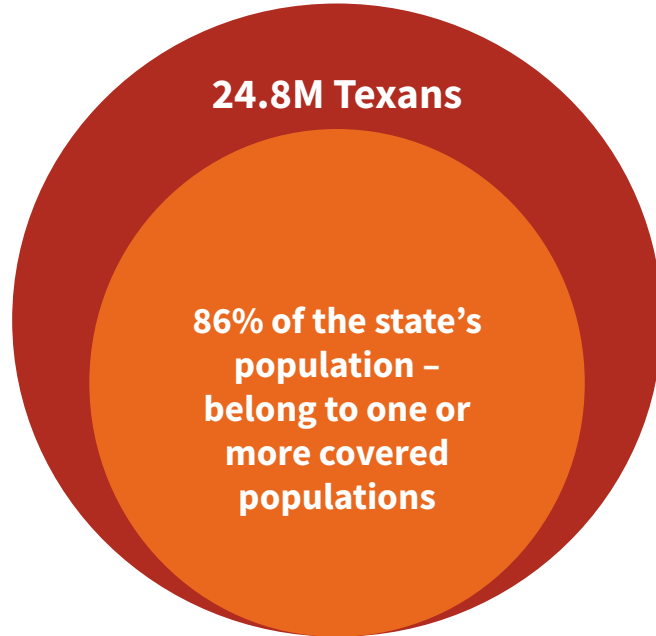


Covered Populations	TDOP Section
Members of a racial or ethnic minority group (racial or ethnic minorities)	Section 3.a.iii.6, Page 78
Individuals in households below 150% poverty (low-income households)	Section 3.a.iii.8, Page 86
Individuals residing in rural areas (rural residents)	Section 3.a.iii.7, Page 82
Persons who are 60 years of age or older (aging individuals)	Section 3.a.iii.1, Page 57
Individuals with disabilities	Section 3.b.iii.4, Page 67
Individuals with a language barrier, including those who are English learners or have low literacy levels (individuals with limited English proficiency)	Section 3.a.iii.5, Page 73
Veterans	Section 3.a.iii.3, Page 64
Incarcerated individuals	Section 3.a.iii.2, Page 61

TDOP Covered Populations

Section 2.c.iii Covered Populations, begins on Page 27

This plan also considers the digital opportunity experiences of immigrants, members of tribal communities and unhoused individuals as population groups uniquely impacted by the digital divide.



Members of a racial or ethnic minority group (racial or ethnic minorities)	58%
Individuals with low literacy levels	28%
Individuals in households below 150% poverty (low-income households)	23%
Individuals residing in rural areas (rural residents)	21%
Persons who are 60 years of age or older (aging individuals)	18%
Individuals with disabilities	11%
Individuals with a language barrier, including those who are English learners or have low literacy levels (individuals with limited English proficiency)	7%
Veterans	5%
Incarcerated individuals	1%

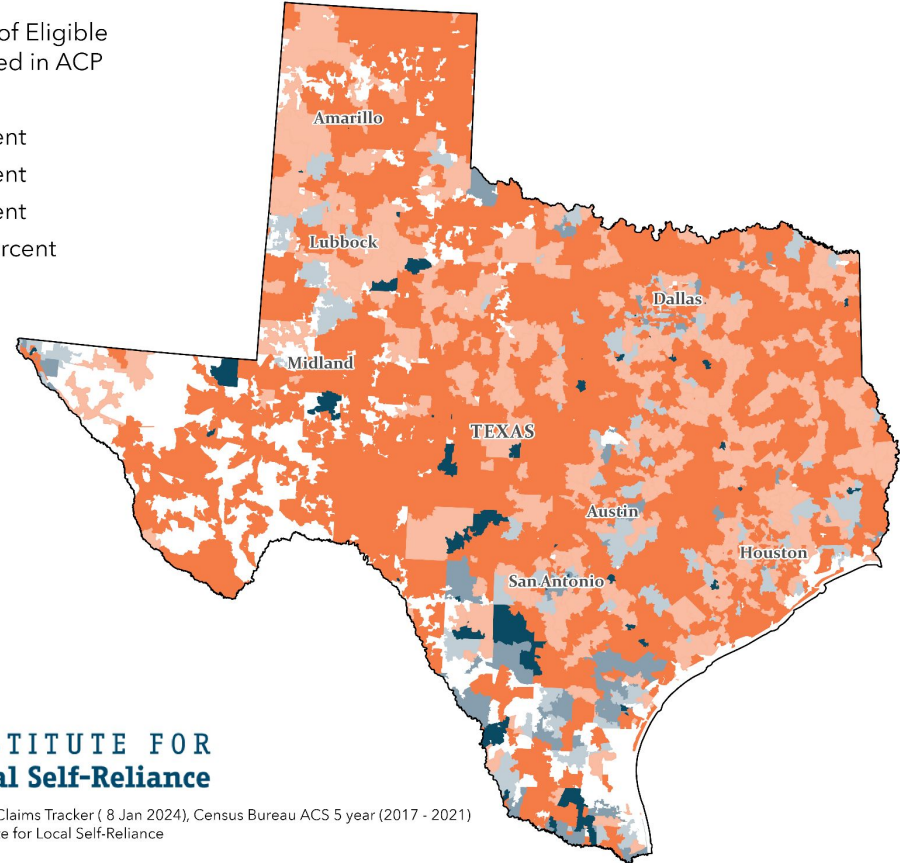
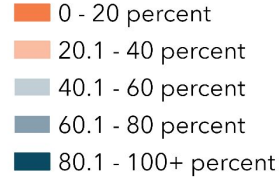
Digital Divide, Digital Inclusion, and Digital Opportunity

THE ISSUE: The **Digital Divide** is the gap between communities that do and do not have equitable access and use of digital skills training, the Internet, and computers.

THE WORK: **Digital Inclusion** requires intentional strategies and investments to reduce and eliminate historical, institutional, and structural barriers to access and use of technology.

THE GOAL: **Digital Opportunity** is a condition in which all individuals and communities have the information technology capacity necessary for civic and cultural participation, employment, lifelong learning, and access to essential services.

Estimated Percent of Eligible Households Enrolled in ACP



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Data: USAC ACP Enrollment & Claims Tracker (8 Jan 2024), Census Bureau ACS 5 year (2017 - 2021)
Author: Christine Parker | Institute for Local Self-Reliance

Will your Community Co-Design Solutions to Reach the TDOP Goals?

BDO has five Texas goals that align with NTIA's measurable objective categories:

NTIA MO: Broadband Availability and Affordability

GOAL 1: All Texans have access to reliable, affordable internet service at home.

Covered Populations: Lack of available or adequate internet service is more prevalent among these covered populations as compared to all respondents (60%):

- **Rural residents (77%)**
- **Veterans (77%)**
- **Aging individuals (67%)**

Appendix B: Strategies, Objectives and Baselines

Table 1: Strategies and Objectives

VISION				
<i>Improve quality of life and promote economic growth by enabling fast, reliable and affordable broadband connectivity for all residents and businesses of Texas, and by promoting universal broadband adoption and access to digital skills development.</i>				
NTIA Measurable Objective Category 1: Broadband Availability and Affordability				
Texas Goal 1:				
Expand adoption of reliable, affordable broadband internet service at home for all Texans.				
Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Baseline Data	Covered Population Baseline	Target	Implementation Strategies (see detailed activities in Ch 5)
1.1 Increase the percentage of Texans with reliable broadband subscriptions available in their homes.	ACS 5-year estimates (2017-2021) 68% of Texas households subscribe to broadband internet.	2023 Digital Opportunity Survey Lack of available or adequate internet service is more prevalent among these covered populations as	80% by 2030	Strategy 1: Partner with and fund statewide organizations Strategy 2: Fund local partners

Will your Community Co-Design Solutions to Reach the TDOP Goals?

BDO has five Texas goals that align with NTIA's measurable objective categories:

NTIA MO: Device Availability and Affordability and Technical Support

GOAL 2: All Texans have access to affordable computers and other internet-enabled devices in their home, with corresponding technical support services.

Covered Populations: Individuals belonging to covered populations are less likely to have household or Community-based access to device assistance or technical support (as compared to all respondents 18%):

- **Unhoused individuals (40%)**
- **Tribal communities (28%)**
- **Individuals with limited English Proficiency (27%)**
- **Low income households (25%)**
- **Immigrants (21%)**

Will your Community Co-Design Solutions to Reach the TDOP Goals?

BDO has five Texas goals that align with NTIA's measurable objective categories:

NTIA MO: Digital Literacy

GOAL 3: All Texans have a broad foundation of digital literacy skills and access to a continuum of digital skills development programs.

Covered populations more likely to be interested in internet or computer training classes (as compared to all respondents 28%):

- **Individuals with limited English proficiency (54%)**
- **Unhoused individuals (54%)**

Will your Community Co-Design Solutions to Reach the TDOP Goals?

BDO has five Texas goals that align with NTIA's measurable objective categories:

NTIA MO: Online Privacy and Cybersecurity

GOAL 4: All Texans feel safe online and are familiar with cybersecurity and online privacy measures.

- **Individuals with limited English proficiency (37% unfamiliar, 29% no or unknown if measures set up on devices)**
- **Low-income households (25% unfamiliar, 27% no or unknown if measures set up on devices)**
- **Unhoused individuals (18% unfamiliar, 24% no or unknown if measures set up on devices)**

Will your Community Co-Design Solutions to Reach the TDOP Goals?

BDO has five Texas goals that align with NTIA's measurable objective categories:

NTIA MO: Online Accessibility and Inclusivity of Public Resources

GOAL 5: Increase the percentage of Texans who utilize the internet for public resources and services.

A larger share of individuals belonging to covered populations rarely or never uses the internet to look for or apply for a job:

- **Aging individuals (66%)**
- **Individuals in rural areas (61%)**
- **Veterans (59%)**
- **Individuals with disabilities (53%)**
- **Tribal communities (51%)**



Program Highlights: Solutions Underway

- [OATS from AARP](#) and [OASIS](#) - Older adults, racial or ethnic minorities with disabilities
- HACA launched the [Unlocking the Connection initiative](#) - Low income households
- [Easter Seals Houston](#) - Veterans, racial or ethnic minorities with disabilities

An open, free space to explore technology and uncover new passions while developing new relationships



- [Neighborhood Place Teen Tech Center](#) - Low income households
- [City of Pharr](#) - Hybrid Model
 - Individuals with limited English proficiency
 - Low-income households
 - Racial or ethnic minorities
 - Rural residents

Prepare Now: Strategies to Address Needs



BDO anticipates funding the following four primary strategies to address these needs and other barriers identified in the plan and to realize its goals.

1. Partner with and Fund Statewide Organizations
2. Fund Local Partners
3. Promote Internet Adoption
4. Maintain a Living Digital Opportunity Plan

Reminder: What Comes After the Texas Digital Opportunity Plan?

The BDO accepted public comments through Jan. 5, 2024. Following the public comment period, the BDO will develop a capacity grant program to fund and empower aligned organizations across the state of Texas.

Spring 2024

Approval of the
TDOP

Anticipated Summer 2024

BDO Develops
Competitive Grant
Program

Anticipated Fall 2024

Grant Applications
Open

180-Day Digital Opportunity Planning Model

Establish and outline a program with TDOP's 5 goals for the pursuit of State and Federal funding

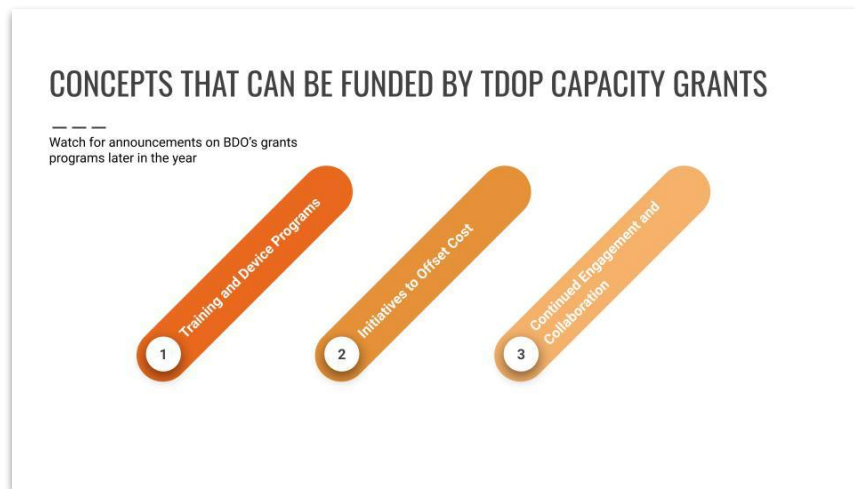
- Coordinating grant applications and sharing technical grant writing resources
- March 2024 BDO Online interactive version of the TDOP
- Asset inventory is a resource hub to find organizations providing digital opportunity services and to find partnerships (either regionally or statewide)



180-Day Digital Opportunity Planning Model

Propose a set of goals that include, but are not limited to:

- Expediting broadband infrastructure adoption
- Increasing data transparency related to broadband access
- Improving digital skills program availability and device deployment



180-Day Digital Opportunity Planning Model

Address the roles and responsibilities within your community, including but not limited to:

- The role in coordinating program/solution implementation
- Sharing publicly owned assets
- Sharing information among community members

Home / Consumer

Affordable Connectivity Program

Español | 한국어 | 繁體中文 | Tagalog | Tiếng Việt



Enrollments End February 7, 2024

The Affordable Connectivity Program will stop accepting new applications and enrollments on February 7, 2024. Consumers must be approved and enrolled with a service provider 11:59 p.m. ET on February 7 to receive the ACP benefit.

- [ACP Wind-Down Fact Sheet](#) | Hoja informativa sobre el fin del programa ACP
- [Frequently Asked Questions and Answers](#) | Preguntas frecuentes sobre el fin del programa ACP
- [ACP Wind-Down Webinar Slides: Powerpoint](#) | [PDF](#) (Jan. 18, 2024)

ASL Video: ACP Winding Down



Consumer Information

Telehealth Report and Online Calculator Walkthrough

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Premise



Geographies of interest

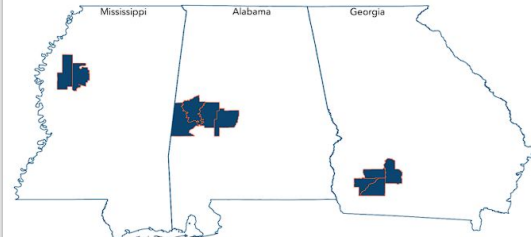


Consensus of potential

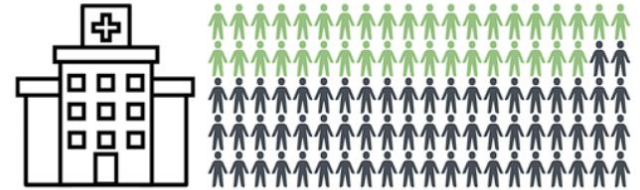
Social Determinants of Health



Graph 3. Modeling Telehealth Savings in Ten Southern Counties



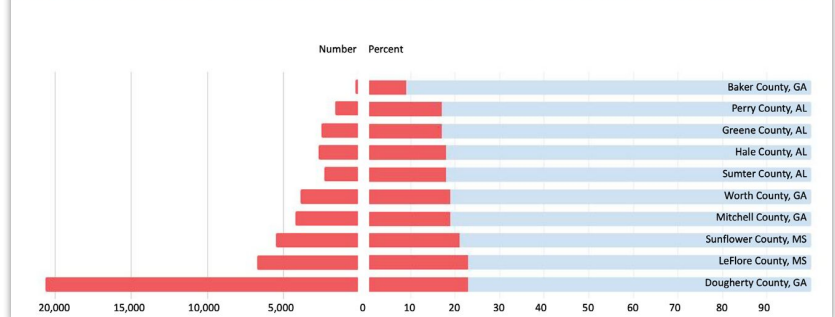
Readmission of Heart Failure Patients



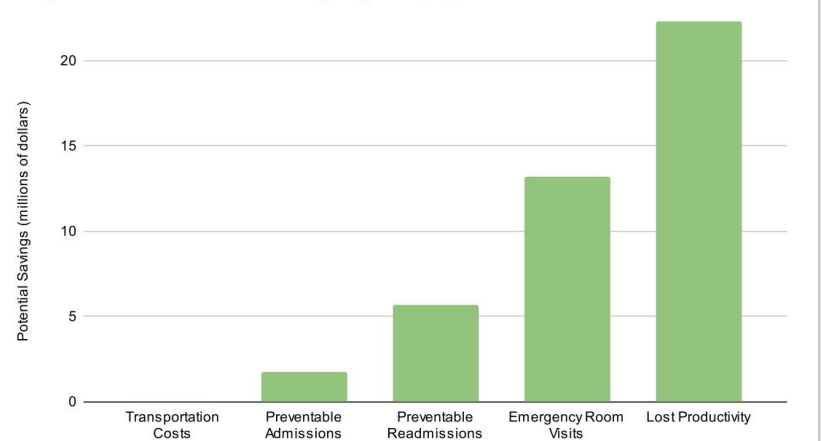
Telehealth Report and Online Calculator Walkthrough

- The Cost of Doing Nothing
 - Impact areas: Admissions, Readmissions, Emergency Department Visits, Lost Productivity due to illness, and Driving Costs
 - \$43 million in savings each year across ten rural southern counties

Graph 6. Residents Who Both Make Under \$25,000 and Do not Have Health Insurance



Graph 2. Annual Potential Savings by Category



Telehealth Report and Online Calculator Walkthrough

- How to use Online Calculator

<https://srbwihealthcalculator.com/>

- Toggle Variables button.
- Hover over the tooltip to get more context.
- Reset each cell.
- Add variables and watch the savings grow.
- Print the page. Reset the page to restart.
- Sources page to find numbers for your own county.
- If you're interested in diving deeper, you can go to the About page

COPD Footprint⁴⁵

Every year, COPD causes:



15 million clinic visits,

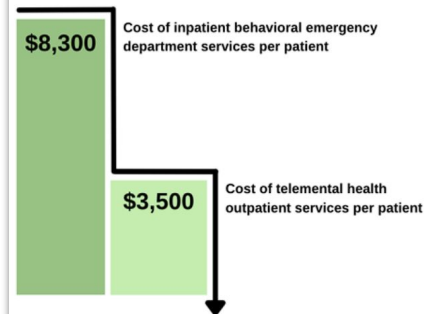


1.5 million Emergency Room visits,



and 725,000 hospital visits.

Graph 7. Cost Savings from Telemental Health



Practical Application

Group Discussion: Discussion on who is working with covered populations and what are they offering as a way to help grantseekers build partnerships with folks who know how to do the on the ground work.

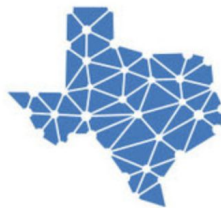
Q&A Session



Please submit your questions in the chat box.

After this event concludes, please visit <https://infinite-peak-70034.herokuapp.com/> to download the Texas Digital Opportunity Plan.

Sign up for the Texas BDO Newsletter



TEXAS BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE NEWSLETTER

Key Dates and Upcoming Events (All times are in Central Standard Time.)

- **Dec. 23, 2023** – The BDO Submitted the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program’s Initial Proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).
- **Jan. 24, 2024** – [Technical Assistance Webinar Series](#) 2 p.m. – Every Texan Connected: Working with Covered Populations.
- **Jan. 30, 2024** – [Industry Roundtable 3 p.m.](#)
- **Jan. 31, 2024** – [Technical Assistance Webinar Series](#) 2 p.m. – Sustainable Community-Based Systems for Device Deployment and Digital Skills Programs.
- **Feb. 1, 2024** – [Local Government Roundtable 10 a.m.](#)
- **Feb. 7, 2024** – [Technical Assistance Webinar Series](#) 2 p.m. – Partnerships and Tips on a Successful Application.
- **Feb. 28, 2024** – Deadline to submit the final Texas Digital Opportunity Plan (TDOP) to NTIA.
- **Feb. 29, 2024** – [BDO Board of Advisors Meeting 2 p.m.](#)

Sign up here: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXCOMPT/subscriber/new>

Thank You

If you have any questions about the draft TDOP public comment process, please email digital.opportunity@cpa.texas.gov.

Please link to this [page](#) to download and read the TDOP.

Office Hours

- Mondays, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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