

Resolving Access Gaps

January 17, 2024



TEXAS BROADBAND
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE



INSTITUTE FOR
Local Self-Reliance



Agenda

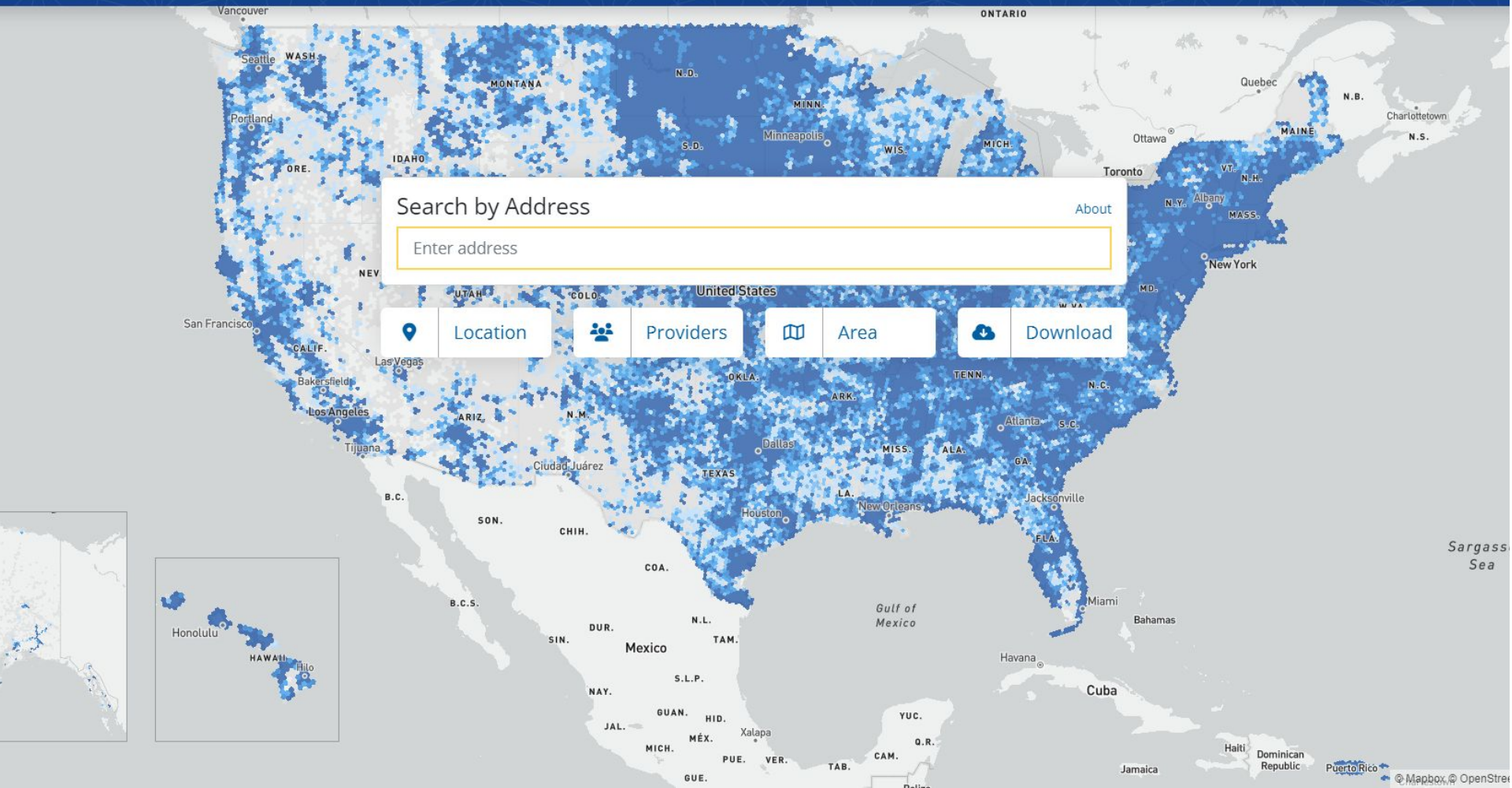


- Welcome and Introductions
- Overview of Data Collection and Availability Across Texas
- Internet Adoption in Texas
- Future of ACP: Where do we go from here?
- Q&A Session

Background on Broadband Maps



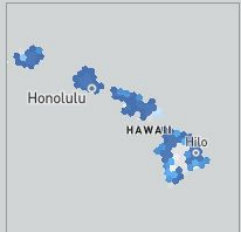
- Quick history of Broadband Data Collection
- Issues that arose with new map & coalition formed
- Resources & suggestions for data/mapping work
 - BDO will publish an online interactive TDOP including data and mapping resources in early March



Search by Address

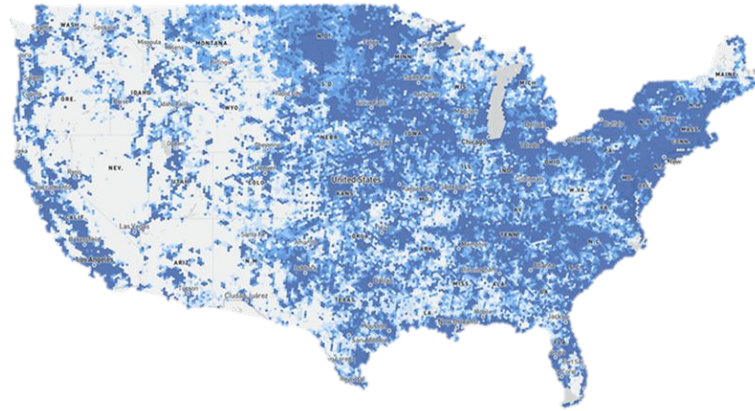
[About](#)

- Location
- Providers
- Area
- Download

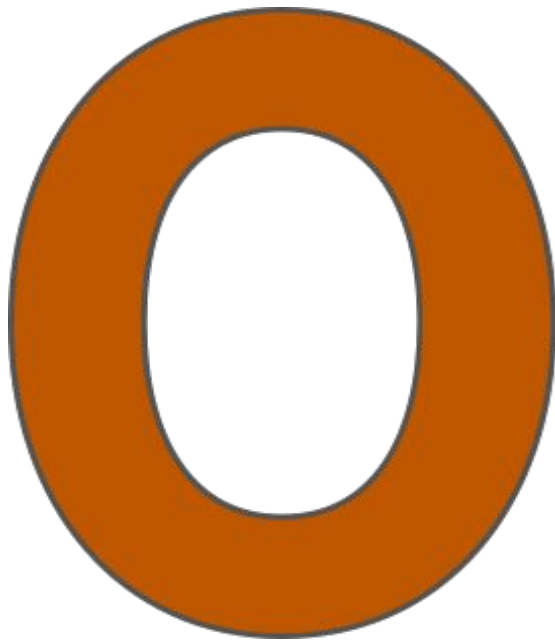


Background on Broadband Maps

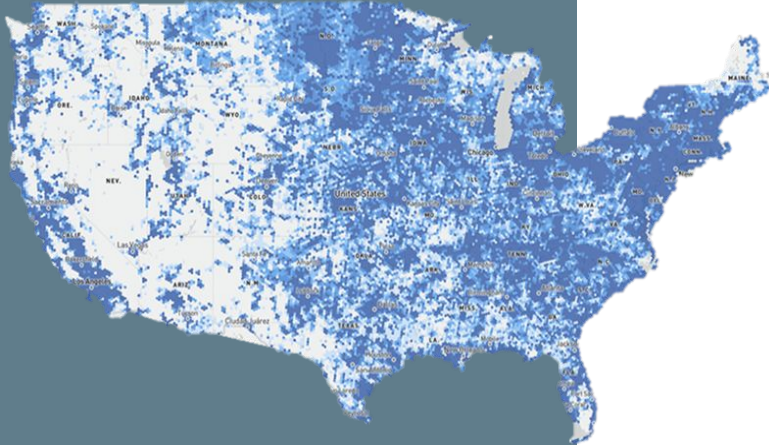
- Transition to Broadband Data Collection
- CostQuest Associates & The Fabric
- Release of National Broadband Map
- Challenge & Data Accessibility



Estimated number
of people who
opened the new
FCC broadband
map and
understood how
to interpret it



Background on Broadband Maps



NATIONAL BROADBAND MAPPING COALITION

[NBMC](#)

Broadband Commons



**We're making broadband data
easier**

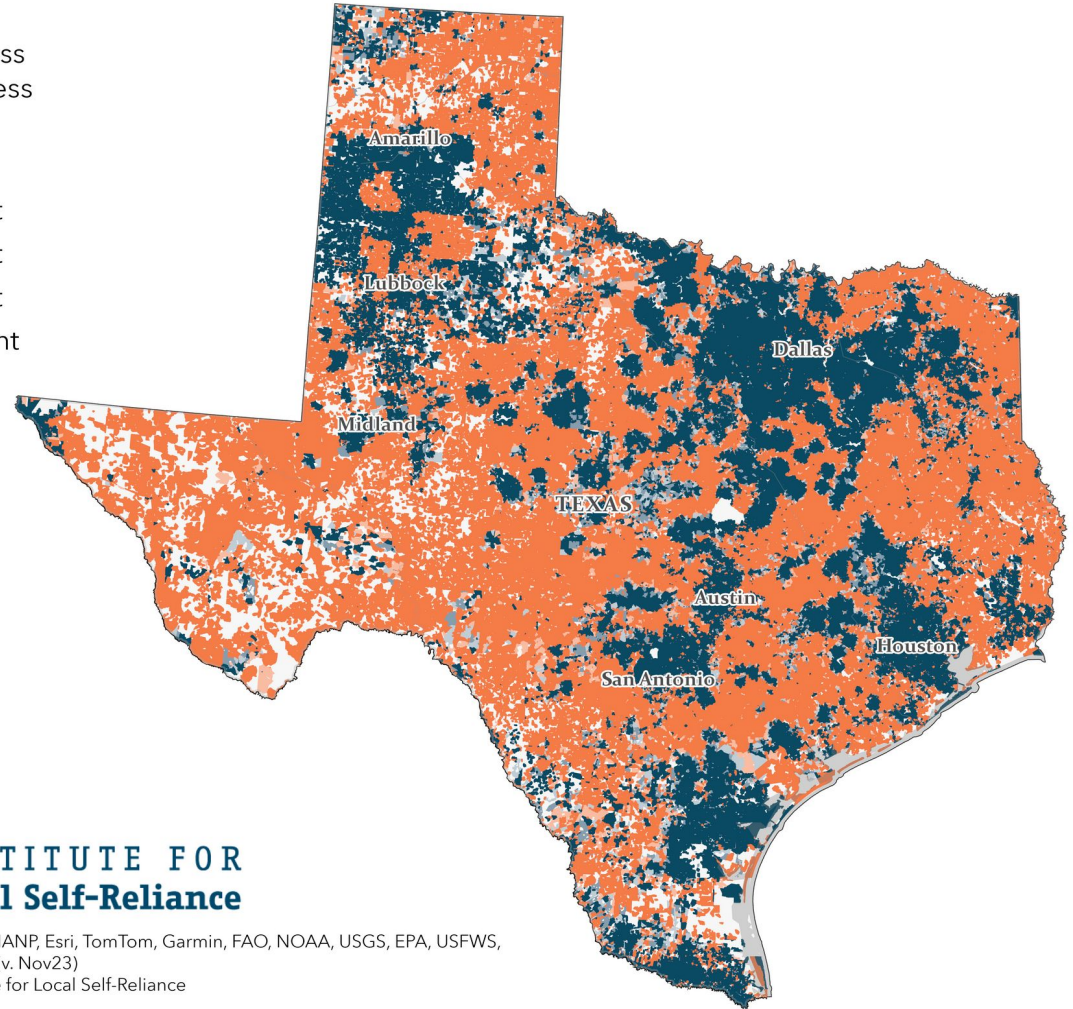
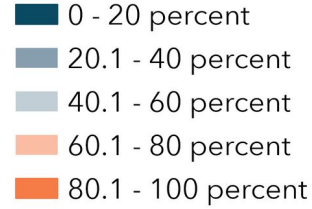
Broadband Commons is an open collective that makes broadband data more accessible with public-domain tools and documentation.

[Broadband Commons - Book Draft](#)

[Broadband Commons - Data & Tools](#)

Internet Availability Across Texas

Percent of Locations That Only Have Access to Internet Speeds Less Than 100/20 Mbps

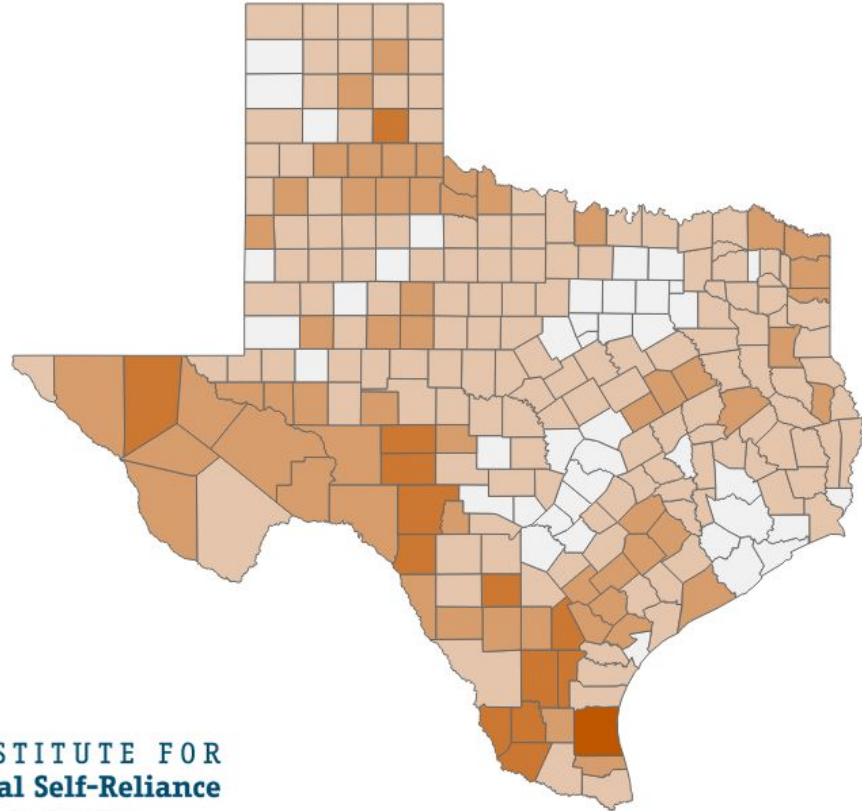


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Data: Texas Parks & Wildlife, CONANP, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, EPA, USFWS, FCC Broadband Data Collection (v. Nov23)
Author: Christine Parker | Institute for Local Self-Reliance

Where are the Gaps

Percent of Households With No Internet Access



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American Community Survey 5yr (2018-2022)

Percent without Internet access



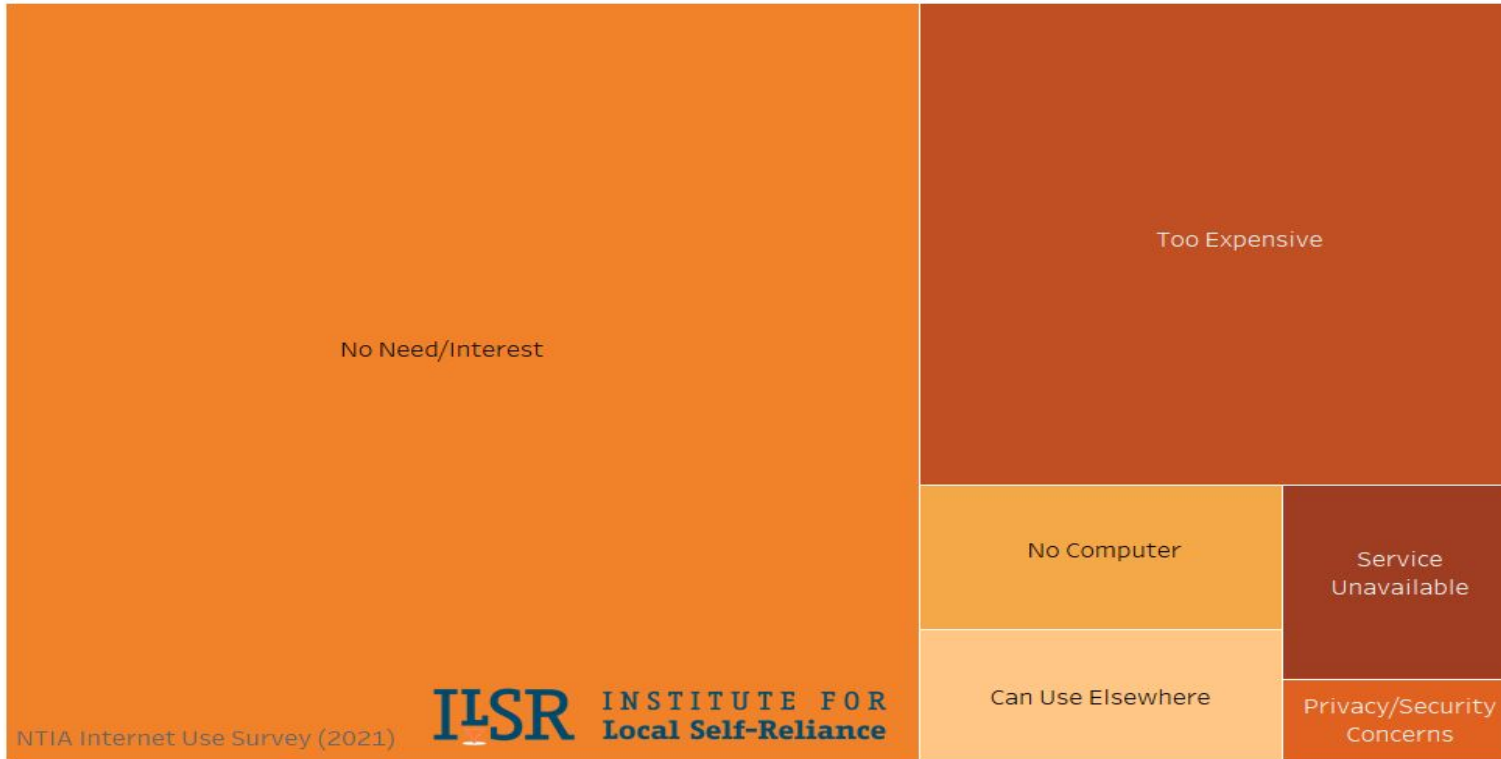
Internet Adoption

What People Use the Internet For



Internet Adoption

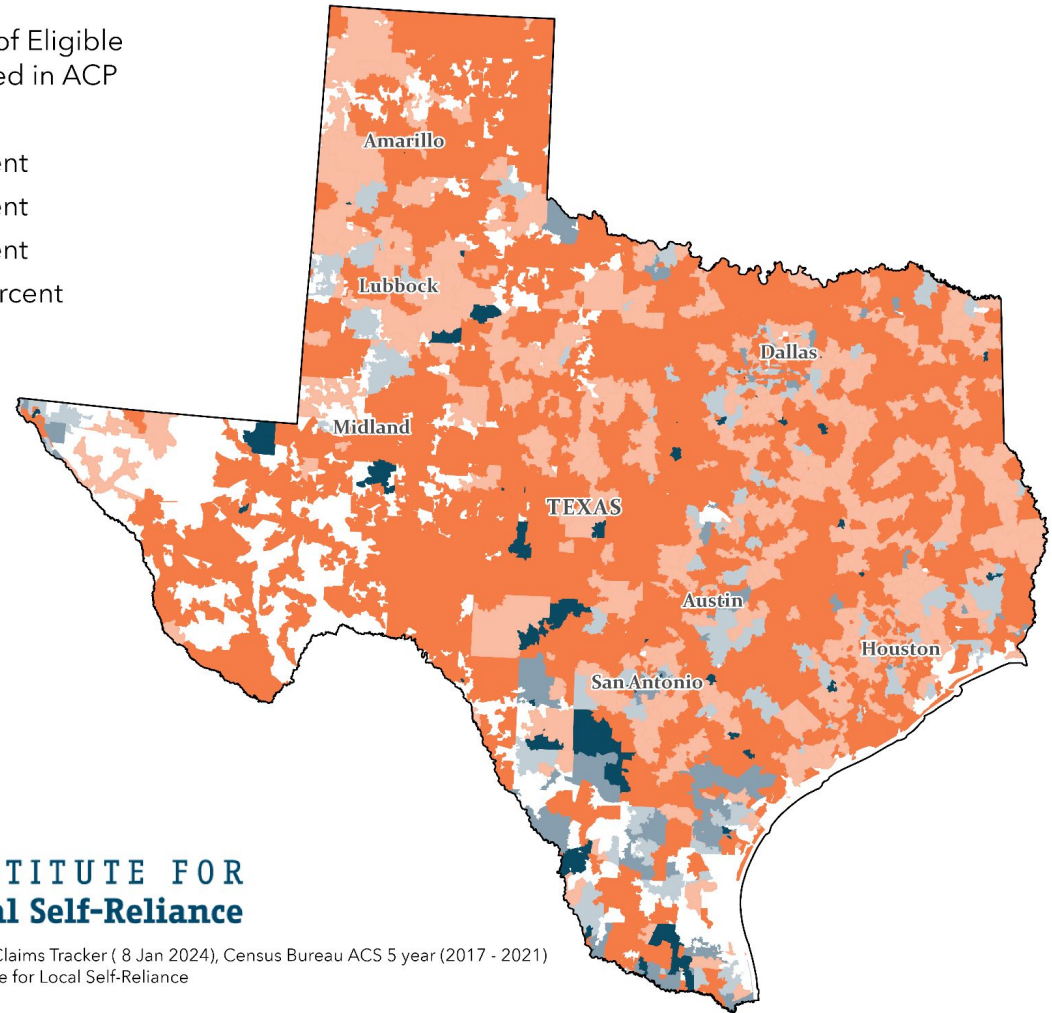
Reasons For Not Using the Internet at Home



Affordable Connectivity Plan Across Texas

Estimated Percent of Eligible
Households Enrolled in ACP

- 0 - 20 percent
- 20.1 - 40 percent
- 40.1 - 60 percent
- 60.1 - 80 percent
- 80.1 - 100+ percent

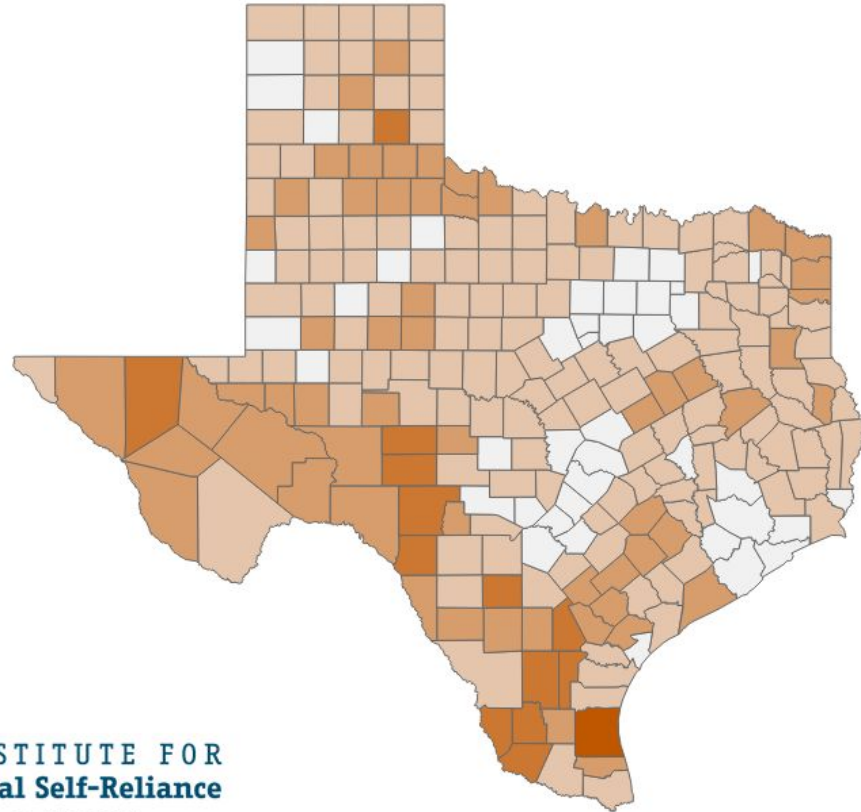


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Data: USAC ACP Enrollment & Claims Tracker (8 Jan 2024), Census Bureau ACS 5 year (2017 - 2021)
Author: Christine Parker | Institute for Local Self-Reliance

Where are the Gaps

Percent of Households With No Internet Access



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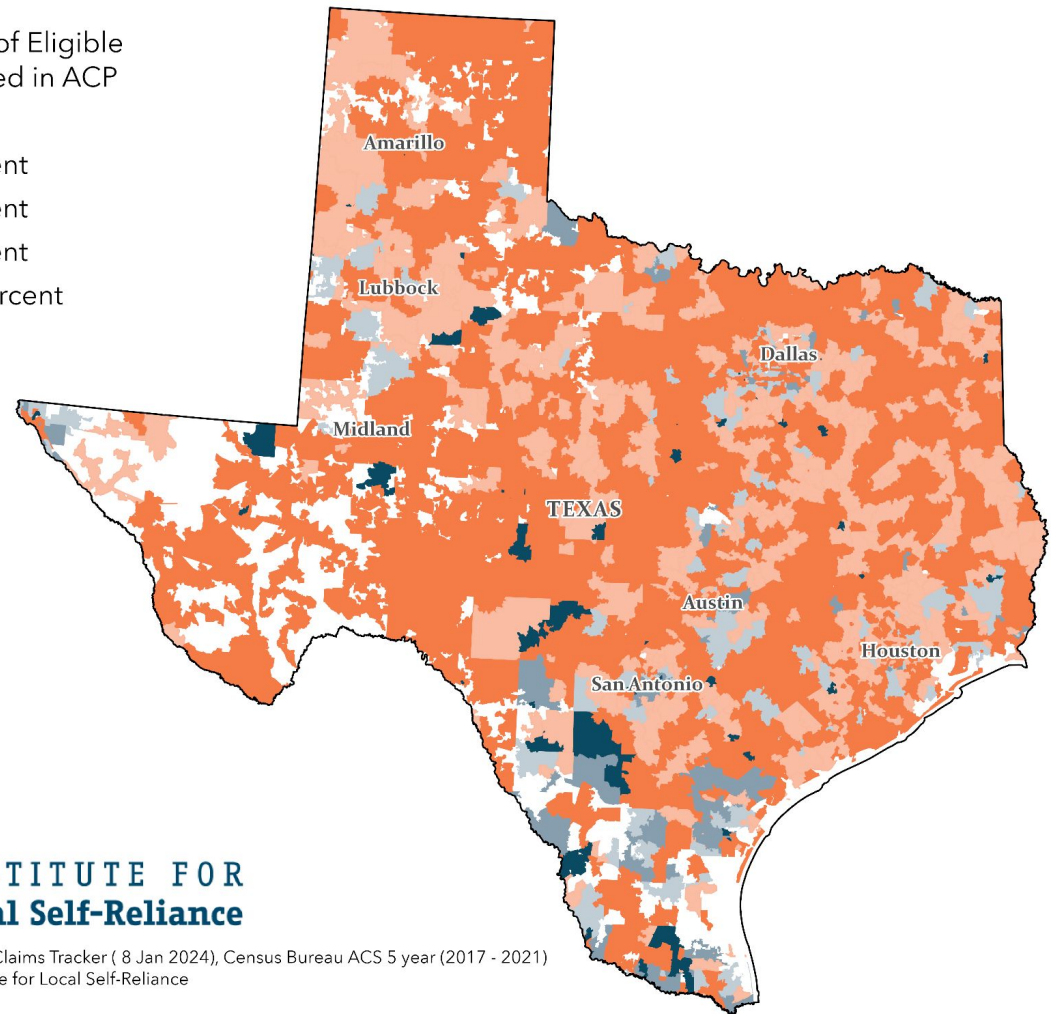
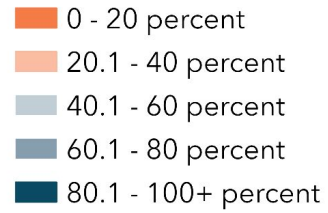
American Community Survey 5yr (2018-2022)

Percent without Internet access



Affordable Connectivity Plan Across Texas

Estimated Percent of Eligible
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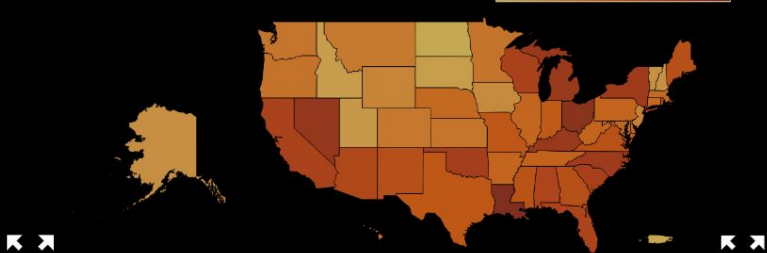
Affordable Connectivity Program

Data current as of: 1/1/24

Dashboard created by the Institute for Local Self-Reliance

Enrollment by State

Percentage of Eligible Households Enrolled
15.2 60.1



See Enrollment by State

See Enrollment by Zip Code

23 of 52 Million

Households Currently Enrolled of Eligible

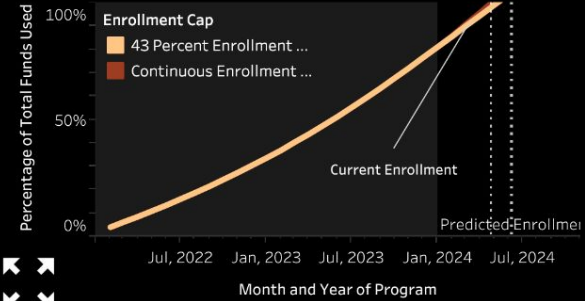
43 Percent

Eligible Households Enrolled Nationwide



\$2.9 Billion

When Will Funding Run Out?

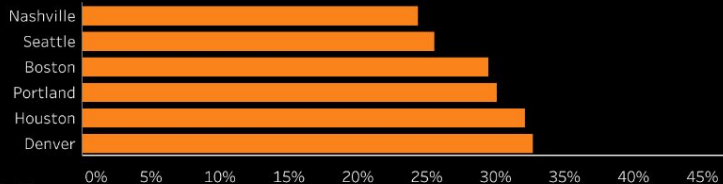


Metro-Area Enrollment

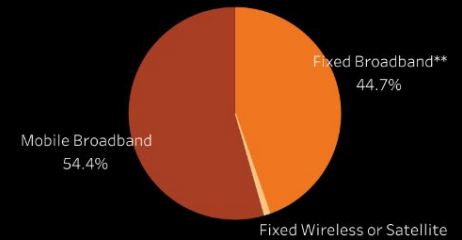
Highest



Lowest

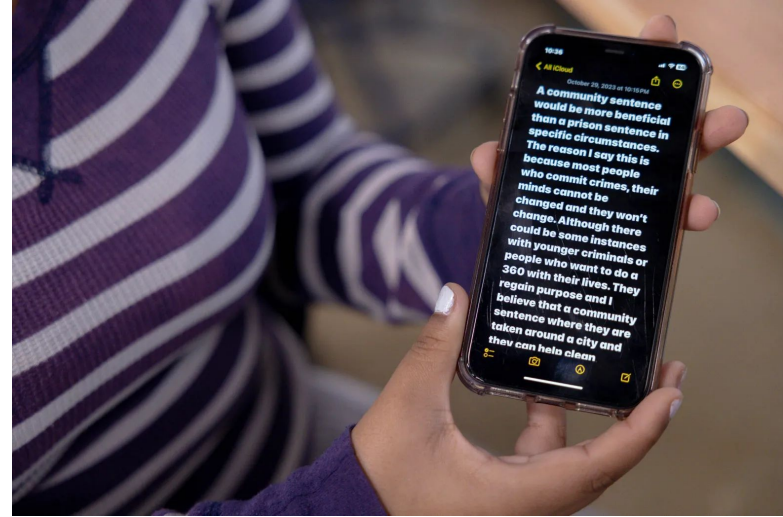


Subscribers by Service Type



Future of ACP: Where do we go from here?

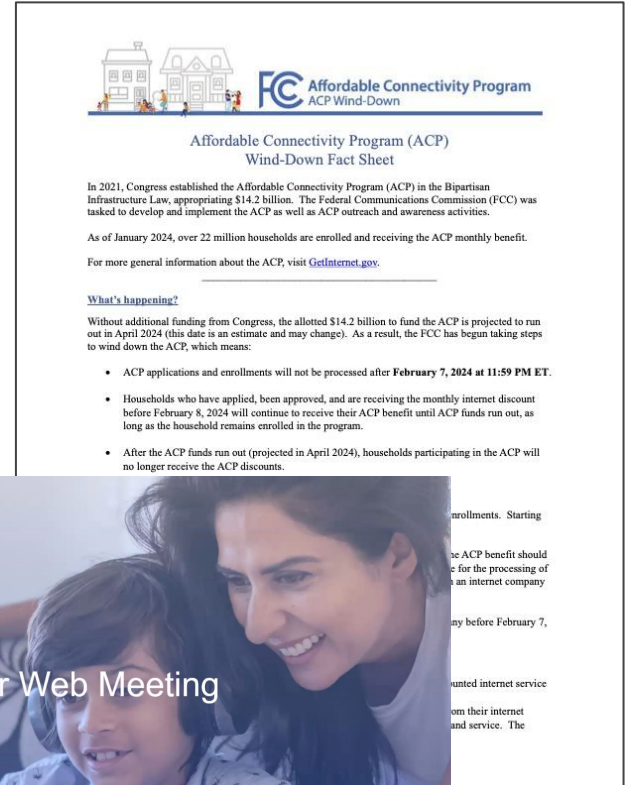
- **What's happening?**
- The FCC has begun taking steps to wind down the ACP.
- ACP Extension Act introduced
- ACP applications and enrollments will not be processed after **February 7, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET.**
- After the ACP funds run out (**projected in April 2024**), households participating in the ACP will no longer receive the ACP discounts.



Credit: Scott Ball / San Antonio Report

The FCC's ACP Wind Down

- The FCC will host a second briefing, where you can learn more about what to expect in the future
- Thursday, **January 18, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.** Eastern Standard Time. The briefing will be conducted virtually at the following [link](#).
- Email acpinfo@fcc.gov
 - To request no cost printed materials
 - Schedule a FCC speaker for virtual events.



The graphic features the FCC logo and the text 'Affordable Connectivity Program ACP Wind-Down' at the top. Below this is the title 'Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Wind-Down Fact Sheet'. The main text explains that in 2021, Congress established the ACP with \$14.2 billion, and the FCC was tasked with implementing it. It states that as of January 2024, over 22 million households are enrolled. A link to 'GetInternet.gov' is provided for more information. A section titled 'What's happening?' notes that without additional funding, the ACP is projected to run out in April 2024. A bulleted list follows, detailing that applications and enrollments will stop on February 7, 2024, at 11:59 PM ET, and that households approved before that date will continue to receive benefits until the program ends. The background of the graphic shows a woman and a child looking at a laptop.

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Wind-Down Fact Sheet

In 2021, Congress established the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, appropriating \$14.2 billion. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) was tasked to develop and implement the ACP as well as ACP outreach and awareness activities.

As of January 2024, over 22 million households are enrolled and receiving the ACP monthly benefit.

For more general information about the ACP, visit [GetInternet.gov](https://www.fcc.gov/GetInternet.gov).

What's happening?

Without additional funding from Congress, the allotted \$14.2 billion to fund the ACP is projected to run out in April 2024 (this date is an estimate and may change). As a result, the FCC has begun taking steps to wind down the ACP, which means:

- ACP applications and enrollments will not be processed after **February 7, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET**.
- Households who have applied, been approved, and are receiving the monthly internet discount before February 8, 2024 will continue to receive their ACP benefit until ACP funds run out, as long as the household remains enrolled in the program.
- After the ACP funds run out (projected in April 2024), households participating in the ACP will no longer receive the ACP discounts.



The graphic features the FCC logo and the text 'ACP Affordable Connectivity Program' at the top. Below this is the title 'ACP Outreach Partner Web Meeting' and the subtitle 'ACP Wind-Down'. The date and time are listed as 'Wednesday, January 17, 2024' and '1:00 PM EST'. The background shows a woman and a child looking at a laptop. At the bottom, the contact information 'acpinfo@fcc.gov' and 'ASL Line 844-432-2275' is provided.

ACP Affordable Connectivity Program

ACP Outreach Partner Web Meeting

ACP Wind-Down

Wednesday, January 17, 2024
1:00 PM EST

acpinfo@fcc.gov / ASL Line 844-432-2275

enrollments. Starting
the ACP benefit should
be for the processing of
an internet company
before February 7,
united internet service
from their internet
and service. The

Dates to Remember Regarding ACP

— — —
April 2024: ACP funding may run out; enrollees get benefits through April (date may change).



February 7, 2024

Last day for ACP applications.
Approval/enrollment with an internet company by 11:59 PM ET required for benefit.



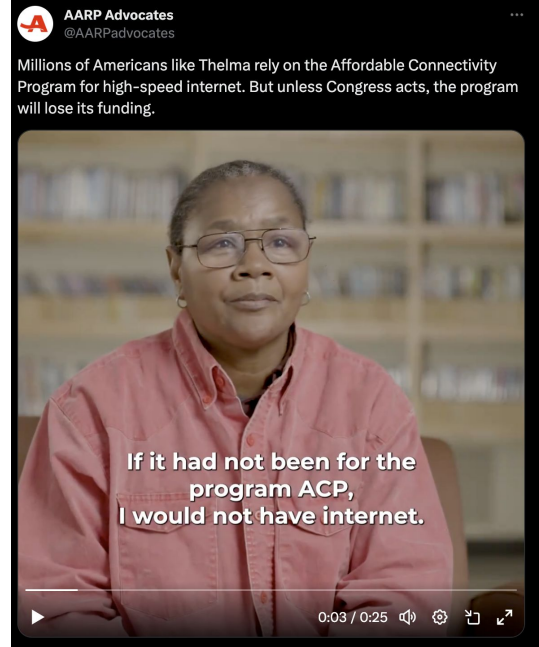
February 8, 2024

No more ACP enrollments.



Late January 2024

ACP beneficiaries receive notices about program end, including timing and impact.



Other Anticipated ACP Wind-Down Dates

Date	Activity
January 25, 2024	When one of the three first notices must be sent.
February 2024*	ACP enrollment freeze. No new providers in the program.
Late February 2024*	Anticipated timing of announcement of last fully funded month. Second of three provider notices to ACP households must be provided 15-days after the announcement.
April 2024*	Projected final month of service ACP can fully reimburse providers for ACP discounts.
May 2024*	Partial provider claims for discounted service provided if any available funding remains.

*Assuming a last fully funded month of April 2024

Step-by-Steps Tips to Consider: ACP Transition Team



Coordination

- Identify key stakeholders, including representatives from Internet service providers (ISPs), local government, community organizations, and affected households.
- Notify and assist outreach grant awardees to wind down their grant-funded ACP outreach efforts effectively.

Step-by-Steps Tips to Consider: ACP Transition Team

Communication

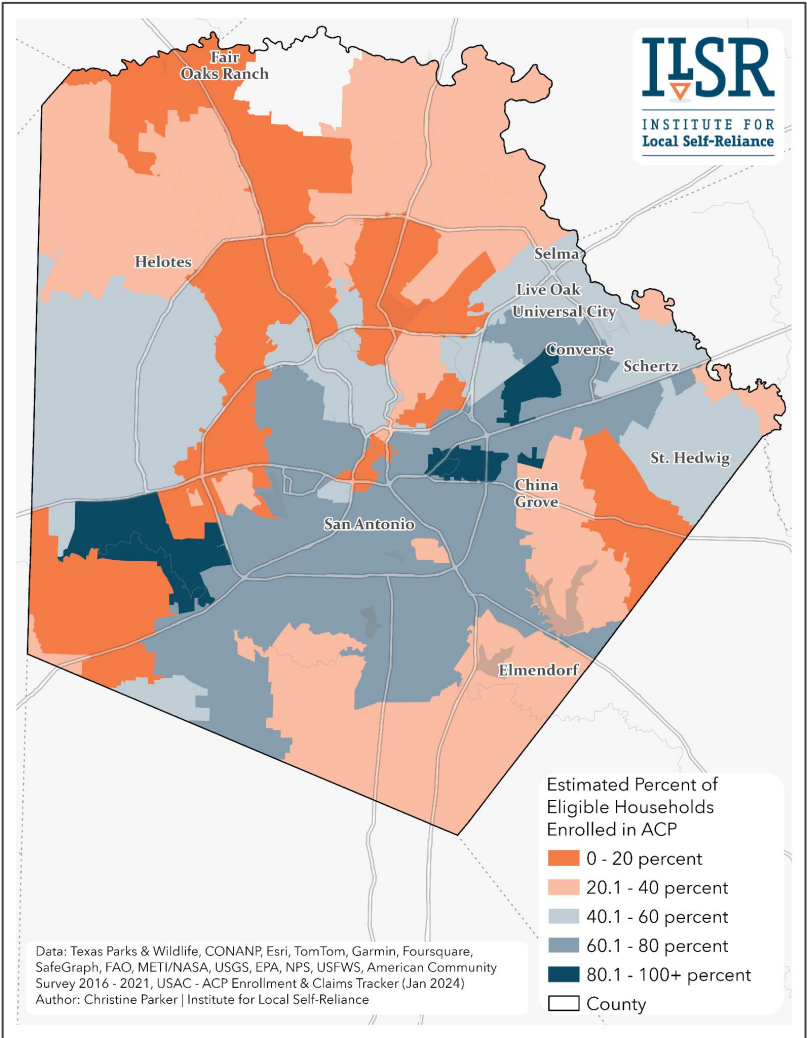
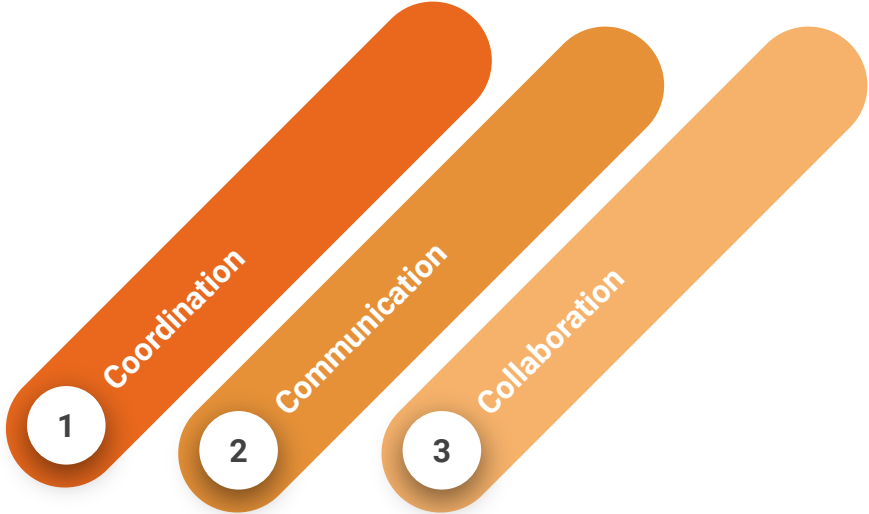
- Disseminate widely the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Wind-Down Fact Sheet.
- Develop a comprehensive communication plan ensuring clarity on the program's termination, impact on bills, and available alternatives.
- Notify and assist outreach grant awardees to wind down their grant-funded ACP outreach efforts effectively.

Step-by-Steps Tips to Consider: ACP Transition Team

Collaboration

- Entities providing local digital inclusion services, policymakers, advocates, social service providers and community leaders co-create solutions in partnership with the community.
- Establish and outline a local base model to provide technical assistance to stakeholders for the pursuit of State and Federal funding, including coordinating grant applications and sharing technical grant writing resources.
- Propose a set of goals that include, but are not limited to, The Texas Digital Opportunity Plan's 5 Goals, and understanding TDOP funding sources.

Beyond ACP



Practical Application: Q&A Session

Ask Me Anything with Christine Parker, PhD, Sean Gonsalves, and DeAnne Cuellar

Please submit your questions in the chat box

After this event concludes, please visit www.broadbandfortexas.com/tdop to download the Texas Digital Opportunity Plan.

Thank You

"I hope the maps are good where you are."

Peng Shepherd, The
Cartographers



If you have any questions about the draft TDOP, 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.

Christine Parker, PhD, Senior GIS Analyst, Institute for Local Self-Reliance, christine@ilsr.org

Sean Gonsalves, Associate Director for Communications, Institute for Local Self-Reliance, sgonsalves@ilsr.org

DeAnne Cuellar, Associate Director for Outreach, Institute for Local Self-Reliance, deanne@ilsr.org