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Deputy Chief: BroadbandOhio

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Ohio | Department of Development

BroadbandOhio

INNOVATEOhio

BroadbandOhio

Ohio's Broadband Vision

Bring reliable, affordable, high-speed internet to every Ohioan, in their home and in their community.
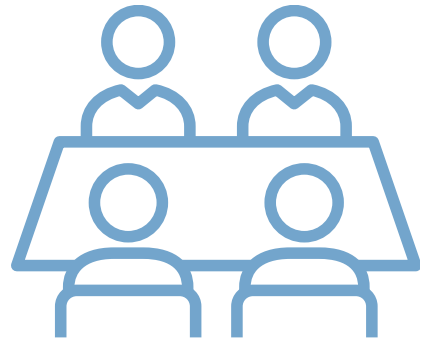
Promote the creation of world- class broadband networks throughout the state, via the use of best-in-class technologies.

Enable participation in the modern economy.

Empower Ohioans through training and digital skills.

BroadbandOhio Governance Structure and Committees

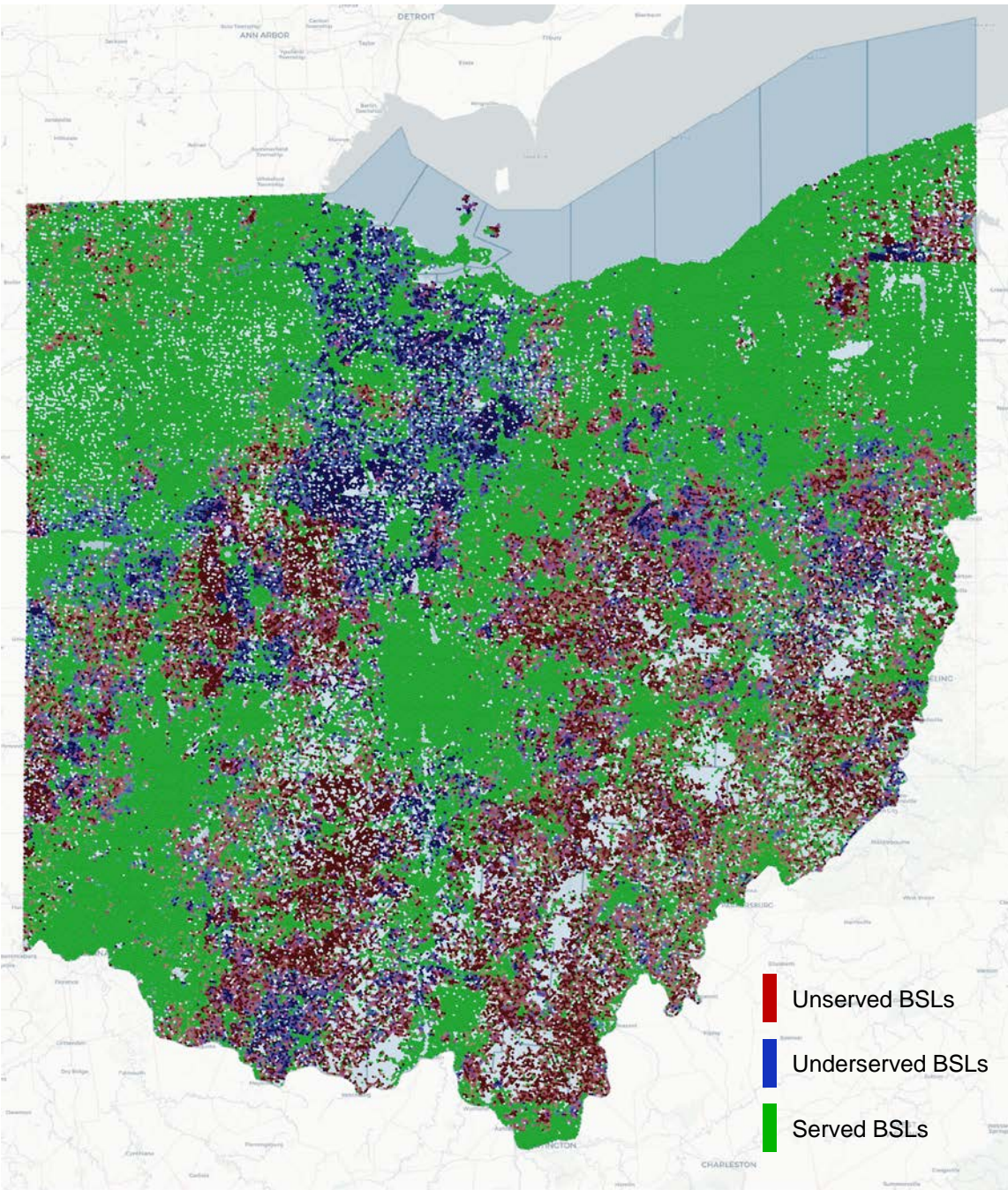# The Digital Divide: Connectivity Issues

Availability

Adoption

- Digital Literacy
- Affordability

FCC Mapping

According to the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) latest data maps, released Nov. 22, 2022, there are **~195K (4%) unserved** and **~139K (3%) underserved** BSLs* in Ohio.

There are roughly **4.5 million total BSLs** in the state today.

Unserved BSLs

Underserved BSLs

Served BSLs

*BSLs: Broadband Serviceable Locations

Source: Nov. 22 FCC data maps

Broadband Accomplishments Timeline

2019

Jan. Established InnovateOhio
Feb. Connected Nation Ohio – coverage maps
June 2019 ODOT/InnovateOhio RFI
Dec. Broadband Strategy
Dec. Southeast Ohio Broadband Backbone Project Announced

2020

Mar. BroadbandOhio was launched
Mar. Telehealth Pilot Project
July Streamlined ODOT Permitting Process
July Education Specific RFI
Aug. BroadbandOhio Connectivity Grant
Dec. SpaceX/Starlink Marysville Pilot Project
Dec. Donation of 150 computers to PCs for People

2021

Jan. Riverside Connectivity Pilot Project
Feb. Phase 1 of the Telehealth Pilot Project operational
Mar. Broadband Ohio Alliance Kickoff Meeting
Apr. East Cleveland Connectivity Pilot Project
May Signing of House Bill 2
May Muskingum Valley ESC Telehealth Project
May Middletown Connectivity Pilot Project
June $250M provided from the state budget
July Roundtable with Appalachian Regional Commission's Federal Co-chair Gayle Manchin
Aug. Broadband Expansion Authority – First Meeting
Aug. Posting of Ohio Residential Broadband Expansion Grant Scoring Criteria
Aug. BroadbandOhio Website Live
Sept. Strengthening Ohio's Broadband & 5G Workforce Strategy Released
Sept. Application Period Opened for the Ohio Residential Broadband Expansion Grant
Sept. Ohio Housing Finance Authority's 2022-2023 QAP Includes Broadband Threshold
Sept. Washington County/Southeast Ohio Broadband Cooperative - MARCS Tower Pilot Project
Nov. ORBEG Application Period Closed (218 Applications Received)
Dec. Broadband Expansion Authority Initial Determinations on ORBEG Challenges (463 Challenges Received)
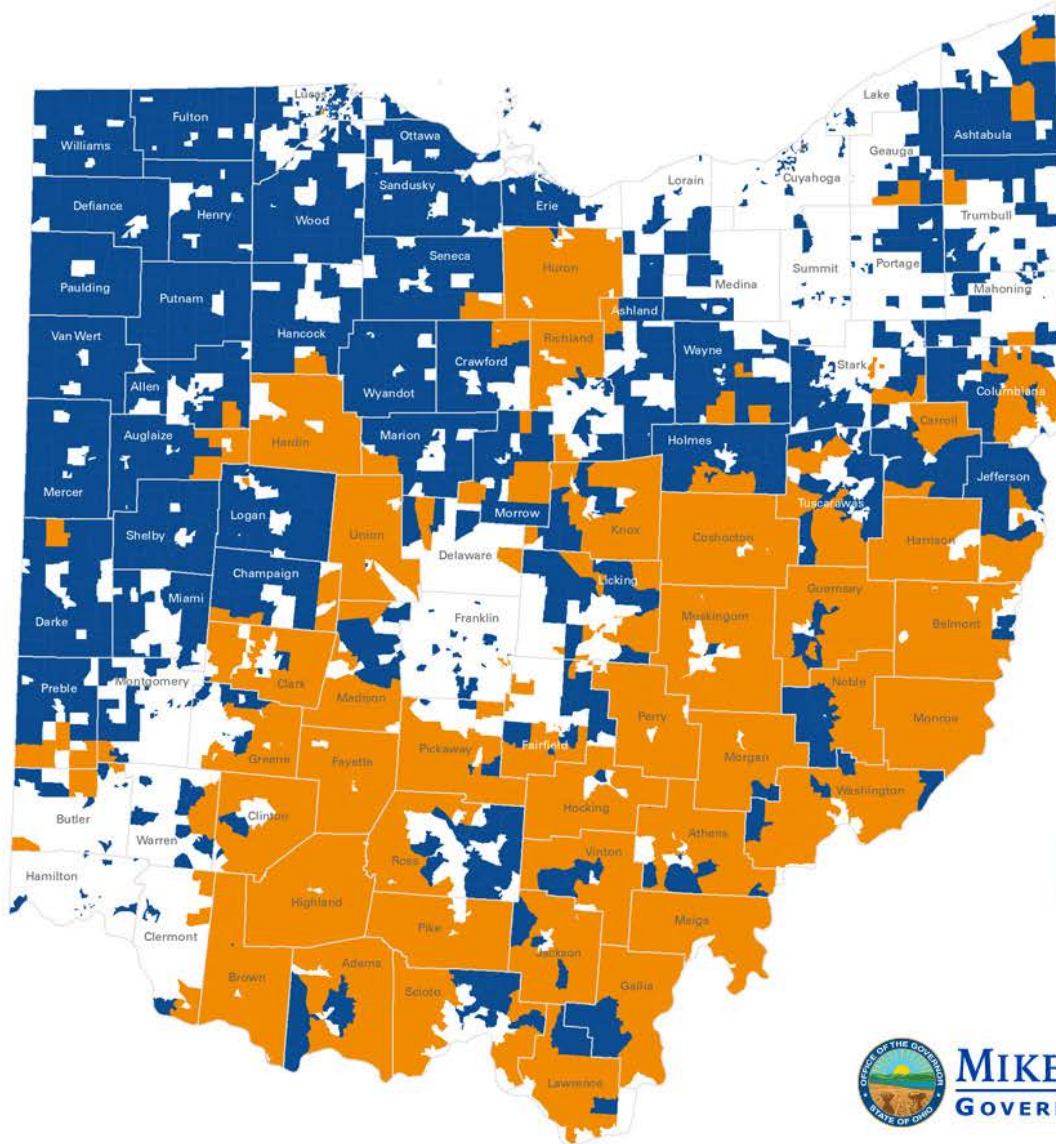
2022

Jan. First Two Schools Live in MVESC Telehealth 2 Project
Feb. Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund Award Notice from US Department of the Treasury
Mar. New Maps of Ohio's Broadband Availability Gaps Released
Mar. Broadband Expansion Grant Program Awards Announced
Mar. Mt. Healthy Connectivity Pilot Project
June BroadbandOhio Community Accelerator Cohort
July Cuyahoga County Connectivity Project
Sept. Lake-to-River Regional Broadband Expansion Project
Sept. City of Dayton Dept. of Recreation Broadband Expansion
Oct. BEAD and DEA Planning Grant Awards

Ohio Residential Broadband Expansion Grant Program

+ HB 2 was signed into law by Governor DeWine on May 17, 2021.

+ Provides grants to internet service providers (ISPs) to fill the funding gap for the construction of broadband projects in unserved and underserved areas of the state.

+ Established the Broadband Expansion Program Authority within the Ohio Department of Development.

Ohio Residential Broadband Expansion Impact

Nearly **100,000** Households

62 Counties

104 Total Projects

$232 Million in Grant Awards

Ohioans without access to high-speed internet

Areas to be covered by new broadband projects

MIKE DEWINE GOVERNOR OF OHIO

JON HUSTED LT. GOVERNOR OF OHIO

BroadbandOhio

The Digital Divide: Connectivity Issues

Availability

Adoption

- Digital Literacy
- Affordability

Federal Grant Programs

+ **American Rescue Plan Act** Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund (Dept. of Treasury)

+ **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act** Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Program (NTIA)

- **Middle Mile Program**

+ **Digital Equity (NTIA)**

Overview of the BEAD and DE Programs

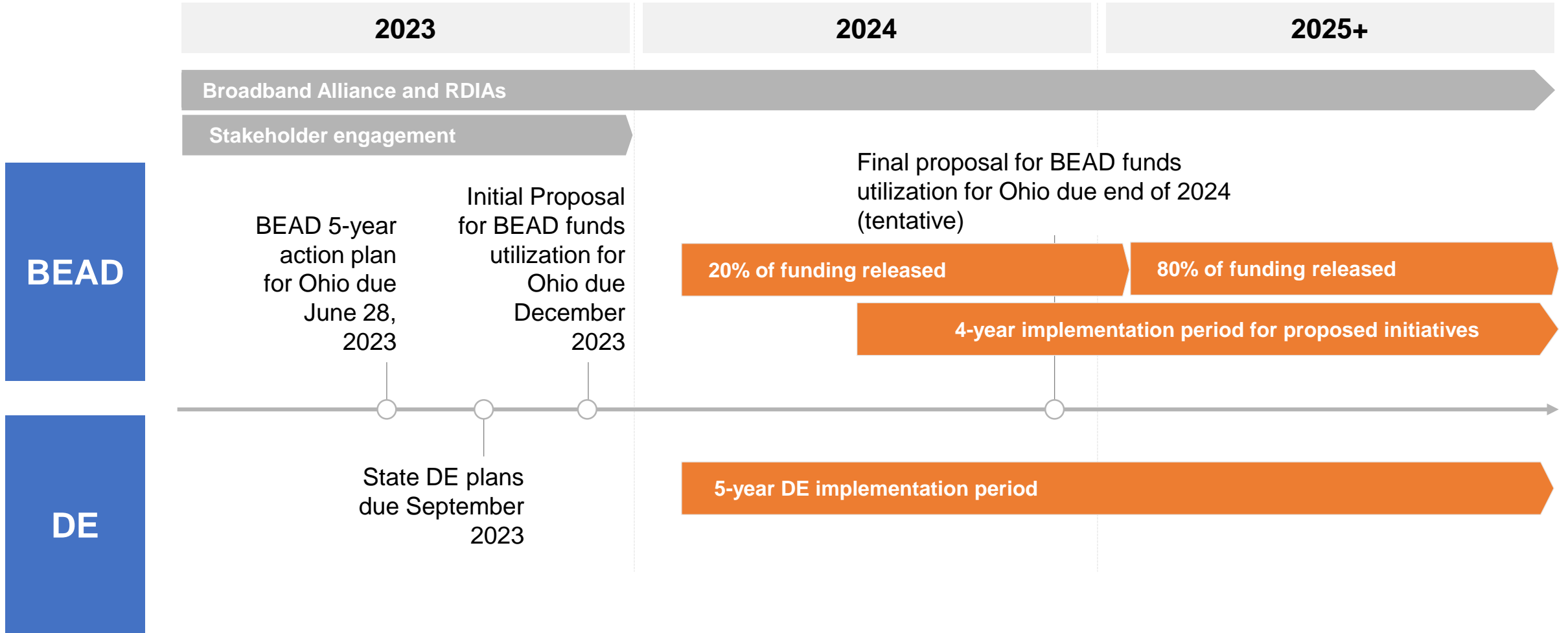**Broadband Equity Access, & Deployment (BEAD) Program**

$ 42.45 Billion
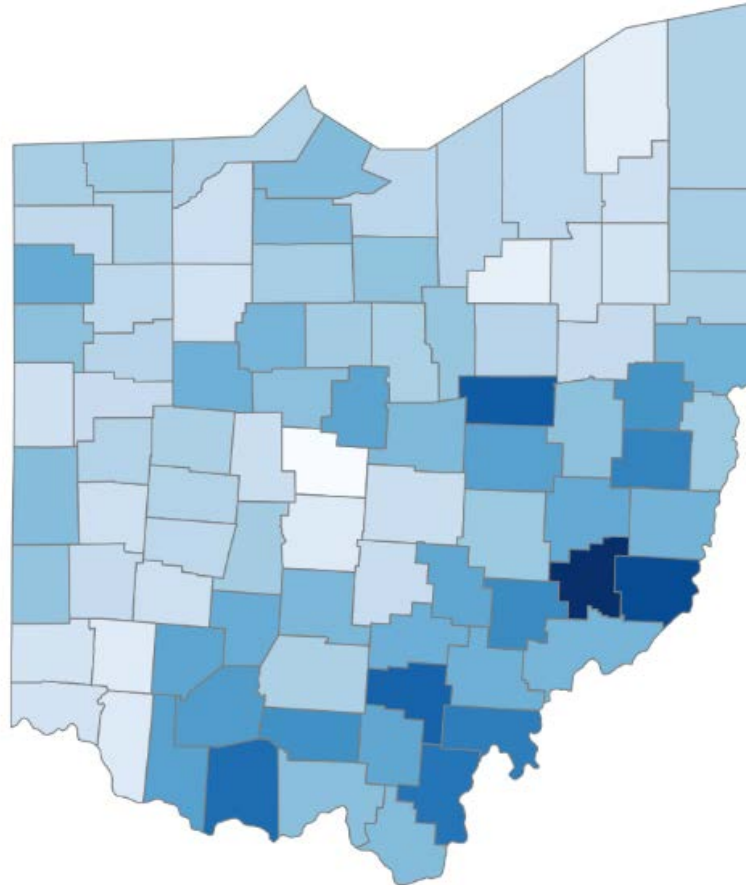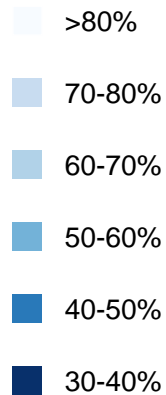
Digital Equity (DE) Program

$ 2.75 Billion

BEAD and DE Funding Timelines

	2023	2024	2025+

Broadband Alliance and RDIAs

Stakeholder engagement

BEAD

BEAD 5-year action plan for Ohio due June 28, 2023

Initial Proposal for BEAD funds utilization for Ohio due December 2023

Final proposal for BEAD funds utilization for Ohio due end of 2024 (tentative)

20% of funding released

80% of funding released

4-year implementation period for proposed initiatives

DE

State DE plans due September 2023

5-year DE implementation period

The scope of Ohio's digital divide

Number of households impacted by the digital divide, by driver

Households with a high-s
Percentage

At least **3.4M OH residents in 1.4M households (30%)** do not have a subscription to high-speed internet[1]

☐	>80%
☐	70-80%
☐	60-70%
☐	50-60%
☐	40-50%
☐	30-40%

Infrastructure availability[2]

~195K
Locations do not have access to **25/3 Mbps**

~139K additional
Locations do not have access to **100/20Mbps**

Affordability of subscriptions[1]

1.98M[5] HHs ~42%
Eligible for ACP ~793K

Devices[3]

~386k HHs
Without a computing device of any type

Digital literacy[4]

~706k HHs
Earn $50k per year or less and have "low digital skills"

1. US Census Bureau, 2020 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-Year estimates
2. FCC Broadband Availability June 2022 Maps, as of January 31st, 2023
3. US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year estimates
4. EveryoneOn Survey, 2022; Team analysis
5. Education Superhighway, Ohio ACP adoption rates as of December 2022

Listening Tours

- Ohio is projected to receive $500 million in funds, via BEAD, for availability and accessibility programming. As well as additional funding via the DEA. The money will go to programs to address digital equity and connect Ohio's covered populations.
- We have been hosting listening tours throughout the state over the last couple of months to give Ohioans a voice in our process about successes and barriers.
- Covered Populations for Five-Year Action Plan and Digital Equity Plan
  - Aging individuals
  - Ohioans who live in covered households
  - Incarcerated individuals
  - Veterans
  - Individuals with disabilities
  - Individuals with language barriers
  - Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group
  - Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas

You can share your thoughts with us via any of these channels

Take our Internet Access Survey by scanning the QR code

For more information, visit your local library or BroadbandOhio website: **https://broadband.ohio.gov/**

Attend other upcoming RDIA listening sessions and webinars

Email us with questions at **broadbandohio@development.ohio.gov**

Reach out to your Regional Digital Inclusion Alliance **broadbandohio@development.ohio.gov**

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