



**BROADBAND  
OFFICE**



# Broadband and South Carolina Counties

South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff | February 23, 2022

# Legislative Update

- S. 952 \$400M ARPA
  - *Significant reporting requirements*
- \$185M Capital Project Funds
- County ARPA
- Federal Programs: USDA Reconnect, FCC RDOF, NTIA
- Competitive process/RFP

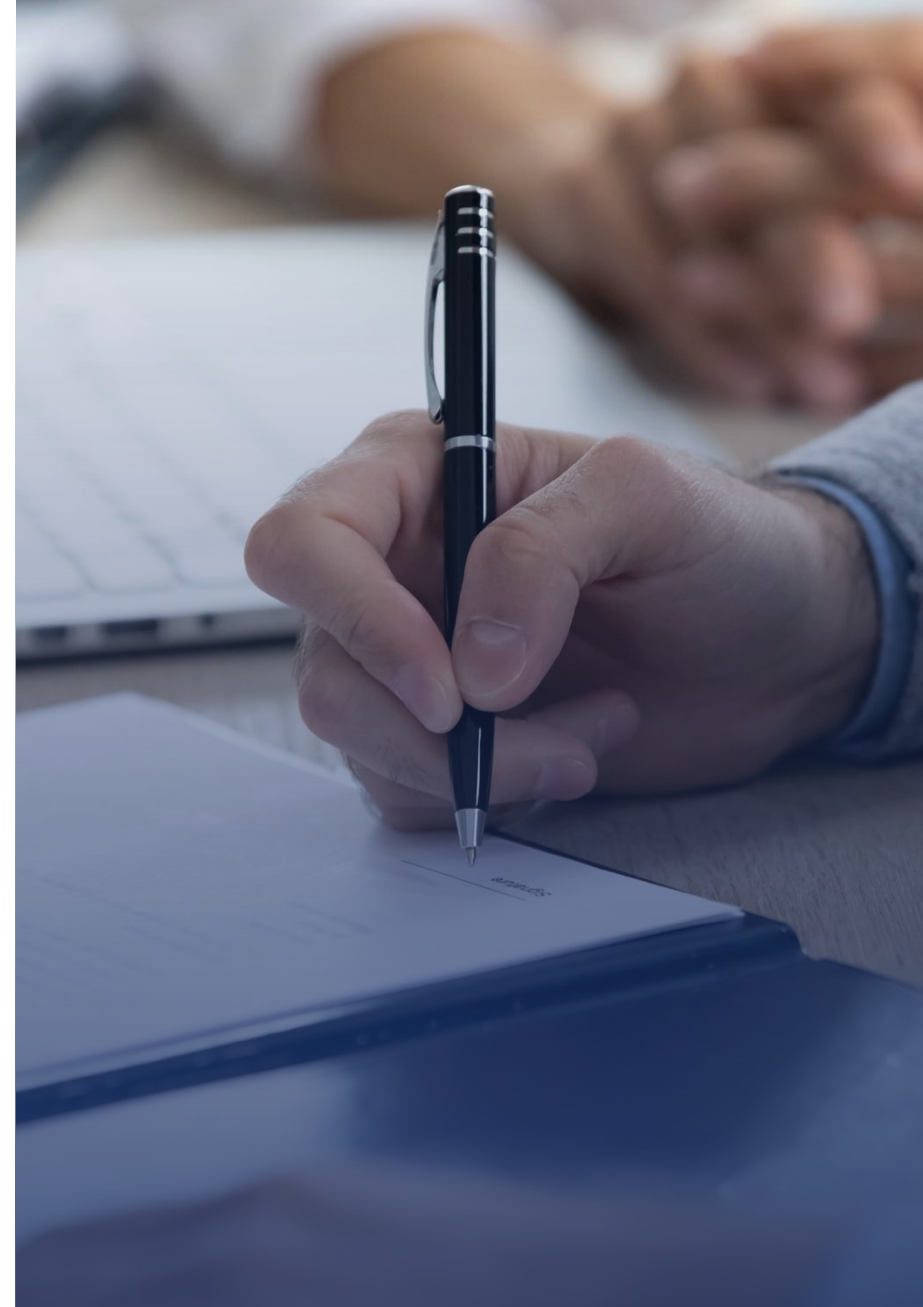


# ARPA US Treasury Guidance

All contracts in excess of \$100,000 that involve employment of mechanics or laborers **must** include a provision for compliance with certain provisions of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by DOL regulations 29 CFR Part 5. See also, 2 CFR 200, Appendix II. US Treasury will continue to seek information from recipients on their workforce plans and broadband projects undertaken with SLFRF funds

Must participate in ACP or other affordability program

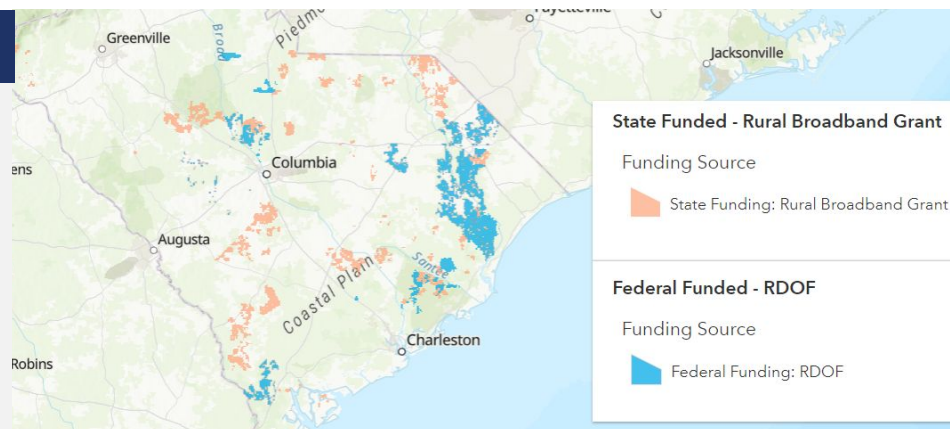
***Required to report speed, pricing, and any data allowance information as part of mandatory reporting to Treasury.***



# Broadband Office

## Broadband Investments

- **CARES Act:** Mapping, Broadband Infrastructure Program, Online Learning Initiative
- **CARES 2.0**
- **Rural Broadband Grant Program**
- **NTIA Grant**
- **ARPA**
- **IIJA**



## Office of Broadband Coordinator

*Serves as the central planning body to coordinate with federal, state, regional, local, and private entities to engage in the continued deployment of broadband in the state.*

Current Total Housing Units

With At Least

25↓ Mbps / 3↑ Mbps Service

**2,268,077\***

Current Total Housing Units

Without

25↓ Mbps / 3↑ Mbps Service

**221,731\***

Current Total Housing Units

Funded

100↓ Mbps / 20↑ Mbps Service

**33,377\***

*\*Data current as of September 2021*



# SOUTH CAROLINA DIGITAL DRIVE

[www.SCDigitalDrive.org](http://www.SCDigitalDrive.org)



ORS.SC.GOV

# Download Broadband Maps

1. Visit *SC Digital Drive*
  2. Type county into search bar
  3. Download county-based maps:
    - *Areas of Need: Infrastructure in ground as of latest map production cycle*
    - *Best Available Technology: Data Source: Federal Communication Commission - FCC*
    - *Planning: Infrastructure in ground and areas currently funded for Broadband Construction*
    - *Statistics: By population, Housing Units, and Internet Speed*
- Mobile friendly

The screenshot shows the South Carolina Digital Drive website. The header includes the South Carolina State Seal and the text "SOUTH CAROLINA DIGITAL DRIVE". Below the header, there is a navigation menu with "Broadband Maps", "Consumers", "Stakeholders", "State Broadband Office", and "Contact". A search bar is present with the text "Search for maps by county and type". Below the search bar, there are three columns of statistics:

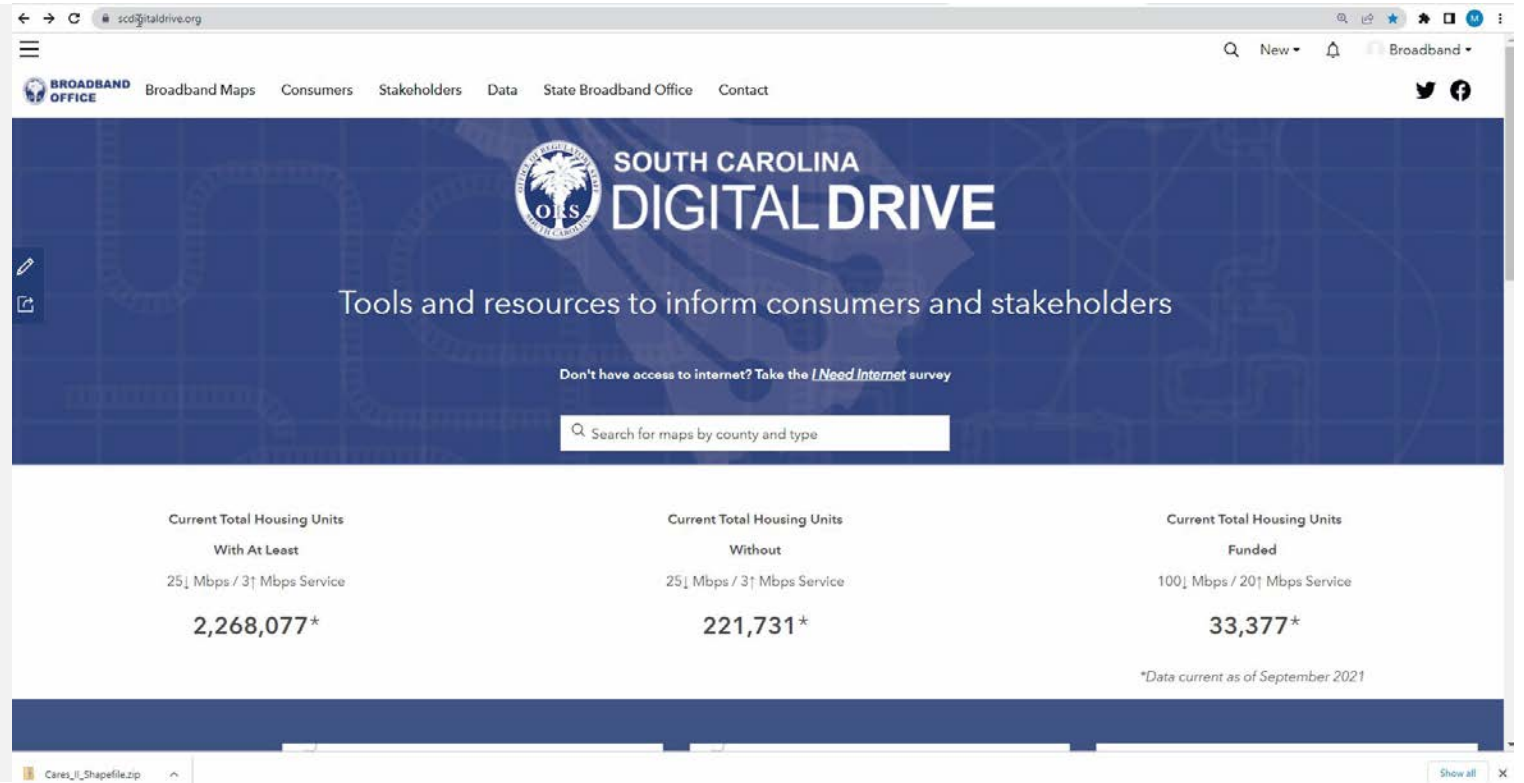
Current Total Housing Units With At Least 25 Mbps / 3 Mbps Service	Current Total Housing Units Without 25 Mbps / 3 Mbps Service	Current Total Housing Units Funded 100 Mbps / 20 Mbps Service
2,268,077*	221,731*	33,377*

\*Data current as of September 2021

At the bottom, there are three map thumbnails: "South Carolina Areas of Need", "South Carolina Best Available Technology", and "South Carolina Planning".

# SC Broadband County Dashboard

1. Visit *SC Digital Drive*
2. Scroll to bottom of home page to view available dashboards
  - *SC Broadband County Dashboard*
  - *SC Broadband Senate District Dashboard*
  - *SC Broadband House District Dashboard*
3. Click on dashboard
4. Statewide statistics are provided when dashboard loads
5. Depending on which dashboard used, choose County, Senate District, or House District from the drop-down list in the right corner of the page



# Stakeholders

1. Visit *SC Digital Drive*
  2. Go to *Stakeholders* tab
  3. Learn more about broadband
  4. Use *Eligibility Web Application*
  5. Review *Broadband Investments Map*
  6. Evaluate *Yes to Connect* survey results
  7. Provide feedback to the ORS through:
    - *Broadband Challenges Survey*
    - *Upload financed broadband projects– mitigates risk of overbuilding in an area*
    - *Data Access Request Form*
- Surveys are voluntary
  - Mobile friendly

**BROADBAND OFFICE** Broadband Maps Consumers Stakeholders State Broadband Office Contact

## Stakeholders

Coordination and engagement across all sectors of government academic institutions, non-profits, and the private industry is vital to connect consumers to affordable, reliable broadband.

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and the Investment in Infrastructure and Jobs Act (IIJA) have empowered states, counties, tribes, and local governments to complete major capital improvement projects, including broadband expansion.

- About the SC Broadband Office  
Coming Soon!  
Explore
- Introducing the SC Broadband Advisory Council  
An Integrated Approach to Solving the Digital Divide - Coming Soon!  
Explore
- Understanding Broadband Access, Adoption, and Use  
Coming Soon!  
Explore



# Stakeholders

1. Visit *SC Digital Drive*
  2. Go to *Stakeholders* tab
  3. Learn more about broadband
  4. Use *Eligibility Web Application*
  5. Review *Broadband Investments Map*
  6. Evaluate *Yes to Connect* survey results
  7. Provide feedback to the ORS through:
    - *Broadband Challenges Survey*
    - *Upload financed broadband projects– mitigates risk of overbuilding in an area*
    - *Data Access Request Form*
- Surveys are voluntary
  - Mobile friendly

**Challenges and Barriers Survey**

The Broadband Office is developing a report to the General Assembly outlining challenges and barriers to broadband access. Please complete this [survey](#).

[Take the Challenges and Barriers Survey](#)

**Broadband Challenges Survey**

The South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS), an agency of the State is legislatively mandated to identify challenges to expediting broadband Access and is required to provide a report to the South Carolina General Assembly with recommendations.

This form is intended to capture feedback from Stakeholders and Citizens, which will help guide those discussions. If you have questions about this survey, please email the ORS SC Broadband Office at [broadband@ors.sc.gov](mailto:broadband@ors.sc.gov).

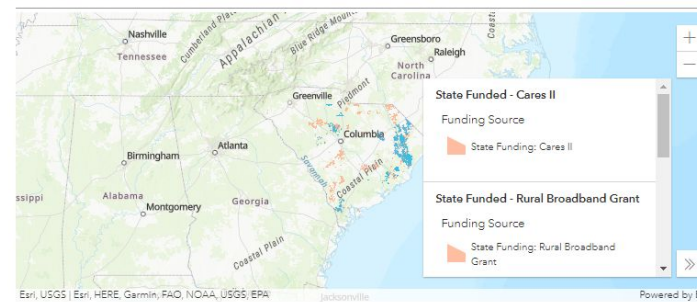
Thank you in advance for participating in this survey, your feedback is extremely important to us!

- SC Broadband Office -  
- Office of Regulatory Staff -

# Stakeholders

1. Visit *SC Digital Drive*
  2. Go to *Stakeholders* tab
  3. Learn more about broadband
  4. Use *Eligibility Web Application*
  5. Review *Broadband Investments Map*
  6. Evaluate *Yes to Connect* survey results
  7. Provide feedback to the ORS through:
    - *Broadband Challenges Survey*
    - *Upload financed broadband projects– mitigates risk of overbuilding in an area*
    - *Data Access Request Form*
- Surveys are voluntary
  - Mobile friendly

Broadband Investment Map



## Investments Map

The *Investments Map* shows areas funded for broadband expansion in South Carolina.

View the [Broadband Investment Map](#)

## Submit a Project

Counties and local governments may submit broadband expansion projects to the Broadband Office for inclusion in the Broadband Investments Map.

## Upload a Broadband Project Form

If you're a County or Local Government and are funding a Broadband Construction Project in your jurisdiction, the ORS Broadband Office would appreciate hearing from you!

The South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS), an agency of the State is compiling data to determine where funded projects are occurring across the landscape. The data collected through this Survey will assist ORS in prioritizing future funding of grants and will ensure the State doesn't overbuild Broadband in one neighborhood while other jurisdictions remain unserved or underserved.

If you have questions about this survey, please email the ORS SC Broadband Office at [broadband@ors.sc.gov](mailto:broadband@ors.sc.gov). Thank you in advance for participating in this survey, your feedback is extremely important to us!

- SC Broadband Office -  
- Office of Regulatory Staff -

Name\*

Please provide us with your name

# Stakeholders

1. Visit *SC Digital Drive*
  2. Go to *Stakeholders* tab
  3. Learn more about broadband
  4. Use *Eligibility Web Application*
  5. Review *Broadband Investments Map*
  6. Evaluate *Yes to Connect* survey results
  7. Provide feedback to the ORS through:
    - *Broadband Challenges Survey*
    - *Upload financed broadband projects– mitigates risk of overbuilding in an area*
    - *Data Access Request Form*
- Surveys are voluntary
  - Mobile friendly

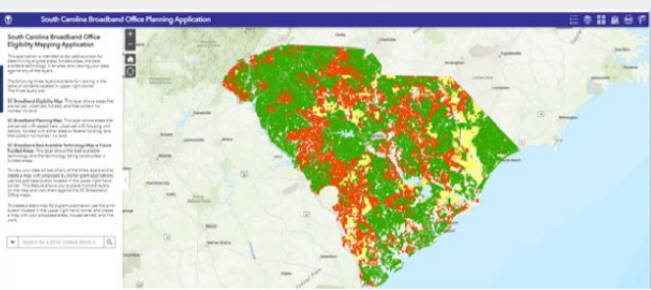
## Request Broadband Data

Stakeholders can fill out a [Data Access Request Form](#) to request access to the data used to compile maps and applications. An ESRI ArcGIS Organizational Account and AGOL username is required to provide access to the data.

[Submit a Data Access Request Form](#)

## Eligibility Web Mapping Application

The [Eligibility Web Mapping Application](#) (Web Mapping) shows areas eligible for potential future funding, funded areas, and the best available technology in an area. Users may also overlay their own maps and data when using the Web Mapping application. Data added to the map locally is accessible only to the user and not viewable by the Broadband Office. When the user closes the web browser, the session ends.



SC Broadband Office Eligibility App

This application is intended to be used as a tool for determining eligible areas, funded areas, the best available technology in an area, and viewing your data with any of the other layers. The data is not a...

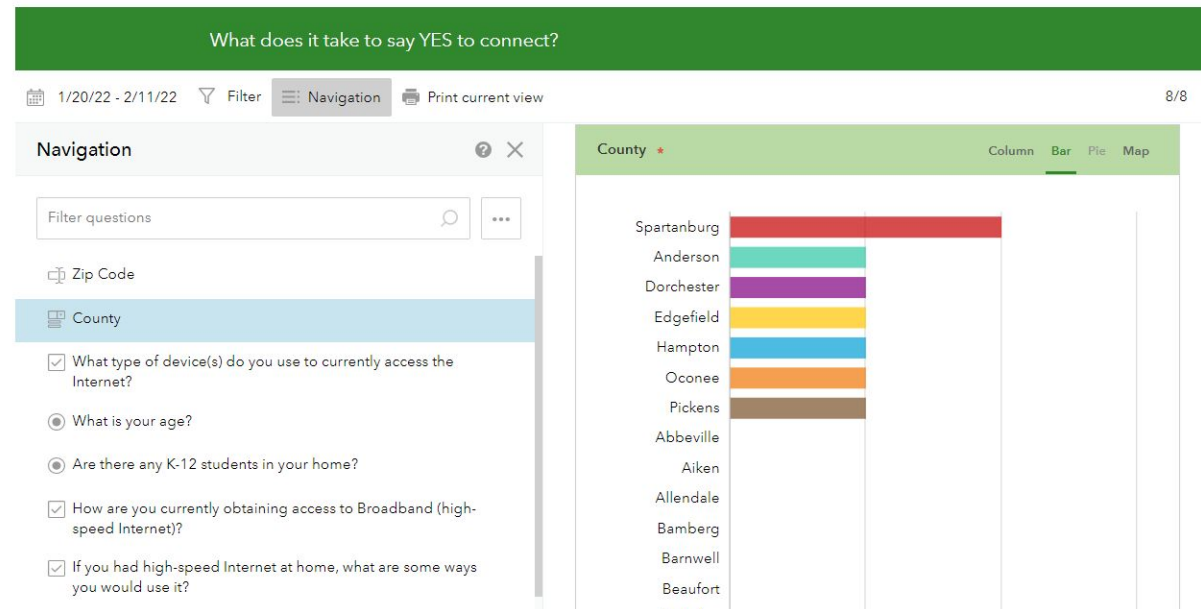
[Launch Application](#)

# Stakeholders

1. Visit *SC Digital Drive*
  2. Go to *Stakeholders* tab
  3. Learn more about broadband
  4. Use *Eligibility Web Application*
  5. Review *Broadband Investments Map*
  6. Evaluate *Yes to Connect* survey results
  7. Provide feedback to the ORS through:
    - *Broadband Challenges Survey*
    - *Upload financed broadband projects– mitigates risk of overbuilding in an area*
    - *Data Access Request Form*
- Surveys are voluntary
  - Mobile friendly

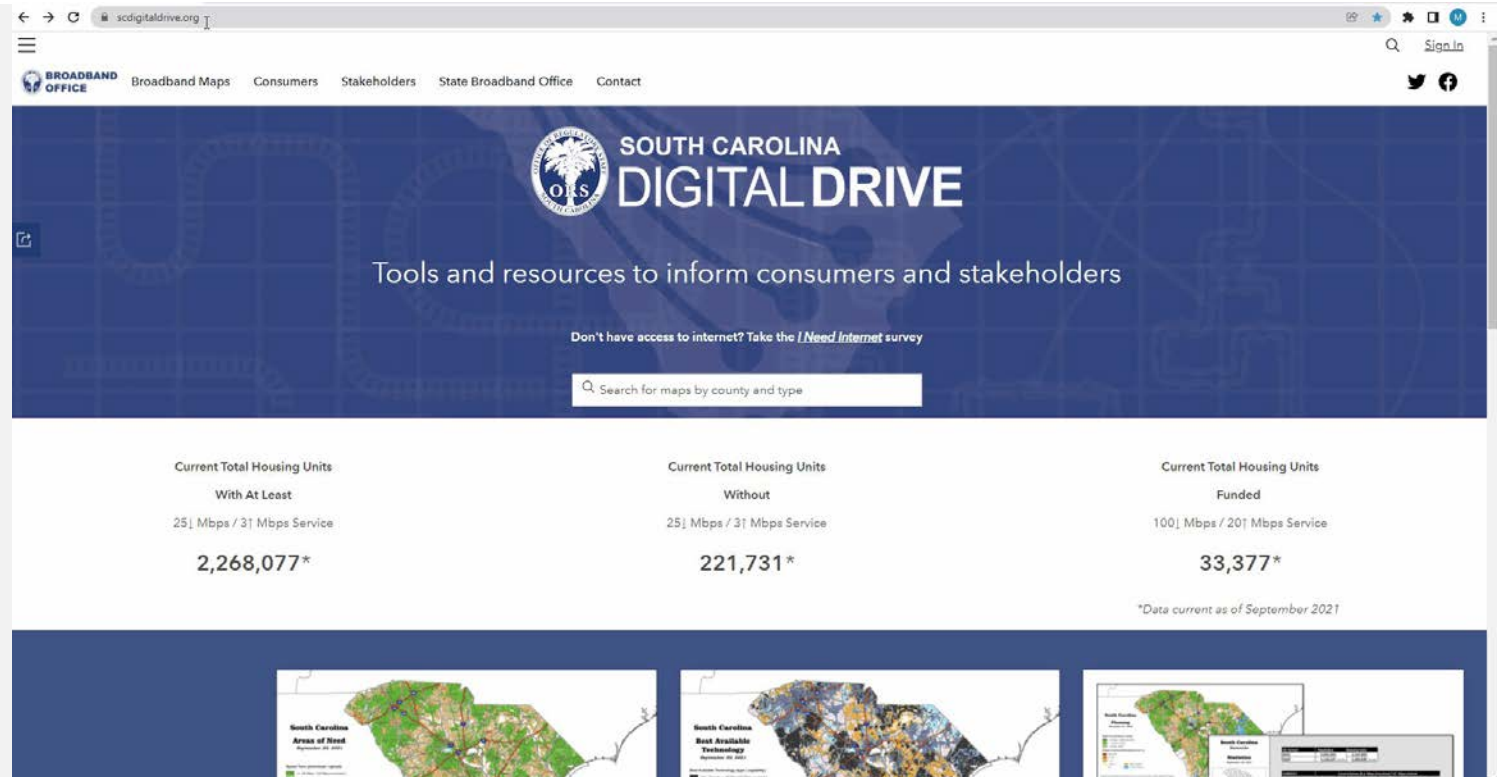
## Yes to Connect Survey Results

The Broadband Office gathers information from consumers through the [Yes to Connect survey](#). This survey data may assist with identification of barriers to broadband user adoption. Consumers can take the voluntary survey and share information.



# Consumers

1. Visit *SC Digital Drive*
  2. Click on *Consumers* tab
  3. Learn about broadband
  4. Use *ISP Lookup Application (Data Source: FCC)*
  5. Contact Available ISPs
    - a) If ISP unable to provide service or no ISP in area, submit the *I Need Internet Survey*
    - b) Information shared securely with ISPs
- Survey is voluntary
  - Mobile Friendly



# I Need Internet Survey

Results from survey shared with ISPs to inform expansion of broadband access across state



## I Need Internet Survey

Consumers who do not have access to internet service to their home or business can voluntarily complete the [I Need Internet survey](#). Results from this survey are shared with ISPs to help inform the expansion of broadband access in the state.

Broadband is not regulated in South Carolina. Results from the [I Need Internet survey](#) may inform the need for access to broadband and be presented to ISPs in a uniform and consistent manner over time.

[Take the I Need Internet Survey](#)

## South Carolina Citizen Survey for Broadband Internet

If you need Internet, this is your call to action!

The South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS"), an agency of the State of South Carolina ("State"), is conducting this Broadband Internet Survey ("Survey") for the purpose of gathering information from citizens of the State on their desire to obtain residential high-speed Broadband ("Internet") plans from Internet Service Providers ("ISP"). The data collected through this Survey will assist ORS in determining the demand and need for and promote access to residential high-speed, fiber-based Internet in and around your community and across the State.

If you have questions about this survey, please email the ORS SC Broadband Office at [INeedInternet@ors.sc.gov](mailto:INeedInternet@ors.sc.gov). Thank you in advance for participating in this survey, your feedback is extremely important to us!

- SC Broadband Office -
- Office of Regulatory Staff -

Name\*

Please provide us with your name

No internet service available?

[Take the I Need Internet survey.](#)

# Limitations of Data, Maps, Apps, Stats, Surveys, and Dashboards

## Temporal (time) aspect

Data ORS receives from ISPs is lagged by 6 months, contrasted to FCC published data which is lagged by more than a year. Construction is always occurring so areas may have been built that are not currently mapped. Always review the date on maps published and the metadata from any GIS data downloaded from SC Digital Drive.

## Investment areas

If current projects are not completed by October 31, 2022, they were not included in the analysis (i.e. Rural Digital Opportunity Fund [RDOF]).

## Data

Data used to derive statistics are estimations from multiple state, federal, and private sources, including the FCC, US Census, SC Dept of Education, ISPs, and e911. Each data source comes with its own limitations

- Served/Unserved/Funded Household counts
- Student data
- Population data

## Surveys

Data contained in surveys is raw consumer data, so errors, duplicates, and/or omissions may be present. The Broadband Office will periodically review, refine, and publish survey results for ISPs use.

# Terms and Conditions

*The South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS) makes no warranty of any kind, expressed or implied, as to the use or appropriateness of the use of the GIS data, survey data, mapping services, analysis, statistics, view, and interaction with web maps, web applications, dashboards, surveys, and/or other reporting functionalities (Data & Services) by end users (the entity seeking access to ORS Broadband Data), of the proposed solution including, but not limited to, warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose or with respect to quality, accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or reliability. Data & Services made available by ORS are based upon the available data, as provided by users, South Carolina residents, and others. All Data & Services made available hereby, in whatever form, are for reference only.*

*The user of this information understands and acknowledges that the Data & Services may be inaccurate or contain errors or omissions, and the user assumes full responsibility for any risks or damages resulting from any use or misuse of or reliance upon any Data & Services. Neither ORS nor any of its individual employees, contractors, or representatives guarantee the quality, accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or reliability of the Data & Services. Users acknowledge that ORS does not guarantee or warrant that the Data & Services are complete or current and further acknowledge that the Data & Services are subject to change. Any use of the Data & Services is done at the sole risk and liability of the user.*

*The user assumes full responsibility for any risks or damages resulting from using or misusing the Data & Services. Use of the Data & Services does not guarantee approval of any funding of any kind that user may apply for or otherwise seek. Nor does it guarantee funding support from any source, regardless of purpose.*



**Nanette Edwards**

Executive Director, ORS  
*NEdwards@ORS.SC.GOV*  
O: (803) 737-0575  
M: (803) 603-7810

**Jim Stritzinger**

Director, SC Broadband Office  
*JStritzinger@ORS.SC.GOV*  
O: (803) 737-0825  
M: (803) 606-6398

**Michael Herzberger**

Deputy Director, SC Broadband Office  
*MHerzberger@ORS.SC.GOV*  
O: (803) 737-3611  
M: (803) 605-8125



**BROADBAND  
OFFICE**