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# Data Collection Tools to Support the Digital Equity Act

New Digital Equity Act Population Viewer and Small Area  
Covered Populations Estimates

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# Speakers

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# Covered Populations

The Digital Equity Act focuses on addressing the needs of "covered populations" as defined by the statute.

## Covered Populations

*Identity groups and communities disproportionately impacted by digital inequity*



Low-income households



People with disabilities



Aging populations



People with language barriers



Incarcerated individuals



Racial and ethnic minorities



Veterans



Rural inhabitants

# NTIA will allocate planning grant funds according to a statutory formula

Criteria	Description	Percent
Total Population	The population of the eligible State in proportion to the total population of all eligible States	50
Covered Population <sup>1</sup>	The number of individuals in the eligible State who are members of covered pops. in proportion to the total number of individuals in all eligible States who are members of covered populations	25
Lack of availability and adoption of broadband	Based on the comparative lack of availability and adoption of broadband in the eligible State in proportion to the lack of availability and adoption of broadband of all eligible States	25
Availability	Proportion of residents in a location where fixed, non-satellite broadband is unavailable at speeds of 25/3 Mbps (metric will be updated for any new FCC standards).	5
Computer & Broadband Subscription in household	Proportion of residents that live in a household that lacks either a desktop/laptop/tablet computer or high-speed Internet	5
Individual Internet Use	Proportion of residents who do not use the Internet from any location	7.5
Individual Device Use	Percentage of residents who do not use a desktop/laptop/tablet computer	7.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>

At least 1% of available funds will be set aside for grants to U.S. territories and possessions and at least 5% of available funds will be set aside for grants to Indian Tribes, Alaska Native entities, and Native Hawaiian orgs

1. The term “covered populations” means: (i) individuals who live in households with family incomes below 150% of the poverty threshold; (ii) aging individuals; (iii) incarcerated individuals, other than individuals who are incarcerated in a Federal correctional facility; (iv) veterans; (v) individuals with disabilities; (vi) individuals with a language barrier, including those with low English proficiency and those with low levels of literacy; (vii) individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and (viii) individuals who primarily reside in a rural area.



**THANK YOU**

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