Why is rural broadband important to communities and Nebraska’s economy?

Rural broadband availability & adoption are associated with:
- Attraction and retention of millennials
- Greater economic growth
- Attraction of new firms
- Higher household incomes
- Small business growth

Gallardo, R., Whitacre, B., Grant, A. (January 2018).

87.3% of Nebraskans, but 58.0% of rural Nebraskans have access to broadband at 25 Mbps down and 3 Mbps up.

Dec. 2017 FCC Form 477 Data

9% of fixed connections in Nebraska are fiber, behind the U.S. average of 12%.

June 2017, FCC Form 477 Data

12% of Nebraskans under 18 do not have internet access at home.

US Census Bureau 2017 American Community Survey five-year estimates

Nebraska ranks 4th in the U.S. for business, but 44th for residential broadband download speeds.

Dec. 2016 Form 477 Data, Opendata.fcc.gov

Over 70% of Nebraskans have broadband of 100 Mbps available.

Dec 2016, FCC Broadband Map

65% of Nebraska libraries only have internet service of 25 Mbps down or less.

2018, Nebraska Library Commission

NITC Research

Rural counties in Nebraska with the highest broadband availability have a higher average broadband subscription rate, per capita income, & % of children under 5.
For information about the Rural Broadband Task Force, visit:
[ruralbroadband.nebraska.gov](http://ruralbroadband.nebraska.gov)

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