Get Connected SC

BETTER INTERNET FOR A BETTER SOUTH CAROLINA

Rural Broadband: Closing the Digital Divide

South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff
South Carolina Department of Administration

March 7, 2023

McMaster, Clyburn celebrate milestone of 100K homes provided high-speed internet access

BY SEANNA ADCOX SADCOX@POSTANDCOURIER.COM
OCT 3, 2022

1 of 2

U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn, South Carolina's senior congressman and only elected Democrat in Washington, and Gov. Henry McMaster, a Republican seeking re-election, appeared together in the governor's Statehouse office Monday, Oct. 3, 2022, to celebrate bipartisan efforts to expand access to high-speed internet statewide. Seanna Adcox/Staff

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BY SEANNA ADCOX SADCOX@POSTANDCOURIER.COM

BROADBAND OFFICE

2022 Year in Review

September 30, 2022

Served and Unserved Areas

Speed Tiers (download / upload)

- >= 100 Mbps / 100 Mbps (symmetric)
- >= 100 Mbps / 20 Mbps
- >= 25 Mbps / 3 Mbps

Unserved Housing Units

- 100 or More
- 26 - 99
- 11 - 25
- 1 - 10
- Zero

Best Available Technology

- Fiber | Speeds >= 100 Mbps/100 Mbps (symmetric)
- Cable (DOCSIS 3.1+) | Speeds >= 100 Mbps/100 Mbps
- Cable (DOCSIS 3.0) | Speeds >= 100 Mbps/20 Mbps
- Cable (DOCSIS < 2.0), All Other | Speeds >= 25 Mbps/3 Mbps
- VDSL (Fiber-To-The-Curb) | Speeds >= 10 Mbps/1 Mbps
- ADSL2, ADSL2+ | Speeds >= 6 Mbps/1 Mbps
- Fixed Wireless | Speeds >= 10 Mbps/1 Mbps
- ADSL, all other Copper | Speeds >= 3 Mbps/768 kbps
- No Internet Service Available

Data 2021: Based on SC Broadband Office (SCBBO) analysis of FCC Form 477, Dec. 31, 2020 (pub. Oct. 29, 2021). In addition, multiple Internet Service Providers (ISPs) reported their FCC Form 477, Jun. 30, 2021 data to augment and update the base dataset. Demographic data based on US Census 2010 information that was enhanced with E911 premise-level information through Jun. 30, 2020. Ookla® Speedtest Intelligence® data from Jan. 1, 2019 through Jun. 30, 2021 combined for analysis in the region.

Data 2022: Based on SCBBO analysis of FCC Form 477, Dec. 31, 2021 (pub. Dec 29, 2022). In addition, multiple ISPs reported their FCC Form 477, Jun. 30, 2022 data to augment and update the base dataset. Demographic data based on FCC Broadband Serviceable Locations as of Dec. 2022. Speedtest Intelligence data from Jan. 1, 2019 through Sep. 30, 2022 combined for analysis in the region.

Satellite and mobile broadband services excluded.

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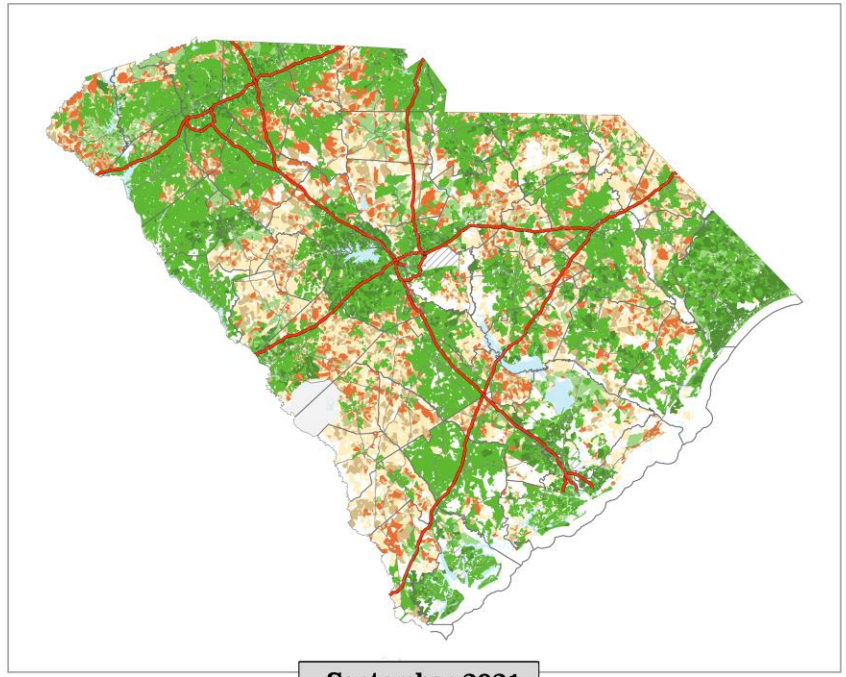
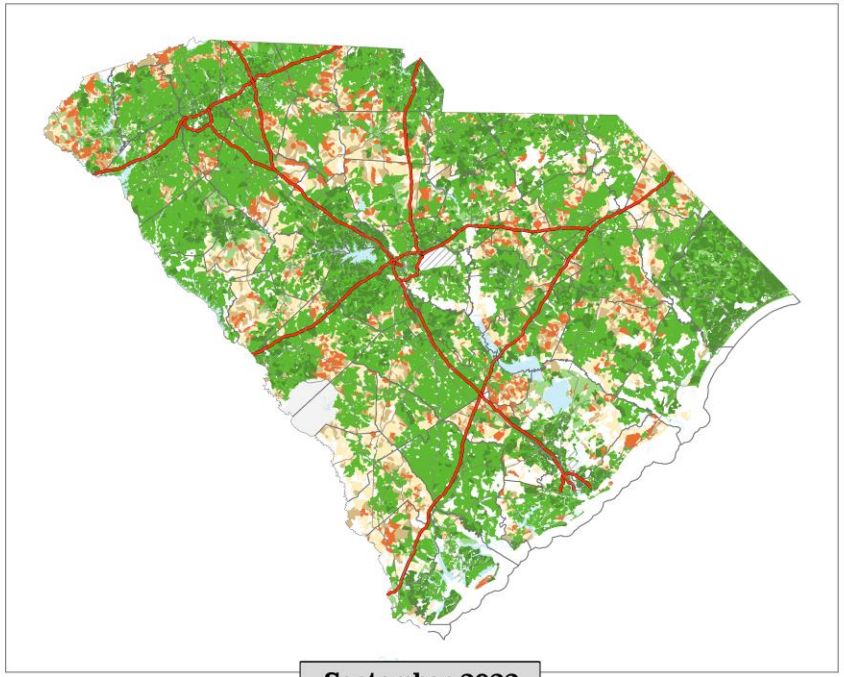
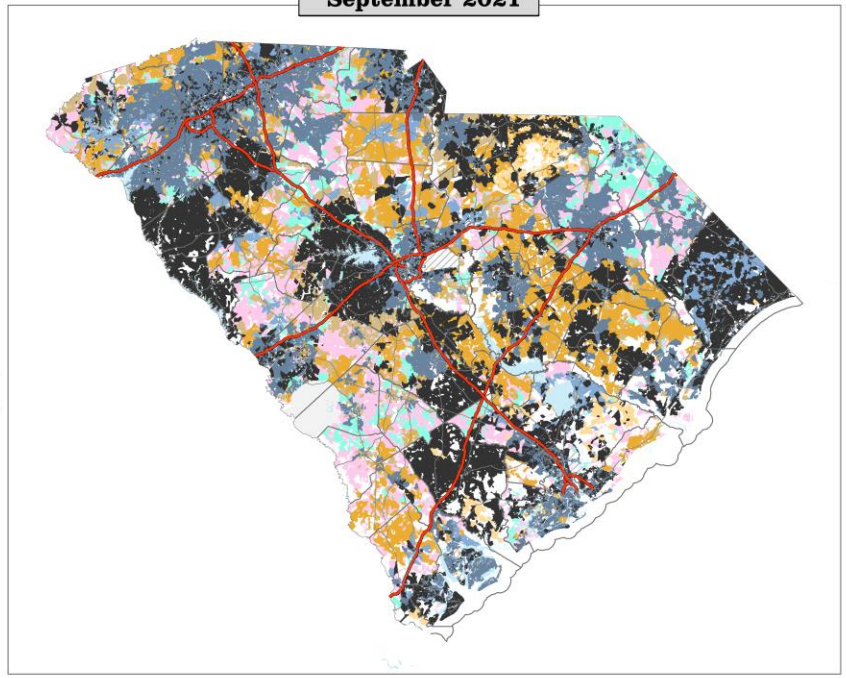
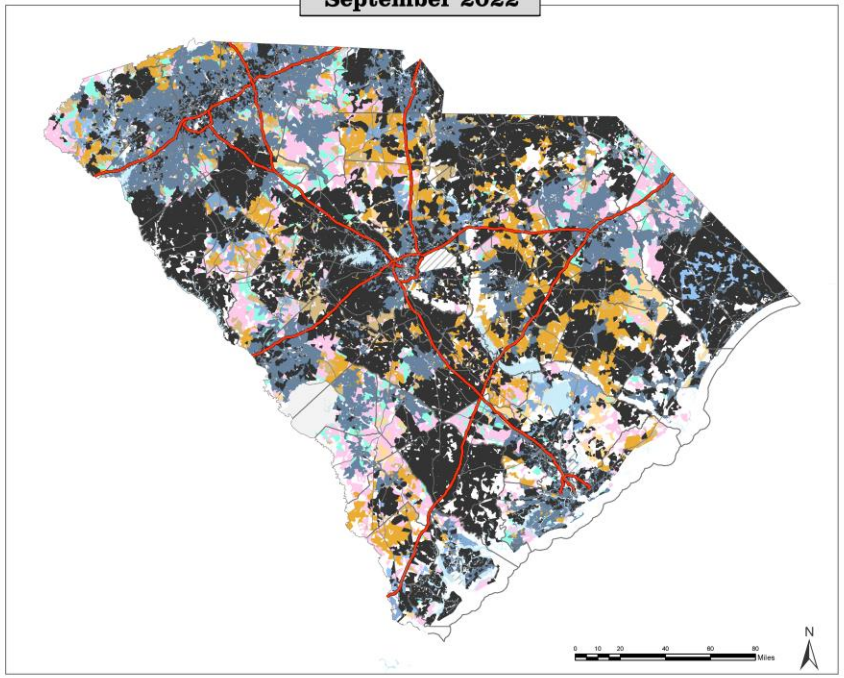




September 2021



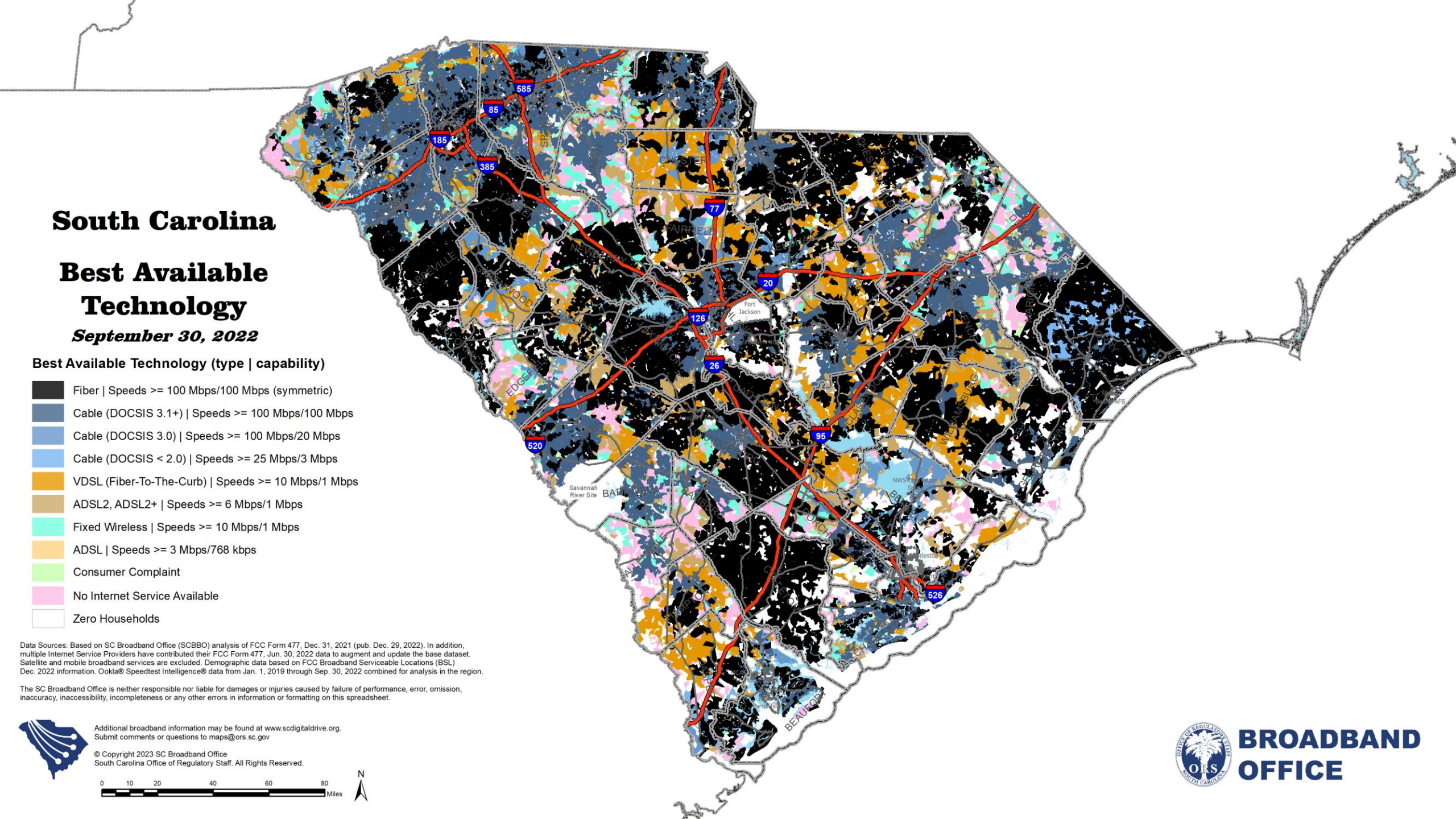
September 2022



South Carolina

Best Available Technology

September 30, 2022



Best Available Technology (type | capability)

- Fiber | Speeds >= 100 Mbps/100 Mbps (symmetric)
- Cable (DOCSIS 3.1+) | Speeds >= 100 Mbps/100 Mbps
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- Fixed Wireless | Speeds >= 10 Mbps/1 Mbps
- ADSL | Speeds >= 3 Mbps/768 kbps
- Consumer Complaint
- No Internet Service Available
- Zero Households

Data Sources: Based on SC Broadband Office (SCBBO) analysis of FCC Form 477, Dec. 31, 2021 (pub. Dec. 29, 2022). In addition, multiple Internet Service Providers have contributed their FCC Form 477, Jun. 30, 2022 data to augment and update the base dataset. Satellite and mobile broadband services are excluded. Demographic data based on FCC Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSL) Dec. 2022 information. Ookla® Speedtest Intelligence® data from Jan. 1, 2019 through Sep. 30, 2022 combined for analysis in the region.

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0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles

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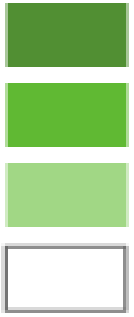
“Begin With the End in Mind”

Steven R. Covey, *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*

Speed Tiers (download / upload)



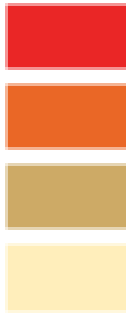
100 Mbps / 100 Mbps (symmetric)

100 Mbps / 20 Mbps

25 Mbps / 3 Mbps

Zero Households

Unserved Housing Units



100 or More

26 - 99

11 - 25

1 - 10

DON’T INVEST HERE

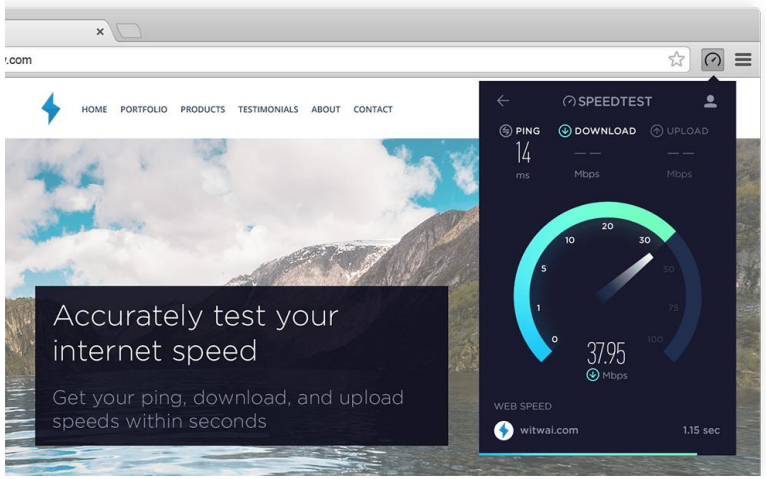
Green: Already served. Meets or exceeds FCC’s 25/3 Mbps

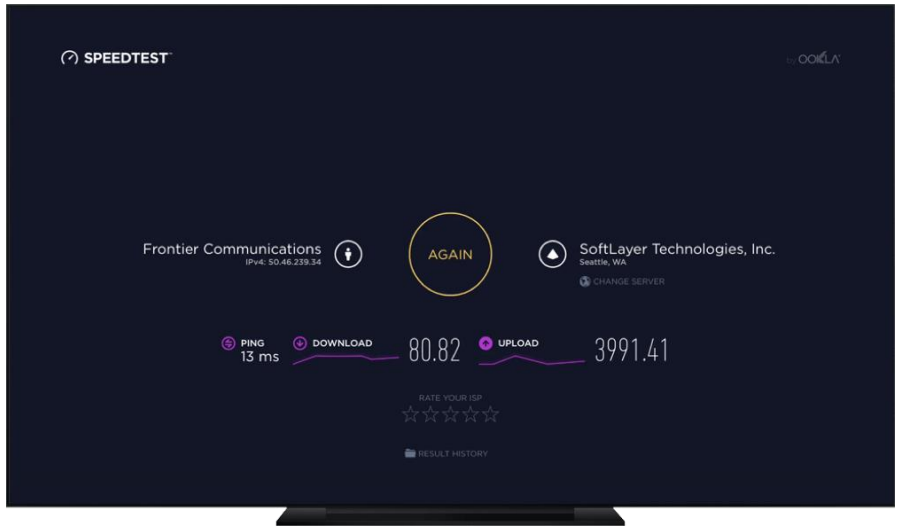
White: Nobody lives there.

INVEST HERE!

Find the “freckles” and prioritize them. Freckles are places with a lot of homes with poor Internet.

Ookla's mission is to make the internet better, faster and more accessible for everyone





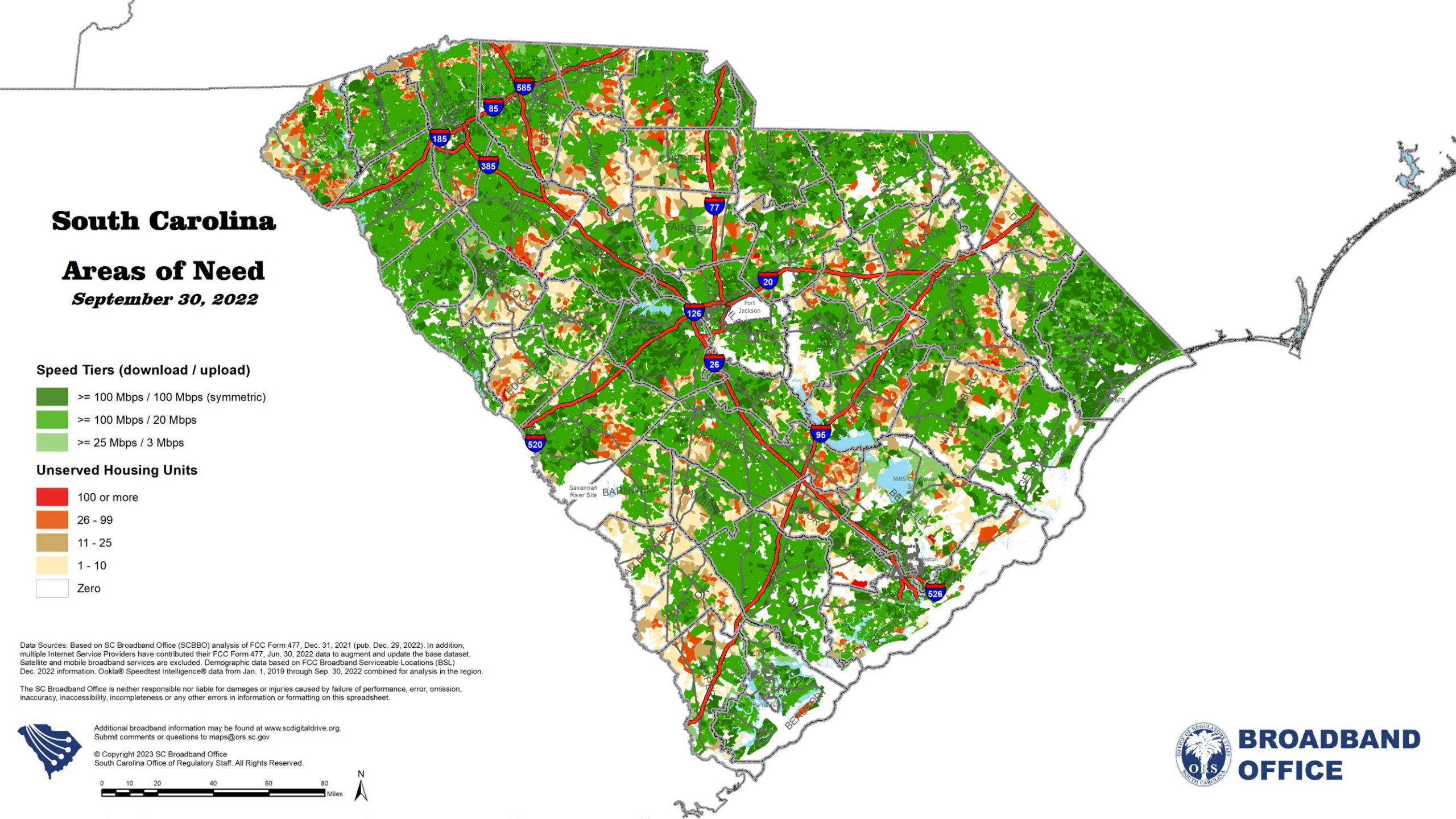
iOS

Speedtest is available for:
Web, Android, iOS, macOS, Windows, AppleTV, Chrome

South Carolina

Areas of Need

September 30, 2022



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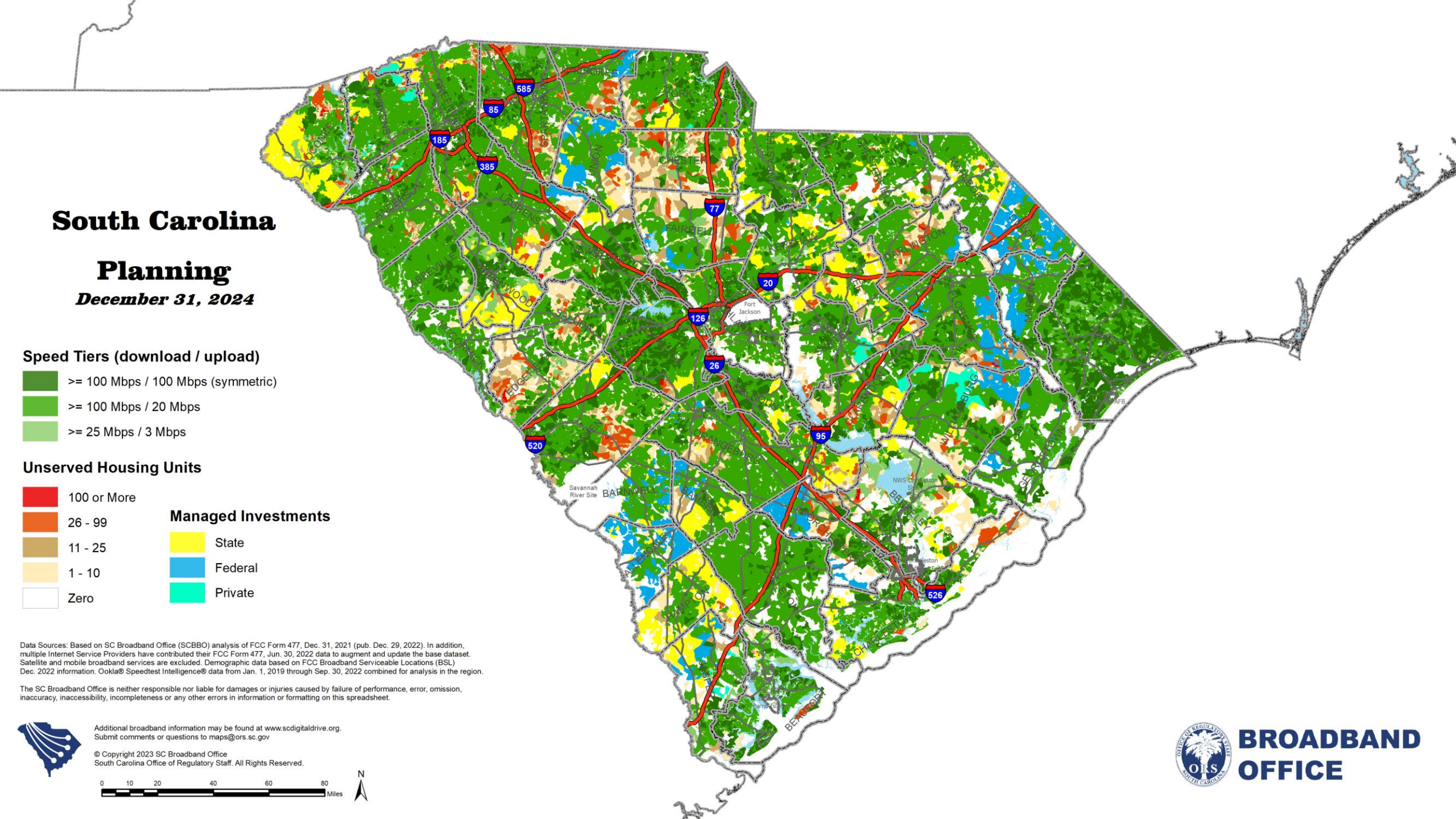
BROADBAND OFFICE

South Carolina

Planning

December 31, 2024



Speed Tiers (download / upload)

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Unserved Housing Units

- 100 or More
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- 11 - 25
- 1 - 10
- Zero

Managed Investments

- State
- Federal
- Private

Data Sources: Based on SC Broadband Office (SCBBO) analysis of FCC Form 477, Dec. 31, 2021 (pub. Dec. 29, 2022). In addition, multiple Internet Service Providers have contributed their FCC Form 477, Jun. 30, 2022 data to augment and update the base dataset. Satellite and mobile broadband services are excluded. Demographic data based on FCC Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSL) Dec. 2022 information. Ookla® Speedtest Intelligence® data from Jan. 1, 2019 through Sep. 30, 2022 combined for analysis in the region.

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0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles

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BROADBAND OFFICE

South Carolina

Statewide

Statistics

September 30, 2022

Population
Population estimates are calculated by multiplying Dec. 2022 FCC Broadband Servicable Locations (BSL) times an approximate residents per BSL.

Public K-12
K-12 student data reflects the subset of public school students which have been geocoded as of September 30, 2022. Student data was provided by the SC Department of Education.

Housing Units
A housing unit is a house, an apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms, or a single room that is occupied (or if vacant, is intended for occupancy) as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live and eat separately from any other persons in the building and which have direct access from the outside of the building or through a common hall. Dec, 2022 FCC BSL data is used in all calculations.

Qualified HU
Qualified Housing Units (HU) are located within Difficult Development Areas (Qualified Census Tracts) as determined by US Housing and Urban Development utilizing Census 2010 format. Census 2020 translation was done by the SC Broadband Office (SCBBO).

ACP
The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more.

Data Sources: Based on SCBBO analysis of FCC Form 477, Dec. 31, 2021 (pub. Dec 29, 2022). In addition multiple Internet Service Providers have contributed their FCC Form 477 Jun. 30, 2022 data to augment and update the base dataset. Satellite and mobile broadband services are excluded. Demographic data based on FCC BSL Dec. 2022 information. ACP eligibility information provided by Education SuperHighway and enrollment reported by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) through Sept. 30, 2022.

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US Census	Population		Housing Units	
2010	4,625,364		2,137,683	
2020	5,118,425	*10.7%*	2,344,963	*9.7%*
September 30, 2022	5,187,053	*12.1%*	2,488,040	*16.4%*

CURRENT	Current Below 25↓ Mbps Download / 3↑ Mbps Upload							
	Population		Public K-12		Housing Units		Qualified HU	
September 30, 2022	274,097	*5.4%*	34,696	*4.7%*	137,004	*5.5%*	17,744	*13.0%*

ACCESS						
Fiber		Cable		Copper		
1,257,047	*50.5%*	2,170,076	*87.2%*	2,026,228	*81.4%*	

ADOPTION						
Fiber		Cable		Copper		
412,630	*16.6%*	1,201,871	*48.3%*	259,085	*10.4%*	

ACP Enrollment						
Subscribers		Service		Device		Devices
262,617	*30.0%*	$5,853,217		$517,419		5,189

INVESTMENTS *managed by:*	Projected Investment Impact							
	Population		Public K-12		Housing Units		Qualified HU	
Federal	33,760		4,183		16,858		3,150	
State	84,836		10,489		42,892		5,245	
Private	6,738		749		3,271		186	
Total	**125,334**		**15,421**		**63,021**		**8,581**	

FUTURE	Remaining Below 25↓ Mbps Download / 3↑ Mbps Upload							
	Population		Public K-12		Housing Units		Qualified HU	
December 31, 2024	148,763	*2.9%*	19,275		73,983	*3.0%*	9,163	

www.SCDigitalDrive.org

Carolina Broadband

scdigitaldrive.org

Broadband Maps | Consumers | Stakeholders | State Broadband Office | Archive | Contact

SOUTH CAROLINA
DIGITAL DRIVE

Tools and resources to inform consumers and stakeholders

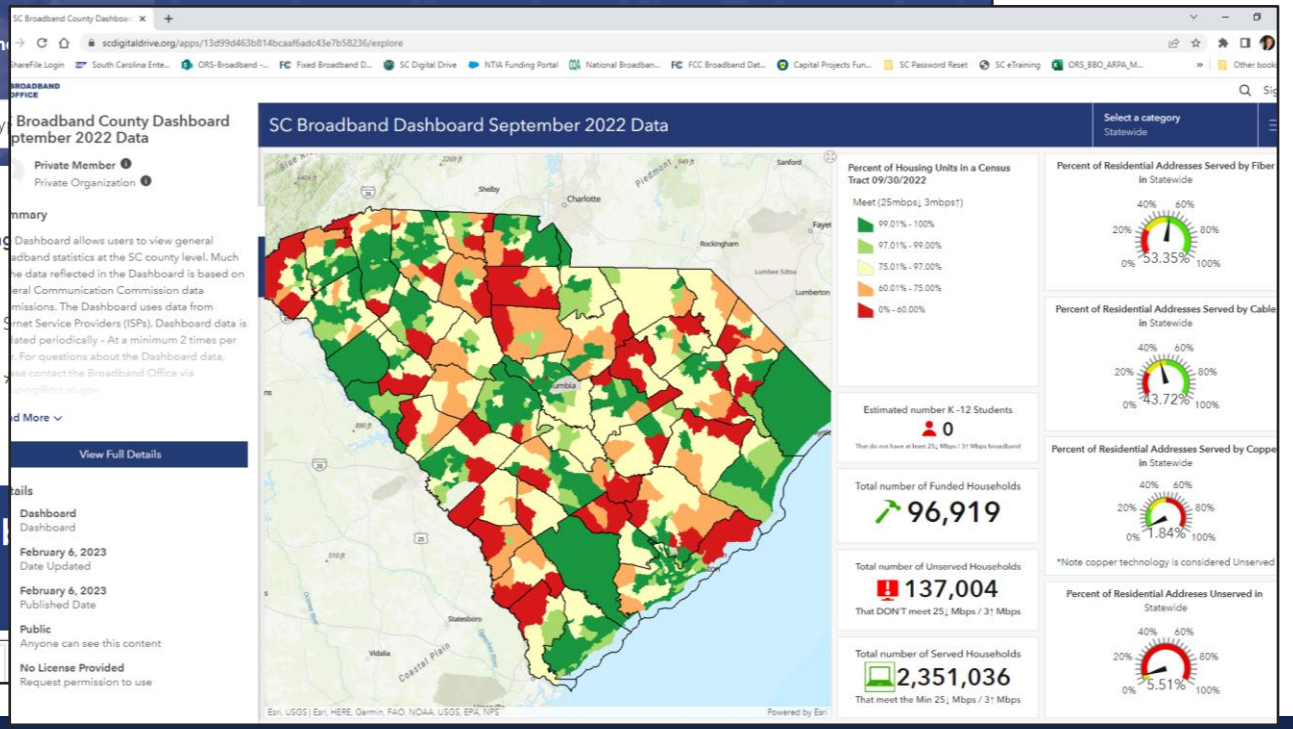
Don't have access to internet? Take th

Search for maps by county and ty

Current Total Housing Units
With At Least
25↓ Mbps / 3↑ Mbps Service
2,351,036*

Current Total Housing
Without
25↓ Mbps / 3↑ Mbps
137,004

South Carolina Broadl



ORS.SC.GOV

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

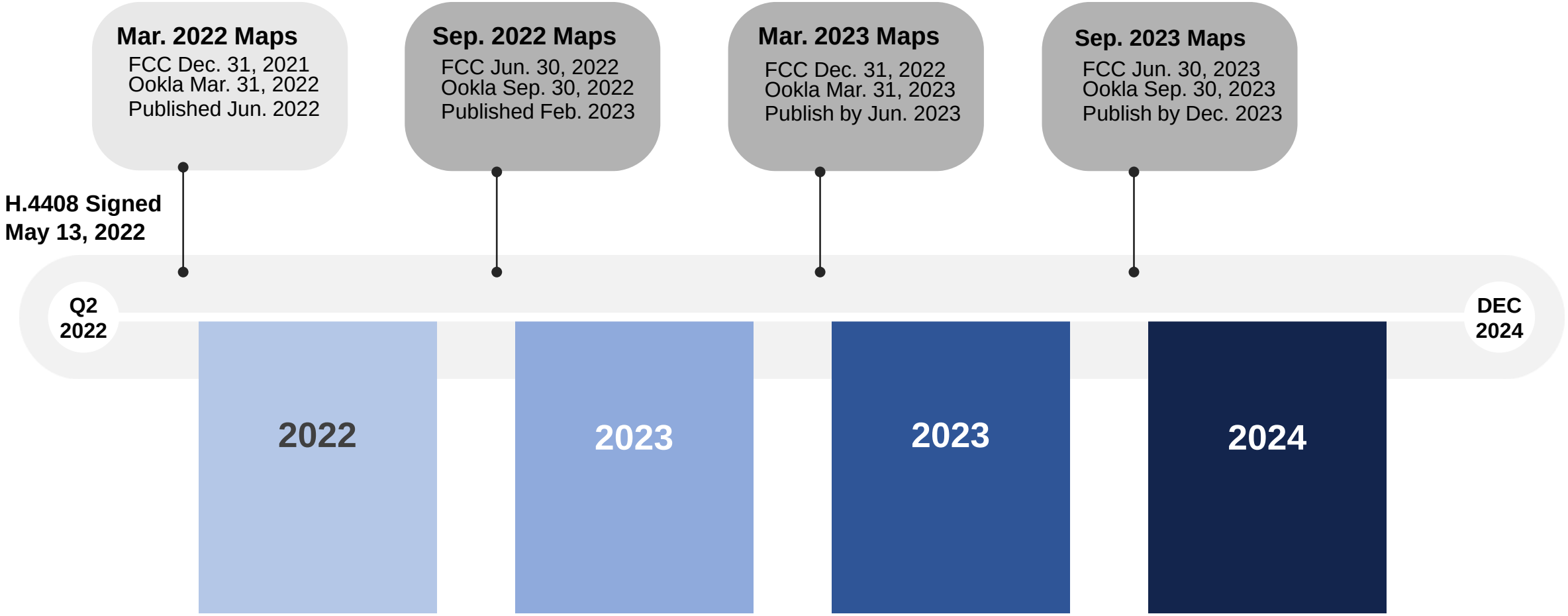
Act 244 (H. 4408) $400 Million for SC Broadband Infrastructure

Enacted
May 13, 2022

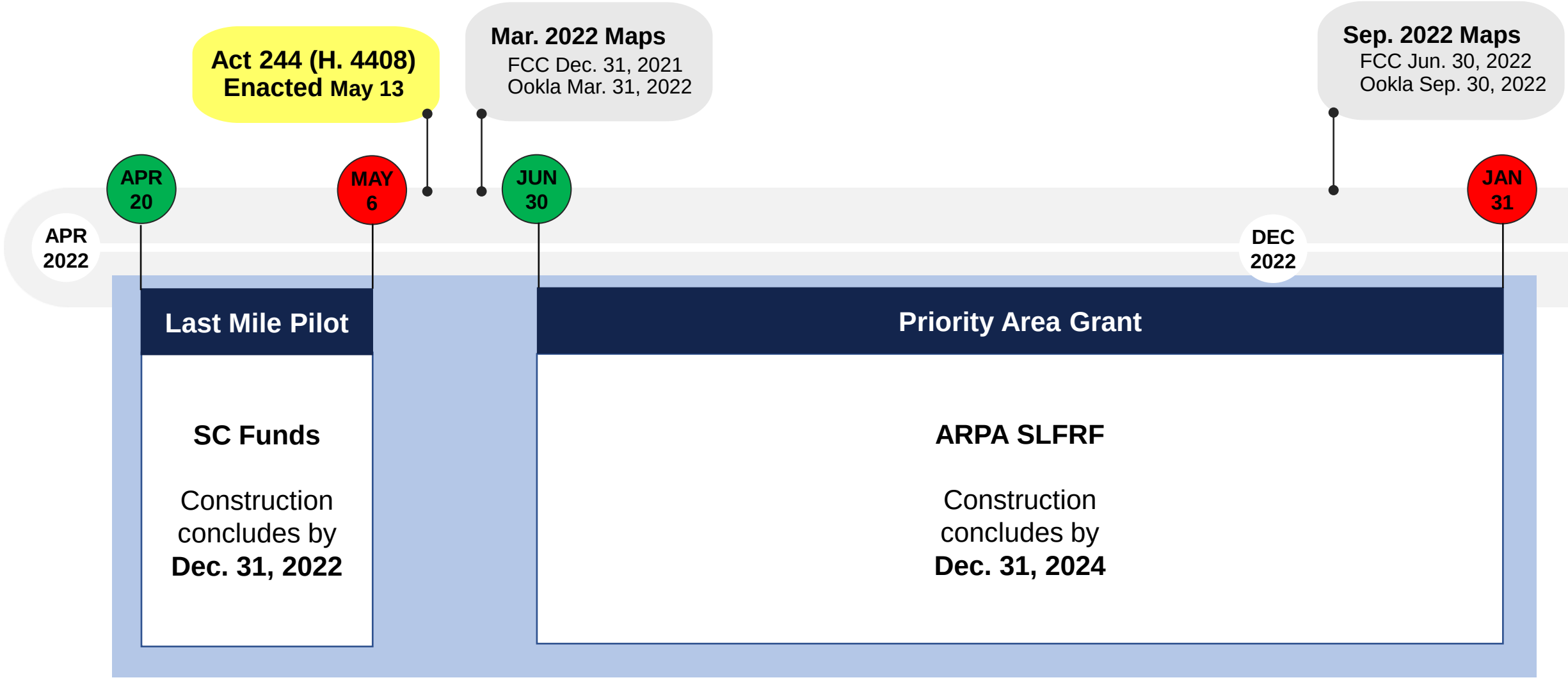
State Fiscal Recovery Fund	Capital Projects Fund
• $214.2 Million	• $185.8 Million

The funds in the ARPA Broadband Account shall be used to expand broadband infrastructure to households, businesses, and communities in the State that are **unserved** or **underserved** by broadband services.

SC BROADAND INVESTMENT ROADMAP



2022 SC BROADBAND GRANT PROGRAMS



** All dates are pending approval and are subject to change without notice.*

What are Priority Areas?

Unserved 2020 Census Blocks with:

1) **More than 20 public K-12 student households; or,**
   - ✓ Broadband maps include data from 785,000 public school students that was provided by SC Department of Education

2) **Difficult Development Areas as identified by US Housing and Urban Development (HUD); or,**
   - ✓ Defined geographies that are updated annually by HUD and are the basis for deploying Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) in the United States.

3) **No Internet Service Provider (ISP)**
   - ✓ FCC Form 477 data shows null value for ISP as of Dec. 31, 2021.

Source: H.4408, Section 9: Priority must be given to unserved areas with no current Internet Service Provider, Difficult Development Areas as identified by U.S. Housing and Urban Development, and census blocks that have a high concentration of unserved public K-12 student households as documented by the South Carolina Department of Education.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

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- $214.2 Million

Capital Projects Fund

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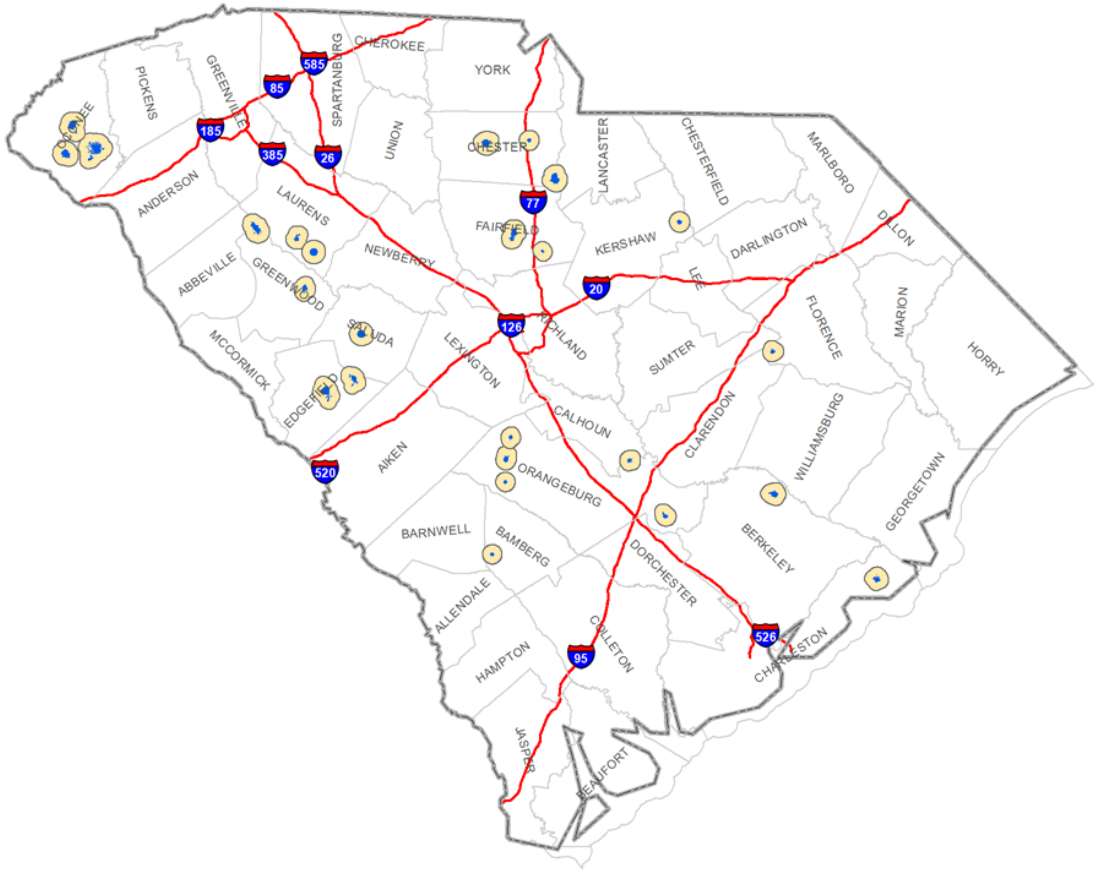
The funds in the ARPA Broadband Account shall be used to expand broadband infrastructure to households, businesses, and communities in the State that are **unserved** or **underserved** by broadband services.

THE NEXT, NEXT GREATEST THING

Main Street, South Carolina



1. Add Main Street Priority Areas

- Main St + 2mi buffer

2. Requires 100/100 Symmetric

3. “Dig Once” Opportunities

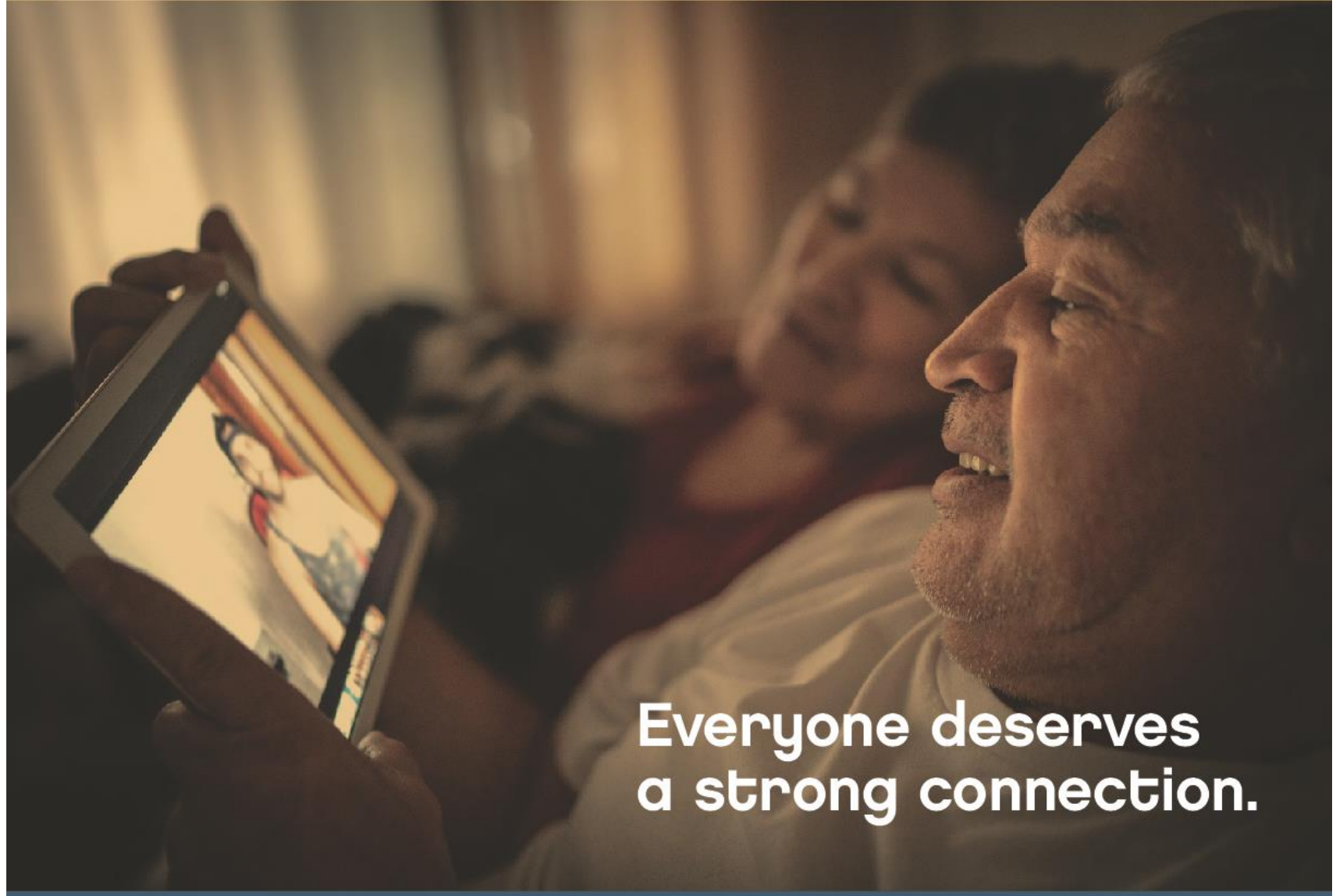
- Water & Sewer (RIA)
- Roads (SCDOT)

South Carolina Broadband Office - BEAD and DE Relationship

BROADBAND OFFICE

DIGITAL EQUITY OFFICE

- The Digital Equity staff will work in close collaboration with the Office of Regulatory Staff and the South Carolina Broadband Office.
- For both programs to succeed, working together will be crucial. We plan to be lockstep to ensure South Carolina leads in bridging the digital divide.



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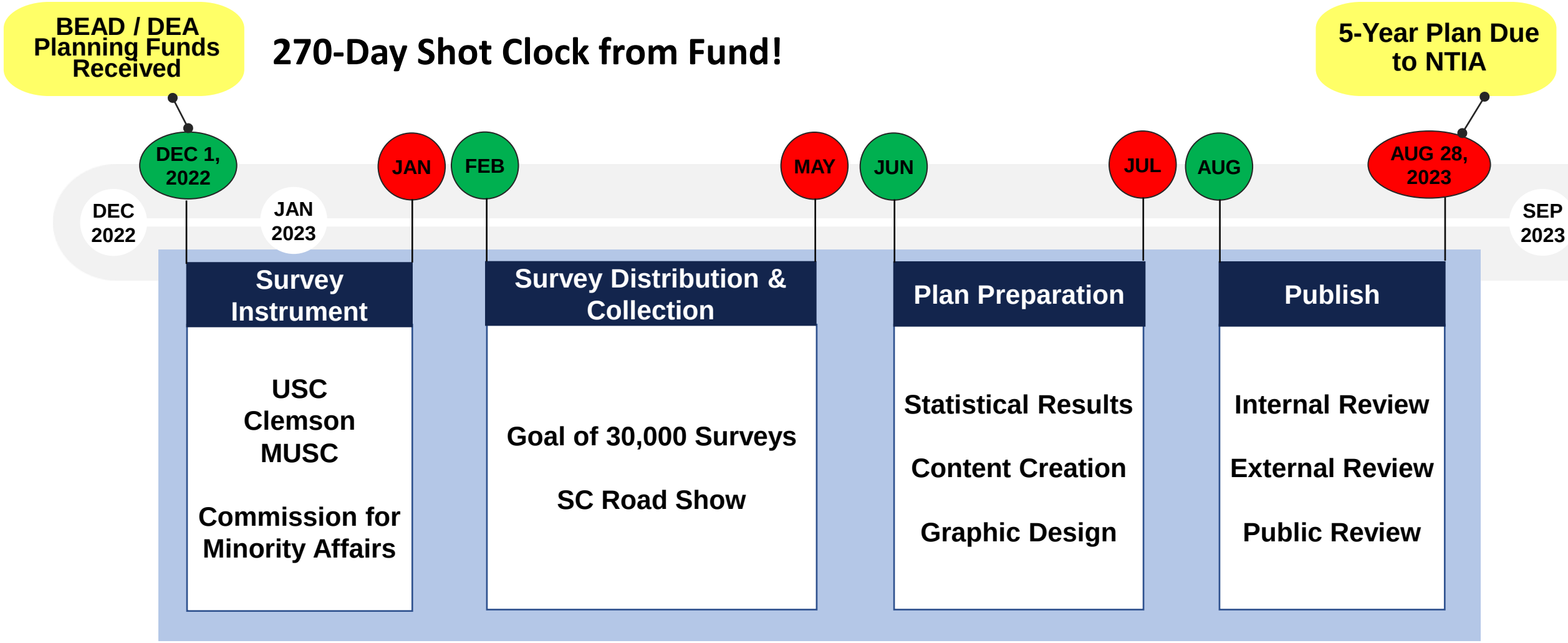
SCAN CODE
or visit
GetConnectedSC.org

BEAD / DE Planning Process



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Thank you!

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SC Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS)
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Mobile: (803) 315-4449

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