How big is the broadband affordability gap in CALIFORNIA?

Affordability has emerged as the number one challenge to closing the digital divide. We have a historic opportunity to close two-thirds of the digital divide by connecting 18 million American households that have access to the Internet but can’t afford to connect.

1.55M California households have access to the Internet but can’t afford to connect.

America’s unconnected households

Leverage data to identify unconnected households.

Launch adoption programs to help households sign-up for federal broadband programs and home broadband service.

Deploy free Wi-Fi to low-income apartment buildings.

EducationSuperHighway is a national nonprofit with the mission to close the digital divide for the 18 million households that have access to the Internet but can’t afford to connect.

www.nohomeleftoffline.org

The federal government is investing $20B in the nation’s largest-ever broadband affordability program. But as few as 19% of America’s unconnected households have enrolled.

A historic opportunity to close the broadband affordability gap. To seize this moment we must:

The broadband affordability gap makes up two-thirds of California’s digital divide.

How the broadband affordability gap adds up:

63%

Two-thirds of America’s Digital Divide

63%

The broadband affordability gap:

$20B

The federal government is investing in the nation’s largest-ever broadband affordability program.

...but as few as 19% of America’s unconnected households have enrolled.

1.55M California households have access to the Internet but can’t afford to connect.

America’s unconnected households

Largest in our poorest communities.

Disproportionately impacts Black and Latinx Americans.

Significantly higher for Americans with less than a high school education.

America’s most unconnected communities

National

California

Percent of population

90.0%

87.2%

Bachelor’s degree or higher

15.8%

16.3%

Less than high school graduate or equivalency

27.4%

37.7%

Significantly higher for Americans with less than a high school education.

America’s most unconnected communities

National

California

Percent of unconnected households

44.9%

42.8%

Disproportionately impacts Black and Latinx Americans.

America’s most unconnected communities

National

California

Percent of households in California who are eligible for the Emergency Broadband Benefit program have enrolled.

19%

21.1M Households with available broadband infrastructure

18.1M Households with available broadband infrastructure that cannot afford to connect

BROADBAND AFFORDABILITY GAP

Two-thirds of America’s Digital Divide

46.9M Population with available broadband infrastructure

28.2M Households without available broadband infrastructure

3M Households with available broadband infrastructure that are unconnected for reasons other than a lack of resources

The broadband affordability gap is concentrated in America’s most unconnected communities, where 25% or more of the households lack home broadband.

The broadband affordability gap is concentrated in America’s most unconnected communities, where 25% or more of the households lack home broadband.