



**GDEcD Rural Initiatives** 

# Background

Georgia Broadband efforts are predicated on legislation passed in 2018 (SB 402), which prescribes:

- Mandate to develop a state framework for grants (no funding)
- Technology baseline of 25/3 service
- Statewide broadband map



## Georgia Broadband Approach

- Develop a small coordination team
- Convene a stakeholder advisory committee
- Coordinate among state agencies
- Engage federal partners, e.g., USDA, FCC, NTIA
- Assist communities and providers that endeavor to partner and/or pursue grant funding
- Focus public efforts on identifying needs and facilitating funding ... leave operating and technology decisions to the private sector



## **Broadband Team**

#### **Project Team**













**DCA** 

**GTA** DOT SPC

**DEcD** 

CVIOG

#### **Advisory Committee**













**ACCG** 

AT&T

Comcast

**GAEMC** 

**GMA** 

**GA Cable Assoc** 







Windstream

**GA Telecom Assoc** 

**Stakeholders Local Government & Service Providers** 

# Georgia Broadband Deployment Initiative

#### What is the mission of GBDI?

 To promote and incent the deployment of broadband services to unserved areas.

### Why is it important?

- Over one million Georgians who lack access to high-speed internet.
- Critical infrastructure for the 21st Century.
- Essential to business, healthcare, education, agriculture, and quality of life.

## What are the Barriers to Deployment?

- High cost of investment due to:
  - low population densities
  - rugged terrain



## Map Update

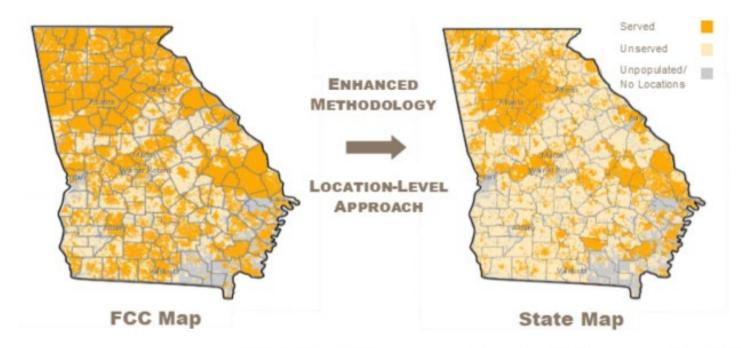
# State Launches Broadband Availability Map

JULY 01, 2020

**Atlanta, GA** - Governor Brian P. Kemp today announced the publication of <u>Georgia's Broadband Availability Map</u>, a new tool that will bring more transparency about the internet marketplace and clarify which Georgia households do not have access to high-speed internet.

https://broadband.georgia.gov/fcc-vs-gbdi-broadband-comparison

## Georgia Broadband at a Glance



507,341

homes and businesses lack access to broadband

**70%** 

of unserved Georgia locations are rural 31%

of rural Georgia is unserved 26

rural counties have >50% unserved



## Contacts

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