Digital Access &
Opportunity in
North Carolina

An MLK Jr. Commission
Panel Discussion

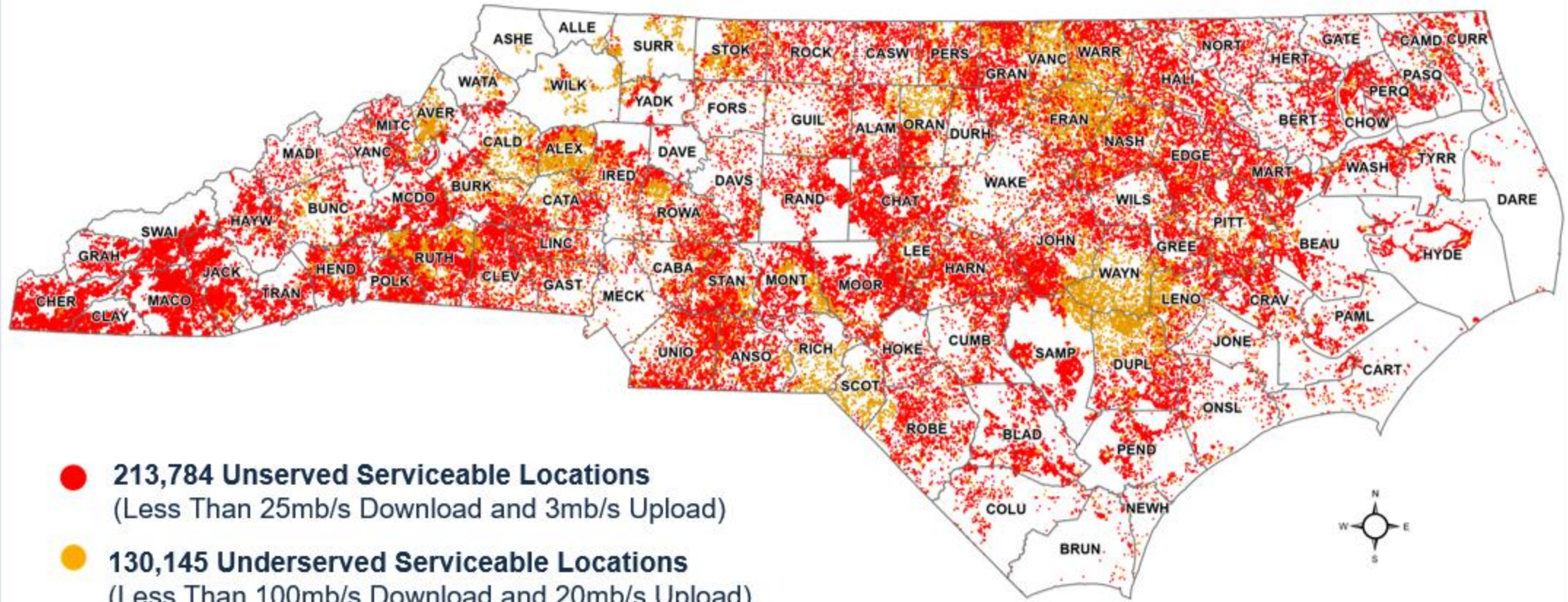Wednesday, May 7, 12 p.m.

Resources & Information Document

Remaining Unserved Locations

FCC Broadband Data Collection – June 2024

- **213,784 Unserved Serviceable Locations**
  (Less Than 25mb/s Download and 3mb/s Upload)

- **130,145 Underserved Serviceable Locations**
  (Less Than 100mb/s Download and 20mb/s Upload)

Digital Devices, Skills & Affordability

328,000
Estimated N.C. households without a home laptop or desktop computer

91%
of N.C. jobs require some digital skills

1/3
of U.S. workers don't have foundational digital skills

1.3M
N.C. households would have to pay more than 2% of their annual income to afford broadband cost of $60/month

Dashboards (By County Awards)

www.ncbroadband.gov/dashboards

NCDIT: Funds by County *(Updated as of 2/27/2025)*

County	Program	Awardee	Project Status	
All ⌄	All ⌄	All ⌄	All ⌄	Clear All Filters

Total Funds (Statewide)
$986.52M

Program Scope: | County | Multi-county | Statewide |

Grant Award Details by County

Single awards for multiple counties will show the full multi-county award amount in each county.

Funds Awarded
45M

Grants Awarded
23

Households Served
15,489

Businesses Served
827
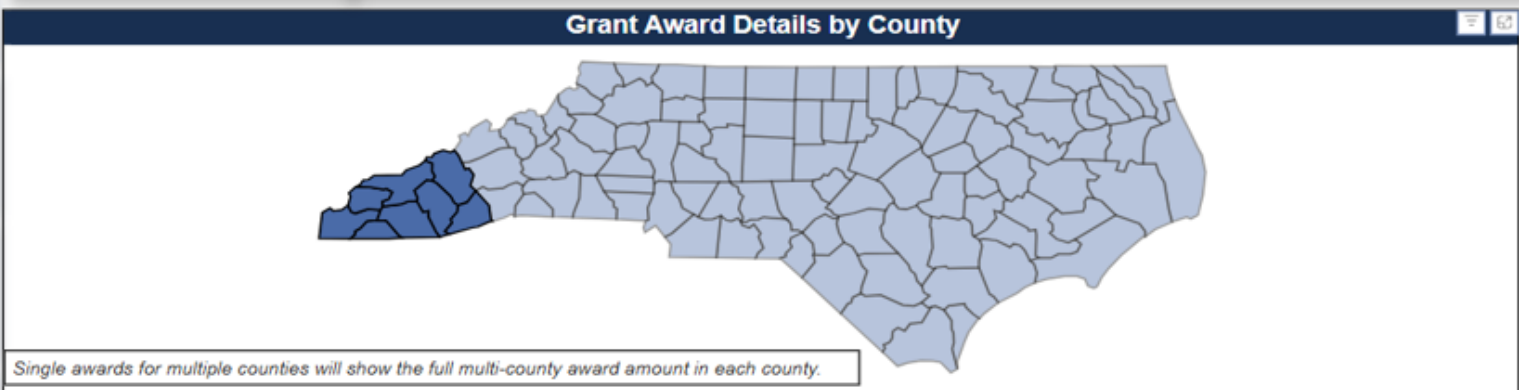
Individual Grant Award Details by County

County	Program Scope	Program	Awardee	NCDIT Grant Amount	Match Amount	Project Status	Rec Cor Cor
Graham	County	GREAT	Zito Media	$619,916.049	$109,597.00	Design Phase	11/2
Haywood	County	Completing Access to Broadband	Skyrunner	$699,909	$599,922.00	Contracted	10/3
Haywood	County	Completing Access to Broadband	Spectrum	$1,256,966.2	$538,699.80	Contracted	12/1

* All data is exclusively reflective of federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and does not include state-funded GREAT grant awards.

NCDIT County Dashboards

Tech Resource Finder

- Powered by crowdsourced data

- Community members, digital navigators, academic partners, state agencies and North Carolinians contributed to the dataset

- We are committed to keeping information on resources correct and current; Users can click on the "contribute to the dataset" button to submit a correction or update information

Access the Tech Resource Finder:
www.ncbroadband.gov/resource-finder

NCDIT Tech Resource Finder

Partnership with NC 211/United Way of NC

- United Way's NC 211 service connects callers to verified sources for basic needs, such as housing and utility assistance, food, healthcare and transportation

- Now offers digital skills assessments, help setting up an email address, locations of libraries that offer free Wi-Fi or a computer lab and sites for upcoming computer skills classes

- Service is available in most languages and is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year

- NC 211 database shows all assets from the Tech Resource Finder, so specialists can refer callers to resources in their community

NC 211

Notable Digital Access Programs in North Carolina

Digital Opportunity Grant Program

Launched by the NC Department of Information Technology (NCDIT), this $17 million program focuses on expanding digital skills, online safety programs, and computer ownership. It aims to bridge the digital divide by providing resources like refurbished computers and digital literacy training.

Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) Program

Supported by federal funding, this initiative invests in broadband infrastructure to connect underserved households and businesses. Recently, more than $146 million was allocated to expand high-speed internet access in 65 of North Carolina's counties.

East Carolina University's Digital Equity Project

ECU has implemented a digital technology lending program in rural and underserved communities; specifically, including providing Wi-Fi hotspots and iPads to libraries in 18 counties, along with digital skills training modules to enhance digital literacy.

NC Dept. Of Adult Corrections Education Opportunities

In collaboration with the Reentry 2030 efforts, technological devices and broadband access provide online opportunities to increase educational opportunities for incarcerated populations to successfully support rehabilitation and reentry after incarceration.

Other Important Resources

NC Department of Information Technology

North Carolina's Plan to Eliminate the Digital Divide

Broadband Survey & Internet Speed Test

Technical Assistance for Broadband Expansion

NC Broadband Indices

Funding Programs

Connect with NCDIT

NC Department of Adult Corrections

NC DAC Reentry & Rehabilitation

NC DAC Programs & Services Catalog

Second Chance Initiative - NC DAC & Campbell University

First Aid Reentry Digital Access Kit Program

Connect with NC DAC

The Kramden Institute

The Kramden Institute

Kramden Free/Low Cost Internet

Kramden Technology Education

Kramden Technology Donations

Kramden Technology Opportunities

Connect with Kramden