

Bay Aging Regional Digital Opportunity Plan

August, 2023

A collaborative effort between

Bay Aging

and

the Eastern Shore Area Agency on Aging/Community Action Agency (ESAAA/CAA)

Funded By:

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Provided By:

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development

1. Executive Summary

The Bay Aging Regional Digital Opportunity Plan is a collaborative effort between Bay Aging and the Eastern Shore Area Agency on Aging/Community Action Agency (ESAAA/CAA).

The Bay Aging Regional Digital Opportunity Plan effort has been undertaken by Bay Aging and ESAAA/CAA; in order to better understand the existing barriers to broadband availability and affordability in this Region.

One of the primary goals of this plan was to identify ways to advance the Opportunity for Digital Access and Utilization for all citizens in our Region.

Digital Opportunity is defined by the National Digital Inclusion Alliance as: “a condition in which all individuals and communities have the information capacity needed for full participation in our society, democracy, and economy. Digital opportunity is necessary for civic and cultural participation, employment, lifelong learning and access to essential services.”

The above definition was used to better formulate the following Regional Vision for Digital Equity in our Region:

The Counties of the Bay Aging Region will strive to expand Digital Opportunity, through the installation of new infrastructure, the improvement of existing infrastructure; and by working to mitigate economic and technological access barriers; in order to achieve a condition where all individuals and communities have the information capacity needed to fully participate in our society, democracy, and economy.

An additional goal of this plan was to identify existing barriers to Digital Opportunity among eight (8) specific Covered Populations whom are more likely than others; to encounter obstacles to realizing Digital Opportunity. Specifically, the eight Covered Populations are as follows:

- **Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level;**
- **Aging Individuals;**
- **Incarcerated Individuals (other than individuals who are incarcerated in a Federal correctional facility;**
- **Military Veterans;**
- **Individuals with Disabilities;**
- **Individuals with a language barrier;**
- **Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and**
- **Individuals who primarily reside in a rural area.**

To better identify existing resources, programs and strategies that promote digital equity for each of the covered populations, Bay Aging and ESAAA/CAA reached out to the known Covered Populations Representatives in our Region.

First, the Covered Population Representatives in our Region were encouraged to complete the Virginia DHCD Digital Opportunity Plan Survey for the Bay Aging Region. The Survey was developed by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, with assistance from their consultant, SIR. The Survey was administered in both digital and paper formats. The Survey first became available near the end of June, 2023. In all, 277 people in the Bay Aging Region completed the Survey. A report on the results of this Survey is included in the Addendum to this Plan.

Second, the Covered Population Representatives in our Region were invited to participate in a Public Input and Listening Session. This Public Input and Listening Session was held virtually; on July 13th, 2023. Approximately 30 participants attended from throughout the Bay Aging Region.

Third, an in-depth analysis of the Region's existing Covered Populations was undertaken to better understand the size and the extent of these populations. This analysis was done for the entire 11 County Region; for each of the three distinct Sub-Regions; and for each of the individual Counties. The data used for this analysis was obtained from both the 2020 United States Decennial Census; and from the 2021 United State Census Bureau's American Community Survey data for each County.

Fourth, the Bay Aging Regional Digital Opportunity Plan was completed for an area comprised of 11 rural Counties located in the part of Virginia bordering the Chesapeake Bay; and the Tributary Rivers that flow into the Chesapeake Bay. In total, this Region is **2,277.34** square miles in size. According to the 2020 United States Census, this Region was home to **191,044** people, who lived in **79,870** households.

Additionally, for the purpose of conducting a more detailed study, the 11 County Region covered by the Bay Aging Regional Digital Opportunity Plan was further divided into three, distinct Sub-Regions. These Sub-Regions are the Eastern Shore of Virginia (Accomack and Northampton Counties), the Northern Neck of Virginia (King George, Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond, and Westmoreland Counties), and the Middle Peninsula of Virginia (Essex, Gloucester, Mathews, and Middlesex Counties).

Fifth, after completing both the Survey and Public Input and Listening Session activities, an effort was begun to summarize the existing barriers to Digital Opportunity in our Region. A similar effort was undertaken to catalogue the existing assets in our Region that are being utilized to overcome barriers to Digital Opportunity. A summary of the existing Barriers to Digital Opportunity appears in the Plan below. An Inventory of Assets in our Region is included in the Addendum to this Plan.

Lastly, after completing the summary of existing barriers to Digital Opportunity in the Bay Aging Region, Implementation Strategies were formulated to assist with overcoming the existing barriers. The Implementation Strategies were created in a manner to specifically address the barriers that were brought to light through both the Digital Opportunity Plan Survey Results; and the Stakeholder input that was given at the Public Input and Listening Session. A list of Implementation Strategies for each of the three Sub-Regions is also included in the Plan below.

2. Introduction and Vision for Digital Opportunity

The Bay Aging Regional Digital Opportunity Plan is a collaborative effort between Bay Aging and the Eastern Shore Area Agency on Aging/Community Action Agency (ESAAA/CAA).

The Bay Aging Regional Digital Opportunity Plan effort has been undertaken by Bay Aging and ESAAA/CAA; in order to better understand the existing barriers to broadband availability and affordability in this Region. This is particularly important due to the increased role that access to the internet has played in the lives of citizens throughout our Country. In today's world, access to the internet has become increasingly necessary for civic and cultural engagement, employment, education, and access to essential services.

However, access to the internet still remains out of reach to many of the individuals, families, and businesses in our Region. Consequently, one of the main goals of this plan was to identify ways to advance the Opportunity for Digital Access and Utilization for all citizens in our Region.

The importance of this goal can be further understood by reading the National Digital Inclusion Alliance's definition of Digital Opportunity: "Digital Opportunity is a condition in which all individuals and communities have the information capacity needed for full participation in our society, democracy, and economy. Digital opportunity is necessary for civic and cultural participation, employment, lifelong learning and access to essential services."

The above definition was used to better formulate the following Regional Vision for Digital Equity in our Region:

The Counties of the Bay Aging Region will strive to expand Digital Opportunity, through the installation of new infrastructure, the improvement of existing infrastructure; and by working to mitigate economic and technological access barriers; in order to achieve a condition where all individuals and communities have the information capacity needed to fully participate in our society, democracy, and economy.

3. Current State of Digital Opportunity: Barriers and Assets

As stated previously, a main Goal of this Plan was to identify the gaps and opportunities concerning broadband availability and affordability in this Region. This effort has been carried out through the engagement of stakeholders in our Region; in order to better assess the broadband needs of our Communities, and to identify possible solutions for furthering broadband availability and affordability in our Region.

To better identify existing resources, programs and strategies that promote digital equity for each of the covered populations, Bay Aging and ESAAA/CAA reached out to the known Covered Populations Representatives in our Region. First, the Covered Population Representatives in our Region were encouraged to complete the Virginia DHCD Digital Opportunity Plan Survey for the Bay Aging Region. Second, the Covered Population Representatives in our Region were invited to participate in a Public Listening and Input Session. Third, many of the Covered Population Representatives were contacted for more in-depth discussions concerning their Covered Populations in our Region. Summaries of these efforts are detailed below.

Digital Opportunity Plan Survey for the Bay Aging Region

One of the first methods employed to determine the existing state of Digital Opportunity in the Bay Aging Region was through the development of a Digital Opportunity Plan Survey for the Bay Aging Region. This survey was developed with assistance from both the Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development and SIR. The survey was designed to be distributed in both a paper format; as well as digitally, to the members of the Bay Aging Region's Communities. The survey was further designed to gain feedback on the existing state of broadband infrastructure, availability, affordability, and means of access. Extra effort was made to solicit responses from Community Stakeholders; as well as members of the Community's Covered Populations.

In all, approximately 277 persons responded to the Bay Aging Region Digital Opportunity Plan Survey (at time of publishing). A copy of the entire Digital Opportunity Regional Survey Report is included in the Appendix. Key findings from the survey included the following:

- Most respondents (61%) have both a home internet subscription and a wireless cellular plan.
- Half of the respondents (50%) access the internet using their cellular data plan. Approximately 32% access the internet using a cable modem.
- Of the people who can not access the internet, about 1/3 use the internet somewhere else, while another 30% say their internet speed is too slow to access.
- The devices respondents most often use to access the internet are a smart phone (82%), or a laptop computer (73%).
- Respondents are comfortable using their devices to do most tasks; except attending virtual appointments/meetings and helping children complete schoolwork.

- Most respondents (80%) have not applied to a program for internet accessibility, and only 1/3 of respondents are aware of these programs.
- 26% of the respondents answered that internet was not available in my area. It is believed that this is a bigger problem in the Eastern Shore Sub-Region.
- The need for more reliable internet service was expressed by the respondents. Approximately 56% of respondents reported disruptions somewhat frequently, or frequently.
- The most common problems expressed by respondents are the lack of access to technology (24%); and their subscribed internet speed not being achievable (20%).
- Common uses of the internet noted by respondents included making purchases online (82%), paying bills online (76%), and emailing friends or family (70%).
- Respondents were most interested in low-cost, or free internet services, and low-cost or free digital devices.

Public Input and Listening Session

The second major effort to obtain information on the current state of Digital Opportunity in the Region was through the hosting of a Public Input and Listening Session. Specifically, Regional Stakeholders and Covered Population Representatives were invited to participate in a Public Input and Listening Session that was held Virtually on Thursday, July 13th, 2023.

Approximately 30 stakeholders attended this meeting. The stakeholders who attended were equally representative of the three Sub-Regions. The main points that were expressed by stakeholders attending this meeting were as follows:

- There are two Parts to the Digital Divide; an Infrastructure Element; and a Root Social Causes Element.
- The Northern Neck PDC and the 5 Counties of the Northern Neck have received two VATI grants. As a result of these grants, it is expected that there will be Universal Broadband coverage in the Northern Neck by the end of March, 2024. For example, Lancaster County is on track to have access to all County residents by the end of 2023.
- Rates in the Northern Neck will range from \$29 per month to \$60 per month.
- However, one Covered Population Representative expressed that \$29 a month service is still a barrier to access for many Families in the Northern Neck. This same situation was also echoed by Covered Populations Representatives from the Eastern Shore.
- One idea that was put forth was the need for an Ombudsman to assist people with getting help and access.

- One Covered Population Representative from the Northern Neck area has realized success in being able to help people in their homes with technology. However, people still need to have access first.
- One Covered Population Representative said that schools in the Northern Neck did provide hot spots and tablets to students and their families during the pandemic. However, many families were still not able to reliably connect.
- Additionally, Lancaster Community Library employs a Technology Manager who helps library patrons with technology related issues.
- The emphasis in the Northern Neck will soon switch from Universality to Affordability.
- Barriers that were expressed at this meeting included Technological Literacy – Older people have a hard time using technology.
- Other barriers included affordability. Homeowners can't afford the costs to run the lines to their home.
- One Eastern Shore Covered Population Representative offered that Accomack County's Schools provide students with tablets in Middle School. These tablets stay with the students through High School and are returned when they graduate.
- Additional barriers expressed for the Eastern Shore were the "Spread-Out", low-density nature of development on the Eastern Shore.
- Moreover, some of the housing on the Eastern Shore is still isolated; being located ¼ to ½ a mile from main roads. Again, the cost of long runs/extensions is prohibitive.
- Eastern Shore Broadband Authority has been the recipient of a \$15,625,642.25 million-dollar VATI Grant. Approximately \$2.575 million dollars of this grant has been budgeted towards special construction costs to help with long installation runs. The grant has also enabled the Broadband Authority to connect homeowners with other programs to help with the cost. However, both programs need to be marketed better.
- Another barrier expressed on the Eastern Shore was the "piece-meal" manner of marketing the available programs. There needs to be better sharing of information.
- An additional barrier expressed on the Eastern Shore was the need for access to higher speed broadband. The availability of higher upload/download speeds needs to be expanded.
- Another barrier expressed from the Eastern Shore was people's understanding of broadband. To many residents, internet access is their phone. However, they still don't have access to tablets, computers, printers, etc.
- In the Middle Peninsula Sub-Region, Middlesex County has been carrying out marketing through its libraries.

- One barrier expressed in the Middle Peninsula was that people in the middle-income range, who don't qualify as LMI; often are not able to afford the cost of longer installation runs. Programs to help the middle-income people need to be made more readily available. And, the current ones need to be marketed better.
- Mathews County in the Middle Peninsula has benefited from a VATI Grant. Mathews County has Open Broadband. Access is free if people can install; however, there is little work force available to help homeowners with installation.
- Over ½ of Rappahannock Community College's students attend classes virtually. Rappahannock Community College also offers lap-top check outs to students. However, this program is currently under-utilized.

Analysis of Bay Aging Region's Existing Covered Populations

The third major effort to obtain information on the current state of Digital Opportunity in the Region was through the Analysis of existing Data concerning the Region's Covered Populations. Through this effort, Bay Aging and ESAAA/CAA attempted to quantify the existing extent/size of the Covered Populations in our Region. Specifically, this effort focused on trying to determine the number of persons and households, in each of the Covered Populations, by County; then by Sub-Region; then by the entire Region. The goal was to determine the size of each of the following Covered Populations in our Community:

- **Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level;**
- **Aging Individuals;**
- **Incarcerated Individuals (other than individuals who are incarcerated in a Federal correctional facility);**
- **Military Veterans;**
- **Individuals with Disabilities;**
- **Individuals with a language barrier;**
- **Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and**
- **Individuals who primarily reside in a rural area.**

Summary of Covered Population Findings for the Bay Aging Region; and each Sub-Region

The Bay Aging Regional Digital Opportunity Plan was completed for an area comprised of 11 rural Counties located in the part of Virginia bordering the Chesapeake Bay; and the Tributary Rivers that flow into the Chesapeake Bay. In total, this Region is **2,277.34** square miles in size. According to the 2020 United States Census, this Region was home to **191,044** people, who lived in **79,870** households.

Of the **191,044** people in the Bay Aging Region,

64,000 (33.50%) are Aging Individuals 60 years or older;

59,071 (30.92%) are Members of a Racial or Ethnic Minority Group;

173,228 (90.67%) are Individuals who live in a Rural Area;

1,786 (0.93%) are Incarcerated Individuals;

28,915 (15.14%) are Individuals with Disabilities;

and, **17,736 (9.80% of Persons over Age 18)** are Military Veterans.

In the **79,870** households in the Bay Aging Region,

there are **15,220** Families Living at, or Below, 150% of the Federal Poverty Level; and,

672 (0.84%) are Households with Language Barriers.

The 11 County Region covered by the Bay Aging Regional Digital Opportunity Plan was further divided into three, distinct Sub-Regions. These Sub-Regions include the following:

The Eastern Shore of Virginia (Accomack and Northampton Counties).

The Northern Neck of Virginia (King George, Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond, and Westmoreland Counties).

The Middle Peninsula of Virginia (Essex, Gloucester, Mathews, and Middlesex Counties).

Bay Aging Region
General Population & Housing Data
and
Covered Populations Data
by County

	Acornack County	Essex County	Gloucester County	King George County	Lancaster County	Mathews County	Middlesex County	Northampton County
Total Persons	33,413	10,599	38,711	26,723	10,919	8,533	10,625	12,282
Total Households	14,302	4,572	15,484	9,548	5,211	3,762	4,751	5,457
Aging Individuals (60 Years of Older)	11,278	3,510	11,254	5,418	5,293	3,458	4,443	4,693
Members of a racial or ethnic minority group	13,588	4,728	6,737	8,014	3,478	1,283	2,286	5,350
Individuals in rural areas	30,190	10,599	28,093	26,723	10,919	8,533	10,625	12,282
Incarcerated Individuals	122	-	28	0	18	0	162	58
Families living at or below, 150% of Federal poverty level	4,236	1,070	1,784	1,261	865	358	649	1,148
Individuals with disabilities	4,928	1,672	6,646	2,176	1,840	1,540	1,844	2,366
Military veterans	2,553	645	3,971	3,107	1,149	844	1,031	979
Households with language barriers	299	27	11	84	54	1	0	11
	17.49%	5.55%	20.26%	13.99%	5.72%	4.47%	5.56%	6.43%
	17.91%	5.72%	19.39%	11.95%	6.52%	4.71%	5.95%	6.83%
	33.75%	33.12%	29.07%	20.27%	48.48%	40.64%	41.82%	38.21%
	40.40%	44.61%	17.40%	29.99%	31.85%	15.04%	21.52%	43.56%
	90.35%	100.00%	72.57%	100.00%	100.00%	100.0%	100.00%	100.00%
	0.37%	0.00%	0.07%	0.00%	0.16%	0	1.5%	0.47%
	44.92%	37.97%	17.49%	17.97%	29.64%	17.84%	22.19%	21.04%
	15%	15.78%	17.17%	8.14%	16.85%	18.05%	17.36%	19.26%
	9.70%	7.50%	13.10%	15.90%	12.60%	11.90%	11.40%	7.97%
	2.10%	0.59%	0.07%	0.88%	1.04%	0.03%	0.00%	0.20%

	Northumberland County	Richmond County	Westmoreland County	Bay Aging Regional Total	
11,839	6.29%	8,923	18,477	191,044	100.00% of Persons
5,573	6.98%	3,173	8,037	79,870	100.00% of Households
5,662	47.82%	2,457	6,524	64,000	33.50% of Persons
3,529	29.81%	3,359	6,719	59,071	30.92% of Persons
11,839	100.0%	8,923	14,502	173,228	90.67% of Persons
0	0.00%	1,398	0	1,786	0.93% of Persons
1,069	33.57%	610	2,170	15,220	30.32% of Families
1,886	15.99%	1,053	2,964	28,915	15.14% of Persons
1,123	11.10%	472	1,862	17,736	9.80% of Persons over Age 18
0	0.00%	15	170	672	0.94% of Households

The Eastern Shore of Virginia Sub-Region (Accomack and Northampton Counties).

This Sub-Region includes the counties in Virginia which are located on the East Side of the Chesapeake Bay. This Sub-Region is approximately 661.11 square miles in size. According to the 2020 United States Census, this Sub-Region had a total population of 45,695 persons; who lived in 19,759 households.

Of the **45,695** people in the Eastern Shore Sub-Region,

15,971 (34.95%) are Aging Individuals 60 years or older;

18,938 (41.44%) are Members of a Racial or Ethnic Minority Group;

42,472 (92.95%) are Individuals who live in a Rural Area;

180 (0.39%) are Incarcerated Individuals;

7,294 (15.96%) are Individuals with Disabilities;

and, **3,532 (9.80% of Persons over Age 18)** are Military Veterans.

Of the **19,759** households in the Eastern Shore Sub-Region,

there are **5,384** Families Living at, or Below, 150% of the Federal Poverty Level; and,

310 (1.57%) are Households with Language Barriers.

Analysis of the Eastern Shore Covered Populations – By County

Accomack County

13,588 Individuals, or **40.40%** of Accomack County's total population, are Members of a Racial or Ethnic Minority Group.

122 Individuals, or **0.37%** of Accomack County's total population, are Incarcerated Individuals.

4,236 Families, or **44.92%** of all Families in Accomack County, are Families Living at, or below, 150% of the Federal poverty level.

299 Households, or **2.10%** of Accomack County's total households, are Households with Language Barriers.

Northampton County

5,350 Individuals, or **43.56%** of Northampton County's total population, are Members of a Racial or Ethnic Minority Group.

58 Individuals, or **0.47%** of Northampton County's total population, are Incarcerated Individuals.

2,366 Individuals, or **19.26%** of Northampton County's total population, are Individuals with Disabilities.

**Eastern Shore of Virginia
General Population & Housing Data
and
Covered Populations Data
by County**

	<u>Accomack County</u>		<u>Northampton County</u>		<u>Eastern Shore Sub-Region Total</u>		
Total Persons	33,413	73.12%	12,282	26.88%	45,695	100.00%	of Persons
Total Households	14,302	72.38%	5,457	27.62%	19,759	100.00%	of Households
Aging individuals (60 Years of Older)	11,278	33.75%	4,693	38.21%	15,971	34.95%	of Persons
Members of a racial or ethnic minority group	13,588	40.40%	5,350	43.56%	18,938	41.44%	of Persons
Individuals in rural areas	30,190	90.35%	12,282	100.00%	42,472	92.95%	of Persons
Incarcerated individuals	122	0.37%	58	0.47%	180	0.39%	of Persons
Families living at, or below, 150% of Federal poverty level	4,236	44.92%	1,148	21.04%	5,384	27.25%	of Families
Individuals with disabilities	4,928	15%	2,366	19.26%	7,294	15.96%	of Persons
Military veterans	2,553	9.70%	979	7.97%	3,532	9.80%	of Persons over Age 18
Households with language barriers	299	2.10%	11	0.20%	310	1.57%	of Households

The Northern Neck of Virginia Sub-Region (King George, Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond and Westmoreland Counties).

This Sub-Region includes the counties in Virginia which are located on the Western Side of the Chesapeake Bay; and are further situated on the peninsula that is defined by the Potomac River to the north, the Rappahannock River to the south, and the Chesapeake Bay to the west. This Sub-Region is approximately 925.06 square miles in size. According to the 2020 United States Census, this Sub-Region had a total population of 76,881 persons; who lived in 31,542 households.

Of the **76,881** people in the Northern Neck Sub-Region,

25,354 (32.98%) are Aging Individuals 60 years or older;

25,099 (32.65%) are Members of a Racial or Ethnic Minority Group;

72,906 (94.83%) are Individuals who live in a Rural Area;

1,416 (1.84%) are Incarcerated Individuals;

9,919 (12.90%) are Individuals with Disabilities;

and, **7,713 (12.66% of Persons over Age 18)** are Military Veterans.

Of the **31,542** households in the Northern Neck Sub-Region,

there are **5,975** Families Living at, or Below, 150% of the Federal Poverty Level; and,

323 (1.02%) are Households with Language Barriers.

Analysis of the Northern Neck Covered Populations – By County

King George County

3,107 Individuals, or **15.90%** of King George County's population over age 18, are Military Veterans.

84 Households, or **0.88%** of King George County's total households, are Households with Language Barriers.

Lancaster County

5,293 Individuals, or **48.48%** of Lancaster County's total population, are Aging Individuals – 60 Years Old, or Older.

1,149 Individuals, or **12.60%** of Lancaster County's population over age 18, are Military Veterans.

54 Households, or **1.04%** of Lancaster County's total households, are Households with Language Barriers.

Northumberland County

5,662 Individuals, or **47.82%** of Northumberland County's total population, are Aging Individuals – 60 Years Old, or Older.

1,069 Families, or **33.57%** of all Families in Northumberland County, are Families Living at, or below, 150% of the Federal poverty level.

Richmond County

3,359 Individuals, or **37.64%** of Richmond County's total population, are Members of a Racial or Ethnic Minority Group.

1,398 Individuals, or **15.70%** of Richmond County's total population, are Incarcerated Individuals.

610 Families, or **34.37%** of all Families in Richmond County, are Families Living at, or below, 150% of the Federal poverty level.

Westmoreland County

6,719 Individuals, or **36.36%** of Westmoreland County's total population, are Members of a Racial or Ethnic Minority Group.

2,170 Families, or **48.01%** of all Families in Westmoreland County, are Families Living at, or below, 150% of the Federal poverty level.

1,862 Individuals, or **12.60%** of Westmoreland County's population over age 18, are Military Veterans.

170 Households, or **2.12%** of Westmoreland County's total households, are Households with Language Barriers.

**Northern Neck of Virginia
General Population & Housing Data
and
Covered Populations Data
by County**

	King George County		Lancaster County		Northumberland County		Richmond County		Westmoreland County		Northern Neck Sub-Region Total	
Total Persons	26,723	34.76%	10,919	14.20%	11,839	15.40%	8,923	11.61%	18,477	24.03%	76,881	100.00% of Persons
Total Households	9,548	30.27%	5,211	16.52%	5,573	17.67%	3,173	10.06%	8,037	25.48%	31,542	100.00% of Households
Aging Individuals (60 Years or Older)	5,418	20.27%	5,293	48.48%	5,662	47.82%	2,457	27.54%	6,524	35.31%	25,354	32.98% of Persons
Members of a racial or ethnic minority group	8,014	29.99%	3,478	31.85%	3,529	29.81%	3,359	37.64%	6,719	36.36%	25,099	32.65% of Persons
Individuals in rural areas	26,723	100.00%	10,919	100.00%	11,839	100.0%	8,923	100.00%	14,502	78.49%	72,906	94.83% of Persons
Incarcerated Individuals	0	0.00%	18	0.16%	0	0.00%	1,398	15.7%	0	0.00%	1,416	1.84% of Persons
Families living at, or below, 150% of Federal poverty level	1,261	17.97%	865	29.64%	1,069	33.57%	610	34.37%	2,170	48.01%	5,975	30.66% of Families
Individuals with disabilities	2,176	8.14%	1,840	16.85%	1,886	15.93%	1,053	11.80%	2,964	16.04%	9,919	12.90% of Persons
Military veterans	3,107	15.90%	1,149	12.60%	1,123	11.10%	472	6.40%	1,862	12.60%	7,713	12.66% of Persons Over Age 18
Households with language barriers	84	0.88%	54	1.04%	0	0.00%	15	0.47%	170	2.12%	323	1.02% of Households

The Middle Peninsula of Virginia Sub-Region (Essex, Gloucester, Mathews and Middlesex Counties.)

This Sub-Region includes the counties in Virginia which are located on the Western Side of the Chesapeake Bay; and are further situated on the peninsula that is defined by the Rappahannock River to the north, the York River to the south, and the Chesapeake Bay to the west. This Sub-Region is approximately 691.17 square miles in size. According to the 2020 United States Census, this Sub-Region had a total population of 68,468; who lived in 28,569 households.

Of the **68,468 people** in the Middle Peninsula Sub-Region,

22,675 (33.12%) are Aging Individuals 60 years or older;

15,034 (21.96%) are Members of a Racial or Ethnic Minority Group;

57,850 (84.49%) are Individuals who live in a Rural Area;

190 (0.28%) are Incarcerated Individuals;

11,702 (17.09%) are Individuals with Disabilities;

and, **6,491 (11.77% of Persons over Age 18)** are Military Veterans.

Of the **28,569 households** in the Middle Peninsula Sub-Region,

there are **3,861** Families Living at, or Below, 150% of the Federal Poverty Level; and,

39 (0.14%) are Households with Language Barriers.

Analysis of the Middle Peninsula Covered Populations – By County

Essex County

4,728 Individuals, or **44.61%** of Essex County's total population, are Members of a Racial or Ethnic Minority Group.

1,070 Families, or **37.97%** of all Families in Essex County, are Families Living at, or below, 150% of the Federal poverty level.

Gloucester County

3,971 Individuals, or **13.10%** of Gloucester County's population over age 18, are Military Veterans.

Mathews County

3,468 Individuals, or **40.64%** of Mathews County's total population, are Aging Individuals – 60 Years Old, or Older.

1,540 Individuals, or **18.05%** of Mathews County's total population, are Individuals with Disabilities.

Middlesex County

4,443 Individuals, or **41.82%** of Middlesex County's total population, are Aging Individuals – 60 Years Old, or Older.

162 Individuals, or **1.5%** of Middlesex County's total population, are Incarcerated Individuals

**Middle Peninsula of Virginia
General Population & Housing Data
and
Covered Populations Data
by County**

	<u>Essex County</u>		<u>Gloucester County</u>		<u>Mathews County</u>		<u>Middlesex County</u>		<u>Middle Peninsula Sub-Region Total</u>		
Total Persons	10,599	15.48%	38,711	56.54%	8,533	12.46%	10,625	15.52%	68,468	100.00%	of Persons
Total Households	4,572	16.00%	15,484	54.20%	3,762	13.17%	4,751	16.63%	28,569	100.00%	of Households
Aging Individuals (60 Years or Older)	3,510	33.12%	11,254	29.07%	3,468	40.64%	4,443	41.82%	22,675	33.12%	of Persons
Members of a racial or ethnic minority group	4,728	44.61%	6,737	17.40%	1,283	15.04%	2,286	21.52%	15,034	21.96%	of Persons
Individuals in rural areas	10,599	100.00%	28,093	72.57%	8,533	100.0%	10,625	100.00%	57,850	84.49%	of Persons
Incarcerated individuals	-	0.00%	28	0.07%	0		162	1.5%	190	0.28%	of Persons
Families living at, or below, 150% of Federal poverty level	1,070	37.97%	1,784	17.49%	358	17.84%	649	22.19%	3,861	21.51%	of Families
Individuals with disabilities	1,672	15.78%	6,646	17.17%	1,540	18.05%	1,844	17.36%	11,702	17.09%	of Persons
Military veterans	645	7.50%	3,971	13.10%	844	11.90%	1,031	11.40%	6,491	11.77%	of Persons Over Age 18
Households with language barriers	27	0.59%	11	0.07%	1	0.03%	0	0.00%	39	0.14%	of Households

Summary of Existing Barriers

Following is a summary of existing barriers to Digital Opportunity for reach Sub-Region in the Bay Aging Region. The summary is based on the results of the Digital Opportunity Plan Survey, the Public Input gathered at the Virtual Listening Session, and the Analysis of the Bay Aging Region's Existing Covered Populations.

Eastern Shore of Virginia Sub-Region – Existing Barriers to Digital Opportunity

- After the projected completion of the current Eastern Shore of Virginia Broadband Authority VATI Grant at the end of May, 2024, 20% of the Eastern Shore will remain unserved.
- Installation Costs are still prohibitive for many Middle-Income customers; particularly those with long installation runs; and those who don't qualify for existing Connectivity and Line Extension Programs.
- Available Connectivity and Line Extension Programs; and Program assistance, remain unknown to many potential beneficiaries/customers.
- Monthly Costs are still unaffordable to many current and potential LMI and Middle-Income customers.
- Existing infrastructure often does not provide adequate speeds and reliable connections for daily use.
- Many homes still lack adequate, up to date, technology to access the internet.

Northern Neck of Virginia Sub-Region – Existing Barriers to Digital Opportunity

- After the projected completion of the current Northern Neck PDC/All Points Broadband VATI Grant in March of 2024, some small pockets in the Northern Neck will remain unserved.
- In some cases, Installation Costs are still prohibitive for some Middle-Income customers; particularly those with long installation runs.
- Monthly Costs are still unaffordable to many current and potential LMI and Middle-Income customers.
- In some cases, existing infrastructure still does not provide adequate speeds and reliable connections for daily use.
- Technological Literacy remains an issue with Aged Individuals. This is a particular issue in this Sub-Region due to the large percentage of Aged Individuals.

Middle Peninsula of Virginia Sub-Region – Existing Barriers to Digital Opportunity

- Installation Costs are still prohibitive for many Middle-Income customers; particularly those with long installation runs; and those who don't qualify for existing Connectivity and Line Extension Programs.
- There is a lack of Programs to assist Middle-income customers with both the Line Extension and Connectivity Costs.
- Monthly Costs are still unaffordable to many current and potential LMI and Middle-Income customers.
- In some cases, existing infrastructure still does not provide adequate speeds and reliable connections for daily use.
- Technological Literacy remains an issue with Aged Individuals. This is a particular issue in this Sub-Region due to the large percentage of Aged Individuals.
- Mathews County in the Middle Peninsula has benefited from a VATI Grant. Mathews County has Open Broadband. Access is free if people can install; however, there is little work force available to help homeowners with installation.

4. Collaboration and Stakeholder Engagement

Digital Opportunity Plan Survey for the Bay Aging Region

One of the first methods employed to determine the existing state of Digital Opportunity in the Bay Aging Region was through the development of a Digital Opportunity Plan Survey for the Bay Aging Region. This survey was developed with assistance from both the Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development and SIR. The survey was designed to be distributed in both a paper format; as well as digitally, to the members of the Bay Aging Region's Communities. The survey was further designed to gain feedback on the existing state of broadband infrastructure, availability, affordability, and means of access. Extra effort was made to solicit responses from Community Stakeholders; as well as members of the Community's Covered Populations. A **detailed list of Regional Organizations** that were contacted during this process is included in the Addendum of this Plan.

In all, approximately 277 respondents completed the Bay Aging Region Digital Opportunity Plan Survey (at time of publishing). A **copy of the entire Digital Opportunity Regional Survey Report** is included in the Addendum of this Plan.

Public Input and Listening Session

The second major effort to obtain information on the current state of Digital Opportunity in the Region was through the hosting of a Public Input and Listening Session. Specifically, Regional Stakeholders and Covered Population Representatives were invited to participate in a Public Input and Listening Session that was held Virtually on Thursday, July 13th, 2023.

Approximately 30 stakeholders attended this meeting. The stakeholders who attended were equally representative of the three Sub-Regions. Information obtained through the Public Input and Listening Session was instrumental in assessing the current state of both Barriers and Assets concerning Digital Opportunity in the Bay Aging Region.

A **detailed list of Stakeholder Engagements** is included in the Addendum of this Plan.

5. Implementation

The following implementation strategies have been designed to address the unique barriers to Digital Opportunity in the Bay Aging Region. These strategies have been formulated to address the barriers that have been identified throughout the course of the Digital Opportunity Planning Process. Additionally, the implementation strategies have been tailored to address the barriers that have been found in each of the three distinct Sub-Regions.

Eastern Shore of Virginia Sub-Region – Implementation Strategies

A. Build-out of Broadband Infrastructure to Remaining Unserved Areas of the Sub-Region. (Now through May, 2026)

- Upon completion of the current Eastern Shore of Virginia Broadband Authority VATI Grant, Eastern Shore Regional Efforts need to focus on construction of Targeted Line Extensions in the remaining 20% of the Eastern Shore that remains unserved after the present VATI Grant work is complete.
- Additional VATI Grant applications should be submitted with the goal of obtaining the necessary funds to carry out construction of the Targeted Line Extensions.

B. Increase Efforts to better market the existing Long Driveway Assistance Program, the Affordability Connectivity Program (ACP), the Installation Cost Assistance Program, the Line Extension Customer Assistance Program (LECAP), and the Accomack Residents Assistance Program. (Now, and on-going)

- Investigate partnering with regional non-profits organizations who can provide informative program information, applications, contact information, etc. to their existing clients.

C. Pursue Development of Connectivity and Line Extension Assistance Programs targeted to assist Middle-Income Customers with extension line construction and connectivity costs. (Now, and on-going)

D. Explore new programs to assist LMI and Middle-Income Customers with keeping monthly cost of service affordable. (Now, and on-going)

E. Continue efforts to upgrade and enhance existing infrastructure with the goal of providing adequate speed and reliability of connection for daily usage needs.

F. Explore utilizing existing regional non-profit organizations and community partners; to increase Technology Literacy Efforts geared to Covered Population Households (ex. Aged Individuals). (Now, and on-going)

- Target existing LMI Elderly Multi-Family Housing in the Region, to promote and carry-out Technology Literacy Efforts for Aged Individuals/Residents.

G. Explore utilizing existing regional non-profit organizations and community partners; to assist Covered Population Households in obtaining up to date, technology, and devices necessary to access the internet. (Now, and on-going)

- Target existing LMI Elderly Multi-Family and Workforce Multi-Family Housing in the Region, to promote and carry-out Technology and Device Upgrades and Acquisition Efforts for Covered Population Individuals/Residents.

Northern Neck of Virginia Sub-Region – Implementation Strategies

A. Build-out of Broadband Infrastructure to Remaining Unserved Areas of the Sub-Region. (Now through March, 2026)

- Upon completion of the current Northern Neck PDC/All Points Broadband VATI Grant, Northern Neck efforts should focus on identifying remote pockets of remaining unserved areas in the Northern Neck.
- Additional VATI Grant applications should be submitted with the goal of obtaining the necessary funds to extend service to remaining, unserved isolated areas.

B. Explore new programs to assist LMI and Middle-Income Customers with keeping monthly cost of service affordable. (Now, and on-going)

C. Continue efforts to upgrade and enhance existing infrastructure with the goal of providing adequate speed and reliability of connection for daily usage needs.

D. Explore utilizing existing regional non-profit organizations and community partners; to increase Technology Literacy Efforts geared to Covered Population Households (ex. Aged Individuals). (Now, and on-going)

- Target existing LMI Elderly Multi-Family Housing in the Region, to promote and carry-out Technology Literacy Efforts for Aged Individuals/Residents.

E. Explore utilizing existing regional non-profit organizations and community partners; to assist Covered Population Households in obtaining up to date, technology, and devices necessary to access the internet. (Now, and on-going)

- Target existing LMI Elderly Multi-Family and Workforce Multi-Family Housing in the Region, to promote and carry-out Technology and Device Upgrades and Acquisition Efforts for Covered Population Individuals/Residents.

Middle Peninsula of Virginia Sub-Region – Implementation Strategies

A. Build-out of Broadband Infrastructure to Remaining Unserved Areas of the Sub-Region. (Now through May, 2026)

- Local Government and Local Broadband Authorities should continue efforts to apply for VATI Grants necessary to infrastructure/service to remaining, unserved isolated areas.

B. Pursue Development of Connectivity and Line Extension Assistance Programs targeted to assist Middle-Income Customers with extension line construction and connectivity costs. (Now, and on-going)

C. Explore new programs to assist LMI and Middle-Income Customers with keeping monthly cost of service affordable. (Now, and on-going)

D. Continue efforts to upgrade and enhance existing infrastructure with the goal of providing adequate speed and reliability of connection for daily usage needs.

E. Explore utilizing existing regional non-profit organizations and community partners; to increase Technology Literacy Efforts geared to Covered Population Households (ex. Aged Individuals). (Now, and on-going)

- Target existing LMI Elderly Multi-Family Housing in the Region, to promote and carry-out Technology Literacy Efforts for Aged Individuals/Residents

F. Explore utilizing existing regional non-profit organizations and community partners; to assist Covered Population Households in obtaining up to date, technology, and devices necessary to access the internet. (Now, and on-going)

- Target existing LMI Elderly Multi-Family and Workforce Multi-Family Housing in the Region, to promote and carry-out Technology and Device Upgrades and Acquisition Efforts for Covered Population Individuals/Residents.

G. In areas utilizing Open Broadband, increase efforts to recruit and attract the skilled workforce necessary to help homeowners in the region with installation of equipment necessary to access broadband. Additionally, initiate efforts to promote local workforce development training essential for developing new skilled workers for the region. (Now, and on-going)

6. Conclusion

The Bay Aging Regional Digital Opportunity Plan has been a collaborative effort between Bay Aging and the Eastern Shore Area Agency on Aging/Community Action Agency (ESAAA/CAA).

The Bay Aging Regional Digital Opportunity Plan effort was undertaken by Bay Aging and ESAAA/CAA; to better understand the existing barriers to broadband availability and affordability in the Bay Aging Region. This is particularly important due to the increased role that access to the internet has played in the lives of citizens throughout our Country. In today's world, access to the internet has become increasingly necessary for civic and cultural engagement, employment, education, and access to essential services.

However, access to the internet has remained out of reach to many of the individuals, families, and businesses in our Region. Consequently, one of the main goals of this Plan was to identify ways to advance the Opportunity for Digital Access and Utilization for all citizens in our Region. It is hoped that this Plan helps to advance this endeavor.

Additionally, this Plan has been developed to provide a road map to guide our Region's efforts towards realizing our Regional Vision for Digital Equity in our Region:

The Counties of the Bay Aging Region will strive to expand Digital Opportunity, through the installation of new infrastructure, the improvement of existing infrastructure; and by working to mitigate economic and technological access barriers; in order to achieve a condition where all individuals and communities have the information capacity needed to fully participate in our society, democracy, and economy.

Again, it is hoped that this Plan helps to advance this effort.

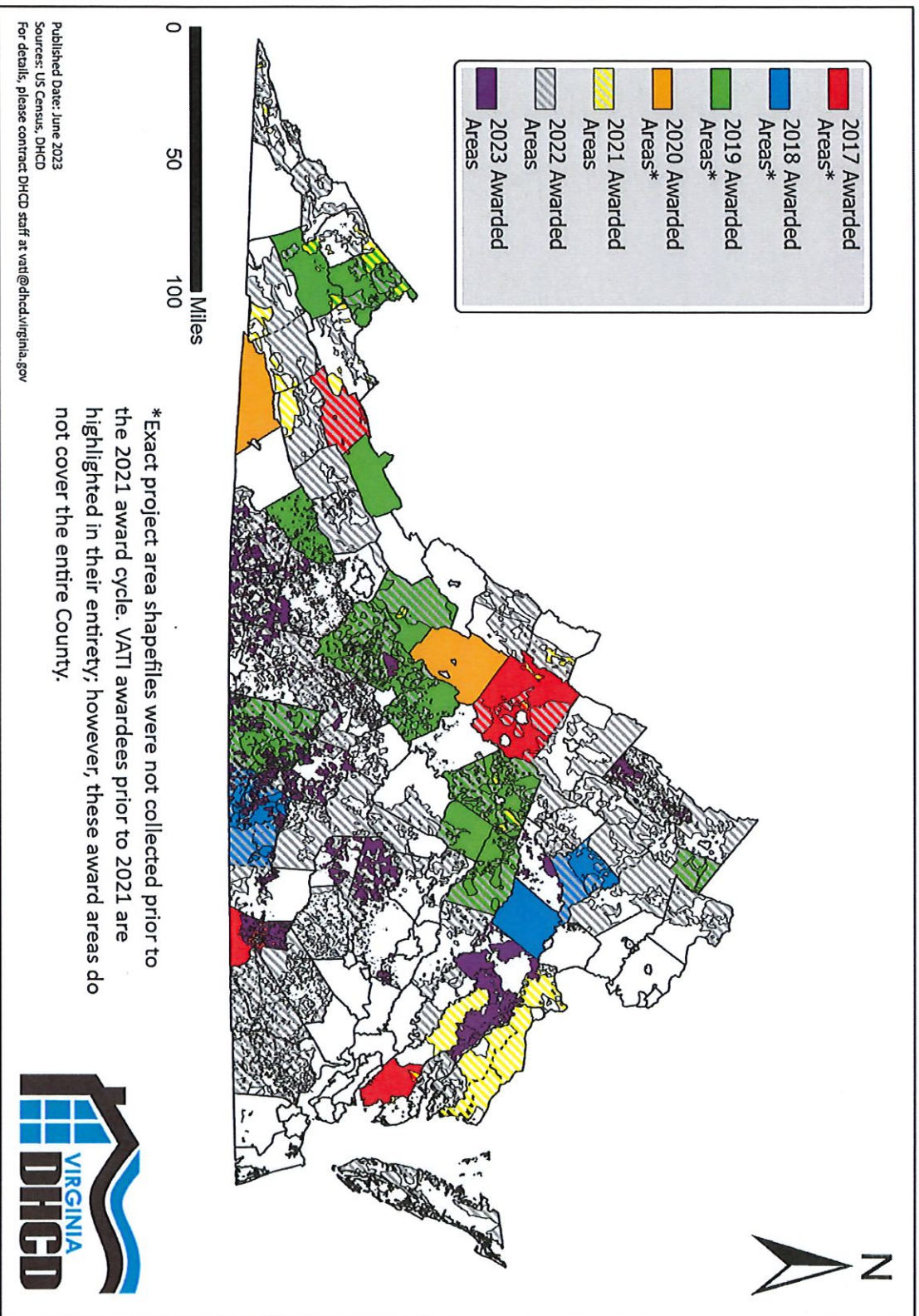
Bay Aging Region
Regional Digital Opportunity Plan
Addendum

Bay Aging Region
Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI)
Grant Awards
2017 - 2023

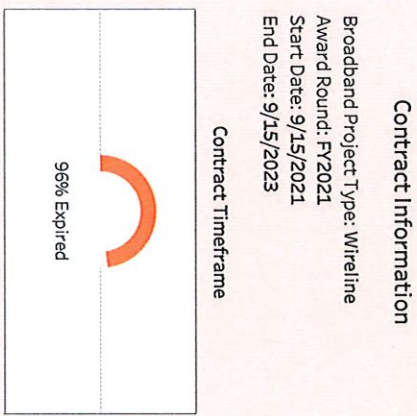
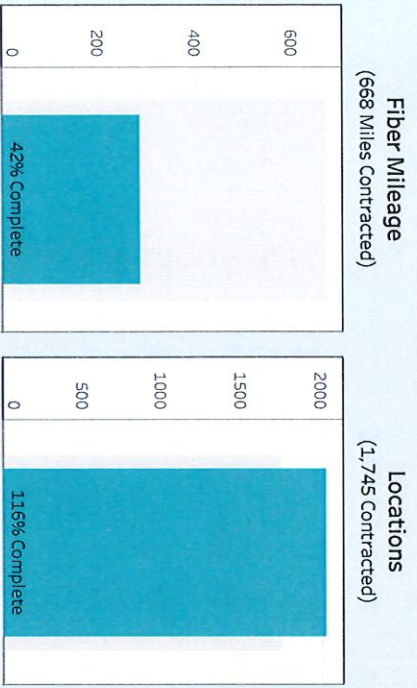
Bay Aging Region
Simplified Digital Inclusion
Asset Inventory

August, 2023

Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) Grant Awards 2017-2023



Northern Neck PDC | All Points Broadband FY2021



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Phases and Milestones

Phase	Milestone	Status
Planning	Field Design and Engineering	In Progress
	Field Walkout	In Progress
	Permit Applications	In Progress
Execution	Make Ready	In Progress
	Aerial Construction	In Progress
	Underground/Buried Construction	In Progress
	Cabinet/Enclosure Installation	In Progress
	Fiber Splicing	In Progress
	On-Site Electronics Installation	In Progress
	Cabinet In-Service	In Progress
	Quality Assurance Checks	In Progress
	Quality Control Verification	In Progress
Monitoring and Controlling	Service Available at All Locations	Not Started
	Broadband Closeout Report	Not Started
	6-Month Post-Closeout Report	Not Started
	12-Month Post-Closeout Report	Not Started
Closeout		

*Percentages rounded to nearest whole number.

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Northern Neck PDC | All Points Broadband FY2022

Fiber Mileage (273 Miles Contracted)

0 100 200

0% Complete

Locations (3,411 Contracted)

0K 1K 2K 3K

0% Complete

Contract Information

Broadband Project Type: Wireline
 Award Round: FY2022
 Start Date: 9/22/2022
 End Date: 3/22/2024

Contract Timeframe

60% Expired

Funding

Total Grant Funding
\$3,190,500.00

Sources: State Fiscal Recovery Fund |

31.629% Expended
\$1,009,110.94

Total Match Funding
\$20,477,692.00

Sources: Local | Private |

16.639% Expended
\$3,407,205.09

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Phases and Milestones

Phase	Milestone	Status	
Planning	Field Design and Engineering	In Progress	
	Field Walkout	In Progress	
	Permit Applications	In Progress	
	Make Ready	In Progress	
Execution	Aerial Construction	Pending Approval	
	Underground/Buried Construction	Pending Approval	
	Cabinet/Enclosure Installation	Pending Approval	
	Fiber Splicing	Not Started	
	On-Site Electronics Installation	Not Started	
	Cabinet In-Service	Not Started	
	Monitoring and Controlling	Quality Assurance Checks	In Progress
		Quality Control Verification	In Progress
		Service Available at All Locations	Not Started
		Broadband Closeout Report	Not Started
Closeout	6-Month Post-Closeout Report	Not Started	
	12-Month Post-Closeout Report	Not Started	

*Percentages rounded to nearest whole number.

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Eastern Shore of Virginia Broadband Authority | Eastern Shore of Virginia Broadband Authority

FY2022

Fiber Mileage

(269 Miles Contracted)

64% Complete

Locations

(11,091 Contracted)

44% Complete

Contract Information

Broadband Project Type: Wireline
 Award Round: FY2022
 Start Date: 6/1/2022
 End Date: 5/31/2024

Contract Timeframe

60% Expired

Funding

Total Grant Funding
\$12,310,777.25

Sources: State Fiscal Recovery Fund |

38.255% Expended
\$4,709,538.93

Total Match Funding
\$3,314,865.00

Sources: Local |

33.595% Expended
\$1,113,635.88

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Phases and Milestones

	Planning	Execution					Monitoring and Controlling			Closeout					
Status	■ Complete	■ In Progress	■ Not Started												
	Field Design and Engineering	Field Walkout	Permit Applications	Make Ready	Aerial Construction	Underground/Buried Construction	Telecom Equipment Installation on Towers	Fiber Splicing	On-Site Electronics Installation	Quality Assurance Checks	Quality Control Verification	Service Available at All Locations	Broadband Closeout Report	6-Month Post-Closeout Report	12-Month Post-Closeout Report
	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗

*Percentages rounded to nearest whole number.

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Gloucester County | Open Broadband FY2021

Fiber Mileage

(None Miles Contracted)

Locations

(313 Contracted)

Contract Information

Broadband Project Type: Wireless
 Award Round: FY2021
 Start Date: 7/30/2021
 End Date: 8/31/2023

Contract Timeframe

Funding

Total Grant Funding
\$342,657.00

Sources: State General Fund |

100.000% Expended
\$342,657.00

Total Match Funding
\$393,882.00

Sources: Local | Private |

90.860% Expended
\$357,882.00

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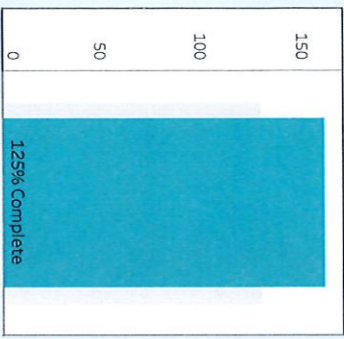
Phases and Milestones

	Planning	Execution	Monitoring and Controlling	Closeout	
Status ■ Complete ■ In Progress ■ Not Started	Field Design and Engineering	Field Walkout	Permit Applications	Make Ready	
	Aerial Construction	Underground/Buried Construction	Cabinet/Enclosure Installation	Telecom Equipment Installation on Towers	
	On-Site Electronics Installation	Cabinet In-Service	Tower In-Service	Quality Assurance Checks	
	Quality Control Verification	Service Available at All Locations	Broadband Closeout Report	6-Month Post-Closeout Report	
	12-Month Post-Closeout Report	*Percentages rounded to nearest whole number.			

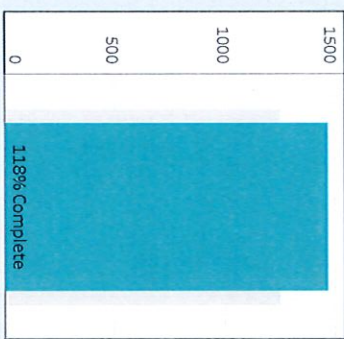
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Mathews County | Atlantic Broadband FY2021

Fiber Mileage
(129 Miles Contracted)



Locations
(1,249 Contracted)



Contract Information

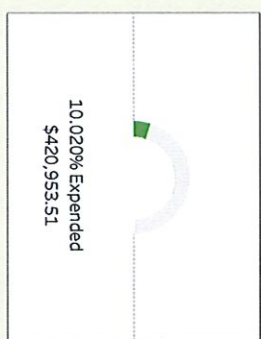
Broadband Project Type: Wireline
Award Round: FY2021
Start Date: 7/30/2021
End Date: 3/31/2023

Contract Timeframe



Funding

Total Grant Funding
\$4,201,234.00
Sources: State General Fund |



Total Match Funding
\$2,997,600.00
Sources: Local | Private |



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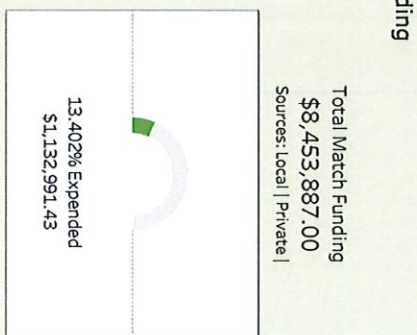
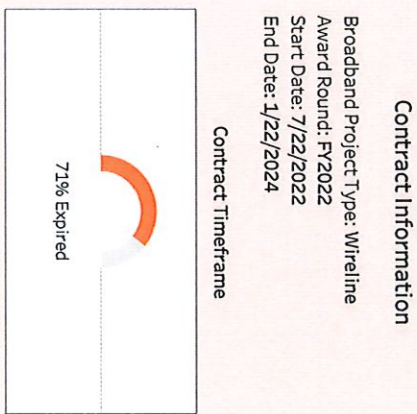
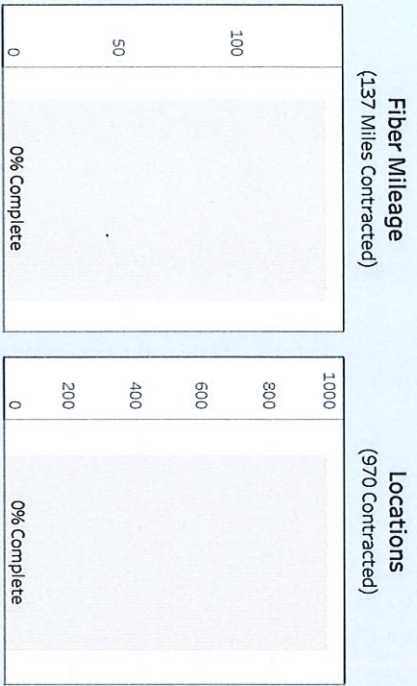
Phases and Milestones

	Planning	Execution						Monitoring and Controlling				Closeout				
Status	Complete	Complete	Not Started	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Not Started	Not Started	
	Field Design and Engineering	Field Walkout	Permit Applications	Make Ready	Aerial Construction	Underground/Buried Construction	Cabinet/Enclosure Installation	Fiber Splicing	On-Site Electronics Installation	Cabinet In-Service	Quality Assurance Checks	Quality Control Verification	Service Available at All Locations	Broadband Closeout Report	6-Month Post-Closeout Report	12-Month Post-Closeout Report

*Percentages rounded to nearest whole number.

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Middlesex County | All Points Broadband FY2022



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Phases and Milestones

Phase	Milestone	Status
Planning	Field Design and Engineering	In Progress
	Field Walkout	In Progress
	Permit Applications	In Progress
Execution	Make Ready	In Progress
	Aerial Construction	Not Started
	Underground/Buried Construction	Not Started
	Cabinet/Enclosure Installation	Not Started
	Fiber Splicing	Not Started
	On-Site Electronics Installation	Not Started
Monitoring and Controlling	Cabinet In-Service	Not Started
	Quality Assurance Checks	In Progress
	Quality Control Verification	In Progress
Closeout	Service Available at All Locations	Not Started
	Broadband Closeout Report	Not Started
	6-Month Post-Closeout Report	Not Started
	12-Month Post-Closeout Report	Not Started

*Percentages rounded to nearest whole number.

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Bay Aging Region
Simplified Digital Inclusion
Asset Inventory

August, 2023

Digital Asset Type	Organizing Entity	Description	Covered Population(s) Served
Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) Grant FY-2021	Northern Neck PDC/All Points Broadband	\$10,288,069.84 State Grant; Matched with \$18,949,951.28 in Local/Private Match Funds. The Combined \$29,238,031.12 is being used to install 668 miles of fiber lineage; to a total of 1,745 currently unserved locations.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Incarcerated Individuals (other than those in a Federal correctional facility); Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of King George, Northumberland, Richmond, and Westmoreland Counties.
Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) Grant FY-2022	Northern Neck PDC/All Points Broadband	\$3,190,500.00 State Grant; Matched with \$20,477,692.00 in Local/Private Match Funds. The Combined \$23,668,192.00 is being used to install 273 miles of fiber lineage; to a total of 3,411 currently unserved locations.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Incarcerated Individuals (other than those in a Federal correctional facility); Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of King George, Lancaster, and Middlesex Counties.
Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) Grant FY-2021	Gloucester County/Open Broadband	\$342,657.00 State Grant; Matched with \$393,882.00 in Local/Private Match Funds. The Combined \$736,539.00 is being used expand existing wireless broadband service to a total of 313 locations which are currently unserved.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Incarcerated Individuals (other than those in a Federal correctional facility); Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) Grant FY-2021	Mathews County/Atlantic Broadband	\$4,201,234.00 State Grant; Matched with \$2,977,600.00 in Local/Private Match Funds. The Combined \$7,198,834.00 is being used to install 129 miles of fiber lineage; to a total of 1,249 currently unserved locations.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Incarcerated Individuals (other than those in a Federal correctional facility); Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Mathews County.
Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) Grant FY-2022	Middlesex County/All Points Broadband	\$2,050,000.00 State Grant; Matched with \$8,453,887.00 in Local/Private Match Funds. The Combined \$10,503,887.00 is being used to install 137 miles of fiber lineage; to a total of 970 currently unserved locations.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Incarcerated Individuals (other than those in a Federal correctional facility); Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Middlesex County.
Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) Grant FY-2022	Eastern Shore of Virginia Broadband Authority	\$12,310,777.25 State Grant; Matched with \$3,314,865.00 in Local/Private Match Funds. The Combined \$15,625,642.25 is being used to install 269 miles of fiber lineage; to a total of 11,091 currently unserved locations.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Incarcerated Individuals (other than those in a Federal correctional facility); Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Accomack and Northampton Counties.
Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) Grant FY-2023	Essex County	\$8,753,009.00 State Grant; Matched with \$19,113,941.00 in Local/Private Match Funds. The Combined \$27,866,950.00 is being used to install ___ miles of fiber lineage; to a total of 2,766 currently unserved locations, including 54 businesses and community anchors.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Incarcerated Individuals (other than those in a Federal correctional facility); Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Essex County.

Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Chincoteague Island Library - Town of Chincoteague/Accomack County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to library patrons. This hotspot is at the Chincoteague Island Library, located at 4077 Main Street, in Chincoteague, Virginia, 23336.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Chincoteague and/or Accomack County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Bloxom Tower - Town of Bloxom/Accomack County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home. This hotspot is located at 26129 Shore Main Drive, in Bloxom, Virginia, 23308.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Bloxom and/or Accomack County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Parksley Town Pavilion - Town of Parksley/Accomack County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home. This hotspot is located at 18468 Dumme Avenue, in Parksley, Virginia, 23421.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Parksley and/or Accomack County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Mary N. Smith Cultural Center - Town of Accomac/Accomack County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home. This hotspot is located at 24577 Mary N. Smith Road, in Accomac, Virginia, 23301.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Accomac and/or Accomack County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Sawmill Park - Town of Accomac/Accomack County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to visitors to this Region. This hotspot is located at 24387 Joyntes Neck Road, in Accomac, Virginia, 23301.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Accomac and/or Accomack County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Eastern Shore Community College - Town of Melfa/Accomack County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students from this Region. This hotspot is located at 29300 Lankford Highway, in Melfa, Virginia, 23410.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Melfa and/or Accomack and Northampton Counties.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Accomack County Airport - Town of Melfa/Accomack County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to visitors to this Region. This hotspot is located at 29194 Parkway North, in Melfa, Virginia, 23410.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Melfa and/or Accomack and Northampton Counties.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce - Town of Melfa/Accomack County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to visitors to this Region. This hotspot is located at 19056 Parkway, in Melfa, Virginia, 23410.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Melfa and/or Accomack and Northampton Counties.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	ESO Art Center - Town of Belle Haven/Accomack County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to visitors to this Region. This hotspot is located at 15293 King Street in Belle Haven, Virginia, 23306.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Belle Haven and/or Accomack and Northampton Counties.

Free Public Wifi Hotspot	The GIG - Town of Exmore/Norhampton County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to workers and business owners in this Region. This hotspot is located at 3292 Main Street, Exmore, Virginia, 23350.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Exmore and/or Accomack and Northampton Counties.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Exmore Town Park - Town of Exmore/Norhampton County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to visitors to this Region. This hotspot is located at 3386 Main Street, Exmore, Virginia, 23350.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Exmore and/or Accomack and Northampton Counties.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Ocohannock Elementary School - Town of Exmore/Norhampton County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 4208 Seaside Road, Exmore, Virginia, 23350.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Exmore and/or Northampton County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Eastern Shore Broadband Authority - Town of Exmore/Norhampton County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to visitors to this Region. This hotspot is located at 4174 Lanford Highway, Exmore, Virginia, 23350.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Exmore and/or Accomack and Northampton Counties.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Randy Custis Memorial Park - Town of Nassawadox/Norhampton County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to visitors to this Region. This hotspot is located at 10239 Pine Avenue, Nassawadox, Virginia, 23413.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Exmore and/or Northampton County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Norhampton High School - Town of Eastville/Norhampton County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 16041 Courthouse Road, Eastville, Virginia, 23347.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Eastville and/or Northampton County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Kiptopeke Elementary School - Town of Cape Charles/Norhampton County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 24023 Fairview Road, Cape Charles, Virginia, 23310.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Cape Charles and/or Northampton County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Eastern Shore of Virginia Gateway Welcome Center - Town of Cape Charles/Norhampton County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to visitors to this Region. This hotspot is located at 32383 Lanford Highway, Cape Charles, Virginia, 23310.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Cape Charles and/or Accomack and Northampton Counties.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Lancaster Community Library - Town of Kilmarnock/Lancaster County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to library patrons. This hotspot is at the Lancaster Community Library, located at 16 Town Centre Drive, Kilmarnock, Virginia, 22482.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Kilmarnock and/or Lancaster and Northumberland Counties.

Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Macedonia Baptist Church - Northumberland County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to Church members and neighbors. This hotspot is at the Macedonia Baptist Church, located at 10246 Northumberland Highway, Heathsville, Virginia, 22473.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Northumberland County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Northumberland Elementary School - Northumberland County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 757 Academic Lane, Heathsville, Virginia, 22473.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Northumberland County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Northumberland High School - Northumberland County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 201 Academic Lane, Heathsville, Virginia, 22473.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Northumberland County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Northumberland Public Library - Northumberland County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to library patrons. This hotspot is at the Northumberland Public Library, located at 7204 Northumberland Highway, Heathsville, Virginia, 22473.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Northumberland County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Northumberland County School Board Office - Northumberland County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to School Board Employees and neighbors. This hotspot is at the Northumberland County School Board Office, located at 2172 Northumberland Highway, Lottsburg, Virginia, 22511.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Northumberland County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Rappahannock Community College - Warsaw Campus - Town of Warsaw/Richmond County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students from this Region. This hotspot is located at 52 Campus Drive, Warsaw, Virginia, 22572.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Warsaw/Richmond County, and/or the Counties of the Northern Neck Region.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Blake T. Newton Memorial Branch - Westmoreland County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to library patrons. This hotspot is at the Blake T. Newton Memorial Branch, located at 22 Coles Point Road, Hague, Virginia, 22469.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Westmoreland County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Cople Elementary School - Westmoreland County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 7114 Cople Highway, Hague, Virginia, 22469.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Westmoreland County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Montross Middle School - Westmoreland County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 8884 Menokin Road, Montross, Virginia, 22520.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Westmoreland County.

Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Westmoreland High School - Westmoreland County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 16762 Kings Highway, Montross, Virginia, 22520.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Westmoreland County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Montross Branch Library - Town of Montross/Westmoreland County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to library patrons. This hotspot is at the Montross Branch Library, located at 56 Polk Street, Montross, Virginia, 22520.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Montross and/or Westmoreland County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Washington District Elementary School - Westmoreland County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 454 Oak Grove Road, Colonial Beach, Virginia, 22443.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Westmoreland County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Abraham and William Cooper Memorial Branch Library -Town of Colonial Beach/Westmoreland County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to library patrons. This hotspot is at the Abraham and William Cooper Memorial Branch Library, located at 20 Washington Avenue, Colonial Beach, Virginia, 22443.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Colonial Beach and/or Westmoreland County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Potomac Elementary School - King George County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 16495 15th Street, King George, Virginia, 22485.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of King George County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	L.E. Smoot Memorial Library - King George County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to library patrons. This hotspot is at the L.E. Smoot Memorial Library, located at 9533 Kings Highway, King George, Virginia, 22485.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of King George County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	King George School Board Office - King George County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to School Board Employees and neighbors. This hotspot is at the King George School Board Office, located at 9100 St. Anthony's Road, King George, Virginia, 22485.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of King George County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	King George High School - King George County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 10100 Foxes Lane, King George, Virginia, 22485.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of King George County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	King George Middle School - King George County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 8246 Dahlgren Road, King George, Virginia, 22485.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of King George County.

Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Sealston Elementary School - King George County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 11048 Fletcher's Chapel Road, King George, Virginia, 22485.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of King George County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Urbanna Library - Town of Urbanna/Middlesex County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to library patrons. This hotspot is at the Urbanna Library, located at 150 Grace Street, Urbanna, Virginia, 23175.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of the Town of Urbanna and/or Middlesex County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Deltaville Library - Middlesex County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to library patrons. This hotspot is at the Deltaville Library, located at 35 Lovers Lane, Deltaville, Virginia, 23043.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Middlesex County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Rappahannock Community College - Glens Campus - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students from this Region. This hotspot is located at 12745 College Drive, Saluda, Virginia, 23149.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County and/or the Counties of the Middle Peninsula Region.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	BridgePoint Church - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to Church members and neighbors. This hotspot is at the BridgePoint Church, located at 10487 Harcum Road, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Petsworth Elementary School - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 10658 George Washington Memorial Highway, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Peasley Middle School - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 2885 Hickory Fork Road, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Bethel Elementary School - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 2991 Hickory Fork Road, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Ware Academy - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 7936 John Clayton Memorial Highway, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.

Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Newington Baptist Church - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to Church members and neighbors. This hotspot is at the Newington Baptist Church, located at 6169 Main Street, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Botetourt Elementary School - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 6361 Main Street, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to Church members and neighbors. This hotspot is at the Newington Baptist Church, located at 6169 Main Street, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Gloucester County Building One - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to County Employees and neighbors. This hotspot is located at 6467 Main Street, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Gloucester Courthouse Circle - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to County Employees, local Businesses, and neighbors. This hotspot is located at 6504 Main Street, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Dutton's Grocery Store - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to Store Employees, Store Customers, and neighbors. This hotspot is located at 9900 Davenport Road, Woods Crossroads, Virginia, 23190.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Hodges & Bryant, LLC - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to Store Employees, Store Customers, and neighbors. This hotspot is located at 6834 Ware House Road, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Gloucester County Main Library - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to library patrons. This hotspot is at the Gloucester County Main Library, located at 6920 Main Street, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Gloucester High School - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 6680 Short Lane, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.

Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Page Middle School - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 5198 TC Walker Road, Gloucester, Virginia, 23061.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Gloucester Housing Partnership - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to Employees, and Customers. This hotspot is located at 6661 Hickory Fork Road, Suite C, Hayes, Virginia, 23072.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Franktronics - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to Employees, and Customers. This hotspot is located at 3618 George Washington Memorial Highway, Hayes, Virginia, 23072.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Abingdon Elementary School - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 7087 Powhatan Drive, Hayes, Virginia, 23072.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Gloucester County Public Library - Point Branch - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to library patrons. This hotspot is at the Point Branch Library, located at 2354 York Crossing Drive, Hayes, Virginia, 23072.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Achilles Elementary School - Gloucester County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 9306 Guinea Road, Hayes, Virginia, 23072.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Gloucester County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Mathews High School - Mathews County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 9899 Buckley Hall Road, Mathews, Virginia, 23109.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Mathews County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Thomas Hunter Middle School - Mathews County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 787 Church Street, Mathews, Virginia, 23109.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Mathews County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	County Treasurer's Office - Mathews County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to County Employees and customers. This hotspot is located at 10644 Buckley Hall Road, Mathews, Virginia, 23109.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Mathews County.

Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Mathews Elementary School - Mathews County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to students and teachers at this school. This hotspot is located at 347 Church Street, Mathews, Virginia, 23109.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Mathews County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Food Lion - Mathews County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to Store Employees, Store Customers, and neighbors. This hotspot is located at 185 Main Street, Mathews, Virginia, 23109.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Mathews County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Mathews Memorial Library - Mathews County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to library patrons. This hotspot is at the Mathews Memorial Library, located at 251 Main Street, Mathews, Virginia, 23109.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Mathews County.
Free Public Wifi Hotspot	Mathews Historic Courthouse - Mathews County	Public Wifi Hotspot to provide free Wifi access to those without broadband at home; as well as to County Employees, local Businesses, and neighbors. This hotspot is located at 17 Church Street, Mathews, Virginia, 23109.	Individuals living in households below 150% of the federal poverty level; Aging Individuals; Veterans; Individuals with disabilities; Individuals with a language barrier; Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas of Mathews County.

Bay Aging Region
Digital Opportunity Plan Survey Results



Digital Opportunity Plan Survey Results

Bay Aging Region

**Prepared for Department of Housing and Community Development
July 26, 2023**

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Most respondents (61%) have both a home internet subscription and a wireless cellular plan.

Half of respondents (50%) access the internet using their cellular data plan. Some respondents (32%) use a cable modem.

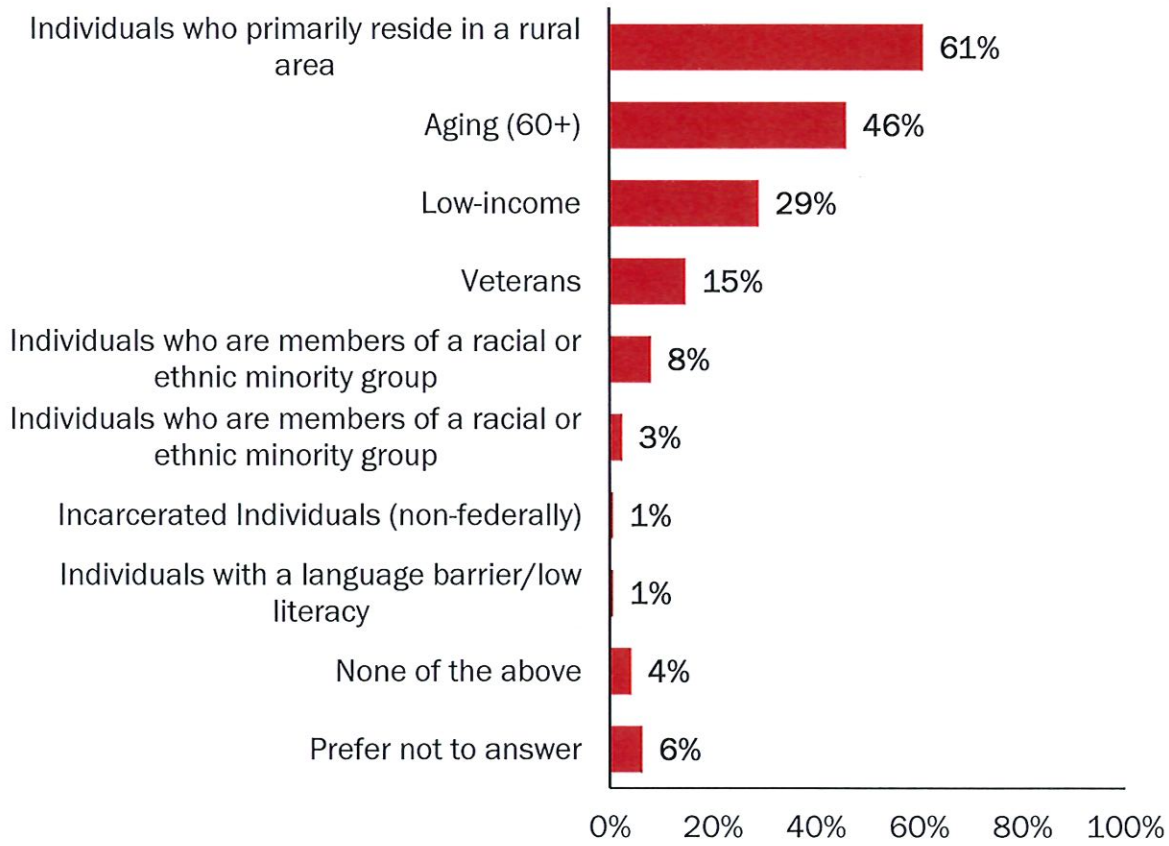
Of the people who cannot access the internet, about one-third use the internet somewhere else (30%) or say their internet speed is too slow (30%).

The devices respondents most often use to access the internet are a smart phone (82%) or laptop (73%).

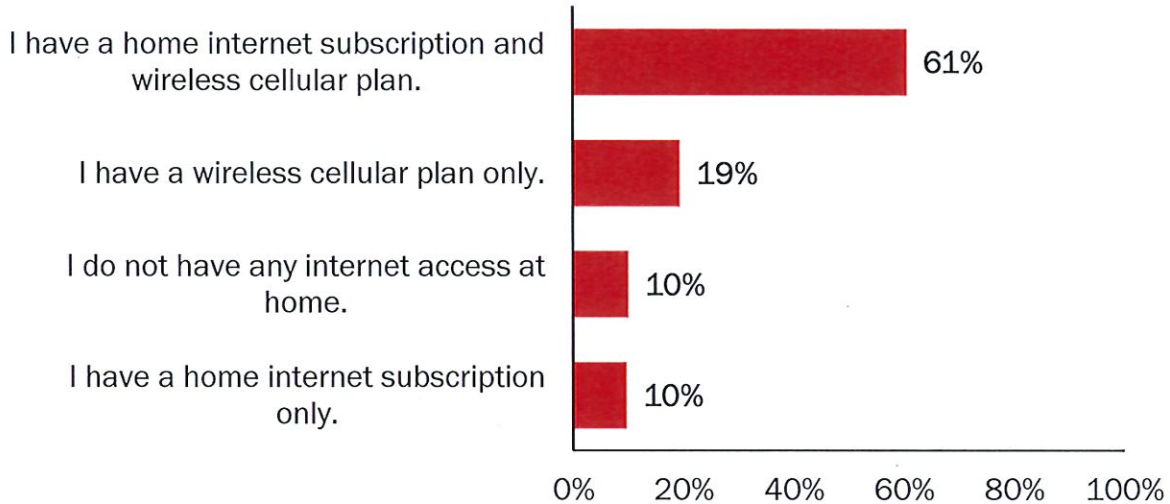
Respondents are comfortable using their devices to do most tasks, except attending virtual doctor's appointments and helping children complete schoolwork.

Most respondents (80%) have not applied to a program for internet accessibility, and only one-third (31%) are aware of these programs.

Almost two-thirds of respondents in the Bay Aging region (61%) primarily reside in a rural area. Almost half (46%) are aging, and about one-fourth (29%) are low-income.

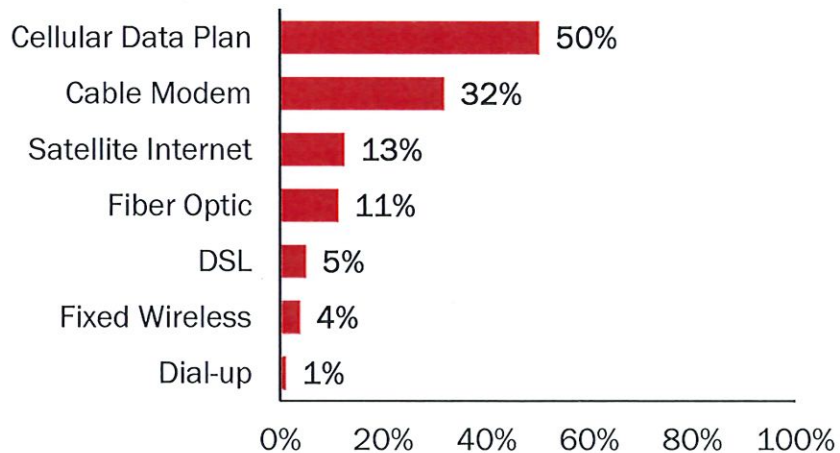


Most respondents (61%) have both a home internet subscription and a wireless cellular plan.



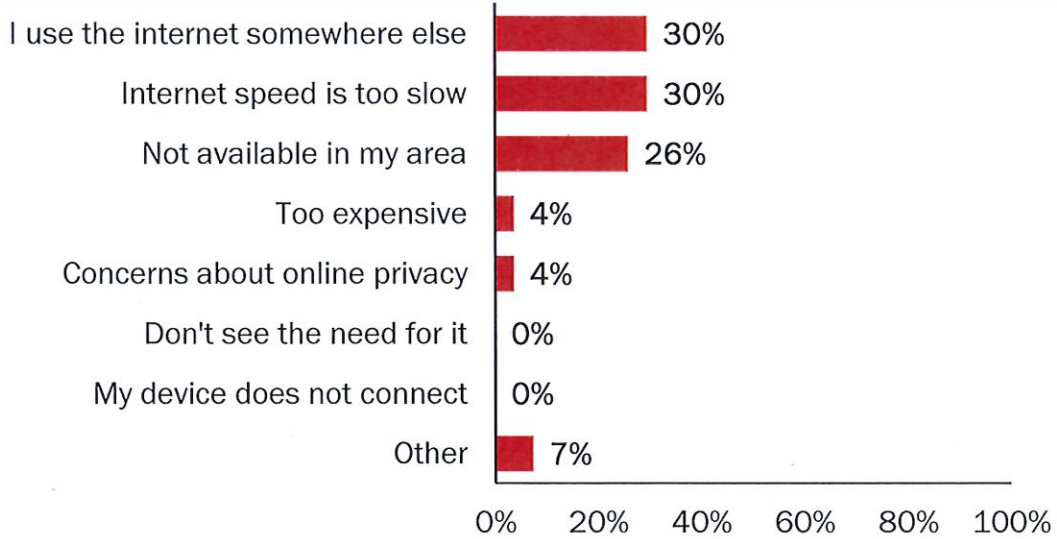
Q4: Do you have internet access (WiFi) at home? (n=277)

Half of respondents (50%) access the internet using their cellular data plan. Some respondents (32%) use a cable modem.



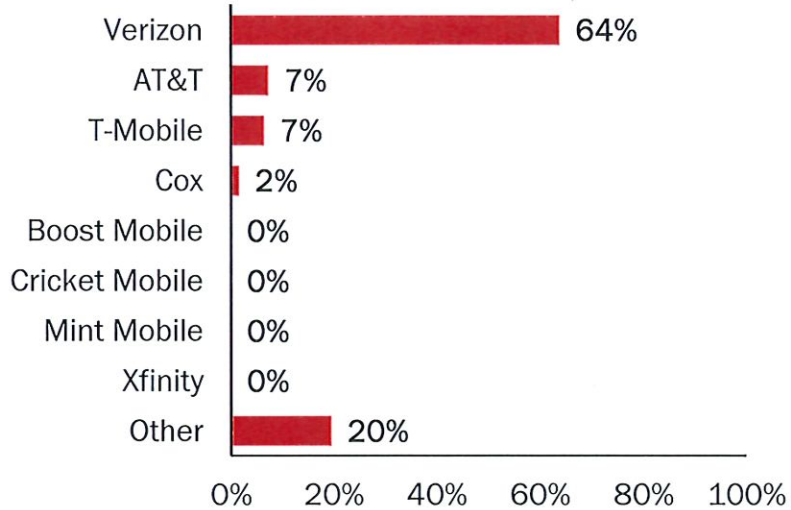
Q5: How do you access the internet at home? (n=254)

Of the people who do not access the internet at home, about one-third use the internet somewhere else (30%) or say their internet speed is too slow (30%).



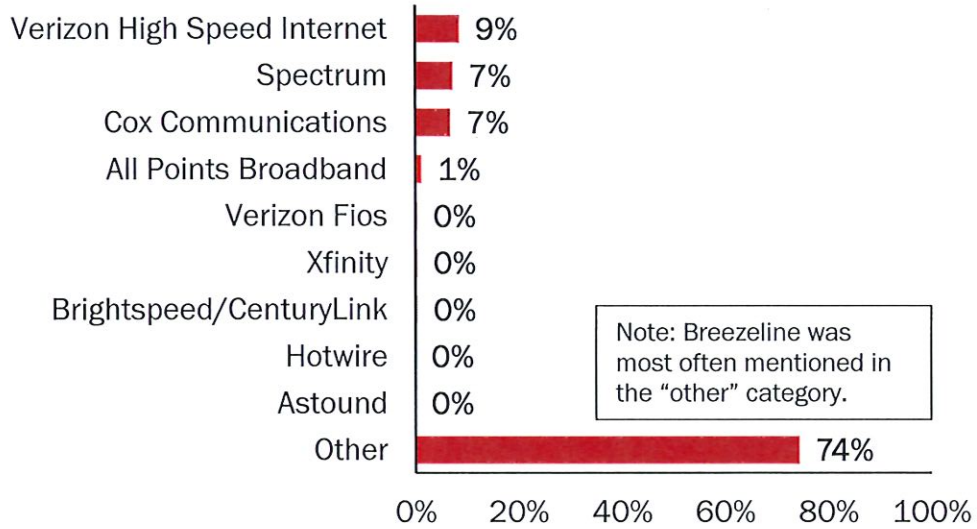
Q6: What is the main reason why you do not have internet access at home? (n=27)

Respondents (64%) are most likely to have Verizon as their wireless provider.



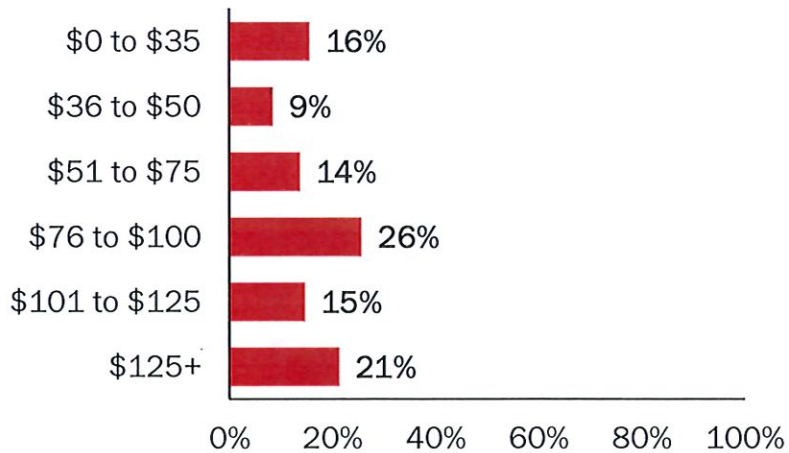
Q7: What is the name of your wireless cellular plan/provider? (n=365)

Respondents use a wide variety of providers for home internet, led by Xfinity (9%), Spectrum (7%) and Cox Communications (7%).



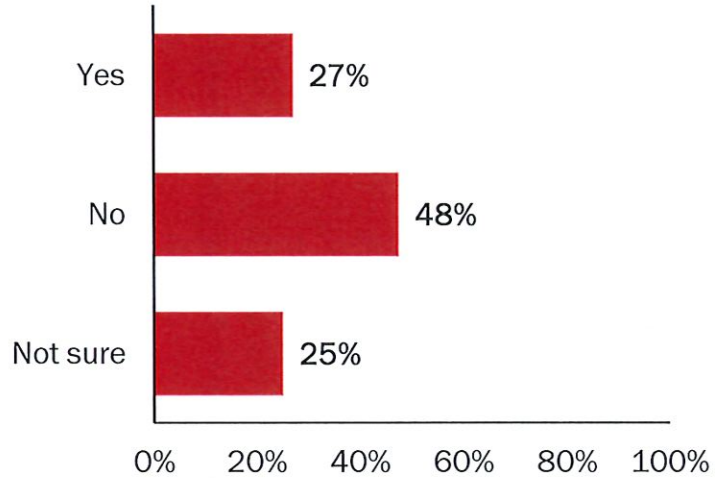
Q8: What is the name of your home's internet provider/plan? (n=231)

Almost half of respondents (40%) spend between \$50 and \$100 each month on their internet service (not as a part of a cellular plan).



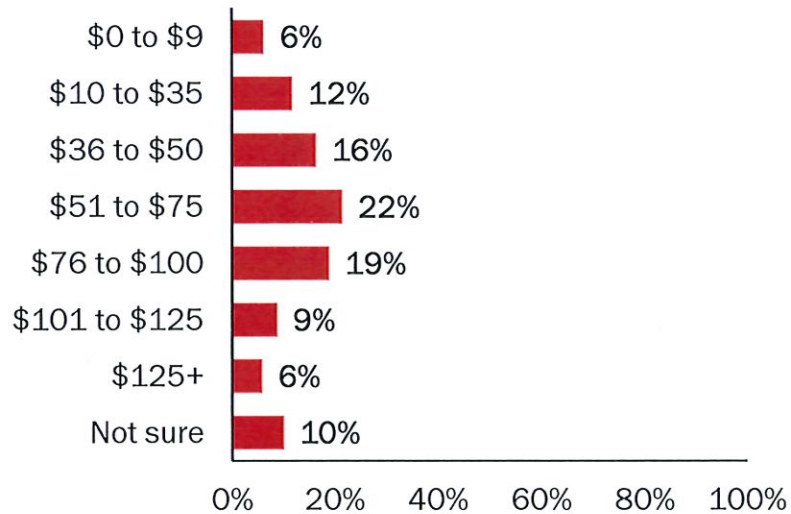
Q9: How much do you pay each month for internet service (NOT as part of a cellular plan)? (n=210)

Half of respondents (48%) are unwilling to pay more for better internet service. One-fourth (25%) are unsure.



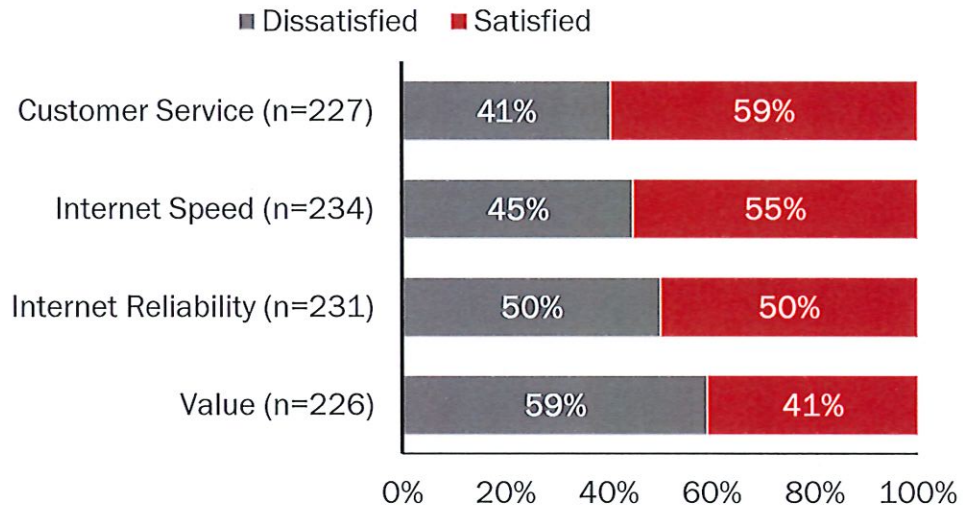
Q10: Would you be willing to pay more for better internet service? (n=246)

Roughly half of respondents (41%) are generally willing to pay between \$50 and \$100 each month on their internet service (not as a part of a cellular plan).



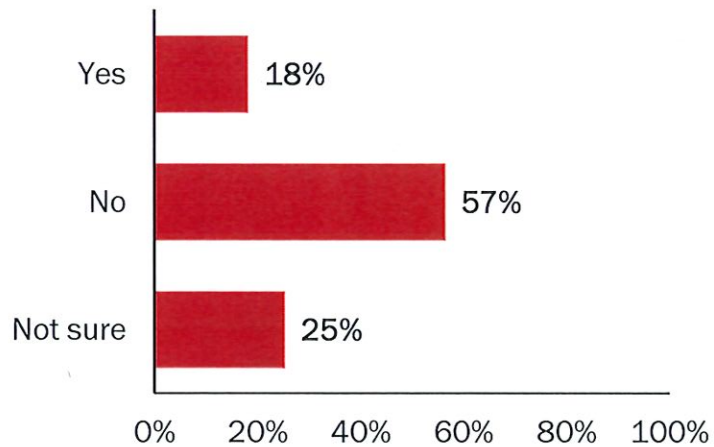
Q11: How much would you be willing to pay for internet service per month (NOT as part of a cellular plan)? (n=237)

Respondents are generally satisfied with customer service (59%), internet speed (55%), and reliability (50%), but less satisfied with value (41%).



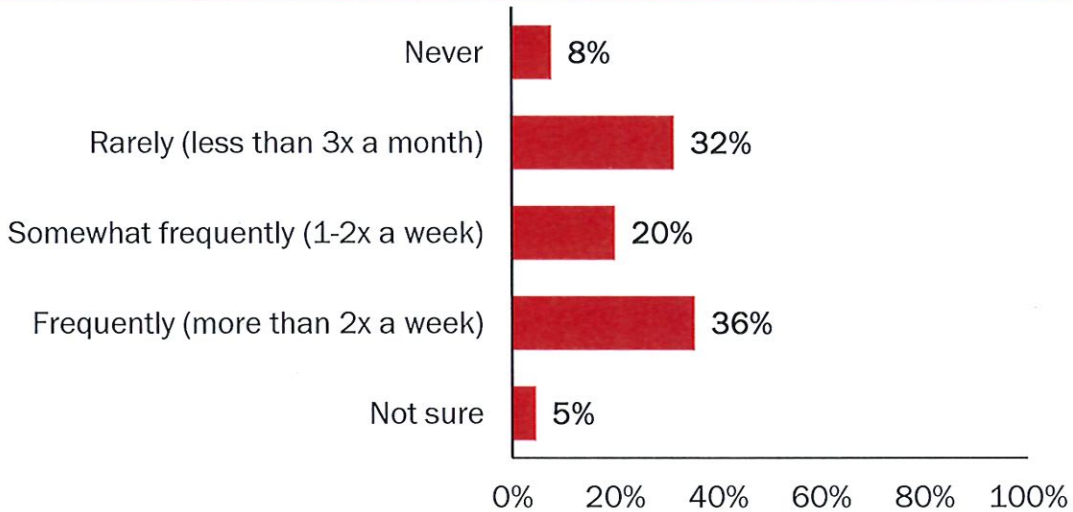
Q12: Please rate your internet service provider(s) on the following:

Most respondents (57%) do not have a cap on their monthly internet usage.



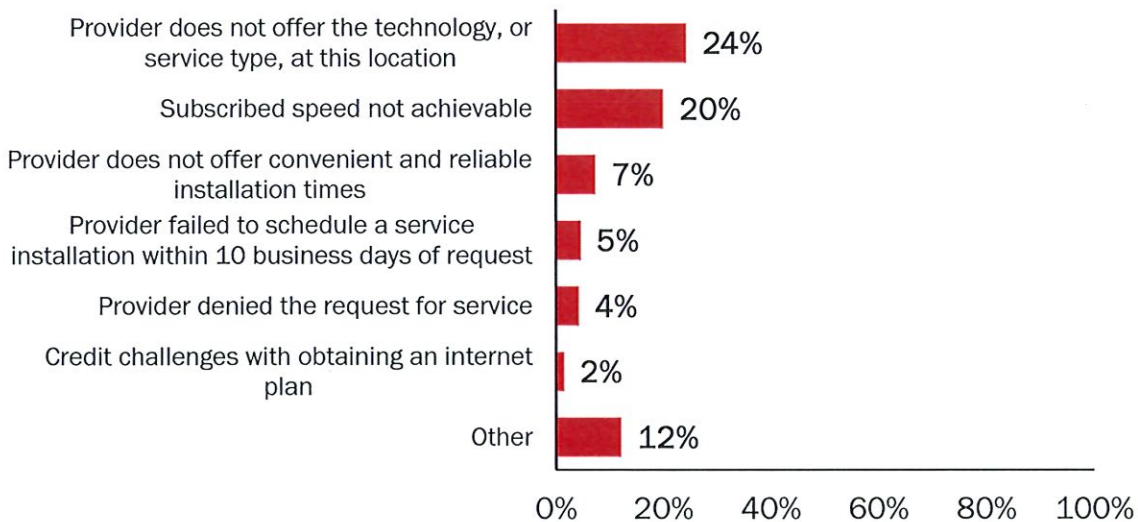
Q13: Do you have a cap on monthly internet usage? (n=253)

Respondents vary in how often they experience disruptions in download or upload speeds.



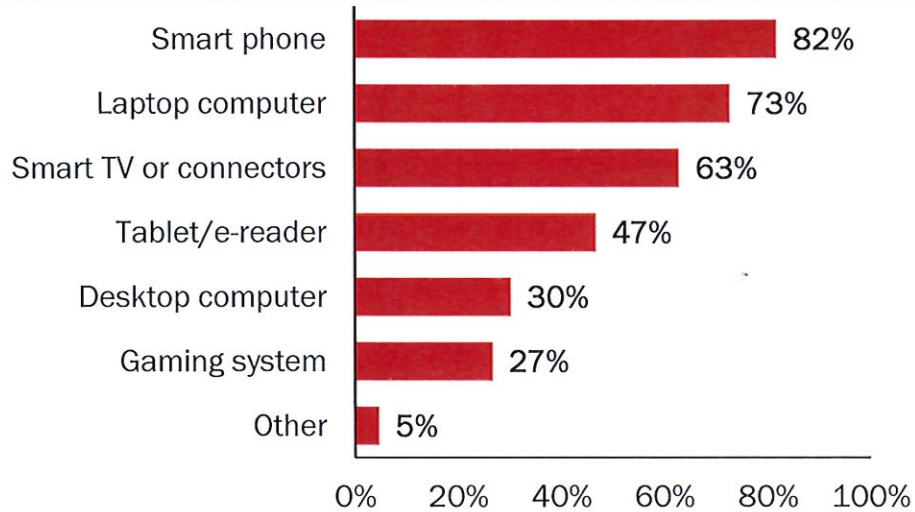
Q14: How often do you experience disruptions or download/upload speeds that are slower than expected? (n=373)

The most common problems among respondents are lack of access to technology (24%) or their subscribed speed not being achievable (20%).



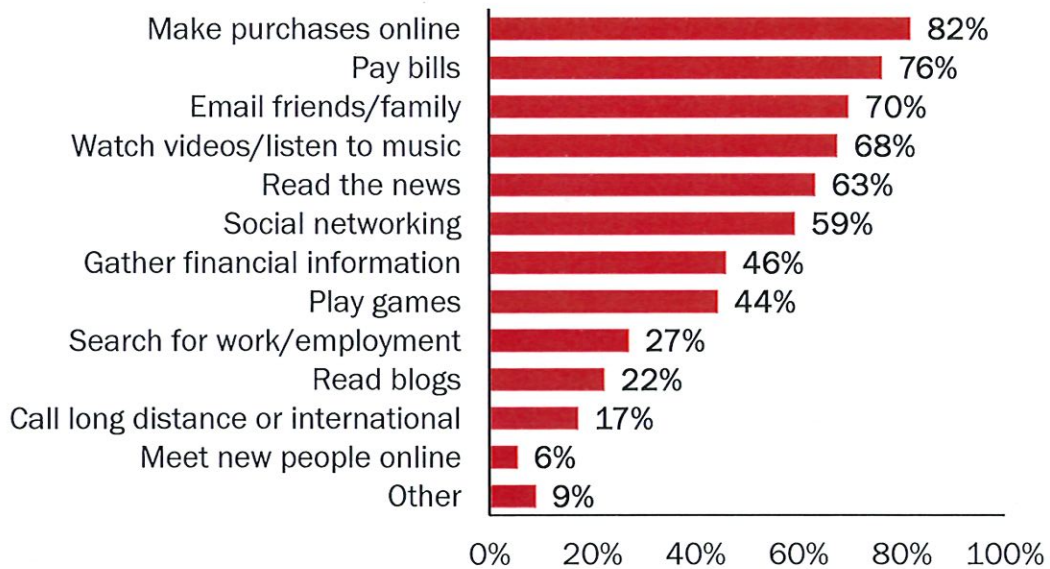
Q15: Have you experienced any of these problems trying to get internet? (n=254)

The devices respondents most often use to access the internet are a smart phone (82%) or laptop (73%).



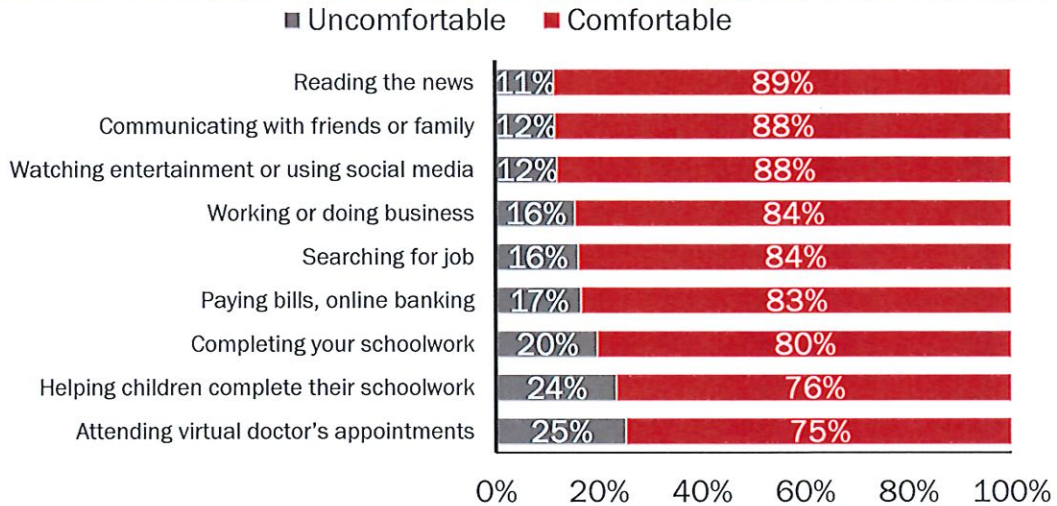
Q16: Which of these do you use to access the internet? (n=254)

Respondents are most likely to use the internet to make purchases (82%), pay bills (76%) and/or email friends or family (70%).



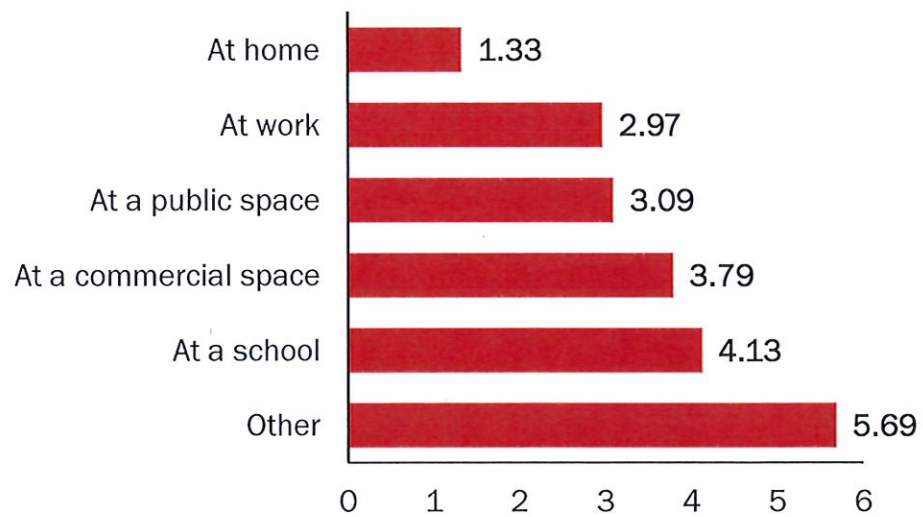
Q17: When you use the Internet, what kind of activities do you do online? (n=254)

Respondents are comfortable using their devices to do most tasks, except attending virtual doctor's appointments and helping children complete schoolwork.



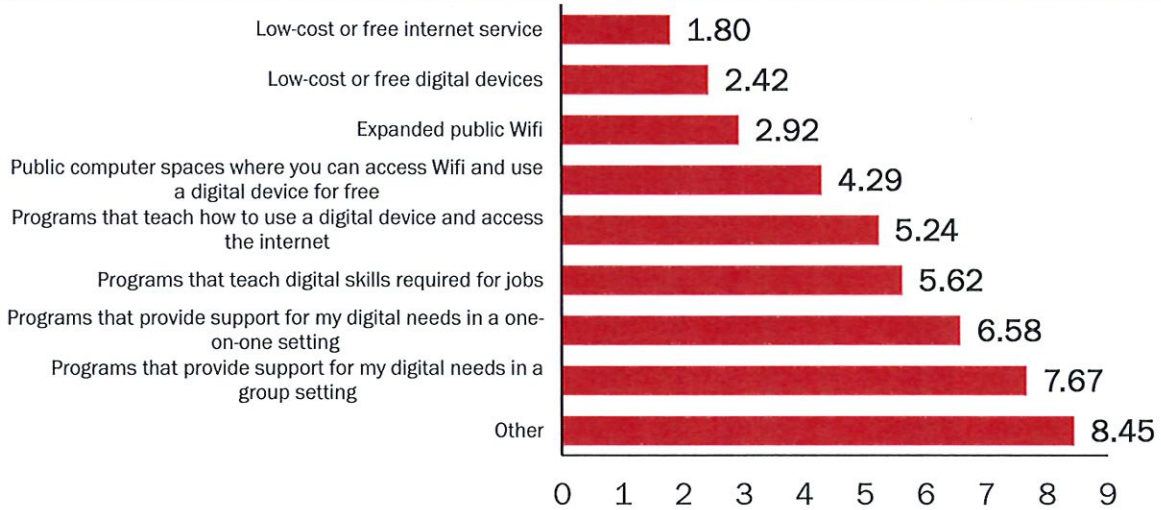
Q18: How comfortable are you using digital devices to do these tasks? (n=201-235)

Respondents are more likely to use the internet at home than in a public or commercial space.



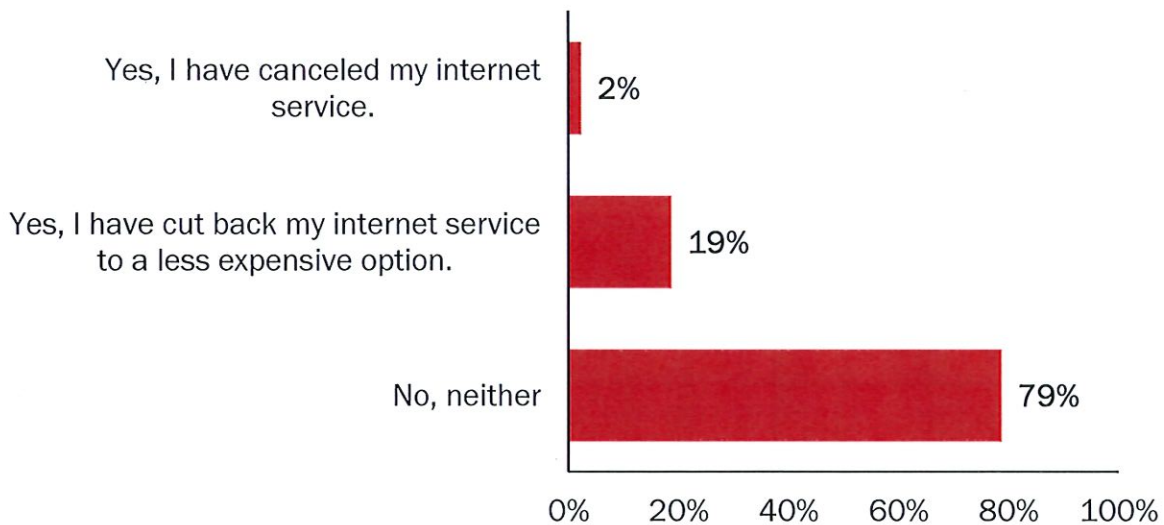
Q19: Where do you frequently access the internet? (n=222; 1=most frequent, 6=least frequent)

Respondents are most interested in low-cost or free internet services and digital devices.



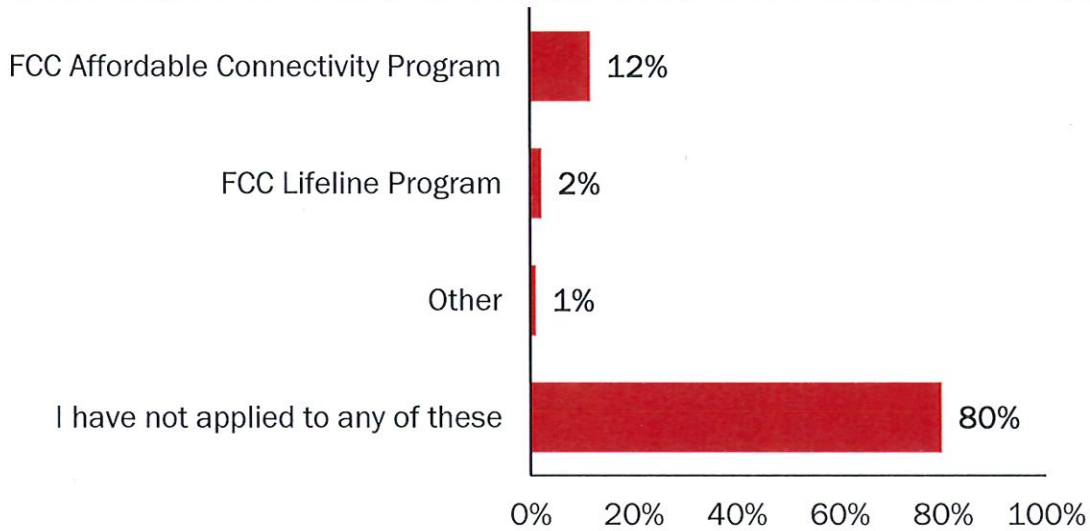
Q20: What options would you like to have available? (n=212; 1-most interested, 9=least interested)

Most respondents (79%) have not cut back on or canceled their internet service.



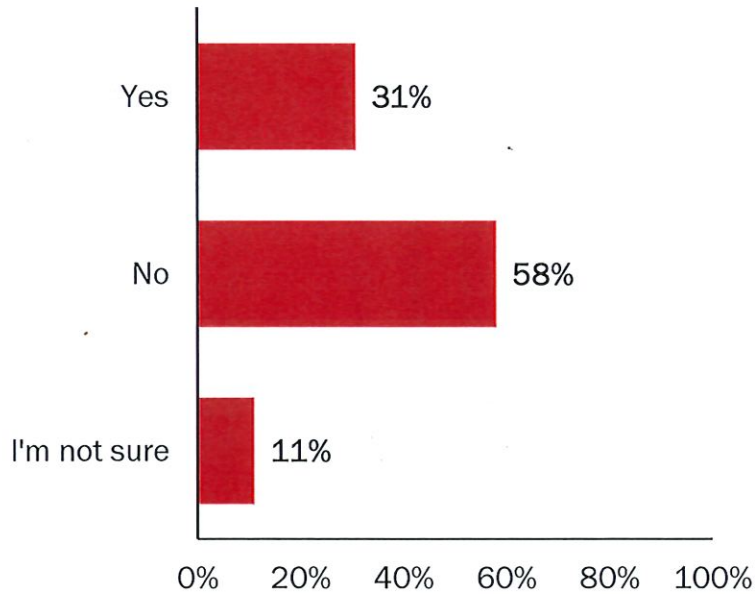
Q22: Have you canceled your internet service or cut back your internet to a less expensive service plan, within the past 12 months? (n=361)

Most respondents (80%) have not applied to a program for internet accessibility.



Q23: Have you ever applied for any of the following programs? (n=254)

Only one-third of respondents (31%) are aware of these programs.



Q24: Are you aware of these programs? (n=253)

Gender	
Female	65%
Male	27%
Other/Non-binary	1%
Prefer not to answer	7%
Hispanic	
No	90%
Yes, Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano	0%
Yes, Puerto Rican	0%
Yes, Cuban	0%
Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin	2%
Prefer not to answer	8%
Race	
White	67%
Black or African American	22%
American Indian or Alaska Native	2%
Asian	0%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0%
Other	1%
Prefer not to answer	9%
Age	
18 to 24	2%
25 to 34	16%
35 to 44	5%
45 to 54	9%
55 to 64	14%
65 or over	47%
Prefer not to answer	6%

Demographics

Employment	
Employed, working 40 or more hours per week	50%
Employed, working 1-39 hours per week	11%
Not employed, looking for work	1%
Not employed, not looking for work	0%
Student	2%
Retired	25%
Disabled, not able to work	7%
Prefer not to answer	3%
Individuals in Household (Average)	
Under Age 18	1
Age 18 to 65	2
Over Age 65	1
Income	
Less than \$25,000	17%
\$25,000 to \$49,999	17%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	25%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	11%
\$150,000 or more	9%
Prefer not to answer	20%
Education	
Less than high school	5%
High school diploma (or GED)	11%
Some college	22%
Associate's degree	9%
Bachelor's degree	21%
Master's degree	17%
Professional degree beyond a master's degree	8%
Prefer not to answer	7%

Bay Aging Region
General Population & Housing Data
And
Covered Populations Data
By County

Source 1: United States Census Bureau - Decennial Census - 2020

PROFILE OF GENERAL POPULATION AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS



Note: The table shown may have been modified by user selections. Some information may be missing.

DATA NOTES

TABLE ID: DP1
 SURVEY/PROGRAM: Decennial Census
 VINTAGE: 2020
 DATASET: DECENNIALDP2020
 PRODUCT: DEC Demographic Profile
 UNIVERSE: None
 FTP URL: None
 API URL: <https://api.census.gov/data/2020/dec/dp>

USER SELECTIONS

GEOS: Accomack County, Virginia; King George County, Virginia; Lancaster County, Virginia; Essex County, Virginia; Westmoreland County, Virginia; Richmond County, Virginia; Northumberland County, Virginia; Northampton County, Virginia; Middlesex County, Virginia; Mathews County, Virginia; and Gloucester County, Virginia.
 VINTAGES: 2020
 DATASETS: DEC Demographic Profile

Source 2: United States Census Bureau - American Community Survey 2021

Covered Population Variables



Note: The table shown may have been modified by user selections. Some information may be missing.

DATA NOTES

TABLE ID: S1602
 SURVEY/PROGRAM: American Community Survey
 VINTAGE: 2021
 DATASET: ACSST5Y2021
 PRODUCT: ACS 5-Year Estimates Subject Tables
 UNIVERSE: None
 FTP URL: None
 API URL: <https://api.census.gov/data/2021/acs/acs5/subject>

USER SELECTIONS

GEOS: Accomack County, Virginia; King George County, Virginia; Lancaster County, Virginia; Essex County, Virginia; Westmoreland County, Virginia; Richmond County, Virginia; Northumberland County, Virginia; Northampton County, Virginia; Middlesex County, Virginia; Mathews County, Virginia; and Gloucester County, Virginia.

VINTAGES: 2021

WEB ADDRESS: <https://data.census.gov/table?g=050XX00US51001,51057,51073,51099,51103,51115,51119,51131,51133,51159,51193&y=2021&tid=ACSST5Y2021.S1602>

**Eastern Shore of Virginia
General Population & Housing Data
and
Covered Populations Data
by County**

	<u>Accomack County</u>		<u>Northampton County</u>		<u>Eastern Shore Sub-Region Total</u>		
Total Persons	33,413	73.12%	12,282	26.88%	45,695	100.00%	of Persons
Total Households	14,302	72.38%	5,457	27.62%	19,759	100.00%	of Households
Aging individuals (60 Years of Older)	11,278	33.75%	4,693	38.21%	15,971	34.95%	of Persons
Members of a racial or ethnic minority group	13,588	40.40%	5,350	43.56%	18,938	41.44%	of Persons
Individuals in rural areas	30,190	90.35%	12,282	100.00%	42,472	92.95%	of Persons
Incarcerated individuals	122	0.37%	58	0.47%	180	0.39%	of Persons
Families living at, or below, 150% of Federal poverty level	4,236	44.92%	1,148	21.04%	5,384	27.25%	of Families
Individuals with disabilities	4,928	15%	2,366	19.26%	7,294	15.96%	of Persons
Military veterans	2,553	9.70%	979	7.97%	3,532	9.80%	of Persons over Age 18
Households with language barriers	299	2.10%	11	0.20%	310	1.57%	of Households

**Northern Neck of Virginia
General Population & Housing Data
and
Covered Populations Data
by County**

	King George County		Lancaster County		Northumberland County		Richmond County		Westmoreland County		Northern Neck Sub-Region Total	
Total Persons	26,723	34.76%	10,919	14.20%	11,839	15.40%	8,923	11.61%	18,477	24.03%	76,881	100.00% of Persons
Total Households	9,548	30.27%	5,211	16.52%	5,573	17.67%	3,173	10.06%	8,037	25.48%	31,542	100.00% of Households
Aging Individuals (60 Years or Older)	5,418	20.27%	5,293	48.48%	5,662	47.82%	2,457	27.54%	6,524	35.31%	25,354	32.98% of Persons
Members of a racial or ethnic minority group	8,014	29.99%	3,478	31.85%	3,529	29.81%	3,359	37.64%	6,719	36.36%	25,099	32.65% of Persons
Individuals in rural areas	26,723	100.00%	10,919	100.00%	11,839	100.0%	8,923	100.00%	14,502	78.49%	72,906	94.83% of Persons
Incarcerated individuals	0	0.00%	18	0.16%	0	0.00%	1,398	15.7%	0	0.00%	1,416	1.84% of Persons
Families living at, or below, 150% of Federal poverty level	1,261	17.97%	865	29.64%	1,069	33.57%	610	34.37%	2,170	48.01%	5,975	30.66% of Families
Individuals with disabilities	2,176	8.14%	1,840	16.85%	1,886	15.93%	1,053	11.80%	2,964	16.04%	9,919	12.90% of Persons
Military veterans	3,107	15.90%	1,149	12.60%	1,123	11.10%	472	6.40%	1,862	12.60%	7,713	12.66% of Persons Over Age 18
Households with language barriers	84	0.88%	54	1.04%	0	0.00%	15	0.47%	170	2.12%	323	1.02% of Households

**Middle Peninsula of Virginia
General Population & Housing Data
and
Covered Populations Data
by County**

	<u>Essex County</u>		<u>Gloucester County</u>		<u>Mathews County</u>		<u>Middlesex County</u>		<u>Middle Peninsula Sub-Region Total</u>	
Total Persons	10,599	15.48%	38,711	56.54%	8,533	12.46%	10,625	15.52%	68,468	100.00% of Persons
Total Households	4,572	16.00%	15,484	54.20%	3,762	13.17%	4,751	16.63%	28,569	100.00% of Households
Aging individuals (60 Years or Older)	3,510	33.12%	11,254	29.07%	3,468	40.64%	4,443	41.82%	22,675	33.12% of Persons
Members of a racial or ethnic minority group	4,728	44.61%	6,737	17.40%	1,283	15.04%	2,286	21.52%	15,034	21.96% of Persons
Individuals in rural areas	10,599	100.00%	28,093	72.57%	8,533	100.0%	10,625	100.00%	57,850	84.49% of Persons
Incarcerated individuals	-	0.00%	28	0.07%	0		162	1.5%	190	0.28% of Persons
Families living at, or below, 150% of Federal poverty level	1,070	37.97%	1,784	17.49%	358	17.84%	649	22.19%	3,861	21.51% of Families
Individuals with disabilities	1,672	15.78%	6,646	17.17%	1,540	18.05%	1,844	17.36%	11,702	17.09% of Persons
Military veterans	645	7.50%	3,971	13.10%	844	11.90%	1,031	11.40%	6,491	11.77% of Persons Over Age 18
Households with language barriers	27	0.59%	11	0.07%	1	0.03%	0	0.00%	39	0.14% of Households

Bay Aging Region
General Population & Housing Data
and
Covered Populations Data
by County

	Accomack County	Essex County	Gloucester County	King George County	Lancaster County	Mathews County	Middlesex County	Northampton County
Total Persons	33,413	10,599	38,711	26,723	10,919	8,533	10,625	12,282
Total Households	14,302	4,572	15,484	9,548	5,211	3,762	4,751	5,457
Aging Individuals (60 Years of Older)	11,278	3,510	11,254	5,418	5,293	3,468	4,443	4,693
Members of a racial or ethnic minority group	13,588	4,728	6,737	8,014	3,478	1,283	2,286	5,350
Individuals in rural areas	30,190	10,599	28,093	26,723	10,919	8,533	10,625	12,282
Incarcerated Individuals	122	-	28	0	18	0	162	58
Families living at, or below, 150% of Federal poverty level	4,236	1,070	1,784	1,261	865	358	649	1,148
Individuals with disabilities	4,928	1,672	6,646	2,176	1,840	1,540	1,844	2,366
Military veterans	2,553	645	3,971	3,107	1,149	844	1,031	979
Households with language barriers	299	27	11	84	54	1	0	11
	17.49%	5.55%	20.28%	13.99%	5.72%	4.47%	5.56%	6.43%
	17.91%	5.72%	19.39%	11.95%	6.52%	4.71%	5.95%	6.83%
	33.75%	33.12%	29.07%	20.27%	48.48%	40.64%	41.82%	38.21%
	40.40%	44.61%	17.40%	29.99%	31.85%	15.04%	21.52%	43.56%
	90.35%	100.00%	72.57%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
	0.37%	0.00%	0.07%	0.00%	0.16%	0.00%	1.5%	0.47%
	44.92%	37.97%	17.49%	17.97%	29.64%	17.84%	22.19%	21.04%
	15%	15.78%	17.17%	8.14%	16.85%	18.05%	17.36%	19.26%
	9.70%	7.50%	13.10%	15.90%	12.60%	11.90%	11.40%	7.97%
	2.10%	0.59%	0.07%	0.88%	1.04%	0.03%	0.00%	0.20%

	Northumberland County	Richmond County	Westmoreland County	Bay Aging Regional Total	
11,839	6.20%	8,923	18,477	191,044	100.00% of Persons
5,573	6.98%	3,173	8,037	79,870	100.00% of Households
5,662	47.82%	2,457	6,524	64,000	33.50% of Persons
3,529	29.31%	3,359	6,719	59,071	30.92% of Persons
11,839	100.0%	8,923	14,502	173,228	90.67% of Persons
0	0.00%	1,398	0	1,786	0.93% of Persons
1,069	33.57%	610	2,170	15,220	30.32% of Families
1,886	15.93%	1,053	2,964	28,915	15.14% of Persons
1,123	11.10%	472	1,862	17,736	9.80% of Persons over Age 18
0	0.00%	15	170	672	0.84% of Households

**Bay Aging Region
Regional Digital Opportunity
List of Organizations**

Bay Aging Region
Regional Digital Opportunity Plan
Stakeholder Engagement Tracker

Regional Digital Opportunity Plan: Stakeholder Engagement Tracker

Engagement Title/Description	Engagement Date	Engagement Type	Engagement Location	Target Audience	Target Audience Location	Target Audience County	if Engaged	Covered Populations Reached	Notes
Include a brief title of the engagement	Enter the date or M/M/DD/YYYY	Include the type of stakeholder engagement (e.g., survey, focus group, listening session, etc.)	(If applicable, please include the physical address of where the engagement took place)	Who was the engagement for? (Example: Covered Population, Regional Listening Session, etc.)	Is this local, regional, or statewide engagement?	(If available, indicate which counties will be represented by this engagement)	How many people were engaged? (Example: # of people who attended the event, completed the survey, etc.)	Which covered populations did you engage?	Add notes of what was discussed and any key themes or feedback (optional)
(Example: Community Outreach Listening Session #1)								<input type="checkbox"/> Individuals who live in covered households <input type="checkbox"/> Aging Individuals <input type="checkbox"/> Incarcerated Individuals <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals with disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals with a language barrier <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals who primarily reside in a rural area	
Community Outreach Surveys	6/22/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Essex	5 to 10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Gloucester	5 to 10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	King George	5 to 10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	King George	5 to 10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Lincolnshire	15	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Mathews	5 to 10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Mathews	50	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Middlesex	5 to 10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Northumberland	10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Richmond	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Westmoreland	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Survey	Internet	Email with Link to Survey	Regional	Accomack	15 to 20	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Survey	Internet	Email with Link to Survey	Regional	Northampton	15 to 20	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Survey	Paper Surveys, Delivered to Apartment Coordinators at 8 - Age 62+ Apartment Complexes	Covered Populations	Local	Gloucester	Up to 64	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Survey	Survey	Covered Populations	Local	Lincolnshire	Up to 40	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Survey	Survey	Covered Populations	Local	Middlesex	Up to 40	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Community Outreach Surveys	6/27/2023	Survey	Survey	Covered Populations	Local	Westmoreland	Up to 72	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Complete Survey
Listen Session Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Essex	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Listen Session Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Gloucester	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Listen Session Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	King George	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Listen Session Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Lincolnshire	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Listen Session Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Mathews	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Listen Session Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Mathews	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Listen Session Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Middlesex	10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Listen Session Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Northumberland	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Listen Session Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Northumberland	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Listen Session Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Richmond	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Listen Session Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Westmoreland	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Listen Session Invitation	7/7/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Accomack	10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Listen Session Invitation	7/7/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Northampton	10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Reminder Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Essex	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Reminder Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Gloucester	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Reminder Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	King George	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Reminder Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Lincolnshire	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Reminder Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Mathews	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Reminder Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Mathews	10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Reminder Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Middlesex	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Reminder Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Northumberland	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Reminder Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Richmond	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Reminder Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Westmoreland	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Reminder Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Accomack	10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Reminder Invitation	7/6/2023	Email	Internet	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Northampton	10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Covered Population Representatives Invited to Listening Session
Virtual Listening Session	7/12/2023	Listening Session (Virtual)	Virtual	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Accomack	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Attendance at Listening Session
Virtual Listening Session	7/12/2023	Listening Session (Virtual)	Virtual	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Gloucester	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Attendance at Listening Session
Virtual Listening Session	7/12/2023	Listening Session (Virtual)	Virtual	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	King George	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Attendance at Listening Session
Virtual Listening Session	7/12/2023	Listening Session (Virtual)	Virtual	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	King George	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Attendance at Listening Session
Virtual Listening Session	7/12/2023	Listening Session (Virtual)	Virtual	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Lincolnshire	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Attendance at Listening Session
Virtual Listening Session	7/12/2023	Listening Session (Virtual)	Virtual	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Mathews	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Attendance at Listening Session
Virtual Listening Session	7/12/2023	Listening Session (Virtual)	Virtual	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Mathews	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Attendance at Listening Session
Virtual Listening Session	7/12/2023	Listening Session (Virtual)	Virtual	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Middlesex	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Attendance at Listening Session
Virtual Listening Session	7/12/2023	Listening Session (Virtual)	Virtual	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Northumberland	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Attendance at Listening Session
Virtual Listening Session	7/12/2023	Listening Session (Virtual)	Virtual	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Northumberland	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Attendance at Listening Session
Virtual Listening Session	7/12/2023	Listening Session (Virtual)	Virtual	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Richmond	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Attendance at Listening Session
Virtual Listening Session	7/12/2023	Listening Session (Virtual)	Virtual	Covered Population Representatives	Regional	Westmoreland	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results Based on Attendance at Listening Session

