

PRESS RELEASE

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New Mexico Pulls Ahead in Identifying Unserved and Underserved Broadband Locations

Santa Fe, NM – Public officials have acknowledged inaccuracies in the initial Federal Communications Commission's 2023 national broadband map. In many areas across the country the coverage in rural and tribal areas was vastly overstated. However, a robust challenge process corrected some of those flaws in New Mexico.

New Mexico was one of the leaders with 20,456 locations to be added to FCC's national broadband map. This was a good improvement when accounting for population. With the help of challenges, the FCC now recognizes an additional 9,136 unserved locations in New Mexico for a total of 115,486 unserved and at least 20 percent unserved or underserved locations in New Mexico.

"The FCC's dataset of broadband serviceable locations was missing thousands of eligible serviceable locations," said Kelly Schlegel OBAE Director. "This could have cost millions in the funding allocation- I'm glad we were able to work with the FCC to identify 20,456 locations and 9,136 additional unserved locations. We are now in the best position to achieve the governor's mission of making New Mexico the most connected State."

The map's data will determine the allocation of the \$42.45 billion Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment program, which is scheduled to be announced by June 30, 2023.

Check the National Broadband map to see what services are available in your area.