

# Office of Broadband Strategic Planning

Wednesday, January 6, 2021  
8:30 A.M. Mountain Standard Time

## Prepared for:

Wisconsin Governor's Taskforce on Broadband

## Presented by:

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NM DEPARTMENT OF

INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGY



# Office of Broadband's Vision

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*For all New Mexicans to have access to affordable, reliable, and scalable high-speed Internet statewide.*

# Overview: NM Office of Broadband

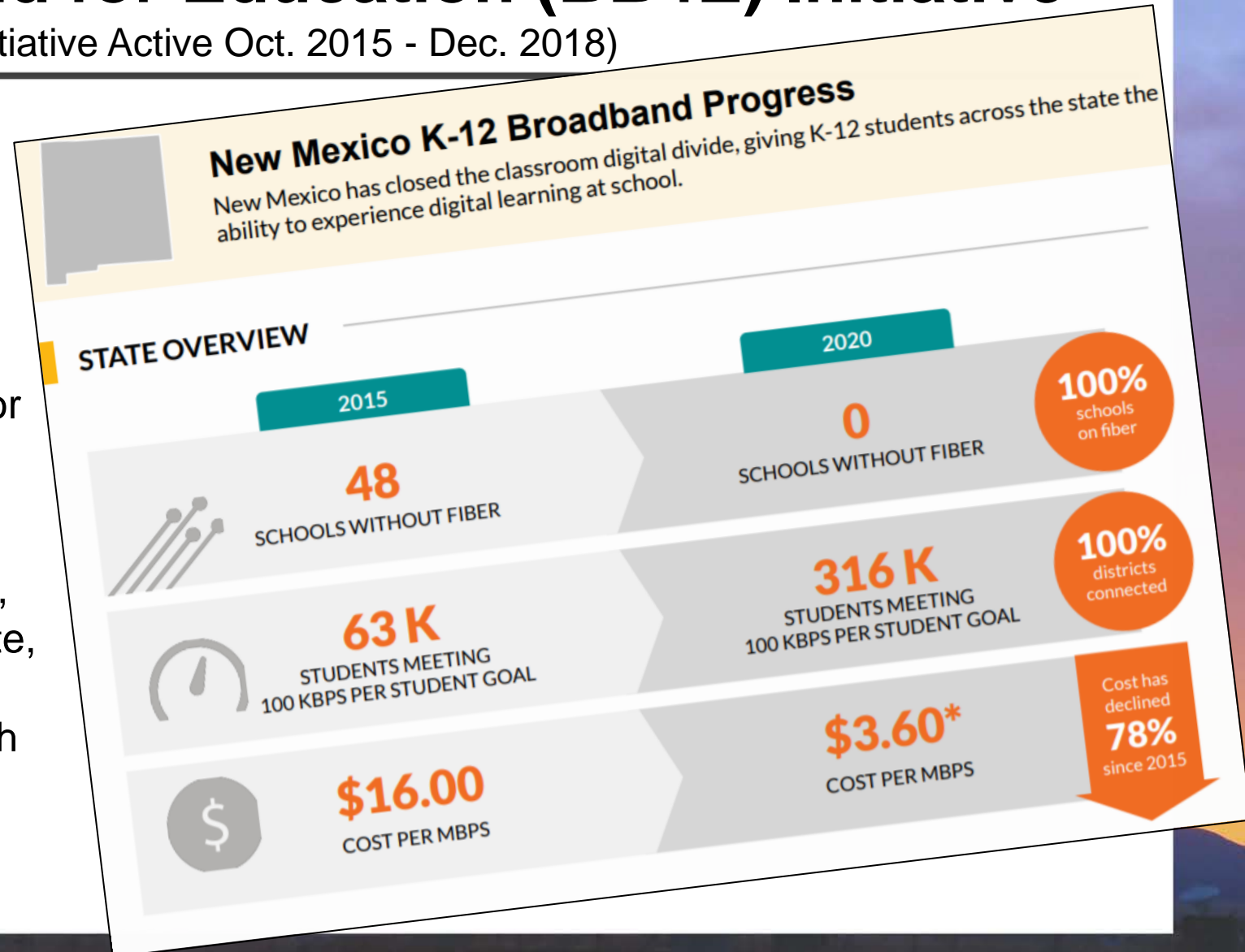
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- Established in 2016 by the Department of IT In Response to Increasing Demands for Support
  - NM is One of the Most Rural States in the Nation
- Home of the Original NM Broadband Program (2011-2016)
- Maintain a Strong Geospatial Framework for Stakeholders
- Responsible for Millions in Broadband Funding
- Completed a Statewide Rural Broadband Assessment and Updated the State Broadband Strategic Plan in June 2020
- Led the Successful Broadband for Education Initiative (2015-2018)

# Governor's Broadband for Education (BB4E) Initiative

Managed by the Office of Broadband (Initiative Active Oct. 2015 - Dec. 2018)

- Started with a Statewide Public School Broadband Assessment--- Identifying Needs, Solutions, and Measurable Metrics
- Governor Established a Memorandum of Understanding for Cross-Agency Collaboration
- Support Strategy:
  - Massive Outreach, Education, Technical, Procurement, E-rate, and Other Support
  - \$10M per Year for State Match
  - Price Transparency Key to Lowering the Cost of Internet Access Services Over Time



# COVID-19 Pandemic Broadband Support

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Immediately Partnered with the NM Public Education Department and the NM Indian Affairs Department to:

- Form a Team Dedicated to Finding Solutions for Residential Students
- Map >500 Public Wi-Fi Hot Spots and Help Coordinate More
- Distribute Hundreds and Thousands of Devices to Tribal Entities Including 700 Hot Spots for Residents of the Navajo Nation
- Obtain 51,708 Internet Service Provider Quotes for Quick-to-Implement Solutions Among ~19,000 Students Residing in Areas Unserved by Broadband with a Portal for Public Schools/Districts to Shop Quotes
- Looking at Piloting Newer Technologies to Reach the Most Rural Addresses

# Beginning Rural Broadband Strategy

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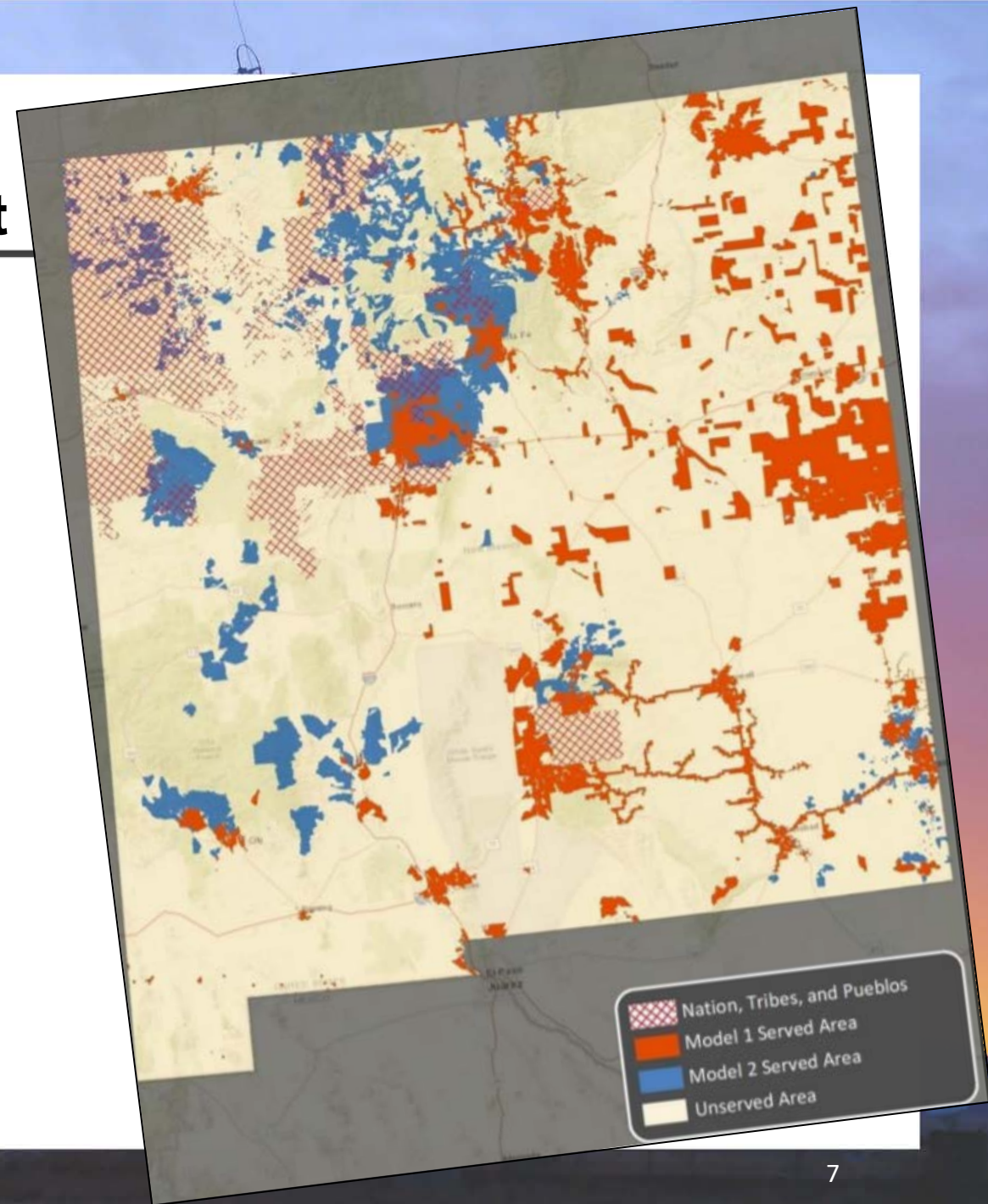
- DoIT Received a \$10M Capital Outlay Appropriation in 2019 (SB280) for the Expansion of Rural Broadband
  - Step 1: \*Perform a Statewide Rural Broadband Assessment
    - To Identify Current-Day Broadband Gaps, Infrastructure, and Potential Solutions Following Industry Best Practices
  - Step 2: \*Update the State Broadband Strategic Plan
    - Using the Results of the Assessment (via Step 1)
  - Step 3: Gain Leadership Support for Proposed Strategy
  - Step 4: Implement the Updated State Broadband Strategic Plan

\*Completed June 2020

# State Broadband Strategic Plan and Rural Broadband Assessment Report

Click Here to View/Download Report:

[https://www.doit.state.nm.us/broadband/reports/nmbbp\\_strategic20200616Rev2Final.pdf](https://www.doit.state.nm.us/broadband/reports/nmbbp_strategic20200616Rev2Final.pdf)



# Rural Broadband Assessment (June 2020)

Report: [https://www.doit.state.nm.us/broadband/reports/nmbbp\\_strategic20200616Rev2Final.pdf](https://www.doit.state.nm.us/broadband/reports/nmbbp_strategic20200616Rev2Final.pdf)

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## Findings:

- Between 13% and 20% of NM Residents and Businesses are Considered Unserved by Broadband
- Estimated Cost to Close Gaps is Between \$1B and \$5B
- Federal Broadband Infrastructure Funding is Required in NM

## Recommendations:

- Provide Technical Planning & Grant Writing Assistance
- Create a Grant Program
- Obtain Operational Funding, More Staff, and Legislation





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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October 08, 2020

**New Mexico Department of Information Technology Awarded  
\$1.5 Million in CARES Act Recovery Funding**

***NM DoIT will leverage funding to expand access to broadband services across  
New Mexico***

**SANTA FE, N.M.—** The U.S. Department of Commerce recently announced the Department's Economic Development Administration is awarding a \$1.5 million CARES Act Recovery Assistance grant to the New Mexico Department of Information Technology (DoIT). The funding will be leveraged to provide technical assistance for eligible local, tribal, and other government entities, private sector companies, and/or utility cooperatives seeking to expand broadband infrastructure and services in response to the critical need for internet access during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

"Where there is broadband, there is opportunity; a chance for better education, online work, access to healthcare, and improved economic prospects. Broadband accelerates recovery and resilience. It is critical infrastructure. This grant opportunity will help make that a reality for rural New Mexico," said Cabinet Secretary and State CIO John L. Salazar.

The DoIT's Office of Broadband will use this funding to develop a new Broadband Technical Assistance Program. It will build upon New Mexico's work over the last decade to improve broadband in rural New Mexico. The program will help support the creation of construction jobs, close the student access gap and develop local infrastructure projects.

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- Report Leveraged Machine Learning to Compensate for Serious Federal Mapping Deficiencies
- State is Pursuing “Model 2 Hybrid” Solution from Report
  - Most Affordable Option (up to \$1B)
  - Leverages Existing Infrastructure
  - Project Areas and Costs Identified
    - Using Fiber in High-Density Areas, Fixed Wireless Outside Clusters, and Satellite/Emerging Solutions in Low-Density Areas
  - Supporting Procurement Underway

# Office of Broadband Support Methodology

*With a Focus on  
Leveraging Federal  
Funds*



Digital Equity



Outreach and Capacity Building



Infrastructure/Upgrade Planning Support



Technical Assistance



Broadband Funding Guidance



Grant Writing Assistance



Mapping Resources

# Questions?

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NM Broadband Program Map: <https://nmbbmapping.org/>

