



Background

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) provides quarterly statutory reports to Congress on the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). This report covers activities from April 1 – June 30, 2019. Previous reports are available on our website at www2.ntia.doc.gov.

Program Progress

In 2010, NTIA invested \$4 billion in 233 BTOP projects. As of June 30, 2019, only two BTOP infrastructure projects remained in active status: Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System Authority (LA-RICS) and the Executive Office of the State of Mississippi (Mississippi). All remaining projects completed their project activities.

Monitoring and Grants Administration

NTIA continues to protect taxpayer investments by proactively engaging with these grant recipients to monitor project activities and grant compliance. Each quarter, the active BTOP recipients also report their financial and project performance. NTIA analyzes these reports closely to monitor progress and compliance.

LA-RICS Update

◆ **Network operations** – AT&T, FirstNet’s private partner, fully transitioned 36 Long-Term Evolution (LTE) sites into its network to integrate them into the National Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN). This transfer represents about 50% of the 75 LTE sites. LA-RICS now expects that AT&T will transition the remaining sites into the NPSBN before December 31, 2019.

◆ **Planning** – LA-RICS received approval to construct up to 26 additional sites for inclusion in the NPSBN. During the second quarter of 2019, LA-RICS received a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) from NTIA on 15 of the 23 sites. LA-RICS expects that construction will commence in September 2019 at these locations. LA-RICS continues to work with AT&T to identify and assess the remaining sites.

Mississippi Update

- ◆ **Procurement** – The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) project team initiated procurement for the communications system and equipment for the Public Safety Communications Center.
- ◆ **Construction** – UMMC continued with construction activities of the Public Safety Communications Center located in Jackson, Miss. Specifically, the work involved completing the site preparation efforts, foundation work for the building and utility installation.
- ◆ **Equipment installations** – Approximately 370 new wireless miles have been installed. The Mississippi Wireless Commission (WCC) continues testing and troubleshooting with its primary vendor prior to issuing the final customer acceptance for the work.



Broadband Economic Impacts

Find out about the economic and social impacts of the \$4 billion BTOP program: BTOP Economic and Social Impact Study <http://go.usa.gov/3fTb4>.



How can NTIA help now?

NTIA’s BroadbandUSA program promotes innovation and economic growth by supporting efforts to expand broadband connectivity and meaningful use for all Americans. BroadbandUSA works with stakeholders from local and state government, federal agencies, non-profits and industry to:

- ◆ **Educate:** Arm stakeholders and broadband leaders with **solution-neutral guides and tools** that help them make the right decisions for their broadband initiatives.
- ◆ **Convene:** Lead regional workshops and events to **advance the conversation** and **share lessons learned** regarding broadband connectivity and digital inclusion.
- ◆ **Assist:** Provide **technical assistance** to communities and partners seeking **neutral advice** and support for their broadband projects.



Contact Information

Please contact BroadbandUSA at broadbandusa@ntia.gov, if you would like us to help someone in your state with technical assistance or discuss other ways BroadbandUSA can help.



Next Report

The next quarterly report to Congress will cover July 1 – September 30, 2019.



Sharing Economy

As of 2017, a **third of Internet users** reported selling goods or requesting or offering services from others through online platforms such as ride-sharing. ([NTIA Internet Use Survey](#))



Education

Users of a reduced cost service reported that **92% of children use the internet**, compared to 74% of the control group ([Technology Policy Institute Reaching the Unconnected, 2019](#))



Internet Access

In 2017, **64% of Americans used a smartphone**, compared with 53% in 2015, and tablet use increased to 32% from 29% during the same period. ([NTIA: New Data Show Substantial Gains and Evolution in Internet Use](#))

