



GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

CONNECTING FAMILIES AND BUSINESSES TO
HIGH-SPEED INTERNET

Governor Whitmer believes every family and business in Michigan deserves access to a reliable, affordable high-speed internet connection that meets their needs. She wants to close Michigan's digital divide by expanding broadband, driving down costs, and boosting digital literacy. High-speed internet enables communities to develop and attract jobs and businesses. It expands economic opportunity for families, enhances educational experiences for students, and allows for remote access to key health care services. The Governor launched the Connecting Michigan Task Force and the Michigan High-Speed Internet Office to coordinate the state's efforts. Together, these programs have leveraged millions in state and federal funds to give families and businesses access to high-speed internet.

"In today's society, the fastest way to create an even playing field for all is access to high-speed internet. High-speed internet projects, along with additional infrastructure initiatives we are undertaking, will provide underserved communities in Michigan with high-speed internet service. This critical service is no longer a luxury but is a necessity that allows every Michigander to get a quality education and compete in the global economy."

- Governor Gretchen Whitmer

Increasing high-speed internet for homes and businesses

- Provided 23,048 homes, businesses, and community anchor institutions like schools and libraries high-speed internet access since taking office.
- Set a [state goal](#) to provide 100% access to high-speed internet and 95% adoption by households during the next five years.
- Provided high-speed internet access to [more than 18,000 homes and businesses](#), through the Connecting Michigan Communities Grant Program.
- Leveraged over \$700 million in federal funding and signed the [Building Michigan Together Plan](#) that invested \$249 million to connect more families and small businesses to fast, reliable high-speed internet that meets their needs.
- Established the [Office of Rural Development](#) to focus on growing rural economies including through collaborations with the Michigan High-Speed Internet Office to boost high-speed internet connectivity.
- Mapped [high-speed internet access in all 83 counties](#), laying the foundation for an investment of over \$1.5 billion in federal broadband funds over the next 5 years.

Coordinating state government action on high-speed internet

- Appointed a [Chief Connectivity Officer](#) to lead the state's broadband efforts and leverage funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). [Created the Michigan High-Speed Internet Office](#) and the [Connecting Michigan Task Force](#) to coordinate the state's high-speed internet work and align the work with economic development opportunities.
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- Signed the [Broadband Expansion Act of Michigan](#), codifying the Connecting Michigan Communities Grant Program, a grant program to fill internet access gaps in underserved communities.
- Signed an [executive directive](#) to ensure that funding for high-speed internet infrastructure from the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) is spent and deployed effectively.