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# NTIA Partners with 8 States on Improvements to Broadband Availability Map

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Today, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced that it is collaborating with eight states to broaden and update the national broadband availability map. The eight states – California, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, and West Virginia – will contribute data and other inputs to the map.

"In order to ensure that all Americans have access to broadband, we need a more precise picture of the current services and infrastructure that are available," said David Redl, Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information and NTIA Administrator. "NTIA's work on an updated map, in partnership with these initial states, will help policymakers around the country make better decisions as they devise broadband expansion plans."

**The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018** directed NTIA to update the national broadband availability map using its previously developed state partnerships. The initial eight state partners were chosen because they reflect geographic diversity, participate in NTIA's State Broadband Leaders Network, have active state broadband plans or programs, and were willing to contribute data that can be combined with nationwide data sources to give policymakers a deeper understanding of broadband availability.

NTIA expects to seek participation from additional states, territories and federally recognized tribes that have broadband programs or related data-collection efforts. The initial map will include available nationwide data for every state combined with state-level data from the eight states.