



## DIGITAL DIVIDE



### Study: Broadband Reduces Unemployment, Especially in Rural Areas

One of the key benefits often cited for investment in broadband connectivity is that it reduces unemployment. While that seems likely, it is important to test every hypothesis, and new research suggests that, indeed, broadband reduces unemployment and that the impact is especially felt in rural areas.

### It only takes three seconds...

“Statistics suggest the average human being falls for a social engineering attack about four times — with training — before they become ‘inoculated’ against that type of attack,” “Helpful people are a real target,” said David Trepp, IT assurance partner at BPM.

### Digital gap between rural and non-rural America persists

Rural Americans have made large gains in adopting digital technology over the past decade, but they generally remain less likely than urban or suburban adults to have home broadband or own a smartphone.

### Apartment Renter Broadband Study: Almost Half Would Pay Higher Rent to Get Fiber

According to new apartment renter broadband study, renters see high-speed internet being as essential as a dishwasher for their homes. Nearly 40% of renters said both were “must haves,” outranking covered parking (cited by 18% of respondents) and a pool (just under 15%).

### FCC Considering Overall USF Cap, Impacting Rural Broadband, Healthcare, Schools, Low-Income Program

The FCC has adopted a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) that could result in the commission adopting an overall cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF) program. That program is comprised of four separate sub-programs – high-cost (broadband/voice), Lifeline (low-income), E-Rate (schools and libraries) and rural healthcare.

### Password Spraying Fells Citrix. Are We Next?

Did Iranian hackers steal six terabytes of sensitive documents from Citrix, a company that does business with the FBI, the US military, American government agencies, and many US corporations?

## Broadband Roundup: Georgia, Alabama, and Colorado

Georgia plan will impact schools, hospitals, farmers, and more. Alabama bills broaden state broadband support. Fiber to the home launching in Loveland.

## A Single Tweet Saw One Woman's Bank Account Entirely Wiped Out

Dean Dunham at The Mirror in the UK reported: "Social media is often disgruntled customers first port of call when they want to make a complaint about goods or services these days, but after hearing Andrea's story this week I would urge caution when doing this.

## NTIA Releases Broadband Database

NTIA, the President's chief communications policy advisor, has released a searchable database of federal broadband grant, loan and other programs that provide resources for federal funding and permitting information.

## 5G Is Still in Its Infancy

Huzzah! The wireless industry has finally delivered on years of promises and hype and is finally offering the first super-fast 5G networks. Sort of.

## Wi-Fi in the "White Space"

Unused TV spectrum offers libraries potential for rural broadband.

## Iowa Program Could Provide Access to Federal Broadband Funds

Gov. Kim Reynolds announced the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative, which passed in the most recent Legislative session, could help communities get one step closer to being eligible for the ReConnect funds.

## Are Cable Networks Ready for Emerging VR?

Virtual reality, while not a mainstream technology as of yet, still holds promise for emerging applications like patient management and immersive gaming.

## Moody's identifies 'growing' cyber threat on college campuses

Universities continue to be "highly vulnerable" to cyberattacks, but those most at risk also tend to have the financial resources to protect themselves,

## Tapping Veterans' Unique Skillset to Fill the Cybersecurity Talent Pool

One of the great untapped resources that has been seriously underappreciated by the cybersecurity industry is the number of veterans transitioning into public life from today's highly digital military.



**BROADBAND STRONG:** Delivering **FLEXIBLE** broadband and **FAST** experiences to meet the growing broadband needs of education, government, public safety, and healthcare in Iowa.