

CONNECTED ASSESSMENT



The Connected assessment framework is broken into 3 areas:
ACCESS, ADOPTION, & USE.

Each area has a maximum of 40 points. To achieve Connected Certification, the community must have a minimum of 32 points in each section and 100 points out of 120 points overall.

The **ACCESS** focus area checks to see whether the broadband and technology foundation exists for a community. The criteria within the ACCESS focus area endeavors to identify gaps that could affect a local community broadband ecosystem including: last and middle mile issues, cost issues, and competition issues. As noted in the National Broadband Plan, broadband ACCESS “is a foundation for economic growth, job creation, global competitiveness and a better way of life.”

Broadband **ADOPTION** is important for consumers, institutions, and communities alike to take the next step in fully using broadband appropriately. The ADOPTION component of the Connected Assessment seeks to ensure the ability of all individuals to access and use broadband.

Broadband **USE** is the most important component of ACCESS, ADOPTION, and USE because it is where the value of broadband can finally be realized. However, without ACCESS to broadband and ADOPTION of broadband, meaningful USE of broadband would not be possible. As defined by the National Broadband Plan, meaningful USE of broadband includes those areas of economic opportunity, education, government, and healthcare where values to individuals, organizations, and communities can be realized.

ANALYSIS OF CONNECTED ASSESSMENT

The Community Technology Scorecard provides a summary of the state’s Connected Assessment. The Connected Assessment’s criteria are reflective of the recommendations made by the Federal Communications Commission’s National Broadband Plan. Lower scores indicate weaknesses in the community’s broadband ecosystem but do not necessarily signify a lack of service.

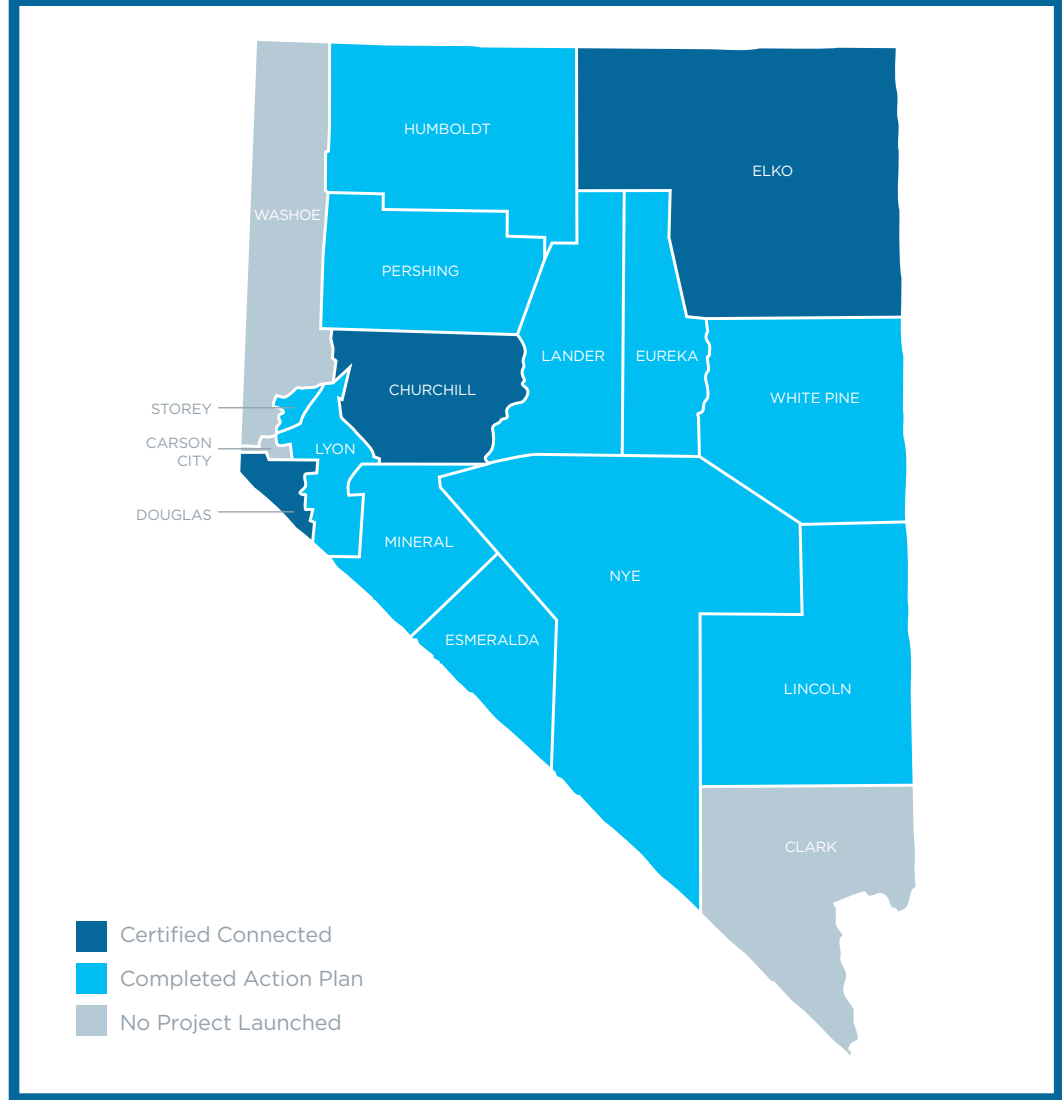
MASTER CONNECTED COMMUNITY SCORECARD

COUNTY NAME	ACCESS SCORE	ADOPTION SCORE	USE SCORE	TOTAL
Churchill County	36	32	40	108
Douglas County	35	34	40	109
Elko County	32	40	33	105
Esmeralda County	16	10	15	41
Eureka County	20	26	26	72
Humboldt County	22	32	30	84
Lander County	27	24	39	90
Lincoln County	30	34	37	101
Lyon County	34	28	23	85
Mineral County	21	34	28	83
Nye County	27	30	39	96
Pershing County	17	28	33	78
Storey County	17	32	39	88
White Pine County	16	02	39	57

As a result of the Connected Community Engagement Program three Nevada counties achieved Certification: Churchill, Douglas, and Elko.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STATUS





ACCESS SCORE EXPLANATION

Broadband Availability – is measured by analyzing provider availability of at least 3 Mbps download and 768 Kbps upload broadband service gathered by Connected Nation’s broadband mapping program. In communities that may have broadband data missing, community teams were able to improve the quality of data to ensure all providers are included.

Broadband Speed – is measured by analyzing the speed tiers available within a community. Connected Nation will analyze broadband data submitted through its broadband mapping program. Specifically, Connected Nation will break down the coverage by the highest speed tier with at least 75% of households covered. In communities that may have broadband data missing, community teams were able to improve the quality of data to ensure all providers are included.

Broadband Competition – is measured by analyzing the number of broadband providers available in a particular community and the percentage of that community’s residents with more than one broadband provider available. Connected Nation performed this analysis by reviewing the data collected through the broadband mapping program. In communities that may have broadband data missing, community teams were able to improve the quality of data to ensure all providers are included.

Middle Mile Access – is measured based on a community’s availability to fiber. Three aspects of availability exist: proximity to fiber middle mile points of presence (POPs), number of fiber middle mile providers available, and available bandwidth. Data was collected by the community in coordination with Connected Nation.

Mobile Broadband Availability – is measured by analyzing provider availability of mobile broadband service gathered by Connected Nation’s broadband mapping program. In communities that may have mobile broadband data missing, community teams were able to improve the quality of data to ensure all providers are included.



ADOPTION SCORE EXPLANATION

Digital Literacy – is measured by first identifying all digital literacy programs in the community. Once the programs are determined, a calculation of program graduates will be made on a per capita basis. A digital literacy program includes any digital literacy course offered for free or at very low cost through a library, seniors center, community college, K-12 school, or other group serving the local community. A graduate is a person who has completed the curriculum offered by any organization within the community. The duration of individual courses may vary.

Public Computer Centers – is measured based on the number of hours computers are available each week per 1,000 low-income residents. Available computer hours is calculated by taking the overall number of computers multiplied by the number of hours open to a community during the course of the week.

Broadband Awareness – is measured based on the percentage of the population reached. All community broadband awareness programs are first identified, and then each program’s community reach is compiled and combined with other campaigns.

Vulnerable Population Focus – A community tallies each program or ability within the community to encourage technology adoption among vulnerable groups. Methods of focusing on vulnerable groups may vary, but explicitly encourage technology use among vulnerable groups. Example opportunities include offering online GED classes, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, video-based applications for the deaf, homework assistance for students, and job-finding assistance. Communities receive points for each group on which they focus. Groups may vary by community, but include low-income, minority, senior, children, etc.



USE SCORE EXPLANATION

Economic Opportunity – A community receives one point per basic use of broadband and two points per advanced use of broadband. Categories within economic opportunity include: economic development, business development, tourism, and agriculture.

Education – A community receives one point per basic use of broadband and two points per advanced use of broadband. Categories within education include K-12, higher education, and libraries.

Government – A community receives one point per basic use of broadband and two points per advanced use of broadband. Categories within government include general government, public safety, energy, and the environment.

Healthcare – A community receives one point per basic use of broadband and two points per advanced use of broadband. Entities within healthcare can include, but are not limited to, hospitals, medical and dental clinics, health departments, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and pharmacies.

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Over the life of the project and through data gathering at the local level, the following were identified:

14 Engaged Communities Planning	177 Team Members	77 Public Computing Centers	42 Digital Literacy Programs	56 Broadband Awareness Programs	48 Vulnerable Population Programs
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