

Michigan High-Speed Internet Office – Digital Equity Data for Region 7

REGIONAL DATA



	Statewide	Region 7	Difference
+ Affordability is most important	29.47%	23.08%	-6.4
+ Availability is most important	77.80%	82%	4.2
+ Device Cost is most important	4.29%	2.5%	-1.8
+ Digital Skills are most important	7.07%	7.14%	0.1
+ Other Barrier is most important	6.12%	6.90%	-0.7
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+ Importance of Affordability	3.28	3.16	-0.12
+ Importance of Availability	3.55	3.55	0
+ Importance of Device Cost	2.12	2.02	-0.10
+ Importance of Digital Skills	2.31	2.19	-0.12

Note: Percentages will not add up to 100% because some selected more than 1 option as “most important.” “Importance of” for the 4 factors used a 4-point scale from “4: Very Important” to “1: Not at all important” The number is an average of all responses.

MIHI aims to close the digital divide by 2030. As part of the Digital Equity Plan, MIHI created 5 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to track the progress toward closing the divide. MIHI will consider the divide closed and its mission successful when all five scores are at zero (0). MIHI will:

- **Create an Affordability Score** that takes 2 evidence-based ratios measuring affordability and counts the number of households who lost internet due to difficulty paying for an internet subscription.
- **Create a Digital Government Accessibility Score** that compares how likely each covered population is to access government services online as compared to how likely they are to use telehealth, online banking, or online consumer services.
- **Create a Digital Participation Score** that tracks how covered population in each region that struggles to use computers or internet devices and a comparison of tasks completed online between covered populations and statewide averages.
- **Develop a Digital Security Score** that tracks the promotion of digital inclusion for targeted populations, the impact of cybersecurity concerns, and the lack of internet use due to cybersecurity related concerns.
- **Create a Device Distress Score** for each covered population in each region – looking at the percent of homes with a lack of sufficient devices to suit their needs measured over time.

Michigan's Digital Equity Vision 5 Goals and Activities

Goal	Strategy
Ensure all Michiganders have access to affordable, reliable high-speed internet connection at their home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate and align efforts between Digital Equity Act planned activities with BEAD planned activities • Partner with communities, Tribal governments, and state agencies to align similar goals and timelines for infrastructure deployment and digital equity initiatives
Attract workers and employers to Michigan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate, partner, and support existing workforce development strategies and programs housed within the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity and other relevant state agencies
Improve educational attainment including barrier removal for credentialed workers and in post-secondary achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate and partner with Michigan Department of Education to elevate online learning opportunities and additional pathways to digital skills development for adults
Improve overall health outcomes, particularly with improvement in rural areas and in underrepresented populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate and collaborate with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to monitor health outcomes pre- and post-deployment of broadband projects in rural and underrepresented communities
Educate Michiganders about the online services available to them as a citizen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate and collaborate with the Michigan Department of State to provide trainings to Michiganders about their digital citizenship

Definitions:

- **Affordability:** Internet service plans available that meet the needs of household and fit within monthly budget
- **Availability:** Internet service providers and speeds available that meet household needs
- **Covered Populations:** Individuals who live in covered households:
 - Aging individuals (60 and above).
 - Incarcerated individuals, other than individuals who are incarcerated in a Federal correctional facility.
 - Veterans.
 - Individuals with disabilities.
 - Individuals with a language barrier, including individuals who are English learners; and have low levels of literacy.
 - Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group.
 - Individuals who primarily reside in a rural area.
- **Devices:** Access to internet enabled devices
- **High-Speed Internet** Speeds of 100Mbps download/20Mbps upload
- **Reliable Broadband:** (i) fiber-optic technology; (ii) Cable Modem/ Hybrid fiber-coaxial technology; (iii) digital subscriber line (DSL) technology; or (iv) terrestrial fixed wireless technology utilizing entirely licensed spectrum or using a hybrid of licensed and unlicensed spectrum technology with speeds of 100Mbps download/20Mbps upload.
- **Tech Savvy:** Skills needed to use internet or internet enabled devices.

Want to look at the entire Digital Equity Plan? Visit michigan.gov/mihi or [click on this link.](#)

Want to learn more about BEAD? [Click this link.](#)