Since 2015 the state of Wyoming has delivered 200 kbps to every student, double the minimum recommended bandwidth of 100 kbps per student, at no cost to any district.

“Wyoming’s primary goal in this effort is to assure every student in our state has access to a first class education. As a result, we have deployed the best possible broadband to every school district in Wyoming. We are among the best in the nation because we have the highest aspirations for our students and we will continue to invest in the infrastructure necessary to be sure our districts have what they need in order to deliver connectivity in every classroom.”

Governor Mead

92,642

total students in 48 school districts exceed the minimum recommended bandwidth goal.

Closing the K-12 Connectivity Gap

Wyoming already did its part in connecting 100% of its students!

All 92,642 students in 48 districts continue to have the minimum recommended bandwidth of 100 kbps per student.

Prepare Wyoming students for their future

Nationwide, 22% of districts meet the long-term connectivity goal of 1 Mbps per student. Having met the 100 kbps per student goal, and with bandwidth needs growing 50% year over year, consider how you can prepare for the future.

FIBER INFRASTRUCTURE

260 schools have fiber infrastructure

33 schools still need fiber with 85% in rural and small town communities

WI-FI FUNDS

$14.4 million was made available for Wi-Fi upgrades in all districts

$6.1 million in Wi-Fi funds still available for 44 school districts

BROADBAND COSTS

3 districts meet benchmark prices for broadband services

42 school districts do not meet national benchmark prices for broadband services

STATE CONNECTIVITY SNAPSHOT 2017

Source: USAC Form 471 2017/2018 E-rate applications, n=45 of 48 school districts, n=288 of 293 schools, n=91,493 of 92,642 students
About the Metrics

TOTAL STUDENTS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS CONNECTED

This metric is based on an extrapolation of the percent of students or school districts in the sample that are meeting the minimum connectivity goal to the entire population of students or school districts in the state. Student populations are based on 2014-15 National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) data and updated based on input from school districts.

ADDITIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS CONNECTED

This metric shows the increase in students or school districts since 2015 that are meeting the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) minimum connectivity goal of 100 kbps per student. Using the reported increase of students or school districts from 2016, we added the number of students or school districts who are newly meeting minimum connectivity goals in 2017.

This is an extrapolation of the percentage of students or school districts in the sample that are meeting goals to the entire population of students or districts in the state. Students or districts meeting the goal is calculated by adding the number of students in districts that underwent upgrades in 2016 to the number of students meeting minimum connectivity in 2016.

The number of students in upgraded school districts is determined by adding the total number of students in districts that 1) went from not meeting the minimum connectivity goal in 2016 to meeting the goal in 2017, and 2) have increased their total bandwidth by 10% or more.

Student populations are based on 2014-15 NCES data and updated using input from school districts.

STUDENTS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT NEED TO BE CONNECTED

This metric shows the total number of students or school districts that are not meeting the FCC minimum connectivity goal. We take the total number of students or school districts in the state and subtract the total students and school districts connected.

FIBER INFRASTRUCTURE

This metric reports on the availability of scalable infrastructure based on the FCC-recommended goal that every school's broadband scale to 10 Gbps (which currently requires fiber). For schools where the connection type was unknown, we applied assumptions based on extensive research.

WI-FI FUNDS

This metric profiles the extent to which school districts have taken advantage of their Category 2 budgets. The FCC provided every school district with a $153.47 per student (adjusted yearly for inflation) total “Category 2” budget from 2015-2019 to upgrade internal connections in schools. We calculated the total Category 2 budget remaining for 2018-19 after subtracting funds requested in 2015 - 2017. We applied school district E-rate discount rates when available; otherwise, we applied the aggregate state E-rate discount rate.

E-RATE FUNDS LEVERAGED

This metric is based on original funding commitment requests in 2017 from applicants within a state - does not include requests for voice or libraries, however. An original funding commitment request occurs after any changes are made to the application, and is equal to the cost of the service multiplied by the applicant’s discount rate.

STATE MATCHING FUNDS (IF APPLICABLE)

This is the amount of funding made available by school districts to leverage additional federal E-rate dollars for special fiber construction in 2017.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS CONNECTIVITY OVER 1 MBPS

This metric shows the percentage of school districts that are meeting the FCC 2018 1 Mbps connectivity goal, taking into account SETDA concurrency factors for large and mega districts. SETDA considers a large or mega district to be meeting the 2018 1 Mbps goal if they have at least 700 kbps.

BROADBAND COSTS

This metric compares the amount of bandwidth school districts currently receive to the amount they could receive if those same funds were used to buy Internet access at 2015 national benchmark prices.