



## Internet Access and Infrastructure Assessment

The availability of affordable broadband service in a community is necessary to ensure that a community's residents, businesses and public organizations and communities can operate in the knowledge economy.

Community leaders need to know how their community's Internet access rates and the types of Internet connectivity available to the community's residents, businesses and public organizations. This assessment will help you better understand the availability of broadband connectivity across the community. Your assignment is to work with your group to complete the assessment table for residents, businesses and public organizations in your community.

This assessment tool is designed to quickly assess where the community's broadband access stands today, a rating of Level 1 is the lowest, Level 4 the highest. Please work within your group to complete the questions. Someone in the group should be designated as the table spokesperson and will be responsible for reporting on the table's findings as well as for completing a summary sheet for the facilitator.

\* Adapted from CENIC Self Assessment Guide for Communities - <http://www.cenic.org/guide/>



## Connecting Communities Internet Access and Infrastructure Assessment

Stage	Residential	Commercial (Manufacturing/Retail/Service)	Public (Government/Schools/Healthcare)
<b>1</b>	<p>Dial-up service is available from at least two ISPs across the community.</p> <p>Affordable broadband Internet Access service is available in the community's population center(s) from a single provider.</p>	<p>Some of the businesses have broadband access with speeds of at least 356 kbps downstream and 356 kbps upstream for multiple users.</p>	<p>Most of the schools, government and healthcare facilities have affordable broadband access with speeds of at least 356 kbps downstream and 356 kbps upstream for multiple users.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p>The community's population center(s) have affordable broadband Internet Access service from two or more providers.</p> <p>Broadband services with actual speeds of at least 1.5 mbps downstream and 500 kbps upstream is available.</p> <p>Many residents purchase broadband service where it is available.</p>	<p>All of the business districts and industrial parks have access to affordable broadband with speeds of at least 1.5 mbps downstream and 512 kbps upstream for multiple users.</p> <p>Larger businesses utilize technology to automate production and businesses tasks.</p> <p>Larger businesses have video teleconference facilities.</p>	<p>All of the of the schools, government and healthcare facilities have access to affordable broadband with speeds of at least 1.5 mbps downstream and 512 kbps upstream for multiple users.</p> <p>School computer labs, teachers and staff have broadband connections.</p> <p>Most employees in larger local government offices have broadband connections at their desks.</p>
<b>3</b>	<p>The community's population center(s) have affordable access to services with actual speeds exceeding 10 mbps downstream.</p> <p>Affordable broadband access is available in most small population centers and rural areas.</p>	<p>Affordable broadband access with symmetric speeds of at least 45 mbps is available to most of the business market, schools, government offices and health care facilities.</p> <p>Several businesses provide WiFi hotspots in their establishments.</p>	<p>WiFi hot spots are available at several public facilities.</p> <p>A public or private "innovation" center providing affordable access to VTC (Video Teleconferencing), high-speed printing, and other IT services is located in the community.</p>
<b>4</b>	<p>Some of the community has access to services with actual speeds exceeding one gigabit downstream.</p> <p>Fiber has been pulled into at least one of the more densely populated communities.</p>	<p>A fiber optic able POP (Point of Presence) is located in the county.</p> <p>Some new commercial construction includes a fiber connection.</p> <p>Affordable broadband with symmetric speeds of at least 155 mbps are available to most of the business market, schools, government offices and health care facilities.</p>	<p>Local ordinances are in place to ensure telecommunication infrastructure is considered in conjunction with road, water, sewer and other infrastructure projects.</p> <p>Affordable access to video teleconferencing facilities is available in the community. Most local governments Web sites allow individuals and entities to pay fees, complete forms and applications and register for services on-line.</p>
<b>My Rank</b>	Today _____ 1 YR. _____ GOAL _____	Today _____ 1 YR. _____ GOAL _____	Today _____ 1 YR. _____ GOAL _____