

# Telecommunications Market Trends in Massachusetts

Presentation to the 495/MetroWest Suburban Edge Community  
Commission

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MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS & CABLE

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# Department of Telecommunications & Cable

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- Oversight of the traditional telephone market in Massachusetts
- Oversight of cable television services in Massachusetts
- Consumer assistance and complaint resolution
- Communications market monitoring

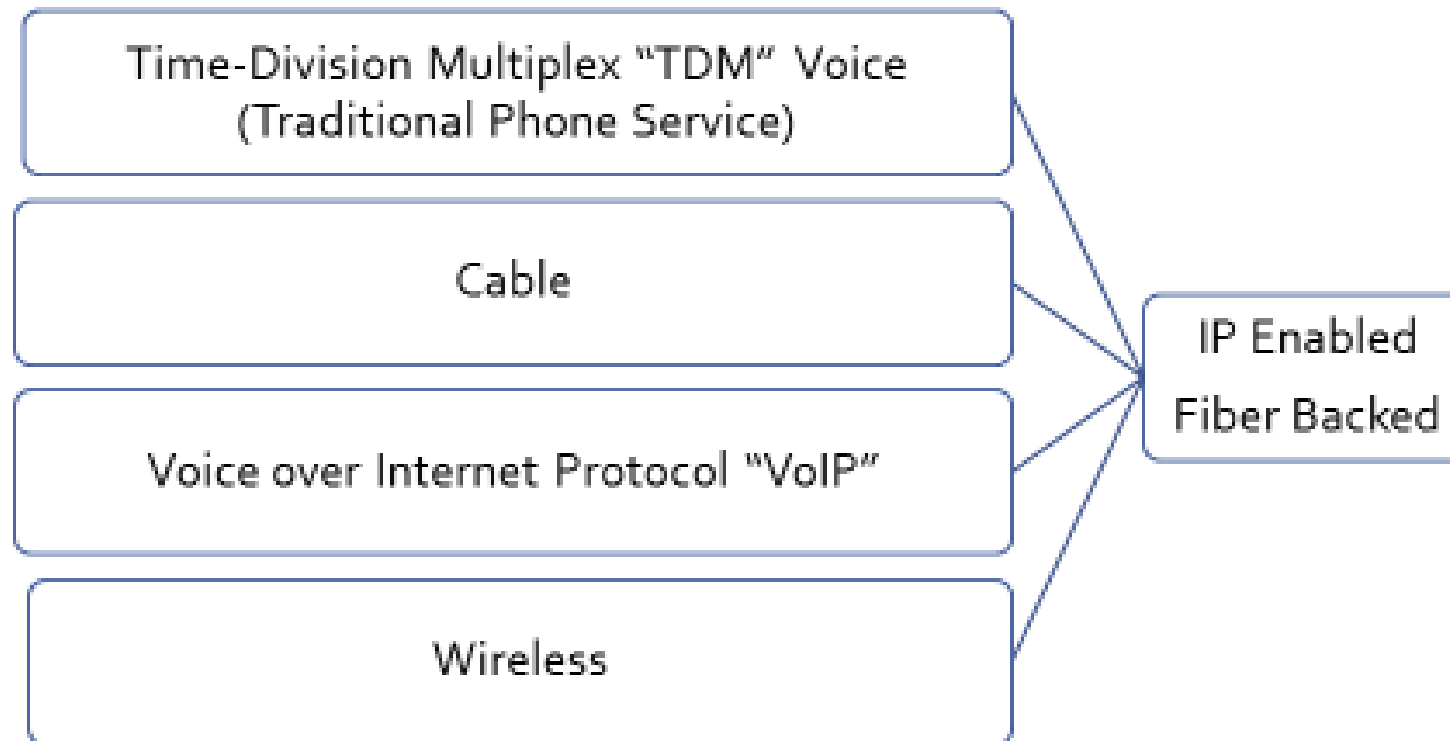
# Market Composition

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The communications market is comprised of both regulated and unregulated service offerings divided into two major categories – business services and residential services.

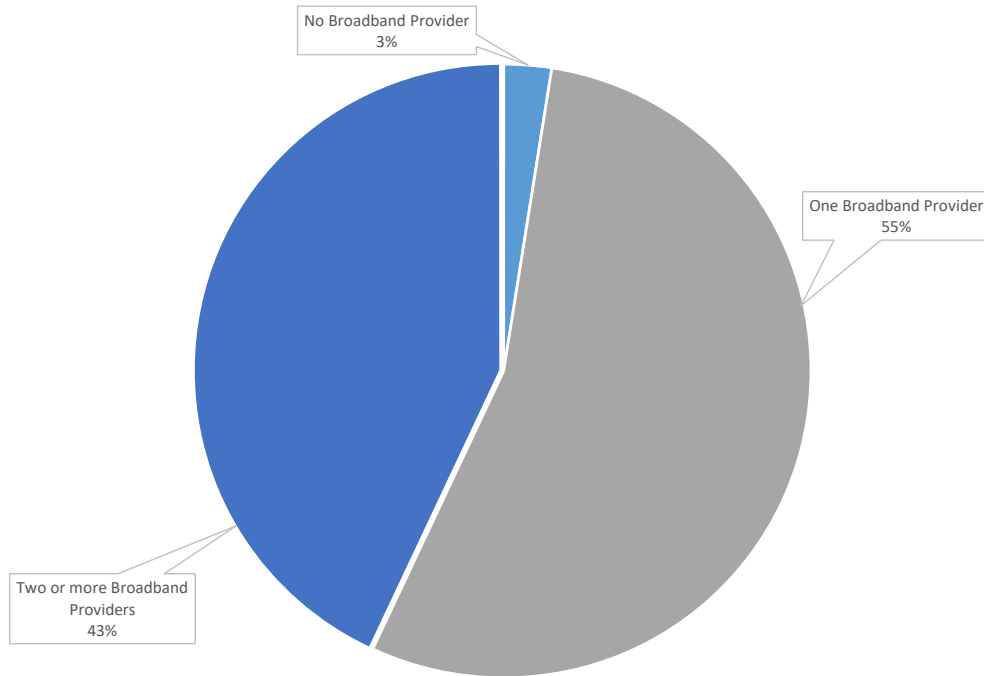
- Traditional telephone service
- Internet voice service (VoIP)
- Wireless voice & data
- Wired broadband

# Delivery of Voice, Data, and Video Service

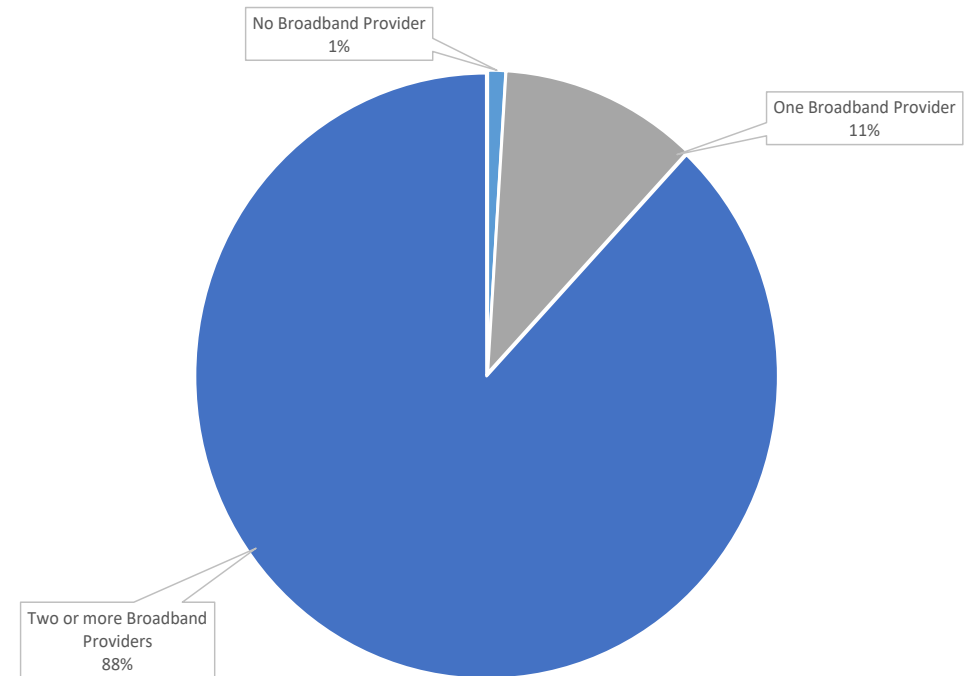


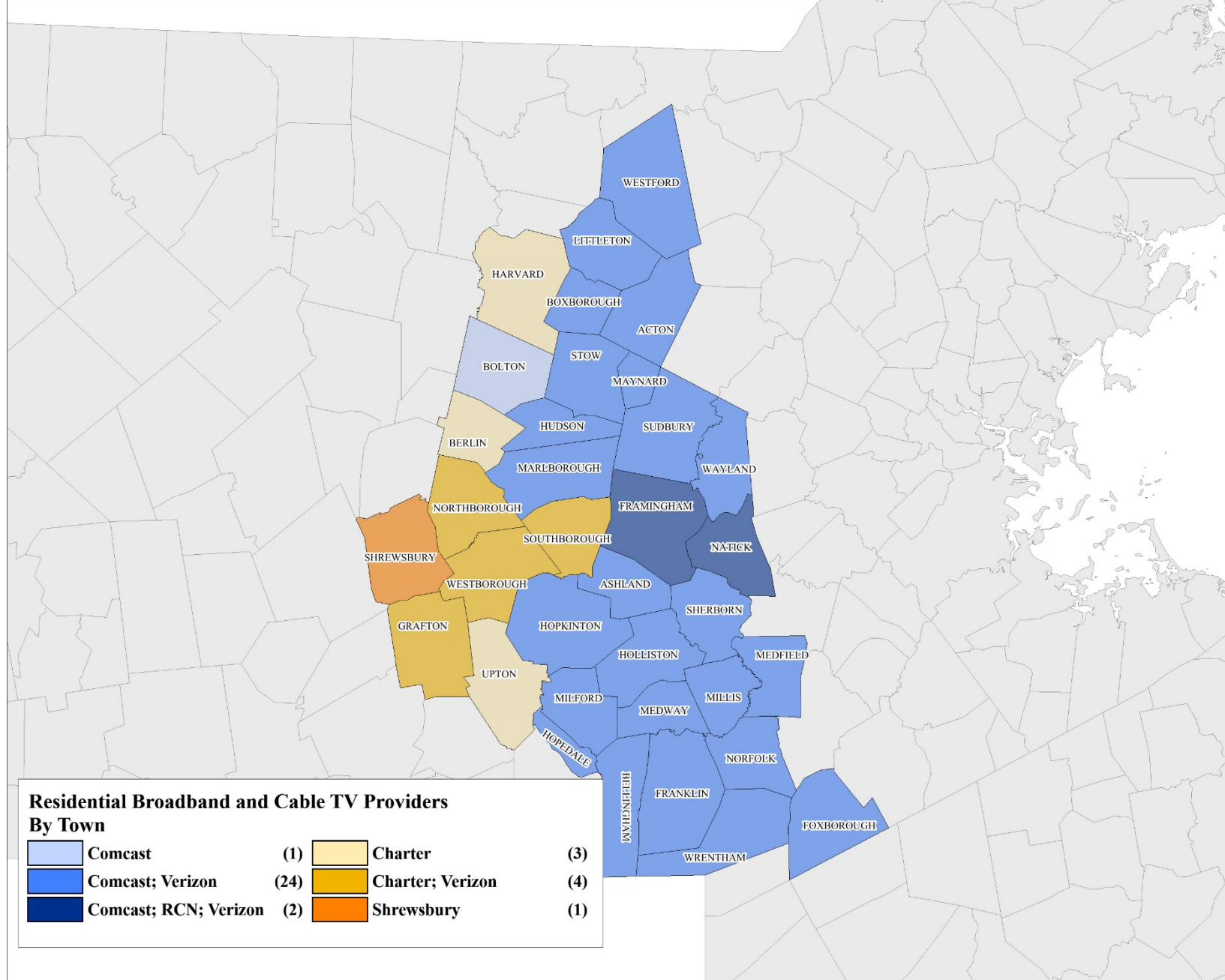
# 495 Metro West Community

Housing Units Served by Broadband Providers - Statewide

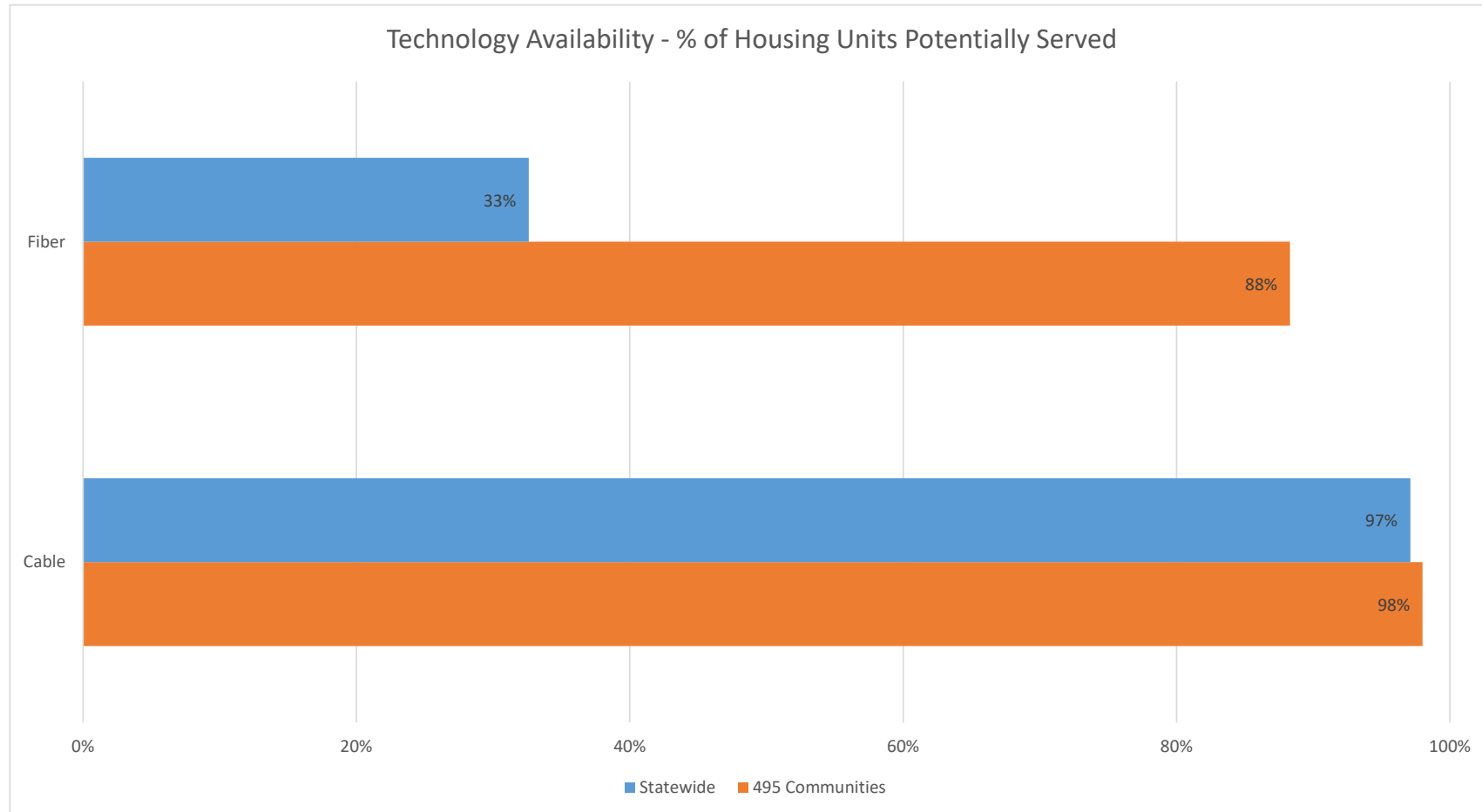


Housing Units Served by Broadband Providers- 495 Communities





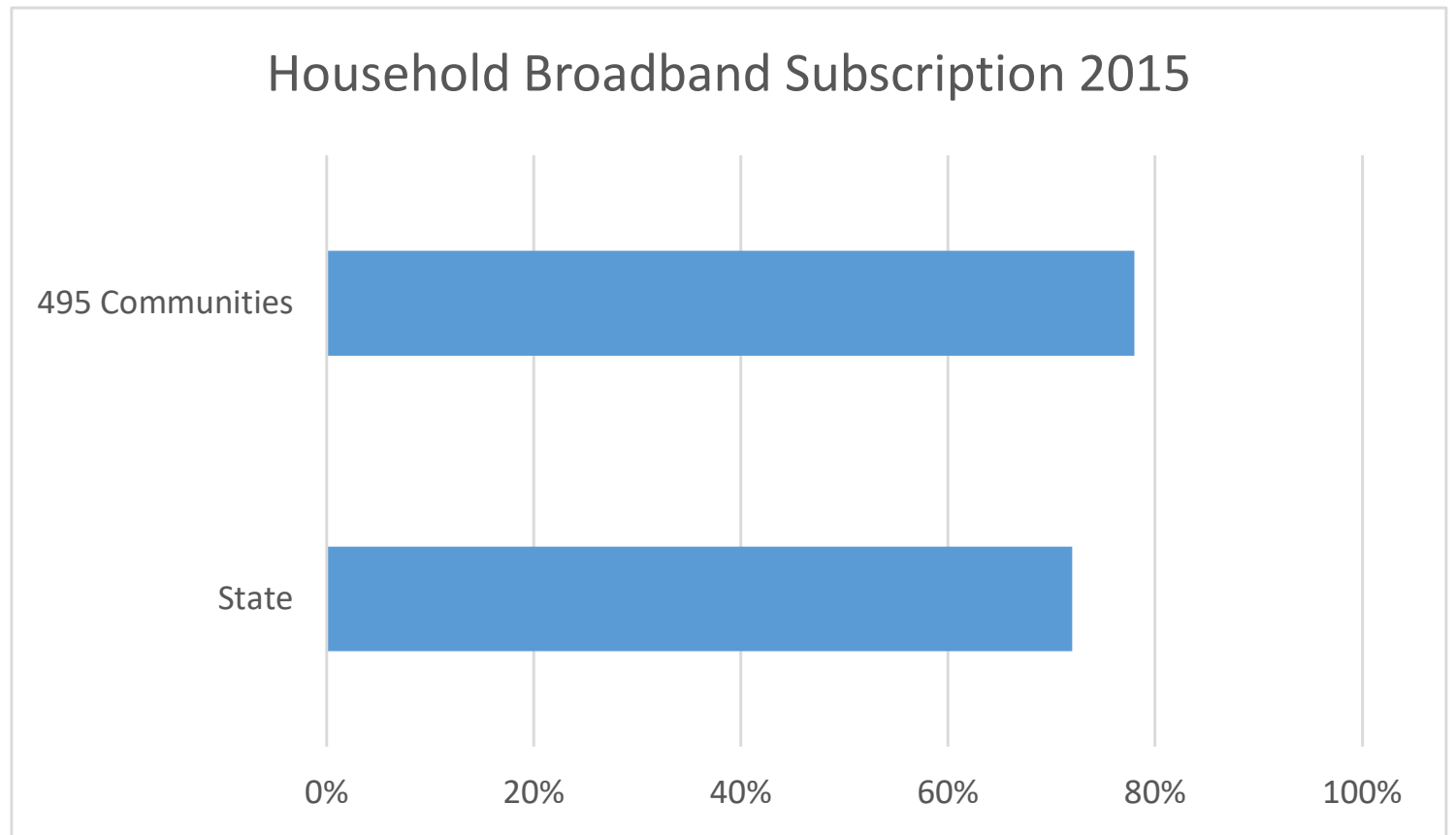
# Broadband Availability



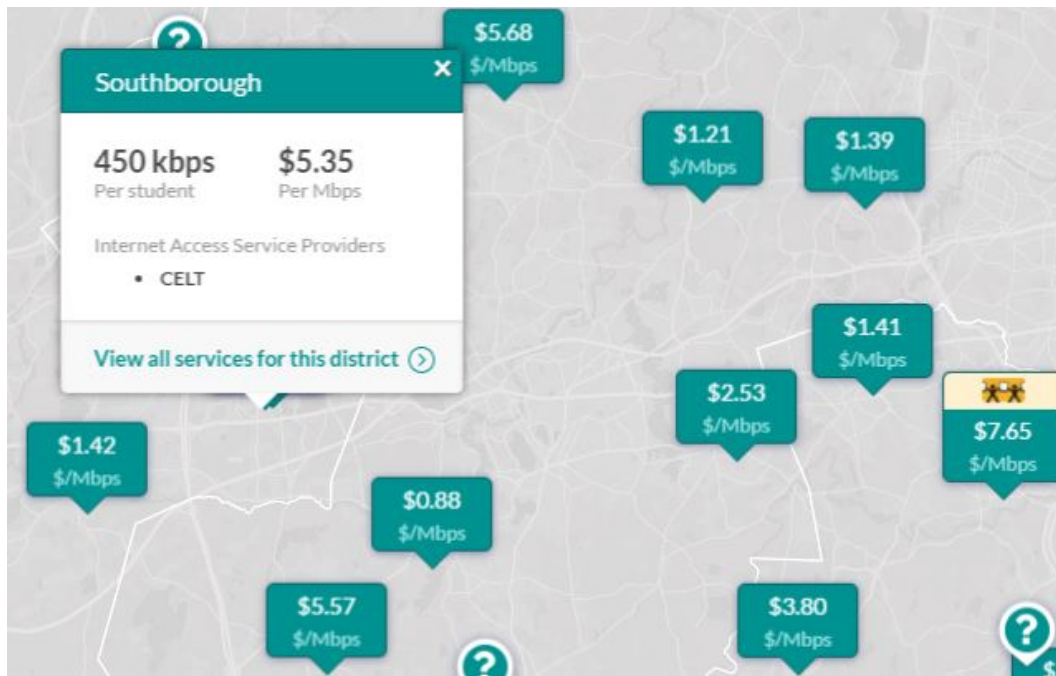
# Broadband Adoption

# 78%

- Improve adoption rate
- Increase affordability



# Education Super Highway (ESH)



- Digital Connection Initiative is a partnership between ESH and Massachusetts
- ESH provides team of expert consultants at no cost to work with interested districts for assistance with:
  - E-Rate, a federal program that provides technology discounts for schools and libraries
  - Digital Connections Grant, a program using state bonds to cover non-discount project costs under the E-Rate program
- Massachusetts is one of 11 states with a qualifying State Matching Program that will increase an applicant's federal discount rate for special construction

# What Residents Can Expect

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- Transition from copper to fiber services
- Increased wireless services
- Data privacy
- Net Neutrality

# Local and State Government

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- Shift to small cell and distributed antenna wireless build out
  - Pressure at FCC to revise attachment rules and reduce local barriers to wireless deployment
  - Several state legislatures have debated revising attachment rules to reduce local barriers
- More antenna in the public rights of way
  - Increased number of attachment applications
  - Requests for attachments to state and municipal infrastructure and non-utility pole locations
- Non-traditional attachments and equipment
  - Attachments vary greatly in size and may require additional equipment