



Partnership for a Connected Illinois

broadbandillinois.org



2013 Annual Report

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PCI: Our mission is 'broadband everywhere'



Dear Friends:

Our PCI mission is to uplift our great state of Illinois with "Broadband Everywhere."

The goal is to foster high-speed Internet connectivity for schools, hospitals, government, public safety, citizens and business.

The desired result is for our state to be globally competitive in the economic growth and development arena relative to retaining, growing and attracting good jobs for our citizens.

This annual report provides an overview and some highlights of PCI's work:

- Maps showing dramatic increases in statewide high-speed Internet coverage.
- Mapping and data services to facilitate high-speed Internet connectivity.
- Working with communities to deploy high-speed Internet.

- Regional leadership and outreach to facilitate high-speed Internet connectivity.
- Research to facilitate wider adoption and use of high-speed Internet.
- Demonstration projects to field test and then disseminate innovations.
- Conferences such as our "Connections in Healthcare" telemedicine and broadband summits.

Our team wishes to thank the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) which has provided us with funding for 2009-2014.

We also wish to thank Governor Pat Quinn, U.S. Senator Dick Durbin, the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and our many partners whose logos are displayed in this report.

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Finally, we wish to thank our former PCI chairman, now vice chairman, Charles Benton, for his tireless support of PCI and advocacy for "Better Broadband, Better Lives" for all Illinois citizens.

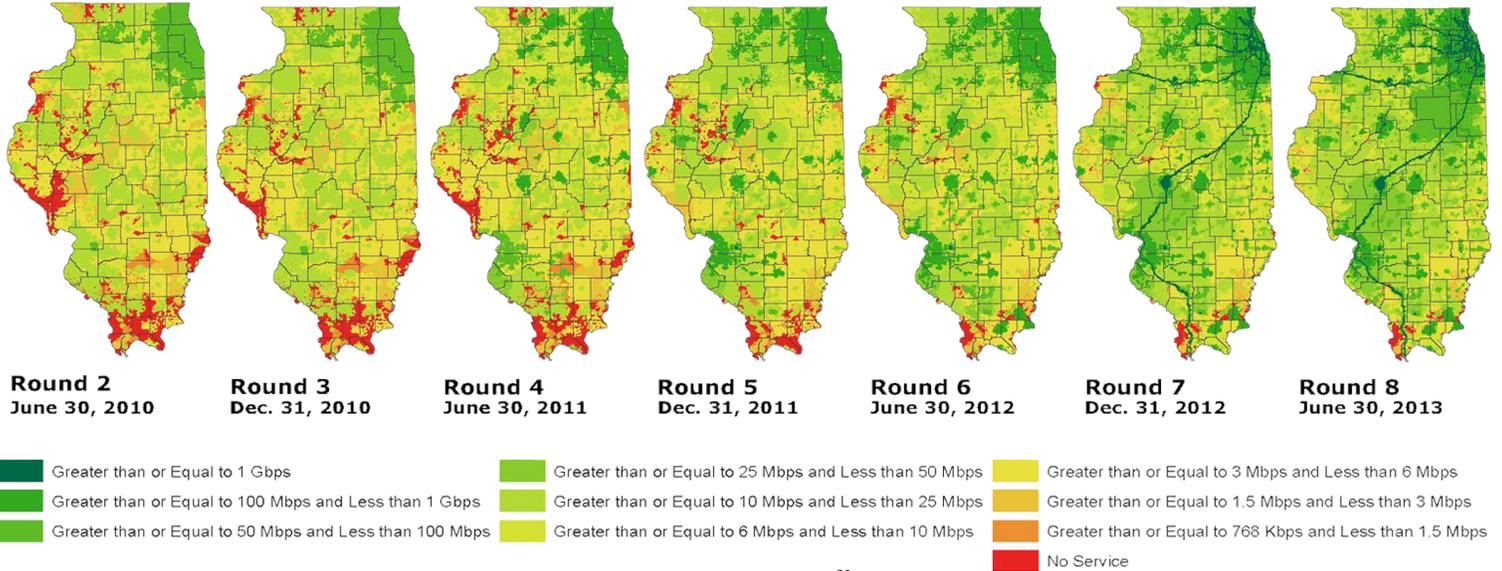
Yours with appreciation,

J. Phillip Halstead, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Visualizing the State of Broadband

Broadband mapping and data collection is one capability of PCI. Partnership for a Connected Illinois' Geographic Information Systems Team contacts each Illinois broadband provider and creates detailed, interactive census block-level maps of broadband speed and availability throughout the state.

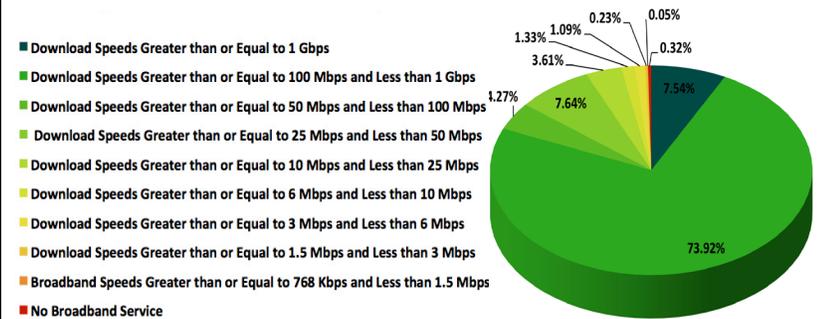
Maximum advertised download speeds by tier (Excluding Satellite and Cellular)



Where does Illinois Stand?

NTIA Speed Tier	Speed Tier Description	% of Occupied Households
11	Download Speeds Greater than or Equal to 1 Gbps	7.54%
10	Download Speeds Greater than or Equal to 100 Mbps and Less than 1 Gbps	73.92%
9	Download Speeds Greater than or Equal to 50 Mbps and Less than 100 Mbps	4.27%
8	Download Speeds Greater than or Equal to 25 Mbps and Less than 50 Mbps	7.64%
7	Download Speeds Greater than or Equal to 10 Mbps and Less than 25 Mbps	3.61%
6	Download Speeds Greater than or Equal to 6 Mbps and Less than 10 Mbps	1.33%
5	Download Speeds Greater than or Equal to 3 Mbps and Less than 6 Mbps	1.09%
4	Download Speeds Greater than or Equal to 1.5 Mbps and Less than 3 Mbps	0.23%
3	Broadband Speeds Greater than or Equal to 768 Kbps and Less than 1.5 Mbps	0.05%
0	No Broadband Service	0.32%

Households by Maximum Advertised Download Speed Tier

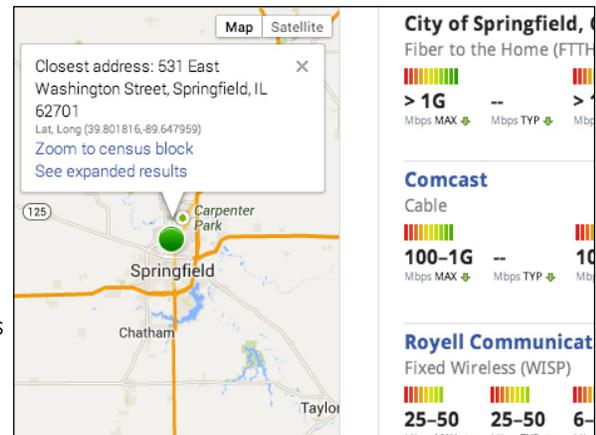


Our exclusive find and request broadband tools

Our Find Broadband Tool and Request Broadband Tool allow users to enter a street address to see all available broadband carriers for that address. In 2013, more than 50,000 users visited our web site, viewing more than 175,000 pages.

The Find Broadband Tool enables users to learn about broadband services, speeds and community broadband centers in their area.

Adequate service isn't always available. Our Request Broadband Tool can help. More than 20,000 people have taken advantage of these tools over the last two years. Our request tool sends alerts to all the providers of broadband in the user's county. Providers are then able to identify pockets of aggregated demand and work out economical and strategic methods to reach these new customers.





A state connected

Gov. Pat Quinn announces two more Gigabit Communities Challenge awards in 2013

The Illinois Gigabit Communities Challenge program has distributed a total of \$5.5 million to the most promising ultra high-speed broadband deployment projects in Illinois as part of the comprehensive, multi-year **Illinois Jobs Now!** economic development program.

Gov. Pat Quinn announced two additional awardees in 2013.

In southern Illinois, Frontier Communi-

cations, the city of Carbondale and Southern Illinois University received \$1.5 million to build ultra high-speed infrastructure to Carbondale businesses, schools and a research park.

The city of Evanston also received \$1 million to extend current fiber-optic infrastructure to 400 access points, improving medical services, educational opportunities and research programs at Northwestern



PCI eTeam leader Steven Mitchell with Gov. Pat Quinn.

University.

In 2012, Quinn awarded \$2 million to jumpstart fiber optic and wireless networks in mid-south Chicago neighborhoods, and \$1 million each to help develop a fiber optic network in Aurora.

Broadband Illinois worked closely with Gov. Quinn's office to attract 17 quality grant applications from all corners of the state.

Tracking the success, month by month

On a monthly basis, PCI provides detailed reports to Gov. Pat Quinn's office on the progression of the Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership (IBOP). PCI collects data from and reports on the projects that are a part of the initiative, funded by the **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act**. The reports that are produced monitor and measure state and federal investment in fiber optic infrastructure, job creation and increased bandwidth for core anchor institutions across the state. The reports that have been produced by PCI have tracked the projects from start to finish, highlighting key project milestones and accomplishments. Throughout 2013, a number of these infrastructure projects reached completion and the reports show the inputs and outcomes for these crucial investments. The reports can be found at www.broadbandillinois.org/Projects

A Year of eTeam Highlights and Success

Our eTeam leaders provide leadership and outreach

From the skyscrapers of downtown Chicago, to the cornfields of central Illinois, to the picturesque wilderness of southern Illinois, PCI's eTeam leaders were hard at work providing leadership and outreach.

Broadband Illinois deployed eTeam leaders in 10 regions spanning the state, convening stakeholders and providers to promote the significant benefits of high-speed Internet service.

2013 eTeam Highlights

- **Co-hosted** the 4th Annual East Central Broadband Summit in December in Mattoon with more than 70 in attendance and 10 vendor booths.
- **Partnered** in Chicago to hold the Technology Innovation Summit convening tech experts and government officials.
- **Co-hosted** the Broadband Communities Summit in Tinley Park. PCI held a breakfast during the event that drew more than one hundred Illinois delegates.
- **Co-hosted** the Western Illinois Broadband Summit in Carthage, featuring multiple providers and area broadband experts.
- **Initiated** a partnership with the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, the University of Illinois Extension and Crawford County to establish an e-government site, training and technology plans.
- **Worked** closely with local school districts and the Illinois State Board of Education to identify broadband needs and solutions in schools.
- **Utilized** Broadband Illinois' mapping and data to host provider meetings and identify aggregated demand in underserved regions, allowing providers to see new areas of business.
- **Partnered** with local businesses and organizations to hold training courses for citizens across the state.



PCI eTeam leader Clayton Black demonstrates Google Hangout with Brian Webster, telecom data director, at the Western Illinois Broadband Summit in Carthage.



PCI eTeam leader Laura Lane speaks during the Technology Innovation Summit in Chicago. Photo by Antonio Dickey



PCI eTeam leader Barbara Webster speaks during the East Central Illinois Broadband Summit in Mattoon.

A deeper understanding through data

As in past years, Partnership for a Connected Illinois (PCI) employed a team of nationally-recognized research consultants and GIS experts who produced scientific reports to help better understand the current state of broadband use and adoption in Illinois.

These reports measure and analyze a number of statistical relevancies helping PCI understand what programs work or don't work, where more work needs to be done and best practices to help ensure PCI's mission is successful.

PCI's tangible results in 2013

In 2013, PCI continued to work with academic partners to better understand the impacts of broadband investments supported by the NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

Work led by researchers at the University of Illinois-Chicago found that BTOP investments in Chicago's "Smart Communities" encouraged greater levels of Internet use compared with similar Chicago communities that did not have BTOP investments.

Work at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign focused on the impacts of the UC2B fiber build-out in that community. Results from that research will be available in 2014.

Our exclusive reports and studies

2013 Broadband Pricing Report - A report that examines how prices of residential broadband vary across different speed tiers and geographic locations through Illinois. The 37-page report analyzes the pricing for various broadband speed options and subscription plans across Illinois during the May 2013 timeframe.

Broadband Illinois eSolutions Benchmarking Report - Received responses from 2,129 Illinois households. Key findings of the household report focus on Internet usage, benefits and barriers. Selected results are broken down by characteristics such as household income, connectivity type and rural versus non-rural regions. Other sections of the report focus on Illinois businesses and community anchor institutions.

Broadband Illinois eStrategy Report - A report that shows the ability to utilize or leverage broadband varies significantly across businesses, organizations and households. Not all businesses or households have been able to turn the potential of broadband into measurable success in terms of jobs, company attraction and retention, increased tax base and revenues and more efficient and effective citizen services. Turning potential into reality requires skills, training and both formal and informal support.

All reports available at BroadbandIllinois.org



Importance of Broadband to Home Business

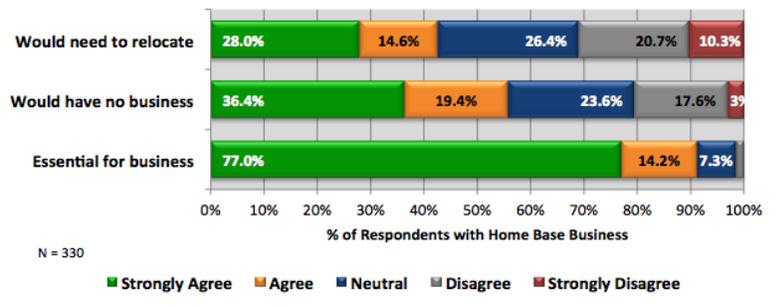
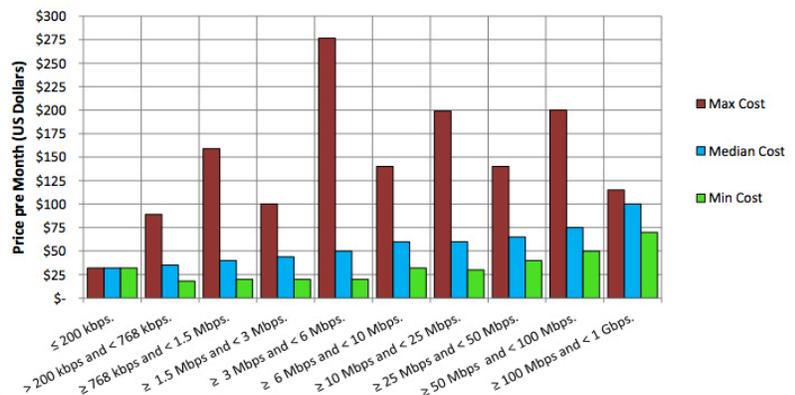


TABLE 3: Comparison of Utilization by Region and Industry (based on Average DEI Score)

Major Industry Category	State-wide	Central	Chicago-land	North Central	Northeast Central	Northern	North-west	Southeast Central	Southern	South-west Central	West Central
Information	6.85	6.39	7.45	7.15	5.67	6.40	6.61	5.71	6.41	6.79	5.76
Finance & Insurance	6.82	6.53	6.99	6.96	7.52	6.58	6.06	6.34	7.32	6.37	6.73
Professional & Technical	6.70	6.56	6.82	7.04	6.38	6.75	6.17	6.18	6.35	6.85	5.03
Manufacturing / Processing	6.68	6.87	6.60	6.78	7.25	6.21	7.56	6.73	6.66	7.50	6.18
Retail Trade	6.64	6.53	6.75	6.63	6.48	6.76	6.50	7.12	7.26	5.80	6.19
Educational Services	6.48	6.13	6.62	6.96	6.95	6.90	5.93	6.55	5.99	6.38	6.13
Admin & Support	6.39	6.80	6.42	6.66	6.08	7.20	6.03			7.67	7.26
Construction	6.09	5.12	6.30	6.03	6.23	6.03	6.04	5.12	6.66	5.96	6.20
Healthcare & Social Assistance	6.09	5.27	6.29	5.66	5.83	6.61	5.37	6.21	5.95	5.66	6.29
Public Administration	5.38	4.95	6.03	4.96	5.77	5.57	5.03	4.53	4.97	4.83	4.70

Blank cells have insufficient data

broadbandillinois.org



14
Projects

\$500k
Awarded

\$2 mil
Leveraged

Making a difference

In 2013, PCI's Illinois Broadband Innovation Fund resulted in the use of broadband in new and innovative ways for partners in education, health-care and economic development.

Launched in 2012, the Illinois Broadband Innovation Fund was a first-of-its-kind Internet adoption and usage program that mobilized 113 private, public and nonprofit organizations to create innovative applications aimed at improving the quality of life in their region. In late 2012, PCI chose 14 applications that received a total of \$500,000.

Most of those projects saw completion in 2013, leveraging more than \$2 million in investment capital.

The Broadband Innovation Fund gave Illinois citizens a platform to think creatively about high-speed internet usage. In 2013, the results were overwhelmingly successful.

The program furthered a wide variety of new and ongoing projects in Illinois including those related to telemedicine, economic development, education, technology entrepreneurship, local history, healthcare and career development.

The Illinois Broadband Innovation Fund program is considered PCI's banner program and an example of the positive power that technology advocacy organizations can have across the state.



East Central Illinois
Development Corporation



SeniorLink Computer Classes
in Belleville



Integrated Therapy Services
in Newton



Fishin' Buddies
in Chicago



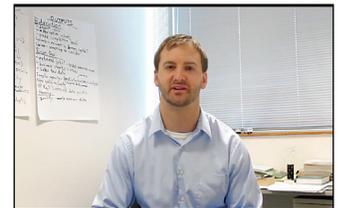
McDonough Telephone Coop.
in Macomb/Colchester



Escape Locally website
in southern Illinois



Warren County Virtual Museum
in Monmouth



Tri-County Regional Planning
Commission in Peoria



Six Mile Regional Library
District in Granite City



Carlinville High School-
Vets Classroom Project



21st Century Youth Project
in Chicago



Creating Entrepreneurial
Opportunities Classes



Family Christian Health Center
in Chicago



PrarieSpark Business Hub at
Eastern Illinois University



Connections in healthcare

In May, Partnership for a Connected Illinois and MoBroadbandNow convened the inaugural Broadband Telemedicine Summit in St. Louis, Mo.

The event not only impacted the telehealth community by connecting more than 200 top professionals with stakeholders and broadband experts, but attendees left the event with a set of goals and action plans to further the quality and availability of telemedicine in their perspective fields.

Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon attended the event, and said that telemedicine is the future of providing high quality, affordable care to people of all demographics.

Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn was represented at the event by Laura Zaremba, director of the Illinois Office of Health Information Technology.

The summit was headlined by Curtis Lowery, MD, of the ANGELS Program at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. Other speakers included Pat Schou, executive director of the Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network and Dr. Christopher Veremakis, medical director of Mercy Safewatch, the largest single-hub remote electronic intensive care unit in the country.



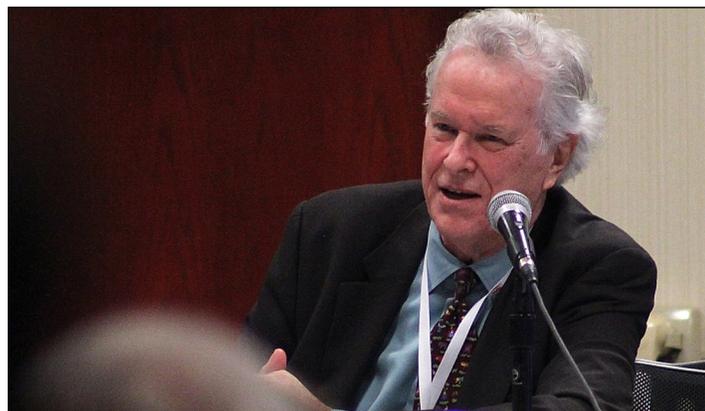
Drew Clark, former PCI executive director, speaks at the Broadband Telemedicine Summit.

A salute to Charles Benton

As Partnership for a Connected Illinois nears the end of its five-year grant award from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, PCI would like to recognize vice chairman of the board of directors Charles Benton for his exhaustive work in broadband and technology advocacy.

Benton served as chairman of PCI for three-and-a-half years, and vice chairman since. Under his leadership and persistent dedication to getting Illinois connected, PCI has thrived and is recognized as one of the most successful of the 56 state broadband initiatives nationwide.

As chairman of his own Benton Foundation, he has provided nationwide leadership in communications policy.



Benton has participated in some of the most influential telecommunications initiatives in the nation, including the Presidential Advisory Committee on Public Interest Obligations of Digital Television Broadcasters, established by President Bill Clinton.

In 2013, Partnership for a Connected Illinois was as active as ever. Wherever the hot topic of high-speed Internet played a part, we were there. As the state's go-to organization on broadband intelligence, infrastructure and policy, we will continue our mission in 2014. See you there.



Phil Halstead and Charles Benton in Tinley Park



Clayton Black at Broadband Communities Summit



Bruce Montgomery at Broadband Communities Summit



Barbara Webster at an event in Effingham

Our Partners

Below is a sampling of the businesses, foundations, economic developers and community and civic organizations with whom we have partnered.



New partners in 2013:





Contact us

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