



# FCC Broadband Data Collection

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# Broadband Data Collection: FCC's Historical Approach

- ▶ **The FCC today collects broadband deployment data using FCC Form 477**
  - ▶ Fixed broadband service providers report broadband deployment based on U.S. Census Block geographic areas
    - ▶ The U.S. is divided into +11,000,000 census blocks varying in size between urban and rural areas.
    - ▶ If a fixed provider makes service available to a location within a census block, then the entire census block is shown as "served" by the provider.
  - ▶ Mobile broadband service providers report broadband deployment by technology and based on minimum advertised speed or, if a particular speed is not advertised, then speeds consumers should reasonably expect to receive at a given location.
    - ▶ A lack of standardized reporting parameters prevents apples-to-apples comparisons of data among mobile service providers.

# Broadband Data Collection: Goal

- ▶ **More precise and consistent broadband availability data is critical to efforts to target public funds to connect unserved and underserved communities, including Tribal lands.**
- ▶ **Congress directed the FCC to develop processes and procedures to collect, verify and publish more precise data in the Broadband Deployment Accuracy and Technological Availability (DATA) Act.**

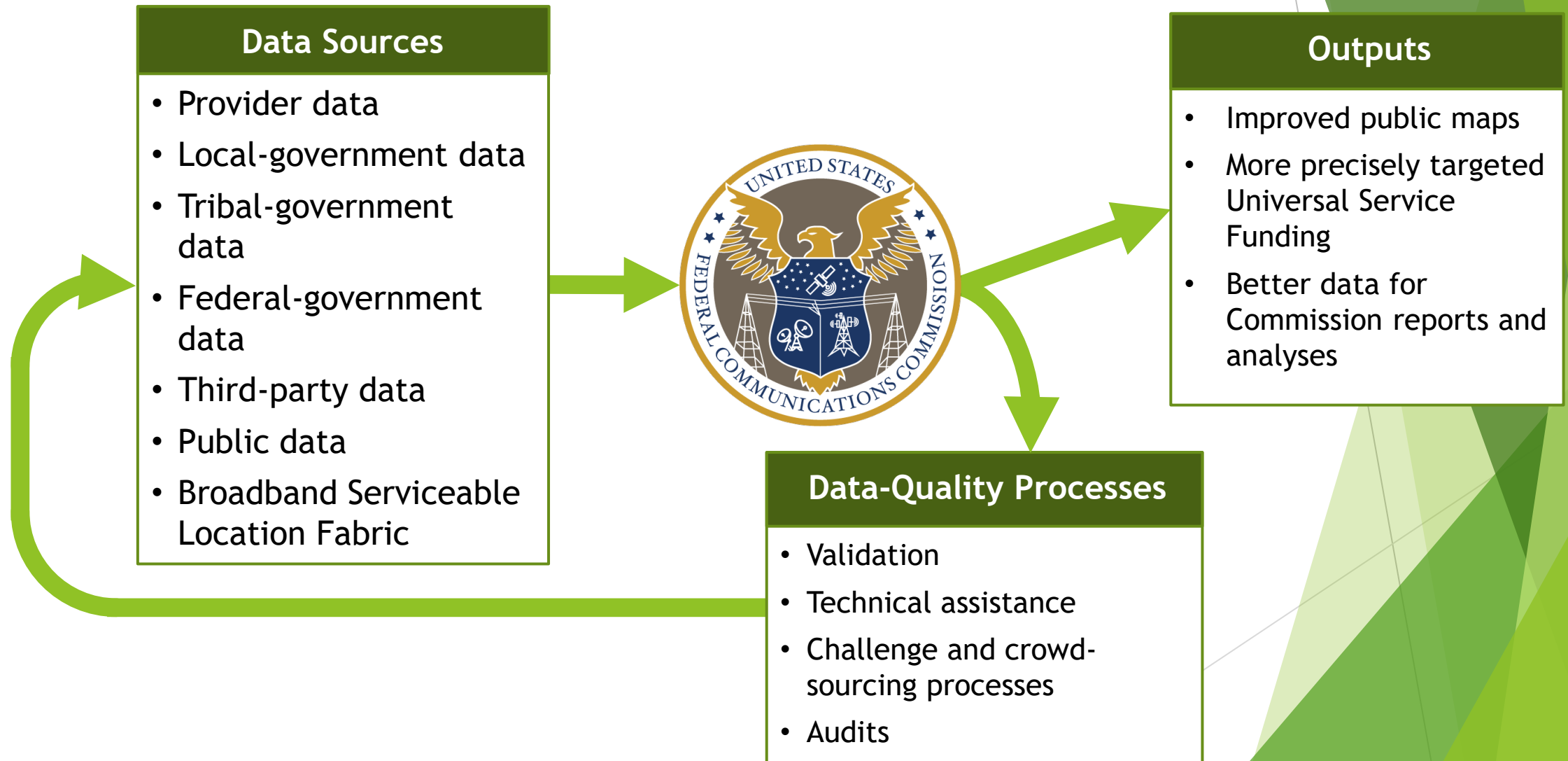
# Broadband Data Collection: Key Dates

- ▶ **March 2020: Broadband DATA Act**
  - ▶ Specified collection of broadband data and challenge/verification processes
- ▶ **July 2020: Second Report and Order/FNPRM**
  - ▶ Reporting
  - ▶ Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric
  - ▶ Processes for verifying data
- ▶ **December 2020: Consolidated Appropriations Act**
  - ▶ Funding for implementation and administration of data collection
- ▶ **January 2021: Third Report and Order**
  - ▶ Further refinements and challenge processes
  - ▶ Delegated additional technical challenge/verification methodologies to Bureaus/Offices
  - ▶ Established the requirements for the collection and submission of verified coverage data from governmental entities, including Tribes
- ▶ **February 2021: Broadband Data Task Force Established**
  - ▶ Expedite and coordinate implementation effort spanning multiple FCC Bureaus and Offices
- ▶ **November 2021: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)**

# Broadband Data Collection: What We Will Achieve

- ▶ **Fixed broadband availability data down to the individual location**
- ▶ **Mobile broadband availability data standardized across providers**
- ▶ **Challenge process to identify and dispute data collected from providers**
- ▶ **Incorporation of data from state, local, and Tribal governments**
- ▶ **Crowdsource information to support verification efforts**
- ▶ **Audits and enforcement**

# Broadband Data Collection: Data Flow



# Broadband Data Collection: Tribal Participation

- ▶ **Verified data:**
  - ▶ **Tribal governmental entities primarily involved in mapping/tracking broadband, may submit verified data to the BDC**
    - ▶ **Submission must follow the format required of provider data and must be verified in some way**
    - ▶ **Mapping/tracking entity must disclose methodology used to collect and verify**

# Broadband Data Collection: Tribal Participation

## ▶ Technical Assistance:

▶ FCC will provide technical assistance to Tribal governmental entities including:

### ▶ Challenge process

- ▶ Detailed tutorials and webinars;
- ▶ Provision of FCC staff to assist with challenge process

### ▶ Deployment filing

- ▶ workshop[s]



# Broadband Data Collection: Implementation Milestones

## ▶ Summer 2021

- ▶ RFP for Fabric Development
- ▶ Contract for IT System Development (follow-on from Data Architect & Design Services contract)
- ▶ Public Notice on Technical Requirements for Mobile Challenge and Verification Processes (and webinar)
- ▶ 4G LTE Mobile Map of Four Largest Providers' Coverage Based on BDC Parameters to Preview BDC Maps (available at <https://www.fcc.gov/BroadbandData/MobileMaps>)

# Broadband Data Collection: Implementation Milestones

## ▶ Fall/Winter 2021

- ▶ Fabric Contract Award
  - ▶ Issued Nov. 9 to CostQuest
  - ▶ Subject to GAO review - ongoing
- ▶ FCC Speed Test App Contract Modifications for Mobile Challenge, Crowdsource Updates
- ▶ Initial Tribal Government Technical Assistance [Workshop](#)
- ▶ Contracts for Expanded Technical Assistance Resources

# Broadband Data Collection: Implementation Milestones

## ▶ Spring 2022

### ▶ Public Notice to announce start of data collection

#### ▶ Released February 22, 2022:

<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-22-182A1.pdf>

#### ▶ Establishes the planned timing of the first BDC collection:

##### ▶ Data as-of: June 30, 2022

##### ▶ Filing window open: June 30, 2022 - September 1, 2022

#### ▶ Includes Form 477 filing information

# Broadband Data Collection: FCC Next Steps

- ▶ **Data specifications for filing availability, challenge and crowdsource data**
- ▶ **BDC User Guide**
- ▶ **MCP/MVP Technical Requirements Order**
- ▶ **Guidance on third-party mobile speed test app approval process**
- ▶ **IIJA rule revisions**

# Broadband Data Collection: FCC Next Steps [cont.]

- ▶ **Additional outreach to Tribes and other filers/entities**
- ▶ **Other contracts (e.g., wireless RF engineering resources)**
- ▶ **Open submission window**
- ▶ **Process data**
- ▶ **Publish maps/data**
- ▶ **Begin challenge and verification processes**

# Broadband Data Collection: Next Steps for Tribes

- ▶ Consider best way[s] to participate in BDC and what is required:
  - ▶ Challenges
    - ▶ Provider data: direct challenges and/or through assistance to Tribal members
    - ▶ Fabric: geolocate Tribal locations
  - ▶ Submit Primary Data
    - ▶ Must meet technical requirements
  - ▶ Submit Crowdsourced data
- ▶ Tribal Workshop(s)

# Questions?

Email the FCC Office of Native Affairs and Policy at:  
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