This report seeks to explore how access, affordability and adoption related issues play out in the Fourth District, examine the implications of these issues related to a variety of factors, and review current policies and programs, nationally and locally, designed to overcome these challenges.

Almost 30 percent of those not in the labor force in rural areas do not have a computer with broadband subscription, and this has implications for this population’s ability to engage in the online economy and find sustainable employment. Similar trends can be seen when examining LMI- and minority-categorized census tracts.