



The Alaska OWL Project Sustainability Summit

September 20-21, 2012 | Hotel Captain Cook | Anchorage, Alaska



National Broadband Policy - and - Universal Service Reforms

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The U.S. Broadband Landscape

- U.S. one of few developed nations with no BB plan (but mandated in ARRA)
- Household broadband
 - ❑ 38% do not subscribe to BB, but 94% have it available*
 - AK: 80% overall have BB available, but only 51% in rural areas
- Availability dependent on
 - Cable/telecom provider decisions
 - Address broadband via marketplace
- ❑ Subscription dependent on
 - Education, income, geography, interest/perceived need

Q: Why increase broadband adoption?

A: Because life is happening online.

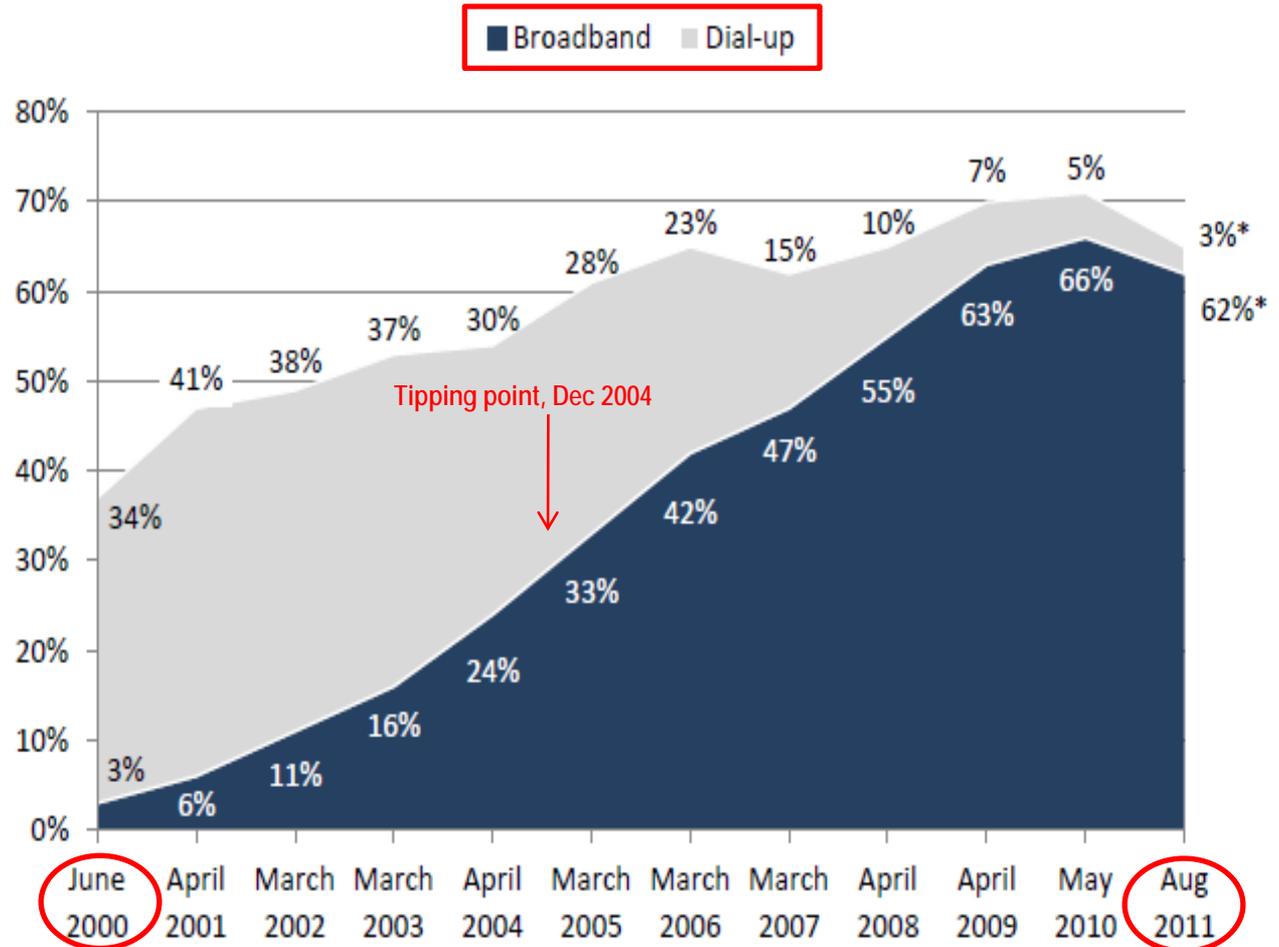
—NTIA

In household broadband U.S. is ranked 17th –just ahead of Slovenia. --[Measuring the Information Society](#), ITU, 2011

* [8th Broadband Progress Report](#), FCC, August 2012.

Broadband and dial-up adoption, 2000-2011

% of American adults who access the internet at home via dial-up or broadband, over time. As of August 2011, 62% of American adults age 18+ have a high-speed broadband connection at home.



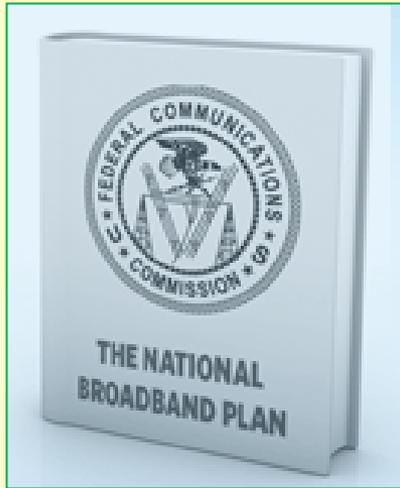
2003: We need a national goal to have universal and affordable broadband by 2007. —President Bush

2012: We conclude that broadband is not being deployed to all Americans in a reasonable and timely fashion. —FCC

* [Digital Differences](#) , Pew Research Center, April 2012.

NBP: Key Long-term Goals

(released March 2010, <http://www.broadband.gov>)



- 1: Every American should have affordable access to robust broadband and at least 100 million homes have access to 100Mbps or more.
- 2: Community anchor institutions (CAI) should have affordable access to at least 1Gbps.

2005: We need a broadband plan like all other industrialized nations.
—FCC Commissioner Michael Copps

Using its regulatory authority, the FCC is initiating over 60 actions to implement the NBP goals and recommendations.

NBP: Key FCC Universal Service Actions

Create incentives for universal availability and adoption of broadband

- Use USF subsidies to support broadband
 - ❑ **Availability:** Create Connect America Fund
 - ❑ **Affordability:** Subsidize BB for low-income households
 - ❑ **Educate:** Promote digital literacy
- Reform E-rate program
 - ❑ Allow fiber by any entity
 - ❑ Eliminate tech plan requirement for telecom. and Internet
 - ❑ Changes to streamline forms

"We take another step toward realizing the NBP vision of improving school and library broadband by upgrading and modernizing the E-rate program." –FCC, 2010

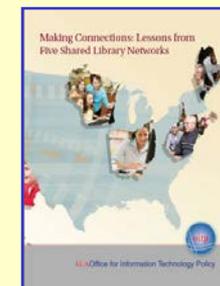
NBP: U.S. UCAN and State Networks

- NBP: Leverage expertise of state R&E networks
 - ❑ High speed/quality and affordable bandwidth
 - ❑ Network engineering and IT support
 - ❑ Procurement and contracts
- I2 creates U.S. UCAN
 - ❑ Part of BTOP grant commitment →
 - ❑ 14 states selected for initial pilot
- ALA/OITP report on advantages of state networks →

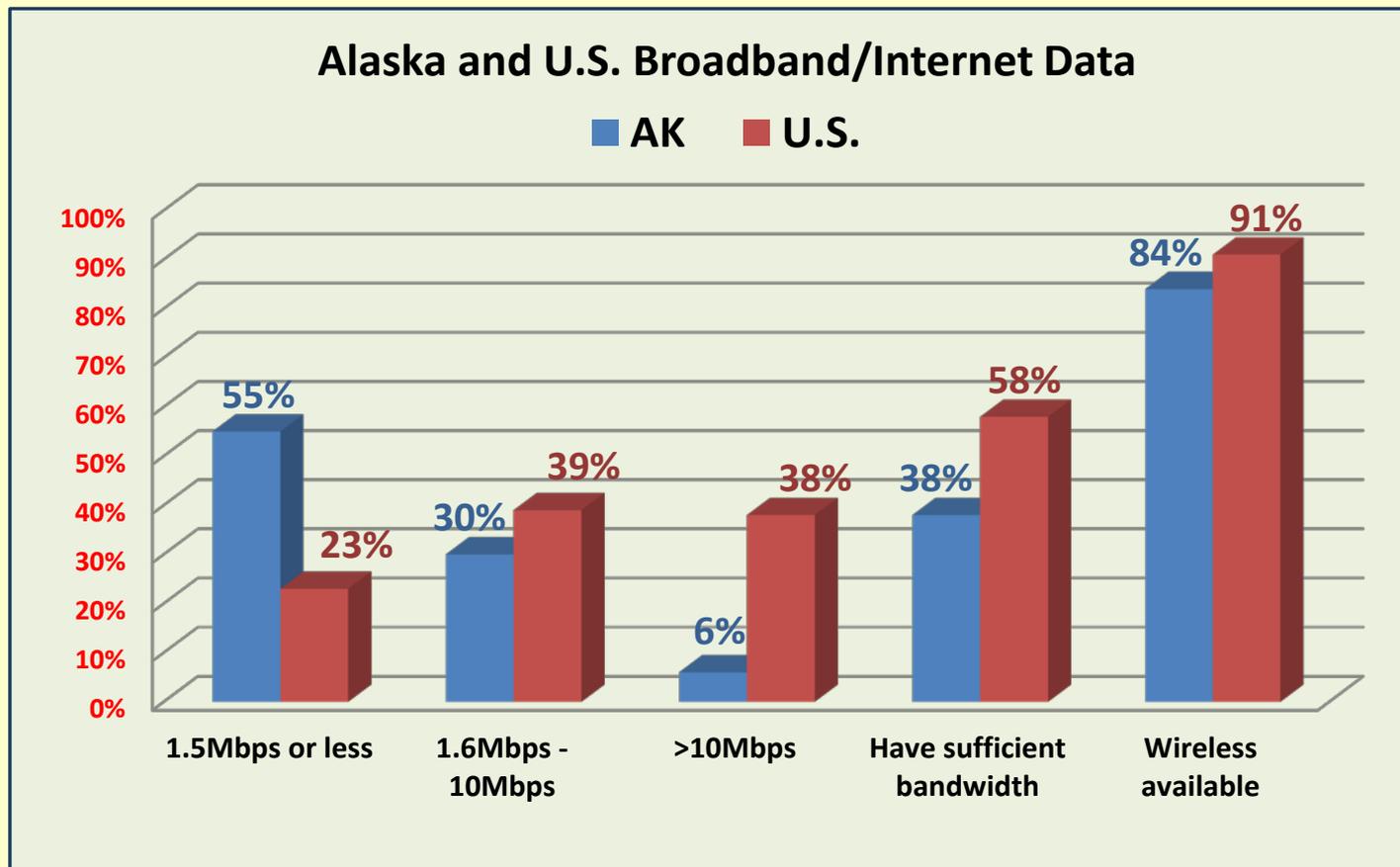
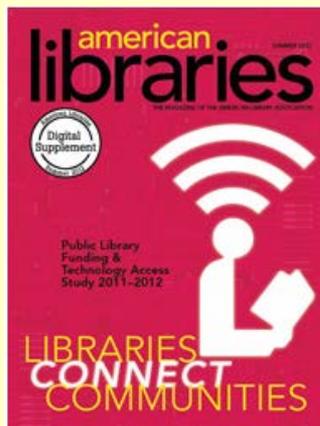
Expanding the R&E network model to other public institutions will offer tremendous benefits.

Give a non-profit institution the mission and capability to focus on public institution broadband needs.

--NPB, Chapter 8



Alaska and U.S. Library Broadband Data



Rather than spelling the demise of public libraries, the Internet holds new service opportunities. -- *Public Libraries and the Internet*, 1994



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Questions??

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