



Thee -NC Authority

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*Connecting
North Carolina
to a Better Future*

Mission



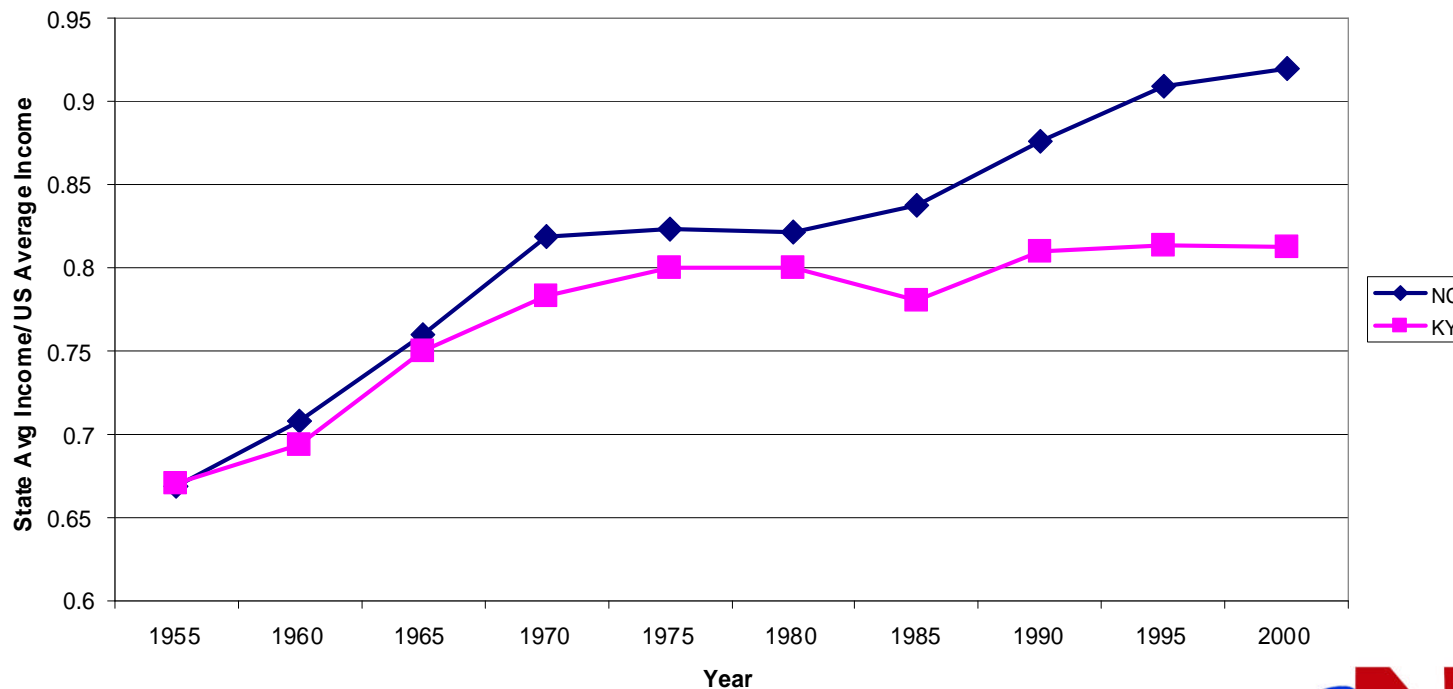
The e-NC Authority is dedicated to ensuring that all North Carolina citizens, businesses and communities are aware of, know how to use and have access to high-speed Internet services at affordable prices. This creates local opportunities for technology-based economic development and job creation.



www.e-nc.org

Kentuckyvs. North Carolina

State Average Personal Per Capita Income
as a
Percentage of US Average Personal Per Capita Income



Source:



<http://www.e-NC.org>

Goals of Tech-Based Economic Development

Intervene at the margins of private sector investment flows of capital (financial and intellectual) to:

- Address economic transition
- Capture the benefits of investments in research and development, higher education
- Build “entrepreneurial cultures”
- Help existing industries modernize
- Diversify economy



<http://www.e-NC.org>

State & RegionalTech Strategies

- States, regions, and cities develop strategies and action plans to:
 - Identify an area's comparative advantages
 - Establish a vision and mission for the future
 - Define specific actions and implementation plans with resources needed, partners, time frame, overall priorities, and measurable outcomes



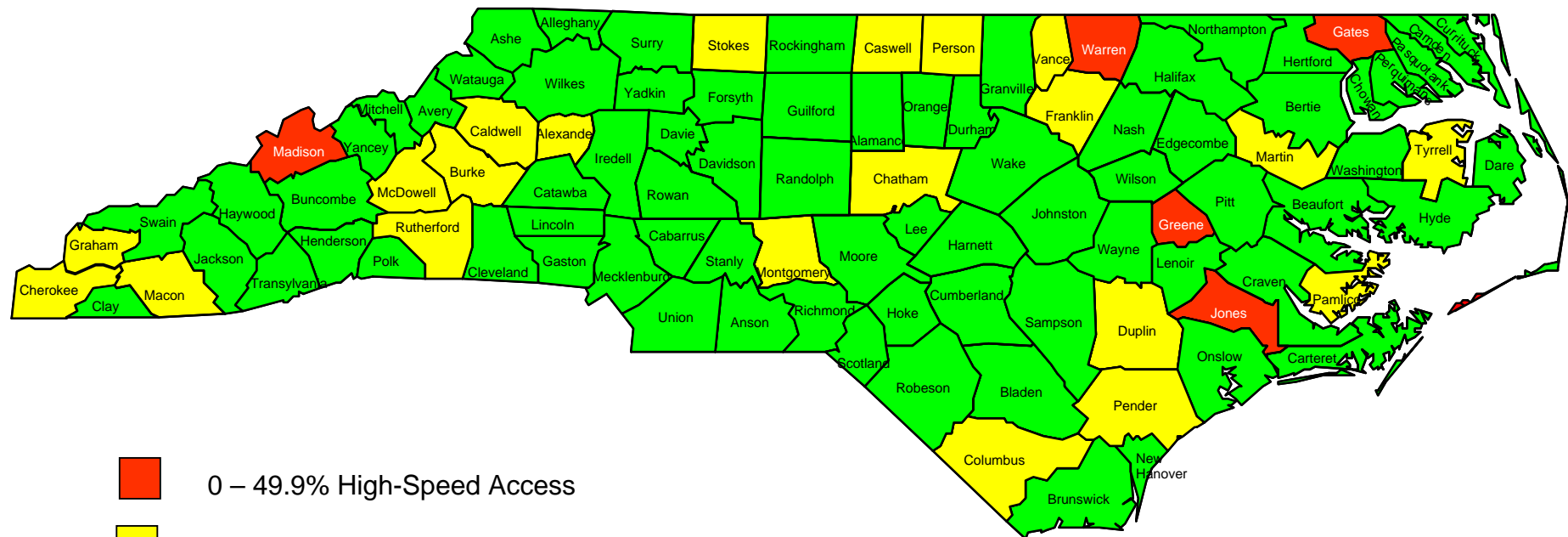
<http://www.e-NC.org>

Measuring Broadband's Economic Impact

- “From 1999 to 2002, American communities with broadband access did significantly better than those without..”
- “...broadband enhances economic activity, helping to promote job creation both in terms of the total number of jobs and the number of establishments in communities with broadband...”
- “...the mean growth in rent ...employment, number of establishments, and share of establishments in IT-intensive sectors were all higher in the communities with broadband ...”

Gillett, Sharon E., William H. Lehr, Carlos A. Osorio (MIT) and Marvin A. Sirbu (Carnegie Mellon), “**Measuring Broadband's Economic Impact**,” *Broadband Properties* (2005) <www.broadbandproperties.com>(December 2005)
Complete report -http://cfp.mit.edu/groups/broadband/docs/2005/MeasuringBB_EconImpact.pdf

2005 Households with Access to High-Speed Internet Service



0 – 49.9% High-Speed Access

50 – 69.9% High-Speed Access

70 – 100% High-Speed Access

Composite of Cable Modem and DSL Access.
Wireless and Satellite Access Not Included.

26 Counties with Less Than 70% Access to High-Speed Internet

Alexander

Burke

Caldwell

Caswell

Chatham

Cherokee

Columbus

Duplin

Franklin

*Gates**

Graham

*Greene**

*Jones**

Macon

*Madison**

Martin

McDowell

Montgomery

Pamlico

Pender

Person

Rutherford

Stokes

Tyrrell

Vance

*Warren**

* Counties with less than 50% Access to High-Speed Internet



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Tracking School Connectivity

Connectivity with Schools

- e-NC developed the Developing Regional Education Networks study at the request of the NC General Assembly in 2006
- 2nd Largest Number of Children in Rural Schools in Country- Second to Texas --Almost 500,000 children
- Children in largest schools in country—big schools
- Less than 8% are in schools with at least T1 access
- Beta Project, School Technology Commission, SBE will request funds in 2007 to correct this. \$24 million is .1% of the state's budget
- ***Connectivity at home is the Last Mile--e-NC's Charge***
- e-NC assisting with Schools Connectivity project and School Technology Commission



Tracking Connectivity

Connectivity

- e-NC tracks and monitors connectivity in NC by collecting data directly from service providers.
- As of December 2005, 82% of all state households have access to high-speed Internet. *New 2006 Report Will Be Out in February.*
- As of December 2005, 5 counties have less than 50% access to high-speed Internet service, compared with 9 counties in 2004, 17 counties in 2003 and 25 counties in 2002.
- As of December 2005, 21 counties have 50-69.99% access to high-speed Internet, compared to 28 counties in 2004.



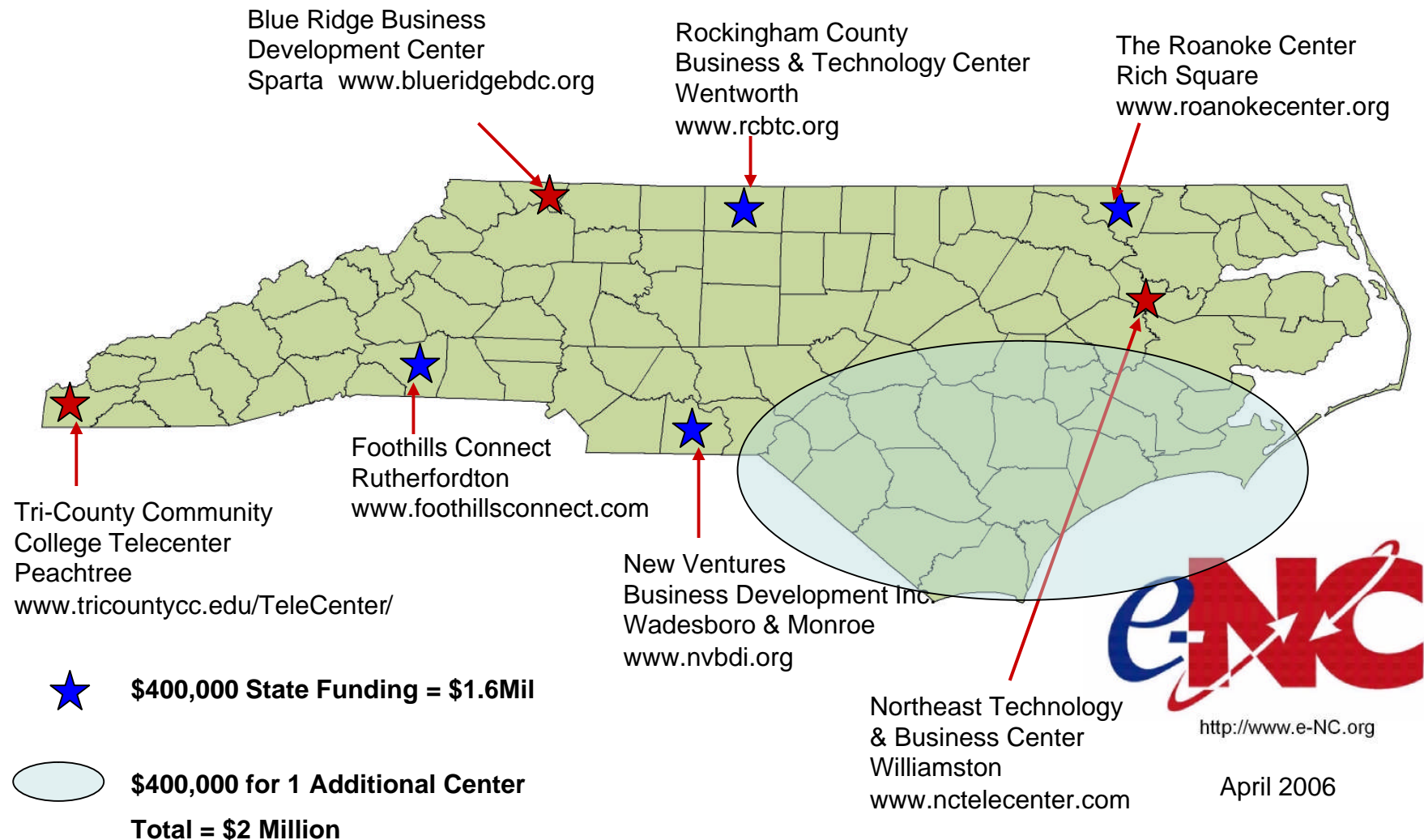
MaintainingGIS Mapping System

GIS (Geographic Information Systems) mapping of the telecommunications infrastructure in North Carolina:

- North Carolina is the first in the nation to have such an extensive mapping of a state's telecommunications infrastructure
- From Jan. 1 – July 31, 2006, this GIS mapping program had 173,419 Web site hits, including 2,095 unique visitors and 5,406 visitor sessions. The average time that a visitor spent using the system was over one hour.
- e-NC is working to ensure that state and local leaders are aware of this resource, including counties and local economic developers.



e-NC Business & Technology Telecenters



e-NCBusiness & Technology Telecenters



Tri-County Community College BTT - Cherokee



Blue Ridge BTT - Sparta



Northeast BTT - Williamston

BTTStatistics, 2001-2005

- 18,538 Tech/Business service clients
- \$8,854,889 funds leveraged
- 101,118 public access Internet visits
- 75 rural business tenants INSIDE BTTs
- 891 TOTAL JOBS CREATED
- A major focus of BTTs is working with entrepreneurs



The Roanoke Center
Rich Square, NC

Recent e-NC Authority Research Reports

2005-2006:

- *Working Together to Expand Technology Access and to Compete in the Global Economy; e-Communities Tool Kit*
by The e-NC Authority (Released November 2006)
- *The Time for Technology-Based Economic Development is Now: e-NC Business & Technology Telecenter Tool Kit*
by The e-NC Authority (Released May 2006)
- *Feasibility Study for Developing Regional Education Networks*
by The e-NC Authority for the NC General Assembly (Released May 2006)
- *High-Speed Internet Access in North Carolina: A 100 County Report*
by Charlie Pittman, The e-NC Authority (Released annually, latest release May 2006)



Recent e-NC Authority Research Reports

2005-2006:

- ***Creating Wealth, Regional Development through Cross-Border Collaboration***
By N. Maynard, A. McKethan, and R. Vaughan, Carolina Center for Competitive Economies, Kenan Institute for Private Enterprise, UNC-CH (Conducted in 2005, Released March 2006)
- ***e-NC Business & Technology Telecenter Evaluation 2005***
By Dr. Catherine Renault, Research Triangle Institute International (Released December 2005)
- ***North Carolina Local e-Government Utilization Project, External Evaluation Report***
By Dr. Harvey A. Goldstein, UNC-CH (Released December 2005)



Recent e-NC Authority Research Reports

2005-2006:

- ***North Carolinians Online: Trends from the Citizens Surveys 1999-2004***

By Dr. Ed Feser, The University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
(Released May 2005)

- ***High-Speed Internet Connectivity in NC's Distressed Urban Areas***

By Dr. Robin Howarth and Dr. William Rohe, Center for Urban & Regional Studies, UNC-CH (Released May 2005)



e-NC Funding Needs

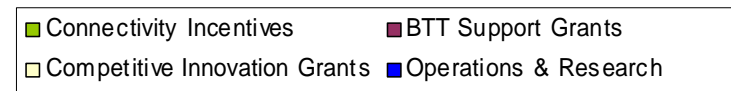
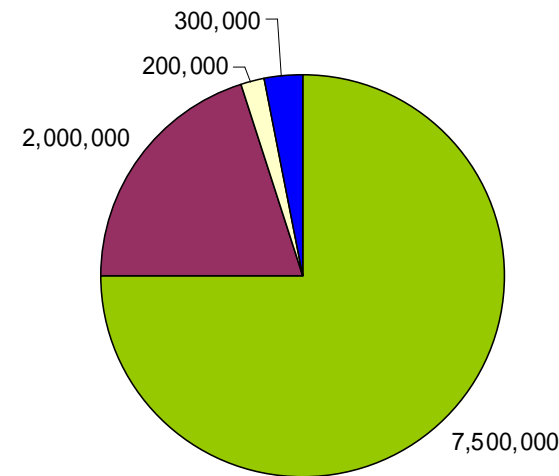
Expansion Initiatives - \$10.0 million TOTAL:

REQUESTED RECURRING FUNDS (\$8 million):

- \$7.5 million Connectivity Incentives
- \$300,000 Operations and Research
- \$200,000 Competitive Innovation Grants Program

REQUESTED NON-RECURRING FUNDS (\$2 million):

- \$2 million BTT Support Grants



Connectivity Incentives Fund

\$7.5 million Connectivity Incentives Fund – Recurring:

Incentives based on up to \$200 per household are estimated as follows:

e-NC investment to bring all counties up to a minimum of 70% access = approximately \$7.5 million

A recurring fund would allow e-NC to then work on obtaining 80% access for all counties, then 90%, then 100% access.



BTT Support Grants Program

Request for \$2 million BTT Support Grants Program - Non-Recurring

-Funds are requested to provide scale-up support to the **four newest** BTTs that were provided start-up funding by the NC General Assembly in 2004:

- Rockingham County Business & Technology Center, Wentworth
 - The Roanoke Center, Rich Square
 - Foothills Connect, Rutherfordton
 - New Ventures Business Development, Wadesboro & Monroe
- Seven BTTs have been spearheaded thus far by The e-NC Authority.
- BTTs are small business incubators in otherwise economically-distressed areas, and provide business start-up counseling, office space, technological resources, and public-access to the Internet.
- **To date, the existing BTTs have created and supported almost 900 jobs.**

Competitive Innovation Grants Program

Request for \$200,000 Competitive Innovation Grants Program-Recurring

- Funds will be distributed and monitored by The e-NC Authority in support of model programs and value-added business initiatives, and made available to programs facilitated in cooperation with the seven existing Business & Technology Telecenters in the state, as well as The e-NC Authority's e-communities program.
- Other potential uses for this competitive seed fund could include:
 - digital literacy and e-commerce programs for small business entrepreneurs
 - pilot urban distressed programs
 - e-government projects



Operations and Research

Request for \$300,000 Operations & Research - Recurring

e-NC Annual Operating Budget (06-07) = \$1.12 million

Key operations with 6.5 staff members include:

- Tracking connectivity
- GIS telecommunications infrastructure mapping program
- e-NC Programs (such as BTTs, Cross Borders, e-communities and others)
- Research **as requested by legislators, citizens, industry**
- Training and Conferences (ex: Southeast Information & Communication Technologies Symposium, Cross-Borders Conference)

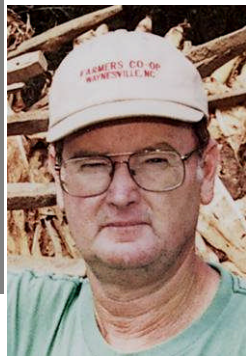


www.e-nc.org

The Reallnnovators !!!!

***We are confident in the
future because of ...***

■ THE PEOPLE OF RURAL NORTH CAROLINA



QUESTIONS?

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To ReachUs ...



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