

# Policy Tsslkit

**Broadband and Connectivity for Better Health Care** 



#### This ITUP Policy Toolkit:

- Provides hyperlinks to resources that help you understand more about the need to expand broadband and connectivity to ensure a better future of health care for California communities,
- 2) Curates state and federal initiatives and select resources around telehealth, broadband, and connectivity, and,
- 3) Contains hyperlinks to help you navigate between state agency programs and initiatives.

#### **Broadband and Digital Equity: Learn More**

ITUP Broadband for Health Basics Fact Sheet

ITUP Health, Equity, and the Digital Divide: How to Engage

**ITUP Broadband and Connectivity Policy Forum** 

ITUP LA Health Collaborative: Addressing Broadband as a Social Driver of Health

Local Lessons Learned in Telehealth

Institute for Local Self-Reliance (ILSR): Digital Equity Fact Sheets

National Digital Inclusion Alliance: Digital Inclusion 101

Electronic Frontier Foundation: Community Broadband Fact Sheet

ITUP Health Information Exchange Fact Sheet

**ITUP Community Health Workers Fact Sheet** 

ITUP Telehealth During COVID-19 Fact Sheet

#### **Advancing Digital Equity in Virtual Care**

Department of Health Care Services (DHCS): Telehealth FAQ

- DHCS Public Health Emergency (PHE) Unwinding Plan: Telehealth Flexibilities
- DHCS Telehealth Advisory Workgroup
- DHCS Telehealth Advisory Workgroup Slides: Telehealth Data

California Health Care Foundation (CHCF): Bridging the Digital Divide Series

- CHCF Survey Results: Listening to Californians with Low Incomes: How They Experience the Health Care System and What It Means for the Future
- CHCF Telehealth Resource Collection

<u>California Pan-Ethnic Health Network (CPEHN): Equity in the Age</u> of Telehealth: Considerations for California Policymakers

OCHIN California Telehealth Network

<u>Center for Connected Health Policy (CCHP): California Telehealth</u> Policy Coalition

# **FastFacts**

# BROADBAND AND TELEHEALTH LANDSCAPE IN CALIFORNIA

<u>Statewide Broadband Adoption</u>, by Speed (Megabits per second (Mbps))

**79.6%** 25/3 Mbps



66.5% 100 Mbps

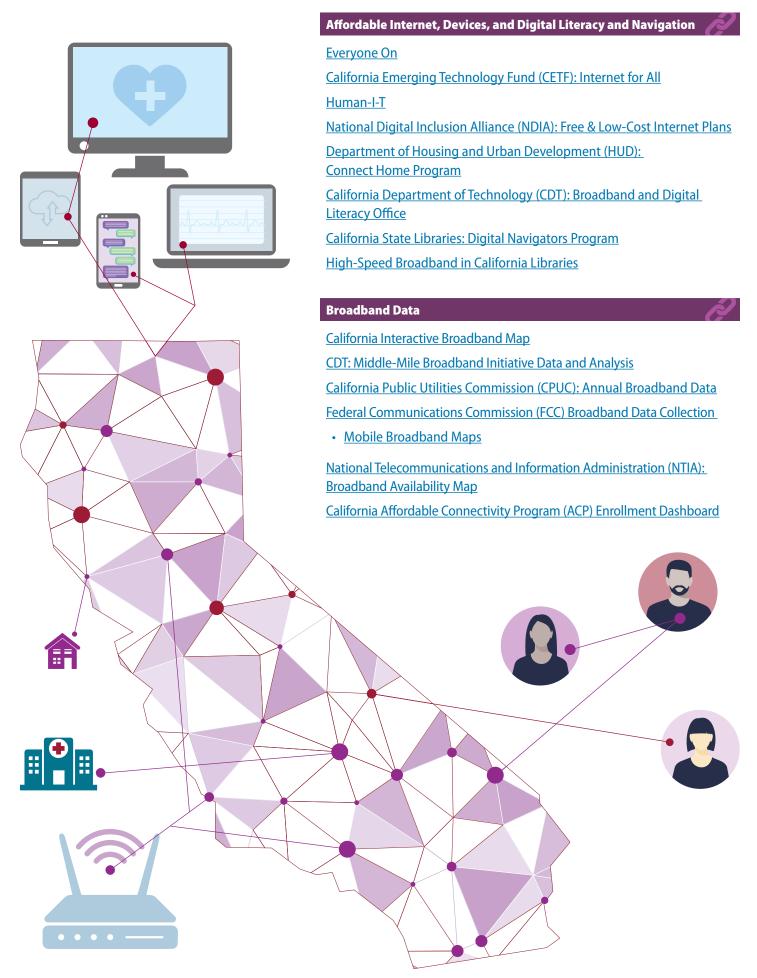
According to Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) data from April 2020 to March 2021:

- 1 out of 5 new patient Evaluation and Management Claims were via telehealth across age groups
- 1/3+ of all claims for established patients, all age groups, were for telehealth visits
  \*Telehealth utilization data during the pandemic is skewed because in-person visits may have been postponed.

A **CHCF Telehealth Survey** showed:

**79%** of low-income adults in California would like to always have the option for a telehealth visit





## **Broadband Engagement for Health Stakeholders**

The highlighted state and federal agencies and departments all have initiatives and efforts to expand broadband and digital equity. The future of health is grounded in data, virtual care, and technology making health voices integral to expanding broadband and connectivity across California communities.

## **CPUC** initiates rulemaking and regulations and oversees implementation of many

broadband investments

#### **State-Level Engagement on Broadband**

California Department of Aging: Digital Divide

California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)

- Middle-Mile Rulemaking
- Middle-Mile Advisory Committee
- **Open Access Middle-Mile**
- Last-Mile Federal Funding Account
- Rulemaking Regarding Revision to the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF)

## California Department of Technology (CDT)

- · California Broadband Council
- State Action Plan Progress Tracker
- Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative
- Last-Mile and Adoption Programs

**CDT** oversees the Broadband for All Initiative activities enabling easy access to broadband related information, tools, and ways for communities to develop and expand broadband





rural areas

# Federal Agencies for Broadband and Virtual Care

Health and Human Services (HHS): Telehealth FAQ

Public Health Emergency: Telehealth for CBOs

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS): Telehealth

Federal Communications Commission (FCC): Broadband Data, Speeds, and Adoption

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA): **Broadband Infrastructure** 

US Department of Agriculture (USDA): Rural Broadband









