

What's New with Release 2.5.0 of the California Interactive Broadband Map

The latest update of the California Interactive Broadband Map shows a large increase in grant eligible areas. This document provides details on what changes were made.

With the end of the State Broadband Initiative grant from the NTIA in January 2015, the CPUC switched funding of broadband mapping activities to the California Advanced Services Fund. This is the first time the CPUC collected broadband data from providers without the NTIA's imprimatur. Data formats changed as providers submitted broadband deployment data to the FCC directly. The CPUC asked providers for the same data submitted to the FCC.

Because data is now collected by the FCC, data reporting formats have changed. Mobile broadband reporting format changed from maximum advertised to minimum advertised. Rather than use advertised speeds for the four major mobile providers, CPUC implemented interpolated mean minus two standard deviations. Another change was the elimination of reporting at road segment level for wireline providers. Now, all wireline availability data is reported at the census block level.

In order to accommodate these changes we have made a number of enhancements to the interactive map:

Data Updates

- Broadband availability data as of December 31, 2014
- Community Anchor Institution data as of January 1, 2015
- FCC tower data as of October 1, 2015
- Adoption and penetration calculations based on FCC 477 subscription data as of December 2014
- Mobile interpolated mean minus two standard deviation downstream availability and served status layer for AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile, and Verizon Wireless based on field testing data as of Spring 2015; for Cricket and MetroPCS, based on minimum advertised speeds as of December 31, 2014
- Public feedback layer data as of September 1, 2015
- CalSPEED data updated every 24 hours
- CASF applications as of September 1, 2015

Display & Function Updates

- CASF assistant tool data now based on served status of wireline only (not combined)
- CASF assistant tool's Excel data output is formatted to match the average speed calculator

- Mobile test results now displayed as interpolated mean minus two standard deviations (AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile, and Verizon), and minimum advertised speed for all other Cricket and MetroPCS
- Addition of new speed tiers and colors (i.e. 100 – 500mbps, 500 – 1000 mbps, etc.)
- Fixed wireless served layer shown as hatched to imply partially served areas (not 100% served, and hence grant-eligible)
- Interactive map's default display upon launching shows wireline served status
- Satellite data no longer collected or included in map
- Business provider data is broken out separately from residential in Provider Drill Tool feature (to be added later in Release 2.5.1)

About Mobile Availability Resolution

The interpolation model we use for mobile availability provides a birds-eye view of likely speed and coverage, but it is not accurate down to a specific address. For more information about mobile validation, please refer to our validation procedures.

Provider Data Submission Differences

Provider Technology	Number of providers for Dec. 2014 submission (NEW)	Number of providers for Jun. 2014 submission (OLD)
Wireline	31	46
Mobile	7	8
Fixed wireless	25	29
Wireline/Fixed wireless	8	8
Satellite	0	4
Total	71	95

Despite the reduction in the number of providers submitting data for the December 2014 update, the providers from whom we received data represent 99% of the broadband subscribers in California.