

# MINGO COUNTY DIGITAL EQUITY FACT SHEET

## WHAT IS DIGITAL EQUITY?

Digital equity ensures that all individuals and communities, regardless of location or socioeconomic status, have access to affordable, reliable internet, as well as the skills necessary to fully participate in today's digital society.

### Households without Device:



### Households without Broadband:



## Covered Population Demographics

There are **23,466** Residents in MINGO COUNTY



**41%**  
Households with incomes at or below the national poverty level.

**20.7%**

of the population are aging individuals (65+)



**33%**  
of the population are individuals living with a disability

**7.9%**

of the population have low literacy rates



## Why Digital Equity Matters in Mingo County



### Education:

- Broadband access helps students participate in online learning, complete assignments, and develop digital skills.



### Healthcare:

- Telemedicine access can be crucial for rural areas, providing healthcare without the need for extensive travel.



### Workforce Development:

- High-speed internet fosters job opportunities, skills training, and remote work potential in rural communities.

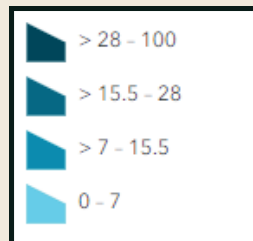


### Civic Engagement:

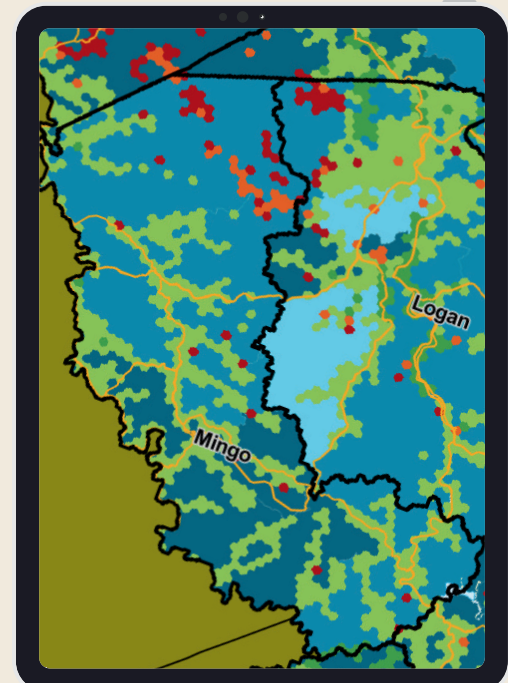
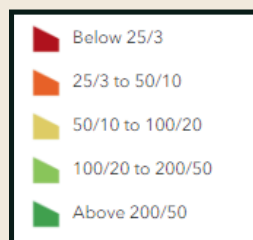
- Broadband helps residents participate in democracy, access public services, and stay informed.

## Broadband Coverage in MINGO COUNTY

% of no broadband subscription



Claimed Speeds



Digital equity plans were completed by Generation WV on behalf of Mingo County in Fall 2024. GWV hosted community workshop and planning meetings. This factsheet highlights key points from those plans.

# PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS TABLE

PROBLEM	SOLUTION
<p><b>Affordability of devices/technology, and services. Lack of affordable subscriber options.</b></p>	<p><b>Affordability:</b> Stipend to afford services for low income residents, Write into tax code – support for low income residents</p>
<p><b>Lack of digital skills training and education</b></p>	<p><b>Digital literacy:</b> Adding resources at local libraries that involve high quality training for individuals who may be interested in the digital economy.</p> <p><b>Business digital skills:</b> Digital training/internships to apply skills to help small businesses (ie. improve online marketing.) and support workforce.</p>
<p><b>Lack of transportation to resources like libraries.</b></p>	<p><b>Increased connectivity:</b> Libraries have lack of cell service, Finding ways to address cellular connectivity</p>

**What would broadband access mean for Mingo County?**



## Mingo County Next Steps

- Invite key community leaders and organizations to boost participation.
- Create a strategy to connect with underrepresented communities.
- Apply for grants to support digital equity initiatives.
- Set a timeline and framework for ongoing stakeholder input.

### Digital Equity Plan:

The full Digital Equity Plan for Mingo County can be found at

<http://generationwv.org/broadband>

SCAN ME

