As of January 2014, the GED test will only be available online.

**ECONOMY**
Securing 15 million more broadband lines in the U.S. can increase the GDP by $50 billion.

**GOVERNMENT**
54% of U.S. adults went online to get information about or to get involved in the 2010 midterm election.

**WORK**
Using the internet to look for a job reduces the time spent unemployed by 25%.

**EDUCATION**
As of January 2014, the GED test will only be available online.

**HEALTH**
Broadband enabled remote health care monitoring can save $197 billion in health care costs over 25 years.
Some people are getting left behind.

CURRENT STATS (AS OF 2011) ON INTERNET USE AND HOME BROADBAND ACCESS AMONG DISADVANTAGED USERS

**SENIOERS**
Adults over the age of 65

- **59%** DON’T USE THE INTERNET vs. **6%** of adults ages 18-29
- **57%** NO INTERNET AT HOME vs. **20%** of adults ages 18-29

**LOWER INCOME**
Adults earning less than $30K/year

- **38%** DON’T USE THE INTERNET vs. **3%** of adults that make 75K+/year
- **46%** NO INTERNET AT HOME vs. **18%** of adults that make 75K+/year

**LESS EDUCATED**
Adults without a high school diploma

- **57%** DON’T USE THE INTERNET vs. **6%** of adults with at least a college degree
- **63%** NO INTERNET AT HOME vs. **11%** of adults with at least a college degree

**DISABLED**
Adults living with a disability

- **46%** DON’T USE THE INTERNET vs. **19%** of adults that are not disabled
- **59%** NO INTERNET AT HOME vs. **31%** of adults that are not disabled
Here’s why.

COST
“I can’t afford internet service.”
36% find it too costly for the technology and/or internet service.

RELEVANCE
“I don’t think the internet is important to my quality of life.”
19% are not aware of the potential uses of the internet and do not see it as relevant to their daily lives.

LACK OF SKILLS
“I don’t know how to use a computer.”
22% don’t have the digital skills necessary.

We can do better.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS
We can create awareness campaigns that can guide individuals to community internet access points and technology training opportunities.

DISCOUNTED ACCESS
We can provide discounted access to home broadband service.

TRAINING PROGRAMS
We can provide technology training to community members that leads to jobs, improved health care, higher educational attainment and more connections with family and friends.

FASTER NETWORKS
We can encourage upgrades and/or creation of broadband networks to people’s homes so that all American households have competitive choices of ultra high speed networks.
Learn how you can increase access and use of information technology in your community.

Visit: oc.lc/digitalinclusion

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Sources: