

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 17, 2025

TO: Jessica Rosenworcel, Chairwoman
Brendan Carr, Commissioner
Geoffrey Starks, Commissioner
Nathan Simington, Commissioner
Anna Gomez, Commissioner

FROM: *Fa Dameli*
Fara Damelin, Inspector General

SUBJECT: FCC OIG Transmittal of Data Transparency Product: Broadband Data Stroll

I am pleased to share that FCC OIG has partnered with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) OIG and the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) OIG, to develop the [Broadband Data Stroll](#). This data visualization product utilizes, consolidates, and provides an innovative view of publicly available data from broadband infrastructure programs administered by the FCC, USDA, and DOC's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). In accordance with the Inspector General Act, this joint effort is intended to inform our stakeholders, enhance collaboration among OIGs, and promote joint oversight of federal broadband investments moving forward.

Of note, this new platform incorporates the crucial work conducted by the FCC to develop, maintain, and continually update its [National Broadband Map](#) and [Broadband Funding Map](#), in accordance with its statutory mandates. While the FCC's maps focus on last mile broadband availability and deployment funding, the Broadband Data Stroll includes several additional USDA and NTIA funding programs that focus on broader broadband access and adoption goals.

This is the second version of this product, which was initially developed and released by USDA OIG and DOC OIG in 2022, and did not incorporate FCC program information. The objectives of the original initiative were to:

- raise awareness of certain broadband programs as part of the participating OIGs' oversight missions,
- provide context to supplement related work, and
- provide transparency on funding as it relates to broadband.

FCC OIG was invited to join USDA OIG and DOC OIG in developing this second release, which enhances the previous version by:

- updating broadband availability information using the FCC's most recent National Broadband Map;
- adding FCC program funding data and updated USDA and DOC funding data;
- centralizing federal award data for the three agencies onto one map, to include publicly available information from FCC's Funding Map;
- leveraging live award data, when available, to display the current status of federal funds; and
- reorganizing the layout of the original data stroll for improved usability.

With these enhancements, we expect to use the Broadband Data Stroll to analyze potential funding overlap and duplication, and measure program performance.

Finally, as part of the development process, the Broadband Data Stroll was shared with subject matter experts at each agency, including the FCC, and their excellent feedback was incorporated. I would like to expressly recognize the assistance of the FCC's Broadband Data Task Force, whose comments and questions enhanced our final product. We hope that the Broadband Data Stroll is a useful tool to the FCC as it carries out its critical work in leading governmentwide broadband coordination efforts - a role the FCC OIG highlighted in this year's [Top Management and Performance Challenges Report for FY 2025](#).

We plan to post this transmittal and a link to the Broadband Data Stroll on our website and on [oversight.gov](https://www.oversight.gov) next week. Feel free to reach out if you would like a demonstration of this product or have any questions.

cc: Mark Stephens, Managing Director
Dan Daly, Deputy Managing Director
Allen Hill, Chief Information Officer
Jean Kiddoo, Chair, Broadband Data Task Force
Eduard Bartholme, Senior Outreach Director, Broadband Data Task Force