



Broadband Data Collection:

Presentation to the National Geospatial Advisory Committee

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Broadband Data Collection: FCC's Historical Approach

- ▶ **The FCC today collects broadband deployment data using FCC Form 477**
 - ▶ Fixed broadband service providers report broadband deployment based on U.S. Census Block geographic areas
 - ▶ The U.S. is divided into +11,000,000 census blocks varying in size between urban and rural areas.
 - ▶ If a fixed provider makes service available to a location within a census block, then the entire census block is shown as "served" by the provider.
 - ▶ Mobile broadband service providers report broadband deployment by technology and based on minimum advertised speed or, if a particular speed is not advertised, then speeds consumers should reasonably expect to receive at a given location.
 - ▶ A lack of standardized reporting parameters prevents apples-to-apples comparisons of data among mobile service providers.

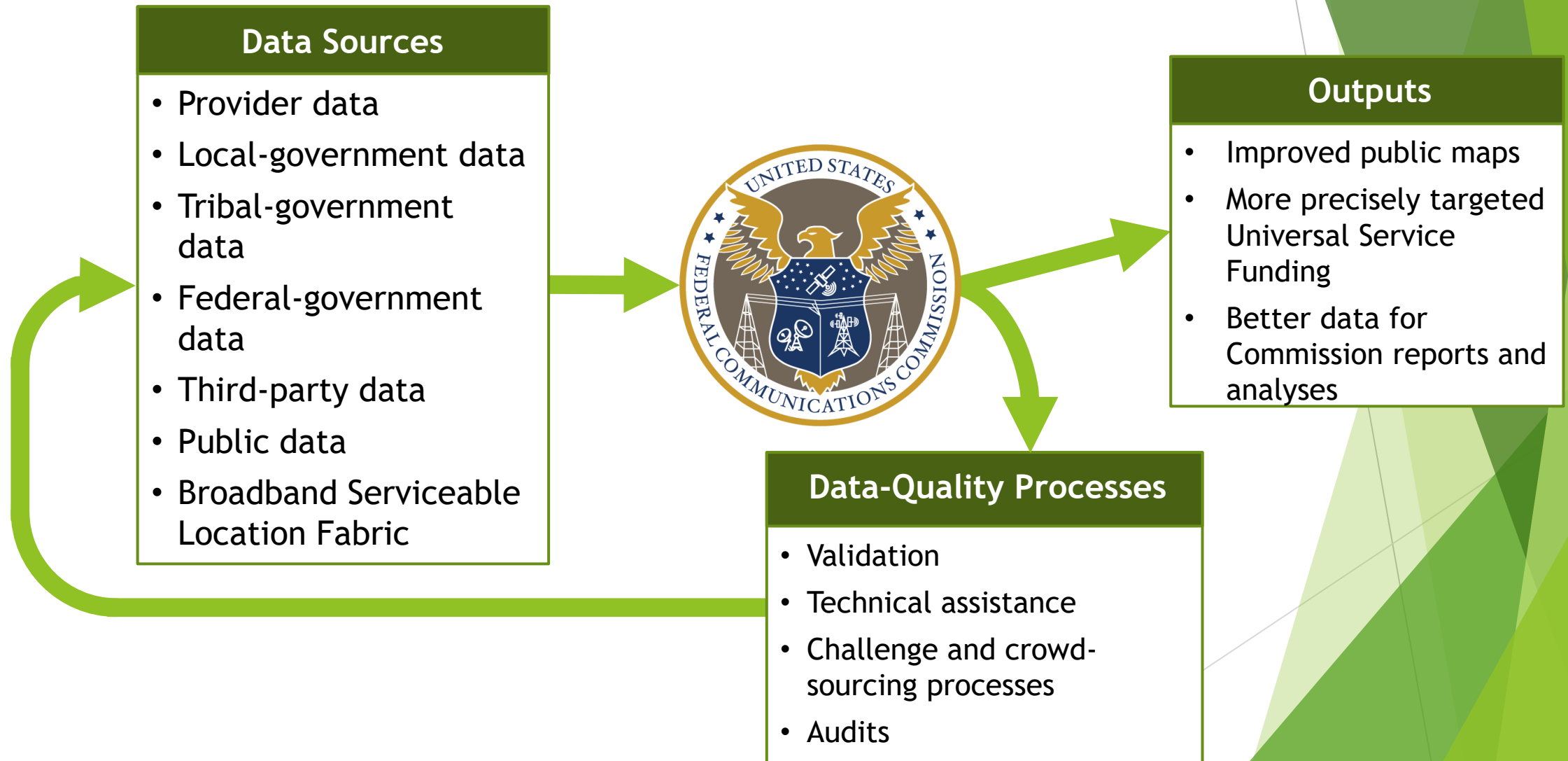
Broadband Data Collection: Goal

- ▶ **More precise and consistent broadband availability data is critical to efforts to target public funds to connect unserved and underserved communities, including Tribal lands.**
- ▶ **Congress directed the FCC to develop processes and procedures to collect, verify and publish more precise data in the Broadband Deployment Accuracy and Technological Availability (DATA) Act.**

Broadband Data Collection: Key Dates

- ▶ **March 2020: Broadband DATA Act**
 - ▶ Specified collection of broadband data and challenge/verification processes
- ▶ **July 2020: Second Report and Order/FNPRM**
 - ▶ Reporting
 - ▶ Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric
 - ▶ Processes for verifying data
- ▶ **December 2020: Consolidated Appropriations Act**
 - ▶ Funding for implementation and administration of data collection
- ▶ **January 2021: Third Report and Order**
 - ▶ Further refinements and challenge processes
 - ▶ Delegated additional technical challenge/verification methodologies to Bureaus/Offices
 - ▶ Established the requirements for the collection and submission of verified coverage data from governmental entities
 - ▶ Directed OEA and CGB/ONAP to provide technical assistance to various constituencies
- ▶ **February 2021: Broadband Data Task Force Established**
 - ▶ Expedite and coordinate implementation effort spanning multiple FCC Bureaus and Offices

Broadband Data Collection: What We Need to Accomplish



Broadband Data Collection: What We Will Achieve

- ▶ **Fixed broadband availability data down to the individual location**
- ▶ **Mobile broadband availability data standardized across providers**
- ▶ **Challenge process to identify and dispute data collected from providers**
- ▶ **Incorporation of data from state, local, and Tribal governments**
- ▶ **Crowdsource information to support verification efforts**
- ▶ **Audits and enforcement**

Broadband Data Collection: Implementation Milestones

▶ Spring 2021

- ▶ Data Architect & Design Services Contract
- ▶ RFI for Fabric
- ▶ Consumer Experience Portal

▶ Summer 2021

- ▶ RFP for Fabric Development
- ▶ Contract for IT System Development
- ▶ Public Notice on Mobile Challenge, Verification, and Crowdsourcing Methodology
- ▶ 4G LTE Mobile Map of Four Largest Providers' Coverage Based on BDC Parameters to Preview BDC Maps

Broadband Data Collection: Next Steps

- ▶ **Fabric contract**
- ▶ **Other contracts (e.g., mobile app updates, technical assistance, user acceptance and IV&V testing)**
- ▶ **Outreach to Tribes and technical assistance to other filers**
- ▶ **Public Notice to announce start of data collection, followed by initial data collection and map publication**
- ▶ **Open Submission Window**
- ▶ **Publish Maps/Data**
- ▶ **Challenge and Verification Process**