

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Survey looks at How Nebraskans are Using Broadband and Cost Benefits

APRIL 10, 2018 (LINCOLN, NEB.) — Digital readiness is key to building a stronger workforce and strengthening the State's economy. The University of Nebraska Extension, the Nebraska Information Technology Commission, the Nebraska Public Service Commission, and Nebraska Library Commission have partnered with the Purdue Center for Regional Development to conduct a statewide Digital Readiness survey. The survey is open to the public and available until April 30.

"Broadband availability and digital readiness are fundamental to helping all Nebraskans realize the benefits of participating in the digital economy," said Ed Toner, Chief Information Officer for the State of Nebraska and Chair of the Nebraska Information Technology Commission.

The survey will provide information on how Nebraskans are using broadband at home and the cost benefits of using broadband technologies. Results from this survey will help communities, resource providers, and policy makers address digital readiness and the digital divide. Participation in this survey is voluntary and is for research purposes only. Results will only be released in aggregated form, removing personal identifiers.

"According to the Brookings Institutions, two-thirds of new jobs between 2010 and 2016 required medium to high digital skills," said Roberto Gallardo, Assistant Director of the Purdue Center for Regional Development. "In order to make sure our communities participate fully in the digital age, we need to better understand how digital-ready they are. This survey will provide key information with implications for workforce development and digital inclusion."

The Purdue Center for Regional Development seeks to pioneer new ideas and strategies that contribute to regional collaboration, innovation and prosperity. Founded in 2005, the Center partners with public, private, nonprofit and philanthropic organizations to identify and enhance the key drivers of innovation in regions across the U.S. and beyond. These drivers include a vibrant and inclusive civic leadership, a commitment to collaboration, and the application of advanced data support systems to promote sound decision-making and the pursuit of economic development investments that build on the competitive assets of regions.

Resources:

The Digital Readiness survey can be found at <https://go.unl.edu/bbsurvey>.
Purdue Center for Regional Development home <https://pcrd.purdue.edu>

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