



By Joining Downeast Broadband Utility we can

- Build a fiber optic infrastructure that pays for itself with subscriber revenues
- Provide consistent high-speed service across the community
- Have a locally owned and operated future-proof fiber optic network
- Provide reliable, high-speed internet service that meets today's high demands for connectivity at competitive prices
- Join with other likeminded communities and have a voice in network operations as a DBU board member, similar to Eastern Maine Electric
- Influence our own destiny, instead of waiting for help that may never arrive

Fiber provides lightning-fast speeds + consistent service

For more information about Downeast Broadband, please visit their website at:
www.downeastbroadband.com

Charlotte Broadband Project is designed to be paid for by monthly user fees, and will not rely on taxes for operating costs

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.charlotteme.com
AND TAKE OUR
BROADBAND SURVEY

ALSO PLEASE TAKE
THE MAINE BROADBAND
COALITION SPEED TEST

Taking this Speed Test will identify address pin points and will help in allocating grant money to our community

Charlotte Broadband Committee

Amy Sawyer McDonald acting chair
David Bibber
Jeff Orchard
Lee Cain
Debi Pride
Ken Carter, chair

charlotteme.com

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**TOGETHER
WE CAN BRING
HIGH SPEED INTERNET
TO CHARLOTTE**

Community Owned Broadband in Washington County is Here!



The Pandemic opened our eyes into how much we need to have reliable, high speed internet. In the past two years, we've had to:

- work from home
- learn how to do remote schooling
- participate in online Zoom meetings not only for jobs, but non-profit clubs
- schedule doctor's appts thru Telemed
- shop and pay bills online

According to the 2020 Census Information:

- 76% of the homes in town currently have broadband internet with almost 50% using DSL, satellite or cable
- 82% of residents have at least one computing device capable of going online

Pioneer Broadband provides:

- 100/100 symmetrical internet for \$59.95
- 4 price tiers for fiber optic internet
- bundle prices for phone + internet; internet, cable + phone and more.
- for more info: <https://pioneerbroadband.com/index.php/residential/bundles>

Charlotte 2020 Census Information** Types of Computers & Internet Subscriptions

| | | |
|--|------------|-------|
| Total households: | 157 | |
| Has 1 or more computing devices | 130 | 82.8% |
| Desktop/Laptop | 113 | 72.0% |
| Smartphone | 101 | 64.3% |
| Tablet | 87 | 55.4% |
| No computer | 27 | 17.2% |
| With internet subscription | 120 | 76.4% |
| Broadband of any type | 120 | 76.4% |
| Cellular data plan | 90 | 57.3% |
| Cellular plan w/no other BB internet | 22 | 14.0% |
| Broadband* | 78 | 49.7% |
| Satellite internet | 24 | 15.3% |
| W/O internet sub. | 37 | 23.6% |
| Income in past 12 months | | |
| Less than \$20,000 | 29 | |
| With broadband subscription* | 21 | 72.4% |
| Without internet | 8 | 27.6% |
| \$20,000 to \$74,999 | 63 | |
| With broadband subscription* | 47 | 74.6% |
| W/O Internet subscription | 16 | 25.4% |
| \$75,000 or more | 65 | |
| With broadband subscription* | 52 | 80.0% |
| W/O internet subscription | 13 | 20.0% |

*Broadband such as cable, fiber optic or DSL

**United States Census Bureau: American Community Survey, 2020; ACS 5-Year Estimates Subject Tables. <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=computer%20charlotte%20maine&tid=ACSST5Y2020.S2801>

Digital Literacy

Digital literacy means having the skills you need to live, learn, and work in a society where communication and access to information is increasingly through digital technologies like internet platforms, social media, and mobile devices.

Free Learning thru NDEC Classes

The National Digital Equity Center provides digital skills training through over 40 classes organized around three themes:

- For Work & Business
- For Home & Education
- Aging Well With Technology

Classes range in duration from one to three one-hour class sessions, taken online via Zoom or in-person throughout Maine. Classes are free to Maine residents.

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

The ACP benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more. The benefit provides a discount of up to \$30/month toward internet service for eligible households. Eligible homes can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet.

There are links to these both of these programs on our website under LINKS.

www.charlotteme.com