



PUBLIC NOTICE

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DA 23-694

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URBAN RATE SURVEY TIMELINE FOR 2024

WC Docket No. 10-90

The Office of Economics and Analytics (OEA) and the Wireline Competition Bureau (WCB) hereby initiate the urban rate survey for 2024.¹ The information collected in this survey will be used to develop voice and broadband reasonable comparability benchmarks that will be in place in 2024.

In accordance with the *URS Order*, to set next year's benchmarks, we will be collecting the rates offered by a random sample of providers of fixed services identified using December 2022 data filed in the FCC Broadband Data Collection (BDC) tool. We will collect separate samples for fixed voice and fixed broadband services, in up to 500 urban census tracts for voice services and up to 2,000 urban census tracts for broadband services.² Because some providers serve many urban census tracts, these providers may receive surveys for multiple census tracts. Notifications that a provider is required to complete a survey were sent via email to each selected provider's BDC contact person and certifying official on **August 4, 2023**. The survey consists of an online reporting form, which will be accessible only to the selected providers. The email notification provided detailed information on how to access and complete the survey online and how to obtain technical assistance. Completed surveys will be due by **Sept 5, 2023**.

Additional information on the urban rate survey, including the *URS Order* referenced in this Public Notice, can be found on the Commission's urban rate survey webpage at <https://www.fcc.gov/general/urban-rate-survey-data-resources>.

For questions about the urban rate survey, please contact Craig Stroup in the Industry Analysis Division of the Office of Economics and Analytics at Craig.Stroup@fcc.gov or (202) 418-0989. For additional information about this Public Notice, please contact Suzanne Yelen at Suzanne.Yelen@fcc.gov or (202) 418-0626.

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¹ In April 2013, WCB adopted an Order setting the form and content for the annual survey of urban rates for fixed voice and fixed broadband residential services. *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90, Order, 28 FCC Rcd 4242 (WCB/WTB 2013) (*URS Order*).

² For this year's survey, on our own motion, we again find good cause to waive, to the extent necessary, the use of 2010 census tracts, as specified in the *URS Order*. See *id.* at 4244, para. 10; see also *Urban Rate Survey Timeline for 2023*, WC Docket No. 10-90, Public Notice, DA 22-859, at 1 n.2 (OEA/WCB Aug. 15, 2022). While we are using 2020 census tract boundaries for this year's survey, earlier this year, WCB released a public notice seeking comment on the use of 2020 census tract boundaries, as well as various other issues pertaining to future surveys. See *Wireline Competition Bureau Seeks Comment On Modifying The Calculation Of Broadband Benchmarks*, WC Docket No. 10-90, Public Notice, DA 23-274 (WCB May 8, 2023).