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For Immediate Release**FCC RELEASES FINAL LIST OF AREAS ELIGIBLE FOR RURAL
DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY FUND PHASE I AUCTION*****Auction Beginning on October 29 Could Connect 10.25 Million Unserved Americans***

WASHINGTON, October 8, 2020—The Federal Communications Commission today announced the final list of areas that will be eligible for bidding in the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I auction, which will target up to \$16 billion to census blocks with no fixed broadband service meeting the Commission’s minimum standards. In total, about 5.3 million unserved homes and businesses are located in areas eligible for bidding in the Phase I auction, which will begin on October 29. The auction will prioritize bids for the deployment of broadband networks providing higher speeds up to 1 Gbps and lower latency.

“The current pandemic has highlighted the importance of bringing broadband access to all Americans, and the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund is our boldest step yet to bridge the digital divide,” said Chairman Pai. “Our announcement today demonstrates the broad impact that our investment in rural America will have across the country. Our staff estimates that as many as 10.25 million Americans live in areas that could be connected to broadband through the Phase I auction, which starts in three weeks. The auction will end up connecting consumers from the Pacific Coast to the Great Plains, and from Appalachia to the Gulf Coast, who are currently missing out on digital opportunity and the economic, educational, healthcare, civic, and social benefits it brings.”

The numbers below summarize state-by-state eligibility and were developed in accord with the eligibility criteria adopted in the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Order.

State	Locations
Alabama	197,240
Arizona	131,949
Arkansas	201,923
California	370,986
Colorado	77,625
Connecticut	3,281
Delaware	7,757
Florida	147,162
Georgia	181,070
Hawaii	8,081
Idaho	40,753
Illinois	159,967
Indiana	161,688
Iowa	53,819
Kansas	46,827
Kentucky	99,200
Louisiana	176,614
Maine	27,967
Maryland	38,990
Massachusetts	29,491
Michigan	251,083
Minnesota	144,099
Mississippi	219,466
Missouri	199,211
Montana	46,076

State	Locations
Nebraska	43,445
Nevada	31,620
New Hampshire	18,243
New Jersey	11,933
New Mexico	64,408
New York	46,953
North Carolina	158,805
North Dakota	2,780
Ohio	191,832
Oklahoma	126,153
Oregon	82,583
Pennsylvania	190,325
Rhode Island	3,678
South Carolina	109,300
South Dakota	10,051
Tennessee	166,406
Texas	311,108
Utah	10,784
Vermont	19,468
Virginia	189,358
Washington	103,155
West Virginia	120,156
Wisconsin	240,840
Wyoming	18,978

Additional information about the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I (Auction 904) can be found at: <https://www.fcc.gov/auction/904>

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).