

October 22, 2012

To: NITC Commissioners
From: Anne Byers
Subject: Community Council Report

Broadband Conference. A broadband conference was held Oct. 2, 2012 in Lincoln with over 100 participants attending the full conference and over 100 students attending the luncheon featuring Internet pioneer, Vint Cert.

Best Practice Videos. The University of Nebraska and the AIM Institute are developing short videos highlighting how broadband is being utilized in Nebraska. Videos have been produced featuring Metalquest in Hebron, Banner County Public Schools, and 21st Century Equipment in western Nebraska, Dinklage Feed Yards in Sidney, and Comfy Feet in Hartington. The videos are available at <http://Youtube.com/broadbandnebraska>.

League Broadband Survey. Members of the League of Municipalities were surveyed to provide insight into how municipalities are using technology. I've included some of the preliminary findings. Respondents identified the following challenges to moving local government services to the Internet:

- The ability to accept payment by credit card (46%);
- Funding to implement (39%);
- Available staff (37%); and
- Inability to keep upgrading new technology (33%) .

Broadband is beginning to be incorporated into economic development plans. Twenty-five percent of respondents from communities with a population of more and 9% of total respondents indicated that their economic development plan currently or will be incorporating broadband.

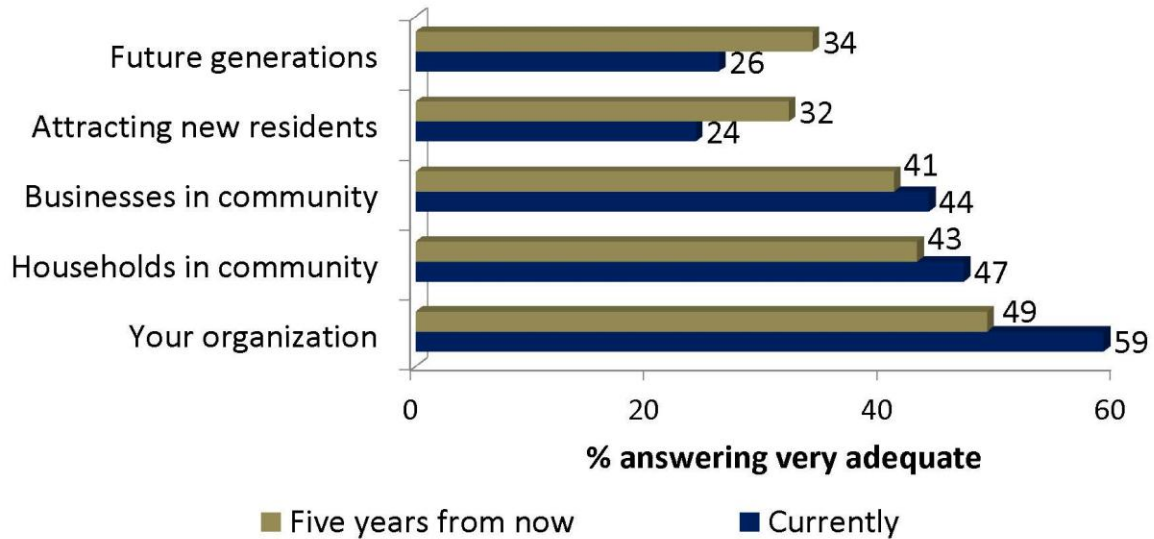
Overall, respondents seem satisfied with broadband services in their communities. Forty-four percent of respondents felt that current Internet services are very adequate for businesses in their community.



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Perceived Adequacy of Internet Services



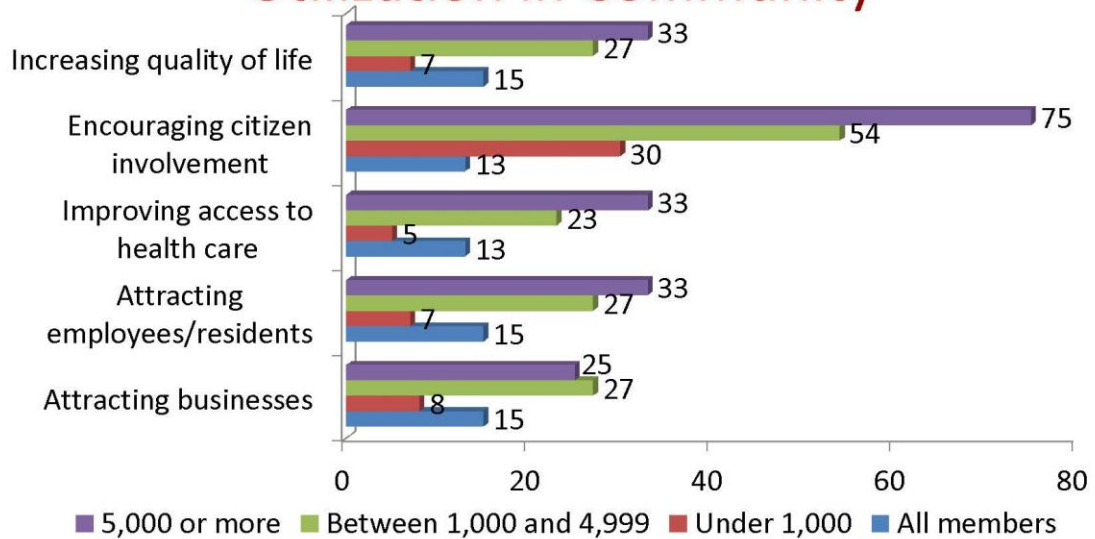
There are significant differences in how communities of differing sizes are utilizing broadband. Larger communities seem to be utilizing broadband more effectively. The following slide shows how communities of varying size view the effectiveness of broadband utilization.



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Perceived Effectiveness of Broadband Utilization in Community



The entire presentation is available at:

http://liferaydemo.unl.edu/c/document_library/get_file?p_l_id=4583975&folderId=4966141&name=DLFE-60504.pdf.