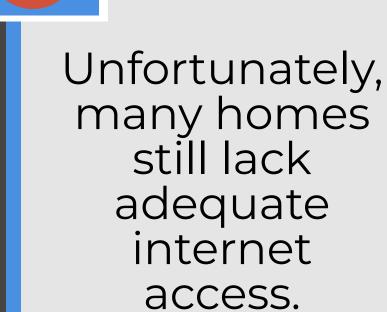


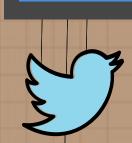
In 2010, the National Broadband Plan (NBP) was enacted as part of the National Recovery & Reinvestment Act.

Goals of the plan include ensuring that 100 million U.S. homes have affordable access to internet.





The recent repeal of net **neutrality** may mean that rural consumers will have fewer options for internet service providers, and may cause higher prices. This can adversely affect telemedicine in these areas.



@behavioralmed



@ Society Of Behavioral Medicine





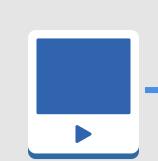


And what it means for health **Living** access in rural areas

The Current State of the Internet 🙀 • 🏚



The number of Americans that lack internet access at minimum connection speeds.



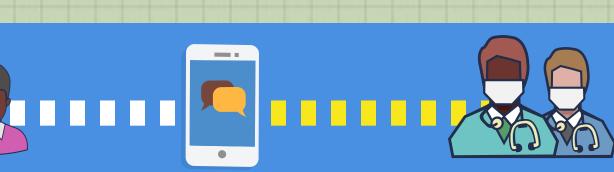




Fraction of the population in rural and tribal locations that lacks appropriate internet access.



This disparity is known as the "digital divide."



Impact on Telemedicine

*once internet access is improved

*Increased internet access.

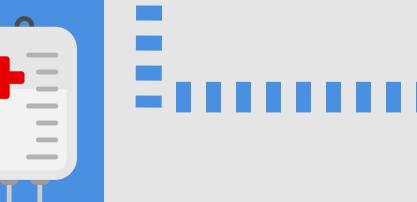


Treatment and prevention efforts can be delivered via digital platforms.

Improved healthcare for high-risk rural communities that are more likely to face a lack of healthcare providers and services.

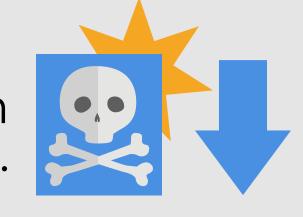








Lower mortality rates in these communities.



What Must Be Done Williams West





The cost, according to an estimate by the FCC,



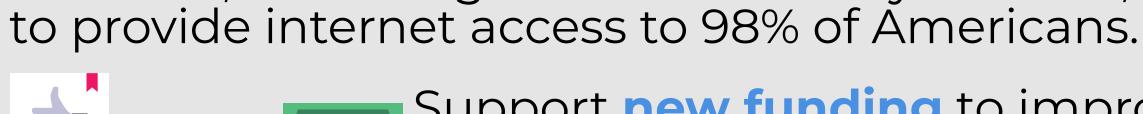


Protect and promote NBP.



Appropriate budgeted funds to meet the internet access needs of vulnerable populations.







Support new funding to improve rural broadband infrastructure.