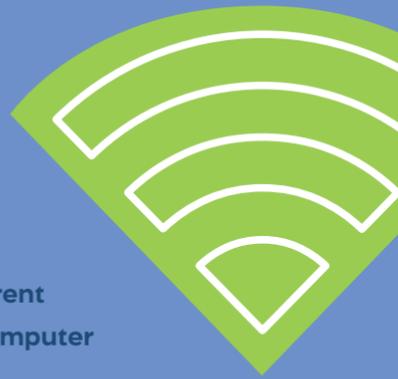


Disconnected in Maryland

THE DIGITAL DIVIDE BY THE NUMBERS

Hundreds of thousands of households in Maryland do not have a basic tool for internet connectivity – a wireline high-speed internet subscription for their home.

In the digital age, it is increasingly challenging for families who lack regular, affordable access to the internet. And the COVID-19 pandemic has only made that need more apparent as parents work from home and kids attend virtual school. Many families don't have a computer or other device the need to work effectively on the internet.



A new report commissioned by the Community Development Network of Maryland, "Disconnected in Maryland," explores the state's digital divide and offers recommendations on addressing it.

520,000 MARYLAND HOUSEHOLDS do not have a home wireline broadband subscription—**Nearly one in four (23%) homes.**

206,000 BLACK HOUSEHOLDS lack a wireline broadband connection—**40% of the disconnected in Maryland.**



2/3 of the disconnected live in metro counties or Baltimore City



178,000 households in rural Maryland lack home broadband subscriptions.



108,000 MARYLAND HOUSEHOLDS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN lack wireline internet service at home. These households are disproportionately poor, Black, and Hispanic.

It's vital to have a computing device, but many in Maryland lack one.

18% or 391,000 Maryland homes do not have a desktop or laptop computer



13% or nearly 290,000 Maryland homes lack either a desktop, laptop, or tablet computer

Residents of urban and metro areas and African American households are most likely to lack a home computing device.

The state should:

- Lead** planning to address the problem
- Invest** in digital inclusion
- Increase** public awareness of affordable solutions
- Improve** the pipeline of affordable devices
- Expand** programs to meet growing demand

