CALIFORNIA ALL

BROADBAND FOR ALL

Chinese for Affirmative Action Digital Deserts Report Briefing

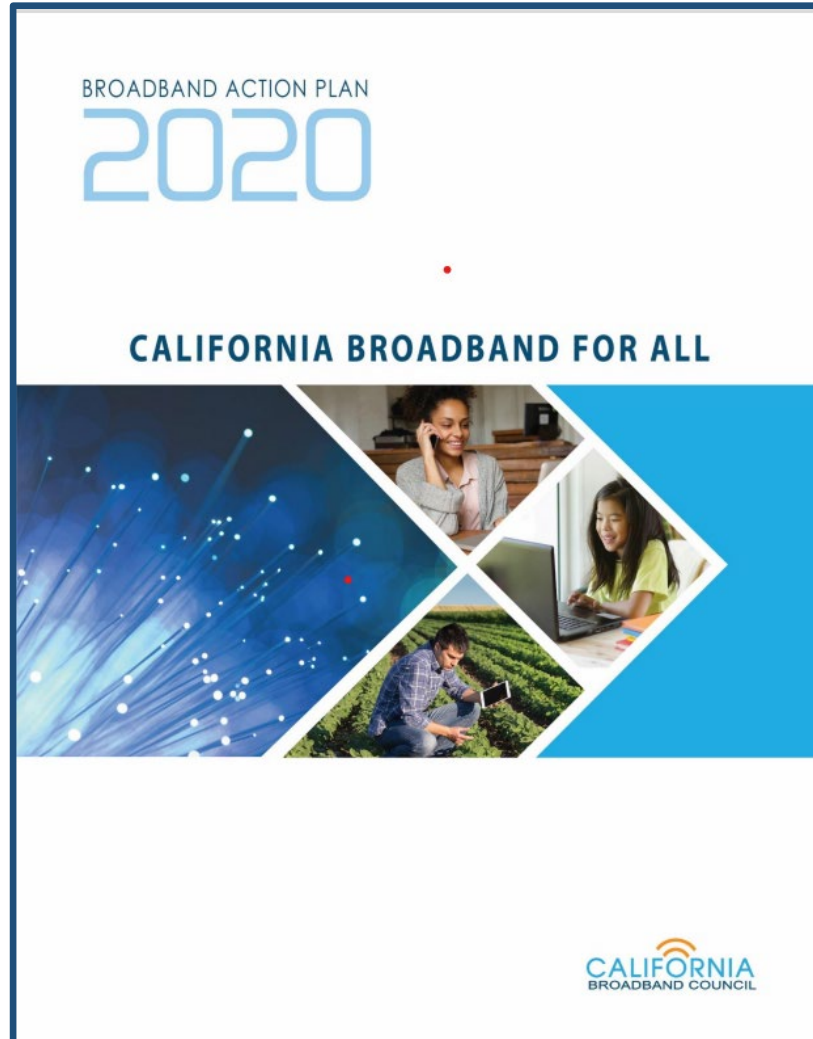## State Digital Equity Plan Update

April 4, 2024

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BROADBAND ACTION PLAN
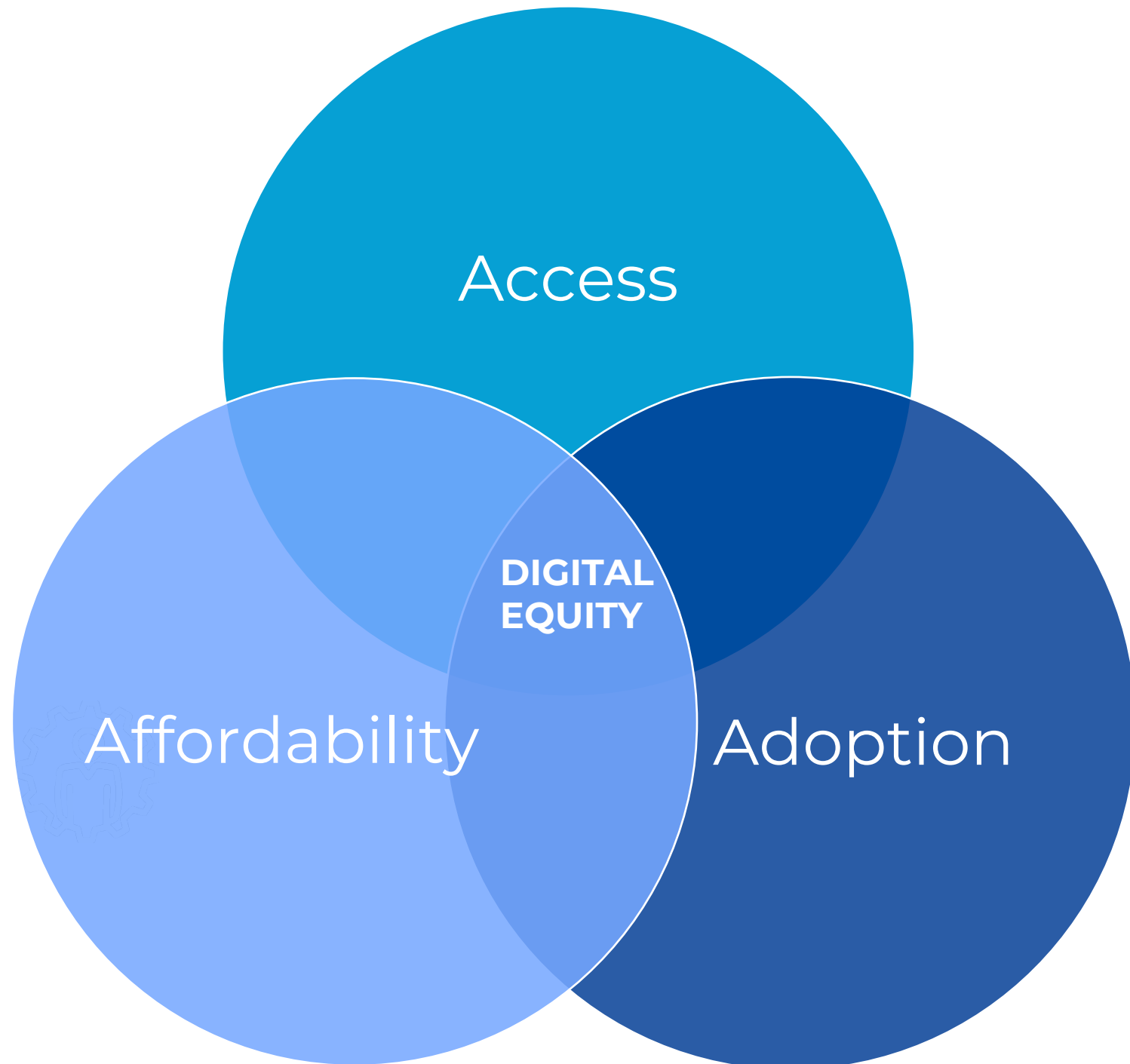
2020

CALIFORNIA BROADBAND FOR ALL

CALIFORNIA
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Goal 1: All Californians have high-performance broadband available at home, schools, libraries, and businesses.

Goal 2: All Californians have access to affordable broadband and necessary devices.

Goal 3: All Californians can access training and support to enable digital inclusion.

COVERED POPULATIONS

The Digital Equity Act prioritizes investments for eight "Covered Populations"

1
Individuals living in covered households
with an income at or below 150% Federal Poverty Level

2
Aging individuals
(60+)

3
Incarcerated individuals
other than individuals who are incarcerated in a Federal correctional facility

4
Veterans

5
Individuals with disabilities

6
Individuals with language barriers
including individuals who are English learners; and have low levels of literacy

7
Members of racial or ethnic minority groups

8
Individuals who primarily reside in rural area

9
Women and those who identify as female

10
LGBTQI+

Specifically called out in the BEAD notice of funding opportunity

1. **Executive Summary**

2. **Introduction and Vision for Digital Equity**

3. **Current State of Broadband and Digital Equity**

4. **Collaboration and Stakeholder Engagement**

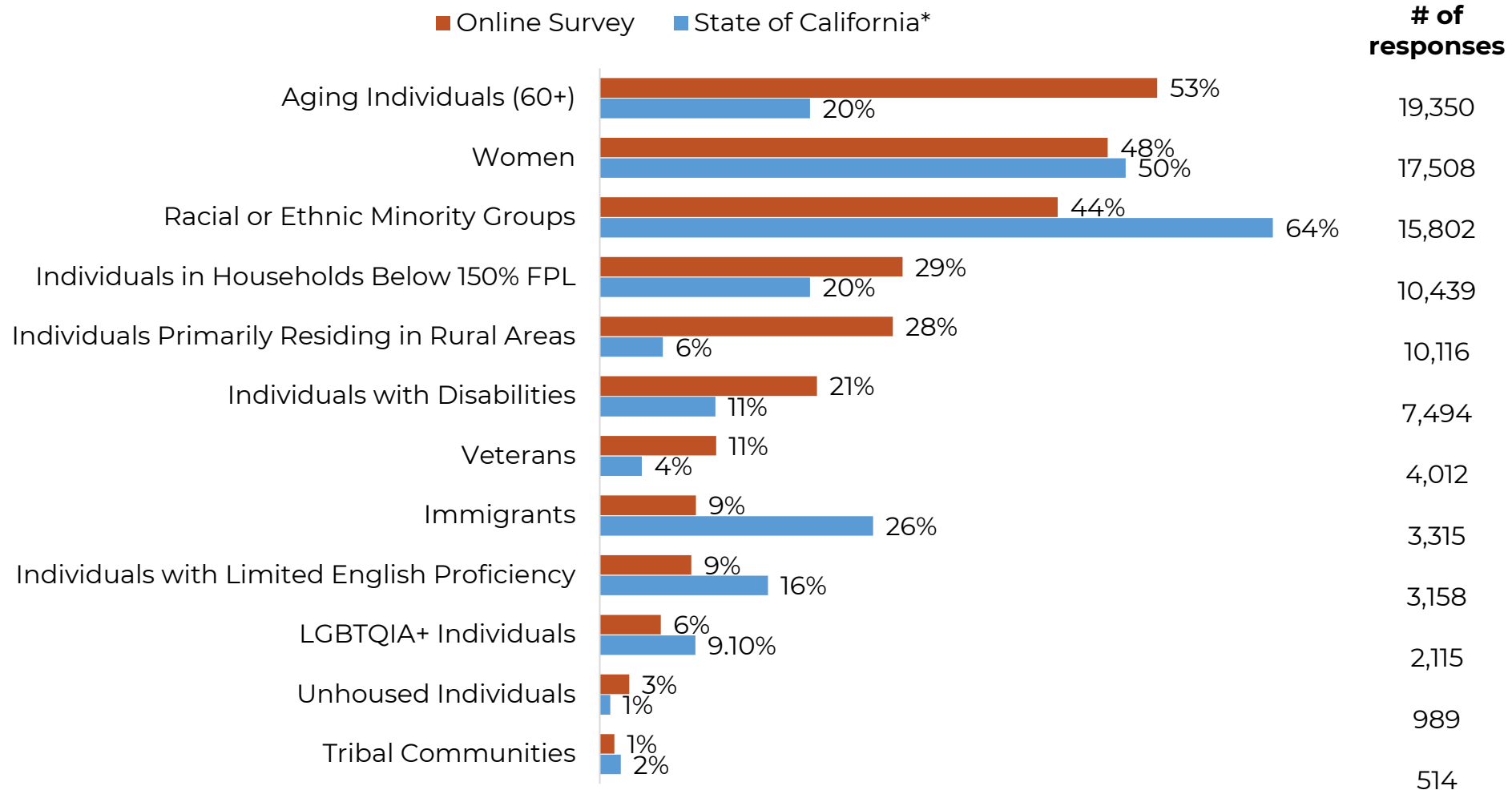5. **Implementation Strategies and Key Activities**

6. **Conclusion**

7. **Appendices**

SCAN ME

Digital Equity Online Survey

Responses by covered population

Language of Submission	Number of Responses
English	33,127
Spanish	1,866
Simplified Chinese	623
Traditional Chinese	268
Arabic	78
Vietnamese	73
Korean	53
Russian	49
Persian	44
Tagalog	42
Japanese	33
Punjabi	9
Khmer	7
Armenian	1

■ Online Survey ■ State of California*

Covered Population	Online Survey	State of California*	# of responses
Aging Individuals (60+)	53%	20%	19,350
Women	48%	50%	17,508
Racial or Ethnic Minority Groups	44%	64%	15,802
Individuals in Households Below 150% FPL	29%	20%	10,439
Individuals Primarily Residing in Rural Areas	28%	6%	10,116
Individuals with Disabilities	21%	11%	7,494
Veterans	11%	4%	4,012
Immigrants	9%	26%	3,315
Individuals with Limited English Proficiency	9%	16%	3,158
LGBTQIA+ Individuals	6%	9.10%	2,115
Unhoused Individuals	3%	1%	989
Tribal Communities	1%	2%	514

* From U.S. Census Bureau's ACS 2021 5-year estimates, 2020 Decennial Census (for rural population), Household Pulse Survey 2021 (for LGBTQIA+ individuals), and .California Senate Housing Committee 2020 Fact Sheet.

Digital Equity Ecosystem Mapping (DEEM)

Barriers Impacting Organizations

Key themes include:

- General lack of funding availability
- Lack of staff and organizational capacity
- Managing layered funding streams
- Increased program costs with little to no accompanying increase in funding.

One notable theme from respondents relates to the **hesitancy or reluctance to enroll or participate in offered programs**, either due to lack of trust, skepticism or general lack of interest or awareness.

"Many of our residents don't qualify or won't accept or apply for statewide services such as CalFresh, WIC, and more. This makes qualifying or enrolling in ACP more difficult."

"Many older adults are just not interested or not capable of learning new tech skills such as navigating the internet or using a Chromebook. It's also harder to do outreach in more remote communities."

"Device distribution, if done right, can be very staff intensive and requires on-going tech support and guidance."

"The communities we serve are often affected by trauma, so we need to work closely with partners to engage reluctant learners."

POTENTIAL USES OF STATE CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS

- Develop local digital equity plan

- Broadband adoption campaigns

- Digital Navigation services

- Digital Literacy and skills training

- Providing equipment and software for broadband services

- Constructing or upgrading public access computer centers

- Training and workforce development programs

- Federal Capacity Grant Funding Opportunity released on March 29, 2024

- California can apply for $70.2 million

- Application due May 28, 2024

- Continue Participate in Implementation

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CALIFORNIA
Digital Equity Plan

California Department of Technology
2024

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THANK YOU!

Contact:
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