Internet Connectivity and the “Digital Divide” in California Households: 2015

- A statewide survey conducted for -
  California Emerging Technology Fund

- by -
  The Field Poll

May 2015
# About the Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Population surveyed:</strong></th>
<th>California adults age 18 or older</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Method of data collection:</strong></td>
<td>Interviews conducted by means of computer-assisted telephone interviewing by live interviewers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sampling method:</strong></td>
<td>Random samples of adults developed from dual frame of random digit dial cell and landline phone listings covering California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Languages of administration:</strong></td>
<td>English, Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean and Vietnamese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sample size:</strong></td>
<td>1,664 interviews completed: English (1,237), Spanish (326), Chinese (51), Vietnamese (30), Korean (20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interviewing period:</strong></td>
<td>April 23 – May 16, 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 1
Internet connectivity in California households through any device* (2015)

- Report having Internet access at home: 87%
- No Internet access at home reported: 13%

* Includes Internet access through a smart phone or from a desktop, laptop or tablet computer.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Too expensive/no computer or smart phone at home (net)</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet service too expensive</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t have a computer or smart phone at home</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not interested</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concerns about privacy/computer viruses</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too busy/don't have the time</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too difficult to set up and learn</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can connected to it from another place</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet service not available where I live</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentages add to more than 100% due to multiple mentions.
Table 3a
How California households with Internet access connect to it
(among the 87% of households with Internet connectivity)

- Broadband connection via computer: 71%
- Broadband connectivity: 79%
- Computer connection via dial-up modem: 6%
- Smart phone connection only/no computer: 8%
- Connection type not reported: 2%

Note: Computer connection includes access to Internet through a desktop, laptop or tablet computer.
## Table 3b

**Broadband connectivity at home**
*(by region, household income and tenure)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Computer</th>
<th>Smart phone only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total statewide</strong></td>
<td>71</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Renter/other</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Homeowner</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Region</strong></th>
<th><strong>Computer</strong></th>
<th><strong>Smart phone only</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Los Angeles County</strong></td>
<td>66</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inland Empire</strong></td>
<td>69</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>South Coast</strong></td>
<td>78</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Central Valley</strong></td>
<td>74</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>San Francisco Bay Area</strong></td>
<td>76</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other California</strong></td>
<td>66</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Household income</strong></th>
<th><strong>Computer</strong></th>
<th><strong>Smart phone only</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $20,000</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000 - $39,999</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40,000 - $59,999</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$60,000 - $99,999</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 or more</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Tenure</strong></th>
<th><strong>Computer</strong></th>
<th><strong>Smart phone only</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Homeowner</strong></td>
<td>78</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Renter/other</strong></td>
<td>66</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 3c

**Broadband connectivity at home**
(by gender, age and race/ethnicity of householder)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Computer</th>
<th>Smart phone only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total statewide</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>79%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>82%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>76%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-29</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>88%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>85%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>84%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-64</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>75%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 or older</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>57%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Race/ethnicity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White non-Hispanic</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>87%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino (total)</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>70%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish-speaking</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>63%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English-speaking</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>81%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian-American</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>73%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African-American</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>81%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Table 3d**

**Broadband connectivity at home**  
(by citizenship status, educational attainment and disability status of householder)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citizenship status</th>
<th>Computer</th>
<th>Smart phone only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total statewide</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. born</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naturalized citizen</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-citizen</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational attainment</th>
<th>Computer</th>
<th>Smart phone only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not a high school graduate</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college/trade school</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College graduate (B.A./B.S.)</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-graduate work</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disability status</th>
<th>Computer</th>
<th>Smart phone only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disabled</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not disabled</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- Broadband connectivity at home (by citizenship status, educational attainment and disability status of householder).
- The data represents the percentage of households with broadband connectivity.
- The percentages are calculated based on the total number of households in each category.
### Table 3e

**Broadband connectivity at home**
*(by marital and parental status of householder)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Computer</th>
<th>Smart phone only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total statewide</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marital status</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not married/live together</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single/never married</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowed/separated/divorced</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parent of child under age 18</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-parent</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent (total)</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Married parent</em></td>
<td>73</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Unmarried parent</em></td>
<td>60</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 4
Trend of California households with broadband connectivity
(2008 - 2015)

* For all years prior to 2013, broadband Internet connectivity included those accessing the Internet through DSL, cable, satellite or fiber optic connections to a home desktop, laptop or tablet computer. For 2013 and thereafter, this also includes those connecting to the Internet at home solely through a smart phone.

Source: 2015 and 2014 surveys conducted for the California Emerging Technology Fund by The Field Poll, while prior years’ surveys conducted by the Public Policy Institute of California.
## Table 5a
Access to broadband connectivity through a computer outside the home (among California adults)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Have broadband access outside the home</th>
<th>51%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Where?</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At work</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At school</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At the library</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other places</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Sum of places where adults report having broadband access adds to more than subtotal due to multiple mentions.
Table 5b
Access to broadband connectivity through a computer outside the home
(among adults with and without broadband connectivity at home)

Tableau 5b
Accès à la connexion internet via un ordinateur en dehors du domicile
(entre adultes avec et sans connexion internet à domicile)

*Pourcentages dépassant la sous-total avec connexion internet à domicile due à mentions multiples.*
Table 6
Access to broadband connectivity either at home or outside the home

- Broadband both at home and outside the home: 45%
- Broadband at home only: 34%
- Broadband outside the home only: 6%
- No broadband access at home or outside home: 15%
- No broadband access at home or outside home: 15%