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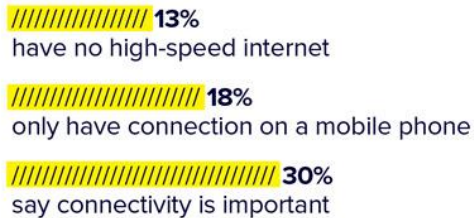
INSIDER

## Emerging Tech Fund Finds Shortcomings in Broadband's Reach

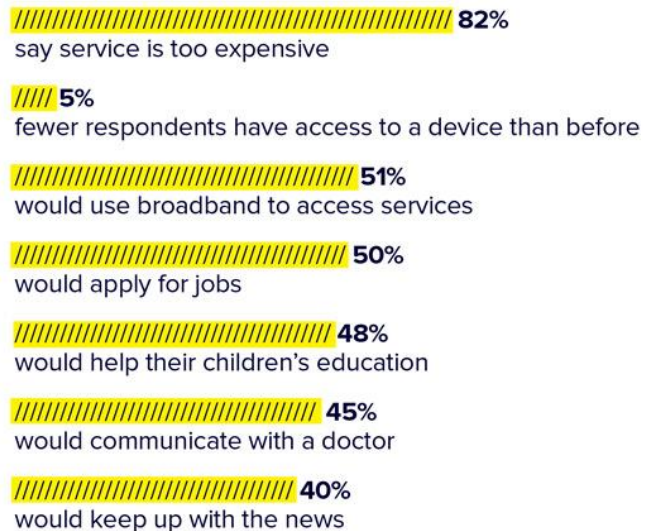
The California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF), a nonprofit that advocates for expansion of broadband, released its 2018 Digital Divide Survey findings, noting that many respondents have access to the Internet only on a smartphone, if at all.

AUG 28 / BY [KAYLA NICK-KEARNEY \(/AUTHOR/KAYLA-NICK-KEARNEY\)](#)

### CETF SURVEY RESULTS



Answers based on 1628 participants in 2017



Answers based on 546 participants in June 2018 by Davis Research

## **T**he [California Emerging Technology Fund](#)

(<https://www.techwire.net/news/emerging-tech-fund-adds-6-to-board.html>) (CETF), a nonprofit that advocates for expansion of broadband, has released its [2018 \(http://www.cetfund.org/2018%20Survey\)](http://www.cetfund.org/2018%20Survey) Digital Divide Survey findings, noting that many respondents have access to the Internet only on a smartphone, if at all.

"On behalf of CETF, Davis Research in June 2018 re-interviewed 546 of 1,628 original participants in the [2017 Annual Survey \(http://www.cetfund.org/progress/annualsurvey\)](http://www.cetfund.org/progress/annualsurvey) who agreed to be re-interviewed in 2018 to measure progress and identify barriers to home broadband adoption," the site reads.

The survey found that cost was a significant barrier to Internet access, and CETF urged that Internet providers increase awareness around [low-cost options \(https://www.techwire.net/news/should-low-income-americans-get-subsidized-internet-fcc-will-decide.html\)](https://www.techwire.net/news/should-low-income-americans-get-subsidized-internet-fcc-will-decide.html). Only one-third of respondents knew that [discount \(https://www.techwire.net/news/bill-proposes-350m-expansion-to-californias-broadband-fund.html\)](https://www.techwire.net/news/bill-proposes-350m-expansion-to-californias-broadband-fund.html) offers existed, while 30 percent of respondents said all Californians should have access.

"[California \(https://www.techwire.net/news/internet-for-all-act-has-money-to-spend.html\)](https://www.techwire.net/news/internet-for-all-act-has-money-to-spend.html) needs to act now to get everyone online who wants to save time and money, reduce impacts on the environment and participate in the digital economy," CETF [President \(https://www.techwire.net/news/cdt-state-fair-choose-champions-of-technology.html\)](https://www.techwire.net/news/cdt-state-fair-choose-champions-of-technology.html) and CEO [Sunne Wright-McPeak \(https://www.techwire.net/news/video-ceo-sunne-wright-mcpeak-discusses-digital-divide-with-christina-gagnier.html\)](https://www.techwire.net/news/video-ceo-sunne-wright-mcpeak-discusses-digital-divide-with-christina-gagnier.html) wrote in the group's press release.

CETF asked legislators and regulators, such as the California Public Utilities Commission and the Federal Communications Commission, to urge public reporting around signing up low-income households for discount service, according to the press release.

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By [Kayla Nick-Kearney \(/kayla-nick-kearney.html\)](/kayla-nick-kearney.html)

Kayla Nick-Kearney is a staff writer for Techwire.

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