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For Immediate Release

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Connect Arkansas Releases Statewide, County Broadband Maps

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. - Connect Arkansas today announced the release of the county-by-county broadband coverage maps for all 75 Arkansas counties.

Earlier in May, the organization announced the release of their second generation of statewide broadband coverage maps, Connect Arkansas President C. Sam Walls said. This set of maps shows each county's broadband coverage in greater detail on the county level.

Initial mapping by Connect Arkansas in early 2009 showed that approximately 86 percent of Arkansas's population has access to broadband internet; Connect's second generation broadband map indicates that 88 percent of the population has access.

To create these detailed maps, Connect GIS analysts worked closely with broadband service providers to obtain the necessary data for such robust and detailed maps, as required by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

The statewide coverage maps, the county-by-county maps, and a Frequently Asked Questions about the maps are available for downloading from the Connect Arkansas website at:

<http://connect-arkansas.org/mapping-research/broadband-maps/availability-maps/>

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Connect Arkansas was established in 2007 when Governor Mike Beebe signed into law the Connect Arkansas Broadband Act. As a private, non-profit corporation, Connect partners with stakeholders throughout Arkansas in developing and implementing a comprehensive plan for statewide broadband deployment to ensure the creation of a competitive broadband infrastructure that will not only improve personal lives, but also the economic capabilities of all Arkansans.