



Via Electronic Comment Filing System

March 4, 2016

Ryan Palmer  
Chief, Telecommunications Access Policy Division  
Wireline Competition Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Lifeline Program, Docket No. 11-42  
USAC Data on the federal Universal Service Lifeline Program

Dear Mr. Palmer:

On February 12, 2016, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) provided federal Universal Service Lifeline Program data and associated demographic analysis based on review of certain U.S. Census data. Based on follow-up discussion with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) staff, USAC provided additional detail in a filing on February 23rd. This filing further enhances the information to the prior filings.

- As with prior filings, the attached report provides a list of current subscribers organized by sum count as reported in the National Lifeline Accountability Database (NLAD).
- U.S. Census data were categorized into total eligible population based on certain characteristics including income and enrollment in Lifeline Program eligible income-based government assistance programs.
  - Our previous filings have included both the Current Population Survey (CPS)<sup>1</sup> and the American Community Survey (ACS).<sup>2</sup> The CPS includes information on more Lifeline-qualifying programs but has a smaller sample size and does not include questions on internet access.

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<sup>1</sup> Technical documentation about the CPS is available here: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps.html>.

<sup>2</sup> Technical documentation about the ACS survey is available here: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation.html>.

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Wireline Competition Bureau, FCC  
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- The American Community Survey (ACS) which is used as the basis methodology for this filing contains a larger sample size and more detail on internet access. One difference in the ACS when compared to CPS is that it does not include as many Lifeline-qualifying programs.
- This filing provides household and person characteristics including the presence of children under age 18, access to and type of internet available, race, ethnicity, Veteran status, age, metropolitan/non-metropolitan classification, and disability status.
- This filing includes data for the fifty United States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Please contact me if you have questions concerning this information.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michelle Garber  
Vice President, Lifeline Division