Digital Equity

Individuals and communities have IT capacity for full participation in society, democracy and economy.

Digital Inclusion

Activities necessary for full participation:

- Affordable home broadband

- Appropriate devices

- Digital literacy

- Tech support

- Applications

33%

Americans - no home broadband

Pew Research Center 2015

18 - 22%

New York households –
no home broadband

U.S. Census American Community Survey 2017

35%

New York households at/below $35K
- no home broadband

U.S. Census American Community Survey 2017

Worst Connected Cities

-   #10 Syracuse (24% households without broadband)
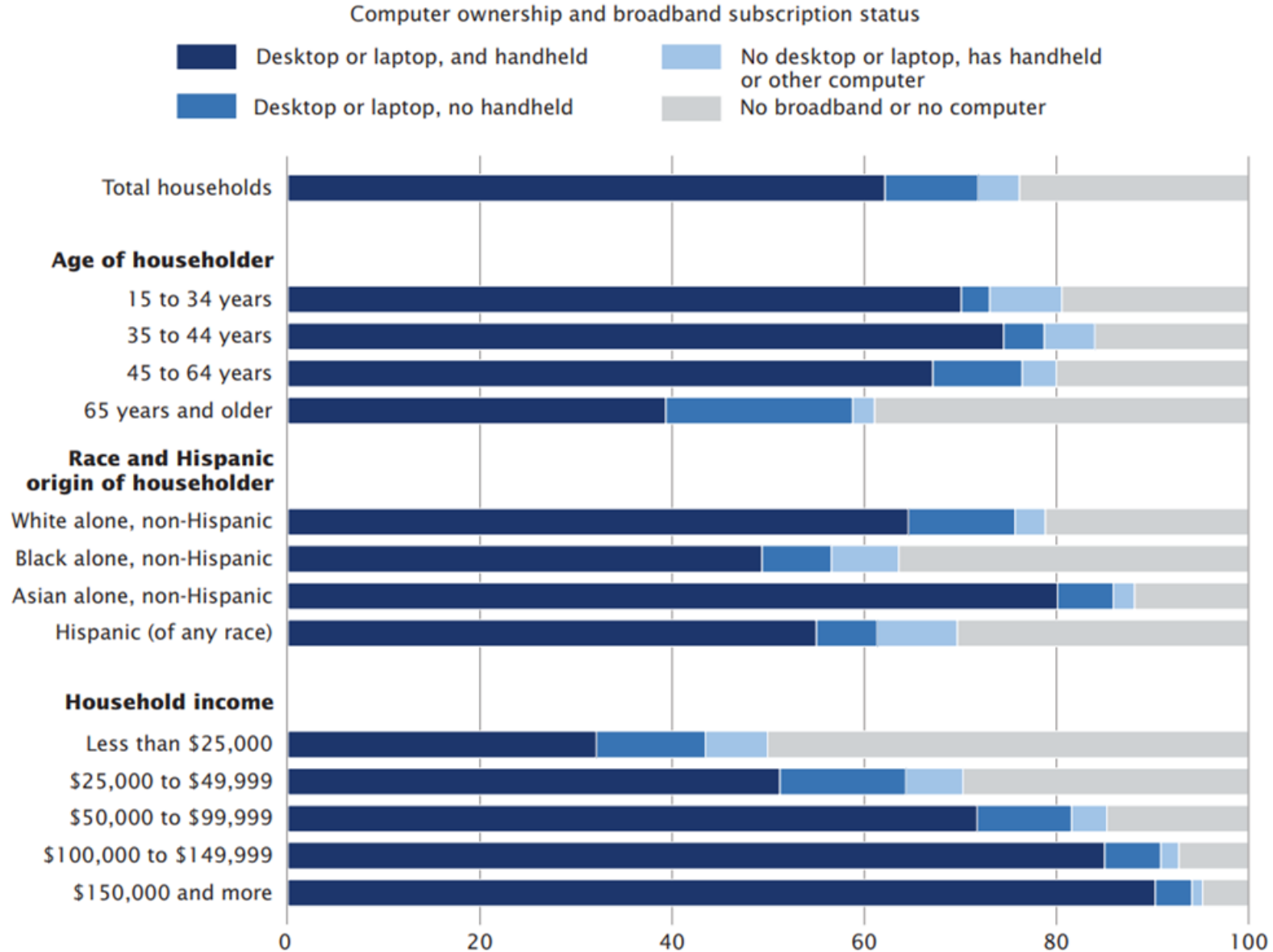-   #21 Rochester (20% households without broadband)

U.S. Census American Community Survey 2017

Disparities in Access

Figure 3.
Percentage of Households by Broadband Internet Subscription and Computer Type: 2015

Computer ownership and broadband subscription status

- Desktop or laptop, and handheld
- Desktop or laptop, no handheld
- No desktop or laptop, has handheld or other computer
- No broadband or no computer

Total households

Age of householder
- 15 to 34 years
- 35 to 44 years
- 45 to 64 years
- 65 years and older

Race and Hispanic origin of householder
- White alone, non-Hispanic
- Black alone, non-Hispanic
- Asian alone, non-Hispanic
- Hispanic (of any race)

Household income
- Less than $25,000
- $25,000 to $49,999
- $50,000 to $99,999
- $100,000 to $149,999
- $150,000 and more

Note: For more information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error and definitions, visit <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates.

Libraries & Digital Inclusion

- Libraries provide internet access to the nearly 20% of New Yorkers who lack broadband at home

- Mobile hotspot lending programs

- Digital literacy training

- Commitment to digital security and privacy

2020 Census

- 80% of households will be asked to complete the Census online.

- "Hard to Count" communities are also digitally excluded communities.

- Libraries are trusted institutions and are well-positioned to educate and inform members of the public about the 2020 census. In New York, 99% of hard to count populations live within 1 mile of a public library.

- Libraries are committed to digital security and online privacy. Libraries can help community members understand how the online census works, what risks are inherent in the process, and how the library has helped to mitigate those risks.

Resources and How You Can Help

The State Library has a list of Census 2020 resources on its website including guides for libraries, publications and reports, webinars, resources for educators and partners, and information on newsletters and email lists:

http://nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/census2020.htm