



Utah Broadband Alliance

May 20, 2026

10:00-12:00

Seniors Sharpening Digital Skills AARP Senior Planet

Kristina Demery, Manager
National Licensing Program at Older Adults
Technology Services (OATS) AARP



OATS | OLDER ADULTS
TECHNOLOGY
SERVICES
FROM **AARP**

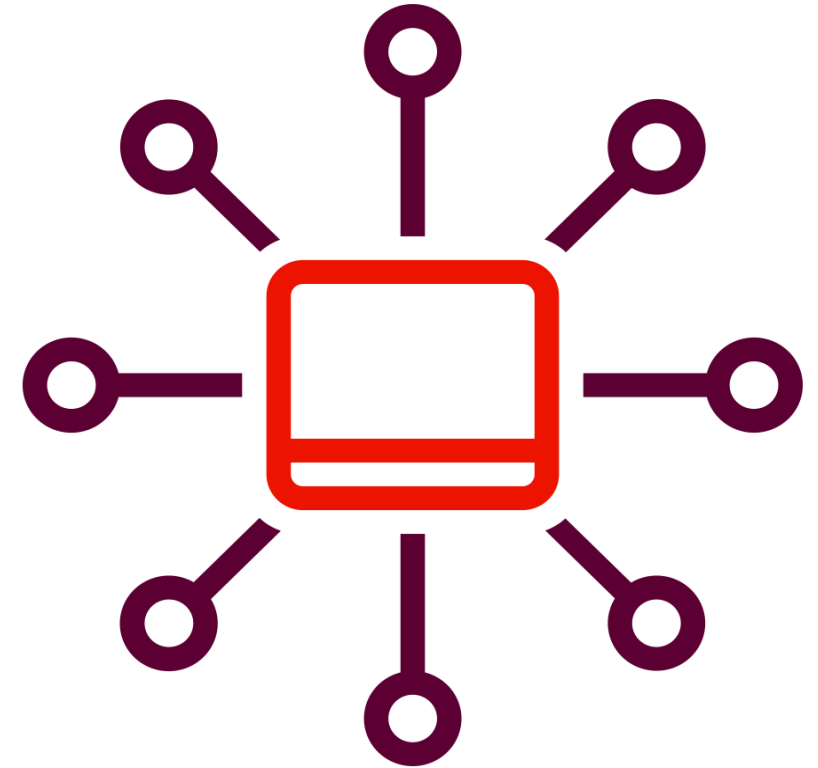
THE SENIOR PLANET LICENSING PROGRAM

Kristina Demery

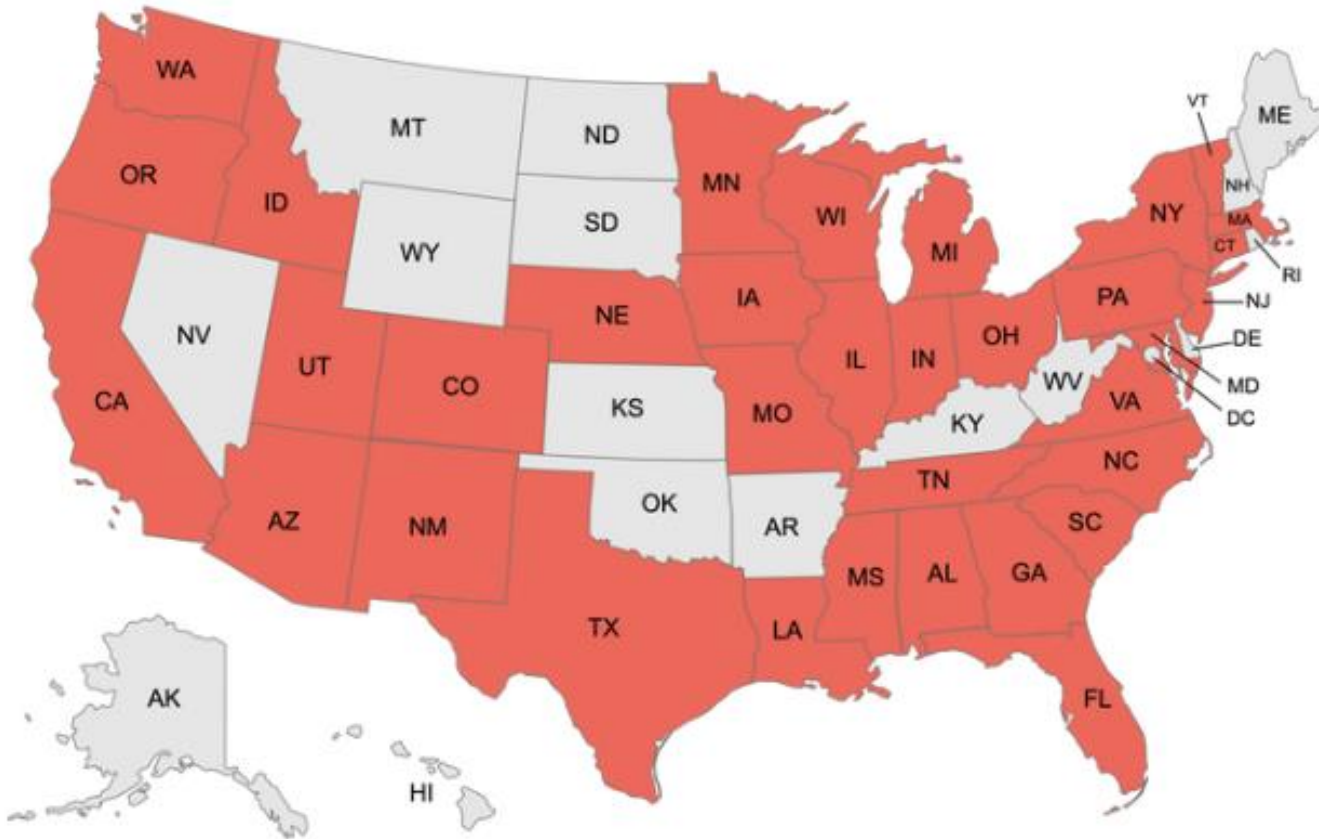
Director, National Licensing Program
Older Adults Technology Services (OATS) from AARP

Community Impact Partnerships

Through an adaptable program model, the free Senior Planet licensing program works with community-based organizations to develop local trainers to deliver Senior Planet's proprietary curriculum and bring world-class programs to older adults in their area.



Partners Nationwide



775 Licensed partner sites

200+ Active partners

43 States with licensed partners

1,600+ Completed train-the-trainer

147,000 Lifetime engagements



To find a site near you visit: oats.org/licensing-map

Who We Partner With

- Senior Centers
- Libraries
- Community Services
- Community Centers
- Area Agencies on Aging
- Department of Aging/
Office for the Aging
- Senior Services
- Councils on Aging
- Cooperatives





Hear from Partners & Participants



Support & Engagement

Train the Trainer &
Digital Resource
Center

Library of 350+
programs in 4
languages

Ongoing
support and
community
building

Engagement
opportunities
for older adult
participants



Curriculum

Lectures

One-time session
Popular tech topics
No minimum/maximum

Workshops

One-time session
Hands-on, using a device
12-14 people

Courses

Multi-session
Foundational programs
12-14 people

- Protecting Your Personal Information Online
- Intro to AI
- Getting to Know Your iPhone
- Passwords, Passkeys & More
- Streaming & Smart TVs
- Understanding Fraud & Scams
- Everyday Uses of AI
- Cloud Storage

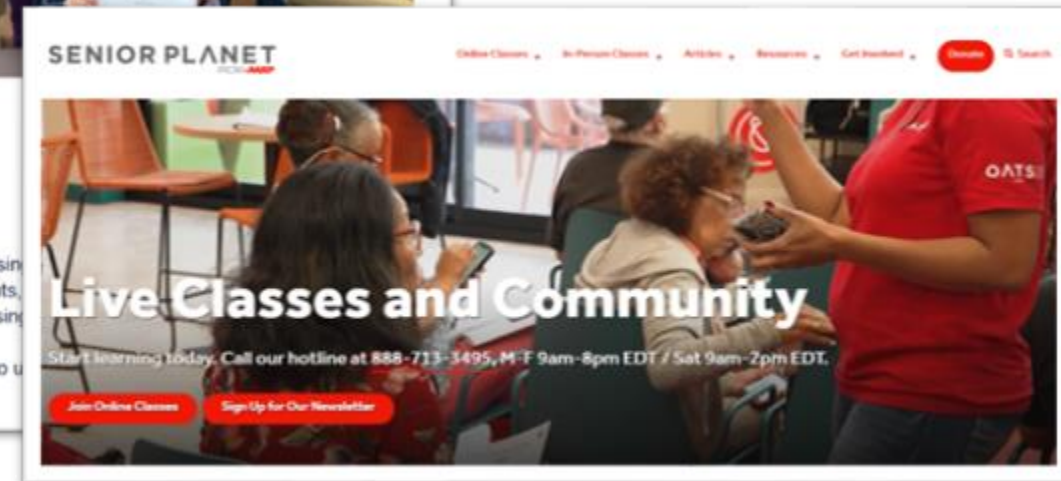
- Computer Basics
- Chrome Basics
- iPad Essentials
- Chrome Essentials
- Tech Resources for Everyday Life
- Beyond the Basics
- Android Essentials
- iPad Basics

Partner Support

- Regular communications
- Monthly events
- 1:1 coaching
- Subgranting

Participant Engagement

- Virtual classes
- Hotline
- Senior Planet Community





Licensing Specifics

In-person experience

Technology, space, & staff

Impact data

Free of charge



Community Response

- Net Promoter Score of **80+**
- Trainer Satisfaction score **9.53/10**
- **95.1%** would attend another class

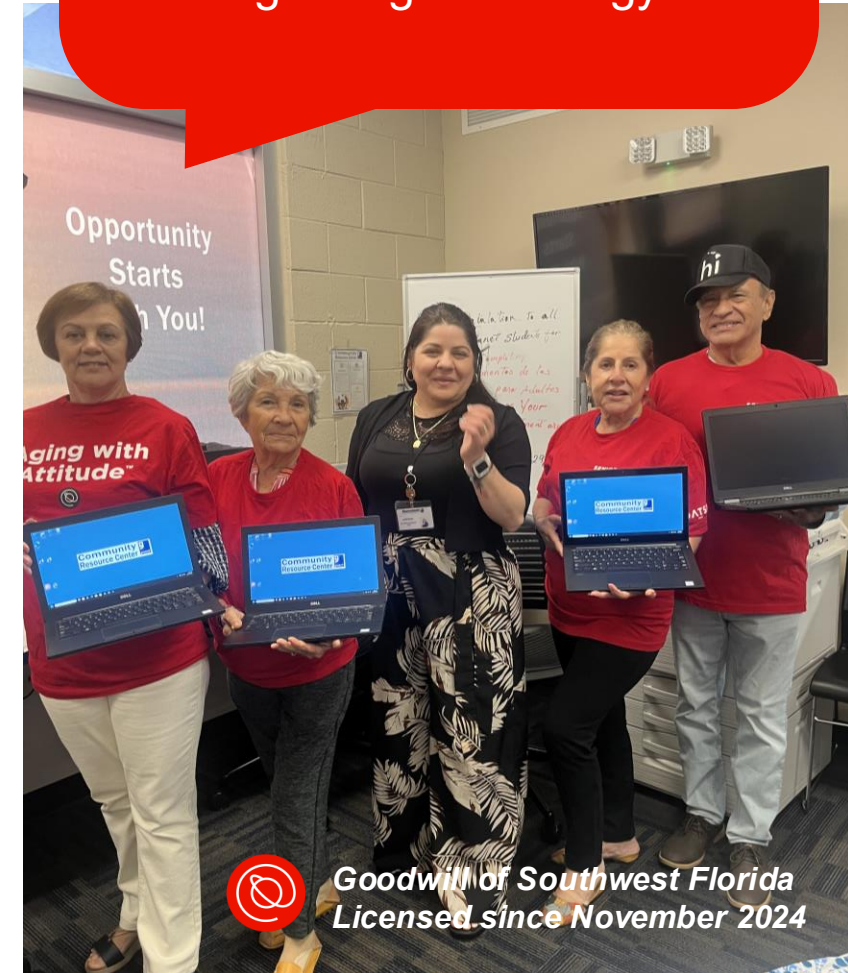


Western Piedmont Council of Governments, NC
Licensed since February 2025



Thank you for making the licensing program available! It not only has a **powerful impact** on the lives of individual seniors, but we believe it also contributes to **reducing overall digital inequality** in our region.

Senior Planet has **opened up a new world** regarding technology.



Goodwill of Southwest Florida
Licensed since November 2024

Let's Connect

kdemery@oats.org

licensing@seniorplanet.org

www.oats.org/licensing





Thank you!

www.oats.org

info@oats.org

@OlderAdultsTech



www.seniorplanet.org

@SeniorPlanet



OATS | OLDER ADULTS
TECHNOLOGY
SERVICES
FROM **AARP**

Navajo Mountain Connected

Brock Johansen, CEO

Jared Anderson, COO

Emery Telecommunications

Bringing Fiber to Navajo Mountain

May 2026

Built by Emery Telcom with partners at UDOT, UETN, USDA, the Navajo Nation, and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe



Pre-Phase – I-70 to Blanding

PARTNERS

Emery Telcom
UETN

SERVED LOCATIONS

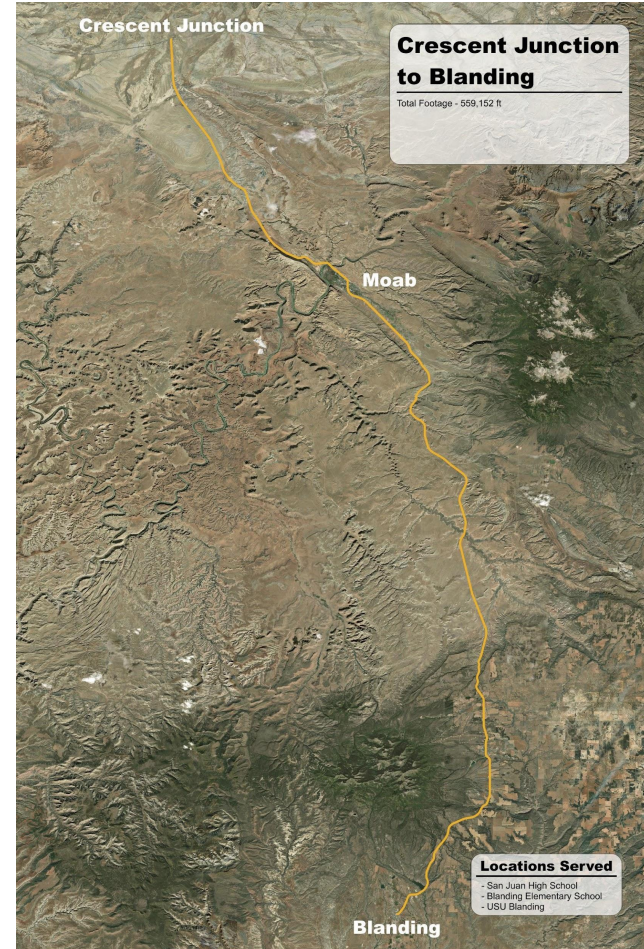
Moab
Monticello
Blanding

DISTANCE

106 Miles

TIMELINE

2009



Phase 1 – Blanding to Montezuma Creek

PARTNERS

UETN

SERVED LOCATIONS

White Mesa Education Center
Bluff Elementary School
Whitehorse High School
Montezuma Creek Elementary
UNHS Clinic
Montezuma Creek Library

DISTANCE

41+ Miles

TIMELINE

Nov 2017 – Jun 2021



Phase 2 – Bluff to Mexican Hat

PARTNERS

Emery Telcom

USDA

SERVED LOCATIONS

FTTP Mexican Hat

Halchita – Remit Required

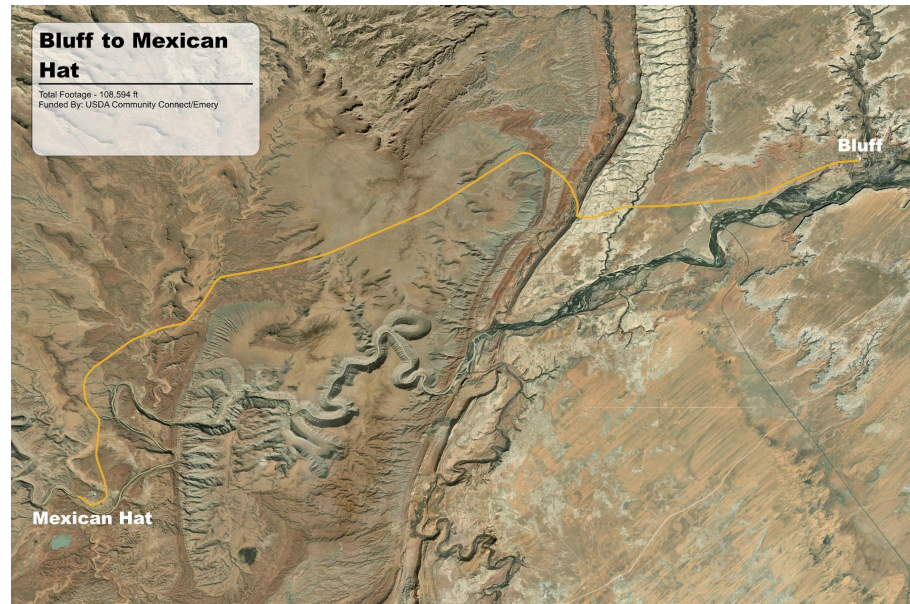
Cell Towers on Raplee Ridge

DISTANCE

25+ Miles

TIMELINE

Nov 2018 – Dec 2024



Phase 3 – Mexican Hat to Monument Valley

PARTNERS

Emery Telcom
UETN
UDOT

SERVED LOCATIONS

Monument Valley High School
Tsébií'nidzísgai Elementary School
UNHS Clinic
USU Campus

DISTANCE

25+ Miles

TIMELINE

Jul 2019 – Feb 2023



Phase 4 – Monument Valley to Navajo Mountain

PARTNERS

UETN Project

SERVED LOCATIONS

Navajo Mountain High School

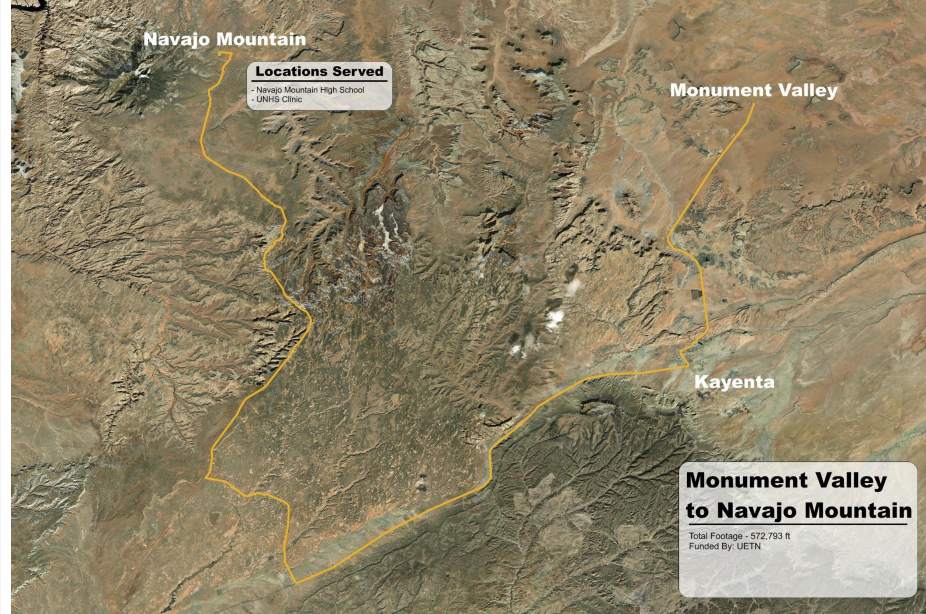
UNHS Clinic

DISTANCE

110+ Miles

TIMELINE

Nov 2018 – May 2026



Future Ring – Blanding to Cortez

PARTNERS

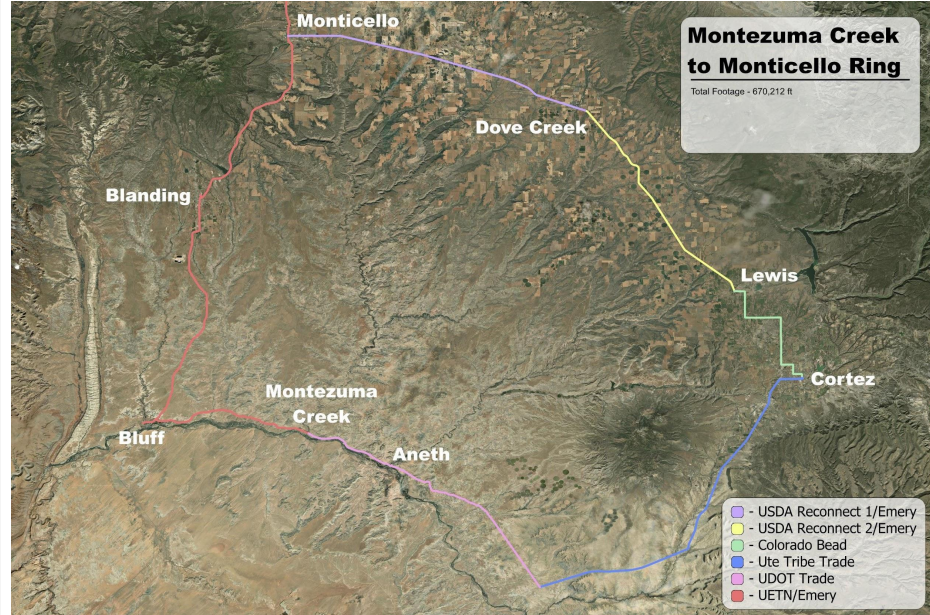
USDA
UDOT
Emery Telcom
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

COMMUNITIES SERVED

Dove Creek
Egnar
Lewis
Ariolla
Lebanon

PROJECT NOTES

UDOT road project along Route 162



Future Ring – SLC to Kayenta

PARTNERS

UDOT

South Central Communications

Emery Telcom

SCOPE

New build will complete the ring by connecting Kayenta to Page



Big thanks to our construction crews, partners, and suppliers



Emery Telcom Presents

Navajo Mountain Fiber Completion Event

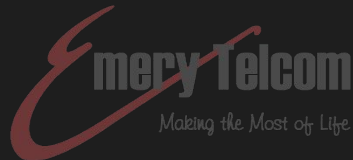
Tuesday, June 2

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Navajo Mountain High School

Route 16, Navajo Mountain, UT 84510

Hosted by Emery Telcom • Lunch will be served



Questions?

400+

MILES OF FIBER

5

Partners

9

Years

LOTS

Rock



Brock Johansen

CEO, Emery Telcom

bjohansen@emerytelcom.com

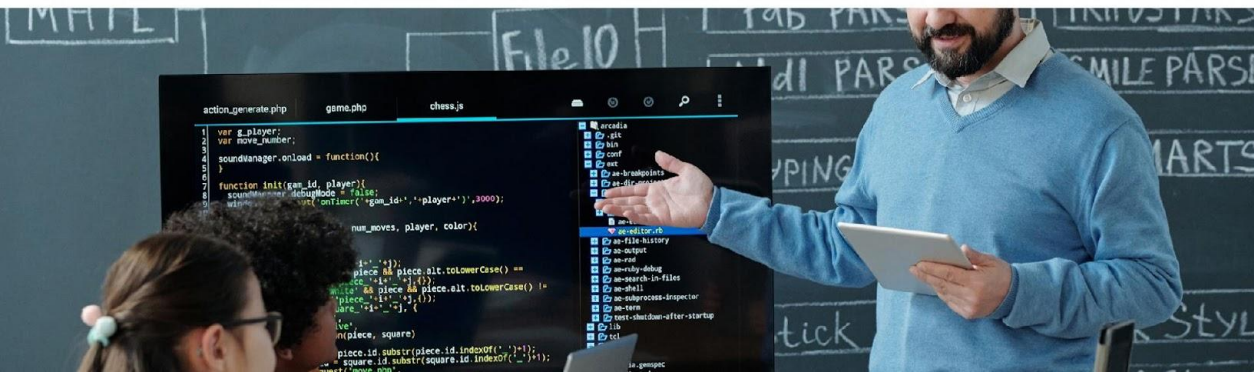
Statewide K-12 Inventory

Max Gonzales, IT Project Manager, Utah Education Network



2025

UTAH SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY INVENTORY REPORT



- 6TH iteration of the Utah School Technology Inventory, representing over a decade of statewide data.
- 95,000 data points across more than 1,000 schools
- 100% public and charter school participation
- UEN's role in this work is to collect and provide the data—we do not direct how schools use it or make decisions on their behalf.
- This year, two themes stand out: artificial intelligence and aging infrastructure.

AI Policy & Readiness

- Most LEAs (59%) lack formal AI policies; districts are ahead of charters
- Student data privacy is the top priority in AI planning

AI Adoption & Training

- AI tools are emerging: 40% support student accessibility; 75%+ support educator productivity
- Over one-third of LEAs offer no AI training; districts lead in training efforts

Technology Access & Infrastructure

- Device access continues to improve (1.34 devices per student)
- Nearly 2 in 3 schools provide 1:1 devices, but only 37.5% allow take-home use
- Aging infrastructure: many schools rely on 4+ year-old wireless and wired hardware

Instructional Technology Demand

- Strong demand for digital tools, especially math (nearly 2 in 3 schools)
- More than 9 out of 10 schools need instructional software

AI POLICIES AND USAGE



Question 20. Which of the following policy discussions are prioritized in your LEA's overall AI policy planning? (Check all that apply):

- a. AI Literacy in students and employees
- b. AI Privacy & Security
- c. AI Provenance (deep fakes)
- d. Ensuring access to AI tools
- e. Funding for AI tools and resources
- f. Student Data & Privacy Protection

Question 21. Does your Local Education Agency (LEA) have an official Artificial Intelligence (AI) policy?

- a. **Yes** – Our LEA developed and established its own AI policy
- b. **Yes** – Our LEA adopted and implemented the AI policy created by the Utah State Board of Education (USBE)
- c. **No** – Our LEA does not have an official AI policy

Question 22. Which Artificial Intelligence (AI) training opportunities has your Local Education Agency (LEA) endorsed or utilized? (Select all that apply.)

- a. College or university training courses
- b. District-provided training sessions
- c. Online video tutorials
- d. STEM Action Center Professional Development
- e. Tool-specific training
- f. Training from a national organization
- g. Training from a nonprofit organization
- h. Utah Education Network (UEN) Professional Development
- i. No AI training has been provided

Question 23. Which types of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools does your Local Education Agency (LEA) provide for **educator use? (Select all that apply.)**

- a. Accessibility Tools
- b. Adaptive Tutoring Solutions
- c. Chatbots
- d. Multimedia Generation Tools
- e. Retrieval-Augmented Generative Databases
- f. Teacher Productivity Tools

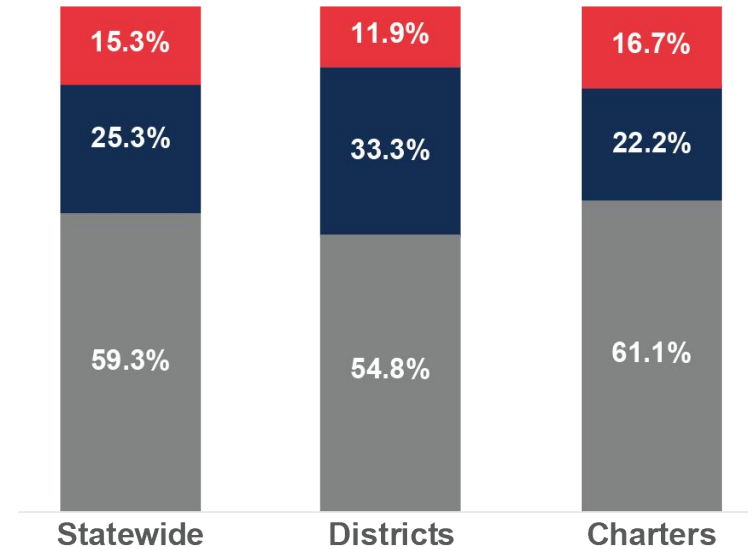
Question 24. Which types of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools does your Local Education Agency (LEA) provide for **student use? (Select all that apply.)**

- a. Accessibility Tools
- b. Adaptive Tutoring Solutions
- c. Chatbots
- d. Multimedia Generation Tools
- e. Retrieval-Augmented Generative Databases
- f. Teacher Productivity Tools

ARE AI POLICIES IN PLACE IN UTAH'S LEAS?

The majority (59%) of LEAs do not have policies covering the use of AI.

Utah school districts are more likely to have implemented AI policies, though fewer than one-half (45%) of districts have finalized implementation of these policies.

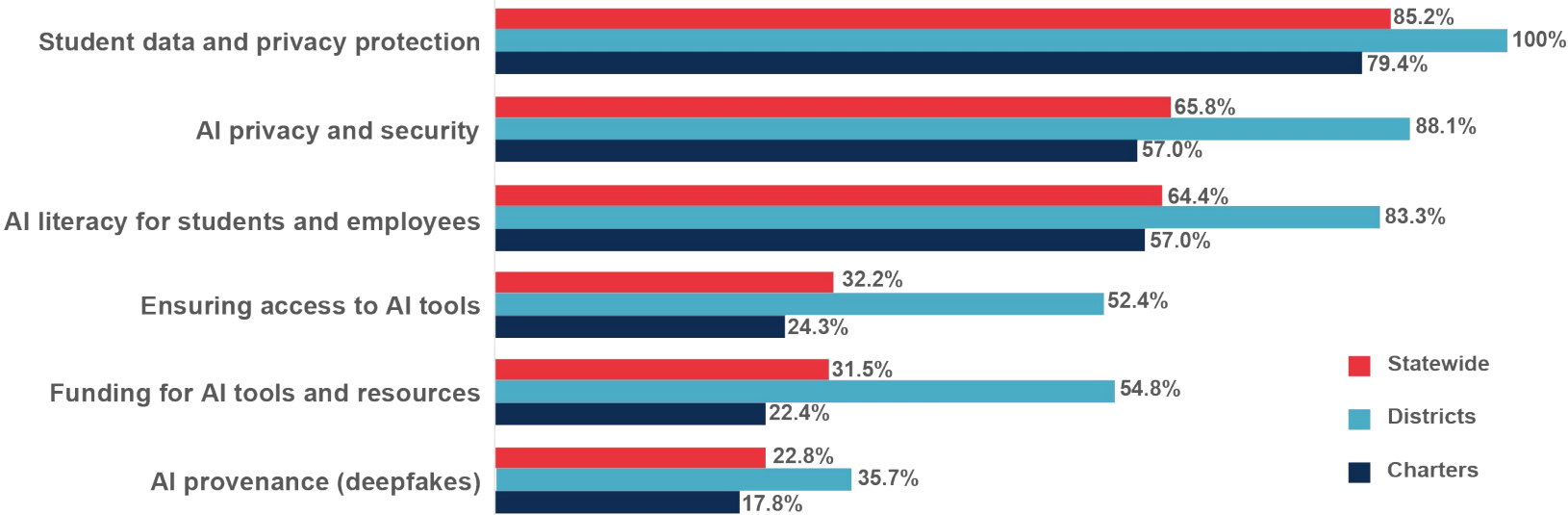


- Using AI policies set forth by the Utah State Board of Education
- LEA developed their own AI policies
- No AI policy in place

AI POLICY PRIORITIES



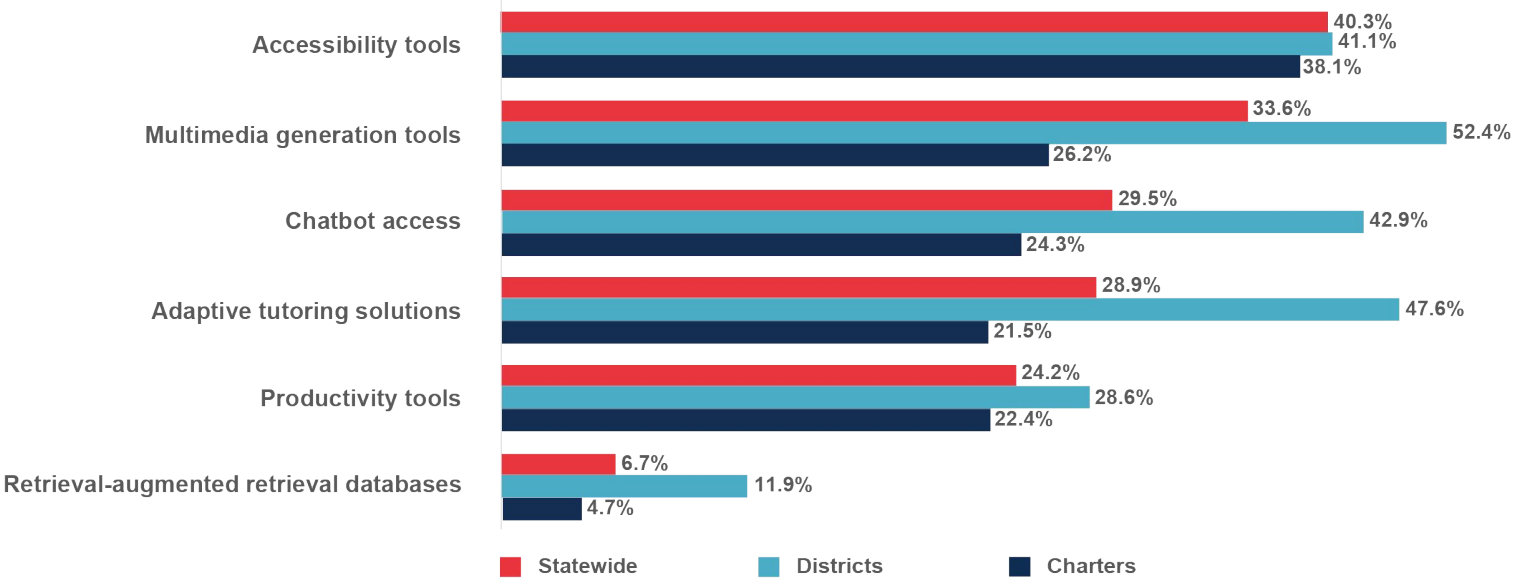
More than 4 out of 5 Utah LEAs say student data and privacy are high priorities as they develop and update their AI policies.



LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES PROVIDING AI TOOLS FOR STUDENTS

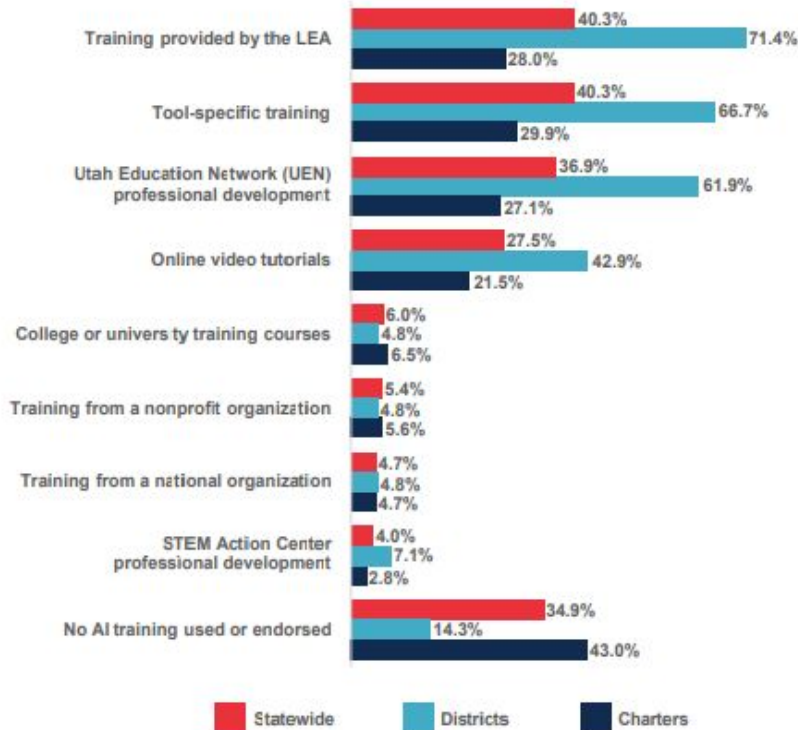


Accessibility tools are the most popular AI-powered options offered to Utah students, a service offered by 40% of the LEAs.



AI TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

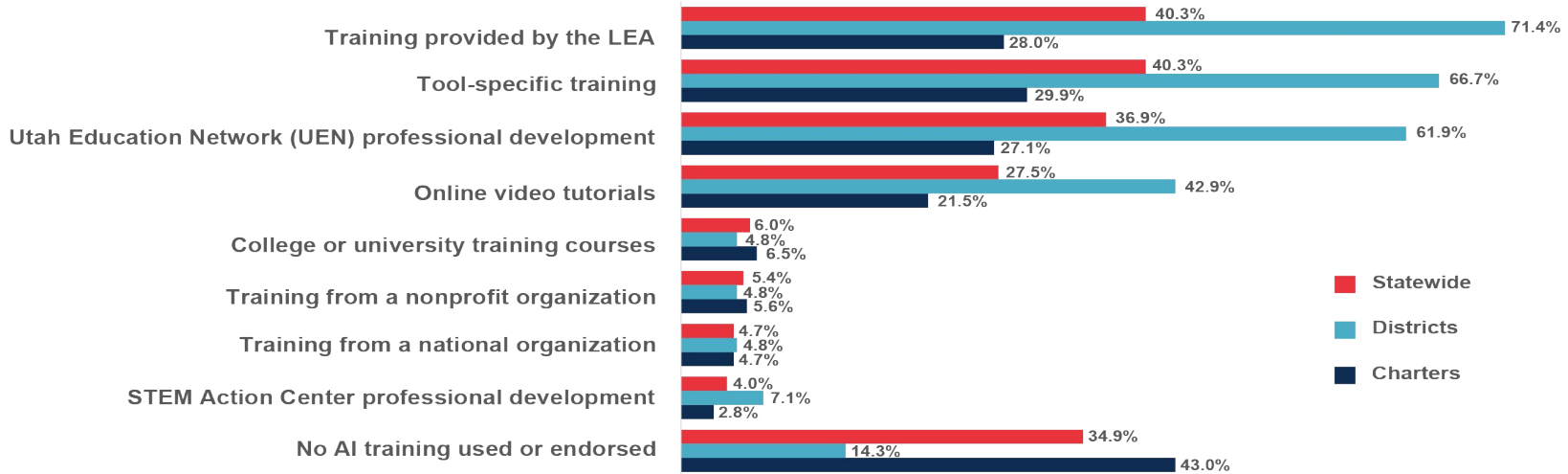
FIGURE 03.
Artificial Intelligence Training Used or Endorsed



Over one-third of LEAs have not offered or endorsed AI training.

Where provided, it is mainly internal, tool-specific, or UEN-led. Districts are more likely than charters to offer it.

TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE FOR UTAH STUDENTS

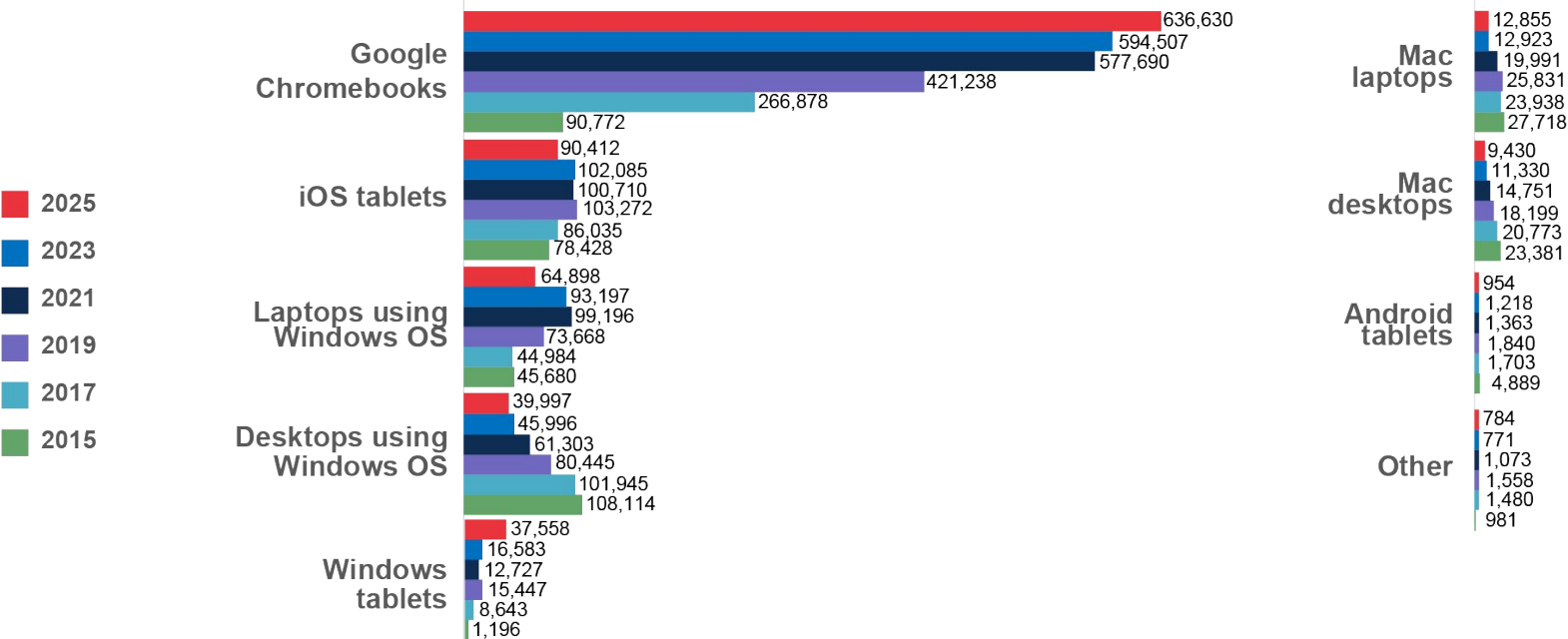


Nearly 2 out of 3 LEAs have either used or endorsed AI training for their employees

COMPUTING DEVICES AVAILABLE FOR STUDENT USE



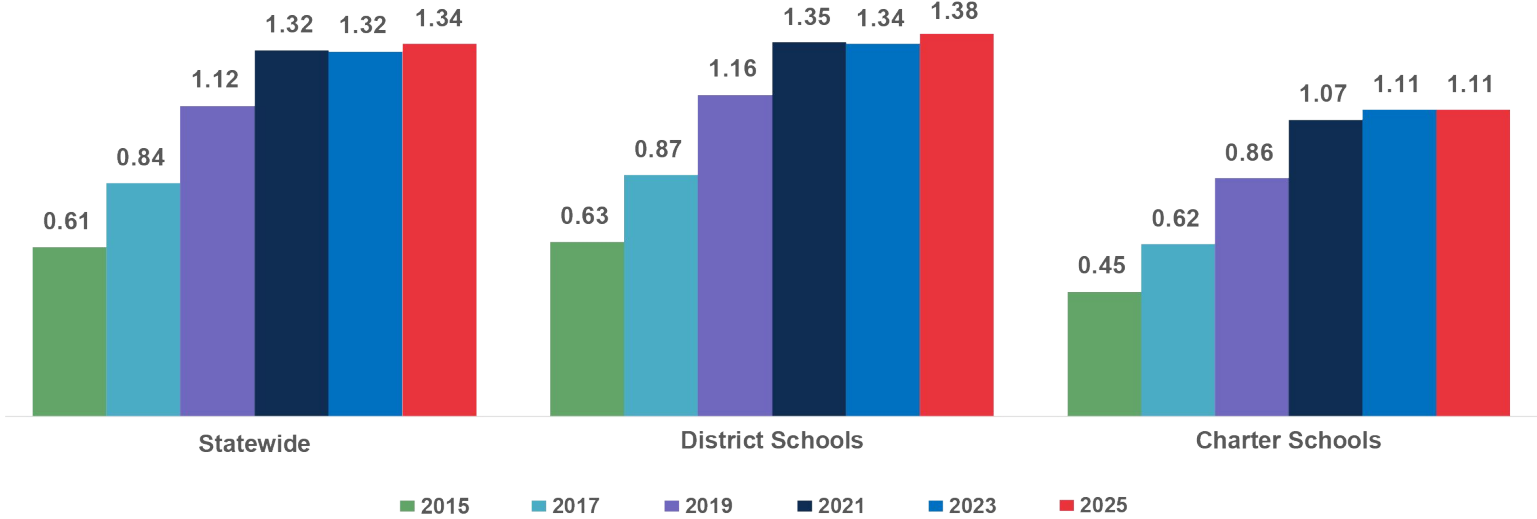
Utah schools report their K-12 students have more than 893,500 computers available for their use.



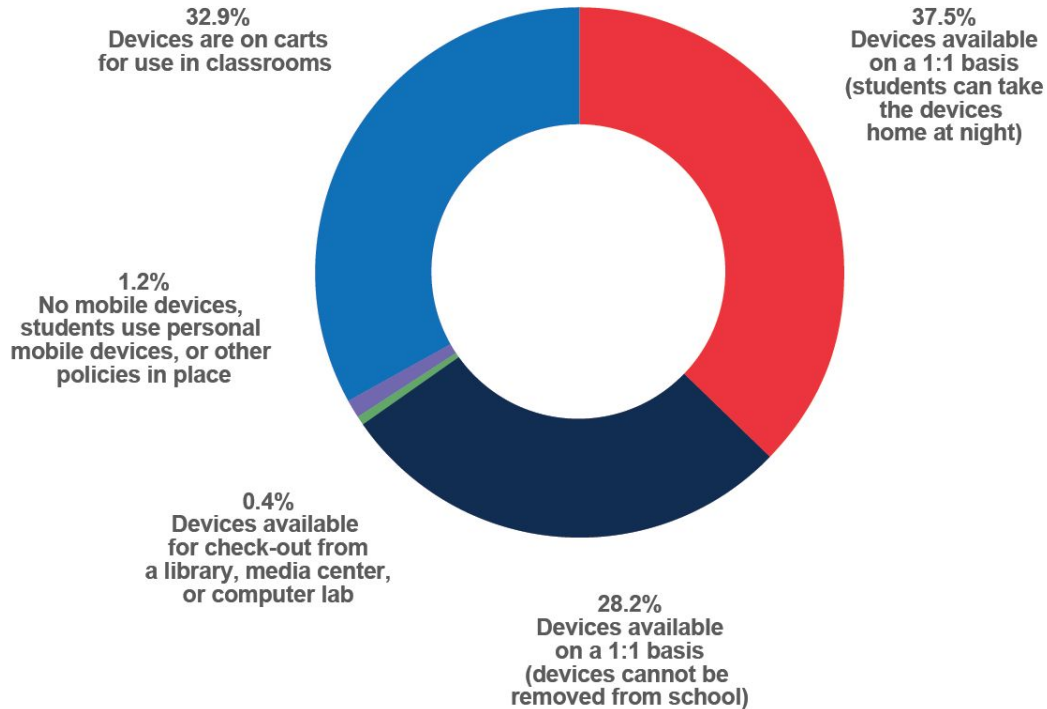
COMPUTING DEVICES PER STUDENT



Statewide, the number of computing devices per student has grown in the past 10 years. 1.34 computing devices available for each K-12 student, up from 1.32 in 2023 and 2021.



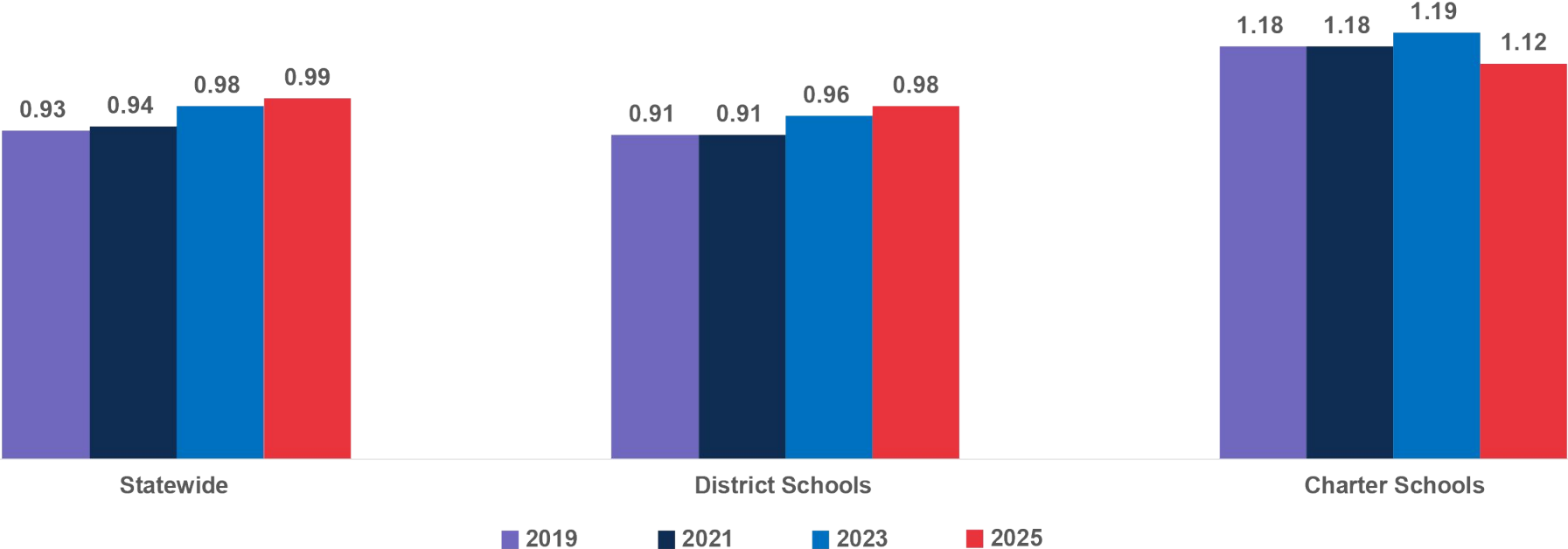
MOBILE DEVICE DEPLOYMENT



Nearly 2 in 3 Utah schools provide students with devices on a 1:1 basis, a slight decline from 70% in 2023. However, only 37.5% of schools allow students to take devices home, a rate that has remained stable.

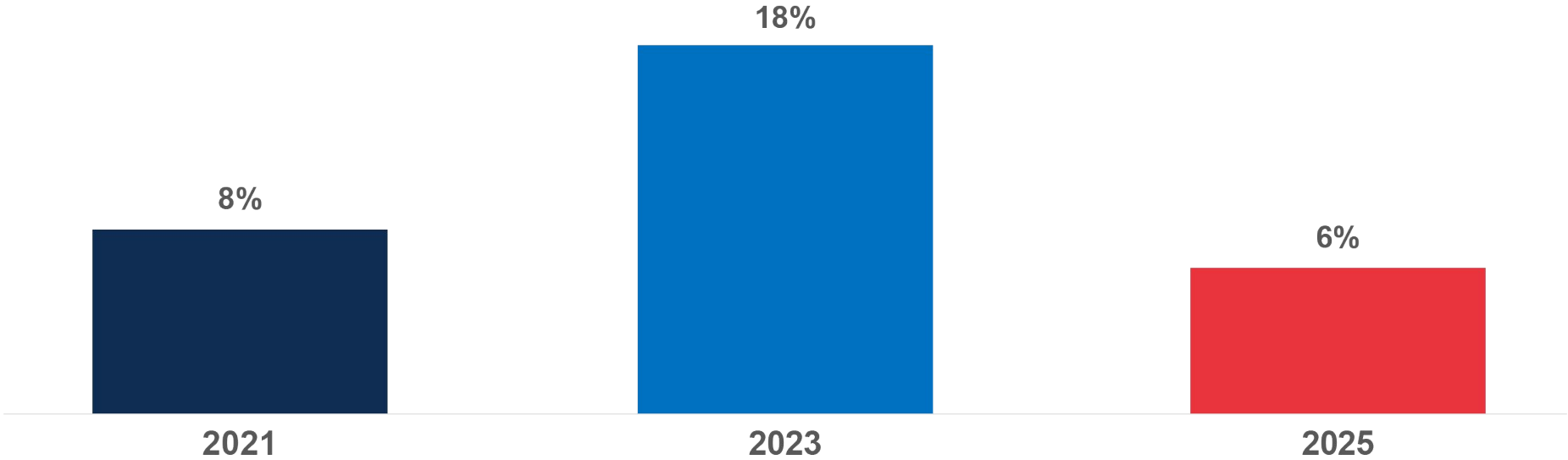
District schools are nearly twice as likely as charter schools to offer take-home devices.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT FTE PER 1,000 STUDENT DEVICES



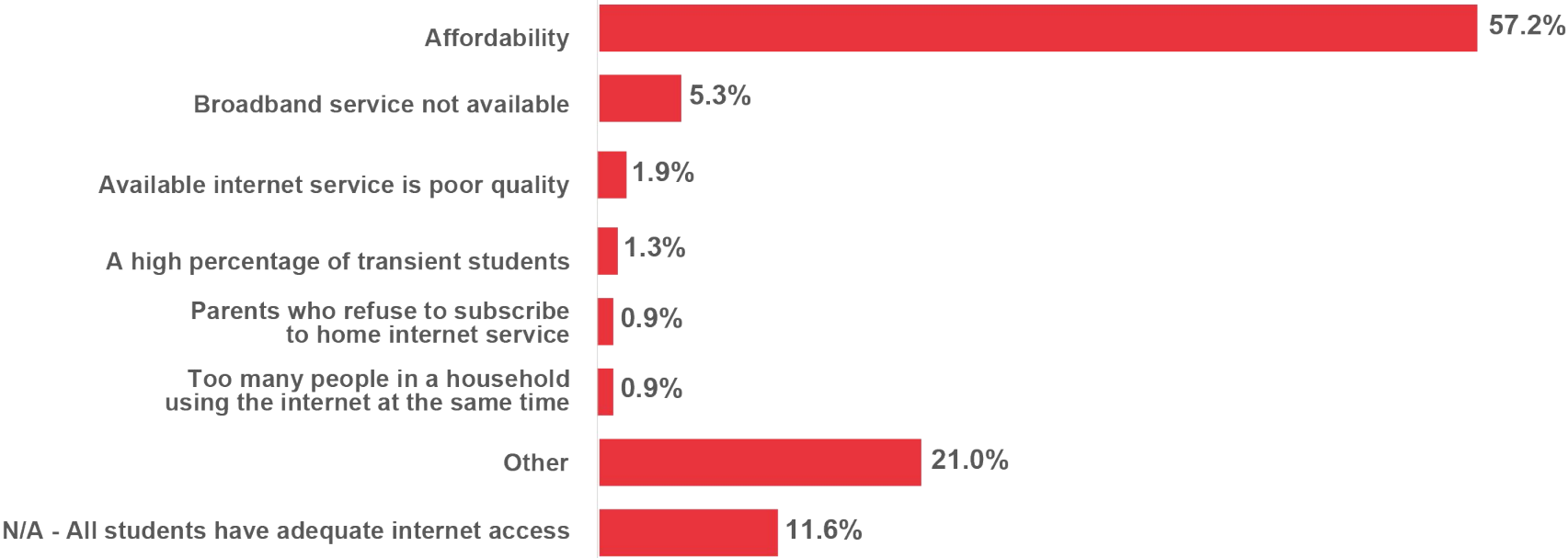
LEAs report that they have nearly one full-time employee (FTE) providing technical support per 1,000 student devices

STUDENTS WITHOUT ADEQUATE HOME INTERNET SERVICE



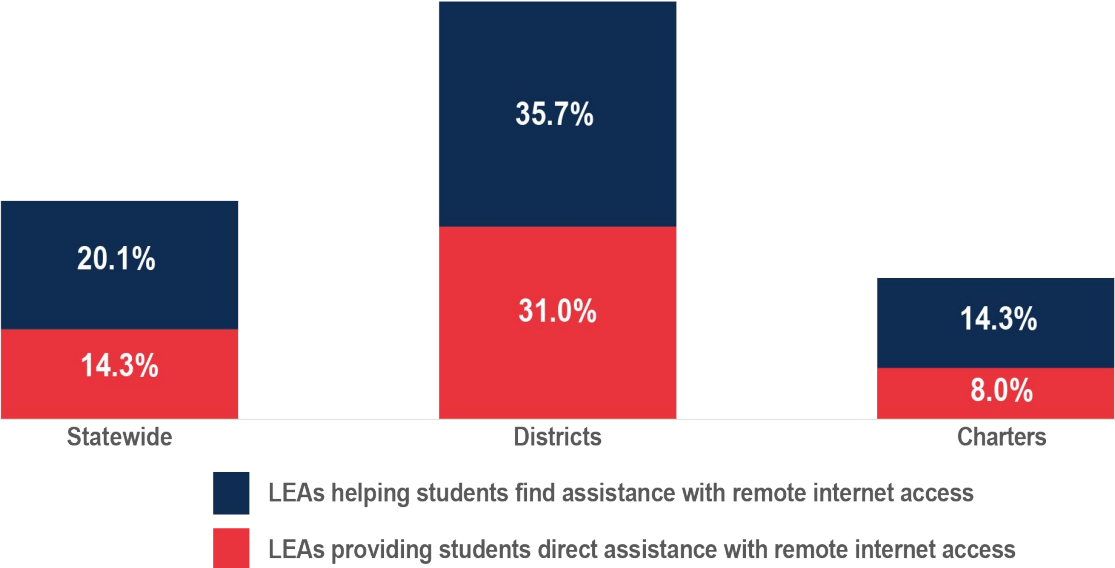
LEAs estimate that 6% of their students lack adequate home internet service in 2025

WHY STUDENTS LACK ADEQUATE INTERNET ACCESS



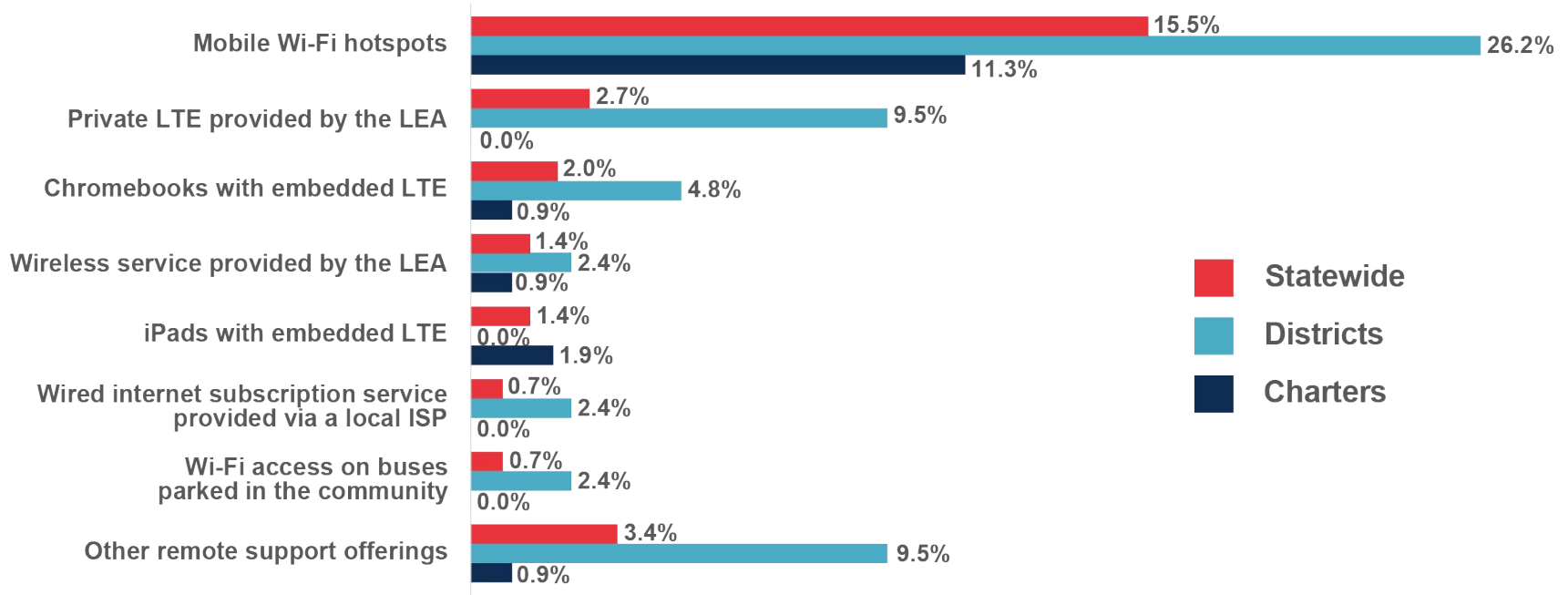
According to the LEAs, the primary reason for not having home internet stems from affordability concerns

LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES PROVIDING REMOTE INTERNET SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS



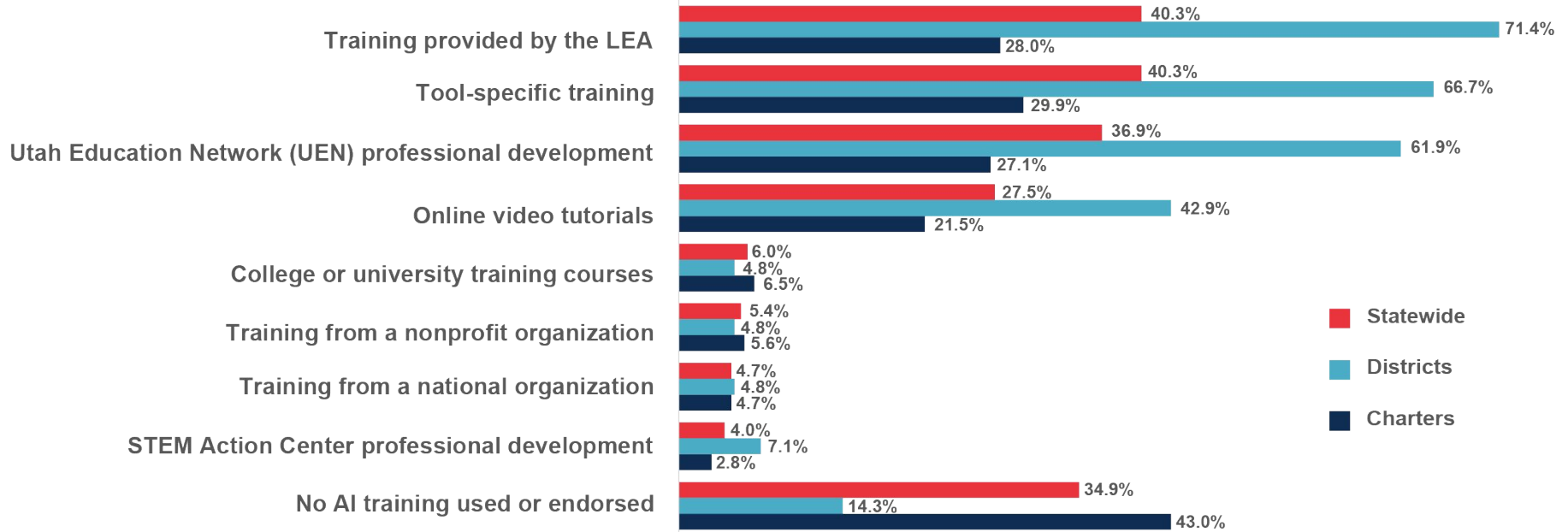
LEAs mitigate the challenge of students not having sufficient connectivity by providing direct assistance with remote internet access and helping families find assistance with internet service

REMOTE INTERNET SUPPORT PROVIDED BY LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES



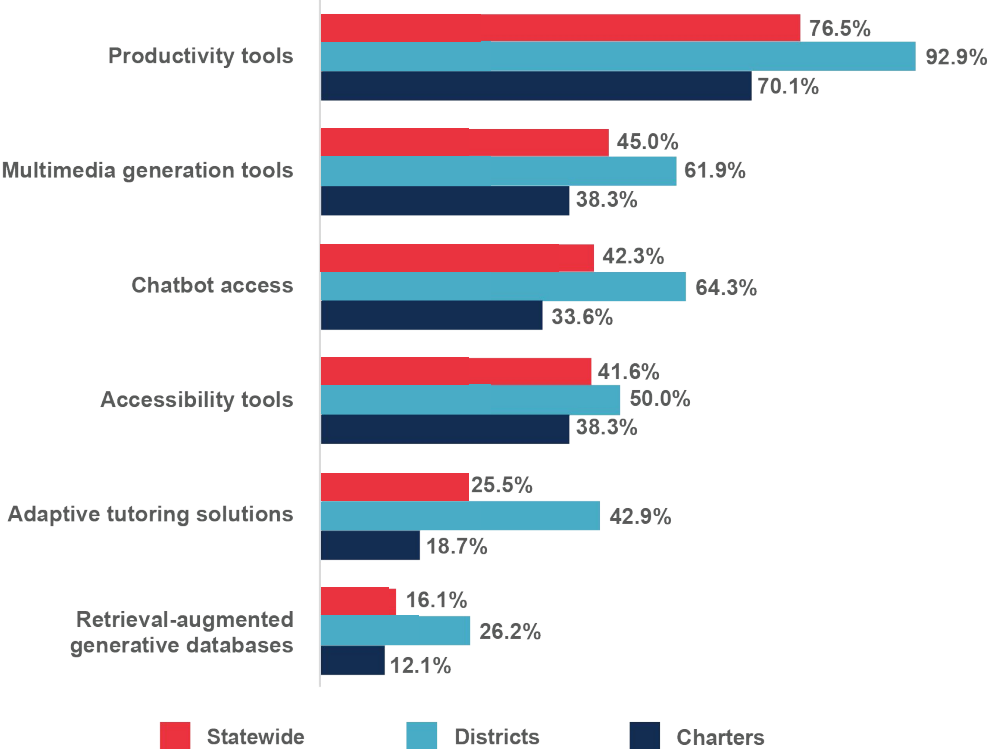
LEAs lend mobile Wi-Fi hotspots to students to provide access the internet at home; this is the predominant solution offered statewide, by districts, and by charters

AI TRAINING USED OR ENDORSED TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE FOR UTAH EDUCATORS



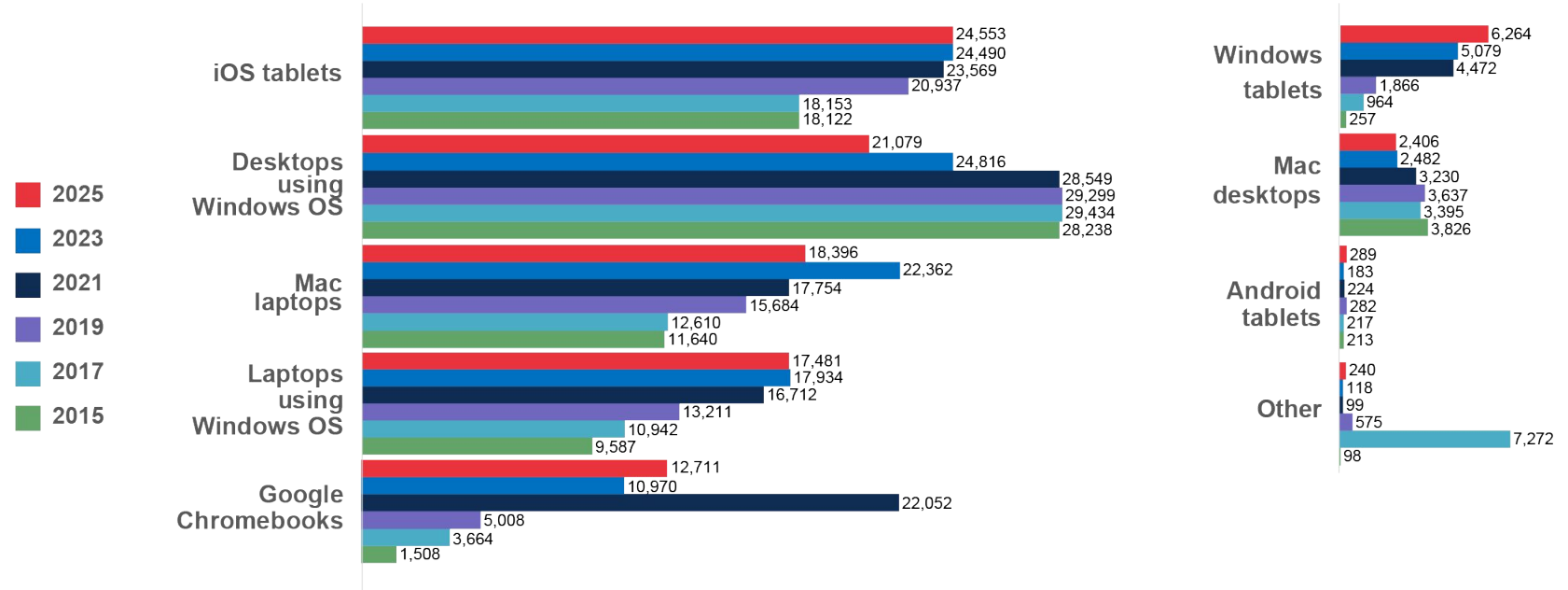
Nearly 2 out of 3 LEAs have either used or endorsed AI training for their employees

LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES PROVIDING AI TOOLS FOR EDUCATORS



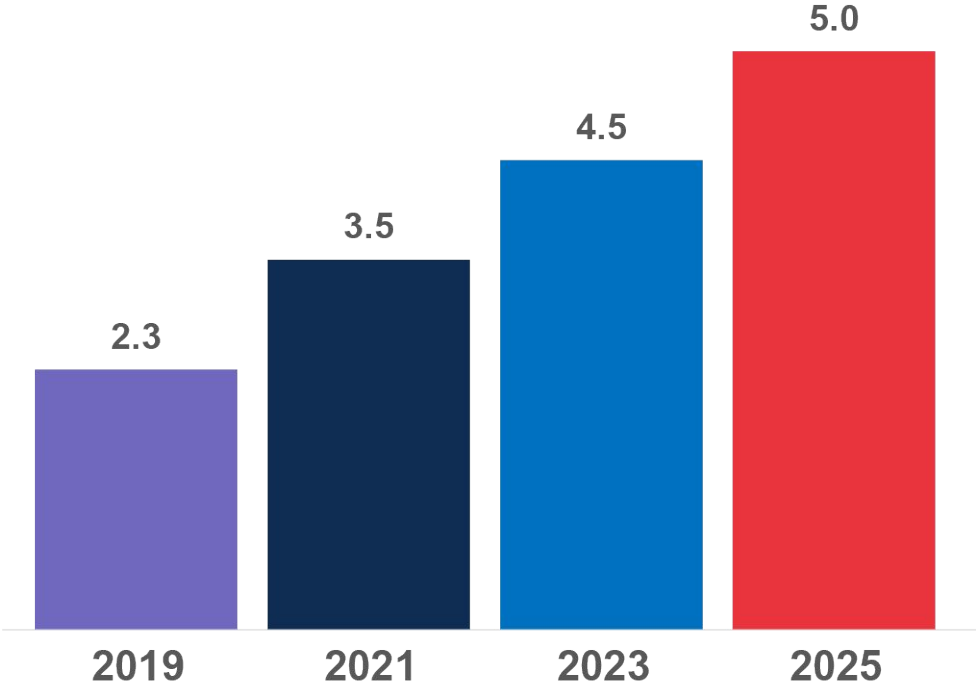
Productivity tools are the most popular AI-powered application that Utah LEAs provide for educators

COMPUTING DEVICES AVAILABLE FOR EDUCATOR USE



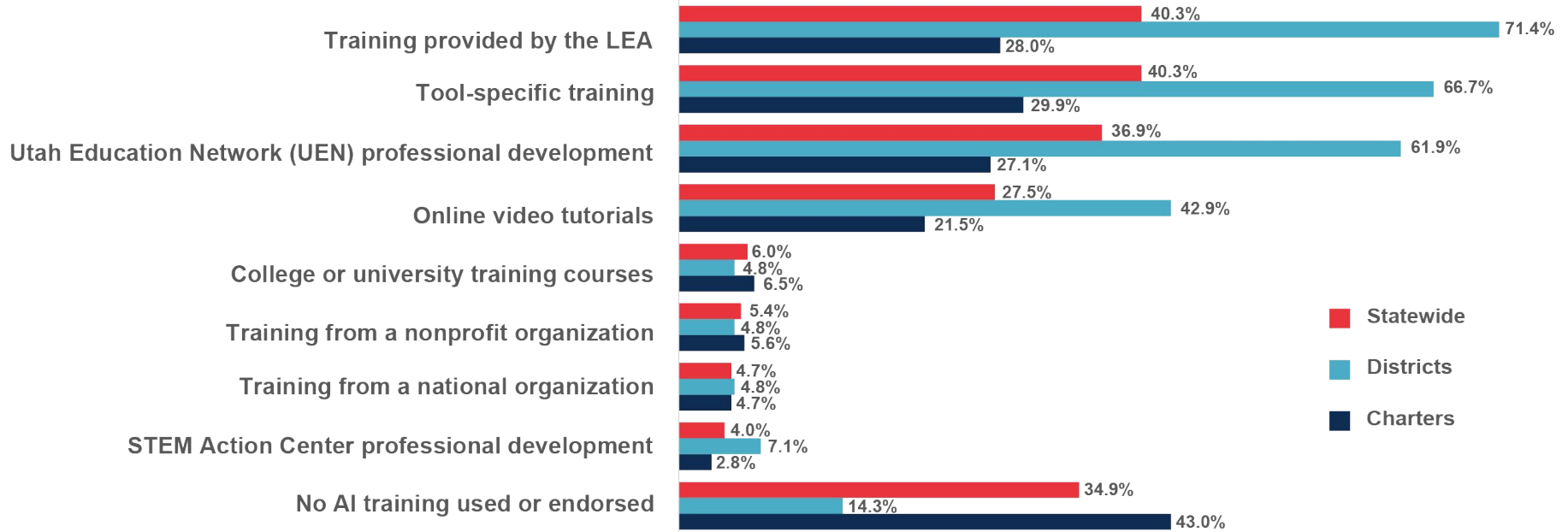
Tablets using iOS operating systems are the most popular computing devices Provided by LEAs to teachers and administrators

MEDIAN WEEKLY STAFF HOURS DEDICATED TO INSTRUCTIONAL TECH SUPPORT



Utah LEAs are dedicating more hours per week for instructional technology support

AI TRAINING USED OR ENDORSED BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE IN UTAH SCHOOLS

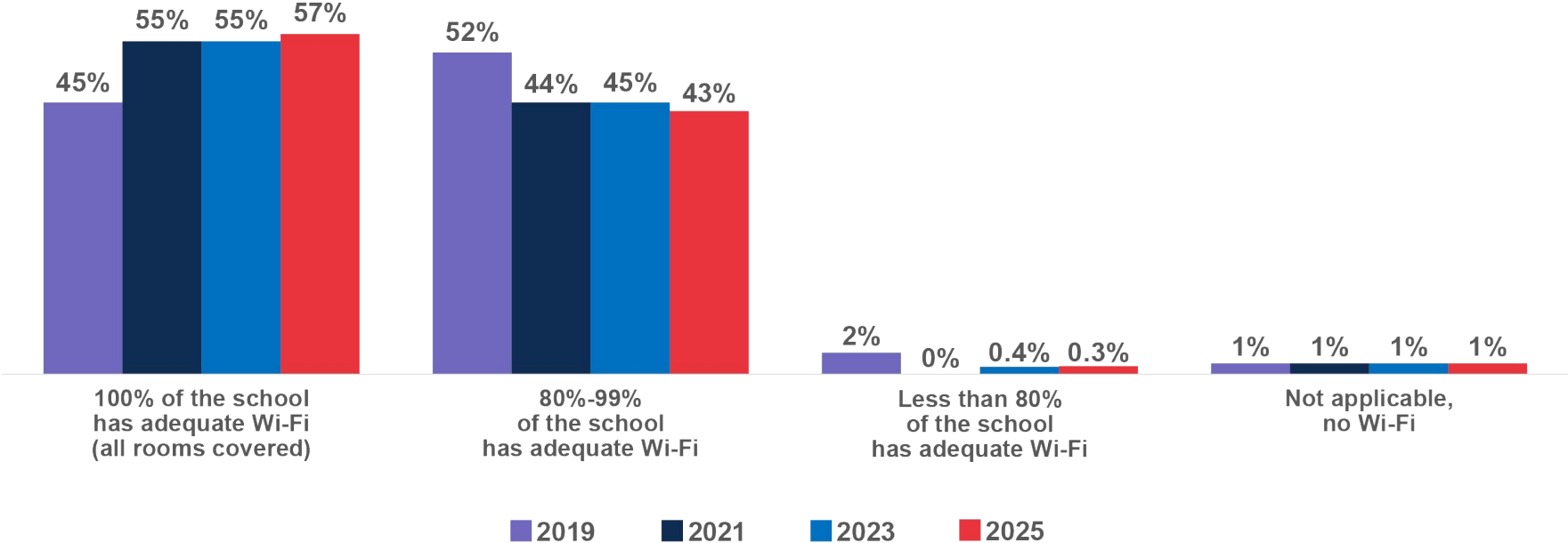


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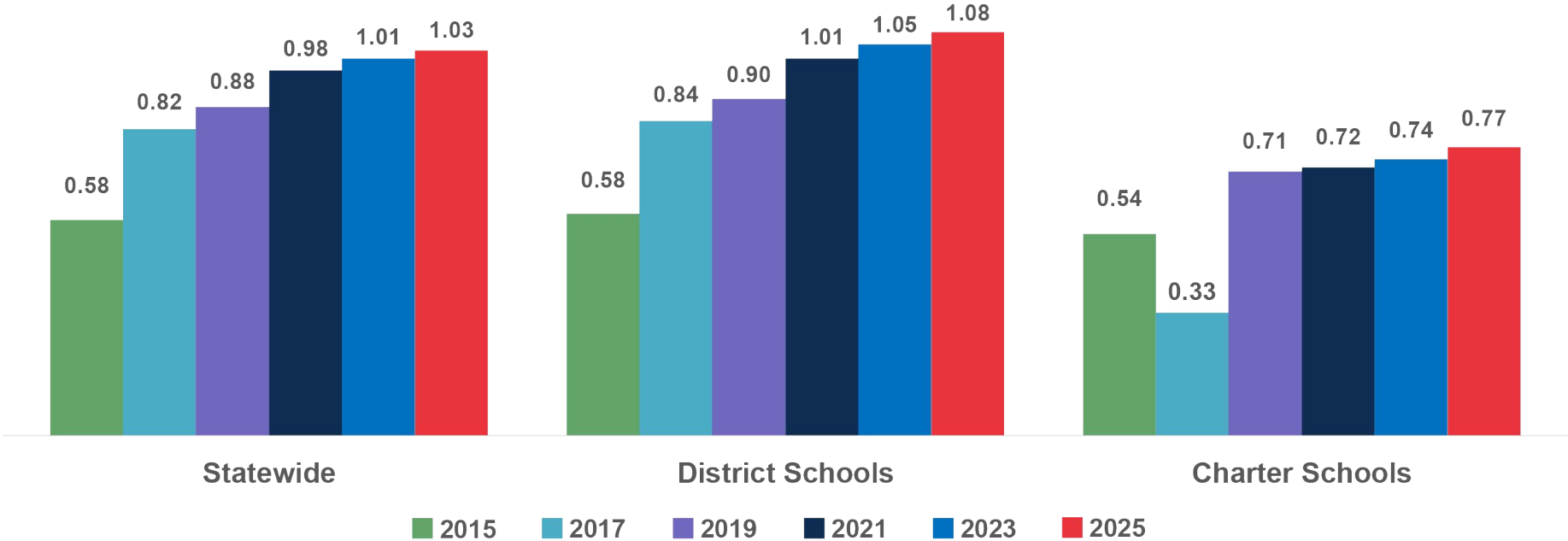
TRENDS IN SCHOOL WI-FI COVERAGE



Nearly 3 out of 5 Utah schools report that they have full Wi-Fi connectivity in all their educational spaces



WIRELESS ACCESS POINTS PER INSTRUCTIONAL SPACE

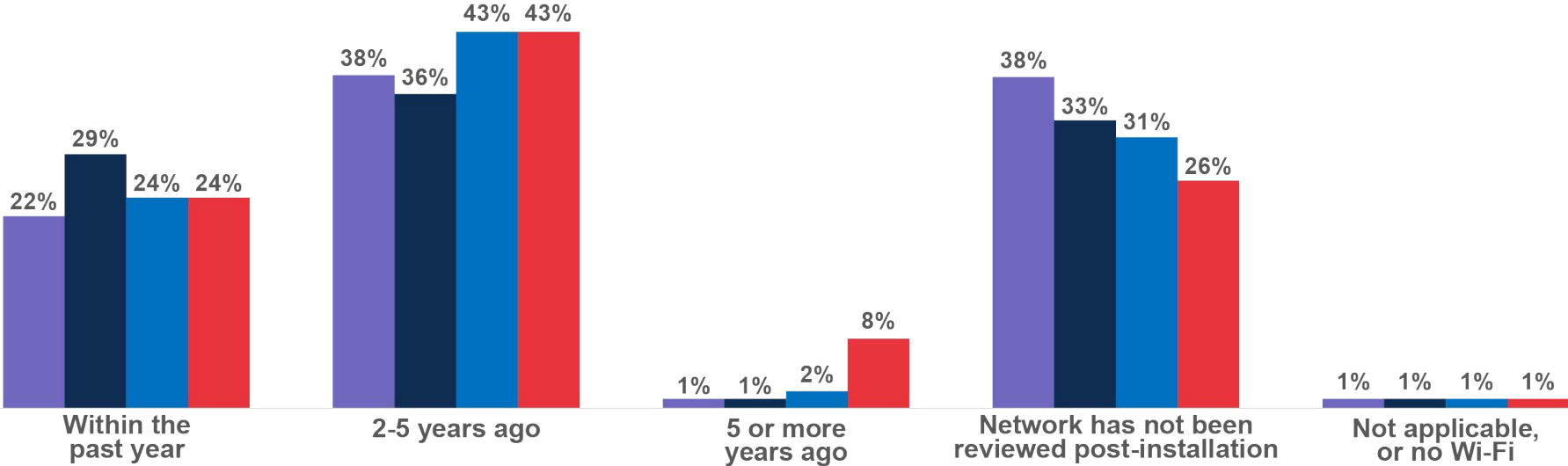


Utah schools continue their upward trend in the number of wireless access points per instructional space as more devices rely on wireless connectivity

WHEN WI-FI NETWORKS WERE LAST REVIEWED

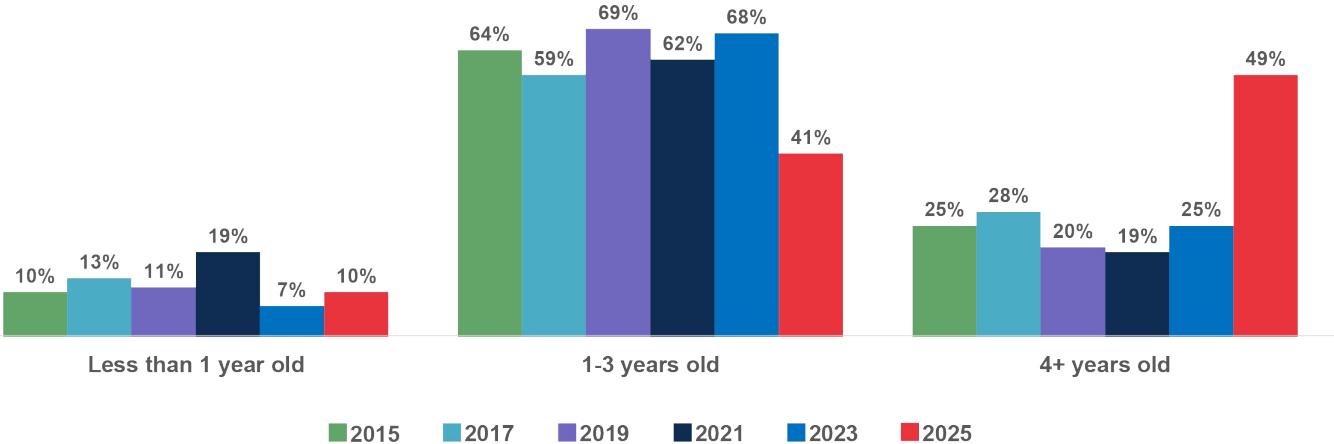


2019 2021 2023 2025



More than 1 in 3 schools report that their Wi-Fi networks have never been reviewed or were last reviewed more than five years ago

AVERAGE AGE OF WIRELESS HARDWARE

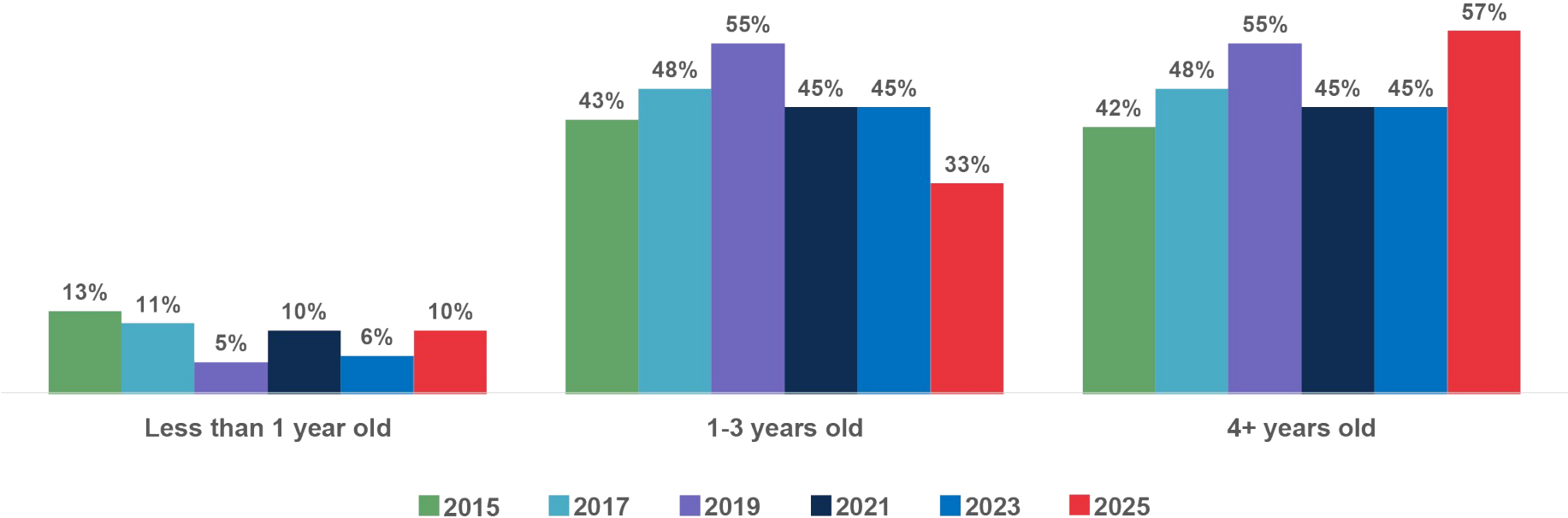


Utah schools' Wi-Fi infrastructure is aging, with nearly half using wireless hardware 4+ years old and even more relying on older wired systems, increasing risks to performance and security.

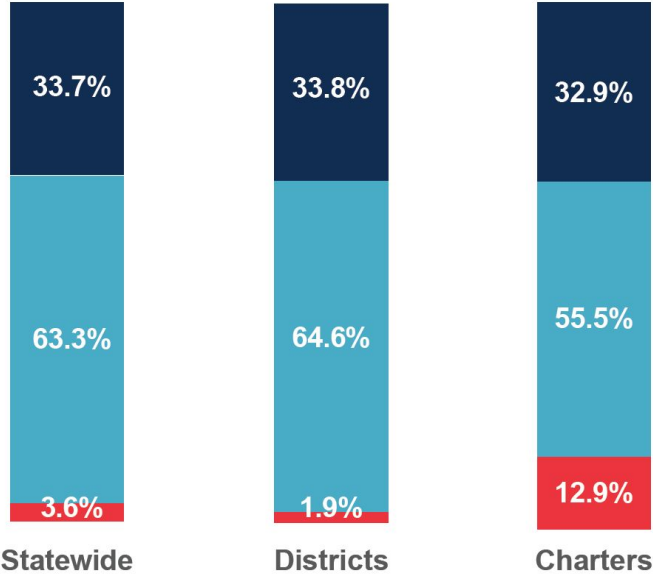
AVERAGE AGE OF WIRED HARDWARE



More than one-half of schools report that their wired hardware averages 4+ years old



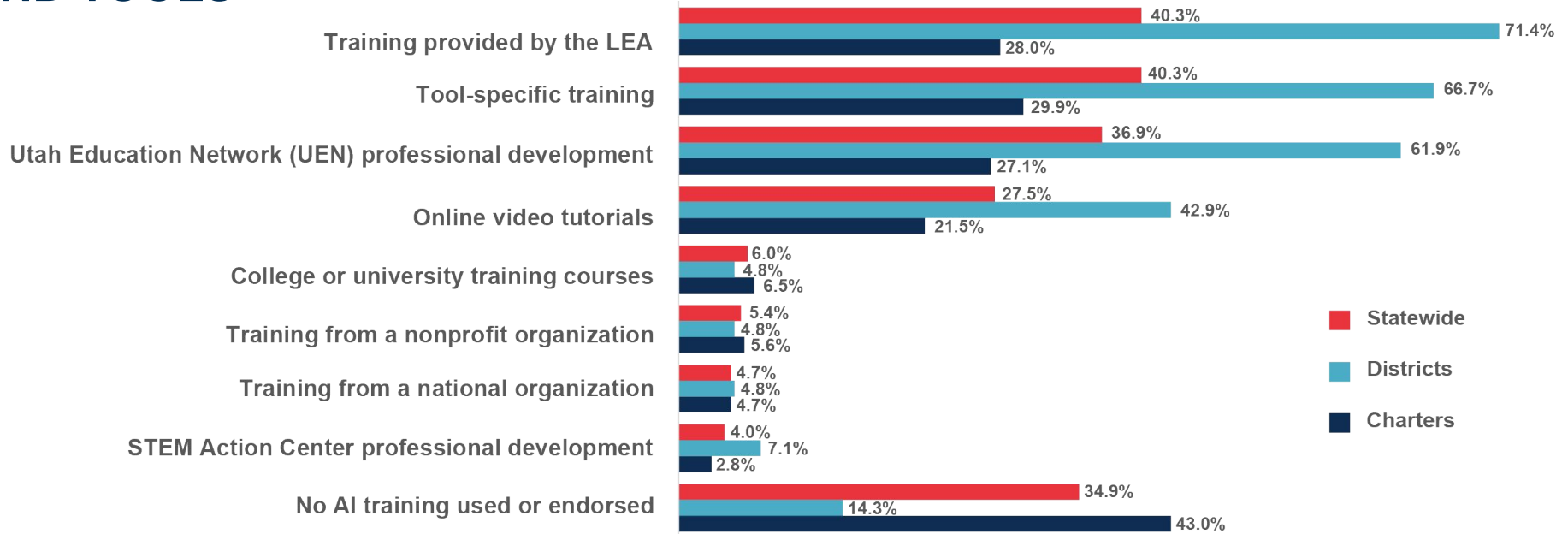
WI-FI SLOWDOWNS IN THE PAST SCHOOL YEAR



One-third of Utah schools say their Wi-Fi noticeably slowed down in the previous school year

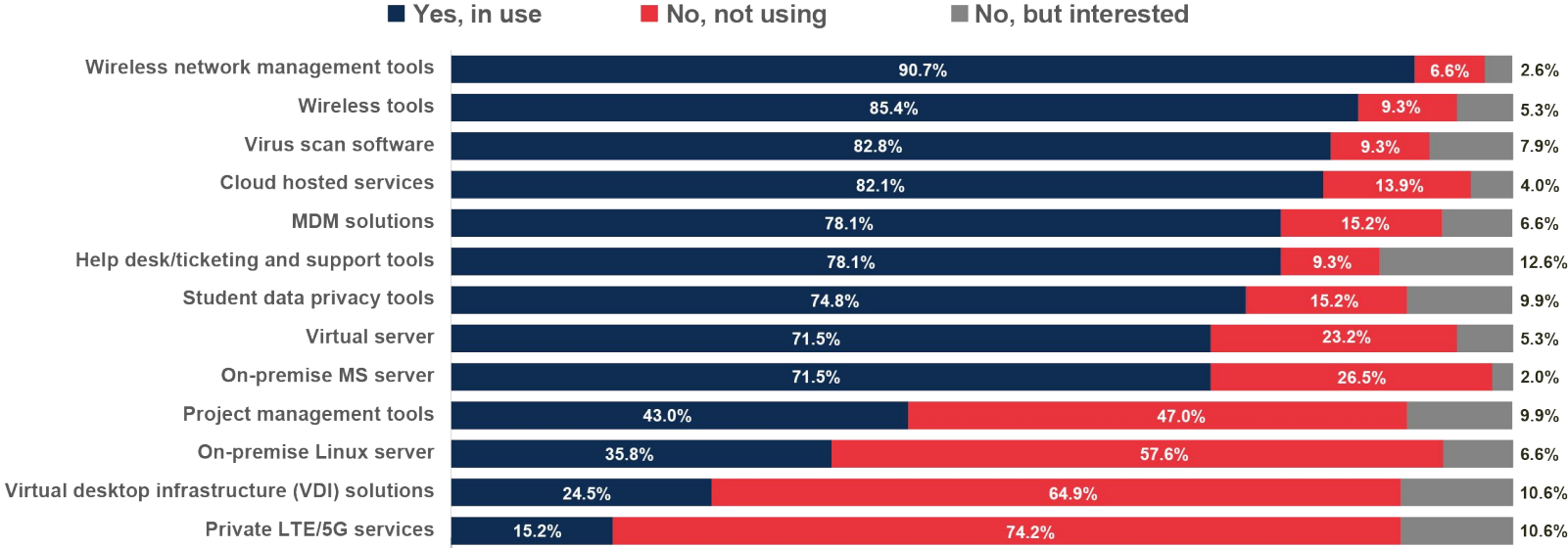
- No noticeable slowdowns during school time
- Slowdowns noticeable less than 10% of the time
- Slowdowns noticeable 10% of the time or more

AI TRAINING USED OR ENDORSED EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE AND TOOLS



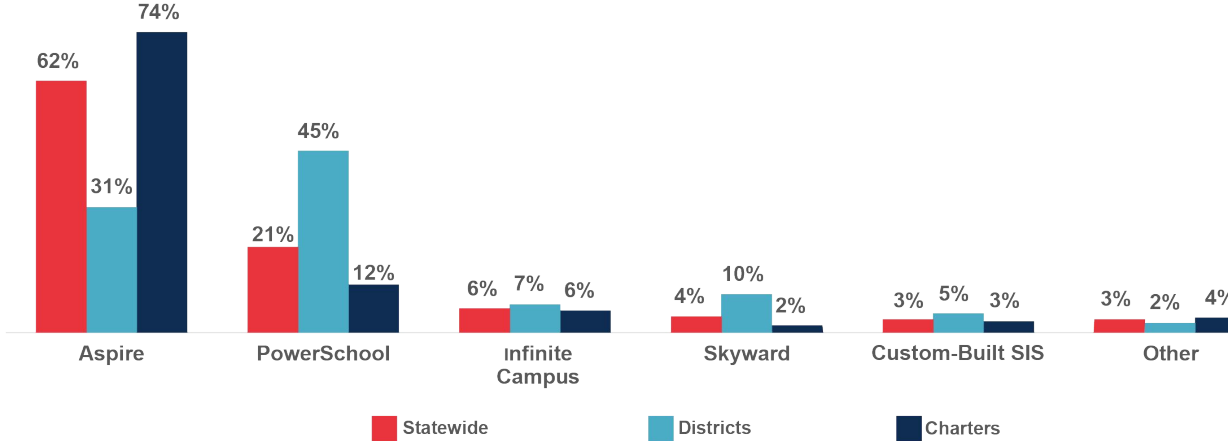
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EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT TOOLS USED BY UTAH SCHOOLS



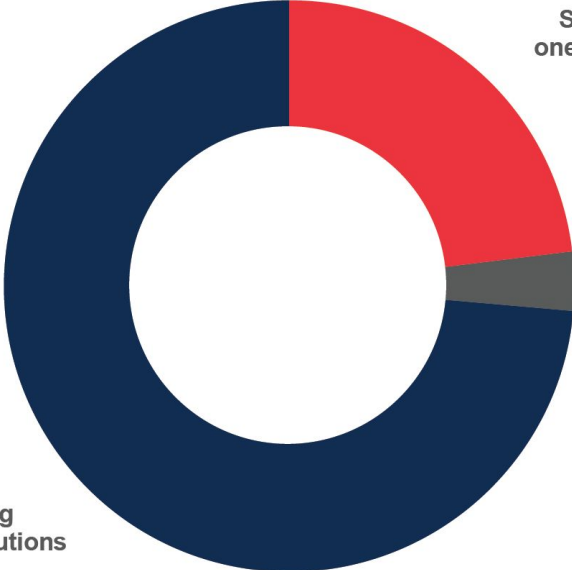
The most popular educational support tools used in Utah schools are wireless network management and wireless tools, virus scanning software, and cloud-hosted online services.

STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (SIS) TOOLS USED BY UTAH SCHOOLS



Nearly 2 out of 3 schools that use student information systems rely on Aspire for this task

SCHOOLS USING MOBILE DEVICE MANAGEMENT (MDM) SOLUTIONS

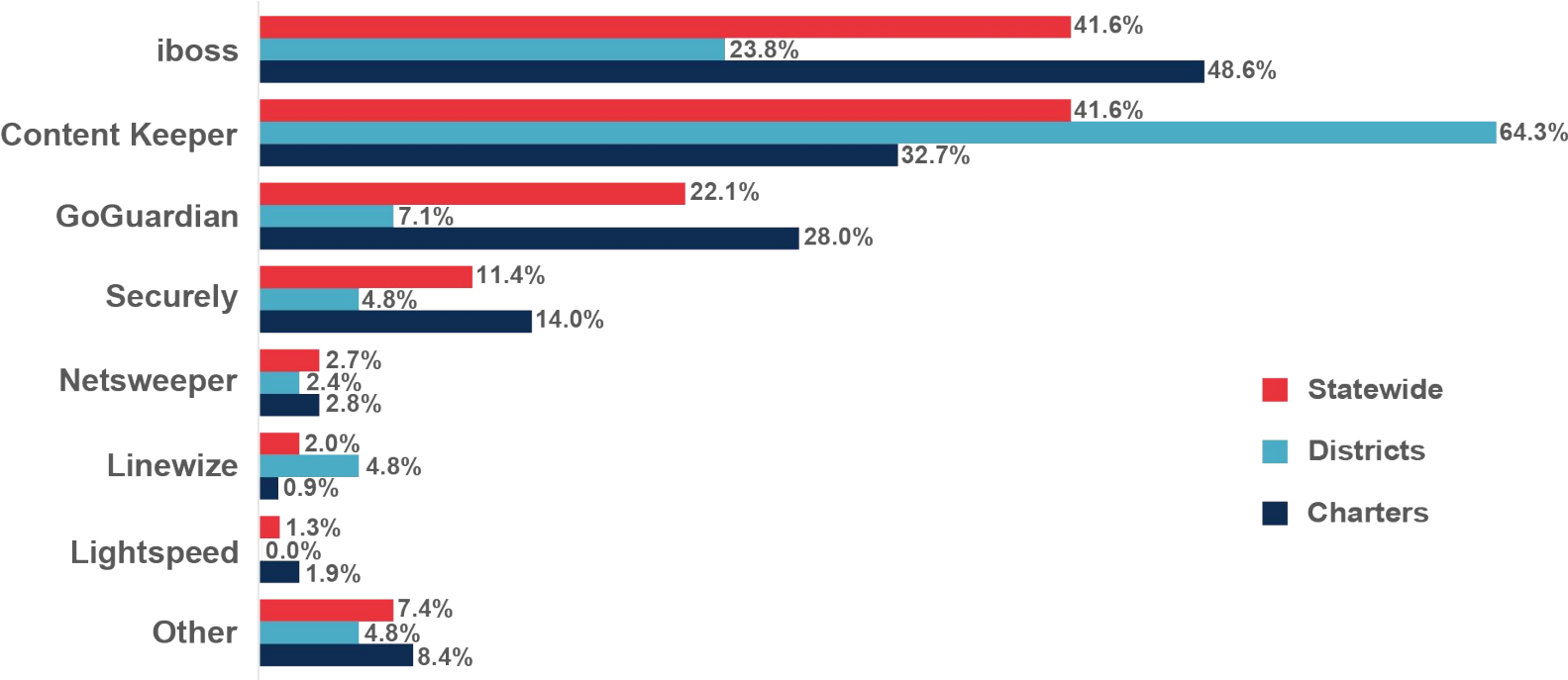


Nearly 3 out of 4 Utah schools use multiple mobile device management (MDM) tools to protect their devices

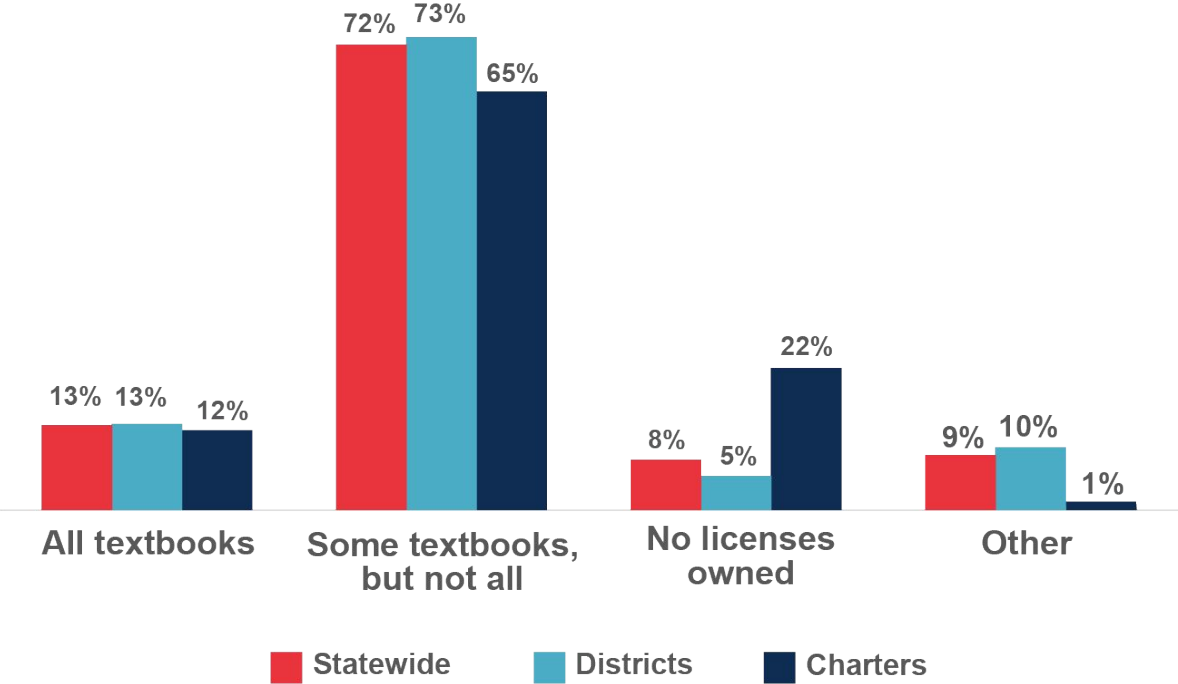
CONTENT FILTERS USED BY UTAH SCHOOLS



Iboss and Content Keeper are the two content filters used by the largest share of Utah schools



SCHOOLS OWNING DIGITAL TEXTBOOK LICENSES

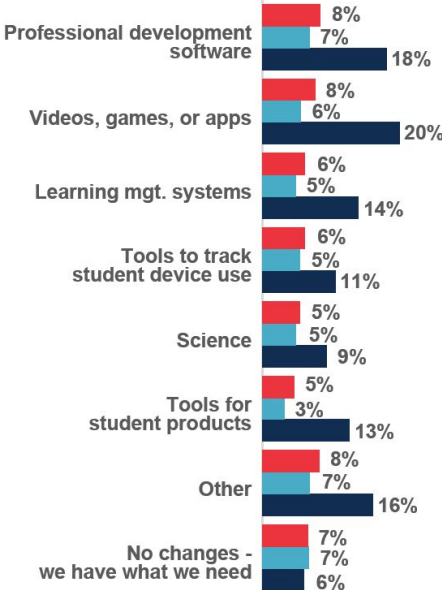
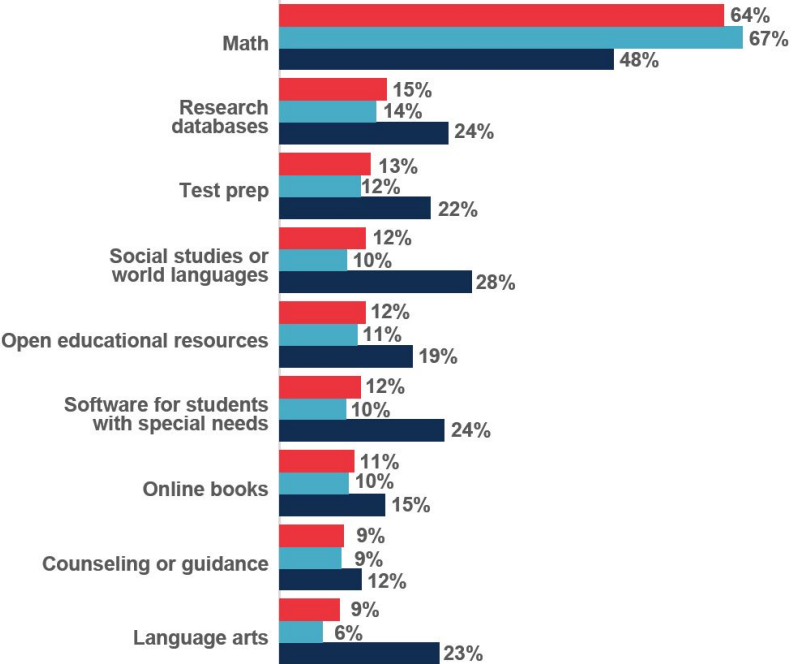


More than 4 out of 5 Utah schools report not owning digital licenses for all their textbooks

SCHOOLS WHO REPORT NEEDING INSTRUCTIONAL TOOLS OR SOFTWARE



Both charter and district schools in Utah cite math applications as their most requested tools (nearly 2 out of 3 schools), while more than 9 out of 10 need some form of instructional software.



■ Statewide
■ Districts
■ Charters



Digital Teaching and Learning Technology Inventory

Through this project, UEN and Connected Nation gather critical data to help policymakers understand how educational technology supports classroom instruction in Utah.

The School Technology Inventory was first established in 2015, when the Utah Legislature passed Senate Bill 222, creating a program to track classroom technology and related resources in Utah's public and charter schools.

In 2017, the Legislature passed House Bill 277, which launched the state's Digital Teaching and Learning Grant Program. This program provided grants to schools and districts to improve student learning outcomes and offer professional learning opportunities for educators in digital teaching and learning. To assess the impact of these investments, UEN committed to coordinating the inventory every other year.

Captured screenshot

About the Program

- [DT&L Program Overview](#)
- [Utah's DT&L Master Plan \(PDF\)](#)
- [Inventory Press Release](#)
- [Report Press Release](#)
- [Technology Inventory Login](#)

Technology Inventory Report



Questions?



MAX@UEN.ORG

Utah Broadband Center Updates

Broadband Alliance Meeting May 2026



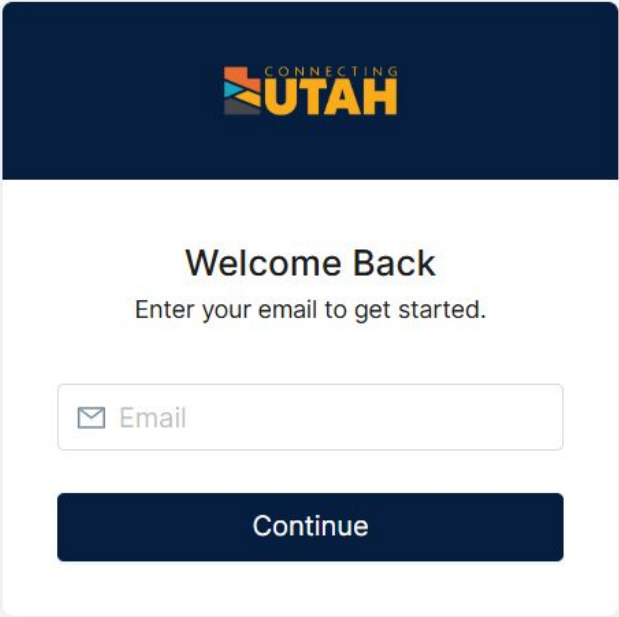
HiCountryNet Ribbon Splicing



Beehive, Box Elder County Ribbon Splicing

Next Steps for BEAD Subgrantees

- Log in to <https://portal.bead.udot.utah.gov/> and review the available forms
- Collect and submit required pre-contract documentation
- Complete Tribal consultations and secure resolutions of consent



The screenshot shows a login interface for the BEAD portal. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the "CONNECTING UTAH" logo. Below the header, the text "Welcome Back" is displayed, followed by the instruction "Enter your email to get started." A text input field with a placeholder "Email" and an envelope icon is provided. Below the input field is a dark blue "Continue" button. At the bottom of the page, there is a link to the "Terms of Service" with the text "By signing in, you agree to our Terms of Service".

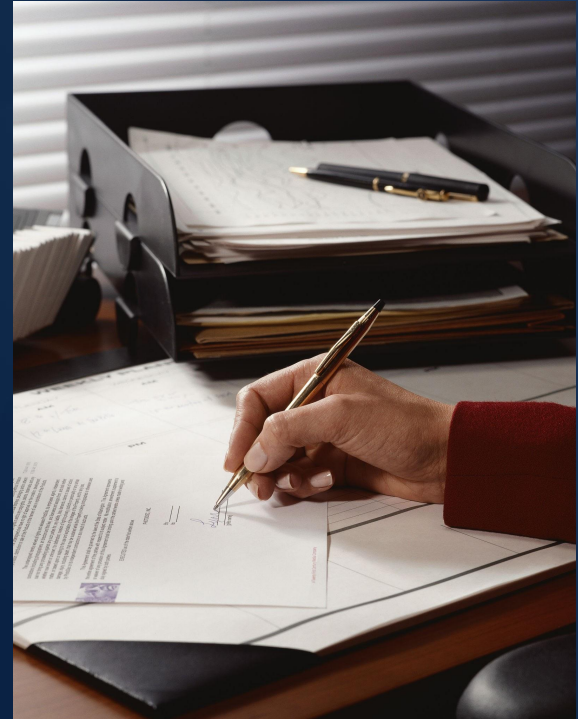
Next Steps for BEAD Subgrantees



- Prepare for NEPA reviews
 - Secure NEPA consultants
 - Review NTIA's [APPEIT tool](#)
 - Subdivide any NEPA and historic project areas to submit; review the NEPA area form on the portal
 - Prepare documentation for environmental reviews

Next Steps for BEAD Subgrantees

- Review draft subgrantee agreement at <https://connecting.utah.gov/grants/big/final-proposal/> (Exhibit G)
 - Submit a comment in the comment form or email us at connectingutah@utah.gov with any feedback or redlines
- Final drafts of the subgrantee agreements will be sent out as soon as they are available



BEAD Timeline



BEAD Technical Assistance Materials

Technical Assistance Resources

▶ **Frequently Asked Questions**

▶ **Grant Management Portal**

▶ **February 2026 Technical Assistance Training Materials**

▶ **Next Steps**

▶ **Administrative & Financial Resources**

▶ **Environmental & Permitting Resources**

▶ **Security & Compliance Resources**

▶ **Technical & Engineering Resources**

<https://connecting.utah.gov/grants/bigbeadta/>

BEAD Project Scope Changes

- If you have any questions or concerns about your awarded locations, contact UBC as soon as possible
- Project scope changes often require NTIA/NIST approval (estimated time for approval: approximately 30 days after submission if no curing is needed)
- If requesting a project scope change, submit the following information to UBC:
 - Description of scope change (technology change, removing locations, budget modification)
 - Narrative justification for the requested scope change
 - Updated budget and cost per location for the requested scope change

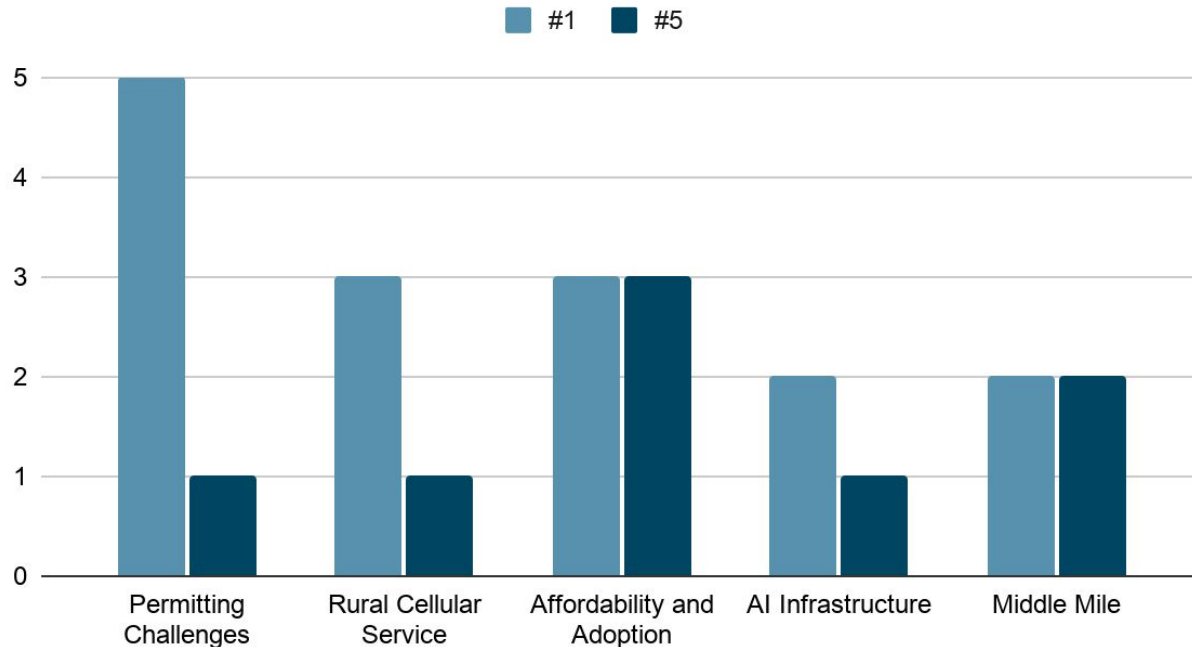
Supply Chain for Sufficient BABA Compliance

Panel: Brett Huish, Senior Manager, Direct Sales, Duraline
Clint Broberg, Account Manager, Millenium
Conrad Schneider, Sales Director Telecom Solutions, Prysmian

Moderator: Steve Greene, Program Manager, Utah Broadband Center

Challenges to Universal Connectivity

Challenge Rankings



Announcements

- Tentative Next Meeting: August 19, 2026
- USDA Community Connect Grant:
 - Application closes June 29, 2026 at 11:59pm
 - More information available at:
<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/telecommunications-programs/community-connect-grants>

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