understanding of internet use. Notably, we have limited ability to reliably estimate variables like internet adoption for individual counties or other smaller geographies and populations. Data from the NTIA internet Use Survey can be used to estimate internet use at the national and state levels and for a range of demographic groups. However, it cannot provide estimates for counties, census tracts, or other small areas. The ACS comes closer to fulfilling this task—at least for the indicators enabled by the three computer and internet use questions it contains—but can only shed light on less populous areas by aggregating five consecutive years' worth of survey responses.[5] While invaluable for many purposes, a five-year time scale is not ideal for tasks like conducting yearly program evaluation or studying the impacts of relatively sudden changes.

Last year, NTIA and the Census Bureau began an experimental project to study the feasibility of—and ultimately to produce—estimates of internet adoption for small, sub-state areas during a single year to address this knowledge gap and better serve the policymaking process. Using techniques that have been successfully employed in other data products,[6] Census Bureau experts are combining existing data from key household surveys with auxiliary data that are known to correlate with internet adoption rates. By using a predictive model, the Census Bureau team can produce estimates for less populous geographies or groups that have both smaller margins of error than equivalent estimates based on survey data alone and reduced risk that such estimates can be used to identify individual respondents. Those two features of small area modeling make it possible to publish more granular estimates than would otherwise be permissible or recommended for estimates generated entirely from survey data.

For this first phase of Project LEIA, the Census Bureau team produced an experimental model to estimate the proportion of households in each U.S. county that subscribed to wired internet service in 2022.[7] To accomplish this,

Census used the direct survey estimates for wired internet adoption from the 2022 ACS in combination with several variables related to subscribership levels, including each county's median household income, educational attainment level, and availability of fixed broadband services offering at least 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload speeds. A complete feasibility report detailing the methodology used in this model, as well as the experimental estimates themselves and related materials, is available at *https://www.census.gov/data/experimental-data-products/local-estimates-of-internet-adoption.html.*

As we prepare to continue this important collaboration with the Census Bureau, NTIA invites all suggestions for improvements to the initial experimental model. We also welcome suggestions about how to prioritize future expansion of Project LEIA's scope. The following questions serve as a non-exhaustive guide to some of the issues commenters may wish to address:

1. Should NTIA be aware of any potential applications where Project LEIA could make a particularly substantial contribution to policy research or development? Would any future work on Project LEIA help improve or expand these contributions?

2. In the feasibility report,[8] the Census Bureau describes the methodology it used in the experimental model and lists a number of potential predictor variables it tested before selecting the ones used in these initial estimates. Are there additional variables or data sources that should be considered to improve the model's predictive power? Should we consider any methodological refinements or modifications to this model to improve its performance?

3. While the current experimental model only produces estimates at the county level, the same principles can potentially be applied for other small geographies and populations. During the next phase of Project LEIA, NTIA and the Census Bureau intend to experiment with creating census tract-level

estimates. Are there other small geographies or populations for which model-based estimates of internet adoption might be beneficial? What relevant data sources at that level could be considered to help generate these estimates?

4. In this first phase, we decided to analyze the percentage of households subscribed to wired internet services. We did this because (a) the variable is useful for policymaking and (b) sufficient data were available to accurately fit a model. However, this is not the only metric that possibly could be modeled through future work. In addition to considering other variables from the ACS questions on computer and internet use, we are also interested in applying small area modeling to more detailed questions from the NTIA internet Use Survey. What metrics from either survey could we prioritize for future work under Project LEIA?

5. Is there anything else NTIA should take into consideration when contemplating the further development of Project LEIA?

Stephanie Weiner,

Chief Counsel, National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

[FR Doc. 2024–20645 Filed 9–11–24; 8:45 am]

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COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Notice of Meeting

Per 45 CFR chapter XXI 2102.3, the next meeting of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts is scheduled for September 19, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. and will be held via online videoconference. Items of discussion may include buildings, infrastructure, parks, memorials, and public art.

Draft agendas, the link to register for the online public meeting, and additional information regarding the Commission are available on our website: *www.cfa.gov.* Inquiries regarding the agenda, as well as any public testimony, should be addressed to Thomas Luebke, Secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, at the above address; by emailing *cfastaff@cfa.gov;* or by calling 202–504–2200. Individuals requiring sign language interpretation for the hearing impaired should contact the Secretary at least 10 days before the meeting date.

Dated: September 6, 2024 in Washington, DC.

Zakiya N. Walters,

Administrative Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–20627 Filed 9–11–24; 8:45 am]

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[5] *See* ACS "Areas Published," *available at https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/geography-acs/areas-published.html.*

[6] *See, e.g.,* U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Program, *available at https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe.html.*

[7] Specifically, the metric being modeled is households reporting a subscription to "broadband (high speed) internet service such as cable, fiber optic, or DSL service installed in this household." While dial-up internet service—which by definition is also a "wired" internet service—is not included

here (and falls under a different answer choice in the relevant ACS question), it was an extremely uncommon type of internet service by 2022. According to the 2022 ACS, approximately 0.1 percent of households used only a dial-up internet service. *See* 2022 American Community Survey questionnaire at 9, *available at https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/methodology/questionnaires/2022/quest22.pdf*; Census Bureau Table S2801, *available at https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2022.S2801.*

[8] U.S. Census Bureau, Local Estimates of internet Adoption: Feasibility Report, *available at https://www.census.gov/data/experimental-data-products/local-estimates-of-internet-adoption.html.*