

User Research and Experience Design

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(About Us)



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BCAT 1.0

- Broadband Connectivity Assessment Tool
- Developed by National Telecommunication and Information Administration/BroadbandUSA with input from broadband leaders, advocates, and industry members
- Helps communities understand and assess needs; prepares them for advocacy

BCAT 1.0

12 modules with 3 themes:

- Access: Infrastructure and Availability
- Adoption:
 Inclusion and Skills
- Community: Leadership and Context



BCAT 1.0 Beta

Launched May 2017

Teams of up to twelve people in fifteen locations around the country

Roughly half the teams successfully completed the assessment

Note: Teams define their own goals

User Research

Conducted semi-structured interviews

10 interviews: 11 participants from 7 communities

Sample questions:

- What were you hoping to achieve? What was your goal in completing the assessment?
- How did the BCAT tool fit into the work you were already doing?
 Was your community already working on broadband efforts?
- Have you been able to take action because of the BCAT?

Stakeholder Analysis

Direct Stakeholders:

- NITA/Broadband USA
- BCAT participants:
 - Government employees
 - Librarians
 - Local ISPs
 - Business Leaders
 - Educators
 - Emergency Responders
 - Medical Professionals

Indirect Stakeholders:

- Broadband customers
- Employers
- Rural populations
- Low income households
- ISPs
- Policymakers









Key Takeaways

- All of the users we interviewed believed in the goals of the project
- They think the work is important
- They felt participation was worthwhile and said they would do it again

What Worked Well

- Helped communities build broadband teams
- Tool was comprehensive
- Revealed gaps in knowledge
- Created a starting benchmark to help gauge future progress
- Provided information that could be shared with policymakers

Design Recommendations

Bandwidth intensive
Make assessment downloadable (.doc, .pdf, .txt)

FCC data does not match participants' experiences Help communities gather their own data

Final report was too long, repetitive
Help team leaders create an executive summary

Assessment was too long, repetitive
Divide assessment into smaller parts
Eliminate or consolidate repetitive questions

No way to assign sections to individual participants
Offer multiple completion paths
Give team leads the ability to assign modules

Questions are difficult to understand

Determine target audience for each question

Decrease the reading level

Team leader has to 'nag' participants
Automate reminders
Make it easier to monitor progress
Celebrate completion of each section

No way to gather feedback from members outside of the main team

Allow admins to send questions via email Create a way for users to upload data

Rural vs. Urban communities have different priorities
Create multiple assessment pathways
Allow teams to choose their focus

Want to be able to compare to similar communities
Add additional column for data comparison
Provide case studies
Use cohort model for participation

Interface aesthetics need work
Use the U.S. Web Design System Style Guide



What is it?

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Get started

Join a team

Sign in Username or email address	
Password	
Sign in	Show password
Forgot username? Forgot password?	

Features of the BCAT



Resources to guide your work



Easy download for offline access



Simple progress tracking



Guide to building your team

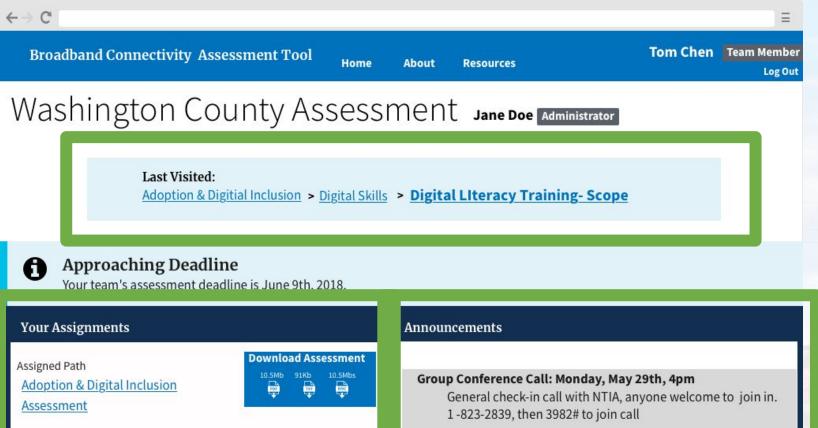


Understand federal data

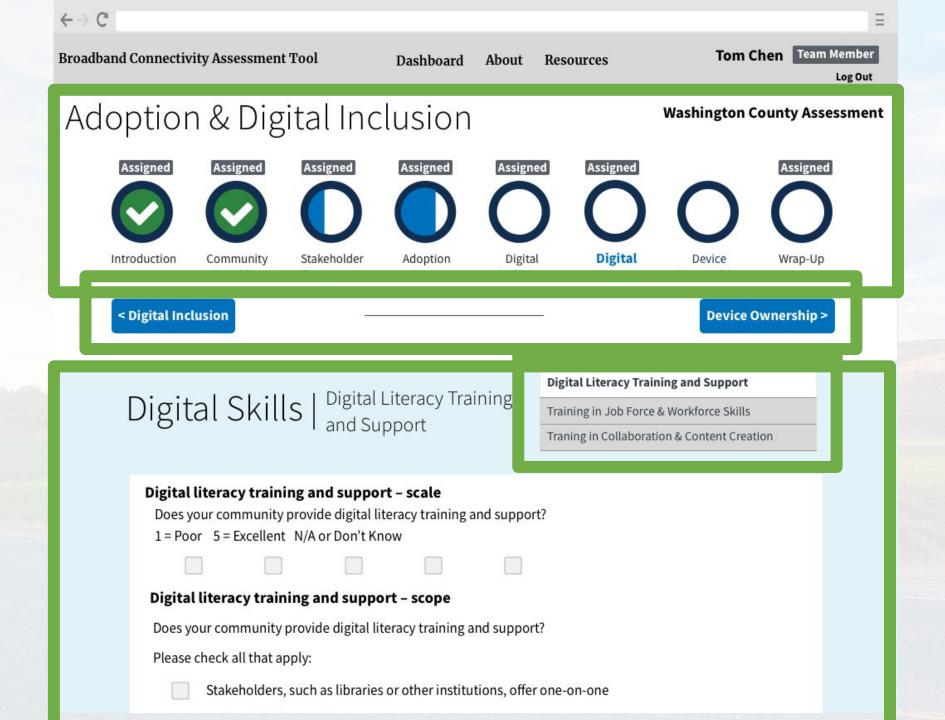


Different paths for different needs

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Deliverables

- Interview summaries
- User stories & development requirements
- Wireframes
- Reading level edits / survey questions
- Written report

Conclusion

- Communities think this work is important
- Some changes are needed to ensure participant success
- Prepares communities for self-advocacy

Thank you!

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