



SMC Recovery Initiative

Creating a Better Future through
Collaboration, Advancing Equity,
and Inclusion

San Mateo County's Recovery Initiative is a collaboration among local government agencies, community-based organizations and nonprofits, private partners, and residents to promote inclusive recovery and leverage the collective capacity of the whole community to **build a more equitable, healthy, and connected San Mateo County.**

Recovery Initiative

Public Health



Equity



Fiscal
Responsibility



Communitywide
Collaboration



168
**Recovery
Initiative
members**

40+ County Staff

10+ Private Sector
Partners

15+ City Representatives

50+ Community-based
Organizations and
Nonprofits

How did we engage the community?

14 Community Workshops Held

48 Interviews conducted with Community Leaders

40 Working Group Meetings

150+ Committee Members Convened

100 Committee Members Reviewed Strategic Plan

30 Key Stakeholder Groups Reviewed Recommendations

Strategic Planning

Recommendation Development

Implementation

April

October

Advancing Equity



The effects of COVID-19 are amplifying inequities, but the recovery is an opportunity for a collective restart. To create an equitable community, systems, policies, and practices of oppression must be dismantled. Our new systems must eliminate disparities and provide access to quality services for all unserved, underserved, under-resourced, and ineffectively served individuals and families.



Decision Making and Solutions



Understanding Data



Burdens and Benefits



Accountability, Communication, and Community Engagement

Where is the need?



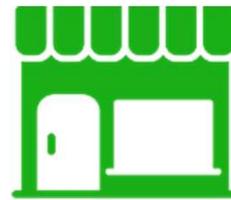
65%
of COVID
cases are
residents
of color
and ethnic
minorities



10,156
immigrants
have
received
\$1,000 in
financial
assistance



250%
increase in
food
distribution
by Second
Harvest



600+
small
businesses
have applied
for financial
assistance



4,411
school
children lack
Wi-Fi/tools
for distance
learning



20,000
low-income
workers
have lost
their jobs

Cumulative Data as of September 2020

Where will we focus our efforts?

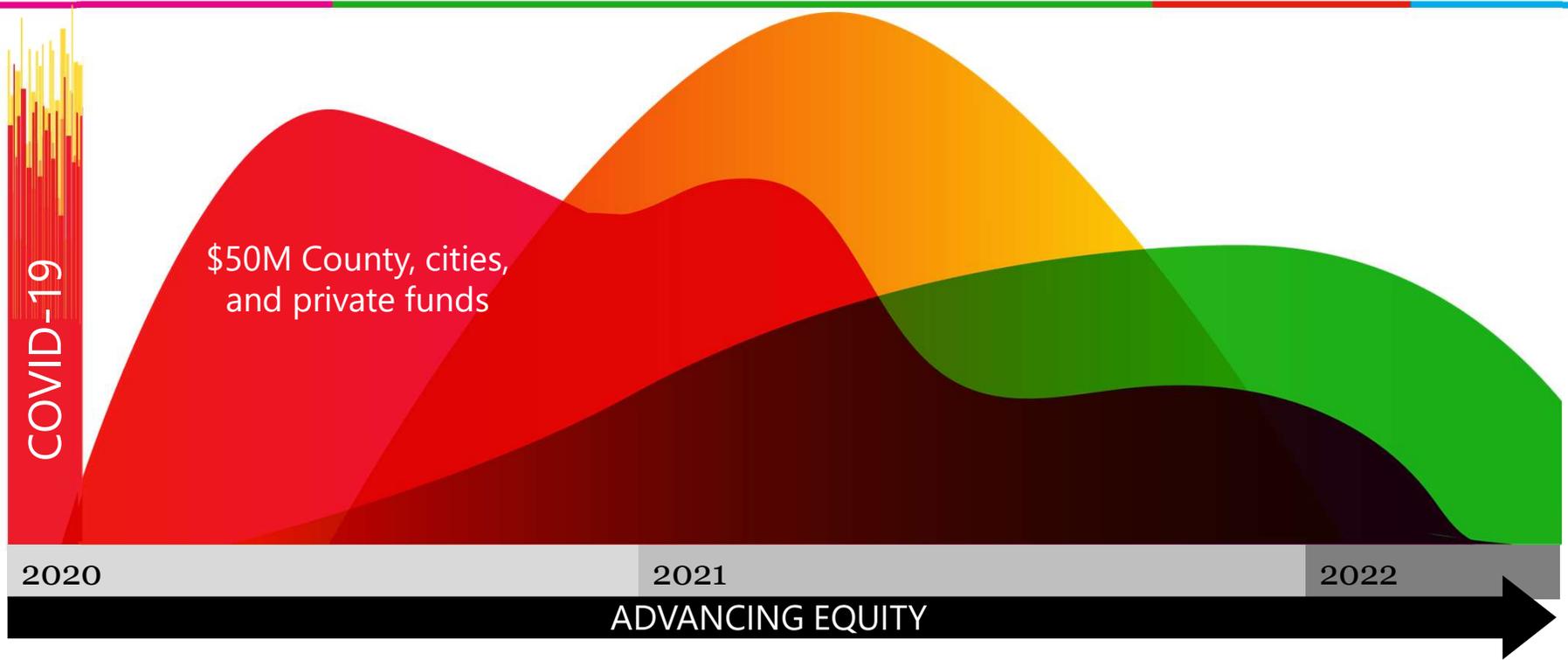


Our Path to Recovery



- ✓ Address critical and immediate needs
- ✓ Create community capacity and consumer confidence
- ✓ Build our better future

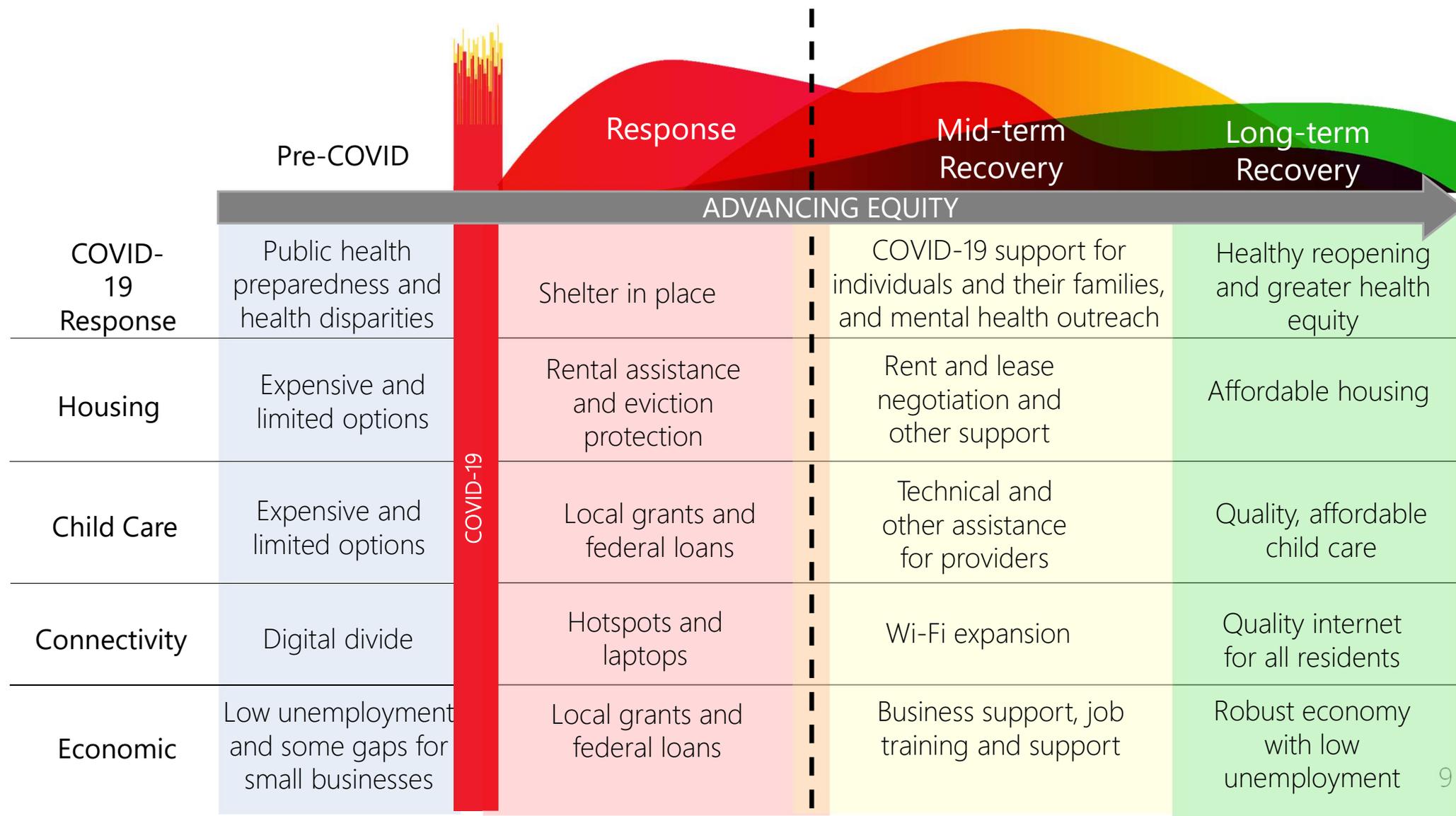
Timeline for Recovery



Response
Address critical immediate needs

Mid-term Recovery
Create community capacity and consumer confidence

Long-term Recovery
Build our better future





Moving Forward

How do we implement recommendations, track progress, and engage the community?

Implementation Groups

Public and Mental Health



Digital Divide



Basic Needs



Child Care and Out-of-School Care



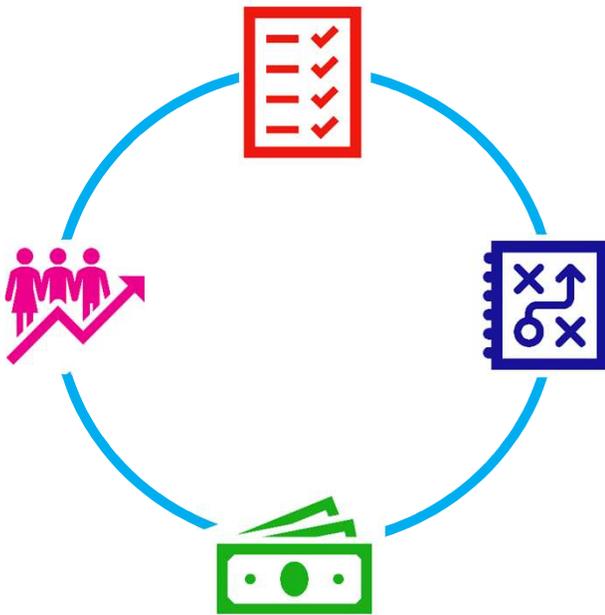
Economic Recovery



Transportation



Implementation Groups



- Assess greatest needs and evaluate current progress to identify gaps and opportunities
- Develop a collaborative workplan to fill gaps and meet needs
- Identify resources, available, and potential funding
- Take action, track progress

Recovery Indicators



23,000

Extremely low-income renters Countywide

4,782

Requests for emergency financial assistance

250%

Increase in need for food provided by Second Harvest Food Bank



26,300

Households without Wi-Fi

4,411

Children reporting Wi-Fi issues



354

Child care providers requesting financial assistance



20,000

Low-income jobs lost

9.2%

Unemployment

268

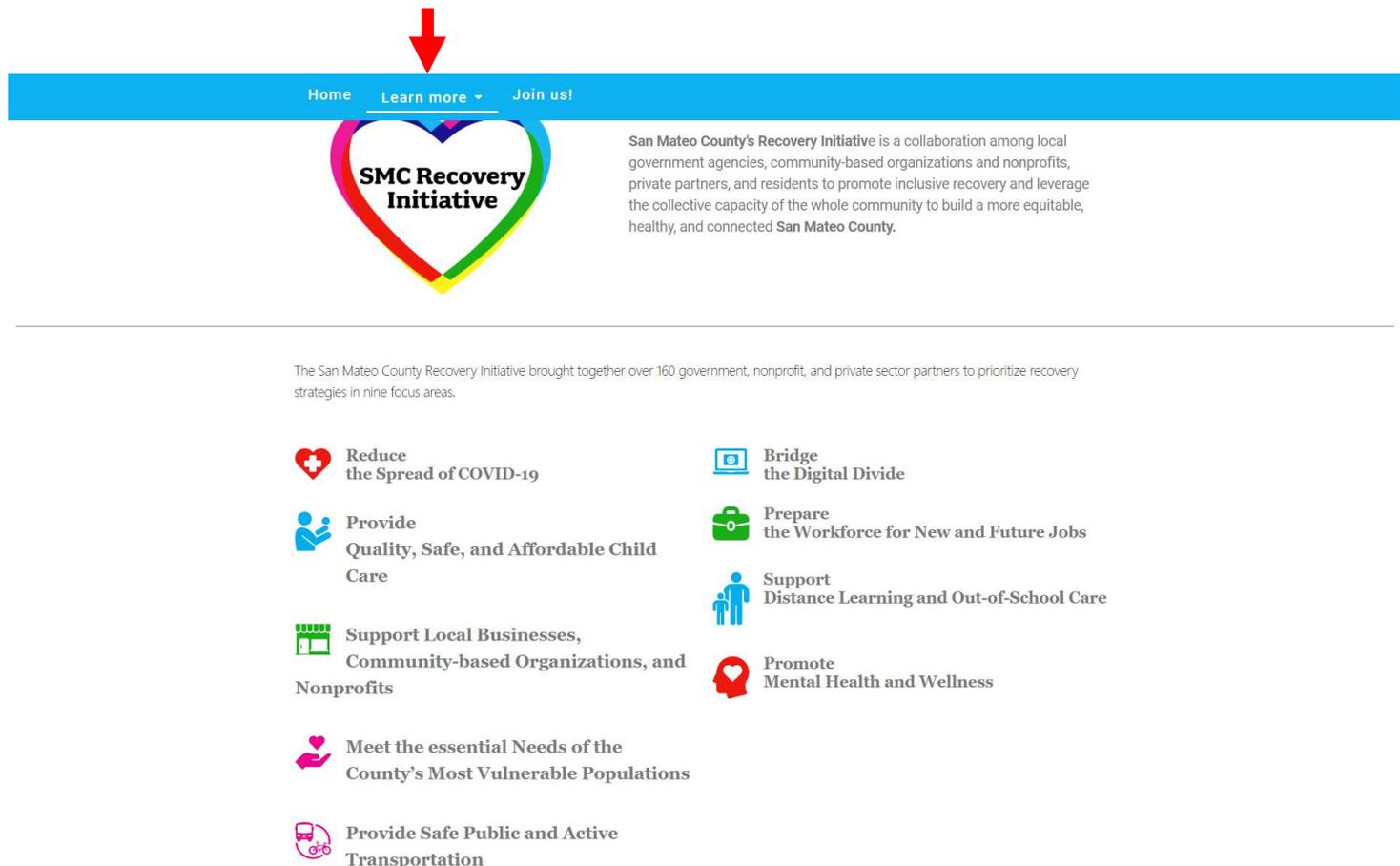
Known business closures

Track and Share Recovery Progress



Launching October 9th
SMCRecovery.org

Website “Learn more” Page



Home **Learn more** Join us!

SMC Recovery Initiative

San Mateo County's Recovery Initiative is a collaboration among local government agencies, community-based organizations and nonprofits, private partners, and residents to promote inclusive recovery and leverage the collective capacity of the whole community to build a more equitable, healthy, and connected San Mateo County.

The San Mateo County Recovery Initiative brought together over 160 government, nonprofit, and private sector partners to prioritize recovery strategies in nine focus areas.

-  **Reduce the Spread of COVID-19**
-  **Provide Quality, Safe, and Affordable Child Care**
-  **Support Local Businesses, Community-based Organizations, and Nonprofits**
-  **Meet the essential Needs of the County's Most Vulnerable Populations**
-  **Provide Safe Public and Active Transportation**
-  **Bridge the Digital Divide**
-  **Prepare the Workforce for New and Future Jobs**
-  **Support Distance Learning and Out-of-School Care**
-  **Promote Mental Health and Wellness**

Website Equity Story Map

The screenshot displays a website interface for an equity story map. At the top, a blue navigation bar contains the links "Home", "Learn more", and "Join us!". The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column features a vertical blue sidebar with a home icon and a series of dots, with a red bracket and arrow pointing to the second dot. The main text in this column is titled "SMC Recovery Initiative" and "Advance Equity". It describes the initiative's goal of creating a more equitable future for San Mateo County and lists five review questions. The right column is titled "The Equity Recovery Group and Committees applied an equity lens to the recommendations by answering five review questions." and lists the five questions with numbered icons: 1. Decision Making and Solutions, 2. Understanding Data, 3. Burdens and Benefits, 4. Accountability, Communication, and Community Engagement, and 5. Next Steps. The footer includes the Esri logo and the text "A Story Map".

Home Learn more Join us!

SMC Recovery Initiative

Advance Equity

Creating a more equitable future for San Mateo County has been a central focus for the Recovery Initiative. A dedicated Equity Recovery Group reviews proposed programs and strategies to ensure that it helps advance this vision. The equity review questions used to assess strategies can be found on the right, and the Recovery Initiative guiding statement is as follows:

“The effects of COVID-19 are amplifying inequities, but the recovery is an opportunity for a collective restart. To create an equitable community, systems, policies, and practices of oppression must be dismantled. Our new systems must

The Equity Recovery Group and Committees applied an equity lens to the recommendations by answering five review questions.

- 1 Decision Making and Solutions**
Who sits at the decision-making table? Are there systematic barriers to participation? Whose perspectives and interests are represented?
- 2 Understanding Data**
What do the various data tell us about the need for the proposed initiative? Specifically, consider race, ethnicity, gender identity and gender expression, income, languages spoken, ability, age, and neighborhood.
- 3 Burdens and Benefits**
Who would benefit or be burdened by this proposed initiative? Would low-income households or communities of color experience a disproportionate burden? What inequity is being addressed?
- 4 Accountability, Communication, and Community Engagement**
How will we be accountable to and communicate with the community throughout implementation? How do we engage those who are not often represented in decision making or those most affected by inequities?
- 5 Next Steps**
If equity considerations have been identified by asking these questions, how will they be addressed?

esri A Story Map

Website Digital Divide Story Map

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SMC Recovery Initiative

Focus Area

Bridge the Digital Divide

Despite San Mateo County's location in the heart of Silicon Valley, an **estimated 26,300 households in our County lack access to a reliable internet connection**. As can be seen in the map on the right, a lack of internet access is a challenge county-wide but is most severe in the most disadvantaged neighborhoods. While access to the internet is important for adults working remotely, seniors ordering essential deliveries, and a wide diversity of other county residents, a lack of **internet access is an especially critical challenge for the over 4,000 children who have reported having**

LEGEND
ACS Internet Connectivity Variables (Tract Level)
Percent of Households with No Internet Access
> 20
11.9
< 3.8

esri A Story Map

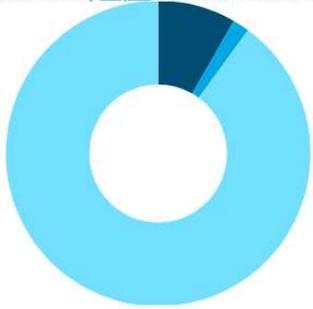
Bridge the Digital Divide

Indicators

Households without WiFi

94

households in **Census Tract 603200** have no internet connection, **6.7%** of all households.



Current Programs

San Mateo County Public WiFi

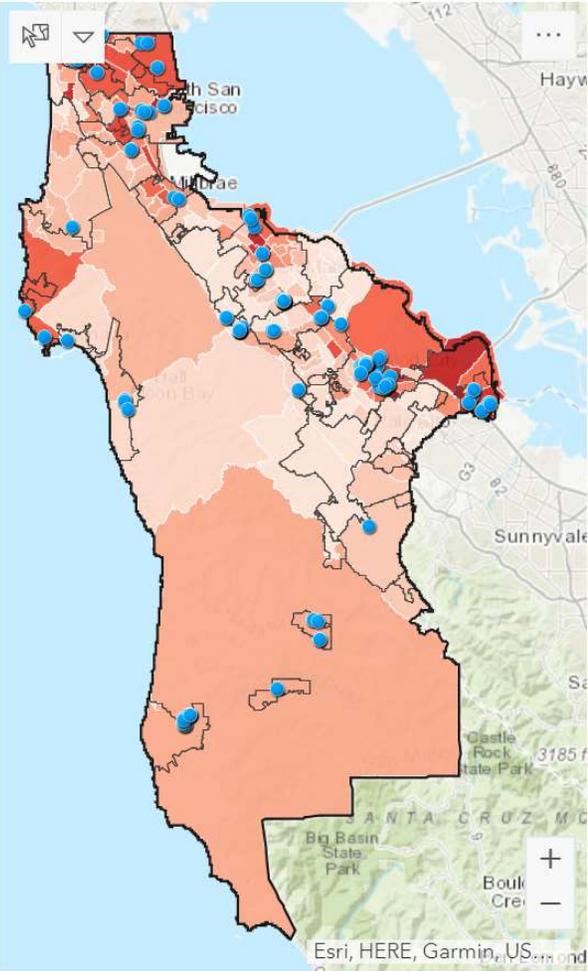
186

of Locations

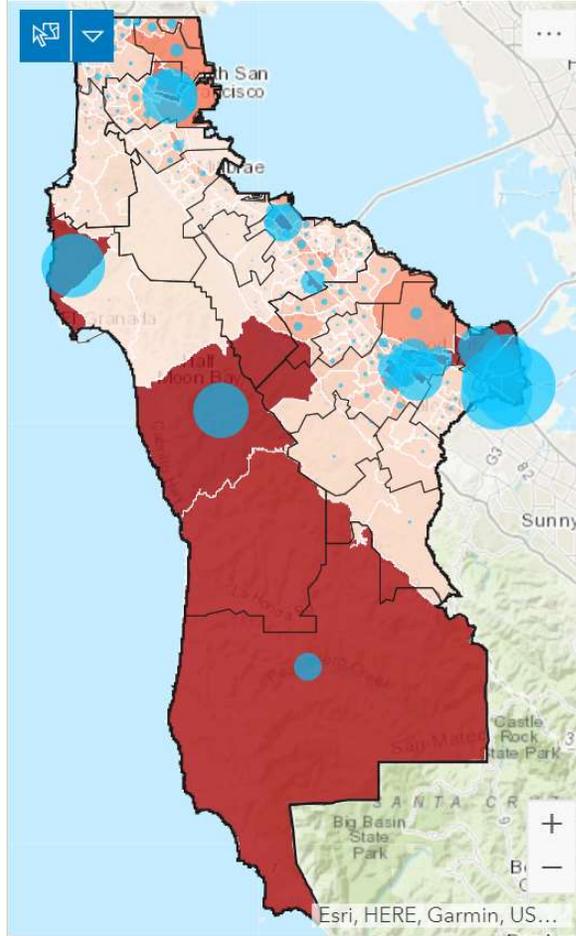
1.3 M

Avg. Sessions/Month

Households Without Internet Census Tract Level San Mateo County WiFi Locations



Student Internet Connectivity Issues Census Tract Level Reported by 23 School Districts



Indicators

Students without Internet

23

of School Districts

4,411

of students with no internet

7

students have reported no internet connection in **Census Tract 601501**

Current Programs

Student Internet Access Pilot Initiative

3

School Districts

1. Ravenswood Elementary
2. Redwood City Elementary
3. La Honda Pescadero

325

of Hotspots Distributed

4

of Mobile WiFi Units

Comcast Xfinity WiFi

325

Subsidized Promo Codes

Sources:

Website “Join us” page



Home Learn more [Join us!](#)

Join us

Name *

First Last

Email *

Comment or Message *

Submit

Questions?

Peggy Jensen

Deputy County Manager, San Mateo County

pjensen@smcgov.org

Danielle Lee

Assistant Director, Office of Sustainability, San Mateo County

dlee@smcgov.org

Jessica Stanfill Mullin

Sustainability Program Manager, Livable Communities, Office of Sustainability, San Mateo County

jmullin@smcgov.org