



E-Learning Offers Nevadans Key to Closing a Critical Education Gap

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Report finds nearly half of Nevada Internet users go online to learn

Carson City, NV – According to a new report released today from Connect Nevada, 747,000 Nevadans now go online for educational purposes. In fact, the Nevada System of Higher Education reports the number of Nevada college students using online learning is up 438% since 2001.

The Connect Nevada report, [*The Power of Broadband: Boosting Nevada's Education System*](#), reveals numerous insights into e-Learning across the state. An e-Learner is someone who uses the Internet to obtain or support their formal education.

Some of the highlights are:

- 44% of Nevada Internet users (747,000) engage in e-Learning.
- Nevadans who are younger, employed, and have higher education levels are more likely to be e-Learners.
- Rural Nevadan Internet users are significantly more likely to be e-Learners than non-rural Internet users.
- More than 55% (95,000) of rural Nevada Internet users go online for education.
- 86% of Nevada e-Learners subscribe to home broadband service.
- Nearly two out of three Nevada parents (63%) report that their children use the Internet for their schoolwork.

“The future of Nevada’s economy depends on having quality education resources available to everyone across the state,” says Connect Nevada State Program Manager Lindsey Niedzielski. “E-Learning is crucial to bridging our current education gap and ensuring Nevadans have the skills to fill future jobs. In five years, it is expected that more than 60% of jobs will require a college degree, yet less than 30% of Nevadans now have a college education. This report emphasizes the importance of e-Learning and is inspiring us to work harder than ever to make

sure we are getting communities *Connected* across the state and making sure everyone knows about the free resources and digital literacy training we offer.”

Connect Nevada’s *Every Community Online* program is addressing digital literacy needs across the state with free computer and Internet training. Meantime, several counties and communities across Nevada are currently engaged in Connect Nevada’s *Connected* communities program. The program includes a full assessment of each region’s needs and a customized plan for broadband expansion.

Connect Nevada is actively working to bridge the technology gap among all Nevadans to ensure everyone has access to the limitless opportunities that broadband provides. Increasing broadband usage and e-Learning among Nevada’s residents now will pave the way for a bright economic future.

Anyone interested in bringing better broadband to local homes and businesses is encouraged to join in the Connect Nevada community planning effort. For more information on how to get involved, please contact Niedzielski at niedzielski@connectnv.org or (775) 343-9600.

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About Connect Nevada: The Governor’s Office and the Nevada Broadband Task Force are leading the initiative to increase broadband Internet access, adoption, and use across the state. Connect Nevada is a nonprofit organization that was commissioned by the state to work with all Nevada broadband providers, create detailed maps of current broadband coverage, and coordinate efforts with other Federal grant award recipients in the state. Connect Nevada is now supporting the development of a statewide plan for the deployment and adoption of broadband. The goal is to spread high-speed Internet across the state and make sure all Nevada residents have access to its life-changing benefits. For more information visit: www.connectnv.org.

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