



Kentucky may be leading the nation in technology.

<http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1895,2166050,00.asp>

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August 3, 2007

At least, it has become the most improved state from 2004 to 2007, where its rank leapt from No. 44 to fourth in a nationwide study to evaluate public access to state and federal services. The study was conducted by Brown University.

Kentucky's success stems from a private-public partnership, a joint venture between private industry and public government, which implemented \$650 million in invested capital.

According to Mark McElroy, ConnectKentucky's vice president for communications and operations, this partnership has managed to increase "computer literacy and ownership at the household level." In 2004, broadband covered 60 percent of all homes in Kentucky. As of mid-2007, 93 percent of all homes are served.

FCC Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate referred to ConnectKentucky's success in the [spectrum auction](#) rules meeting July 31. In fact, it was a key element of an FCC decision on the rules for the spectrum auction: Chairman Kevin J. Martin announced that the upper portion of the 700MHz spectrum—the "D Block"—will be used by first respondents during emergencies and will be shared with private companies.

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