PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department: Economic Development   **HB Section(s):   7.115**

Program Name: Broadband Grants (NTIA)

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Broadband Grants (NTIA)

1a.   What strategic priority does this program address?

Laser Focused

1b.   What does this program do?

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Broadband Infrastructure Program (BIP) and the Missouri Broadband Grant program provides federal state resources via grants to applicants who will provide high speed internet to connections made up of rural businesses, farms, community institutions, and households across Missouri. Applicants from unserved areas, which experience little or no internet service at all, will receive high priority status and underserved areas will be only considered if resources are available. NTIA will evaluate DED's Covered Partnership applications. If projects are awarded, DED will enter into agreement with awarded providers. The Office of Broadband Development will support the recipients, ensure compliance, validate the technology is deployed, and celebrate successful completion of the projects. The NTIA BIP will approve length of time for the project period. The Missouri Broadband Grant Program will sunset on August 28, 2027.

2a.   Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.

	FY2019 Actual	FY2020 Actual	FY2021 Projected	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Projected	FY2023 Projected	FY2024 Projected
Review and evaluate grant applicants	N/A	40	0	0	44	0	0
Award broadband grants/projects	N/A	16	0	0	15	0	0
Manage, announce, and close-out projects	N/A	0	16	15	0	15	0

Note 1: No applicants are anticipated in FY2023 & FY2024 since broadband grant program activity is expected to shift to ARPA-related programs.
Note 2: The final activity measure encompasses the overall management of the program overseeing project milestones, ensuring quality, and validating installation of proposed technology.

2b.   Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.

	FY2019 Actual	FY2020 Actual	FY2021 Projected	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Projected	FY2023 Projected	FY2024 Projected
Percent of grant connections exceeding 25/3 Mbps	N/A	94%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%
Days from grant submittal to awards	N/A	101	0	0	180	0	0

Note 1: NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Program requires minimum thresholds for project funding of 100 Megabits per second (Mbps) download, 20 Mbps upload. The state has defined the baseline speed to be classified as high speed internet as 25 Megabits per second (Mbps) download, 3 Mbps upload, as such efforts will be made to track the percentage of connections exceeding 25/3 funded by the grant.
Note 2: The program's quality will be also be measured in its ability to evaluate, rank, complete the challenge process, and announce grant awards. Projected days from grant submittal to awards in FY22 were higher than originally anticipated due to intense demand for NTIA funds across nation.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
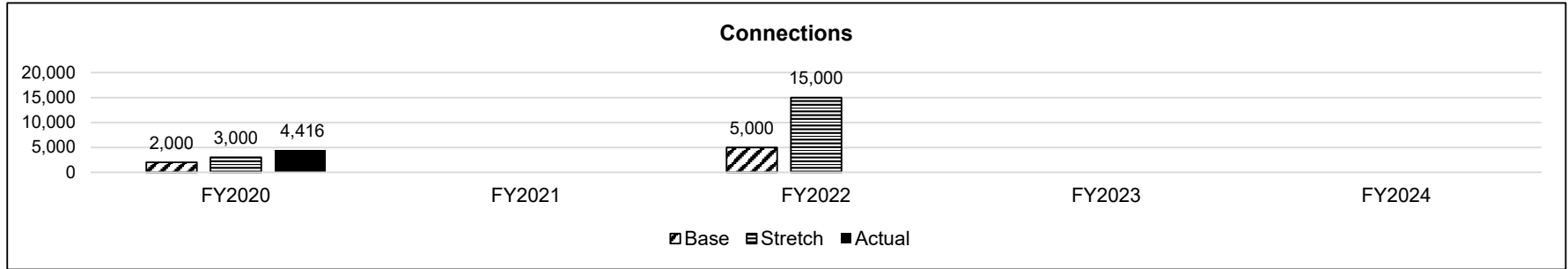
Department: Economic Development   HB Section(s):   7.115

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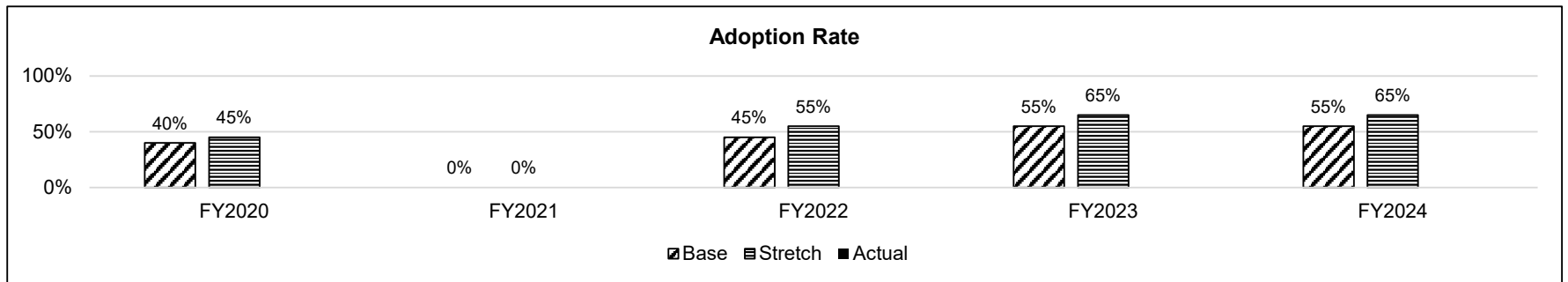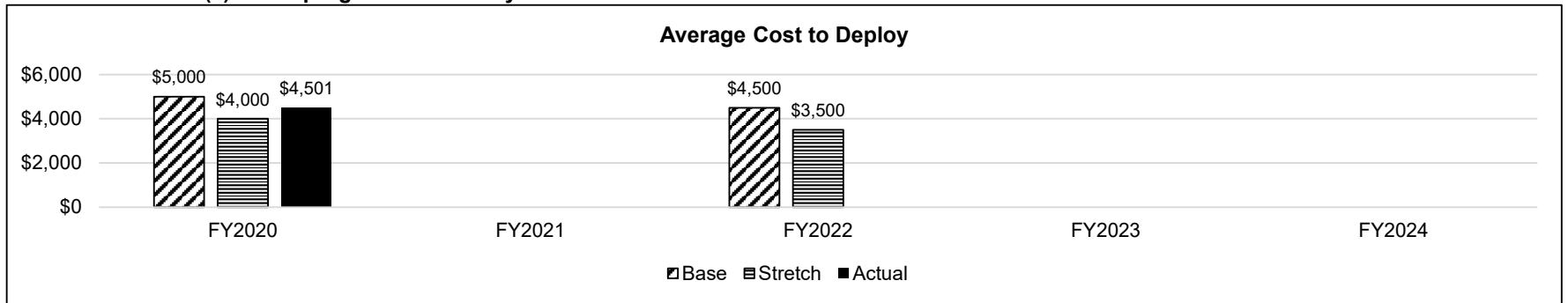2c.   Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.

Connections

Note 1: Total number of connections refer to those who will have the opportunity to access the new broadband infrastructure (counted at time of project award). Connections include businesses, farms, important community institutions, and households. Missouri is technology neutral and could experience higher amount of potential connections.

Note 2: The Missouri Broadband Grant program did not receive an appropriation in FY2021, and, therefore did not have a base, stretch or actual connections due to lack of funding.

Note 3: In FY2022, the Department received $10 million in spending authority for the anticipated federal resources; however, NTIA's award timeline was delayed into CY2022. FY2022 connections will depend on final total awards from NTIA to Missouri projects.

Note 4: No connections are anticipated in FY2023 & FY2024 since broadband grant program activity is expected to shift to ARPA-related programs.

Adoption Rate

Note 1: Adoption rate is expressed as a percentage on total number of actual subscribers to the newly built and/or expanded broadband service divided by the number of proposed connections. Deploying new broadband infrastructure increases access, but the real impact for economic opportunity exists when the adoption rate is high. Exceeding these benchmarks will assist broadband providers in projecting future rehabilitation and expansion projects.

Note 2: The Missouri Broadband Grant program did not receive an appropriation in FY2021, and, therefore, did not have a base, stretch or actual connections due to lack of funding.

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2d.   Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.

Average Cost to Deploy

Note 1: The average cost per passing of $5,000 was utilized from anecdotal research of benchmark states. The inaugural round of the broadband grant program, awarded to sixteen projects in April 2020 yielded an average cost per passing of $4,501. The cost to deploy will be catalogued during each grant review cycle and will be benchmarked over time.

Note 2: The Missouri Broadband Grant program did not receive an appropriation in FY2021, and, therefore, did not have a base, stretch or actual connections due to lack of funding.

Note 3: No connections are anticipated in FY2023 & FY2024 since broadband grant program activity is expected to shift to ARPA-related programs. Thus, average cost to deploy not included for those fiscal years.
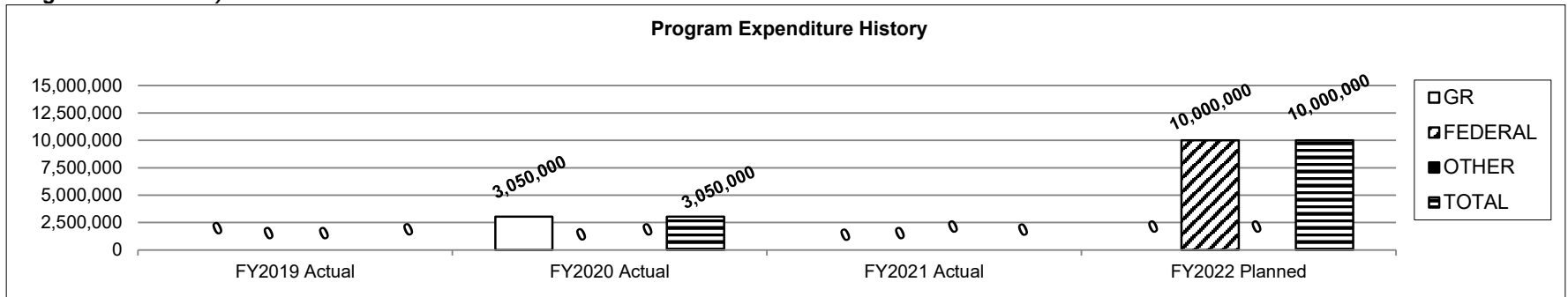
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3. **Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year.** *(Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)*

Program Expenditure History

Note: GR expenditures reflects 3% Governor's Reserve and Restriction.

4. **What are the sources of the "Other " funds?**

   N/A

5. **What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)**

   NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Program (11.031) & Section 620.2450, RSMo (Missouri Broadband State Grant Program)

6. **Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.**

   No.

7. **Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.**

   No.