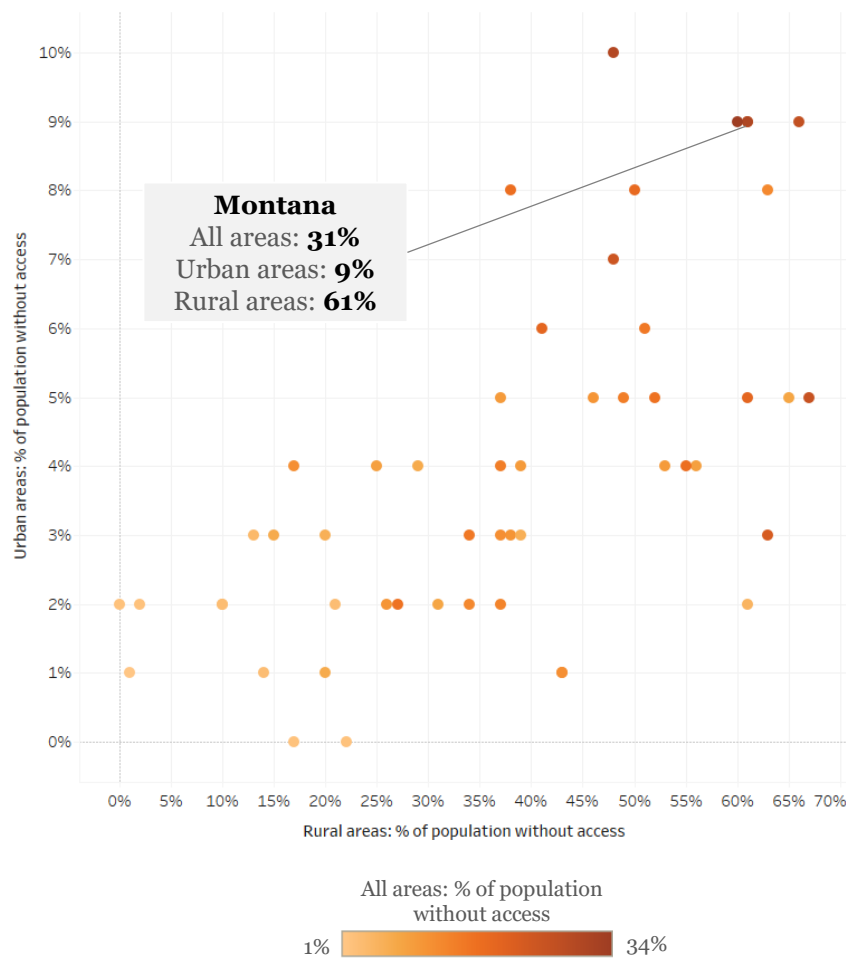


# Montana

## Overview



## Notable legislation, grants and initiatives\*

- **House Bill No. 390** revised school funding laws in an effort to help schools pay for broadband infrastructure. The bill is a continuation of the Montana School Broadband Project, which was launched in 2015 in an effort to upgrade internet access in every public school classroom
- **Montana School Broadband Project**
- **#ConnectMT initiative** headed by Montana Senator Jon Tester

*“We will continue to support Montana students by improving access to educational opportunities through access to high-speed internet connections.”*  
— Governor Steve Bullock, September 2017

*“Every Montanan has shared the frustration of a dropped call or a failed text message as a result of poor wireless coverage... The [#ConnectMT initiative] paves the way for a major investment to install new cell towers, update communication infrastructure and expand wireless service to rural areas across Montana...”*  
— Senator Jon Tester, January 2018

Broadband deployment in Montana	All areas	Urban areas	Rural areas
Population without access	317,581	54,888	262,693
% of population without access	31%	9%	61%

\* This is not an exhaustive list.

Sources: FCC; National Journal Research; Montana.gov. Overview scatterplot and table are based on the FCC’s “Broadband Progress Report” and ACS data from December, 2014.