Understanding The Fabric Lifecycle

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program

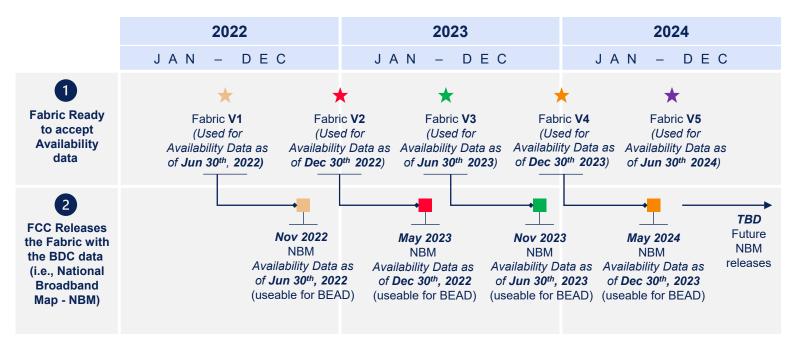May 2024

OVERVIEW

The timeline below **highlights** the FCC National Broadband Map's **two main components** (fabric and availability data) and **release schedule** and is intended to help Eligible Entities conduct the **BEAD Challenge Process**. Eligible Entities must stay aware of Fabric and Broadband Availability Map **release dates** to facilitate the **optional "true-up" process** and ensure the precision of the data used to make **BEAD subgrants.**

FABRIC & BROADBAND DATA COLLECTION (BDC) TIMELINE

	2022	2023	2024
	JAN – DEC	JAN – DEC	JAN – DEC

1 **Fabric Ready to accept Availability data**

Fabric **V1** *(Used for Availability Data as of Jun 30th, 2022)*

Fabric **V2** *(Used for Availability Data as of Dec 30th 2022)*

Fabric **V3** *(Used for Availability Data as of Jun 30th 2023)*

Fabric **V4** *(Used for Availability Data as of Dec 30th 2023)*

Fabric **V5** *(Used for Availability Data as of Jun 30th 2024)*

2 **FCC Releases the Fabric with the BDC data (i.e., National Broadband Map - NBM)**

Nov 2022 NBM *Availability Data as of Jun 30th, 2022* (useable for BEAD)

May 2023 NBM *Availability Data as of Dec 30th, 2022* (useable for BEAD)

Nov 2023 NBM *Availability Data as of Jun 30th, 2023* (useable for BEAD)

May 2024 NBM *Availability Data as of Dec 30th, 2023* (useable for BEAD)

TBD Future NBM releases

Please note:

- Fabric Version 4 (Used for "*Availability Data As Of*" Dec 30th, 2023) will not be available for BEAD use until the upcoming National Broadband Map release (~ May 2024)
- Every two weeks, broadband availability updates are made to the National Broadband Map (i.e., "*Last Updated*" Date)
- Fabric and Availability Challenges can happen **throughout the lifecycle of each Fabric version**

Legend

☆ Fabric release date

☐ BDC release date

IMPORTANT CONCEPTS

BDC-Fabric Integration: Eligible Entities may have access to a Fabric version before it has been released publicly on the National Broadband Map. A Fabric version may not be used for the purpose of the BEAD Challenge Process until it has been published with associated Availability Data.

"True-up" Dependency: Eligible Entities cannot perform the 'true-up' process to the most recently released Fabric until the associated availability data is published.

RESOURCES:

[FCC National Broadband Map](#)

[What's on the FCC NBM?](#)

[FCC NBM: *Data Download*](#)

INTERNET FOR ALL

NTIA