

## Networked Nation: Broadband in America 2007

Four years ago President Bush articulated a national vision: *universal, affordable access to broadband technology*. From its first days, the Administration has implemented a comprehensive and integrated package of technology, regulatory, and fiscal policies designed to lower barriers and create an environment in which broadband innovation and competition can flourish. The results have been striking:

- According to the FCC's data, at the end of 2006, broadband service was available in 99 percent of the nation's ZIP codes, encompassing 99 percent of the nation's population (Report p. 37).
- Since President Bush took office, the total number of broadband lines in the United States has grown by more than 1,100 percent from almost 6.8 million lines in December 2000, to 82.5 million in December 2006, according to the most recent FCC data (p. 13).
- More than 58 million of these lines serve residential customers. FCC data also reveal that the number of broadband service providers more than tripled from December 2003 to December 2006 (p. 13).
- By December 2006, 91.5 percent of ZIP codes had three or more competing service providers and more than 50 percent of the nation's ZIP codes had six or more competitors (p. 14).
- With increased competition and rapid technological change, broadband speeds continue to increase and prices continue to fall (p.39, 40).

