

The Digital Divide:
An Inhibitor of Growth?

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Agenda

- Participants
- Definitions
- Empirical Observations
- Aim of Panel

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Participants

- James Alleman, Columbia University
- Robert Crandall, Brookings Institute
- Patricia Dennis, SBC Communications
- Charles Kenny, World Bank
- Milton Mueller, Syracuse University
- Eli Noam, Columbia University
- Paul Rappoport, Temple University
- Michael Riordan, Columbia University

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Definitions

- What Access?
- Among Countries
- Within a Country
 - ƒ Geographic
 - ƒ Demographic

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Empirical Observations

- **The Divide Exists!**

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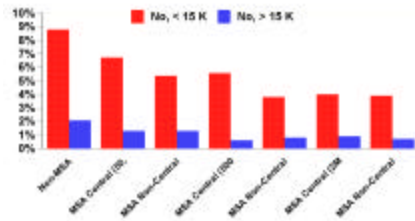
Expenditures

Income versus Service/Monthly

Income Group	Exchange	Toll	Cable	Wireless	Internet
$\le 1.5K$	~40	~20	~15	~5	~5
$> 1.5K$	~40	~25	~20	~15	~10

Source: PNR & Associates, ReQuest™, 1999
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Telephone Service by Income



Source: PNR & Associates, Request #, 1999

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Aim of Panel

- **Goals?**
- **Implementation Methods?**
 - f Policy Instruments?
 - f Efficient Mechanisms?
- **Closing the Divide**
 - f Improved productivity?
 - f Accelerated growth/development?

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