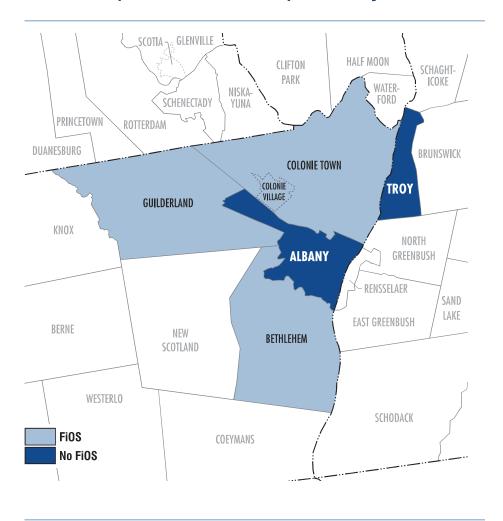
# **ALBANY**

# The Empire State's capital city has no FiOS



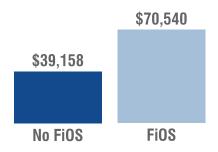
"This type of agreement is not in the best interest of those who need to get and stay connected the most: low income communities and families. This is a step backwards in bridging the digital divide, and builds an additional socioeconomic barrier."

—Carolyn McLaughlin, Albany Common Council President

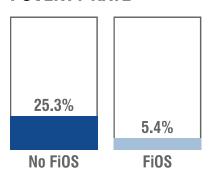
"The deal before the Federal Communications Commission between Verizon and Time Warner and other cable giants will leave Albany residents behind. Unless serious changes are made to the deal, I'm afraid Albany residents will be faced with higher prices and inferior services for Internet, telephone, and cable than in the surrounding communities, making it that much harder to encourage people to live in and start businesses in Albany."

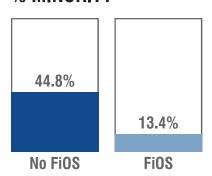
- Richard Conti, Albany Common Council, 6th Ward

### MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



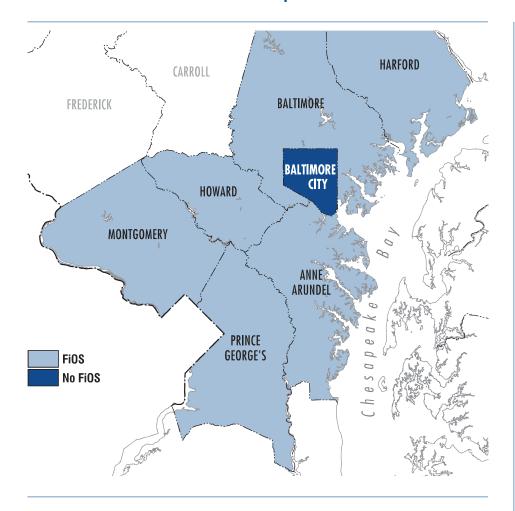
### **POVERTY RATE**





# **BALTIMORE**

## Left behind as FiOS spreads to six surrounding counties



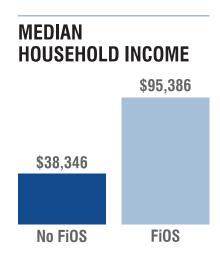
"High-speed, fiber optic networks are vital for economic competitiveness...

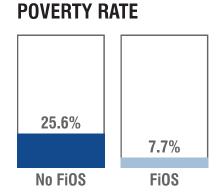
Other advanced industrialized nations have already deployed fiber-optic networks on a large-scale; they recognize that high-speed fiber is the competitive infrastructure of the 21st century. Much of the suburban areas outside of Baltimore have FiOS. The City of Baltimore will never get a fiber-optic network if this deal is approved, which concerns me greatly. I am not willing to see Baltimore permanently relegated to the wrong side of the digital divide."

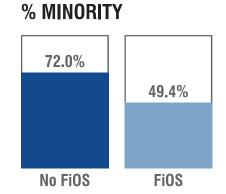
— Baltimore City Councilman William H. Cole IV

"The quadruple play services are not luxuries; in the 21st century, they are essential services. Yet without any competition, the Verizon/Time Warner/Comcast quasi-monopoly will extract high economic rents by forcing up prices and reducing service quality."

— Elbridge James, NAACP Maryland State Conference

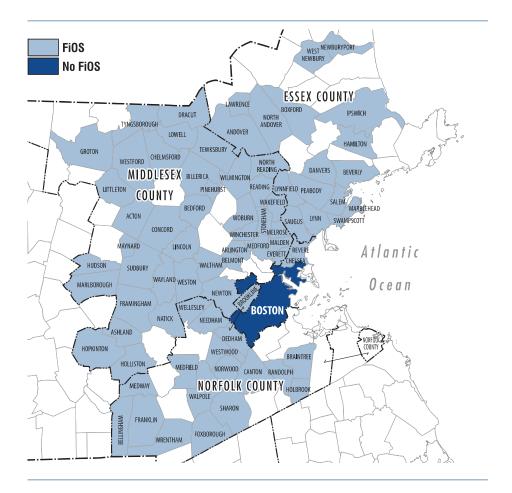






# **BOSTON**

## No internet revolution



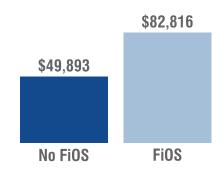
"The decision to bypass Boston disproportionately impacts minority and lower-income residents, small businesses, seniors and neighborhoods. It also hurts the city's ability to attract jobs. In order to protect the public interest, we join together to urge the FCC to condition any approval of the Verizon/cable Transaction on specific guarantees that Verizon will expand its FiOS...including development throughout the city of Boston and the surrounding areas that do not have access to FiOS."

— Representatives of 15 Massachusetts community organizations

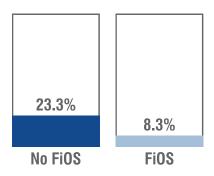
"Put simply, the City is concerned that these transactions are designed to ensure that Verizon and Comcast collaborate and never compete in Boston, thereby effectively depriving our communities, citizens, small businesses, schools, hospitals and educational facilities the benefits of video and broadband competition that is available in most of eastern Massachusetts' surrounding suburbs and in other parts of the country."

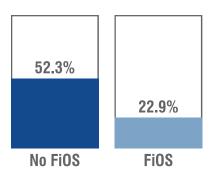
- Mayor Thomas M. Menino

### MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



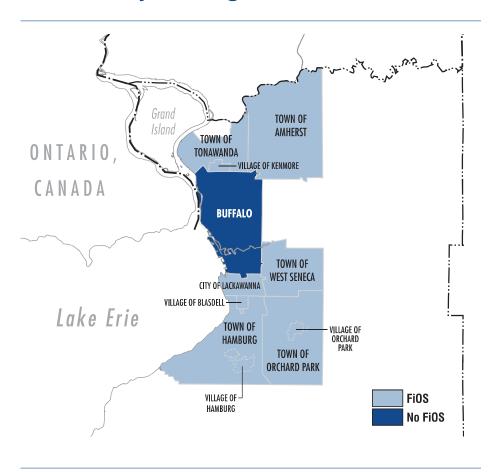
#### **POVERTY RATE**





# **BUFFALO**

# Hit hard by the digital divide



"In today's economy, having access to affordable high-speed internet is as important for success—for communities and individuals—as having electricity. If the Federal Communications Commission approves of Verizon's new scheme with cable companies, fiber-optic technology might never come to Buffalo or the other towns in Erie County that have been passed over, and neither would real competition....

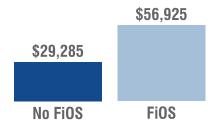
This deal creates collusion, not competition."

- New York State Assemblymember Sean Ryan

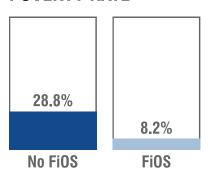
"Verizon specifically has expanded its FiOS network to ten suburbs of the Buffalo area but has not built into our urban neighborhoods. This situation has created an unbalanced market for cable and broadband services in the City of Buffalo with little competition.... When the private market places barriers to access or competition fails to produce outcomes that serve the greatest number of people we can only conclude that steps must be taken to alleviate those impediments."

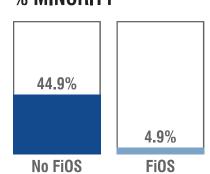
— Congressman Brian Higgins

### MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



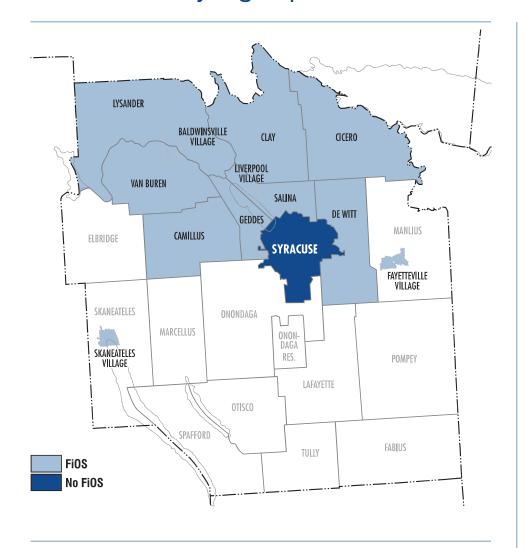
### **POVERTY RATE**





# **SYRACUSE**

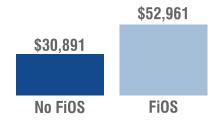
## Surrounded by high speed—but none for the city



"Over the past few years, we have watched as Verizon Communications has built its all fiber FiOS network in 14 suburban communities.... Consumers benefit from competitive choice; small businesses benefit from truly high-speed connections to suppliers and customers; schools and hospitals benefit from education and health-related applications; communications workers benefit from the jobs building, maintaining, and servicing networks; and families and communities benefit from the 21st century jobs and expanded tax base. But to date, the residents and small businesses in Syracuse have not been able to reap these benefits."

— Syracuse community organizations and elected officials including Legislator Monica Williams, Councilor Bob Dougherty, Councilor Helen Hudson, Councilor Jean Kessner and School Board President Burrill Wells

### MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



### **POVERTY RATE**

