

COLORADO COMPUTER CENTERS: BRIDGING COLORADO'S GREAT DIGITAL DIVIDE

Through a **\$3.3M**, two year project that ended in March 2013, the Colorado State Library oversaw the installation of **88** new and enhanced Public Computer Centers (PCCs) throughout Colorado. These PCCs provide internet access and computer training to foster broadband adoption. In 2012, the Library Research Service surveyed more than **7,300** PCC users to determine **the impacts the PCCs are having on their lives.**

PUBLIC COMPUTER CENTER USER PROFILE

Who is using the PCC during open lab time?

1 in 3 are job seekers

3 in 5 have no regular computer access outside the PCC

1 in 4 are ages 55+

Who is taking computer classes?

1 in 4 are job seekers

1 in 5 have no regular computer access outside the PCC

3 in 5 are ages 55+

Top **outcomes** of open lab users:

52% communicated with someone

38% looked for employment

33% used the printer, scanner, or fax

Top **outcomes** of computer class attendees:

68% got better at using a computer

49% got better at using the internet

38% got better at using software

Probably **the most valuable resource, dollar for dollar, available to community.**

I have found jobs... researched...located tax information, and have done school work over the years. Thank you!!

-Open Lab Survey Respondent

New adventures have opened up to me now.

Friends and family are easier to reach and the information available is amazing. I started late on computers (2011) and this class has helped greatly.

-Computer Class Attendee

The access to the internet afforded by the public library is most probably **the only reason that I am not absolutely bereft of any and all computer skills.** Were it not for this access, as well as the assistance rendered via the classes offered; I would most likely be unemployed, if not unemployable...

-Open Lab Survey Respondent

Accessing the internet is super important in our modern world. **In a rural place...high speed internet can be either very expensive or impossible to get.** I very much appreciate the ability to have endless information and communication opportunities...

-Computer Class Attendee



for more information about this study, see bit.ly/btop_outcomes

