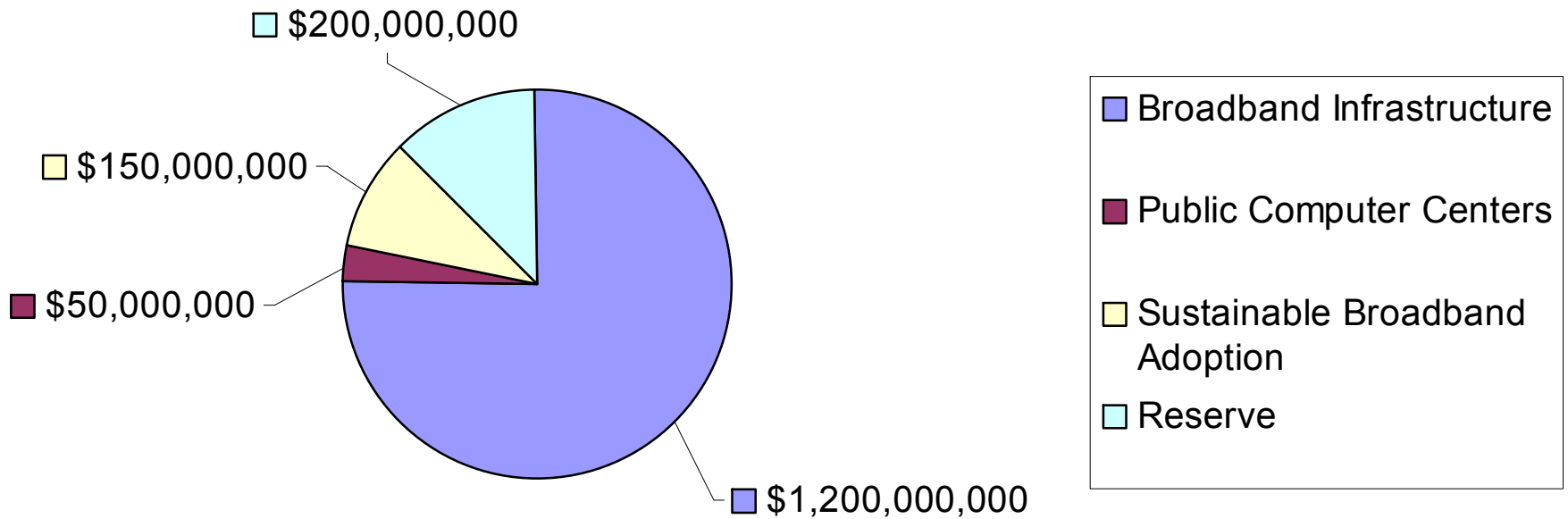


BTOP FUNDING

BTOP Funding Allocation (\$1.6 Billion Released)

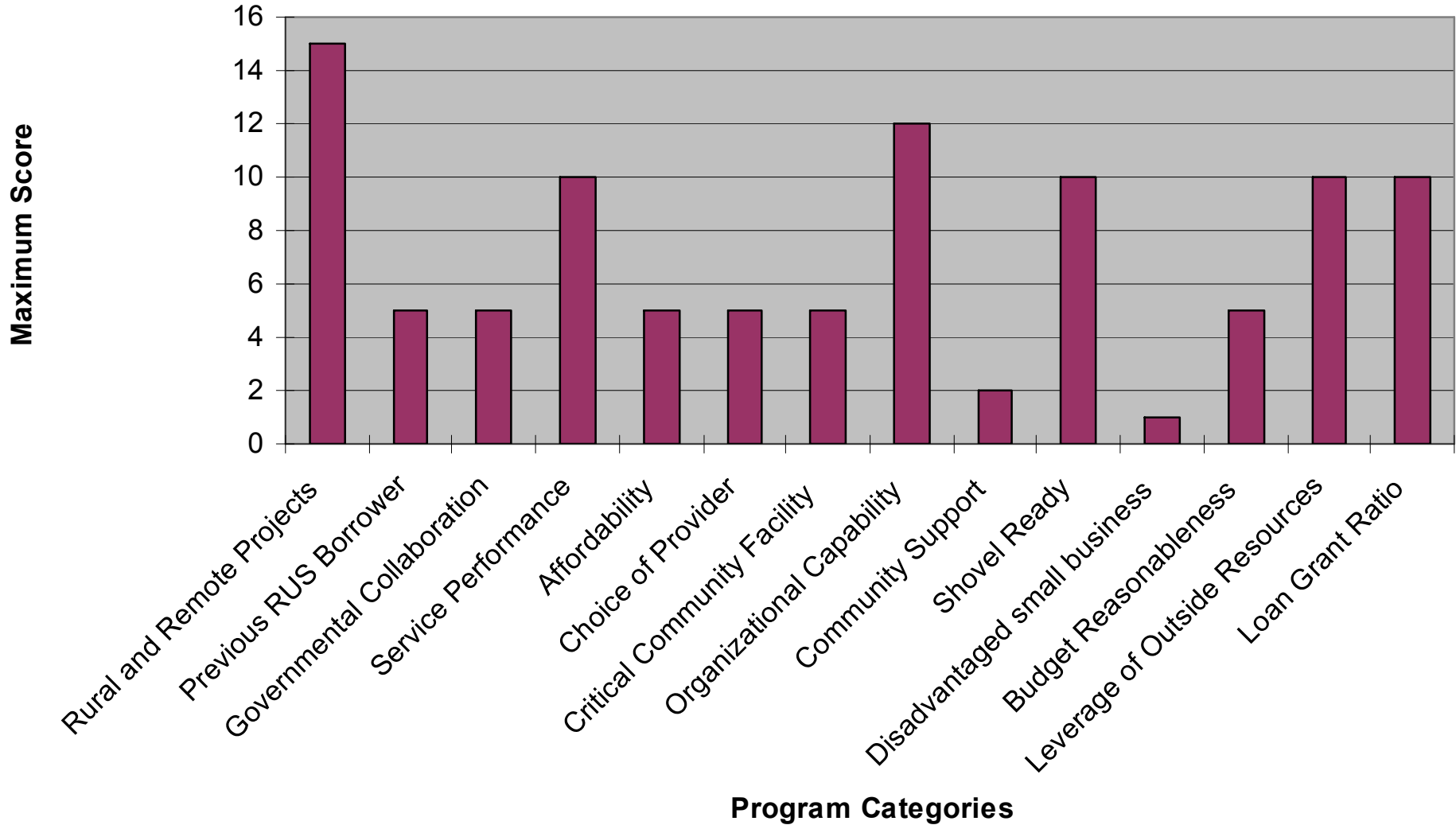


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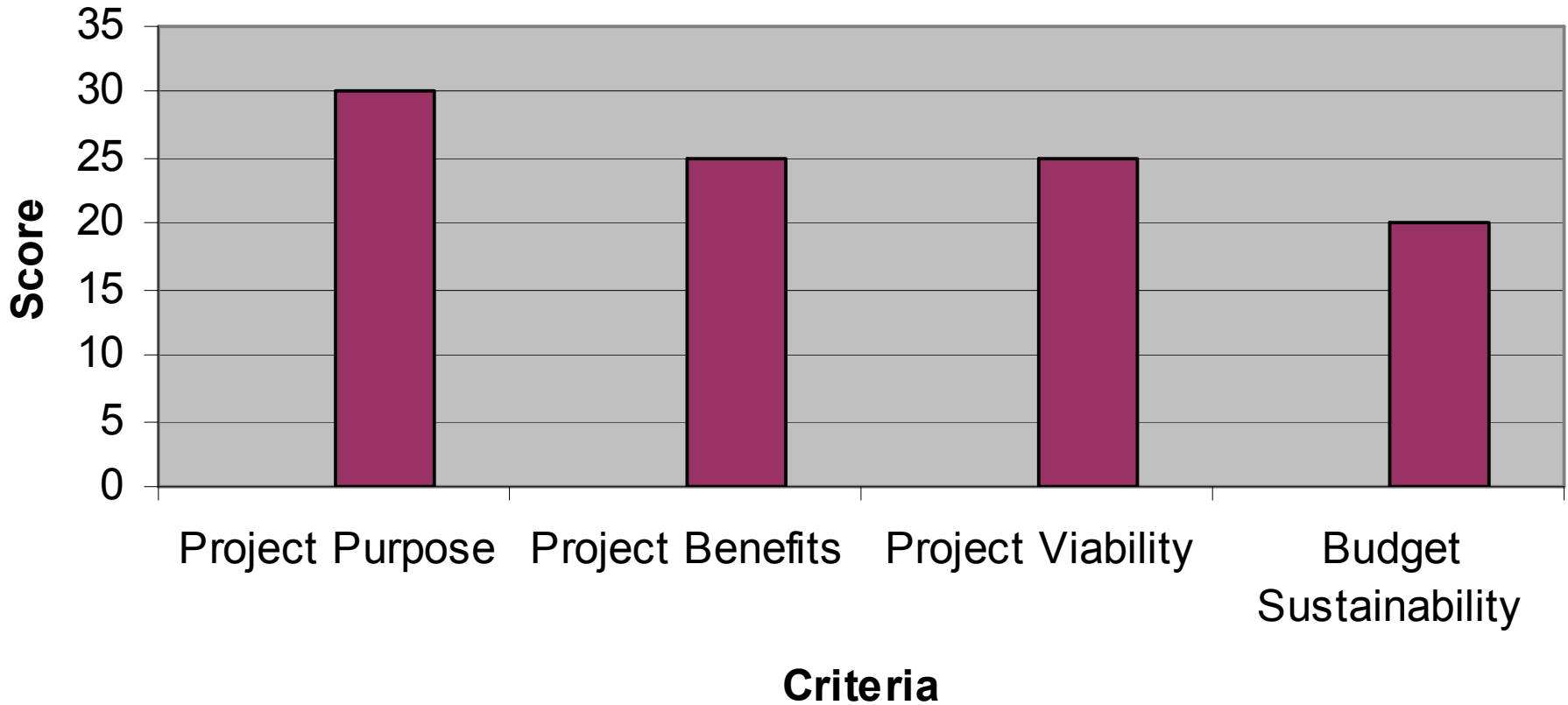
BIP Score Weighting



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Four Advantages on the Cutting Edge

BTOP Score Weighting



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NTIA Definitions

- Broadband
 - 2-way
 - Advertised speeds
 - 768 kbps (up); 200 kbps (down)
 - OR, middle mile project



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NTIA Definitions

- Last Mile Project – Serves end users
- Last Mile Non-Remote Project
 - Not exclusively a remote area project
 - Eligible for BIP (RUS) funding
- Last Mile Remote Area Project
 - Service provided only in remote areas
 - Eligible for BIP (RUS) funding



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NTIA Definitions

- Middle Mile Project
 - Not service to end users
 - Interoffice transport, backhaul, Internet connectivity, or special access.
- Remote Area
 - Unserved
 - Rural area
 - 50 miles from the limits of a non-rural area.



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NTIA Definitions

- Rural Area
 - Area not located within:
 - A city, town, or incorporated area with more than 20,000 residents; OR
 - An urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to a city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 inhabitants.
 - “Urbanized area” means densely populated area as defined by Census Bureau.



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NTIA Definitions

- Underserved Area
 - Contiguous census blocks
 - Last Mile Projects – One of the following criteria must be met:
 - No more than 50% of households have access to facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service at greater than 768/200 Kbps.
 - No fixed or mobile provider advertises broadband speeds of at least 3 Mbps ↓.
 - Rate of broadband subscribership is 40% of households or less.
 - Middle Mile Projects – One interconnection point terminates in an unserved or underserved area for Last Mile projects.



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NTIA Definitions

- Unserved Area
 - Contiguous census blocks
 - 90% of households lack access to facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service, either fixed or mobile, at 768/200 Kbps.
 - “Access” means if the household can readily subscribe upon request.



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Questions

- What nature of interest does the government retain in assets funded by BIP program?
- Why limit type of services provided over BTOP funded facilities, but not BIP funded facilities?
- Service performance metric – “upstream plus downstream”?
- What does term “presumption” mean in definition of “underserved?”
- What does “standard best efforts internet delivery” mean?



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Questions

- Interconnection obligations:
 - Dispute resolution process vague
 - What constitutes “good faith”
 - What law, if any, applies?
 - What is the “life of the facilities” for purposes of applying interconnection obligations.

- BIP Program and Competition
 - No overlapping areas
 - No duplicative services provided through BIP funded facilities
 - Yet, 5 points for projects that provide additional choice in service provider?



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TIMELINE

- **Applications window: July 14-August 14, 2009**
- **Notice of proposed funded service area:
Unclear, but probably August 14 until Sept. 14.**
- **Review by 3-Member Panel: Aug. 14-Sep. 14.**
- **Due diligence: Sep 14 - ?**
- **State consultations: Sept. – Oct. 2009**
- **Proposal modifications: October-early Nov.,
2009**
- **Final award decisions: Nov. 7, 2009 (estimated)**



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