

# **Technology Access: A Basic Student Need** HSI Evidence Based Practice, April 25, 2023







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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA **University Libraries** 

# BORROW **TECHNOLOGY** AT THE LIBRARIES

### library.arizona.edu/tech/borrow

### WHO can borrow technology and equipment from the Libraries?

Students enrolled at the university can borrow technology. It's first-come, first-served and you need your CatCard.

### WHAT can I borrow?

Check online to see what's currently available and how long you can borrow it. Some items are in high demand. We have:

Laptops

WiFi hotspots

Tablets

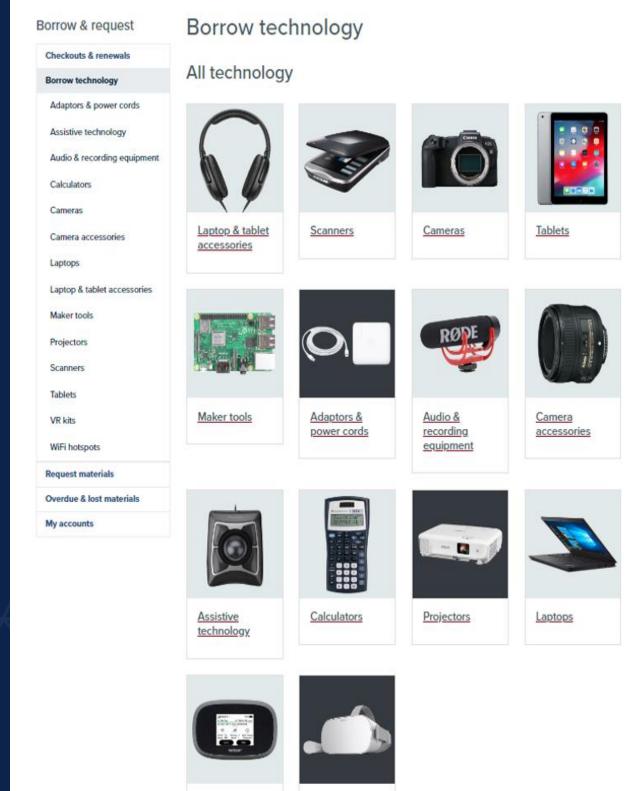
- · Cameras & webcams
- Scanners & accessories
- Maker tools
- Audio/visual equipment

- Cords & chargers
- Projectors
- Calculators
- Drives & readers
- VR kits

### Full list on website

### Most popular

# AVAILABLE TECHNOLOGY



Wifi hotspots

**VR** kits





# Servingness

- ightarrowunderrepresented students
- ightarrow
- technology
- engagement

Understanding barriers for first-gen and

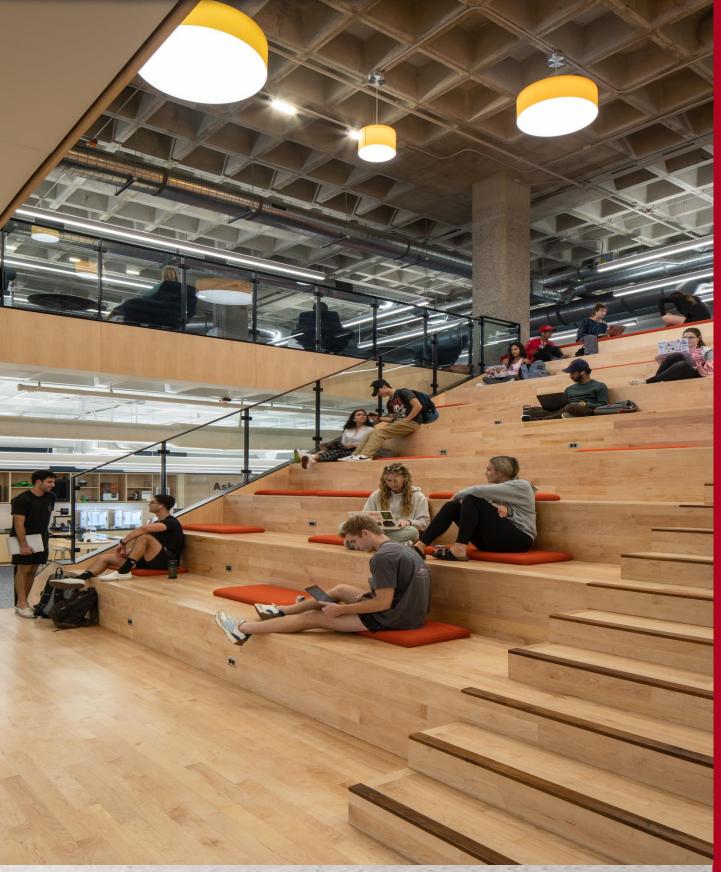
Educate locally and nationally about the importance of technology as a basic student need

Provides opportunities for different populations and areas of study that may otherwise not have access

Employers expect students to have experience with

Develop as leaders and provides individuals with the foundational knowledge needed for future civic





Sources:

- Spring 2021 "Basic Needs" survey of UArizona students, UArizona Office of Assessment and Research
- Fall 2020 survey of students on the impacts of COVID-19
- Fall 2021 Main Campus 1st year student insights survey

# Technology as a Basic Need – Access Barriers

- ulletthe year
- delivered online

70% of students reported that not having access to a reliable internet connection was a barrier to their success over the course of

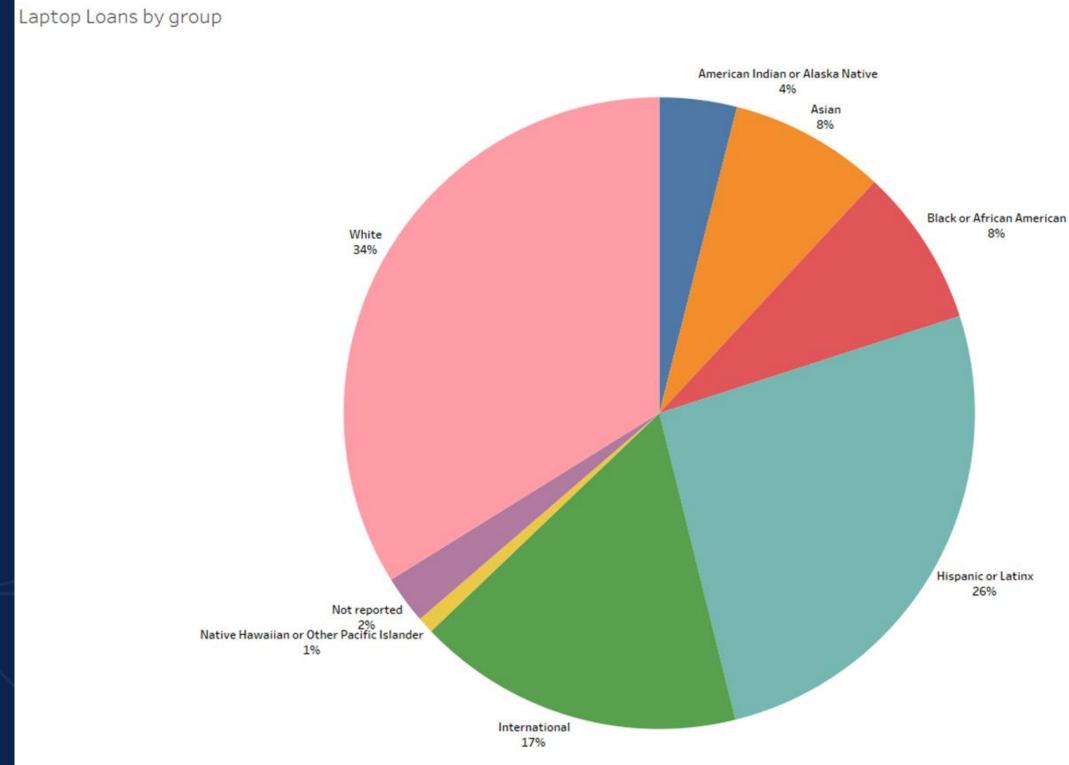
1 in 3 students faced limited internet access

• 2 in 10 students reported that a lack of access to technology or software reduced their ability to perform well in classes

56% of students need access to technology



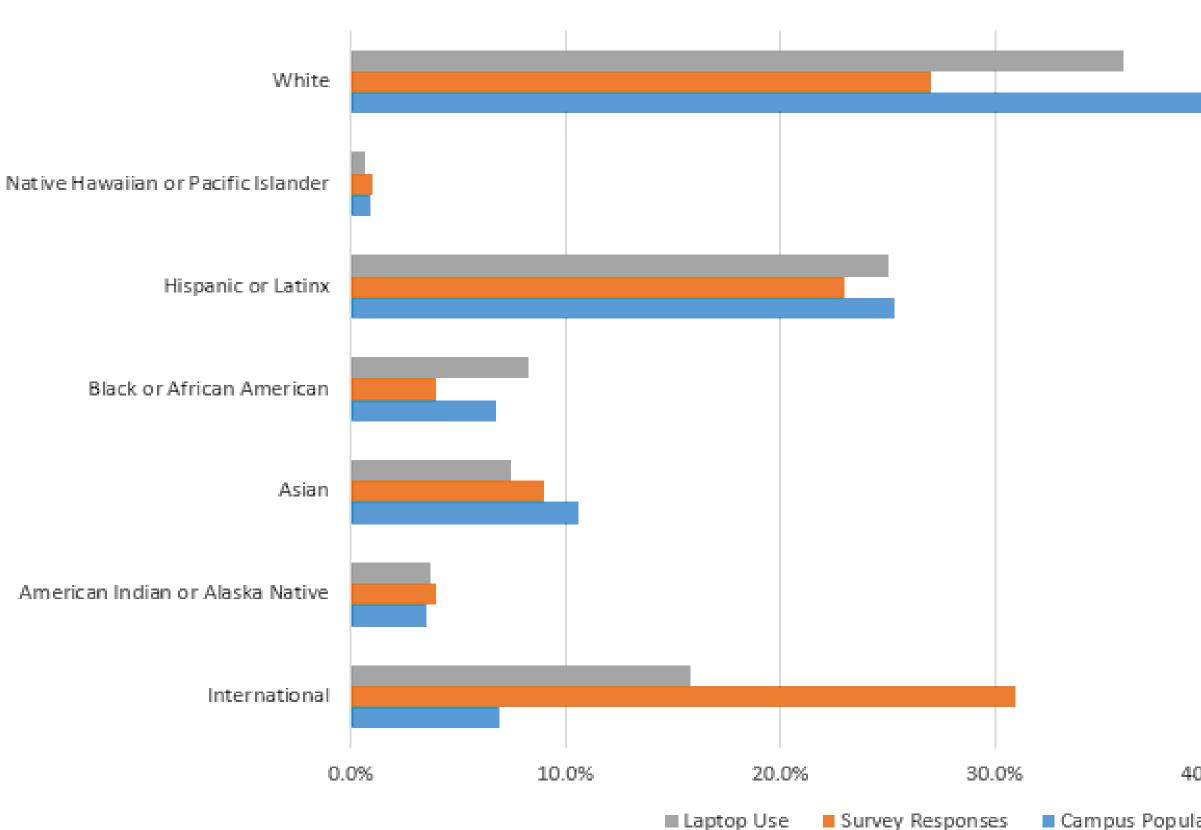
# UA Libraries – Laptop Use Jan '20 – Dec '21



Group and % of Total Loans (Not In House). Color shows details about Group. Size shows % of Total Loans (Not In House). The marks are labeled by Group and % of Total Loans (Not In House). Percents are based on each column of the table.



# Oct. 2022 Survey - UA Demographics Comparison



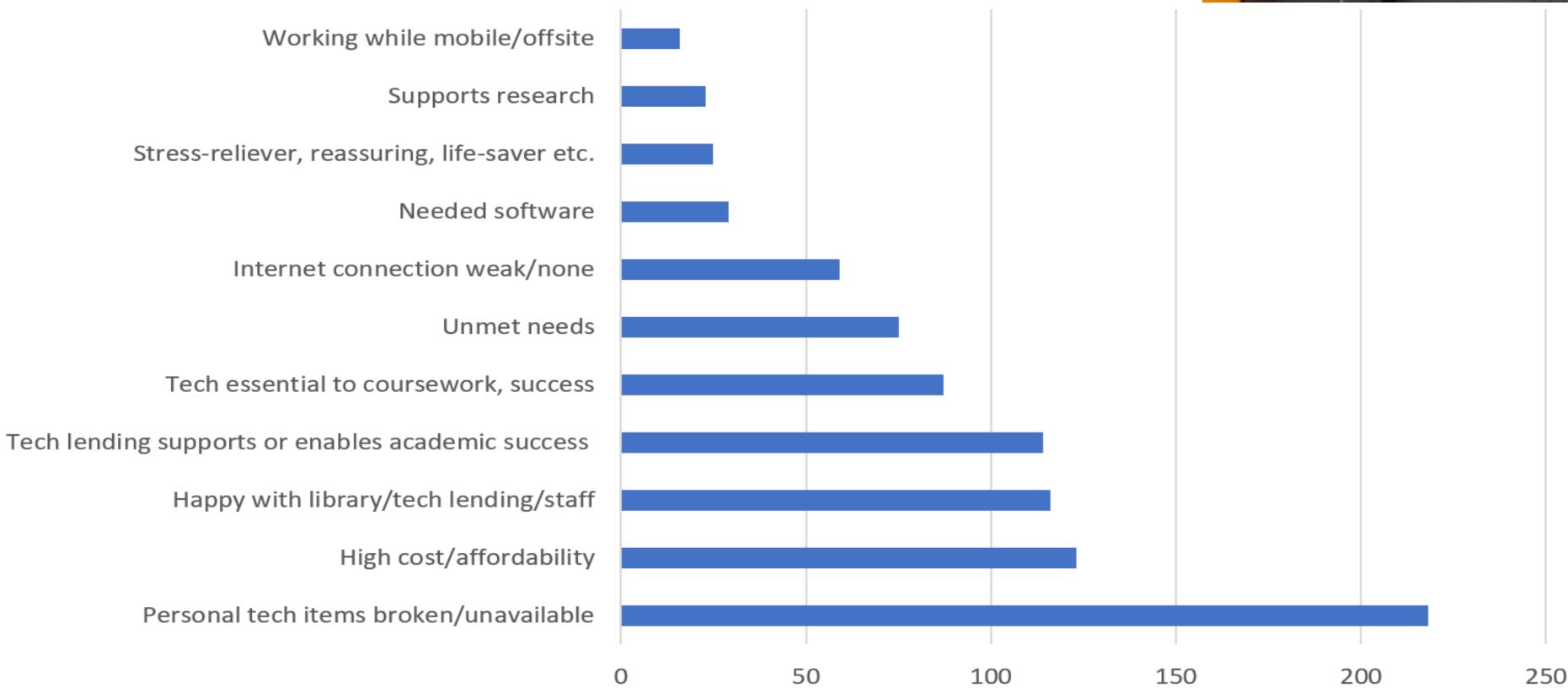
UA Demographics Compared to Survey Response and Laptop Use

0.0	D%	50.0%	60.0%	70.0%

Campus Population

# Student Stories

### Tech Survey User Story Summary









### **INSPIRATIONAL STUDENT WORDS**

- I was homeless for over a year (first 3 semesters). I did not always have access to Wi-Fi. I
  - borrowed technology multiple times to help me complete and even attend class. As a
- non-traditional student, I also have to work and provide for my family. Having access to
  - the Wi-Fi and laptop allowed me to continue engaging in my courses and studying.
- Hispanic, First-Gen, UG Jr Student; College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, microbiology





### **INSPIRATIONAL STUDENT WORDS**

I come from a low-income family where without scholarships and lending of things, I would not be able to attend. I bought my school iPad with my graduation money, after checking syllabi, none of them said mine was not able to be used. I walked into math and learned

- otherwise. I was stressed about being able to buy a new laptop for this one class.
  - Hispanic, First-Gen, UG Fr Student; College of Nursing, pre-nursing





### **INSPIRATIONAL STUDENT WORDS**

# 66 My daughter's lung collapsed but I had a paper due. I rented a laptop and headed to PHX

Children's Hospital.



### American Indian, Graduate; American Indian Studies PhD



# Partnerships

 Project Connect Arizona Now (Project CAN)

 \$3 million grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) Connecting Minority Communities (CMC) Pilot

- Two-pronged approach:
  - Distance education and workforce development – broadband, network, and classroom technology
  - Library expansion of Rhonda G. Tubbs Tech
     Toolshed for remote learning to students
     most in need





### Rhonda G. Tubbs Tech Toolshed



# Partnerships

- Rhonda G. Tubbs Tech Toolshed lending \$796,000 program expansion – up to:
  - 400 Tech Bundles, including PCs, Wi-Fi Hotspots, and headphones
  - 25 graphing calculators
  - $\circ$  10 digital cameras
  - $\circ$  50 webcams
- Library Partners
  - Arizona Near You Network, UA Online
  - Office of Scholarships & Financial Aid
  - Other referrals from ASEMS, NAI, HSII, Thrive



# Rhonda G. Tubbs Tech Toolshed



## Future Partnerships

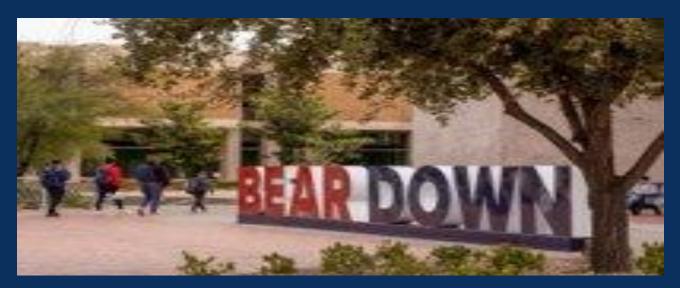
 Partnership training opportunities (e.g., Adobe and campus IT)

- Expanding partnership and collaborations:
  - Arizona Native Scholars
  - Think Tank
  - New Start
- Fall 2023 or 2024 Assessment









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