



States pick up their WiFi investment


WHICH STATES are investing the most in wireless networks? According to a recent study by IT reseller CDW-G, Rhode Island is the leader in deploying the technology. The Vernon Hills, Ill.-based company worked with the Center for Digital Government of Folsom, Calif., to survey states and analyze their wireless spending.


“Investment in wireless technologies is an important step in driving improved collaboration and information sharing, while reducing networking costs for state and local government agencies,” said Alan Weiss, CDW-G director of state and local sales. “At this point, however, state and local government leaders do not have a unified framework for assessing wireless technology investments across different states and multiple levels of government.”

CDW-G measured the number, growth and type of investments in 802.11 wireless technology against the average of all 50 states, creating a comparative index. Rhode Island, based largely on its border-to-border Rhode Island Wireless Innovation Networks, was considered a “lead investor.”

The accompanying chart shows which states CDW-G’s study suggests are

Key:  Early investor  Early majority investor

 Early investor

 Early majority investor

* Average index score is 100

SOURCE: 2006 CDW-G Technology Investment Curve for Wireless, Sept. 2006

STATE INDEX*

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| RHODE ISLAND | 247 |
| OHIO | 182 |
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