

The New York Times

America, Connected

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To the Editor:

It was disappointing to see Paul Krugman ("The French Connection," column, July 23) dismiss the significant progress of American broadband deployment.

Mr. Krugman says that broadband adoption in the United States falls short of France, Germany and Japan. Yet there are 340 people per square kilometer in Japan, 236 in Germany, 116 in France and only 33 in the United States. Our nation's broadband providers must reach 301 million people, more than the populations of France, Germany and Japan combined.

Rather than insist that apples are oranges, economists should ask three simple questions: Is American broadband capacity growing? Are prices falling? And are choices and services expanding? The answer to all three queries is a resounding "oui."

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