Counties for Kids

National Collaborative for Infants & Toddlers™

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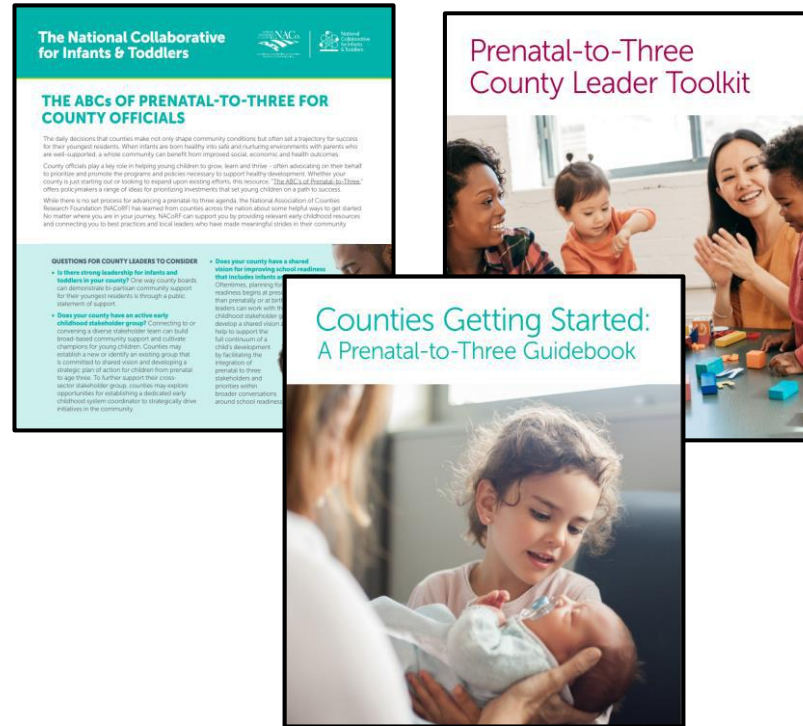
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Resources

- Peer Learning Networks: Jan. 28 – Rural

- #CountiesForKids Social Media Day: Jan. 27

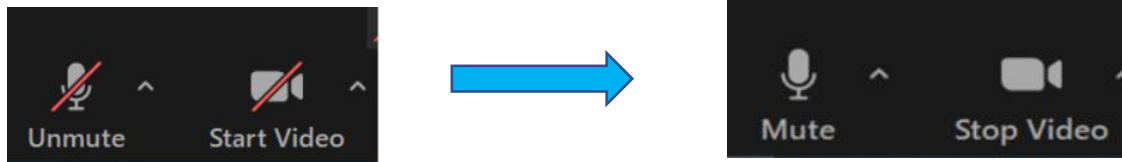- Letter to the Editor Template: Jan. 27 and beyond!
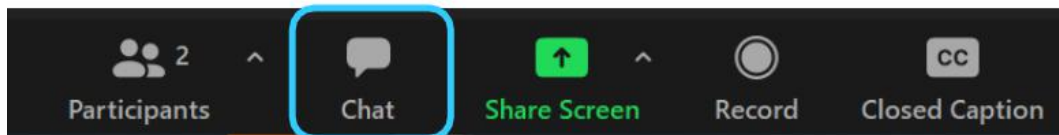
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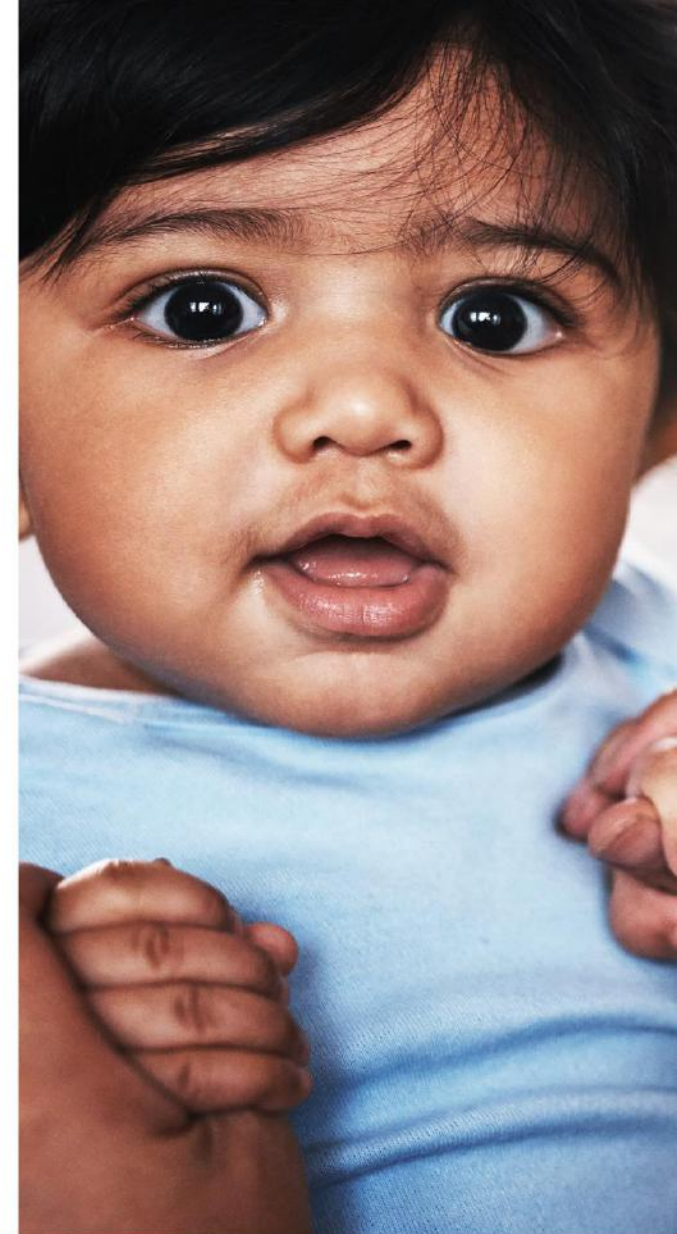
Instructions

To mute/unmute and start/stop video:

To access the chat box:

To raise/lower your hand:
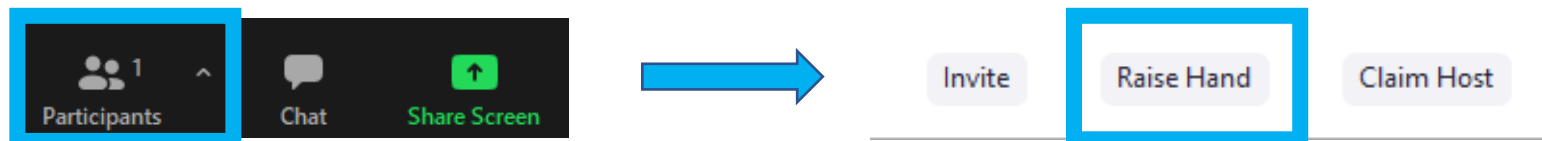
Agenda

Early Childhood Urban Peer Learning Network: Strategies for Building the Supply of Child Care at the County-Level

- Welcome

- National Speaker – Linda Smith, Bipartisan Policy Center (10 minutes)

- County Speaker – Missoula County, Mont. (10 minutes)

- Questions & Interactive Discussion (30 minutes)

- Conclusion

Child Care in 25 States: What We Know and Don't Know

Quantifying the Supply of, Potential Need for, and Gaps in Child Care Across the Country

January 2021

Background

- There is broad bipartisan support for child care at all levels of government
- But little is known about the amount of care the country actually needs

BPC asked...

How much additional child care does the country need?

What BPC Did

Quantified the supply of, potential need for, and gaps in child care in 25 states as of 2019

The analysis gives policymakers, advocates, and stakeholders

- A baseline from which to devise strategies to strengthen the quality of and access to child care

- A critical tool for holding federal, state, and local leaders accountable for improving child care access

- An evidence base to use data rather than anecdotes to evaluate the need for care

Products of the Analysis

Interactive Mapping Tool

- Quantifies supply, potential need, and gaps by:

  State   County   Congressional District

  State Senate District   Metropolitan Area   Opportunity Zone

- Also includes breakdowns by:

  Minority Population   Under/Above 85% of State Median Income

  Below Poverty Line

25-State Report

- Detailed methodology / National findings

- How to properly interpret gap findings for policy purposes

- Recommendations for how states can optimize data collection

Project Overview: State Advisory Committee

Committee Member	State
Samantha Aigner-Treworgy Department of Early Education and Care	MA
Nichole Anderson Department of Family Services	WY
Crystal Arbour Office of Child and Family Services	ME
Jill Bushnell Child Care Collaborative Task Force	WA
Patty Butler Department of Public Health and Human Services	MT
Tracey Campanini Office of Child Development and Early Learning	PA
Tracey Gruber Office of Child Care	UT
Chris Jones Department of Human Services	ND
Lori Masseur Early Childhood Education and Head Start Collaboration Office **Nicol Russell** Teaching Strategies	AZ
Jeana Ross Department of Early Childhood Education **Julie Preskitt** Associate Professor of Health Care Organization and Policy, The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health	AL
Kristi Snuggs Division of Child Development and Early Education	NC
Nicole Vint Department of Health and Human Services	NE

**All methodological decisions were agreed to by a committee of 12 state child care officials**

Provided high-level guidance:

- Developing definitions
- Identifying data resources
- Reviewing analytics
- How to present results

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Project Overview: 25 States

- Originally set out to map access in all 50 states
- 25 states were complete when the pandemic prompted stay-at-home orders in March and BPC halted the analysis
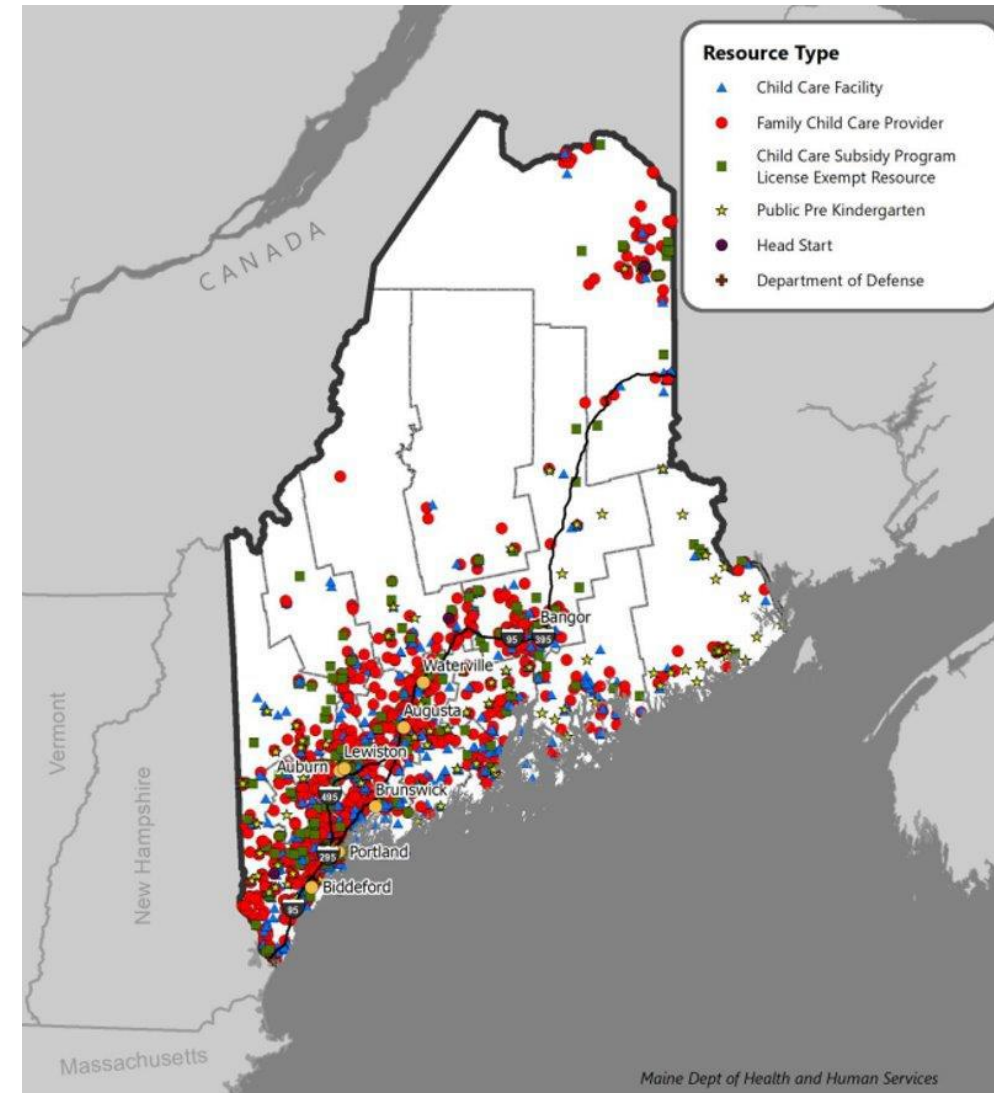
Politically and geographically diverse 25 states
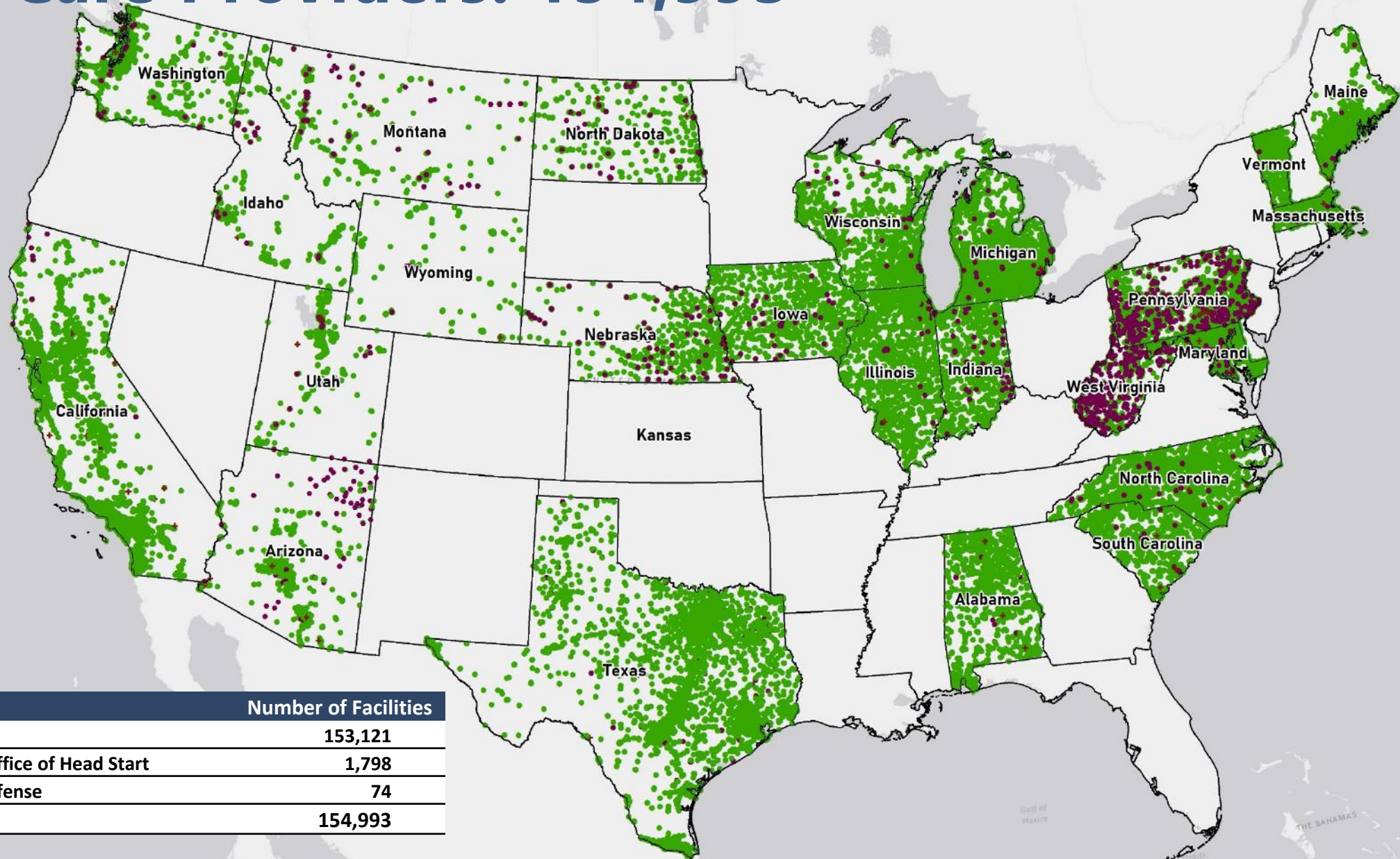

25 States
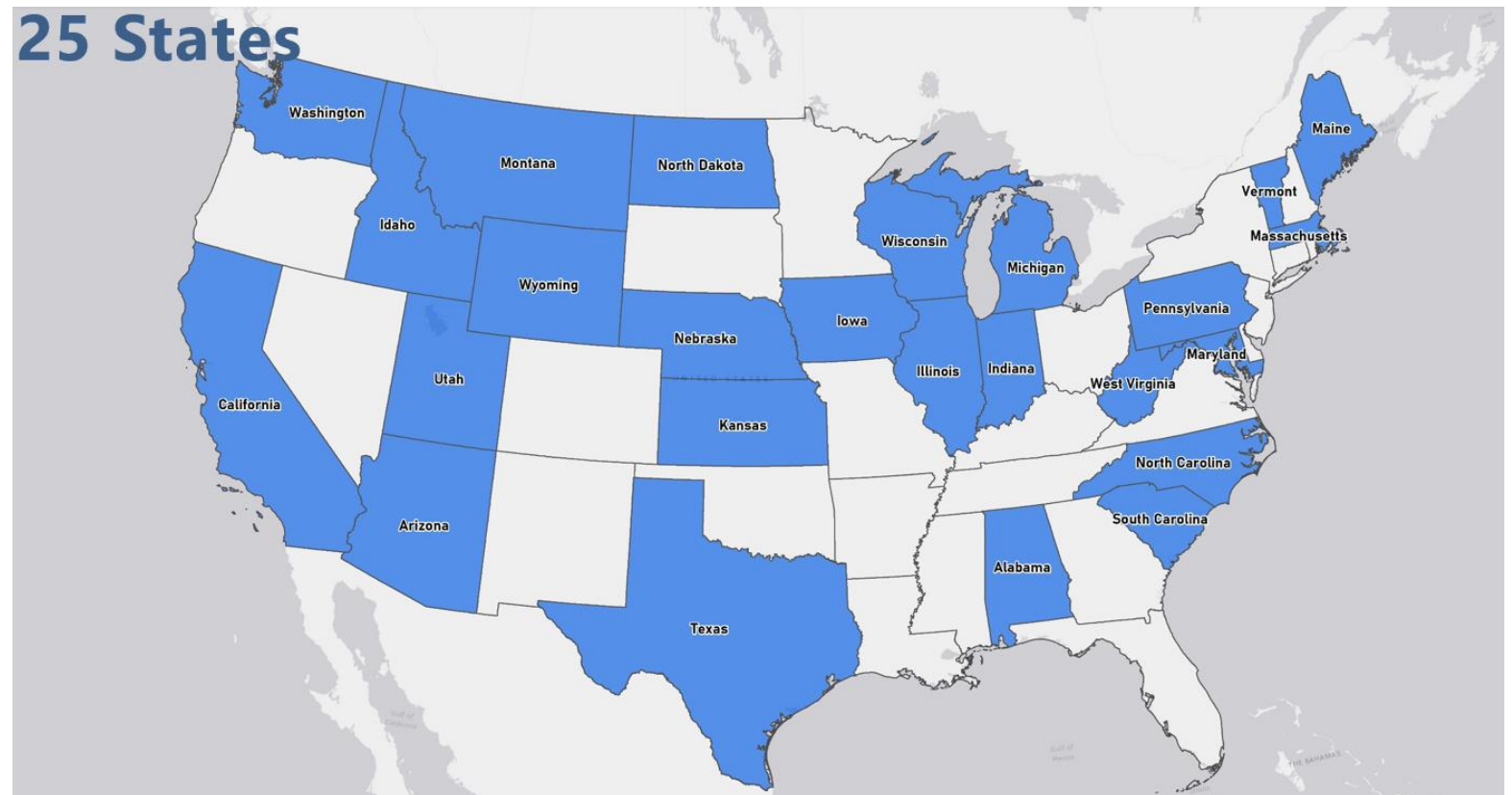
Supply: The number of child care slots offered by legally operated and state-recognized providers

- Definition included the entire range of formal child care settings available to parents

- To build datasets of each provider's location and capacity, BPC worked with:
  - Each state's child care and education agencies
  - Federal DHHS for Head Start data, AIAN tribes for tribal data, and DOD for military data

- Data was only incorporated after state approved

Resource Type
- Child Care Facility
- Family Child Care Provider
- Child Care Subsidy Program License Exempt Resource
- Public Pre Kindergarten
- Head Start
- Department of Defense

Maine Dept of Health and Human Services

Child Care Providers: 154,993

Source	Number of Facilities
State Provided	153,121
Additional from Office of Head Start	1,798
Department of Defense	74
TOTAL	154,993

Children Under 6 With Parents in Labor Force

- 0 - 25
- 26 - 50
- 51 - 100
- 101 - 250
- 251 - 467

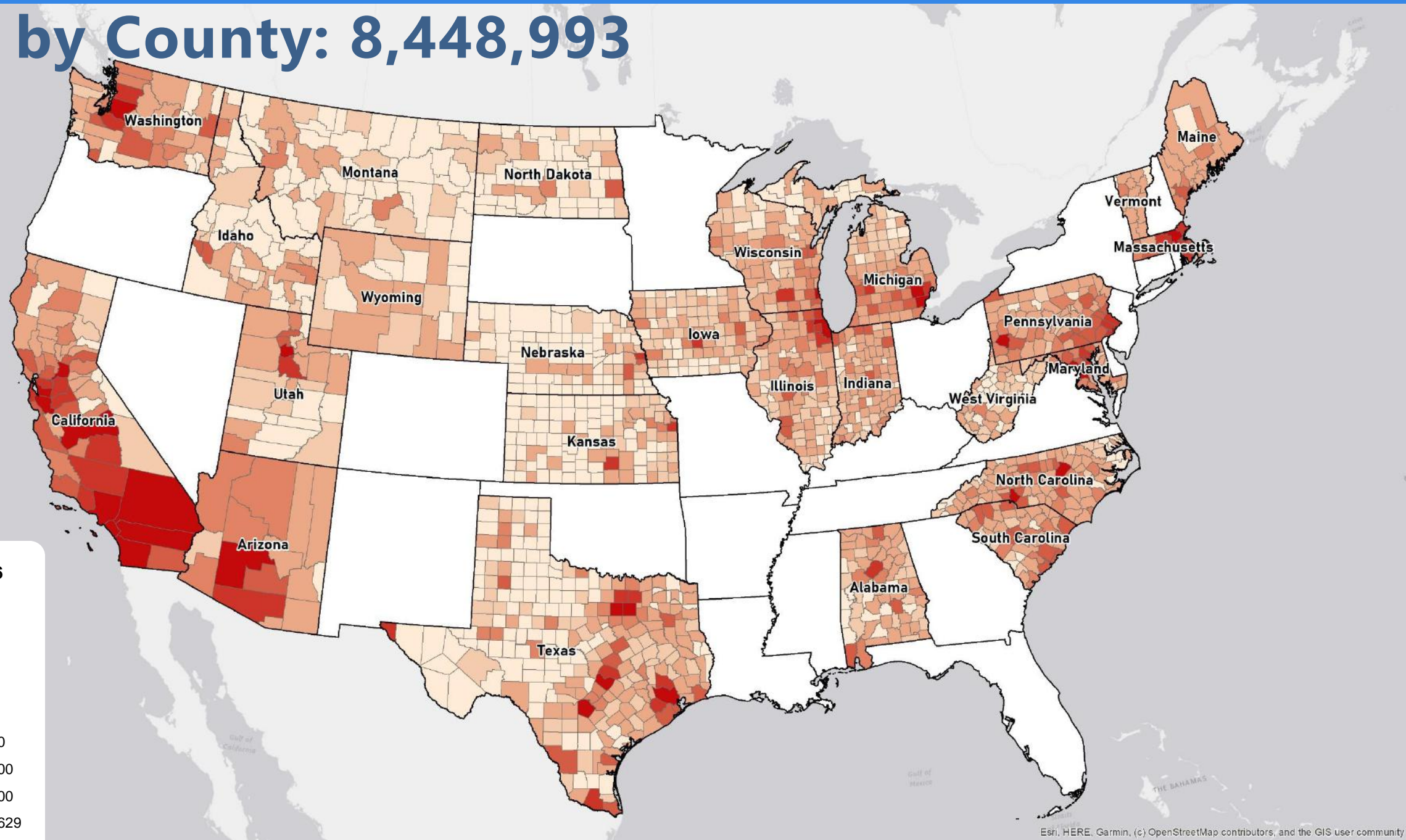*Data are by Block Group from the American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, 2014-2018*

Potential Need: The number of children under six with all available parents in the labor force

- <u>Not</u> Demand: the rate at which families actually utilize or look for formal child care
  - May seasonal/family-related factors influence demand
  - No available data by geographic area
- Informative starting point for policy recommendations
- But interpretations must consider data on how much and what types of care communities actually use

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Need by County: 8,448,993

Children Under 6 With Parents in Labor Force - County

- 10 - 500
- 501 - 1,000
- 1,001 - 5,000
- 5,001 - 10,000
- 10,001 - 25,000
- 25,001 - 50,000
- 50,001 - 451,629

Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community
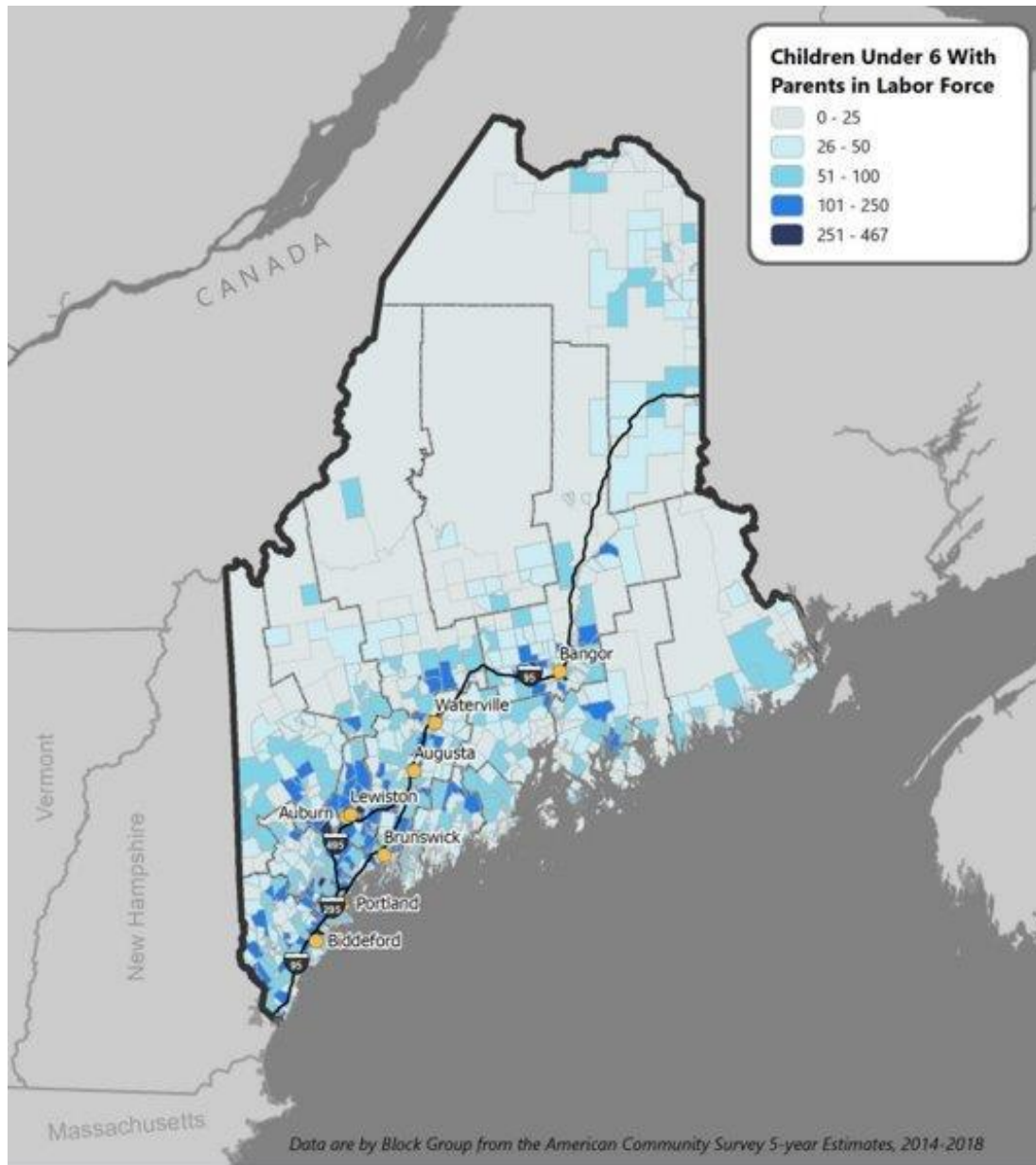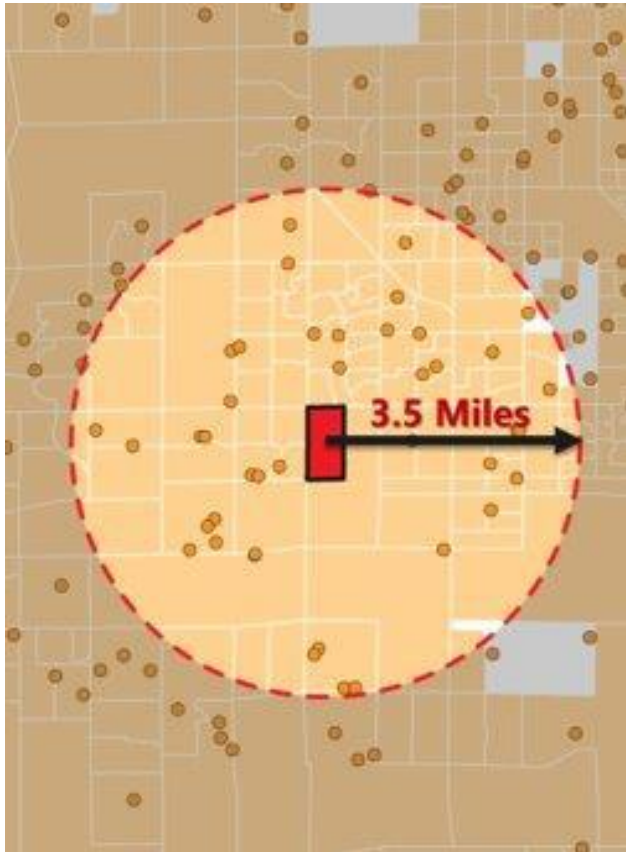
Project Overview: Measuring the Gap

Gap: The number of children who potentially need care but whose families cannot reasonably access formal care by driving

Incorporated parent choice data: 86% of parents drive to child care; rural parents are much more likely to drive over 10 miles for child care

Step 1: each census block group was assigned a services area of a specific driving radius   Urban Areas: **3.5 mi**   Rural Areas: **10 mi**

Step 2: assumed families in a given block group could access the facilities within their service area

Step 3: potential need proportionally allocated to child care providers within service area until all provider capacity was filled

Step 4: quantified the number of children without access to child care by location

Any policy recommendation based on gap data must consider how much and what types of child care parents and families actually use

Potential Need ≠ Actual Demand

Must interpret gap findings in conjunction with real parent choice data

What proportions of parents in your community...
- Need care at non-traditional hours?
- Prefer formal vs informal care?
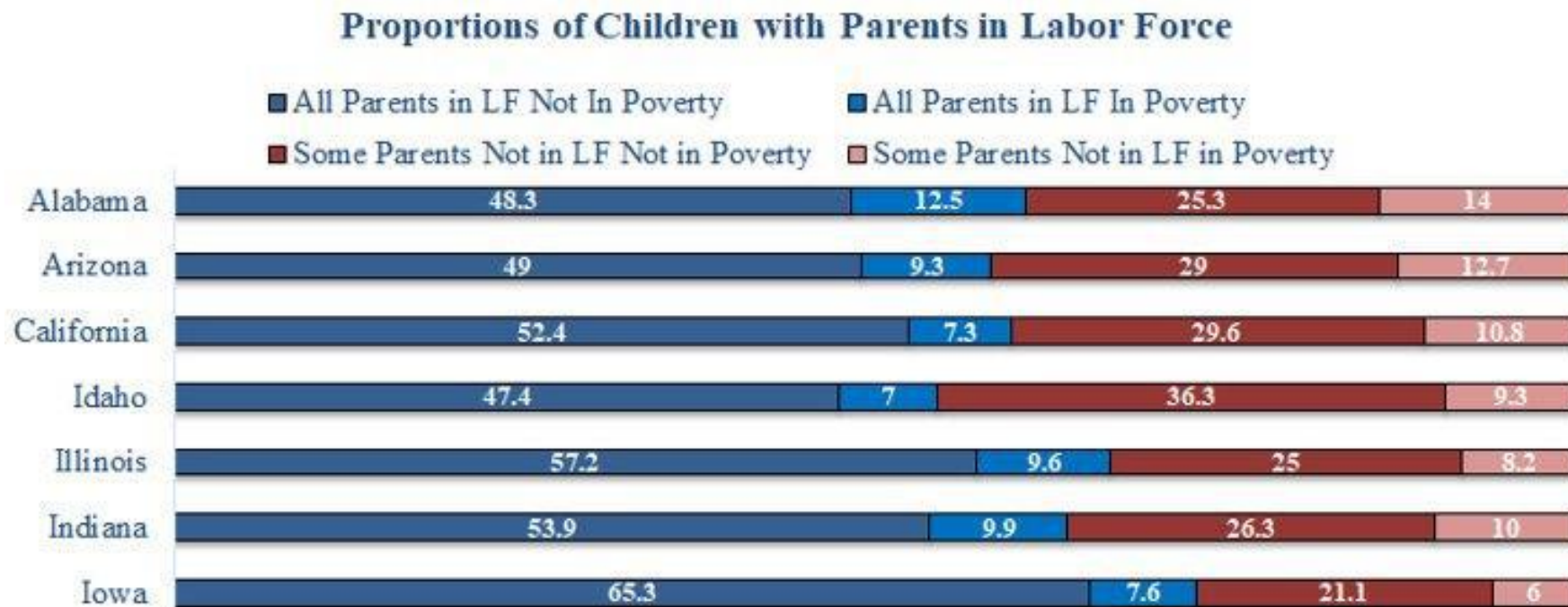- Prefer certain types of formal child care?

Some communities place great value on caring for children within their families, rather than opting for formal child care

The analysis was susceptible to estimating higher gaps in these communities
- Some gaps may have less serious implications for families in real-life

Proportions of Children with Parents in Labor Force

■ All Parents in LF Not In Poverty   ■ All Parents in LF In Poverty
■ Some Parents Not in LF Not in Poverty   □ Some Parents Not in LF in Poverty

State	All Parents in LF Not In Poverty	All Parents in LF In Poverty	Some Parents Not in LF Not in Poverty	Some Parents Not in LF in Poverty
Alabama	48.3	12.5	25.3	14
Arizona	49	9.3	29	12.7
California	52.4	7.3	29.6	10.8
Idaho	47.4	7	36.3	9.3
Illinois	57.2	9.6	25	8.2
Indiana	53.9	9.9	26.3	10
Iowa	65.3	7.6	21.1	6

High-Level Findings

Child Care Gap Findings Across 25 States in 2019	
Potential Child Care Need	8,448,993 children
Child Care Supply	5,901,319 slots
Child Care Gap	2,682,262 children
Percent Child Care Gap	31.7% of children

**This estimate orients us around the magnitude of the child care gap
But the gap is not uniform across the country**

Disaggregating the Data: Rural vs Urban
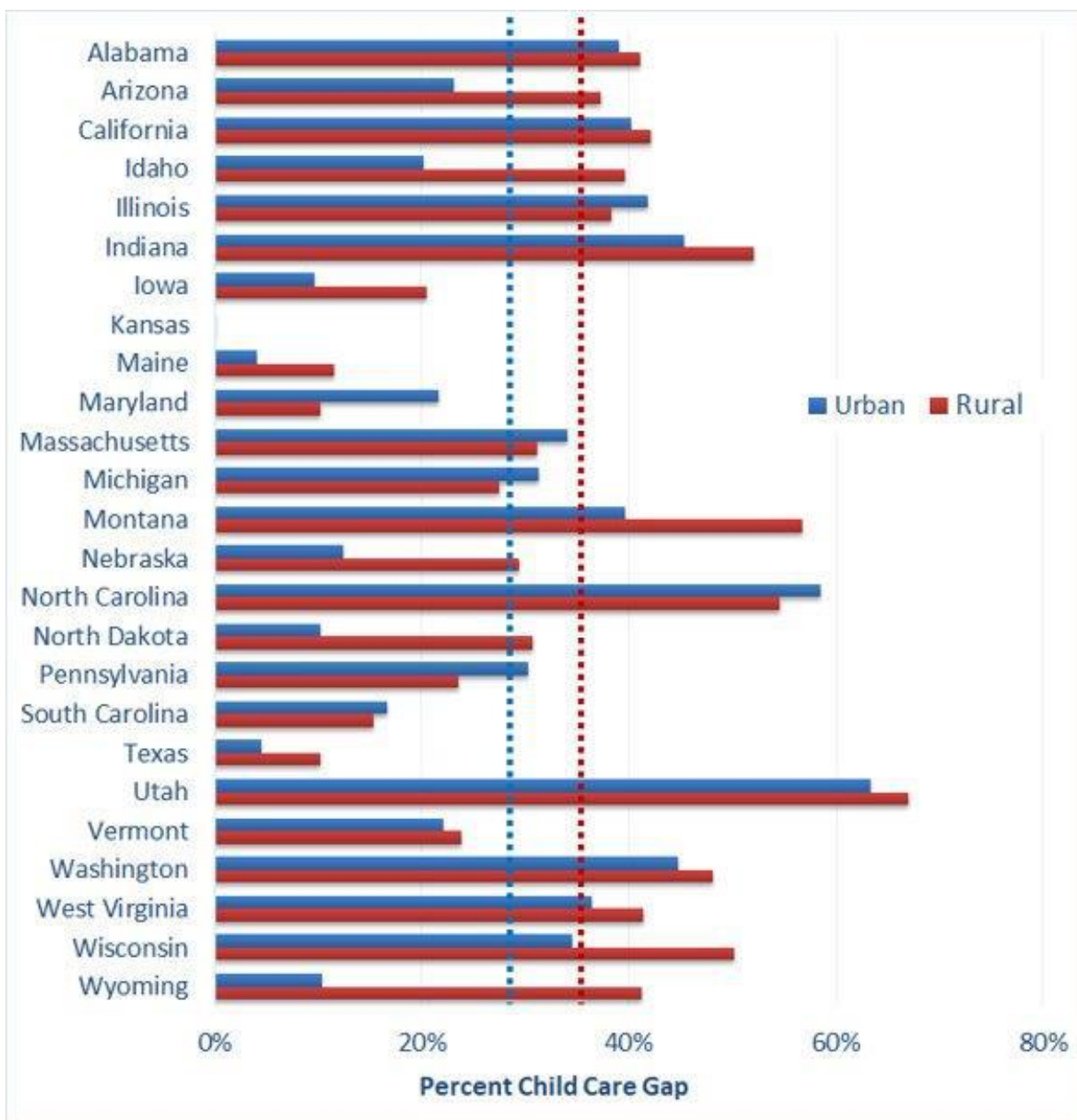
Rural areas were underserved far more often than urban areas (even after using the distance adjustment)

Urban Avg: **28.9%**
Rural Avg: **35.1%**

National Survey Data:
- Only 38% of rural families said finding quality child care within their budget was easy (over 50% for urban)

Still unclear about the extent to which preferences for family/friend care reduce supply in rural areas

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Opportunity Zones: Low-income communities designated by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 in which investors can receive tax incentives for supporting economic development.

The availability of child care should be part of any discussion related to investments in Opportunity Zones

Child Care Gaps within Opportunity Zones			
State	Total State Gap	Total Gap in OZs	Number of OZs
Alabama	40.0%	36%	158
Arizona	25.2%	33%	168
California	40.4%	45%	879
Idaho	28%	23%	28
Illinois	41.2%	40%	326
Indiana	47.7%	48%	156
Iowa	15.1%	19%	62
Kansas	35.5%	NA	NA
Maine	9.2%	14%	32
Maryland	20.0%	21%	149
Massachusetts	33.8%	34%	138
Michigan	30.2%	30%	288

Child Care Gaps within Opportunity Zones			
State	Total State Gap	Total Gap in OZs	Number of OZs
Montana	48.6%	49%	25
Nebraska	18.5%	20%	44
North Carolina	57.0%	57%	252
North Dakota	21.4%	12%	25
Pennsylvania	28.7%	24%	300
South Carolina	16.1%	15%	135
Texas	5.8%	8%	628
Utah	64.1%	65%	46
Vermont	23.4%	22%	25
Washington	45.4%	46%	139
West Virginia	39.5%	39%	55
Wisconsin	40.6%	34%	120
Wyoming	27.6%	16%	25

Red: gap higher across OZs than across state

Blue: gap higher across state than across OZs

Investigated whether a range of socioeconomic characteristics were associated with changes in the size of the child care gap

Compared the statewide gap to the gap in block groups...

- With a high percent of minority residents
- Where the median household income is below 85% of the state median
- Where the median household income is above 85% of the state median
- Where a high percent of residents live below the federal poverty line

Socioeconomic trends are different in every state and must be closely reviewed using the interactive map
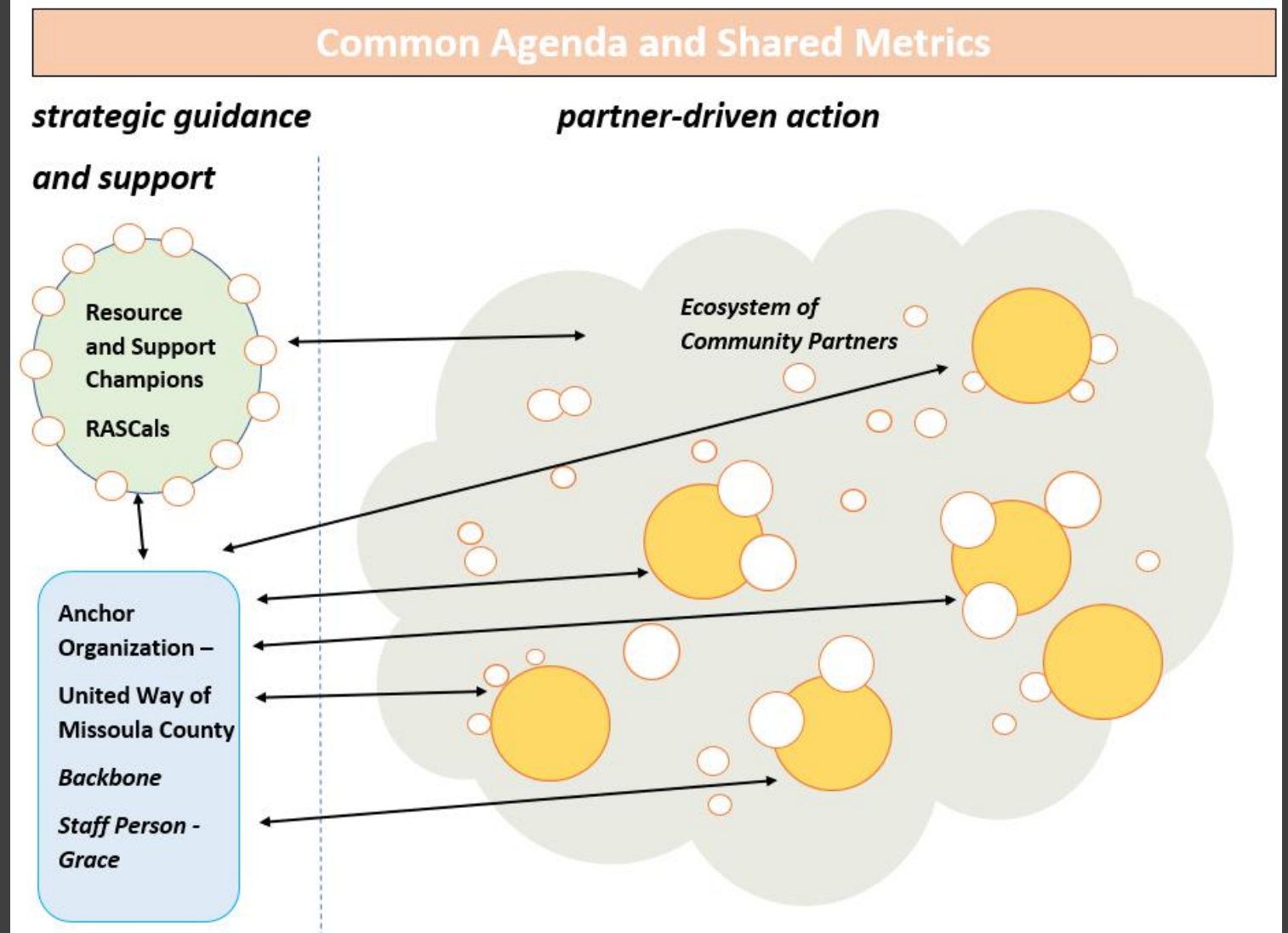
Zero to Five Missoula County

Building a multi-sector approach to kindergarten readiness for all

Using and sharing data across the EC system and community

Partnerships for crisis response and long-term planning

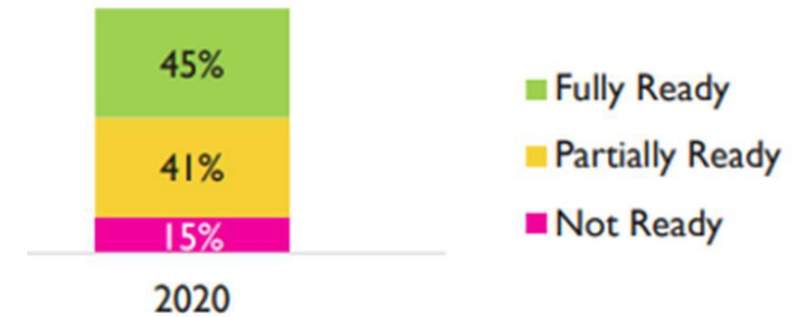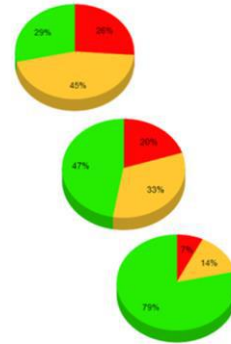# Using a collective-impact approach

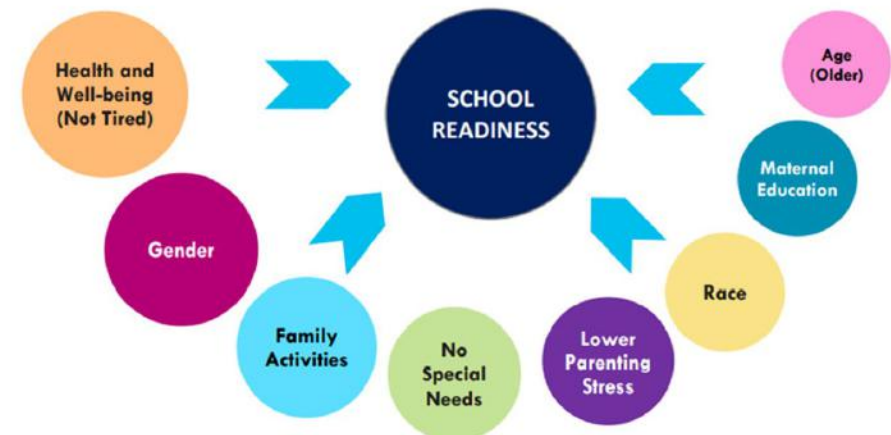# Engaged community leaders

Kindergarten Entry Assessment

232 children, 18 kindergarten classrooms
Parent information only/Missoula Online Academy: 55 children

Different classrooms, different findings of readiness

- 45% Fully Ready
- 41% Partially Ready
- 15% Not Ready

2020

Parents completed questionnaires about life experiences birth – five, in order to connect specific experiences to specific readiness outcomes. Key predictors of overall school readiness (in order of strength):

- Health and Well-being (Not Tired)
- Gender
- Family Activities
- No Special Needs
- Lower Parenting Stress
- SCHOOL READINESS
- Age (Older)
- Maternal Education
- Race

Partnerships for short and long term needs

COVID-19 Pandemic Coordination

- County Child Care Stabilization Grants

- Tuition support and relief funds to families

- Community child care needs assessments

- Coordinated referral, technical assistance, and funding

Long term planning

- Early childhood support in K-12 system

- Child Care Shared Services Alliance

- Missoula Promise phased plan for 0-5 supports

Discussion Questions

- How is your county ensuring that child care options are available for infants and toddlers?

- If your county used CARES funding or local relief for child care, how were those dollars used? What did they fund?

- What concerns or issues are you hearing from parents around child care access and affordability?

- How is your county addressing equity issues regarding barriers to child care access?

- How does your county engage and support child care providers?

CONTACT US

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Thank you!

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