



Early Learning

INDIANA

JULY 21, 2022

Expanding Access to High-
Quality Early Learning
Services

Early Learning Indiana

Early Learning Indiana is on a mission to ensure children throughout Indiana are empowered with essential skills to be successful in kindergarten and beyond.

We accomplish this by addressing systemic barriers to early education, introducing new solutions for the field and operating a network of early learning schools.



Our Work



Operate 11 early learning centers in central Indiana, including at the Academic Health Center campus, teaching more than 1K children each day



Leading industry-wide transformation to improve the access, quality and affordability of early care and education with support of \$40M investments from Lilly Endowment, Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation, State of Indiana and IU Health



Voice of statewide advocacy efforts, providing subject matter expertise to policymakers and other stakeholders



Getting Started: What's in a Name?

Whether we refer to it as:

- Early Learning
- Early Childhood Education
- Childcare
- Daycare

We're talking about learning that happens out of the home (in a licensed child care center, registered ministry, family childcare home or school setting) for the vital years between 0 and 5 years old.

Questions? Email heatherp@earlylearningindiana.org



Making the Case

- Approximately **85% of a child's capacity to learn** is developed by the age of five.
- High-quality early care and education during this period can have a **meaningful impact on a child's success** in school and beyond, however systemic barriers prevent children and families from maximizing this opportunity, limiting their future choices.
- Parents are faced with difficult decisions about child care, **inhibiting their ability to work** or seek further education and training that might improve their social mobility.
- For businesses and communities, **the effect is two-fold**. They experience real-time economic impact from the loss of today's workforce and fail to realize the full potential of tomorrow's talent pipeline.



Taking Stock in Indiana's Landscape

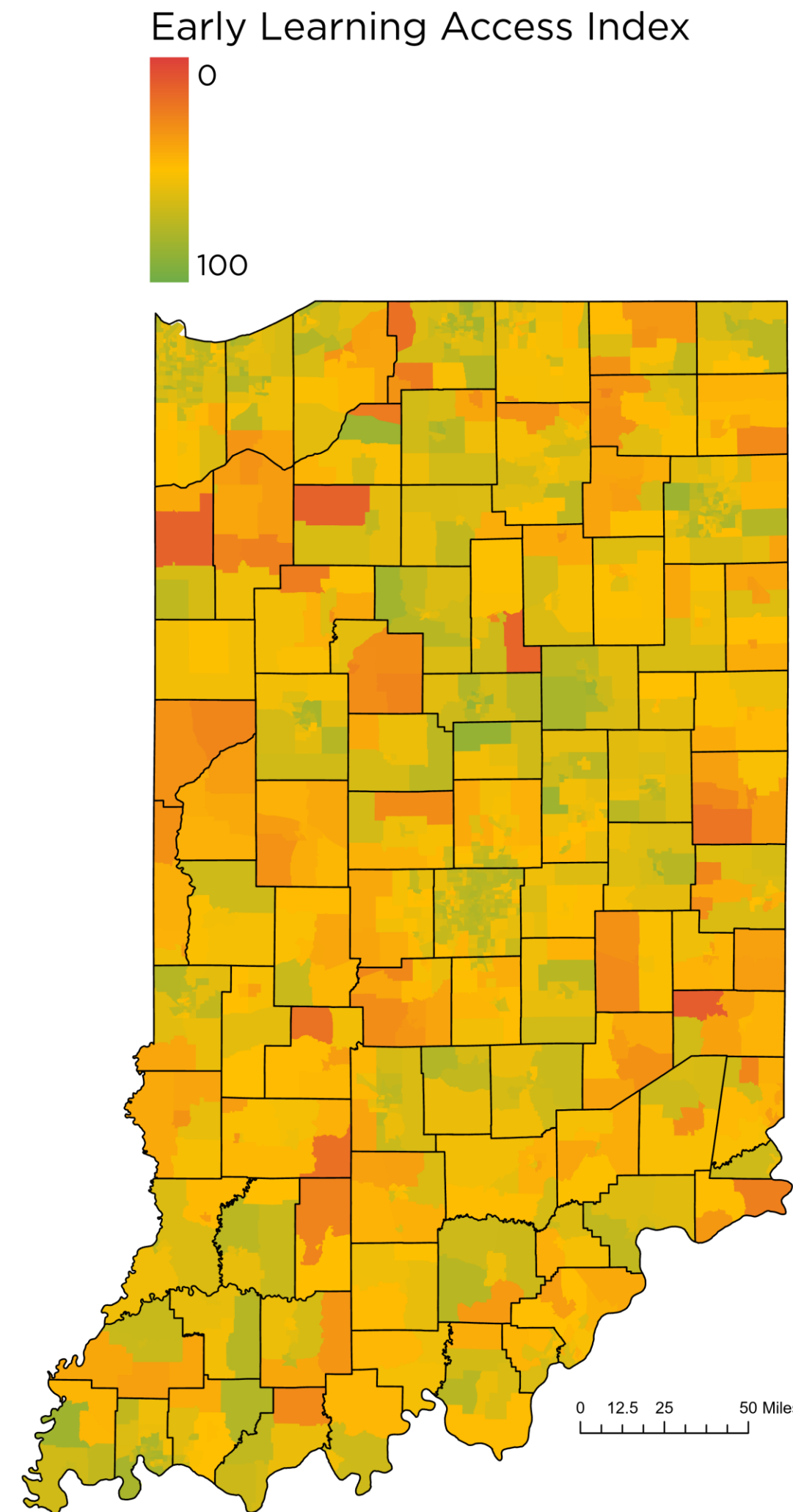
The Early Learning Access Index – A new method of analysis to both qualify and quantify access along the following dimensions:

- **Capacity** – how sufficient the capacity of the early learning programs in the geographic area is, based on estimated need for care.
- **Quality** – how pronounced the capacity of the programs rated level 3 or level 4 on Paths to QUALITY™ in the geographic area is.
- **Affordability** – how the average cost of care in the area compares to median incomes of the population and the prevalence of programs offering subsidized care.
- **Choice** – how much choice families have among program characteristics that may be preferential.

Early Learning Access Index

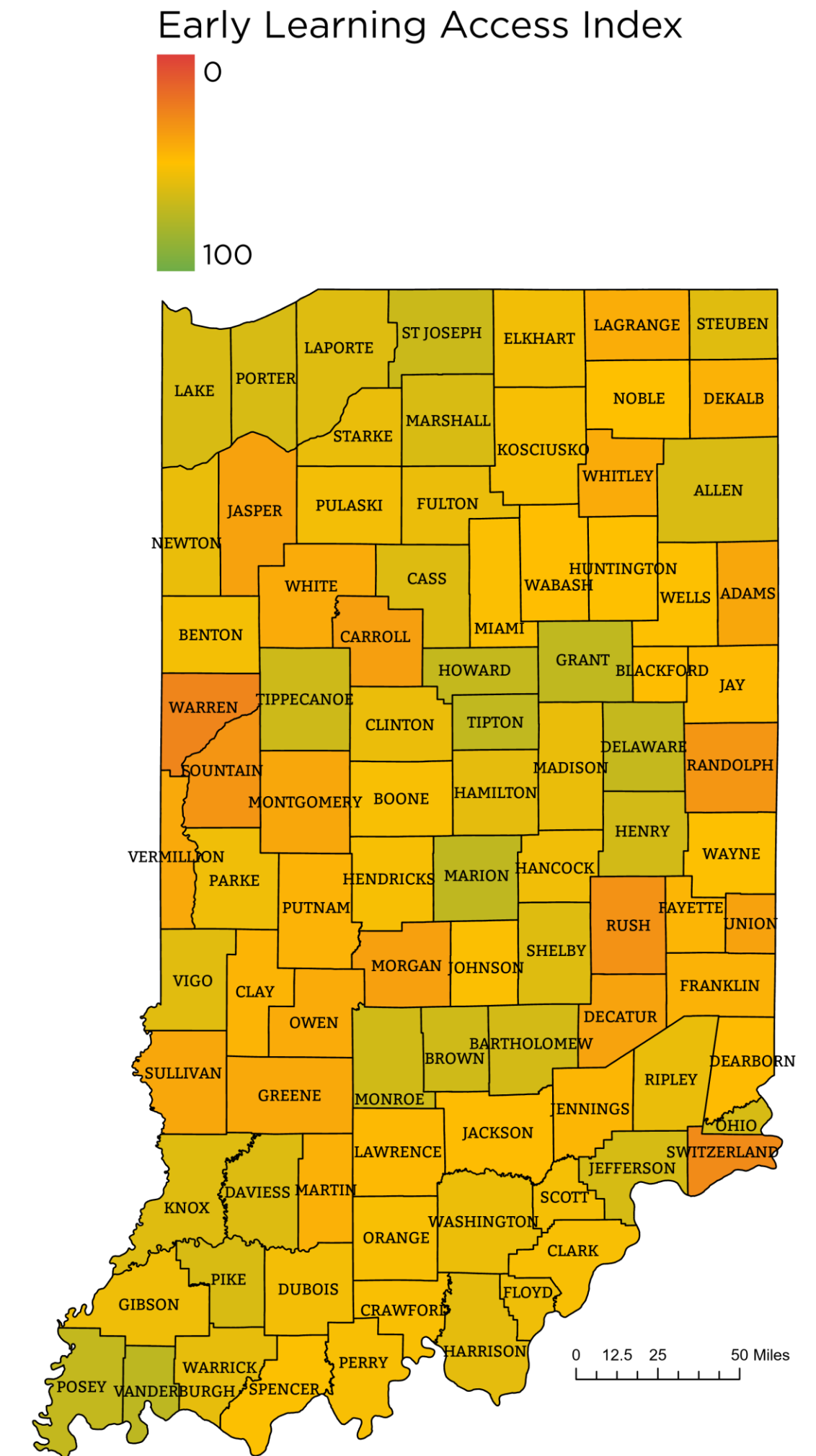
- Statewide Score: **60.5 = moderate access** statewide
- **29%** of counties have moderate access, **71% have inadequate** access. **2.6%** of census tracts have adequate access, and **52.9%** of tracts have moderate access.
- The **highest access counties** are Vanderburgh (72.8), Marion (72.4), Grant (72), Tipton (71.8) and Posey (70.8).
- The **lowest access counties** are Warren (27.2), Switzerland (29.3), Rush (32.2), Fountain (33.5), and Randolph (33.8).

Early Learning Access Index
by Census Tract



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, RCCS, 2022; Child Care Aware of America, National Data System, Indiana, 2022; Indiana Department of Education, INview, 2022

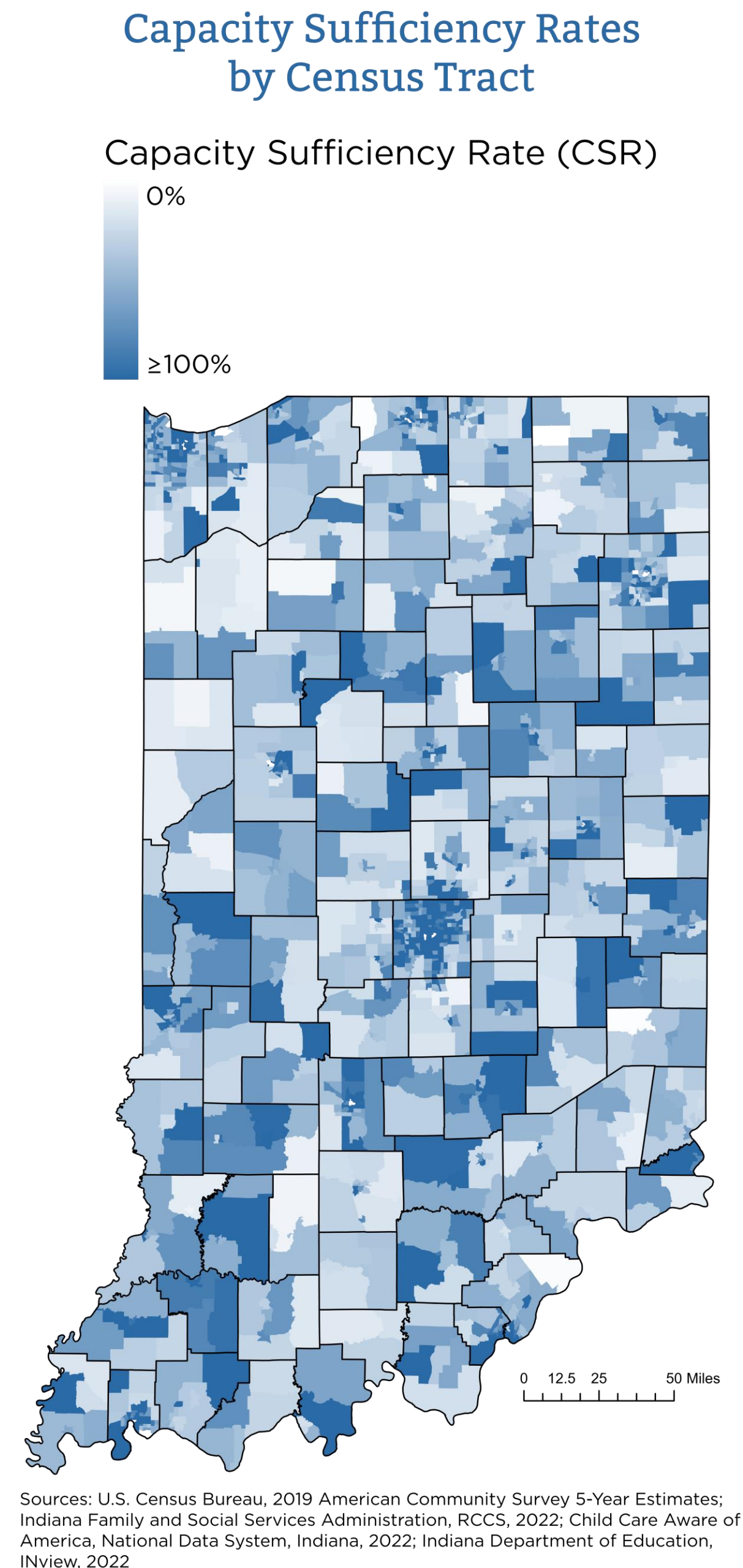
Early Learning Access Index
by County



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, RCCS, 2022; Child Care Aware of America, National Data System, Indiana, 2022; Indiana Department of Education, INview, 2022

Capacity Sufficiency Rate (CSR)

- CSR gauges how well the capacity or supply in a given area is able to meet the demand.
- Statewide, the Capacity Sufficiency Rate (CSR) is **60.7%**.
- CSRs vary widely based upon locality, ranging from **11.6%** in Benton County to **over 100%** in Marion County.
- **65%** of counties had a CSR under 50%

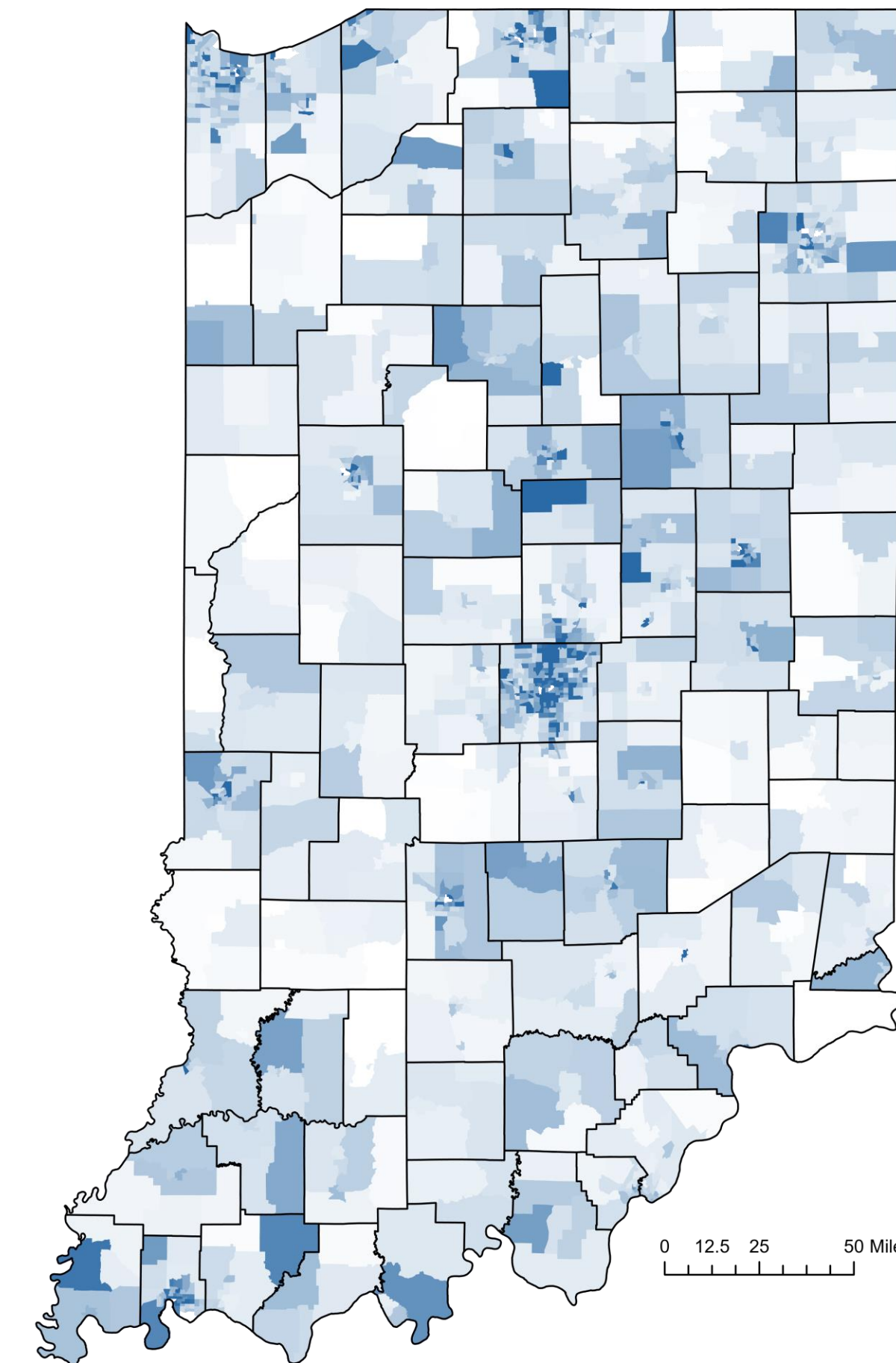
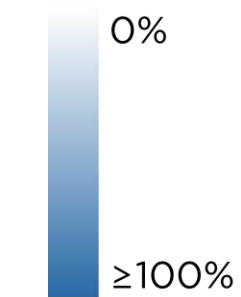


Quality

- Throughout Indiana, **46.0% of all early learning capacity is high quality.**
- The **percentage of children** in Indiana who can be served through high-quality capacity is **27.9%.**
- High quality capacity at the county level ranges from **0% to 86%** throughout the state.
- **72%** of counties only have enough high-quality capacity to serve 25% of area children
- Benton County had the highest high-quality capacity rate (86%) and Switzerland county had the lowest rate (0%).

Children Able to be Served by High-Quality Care by Census Tract

Children Able to be Served by High-Quality Care



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, RCCS, 2022; Child Care Aware of America, National Data System, Indiana, 2022; Indiana Department of Education, INview, 2022

Affordability

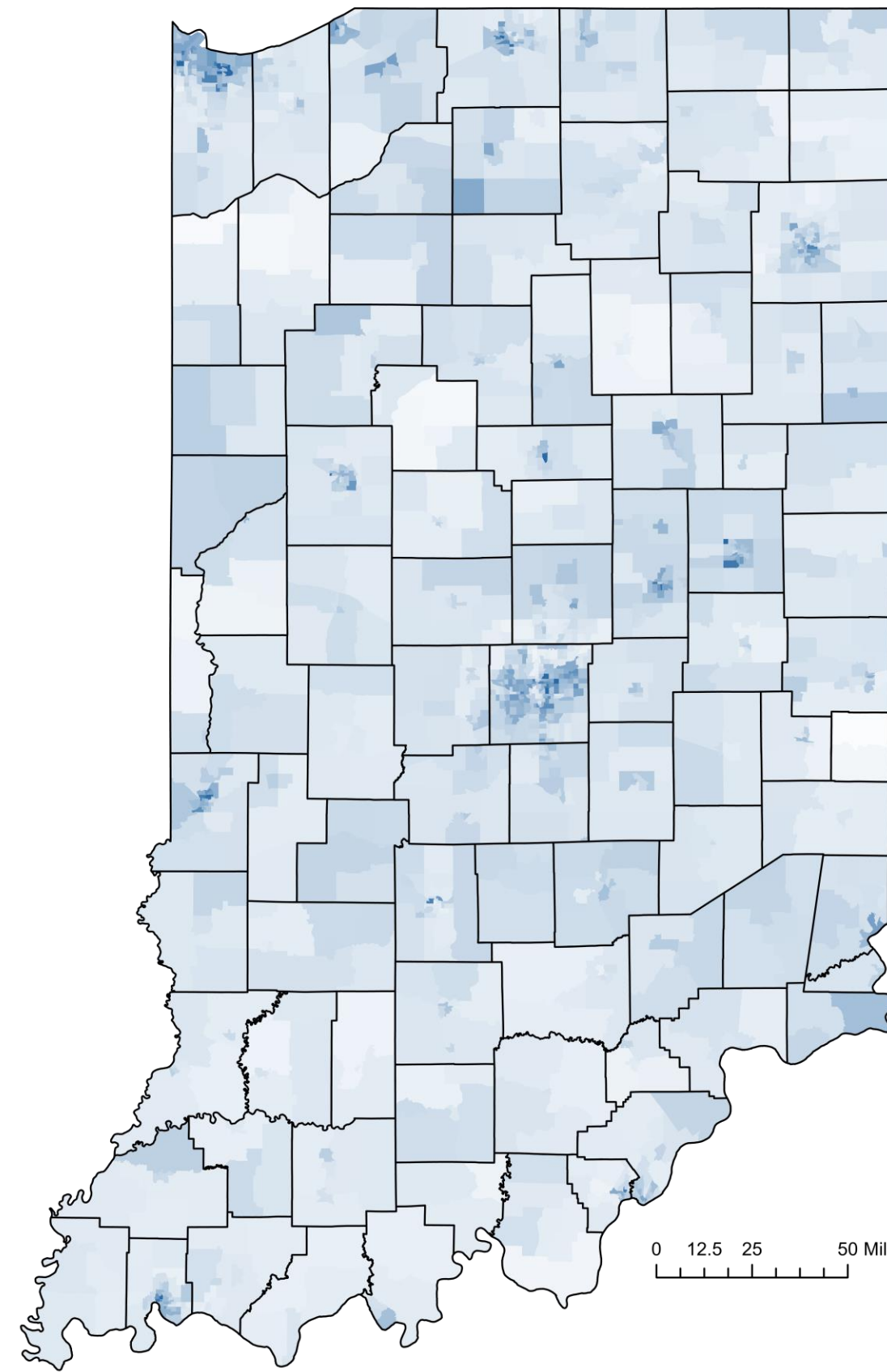
- The overall cost-to-income ratio in Indiana is **12%**.
- Cost-to-income ratios statewide average from **2.4%** in Union County to **13.8%** in Madison County.
- **87.3%** of programs offer one or more of the four subsidized options examined in this report, they are not always located in areas with the greatest need.

Cost-to-Income Ratios
by Census Tract

Cost-to-Income Ratio

0%

≥41%



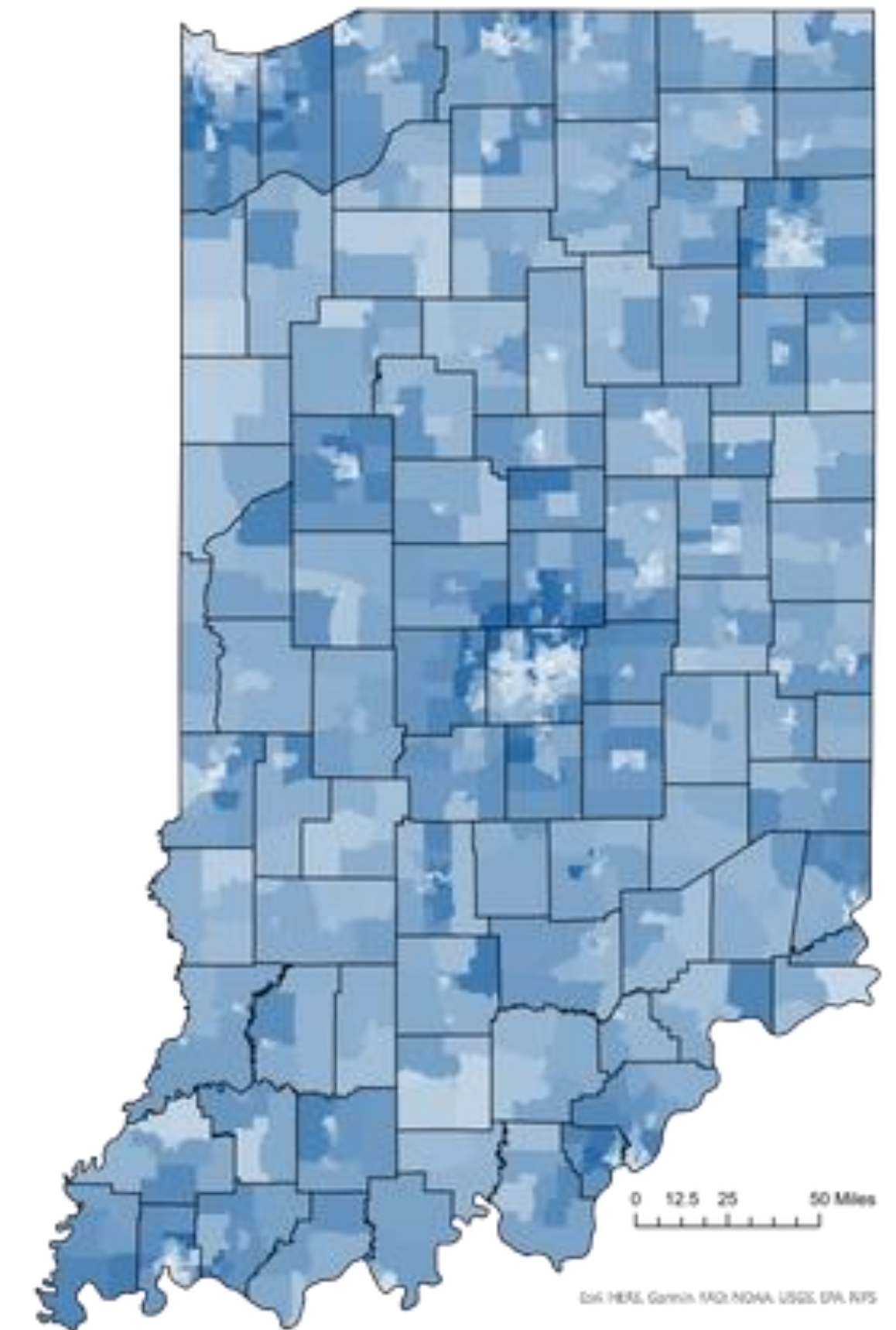
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, RCCS, 2022; Child Care Aware of America, National Data System, Indiana, 2022; Indiana Department of Education, INview, 2022

Median Family Income
by Census Tract

Median Annual Family Income

\$0

≥\$130,000



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Choice

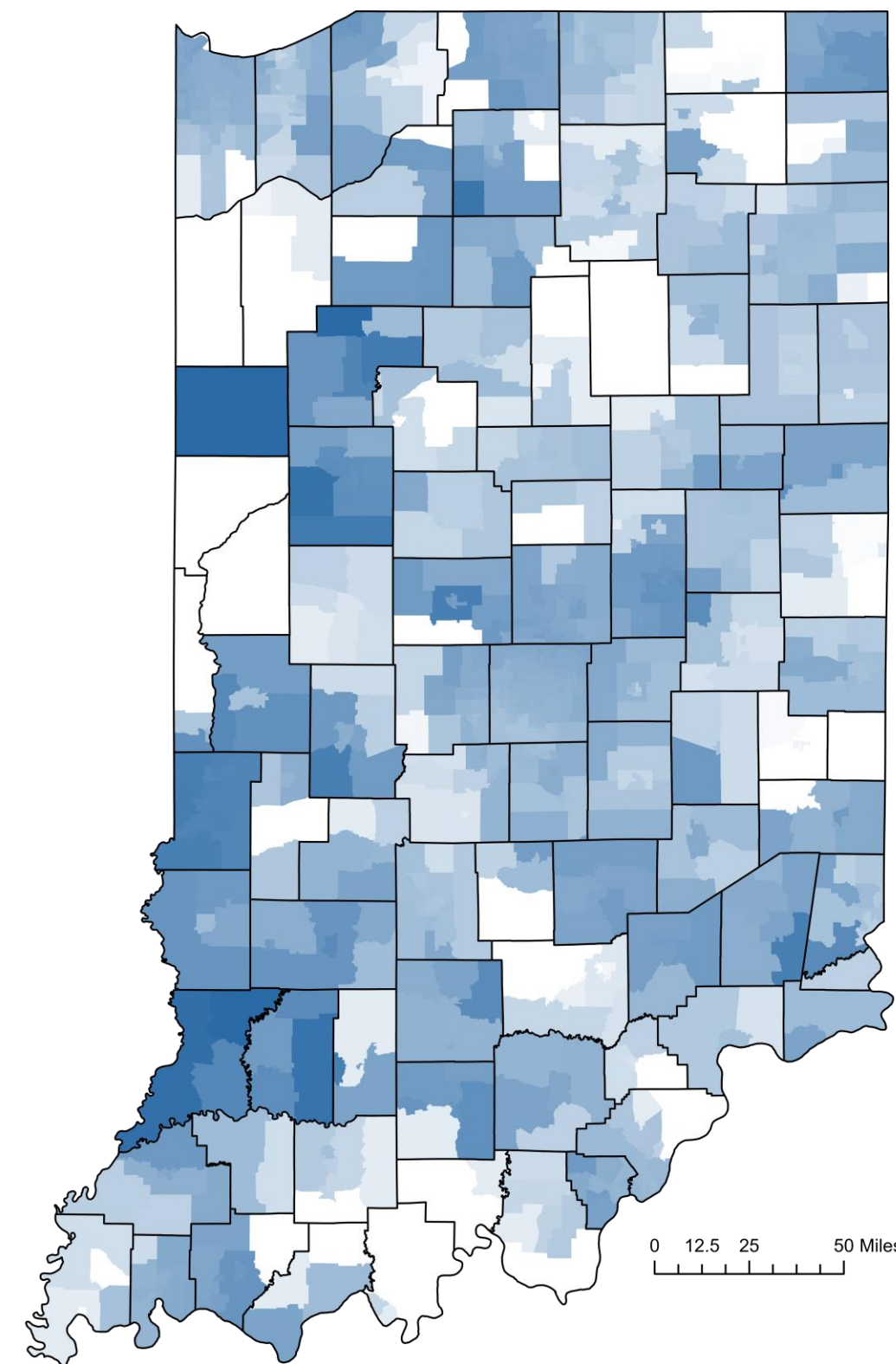
- 32% of programs statewide do not offer infant/toddler care.
- 7 counties have no high-quality infant/toddler care.
- 27.6% of programs offer non-traditional hours.
- 12 counties, notably rural, have no access to non-traditional hours.
- The median Auspice Score (possible range of 0 to 1, with 1 being the best) among Indiana counties is 0.652.

Infant/Toddler Availability by Census Tract

Percent of Programs with Infant/Toddler Care

≤43%

≥95%



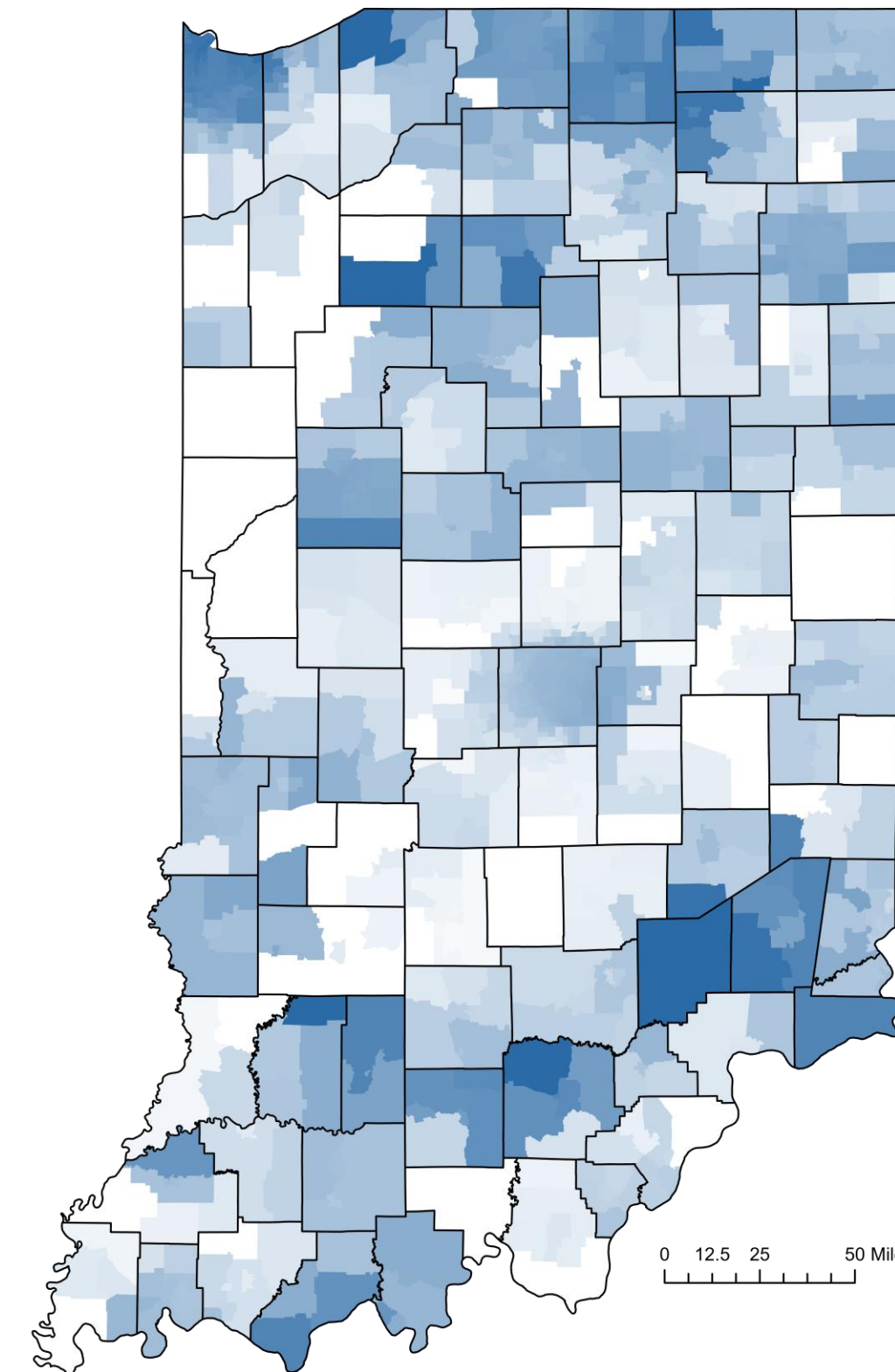
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, RCCS, 2022; Child Care Aware of America, National Data System, Indiana, 2022; Indiana Department of Education, INview, 2022

Non-Traditional Hours Availability by Census Tract

Percent of Programs Offering Non-Traditional Hours

0%

≥61%



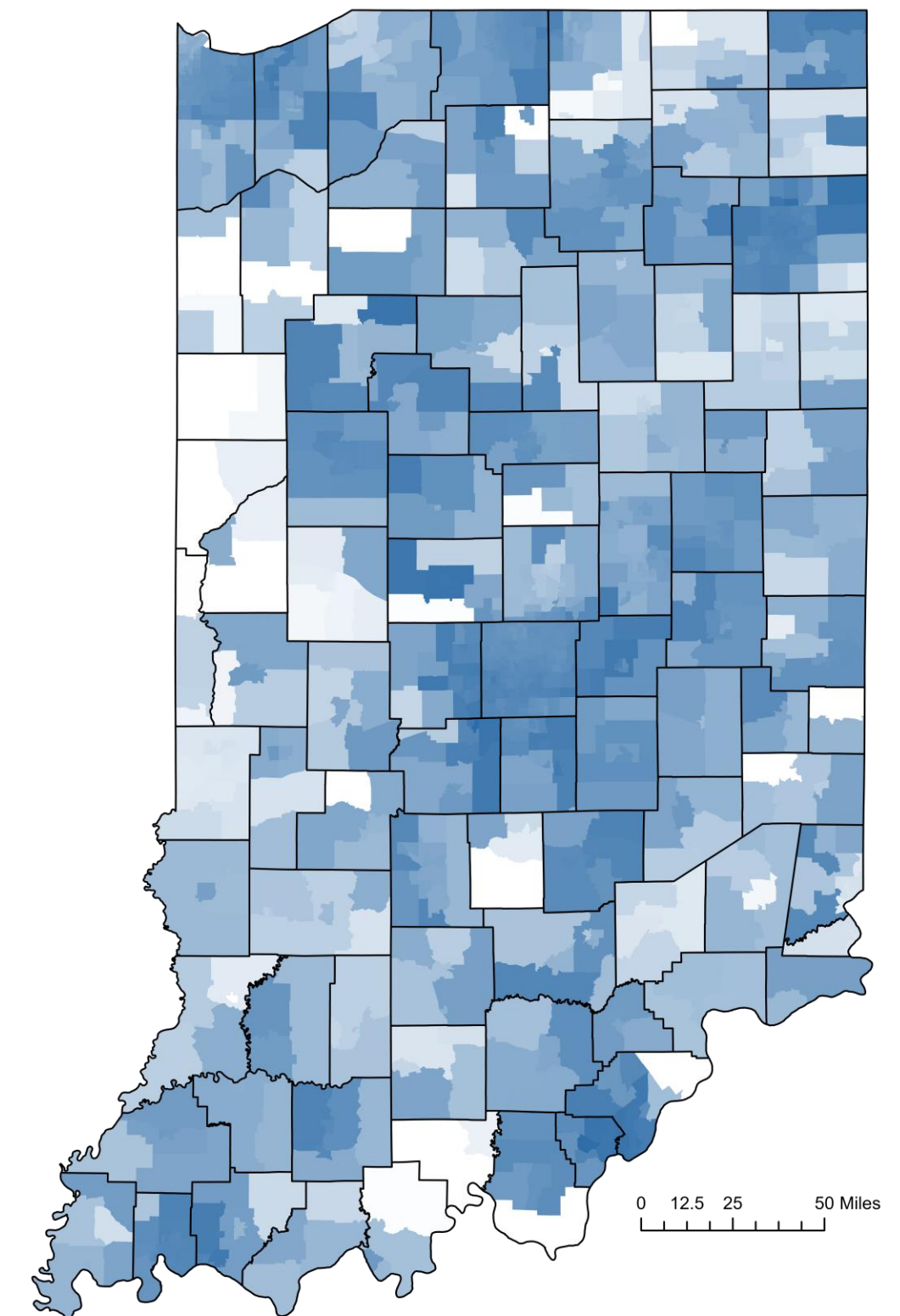
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, RCCS, 2022; Child Care Aware of America, National Data System, Indiana, 2022; Indiana Department of Education, INview, 2022

Program Type Variation by Census Tract

Auspice Score

0 (Low Variation)

1 (High Variation)



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, RCCS, 2022; Child Care Aware of America, National Data System, Indiana, 2022; Indiana Department of Education, INview, 2022



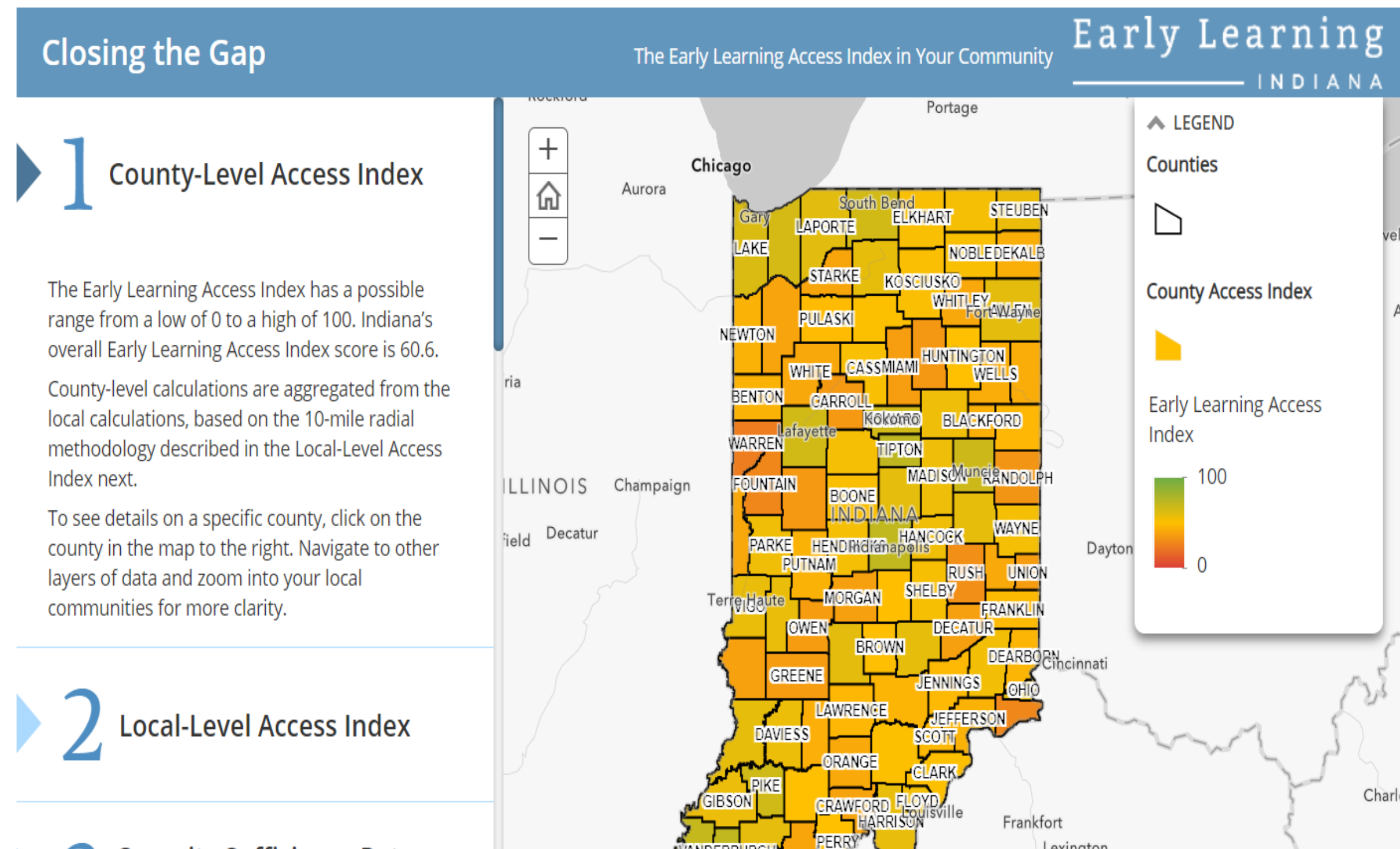
Create a Targeted Approach

The ultimate goal of this report is not only to shed light on access to early learning opportunities within communities, but to equip stakeholders, communities and providers with the data necessary to make **informed** and **strategic** choices related to expanding access along any of the four dimensions of capacity, quality, affordability or choice.

Questions? Email laureno@earlylearningindiana.org



Interactive Map



Explore

Drill into data by census tract, focusing on:

- Local access scores
- Layers of capacity, quality, affordability and choice
- Known pain points, like infant and toddler care

Consult our experts:

- laureno@earlylearningindiana.org
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<https://earlylearningin.org/closing-the-gap/>

Is it Working? A Snapshot of Kindergarten Readiness

Skill	Gender	Race/Ethnicity	DLL Status	Urbanicity	Setting	Attendance
OLL						
Letter ID	●	●		●	●	
Letter Sound Correspondence	●				●	
Rhyming	●	●	●		●	
Sentence Comprehension	●	●	●		●	
Math						
Numerical Thinking		●			●	
Spatial Thinking	●	●			●	

Source: Office of Early Childhood and Out of School Learning
<https://www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/files/OMWPK-2021-Kindergarten-Readiness-Final-Report-0122.pdf>

Thank you



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