

# INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD RISKS AND SERVICES ASSESSMENT OF WISCONSIN COUNTIES

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# OUTLINE

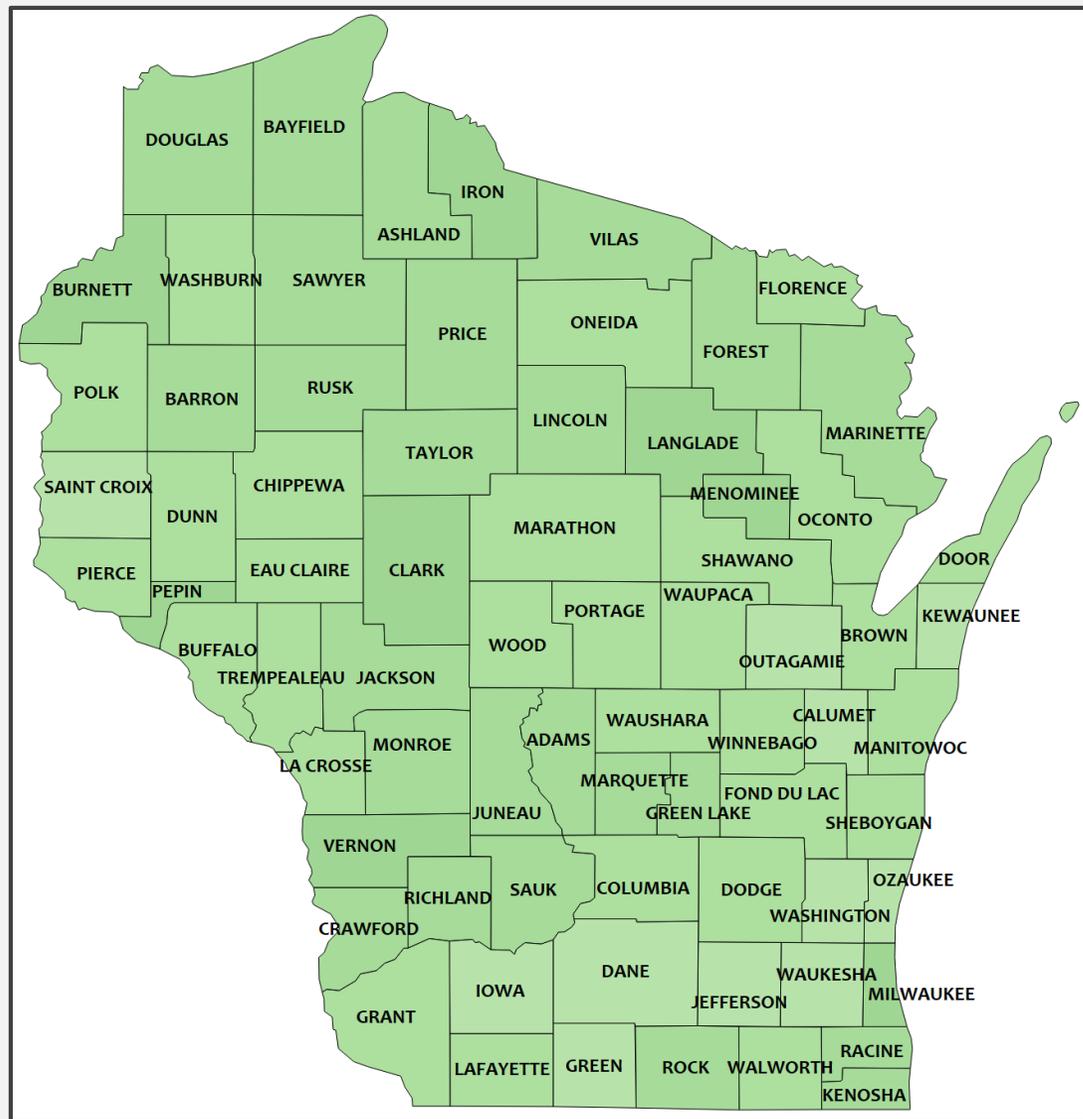
- Introduction
- Purpose
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- Risk Indicators
- Overall Risk
- Reach Assessment
- Limitations
- Conclusion

# INTRODUCTION

- The experiences of infants and young children have profound, lasting impacts on their physical and mental health, as well as on learning and behavior.
- Research has shown that certain factors place children at an increased risk for negative outcomes, not just during childhood but also into adulthood.
- Services that support a child's health and early learning can improve outcomes for children who face adversity during the critical period of development from birth to age five.

# INTRODUCTION

- Approximately 336,000 children under age five reside in Wisconsin's 72 counties.
- The risks to healthy development that these children face can vary widely depending on where they reside.
- County-level data can provide a more accurate picture of the true level of need than statewide statistics.



## PURPOSE

Risk assessment: Identifies the counties whose children are at the greatest and lowest risk of negative developmental outcomes based on 11 health, safety, and economic risk indicators.

Reach assessment: Examines the current availability and utilization of 5 programs aimed at improving outcomes for this age group in relation to the overall level of risk faced by children in each county.

*This information is meant to inform conversations regarding how to best meet the developmental needs of Wisconsin's youngest and most vulnerable population.*

# METHODS

Risk Indicators & Programs were chosen based on:

- A review of current literature (33 journal articles & 9 publications with relevant research data) regarding the potential long-term negative impacts on a child's health and functioning
- The availability of reliable and recent statewide county-level data

# METHODS

Data sources used for the indicators and services:

American Community Survey: [www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/](http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/)

County Health Rankings: <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>

Easy Access to Juvenile Populations (EZAPOPOP): [www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/](http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/)

Feeding America's Map the Meal Gap: <http://map.feedingamerica.org/>

Kids Count database: <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/>

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF)

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), Office of Early Learning

Wisconsin Food Security Project: <http://www.foodsecurity.wisc.edu/>

Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH): [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish)

# METHODS

- Z-scores (representing the number of standard deviations that an individual county's rate falls above or below the state average) are used to determine the levels of risk and reach.
- Provides a more accurate representation of the true risk to the children in each county than dividing all counties into equal groups (such as quartiles).

**Low Risk/Reach:** Z-score of less than -1.00 (more than one standard deviation below the state average)

**Low-Moderate Risk/Reach:** Z-score of -1.00 to zero (equal to the state average)

**Moderate-High Risk/Reach:** Z-score of 0.01 (just above the state average) to 1.00

**High Risk/Reach:** Z-score greater than 1.00 (more than one standard deviation above the state average)

# RISK INDICATORS

## Health

- Births to mothers who received inadequate prenatal care
- Low-weight births
- Births to teenage mothers
- Infant mortality rate
- Children under age 6 without medical insurance
- Children age 19 to 35 months lacking complete immunizations

## Safety

- Victimization rate for children under 6 years old
- Out of home placement rate for children under 6 years old

## Economic

- Births to mothers without a high school diploma
- Children under age 5 in poverty
- Children ages 0-18 who are food insecure

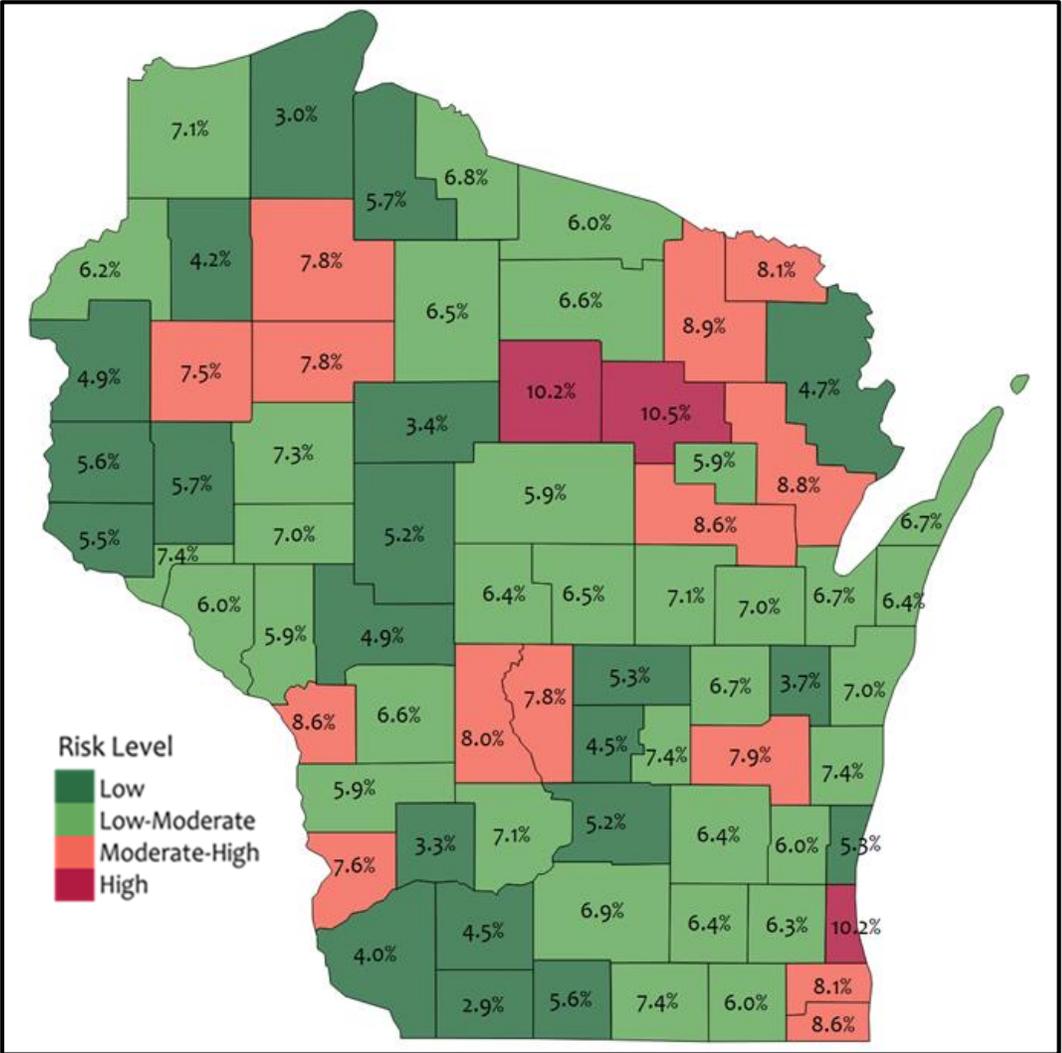


# LOW-WEIGHT BIRTHS

Percentage of infants born weighing less than 2,500 grams (5lbs 8oz)

- Source: WISH
- Statewide: 7.4%
- Lowest: Lafayette (2.9%)
- Highest: Langlade (10.5%)

Low		Low-Moderate			Moderate-High		High
Lafayette	Polk	Marathon	Kewaunee	Eau Claire	Barron	Florence	Lincoln
Bayfield	Clark	Menominee	Wood	Manitowoc	Crawford	Racine	Milwaukee
Richland	Columbia	Trempealeau	Portage	Outagamie	Adams	Kenosha	Langlade
Taylor	Ozaukee	Vernon	Price	Douglas	Rusk	La Crosse	
Calumet	Waushara	Buffalo	Monroe	Sauk	Sawyer	Shawano	
Grant	Pierce	Vilas	Oneida	Waupaca	Fond du Lac	Oconto	
Washburn	Green	Walworth	Brown	Chippewa	Juneau	Forest	
Iowa	St. Croix	Washington	Door	Green Lake			
Marquette	Ashland	Burnett	Winnebago	Pepin			
Marinette	Dunn	Waukesha	Iron	Rock			
Jackson		Dodge	Dane	Sheboygan			
		Jefferson					



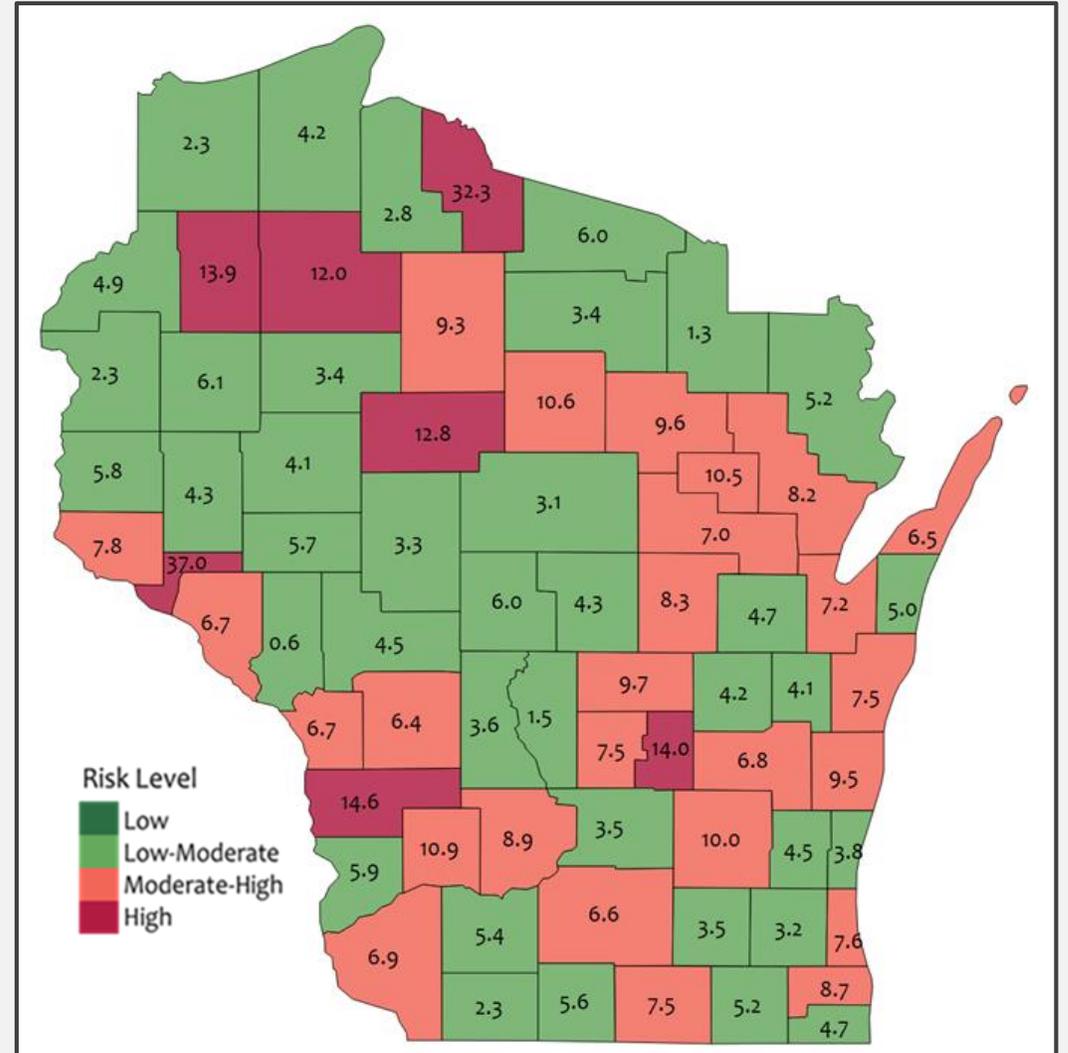


# INFANT MORTALITY RATE

Number of infant deaths prior to 365 days of age per 1,000 live births

- Source: WISH
- Statewide: 6.2 per 1,000
- Lowest: Trempealeau (0.6)
- Highest: Pepin (37.0)

Low-Moderate			Moderate-High		High
Trempealeau	Jefferson	Burnett	Monroe	Pierce	Sawyer
Forest	Juneau	Kewaunee	Door	Oconto	Taylor
Adams	Ozaukee	Marinette	Dane	Waupaca	Washburn
Douglas	Calumet	Walworth	Buffalo	Racine	Green Lake
Lafayette	Chippewa	Iowa	La Crosse	Sauk	Vernon
Polk	Bayfield	Green	Fond du Lac	Price	Iron
Ashland	Winnebago	Eau Claire	Grant	Sheboygan	Pepin
Marathon	Dunn	St. Croix	Shawana	Langlade	
Waukesha	Portage	Crawford	Brown	Waushara	
Clark	Jackson	Vilas	Manitowoc	Dodge	
Oneida	Washington	Wood	Marquette	Menominee	
Rusk	Kenosha	Barron	Rock	Lincoln	
Columbia	Outagamie		Milwaukee	Richland	











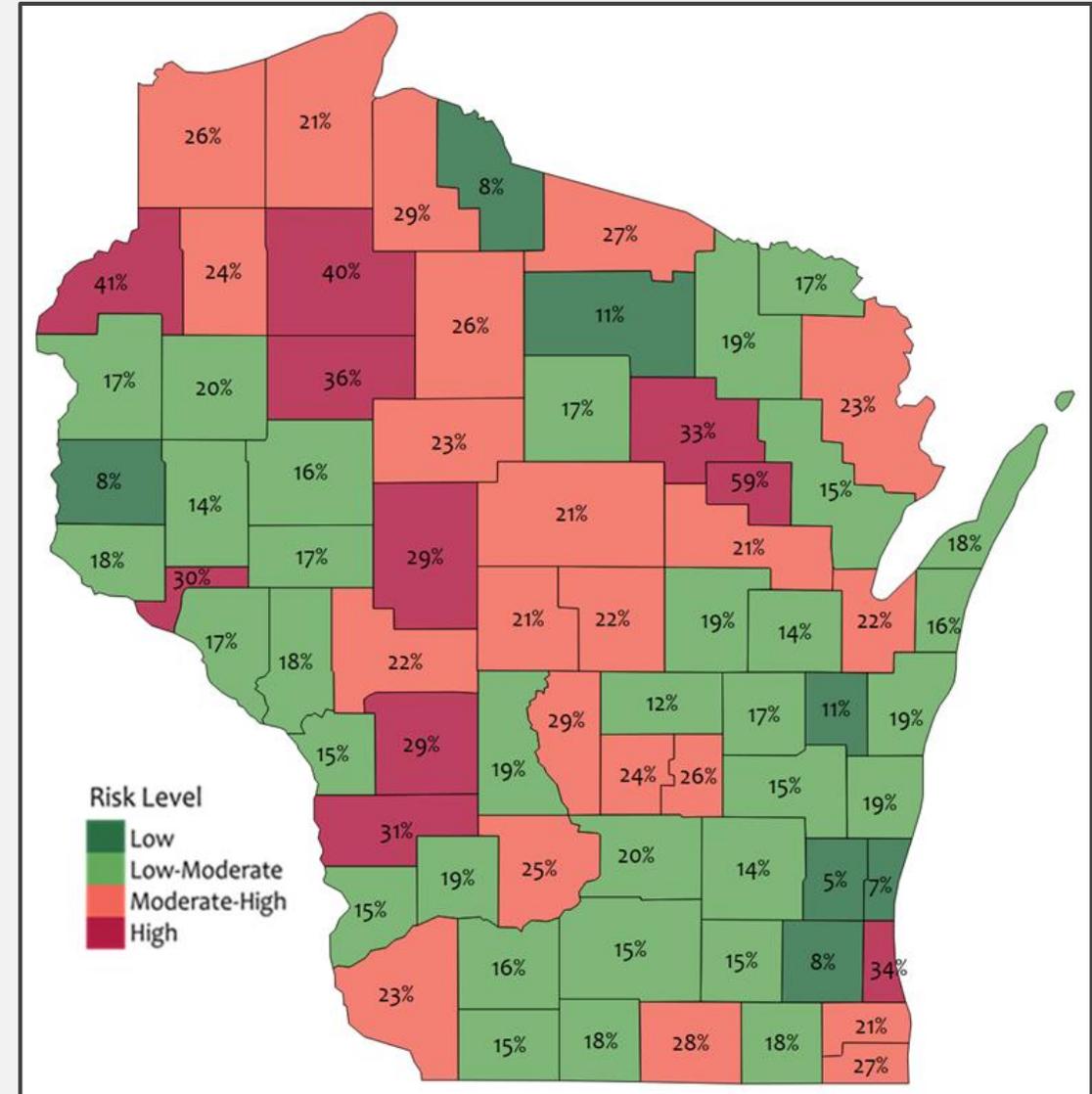


# CHILDREN IN POVERTY

Estimated percentage of children under age 5 in poverty

- Source: American Community Survey
- Statewide: 20.5%
- Lowest: Washington (5%)
- Highest: Menominee (59%)

Low	Low-Moderate			Moderate-High		High
Washington	Waushara	Chippewa	Pierce	Racine	Washburn	Monroe
Ozaukee	Dodge	Kewaunee	Green	Shawano	Marquette	Clark
Waukesha	Outagamie	Iowa	Walworth	Bayfield	Sauk	Pepin
St. Croix	Dunn	Eau Claire	Forest	Marathon	Douglas	Vernon
Iron	Fond du Lac	Florence	Sheboygan	Wood	Price	Langlade
Oneida	Crawford	Polk	Waupaca	Brown	Green Lake	Milwaukee
Calumet	Oconto	Lincoln	Richland	Portage	Vilas	Rusk
	Jefferson	Buffalo	Juneau	Jackson	Kenosha	Sawyer
	La Crosse	Winnebago	Manitowoc	Marinette	Rock	Burnett
	Dane	Door	Barron	Grant	Adams	Menominee
	Lafayette	Trempealeau	Columbia	Taylor	Ashland	

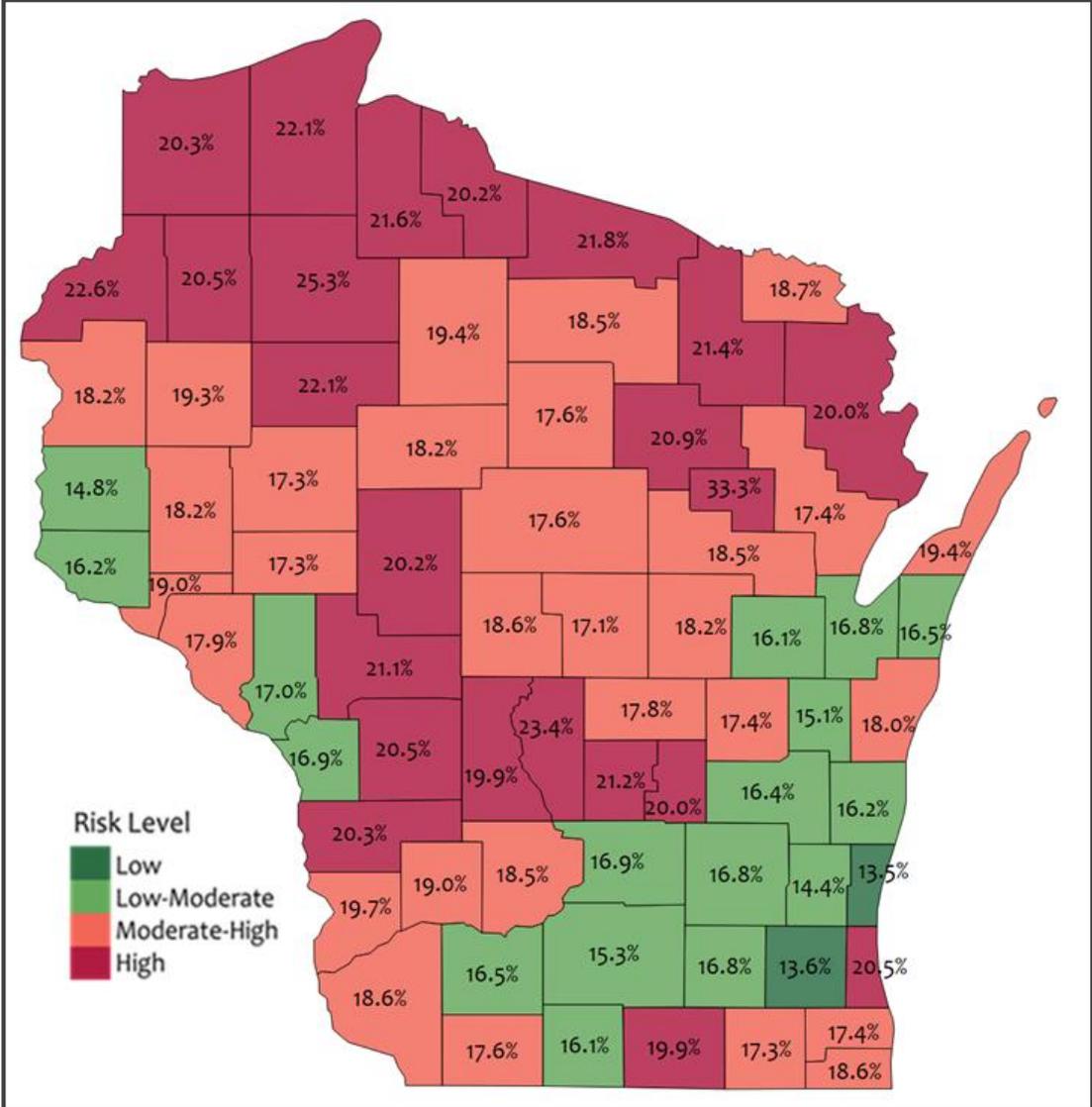


# CHILD FOOD INSECURITY

Estimated percentage of children ages 0-18 who are food insecure (lack consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life)

- Source: Feeding America’s Map the Meal Gap
- Statewide: 17.0%
- Lowest: Ozaukee (13.5%)
- Highest: Menominee (33.3%)

Low	Low-Moderate		Moderate-High			High	
Ozaukee	Washington	Iowa	Portage	Waushara	Grant	Juneau	Jackson
Waukesha	Saint Croix	Kewaunee	Chippewa	Buffalo	Kenosha	Rock	Marquette
	Calumet	Brown	Eau Claire	Manitowoc	Wood	Green Lake	Forest
	Dane	Dodge	Walworth	Dunn	Florence	Marinette	Ashland
	Green	Jefferson	Oconto	Polk	Pepin	Clark	Vilas
	Outagamie	Columbia	Racine	Taylor	Richland	Iron	Bayfield
	Pierce	La Crosse	Winnebago	Waupaca	Barron	Douglas	Rusk
	Sheboygan	Trempealeau	Lafayette	Oneida	Door	Vernon	Burnett
	Fond du Lac		Lincoln	Sauk	Price	Milwaukee	Adams
			Marathon	Shawano	Crawford	Monroe	Sawyer
						Washburn	Menominee
						Langlade	



# OVERALL RISK

- Shows where Wisconsin counties fall along a continuum of risk
- Focuses attention on the counties (and the young children who reside in them) who face the greatest challenges and have the highest need for services and support
- Identifies the counties with the lowest-risk environments in the hope that knowledge of how these counties minimize risks to their youngest residents can inform efforts in other counties

## OVERALL RISK

An overall risk score (ORS) was calculated for each county by summing its z-scores for the 11 risk indicators, and then using this number (along with the state average and the standard deviation) to calculate a new, composite z-score which determined the overall risk level.

- Low Overall Risk Level: ORS of less than -1.0 (more than one standard deviation below the state average)
- Low-Moderate Risk Level: ORS between zero (equal to the state average) and -1.0
- Moderate-High Risk Level: ORS between 0.1 (just above the state average) and 1.0
- High Risk Level: ORS of greater than 1.0 (more than one standard deviation above the state average)



# REACH ASSESSMENT

- Percent of children under age 5 enrolled in WIC
- Percent of children receiving services through Birth-to-3 Program
- Number of licensed child care slots per 100 children under age 5
- Number of Head Start & Early Head Start slots per 100 children under age 5 in poverty
- Percent of children eligible to receive free or reduced-price school meals

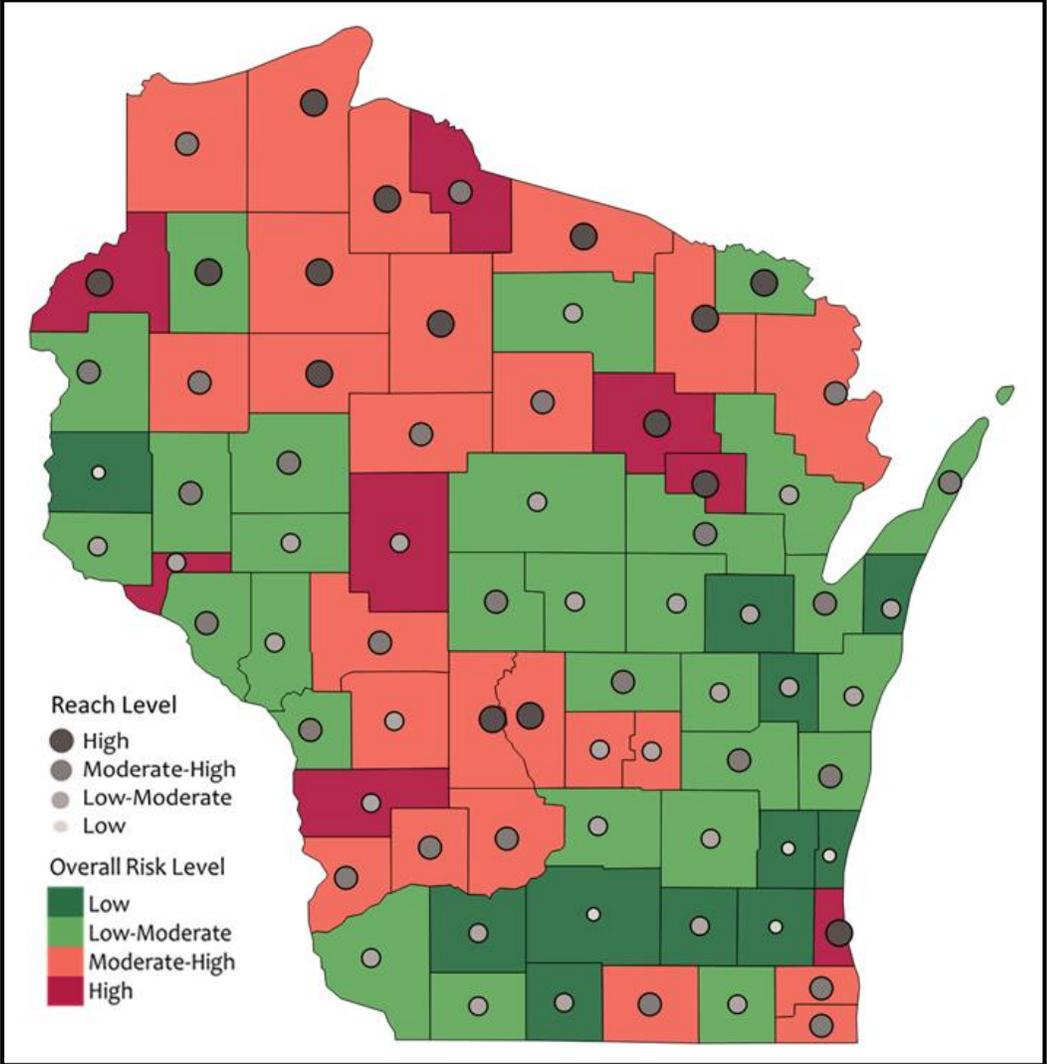
*Data presented along with each county's Overall Risk Level*

# CHILDREN UNDER AGE 5 ENROLLED IN WIC

Reach calculated by dividing infant and child enrollment by the estimated population of children under 5 years old.

- Sources: Kids Count, EZAPOPOP
- Statewide: 35%
- Highest: Menominee (98%); Lowest: Ozaukee (11%)
- 4 of 8 High ORS counties have High Reach while all 11 Low ORS counties have Low or Low-Mod Reach

High Reach	Moderate-High Reach		Low-Moderate Reach		Low Reach
Menominee	Jackson	Barron	Dodge	Walworth	Dane
Ashland	Douglas	Taylor	Oconto	Trempealeau	Saint Croix
Sawyer	Door	Sauk	Marquette	Winnebago	Washington
Burnett	Racine	Waushara	Monroe	Oneida	Waukesha
Juneau	Shawano	La Crosse	Eau Claire	Waupaca	Ozaukee
Price	Kenosha	Buffalo	Manitowoc	Pierce	
Vilas	Rock	Crawford	Jefferson	Lafayette	
Adams	Marinette	Chippewa	Marathon	Columbia	
Milwaukee	Polk	Dunn	Pepin	Iowa	
Forest	Iron	Richland	Green	Outagamie	
Washburn	Brown	Fond du Lac	Grant	Calumet	
Bayfield	Wood	Sheboygan	Portage	Clark	
Florence	Lincoln		Kewaunee	Vernon	
Rusk			Green Lake		
Langlade					

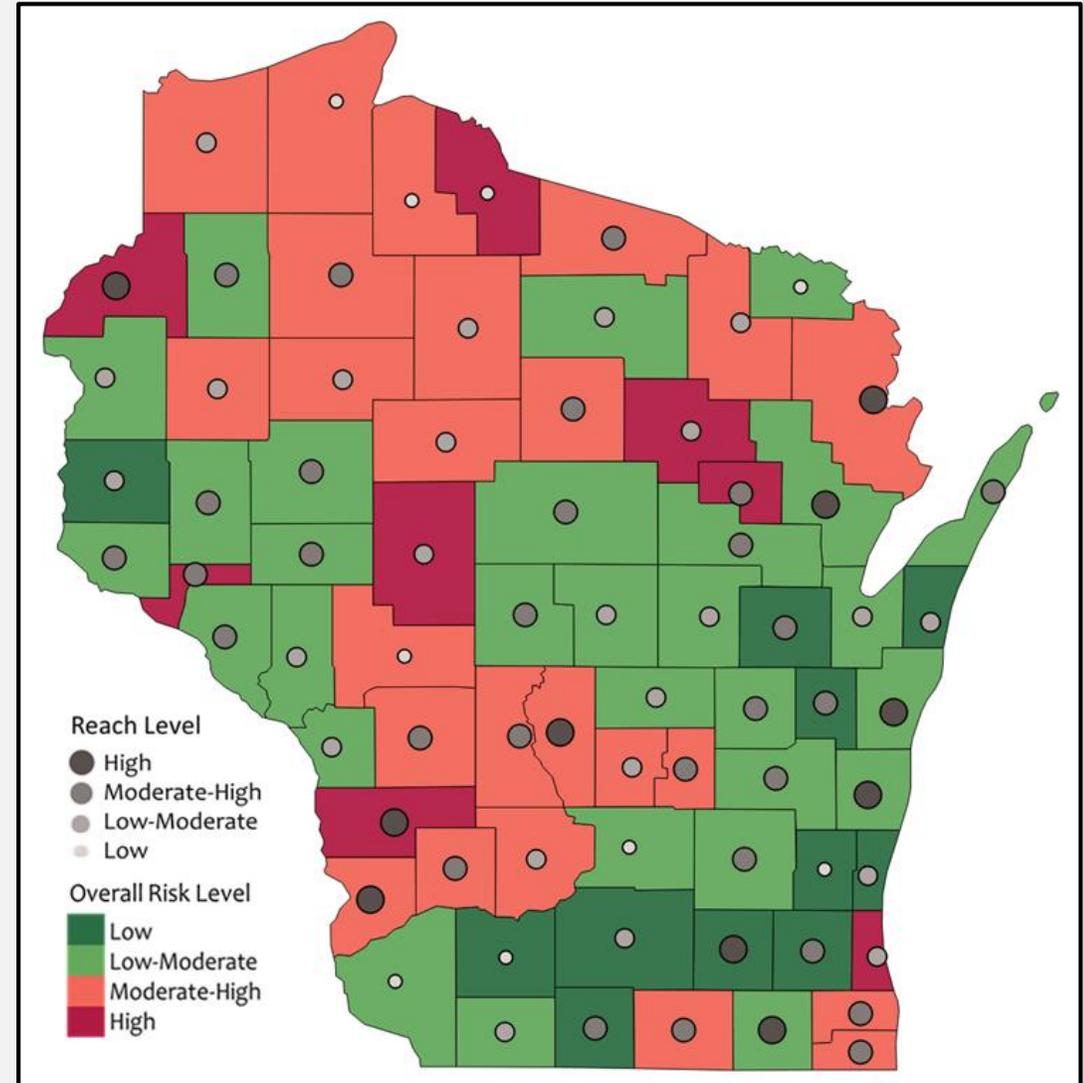


# CHILDREN SERVED BY BIRTH-TO-3 PROGRAM

Reach determined by the percentage of children receiving services in each county.

- Source: DCF Annual Performance Report
- Statewide: 2.85%
- Highest: Adams (6.8%); Lowest: Ashland (1.1%)
- Little correlation between reach and overall risk

High Reach	Moderate-High Reach			Low-Moderate Reach		Low Reach
Adams	Outagamie	Waukesha	Vilas	La Crosse	Clark	Columbia
Burnett	Dodge	Green	Fond du Lac	Douglas	Portage	Washington
Vernon	Shawano	Juneau	Calumet	Rusk	Lafayette	Iron
Oconto	Sawyer	Pierce	Lincoln	Barron	Brown	Jackson
Walworth	Monroe	Pepin	Winnebago	Oneida	Forest	Grant
Crawford	Dunn	Chippewa	Green Lake	Ozaukee	Polk	Iowa
Sheboygan	Door	Wood	Richland	Kewaunee	Sauk	Bayfield
Marinette	Rock	Washburn	Racine	Waushara	Dane	Florence
Manitowoc	Eau Claire	Menominee	Kenosha	Price	Trempealeau	Ashland
Jefferson	Buffalo	Marathon		Taylor	Marquette	
				Saint Croix	Waupaca	
				Milwaukee	Langlade	

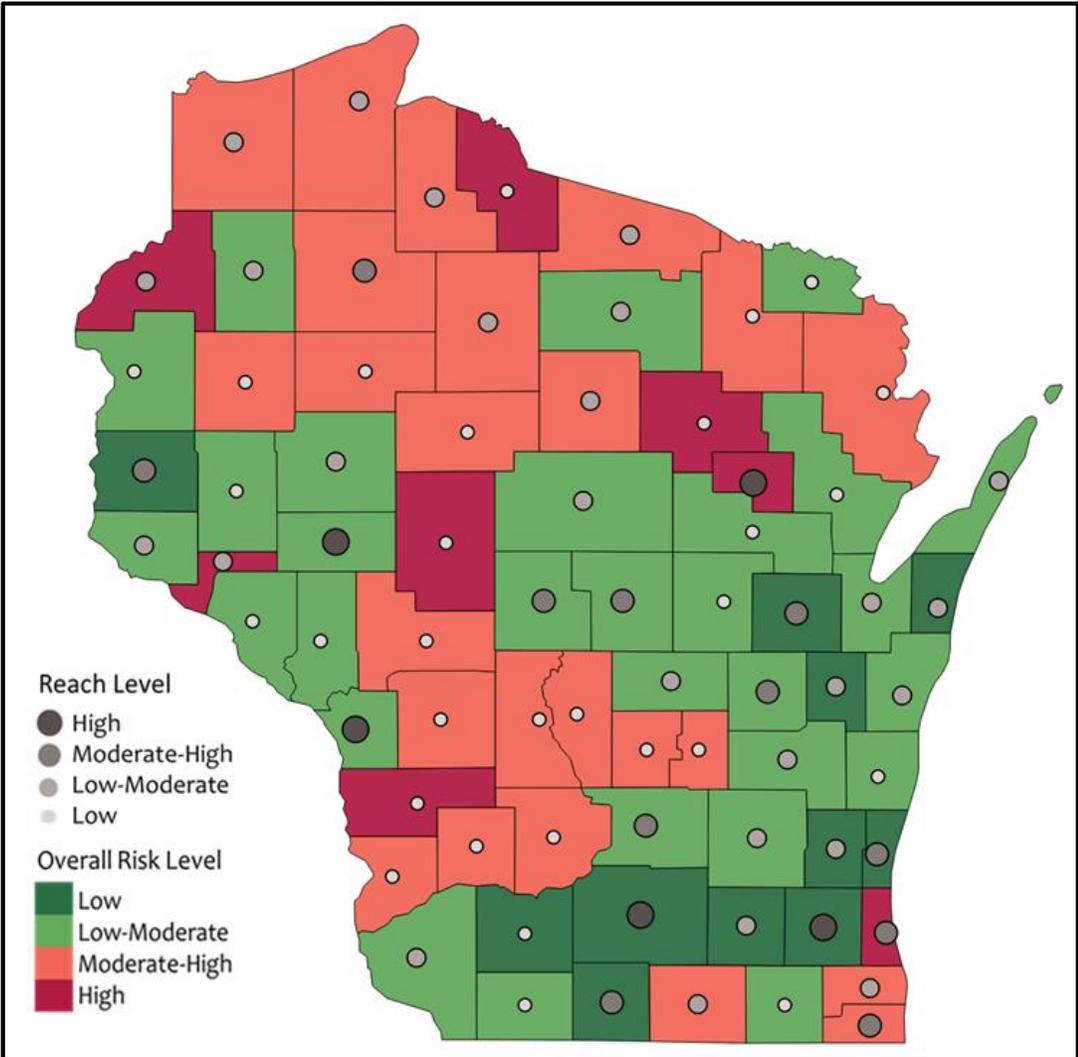


# LICENSED CHILD CARE SLOTS

Reach calculated by first multiplying reported capacity by 1.3 (to account for part-time), then by 100, and dividing by estimated population of children under 5 years old.

- Sources: Kids Count, EZAPOPOP
- Statewide: 58 slots per 100 children under 5 years old
- Highest: Dane (85); Lowest: Richland (19)
- 6 of 8 High ORS counties have Low or Low-Mod Reach while 6 of 11 Low ORS counties have High or Mod-High Reach

High Reach	Moderate-High	Low-Moderate Reach		Low Reach		
Dane	Ozaukee	Pepin	Grant	Dunn	Iron	Forest
La Crosse	Portage	Burnett	Price	Marinette	Shawano	Taylor
Eau Claire	Wood	Racine	Marathon	Crawford	Adams	Monroe
Menominee	Sawyer	Douglas	Oneida	Barron	Polk	Oconto
Waukesha	Saint Croix	Brown	Pierce	Waupaca	Trempealeau	Florence
	Winnebago	Chippewa	Door	Jackson	Iowa	Clark
	Green	Washington	Washburn	Sheboygan	Langlade	Juneau
	Milwaukee	Ashland	Jefferson	Walworth	Rusk	Vernon
	Kenosha	Kewaunee	Waushara	Sauk	Marquette	Buffalo
	Outagamie	Lincoln	Fond du Lac	Green Lake	Lafayette	Richland
	Columbia	Manitowoc	Vilas			
		Rock	Calumet			
		Dodge	Bayfield			

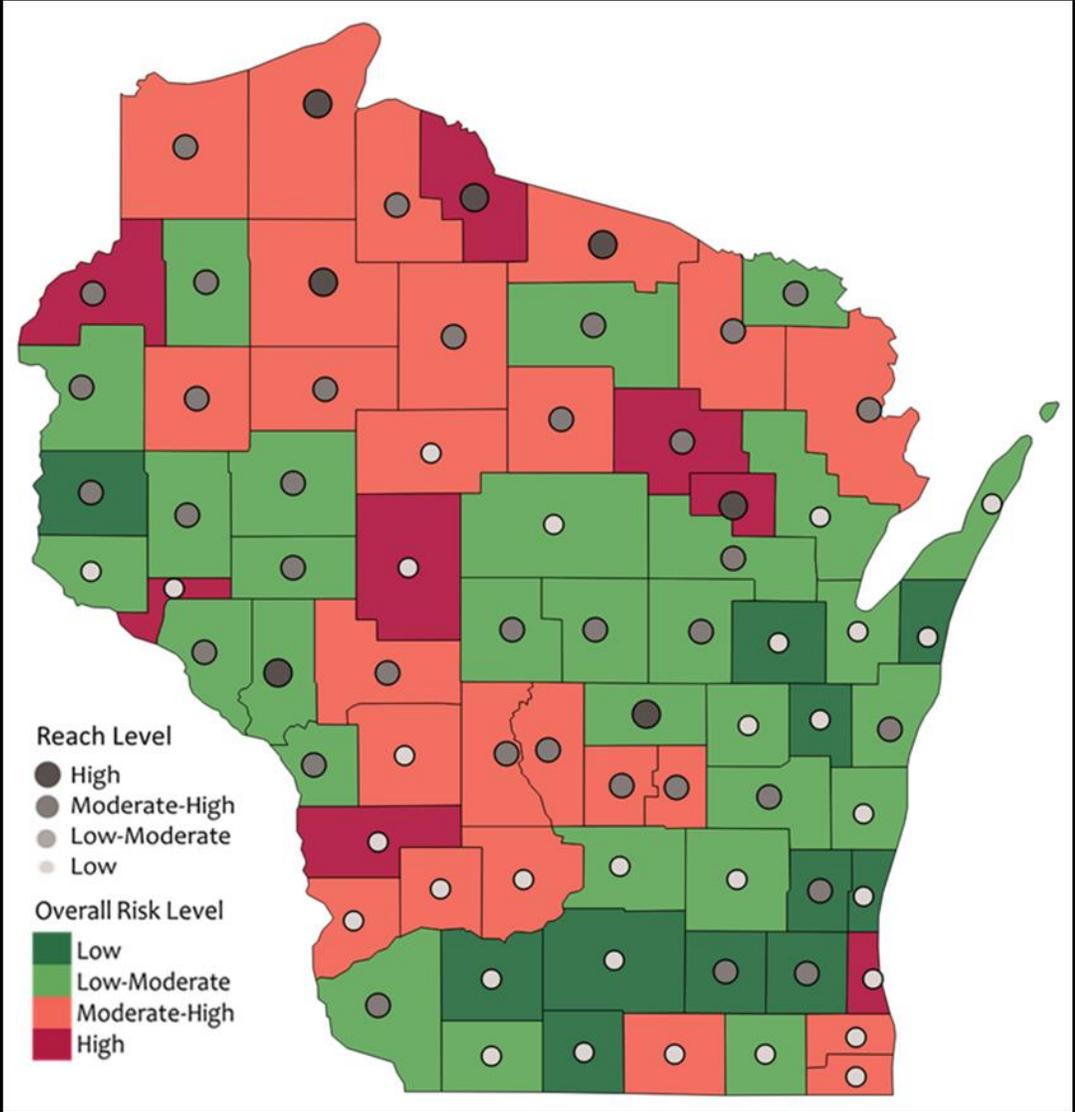


# HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START SLOTS

Reach calculated by multiplying available slots by 100 then dividing by estimated number of children under the age of 5 in poverty.

- Sources: DPI, American Community Survey
- Statewide: 21.4 slots per 100 children under 5 in poverty
- Highest: Iron (313); Lowest: Pepin, Kewaunee, Calumet (0)
- Little correlation between reach and overall risk

High Reach	Moderate-High Reach			Low-Moderate Reach		
Iron	Ashland	Marquette	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	Marathon	Iowa
Waushara	Oneida	Juneau	Eau Claire	Richland	Brown	Monroe
Bayfield	Washington	Chippewa	Barron	Green	Columbia	Rock
Vilas	Florence	Langlade	Marinette	Racine	Lafayette	Door
Menominee	Burnett	Wood	Waukesha	Milwaukee	Winnebago	Vernon
Sawyer	Dunn	Polk	Grant	Dane	Crawford	Pierce
Trempealeau	Lincoln	Jefferson	Portage	Kenosha	Clark	Ozaukee
	Douglas	Price	Green Lake	Dodge	Oconto	Calumet
	Buffalo	Jackson	Fond du Lac	Outagamie	Taylor	Kewaunee
	Forest	Shawano	Waupaca	Sauk	Walworth	Pepin
	Washburn	Rusk	Saint Croix			
	Adams	La Crosse				

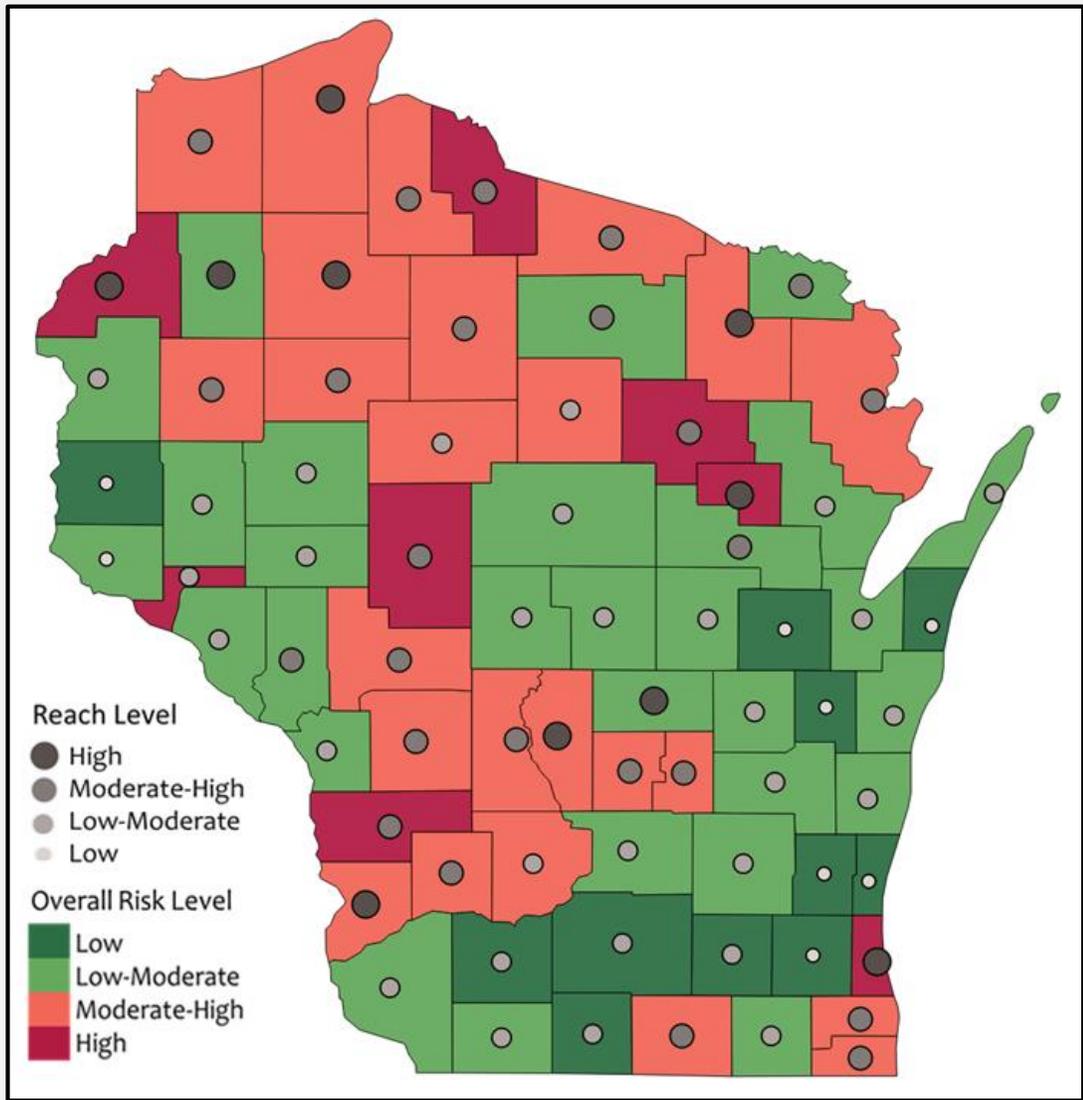


# FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Reach determined by percent of children (PreK-High School) eligible to receive free or reduced-price school meals.

- Sources: DPI via WI Food Security Project
- Statewide: 44.6%
- Highest: Menominee (100%); Lowest: Ozaukee (14%)
- 7 of 8 High ORS counties have High or Mod-High Reach while all 11 Low ORS counties have Low or Low-Mod Reach

High Reach	Moderate-High Reach			Low-Moderate Reach			Low Reach
Menominee	Langlade	Vilas	Marinette	Walworth	Fond du Lac	La Crosse	Outagamie
Adams	Rusk	Clark	Barron	Chippewa	Oconto	Sheboygan	Pierce
Milwaukee	Ashland	Marquette	Price	Lincoln	Green	Door	Calumet
Waushara	Juneau	Iron	Douglas	Dodge	Brown	Columbia	Kewaunee
Forest	Racine	Jackson	Vernon	Polk	Dunn	Portage	Washington
Bayfield	Rock	Richland	Trempealeau	Wood	Winnebago	Manitowoc	Saint Croix
Burnett	Florence	Monroe	Oneida	Grant	Taylor	Pepin	Waukesha
Sawyer	Kenosha	Shawano	Green Lake	Waupaca	Marathon	Buffalo	Ozaukee
Washburn				Eau Claire	Jefferson	Iowa	
Crawford				Sauk	Lafayette	Dane	



# LIMITATIONS

- County-level data does not reflect the differences in risk & reach that exist *within* counties
- Lack of disaggregated data by race/ethnicity
- Absence of tribal data for some indicators and services
- All the potential risks to healthy child development or all the services currently available in counties throughout the state are not included
- No data regarding protective factors

# CONCLUSION

There exist both strengths to build upon and vulnerabilities to address within every county

- Almost half of all counties are rated as low risk for at least one risk indicator
- Every county was rated as low-moderate risk for at least two risk indicators
- Over 90% of all counties have at least one moderate-high risk indicator
- Nearly 75% of all counties are rated as high risk for at least one risk indicator

Exposure to risk factors increases the likelihood of adverse outcomes but does not guarantee such outcomes will occur. Countless prevention and intervention strategies exist that can mitigate these effects, and any reduction of risk can lead to improved outcomes.