



Commission on
Improving the
Status of Children

Commission on Improving the Status of Children

JUNE 18, 2025

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions

Agenda

2. Consent Agenda

- a. **Action:** Approve Minutes from the April 2025 Meeting

Agenda

3. 2025 KIDS COUNT Data

a. Ashley Haynes, IYI Vice President of Data & Communications



2025 State of the Child



Family & Community



Health



Economic
Well-Being



Education

Commission on Improving the Status of Children

June 18, 2025

Who We Are

Indiana Youth Institute
exists to improve the lives of
all Indiana children.

There are over 1.5 million children living in Indiana.

In 2023, more than 1.59 million children younger than 18 resided in Indiana. Indiana's youth population continues to be more diverse than the adult population. In 2023, 33.4% of Hoosier youth were a race or ethnicity other than White, non-Hispanic compared to 22.4% of non-White adults.





2025 INDIANA KIDS COUNT[®] DATA BOOK



Family &
Community



Health



Economic
Well-Being



Education



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Overall Child Well-Being Since 2018

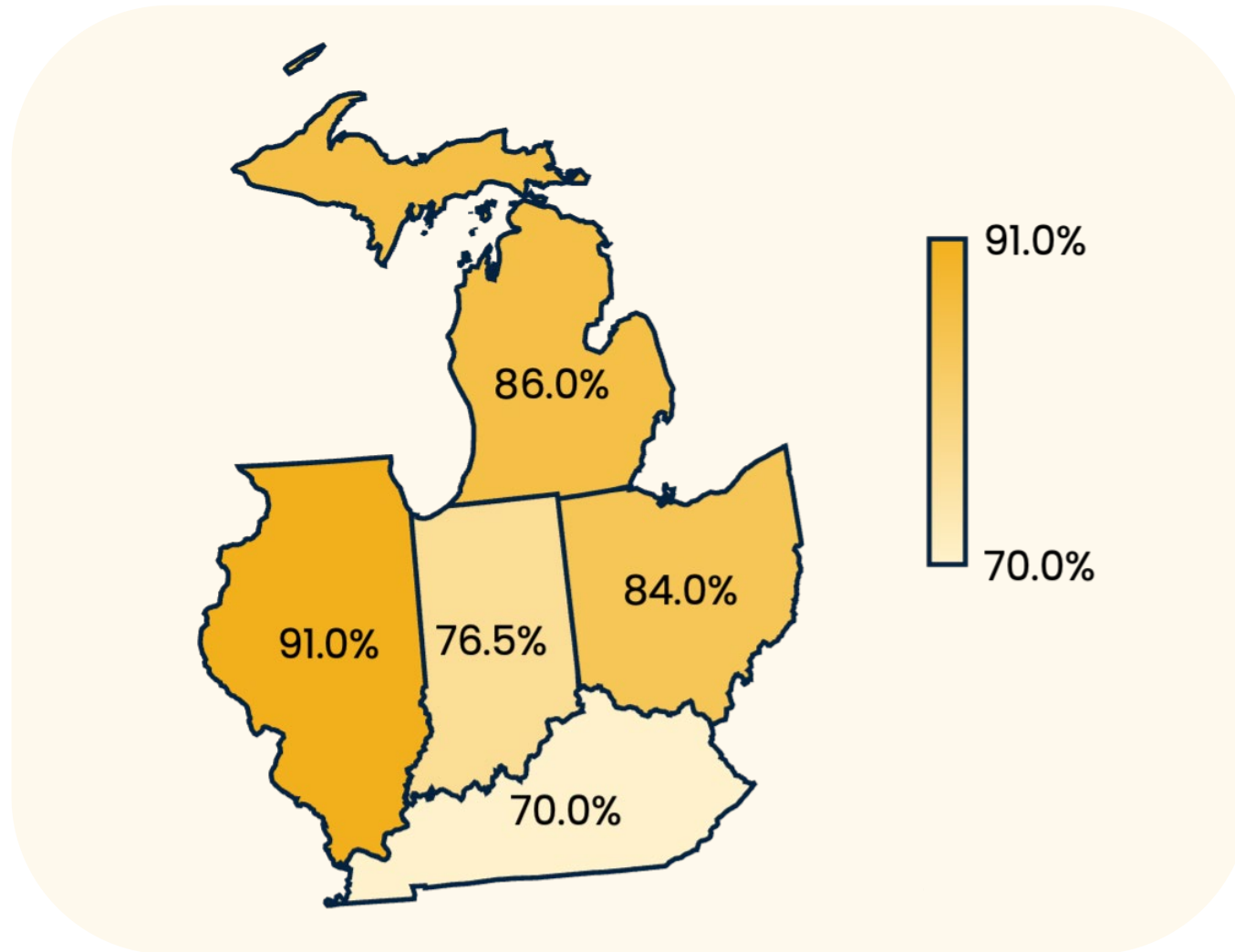
Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Overall Ranking	28 th	29 th	29 th	29 th	28 th	24 th	27 th	25 th
Family & Community	32 nd	32 nd	31 st	31 st	31 st	31 st	31 st	31 st
Health	31 st	26 th	35 th	36 th	31 st	29 th	32 nd	30 th
Economic Well-Being	24 th	24 th	15 th	18 th	19 th	16 th	15 th	11 th
Education	14 th	19 th	15 th	17 th	17 th	13 th	17 th	11 th

Source: Annie E. Casey Foundation





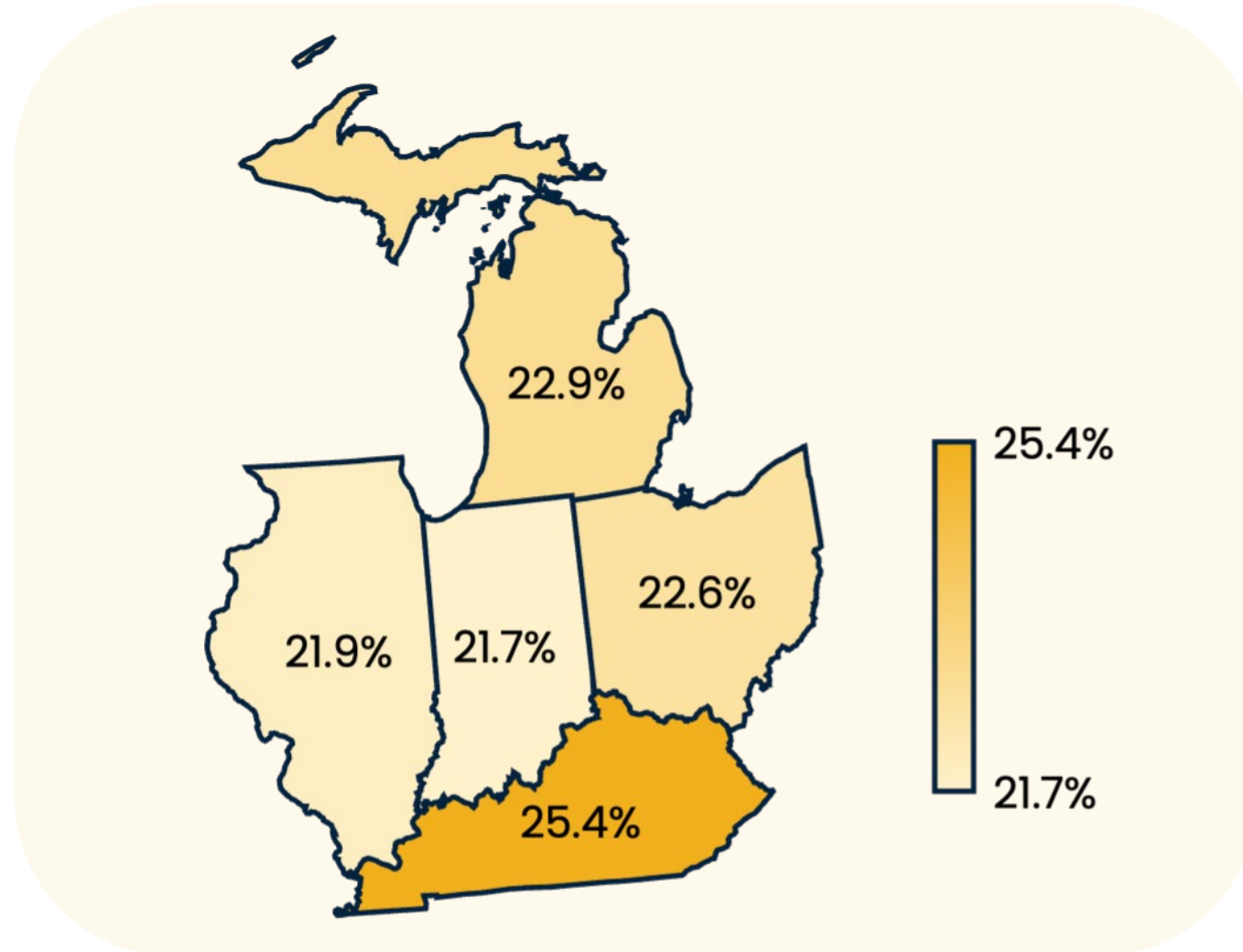
Access to Exercise Opportunities; 2023



Source: County Health Rankings



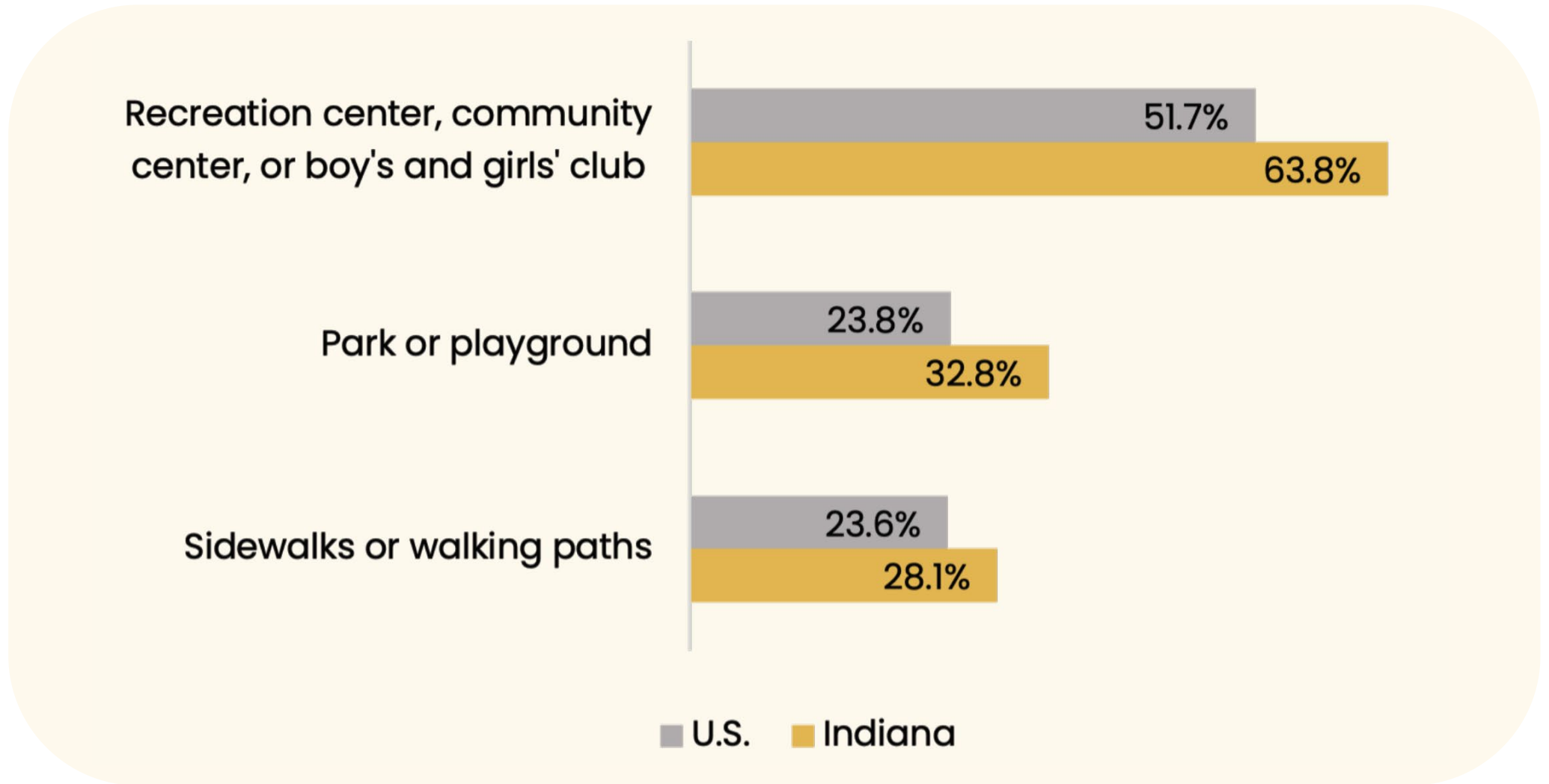
Children 6 to 17 Years Concerned About Their Body Weight, Shape, or Size; 2022–2023



Source: National Survey of Children's Health

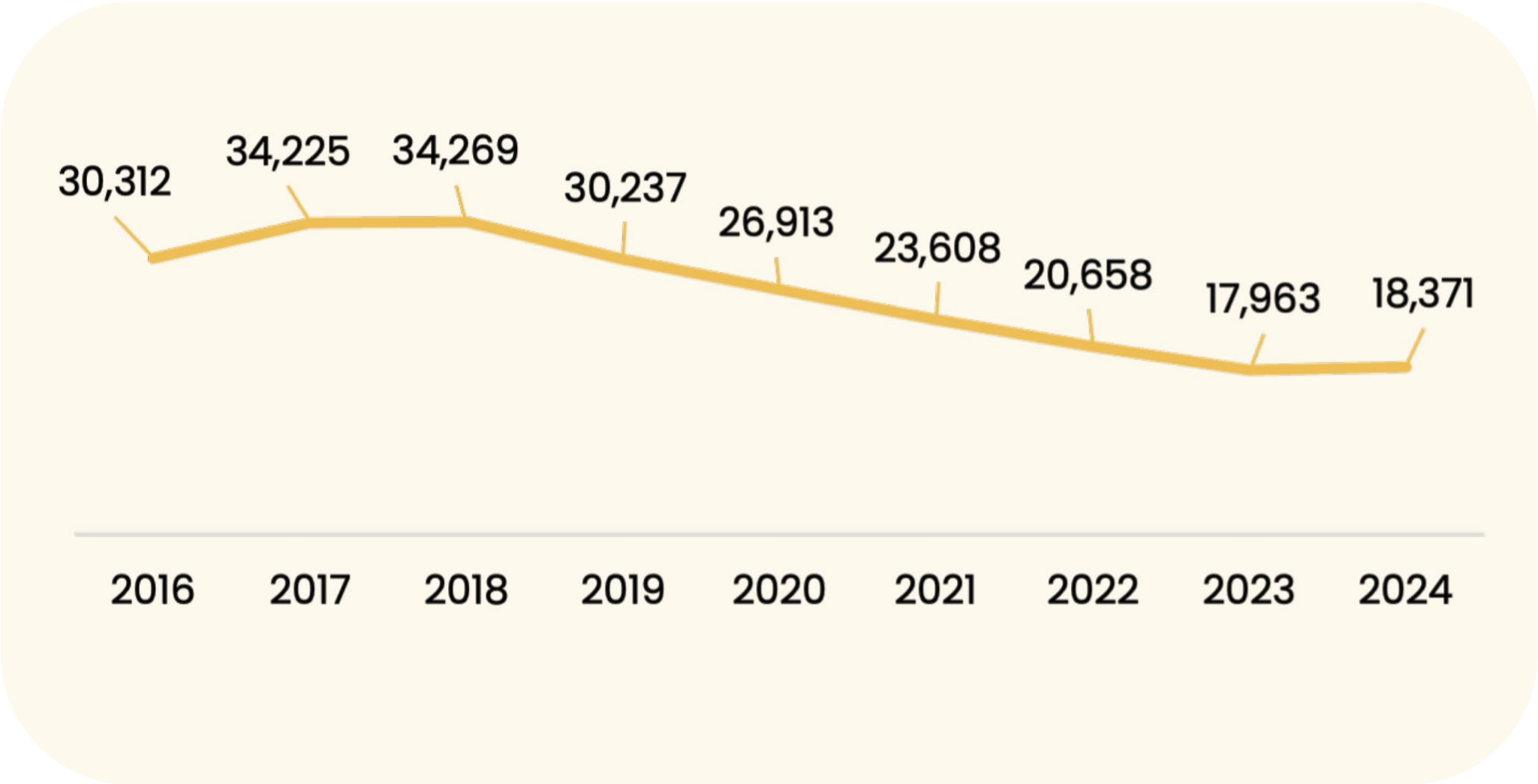


Absence of Neighborhood Amenities for Youth by Type of Amenity, Indiana 2022–2023





Youth in Foster Care at Some Point



Source: Indiana Department of Child Services



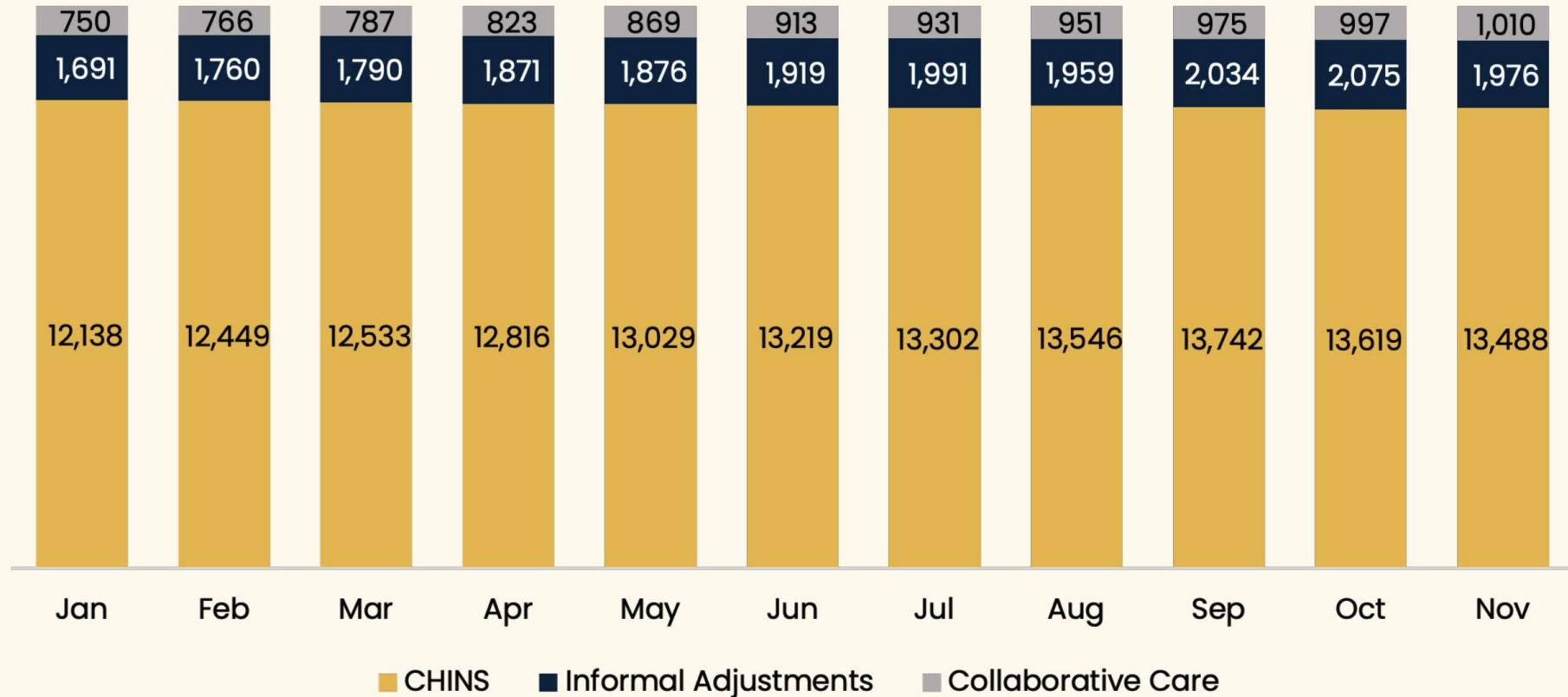
Permanency Outcomes by Type, Indiana: 2022–2023

	Total Youth Exited (2022)	Avg. Days (2022)	Total Youth Exited (2023)	Avg. Days (2023)
Adoption	427	1,200	440	1,121.68
Adoption Finalized with Subsidy	1,495	1,187	1,127	1,138.96
Adoption Finalized without Subsidy	77	854	67	804.01
Child is entering the Collaborative Care Program	69	1,261	64	960.58
Child Returned Home within 48 hours - No hearing held	26	3	18	2.5
Death of Child	18	390	17	414.41
Detention Denied	16	6	47	51.74
Emancipation	227	1,470	186	1,433.63
End Collaborative Care Program	50	1,922	41	1,413.90
Guardianship	533	543	423	611.93
Guardianship Finalized with Subsidy	60	717	63	624.44
Guardianship Finalized without Subsidy	362	555	277	470.37
Permanent Placement with a Relative	222	462	180	460.43
Reunification	4,241	424	39,02	402.87
Runaway with Wardship Dismissed	40	837	24	948.08
Transfer of Placement and Care to Another Indiana State Agency	43	1,521	41	1,434.59

Source: Indiana Department of Child Services



Children with DCS Cases by Case Type, Indiana: January – November 2024

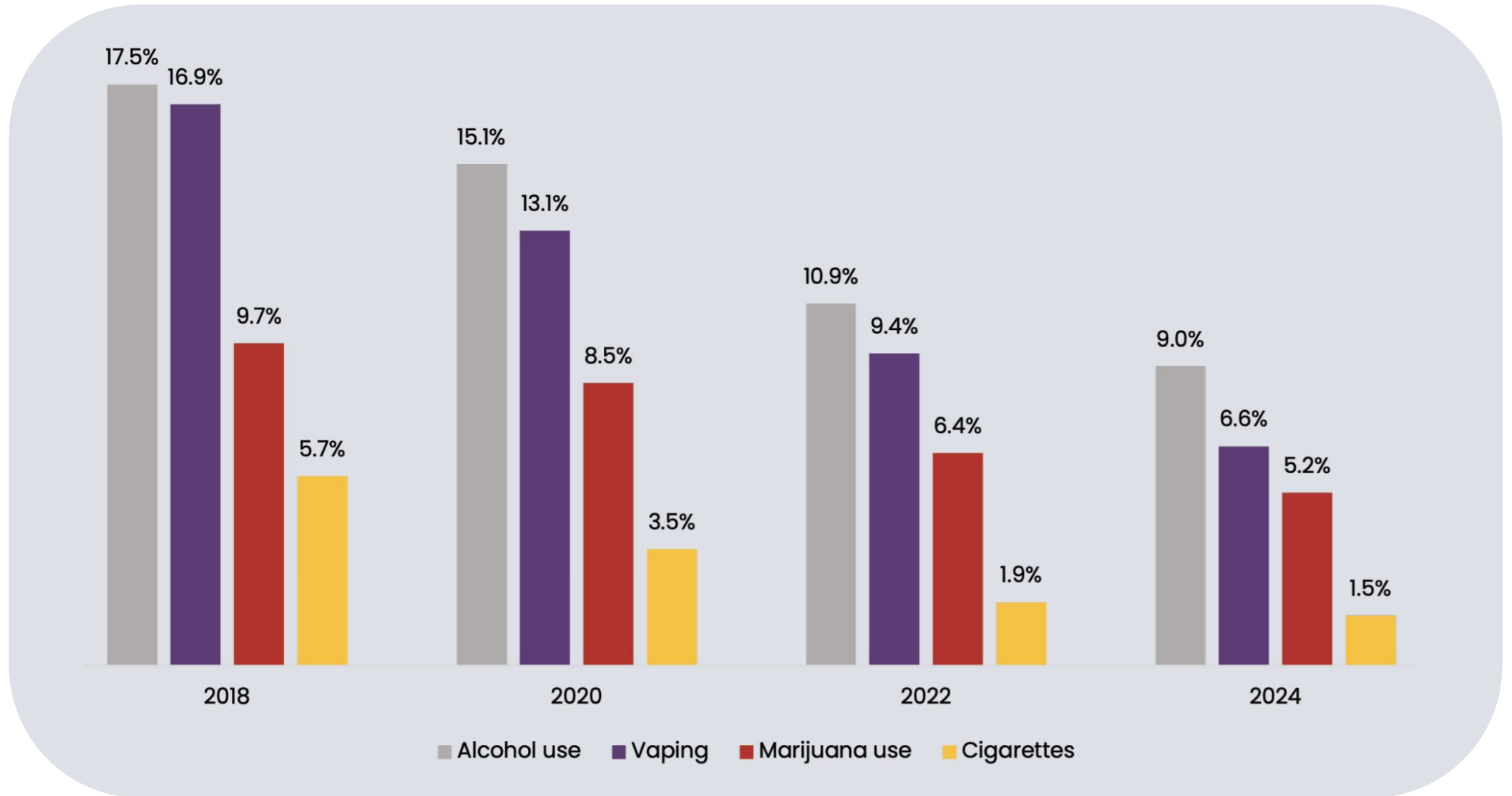


Source: Indiana Department of Child Services





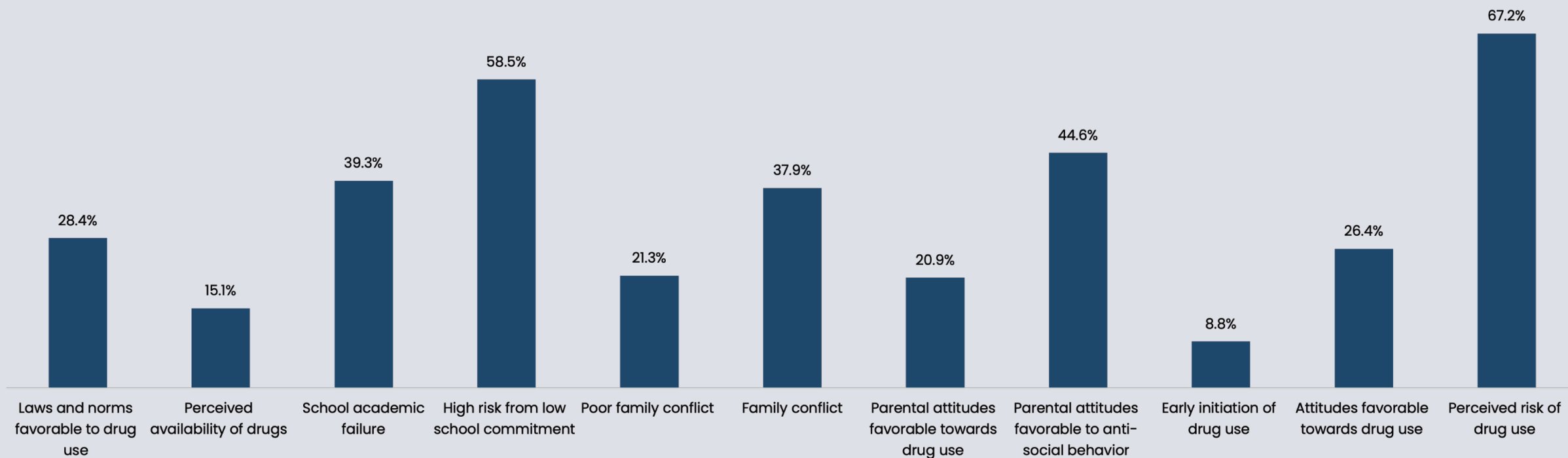
Students Grades 7th–12th Reported Substance Use, Indiana: 2024



Source: Prevention Insights, Indiana Youth Survey



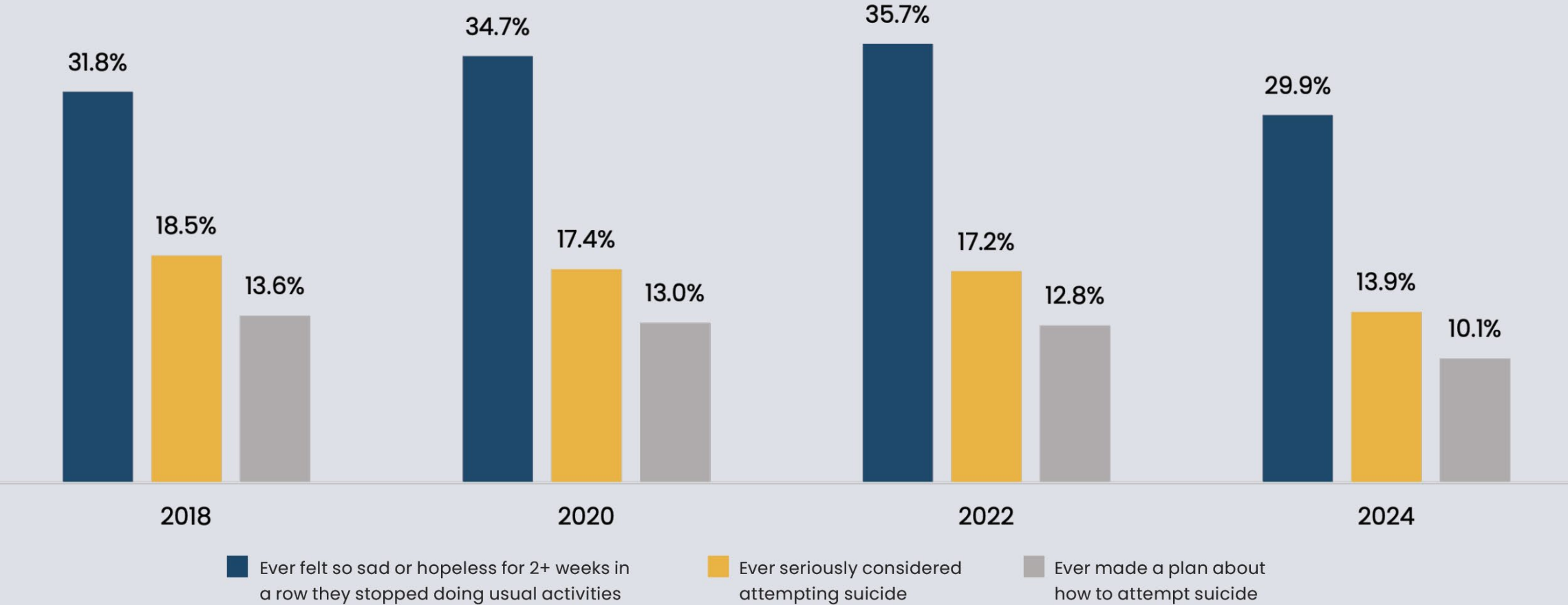
CTC Risk Factors Among Students Grades 7th–12th, Indiana: 2024



Source: Prevention Insights, Indiana Youth Survey



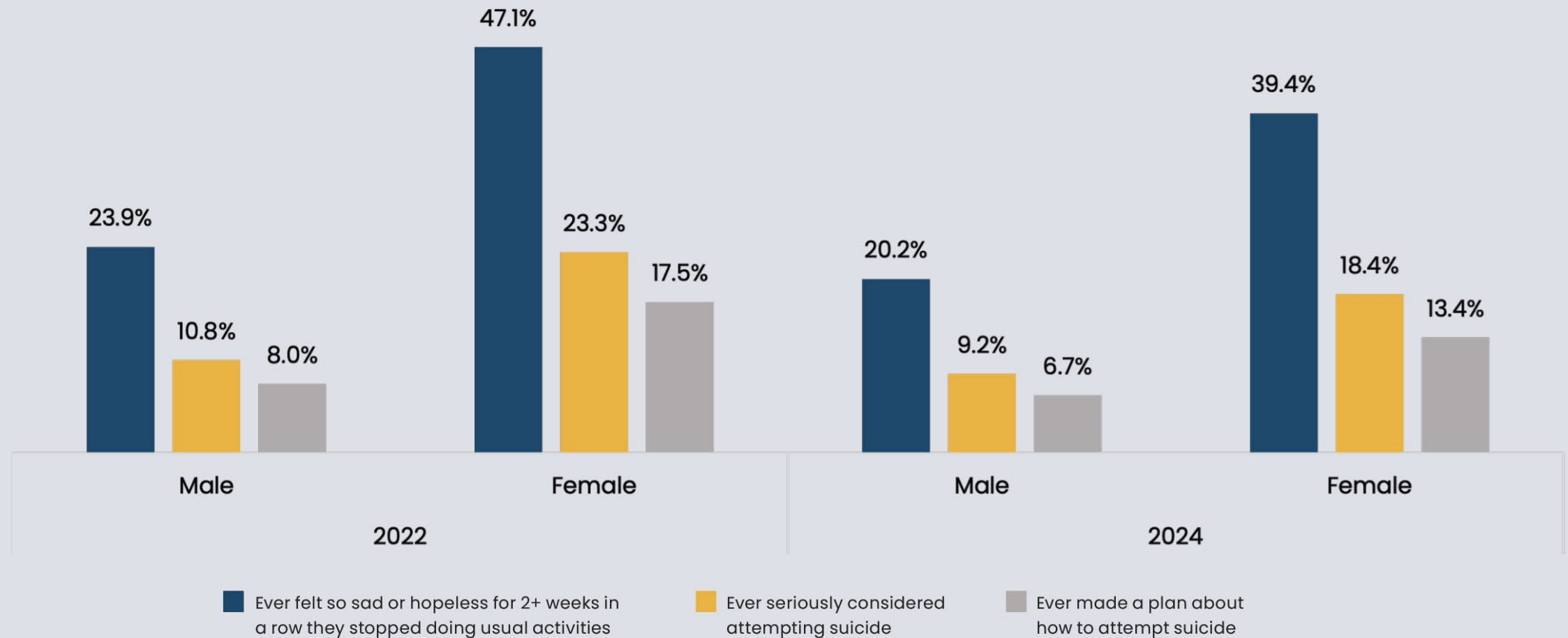
Students Grades 7th–12th Reported Mental Health, Indiana: 2024



Source: Prevention Insights, Indiana Youth Survey



Students Grades 7th–12th Reported Mental Health by Gender, Indiana: 2022



Source: Prevention Insights, Indiana Youth Survey



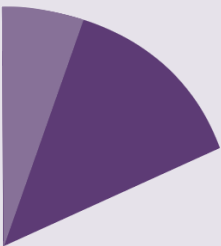


Estimated Program Eligibility Among Food Insecure Children, Indiana: 2022

Child food insecurity rate in Indiana



Estimated program eligibility among food insecure children in Indiana

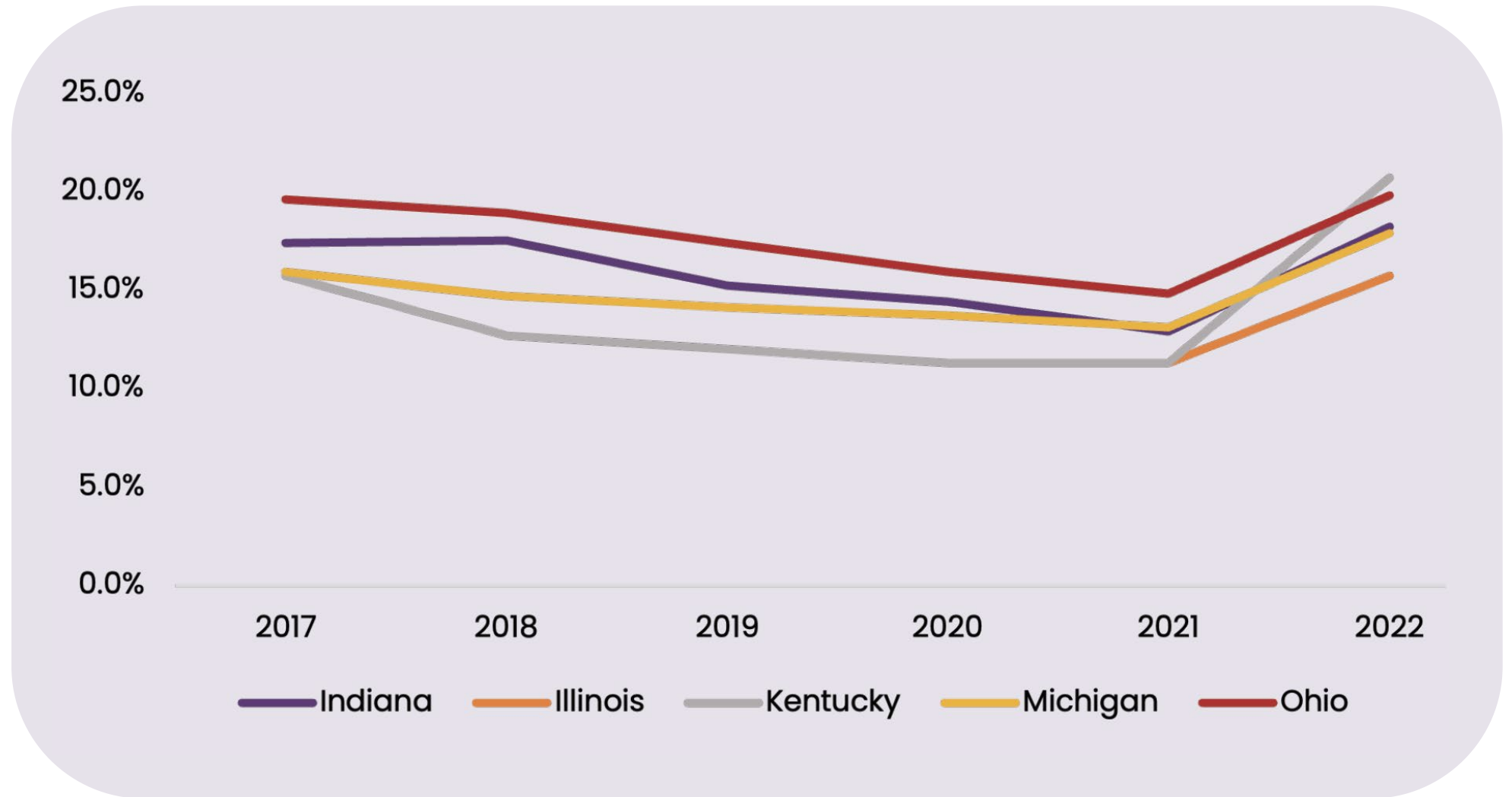


30%	Likely ineligible for federal nutrition programs (incomes above 185% of poverty)
70%	Income eligible for federal nutrition programs (incomes above 185% of poverty)

Source: Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap



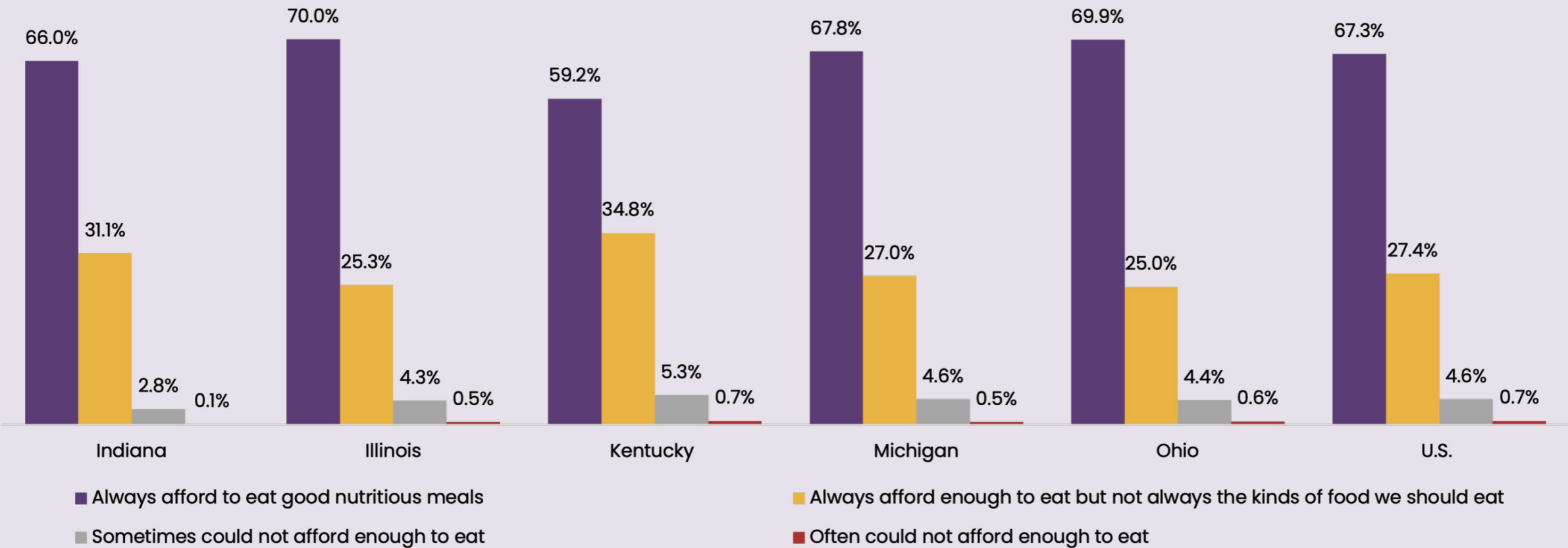
Child Food Insecurity; 2017–2022



Source: Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap



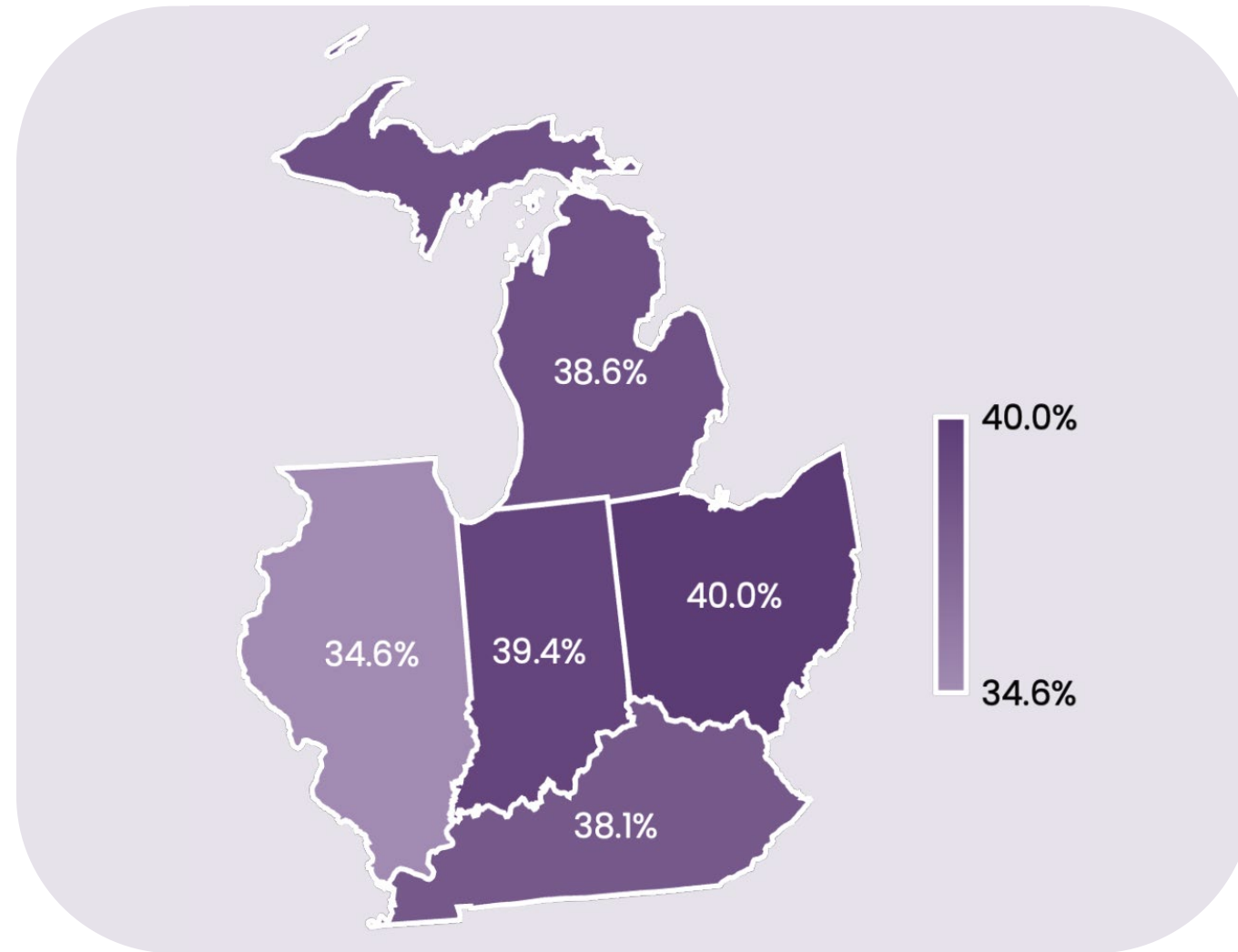
Household's Ability to Afford Food; 2022–2023



Source: National Survey of Children's Health



Employment/Population Ratio for Youth 16 to 19 Years; 2023

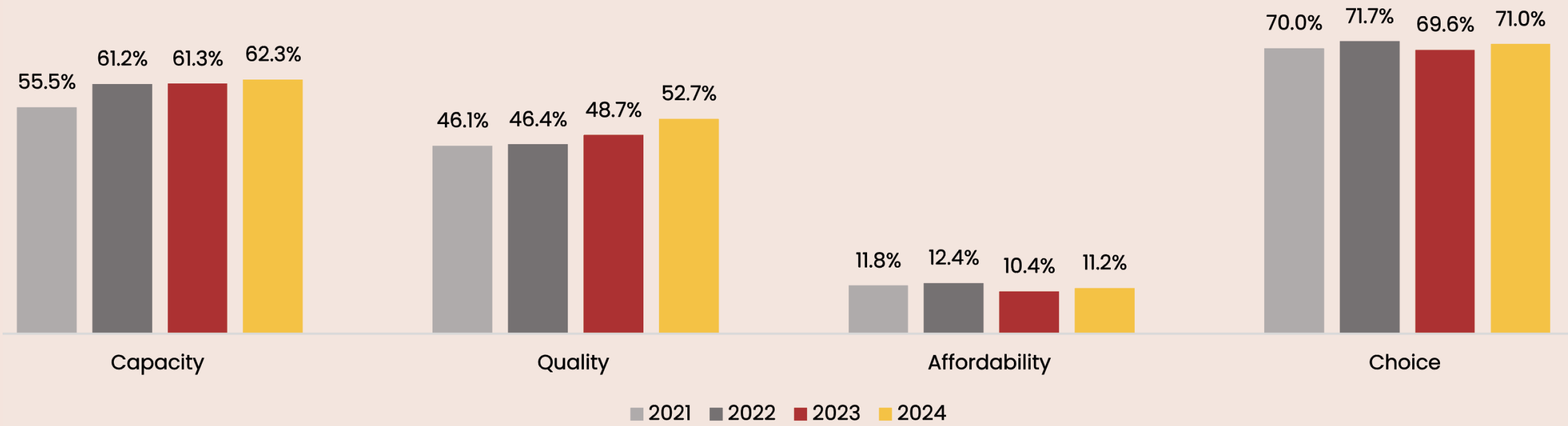


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 5-Year Estimates S2301





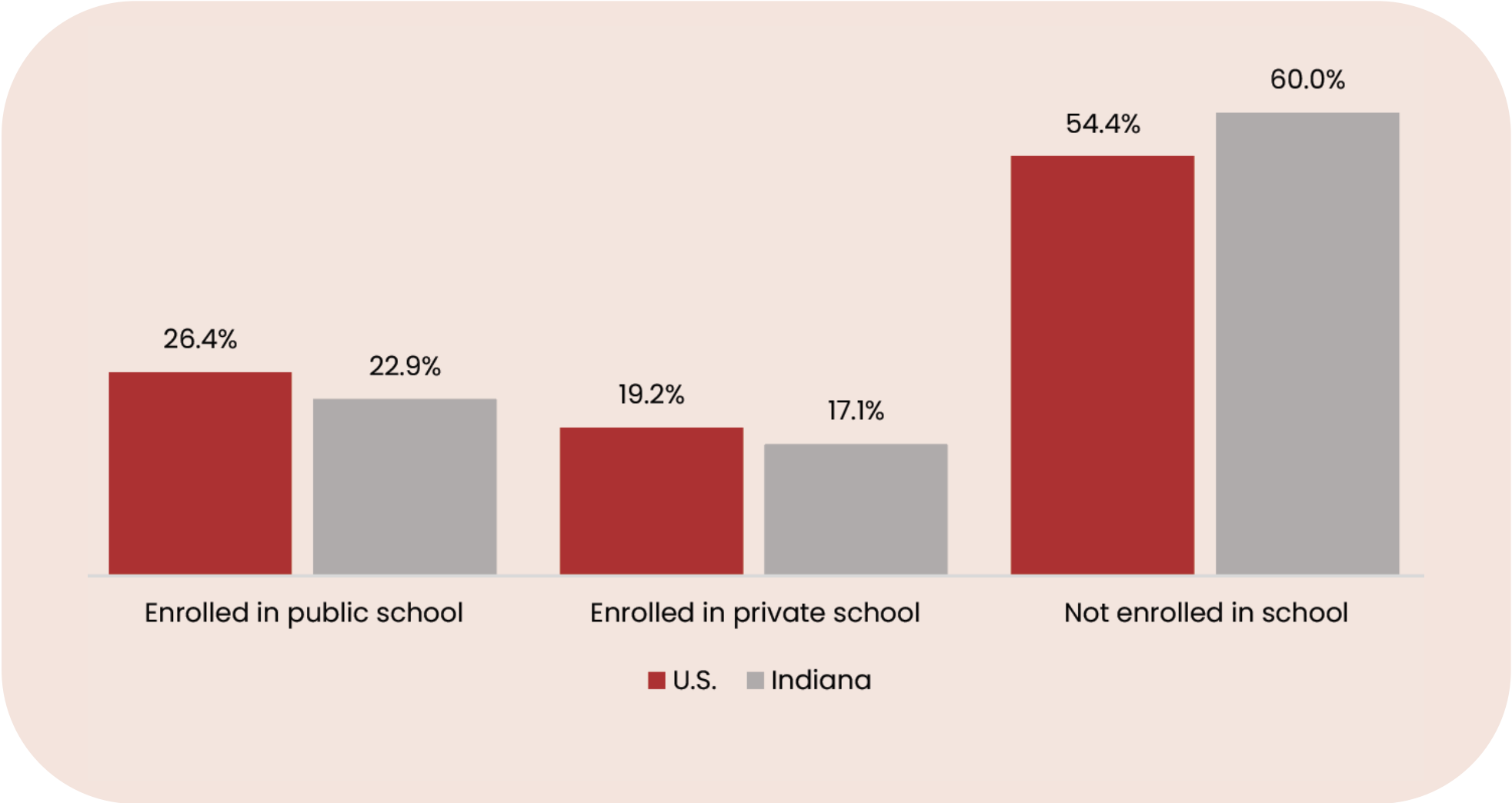
Early Learning Access Index Components, Indiana: 2021-2024



Source: Early Learning Indiana, Closing the Gap



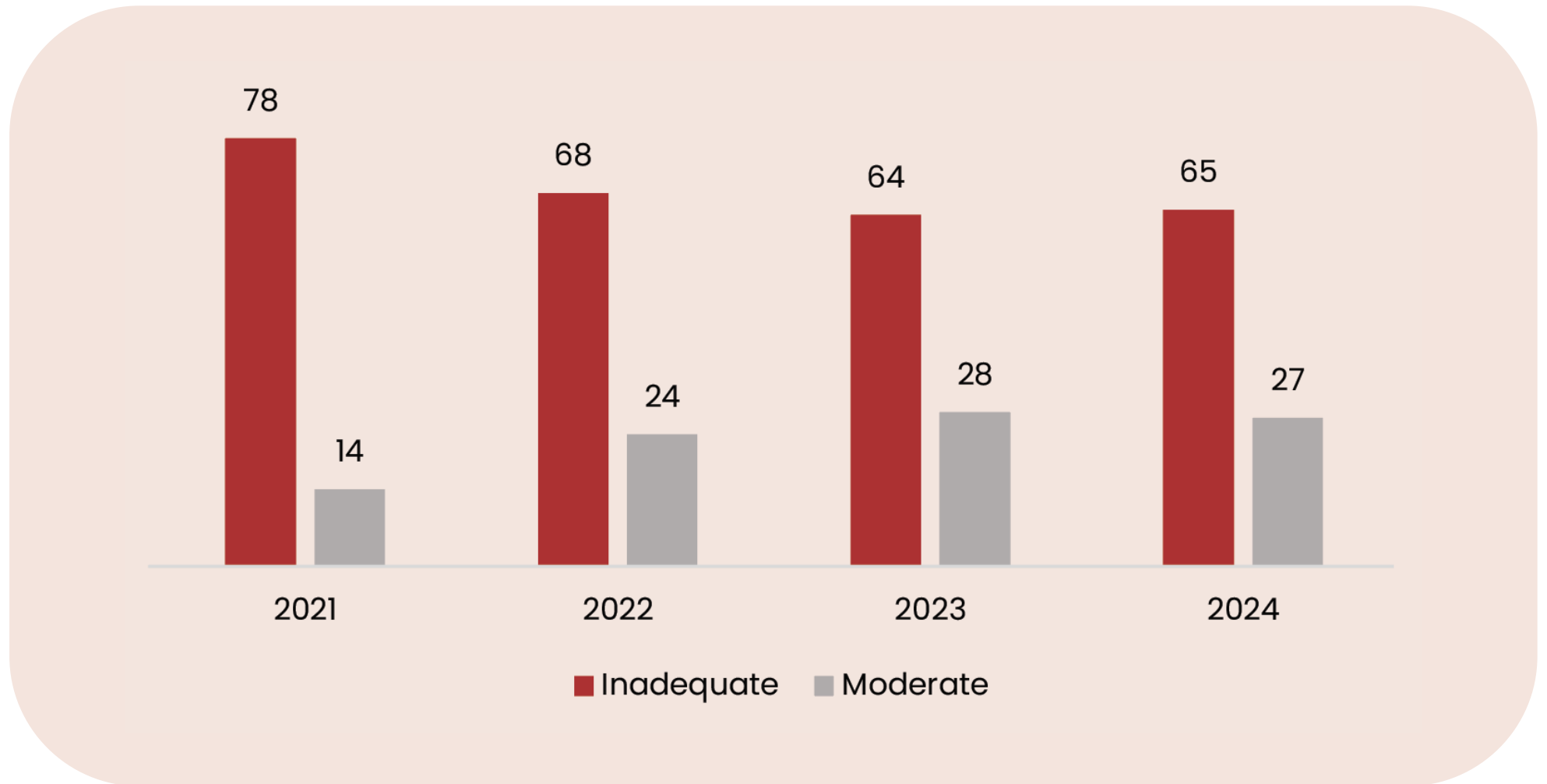
Children 3 to 4 Years Enrolled in School by Type, Indiana: 2023



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 5-Year Estimates B14003



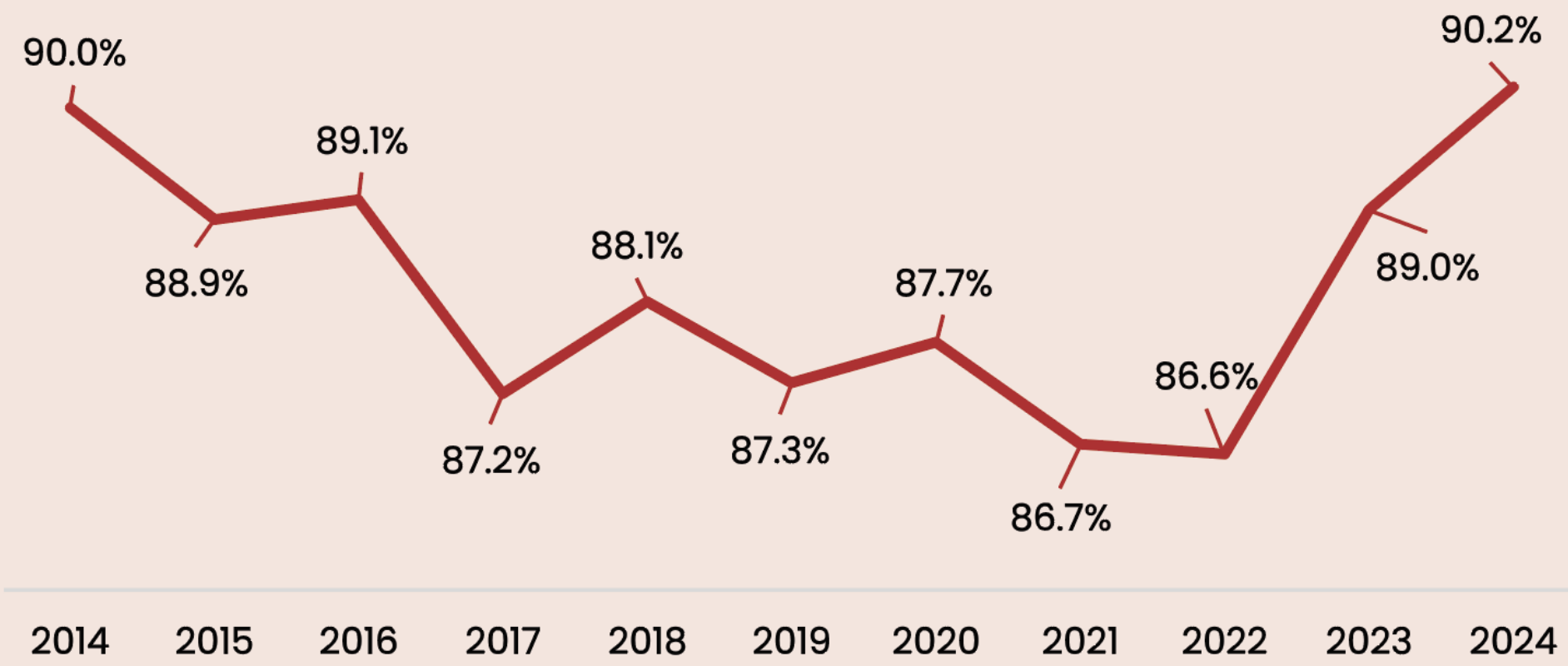
Counties that Align with the State's Moderate Access to Care, Indiana: 2021-2024



Source: Early Learning Indiana, Closing the Gap



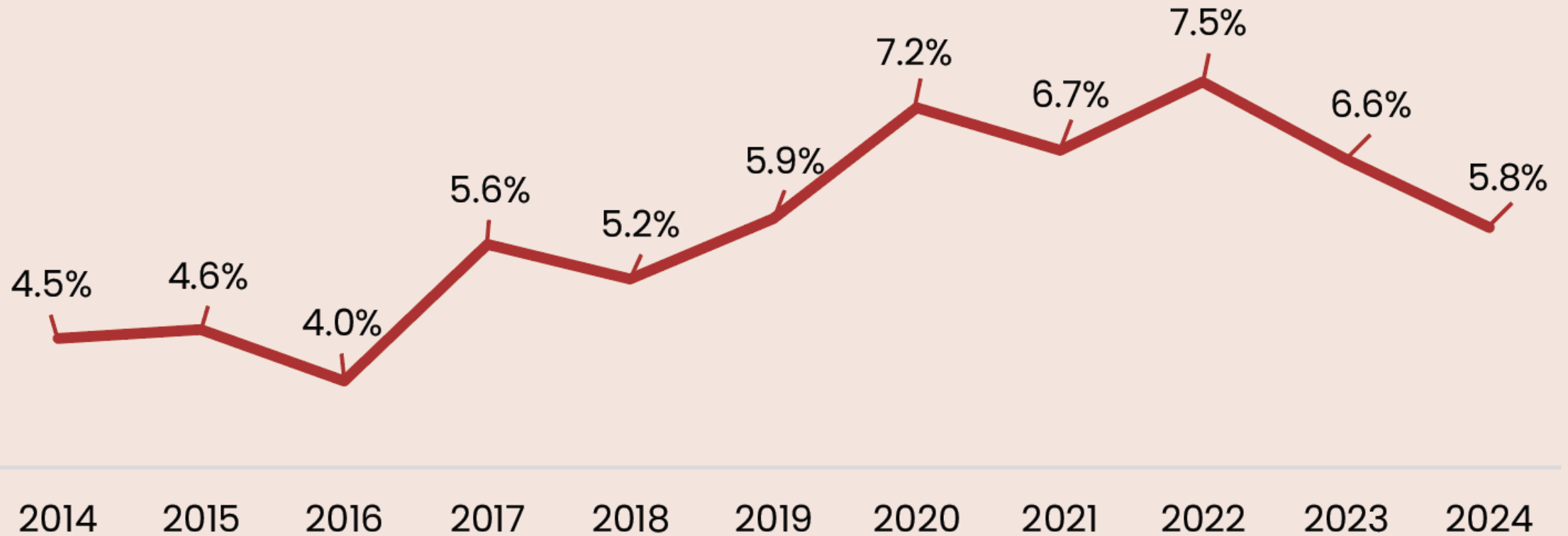
High School Graduation Rate, Indiana: 2014–2024



Source: Indiana Department of Education



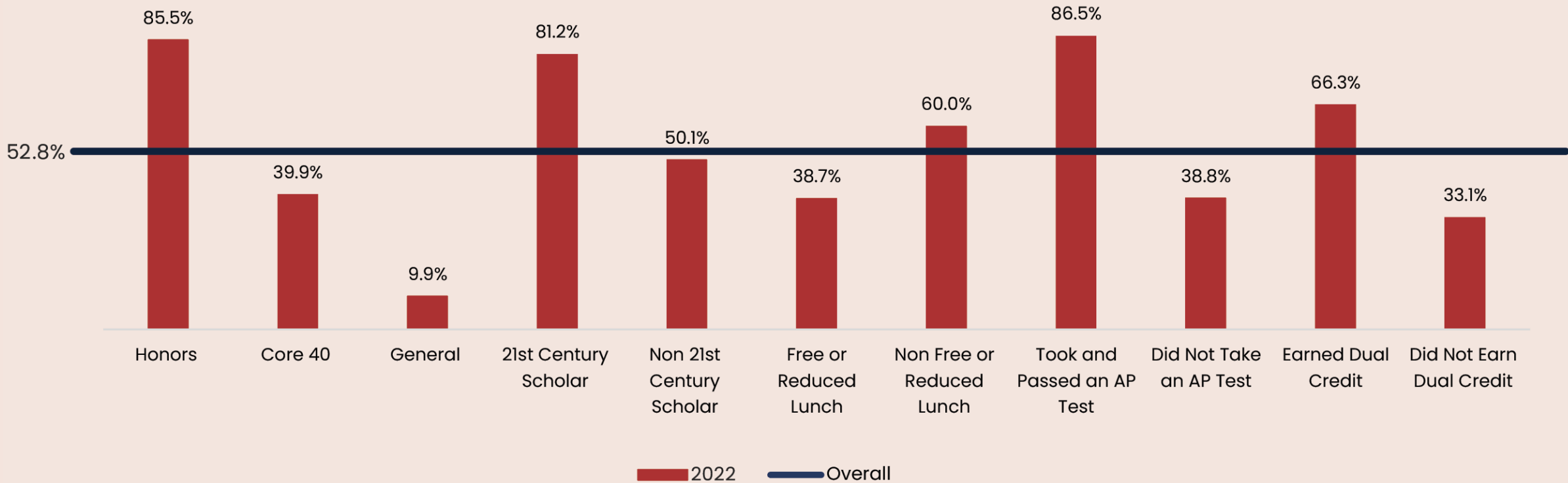
High School Dropout Rate, Indiana: 2014–2024



Source: Indiana Department of Education



College Enrollment by Characteristic, Indiana: 2022 Cohort



Source: Indiana Commission for Higher Education



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Accessing the 2025 Indiana KIDS COUNT Data Book

About County Rankings

Rank	
1	Warren
2	Posey
3	Hancock

All county tables are ranked best to least best in comparison with each other. When there were counties with the same total resulting in a tie, each of those counties received the same rank value. However, the list then skips the number of following rank positions relative to the number of counties in the prior tied group.

About Change in Data Indicators

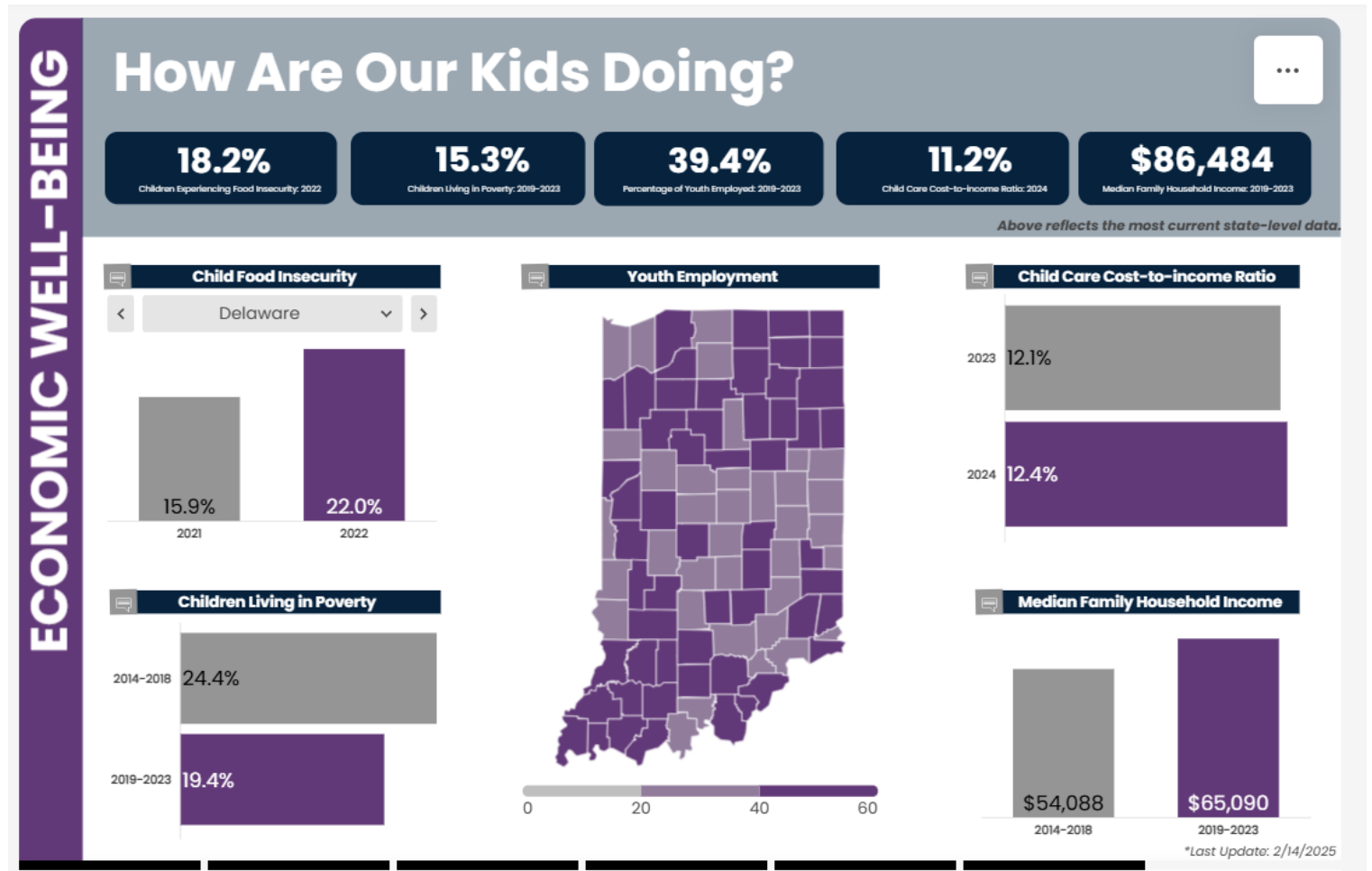
Color of Arrow		Direction of Arrow	
Green	Improved	↑	Increased
Red	Declined	↓	Decreased
Yellow	No Change	=	No Change

Organizing the data indicator tables allows for an assessment of child well-being in each county to better identify areas of strength and weakness. For example, a county may rank above the state average in one indicator, while showing the need for improvement in others. IYI urges readers to focus on relatively large differences across counties, as small differences may simply reflect small fluctuations, rather than real changes in the well-being of children. Assessing trends by looking at changes over a longer period is more reliable. Data for past years is available in the Data section of [iyi.org](https://www.iyi.org).

Accessing the 2025 IYI County Dashboard



Scan or
visit iyi.org



Questions?



Agenda

- 4. Court Improvement Program Data and Partnerships
 - a. Colleen Saylor, Court Improvement Program Data Analyst

**FFY 2024
Court Performance
Measures Report**



April 17, 2025

**Indiana Court Improvement Program
Indiana Office of Court Services, Children and
Families Division**

FFY 2024 Court Performance Measures Report

Improving Timely Permanency for Indiana's Children

Indiana Court Improvement Program

Colleen Saylor, CIP Data Analyst

About the Measures

Established under Administrative Rule 1(F)

2015

- Time to Permanency
- Time to 1st Permanency Hearing
- Time to TPR Petition
- Time to TPR Order
- Time to Subsequent Permanency Hearings

2017

- Time to Adjudication
- Time to Disposition
- Timeliness of Disposition Hearing
- Timeliness of TPR
- Time from Disposition to TPR Order

2019

- Achievement of Child Permanency
- Children not Reaching Permanency
- Timeliness of 1st Review Hearing
- Timeliness of Adoption Petition
- Timeliness of Adoption Proceedings

2025

- Timeliness of TPR Hearing

(TPR) Termination of Parental Rights

FFY 2024 Key Outcomes

- Median Time to Permanency:
from 611 → 549 days



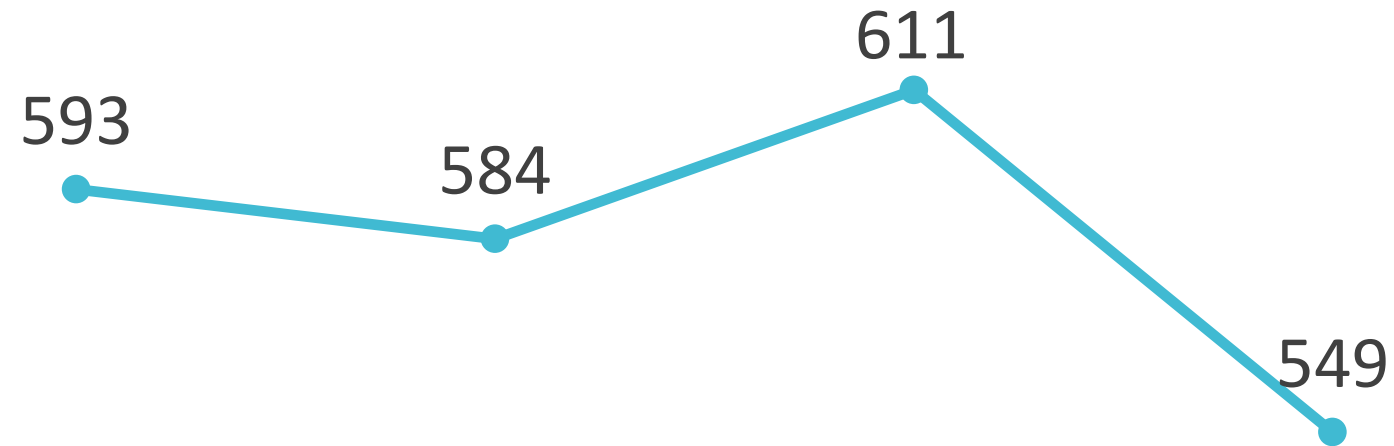
- TPR Orders within 180 Days:
from 56% → 63%



- Reunification Rate: 56% of cases,
median 390 days

- CHINS Cases Filed:  from 9,843
→ 12,744

Median Time to Permanency



FFY 2021

FFY 2022

FFY 2023

FFY 2024

Median Days to Adjudication:
56 days (meets 60-day statute)

Median Days to Disposition Hearing:
82% within 30 days of adjudication

Relevant Codes:
IC 31-34-11-1
IC 31-34-19-1

Time to
Adjudication
& Disposition

Review & Permanency Hearings

Timeliness of 1st Review Hearing

- 70% held within 6 months of removal or disposition, whichever occurs first

Median Days to First Permanency Hearing

- 336 Median Days
- Within the 365-day statutory requirement

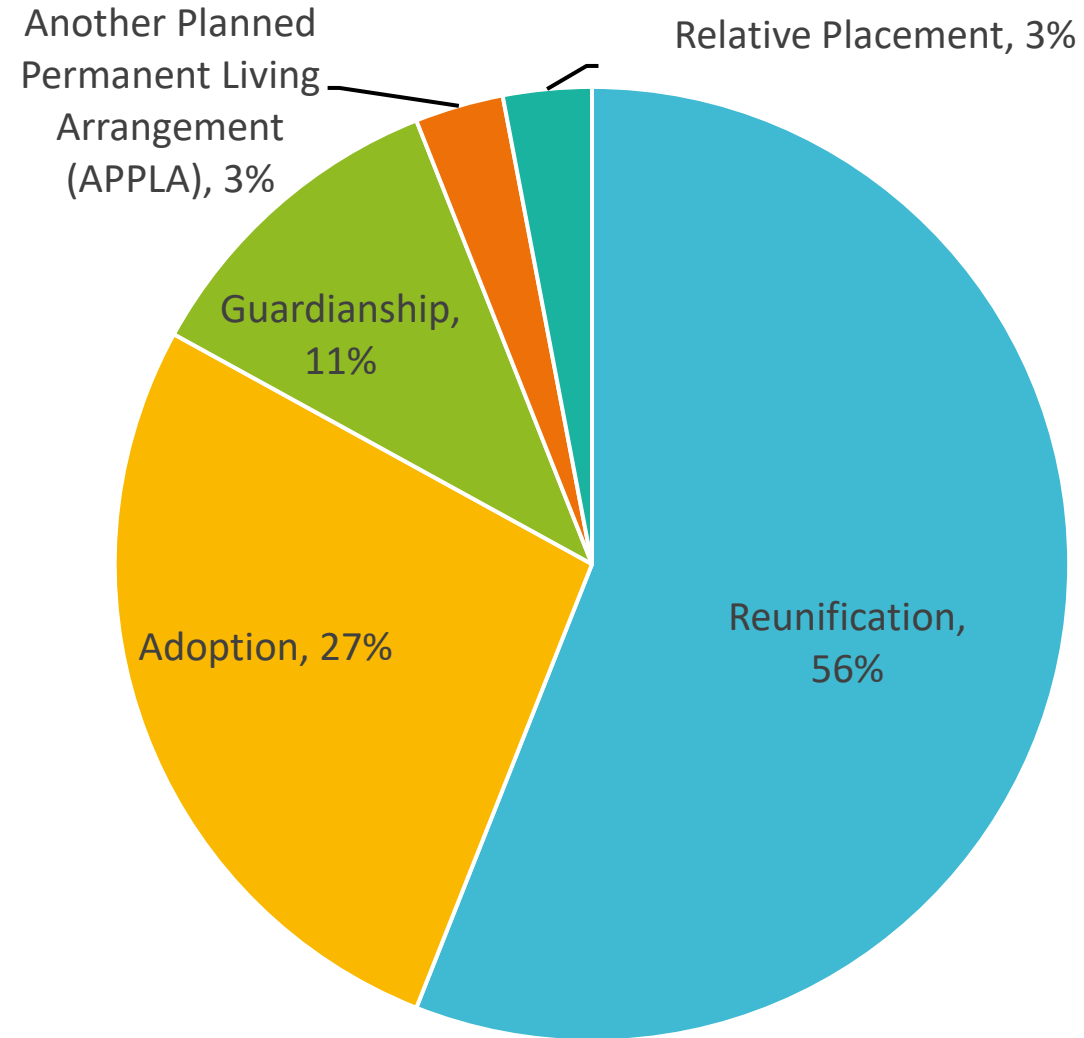
Termination of Parental Rights (TPR)

Median days to filing of TPR petition: 485 Days

Median days to TPR completion: 683 Days

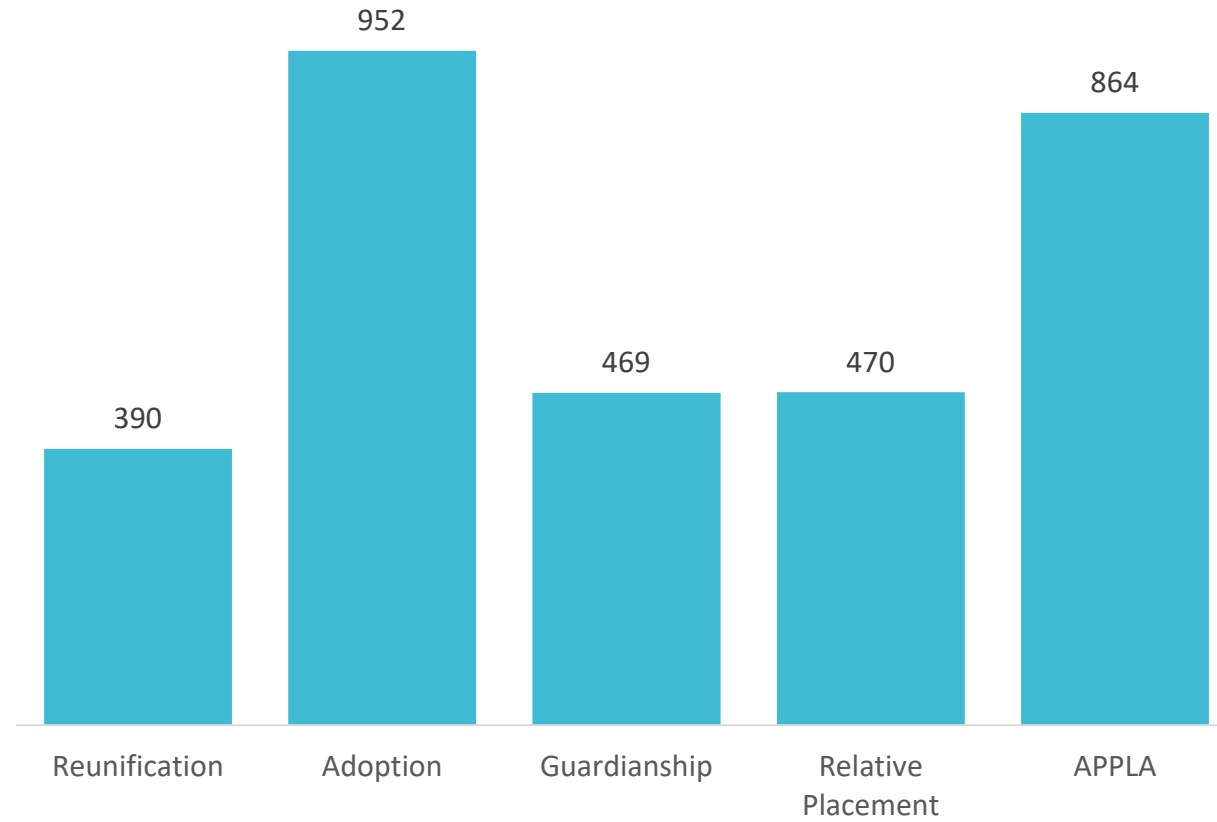
63% of TPR orders completed within 180 days of the TPR petition being filed

Permanency Outcomes



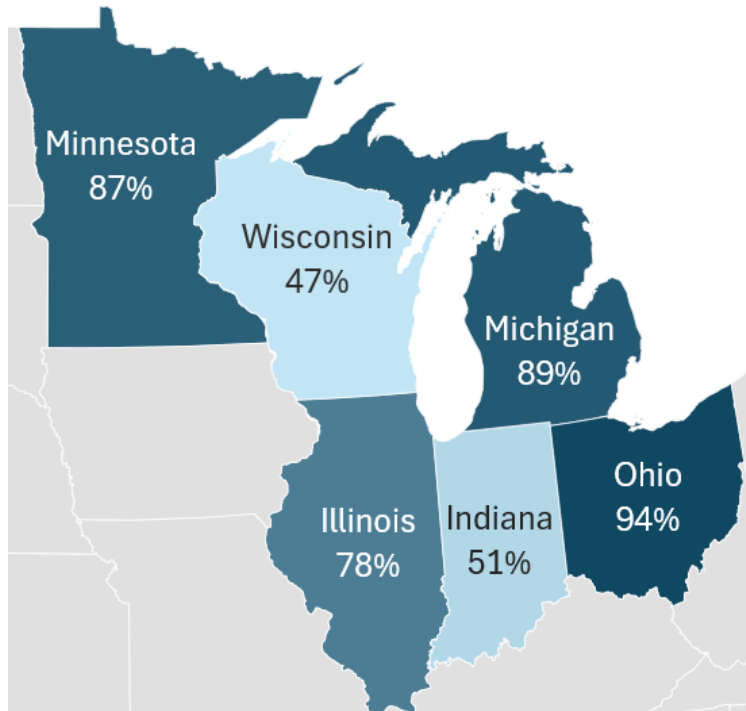
Permanency by Type

Median Days to Permanency, by Permanency Type



Indiana vs. Region 5 States

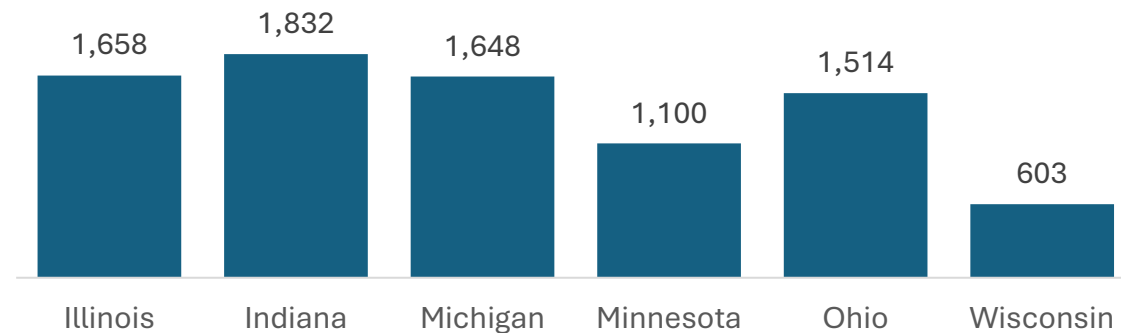
(2022 Data)



51% of children waiting for adoption in Indiana had TPR finalized and were free for adoption

Indiana had more children adopted in 2022 than any other state in Region 5

Children Adopted 2022

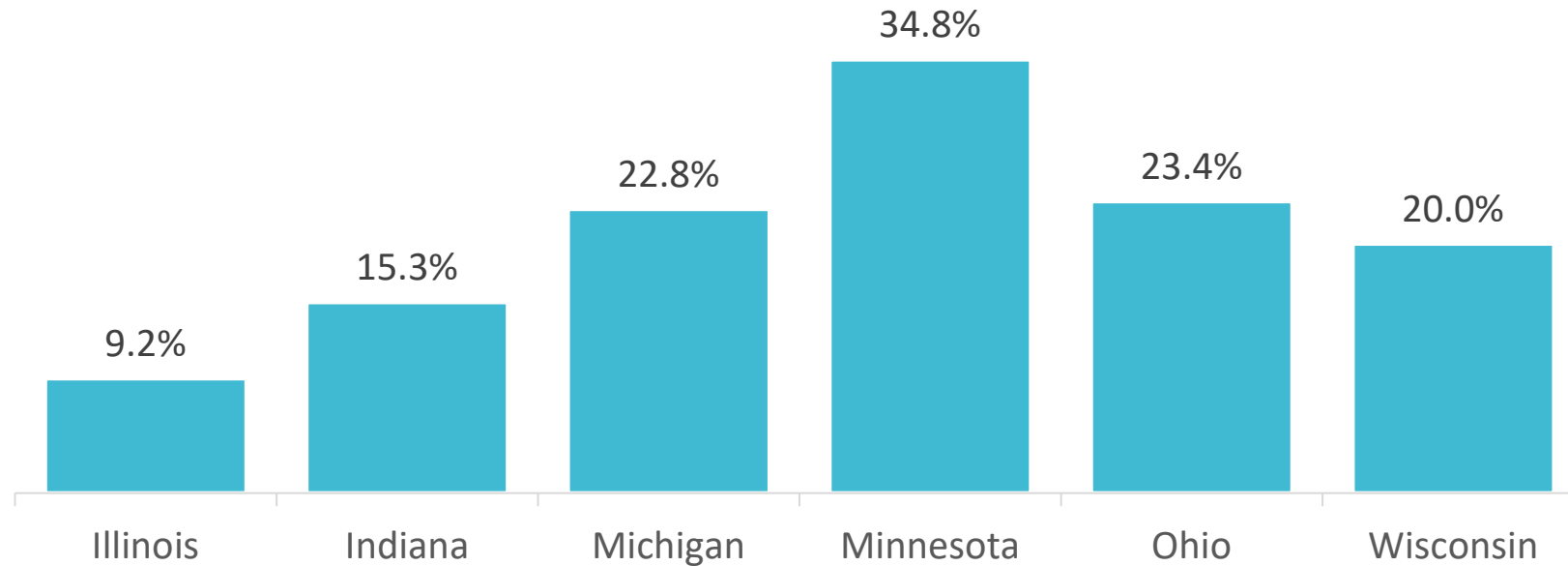


Indiana vs. Region 5 States

(2022 Data)

Minnesota leads the region in the percentage of adoption cases completed within 24 months

% of Adoption cases completed w/in 24 months



Grants &
Scholarships



\$115,357 awarded to 6
counties

Projects: mediation,
Upstream, CASA legal aid

\$8,909 in scholarships for
child welfare conferences

Collaborative Projects



- Quality Hearing Project in 3 pilot counties

- Updated Interagency Agreements

- Probation Prevention Plan for FFPSA compliance

- Stakeholder Meetings

Stakeholder Meetings

The Chief Administrative Officer of OJA and Director of DCS communicated to their respective agencies an Administrative Expectation for collaboration between DCS and the courts

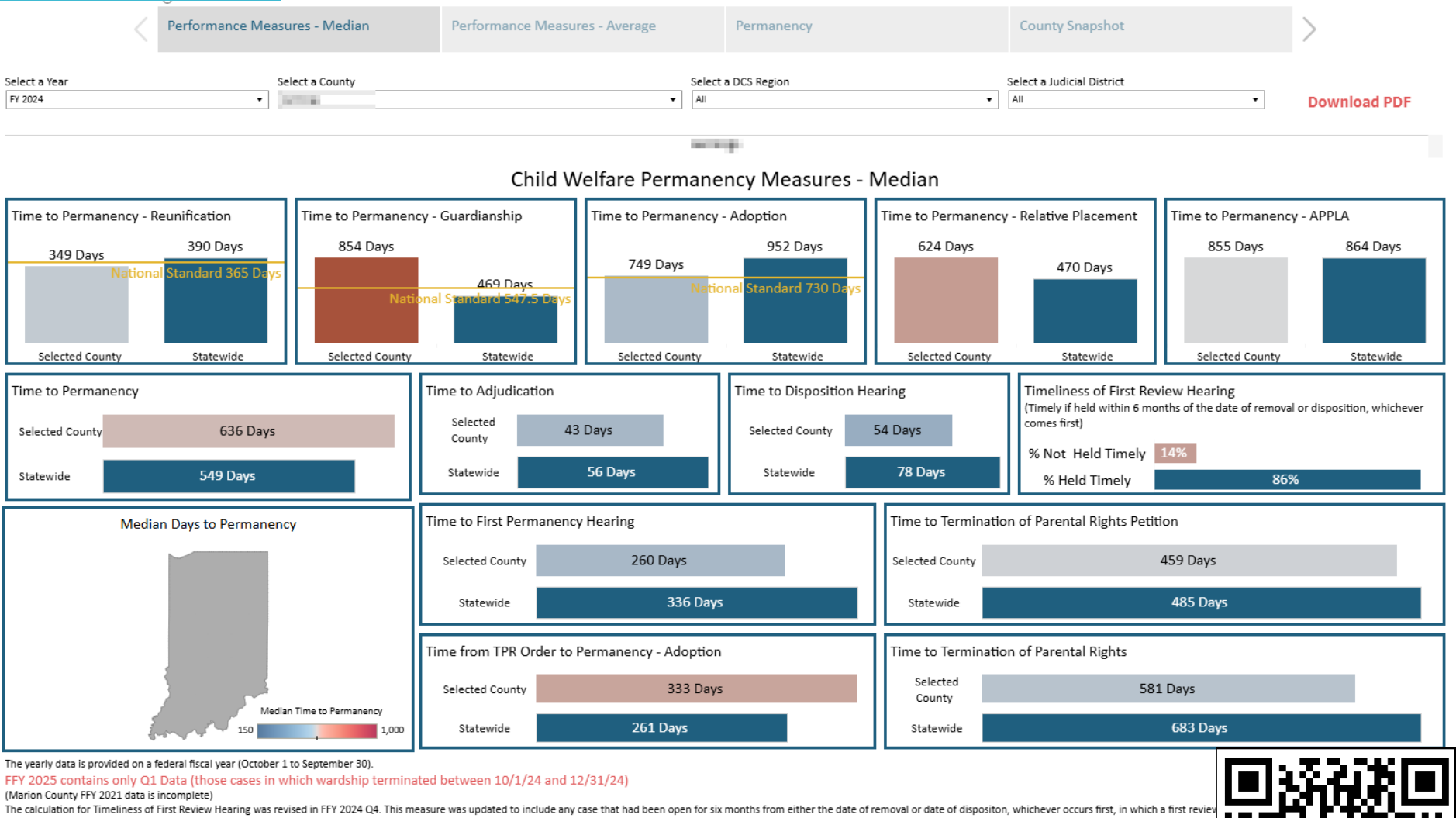
Judicial officers are encouraged to lead meetings with key stakeholders

Review data



Court Performance Measures Dashboard

<https://www.in.gov/courts/iocs/cip/welfare/>



Resources & Technical Assistance

- - Benchcards, court hearing guides, toolkits
- - Access data dashboard at:
- <https://www.in.gov/courts/iocs/cip/welfare>
- Children's Bureau Data
 - <https://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/cwodatasite/waiting/index/>
 - <https://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/cwodatasite/adopted/index/>
 - <https://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/cwodatasite/fiveOne/index/>
- - Support: training, scholarships, implementation help

Questions?

Contact: Colleen.Saylor@courts.in.gov

317-234-5346

Agenda

- 5. Executive Director Report and Legislative Affairs Update
 - a. Mark Fairchild

HOUSE BILL 1098 OVERVIEW

- Provides that the CISC must create and provide staff support to a statewide youth, family, and caregiver engagement initiative to:
 - Support to CISC Youth Representatives and youth, family and caregiver members of CISC task forces, committees & subcommittees.
 - Develop a statewide plan to support, encourage and expand the engagement of youth, families and caregivers in policymaking impacting youth and children.
 - Provide and support educational opportunities, convenings and other experiences that facilitate increased youth, family and caregiver participation.
 - Support other state agencies and community organizations to encourage and expand the engagement of youth, families and caregivers.
 - Solicit the direct feedback of youth, family and caregivers served by the state.

HOUSE BILL 1403 OVERVIEW

- Amends the duties of the Youth Justice Oversight Committee (YJOC) to reflect its ongoing work in implementation of its plans:
 - Research, identify and make recommendations regarding barriers to implementation, including systemic, legislative, data collection and both effective and ineffective interventions.
 - Research, identify and make recommendations regarding the needs of rural communities with a limited service capacity.
 - Support education and outreach regarding the statewide procedures, protocols, policies, and processes identified in the YJOC plans.
 - Support the juvenile diversion, community alternatives and behavioral health grants.
 - Partner with the CISC to integrate the expertise of youth, families and caregivers with direct experience into the YJOC.

SENATE BILL 482 OVERVIEW

- Defines "chronically absent" as means missing ten percent (10%) or more of a school year for any reason.
- Requires the Department of Education to do the following:
 - Create a list of best practices to reduce student discipline and absenteeism.
 - Study and prepare a report regarding the basis for the categorization of certain suspensions and expulsions.
 - Establish a categorization framework for excused absences based on the reason for the absence.
 - Collect certain information regarding absences from school corporations and charter schools and prepare and post a report regarding the information on the department's website.

SENATE BILL 482 OVERVIEW

- Provides that the absence policy adopted by a school corporation must provide for the categorization of excused absences in accordance with the categorization framework established IDOE.
- Allows a prosecuting attorney to conduct a meeting, collaborate, and make reasonable efforts to secure appropriate support services for a child and the child's family before filing an affidavit for truancy.
- Requires a public school to hold an attendance conference not later than 10 instructional days (instead of five) after the fifth absence.
- Prohibits a public school from expelling or suspending a student solely because the student is chronically absent or a habitual truant.

HOUSE BILL 1605 OVERVIEW

- Provides that it is the policy of the state of Indiana and the purpose of Indiana family and juvenile law to:
 - Recognize the responsibility of the state and of the department for the safety of children who are abused or neglected.
 - Recognize that a parent's interest in receiving services at the time and expense of the state for purposes of reunification is limited.
 - Promote the safety of all children involved in the juvenile justice system.
 - Ensure timely placement of children in foster care into permanent homes.
- Related to this policy, the bill offers a wide array of provisions aimed at improving time to permanency such as establishing new procedural deadlines and limiting the duration of reunification services.

HOUSE BILL 1605 OVERVIEW

- Provides that an individual with whom a child is placed during CHINS proceedings is entitled to attend, in their entirety, any hearing conducted as part of the CHINS proceedings or TPR proceedings.
- Provides that a court shall allow an individual who is providing care and supervision of a child as a foster parent, a long-term foster parent, or an unlicensed kinship caregiver at the time the child is the subject of a CHINS proceeding or TPR proceeding to intervene as a party.
- Provides that the rights of the child, child's parents, guardian, or custodian, and guardian ad litem or court appointed special advocate as parties to a proceeding include rights of discovery, subpoena, examination of witnesses, and presentation of evidence.

CISC FY 2025-2026 BUDGET OVERVIEW

- In the state budget, CISC funding was held steady for the upcoming two-year budget cycle.
- To fund a contractor to meet the requirements of HB 1098, reductions were made in non-essential spending such as staff travel and conferences, paid intern placements and special events.
- Cuts were not made to compensation for lived-experience integration with CISC and its subgroups.
- Opportunities are being actively pursued to secure outside funding for special events such as the Family and Youth Engagement Summit and Youth Day at the Statehouse.

CISC 2026-2028 STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPMENT

- Task Forces and subcommittees have already begun discussions and the exploration of potential goals and objectives.
- Surveys, polls and online focus groups will be conducted to ensure that goal development involves key stakeholders.
- A full day strategic planning session will be scheduled in the fall for CISC members and members of its subgroups.
- October and December CISC meetings will have time focused on the strategic planning process and draft plan presentation.
- Realignment of Task Forces and reintegration of YJOC into CISC will also be a part of this process.

BEST YOUTH INITIATIVE UPDATE & NEXT STEPS

- Travel to Washington, D.C. in July 2025 to meet with other state's teams and develop BEST Youth strategic plan.
- Increase lived-experience representation on the Indiana state team.
- Work with the Indiana Department of Education and other key agencies to implement BEST Youth Strategic Plan goals & objectives.
- Integrate BEST Youth Initiative work into the CISC Educational Outcomes Task Force for long-term sustainability.
- Continue to identify issues for potential legislative or agency action.

Agenda

6. Commission Member Announcements and Adjournment

2025 Meeting Dates

- August 20
- October 15
- December 10