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at Risk**

Speaking Out + Driving Change 35 Years For Children

Paving the Way to Quality

LOCAL ANALYSIS

An Analysis of Texas Local Workforce
Development Board Spending & Quality
Investments

SEPTEMBER 2024



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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PAVING THE WAY TO QUALITY

Analysis of Texas Local Workforce Development Board Spending & Quality Investments

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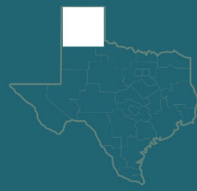
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Read CHILDREN AT RISK'S Executive
Summary & Texas statewide analysis at
childrenatrisk.org/pavingtheway



INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Panhandle Local Workforce Development (LWDB) expended the most funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included providing bonuses/grants to early learning programs as an incentive to meet their quality improvement goals or to maintain and/or increase their current TRS level certification. Panhandle LWDB also prioritized professional development by providing tuition and books for teachers pursuing a child development associate degree who were working in TRS certified programs or in programs working towards certification. To further support infants and toddlers, the LWDB provided 16 programs working towards TRS certification with appropriate outdoor equipment.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

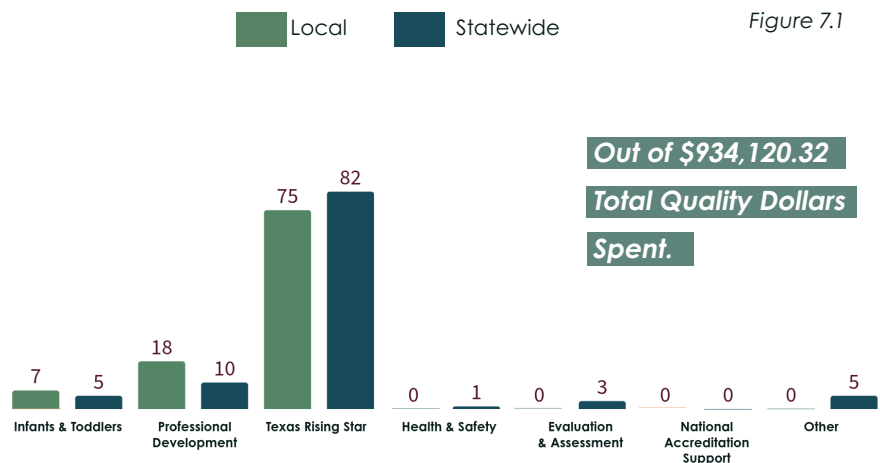


Figure 7.1

KEY FACTS

- ★ Panhandle LWDB has **28,871** children under 5 years old.
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Amarillo**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **27 members**, two of whom have **child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers **12** paid holidays.
- ★ Panhandle has identified **two additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal and statewide priority groups).
 - Parents who are receiving services from workforce partners and participating in programs funded by the LWDB, such as WIOA; and
 - Siblings of children currently in care.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

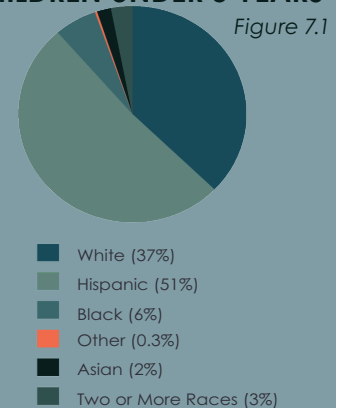


Figure 7.1

*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Panhandle LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a **54.8% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, outpacing the statewide increase of 30.1% in the number of subsidized child care seats.

Panhandle has increased the number of TRS providers faster than the rest of the state. There has been a **71.9% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **52.9% of providers in the Panhandle region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **23 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 3-star providers (13 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 2-star category (from 2 providers in 2022 to 9 providers in 2023).

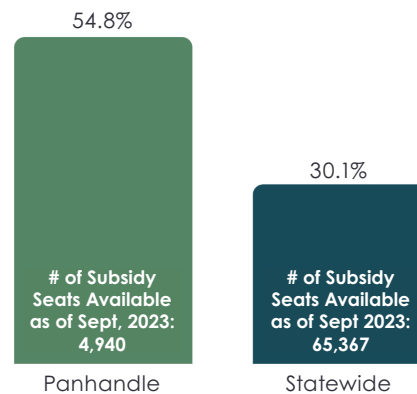
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Panhandle region. **30 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **8.4 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the Panhandle LWDB region. This is higher than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 7.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

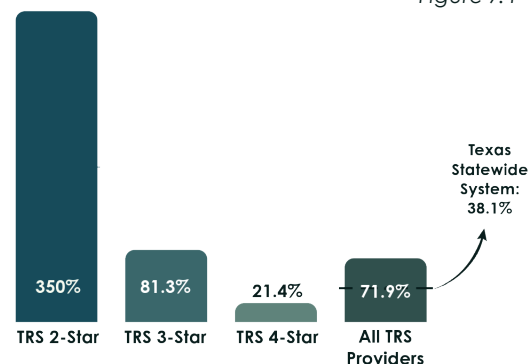
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

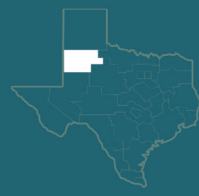
Figure 7.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 7.4





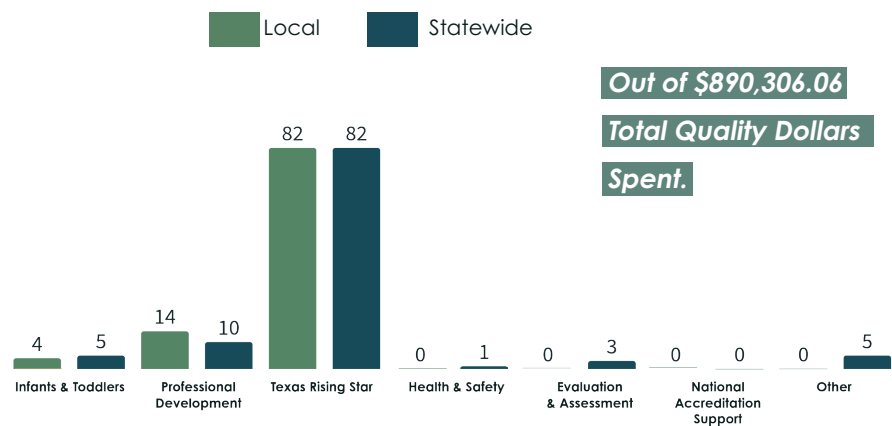
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the South Plains Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the most funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included purchasing age-appropriate materials and equipment, including outdoor learning equipment to enhance learning experiences for children. It also included FROG bus provider visits, which delivers equipment, information, and materials to rural providers who accept subsidy. South Plains LWDB also provided training, equipment and learning materials specifically aimed at infants and toddlers. Finally, South Plains prioritized professional development, expending funds on college subsidies for child development courses for teachers, as well as numerous trainings for child care provider participants.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 8.2

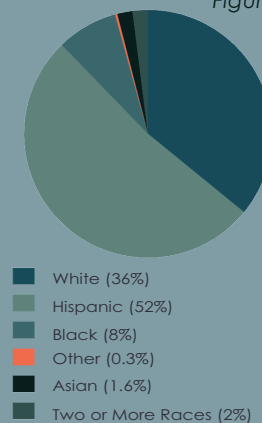


KEY FACTS

- ★ South Plains LWDB has **27,809 children under 5**.
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Lubbock**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **31 members, two of whom have child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers paid holidays based on their TRS star level.
 - TRS 2 Star providers receive 10 paid days.
 - TRS 3 Star providers receive 11 paid days.
 - TRS 4 Star providers receive 12 paid days.
- ★ South Plains has identified **two additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal and statewide priority groups).
 - Siblings of children currently in care.
 - Local match partners.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 8.1



*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

South Plains LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a **62.9% increase** in the number of subsidy slots available during the 2023 fiscal year, outpacing the statewide increase of 30.1% in the number of subsidized child care seats.

South Plains has increased the number of TRS providers faster than the rest of the state. There has been a **100% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **46.6% of providers in the South Plains region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **27 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 3-star providers (14 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 2-star category (from 3 providers in 2022 to 11 providers in 2023).

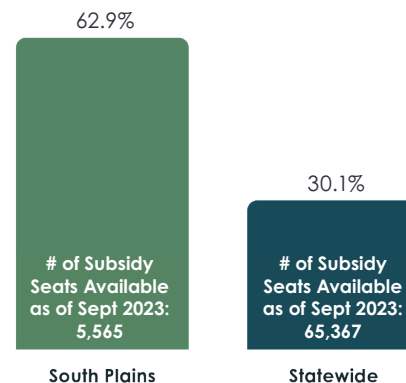
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the South Plains region. **28 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **7.4 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the South Plains LWDB region. This is similar to the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 8.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

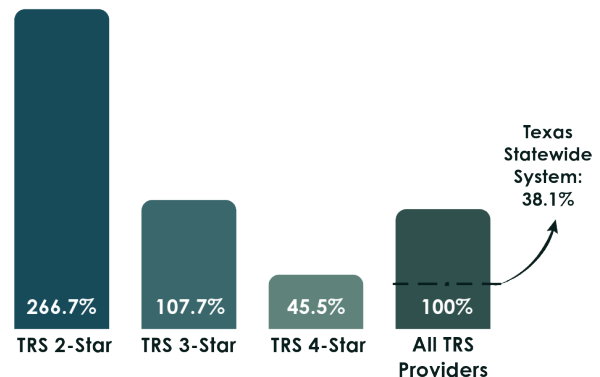
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

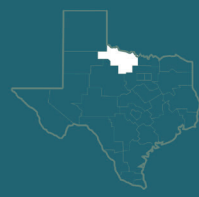
Figure 8.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 8.4



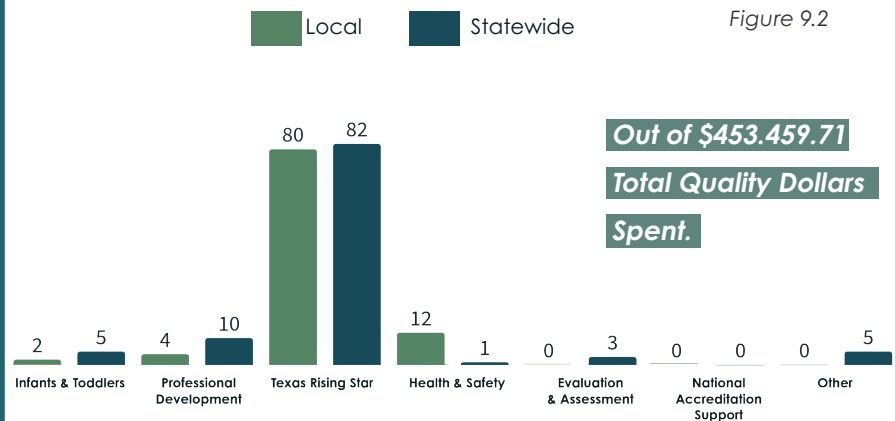


INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the North Texas Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the most funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included one-time stipends to current TRS program participants to incentivize participation. These stipends were scaled by TRS star level. North Texas also provided one-time start-up incentives of \$1,000 to new, incoming TRS child care centers that completed necessary forms to start the TRS certification process. To support health & safety, the LWDB also purchased automated external defibrillator (AED) equipment for 36 TRS centers, which helped improve TRS star level and compliance, and improved safety of care for young children. South Plains also supported CDA certification.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

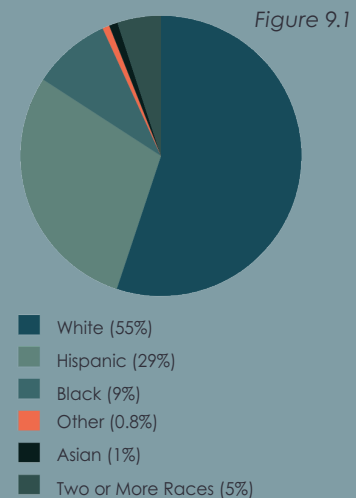
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY



KEY FACTS

- ★ North Texas LWDB has **13,048 children under 5 years old**.
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Wichita Falls**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **28 members, three of whom have child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers paid holidays based on their TRS star level.
 - TRS 2 Star providers receive 10 paid days.
 - TRS 3 Star providers receive 11 paid days.
 - TRS 4 Star providers receive 12 paid days.
- ★ North Texas has identified **two additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to federal & state priority groups).
 - Children who receive scholarship funding via local child care entities while waiting for services to become available, and
 - Siblings of children currently in care.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS



**Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates*

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

North Texas LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a slight **15.5% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

North Texas has increased the number of TRS providers at a similar rate to the state with a **35.7% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **53.5% of providers in the North Texas region** participating in TRS versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **10 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 3-star providers (4 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 2-star category (from 3 providers in 2022 to 6 providers in 2023).

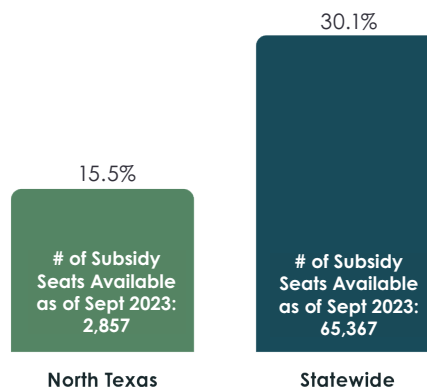
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the North Texas region. **25 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **11.9 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the North Texas LWDB region. This is higher than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 9.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

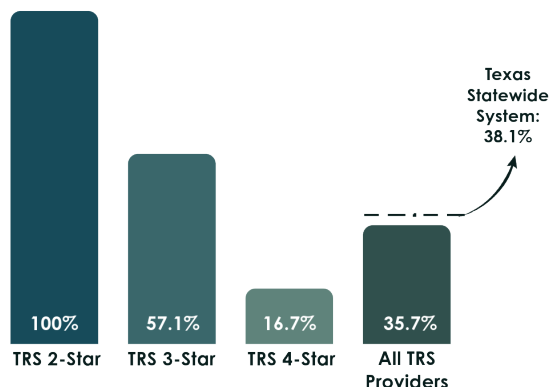
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

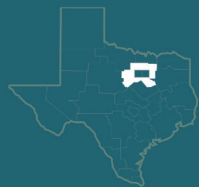
Figure 9.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 9.4





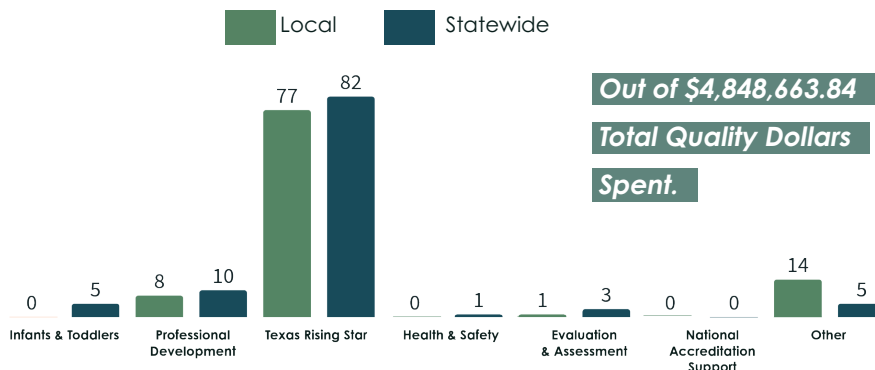
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the North Central Texas Workforce Development LWDB expended the most funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included offering providers new curricula, equipment, and other resources based on program needs. These developmentally appropriate resources were intended to enhance early learning experiences for children in North Central Texas. North Central also incentivized participation in the CLASS classroom quality assessment of teacher-child interactions by providing participants with classroom resources. In the “other” category, North Central LWDB provided a one-time wage supplement to staff who had been employed at their current child care facility for at least four months and offered business coaching to programs who accepted these incentives.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 10.2

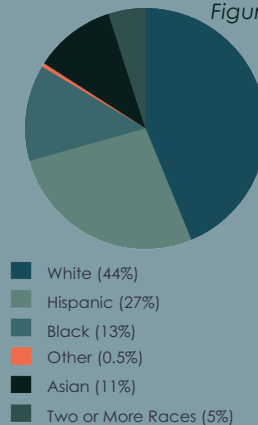


KEY FACTS

- ★ North Central Texas LWDB has **208,506 children under 5 years old.**
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Arlington.**
- ★ The LWDB consists of **31 members, 2 of whom have child care experience.**
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers 12 paid holidays.
- ★ North Central has identified **five additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to federal and state priority groups).
 - Siblings of children currently in care,
 - Children of parents working at child care providers,
 - Eligible children whose parents attend a college/university with a local match agreement,
 - Children of WIOA participants, and
 - Low-income families who meet eligibility requirements.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 10.1



*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

North Central Texas LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a **51.3% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, outpacing the statewide increase of 30.1% in the number of subsidized child care seats statewide.

North Central Texas has increased the number of TRS providers faster than the rest of the state. There has been a **74.3% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **36% of providers in the North Central Texas region participating in TRS**, similar to statewide trends of 36.7%. This translates to **78 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 3-star providers (54 more providers), although the 2-star category also had a large percentage change (from 9 providers in 2022 to 10 providers in 2023).

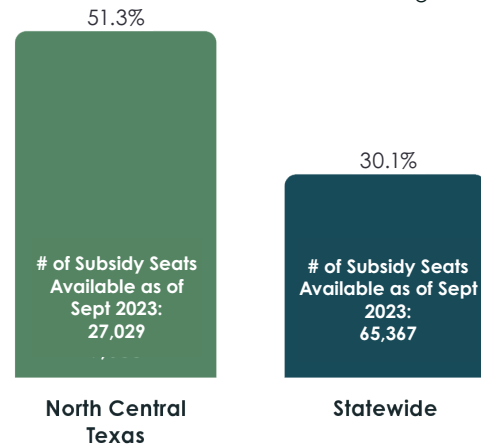
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the North Central Texas region. **161 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **2.3 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the North Central Texas LWDB region. This is lower than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 10.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

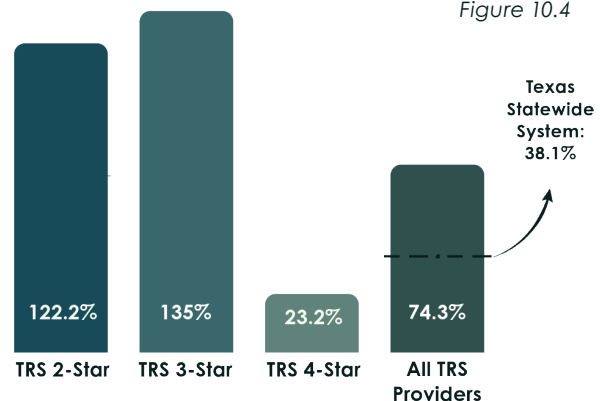
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 10.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 10.4





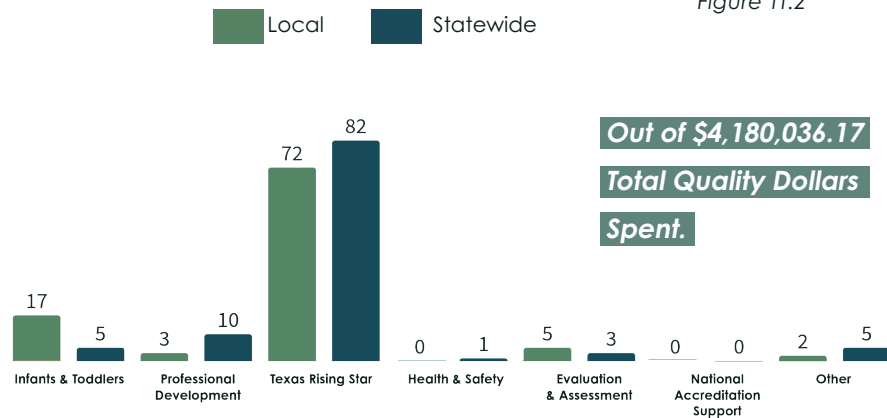
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, Tarrant County Local Workforce Development (LWDB) expended the most funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included stipends for new staff at TRS child care providers, learning supplies and resources for both indoor and outdoor environments, and curricular resources, along with many other efforts to improve quality of care for Tarrant County children. Additionally, Tarrant County LWDB invested a large percentage specifically in infants and toddlers, by providing classroom enhancements and other equipment such as KinderVan-strollers.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 11.2

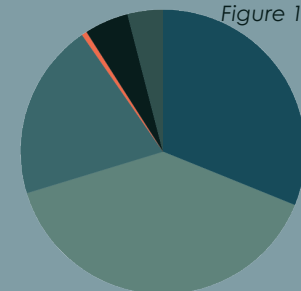


KEY FACTS

- ★ Tarrant LWDB has **138,082 children under 5 years old.**
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Fort Worth.**
- ★ The LWDB consists of **29 members, 2 of whom have child care experience.**
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers 10 paid holidays.
- ★ Tarrant has identified **6 priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to federal & statewide priority groups).
 - Siblings of enrolled children,
 - WIOA participants (or other program coordinating with the LWDB for child care provision),
 - Children who need full time/full year care,
 - School-aged children of Child Protective Service family referrals,
 - Referrals from recognized partnerships, and
 - Protective services and/or special project categories specified by TWC.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 11.1



- White (31.1%)
- Hispanic (39.2%)
- Black (20.1%)
- Other (0.6%)
- Asian (5%)
- Two or More Races (4%)

*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Tarrant County LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a **27.9% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

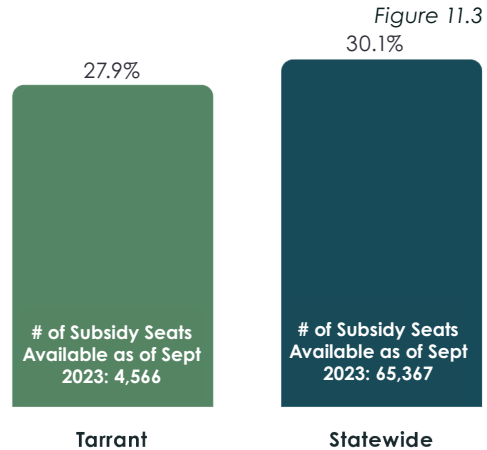
Tarrant County has increased the number of TRS providers slightly slower than the rest of the state with a **33.6% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. However, **43.5% of providers in the Tarrant County region participate in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **50 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 4-star providers (27 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 3-star category (from 41 providers in 2022 to 62 providers in 2023).

To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Tarrant County region. **63 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **6.3 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the Tarrant County LWDB region. This is similar to the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

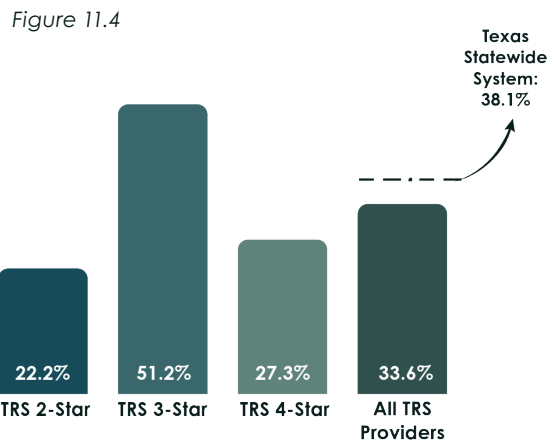
To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 11.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023





INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Greater Dallas Texas Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the most funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included providing awards to child care providers for educational materials, staff incentives, and operational expenses. Greater Dallas also supported TRS quality through providing training and educational materials related to child development assessments such as the ASQ and LENA. Greater Dallas also invested in professional development for child care providers, offering a broad variety of supports including ASQ trainings and tuition support for BAS, AAS, CDA, and other industry-specific certifications.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

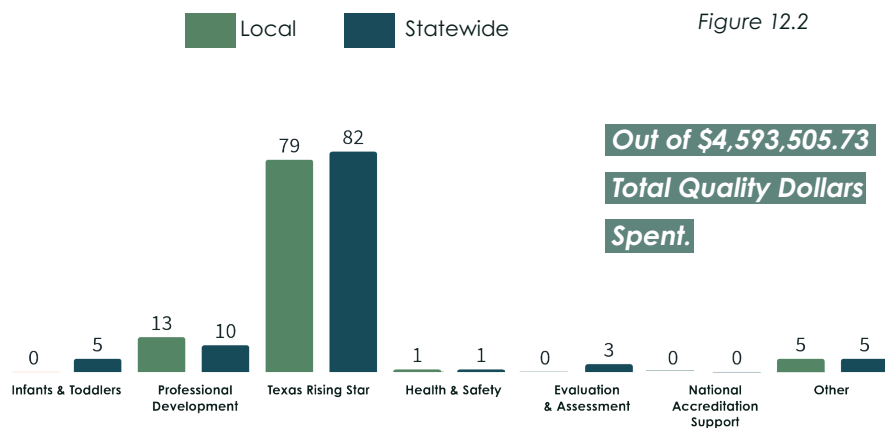


Figure 12.2

KEY FACTS

- ★ Greater Dallas LWDB has **175,055 children under 5 years old**.
- ★ The primary Local Workforce Development Board office is located in **Dallas**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **29 members, two of whom have child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers 12 paid holidays.
- ★ Greater Dallas has identified **one additional priority group** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal and statewide priority groups).
 - Siblings of enrolled children.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

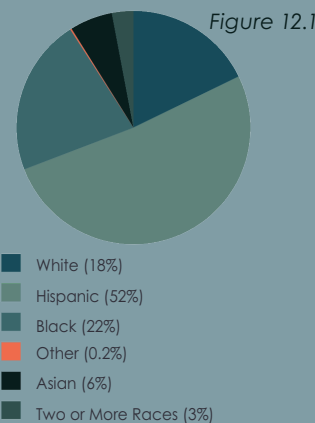


Figure 12.1

*Source: Census Vintage 2023
Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Greater Dallas LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a **27.5% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, slightly behind the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Greater Dallas has increased the number of TRS providers slightly slower than the rest of the state with a **35.7% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. Additionally, **36.1% of providers in the Greater Dallas region participate in TRS**, in line with 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **55 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 4-star providers (41 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 3-star category (from 19 providers in 2022 to 53 providers in 2023). The 2-star level decreased by 20 providers from 2022 to 2023.

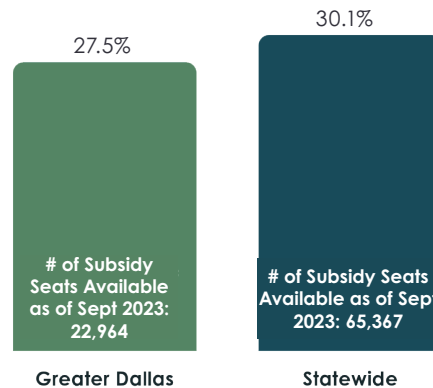
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Greater Dallas region. **67 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **9 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the Greater Dallas Texas LWDB region. This is higher than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 12.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

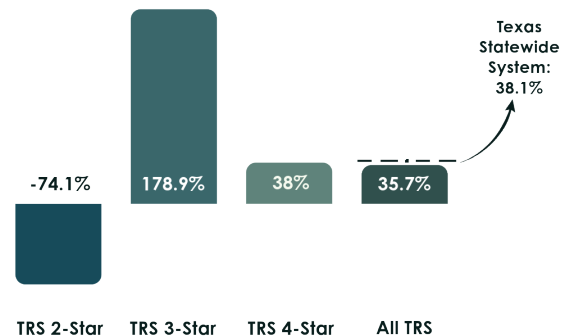
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 12.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 12.4





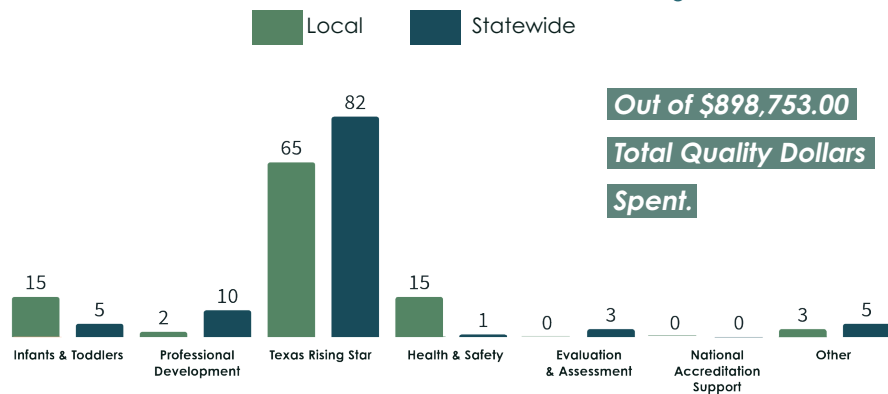
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Northeast Texas Workforce Development LWDB expended the most funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included purchasing classroom resources, outdoor learning equipment, and curricula for child care providers. Additionally, the LWDB purchased AEDs for 62 providers to ensure the health and safety of children. Finally, the LWDB also purchased tablets for child care programs and provided access to the Brightwheel app to support communication with parents, track attendance, and streamline billing processes.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 13.2

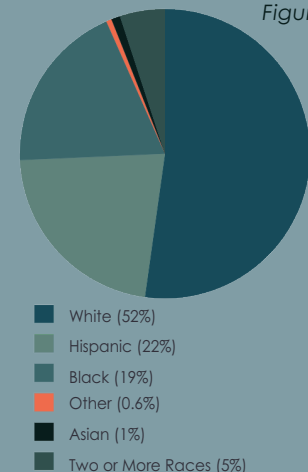


KEY FACTS

- ★ Northeast Texas has **17,344 children under 5 years old.**
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Wake Village.**
- ★ The LWDB consists of **27 members, 1 of whom have child care experience.**
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers 9 paid holidays.
- ★ Northeast Texas has identified **1 additional priority group** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal and statewide priority groups)
 - Siblings of enrolled children.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 13.1



*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Northeast Texas LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been an impressive **82.5% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, outpacing the statewide increase of 30.1% in the number of subsidized child care seats statewide.

Northeast Texas has increased the number of TRS providers faster than the rest of the state. There has been an **81% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **61.3% of providers in Northeast Texas participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **17 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 4-star providers (from 20 providers in 2022 to 32 providers in 2023).

To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Northeast Texas region.

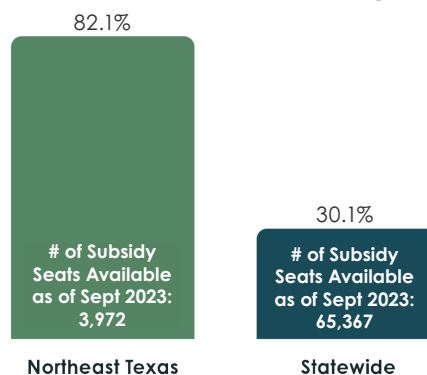
26 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **13.9 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the Northeast Texas LWDB region. This is higher than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 13.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

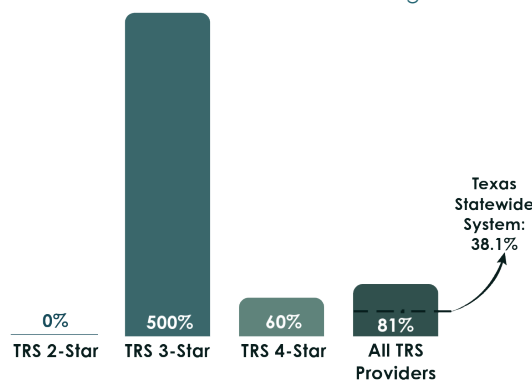
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 13.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 13.4



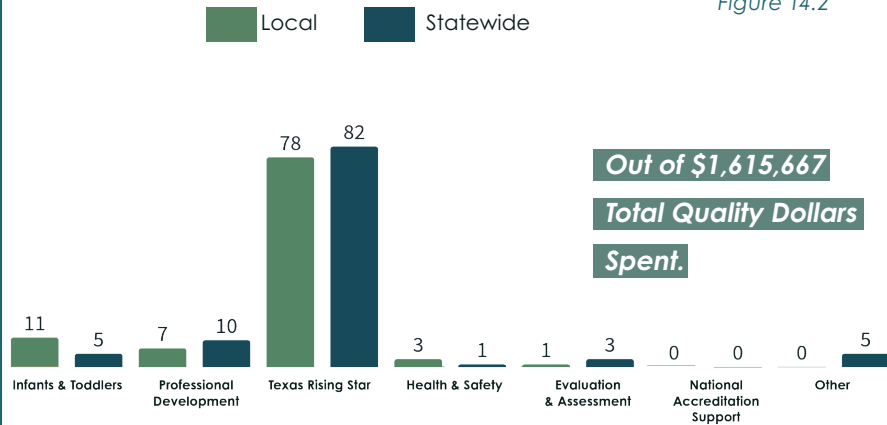


INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the East Texas Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the most funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included incentives for early learning programs, such as purchasing curricula, learning materials, and ASQ kits. Staff bonuses were also provided to Early learning providers throughout the year. The East Texas LWDB made sure to specifically purchase curricula, materials, and equipment appropriate for infant and toddler classrooms as well.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

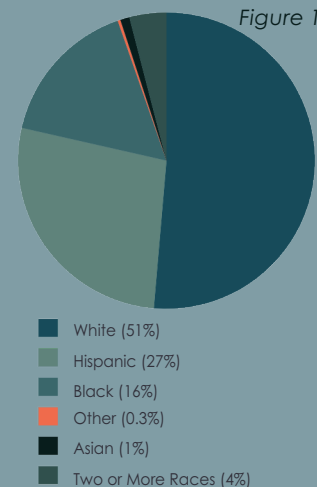
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY
Figure 14.2



KEY FACTS

- ★ East Texas LWDB has **53,376 children under 5 years old.**
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Longview.**
- ★ The LWDB consists of **29 members, three of whom have child care experience.**
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers nine paid holidays.
- ★ East Texas has identified **four additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to federal and state priority groups).
 - Siblings,
 - WIOA participants,
 - Children whose parents are employed at a regulated child care provider, and
 - Parents who were identified as needing continuity of care after receiving TWC special funded care (this was limited to 12 months of eligibility).

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS
Figure 14.1



*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

East Texas LWDB quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a slight **18.3% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

East Texas has increased the number of TRS providers at a slightly slower rate compared to the state with a **30.3% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. However, **48.5% of providers in East Texas participate in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **23 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 4-star providers (12 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 3-star category (from 29 providers in 2022 to 40 providers in 2023). There was no change in 2-star providers.

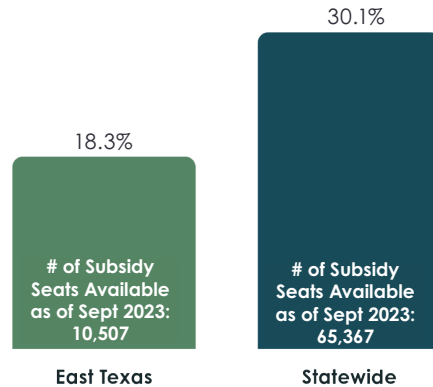
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the East Texas region. **77 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **10.6 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the East Texas LWDB region. This is higher than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 14.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

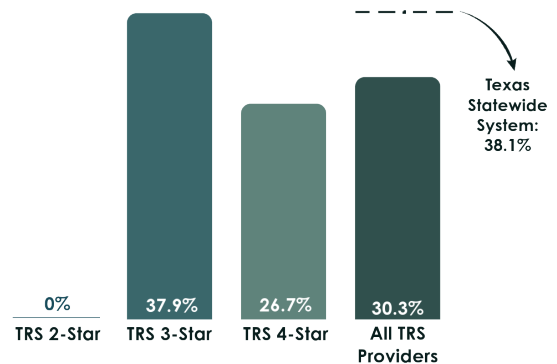
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 14.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 14.4





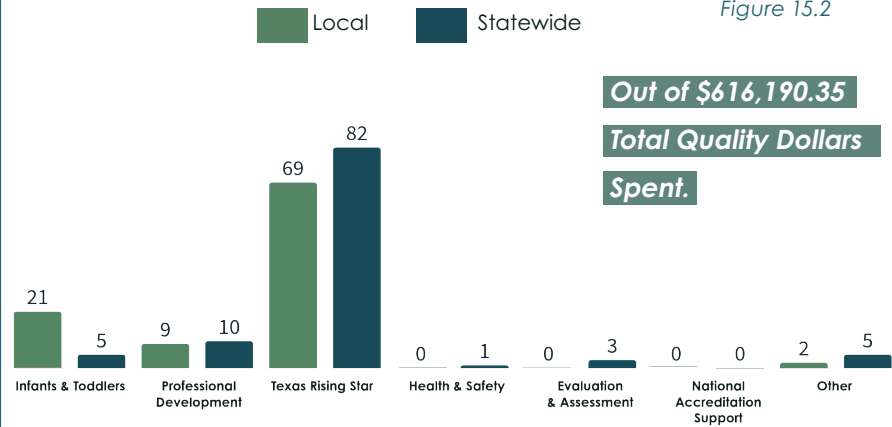
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the West Central Texas Workforce Development LWDB expended the most funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included providing mentoring and assessment for child care providers, as well as providing materials and resources to enhance classroom quality. West Central also dedicated 21% of expended funds specifically for infants and toddlers, providing materials based on low scoring on the ITERS assesment. Professional development in-service days and trainings were provided throughout the year.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 15.2

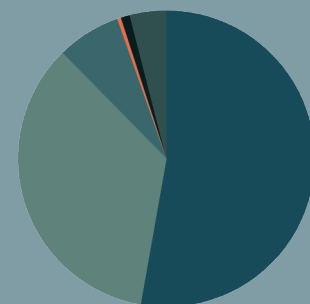


KEY FACTS

- ★ West Central Texas has **20,244 children under 5 years old.**
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Abilene.**
- ★ The LWDB consists of **30 members, three of whom have child care experience.**
- ★ The LWDB allows providers paid holidays based on their TRS star level.
 - TRS 2 Star providers receive 10 paid days.
 - TRS 3 Star providers receive 11 paid days.
 - TRS 4 Star providers receive 12 paid days.
- ★ West Central Texas has identified **four priority groups to receive a child care subsidy** (in addition to federal and state priority groups).
 - Siblings of children already in care,
 - WIOA participants,
 - Children of parents employed at a regulated provider, and
 - Parents needing continuity of care after receiving TWC Special Funded child care.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 15.1



- White (53%)
- Hispanic (35%)
- Black (7%)
- Other (0.4%)
- Asian (1%)
- Two or More Races (4%)

*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

West Central Texas LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a **32.4% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, which is similar to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

West Central Texas has increased the number of TRS providers at a slightly slower rate than the state with **28.6% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. However, **51.7% of providers in the West Central Texas region participate in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **10 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 2-star providers (8 more providers), although the 3-star category also had a large percentage change (from 11 providers in 2022 to 15 providers in 2023). The 4-star level decreased by 2 providers from 2022 to 2023.

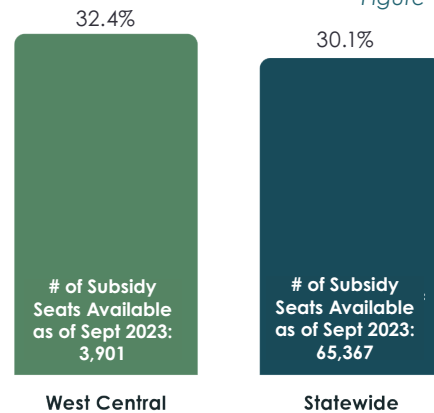
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the West Central Texas region. **33 zip codes in this area are still designated as Quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **6.4 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the West Central LWDB region. This is similar to the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 15.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

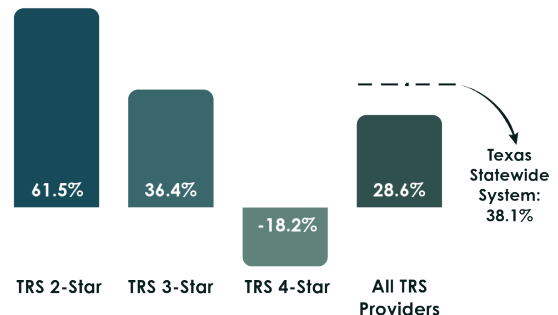
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 15.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 15.4





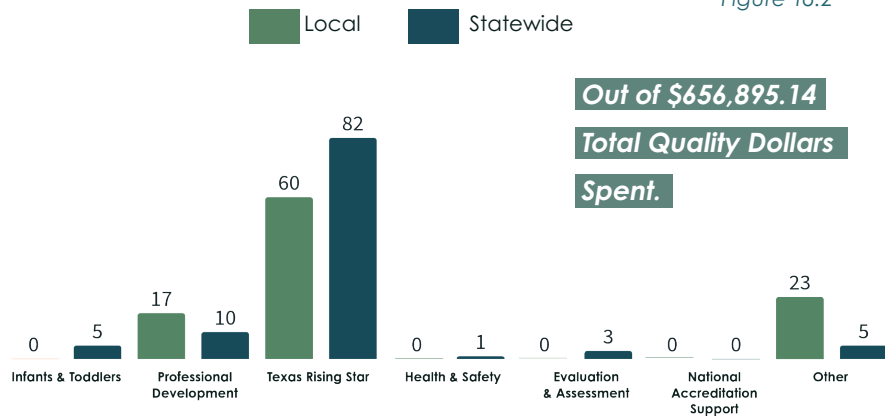
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Borderplex Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the most funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included purchasing curricula, materials, and equipment for both indoor and outdoor environments to support child care providers striving to meet TRS standards and criteria. Borderplex also spent quality funds to assist with startup costs for a new child care center opening as a partnership between Alpine ISD and Big Bend Medical Center, creating 78 new child care slots. Professional development was also a priority with conferences and tuition support for college courses for early learning providers.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 16.2

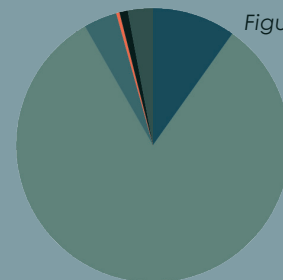


KEY FACTS

- ★ Borderplex LWDB has **56,770 children under 5 years old**.
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **El Paso**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **27 members, one of whom have child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers nine paid holidays.
- ★ Borderplex has identified **four priority groups to receive a child care subsidy** (in addition to federal and state priority groups).
 - Siblings of children currently in care,
 - Children of families participating in workforce employment and training programs who are referred by workforce staff,
 - Children of families participating in Workforce Solutions Borderplex initiatives or projects (with authorization from LWDB CEO or designee), and
 - Children of military parents returning from combat needing care within 90 days of return.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 16.1



- White (10%)
- Hispanic (83%)
- Black (4%)
- Other (0.4%)
- Asian (1%)
- Two or More Races (2%)

*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Borderplex LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been an **18.7% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Borderplex has increased the number of TRS providers at a slower rate than the rest of the state with a **23.4% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **34.3% of providers in the Borderplex region participating in TRS**, versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **18 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 4-star providers (13 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 3-star category (from 9 providers in 2022 to 15 providers in 2023). The 2-star level decreased by 1 provider from 2022 to 2023.

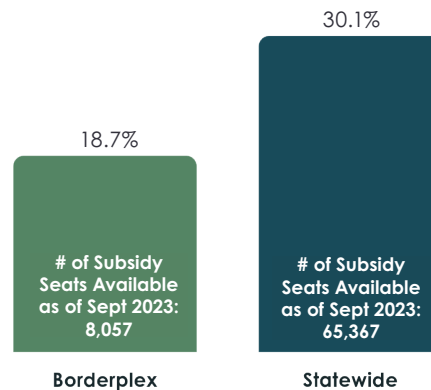
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Borderplex region. **16 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **25.9 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is far higher than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 16.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

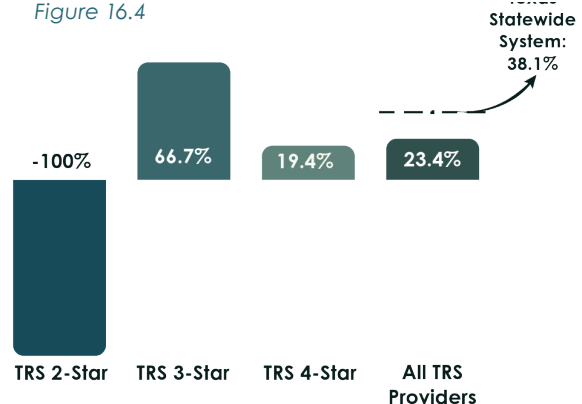
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 16.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 16.4



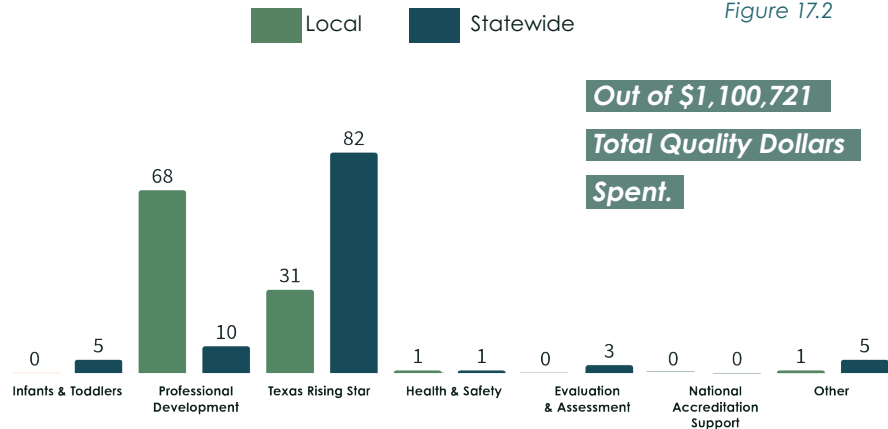


INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Unlike the rest of the state, the Permian Basin Workforce Development LWDB expended the most funds to support professional development, rather than directly towards Texas Rising Star. According to the spending narrative provided, professional development funds were primarily spent on CDA recertification and conferences related to quality child care. To support Texas Rising Star, Permian Basin provided child care quality grants to early learning programs and also provided materials, equipment, and resources intended to help providers meet TRS certification requirements.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

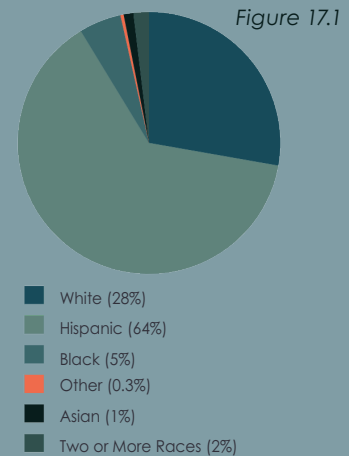
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY



KEY FACTS

- ★ Permian Basin has **38,426 children under 5 years old.**
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Midland.**
- ★ The LWDB consists of **30 members, two of whom have child care experience.**
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers 12 paid holidays.
- ★ Permian Basin has **not identified additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS



**Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates*

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Permian Basin LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a **36.1% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Permian Basin has increased the number of TRS providers at a slightly slower rate to the state with a **33.3% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **13.2% of providers in the Permian Basin region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **three more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Each star level gained one additional provider between 2022 and 2023, although the largest percentage change was in the 2-star category (from one provider in 2022 to two providers in 2023).

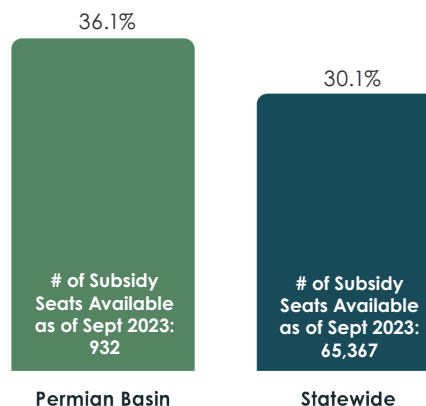
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Permian Basin region. **27 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are just **0.9 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families in the region**. This is far lower than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 17.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

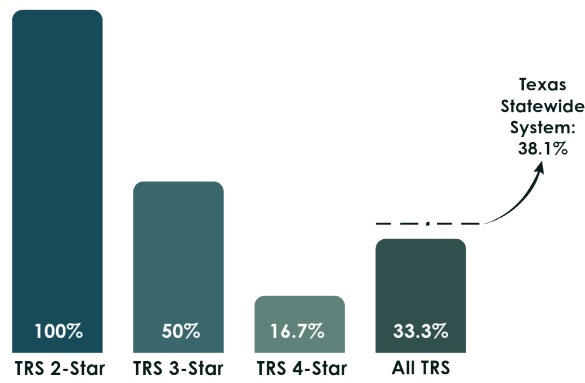
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 17.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 17.4





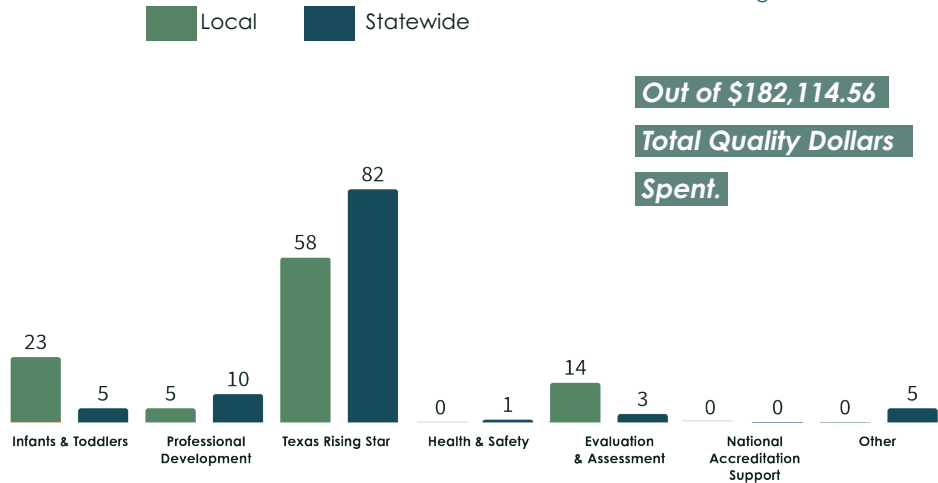
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Concho Valley Workforce Development LWDB expended the most funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included purchasing curricula for early learning programs to support child development. Similarly, the LWDB also purchased the Ages and Stages Questionnaire materials kits for 30 programs, so that providers could assess children’s developmental growth and identify potential developmental delays. Concho Valley also provided training and curricula specifically for infants and toddlers.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 18.2

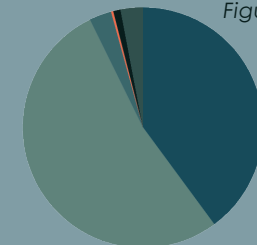


KEY FACTS

- ★ Concho Valley LWDB has **9,512 children under 5 years old**.
- ★ The primary Local Workforce Development Board office is located in **San Angelo**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **30 members, 3 of whom have child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers 9 paid holidays.
- ★ **Concho Valley has identified 4 additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal and statewide priority groups).
 - Children of WIOA participants,
 - Siblings,
 - Applicants from the 12 rural counties (outside of Tom Green County), and
 - Applicants from Tom Green County.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 18.1



- White (40%)
- Hispanic (53%)
- Black (3%)
- Other (0.3%)
- Asian (1%)
- Two or More Races (3%)

*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Concho Valley Local Workforce Development Board's access to high-quality care for low-income families in the region has gone down. There has been a **48% decrease in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Concho Valley has had a decrease in the number of TRS providers with a **14.3% decrease in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **11.3% of providers in the Concho Valley region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **one less provider participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. The decrease has been in the loss of a 3-star provider, although the 2-star category has had zero providers from 2022 to 2023.

To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Concho Valley region. **20 zip codes in this region are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined

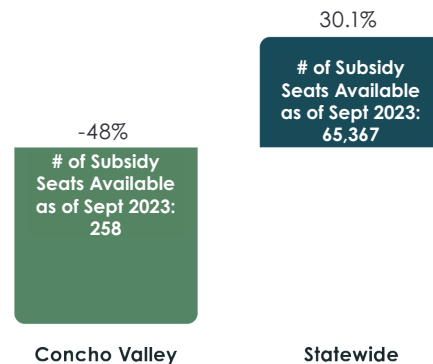
as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are just **1.8 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is far lower than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 18.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

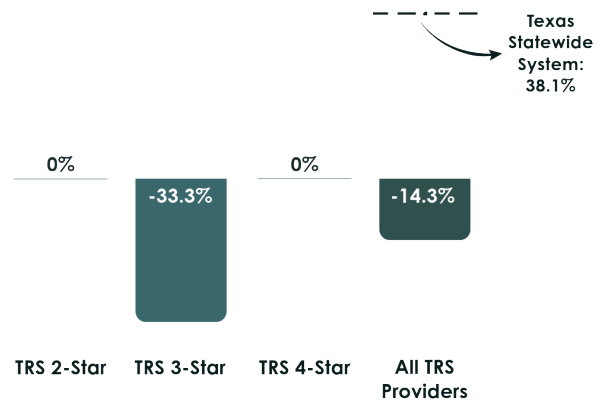
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 18.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 18.4



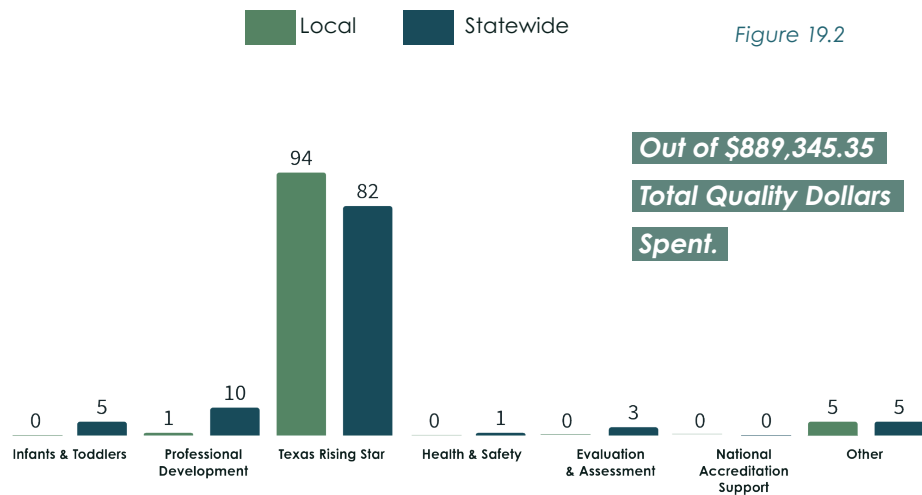


INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Heart of Texas Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this consisted of providing awarded equipment/materials grants to early learning programs that achieved initial certification through TRS. Heart of Texas also held orientation and information sessions regarding their Early Educator Apprenticeship program. To support infants and toddlers, they provided ASQ training for educators working with that age group.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

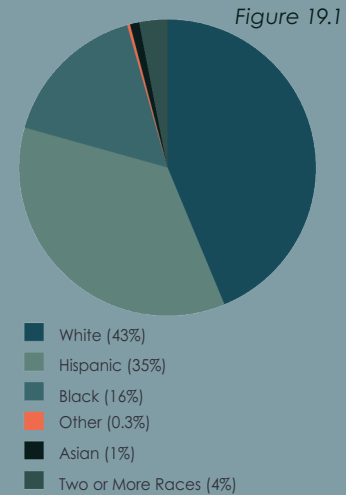
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY



KEY FACTS

- ★ The Heart of Texas LWDB has **23,605 children under 5 years old**.
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Waco**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **26 members, one of whom has child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers 10 paid holidays.
- ★ Heart of Texas has identified **five additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal and statewide priority groups).
 - Siblings of children currently in care,
 - Eligible children referred through a local match partner,
 - Children of WIOA enrolled clients,
 - Children who attend Head Start and Early Head Start and need wrap-around services, and
 - Children who attend an ISD Pre-Kindergarten program and need wrap-around services.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS



*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Heart of Texas LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families. There has been a **63.3% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, outpacing the statewide increase of 30.1% in the number of subsidized child care seats statewide.

Heart of Texas has increased the number of TRS providers faster than the rest of the state. There has been a **58.7% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **76% of providers in the Heart of Texas region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **27 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 3-star providers (from 20 providers in 2022 to 40 providers in 2023).

To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Heart of Texas region. **39 zip codes in this area are designated as**

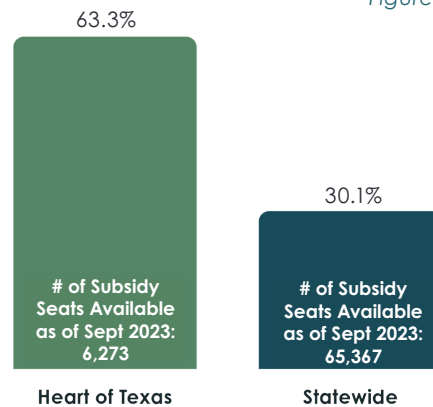
quality Child Care Deserts, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **16.3 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families in the region**. This is higher than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 19.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

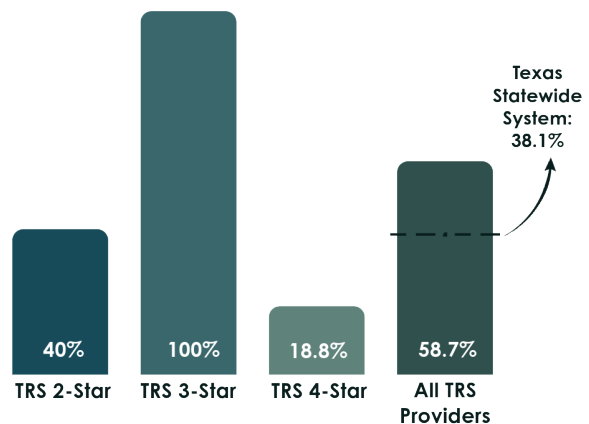
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

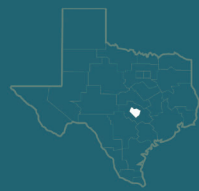
Figure 19.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 19.4



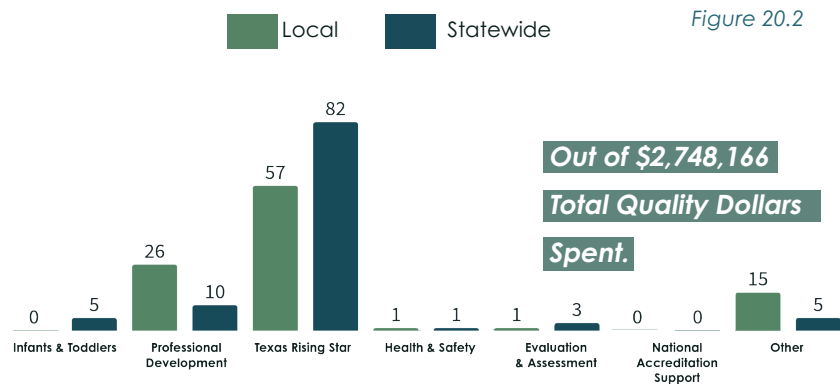


INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Capital Area Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included providing curricula, assessment materials, toys, shelving, and playground equipment for TRS programs and those working towards certification. Capital Area also provided TRS Implementation Grants to provide resources specifically for programs in the TRS certification process. With 26% of the funds focused on professional development, they provided a mix of in-house trainings specific to a curricula as well as scholarships to work on CDA and AA degrees. Capital Area also provided wage supplements to 343 early learning professionals who worked at TRS 4-star programs based on length of service.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

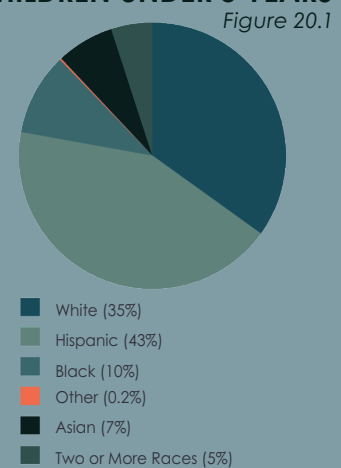
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY



KEY FACTS

- ★ Capital Area LWDB has **73,426 children under 5 years old**.
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Austin**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **29 members, three of whom have child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers 11 paid holidays.
- ★ Capital Area has identified **five additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to federal and state priority groups).
 - Children transitioning from CPS who were in care within the last 12 months,
 - Siblings of children currently in care,
 - Children of customers who are participating in Workforce funded programs or special projects defined by the LWDB,
 - Children of young adults between the ages of 16-24 at the time of enrollment, and
 - Travis County referred families from high quality centers.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS



*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Capital Area LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a slight **11.9% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Capital Area has increased the number of TRS providers at a slightly slower rate to the state with a **15.4% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **49.4% of providers in the Capital region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **20 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 4-star providers (22 more providers), although the 2-star category decreased by 2 providers and there was no change in 3-star providers from 2022 to 2023.

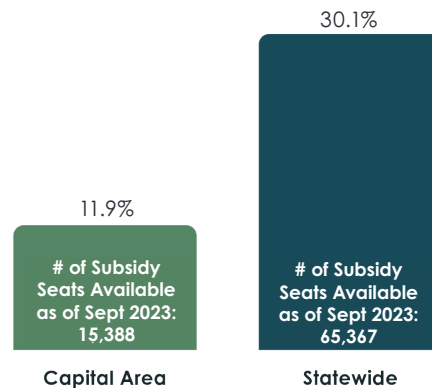
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Capital Area region. **58 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **3.7 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is lower than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 20.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

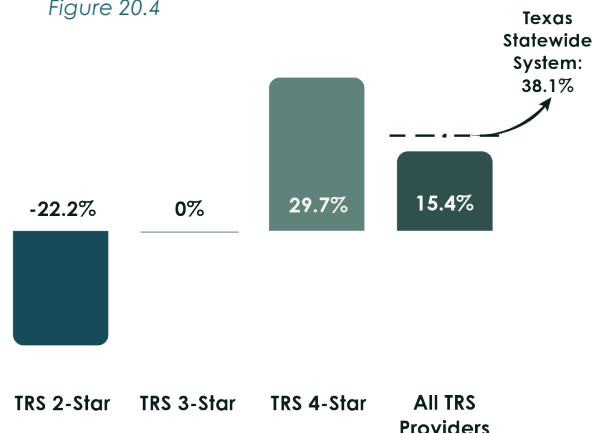
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

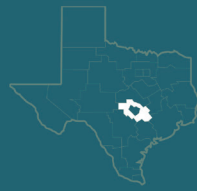
Figure 20.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 20.4



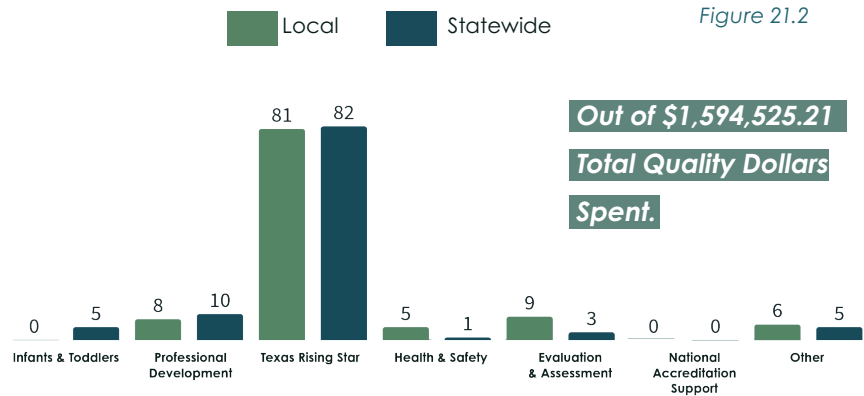


INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Rural Capital Area Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included providing resources to early learning programs to support TRS participation, as well as holding a parent symposium to increase parent knowledge of local child care resources and topics. Rural Capital also supported shared services by providing Brightwheel for back-end business support. The LWDB provided training in social-emotional concepts for teachers and directors, as well as other professional development resources. Finally, Teacher Incentive Awards for increasing level of education were given.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

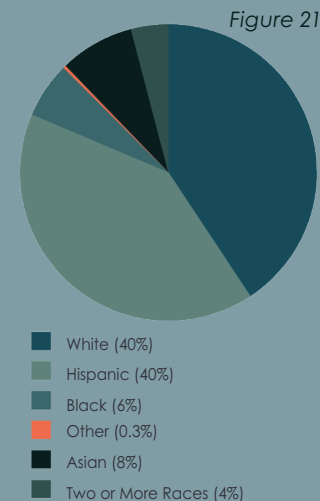
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY



KEY FACTS

- ★ Rural Capital Area has **74,619 children under 5 years old.**
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Cedar Park.**
- ★ The LWDB has **32 members, three of whom have child care experience.**
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers paid holidays based on their TRS star level.
 - TRS 2 Star providers receive 10 paid days.
 - TRS 3 Star providers receive 11 paid days.
 - TRS 4 Star providers receive 12 paid days.
- ★ Rural Capital Area has identified **four priority groups to receive a child care subsidy** (in addition to federal & state priority groups).
 - Parents who need full year care,
 - Siblings of children currently in care,
 - Parents participating in a case-managed employment or education program, and
 - Children receiving care through Early Head Start partnership grants.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS



**Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates*

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Rural Capital Area LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families. There has been a **47.4% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, outpacing the statewide increase of 30.1% in the number of subsidized child care seats statewide.

Rural Capital Area has increased the number of TRS providers faster than the rest of the state. There has been a **47.9% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **38% of providers in the Rural Capital Area region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **35 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 4-star providers (17 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 3-star category (from 6 providers in 2022 to 22 providers in 2023). The 2-star level increased by two providers from 2022 to 2023.

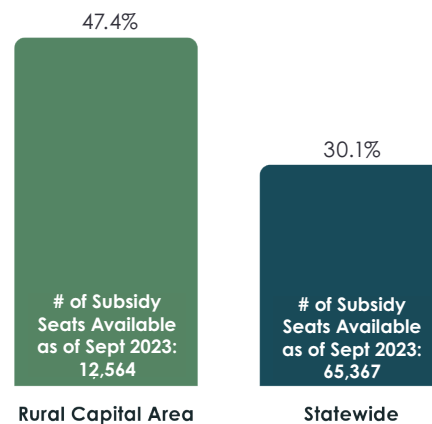
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Rural Capital Area region. **78 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **2.6 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is lower than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 21.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

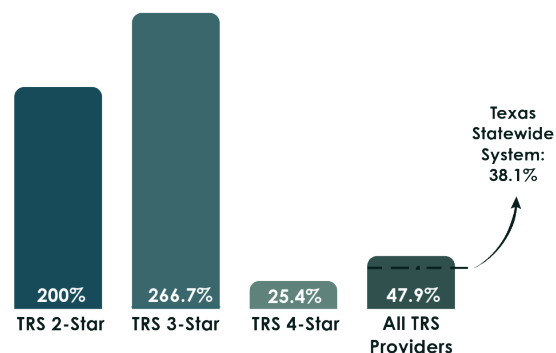
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 21.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 21.4



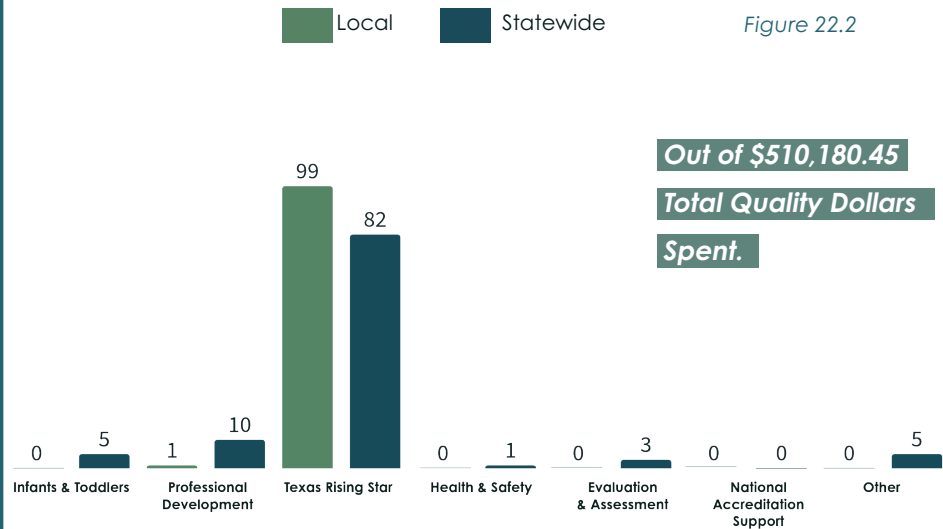


INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Brazos Valley Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included curricula to support early learning and development, as well as training on how to implement curricular elements effectively. Brazos Valley also supported coursework at Blinn Community College for child development and encouraged CDA renewals.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

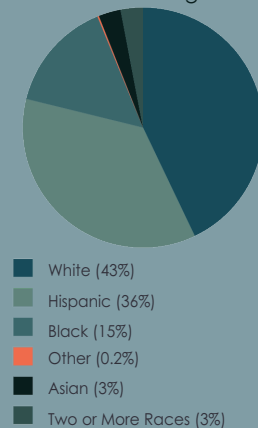


KEY FACTS

- ★ Brazos Valley has **21,377 children under the age of 5 years old.**
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Bryan.**
- ★ The LWDB consists of **27 members, two of whom have child care experience.**
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers 13 paid holidays.
- ★ Brazos Valley has identified **two additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal and statewide priority groups).
 - Participants referred from the Housing Choice Voucher Family Self Sufficiency program, and
 - Participants referred from the workforce Center who are participating in a WIOA funding activity or training program.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 22.1



*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Brazos Valley should continue investing in quality efforts to increase access to quality child care for low-income families. There has been a **22.4% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Brazos Valley has increased the number of TRS providers at a slightly slower rate to the state with a **23.7% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **43.5% of providers in the Brazos Valley region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **nine more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 3-star providers (7 more providers). The 2-star and 4-star categories each increased by 1 provider from 2022 to 2023.

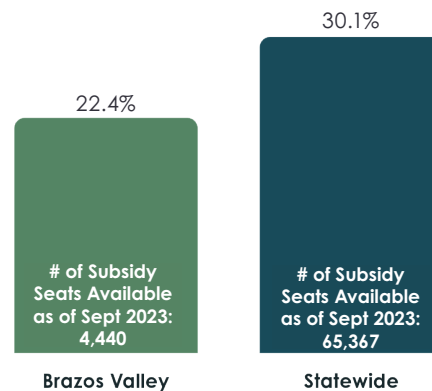
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Brazos Valley region. **37 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **5.5 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is lower than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 22.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

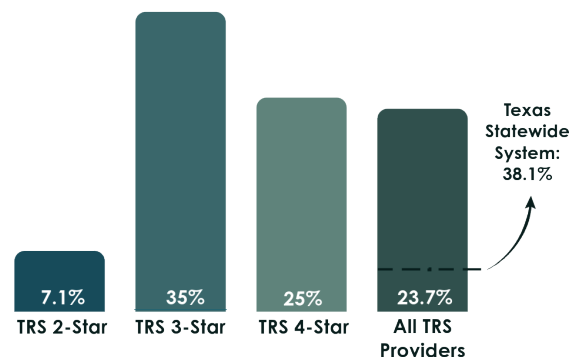
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 22.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 22.4





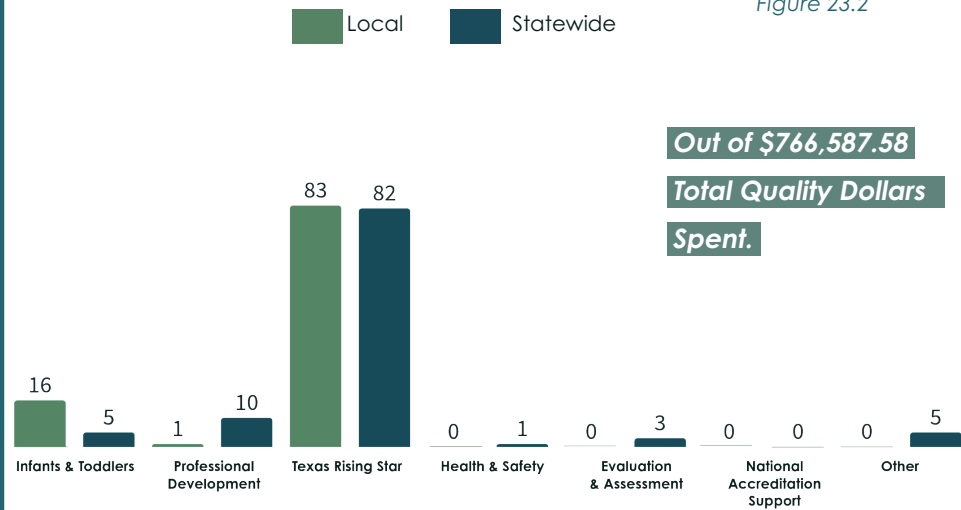
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Deep East Texas Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included providing materials, equipment, curricula, and resources to help programs meet TRS requirements. Deep East Texas also included materials and resources specifically to support infants and toddlers, as well as funding to support child care professionals in obtaining their CDA credential. Deep East Texas also held their annual Texas Rising Star banquet.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 23.2

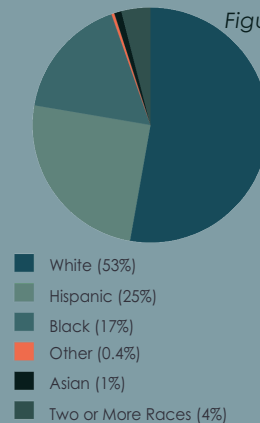


KEY FACTS

- ★ Deep East Texas has **22,158 children under 5 years old**.
- ★ The primary Local Workforce Development Board office is located in **Lufkin**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **29 members, three of whom have child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers nine paid holidays.
- ★ Deep East Texas has identified **one additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal and statewide priority groups).
 - Deep East Texas Match Partners

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 23.1



*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Deep East Texas LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a slight **1.1% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Deep East Texas has increased the number of TRS providers slower than the rest of the state with a **10% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **57.1% of providers in the Deep East Texas region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **four more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 4-star providers (5 more providers), although the 3-star category decreased by one provider (from 16 providers in 2022 to 15 providers in 2023). The 2-star level has had zero providers from 2022 to 2023.

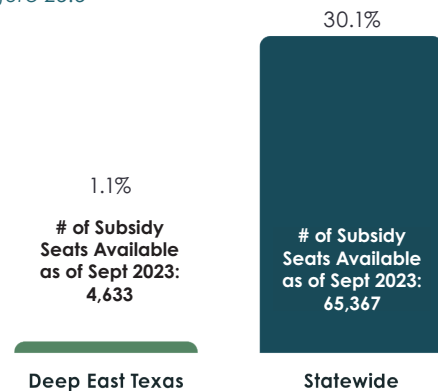
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Deep East Texas region. **35 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **11.7 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is higher than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 23.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

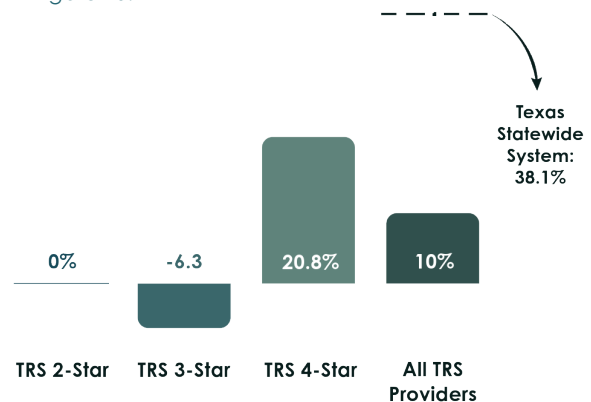
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

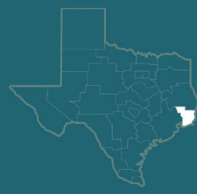
Figure 23.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 23.4



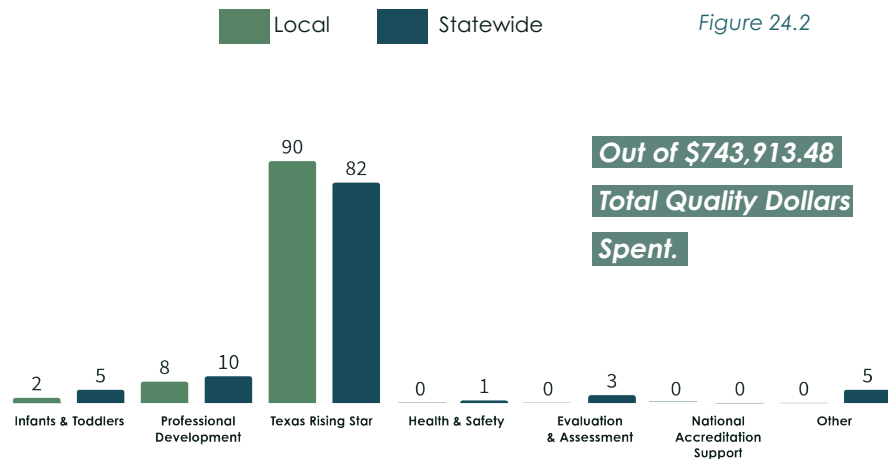


INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Southeast Texas Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included purchasing equipment for entry level TRS providers, as well as technology and outdoor grants and curricula for providers. The LWDB invested in professional development specifically for entry level TRS Providers and various other topics. Finally, the LWDB also dedicated funds towards infants and toddlers including outdoor play, early math for infants and toddlers, and Texas Early Learning Guidelines.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

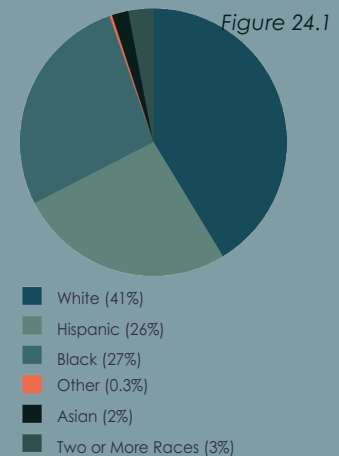
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY



KEY FACTS

- ★ Southeast Texas has **25,406 children under 5 years old.**
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Beaumont.**
- ★ The LWDB consists of **27 members, two of whom have child care experience.**
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers 11 paid holidays
- ★ Southeast Texas has identified **two additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal statewide priority groups).
 - Siblings of children currently in care, and
 - Participants of the Targeting Our Possibilities (TOP) program.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS



*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

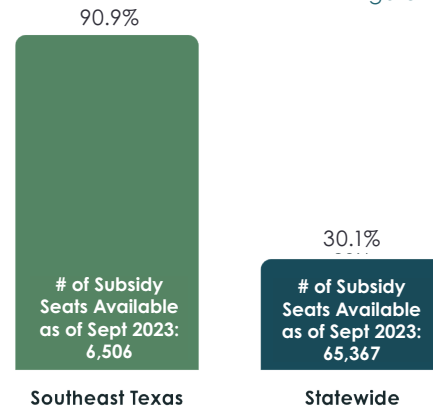
Southeast Texas LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low income families. There has been a **90.9% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, outpacing the statewide increase of 30.1% in the number of subsidized child care seats statewide.

Southeast Texas has increased the number of TRS providers faster than the rest of the state. There has been an **82.1% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **53.7% of providers in the Southeast Texas region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **23 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 3-star providers (14 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 2-star category (from one provider in 2022 to three providers in 2023).

To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Southeast Texas region. **20 zip codes in this area are designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **12.6 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is higher than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

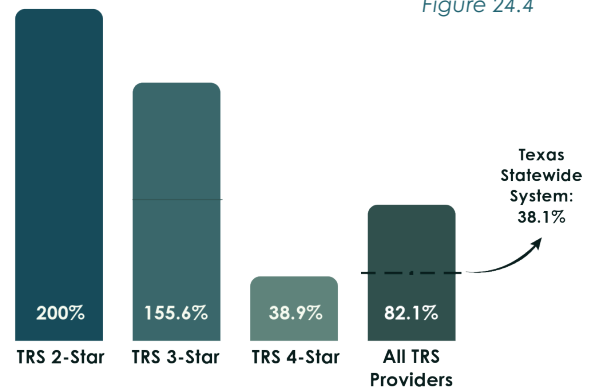
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 24.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 24.4



To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 24.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/



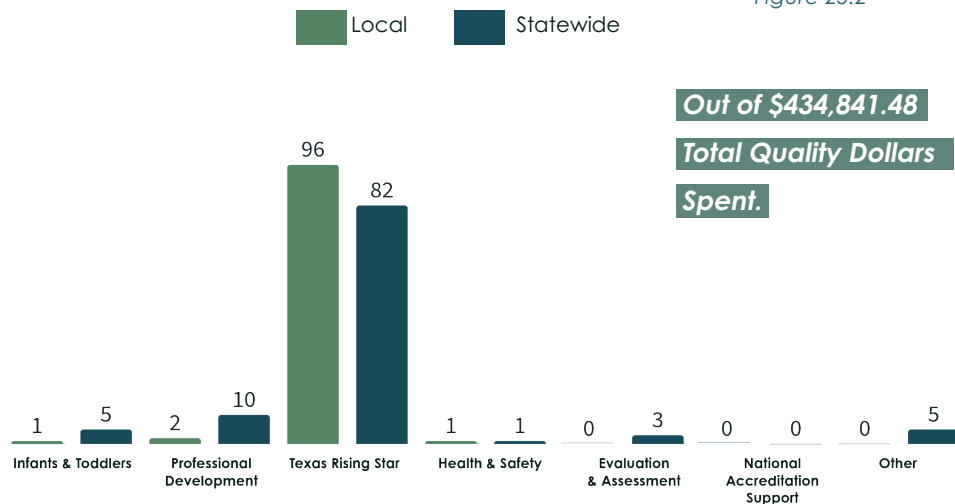
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Golden Crescent Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included providing materials to support early learning and training incentives for teachers and directors who attended training related to a developmentally appropriate curriculum. In addition, retention bonuses were given to staff at TRS Centers. Infant/toddler expansion grants were given to six programs to expand their infant and toddler capacity. Golden Crescent also made a wide variety of professional development opportunities and trainings available to child care programs.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 25.2

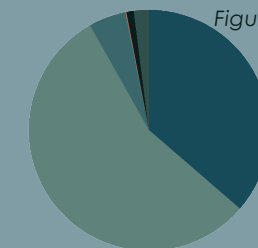


KEY FACTS

- ★ Golden Crescent has **12,507 children under 5 years old**.
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Victoria**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **31 members, two of whom have child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers nine paid holidays.
- ★ Golden Crescent has identified **one additional priority group** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal and statewide eligibility requirements) –
 - Siblings of children currently in care. (this was limited to 12 months of eligibility).

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 25.1



- White (36%)
- Hispanic (55%)
- Black (5%)
- Other (0.1%)
- Asian (1)
- Two or More Races (2%)

*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

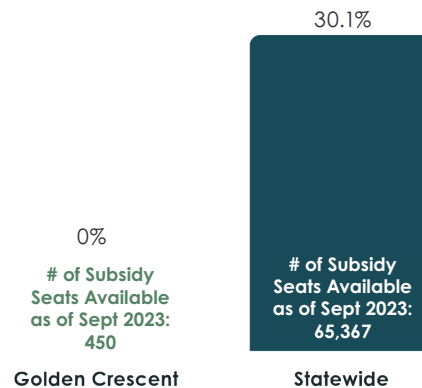
Golden Crescent LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent, providing opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been **no change in the number of subsidy slots available** during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Golden Crescent has not increased the number of TRS providers compared to the rest of the state with a **0% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **5.3% of providers in the Golden Crescent region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. There were zero 2-star providers, one 3-star provider, and two 4-star providers, totaling just three providers participating in TRS from 2022 to 2023.

To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Golden Crescent region. **22 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **2.6 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is lower than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

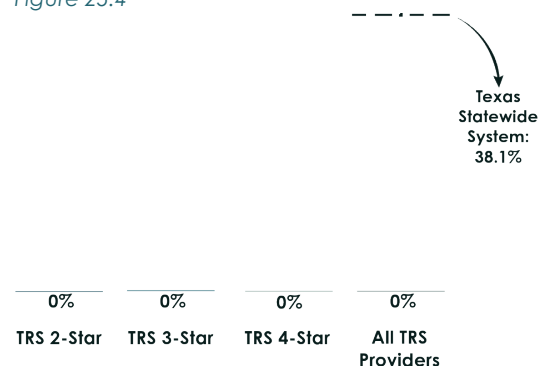
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 25.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 25.4



To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 25.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/



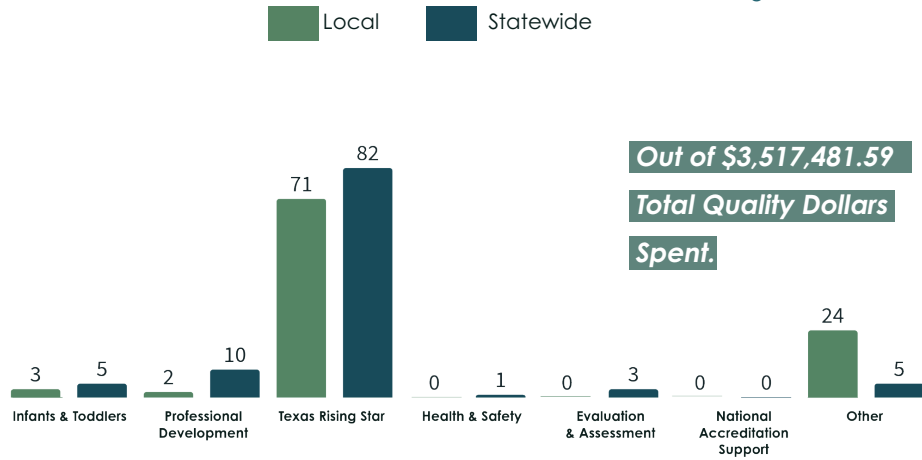
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Alamo Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included providing incentives to providers to support continued participation in the TRS program, assessment incentives for newly certified providers, and materials to enhance learning environments. A variety of professional development opportunities were also provided throughout the year. Furthermore, Alamo dedicated a significant portion of funds, 24%, to provide bonuses to early childhood teachers to support retention and continuity of care for children.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 26.2

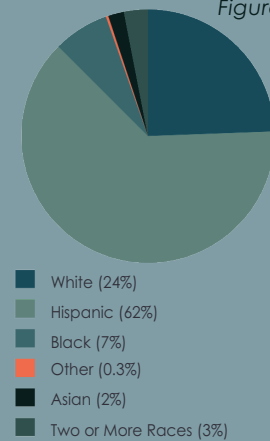


KEY FACTS

- ★ Alamo LWDB has **171,824 children under 5 years old**.
- ★ The primary Local Workforce Development Board office is located in **San Antonio**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **27 members, two of whom have child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers 15 paid holidays.
- ★ Alamo has identified **six priority groups to receive a child care subsidy** (in addition to federal & state priority groups).
 - Children in rural counties,
 - WIOA participants,
 - Siblings of children currently in care,
 - Families enrolled in Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships,
 - JBSA military members, civilians, and associated contractors, and
 - Children dually enrolled in a recognized partnership site.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 26.1



*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Alamo Local Workforce Development Board's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a **27.5% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Alamo has increased the number of TRS providers at a similar rate to the state with a **35.1% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **31.8% of providers in the Alamo region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **40 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 3-star providers (25 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 2-star category (from two providers in 2022 to six providers in 2023).

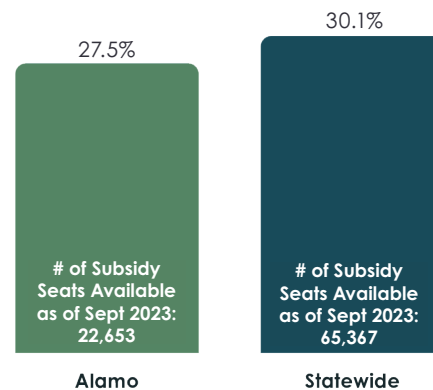
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Alamo region. **98 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **6.3 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is similar to the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 26.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

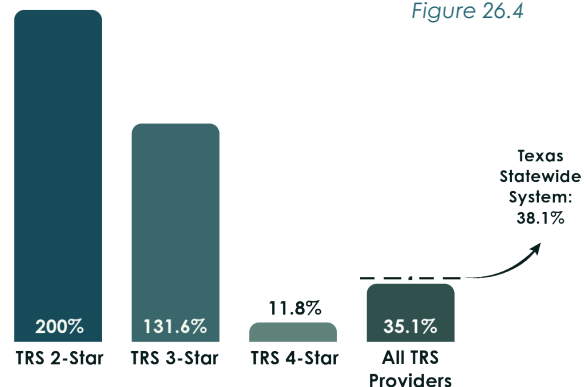
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 26.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 26.4





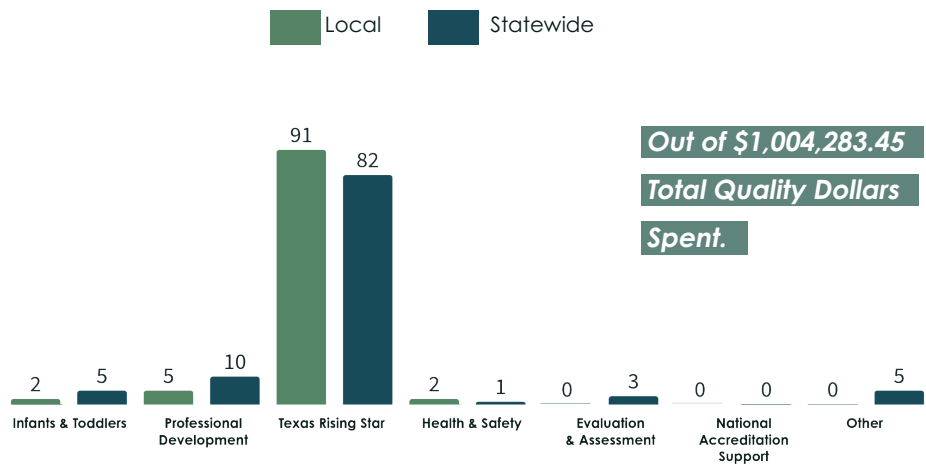
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the South Texas Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included providing programs with classroom materials, curricula and learning resources, and indoor and outdoor equipment to improve the quality of care. South Texas also hosted conferences and professional development events to support teachers' knowledge and skills.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 27.2

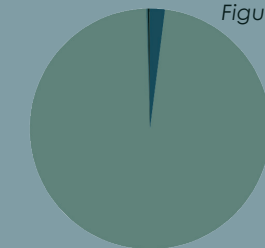


KEY FACTS

- ★ South Texas has **22,687** children under 5 years old.
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Laredo**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **25** members, one of whom has child care experience.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers 12 paid holidays.
- ★ South Texas has identified **one additional priority group** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal and statewide priority groups).
 - Children whose parents are served through any special project that is not required to provide continuity of care upon completion of established eligibility period for said project.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 27.1



- White (2%)
- Hispanic (97.5%)
- Black (0.2%)
- Other (0%)
- Asian (0.2%)
- Two or More Races (0.1%)

*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

South Texas LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families. There has been a **131.2% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, outpacing the statewide increase of 30.1% in the number of subsidized child care seats statewide.

South Texas has increased the number of TRS providers faster than the rest of the state. There has been a **184% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **61.2% of providers in the South Texas region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **46 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 4-star providers (23 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 3-star category (from four providers in 2022 to 24 providers in 2023).

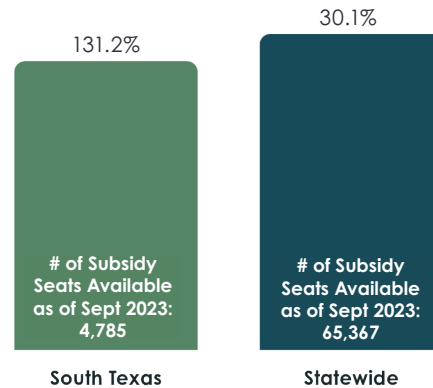
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the South Texas region. **Two zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **31.9 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is far higher than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 27.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

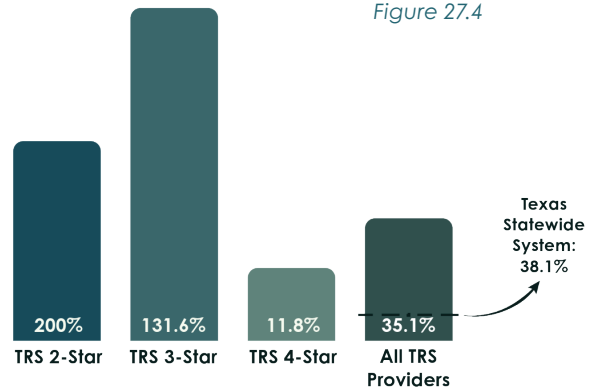
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 27.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 27.4





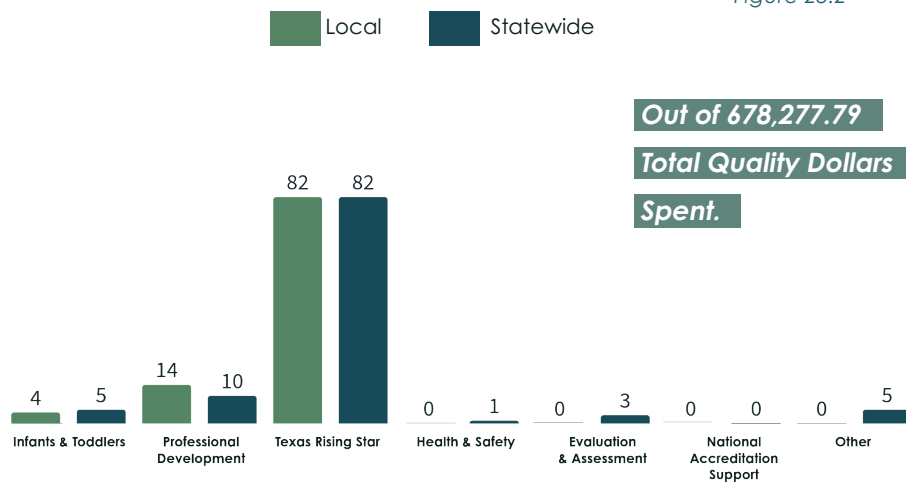
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Coastal Bend Workforce Development LWDB expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included purchasing materials and curricula for TRS entry-level designated providers. Additionally, the Coastal Bend Workforce LWDB provided trainings and learning opportunities for child care staff regarding child safety, developmentally appropriate curricula, and how to support children's behavior in the classroom.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 28.2

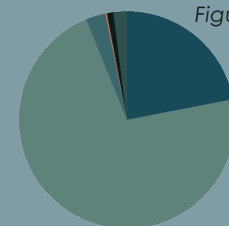


KEY FACTS

- ★ Coastal Bend LWDB has **35,328 children under 5 years**.
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Corpus Christi**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **30 members, two of whom have child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers nine paid holidays.
- ★ Coastal Bend has identified **one additional priority group** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal and statewide eligibility requirements)
 - Siblings of children currently in care.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 28.1



- White (22%)
- Hispanic (72.2%)
- Black (3%)
- Other (0.2%)
- Asian (1%)
- Two or More Races (2%)

*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Coastal Bend LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a **21.9% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Coastal Bend has increased the number of TRS providers faster than the rest of the state with a **57.7% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **25.9% of providers in the Coastal Bend region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **15 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 4-star providers (nine more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 2-star category (from one provider in 2022 to four providers in 2023).

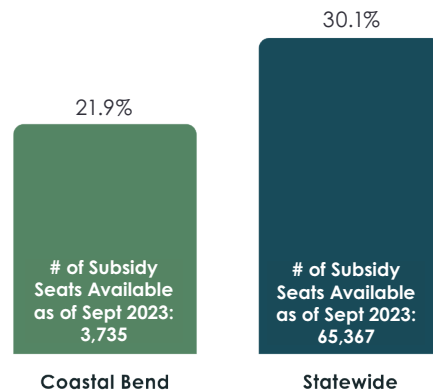
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Coastal Bend region. **23 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **10.2 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is higher than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 28.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

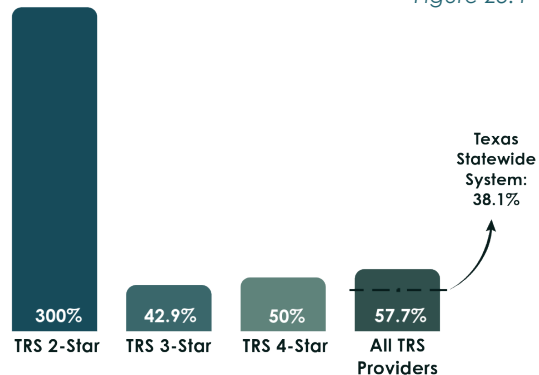
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 28.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 28.4





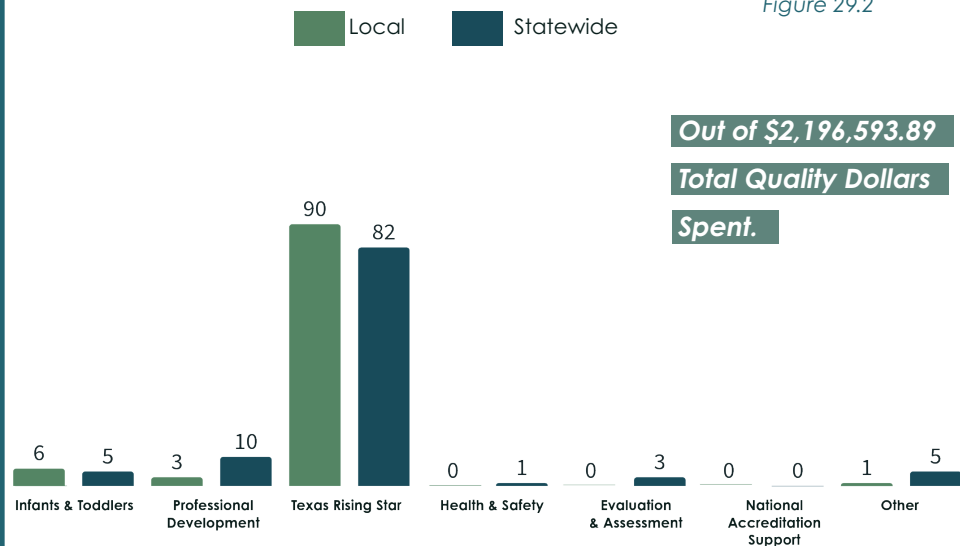
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Lower Rio Grande Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this encompassed learning packages that included age-appropriate material and furniture for classrooms to enhance learning, as well as curricula to support children's growth. CDA coursework through South Texas College, along with covering the costs of CDA fees and funding completion incentives. The Lower Rio Grande also hosted a virtual conference for child care professionals who serve infants & toddlers.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 29.2

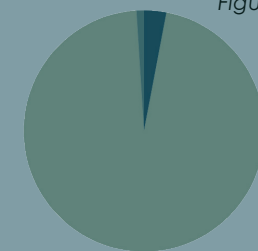


KEY FACTS

- ★ Lower Rio Grande Valley LWDB has **75,047** children under 5 years old.
- ★ The primary Local Workforce Development Board office is located in **Rio Grande City**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **30 members**, two of whom have child care experience.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers nine paid holidays.
- ★ Lower Rio Grande has identified **four priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to federal and state eligibility requirements).
 - Siblings of children currently in care,
 - Children of parents referred by a local match contributor,
 - WIOA program participants, and
 - Participants enrolled in special grant program activities.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 29.1



- White (3%)
- Hispanic (96%)
- Black (1%)
- Other (0%)
- Asian (0%)
- Two or More Races (0%)

*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Lower Rio Grande LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a **26.4% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Lower Rio Grande has increased the number of TRS providers slightly slower than the rest of the state with a **27.4% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **22.5% of providers in the Lower Rio Grande region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **20 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 4-star providers (17 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 3-star category (from three providers in 2022 to seven providers in 2023). The 2-star level decreased from one provider in 2022 to zero providers in 2023.

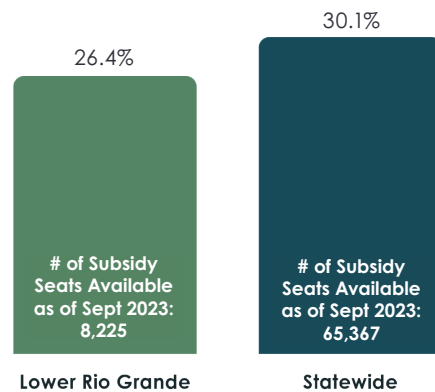
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Lower Rio Grande region. **Eight zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. Yet, Lower Rio Grande LWDB has made amazing progress. There are **59.8 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is far higher than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 29.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

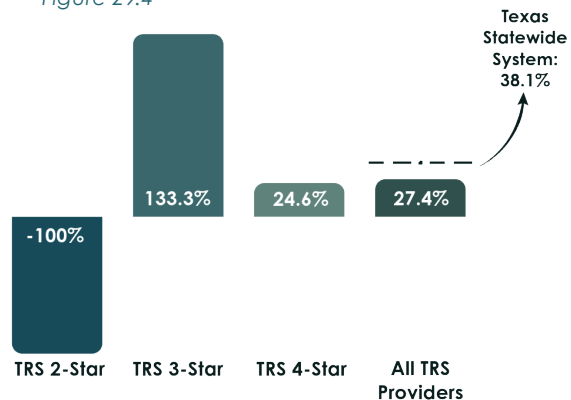
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 29.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 29.4





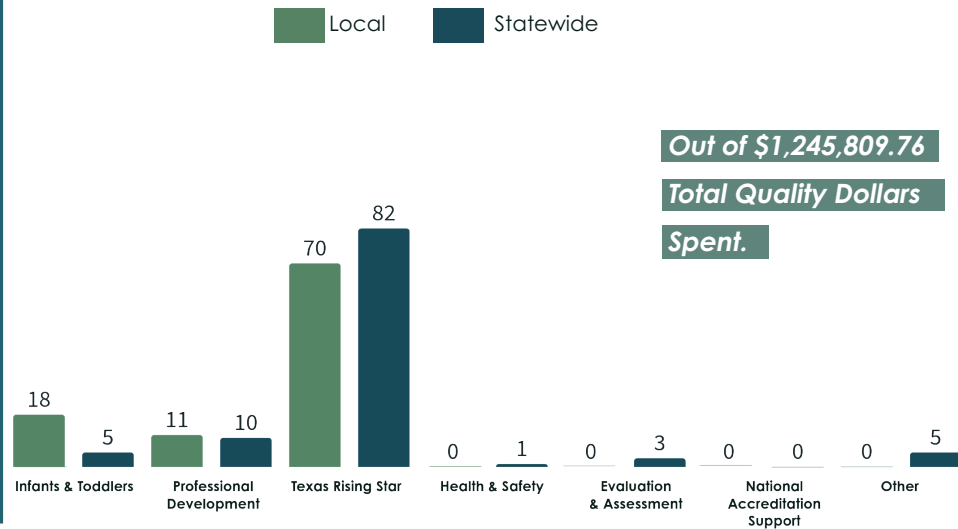
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Cameron Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included purchasing classroom materials and equipment as well as developmentally appropriate curricula. Furthermore, some of those curricula kits were dedicated specifically to support infant and toddler classrooms. Finally, Cameron LWDB also hosted a conference and various trainings to support professional development for child care teachers and staff.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 30.2

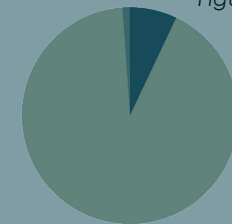


KEY FACTS

- ★ Cameron LWDB has **29,717 children under 5 years old**.
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Harlingen**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **27 members, three of whom have child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers nine paid holidays.
- ★ Cameron has identified **two additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal and statewide eligibility requirements).
 - Siblings of children currently in care, and
 - Eligible WIOA participants.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 30.1



- White (7%)
- Hispanic (91%)
- Black (1%)
- Other (0.1%)
- Asian (0%)
- Two or More Races (0%)

*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Cameron LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a slight **16.4% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Cameron has increased the number of TRS providers at a slower rate than the rest of the state with a **14.9% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **35.8% of providers in the Central Texas region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **seven more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 4-star providers (5 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 3-star category (from 15 providers in 2022 to 20 providers in 2023). The 2-star level decreased by three providers from 2022 to 2023.

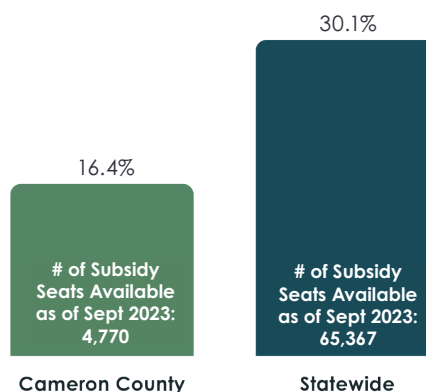
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Cameron LWDB region. **Four zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is 3x greater than the supply. Yet, Cameron has made amazing progress. There are **40.4 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is far higher than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 30.5.

[Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/](https://childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/)

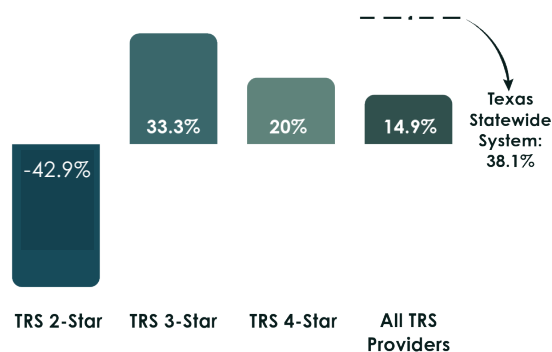
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 30.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 30.4





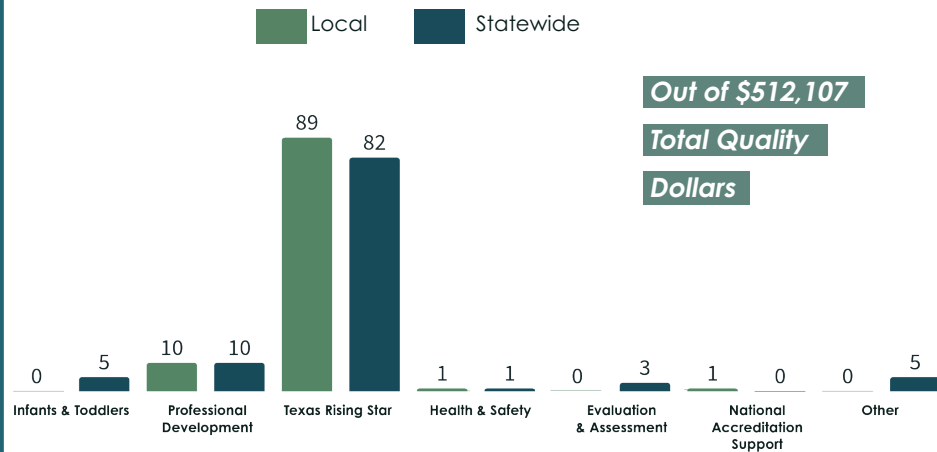
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Texoma Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included offering grant opportunities to assist centers with purchasing classroom materials, equipment and needed resources, as well as employment retention incentives to staff that were successful in educational attainment.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 31.2

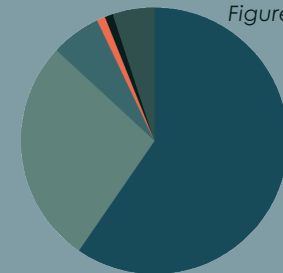


KEY FACTS

- ★ Texoma LWDB has **13,776 children under 5 years old**.
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Denison**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **30 members, two of whom have child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers nine paid holidays.
- ★ Texoma has identified **four priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to federal and statewide eligibility requirements).
 - Siblings of children currently in care,
 - Children receiving protective foster care who are not funded through TDFPS funds,
 - Clients who are enrolled in WIOA programs and need CCDF funded child care, and
 - Clients attending training or education programs at least an average of 20 hours per week.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 31.1



- White (59%)
- Hispanic (27%)
- Black (6%)
- Other (1%)
- Asian (1%)
- Two or More Races (5%)

*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Texoma LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families. There has been a **32.9% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, outpacing the statewide increase of 30.1% in the number of subsidized child care seats statewide.

Texoma has increased the number of TRS providers faster than the rest of the state. There has been a **50% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **35.6% of providers in the Central Texas region participating in TRS** similar to the 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **seven more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 4-star providers (5 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 3-star category (from zero providers in 2022 to two providers in 2023). The 2-star level had zero providers from 2022 to 2023.

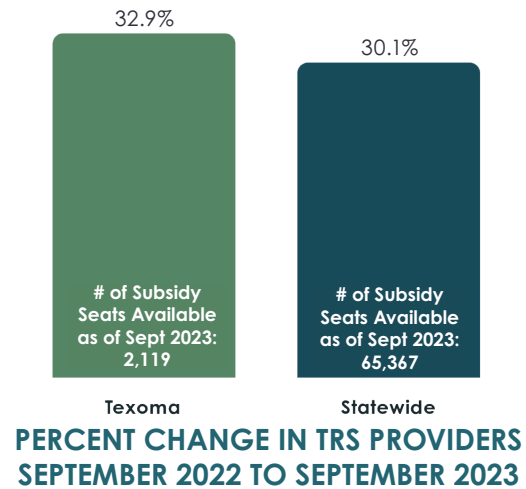
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Texoma region. **29 zip codes in this area are still designated as Quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **3.7 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is lower than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 31.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

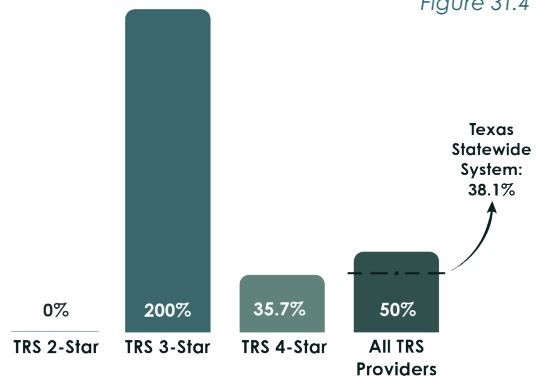
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 31.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 31.4





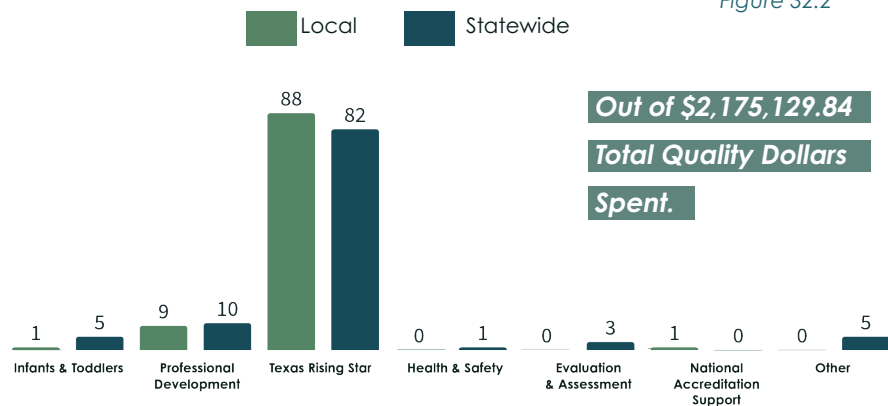
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Central Texas Local Workforce Development (LWDB) expended the vast majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included purchasing materials, curricula, and supplies for child care providers. Central Texas supports programs through the NAEYC Accreditation process and also provided opportunities for conferences, training, and professional development events, both virtually and in-person. These events were targeted toward entry-level TRS child care providers, but this LWDB also hosted events on curricula and other child care topics.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 32.2

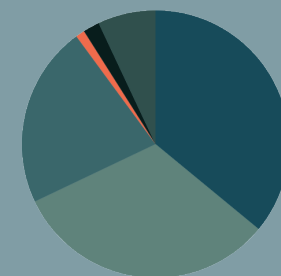


KEY FACTS

- ★ Central Texas LWDB has **39,217 children under 5 years old**.
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Belton**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **27 members, one of whom has child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers 10 paid holidays.
- ★ Central Texas has identified **eight priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to federal & state groups).
 - Siblings of children currently in care,
 - Local match ISD referred children,
 - Parents residing in rural communities,
 - Children who attend Head Start and Early Start and need wrap-around services,
 - Children who attend ISD Pre-K and need wrap-around services,
 - Children where CPS services were received,
 - Children of customers participating in TWC Workforce funded programs such as WIOA and other special projects as defined by the LWDB, and
 - School age children.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 32.1



- White (36%)
- Hispanic (32%)
- Black (22%)
- Other (1.1%)
- Asian (2%)
- Two or More Races (7%)

*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Central Texas LWDB's quality efforts have remained consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a **69% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Central Texas has increased the number of TRS providers faster than the rest of the state with a **58.3% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **28.4% of providers in the Central Texas region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **21 more providers participating in TRS in September 2023** when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 3-star providers (11 more providers), although the largest percentage change was in the 2-star category (from one provider in 2022 to 3 providers in 2023).

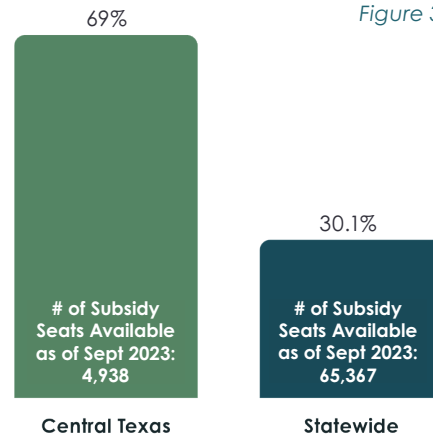
To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Central Texas region. **38 zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. **There are 5.4 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families in the region.** This is lower than the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 32.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

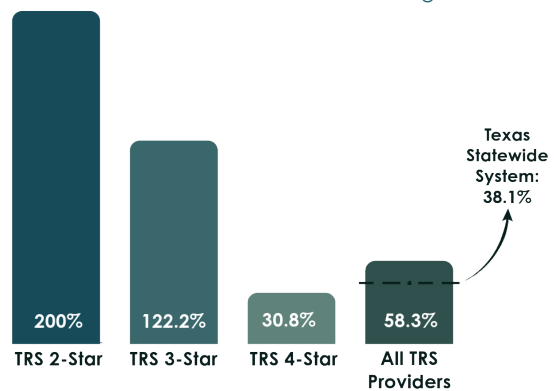
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 32.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 32.4





INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Middle Rio Grande Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included purchasing curricula and equipment for providers. Additionally, Middle Rio Grande LWDB allocated 29% of their funds to hosting multiple professional development events on a wide array of child development topics, and provided scholarships to 25 participants to support them in their pursuit of a Child Development Associates (CDA) degree.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

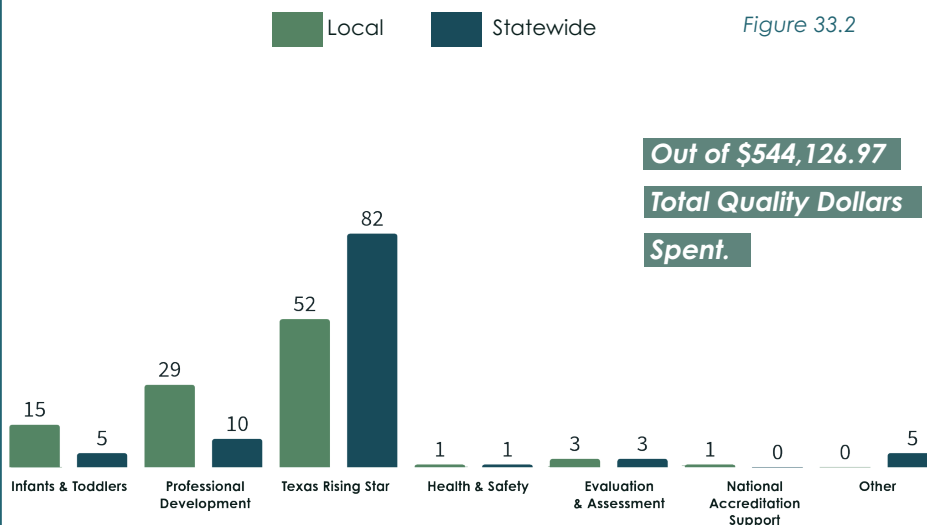


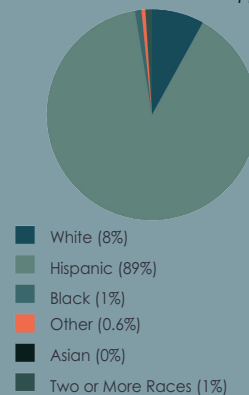
Figure 33.2

KEY FACTS

- ★ Middle Rio Grande LWDB has **12,658 children under 5 years old**.
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Uvalde**.
- ★ The LWDB consists of **36 members, two of whom have child care experience**.
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers nine paid holidays.
- ★ Middle Rio Grande has identified **one additional priority group** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to the federal and statewide eligibility requirements)
 - Siblings of current child care subsidy recipients.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 33.1



*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

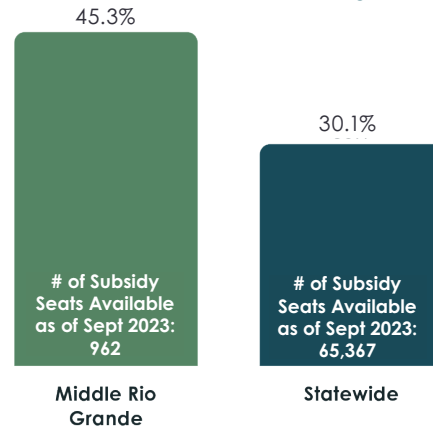
Middle Rio Grande LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a **45.3% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Middle Rio Grande has increased the number of TRS providers at a slightly slower rate than the rest of the state with a **30% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **33.3% of providers in the Middle Rio Grande region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **three more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 2-star providers (from one provider in 2022 to four providers in 2023).

To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Middle Rio Grande region. **Eight zip codes in this area are still designated as quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is 3x greater than the supply. There are **eight TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is similar to the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

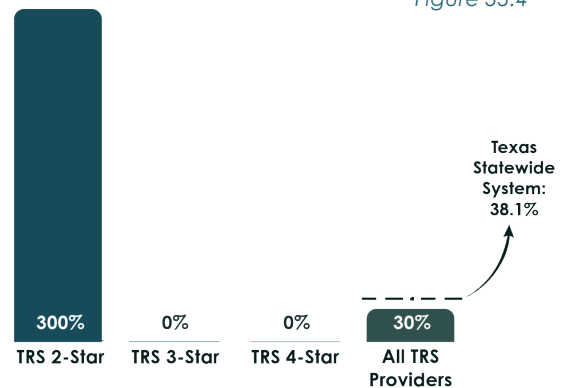
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 33.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 33.4



To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 33.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/



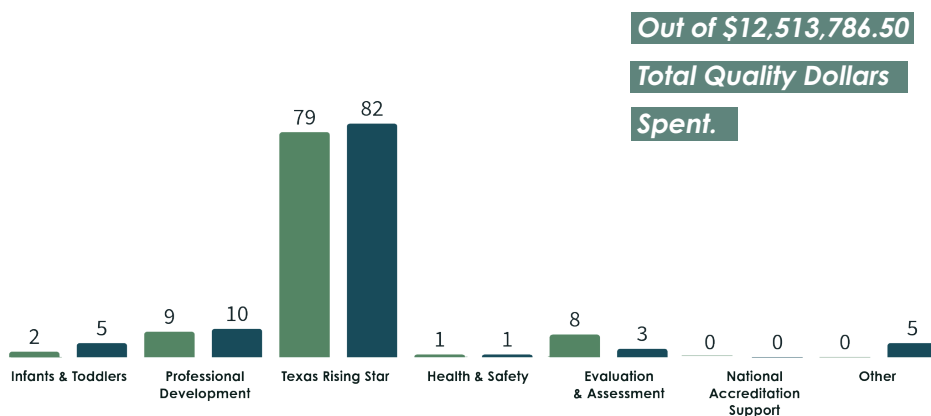
INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE QUALITY FUNDS

Similar to the rest of the state, the Gulf Coast Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) expended the majority of funds to support Texas Rising Star (TRS). According to the spending narrative provided, this included supporting family engagement and learning in the home as well as equipment grants to incentivize providers to obtain initial TRS certification or to maintain or increase star levels. Gulf Coast received incentives for national accreditation renewals and/or initial certification programs. Scholarships for CDA and college coursework were also provided for teachers and directors.

EACH LWDB IS REQUIRED TO ALLOCATE 4% OF THEIR CCDBG DOLLARS TOWARD QUALITY INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPEND THESE DOLLARS FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WITHIN THE QUALITY ACTIVITY & EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED BY TWC. THIS DATA SHOWS ALLOCATIONS FOR THIS LWDB FOR FY23.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED BY CATEGORY

Figure 34.2

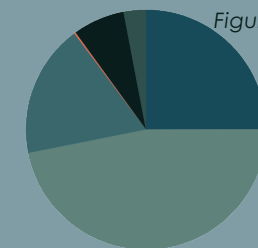


KEY FACTS

- ★ Gulf Coast LWDB has **495,336 children under 5 years old.**
- ★ The primary LWDB office is located in **Houston.**
- ★ The LWDB consists of **47 members, four of whom have child care experience.**
- ★ The LWDB allows child care providers nine paid holidays.
- ★ Gulf Coast has identified **four additional priority groups** to receive a child care subsidy (in addition to federal and state priority groups).
 - Siblings,
 - Students at, or employees of, local match partners,
 - Participants in career, employment, or education activities, and
 - Families who have lost financial aid for program violations and who have fulfilled their mandatory waiting period and reapplied for aid.

RACE & ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS

Figure 34.1



- White (25%)
- Hispanic (47%)
- Black (18%)
- Other (0.2%)
- Asian (7%)
- Two or More Races (3%)

*Source: Census Vintage 2023 Population Estimates

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

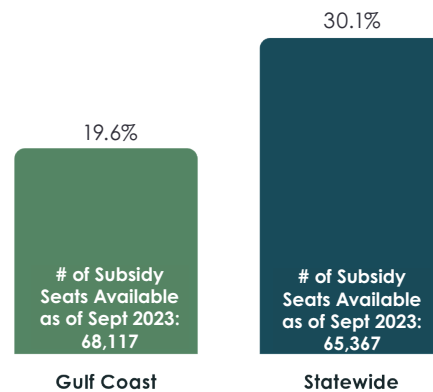
Gulf Coast LWDB's quality efforts remain consistent and continue to provide opportunities for low-income families to access care. There has been a slight **19.6% increase in the number of subsidy slots** available during the 2023 fiscal year, compared to the statewide increase of 30.1%.

Gulf Coast has increased the number of TRS providers at a slower rate than the rest of the state with a **24.2% increase in TRS providers**, compared to the state average of approximately 38%. This has resulted in **31.4% of providers in the Gulf Coast region participating in TRS** versus 36.7% of providers statewide. This translates to **97 more providers participating in TRS** in September 2023 when compared to the previous year. Most of the growth has been new 3-star providers (from 126 providers in 2022 to 188 providers in 2023).

To fully meet the needs of families, investment in equitable, quality care should continue in the Gulf Coast region. **195 zip codes in this area are still designated as Quality Child Care Deserts**, defined as areas where demand for TRS-certified child care is three times greater than the supply. There are **6.5 TRS quality child care seats per 100 low-income children with working families** in the region. This is similar to the statewide landscape – overall, Texas only has 7.2 TRS quality seats per 100 low-income children with working families.

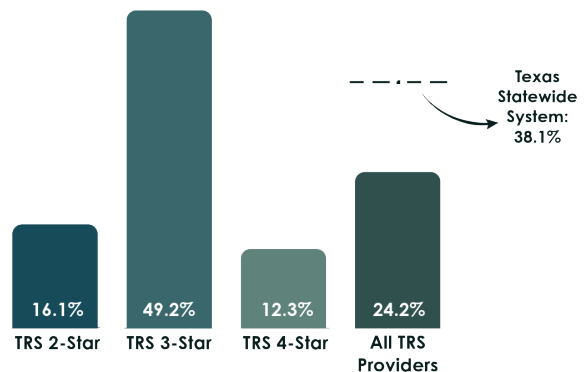
PERCENT CHANGE IN SUBSIDY SEATS

Figure 34.3



PERCENT CHANGE IN TRS PROVIDERS SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Figure 34.4



To see full data available for this LWDB, please refer to Appendix B Figure 34.5.

Learn more at childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/

ENDNOTES

DATA – Capacity by TRS Level ‘percent change’ and ‘difference’
MAIN SCORE CARD ‘% non-TRS Providers’ and ‘% TRS Providers’

CHILDREN AT RISK Child Care Deserts. CHILDREN AT RISK. (2024, August 29).
<https://childrenatrisk.org/childcaredeserts/>

Kofron, K., Thomas, M., Hernandez, K., Perkins, B., Thompson, K. B., Thomas, K. L., Biegel, L., & Villatoro, S. (2022, May 13). The Quest for Equity & Quality: Examining Provider Experiences in Texas Rising Star (TRS). CHILDREN AT RISK. <https://childrenatrisk.org/quest-for-quality/>

Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). (Oct., 2023). Child Care Quality Strategic Planning & Expenditures Guide. <https://www.twc.texas.gov/sites/default/files/wf/docs/ccq-strategic-planning-and-expenditures-guide-twc.pdf>

APPENDIX A

Methodology

For this 2024 report, CHILDREN AT RISK accessed publicly available data directly through the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Child Care Data, Reports and Plans webpage, including the Local Board Child Care Quality Funds: Annual Plans and Quarterly Expenditure Reports, and Child Care by the Numbers. Open records requests were also submitted to TWC requesting spending and quality investment data for all categories for Child Care Quality funding of Texas' 28 LWDBs. Data on local Board policies and administrative decisions were obtained from the LWDBs' webpages; however, where this information was not readily accessible for some Boards, additional follow-up was required via email and phone conversations with LWDBs as well as TWC.

CHILDREN AT RISK conducted both quantitative and qualitative analyses of the LWDB data, and in some instances, facilitated discussions with both statewide and local Board staff for further clarification of the data.

Statewide Report

- Statewide Spending Breakdown of Quality and Administrative Investment Dollars
- Statewide Breakdown of Quality Funds Expended by Category
- Percent Change in Family Child Care Providers
- Percent Change of TRS versus Non-TRS Providers, September 2022 to 2023
- Share of TRS versus Non-TRS Providers
- Number of TRS versus Non-TRS Providers
- Number of TRS Child Care Deserts
- Number of Subsidy Child Care Deserts
- Number of Overall Child Care Deserts
- Ratio of TRS Child Care Seats per 100 Children of Low-Income Working Parents
- Share of Paid Holidays
- Share of Priority Groups
- Share of LWDB Boards with Two or More Members Having Some Child Care Expertise

Local Analysis

APPENDIX A

Methodology

- Qualitative Description of Quality Funds Expended
- Percent of Quality Funds Expended by Category
- Total Number of Children Under Age 5
- Race/Ethnicity Breakdown of Children Under Age 5
- Breakdown of Board Composition
- Number of Paid Holidays
- Number of Priority Groups
- Percent Change in Subsidy Seats, September 2022 to 2023
- Number of Subsidy Seats, September 2023
- Share of TRS Providers
- Percent Change in TRS versus Non-TRS Providers, September 2022 to 2023
- Number of TRS Child Care Deserts
- Ratio of TRS Child Care Seats per 100 Children of Low-Income Working Parents

CHILDREN AT RISK aggregated Census Bureau's county-level [Vintage 2023 population estimates](#), which are through 7/1/2023, to calculate the total number of children under age 5 by LWDB, as well as the race/ethnicity of children under age 5 by LWDB. A breakdown of Census Bureau's data and methodology can be found [here](#).

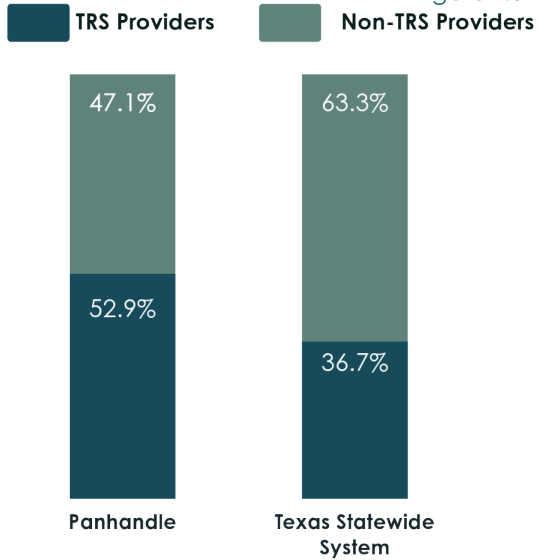
For a detailed explanation of the methodology behind CHILDREN AT RISK's Child Care Deserts Data, [follow this link](#).

APPENDIX B

Share of TRS versus Non-TRS Providers

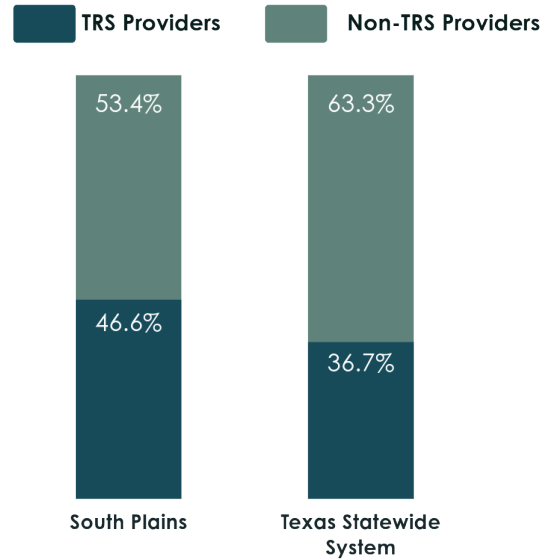
PANHANDLE

Figure 7.5



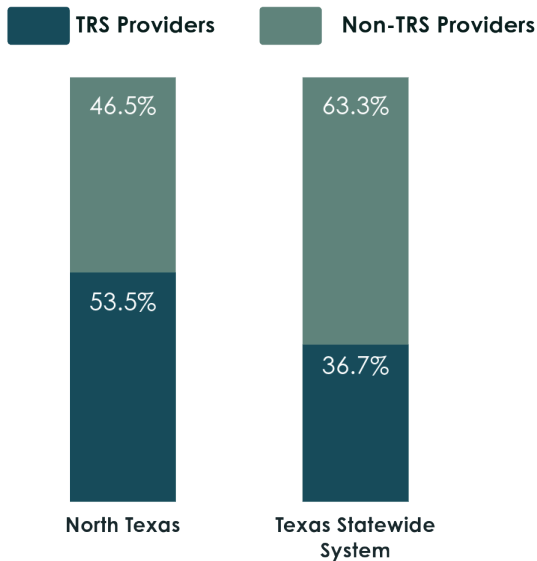
SOUTH PLAINS

Figure 8.5



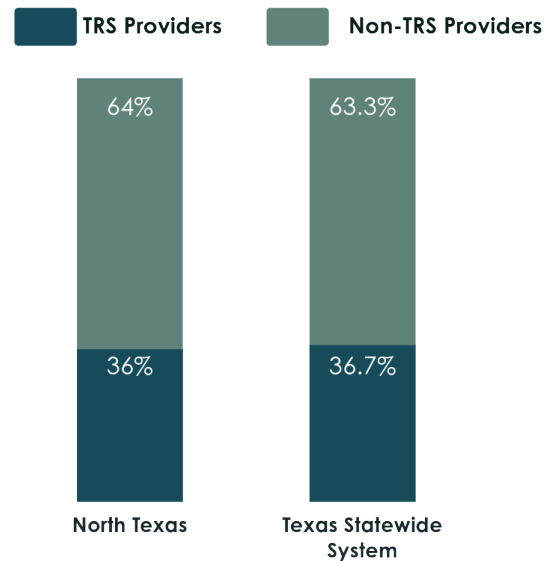
NORTH TEXAS

Figure 9.5



NORTH CENTRAL

Figure 10.5

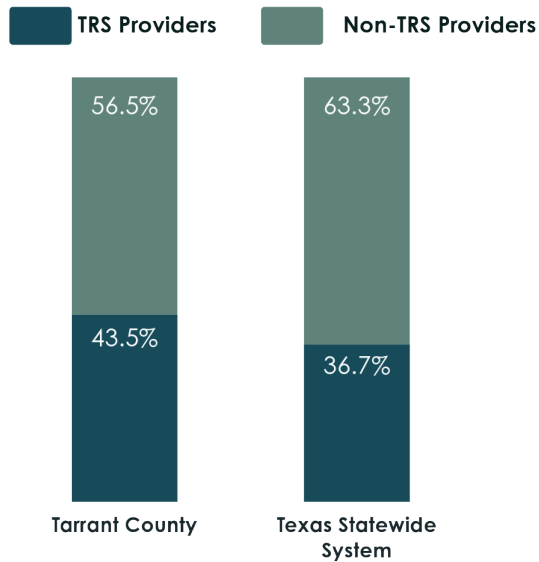


APPENDIX B

Share of TRS versus Non-TRS Providers

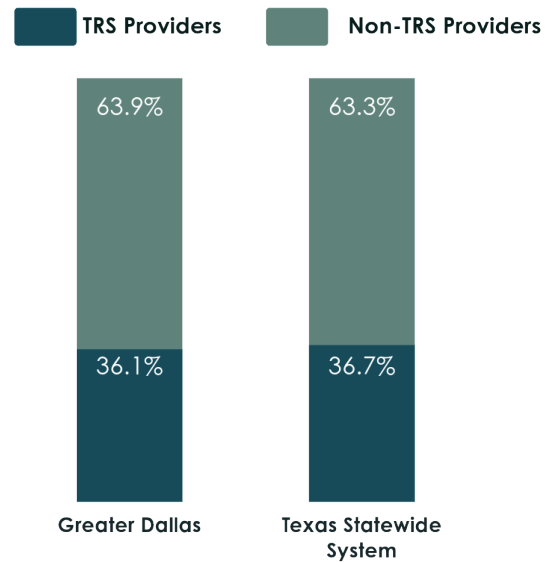
TARRANT

Figure 11.5



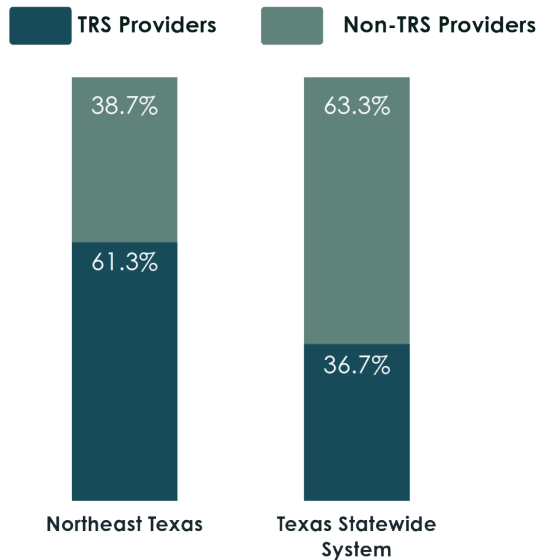
GREATER DALLAS

Figure 12.5



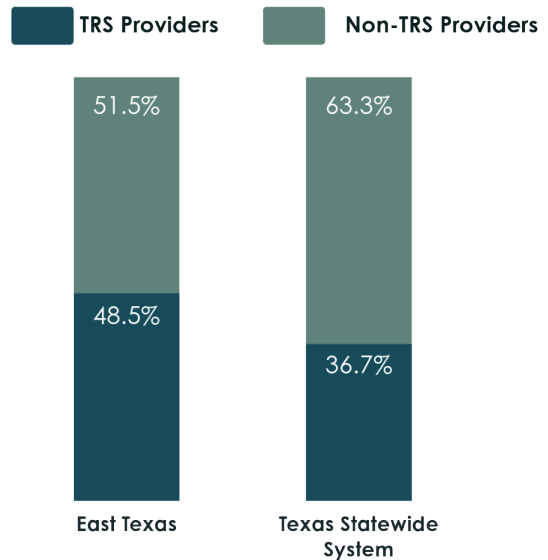
NORTHEAST TEXAS

Figure 13.5



EAST TEXAS

Figure 14.5

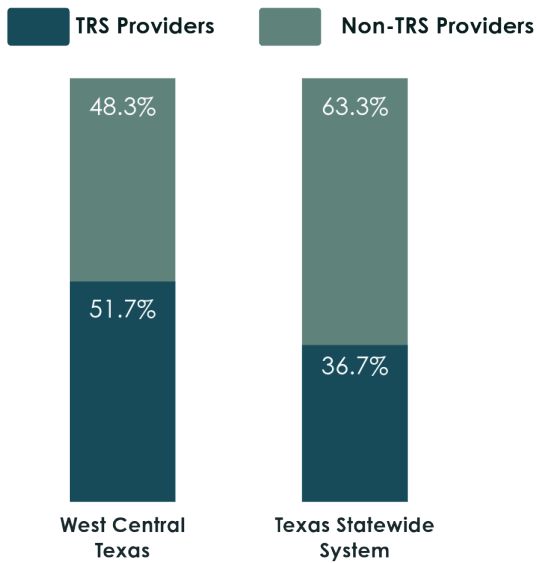


APPENDIX B

Share of TRS versus Non-TRS Providers

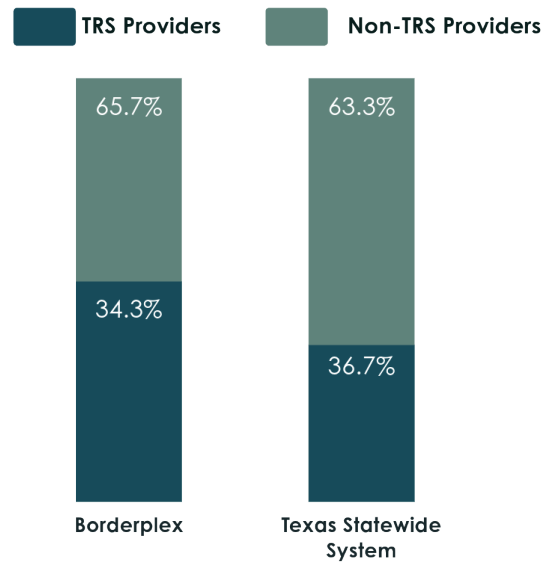
WEST CENTRAL TX

Figure 15.5



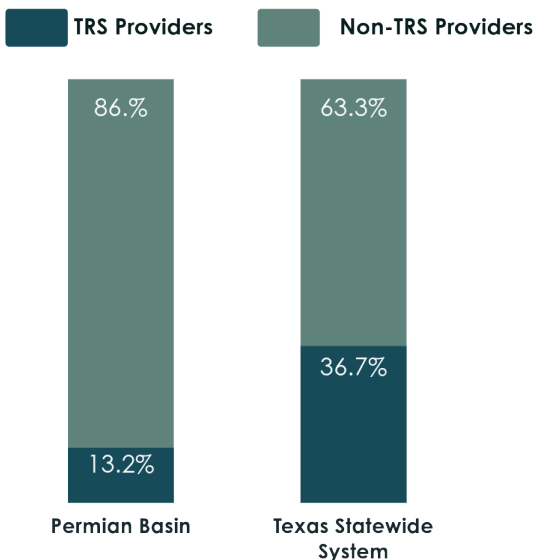
BORDERPLEX

Figure 16.5



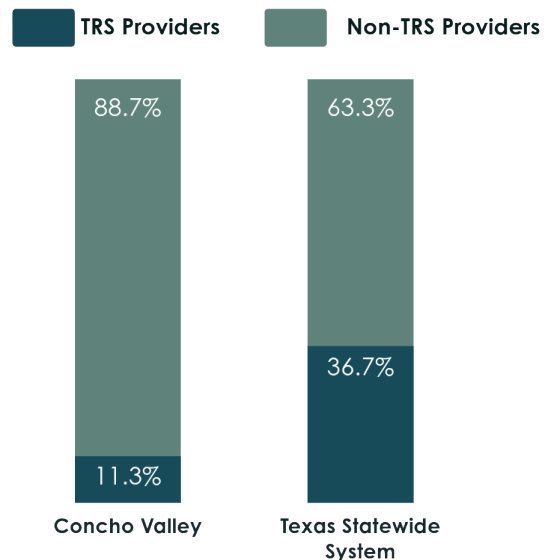
PERMIAN BASIN

Figure 17.5



CONCHO VALLEY

Figure 18.5

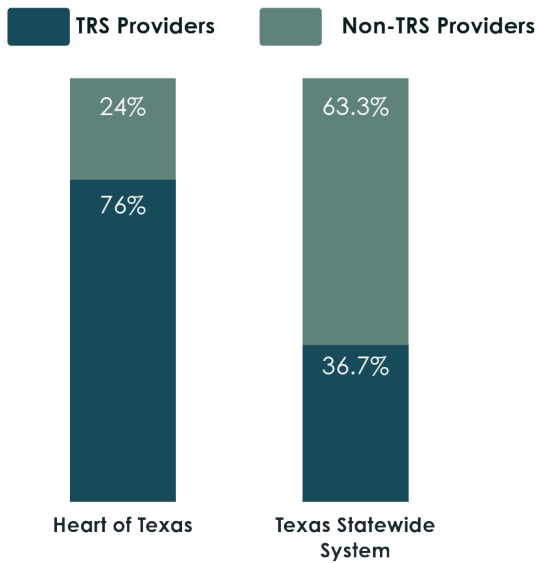


APPENDIX B

Share of TRS versus Non-TRS Providers

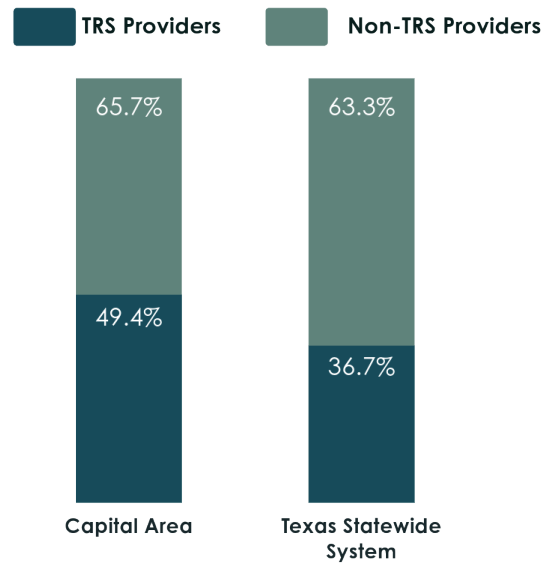
HEART OF TEXAS

Figure 19.5



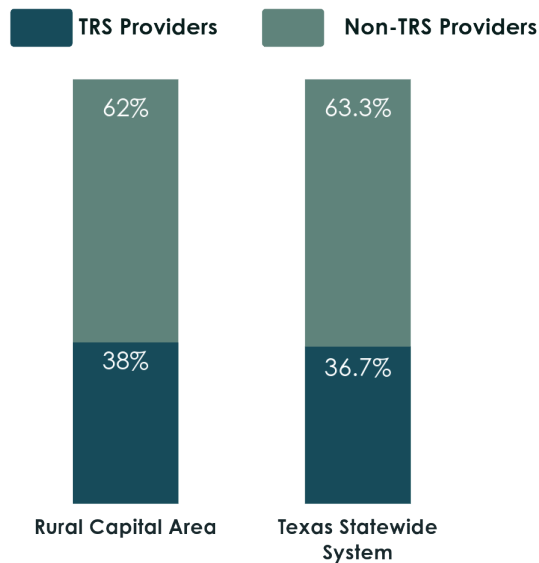
CAPITAL AREA

Figure 20.5



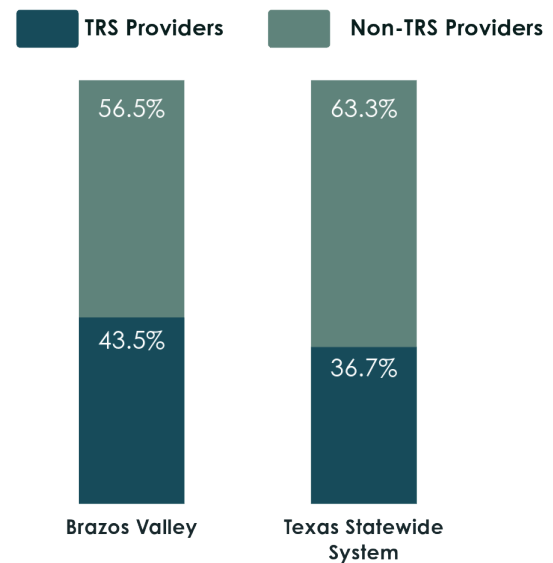
RURAL CAPITAL AREA

Figure 21.5



BRAZOS VALLEY

Figure 22.5

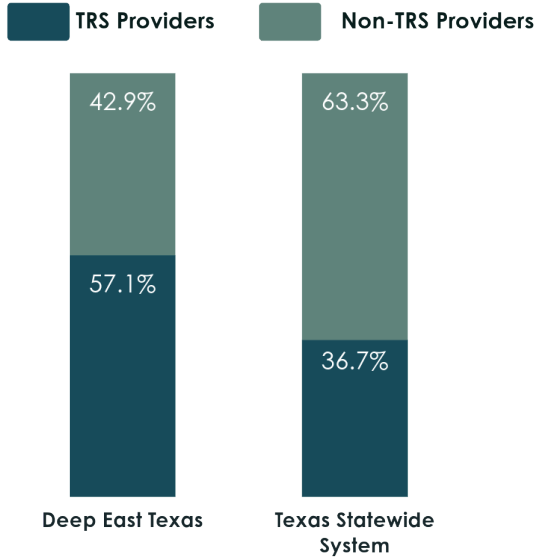


APPENDIX B

Share of TRS versus Non-TRS Providers

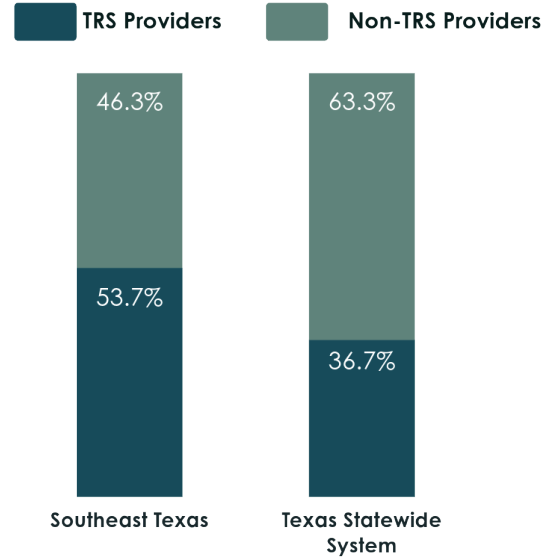
DEEP EAST TEXAS

Figure 23.5



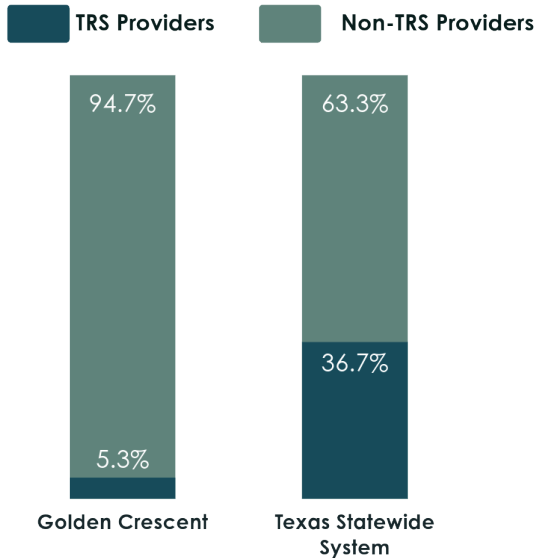
SOUTHEAST TEXAS

Figure 24.5



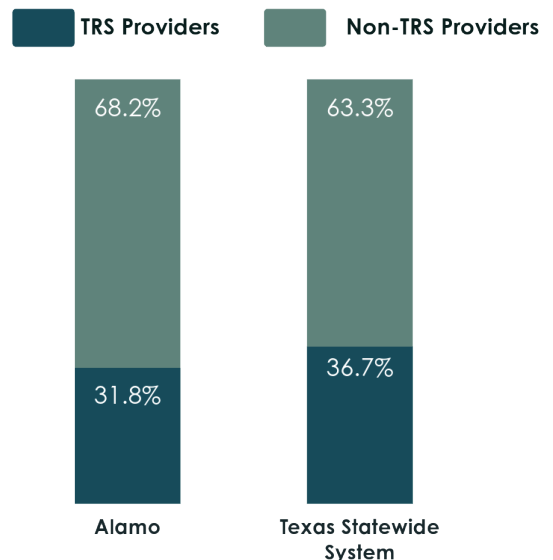
GOLDEN CRESCENT

Figure 25.5



ALAMO

Figure 26.5

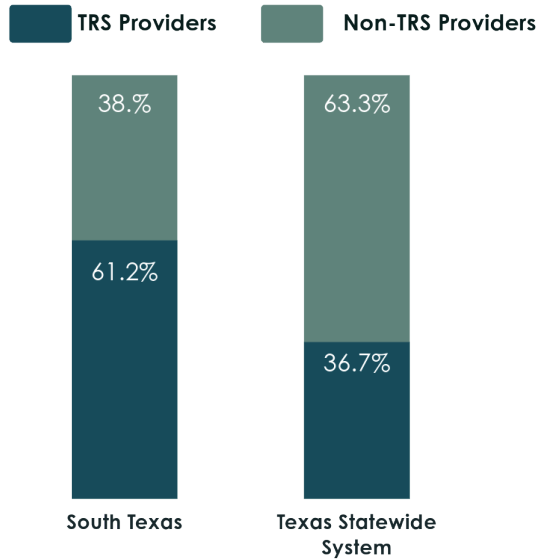


APPENDIX B

Share of TRS versus Non-TRS Providers

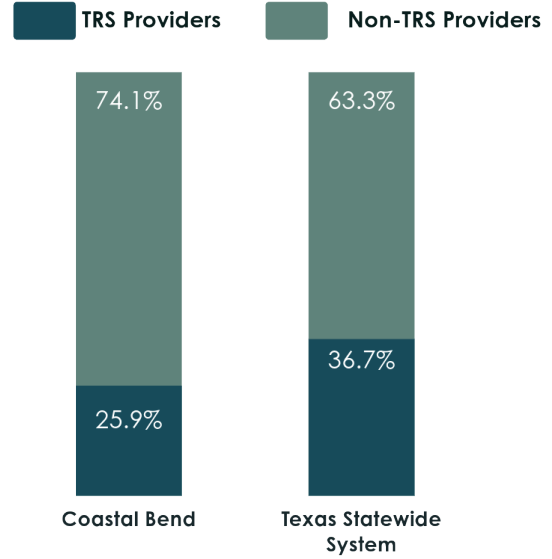
SOUTH TEXAS

Figure 27.5



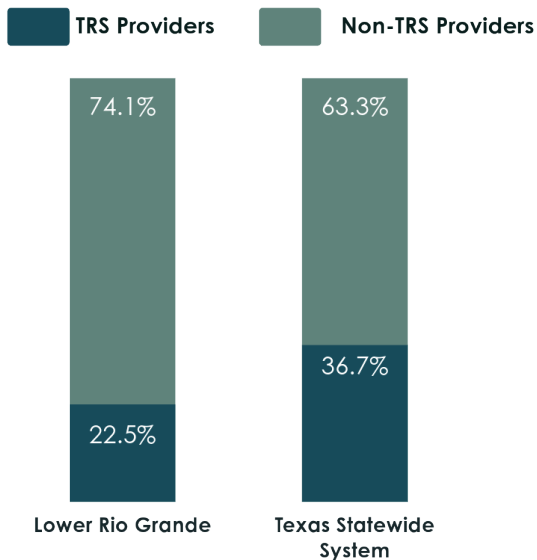
COASTAL BEND

Figure 28.5



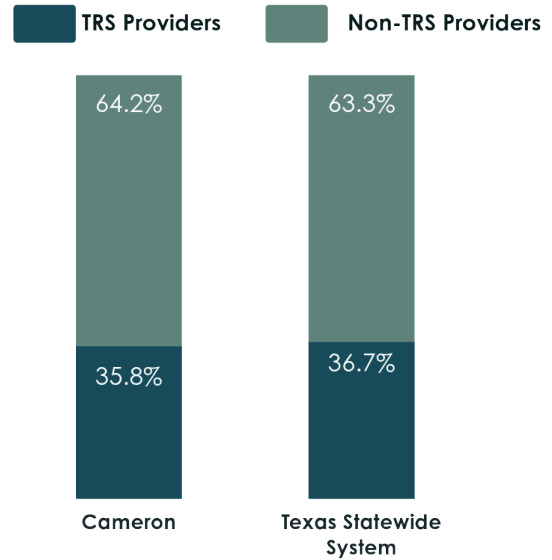
LOWER RIO GRANDE

Figure 29.5



CAMERON

Figure 30.5

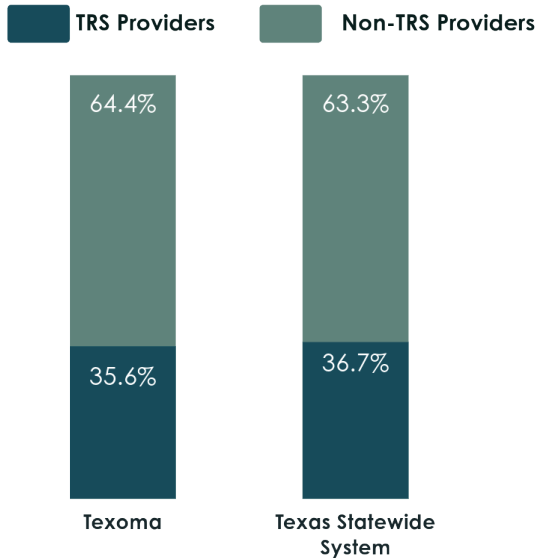


APPENDIX B

Share of TRS versus Non-TRS Providers

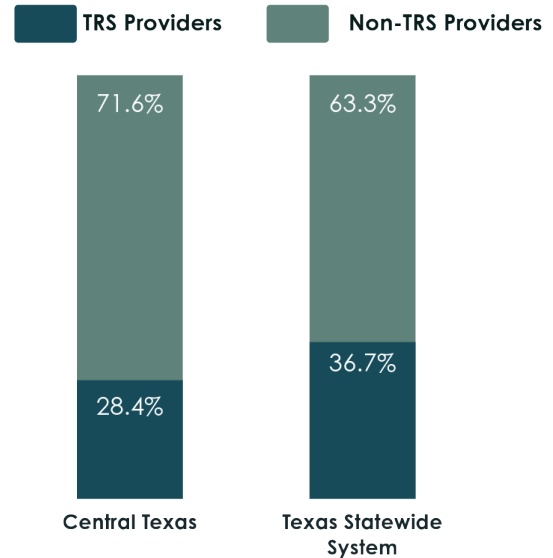
TEXOMA

Figure 31.5



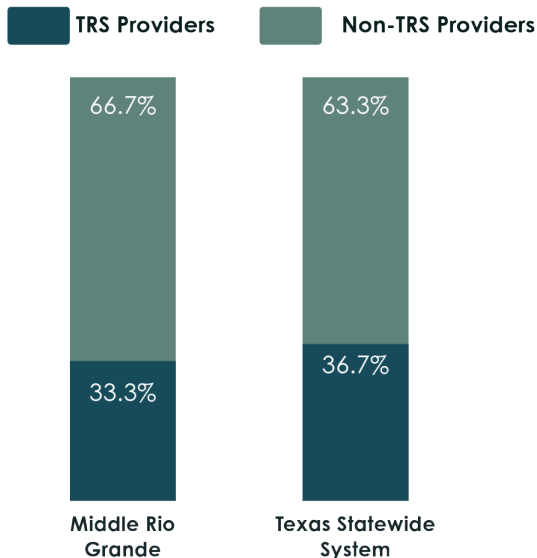
CENTRAL TEXAS

Figure 32.5



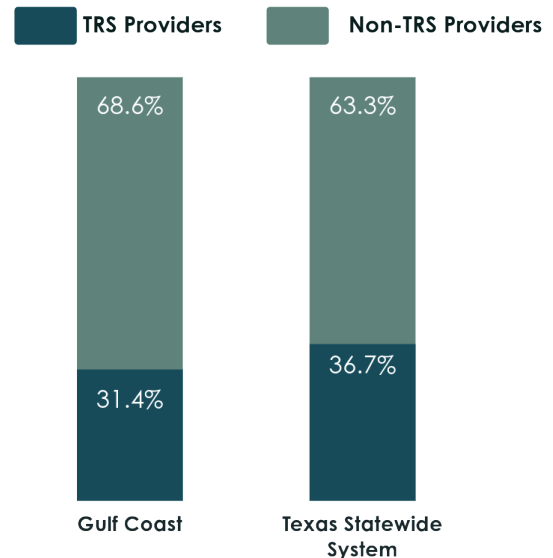
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE

Figure 33.5



GULF COAST

Figure 34.5



APPENDIX C

Glossary of Terms

BOARD CONTRACT YEAR (BCY) The time span in which LWDBS base their budget on. The Texas Workforce Commission approves allocations for the Board Contract Year (BCY). The TWC's three-member Commission approves the allocations, which include child care allocations. The Commission also approves the BCY Statewide Initiatives.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATES CREDENTIAL (CDA): Early educators who work with children ages birth to 5 years old, may apply for a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential to demonstrate their knowledge, skills and abilities in the early childhood education field.

CHILD CARE DESERT A zip code is a "Child Care Desert" if the number of children under the age of six with working parents is three times greater than the licensed capacity of child care providers in the area.

CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CCDBG) The federal funding source for subsidized child care and Texas Rising Star, which is managed by the Texas Workforce Commission. This also pays for child care administration and direct child care costs in states. Texas's annual CCDBG amount was approximately \$866 million in FY21, excluding one-time stimulus funds received.

CHILD CARE PROVIDER (also referred to as "provider") Texas has over 15,000 child care providers, also known colloquially as "day cares". They are often small business, nonprofit organizations, or churches and can operate in a variety of settings including homes and centers. A child care center often has a director who is in charge of day-to-day operations and managing staff, which can include lead educators, assistant educators, cooks, curriculum development leads, and more. A director can also be the owner of the facility. A Family Child Care Provider can either be registered to care for 6 or fewer children or licensed to care for 12 or fewer children in the caregiver's own home for less than 24 hours per day, typically the director is the sole caregiver and is in charge of day-to-day operations.

CHILD CARE SERVICES (CCS) The Child Care Services (CCS) is a Texas state program that provides scholarships for child care. They offer child care scholarships help parents work, search for work, or attend school or job training. The CCS program works to inform parents about the availability and benefits of high-quality child care and supports providers in their mission to improve the quality of services through the Texas Rising Star program. CCS supports and encourages child care programs to capitalize on and expand the Pre-K Partnership program.

FAMILY CHILD CARE (FCC) in Texas refers to child care provided in a caregiver's home. FCC providers must meet specific licensing requirements, such as becoming a Listed Family Home if they care for children for a certain amount of time weekly or yearly. Child Care Regulation (CCR) oversees both home-based and center-based child care. A Registered Child Care Home allows a caregiver to care for up to six children (from birth to age 13) and six additional elementary school children after-school hours. FCC providers offer a small group setting in a nurturing home environment, often building long-term relationships with the children and families they serve.

LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (also referred to as LWDBs or Local Boards) The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) oversees 28 Local Boards; each varies in terms of size and geography. As the operating entities for both the subsidized child care program and Texas Rising Star, Local Boards have significant local control over the day-to-day functions of both programs. Local Boards also exercise independent policy authority in key areas – within modest state parameters – and implement all programs for which they are responsible. Each Local Board has its own executive leadership staff including a chief elected official, Board members, and an Executive Director.



CHILDREN AT RISK's mission is to serve as a catalyst for change to improve the quality of life for children through strategic research, public policy analysis, education, collaboration, and advocacy.

CHILDREN AT RISK is a research and advocacy nonprofit leading the way in improving the quality of life for Texas's children. CHILDREN AT RISK considers the whole child by tracking issues in children's health, education, safety and opportunity. Committed to action beyond the data, CHILDREN AT RISK drives evidence-based change by speaking out on behalf of children. For more information, visit childrenatrisk.org.

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