

Oregon's Child Care Supply and the Role of Public Investments

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University

Goal for Today

Committee members will have increased understanding of Oregon's **child care supply** and the **role public investments** play in the child care and early education system.

Overview

Inadequacy of Oregon's Child Care Supply

Complexity of Child Care & Education System

Types of Public Investment

Essential role of Public investment

Inadequacy of Child Care Supply

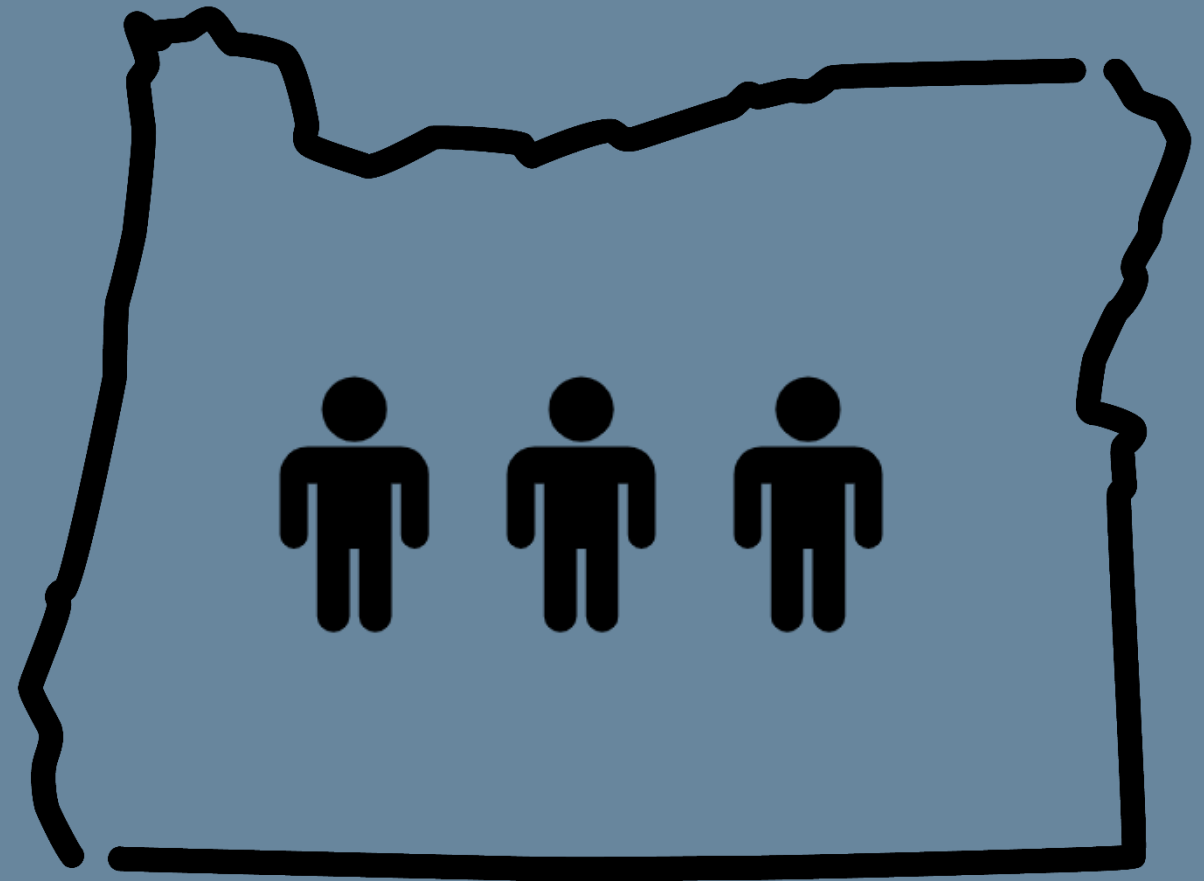
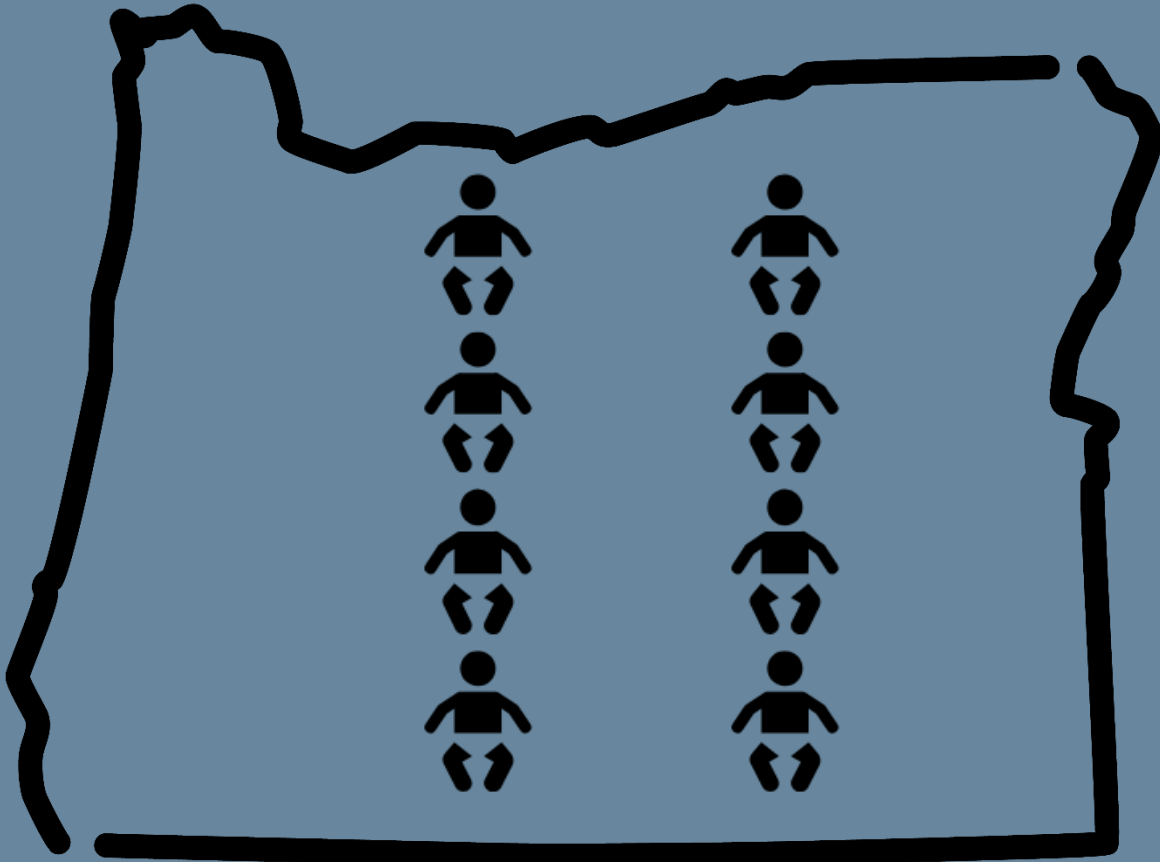
Across Oregon, there is inadequate regulated child care supply – especially for infants & toddlers

A child care desert is
a community with 3
or more children for
a single child care
slot

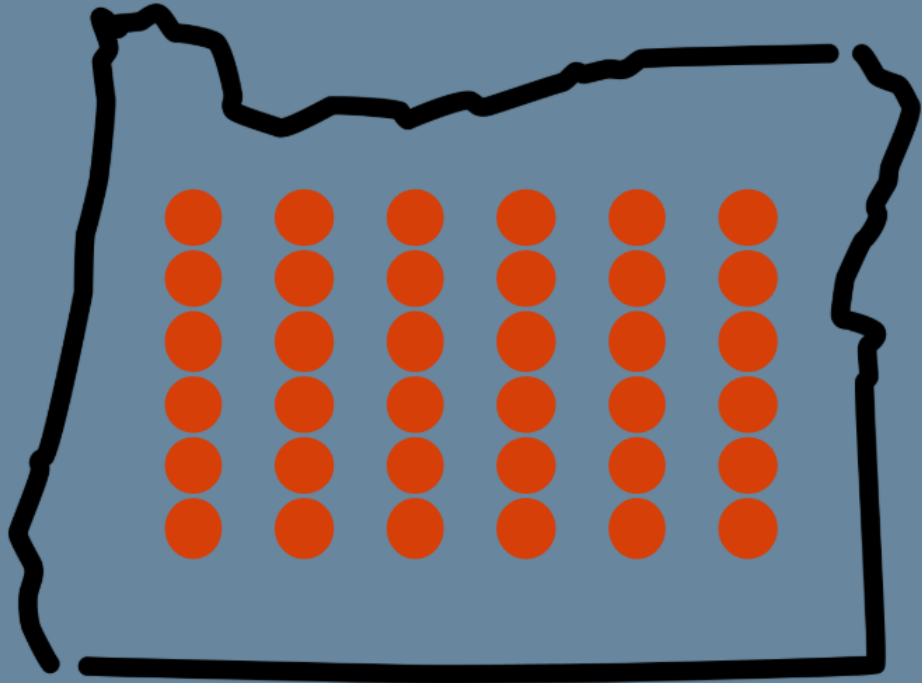


Another way to say this is that **less than a third** of children in a community have access to a slot.

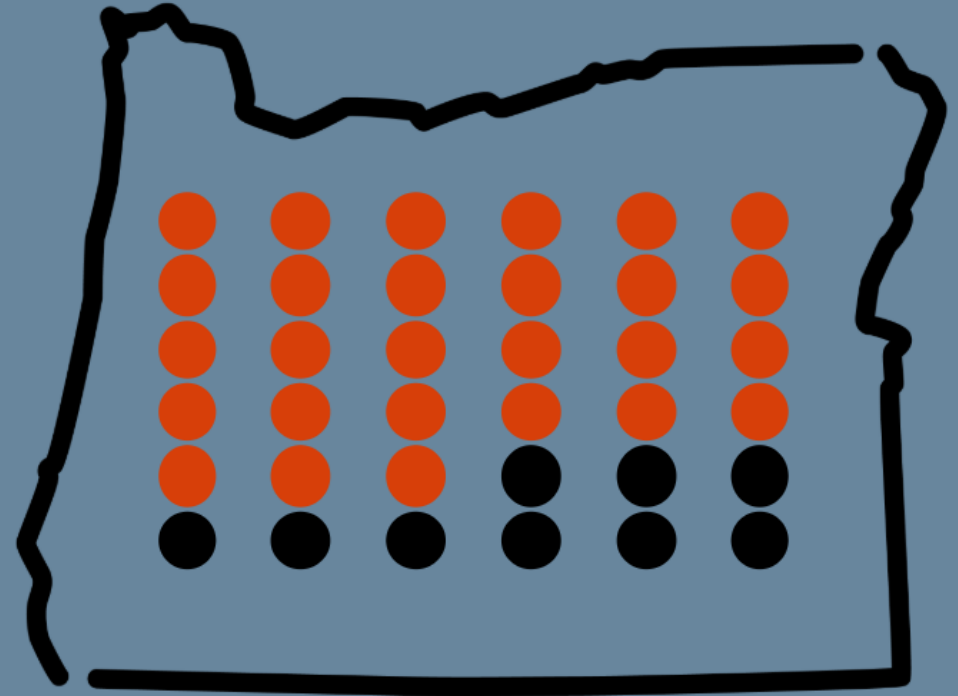
8 Infants & toddlers for
single child care slot



3 preschool-age
children for single child
care slot

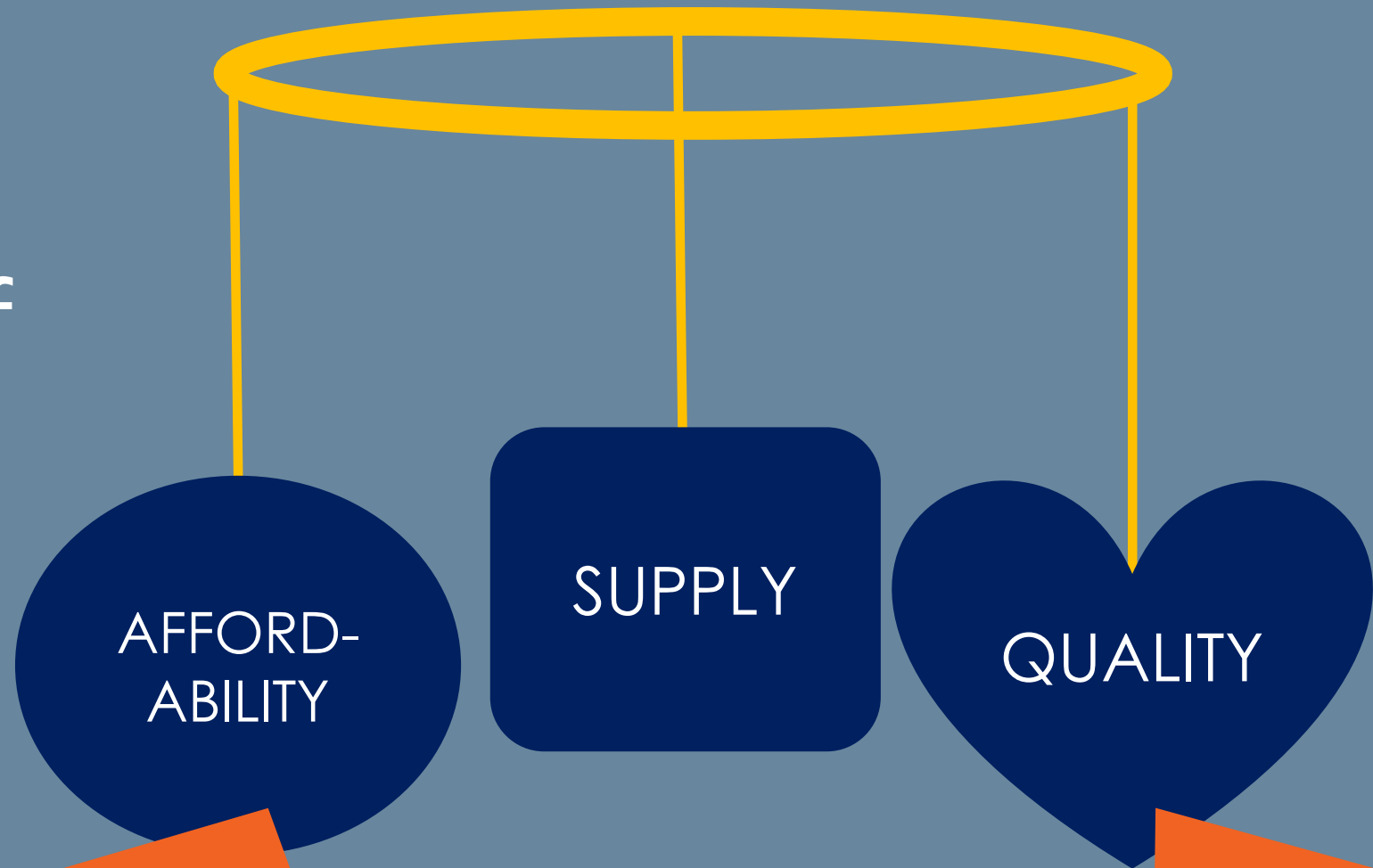


All counties are child care deserts for infants & toddlers



All but 9 counties are child care deserts for preschoolers

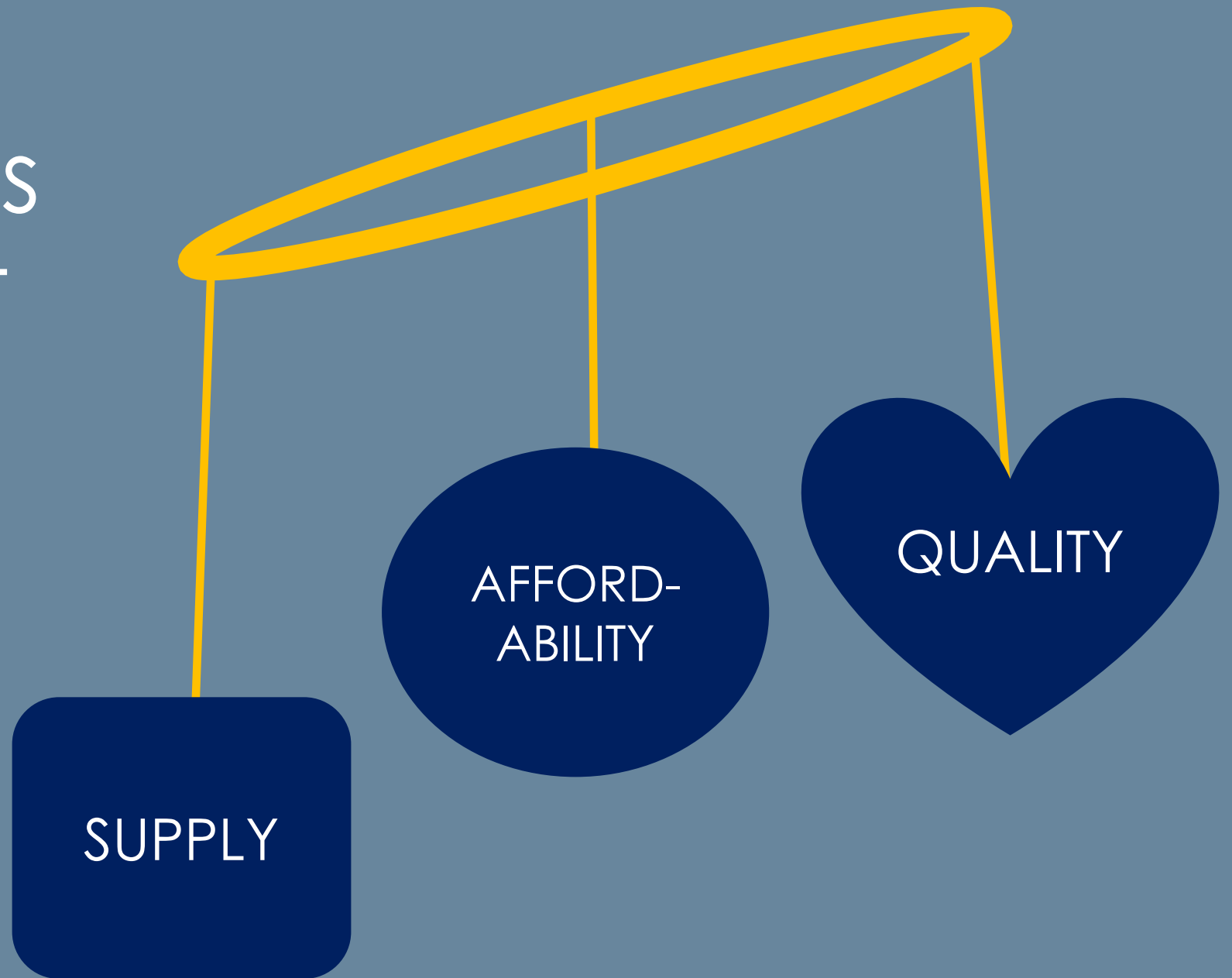
Supply is Only 1 of 3 Critical Issues



If slots are too expensive,
parents can afford them

Parents want care that meets
child's developmental needs

Adding slots
alone is not
enough.



Largely Privately Funded System
Struggles to Produce
Affordable, Quality Supply



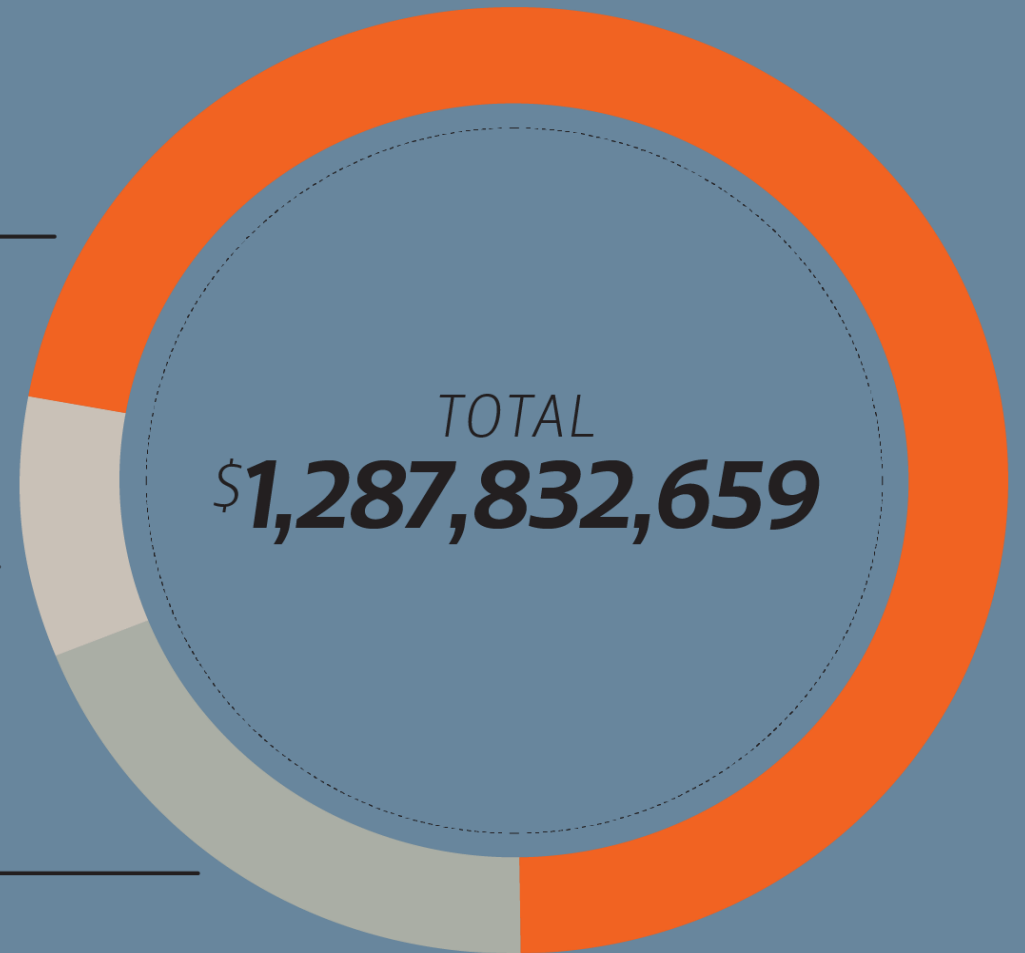
\$919,509,590 (72%)
paid by families



\$119,771,366 (9%)
paid by the state



\$248,551,703 (19%)
paid by the federal government



2 Basic Types of Public Investments

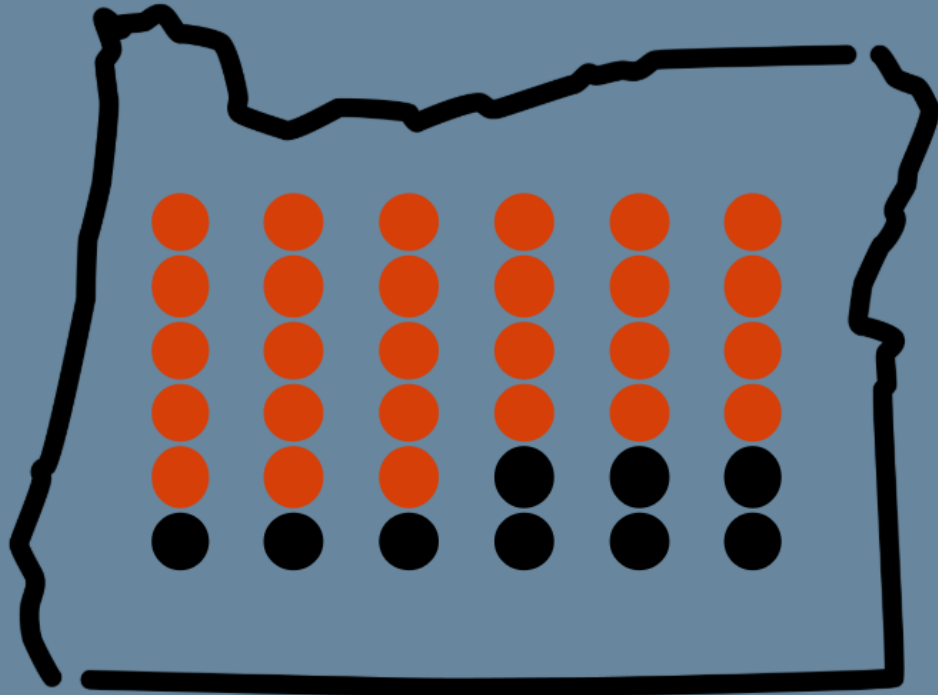
Vouchers

Contracts

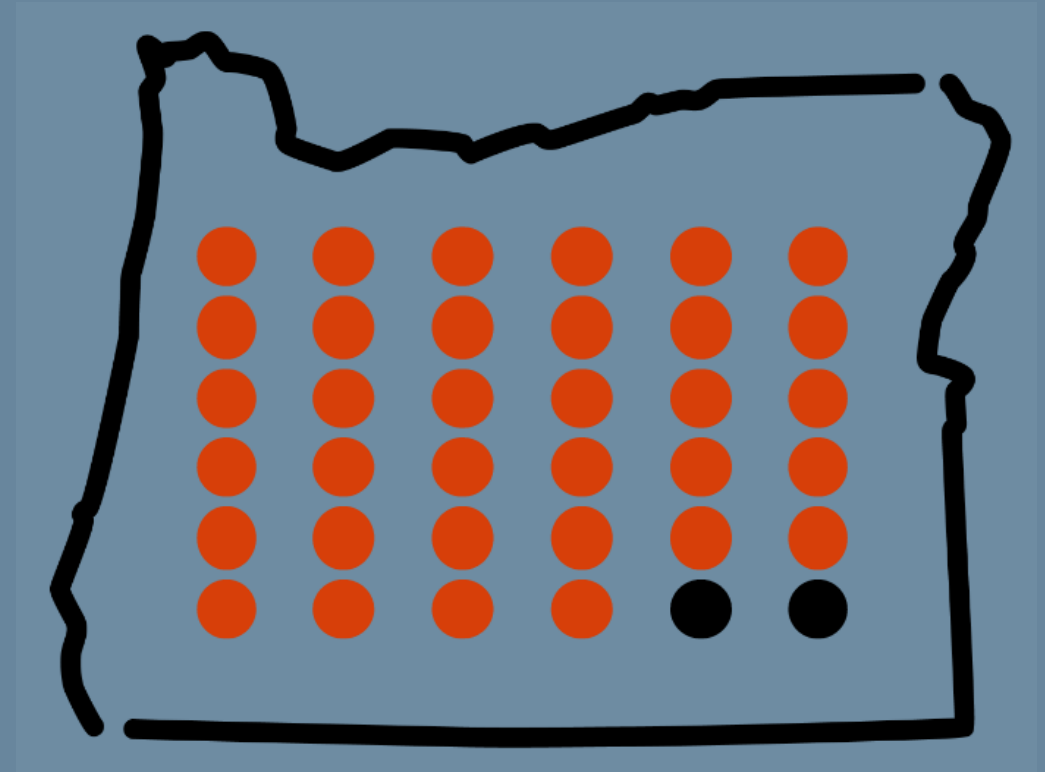
Benefits and challenges

Vouchers	Contracts
Supports parent choice - parent can select any type of provider	Creates child care slots
Easy to provide statewide	Targets families & communities of high need
Flexible - relatively easy to increase or decrease public dollars	Stable investments in communities & providers
Provider funding is unpredictable - depends on parents' selection of provider	Provider can count on contracted amount - can invest in quality
Provider needs to meet minimal standards	Provider needs to meet quality standards

Public Investments in Slots Critical for Adequate Supply



9 Counties are not
Preschool Deserts

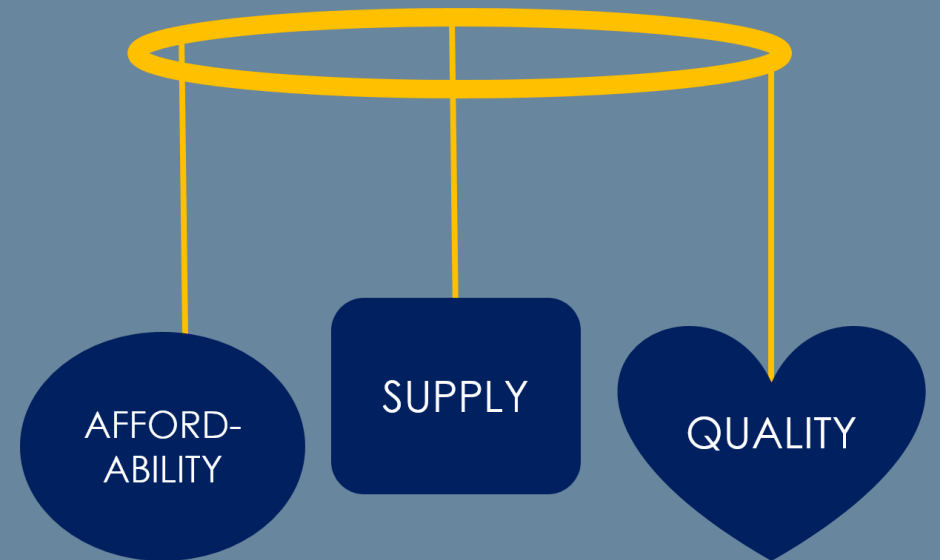


Without Public Funding only **2**
Counties are not Deserts

Balanced Public Investments Can Improve the Child Care System

Vouchers focus on parent choice and provide state flexibility

Contracts build the supply of quality, affordable care and education for targeted families and communities



Thank You

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Oregon Early Learner Website
<https://health.oregonstate.edu/early-learners>



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