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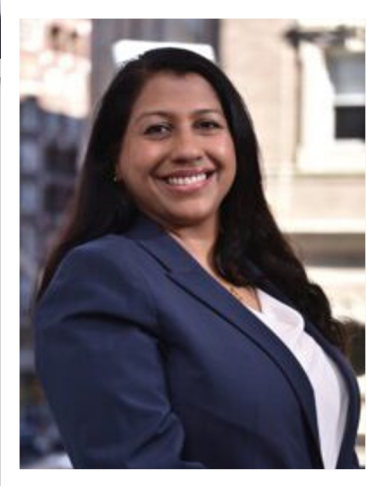
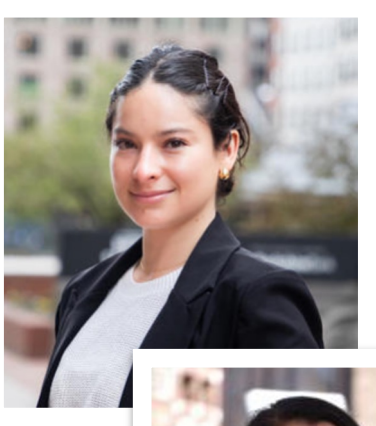


BOSTON BIRTH TO EIGHT COLLABORATIVE

2023 STATE OF EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE REPORT

(Re)Building Boston's Early Education and Care Sector: Supply, Affordability and Quality Needed

Data Presentation



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Birth to Eight Collaborative Data Committee

Data Committee | A Shared Agenda Approach



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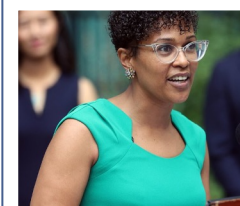
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Turahn Dorsey

Eastern Bank Foundation



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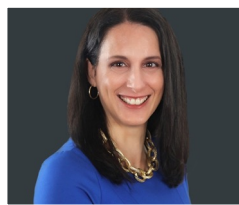
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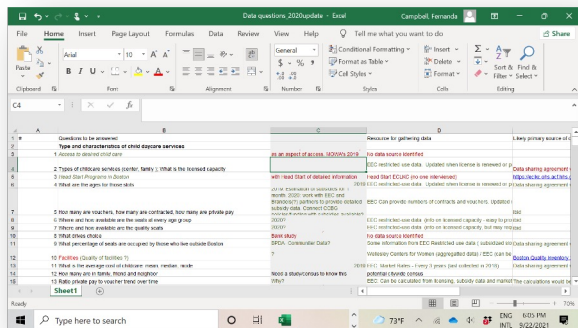
CAYL Institute

Data Committee | A Collective Impact Approach



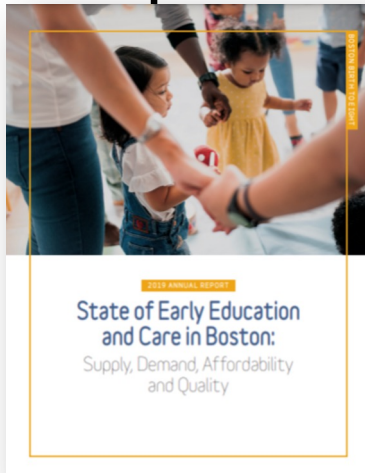
2017

Initial Questions



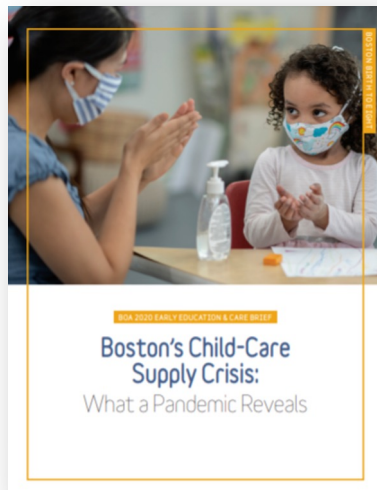
2019

First S&D Report



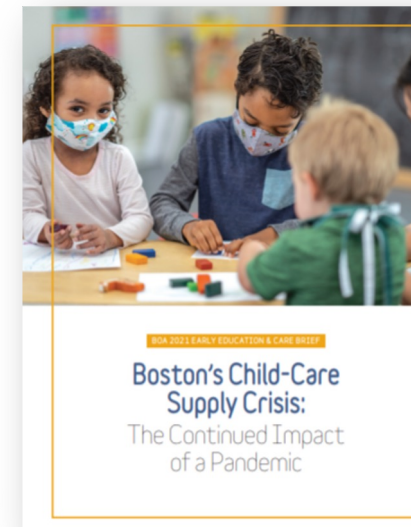
2020

First COVID Brief



2021

Second COVID Brief





Access



Quality



Affordability



Demand | Definition

Demand

- All children ages birth to 5 living in Boston in 2020 (2016– 2020 ACS)
- Methodology used by the Center for American Progress (2008)

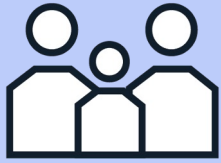
“Ultimately, sufficient formal early education and care seats in a community is an equity indicator.”

Demand | Findings



In 2020, Boston had approximately 39,992 children aged 0–5 years old

Demand | Findings



In 2020, Boston had approximately 39,992 children aged 0–5 years old



53% of them (21,222) were 0-2 years old

Supply | Definition

Supply

- All seats for children 0 to 5 years of age in **licensed early education and care programs and in schools**

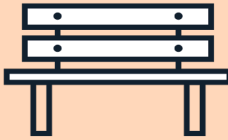
“Statewide survey data showed that staffing limitations have reduced actual capacity in many programs.”



**In June 2022, Boston had
approximately 747 early education
and care providers**



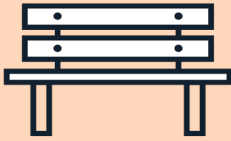
In June 2022, Boston had approximately 747 early education and care providers



With an estimated capacity of 24,276 formal early education and care seats for children ages 0 to 5



In June 2022, Boston had approximately 747 childcare providers



Estimated capacity: 24,276 formal early education & care seats for children ages 0 to 5 years

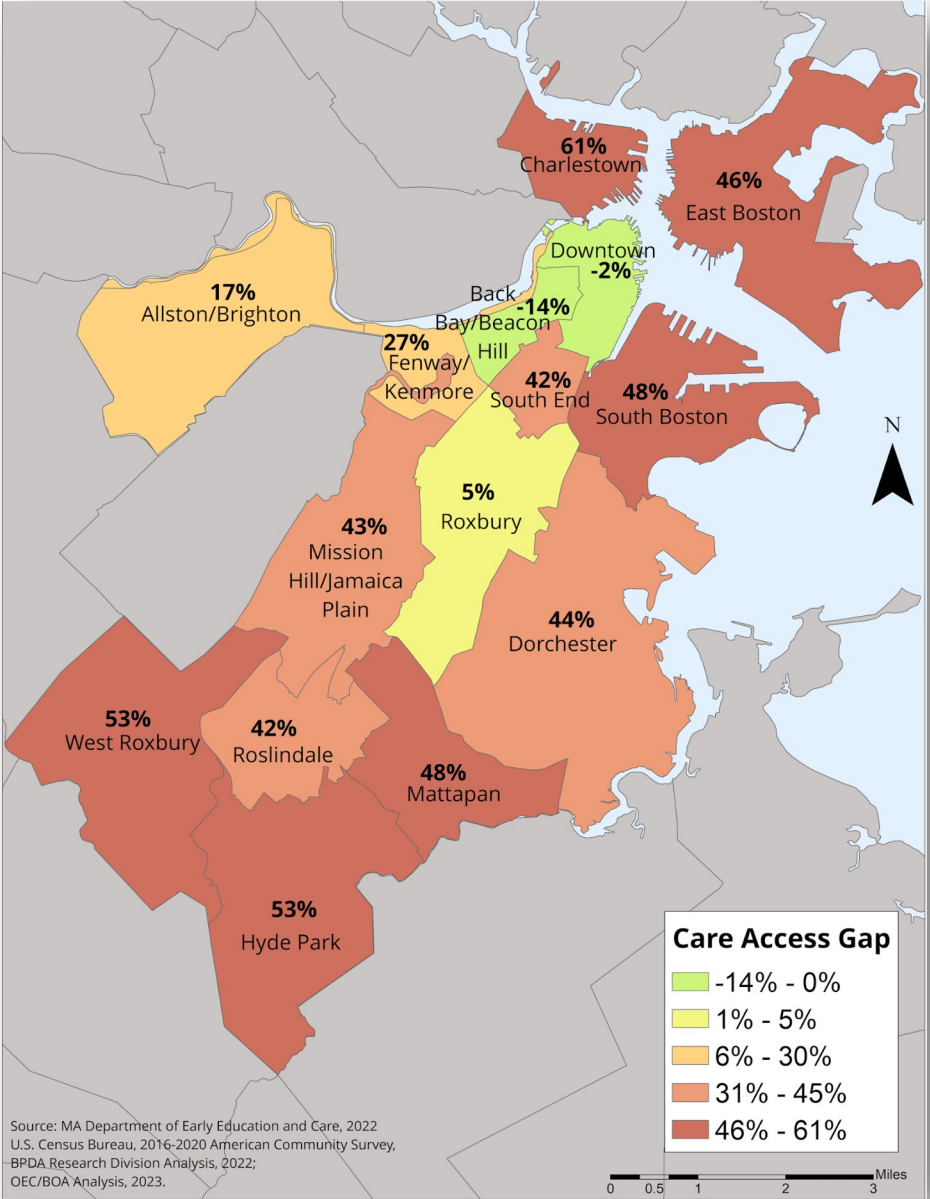


Only **21%** of the seats available are for children 0 to 2 years of age

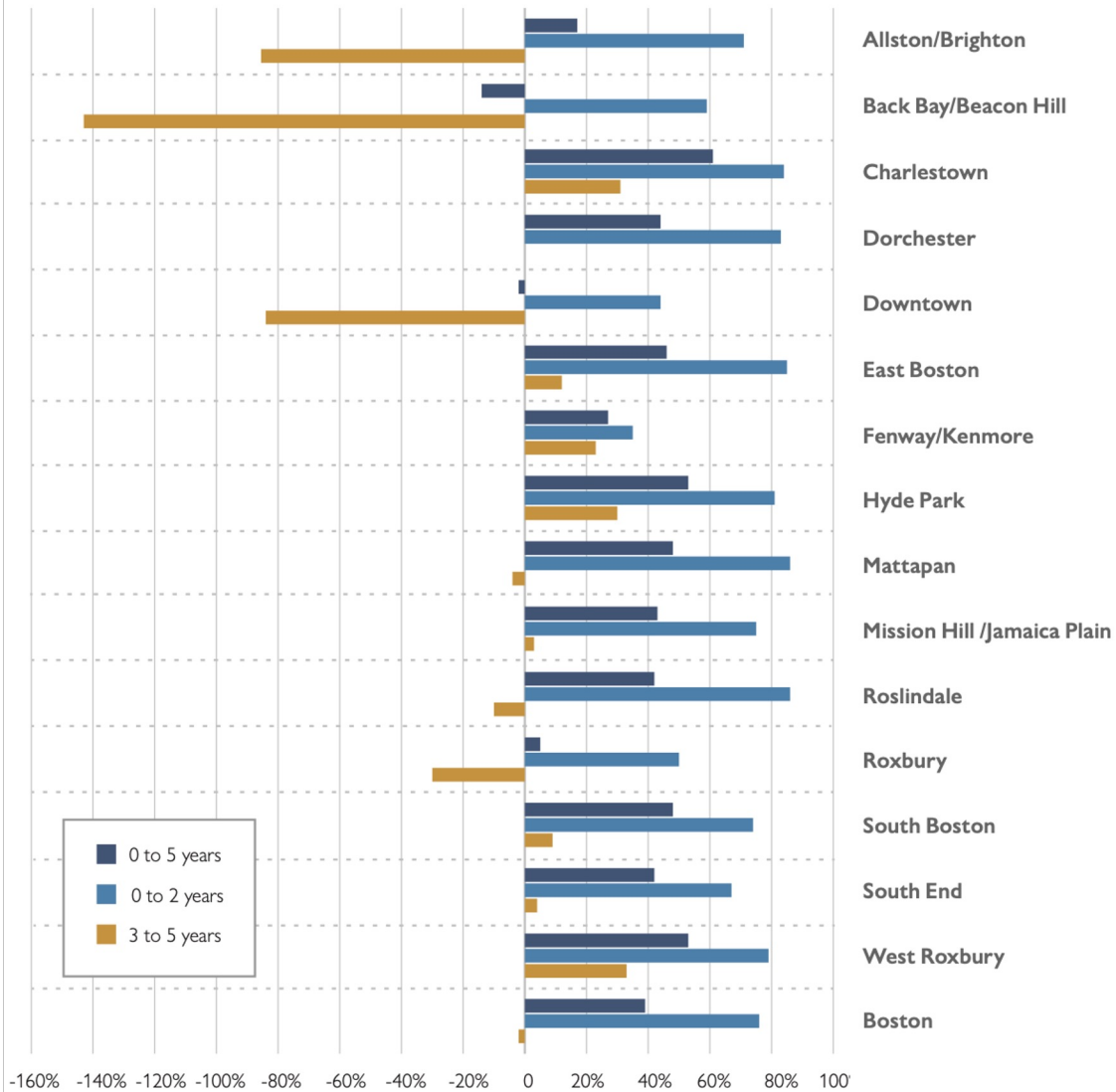
Access Gap



Early Education and Care Access Gap for Children Ages 0 to 5 years in Boston, by neighborhood (2022)



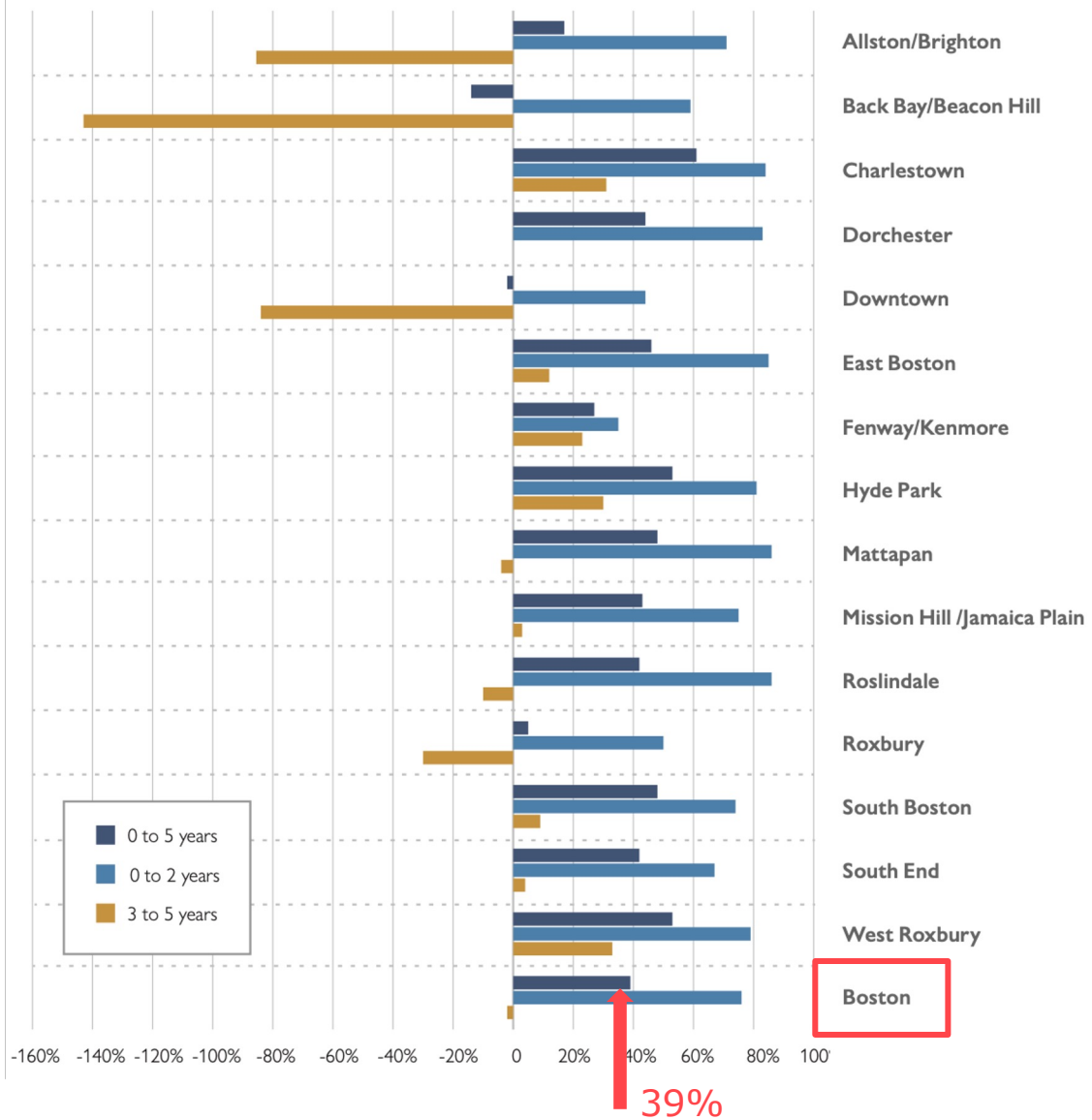
Access Gap by Age Group and Neighborhood (Boston, 2022)



Access Gap



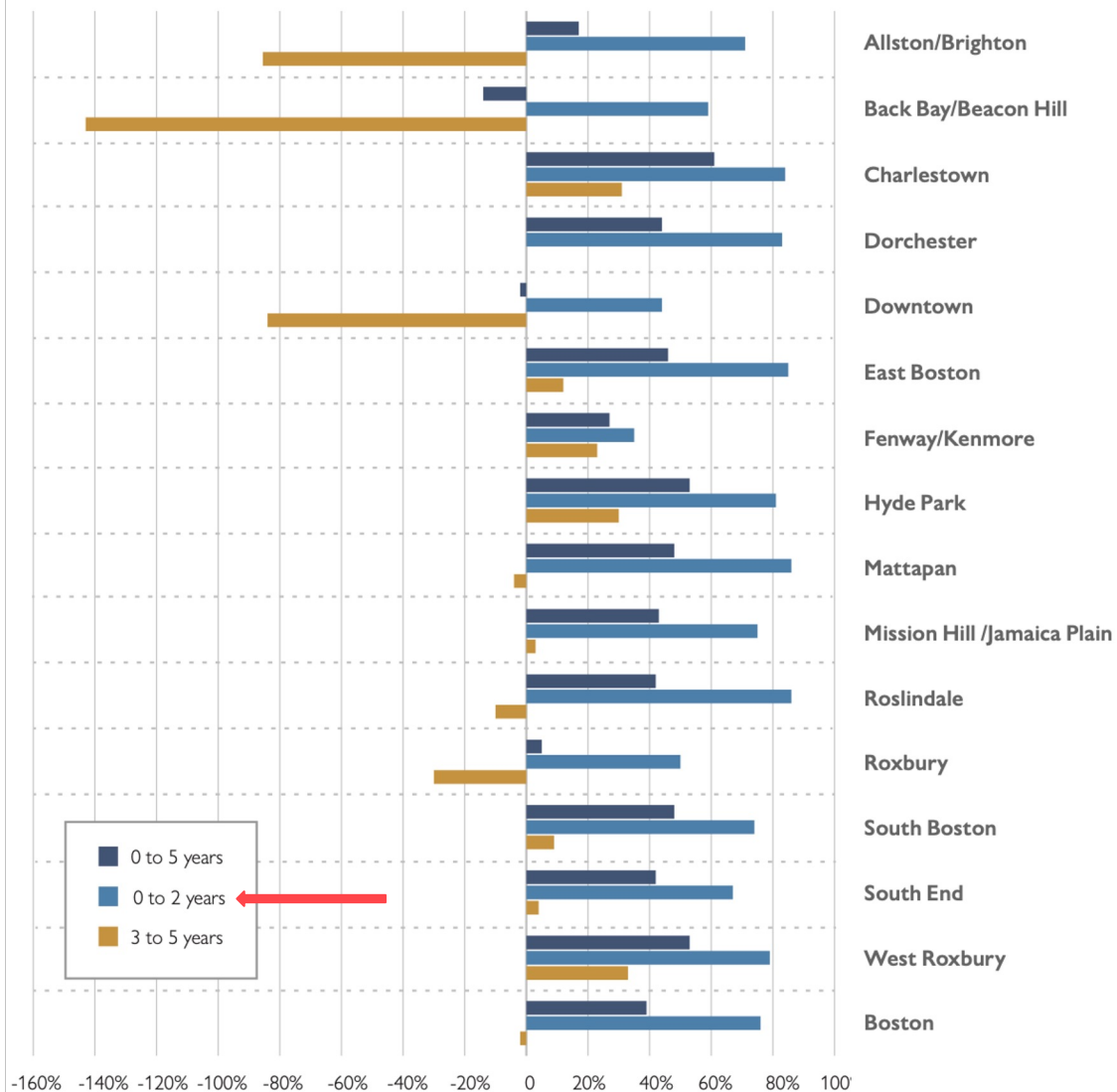
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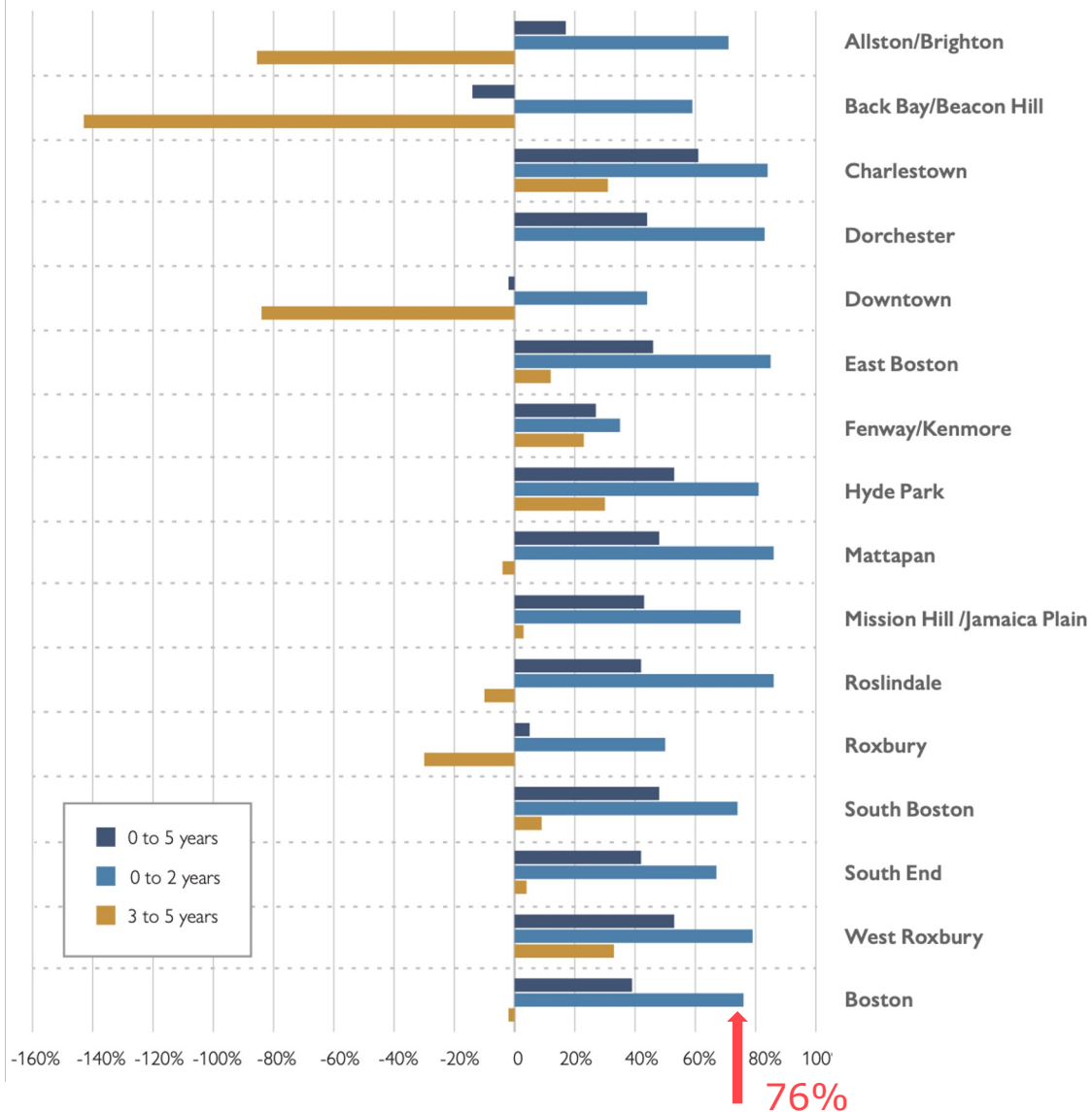
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- Boston had an average 39% access gap for children ages 0 to 5 years
- The citywide gap is driven by the lack of seats for infants and toddlers (0-2 years old)

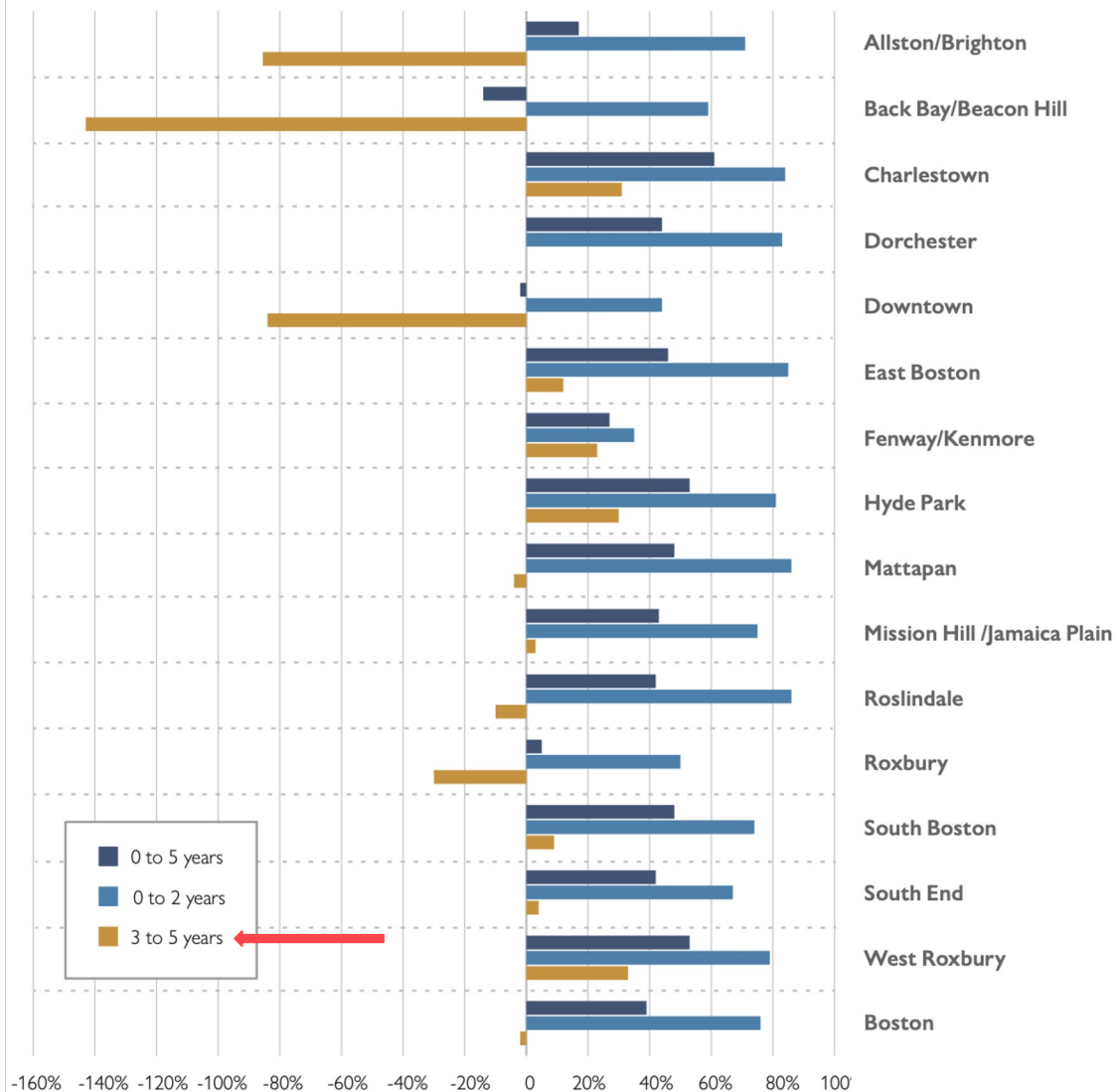
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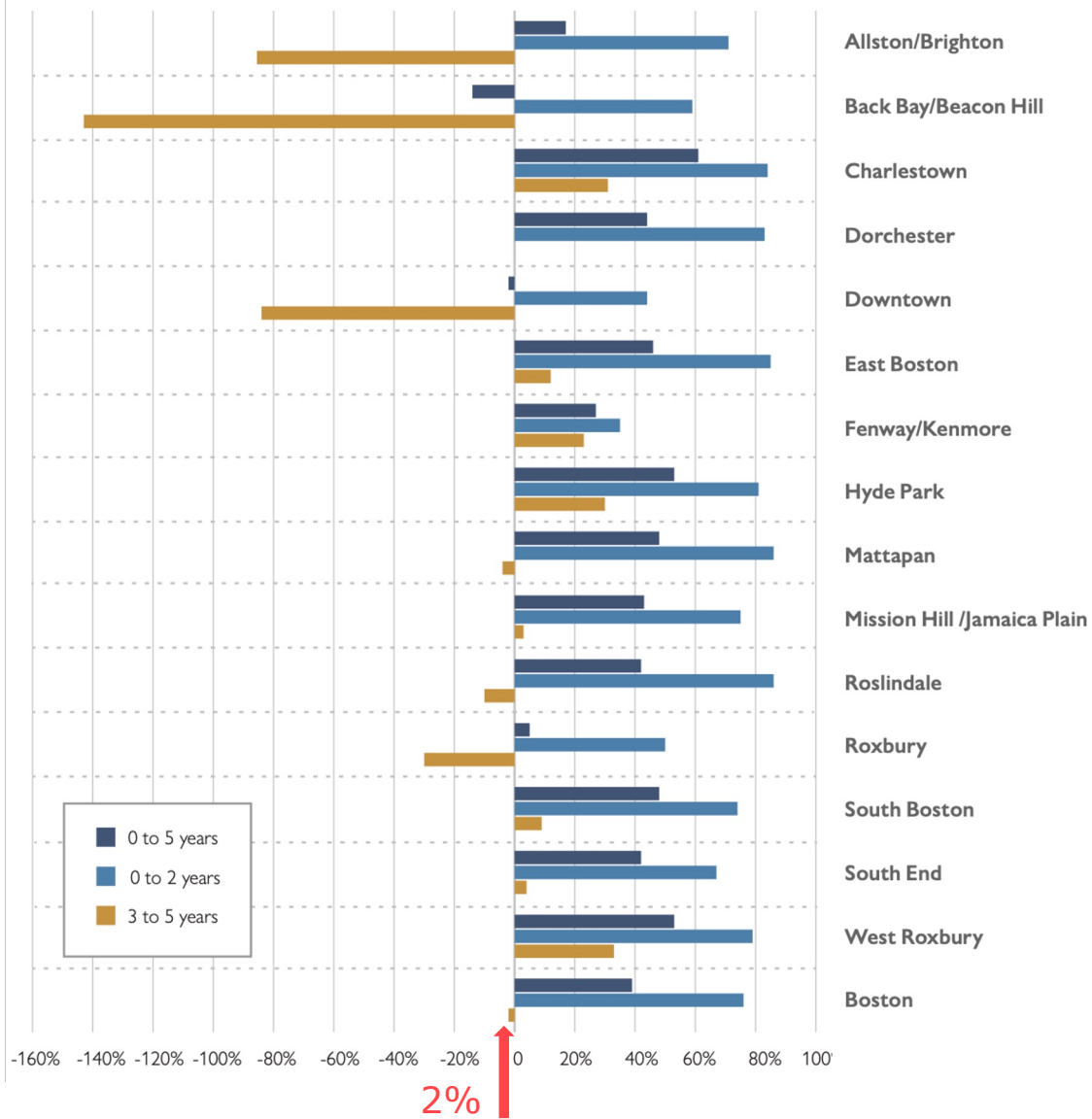
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- For preschoolers, there were **19,115 seats** to serve 18,770 children.

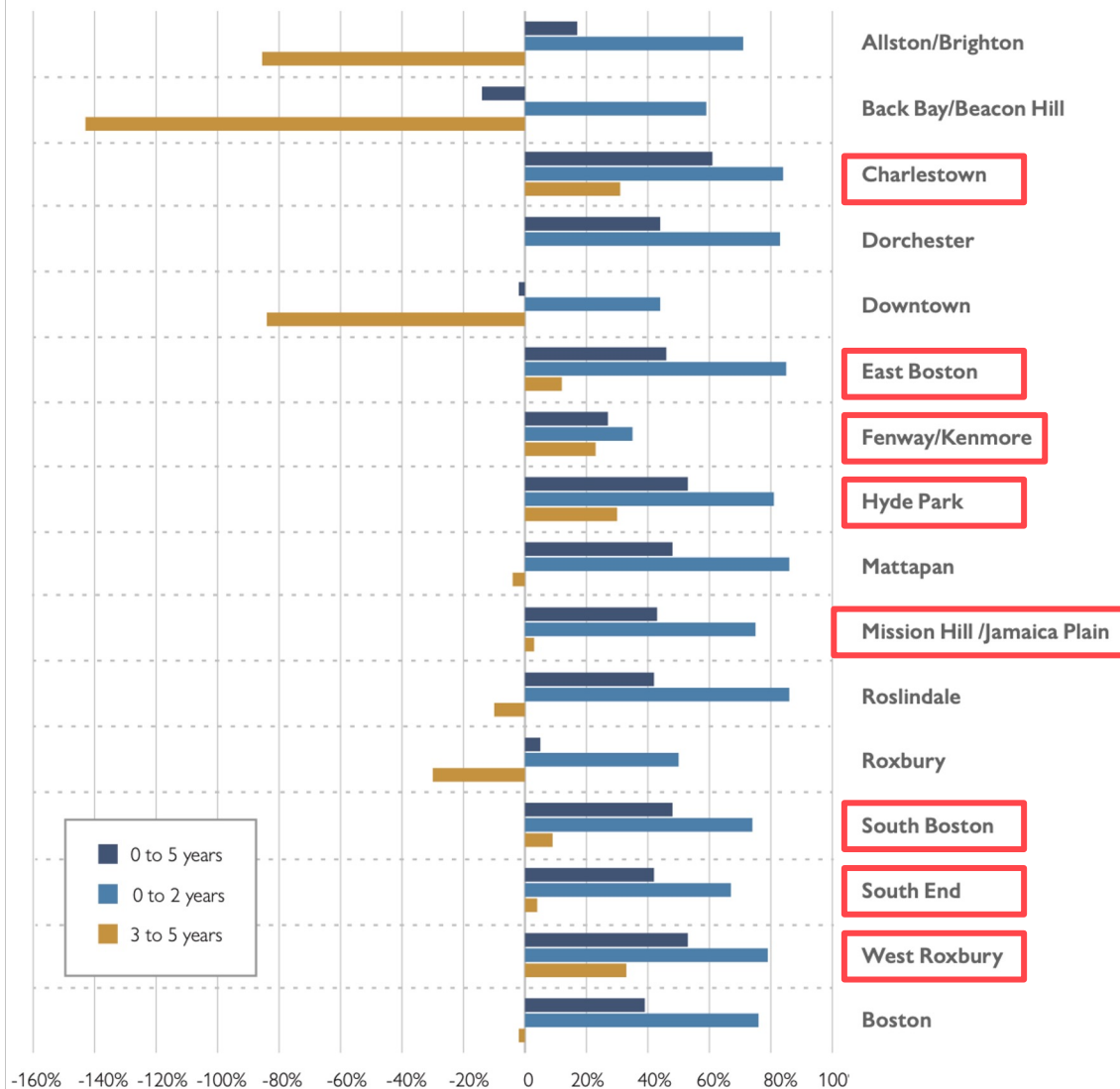
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- But this 2% surplus of seats for 3-5 year olds masks gaps in 8 neighborhoods.

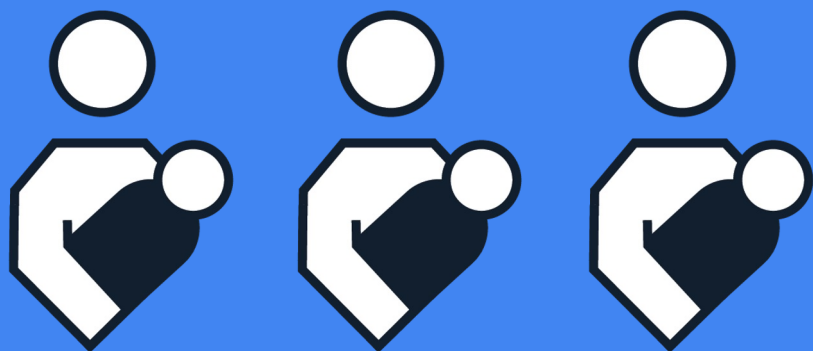
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- This 2% surplus of preschool seats masks gaps in **8 neighborhoods**

Only 1 in 4 infants and toddlers would find a seat in a formal child care setting



SUPPLY

TRENDS

IN

BOSTON

SUPPLY

Between 2017 and 2022 Boston lost 15% of its licensed early education and care providers

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Equivalent to a decrease of 6% of licensed seats, which went from 15,991 to 15,071

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This is a trend driven by the 17% loss of FCCs

BOSTON

SUPPLY

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TRENDS

Equivalent to a decrease of 6% of licensed seats, which went from 15,991 to 15,071

IN

This is a trend driven by the loss of FCCs, which saw a decrease of 17% of their capacity

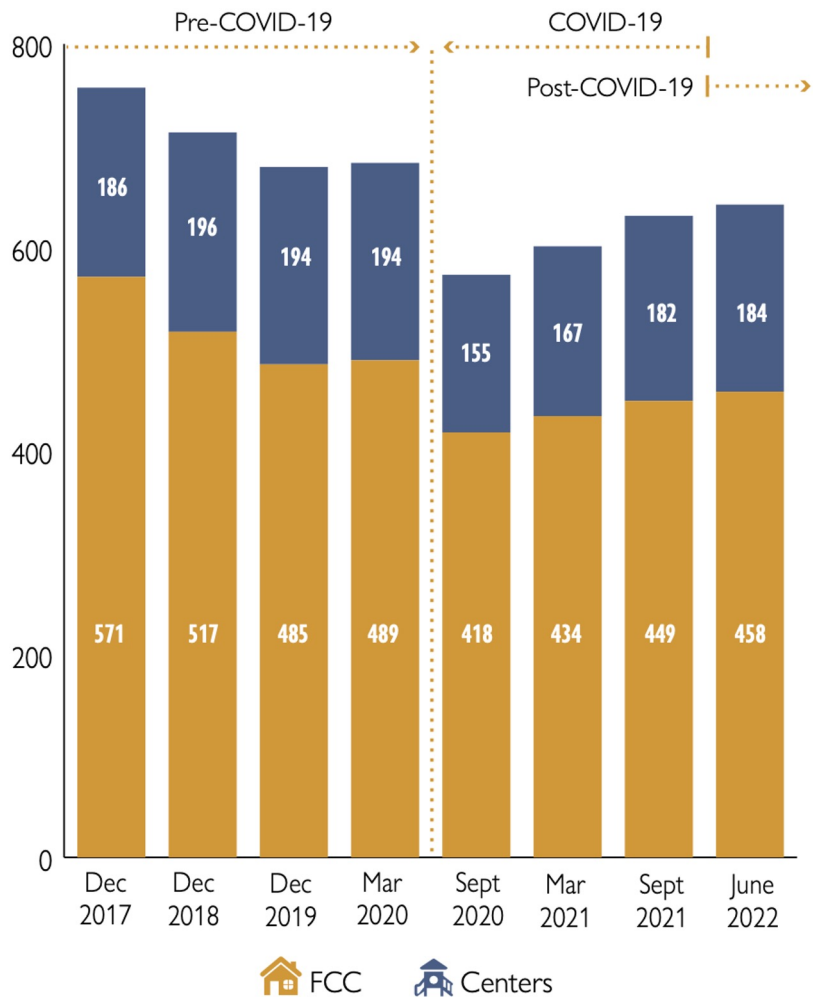
BOSTON

In the past nine years, the city lost nearly 36% of its FCCs

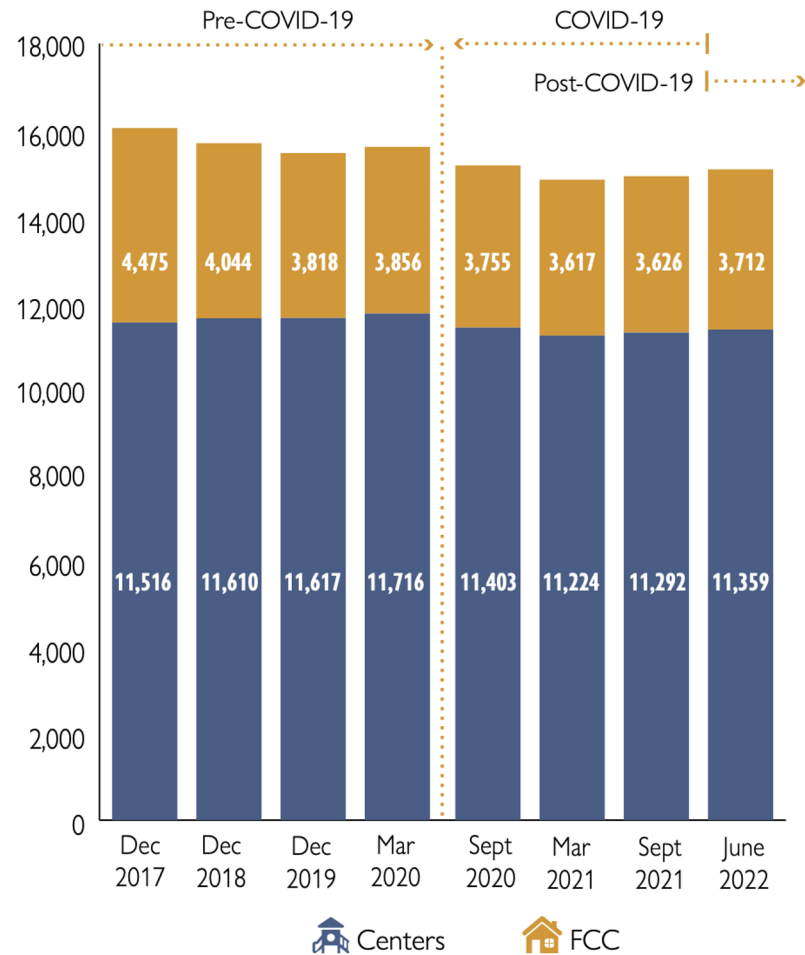
BOSTON OPPORTUNITY AGENDA

BOSTON BIRTH TO EIGHT COLLABORATIVE

Number of Licensed Childcare Programs by Provider Type for Children Ages Birth to 5
 [Boston, Dec 2017 - June 2022]



Number of Licensed Childcare Seats by Provider Type for Children Ages Birth to 5
 [Boston, Dec 2017 - June 2022]





Access



Quality



Affordability

Quality | Definition

High Quality

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) rating of 3 or 4

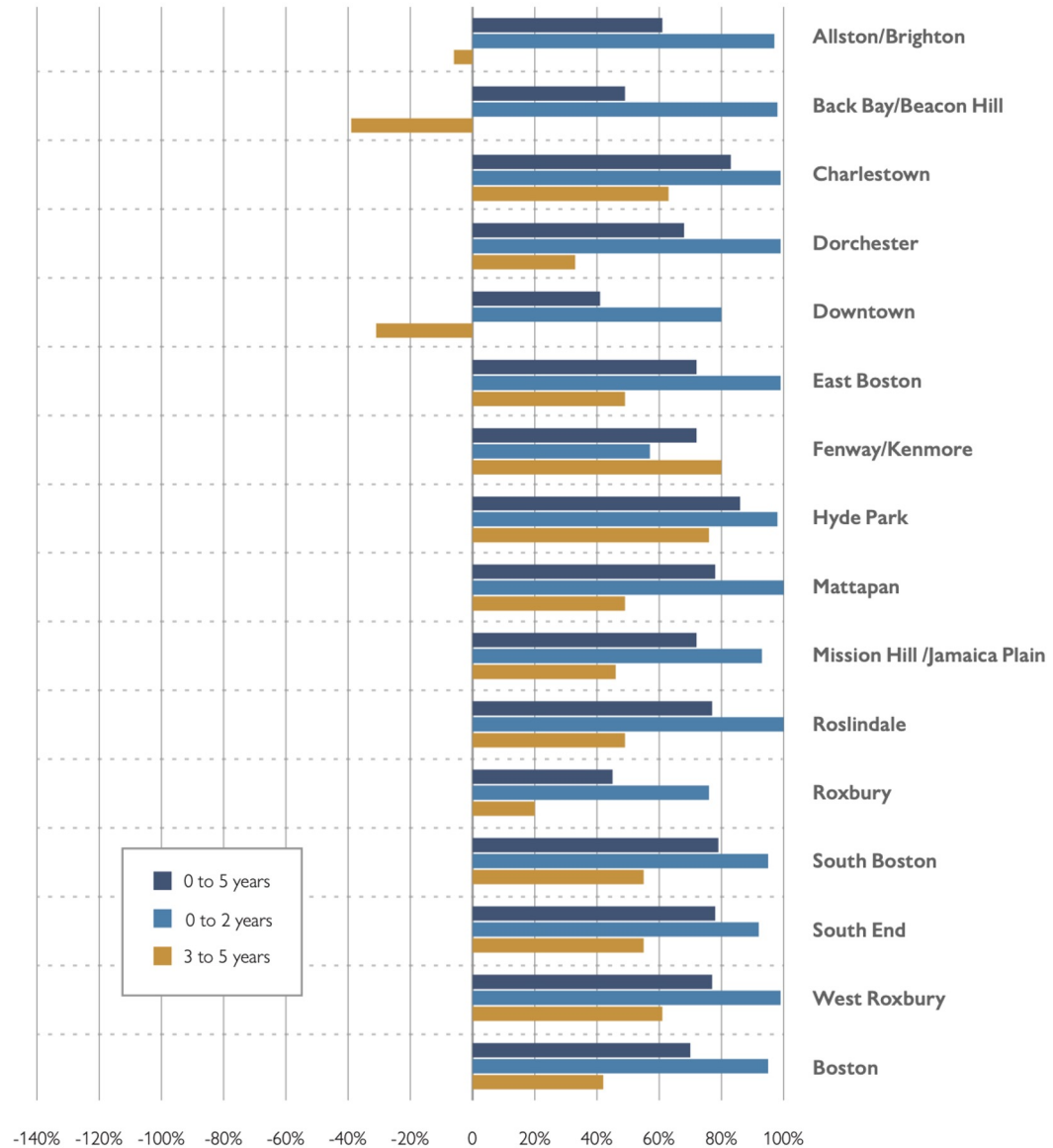
UPK participation

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accreditation

Accreditation from any other associations

“Centers and FCCs without these indicators may offer high quality seats that are not captured by currently available indicators used in our analyses.”

Quality Gap by Age Group and Neighborhood (Boston, 2022)



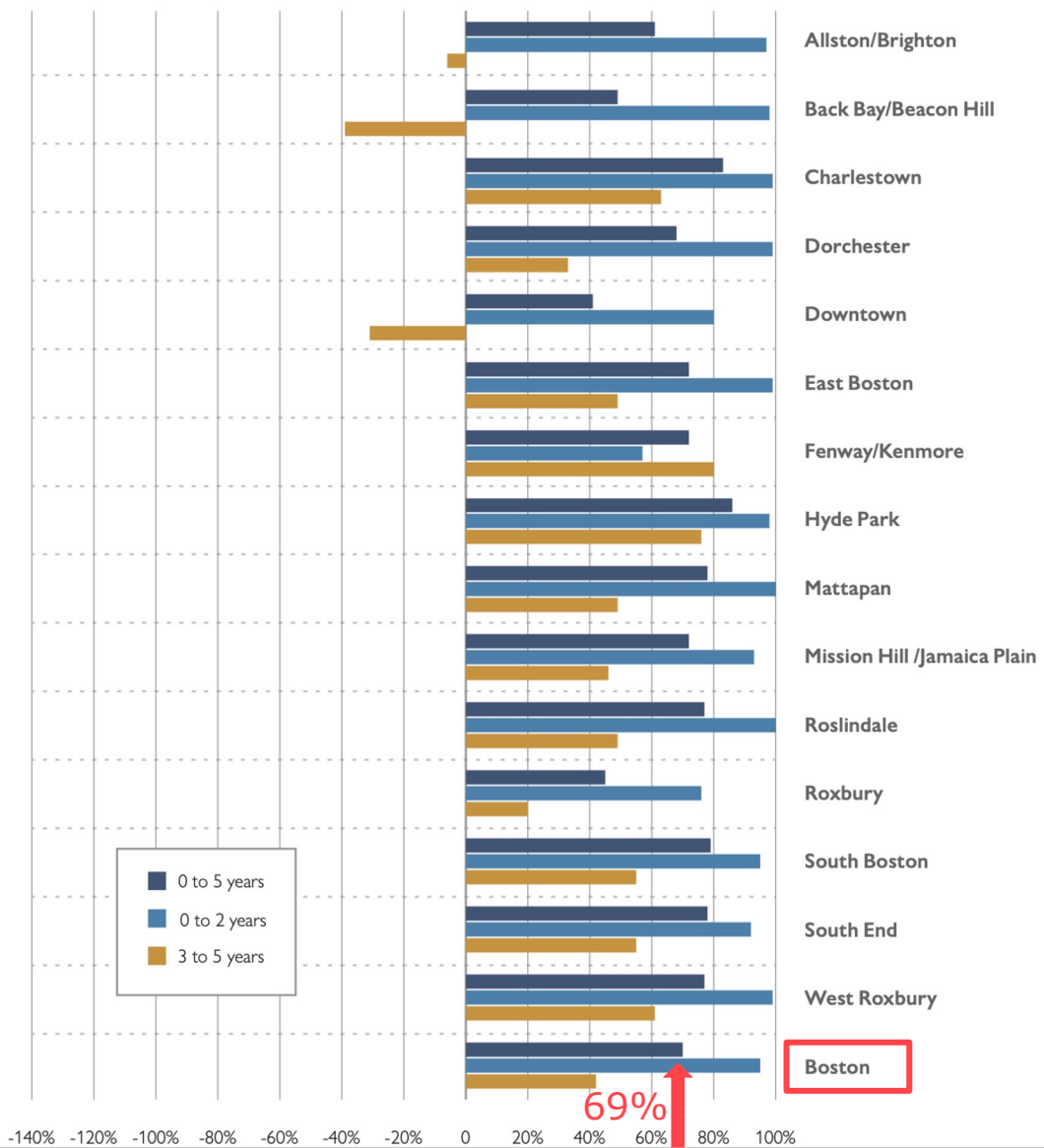
Quality Gap



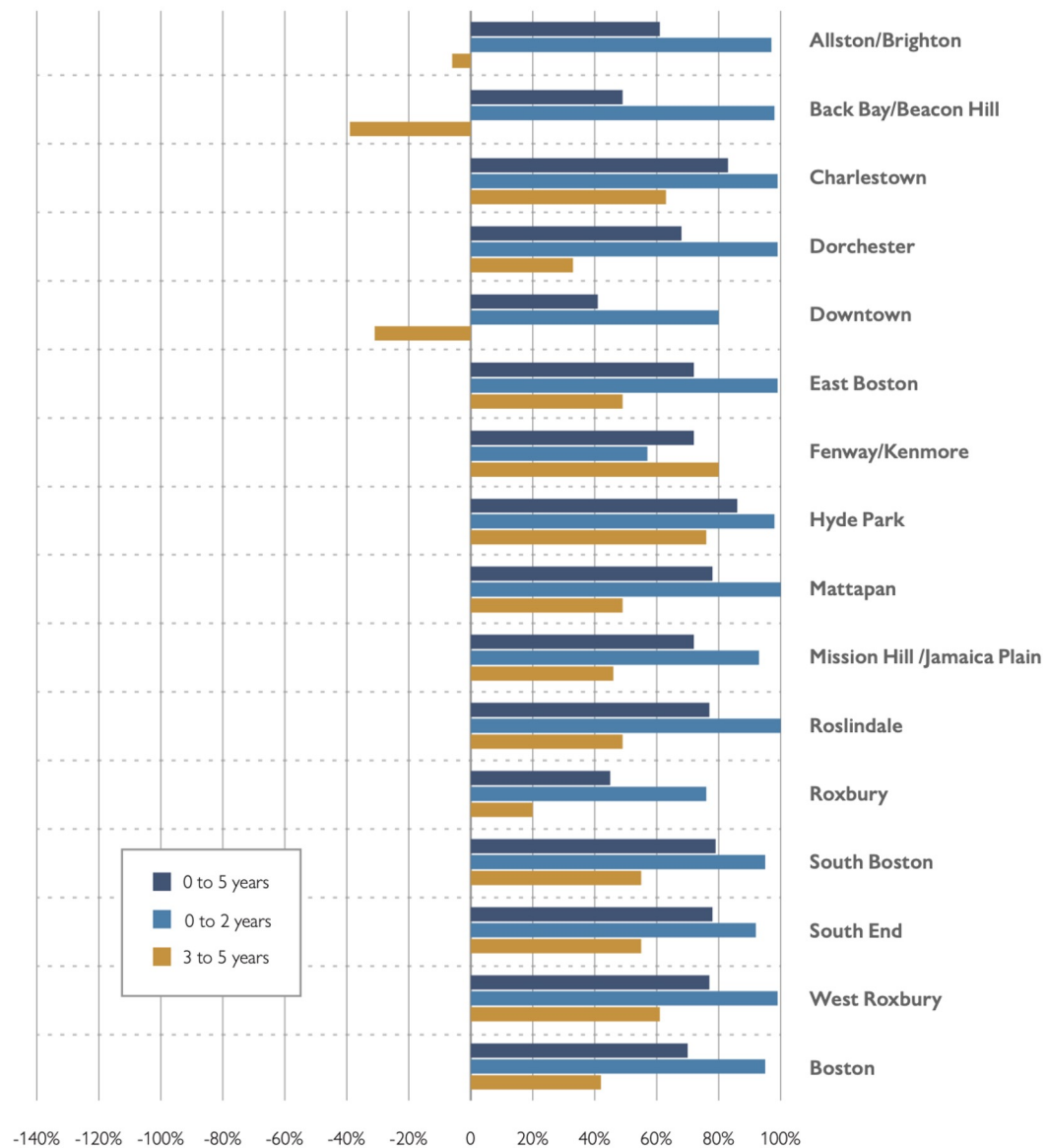
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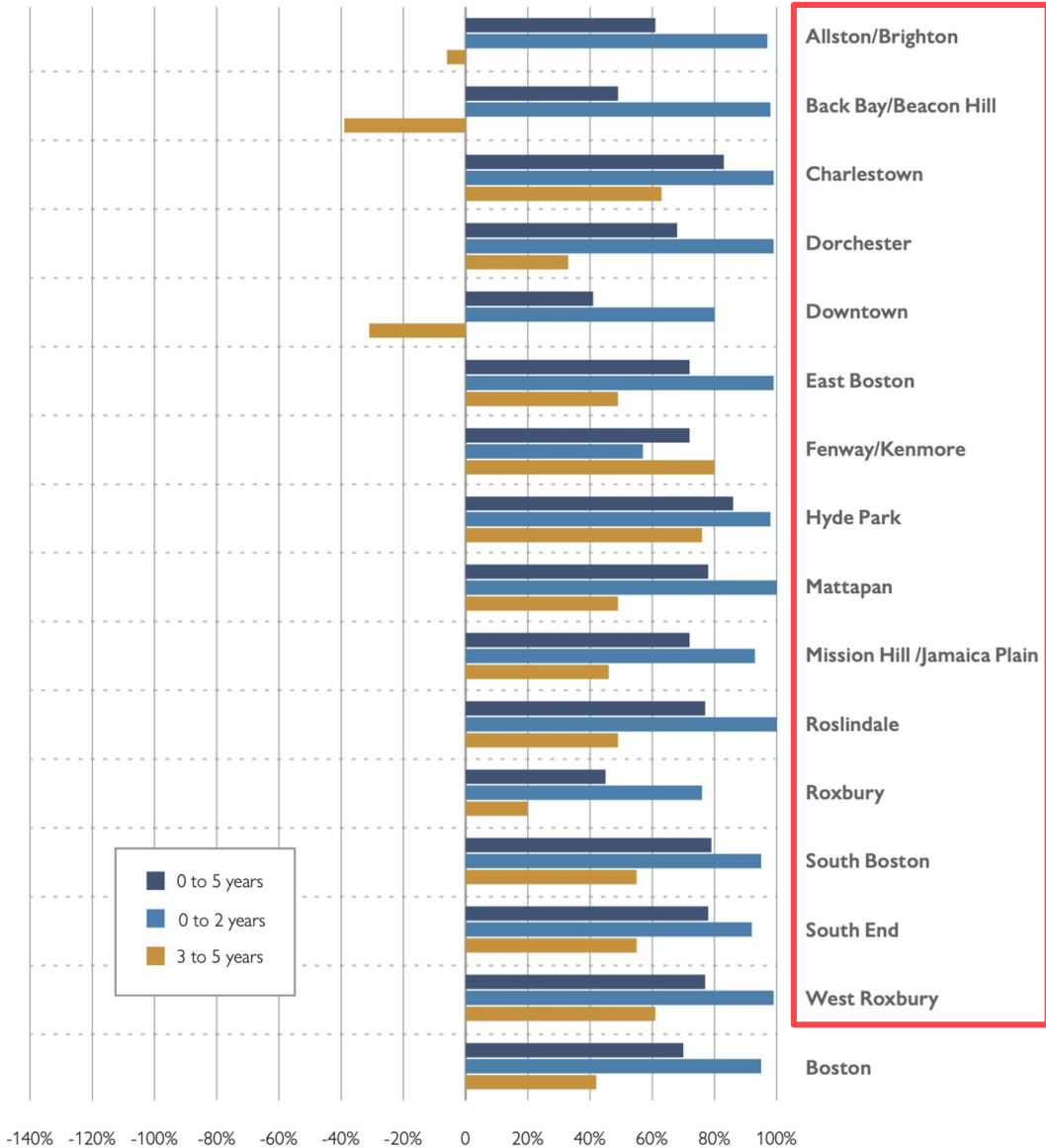
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- This **modest decrease from the 2017 gap (74%)** is due to the expansion of UPK

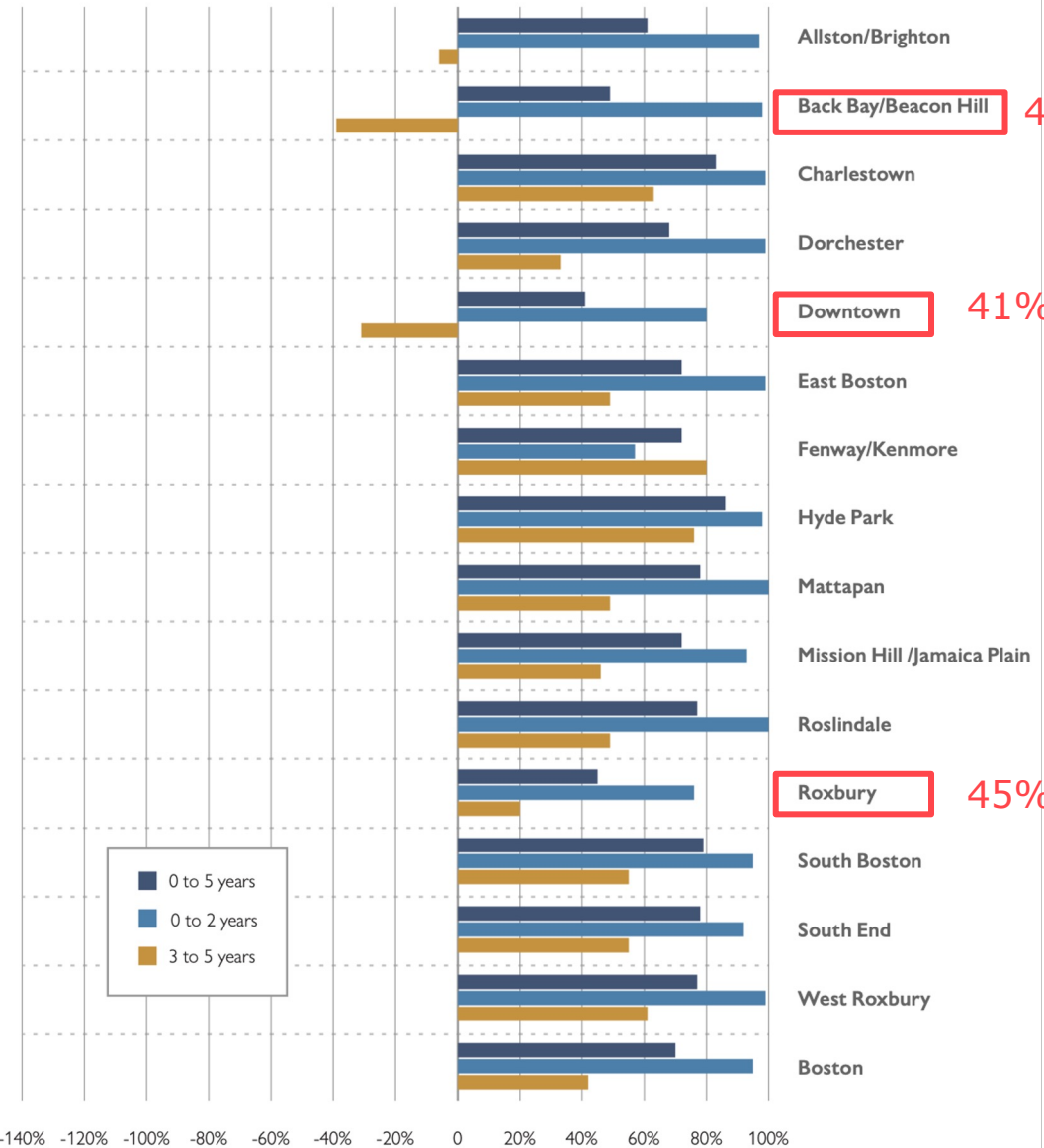
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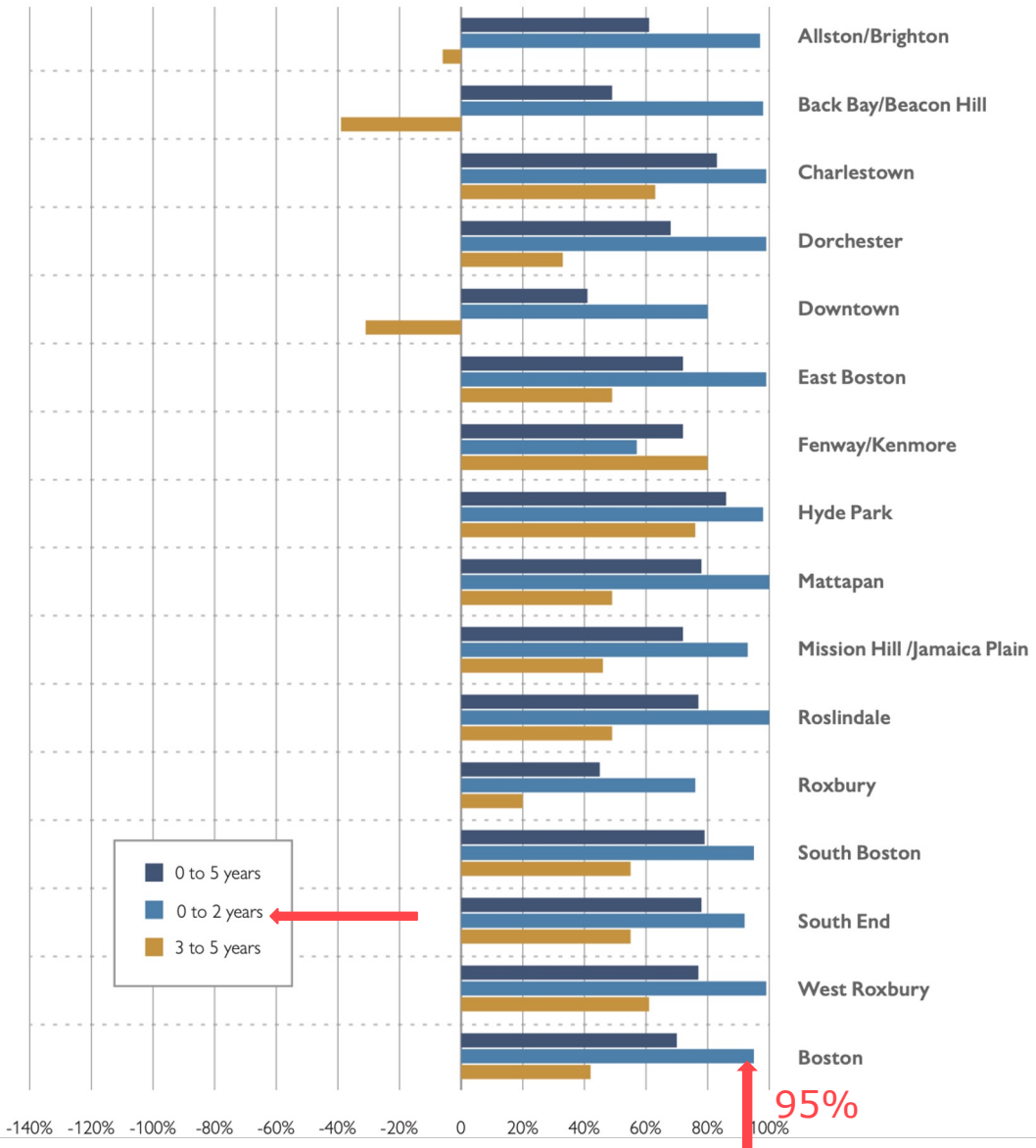
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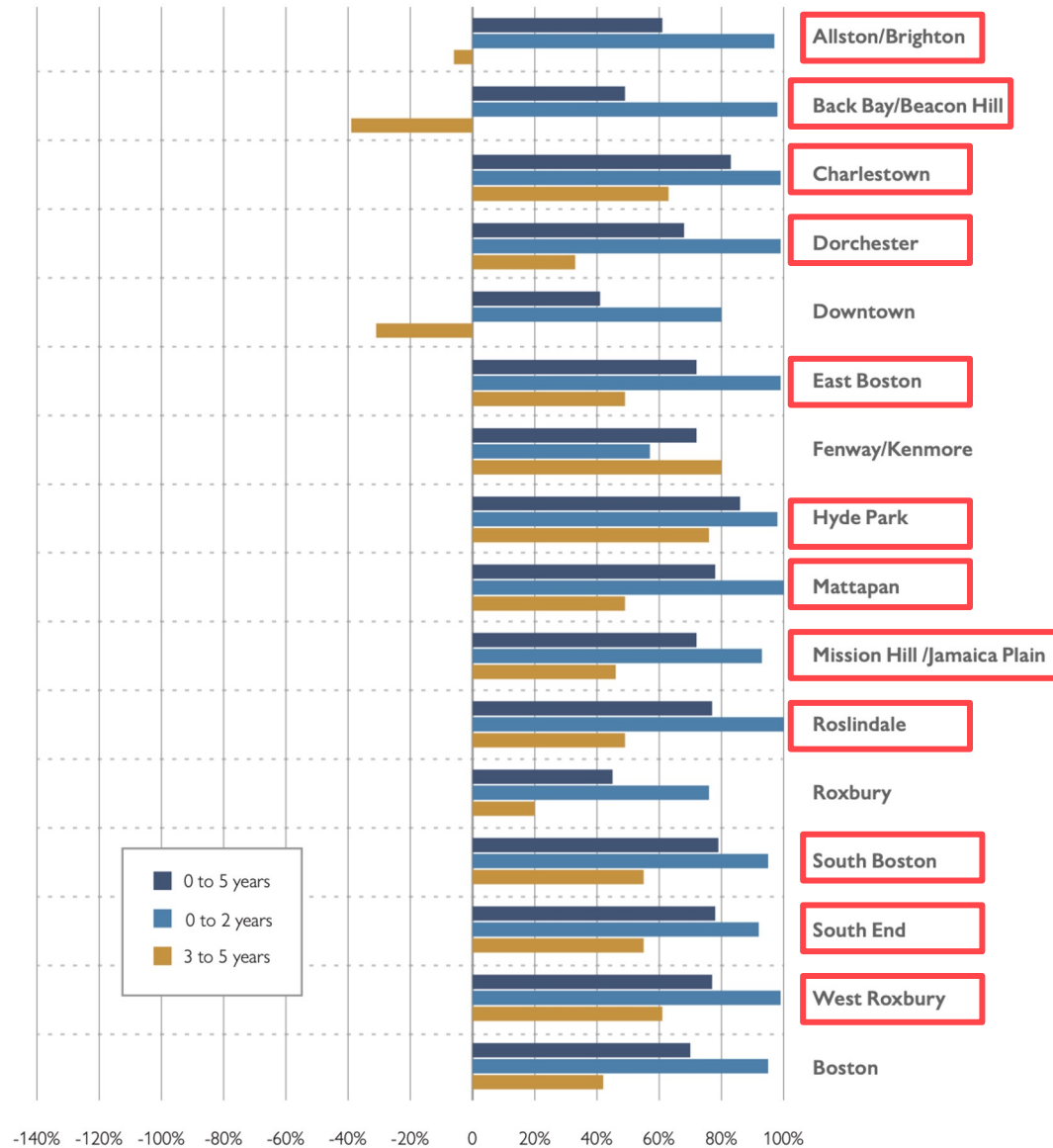
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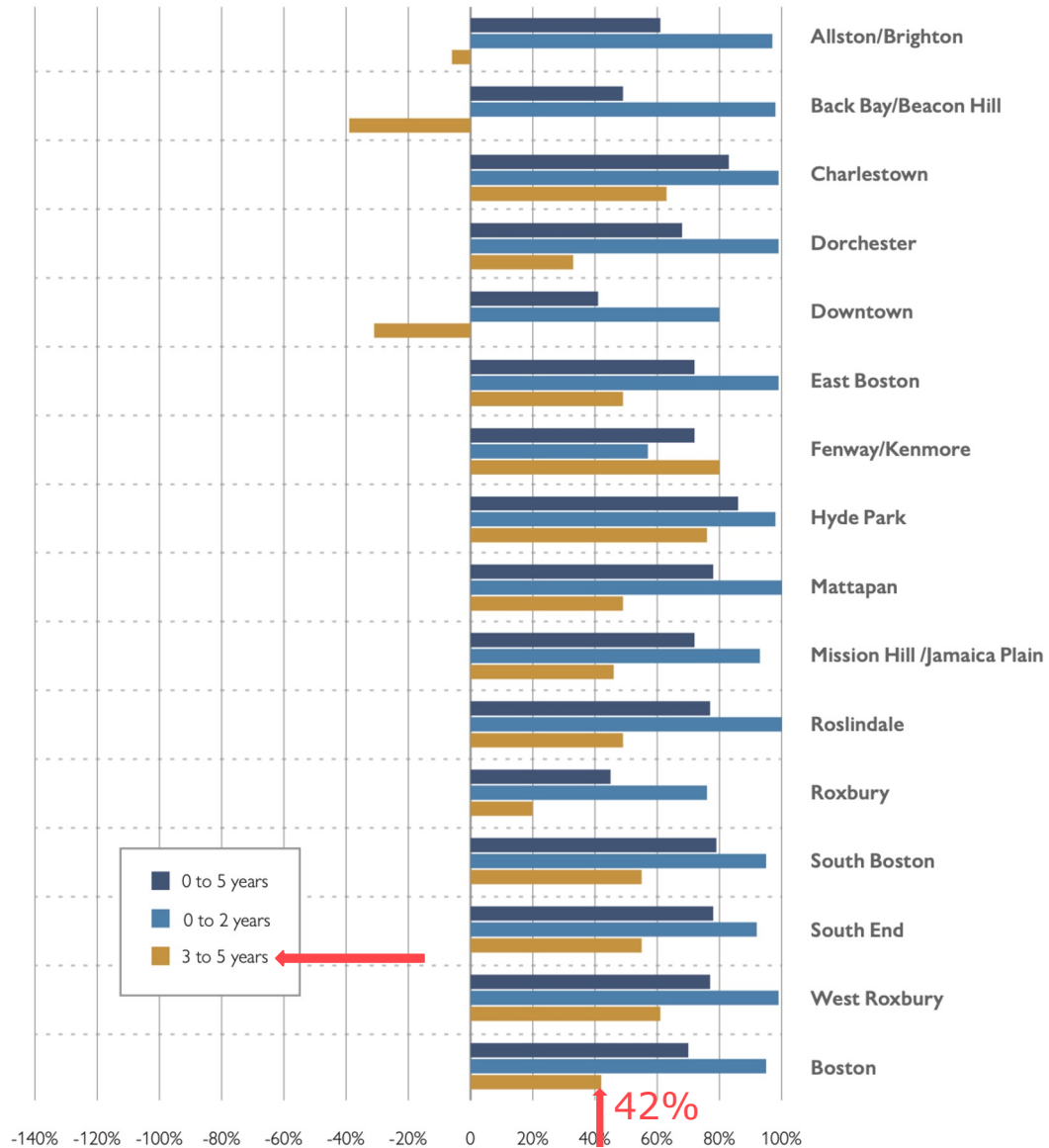
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- In 12 neighborhoods, there were 90% more children 0-2 years than quality seats available

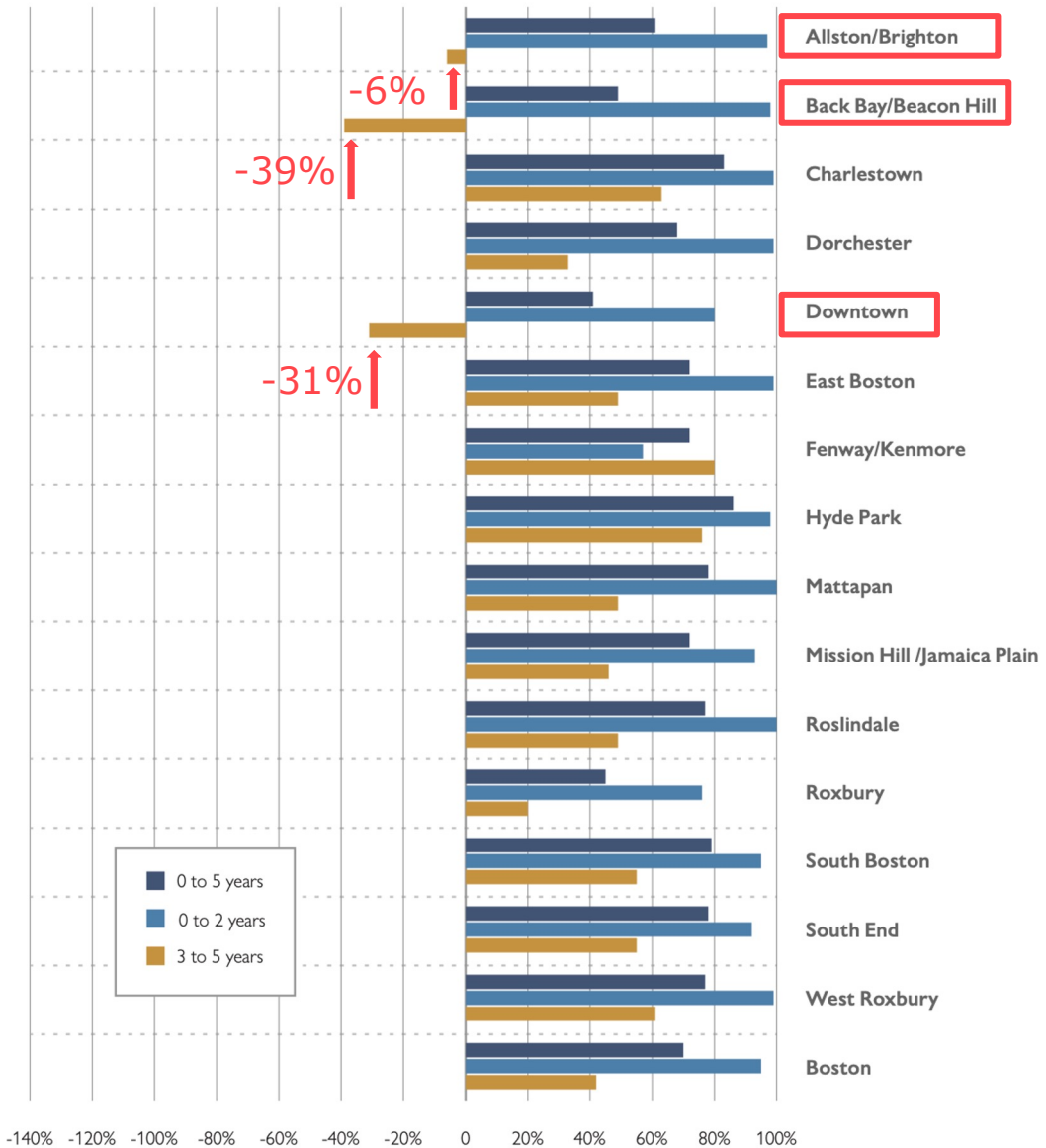
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- Compared to a gap of 42% for children ages 3 to 5 years and 3 neighborhoods with more seats than children

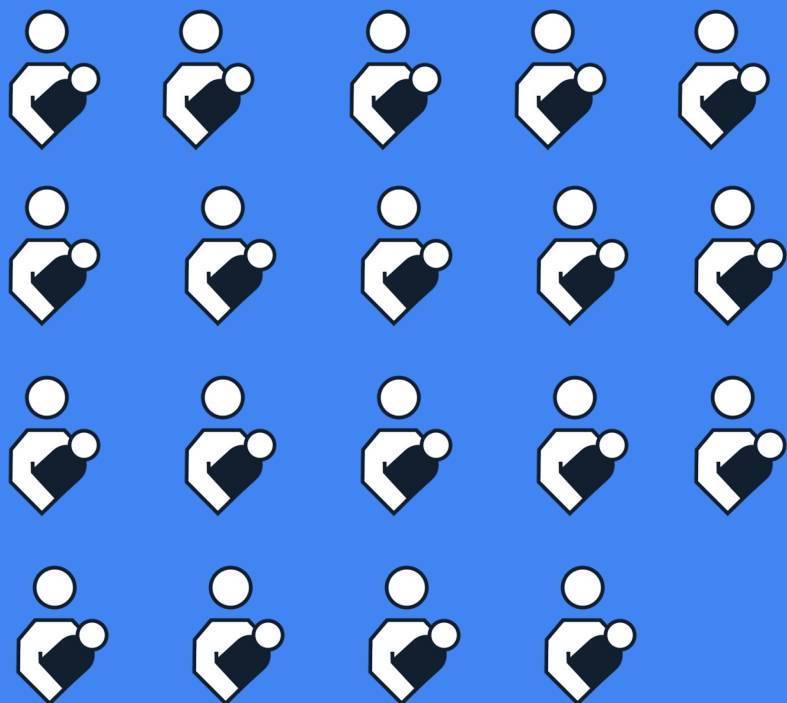
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Only 1 in 20 infants and toddlers would find a seat in a high-quality formal child care setting.





Access



Quality



Affordability

Public Funding | Definition

Child-care financial assistance (Subsidies)

- Financial support (EEC) for families that meet certain requirements and need assistance to pay for child care.

“Subsidies aim to help families access child care by making it more affordable”

Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3) Grants

- Grants awarded by the EEC since September 2021 for all eligible EEC-licensed and funded early education and care providers serving families in Massachusetts through a non-competitive grant application.

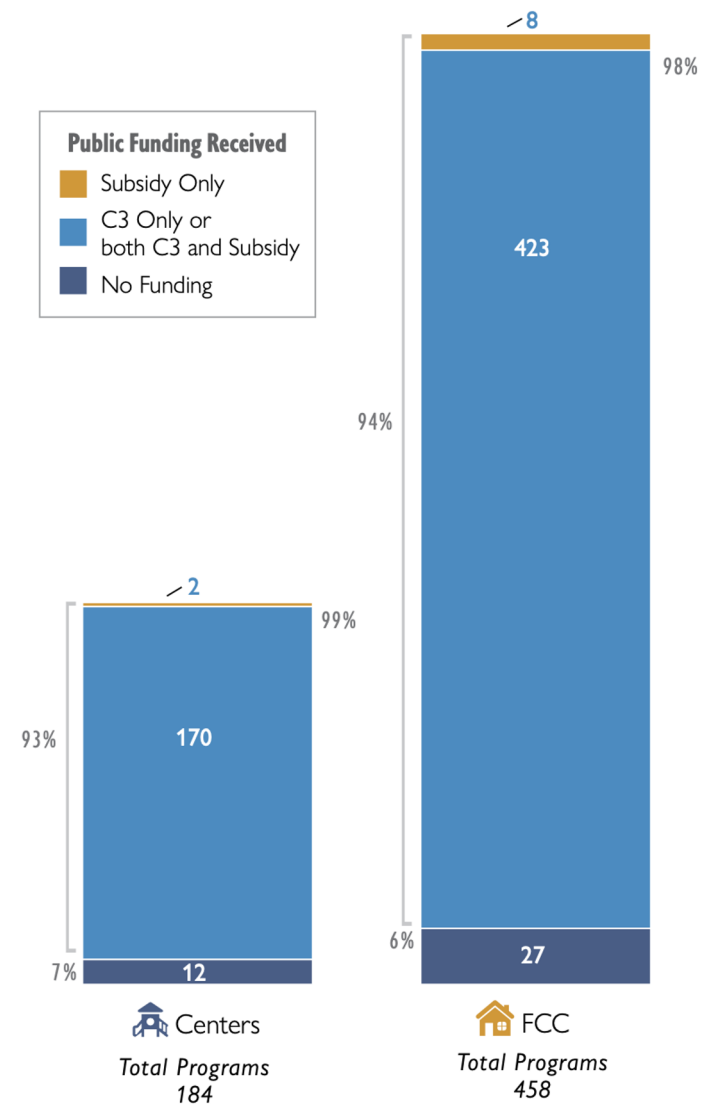
“C3 grants aim to stabilize the licensed child care providers by supporting operational and workforce costs, without increasing the costs for families.”

Remain Open



Number of Licensed Childcare Programs Open on June 2022

By public funding receipt (Boston 2022)

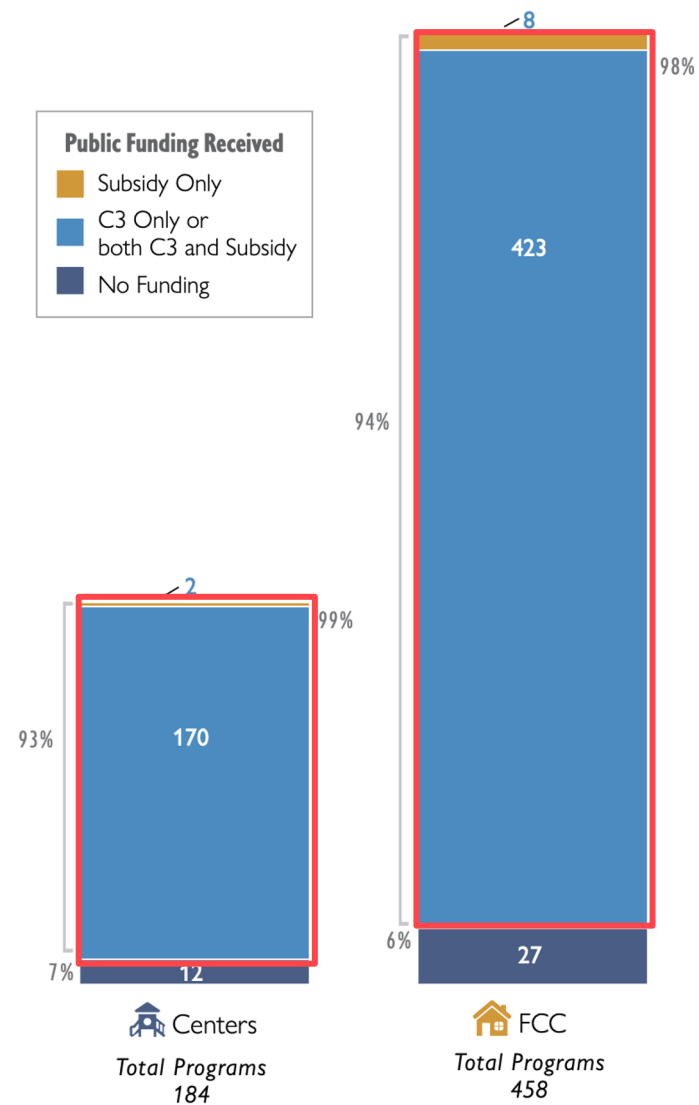


Number of Licensed Childcare Programs
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Remain Open

- Of the 642 licensed early education and care programs active in June 2022, 94% (603) received public funding

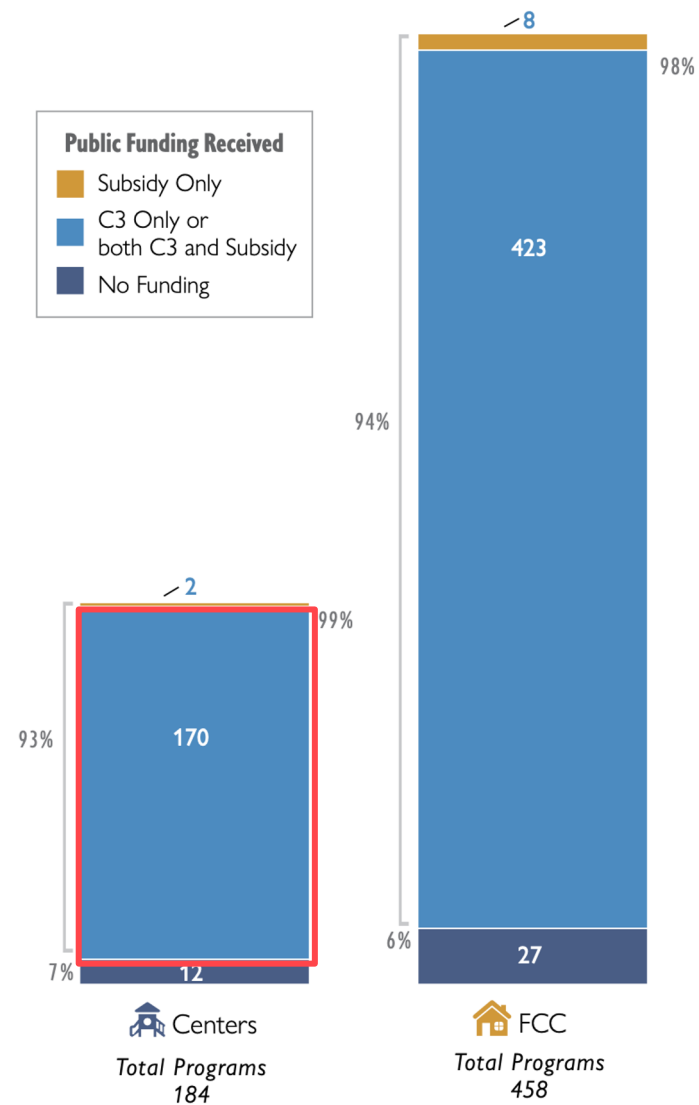


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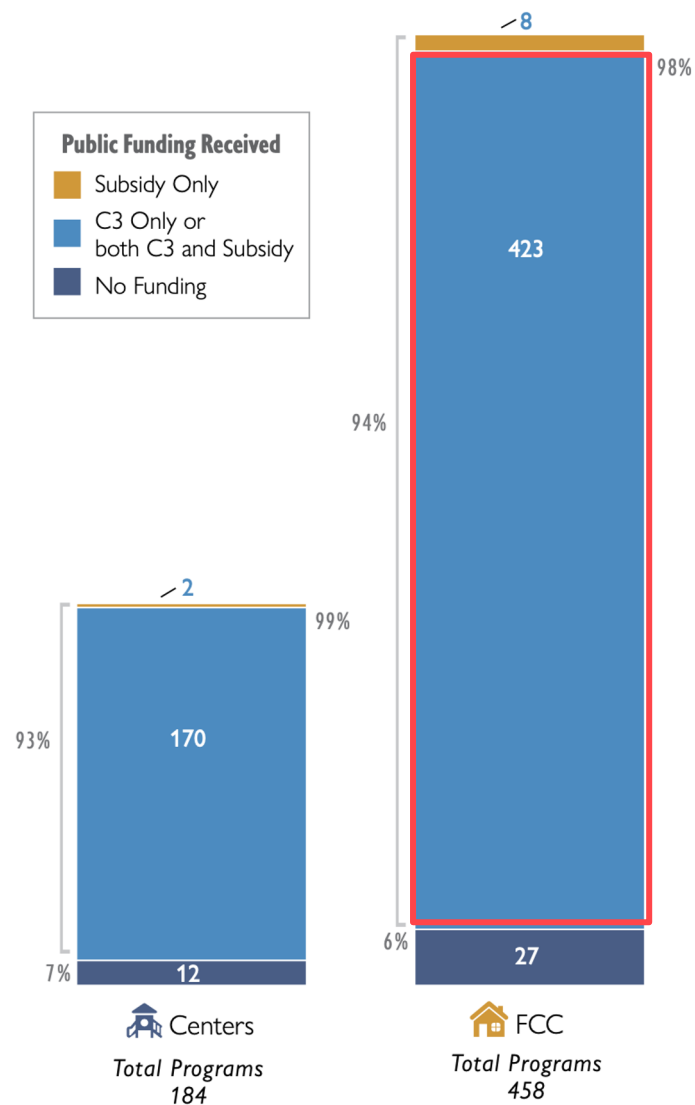
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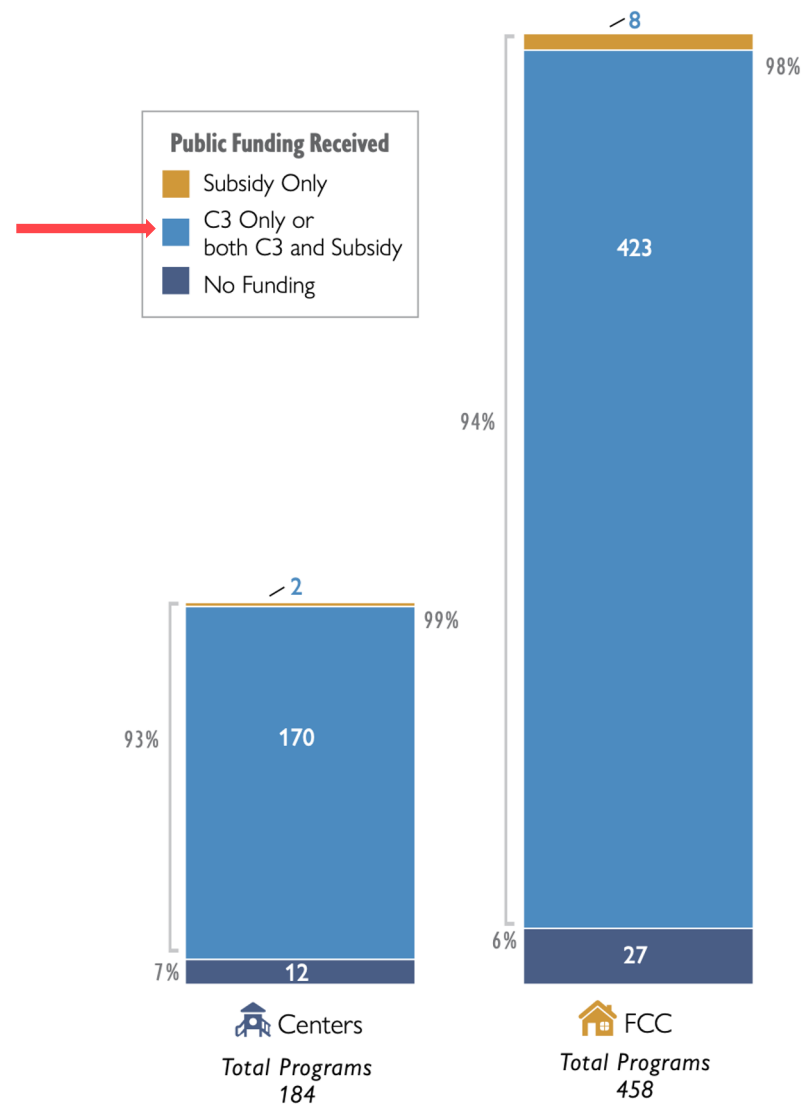
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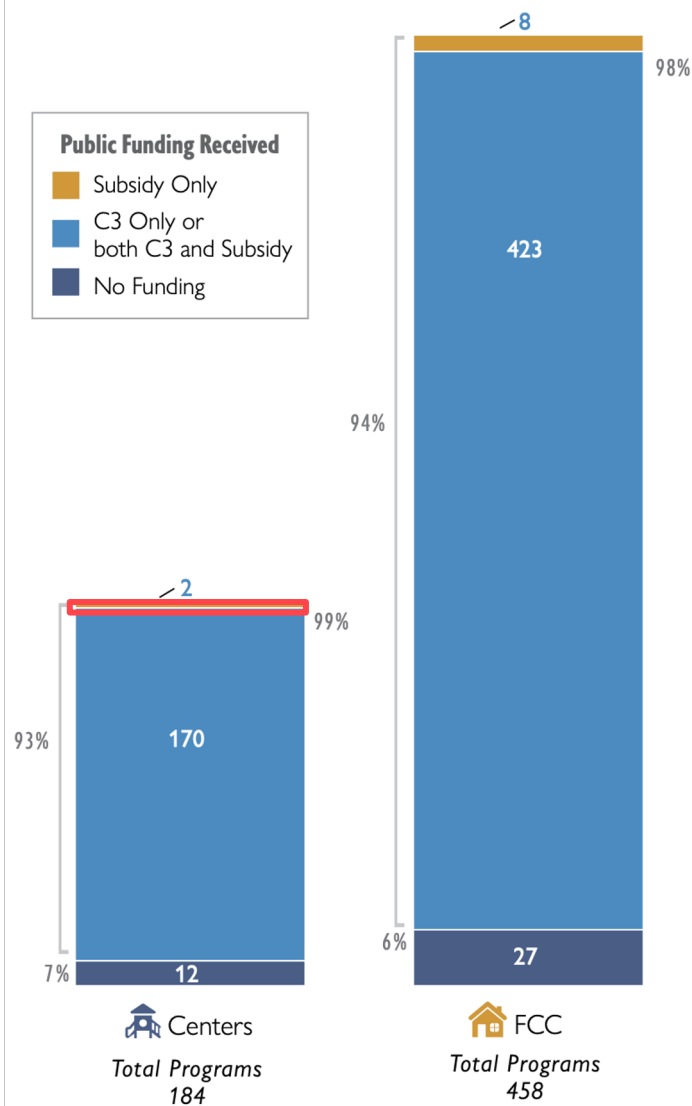


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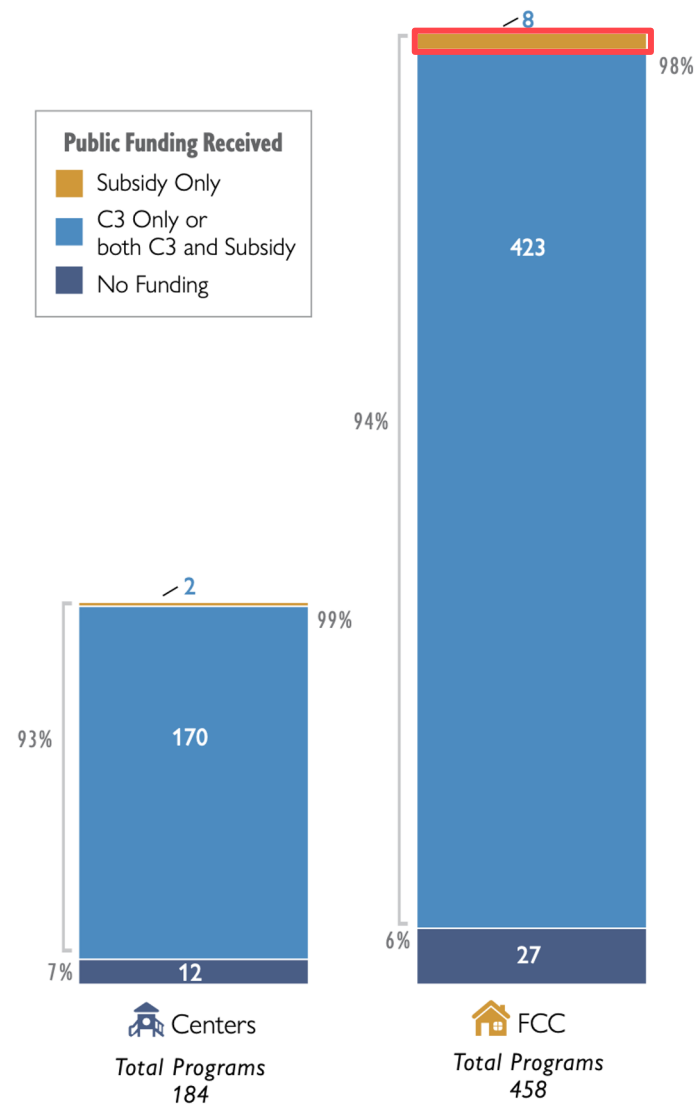
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PUBLIC

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FUNDING

The number of providers accepting C3 grants highlights how critical they are to maintain a stable supply of child care in the city

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The number of providers accepting C3 grants highlights how critical they are to maintain a stable supply of child care in the city

IS

All licensed early education and care programs need C3 grants to survive

CRUCIAL

Many families need subsidies to access child care



Recommendations

Recommendations

PUBLIC INVESTMENTS



01

Advocate for increased and sustained public investment in the early education and care field

- Continuation of the Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3) grants program for ALL providers.
- Increase in the current subsidy rate and the continuation and expansion of the state's Early Childhood Educator Pilot program.
- Provide **no-cost education opportunities** to rebuild and expand the early education workforce.

Recommendations

INVEST IN UPK

02

Continue to invest in and expand UPK for 3- and 4-year-olds

- The City needs to **continue the investment in UPK** to achieve universal access to high-quality early education and care at a faster pace.

Recommendations

ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY CARE



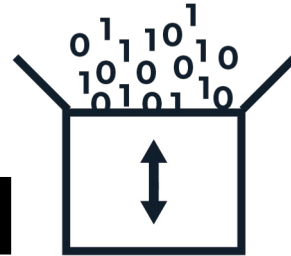
03

Building on UPK's work, create a Boston initiative for infants and toddlers that expands access high-quality

- Develop a common, **city-wide definition of high-quality early education and care indicators** for Boston's children ages birth to 5.
- **To meet indicators, public investment** in professional development, early education curricula, physical infrastructure and expansion.

Recommendations

DATA COLLECTION



04

Leverage the new City of Boston's OEC to define indicators and house data for tracking and improving Boston's early education and care field

- More **accurate quantitative and qualitative data** to make policy decisions.
- **Advance equity** in data collection, access, and utilization to create a robust data system.
- Partner across agencies and with local community organizations to **increase participation in the Boston Childcare Survey**.
- Explore what is influencing changes in the **distribution of the population of children ages birth to 5 years** in Boston.

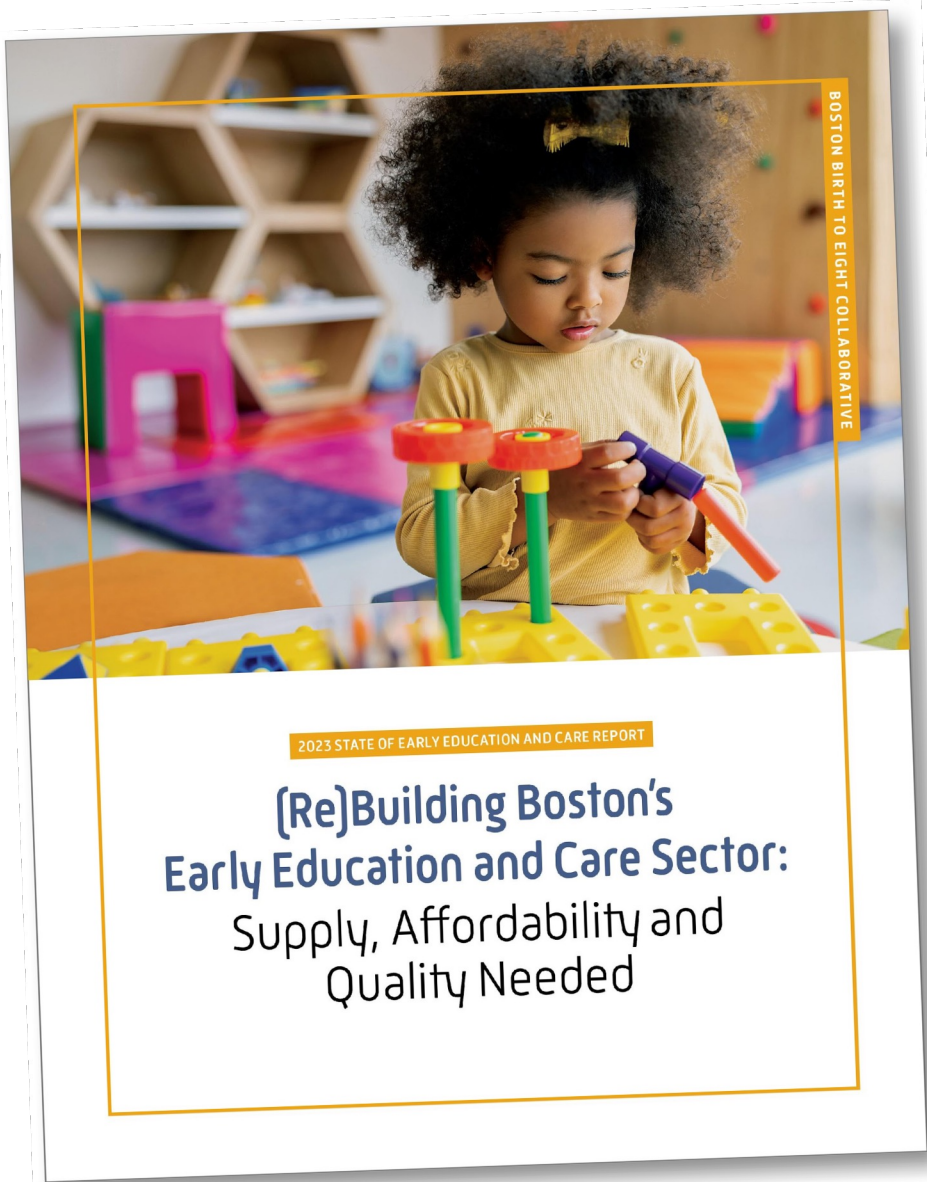
Recommendations

ADVOCACY EFFORTS

05

Coordinate with state-level advocacy to help fund and sustain city-level efforts

- Birth to Eight Collaborative partners should continue to participate in the Early Childhood Agenda, and **advocacy efforts to increase public investments in early education and care** through the state budget and legislation.



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Thank you!