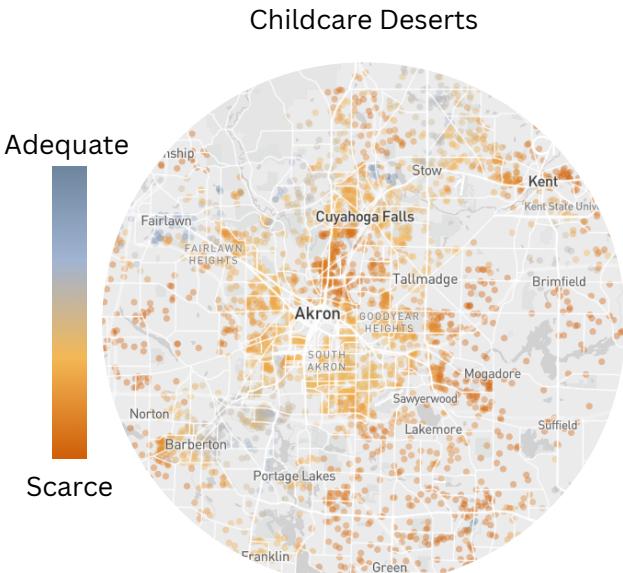


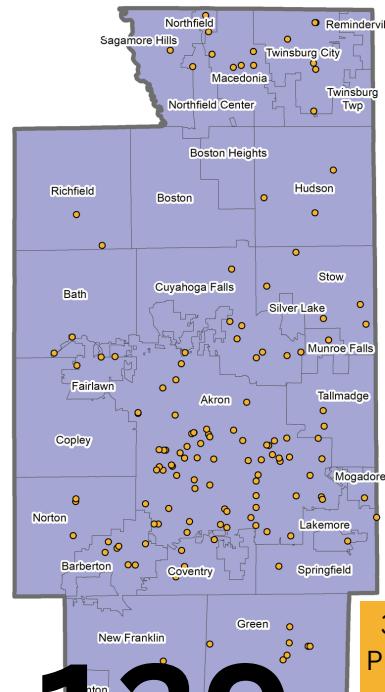
Childcare Deserts



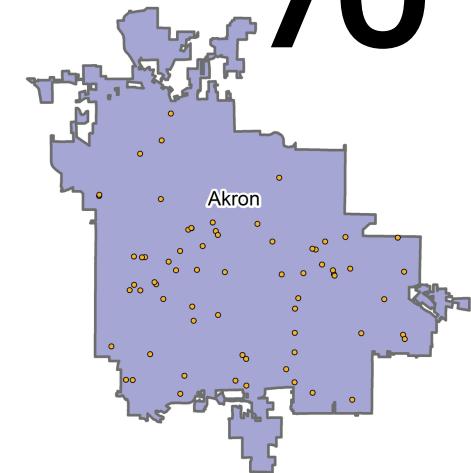
Available childcare options are scarce for families with children living in Summit County, particularly those who live in or near Akron. **In 2018, approximately 5,900 children under five lived in a childcare desert.**

Source: Center for American Progress

There are 139 three to five star child care options in Summit County, seventy of which are located in Akron



70



3-5 Star Step Up to Quality Licensed Preschools, Child Care Centers, Family Child Care Type A Homes

139

Source: Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

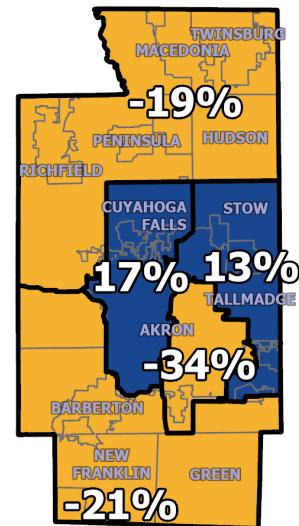
CHILDCARE WORKERS

Between 2019 and 2021 Summit County saw a 21% decrease in people employed as childcare workers. However, decreases varied within the county. In some areas of the county, the number of workers actually increased including in West Akron, Stow, Tallmadge and Cuyahoga Falls. In contrast, **Twinsburg, Hudson, Macedonia, East & Central Akron, and Barberton saw decreases in the number of people employed as childcare workers.** Childcare centers must meet minimum staffing requirements in order to offer safe and high quality services to families.

Source: American Community Survey Microdata

2019 to 2021

percent change in number of employed childcare workers



communities that experienced a **decrease** in childcare workers

communities that experienced an **increase** in childcare workers

Social Determinants of Health in Akron and Summit County

According to the CDC, social determinants of health are the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age, and the wider set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of daily life.

15% of children in Summit County experience food insecurity. **Food insecurity in young learners is associated with poor overall health, putting them at developmental risk.** Preschool programs often provide for much of young children's nutritional needs during the school year.



43% of Akron residents and 41% of Summit County residents utilize quick service restaurants frequently. **Providing children with highly nutritious food in an early childhood education setting helps busy families ensure their children have access to healthy foods.**



14% of households in Akron do not have a vehicle, compared to 7% of households in Summit County. **Consistent and reliable transportation provided by early childhood education programs can ease transportation challenges for families without a vehicle.**



60% of children under 6 years in Akron and 38% of children under 6 in Summit County live in single parent households. **Single parent households with affordable & accessible early childcare programs are able to achieve and maintain employment.**



Source: HealthyNeo, American Community Survey