



**Bureau of Children’s Services  
2017 Program Access and Benchmark Project:**

**For Children’s Long-Term Support (CLTS) Waiver, Katie Beckett Program, and Children’s  
Community Options Program (CCOP)**

**Wisconsin Children with a Disability**

This report seeks to approximate the number of children in Wisconsin that are potentially eligible for programs administered by the Bureau of Children’s Services in the Division of Medicaid Services.

A proxy is used to estimate the number of children in Wisconsin and in each county with a significant disability that would likely be eligible for long-term services and supports. Estimating the number of children in Wisconsin potentially eligible for long-term supports and services can aid in planning for enrollment, budget projection, and monitoring access to services across the state.

**Number of Children in Wisconsin under 18: 1,292,694**

**Wisconsin Children under 18 with a Disability by Definition**

Various definitions of disabilities result in a range of estimates from over 16% to less than 2% of Wisconsin children.

<b>No. of Children with a Disability</b>	<b>Percent of Children with a Disability</b>	<b>Definition Source</b>
212,571	16.6%	Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) <sup>1</sup>
116,753	13.5%	Children with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) <sup>2</sup>
55,326	4.3%	American Community Survey (ACS) <sup>3</sup>
22,051	1.7%	Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

The definition of disability<sup>4</sup> from the American Community Survey (ACS) by the U.S. Census Bureau most closely resembles the functional level necessary to receive supports and services from the CLTS Waiver, Katie Beckett Program, or Children’s Community Options Program (CCOP).

**The American Community Survey (ACS): 4.3% or 55,326 children in Wisconsin<sup>5</sup>**

Conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, the American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual survey that adopts a functional approach to disability, defining it as having “serious difficulty” with vision or hearing, or “because of a serious physical, mental, or emotional condition,” with cognition, ambulation, or self-care. Overall, the ACS attempts to capture disability from these six types of difficulty: hearing, vision, cognitive,

<sup>1</sup> 2017 National Survey of Children’s Health. Children and Family Health Measures; Indicator 1.11 \*note: 212,571 (16.6%) is based off 2016 American Community Survey 1-year estimate of 1,283,444 children under 18 in WI.

<sup>2</sup> Represents children participating in public school only in academic year 2016 (n=867,800), not all children under 18 years of age. <https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/pubagency.asp>

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates

<sup>4</sup> American Community Survey, 2017 Subject Definitions. [https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/tech\\_docs/subject\\_definitions/2017\\_ACSSubjectDefinitions.pdf](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/tech_docs/subject_definitions/2017_ACSSubjectDefinitions.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> 2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate



ambulatory (substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing, reaching, lifting, or carrying, used as a proxy for physical disability), self-care, and independent living. Functional limitations are supplemented by questions about difficulties with selected activities from the Katz Activities of Daily Living (ADL) and Lawton Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL) scales, namely difficulty bathing and dressing, and difficulty performing errands such as shopping. For children younger than five, only vision and hearing categories are assessed. Data does not include children in institutions.

### 2017 Enrollment in CLTS + Waitlist, CCOP, and Katie Beckett

Children with disabilities, as defined by the ACS, suggests that over 55,000 children in Wisconsin have care needs that would likely result in their eligibility for programs administered by the Bureau of Children's Services in the Long Term Care area of the Division of Medicaid Services. Not all children potentially eligible for these programs may choose to enroll or need to access the programs.

The decision to access these specific programs is dependent on a number of factors. Some families have adequate resources with private health coverage to meet their child's needs. Additionally, one in three Wisconsin children is covered by Medicaid. If families are enrolled in BadgerCare Plus and/or SSI-related Medicaid, their children with disabilities may have their care needs met. Furthermore, Wisconsin has a number of other community-based public programs that children with disabilities may access including Wraparound Milwaukee and Children Come First.

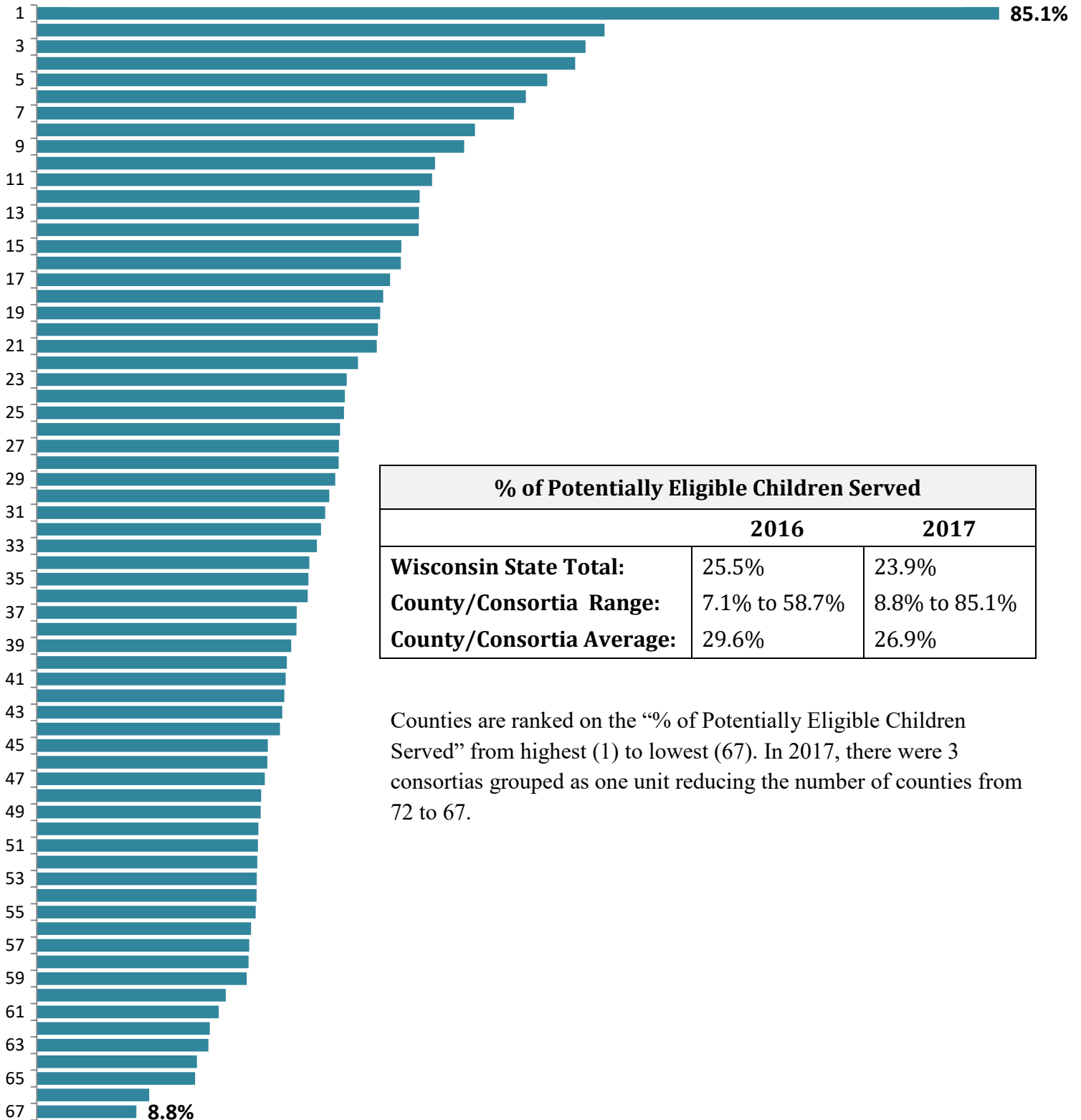
<b>Children Served Any Time in Calendar Year</b>		
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Program Enrollment for CLTS, Katie Beckett, CCOP	18,627	20,108
<b>(-)</b> Children Enrolled in Multiple Programs (Duplicates)	4,256	6,860
<b>Unduplicated Children Served in 2016</b>	<b>14,371</b>	<b>13,248</b>

### Proxy for Potentially Eligible Children CLTS Waiver + Waitlist, CCOP, Katie Beckett

<b>Potentially Eligible Children</b>		
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Children Potentially Eligible for CLTS, Katie Beckett, CCOP	56,337	55,326
<b>(-)</b> Unduplicated Children Served in 2016	14,371	13,248
<b>Remaining</b>	<b>41,966</b>	<b>42,078</b>



### Percent of Potentially Eligible Children Enrolled in BCS Programs by County



% of Potentially Eligible Children Served		
	2016	2017
<b>Wisconsin State Total:</b>	25.5%	23.9%
<b>County/Consortia Range:</b>	7.1% to 58.7%	8.8% to 85.1%
<b>County/Consortia Average:</b>	29.6%	26.9%

Counties are ranked on the “% of Potentially Eligible Children Served” from highest (1) to lowest (67). In 2017, there were 3 consortias grouped as one unit reducing the number of counties from 72 to 67.