Broadband READY
East Central Region

Digital Inclusion Regional Profile

Socio-Economic

Socio-economic indicators are an important part of the digital inclusion narrative for two reasons. First, some socio-economic indicators impact technology adoption, meaning people in those groups are more or less likely to use technology. Second, socio-economic indicators can also impact access to online information and services.
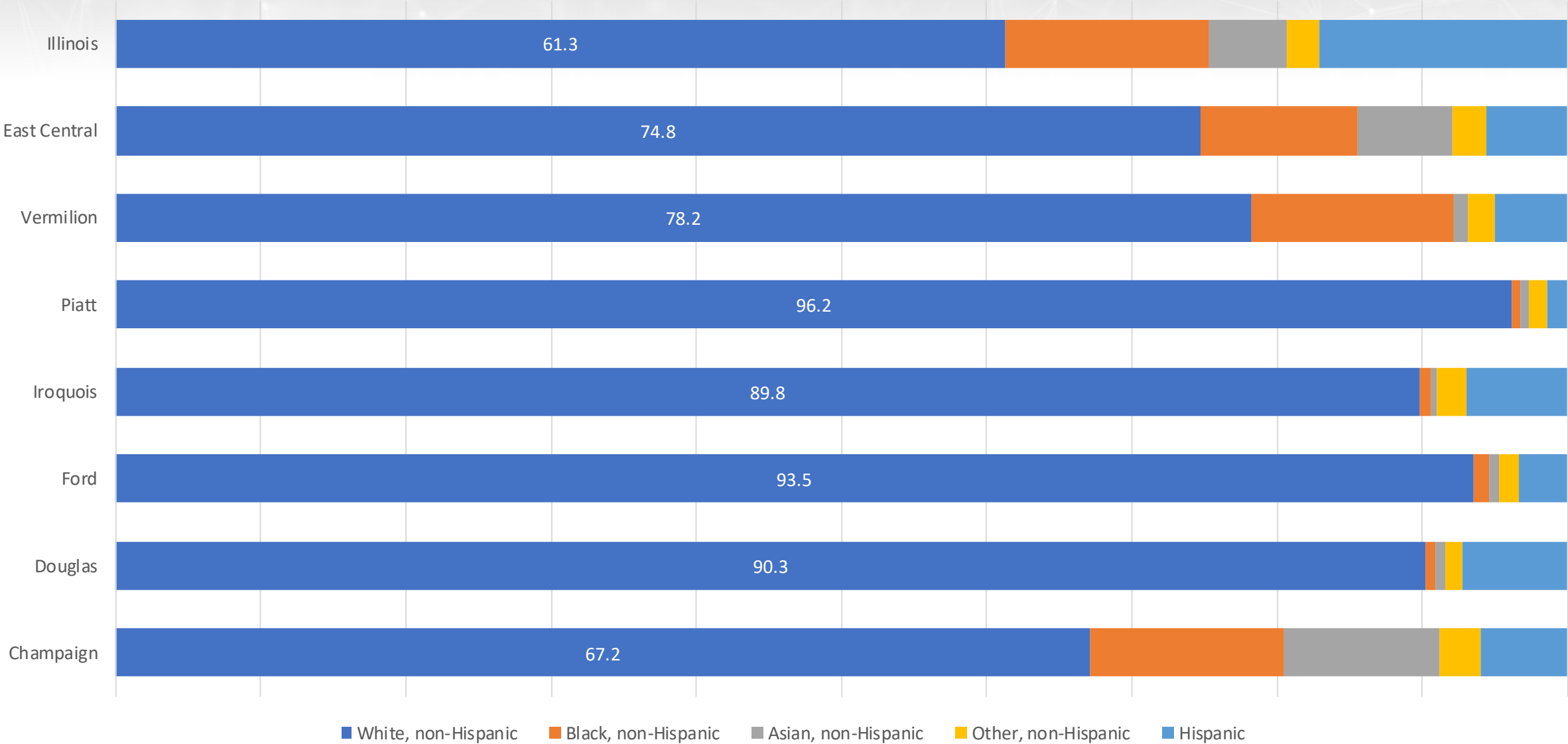
Additional Resources:

US Census Bureau Data Profiles

Illinois Broadband Advisory Council's Affordability Study

- Race/Ethnicity Breakdown

- Age Group Breakdown

- Educational Attainment

- Percent Households with Children

- Individual Poverty Rate
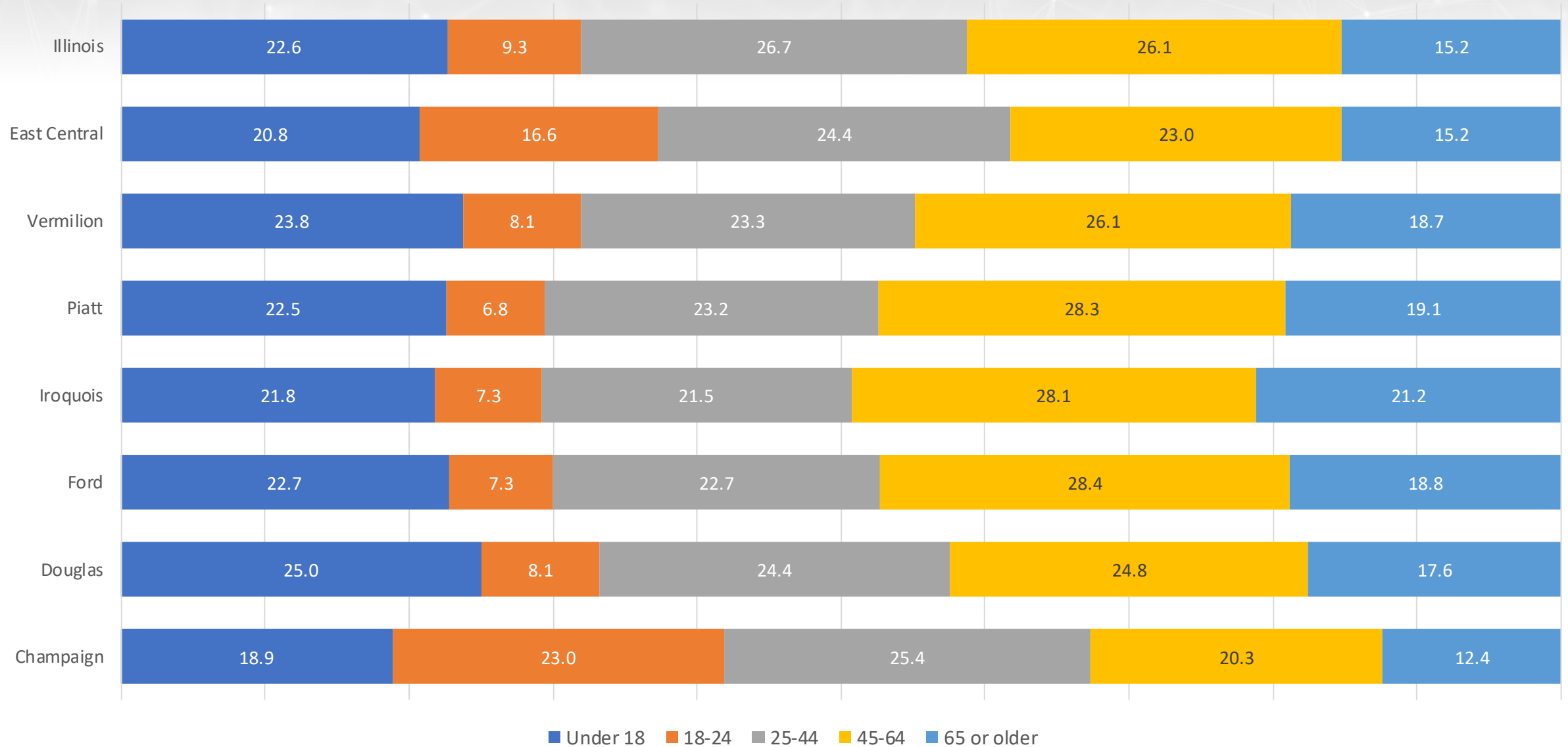
- Limited English Households

Race/Ethnicity Breakdown

Region	White, non-Hispanic	Black, non-Hispanic	Asian, non-Hispanic	Other, non-Hispanic	Hispanic
Illinois	61.3				
East Central	74.8				
Vermilion	78.2				
Piatt	96.2				
Iroquois	89.8				
Ford	93.5				
Douglas	90.3				
Champaign	67.2				

Legend: ■ White, non-Hispanic ■ Black, non-Hispanic ■ Asian, non-Hispanic ■ Other, non-Hispanic ■ Hispanic

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Age Groups Breakdown

Region	Under 18	18-24	25-44	45-64	65 or older
Illinois	22.6	9.3	26.7	26.1	15.2
East Central	20.8	16.6	24.4	23.0	15.2
Vermilion	23.8	8.1	23.3	26.1	18.7
Piatt	22.5	6.8	23.2	28.3	19.1
Iroquois	21.8	7.3	21.5	28.1	21.2
Ford	22.7	7.3	22.7	28.4	18.8
Douglas	25.0	8.1	24.4	24.8	17.6
Champaign	18.9	23.0	25.4	20.3	12.4

Legend: ■ Under 18 ■ 18-24 ■ 25-44 ■ 45-64 ■ 65 or older

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Educational Attainment: Percent Population 25 or Older
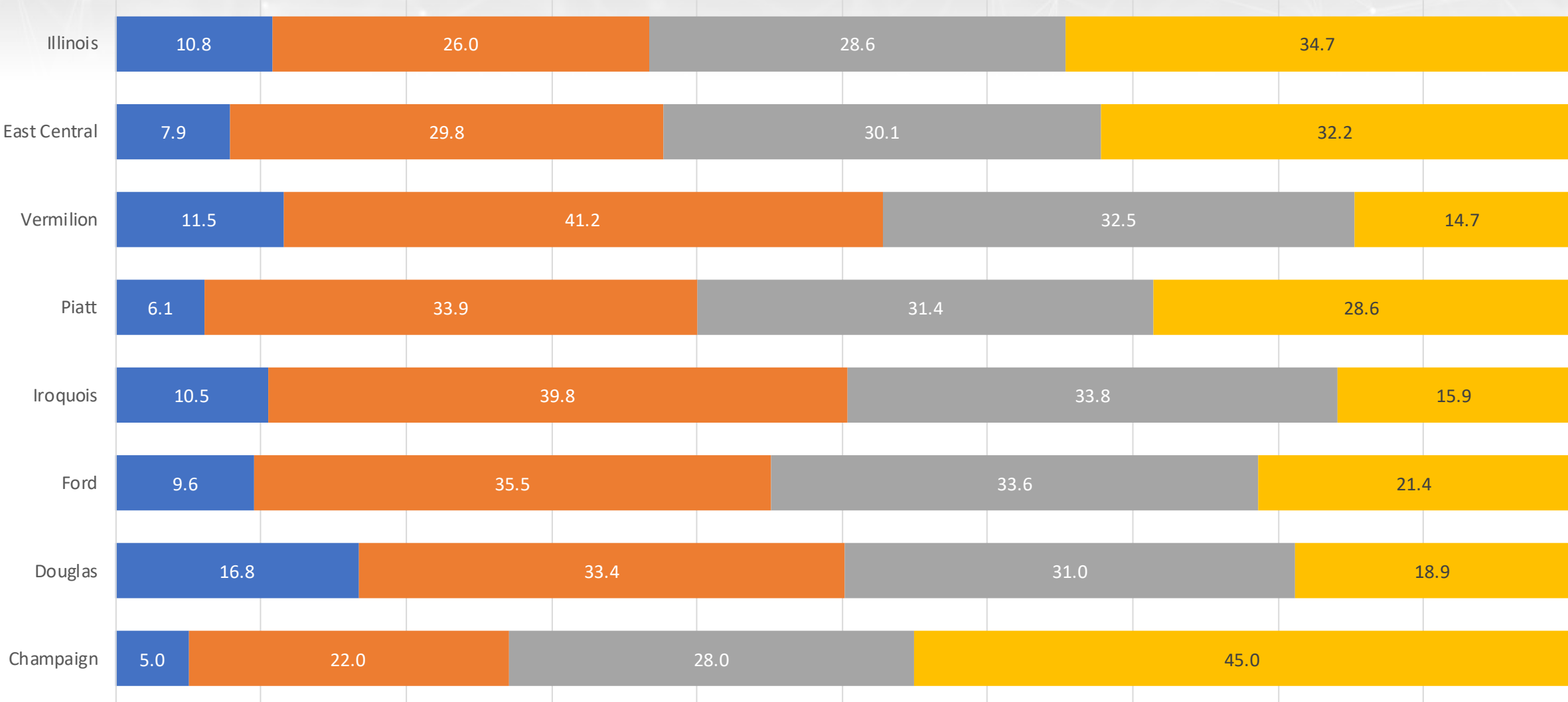
Region	Less than high school	High school	Some college	Bachelor's or higer
Illinois	10.8	26.0	28.6	34.7
East Central	7.9	29.8	30.1	32.2
Vermilion	11.5	41.2	32.5	14.7
Piatt	6.1	33.9	31.4	28.6
Iroquois	10.5	39.8	33.8	15.9
Ford	9.6	35.5	33.6	21.4
Douglas	16.8	33.4	31.0	18.9
Champaign	5.0	22.0	28.0	45.0

Legend: ■ Less than high school ■ High school ■ Some college ■ Bachelor's or higer

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Percent Households with Children

County	Percent
Champaign	24.3
Douglas	31.3
Ford	28.4
Iroquois	28.1
Piatt	30.4
Vermilion	29.5
East Central	26.5
Illinois	30.5

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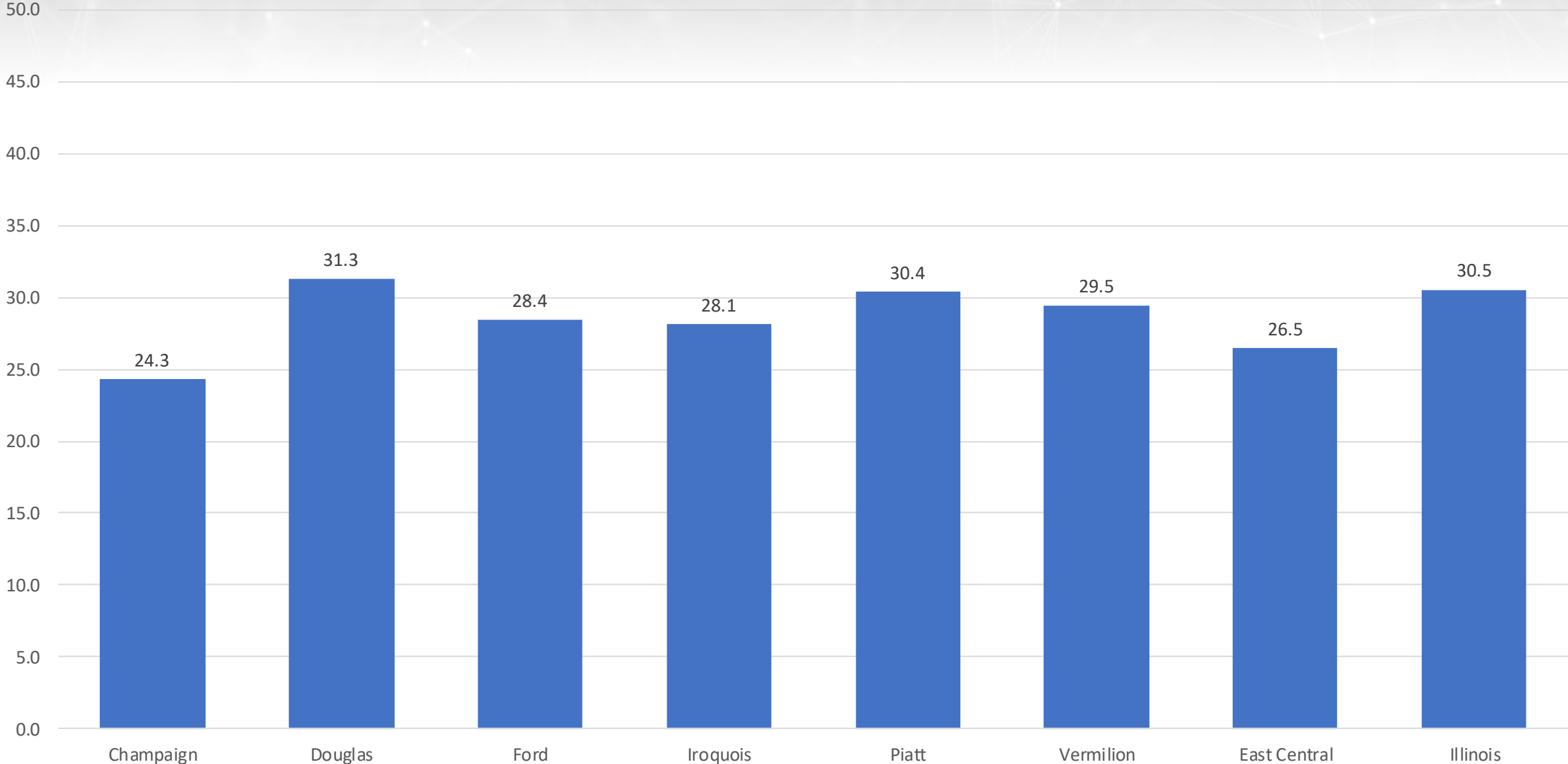
Individual Poverty Rate

The map shows census tracts divided into low, medium, and high based on the individual poverty rate as of 2019. A darker color indicates a higher individual poverty rate. Table shows individual poverty rate per county and the region.

Individual Poverty Rate	Percent
Champaign	20.0
Douglas	10.8
Ford	13.9
Iroquois	12.5
Piatt	5.2
Vermilion	18.9
East Central	17.7
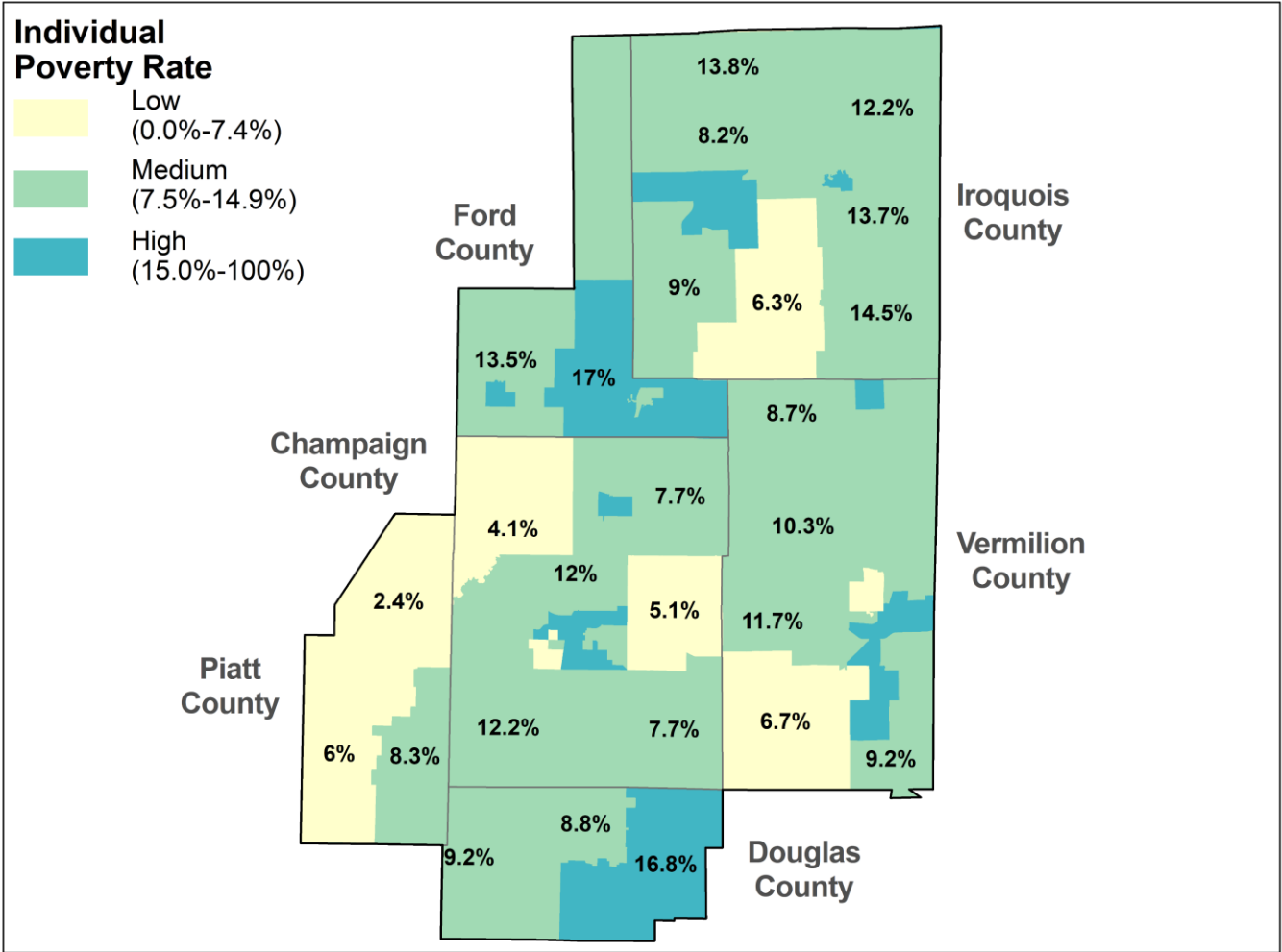
Individual Poverty Rate

Low (0.0%-7.4%)
Medium (7.5%-14.9%)
High (15.0%-100%)

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Limited English Households

The map shows census tracts divided into low, medium, and high based on the percent of limited English households as of 2019. A darker color indicates a higher share of limited English households. Table shows the percent of limited English households per county and the region.

Limited English Households	Percent
Champaign	4.1
Douglas	1.7
Ford	0.2
Iroquois	1.1
Piatt	0.2
Vermilion	0.9
East Central	2.7
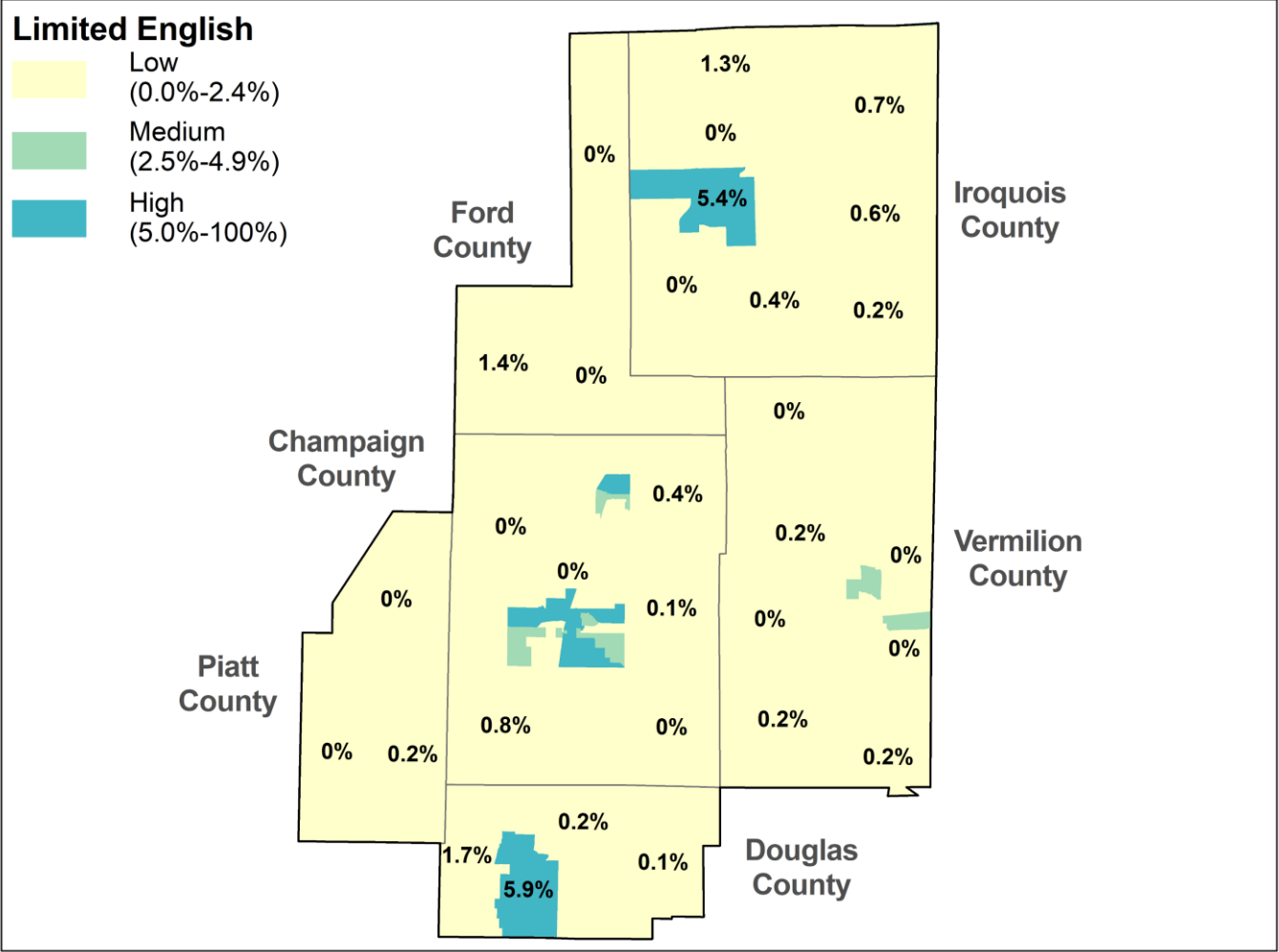
Availability

Broadband availability varies greatly across the US and the standards of service are in fluctuation. The current definition of broadband set by the FCC is 25 Mbps download, 3 Mbps upload (25/3), however 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload (100/20) is believed to be the standard better capable of meeting current work and learn from home needs. As technology advances and needs change, we can anticipate these standards changing as well.
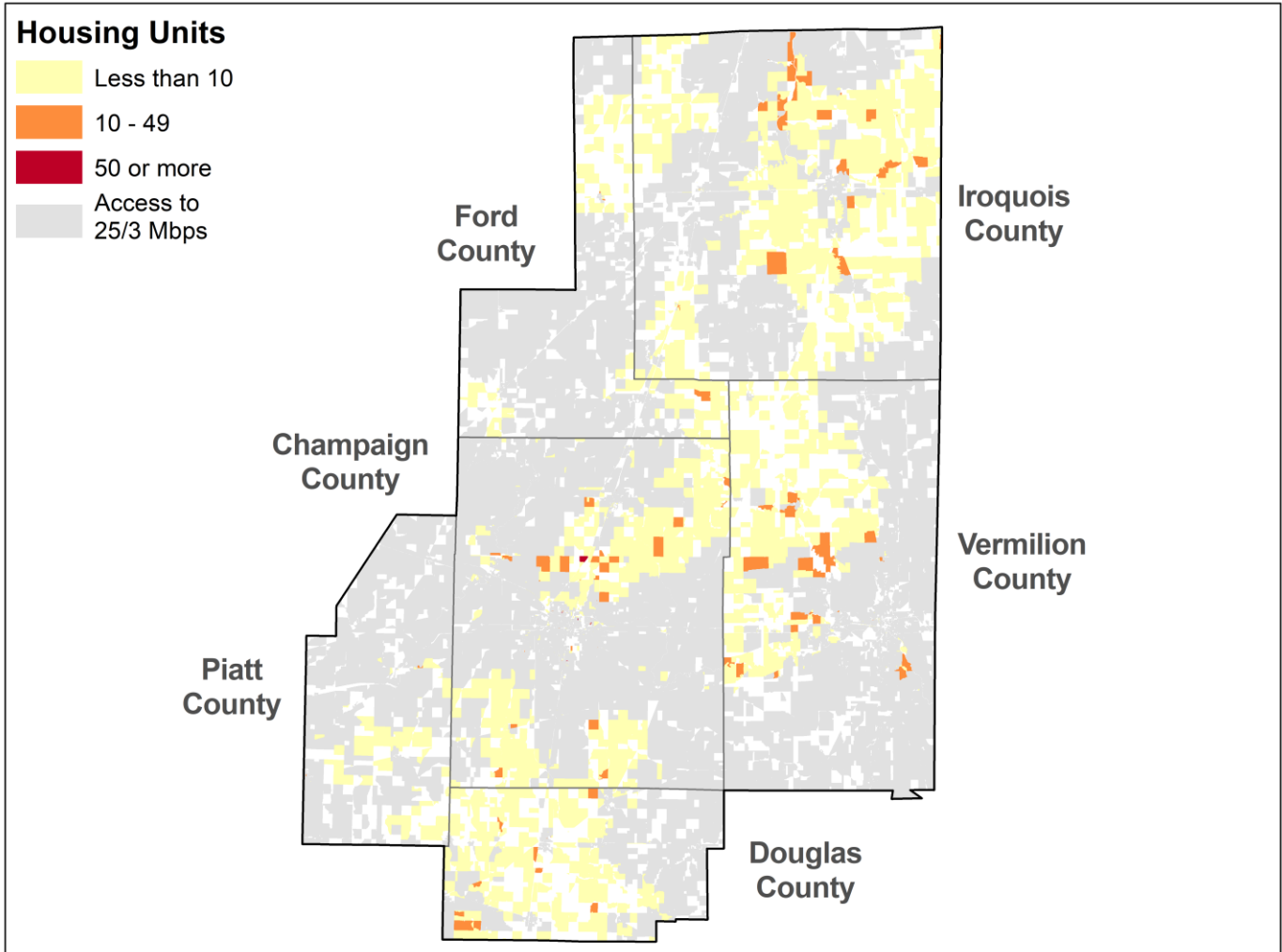
Additional Resources:

Illinois Drive-up Wifi map

Illinois Interactive Broadband Map

- Housing Units Density Outside 25/3 Footprint

- Housing Units Density Outside 100/20 Footprint

- Download/Upload Speed Test Results
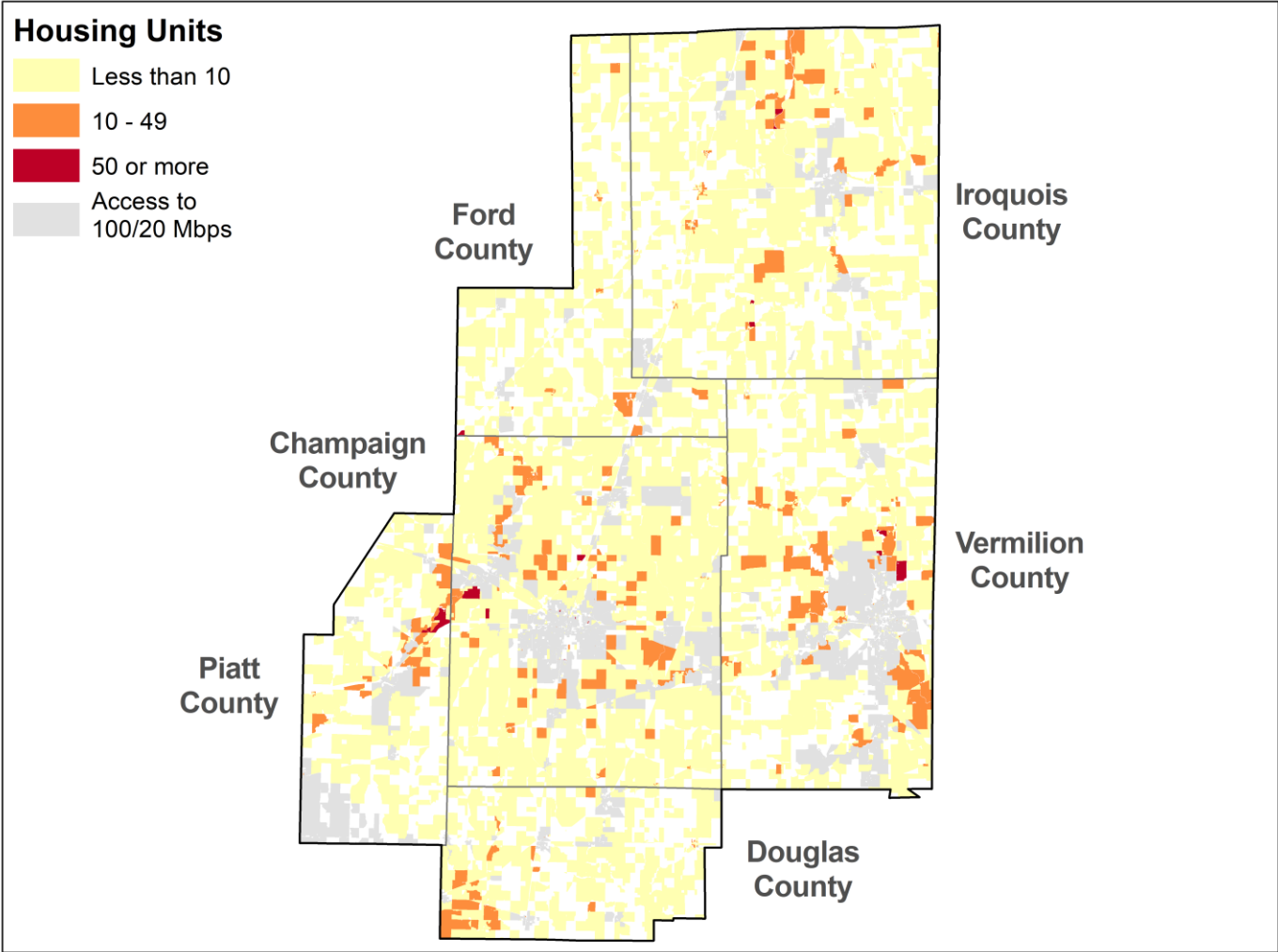
Housing Units Density Outside 25/3 Footprint

Housing Units

- Less than 10
- 10 - 49
- 50 or more
- Access to 25/3 Mbps

Ford County

Iroquois County

Champaign County

Vermilion County

Piatt County

Douglas County

Housing Units Outside 25/3 Footprint	Percent
Champaign	4.1
Douglas	17.9
Ford	14.5
Iroquois	9.5
Piatt	19.2
Vermilion	43.8
East Central	15.3

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10

Housing Units Density Outside 100/20 Footprint

Housing Units

- Less than 10
- 10 - 49
- 50 or more
- Access to 100/20 Mbps

Ford County
Iroquois County
Champaign County
Vermilion County
Piatt County
Douglas County

Housing Units Outside 100/20 Footprint	Percent
Champaign	9.5
Douglas	39.4
Ford	17.9
Iroquois	18.6
Piatt	36.1
Vermilion	57.4
East Central	29.8

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Download Speed Test Results (Mbps)

Median Download

(Low color)	Low (2.7-9.9)
(Medium color)	Medium (10.0-19.9)
(High color)	High (20.0-31.0)

Map Label Legend
Download Mbps
(Download Tests)

Ford County
14.1 (2,011)

6.2 (4,664) — Iroquois County

Champaign County

Vermilion County
13.2 (14,128)

22.6 (88,570)

Piatt County
15.4 (2,871)

16.3 (3,304)

Douglas County

Upload Speed Test Results (Mbps)

13
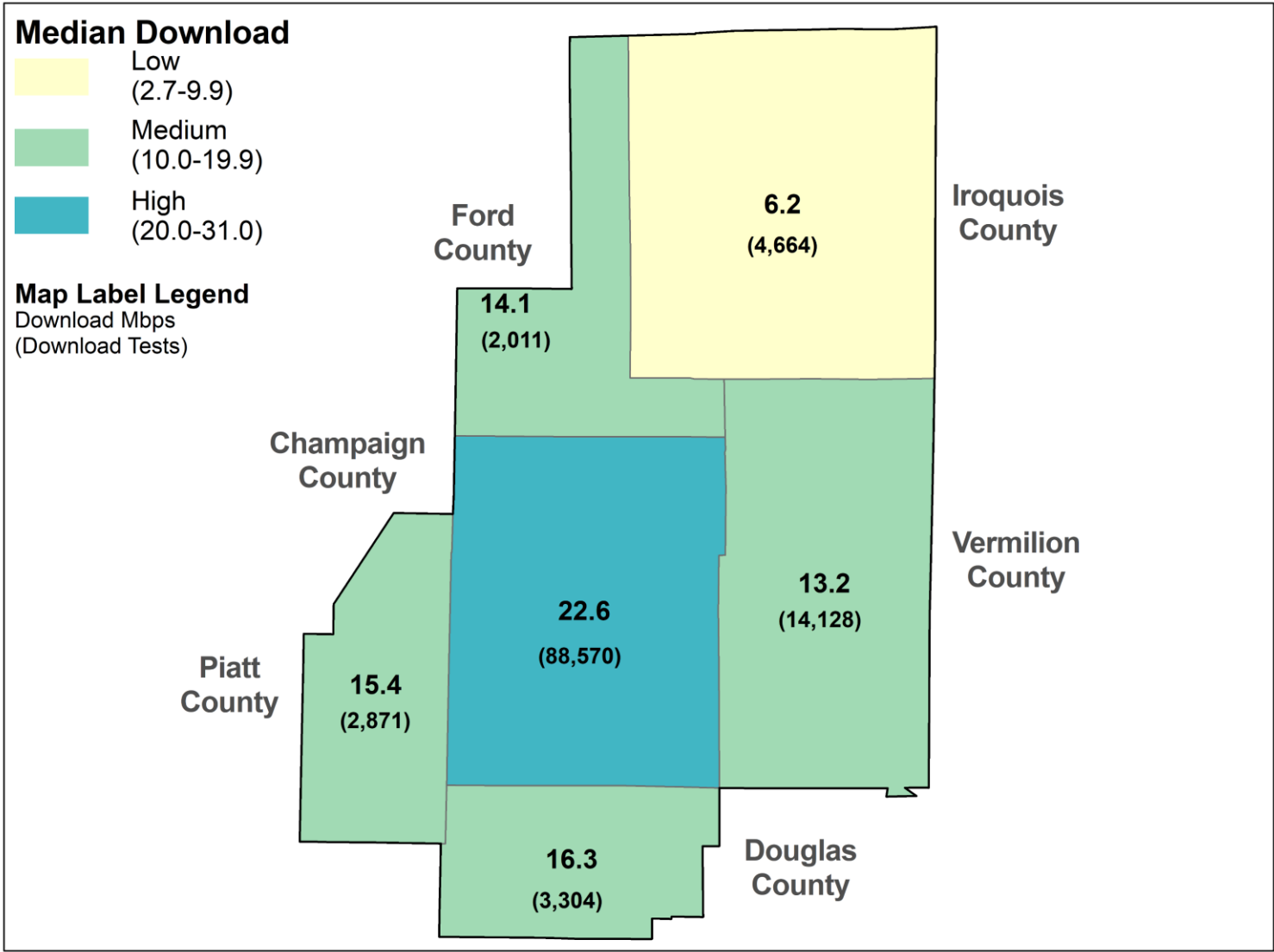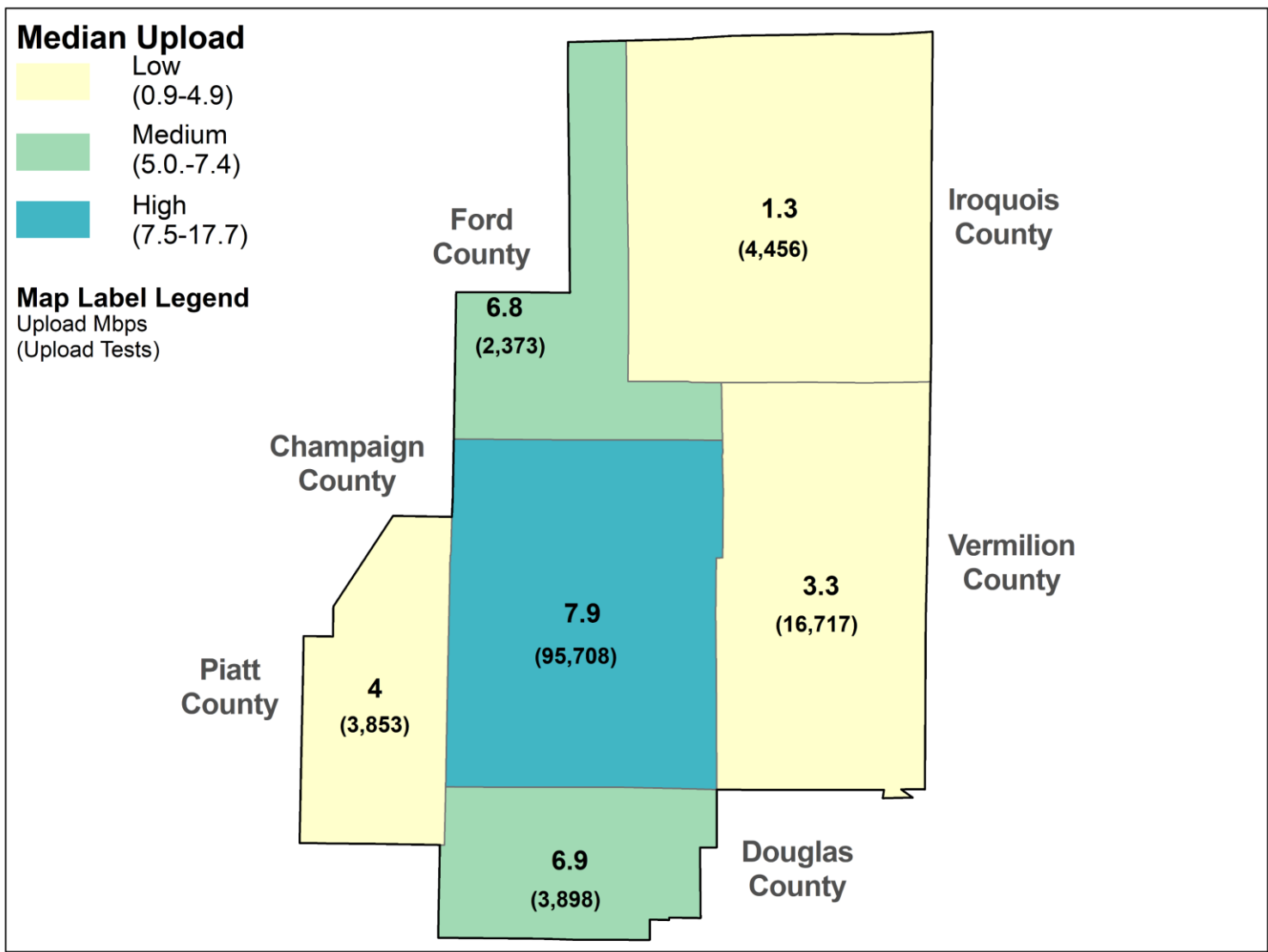
Adoption

With any technology advancement, there are those quick to adopt and those who lag behind. These individuals can be left out of the information, services, and other benefits that come with the use of broadband, causing inequality and missed opportunities for the overall community.

Additional Resources:

[Data Central Blog | National Telecommunications and Information Administration (ntia.gov)](ntia.gov)
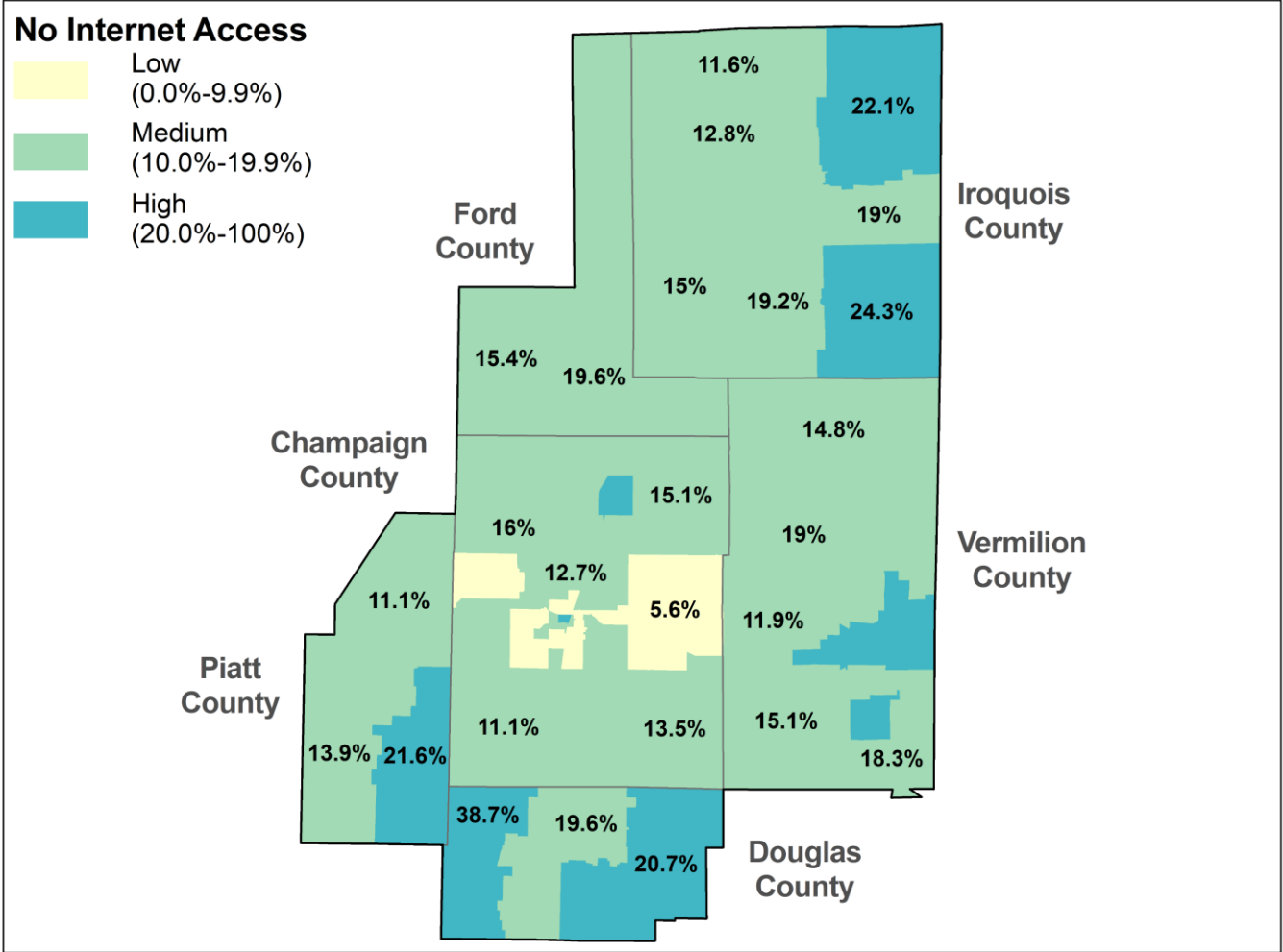
- Households with No Internet Access

- Homework Gap

- Senior Gap

- Digital Distress

- Venture and Highly Active Ventures

Households with No Internet Access

The map shows census tracts divided into low, medium, and high based on the percent of households with no internet access as of 2019. A darker color indicates a higher share of households without internet access. Table shows the percent of household with no internet access per county and the region.

Households with No Internet Access	Percent
Champaign	10.7
Douglas	23.9
Ford	17.5
Iroquois	18.2
Piatt	14.7
Vermilion	20.6
East Central	14.5

No Internet Access

- Low (0.0%-9.9%)
- Medium (10.0%-19.9%)
- High (20.0%-100%)

Ford County: 11.6%, 12.8%, 15%, 15.4%, 19.6%

Iroquois County: 22.1%, 19%, 19.2%, 24.3%, 14.8%, 19%

Champaign County: 15.1%, 16%, 12.7%, 5.6%, 11.1%, 13.9%, 21.6%, 11.1%, 13.5%

Vermilion County: 11.9%, 15.1%, 18.3%

Piatt County

Douglas County: 38.7%, 19.6%, 20.7%

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Homework Gap

The map shows census tracts divided into low, medium, and high based on the percent of children with a computer but no internet as of 2019. A darker color indicates a higher share. Table shows the percent of children with a computer but no internet per county and the region.

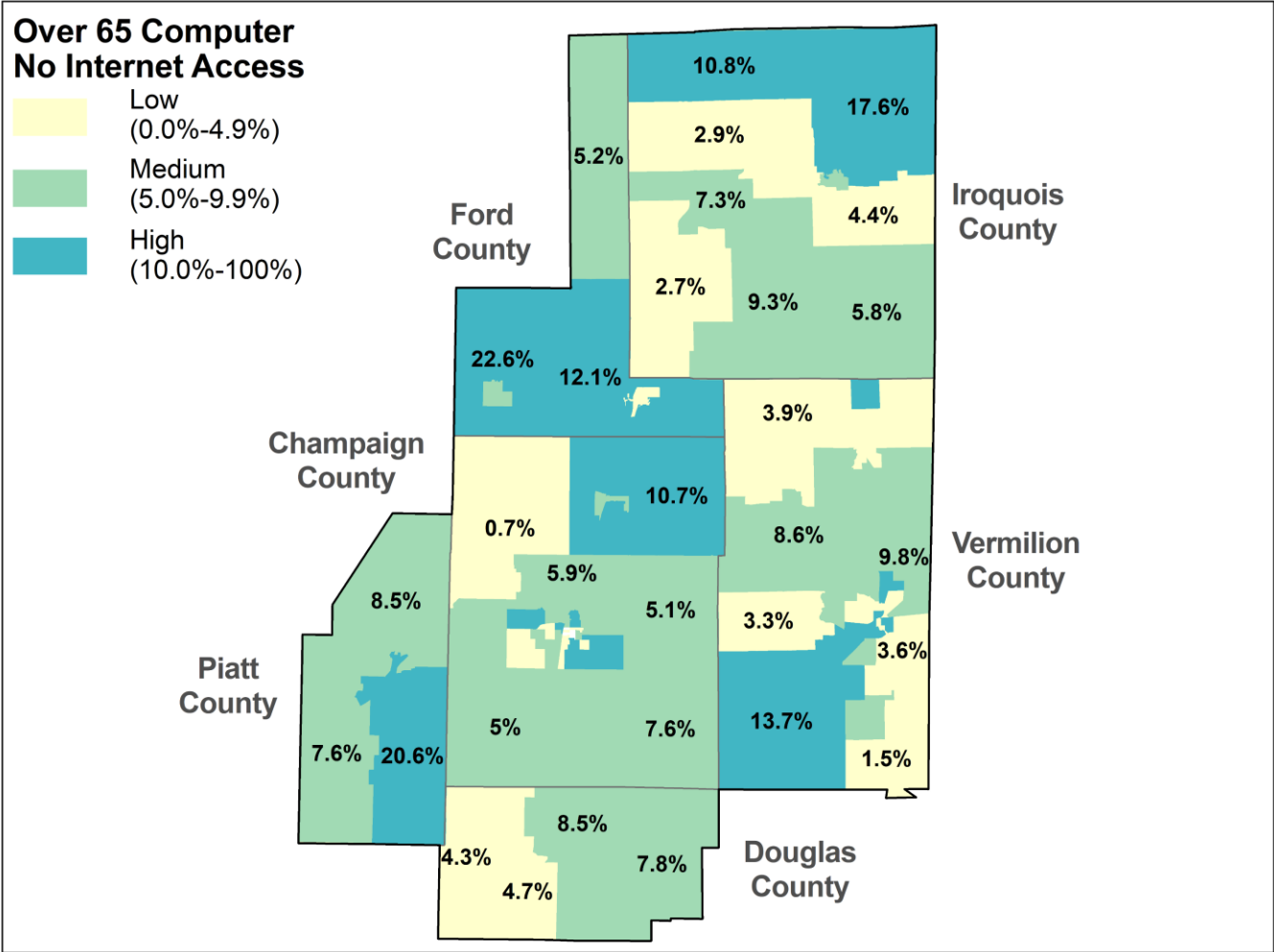| Children with Computer, no Internet	Percent
Champaign	6.5
Douglas	2.7
Ford	3.4
Iroquois	3.5
Piatt	7.5
Vermilion	4.9
East Central	5.5
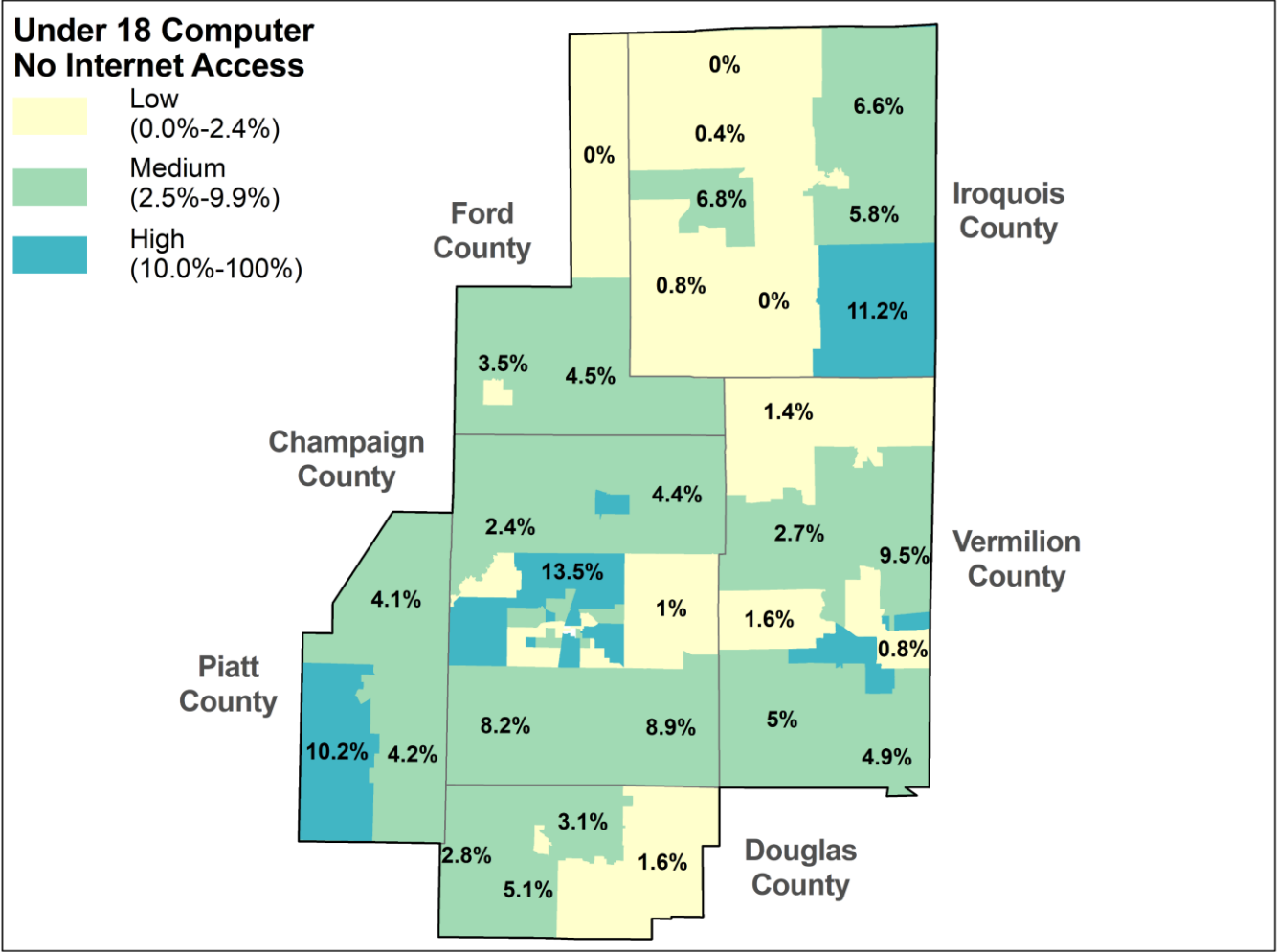
Senior Gap

Source: U.S. American Community Survey 2015-2019

The map shows census tracts divided into low, medium, and high based on the percent of those ages 65 or older with a computer but no internet as of 2019. A darker color indicates a higher share. Table shows the percent of those ages 65 or older with a computer but no internet per county and the region.

Ages 65 or Older with Computer, no Internet	Percent
Champaign	7.2
Douglas	6.9
Ford	9.0
Iroquois	7.1
Piatt	12.3
Vermilion	7.6
East Central	7.6

Over 65 Computer No Internet Access

- Low (0.0%-4.9%)
- Medium (5.0%-9.9%)
- High (10.0%-100%)

Ford County, Iroquois County, Champaign County, Vermilion County, Piatt County, Douglas County

Map values: 10.8%, 17.6%, 2.9%, 5.2%, 7.3%, 4.4%, 2.7%, 9.3%, 5.8%, 22.6%, 12.1%, 3.9%, 10.7%, 0.7%, 8.6%, 9.8%, 5.9%, 5.1%, 8.5%, 3.3%, 3.6%, 5%, 7.6%, 13.7%, 7.6%, 20.6%, 1.5%, 8.5%, 4.3%, 7.8%, 4.7%

Digital Distress

The map shows census tracts divided into low, medium, and high based on their level of digital distress (higher share of households with cellular data only or no internet as well as mobile only or no computing devices) as of 2019. A darker color indicates a higher digital distress.

Households in High Digital Distress Areas	Percent
Champaign	1.4
Douglas	29.4
Ford	0.0
Iroquois	28.5
Piatt	18.6
Vermilion	66.1
East Central	19.6
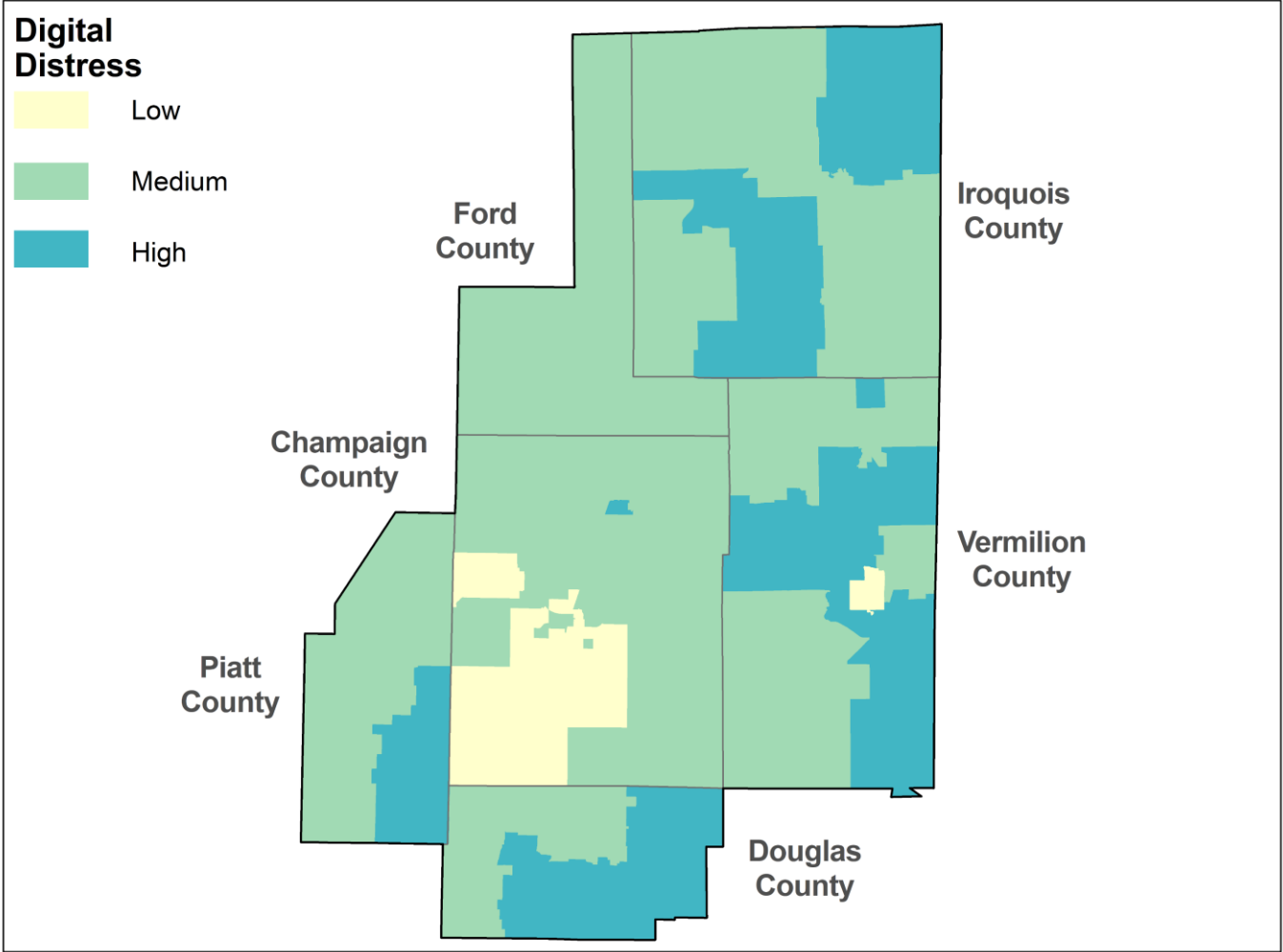
Ventures (Websites per 100 residents) and Highly Active Ventures

Source: Go Daddy

19
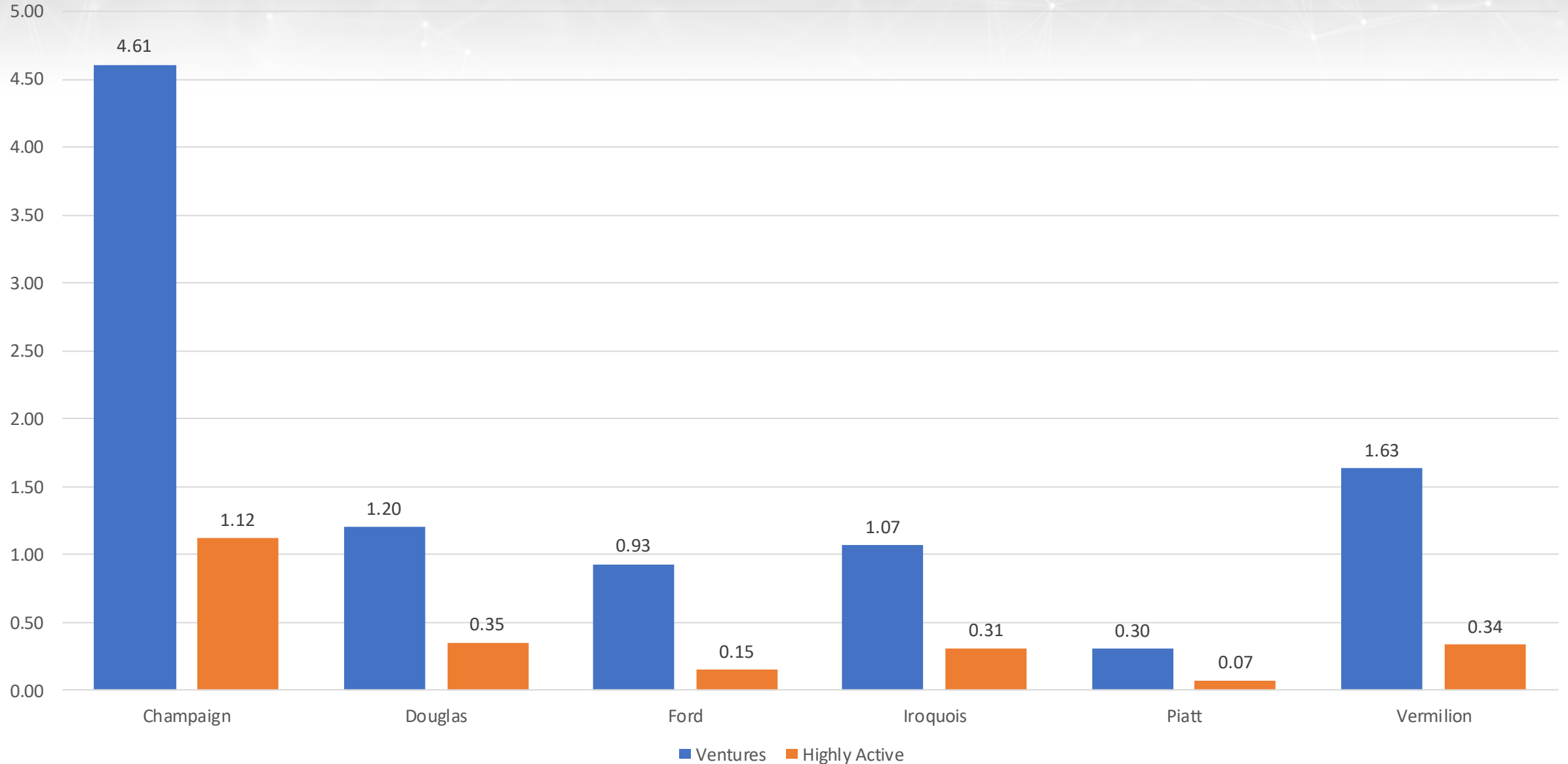
Trends and Data Combinations for Further Analysis

Issues related to socio-economics, availability, and adoption are not stand alone, but in many cases compound on one another. Tools such as the Digital Divide Index can help us better understand their relationship. These issues will impact current and emerging trends such eLearning, remote work, and changes in jobs to require digital skills. It's important to understand the current situation to better prepare for future changes.

**Additional Resources:**

PCRD's Digital Divide Index

- Remote Work & e-Learning Vulnerability (ReV)

- Digital Divide Index

- Percent Digital Economy Jobs

- Share of Occupations by Digital Skills Level

Remote Work & e-Learning Vulnerability (ReV)

The map shows census tracts divided into low, medium, and high based on their ReV (areas vulnerable to not remote work or e-learn) due to poor connectivity, homework gap, and occupations not conducive to remote work as of 2019. A darker color indicates more vulnerable areas.

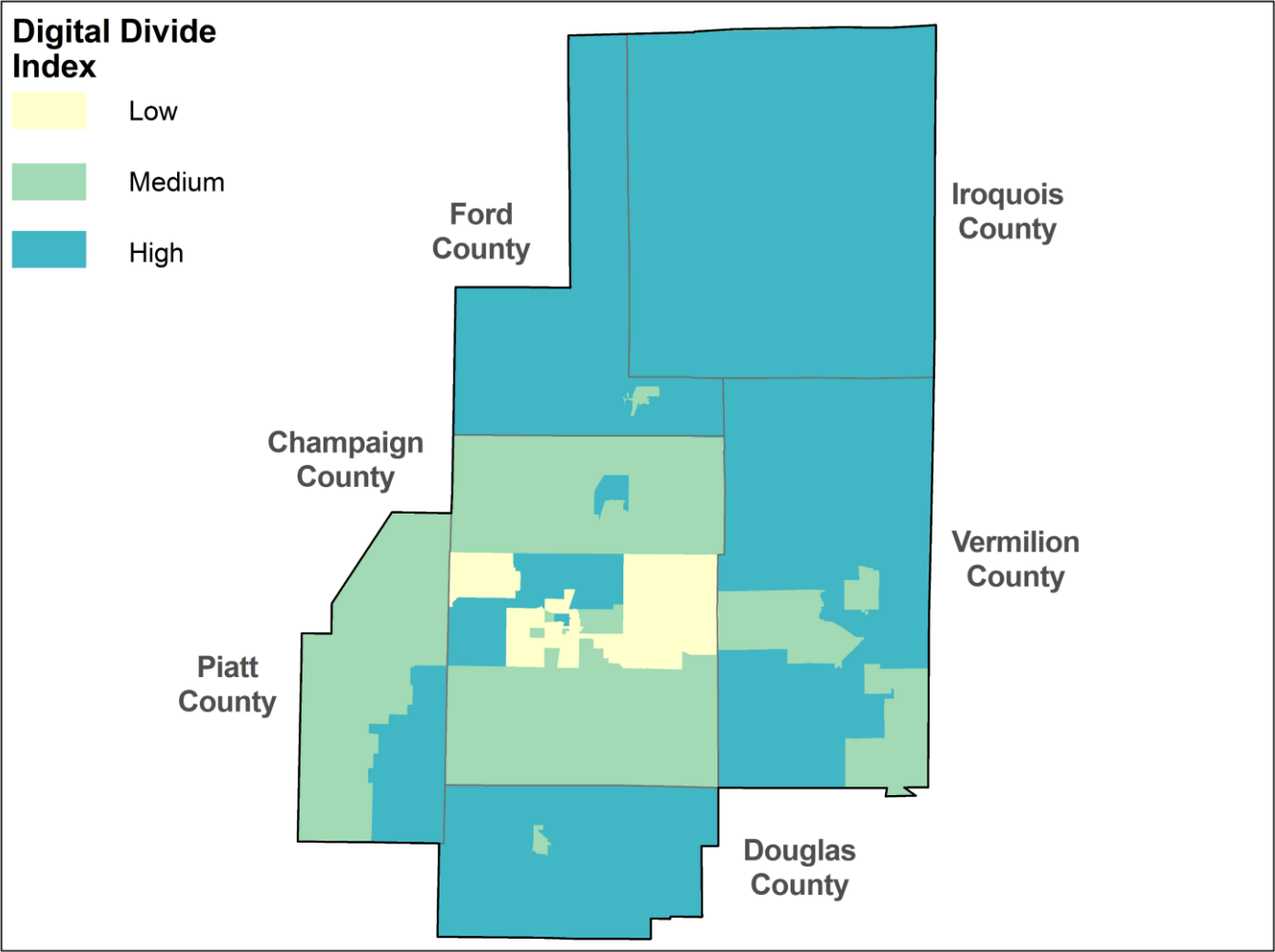| Households in a High ReV Area	Percent
Champaign	21.4
Douglas	73.0
Ford	26.5
Iroquois	64.5
Piatt	18.6
Vermilion	82.3
East Central	40.7
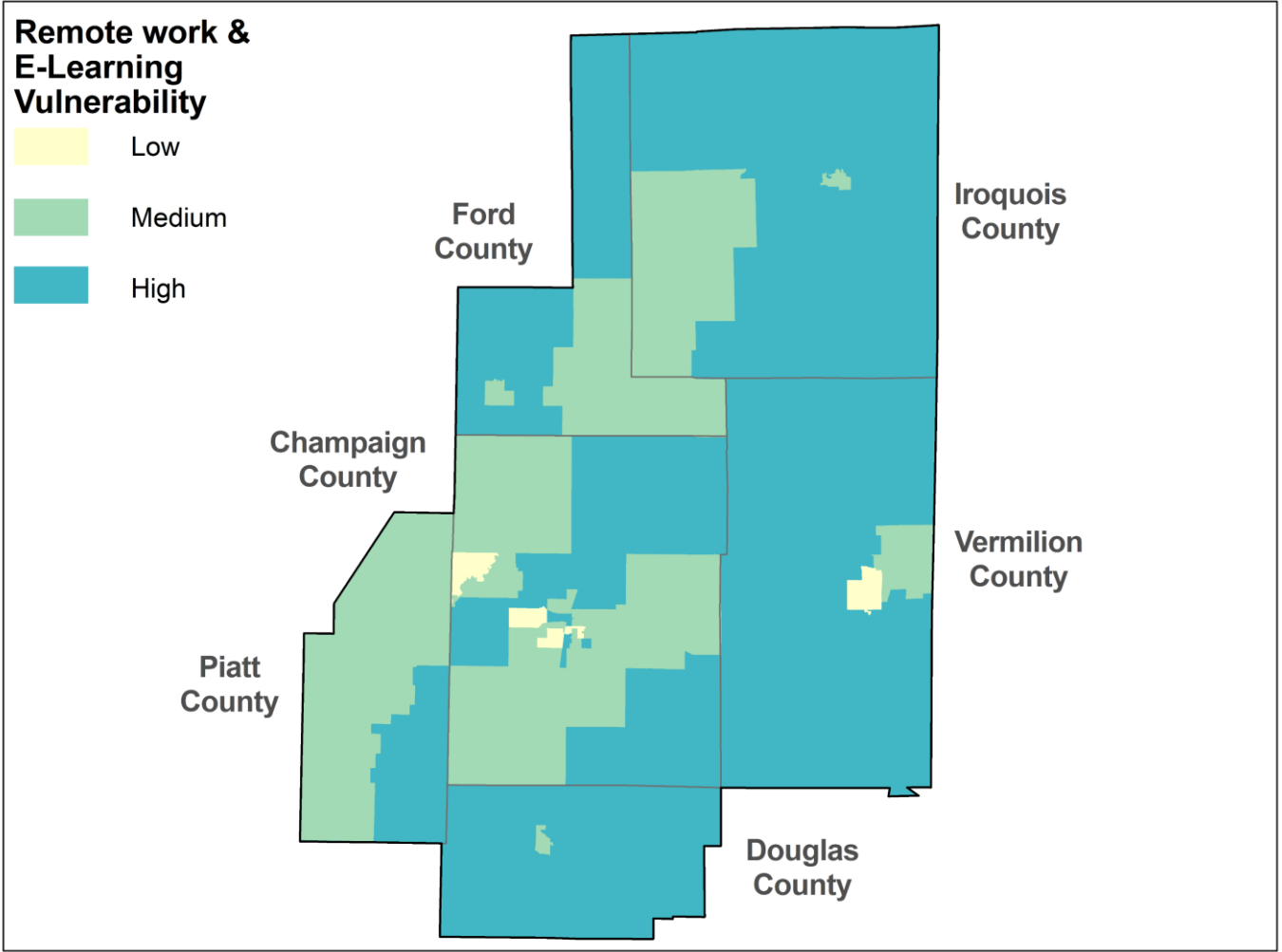
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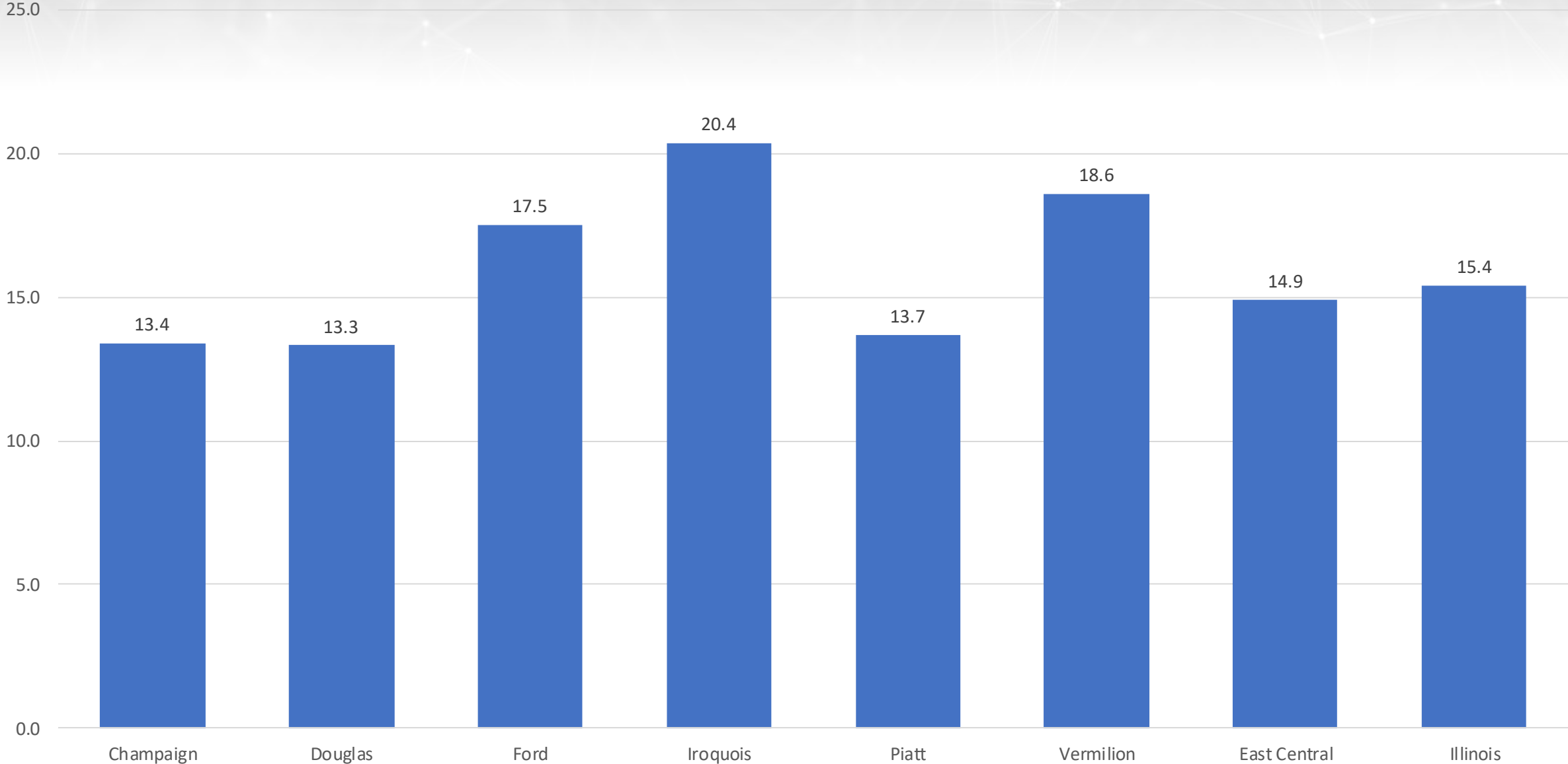
Digital Divide Index

The map shows census tracts divided into low, medium, and high based on their digital divide index score (includes infrastructure/adoption and socioeconomic scores) as of 2019. A darker color indicates a higher digital divide.

Households in High Digital Divide Areas	Percent
Champaign	8.4
Douglas	73.0
Ford	70.2
Iroquois	100.0
Piatt	18.6
Vermilion	72.7
East Central	35.9

Percent Digital Economy Jobs

Source: EMSI; BEA; PCRD

Champaign	Douglas	Ford	Iroquois	Piatt	Vermilion	East Central	Illinois
13.4	13.3	17.5	20.4	13.7	18.6	14.9	15.4

Share of Occupations by Digital Skills Level

	Champaign	Douglas	Ford	Iroquois	Piatt	Vermilion	East Central	Illinois
High	27.0	18.4	22.2	18.3	22.2	21.1	24.6	28.4
Middle	43.7	45.5	47.9	49.0	46.1	49.3	45.4	42.0
Low	29.2	36.1	29.9	32.7	31.8	29.6	30.0	29.6

Low   Middle   High

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