



Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children (SEBTC) Demonstration: 2012 Congressional Status Report

Appendices

Contract #: AG-3198-C-11-0002

November 1, 2012



Submitted to:
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APPENDIX 1

Exhibit 1A. SEBTC Food Package in Sites Implementing the WIC Model

WIC Food Group	Substitute or Food Subgroup	WIC Package for 1-4 Year Olds		SEBTC Package	
		Quantity	Unit	Quantity	Unit
Juice		128	Oz	64	Oz
Milk, low fat/nonfat		13	Qt	12	Qt
	Cheese	1	Lb	1	Lb
Cereal, all		36	Oz	36	Oz
Eggs		1	Doz	1	Doz
Cash Value Voucher		6	\$	16	\$
Bread, whole wheat		2	Lb	3	Lb
Beans, dry		0.33	Lb	0.50	Lb
	Bean, canned	21	Oz	32	Oz
	Peanut Butter	6	Oz	18	Oz
WIC Food Group	Substitutes or Food Subgroups	FY 2011 Food Package Cost in Dollars (\$)		FY 2011 SEBTC Food Package Cost in Dollars (\$)	
Juice		7.47		3.74	
Milk, low fat/nonfat		12.14		11.21	
	Cheese	4.53		4.53	
Cereal, all		7.77		7.77	
Eggs		1.55		1.55	
Cash Value Voucher		6.00		16.00	
Bread, whole wheat		4.43		6.65	
Beans, dry		0.51		0.76	
	Bean, canned	1.52		2.29	
	Peanut Butter	0.87		2.62	
Canned fish, all		0.00		2.94	
		\$46.81		\$60.06	

Source: Provided by the USDA, FNS in December 2010.

Note: Cash voucher is for fruits and vegetables.

APPENDIX 2

2A.1 Cherokee Nation SEBTC Site Profile

State and Local Context

The Cherokee Nation WIC Program (Cherokee WIC) received a SEBTC grant in 2012. Cherokee Nation has jurisdiction over tribal populations in 14 northeastern counties in Oklahoma. The demonstration area served tribal and non-tribal members in 29 of 51 SFAs across five of these counties.

Cherokee WIC, which oversees WIC EBT and WIC clinics, sites in all 14 Oklahoma counties, led the demonstration. Cherokee WIC staff collaborated with the Oklahoma Education Department (ODE) and Child Nutrition Program to identify FRP eligible students and collect SFA contact information and letters of support. Cherokee WIC staff also worked with regional WIC clinics that promoted SEBTC and answered questions from clinic visitors, and the WIC Vendor Advisory Committee that provided community retailers with SEBTC information. In addition, the Cherokee Nation Communications department developed the EBT card design and reviewed all SEBTC materials. The Cherokee Nation Government Solutions department was also involved with the grant application process and ensuring that SEBTC did not conflict with tribal philosophy. Cherokee WIC staff worked with the EBT vendor, SoliSystems, to provide EBT cards and benefit issuance data.

Site Selection and Characteristics

The grantee originally selected 51 SFAs within five counties to participate in the demonstration. However, 22 of them dropped out of the demonstration prior to the consent process for various reasons. For instance, some declined to participate because SEBTC was a demonstration and they did not want to deal with perceived complications that could potentially arise if families were able only to receive the EBT benefits for one summer. Eventually, 29 SFAs participated in the demonstration.

When selecting the initial list of SFAs, Cherokee WIC used the following criteria:

Demonstration Area Spotlight

Geographic Area Served: 29 of 51 SFAs in Adair, Cherokee, Delaware, Mayes, and Sequoyah Counties

Percent of Children Eligible for FRP Meals: 54-93%

SEBTC Model: WIC (Offline)

Program Name/Logo: Summer Nutrition Program/ “Healthy Happy Kids”

Consent Process: Passive

Consent Rate: 96%

Children Issued Benefits in 2012: 5,801

Take-Up Rate by Children (First Benefit Cycle): 70%

- High concentrations of families with children eligible for free or reduced price (FRP) school meals
- Variation in population density
- Variation in SFA size
- Relatively higher percentages of Cherokee Nation participants
- Lack of summer food resources
- Proximity of counties to the WIC Program office

Participating SFAs

The 29 participating SFAs included 17,500 eligible children. Most of the participating SFAs were small, with fewer than 1,000 eligible children. The largest SFA had only 2,603 eligible children. The demonstration areas had high percentages of Native American children, ranging from 21% of the population in Sequoia and Mayes counties to 45% Adair County.

Exhibit 2A.1.1 Characteristics of the SFAs in the Cherokee Nation Demonstration

County	SFA	Number of Eligible Children	Estimated Number of Consenting Children ^a	Last Day of School in Spring of 2011-2012 SY	SEBTC Benefit Period ^b	First Day of School in Fall 2012-2013 SY
Passive Consent SFAs						
Adair	Cave Springs, Skelly, Stillwell ^c , Watts ^c	1,237	1,269	5/8/12 - 5/24/12	5/9-8/8 to 5/25-8/8	8/9/2012
Cherokee	Briggs, Hulbert, Keys, Sequoyah-Tahlequah, Tenkille	4,361	4,221	5/8/12 - 5/24/12	5/19-8/7 to 5/5-8/7	8/8/12 - 8/15/12
Delaware	Colcord, Grove, Kansas ^c , Leach, Oaks-Mission	3,180	2,550	5/9/12 - 5/23/12	5/24-8/14 to 5/12-8/12	8/13/12 - 8/15/12
Mayes	Adair, Chouteau-Maize ^c , Osage, Pryor, Spavinaw	2,874	2,714	5/17/12 - 5/25/12	5/26-8/15 to 5/19-8/16	8/14/12 - 8/17/12
Sequoiah	Gans, Gore ^c , Marble City, Moffett, Muldrow, Roland, Sallisaw, Vian ^c	4,404	4,625	5/16/12 - 5/23/12	5/24-8/10 to 5/17-8/8	8/6/12 - 8/11/12
Total Passive	28	16,056	15,379			
Active Consent SFAs						
Delaware	Jay	1,400	348	5/21/12	5/22-8/14	8/15/12
Total	29	17,456	15,727			

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children provided by the grantee prior to data cleaning and random assignment.

^b Included is the range of benefits periods from shortest to longest.

^c The number of consenting children exceeds the number of eligible children. The number of eligibles is from data presented in the Oklahoma Department of Education 2011-2012 report and may not represent the actual number of eligibles in each SFA. The grantee did not consistently track the number of eligibles by SFA.

With one exception (noted below) the grantee used the passive consent process. Overall, 10,492 households with 15,727 children consented to participate in the demonstration. Benefits started and ended according to each SFA's school year. See Exhibit 2A.1.1 for information on the number of eligible and consenting children by SFA and SEBTC benefit periods.

Each Cherokee Nation SFA summer benefit period varied according to SFA school years. School year end dates fell between May 8 and May 17 and school started in the fall between August 8 and August 17. The grantee prorated the third issuance month at half benefit (\$30) if the benefit period was less than 17 days.

Families in demonstration counties were served by few Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) program sites. In 2012, there were 22 SFSP sponsors operating 25 food sites across the five counties. The programs were generally available during the month of June 2012 only. Most of the SFSP sponsors were SFAs that sponsor one local school site; however, multiple sites were offered by other sponsors such as the Boys and Girls Club. In addition, churches provide other summer feeding opportunities through local food banks and food rescue organizations. Children attending summer school or summer programs were most likely to use the program, as few other children visited the open sites.

Training and Communication

Cherokee WIC led group orientation calls with participating SFAs in January and one-on-one calls with those that could not participate at the scheduled times. During these calls, the grantee described SEBTC and the roles of the SFAs. The orientation calls also provided opportunities for discussion of several topics, such as the opt-out process and the type and format of data SFAs had available. The grantee generally emailed additional guidance and requests to the SFAs, although some SFAs preferred contact by phone.

Consent Process and Recruitment of Households

As stated above, Cherokee WIC used a passive consent process, although one SFA chose to use active consent.¹ The SFAs were responsible for identifying eligible children, disseminating consent letters, tracking responses, and providing the grantee with lists of consenting children.

Although many SFAs had electronic data systems, they used different databases—and often multiple databases—to identify eligible children and provide requested data elements to the grantee. To obtain consent, SFAs used these data systems to identify eligible children. However, data on household compositions was often limited and some SFAs were not able to create household lists for distributing consent letters. Those that were able sent one letter to each

¹ Three SFAs wanted to use an active consent process because they were concerned that household information would be shared without the explicit and documented permission of the households, such as those who never actually received the consent letter. Although the grantee was able to work with two of the SFAs to use the passive process, one would not participate unless they could use an active process.

household; however, others with limited data sent one to each child in the household. Materials were often sent home with students in their backpacks, although some SFAs mailed them.

About a week before consent materials were sent to households (February 15), the grantee’s communication department developed and issued a press release that was posted on the grantee’s website and sent to newspapers in the demonstration area. The February 8 press release included an announcement of the grant award, the rationale for the program, details about the selection process, and a description of available benefits. After the press release and consent materials were distributed, the grantee received hundreds of calls from parents.²

SFAs tracked opt-out responses. Undeliverable mail was negligible because letters were sent home primarily with individual children. Some SFAs opted to send a second letter home with children to ensure that parents learned about the demonstration, but these were not tracked. The SFAs used this information to create consenting household lists for the grantee. The grantee reviewed data for completeness and made additional requests as needed before merging the data into a common data file for all SFAs. Roughly two-thirds of SFAs included household identifiers, needed to ensure that children within a household could be grouped prior to random assignment, and the grantee followed up with the remaining SFAs to request that they match students to households. The grantee also worked to verify household compositions provided by all SFAs. Because information from SFA data on household compositions was limited, this process was time consuming.

Consent Rates

The 29 SFAs included 17,456 eligible children, of which 96% had parents who did not opt-out in the passive consent sites. In the one active consent sites, 25% of parents consented.

Exhibit 2A.1.2 Number and Percent of Consenting Households and Children in the Cherokee Nation Demonstration

New Site (2012)	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting ^b
Households	11,645 ^c	10,492	90%
Children	17,456	15,727	96%

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children post data cleaning and random assignment.

^b The consent rate calculation includes data from the passive consent sites only. When including the one active consent site, the consent rate is 90%.

^c This is an estimate. Some SFAs prepared consent letters for individual children, rather than households. Therefore, the total number of eligible households was not available. The evaluation team calculated the number of eligible households using the child to household ratio from the consenting population.

² As part of its outreach activities, Cherokee WIC informed the Cherokee Nation health officials and the tribal council about the demonstration in case they were contacted by families with questions.

Random Assignment

The initial household list had several issues and required three rounds of revisions. Contributing factors included the lack of clarity about which data fields were “required” versus “useful” for random assignment, what data were available, the time needed to locate the additional data required across so many SFAs, and missing student information. The main issues included the following:

- **Large number of SFAs with varying levels of data quality.** The initial data file on March 26 contained three SFAs that did not provide grade or school ID information, which made it impossible to identify which school a child attended. The grantee had to contact these SFAs and ask them to provide additional information. Over the course of the file updates, data from six additional schools (with 2,312 children) were added that were missed in the initial file. Finally, a residential living center for kids who attend school in Kansas, Oklahoma was inadvertently included in the initial list for random assignment. When it was determined that this was a group home and therefore ineligible to receive the benefit, they were removed from the list.
- **Missing phone numbers.** Initially there were over 3,000 records (19%) with missing phone numbers. The grantee identified two-thirds of these as originating from three SFAs, and was able to update them for about 10% of the records. The final file submitted for random assignment on March 28 had 2,928 records that were missing phone numbers.
- **Multiple addresses and missing child information.** There were 2,122 (20%) children in households with multiple addresses, and 5,054 (32%) records missing child’s date of birth.

After Cherokee WIC received the random assignment file on April 23 and updated 295 phone numbers, it was discovered that 108 children assigned to the control group were potentially living in households assigned to the benefit group. To avoid inadvertently assigning children from the same household to the benefit and non-benefit groups, FNS approved the addition of the 108 children to the benefit group.

The evaluation team assigned 3,621 households with 5,409 children to receive the benefit. Of those, 4,071 were selected for the treatment group as part of the evaluation subsample. Another 6,871 households with 10,318 children were assigned to the non-benefit group. Of those, 4,127 children were assigned to the control group.

Exhibit 2A.1.3 Number of Households and Children Randomly Assigned the Benefit and Assigned to Evaluation Subsample in the Cherokee Nation Demonstration

New Site (2012)				
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample
Benefit	3,621	5,409	2,657	4,071
Non-benefit	6,871	10,318 ^a	2,688	4,127
Total	10,492	15,727	5,345	8,198

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, with assignments calculated by the evaluation team, 2012.

^a Includes 108 children reassigned to the benefit group.

Notifying Households of the SEBTC Benefits and Issuing Benefits

After random assignment was complete, Cherokee WIC notified both the benefit and non-benefit households by mail. Families selected to receive the SEBTC card were asked to attend a group training session (38 were offered, as discussed below) to pick up their cards, if parents were not able to attend any of the sessions or send a proxy to the training, staff would mail cards upon request. Letters included information about upcoming participant training to get their EBT cards and a form for parents to complete if they were not able to attend the training session and were sending a proxy to attend in their place. Non-benefit families were made aware of food sites in the demonstration area counties and that more information was available from the Oklahoma Department of Education.

Sending EBT Cards and Activation

The grantee developed a separate database for SEBTC to interface with the existing WIC Management Information System (MIS); the separate database bypassed entry of required WIC data elements not collected for SEBTC yet interfaced with WIC settlement accounts. After random assignment was complete, the grantee entered data into the database for SEBTC participants and provided participant benefit information to the EBT contractor. Each benefit period was 30 days. If families were from SFAs with summers less than 90 days, the third benefit period was shortened. Conversely, if families were from SFAs with summers greater than 90 days, a shorter fourth benefit period was added. The EBT contractor returned EBT cards with loaded benefits and PINs in less than a week to ensure participants received their benefits in time.

The grantee identified inaccurate mailing addresses and incomplete household composition information as two issues in delivering EBT benefits. About 275 EBT cards did not reach families before the first benefit period ended because mailed cards were undeliverable. The grantee continued to pursue updating contact information to re-mail the EBT cards. At the point when families received their EBT cards the grantee learned that 481 additional children (in 324 households) should have received benefits. These households were issued an additional EBT card for these children, however the grantee estimated these were received after the first

benefit period expired because of the late notice of the change and the associated challenges with integrating the updated information into the MIS.

Training and Support

As mentioned above, households receiving the benefit were asked to attend one of 38 one-hour in-person participant trainings, where they received many materials, including: (1) an activated EBT card, (2) a form showing the family's shopping list, (3) a PIN and a signature line acknowledging card receipt, (4) a list of authorized vendors and an approved foods brochure, (5) a fact sheet with information about the SEBTC program and other feeding options in the area (that is, SNAP, the Cherokee Nation WIC Program, the Cherokee Nation Food Distribution Program), and (6) a copy of the PowerPoint slide set from the participant training. Participants who did not attend a training session received the materials by mail or received individual training at the Cherokee Nation WIC Program office. Most households received training of some kind; however, staff could not find 278 households (8%) to give them their EBT cards.

The grantee received a number of questions about SEBTC and provided the most support in the interim between when notification letters went out to selected families and when EBT cards were issued. During this period, parents mostly informed the grantee about changes to contact information or household compositions. The grantee estimated they updated 1,400 child records during the notification period.

2A.2 Chickasaw Nation SEBTC Site Profile

State and Local Context

The Chickasaw Nation in Oklahoma applied for a SEBTC grant in the POC year but did not receive it. However, they were successful in their application for the 2012 demonstration year. The demonstration area includes 41 SFAs within eight of the 14 counties where the Chickasaw Nation in Oklahoma has jurisdiction over tribal populations. In these eight counties, both tribal, and non-tribal members are served.

The Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Services (Chickasaw Nation), which was the primary grantee, administers many FNS programs. They collaborated with several partners throughout the demonstration such as the 41 participating SFAs, which identified eligible students and managed the consent process, and its EBT vendor, JPMorgan, to process the EBT cards.

Site Selection and Characteristics

The grantee selected 43 SFAs within the 8 selected counties. To prioritize recruitment, the grantee started with the following initial selection criteria:

- High percentage of students eligible for free or reduced price school meals (FRP)
- High concentration of Native American households and students
- Mixture of larger and smaller SFAs (the size is often related to the levels of technical sophistication and knowledge of the student body)
- Mixture of rural and more populated areas. (Chickasaw Nation is predominately rural.)

Eight SFAs met these criteria. The grantee then worked geographically outward from the eight SFAs to identify additional, contiguous SFAs. In the end, 41 SFAs were included in the demonstration. Participating SFAs were primarily rural, with some areas relatively more urban. During interviews, the grantee and other stakeholders emphasized that this is an area of very high need.

Demonstration Area Spotlight

Geographic Area Served: Carter, Coal, Garvin, Johnston, Marshall, McLain, Murray, and Pontotoc Counties

Percent of Children Eligible for FRP Meals: 30–96%

SEBTC Model: WIC (Online)

Program Name/Logo: Summer EBT/“Food, Fun, and Friends”

Consent Process: Active

Consent Rate: 38%

Children Issued Benefits in 2012: 5,354

Take-Up Rate by Children (First Benefit Cycle): 91%

Participating SFAs

The SFAs identified a total of 21,878 eligible children in 13,020 households in the target area, with some SFAs having as few as 50 eligible children. Others had more than 2,500.

Exhibit 2A.2.1 Characteristics of the SFAs by County in the Chickasaw Nation Demonstration

County	SFA	Number of Eligible Children	Estimated Number of Consenting Children ^a	Last Day of School in Spring of 2011-2012 SY	SEBTC Benefit Period ^b	First Day of School in Fall 2012-2013 SY
Carter	Ardmore, Dickson, Fox, Healdton, Lone Grove, Plainview, Springer, Wilson	6,009	2,199	5/10/12 - 5/24/12	5/19-8/2 to 5/11-8/14	8/3/12 - 8/22/12
Coal	Cottonwood, Coalgate, Tupelo	893	463	5/15/12 - 5/18/12	5/19-8/7 to 5/19-8/14	8/8/12 - 8/15/12
Garvin	Elmore City-Pernell, Lindsay, Maysville, Paoli, Pauls Valley, Stratford, Wynnewood	3,109	1,159	5/9/12 - 5/25/12	5/26-8/14 to 5/10-8/15	8/14/12 - 8/22/12
Johnson	Coleman, Mannsville, Milburn, Mill Creek, Ravia, Tishmogo, Wapanucka	1,393	577	5/9/12 - 5/23/12	5/24-8/15 to 5/11-8/22	8/9/12 - 8/23/12
Marshall	Kingston, Madill	2,259	853	5/24/12 - 5/30/12	5/29-8/21 to 5/25-8/19	8/20/12 - 8/22/12
McClain	Byars, Dibble, Newcastle, Purcell, Wayne	2,163	721	5/15/12 - 5/24/12	5/25-8/14 to 5/16-8/15	8/15/12 - 8/16/12
Murray	Davis, Sulphur	1,539	342	5/10/12 - 5/24/12	5/25-8/14 to 5/11-8/15	8/15/12 - 8/16/12
Pontotoc	Ada, Allen, Byng, Latta, Roff, Stonewall, Vanoss	4,513	1,831	5/16/12 - 5/25/12	5/15-8/12 to 5/18-8/15	8/13/12 - 8/22/12
Total	41	21,878	8,145			

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children provided by the grantee prior to data cleaning and random assignment.

^b Included is the range of benefits periods from shortest to longest.

The start and end dates of the school year varied by SFA, and Chickasaw Nation chose to stagger the benefit start and end dates for the demonstration as a whole based on each SFA's school year³. As a result, benefits began May 10–31 and ended August 2–22.

³ FNS provided the grantees with the option of beginning the distribution of benefits as soon as the *first* school in the demonstration area let out for summer.

The demonstration area included six SFSP sponsors that operated 18 local feeding sites. About half of the students in the demonstration area lived at least 10 miles from their school, so the ability of children to get to SFSP sites during the summer, which were generally located at schools, was often a challenge for many families.

Training and Communication with Grantee

The grantee provided extensive training and technical assistance to SFAs, which included in-person visits as well as email and phone contact. Opportunities for training and communication included the following:

- **Email/phone notification of grant award.** Once Chickasaw Nation learned they had received the grant, the grantee provided SFAs with a list of 10 things they would need to do during the demonstration.
- **Initial in-person meeting.** The SEBTC and technology managers visited all participating SFAs to meet with superintendents and, in some cases, the SFA coordinators who would be responsible for most grant activities. Meeting topics included (1) the Memoranda of Agreement between the grantee and SFAs, (2) the role of the SFAs in the demonstration, (3) methods to increase participation among parents, and (4) guidance on how to develop consent materials.
- **In-person meeting to provide consent materials.** The SEBTC manager and technology manager visited each SFA to drop off the consent letters and an electronic copy of the template of the Excel household data file.
- **Training webinars.** The grantee led three 45-minute training webinars for SFAs to explain how to export data from the student information system used by all but two participating SFAs.
- **On-going Technical Assistance.** The grantee provided SFAs with technical assistance by phone, email, and in person. The amount of assistance varied by SFA, depending on the SFA coordinator's familiarity with data, Excel, and computers. The grantee also set up a summer EBT direct hotline for questions from the SFA coordinators.

Consent Process and Recruitment of Households

Chickasaw used an active process to obtain consent from households. To facilitate this process, the grantee provided an Excel template to the participating SFAs, which used this template to create files of necessary child and household information.

In addition, the grantee provided SFAs with consent forms and pre-paid envelopes with individual SFA return addresses. In turn, using information obtained from their MIS, SFAs created household mailing labels and consent form labels including the names, dates of birth, and student identification numbers for each child.

In total, the participating SFAs sent mailings to 13,020 households. Of these, the grantee reported that 209 were returned due to problems with the mailing address, and 85 actively opted-out by sending a form back and not consenting to be included in the demonstration.

SFAs with undeliverable mail would generally follow up by checking addresses in the student information systems and re-mailing, calling the family to get the correct address, or sending the consent form home directly with the children. Some SFAs attempted to make a second contact with families if staff had time and the due date for completed consent forms had not passed. Second attempts were made by phone, in-person with parents at school, or by sending forms home directly with students.

SFAs collected consent forms, tracked responses, and updated any new household or contact information provided on the consent form. SFAs photocopied completed consent forms and sent these to the grantee, which were used to verify information provided in the consenting household data file.

Despite extensive technical assistance, there were issues with data received from the SFAs. Some SFAs did not provide household identifiers in the household file submitted, and it was often the case that SFAs did not verify the information submitted with information received from household on the completed consent forms. As a result, the grantee spent considerable time grouping children into households and verifying existing households against the returned consent forms and the household files. This, combined with the level of cleaning needed for the data submitted by the SFAs (the grantee noted that 1 in 41 SFAs had clean data), was extremely time-consuming for grantee staff.

To increase interest and participation in the program, the grantee prepared copies of a generic flyer to let families know about forthcoming consent form mailings. The flyers were worded to let families know, “if your child qualifies for FRP, then...” The use of the flyers was optional. SFAs preferred to send the flyers home directly with all elementary students (regardless of FRP eligibility) rather than singling out FRP students. The flyers went out about a week in advance of the consent forms. In addition, the grantee created a radio PSA to be played across all demonstration areas and one large SFA created a television PSA targeted to families in their area. Also, some SFAs called parents in non-responsive households; the grantee estimated that about 75% of non-responsive households received a second contact. SFAs reported varying levels of success with the second contact.

Exhibit 2A.2.2 Number and Percent of Consenting Households and Children in the Chickasaw Nation Demonstration

New Site (2012)	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting
Households	13,020	4,055	31%
Children	21,876	8,226	38%

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children post data cleaning and random assignment.

Consent Rates

SFAs attained between 16–71% household consent, depending on the SFA. Despite the concerted efforts of the SFAs, the grantee did not meet the numbers needed to provide SEBTC benefits to 5,300 children and have the estimated numbers necessary for the control group.

Out of the 21,876 eligible students, guardians of 8,226 children consented, for an average child consent rate of 38%. Out of the 13,020 eligible households, 4,196 consented, for an average household consent rate of 31%. Approximately 50 consent letters were returned as undeliverable.

Random Assignment

The initial file sent to the evaluation team for random assignment had few issues. When issues were encountered, they were usually related to the following:

- **Duplicate student IDs.** The initial file included 238 duplicate student IDs (3%), which were corrected by the grantee.
- **Missing address and names.** Less than one percent of student records were missing either a parent or child first or last name, school name, or SFA name, and only one student was missing an address.

The grantee was initially concerned about students who were listed for one SFA but who actually attended school in another SFA. This would occur if a student was listed on a consent form for a family in a SFA where he or she did not attend school. The grantee was vigilant about this and followed up with phone calls to families to clarify which school a student attended, and in a few cases of separated parents, to clarify with which parent the student lived. In cases where phone calls did not resolve the issue, the grantee defaulted to the listed legal guardian in the child’s school data.

The evaluation team assigned 2,602 households with 5,302 children to the benefit group and 1,453 households with 2,924 children to the non-benefit group. Unlike other sites, the evaluation team did not select a balanced evaluation subsample, but instead, 60% of the sample was placed in the treatment group.⁴ More specifically, 2,166 households with 4,409 children from the benefit group were selected for the treatment group and all the households from the non-benefit group were in the control group. A total of 3,619 households with 7,333 children were selected to participate in the evaluation subsample.

Exhibit 2A.2.3 Number of Households and Children Randomly Assigned the Benefit and Assigned to Evaluation Subsample in the Chickasaw Nation Demonstration

New Site (2012)				
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample
Benefit	2,602	5,302	2,166	4,409
Non-benefit	1,453	2,924	1,453	2,924
Total	4,055	8,226	3,619	7,333

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, with assignments calculated by the evaluation team, 2012.

⁴ The grantee did not identify enough consenting children to provide benefits to 5,300 children and have an adequately sized control group. Therefore, 60% of the sample was assigned to the benefit group and 40% to the non-benefit group and the similar proportions were selected for the evaluation subsample.

Notifying Households of the SEBTC Benefits and Issuing Benefits

After random assignment was complete, the grantee notified both the benefit and non-benefit households by mail. All selected households received notification letters before the participant trainings started on April 16 (described below). Those not selected to receive the benefit were sent a letter informing them that they were not selected, but that the program might expand in future years and they might be contacted to participate in a survey with gift card compensation. The letter also mentioned that summer food sites might be available in the family's area and said to contact the Oklahoma Department of Education's SFSP coordinator to learn more. The grantee received some calls from households that had not been selected to receive the benefits, wondering why they were not selected.

Sending EBT Cards and Activation

The grantee ensured that household identifiers were verified in all of the SFA household files. Household information collected from SFAs had to be entered manually into the grantee's benefit issuance system. This process, which took place in late April, was a significant effort that coincided with a very busy time for the grantee because they were also conducting trainings with households and with retailers. All grantee staff contributed to data entry, and the SFA liaisons followed up with the SFAs to clarify any issues with the data.

The EBT benefit cards were mailed to each selected household, along with a list of allowed brands and sizes of foods, a pamphlet detailing food quantities allowed under the benefits for each participant, a list of authorized grocery stores, and a set of instructions for activating and using the card. Three cards were returned because families had moved and could not be contacted by the grantee.

For efficiency, the grantee copied part of the code of the WIC MIS into a separate SEBTC database. The system design was streamlined to accept a benefit begin date for each school system, and to issue three sets of monthly benefits to all participants, with a first day based on the particular school system's begin date and ending at midnight on the day before school started in the fall. The grantee included an option to prorate the final set of benefits if needed. Eight SFAs had a last benefit period greater than 33 days. For these SFAs, the prorated food package was about 1.25 times the normal package because many of the food items could not be split. For SFAs with more than 90 summer days, the grantee could not incorporate a prorated fourth month because of the way the WIC MIS was designed. After discussion with FNS, the grantee used the originally proposed plan of three issuance months.

Households activated the benefit card and created a PIN by calling a toll-free phone number. Activation required several data elements: the household zip code, the old school-aged child's date of birth, and the 16-digit card number. There were some minor problems with households activating the cards—some parents used the wrong student's date of birth, tried to enter a two-digit instead of a four-digit date of birth year, or the grantee had the wrong student's date of birth in its records.

Training and Support

The grantee led 34 optional, 45-minute trainings for parents, which took place from mid-April through early-May. Communities from all SFAs were represented, as some trainings invited families from more than one SFA. About 25% of families attended a training, although the grantee had hoped up to 50% would attend. An SFA staff member also attended each training. Trainings included a 30–45 minute PowerPoint presentation that introduced the program, explained how to activate the card, discussed using the card when shopping, and provided a summary of foods covered under the monthly benefits. The presentation also provided information about supports available to participants. Trainings did not include nutrition education or information about other nutrition programs.

To provide additional support to participants, the grantee included a toll-free number, staffed by SFA liaisons, in training materials and with the card mailing. Parents with questions could also contact the SFAs directly. The grantee provided regional WIC clinics, other nutrition staff, and the receptionist with an FAQ sheet about the program, so that anyone who received commonly asked questions would be able to answer them. Although the grantee did not track the number of calls received, the most common question was: “How does the program work?” Most of these questions came from parents who did not attend the training or had not read the materials. They also received calls from parents who had trouble setting up their PIN numbers. Retailers noted that some participants had trouble selecting the correct brand or size when shopping and suggested that additional user training would be helpful concerning this issue in the future.

2A.3 Connecticut SEBTC Sites Profile

State and Local Context

Connecticut had a POC site in 2011 and received a second site through an Expansion grant, in 2012. The POC site in 2011 included 17 SFAs in New London, Windham, and Tolland Counties in the northeastern area of the State, known as ‘the quiet corner’ due to the fact that it is largely rural. In 2012, the grantee expanded the POC site by adding 21 SFAs to meet the required number of targeted children. Ten of these subsequently dropped out of the demonstration prior to the consent process, leaving a total of 28 SFAs in the POC site demonstration in 2012. The larger POC site stretched along the entire eastern section of the State, spanned most of New London and Windham Counties and a portion of Tolland County. Connecticut also received an Expansion site grant for six SFAs in Hartford, Litchfield, and New Haven counties.

The Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) applied for the SEBTC grants and was the lead grantee but they partnered closely with the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE). DSS is responsible for SNAP administration as well as other support services, including the Emergency Food Assistance Program, Food Banks, WIC, cash assistance programs, family medical, child support, child care, housing assistance programs, and social work services. CSDE is the primary education agency in the State and is responsible for overseeing the State’s SFAs, as well as administering the NSLP/SBP and SFSP. DSS and CSDE also partnered with End Hunger Connecticut! (EHC!), a non-profit agency that advocates and provides outreach to end hunger. EHC! has a history of collaboration with DSS/CSDE.

Demonstration Area Spotlight

Geographic Area Served:

POC 2011: 17 SFAs located in New London, Windham, and Tolland Counties

POC 2012: 28 SFAs covering most of New London and Windham Counties, and Tolland County

Expansion 2012: 6 SFAs in Hartford, Litchfield and New Haven Counties

Percent of Children Eligible for FRP Meals:

POC 2012: 10–73%

Expansion 2012: 1–70%

SEBTC Model: SNAP

Program Name/Logo: Summer Meals on the Move

Consent Process: Active

Consent Rate (Children):

POC 2011: 38%

POC 2012: 33%

Expansion 2012: 23%

Children Issued Benefits in 2012:

POC: 4,294

Expansion: 2,585

Take-Up Rate by Children (First Benefit Cycle):

POC 2011: 78%

POC 2012: 82%

Expansion 2012: 88%

DSS does not traditionally work with SFAs or on child nutrition grants; however, they were led the grant due to their ability to modify the SNAP MIS that also issued benefits for the SEBTC program. For the demonstration, DSS issued the SEBTC cards and benefits to participating families and provided customer service as needed. It used the infrastructure and systems in place for its SNAP EBT program for the demonstration and worked with its SNAP EBT vendors (JPMorgan and L1 Security Credentialing) to implement needed system modifications and issue SEBTC cards. CSDE was responsible for recruiting, training, and overseeing the activities of the SFAs in all of the SFAs. EHC! worked with CSDE and the local SFAs to promote the SEBTC program and recruit households for the program. They also helped some SFAs with data entry and constructing household files.

Site Selection and Characteristics

CSDE selected and recruited the individual SFAs to participate in both years of the demonstration. During the POC year, CSDE focused their selection on areas with high rates of low-income families and limited SFSP sites.

In 2012, CSDE built upon the POC sites and selected additional contiguous SFAs to reach the requisite number of children. CSDE considered other factors, such as the level of need in the area, when selected the additional sites. The additional sites shared many of the same demographics as the 2011 POC sites. They ranged from very small rural communities to with relatively few eligible children to more urban areas with close to 3,000 eligible children. In addition, many areas in the eastern section of Connecticut are isolated from many health and social services. Communities in this part of the State also lack mass transportation and have students from multiple racial and ethnic backgrounds.

The six SFAs in the Expansion area were chosen because all of the SFAs (except Waterbury which is a large community in the area) were fairly underserved by SFSPs. In addition, children in these SFAs were isolated from access to many health and social services due to lack of mass transportation throughout relatively large geographic areas.

Participating SFAs

As discussed above, the SFAs in the POC site range in size from small rural communities with populations under 2,000 residents to mid-size urban cities with over 40,000 residents. The six communities in the Expansion site were mid-size to large communities ranging from over 16,000 residents in Wolcott to over 100,000 in Waterbury. See Exhibit 2A.3.1 for information on the number of eligible and consenting children by counties represented in the demonstration.

Although the start and end dates of the school year varied by SFA, DSS/CSDE chose to begin and end SEBTC benefits for all SFAs on the same schedule, starting the day when the majority of SFAs ended (June 15) and ending benefits the day the latest school started (September 3). As a result of the varied SFA opening and closing dates, some children could have received both FRP meals (while in school) and SEBTC benefits for up to six days, depending on the individual SFA's schedule.

Exhibit 2A.3.1 Characteristics of the SFAs in the Connecticut Demonstration

Represented County ^a	Number of Eligible Children	Estimated Number of Consenting Children ^b	Last Day of School in Spring of 2011–2012 SY	SEBTC Benefit Period	First Day of School in Fall 2012–2013 SY
POC					
New London	9,248	2,607	6/8/12 – 6/19/12	6/15to 9/3	8/27/12 – 8/29/12
Tolland	1,062	344	6/13/12 – 6/21/12	6/15to 9/3	8/28/12 – 8/30/12
Windham	7,098	2,745	6/13/12 -6/20/12	6/15to 9/3	8/27/12 – 8/29/12
Total	17,408	5,696			
EXPANSION					
Hartford	3,816	577	6/21/12	6/15to 9/3	8/30/12
Litchfield	862	197	6/14/12 – 6/20/12	6/15to 9/3	8/29/12 – 9/4/12
New Haven	17,037	4,253	6/19/12 – 6/20/12	6/15to 9/3	8/27/12 – 8/29/12
Total	21,715	5,027			

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Not all SFAs in each county participated in the demonstration.

^b Represents the number of consenting children provided by the grantee prior to data cleaning and random assignment. Based on March 2012 FRP data for each SFA provided by the grantee.

The availability of food programs, including SFSP, in the demonstration areas was limited. In the POC site, there were nine SFSP sponsors (with a total of 37 sites), seven were traditional SFSPs and two were Seamless Summer Food Programs. As a result, not all communities in the POC site had an SFSP site available to children, and finding reliable transportation to a SFSP site was often a challenge for families. EHC! also reported that many parents in the area were not aware of the SFSP programs or did not know much about what they provided. The six communities in the Expansion site had greater resources and three of the six communities had a Seamless Summer Food Program (with a total of 57 sites). All the SFSP sponsors in the POC and Expansion sites had between one and eight SFSP sites, with the exception of Waterbury (the largest community), which had 48 SFSP sites.

Training and Communication with Grantee

In January 2012, CSDE held several conference calls with the SFAs to provide an overview of the SEBTC demonstration and answer any questions the SFAs had. CSDE also held two one-hour training webinars for SFAs in early February 2012 to provide more details about the program, and to review the consent process and data needs for the project. The majority of SFAs in both sites participated in one of the webinars conducted by CSDE.⁵

In addition to the webinars, CSDE also provided one-on-one technical assistance and support through emails and telephone calls. Most often SFAs contacted CSDE staff by email or telephone to ask questions about eligibility or the consent process. As needed, CSDE would send out notices to provide instructions or to request information.

⁵ Members of the Connecticut evaluation team also held an hour and a half webinar for the SFAs in early March that focused on building the household file and data issues. Approximately 20 of the SFAs (across both sites) participated in the webinar.

Consent Process and Recruitment of Households

With the exception of households that received benefits in the POC year and were automatically eligible in the full demonstration year, both the POC and Expansion sites used an active consent process to obtain consent from eligible households. CSDE developed the parent letter and consent form and distributed copies to the SFAs. There were two letters—one for households that received the benefit in the POC year and one for those that did not or did not previous consent. The letter for the benefit group indicated that they would be included again this year, unless they chose to sign the form and opt-out. The letter to the other parents required active consent—they must fill in and sign the form to be considered.⁶ The SFAs were responsible for identifying the eligible children, creating the household list, mailing the letters and consent forms to eligible households, tracking the consent forms as they were returned, submitting the final lists of consenting households to CSDE, and sending notification letters to households as to whether they were selected to receive benefits. (CSDE did the latter step in the POC year.)

There was a major difference between the consent process used during the 2011 POC year and the process used during 2012. In the POC year, the consent process required two steps: (1) heads of household completed an initial consent form and (2) heads of household selected to receive SEBTC benefits completed a second form providing their SSN and other personal information. Respondents were instructed to return the second form to CSDE and the forms were forwarded to DSS to use in setting up SEBTC cases for head of households selected to receive SEBTC benefits. This two-step consent process was perceived as burdensome to households and grantee staff, creating delays. Therefore in 2012, CSDE/DSS decided to revise the process and send only one form to eligible households, which included a request for just the last four digits of the head of household's SSN and additional personal information such as DOB.

As in the POC year, each SFA was responsible for developing a list of households to receive the SEBTC consent letters in 2012. All SFAs interviewed had a database that included children receiving FRP meals in the SFA: both direct certifications and those certified by applications. All of the SFAs indicated that they included all children eligible for FRP meals from kindergarten to 12th grade. While all of the SFAs had NSLP databases (some more advanced than others), the expertise of SFA staff in using and manipulating the data varied by SFA. Some SFAs manually created some files instead of using the databases to their full potential. For example, the largest SFA in the Expansion site built an Excel spreadsheet from scratch and hand entered all of the required data, obtaining information from its point-of-sale system (the school district's nutrition and food services system), the school district's student information system, and the consent forms. SFAs used different methods to transform the child-level list into the household list. Most SFA staff reported that they grouped the children into households electronically,

⁶ After random assignment, CSDE staff learned that at least one SFA in the POC site did not send consent forms. Instead, the SFA included a question on the NSLP application and asked households to consent for SEBTC by checking a box on the application.

sorting by last name, address, or other factors in order to identify which children belong in which family.

Many of the SFAs were able to connect to the school district central database to supplement information not included on the consent form or in the FRP meals database. However, this was not always the case. At least one half of the SFAs in the Expansion site were unable to use the school district central database due to lack of staff with database skills and the unavailability of IT staff to assist them. In addition, SFA staff reported that the school district central database was not always updated during the year.

In almost all cases, the SFAs were responsible for sending the SEBTC letters and consent forms to eligible households and collecting the returned forms. The majority of SFAs interviewed across both the POC and Expansion sites mailed these consent forms and letters along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope for parents to return the consent form. Most SFAs checked with the schools for correct addresses when letters were returned as undeliverable and resent the letter to the correct address. Several SFAs, however, distributed consent forms by putting them in the backpacks of children to take home to their parents. Some SFAs also used this method to follow-up with parents to increase response rates (after the initial mailing).

SFAs interviewed varied in the amount and type of follow-up they did to increase response rates. Some SFAs reported that they did not have time to do any follow-up due to the short time period allotted for the consent process or because of competing responsibilities. Other SFAs did follow-up with robocalls, individual telephone calls, or announcements at school meetings. SFAs also varied in the degree to which the school district or school administrators were involved and supportive of the process. Some SFAs reached out to school districts and schools to make them aware of the program and gain their cooperation. For example, one SFA director reported that SFA staff attended school meetings to tell staff about the program and asked parent liaisons in the schools to remind parents coming to the school to return their consent forms. Other SFA directors reported that they did not want to burden the school districts so they did not enlist their help.

Some SFAs began sending out consent forms in late February but most interviewed reported that they sent out their consent forms by the middle of March. Initially, CSDE set a deadline of the last week of March for SFAs to return their list of consenting households but later extended the deadline to April 5, due to low consent rates in most of the SFAs.

SFAs sent household consent files to CSDE for review. All SFAs started from the spreadsheet template provided by the evaluation team. However, as previously mentioned, some SFA teams did not have the database skill needed to merge databases within the system and relied instead on manual data entry. Often additional work was needed from the SFAs to submit the correct data in the proper format. Due to the technical expertise and time required to merge the multiple SFA files into one file for each site, the evaluation team agreed to take on this task. The initial data files in the Expansion and POC sites were sent to the evaluation team on April 16. After resolution of missing data or data file issues, random assignment was completed for the Expansion site on May 14 and on May 22 for the POC site.

Consent Rates

The grantee needed consent from households representing 8,500 children, or about 47% to 52% of children in the Expansion and POC sites (assuming between 1.7 children per household). However, the SFAs were not able to meet these targets. The percent of consenting children varied from 8% to 85% across the SFAs, with a total of 33% of children and households consenting in the POC site, and 23% children and households in the Expansion site. For the POC site, this was slightly up from the 30% of eligible households consenting in 2011, but lower than 38% of eligible children represented in 2011. The grantee obtained consent from about 5,700 consenting children in the POC site and 5,000 in the Expansion site.

Exhibit 2A.3.2 Number and Percent of Consenting Households and Children in the Connecticut Demonstration

	POC			Expansion		
	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting
2012						
Household	10,121	3,298	33%	11,193	2,583	23%
Children	17,408	5,696	33%	21,715	5,027	23%
2011						
		POC				
Household	8,011	2,422	30%			
Children	11,117	4,224	38%			

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children post data cleaning and random assignment.

Random Assignment

There were fewer issues with data quality for the Expansion site than the POC site, possibly because there were fewer SFAs and at the POC site, the largest SFA assembled their database manually. The grantee submitted individual SFA lists that were combined by the evaluation team for review. The following issues were identified and resolved by working with the grantee and in some cases, by calling SFAs for further information:

- **Identifying out-of-SFA children.** Some records included children who were out of SFA; these cases were identified and removed from the files. In most cases consent was noted, but there were some instances where the date of consent had to be verified with the SFA.
- **Identifying POC children.** Some POC children were not identified in the Expansion site file and were identified by the evaluation team by matching to the files from 2011. In addition, there were about 133 children (77 households) in one SFA who received SEBTC benefits the previous year and were automatically eligible in 2012, but were accidentally left off of the SFA household list.
- **Duplicate IDs.** For the POC site, the file had 1,090 records that needed to be reviewed and sometimes grouped for household composition. For the Expansion site, the file had

355 records that needed to be grouped or reviewed more closely to review household composition.

In addition, the POC site, there were 97 records with duplicate student IDs, 85 records with duplicate child names, and 187 records with duplicate child names and DOB, but in different households. In the Expansion site there were 351 records with duplicate student IDs, 157 with duplicate child names, and 274 with duplicate child names and DOB in different households.

- **Missing child/household data.** For the POC site, the original file (after the evaluation team combined all the component files) included 5,955 children. About 12% of the records were missing all or part of the residential address and 2% were missing some part of the mailing address (usually state and zip code). Another 2% had different addresses for the same household, which required a review of household composition. Less than one percent of the households were missing phone numbers, but about 3% of home numbers had area code problems or issues with the length of the phone number.

In the Expansion site, the original file (after the component files were combined) included 5,174 children. About 7% of records were missing SFA IDs. Less than one percent of records were missing phone numbers, household or student IDs, parent or child names, or mailing and residential addresses. Missing child data varied from under 1% to 16% of records: child DOB (9%), child gender (7%), child race (16%), primary language (10%), grade (2%), certification status (12%), or FRP lunch status (<1%).

In the POC site, 4,091 children in 2,357 households were randomized to receive the benefit (Exhibit 2A.3.3). In the Expansion site, 2,516 children in 1,296 households were randomized to receive the benefit.

The treatment group from the POC site during the POC year was eliminated from the evaluation subsample and everyone else was randomly assigned. This was because of a differential consent process for Year 1 treatment (passive consent) and Year 1 controls (active consent), as described above. In the Expansion site, 1,296 households were selected for the treatment evaluation subsample and 1,287 households were selected for the control evaluation subsample.

After households were assigned, DSS staff mistakenly sent benefits to five households in the POC site and four in the Expansion site that were originally assigned to the control group. DSS spoke with FNS and the households were allowed to continue to receive benefits for the summer but were removed from the evaluation.

Notifying Households of the SEBTC Benefits and Issuing Benefits

After random assignment was complete, the SFAs were responsible for notifying households about whether or not they were selected to receive the SEBTC benefit. CSDE developed the notification letters, which were then distributed to all consenting families by the SFAs.

Exhibit 2A.3.3 Number of Households and Children Randomly Assigned the Benefit and Assigned to Evaluation Subsample in the Connecticut Demonstration

	POC Site (2012)				Expansion Site (2012)			
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample
Benefit	2,357	4,091	930	1,608	1,296	2,516	1,296	2,516
Non-benefit	941	1,605	941	1,605	1,287	2,511	1,287	2,511
Total	3,298	5,696	1,871	3,213	2,583	5,027	2,583	5,027
	POC Site (2011)							
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample				
Benefit	1,405	2,501	992	1,753				
Non-benefit	978	1,743	992	1,743				
Total	2,383	4,244	1,984	3,496				

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, with assignments calculated by the evaluation team, 2012.

Sending EBT Cards and Activation

DSS used its MIS to set up the SEBTC cards and administer the benefits. Because the SEBTC participants were randomly selected to participate in the program and did not complete a common State benefit application form (like one would for SNAP or Medicaid), household information had to be manually entered into the MIS by DSS staff. According to DSS, this was the most time-consuming step in issuing the benefits but was facilitated if the household was known to MIS. Using the last four digits of the household's SSN and DOB collected on the consent forms allowed DSS to locate parents within the MIS system (if they were already in the system). For those not in the system, DSS assigned a "dummy" SSN.

DSS mailed approximately 3,000 cards on or before June 13—two days prior to June the 15 activation date. DSS mailed approximately 800 cards after June 13. From all mailings, approximately 100 cards were returned as undeliverable, and DSS was able to resend about 70 of those.

Training and Support

DSS provided instructions on how to activate and use the SEBTC card, along with some nutrition information in a document that accompanied the SEBTC card in the mail. In addition, DSS and CSDE staff responded to calls from households with questions about the program.

Between June 8 and July 19, CSDE/DSS received 863 calls on their helpline. Staff tracked the calls and found that most related to adding a child to their card (278 calls); checking when cards would be received (155 calls); reporting a change of address (115 calls); and checking on the status of determination (95 calls). In addition, DSS reported receiving "hundreds" of calls when a notice was sent in error to current SNAP households indicating they would receive a "special cash benefit" due to SEBTC.

In addition, between 50 and 100 households called because they had problems pinning their cards. Households were told (via the card carrier instructions that accompanied the SEBTC card) to call to activate the card by selecting a PIN number, but they needed the 18 digit SEBTC card number, their DOB, and the last four digits of their SSN. Instructions on the card carrier read, "...if the last four digits of your SSN do not match the EBT system, or you have any problems selecting a PIN, please call..." It appears that some families did not understand that the phrase "does not match" meant that their SSN was not in the DSS MIS system, not that the SSN and the EBT card number were too match.

As of mid-July, there were no reports of problems using the cards from retailers.

2A.4 Delaware SEBTC Site Profile

State and Local Context

The Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), Division of Social Services (DSS) led the SEBTC demonstration, which was implemented in four of the five SFAs in New Castle County. DHSS provides a range of social services, including TANF, SNAP, child support enforcement, medical assistance, public health services, and subsidized child care. DHSS does not traditionally work with local SFAs or on child nutrition programs, but has a long history of collaboration with the State Department of Education (DOE), which manages child nutrition for the State, including the SFSP. DHSS and DOE previously collaborated on direct certification for the FRP school lunch program and many local nutrition and child care initiatives, making them natural partners for this demonstration.

To carry out the demonstration, DHSS formed a team with staff from its DSS and Division of Management Services, which allowed them to bring together expertise on SNAP administration and operations, EBT technology and infrastructure, and the existing State MIS. The DHSS team worked closely with DOE and the four participating SFAs as they planned for and implemented the demonstration. In addition, it also worked closely with the Data Service Center, a non-profit State agency operated by two of the participating SFAs that provides information technology support and services for school administration. Other partnerships included the Cooperative Extension at the University of Delaware, which provides SNAP Education (ED) services, and developed and disseminated nutrition education materials for the demonstration, such as a weekly nutrition newsletter with an overview of “MyPlate” and recipes that was sent to all consenting households.⁷

There was considerable support in the State and community for the demonstration. DHSS hosted a press conference in February that introduced the demonstration and included remarks

Demonstration Area Spotlight

Geographic Area Served: Four of the five SFAs in New Castle County

Percent of Children Eligible for FRP Meals:
Ranged from 21-60%

SEBTC Model: SNAP

Program Name/Logo: “Summer Meals” or “Summer Feeding for Students”

Consent Process: Active

Consent Rate (Children): 33%

Children Issued Benefits in 2012: 5,293

Take-Up Rate of Children (First Benefit Cycle):
89%

⁷ MyPlate replaced USDA’s food pyramid dietary guidelines.

by U.S. Senator Carper and the State Secretaries of the DHSS and the DOE. In addition, DHSS enlisted support and assistance from many community-based organizations (for example, the Boys and Girls Club, the Food Bank of Delaware, and the Latin American Community Center) that posted information about the demonstration and the consent form on their websites and encouraged families to complete and submit them.

Site Selection and Characteristics

DHSS selected four contiguous SFAs located in New Castle County: Appoquinimink, Christina, Colonial, and Red Clay. The four SFAs participating in the demonstration made up approximately 83% of the public school enrollment in New Castle County and included a mix of urban, suburban, and rural communities. The demonstration area is densely populated compared to other parts of the State and has high concentrations of poverty. DHSS and DOE also considered implementing the demonstration in the southern part of the State, but felt that it would be difficult to implement and oversee the larger number of SFAs that would be needed to recruit sufficient numbers of eligible children there. The four selected SFAs had a total of 26,000 students eligible for FRP school meals with FRP certification rates ranging from 21% to 60%. Individual schools had as few as 9% and as many as 99% of students certified for FRP lunch.

In addition to SEBTC benefits that some families received, SFSP meal sites were available for families across much of the demonstration area. The Christina School District operated 23 SFSP sites in summer 2012, and one non-participating SFA also sponsors an SFSP site. Colonial and Red Clay School Districts provided meals to students enrolled in school-based summer enrichment programs. In addition to programs operated by the SFAs, community-based organizations, including the Food Bank of Delaware, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Delaware, the Wilmington Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Latin American Community Center participated in the SFSP. A total of 14 sponsors operated 130 SFSP sites across New Castle County.

Participating School Food Authorities

All four SFAs readily agreed to participate in the demonstration and provided letters of support for the grant application. The smallest SFA (Appoquinimink) included 1,938 eligible students; Christina (the State's largest SFA) included 10,331 eligible students. For the demonstration sites overall, a total of 25,934 children were eligible, and of these, 8,454 consented to receive the benefit if selected.

The four SFAs' school years ended between June 7 and June 12 and the summer period lasted until August 27 or 28 depending on grade level. DHSS decided to use the same benefit period for all SFAs, from June 8 to August 28. Therefore, some children could receive both FRP meals (while in school) and SEBTC benefits for up to three days, depending on the individual SFA's schedule.

Exhibit 2A.4.1 Characteristics of the SFAs in the Delaware Demonstration

SFA	Number of Eligible Children	Estimated Number of Consenting Children ^a	Last Day of School in Spring of 2011–2012 SY	SEBTC Benefit Period	First Day of School in Fall 2012–2013 SY
Appoquinimink	1,938	691	6/7/12	6/8 - 8/28	8/27/12 - 8/28/12
Christina	10,331	3,332	6/12/12	6/8 - 8/28	8/27/12 - 8/28/12
Colonial	5,895	2,068	6/8/12	6/8 - 8/28	8/27/12
Red Clay	7,770	2,363	6/8/12	6/8 - 8/28	8/27/12 - 8/28/12
Total	25,934	8,454			

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children provided by the grantee prior to data cleaning and random assignment.

Training and Communication

Training was not provided to the SFAs because they had limited roles in the consent process and recruitment of households. Communication, either in person, by email, or by telephone, among the partners was frequent throughout the planning and implementation of the demonstration. SFA staff provided feedback on the consent process as well as the wording of the consent packages and subsequent communications with households. The staffs at the participating SFAs were provided lists of households receiving the benefit so that families could call to find out if they were selected.

Consent Process and Recruitment of Households

Delaware used an active consent process. Originally, the SFAs were slated to play a large role in the consent process. Once it became clear that the Data Service Center could access the needed data from all four SFAs and more efficiently recruit and obtain consent from households, it took responsibility for the consent process.

All SFAs in the State use the same student information system, eSchoolPLUS. Each SFA routinely uploads information from NSLP applications and direct certifications to the system. Using eSchoolPLUS, the Data Service Center identified all eligible students in the demonstration. Using this student list, it created the household list by matching children’s addresses and guardians’ names. It then mailed a pre-populated consent form in English and Spanish, and a business reply envelope to each eligible household. The forms were mailed on February 8 and were due February 29. Although the grantee did not formally extend the deadline, it continued to process consent forms until March 27. Undeliverable mail was sent to the appropriate SFA where nutrition office staff sent the packages home with students in their backpacks.”

During the consent period, SFAs were asked to send as many as three automated telephone alerts to eligible households reminding them to return their signed consent packages. In addition, the SFAs posted information about the demonstration and a copy of the consent form on their SFA websites.

Signed consent packages were returned to the Data Service Center. A web-based database was used to document consent and update any changes to contact information. If, however, a household added additional children to the consent form, it was forwarded to DHSS where staff verified the additional children and manually added them to an Excel spreadsheet. This spreadsheet was then merged with the Data Service Center’s database to create a single household data file, with duplicates removed. The final file of consenting households was sent to DHSS for transfer to the evaluation team for random assignment on April 3.

Consent Rates

Based on State Department of Education data, approximately 26,000 children were eligible to participate in the demonstration. Consent was provided for 33% of eligible children (8,454 children) across the four SFAs.

Exhibit 2A.4.2. Number and Percent of Consenting Households and Children in the Delaware Demonstration

2012	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting
Household	18,565	4,637	25%
Children	25,934	8,454	33%

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children post data cleaning and random assignment.

Random Assignment

The initial household data file submitted for random assignment contained four types of data issues for the grantee to address before random assignment could take place:

- **Missing phone numbers.** Eleven percent of all records (931 records) included no phone numbers. The grantee was able to use other data sources to retrieve at least one phone number for 878 of the records, leaving only 53 records with no phone number.
- **Unusable home phone numbers.** Six percent of records (475 records) had home phone numbers with less than, or greater than the necessary ten digits. The majority of these records had home phone numbers with exactly seven digits. Because there was only one main area code in the study area, the team was able to append this area code to the seven digit numbers, resolving 452 of the problem numbers.
- **Missing child IDs.** Four percent of records were missing child IDs. The grantee confirmed that these 351 records with missing IDs were for the additional children added by households to the prepopulated forms. Because the IDs had not been confirmed by the grantee, they were left blank in the initial household data file. The grantee generated unique IDs for each of these 351 children.
- **Missing child birthdate.** Two percent of records (191 records) were missing the child’s date of birth. The grantee used other data sources to find children’s birthdates for 55 of these records.

After the household data file was cleaned and updated, a total of 4,637 households (8,454 children) were randomly assigned. A total of 2,906 households (5,302 children) were assigned to receive the benefit. A total of 3,468 households (6,311 children) were selected for the evaluation distributed roughly evenly between the treatment (1,737 households) and control (1,731 households) groups.

Exhibit 2A.4.3 Number of Households and Children Randomly Assigned the Benefit and Assigned to Evaluation Subsample in the Delaware Demonstration

	New Site (2012)			
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample
Benefit	2,906	5,302	1,737	3,159
Non-benefit	1,731	3,152	1,731	3,152
Total	4,637	8,454	3,468	6,311

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, with assignments calculated by the evaluation team, 2012.

Notifying Households of the SEBTC Benefits and Issuing Benefits

After receiving the file of children and households selected to receive the SEBTC benefit, DHSS spent two weeks cleaning data and removing duplicate households undetected during random assignment and resolving additional data entry errors. After the data were clean, DHSS mailed notification letters between May 10 and 17 to both benefit and non-benefit households. Parents were informed that they could learn more about summer food sites in the community by contacting the Delaware Helpline.

Sending EBT Cards and Activation

DHSS created a new SEBTC database and issuance system for the demonstration called the “Summer Meals EBT System.” Because the existing SNAP eligibility system would have been difficult to expand for SEBTC, DHSS determined it was more efficient financially and for their schedule to build a new system than to modify their current system. To create the Summer Meals EBT System DHSS copied their existing eligibility and issuance system and eliminated the programs and code they did not need, adding additional code for SEBTC. The SEBTC system stored clients’ demographic and household information, associating children with their parents, and sent the file to JPMorgan for benefit issuance. This system also interfaced with the State’s Master Client Index, which houses an account for every resident who has received a DHSS benefit or service (immunizations, SNAP, TANF, etc.).

Benefits were issued automatically each month. DHSS opted to issue a full month of benefits for the first two 30-day periods and to prorate for the remaining days in August, rather than to prorate for June and August. JPMorgan mailed SEBTC cards during the week of June 4 and benefits were activated on June 8. The mailing included the EBT card, activation instructions (in both English and Spanish), and a brochure about using the card. This brochure was in English only, but JPMorgan developed a Spanish-language brochure for DHSS to provide to clients upon request.

There was a slight delay in the availability of benefits on June 8 due to a coding problem at JPMorgan, but the issue was resolved by that afternoon. Staff indicated approximately 10 cards were returned to JPMorgan as undeliverable and were destroyed. DHSS attempted to locate these households and resend the cards.

Training and Support

In early to mid-May, the State distributed flyers about upcoming “outreach” sessions held at area schools and at local DHSS offices where families could learn more about the SEBTC benefits and other programs and services offered in the State, including other food assistance programs. Two sessions held in mid-May included staff from DHSS and JPMorgan, who were available to help clients understand how to activate their EBT cards and access their SEBTC benefits. Staff from DHSS staff conducted SNAP-ED, DOE, and other organizations provided information about other types of available assistance, including the SFSP. The grantee estimated between 100 and 120 people attended at least one of the two evening outreach sessions.

Staff at the Delaware Helpline (“211”) received information about SEBTC so they could answer questions. If they could not answer a question, they transferred the call to DHSS staff. Callers may also contact DHSS directly. Most calls were related to activating the SEBTC cards. Other calls were from parents requesting to add children to the household and notifying DHSS that they moved out of the State.

2A.5 Michigan SEBTC Sites Profile

State and Local Context

Michigan had a POC site in 2011 and received a second Expansion site in 2012. The POC site was the Grand Rapids Public School District (GRPS), which manages 73 schools. Michigan received a second grant for 2012 to include four intermediate school districts (ISDs) in the mid-Michigan region: Bay-Arenac ISD (BAISD), Clare-Gladwin Regional Educational Service District (CGRES), Midland County Educational Service Agency (MCESA), and Tuscola ISD (TISD). Collectively these ISDs are composed of 25 school districts with 98 schools and they oversee 32 SFAs.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) applied for and led the demonstrations. MDE also contracted out to an independent consultant who served as the project manager. Michigan WIC, part of the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), was MDE's partner for the grant.

The WIC team worked with its EBT vendor, ACS, to implement the SEBTC benefits. The eligibility system for the program—called MI-SEBTC and based on the State's MI-WIC eligibility system—was created during the POC year of the grant and modified in 2012 to include some additional report functions.

Site Selection and Characteristics

MDE and WIC collaborated to determine which sites to include in the demonstration. Grand Rapids was chosen as the POC site in 2011 for several reasons: it was close to the State capital; was large enough to meet the number of eligible children needed for the demonstration; had a food

Demonstration Area Spotlight

Geographic Area Served:

POC 2011 and 2012: Grand Rapids Public School District
Expansion 2012: Bay, Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Midland, and Tuscola Counties

Percent of Children Eligible for FRP Meals:

POC Site 2012: 86%
Expansion 2012: 31–59%

SEBTC Model: WIC (Online)

Program Name/Logo: Summer EBT for Children

Consent Process: Active

Consent Rate (Children):

POC 2011: 41%
POC 2012: 58%
Expansion 2012: 50%

Benefits Issued to Children in 2012:

POC: 5,364
Expansion: 5,355

Take-Up Rate by Children (First Benefit Cycle):

POC 2011: 87%
POC 2012: 87%
Expansion 2012: 91%

service director who was motivated to implement new ideas; and had a robust student data system.

For the second site, the WIC and MDE team again decided together about which site(s) to include. The team was interested in replicating the program in a rural setting, where SFSPs were more difficult to administer to children due to lack of transportation. (The team also briefly considered Detroit, but given Grand Rapids' urban setting, it was not different enough to meet the team's goals.) The Upper Peninsula region was considered, as it is rural and has a large population of students eligible for NSLP. Southeast Michigan was also considered for the same reasons. The team weighed the costs and benefits of each location, and ultimately made their decision based on past experiences with the different sites. The team decided on the four ISDs in mid-Michigan because the area had challenges similar to other Michigan areas, yet very different from the POC site.

Participating School Districts

The grantee reported that the POC site did not have any concerns with participating again in 2012. For the Expansion site, the grantee recruited the ISDs in the fall of 2011, prior to submitting the grant application. After the grant was awarded, the SEBTC project manager travelled to mid-Michigan to discuss what was expected of the sites and to share the project experiences from the POC year.

The POC site has one SFA serving more than 70 schools. The Expansion site includes the following:

- 9 SFAs and 29 schools in BAISD
- 7 SFAs and 23 schools in CGRES D
- 6 SFAs and 26 schools in MCCESA⁸
- 10 SFAs within TISD and 20 schools⁹

Exhibit 2A.5.1 provides information on the number of eligible and consenting children by each ISD. The grantee reported that the economy was struggling all over the State, increasing the need for additional summer feeding options for kids. In the POC site, the guardians of 9,543 children consented, and those of 10,439 children consented in the Expansion site. Although the start and end dates of the school year vary by district, the grantee decided to begin and end SEBTC benefits for all districts in the Expansion site on the same schedule, starting the day after the earliest school ended (May 24), and ending benefits the day the first school started (September 4). Therefore, some children could receive both FRP meals (while in school) and SEBTC benefits for 13 days. Exhibit 2A.5.1 indicates when school ended and began for each ISD, as well as the period of SEBTC benefits.

⁸ One high school in MCEA chose not to participate.

⁹ The special education school run by the TISD did not participate; the school enrolls adults up to age 26.

Exhibit 2A.5.1 Characteristics of the School Districts in the Michigan Demonstration

SD/ISD	Number of Eligible Children	Estimated Number of Consenting Children ^a	Last Day of School in Spring of 2011–2012 SY	SEBTC Benefit Period	First Day of School in Fall 2012–2013 SY
POC					
Grand Rapids SD	16,459	9,543	6/8/2012	6/9 – 9/3	9/4/2012
Expansion^b					
Bay-Arenac ISD	8,239	4,441	5/24/2012	5/25 – 9/3	9/4/2012
Clare-Gladwin ISD	3,939	2,106	5/24/2012	5/25 – 9/3	9/4/2012
Midland ISD	3,757	1,706	6/7/2012	5/25 – 9/3	9/4/2012
Tuscola ISD	5,007	2,186	6/12/2012	5/25 – 9/3	9/4/2012
Total	20,942	10,439			

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children provided by the grantee prior to data cleaning and random assignment.

^b The school start and end dates varied by school district within the ISD. The earliest last day and latest first day of the school year are displayed in the table.

In addition to SEBTC benefits, SFSP food sites were available for families in both areas. There were 30 SFSP sites in the Expansion site.¹⁰ The POC site included 33 SFSP sites in 2011 and 31 sites in 2012.

Training and Communication

The grantee reported that the POC site staff involved in the demonstration did not need training for their second year because the same individuals participated. The POC team continued with its first-year practice of having regular conference calls with the grantee team (MDE and WIC) to discuss progress on the project schedule and to troubleshoot any issues encountered.

The grantee held a training session for the Expansion site ISDs in early January, before the ISDs began identifying eligible children. The Expansion site teams participated in periodic meetings as a group with the SEBTC project manager and communicated through individual phone calls and emails as necessary for specific tasks. The Expansion site teams also participated in the weekly grantee conference calls, when needed.

Consent Process and Recruitment of Households

Both sites reached out to parents to recruit them for the program. Each held press conferences on the day the consent letters were distributed. In the POC site, the food service director was involved in reaching out to the families, conducting interviews with the media, and sharing information with the Emergency Needs Task Force, which comprises the GRPS food service department, the local food pantry network, area churches, and social service agencies. The task force was kept updated with announcements, and the same flyers posted in schools were available for posting in churches and store fronts. In the Expansion site, materials were

¹⁰ BAISD has nine sites in their region, CGRESA has seven sites, MCESA has six, and TISD has seven sites.

distributed to schools to communicate to school staff and parents about the program. These materials included a school newsletter insert, a school lunch menu insert, a principal letter, and sample email text announcing the program to school staff. Both sites also made robocalls in the local school districts that had the technology available.

Both the POC and Expansion sites used an active consent process to obtain consent from eligible households. While the two sites were creating their databases, they learned from the grantee that several variables needed for random assignment had not been specified ahead of time, resulting in the need for multiple data extracts from their school districts. The additional variables did not cause as much additional work in the POC site because their programmers had direct access to the data.

The POC Site

Because GRPS has a robust student data system, staff were able to easily extract information needed for the consent process. To further improve data quality in 2012, staff decided to prompt parents to update their contact information prior to when letters were distributed, sending letters in January in children's back packs. As in the POC year, consent materials were sent home with the youngest child in an eligible household. (The POC site uses this method of distributing forms as a regular means of communication with families.) The consent rate was lower than needed after this initial distribution, so a second letter was mailed to households.

The Expansion Site

Data needed for consent for the Expansion site was aggregated from local school districts (between four and nine school districts, depending on the ISD). The ISD staff did not have direct access to school district data in all instances. ISD staff reported that local school district staff often extracted the initial information on eligible children, and then the ISD staff worked with school administrative or foodservice staff to obtain updated information during the outreach and consent process (for example, FRP meals status, telephone number, or home address).

For the Expansion site, the grantee advised using the same process of distributing the consent forms as the POC site—through the schools to the youngest child in the family. The ISDs followed this method, but the consent rate remained low. The schools and districts in the ISDs do not normally use this method of distribution for communication with families. The team decided to pursue a second, postal mailing to the eligible families. With the addition of the second mailing, the Expansion site was able to reach its consent rate goal.

Consent Forms

Consent forms in both sites were designed to be machine-readable by a Scantron device. Midway through the consent process, however, it was discovered that the Expansion site scanner would not be able to read the returned forms, meaning all forms had to be manually entered into a database.

In the Expansion site, each ISD team tracked its own forms and sent its database to BAISD to be merged into one file for random assignment. The consent materials included pre-populated

forms listing eligible children in each household based on school records, but some households added more children before returning the forms. Because the ISDs were themselves merging data from multiple data sources within their districts, additional data cleaning was necessary. One persistent issue was duplicate family IDs. Multiple school districts used the same student database software; as a consequence, family IDs were generated in the same manner across districts and appeared as duplicates in the merged data. In addition, many districts did not have a household ID variable, and had to create one based on other contact information. The robustness of this variable was thus dependent on the quality of the addresses in the data systems, which was outdated in several school districts.

Consent Rates

In 2012, 57% of households comprising 58% of eligible children gave consent in the POC site (Exhibit 2A.5.2). The consent rates were higher than in 2011, when 37% of eligible households and 41% of eligible children consented. The Expansion site had a lower consent rate compared to the POC site, with 42% of households and 50% of children giving consent.

Approximately 500 children receiving the benefit in the 2011 POC year moved out of the demonstration area between the first and second year of SEBTC implementation. The grantee was unable to elicit a response in 2012 from 25% of these children. The grantee speculated that there was confusion about the notification letter sent to households with continued benefit eligibility and families did not realize that action was required on their part to receive benefits again in 2012.

Exhibit 2A.5.2 Number and Percent of Consenting Households and Children in the Michigan Demonstration

	POC			Expansion		
	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting
2012						
Household	9,809	5,576	57%	12,731	5,406	42%
Children	16,459	9,577	58%	20,942	10,486	50%
2011	POC					
Household	10,603	3,965	37%			
Children	16,417	6,709	41%			

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children post data cleaning and random assignment.

Random Assignment

POC Site

There were some problems with contact information for the list of consenting children and households in GRPS, but only minor issues were readily identified in the data files. The file for random assignment was resubmitted by the grantee once to make minor corrections.

In the POC site, 5,576 households with 9,577 children consented. Of these, 3,044 households with 5,303 children were randomly assigned to receive the benefit. Households and children who received the benefit in the POC 2011 and were still eligible received it without being subject to the randomization process if they gave consent in the 2012. These 1,066 households included 2,065 children. Of these, 796 households with 1,512 children consented.

An evaluation subsample was selected from the benefit and non-benefit groups; 2,545 households with 4,447 children were selected for the evaluation treatment group and 2,532 households with 4,274 children for the control group.

Expansion Site

The Expansion site had more issues with data quality than did the POC site. Files required multiple rounds of cleaning and resolution prior to random assignment. The major issues included the following:

- **Missing child/school data.** When the first data file was produced, WIC identified missing data that were required for their system to issue benefits, such as child DOB, grade level, and lunch status. (At least one DOB per household was needed to pin the cards.) In addition, the initial file included 740 duplicate student IDs (9%) and 143 records (2%) with missing school district IDs. Subsequent files partially corrected these issues.
- **Missing records.** The file submitted to the evaluation team omitted 2,016 records of children (20% of total Expansion children) from one of the four participating ISDs. In addition, 26 records were omitted from a second ISD. This issue was not discovered until after random assignment had been completed and the evaluation subsample had been selected. To address this issue equitably, and not hold up the data collection process, the 1,100 households in the benefit group from other two ISDs who were *not* selected for the evaluation subsample were pooled with the newly discovered consenting households and re-randomized so that all consenting households had an equivalent chance of receiving SEBTC.

After these issues were resolved, 2,734 households (with 5,347 children) in the Expansion site were randomly assigned to receive the benefit. The remaining 2,628 households with 5,045 students did not receive the benefit.

An evaluation subsample was selected from the benefit and non-benefit groups; 1,585 households (with 3,093 children) were selected for the treatment group and 1,589 households (with 3,096 children) for the control group.

Exhibit 2A.5.3 Number of Households and Children Randomly assigned the Benefit and Assigned to Evaluation Subsample in the Michigan Demonstration

POC Site (2012)					Expansion Site (2012)			
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample
Benefit	3,044	5,303	2,545	4,447	2,734	5,347	1,585	3,093
Non-benefit	2,532	4,274	2,532	4,274	2,628	5,045	1,589	3,096
Total	5,576	9,577	5,077	8,721	5,362	10,392	3,174	6,189
POC Site (2011)								
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample				
Benefit	1,280	1,502	1,000	1,931				
Non-benefit	2,685	5,207	1,000	1,903				
Total	3,965	6,709	2,000	3,834				

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, with assignments calculated by the evaluation team, 2012.

Notifying Households of the SEBTC Benefits and Issuing Benefits

After random assignment, the grantee mailed out notification letters to both the benefit and non-benefit groups. The letter sent to families not getting the benefits mentioned the potential for the family to be selected in the survey and receive a gift card, resulting in some parents (less than 100) calling to ask to take the survey. If notification letters to selected households were returned as undeliverable, the grantee worked with the respective districts to find updated contact information. In the Expansion site, approximately 3% of letters were returned as undeliverable. The POC site did not specifically track undeliverable consent forms, but estimated around 100 to 200 notification letters were returned.

Sending EBT Cards and Activation

WIC created a separate eligibility data system to implement SEBTC benefits; MI-SEBTC was based on Michigan's WIC eligibility system. WIC's EBT vendor, ACS, administers the benefits based on eligible households stored in the system. The MI-SEBTC software was created during the POC year, and little additional work was needed in 2012 to implement the demonstration. (WIC added some reports functionality in 2012.)

In the Expansion site, the last benefit period was only 10 days (August 25 to September 3). For this period, the food package was prorated. The POC site did not have any partial months and thus no prorated packages.

Training and Support

The EBT cards were mailed to households two weeks before benefits began in both sites. The "card carrier" (that is, the letter accompanying the card) explained how to activate the card. Beneficiaries also received information on the types and quantities of eligible foods and the URL to the Michigan SEBTC website. After the cards were mailed, the grantee conducted evening meetings (one in each ISD plus one in the POC site) to introduce parents to the program and assist them in activating the cards. Beneficiaries who had trouble activating the card or using the benefits were able to call the ACS helpline for assistance. Between May 25 and June 26, 2012, the ACS helpline received 670 SEBTC-related calls. ACS could not distinguish between calls from the POC and Expansion sites, but 372 of the calls (56%) came in before benefits started in the POC site on June 9.

To support the use of the WIC EBT card, in 2011 the grantee developed a SEBTC website, which included training videos for activating, using and replacing lost or stolen EBT cards, lists of participating retailers in each demonstration area, and some nutrition education resources. These included materials to promote consumption of whole grains, low-fat milk, and fruits and vegetables, as well as links to www.eatright.org, www.choosemyplate.gov/supertracker, and www.thefrugalshopper.com.

2A.6 Missouri SEBTC Sites Profile

State and Local Context

Missouri had a POC site in 2011 and received a second Expansion site in 2012. The POC site included three school districts in Kansas City: Kansas City Public Schools, Hickman Mills School District, and Center School District. Missouri also received a grant for an Expansion site in St. Louis that included one large school district, St. Louis Public Schools.

The Missouri Department of Social Services (DSS) applied for and led the SEBTC demonstrations. The Family Support Division within DSS determines eligibility for and administers SNAP, Medicaid, and cash assistance to families. DSS was identified as the lead agency because the State applied for the grant at the request of the governor's office and DSS reports directly to that office. Because of staffing and resource constraints within the division, however, a project manager from the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) was selected to oversee SEBTC. DHSS administers the Summer Food Service Program, Adult Food Program, and WIC. DSS also received assistance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), which oversees the NSLP and SBP, to identify children eligible for SEBTC.

Because DSS does not typically partner with school districts, the demonstration was implemented at the local level by community-based organizations. The Local Investment Commission (LINC) was the community partner administering the program in the POC site and Area Resources for Community and Human Services (ARCHS) was the community partner in the Expansion site. LINC and ARCHS received funding under the SEBTC grant and were responsible for coordinating with the school districts to identify eligible children; creating and distributing consent and notification

Demonstration Area Spotlight

Geographic Area Served:

POC 2011: Kansas City metropolitan area
POC 2012: Kansas City metropolitan area
Expansion 2012: St. Louis

Percent of Children Eligible for FRP Meals:

POC 2012: 74 – 88%
Expansion 2012: 82%

SEBTC Model: SNAP Hybrid

Program Name/Logo:

POC: SEBTC/ "Don't let kids go hungry in the summer"
Expansion: SEBTC/ "Free Summer Food for St. Louis Public School Students"

Consent Process: Passive

Consent Rate (Children):

POC 2011: 89%
POC 2012: 98%
Expansion 2012: 97%

Children Issued Benefits in 2012:

POC site: 5,327
Expansion site: 5,304

Take-Up Rate by Children (First Benefit Cycle):

POC 2011: 87%
POC 2012: 58%
Expansion 2012: 52%

materials to households; managing the consent process; and running a hotline to answer questions related to SEBTC. DSS has long-standing relationships with both of these organizations through an initiative called “Caring Communities,” which identifies local organizations to serve as official community partners to DSS.

Additionally, DSS worked with their EBT vendor, FIS, to modify the EBT system for administering and managing SEBTC cases and funds.

Site Selection and Characteristics

Kansas City was selected as the POC site based on DSS’ decision to partner with LINC. LINC has established relationships with many school districts in the State. Once DSS determined they would work with LINC, school districts within its service area were selected. Kansas City Public Schools was identified first because it is a large school district with many eligible children. They also chose the area because of a recent rise in unemployment in urban areas in the State. Hickman Mills School District was selected next because its demographics were similar to those of Kansas City Public Schools and was viewed as being in need of assistance due to high numbers of children eligible for FRP meals. Center School District separates Kansas City Public Schools and Hickman Mills School District so it was included to meet the requirement that school districts in the demonstration be contiguous. Though the need was slightly less in Center School District than in the other districts, its eligibility rate of FRP students was still above 70%. For 2012, no additional school districts or community partners were needed to meet the increased target number of children.

In the second year, three sites were considered for the Expansion site: Joplin, the “Bootheel” (the southeastern region of the State), and St. Louis. Joplin was initially at the top of the list because the area was hit by a devastating tornado in 2011 and it was assumed that there would be many children who because of disaster would be eligible for benefits. However, because that area was now receiving so many other forms of aid, DSS decided that implementing SEBTC would be too much additional burden on the community. The Bootheel was considered because it is the poorest region in the State. However, to meet the target number of eligible children, 10 counties would be needed for the demonstration, and coordinating the project over such a large area, in a rural region remote from the capital, was deemed too difficult. Therefore, St. Louis was selected as the only feasible option. The St. Louis Public School District contained a sufficient number of eligible children to meet the requirements of the demonstration, and DSS viewed the fact that only one school district was needed to meet those requirements as an advantage.

Participating School Districts

All the school districts in the POC and Expansion sites were in urban areas. The two main urban districts were large, while the other two districts in the POC site had a moderate number of students. See Exhibit 2A.6.1 for information on the number of eligible and consenting children by district.

Exhibit 2A.6.1 Characteristics of the School Districts in the Missouri Demonstration

School Districts	Number of Eligible Children	Estimated Number of Consenting Children ^a	Last Day of School in Spring of 2011–2012 SY	SEBTC Benefit Period	First Day of School in Fall 2012–2013 SY
POC					
Center	1,897	1,772	5/22/12	5/22 - 8/14	8/14/12
Hickman Mills	6,168	6,087	5/23/12	5/22 - 8/14	8/15/12
Kansas City	14,244	14,051	5/22/12	5/22 - 8/14	8/13/12
Total	22,309	21,910			
EXPANSION					
St. Louis	22,000	21,348	5/24/12	5/24 - 8/13	8/14/12

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children provided by the grantee prior to data cleaning and random assignment.

School district staff in the POC and Expansion sites indicated they participated in the program to help improve children’s access to food over the summer months. The school districts in the POC site continued their participation in 2012 because they said the program had gone well in 2011 and they were pleased that SEBTC was expanded to more families in 2012.

Although the start and end dates of the school year vary by district in the POC site, DSS decided to begin and end SEBTC for all districts on the same schedule. Benefits started the day the earliest school district ended, May 22, and benefits ended the day before the latest school district starts, August 14. Therefore, some children could receive both FRP meals (while in school) and SEBTC benefits for one day, depending on the district’s schedule. Since there was only one school district in the Expansion site, the benefit schedule was based on that district’s schedule. Benefits started on the last day of school, May 24, and ended the day before school begins, August 14.

In addition to SEBTC benefits that some families received, SFSP food sites were available to families in all areas of the demonstration. Both the Kansas City and the St. Louis metropolitan areas had more than 100 SFSP sites. All of the school districts in the demonstration, with the exception of Center School District, were SFSP sponsors. In St. Louis, children were bused to school during the school year. During the summer, buses were not in operation, so transportation was a barrier to accessing SFSP sites at schools. In addition, families with working parents were often reluctant to allow their children to attend SFSP sites alone. Therefore, even if there was an accessible SFSP site, some children do not attend.

Training and Communication

The grantee did not have direct contact with the school districts. Instead, the community partners served as liaisons between DSS and each school district. The community partners and school district staff indicated minimal training was provided to the school districts. Communication at the local level was largely informal and occurred as needed. Districts in the POC site were contacted by LINC prior to submission of the grant application in the first year for information on eligible children and to determine interest. The school district in the Expansion site was similarly contacted by ARCHS prior to submitting the grant application.

Consent Process and Recruitment of Households

Both the POC and Expansion sites used a passive process to obtain consent from eligible households. In 2011, LINC undertook most of the steps in the consent process—they developed materials, mailed them to families using a mail house, collected opt-out forms and undeliverable mail, and tracked the data. In 2012, LINC continued to manage the consent process in the POC demonstration site and ARCHS took on the same role in the Expansion site.

As in 2011, each school district was responsible for developing a list of eligible children within its district, which they provided to the local community partner. The school districts had databases that included all children receiving FRP meals in the district, including those enrolled through direct certification and application, and the databases on FRP meal status were connected to the districts' student records database. The schools districts indicated that they included all children eligible for FRP meals from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. No children were excluded if they were actively enrolled in a school in the district and eligible for FRP. (The grantee stated that foster children living in two group homes were later excluded after random assignment from the demonstration based on a directive from the Children's Division within DSS that the children's living arrangements made them ineligible.)

School districts created a data file of eligible children, including the data elements needed for the demonstration that were available within the school district data. The school districts provided the most recently updated contact information for the families in the file, but staff in each district acknowledged this was not updated consistently more than once each school year. All but one district (in the POC site) was able to include a household identifier within the data file. (For this district, LINC created a household identifier by matching cases by guardian and address or other contact information.) None of the school districts was able to provide much information on parents and guardians because such information was not systematically collected by schools.

In addition to the data maintained by schools, when available, State IDs for children and guardians were added to the file of eligible households. This ID exists for any person receiving services via DSS (for example, SNAP, TANF, cash assistance, and Medicaid). An ID is also generated for any individual born in the State. The ID was provided to the community partners and/or school districts by DESE for all children enrolled in FRP through direct certification and were added to the data compiled by school districts with the goal of carrying the IDs through the random assignment process. The grantee planned to use the IDs after households were selected so that the demonstration could automatically enroll families in SEBTC by matching children's IDs to those in the State's MIS.

After receiving the files of eligible children from the school districts in their demonstration area, each community partner cleaned the data and began the process of developing consent materials. With input from the grantee and the evaluator, each community partner created consent packages to be mailed to eligible households. In the POC site, families receiving the benefit in 2011 received a different version of the letter informing them they would be

automatically enrolled in the demonstration unless they opted out (seven returning households, containing 17 children, opted out). The community partners both relied on mail houses to send the consent packages, but managed the tracking of undeliverable mail and opt-out forms. DSS and the community partners were concerned about the quality of contact information provided by the school districts due to high rates of undeliverable mail in the POC year.¹¹ In an attempt to remedy this issue, household addresses were run through address verification services in the 2012 demonstration year.

In the POC site, consent letters were mailed to returning households on February 9 and to new households on February 10. Opt-out forms were due by February 21. In the Expansion site, letters were mailed on February 2 with opt-out forms due by February 17. In the POC site, the community partner did not make an attempt to locate updated contact information for families with undeliverable mail because they felt their efforts to verify addresses prior to the initial mailing were sufficient and there was not enough time for a second mailing. In the Expansion site, if a letter was undeliverable but had a forwarding address, a second attempt was made to mail it to the new address. If no forwarding address was provided by the post office, community partner staff attempted to locate the household through publicly available resources such as the white pages. After all mailing attempts, there were 828 undeliverable letters in the POC site (6%) and 63 undeliverable letters in the Expansion site (less than 1%).

Community partners in both sites indicated that some families appeared confused about the opt-out process. Both sites reported cases of families who thought they needed to sign the opt-out form to enroll in the demonstration. In cases where the community partners could verify via telephone that a family had intended to give consent, the household was added to the list of consenting families. No other efforts were made to encourage families who opted out to reconsider.

Throughout the process, DSS communicated with the community partners by e-mail as well as weekly conference calls to address any changes in deadlines for each stage of the consent process. Each community partner also sent weekly updates about the number of opt-out forms and pieces of undeliverable mail that had been received.

Consent Rates

After the deadline for opting out, each community partner provided one file of consenting families to the evaluation team. There were approximately 22,309 eligible children in the POC site and approximately 22,000 eligible children in the Expansion site. In both the POC and Expansion sites, less than 1% of families opted out of the demonstration by returning the opt-out form.

Children receiving the SEBTC benefit in 2011 also received the benefit in 2012, if still eligible. Staff verified the children were still attending an eligible school and were of the appropriate age. The guardians of these children were given an opportunity to opt-out in the second year--7

¹¹ In the POC Year 10% of the mailed consent letters were returned as undelivered.

households, containing 17 children chose to do so. In total, 1,066 households receiving benefits in the POC year participated in the demonstration in the second year.

Exhibit 2A.6.2 Number and Percent of Consenting Households and Children in Missouri Demonstration Site

	POC			Expansion		
	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting
2012						
Household	13,820	12,894	93%	15,105	14,985	99%
Children	22,309	21,915	98%	22,000	21,348	97%
2011	POC					
Household	12,071	10,864	89%			
Children	21,939	19,745	89%			

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children post data cleaning and random assignment.

Random Assignment

The initial data file containing the final household list for Kansas City was received on March 1, and a second revised file with updated State identifiers, household IDs, and student IDs arrived on March 20. There were some minor problems with the file, including 118 records (less than 1%) with problem phone numbers, incomplete addresses, eight duplicate records of children in the original file, and one bad student ID. The data file also included information for the 789 households that opted out of the program. Random assignment was completed on March 30. The data file returned to the grantee maintained the correct school district codes and all of the State identifiers needed for the grantee’s match process to work as designed.

After random assignment, LINC identified 40 additional children missing from the original file due to incorrect address/guardian information in the school district database. Ten of these were members of families who had received the benefit in the POC year and should have automatically received the benefit in 2012. These children were added to the group assigned to receive the benefit with FNS approval, including one child in the control group initially not marked as a POC participant. Five children were dropped from receiving the benefit because they lived in a group home and were ineligible. On May 24 the file was updated to remove an additional four children in two group homes.

Exhibit 2A.6.3 Number of Households and Children Randomly Assigned the Benefit and Assigned to Evaluation Subsample in the Missouri Demonstration

	POC Site (2012)				Expansion Site (2012)			
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample
Benefit	3,015	5,327	2,510	3,272	3,731	5,304	2,694	3,820
Non-benefit	9,879	16,588	3,005	4,660	11,254	16,044	2,709	3,849
Total	12,894	21,915	5,515	7,932	14,985	21,348	5,403	7,669
	POC Site (2011)							
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample				
Benefit	1,380	2,505	1,000	1,783				
Non-benefit	9,293	16,845	1,000	1,756				
Total	10,673	19,350	2,000	3,539				

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, with assignments calculated by the evaluation team, 2012.

Of the 2,500 students who received the benefit in 2011, 1,761 children were eligible and automatically assigned to the benefit in 2012.

There were 3,015 Kansas City households with 5,327 children who were assigned to the benefit group and 9,879 households with 16,588 children who were assigned to the non-benefit group. In the evaluation subsample, the treatment group included 2,510 households with 3,272 children and the control group included 3,005 households with 4,660 children.

The initial St. Louis data file containing the household list for random assignment was received on March 2. Two rounds of revisions were required to address relatively minor problems including missing phone numbers (190 children or 1%), 14 missing student IDs, and 4 children missing a date of birth. The file containing all of the children randomly selected in the St. Louis site to receive the benefit was transmitted to the grantee on April 2.

In St. Louis, 3,731 households with 5,304 children were randomized to receive the benefit, and 11,254 households with 16,044 children did not receive the benefit. For the evaluation subsample, 2,694 households with 3,820 children were selected for the treatment group and 2,709 households with 3,849 children were selected for the control group.

Notifying Households of the SEBTC Benefits and Issuing Benefits

After random assignment was completed, DSS began the process of matching the households in the file to the DSS benefit administration system to determine whether a household already had a SNAP case or if a new one needed to be created. This process (described in more detail below) began in April and was completed in mid-May. Beginning in late April, the community partners mailed notification letters to families in their demonstration area informing them of whether they had been selected to receive SEBTC benefits. In the POC site, the notification letter was sent to returning families on April 30 and to new participants on May 4. In the Expansion site, notification letters were mailed on May 4. EBT cards were issued to families not already enrolled in SNAP in mid-May and benefits became available on May 22 in the POC site and May 24 in the Expansion site. Benefits were prorated in May and August. Community partners in both sites sent letters to households that were not selected on May 7, like the benefit group, they also received information on other available food resources during the summer months (such as SFSP sites, food banks, and other programs).

Sending EBT Cards and Activation

In 2012, DSS administered SEBTC through the same benefit eligibility system used for SNAP benefits, modifying the system to accommodate SEBTC. In the POC year, the benefits administration process was manual, bypassing the DSS standard benefit administration program because the program required a date of birth for parents and guardians. Therefore, last year, individual SEBTC cases were created manually and benefits were loaded one by one onto cards each month. Because of the increase in caseload for 2012, DSS decided to create a system that would allow automated case creation and benefit issuance that could be used for both POC and Expansion sites. A contractor was hired to set up automation and programming

staff within DSS created a new form or “screen” in the benefit administration system that allowed DSS staff to manage and monitor SEBTC cases directly.

Once DSS received the random assignment file, they attempted to set up SEBTC cases by matching households in the file to the eligibility system based on the state ID numbers of the children that were added to file prior to random assignment. However, the matching was largely unsuccessful, and about only 1,000 cases required additional research and/or manual case creation. Much of the problem arose from a mismatch of guardian and mailing information between school and DSS records. Additionally, because DSS used the benefit administration system this year, they required parent birth date in order to successfully create a case for households not already in the DSS system. Obtaining this information posed a problem in both POC and Expansion sites because it was not collected by schools. For any cases for which parent date of birth could not be obtained, the case was created in the name of the oldest child in the household. DSS staff indicated that approximately 50 cards were issued under the child’s name across the POC and Expansion sites.

Benefits were successfully loaded and cards mailed to all selected households; EBT cards were mailed active to households and a PIN was mailed separately. Both the POC and Expansion sites had issues with undeliverable cards due to inaccurate mailing information. In the POC site, approximately 40 cards were returned as undeliverable. In the Expansion site, approximately 65 cards were undeliverable, of which approximately half were successfully forwarded using new address information.

Training and Support

DSS did not provide training to parents on using the SEBTC benefits because the majority of participating households were also SNAP participants. Included with the card was a flyer with instructions on how to use the EBT card. In addition, for families selected to receive the benefit, notification letters included a pamphlet with basic instructions for EBT card use as well as a sampling of grocery stores and other locations such as farmers markets that accept SNAP benefits. In the POC site, LINC mailed a different version of the notification letter to returning families; this letter reconfirmed that families would receive benefits again this year and asked those who had not kept their EBT card from last year to contact LINC to receive a replacement card.

Each community’s partners set up a hotline for parents to call with questions. In addition to these hotlines, the EBT vendor made its toll-free number for SNAP participants available to families receiving the SEBTC benefit. Each partner also posted information on its organization’s websites about food assistance resources in the area; access to this information was not restricted to SEBTC families. LINC reported receiving calls, sometimes multiple times a day, by more than 700 households. ARCHS reported receiving more than 400 calls. Common calls were questions about adding children in charter or private schools or why the EBT card had not been delivered. Parents also called to confirm benefit amounts, and the dates that benefits were issued. Both community partners also reported that there was confusion on the part of some

SNAP participants who did not realize that SEBTC benefits had already been issued on their cards and spent.

The community partners also contacted families that had not spent their SEBTC benefits. As of the end of July, there were more than 300 families in the POC site and approximately 250 families in the Expansion site that had not used any benefits. From these efforts, approximately 60 cards in the POC site and 40 cards in the Expansion site were reissued. Some families in the Expansion site had not used the card because they thought the demonstration was a scam. Both community partners were unable to contact many of the households not spending benefits due to invalid phone numbers. They continued to reach out to these families through the mail. As of mid-July, the grantee reported that no parents or retailers had contacted them about issues using the EBT cards in stores.

2A.7 Nevada SEBTC Site Profile

State and Local Context

The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Health Division WIC Program (WIC) applied for a SEBTC demonstration grant in the POC year, but was not selected. They applied again for the 2012 grant and received it for a site in Western Nevada that included three countywide SFAs in Washoe, Douglas, and Lyon Counties.

WIC was the primary organization planning and implementing the grant; however, they collaborated with several other organizations throughout the project. WIC had previous working relationships with each of the organizations. The Nevada Department of Education (DOE), which oversees all seven USDA child nutrition programs, was involved in the demonstration. Although the DOE did not receive funding under the grant, they helped select and recruit the SFAs for the demonstration and facilitated communication between WIC and the SFAs. The DOE collected SFA data via its State longitudinal database and shared it with WIC for the consent process. WIC teamed with the Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN) to help hire staff for the demonstration (foregoing the time-consuming State hiring procedures). FBNN, along with the DOE, were also involved in initial planning meetings for the grant, providing input into site selection and reviewing the grant application. WIC also worked with their EBT vendor, JPMorgan, and their MIS developer, Open Domain, to modify the EBT and MIS systems to track the SEBTC benefits and families.

Demonstration Area Spotlight

Geographic Area Served:

Washoe, Douglas, and Lyon Counties

Percent of Children Eligible for FRP Meals: 35–48%

SEBTC Model: WIC (Online)

Program Name/Logo:

Nevada Summer EBT for Children

Consent Process: Passive

Consent Rate (Children): 93%

Children Issued Benefits in 2012: 5,345

Take-Up Rate by Children (First Benefit Cycle): 79%

Site Selection and Characteristics

WIC and its partners participated in meetings to determine which SFAs to include in the grant. In the grant proposal to be included as a POC site in summer 2011, Nevada had proposed including all rural counties. Upon further reflection after not being awarded the grant, WIC decided that including all of those counties would have been overly ambitious in scope because it would have covered too many square miles. In their subsequent grant application, they selected three SFAs consisting of Washoe, Lyon and Douglas Counties for the demonstration. To identify these counties, the planning team considered several factors, including the following:

- **Location.** The counties were contiguous, per FNS requirements. They were also near the State WIC office in Carson City, Nevada, which allowed WIC to exercise more control over implementation of the demonstration.
- **Population.** The three counties contained the target number of eligible children, which was challenging to identify in contiguous SFAs. The majority of the State’s population is located within two SFAs, Washoe (Reno) and Clark (Las Vegas) Counties, with 15 others having small, rural populations. Determining which SFAs could be combined to meet the minimum number of children was not easy.
- **Need.** WIC proposed serving rural counties in their original grant applications because the level of need was highest in those regions. In their second application, they still considered need, but placed a greater focus on location and population.

The demonstration area includes 77 schools across the three SFAs. The schools in Washoe County represent an urban population, while schools in Douglas and Lyon Counties represent rural populations. Unemployment rates in the three counties ranged from 13–17% and the percentage of children eligible for FRP meals in the spring of 2012 ranged from 35–48%. These counties were also affected by increasing transiency as a result of high foreclosure rates (13% of children affected) and poverty rates (a 38% increase in child poverty since 2000) Statewide. In addition, between 2% and 4% of the children in the demonstration area were American Indian/Alaskan Native, living both on and off of reservations.

Participating SFAs

WIC and DOE staff began recruiting the participating SFAs in the fall 2011, prior to submitting the grant applications. They discussed what was expected of the sites, gauged their interest in participating, and obtained a letter of support from each district superintendent.

The Washoe SFA is large and urban and the Douglas and Lyon SFAs are small and rural. The number of eligible children range from approximately 2,300 in the Douglas SFA to over 17,000 in the Washoe SFA. See Exhibit 2A.7.1 for information on the number of eligible and consenting children by SFA.

Although the start and end dates of the school year varied by SFA, WIC decided to begin and end SEBTC benefits for all SFAs on the same schedule. Because the systems operation would be simpler using full months and not pro-rating benefits, WIC decided (with FNS approval) to issue benefits for three full months, starting on June 1 and ending on August 31. As a result, some children could receive both FRP meals (while in school) and SEBTC benefits for up to 10 days. Exhibit 2A.7.1 indicates when school ends and begins for each SFA.

In addition to SEBTC benefits, SFSP sites were available to families in some areas. Washoe County had 27 sites with four sponsors, Lyon County had 3 sites with three sponsors and Douglas County had one sponsor and a site. The grantee reported that accessing these sites was often difficult for many eligible children because of lack of transportation and the distance between sites. In Washoe County, the feeding sites were primarily located in urban areas

(Reno/Sparks), with no rural sites around the city. The population of Lyon County is vastly spread out, with up to 15–20 miles of unpopulated areas between each of the three feeding sites, one of which is located on a reservation. The one site in Douglas County is also located on an American Indian reservation. Although this site was open to non-reservation residents, they rarely attended.

Exhibit 2A.7.1 Characteristics of SFAs in Nevada Demonstration Site

SFA	Number of Eligible Children	Estimated Number of Consenting Children ^a	Last Day of School in Spring of 2011-2012 SY	SEBTC Benefit Period	First Day of School in Fall 2012-2013 SY
Washoe	17,183	15,793	6/6/12	6/1- 8/31	8/27/12
Douglas	2,298	2,212	6/1/12	6/1 - 8/31	8/20/12
Lyon	4,258	4,215	6/8/12	6/1- 8/31	8/20/12
Total	23,739	22,220			

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children provided by the grantee prior to data cleaning and random assignment.

In addition, few schools offered summer food programs (SFSP, Seamless Summer, and NSLP). A few sites in the Washoe SFA participated in Seamless Summer, but they operated only when there was a summer school program in session. Lyon and Douglas SFAs did not have any additional summer food programs. Many SFAs eliminated these summer school programs because of budget issues.

Training and Communication

WIC and SFAs indicated that although WIC provided information about SEBTC to SFAs, information about training was not forthcoming. WIC staff visited each SFA in early February 2012 and met with the food service director and the IT director to provide an overview of the demonstration and explain the SFA’s role in the project. Following that meeting, communication took place via e-mail. WIC provided advice on how to respond to telephone calls and guidance on who to contact for various types of questions and information about programs. The DOE IT lead also went to the on-site meetings with SFAs and had frequent communication with the SFA IT staff by e-mail and telephone between late February and late April 2012.

Consent Process and Recruitment of Households

WIC used a passive process to obtain consent from eligible households. WIC took responsibility for most of the steps in the consent process—they developed materials, distributed them to the print shop for printing and mailing, received opt-out forms from parents, and processed the data.

To identify eligible children, WIC worked with DOE to obtain data from the State’s longitudinal student database, which includes an indicator for all children certified for FRP meals. The database also tracks subtype categories, such as free homeless, free migrant, directly certified,

and reduced lunch. Each SFA's student database was connected to the State-level longitudinal database and data was uploaded nightly. The DOE IT lead used the State database to obtain the most recent information for the three SFAs in the demonstration, but found that some data, especially addresses, were missing or out of date. In addition, SFAs were not required to provide telephone numbers in the State database, so often those were missing from the files. SFAs were asked to update contact information in the database to the extent possible. The WIC demonstration manager and IT lead also discussed the need for obtaining better contact information with each SFA during their February visits. In response, Lyon and Douglas SFAs issued an automated call asking parents to update their contact information. Washoe SFA decided not to do this.

Initially, WIC staff thought the extract from the State database would be all that was needed for the consent- and random-assignment processes. However, because the data set did not include a household identifier, determining the composition of households was challenging. The DOE IT lead tried to link students with a phone number and then used a physical address as a second match variable. The inconsistent contact information in the database made this task difficult.

WIC mailed a consent packet to every eligible student in Douglas and Washoe Counties and provided the materials to Lyon County to conduct a "backpack drop," which involved sending forms home in every student's backpack. Parents returned opt-out forms to WIC and WIC was responsible for processing these and updating the database. Consent letters were mailed or distributed via backpack drop by March 16. Opt-out forms were due on March 30, although WIC took out any student whose opt-out form was received after the deadline but before random assignment was conducted.

Several of the forms WIC received included a parent's signature but the opt-out box was not checked. WIC staff called the parents to clarify they were opting-out and found that most did not mean to opt out; they were removed from the opt-out list. Those who did want to opt-out reported that they did not need the benefit and wanted someone else to have the opportunity or they were moving out of the area before the summer. In total, 545 of the 23,739 eligible children opted-out and another 1,041 were dropped from the list because the consent packets could not be delivered. WIC staff made calls to try to get good addresses for undelivered mail.

Very little outreach was conducted by the individual SFAs. The SFAs and WIC reported that the demonstration nature of the program affected outreach decisions. Because not everyone who qualified could receive the benefit, they thought widespread outreach could result in too many people being disappointed. WIC sent out a press release on December 11, 2011, which was printed by local newspapers in Washoe and Douglas counties on December 21, to publicize the project. WIC also set up a web page devoted to the program, although it was not finalized until midsummer. They also provided a toll-free number for parents to use for questions, and hired temps to answer calls. WIC received some calls through the number from parents who asked if a social security number was necessary to participate or who were concerned that they would be double dipping if they accepted this benefit while receiving other social services.

Opt-Out Rates

Overall, Nevada’s opt-out rate was 7% for both children (1,586) and households (1,205). Parents of about 2% of children (545) and households (366) actively opted out of the demonstration, ranging from 1% in Lyon SFA to 4% in Douglas SFA. Twice as many children (4%) and households (5%) were removed from the sample for non-delivery of the consent packets. The county with the highest rate of failed delivery (Washoe) did neither the automated call nor the backpack drop; whereas the county with the lowest failed delivery (Lyon) did both.

Random Assignment

The databases containing child-level information for the Nevada site came from the Statewide database, supplemented by SFA data. There were two main data issues with the household file for random assignment that also contributed to the grantee’s ability to locate families and distribute EBT cards: ¹²

- **Unreliable mailing addresses made letters undeliverable.** Despite the automated calls described above, not all addresses were updated adequately. Missing apartment numbers contributed to most of the returned letters from the mailings.
- **Missing or inaccurate information made identifying unique households difficult.** The grantee used common phone numbers in the student-level records to assign a household ID because they felt that these were more reliable than address information. However, 4% of the records in the initial file were missing phone numbers; 7% were missing guardian names.

The grantee provided an initial data file with 22,220 children. After deleting duplicate children and records, data cleaning, and removing families that opted-out after the initial file creation, the final count for random assignment was 22,068 children. The grantee sent the consolidated file to the evaluation team on April 12 for random assignment.

Exhibit 2A.7.2 Number and Percent of Consenting Households and Children in the Nevada Demonstration

New Site (2012)	2012		
	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting
Households	15,204	14,101	93%
Children	23,739	22,068	93%

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children post data cleaning and random assignment.

¹² The evaluation team asked the grantee to fix some issues with the household list, such as separating parent names into two data fields, and getting missing parent information, phone numbers, area codes, and addresses. Parent names were missing for about 200 children that the grantee said were possibly emancipated children. Student IDs were missing for a few records and there were some duplicate student records.

As shown in Exhibit 2A.7.3, out of 14,101 eligible households, 3,376 were assigned to the benefit, accounting for 5,301 children. Of these, for the evaluation subsample, 2,767 households were selected for the treatment group and 2,781 households for the control group.

Exhibit 2A.7.3 Number of Households and Children Randomly Assigned the Benefit and Assigned to Evaluation Subsample in the Nevada Demonstration

New Site (2012)				
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample
Benefit	3,376	5,301	2,767	4,360
Non-benefit	10,725	16,767	2,781	4,330
Total	14,101	22,068	5,548	8,690

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, with assignments calculated by the evaluation team, 2012.

After random assignment, WIC identified another 85–100 children in the benefit households that needed to be added to the list. These children either attended year-round schools or had been certified for FRP after the initial file for the consent process was pulled. WIC and the DOE verified that these children were enrolled in the participating SFAs before providing benefits. Those in year-round schools were issued prorated benefits.

Notifying Households of the SEBTC Benefits and Issuing Benefits

After random assignment was completed, WIC sent a letter to families that did not receive the benefit but who were selected for the evaluation survey (the control group) on May 24 to let them know they were not selected for the benefit. WIC sent three mailings to the benefit families. These included a notification letter, a brochure listing WIC eligible foods, and an EBT card with a card carrier and instructions. Because the summer EBT card was separate from standard WIC EBT benefits, all households received a separate SEBTC card, regardless of whether they were currently receiving WIC. Households in neither the benefit nor the control group were not notified of their status. A few parents called WIC to ask why they were not selected and an explanation was given. In addition, between 15 and 20 families called the Food Bank of Northern Nevada to request information on other programs because they were not selected for the benefit, to check the balance on their card, or to ask why they did not receive a card.

Sending EBT Cards and Activation

WIC modified its existing system to distribute the SEBTC benefits. The WIC MIS contractor created a separate, mirrored system and eliminated some of the functions of the WIC system, such as some of the health assessment questions that were necessary to qualify for WIC. The database included fields for opt-outs, failed delivery, comments, dates for changes in address or dates of failed delivery. The MIS contractor assigned a SEBTC family number, based on the WIC family ID number formula. JPMorgan determined the sequencing within existing card

numbers to assign for the program. The 16-digit card number included a designated number for SEBTC in one digit.

When the file of households selected for SEBTC arrived, WIC used the SEBTC MIS to load the data in one large batch into the JPMorgan system for card and benefit issuance. WIC staff indicated 135 cards were returned as undeliverable. WIC subsequently found valid addresses for 45 of these households. At the end of June, WIC voided benefits for the remaining 90 households.

Parents activated the card by calling JPMorgan's toll-free line and using the date of birth of the oldest child to set their own personal identification number (PIN). The card became active immediately. Some parents did not read the instructions carefully and entered their own date of birth; others experienced difficulty because the MIS contractor had not sorted the dates of birth of the children correctly. Thus, many people could not activate their cards on the first day if they had more than one child. The MIS problem was fixed on the same day. The Spanish version of the instructions for setting the PIN also led to confusion because it was set up instructing families to enter the date of birth first, followed by the month, but the system required families to use the American ordering of month, then date of birth. These problems happened only in the first week after benefits were activated, but WIC reported receiving many calls about this issue.

Training and Support

In one of the mailings sent to benefit families, WIC sent a color food brochure with pictures that explained the program and provided not only a list of eligible foods but also a toll-free number for questions about the project. The information was provided in English and Spanish and included links to www.choosemyplate.gov and www.letsmove.gov.

The booklet that accompanied the EBT card included the toll-free number again, instructions in English and Spanish for using the card, frequently asked questions, and a list of WIC stores throughout Nevada. In the notification letter to the evaluation control group families, WIC included the Food Bank of Northern Nevada's website and phone number. WIC planned to send another mailing to benefit households at the end of the summer to remind participants that benefits will fully expire on August 31 and will not be refreshed.

The grantee stated there were no reports of problems using the cards by parents or retailers as of mid-July.

2A. 8 Oregon SEBTC Sites Profile

State and Local Context

Oregon had a POC site in 2011 and also applied for and was approved for an expansion grant for summer, 2012. The POC site in 2011 included nine SFAs across Jefferson and Linn Counties. In 2012, the grantee expanded the POC site by adding three SFAs in Deschutes County to meet the required number of targeted children. Oregon also received a grant for an expansion site in Marion County that included one large SFA, Salem-Keizer.

The Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) applied for and led the SEBTC demonstration. DHS provides a range of social services, including TANF, Medical Assistance, WIC, and SNAP. DHS does not traditionally work with SFAs or on child nutrition grants. However, the department was approached to lead the grant when the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), which manages child nutrition for the State, was not able to do so because of staffing and resource constraints.

DHS collaborated with several other organizations throughout the project—all of which it had previous working relationships. ODE was involved in the demonstration, although it was not considered a partner and did not receive grant funding. ODE helped select and recruit the SFAs for the demonstration and facilitated early communication between DHS and the SFAs. DHS also teamed with two community partners—the Oregon State University Extension Service (OSU) and the Oregon Hunger Task Force (HTF)—to help with nutrition education materials and dissemination. OSU provided nutrition education materials in all notification packets sent to households. These materials focused on healthy food options, tips for stretching food dollars,

Demonstration Area Spotlight

Geographic Area Served:

POC 2011: Jefferson and Linn Counties
POC 2012: Deschutes, Jefferson, and Linn Counties
Expansion 2012: Marion County

Percent of Children Eligible for FRP**Meals:**

POC 2012: 40 – 81%
Expansion 2012: 60%

SEBTC Model: SNAP Hybrid

Program Name/Logo: SEBTC/“I eat, I play, I’m healthy!”

Consent Process: Active

Consent Rate (Children):

POC 2011: 35%
POC 2012: 28%
Expansion 2012: 27%

Children Issued Benefits in 2012:

POC: 3,416
Expansion: 3,491

Take-Up Rate by Children (First Benefit Cycle):

POC 2011: 98%
POC 2012: 91%
Expansion 2012: 89%

as well as involving children in making healthy choices. OSU, along with the HTF, was also involved in initial planning meetings for the grant, providing input into site selection and developing the notification packets. Additionally, DHS worked with its EBT vendor, FIS, to modify the EBT system for tracking the SEBTC cases and funds.

Site Selection and Characteristics

DHS and its partners had brainstorming meetings to determine which SFAs to include in the grants. In the first year, DHS selected the nine SFAs in Jefferson and Linn counties for the demonstration. To identify these counties, the planning team considered several factors, including:

- **High incidence of unmet need.** They identified Linn County as one of the hardest hit by the recession in the State.
- **Tribal areas.** Staff wanted to include a reservation as a site because of the high incidence of poverty in tribal areas across the State. The planning team chose the Warm Springs reservation in Jefferson County because it has a large tribal population.
- **Urban/rural mix.** DHS wanted the sites to include both urban and rural areas, with an emphasis on rural areas because they often had fewer options for summer feeding and lacked transportation to SFSP sites during the summer. Linn County includes both urban and rural areas, while Jefferson County, one of the largest in the State, is mostly rural. In addition, a rural transportation grant used in Jefferson County to create a mobile SFSP site had recently ended, so the availability of SFSP in Jefferson County was greatly diminished.

According to FNS rules, when selecting the additional SFAs for the POC site to meet the increased target of eligible students for 2012, staff needed to select a county contiguous to Jefferson or Linn. The team ultimately selected Deschutes County because this area too was hit badly by the recession. The county depends on tourism and as fewer people were choosing to spend their resources on vacations, the unemployment rate skyrocketed. Currently, one in five people in the area, which has one of the highest foreclosure rates in the State, receives SNAP.

The staff considered both Marion County and the Portland area for the expansion site. Wanting a single, mostly urban area, they ultimately decided on Marion County because it was not as large as Portland and seemed more manageable. The region, which includes a single SFA in an area that is largely urban, has a population that is economically as well as racially diverse. Four main languages are spoken in the area—English, Spanish, Russian, and Vietnamese. And it is located in the same city as DHS headquarters. On the other hand, Portland includes speakers of many more languages and a diverse population that could make the consent process complicated. Portland also has more programs and community outreach to support families.

Participating SFAs

For 2012, DHS staff began recruiting the SFAs from Deschutes, Jefferson, Linn, and Marion Counties in the fall of 2011, prior to submitting the grant applications. They discussed what was expected of the sites and gauged their interest in participating (some for a second year, others

for the first time). According to the grantee, all nine of the POC SFAs from both counties agreed to participate again for a second year. Some were eager to participate, while others felt an obligation to continue because they committed to the first year of the project. DHS also recruited three new SFAs from Deschutes County to participate with the POC sites. The Salem-Keizer SFA in Marion County was selected to be the expansion site.

As discussed above, the SFAs in the POC are mostly rural, with some urban areas in Deschutes and Linn Counties. The POC site includes small SFAs such as Central Linn, Santiam, and Scio with fewer than 400 eligible children to larger SFAs such as Bend, Greater Albany, Jefferson, Lebanon, and Redmond with a few thousand eligible children.

Exhibit 2A.8.1. Characteristics of the SFAs in the Oregon Demonstration

SFA	Number of Eligible Children ^a	Number of Consenting Children ^a	Last Day of School in Spring 2011-2012 SY	SEBTC Benefit Period	First Day of School in Fall 2012-2013 SY
POC:					
Bend/LaPine	7,419	1,991	6/13/12	6/8 - 9/6	9/5/12
Central Linn	379	96	6/11/12	6/8 - 9/6	9/4/12
Culver	466	153	6/12/12	6/8 - 9/6	9/4/12
Greater Albany	4,076	1,177	6/14/12	6/8 - 9/6	9/4/12
Harrisburg	520	117	6/14/12	6/8 - 9/6	9/5/12
Jefferson	2,509	675	6/13/12	6/8 - 9/6	9/10/12
Lebanon	2,778	708	6/7/12	6/8 - 9/6	9/6/12
Redmond	3,776	838	6/12/12	6/8 - 9/6	9/10/12
Santiam	329	73	6/15/12	6/8 - 9/6	9/4/12
Scio	364	61	6/14/12	6/8 - 9/6	9/4/12
Sisters	450	82	6/12/12	6/8 - 9/6	9/4/12
Sweet Home	1,393	339	6/13/12	6/8 - 9/6	9/4/12
Total	24,459	6,879^b			
Expansion:					
Salem-Keizer	23,708	6,911 ^c	6/7/12	6/8 - 9/6	9/6/12

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children provided by the grantee prior to data cleaning and random assignment.

^b Includes 509 child records with no SFA identified at time of file upload.

^c Includes 710 child records with no SFA identified at the time of file upload.

Although the start and end dates of the school year varied by SFA, DHS decided to begin and end SEBTC benefits for all SFAs on the same schedule, starting the day after the earliest school year ended—June 7—and ending benefits the day the latest school year started—September 6. Therefore, most children could receive both FRP meals (while in school) and SEBTC benefits for up to five days, depending on the individual SFA’s schedule.

SFSP food sites were also available in locations across most demonstration areas. Deschutes County had 17 sites with 4 sponsors, Jefferson County had 7 sites with 3 sponsors, Linn County had 47 sites with 9 sponsors, and Marion County had 55 sites with 12 sponsors. The number of sites available in each SFA varied based on the size of the SFA. Generally, the smaller SFAs had only one or two program sites running during the summer, while larger sites had 12 or more. All

of the SFAs in the demonstration had at least one site located within the SFA except for Culver, which did not offer the SFSP program. Although, some of the SFAs were geographically large, most SFSP programs were often located in centralized urban areas of the county. For instance, Jefferson County is the size of Rhode Island geographically, but has only 7 sites in the county, with over half located in the same city.

Training and Communication

The grantee and SFAs indicated that minimal training was provided to the SFAs and communication between the groups was limited from December to March. SFAs were notified in late January about grant awards and training. DHS conducted three webinars in early February to describe the process and introduce the data collection needed; staff from most SFAs participated in one of the trainings. DHS checked in on the SFAs periodically through February and then had much more frequent contact (mostly by email) in March and April as they tried to increase consent rates and collect household data needed for the demonstration.

Consent Process and Recruitment of Households

Both the POC and Expansion demonstration sites used an active process to obtain consent from eligible households. In 2011, the DHS team undertook most of the steps in the consent process by developing materials, stuffing and sealing envelopes, distributing them to the SFAs for mailing, receiving the forms from parents, and processing the data. However, due to the larger number of children participating this year and the belief that parents would be more likely to return information to schools, DHS decided to shift most of the consent process work to the individual SFAs. In 2012, DHS developed the consent packet materials in English and Spanish (also in Russian and Vietnamese for the Expansion site) and sent them to the SFAs to distribute, as they did in the previous year. However, in 2012 the SFAs were also responsible for collecting forms and creating the household data file for DHS.

As in 2011, each SFA was responsible for developing a list of households to which packets would be sent. All SFAs interviewed had a database that includes all children receiving FRP meals in the SFA, including both direct certifications and applications. Some of the databases were also connected to or periodically updated by the student records database. All SFAs indicated that they included all children eligible for FRP meals from kindergarten to 12th grade. (No pre-K programs were eligible in the area.) Data for the mailing were pulled from the FRP meals database, but in some cases current addresses from the student database were used.

About half of the SFAs worked with a contractor that developed a module in the FRP database to easily generate household lists from those of eligible children and to create a pre-populated data file including the elements needed for the demonstration. The others either used household indicators in the database to create household lists or identified them “by hand” (either by collapsing the same addresses into one household in Excel or by printing labels for all children, but only sending one letter to any single address and disposing of duplicate labels). This was more prevalent in the smaller SFAs where staff knew the families in the community. In the Expansion site, the SFA used a service to create the lists and send the letters. They later

discovered that the service sent letters to all children, instead of households, which often led to duplicate return forms.

After developing the household list and receiving the consent packets from DHS, each SFA (or in some cases a mailing service) was responsible for sending the letters to the households and collecting the returned mail. DHS also asked SFA staff to add a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the packet to be used for parents to send back the consent forms. Two or three SFAs did not include this envelope in the packets, so parents had to return the forms using their own envelopes and postage or drop them off at the school. One of the larger POC schools thought this might have contributed to lower consent rates in the second year. Consent letters were mailed between February 6 and 13 across the POC sites and on February 21 in the Expansion site. Forms were due on February 29.

Across the SFAs, letters were mailed back to the SFA office or dropped off at schools. Some SFAs involved their schools by notifying them of the demonstration, giving them posters to display, and being in contact about parent questions and forms. Other SFAs did not notify the schools about the demonstration or want to put any burden on them. Most of the SFAs checked addresses of undeliverable mail and tried to resend it or hand deliver it to one of the students in the household; however, not every SFA made a second attempt.

Some of the SFAs interviewed sent a reminder postcard to households to send back their forms, but because parents had only about two weeks to return their forms (eight days at the Expansion site), there was little time to mail a subsequent postcard. DHS did some targeted second consent-form mailings on March 14 to Deschutes and Salem-Keizer SFAs (which was returned to DHS for processing), and they extended the deadline twice for all sites (to March 7 and then March 23). One or two SFAs mentioned the extensions in their weekly newsletters; however, parents in most SFAs were not made aware of the new deadlines, unless they called for some reason. Overall, very little outreach was conducted by the individual SFAs. DHS did some outreach to increase consent rates in March by sending flyers to SNAP offices in the demonstration areas and food pantries in Salem-Keizer and Deschutes. The HTF also put out a press release in early March to advertise the project.

As forms were returned, the SFAs were responsible for processing the mail and entering data into the household data file provided by DHS. Almost half of the SFAs used pre-populated data files—needing only to update information or add data that were available on the consent form. The others started with an empty file and filled in all the data from the consent form, supplemented with data from the FRP meals database and student records. SFAs were generally able to provide all of the data if consent forms were complete. Early in the process, DHS took over the data entry for Salem-Keizer, due to SFA staffing issues. Also, DHS processed all of the forms they received from the second mailing they sent.

Throughout the consent process, DHS sent emails to SFA staff letting them know about the changing deadlines and any changes needed to the data collection/tracking. They also responded to questions and asked for weekly updates on the consent numbers.

When all of the data entry was complete, DHS collected the files from each SFA and consolidated and cleaned them. They sent the evaluation team one POC file on April 11 and one Expansion file on April 26.

Consent Rates

To obtain the required sample to fully administer the benefit and to have a control group of sufficient size, SFAs in both the Expansion and POC sites needed consent rates of about 40-50% overall. However, the percent of consenting households varied from 9% to 32% across the SFAs, with only about 28% of POC children and 27% of Expansion children consenting. For the former site, the rate was down from 35 percent in 2011. Of the children in the POC site, a total of 1,279 or 38% of children from last year who received benefits were eligible and consented again in 2012, based on information provided by DHS. Those children were assigned to the benefit group in 2012 without random assignment.

To assign benefits to the 5,300 children and have a sufficiently sized control group for the evaluation sample, Oregon’s target was 8,700 children in each of the sites. However, the grantee was only able to obtain consent for about 5,500 children in the POC site and 6,300 children in the Expansion site.

Exhibit 2A.8.2 Number and Percent of Consenting Households and Children in the Oregon Demonstration

	POC			Expansion		
	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting
2012						
Household	15,102	3,590	24%	12,007 ^b	3,298	28%
Children	24,459	6,753	28%	23,708	6,512	27%
2011						
		POC				
Household	8,923	2,141	24%			
Children	12,758	4,452	35%			

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children post data cleaning and random assignment.

^b This is an estimate. SFA staff used a mailing service to create the mailing list and send the letters. They learned after the letters were mailed that the service sent letters to every (or almost every) child, instead of households. Therefore, they did not have a count of households. The evaluation team calculated the number of eligible households using the child to household ratio from the consenting population.

Random Assignment

While files received did not have major issues, the delivery of the files for both sites was delayed by a number of weeks due to a reported significant amount of cleaning and standardization needed. DHS reported a number of inconsistencies and inaccuracies in the data entry both by the various SFAs in the POC site and by DHS staff in the Expansion site. This often required them to recheck consent forms. In addition, DHS had only one data programmer cleaning and checking files for both demonstration sites, which caused additional delays. After

receiving the initial files (for the POC on April 11 and the Expansion site on April 26), the major issues identified were the following:

- **Unknown SFA assignment due to multiple mailings.** In the initial file, DHS did not have information on some children's SFAs, largely because it did not ask for this information on the consent form that was in the second mailing it sent out directly. This accounted for about 8% of POC records (or 529 children). Because the DHS team did not have access to school records, they had to contact the SFAs to determine each child's SFA. SFAs were able to confirm attendance for 415 children, but 114 children were left out of the evaluation sample due to lack of SFA information. The grantee had a similar problem in the Salem Kaiser SFA and had to check for SFA information for 10 percent (710 children). Some 638 children were confirmed; the other 72 excluded.
- **Missing telephone numbers.** The POC site had 88 child records (1%) with missing, truncated, or incorrect phone numbers. The Expansion site file contained 591 child records (9%) with missing or truncated phone numbers that needed to be filled in to remove duplicates prior to randomization. The grantee was able to find numbers for most of these children.

Because the grantee did not meet its consent targets in either site, the evaluation team balanced the sample between the benefit and non-benefit group, at the expense of not providing benefits to households representing 5,300 children. As shown in the Exhibit 2A.8.3, the evaluation team assigned benefits to 1,752 households, with 3,378 children in the POC site. A total of 1,838 households, with 3,375 children were assigned to the non-benefit group. The evaluation sample included all the benefit and non-benefit households. The file with benefits assigned was sent to DHS on April 30.

The team assigned 1,652 households, with 3,259 children to receive benefits in the Expansion site. An additional 1,646 households, with 3,253 children were assigned to the non-benefit group. The evaluation sample included all of the benefit and non-benefit households. The evaluation team sent the random assignment file to DHS on May 11.

Notifying Households of the SEBTC Benefits and Issuing Benefits

After random assignment was complete, DHS information technology (IT) staff matched the households in the benefit file to their SNAP caseload files to determine if a household had an open SNAP case or if a new case for SEBTC-only benefits needed to be added. When the files were matched, households with a SNAP case received a packet including a congratulations letter, several handouts from OSU on healthy eating, flyers explaining how to access other food programs, and a postcard asking parents what they thought of the provided materials they could send back to DHS. Households without an open SNAP case received the packet as well as a second mailing that included the EBT cards and brochures describing how to activate and use the card. Packets were mailed between May 25 and June 12, depending on the area. In some counties, households may have gotten their EBT cards before the congratulations packets

Exhibit 2A.8.3 Number of Households and Children Randomly Assigned the Benefit and Assigned to Evaluation Subsample in the Oregon Demonstration

POC Site (2012)				Expansion Site (2012)				
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample
Benefit	1,752	3,378	1,752	3,378	1,652	3,259	1,652	3,259
Non-benefit	1,838	3,375	1,838	3,375	1,646	3,253	1,646	3,253
Total	3,590	6,753	3,590	6,753	3,298	6,512	3,298	6,512
POC Site (2011)								
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample				
Benefit	1,202	2,503	940	1,958				
Non-benefit	939	1,949	940	1,949				
Total	2,141	4,452	1,880	3,907				

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, with assignments calculated by the evaluation team, 2012.

because the EBT cards were mailed June 5. Those households not eligible for benefits were also sent a packet with the same materials as the benefit group, except they received a different letter indicated they were not chosen to receive the benefit..

Because the packets were delivered much later than expected, DHS and SFAs received over a hundred calls from parents asking if they were getting the benefit. Staff told parents if they were getting the benefit or not over the phone and let them know packets were forthcoming.

Sending EBT Cards and Activation

DHS used its SNAP eligibility system to administer the SEBTC benefits. Cases had to be set up manually, but benefits were issued automatically each month. Little additional work was needed to implement the demonstration in 2012. In the POC year, DHS hired a consultant to add capabilities to their system allowing staff to add SEBTC benefits to existing cases and create SEBTC-only cases in the system for a finite period. They also added tracking capabilities for the two types of benefits—SNAP/SEBTC and SEBTC only. For 2012, staff had to add four tracking codes for the POC and Expansion. This year, DHS also trained the local SNAP office staff to update cases with a SEBTC benefit attached, as needed. Last year, local staff had to contact the grantee to make any changes to the case records.

One local SNAP office set up all the new cases for the SEBTC program over the course of a week. For SNAP-SEBTC cases, a list of households developed by the IT staff was loaded into the system and the correct benefit type code (depending on POC or Expansion) was assigned. The prorated June benefit was automatically applied to the household's EBT card beginning June 8. For new cases, (SEBTC only), staff created a new case by hand, entering the name, contact information, and DOB for parents and eligible children in the household, and selecting the proper benefit type (SEBTC only for POC or Expansion). Staff created about 800 new cases across the two demonstration sites. Cards were mailed in the first week of June and benefits were activated on June 8 for all cases. Staff indicated that they had about 15 returned cards and only 6 or 7 that could not be resent. Staff also mentioned that as of late June, they were still investigating and trying to distribute a small number of cards.

Households received \$44 per eligible child in June, \$60 in July and August, and \$12 for September. The September benefit was distributed with the August benefit on August 1.

Training and Support

Because the majority of SEBTC households were SNAP clients, DHS did not provide additional training to parents on how to use the benefits. They did provide a brochure on how to set up the card and supplied the phone numbers of staff to help with any questions.

Within the first two days of activating the benefits, DHS staff received about 65 calls from parents reporting they were not able to activate their cards or were missing benefits. DHS determined that about a hundred cards had been activated with the child listed as the head of household, so the parent could not activate it using his or her DOB. In addition, households could have received multiple cards if they had multiple children. DHS was working to resolve

these issues by deactivating the original cards and sending new ones. About 20 parents reported not getting any benefits when they should have and about 30 received some benefits but should have received more. DHS aimed to have all issues corrected before July benefits were issued. They noted that the issues with the cards were isolated to the SEBTC-only cases, which was a small portion of the total. The majority of participants had their cards and benefits issued correctly.

The grantee did not receive any reports of problems using the cards from either parents or retailers.

2A.9 Texas SEBTC Site Profile

State and Local Context

Texas had a POC site in 2011 and continued it in 2012. In both years, the site included a single SFA, the Ysleta Independent School District (YISD) in El Paso.

The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) in collaboration with The Texas Department of Social and Health Services (TDSHS) applied for the SEBTC grant. TDA Food and Nutrition Division (F&N) administers 12 federal child and special nutrition programs for Texas, including the SFSP and Seamless Summer Food Service Programs.¹³ TDSHS administers the WIC program, which provides supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education to eligible low-income pregnant or postpartum women, infants, and children up to age 5.

TDA and TDSHS co-led the SEBTC demonstration, although TDA was technically the lead agency, because it understood from the 2011 Request for Applications (RFA) that implementation of the program required the agency that administers SFSP to lead the grant. TDA's role was to lead administrative matters, manage the budgets of the SFA and local partner, and oversee the SFA and partner's work. TDSHS provides the operational infrastructure support, including system support on its existing WIC EBT card system, notification and training of WIC retailers, training of the West Texas Food Bank (WTFB) staff, and hotline services necessary to support the implementation of the SEBTC demonstration. They also worked with SoliSYSTEMS Corp which set up the EBT cards and demonstration accounts.

Demonstration Area Spotlight

Geographic Area Served:

One SFA in El Paso County

Percent of Children Eligible for FRP Meals:

2012: 82%

SEBTC Model: WIC (Offline)

Program Name/Logo: SEBTC
Demonstration/Summer Nutrition Card
Pilot

Consent Process: Passive

Consent Rate (Children):

POC 2011: 99%

POC 2012: 96%

Children Issued Benefits Issued in 2012:

POC 2012: 5,750

Take-Up Rate by Children (First Benefit Cycle):

POC 2011: 76%

POC 2012: 74%

¹³Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), Special Milk Program, National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Summer Feeding Programs (SFSP), Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), Food Distribution Program (FDP), The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP/TEXCAP), Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), Food Assistance for Disaster Relief, Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP), Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP).

The grantees worked closely with the SFA and a local organization, the WTFB, in both 2011 and 2012. The SFA was responsible for identifying eligible children and leading the consent process. In 2012, the SFA also notified households not selected to receive the SEBTC benefit.

WTFB, a major local partner, was responsible for notifying households selected to receive the SEBTC benefit, updating contact information and information about the number of children in the beneficiary households, scheduling SEBTC trainings, distributing the EBT cards and training participants to use them, and providing general program support and outreach to participants (for example, helping SEBTC participants with card and purchase issues, and sending monthly reminders to use the SEBTC benefit).

Site Selection and Characteristics

In planning for the first year of the grant, TDA and TDSHS discussed two options for the demonstration site—San Antonio and El Paso. Ultimately, the grantees chose Ysleta ISD in El Paso as the lead School Food Authority (SFA) for the demonstration because of the unique challenges facing the El Paso border communities, including hunger and food insecurity; health status and risk; and the significant socioeconomic disparities present in a majority of the households. TDA also had a good working relationship with the staff from YISD, which was a local SFSP sponsor in the area. Texas WIC also successfully piloted the off-line WIC EBT system in El Paso and had a good working relationship with WIC retailers in the area. Due to the size of the SFA, no additional areas were needed or considered for the 2012 grant to meet the higher 2012 target of consenting households.

Participating SFAs

YISD is the second largest SFA in El Paso, serving more than 44,000 students in a suburban and rural, culturally diverse community. The need in the area was great, with 82% of all children in the SFA eligible for FRP meals in 2012. These children attend one of the 61 schools (all included in the demonstration) in the SFA, stretching from northeast El Paso to the southeastern areas of the city. A total of 37,020 children were eligible for FRP meals. And a total of 36,625 children in 24,236 households consented to participate in the SEBTC demonstration.

The SEBTC benefit period was from June 7 to August 26, 2012. In the POC year, benefits were accessible early (that is, on the first day of June), but the WIC EBT IT staff were able to program the benefits to start on June 7 for the full demonstration year, eliminating the early access to EBT benefits that occurred in 2011.

Exhibit 2A.9.1 Characteristics of the SFA in the Texas Demonstration

SFA	Number of Eligible Children	Estimated Number of Consenting Children ^a	Last Day of School in Spring of 2011-2012 SY	SEBTC Benefit Period	First Day of School in Fall 2012-2013 SY
Ysleta ISD	37,020	36,625	6/6/12	6/7 - 8/26	8/27/12

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children provided by the grantee prior to data cleaning and random assignment.

In the summer of 2012, there were 15 SFSP sponsors offering 136 sites in the El Paso County area, 50 of which were located in the demonstration area. This included three more sponsors and 15 more sites than in the POC year. The sponsors in the demonstration area included SFAs, faith-based, community, and nonprofit organizations. SFSP sites were typically located in schools, recreation centers, housing complexes, child care centers, libraries, and cultural centers. According to TDA, in 2012, 85% of the sites were open, 7% were open restricted, and the remaining 8% were either closed, summer camps for children, or were National Youth Sports Programs. In addition, there were three Seamless Summer program sponsors offering 32 meal sites and 74 CACFP sponsors at 429 sites across El Paso County. TDA staff believed that the availability of summer feeding was widespread in the urban areas, but not as accessible for YISD children because the SFA is primarily in the suburban and rural areas of the city.

TDA reported that families had difficulty finding transportation, and rationalizing traveling to the meal sites, if they were not located in an area families planned to visit for other reasons. WTFB staff also mentioned that parents/guardians were concerned about neighborhood safety for their children, (particularly working parents), and that some families might not be comfortable going to meal sites in perceived unsafe areas..

Training and Communication with Grantee

TDA did not provide training to key staff at the participating SFA or local community partners. However, the WTFB was part of the planning process and the Director of Child Nutrition Services (CNS) at YISD met informally with his staff to provide information about the demonstration. The SEBTC partners communicated at least weekly through conference calls, with additional follow-up if needed. The TDA project director also traveled to El Paso twice to meet with the SFA and WTFB staff to learn about their operations and activities for the demonstration.

Consent Process and Recruitment of Households

Texas used a passive consent process for the demonstration. The SFA was responsible for the process, including creating the initial list of eligible children, mailing consent forms, processing returned opt-out forms, and providing the evaluation team with a file of eligible and consenting children for random assignment. To identify eligible children for the demonstration, the SFA used their student records database, which contained FRP eligibility status (updated weekly from CNS's FRP meals database), current household address, a unique guardian identifier for each child, and most of the additional child data requested for the evaluation. (In 2011, staff used a combination of the FRP meals database and the student database but found they could obtain all of the needed information from just the student database in 2012.) Records for all students flagged as being eligible for FRP meals (Pre-K through 12th grade) were pulled from the database and the guardian identifier was used to determine which children belonged to the same household.

TDA drafted two consent letters for the SFA to use—one for households that received the benefit in 2011 and the other for households not selected to receive the benefit last year, or

opted out of receiving the SEBTC benefit last year. The grantees revised the consent letter in 2012 to increase the readability at a lower reading level and add language for the evaluation. However, some parents were confused about whether or not to send the opt-out form back to the school, which required that the parents list their children and the schools they attended to be considered for the demonstration.

The SFA used a mailing vendor to send one consent letter per household between February 10 and 13. Households were given until February 22, 2012 to opt out; however, any opt-outs received prior to submitting the file to the evaluation team were incorporated. Opt-out consent forms were returned to the SFA and a revised data file of eligible consenting children, with about 1% of children removed due to opting-out, was transferred to the evaluation team on March 22 for random assignment. The SFA removed from the list any children whose parent opted-out of the demonstration in 2012.

Consent Rates

Parents of about 1% of children opted out of the demonstration in 2012. An additional 5% of children were removed from the list due to undeliverable mail or duplication of children in the file. A total of 96% of children in 94% of households consented.

Exhibit 2A.9.2 Number and Percent of Consenting Households and Children in the Texas Demonstration

	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting
2012			
Households	24,500	22,930	94%
Children	37,020	35,599	96%
2011			
Households	20,236	19,923	98%
Children	38,291	37,790	99%

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children post data cleaning and random assignment.

Random Assignment

YISD provided an initial consenting household list on March 7, 2012. This initial file contained about 36,000 child records, but contact information was generally of low quality, as described below:

- Unreliable household ID.** The data liaison conducted a test on the initial household list by comparing unique household identifiers (IDs) and total child records. As a result, the average household size was 1.2 children per household, compared to 1.7 from 2011. This test suggested there was a problem with the unique household identifier provided from the Ysleta's student database. Upon further examination of the file, it was determined there were many records where two or more children in the same household had different household IDs. This issue was resolved by rebuilding households based on the Application ID

from YISD Child and Nutrition Services (CNS) Department’s FRP meals database, and using a matching algorithm (for example, parent name and home address), when possible, for the remaining children. About half the children in the initial child data file were assigned IDs based on their Application ID for FRP meals; about a quarter of the children eligible for FRP meals through direct certification were assigned a household ID by the evaluation team using the matching algorithm; a unique household ID was assigned by YISD’s CNS staff for the remaining 9,457 children eligible for FRP meals by reviewing other school data sources or using their best judgment to determine which children belonged to the same household.

- **Missing information.** Parent names were missing from about 1% of the records. Other issues included incomplete or missing street addresses (<1%), phone numbers with incorrect lengths or missing (1%), and unreliable parent or child DOB (<1%). Almost all of the missing parent names were resolved by the SFA (298 of the 312 names); the remaining data issues were unresolved.

As mentioned above, the final file of consenting eligible children was transferred to the evaluation team on March 22 for random assignment after the evaluation team and CNS staff at YISD tried to resolve these various data issues. The final data file, which included 22,930 households with 35,599 children, was used for random assignment and returned to the grantee on April 2. A total of 3,679 households (5,709 children) were assigned to receive the benefit. A total of 5,599 households (8,653 children) were selected for the evaluation subsample distributed roughly evenly between the treatment (2,865 households) and control (2,734 households) groups. The treatment subsample included 1,058 households that were automatically selected to receive the benefit due to SEBTC participation in 2011.

Exhibit 2A.9.3 Number of Households and Children Randomly Assigned the Benefit and Assigned to Evaluation Subsample in the Texas Demonstration

POC Site (2012)				
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample
Benefit	3,679	5,709	2,865	4,462
Non-benefit	19,251	29,890	2,734	4,191
Total	22,930	35,599	5,599	8,653
POC Site (2011)				
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample
Benefit	1,318	2,507	1,000	1,793
Non-benefit	18,605	35,283	1,000	1,778
Total	19,923	37,790	2,000	3,571

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, with assignments calculated by the evaluation team, 2012.

Notifying Households of the SEBTC Benefits

WTFB was responsible for notifying households about benefits and the required training, as they did in the POC year. However, staff received the random assignment file later than

expected and were not able to notify the benefits group by mail with enough time before the trainings, as planned. However, similar to the POC year, WTFB attempted to call and verify each household's information and inform them of the required training to receive their EBT card. WTFB estimated that they contacted about a third of the parents and, when possible, left voicemails for the rest. When staff were able to speak with families and reviewed addresses, they were able to update household information when necessary, which resulted in almost 225 households being combined. In addition to calls, they conducted about 400 home visits when they could not reach families; in most cases, no one was home and they left a flyer indicating when and where the training would be held. As a last contact effort, WTFB staff worked with YISD's CNS staff to send a letter home with students. Approximately 1,700 letters were given to students to take home on May 29-30 encouraging parents to attend the SEBTC training on May 31, 2012. This effort resulted in the highest turnout of 456 families to the SEBTC training on May 31. No letters were sent home with students in the POC because TDA did not want students selected to receive the SEBTC card to be identified in the school setting.

Unlike the POC year, the SFA (YISD) sent notification letters on May 14 to those households not selected for benefits. Notifying households not selected for the benefits was also a change in procedure in 2012 for TDA and the SFA.

EBT Card Distribution and Accessing Benefits

Through these telephone calls and visits, WTFB staff tried to verify the composition and location of each household before they created the EBT cards. WTFB staff was able to verify about 2,100 households out of the 3,400 households receiving benefits. Due to time constraints, WTFB was not able to verify approximately 1,300 households receiving benefits before the EBT vendor created the cards. For these households, cards were created with the household information from the original student database.

Training and Support

All households selected to receive the benefit were required to attend a training class in order to receive their EBT cards. WTFB conducted 21 training classes between May 1 and June 6 at WTFB's location. A few trainings were offered in two other community locations (that is, churches) for parents in the northeast area of Ysleta ISD. The trainings were offered in English and Spanish and available at various times from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. In addition, WTFB staff conducted 34 home visits to families who were not able to attend one of the trainings due to disability or personal circumstances. Staff trained 2,491 parents about the SEBTC program, EBT card use, program shopping guidelines, WIC retailer locations, and SFSP availability.

At the end of the training, staff distributed EBT cards to each parent. Before they received their cards, staff verified information about their children and households. Staff did encounter some issues with the incorrect number of children in the household, multiple cards (both mother and father) for the household, PIN problems, and incorrect or missing contact information. TDSHS coordinated with WTFB and the EBT card vendor to resolve these issues. The card vendor reissued about 38 new cards and TDSHS estimated that it made modifications to about 50-70

existing SEBTC cards. An additional 24 parents opted out of the program after receiving the card.

Similar to the POC year, WIC conducted the three SEBTC retailer training sessions for retailers in El Paso. These training sessions were conducted on Tuesday, May 15, 2011, and Wednesday, May 16, 2011. Each session was an hour and a half. Two morning sessions and one afternoon session were held from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m., respectively. Over half of the retailers (38 out of 74) participated in the trainings.

Technical Assistance Support

WTFB staff were the main point of contact for parents and retailers who had questions about the program or cards. They received calls from parents who forgot their PIN numbers or had issues following the benefit purchase procedures. As of July, 35 cards were reported lost or stolen, and WTFB worked with the TDSHS to replace them. There also were a few reported card or customer service issues with some of the WIC retailers. The SEBTC beneficiaries reported these incidents to WTFB staff, who asked WIC staff to re-train the staff on the program at one of the stores.

WTFB staff members frequently uploaded recipes approved by WIC nutritionist to a SEBTC Facebook page they developed to encourage participants to use food benefits that they were unfamiliar with cooking, such as salmon. They also made calls or sent emails to parents to encourage them to use benefits before they expired at the end of each month.

2A.10 Washington SEBTC Site Profile

State and Local Context

Washington received an SEBTC grant in 2012. The State considered applying for the 2011 POC year, but decided against it given the amount of IT changes needed to support the project. Resources were more readily available to allow Washington to apply for 2012 and there was strong support across State agencies.

The Washington Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Economic Services Administration, Community Services Division was the primary grantee. DSHS mainly works on determining financial eligibility for assistance programs, adult cash assistance for the disabled, TANF, SNAP, refugee, telephone assistance, Medicaid and childcare eligibility. DSHS does not traditionally work with SFAs other than through communications about direct certification for FRP meals. Accordingly, DSHS partnered with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) for the grant. OSPI is the State educational agency in Washington, primarily responsible for the collection and reporting of educational data. DSHS and OSPI had collaborated in the past, and SEBTC presented an opportunity for the two organizations to partner on a larger effort.

<p>Demonstration Area Spotlight</p> <p>Geographic Area Served: Vancouver and Evergreen SFAs in Clark County</p> <p>Percent of Children Eligible for FRP Meals: 47%</p> <p>SEBTC Model: SNAP</p> <p>Program Name/Logo: Summer EBT for Children</p> <p>Consent Process: Active</p> <p>Consent Rate (Children): 22%</p> <p>Children Issued Benefits in 2012: 3,385</p> <p>Take-Up Rate by Children (First Benefit Cycle): 75%</p>

DSHS led the demonstration as the primary grantee, but with active involvement from OSPI, which initiated the grant application process. Both agencies were involved in the grant planning, and have remained involved in the implementation of the demonstration. The responsibilities of each agency were consistent with its organizational responsibilities. DSHS took the lead on the State’s DSHS Institutional Review Board (IRB) process; drafting consent forms, informational materials, and EBT mailers; establishing EBT benefits in the DSHS system; maintaining contact with the EBT vendor, JPMorgan; and, notifying households selected for the benefit. OSPI took the lead on coordinating the consent process; maintaining contact with the two selected SFAs; coordinating the mailing of the consent letters; tracking the consent forms and compiling the household list; providing customer service to households about the project or benefits; and, training SFAs on the demonstration. The two SFAs submitted letters of support

for the demonstration during the planning phase, and played a more active role when the consent process began.

Site Selection and Characteristics

OSPI selected two contiguous urban SFAs to participate in this demonstration: Vancouver and Evergreen. These SFAs, which are both part of Clark County, are located in the southwestern part of Washington, near Portland, Oregon. These two SFAs were chosen because of the high proportion of children eligible for FRP meals (45% in Evergreen and 50% in Vancouver) and the need for this program. Another county with equal, if not greater, need was considered for this demonstration, but the number of languages spoken in that county would have complicated demonstration implementation.

Participating SFAs

As noted previously, the SFAs were chosen given the high level of need for the SEBTC program in the area. Exhibit 2A.10.1 contains information on the number of eligible and consenting children by SFA.

Exhibit 2A.10.1 Characteristics of the SFAs in the Washington Demonstration

SFA	Number of Eligible Children	Estimated Number of Consenting Children ^a	Last Day of School in Spring of 2011-2012 SY	SEBTC Benefit Period	First Day of School in Fall 2012-2013 SY
Vancouver	14,221	3,148	6/20/12	6/16 – 9/4	9/5
Evergreen	15,159	3,197	6/15/12	6/16 – 9/4	9/5
Total	29,380	6,590 ^b			

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children provided by the grantee prior to data cleaning and random assignment.

^b Includes 245 child records with no SFA identified at time of file upload

DSHS determined a consistent benefit period for the two SFAs, regardless of the date school ended. In Vancouver, school ended on June 20 and in Evergreen school ended on June 15. SEBTC benefits started on the day after the earliest school ended (June 16). Children in Vancouver SFA could receive both FRP meals (while in school) and SEBTC benefits for up to three days. Both SFAs began the 2012-2013 academic year on September 5; accordingly, SEBTC benefits ended on September 4.

Vancouver had a total of 32 schools participating in the demonstration, with 14,221 eligible children. Of those eligible to participate, the caretakers for 22% of children (3,148) consented to participate in the SEBTC demonstration. Evergreen had a total of 33 participating schools with 15,159 eligible children. Of those, the caretakers for 21% of children (3,197) consented to participate in the demonstration.

In the summer of 2012, there were three SFSP sponsors in the demonstration area—Boys and Girls Club of Southwest Washington, Educational Service District 112, and Share, a non-profit

organization.¹⁴ There were approximately 19 sites operating through these three SFSP sponsors. The sites were typically located in individual schools, SFA offices, or community centers. One was located in an open park. All SFSP sites in the demonstration area were open sites. Some SFSP sites operated according to the summer school schedule (a three-week period) and other sites operated according to a summer program schedule (a nine-week period). State staff cited transportation to SFSP sites as the most significant barrier to serving the population.

Training and Communication

The two SFAs did not receive formal training on the demonstration. Most of the information about the demonstration and the SFAs' role was received from OSPI during the initial application process and via telephone and email conversations on an as-needed basis during the demonstration implementation. SFAs were primarily responsible for the consent process and outreach to encourage parents to return consent forms. OSPI was in regular contact with the SFAs during the consent process to provide guidance or discuss issues that arose.

Consent Process and Recruitment of Households

Washington used an active process to obtain consent from eligible households to participate in the demonstration. Prior to beginning the consent process, Washington had to apply for and obtain approval from DSHS' Internal Review Board (IRB). There was also the need for two separate data-sharing agreements (DSAs) between each of the agencies and the evaluator. This was a process not originally accounted for in the time line and resulted in a compressed schedule for demonstration implementation.

Originally, consent activities were to be centralized through OSPI and the SFAs would not have responsibility for these tasks. However, due to time constraints and issues concerning confidentiality of data sharing, the SFAs were much more involved in the consent mailing process and in fielding and referring questions related to SEBTC than originally planned. DSHS and OSPI worked together, with DSHS leading the effort to create, translate, print, and distribute the consent packet materials. The consent packet contained an introductory letter about SEBTC, a consent form for families to complete with their signature and requested child and parent information, and a return mail letter.

The SFAs were responsible for identifying eligible households, creating the address labels for the consent mailers, mailing the materials to eligible households, and follow-up outreach efforts. Due to confidentiality concerns, the SFAs could not provide OSPI any identifying information before a family had given consent. Eligible children were identified by the SFAs based on their electronic databases, which included information on FRP applications and direct certifications, including current contact information. Households were instructed to send

¹⁴ The City of Vancouver Parks and Recreation was the largest SFSP sponsor in Vancouver with 17 sites. It had been a sponsor since 1989, but stopped in 2012 due to a shortfall in funding. The other sponsors in the area tried to pick up some of the sites. In 2012, Share had the largest number of sites in the Vancouver area.

completed forms to OSPI and to call OSPI with any questions. OSPI was responsible for tracking the mailed consent forms, undeliverable mail, and positive responses.

Data were held confidential at the SFA until the household consented to participate in the demonstration. Once consent was received, OSPI requested identifying information from the Washington School Information Processing Cooperative (WSIPC), the internal student information system maintained at the State-level that tracks student enrollment, grades, attendance, and program participation. The data obtained on consenting households from WSIPC were verified against the information provided in the returned consent form. Any discrepancies were corrected using the information on the consent form. All data files were stored and maintained at OSPI. Data verification, instead of data entry, resulted in reduced staff hours spent on data cleaning.

Outreach efforts to increase consent were not planned; however, Washington determined some outreach was necessary. The consent process, from initial mailings to outreach efforts, occurred over a two-week period. There was no second mailing, but approximately a week after the initial consent mailing, the SFAs conducted robocalls to all eligible households or to eligible households who had not yet consented, depending on the sophistication of the SFA’s IT system. The robocall reminded households to look for and complete the consent form, or to contact OSPI if they needed another consent form. The robocalls resulted in many households contacting the schools or OSPI for another copy of the consent form. Additionally during this time, DSHS sent a letter to all SNAP families specifying that families would not lose other benefits if they participated in SEBTC. The grantee reported that this letter yielded a positive response from households who subsequently returned the consent forms.

Consent Rates

Fewer than one-quarter of eligible households and children (22%) in the demonstration area consented to participate in SEBTC. Approximately 14,000 households were contacted for consent, comprising 29,380 eligible children. The resulting number of households consenting to participate was approximately 3,200 (23% of eligible households), which included 6,590 children (22% of eligible children). More information is provided in Exhibit 2A.10.2.

Exhibit 2A.10.2 Number and Percent of Consenting Households and Children in Washington Demonstration

New Site (2012)	Approximate Number of Eligibles	Final Number of Consenting ^a	Percentage Consenting
Households	14,000	3,147	23%
Children	29,380	6,590	22%

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, 2012.

^a Represents the number of consenting children post data cleaning and random assignment.

Random Assignment

The State IRB and the DSAs were not finalized until late-March, delaying the start of the consent and data-collection process. The delays resulted in a condensed time line for receiving consent, cleaning data, reviewing data by the evaluation team, and random assignment. The SFAs had two weeks to undertake their part of the consent process. OSPI also had a tight time frame to receive the consent forms, request data from WSIPC, verify the data received from WSIPC with the consent forms, clean the data, and send the data to the evaluation team for a brief review.

Although the timeline was truncated, the file of consenting children submitted to the evaluator had few issues. The main problem with the file was that 6,000 (91%) records were missing SFA information and a few were missing telephone numbers (less than five). These problems were quickly resolved. In the final review of the file, only 260 child records (4%) needed additional review. The grantee attributed the high data quality to the data cleaning efforts from OSPI and the ability to pull data from WSIPC, the State’s student data system, which was updated regularly.

Due in large part to the time line delays, Washington did not meet its target number of consenting households, even after twice extending the deadline for consent forms. Washington had a total of 3,147 consenting households (6,590 consenting children). Because the consenting household target was not reached, it was decided that 50% of the consenting children would be assigned the benefit to maintain a balanced sample for the site. This resulted in 1,574 households (3,297 children) being randomized to the benefit (see Exhibit 2A.10.3). All of the consenting households were placed in the evaluation subsample.

Exhibit 2A.10.3 Number of Households and Children Randomly Assigned the Benefit and Assigned to Evaluation Subsample in the Washington Demonstration

New Site (2012)				
	Households Randomly Assigned	Children Randomly Assigned	Households Selected for Evaluation Subsample	Children Selected for Evaluation Subsample
Benefit	1,574	3,297	1,574	3,297
Non-benefit	1,573	3,293	1,573	3,293
Total	3,147	6,590	3,147	6,590

Source: Data collected and provided by the grantee, with assignments calculated by the evaluation team, 2012.

Notifying Households of the SEBTC Benefits and Issuing Benefits

Once random assignment was completed, the file was sent to DSHS to program the SEBTC benefits. The automated database used for SEBTC was the same as the SNAP database with SEBTC transactions uniquely labeled to allow for separating SEBTC transactions from regular SNAP transactions. Households could be enrolled in SEBTC once the match was established at DSHS. The back-end systems work for this included creating a new program type at both DSHS and JPMorgan, testing that program type, and setting up new valid values. DSHS matched each

child from the assignment file to their current EBT system to determine if the child was already known to DSHS system. Children were matched on name and date of birth. DSHS found all but 300 cases, which they manually entered into the new system. For all SEBTC cases, the youngest child was listed as the head of household. The benefits were prorated such that \$30 per child was allocated in June and \$8 per child in September.

Households were notified that they received the benefit through a congratulations letter sent the week of June 11. As originally planned, no notification was given to households who were not selected for the demonstration. This resulted in some confusion and distress among households who waited to receive notification and never did. It was estimated that roughly 100 calls were received by OSPI from households inquiring about whether they had received the benefit.

Sending EBT Cards and Activation

After cases were set-up, JPMorgan distributed the SEBTC benefit cards. The SEBTC benefit cards included instructions (developed by DSHS) on card activation, benefit dates, and general SEBTC program information. The grantee identified two issues after cards were mailed. First, the address field in the file at DSHS did not translate properly to JPMorgan's system, resulting in cases where addresses were truncated and cards were subsequently not deliverable. DSHS investigated each case and was able to find the correct full address for these returned cards. As of late July, there were approximately 275 such cases, which DSHS manually corrected.

Second, there was an issue with EBT card activation. The SEBTC card was addressed to the parent or guardian of the youngest child in the household. In order to activate the card, the youngest child's date of birth must be used. In some cases, the head of household used his or her own date of birth, similar to how they would activate a SNAP card. This issue was rectified by DSHS and OSPI when the household called the toll-free number with questions on activation.

As of mid-July, there were no grantee-reported issues with retailers or clients using the card once it was activated. As of mid-July, there were approximately 95 households that had not used their SEBTC benefits. DSHS was conducting outreach to these households to determine why they had not yet used their benefits. Reminder letters to use remaining SEBTC benefits were mailed to all SEBTC beneficiaries on August 15.

Training and Support

While online training was provided to DSHS staff on the SEBTC demonstration, there was no formal training provided by OSPI on SEBTC. As described previously, some material was provided to beneficiaries along with the SEBTC card, but the information was mainly related to card use and activation. Nutrition information flyers were developed by DSHS during the IRB application process with the hope of sending them to SEBTC beneficiaries, but the condensed time line did not allow for these materials to be sent. SEBTC card beneficiaries received the JPMorgan toll-free number that was provided to SNAP participants. Guardians could call with questions about card usage. The number of calls related solely to SEBTC was not tracked. Households could also call a toll-free number staffed by OSPI with questions about the program

or issues with implementation. Calls received by OSPI and/or DSHS related to the card (as of July 31) included: incorrect names of children listed on the SEBTC card (2 instances); issues with activation of the SEBTC card due to unclear instructions on using the youngest child's date of birth (303 instances); not yet having received the SEBTC card (302 instances); and, inquiring whether they were selected to receive the benefit (100 instances).

Appendix 2B

Site Maps

List of Site Maps^a

- 2B.0 Demonstration Areas in Indian Tribal Organizations in Oklahoma
- 2B.1 Cherokee Nation New Site
- 2B.2 Chickasaw Nation New Site
- 2B.3 Demonstration Areas in Connecticut
 - 2B.3.1 POC Site
 - 2B.3.2 Expansion Site
- 2B.4 Demonstration Area in Delaware
 - 2B.4.1 New Site
- 2B.5 Demonstration Areas in Michigan
 - 2B.5.1 POC Site
 - 2B.5.2 Expansion Site
- 2B.6 Demonstration areas in Missouri
 - 2B.6.1 POC Site
 - 2B.6.2 Expansion Site
- 2B.7 Demonstration Area in Nevada
 - 2B.7.1 New Site
- 2B.8 Demonstration Areas in Oregon
 - 2B.8.1 POC Site
 - 2B.8.2 Expansion Site
- 2B.9 Demonstration Area in Texas
 - 2B.9.1 New Site
- 2B.10 Demonstration Area in Washington
 - 2B.10.1 New Site

^a Source: 2011 Census Bureau School District Boundaries, available at <http://www.census.gov/geo/www/tiger/tgrshp2011/tgrshp2011.html>

Note: The areas on these maps are appropriately identified as School Districts (SDs) rather than School Food Authorities (SFAs). This report uses SFAs to identify demonstration areas throughout most of the text; not all school districts that participated in the demonstration are SFAs.

Exhibit 2B.0 Demonstration Areas in Indian Tribal Organizations in Oklahoma

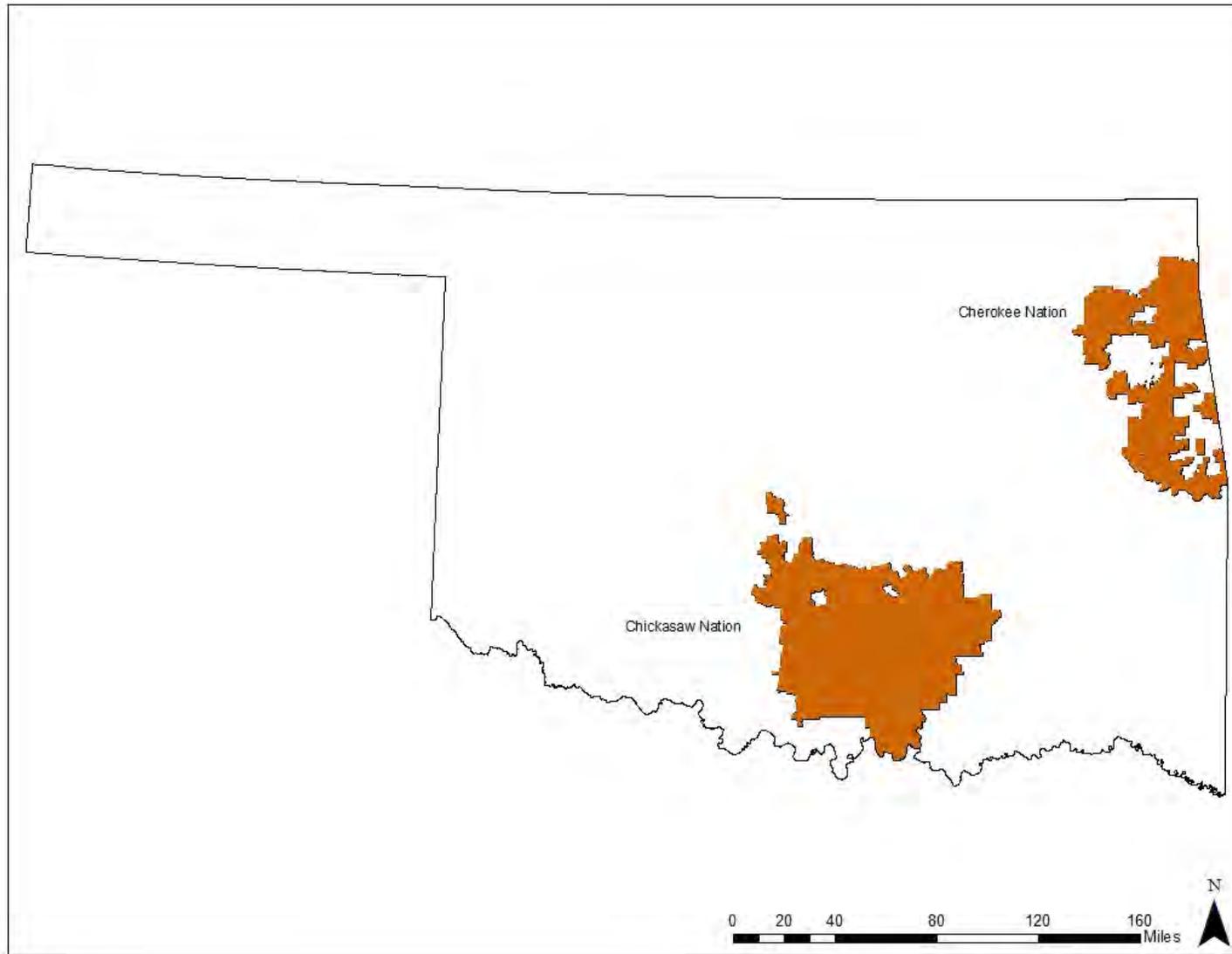
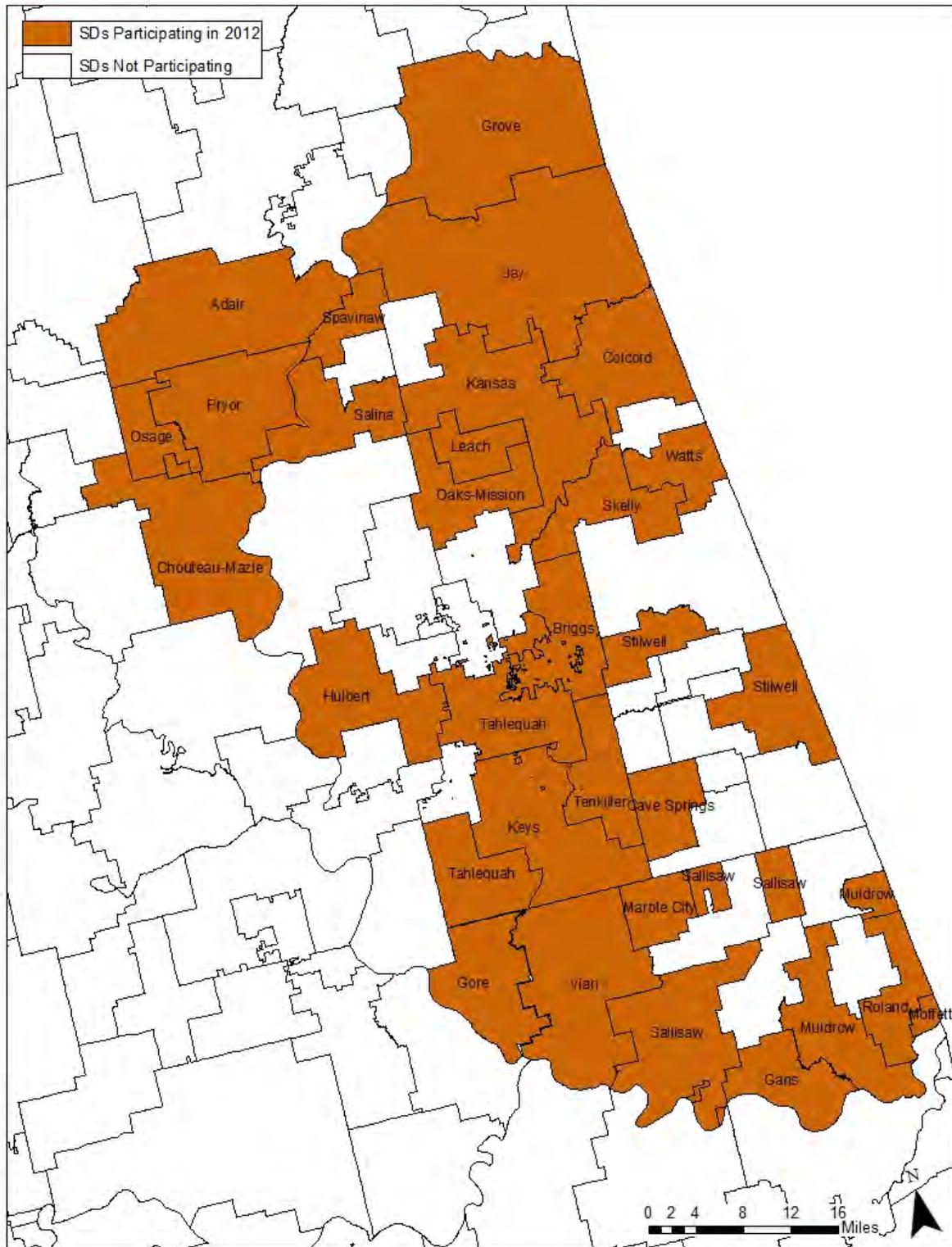


Exhibit 2B.1 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Demonstration in Cherokee Nation^a



^a Twenty-nine school districts participated in the Cherokee Nation. Four school districts are non-contiguous, with all sites being labeled on this map. Therefore, there are 34 school district names on the map.

Exhibit 2B.2 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Demonstration in Chickasaw Nation

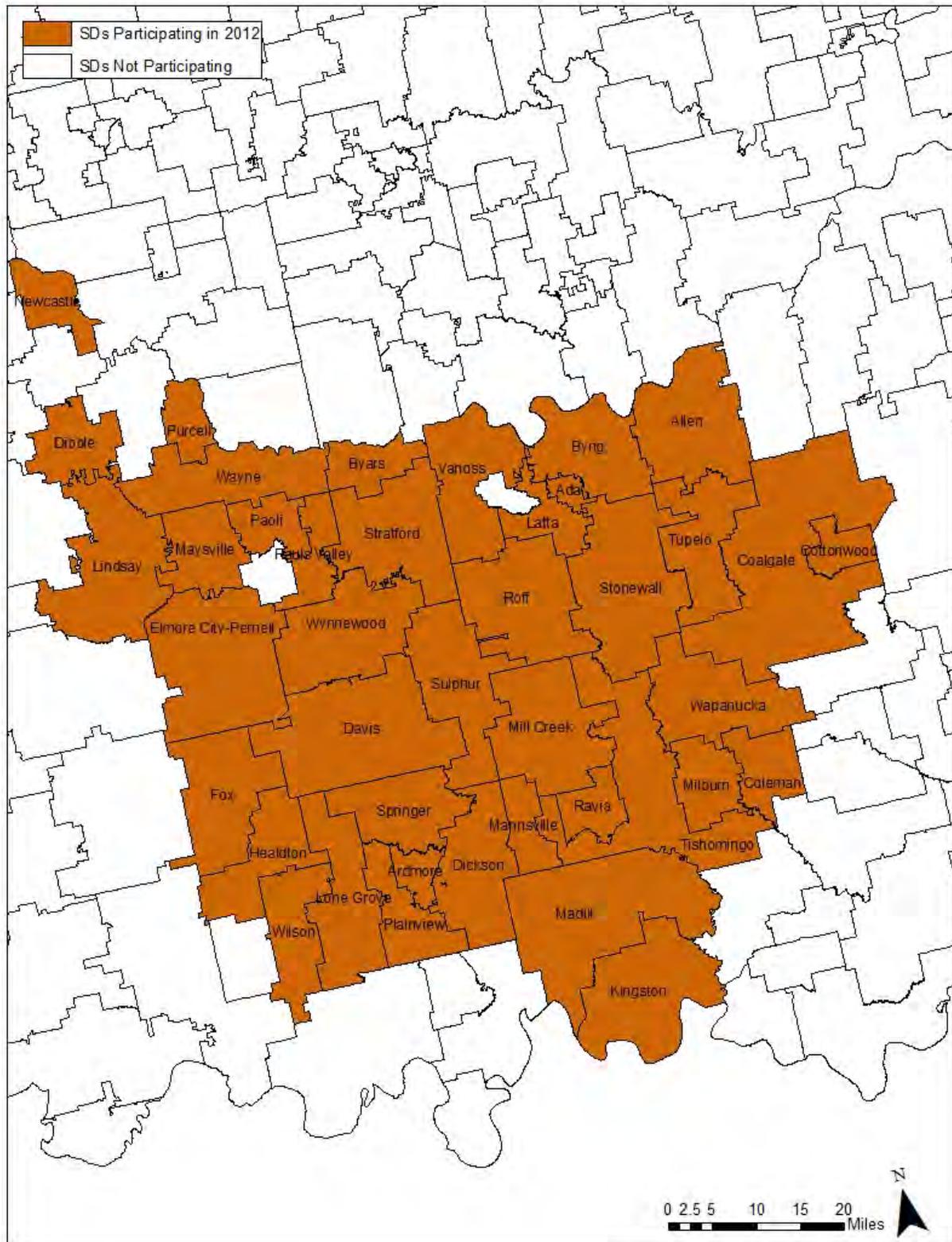


Exhibit 2B.3 Demonstration Areas in Connecticut

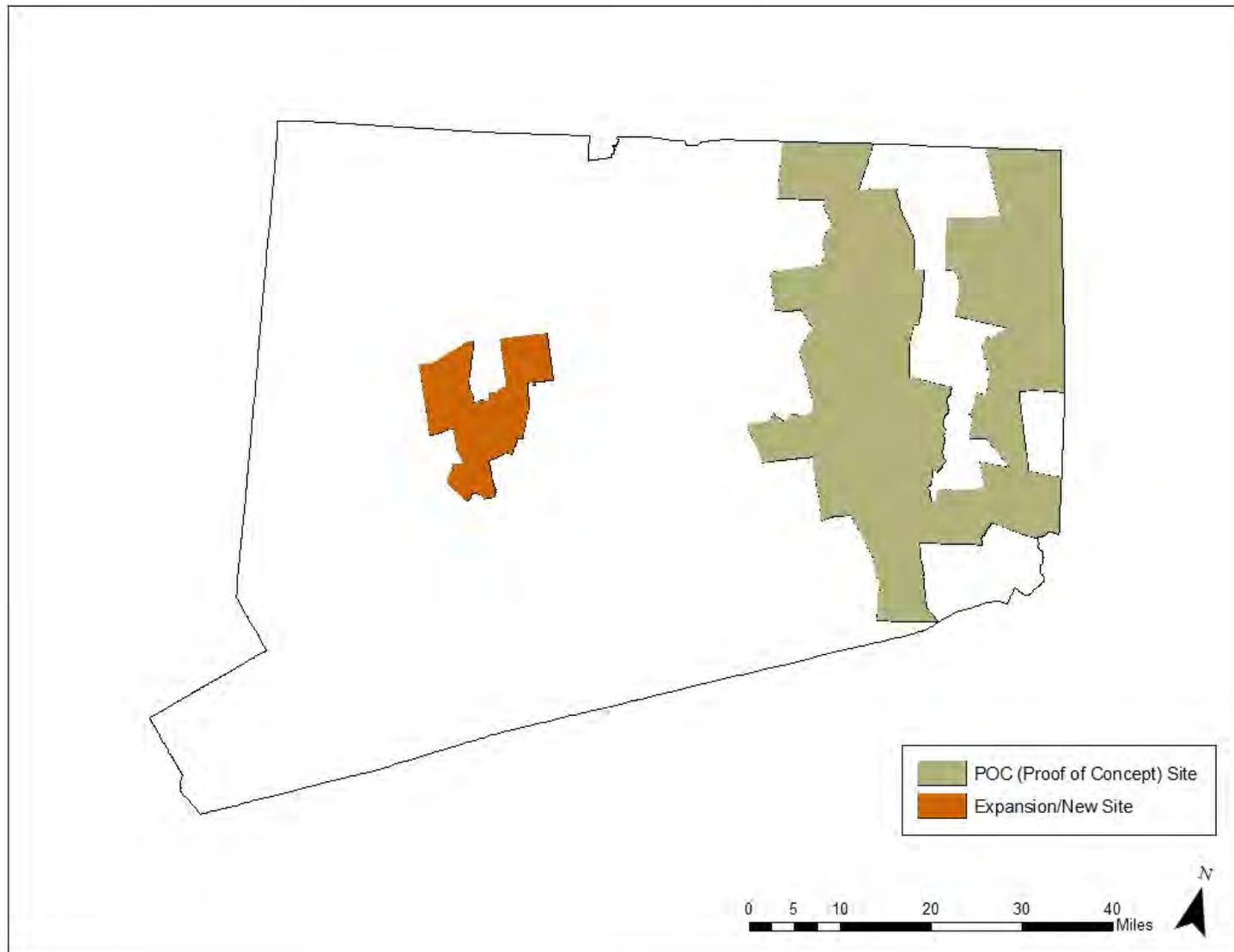
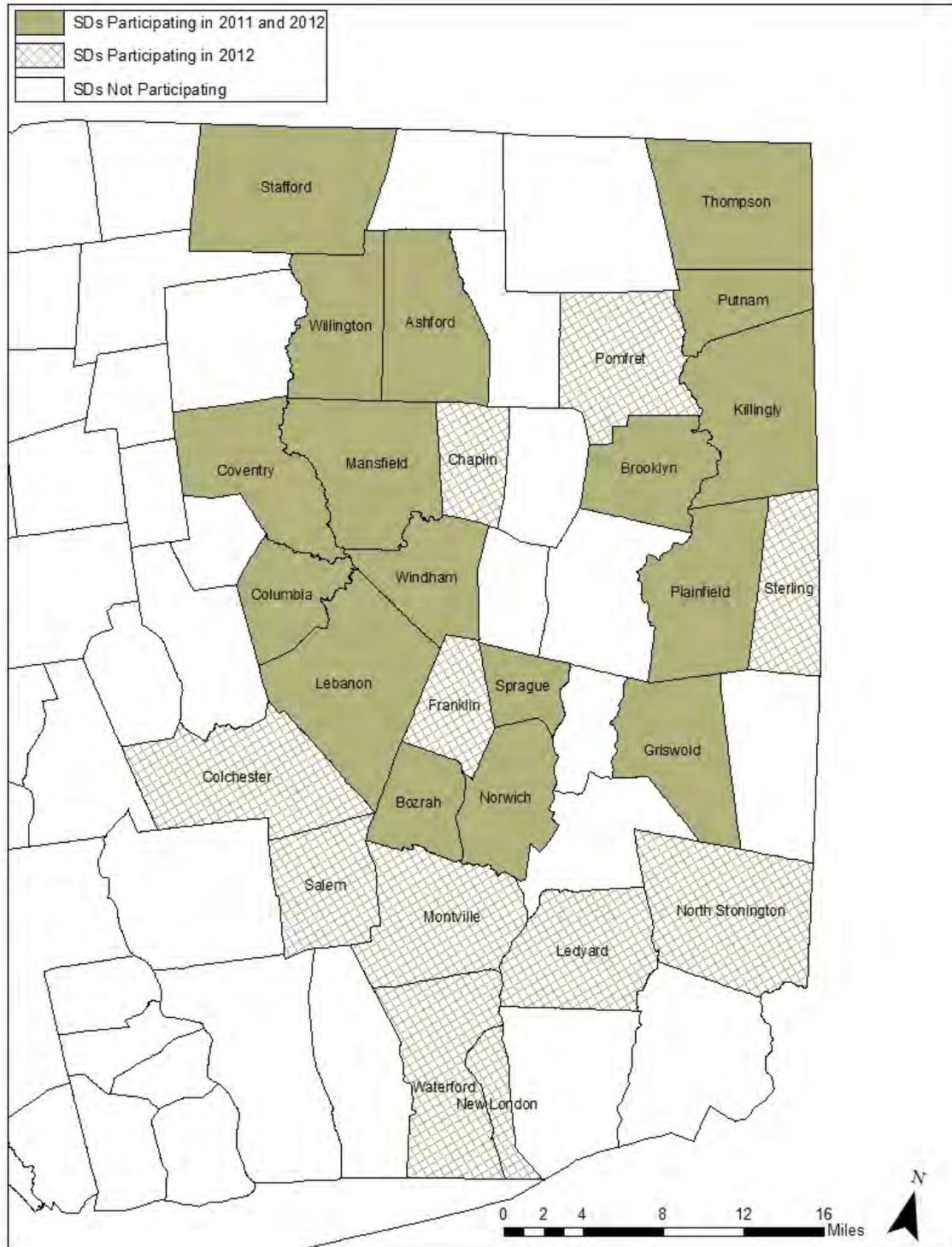


Exhibit 2B.3.1 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Connecticut POC Site^c



^c Note: The 2011 Congressional Status Report maps for the CT POC site included 23 SDs that . For this report, we only included the 17 sites that participated in the POC year, removing the 6 SDs that were unable to participate in the 2011 year.

Exhibit 2B.3.2 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Connecticut Expansion Site

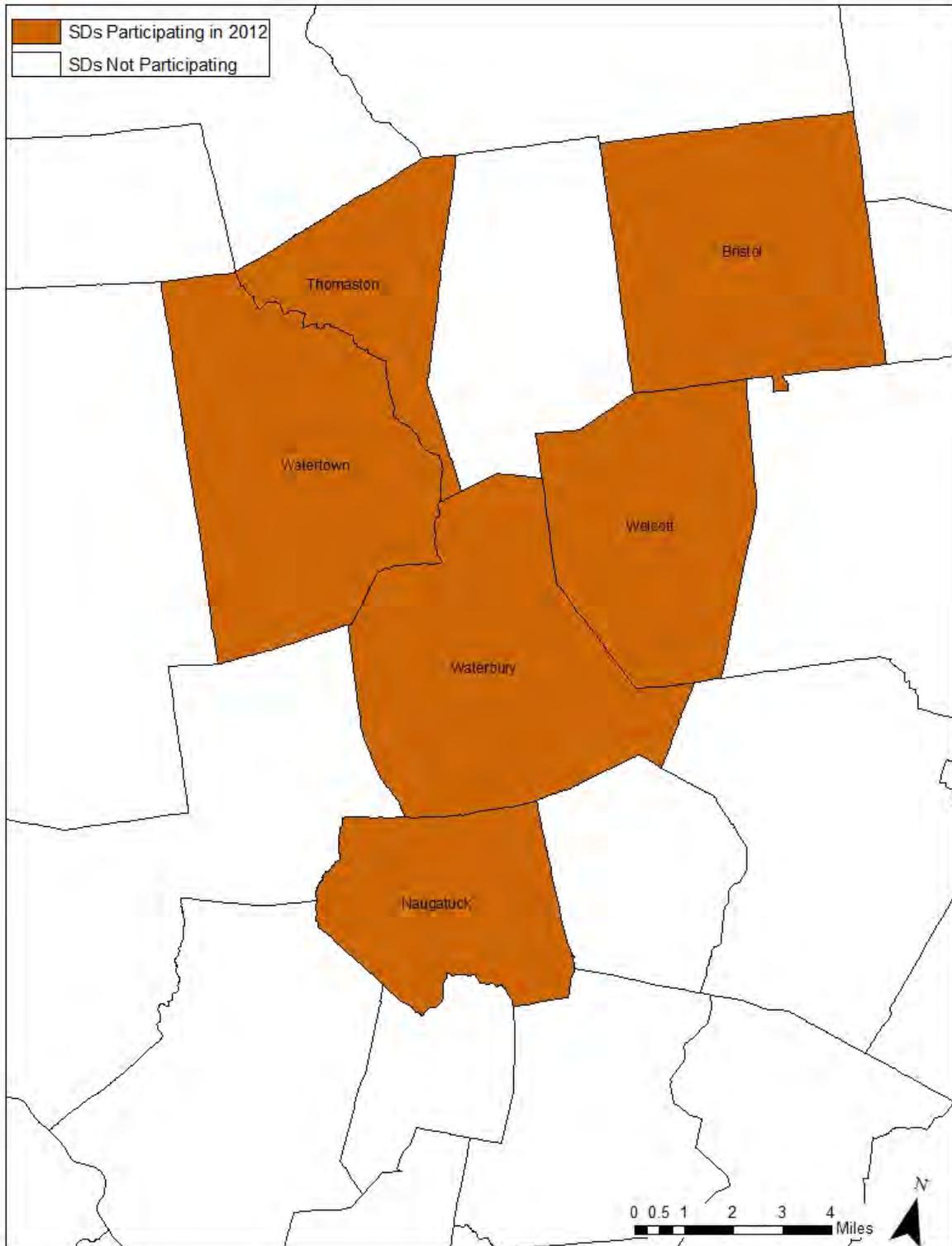


Exhibit 2B.4 Demonstration Area in Delaware

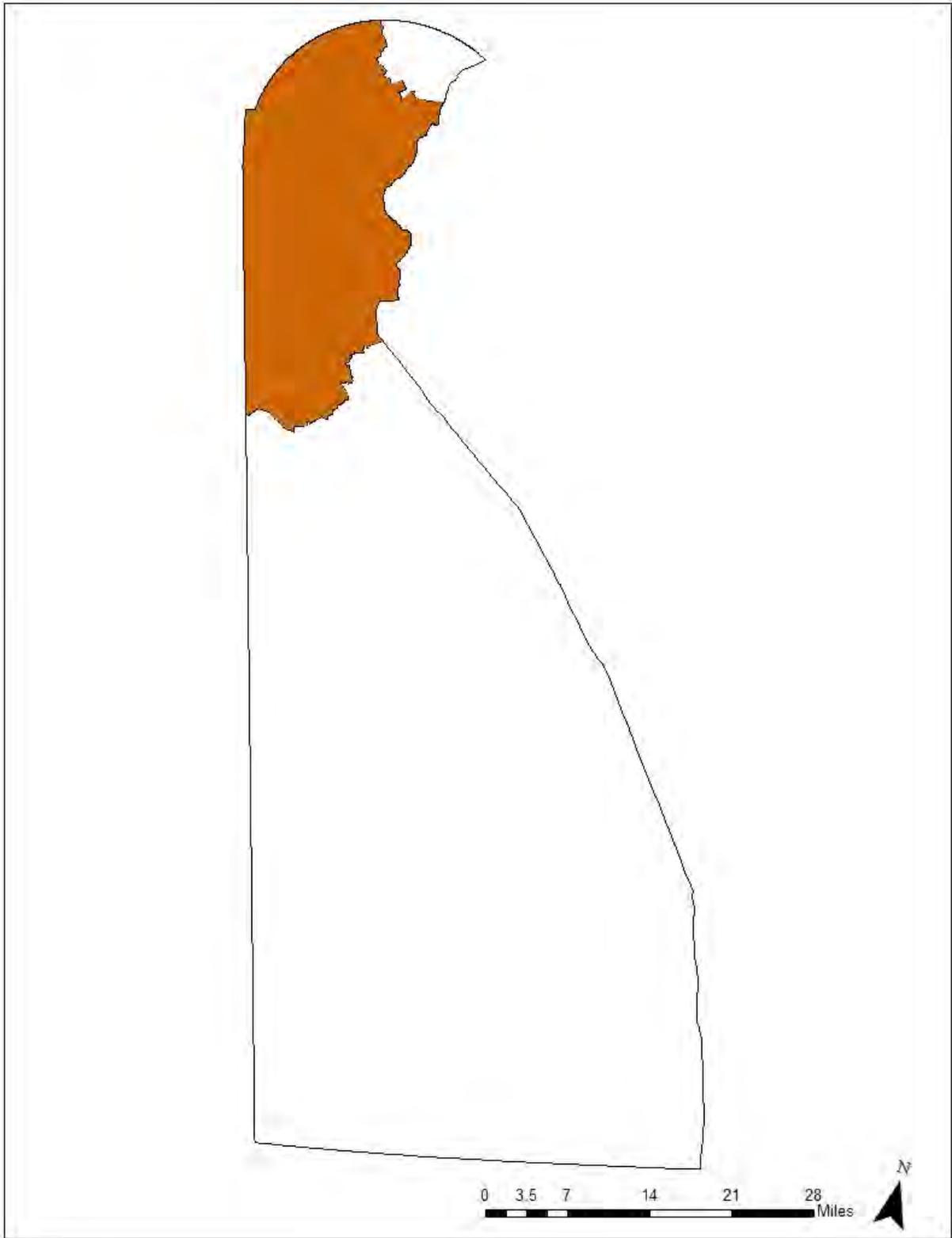


Exhibit 2B.4.1 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Demonstration in Delaware

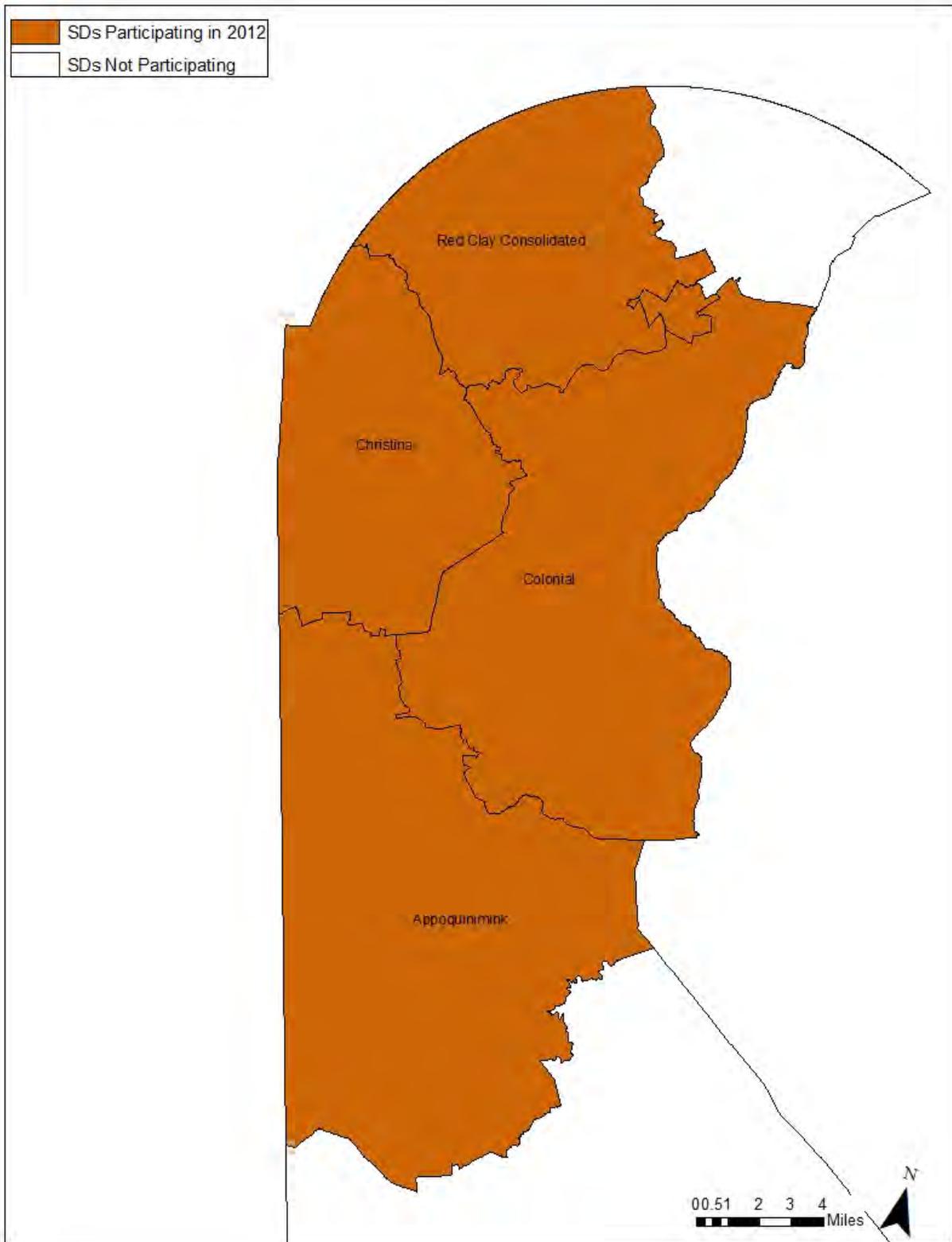


Exhibit 2B.5 Demonstration Areas in Michigan



Exhibit 2B.5.1 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Michigan POC Site

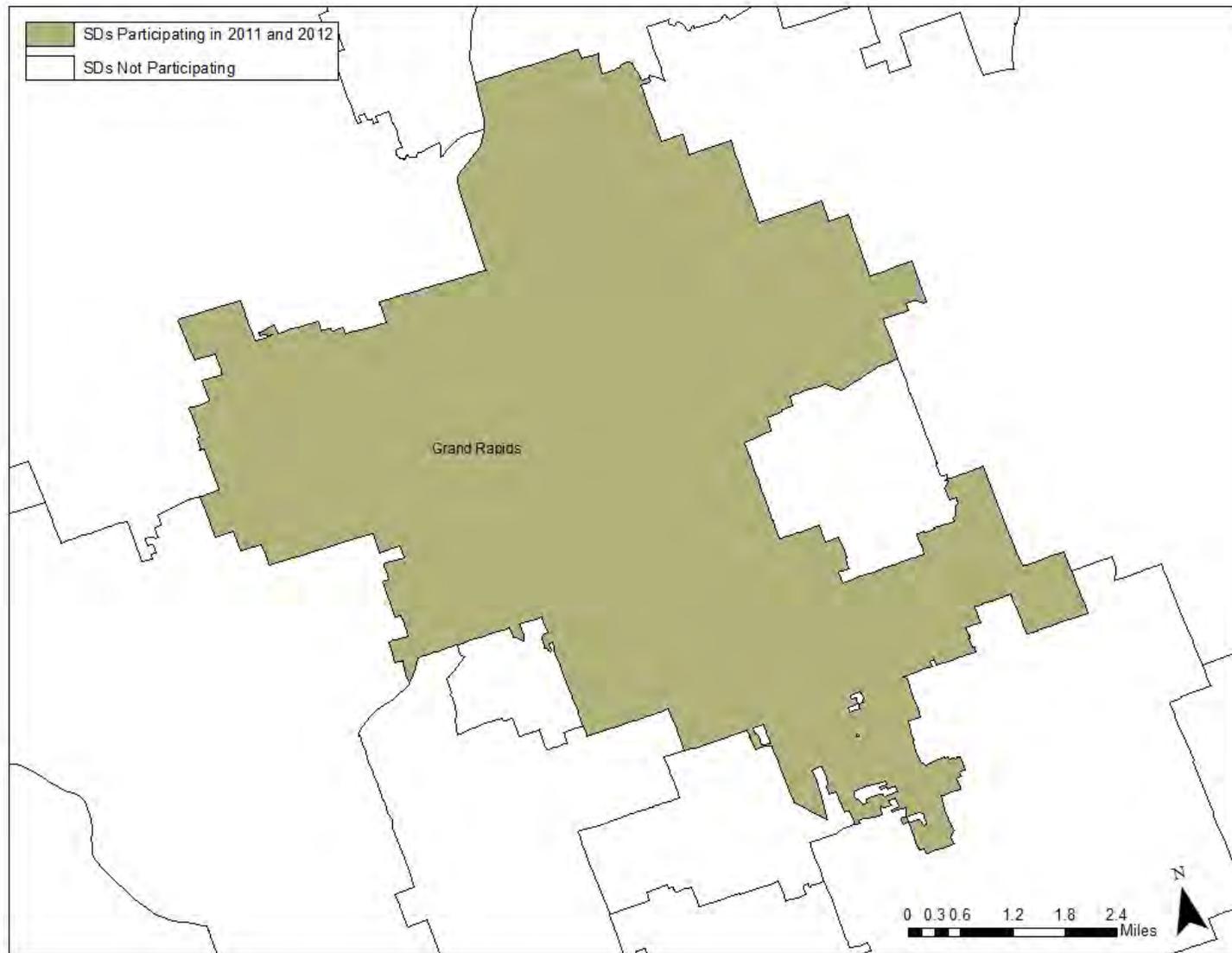


Exhibit 2B.5.2 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Michigan Expansion Site

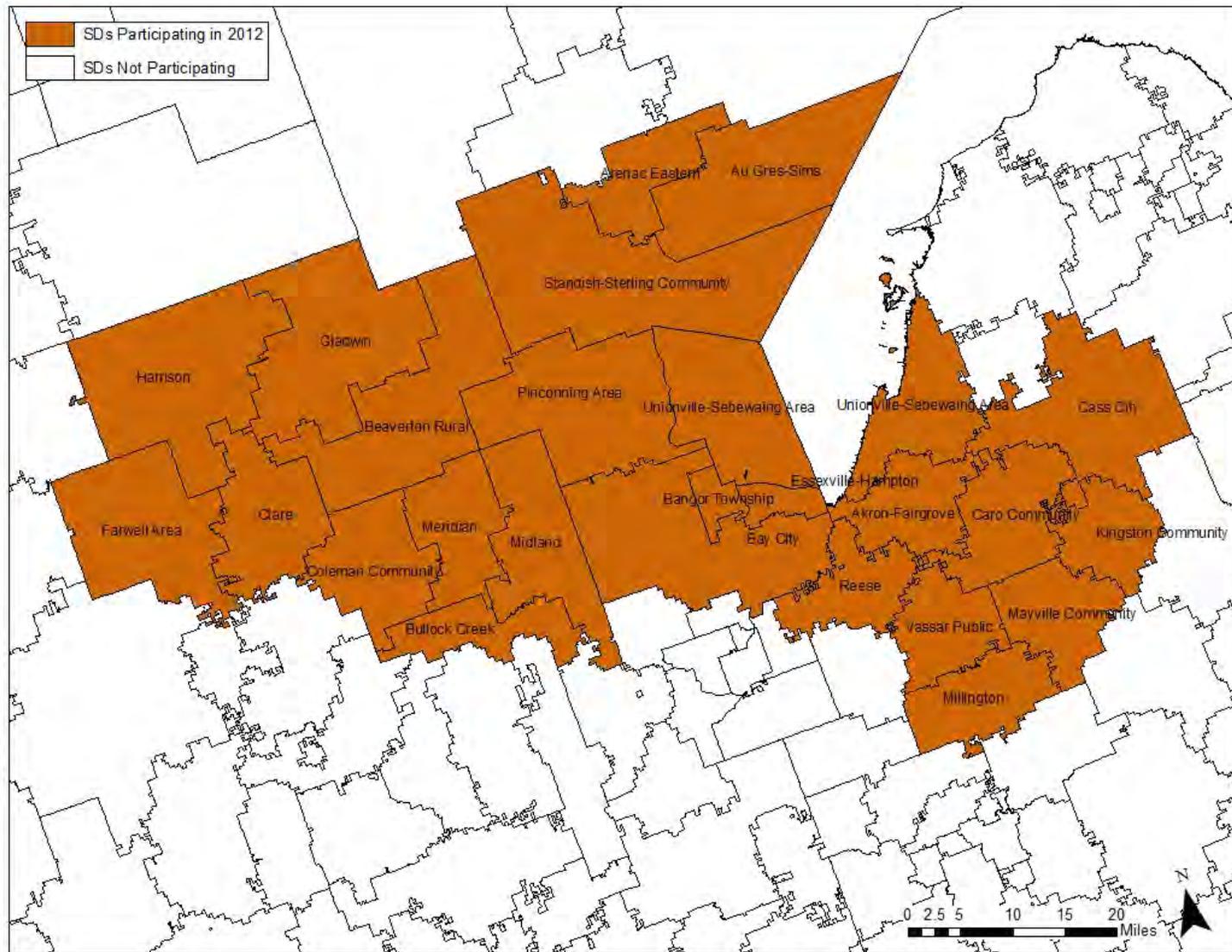


Exhibit 2B.6 Demonstration Areas in Missouri

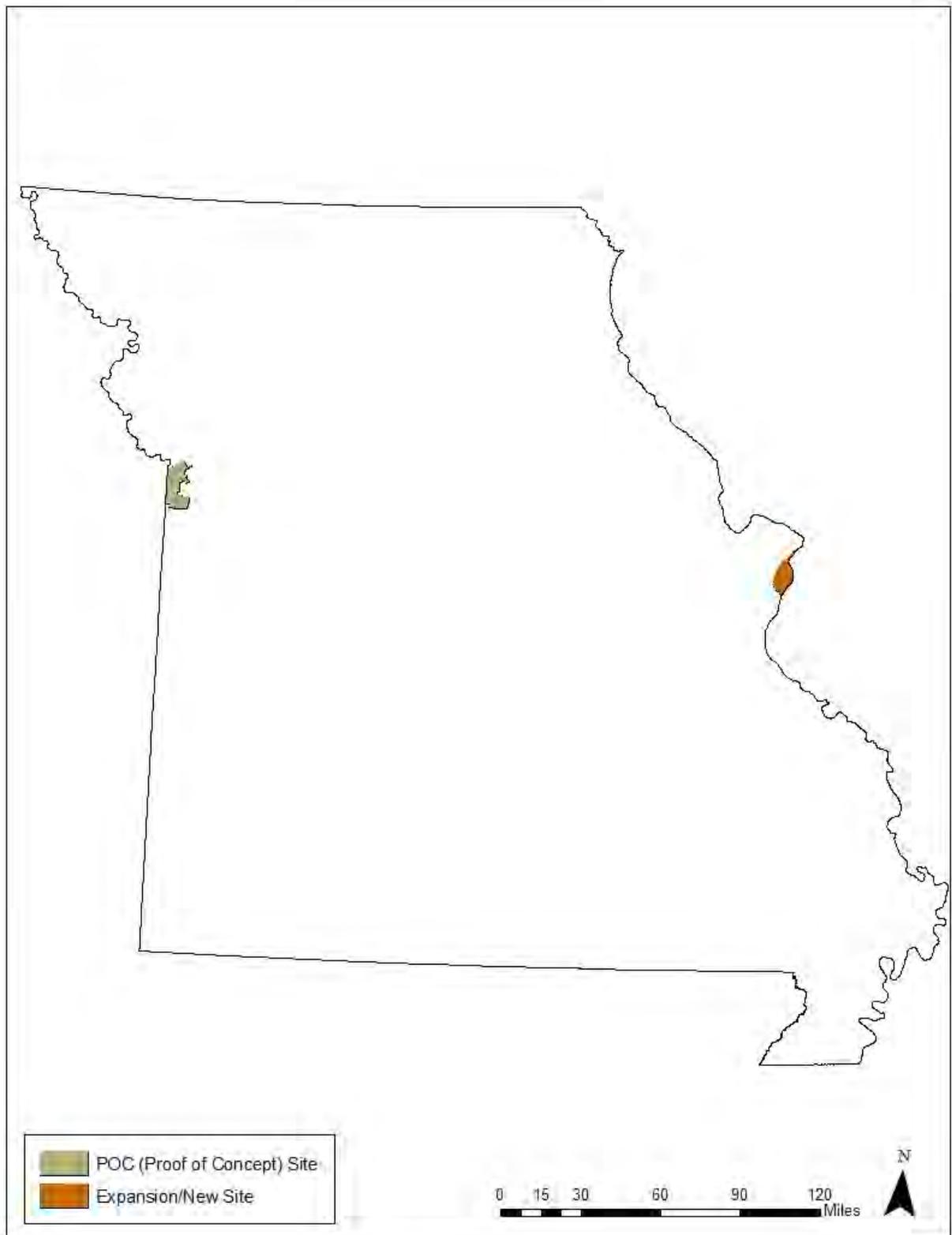


Exhibit 2B.6.1 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Missouri POC Site

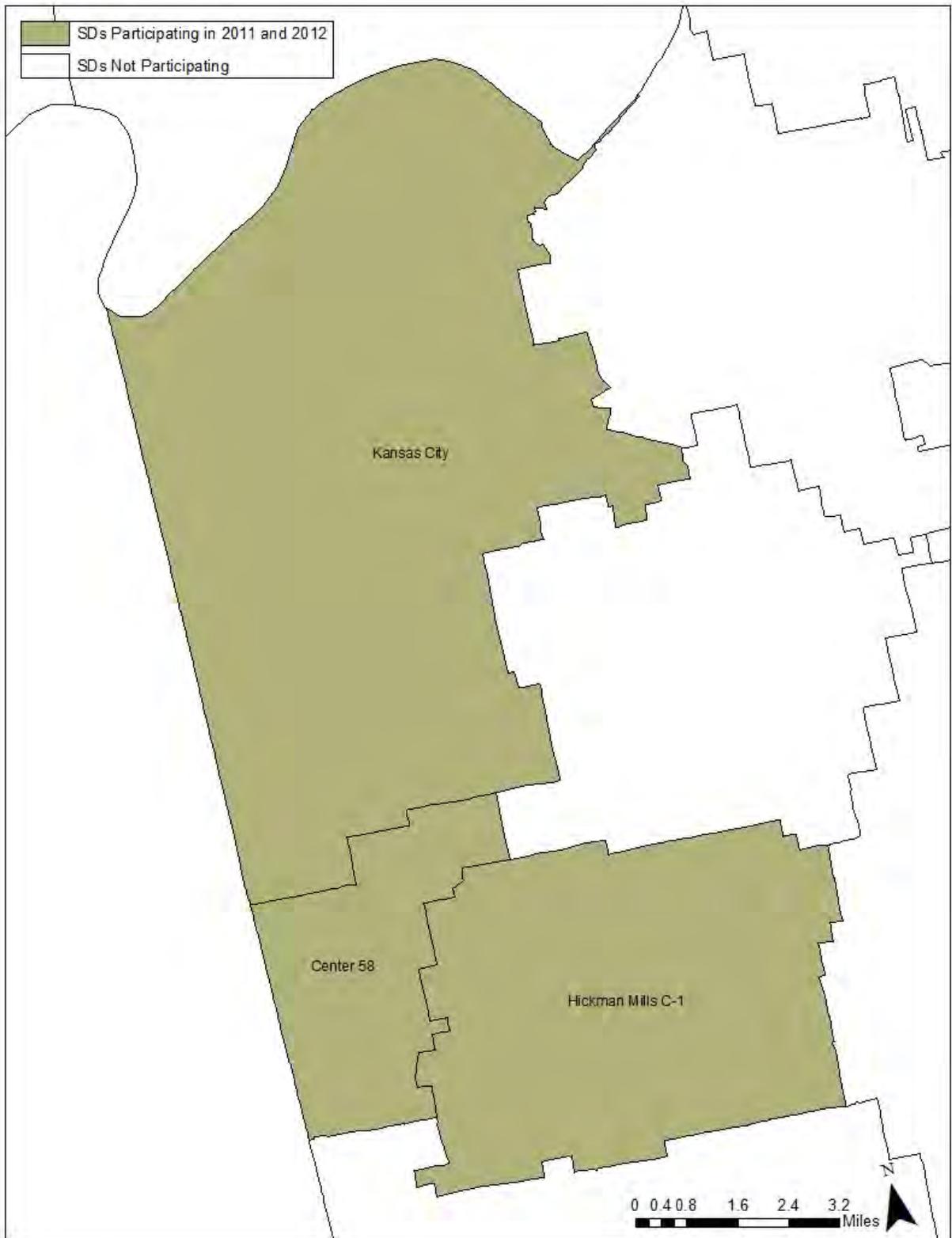


Exhibit 2B.6.2 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Missouri Expansion Site

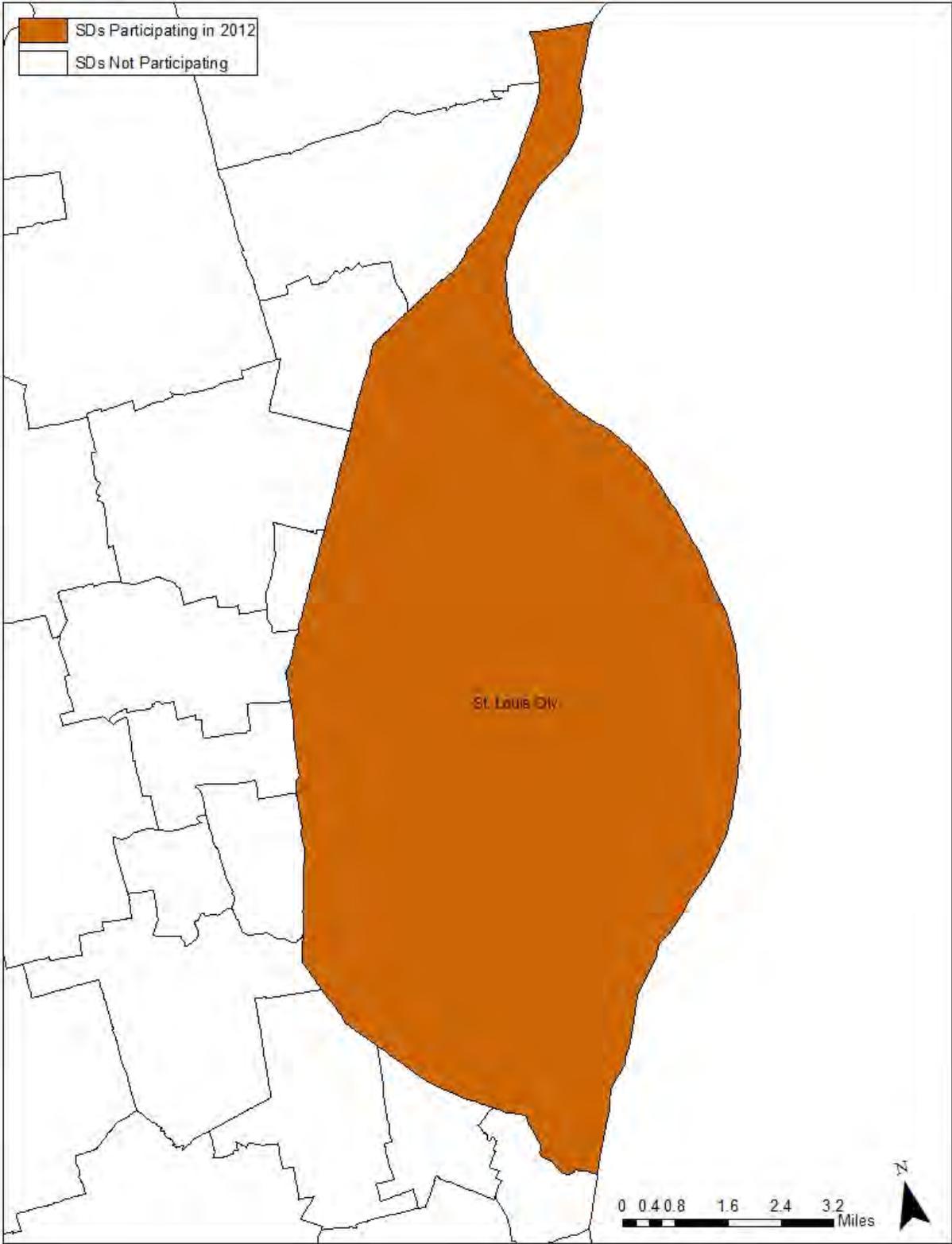


Exhibit 2B.7 Demonstration Area in Nevada

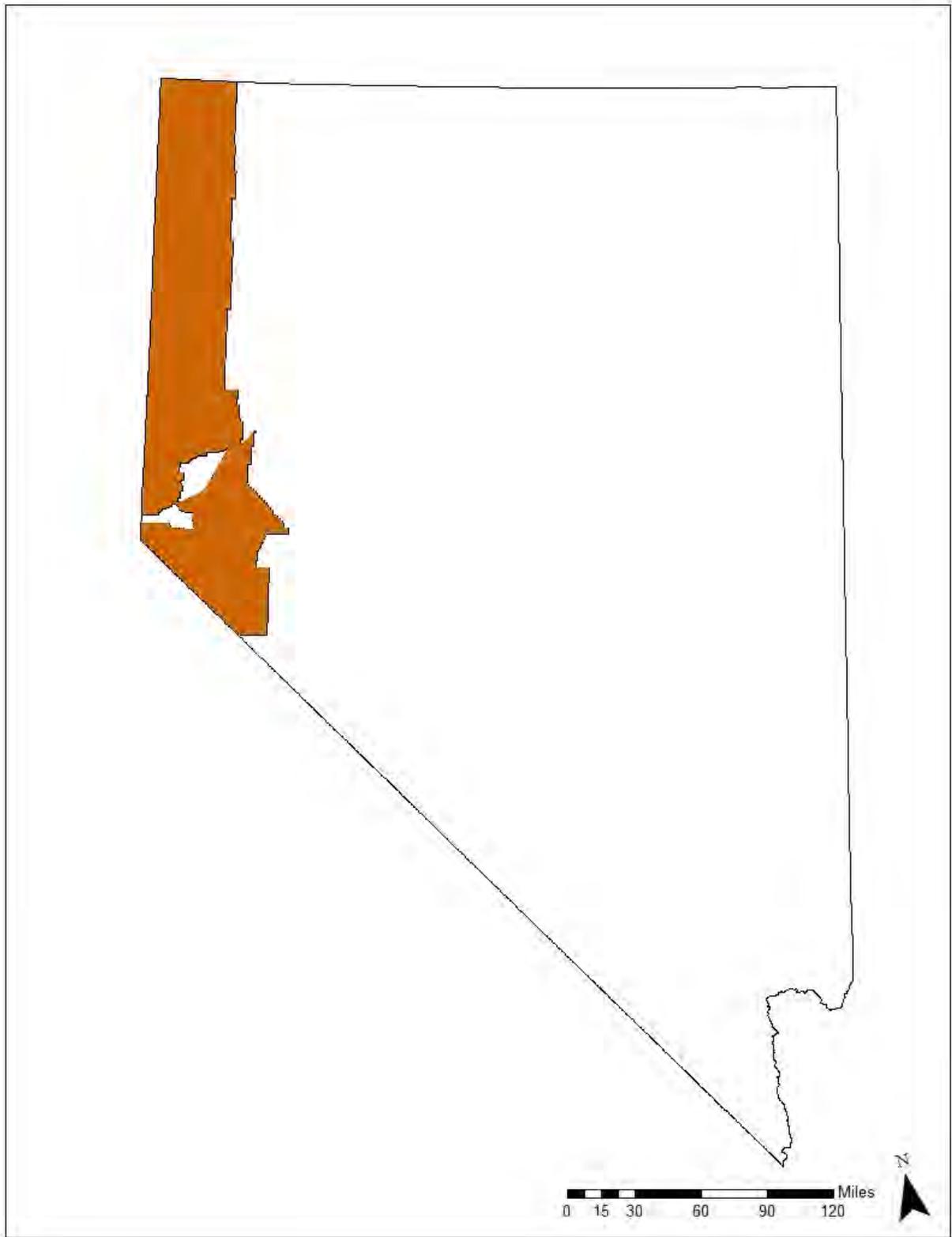


Exhibit 2B.7.1 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Demonstration in Nevada



Exhibit 2B.8 Demonstration Areas in Oregon

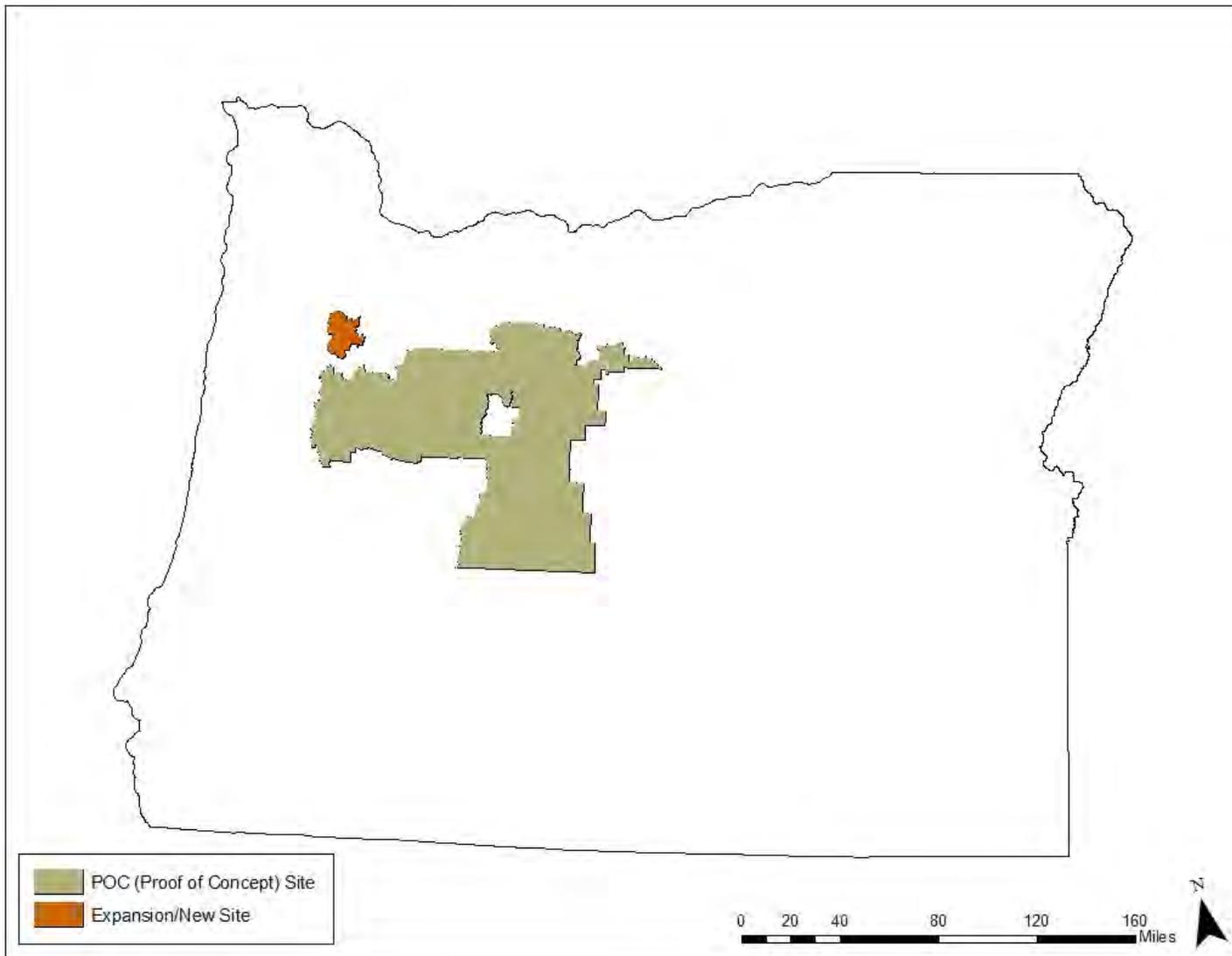


Exhibit 2B.8.1 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Oregon POC Site

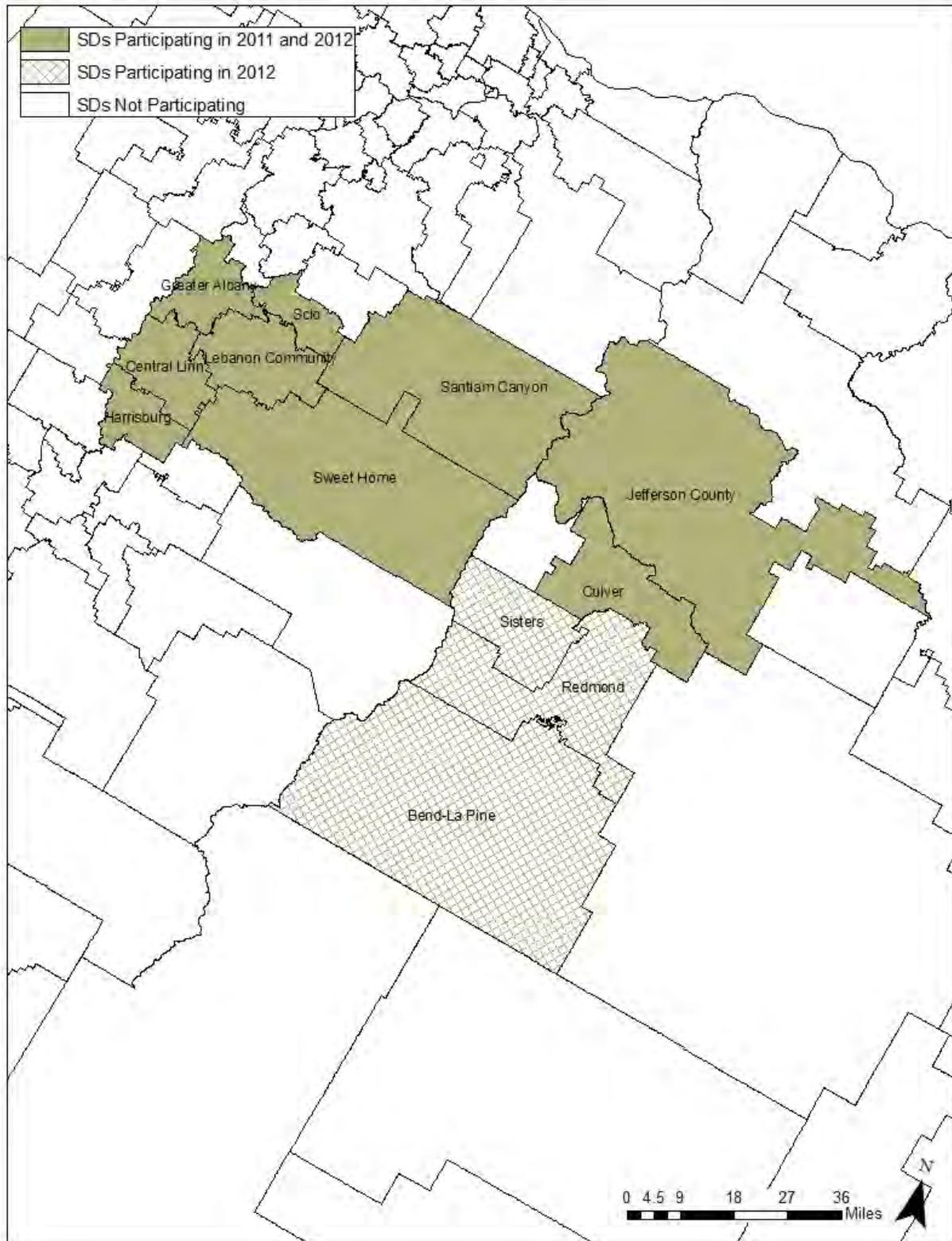


Exhibit 2B.8.2 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Oregon Expansion Site



Exhibit 2B.9 Demonstration Area in Texas

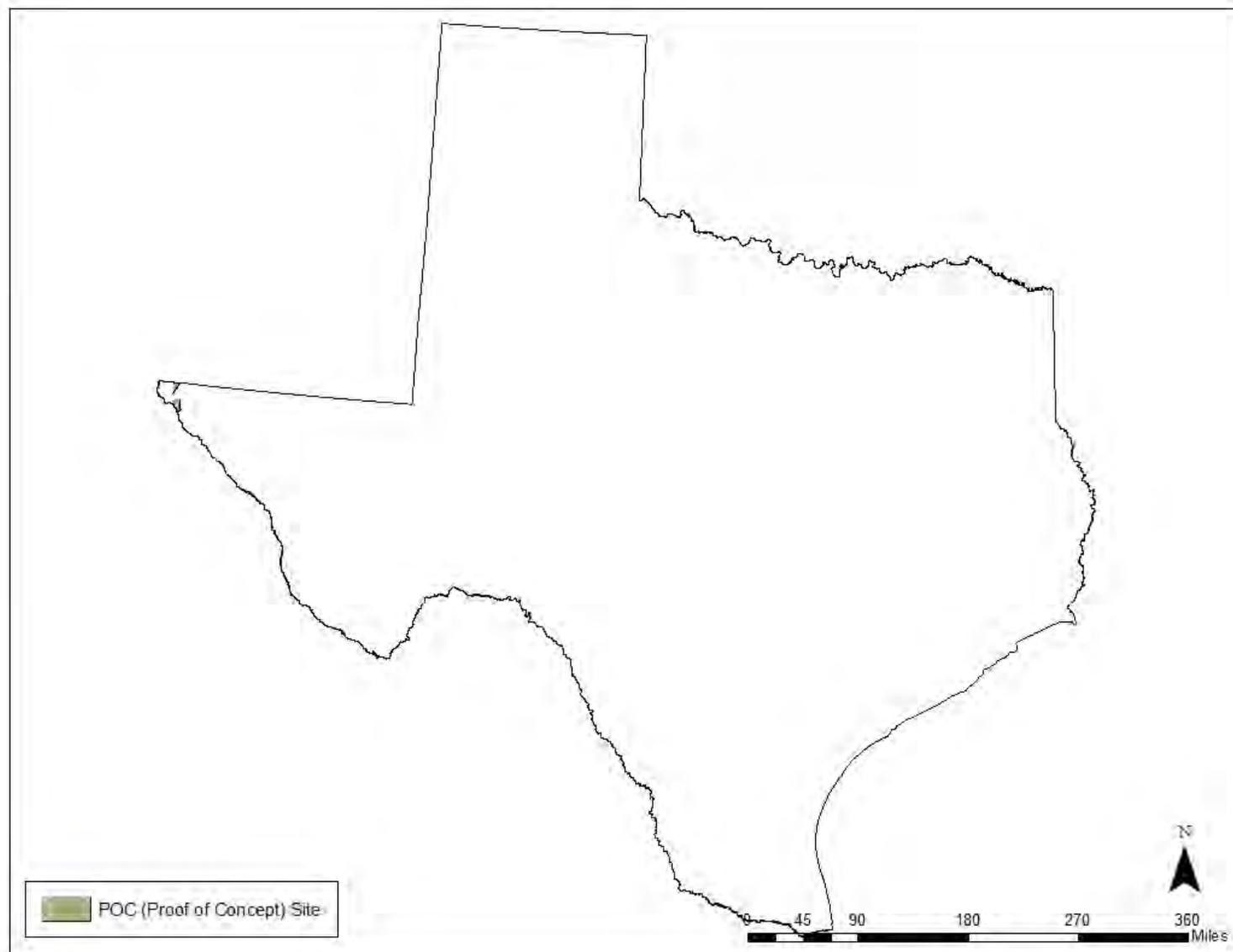


Exhibit 2B.9.1 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Texas Site

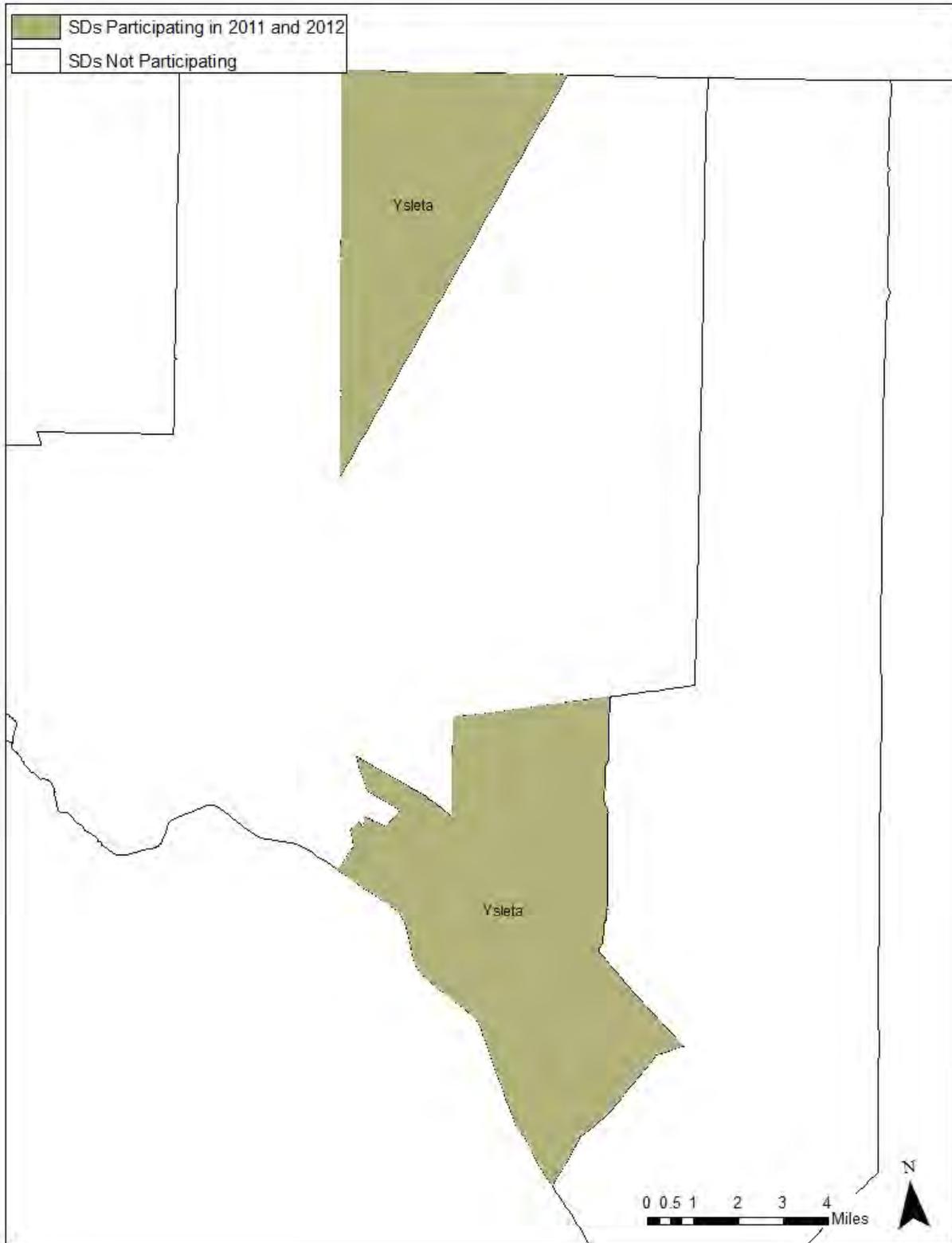


Exhibit 2B.10 Demonstration Area in Washington

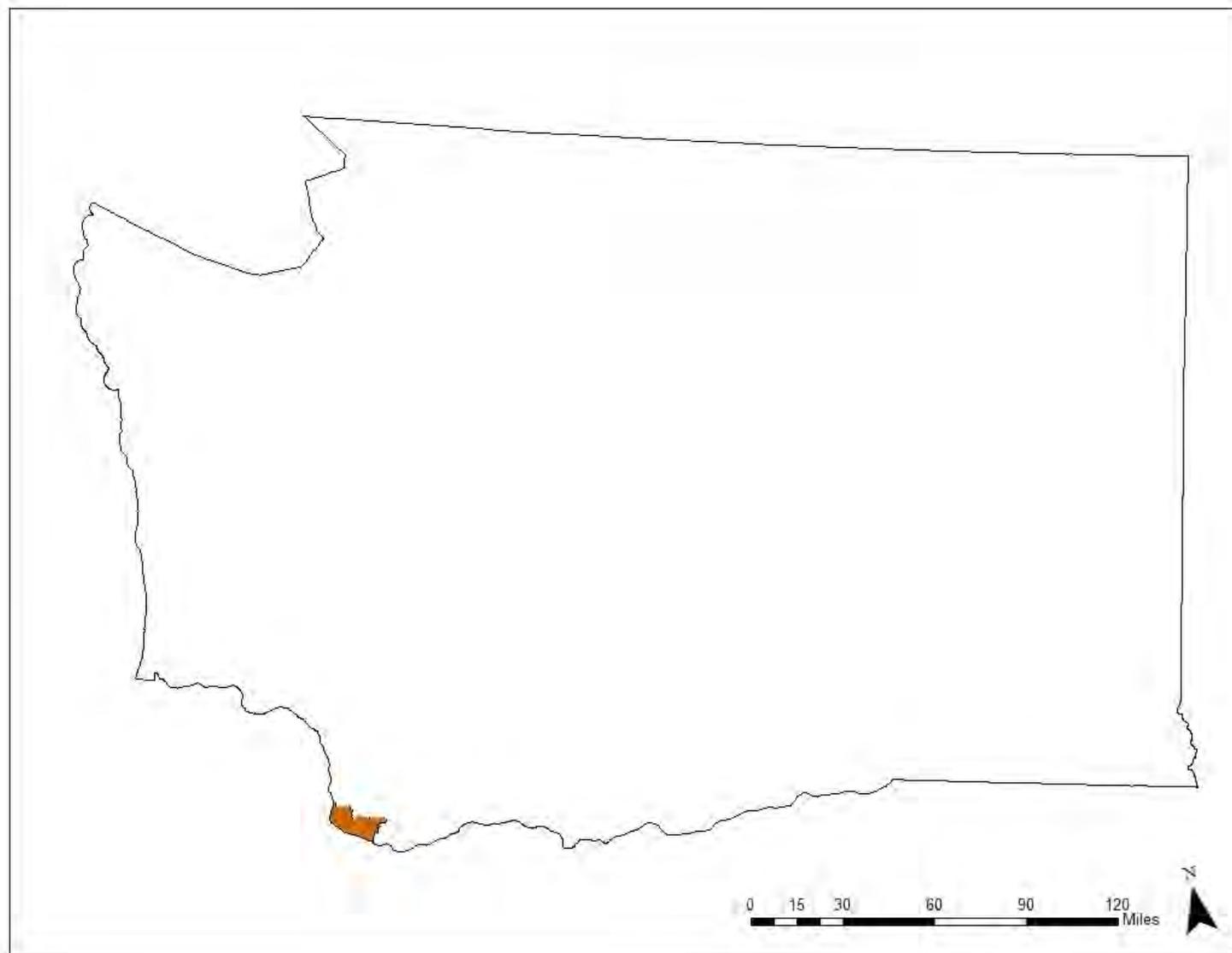
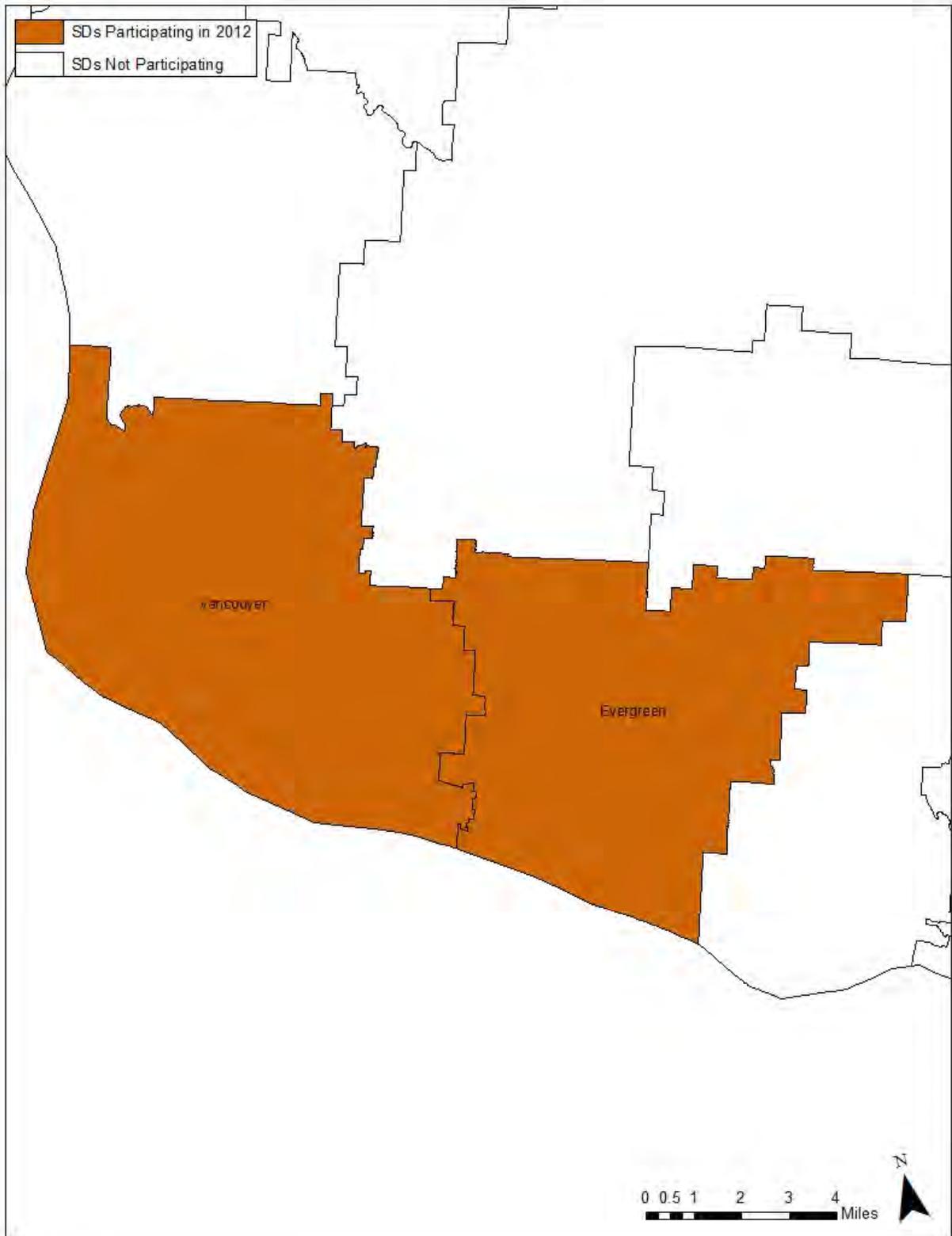


Exhibit 2B.10.1 School Districts (SDs) Participating in the Demonstration in Washington



APPENDIX 3

Appendix 3A

Exhibit 3A.1 EBT Technologies and Processors

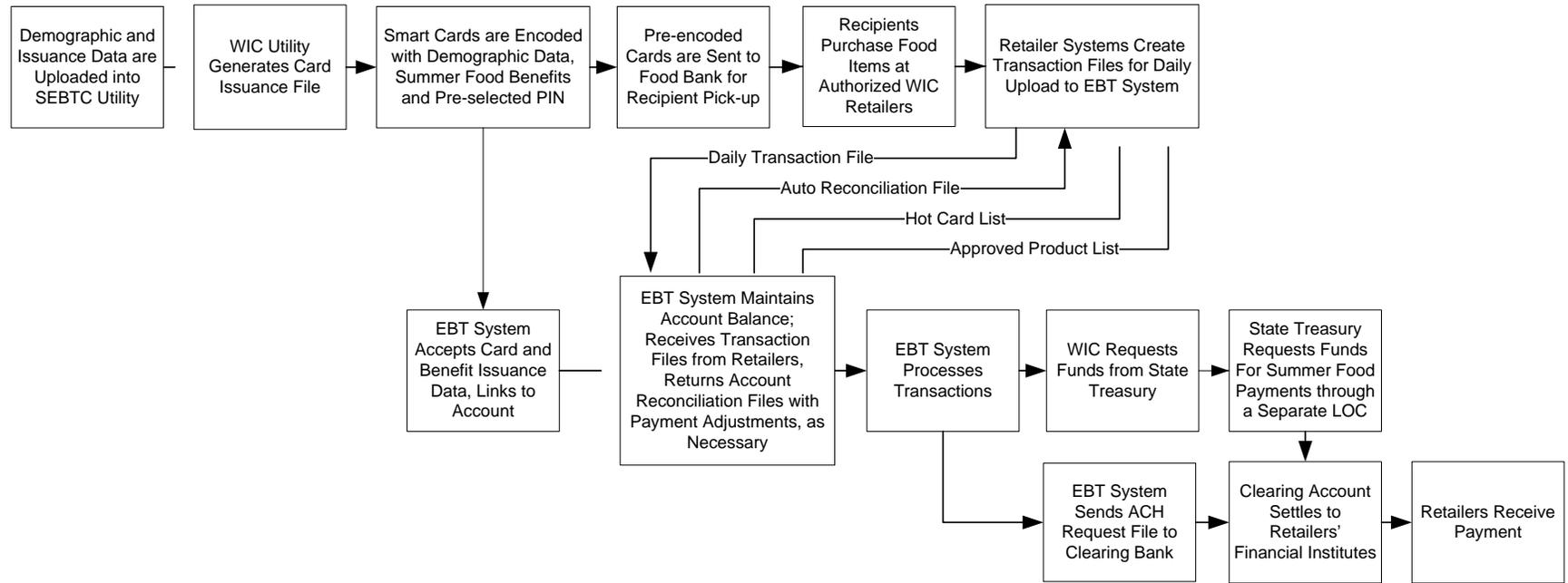
Grantee	EBT Technology	EBT Processor	Card Issuance (Prime Contractor)
POC Sites			
Connecticut	SNAP EBT	JPMorgan Chase	L1 Credentialing
Michigan	Online WIC EBT	Xerox Corporation (Formerly ACS, Inc.)	Xerox Corporation
Missouri	SNAP EBT	FIS, Inc.	FIS, Inc.
Oregon	SNAP EBT	FIS, Inc.	FIS, Inc.
Texas	Offline WIC EBT	Texas (Self-processes)	SoliSystems ^a
New Sites			
Cherokee Nation	Offline WIC EBT	Cherokee Nation (Self Processes)	SoliSystems ^a
Chickasaw Nation	Online WIC EBT	JPMorgan Chase	JPMorgan Chase
Delaware	SNAP EBT	JPMorgan Chase	JPMorgan Chase
Nevada	Online WIC EBT	JPMorgan Chase	JPMorgan Chase
Washington	SNAP EBT	JPMorgan Chase	JPMorgan Chase

Source: SEBTC, 2012.

^aServices included writing benefits to the smart card's chip.

Appendix 3B

Exhibit 3B.1 EBT Processes and Data Flow for WIC

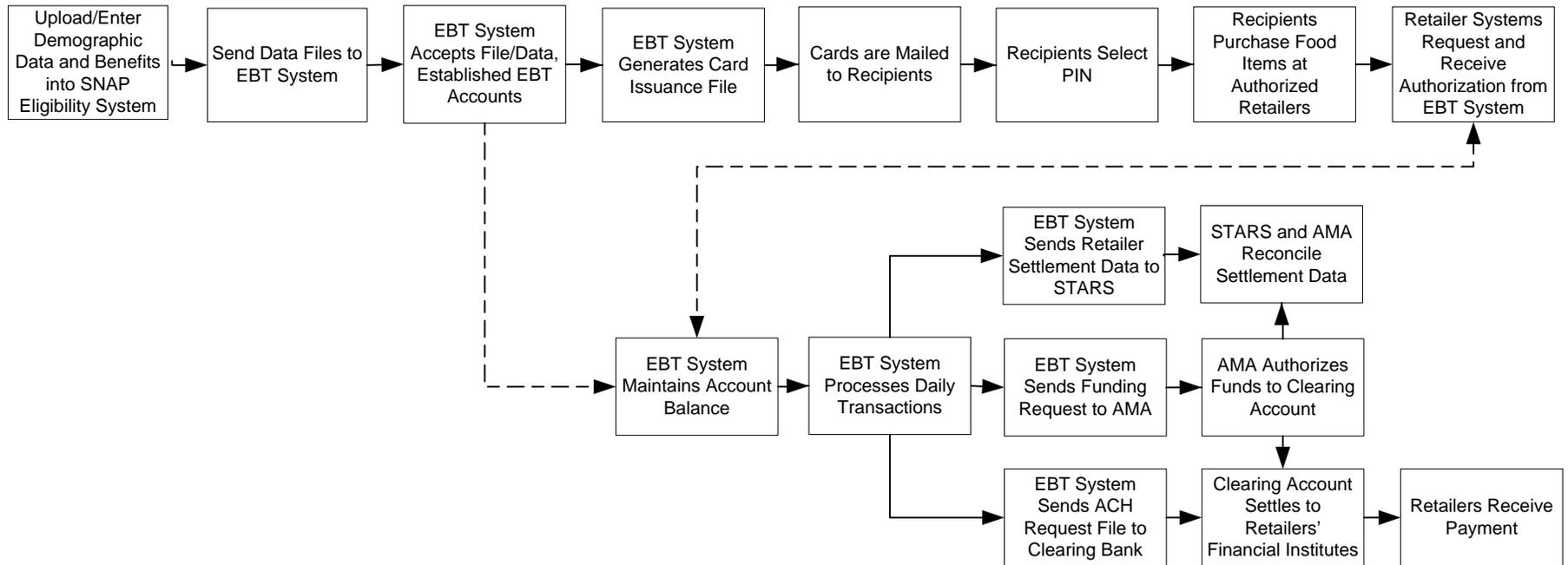


Source: SEBTC, 2012.

Note: The two grantees using offline WIC EBT, Texas and the Cherokee Nation, “self-process” which means own and maintain their own WIC EBT systems. This impacts the settlement process, as a third party does not request funds from Texas or the Cherokee Nation for settlement.

Appendix 3C

Exhibit 3C.1 EBT Processes and Data Flow for SNAP



Source: SEBTC, 2012.

APPENDIX 4

Exhibit 4A.1 SEBTC WIC Food Package by Site, 2012

Food Category	Standard SEBTC WIC Package		Modifications, if Any, From Standard SEBTC WIC Food Package				
	Amount	Unit	Cherokee Nation	Chickasaw Nation	Michigan	Nevada	Texas
Milk	3	Gal					
Cheese	1	Lbs					
Eggs	1	Dozen					
Juice (64oz bottle or equivalent)	1	Bottle					
Cereal	36	Oz					
Dry beans	0.5	Lbs	Alt: 1 Lb dry beans, no canned	Alt: 1 Lb dry beans, no canned	1.5 Lbs	1 Lb	
Beans, Canned	32	Oz	Alt: 4 cans, no dry beans	Alt: 4 cans, no dry beans		0	
Peanut Butter	18	Oz					
Fish (canned tuna/salmon)	18	Oz			15 Oz		
Grain products (bread, tortillas, rice, and oatmeal)	3	Lbs			Soft corn tortillas approved 2 – 1 lb whole wheat bread and 1 lb soft corn tortillas	Soft corn tortillas approved	Soft corn tortillas approved
Fruits and vegetables	16	\$					

Source: SEBTC correspondence with grantees and FNS, 2012

Note: Alt = alternate substitution

APPENDIX 5

Appendix 5A

Random Assignment and Balance Testing

5A.1 Overview

This appendix begins with a summary of the SEBTC random assignment procedure, then elaborates on different aspects of the random assignment (including site-specific details), and concludes with information about the extent to which the random assignment produced covariate balance between households assigned to the benefit and non-benefit conditions.

5A.2 Random Assignment

The process of consent and random assignment required several steps. As a first step, participating SFAs at each site constructed lists of households with children certified for FRP meals. Second, after obtaining consent from families (by either passive or active processes) the SFAs or their grantees sent the lists of consented children to the evaluation team. Third, the team randomly assigned the families of the consented children to be in the benefit group or non-benefit group, with the objective of assigning 5,300 children per site to receive the SEBTC benefit. Fourth, the team randomly selected an evaluation subsample of households from the benefit and non-benefit groups to participate in the household survey, with the objective of obtaining at least 1,930 spring interviews per site. These subsamples are referred to as the treatment and control groups, respectively. The balance of this section provides additional detail on some of these steps, including special handling of POC year sites during the random assignment step.

At the second step, the sites forwarded their lists of consented children to the evaluation team. These lists included a site-assigned household identifier to indicate household membership, parent names, contact information, and demographic variables, including school district attended. Upon receipt of a site's list, the evaluation team processed the list in order to (1) identify duplicate records, and (2) adjust household membership. Regarding (2), two kinds of adjustments were sometimes made by the evaluation team. First, there was sometimes information in the site-provided lists that indicated that two site-assigned households might be sharing food costs and cooking; e.g., two site-assigned households sometimes shared a residence. In such a circumstance, there was no way for the evaluation team to know with certainty whether or not these households shopped and cooked together, but to preclude the possibility that one household would be assigned the benefit but the other would not, these two site-assigned households would be considered a single household for the purposes of benefit assignment. Second, sometimes two site-assigned households appeared to be headed by the same parent; e.g., the households shared a residence and had the same parent name. Since, in some of the survey questions, we wanted parents to answer with respect to all of the children in their household, two such site-assigned households would be considered a single household for the purposes of survey administration.

At the third step, the random assignment procedure proceeded somewhat differently at sites that had participated in the POC year and at sites that had not. In sites that had not participated in the POC year, the population of consenting households was first stratified by school district and number of children in the household (1, 2, or 3+). Small strata characterized by the same number of children in the household were sometimes combined. Then the same proportion of households within each stratum was randomly selected to receive the SEBTC benefit; this proportion equaled the target number of children to be assigned the benefit (usually 5,300) divided by the total number of consented children at the site. Households in the “3+” strata were handled somewhat differently. In those strata, households were progressively randomly selected until the target proportion of children from the strata was reached. However, as described below, some active consent sites did not meet the target number of consenting households, and therefore could offer the benefit to less than 5,300 children.

In the POC sites, any household that received the benefit in 2011 automatically received the benefit in 2012, so long as it was still eligible and consented. The random assignment procedure for the POC sites therefore needed to exclude these households prior to random assignment. Similarly, the target number of children to be randomly assigned to the benefit needed to be reduced by the number of children who were guaranteed benefits in the full demonstration year because they received them in the POC year. (POC households in the control group in the POC year had another chance to be assigned the benefit and were not excluded from random assignment.) After these adjustments, random assignment proceeded as described above.

At the fourth step, the size of an evaluation subsample’s treatment and control groups depended on the number of consented households at a site. For active consent sites, the design called for providing the survey team with a subsample of approximately 1,500 treatment households and 1,500 control households that were randomly selected from the benefit and non-benefit groups, respectively. Assuming that there are two children per household, to provide SEBTC benefits to 5,300 children, a site needed 2,600 households for the benefit group (of which 1,500 treatment households would be selected) as well as the 1,500 for the evaluation subsample’s control group for a total of approximately 3,100 consenting households. However, some active consent sites did not meet this target. For some of these sites, we therefore forwarded to the survey team all of the benefit and/or non-benefit households. The survey team did not intend to interview all of the households in a site’s evaluation subsample: instead, it aimed to obtain at least 1,930 completed interviews in spring and in summer, but needed reserve households due to anticipated interview nonresponse.

For the details of each site’s random assignment and evaluation subsample selection procedures, refer to Appendix 2A. Exhibit 5A.1 provides a capsule summary of these procedures for each of the sites. The first two columns provide the number of households, by treatment and control status, that were selected to potentially participate in the household survey. The second set of columns show the actual number of households, among the larger group, that were released for data collection. Judgments about how much sample to release were based on the length of the spring data collection window in a site, coupled with the overall quality of the

Exhibit 5A.1 Random Assignment and Evaluation Subsample Procedures by Site, 2012

Site	Initial Evaluation Subsample (Households) ^a		Evaluation Subsample Released for Data Collection (Households)		Notes
	Treatment	Control	Treatment	Control	
Cherokee Nation	2,497	2,500	986	991	-Three participating school districts could not provide any telephone numbers for eligible students. Although these households were considered for random assignment to the benefit group, given the short spring data collection period (approximately two weeks) they were excluded from the pool of households eligible to be selected for the evaluation subsample in order to maximize response rates. One boarding school was also excluded from the pool.
Chickasaw Nation	2,136	1,425	2,029	1,370	-Grantee did not deliver the total sample needed to provide benefits to 5,300 children and have an adequately sized control group. Therefore, 60% of the sample was assigned to the benefit group and 40% to the non-benefit group and the similar proportions selected for the evaluation subsample.
Connecticut					
POC	914	921	914	921	-Grantee used the passive consent process for households that were in the POC-year benefit group and active consent for consenting households in the POC-year non-benefit group. Since this almost certainly leads to lack of balance between the POC-year treatment and control groups, the POC-year benefit group was excluded from the evaluation subsample. -Grantee did not deliver the total sample needed to provide benefits to 5,300 children and have an adequately sized control group. After providing benefits to all POC benefit households, the remaining sample was balanced between the benefit and non-benefit groups and, with the exclusion described above, the full sample used as the initial evaluation subsample.
Expansion	1,286	1,281	1,269	1,269	-Grantee did not deliver the total sample needed to provide benefits to 5,300 children and have an adequately sized control group. The sample was balanced between the benefit and non-benefit groups and the full sample used as the initial evaluation subsample. -Incorrect notification letters went to 32 households in one school district (i.e., the non-benefit group was told it would get SEBTC and the benefit group was told it did not). The grantee added 8 non-benefit households to the benefit group after they called the grantee to find out where their cards were. All households who responded to the survey from this school district were removed from the evaluation subsample prior to analysis.
Delaware	1,713	1,713	1,700	1,697	

Site	Initial Evaluation Subsample (Households) ^a		Evaluation Subsample Released for Data Collection (Households)		Notes
	Treatment	Control	Treatment	Control	
Michigan					
POC	1,615	1,610	1,600	1,600	
Expansion	1,543	1,545	1,500	1,500	-The grantee omitted 2,016 records of children (1,039 consenting households) from one of the three participating ISDs. In addition, 26 records were omitted from a second ISD. This issue was not discovered until after random assignment had been completed and the evaluation subsample had been selected. The 1,100 households in the benefit group from other two ISDs who were <u>not</u> selected for the evaluation subsample were pooled with the newly discovered consenting households and re-randomized so that all consenting household had an equivalent chance of receiving SEBTC. Households selected for the evaluation subsample for the ISD that omitted 2,016 records were removed from the evaluation subsample.
Missouri					
POC	2,502	2,501	2,000	2,000	
Expansion	2,499	2,499	1,980	1,983	
Nevada	2,500	2,499	1,000	1,000	
Oregon					
POC	1,752	1,813	1,600	1,600	-Grantee did not deliver the total sample needed to provide benefits to 5,300 children and have an adequately sized control group. The sample was balanced between the benefit and non-benefit groups and the full sample selected as the initial evaluation subsample.
Expansion	1,573	1,558	1,500	1,500	-Grantee did not deliver the total sample needed to provide benefits to 5,300 children and have an adequately sized control group. The sample was balanced between the benefit and non-benefit groups and the full sample selected as the initial evaluation subsample.
Texas	2,550	2,500	1,882	1,888	-382 households assigned to the benefit group in the POC year did not use their SEBTC cards either because they could not be located, did not attend a training, or opted out after the cards had been cut. These households were included in the benefit group this year but were excluded from the evaluation subsample.
Washington	1,567	1,566	1,500	1,500	

Source: SEBTC, Evaluation Subsample, 2012

^aHousehold is defined here for survey purposes; sometimes the evaluation team grouped what the grantee defined as two households into one as described in Section 5A.2. Thus, household counts may not match exactly to those in other parts of the report.

household lists. These judgments were made in order to balance site-level response rates, the overall response rate, and the probability of completing the evaluation's target of 27,000 interviews. The final column in the exhibit provides a summary of site level details as they pertain to the evaluation subsample.

5A.3 Balance Testing

To assess whether the randomization process was successful in achieving balanced groups, we conducted balance tests using information obtained from the grantees about children's characteristics (age, grade, gender, school lunch status, and so on). Individual grantees were able to provide 6 to 8 different child and household characteristics categories. Balance tests were performed on only the group that was randomized during the full demonstration year (i.e., excluding "re-uppers" from the POC year). Tests were performed at three levels: the full sample of consented children; the evaluation subsample; and households for which surveys were attempted in the spring.

Exhibit 5A.2 presents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random. Considering single statistics, there is some limited evidence of imbalance, but it is not more than would be expected purely by chance.¹ The tests of all characteristics together in each site also show no evidence of imbalance. Specifically, the joint Wald test considers the similarity between the benefit and non-benefit groups on all characteristics jointly (allowing for correlation between the measures) to test balance. P-values below 0.05 indicate that there is evidence of imbalance on the collection of characteristics jointly. Across the 14 sites, the p-values were above the conventional 0.05 cutoff in all 14 sites.

Using the same data, and, again excluding the households from the POC year that were not selected at random, the evaluation subsample was also tested for balance on all characteristics combined. The results from this balance test are shown in Exhibit 5A.3. Across the 14 sites, all but one site (Nevada) met the test for balance.

Finally, an identical analysis was performed on the sample of households selected to be interviewed for the survey component. The results of this balance test are shown in Exhibit 5A.4. As with the full sample of consented children, all of the sites met the joint test for balance.

¹ With a large enough set of characteristics, some of the characteristics would be expected to differ between the benefit/non-benefit groups merely based on chance. For example, at a p-value of 0.05, we would expect approximately 5% of tests to be statistically significant even when there is overall balance. In fact, in the full demonstration sample, 16 out of 290 contrasts, or 5.5%, are statistically significant.

Exhibit 5A.2 Random Assignment Balance Tests for the Full Sample of Consented Households, 2012

Characteristic	Cherokee Nation			Chickasaw Nation			Connecticut POC ^a		
	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	3,284	6,308	N/A	2,559	1,425	N/A	914	921	N/A
Total Number of Children	5,409	10,318	N/A	5,302	2,923	N/A	1,608	1,605	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type									
Percent Free Lunch	84.3%	85.6%	0.1811	83.3%	83.4%	0.9705	84.2%	84.0%	0.8970
Percent Reduced Lunch	15.8%	14.4%	0.1811	16.7%	16.7%	0.9705	15.8%	16.1%	0.8970
Household NSLP Status									
Percent Directly Certified	44.2%	45.0%	0.7175	51.8%	52.4%	0.7349	60.3%	59.8%	0.8496
Percent Applied	55.8%	55.0%	0.7175	48.2%	47.7%	0.7349	39.7%	40.2%	0.8496
Household Size									
Number of Children per HH	1.36	1.4	0.0834	2.07	2.05	0.5585	1.76	1.74	0.6959
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Male	50.4%	51.0%	0.6937	51.4%	50.9%	0.6291	50.2%	50.9%	0.7302
Percent Female	49.6%	49.0%	0.6937	48.6%	49.1%	0.6291	49.8%	49.2%	0.7302
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent 5 Years or Younger	4.7%	4.6%	0.7906	5.2%	5.4%	0.7195	7.5%	7.4%	0.9248
Percent 6 to 12 Years	50.0%	51.1%	0.3828	55.4%	56.7%	0.2954	60.4%	62.1%	0.3736
Percent 13 to 17 Years	35.9%	34.8%	0.3340	33.4%	31.5%	0.0987	27.5%	27.3%	0.8879
Percent 18 Years or Older	9.4%	9.6%	0.8084	6.1%	6.5%	0.4813	4.6%	3.3%	0.0727
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	12.9%	12.3%	0.3394	15.8%	15.9%	0.9130	14.0%	15.2%	0.3928
Percent 1 to 5	37.7%	38.5%	0.4461	41.8%	42.5%	0.5331	45.2%	47.5%	0.2149
Percent 6 to 8	21.7%	21.2%	0.5530	22.7%	22.6%	0.9346	24.4%	23.3%	0.4552
Percent 9 to 12	27.6%	28.0%	0.7005	19.7%	19.0%	0.4417	16.4%	14.1%	0.1176
Race and Ethnicity									
Percent Caucasian	44.3%	41.0%	0.0545	47.5%	46.1%	0.4324	59.0%	55.3%	0.1866
Percent Black	1.6%	1.6%	0.8855	6.8%	7.4%	0.5086	8.7%	8.6%	0.9236
Percent Hispanic	0.8%	0.5%	0.4032	10.9%	9.9%	0.3471	24.0%	24.9%	0.7179
Percent Other	53.3%	56.9%	0.0369	34.8%	36.6%	0.2840	8.3%	11.2%	0.0738
Language									
English	86.1%	90.6%	0.0035	97.6%	97.8%	0.6973	83.1%	84.3%	0.5244
Spanish	12.4%	8.6%	0.0091	2.2%	2.2%	0.9684	14.4%	13.1%	0.4680
Other	1.5%	0.8%	0.2313	0.2%	0.0%	0.0000	2.5%	2.6%	0.9075
Joint Significance Test									
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.1667	N/A	N/A	0.7663	N/A	N/A	0.9664

Source: SEBTC Demonstration, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

^a Presents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Characteristic	Connecticut Expansion			Delaware			Michigan POC ^a		
	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	1,286	1,281	N/A	2,870	1,713	N/A	1,936	2,330	N/A
Total Number of Children	2,515	2,510	N/A	5,302	3,152	N/A	3,556	4,274	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type									
Percent Free Lunch	90.1%	89.2%	0.4759	95.2%	94.9%	0.5648	95.2%	95.6%	0.5362
Percent Reduced Lunch	9.9%	10.8%	0.4759	4.8%	5.1%	0.5648	4.8%	4.4%	0.5362
Household NSLP Status									
Percent Directly Certified	70.7%	72.0%	0.5191	66.5%	67.9%	0.5001	69.0%	68.1%	0.5323
Percent Applied	29.3%	28.0%	0.5191	33.5%	32.1%	0.5001	31.0%	32.0%	0.5323
Household Size									
Number of Children per HH	1.96	1.96	0.9251	1.85	1.84	0.7977	1.84	1.83	0.9377
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Male	52.6%	49.4%	0.0265	52.1%	51.1%	0.3805	51.2%	51.9%	0.5052
Percent Female	47.4%	50.6%	0.0265	47.9%	49.0%	0.3805	48.9%	48.1%	0.5052
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent 5 Years or Younger	5.8%	6.2%	0.6060	2.1%	2.5%	0.2721	9.3%	8.4%	0.2164
Percent 6 to 12 Years	61.6%	62.7%	0.4790	58.2%	58.8%	0.6235	62.6%	63.2%	0.5737
Percent 13 to 17 Years	28.6%	27.7%	0.5409	32.8%	31.7%	0.3101	22.9%	23.3%	0.6955
Percent 18 Years or Older	4.0%	3.4%	0.3110	6.9%	7.0%	0.8787	5.2%	5.1%	0.7322
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	15.0%	15.4%	0.6844	11.9%	11.5%	0.5925	22.3%	21.2%	0.2428
Percent 1 to 5	47.5%	48.3%	0.5574	43.7%	45.1%	0.2092	45.2%	45.9%	0.5561
Percent 6 to 8	20.7%	21.0%	0.7926	24.4%	23.7%	0.4029	17.7%	17.8%	0.9339
Percent 9 to 12	16.8%	15.3%	0.1612	20.1%	19.8%	0.8107	14.8%	15.2%	0.6254
Race and Ethnicity									
Percent Caucasian	23.6%	23.0%	0.7540	53.5%	54.6%	0.4982	16.2%	18.2%	0.0786
Percent Black	21.7%	22.1%	0.8463	43.8%	42.4%	0.3961	34.0%	34.2%	0.9093
Percent Hispanic	28.6%	27.6%	0.6245	0.0%	0.1%	0.0000	42.1%	39.6%	0.1393
Percent Other	26.1%	27.4%	0.5315	2.7%	3.0%	0.6719	7.8%	8.0%	0.7454
Language									
English	86.6%	89.2%	0.0781	80.8%	76.7%	0.0041	99.5%	99.7%	0.1382
Spanish	12.8%	9.8%	0.0432	18.4%	22.5%	0.0037	0.5%	0.3%	0.1871
Other	0.6%	0.9%	0.4185	0.8%	0.8%	0.9624	0.0%	0.0%	
Joint Significance Test									
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.6981	N/A	N/A	0.8577	N/A	N/A	0.5763

Source: SEBTC Demonstration, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

^a Presents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Characteristic	Michigan Expansion			Missouri POC ^a			Missouri Expansion		
	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	2,634	2,548	N/A	1,856	9,724	N/A	3,468	10,418	N/A
Total Number of Children	5,325	5,067	N/A	3,170	16,589	N/A	5,304	16,044	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type									
Percent Free Lunch	86.4%	86.3%	0.8890	93.0%	93.6%	0.3954	95.2%	94.9%	0.5648
Percent Reduced Lunch	13.6%	13.7%	0.8890	7.0%	6.4%	0.3954	4.8%	5.1%	0.5648
Household NSLP Status									
Percent Directly Certified	61.9%	61.6%	0.8575						
Percent Applied	38.1%	38.4%	0.8575						
Household Size									
Number of Children per HH	1.83	1.59	0.0168	1.71	1.71	0.9368	1.53	1.54	0.5399
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Male	51.5%	50.4%	0.2676	52.0%	51.0%	0.3035	51.0%	51.3%	0.6739
Percent Female	48.5%	49.6%	0.2676	48.0%	49.0%	0.3035	49.0%	48.7%	0.6739
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent 5 Years or Younger	1.3%	1.4%	0.7622	5.7%	6.4%	0.1495	8.1%	6.9%	0.0034
Percent 6 to 12 Years	56.0%	58.4%	0.0412	56.4%	55.7%	0.5243	49.9%	50.6%	0.4297
Percent 13 to 17 Years	35.8%	33.9%	0.0798	29.5%	30.2%	0.4112	31.5%	31.9%	0.6237
Percent 18 Years or Older	6.9%	6.3%	0.2759	8.5%	7.7%	0.1310	10.4%	10.7%	0.6712
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	10.6%	11.4%	0.1887	10.5%	11.2%	0.2684	19.4%	17.6%	0.0055
Percent 1 to 5	42.3%	43.1%	0.4688	44.4%	43.4%	0.3332	36.0%	36.9%	0.2831
Percent 6 to 8	22.8%	22.3%	0.6075	21.2%	22.0%	0.3335	19.0%	18.7%	0.6064
Percent 9 to 12	24.4%	23.2%	0.2167	23.9%	23.4%	0.5769	25.6%	26.9%	0.1018
Race and Ethnicity									
Percent Caucasian	90.6%	90.6%	0.9970	9.8%	8.9%	0.2198	9.7%	9.9%	0.6994
Percent Black	3.4%	4.0%	0.2331	66.4%	66.6%	0.8781	84.7%	83.8%	0.2567
Percent Hispanic	4.1%	3.5%	0.2542	20.8%	20.8%	0.9774	3.3%	3.2%	0.6474
Percent Other	1.9%	1.9%	0.8860	3.0%	3.8%	0.1178	2.3%	3.2%	0.0149
Language									
English				80.5%	79.6%	0.4488	90.9%	90.0%	0.1715
Spanish				15.2%	16.1%	0.4258	2.5%	2.4%	0.6796
Other				4.3%	4.4%	0.9295	6.6%	7.6%	0.0784
Joint Significance Test									
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.3968	N/A	N/A	0.2350	N/A	N/A	0.0786

Source: SEBTC Demonstration, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

^aPresents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Characteristic	Nevada			Oregon POC ^a			Oregon Expansion		
	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	3,049	9,665	N/A	1,137	1,813	N/A	1,573	1,558	N/A
Total Number of Children	5,301	16,767	N/A	2,099	3,375	N/A	3,259	3,253	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type									
Percent Free Lunch				91.1%	90.0%	0.3748	94.0%	93.7%	0.7242
Percent Reduced Lunch				9.0%	10.0%	0.3748	6.0%	6.3%	0.7242
Household NSLP Status									
Percent Directly Certified				70.4%	71.5%	0.5701	6.0%	6.3%	0.7242
Percent Applied				29.6%	28.5%	0.5701	77.8%	78.4%	0.6849
Household Size									
Number of Children per HH	1.74	1.73	0.8467	1.85	1.86	0.6627	22.24	21.56	0.6849
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Male	52.0%	51.9%	0.9191	52.4%	51.0%	0.3355	52.1%	52.3%	0.9023
Percent Female	48.0%	48.1%	0.9191	47.6%	49.0%	0.3355	47.9%	47.8%	0.9023
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent 5 Years or Younger	1.3%	1.6%	0.0502	0.4%	0.4%	0.8770	0.2%	0.2%	0.5927
Percent 6 to 12 Years	47.0%	47.5%	0.5958	58.6%	58.8%	0.8935	56.8%	55.7%	0.3898
Percent 13 to 17 Years	43.8%	42.8%	0.2456	36.3%	35.2%	0.4232	37.0%	37.8%	0.4824
Percent 18 Years or Older	7.9%	8.1%	0.7715	4.8%	5.7%	0.1390	6.0%	6.3%	0.5614
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	1.0%	1.3%	0.0360	6.7%	6.2%	0.4161	0.2%	0.2%	0.6017
Percent 1 to 5	37.7%	37.6%	0.8971	45.3%	45.9%	0.6912	46.1%	46.0%	0.9081
Percent 6 to 8	30.7%	30.9%	0.7828	25.9%	24.0%	0.1046	27.3%	27.7%	0.6476
Percent 9 to 12	30.6%	30.2%	0.5663	22.1%	24.0%	0.1412	26.5%	26.1%	0.7410
Race and Ethnicity									
Percent Caucasian	37.6%	35.8%	0.9640	77.0%	74.1%	0.1300			
Percent Black	2.5%	2.8%	0.3323	0.7%	1.3%	0.1195			
Percent Hispanic	50.0%	50.7%	0.5144	8.7%	8.7%	0.9708			
Percent Other	11.8%	10.6%	0.1156	13.6%	16.0%	0.1222			
Language									
English	45.4%	45.0%	0.7906	85.6%	86.4%	0.6217	75.3%	72.5%	0.1318
Spanish	54.3%	54.8%	0.7706	14.3%	13.6%	0.6562	24.7%	27.6%	0.1318
Other	0.3%	0.3%	0.7652	0.1%	0.0%	0.5133	0.0%	0.0%	0.0000
Joint Significance Test									
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.3849	N/A	N/A	0.1337	N/A	N/A	0.7565

Source: SEBTC Demonstration, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

^aPresents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Characteristic	Texas ^a			Washington		
	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value	Benefit	Non-Benefit	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	1,977	17,738	N/A	1,567	1,566	N/A
Total Number of Children	3,413	29,890	N/A	3,297	3,293	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type						
Percent Free Lunch	86.7%	86.9%	0.7876	89.5%	88.4%	0.3763
Percent Reduced Lunch	13.3%	13.1%	0.7876	10.5%	11.6%	0.3763
Household NSLP Status						
Percent Directly Certified				67.4%	65.0%	0.1948
Percent Applied				32.6%	35.0%	0.1948
Household Size						
Number of Children per HH	1.73	1.69	0.0498	2.1	2.1	0.9760
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC						
Percent Male	51.4%	51.2%	0.8315			
Percent Female	48.6%	48.8%	0.8315			
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC						
Percent 5 Years or Younger	4.6%	4.4%	0.4967			
Percent 6 to 12 Years	50.9%	50.6%	0.7423			
Percent 13 to 17 Years	35.3%	35.7%	0.7179			
Percent 18 Years or Older	9.2%	9.4%	0.6344			
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC						
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	12.8%	12.7%	0.9478	0.0%	0.0%	
Percent 1 to 5	37.4%	37.2%	0.8176	48.0%	47.3%	0.6159
Percent 6 to 8	22.1%	22.1%	0.9614	27.1%	26.8%	0.8345
Percent 9 to 12	27.7%	28.0%	0.7413	25.0%	25.9%	0.4510
Race and Ethnicity						
Percent Caucasian	2.7%	3.3%	0.0857	57.1%	58.2%	0.5558
Percent Black	1.3%	1.4%	0.8457	5.7%	4.1%	0.0445
Percent Hispanic	95.4%	94.6%	0.0957	24.7%	24.7%	0.9956
Percent Other	0.7%	0.8%	0.3686	12.5%	13.0%	0.7127
Language						
English	55.3%	54.3%	0.4398	65.9%	67.4%	0.4263
Spanish	44.0%	44.8%	0.5036	0.0%	0.0%	
Other	0.7%	0.9%	0.4253	34.1%	32.6%	0.4263
Joint Significance Test						
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.8341	N/A	N/A	0.7924

Source: SEBTC Demonstration, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

^aPresents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Exhibit 5A.3 Random Balance Tests for the Initial Evaluation SubSample, 2012

Characteristic	Cherokee Nation			Chickasaw Nation			Connecticut POC ^a		
	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	2,497	2,500	N/A	2,136	1,425	N/A	914	921	N/A
Total Number of Children	4,071	4,127	N/A	4,409	2,923	N/A	1,608	1,605	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type									
Percent Free Lunch	84.7%	85.7%	0.4512	83.0%	83.4%	0.8188	84.2%	84.0%	0.8970
Percent Reduced Lunch	15.3%	14.3%	0.4512	17.0%	16.7%	0.8188	15.8%	16.1%	0.8970
Household NSLP Status									
Percent Directly Certified	45.5%	46.2%	0.8051	51.5%	52.4%	0.6270	60.3%	59.8%	0.8496
Percent Applied	54.5%	53.8%	0.8051	48.5%	47.7%	0.6270	39.7%	40.2%	0.8496
Household Size									
Number of Children per HH	1.63	1.65	0.4316	2.06	2.05	0.7286	1.76	1.74	0.6959
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Male	51.0%	51.5%	0.8241	51.2%	50.9%	0.7734	50.2%	50.9%	0.7302
Percent Female	49.0%	48.5%	0.8241	48.8%	49.1%	0.7734	49.8%	49.2%	0.7302
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent 5 Years or Younger	4.5%	4.6%	0.9167	5.3%	5.4%	0.9386	7.5%	7.4%	0.9248
Percent 6 to 12 Years	51.8%	50.9%	0.5310	55.5%	56.7%	0.3640	60.4%	62.1%	0.3736
Percent 13 to 17 Years	34.7%	35.5%	0.5537	33.1%	31.5%	0.1639	27.5%	27.3%	0.8879
Percent 18 Years or Older	9.0%	9.0%	0.9546	6.0%	6.5%	0.4523	4.6%	3.3%	0.0727
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	13.0%	12.8%	0.7690	15.7%	15.9%	0.8228	14.0%	15.2%	0.3928
Percent 1 to 5	38.5%	38.6%	0.9878	42.2%	42.5%	0.7781	45.2%	47.5%	0.2149
Percent 6 to 8	21.4%	21.1%	0.7363	22.3%	22.6%	0.7778	24.4%	23.3%	0.4552
Percent 9 to 12	27.0%	21.1%	0.6335	19.8%	19.0%	0.4188	16.4%	14.1%	0.1176
Race and Ethnicity									
Percent Caucasian	46.7%	42.6%	0.0596	47.5%	46.1%	0.4343	59.0%	55.3%	0.1866
Percent Black	1.7%	2.3%	0.3219	7.0%	7.4%	0.6947	8.7%	8.6%	0.9236
Percent Hispanic	0.7%	0.5%	0.5036	11.1%	9.9%	0.3109	24.0%	24.9%	0.7179
Percent Other	50.9%	54.7%	0.0871	34.4%	36.6%	0.2035	8.3%	11.2%	0.0738
Language									
English	85.0%	89.5%	0.0200	97.7%	97.8%	0.7843	83.1%	84.3%	0.5244
Spanish	13.3%	10.0%	0.0721	2.2%	2.2%	0.9473	14.4%	13.1%	0.4680
Other	1.7%	0.6%	0.0791	0.2%	0.0%	0.0000	2.5%	2.6%	0.9075
Joint Significance Test									
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.7458	N/A	N/A	0.8461	N/A	N/A	0.9446

Source: SEBTC, Initial Evaluation Subsample, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

^a Presents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Characteristic	Connecticut Expansion			Delaware			Michigan POC ^a		
	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	1,286	1,281	N/A	1,713	1,713	N/A	1,615	2,330	N/A
Total Number of Children	2,515	2,510	N/A	3,159	3,152	N/A	2,952	4,274	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type									
Percent Free Lunch	90.1%	89.2%	0.4759	94.9%	94.9%	0.8975	94.8%	95.6%	0.2472
Percent Reduced Lunch	9.9%	10.8%	0.4759	5.1%	5.1%	0.8975	5.2%	4.4%	0.2472
Household NSLP Status									
Percent Directly Certified	70.7%	72.0%	0.5191	65.0%	67.9%	0.2260	68.6%	68.1%	0.7241
Percent Applied	29.3%	28.0%	0.5191	35.0%	32.1%	0.2260	31.4%	32.0%	0.7241
Household Size									
Number of Children per HH	1.96	1.96	0.9251	1.84	1.84	0.8983	1.83	1.83	0.8437
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Male	52.6%	49.4%	0.0265	52.7%	51.1%	0.1928	50.8%	51.9%	0.3470
Percent Female	47.4%	50.6%	0.0265	47.3%	49.0%	0.1928	49.2%	48.1%	0.3470
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent 5 Years or Younger	5.8%	6.2%	0.6060	1.8%	2.5%	0.0676	8.9%	8.4%	0.4578
Percent 6 to 12 Years	61.6%	62.7%	0.4790	58.9%	58.8%	0.9308	62.9%	63.2%	0.8102
Percent 13 to 17 Years	28.6%	27.7%	0.5409	33.0%	31.7%	0.2908	22.8%	23.3%	0.6242
Percent 18 Years or Older	4.0%	3.4%	0.3110	6.3%	7.0%	0.2942	5.3%	5.1%	0.6288
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	15.0%	15.4%	0.6844	11.6%	11.5%	0.9225	21.9%	21.2%	0.4837
Percent 1 to 5	47.5%	48.3%	0.5574	44.7%	45.1%	0.7615	45.7%	45.9%	0.9123
Percent 6 to 8	20.7%	21.0%	0.7926	23.8%	23.7%	0.9040	17.7%	17.8%	0.9015
Percent 9 to 12	16.8%	15.3%	0.1612	20.0%	19.8%	0.8688	14.7%	15.2%	0.5981
Race and Ethnicity									
Percent Caucasian	23.6%	23.0%	0.7540	53.8%	54.6%	0.6690	16.5%	18.2%	0.1639
Percent Black	21.7%	22.1%	0.8463	43.4%	42.4%	0.6008	33.4%	34.2%	0.6449
Percent Hispanic	28.6%	27.6%	0.6245	0.0%	0.1%	0.0000	42.6%	39.6%	0.0906
Percent Other	26.1%	27.4%	0.5315	2.8%	3.0%	0.8499	7.5%	8.0%	0.5530
Language									
English	86.6%	89.2%	0.0781	80.3%	76.7%	0.0226	99.4%	99.7%	0.0578
Spanish	12.8%	9.8%	0.0432	18.7%	22.5%	0.0167	0.6%	0.3%	0.0830
Other	0.6%	0.9%	0.4185	1.0%	0.8%	0.7309	0.0%	0.0%	0.0000
Joint Significance Test									
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.6981	N/A	N/A	0.7685	N/A	N/A	0.4542

Source: SEBTC, Initial Evaluation Subsample, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

^a Presents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Characteristic	Michigan Expansion			Missouri POC ^a			Missouri Expansion		
	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	1,543	1,545	N/A	1,564	2,501	N/A	2,499	2,499	N/A
Total Number of Children	3,093	3,096	N/A	2,594	4,319	N/A	3,820	3,849	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type									
Percent Free Lunch	89.0%	89.0%	0.9994	92.6%	93.3%	0.3865	94.9%	94.9%	0.8975
Percent Reduced Lunch	11.0%	11.0%	0.9994	7.4%	6.7%	0.3865	5.1%	5.1%	0.8975
Household NSLP Status									
Percent Directly Certified	61.4%	62.1%	0.7217						
Percent Applied	38.6%	37.9%	0.7217						
Household Size									
Number of Children per HH	2	2	0.9872	1.66	1.73	0.0314	1.53	1.54	0.6419
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Male	51.4%	50.2%	0.3527	52.3%	50.8%	0.2528	51.6%	52.0%	0.7371
Percent Female	48.6%	49.9%	0.3527	47.7%	49.2%	0.2528	48.4%	48.0%	0.7371
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent 5 Years or Younger	1.2%	1.4%	0.4990	5.9%	5.8%	0.9187	8.4%	7.0%	0.0334
Percent 6 to 12 Years	55.3%	58.2%	0.0344	55.7%	55.8%	0.9579	49.5%	51.1%	0.2103
Percent 13 to 17 Years	36.4%	34.1%	0.0671	29.7%	30.8%	0.3993	32.0%	31.6%	0.7246
Percent 18 Years or Older	7.1%	6.3%	0.2062	8.7%	7.6%	0.1359	10.1%	10.3%	0.8268
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	10.4%	10.8%	0.5731	10.9%	10.7%	0.8510	19.4%	17.7%	0.0781
Percent 1 to 5	41.5%	43.8%	0.0819	43.3%	43.0%	0.8515	35.5%	37.3%	0.0967
Percent 6 to 8	24.0%	22.6%	0.1848	21.4%	22.7%	0.2068	19.7%	18.4%	0.1296
Percent 9 to 12	24.2%	22.8%	0.2673	24.4%	23.5%	0.4504	25.5%	26.6%	0.3214
Race and Ethnicity									
Percent Caucasian	89.8%	89.0%	0.4874	10.5%	8.0%	0.0136	9.9%	10.2%	0.7374
Percent Black	3.9%	4.9%	0.1888	65.8%	66.6%	0.6528	85.1%	83.6%	0.1903
Percent Hispanic	4.3%	3.9%	0.5902	20.7%	21.6%	0.5786	2.8%	3.5%	0.2245
Percent Other	2.0%	2.1%	0.7309	3.1%	3.9%	0.2209	2.2%	2.8%	0.3009
Language									
English				81.2%	79.7%	0.3360	91.3%	89.9%	0.1640
Spanish				14.6%	16.4%	0.1878	2.1%	2.7%	0.2055
Other				4.3%	3.9%	0.6959	6.6%	7.4%	0.3896
Joint Significance Test									
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.5188	N/A	N/A	0.2043	N/A	N/A	0.4586

Source: SEBTC, Initial Evaluation Subsample, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

^a Presents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Characteristic	Nevada			Oregon POC ^a			Oregon Expansion		
	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	2,500	2,499	N/A	1,137	1,813	N/A	1,573	1,558	N/A
Total Number of Children	4,360	4,330	N/A	2,099	3,375	N/A	3,259	3,253	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type									
Percent Free Lunch				91.1%	90.0%	0.3748	94.0%	93.7%	0.7242
Percent Reduced Lunch				9.0%	10.0%	0.3748	6.0%	6.3%	0.7242
Household NSLP Status									
Percent Directly Certified				70.4%	71.5%	0.5701	6.0%	6.3%	0.7242
Percent Applied				29.6%	28.5%	0.5701	77.8%	78.4%	0.6849
Household Size									
Number of Children per HH	1.74	1.73	0.6715	1.85	1.86	0.6627	22.24	21.56	0.6849
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Male	52.1%	51.6%	0.6752	52.4%	51.0%	0.3355	52.1%	52.3%	0.9023
Percent Female	47.9%	48.4%	0.6752	47.6%	49.0%	0.3355	47.9%	47.8%	0.9023
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent 5 Years or Younger	1.0%	1.6%	0.0249	0.4%	0.4%	0.8770	0.2%	0.2%	0.5927
Percent 6 to 12 Years	46.8%	47.5%	0.5268	58.6%	58.8%	0.8935	56.8%	55.7%	0.3898
Percent 13 to 17 Years	44.1%	43.4%	0.5489	36.3%	35.2%	0.4232	37.0%	37.8%	0.4824
Percent 18 Years or Older	8.2%	7.5%	0.2817	4.8%	5.7%	0.1390	6.0%	6.3%	0.5614
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	0.8%	1.3%	0.0304	6.7%	6.2%	0.4161	0.2%	0.2%	0.6017
Percent 1 to 5	37.8%	37.0%	0.4456	45.3%	45.9%	0.6912	46.1%	46.0%	0.9081
Percent 6 to 8	29.8%	31.8%	0.0458	25.9%	24.0%	0.1046	27.3%	27.7%	0.6476
Percent 9 to 12	31.6%	30.0%	0.1449	22.1%	24.0%	0.1412	26.5%	26.1%	0.7410
Race and Ethnicity									
Percent Caucasian	35.5%	35.0%	0.7303	77.0%	74.1%	0.1300			
Percent Black	2.6%	3.1%	0.3081	0.7%	1.3%	0.1195			
Percent Hispanic	49.7%	51.1%	0.3610	8.7%	8.7%	0.9708			
Percent Other	12.2%	10.8%	0.1355	13.6%	16.0%	0.1222			
Language									
English	45.5%	44.2%	0.5529	85.6%	86.4%	0.6217	75.3%	72.5%	0.1318
Spanish	54.3%	55.6%	0.5671	14.3%	13.6%	0.6562	24.7%	27.6%	0.1318
Other	0.2%	0.3%	0.8022	0.1%	0.0%	0.5133	0.0%	0.0%	0.0000
Joint Significance Test									
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.0219	N/A	N/A	0.1337	N/A	N/A	0.7565

Source: SEBTC, Initial Evaluation Subsample, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

^a Presents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Characteristic	Texas ^a			Washington		
	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	1,601	2,500	N/A	1,567	1,566	N/A
Total Number of Children	2,776	4,191	N/A	3,297	3,293	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type						
Percent Free Lunch	86.6%	88.0%	0.1916	89.5%	88.4%	0.3763
Percent Reduced Lunch	13.4%	12.0%	0.1916	10.5%	11.6%	0.3763
Household NSLP Status						
Percent Directly Certified				67.4%	65.0%	0.1948
Percent Applied				32.6%	35.0%	0.1948
Household Size						
Number of Children per HH	1.74	1.68	0.0400	2.1	2.1	0.9760
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC						
Percent Male	51.1%	51.8%	0.5529			
Percent Female	48.9%	48.2%	0.5529			
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC						
Percent 5 Years or Younger	4.6%	4.3%	0.5475			
Percent 6 to 12 Years	50.5%	50.0%	0.6659			
Percent 13 to 17 Years	36.0%	36.5%	0.6793			
Percent 18 Years or Older	8.9%	9.3%	0.6084			
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC						
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	12.6%	12.3%	0.7572	0.0%	0.0%	0.0000
Percent 1 to 5	37.4%	36.7%	0.5819	48.0%	47.3%	0.6159
Percent 6 to 8	22.3%	22.6%	0.8056	27.1%	26.8%	0.8345
Percent 9 to 12	27.8%	28.5%	0.5612	25.0%	25.9%	0.4510
Race and Ethnicity						
Percent Caucasian	2.7%	2.8%	0.9522	57.1%	58.2%	0.5558
Percent Black	1.2%	1.4%	0.6048	5.7%	4.1%	0.0445
Percent Hispanic	95.2%	94.9%	0.5739	24.7%	24.7%	0.9956
Percent Other	0.8%	1.0%	0.5446	12.5%	13.0%	0.7127
Language						
English	55.6%	55.5%	0.9654	65.9%	67.4%	0.4263
Spanish	43.7%	43.7%	0.9919	0.0%	0.0%	0.0000
Other	0.8%	0.8%	0.8003	34.1%	32.6%	0.4263
Joint Significance Test						
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.9012	N/A	N/A	0.7924

Source: SEBTC, Initial Evaluation Subsample, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

^a Presents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Exhibit 5A.4 Random Assignment Balance Tests for the Evaluation SubSample, 2012

Characteristic	Cherokee Nation			Chickasaw Nation			Connecticut POC		
	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	986	991	N/A	2,029	1,370	N/A	914	921	N/A
Total Number of Children	1,615	1,630	N/A	4,192	2,812	N/A	1,608	1,605	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type									
Percent Free Lunch	84.9%	86.3%	0.5123	82.8%	83.4%	0.6113	84.2%	84.0%	0.8970
Percent Reduced Lunch	15.1%	13.7%	0.5123	17.3%	16.6%	0.6113	15.8%	16.1%	0.8970
Household NSLP Status									
Percent Directly Certified	45.1%	45.2%	0.9883	51.3%	52.4%	0.5514	60.3%	59.8%	0.8496
Percent Applied	54.9%	54.8%	0.9883	48.7%	47.6%	0.5514	39.7%	40.2%	0.8496
Household Size									
Number of Children per HH	1.64	1.64	0.89	2.07	2.05	0.7241	1.76	1.74	0.6959
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Male	51.1%	48.0%	0.3791	51.4%	50.8%	0.6625	50.2%	50.9%	0.7302
Percent Female	48.9%	52.0%	0.3791	48.6%	49.2%	0.6625	49.8%	49.2%	0.7302
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent 5 Years or Younger	4.7%	4.0%	0.4257	5.3%	5.4%	0.9100	7.5%	7.4%	0.9248
Percent 6 to 12 Years	51.2%	48.3%	0.2403	55.4%	56.6%	0.3575	60.4%	62.1%	0.3736
Percent 13 to 17 Years	35.3%	37.9%	0.2521	33.1%	31.6%	0.1878	27.5%	27.3%	0.8879
Percent 18 Years or Older	8.8%	97.7%	0.4891	6.1%	6.4%	0.5876	4.6%	3.3%	0.0727
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	12.6%	12.8%	0.9260	15.8%	15.9%	0.8425	14.0%	15.2%	0.3928
Percent 1 to 5	37.9%	36.9%	0.6200	42.1%	42.5%	0.7301	45.2%	47.5%	0.2149
Percent 6 to 8	21.5%	20.8%	0.6931	22.3%	22.6%	0.7527	24.4%	23.3%	0.4552
Percent 9 to 12	27.9%	29.5%	0.4545	19.9%	19.0%	0.3725	16.4%	14.1%	0.1176
Race and Ethnicity									
Percent Caucasian	46.4%	43.0%	0.3117	47.5%	46.5%	0.5773	59.0%	55.3%	0.1866
Percent Black	1.3%	2.1%	0.3726	6.8%	7.4%	0.5612	8.7%	8.6%	0.9236
Percent Hispanic	1.0%	0.4%	0.2643	11.1%	9.9%	0.3246	24.0%	24.9%	0.7179
Percent Other	51.3%	54.6%	0.3452	34.6%	36.2%	0.3617	8.3%	11.2%	0.0738
Language									
English	85.7%	90.9%	0.0845	97.7%	97.8%	0.8088	83.1%	84.3%	0.5244
Spanish	12.1%	8.4%	0.1746	2.2%	2.2%	0.9147	14.4%	13.1%	0.4680
Other	2.1%	0.8%	0.2826	0.2%	0.0%	-	2.5%	2.6%	0.9075
Global Likelihood Ratio Test									
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.9583	N/A	N/A	0.8909	N/A	N/A	0.9446

Source: SEBTC Evaluation Subsample, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

Note: Numbers reflect the households selected for the survey component.

^aPresents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Characteristic	Connecticut Expansion			Delaware			Michigan POC ^a		
	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	1,269	1,266	N/A	1,700	1,697	N/A	1,097	1,600	N/A
Total Number of Children	2,466	2,476	N/A	3,133	3,123	N/A	2,025	2,931	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type									
Percent Free Lunch	90.2%	89.4%	0.5167	94.9%	94.5%	0.5783	94.3%	95.4%	0.2037
Percent Reduced Lunch	9.8%	10.6%	0.5167	5.1%	5.5%	0.5783	5.8%	4.6%	0.2037
Household NSLP Status									
Percent Directly Certified	70.6%	72.0%	0.4496	65.0%	67.9%	0.2238	67.9%	68.0%	0.9911
Percent Applied	29.4%	28.0%	0.4496	35.0%	32.1%	0.2238	32.1%	32.1%	0.9911
Household Size									
Number of Children per HH	1.94	1.96	0.7524	1.84	1.84	0.9346	1.85	1.83	0.7228
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Male	52.6%	49.4%	0.0268	52.8%	50.9%	0.1452	51.2%	52.5%	0.3454
Percent Female	47.4%	50.6%	0.0268	47.2%	49.1%	0.1452	48.8%	47.5%	0.3454
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent 5 Years or Younger	5.8%	6.2%	0.6060	1.8%	2.5%	0.0549	8.9%	8.7%	0.7800
Percent 6 to 12 Years	61.6%	62.7%	0.4790	58.9%	58.7%	0.8946	63.1%	63.2%	0.9374
Percent 13 to 17 Years	28.6%	27.7%	0.5409	33.0%	31.8%	0.3095	22.8%	23.1%	0.7884
Percent 18 Years or Older	4.0%	3.4%	0.3110	6.4%	7.0%	0.3131	5.2%	5.0%	0.7565
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	15.2%	15.5%	0.7529	11.6%	11.5%	0.8711	22.7%	21.7%	0.4158
Percent 1 to 5	47.5%	48.5%	0.4740	44.6%	45.0%	0.7736	45.3%	45.5%	0.8977
Percent 6 to 8	20.6%	21.0%	0.7450	23.8%	23.7%	0.9212	17.2%	17.6%	0.7195
Percent 9 to 12	16.7%	15.0%	0.1210	20.0%	19.9%	0.9070	14.8%	15.2%	0.6776
Race and Ethnicity									
Percent Caucasian	22.5%	21.9%	0.7543	53.9%	54.4%	0.7813	17.0%	19.3%	0.1265
Percent Black	22.0%	22.4%	0.8328	43.3%	42.6%	0.7076	34.1%	34.1%	0.9716
Percent Hispanic	29.1%	28.0%	0.5638	0.0%	0.1%	-	41.1%	38.7%	0.2592
Percent Other	26.4%	27.7%	0.4871	2.9%	3.0%	0.8453	7.8%	8.0%	0.8880
Language									
English	86.5%	89.1%	0.0878	80.3%	76.9%	0.0353	99.4%	99.8%	0.0830
Spanish	12.9%	10.0%	0.0496	18.8%	22.3%	0.0267	0.6%	0.2%	0.0830
Other	0.6%	1.0%	0.4261	1.0%	0.8%	0.7327	0.0%	0.0%	-
Global Likelihood Ratio Test									
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.6981	N/A	N/A	0.7975	N/A	N/A	0.4696

Source: SEBTC Evaluation Subsample, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

Note: Numbers reflect the households selected for the survey component.

^aPresents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Characteristic	Michigan Expansion			Missouri POC ^a			Missouri Expansion		
	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	1,500	1,500	N/A	1,264	2,000	N/A	1,980	1,983	N/A
Total Number of Children	2,998	3,008	N/A	2,103	3,463	N/A	3,037	3,063	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type									
Percent Free Lunch	89.0%	89.1%	0.9007	91.7%	93.1%	0.1491	94.9%	94.5%	0.5783
Percent Reduced Lunch	11.1%	10.9%	0.9007	8.3%	6.9%	0.1491	5.1%	5.5%	0.5783
Household NSLP Status									
Percent Directly Certified	61.1%	62.0%	0.6380						
Percent Applied	38.9%	38.0%	0.6380						
Household Size									
Number of Children per HH	2.00	2.01	0.8708	1.66	1.73	0.0578	1.53	1.54	0.7022
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Male	51.3%	50.1%	0.3660	52.1%	50.3%	0.1976	52.2%	52.5%	0.7750
Percent Female	48.7%	49.9%	0.3660	47.9%	49.8%	0.1976	47.8%	47.5%	0.7750
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent 5 Years or Younger	1.2%	1.4%	0.5772	5.9%	6.0%	0.8758	8.8%	7.1%	0.0193
Percent 6 to 12 Years	55.3%	58.1%	0.0481	56.4%	55.4%	0.5261	49.9%	51.2%	0.3415
Percent 13 to 17 Years	36.4%	34.1%	0.0731	29.3%	31.1%	0.1873	31.2%	31.2%	0.9770
Percent 18 Years or Older	7.1%	6.4%	0.3196	8.4%	7.5%	0.2222	10.1%	10.5%	0.6483
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	10.5%	11.0%	0.5493	11.1%	10.8%	0.7582	19.5%	17.6%	0.0681
Percent 1 to 5	41.5%	43.5%	0.1295	43.7%	42.6%	0.4608	36.0%	37.6%	0.2043
Percent 6 to 8	23.8%	22.5%	0.2284	20.9%	23.3%	0.0397	19.9%	18.1%	0.0704
Percent 9 to 12	24.2%	23.0%	0.3176	24.3%	23.3%	0.4725	24.6%	26.7%	0.0905
Race and Ethnicity									
Percent Caucasian	89.7%	89.0%	0.5415	10.2%	8.3%	0.0911	8.9%	10.1%	0.2495
Percent Black	3.9%	5.0%	0.1775	65.1%	67.6%	0.1925	86.4%	83.4%	0.0203
Percent Hispanic	4.4%	4.0%	0.5417	21.6%	20.4%	0.5069	2.7%	3.6%	0.1710
Percent Other	2.0%	2.1%	0.8562	3.1%	3.6%	0.5311	2.0%	2.9%	0.1051
Language									
English				80.4%	80.8%	0.8469	91.8%	90.2%	0.1459
Spanish				15.3%	15.5%	0.8529	1.9%	2.9%	0.0709
Other				4.3%	3.7%	0.5193	6.3%	6.9%	0.5505
Global Likelihood Ratio Test									
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.5479	N/A	N/A	0.3993	N/A	N/A	0.0717

Source: SEBTC Evaluation Subsample, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

Note: Numbers reflect the households selected for the survey component.

^aPresents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Characteristic	Nevada			Oregon POC ^a			Oregon Expansion		
	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	1,000	1,000	N/A	1,061	1,600	N/A	1,500	1,500	N/A
Total Number of Children	1,765	1,742	N/A	1,970	2,992	N/A	3,110	3,134	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type									
Percent Free Lunch				91.1%	89.8%	0.3032	93.9%	93.7%	0.8323
Percent Reduced Lunch				8.9%	10.2%	0.3032	6.1%	6.3%	0.8323
Household NSLP Status									
Percent Directly Certified				70.9%	71.8%	0.6359	6.1%	6.3%	0.8323
Percent Applied				29.1%	28.2%	0.6359	78.1%	78.3%	0.9130
Household Size									
Number of Children per HH	1.77	1.74	0.5912	1.86	1.87	0.7234	21.92	21.74	0.9130
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Male	52.6%	51.0%	0.3528	52.6%	50.8%	0.2249	52.1%	52.3%	0.8753
Percent Female	47.5%	49.0%	0.3528	47.4%	49.2%	0.2249	47.9%	47.7%	0.8753
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent 5 Years or Younger	1.4%	1.8%	0.2759	0.4%	0.4%	0.9766	0.2%	0.2%	0.5829
Percent 6 to 12 Years	45.9%	48.0%	0.2704	58.2%	58.7%	0.7471	56.7%	55.6%	0.4298
Percent 13 to 17 Years	45.1%	43.2%	0.2931	36.5%	35.3%	0.3773	37.1%	37.9%	0.5034
Percent 18 Years or Older	7.7%	7.0%	0.4542	4.9%	5.7%	0.2382	6.0%	6.3%	0.6189
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC									
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	1.1%	1.3%	0.6033	6.8%	6.1%	0.3432	0.2%	0.2%	0.7981
Percent 1 to 5	37.4%	38.4%	0.5864	45.1%	45.6%	0.7443	46.0%	45.9%	0.9090
Percent 6 to 8	29.9%	31.1%	0.4054	26.0%	24.4%	0.1847	27.3%	27.8%	0.6686
Percent 9 to 12	31.6%	29.2%	0.1422	22.1%	24.0%	0.1773	26.5%	26.2%	0.7817
Race and Ethnicity									
Percent Caucasian	37.8%	33.0%	0.0389	77.2%	73.7%	0.0891			
Percent Black	1.9%	3.8%	0.0143	0.7%	1.5%	0.0873			
Percent Hispanic	48.8%	51.6%	0.2718	8.9%	8.7%	0.8712			
Percent Other	11.5%	11.7%	0.8719	13.2%	16.2%	0.0650			
Language									
English	45.4%	45.9%	0.8878	85.3%	86.2%	0.5937	74.9%	72.5%	0.2214
Spanish	54.5%	54.1%	0.9129	14.6%	13.7%	0.6267	25.1%	27.5%	0.2214
Other	0.1%	0.0%	-	0.1%	0.0%	0.5284	0.0%	0.0%	-
Global Likelihood Ratio Test									
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.0858	N/A	N/A	0.0624	N/A	N/A	0.8526

Source: SEBTC Evaluation Subsample, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

Note: Numbers reflect the households selected for the survey component.

^aPresents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Characteristic	Texas ^a			Washington		
	Treatment	Control	P-Value	Treatment	Control	P-Value
Total Number of Households (HHs)	1,215	1,888	N/A	1,500	1,500	N/A
Total Number of Children	2,103	3,159	N/A	3,157	3,151	N/A
Free or Reduced-Price Meal Certification Type						
Percent Free Lunch	85.9%	87.6%	0.1936	89.5%	88.4%	0.3774
Percent Reduced Lunch	14.1%	12.4%	0.1936	10.5%	11.6%	0.3774
Household NSLP Status						
Percent Directly Certified				67.3%	65.0%	0.2159
Percent Applied				32.7%	35.0%	0.2159
Household Size						
Number of Children per HH	1.73	1.67	0.0719	2.10	2.10	0.9223
Gender of Children Eligible for SEBTC						
Percent Male	51.1%	52.2%	0.4327			
Percent Female	48.9%	47.8%	0.4327			
Age of Children Eligible for SEBTC						
Percent 5 Years or Younger	4.8%	4.2%	0.2984			
Percent 6 to 12 Years	50.1%	49.5%	0.6796			
Percent 13 to 17 Years	36.0%	36.9%	0.4710			
Percent 18 Years or Older	9.2%	9.4%	0.7841			
Grade of Children Eligible for SEBTC						
Percent Pre-K or Kindergarten	12.6%	12.6%	0.9594	0.0%	0.0%	n/a
Percent 1 to 5	36.8%	36.3%	0.7024	47.7%	47.2%	0.7337
Percent 6 to 8	22.4%	22.2%	0.8258	27.1%	27.0%	0.9421
Percent 9 to 12	28.3%	29.0%	0.5827	25.2%	25.8%	0.6539
Race and Ethnicity						
Percent Caucasian	2.8%	2.6%	0.6558	57.4%	58.2%	0.7001
Percent Black	1.4%	1.6%	0.6926	5.7%	4.1%	0.0481
Percent Hispanic	95.0%	94.9%	0.9459	24.5%	24.6%	0.9444
Percent Other	0.9%	1.0%	0.6994	12.4%	13.1%	0.5617
Language						
English	57.1%	55.4%	0.3630	65.7%	67.4%	0.3751
Spanish	42.1%	43.8%	0.3694	0.0%	0.0%	n/a
Other	0.8%	0.8%	0.9542	34.3%	32.6%	0.3751
Global Likelihood Ratio Test						
p-value	N/A	N/A	0.8341	N/A	N/A	0.7798

Source: SEBTC Evaluation Subsample, 2012

N/A = Not Applicable

Note: Numbers reflect the households selected for the survey component.

^aPresents the results of the balance tests for the full sample of consented households, after excluding households from POC sites that had automatically received SEBTC benefits in 2012, as they were not selected at random.

Appendix 5B

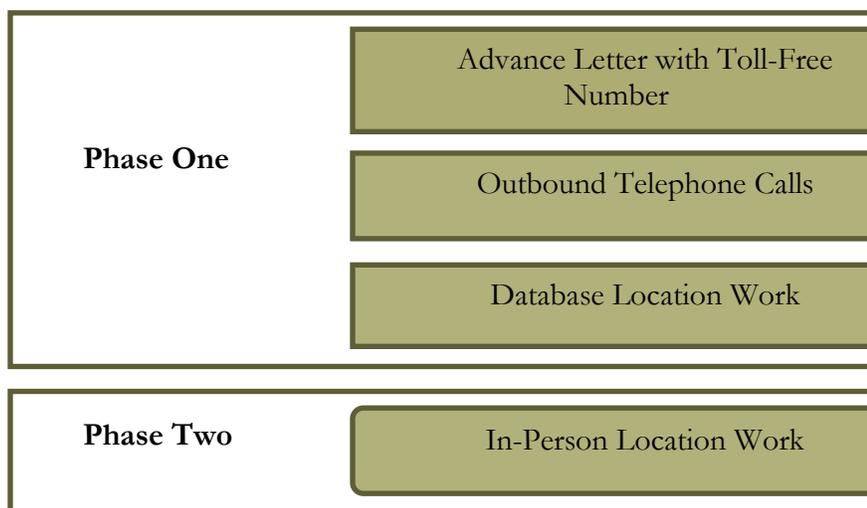
Appendix 5B

Sample Design and Response Rates

5B.1 Sample Design

The household survey used a two-phase sampling plan (Exhibit 5B.1). The first phase was telephone data collection, and the second phase was in-person field location for a subsample of first phase nonrespondent households. The sample design also involved dividing treatment and control group samples in each site into *replicates* or random subsamples. The sample was released for data collection on a replicate-by-replicate basis. All replicates were included in the telephone data collection effort (phase one). Different proportions of the replicates were designated as eligible for in-person data collection (phase two) at different sites, depending upon an initial assessment of the quality of the household contact information. Only phase one non-respondents in replicates eligible for phase two were included in phase two. As described in Appendix 5D, weights were then used to properly combine the information from the field-eligible replicates and the phone-only replicates.

Exhibit 5B.1 Two-Phase Sampling Plan



The two-phase design was selected as a cost saving measure; in-person data collection is substantially more expensive than telephone data collection. Designating replicates as field-eligible prior to the start of data collection allowed the survey team to work within the short data collection schedule by moving cases to the field immediately as the case finished the telephone protocol, rather than sub-sampling non-respondents after all the telephone work was completed.

In phase one, all households in all replicates were sent an advance letter that included a toll-free number that parents or guardians could call to complete the spring interview. Several days

after these letters were sent, call center staff initiated outbound calls to the households. If the household could not be reached after multiple attempts, or if the contact information was problematic, the team initiated data base location work to attempt to find a better telephone number. All replicates were included in the telephone data collection effort (phase one). Only phase one non-respondents in field-eligible households were included in phase two.

To maximize the efficiency of this design, balancing cost savings with reduced power, the design called for roughly half (40-50%) of the replicates in each site to be eligible for in-person locating (phase two). However, because of the very short data collection period for the spring survey and/or limited available sample the sub-sampling rate in some sites was increased (see Exhibits 5B.2). In particular, the Nevada and Cherokee Nation sites were given phase two sub-sampling rates of 75% because they were passive consent sites with very short data collection periods, and 100% of cases in both Connecticut sites were included in phase two because the total available sample was limited.

For each site, Exhibit 5B.2 provides a site-by-site tabulation of this aspect of the sampling, showing the amount of sample in the phone-only and field-eligible replicates. The subsampling rate is the percentage of the sample that is field eligible. The final column shows the resultant phase two weight, which was used to compute the weighted response rate.

Exhibit 5B.2 Spring Replicate Eligibility for In-Person Locating (Phase 2)

Site	Sample in Phone-Only Replicates	Sample in Field-Eligible Replicates	Total	Sub-Sampling Rate	Phase Two Weight
Cherokee Nation	493	1,484	1,977	75.1%	1.332
Chickasaw Nation	1,999	1,400	3,399	41.2%	2.428
Connecticut					
POC	0	1,835	1,835	100.0%	1.000
Expansion	0	2,567	2,567	100.0%	1.000
Delaware	1,999	1,398	3,397	41.2%	2.430
Michigan					
POC	1,900	1,300	3,200	40.6%	2.462
Expansion	1,800	1,200	3,000	40.0%	2.500
Missouri					
POC	2,000	2,000	4,000	50.0%	2.000
Expansion	1,983	1,980	3,963	50.0%	2.002
Nevada	500	1,500	2,000	75.0%	1.333
Oregon					
POC	1,900	1,300	3,200	40.6%	2.462
Expansion	1,800	1,200	3,000	40.0%	2.500
Texas	1,886	1,885	3,771	50.0%	2.001
Washington	1,800	1,200	3,000	40.0%	2.500
All Sites	20,060	22,249	42,309	52.6%	1.902
Active Sites	13,198	13,400	26,598	50.4%	1.985
Passive Sites	6,862	8,849	15,711	56.3%	1.775
13 Sites^a	19,567	20,765	40,332	51.5%	1.942

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012.

^aExcludes Cherokee Nation site.

Exhibit 5.B.3 summarizes the spring 2012 data collection schedule and provides information about whether the sites used active or passive consent. The passive consent sites varied greatly in the time period, with Cherokee Nation and Nevada having less than one month of data collection, and Texas and the Missouri sites having the longest data collection periods of all the sites (more than 40 days). For six of the 14 sites, the data collection period was less than one month in some or all of the participating SFAs.

Exhibit 5B.3 Spring 2012 Data Collection Schedule

Site	Consent	Start Date	End Date ^a	Days
Cherokee Nation	Passive	4/30	5/4 - 5/25	5 - 26
Chickasaw Nation	Active	4/20	5/9 - 5/30	20 - 41
Connecticut				
POC	Active	5/29	6/14	17
Expansion	Active	5/21	6/14	25
Delaware	Active	4/21	6/7 - 6/12	48 - 53
Michigan				
POC	Active	4/23	6/8	47
Expansion	Active	4/27	5/24	28
Missouri				
POC	Passive	4/9	5/22 - 5/23	44 - 45
Expansion	Passive	4/12	5/24	43
Nevada	Passive	5/11	6/1	22
Oregon				
POC	Active	5/5	6/7	34
Expansion	Active	5/18	6/7	21
Texas	Passive	4/13	6/7	56
Washington	Active	5/7	6/15 - 6/20	40 - 45

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012.

^aSpring data collection ended on the last day of school or the first day the benefit was available for use, whichever was earlier. This data varied by SFA in some sites.

AAPOR guidelines for computing response rates for two-phased sample designs are more complicated than the guidelines for the usual single-phase sample design. Weights (w) were assigned to households in the second phase sample that were the inverse of the eligibility for in-person follow-up (see Exhibit 5B.2).

As shown in Exhibit 5B.4, using spring all-sites data as an example, the sample was broken into three primary components:

- first-phase households interviewed by telephone,
- first-phase non-respondent households, and
- households not eligible for the interview/benefit (e.g., no eligible child in the household).

The first-phase non-respondent households were then divided into:

- (a) households in phone-only replicates and
- (b) households in field-eligible replicates.

Households selected for the second phase were then further divided into the following:

- field-eligible sample households that completed the interview,
- field-eligible sample households that did not complete the interview, but were confirmed households, and
- field-eligible sample households that did not complete the interview and were not confirmed households.

Exhibit 5B.4 Two-Phase Sampling Response Rate Weights (Using All Spring 2012 Cases as an Example)

Sample Component		Sample Size	Relative Sampling Weight	Weighted Count
1	First phase households interviewed by telephone	24,376	1	24,376.0
2	First phase non-respondent households	17,126		
(a)	First phase non-respondent households not selected for second phase sample	7,872	0	
(b)	First phase non-respondent households selected for second phase sample	9,254		
	Second phase sample households that complete the interview	3,213	1.902	6,109.9
	Second phase sample households that do not complete the interview - Confirmed Households	2,626	1.902	4,993.6
	Second phase sample households that do not complete the interview - Not Confirmed Households	3,415	1.902	6,494.0
3	Households not eligible for the interview/benefit (Screen-outs)	807		
	Total completed interviews ²	27,589		
	Total sample size of households	42,309		

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012.

5B.2 Response Rates

Using AAPOR Response Rate 4, the unweighted response rate is:

$$\text{Response Rate [AAPOR 4]} = (I+P) / (I+P+O+R+e(UO))$$

Where:

- I=Complete interview
- P=Partial interview
- R=Refusal and break-off
- NC=Non-contact

² Includes Completes and Partials. Partials are cases that began the interview but broke-off after section F (food security) and did not complete the interview at a later time.

O=Other

UO=Unknown, other

e=Estimated proportion of cases of unknown eligibility that are eligible

where e (the estimated proportion of cases of unknown eligibility that are eligible) is computed as:

$$\text{Eligibility Rate } [e] = (I+P+O+R) / (I+P+O+R+NC)$$

And the weighted response rate, to adjust for the two phase design, is:

$$\text{Response Rate [AAPOR 4]} = (I_w+P_w) / (I_w+P_w+O_w+R_w + e(UO_w))$$

Where the w subscript stands for relative sampling weight. Using the full survey data from Exhibit 5B.4, the response rate is:

$$RR4 = (24,376 + 6,109.9) / (24,376 + 6,109.9 + 4,993.6 + (0.9758 \times 6,494.0)) = 72.9\%$$

Exhibit 5B.5 provides site-by-site detail on the disposition of cases for the spring survey. From those dispositions, Exhibit 5B.5 also reports the eligibility rate (e) and the response rate (AAPOR 4).

Exhibit 5B.6 provides the unweighted and weighted response rates for the sites and by treatment and control groups. As stated in the body of the report, because the weighted response rate for Cherokee Nation fell below the study's pre-specified minimum response rate of 50%, it was therefore removed from the main descriptive analysis. Despite this, reports of results disaggregated by site do include Cherokee Nation.

Exhibit 5B.5 Disposition of Cases for the Spring Survey, 2012

Site	Household Confirmed ^a					Household Not Confirmed ^b					Eligibility Rate
	Complete	Partial ^c	Incomplete	Refusal	Foreign Language	Screen Out (Not Eligible)	Incomplete	Refusal	Total		
Cherokee Nation	729	5	253	153	1	49	756	31	1,977	95.9%	
Chickasaw Nation^d	2,490	3	206	104	1	41	533	21	3,399	98.6%	
Connecticut											
POC	1,331	3	109	47	14	25	274	32	1,835	98.4%	
Expansion	1,935	1	167	70	8	35	328	23	2,567	98.4%	
Delaware	2,412	5	227	92	9	43	583	26	3,397	98.5%	
Michigan											
POC	2,186	7	228	120	6	82	548	23	3,200	96.9%	
Expansion	2,249	1	139	95	0	65	436	15	3,000	97.4%	
Missouri											
POC	1,815	9	424	195	11	100	1,402	44	4,000	96.1%	
Expansion	1,973	12	432	189	15	107	1,191	44	3,963	96.1%	
Nevada	1,096	3	182	101	3	42	536	37	2,000	97.1%	
Oregon											
POC	2,398	2	201	78	7	42	452	20	3,200	98.5%	
Expansion	2,269	5	172	70	10	29	426	19	3,000	98.9%	
Texas	2,295	9	363	176	0	117	785	26	3,771	96.0%	
Washington	2,342	4	140	74	66	30	324	20	3,000	98.9%	
All Sites	27,520	69	3,243	1,564	151	807	8,574	381	42,309	97.6%	
Active Sites	19,612	31	1,589	750	121	392	3,904	199	26,598	98.3%	
Passive Sites	7,908	38	1,654	814	30	415	4,670	182	15,711	96.2%	
13 Sites^e	26,791	64	2,990	1,411	150	758	7,818	350	40,332	97.6%	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012.

^a Indicates that a household respondent was reached and verified that they were the selected household.

^b Indicates that no household respondent was located and reached to verify whether it was the selected household.

^c Represents cases that began the interview but broke-off after section F (food security) and did not complete the interview at a later time.

^d 60% of the Chickasaw Nation sample were treatment cases. All other sites were 50% treatment.

^e Excludes Cherokee Nation site.

Exhibit 5B.6 Response Rates for the Spring Survey, 2012

	Unweighted		Weighted	
	All Cases	All Cases	Treatment	Control
Cherokee Nation	38.7%	39.9%	40.8%	39.1%
Chickasaw Nation	74.4%	84.4%	89.9%	76.4%
Connecticut				
POC	73.9%	73.9%	75.3%	72.5%
Expansion	76.6%	76.6%	81.0%	72.2%
Delaware	72.3%	84.3%	85.9%	82.7%
Michigan				
POC	70.7%	83.7%	85.9%	81.5%
Expansion	77.0%	90.2%	90.6%	89.7%
Missouri				
POC	47.5%	54.2%	54.8%	53.6%
Expansion	52.1%	58.1%	59.3%	57.0%
Nevada	56.6%	59.6%	61.7%	57.5%
Oregon				
POC	76.2%	85.2%	86.8%	83.5%
Expansion	76.7%	81.2%	80.3%	82.1%
Texas	63.6%	75.6%	78.8%	72.5%
Washington	79.1%	90.3%	90.3%	90.2%
All Sites	66.8%	72.9%	74.9%	70.9%
Active Sites	75.2%	82.3%	84.4%	80.1%
Passive Sites	52.6%	58.3%	59.9%	56.7%
13 Sites^a	68.2%	75.1%	77.2%	73.0%

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012

^a Excludes Cherokee Nation site.

Appendix 5C

Appendix 5C

Nonresponse Bias Analysis

Most of the sampled households responded to the survey; some did not. This appendix uses information from the sample frame of consenting households to compare respondents and non-respondents. We note that the non-response component of the weights adjusts for any differential non-response that is correlated with information in the sampling frame.

Beyond a conventional non-response analysis, this appendix also provides analyses towards a decision as to which sites to include in the analysis. After consultation with FNS, our Analysis Plan stated that we would drop from the main analysis any sites with response rates below 50%. There was one such site: Cherokee Nation with a weighted response rate of 39.9%. In addition, our Analysis Plan stated that we would do additional analyses to determine whether to drop sites with response rates between 50% and 60%. There were three such sites: Missouri POC (54.2%), Missouri Expansion (58.1%), and Nevada (59.6%). This appendix describes those analyses to determine whether to drop any (or all) of the three sites with response rates between 50% and 60%.

The existing literature suggests that survey response rates are not a good predictor of non-response bias in estimates based on those surveys (Groves, 2006). The existing literature also emphasizes that formal tests of non-response bias are difficult since any information that could provide a test should already have been incorporated into analytic adjustments made to remove non-response bias (e.g., to construct better non-response weights).

The analysis plan specified that we would drop sites with response rates between 50% and 60% if their observed variables from non-survey sources were more highly associated with response proclivities than in any of the sites with response rates above 60%. None of the three sites with response rates between 50% and 60% met that criterion. In fact, similar to the results reported in Groves (2006) for non-response bias, we find that the association between observed variables and response proclivities is no stronger in general in high response-rate sites than in low response-rate sites. In other words, the planned “litmus test” for inclusion for sites in the 50-60% response rate range did not prove very informative. We will therefore include all three of the sites in this range in the pooled baseline analyses—both because they formally met the planned criterion and because we lack a reason to particularly mistrust their data. When we report site-by-site results, however, we report results for all sites—including these three sites in this range and the Cherokee Nation site excluded from the pooled results.

Analysis of Characteristics Associated with Non-Response

The first analysis involved a comparison of the distributions of observable characteristics between respondent and non-respondent households. For each site, we examined the full set

of background variables on households available for all demonstration participants from the sampling frame. Each sampling frame variable, with the exception of household size, is dichotomous with a value of 1 or 0. Household size was re-coded from a continuous variable into three dummy variables indicating households of 1, 2, or 3 or more children.

Exhibit 5C.1 (located at the end of Appendix 5C) shows the mean of each sampling frame variable for respondents and non-respondents by site, as well as the p-value for the difference in means between respondents and non-respondents. Out of 231 total contrasts in the 14 sites, 44 differences (or 19%) were found to be statistically significant at the 5% level. This is more than would be expected purely by chance, which indicates that there is some evidence of differential nonresponse on observable characteristics.

In addition to testing for statistically significant differences between respondents and non-respondents on each sampling frame variable individually, we estimated logistic regression models of the relationship between the observable household characteristics in Exhibit 5C.1 and the probability that a household responded to the survey. This analysis was conducted separately by site and then on the pooled sample of sites. We estimated logistic regression models with a dependent variable indicating response (1) or nonresponse (0). The set of sampling frame variables available as predictors in this analysis varies by site, with a subset of household characteristics common across all 14 sites in the study (including Cherokee Nation).

The following nine binary independent variables for each household represent the common set of household characteristics available across all 14 sites:

- household includes a child in grades pre-K to 5
- household includes a child in grades 6 to 8
- household includes a child in grades 9 to 12
- household includes an English-speaking child
- household includes a Spanish-speaking child
- one child in household
- two children in household
- three or more children in household
- household assigned to benefit group

For estimation purposes, one category for each measured factor (in particular: pre-K to 5, Spanish-speaking child, three or more children) was excluded from the regression model.³

Joint Likelihood-Ratio tests from the logistic regressions (i.e. on the full set of sampling frame variables at each site) indicate a statistically significant relationship between observable characteristics as a whole and proclivity to respond to the survey at 6 of the 14 sites.

³ For the purpose of these analysis, “respondents” include complete and partial respondents, as defined by SUMCODE =1 or =2.

For the pooled sample, we also found that assignment to the benefit group had a significant positive association with survey response once other variables in the model are taken into account, although the variable was only statistically significant in 4 of the 14 sites. Likewise, a significant positive association was observed for household size, which was significant in 6 of the sites. Sampling weights were adjusted to account for this non-response in the baseline analysis, as described in detail in Appendix 5D.

In summary, we find evidence of correlation between sampling frame variables and survey response. The evaluation subsample design took non-response into account, and household weights will be adjusted to account for non-response in the analysis. Weighting is described in Appendix 5D.

Analysis of Sites with Low Response Rates

Due to concerns about the face validity of the study in sites with low response rates and the true reliability of survey-based measures in those sites, the study team performed an additional analysis of non-response to determine whether the three sites with weighted survey response rates between 50% and 60% should be included in baseline analyses. The three sites with a response rate between 50% and 60% are: Missouri POC (54.2%), Missouri Expansion (58.1%), and Nevada (59.6%). All three are passive consent sites, where (for reasons discussed in Appendix 5B) response rates were expected to be relatively low. One site, Cherokee Nation, had a response rate of 39.9% and will not be included in the baseline analysis.

Reasons for survey non-response can be either random in nature or correlated with observed and unobserved household characteristics that could also relate to survey responses and, if so, would create non-response bias in survey-measured estimates. We can, and will, control for differences between respondents and non-respondents on observed characteristics by creating non-response weights (as described in Appendix 5D). However, if unobserved characteristics correlated with non-response are also correlated with the survey outcomes of interest, this will lead to bias in estimates derived from respondent data (even after weighting). In the absence of additional data, there is no direct test for this. However, before performing the analyses we adopted the following rule: Exclude from the study sites with response rates between 50% and 60% that evidence a stronger relationship between observable characteristics and the probability of responding to the survey (as a proxy for the relationship of response to unobservable characteristics) than the strongest relationship seen among sites above 60% response which are automatically included. In as much as measured characteristics are proxies for unmeasured ones, if a strong relationship between measured characteristics and response is seen, we might worry about a strong relationship of response with the characteristics that were not measured and that might also correlate with survey outcomes. Thus, the strength of the relationship between response and observed baseline characteristics is a plausible proxy for the degree of relationship with unobserved baseline characteristics that could affect survey responses.

Prior to looking at the data, this rule was operationalized as follows. The relationship to survey response was measured for the set of measured characteristics using the pseudo-R² from a logistic regression of those characteristics on a 0/1 indicator for survey response (1) or non-response (0). The logistic regression model is identical to the one described above for the pooled sample (i.e. using only those characteristics available across all 14 sites), but for this analysis we estimated the model separately in each site. This generates site-specific values of pseudo-R² for regressions using a common set of covariates, meaning that pseudo-R² values are comparable across sites. For a given set of characteristics, a higher pseudo-R² indicates that respondents and non-respondents differ more sharply on observables— since the information in the observables does more to distinguish between respondents and non-respondents⁴--and hence, plausibly differ more sharply on unobservables.

Pseudo-R² values from the regression models are thus our measure of the strength of the relationship of measured characteristics to survey response and therefore of the severity of response selection on measured factors and our proxy for the risk of non-response bias due to unmeasured characteristics. The response rate and pseudo R-squared for each site is shown in Exhibit 5C.2.

Exhibit 5C.2 Response Rate and Pseudo-R² by Site

	Active or Passive	Weighted Response	Pseudo R ²
	Consent	Rate	
Washington	Active	90.26	0.0196
Michigan Expansion	Active	90.17	0.0013
Oregon POC	Active	85.15	0.0135
Chickasaw Nation	Active	84.37	0.0178
Delaware	Active	84.34	0.0041
Michigan POC	Active	83.70	0.0044
Oregon Expansion	Active	81.20	0.0098
Connecticut Expansion	Active	76.63	0.0142
Texas	Passive	75.61	0.0106
Connecticut POC	Active	73.91	0.0074
Nevada	Passive	59.63	0.0078
Missouri Expansion	Passive	58.13	0.0108
Missouri POC	Passive	54.18	0.0033
Cherokee Nation	Passive	39.90	0.0146

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012.

Among the sites with response rates above 60.0%, the highest value of pseudo R-squared is 0.0196 in Washington. Following our pre-specified procedure, we therefore set 0.0196 as the maximum pseudo R-squared permitted for inclusion of a site with a response rate between 50% and 60% in the baseline analysis, for any site equal to or greater than 50% response. All three

⁴ This is somewhat analogous to tests for baseline equivalence of the full treatment and control groups on a set of baseline measures available for all cases (possibly from the sample frame file). There, the question is whether the set of measured traits of randomized individuals collectively provide any hint of whether an individual is more likely to be a treatment group member than a control group member or vice versa.

sites with response rates between 50% and 60% have pseudo-R² values below this threshold. Therefore, they were all included in the pooled baseline analyses.

Reference

Groves, RM. 2006. Non-response Rates and Non-response Bias in Household Surveys. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, Vol. 70, No. 5, pp. 646-675.

Appendix 5D

Spring Household and Child Weights for the Evaluation Subsample

Household sampling weights were computed for the completed interviews in the baseline evaluation subsample via a six-step procedure; the child sampling weights required an additional step. The following description of this procedure presupposes an understanding of the SEBTC random assignment and evaluation subsample selection procedures and the sample design, which are described in Appendix 5A and Appendix 5B, respectively. The weight construction procedure differed slightly for the five sites that had participated in the POC year, so the procedure for the sites new to SEBTC in 2012 is described first, and then, how this procedure was modified for the POC sites. A final step was to produce sampling weights for data analyses of the pooled sites.

Spring Step 1: Demo Base Weights. In the first step of sampling weight construction, we created *demo base weights* (where “demo” stands for Demonstration Year). For each consenting household randomly assigned to the benefit group, its *demo base weight* is the reciprocal of the probability that the household was assigned to the benefit group. This probability equals the number of consenting households assigned to the benefit in the SFA stratum to which the household belongs (see Appendix 5A for a description of these strata), divided by the total number of consenting households in the stratum. For a consenting household randomly assigned to the non-benefit group, its *demo base weight* is, analogously, the reciprocal of the probability it was so assigned. This probability is the complement of the probability of being assigned to the benefit.

Step 2: Eval Base Weights. In the second step, we created *eval base weights* for households in the evaluation subsample. For each household selected to be in the treatment group and released for interviewing by the survey team, its *eval base weight* is the reciprocal of its probability of being selected to be in the evaluation subsample, given that the household was assigned to the benefit. This probability equals the number of households released for interviewing in the evaluation subsample treatment group in a particular SFA stratum, divided by the total number in that stratum that was assigned to the benefit. The *eval base weights* for the evaluation subsample control group households were analogously computed.

Step 3: Overall Household Base Weights. In the third step, we computed *overall household base weights*. For each household in the evaluation subsample, its *overall household base weight* is the product of its *demo base weight* and its *eval base weight* (note that we are only creating weights for the evaluation subsample, so both of these weights are defined.)

Step 4: Non-Response Subsample-Adjusted Weights. In the fourth step, phase-two non-response subsample adjustments (the two-phase sampling design is described above) were made. For each site, a *non-response subsampling fraction* equal to the proportion of phase-one non-respondent households that were sent for a sufficient amount of time for in-person field location was computed. Then the *overall household base weights* of households sent for phase-two field location were multiplied by the reciprocal of the non-response subsampling fraction. Further, the *overall household base weights* of phase-one non-respondents that weren't sent to the field were set to zero. The fourth step, then, yielded *non-response-subsample-adjusted weights*.

Step 5: Adjustment for Ineligible Households. In the fifth step, further weighting adjustments to account for ineligible households were made. During the course of interviewing, a small number of households were discovered to be ineligible for the survey. In each stratum, the proportion of eligible households was estimated as the sum of the non-response-subsample-adjusted weights of the households known to be eligible for the survey divided by the sum of the non-response-subsample-adjusted weights of households known to be eligible or ineligible. In turn, each stratum's count of the number of eligible households was estimated as its proportion of eligible households multiplied by its total number of treatment and control households. Then, for each stratum, adjustment factors for treatment and for control households were computed. The *treatment adjustment factor* equaled the stratum's eligible household count divided by the non-response-subsample-adjustment-weighted count of completed treatment-group interviews, and similarly for the *control adjustment factor*. The *non-response adjusted household base weights* were computed as the non-response-subsample-adjusted weights multiplied by the appropriate adjustment factor.

Step 6: Two Raking Adjustments. Raking is a commonly used technique for adjusting sampling weights so that the distributions of selected demographic and other variables (called *control variables*) within the sample closely matches the distributions of these variables within the population from which the sample is drawn. Each site submitted a file to the evaluation team listing all of its eligible and consented children and households. These files included data fields such as child age and gender. Because the distributions of such demographic variables in the sites' populations of eligible and consented households and children are known via the submitted files, raking (via the IGCV algorithm; Izrael, Battaglia, and Frankel, 2009) was used to adjust the non-response-adjusted base weights so that the distributions of such household variables within the treatment group and within the control group closely matched the household distributions within the populations at large. Two raking passes were conducted per site. In the first raking pass, the sampling weights of the treatment group households (and then, separately, the control group households) were adjusted so that within-group control variable distributions closely matched the household distributions in the population. In the second raking pass, the first-raking-pass-adjusted weights were further adjusted so that there was a close match to household food insecurity. Household food insecurity variable values from the treatment and control households' interviews were combined to produce estimates of population-wide household food insecurity, and then the treatment and control groups were

separately raked so that the proportion of food insecure households within each group closely matched the population-wide proportion.

Additional Steps to Create Child Weights. The household weight from step 6 was multiplied by the number of eligible children in the household. If the number of children in the household was greater than five, then the household weight was instead multiplied by five. The two raking adjustments were then implemented for the sample of children using the child-level distributions within the population at large and child-level food insecurity.

Modifications for POC Year Sites. For the POC sites in Michigan and Oregon there was one exception to this procedure. In these sites, households that had received the benefit in 2011 were dropped prior to the start of the weight construction process. For the POC sites in Missouri and Texas, households that received the benefit in 2011 were assigned, in the first step, a *demo base weight* of 1. Their remaining households, which were randomly assigned to the benefit or non-benefit groups, had *demo base weights* computed per the procedure described above applied to the site's randomly assigned households. In the Connecticut POC site, none of the automatically assigned households were included in the evaluation subsample, and *demo base weights* were computed per the procedure described above applied to the site's randomly assigned households.

Final Step for Sampling Weights for Pooled-Sites Data Analyses. Pooled-site data analyses excluded data from Cherokee Nation. For the remaining 13 sites, each site's household weights were rescaled so that their sum was the same at all sites (and analogously for the child weights).

Reference

Izrael D, Battaglia M, and Frankel M. 2009. Raking Survey Data. Available at: [http://abtassociates.com/Expertise/Surveys-and-Data-Collection/Raking-Survey-Data-\(a-k-a--Sample-Balancing\).aspx](http://abtassociates.com/Expertise/Surveys-and-Data-Collection/Raking-Survey-Data-(a-k-a--Sample-Balancing).aspx)

Appendix 5E

Appendix 5E

Exhibit 5E.1 Household Characteristics, All Sites by Site

	Household Size		$P \leq 0.01^a$
	Mean	SE	
All ^a	4.4	0.01	
Cherokee Nation	4.2	0.06	
Chickasaw Nation	4.4	0.03	
Connecticut - POC	4.1	0.07	
Connecticut - Expansion	4.1	0.03	
Delaware	4.4	0.03	
Michigan - POC	4.5	0.04	
Michigan - Expansion	4.3	0.08	
Missouri - POC	4.4	0.04	
Missouri - Expansion	4.3	0.04	
Nevada	4.7	0.05	
Oregon - POC	4.3	0.03	
Oregon - Expansion	4.7	0.04	
Texas	4.4	0.03	
Washington	4.4	0.03	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

	Household Composition						$P \leq 0.01^a$
	Single female-headed households		Single male-headed households		Two or more adults in household		
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	
All ^a	48.7%	0.44	3.6%	0.14	47.6%	0.44	
Cherokee Nation	34.9%	2.13	6.0%	1.09	59.1%	2.22	
Chickasaw Nation	35.6%	1.07	4.0%	0.48	60.3%	1.10	
Connecticut - POC	51.8%	2.38	4.1%	0.75	44.2%	2.39	
Connecticut - Expansion	62.1%	1.13	2.6%	0.37	35.2%	1.11	
Delaware	54.7%	1.11	3.0%	0.38	42.2%	1.10	
Michigan - POC	52.8%	1.32	3.4%	0.50	43.8%	1.31	
Michigan - Expansion	42.9%	3.16	3.6%	0.63	53.5%	3.15	
Missouri - POC	59.7%	1.44	5.3%	0.68	35.1%	1.40	
Missouri - Expansion	71.5%	1.18	4.9%	0.54	23.5%	1.13	
Nevada	37.1%	1.55	3.5%	0.60	59.5%	1.58	
Oregon - POC	37.4%	1.20	4.4%	0.50	58.3%	1.23	
Oregon - Expansion	37.7%	1.19	2.6%	0.32	59.8%	1.20	
Texas	49.1%	1.23	3.2%	0.44	47.8%	1.23	
Washington	41.7%	1.13	2.6%	0.35	55.7%	1.13	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

	Number of Children									
	1 child		2 children		3 or more children		<i>P</i> ≤ 0.01 ^a	Mean		
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)		Mean	SE	<i>P</i> ≤ 0.01 ^a
All ^a	23.6%	0.33	35.0%	0.41	41.5%	0.41		2.4	0.01	
Cherokee Nation	27.5%	2.08	35.1%	2.06	37.4%	2.07		2.3	0.05	
Chickasaw Nation	22.2%	0.91	35.5%	1.00	42.3%	0.97		2.4	0.02	
Connecticut - POC	27.6%	2.23	36.9%	2.19	35.5%	2.26		2.2	0.05	
Connecticut - Expansion	22.5%	0.92	37.2%	1.07	40.3%	1.05		2.4	0.02	
Delaware	25.1%	0.93	36.0%	1.06	38.9%	1.05		2.3	0.02	
Michigan - POC	22.0%	1.10	31.9%	1.22	46.0%	1.29		2.5	0.03	
Michigan - Expansion	23.6%	1.81	38.5%	3.13	38.0%	3.26		2.4	0.09	
Missouri - POC	25.4%	1.20	31.8%	1.32	42.8%	1.42		2.5	0.04	
Missouri - Expansion	25.6%	1.07	32.7%	1.18	41.7%	1.21		2.5	0.03	
Nevada	19.8%	1.28	32.9%	1.51	47.3%	1.59		2.6	0.04	
Oregon - POC	25.2%	1.06	38.2%	1.20	36.6%	1.17		2.3	0.03	
Oregon - Expansion	17.6%	0.93	31.6%	1.11	50.8%	1.20		2.6	0.03	
Texas	27.2%	1.09	36.7%	1.18	36.1%	1.16		2.3	0.03	
Washington	22.6%	0.92	34.7%	1.05	42.7%	1.09		2.5	0.03	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

	Household Income								
	Below poverty line		101-130% of poverty		131-185% of poverty		Above 185% of poverty		<i>P</i> ≤ 0.01 ^a
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	
All^a	71.5%	0.39	13.7%	0.30	10.8%	0.24	4.0%	0.20	
Cherokee Nation	64.8%	2.20	16.3%	1.70	12.5%	1.46	6.4%	1.25	
Chickasaw Nation	61.9%	1.10	16.5%	0.85	13.8%	0.76	7.8%	0.61	
Connecticut - POC	65.9%	2.27	15.1%	1.48	12.6%	1.26	6.3%	1.90	
Connecticut - Expansion	72.8%	1.04	13.1%	0.80	11.1%	0.73	3.0%	0.40	
Delaware	69.3%	1.03	13.6%	0.76	11.8%	0.73	5.3%	0.50	
Michigan - POC	82.8%	1.01	8.9%	0.77	5.6%	0.59	2.6%	0.47	
Michigan - Expansion	72.0%	2.57	15.1%	2.18	10.3%	1.37	2.6%	0.74	
Missouri - POC	76.8%	1.20	10.7%	0.92	7.8%	0.76	4.8%	0.54	
Missouri - Expansion	81.0%	0.94	9.7%	0.70	6.1%	0.58	3.2%	0.42	
Nevada	68.9%	1.51	15.0%	1.18	11.6%	1.06	4.5%	0.67	
Oregon - POC	69.2%	1.14	14.7%	0.86	13.2%	0.84	2.9%	0.41	
Oregon - Expansion	72.4%	1.13	14.9%	0.90	10.3%	0.79	2.4%	0.36	
Texas	74.7%	1.09	12.4%	0.82	8.9%	0.73	4.0%	0.49	
Washington	61.3%	1.10	18.6%	0.88	16.8%	0.83	3.3%	0.40	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

Household Income						
	No Income (Last Month)			Mean Income (Last Month) ^b		
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	$P \leq 0.01^a$	Mean	SE	$P \leq 0.01^a$
All ^a	2.9%	0.12		\$1,608.40	10.22	
Cherokee Nation	1.9%	0.55		\$1,729.80	56.05	
Chickasaw Nation	1.4%	0.25		\$1,915.40	30.78	
Connecticut - POC	2.5%	0.53		\$1,688.20	65.02	
Connecticut - Expansion	3.5%	0.42		\$1,479.30	25.58	
Delaware	2.8%	0.36		\$1,675.50	26.97	
Michigan - POC	4.4%	0.50		\$1,370.40	28.63	
Michigan - Expansion	1.9%	0.45		\$1,605.70	60.19	
Missouri - POC	3.6%	0.51		\$1,460.10	34.47	
Missouri - Expansion	5.1%	0.56		\$1,300.90	25.64	
Nevada	3.6%	0.56		\$1,777.20	41.34	
Oregon - POC	2.6%	0.38		\$1,636.50	25.62	
Oregon - Expansion	1.9%	0.32		\$1,618.60	26.07	
Texas	2.3%	0.36		\$1,527.00	29.38	
Washington	2.3%	0.35		\$1,844.00	24.48	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

^b Means include households with zero income.

	At Least One Employed Adult		
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	$P \leq 0.01^a$
All ^a	71.4%	0.37	
Cherokee Nation	74.5%	1.93	
Chickasaw Nation	77.5%	0.94	
Connecticut - POC	73.9%	1.75	
Connecticut - Expansion	63.2%	1.12	
Delaware	74.0%	0.96	
Michigan - POC	67.9%	1.21	
Michigan - Expansion	73.3%	2.39	
Missouri - POC	68.8%	1.32	
Missouri - Expansion	60.9%	1.21	
Nevada	75.9%	1.38	
Oregon - POC	68.5%	1.17	
Oregon - Expansion	71.1%	1.13	
Texas	78.2%	1.00	
Washington	75.1%	0.98	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

	Any Person With a Physical or Mental Disability		
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	$P \leq 0.01^a$
All ^a	31.1%	0.44	
Cherokee Nation	34.8%	2.09	
Chickasaw Nation	34.6%	1.08	
Connecticut - POC	35.5%	2.29	
Connecticut - Expansion	33.3%	1.10	
Delaware	31.7%	1.04	
Michigan - POC	34.7%	1.26	
Michigan - Expansion	47.3%	3.21	
Missouri - POC	26.0%	1.26	
Missouri - Expansion	31.2%	1.14	
Nevada	24.3%	1.41	
Oregon - POC	32.9%	1.19	
Oregon - Expansion	25.6%	1.06	
Texas	17.3%	0.92	
Washington	29.4%	1.03	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

Exhibit 5E.2 Characteristic of Respondents, All Sites and by Site

	Gender (Percent Female)		
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	$P \leq 0.01^a$
All ^a	89.5%	0.26	
Cherokee Nation	85.3%	1.74	
Chickasaw Nation	90.1%	0.71	
Connecticut - POC	90.9%	1.11	
Connecticut - Expansion	92.8%	0.60	
Delaware	91.6%	0.63	
Michigan - POC	89.6%	0.82	
Michigan - Expansion	86.9%	1.67	
Missouri - POC	88.5%	0.99	
Missouri - Expansion	91.0%	0.77	
Nevada	86.7%	1.10	
Oregon - POC	87.6%	0.84	
Oregon - Expansion	89.3%	0.76	
Texas	89.5%	0.76	
Washington	89.3%	0.73	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

	Age In Years										$P \leq 0.01^a$
	18-29 years		30-39 years		40-49 years		50-59 years		60+ years		
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	
All^a	17.0%	0.35	44.5%	0.43	27.4%	0.42	8.7%	0.24	2.3%	0.11	
Cherokee Nation	16.2%	1.86	43.3%	2.27	27.5%	1.98	9.5%	1.38	3.5%	0.75	
Chickasaw Nation	15.6%	0.81	45.0%	1.12	26.3%	1.01	9.0%	0.63	4.0%	0.46	
Connecticut - POC	15.8%	1.34	46.2%	2.18	27.4%	1.97	8.0%	1.67	2.7%	0.60	
Connecticut - Expansion	20.5%	0.95	45.7%	1.16	24.6%	1.01	7.9%	0.63	1.4%	0.27	
Delaware	13.0%	0.76	43.5%	1.11	30.2%	1.04	10.0%	0.68	3.3%	0.39	
Michigan - POC	25.0%	1.17	44.9%	1.31	21.3%	1.07	6.6%	0.66	2.2%	0.38	
Michigan - Expansion	17.7%	2.88	37.3%	2.73	35.3%	3.30	7.9%	1.30	1.8%	0.46	
Missouri - POC	21.3%	1.20	43.5%	1.44	23.1%	1.20	9.6%	0.83	2.6%	0.43	
Missouri - Expansion	20.3%	1.02	43.8%	1.24	23.2%	1.05	10.2%	0.78	2.5%	0.37	
Nevada	14.7%	1.16	42.4%	1.60	31.7%	1.53	9.5%	0.94	1.8%	0.42	
Oregon - POC	13.6%	0.87	46.0%	1.25	29.8%	1.14	9.0%	0.70	1.7%	0.34	
Oregon - Expansion	14.0%	0.91	49.7%	1.23	27.7%	1.10	7.3%	0.67	1.4%	0.24	
Texas	16.8%	0.96	39.2%	1.21	29.6%	1.12	11.0%	0.79	3.5%	0.46	
Washington	13.2%	0.81	51.8%	1.14	26.5%	0.98	7.3%	0.55	1.3%	0.24	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

	Race / Ethnicity										
	Hispanic		Non-Hispanic black		Non-Hispanic white		American Indian or Alaska Native		Non-Hispanic other or multiple races		$P \leq 0.01^{a\dagger}$
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	
All^a	32.4%	0.39	18.9%	0.29	41.3%	0.46	2.3%	0.12	5.2%	0.21	
Cherokee Nation	7.7%	1.22	1.0%	0.46	54.7%	2.28	25.4%	1.98	11.2%	1.47	
Chickasaw Nation	10.7%	0.67	5.4%	0.49	60.5%	1.10	15.3%	0.82	8.0%	0.63	
Connecticut - POC	29.9%	2.26	4.8%	0.71	54.4%	2.39	2.3%	0.92	8.5%	1.49	
Connecticut - Expansion	46.0%	1.16	15.5%	0.83	32.3%	1.10	0.8%	0.22	5.3%	0.53	
Delaware	30.8%	1.02	37.5%	1.08	26.9%	1.01	0.6%	0.16	4.1%	0.45	
Michigan - POC	38.1%	1.28	31.1%	1.22	26.3%	1.18	0.7%	0.25	3.8%	0.52	
Michigan - Expansion	5.2%	1.22	0.9%	0.25	90.3%	1.59	1.0%	0.33	2.6%	0.97	
Missouri - POC	21.3%	1.16	62.0%	1.41	10.0%	0.87	0.9%	0.31	5.9%	0.76	
Missouri - Expansion	4.7%	0.55	79.2%	1.07	10.2%	0.76	0.6%	0.18	5.3%	0.68	
Nevada	46.8%	1.61	2.8%	0.53	42.2%	1.60	2.4%	0.47	5.8%	0.76	
Oregon - POC	20.9%	0.99	0.7%	0.29	71.3%	1.12	2.6%	0.40	4.4%	0.54	
Oregon - Expansion	49.2%	1.23	0.9%	0.25	44.0%	1.23	1.0%	0.24	4.9%	0.60	
Texas	95.3%	0.53	0.9%	0.22	3.1%	0.44	0.2%	0.14	0.5%	0.16	
Washington	21.4%	0.93	4.3%	0.46	65.0%	1.09	0.8%	0.21	8.4%	0.65	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

[†] Indicates fewer than 5 observations in a cell.

	Education Level								$P \leq 0.01^a$
	Less than high school		Completed high school (or GED)		Some college (including 2-year degree)		Four-year degree or higher		
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	
All^a	28.0%	0.39	31.9%	0.41	32.9%	0.43	7.3%	0.23	
Cherokee Nation	19.0%	1.71	37.8%	2.23	33.5%	2.20	9.7%	1.35	
Chickasaw Nation	21.7%	0.91	37.5%	1.11	32.4%	1.07	8.4%	0.58	
Connecticut - POC	20.2%	1.66	39.8%	2.32	34.1%	2.43	5.9%	0.82	
Connecticut - Expansion	27.5%	1.04	33.2%	1.10	32.6%	1.09	6.8%	0.60	
Delaware	30.6%	1.02	34.8%	1.07	27.1%	0.99	7.5%	0.56	
Michigan - POC	38.2%	1.27	27.3%	1.19	27.4%	1.18	7.1%	0.68	
Michigan - Expansion	17.0%	2.97	34.3%	2.73	41.7%	3.11	7.1%	1.81	
Missouri - POC	29.5%	1.31	30.8%	1.34	33.1%	1.35	6.5%	0.68	
Missouri - Expansion	29.3%	1.14	31.2%	1.16	32.6%	1.16	6.9%	0.61	
Nevada	36.5%	1.54	27.9%	1.46	30.5%	1.50	5.1%	0.72	
Oregon - POC	24.0%	1.07	28.3%	1.14	38.3%	1.22	9.4%	0.71	
Oregon - Expansion	38.8%	1.19	29.5%	1.14	25.8%	1.07	5.9%	0.59	
Texas	28.8%	1.10	32.2%	1.17	30.1%	1.13	8.8%	0.71	
Washington	21.6%	0.94	27.7%	1.04	41.8%	1.13	9.0%	0.65	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

	Marital Status										
	Married		Separated or Divorced		Widowed		Never Married		Living with Partner		<i>P</i> ≤ 0.01 ^a
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	
All^a	38.5%	0.44	25.1%	0.36	2.5%	0.26	24.8%	0.36	9.1%	0.23	
Cherokee Nation	50.8%	2.29	27.5%	1.94	4.0%	0.84	9.4%	1.41	8.3%	1.28	
Chickasaw Nation	52.2%	1.13	26.4%	1.00	3.6%	0.40	9.7%	0.63	8.1%	0.61	
Connecticut - POC	35.2%	2.39	26.2%	1.79	1.9%	0.47	27.8%	2.28	9.0%	1.13	
Connecticut - Expansion	27.0%	1.03	26.1%	1.03	2.0%	0.33	36.7%	1.12	8.3%	0.65	
Delaware	30.7%	1.02	23.7%	0.95	3.0%	0.39	31.0%	1.04	11.5%	0.71	
Michigan - POC	30.8%	1.20	18.6%	1.03	2.8%	0.46	34.8%	1.26	12.9%	0.91	
Michigan - Expansion	45.5%	3.16	27.6%	2.46	4.6%	2.96	14.3%	1.64	8.0%	1.22	
Missouri - POC	26.3%	1.31	20.6%	1.13	3.0%	0.54	41.3%	1.42	8.8%	0.81	
Missouri - Expansion	17.1%	1.03	17.9%	0.93	2.5%	0.37	56.0%	1.25	6.5%	0.62	
Nevada	50.2%	1.61	25.0%	1.37	1.9%	0.46	13.7%	1.13	9.2%	0.95	
Oregon - POC	49.0%	1.25	29.7%	1.14	1.4%	0.26	10.7%	0.78	9.2%	0.70	
Oregon - Expansion	48.0%	1.23	25.3%	1.06	1.6%	0.26	13.3%	0.86	11.8%	0.78	
Texas	41.9%	1.21	31.1%	1.14	3.5%	0.47	17.6%	0.95	5.9%	0.59	
Washington	46.6%	1.14	27.5%	1.01	1.4%	0.26	15.4%	0.84	9.1%	0.64	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

Exhibit 5E.3 Characteristic of Children, All Sites and by Site

	Age of Child												P <0.01 ^a
	0-4 years		5-8 years		9-12 years		13-15 years		16-17 years		18+ years		
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	
All^a	3.9%	0.21	30.3%	0.48	30.6%	0.49	20.1%	0.41	10.8%	0.31	4.4%	0.22	
Cherokee Nation	4.3%	0.94	30.7%	2.21	21.6%	1.94	23.5%	1.93	13.3%	1.51	6.6%	1.39	
Chickasaw Nation	4.6%	0.55	31.7%	1.16	32.3%	1.25	17.0%	0.92	10.8%	0.85	3.6%	0.41	
Connecticut - POC	5.2%	0.91	31.1%	2.28	33.6%	2.55	19.2%	1.93	9.4%	1.37	1.6%	0.36	
Connecticut - Expansion	4.0%	0.49	35.7%	1.62	30.8%	1.38	18.4%	1.08	8.1%	0.79	3.2%	0.49	
Delaware	2.5%	0.40	27.8%	1.09	30.3%	1.15	22.5%	1.07	11.7%	0.86	5.3%	0.55	
Michigan - POC	5.5%	0.65	38.1%	1.38	27.1%	1.30	16.6%	1.10	8.1%	0.82	4.7%	0.65	
Michigan - Expansion	5.0%	1.77	21.8%	3.72	29.6%	3.63	21.1%	3.22	11.5%	2.33	11.0%	2.03	
Missouri - POC	4.9%	0.67	30.7%	1.49	29.6%	1.51	18.7%	1.29	11.8%	0.99	4.4%	0.69	
Missouri - Expansion	6.7%	0.64	29.4%	1.28	24.1%	1.17	21.6%	1.18	13.2%	0.91	4.9%	0.58	
Nevada	1.3%	0.40	22.7%	1.43	34.3%	1.76	22.8%	1.54	14.1%	1.29	4.7%	0.82	
Oregon - POC	2.3%	0.51	32.0%	1.30	32.8%	1.32	21.3%	1.10	9.3%	0.71	2.3%	0.36	
Oregon - Expansion	2.3%	0.38	27.7%	1.22	31.7%	1.28	22.8%	1.14	11.3%	0.82	4.3%	0.72	
Texas	4.0%	0.61	31.5%	1.30	28.4%	1.26	20.1%	1.06	11.5%	0.84	4.4%	0.53	
Washington	2.8%	0.83	33.1%	1.40	32.9%	1.35	19.2%	1.14	9.6%	0.88	2.3%	0.34	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

Exhibit 5E.4 Reported Program Participation by Households, All Sites and by Site

	Reported Receiving SNAP		Reported Receiving WIC		Reported receiving food from food bank emergency kitchen		No reported benefits from SNAP, WIC, food pantries, or emergency kitchens	
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)
All ^a	61.2%	0.42	21.2%	0.33	18.6%	0.33	28.5%	0.39
Cherokee Nation	43.8%	2.25	16.1%	1.64	11.0%	1.31	45.5%	2.28
Chickasaw Nation	35.5%	1.09	18.6%	0.87	12.3%	0.72	48.9%	1.14
Connecticut - POC	59.7%	2.33	18.1%	1.89	20.9%	1.78	28.7%	2.12
Connecticut - Expansion	66.9%	1.10	19.4%	0.93	14.7%	0.82	25.6%	1.02
Delaware	57.6%	1.10	20.0%	0.89	13.0%	0.72	32.8%	1.05
Michigan - POC	65.7%	1.25	30.1%	1.20	20.0%	1.02	21.4%	1.09
Michigan - Expansion	68.2%	2.71	17.3%	1.70	17.4%	2.05	24.8%	2.53
Missouri - POC	61.3%	1.40	19.8%	1.14	14.5%	0.98	30.5%	1.33
Missouri - Expansion	71.2%	1.12	18.1%	0.96	20.4%	0.99	21.1%	1.00
Nevada	42.2%	1.60	18.7%	1.24	24.0%	1.39	41.4%	1.59
Oregon - POC	73.2%	1.10	22.0%	1.01	27.8%	1.11	17.7%	0.95
Oregon - Expansion	72.6%	1.08	30.1%	1.15	28.1%	1.12	16.2%	0.88
Texas	53.7%	1.23	21.5%	1.00	4.7%	0.52	38.8%	1.21
Washington	67.5%	1.06	21.7%	0.94	24.3%	0.96	22.2%	0.94
	<i>P < 0.01^a</i>		<i>P < 0.01^a</i>		<i>P < 0.01^a</i>		<i>P < 0.01^a</i>	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

Exhibit 5E.5 Reported Program Participation for Children, All Sites and by Site

	Reported receiving free or reduced-price breakfast		Reported receiving free or reduced-price lunch		Reported receiving free supper at afterschool program		Reported receiving after school meal or snack program		Reported receiving backpack food program		Did not report receiving FRL, SBP, supper, snack, or backpack program	
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)
All ^a	83.8%	0.39	92.8%	0.29	8.8%	0.27	11.7%	0.30	7.9%	0.39	4.9%	0.26
Cherokee Nation	88.6%	1.59	95.9%	0.87	4.8%	1.02	14.9%	1.66	5.6%	1.00	3.2%	0.81
Chickasaw Nation	89.9%	0.77	95.3%	0.56	6.3%	0.58	13.0%	0.89	8.5%	0.71	3.6%	0.50
Connecticut - POC	75.7%	2.30	88.6%	1.98	4.5%	0.75	9.7%	1.65	3.7%	0.76	8.3%	1.85
Connecticut - Expansion	78.5%	1.72	92.9%	1.60	7.4%	0.73	11.6%	0.92	4.8%	0.69	5.5%	1.60
Delaware	83.4%	0.93	94.2%	0.62	8.6%	0.74	10.9%	0.73	4.9%	0.56	4.2%	0.53
Michigan - POC	87.3%	0.91	93.9%	0.61	14.9%	0.98	18.5%	1.15	9.3%	0.86	3.4%	0.47
Michigan - Expansion	84.5%	2.33	95.2%	1.29	5.2%	1.76	6.4%	1.50	10.7%	4.06	3.5%	1.19
Missouri - POC	88.6%	1.01	91.8%	0.85	17.0%	1.20	16.0%	1.10	23.8%	1.47	5.3%	0.73
Missouri - Expansion	91.8%	0.80	94.8%	0.68	15.7%	1.03	15.5%	1.00	11.4%	0.87	3.2%	0.45
Nevada	75.3%	1.57	88.9%	1.15	8.7%	1.03	9.1%	1.07	7.5%	1.02	8.9%	1.06
Oregon - POC	80.3%	1.07	91.7%	0.75	5.5%	0.68	9.2%	0.82	4.2%	0.58	6.5%	0.67
Oregon - Expansion	82.0%	1.08	92.8%	0.67	9.5%	0.81	12.0%	0.82	2.8%	0.40	3.9%	0.54
Texas	93.7%	0.62	94.6%	0.62	5.5%	0.60	9.0%	0.88	2.0%	0.37	2.9%	0.43
Washington	78.5%	1.18	91.6%	0.99	6.4%	0.69	10.6%	0.88	9.3%	0.84	5.3%	0.65
	<i>P < 0.01^a</i>		<i>P < 0.01^a</i>		<i>P < 0.01^a</i>		<i>P < 0.01^a</i>		<i>P < 0.01^a</i>		<i>P < 0.01^a</i>	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

Exhibit 5E.6 Food Security in Households with Children Certified for Free or Reduced-Price School Meals, All Sites and by Site

	Food-secure households		Food-insecure households (adults or children or both insecure)		Food insecurity among adults only		Food insecurity among children		Low food security among children		Very low food security among children	
	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)	Pct	SE (Pct Pts)
All ^a	40.6%	0.44	59.4%	0.44	14.4%	0.31	45.0%	0.44	36.1%	0.43	9.0%	0.22
Cherokee Nation	45.1%	2.28	54.9%	2.28	14.3%	1.62	40.6%	2.20	35.9%	2.12	4.6%	0.94
Chickasaw Nation	48.6%	1.14	51.4%	1.14	13.8%	0.81	37.6%	1.09	32.3%	1.05	5.4%	0.53
Connecticut - POC	36.1%	2.43	63.9%	2.43	18.8%	1.53	45.2%	2.35	36.1%	2.26	9.1%	1.25
Connecticut - Expansion	37.8%	1.13	62.2%	1.13	17.8%	0.89	44.5%	1.16	36.0%	1.12	8.4%	0.64
Delaware	39.1%	1.09	60.9%	1.09	13.3%	0.75	47.6%	1.11	38.9%	1.08	8.7%	0.62
Michigan - POC	47.4%	1.32	52.6%	1.32	13.6%	0.90	39.1%	1.27	30.9%	1.20	8.2%	0.67
Michigan - Expansion	43.2%	3.07	56.8%	3.07	18.0%	2.32	38.7%	3.19	35.0%	3.22	3.8%	0.67
Missouri - POC	48.1%	1.44	51.9%	1.44	11.4%	0.89	40.4%	1.41	31.0%	1.30	9.4%	0.88
Missouri - Expansion	44.5%	1.23	55.5%	1.23	11.8%	0.78	43.6%	1.23	33.0%	1.17	10.7%	0.77
Nevada	36.9%	1.56	63.1%	1.56	12.5%	1.06	50.6%	1.61	37.7%	1.56	12.9%	1.08
Oregon - POC	37.8%	1.21	62.2%	1.21	16.9%	0.95	45.3%	1.24	36.4%	1.20	8.9%	0.73
Oregon - Expansion	28.0%	1.09	72.0%	1.09	12.4%	0.82	59.6%	1.20	47.7%	1.23	11.8%	0.76
Texas	48.9%	1.23	51.1%	1.23	11.1%	0.77	40.0%	1.20	30.6%	1.12	9.5%	0.72
Washington	31.3%	1.07	68.7%	1.07	15.3%	0.83	53.4%	1.14	43.2%	1.13	10.2%	0.69
	<i>P < 0.01^a</i>		<i>P < 0.01^a</i>		<i>P < 0.01^a</i>		<i>P < 0.01^a</i>		<i>P < 0.01^a</i>		<i>P < 0.01^a</i>	

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

Exhibit 5E.7 Weekly Food Expenditures: Total, by Food Outlet, and Per Person, All Sites and by Site

	Supermarkets or Grocery Stores				Restaurants				Total Food Expenditures				Total Per-Person Food Expenditures			
	Mean	SE (Pct Pts)	Median	SE (Pct Pts)	Mean	SE (Pct Pts)	Median	SE (Pct Pts)	Mean	SE (Pct Pts)	Median	SE (Pct Pts)	Mean	SE (Pct Pts)	Median	SE (Pct Pts)
All ^a	\$62.60	0.47	\$46.70	0.85	\$11.50	0.14	\$6.90	0.25	\$74.10	0.54	\$60.00	0.85	\$18.30	0.13	\$15.30	0.15
Cherokee Nation	\$72.40	3.07	\$58.30	3.24	\$14.90	0.87	\$9.00	0.58	\$87.30	3.47	\$69.80	3.92	\$22.20	0.92	\$19.00	1.05
Chickasaw Nation	\$75.50	1.29	\$70.00	2.47	\$16.20	0.48	\$10.50	0.53	\$91.50	1.49	\$81.70	1.25	\$22.10	0.36	\$19.40	0.45
Connecticut - POC	\$69.20	2.33	\$58.30	3.89	\$9.30	0.48	\$6.80	0.58	\$78.50	2.45	\$65.30	2.54	\$20.80	0.62	\$17.40	0.85
Connecticut - Expansion	\$62.50	1.40	\$46.70	1.98	\$9.70	0.32	\$5.70	0.28	\$72.10	1.51	\$58.30	1.19	\$18.90	0.37	\$15.00	0.40
Delaware	\$66.90	1.26	\$52.20	2.97	\$11.20	0.40	\$6.90	0.28	\$77.70	1.39	\$64.00	2.12	\$19.20	0.34	\$16.00	0.44
Michigan - POC	\$58.40	1.53	\$46.70	1.61	\$12.10	0.53	\$6.80	0.25	\$70.60	1.80	\$53.60	1.87	\$17.10	0.42	\$13.40	0.40
Michigan - Expansion	\$51.70	2.61	\$40.80	2.97	\$9.20	0.65	\$5.80	0.53	\$60.70	3.06	\$48.90	3.57	\$15.40	0.77	\$12.80	1.09
Missouri - POC	\$58.30	1.48	\$46.70	2.12	\$13.40	0.52	\$7.90	0.46	\$71.40	1.68	\$58.30	1.66	\$17.90	0.43	\$14.60	0.45
Missouri - Expansion	\$49.40	1.46	\$34.90	1.54	\$13.70	0.65	\$7.00	0.26	\$63.30	1.80	\$46.70	1.19	\$16.30	0.44	\$11.70	0.42
Nevada	\$79.90	2.24	\$70.00	2.55	\$11.70	0.56	\$6.80	0.23	\$91.80	2.43	\$81.70	2.08	\$21.10	0.60	\$17.90	0.59
Oregon - POC	\$54.50	1.28	\$46.70	2.85	\$9.90	0.33	\$5.80	0.29	\$64.20	1.40	\$51.30	1.77	\$16.20	0.34	\$13.30	0.36
Oregon - Expansion	\$62.50	1.27	\$46.70	2.97	\$9.30	0.29	\$5.80	0.25	\$71.70	1.37	\$58.30	1.45	\$16.40	0.31	\$14.00	0.33
Texas	\$62.10	1.24	\$50.00	2.97	\$13.90	0.50	\$8.50	0.45	\$76.10	1.44	\$64.50	2.38	\$18.80	0.38	\$16.30	0.36
Washington	\$63.00	1.35	\$47.80	1.78	\$10.00	0.30	\$6.60	0.24	\$73.10	1.42	\$60.70	1.78	\$17.70	0.32	\$15.20	0.32
	<i>P</i> ≤ 0.01 ^a				<i>P</i> ≤ 0.01 ^a				<i>P</i> ≤ 0.01 ^a				<i>P</i> ≤ 0.01 ^a			

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.

	Weekly SNAP Benefit Amount				Total Weekly Food Expenditures with SNAP				Total Per-Person Weekly Food Expenditures with SNAP			
	Mean	SE	Median	SE	Mean	SE	Median	SE	Mean	SE	Median	SE
All ^a	\$54.70	0.54	\$46.40	0.87	\$129.20	0.55	\$120.00	0.65	\$32.00	0.14	\$30.30	0.18
Cherokee Nation	\$44.60	2.82	\$0.00	9.47	\$132.70	3.77	\$128.20	3.11	\$32.10	0.81	\$30.80	0.77
Chickasaw Nation	\$33.00	1.24	\$0.00	8.09	\$125.60	1.47	\$116.70	1.06	\$30.30	0.34	\$28.80	0.37
Connecticut - POC	\$48.10	2.12	\$37.00	6.91	\$126.60	2.49	\$116.70	2.74	\$34.00	0.79	\$32.40	0.76
Connecticut - Expansion	\$63.50	1.63	\$58.30	2.54	\$135.60	1.54	\$128.30	1.55	\$35.40	0.37	\$34.40	0.36
Delaware	\$45.20	1.18	\$27.70	3.26	\$124.10	1.48	\$114.20	1.49	\$30.90	0.36	\$29.20	0.37
Michigan - POC	\$61.50	1.59	\$51.30	3.01	\$133.00	1.90	\$124.10	2.00	\$32.60	0.44	\$30.90	0.39
Michigan - Expansion	\$62.50	4.25	\$60.50	7.35	\$122.90	3.59	\$116.70	5.06	\$31.10	0.91	\$30.30	1.06
Missouri - POC	\$58.80	1.89	\$46.50	3.02	\$130.90	1.95	\$121.30	2.63	\$32.20	0.45	\$30.60	0.49
Missouri - Expansion	\$71.80	1.64	\$69.80	2.29	\$135.60	2.07	\$121.50	2.18	\$33.40	0.45	\$31.10	0.35
Nevada	\$37.20	1.73	\$0.00	6.10	\$129.90	2.39	\$116.70	2.38	\$30.00	0.59	\$27.30	0.57
Oregon - POC	\$64.50	1.39	\$61.00	2.79	\$129.20	1.44	\$122.10	1.58	\$33.10	0.35	\$31.80	0.41
Oregon - Expansion	\$64.90	1.43	\$60.80	2.28	\$136.50	1.58	\$130.60	1.85	\$31.50	0.35	\$30.60	0.37
Texas	\$45.20	1.35	\$16.00	5.60	\$121.50	1.53	\$111.90	2.37	\$29.60	0.39	\$27.30	0.35
Washington	\$55.40	1.26	\$46.40	1.43	\$128.50	1.51	\$119.60	1.49	\$31.40	0.32	\$30.00	0.44
	<i>P</i> ≤ 0.01 ^a				<i>P</i> ≤ 0.01 ^a				<i>P</i> ≤ 0.01 ^a			

Source: SEBTC Spring Survey, 2012 (n=26,058).

^a Due to the low response rate, Cherokee Nation was excluded from estimates for "all" sites and from tests of site variation. P-values indicate overall difference in the characteristic across sites.