

Narrative of Monthly Report August 2026

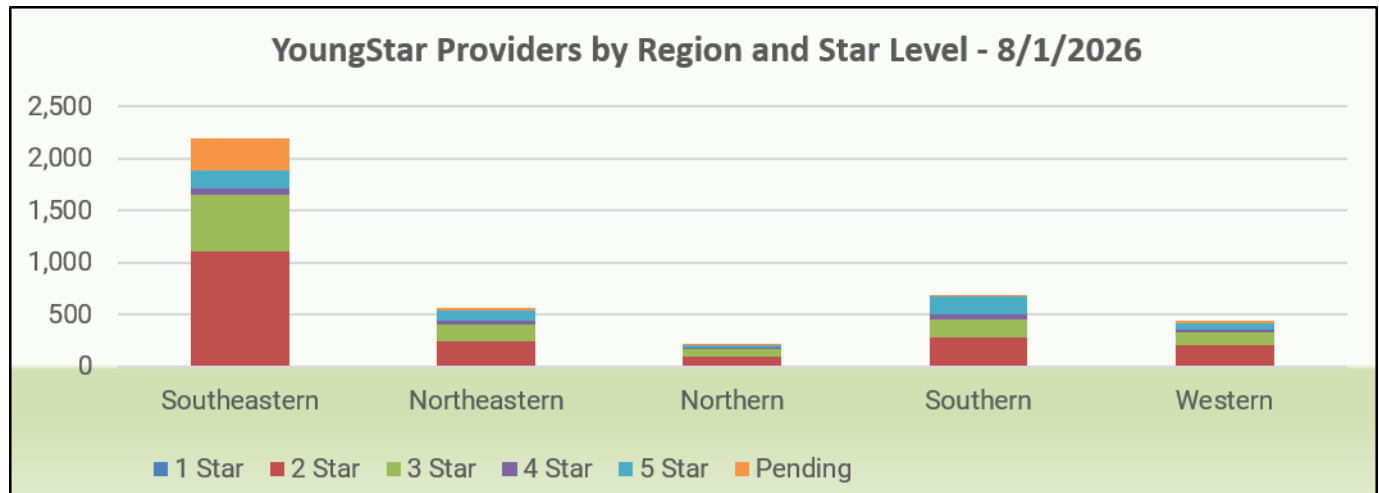
YoungStar has transitioned to a new service provider in 2023. There are now five YoungStar Regions instead of six. The Milwaukee and Kenosha/Racine Regions have been merged into the Southeastern Region. Waukesha County is now part of the Southeastern Region. These changes and adjustments are reflected in the data.

For the month of August, the following are notable YoungStar statistics.

★ **Participation and Rating Composition:**

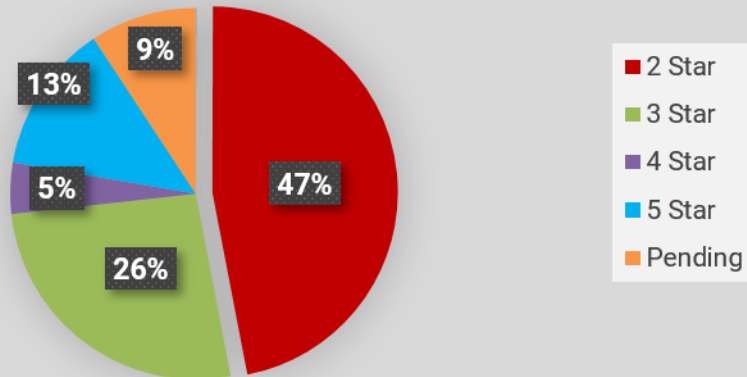
We currently have 4,100 programs participating in YoungStar. This is an increase of 14 programs as compared to last month. The chart and graph below show the rating composition by region for the current month.

	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star	4 Star	5 Star	Pending	TOTAL
Southeastern	1	1,100	550	60	176	304	2,191
Northeastern	0	244	159	42	95	23	563
Northern	0	92	75	12	32	9	220
Southern	1	283	163	53	170	20	690
Western	0	205	130	16	61	24	436
Total	2	1,924	1,077	183	534	380	4,100



Data as of 8/31/2026

Composition of Quality Ratings for all Rated YoungStar Programs - 8/1/2026



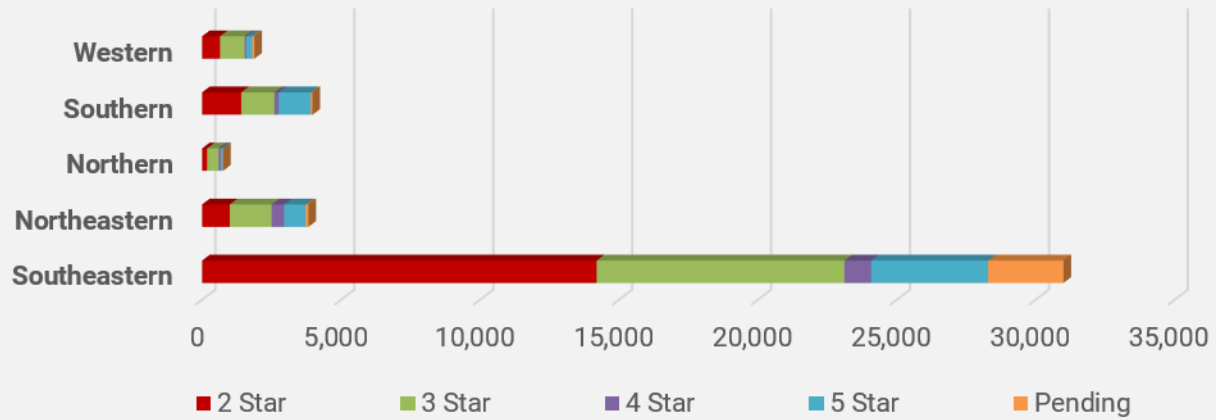
★ **Rating and Wisconsin Shares Data**

The total number of programs currently rated was 3,720. There were an additional 380 programs with pending ratings. There were 2,904 programs with open Wisconsin Shares authorizations when the data was run for this report. There were children receiving Wisconsin Shares as shown by region, age, and star level.

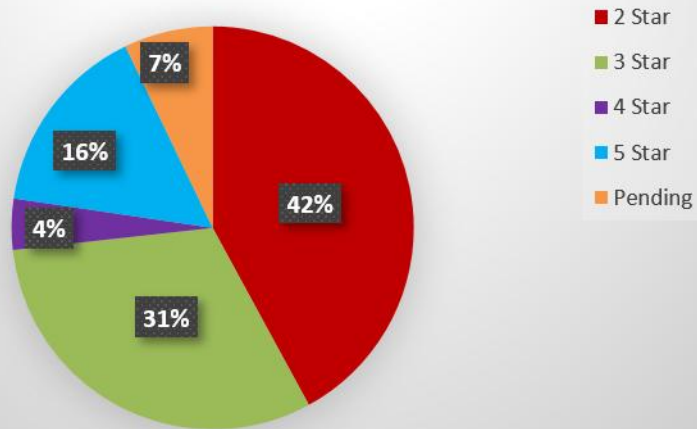
	2 Star	3 Star	4 Star	5 Star	Pending	Total
Southeastern	14,200	8,920	961	4,210	2,710	31,001
Northeastern	998	1,502	450	773	103	3,826
Northern	179	415	76	74	13	757
Southern	1,406	1,201	147	1,160	59	3,973
Western	644	887	62	213	75	1,881
Total	17,427	12,925	1,696	6,430	2,960	41,438

Data as of 8/31/2026

Children Receiving Wisconsin Shares by Region and Star Level - 8/1/2026

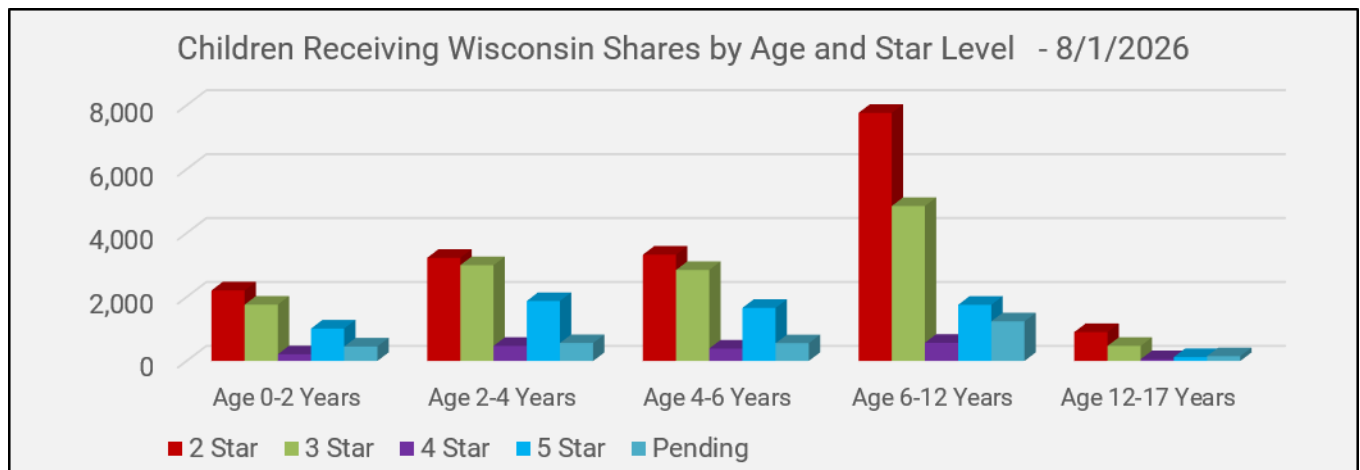


Percentage of Children Receiving Shares at Quality Levels - 8/1/2026



Data as of 8/31/2026

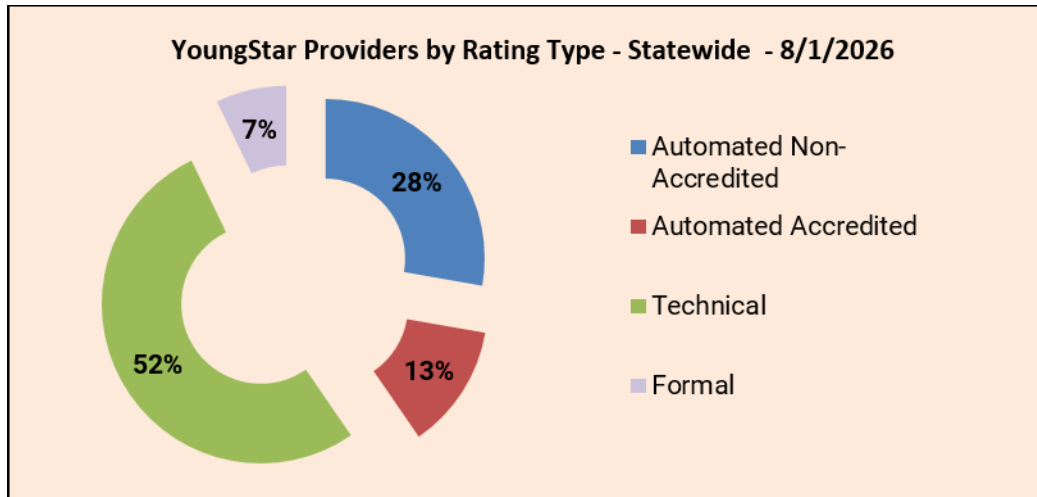
	2 Star	3 Star	4 Star	5 Star	Pending	Total
Age 0-2 Years	2,208	1,764	209	1,016	453	5,650
Age 2-4 Years	3,227	2,997	471	1,875	561	9,131
Age 4-6 Years	3,327	2,846	389	1,660	556	8,778
Age 6-12 Years	7,762	4,847	570	1,758	1,241	16,178
Age 12-17 Years	903	471	57	121	149	1,701
Total	17,427	12,925	1,696	6,430	2,960	41,438



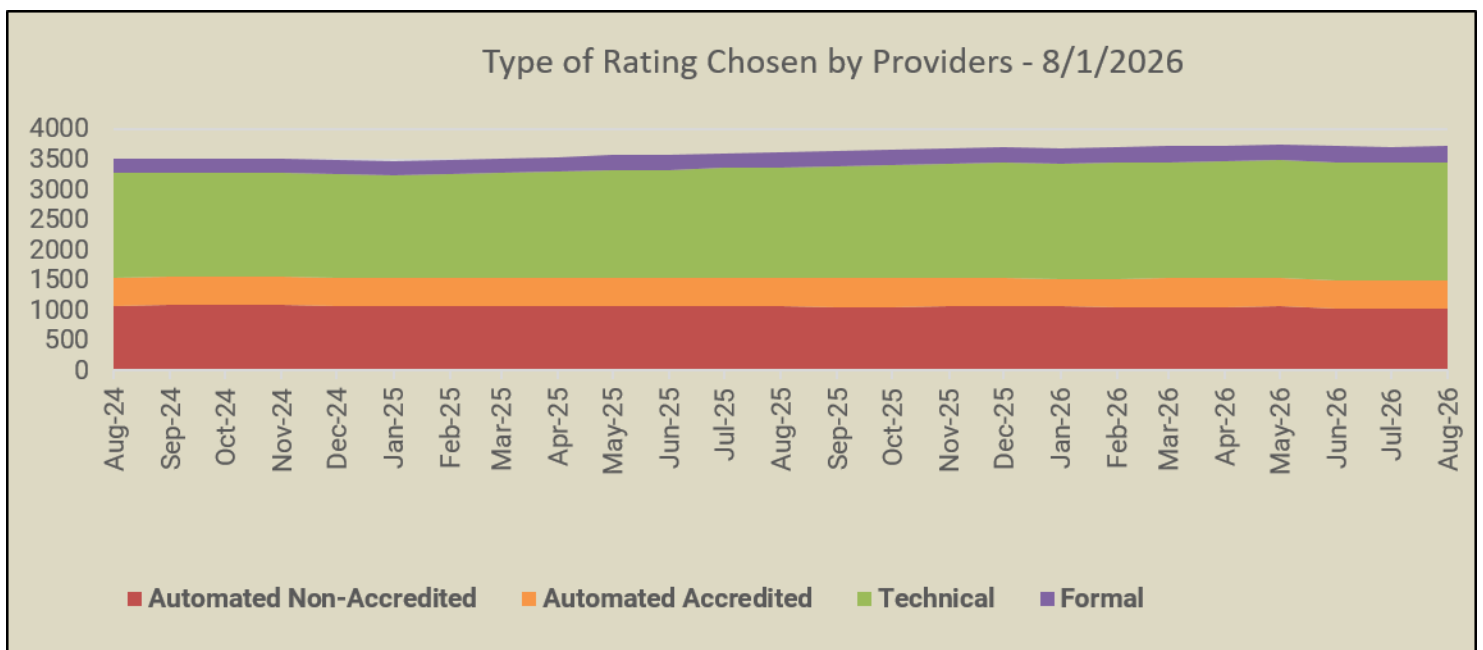
★ **Rating History and Composition:**

The composition of currently rated programs is shown below.

Data as of 8/31/2026

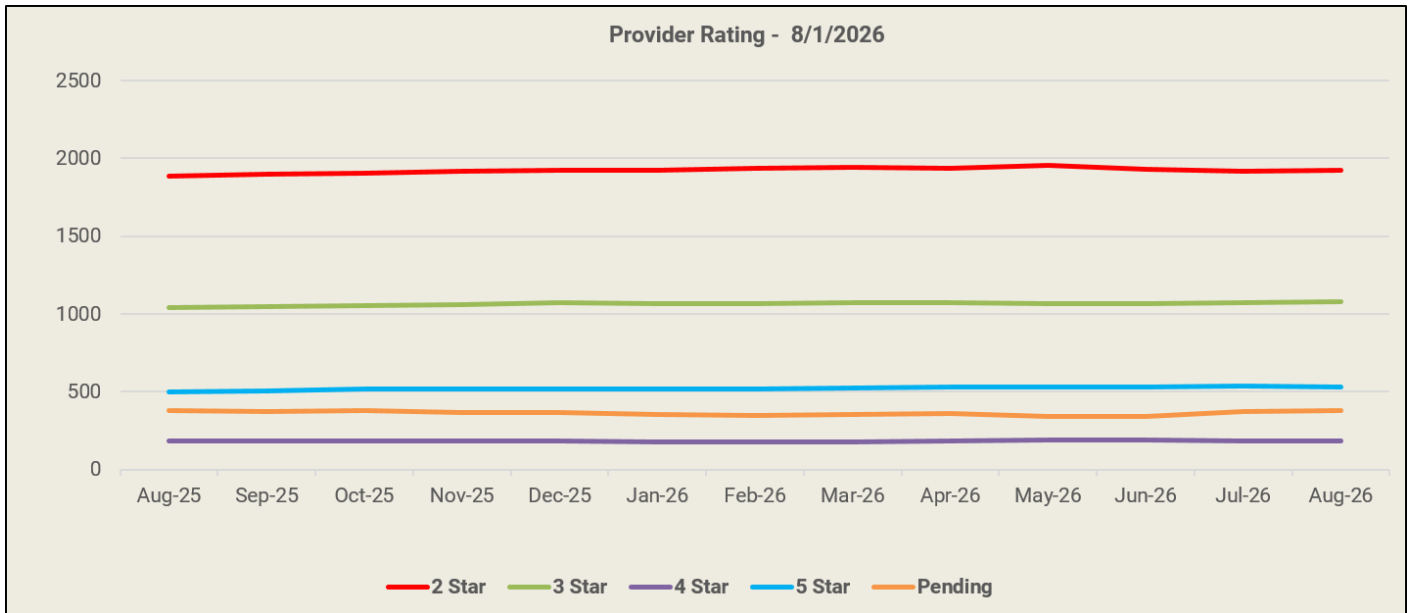


The graph below shows the movement in rating type chosen by providers over the past two years.



The graph below shows movement in rating levels for providers over the past year.

Data as of 8/31/2026



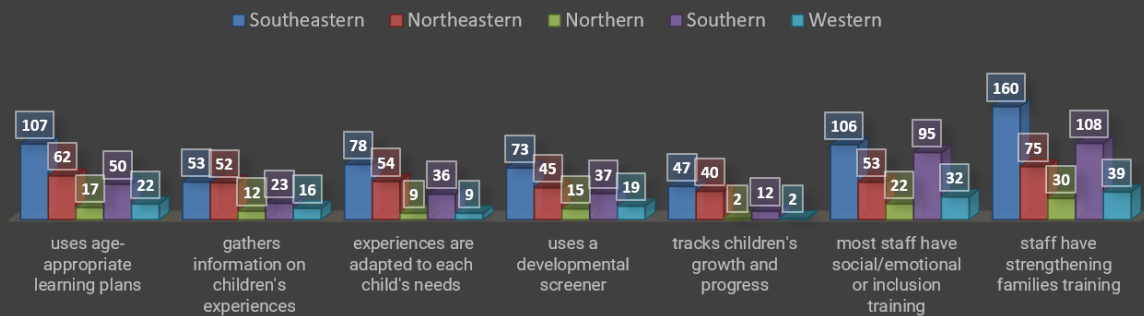
★ **High-Quality Practices:**

As part of the YoungStar evaluation process, programs can be evaluated for having key high-quality practices. The number of programs with high-quality practices is shown below by region.

	uses age-appropriate learning plans	gathers information on children's experiences	experiences are adapted to each child's needs	uses a developmental screener	tracks children's growth and progress	most staff have social/emotional or inclusion training	staff have strengthening families training
Southeastern	107	53	78	73	47	106	160
Northeastern	62	52	54	45	40	53	75
Northern	17	12	9	15	2	22	30
Southern	50	23	36	37	12	95	108
Western	22	16	9	19	2	32	39
Total	258	156	186	189	103	308	412

Data as of 8/31/2026

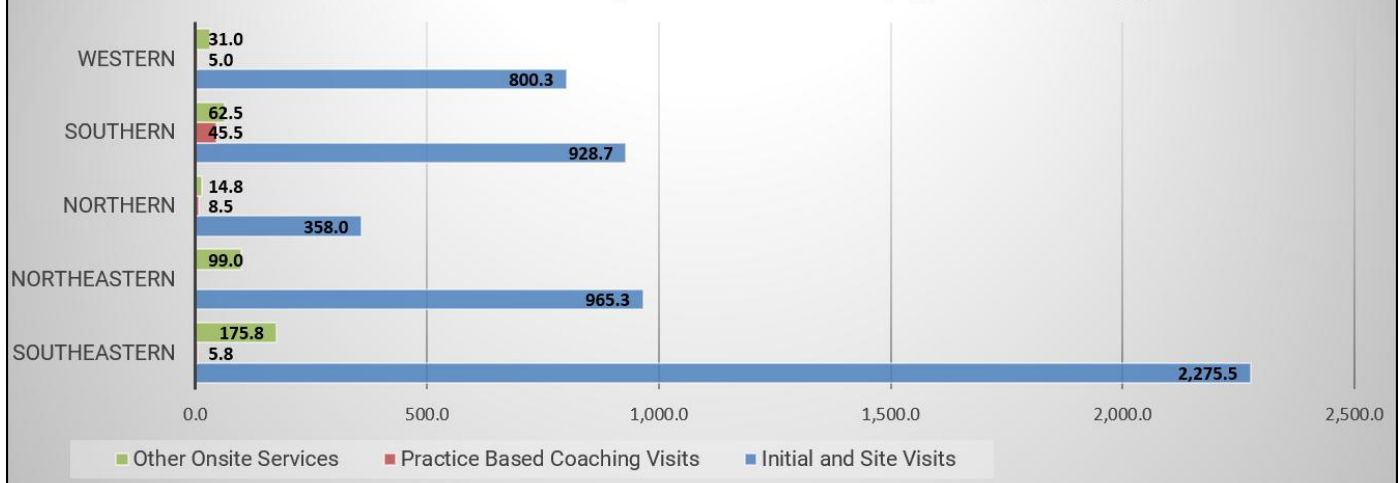
NUMBER OF PROGRAMS WITH HIGH-QUALITY PRACTICES BY REGION - 8/1/2026



★ Onsite Services:

YoungStar provides thousands of hours of direct consultation and coaching services every year to help early care programs with quality improvement across the state. Direct services include things like site visits, practice based coaching services, and formal rating verification visits. The number of hours provided year-to-date are shown in the chart below by type and region.

Year-to-Date Consultation and Coaching - Direct Service Hours by Type and Region - 8/1/2026



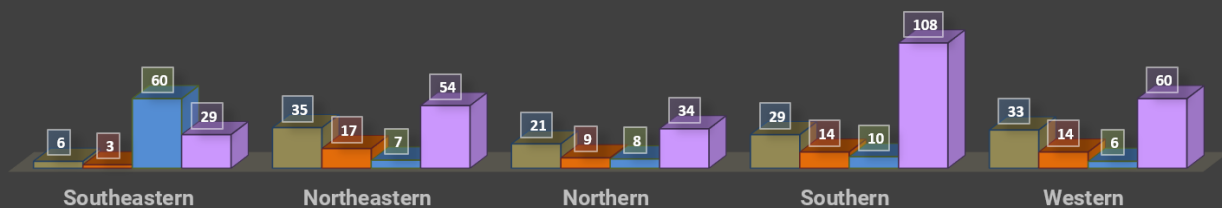
Data as of 8/31/2026

★ YoungStar Data on Partnerships:

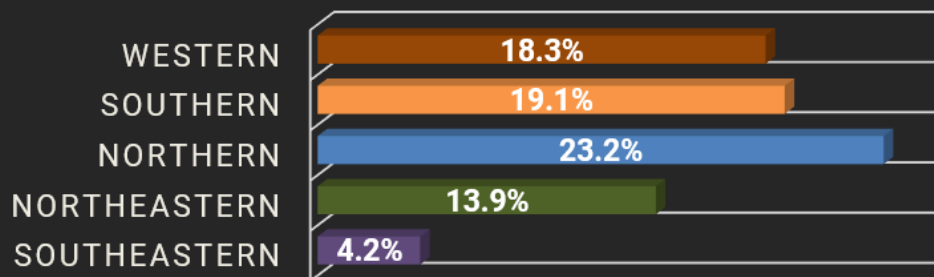
Region	Standalone Head Starts	Standalone Head Starts with 4K Collaborations	Head Start Child Care Partners	4K Collaborations	YoungStar Providers
Southeastern	6	3	60	29	2,191
Northeastern	35	17	7	54	563
Northern	21	9	8	34	220
Southern	29	14	10	108	690
Western	33	14	6	60	436
Statewide	124	57	91	285	4,100

OFFICIAL PUBLIC COLLABORATION OF YOUNGSTAR PROVIDERS BY REGION AS OF 8/1/2026

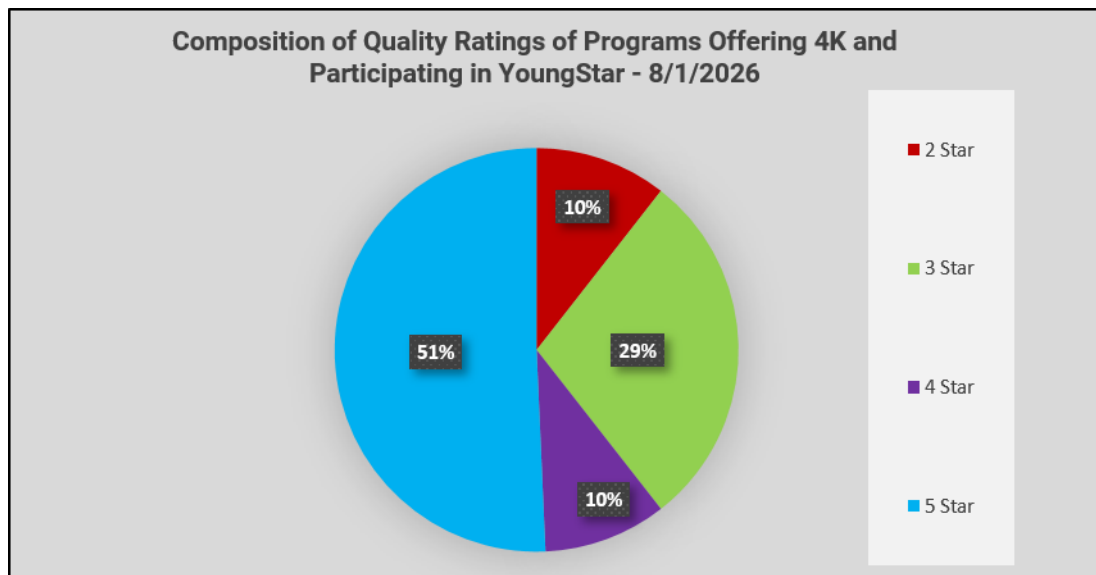
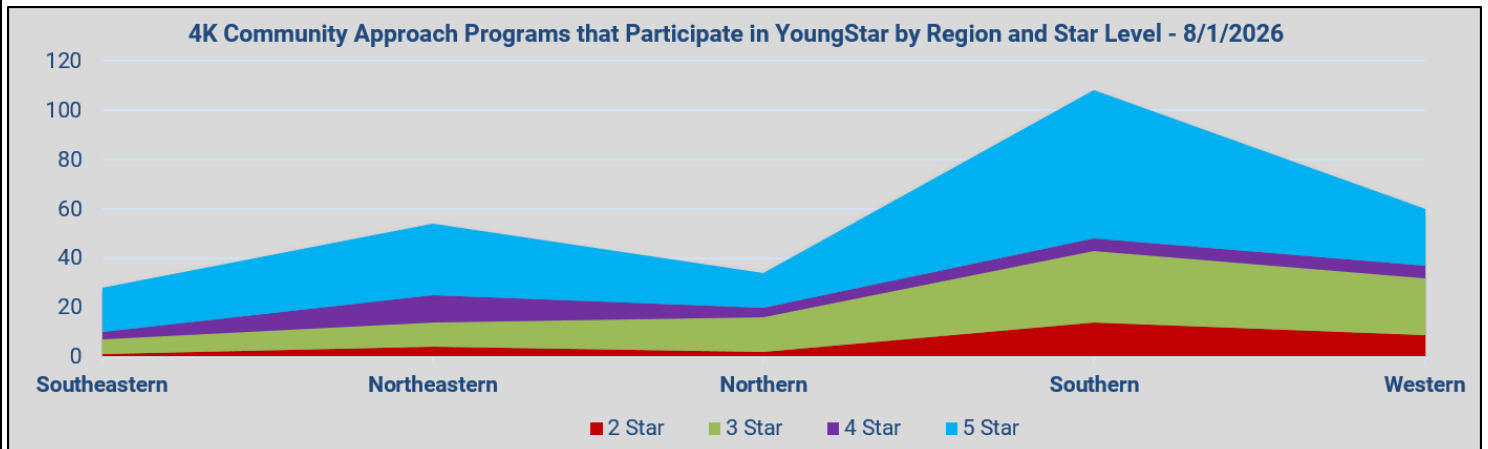
■ Standalone Head Starts ■ Standalone Head Starts with 4K Collaborations ■ Head Start Child Care Partners ■ 4K Collaborations



PERCENTAGE OF COLLABORATIONS BY REGION - 8/1/2026



Data as of 8/31/2026



The Head Start/4K Child Care Collaboration information is based on returned surveys and all programs may not be included.

Please see <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar/program/impact> for more details.

Data as of 8/31/2026