

South Central Coast Regional & San Luis Obispo County Local Plan

Program Years 2025 -2028



Agenda

Regional Plan Key Findings

Local Plan Key Findings

2025-2028 Local Goals & Strategies

Q&A Session



Part I. WIOA Regional Plan: South Central Coast

WIOA Regional Plan Overview

The South Central Coast Regional Planning Unit, which is comprised of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties, prepared a four-year **strategic roadmap to align resources and investments** to build industry sector engagement, drive regional workforce development outcomes, and expand career pathways.

The plan is a **reporting requirement** established by the California Employment Development Department, as mandated by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

A map of the South Central Coast region of California, highlighting the South Central Coast Regional Planning Unit in blue. The unit covers Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. The text "South Central Coast Regional Planning Unit" is overlaid on the map.

South Central Coast
Regional Planning Unit

✓ Fostering Demand -Driven
Skills Attainment

✓ Enabling Upward Mobility
for Californians

✓ Achieving Climate &
Sustainability Goals

✓ Improving Access & Opportunity
to Higher -Paying Jobs

Why the Need for a Regional Plan?

Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties share key geographic, economic and workforce characteristics and infrastructure, and have highly interlinked supply chains.

~8,320

SB County residents travel to SLO County to work (2022)

Over 1 in 2

Jobs in each county in Tier 3, high concentration of jobs in Agriculture & Tourism

High COL

Below CA average annual wages, above CA average housing prices

~8,660

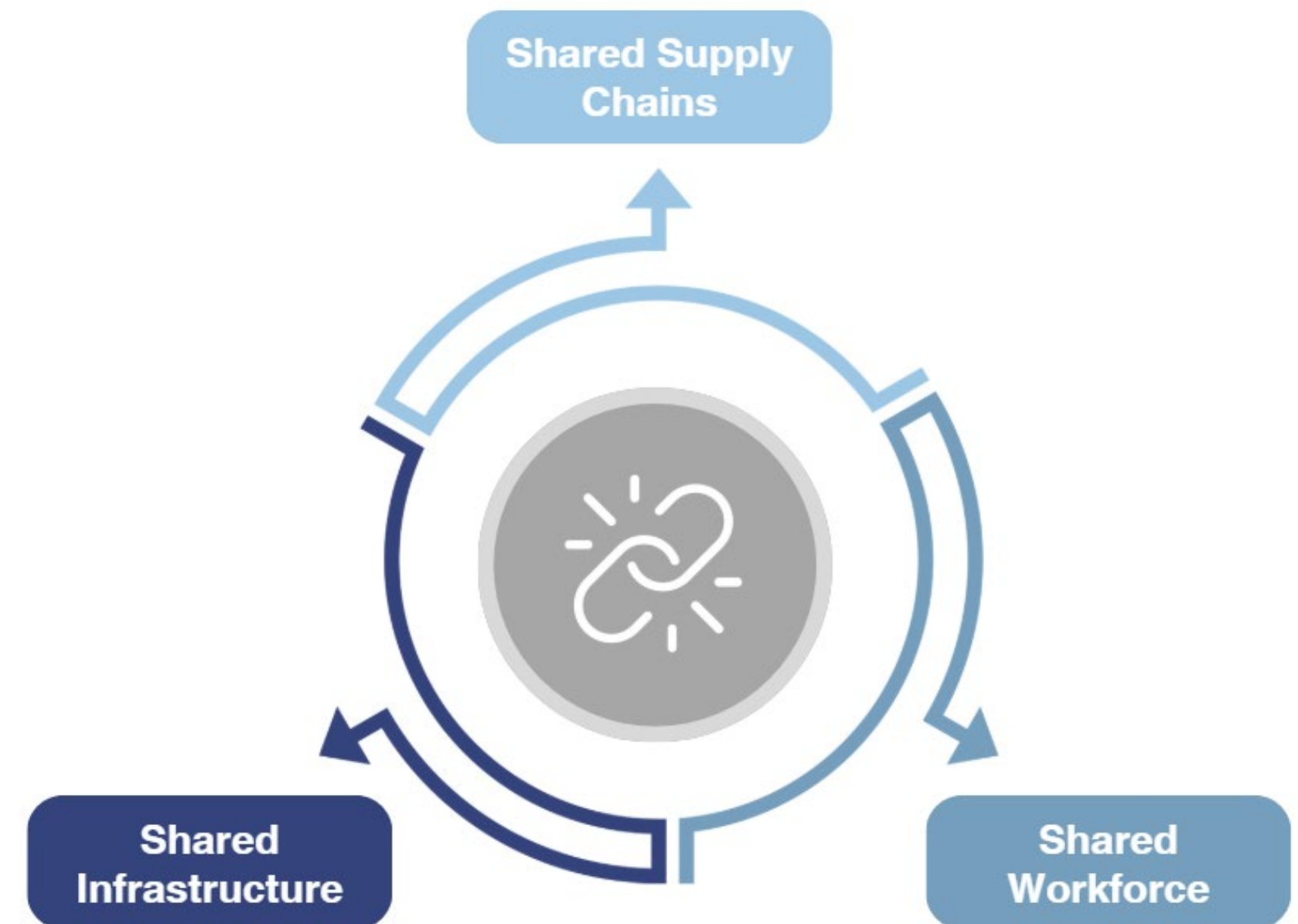
SLO County residents travel to SB County to work (2022)

Below 63%

LFPR in each county, reflecting large share of students (18-24) & seniors (65+) and small share of working-age adults (25-54)

CA & US LFPR > 63%

Sources: Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) [Understanding Regional Travel Patterns](#), January 2024; [American Community Survey 5-year estimates](#) (2018-2023).



✓ Increase Efficiency by Reducing Duplication of Effort

✓ Pooling Expertise for Superior Decision -Making

✓ Ensuring Alignment & Policy Coordination

✓ Enhancing Economic Integration through Collaborative Strategies

Regional Indicator 1:

The region has a process to communicate industry workforce needs to supply-side partners.



Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships (RERP) project

Partnering with community colleges to develop educational offerings leading to in-demand jobs in target pathways.



High Roads Construction Careers (HRCC) Resilient Workforce Fund (RWF)

Tri-county partnership with Ventura County to expand the region's skilled construction workforce.



Atascadero
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Layoff Aversion/
WIOA Business Services

Partnering with the Atascadero Chamber of Commerce to increase communication of business needs to WIOA-funded services.



Partnering with organizations in healthcare, education, and workforce development to create and strengthen healthcare pathways.

Regional Indicator 2:

The region has policies supporting equity and strives to improve job quality.



AJCC GED Testing Center

Partnering with Allan Hancock College to support the educational needs of county residents.



“Build Your Workforce” Program

Partnering with Santa Maria Valley Chamber to connect businesses to workforce development services.



PROYECTO CAMPESINO
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
FARMWORKER RESOURCE CENTER

Mobile one-stop shop supporting farmers, farmworkers & their families, and employers.



National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP)

Providing job skills training to migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their dependents.

Farmworker Advancement Program (FAP)

Providing upskilling to farmworkers and their children, and agricultural employers.

Landscape Analysis & Equity Toolkit

Providing tools to local employers seeking to diversify their workforce.

Regional Indicator 3:

The region has shared target populations of emphasis.



Prison 2 Employment 2.0 (P2E 2.0) Program

Providing employment transition support services for justice-involved individuals.



Growth Opportunities Program

Introducing and preparing justice-involved or at-risk youth for the world of work.



CALIFORNIA
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Go-Biz Local Immigrant Integration and Inclusion Program

Provided integration support to immigrants, refugees, and asylees.

**BREAKING
BARRIERS**

to Employment Initiative

Expanding access to training for underemployed individuals.

Summer Training and Employment Program for Students (STEP)

Providing job skills training to high school and college students with disabilities.

Pathway Home 2 Program (PH2)

Providing workforce transition support to incarcerated individuals.

Fostering Demand -Driven Skills Attainment

In South Central Coast households with two working adults and two children, each adult would need to work **1.5 Tier 3 jobs** to meet the living wage determination.



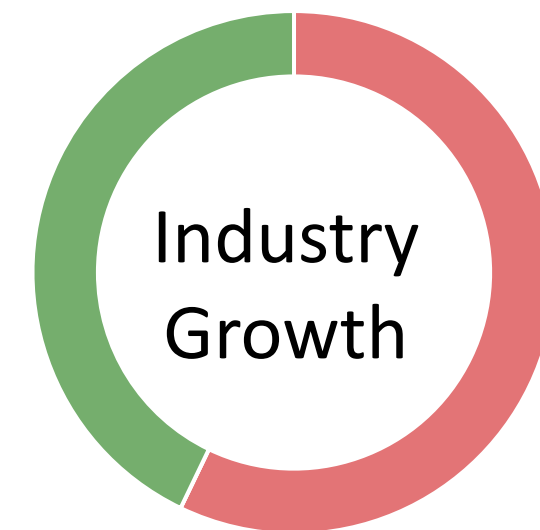
1 in 5

ZIP Codes in severe
economic distress



3 in 5

Regional jobs in Tier 3
(lowest-wage, lowest-skill)



3 in 7

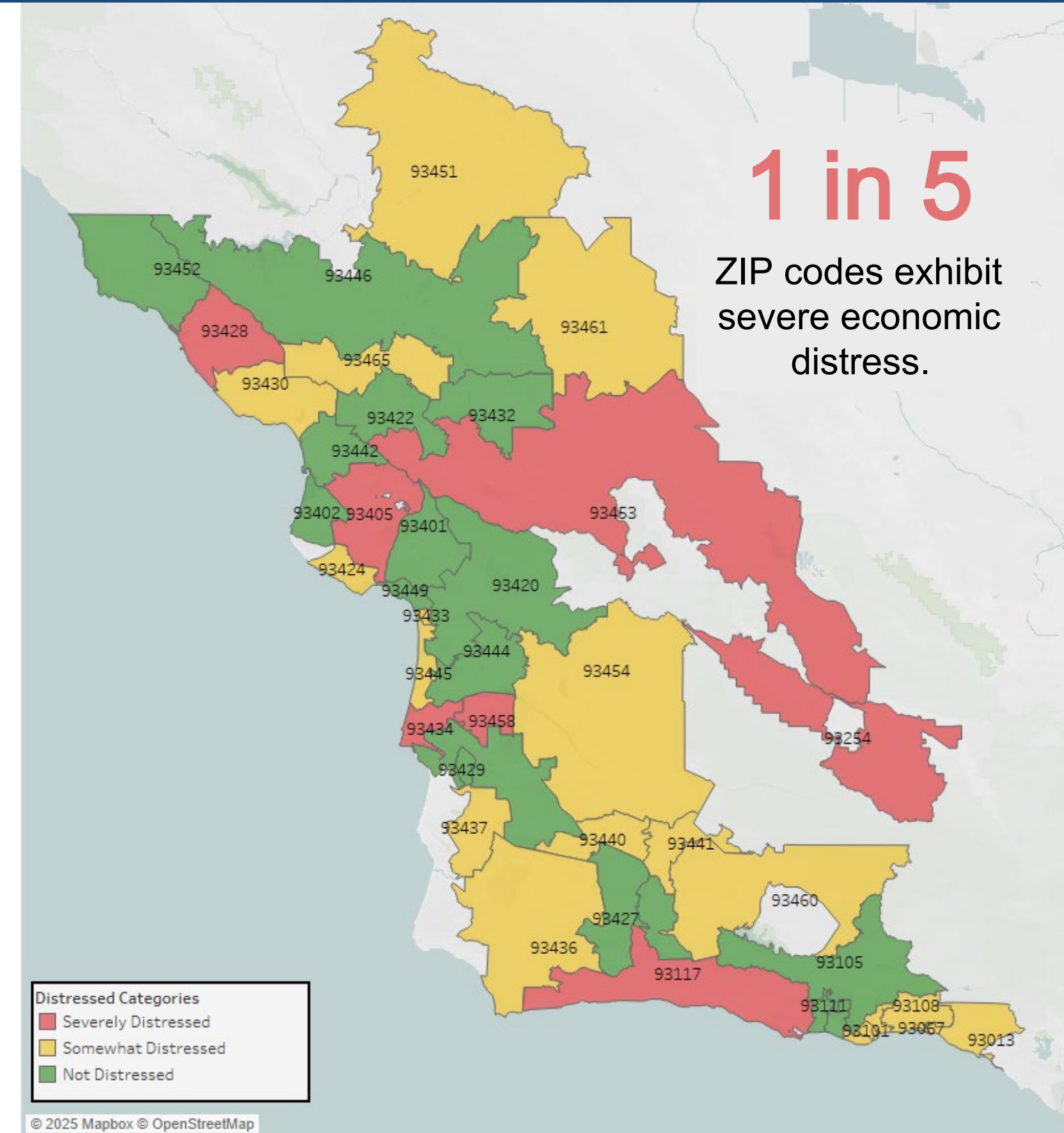
REACH priority clusters with strong job
growth & pay above regional living wage

Economic Distress by Subregion

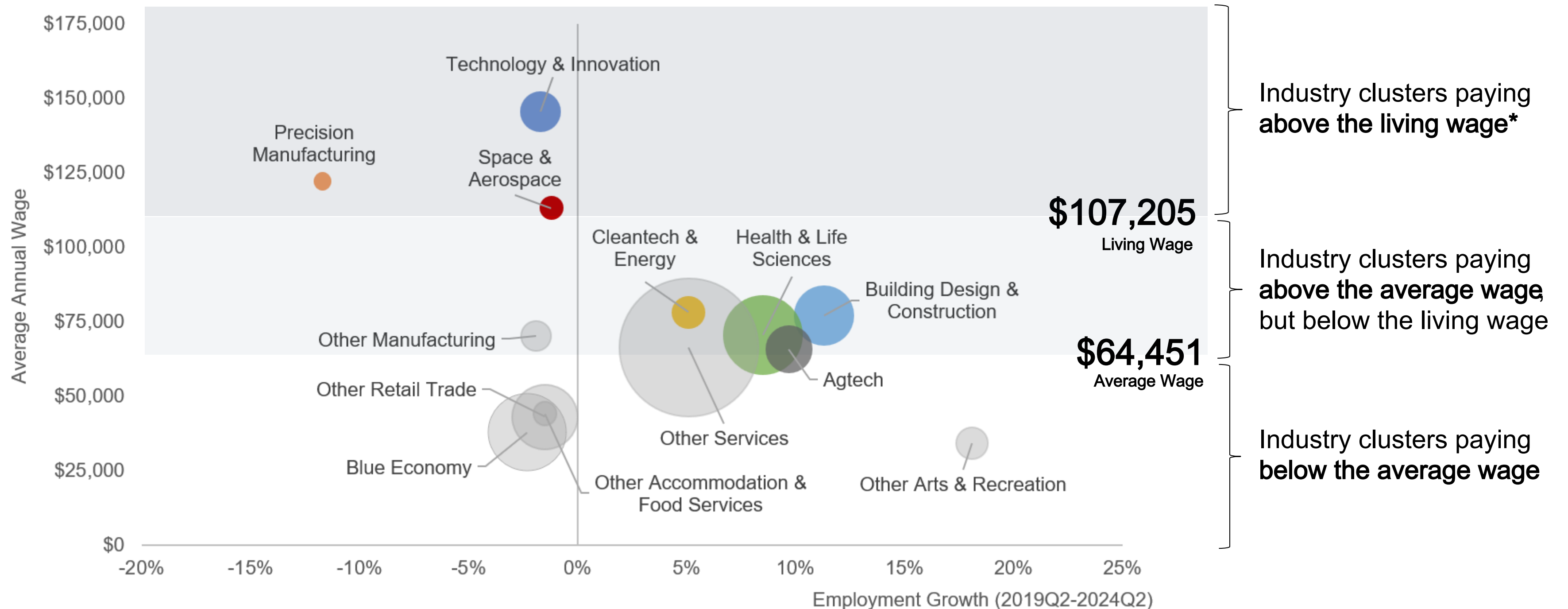
Economic Distress Index calculated by ZIP code based on the following indicators:

- Unemployment rate
- Labor force participation rate
- Median income
- Percent of uninsured residents
- Rent as a percent of household income

The Economic Distress Index helps **expand access to resources and opportunity** by identifying subregions in greater need of support.



South Central Coast Industry Cluster Analysis



REACH Industry Clusters

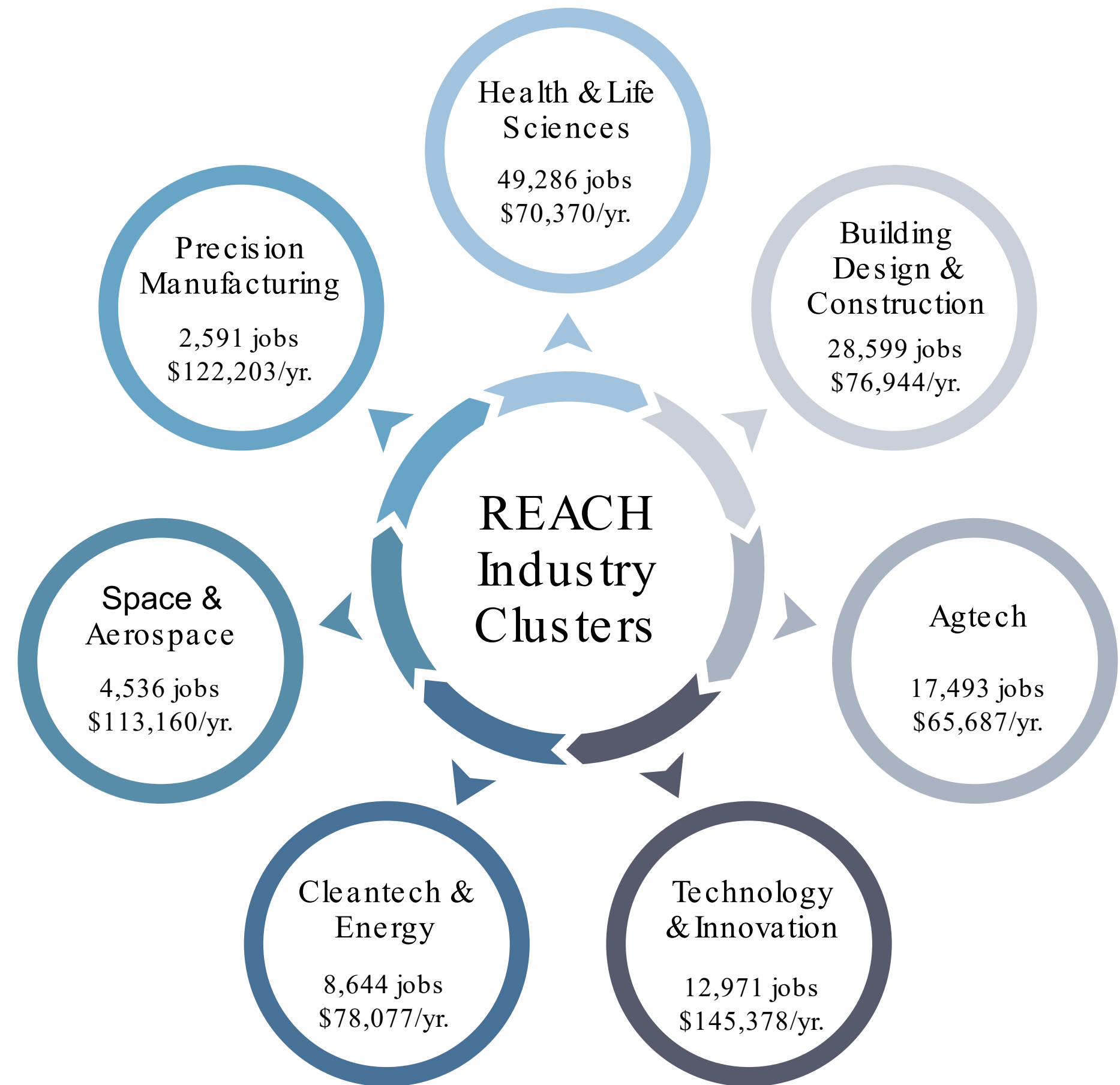
All REACH industry clusters offer wages above the regional average, but only three offer wages above the regional living wage.

\$64,451

Regional
Average Wage

\$107,205

Regional Living Wage
(2 Adults, 1 Working +
2 Children)



Climate & Sustainability



Public/private/nonprofit partnership to address regional climate challenges.



Public/private/nonprofit partnership to address regional climate challenges.



Partnering with Uplift Central Coast to build resilience and sustainability.



Providing electricity based on a portfolio with a higher level of renewable energy sources.

Central Coast Zero Emissions Vehicle Strategy

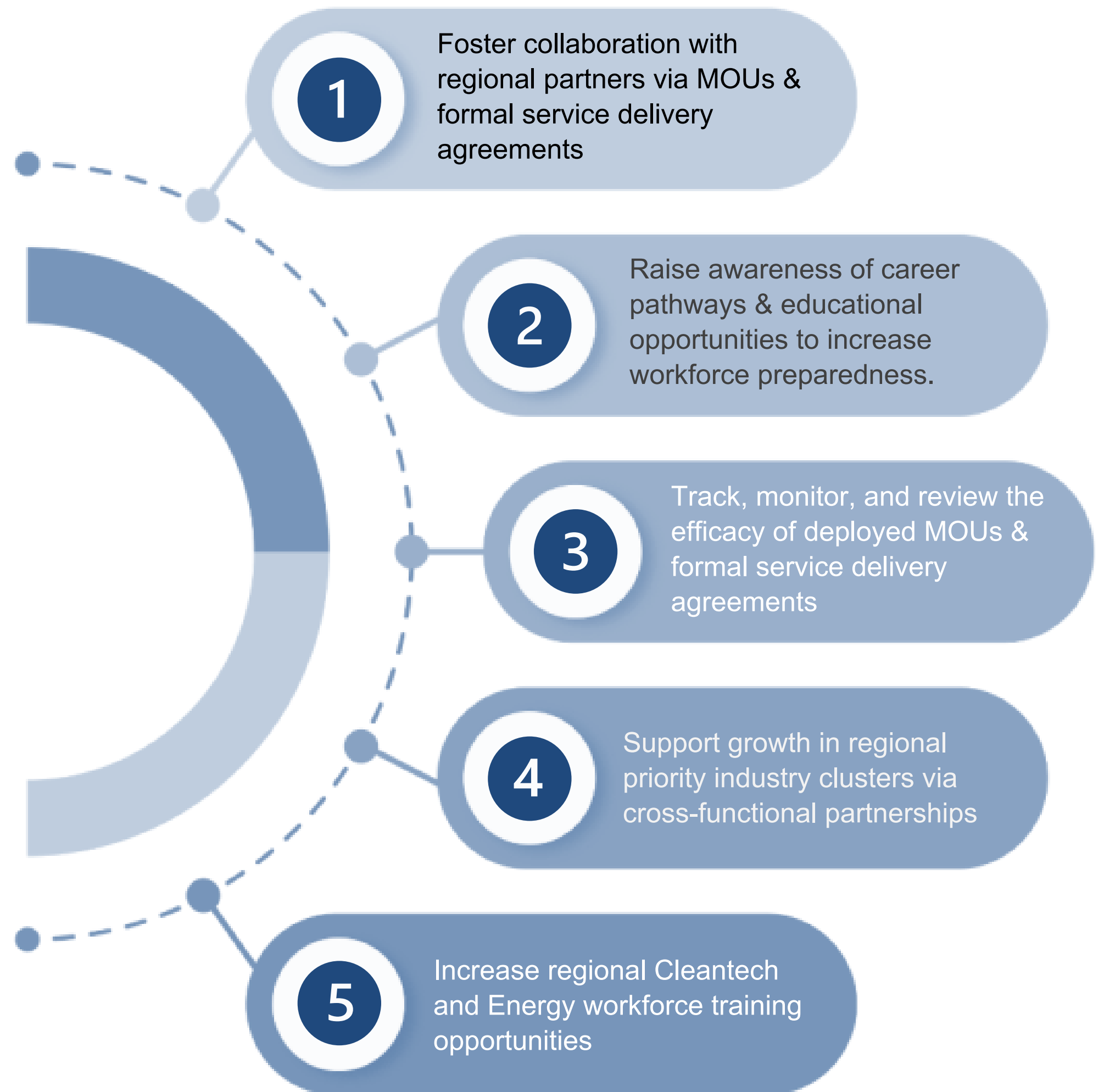
Partnering with the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) to support EV charging.



Partnering with Ventura County to improve building energy efficiency.

Regional Plan

2025-2028 Goals





Part II. WIOA Local Plan: San Luis Obispo

WIOA Local Plan Overview

The Local Plan for San Luis Obispo County:

- Outlines service delivery strategies to operationalize South Central Coast regional goals within the local region
- Describes how county residents can access services through the America's Job Center of California (AJCC) system
- Sets concrete goals for coordinating with local partners to ensure person-centered service delivery



Local Plan: WIOA & State Partner Coordination

The San Luis Obispo County LWDA operates a comprehensive AJCC center in the City of San Luis Obispo's Acacia Creek Business Park. WIOA and State Partners provide cross-referrals, engage in crosstraining, and meet regularly to ensure effective and efficient coordination of resources.



WIOA Title I Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs (via Program Operator)



WIOA Title IV Vocational Rehabilitation



WIOA Title III WagnerPeyser, Trade Adjustment Assistance, & Unemployment Compensation



County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families/CalWORKs Program, CalFresh Program



California Community Colleges

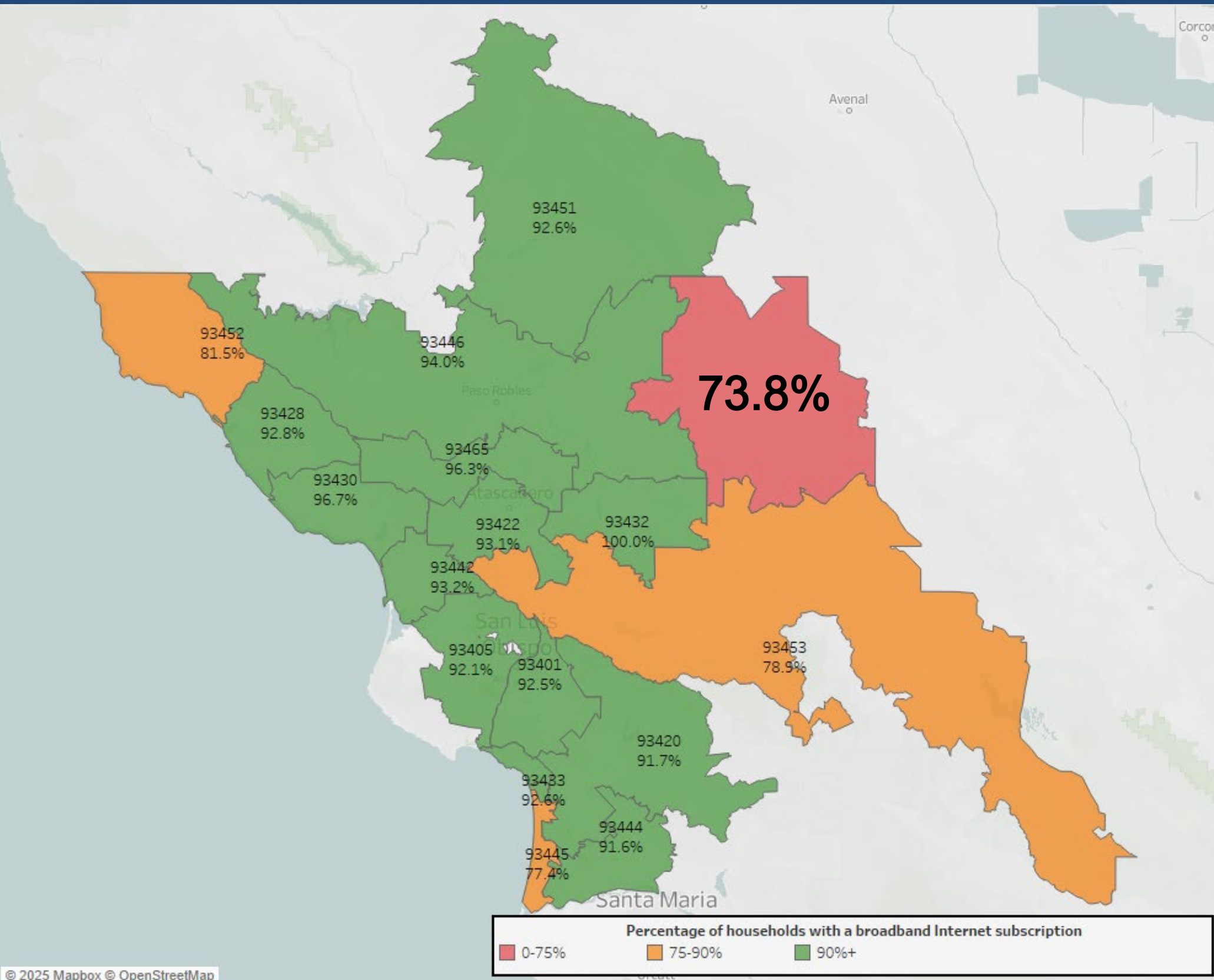
WIOA II Adult Education and Family Literacy Programs (San Luis Obispo County)



County of San Luis Obispo Department of Child Support Services

Oversees Child Support Services

County Internet Access, 2023



Workforce Challenge: Accessibility

Jobseekers in eastern San Luis Obispo county may find it more difficult to access online and virtual AJCC services due to Internet access limitations.

92.6%

County Households with Internet Subscription

vs.

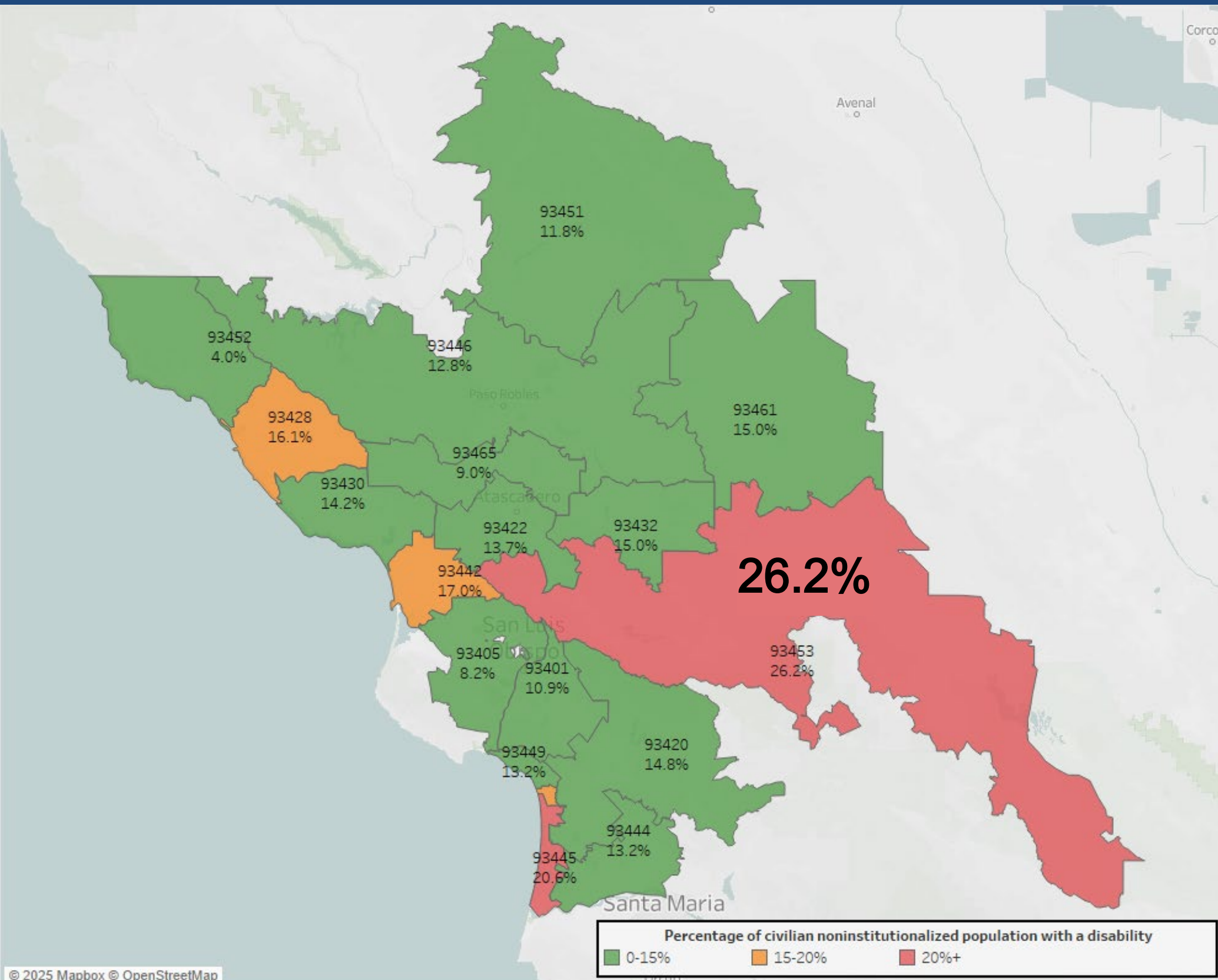
73.8%

Shandon (93461) Households with Internet Subscription

Potential Support Strategies: Accessibility

- Extend WIOA office hours at local libraries in the region
- Increase support for technology funding at public schools in the region

County Persons with a Disability, 2023



Workforce Challenge: Disability Supports

Jobseekers with disabilities in southeastern San Luis Obispo county may require additional access to disability support services.

36,000

Persons with a Disability
in the County

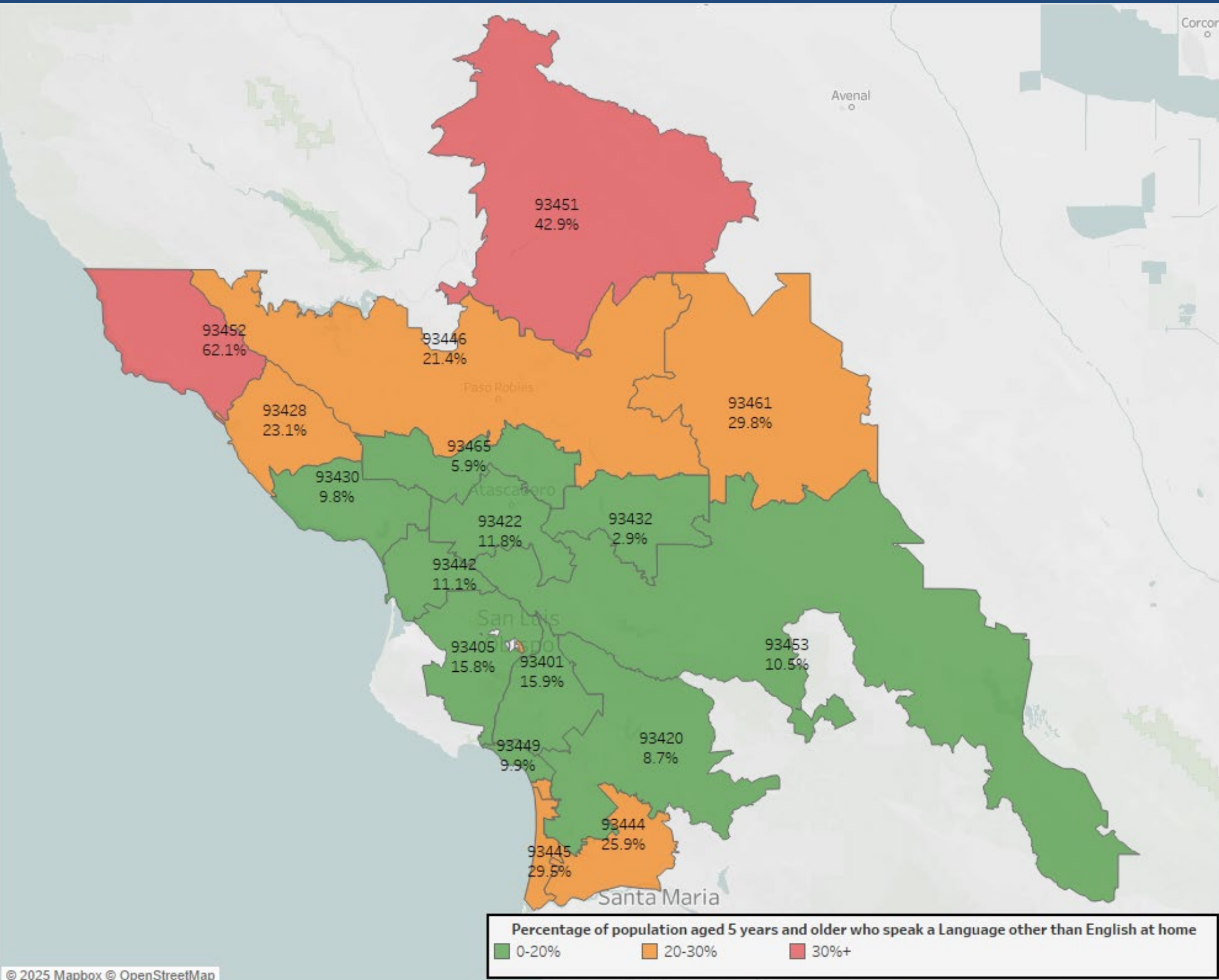
26.2%

Persons with a Disability in
Santa Margarita (93453)

Potential Support Strategy: Disabilities

Increase outreach to persons with disabilities to raise awareness of support services offered by the TrCounties Regional Center (TCRC) and the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR).

County English Language Fluency, 2023



Workforce Challenge: ESL Skills

Jobseekers in northern San Luis Obispo county may require additional access to ESL courses to increase opportunities for employment in higher-paying jobs.

46,000

County Residents Ages 5+
Who Speak English Less
than "Very Well"

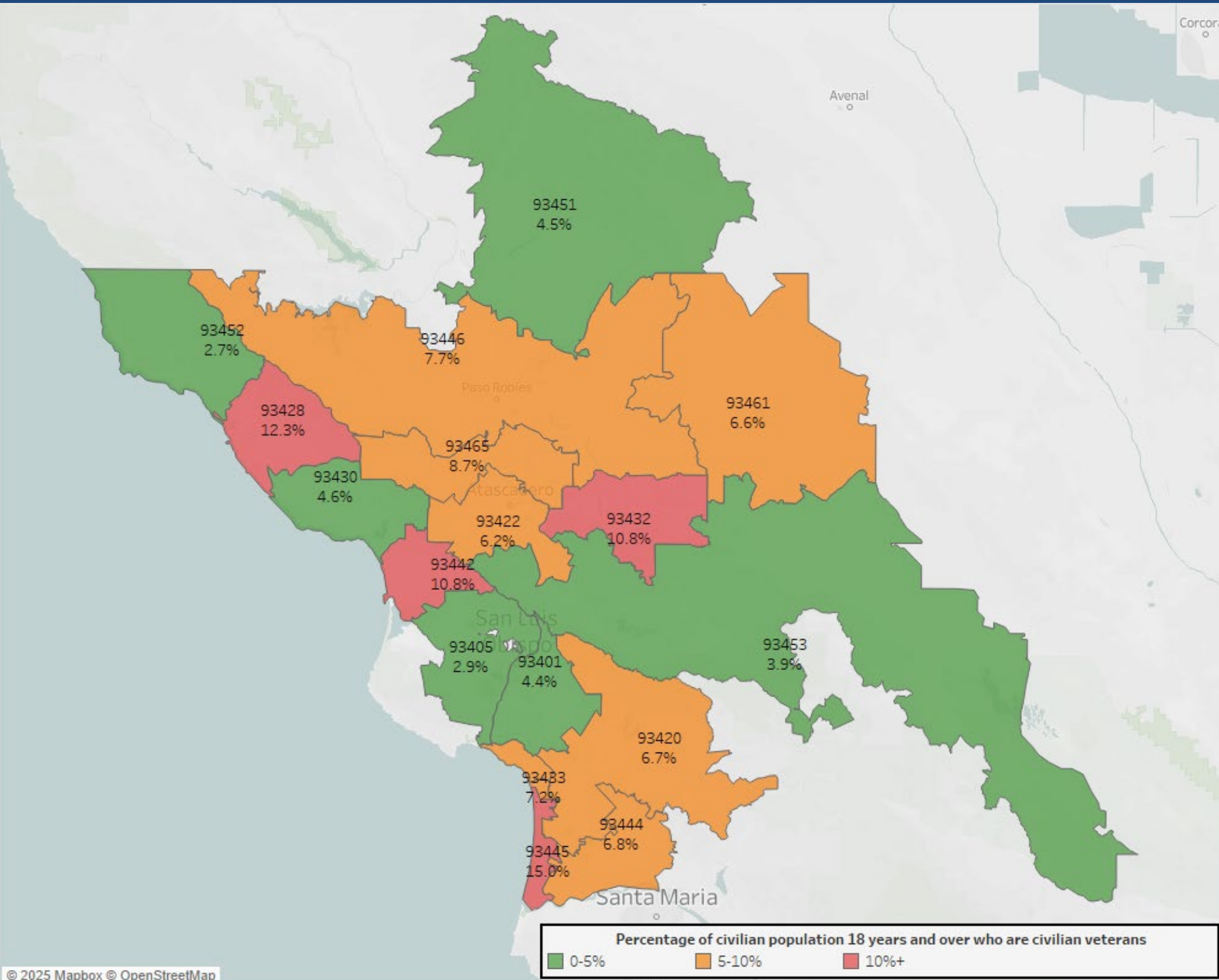
62.1%

ESL Households in San
Simeon/Ragged Point
(93452)

Potential Support Strategies: ESL Skills

- Ensure that jobseeker outreach materials distributed in the northern region are available in multiple languages.
- Conduct a gap analysis to assess adequacy of ESL offerings within the northern region.

County Veterans, 2023



Workforce Challenge: Transition Support

Jobseekers in Oceano, Cambria, and Harmony may require additional access to support services for veterans transitioning to civilian employment.

15.0%

Veterans in Oceano
(93445)

12.3%

Veterans in Cambria
(93428)

Potential Support Strategy: Veterans

Increase outreach to veterans in these regions to raise awareness of jobseeker transition support services offered by Local Veterans Affairs and the San Luis Obispo Vet Center.



Part III. 2025-2028 Goals & Strategies: San Luis Obispo

Goal 1: Foster Collaboration with Regional Partners

LOCAL GOAL 1

Increase awareness among TANF case managers about WIOA/SLO Cal Careers services beyond subsidized employment training opportunities.



LOCAL GOAL 2

Improve communication to Chambers regarding procurement activities/opportunities and WIOA funded business services.



LOCAL GOAL 3

Coordinate with service delivery partners to focus workforce development efforts on populations in subregions experiencing severe economic distress.



STRATEGY 1

Develop brief, digestible fact sheets highlighting the full suite of WIOA services, tailored toward CalWORKs/Welfare to Work case managers.



STRATEGY 2

Host monthly or quarterly roundtables with Chamber members and distribute email newsletters to provide updates on procurement opportunities.



STRATEGY 3

Perform a gap analysis to assess adequacy of service delivery for populations in severe economic distress, including availability of partner supports.

Goal 2: Monitor & Evaluate Partnership Agreements

LOCAL GOAL 1

Document and ratify the terms of existing service delivery partnerships not currently covered by an MOU or formal service delivery agreement.



LOCAL GOAL 2

Track, monitor, and review the efficacy of deployed MOUs and formal service delivery agreements.



LOCAL GOAL 3

Improve outcomes for co-enrolled WIOA/Temporary Assistance for Needy Family (TANF) participants.



STRATEGY 1

Develop an MOU/service delivery agreement template.



STRATEGY 2

Develop a tracking and evaluation framework for MOUs and formal service delivery agreements and set a schedule for periodic updates.



STRATEGY 3

Develop co-case management procedures and policies for co-enrolled WIOA/TANF participants.



Goal 3: Increase Awareness & Utilization of WIOA Services

LOCAL GOAL 1

Simplify outreach messaging regarding WIOA/AJCC services to improve participation and engagement



STRATEGY 1

Develop and share infographics and short case study videos that emphasize participant outcomes

LOCAL GOAL 2

Increase outreach to businesses not engaged with Chambers of Commerce to expand utilization



STRATEGY 2

Leverage trade associations and economic development partners to augment mailing lists; and attend non-Chamber networking events.

LOCAL GOAL 3

Increase community awareness of workforce needs, workforce programs available, and activities of the WDB/SLO Cal Careers.



STRATEGY 3

Develop educational materials that build community awareness of high-quality opportunities in priority industry clusters and relevant support services.

Goal 4: Support Priority Industry Clusters & Career Pathways

LOCAL GOAL 1

Support San Luis Obispo county's cleantech and energy workforce.



STRATEGY 1

Track and monitor evolving career pathways in the energy and clean technology industries as the energy industry continues to evolve.

LOCAL GOAL 2

Support San Luis Obispo county's building and design workforce.



STRATEGY 2

Facilitate permanent placements of completers of High Roads Construction Careers (HRCC) programs amongst local employers.

LOCAL GOAL 3

Support San Luis Obispo county's healthcare workforce.



STRATEGY 3

Partner with Health Career Connection (HCC) to design a tiered healthcare career pathway program, via the SLO Healthcare Workforce Partnership.



Part IV. Q&A Session



Thank you for listening.



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