

LEADERSHIP OF LOCAL ECONOMIC ENGINES

Women in Texas Chambers of Commerce

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What is the current status of women's **inclusion** or **exclusion** on chamber of commerce boards in Texas?

**Why Does
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01. Chamber Prevalence

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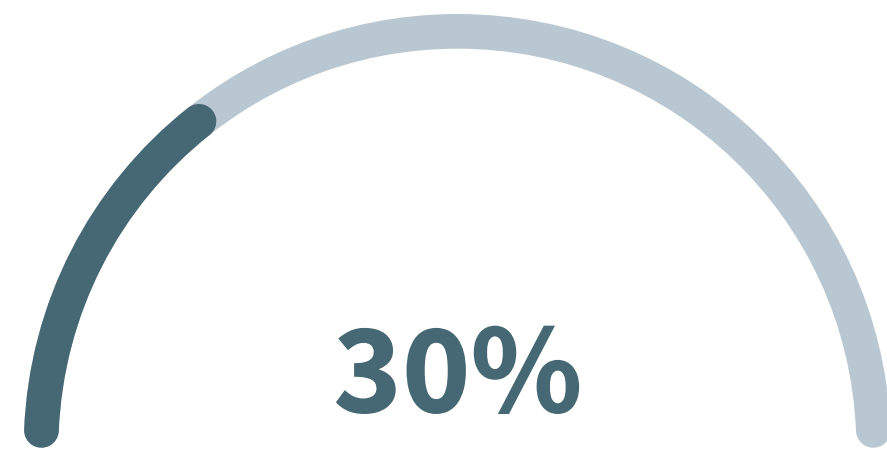
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03. Economic Development

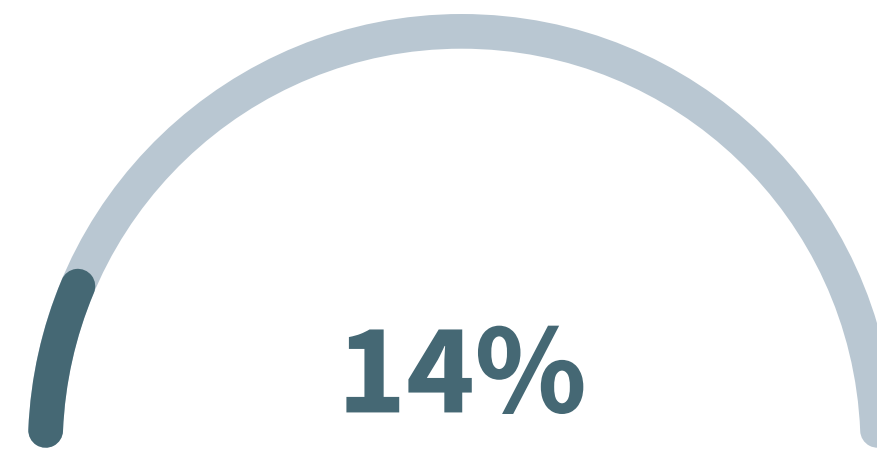
Chambers are advocates for local economic development and promote economic growth

S&P 500

Women are often underrepresented in business and excluded from leadership.



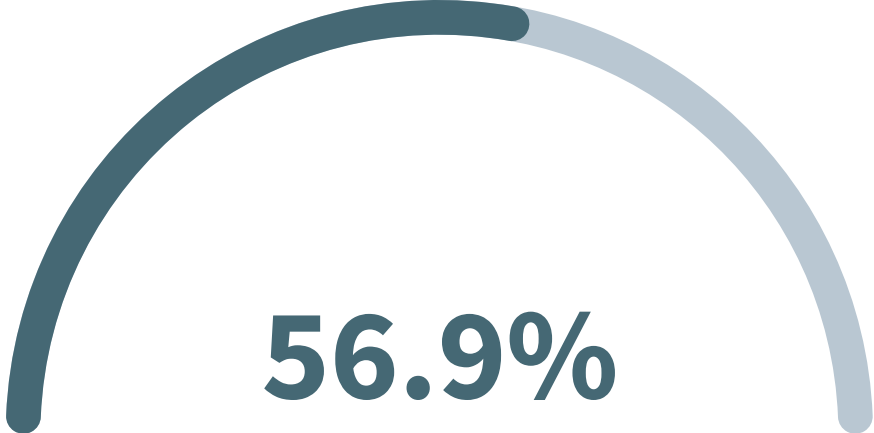
Women on the board



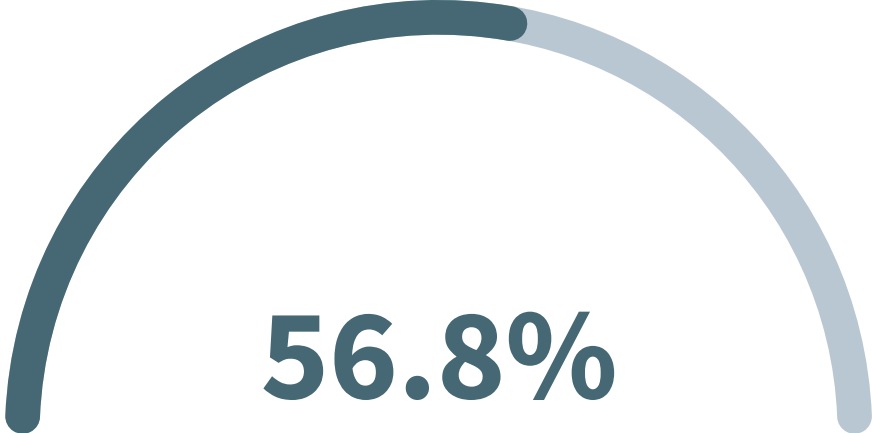
Women in leadership roles

Texas Chambers

Women are included in equal numbers in both board membership and leadership roles.

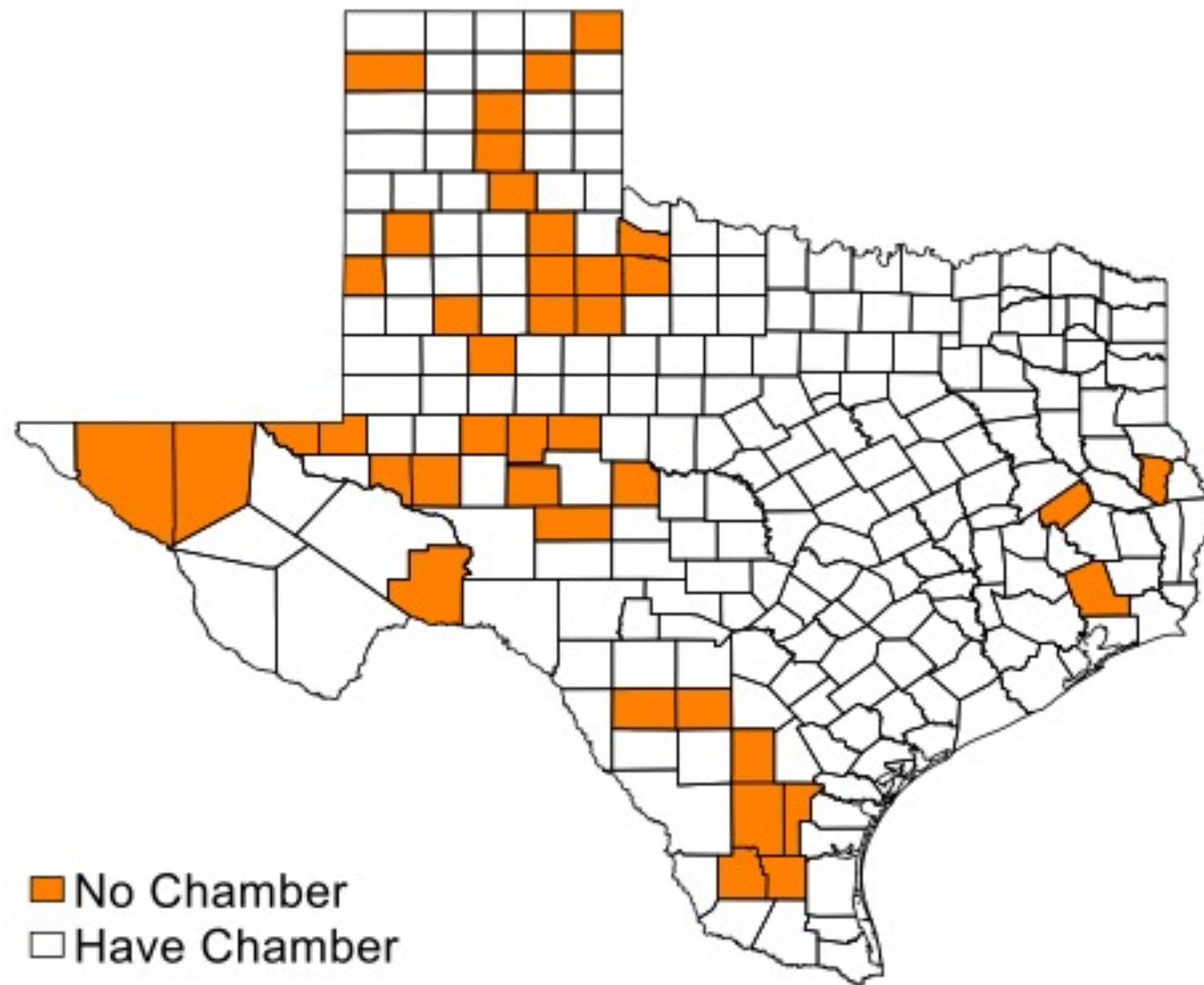


Women on the board



Women in leadership roles

Counties without a Chamber of Commerce

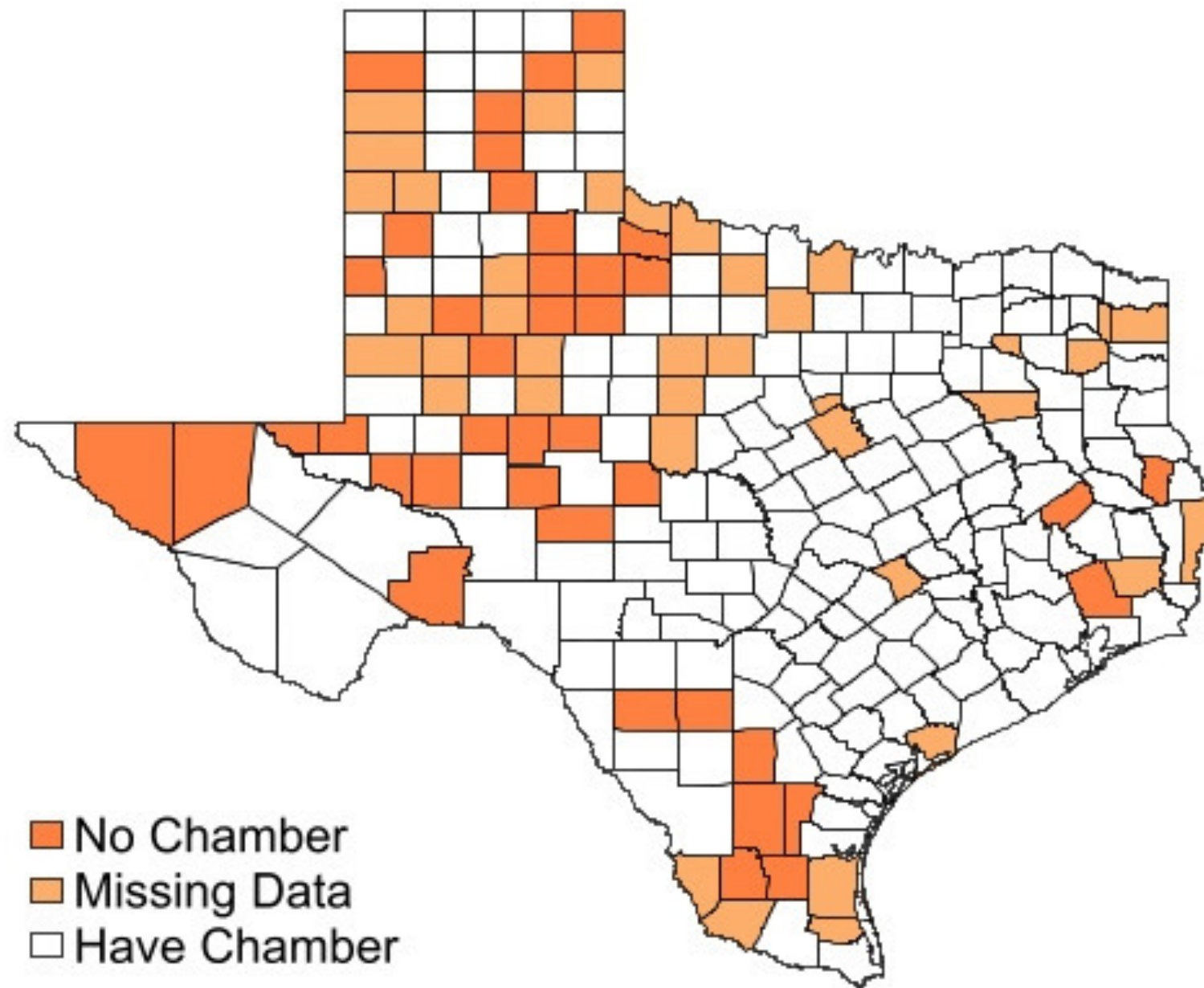


Average population was 7,310 versus 136,614 for the rest of the state

Average population density of 7.1 versus 143.2 rest of state

Higher per capita income \$63,032/person versus \$54,493 rest of state

Counties with Missing Data

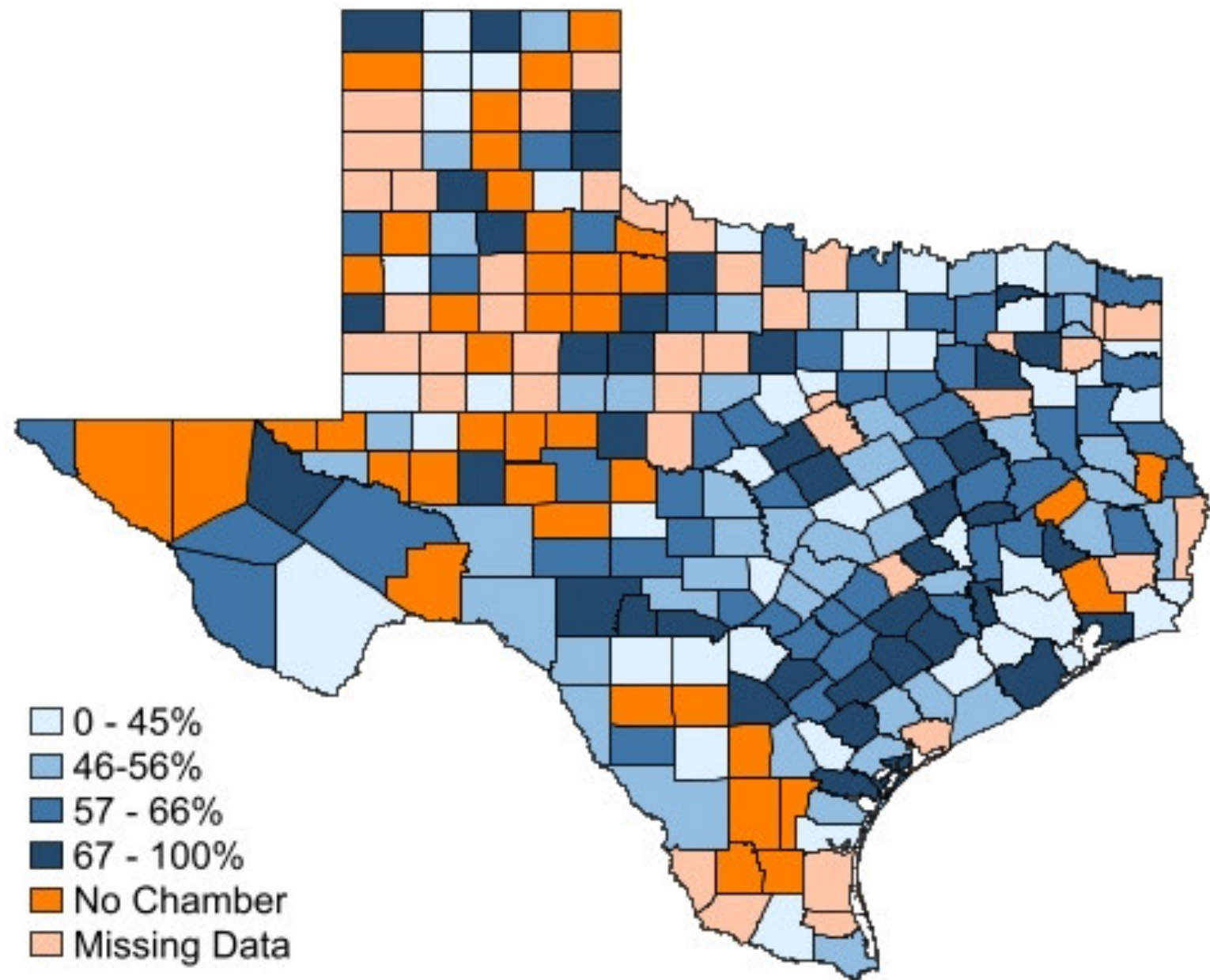


Average population was 12,782 versus 168,293 for the rest of the state

Average population density of 15.3 versus 175.3 rest of state

Almost identical unemployment rates: 5.58% in counties with data and 5.67% in counties without data

Percent of Women on the Board

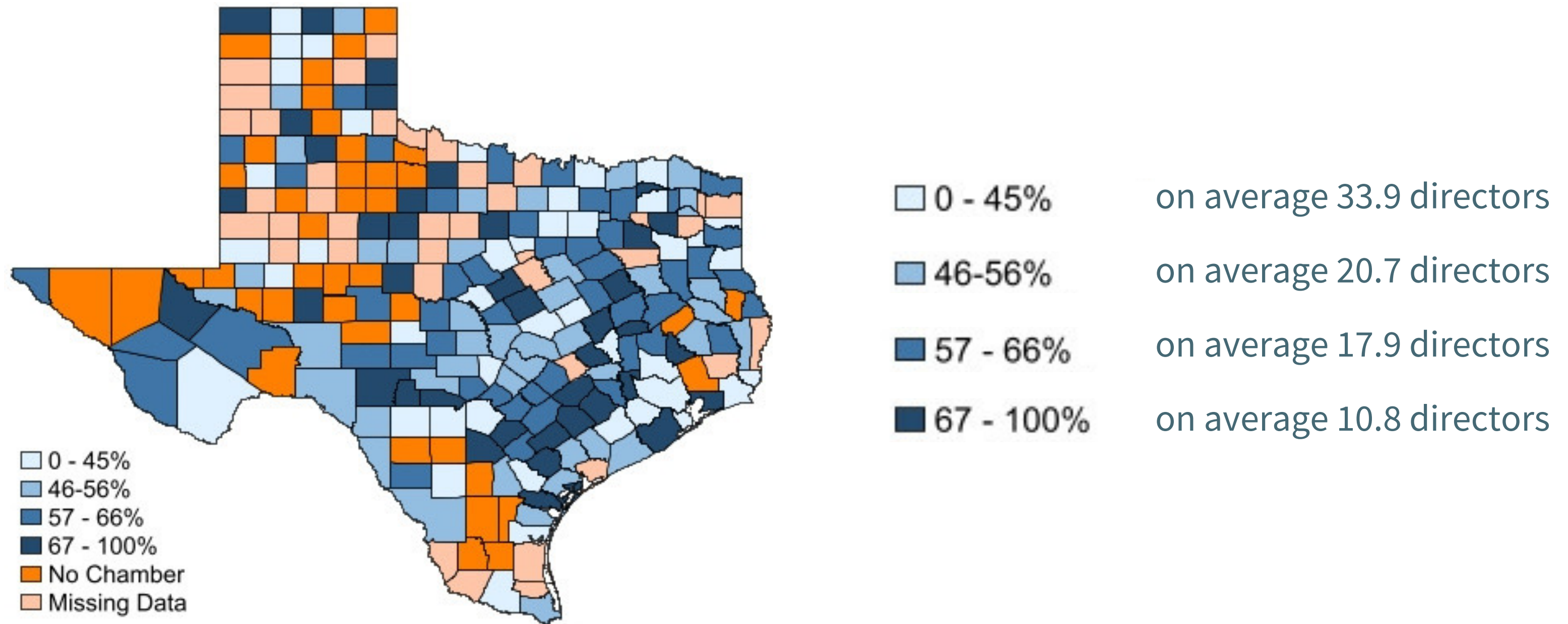


Percent of women on the Board varies by county

Community factors do not help us predict concentration of women

Board size can influence concentration of women

Larger boards have fewer women on average



Findings

Women are equally included on the board of directors and in leadership positions for chambers of commerce in Texas.

Rural counties are less likely to have access to chambers of commerce and the resulting potential benefits.

Despite their prevalence in Texas, **little research has been done** on chambers of commerce.

Lessons for Texas Leaders

CHAMBERS AS A RESOURCE.

An excellent opportunity for women to build leadership experience and relationships in order to expand their overall impact.

UNDERSTAND YOUR COMMUNITY.

Data is not just for research. Tracking leadership and using community data allows you to consider what you may be missing.

ROOM FOR GROWTH.

Many communities do not have access to chambers. Others have limited activity. Communication improvements and increased research are needed.

Let's Connect



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**For More
Information**



The Takeaway

Policy Briefs from the Mosbacher Institute for
Trade, Economics, and Public Policy