

Financial Implementation Timing and Administrative Capacity in U.S. CDBG-DR Recovery

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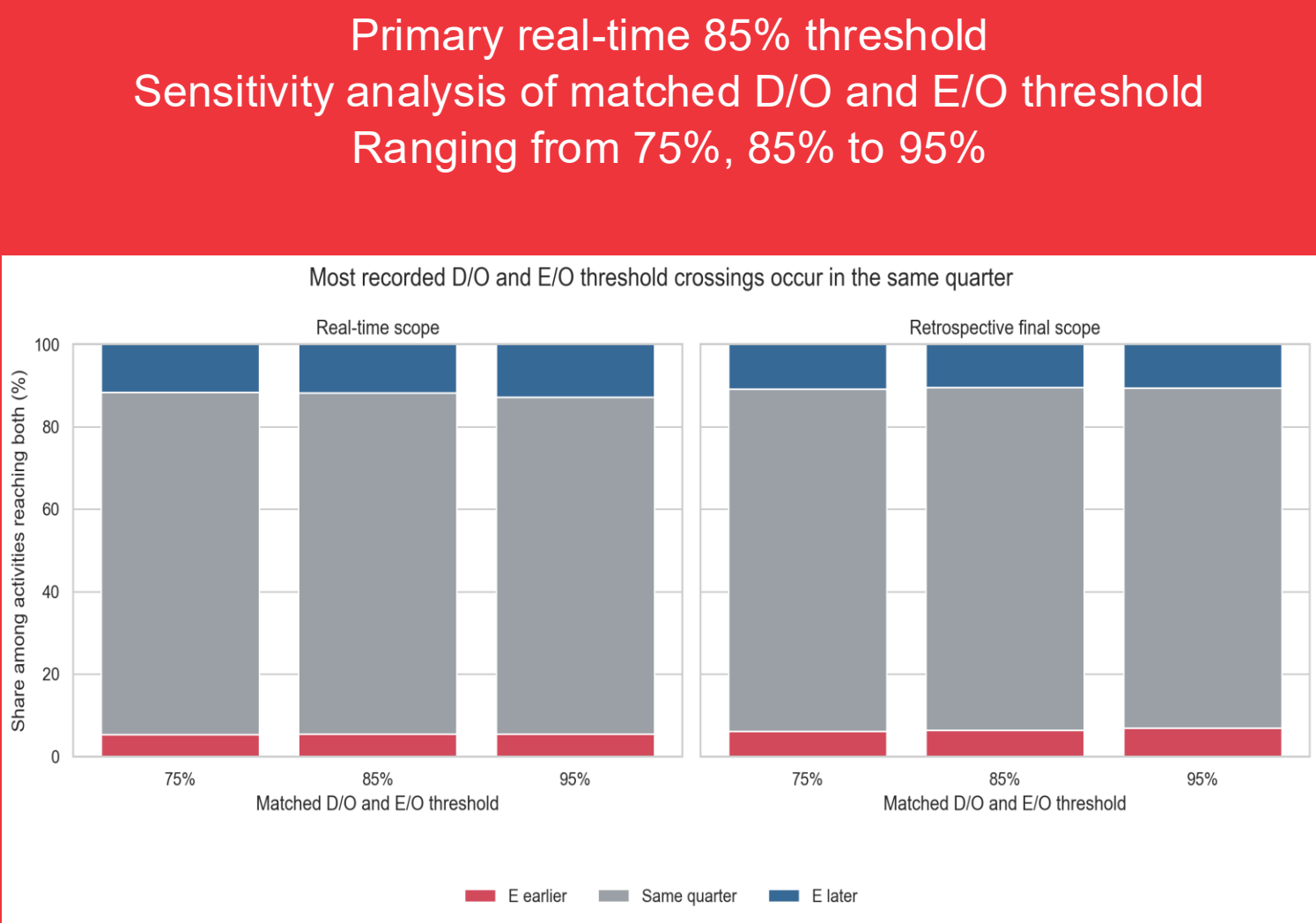
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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT–DISASTER RECOVERY

Track the financial sequence, not just the final ratio.

Most paired milestones occur in the same quarter.
Resource and workload associations depend on portfolio maturity, data coverage and model choices.
Financial milestones are not physical completion.



77.9%

of all activity profiles reached both milestones

82.8%

of those reaching both crossed in the same quarter

2 quarters

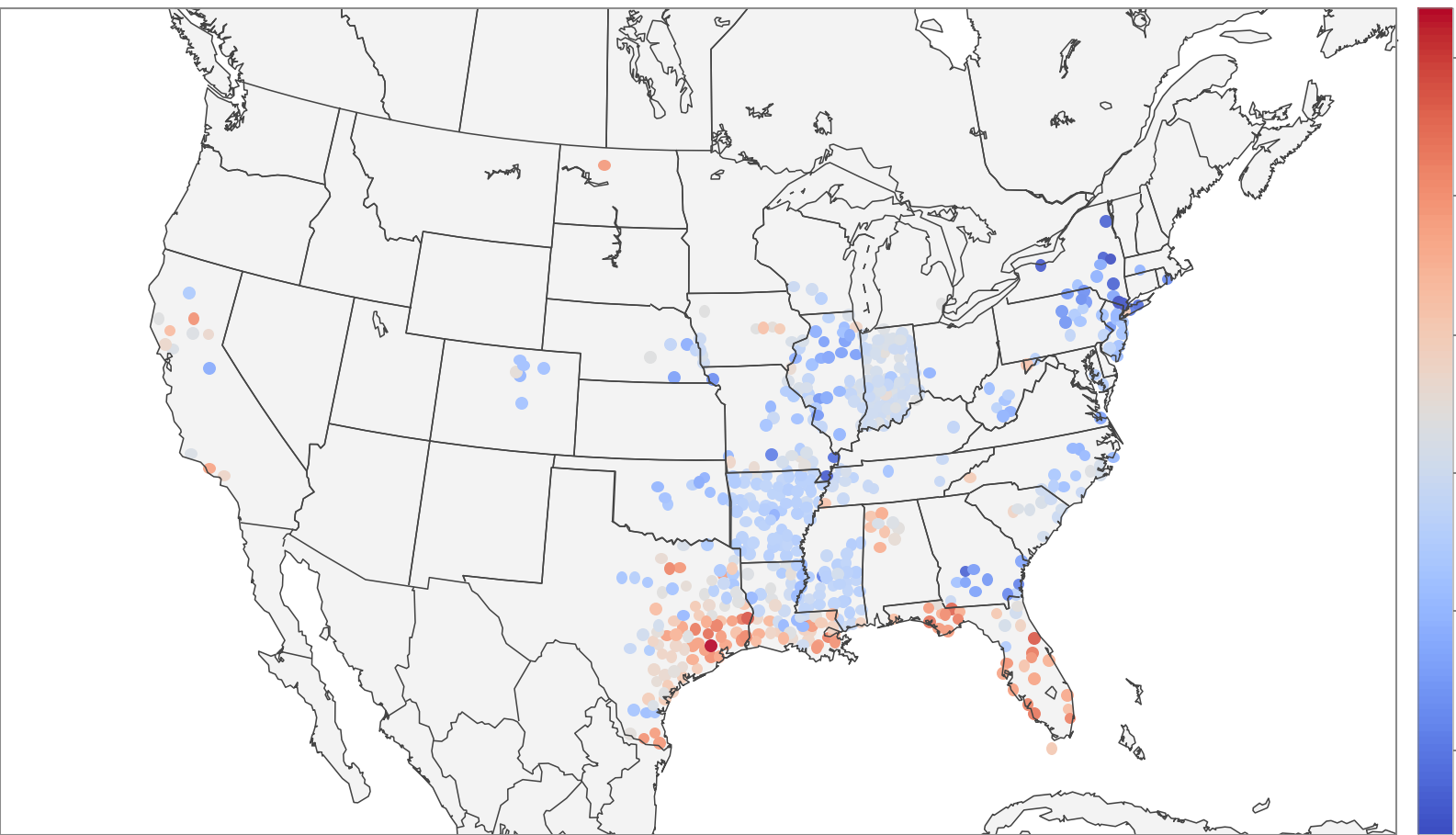
median positive lag when expenditure came later

Spatial diagnostics, not county rankings

555 sampled counties in the contiguous United States

(a) Capacity gap

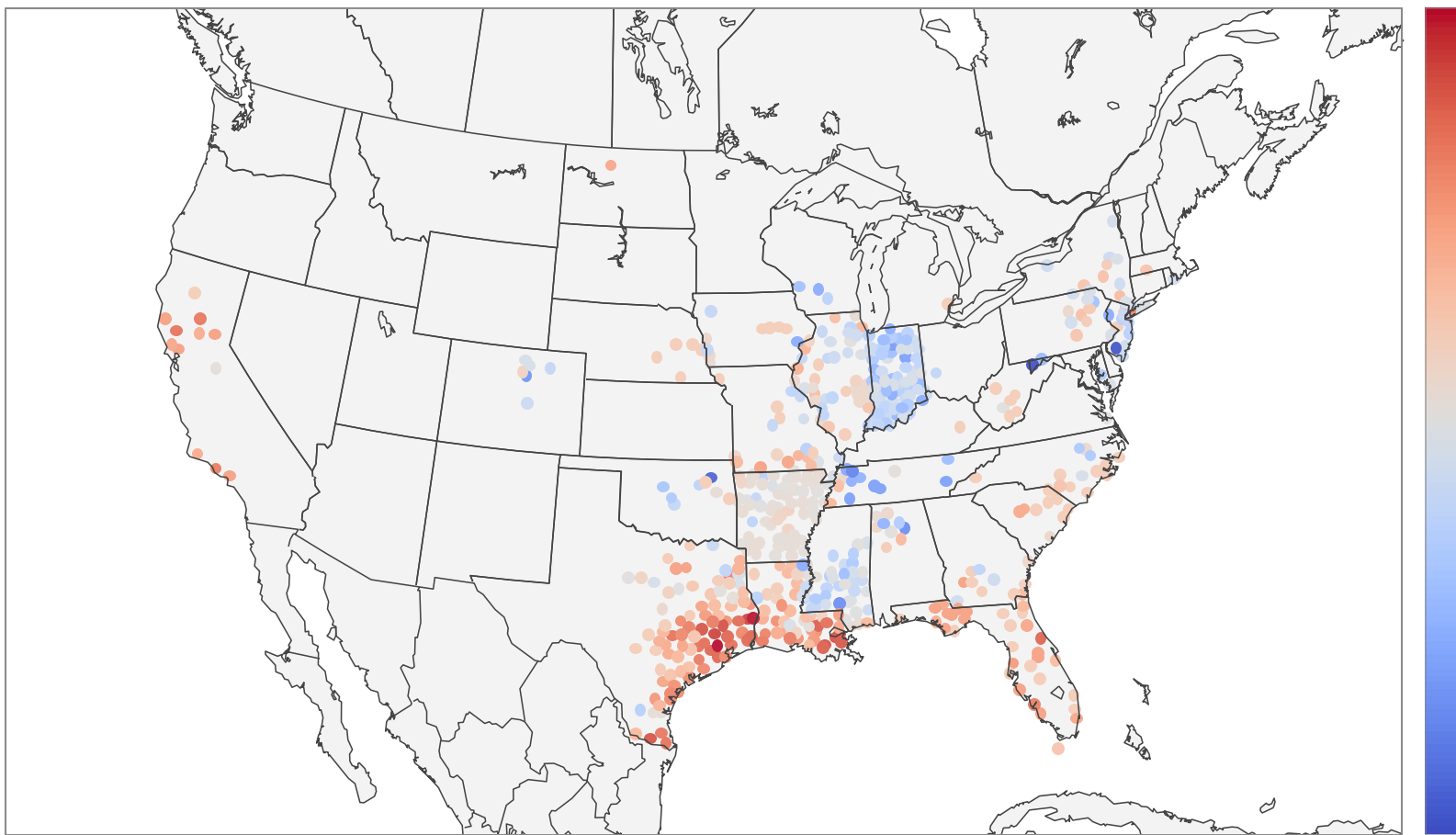
Exposure – resource-workload balance



Higher = larger relative gap

(b) Implementation gap

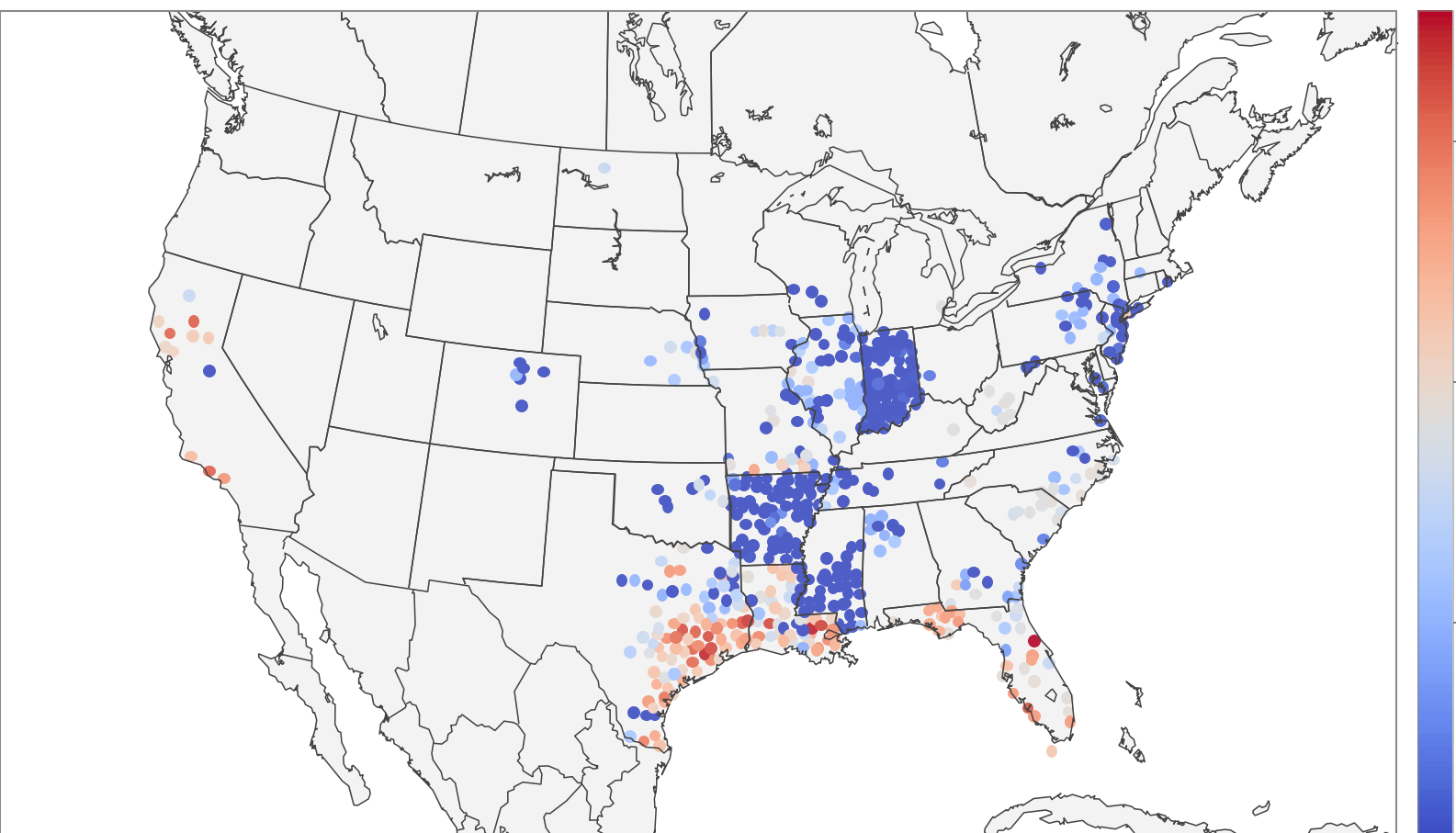
Exposure – financial timeliness



Higher = larger relative gap

(c) Performance gap

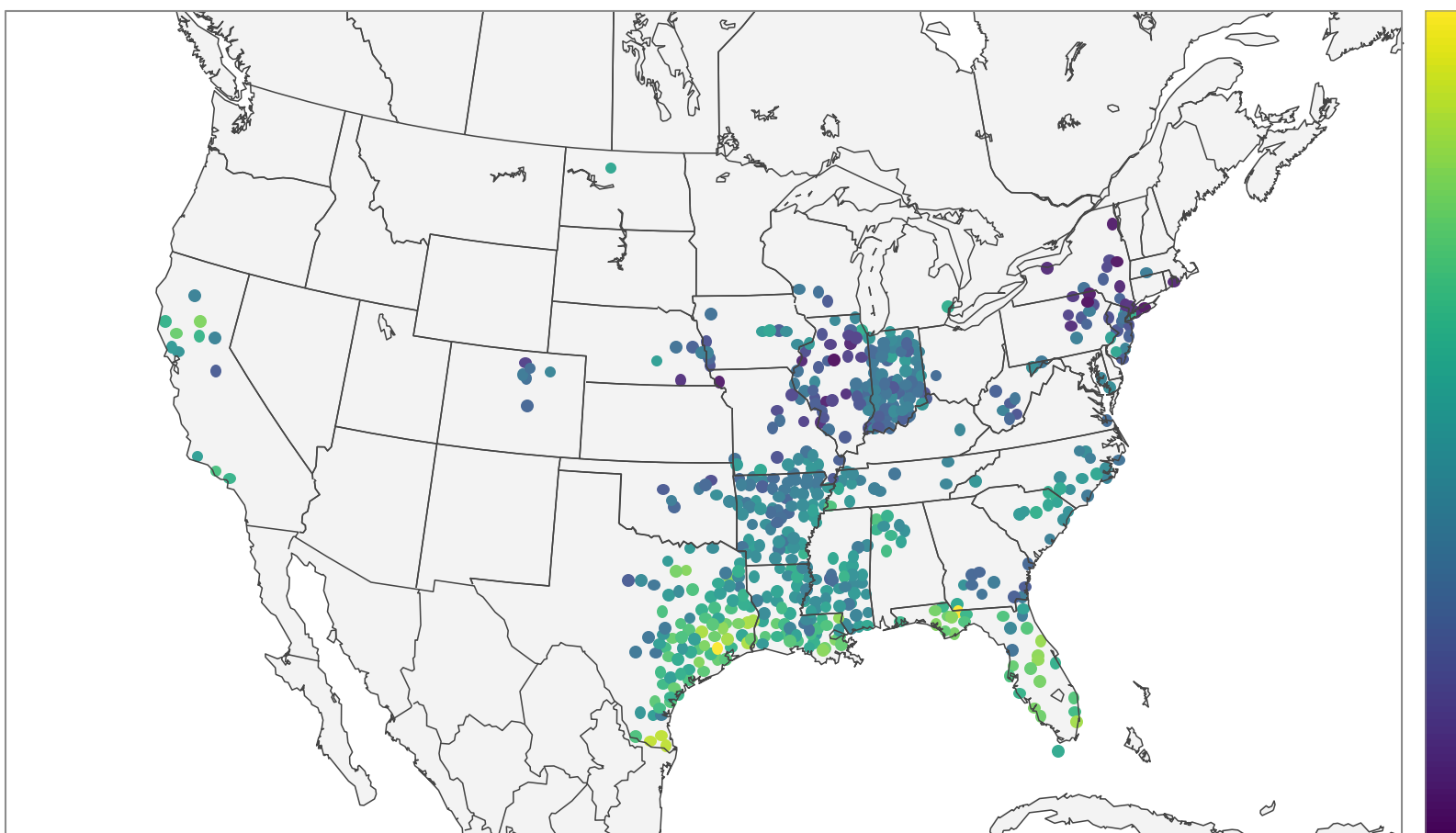
Exposure – financial execution



Higher = larger relative gap

(d) Support priority

Exposure + vulnerability – capacity

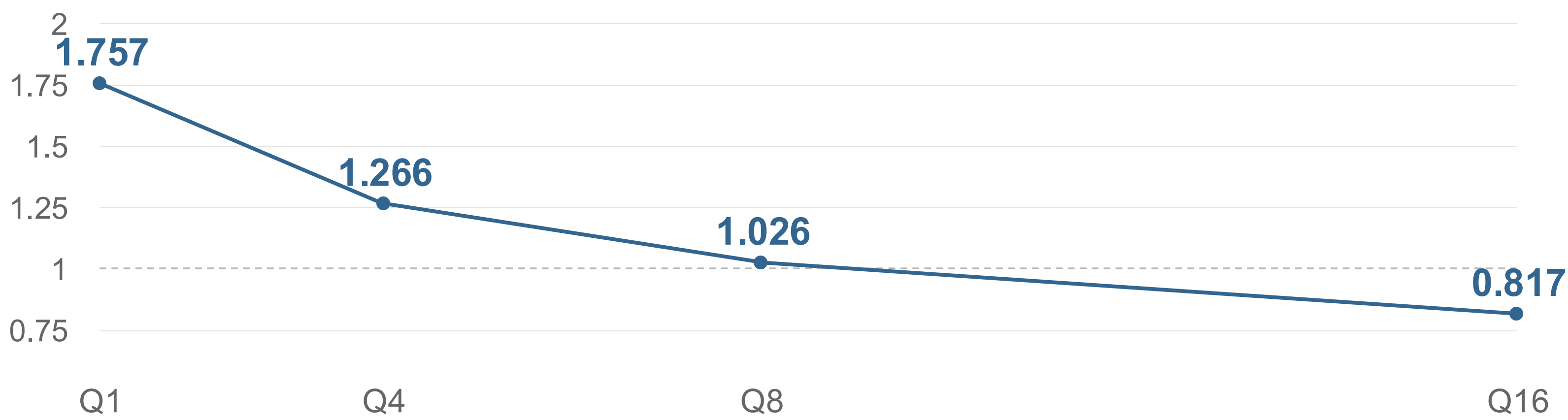


Higher = greater support priority

Sample-relative screens, not causal scores. State-rate assignments limit independent county information.

Resource associations weaken over follow-up

Direct-QCEW hazard ratios | Real-time 85% expenditure milestone



Point estimates only. Later estimates are imprecise; no stable predictive gain in held-out states or disasters.

Why timing matters

Final ratios mix recent and mature portfolios.
Resources need a workload denominator.
Financial milestones are not physical recovery.

Data & analytical design

130,605

QPR records

14,045

activity profiles

18

disaster cohorts

590

jurisdiction profiles

QPR finance + QCEW workforce
+ social vulnerability + narratives

- Quarterly event history**
When are milestones reached?
- Common follow-up**
Compare 8- and 12-quarter outcomes.
- Two-part backlog**
Does a lag occur? When does it clear?

85% primary | 75% / 95% sensitivity

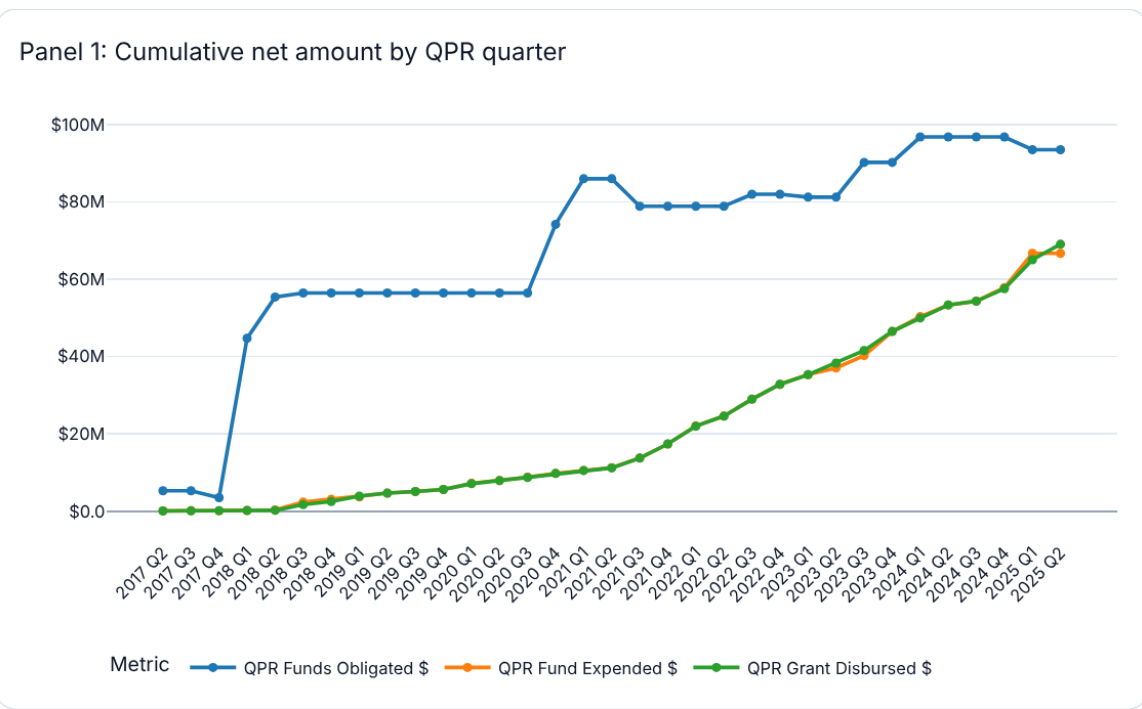
Coverage limits inference

119 direct-QCEW

471 state-rate only

Direct data: 32 states + 87 counties.
State rates are not observed local staffing.
Secondary SEM: mixed fit; diagnostic only.

Dashboard & case review



[Explore the dashboard](#)

Explore financial histories and linked narratives.

Acknowledgement

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Sources & research materials

HUD DRGR/QPR; BLS QCEW (NAICS 925110); CDC/ATSDR SVI. Reporting through 2025 Q2.
Maps and estimates: nationwide CDBG-DR study.
Selected literature: Martín et al. (2022); El-Taliawi & Van Der Wal (2019).