



Online Learning Update – Broadband Taskforce

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Ten Minnesota Commitments to Equity

1. Prioritize equity.
2. Start from within.
3. Measure what matters.
4. Go local.
5. Follow the money.
6. Start early.
7. Monitor implementation of standards.
8. Value people.
9. Improve conditions for learning.
10. Give students options.



Access to Broadband Impacts Learning

- **Access to Broadband linked with:** (Broadband and Student Performance Gaps – Quello Center 2019)
 - Greater digital skill acquisition
 - More homework completion
 - Higher GPA & Standardized test scores
 - More interest in college or university
 - More interest in STEM careers
- **Online Education Opportunities**
 - Access to supplemental courses including AP, PSEO and comprehensive education option

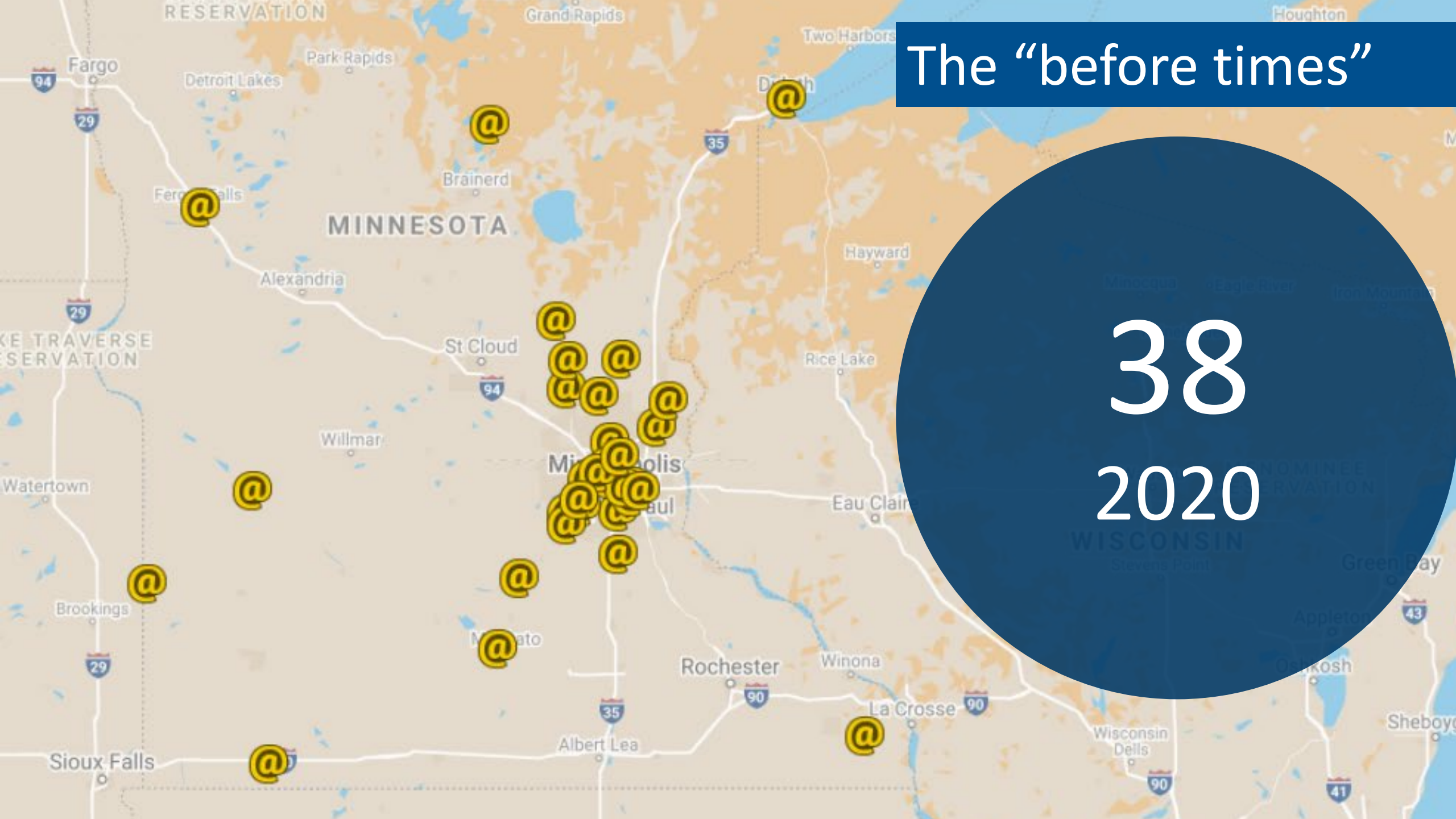
Online Education in Minnesota

- Online Learning Options Act (2002) MN 124D.095
 - Established in law, opportunities for all learners.
 - Created a marketplace for educational innovation.
 - Established an Online and Digital Learning Advisory Group (ended in 2016)
- Student Participation
 - In 2020, more than 24,000 students took at least one online course
 - Students come from all over Minnesota

The “before times”

38

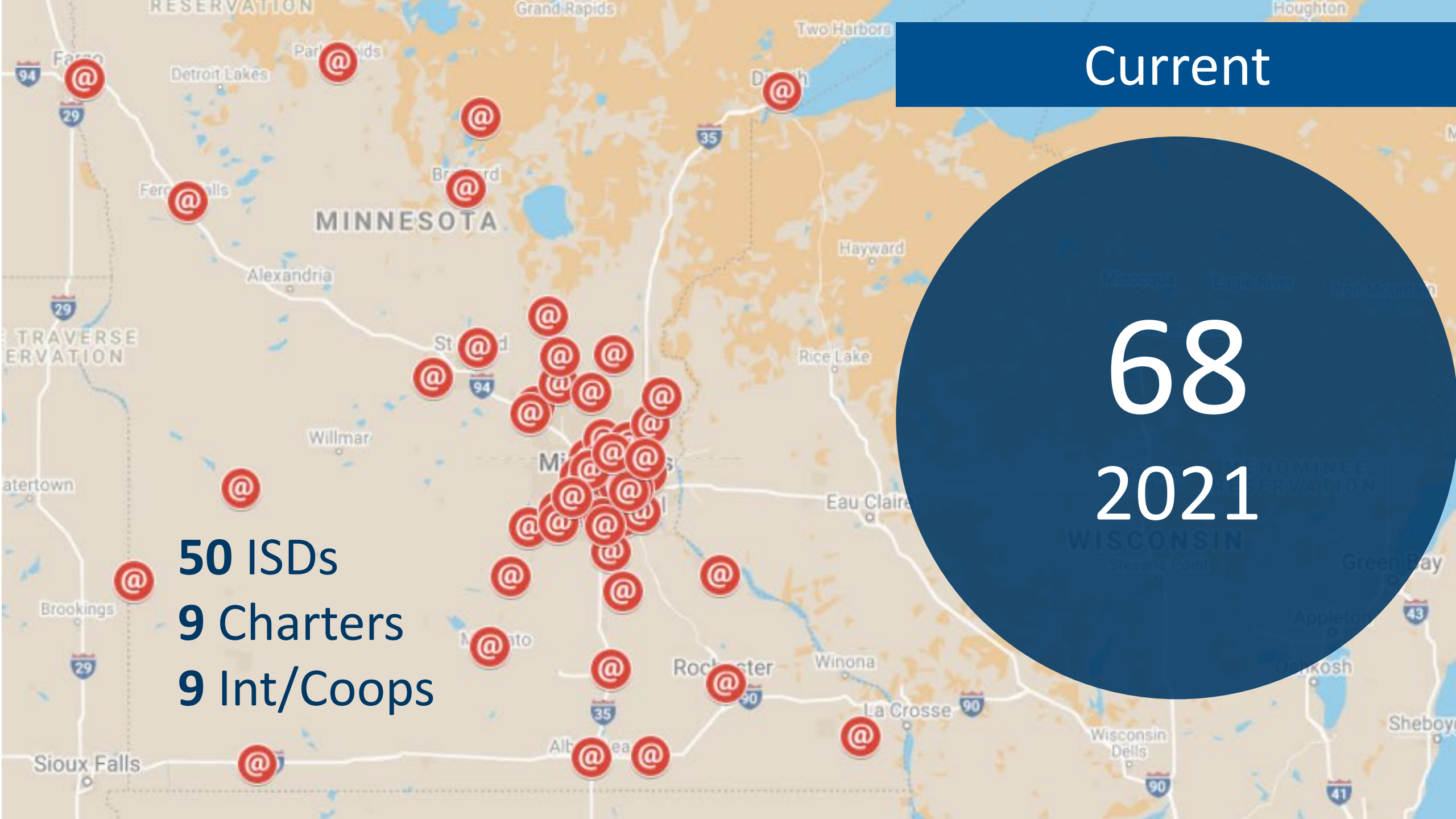
2020

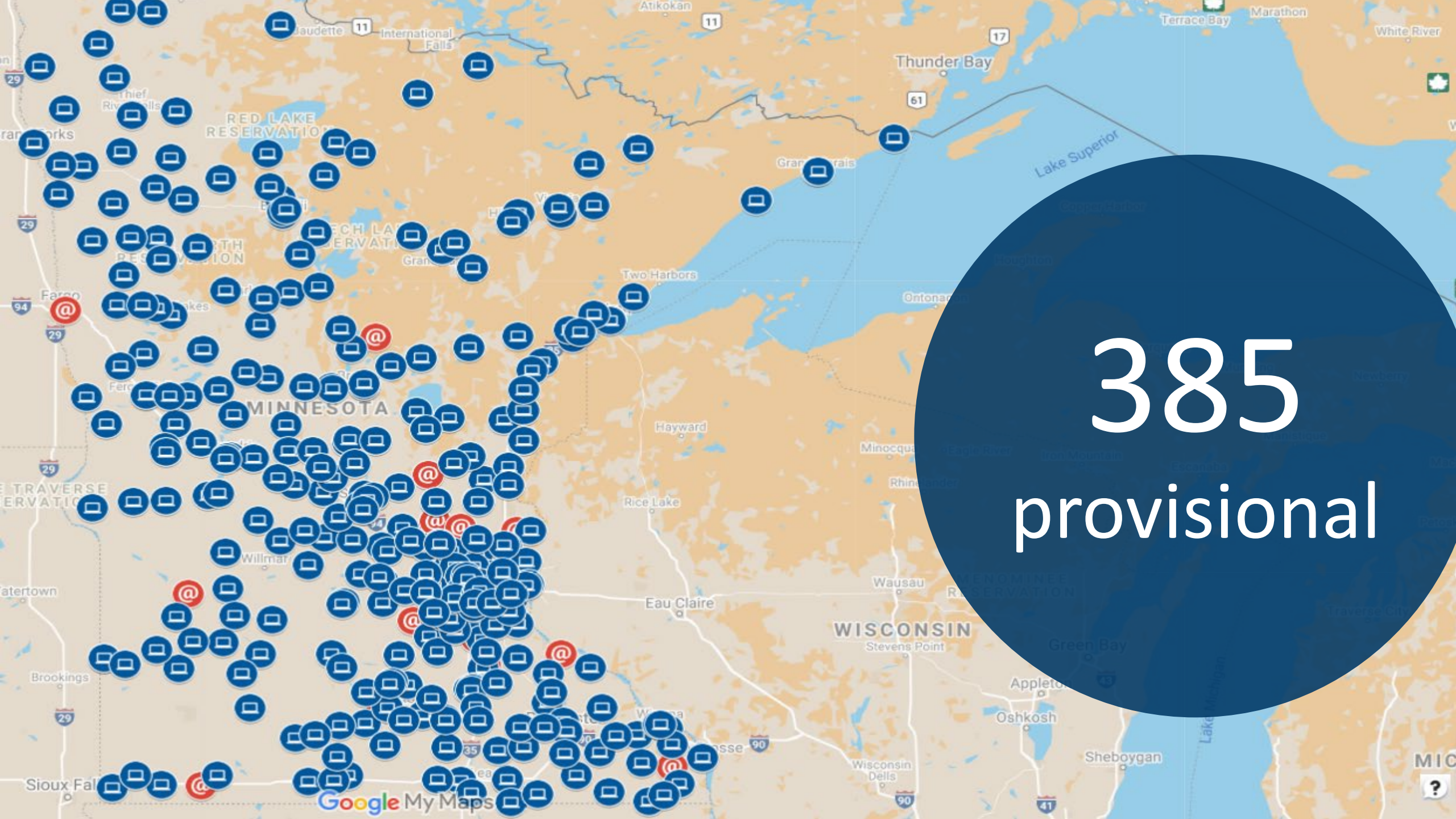


Current

68
2021

50 ISDs
9 Charters
9 Int/Coops





385
provisional

Lessons from the pandemic

- **Schools:** Range of responses; Online and blended – “normal” instructional modalities
- **Families:** Disparate impacts; More choice, options, personalization
- **Connectivity:** creative solutions; challenges persist
 - Students and educators
 - Availability and Adoption
- **State Agencies:** Partnerships; Information, roles & resources, coordination

Addressing Access and Adoption

[MDE Digital Inclusion Toolkit](#)

Temporary solutions: hotspots; local fixed wireless projects; Drop in centers

Digital Navigation as a way forward, needs coordination

Data is an important piece of this puzzle – MDE initiating statewide, student level data collection effort.

Utilize local data to access funding, create local partnerships.

Digital Equity Data Collection

Data elements: Digital Device & Broadband in primary residence

EdFi Technology – syncs to State data systems (Oct 1)

Challenges: new data collection, timing, “now what?”

Help: Support the data collection effort

Utilize local data to access funding, create local partnerships.

Develop data sharing agreements with groups like this.

Questions?