



Including Rural Schools in Randomized Controlled Trials

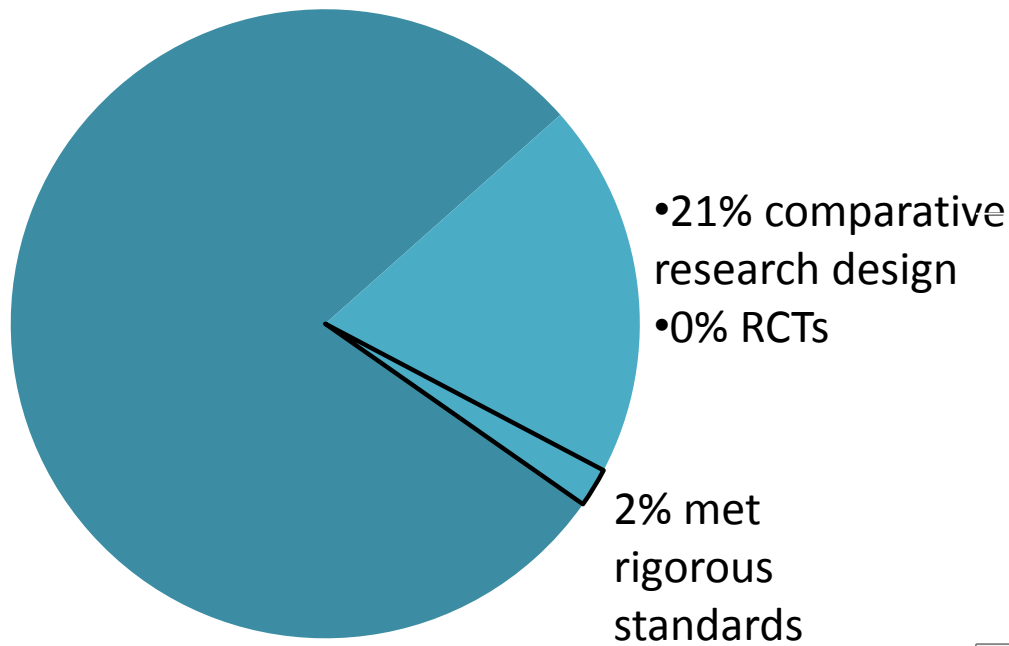
Elizabeth Autio

Education Northwest

Why conduct rigorous research in rural schools?

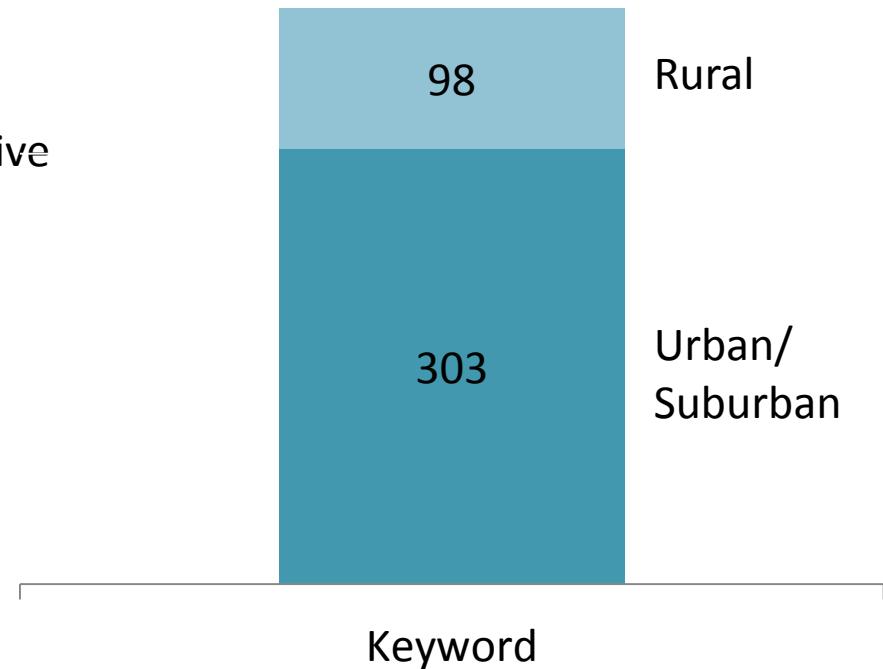


Rigorous research conducted in rural areas is rare



N=498 abstracts

Source: Arnold, Newman, Gaddy & Dean(2005)



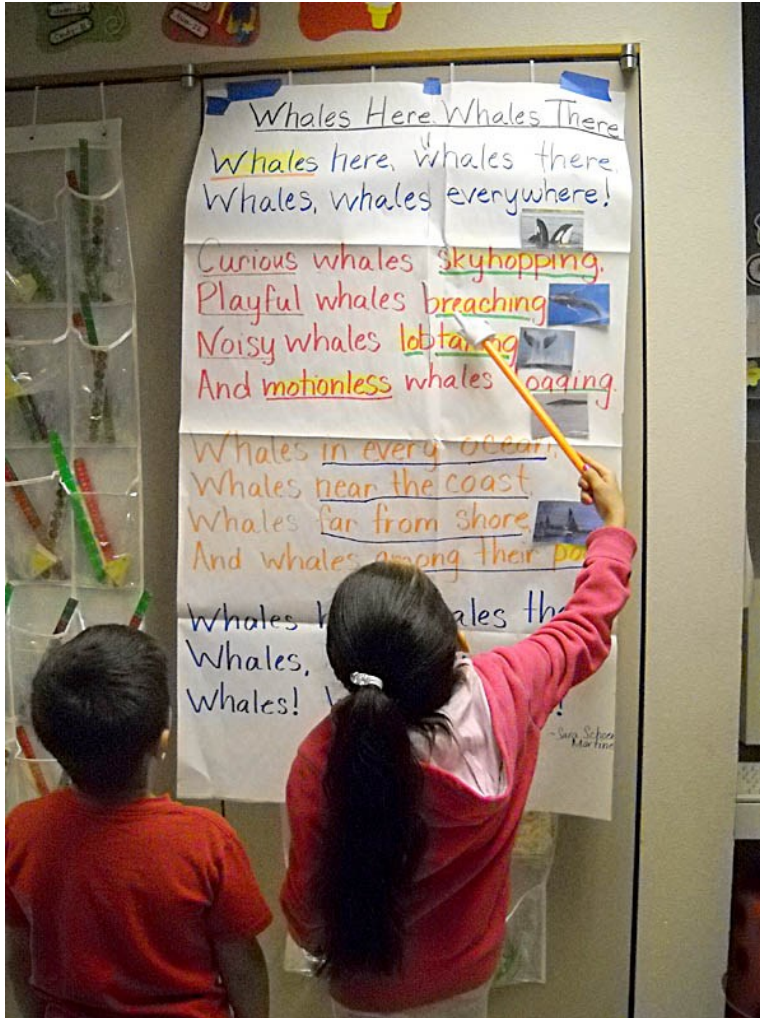
Source: Institute for Education Sciences(2013)



Agenda

- Project GLAD Efficacy Study
- What we learned about recruiting rural schools for RCTs
- What we learned about conducting RCTs in rural schools
- Conclusions and next steps

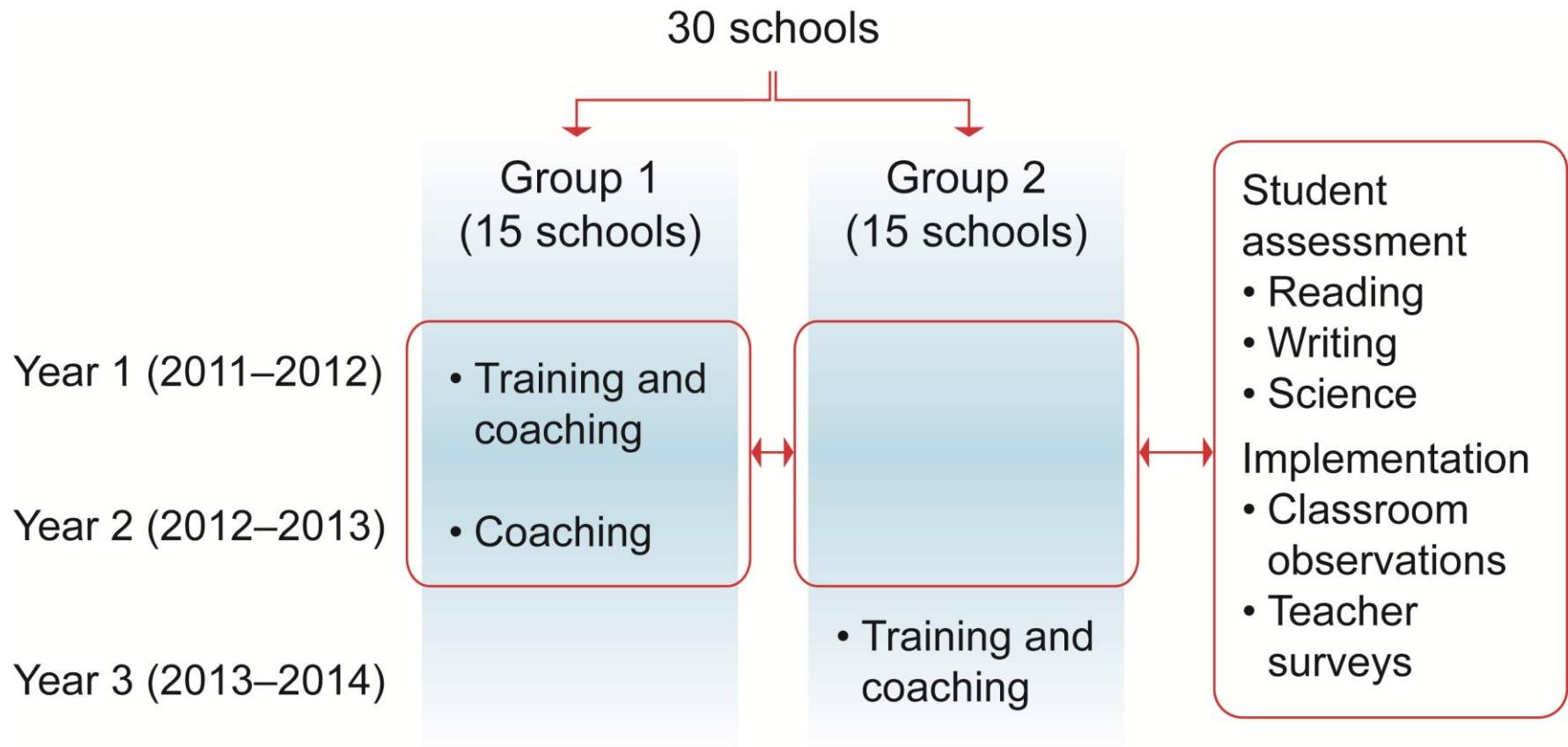
Project GLAD (Guided Language Acquisition Design) Efficacy Study





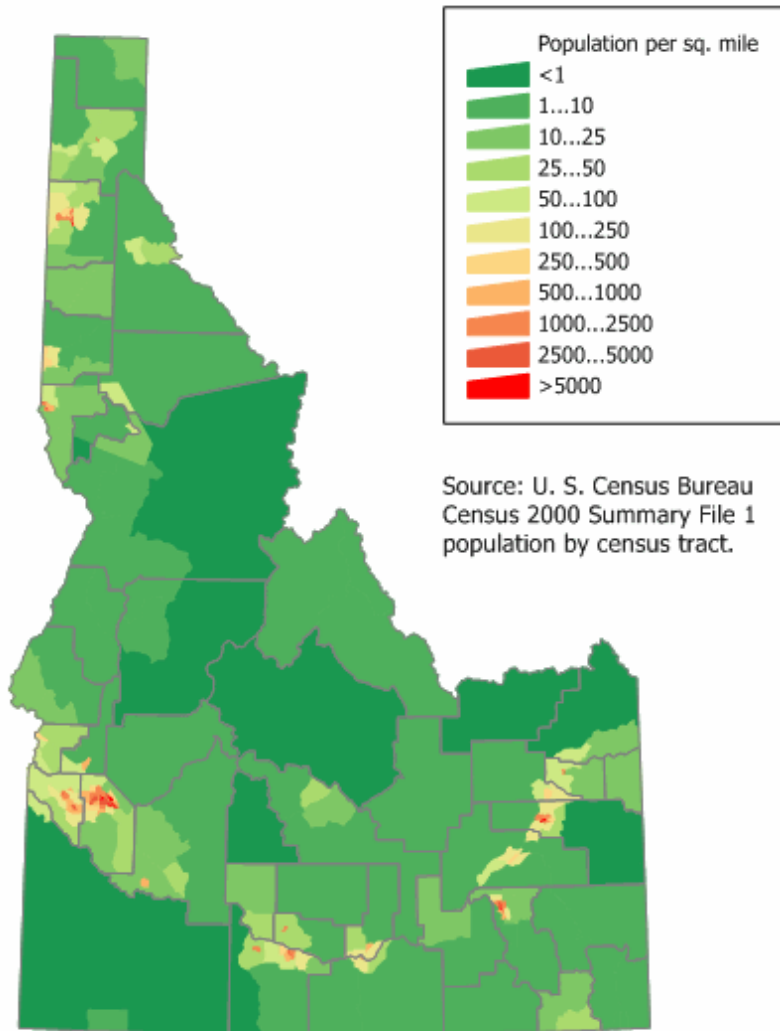
Design

Year 0 (2010-2011)

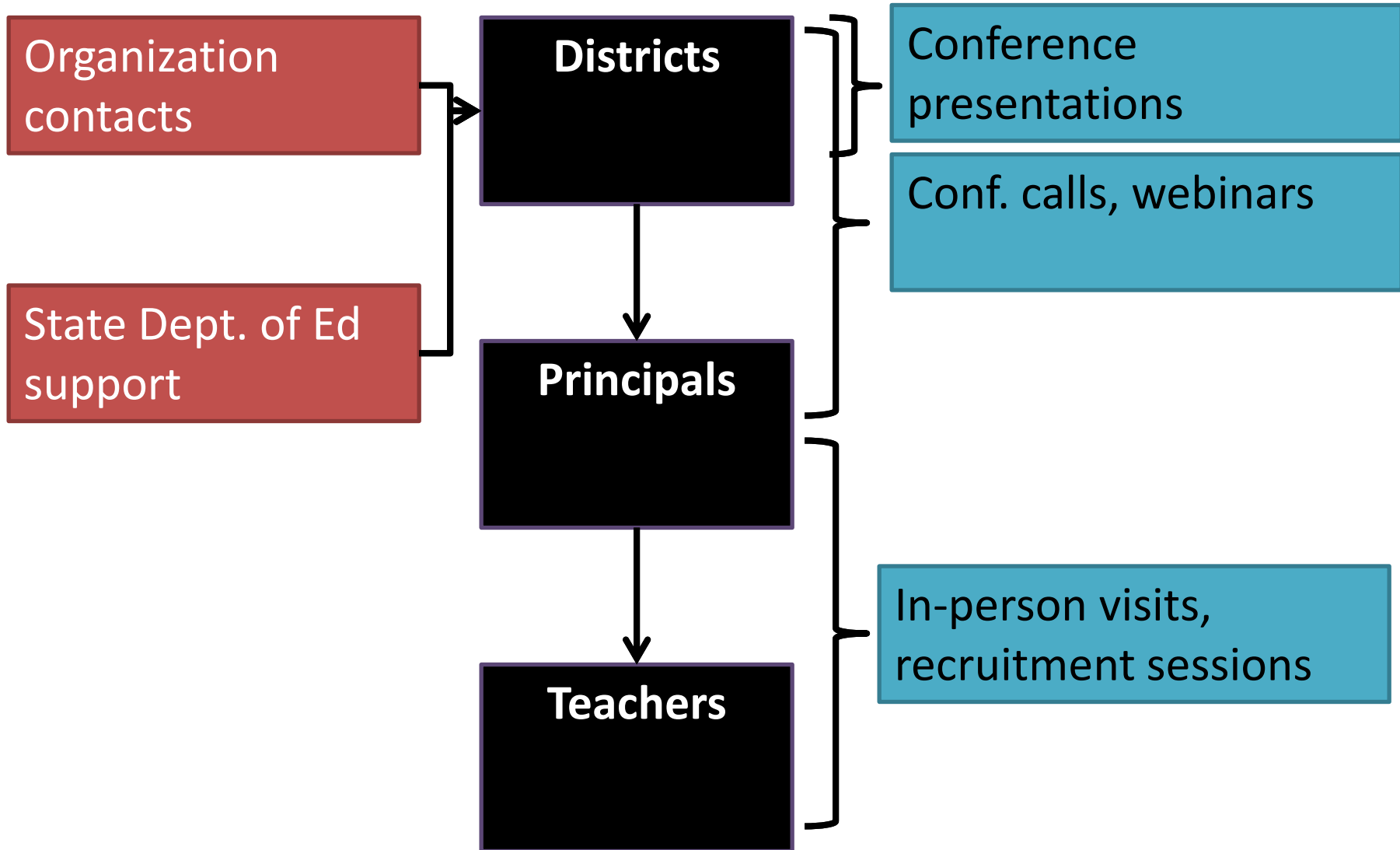




Why Idaho?



What we learned about recruitment



What we learned about recruitment



- Teachers enthusiastic about high-quality PD aligned with needs
- Incentives
- Costs higher than anticipated

Research staff	1,223 hrs (or .75 FTE over 11 months)
Admin staff	80 hrs
Travel	8 trips



What we learned about conducting RCTs in rural areas



Benefits

- Reduced prior exposure
- Fewer competing initiatives
- High buy-in
- Low attrition



What we learned about conducting RCTs in rural areas



Considerations

- Smaller sample size
- More difficult to power
- State involvement
- Travel costs

Conclusions and next steps





THANK YOU!

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