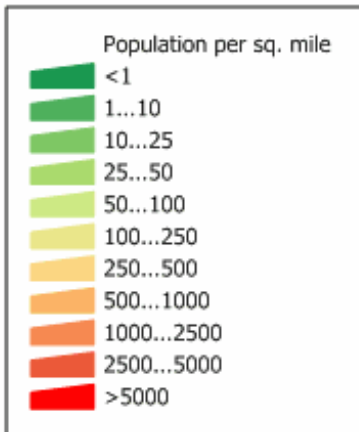
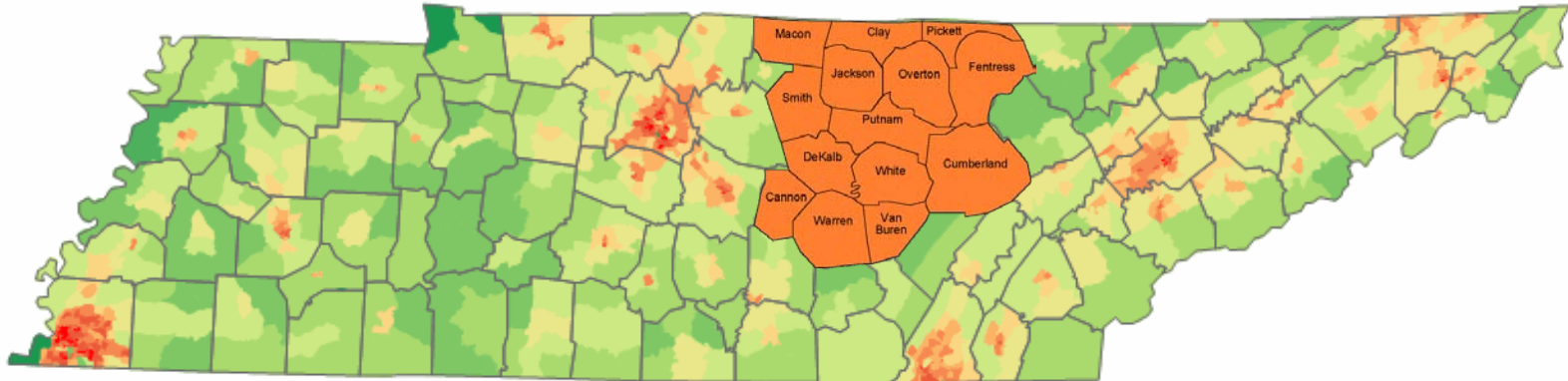




# The Upper Cumberland Rural STEM Initiative

Strategies and Challenges

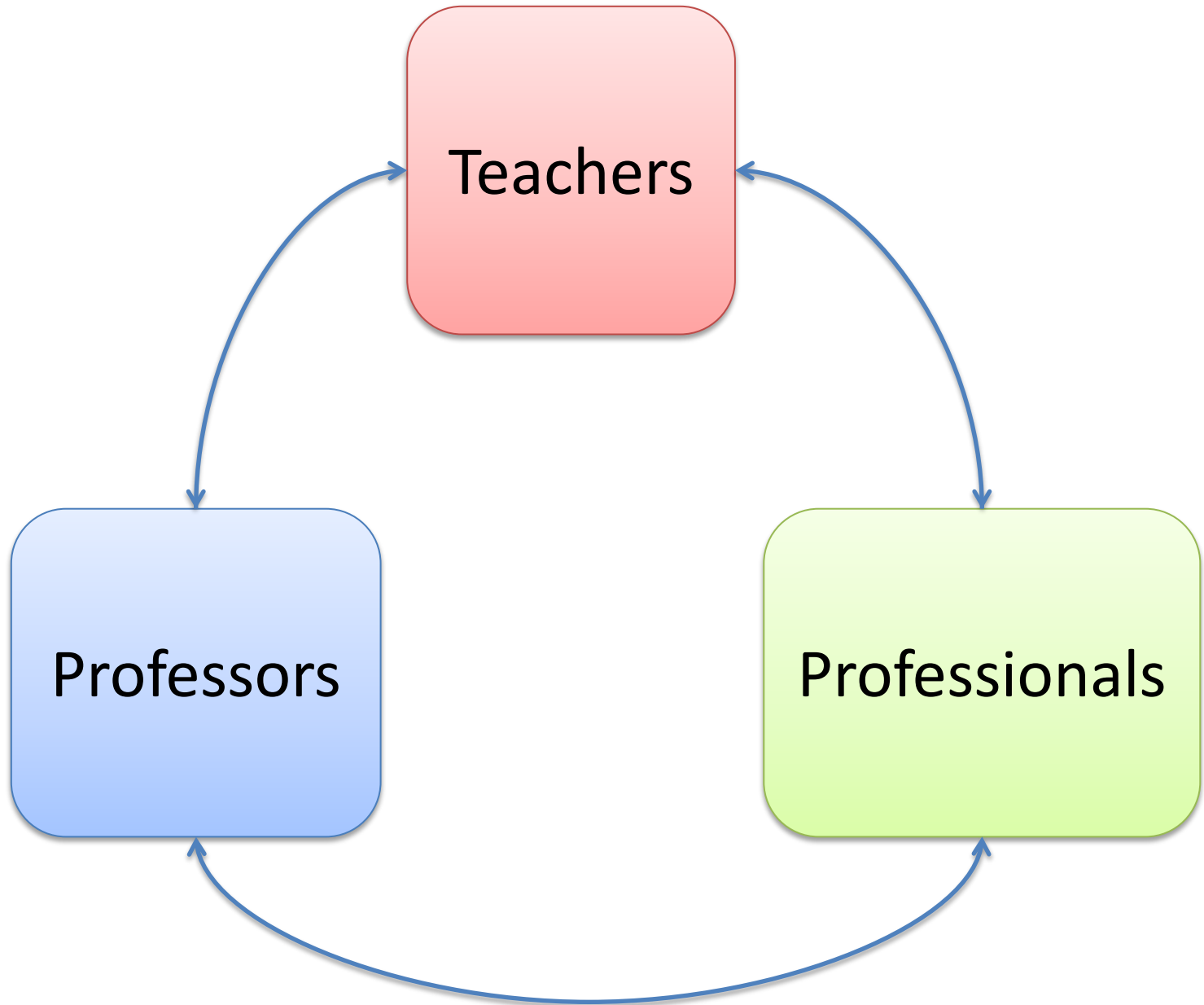
# Upper Cumberland



Source: U. S. Census Bureau  
Census 2000 Summary File 1  
population by census tract.



- \$1.5 million grant
  - \$500,000 to Oakley STEM Center
  - \$1 million to Putnam County Schools
- STEM Center to “create a hub to
  - Coordinate processes among the partner schools to create customizable lessons and experiences for classrooms
  - Document activities and results from the UCRSI
  - Create a platform to communicate and share best practices between teachers in partner schools”





1. Resources on the HUB
2. Ask other teachers / professors / professionals
3. Collaborate to create a new resource



Welcome to the Upper Cumberland Rural STEM Initiative HUB

The UCRSI HUB is a place for educators, administrators, professionals, parents and more to come together and share, explore, learn and grow!

Get started ->



UCRSI AND THE TENNESSEE STEM INNOVATION NETWORK



The TSIN is a unique public-private between the Tennessee Department of Education and regional partners with the goal of leveraging Tennessee's rich STEM resources into opportunities for educators and students. UCRSI is one of their STEM Innovation Hubs, functioning as a nucleus of regional STEM activity.

Learn more about the TSIN >



LATEST EVENTS

- SEP 21 Tennessee Mathematics Teachers Association Annual Meeting
SEP 28 FAB Friday - All About Flight
SEP 29 Enhance & Revitalize Your School's Science & Engineering Fair: Cultivate Winning Projects
OCT 20 STEM Center User Group Training & Membership for K-12 Teachers
OCT 27 Safari Saturday

More events >

UCRSI VIDEOS

- UCRSI Grand Launch: Official Welcome
UCRSI Grand Launch: Purpose of Rural STEM Initiative
UCRSI Grand Launch: Initiative Partners and Academic Focus

More videos >

FEATURED WORKSHOP



Equipment Lending Library Guide: This 2-page document provides a quick overview to how to use the Equipment Lending Library at the Oakley STEM Center.

FEATURED BLOG



STEM in the making: What a great way to create and learn! Please check out this resource below. I've been thinking about all the ways we can engage new groups in volunteerism in the classroom and in informal ...

RESOURCES

Keyword or phrase: Search

- Popular Tags: 3D modeling, STEM, 3D Printing, MOSTEM, science, NASA, ORAU, astronomy, SketchUp Guide, robotics, More tags >

Lessons, Multimedia, Publications, Units, Workshops... All Categories >

Upload your own content! Get started >

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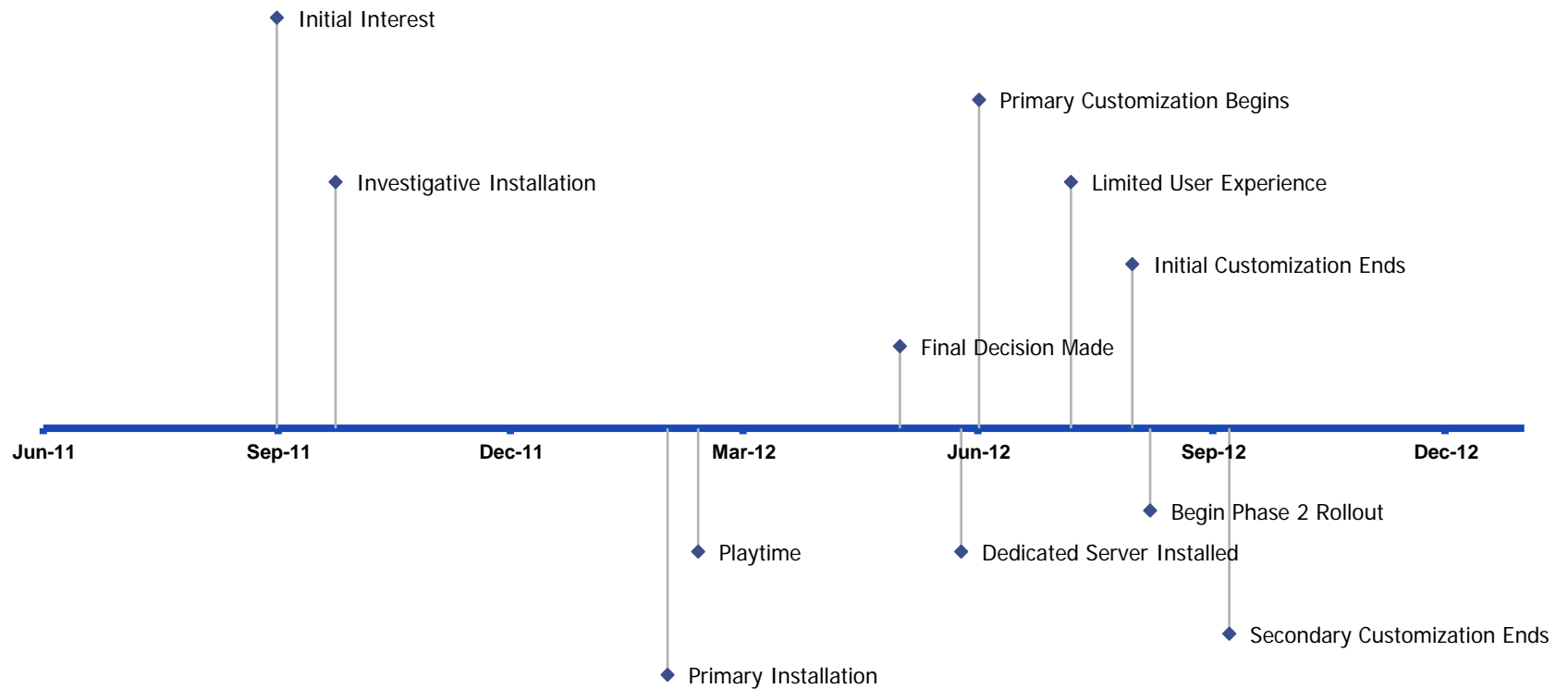
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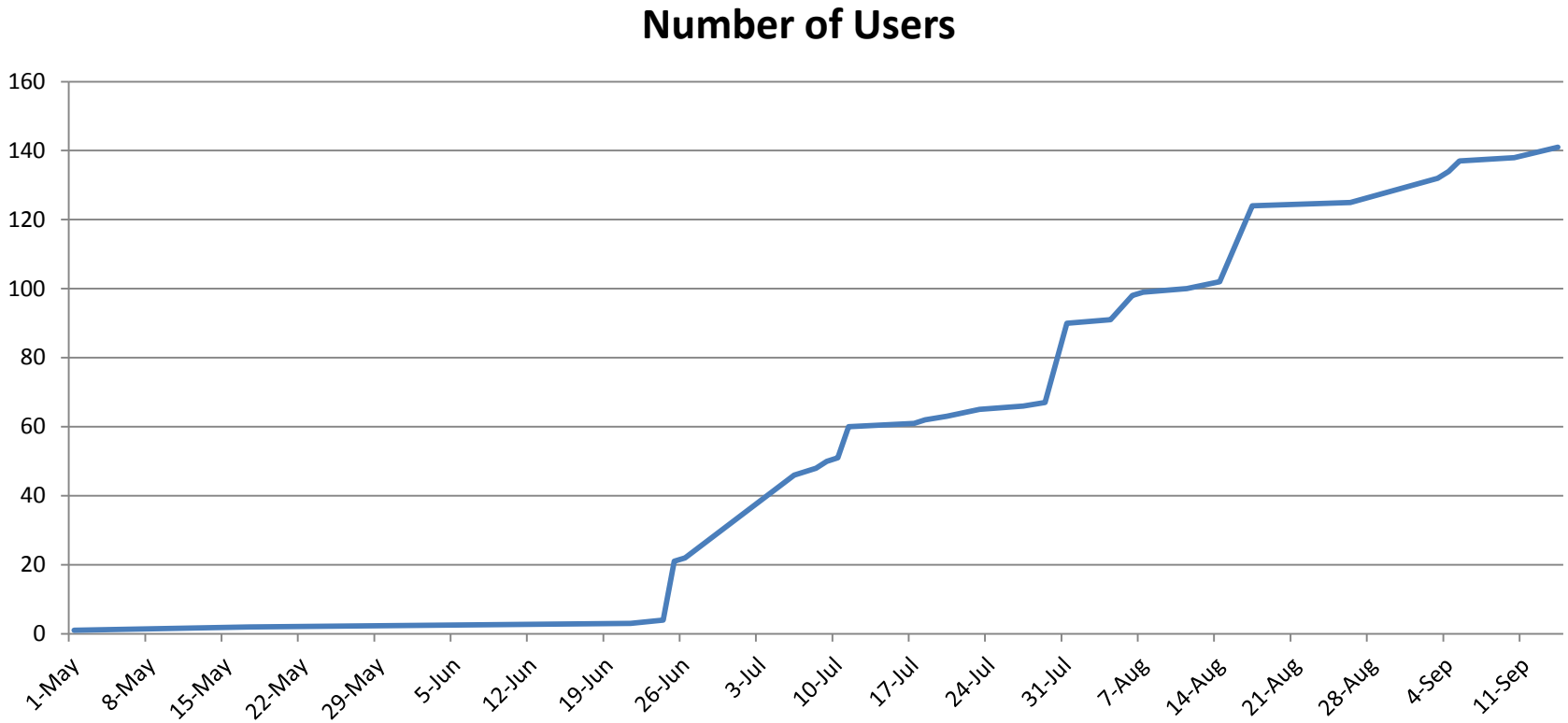
# Timeline

## UCRSI Real-Time Implementation



# Challenges

- Adoption





# Challenges

- User expectations
  - “I just stumbled on the Knowledge Base...and would never have guessed that this contained info on using the website! (I expected to find STEM-related literature.)”
  - “Questions and Answers seems like it would be teaching questions...but the comment, “Can't find an answer in our [Knowledge Base](#) or by Search?” implies to me it should relate to website questions, rather than teaching questions. ”

# Challenges

- User ease of entry
  - Added “Quick Start” link to front page
  - Reduced number of enabled features
  - Pre-made groups

# We're still just beginning our journey...

- Resource contribution is low, but increasing
- User growth steady, with surges as school systems join
- Several groups with frequent activity