

# **WISCONSIN'S DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES & THE IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC ON SCHOOLS**

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# Wisconsin's Demographic Changes

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## General Population

- ❖ 2010-2020 statewide change
- ❖ 1990-2020 trends for age 0-17



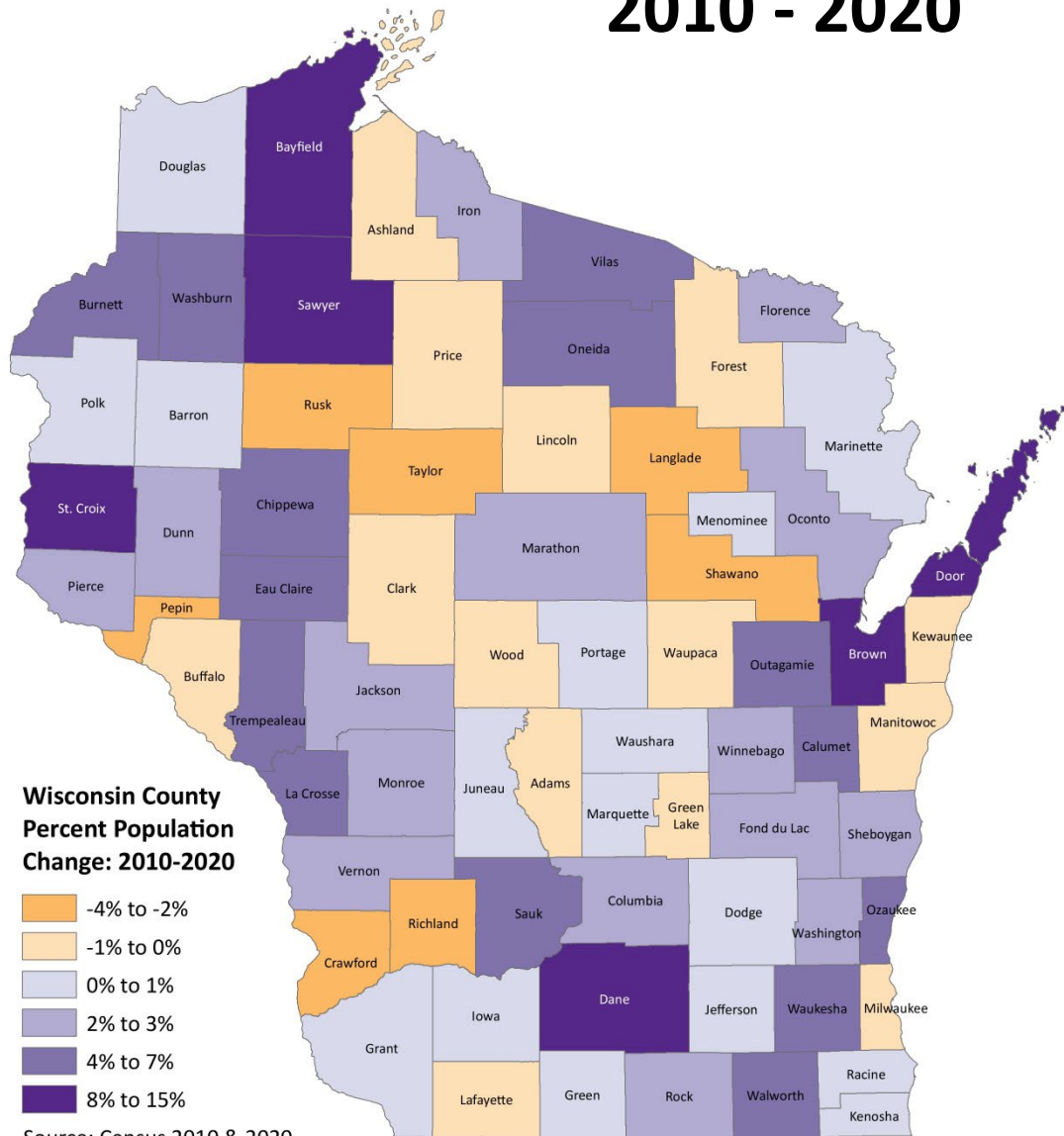
## 2019/20 to 2020/21 Student Trends

- ❖ Total & kindergarten students
- ❖ Students by race/ethnicity
- ❖ Economic status & ELL students
- ❖ Private, virtual, & home schooling
- ❖ Public school learning model
- ❖ Masking policy survey



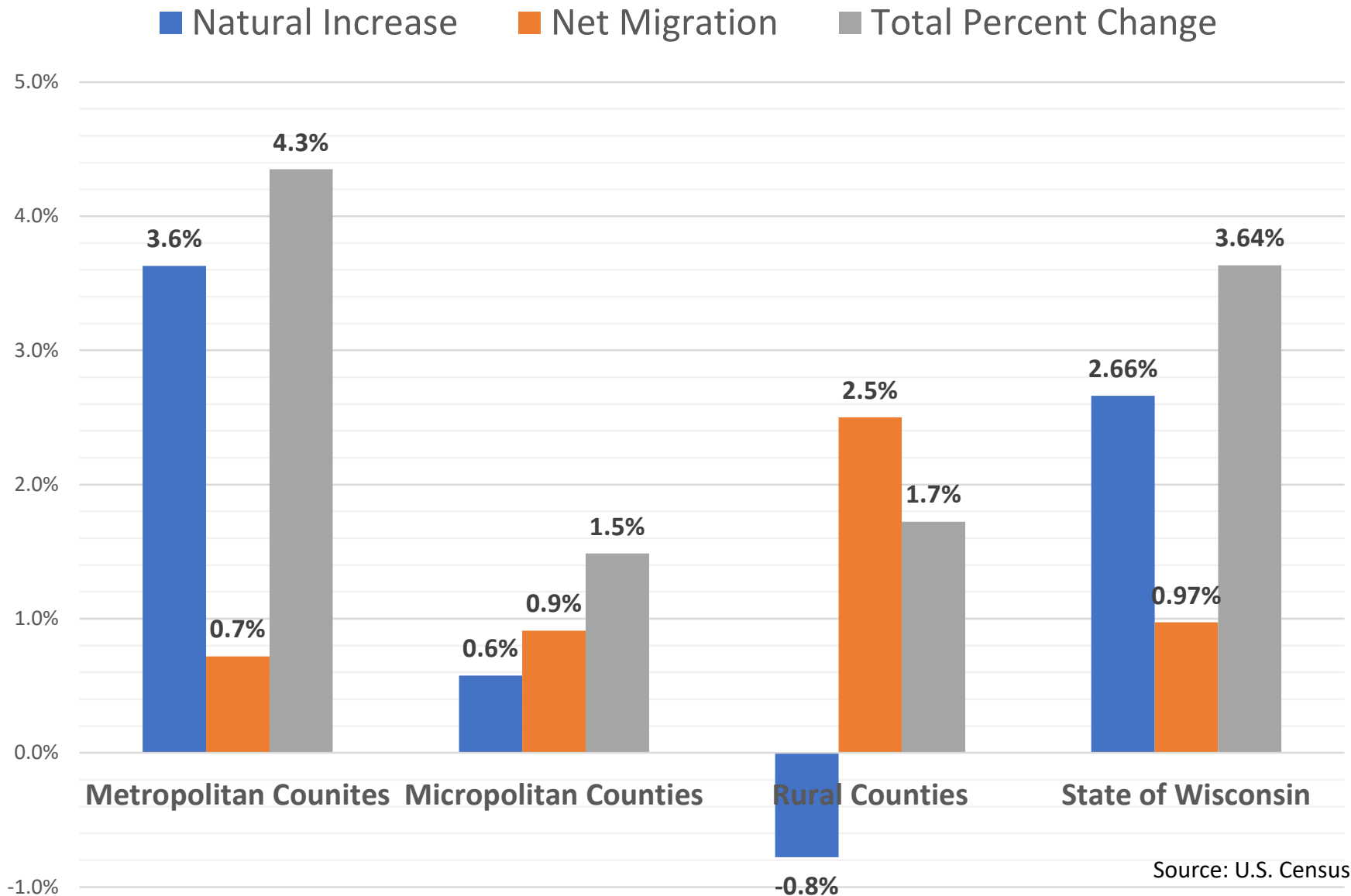
# Percent Population Change

## 2010 - 2020

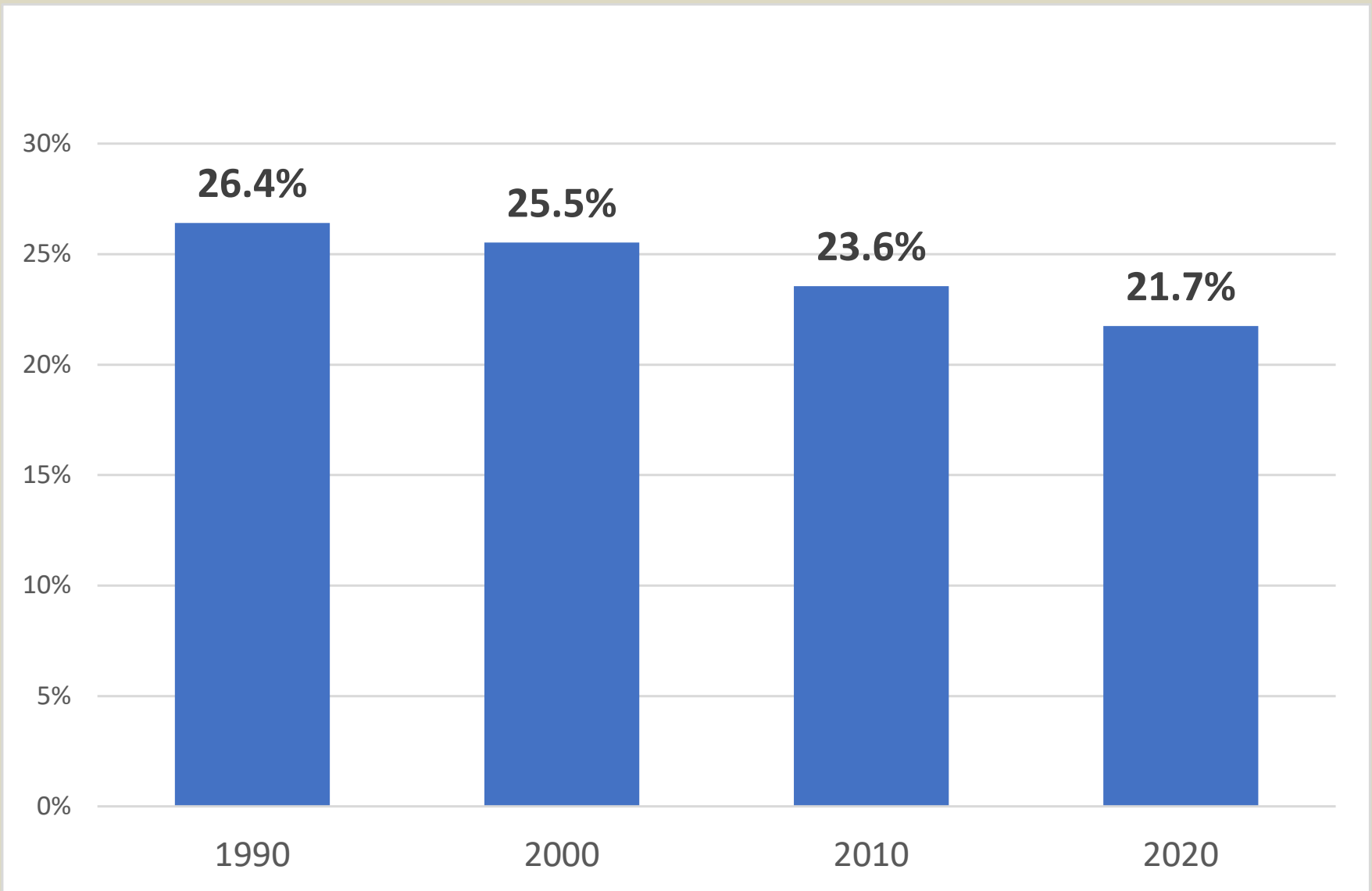


- 70% of the Wisconsin counties experienced population growth.
- 21 of 72 counties (30%) experienced declining population.
- 15 of 21 counties are not within a metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area.

# Components of Change, 2010-2020



# Age 0-17 Share of Population, 1990-2020



Source: U.S. Census

# Wisconsin Schools in 2020/21

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Business as usual?



# Wisconsin Schools in 2020/21

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## Classifying school districts

- ❖ Locale Code from National Center for Education Statistics.

## Wisconsin school trends from 2019/20 to 2020/21

### Part 1

- ❖ Declining student population
- ❖ Student change by race/ethnicity
- ❖ Economic status & ELL students

### Part 2

- ❖ Private, virtual, and home school
- ❖ Public school learning models
- ❖ Masking policy survey

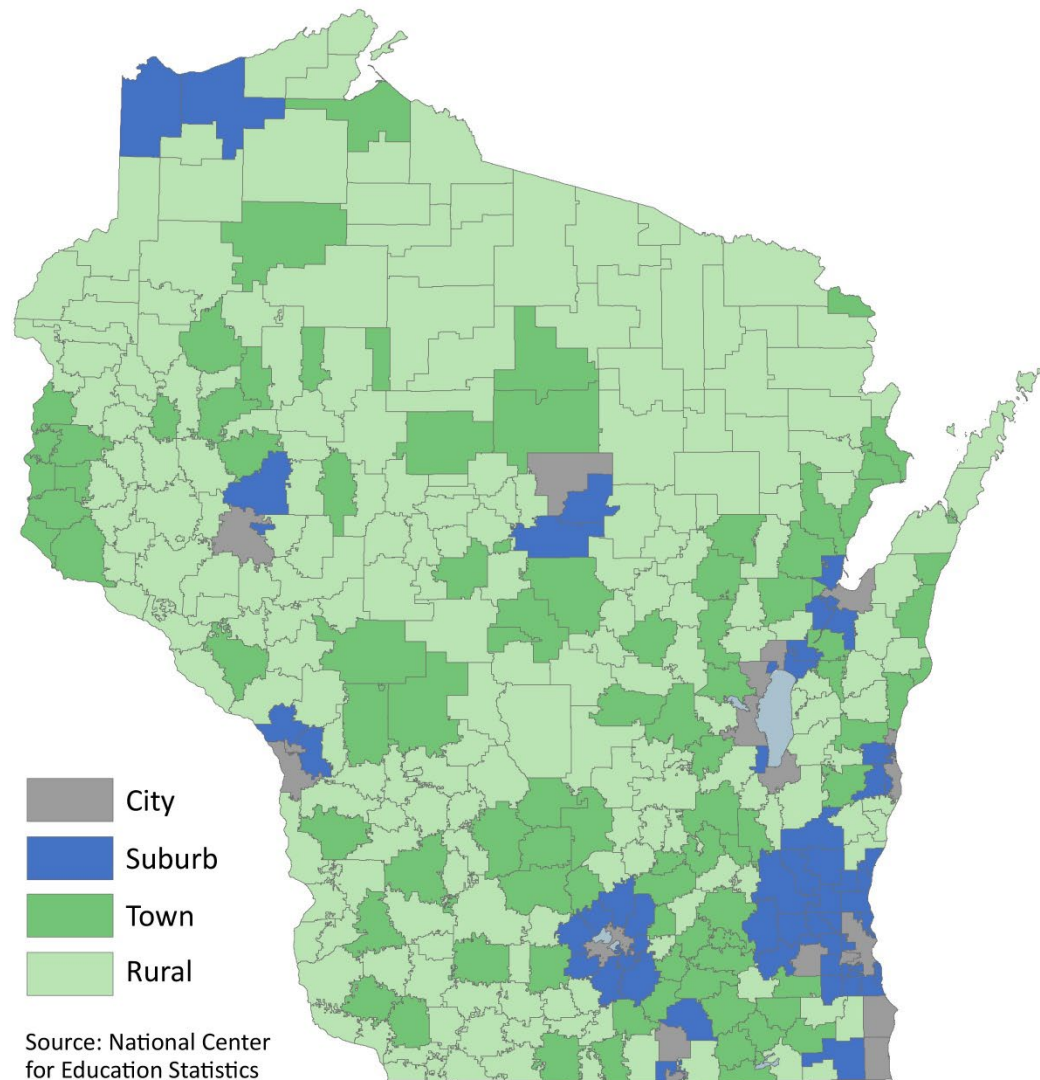
# School District Classifications

U.S. Department of Education,  
National Center for Education Statistics  
Common Core of Data, 2019-20

The urban-centric locale code classifies districts into four major types: city, suburb, town, and rural

Locale classification changed for the Kenosha School District from Suburb to City (4<sup>th</sup> largest city in Wisconsin)

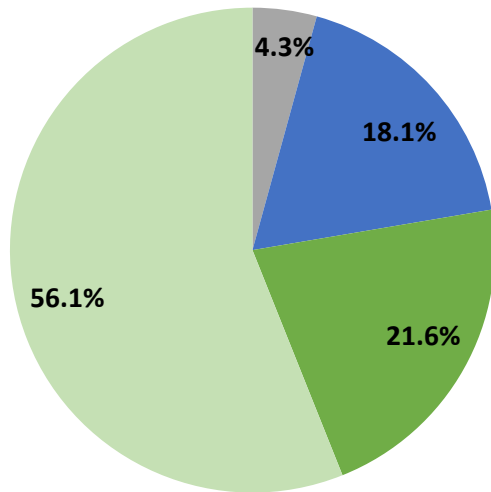
School Districts by Locale





# Percent of Districts and Students by Location

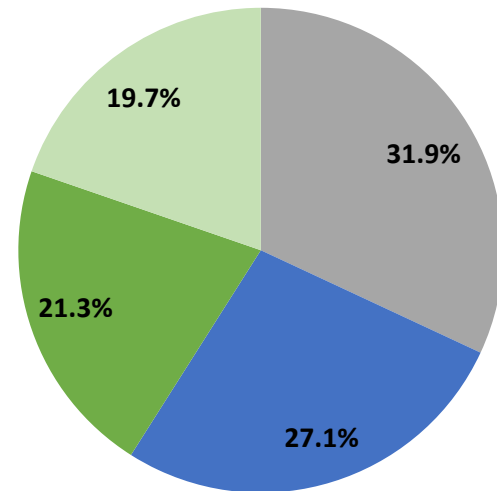
Number of Districts



■ City ■ Suburb ■ Town ■ Rural

City	18
Suburb	76
Town	91
Rural	236
Total	421

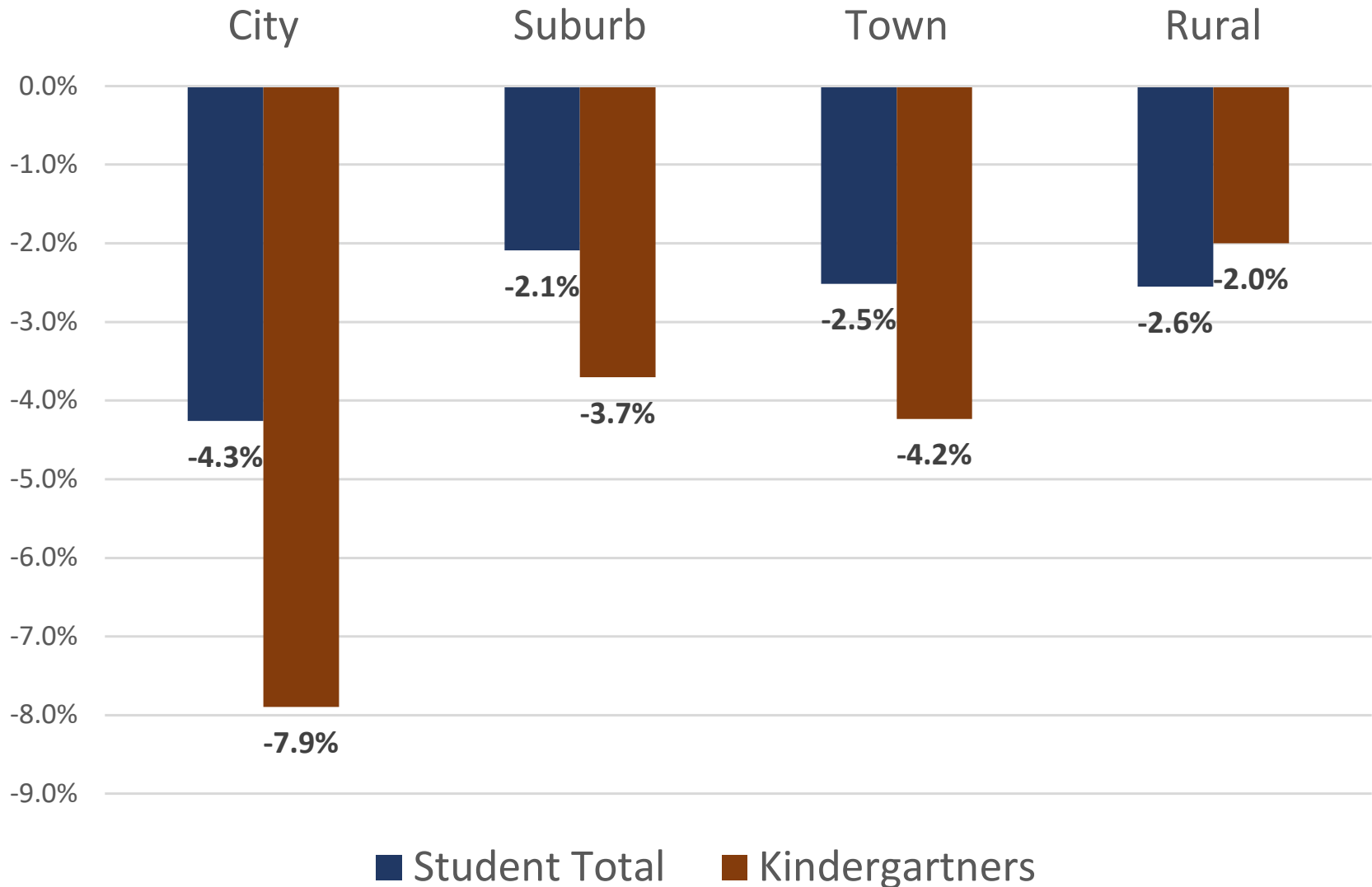
Number of Students



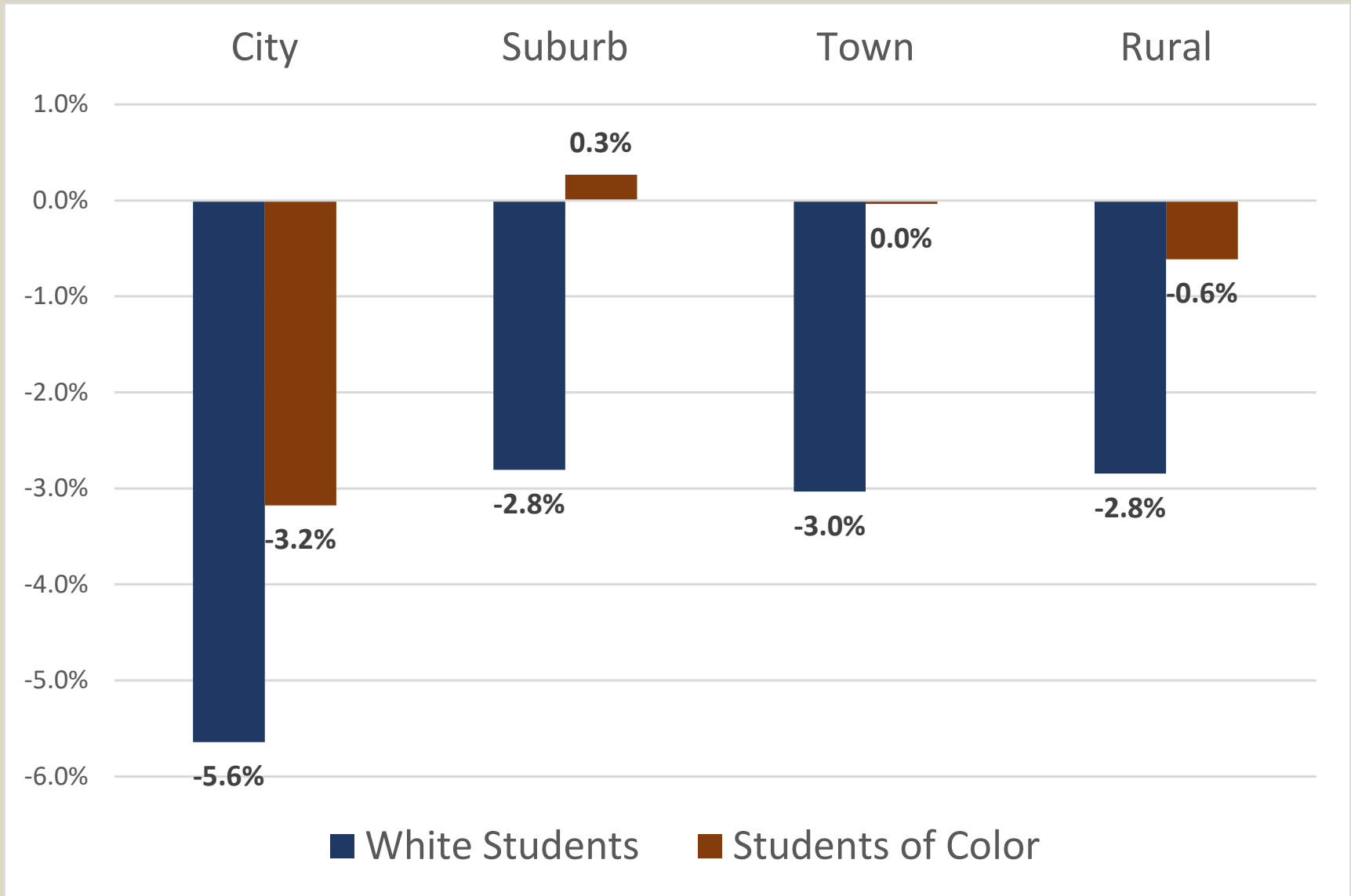
■ City ■ Suburb ■ Town ■ Rural

City	262,142
Suburb	222,019
Town	174,704
Rural	161,813
Total	820,678

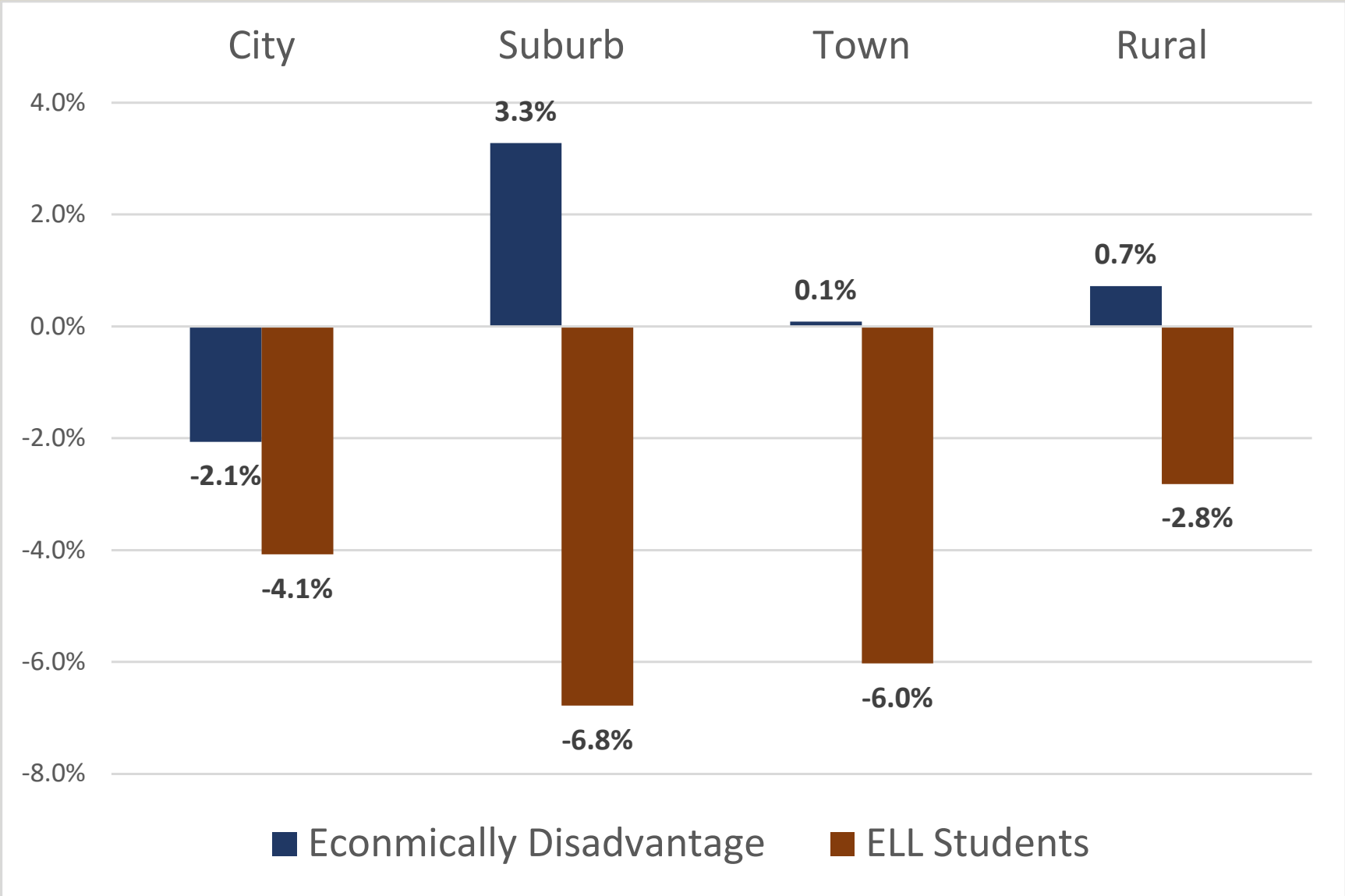
# Enrollment Change from 19/20 to 20/21



# Enrollment Change by Race/Ethnicity from 19/20 to 20/21



# Change in Economic and ELL Status from 19/20 to 20/21



# Public School Changes during the Pandemic

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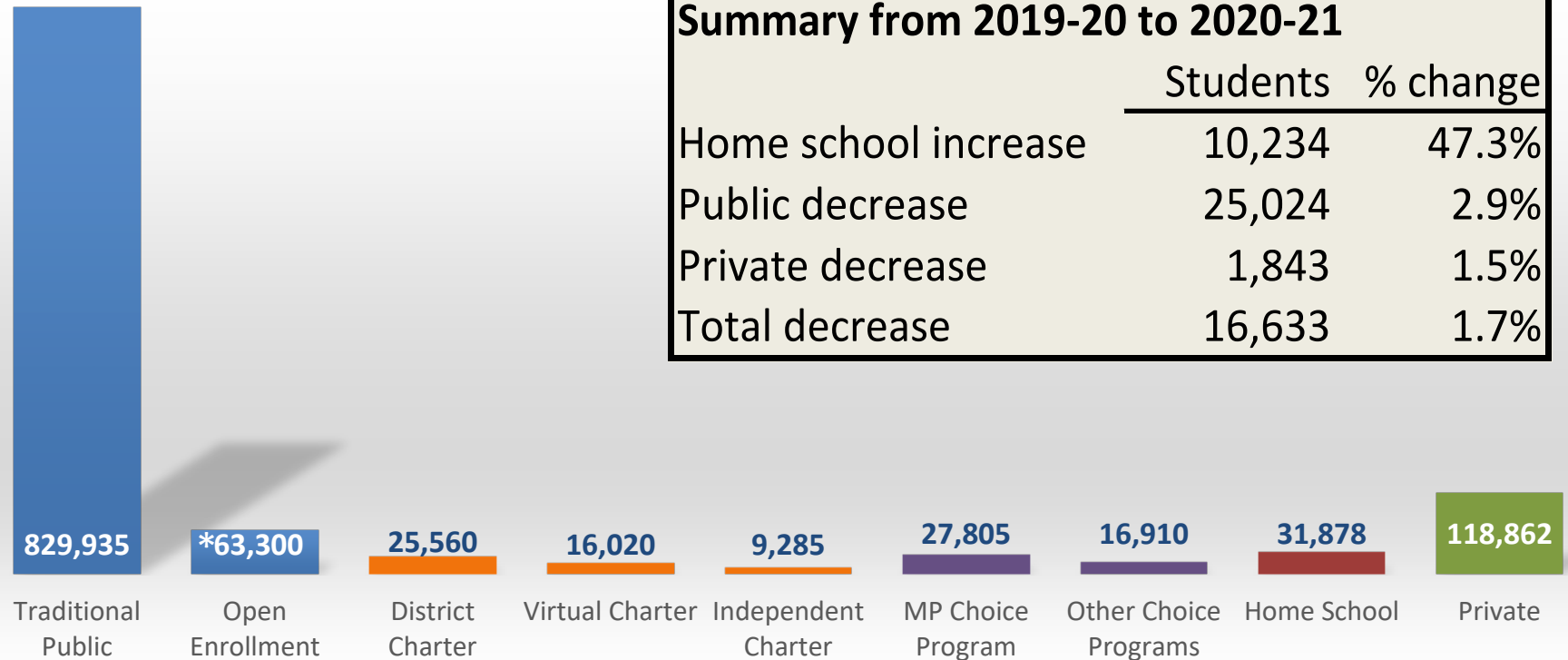
- City districts saw twice the decline (-4.3%) of other districts (2.1 to 2.6%) in total student enrollment.
- Kindergarten decline was the least in rural districts decreasing by 2%, while city districts saw an 8% decline.
- On average, all districts saw a 3% decrease in non-Hispanic white student population except city districts, declining by 6%.

# Public School Changes during the Pandemic

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- City districts' students of color declined the most (-3.2%), while suburban districts increased slightly (0.3%).
- Students of color remained the same in town districts, while rural students of color declined (-0.6%).
- All districts saw an increase in economically disadvantaged students except city districts which saw a decline (-2%).
- Suburban districts saw the greatest decrease in English Language Learners followed by town districts.

# 2020/21 Statewide Enrollment by Sector



\*Open Enrollment total is an estimate because DPI has not released 2020/21 enrollment transfers.

Source: WI Department of Public Instruction

# Private School Participation

## 20/21 Private School Enrollment

City - 61,582 (52%)

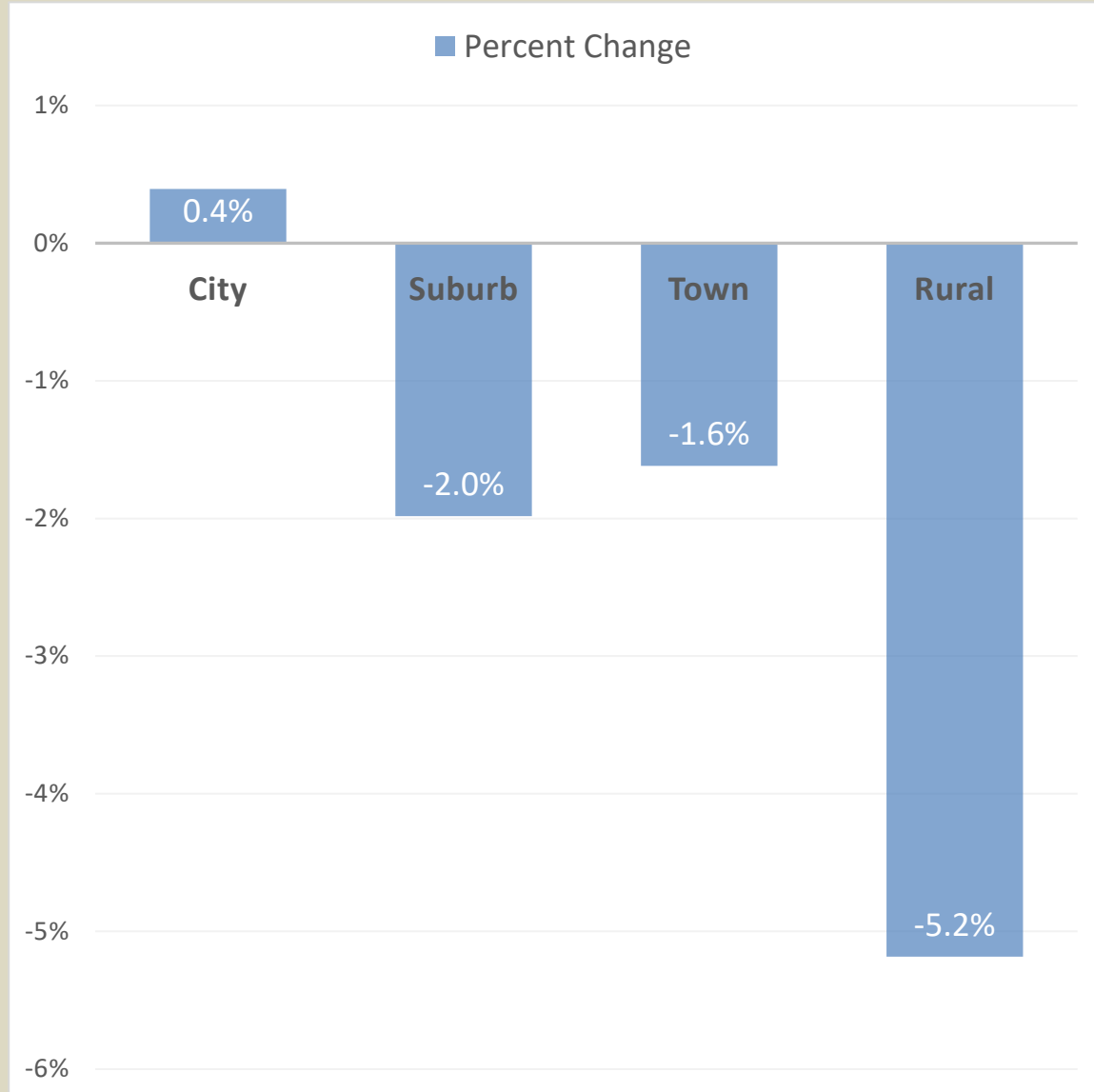
Suburb - 28,505 (24%)

Town - 17,092 (14%)

Rural - 11,379 (10%)

Percent change in private school enrollment from 2019/2020 to 2020/2021.

City enrollment increased slightly, while the other three locale classifications declined.



Source: WI Department of Public Instruction



# Virtual School Participation

## 20/21 Virtual School Enrollment

City - 3,708 (23%)

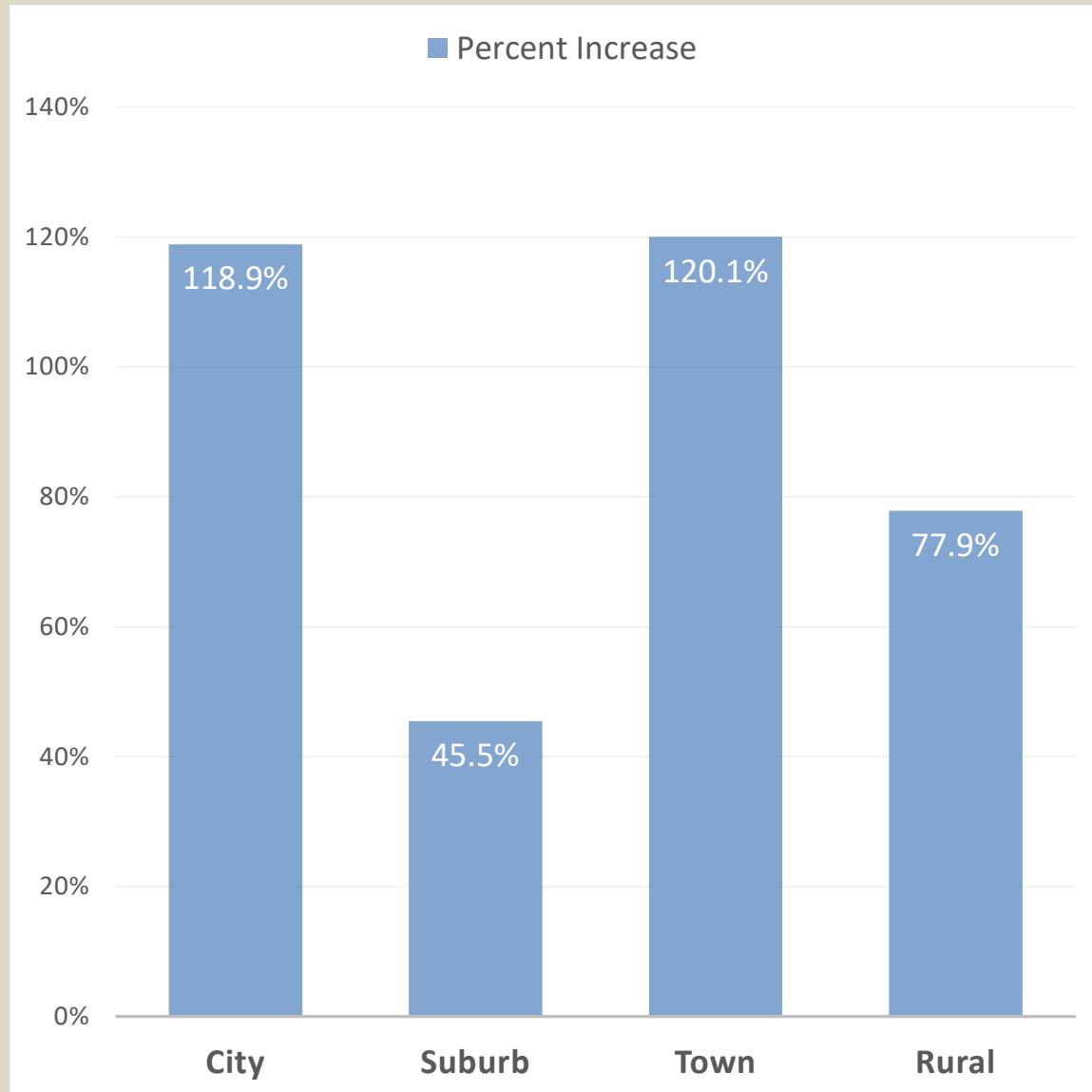
Suburb - 4,145 (26%)

Town - 4,071 (25%)

Rural - 4,096 (26%)

Percent change in virtual school enrollment from 2019/2020 to 2020/2021.

Town districts saw the highest percent increase in virtual school followed by city districts.



Source: WI Department of Public Instruction

# Home Schooling Participation

## 20/21 Home School Enrollment

City – 7,672 (25%)

Suburb – 6,517 (21%)

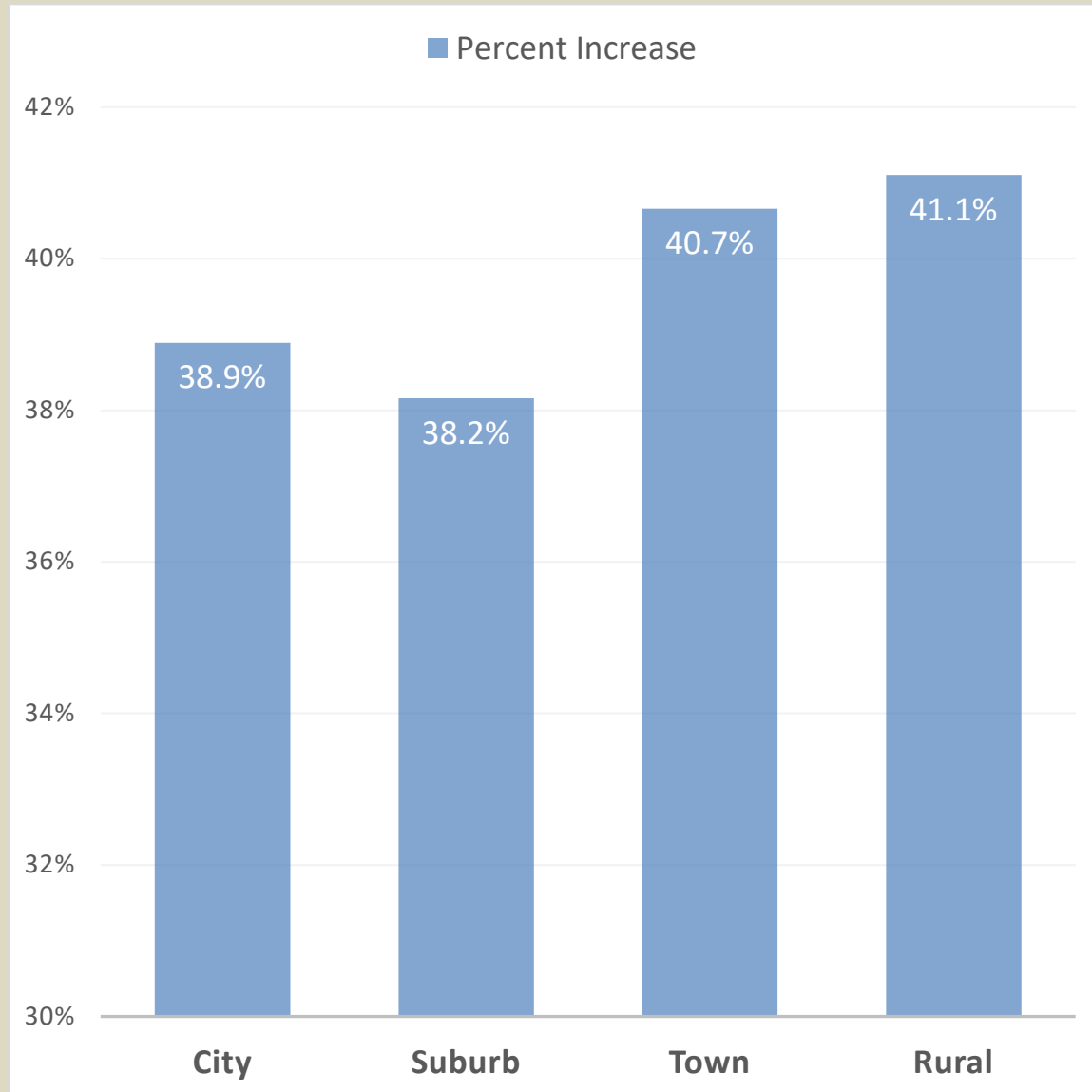
Town – 8,158 (26%)

Rural – 8,702 (28%)

Percent change in home school enrollment from 2019/2020 to 2020/2021.

Home schooling grew 38% - 41%.

Rural followed by town districts saw the greatest increases in home schooling.



Source: WI Department of Public Instruction

# Learning Model

These survey results are from the  
Covid-19 School Data Hub.  
([www.covidschooldatahub.com](http://www.covidschooldatahub.com))

## November Learning Model in Wisconsin public schools

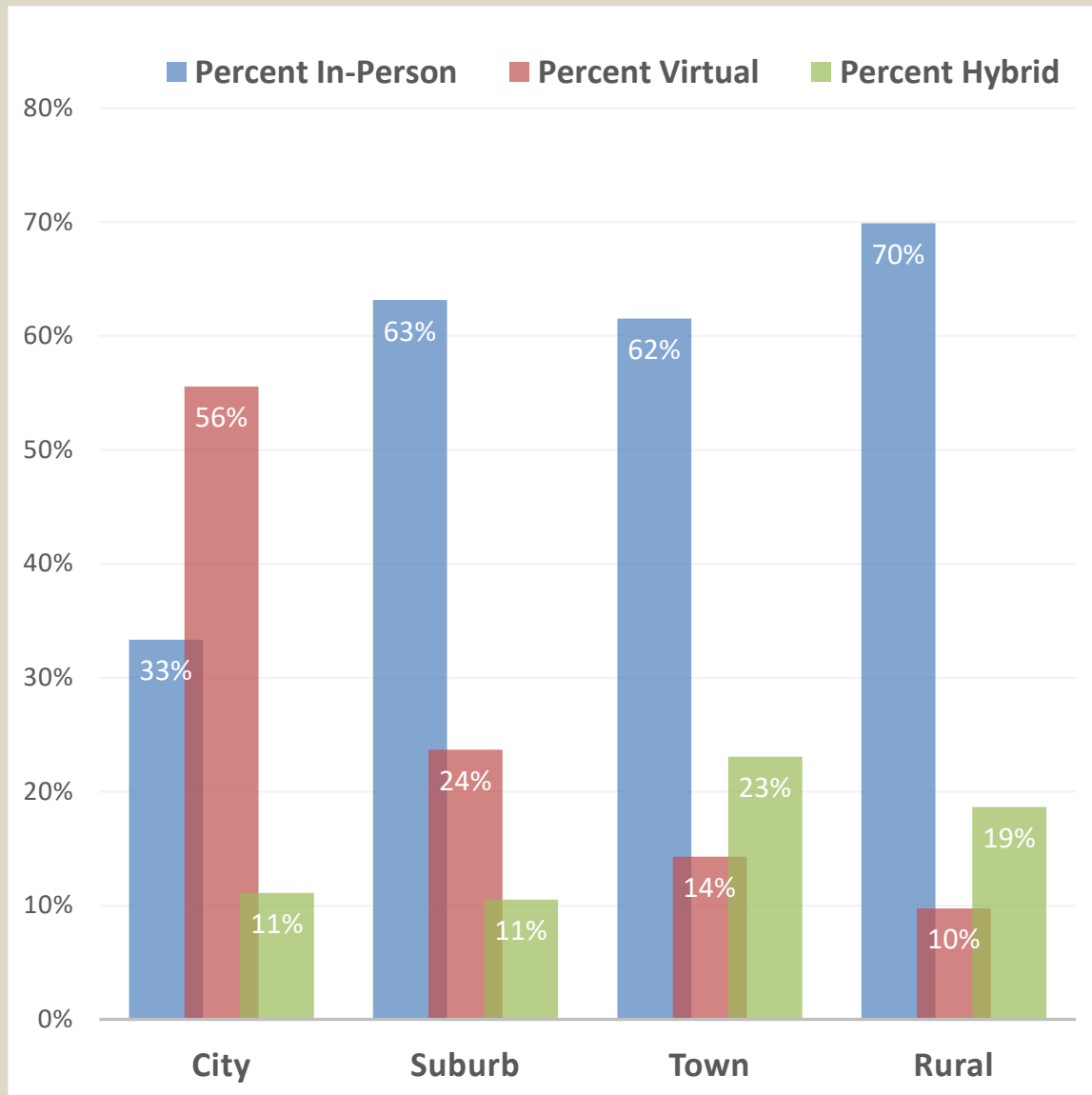
In-Person - 65%

Virtual - 15%

Hybrid - 18%

No Data - 2%

Rural districts had the highest %  
in-person districts, while urban  
districts had the highest % virtual.



Source: [www.covidschooldatahub.com](http://www.covidschooldatahub.com)

# Mask Policy Survey

These survey results are from the  
Covid-19 School Data Hub.  
([www.covidschooldatahub.com](http://www.covidschooldatahub.com))

Percent of districts that required  
students and staff to wear masks.

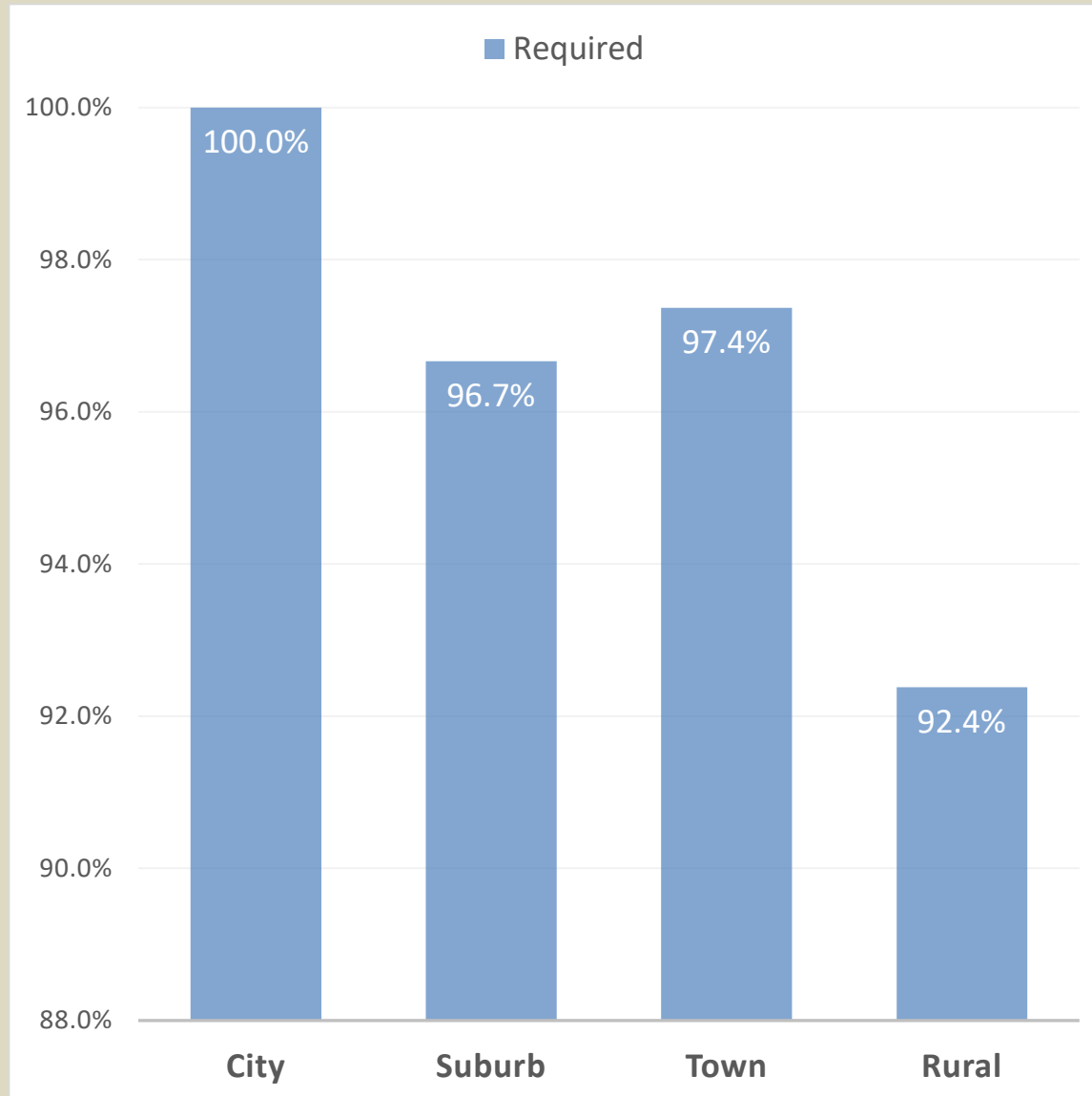
## Mask Policy Survey Response

City - 39%

Suburb - 39%

Town - 42%

Rural - 44%



Source: [www.covidschooldatahub.com](http://www.covidschooldatahub.com)

# School Participation during the Pandemic

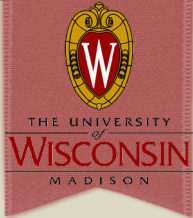
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- Private school participation increased slightly in city districts and decreased the most in rural districts.
- Virtual school participation increased the most in town districts and increased the least in suburban districts.
- Increases in home school participation was slightly higher in rural districts although all classifications increased similarly (39% to 41%).
- Rural districts had the highest percentage of in-person learning in November, peak of Covid-19 cases.
- Rural districts less likely to require masking than other district locales.

# Conclusion

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- Wisconsin's general population:
  1. Slowest percent increase in 60 years
  2. Decline in ages 0-17 as a share of the total population
- School trends the first year of the pandemic:
  1. Decline in public school students (grade, race, & ELL)
  2. Decline in private school students, while virtual and home school students increased
- Future challenges for schools:
  1. Sustained decline in births and student population
  2. Employee shortages, financial concerns, & broadband issues



# THANK YOU!

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