

CITY FORWARD COLLECTIVE



Cheryl vermillion

**Every Child. Every School.
Excellent Education Everywhere**

Who We Are

Our mission is to **secure Milwaukee's future** by transforming the city's educational ecosystem

Our vision is that **all Milwaukee children receive an excellent education at the high-quality school of their choice.**



CFC's Four Strategic Pillars



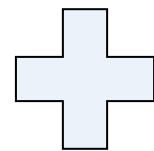
**Milwaukee's
diverse & dynamic
educational
landscape is our
strength**

Every day, nearly 110,000 Milwaukee students access publicly-funded schools



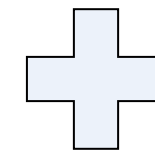
**Milwaukee
Public
Schools**

59,057
students



**Public
Charter
Schools**

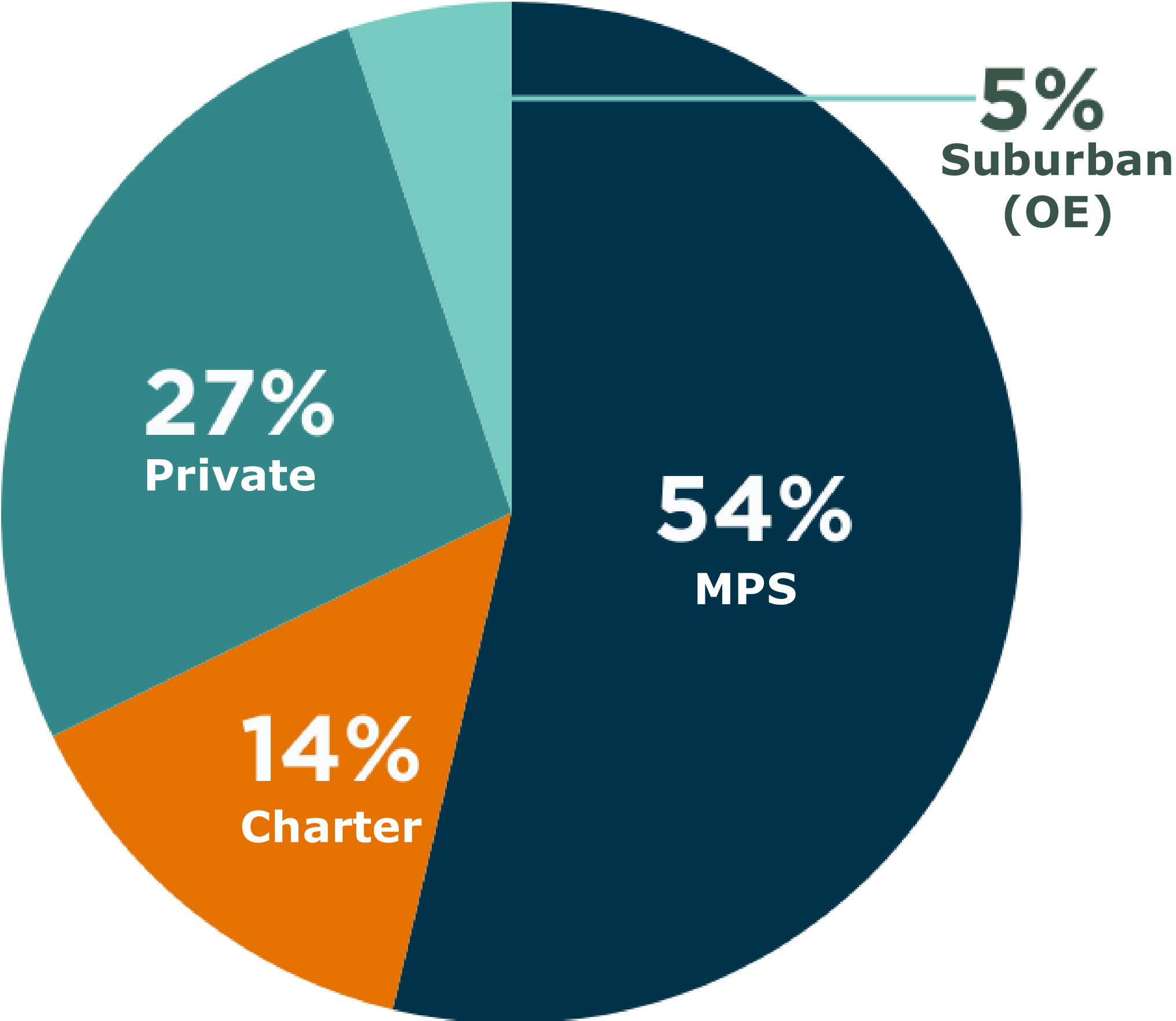
15,440
students



**Milwaukee
Parental
Choice
Program**

29,716
students

Milwaukee's schools are serving similar students – and are all facing shared challenges



Citywide

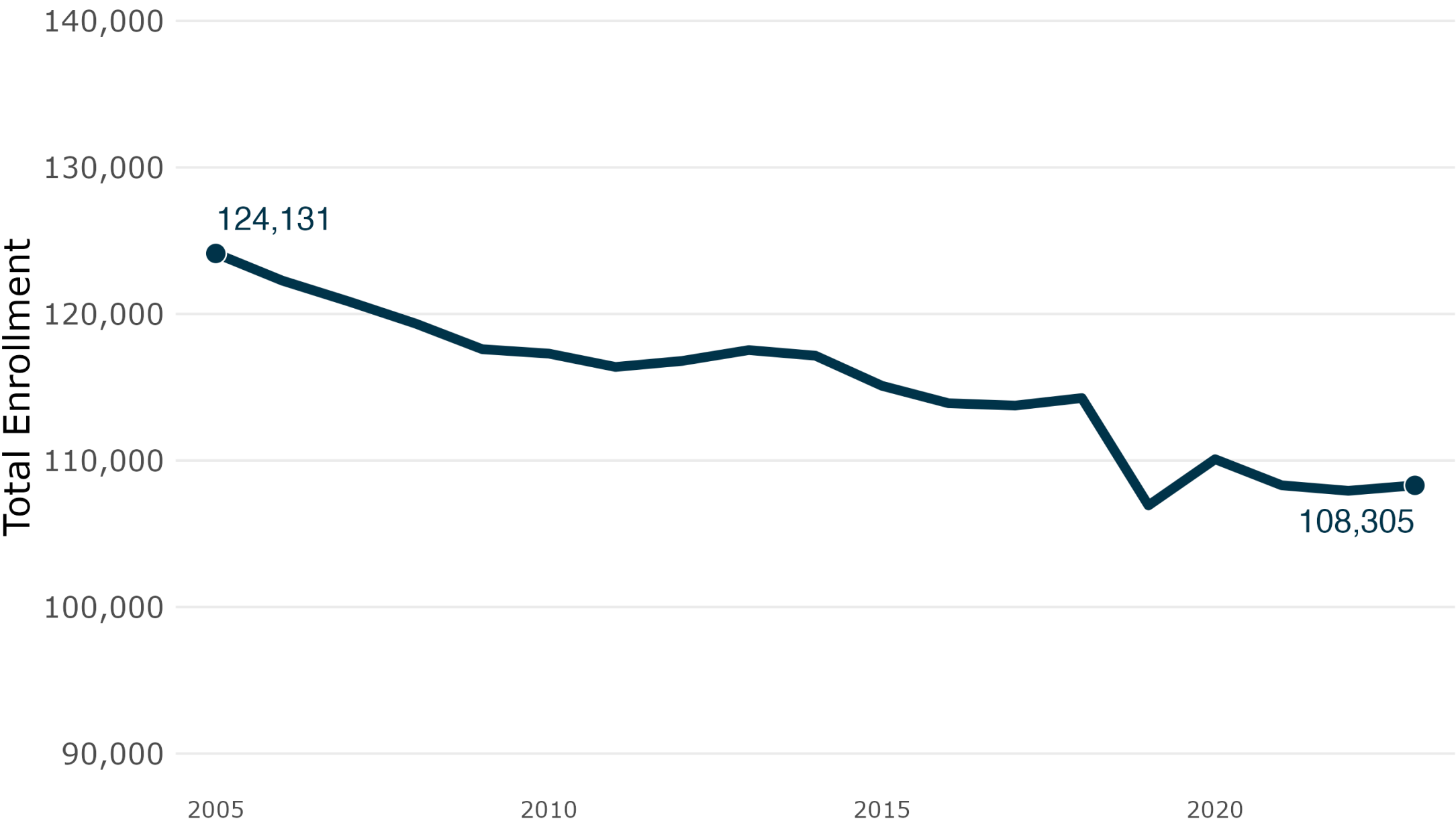
91%
Students of Color

83%
Economically Disadvantaged

~14%
Students with Disabilities

Milwaukee is experiencing a long-term decline in K12 student enrollment

Citywide K-12 Enrollment by Year



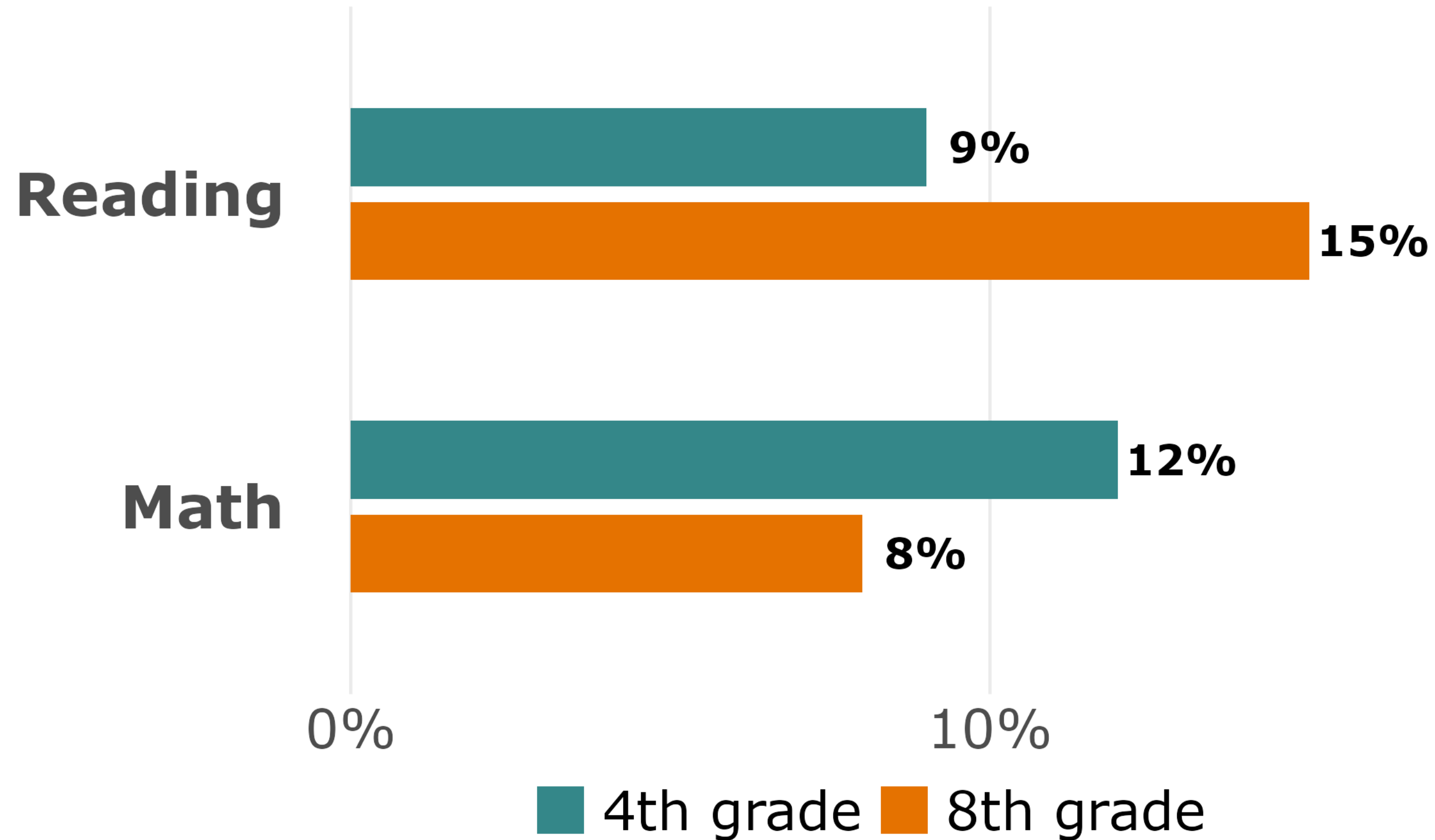
Enrollment Declines since 2005

13% Citywide

30% MPS

**Milwaukee's students
are in an academic
crisis**

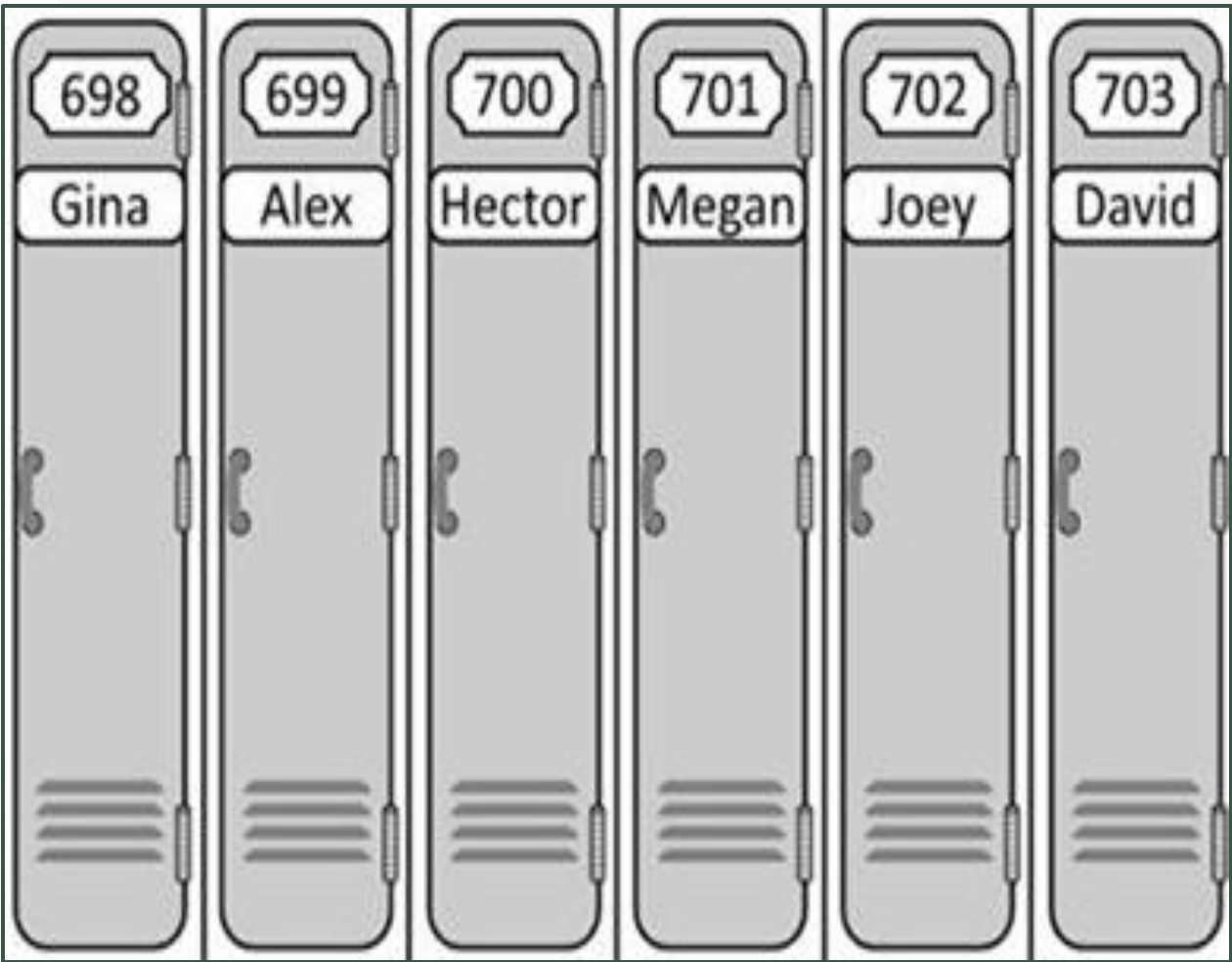
Nationally-normed NAEP results show less than 10% proficient across tested grades



Source: 2024 NAEP TUDA results for Milwaukee

90% of Black fourth-graders in MPS are not meeting national benchmarks

Mathematics, Grade 4, 2024, Milwaukee



Which students have odd- numbered lockers ?

- A ☐ Gina and Alex
- B ☐ Alex, Megan, and David
- C ☐ Gina, Hector, and Joey
- D ☐ Hector, Megan, Joey, and David

Clear Answers

**Milwaukee's residents
believe in our students –
and know things must
change**

Belief in Students & Clear Goals for Education

93% of residents
are confident in
their children's
future

77% want
schools to ensure
students learn
the basics

Recognize K12 Schools Are At A Critical Juncture

98% of residents
believe Milwaukee
education has
serious problems

74% support
significant
changes in
response

Quality and Accountability Must Lead

80% support changes focused on quality, transparency, and accountability

Ready for Leadership to Step Up

89% believe it's
time for our
leaders to take
responsibility for
the state of our
schools

**Milwaukee must take
lessons from progress
in other cities**

Four Key Lessons, from cities that have dramatically improved performance

1

Empower families
to make informed choices

2

Empower educators
to make decisions closer to classrooms

3

Limit Central Office role
by defining clear goals & guardrails

4

Hold EVERYONE accountable
for performance & student outcomes

**3 gaps we must address
now to improve
outcomes, and for high-
quality schools to thrive**

#1: Funding Gap

**Ensure every Milwaukee
child attends a
fairly-funded school**

This year, Milwaukee's students will lose out on **\$182M** because of unequal "core" per-pupil funding

**Milwaukee
Public Schools**

\$15,609

**Public Charter
Schools**

\$11,729

**Private Schools
(K-8 Students)**

\$10,237

**Private Schools
(9-12 Students)**

\$12,731



**Funding for
Vulnerable
Students**

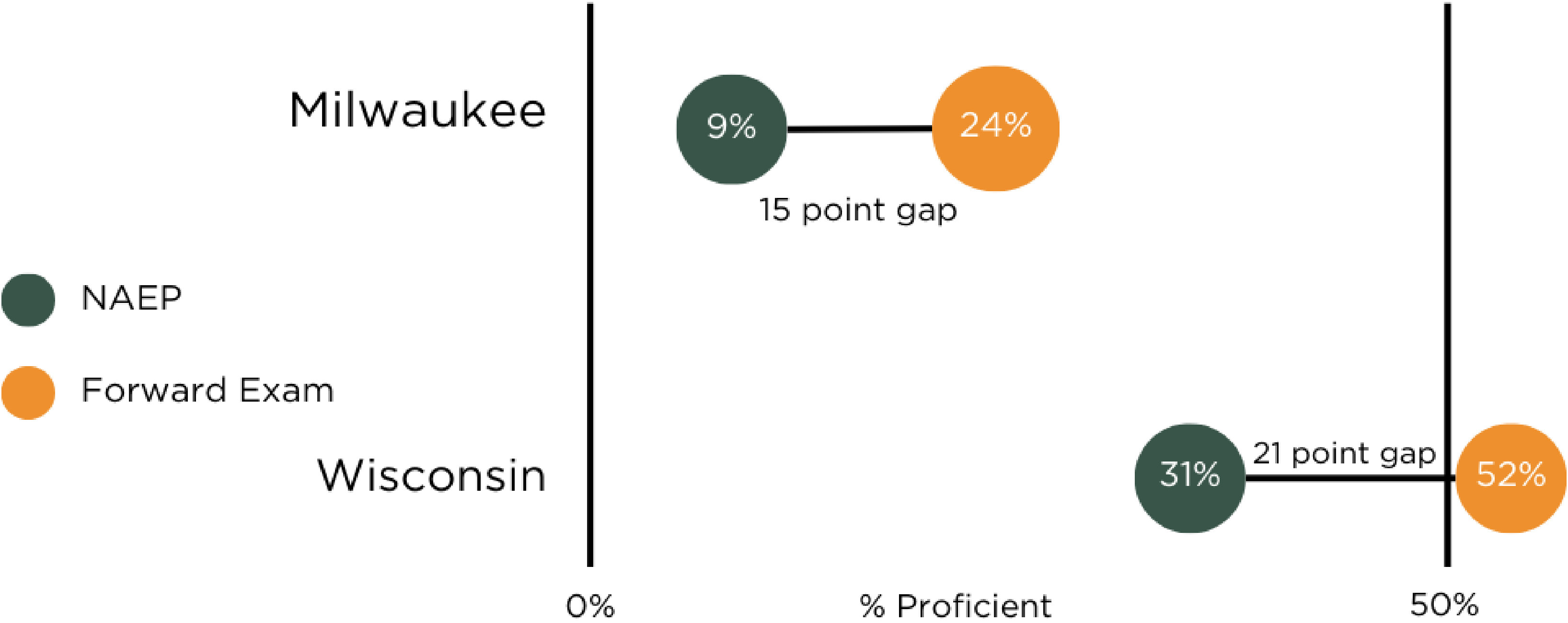
**Special
Education:
33%**

**English
Learners:
<10%**

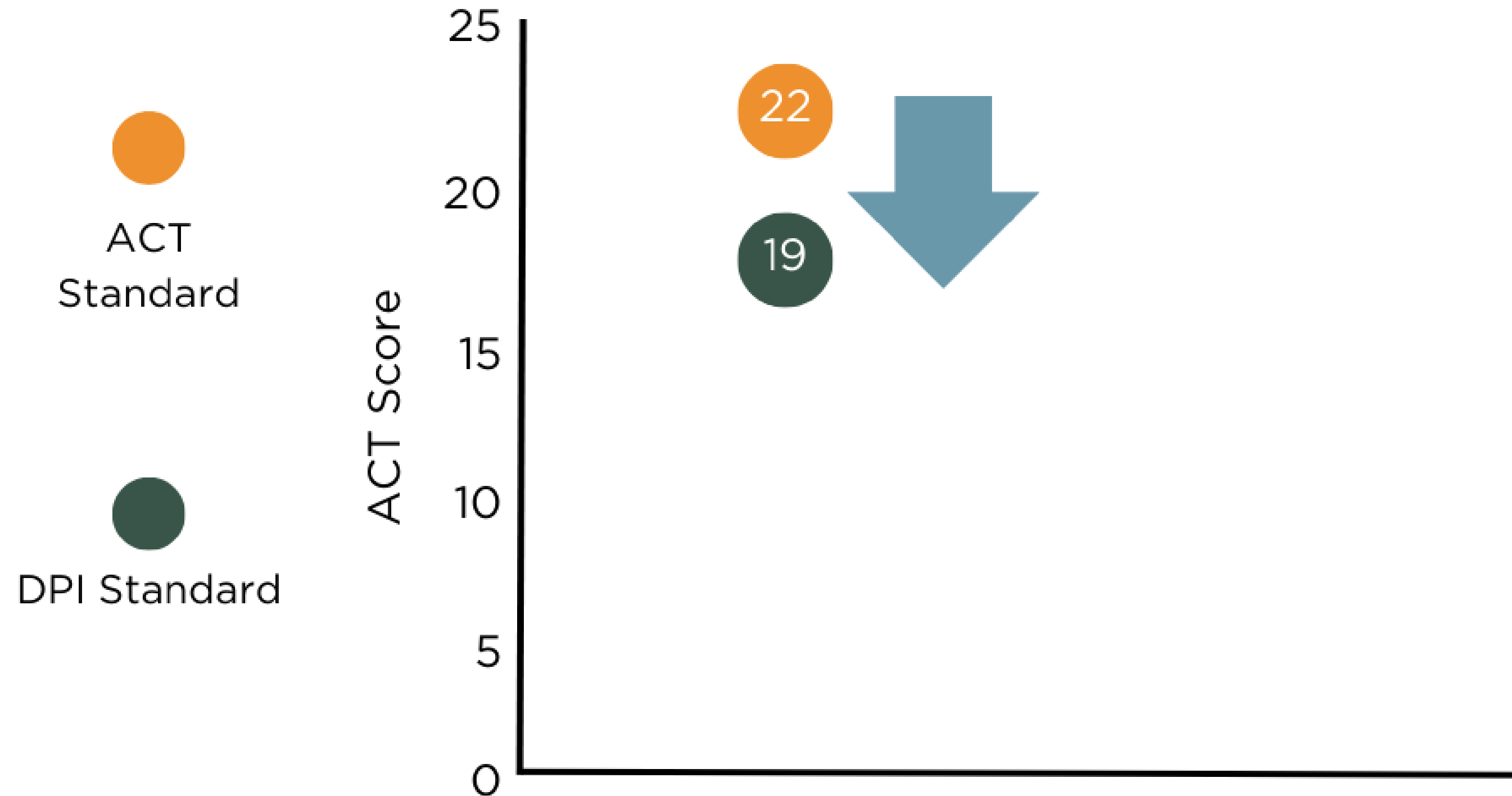
#2: Honesty Gap

**Expect more from our
students & restore high
standards**

DPI's decision to lower WI expectations for kids has resulted in an honesty gap



DPI has lowered ACT; which doesn't match the admission standard of any UW system school



#3: Quality Gap

Accountability for Outcomes – for ALL our city's students

We need to take 3 critical, urgent steps to fix MPS' challenges



Complete the audits
and fully
address all
findings



Support
visionary & effective
leadership at all
levels



Develop a
comprehensive plan for academic
and operational
transformation

74

Milwaukee has 74 schools each with fewer than 20 students meeting state expectations

1:46

For every 1 student who attends a top-rated school we have 46 students in schools with the lowest rating

60%

Over half of students are enrolled in schools that perform below expectations

Thank You!

Use this QR code to stay in touch with us and keep up to date on education issues in Milwaukee.

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Executive Director

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