

FY2027 Budget Planning: Budget Foundation (Primer)



Engage. Inspire. Prepare.

Agenda

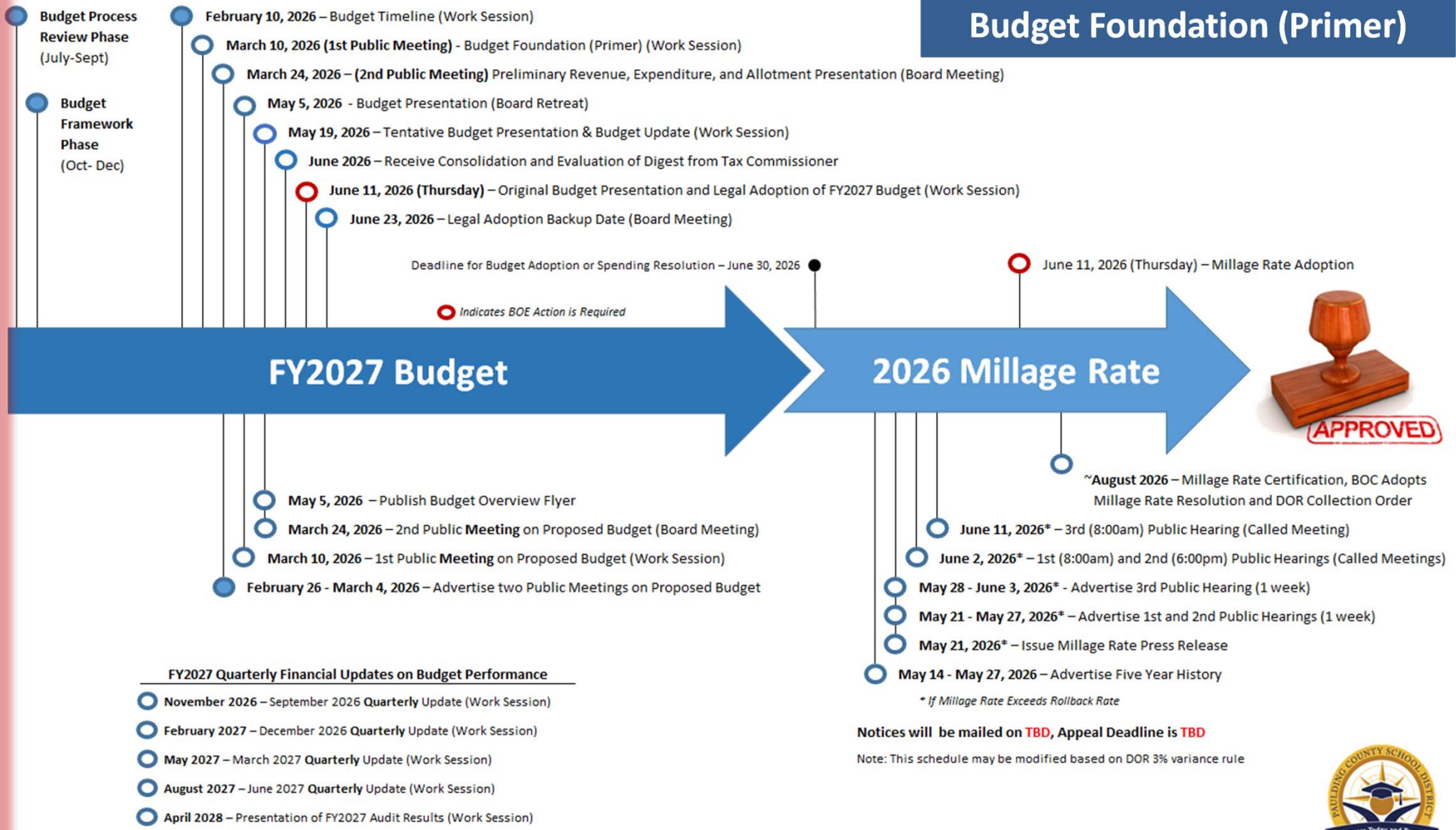
1. 2027 Budget Roadmap
2. Factors Influencing Budget Decisions:
 - Demographic and Economic Factors
 - Enrollment Factors
 - Funding Factors

Appendix



FY2027 Budget Development - Major Milestones

March 10, 2026
Budget Foundation (Primer)



FY2027 Public Meetings and Hearings, Press Releases, Advertisements and Notices

FY2027 Budget Roadmap

Organizational Factors Influencing Decisions: Demographic and Economic Factors

Highlights:

- Largest employer and industry in county
- Relatively low poverty percentage and unemployment rate
- Most workers employed outside the county
- Limited commercial or industrial businesses, by land use and tax digest
- Tax digest is disproportionally residential properties.
- One of the fastest growing counties, with a significant number of school-age children
- Recent decline in building permits and residential sales
- Average residential home sale price in Paulding County is approximately \$381,000



Engage. Inspire. Prepare.

Employment.

PCSD is the largest employer and represents the largest industry in Paulding County. The county maintains a relatively low unemployment rate, with most workers employed outside the county.

Top 10 Employers ^A	Count	%
1) PCSD	4,617	5%
2) Wellstar	1,468	2%
3) Paulding County	1,060	1%
4) Walmart	532	1%
5) Publix	375	0%
6) Chick-fil-A	375	0%
7) Kroger	368	0%
8) HES Facilities	300	0%
9) Metromont Corp	221	0%
10) Ragsdale Heating & Air	199	0%
Total	9,515	10%

Top 10 Industries (by Employment) ^B	%
1) Government (Education)	20%
2) Retail	17%
3) Healthcare & Social Services	15%
4) Accommodations & Food Services	14%
5) Construction	9%
6) Admin, Support & Waste Services	5%
7) Manufacturing (all)	4%
9) Other Services	3%
8) Professional Services	3%
10) Wholesale Trade	1%
	91%

Unemployment Rate ^B	%
Paulding County	3.3%
Douglas County	3.7%
Carroll County	3.3%
Bartow County	3.1%
Cobb County	3.1%

County Where Employed ^C	%
Paulding	33.5%
Other	66.5%

Commercial/Industrial Land Use ^D	%
Paulding County	5%
Douglas County	15%
Bartow County	7%
Coweta County	7%

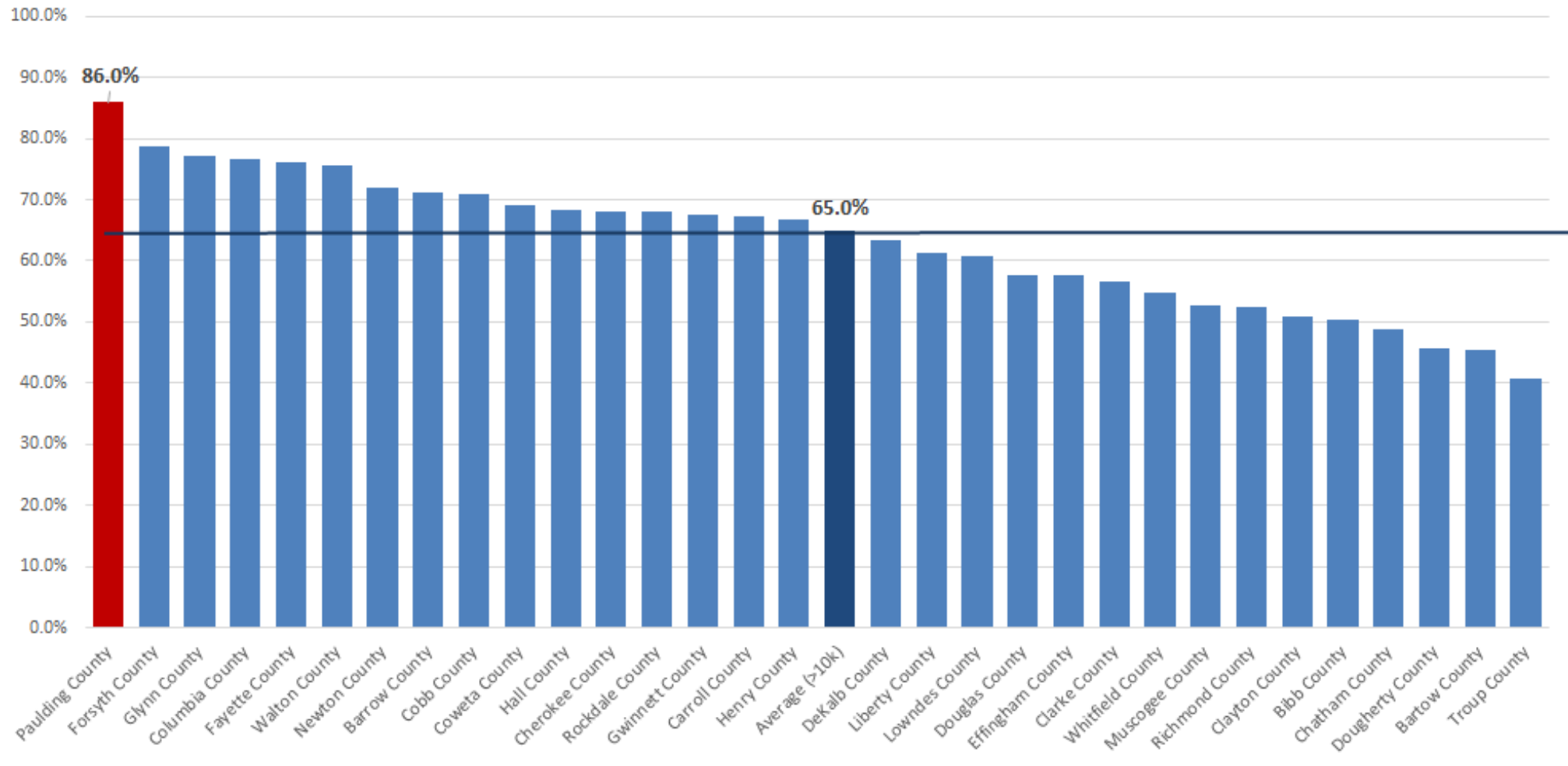
Land Use.

Only a small percentage of land in Paulding County is used for Commercial or Industrial Purposes.

Various

Employment and Land Use

Residential Digest Percentage, Tax Year 2025 (>10,000 FTE)

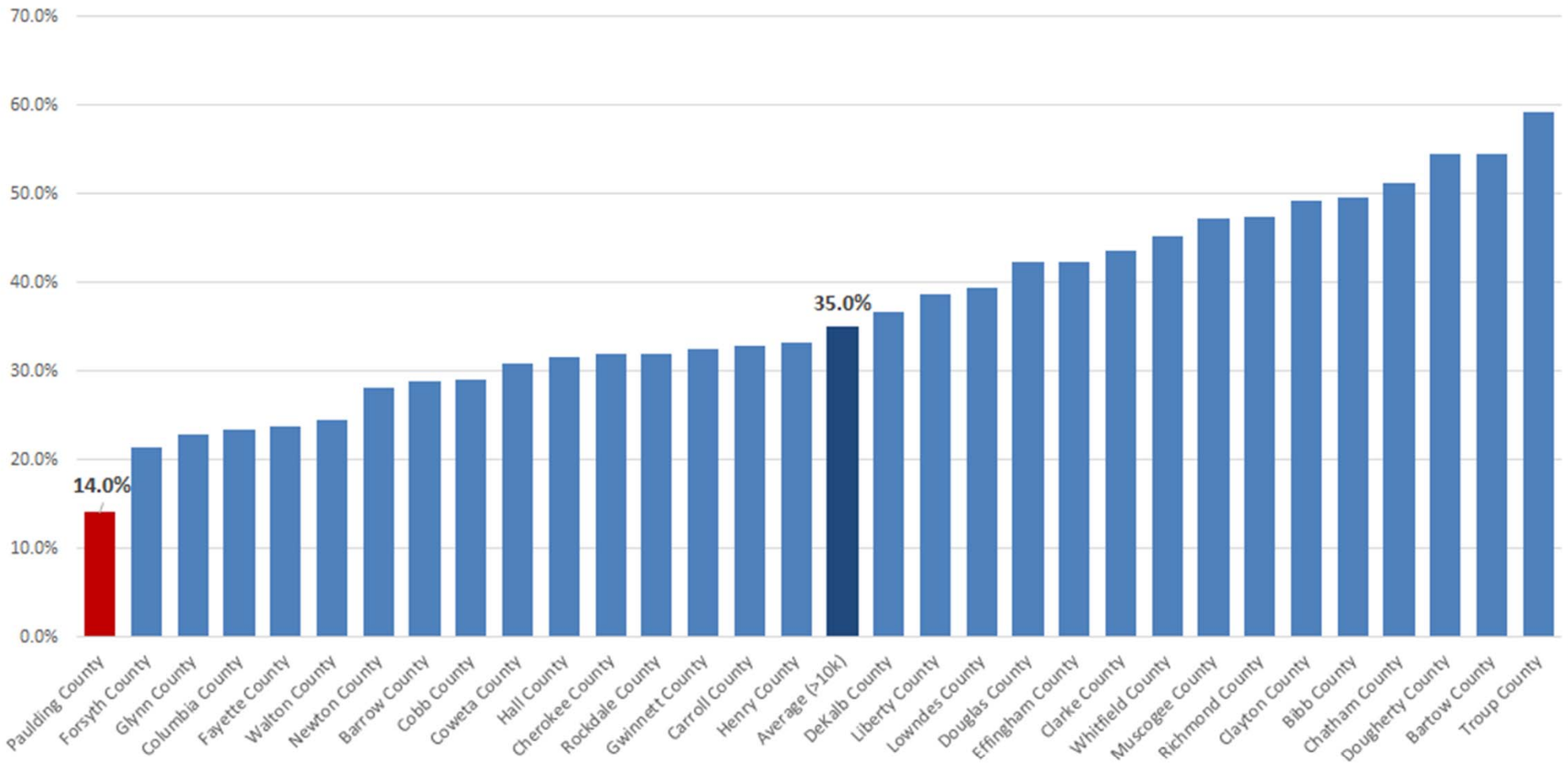


Residential Digest Percentage. As of 2025, Paulding County had the highest percentage of the digest considered residential at 86.0%, compared to a large district average of 65.0%.

2025

Residential Digest Percentage

Non-Residential Digest Percentage, Tax Year 2025 (>10,000 FTE)



Non-Residential Digest Percentage. As of 2025, Paulding County had the lowest percentage of the digest considered non-residential at 14.0%, compared to a large district average of 35.0%.

2025

Non-Residential Digest Percentage

Population Growth.

Paulding County is one of the fastest growing counties in Georgia.

School-age Children.

Tax digest issues are exacerbated by the high number of school-age children per household in Paulding County, as there is not a correlating increase in local funding, which is based on property tax values not the number of school-age children living in the home.

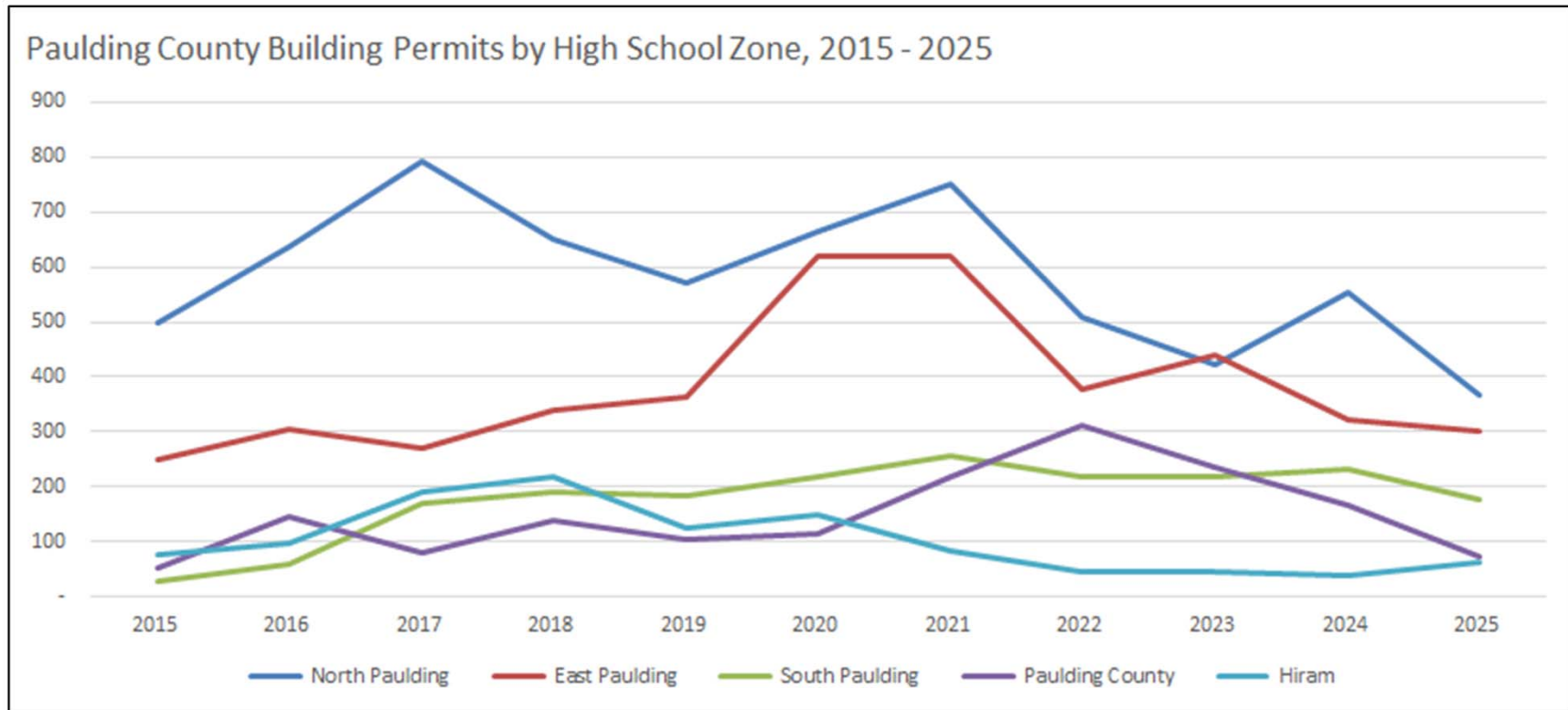
	Paulding County	State of Georgia	%
Population, July 1, 2024	188,549	11,180,878	1.7%
Population, 2020 Census	168,661	10,711,908	1.6%
Change	19,888	468,970	
% Change	11.8%	4.4%	
Housing Units, July 1, 2024	66,280	4,668,859	1.4%
Building Permits, 2024	1,458	68,367	2.1%
Persons per Household (2020-2024)	2.97	2.62	13.4%
Population Age 5 - 18	19.0%	17.0%	2.0%



	Population	%	Housing Units	%	Var	Persons per HH	Age 5-18	Persons per HH Age 5-18 %
Paulding County	188,549	1.7%	66,280	1.4%	0.3%	2.97	19.0%	0.56
Bartow County	117,508	1.1%	48,461	1.0%	0.0%	2.75	16.7%	0.46
Douglas County	151,887	1.4%	58,326	1.2%	0.1%	2.81	18.8%	0.53
Carroll County	129,911	1.2%	49,253	1.1%	0.1%	2.75	17.4%	0.48
Coweta County	158,233	1.4%	61,184	1.3%	0.1%	2.70	17.1%	0.46
Cobb County	787,538	7.0%	319,175	6.8%	0.2%	2.59	16.4%	0.42
Cherokee County	293,513	2.6%	111,369	2.4%	0.2%	2.75	16.5%	0.45
Average Comp	273,098	2.4%	107,961	2.3%	0.1%	2.73	17.2%	0.47

Source: <http://www.census.gov/quickfacts> on 3.3.26
Large Districts are districts with >10,000 FTE

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
North Paulding	497	636	792	649	570	664	750	510	421	555	367
East Paulding	251	304	269	340	365	620	621	378	441	323	300
South Paulding	29	60	170	190	184	219	258	219	219	231	178
Paulding County	53	146	81	137	105	113	217	311	235	165	74
Hiram	75	96	189	218	124	148	82	44	44	39	63
Total	905	1,242	1,501	1,534	1,348	1,764	1,928	1,462	1,360	1,313	982



Building Permits. In 2025, 982 building permits were issued in Paulding County, representing a 51% decrease from 2024 or an annual decline of 16% (CAGR). Additionally, 66% of 2025 building permits were in the North and East Paulding HS attendance zones.

Source: Paulding County Economic Development and Paulding County Chief Appraiser

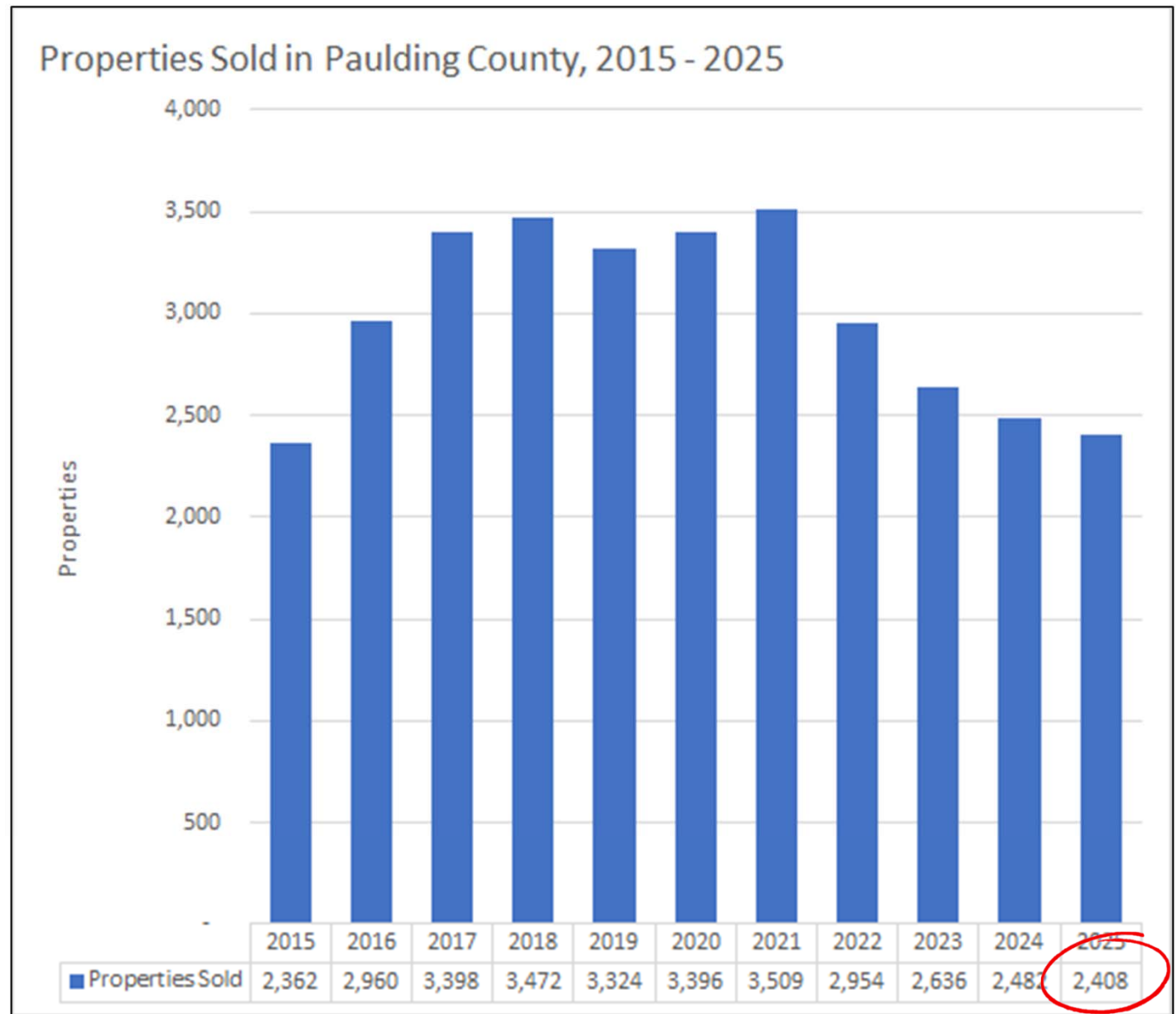
FY2015 – FY2025

Building Permits

Residential Homes.

In 2025, 2,408 residential homes were sold in Paulding County, reflecting a 3% decline from 2024 and a 31% decrease from 2021, an annual decline of 9% (CAGR).

Since 2015, residential homes have increased 0.2% annually (CAGR).



Source: Paulding County Chief Appraiser

2015 – 2025

Residential Home Sales

Average Sales Price.

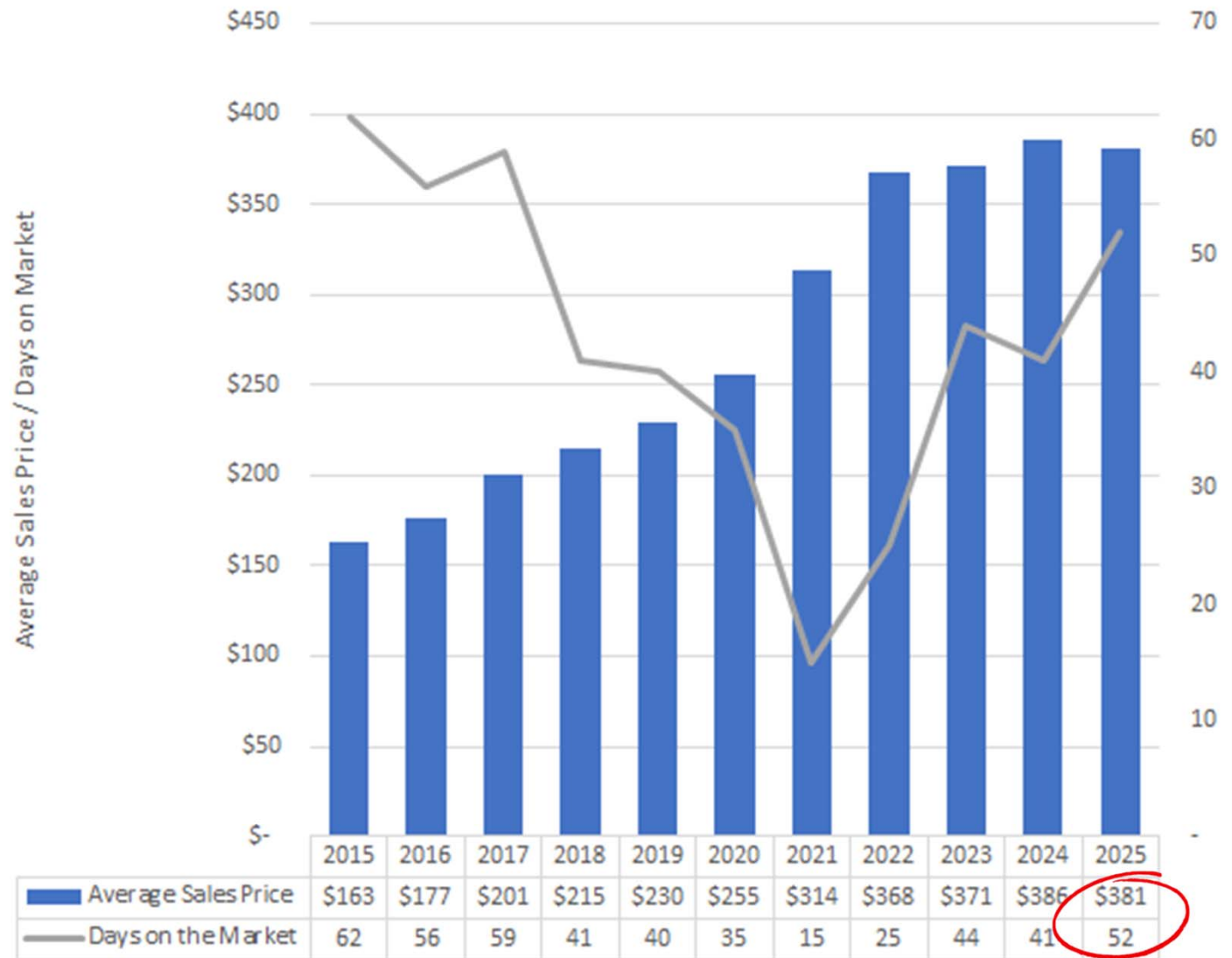
In 2025, the average residential home sale price in Paulding County was \$380,554, reflecting a 1.4% decrease from 2024 and an annualized growth rate of 1.1% since 2022 (CAGR).

Since 2015, the average home price has grown 8.9% annually (CAGR).

Days on the Market.

In 2025, the average number of days on the market increased 11 days or 26.8% to 52 days.

Properties Sold in Paulding County, 2015 - 2025



2015 – 2025

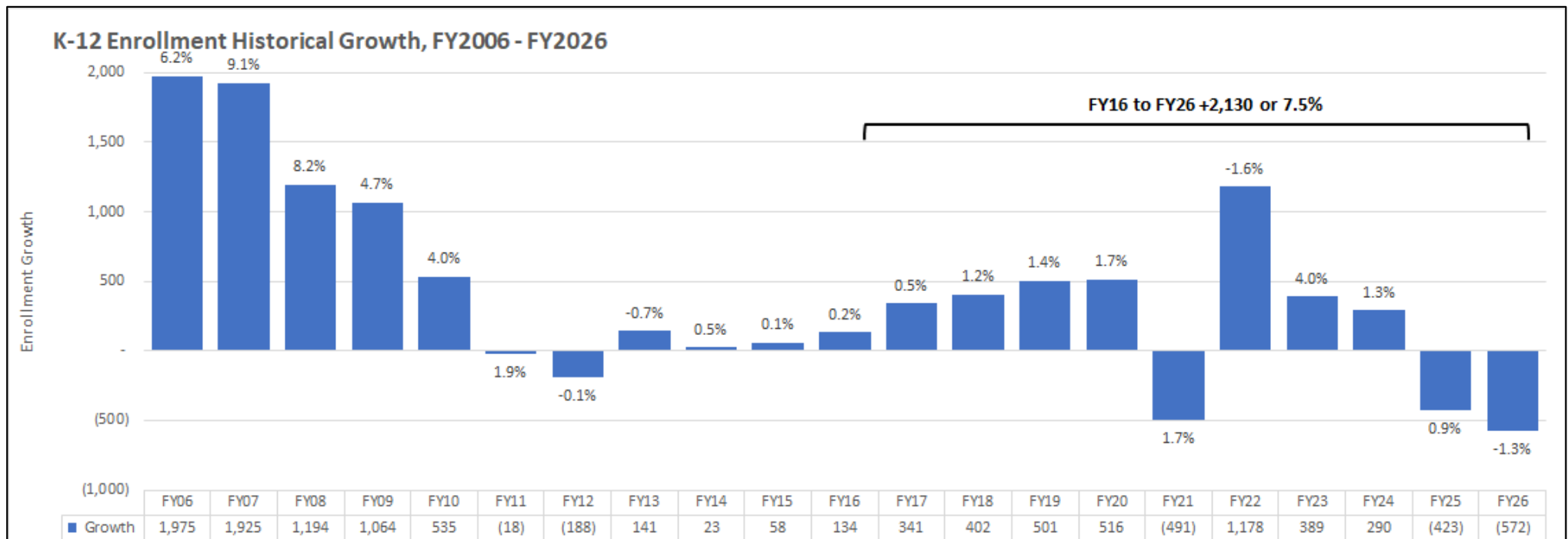
Organizational Factors Influencing Decisions: Enrollment Factors

Highlights:

- Projections currently reflect an increase of 32 students to 30,628
- Ranked as the 11th largest district in the state of Georgia
- 15th fastest growing large districts in Georgia
- Over the prior 10-years the district has grown 2,130 or 7.5%
- 16.6% of students are enrolled in an ESEP program



K-12 Enrollment Historical Growth. For the 10 years ending FY2026, the district had an annual growth rate of 0.7%. FY2016 to FY2026 enrollment increased 2,130 or 7.5%. FY2026 enrollment decreased 572 or -1.8% to 30,596. Preliminary FY2027 projections reflect an enrollment increase of 32 or 0.1% to 30,628.

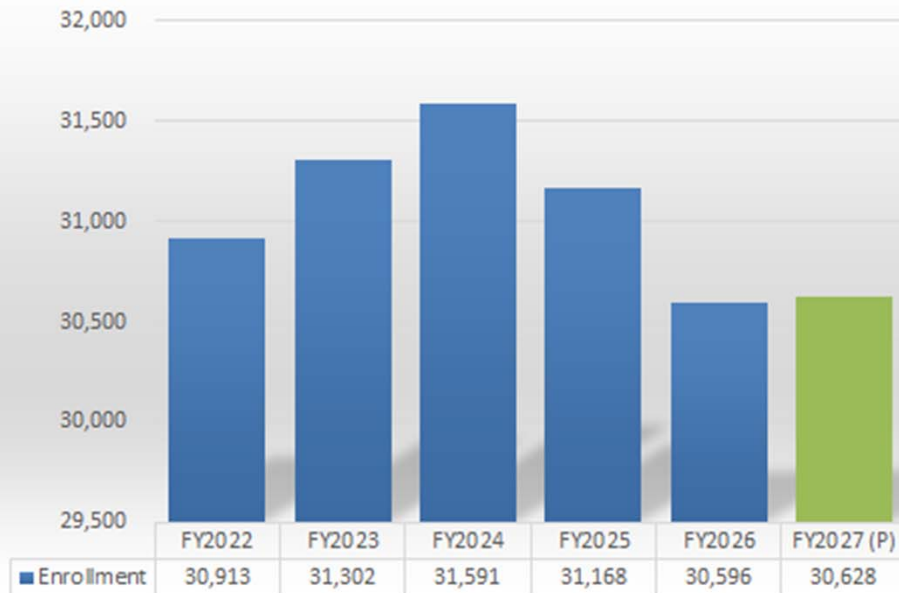


Source: GaDOE (Student Enrollment by Grade)

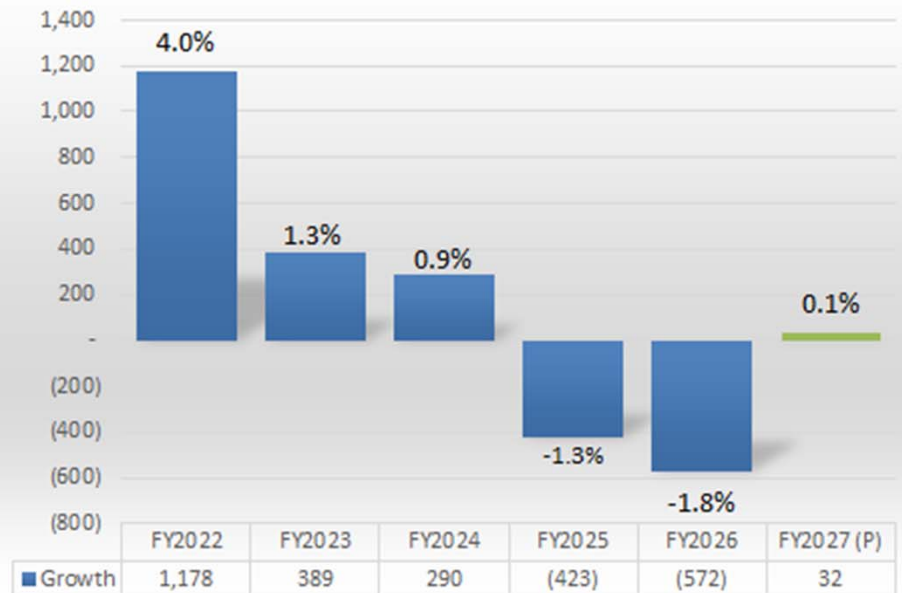
FY2006 – FY2026

Historical Growth

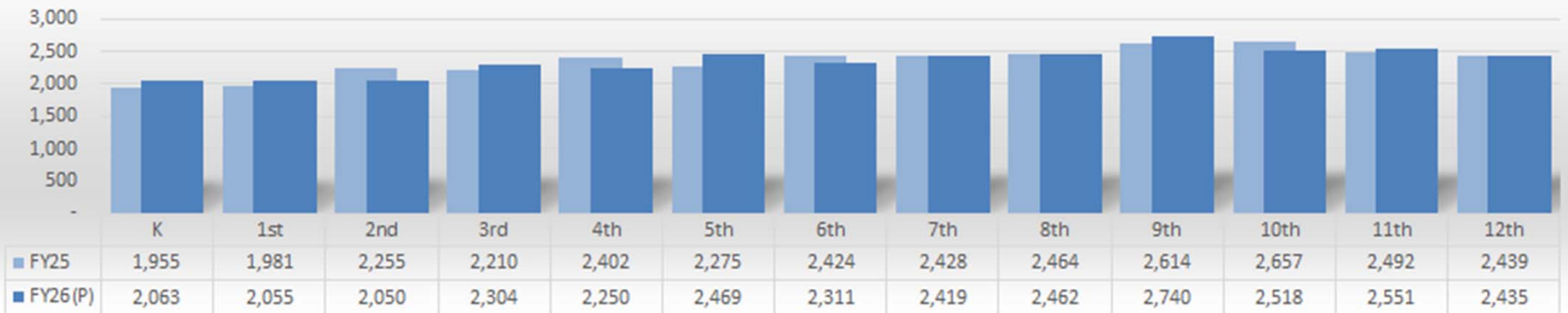
FY2027 K-12 Enrollment



FY2027 K-12 Enrollment Growth



FY2027 Enrollment by Grade

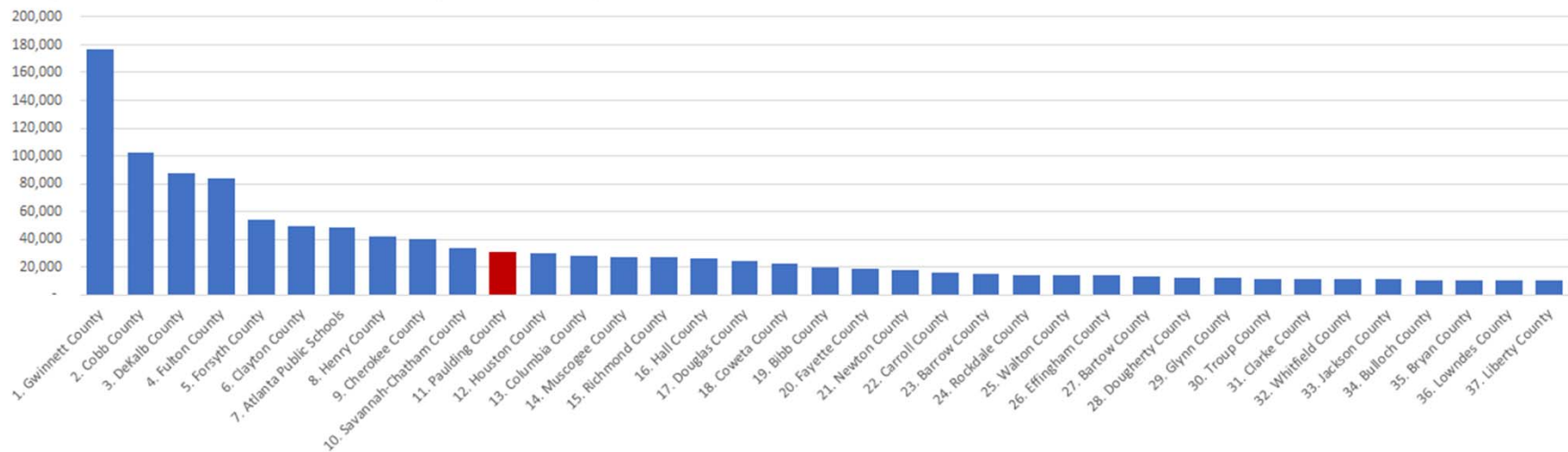


Please Note: These are preliminary numbers and will be influenced by Kindergarten Registration, School Choice, Programs, etc.

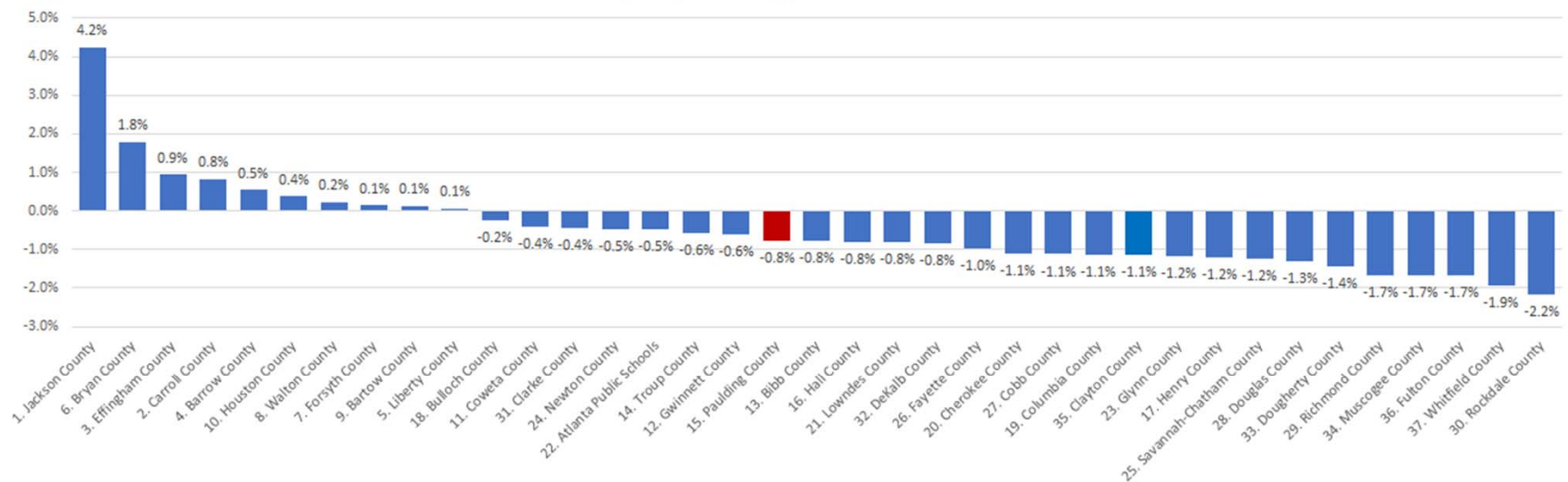
FY2027 (P)

Preliminary Enrollment

Large District Enrollment, FY2026 (>10,000 FTE)



Large District Three-Year CAGR, FY2023-FY2026 (>10,000 FTE)



Large District Enrollment. As of October 2025, PCSD was the 11th largest school district in Georgia (out of the 180 districts and 37 large districts).

Source: GaDOE (Student Enrollment by Grade), Large Districts are districts with >10,000 FTE

FY2023- FY2026

Enrollment Growth

Organizational Factors Influencing Decisions: Funding Factors

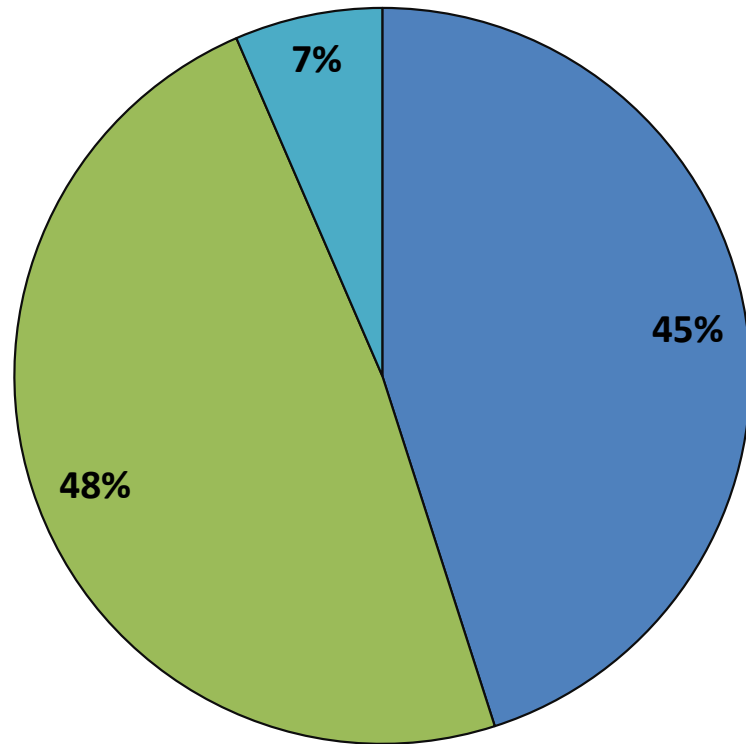
Highlights:

- 59% of revenue comes from state sources, compared to a statewide average of 48%
- Revenue from local sources has increased from 33% to 37% since FY2021
- Local revenue per-pupil rank is 10th out of 15 comparable districts
- State revenue per-pupil rank is 2nd out of 15 comparable districts
- District is well below the average local revenue per pupil
- Held an average M&O Millage Rate and did not have a Bond Millage Rate
- 5th largest recipient of the Equalization Grant, 7% of total revenue



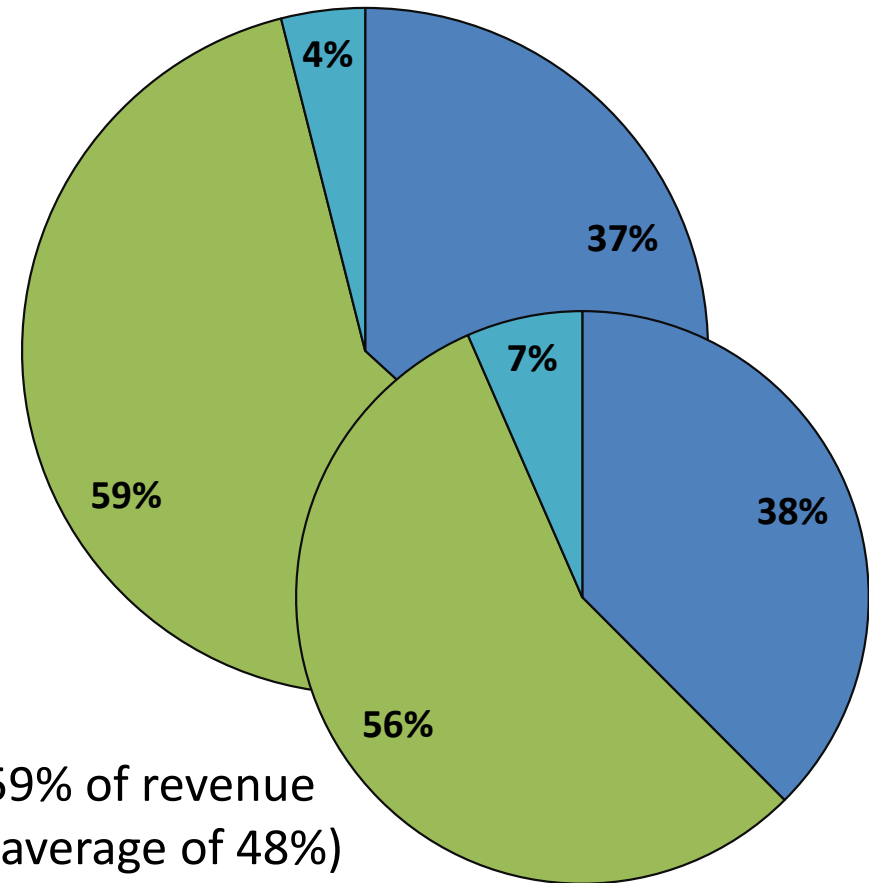
FY2025 Statewide Revenue Sources

Local Revenue State Revenue Federal Revenue



FY2025 PCSD Revenue Sources

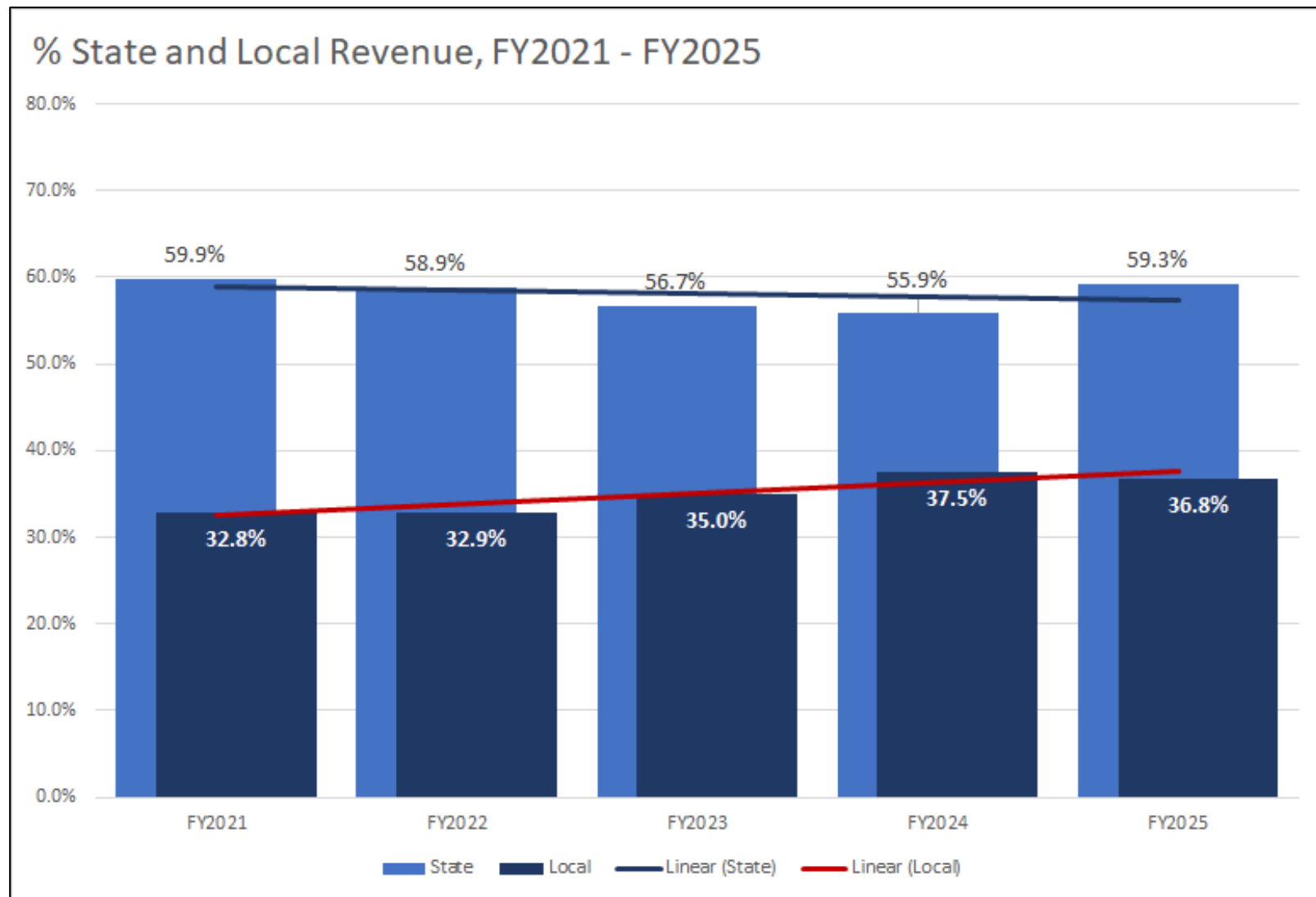
Local Revenue State Revenue Federal Revenue



FY2024

Dependency on State Sources. With approximately 59% of revenue coming from state sources (compared to a statewide average of 48%) the District is highly susceptible to changes in state funding, including austerity reductions, Equalization Grant funding and changes in the Quality Basic Education (QBE) formula.

FY2025



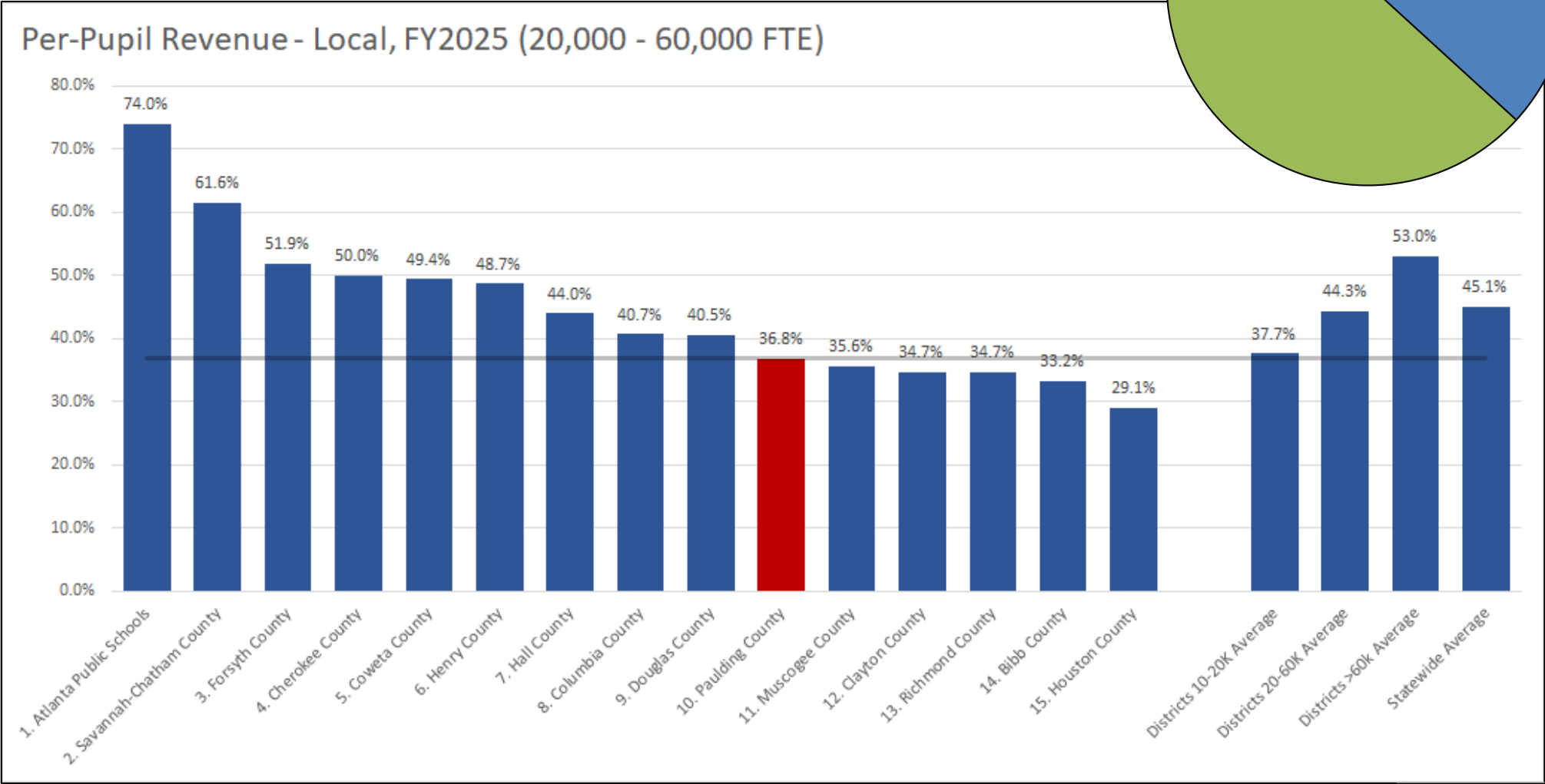
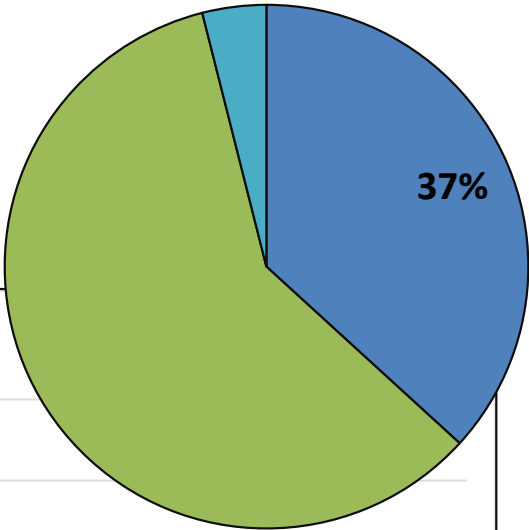
% State and Local Revenue Trend. From FY2021 to FY2025, the percentage of revenue from state sources has decline from 59.9% to 59.3%, while the percentage of revenue from local sources has increased from 32.8% to 37.5%.

Source: GaDOE School System Revenue/Expenditures Report as of FY2025

FY2021 – FY2025

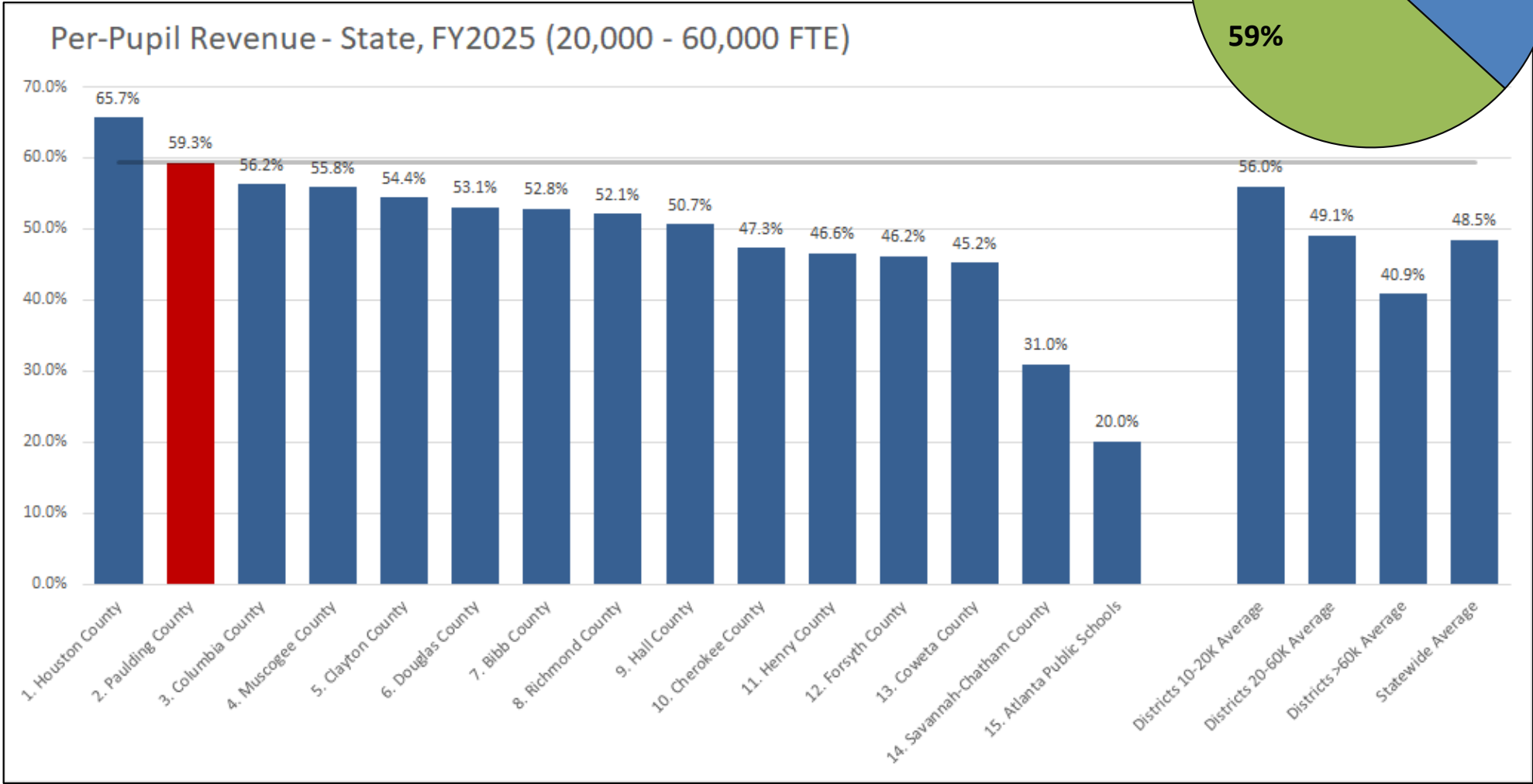
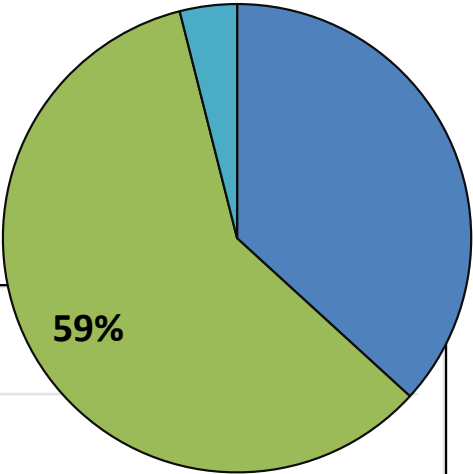
Revenue Sources Trend

Local Per-Pupil Revenue. As of FY2025, local per-pupil revenue was 36.8% of total revenue. This is lower than most comparable groups, including the statewide average of 45.1%.



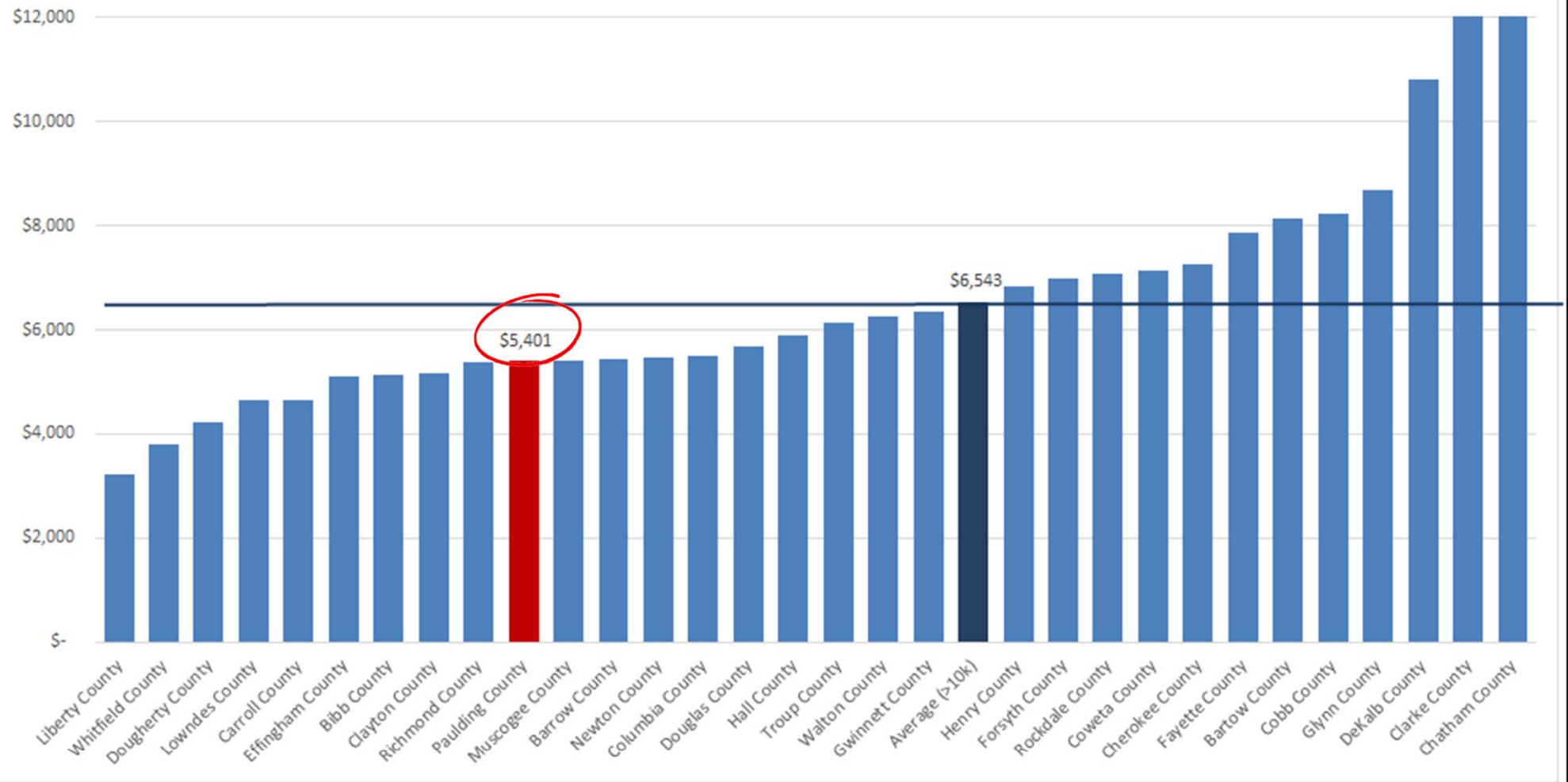
Source: GaDOE School System Revenue/Expenditures Report as of FY2025

State Per-Pupil Revenue. As of FY2025, state per-pupil revenue was 59.3% of total revenue. This is higher than any comparable group, including the statewide average of 48.5%.



Source: GaDOE School System Revenue/Expenditures Report as of FY2025

Local Revenue per Pupil, Fiscal Year 2025 (>10,000 FTE)



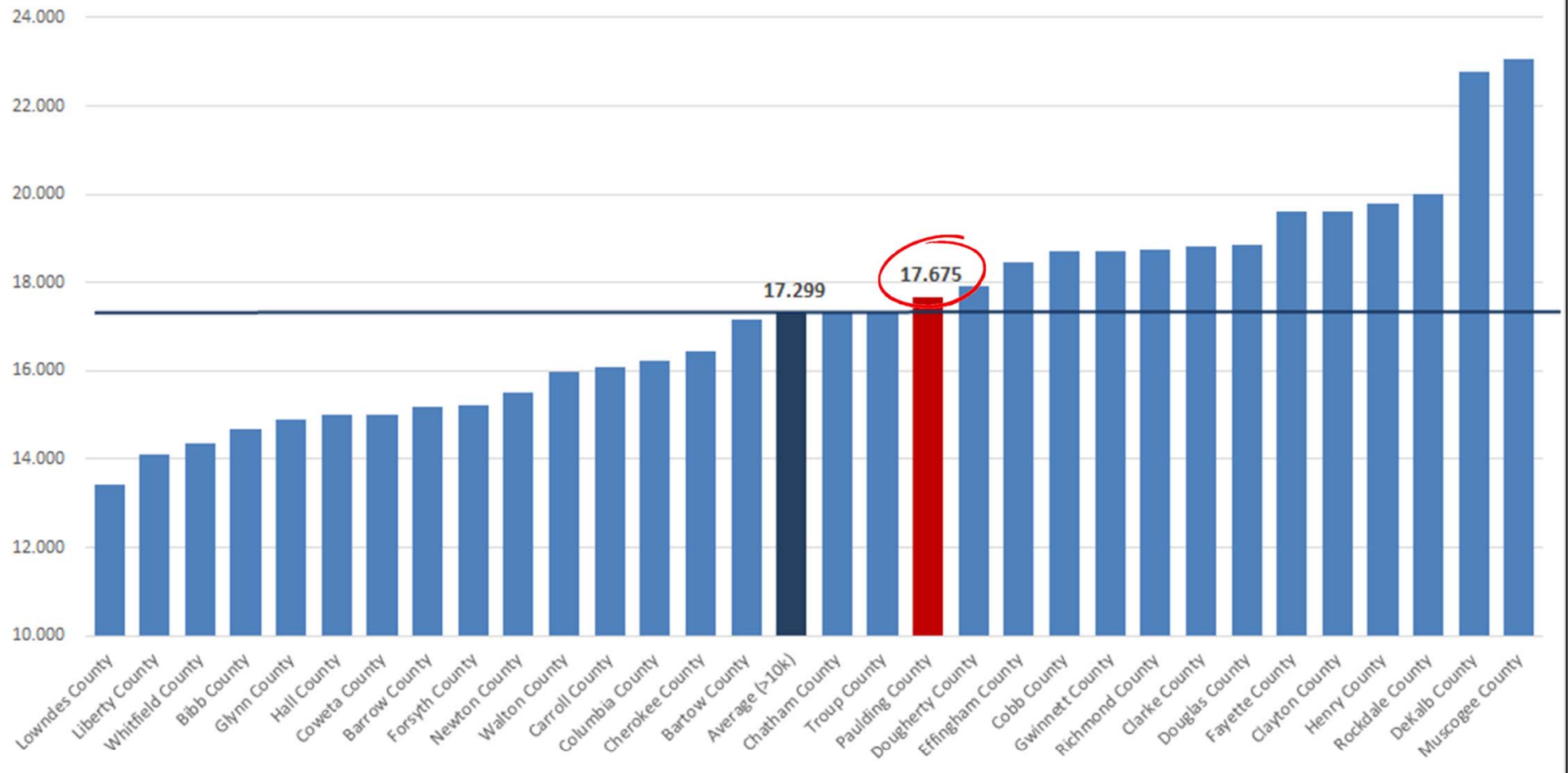
Local Revenue Metrics. In FY2025, among large district in Georgia, PCSD was well below the average local revenue per pupil.

Source: GaDOR (Consolidated Tax Digest Summaries)
 Large Districts are districts with >10,000 FTE

2025

Local Revenue: Property Tax

Millage Rate Comparison (M&O), Tax Year 2025 (>10,000 FTE)



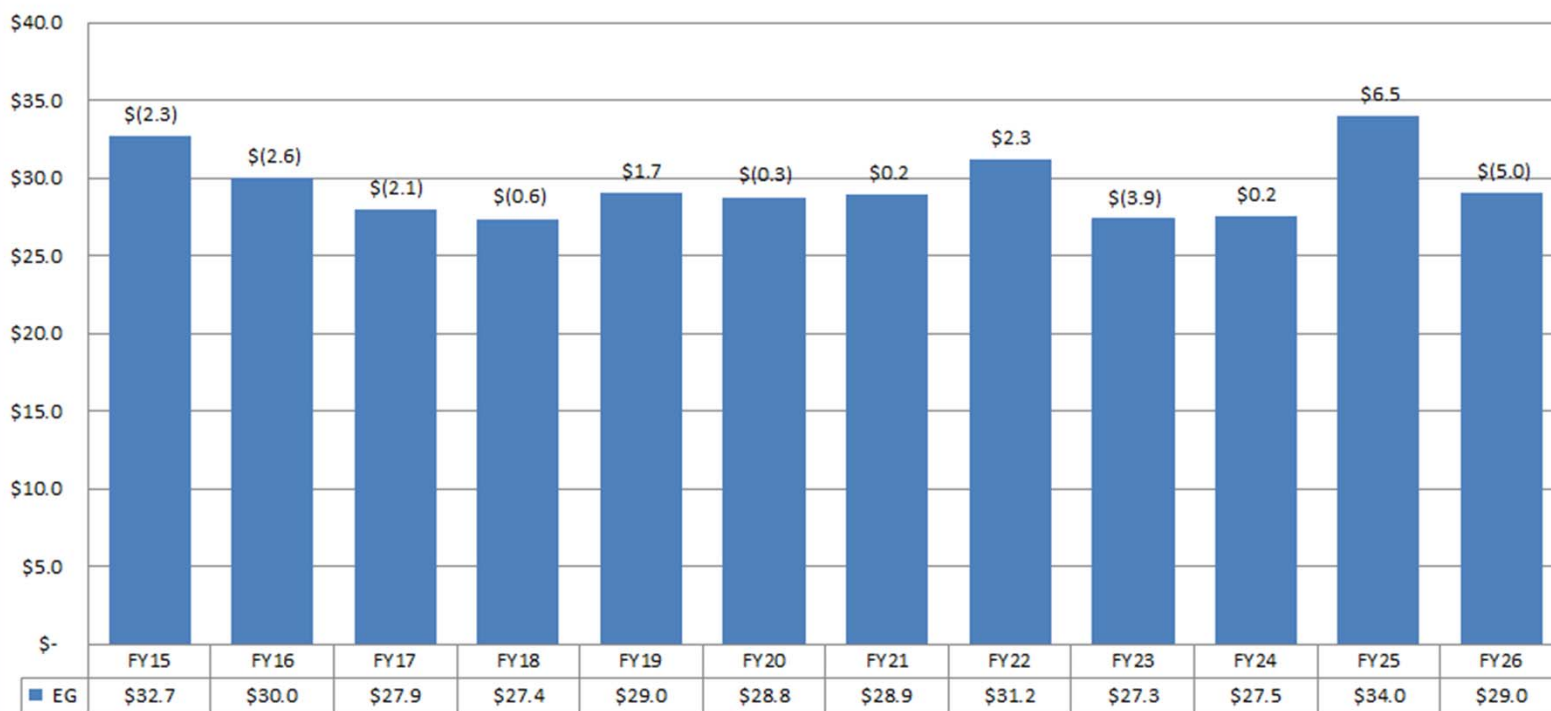
Local Revenue Metrics. Among large district in Georgia, PCSD held an average M&O Millage Rate and did not have a Bond Millage Rate.

Source: GaDOR (Consolidated Tax Digest Summaries)
Large Districts are districts with >10,000 FTE

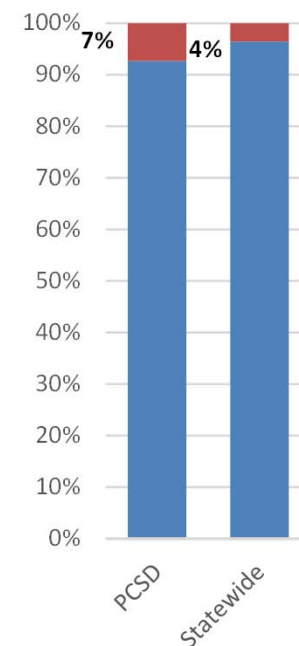
2025

Local Revenue: Property Tax

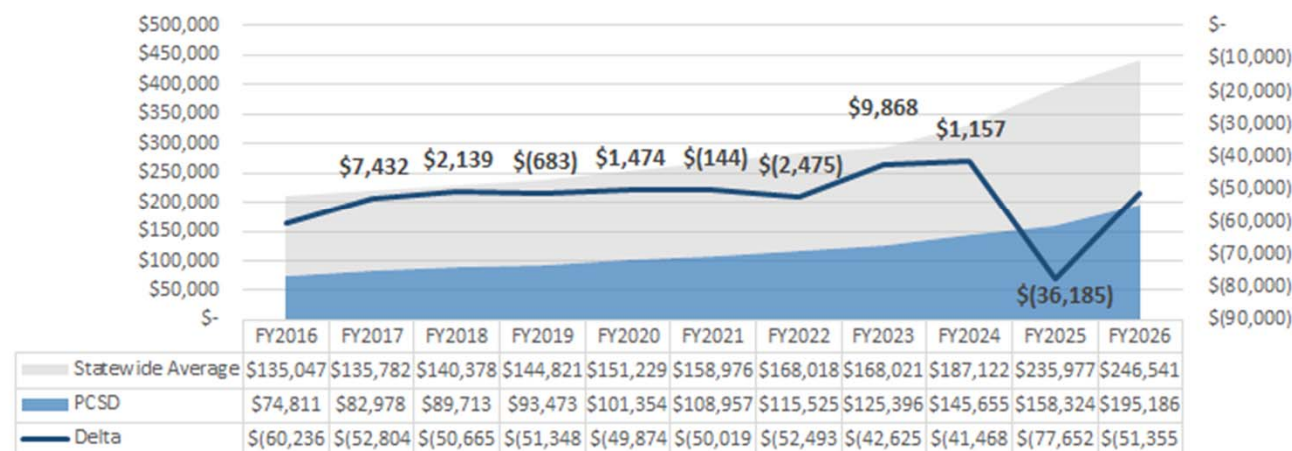
Equalization Grant, FY2015 - FY2026



FY2025 Per-Pupil EG Percentage



Historical Wealth per Weighted FTE, FY2016 - FY2026



Equalization Grant. The Equalization Grant accounts for 7% of total revenue.

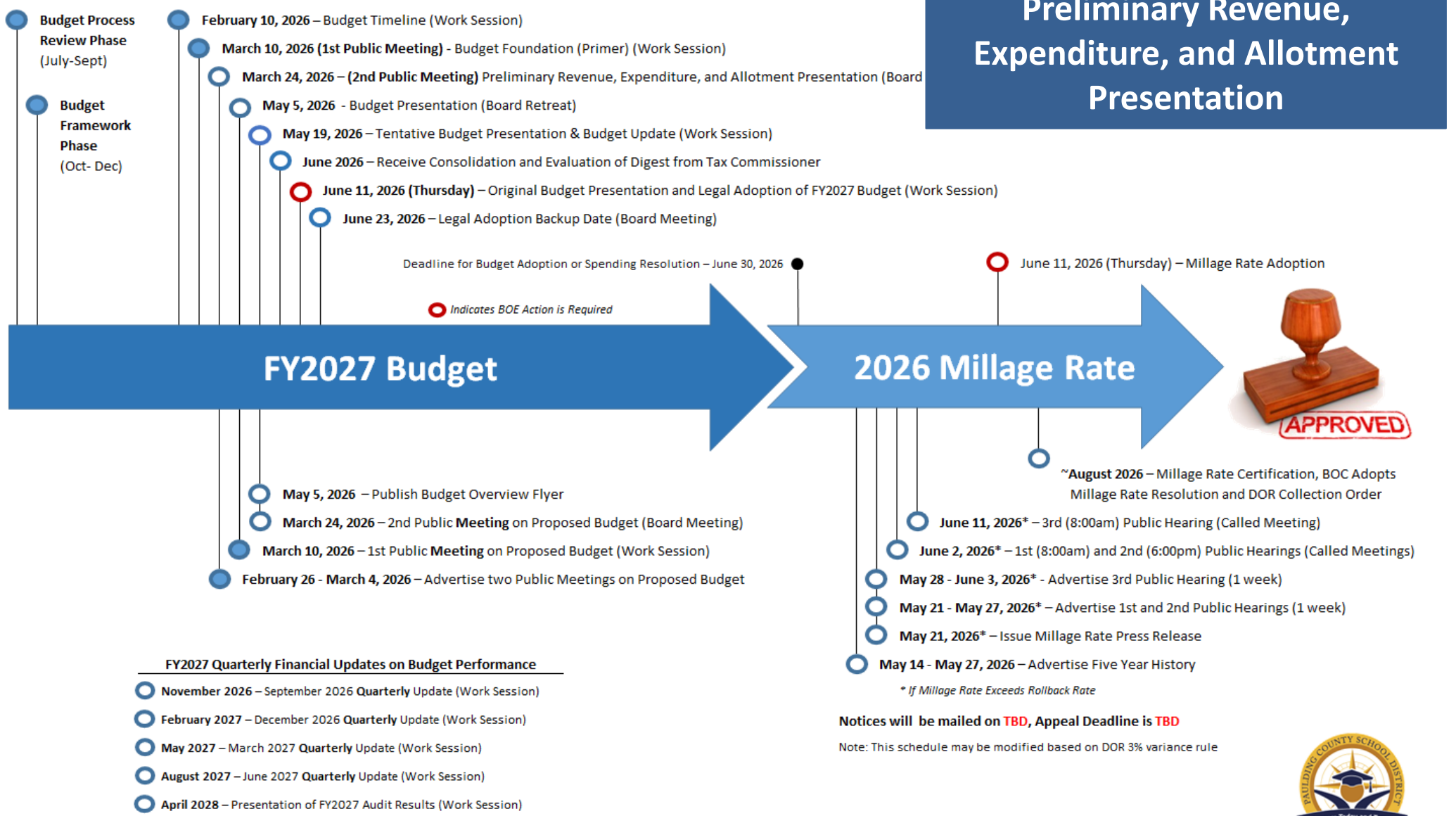
A decreasing (unfavorable) variance between PCSD and Statewide Wealth-per-Weighted FTE has result in a grant decrease and limited growth.

FY2015 – FY2026

(2) Equalization Grant

FY2027 Budget Development - Major Milestones

March 24, 2026
Preliminary Revenue,
Expenditure, and Allotment
Presentation



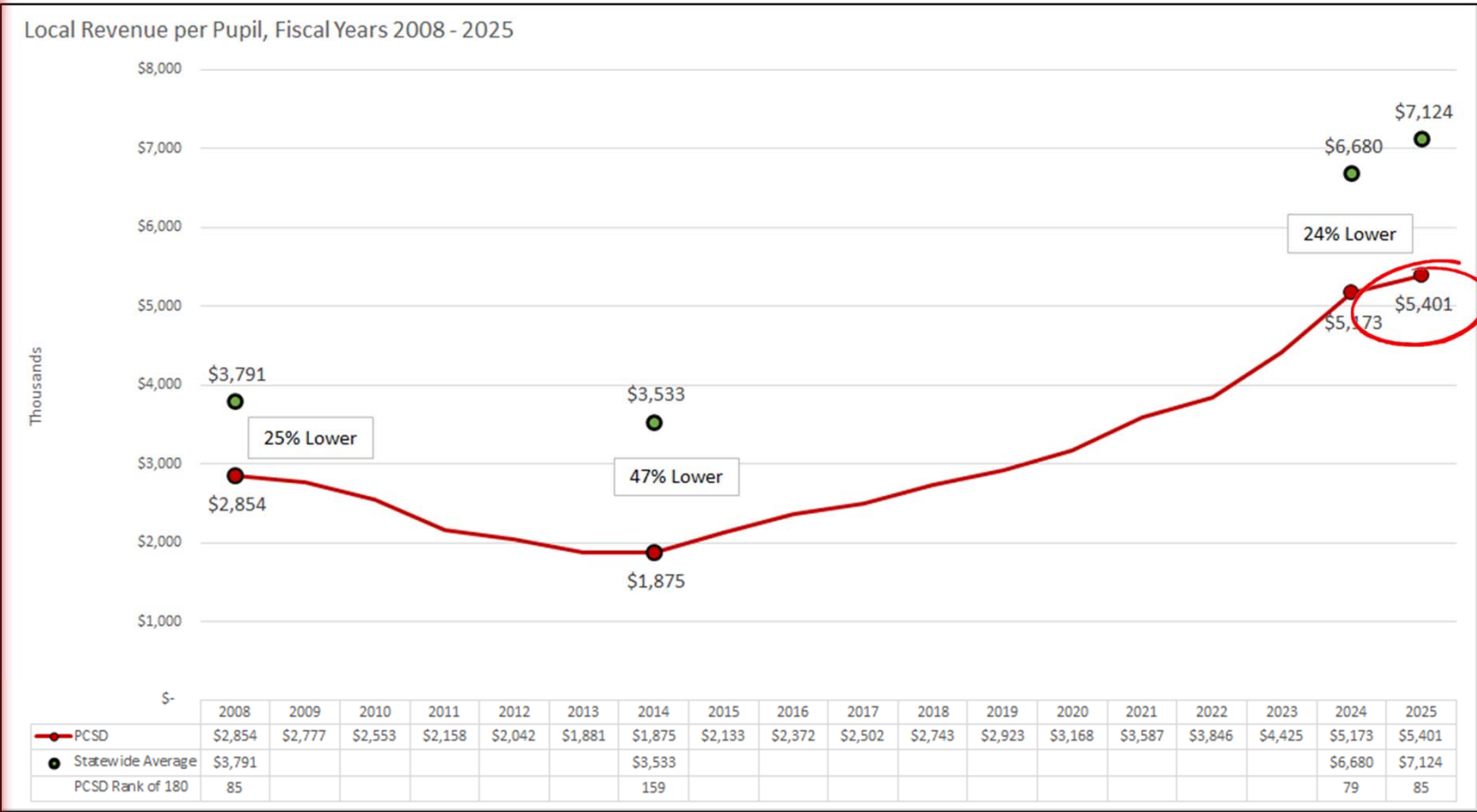
FY2027 Budget Roadmap



Engage. Inspire. Prepare.

Thank You

Local Revenue per Pupil. As of FY2025, local revenue per pupil had a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 3.8% (1.4% adjusted for inflation) since FY2008, compared to a statewide average CAGR of 3.8% (1.3% adjusted for inflation).



The District remains significantly below the statewide average for local revenue per pupil - \$1,722 or 24% below the average. With an enrollment of 30,628 students this results in a \$52.8 million funding deficit.

Source: GaDOE School System Revenue/Expenditures Report as of FY2025

FY2008 – FY2025



Local and Total Revenue.

PCSD currently collects \$0.93 for every \$1.00 in total revenue per student statewide (average) and \$0.76 for every \$1.00 in local revenue per student statewide (average).

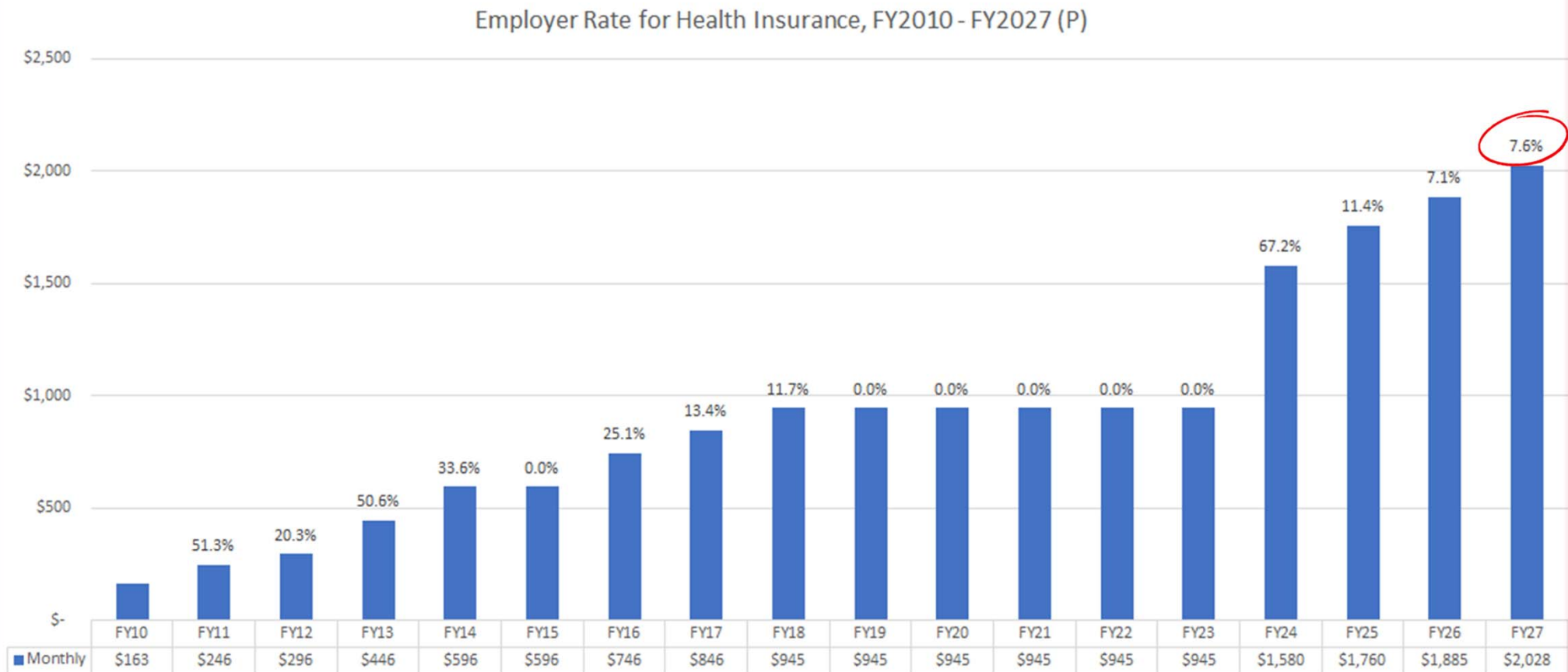


SPLOST Collections. PCSD currently collects only \$0.56 for every \$1.00 collected on average by our neighboring school districts, including Cherokee, Cobb, Bartow, and Douglas Counties.

Source: GaDOE School System Revenue/Expenditures Report as of FY2025 and Georgia Department of Revenue Sales Tax Collections June 2024 – July 2025

2024-2025

Health Insurance. In FY2027, the employer cost for the State Health Benefit Plan is expected to increase by 7.6% to \$2,028 per month for certified and classified employees. Health insurance costs have nearly tripled over the past four years, with state funding increasing only 19%.



FY2010 – FY2027(P)



Engage. Inspire. Prepare.

Appendix

Organizational Factors Influencing Decisions: Demographic and Economic Factors

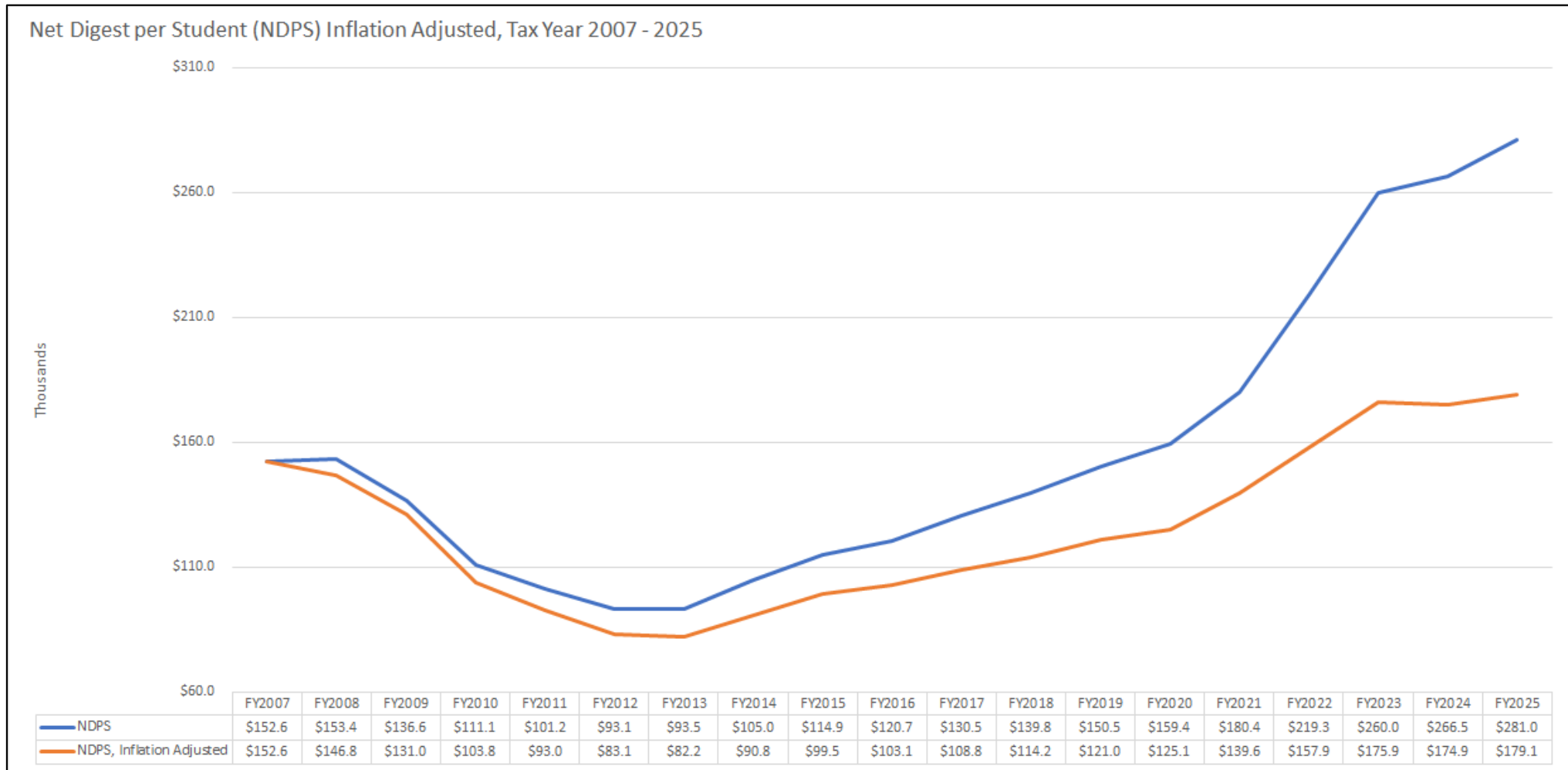
Highlights:

- Largest employer and industry in county
- Relatively low poverty percentage and unemployment rate
- Most workers employed outside the county
- Limited commercial or industrial businesses, by land use and tax digest
- Tax digest is disproportionally residential properties.
- One of the fastest growing counties, with a significant number of school-age children
- Recent decline in building permits and residential sales
- Average residential home sale price in Paulding County is approximately \$381,000



Engage. Inspire. Prepare.

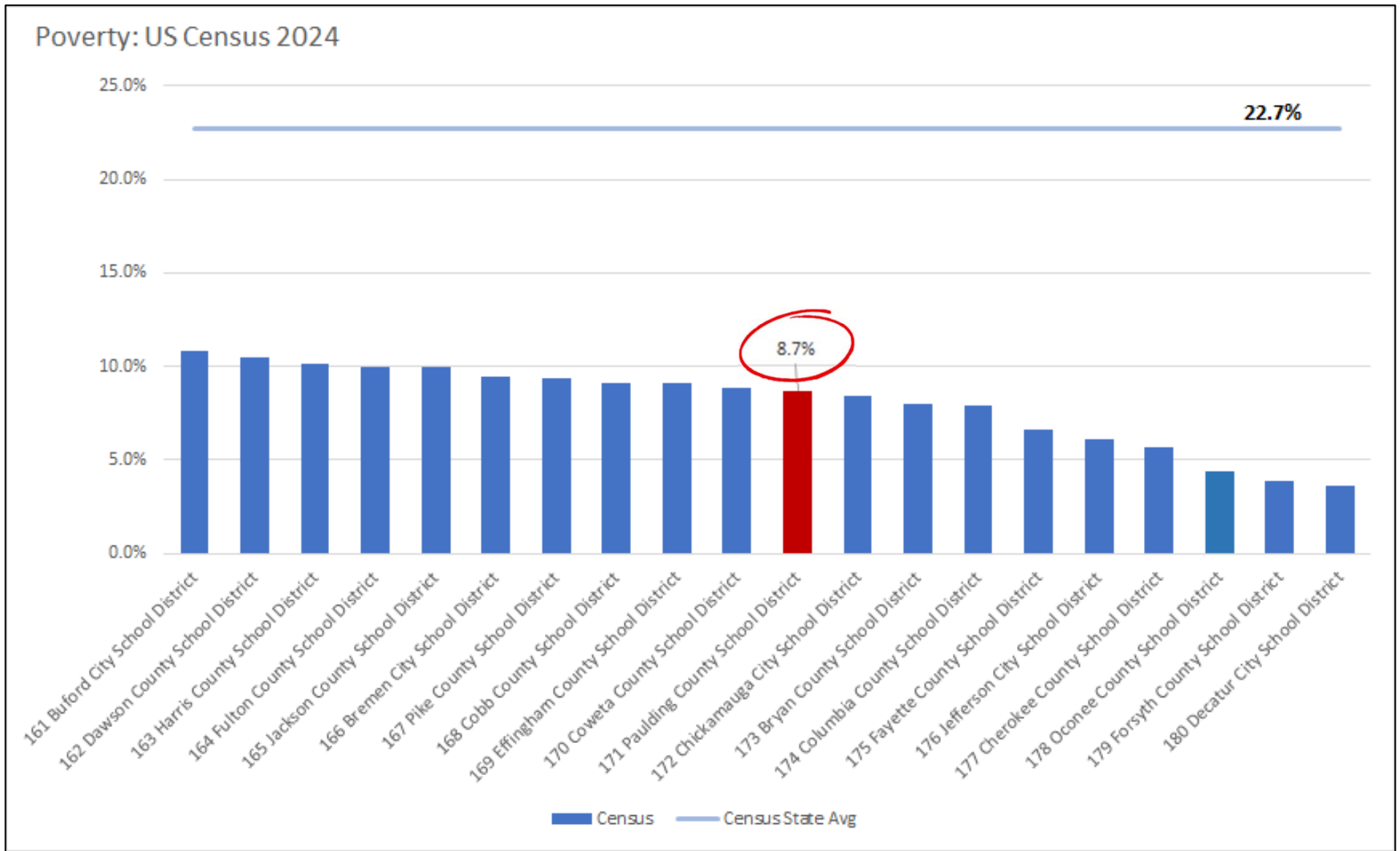
Net Digest per Student. As of FY2025, Net Digest per Student (NDPS) had a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 3.0% (0.8% adjusted for inflation) since FY2007. Net Digest per Student (NDPS) had increased 17.4% from FY2007, inflation adjusted.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, CPI Calculator (measured in January, annually) and Georgia Department of Revenue, Consolidated Tax Digest Summary

FY2007 – FY2025

Tax Digest and the Great Recession

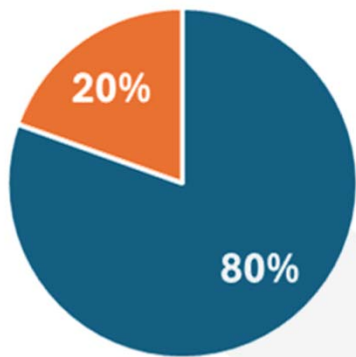


Poverty Metrics. As of 2024, the most recent reporting period, with an 8.7% poverty percentage, the US Census ranked PCSD 171 (out of 180, 22.7% average).

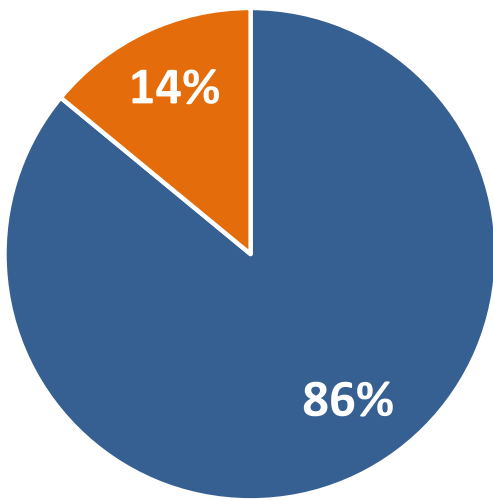
2024

Poverty Level

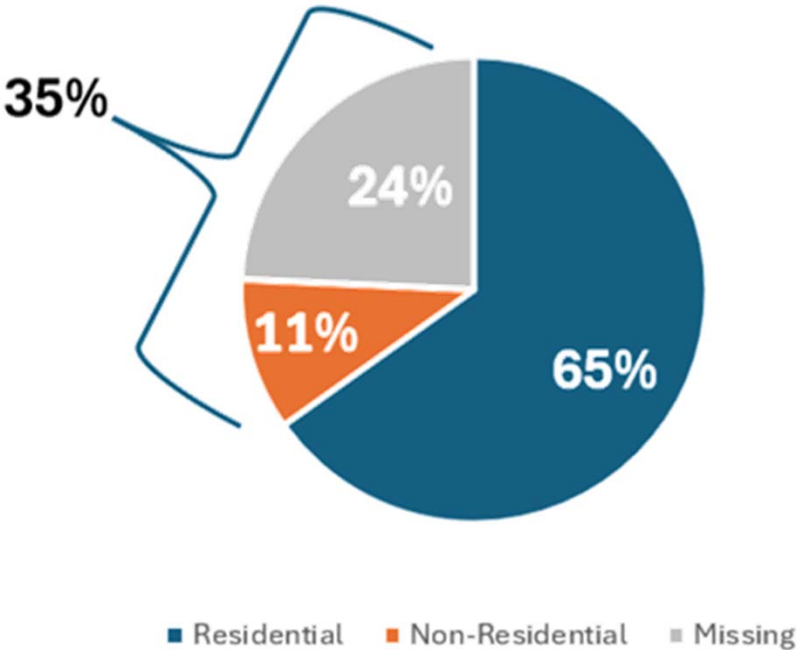
PCSD FY2019 Digest Breakdown



PCSD FY2025 Digest Breakdown



■ % Residential per FTE ■ % Non-Residential per FTE



Residential Digest Percentage. Since FY2019, the percentage of the digest classified as residential has increased from 80% to 86%. Bringing the digest in line with the average residential value percentage (35%) would require an additional 24% in value, or approximately \$3.5 billion.

2025

Non-Residential Digest Percentage

Organizational Factors Influencing Decisions: Enrollment Factors

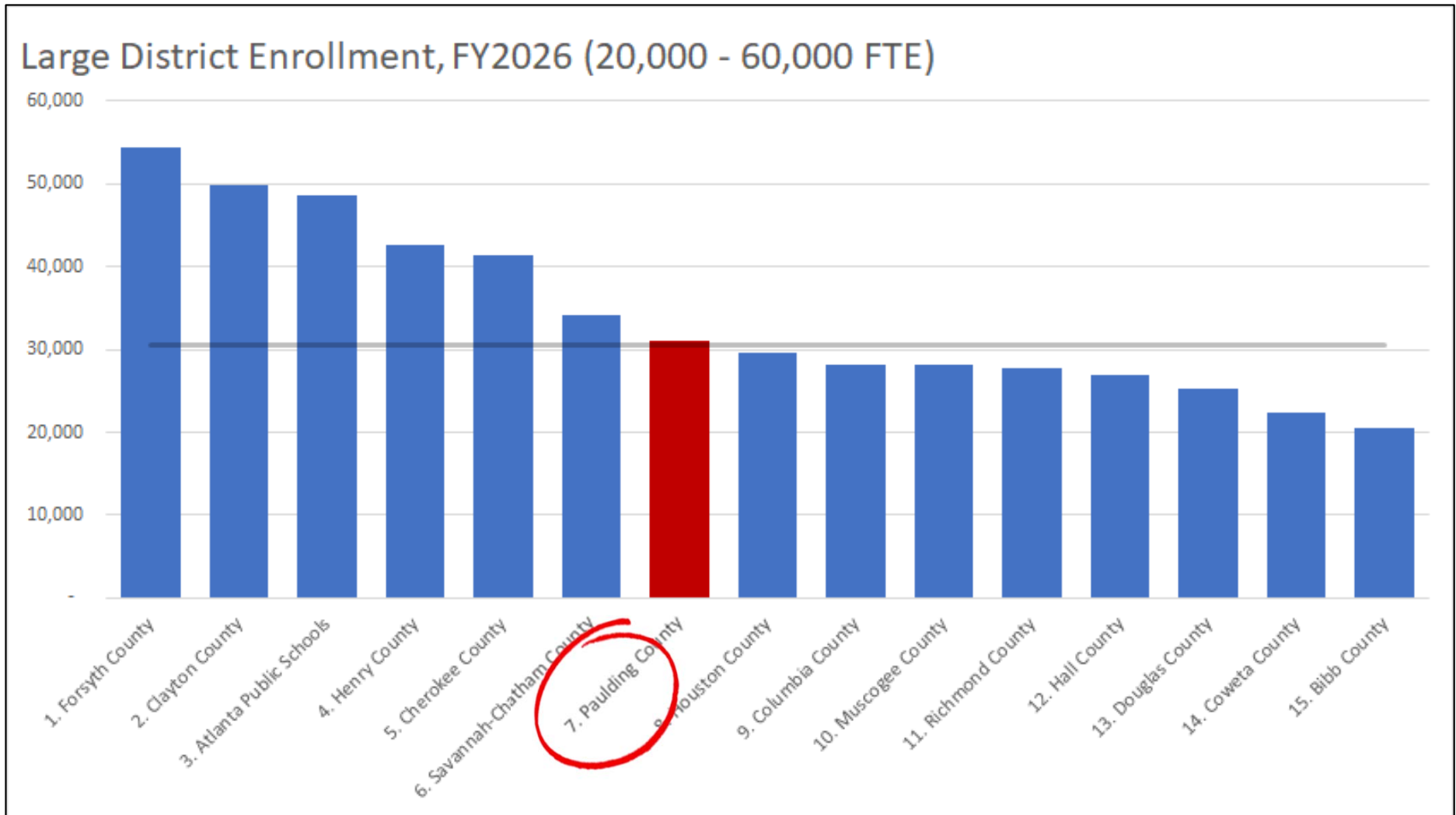
Highlights:

- Projections currently reflect an increase of 32 students to 30,628
- Ranked as the 11th largest district in the state of Georgia
- 15th fastest growing large districts in Georgia
- Over the prior 10-years the district has grown 2,130 or 7.5%
- 16.6% of students are enrolled in an ESEP program



Engage. Inspire. Prepare.

20,000 to 60,000 Comp Enrollment. As of October 2025, PCSD was the 7th largest school district in Georgia (out of districts with 20,000 to 60,000 enrollment).



Source: GaDOE (Student Enrollment by Grade)

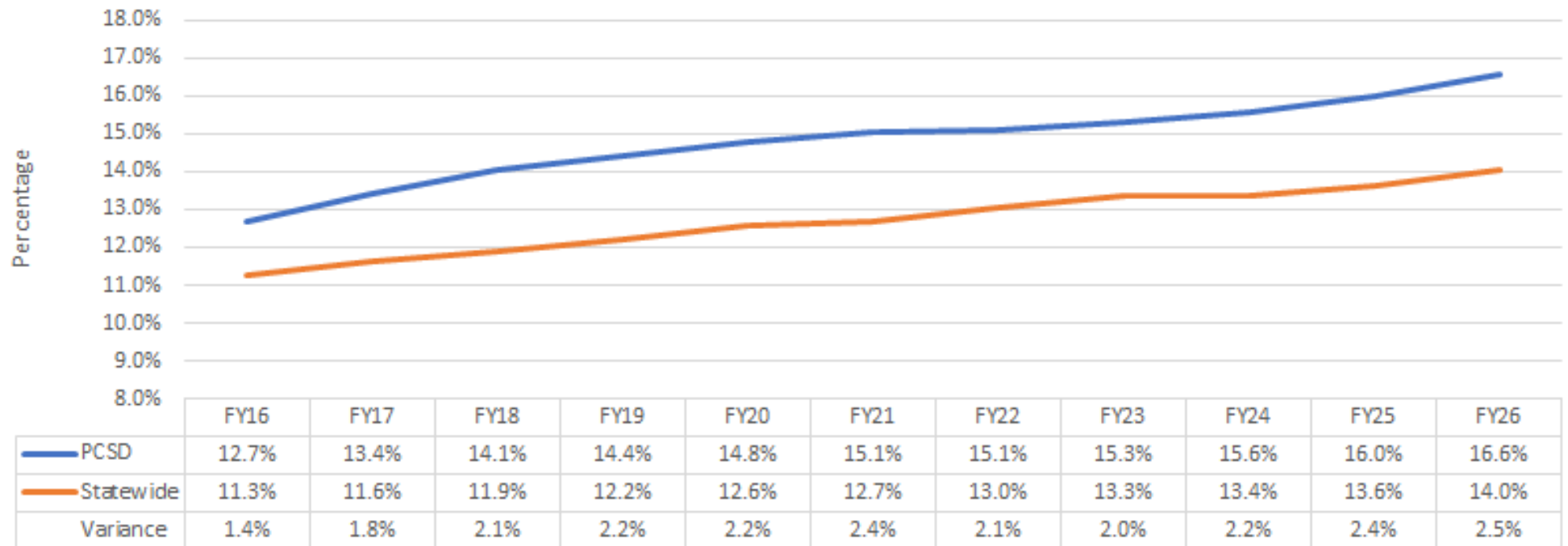
FY2026

Enrollment Growth

ESEP Participation. In FY2026, enrollment in Exceptional Students Educational Programs (ESEP) was 16.6% of the student population, compared to a statewide and large district average of 14.0% and 14.0%, respectively.

From FY2016 to FY2026, the district, statewide and large district participation percentage increased 3.9%, 2.8% and 2.7%, respectively.

ESEP Percentage of Total FTE, FY2016 - FY2026



Source: GaDOE Enrollment by Disability and Student Enrollment by Grade as of FY2026 (includes PK)
 Large Districts are districts with >10,000 FTE

FY2016- FY2026

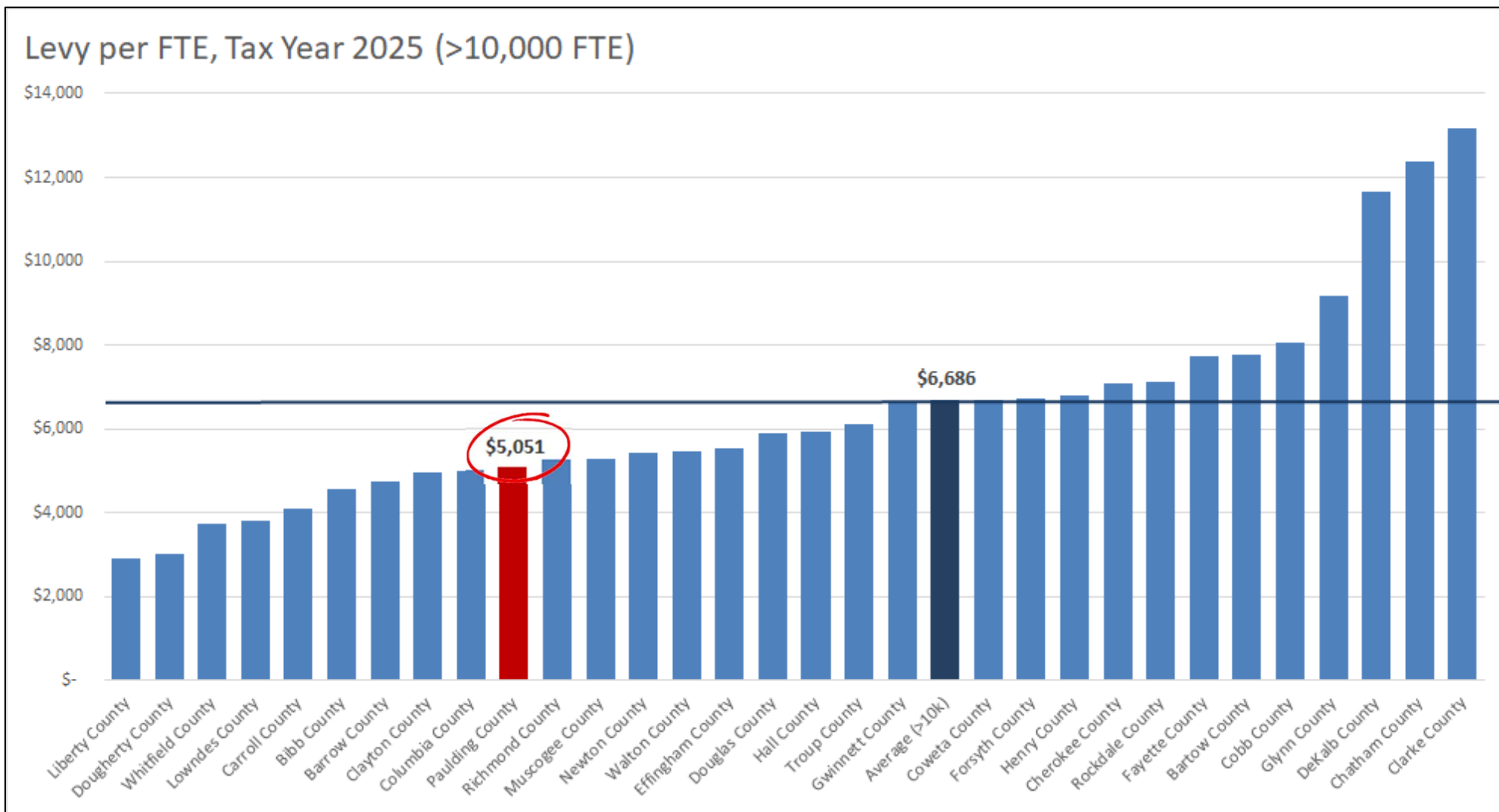
ESEP Participation

Organizational Factors Influencing Decisions: Funding Factors

Highlights:

- 59% of revenue comes from state sources, compared to a statewide average of 48%
- Revenue from local sources has increased from 33% to 37% since FY2021
- Local revenue per-pupil rank is 10th out of 15 comparable districts
- State revenue per-pupil rank is 2nd out of 15 comparable districts
- District is well below the average local revenue per pupil
- Held an average M&O Millage Rate and did not have a Bond Millage Rate
- 5th largest recipient of the Equalization Grant, 7% of total revenue





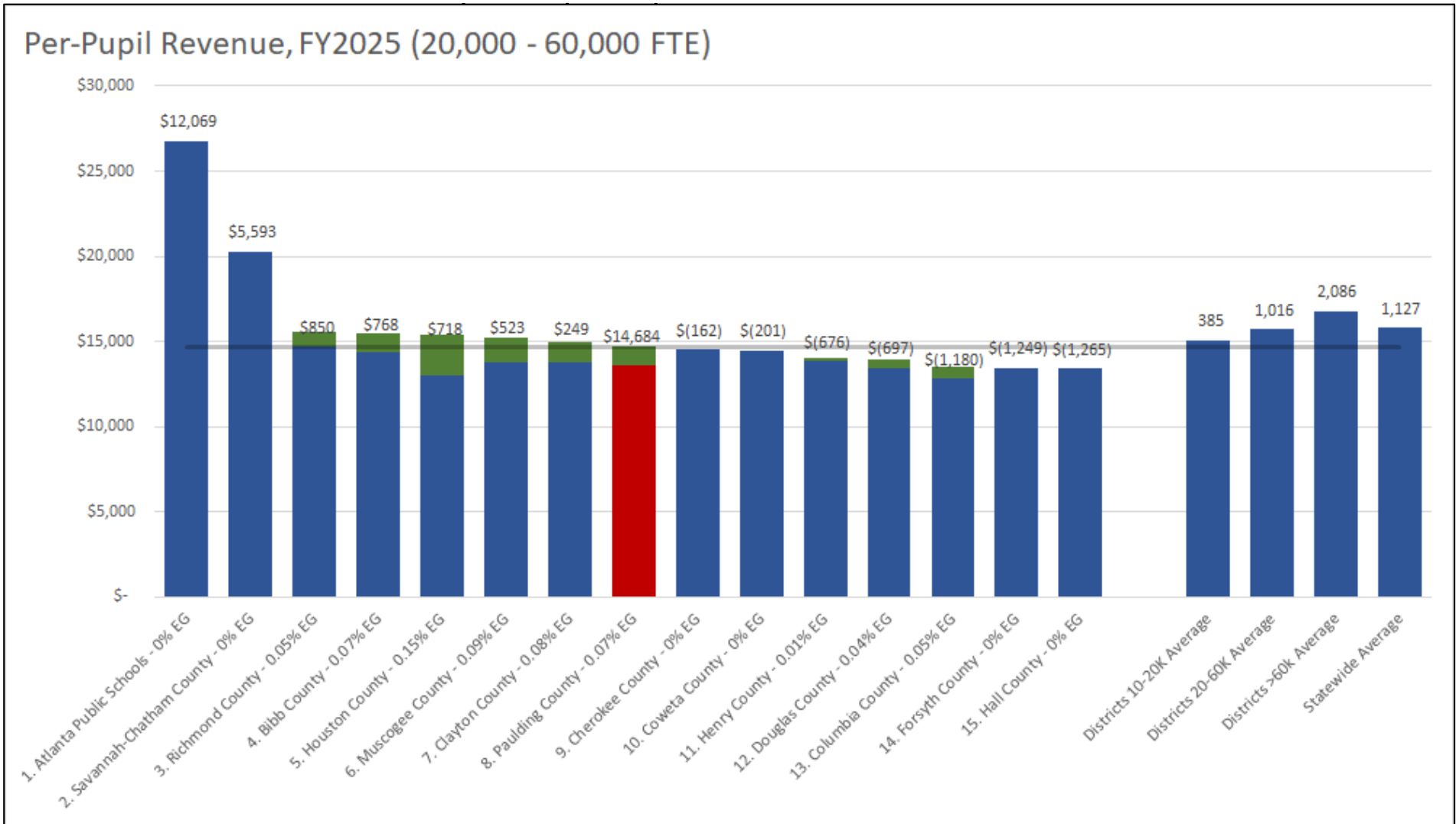
Local Revenue Metrics. Among large district, PCSD ranked lowest in non-residential digest percentage, had an average millage rate, and ranked 10th lowest in levy per FTE.

Source: GaDOR (Consolidated Tax Digest Summaries)
Large Districts are districts with >10,000 FTE

2025

Local Revenue: Property Tax

Total Per-Pupil Revenue. As of FY2025, total per-pupil revenue was \$14,684. Lower than any comparable group, including the statewide average, which was \$1,127 more per-pupil. Approximately, \$1,077 or 7.0% was funded through the Equalization Grant (green).

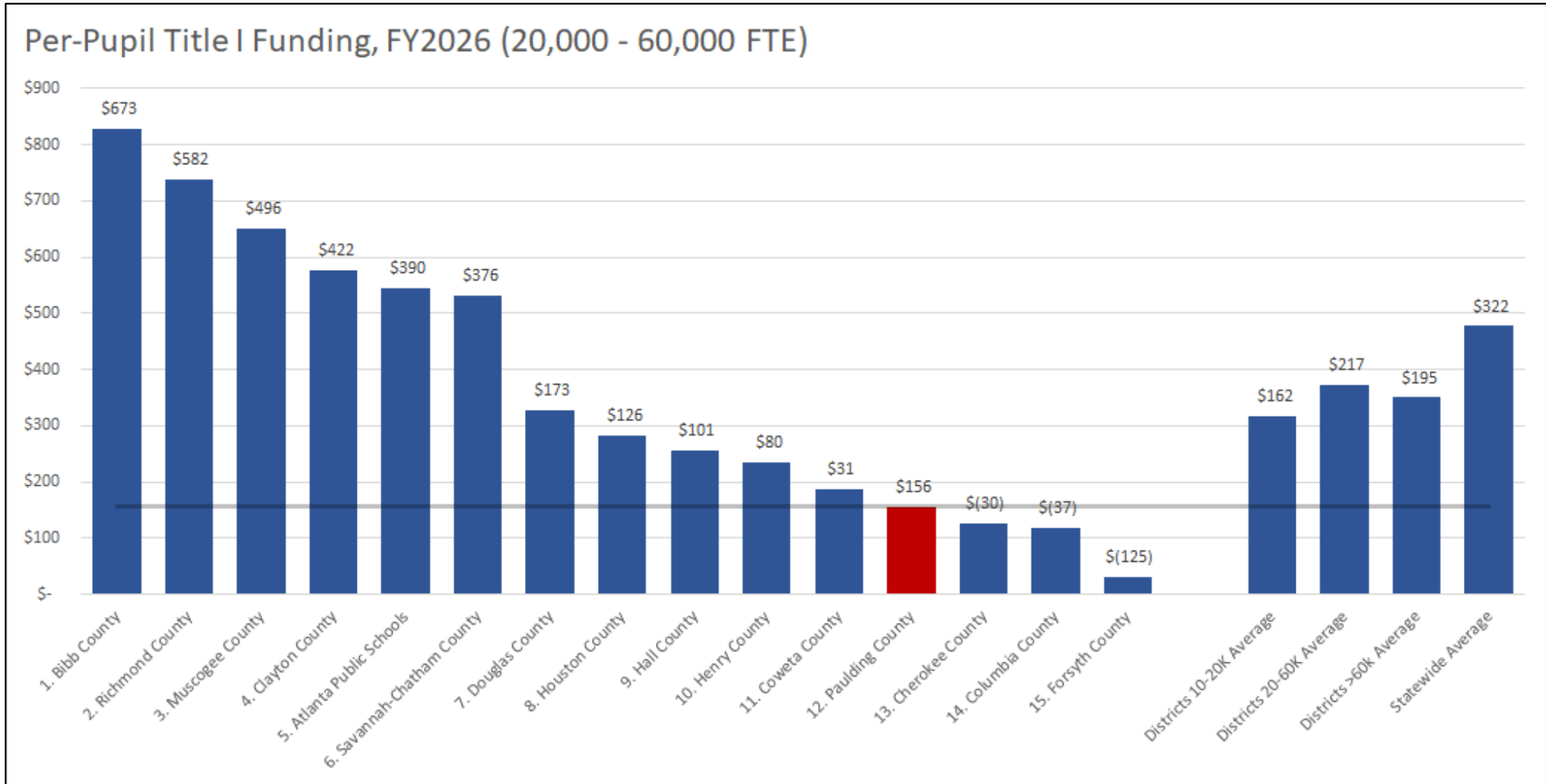


Source: GaDOE School System Revenue/Expenditures Report as of FY2025

FY2025

Per-Pupil Revenue: All Sources

Per-Pupil Title I. As of FY2026 and based on overall enrollment, per-pupil Title I funding was \$156. This is lower than any comparable group, including the statewide average, which was \$322 more per-pupil. Variances to PCSD appear above the columns.



Source: GaDOE, Title I Awards

FY2026

Per-Pupil Federal Title I Funding