
Public School Enrollment Trends 2011-2016

Population Key Takeaways

Population Changes

- The District added more than 100,000 people since 2000, driven mostly by an increase in adults.
- The number of children substantially increased in the past five years surpassing the number of children in 1990.
- Between 2010 and 2015, infants and toddlers under age 5 increased by almost 10,000 children.
- The number of 15-17 year olds has been declining since 1990.

Public School Enrollment Key Takeaways

Public School Student Enrollment Changes

- Total enrollment started to increase in 2008 after decades of decline, driven by enrollment in public charters and also in DCPS in recent years.
 - Enrollment in early childhood and elementary grades increased more than middle and high school grades, and these increases occurred in almost all wards.
 - Enrollments in adult and alternative schools also increased substantially in the public charter sector.
- Public school students living in Ward 3 had the greatest percent change increases between 2013 and 2016 in the early childhood, middle school, and high school grades.

Education Sector Key Takeaways

Sector Changes

- In SY2016-17, 54% of all public school students are enrolled at DCPS and 46% at a public charter school.
 - DCPS captures a greater share of high school students (62%) and elementary students (59%).
 - Public charters enroll a greater share of early childhood (53%), middle school students (52%), and adult/alternative students (78%).

Demographic Key Takeaways

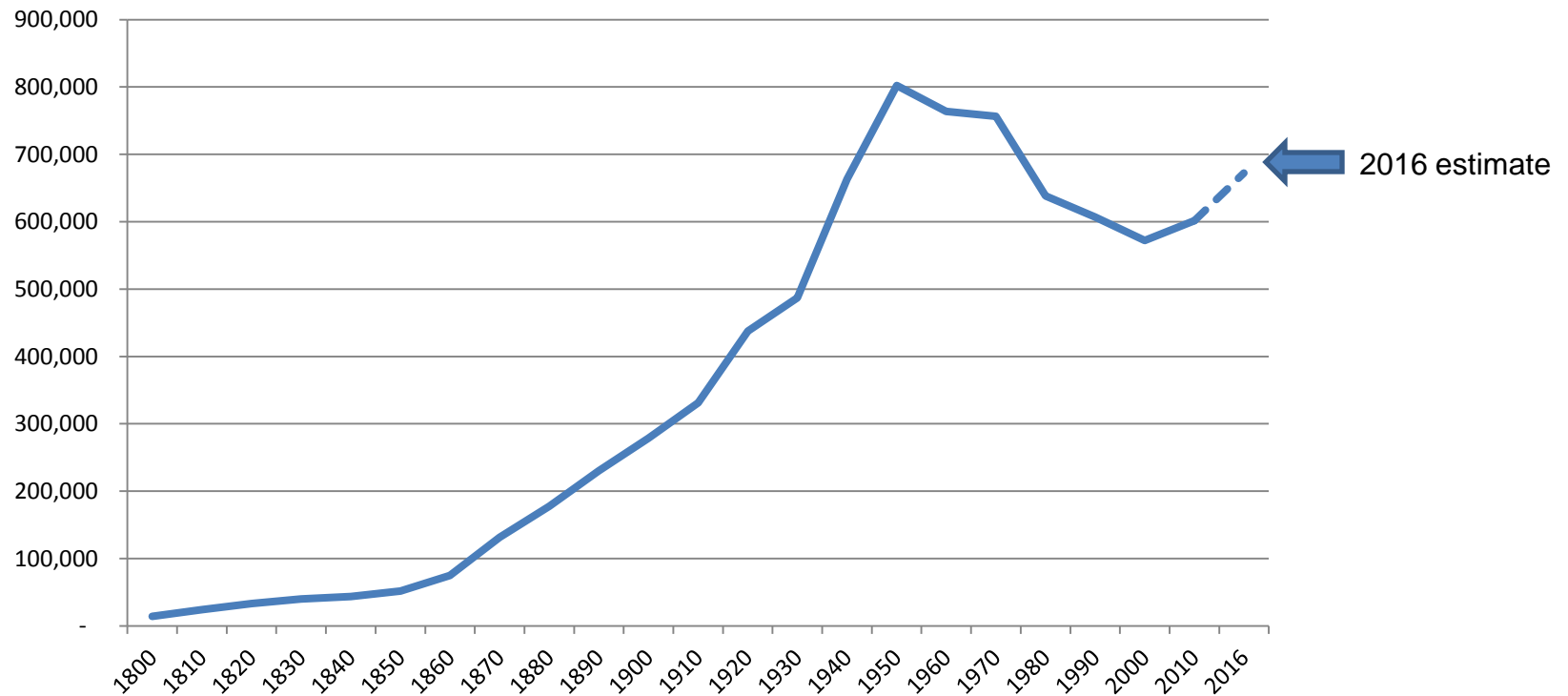
Public Education Demographic Changes from 2013 to 2016

- The PK3-12th grade student population is becoming more diverse.
- The increase in the number of African American students occurred East of the River, primarily in elementary grades.
- The number of Hispanic students increased mostly in Wards 4 and 5, in elementary and high school grades.
- The number of white students increased in smaller numbers, in lower grades, and in all wards west of the Anacostia River.

POPULATION TRENDS

Total Population Trends

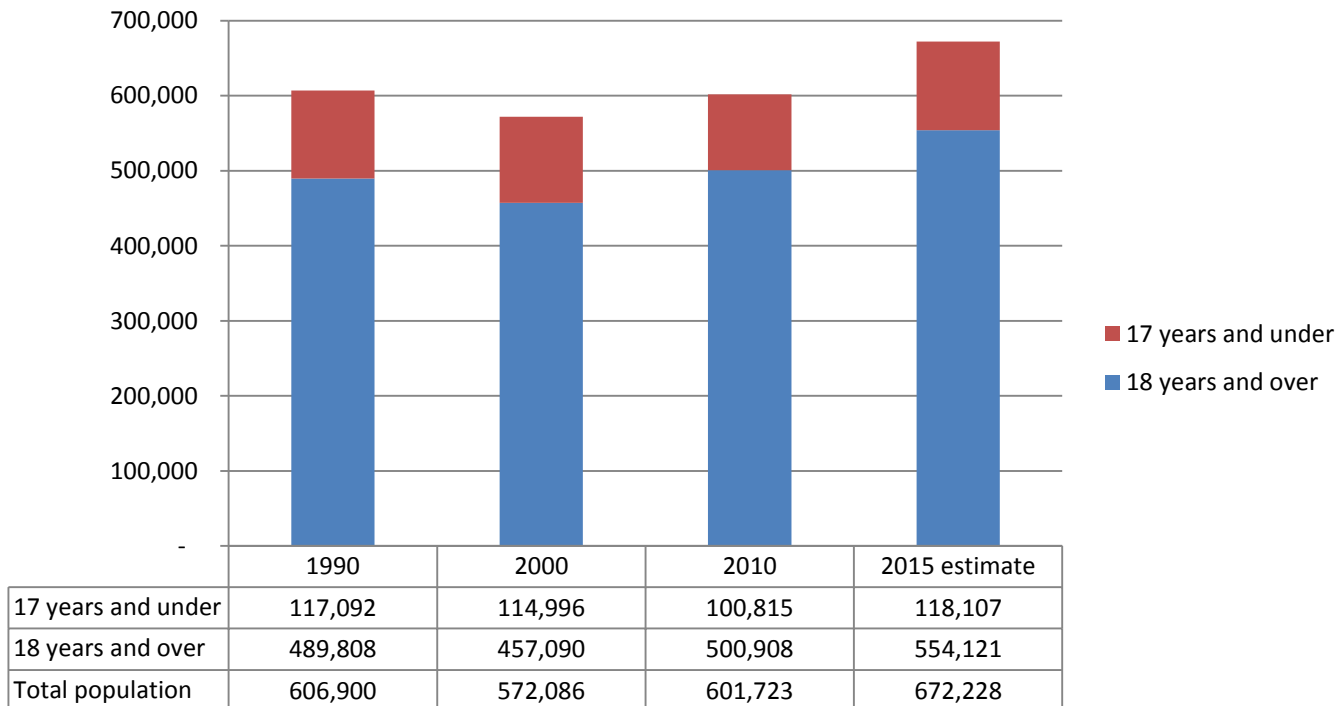
The District's population peaked in 1940. Between 2000 and 2016, the District added more than 100,000 people.



Source: US Census Bureau 1880-2010 (compiled by the Urban Institute) and 2016 Population Estimates

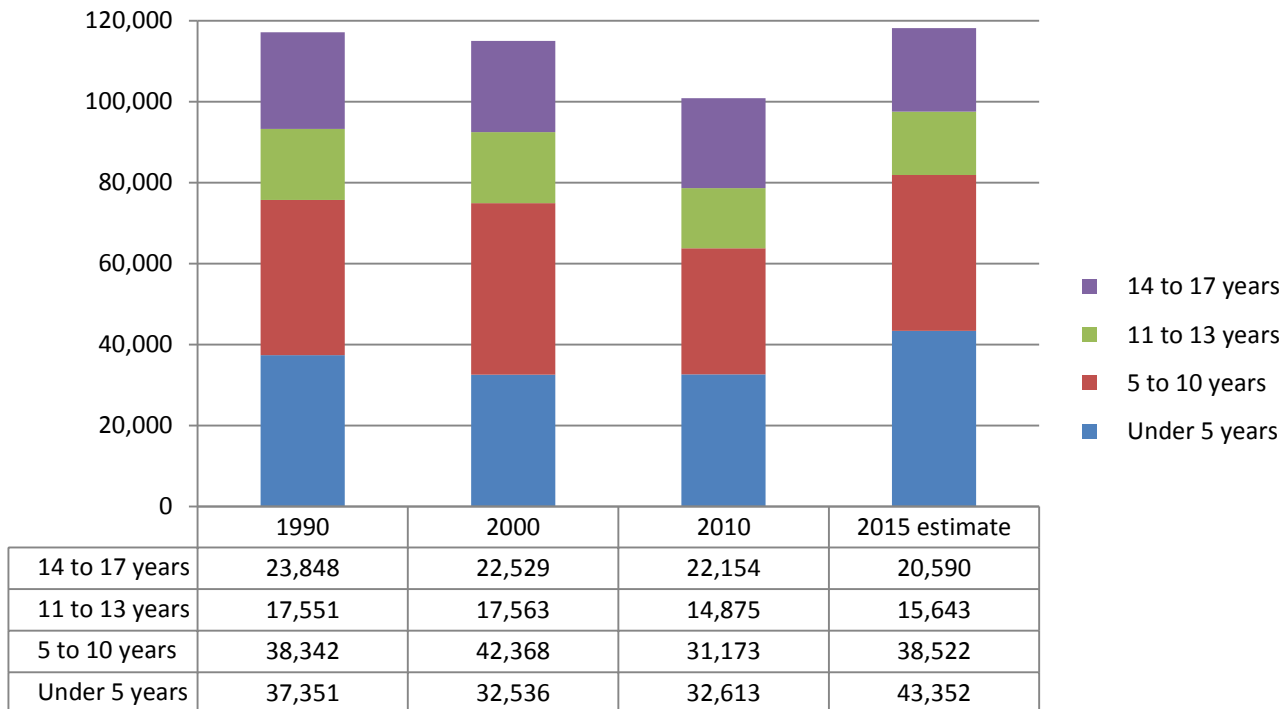
Adult and Youth Population Trends

- Since 2000, the adult population (age 18 and older) has steadily increased.
- The child population as a whole (ages 17 and younger) did not start increasing until after 2010.
 - The child population increased by 17.2% between 2010 and the 2015 estimate.



Youth Population Trends by Age Groups

- The number of children started increasing after 2010. Between 2010 and 2015, the District's youngest children (under age 5) increased by more than 10,000 children.
- 14-17 year olds have steadily decreased since 1990.
- The number of elementary age children (5-10 years old) has fluctuated from decade to decade.

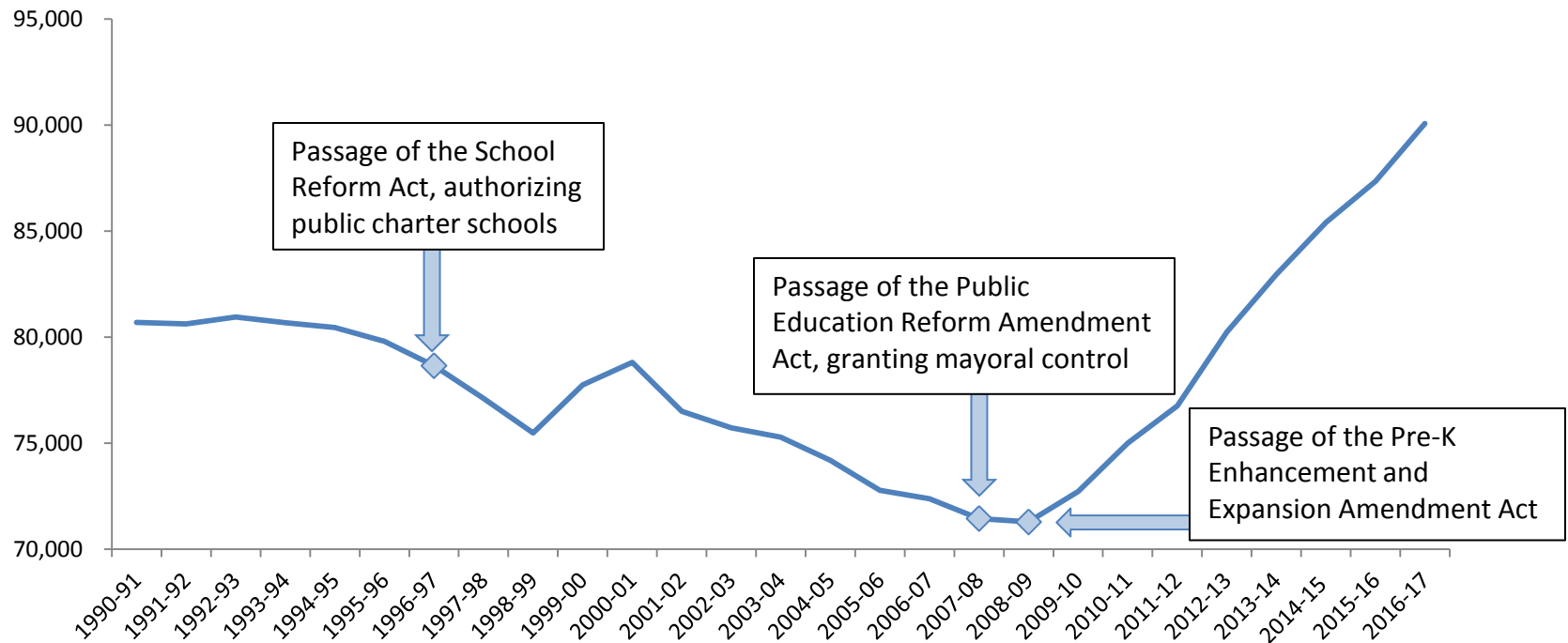


PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT TRENDS

Total Public School Enrollment Trends

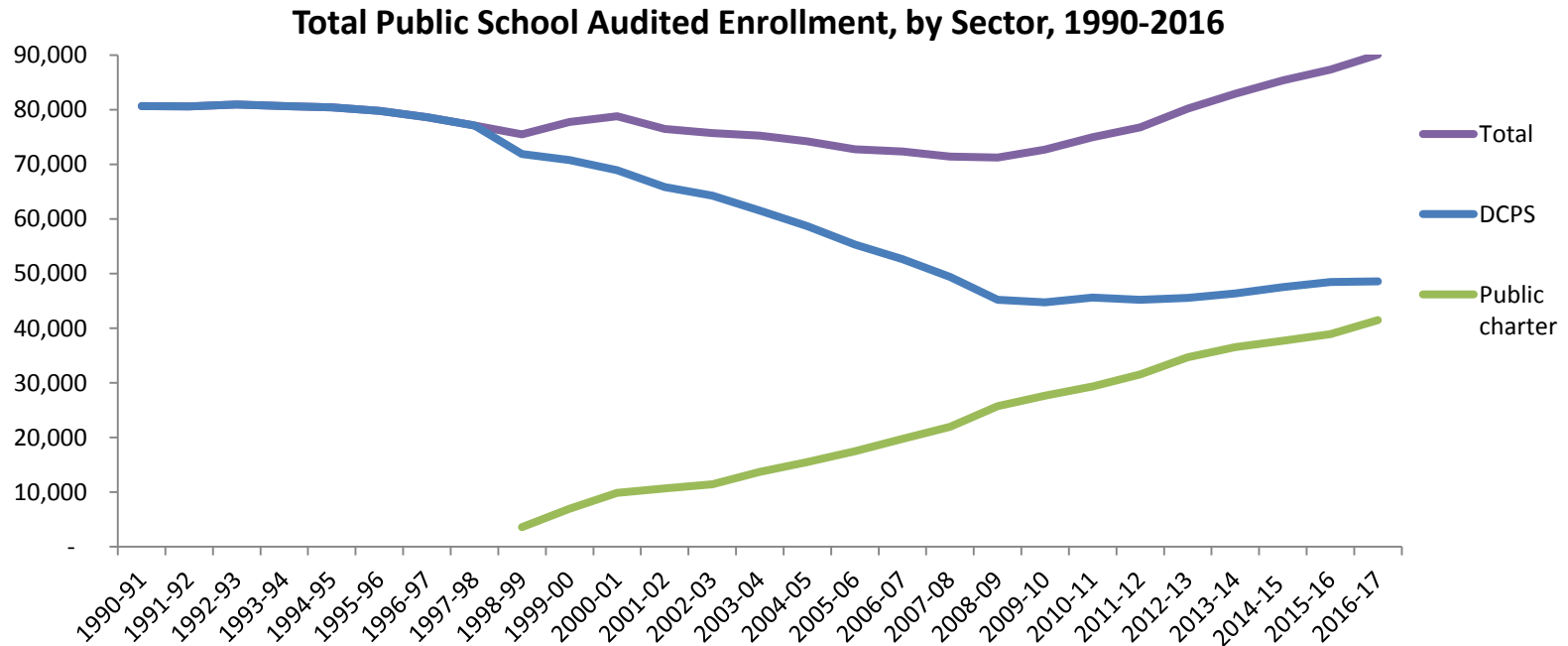
Public school enrollment (DCPS and PCS) began increasing annually starting in 2009. Between 2008 and 2016, public school enrollment increased by 26%.

Total Public School Audited Enrollment, 1990-2016



Total Public School Enrollment Trends, cont'd

- Public charter school enrollment has steadily increased since the School Reform Act authorizing charters was passed in 1997.
- DCPS enrollment started increasing after 2008.
- As of SY2016-17, DCPS enrolled 54% of students and public charters enrolled 46%.



Total Public School Enrollment Trends, cont'd

Over the last 6 years for all public school students (including adult*, alternative*, and special education schools*):

- Public charters grew by 9,944 students (a 32% increase) between 2011 and 2016.
- DCPS increased by 3,364 students (a 7% increase) between 2011 and 2016.

All Grades	2011	2016	# Change	% Change
Charter	31,562	41,506	9,944	32%
DCPS	45,191	48,555	3,364	7%

For just PK3-12th* grade students:

- Public charters grew by 8,126 students (a 28% increase) between 2011 and 2016.
- DCPS increased by 3,874 students (a 9% increase) between 2011 and 2016.

PK3-12th	2011	2016	# Change	% Change
Charter	28,807	36,933	8,126	28%
DCPS	43,323	47,197	3,874	9%

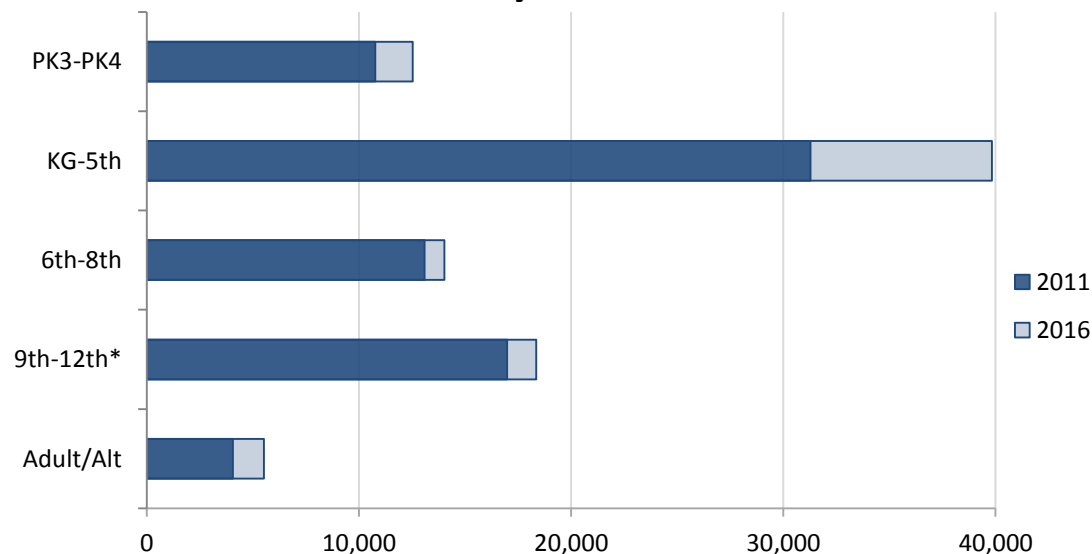
***Note:** the alternative high-school degree granting schools are included in this category.

*See appendix 4 for definitions of these schools.

Public School Enrollment By Grade Band, 2011-2016

- Total citywide growth in enrollment between 2011 and 2016 was greatest in the elementary (KG-5th) and early childhood grades (PK3 and PK4).
- There was also substantial growth in adult and alternative schools (a 36% increase).
- Middle and high school enrollments had slower growth between 2011-2016, with 7% growth in middle school and 5% growth in high school.

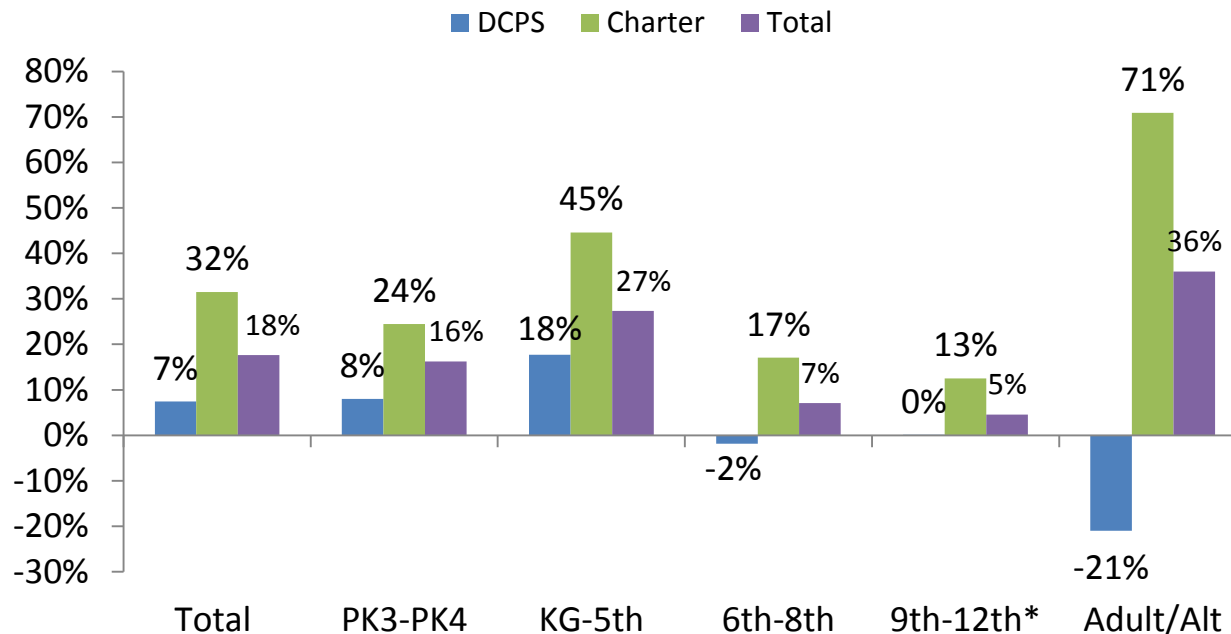
**Public School Student Growth from 2011 to
2016, by Grade Band**



Sector Differences in Enrollment Change, 2011-2016

- Charter growth occurred across all grade bands but particularly in early childhood, elementary, and adult/alternative
- DCPS enrollment increased the most at the KG-5th grade levels and early childhood.

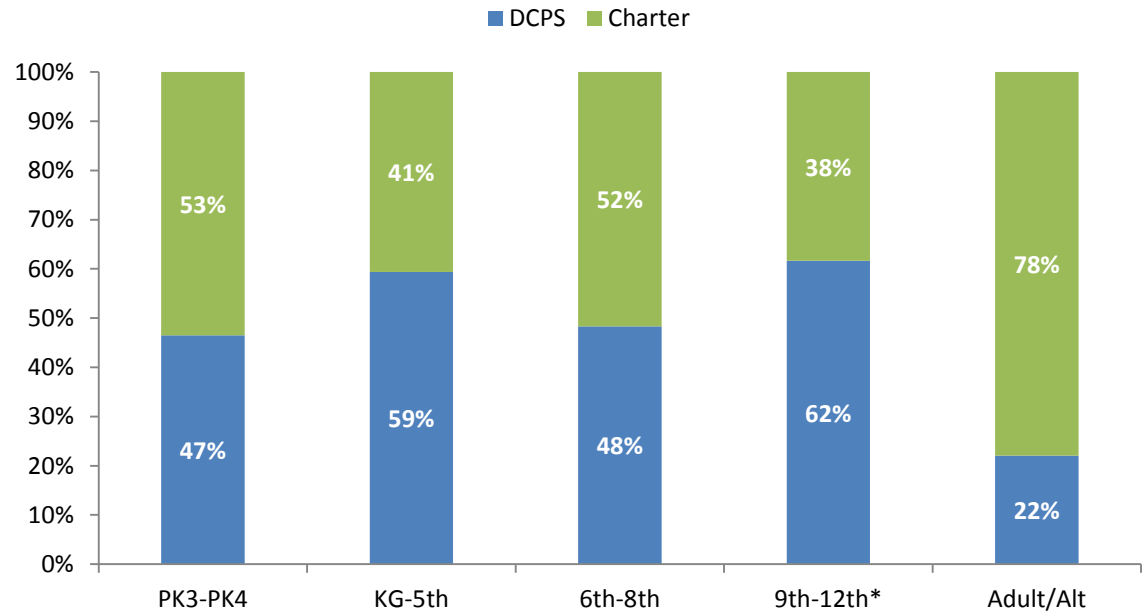
**Enrollment Change 2011-2016
By Sector and Grade Band**



Share of Enrollment by Sector and Grade Band, 2011-2016

- DCPS captures a greater share of high school (62%) and elementary students (59%) compared to the DCPS sector average (54%).
- Public charters enroll a greater share of PK3 and PK4 (53%), middle school (52%), and adult/alternative students (78%) compared to the sector average (46%).

Share of Enrollment in SY2016-17,
by Sector and Grade Band



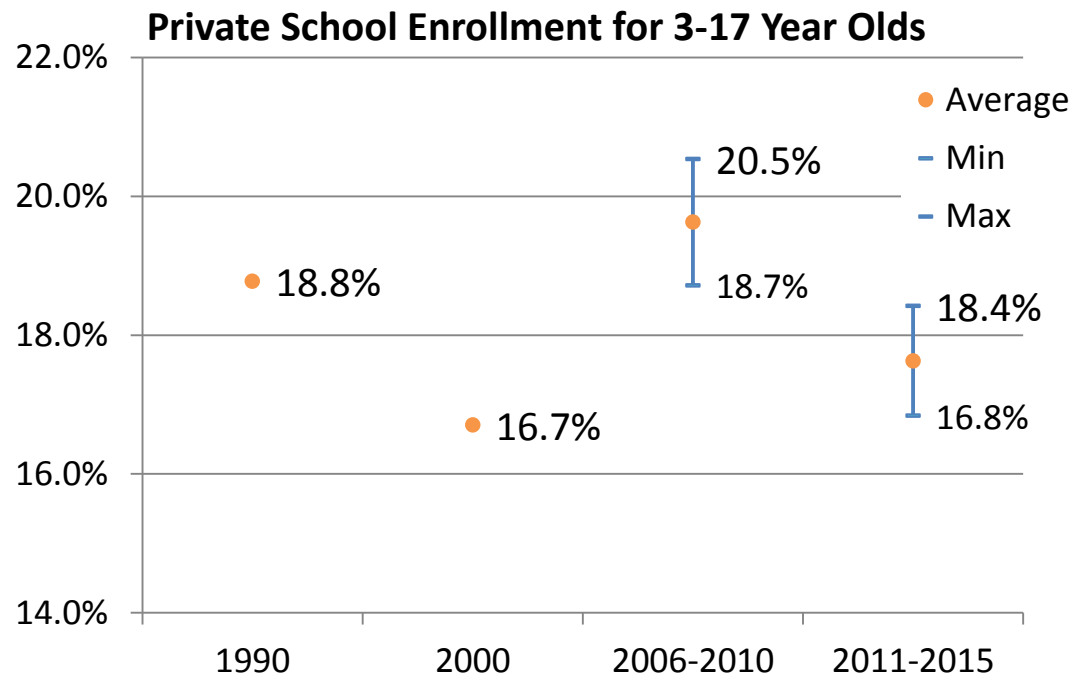
SY16-17 citywide sector shares

DCPS: 54%

Charter: 46%

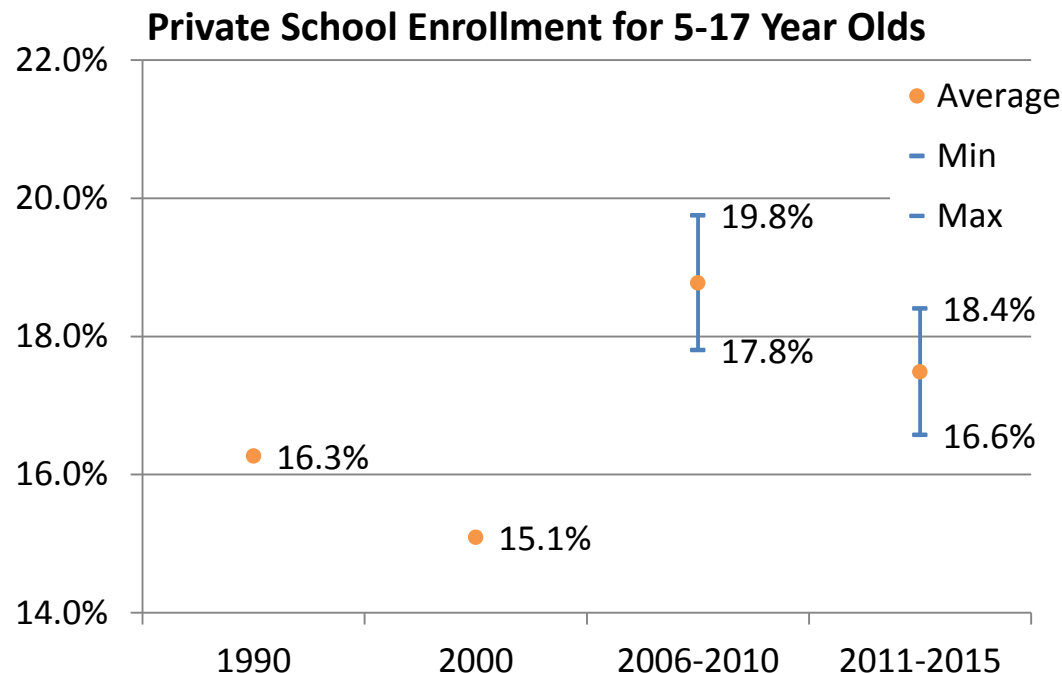
Private School Enrollment Trends

- Between 2011-2015, the American Community Survey (ACS) estimates with 90% confidence that between 16.8% and 18.4% of 3-17 year olds attended private school.
- This 2011-2015 estimate is lower than the previous 5-year ACS estimate and the share in 1990 (18.8%). This appears to be driven by a decrease in share 3 and 4 year olds in private school, as described on the next slide.



Private School Enrollment Trends, con't

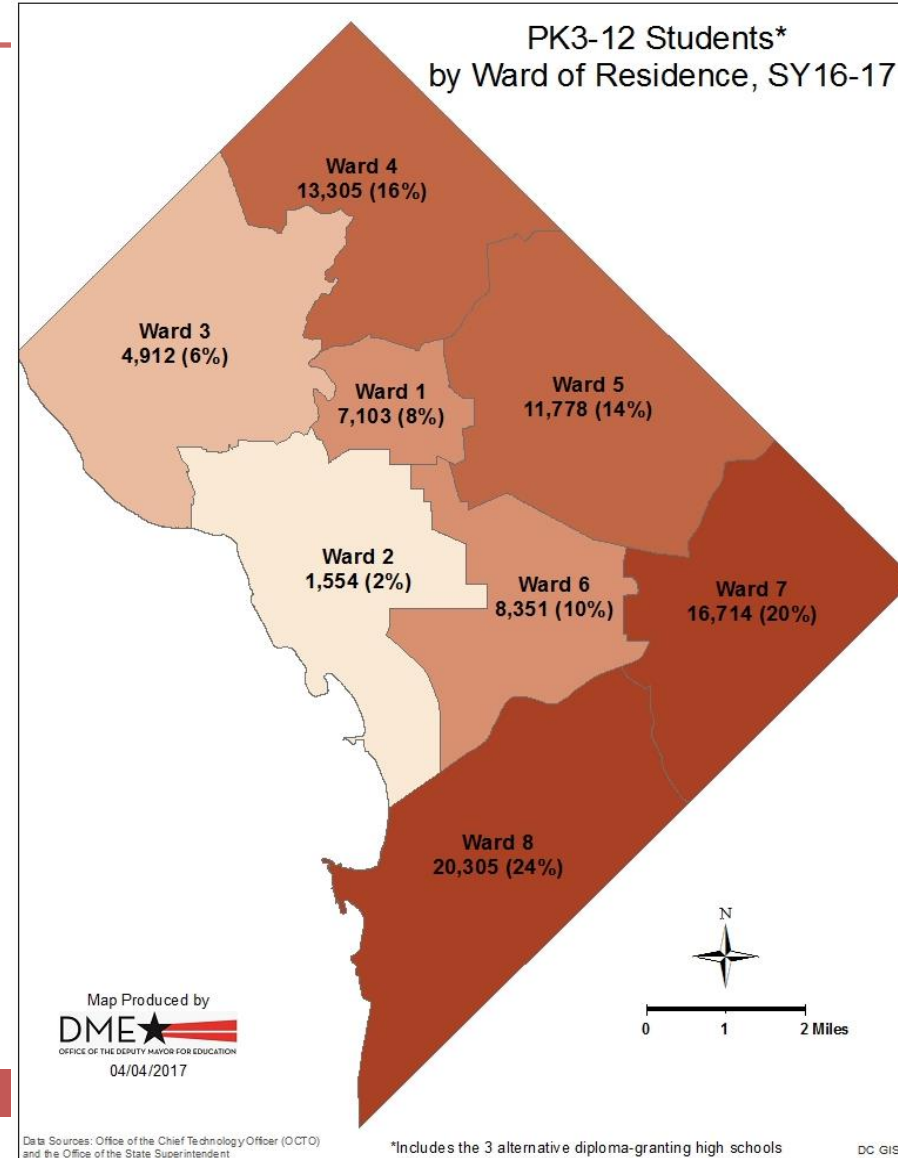
- When the universe is limited to just 5-17 year olds (and excludes the 3-4 year olds), there is no decrease between the two five-year estimates.
 - The 2010-2014 ACS estimates that the private school share was between 17.8% and 19.8%. Because this overlaps with the 2011-2015 ACS margins of error, there is no decrease.



**WHERE PUBLIC SCHOOL
STUDENTS LIVE**

Where Do Public School Students Live?

- Most public school students live in Wards 4, 7, 8 (60% in SY16-17).
 - Fewer students live in Ward 2 (2%).
- Between SY13-14 and SY16-17, the distribution of students across the city has not changed significantly.



Changes in Where Public School Students Live, 2013-2016

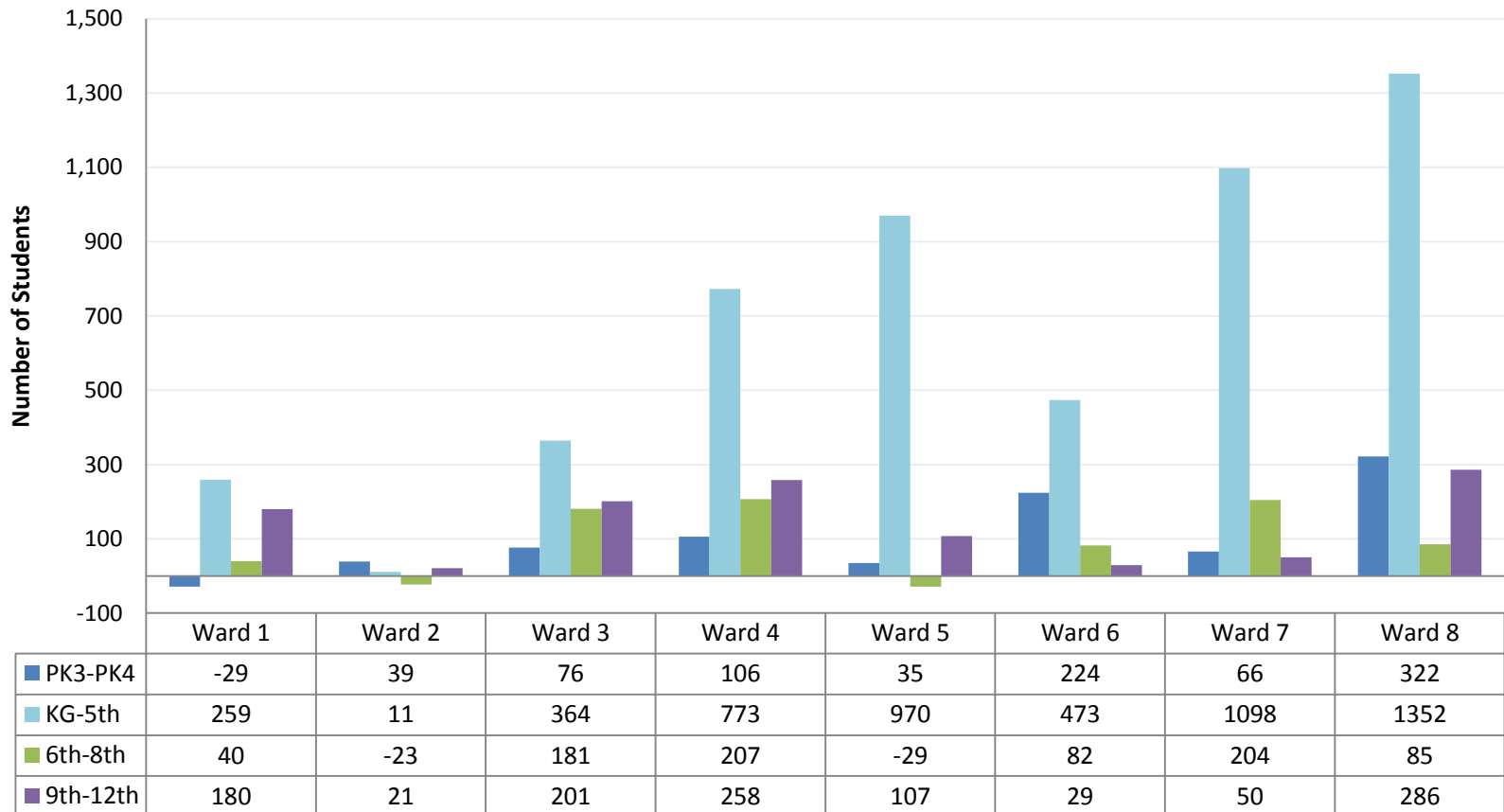
- The number of public school students increased in virtually every grade band and in every ward.
 - The greatest increases were in KG-5th grade, particularly in Wards 5, 7, and 8 (21%, 17%, and 16%, respectively).
- Students living in Ward 3 had the greatest increases in early childhood, middle school, and high school grades.
 - Early childhood increased by 21%.
 - 6th-8th grade band grew by 27%.
 - 9th-12th grade band increased by 32%.

Note: Subsequent analyses focus on 2013-2016 due to the lack of reliably-geocoded data prior to 2013.

See the next two slides for detailed charts

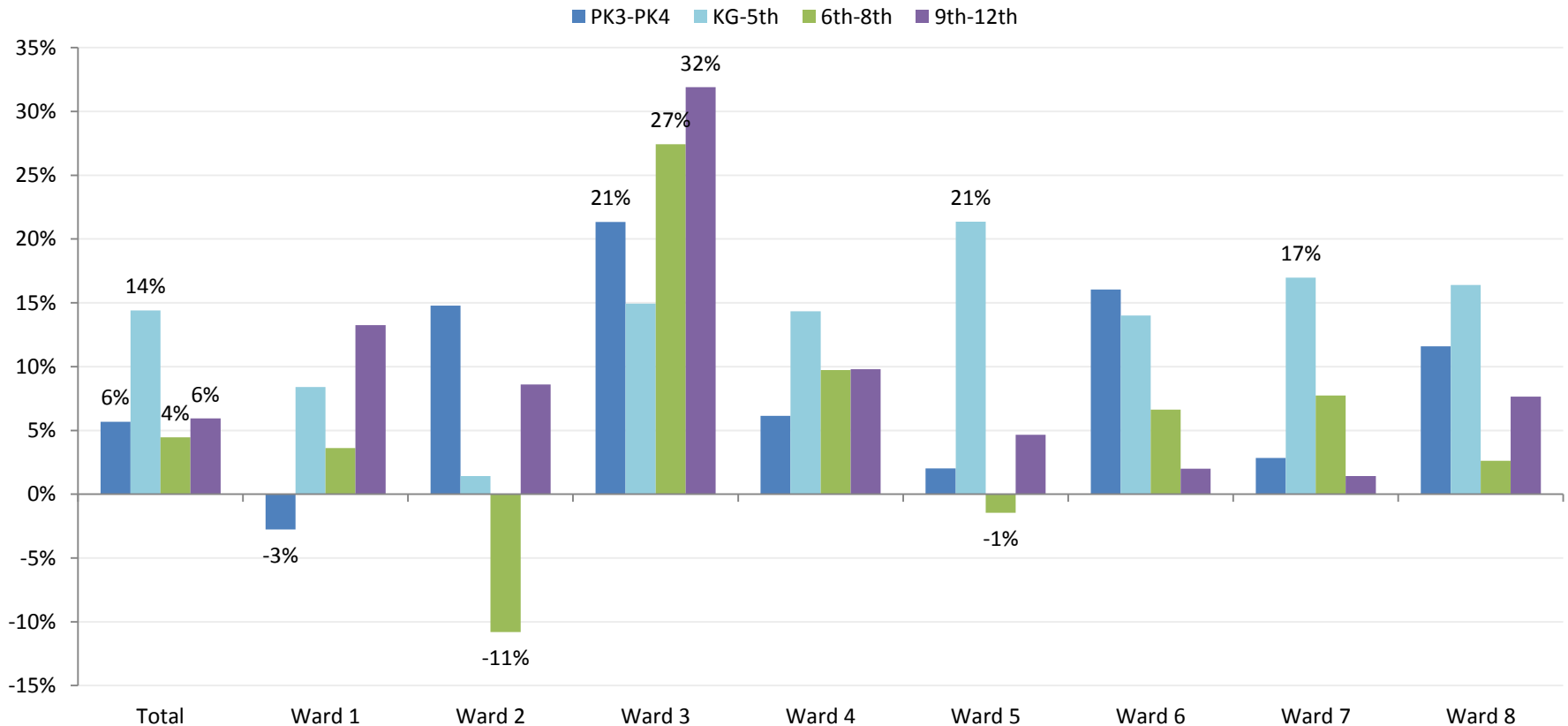
Public School Student Population Change by Ward from 2013-2016 (absolute change)

Absolute Change in Where Public School Students Live Between 2013 and 2016, by Ward and Grade



Public School Student Population Change by Ward from 2013-2016 (percent change)

Percent Change in Where Public School Students Live Between 2013 and 2016, by Ward and Grade

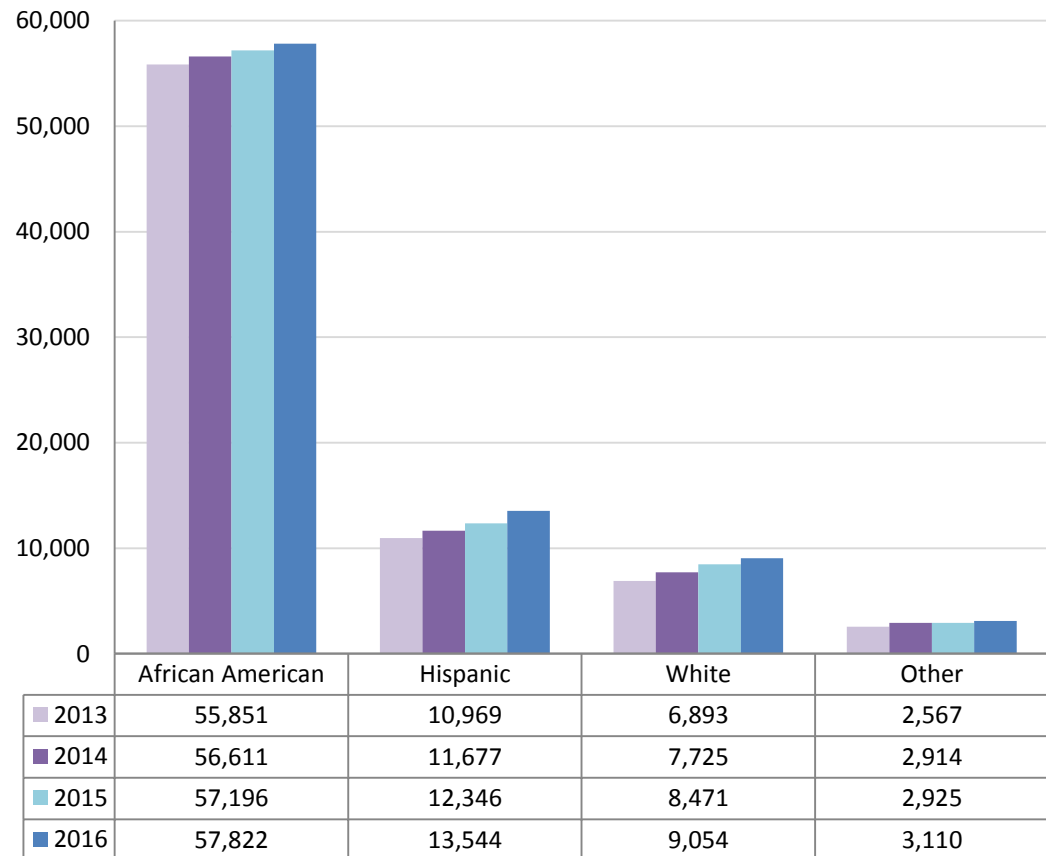


RACE AND ETHNICITY OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

Increases in Public School Students by Race/Ethnicity from 2013-2016

- The majority of the PK3-12th grade student population is made up of African American students.
- All races/ethnicities have been growing since 2013.

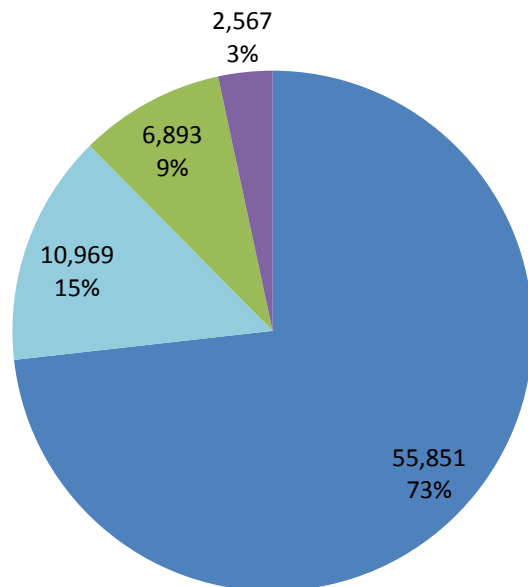
Total PK3-12 Public School Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, 2013-2016



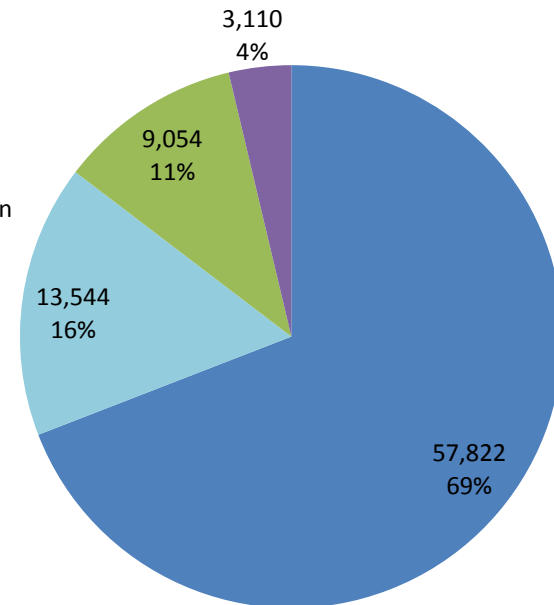
What is the racial/ethnic make up of our students?

The racial/ethnic makeup of the PK3-12th grade student population is becoming more diverse as the share of Hispanic and white students has increased since 2013.

Share of PK3-12 Students by Race/Ethnicity,
SY13-14



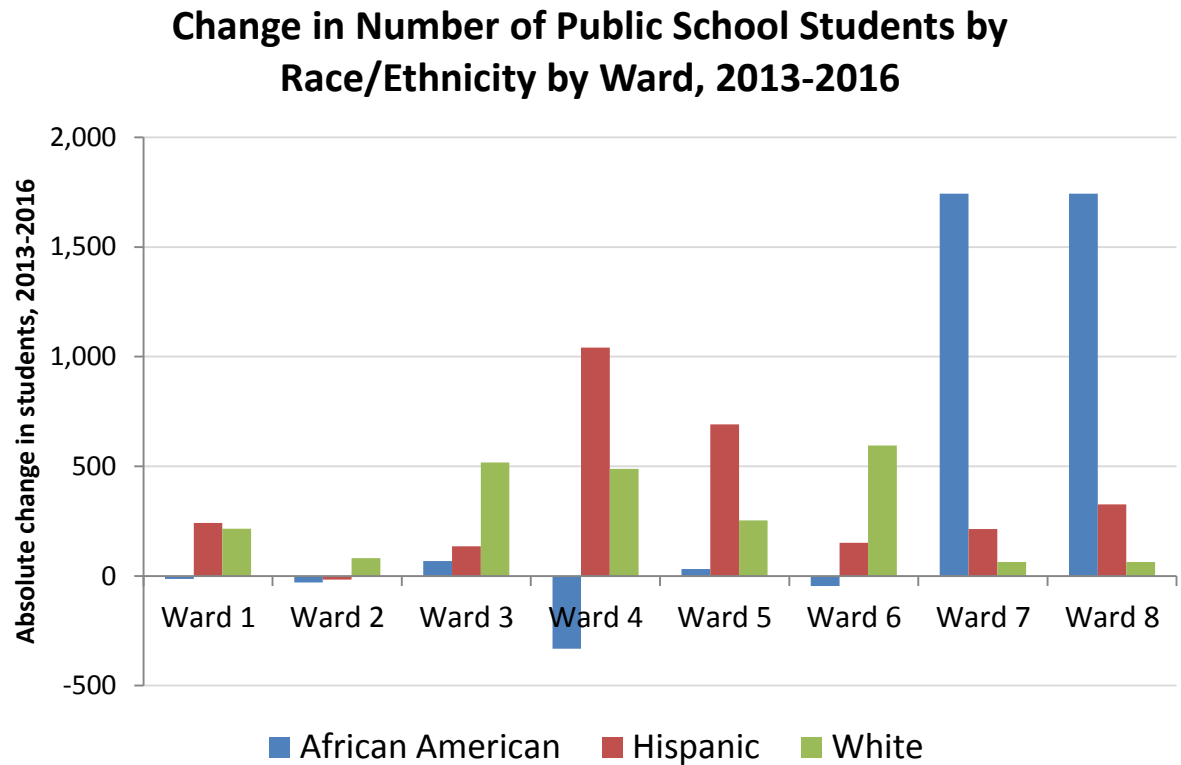
Share of PK3-12 Students by Race/Ethnicity,
SY16-17



■ African American
■ Hispanic
■ White
■ Other

Changes in Race/Ethnicity by Ward, 2013-2016

- The increase in the number of African American students occurred in Wards 7 and 8.
- The number of Hispanic students increased primarily in Wards 4 and 5.
- The number of White students increased primarily in Wards 3, 4, 5, and 6.



Analysis excludes students in adult/alternative schools
Graphic does not include non-geocoded students

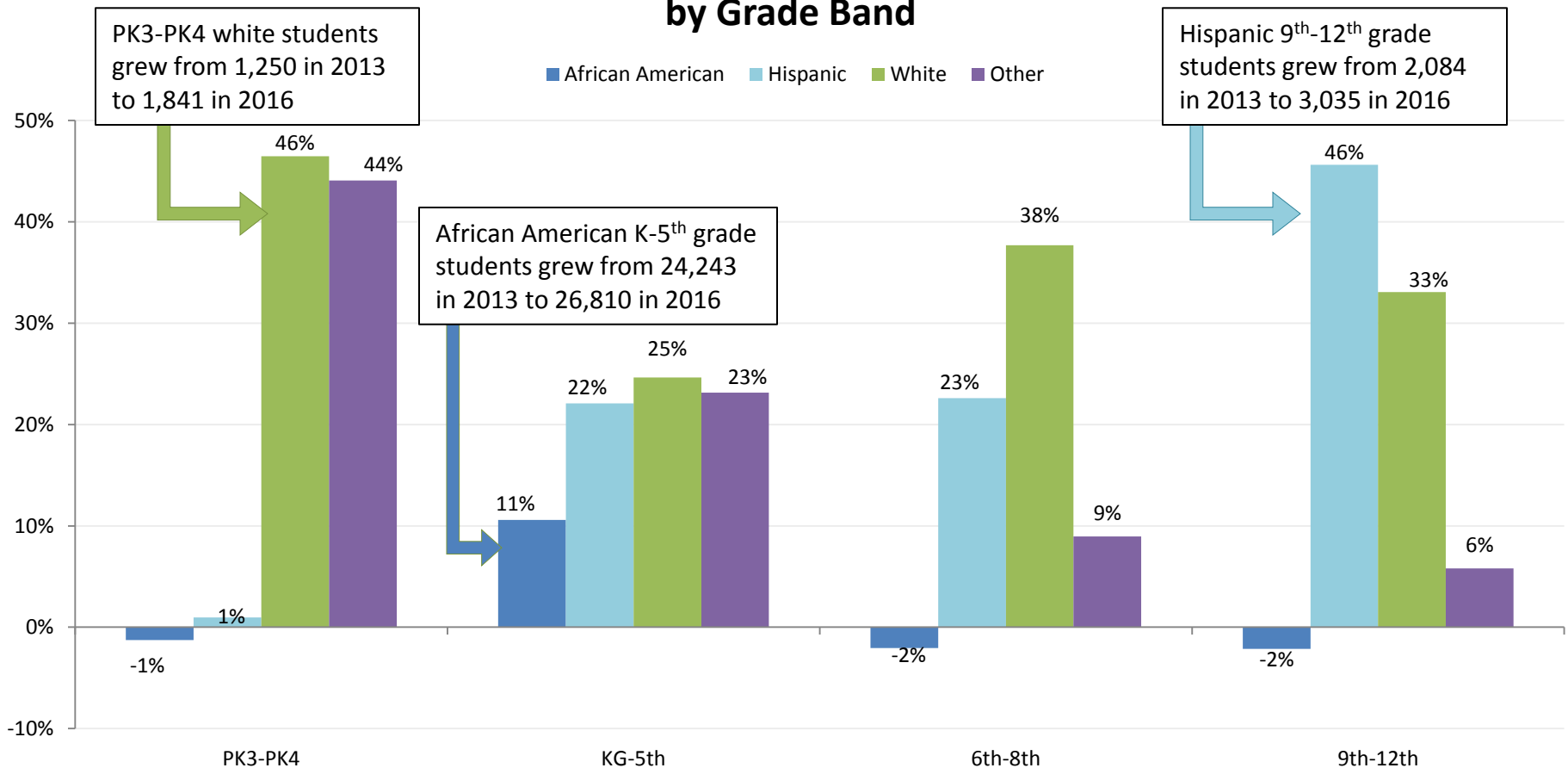
Changes in Race/Ethnicity by Grade Band, 2013-2016

- The number of African American students grew between 2013 and 2016, largely due to growth of KG-5th grade students (an increase of 2,567 students, or 11%).
 - For all other grade bands, the number of African American students declined.
- The number of Hispanic and White students grew for all grade bands.
 - KG-5th grade white students grew by 963 students.
 - KG-5th grade Hispanic students grew by 1,192 students.
 - 9th-12th grade Hispanic students grew by 951 students.

See the following slide for a detailed chart

Changes in Race/Ethnicity, 2013-2016

Percent Change in Race/Ethnicity, 2013-2016 by Grade Band



Contact Information

For additional resources, visit the [DME Data Resources](#) website

Or contact Senior Policy Advisor Jennifer Comey:
202.727.6588 or jennifer.comey@dc.gov

Appendix 1: Where Public School Students Live, SY2016-17

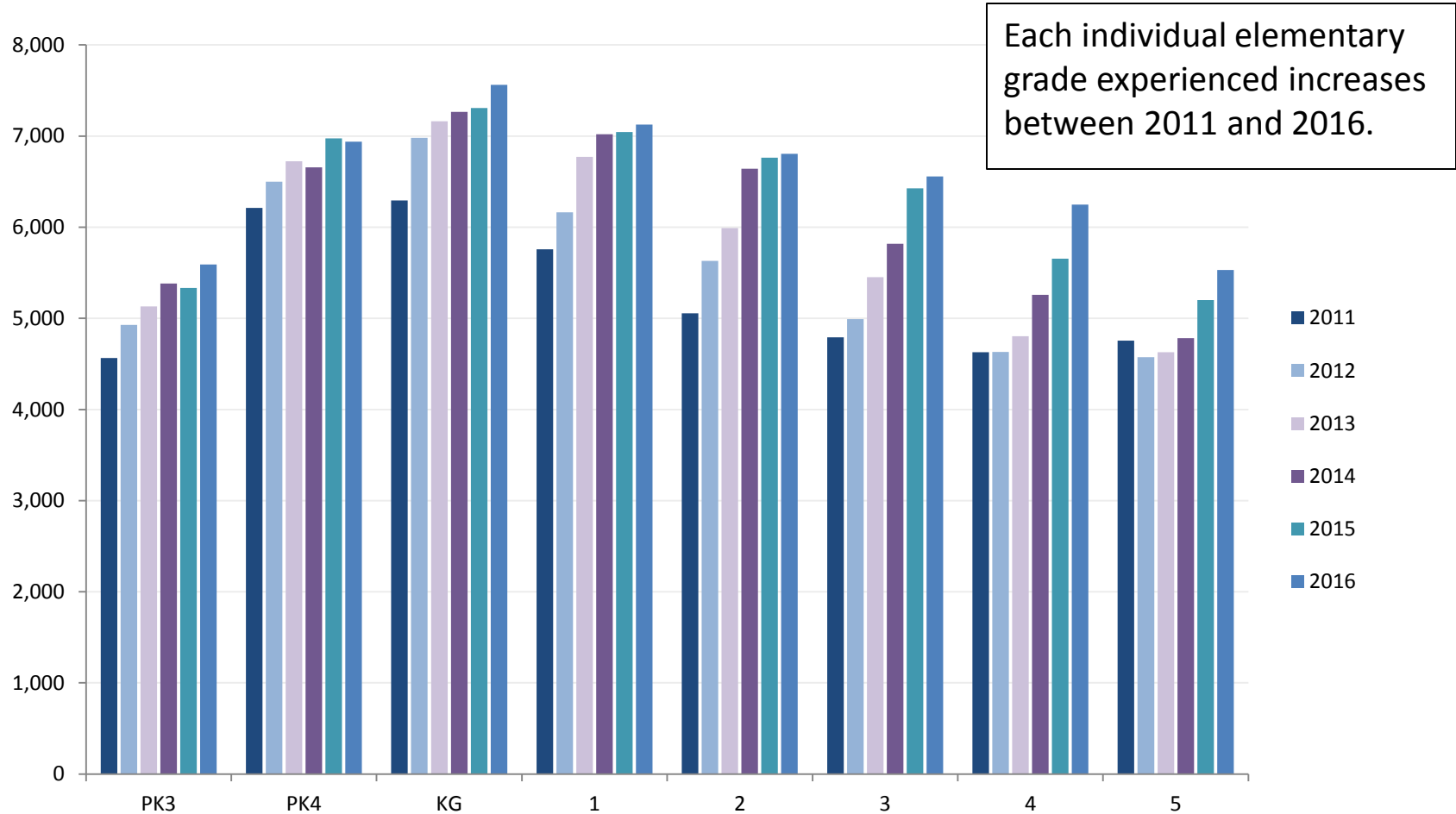
2016 Ward of Residence	Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Ward 6	Ward 7	Ward 8	Non-geocoded*	Total
PK3-PK4	1,018	303	432	1,834	1,758	1,620	2,397	3,100	67	12,529
KG-5th	3,343	786	2,801	6,163	5,512	3,849	7,566	9,594	212	39,826
6th-8th	1,144	190	841	2,332	1,948	1,319	2,841	3,336	74	14,025
9th-12th**	1,563	270	831	2,922	2,500	1,532	3,813	4,176	143	17,750
Adult/Alternative/Special Education Schools	1,229	182	121	1,566	784	325	663	1,002	38	5,910
Total***	8,297	1,731	5,026	14,817	12,502	8,645	17,280	21,208	534	90,040

* Nongeocoded: student address could not be assigned to a ward

** High school enrollment counts include alternative diploma-granting schools

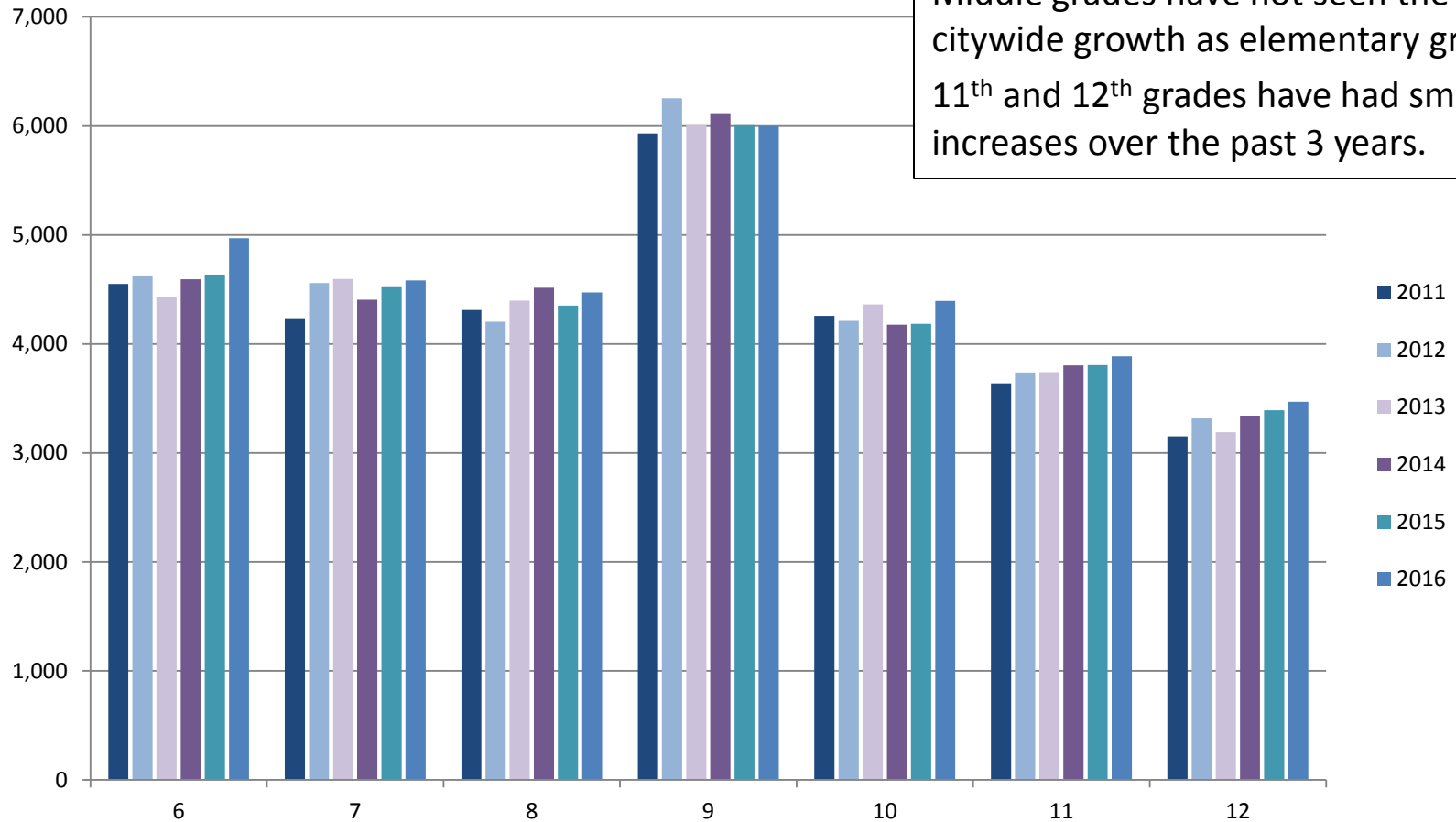
*** Totals do not include 21 students that are missing a grade in the SY16-17 audited enrollment

Appendix 2: Total Public School Enrollments for Primary Grades, 2011-2016



Enrollments are listed per grade from 2011 through 2016.

Appendix 3: Total Public School Enrollments for Secondary Grades, 2011-2016



Enrollments are listed per grade from 2011 through 2016.

Appendix 4: Definitions of Adult, Alternative, and Special Education Schools

- Adult education schools provide services or instruction below the college level for adults who:
 - lack sufficient mastery of basic educational skills;
 - do not have a certificate of graduation from a school providing secondary education and who have not achieved an equivalent level of education; or,
 - whose native language is other than English and they have limited ability in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language. See DC Code § 38-2901.
- Alternative education schools provide specialized instruction for students who are:
 - under court supervision or who have a history of being on short- or long-term suspension or who have been expelled from school; or,
 - who meet other criteria as defined by the State Education Office through rulemaking. See DC Code § 38-2901.
- Special education schools are a separate DCPS or public charter day school or residential schools dedicated exclusively to serving students who are special education students at levels 4 or 5. See DC Code § 38-2901.

Appendix 5: Share of Private School Enrollment Data Sources

- The 1990 and 2000 data sources for the share of private school enrollment come from the “long form” of the US Decennial Census. The universe of children vary slightly in each year.
 - The 1990 counts for total children does not include children 3-17 not enrolled in school. <https://www.census.gov/prod/cen1990/cp3/cp-3-4.pdf>, Table 6: School Enrollment and Type of School by Age, District of Columbia
 - The 2000 counts for total 3-17 year old children includes children in nursery school. US Census Bureau, Table PCT161: Sex by School Enrollment by Level of School by Type of School for the Population 3 Years and Over
- After 2000, the US Census switched to surveying a sample of the US population annually. The two estimates shown are five-year averages from 2006 through 2010 and 2011 through 2015.
 - The graphics on slides 17 and 18 include the average estimation plus the margin of error (the average is the yellow dot and the margin of error is the blue bar above and below). The margin of error is used to calculate the lower and upper confidence bounds (using a 90% probability) that the survey estimate contains the true value.
 - American Community Survey, 2006-2010 5-Year Averages, Table B14003: Sex by School Enrollment by Type of School by Age for the Population 3 Years and Over
 - American Community Survey, 2011-2015 5-Year Averages, Table B14003: Sex by School Enrollment by Type of School by Age for the Population 3 Years and Over