Lieutenant Governor Mark Robinson

Informing the future of North Carolina

House Select Committee
on an Education System for North Carolina's Future

February 21st, 2022
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

An Education System for North Carolina's Future

- **Governance and Infrastructure of the Education System**
  - Who is in control of our education system?
  - Increasing parent and community involvement
  - Transparency and accountability make for great schools

- **Restoring Order to our Schools**
  - Providing safe learning environments, ALPS options
  - Empowering teachers and administrators to restore order in classrooms
  - Focus on root causes of unacceptable behaviors, instead of "equitable outcomes in data"

- **Educating our Students for the 21st Century Economy**
  - Revamped focus on the foundations of education
  - Curriculum transparency and consistency
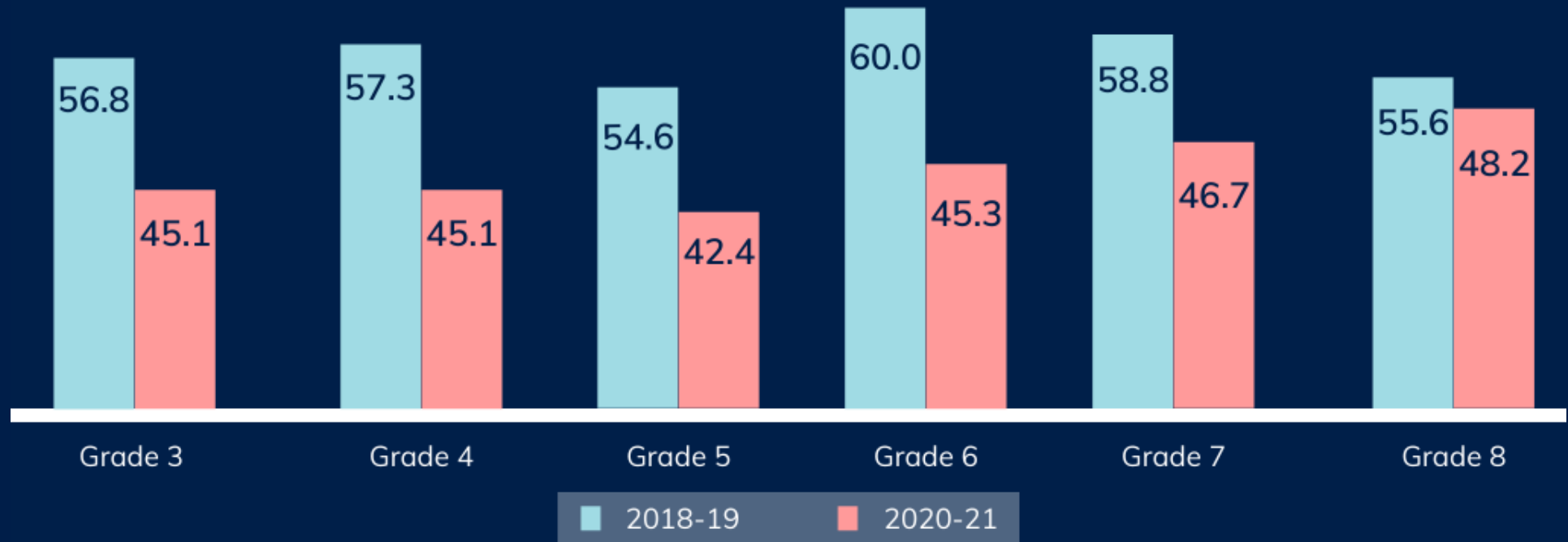 - Credit based/tiered instruction with emphasis on CTE, civic engagement, and life skills
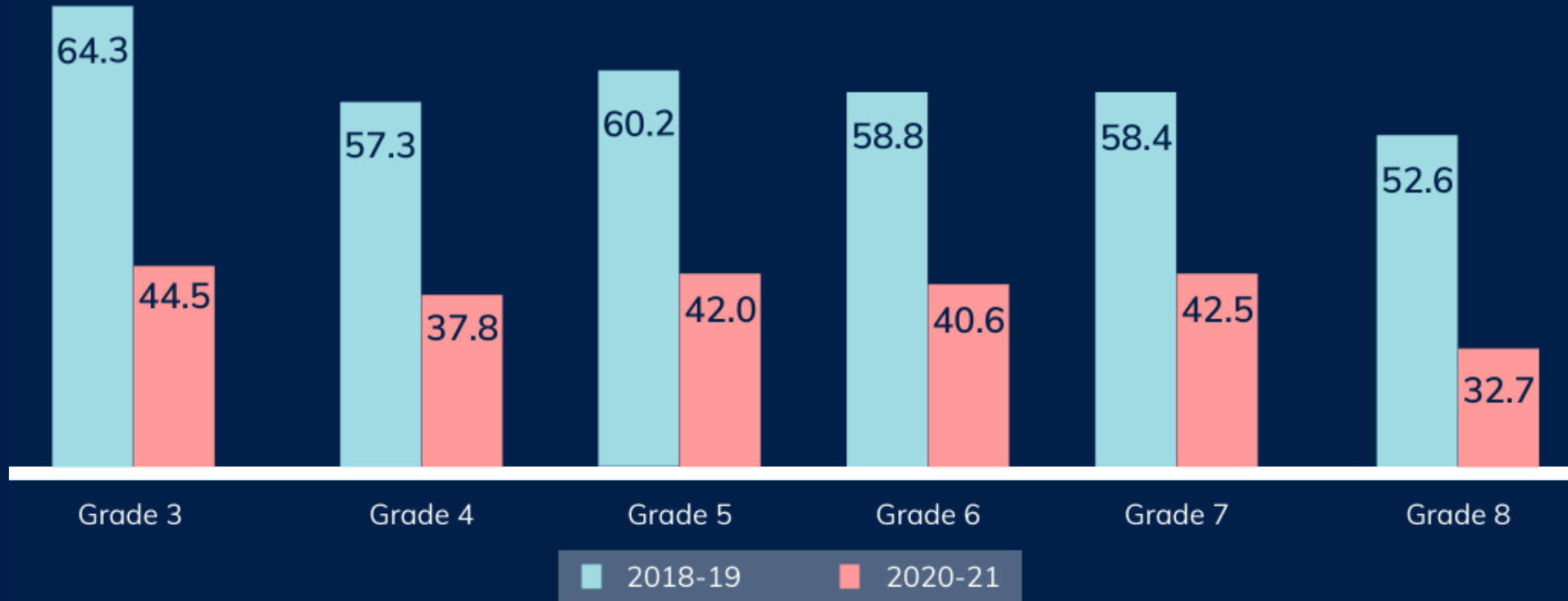
A Snapshot of North Carolina's 2020-21 Student Outcomes

END-OF-GRADE READING PERFORMANCE BY GRADE
PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS LEVEL 3 AND ABOVE - GLP
STANDARD

END-OF-GRADE MATHEMATICS PERFORMANCE BY GRADE
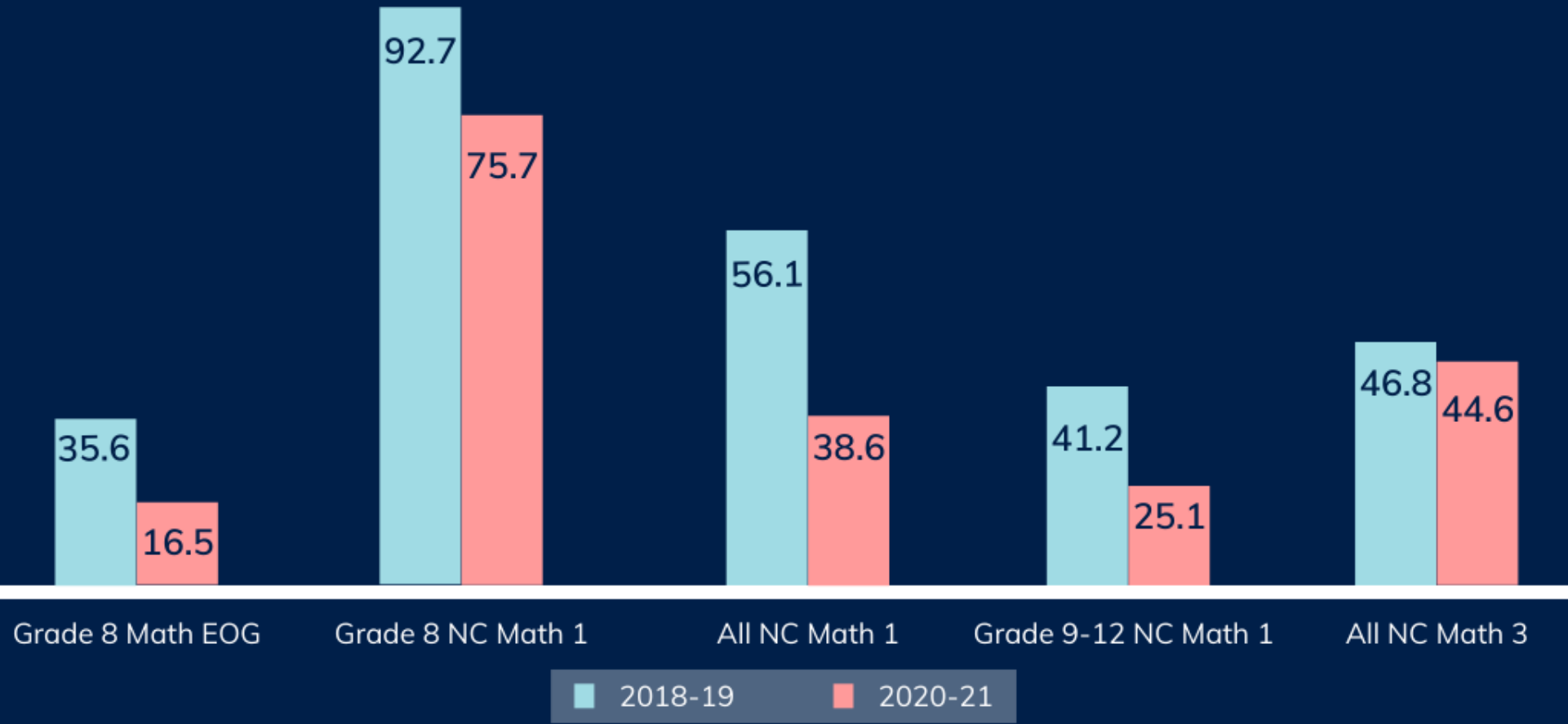PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS LEVEL 3 AND ABOVE - GLP
STANDARD

Source: NC Department of Public Instruction

MATHEMATICS END-OF-GRADE AND END-OF-COURSE PERFORMANCE INFORMATION GRADES 8-12 (PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS LEVEL 3 AND ABOVE - GLP STANDARD)

	Grade 8 Math EOG	Grade 8 NC Math 1	All NC Math 1	Grade 9-12 NC Math 1	All NC Math 3
2018-19	35.6	92.7	56.1	41.2	46.8
2020-21	16.5	75.7	38.6	25.1	44.6

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Source: NC Department of Public Instruction
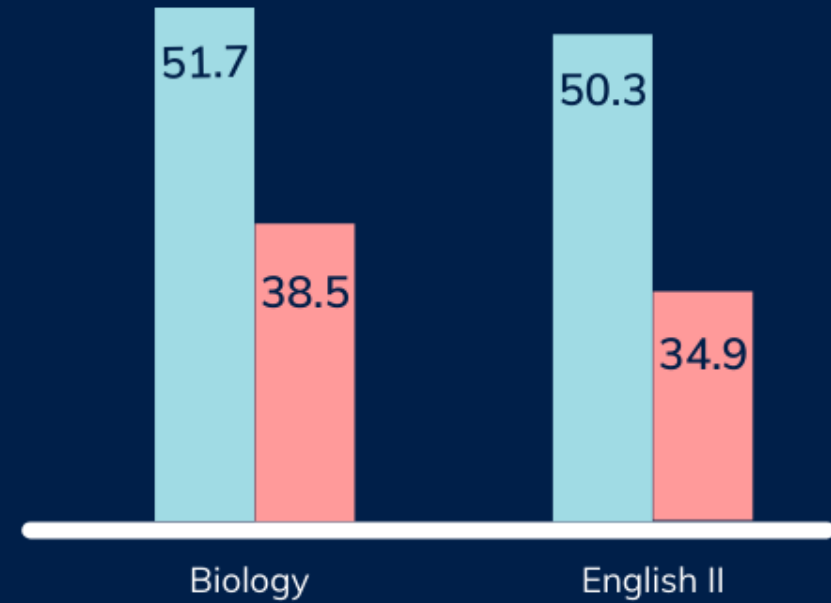
END-COURSE-PERFORMANCE BY SUBJECT (PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS LEVEL 4 AND ABOVE - CCR STANDARD AND LEVEL 3 AND ABOVE - GLP STANDARD)

GRADE LEVEL PROFICIENCY

	2018-19	2020-21
Biology	59.6	45.6
English II	59.7	58.5
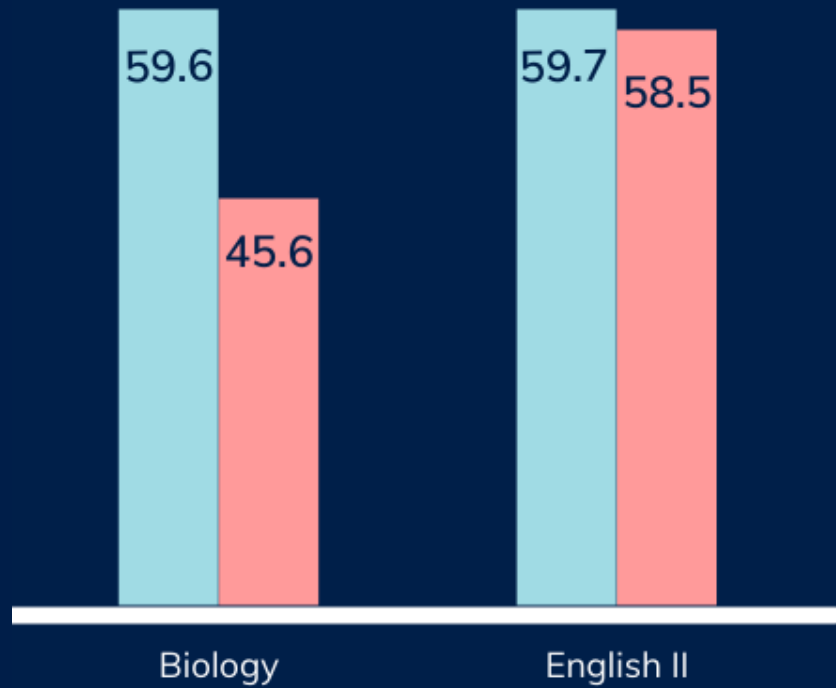
COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

	2018-19	2020-21
Biology	51.7	38.5
English II	50.3	34.9

Legend: ■ 2018-19 ■ 2020-21

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Source: NC Department of Public Instruction

Curriculum Standards & Student Outcomes

- **Students in all grades are underperforming across North Carolina**
- Improved standards for curriculum are necessary to increase the number of students at grade level proficiency in every major subject area
  - **Standards should be clear, concise, and measurable**
  - Clarity – Students need clear expectations to aim for
  - Concise – Comprehensive, well-defined points that teachers can aim for
  - Measurable – State and Local Leaders, Teachers, Parents and Students need good data points to work from – and we ought to know exactly what students have learned upon successfully completing a course
- **North Carolina families should know what students will be mastering before graduation, and our standards must reflect that**

Governance and Infrastructure of Education System

- **Re-tooling local communities' oversight and accountability**

  - Recruit strong principals and school leadership with an emphasis on good professional development for staff
    - Give teachers the training, support, and resources to perform their roles with excellence
    - **Improve schoolwide practices with data from the Teacher Working Condition Survey**

  - **Professional Development Oversight with School Leaders**

  - Classroom Management strategies need to be prioritized by LEAs

  - Teachers need a feedback system with school leadership to properly implement new strategies

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FEEDBACK

Q: IN THE PAST 2 YEARS, HAVE YOU HAD 10 CLOCK HOURS OR MORE OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS?

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

■ Yes   ■ No

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Governance and Infrastructure of Education System

- **Increasing local communities' roles in education**

  - Decreasing reliance on federal tax dollars and programs
    - Programs developed by local schools and districts, not state and federal bureaucracies
    - **Increased input in programming and instructional materials from parents and communities**

  - Fostering parent, student, and community relationships with LEAs
    - Principals, Superintendents and Local School Boards that are accountable to constituents and responsible for oversight of districts
    - **Transparency regarding lesson plans, instructional materials, and academic goal-setting with students' families**

Educating our Students for the 21st Century Economy

- **Recommit to a classical elementary education of reading, writing, and mathematics**
    - Students are struggling in every major core subject
        - Laser-focus on literacy throughout K-5 education
        - Improving our state's reading proficiency will lead to better outcomes throughout our education system
        - Remove social science theories from elementary education that take instruction time from core subjects

- **Prioritize Career & Technical Education in K-12 System**

- Facilitate student engagement with employers throughout K-12

- DPI + NC Community College partnerships for clear student pathways to postsecondary education via youth apprenticeships & certifications

Lieutenant Governor's Initiative with ApprenticeshipNC

- **Enhance Apprenticeship Programs throughout North Carolina**

  - Our office worked with the General Assembly to provide resources to ApprenticeshipNC, administered by North Carolina's Community College System to partner with **small businesses in tier 1 & 2 counties in sectors with a high-demand for labor**

  - $12 million is being used to provide grants for employers looking to bring on apprentices ages 16-25
    - **$2,000 per year for employers to onboard and train apprentices**
    - **$2,500 per year for tuition, books, and fees for students**
    - **Up to a $15/hour (non-high school) and $14/hour (high school) match**

Educating our Students for the 21st Century Economy

- **Rethink K-12 Cohorts and Course Credits**
  - Study a move to a credit requirement system for K-12
    - Remove current grade level designations
    - Students have 13 years to complete courses with peers on their level
    - Partner with NCCCS enabling LEAs to offer college credits to K-12 students in more regions across the state

- **Highlight Civic Engagement and Prepare Graduates for the Workforce**
- Give students the tools they need to succeed in America's shifting economy as they graduate high school
- Produce graduates with the skills that employers currently say are lacking in North Carolina's workforce
- Promote the value of civic engagement, and teach students to make use of the American system of governance

Discipline & Order in North Carolina Schools

- 336,293 Disciplinary Incident Reports in 2019-2020
- **The rate of crime at North Carolina High Schools is nearly double the State's crime rate**
  - 3,642 incidences of possession of a controlled substance in violation of the law
  - 1,655 reports of the possession of weapons on campus
  - 1,035 assaults on school personnel
- The most frequent disciplinary action by administration is the use of short-term suspensions
  - The need for disciplinary action increases in grades 6th-8th, but over a decade of data shows the strongest need for discipline in the 9th grade
  - **Defiant behaviors (51.5%)** and **Assaults/Threats (23.3%)** were the most cited unacceptable behaviors leading to suspensions
  - Black males are consistently suspended at a higher rate than their peers

Alternative Learning Placement Schools (ALPS)

- North Carolina needs alternative and remote options for students who cannot be in the classroom due to unacceptable behaviors listed in their LEA's student code of conduct
  - Classroom disruptions and other defiant behaviors take the focus away from instruction for other students
- 10,757 placed in ALPS in 2019-2020
  - 3,524 placed in ALPS due to chronic misbehavior
  - 22.5% of participants were in ALPS for an entire academic year while 45.2% were enrolled for a semester or less
- **ALPS have shown to be effective in providing an instructional option for students who are disruptive in standard classroom settings**
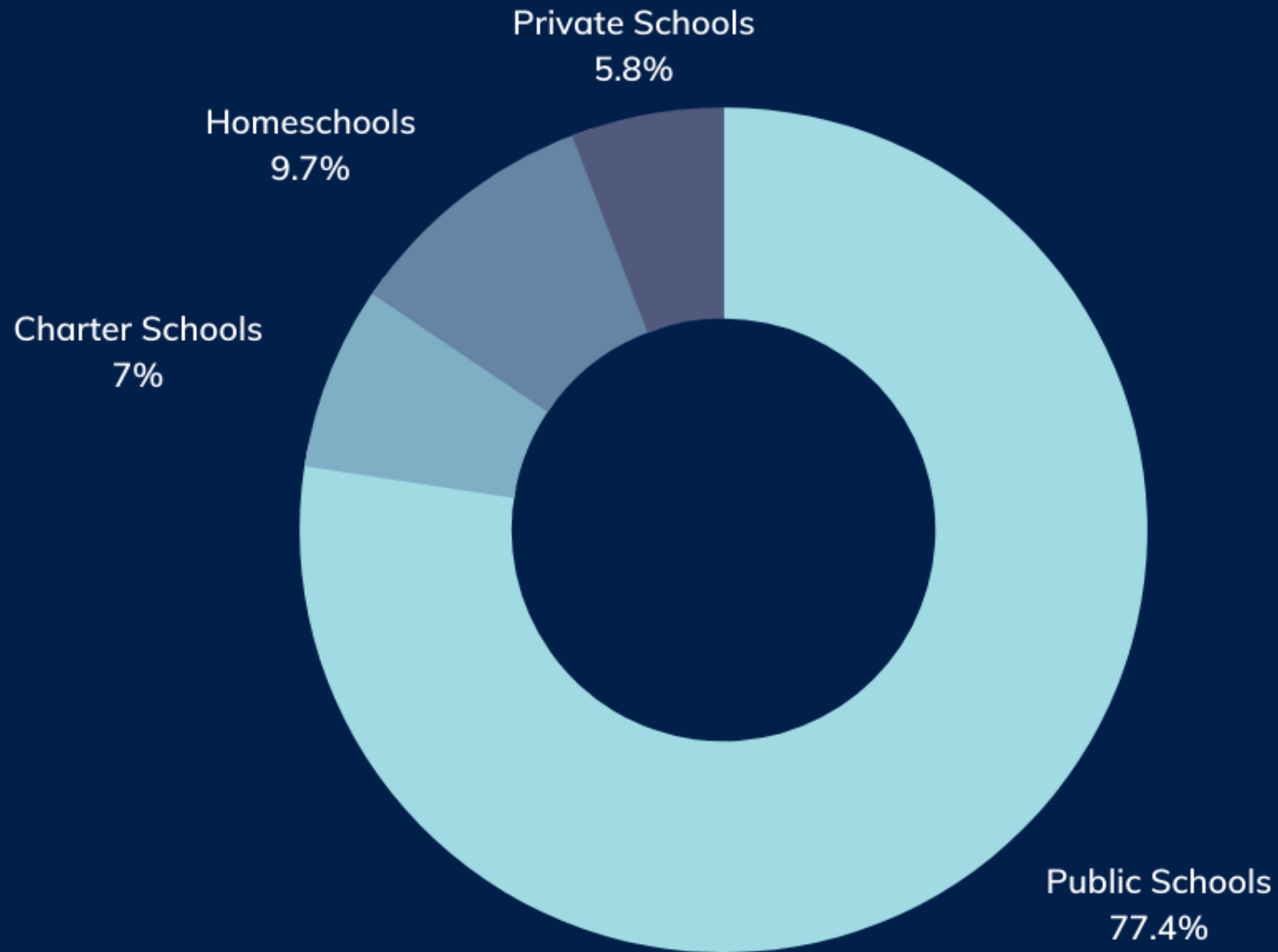
School Funding and Expansion of Choices

- **Utilize best practices across all types of instruction**

  - Remove barriers to quality educational options, and be accountable to the families of North Carolina
    - Families choosing the best fit for their student proves accountability

  - **Expand Opportunity Scholarships & Education Savings Accounts**
    - ESAs currently limited to students with IEPs
    - Opportunity Scholarships bolstered in 2021 Budget
      - Market the variety of quality options to North Carolina families
  - **Increase access to charter education, public and private magnets, homeschooling options, tutoring, and instructional materials outside of LEAs**
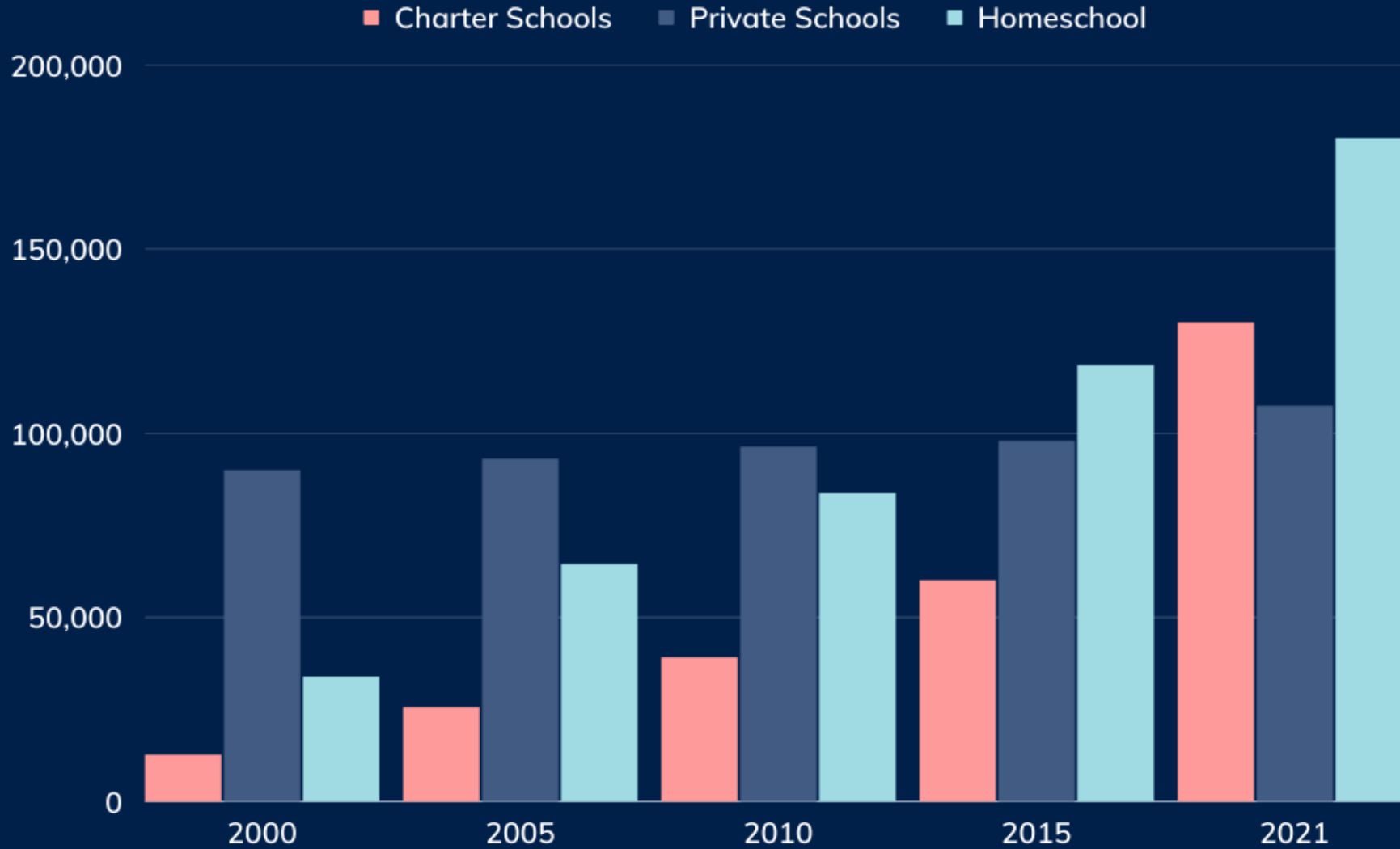
STUDENT ENROLLMENT ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA

Private Schools 5.8%

Homeschools 9.7%

Charter Schools 7%

Public Schools 77.4%

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Source: NC Department of Administration
Source: NC Department of Public Instruction

SCHOOL CHOICE ENROLLMENT ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA THROUGH THE YEARS

Charter Schools   Private Schools   Homeschool

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Source: NC Department of Administration
Source: NC Department of Public Instruction

An Education System for North Carolina's Future

- **Governance and Infrastructure of the Education System**
  - Empower local school leaders and boards to address concerns in their districts
  - Give parents a voice in their students' education
  - Make instructional materials available to families

- **Restoring Order to our Schools**
  - Provide safe learning environments for our students
  - Give LEAs the power to restore order in our classrooms
  - Tackle the root causes of unacceptable behavior in school by partnering with families at home

- **Educating our Students for the 21st Century Economy**
  - Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic - building solid foundations for early learners
  - Curriculum that is consistent with standards across the state, with a community flare
  - Reimagining "track" based education, and preparing students for a shifting labor market