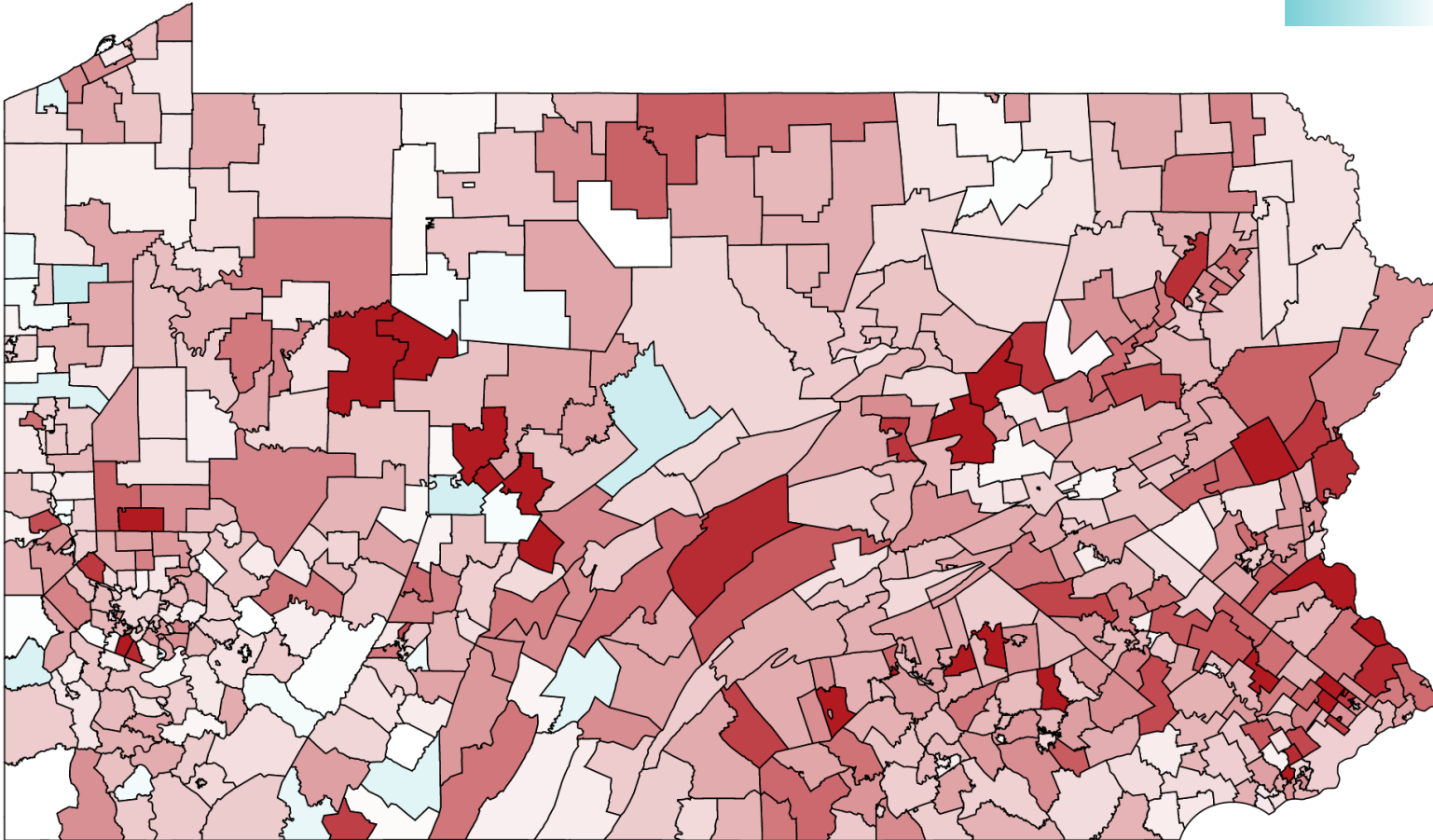


# 2020-2021 Public School Enrollment Shifts

% Change in Cyber Charter Enrollment and School District

-40%

+460%



1.74 million students in Public Schools in 20-21. About 229,000 in Non-Public Schools. 276,000 in 2011-2012

Public school Kindergarten enrollment decreased 1.7% from 115,275 to 110,803.

Most of the decline was in urban and suburban districts. 10 most dense districts declined by 6.9%, the other 57 counties saw a slight increase of 0.4%.



Public Cyber Charter School enrollment increased 59% from 38,266 to 68,890

# Long-Term Academic and Social-Emotional Impact

- Student learning gaps may take years to close. Research shows that the longer students remain in online learning, the greater their learning gap grows. This is true with most cyber charter schools as well as district-run online learning.
- Level funding or insufficient increases in state funding to schools will force some combination higher property taxes, local district program cuts, and personnel cuts.
- At the very time more permanent personnel will be needed to assist struggling students with **long-term** academic and mental health services, funds will be lacking to hire these positions.
- State policy makers will be forced to increase subsidies or let school districts deal with the financial crisis on their own.



# Financial Impact

- Basic Subsidy, Special Education Subsidy, and other public school budget lines were level funded by Pennsylvania the legislature and governor for 2020-2021.
- However, school districts paid an additional \$475 million in charter school cost in 2020-2021 as a result of more families choosing charter schools. Cyber charter school tuition increases alone are \$350 million.
- In 2020-2021, while state funding for schools was flat, PA school districts were forced to cover mandated costs that spiked by \$665 million. They will be faced with another mandated cost increase of \$485 million next school year for a two-year increase of \$1.15 billion.
- Federal funds will assist districts with a **one-time** infusion of cash to assist with COVID-19 expenses. PA received \$523 million in CARES Funds in May. \$471 million went directly to schools. A second stimulus package in January 2021 sent approximately \$2.2 billion to PA Schools. The American Rescue Plan is sending nearly \$5 billion to PA Schools.
- These stimulus packages will not be enough to overcome long-term student service needs but will most likely create a boom in building renovation and HVAC upgrades to improve the health and learning environment of students and staff.

