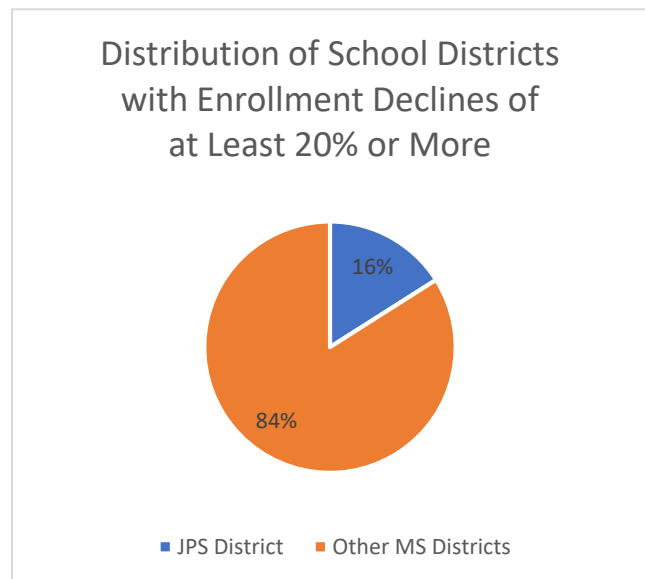
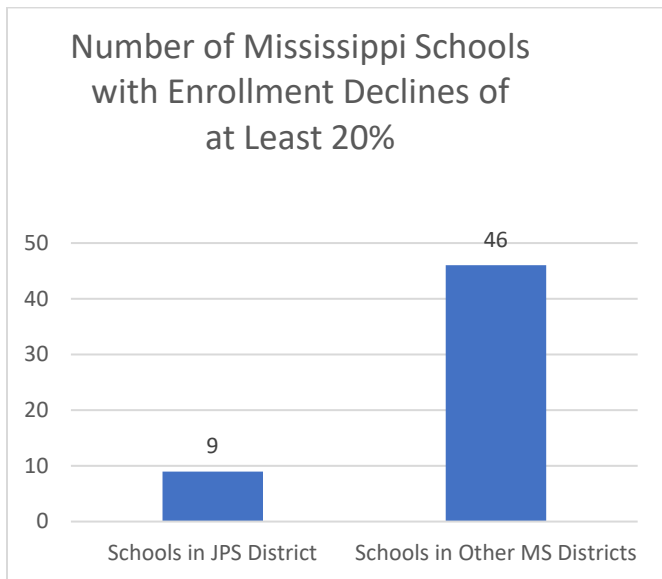


MURC Snapshot

Comparing Declining Enrollment - JPS versus Other Mississippi Schools Districts

Dr. Michael Tornes / May, 2024

The Jackson Public Schools (JPS) governing board voted to close and/or consolidate 13 JPS schools in part due to low enrollment (James, 2023). This research snapshot compares JPS against other Mississippi school districts that experienced enrollment declines of 20% or more from 2019 to 2022*.



* Dataset excluded certain schools (e.g., under 100 students, alternative/virtual schools) (Jacobson, 2024).

Key Takeaways

- Statewide, almost 75 percent of Mississippi schools experiencing declining enrollment of 20 percent or more are elementary schools. JPS had 6 elementary schools meeting that criteria.
- The school districts with the most schools experiencing declining enrollment of 20 percent or more were Jackson Public School District (9 out of 45 schools) and Sunflower County Consolidated School District (5 out of 11 schools).
- The percent of schools in the state with a 20% decline or more was 20.45%; the percent of JPS schools with a 20% decline or more was 20%.

References:

Jacobsen, L. (2024, January 9). Exclusive data: Thousands of schools at risk of closing due to enrollment loss. The 74. <https://www.the74million.org/article/exclusive-data-thousands-of-schools-at-risk-of-closing-due-to-enrollment-loss/>

James, J. (2023, December 20). Jackson Public Schools board votes to close 13 school buildings. *Mississippi Today*. <https://mississippitoday.org/2023/12/20/jackson-public-schools-closures-approved/>