



# **Exceptional Student Services (ESS) Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)**

Arizona Preschool and K-12 Special Education  
Trend Data  
2020–2024

## Definitions (1 of 2)

- A—Autism
- CWD—Children with disabilities
- DB—Deaf-blindness
- Disability Category—The primary disability as identified in the Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- DD—Developmental delay
- ED—Emotional disability (emotional disturbance)
- EDP—Emotional disability in private or intensive special education programs
- HI—Hearing impairment
- LRE—Least restrictive environment
- MD—Multiple disabilities
- MDSSI—Multiple disabilities with severe sensory impairment

## Definitions (2 of 2)

- MIID—Mild intellectual disability
- MOID—Moderate intellectual disability
- OHI—Other health impairment
- OI—Orthopedic impairment
- PSD—Preschool severe delay
- SID—Severe intellectual disability
- SLD—Specific learning disability
- SLI—Speech or language impairment
- SWD—Students with disabilities
- TBI—Traumatic brain injury
- VI—Visual impairment

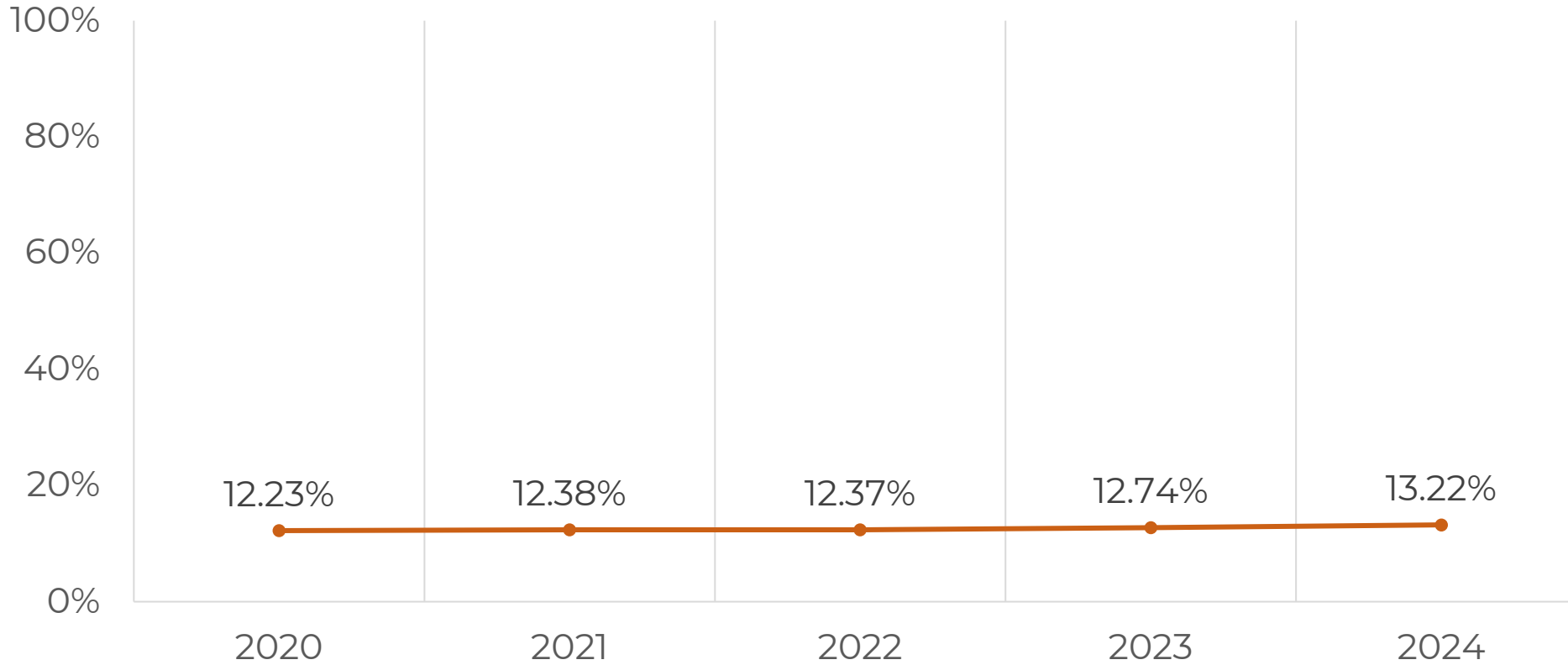
# K-12 Special Education Trend Data

Data source: October 1 Child Count

**Exceptional Student Services**



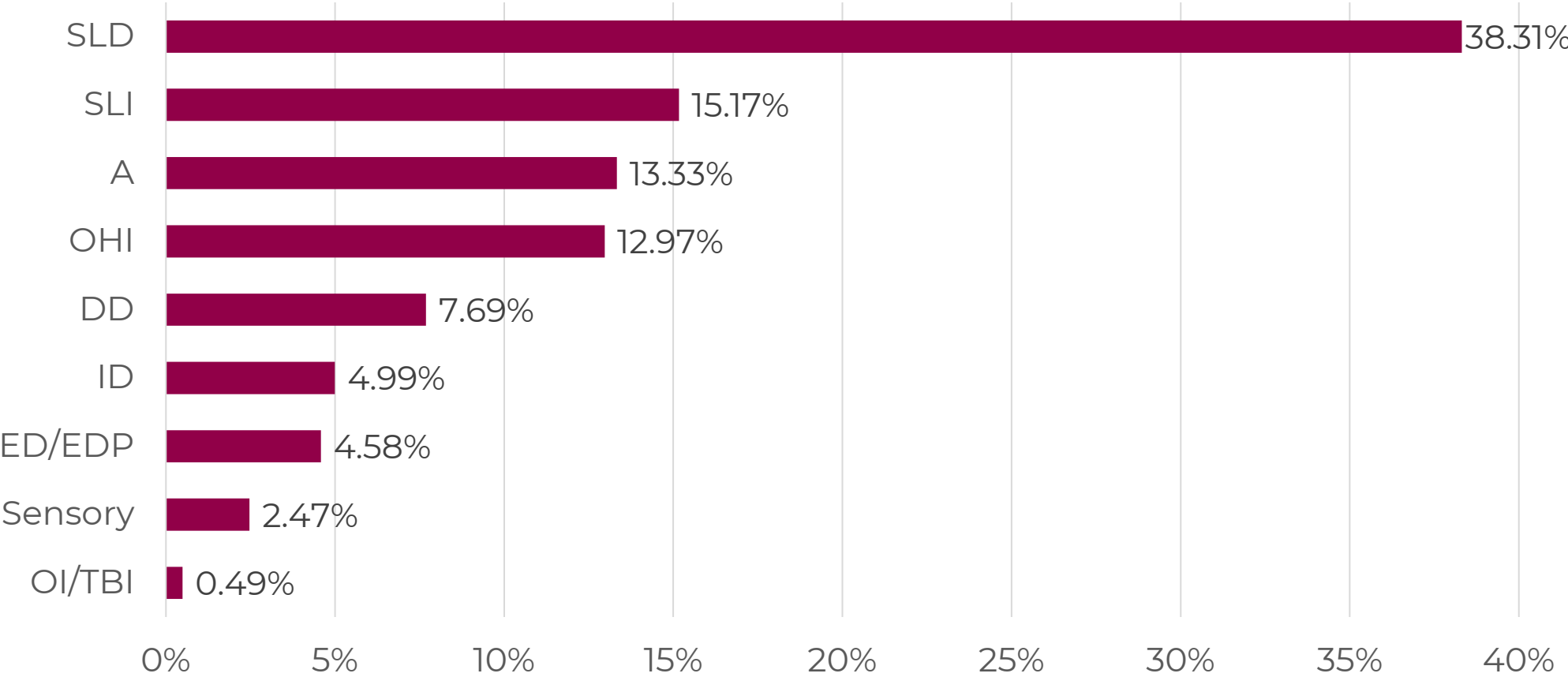
# 5-Year Trend, % K-12 SWD



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of K-12 students enrolled in special education has slightly increased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
SPED	137,600	136,277	137,748	141,012	144,502
All K-12	1,125,549	1,100,911	1,113,613	1,107,200	1,093,348
% SPED	12.23%	12.38%	12.37%	12.74%	13.22%

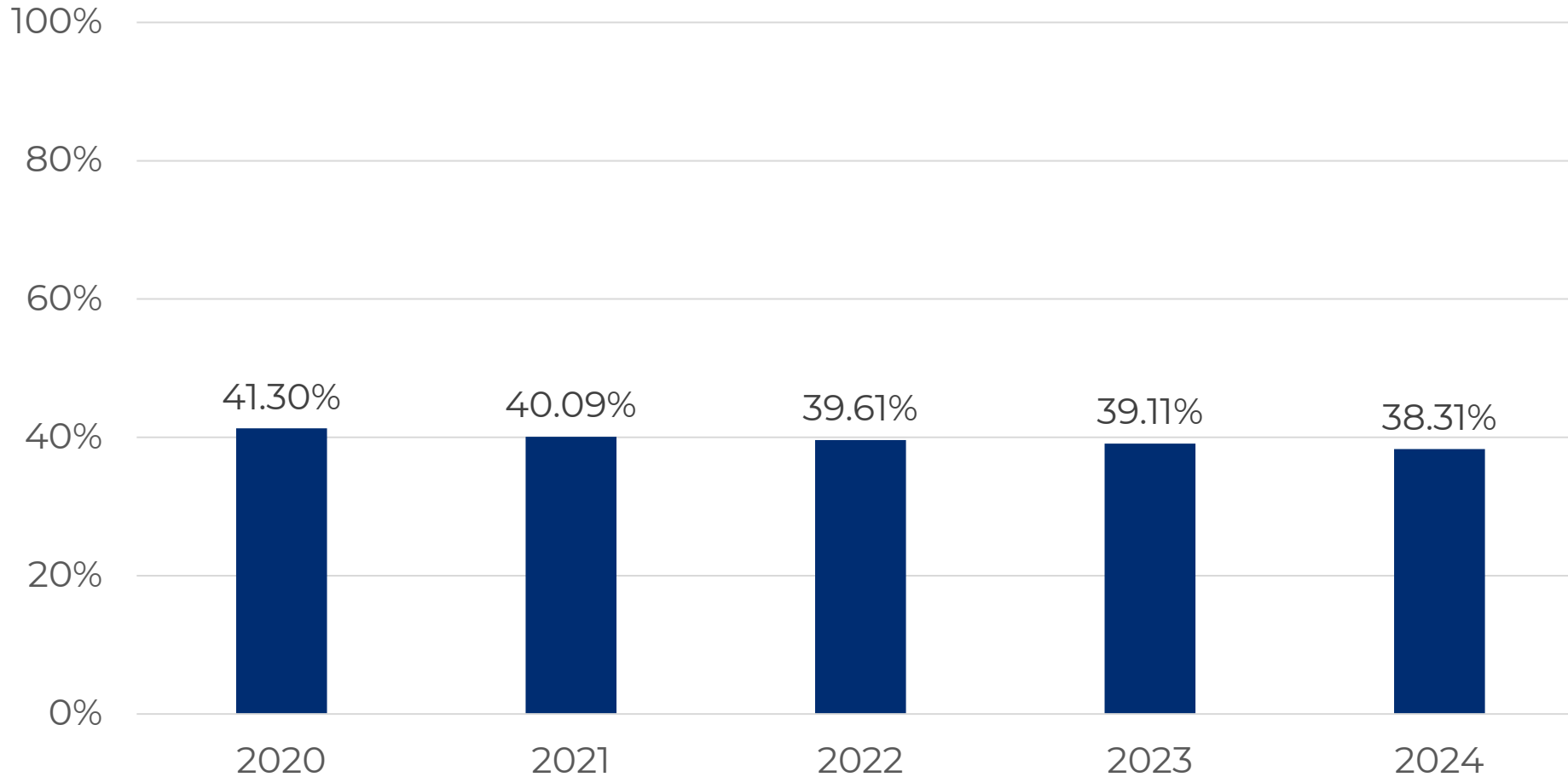
# SY 2023-24, K-12 SWD by Primary Disability



In school year 2023-24, the most common primary disability among K-12 SWD was specific learning disability (SLD).

	SLD	SLI	A	OHI	DD	ID	ED/EDP	Sensory	OI/TBI
# SPED	55,357	21,924	19,259	18,735	11,113	7,217	6,622	3,567	708
% SPED	38.31%	15.17%	13.33%	12.97%	7.69%	4.99%	4.58%	2.47%	0.49%

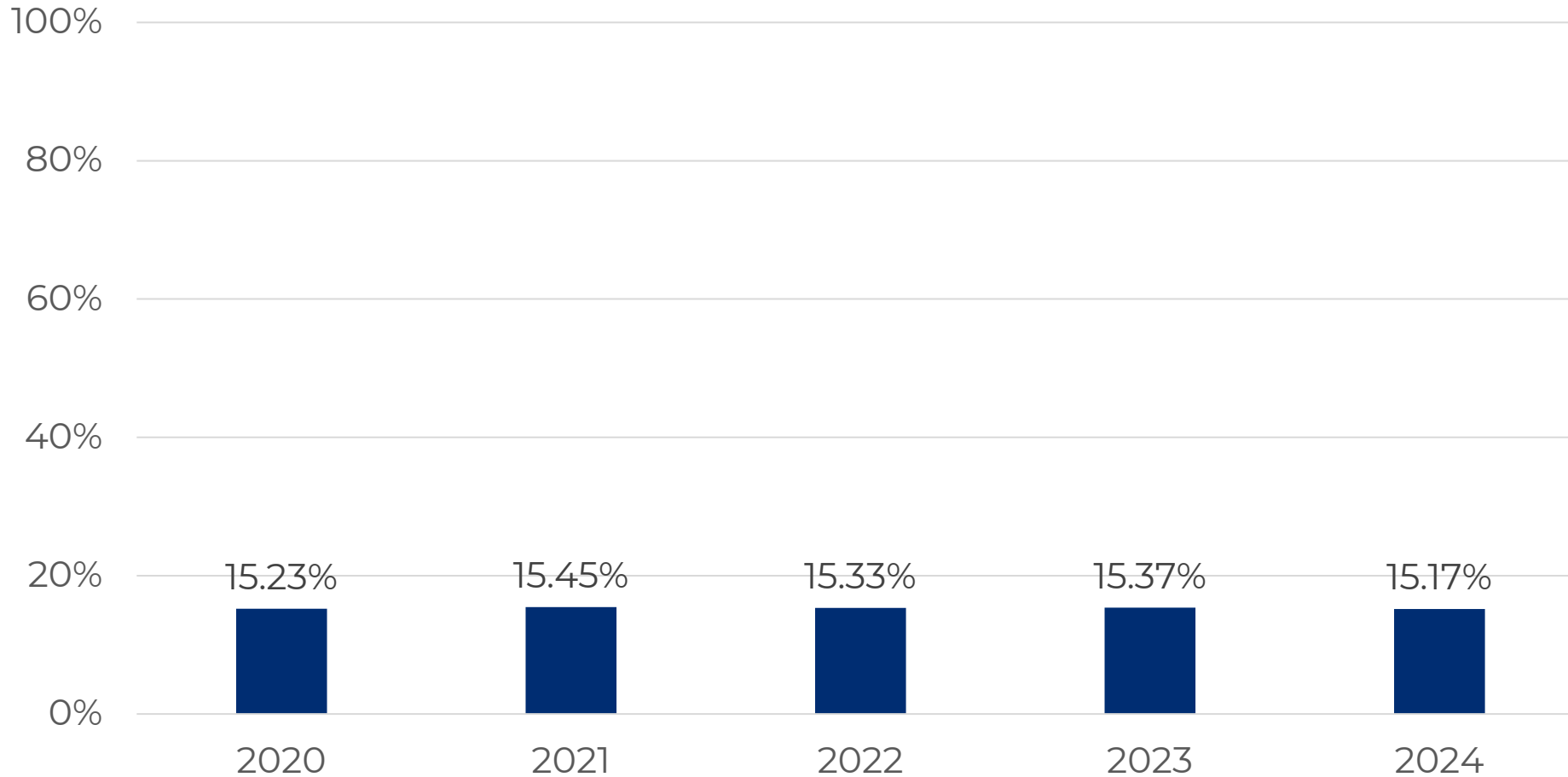
# 5-Year Trend, % K-12 SWD with SLD



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of K-12 SWD with a specific learning disability (SLD) has decreased by 3% while the number of enrolled SPED students has increased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
SLD	41.30%	40.09%	39.61%	39.11%	38.31%

# 5-Year Trend, % K-12 SWD with SLI

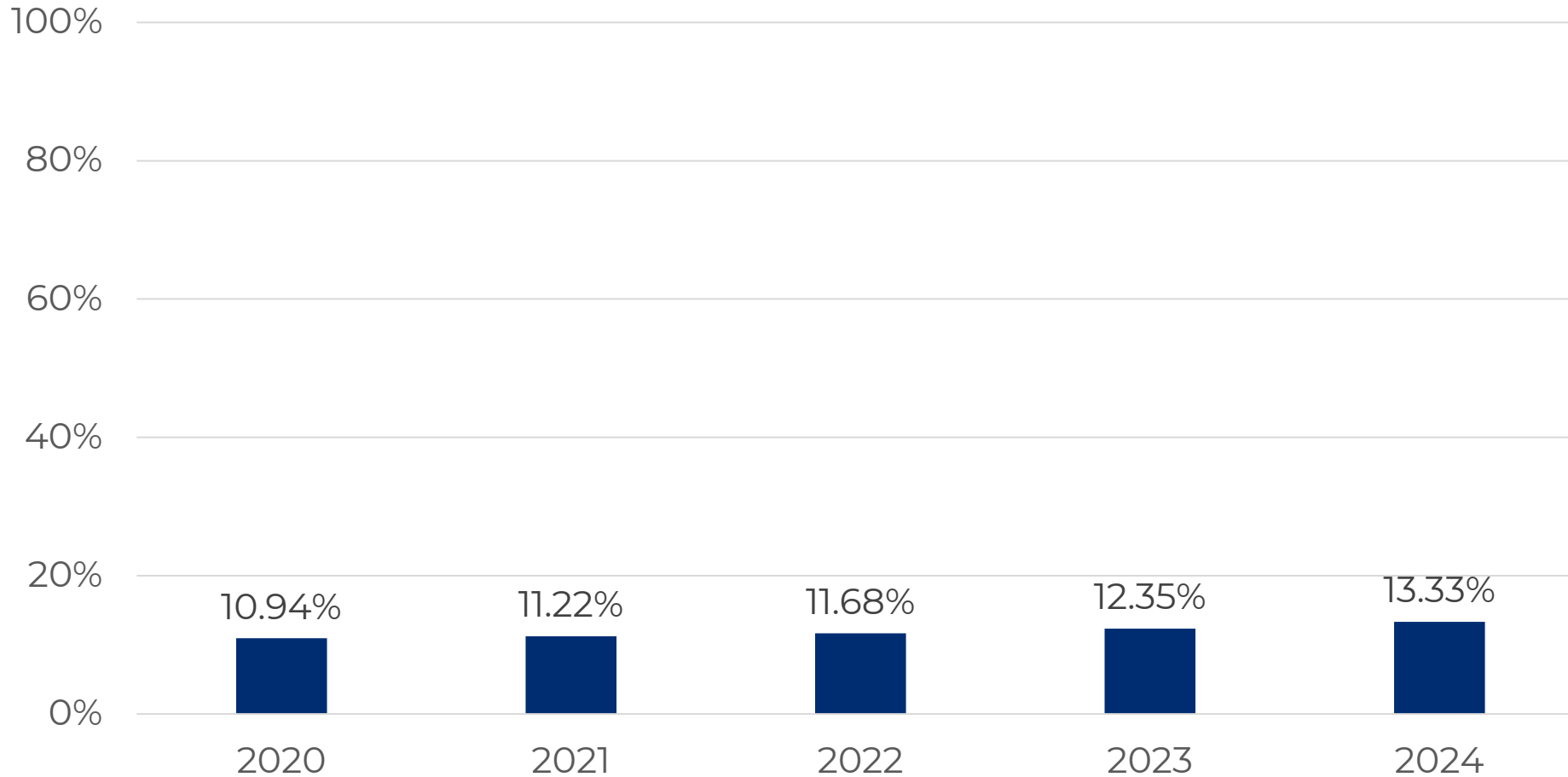


Over the past 5 years, the percentage of K-12 SWD with a speech or language impairment (SLI) has remained relatively consistent while the number of enrolled SPED students has increased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
SLI	15.23%	15.45%	15.33%	15.37%	15.17%



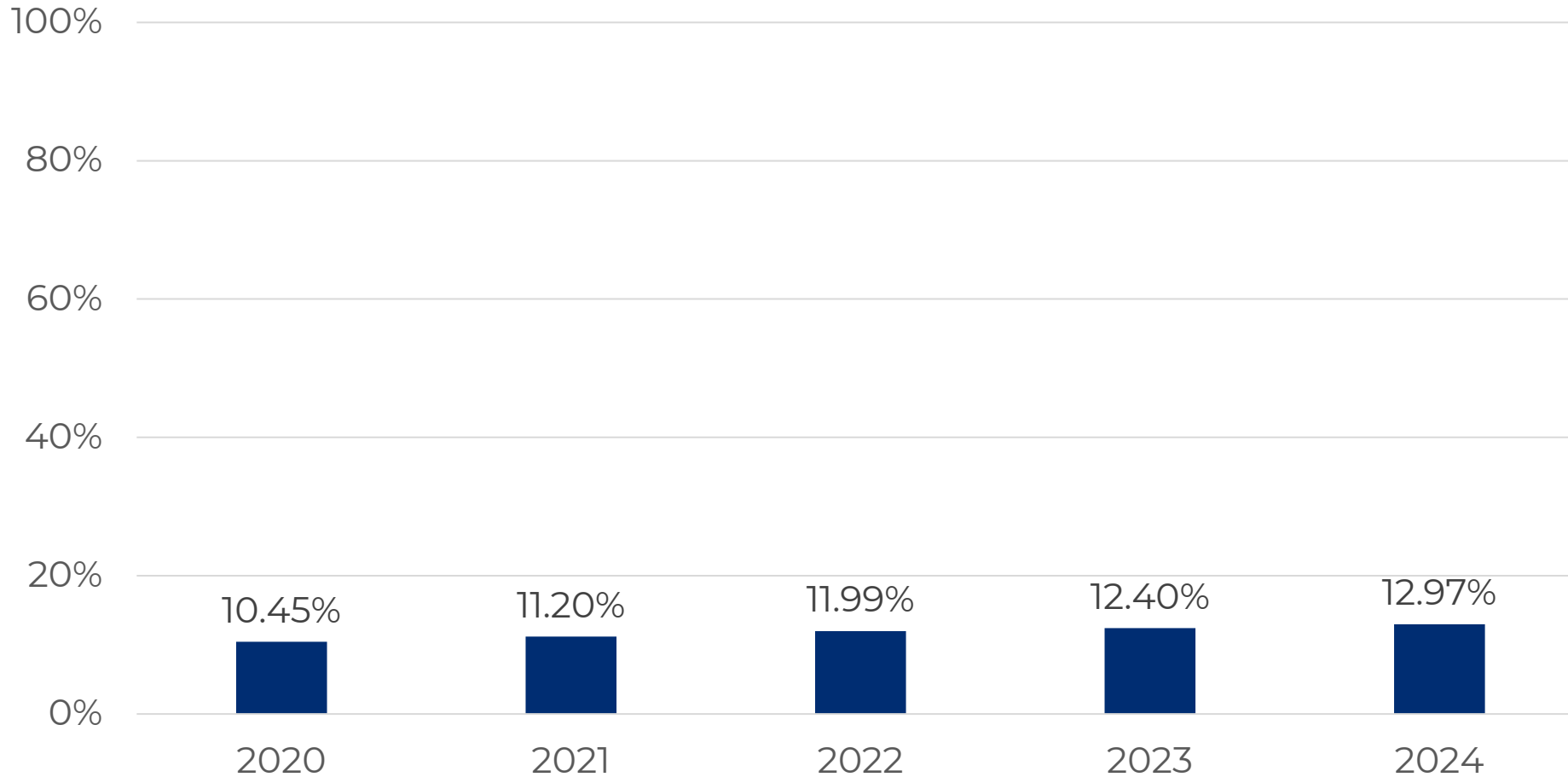
# 5-Year Trend, % K-12 SWD with A



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of K-12 SWD with autism (A) has increased along with the number of enrolled SPED students.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
A	10.94%	11.22%	11.68%	12.35%	13.33%

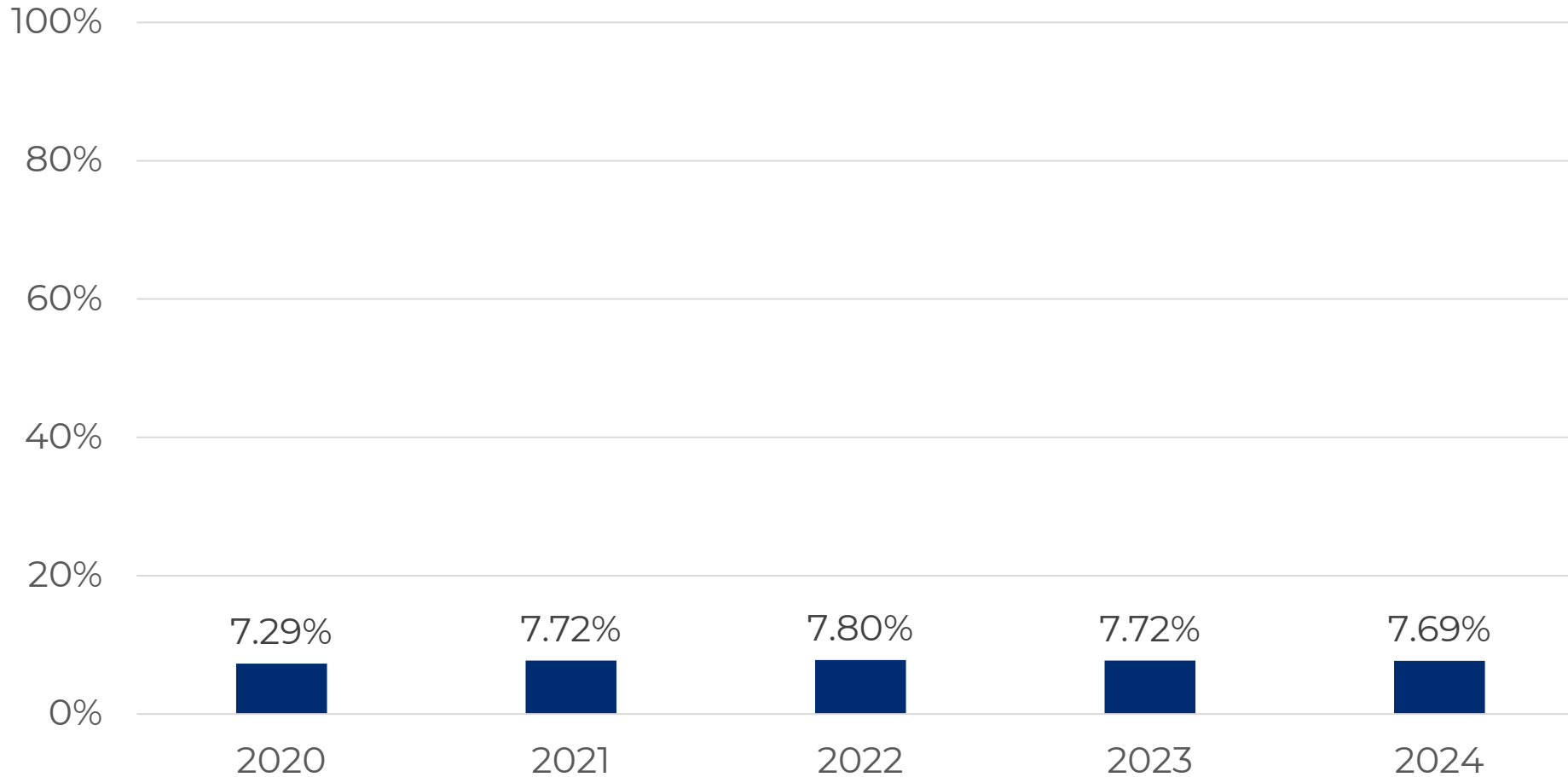
# 5-Year Trend, % K-12 SWD with OHI



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of K-12 SWD with other health impairment (OHI) has increased along with the number of enrolled SPED students.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
OHI	10.45%	11.20%	11.99%	12.40%	12.97%

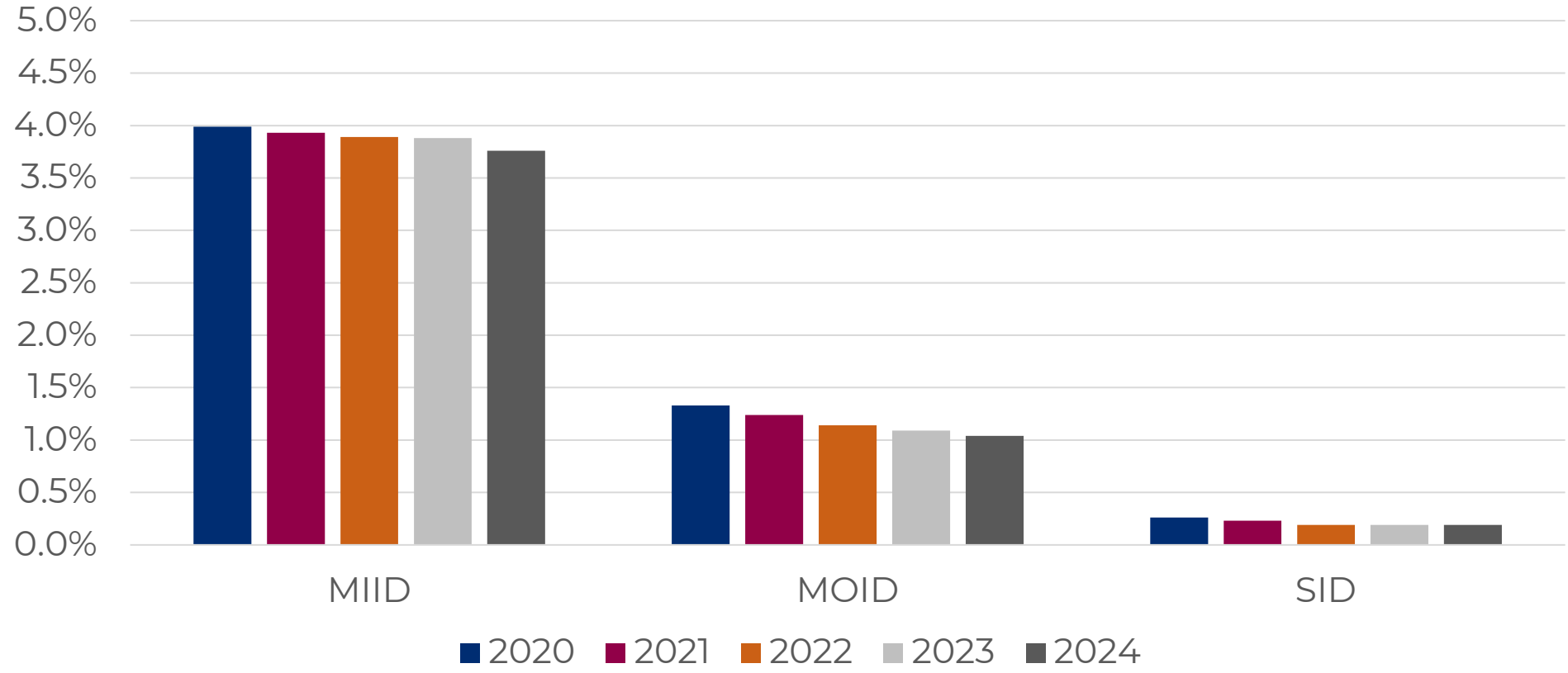
# 5-Year Trend, % K-12 SWD with DD



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of K-12 SWD with a developmental delay (DD) has remained relatively consistent while the number of enrolled SPED students has increased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
DD	7.29%	7.72%	7.80%	7.72%	7.69%

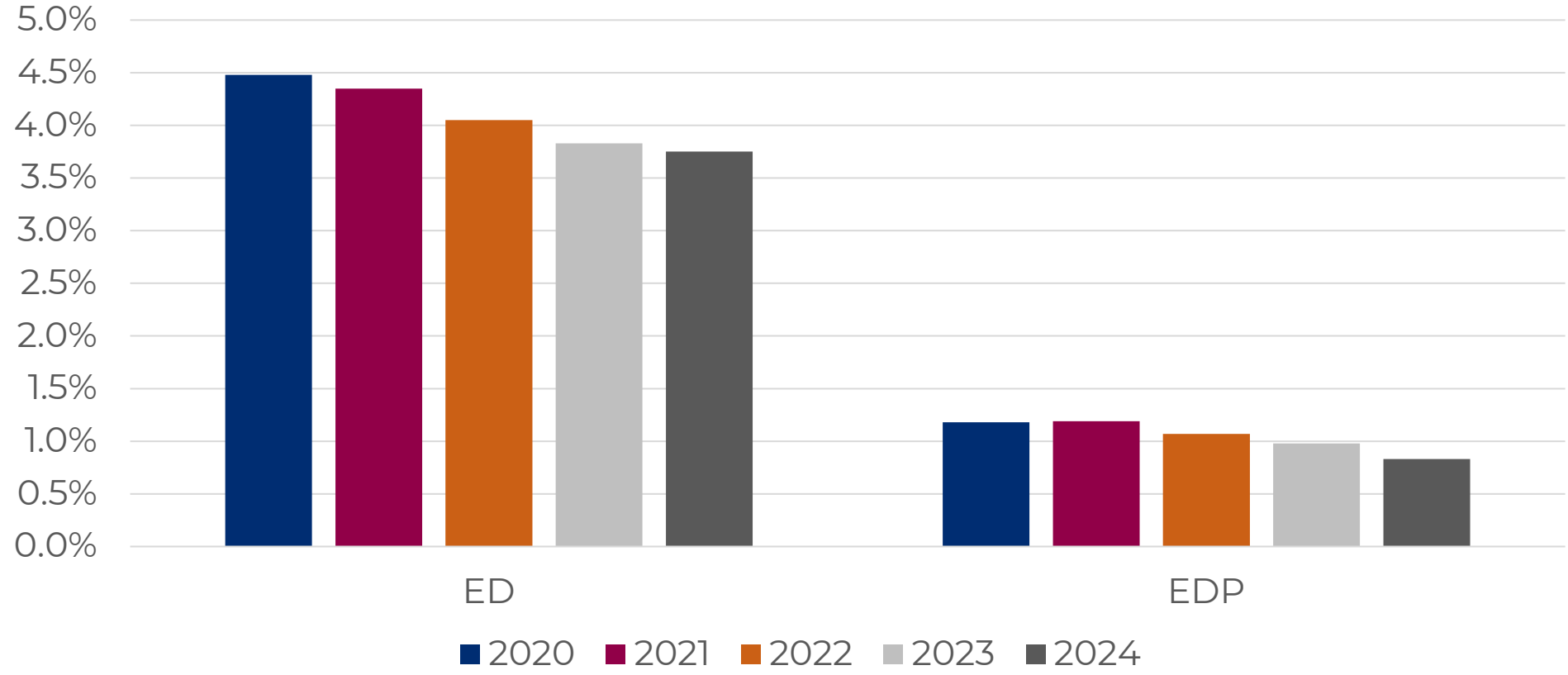
# 5-Year Trend, % K-12 SWD with MIID, MOID, or SID



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of K-12 SWD with a mild intellectual disability (MIID), moderate intellectual disability (MOID) and severe intellectual disability (SID) has decreased while the number of enrolled SPED students has increased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
MIID	3.99%	3.93%	3.89%	3.88%	3.76%
MOID	1.33%	1.24%	1.14%	1.09%	1.04%
SID	0.26%	0.23%	0.19%	0.19%	0.19%

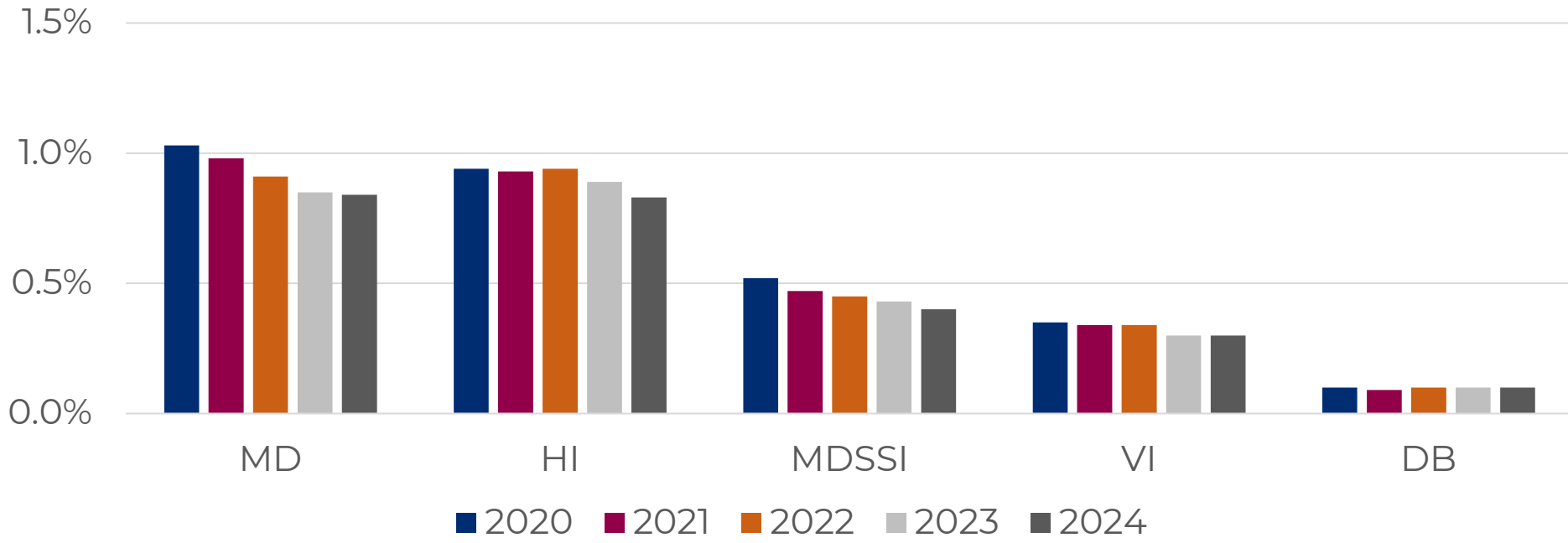
# 5-Year Trend, % K-12 SWD with ED or EDP



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of K-12 SWD with an emotional disability (ED) or emotional disability in private or intensive special education programs (EDP) has decreased while the number of enrolled SPED students has increased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
ED	4.48%	4.35%	4.05%	3.83%	3.75%
EDP	1.18%	1.19%	1.07%	0.98%	0.83%

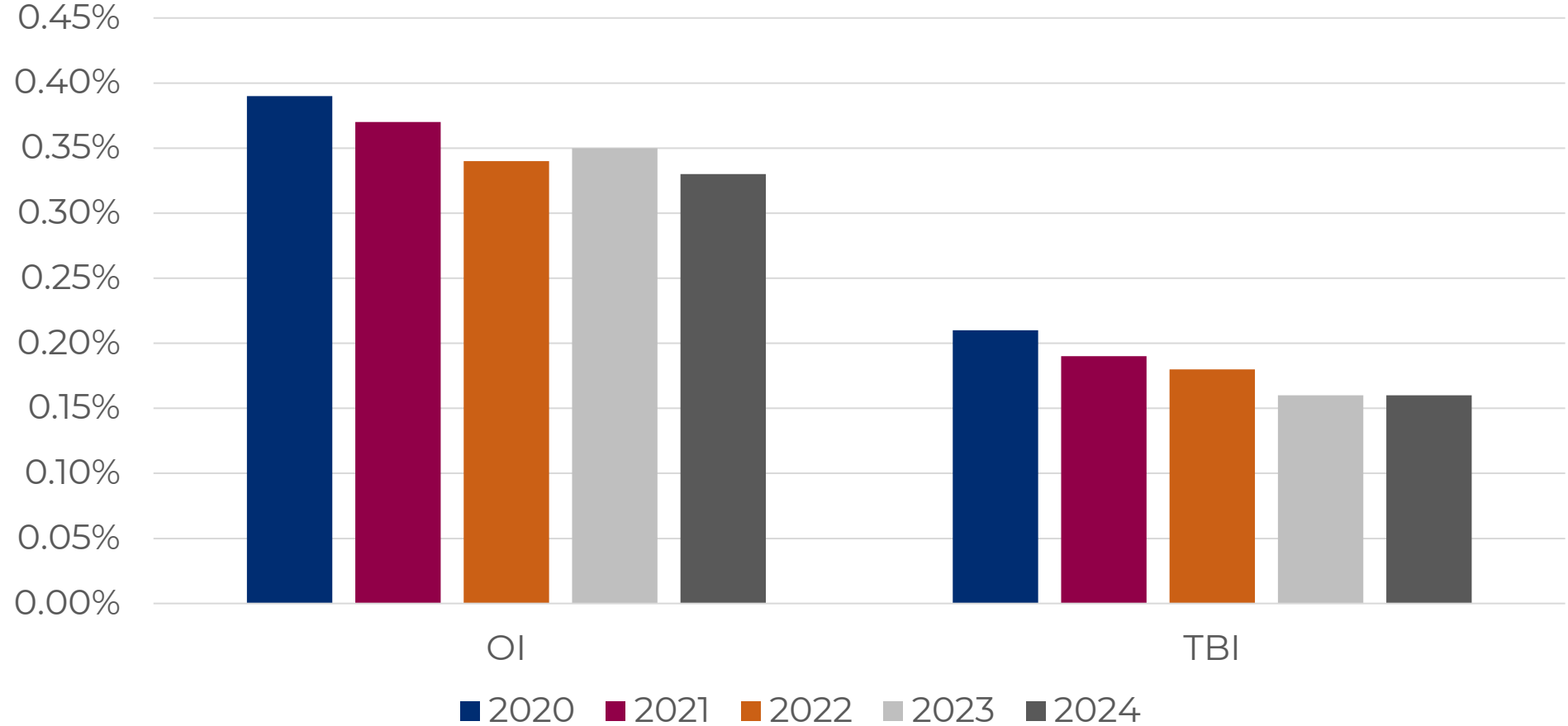
# 5-Year Trend, % K-12 SWD with MD, HI, MDSSI, VI, or DB



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of K-12 SWD with multiple disabilities (MD), hearing impairment (HI), multiple disabilities with severe sensory impairment (MDSSI) and visual impairment (VI) has decreased. Deaf-blindness (DB) has remained relatively consistent while the number of enrolled SPED students has increased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
MD	1.03%	0.98%	0.91%	0.85%	0.84%
HI	0.94%	0.93%	0.94%	0.89%	0.83%
MDSSI	0.52%	0.47%	0.45%	0.43%	0.40%
VI	0.35%	0.34%	0.34%	0.30%	0.30%
DB	0.10%	0.09%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%

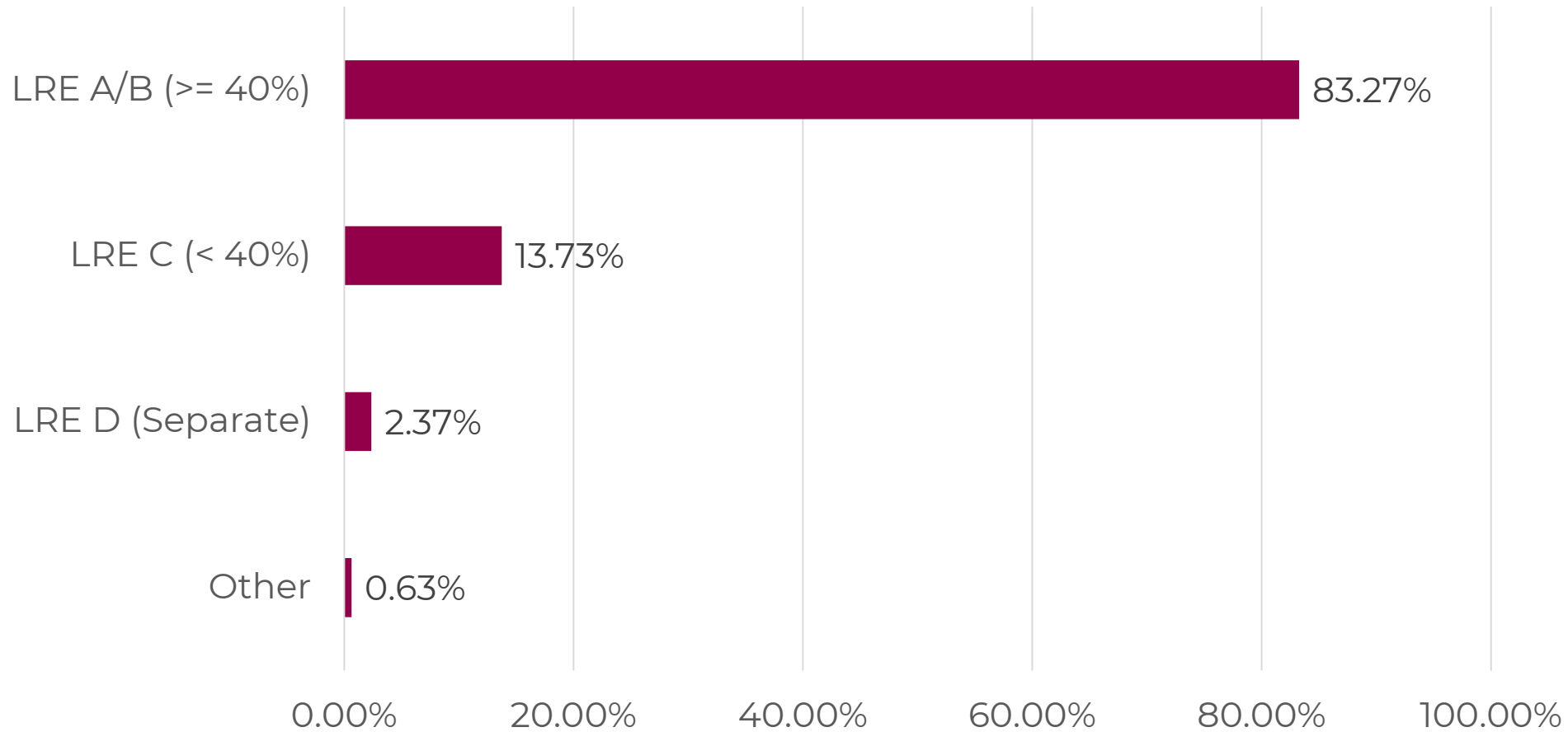
# 5-Year Trend, % K-12 SWD with OI or TBI



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of K-12 SWD with an orthopedic impairment (OI) or traumatic brain injury (TBI) has decreased while the number of enrolled SPED students has increased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
OI	0.39%	0.37%	0.34%	0.35%	0.33%
TBI	0.21%	0.19%	0.18%	0.16%	0.16%

# SY 2023-24, K-12 SWD by LRE

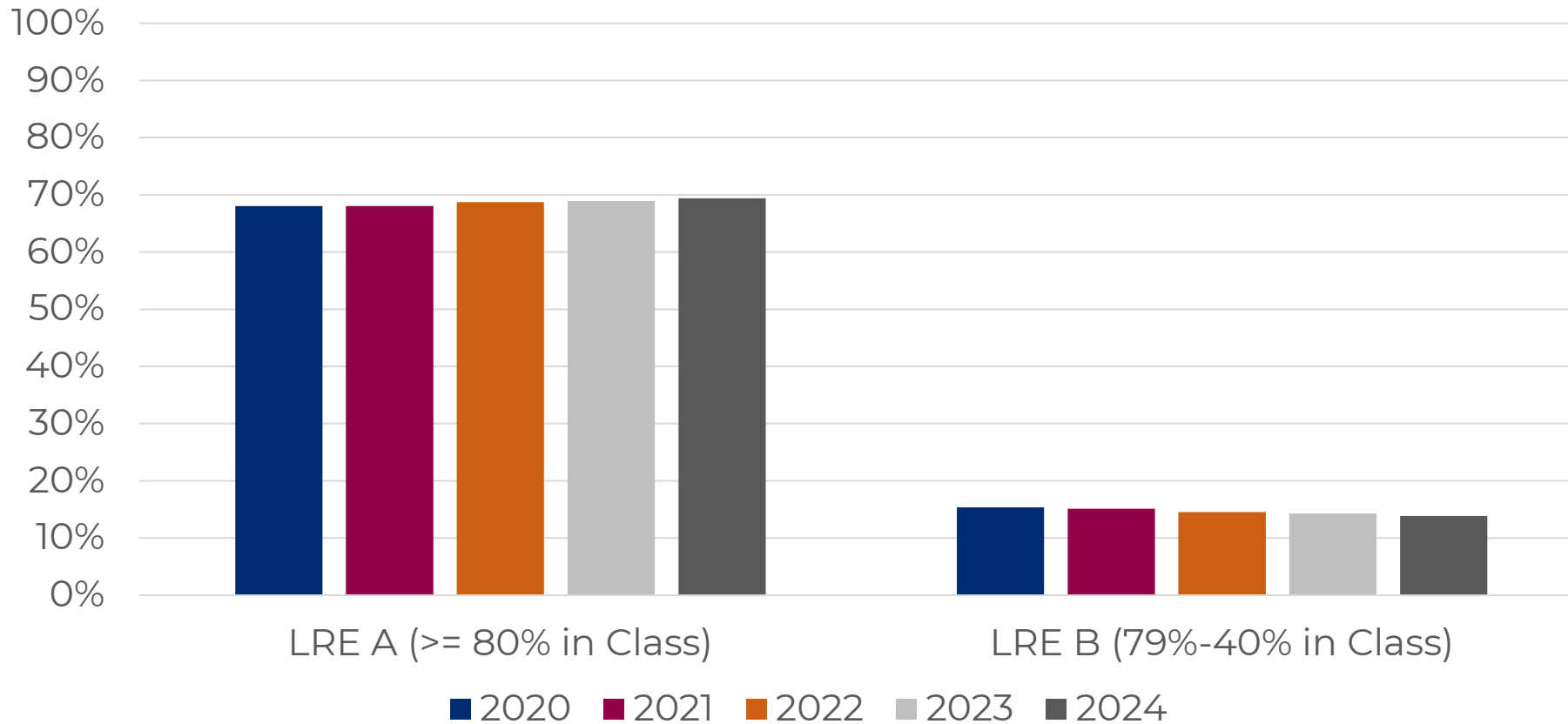


In school year 2023-24, most K-12 SWD were inside the regular class at least 40% of the day.

	LRE A/B (>= 40%)	LRE C (< 40%)	LRE D (Separate)	Other
# SPED	120,326	19,835	3,424	917
% SPED	83.27%	13.73%	2.37%	0.63%



# % K-12 SWD in LRE A or B

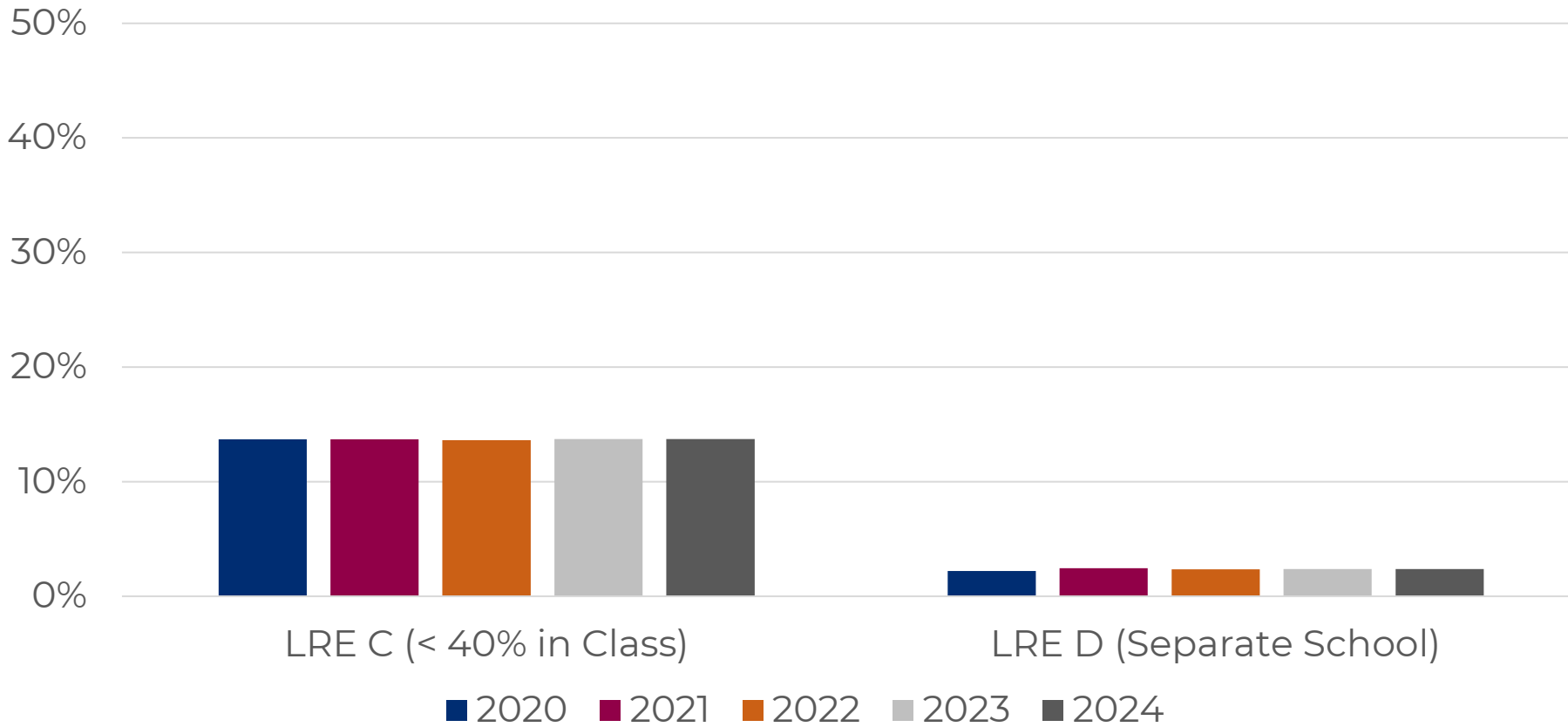


Over the past 5 years, the percentage of K-12 SWD who are in the regular class 80% or more of the day has increased.

The percentage of K-12 SWD who spend between 79% and 40% of their day in the regular class has remained relatively consistent.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
LRE A	68.03%	68.04%	68.73%	68.93%	69.41%
LRE B	15.38%	15.12%	14.56%	14.30%	13.86%

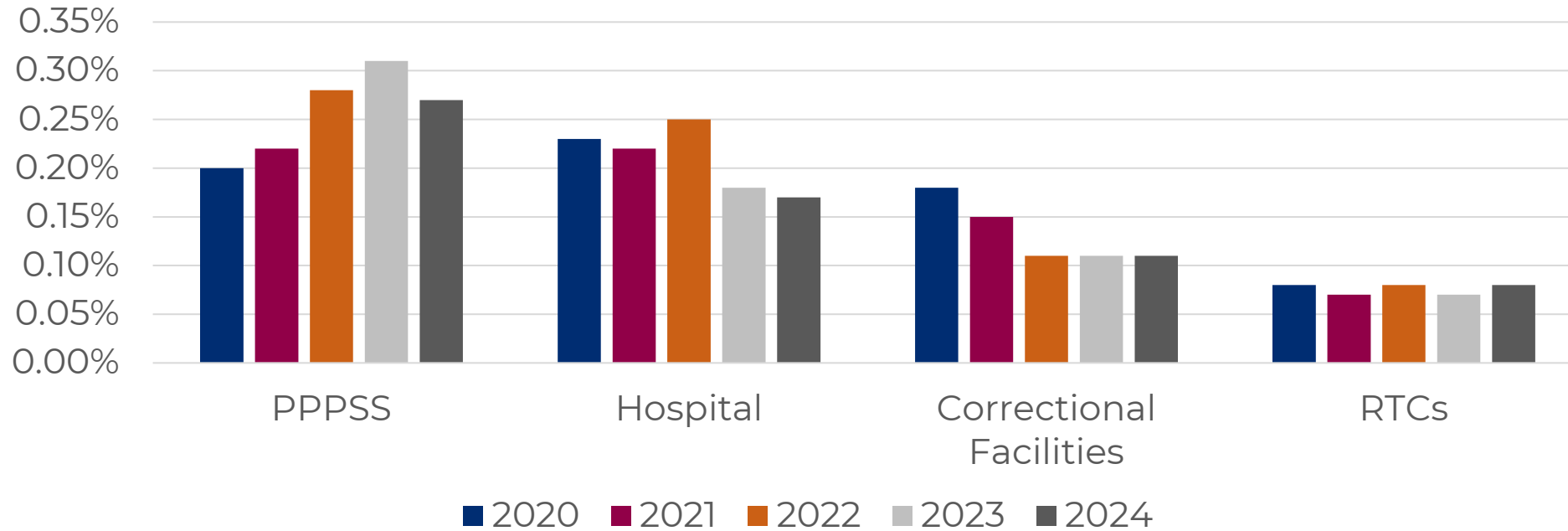
# % K-12 SWD in LRE C or D



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of K-12 SWD who spend less than 40% of their day in the regular class or in separate schools has remained relatively consistent.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
LRE C	13.69%	13.70%	13.62%	13.71%	13.73%
LRE D	2.21%	2.46%	2.36%	2.39%	2.37%

# % K-12 SWD in PPPSS, Hospitals, Correctional Facilities, or RTCs



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of parentally placed private school students (PPPSS) K-12 SWD has increased while the percentage of K-12 SWD in hospitals, and correctional facilities decreased. Enrollment in residential treatment centers (RTCs) has remained relatively consistent.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
PPPSS	0.20%	0.22%	0.28%	0.31%	0.27%
Hospital	0.23%	0.22%	0.25%	0.18%	0.17%
Correctional	0.18%	0.15%	0.11%	0.11%	0.11%
RTC	0.08%	0.07%	0.08%	0.07%	0.08%

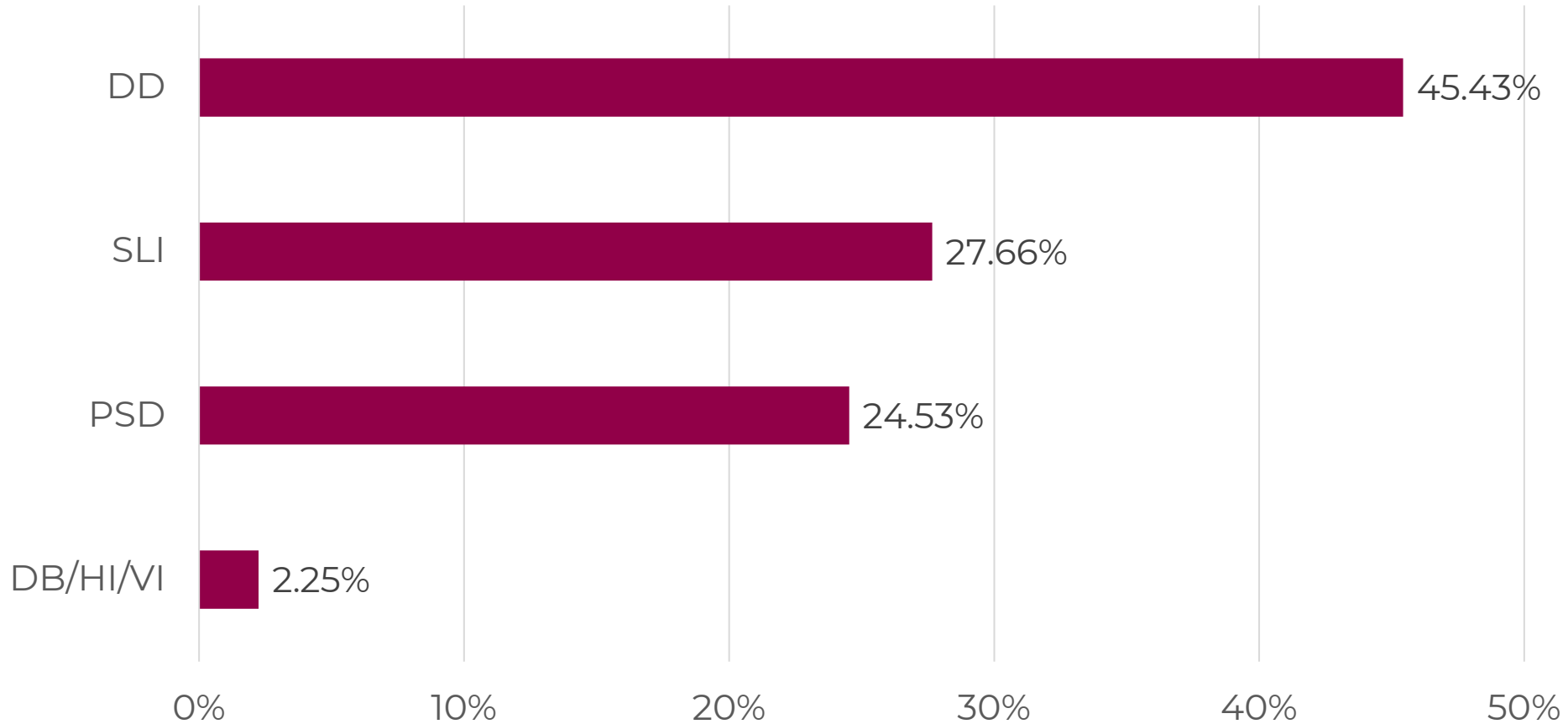
# Preschool Special Education Trend Data

Data source: October 1 Child Count

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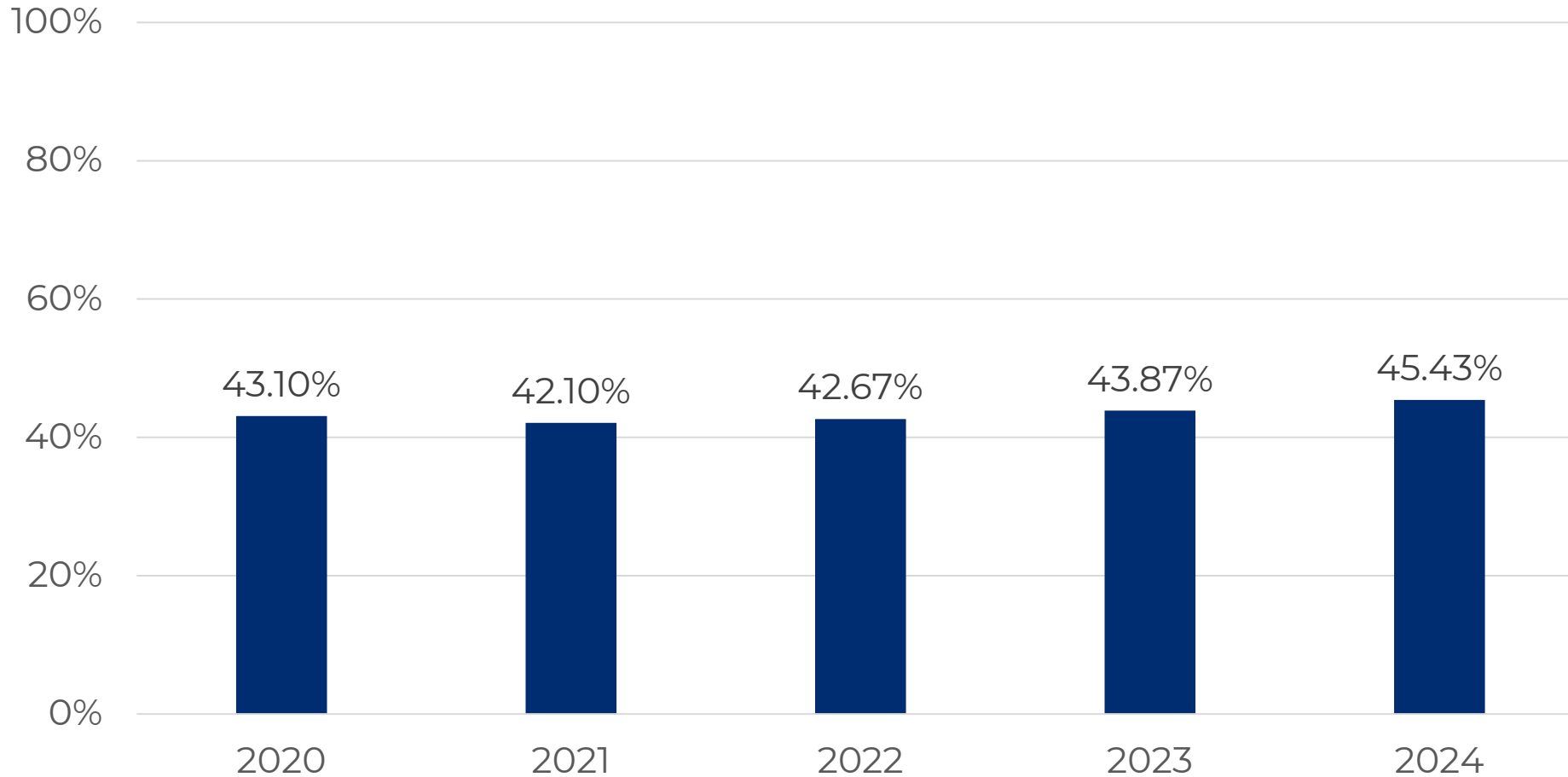
# SY 2023-24, Preschool CWD by Primary Disability



In school year 2023-24, the most common disability among preschool CWD was developmental delay (DD).

	DD	SLI	PSD	DB/HI/VI
# SPED	4,346	2,646	2,347	215
% SPED	45.43%	27.66%	24.53%	2.25%

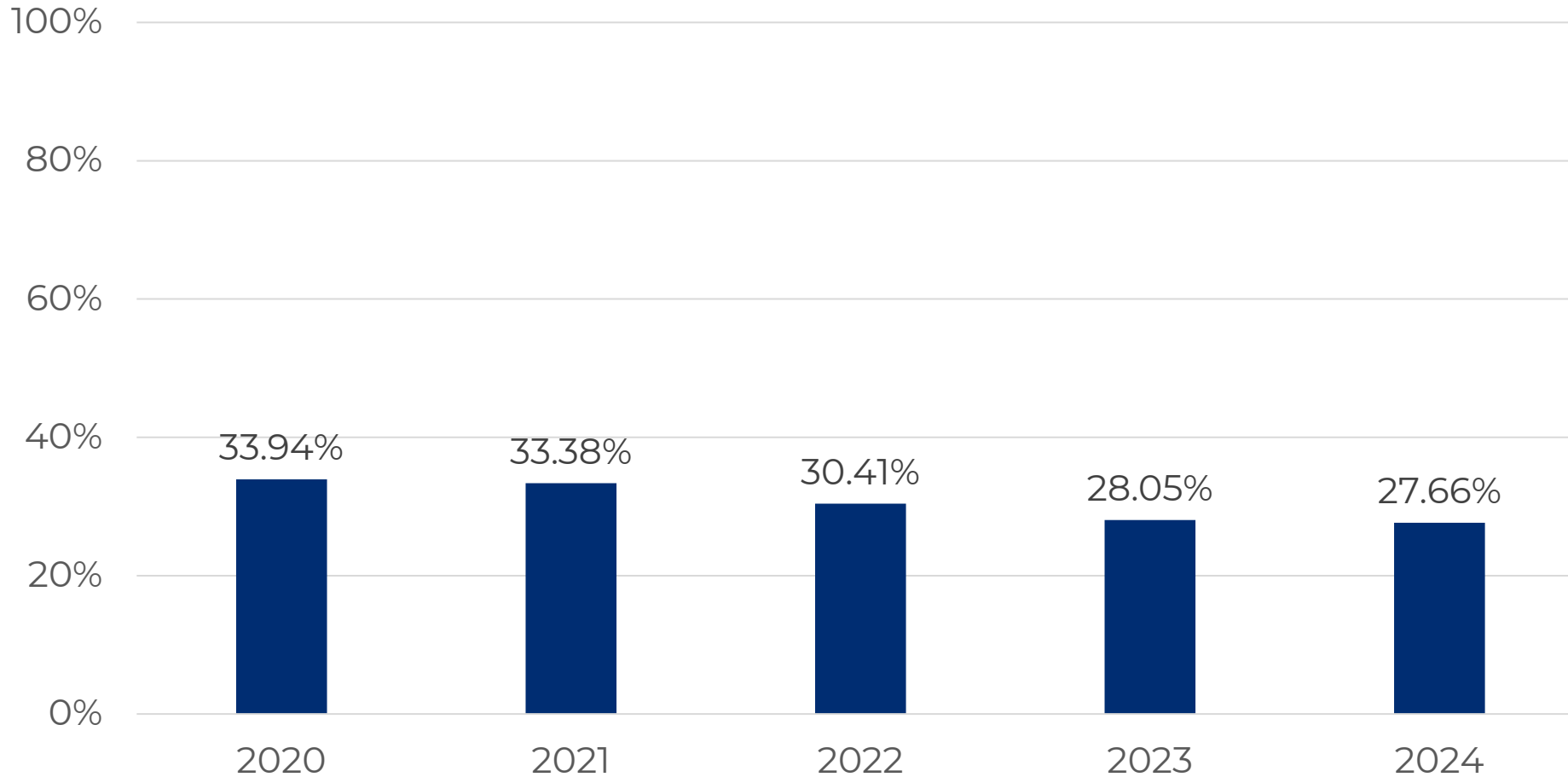
# 5-Year Trend, % Preschool CWD with DD



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of preschool CWD with a developmental delay (DD) has increased while the number of enrolled SPED students has increased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
DD	43.10%	42.10%	42.67%	43.87%	45.43%

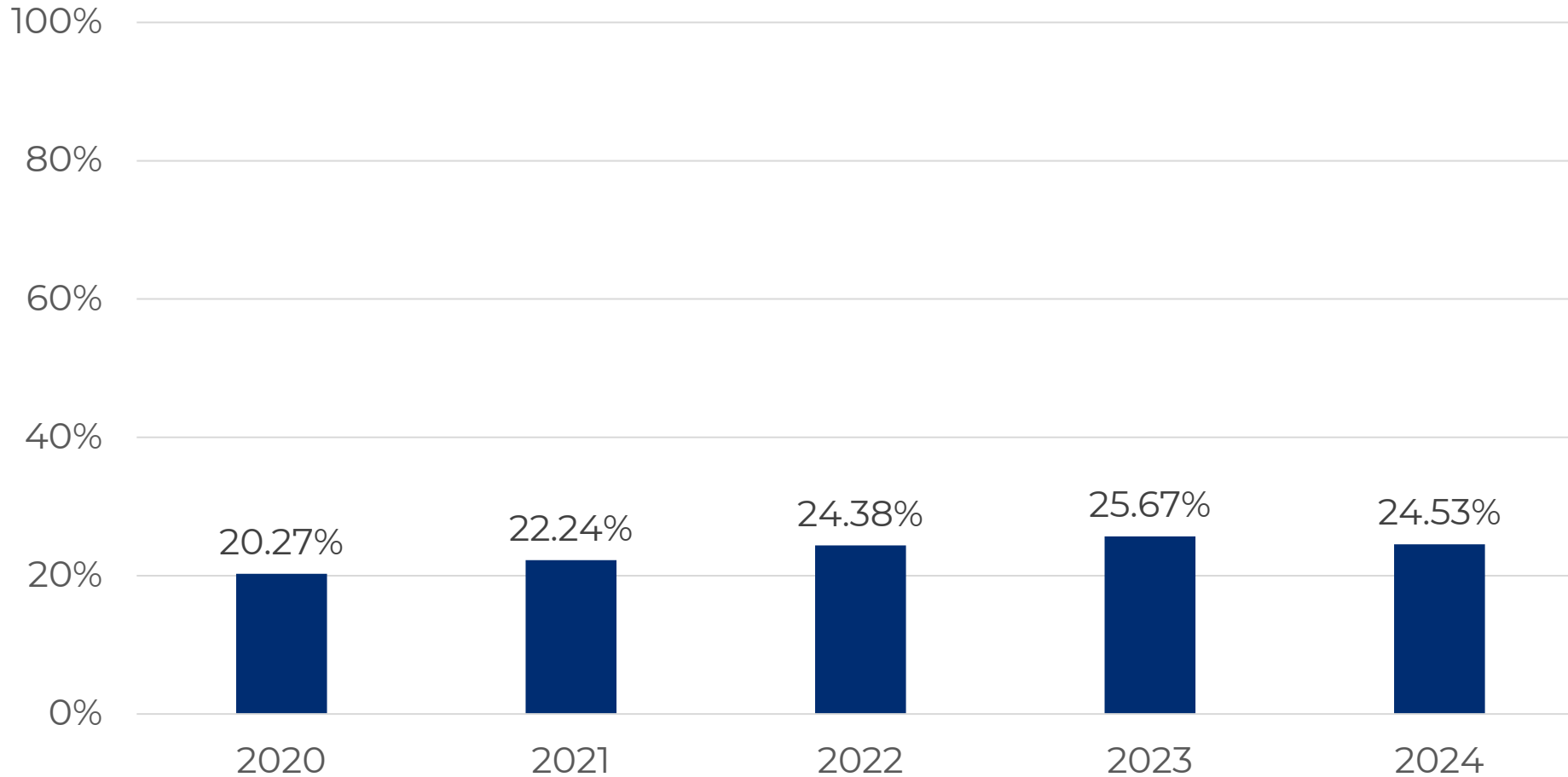
# 5-Year Trend, % Preschool CWD with SLI



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of preschool CWD with a speech/language impairment (SLI) has decreased while the number of enrolled SPED students has increased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
SLI	33.94%	33.38%	30.41%	28.05%	27.66%

# 5-Year Trend, % Preschool CWD with PSD

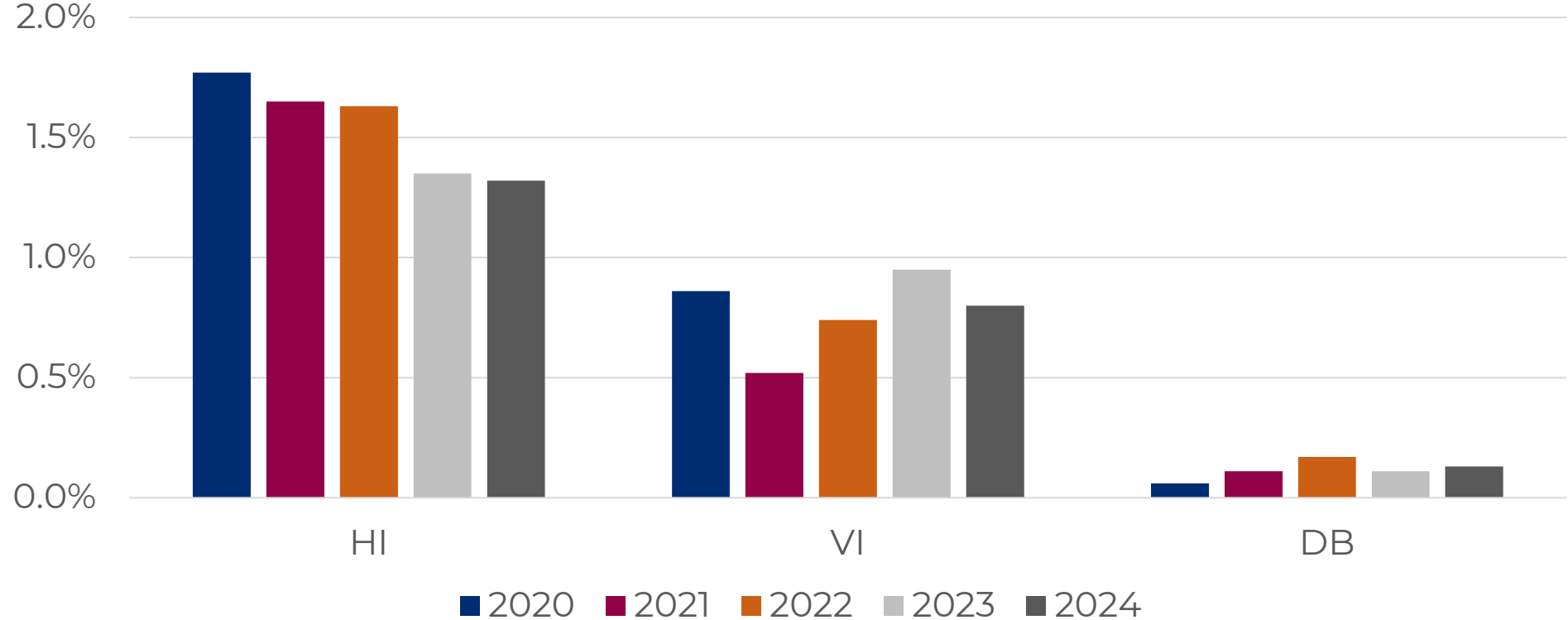


Over the past 5 years, the percentage of preschool CWD with preschool severe delay (PSD) has increased along with the number of enrolled SPED students.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
PSD	20.27%	22.24%	24.38%	25.67%	24.53%



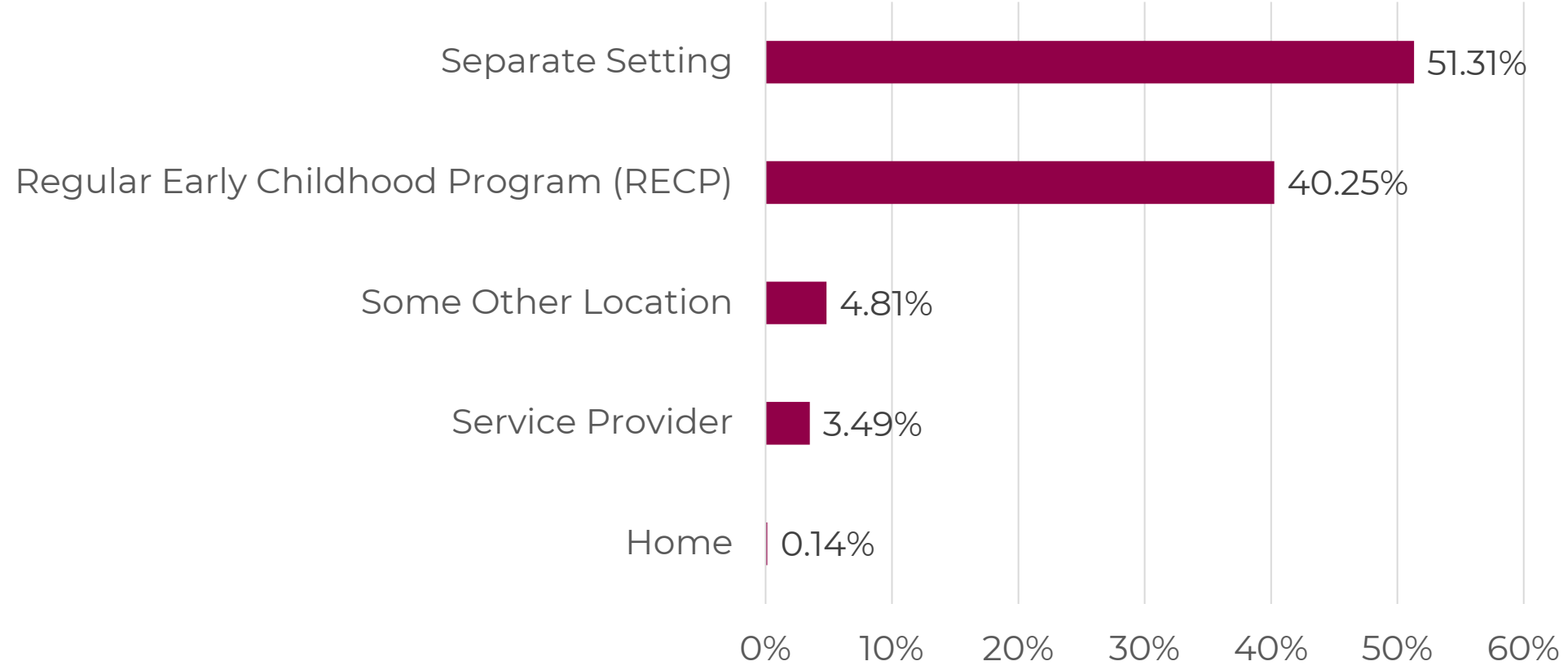
# 5-Year Trend, % Preschool CWD with HI, VI, or DB



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of preschool CWD with a hearing impairment (HI) decreased. The percentage of preschool CWD with a visual impairment (VI) or deaf-blindness (DB) has remained relatively consistent while the number of enrolled SPED students has increased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
HI	1.77%	1.65%	1.63%	1.35%	1.32%
VI	0.86%	0.52%	0.74%	0.95%	0.80%
DB	0.06%	0.11%	0.17%	0.11%	0.13%

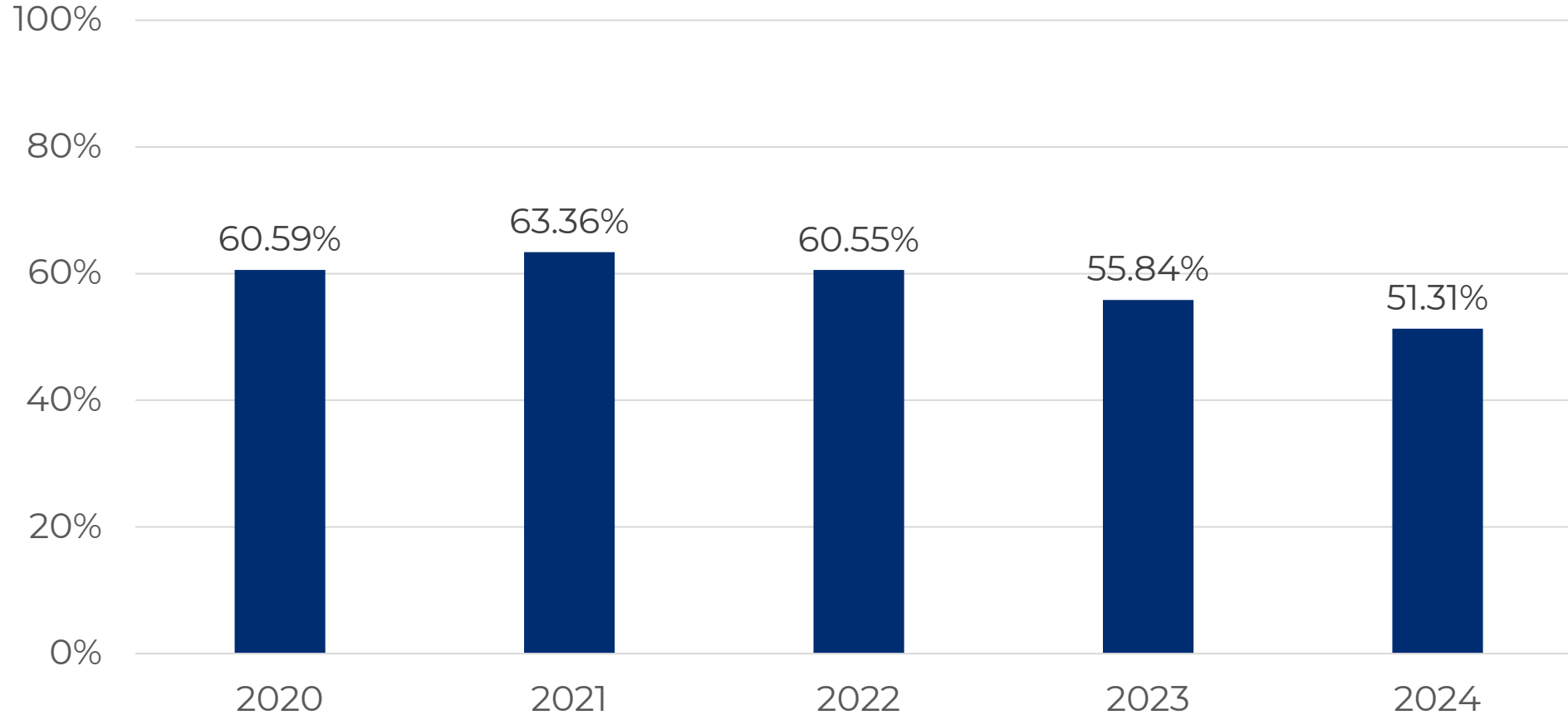
# SY 2023-24, Preschool CWD by LRE



In school year 2023-24, the most common location for preschool CWD was in a separate setting.

	Separate Setting	RECP	Some Other Location	Service Provider	Home
# SPED	4,909	3,851	460	334	13
% SPED	51.31%	40.25%	4.81%	3.49%	0.14%

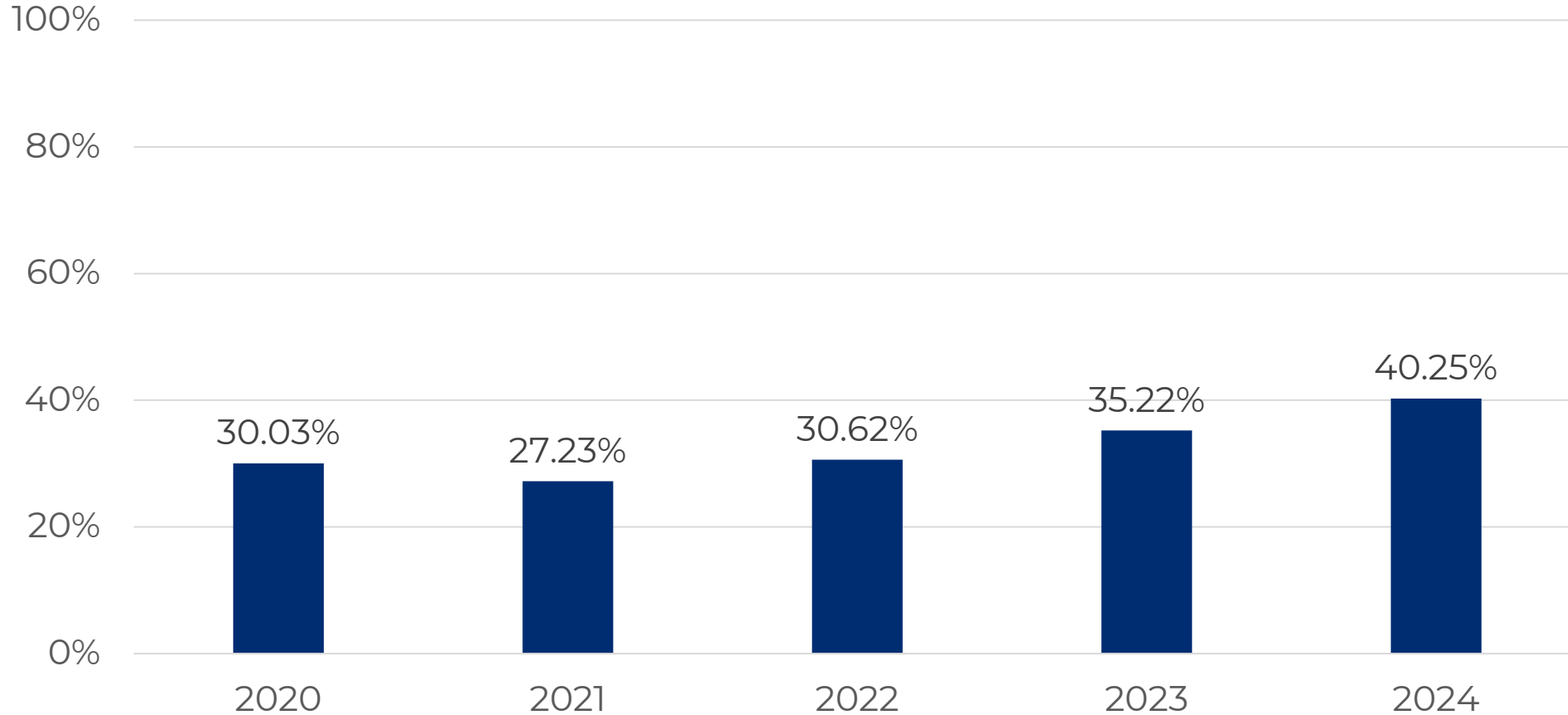
# 5-Year Trend, % Preschool CWD in a Separate Setting



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of preschool CWD in a separate setting has decreased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Separate Setting	60.59%	63.36%	60.55%	55.84%	51.31%

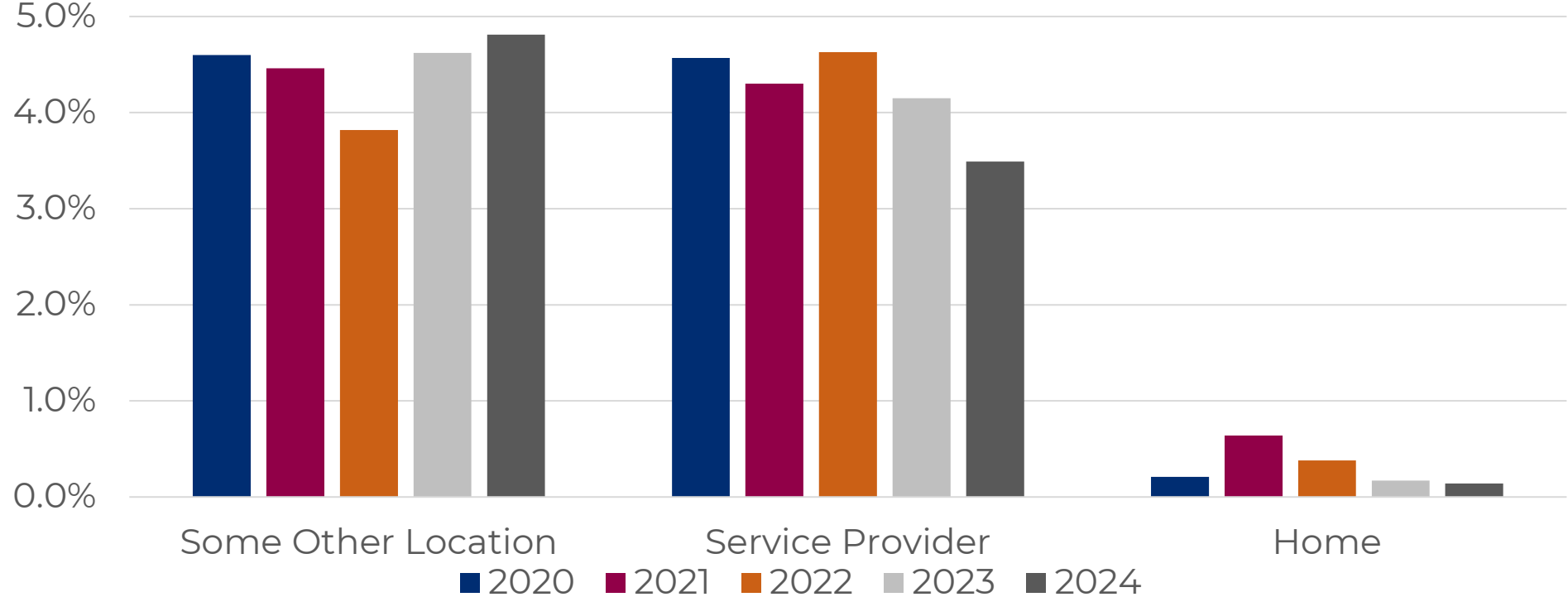
# 5-Year Trend, % Preschool CWD in RECP



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of preschool CWD in a regular early childhood program (RECP) has increased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
RECP	30.03%	27.23%	30.62%	35.22%	40.25%

# 5-Year Trend, % Preschool CWD in Some Other Location, Service Provider, or at Home



Over the past 5 years, the percentage of preschool CWD in some other location has remained relatively consistent.

The percentage of preschool CWD receiving services from a service provider has decreased.

In 2021, preschool CWD receiving services in the home increased.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Some Other Location	4.60%	4.46%	3.82%	4.62%	4.81%
Service Provider	4.57%	4.30%	4.63%	4.15%	3.49%
Home	0.21%	0.64%	0.38%	0.17%	0.14%



# Q&As





## Contact Us

[Special Education Web Page](#)

[ESS Operations Team Email](#)

Chris Brown—Director of Operations  
Exceptional Student Services  
[Email Chris Brown](#)

Heather Dunphy—SPP/APR Coordinator  
Exceptional Student Services  
[Email Heather Dunphy](#)

Adam Zogut—Data Analyst  
Exceptional Student Services  
[Email Adam Zogut](#)