

# **2016 UPDATE ON CLASS SIZE, OVERCROWDING, AND CAPITAL PLAN DISTRICT 18 AND CITYWIDE**

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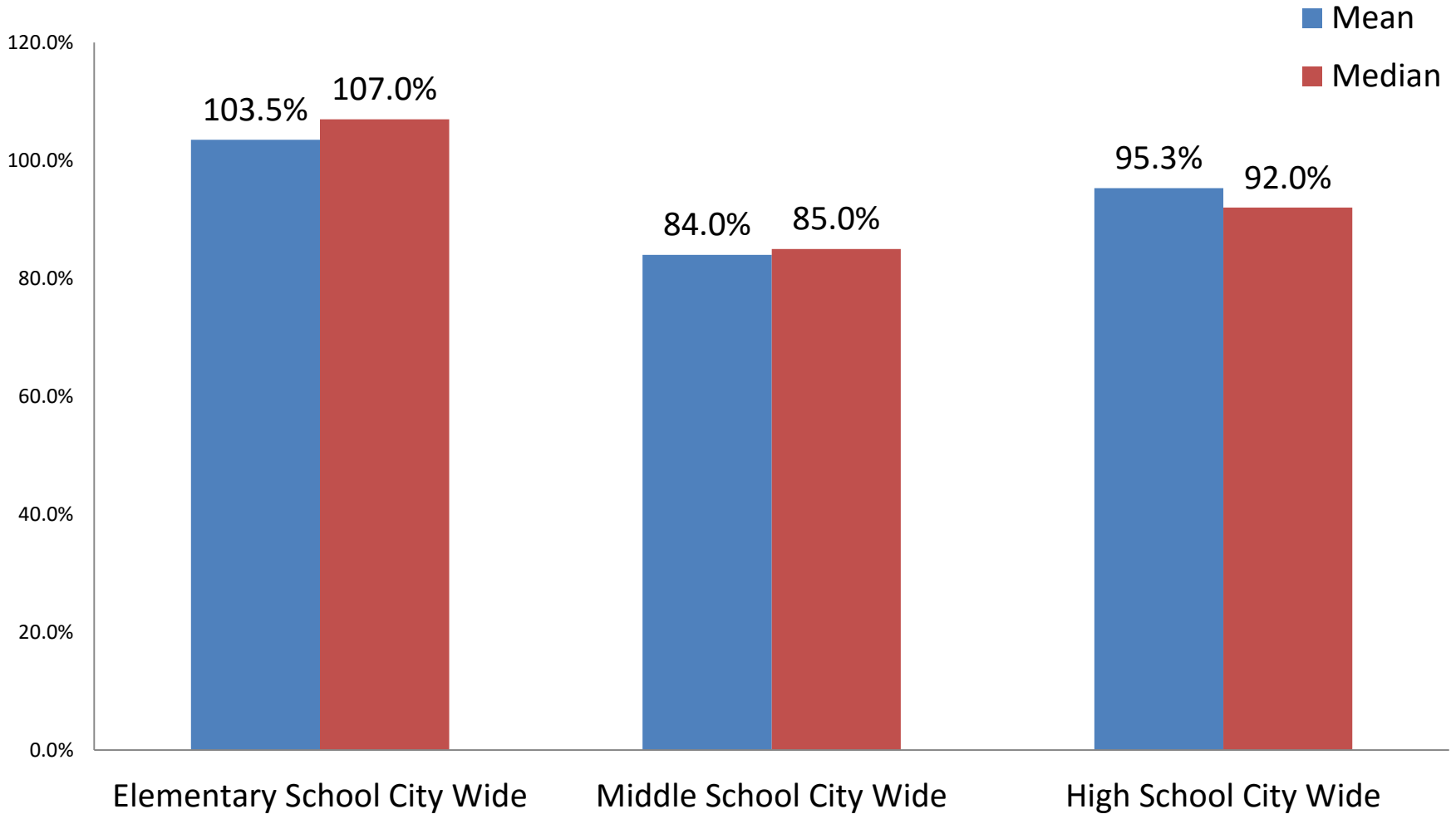
Prepared by Class Size Matters  
March 7, 2016

# School Utilization Rates and Class Sizes at critical levels

- Citywide, schools have become more overcrowded over last six years. More than 556,000 students citywide (53% of NYC's student population) are in overcrowded buildings.
- Elementary schools city wide average building utilization rate is 103.5%
- Large classes continue to increase, with number of K-3 students in classes of 30 or more doubling in the past five years
- More than 350,000 NYC school kids are in classes of 30 or more
- Class size averages have increased sharply citywide and in D15 since 2007, far above Contracts for Excellence goals of no more than 20 pupils in grades K-3, 23 in grades 4-8, and 25 in grades 9-12.

## Citywide School Utilization Averages

*Over 556,000 NYC Students are in overcrowded classes and about 53% are in overcrowded buildings*

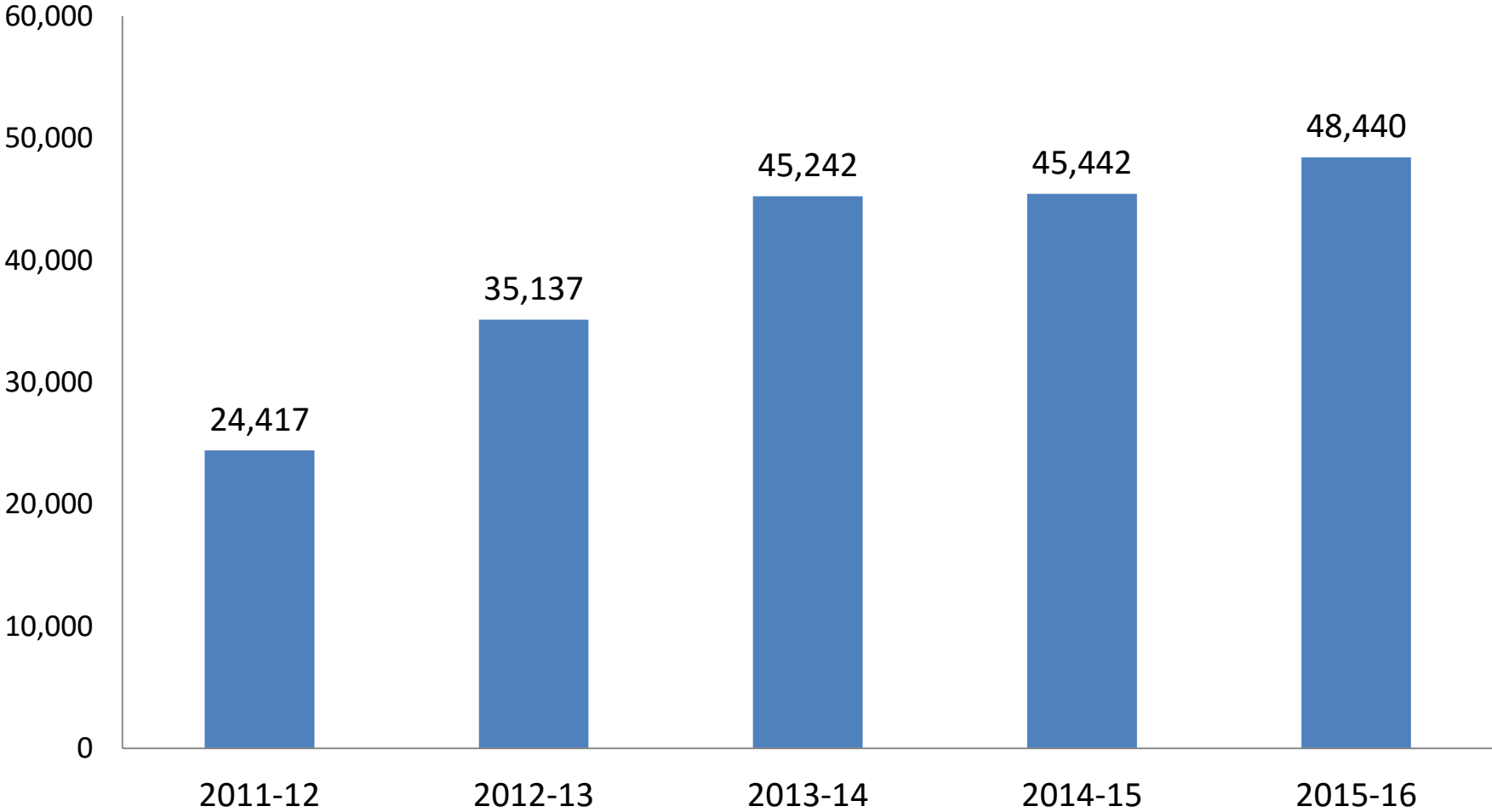


\*IS/PS Schools are counted as Elementary Schools, and Secondary Schools are counted as Middle Schools

Source: 2014-2015 DOE Blue Book

# Trend of K-3 Students in classes of 30 or more

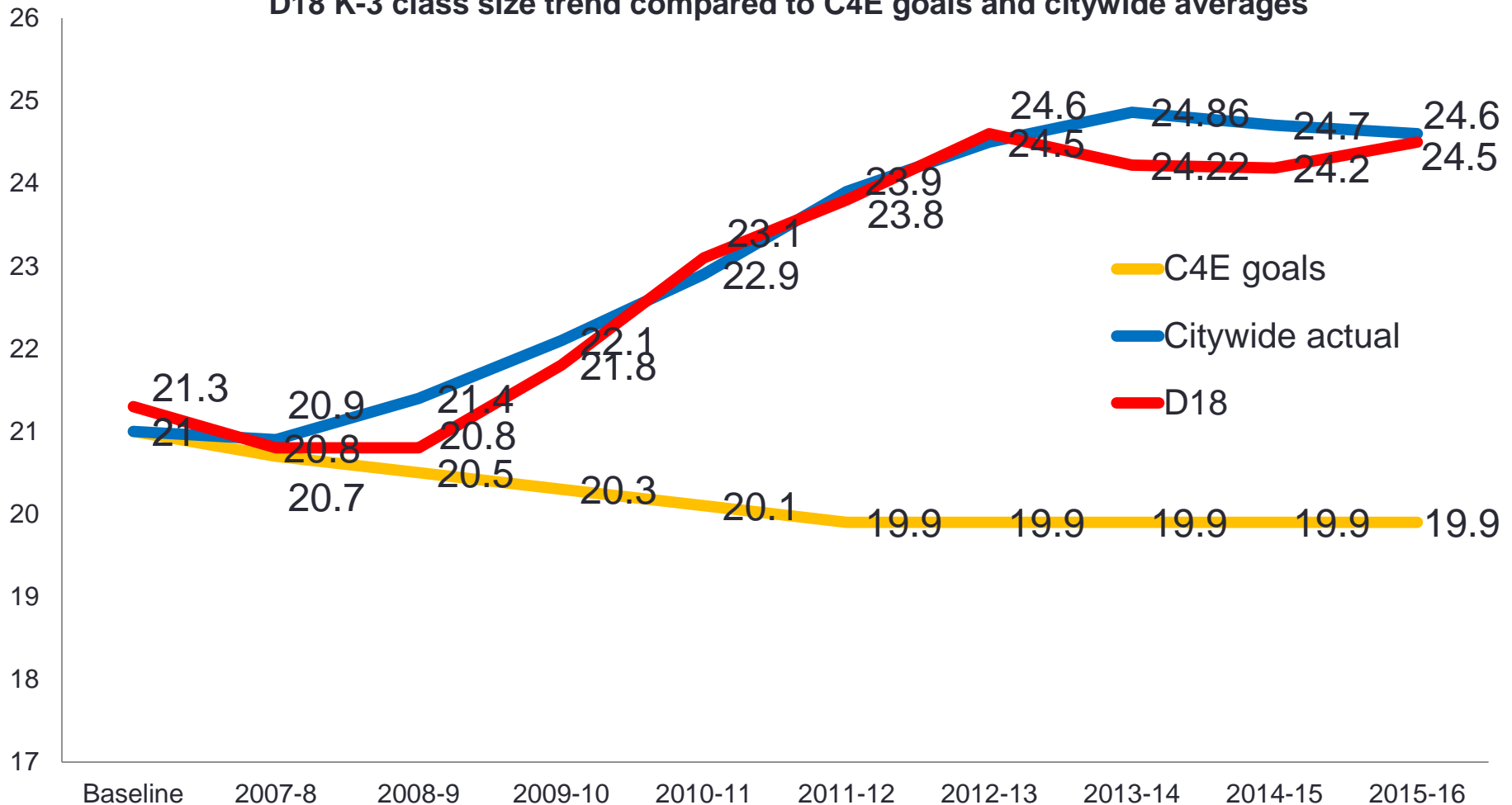
*The number has nearly doubled in the past five years*



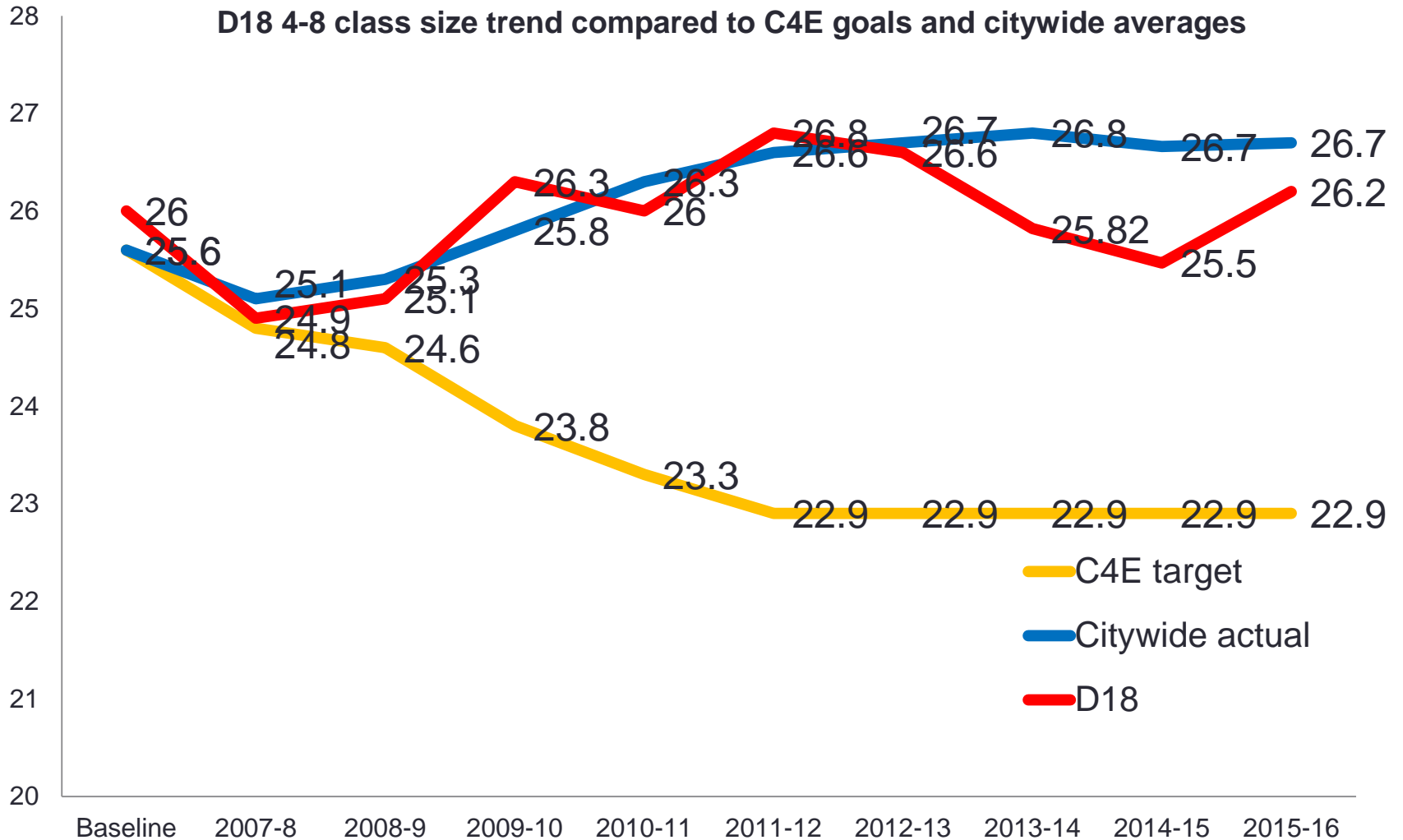
Data Source: DOE Citywide Class Size Distribution data, 2011-15

***In grades K-3 class sizes have increased in D18 by 17.8% since 2007  
 -- far above C4E goals***

**D18 K-3 class size trend compared to C4E goals and citywide averages**

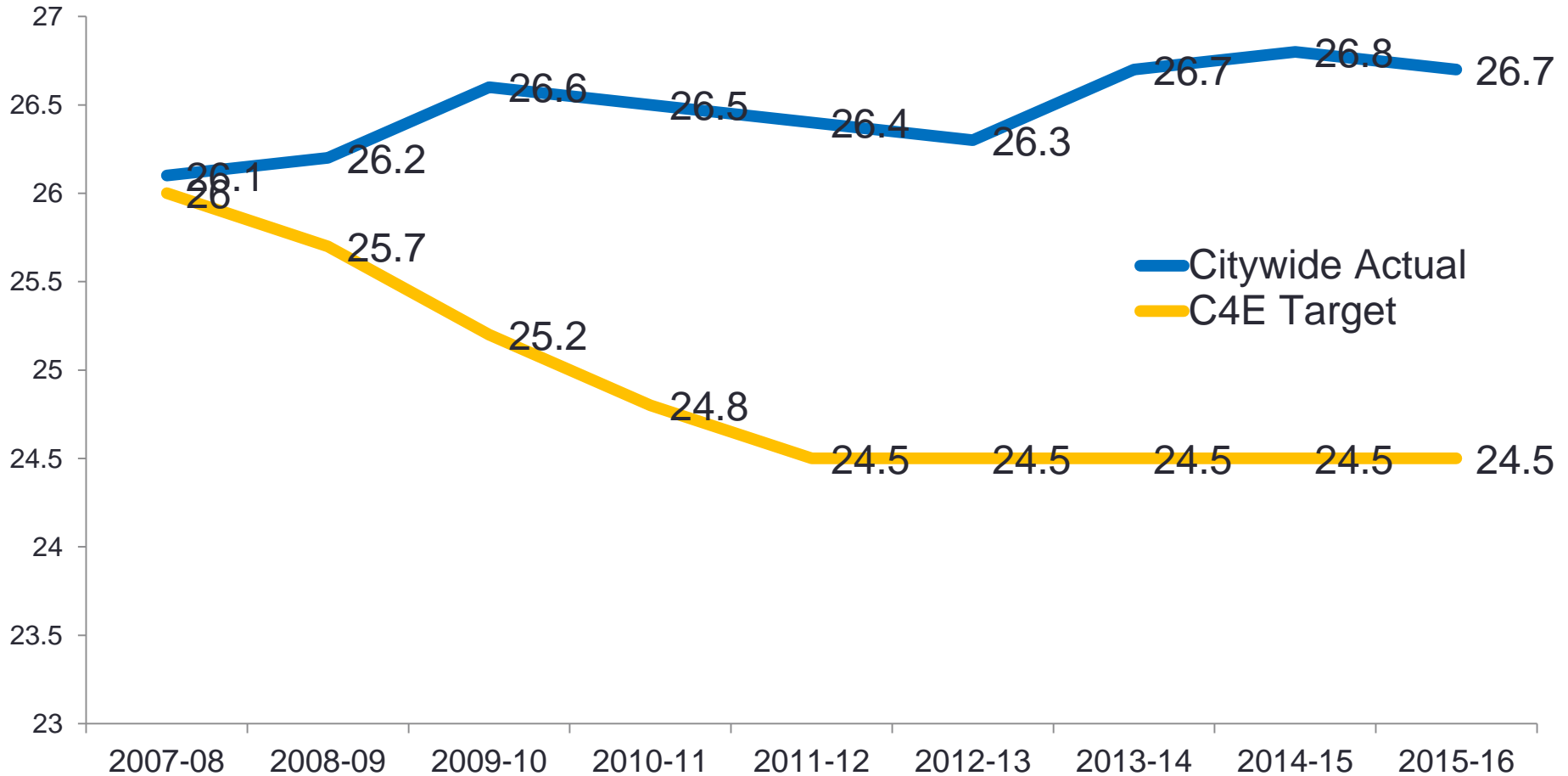


***Class sizes in D18 have increased in grades 4-8 by 5.2% since 2007 and are now far above C4E goals***



***Class sizes citywide have increased in High School since 2007 and are now far above C4E goals***

**Citywide HS class size trend compared to C4E goals**

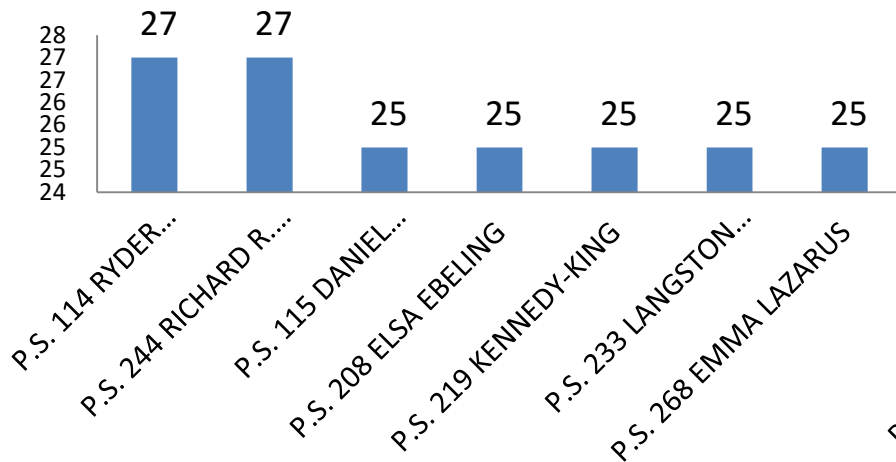


\*DOE's methodology for calculating HS averages has changed year to year

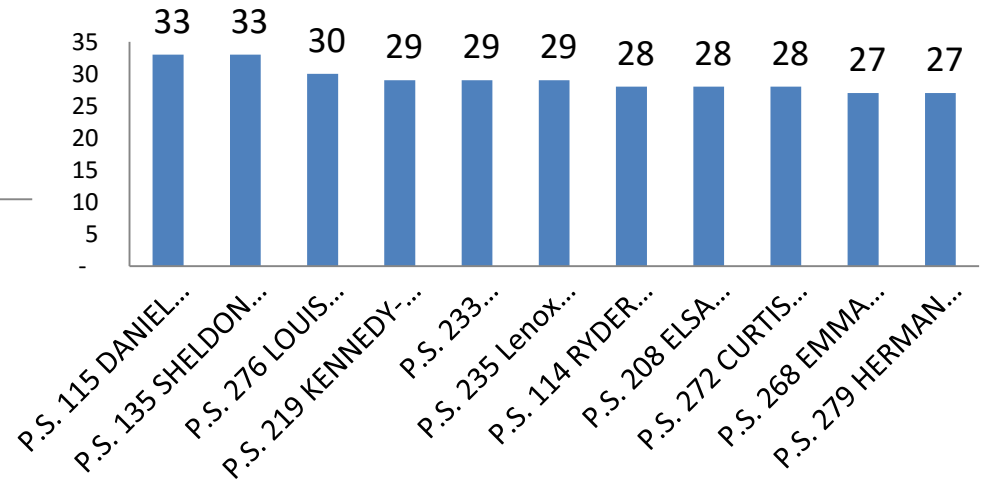
Data sources: DOE Class Size Reports 2006-Fall 2015, 2008 DOE Contracts for Excellence Approved Plan

# Examples of large elementary school class sizes in D18

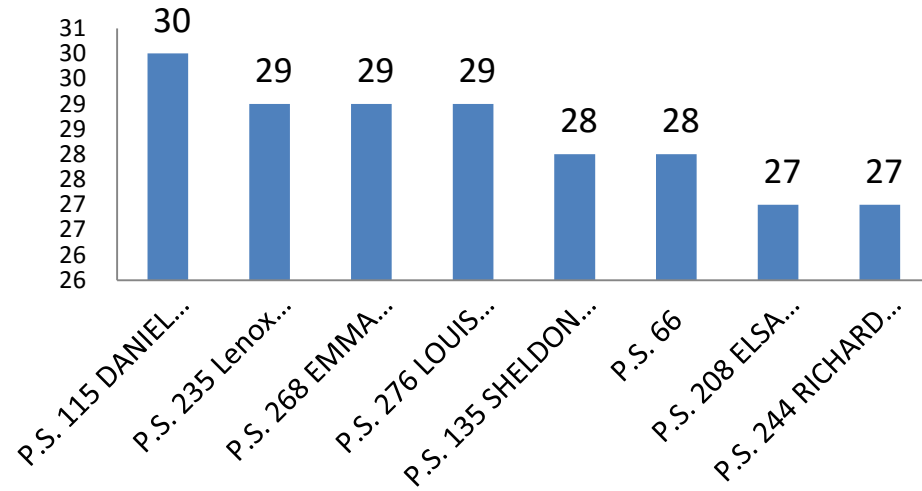
## Kindergarten D18



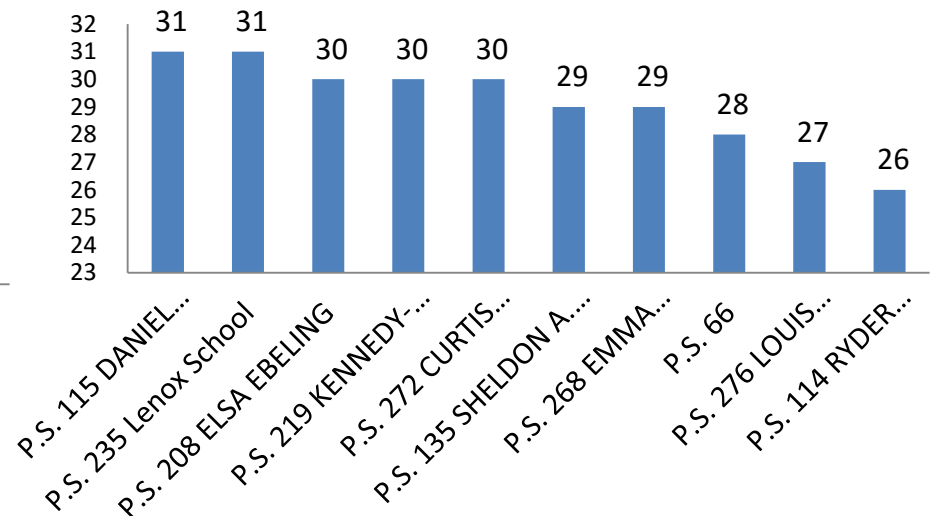
## First Grade D18



## Second Grade D18



## Third Grade D18





# Proposed new capital plan vs. needs for seats

- New proposed capital plan has about 49,000 K12 seats (compared to 33,000 in May plan) – at an additional total cost of nearly \$1 billion.
- DOE now admits real need of approximately 83,000 seats (compared to DOE estimate in May of 49,245).
- Thus DOE is only funding 59% of need for seats according to its own projected need.
- Many of those seats remain unsited even as to borough and district.
- CSM estimates real need is over 100,000 seats, based on enrollment projections and existing overcrowding – with about 40,000 seats needed in districts with utilization averages over 100%, plus 60K-70K more for projected enrollment growth.
- DOE should fund at least their own estimated need of 83,000 seats at an additional cost of \$130 million per year in city funds.

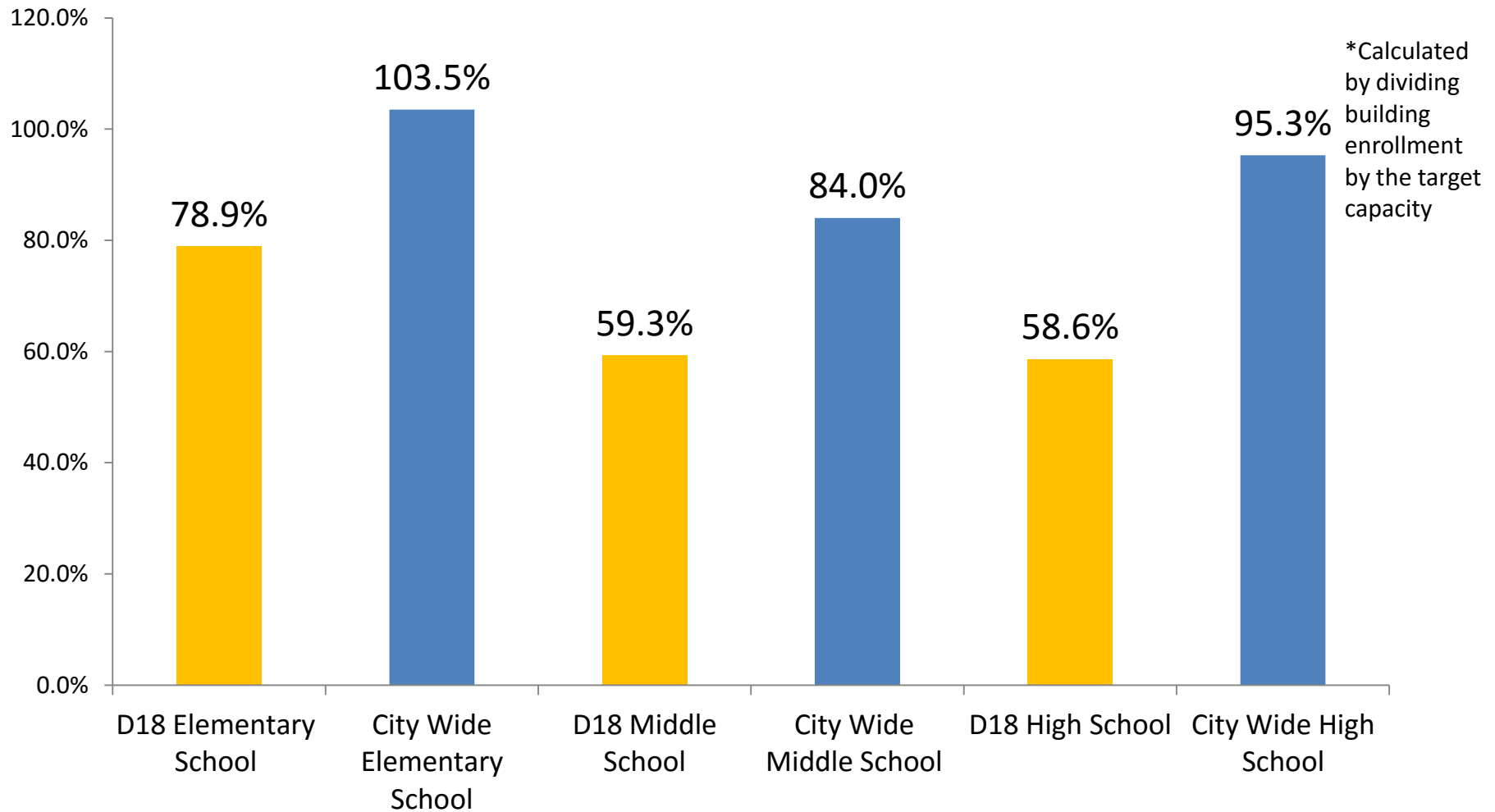
# Over-utilization in ES and MS buildings in District 18, and Brooklyn HS

- D18's Elementary School building utilization average is 78.9%,— less than the citywide utilization average of 103.5%

## HOWEVER

- 4 ES and MS school buildings in CSD 18 are over-utilized. About 170 seats are needed for these buildings to reach 100% utilization.
- In Brooklyn, 16 high school buildings are at or over 100% building utilization - with about 9,302 additional seats needed.
- Class sizes are large, and not aligned with school capacity

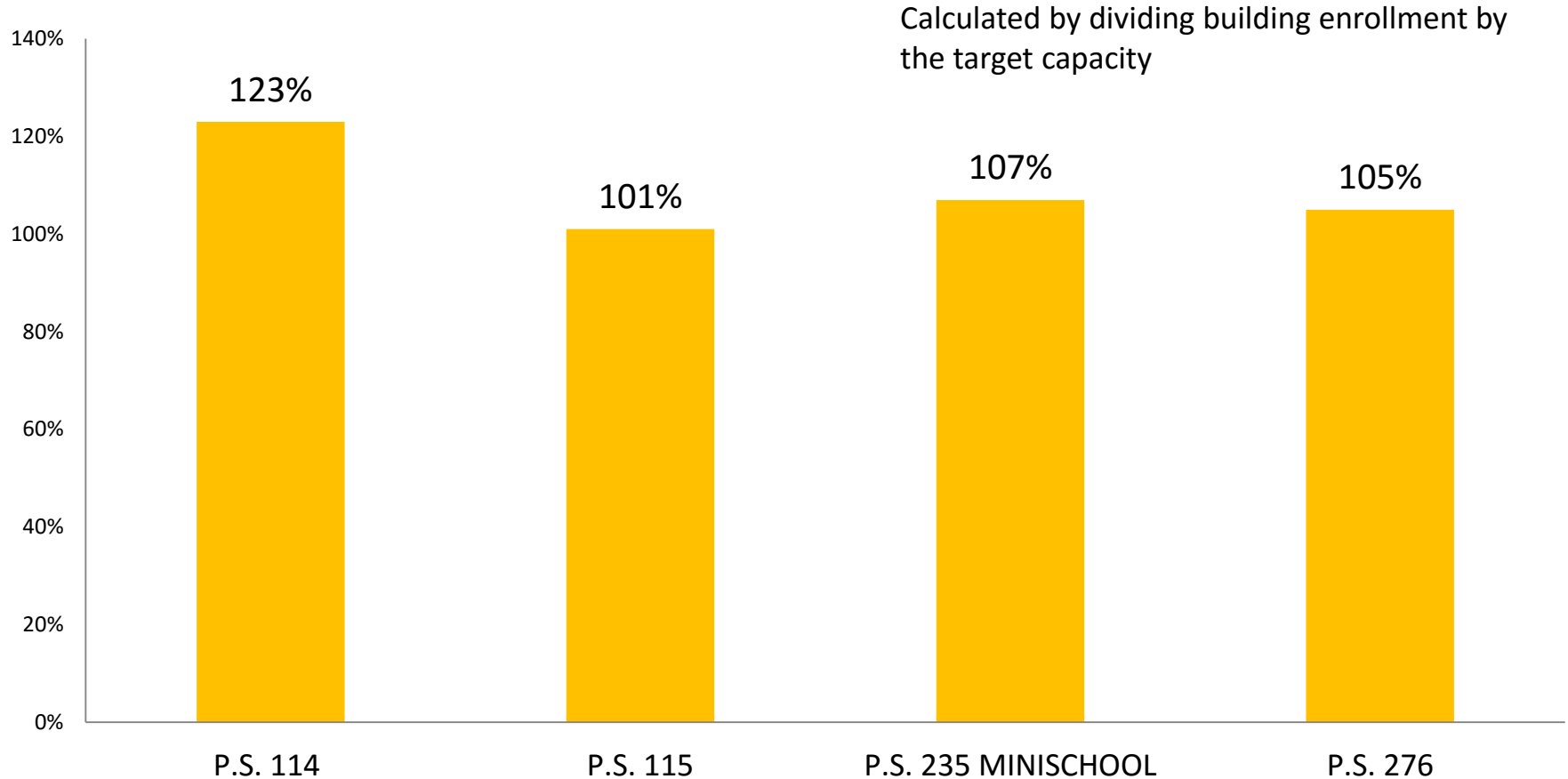
# Average Utilization Rates in D18 compared to City-Wide 2014-15



Source: 2014-2015 DOE Blue Book

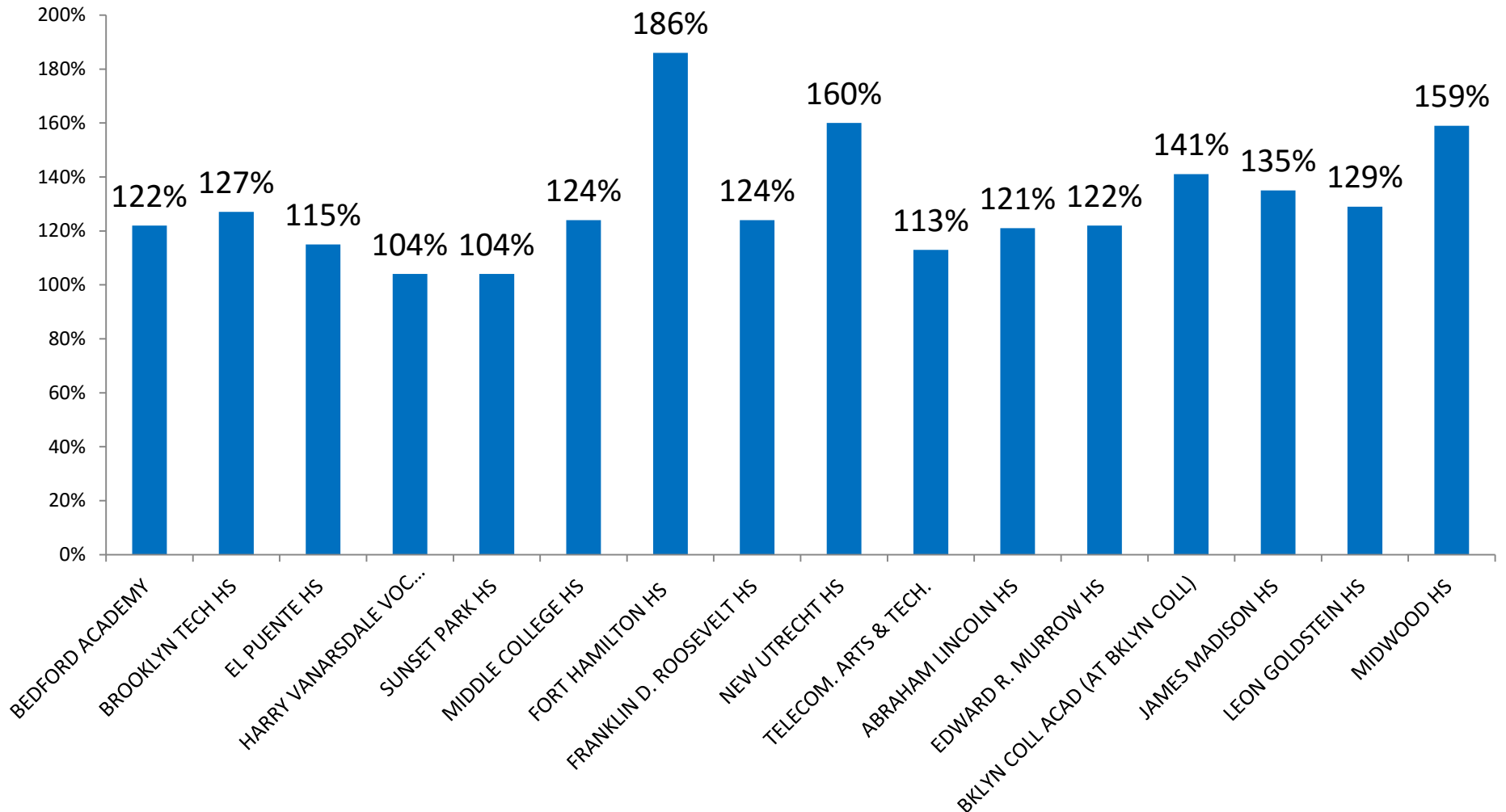
# 4 D18 ES & MS school buildings are above 100% Utilization

*about 170 seats needed to reduce over utilized buildings to 100% -  
but D18 not included in the Cap plan*



# 16 Brooklyn HS buildings above 100% utilization

9,303 seats needed, but NO HS seats for Brooklyn in Capital Plan

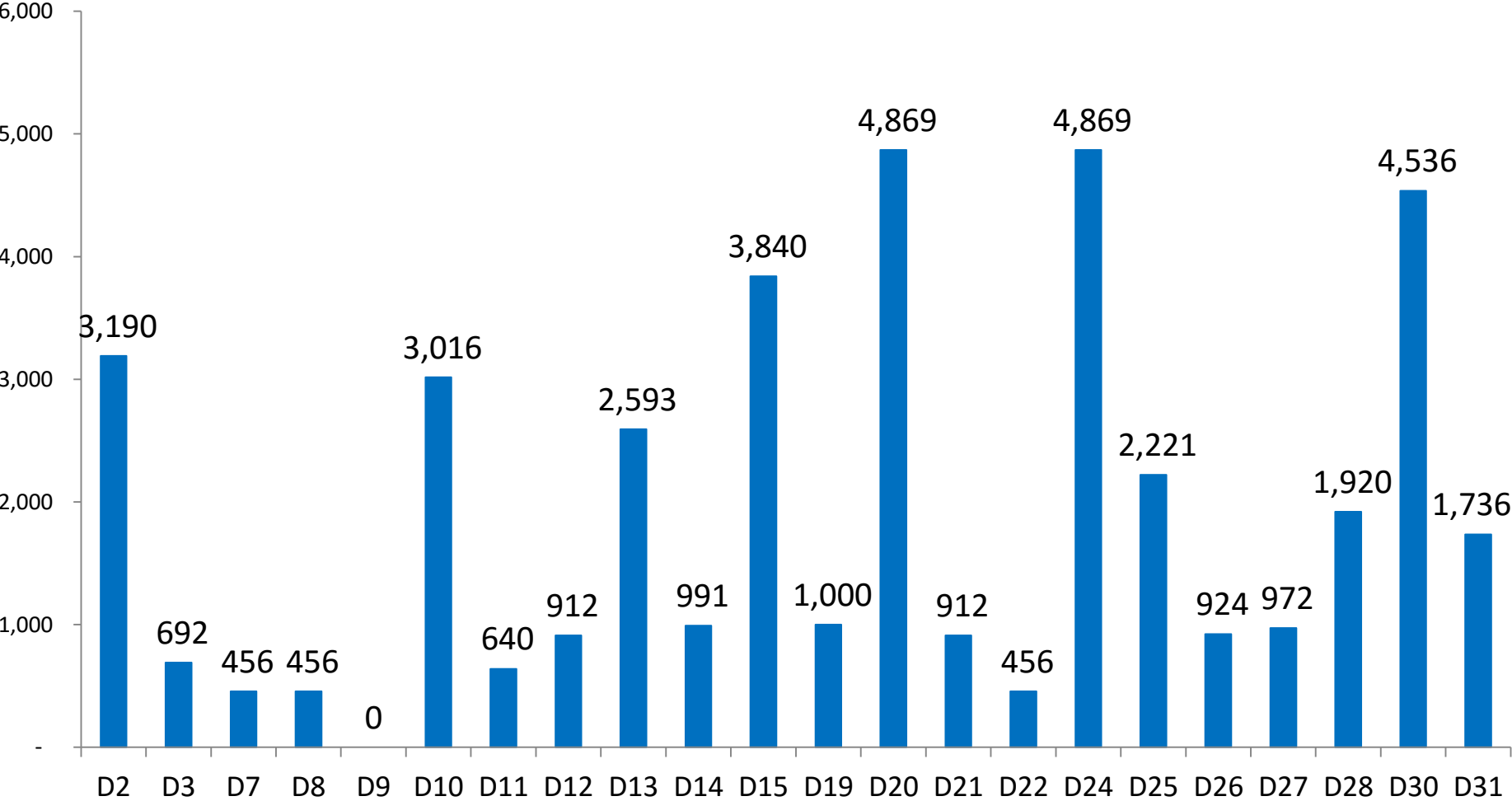


\*IS/PS Schools are counted as Elementary Schools, and Secondary Schools are counted as Middle Schools

Source: 2014-2015 DOE Blue Book

# Total Funded K-8 Seats In January 2016 Capital Plan by District

*D18 is not included in the capital plan*



Data sources: Capital Plan updated January 2016

# Problems with DOE & SCA capacity to site and build schools

- Even though D18 had overcrowded school buildings, it's not included in the capital plan
- After 2 years DOE still has not determined in which borough or district most of 4900 seats in “class size reduction” category will be built.
- Several overcrowded neighborhoods have had schools funded in the capital plan for over a decade without DOE siting or building a single school

# More Problems with DOE & SCA capacity to site and build schools

- SCA/DOE has real capacity problems in terms of efficient and accurate school siting and planning
- ***Overcrowding will grow worse if Mayor's rezoning plan to accelerate residential development is adopted***
- NYC needs to come up with a better process to ensure schools are built along with new housing – instead of always playing catch up.



# NYC Council should create a Commission to improve efficiency and accuracy of school planning and siting

- Do we need reforms to the zoning process?
- Right now rezoning must increase overcrowding by 5% to trigger even consideration of new school to be built.
- Whether the formula used to estimate impact of new housing on schools should be updated?
- Should the city require impact fees from developers and/or use eminent domain to site schools more frequently?

## More NYC Council should create a Commission to improve efficiency and accuracy of school planning and siting

- Should needs estimates be required including counting thousands of seats lost due to co-locations, charter expansion, grade truncation, school closings, lost leases and more?
- Example: Brooklyn HS slated to lose over 8000 seats in future years due to these changes alone; leading to average 108% utilization rate yet no Brooklyn HS to be built in plan
- Without reforms to the planning process, overcrowding is likely to worsen, with school construction lagging years behind other development

# *How you can help*

- Sign our petition at [www.classsizematters.org](http://www.classsizematters.org) urging Mayor & City Council to expand the capital plan & form a Commission to improve school planning
- Come to the capital plan hearings at City Hall on Tuesday March 8, at 1 PM to testify about overcrowding in your district; public testimony starts at 3 PM.
- Sign up for our newsletter for updates on this and other issues.