

Social Media Workshop

Trends in Washington School Elections

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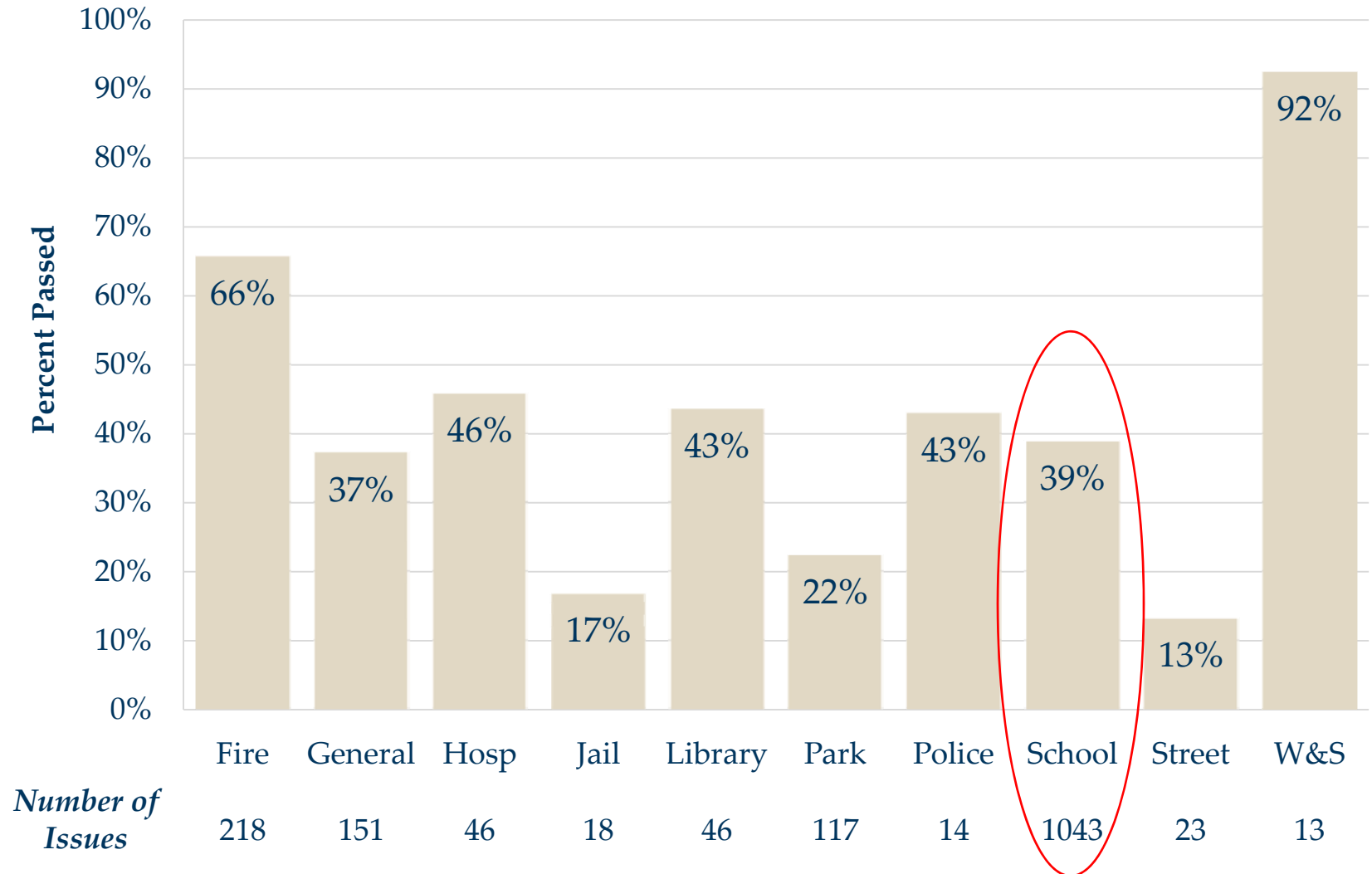
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Election Timing

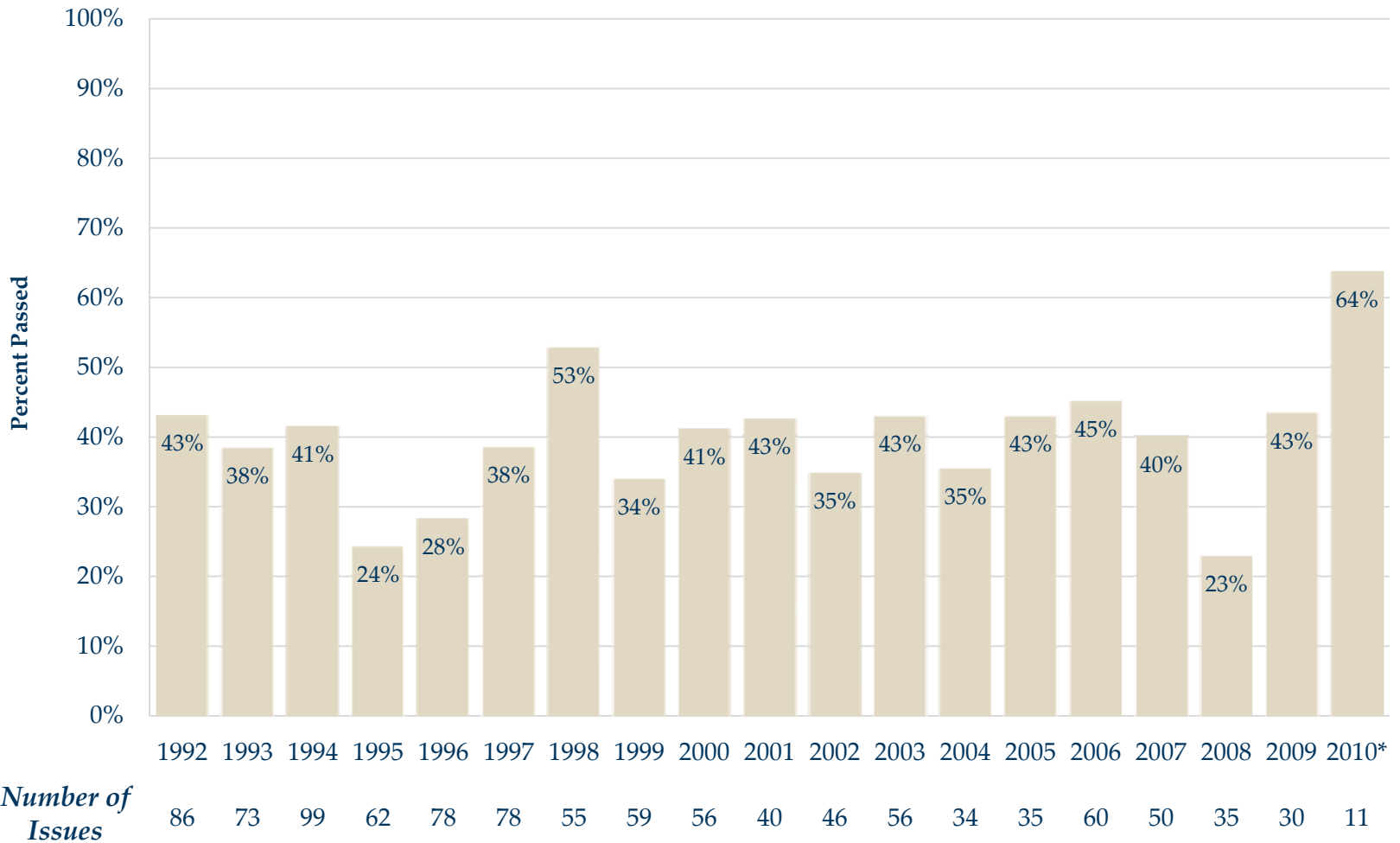
Bond Issues Passed by Purpose

Years 1992 through February 2010, inclusive



WA School Bond Issues Approved by Year

Years 1992 through February 2010, inclusive

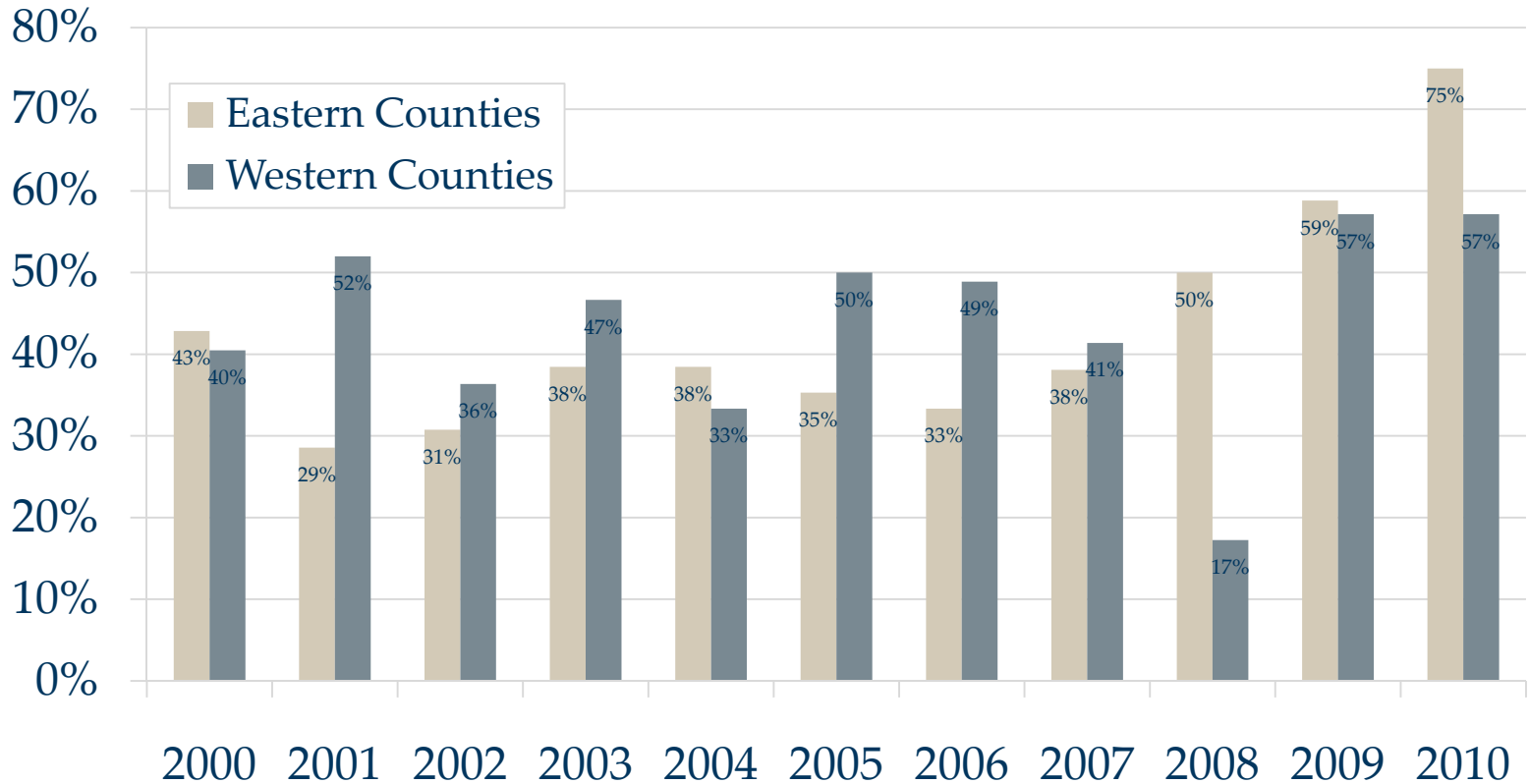


*Through February 2010 only.



WA School Bond Issues Approved by Region

Years 2000 through February 2010, inclusive

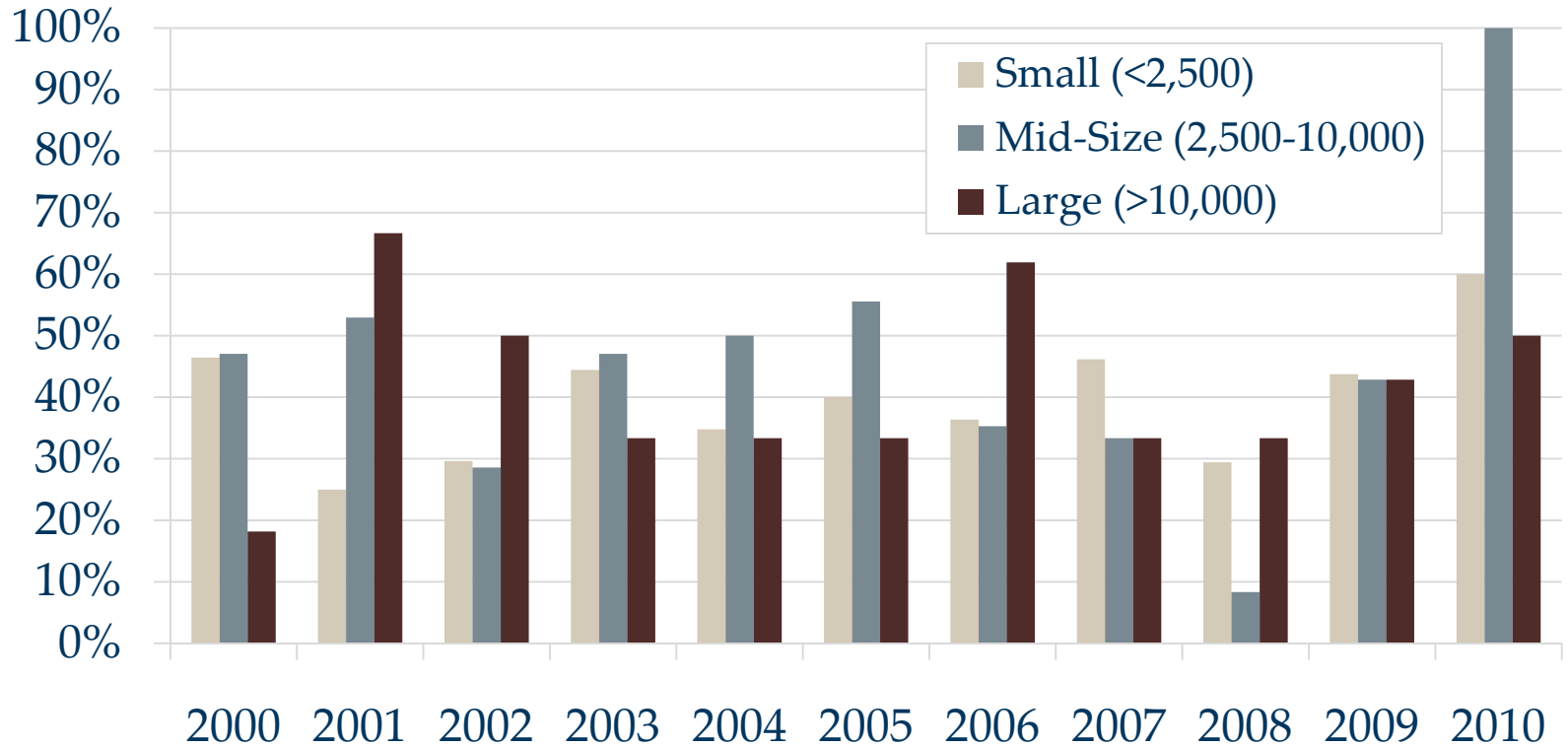


East	14	14	13	26	13	17	15	21	6	17	4
West	42	25	33	30	21	18	45	29	29	13	7

*Through February 2010 only.

WA School Bond Issues Approved by Enrollment

Years 2000 through February 2010, inclusive

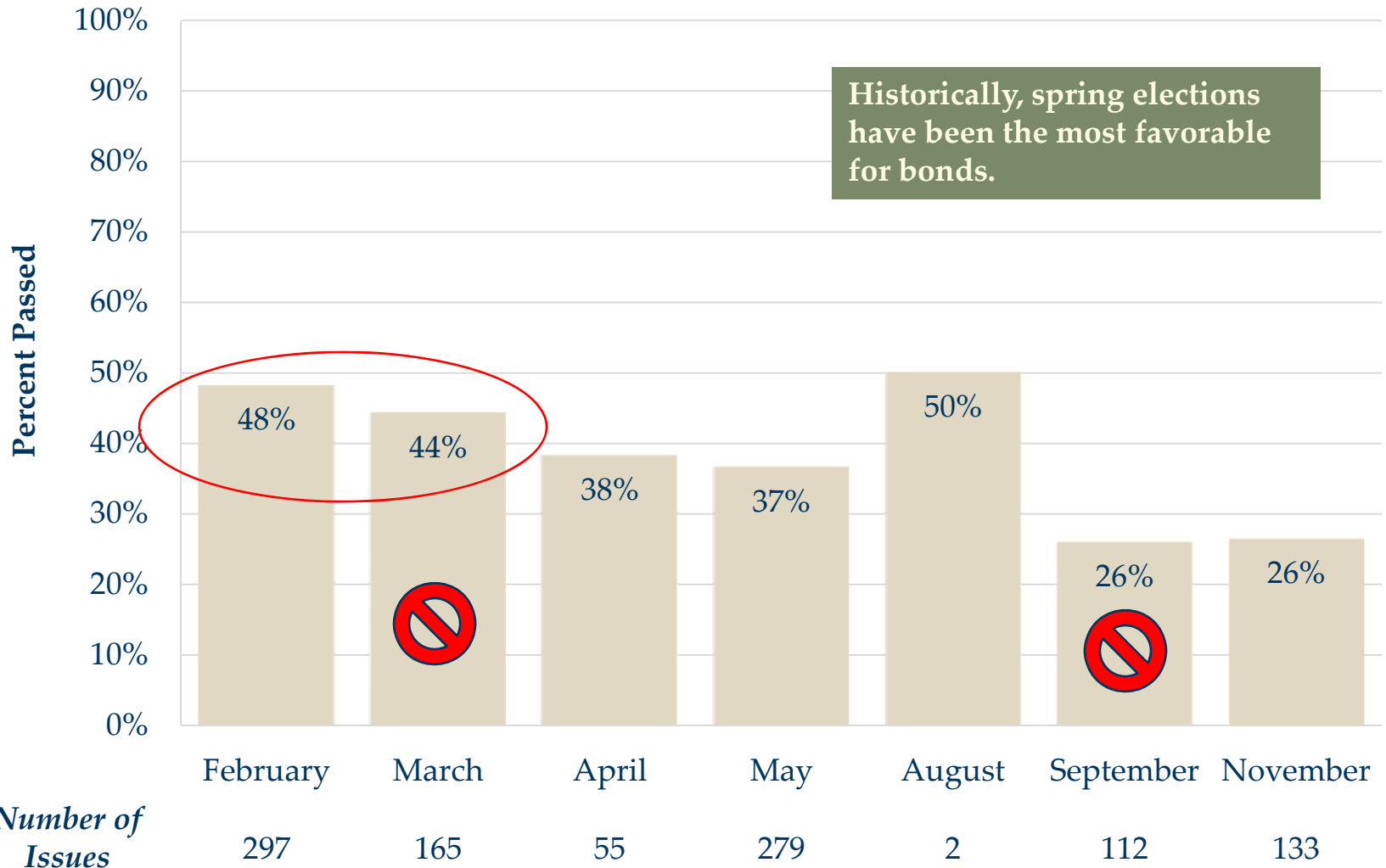


Small	28	16	27	27	23	20	22	26	17	16	5
Mid-Size	17	17	7	17	8	9	17	18	12	7	2
Large	11	6	12	12	3	6	21	6	6	7	4

*Through February 2010 only.

School Bond Issues Passed by Month

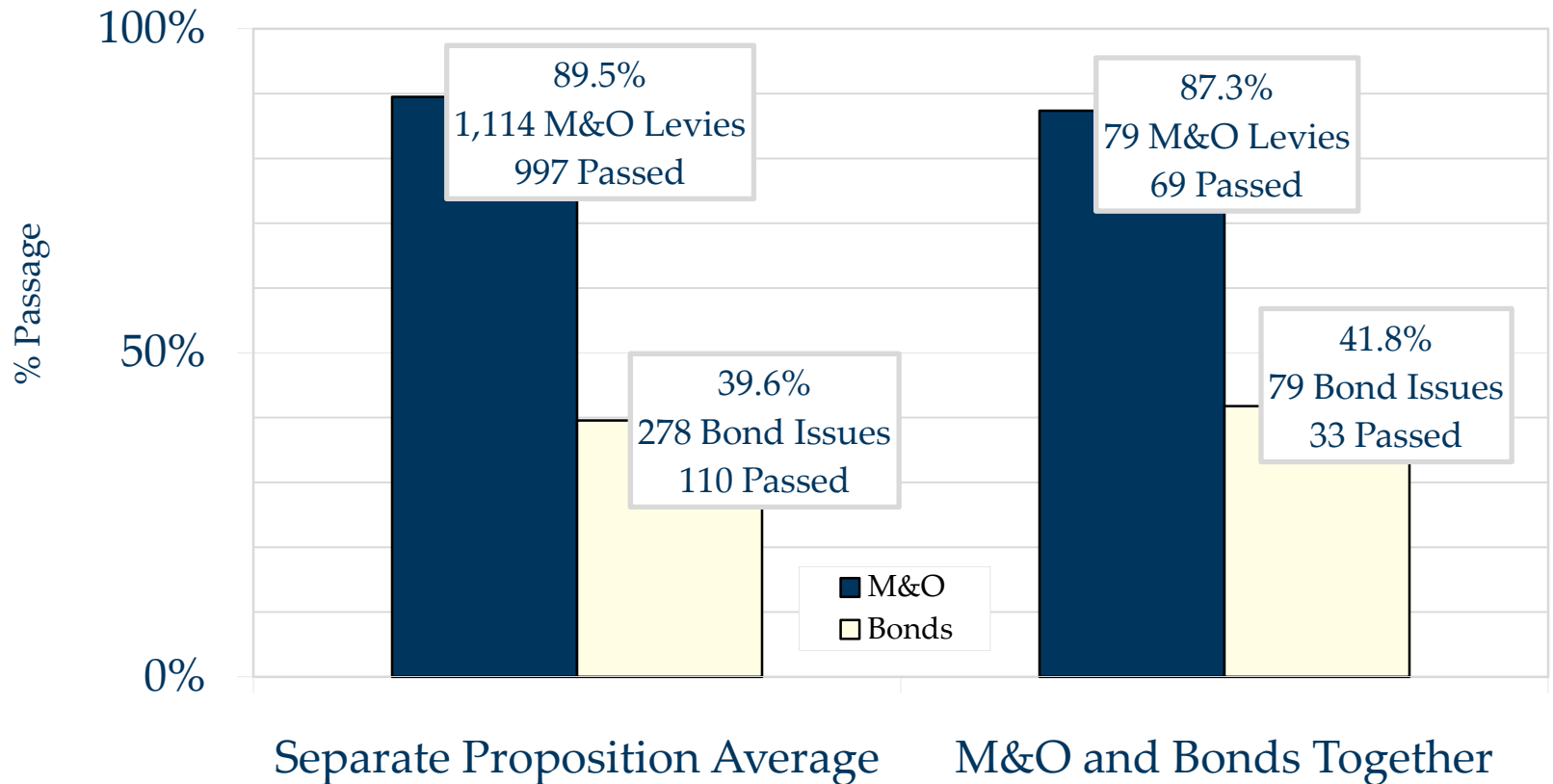
Years 1992 through February 2010, inclusive



Non-Bond Levies

From February 2002 to February 2010, there were 357 bond measures on the ballot, of which 79 were run with an M&O levy (or approximately 22%).

M&O and Bond Levies on the Same Ballot
School District Passage Rates (February 2002 - February 2010)

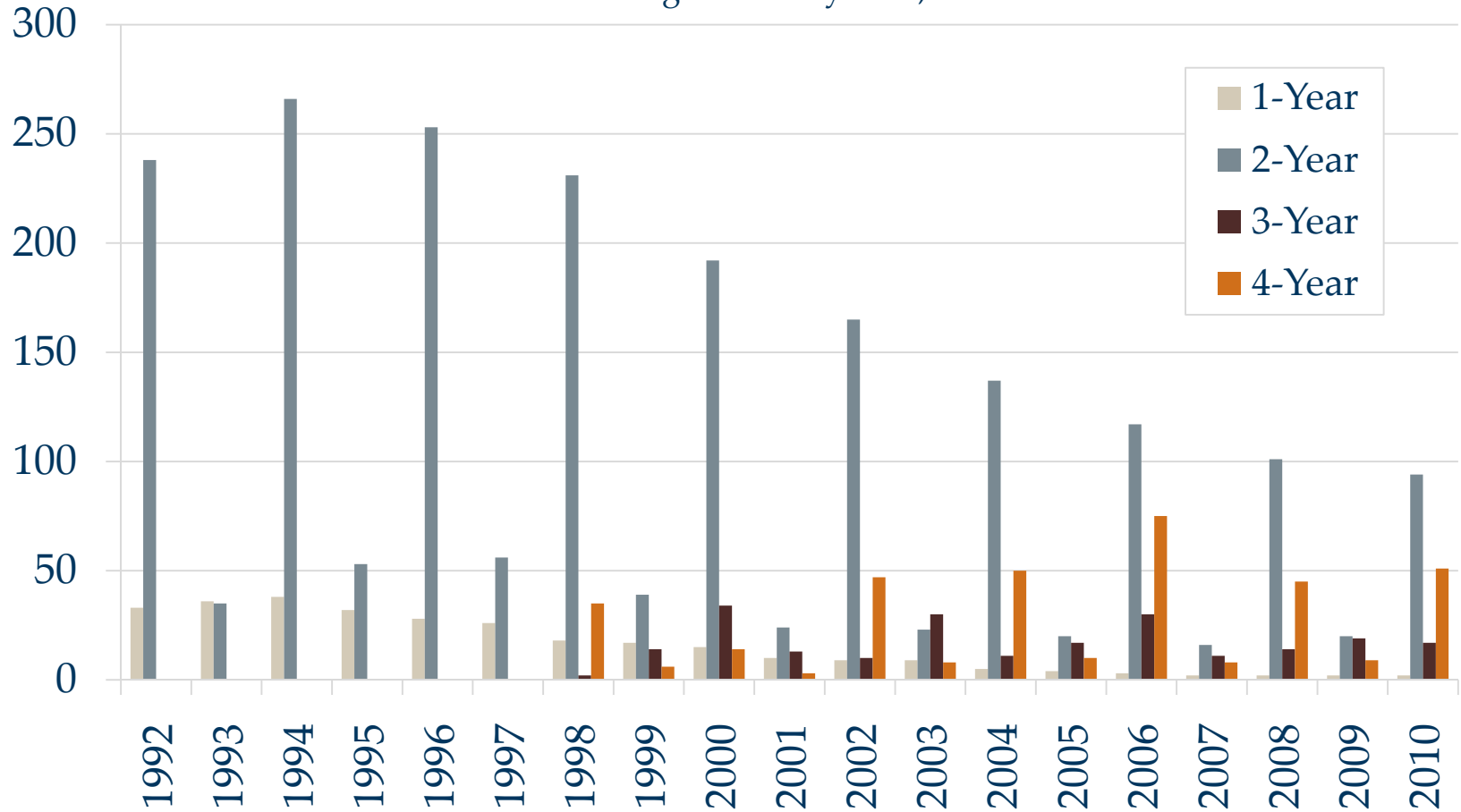


With the passage of EHJR 4204 (the “simple majority” bill) on November 6, 2007, the percentage of levies that passed increased, but fewer districts passed at the previously required super majority level of 60%.

	M&O Passed	M&O Failed	% Passed	Average Approval Rate	% of M&O Passed with 60%	% of M&O Between 50% - 60%
February 2010	163	1	99.39%	64.06%	71.34%	28.05%
February 2009	24	0	100.00%	62.81%	75.00%	25.00%
February 2008	113	2	98.26%	61.29%	54.78%	43.48%
February 2007	23	1	95.83%	68.37%	95.83%	4.17%
February 2006	131	24	84.52%	65.48%	84.52%	14.84%
February 2005	19	5	79.17%	64.64%	79.17%	20.83%
February 2004	126	20	86.30%	66.81%	86.30%	13.70%

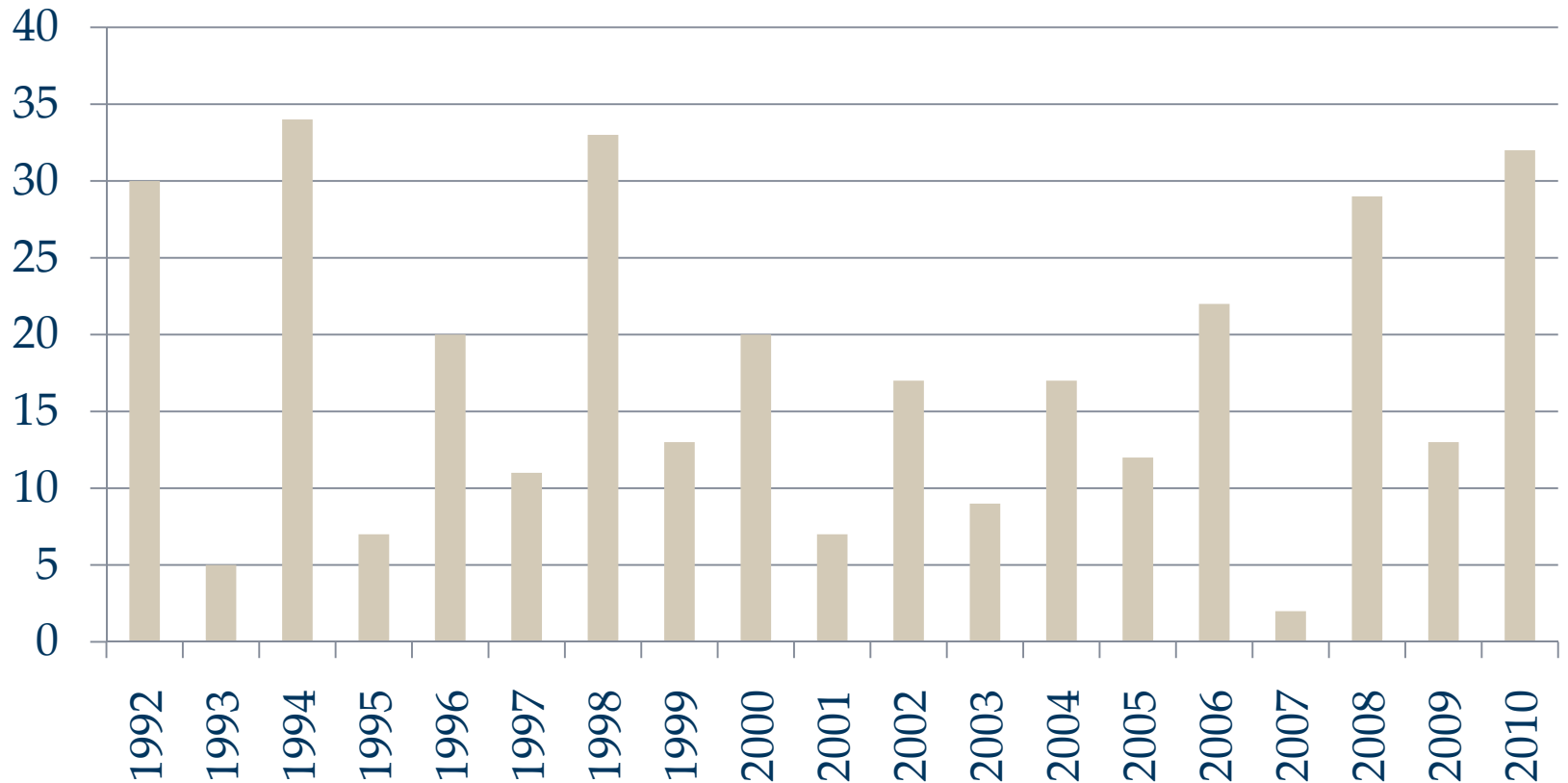
Length of Collections for M&O Levies

Years 1992 through February 2010, inclusive



*Through February 2010 only.

Number of Capital Project Levies on Ballot



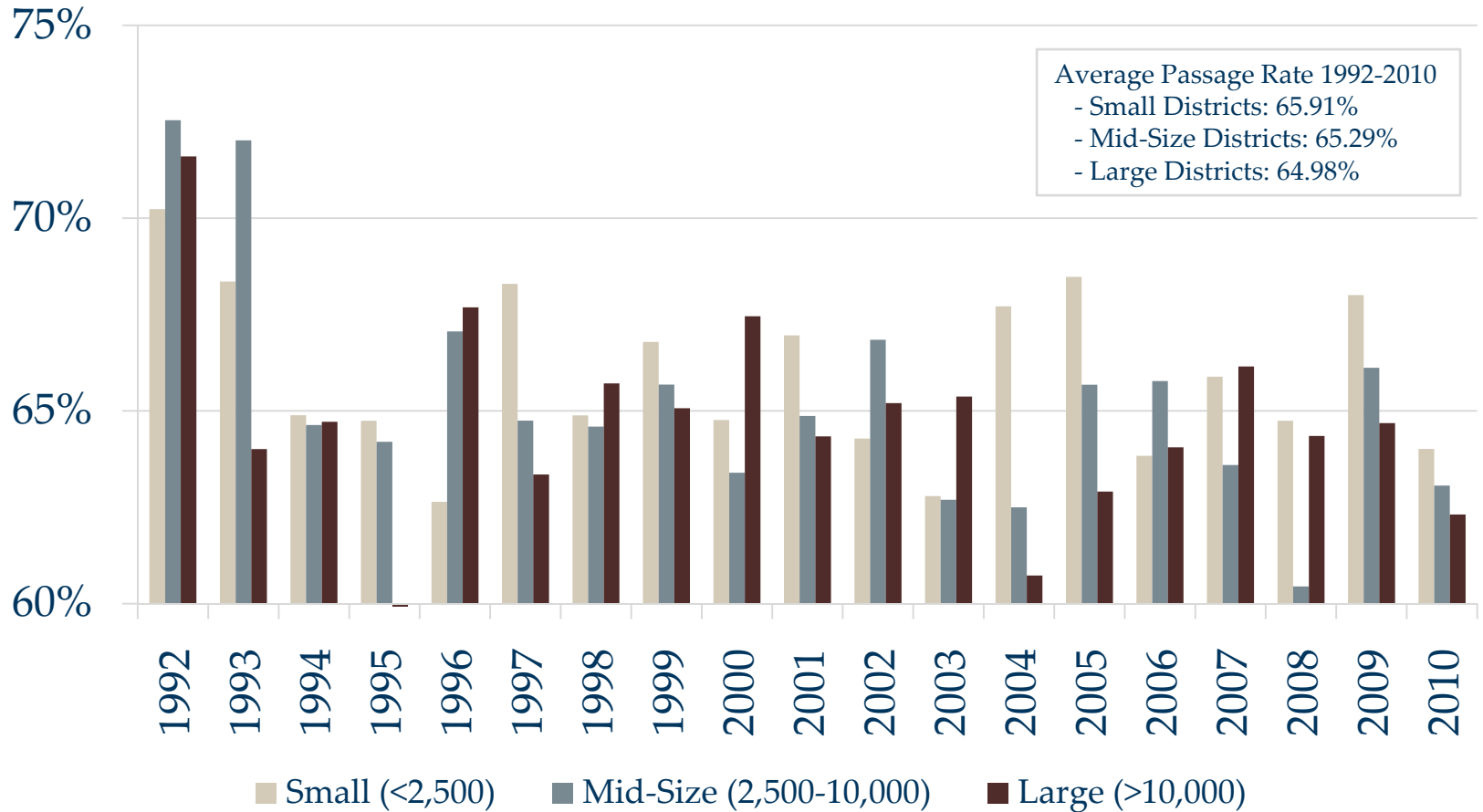
Year	Percent Passed
1992	60%
1993	60%
1994	50%
1995	71%
1996	55%
1997	73%
1998	52%
1999	54%
2000	65%
2001	57%
2002	71%
2003	56%
2004	82%
2005	58%
2006	86%
2007	100%
2008	79%
2009	85%
2010	97%

*Through February 2010 only.

Support Levels

Average Bond Passage % by School Size

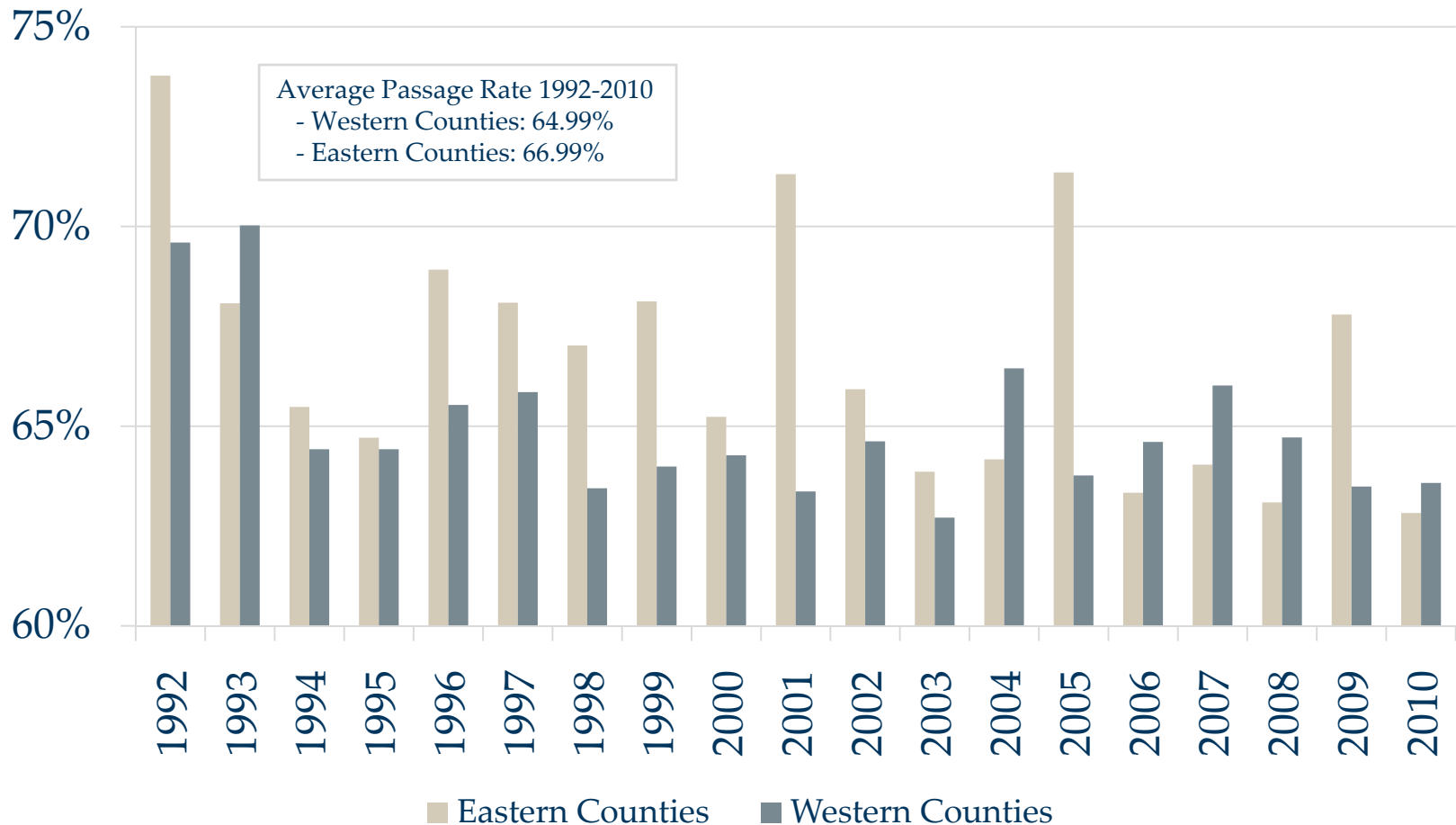
Years through February 2010, inclusive



*Through February 2010 only.

Average Bond Passage % per County

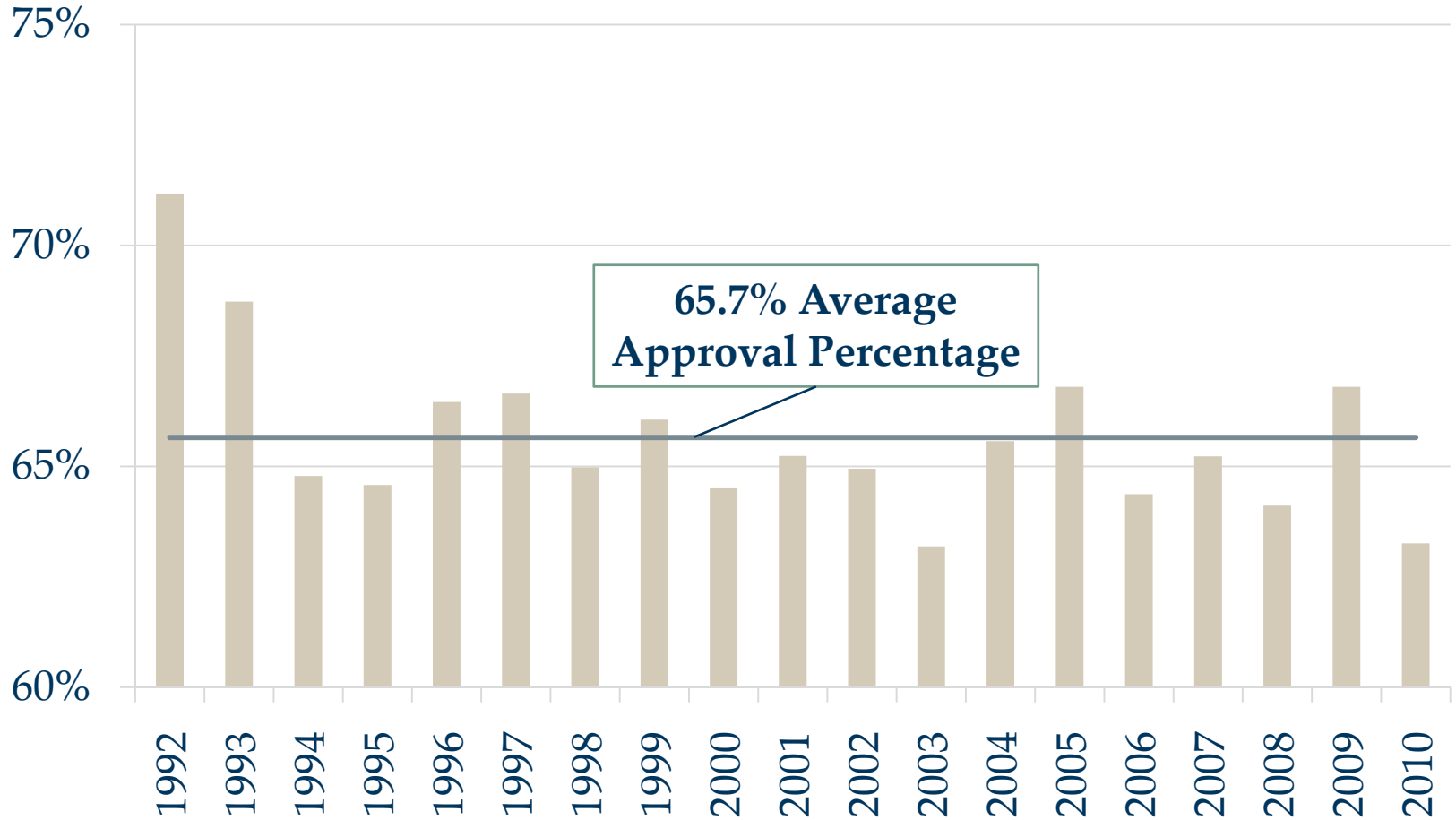
Years 1992 through February 2010, inclusive



*Through February 2010 only.

Average Statewide Bond Approval Percentage

Years 1992 through February 2010, inclusive



*Through February 2010 only.

Tax Rate versus Tax Bill

Property values in many parts of Washington State have decreased during the past year or two. To the best of your knowledge, how will decreases to your property values affect your property taxes? Will your taxes:

	Statewide
Increase	37%
Stay the same	31%
Decrease	21%

Do you agree or disagree school districts get less money in taxes as property values go down?

	Statewide
Agree	59%
Disagree	26%
Not sure	14%



*Seattle-Northwest's 2009 Washington State Voter Survey

Were you aware or not aware of a provision in Washington State's constitution that restricts local governments' tax collection to 101% of the previous year?

	Aware	Not Aware
2007 Voters	42%	57%

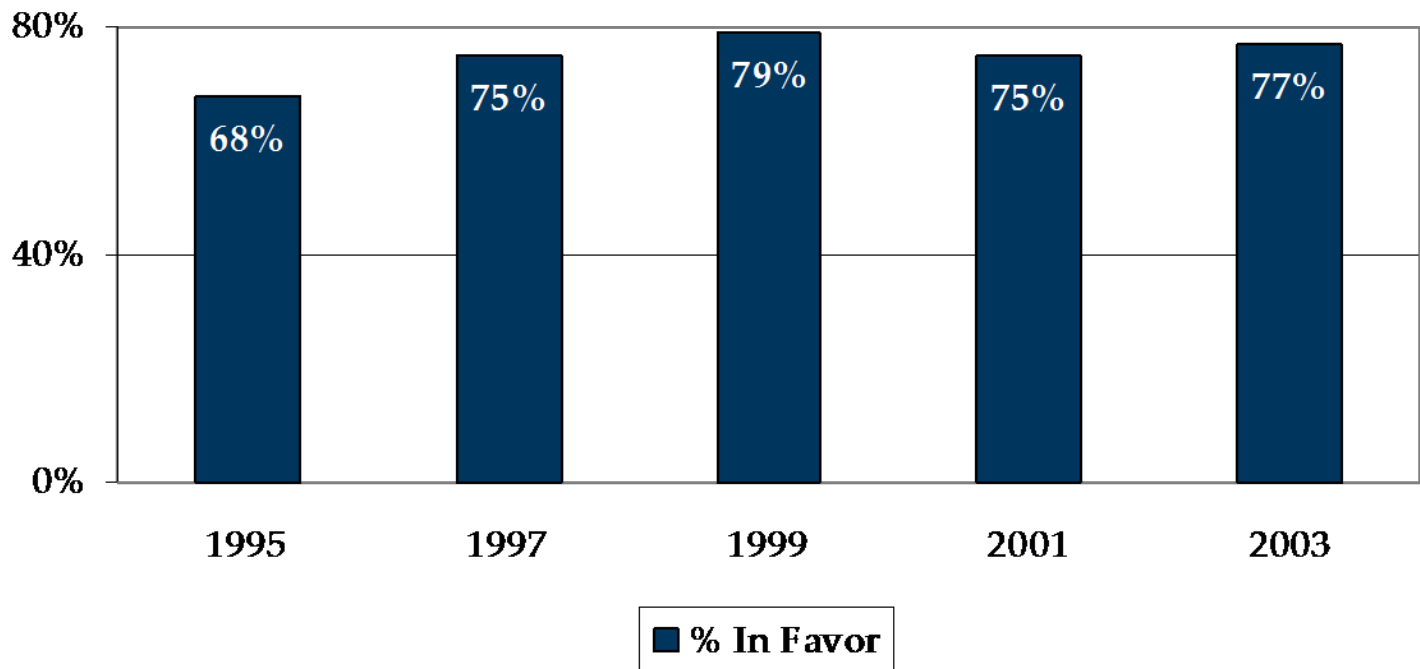
Were you aware or not aware that school districts may only collect funds up to the amount that has been approved by the voters?

	Aware	Not Aware
2007 Voters	47%	51%

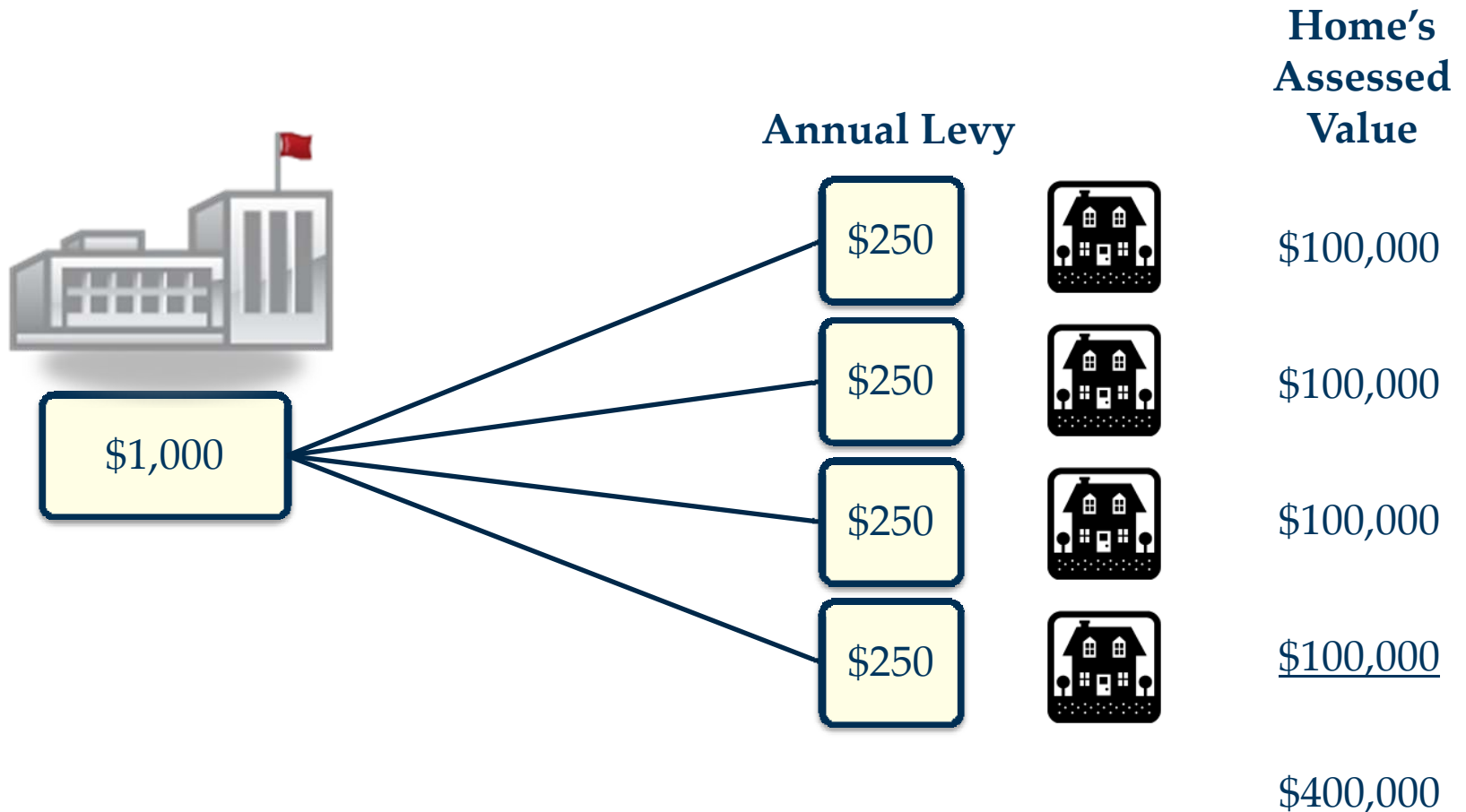


*Seattle-Northwest's 2007 Washington State Voter Survey

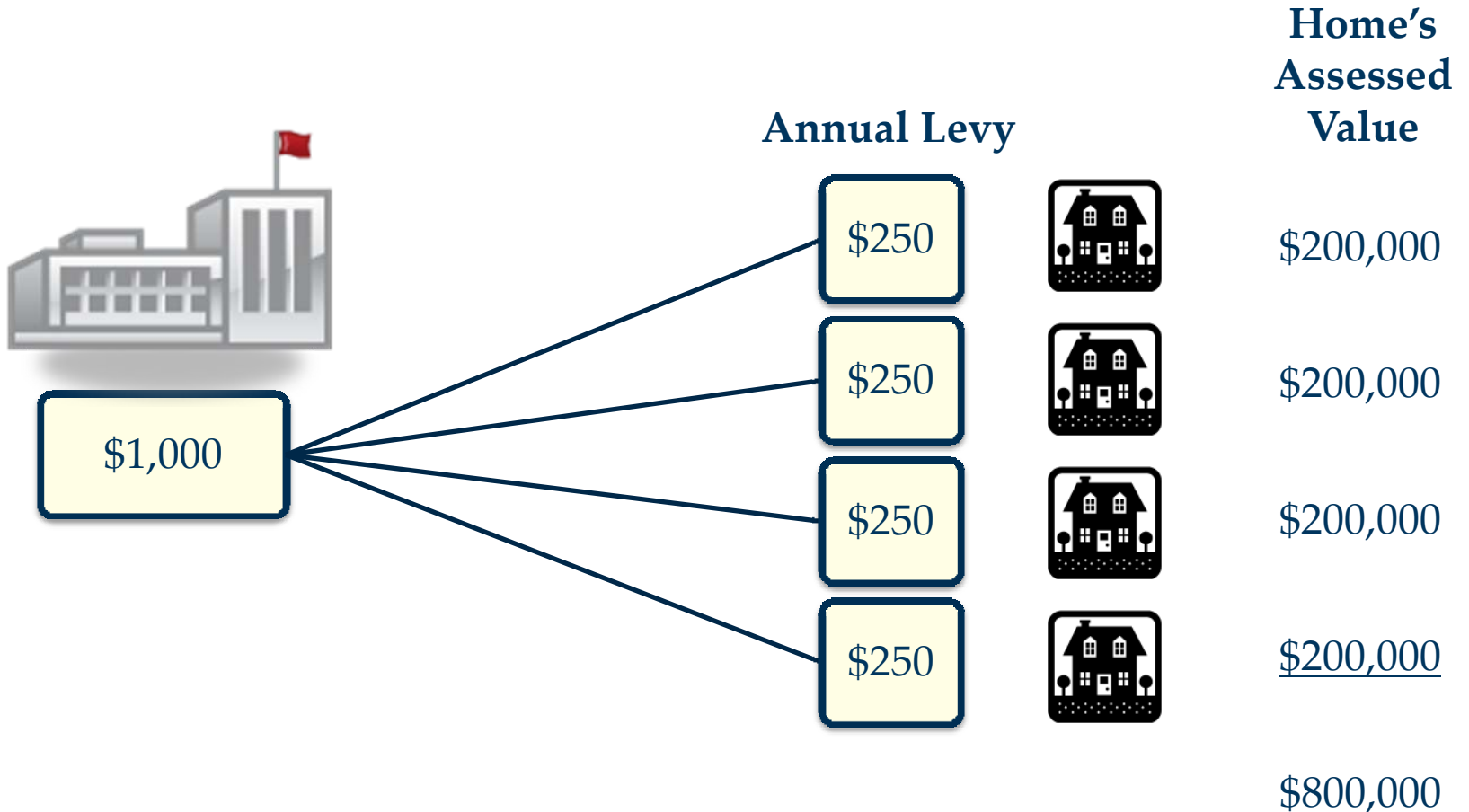
Would you vote for or against a school levy in your district if you knew that, if the levy passes, a homeowner's tax rate per \$1,000 assessed value would not increase?



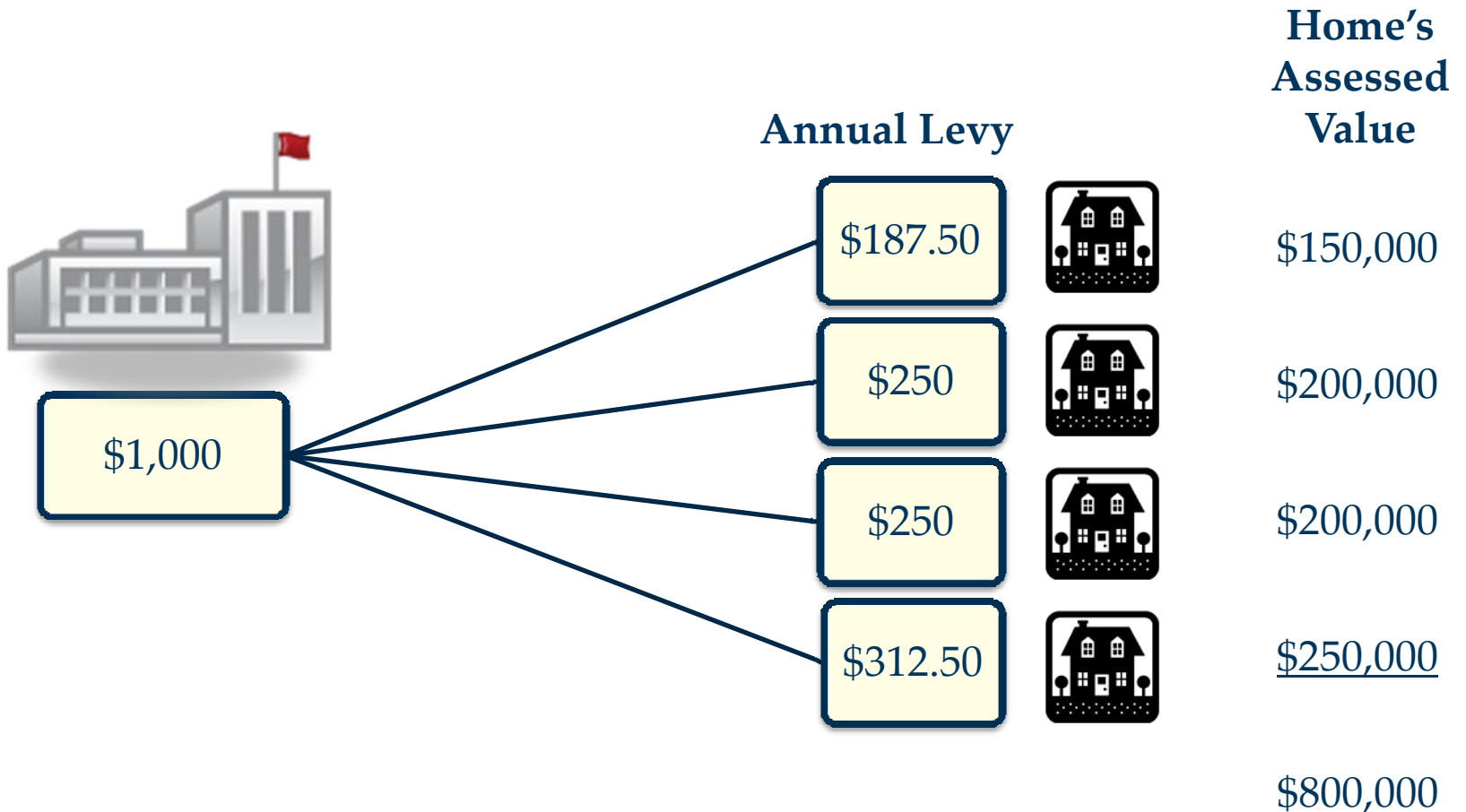
*Seattle-Northwest's 2003 Washington State Voter Survey



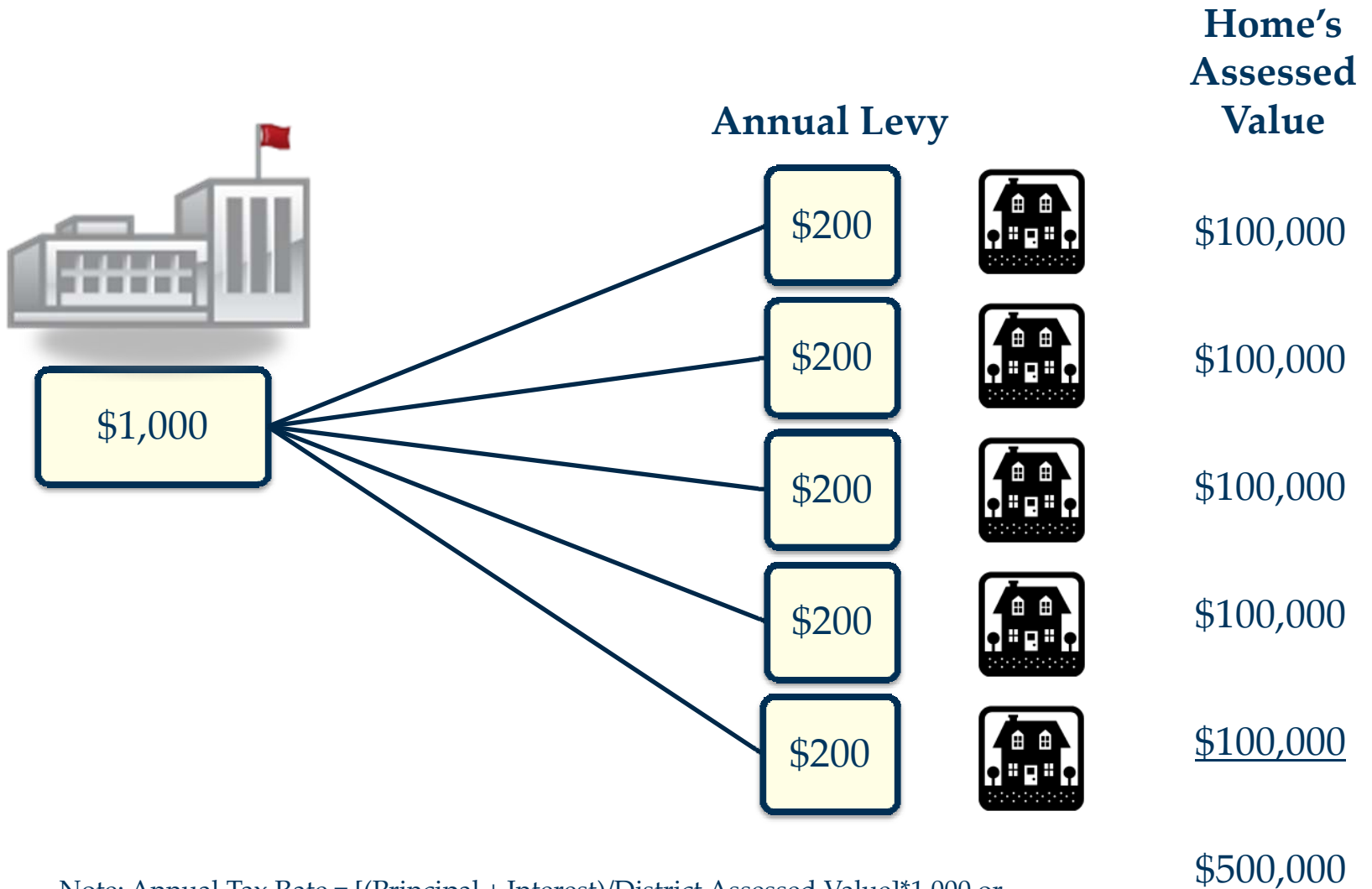
Note: Annual Tax Rate = [(Principal + Interest)/District Assessed Value]*1,000 or
 (\$1,000)/(\$400,000)*1,000 = \$2.50/\$1,000



Note: Annual Tax Rate = [(Principal + Interest)/District Assessed Value]*1,000 or
 (\$1,000)/(\$800,000)*1,000 = \$1.25/\$1,000



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 (\$1,000)/(\$800,000)*1,000 = \$1.25/\$1,000



Note: Annual Tax Rate = [(Principal + Interest)/District Assessed Value]*1,000 or
 (\$1,000)/(\$500,000)*1,000 = \$2.00/\$1,000

Increase in property values will not increase school district tax collections

- Changes in property values don't change the amount of taxes authorized
- Local school taxes can only be increased by a vote of the people
- Changing property values will change tax rate, but not tax collection

Conclusion

- An individual's taxes will be based on the assessed value of his or her own property
 - If your property value increases at a lower rate than the average increase for the school district, the amount of taxes you pay will decrease
 - If your property value increases at a higher rate than the average increase for the school district, the amount of taxes you pay will increase
- Higher assessed values will lower the District's tax rates (but not the overall payment)
- Dissecting the components that make up the assessed value growth will be important. How much of the growth is related to new construction versus increased value of existing properties?

Industry Report



Increases in Home Values Will Not Increase School District Tax Collections

Updated April 2010

By: SNW Schools Group

Bottom Line

- If your property value increases at a lower rate than the average increase for the school district, the amount of taxes you pay will decrease.
- If your property value increases at a higher rate than the average increase for the school district, the amount of taxes you pay will increase.

Changes in home values don't change the amount of taxes authorized.

Rising property values do not increase property taxes for schools. The amount of taxes collected by the district does not change after it is set in place, regardless of changes in the district's assessed value. An individual homeowner's property value increase, in relation to the increase in total assessed value of the district, determines the changes to its individual tax bill. Sample tax calculations and how different individuals could be affected are found below.

Local school taxes can only be increased by a vote of the people.

Schools receive a large portion of their funding from state support (i.e.: the common schools levy). However, a portion of their funding comes from voter-approved levies such as maintenance and operation, bond, capital projects, and transportation levies. These bond levies require a 60% supermajority vote with at least a 40% voter turnout in order to pass. All other levies require a 50% simple majority.

Sample Tax Rate Calculations		
Assessed Value for the School District (AV)	\$1,000,000,000	\$1,200,000,000
Taxes Levied by the School District	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
Basic Tax Rate Formula	Levy Amount x 1,000 - District Assessed Value \$5,000,000 x 1,000 - \$1,000,000,000	Levy Amount x 1,000 - District Assessed Value \$5,000,000 x 1,000 - \$1,200,000,000
Tax Rate	\$5.00 per \$1,000 of Individual Home Assessed Value	\$4.17 per \$1,000 of Individual Home Assessed Value

Assumptions	Year	Home Value	Tax Rate	Tax Bill
Simple Tax Rate Calculations	2009	\$100,000	\$5.00 per \$1,000 AV	\$500
<i>(Examples assume a 20% increase in assessed value for the school district)</i>				
Example 1: 20% individual home value increase, no new taxes	2010	\$120,000	\$4.17 per \$1,000 AV	\$500
Example 2: 10% individual home value increase, no new taxes	2010	\$110,000	\$4.17 per \$1,000 AV	\$459
Example 3: 30% individual home value increase, no new taxes	2010	\$130,000	\$4.17 per \$1,000 AV	\$542

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Industry Report



Increases in Home Values Will Not Increase School District Tax Collections

Updated April 2010

By: SNW Schools Group

Non-school taxes are limited by the State's Constitution.

The State Constitution restricts increases in non-voted property taxes by a local government (except schools) to 101% of its highest recent levy. This allowable rate of increase may exceed 1% in certain cases, as the law allows additional collections for new construction or with approval by a 50% majority vote (commonly referred to as a lid lift).

New voter approvals will affect individual tax bills.

As an example, the following table describes how tax bills may be affected by a 4% tax increase.

Assumptions	Year	Home Value	Tax Rate	Tax Bill
Simple Tax Rate Calculations	2009	\$100,000	\$5.00 per \$1,000 AV	\$500
<i>(Examples assume a 20% increase in assessed value for the school district)</i>				
Example 1: 20% individual home value increase, no new taxes	2010	\$120,000	\$4.17 per \$1,000 AV	\$500
Example 2: 20% individual home value increase, 4% tax increase	2010	\$120,000	\$4.34 per \$1,000 AV	\$521
Example 3: 10% individual home value increase, 4% tax increase	2010	\$110,000	\$4.34 per \$1,000 AV	\$477
Example 4: 30% individual home value increase, 4% tax increase	2010	\$130,000	\$4.34 per \$1,000 AV	\$564

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Election Planning

Ideal Time Frame for Major Decisions



(1) *Special elections*

(2) *Primary or presidential election*

2010 Special Election and Resolution Filing Dates

January 2010

The 2010 special election dates and resolution filing deadlines pursuant to RCW 29A.04.311, RCW 29A.04.321, RCW 29A.04.330, and RCW 29A.56.020 are listed below for your information.

<i>Election Date</i>	<i>Resolution Filing Deadline</i>	<i>Approximate Date Ballots are Mailed ⁽¹⁾</i>
February 9, 2010	December 23, 2009	January 22, 2010
NO MARCH 2010 ELECTION		
April 27, 2010	March 12, 2010	April 9, 2010
May 18, 2010 ⁽²⁾	April 2, 2010	April 30, 2010
August 17, 2010	May 25, 2010	July 30, 2010
November 2, 2010	August 10, 2010	October 15, 2010

Note: These are the dates permitted under current law, which may be changed by the Legislature.

(1) Ballots are required to be mailed no later than 18 days prior to the election date.

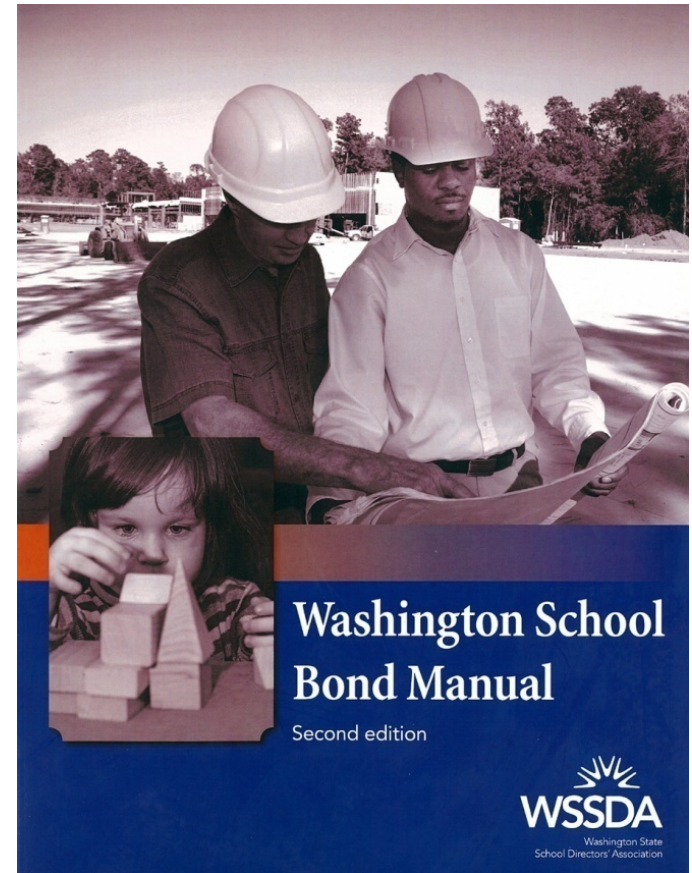
(2) The May 2010 (and 2011) election will be limited to tax levies that have previously failed in 2010 or for new bond issues. Beginning in 2012, there will no longer be a May election.



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- The manual is the result of a partnership between WSSDA and SNW. It provides critical information to those involved in financing education in the State of Washington and is a helpful resource for districts in maneuvering through the essential process of planning for bond measures.
- For ordering information, contact David Brine at: d.brine@wssda.org
- Second edition now available



Levy Library

- Free library of campaign materials to help pass school levies and bonds
- SNW funded the development and funds the ongoing maintenance
- *<http://www.levylibrary.org>*

SNW Biennial Election Conference and Survey

- Poll voters on topics such as mood of voters, grading of schools, funding issues, property taxes (September 2011)
- “Bonds 101” – Board, staff, campaign committee