

TABLE 2

Characteristics of school boards by district locale

	City	Suburb	Town	Rural
Mean seats on board	6.8	7.4	6.2	6.3
Median seats on board	7.0	7.0	6.0	7.0
% Appointed	0.5	1.8	0.7	1.0
% Elected	98.0	95.4	99.3	99.0
% Mix (elected and appointed)	1.5	2.7	0.0	0.0
% Missing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Of elected boards				
% On cycle with general election	41.5	43.5	35.5	44.7
% On cycle with primary	0.5	0.0	2.2	2.1
% Off cycle	58.0	56.5	53.5	45.5
% Missing	0.0	0.0	8.8	7.7
% At-large	38.8	61.0	40.5	56.9
% By ward	48.1	27.7	39.0	27.1
% At-large and by ward (mix)	11.9	10.7	12.2	8.3
% Missing	1.2	0.7	8.4	7.8
% Partisan	4.2	12.3	0.4	13.6
% Some seats partisan	3.6	3.8	1.9	0.0
% Non-partisan	67.5	53.6	71.8	53.3
% Unclear	21.4	27.6	9.0	22.1
% Missing	3.3	2.7	16.9	11.0
Observations	75	75	75	75

Note: Districts are drawn at random within locale types. See methodological appendix for details.

Source: Authors' calculations using NCES's Common Core Data and school board data collected from district websites and state/county election results.