

**WESTERN SUFFOLK BOCES  
NASSAU - SUFFOLK  
BI-COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT  
2015 - 2024**



*Prepared by Western Suffolk BOCES, Division of Instructional Support Services  
Office of School Planning & Research*

*May 2022*



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**Office of School Planning & Research**  
**Division of Instructional Support Services**  
**31 Lee Avenue**  
**Wheatley Heights, New York 11798**  
**Tel: 631-595-6802**  
**Fax: 631-623-4913**

**May 2022**

**Dear Colleagues,**

We are pleased to provide you with the **Annual Bi-County Nassau/Suffolk Public School District Enrollment Report** that has been compiled by the **Office of School Planning and Research of Western Suffolk BOCES**. This document provides you with information about historical enrollments (2015-2021) in the Long Island counties, as well as projected enrollments through 2024.

Enrollment in public school districts on Long Island has declined by 6.3% since 2015, with decreases of 4.1% in Nassau County and 8.2% in Suffolk County. Since 2015, the elementary grade (K - 5) enrollment on Long Island declined 8.0%, while the middle (6 - 8) and high school grades (9 - 12) recorded smaller losses of 5.2 and 4.8%, respectively.

Projections suggest a decline of 1.7% in the region over the next three years. However, the elementary grades are projected to remain stable through 2024, while an additional loss of 5.0% is expected in the middle grades and a smaller loss of 1.5% is expected in the high school grades. Total regional enrollment will continue to be impacted as exiting twelfth grade classes will be replaced by smaller entering kindergarten cohorts.

Enrollment in public school districts is affected by demographic factors, including the number of children being born in the area, economic and housing trends, non-public/charter school enrollments and immigration/migration patterns.

### **Population Changes**

While the population in the United States increased 9.7% between 2000 and 2010, Long Island's population grew by 2.9%; Nassau grew by only 0.4%, while Suffolk grew by 5.2%. More recently, between 2010 and 2020, Nassau County recorded a gain of 4.2%, while a smaller gain of 2.4% was recorded in Suffolk County.

Long Island's population has experienced demographic changes. Both Nassau and Suffolk Counties saw declines in the numbers of pre-school (0 - 4) and school aged (5 - 19) children between 2000 and 2020. In 2000, nearly 27% of Nassau's population and more than 28% of Suffolk's population was comprised of these age groups; by 2020 this group had shrunk to approximately 24% of the population in each county. However, there has been a significant increase in the share of the senior population, which is reflected in the median age of Long Islanders. Nassau County's median age in 2000 was 38.5 years, but rose to 41.9 years in 2020; Suffolk County noted an increase from 36.5 years in 2000 to 41.7 years in 2020. The 2020 median age in both counties is higher than New York State's median age (39.0 years) and the nation's (38.2 years) median age.

### **Births**

Provisional data released by *the National Center for Health Statistics* indicates there were nearly 3.7 million births recorded in the United States in 2021; this represents an increase of 1% from 2020 and is the first increase in seven years. With the exception of 2014, birth declines have been recorded each year since 2008. Within New York State, 2021 births remained relatively stable (gain of 0.5%) when compared to the prior year (county birth data for 2021 is not yet available). Birth declines have been linked to various factors, including significant student loan debt and high housing costs, which forced many young people to continue to live with their parents and to delay marriage and children. This has contributed to the declines in the number of pre-school and school-age children in Long Island schools.

### **Immigration**

Immigration is a large contributor to population growth in the United States. According to the **2020 American Community Survey**, foreign-born residents in the United States account for almost 14% of the total population. It is estimated that half of these immigrants were born in Latin America. Foreign-born residents in New York State represent approximately 22% of the total population, while the foreign-born in Nassau and Suffolk Counties comprise 22.4% and 15.3% of the populations, respectively. Of the foreign-born population on Long Island, approximately 50% in Nassau County and nearly 58% in Suffolk County were born in Latin America. In addition, there has been significant growth in the Asian segment in the United States, New York State and on Long Island. In 2020, foreign-born residents from Asian countries accounted for approximately 31% of the immigrant population in the United States and nearly 30% of the

foreign-born population in New York State; on Long Island, 32% and 21% of the immigrant populations in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, respectively, were born in Asian countries. An increasing percentage of foreign-born residents living on Long Island reported that a language other than English is spoken at home when compared to figures reported in the 2000 Census. Numerous districts have implemented programmatic and space modifications in order to meet the needs of the growing population of bilingual and English language learners.

### **Housing Market**

Real estate markets continue to feel the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The historically tight supply of inventory, coupled with high demand, is driving median sale prices to historical highs in many communities on Long Island. As reported by **OneKey MLS**, in April 2022, the median home price in Nassau County was \$695,000, compared to \$650,000 in April 2021. In Suffolk County, the median home price increased to \$560,500 in April 2022, compared to \$519,500 in April of the prior year. This factor, combined with high property taxes, presents challenges for many first-time home buyers attempting to enter the housing market.

These demographic factors impact school district enrollments. It is recommended that administrators remain current with the economic trends that are developing within their districts, as well as recent enrollment and demographic trends.

**Western Suffolk BOCES** is available to support you in long-range planning by offering experienced, objective assistance in the following areas:

- ◆ **Demographics** – an analysis of population, births, housing, resident characteristics and non-public school enrollment.
- ◆ **Enrollment** – an analysis of historical enrollment trends and future enrollment projections for the district as a whole, for specific grade sub-sets, and for individual schools.
- ◆ **Facilities** – an analysis of each facility’s capacity with an assessment of the impact of projected enrollment on future facility utilization and program delivery.
- ◆ **Future Organization** – a presentation of organizational alternatives, suited to district policy, allowing for equity in districts’ schools, continued program excellence and implementation of educational goals.
- ◆ **GIS Application** – a tool for rezoning or redistricting.

Please contact the Office of School Planning & Research if you would like to discuss our services and how we may offer long range planning assistance for your district.

**Barbara Graziano**

*Manager*

*Office of School Planning & Research*

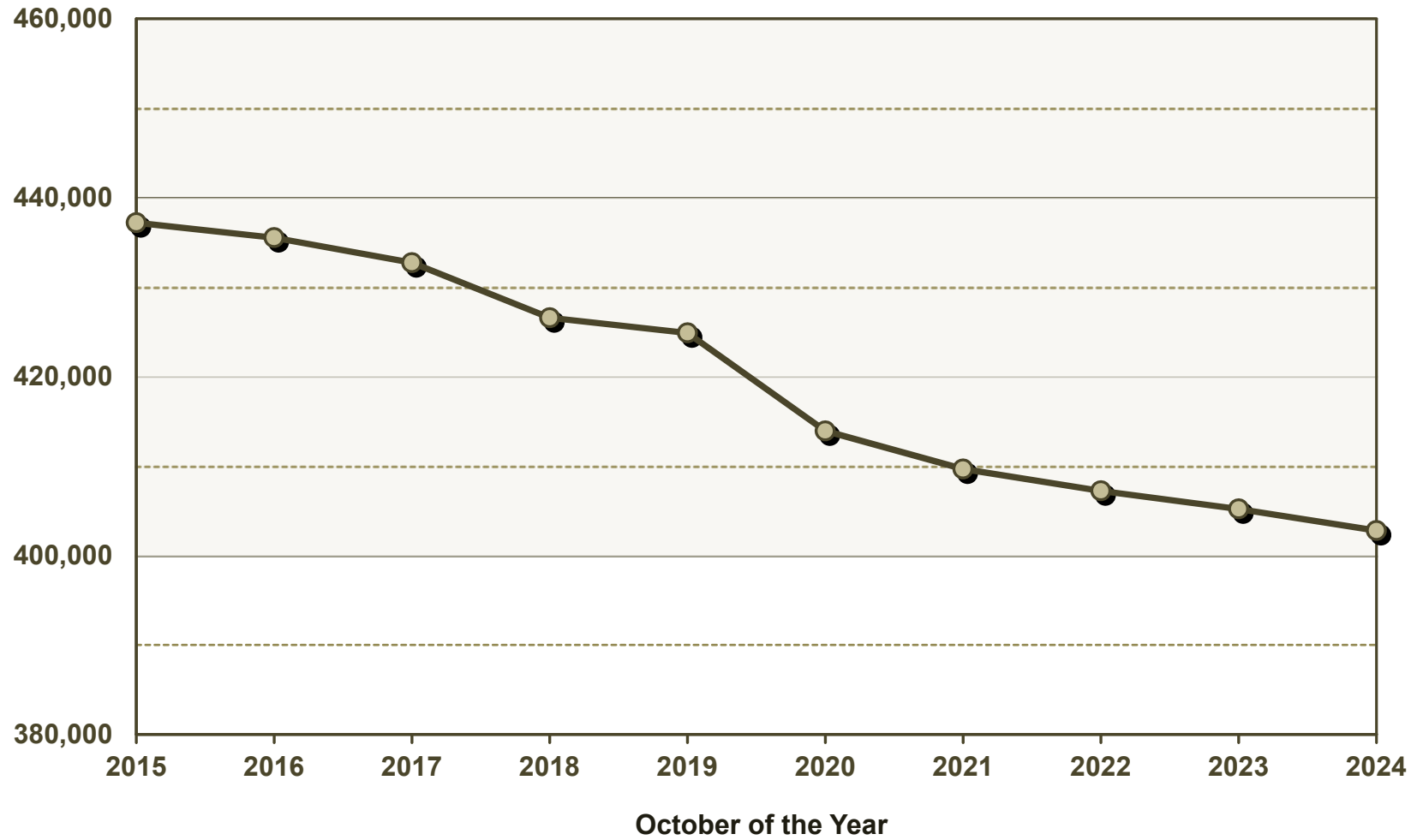
[bgrazian@wsboces.org](mailto:bgrazian@wsboces.org)

*(631) 595-6802*

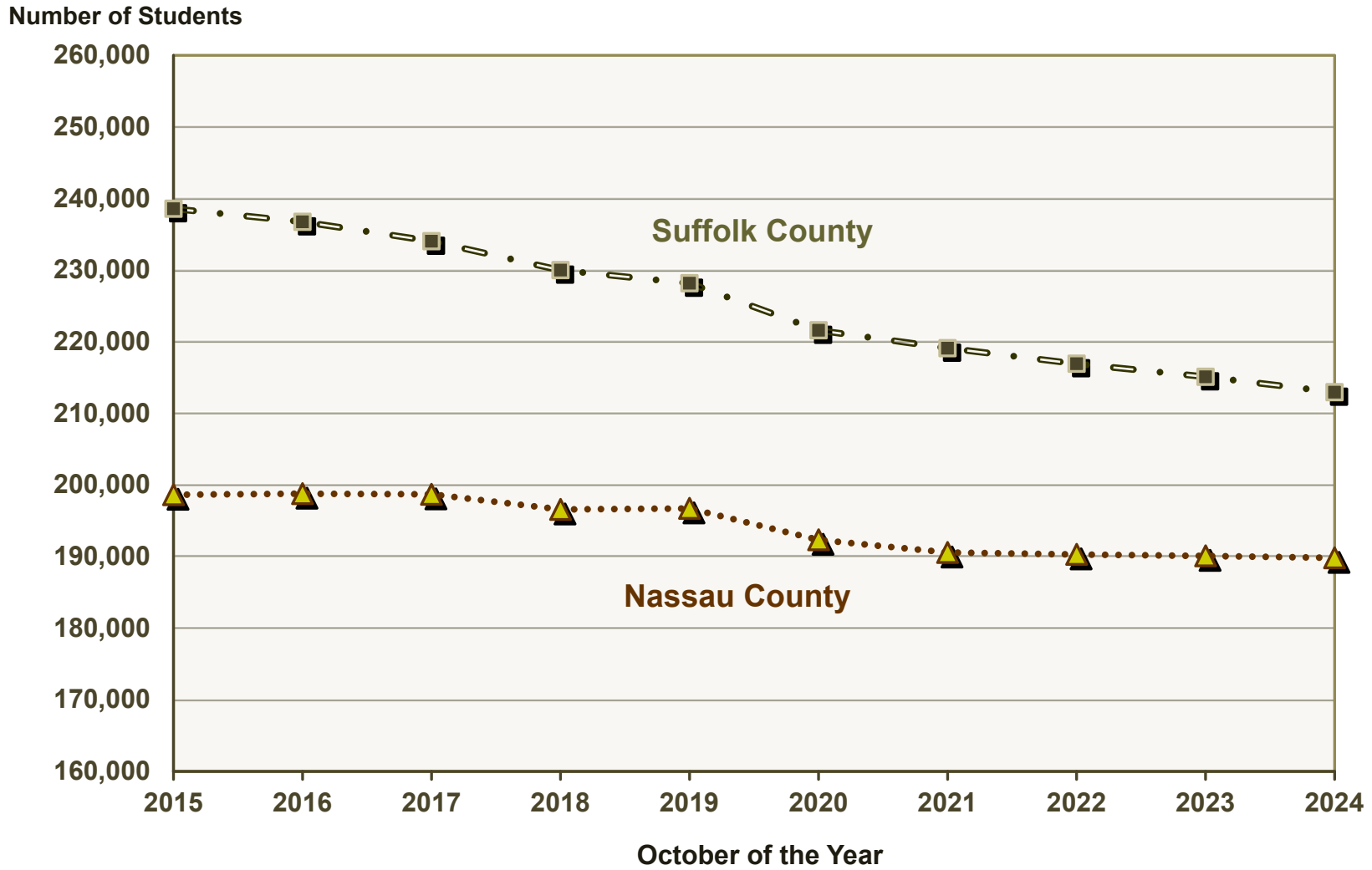
*Sources: US Census Bureau, NYS Education Department, National Center for Health Statistics, OneKey MLS*

## Long Island Region K - 12 Public School District Enrollment, 2015 - 2024

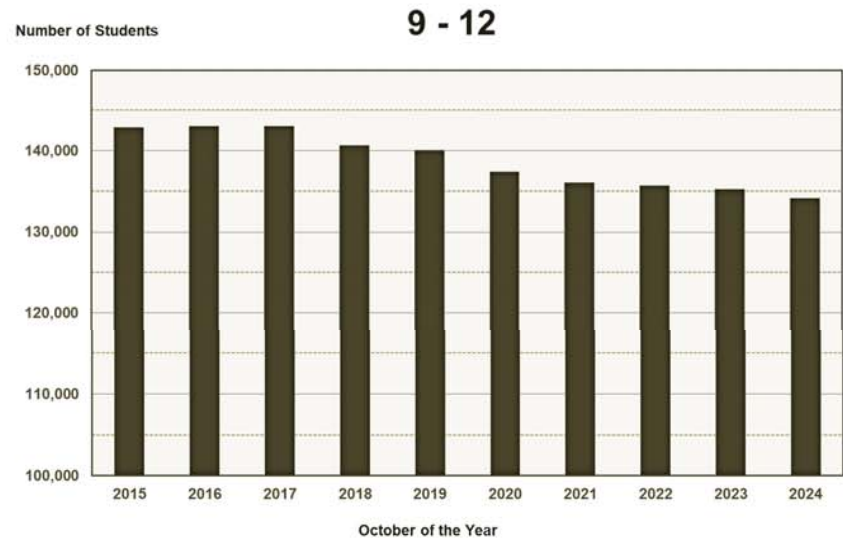
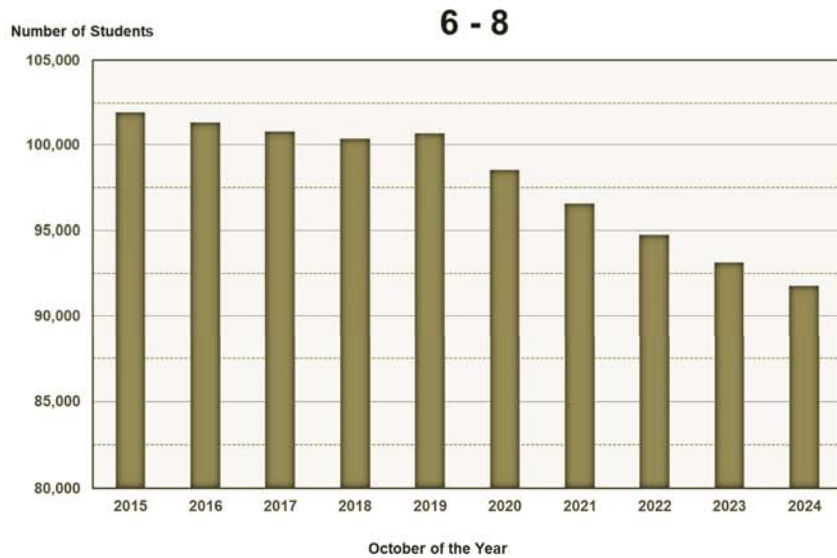
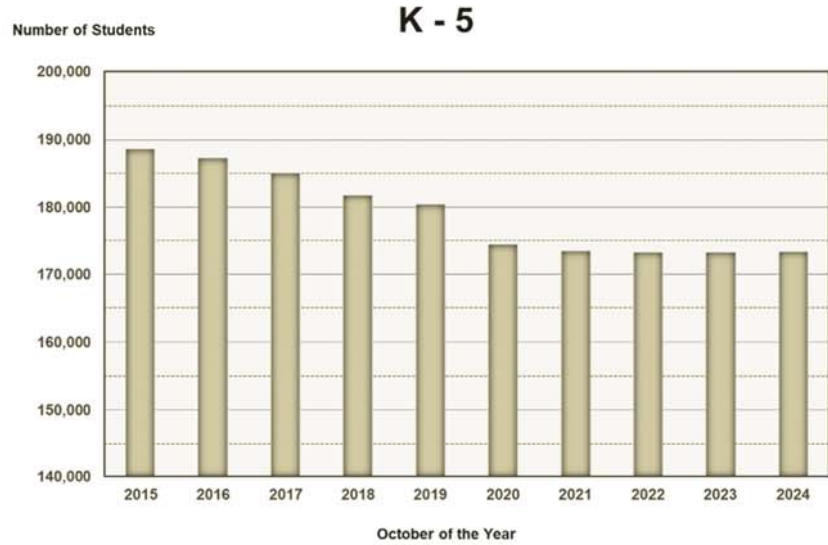
Number of Students



# Bi-County K - 12 Public School District Enrollment, 2015 - 2024



# Long Island Region Public School District Enrollment, 2015 - 2024



NASSAU/SUFFOLK REGION PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - HISTORICAL

GRADE	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20	Oct-21 <i>prelim</i>
KINDERGARTEN	29,425	28,965	28,520	28,006	28,695	26,562	27,706
FIRST	30,413	29,984	29,554	29,138	28,831	28,721	27,986
SECOND	31,548	30,903	30,437	29,859	29,541	28,709	28,933
THIRD	32,200	31,804	31,355	30,644	30,149	29,348	28,893
FOURTH	32,620	32,626	32,154	31,713	31,121	30,040	29,651
FIFTH	32,388	33,049	33,035	32,432	32,102	30,999	30,268
SIXTH	33,460	32,727	33,444	33,479	32,898	32,015	31,296
SEVENTH	34,198	33,934	33,113	33,649	33,727	32,831	32,241
EIGHTH	34,262	34,643	34,223	33,221	34,059	33,671	33,035
NINTH	35,226	35,401	35,363	34,627	34,650	34,005	34,370
TENTH	36,642	35,612	35,901	35,428	34,873	34,119	33,985
ELEVENTH	35,462	36,095	35,066	35,116	35,020	34,159	33,387
TWELFTH	35,565	35,937	36,732	35,480	35,539	35,127	34,357
UNGRADED	3,784	3,839	3,825	3,779	3,672	3,613	3,550
TOTAL	437,193	435,519	432,722	426,571	424,877	413,919	409,658
% CHANGE		-0.4%	-0.6%	-1.4%	-0.4%	-2.6%	-1.0%

NASSAU/SUFFOLK REGION PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - HISTORICAL (excluding ungraded)

GRADE	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20	Oct-21 <i>prelim</i>
K - 5	188,594	187,331	185,055	181,792	180,439	174,379	173,437
% CHANGE		-0.7%	-1.2%	-1.8%	-0.7%	-3.4%	-0.5%
6 - 8	101,920	101,304	100,780	100,349	100,684	98,517	96,572
% CHANGE		-0.6%	-0.5%	-0.4%	0.3%	-2.2%	-2.0%
9 - 12	142,895	143,045	143,062	140,651	140,082	137,410	136,099
% CHANGE		0.1%	0.0%	-1.7%	-0.4%	-1.9%	-1.0%



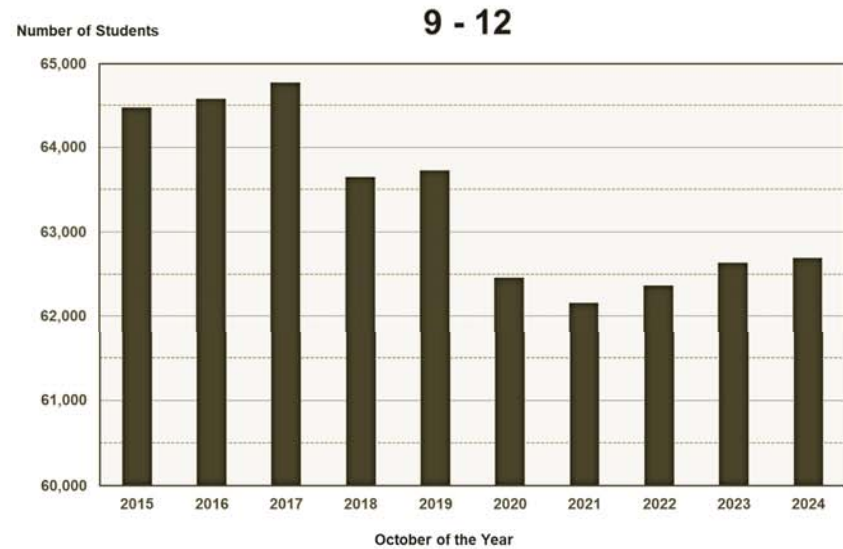
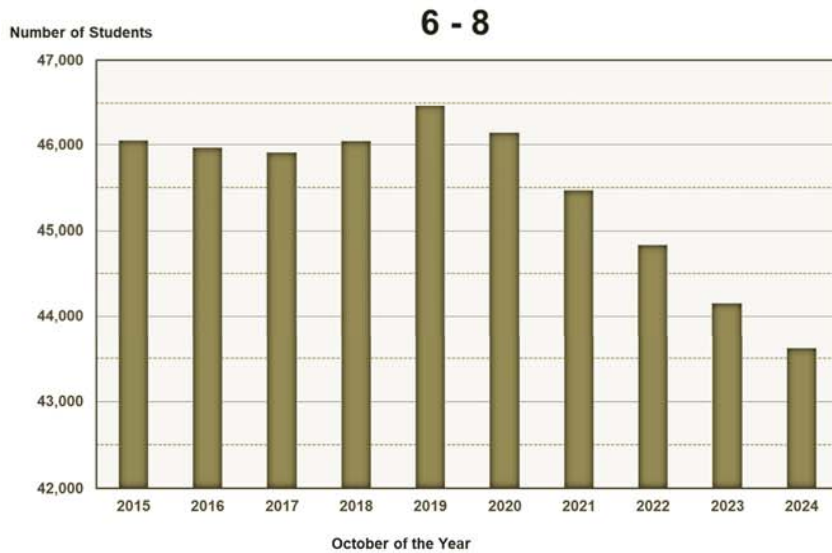
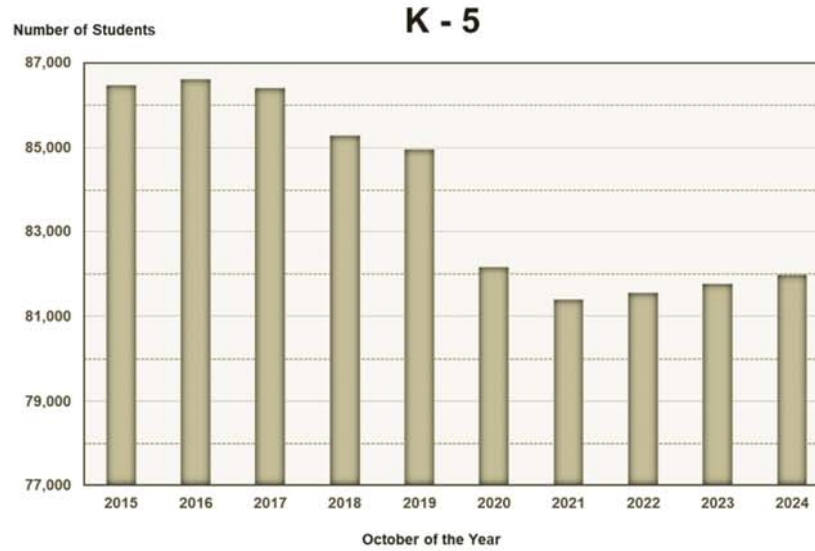
NASSAU/SUFFOLK REGION PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - PROJECTED

GRADE	Oct-21 Actual	Oct-22	Oct-23	Oct-24
KINDERGARTEN	27,706	28,100	28,026	27,656
FIRST	27,986	28,415	28,827	28,751
SECOND	28,933	28,335	28,767	29,188
THIRD	28,893	29,173	28,571	29,003
FOURTH	29,651	29,253	29,537	28,927
FIFTH	30,268	29,962	29,560	29,847
SIXTH	31,296	30,657	30,347	29,941
SEVENTH	32,241	31,585	30,939	30,627
EIGHTH	33,035	32,523	31,861	31,209
NINTH	34,370	33,853	33,324	32,646
TENTH	33,985	34,593	34,074	33,544
ELEVENTH	33,387	33,400	34,000	33,491
TWELFTH	34,357	33,820	33,831	34,441
UNGRADED	3,550	3,546	3,527	3,505
TOTAL	409,658	407,215	405,191	402,776
% CHANGE		-0.6%	-0.5%	-0.6%

NASSAU/SUFFOLK REGION PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - PROJECTED (excluding ungraded)

GRADE	Oct-21 Actual	Oct-22	Oct-23	Oct-24
K - 5	173,437	173,238	173,288	173,372
% CHANGE		-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
6 - 8	96,572	94,765	93,147	91,777
% CHANGE		-1.9%	-1.7%	-1.5%
9 - 12	136,099	135,666	135,229	134,122
% CHANGE		-0.3%	-0.3%	-0.8%

# Nassau County Public School District Enrollment, 2015 - 2024



NASSAU COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - HISTORICAL

GRADE	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20	Oct-21 <i>prelim</i>
KINDERGARTEN	13,632	13,403	13,233	12,923	13,361	12,361	12,605
FIRST	14,088	13,934	13,796	13,723	13,491	13,552	13,097
SECOND	14,540	14,475	14,262	13,991	13,952	13,481	13,646
THIRD	14,752	14,741	14,838	14,476	14,201	13,907	13,667
FOURTH	14,730	15,026	14,992	15,021	14,734	14,182	14,067
FIFTH	14,729	15,032	15,276	15,157	15,225	14,682	14,313
SIXTH	15,124	14,965	15,223	15,491	15,390	15,218	14,796
SEVENTH	15,373	15,381	15,157	15,309	15,593	15,330	15,261
EIGHTH	15,554	15,619	15,529	15,247	15,485	15,593	15,408
NINTH	15,675	15,976	15,760	15,612	15,696	15,287	15,674
TENTH	16,667	15,872	16,313	15,889	15,859	15,572	15,400
ELEVENTH	15,935	16,476	15,743	16,075	15,828	15,668	15,355
TWELFTH	16,195	16,262	16,962	16,073	16,340	15,929	15,730
UNGRADED	1,633	1,614	1,605	1,590	1,557	1,565	1,544
TOTAL	198,627	198,776	198,689	196,577	196,712	192,327	190,563
% CHANGE		0.1%	0.0%	-1.1%	0.1%	-2.2%	-0.9%

NASSAU COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - HISTORICAL (excluding ungraded)

GRADE	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20	Oct-21 <i>prelim</i>
K - 5	86,471	86,611	86,397	85,291	84,964	82,165	81,395
% CHANGE		0.2%	-0.2%	-1.3%	-0.4%	-3.3%	-0.9%
6 - 8	46,051	45,965	45,909	46,047	46,468	46,141	45,465
% CHANGE		-0.2%	-0.1%	0.3%	0.9%	-0.7%	-1.5%
9 - 12	64,472	64,586	64,778	63,649	63,723	62,456	62,159
% CHANGE		0.2%	0.3%	-1.7%	0.1%	-2.0%	-0.5%

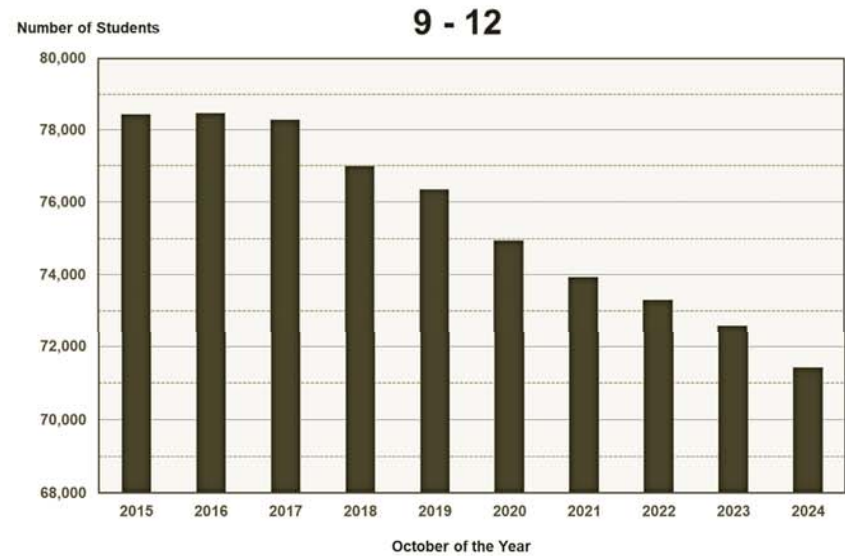
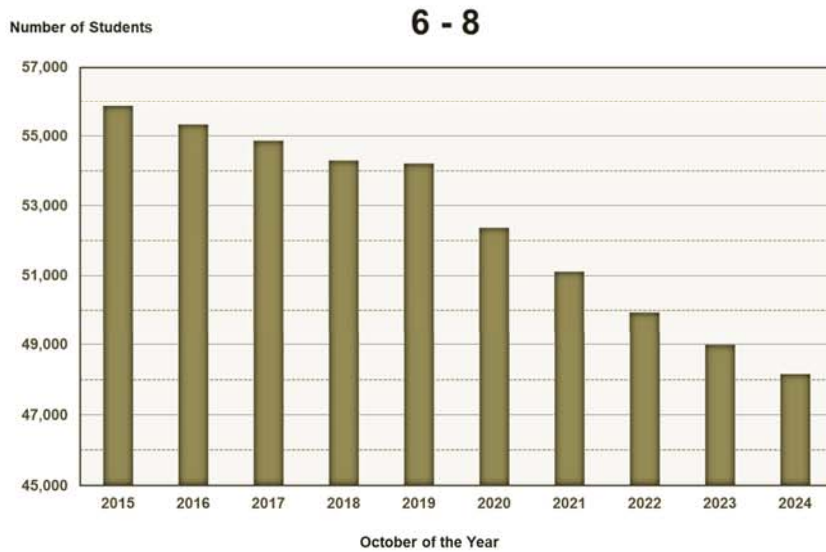
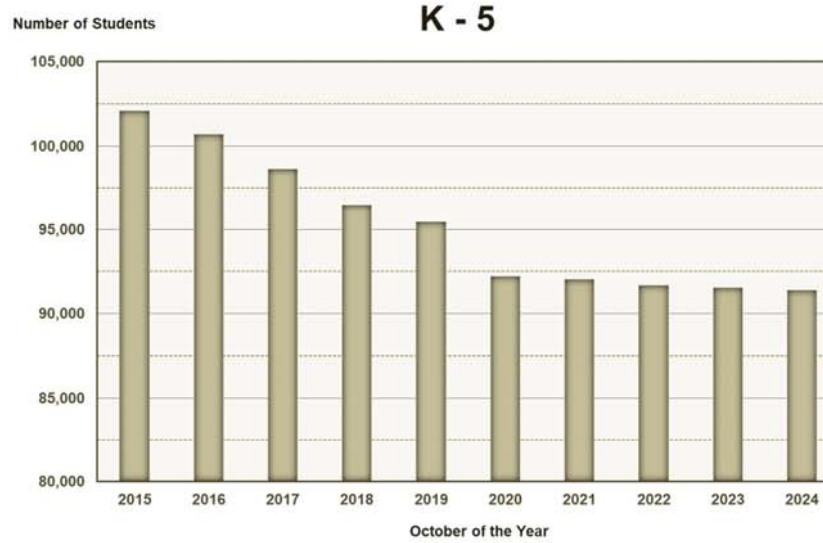
NASSAU COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - PROJECTED

GRADE	Oct-21 Actual	Oct-22	Oct-23	Oct-24
KINDERGARTEN	12,605	13,157	13,150	12,952
FIRST	13,097	13,068	13,641	13,633
SECOND	13,646	13,334	13,305	13,888
THIRD	13,667	13,845	13,529	13,499
FOURTH	14,067	13,882	14,063	13,742
FIFTH	14,313	14,260	14,073	14,256
SIXTH	14,796	14,514	14,460	14,271
SEVENTH	15,261	14,920	14,635	14,581
EIGHTH	15,408	15,399	15,055	14,767
NINTH	15,674	15,621	15,612	15,263
TENTH	15,400	15,865	15,811	15,802
ELEVENTH	15,355	15,228	15,688	15,634
TWELFTH	15,730	15,652	15,522	15,991
UNGRADED	1,544	1,545	1,543	1,541
TOTAL	190,563	190,290	190,087	189,820
% CHANGE		-0.1%	-0.1%	-0.1%

NASSAU COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - PROJECTED (excluding ungraded)

GRADE	Oct-21 Actual	Oct-22	Oct-23	Oct-24
K - 5	81,395	81,546	81,761	81,970
% CHANGE		0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
6 - 8	45,465	44,833	44,150	43,619
% CHANGE		-1.4%	-1.5%	-1.2%
9 - 12	62,159	62,366	62,633	62,690
% CHANGE		0.3%	0.4%	0.1%

# Suffolk County Public School District Enrollment, 2015 - 2024



SUFFOLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - HISTORICAL

GRADE	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20	Oct-21 <i>prelim</i>
KINDERGARTEN	15,793	15,562	15,287	15,083	15,334	14,201	15,101
FIRST	16,325	16,050	15,758	15,415	15,340	15,169	14,889
SECOND	17,008	16,428	16,175	15,868	15,589	15,228	15,287
THIRD	17,448	17,063	16,517	16,168	15,948	15,441	15,226
FOURTH	17,890	17,600	17,162	16,692	16,387	15,858	15,584
FIFTH	17,659	18,017	17,759	17,275	16,877	16,317	15,955
SIXTH	18,336	17,762	18,221	17,988	17,508	16,797	16,500
SEVENTH	18,825	18,553	17,956	18,340	18,134	17,501	16,980
EIGHTH	18,708	19,024	18,694	17,974	18,574	18,078	17,627
NINTH	19,551	19,425	19,603	19,015	18,954	18,718	18,696
TENTH	19,975	19,740	19,588	19,539	19,014	18,547	18,585
ELEVENTH	19,527	19,619	19,323	19,041	19,192	18,491	18,032
TWELFTH	19,370	19,675	19,770	19,407	19,199	19,198	18,627
UNGRADED	2,151	2,225	2,220	2,189	2,115	2,048	2,006
TOTAL	238,566	236,743	234,033	229,994	228,165	221,592	219,095
% CHANGE		-0.8%	-1.1%	-1.7%	-0.8%	-2.9%	-1.1%

SUFFOLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - HISTORICAL (excluding ungraded)

GRADE	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20	Oct-21 <i>prelim</i>
K - 5	102,123	100,720	98,658	96,501	95,475	92,214	92,042
% CHANGE		-1.4%	-2.0%	-2.2%	-1.1%	-3.4%	-0.2%
6 - 8	55,869	55,339	54,871	54,302	54,216	52,376	51,107
% CHANGE		-0.9%	-0.8%	-1.0%	-0.2%	-3.4%	-2.4%
9 - 12	78,423	78,459	78,284	77,002	76,359	74,954	73,940
% CHANGE		0.0%	-0.2%	-1.6%	-0.8%	-1.8%	-1.4%

SUFFOLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - PROJECTED

GRADE	Oct-21 Actual	Oct-22	Oct-23	Oct-24
KINDERGARTEN	15,101	14,943	14,876	14,704
FIRST	14,889	15,347	15,186	15,118
SECOND	15,287	15,001	15,462	15,300
THIRD	15,226	15,328	15,042	15,504
FOURTH	15,584	15,371	15,474	15,185
FIFTH	15,955	15,702	15,487	15,591
SIXTH	16,500	16,143	15,887	15,670
SEVENTH	16,980	16,665	16,304	16,046
EIGHTH	17,627	17,124	16,806	16,442
NINTH	18,696	18,232	17,712	17,383
TENTH	18,585	18,728	18,263	17,742
ELEVENTH	18,032	18,172	18,312	17,857
TWELFTH	18,627	18,168	18,309	18,450
UNGRADED	2,006	2,001	1,984	1,964
TOTAL	219,095	216,925	215,104	212,956
% CHANGE		-1.0%	-0.8%	-1.0%

SUFFOLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - PROJECTED (excluding ungraded)

GRADE	Oct-21 Actual	Oct-22	Oct-23	Oct-24
K - 5	92,042	91,692	91,527	91,402
% CHANGE		-0.4%	-0.2%	-0.1%
6 - 8	51,107	49,932	48,997	48,158
% CHANGE		-2.3%	-1.9%	-1.7%
9 - 12	73,940	73,300	72,596	71,432
% CHANGE		-0.9%	-1.0%	-1.6%