

**WESTERN SUFFOLK BOCES
NASSAU - SUFFOLK
BI-COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT
2014 - 2023**



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

May 2021



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of Western Suffolk County, New York

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May 2021

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 (2014-2020) in the Long Island counties, as well as projected enrollments through 2023.

Enrollment in public school districts on Long Island has declined by 6.1% since 2014, with decreases of 3.5% in Nassau County and 8.3% in Suffolk County. Since 2014, the elementary grade (K - 5) enrollment on Long Island declined 8.8%, while the middle (6 - 8) and high school grades (9 - 12) recorded smaller losses of 3.9 and 4.3%, respectively. The most significant year-to-year decline of the historical period was between 2019 and 2020, with a loss of 10,996 students, or 2.6%. This has been attributed to the pandemic; there are indications of increases in both non-public school enrollment and in the number of children being home-schooled due to parental concerns regarding Covid-19.

Projections suggest a smaller decline of 0.3% in the region over the next three years. Through 2023, an additional loss of 4.0% is expected in the middle grades; however, a gain of 1.4% is projected in the elementary grades, while enrollment in the high school grades is projected to remain stable.

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 2019, Nassau County recorded a gain of 1.3%; however, the population in Suffolk County has declined 1.1% between 2000 and 2019. Similar to most counties in New York State, Nassau and Suffolk Counties have been experiencing losses through domestic migration; however, in Nassau County those losses have been offset by international migration and natural increase.

Long Island's population has experienced demographic changes. Both Nassau and Suffolk Counties saw a decline in the number of children under the age of five between 2000 and 2019. In 2000, 6.5% of Nassau's population and 7.1% of Suffolk's population was under five years of age; by 2019, this group had shrunk to 5.5% of the population in Nassau County and 5.4% in Suffolk 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 41.7 years in 2019; Suffolk County noted an increase from 36.5 years in 2000 to 41.5 years in 2019. The 2019 median age in both counties is higher than New York State's median age (38.8 years) and the nation's (38.1 years) median age.

Births

Provisional data released by *the National Center for Health Statistics* indicates that births in the U.S. declined for the sixth consecutive year in 2020, marking the lowest number since 1979. Births in New York State echo the national trend; 2020 births (provisional data) reflect a drop of 5.6% when compared to the prior year (county birth data for 2019 & 2020 is not yet available). This trend has been linked to various factors, including significant student loan debt and high rental prices, 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 early school-age children.

Immigration

Immigration is a large contributor to population growth in the United States. According to the **2019 American Community Survey**, foreign-born residents in the United States account for almost 14% of the total population. Approximately half of these immigrants were born in Latin America (50.6 percent). Foreign-born residents in New York State represent almost 23% of the total population, while the foreign-born in Nassau and Suffolk Counties comprise 22.4% and 15.6% of the populations, respectively. Of the foreign-born population on Long Island, 51% in Nassau County and 59% 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 2019,

foreign-born residents from Asian countries accounted for approximately 31% of the immigrant population in the United States and 29% 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

As the COVID-19 pandemic forced the shutdown of the economy in March 2020, housing activity on Long Island, for the most part, came to a halt. Subsequently, the market has rebounded in 2021, spurred by strong buyer demand and record low mortgage rates. However, a lack of available homes for sale is driving up median sale prices to historical highs in many communities on Long Island. As reported by **OneKey MLS**, in April 2021, the median home price in Nassau County was \$630,000, compared to \$556,750 in April 2020. In Suffolk County the median home price increased to \$480,000 in April 2021, compared to \$425,000 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 call the Office of School Planning & Research (631-595-6802) if you would like to discuss our services and how we may promote your district’s goals.

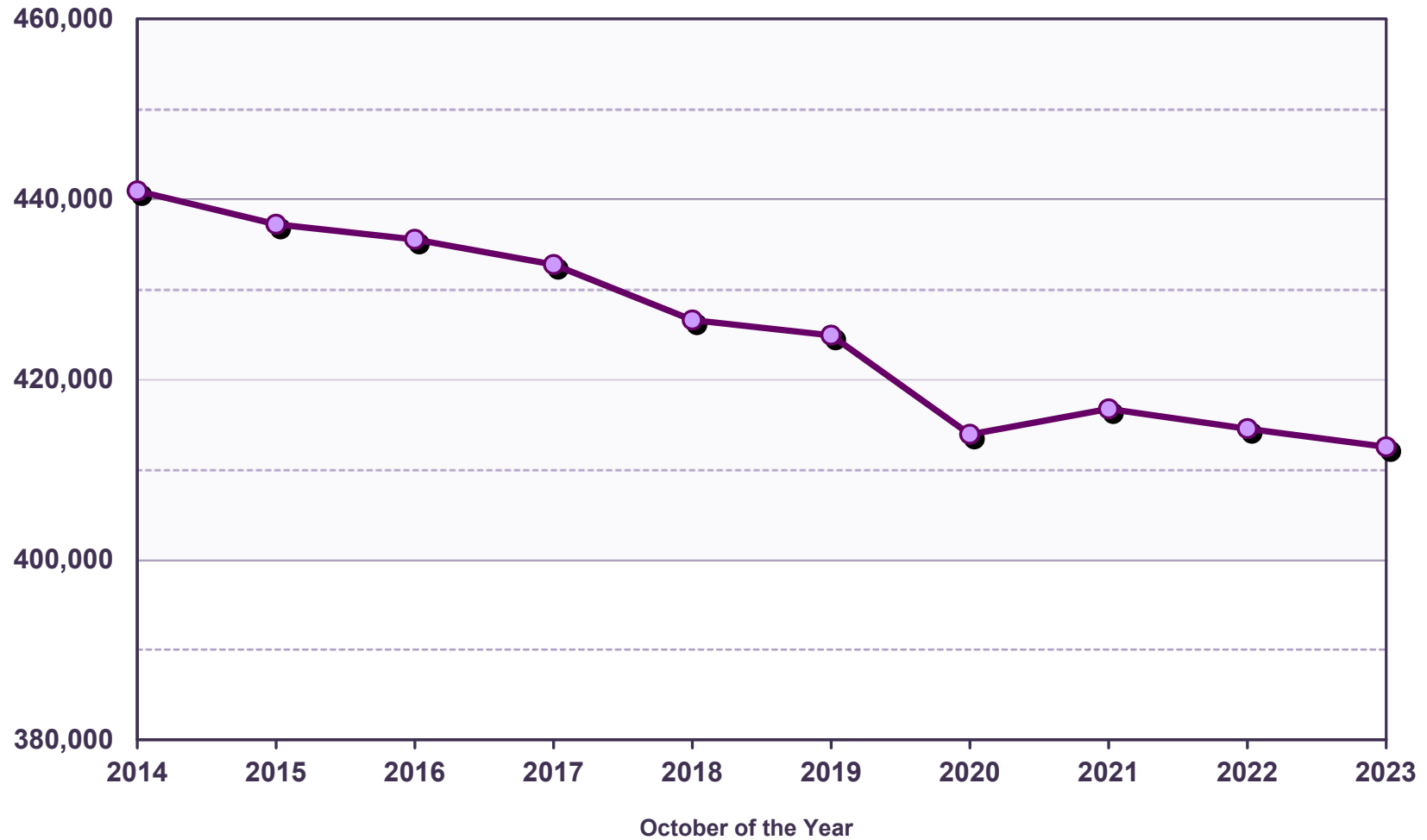
Angelique Johnson-Dingle
District Superintendent

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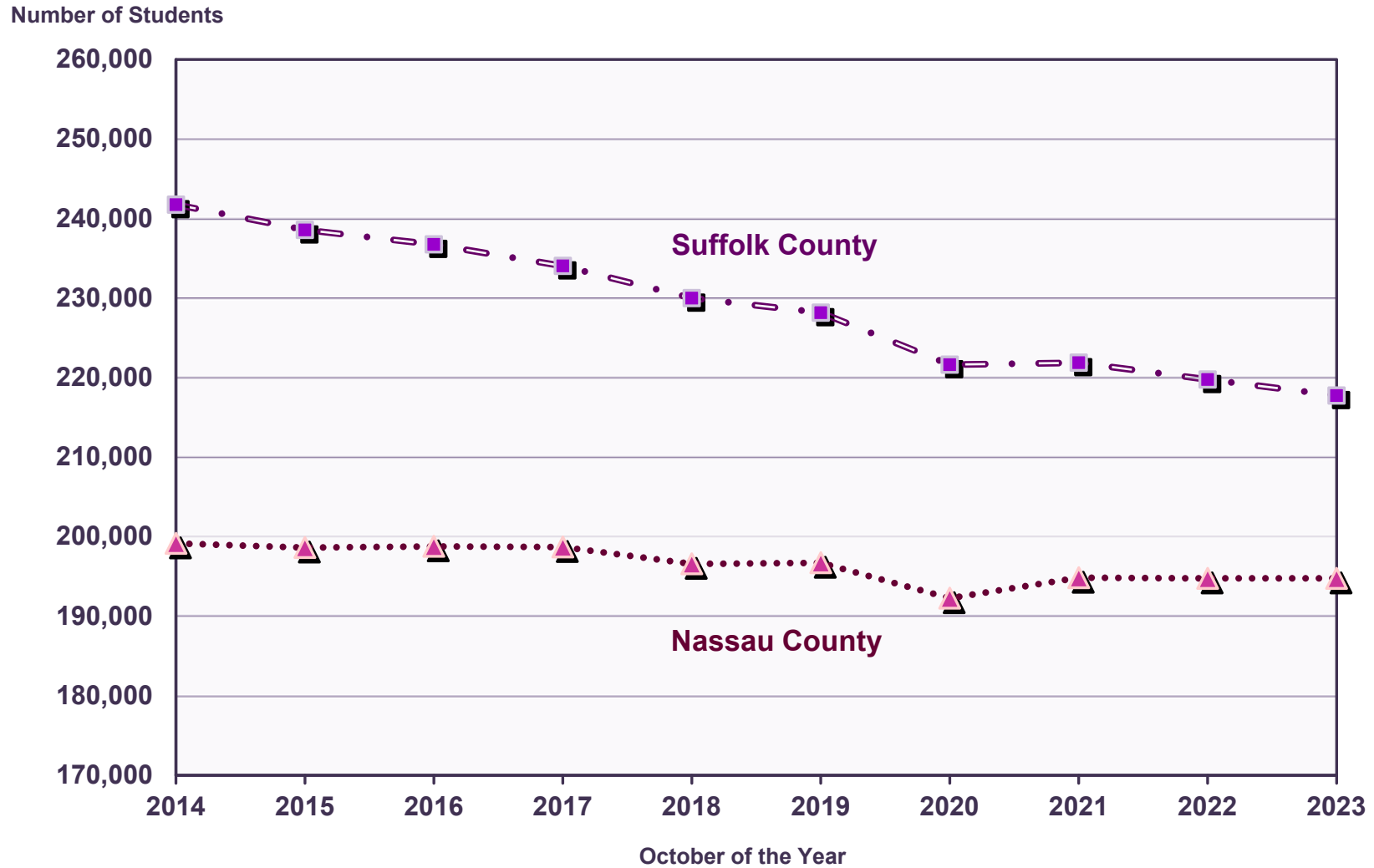
Sources: US Census Bureau, NYS Education Department, National Center for Health Statistics, OneKey MLS

Long Island Region K - 12 Public School District Enrollment, 2014 - 2023

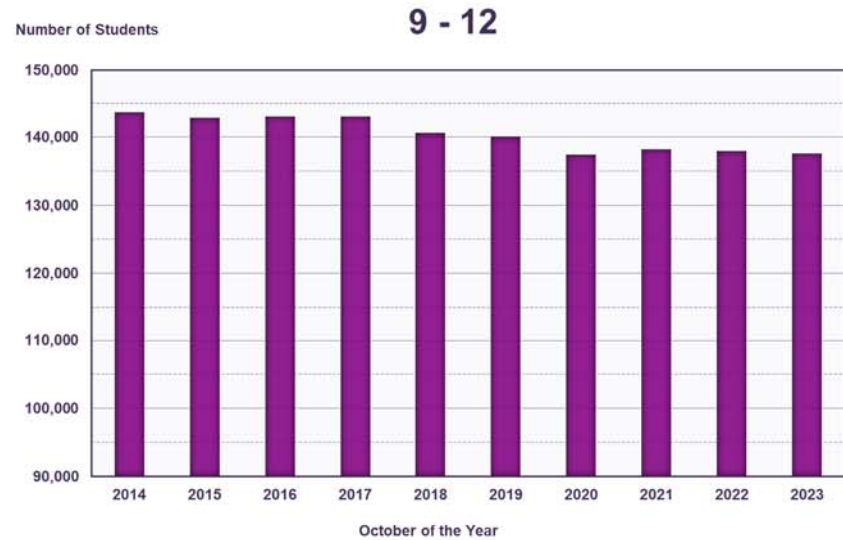
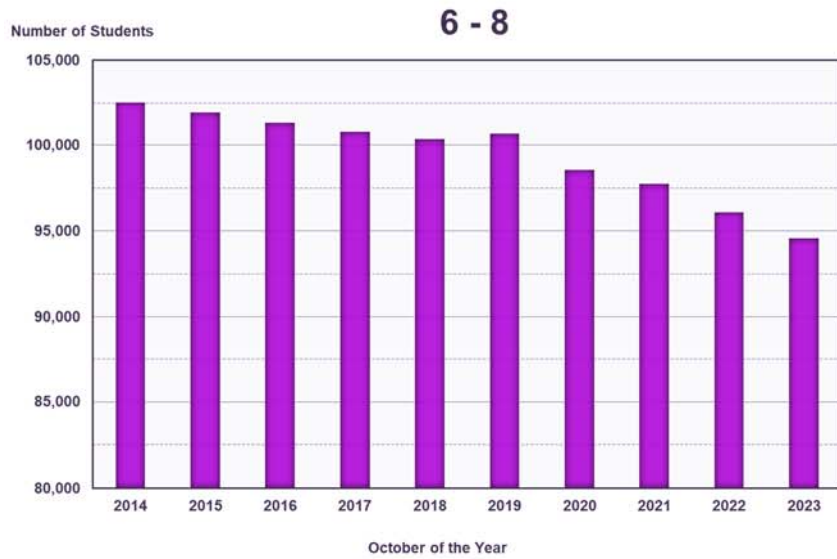
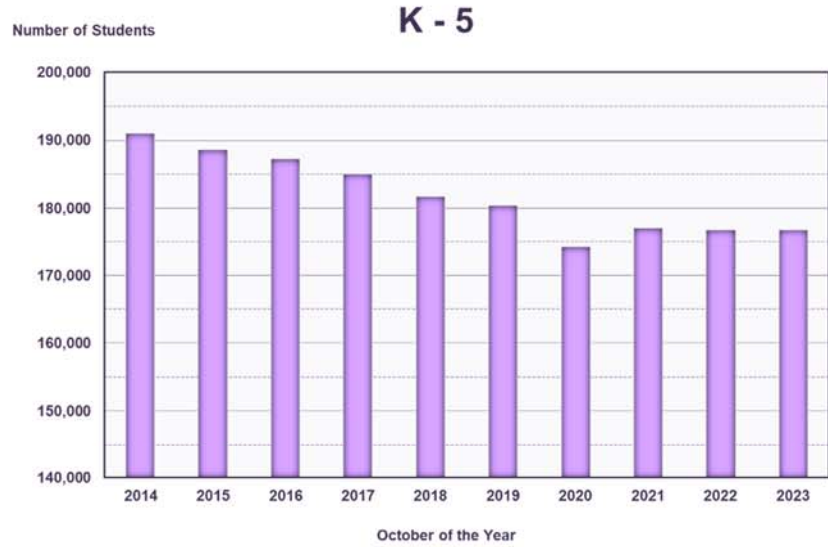
Number of Students



Bi-County K - 12 Public School District Enrollment, 2014 - 2023



Long Island Region Public School District Enrollment, 2014 - 2023



NASSAU/SUFFOLK REGION PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - HISTORICAL

GRADE	Oct-14	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20 <i>prelim</i>
KINDERGARTEN	29,915	29,425	28,965	28,520	28,006	28,695	26,878
FIRST	31,382	30,413	29,984	29,554	29,138	28,831	28,247
SECOND	31,992	31,548	30,903	30,437	29,859	29,541	28,703
THIRD	32,397	32,200	31,804	31,355	30,644	30,149	29,369
FOURTH	32,183	32,620	32,626	32,154	31,713	31,121	30,035
FIFTH	33,178	32,388	33,049	33,035	32,432	32,102	31,005
SIXTH	34,062	33,460	32,727	33,444	33,479	32,898	32,022
SEVENTH	34,070	34,198	33,934	33,113	33,649	33,727	32,848
EIGHTH	34,405	34,262	34,643	34,223	33,221	34,059	33,684
NINTH	36,879	35,226	35,401	35,363	34,627	34,650	33,937
TENTH	36,079	36,642	35,612	35,901	35,428	34,873	34,121
ELEVENTH	35,251	35,462	36,095	35,066	35,116	35,020	34,270
TWELFTH	35,446	35,565	35,937	36,732	35,480	35,539	35,136
UNGRADED	3,660	3,784	3,839	3,825	3,779	3,672	3,626
TOTAL	440,899	437,193	435,519	432,722	426,571	424,877	413,881
% CHANGE		-0.8%	-0.4%	-0.6%	-1.4%	-0.4%	-2.6%

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

GRADE	Oct-14	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20 <i>prelim</i>
K - 5	191,047	188,594	187,331	185,055	181,792	180,439	174,237
% CHANGE		-1.3%	-0.7%	-1.2%	-1.8%	-0.7%	-3.4%
6 - 8	102,537	101,920	101,304	100,780	100,349	100,684	98,554
% CHANGE		-0.6%	-0.6%	-0.5%	-0.4%	0.3%	-2.1%
9 - 12	143,655	142,895	143,045	143,062	140,651	140,082	137,464
% CHANGE		-0.5%	0.1%	0.0%	-1.7%	-0.4%	-1.9%

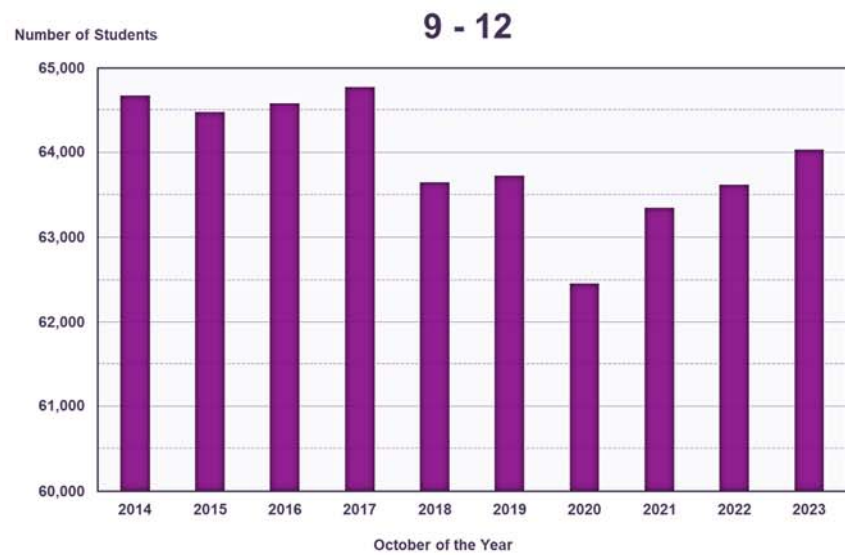
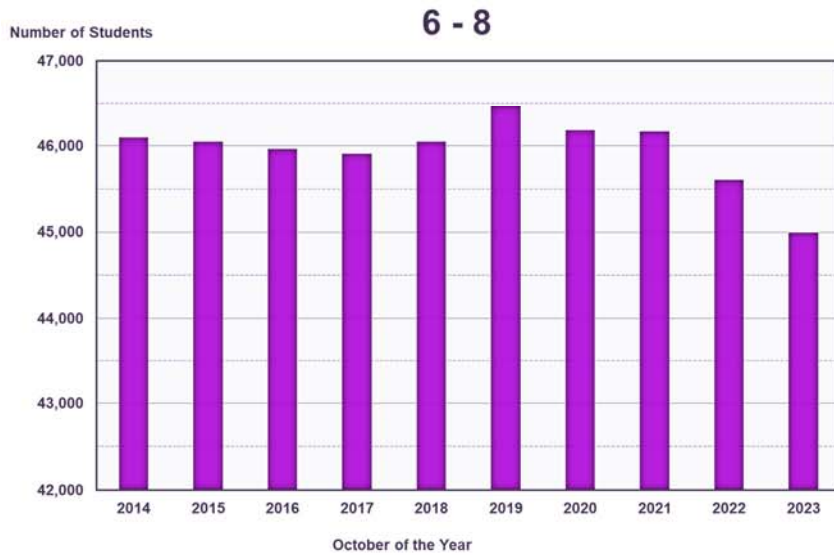
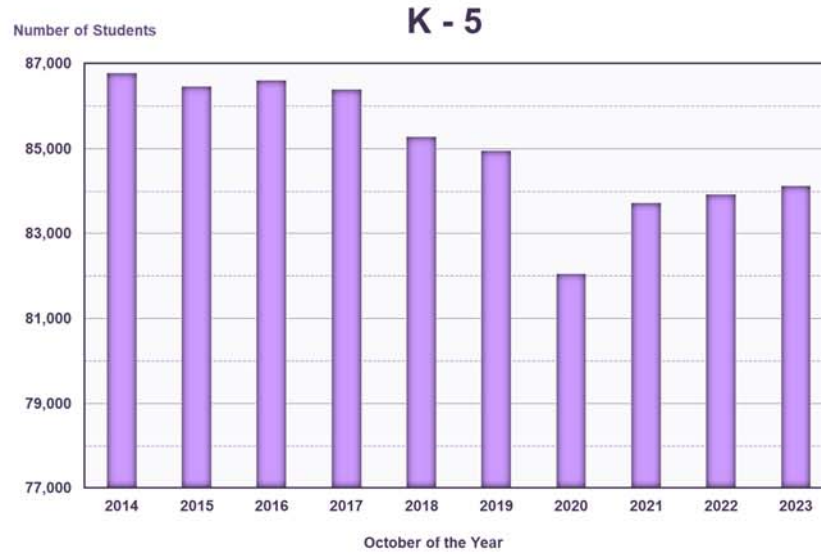
NASSAU/SUFFOLK REGION PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - PROJECTED

GRADE	Oct-20 Actual	Oct-21	Oct-22	Oct-23
KINDERGARTEN	26,878	29,187	28,382	28,315
FIRST	28,247	28,138	29,884	29,061
SECOND	28,703	29,459	28,507	30,277
THIRD	29,369	29,387	29,767	28,805
FOURTH	30,035	30,109	29,760	30,145
FIFTH	31,005	30,753	30,446	30,093
SIXTH	32,022	31,725	31,161	30,851
SEVENTH	32,848	32,641	32,007	31,437
EIGHTH	33,684	33,378	32,945	32,304
NINTH	33,937	34,774	34,278	33,830
TENTH	34,121	34,749	35,073	34,575
ELEVENTH	34,270	33,994	34,197	34,519
TWELFTH	35,136	34,759	34,463	34,668
UNGRADED	3,626	3,653	3,633	3,615
TOTAL	413,881	416,706	414,503	412,495
% CHANGE		0.7%	-0.5%	-0.5%

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

GRADE	Oct-20 Actual	Oct-21	Oct-22	Oct-23
K - 5	174,237	177,033	176,746	176,696
% CHANGE		1.6%	-0.2%	0.0%
6 - 8	98,554	97,744	96,113	94,592
% CHANGE		-0.8%	-1.7%	-1.6%
9 - 12	137,464	138,276	138,011	137,592
% CHANGE		0.6%	-0.2%	-0.3%

Nassau County Public School District Enrollment, 2014 - 2023



NASSAU COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - HISTORICAL

GRADE	Oct-14	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20 <i>prelim</i>
KINDERGARTEN	13,783	13,632	13,403	13,233	12,923	13,361	12,508
FIRST	14,365	14,088	13,934	13,796	13,723	13,491	13,290
SECOND	14,486	14,540	14,475	14,262	13,991	13,952	13,472
THIRD	14,603	14,752	14,741	14,838	14,476	14,201	13,919
FOURTH	14,591	14,730	15,026	14,992	15,021	14,734	14,181
FIFTH	14,955	14,729	15,032	15,276	15,157	15,225	14,682
SIXTH	15,302	15,124	14,965	15,223	15,491	15,390	15,229
SEVENTH	15,443	15,373	15,381	15,157	15,309	15,593	15,345
EIGHTH	15,352	15,554	15,619	15,529	15,247	15,485	15,608
NINTH	16,571	15,675	15,976	15,760	15,612	15,696	15,289
TENTH	16,061	16,667	15,872	16,313	15,889	15,859	15,569
ELEVENTH	15,909	15,935	16,476	15,743	16,075	15,828	15,702
TWELFTH	16,143	16,195	16,262	16,962	16,073	16,340	15,897
UNGRADED	1,588	1,633	1,614	1,605	1,590	1,557	1,568
TOTAL	199,152	198,627	198,776	198,689	196,577	196,712	192,259
% CHANGE		-0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	-1.1%	0.1%	-2.3%

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

GRADE	Oct-14	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20 <i>prelim</i>
K - 5	86,783	86,471	86,611	86,397	85,291	84,964	82,052
% CHANGE		-0.4%	0.2%	-0.2%	-1.3%	-0.4%	-3.4%
6 - 8	46,097	46,051	45,965	45,909	46,047	46,468	46,182
% CHANGE		-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.1%	0.3%	0.9%	-0.6%
9 - 12	64,684	64,472	64,586	64,778	63,649	63,723	62,457
% CHANGE		-0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	-1.7%	0.1%	-2.0%

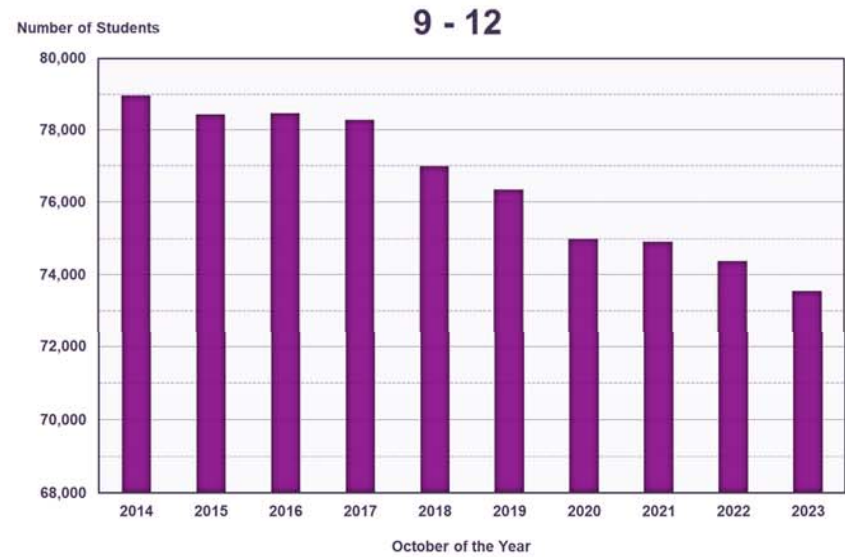
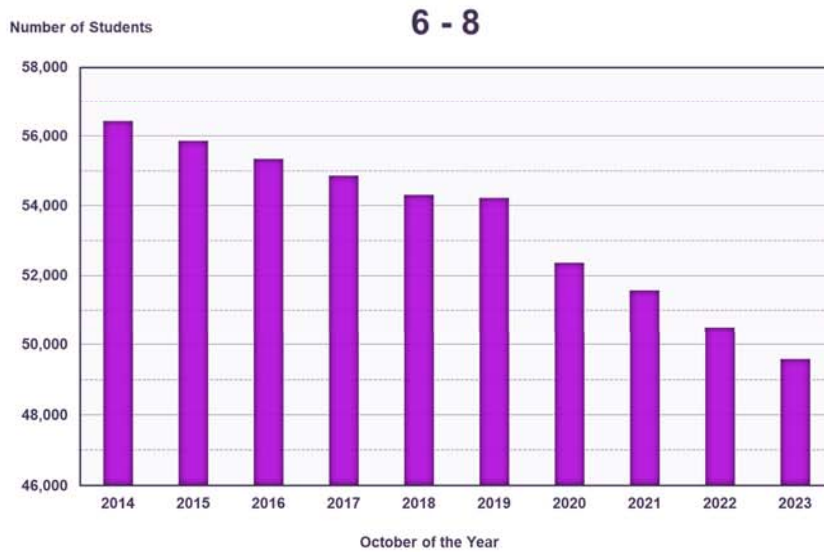
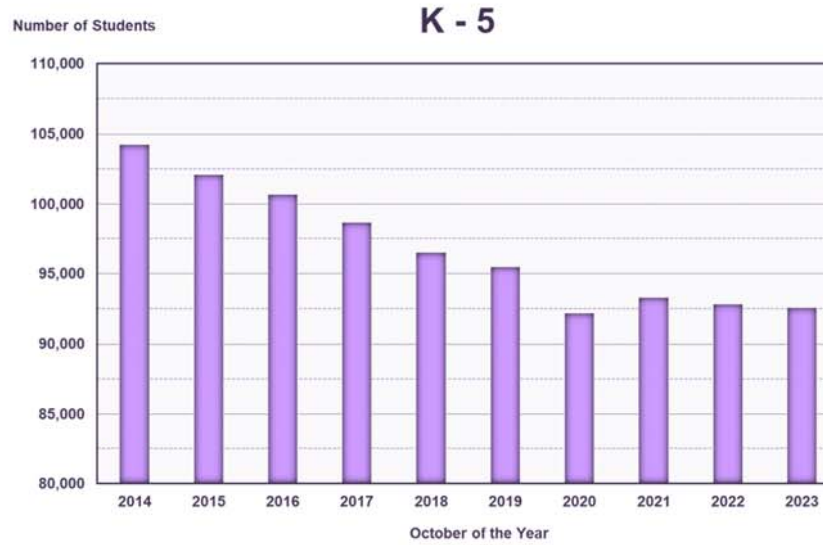
NASSAU COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - PROJECTED

GRADE	Oct-20 Actual	Oct-21	Oct-22	Oct-23
KINDERGARTEN	12,508	13,718	13,367	13,362
FIRST	13,290	13,251	14,202	13,839
SECOND	13,472	13,932	13,491	14,459
THIRD	13,919	13,921	14,188	13,739
FOURTH	14,181	14,360	14,140	14,411
FIFTH	14,682	14,564	14,557	14,334
SIXTH	15,229	15,056	14,769	14,762
SEVENTH	15,345	15,492	15,182	14,892
EIGHTH	15,608	15,622	15,659	15,345
NINTH	15,289	15,960	15,899	15,937
TENTH	15,569	15,744	16,190	16,128
ELEVENTH	15,702	15,598	15,594	16,036
TWELFTH	15,897	16,046	15,939	15,935
UNGRADED	1,568	1,570	1,570	1,570
TOTAL	192,259	194,834	194,747	194,749
% CHANGE		1.3%	0.0%	0.0%

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

GRADE	Oct-20 Actual	Oct-21	Oct-22	Oct-23
K - 5	82,052	83,746	83,945	84,144
% CHANGE		2.1%	0.2%	0.2%
6 - 8	46,182	46,170	45,610	44,999
% CHANGE		0.0%	-1.2%	-1.3%
9 - 12	62,457	63,348	63,622	64,036
% CHANGE		1.4%	0.4%	0.7%

Suffolk County Public School District Enrollment, 2014 - 2023



SUFFOLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - HISTORICAL

GRADE	Oct-14	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20 <i>prelim</i>
KINDERGARTEN	16,132	15,793	15,562	15,287	15,083	15,334	14,370
FIRST	17,017	16,325	16,050	15,758	15,415	15,340	14,957
SECOND	17,506	17,008	16,428	16,175	15,868	15,589	15,231
THIRD	17,794	17,448	17,063	16,517	16,168	15,948	15,450
FOURTH	17,592	17,890	17,600	17,162	16,692	16,387	15,854
FIFTH	18,223	17,659	18,017	17,759	17,275	16,877	16,323
SIXTH	18,760	18,336	17,762	18,221	17,988	17,508	16,793
SEVENTH	18,627	18,825	18,553	17,956	18,340	18,134	17,503
EIGHTH	19,053	18,708	19,024	18,694	17,974	18,574	18,076
NINTH	20,308	19,551	19,425	19,603	19,015	18,954	18,648
TENTH	20,018	19,975	19,740	19,588	19,539	19,014	18,552
ELEVENTH	19,342	19,527	19,619	19,323	19,041	19,192	18,568
TWELFTH	19,303	19,370	19,675	19,770	19,407	19,199	19,239
UNGRADED	2,072	2,151	2,225	2,220	2,189	2,115	2,058
TOTAL	241,747	238,566	236,743	234,033	229,994	228,165	221,622
% CHANGE		-1.3%	-0.8%	-1.1%	-1.7%	-0.8%	-2.9%

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

GRADE	Oct-14	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20 <i>prelim</i>
K - 5	104,264	102,123	100,720	98,658	96,501	95,475	92,185
% CHANGE		-2.1%	-1.4%	-2.0%	-2.2%	-1.1%	-3.4%
6 - 8	56,440	55,869	55,339	54,871	54,302	54,216	52,372
% CHANGE		-1.0%	-0.9%	-0.8%	-1.0%	-0.2%	-3.4%
9 - 12	78,971	78,423	78,459	78,284	77,002	76,359	75,007
% CHANGE		-0.7%	0.0%	-0.2%	-1.6%	-0.8%	-1.8%

SUFFOLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - PROJECTED

GRADE	Oct-20 Actual	Oct-21	Oct-22	Oct-23
KINDERGARTEN	14,370	15,469	15,015	14,953
FIRST	14,957	14,887	15,682	15,222
SECOND	15,231	15,527	15,016	15,818
THIRD	15,450	15,466	15,579	15,066
FOURTH	15,854	15,749	15,620	15,734
FIFTH	16,323	16,189	15,889	15,759
SIXTH	16,793	16,669	16,392	16,089
SEVENTH	17,503	17,149	16,825	16,545
EIGHTH	18,076	17,756	17,286	16,959
NINTH	18,648	18,814	18,379	17,893
TENTH	18,552	19,005	18,883	18,447
ELEVENTH	18,568	18,396	18,603	18,483
TWELFTH	19,239	18,713	18,524	18,733
UNGRADED	2,058	2,083	2,063	2,045
TOTAL	221,622	221,872	219,756	217,746
% CHANGE		0.1%	-1.0%	-0.9%

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

GRADE	Oct-20 Actual	Oct-21	Oct-22	Oct-23
K - 5	92,185	93,287	92,801	92,552
% CHANGE		1.2%	-0.5%	-0.3%
6 - 8	52,372	51,574	50,503	49,593
% CHANGE		-1.5%	-2.1%	-1.8%
9 - 12	75,007	74,928	74,389	73,556
% CHANGE		-0.1%	-0.7%	-1.1%