

**WESTERN SUFFOLK BOCES  
NASSAU - SUFFOLK  
BI-COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT  
2016 - 2025**



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

*June 2023*

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Board of Cooperative Educational Services



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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**

**June 2023**

**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 (2016 - 2022) in the Long Island counties, as well as projected enrollments through 2025.

Enrollment in public school districts on Long Island has declined by 6.3% since 2016, with decreases of 4.2% in Nassau County and 8.0% in Suffolk County. Since 2016, the elementary grade (K - 5) enrollment on Long Island declined 7.6%, while the middle (6 - 8) and high school grades (9 - 12) recorded smaller losses of 6.2 and 4.7%, respectively.

Projections suggest a decline of 1.9% in the region over the next three years. However, the elementary grades are projected to remain stable (loss of 0.5%) through 2025, while an additional loss of 3.3% is expected in the middle grades and a smaller loss of 2.9% 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%. Between 2010 and 2020, Nassau County recorded a gain of 4.2%, while a smaller gain of 2.2% was recorded in Suffolk County. More recently, *Census* estimates indicate that between 2020 and 2021, net migration losses resulted in a population decline of 0.4% in New York State; similar declines of 0.3 and 0.2% were recorded in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, respectively.

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 2021. In 2000, nearly 27% of Nassau's population and more than 28% of Suffolk's population was comprised of these age groups; by 2021 this group had shrunk to 24.1% of the population in Nassau County and 23.7% 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 41.8 years by 2021; Suffolk County noted an increase from 36.5 years in 2000 to 41.7 years in 2021. The 2021 median age in both counties is higher than New York State's median age of 39.2 years and the nation's median age of 38.4 years.

**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 2022, reflecting stability (decline of .01 %) when compared to 2021. With the exception of 2014 and 2021, birth declines have been recorded each year since 2008. Within New York State, 2022 births declined 1.5 percent when compared to the prior year (county birth data for 2022 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 adults 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 **2021 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 23% of the total population, while the foreign-born in Nassau and Suffolk Counties comprise 22.4% and 15.5% of the populations, respectively. Of the foreign-born population on Long Island, approximately 50% 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 2021,

foreign-born residents from Asian countries accounted for approximately 31% of the immigrant population in the United States and 29.4% of the foreign-born population in New York State; on Long Island, approximately 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 residual effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. The historically tight supply of inventory, coupled with high demand, has driven median sale prices to historic highs in many communities on Long Island. In addition, rising interest rates have contributed to the lack of available inventory as home-owners are reluctant to list their homes and relinquish their low mortgage rates. These factors, combined with high property taxes, present 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 trends that are developing within their districts and study historical data, 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.

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*

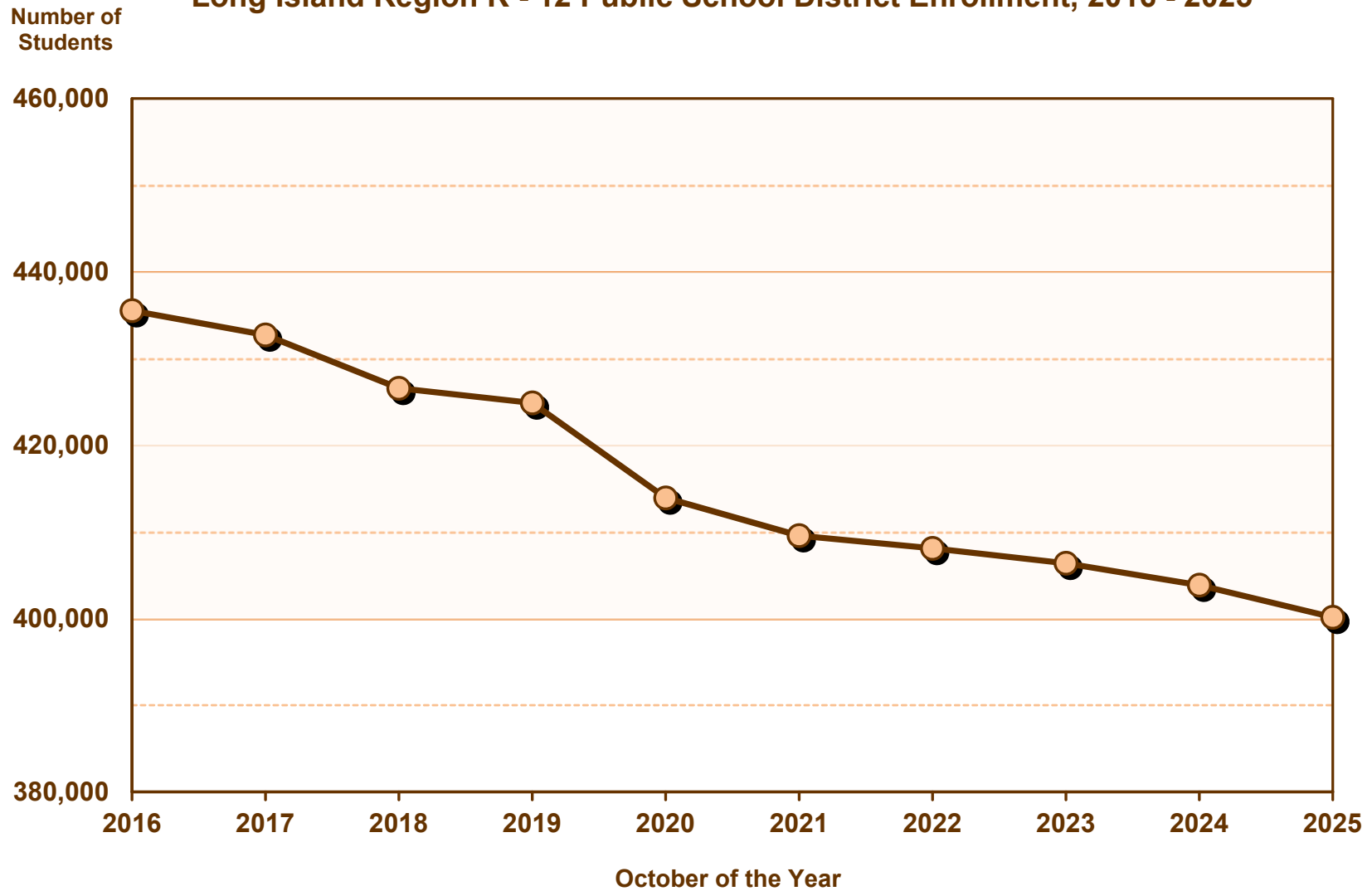
*Office of School Planning & Research*

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

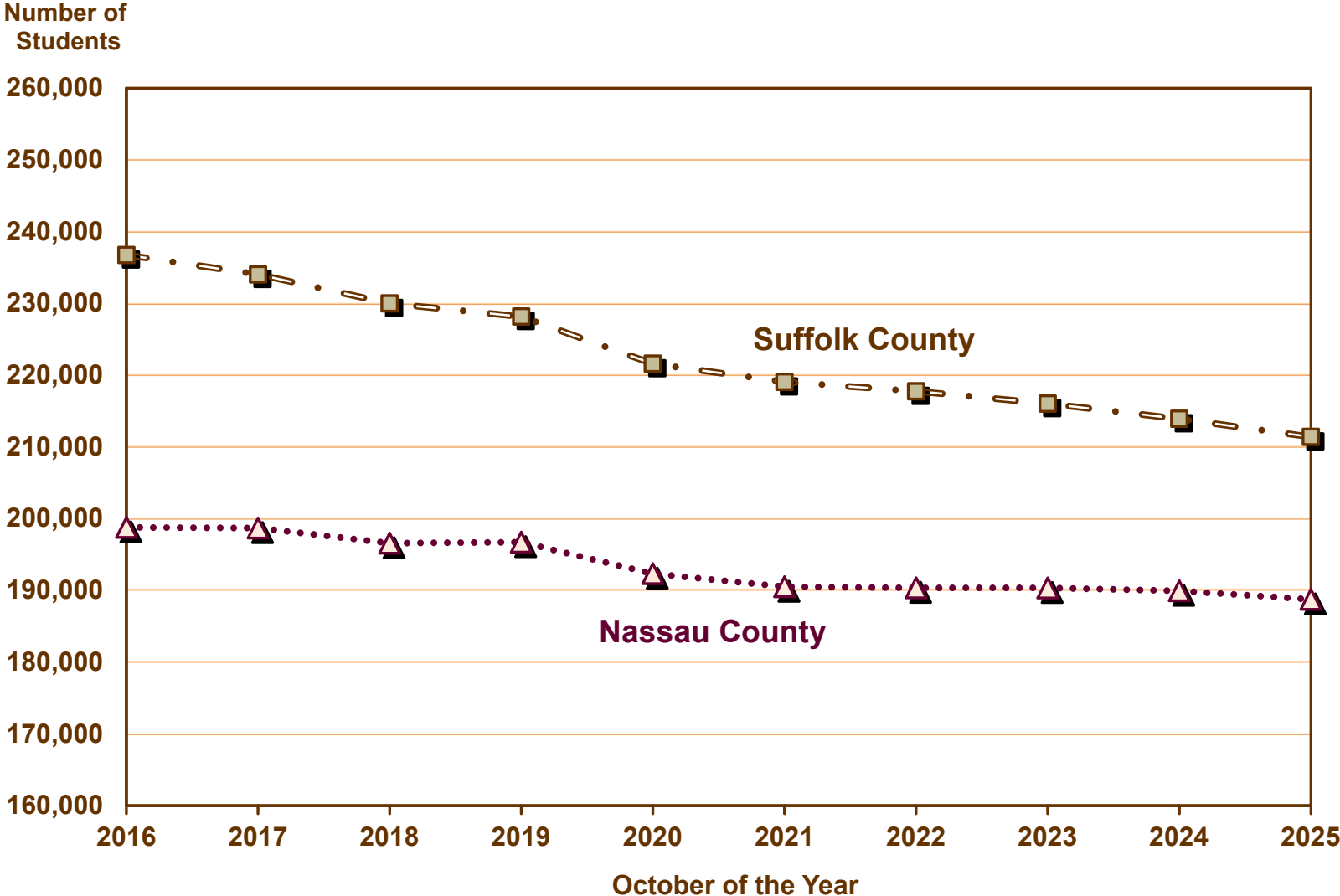
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*Sources: US Census Bureau, NYS Education Department, National Center for Health Statistics, NYS Association of Realtors*

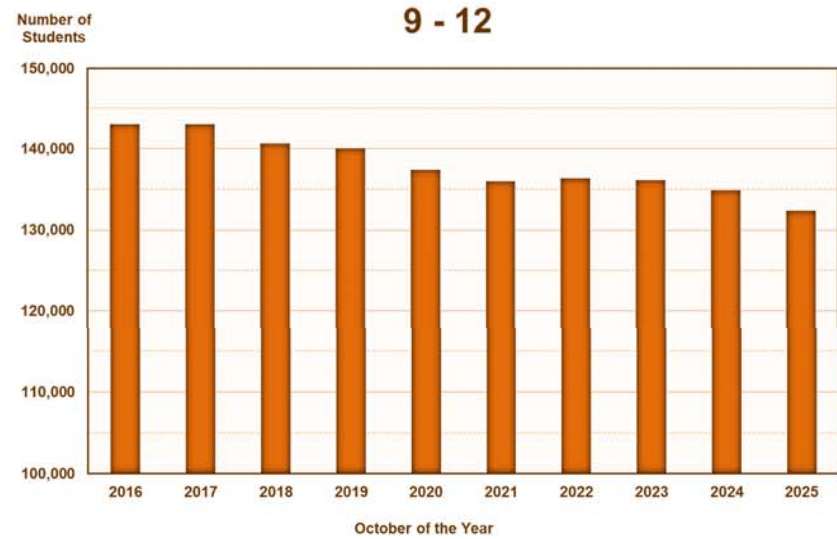
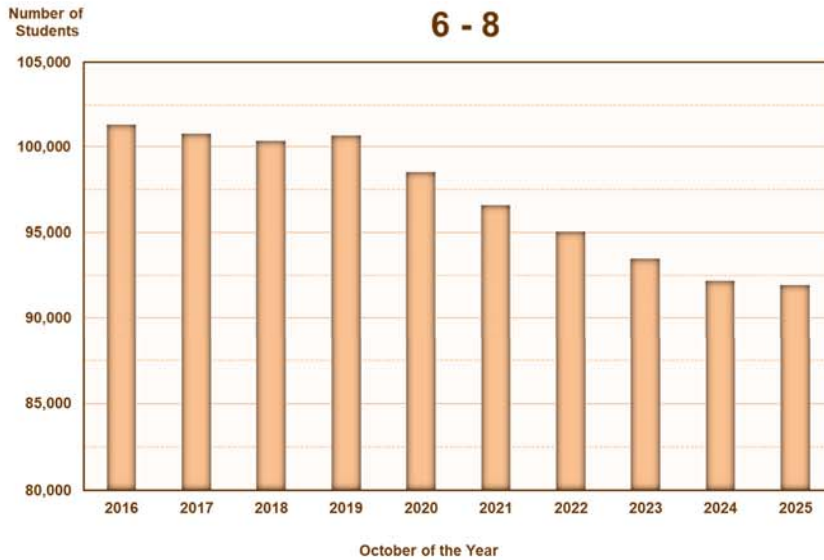
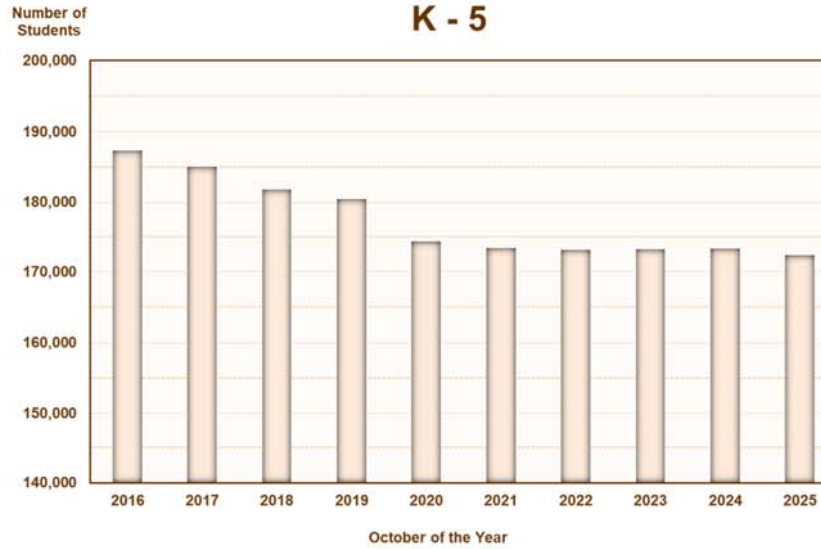
## Long Island Region K - 12 Public School District Enrollment, 2016 - 2025



# Bi-County K - 12 Public School District Enrollment, 2016 - 2025



# Long Island Region Public School District Enrollment, 2016 - 2025



NASSAU/SUFFOLK REGION PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - HISTORICAL

GRADE	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20	Oct-21	Oct-22 <i>prelim</i>
KINDERGARTEN	28,965	28,520	28,006	28,695	26,562	27,686	27,475
FIRST	29,984	29,554	29,138	28,831	28,721	27,987	28,383
SECOND	30,903	30,437	29,859	29,541	28,709	28,938	28,542
THIRD	31,804	31,355	30,644	30,149	29,348	28,895	29,309
FOURTH	32,626	32,154	31,713	31,121	30,040	29,655	29,360
FIFTH	33,049	33,035	32,432	32,102	30,999	30,273	30,108
SIXTH	32,727	33,444	33,479	32,898	32,015	31,302	30,684
SEVENTH	33,934	33,113	33,649	33,727	32,831	32,246	31,674
EIGHTH	34,643	34,223	33,221	34,059	33,671	33,037	32,707
NINTH	35,401	35,363	34,627	34,650	34,005	34,353	33,735
TENTH	35,612	35,901	35,428	34,873	34,119	33,979	34,804
ELEVENTH	36,095	35,066	35,116	35,020	34,159	33,333	33,871
TWELFTH	35,937	36,732	35,480	35,539	35,127	34,341	33,919
UNGRADED	3,839	3,825	3,779	3,672	3,613	3,539	3,525
TOTAL	435,519	432,722	426,571	424,877	413,919	409,564	408,096
% CHANGE		-0.6%	-1.4%	-0.4%	-2.6%	-1.1%	-0.4%

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

GRADE	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20	Oct-21	Oct-22 <i>prelim</i>
K - 5	187,331	185,055	181,792	180,439	174,379	173,434	173,177
% CHANGE		-1.2%	-1.8%	-0.7%	-3.4%	-0.5%	-0.1%
6 - 8	101,304	100,780	100,349	100,684	98,517	96,585	95,065
% CHANGE		-0.5%	-0.4%	0.3%	-2.2%	-2.0%	-1.6%
9 - 12	143,045	143,062	140,651	140,082	137,410	136,006	136,329
% CHANGE		0.0%	-1.7%	-0.4%	-1.9%	-1.0%	0.2%



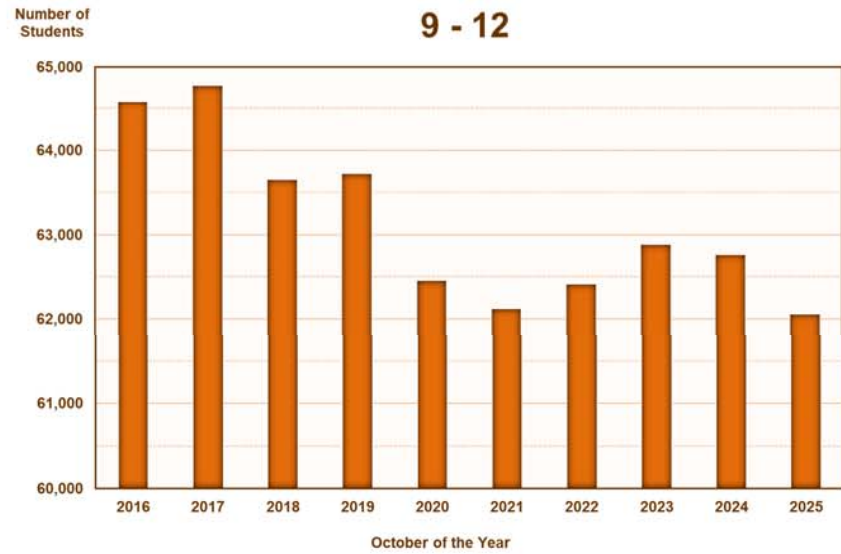
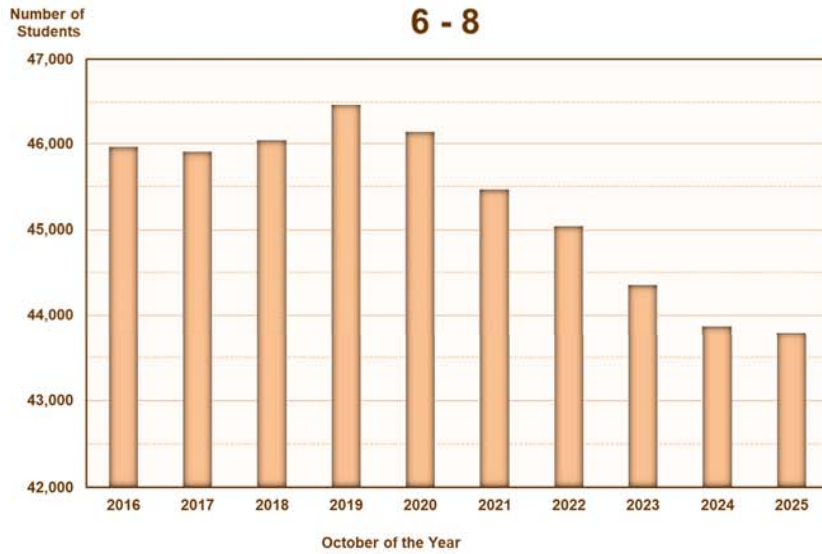
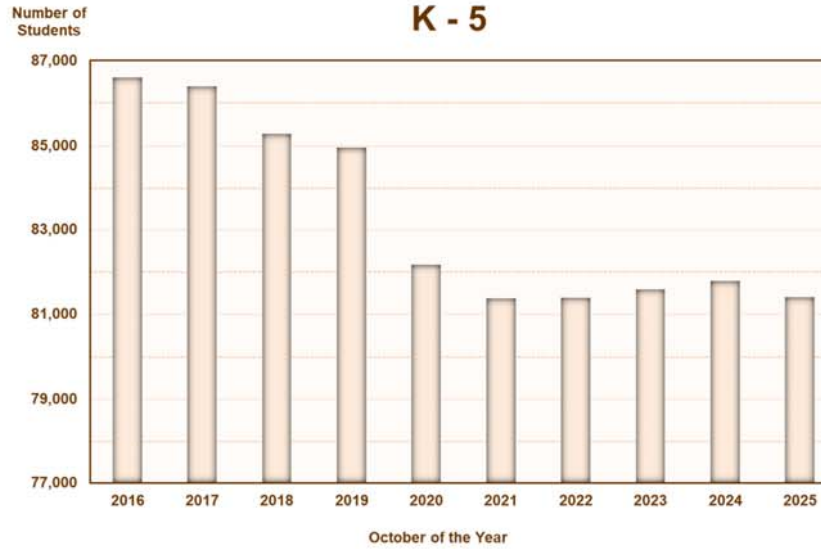
NASSAU/SUFFOLK REGION PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - PROJECTED

GRADE	Oct-22 Actual	Oct-23	Oct-24	Oct-25
KINDERGARTEN	27,475	27,950	27,562	26,959
FIRST	28,383	28,216	28,712	28,313
SECOND	28,542	28,783	28,614	29,119
THIRD	29,309	28,841	29,082	28,912
FOURTH	29,360	29,713	29,239	29,482
FIFTH	30,108	29,716	30,073	29,594
SIXTH	30,684	30,493	30,096	30,458
SEVENTH	31,674	30,975	30,782	30,382
EIGHTH	32,707	32,019	31,313	31,118
NINTH	33,735	33,462	32,761	32,035
TENTH	34,804	33,963	33,693	32,986
ELEVENTH	33,871	34,398	33,568	33,304
TWELFTH	33,919	34,323	34,857	34,017
UNGRADED	3,525	3,522	3,499	3,467
TOTAL	408,096	406,374	403,851	400,146
% CHANGE		-0.4%	-0.6%	-0.9%

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

GRADE	Oct-22 Actual	Oct-23	Oct-24	Oct-25
K - 5	173,177	173,219	173,282	172,379
% CHANGE		0.0%	0.0%	-0.5%
6 - 8	95,065	93,487	92,191	91,958
% CHANGE		-1.7%	-1.4%	-0.3%
9 - 12	136,329	136,146	134,879	132,342
% CHANGE		-0.1%	-0.9%	-1.9%

# Nassau County Public School District Enrollment, 2016 - 2025



NASSAU COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - HISTORICAL

GRADE	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20	Oct-21	Oct-22 <i>prelim</i>
KINDERGARTEN	13,403	13,233	12,923	13,361	12,361	12,586	12,614
FIRST	13,934	13,796	13,723	13,491	13,552	13,092	13,175
SECOND	14,475	14,262	13,991	13,952	13,481	13,645	13,440
THIRD	14,741	14,838	14,476	14,201	13,907	13,667	13,903
FOURTH	15,026	14,992	15,021	14,734	14,182	14,069	13,925
FIFTH	15,032	15,276	15,157	15,225	14,682	14,319	14,339
SIXTH	14,965	15,223	15,491	15,390	15,218	14,799	14,616
SEVENTH	15,381	15,157	15,309	15,593	15,330	15,257	14,920
EIGHTH	15,619	15,529	15,247	15,485	15,593	15,409	15,509
NINTH	15,976	15,760	15,612	15,696	15,287	15,663	15,471
TENTH	15,872	16,313	15,889	15,859	15,572	15,394	15,942
ELEVENTH	16,476	15,743	16,075	15,828	15,668	15,341	15,477
TWELFTH	16,262	16,962	16,073	16,340	15,929	15,726	15,527
UNGRADED	1,614	1,605	1,590	1,557	1,565	1,539	1,487
TOTAL	198,776	198,689	196,577	196,712	192,327	190,506	190,345
% CHANGE		0.0%	-1.1%	0.1%	-2.2%	-0.9%	-0.1%

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

GRADE	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20	Oct-21	Oct-22 <i>prelim</i>
K - 5	86,611	86,397	85,291	84,964	82,165	81,378	81,396
% CHANGE		-0.2%	-1.3%	-0.4%	-3.3%	-1.0%	0.0%
6 - 8	45,965	45,909	46,047	46,468	46,141	45,465	45,045
% CHANGE		-0.1%	0.3%	0.9%	-0.7%	-1.5%	-0.9%
9 - 12	64,586	64,778	63,649	63,723	62,456	62,124	62,417
% CHANGE		0.3%	-1.7%	0.1%	-2.0%	-0.5%	0.5%

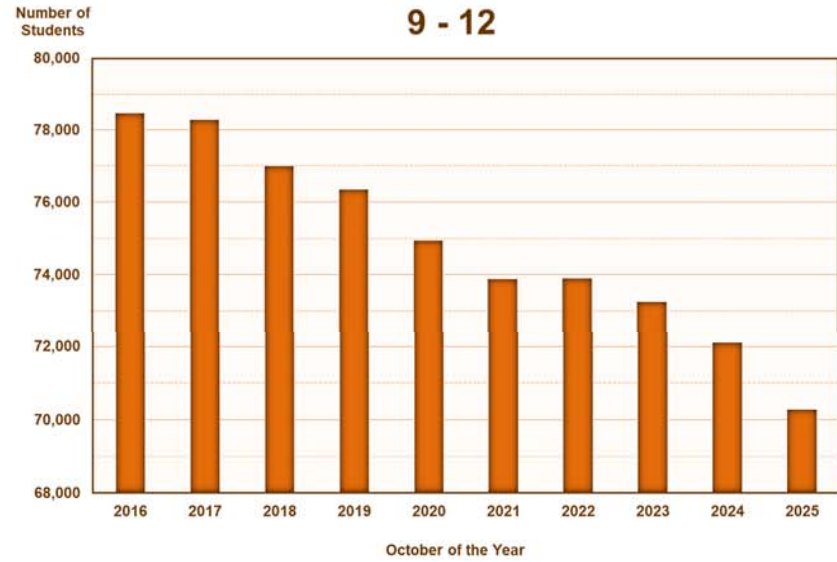
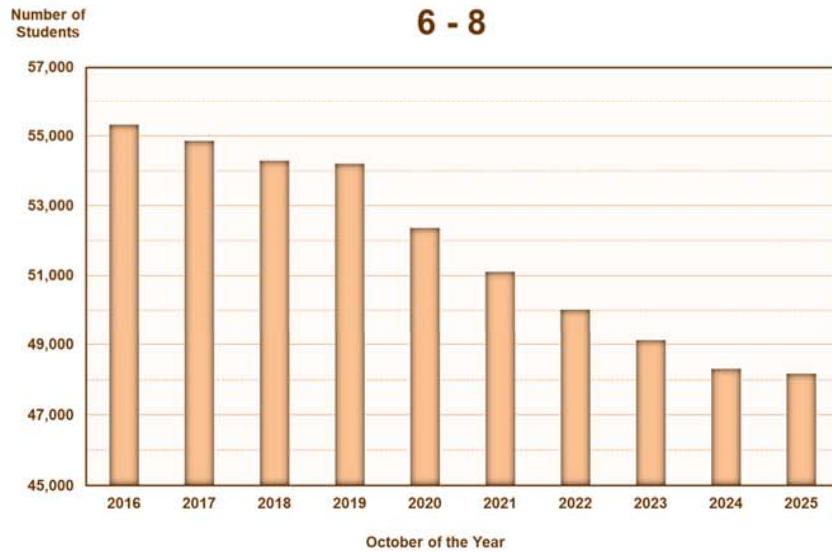
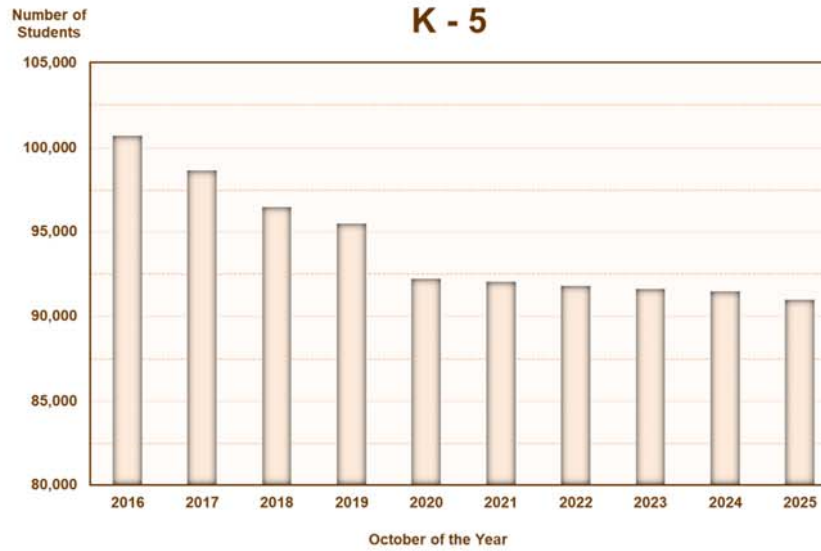
NASSAU COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - PROJECTED

GRADE	Oct-22 Actual	Oct-23	Oct-24	Oct-25
KINDERGARTEN	12,614	13,087	12,873	12,478
FIRST	13,175	13,168	13,662	13,439
SECOND	13,440	13,406	13,399	13,902
THIRD	13,903	13,676	13,641	13,634
FOURTH	13,925	14,119	13,889	13,853
FIFTH	14,339	14,132	14,329	14,096
SIXTH	14,616	14,547	14,337	14,537
SEVENTH	14,920	14,721	14,651	14,440
EIGHTH	15,509	15,085	14,884	14,813
NINTH	15,471	15,655	15,227	15,024
TENTH	15,942	15,687	15,874	15,440
ELEVENTH	15,477	15,845	15,591	15,777
TWELFTH	15,527	15,701	16,074	15,817
UNGRADED	1,487	1,512	1,509	1,500
TOTAL	190,345	190,341	189,940	188,750
% CHANGE		0.0%	-0.2%	-0.6%

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

GRADE	Oct-22 Actual	Oct-23	Oct-24	Oct-25
K - 5	81,396	81,588	81,793	81,402
% CHANGE		0.2%	0.3%	-0.5%
6 - 8	45,045	44,353	43,872	43,790
% CHANGE		-1.5%	-1.1%	-0.2%
9 - 12	62,417	62,888	62,766	62,058
% CHANGE		0.8%	-0.2%	-1.1%

# Suffolk County Public School District Enrollment, 2016 - 2025



SUFFOLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - HISTORICAL

GRADE	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20	Oct-21	Oct-22 <i>prelim</i>
KINDERGARTEN	15,562	15,287	15,083	15,334	14,201	15,100	14,861
FIRST	16,050	15,758	15,415	15,340	15,169	14,895	15,208
SECOND	16,428	16,175	15,868	15,589	15,228	15,293	15,102
THIRD	17,063	16,517	16,168	15,948	15,441	15,228	15,406
FOURTH	17,600	17,162	16,692	16,387	15,858	15,586	15,435
FIFTH	18,017	17,759	17,275	16,877	16,317	15,954	15,769
SIXTH	17,762	18,221	17,988	17,508	16,797	16,503	16,068
SEVENTH	18,553	17,956	18,340	18,134	17,501	16,989	16,754
EIGHTH	19,024	18,694	17,974	18,574	18,078	17,628	17,198
NINTH	19,425	19,603	19,015	18,954	18,718	18,690	18,264
TENTH	19,740	19,588	19,539	19,014	18,547	18,585	18,862
ELEVENTH	19,619	19,323	19,041	19,192	18,491	17,992	18,394
TWELFTH	19,675	19,770	19,407	19,199	19,198	18,615	18,392
UNGRADED	2,225	2,220	2,189	2,115	2,048	2,000	2,038
TOTAL	236,743	234,033	229,994	228,165	221,592	219,058	217,751
% CHANGE		-1.1%	-1.7%	-0.8%	-2.9%	-1.1%	-0.6%

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

GRADE	Oct-16	Oct-17	Oct-18	Oct-19	Oct-20	Oct-21	Oct-22 <i>prelim</i>
K - 5	100,720	98,658	96,501	95,475	92,214	92,056	91,781
% CHANGE		-2.0%	-2.2%	-1.1%	-3.4%	-0.2%	-0.3%
6 - 8	55,339	54,871	54,302	54,216	52,376	51,120	50,020
% CHANGE		-0.8%	-1.0%	-0.2%	-3.4%	-2.4%	-2.2%
9 - 12	78,459	78,284	77,002	76,359	74,954	73,882	73,912
% CHANGE		-0.2%	-1.6%	-0.8%	-1.8%	-1.4%	0.0%

SUFFOLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT - PROJECTED

GRADE	Oct-22 Actual	Oct-23	Oct-24	Oct-25
KINDERGARTEN	14,861	14,863	14,689	14,481
FIRST	15,208	15,048	15,050	14,874
SECOND	15,102	15,377	15,215	15,217
THIRD	15,406	15,165	15,441	15,278
FOURTH	15,435	15,594	15,350	15,629
FIFTH	15,769	15,584	15,744	15,498
SIXTH	16,068	15,946	15,759	15,921
SEVENTH	16,754	16,254	16,131	15,942
EIGHTH	17,198	16,934	16,429	16,305
NINTH	18,264	17,807	17,534	17,011
TENTH	18,862	18,276	17,819	17,546
ELEVENTH	18,394	18,553	17,977	17,527
TWELFTH	18,392	18,622	18,783	18,200
UNGRADED	2,038	2,010	1,990	1,967
TOTAL	217,751	216,033	213,911	211,396
% CHANGE		-0.8%	-1.0%	-1.2%

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

GRADE	Oct-22 Actual	Oct-23	Oct-24	Oct-25
K - 5	91,781	91,631	91,489	90,977
% CHANGE		-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.6%
6 - 8	50,020	49,134	48,319	48,168
% CHANGE		-1.8%	-1.7%	-0.3%
9 - 12	73,912	73,258	72,113	70,284
% CHANGE		-0.9%	-1.6%	-2.5%