

Executive Summary of Enrollment Trends for Seattle Public Schools (SPS)

Seattle Public Schools Historical Annual Enrollment (2011-12 to 2024-25)

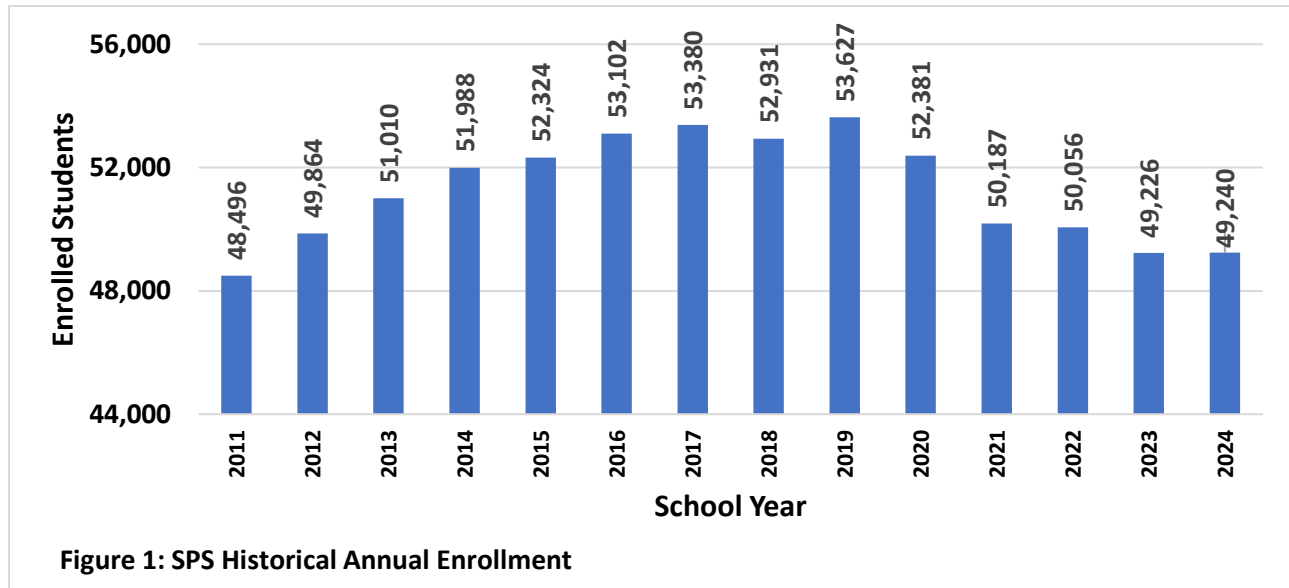


Table 1: SPS annual enrollment and percent change from prior year

School Year	Total Enrollment	Change from Prior Year	% Change from Prior Year
2011-12	48,496		
2012-13	49,864	1,368	2.8%
2013-14	51,010	1,146	2.3%
2014-15	51,988	978	1.9%
2015-16	52,324	336	0.6%
2016-17	53,102	778	1.5%
2017-18	53,380	278	0.5%
2018-19	52,931	-445	-0.8%
2019-20	53,627	696	1.3%
2020-21	52,381	-1,246	-2.3%
2021-22	50,187	-2,194	-4.2%
2022-23	50,056	-131	-0.3%
2023-24	49,226	-830	-1.7%
2024-25	49,240	14	0.03%

- Enrollment in SPS showed growth year over year until the 2018-19 school year (Figure 1, Table 1).
- Since the onset of the pandemic in the spring of 2020, however, enrollment has declined by over 4,000 students.
- In the 2024-25 school year, SPS saw an increase of fourteen students from the previous year.

Indicators of Change

Decreasing Births and Lower Kindergarten Enrollment

- The projection of future kindergarten enrollment is determined using two factors:
 1. births in the Seattle area and,
 2. the percentage of children born in Seattle who enroll in SPS five years later.
- Demographic data on births from the years 2006-07 to 2016-17 showed an increase in births with the highest point in 2016-17 at 7,563 births (Table 2).
- The percentage of students born in Seattle that enroll in kindergarten has, however, steadily declined from a peak of 72% in the 2012-13 school year (Table 2).
- The 2024-25 school year saw 53.5% of children born in 2019-20 enroll in kindergarten (Table 2).

Table 2: Births and kindergarten enrollment in SPS geographic area.

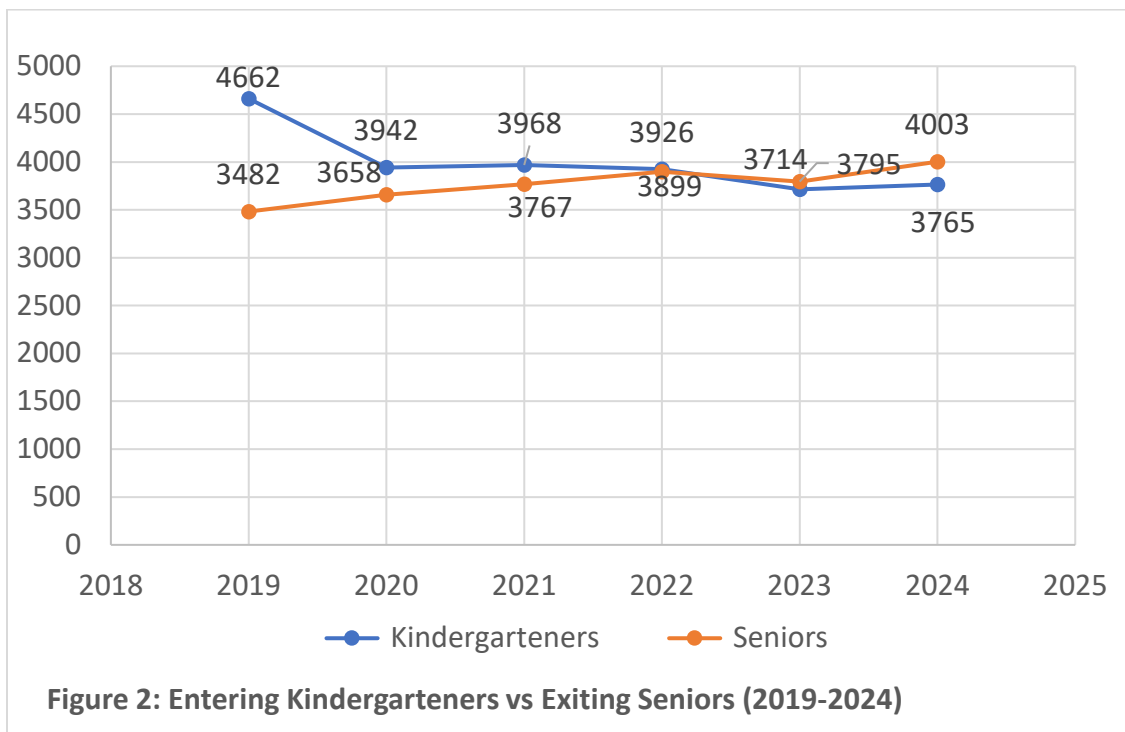
Birth Year	School Entrance Year	Number of Births	Kindergarteners (by entrance year), including non-residents	% Births to Enroll Kindergarteners
2006-07	2011-12	6,555	4,615	70.4%
2007-08	2012-13	6,943	5,015	72.2%
2008-09	2013-14	7,030	4,893	69.6%
2009-10	2014-15	7,142	4,913	68.8%
2010-11	2015-16	7,221	4,781	66.2%
2011-12	2016-17	7,164	4,600	64.2%
2012-13	2017-18	7,128	4,659	65.4%
2013-14	2018-19	7,234	4,641	64.2%
2014-15	2019-20	7,328	4,662	63.6%
2015-16	2020-21	7,246	3,942	54.4%
2016-17	2021-22	7,563	3,968	52.5%
2017-18	2022-23	7,399	3,926	53.1%
2018-19	2023-24	6,962	3,714	53.3%
2019-20	2024-25	6,991	3765	53.85%

Grade and Cohort Progression

Table 3: Seattle Public Schools annual enrollment of enrolling Kindergarteners and cohort progression

School Year	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
2012-13	5015	4598	4433	4132	4139	3768	3445	3439	3251	3332	3233	3283	3796	49864
2013-14	4893	4982	4583	4358	4114	4068	3517	3484	3447	3298	3375	3177	3714	51010
2014-15	4913	4905	4902	4480	4262	4064	3739	3475	3462	3503	3423	3266	3594	51988
2015-16	4781	4873	4777	4765	4403	4190	3713	3702	3388	3425	3519	3287	3501	52324
2016-17	4600	4792	4791	4663	4673	4327	3875	3680	3722	3472	3470	3465	3572	53102
2017-18	4659	4661	4658	4699	4600	4536	3870	3819	3622	3684	3531	3358	3683	53380
2018-19	4641	4553	4519	4515	4614	4430	4081	3794	3764	3544	3674	3328	3474	52931
2019-20	4662	4652	4479	4456	4446	4535	4020	4094	3783	3816	3679	3523	3482	53627
2020-21	3942	4471	4416	4219	4253	4227	4053	3922	4050	3782	3887	3501	3658	52381
2021-22	3968	3776	4106	4030	3967	3974	3625	3826	3739	3956	3726	3727	3767	50187
2022-23	3926	4045	3758	4025	4020	3917	3569	3621	3811	3783	4009	3673	3899	50056
2023-24	3714	3914	4011	3698	3986	3960	3551	3491	3606	3797	3842	3861	3795	49226
2024-25	3765	3783	3937	4000	3740	3990	3640	3579	3523	3615	3879	3786	4003	49240

- *Lifetime/entire cohort retention rate* is determined by the number of enrolling Kindergarteners and year over year cohort retention rate.
- Total lifetime/entire cohort retention rate comparing those enrolled in Kindergarten in 2012-13 to those seniors in 2024-25 is 79.82% (Table 3).
- The number of seniors comparing to the enrolling kindergarteners of the same year is lower for all the years, except for 2023-24 and 2024-25 (Table 3, Figure 3). For these two school years, the number of seniors outweighs the entering Kindergarteners.
- It is anticipated that future kindergarten classes will likely be smaller than graduating seniors and this proves the year over year declining trend.



- Progression rate of complete cohort of the same year is also varying (Table 4). Comparing to other school years, the grade progression rate of 2021-22 to 2022-23 of all grades was the highest (Table 4).
- Grade progression to jump from elementary to middle school (5-6) rates have the lowest progression rate throughout all years covered in the report (Table 4).
- Opposite to the 5-6 cohort grades, 11-12 is the cohort with highest progression rate in almost all the years. This may be a result of delayed graduation/re-enrolling of credit deficient seniors to graduate (Table 4).

Table 4: Seattle Public Schools annual grade progression rates

Grade	2013-14 to 2014-15	2014-15 to 2015-16	2015-16 to 2016-17	2016-17 to 2017-18	2017-18 to 2018-19	2018-19 to 2019-20	2019-20 to 2020-21	2020-21 to 2021-22	2021-22 to 2022-23	2022-23 to 2023-24	2023-24 to 2024-25
K to 1	100.20%	99.20%	100.20%	101.30%	97.70%	100.20%	95.90%	95.80%	102.70%	99.69%	101.10%
1 to 2	98.40%	97.40%	98.30%	97.20%	97.00%	98.40%	94.90%	91.70%	100.20%	99.16%	99.62%
2 to 3	97.80%	97.20%	97.60%	98.10%	96.90%	98.60%	94.20%	91.10%	98.80%	98.40%	98.65%
3 to 4	97.80%	98.30%	98.10%	98.60%	98.20%	98.50%	95.40%	94.10%	100.60%	99.03%	100.14%
4 to 5	98.80%	98.30%	98.30%	97.10%	96.30%	98.30%	95.10%	93.40%	99.50%	98.51%	98.87%
5 to 6	91.90%	91.40%	92.50%	89.40%	90.00%	90.70%	89.40%	85.80%	90.60%	90.66%	90.96%
6 to 7	98.80%	99.00%	99.10%	98.60%	98.00%	100.30%	97.60%	94.00%	100.60%	97.81%	99.75%
7 to 8	99.40%	97.50%	100.50%	98.40%	98.60%	99.70%	98.90%	95.00%	100.40%	99.59%	99.80%
8 to 9	101.60%	98.90%	102.50%	99.00%	97.80%	101.40%	100.00%	97.50%	102.00%	99.63%	99.42%
9 to 10	103.80%	100.50%	101.30%	101.70%	99.70%	103.80%	101.90%	98.00%	102.30%	101.56%	101.13%
10 to 11	96.80%	96.00%	98.50%	96.80%	94.30%	95.90%	95.20%	95.30%	99.60%	96.31%	97.35%
11 to 12	113.10%	107.20%	108.70%	106.30%	103.50%	104.60%	103.80%	106.50%	106.20%	103.32%	101.74%

Changes of Enrollment Composition, by Student Ethnicity

Table 5: Changes of Enrollment Composition, by Student Ethnicity in Seattle Public Schools

School Year	Native American	Native American Growth	Asian	Asian Growth	Black	Black Growth	Hispanic	Hispanic Growth	Multi-Racial	Multi-Racial Growth
2011-12	1.20%		18.50%		18.60%		12.30%		5.60%	
2012-13	1.00%	-0.20%	17.70%	-0.80%	17.70%	-0.90%	12.50%	0.20%	6.40%	0.80%
2013-14	0.90%	-0.10%	16.70%	-1.00%	17.10%	-0.60%	12.60%	0.10%	7.10%	0.70%
2014-15	0.70%	-0.20%	15.90%	-0.80%	16.40%	-0.70%	12.50%	-0.10%	8.40%	1.30%
2015-16	0.60%	-0.10%	15.10%	-0.80%	15.70%	-0.70%	12.30%	-0.20%	9.20%	0.80%
2016-17	0.60%	0.00%	14.60%	-0.50%	15.40%	-0.30%	12.20%	-0.10%	10.10%	0.90%
2017-18	0.50%	-0.10%	14.00%	-0.60%	15.00%	-0.40%	12.10%	-0.10%	10.70%	0.60%
2018-19	0.50%	0.00%	13.60%	-0.40%	14.20%	-0.80%	12.30%	0.20%	11.70%	1.00%
2019-20	0.50%	0.00%	12.80%	-0.80%	14.00%	-0.20%	12.80%	0.50%	12.80%	1.10%
2020-21	0.40%	-0.10%	13.00%	0.20%	14.70%	0.70%	13.10%	0.30%	12.30%	-0.50%
2021-22	0.40%	0.00%	12.50%	-0.50%	14.50%	-0.20%	13.40%	0.30%	12.50%	0.20%
2022-23	0.40%	0.00%	12.20%	-0.30%	14.30%	-0.20%	13.90%	0.50%	12.80%	0.30%
2023-24	0.40%	0.00%	12.20%	0.00%	13.60%	-0.70%	14.60%	0.70%	12.70%	-0.10%
2024-25	0.44%	0.44%	11.77%	-0.43%	13.80%	0.20%	15.27%	0.67%	12.85%	0.15%

Table 5 continued: Changes of Enrollment Composition, by Student Ethnicity in Seattle Public Schools

School Year	Pacific Island	Pacific Island Growth	Total Students of color	White	White Growth	District Growth
2011-12	0.60%		56.70%	43.30%	0.70%	3.20%
2012-13	0.50%	-0.10%	55.90%	44.10%	0.90%	2.80%
2013-14	0.50%	0.00%	55.00%	44.70%	0.60%	2.30%
2014-15	0.50%	0.00%	54.40%	45.60%	0.90%	1.90%
2015-16	0.50%	0.00%	53.40%	46.60%	1.00%	0.60%
2016-17	0.40%	-0.10%	53.30%	46.70%	0.20%	1.50%
2017-18	0.50%	0.10%	52.80%	47.20%	0.50%	0.50%
2018-19	0.40%	-0.10%	52.70%	47.30%	0.10%	-0.80%
2019-20	0.40%	0.00%	53.30%	46.70%	-0.60%	1.30%
2020-21	0.40%	0.00%	54.00%	46.00%	-0.70%	-2.30%
2021-22	0.40%	0.00%	53.80%	46.20%	0.20%	-4.20%
2022-23	0.50%	0.10%	54.10%	45.90%	-0.30%	-0.30%
2023-24	0.50%	0.00%	54.10%	45.90%	-0.03	-1.70%
2024-25	0.58%	0.08%	54.72%	45.28%	-0.62	0.03%

- Demographic composition – Overall, SPS enrollment over the past 20 years has gradually increased its share of white students and consequentially decreased the overall minority enrollment.
- The only group of students of color to increase is Hispanic and Multi-racial students. Native American, Asian, Pacific Islander, and Black student populations have declined as a percentage of total enrollment.