

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
ROBERT W. RUNCIE
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Signatures on file

September 17, 2020

TO: School Board Members

FROM: John J. Sullivan, Task Assigned
Chief Portfolio Services Officer

VIA: Robert W. Runcie,
Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: 2020/21 BENCHMARK DAY ENROLLMENT REPORT

This memorandum provides the official school student enrollment to be used for statistical purposes, obtained on September 14, 2020. The benchmark enrollment count officially occurs on the Monday, or first school day thereafter, following the Labor Day holiday.

The 2020/21 school year began under unprecedented circumstances, with the global COVID-19 pandemic forcing school districts in south Florida, including Broward County Public Schools, to open with all students engaged full-time in eLearning instruction. When conditions permit, schools will reopen, offering both face-to-face and eLearning instruction for students.

The impact of this temporary closure of schools on enrollment is most pronounced among the prekindergarten through third grade cohorts, which represent age groups requiring significant adult supervision, and perhaps being the least engaged with full-time virtual instruction. Whether these students will return to Broward County Public Schools once face-to-face learning resumes remains unknown at this time, though the School Board will be updated by memorandum of any changes in enrollment following the reopening of schools.

As can be seen in the attached appendices, the total enrollment for this year on the benchmark day was 260,715, representing prekindergarten through twelfth grade students enrolled in Broward County's 330 schools (135 elementary, 35 middle, 32 high and 11 combination schools, 18 centers, 7 ESE contract agency schools, and 92 charter schools). Three new charter schools opened in 2020/21, while no existing charter schools were closed.

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As shown in Table 1, the benchmark enrollment count reflects an overall decrease in District school (not including charter schools) enrollment of 8,759 students from last year, with decreases in all levels except ninth through twelfth grade. District prekindergarten enrollment decreased by 653 students, grades kindergarten through five decreased by 6,332 students, grades six through eight decreased by 1,472 students, and center school enrollment decreased by 354 students. Enrollment increased by 52 students in ninth through twelfth grades. Detailed information on student enrollment by level is provided in Appendices A and B.

Table 1. Comparison of Last Year's Benchmark Day Enrollment to This Year

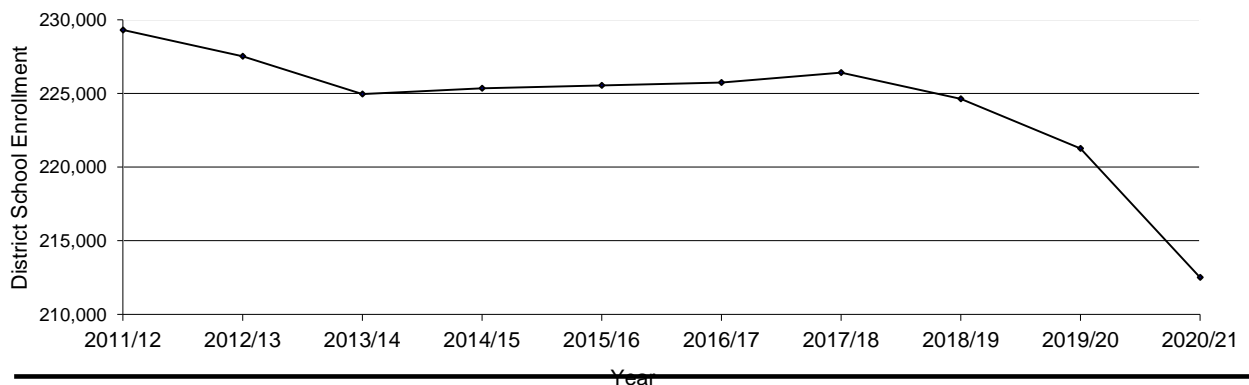
District Schools	2019/20	2020/21	Increase/(Decrease)
PreK	5,714	5,061	(653)
K-5	92,473	86,141	(6,332)
6-8	48,781	47,309	(1,472)
9-12	69,841	69,893	52
Centers	4,457	4,103	(354)
District Total	221,266	212,507	(8,759)

Charters	2019/20	2020/21	Increase/(Decrease)
PreK	0	0	0
K-5	25,406	25,652	246
6-8	13,145	13,539	394
9-12	8,153	9,017	864
Charter Total	46,704	48,208	1,504

	2019/20	2020/21	Increase/(Decrease)
District Total with Charters	267,970	260,715	(7,255)

Table 2 and the graph below illustrate historic benchmark day enrollment trends at District schools from 2011/12 to the present year.

Table 2: Ten Year District Schools Benchmark Day Enrollment										
Year	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Enrollment	229,314	227,517	224,955	225,349	225,554	225,740	226,424	224,631	221,266	212,507



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Table 3 and the graph below illustrate historic benchmark day enrollment trends at charter schools from 2011/12 to the present year.

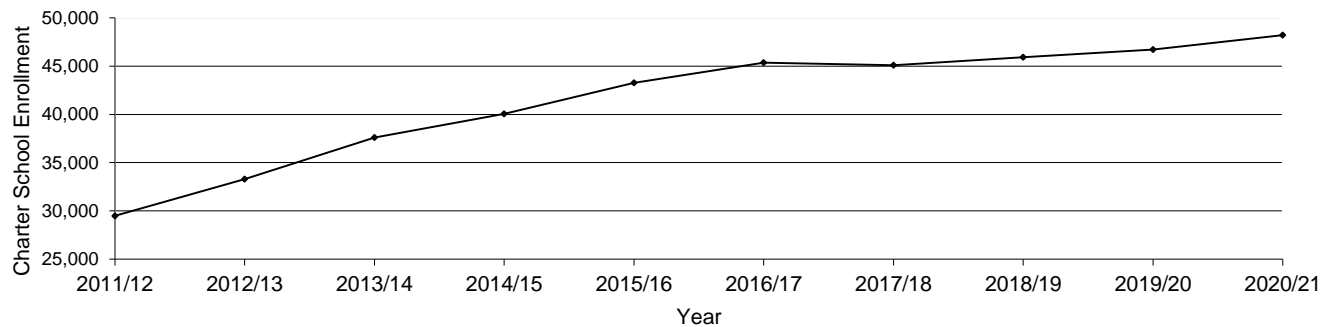


Table 3: Ten Year Benchmark Day Charter Enrollment

Year	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Enrollment	29,489	33,279	37,608	40,052	43,282	45,365	45,093	45,919	46,704	48,208

Appendix C reports demographic data for all District schools, including gender, race, Hispanic ethnicity, English language learners, student exceptionality, and students eligible to receive free or reduced lunches. "Hispanic" is reported as an ethnicity rather than a race in order to comply with the District adopted racial and ethnic diversity classification system mandated by the Florida Department of Education to align with the U.S. 2010 Census reporting format required by all federal reporting systems.

Appendix C.2 is provided to allow comparison of the current reporting of race to historical reporting formats, by listing the numbers of ethnically Hispanic and non-Hispanic members in each race category.

Appendix D reports enrollment by grade and level at all District schools and charter schools.

Appendix E reports the total enrollment for District schools, charter schools, and District and charter schools combined for the five year period 2016/17 through 2020/21 at twenty-day intervals from the 1st through 180th day of school, including the 10th day and benchmark day enrollment counts.

Appendix F reports historical benchmark day enrollment for the five-year period from 2016/17 through 2020/21, by school, for all District and charter schools.

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This memorandum and the attached reports can be accessed on the Demographics & Enrollment Planning Department website located at browardschools.com/Page/34033. If you need additional information please contact Jill Young, Director, Demographics & Enrollment Planning, at (754) 321-2565.

RWR/JJS/JY:cr

Attachments: Appendices A - F

cc: Cabinet

Donté Fulton-Collins, Director, Charter Schools Management/Support

Oleg Gorokhovsky, Director, Budget

Directors of School Performance and Accountability

Principals