

**Enrollment Trends in Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS)**  
**Prepared by the SPPS Department of Research, Evaluation, and Assessment (REA)**  
**July 8, 2016**

To understand differing enrollment numbers, first, it’s important to know that there are several different ways that enrollment is counted by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), including Average Daily Membership (ADM\*) and October 1 count (used for budgeting).

There are also several different counts that SPPS reports for different purposes. Depending on the use, enrollment counts may or may not include Pre-kindergarten (PK) or Alternative Learning Center (ALC) students in the SPPS totals. Official enrollment counts are K-12 students enrolled on October 1 each year, including Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) and ALC enrollment, since these are the students funded by the state per pupil funding formula. PK students are not included in the official enrollment counts for MDE.

The question of open enrollment and its impact on overall enrollment can be broken down in two parts:

- 1) Open enrollment – in and out
- 2) Overall enrollment patterns

**1) Open enrollment – in and out**

- For many years, there has been an increase in Saint Paul resident students enrolling in other school districts (not SPPS) and charter schools.
- SPPS has also seen increases in non-resident students (from outside of Saint Paul) enrolling in SPPS.
- The number of Saint Paul resident students enrolling outside of SPPS is far greater than the number of students enrolling in SPPS from outside of Saint Paul. In other words, Saint Paul has a “net loss” of students to other (non-SPPS) districts. The net loss has been increasing for many years.
- The table below shows out-of-district (to and from Saint Paul) patterns based on Average Daily Membership (ADM).

<b>Total ADM*</b>	<b>Open enroll out options elsewhere</b>	<b>Charter</b>	<b>Open enroll in options nonresident</b>	<b>Open enroll net loss</b>	<b>Change in net loss</b>
<b>2014-15</b>	3445	9074	1603	-1842	-278
<b>2013-14</b>	3100	8513	1536	-1564	-88
<b>2012-13</b>	3072	7849	1596	-1476	-171
<b>2011-12</b>	2725	7087	1420	-1305	-322
<b>2010-11</b>	2505	6657	1522	-983	-274
<b>2009-10</b>	2250	6126	1541	-709	209
<b>2008-09</b>	2016	5591	1098	-918	

\* Average Daily Membership (ADM): The sum for all pupils of the number of days of the school year each pupil is enrolled divided by the number of days the schools are in session.

- The increase in Saint Paul residents enrolling in other districts and charters is not necessarily a loss in SPPS students. Since the 1990s, non-public (private/parochial) schools in Saint Paul have also lost enrollment (see below). In other words, some of the Saint Paul resident students enrolling in other districts/charters are students who would have gone to non-public schools, not SPPS, in the past.

## 2) Overall enrollment patterns

- Actual K-12 enrollment in SPPS has remained steady in recent years, even with continuing gains in charter enrollment.
- K-12 enrollment overall has decreased slightly since 2010-11; that decrease is much less than the same time period before 2010-11.
- SPPS enrollment increased slightly in two years (SY12-13 and SY14-15), decreased in all others since SY05-06.

	SPPS			Non-public			Charter		
	Total #	# Change	% Change	Non-public	# Change	% Change	Charter	# Change	% Change
2000-01	45,011			10,684			3,043		
2001-02	44,033	-978	-2.2%	10,699	15	0.1%	3,455	412	13.5%
2002-03	43,612	-421	-1.0%	10,541	-158	-1.5%	3,632	177	5.1%
2003-04	42,232	-1380	-3.2%	10,055	-486	-4.6%	3,819	187	5.1%
2004-05	40,948	-1284	-3.0%	9,720	-335	-3.3%	4,134	315	8.2%
2005-06	41,143	195	0.5%	9,133	-587	-6.0%	4,240	106	2.6%
2006-07	40,383	-760	-1.8%	8,992	-141	-1.5%	4,508	268	6.3%
2007-08	39,550	-833	-2.1%	8,595	-397	-4.4%	5,116	608	13.5%
2008-09	38,469	-1081	-2.7%	8,568	-27	-0.3%	5,720	604	11.8%
2009-10	38,004	-465	-1.2%	8,398	-170	-2.0%	6,257	537	9.4%
2010-11	37,780	-224	-0.6%	8,093	-305	-3.6%	6,624	367	5.9%
2011-12	37,776	-4	0.0%	7,895	-198	-2.4%	7,201	577	8.7%
2012-13	37,840	64	0.2%	7,686	-209	-2.6%	7,936	735	10.2%
2013-14	37,825	-15	0.0%	7,523	-163	-2.1%	8,717	781	9.8%
2014-15	37,844	19	0.1%	7,157	-366	-4.9%	9,272	555	6.4%
2015-16	37,605	-239	-0.6%	7,455	298	4.2%	9,814	542	5.8%

- Looking at enrollment by grade ranges:
  - PK has grown the most, but is not counted in official (K-12) enrollment.
  - Kindergarten enrollment has been decreasing, which will likely lead to future decreases in other grades.
  - Elementary (grades 1-6 for historical comparison) enrollment increased slightly in every year except two (SY 08-09 and SY12-13).
  - Secondary (grades 7-12 for historical comparison) enrollment decreased slightly in every year, though less in more recent years.

	Pre-kindergarten		Early Childhood Special Education		Kindergarten		Grades 1-6		Grades 7-12		Total served (PK-12)		Official Enrollment Total EC -12	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
	#	Change	#	Change	#	Change	#	Change	#	Change	#	Change	#	Change
2007-08	999		553		3,040		17,761		18,196		40,549		39,550	
2008-09	1,135	13.6%	685	23.9%	3,185	4.8%	17,301	-2.6%	17,298	-4.9%	39,604	-2.3%	38,469	-2.7%
2009-10	1,253	10.4%	759	10.8%	3,190	0.2%	17,330	0.2%	16,766	-3.1%	39,298	-0.8%	38,045	-1.1%
2010-11	1,135	-9.4%	843	11.1%	3,170	-0.6%	17,397	0.4%	16,370	-2.4%	38,915	-1.0%	37,780	-0.7%
2011-12	1,194	5.2%	801	-5.0%	3,288	3.7%	17,484	0.5%	16,203	-1.0%	38,970	0.1%	37,776	0.0%
2012-13	1,138	-4.7%	849	6.0%	3,477	5.7%	17,423	-0.3%	16,091	-0.7%	38,978	0.0%	37,840	0.2%
2013-14	1,352	18.8%	799	-5.9%	3,495	0.5%	17,474	0.3%	16,057	-0.2%	39,177	0.5%	37,825	0.0%
2014-15	1,397	3.3%	790	-1.1%	3,347	-4.2%	17,675	1.2%	16,032	-0.2%	39,241	0.2%	37,844	0.1%
2015-16	1,481	6.0%	784	-0.8%	3,136	-6.3%	17,719	0.2%	15,966	-0.4%	39,086	-0.4%	37,605	-0.6%

Detailed SPPS enrollment numbers are available on the SPPS Data Center, [www.spps.org/data](http://www.spps.org/data). The direct link to enrollment data is <http://www.spps.org/Page/23543>.