

Enrollment Projections:

NESDEC projects a steady, slow decline in the Hopkinton Public Schools' student population over the next ten years. This year, the district's October 1 enrollment total is 3414, a drop of 40 from last year. The projections anticipate a consistent fall in enrollment each year of between 44 and 117 per year, with a projected total enrollment of 2722 in 2021 – 20% lower than our current student population.

The enrollment declines are projected to be somewhat greater in grades preK- 5, with a drop of nearly 300 enrolled students between now and 2016-17, and somewhat slower at the secondary level, with a drop of just 72 students during the same time frame.

These projections do not account for an influx of students through the Legacy Farms project which, according to several NESDEC memos dating back to 2008, is projected to gradually, and ultimately increase student enrollment by approximately 250 students across all grade levels. The numbers also do not account for the enrollment impact of the Hayden Place development

The two biggest factors driving these projections were:

- A substantial decline in the local birthrate (down from an average of 212/year from 1996- 2005 to between 133- 182 over last 6-7 years and projected to remain in that range. Across MA, the birthrate is declining), and
- A limited in-migration into the community associated with the economic downturn

NESDEC acknowledges that in-migration could pick up dramatically when and if the economy heats up again. In the last several years, housing sales in Hopkinton are approx. 64% of what they were prior to the downturn.