FutureThink
PLAN TO EMPOWER

FINAL REPORT

NATICK

Natick Public Schools
Enrollment Projection Study
July 10, 2025

INTRODUCTION

FutureThink was contracted to develop enrollment projections for the Natick Public Schools.

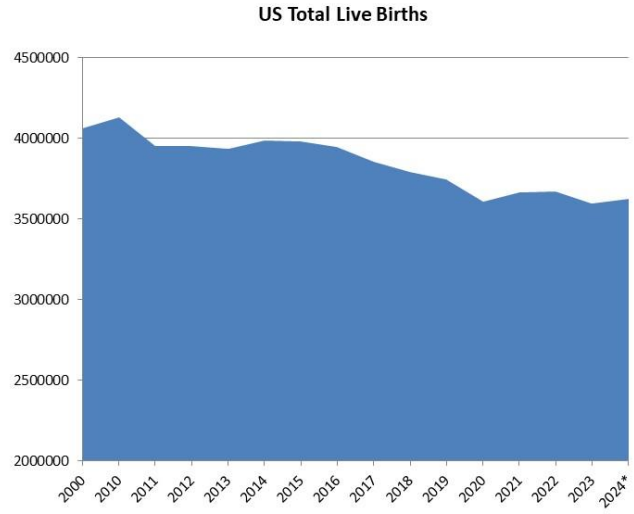
This report contains ten-year enrollment projections, which were developed for the Natick Public Schools by analyzing the following data:

- Live birth data
- Historical enrollment
- Community demographics
- Housing information

The projections presented in this report are meant to serve as a planning tool for the future and represent the most likely direction of the District.

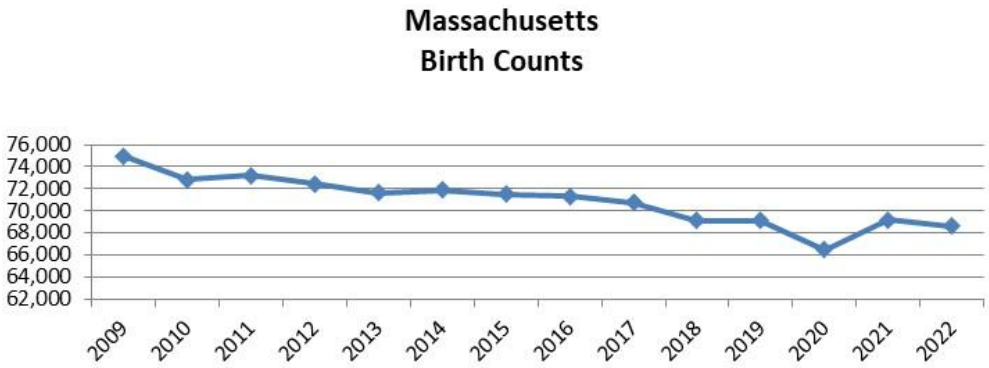
NATIONAL & MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS IN ENROLLMENT

The United States as a whole continues to undergo major shifts in public student enrollment. Births are a significant part of this shift. From 2000 to 2010, births increased then declined until 2014 when there was a slight uptick. The number of births declined by an average of 2% per year from 2015 through 2020 and has generally fluctuated since then.



Source: CDC, NVSS, Vital Statistics Rapid Release, Report No. 38, April 2025
*provisional

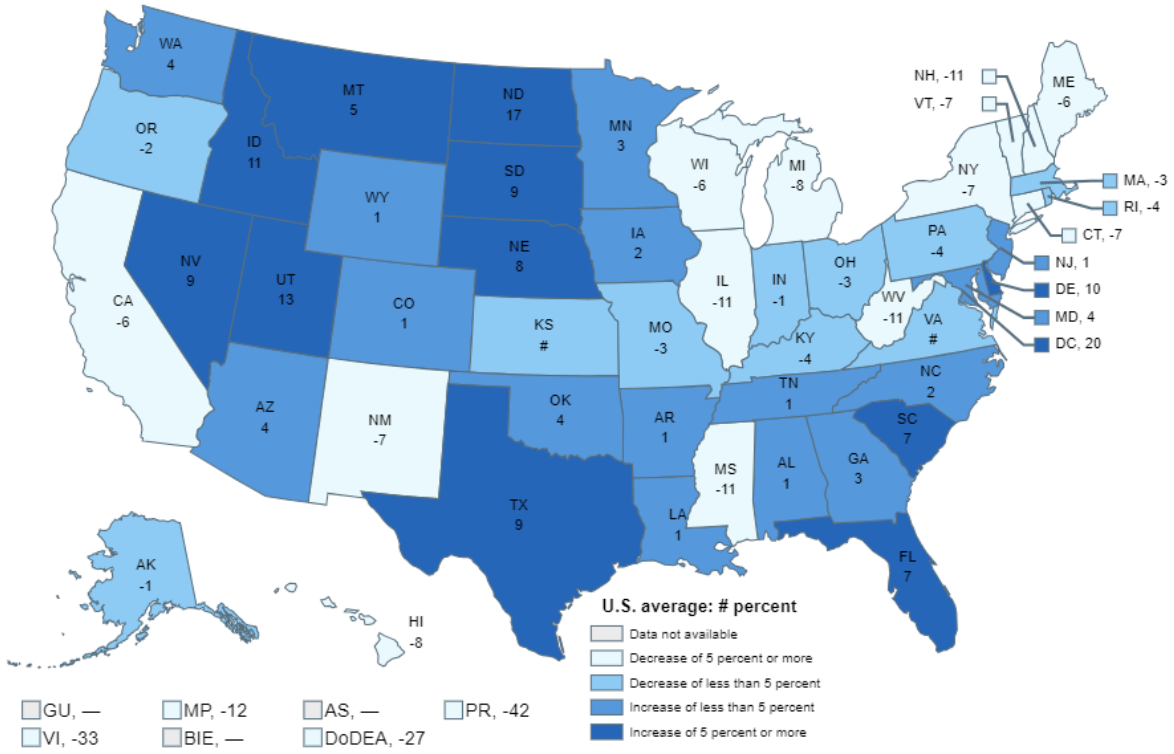
Massachusetts births have declined by approximately 9% from 2009-2002. The lowest birth count was in 2020 at 66,442 births then rebounded to levels closer to years 2018 and 2019 in years 2021 and 2022.



Massachusetts is aging. The median age in 2023 was 40.0 years of age while the national median age was 38.9 years. In 2010, the median age in Massachusetts was 39.1 years.

The figure below illustrates the change in Pre-K - 12 public school enrollment from the 2012-13 to the 2022-23 school year. States with growth in enrollment were primarily in the southeast and west. Massachusetts experienced a decrease of 3 percent.

Figure 2. Percentage change in public elementary and secondary school enrollment, by state or jurisdiction: Fall 2012 to fall 2022



— Not available.

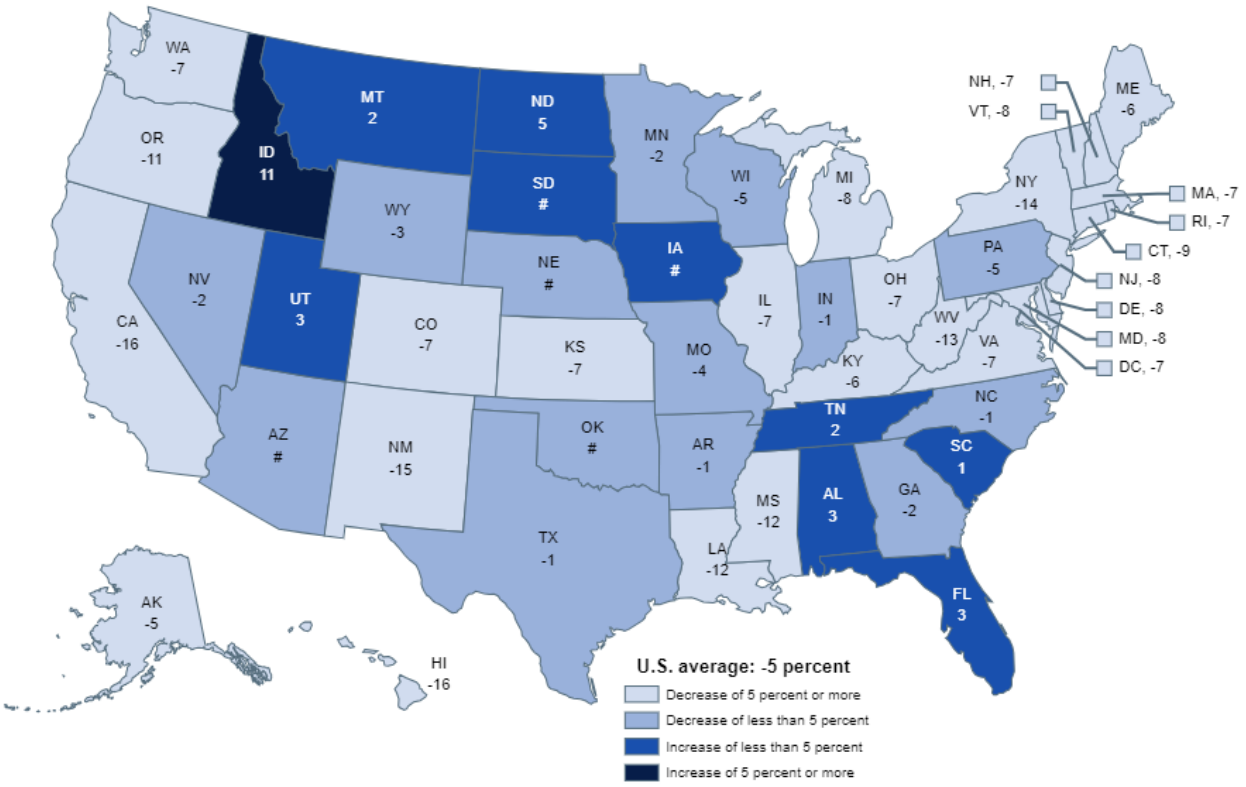
Rounds to zero.

NOTE: U.S. average is for the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Data include both traditional public schools and public charter schools. Includes imputations for nonreported prekindergarten enrollment in California and Oregon for fall 2022. Figures are plotted based on unrounded data.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data (CCD), "State Nonfiscal Survey of Public Elementary/Secondary Education," 2012–13 and 2022–23. Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Data Center, Enrollment Data, 2012 and 2022, retrieved December 12, 2022, from https://www.dodea.edu/datacenter/enrollment.cfm. See *Digest of Education Statistics 2023*, table 203.20.

The figure below illustrates the projected change in Pre-K-12 public school enrollment from the 2022-23 to the 2031-32 school year. Growth is expected in only 10 states over this time period. Massachusetts is projected to experience a decrease of 7 percent.

Figure 3. Projected percentage change in public elementary and secondary school enrollment, by state: Fall 2022 to fall 2031



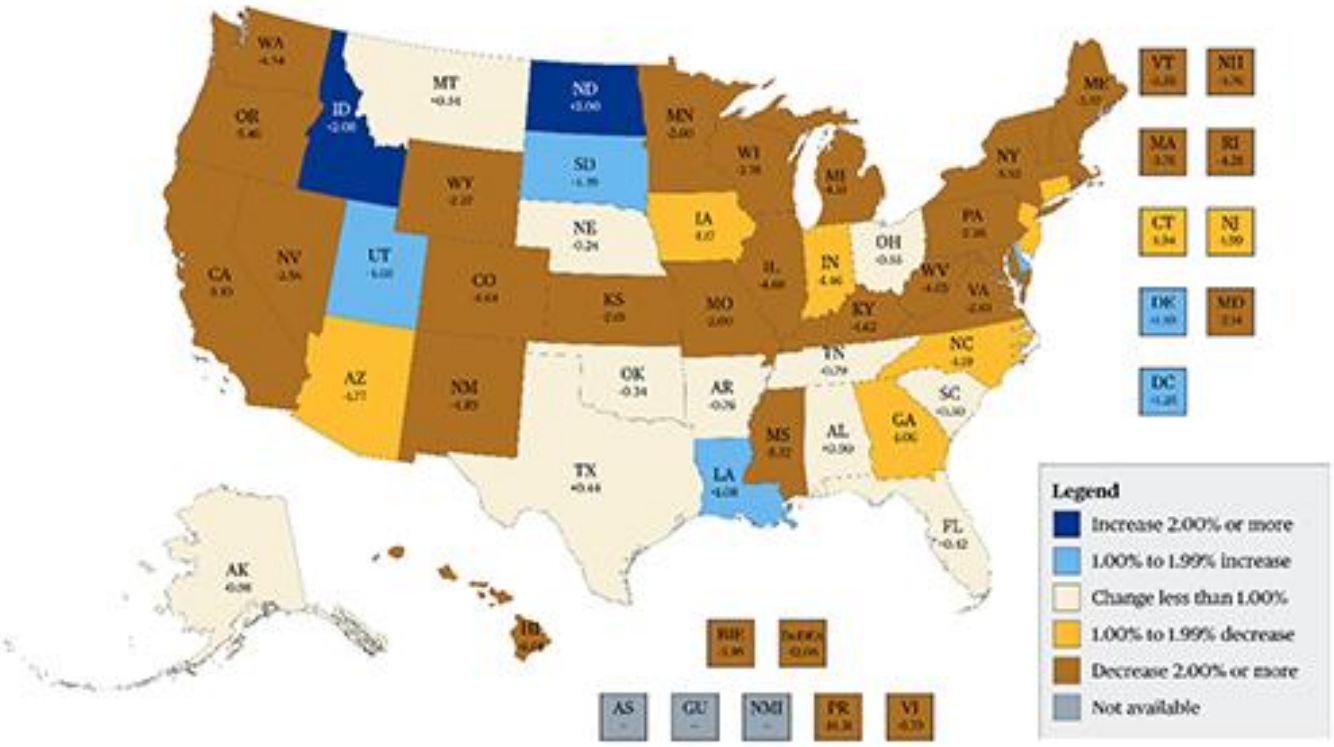
Rounds to zero.

NOTE: U.S. average is for the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Projected enrollment data are not available for the other U.S. jurisdictions. Data include both traditional public schools and public charter schools. Includes imputations for nonreported prekindergarten enrollment in California and Oregon for fall 2022. Projections in this figure were calculated after the onset of the coronavirus pandemic and take into account the expected impacts of the pandemic. Projections for fall 2023 through fall 2031 are based on historical data through fall 2021, only. Figures are plotted based on unrounded data.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data (CCD), "State Nonfiscal Survey of Public Elementary/Secondary Education," 2022–23; and State Public Elementary and Secondary Enrollment Projection Model, through 2031. See *Digest of Education Statistics 2023*, table 203.20.

The figure below illustrates the change in Pre-K-12 public school enrollment from the 2019-20 to the 2022-23 school year. All but 5 states lost enrollment during the "Covid years." Massachusetts lost approximately 3 percent.

Figure 1. Percentage Change in Public School Enrollment Between Fall 2019 and 2022



NOTE: "Fall 2019 enrollment for California and fall 2022 enrollment for California and Oregon include imputations for non-reported prekindergarten enrollment.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data (CCD), "State Nonfiscal Survey of Public Elementary/Secondary Education," 2019-20 and 2022-23; Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Data Center, Enrollment Data, fall 2019 and fall 2022, retrieved December 12, 2022, from https://dodea.edu/education/research-accountability-and-evaluation/enrollment-management.

ENROLLMENT PROJECTION METHODOLOGIES

When projecting future enrollments, it is vital to track the number of births, the patterns of enrollment, the amount of new housing activity, and the change in household composition.

In addition, any of the following factors could cause a significant change in projected student enrollments:

- Boundary adjustments
- New school openings
- Changes/additions in program offerings
- Preschool programs
- Change in grade configuration
- Interest rates/unemployment shifts
- Magnet/charter/private school opening or closure
- Zoning changes
- Unplanned new housing activity
- Planned, but not built, housing

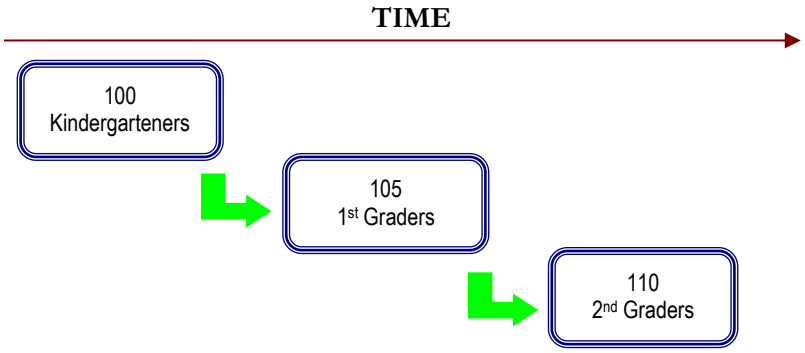
Obviously, certain factors can be gauged and planned for far better than others. For instance, it may be relatively straightforward to gather housing data from local builders regarding the total number of lots in a planned subdivision and calculate the potential student yield. However, planning for changes in the unemployment rate, and how these may either boost or reduce public school enrollment, proves more difficult. In any case, it is essential to gather a wide variety of information in preparation for producing enrollment projections.

When looking ahead at a school district's enrollment over the next two, five, or ten years, it is helpful to approach the process from a global perspective. For example: How many new homes have been constructed each year? How many births have occurred each year in relation to the resident population? Is housing experiencing a turnover – if so, what is the composition of families moving in/out? Are more or less students attending private school or being home-schooled? What new educational policies are in place now that could affect student enrollment figures?

The data sets generated from questions such as these have led to the development of general methodologies to project future student enrollments. They are as follows:

Cohort Survival Method

A cohort is a group of persons [in this case, students]. The cohort survival projection methodology uses previous live birth data and historical student enrollments to "age" a known population or cohort throughout the school grades. For instance, a cohort begins when a group of kindergarteners enrolls in grade K and moves to first grade the following year, second grade the next year, and so on.



A "survival ratio" is developed to track how this group of students grew or shrunk in number as they moved through the grade levels. By determining survival ratios for each grade transition [i.e., 1st to 2nd grade] over a ten-year period of time, patterns emerge and projection ratios can be developed to be used as a multiplier.

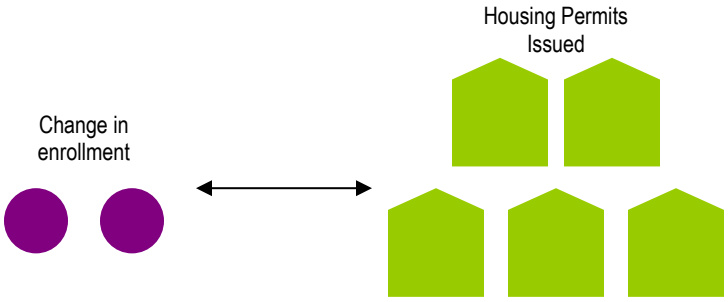
For example, if student enrollment has consistently increased from the 8th to the 9th grade over the past ten years, the survival ratios for each year would be greater than 100 percent. Through analysis of the survival ratios, the projection ratio is determined and is multiplied by the current 8th grade to develop a projection for next year's 9th grade.

This methodology can be carried through to develop ten years of projection figures. Because there is not a grade cohort to follow for students coming into kindergarten, live birth counts are used to develop a survival ratio. Babies born five years previous to the kindergarten class are compared in number, and a ratio can be developed to project future kindergarten enrollments.

The cohort survival method is useful in areas where population is stable [relatively flat, growing steadily, or declining steadily], and where there have been no significant fluctuations in enrollment, births, and housing patterns from year to year.

Housing

Enrollment projections can also be determined by analyzing the housing data for the areas that make up a school district. Yield factors can be established by comparing the historic change in enrollment from year to year divided by the total number of building or occupancy permits issued. For example, if student enrollment has increased by approximately 100 students each year and approximately 200 building permits have been issued each year for the past ten years, then the yield factor would be approximately .5 students per building permit.

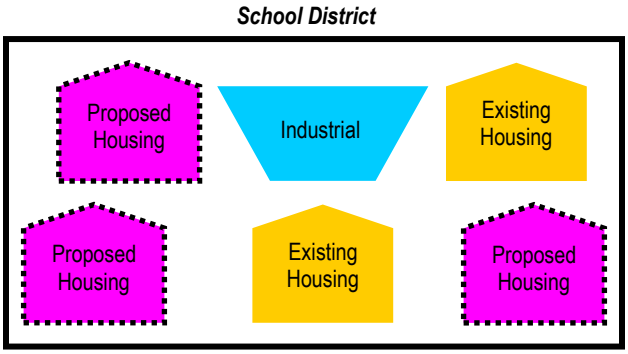


Once yield factors are established, the number of new students per year can be estimated by multiplying the yield factor by the number of projected new housing units. This method is effective when the rate of kindergarten enrollment far exceeds the live birth counts.

If housing demolitions are occurring in a district, these must also be taken into account. For instance, if housing demolitions/withdrawals have increased rapidly over recent years while new housing starts have remained relatively constant over many years, the conclusion may be that some of the new housing starts will simply be replacements for the families displaced by the demolitions. Of course, housing value and household composition would need to be further analyzed to confirm that this is indeed the case. It is possible that enrollment may remain flat or decline even though there is new housing occurring in the area.

Land-Saturation Analysis

Housing data also drives the land-saturation analysis enrollment methodology. In areas where there is a high rate of development and the future development patterns in the area are clear, a "build-out" scenario can be developed. The scenario takes into consideration the remaining acreage to be developed, planned rate of completion, zoning policies, density per acre, type of housing, and ratios of school-age children per household type. This method is particularly useful in areas experiencing rapid growth.



Geographic Information Systems

While not a methodology, the need for better tools and easier manipulation of data has led to a new industry standard in planning – GIS [Geographic Information Systems]. GIS technology allows school districts to quickly analyze countless data sets including birth data, housing information, and enrollment statistics.

When paired with enrollment projections, GIS becomes an invaluable information-management and decision-making tool. Often, county or city offices are already implementing GIS technology and data can be shared and expanded among these organizations in the district. GIS tables and maps are included within this report illustrating population, age, and income estimates and projections.

The cohort survival was the primary method used in the development of the enrollment projections for the Natick Public Schools.

HISTORICAL ENROLLMENT

Over the past ten years, student enrollment in the Natick Public Schools has decreased by 137 students in grades Pre-K – 12. Total enrollment for the 2024-25 school year is 5,297 students.

The following tables illustrate the District's enrollment history from 2015-16 through 2024-25.

Natick Public Schools
Historical Enrollment

Grade	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Pre-K	111	125	130	132	136	76	132	138	124	124
K	435	448	426	424	407	332	406	356	359	367
1	456	433	443	436	421	393	359	418	354	364
2	462	442	429	434	423	417	382	368	425	359
3	441	465	435	428	425	405	421	395	371	435
4	417	424	458	445	429	414	394	420	392	373
5	407	414	423	450	447	422	413	405	429	401
6	372	400	405	406	421	430	409	411	404	421
7	402	380	380	402	406	411	434	404	412	407
8	418	402	378	383	388	401	412	442	414	409
9	381	423	396	384	392	379	394	420	433	394
10	393	364	433	408	387	380	384	395	427	436
11	361	383	374	430	408	383	387	380	381	422
12	378	369	397	378	439	408	381	394	378	385
Pre-K - 12 Total	5,434	5,472	5,507	5,540	5,529	5,251	5,308	5,346	5,303	5,297

Source: Natick Public Schools

Natick Public Schools
Historical Enrollment by Grade Group

Grade	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Pre-K	111	125	130	132	136	76	132	138	124	124
K - 4	2,211	2,212	2,191	2,167	2,105	1,961	1,962	1,957	1,901	1,898
5 - 8	1,599	1,596	1,586	1,641	1,662	1,664	1,668	1,662	1,659	1,638
9 - 12	1,513	1,539	1,600	1,600	1,626	1,550	1,546	1,589	1,619	1,637
Pre-K - 12 Total	5,434	5,472	5,507	5,540	5,529	5,251	5,308	5,346	5,303	5,297

Source: Natick Public Schools

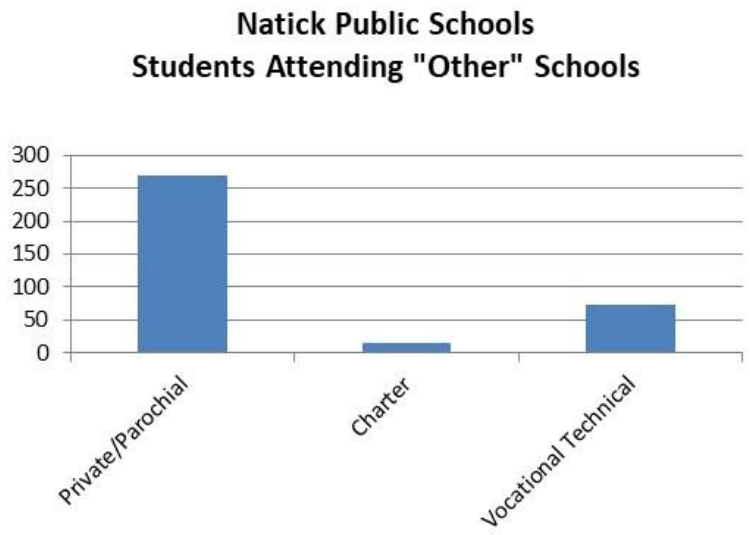
"OTHER" SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

For the current school year, the number of students living in the Natick Public School District, but attending a school outside the District is 359. Of this total, 75% attend a private/parochial school, 4% attend a charter school, and 21% attend a vocational technical school.

Natick Public Schools
"Other" School Enrollment

Grade	Private/Parochial	Charter	Vocational Technical	Total
K	18	0	0	18
1	12	0	0	12
2	13	0	0	13
3	14	0	0	14
4	12	0	0	12
5	14	0	0	14
6	18	2	0	20
7	20	7	0	27
8	35	4	0	39
9	24	1	17	42
10	21	2	31	54
11	38	0	12	50
12	30	0	14	44
Grand Total	269	16	74	359

Source: Natick Public Schools



LIVE BIRTH DATA

Utilization of live birth data is recommended when projecting future kindergarten enrollments as it provides a helpful overall trend. The live birth counts are used in determining a birth-to-kindergarten survival ratio. This ratio identifies the percentage of children born in a representative area who attend kindergarten in the District five years later. The survival ratios for birth-to-kindergarten as well as grades 1-12 can be found later in this report.

Data is arranged by the residence of the mother.

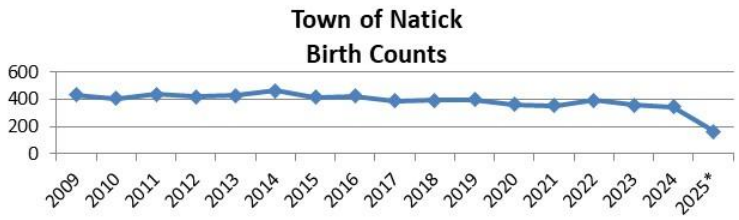
Live birth counts are different from live birth rates. The live birth count is the actual number of live births. A birth rate is the number of births per 1,000 women in a specified population group. Birth rates are provided for counties only and for 9 age groups from 10-14 years to 45+ years.

The following table and graph include the live birth counts for the Town of Natick.

Town of Natick
Birth Counts
2009-2025

Year	Total
2009	432
2010	408
2011	439
2012	421
2013	429
2014	463
2015	415
2016	423
2017	390
2018	394
2019	397
2020	364
2021	356
2022	393
2023	360
2024	347
2025*	164

Source: Massachusetts Department of Health, Registry of Vital Records & Statistics; Natick Town Clerk's Office
* through 6/14/25



DEMOGRAPHICS

General demographic data is included in the following tables for the Town of Natick and Middlesex County.

General Demographic Information

	Middlesex County	Massachusetts
Per Capita Income	$67,471	$55,897
Median Household Income	$126,779	$99,858
Persons Below Poverty	7.5%	10.4%

Source: US Census, American Community Survey, 2023 5-Year Estimates

Total Population

	2010 Census	2020 Census
Middlesex County	1,503,805	1,632,002
Natick	33,006	37,006

Source: 2010: DEC Summary File 2; 2020 Decennial Census

Also included are block group estimates and projections provided by Esri. Esri uses a time series of estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau that includes the latest estimates and inter-censual estimates adjusted for error of closure. The Census Bureau's time series is consistent, but testing has revealed improved accuracy by using a variety of sources to track county population trends.

Esri also employs a time series of building permits and housing starts plus residential deliveries. Data sources are integrated and then analyzed by Census Block Groups.

Sources of data include:

- Supplementary Surveys of the Census Bureau
- Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) Local Area Unemployment Statistics
- BLS Occupational Employment Statistics
- *Info*USA
- U.S. Bureau of the Census' Current Population Survey
- National Planning Association Data Service

Below is a list of definitions as they appear on the U.S. Census Bureau website, to aid in interpretation of the following tables and maps.

Household:
A household includes all the people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence.

Average family size:
A measure obtained by dividing the number of members of families by the total number of families (or family householders).

Family household (Family):
A family includes a householder and one or more people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. All people who are related to the householder are regarded as members of his or her family. A family household may contain people not related to the householder, but those people are not included as part of the householder's family in census tabulations. Thus, the number of family households is equal to the number of families, but family households may include more members than do families. A household can contain only one family for purposes of census tabulations. Not all households contain families since a household may comprise a group of unrelated people or one person living alone.

Householder:
The person, or one of the people, in whose name the home is owned, being bought, or rented. If there is no such person present, any household member 15 years old and over can serve as the householder for the purposes of the census. Two types of householders are distinguished: a family householder and a nonfamily householder. A family householder is a householder living with one or more people related to him or her by birth, marriage, or adoption. The householder and all people in the household related to him are family members. A nonfamily householder is a householder living alone or with nonrelatives only.

The following tables illustrate the current estimates and 5-year population projections based on block groups that comprise the state and school district, indicating areas of current and projected growth. The tables have been developed to determine selected age group projections and projections for household income, family size, and total households.

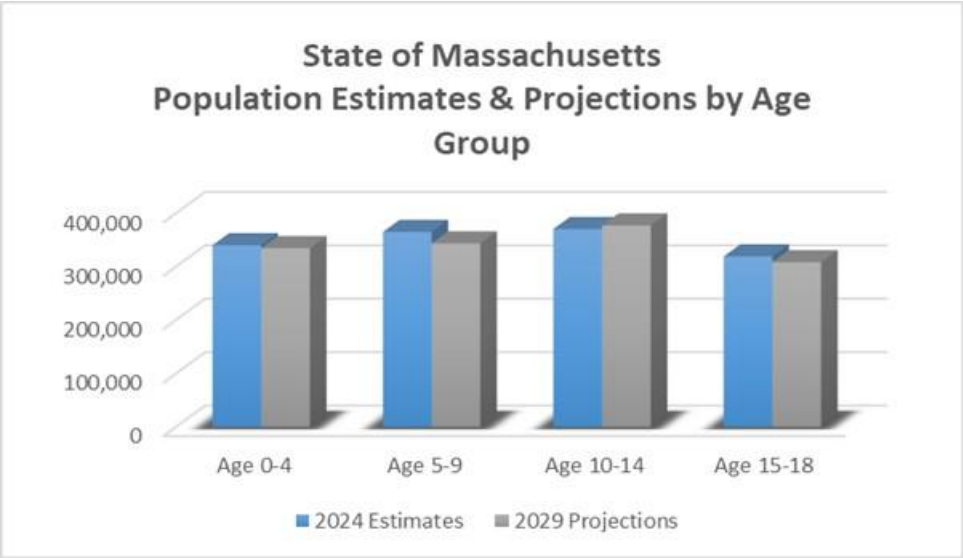
The total population in Massachusetts is 7,079,401. This population is projected to increase by 79,979 people, or approximately 1% over a 5-year period.

The 0-18-year-old population in the State currently totals 1,394,394. This population is projected to decrease by 31,308 children, or approximately 2 percent.

The median age is projected to increase by 3% from 40.3 to 41.5 years of age.

State of Massachusetts	2024 Estimates	2029 Projections	Change 2024-29	Change 2024-29 (%)
Total Population	7,079,401	7,159,380	79,979	1.1%
Age 0-4	340,070	334,362	-5,708	-1.7%
Age 5-9	364,881	343,521	-21,360	-5.9%
Age 10-14	370,381	377,061	6,680	1.8%
Age 15-18	319,062	308,142	-10,920	-3.4%
Total Age 0-18	1,394,394	1,363,086	-31,308	-2.2%
Median Age	40.3	41.5	1.2	3.0%

Source: esri

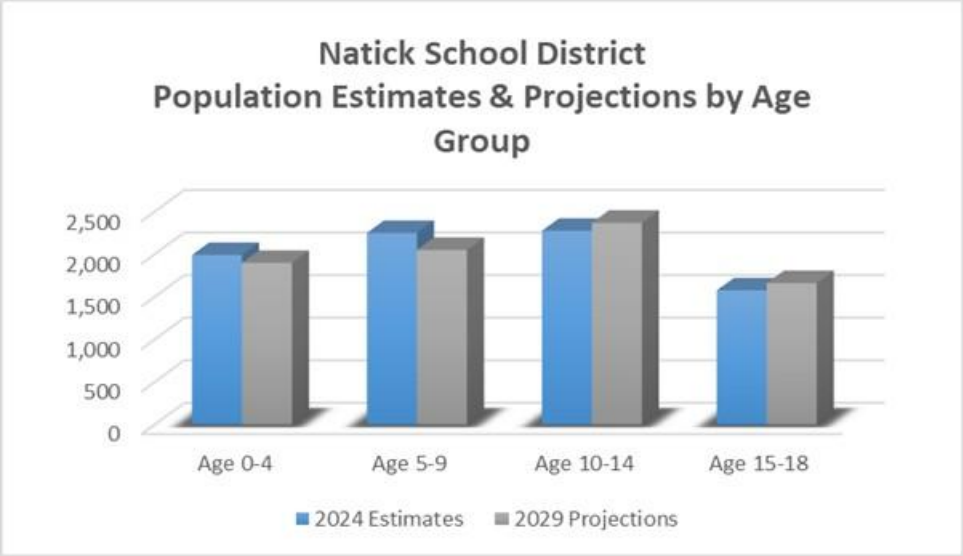


Natick Public Schools

The total population in the District is 37,116. This population is projected to decrease by 61 people, or less than 1% over a 5-year period. The 0-18-year-old population in the District currently totals 8,098. This population is projected to decrease by 115 people, or approximately 1 percent. The median age is projected to increase by approximately 3%, from 42.0 to 43.3 years of age.

Natick Public Schools	2024 Estimates	2029 Projections	Change 2024-29	Change 2024-29 (%)
Total Population	37,116	37,055	-61	-0.2%
Age 0-4	1,993	1,900	-93	-4.7%
Age 5-9	2,252	2,051	-201	-8.9%
Age 10-14	2,276	2,370	94	4.1%
Age 15-18	1,577	1,662	85	5.4%
Total Age 0-18	8,098	7,983	-115	-1.4%
Median Age	42.0	43.3	1.3	3.1%

Source: esri



Median and average household incomes in the State are projected to increase by approximately 11% and 14%, respectively over a 5-year period. The average family size is projected to decrease by approximately 1%, and the total number of family households is projected to increase by approximately 2 percent.

State of Massachusetts	2024 Estimates	2029 Projections	Change 2024-29	Change 2024-29 (%)
Median Household Income	$99,644	$110,539	$10,895	10.9%
Average Household Income	$144,015	$164,474	$20,459	14.2%
Average Family Size	3.10	3.08	-0.02	-0.6%
Total Family Households	1,698,500	1,727,685	29,185	1.7%

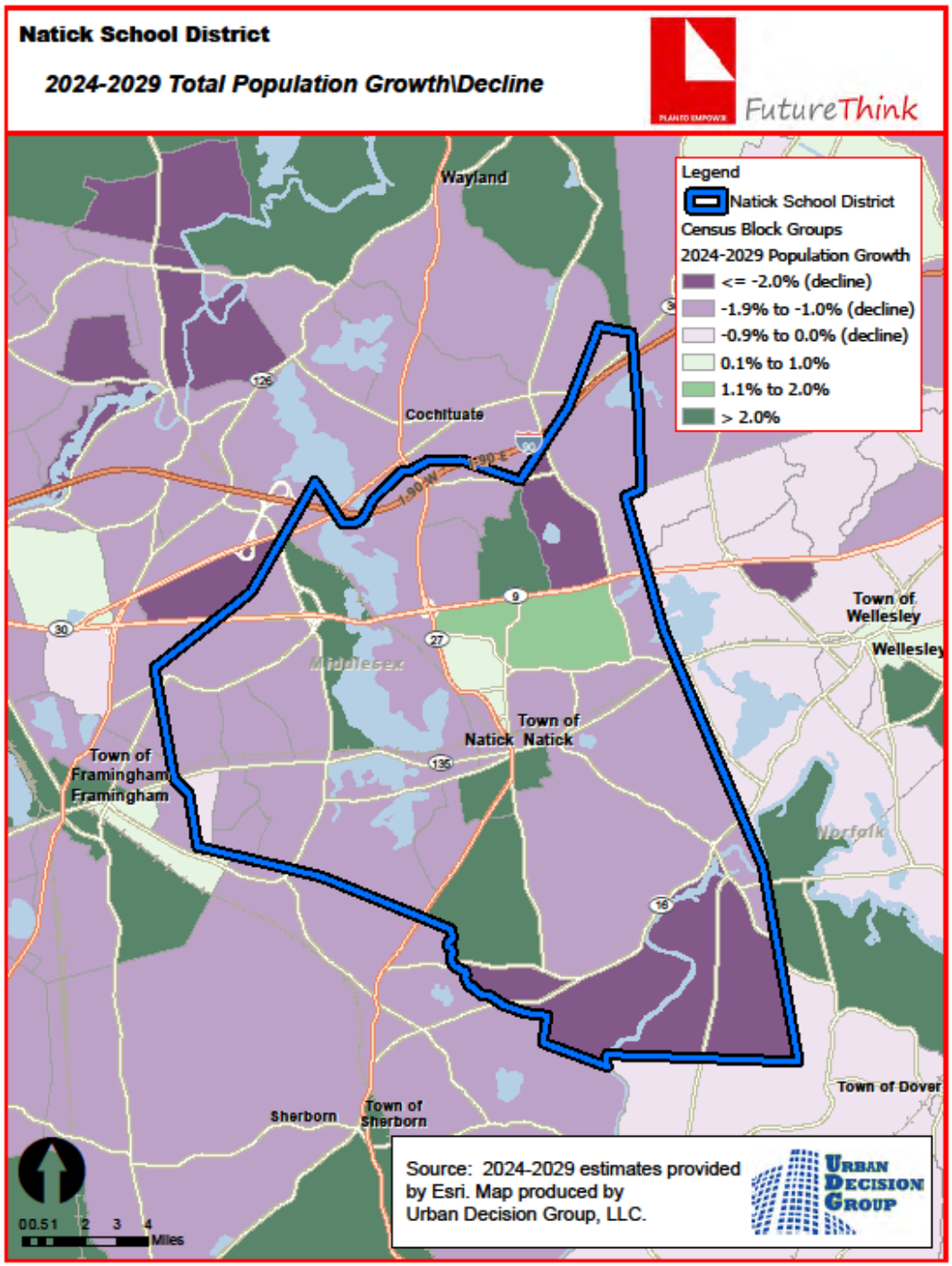
Source: esri

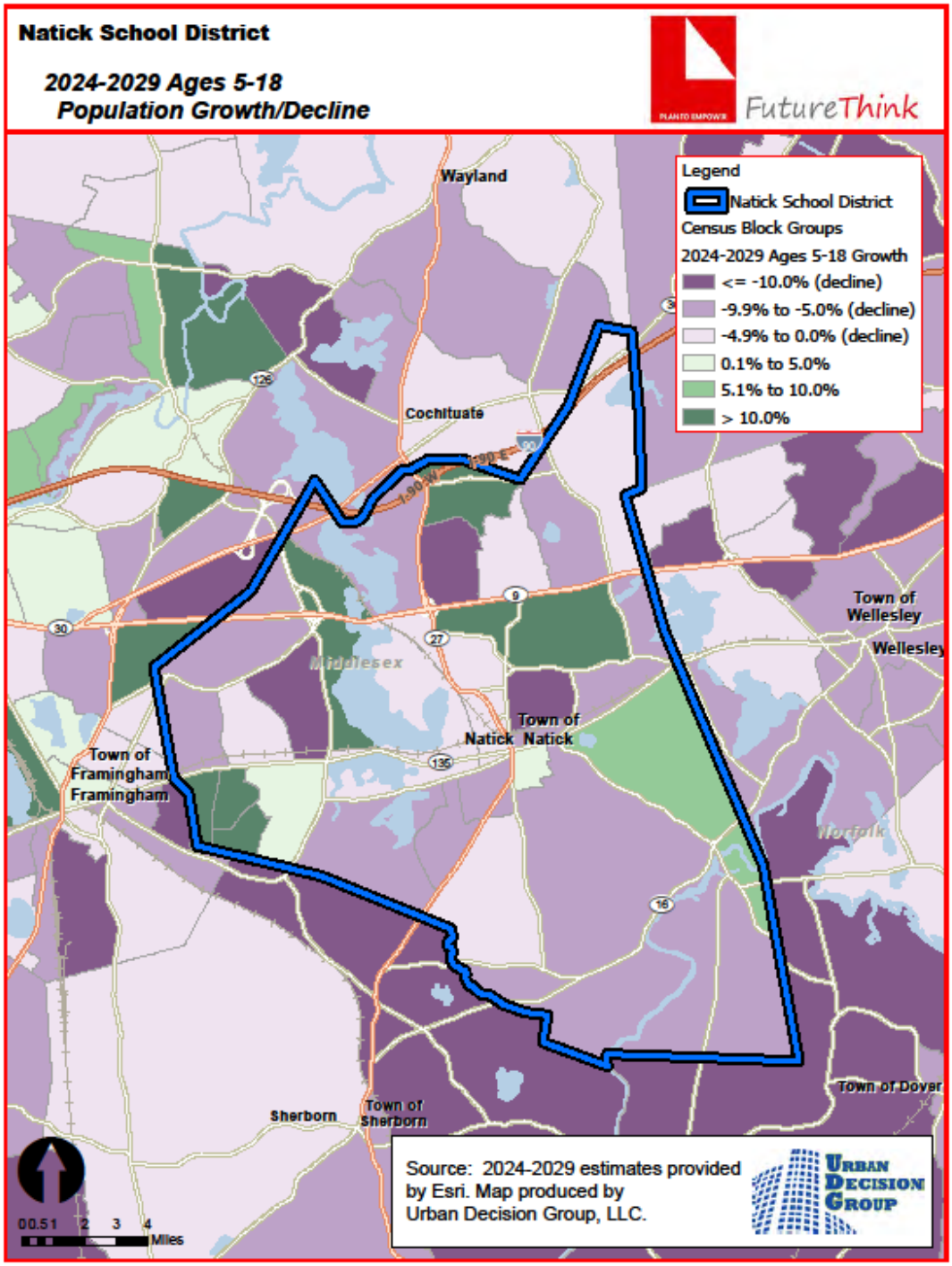
Median and average household incomes in the District are projected to increase by approximately 15% and 14%, respectively over a 5-year period. The average family size is projected to remain the same, and the total number of family households is projected to decrease slightly.

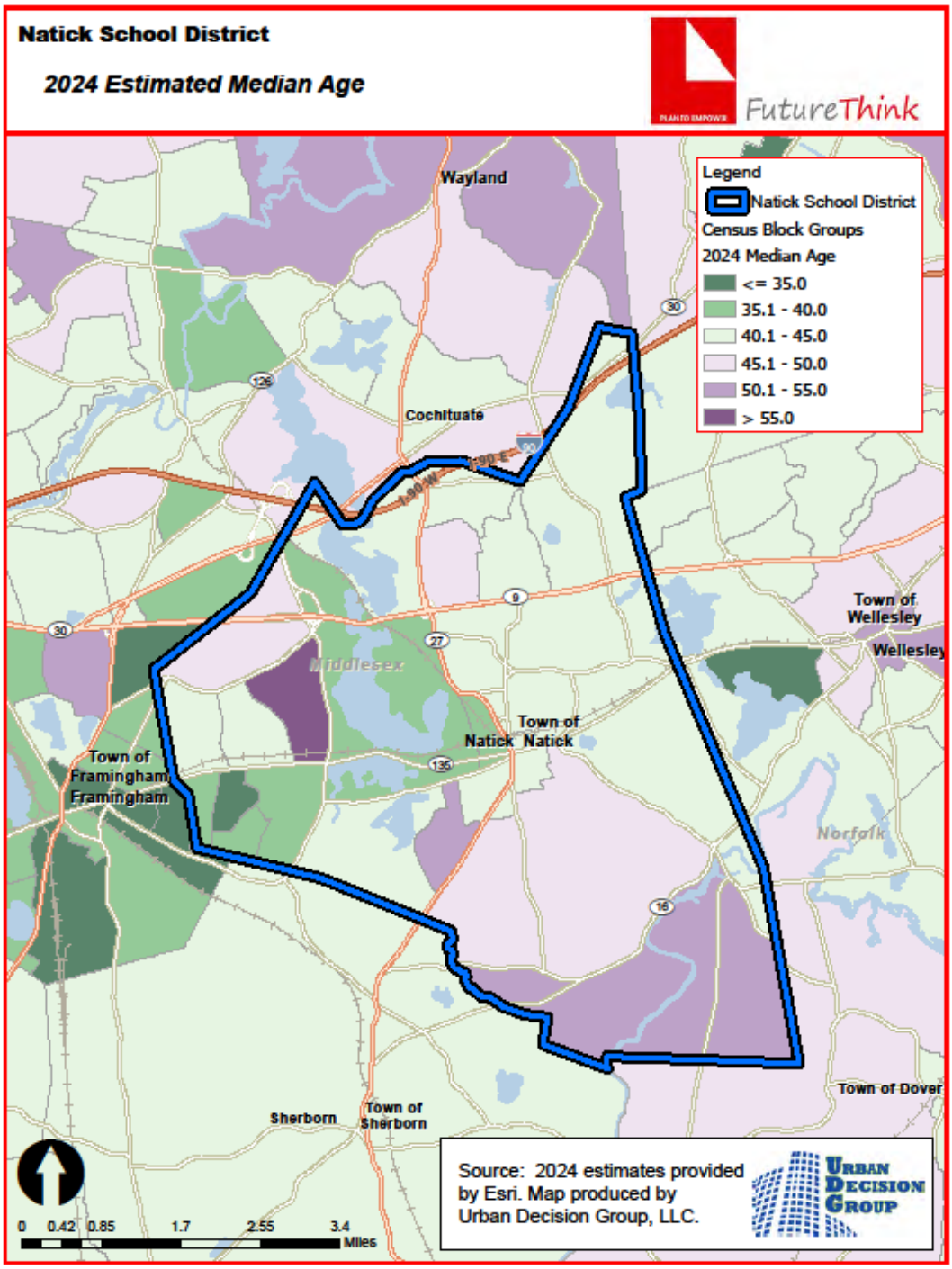
Natick Public Schools	2024 Estimates	2029 Projections	Change 2024-29	Change 2024-29 (%)
Median Household Income	$136,706	$157,436	$20,730	15.2%
Average Household Income	$197,139	$224,585	$27,446	13.9%
Average Family Size	3.13	3.13	0.00	0.0%
Total Family Households	9,598	9,584	-14	-0.1%

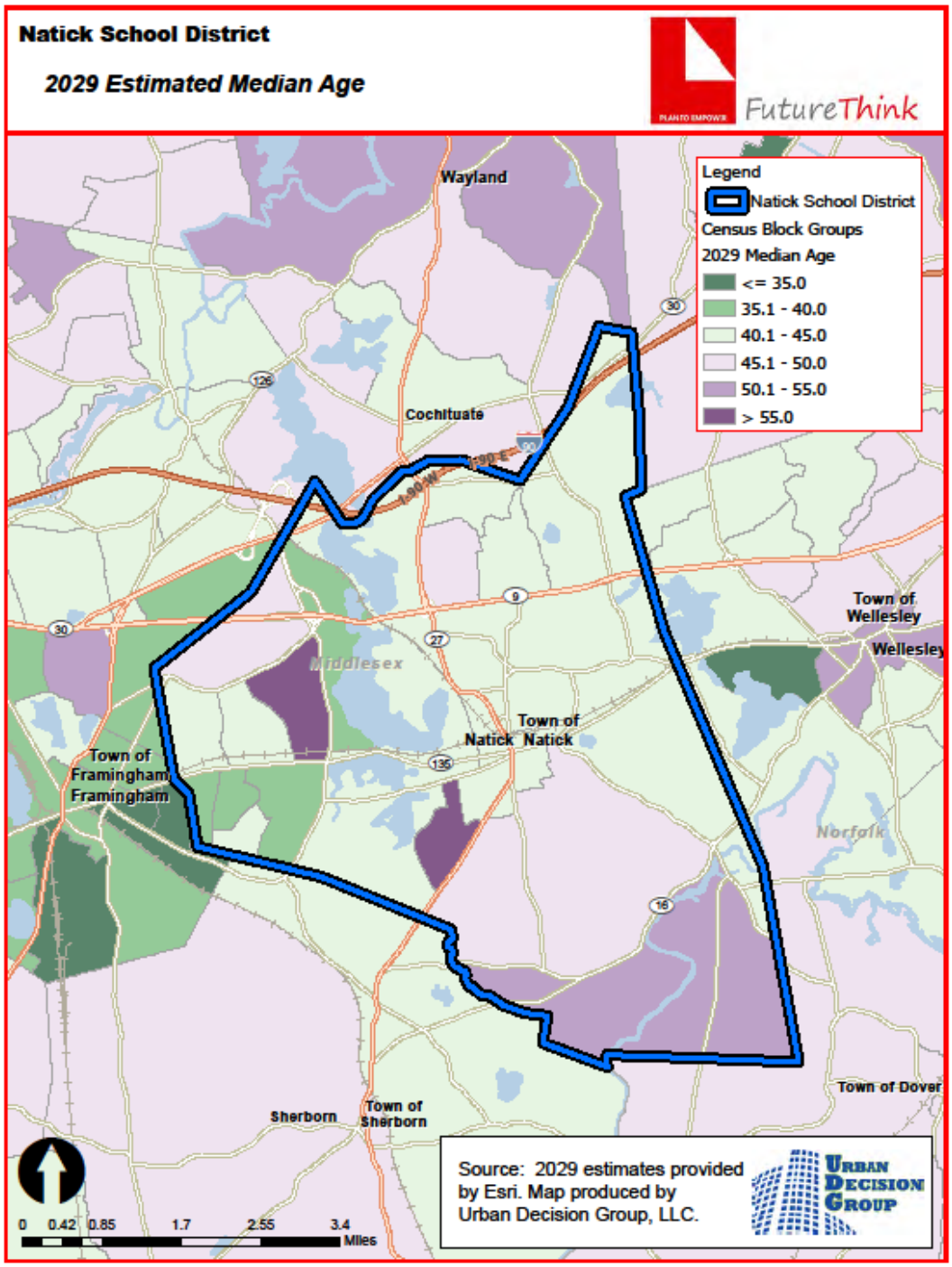
Source: esri

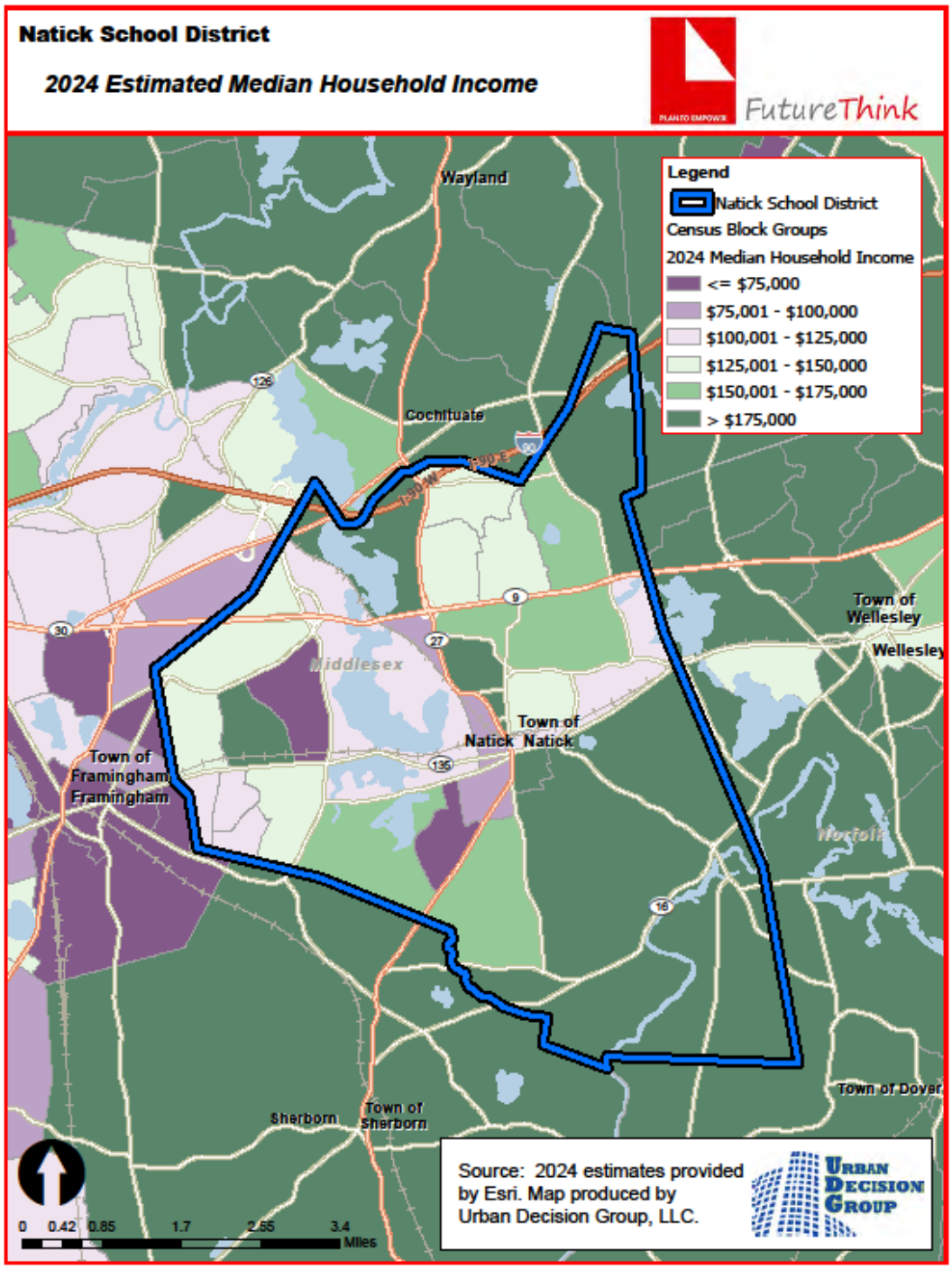
The maps on the following pages illustrate the data identified in the tables. The color coding identifies areas within the District that may be increasing or decreasing at different rates than others.

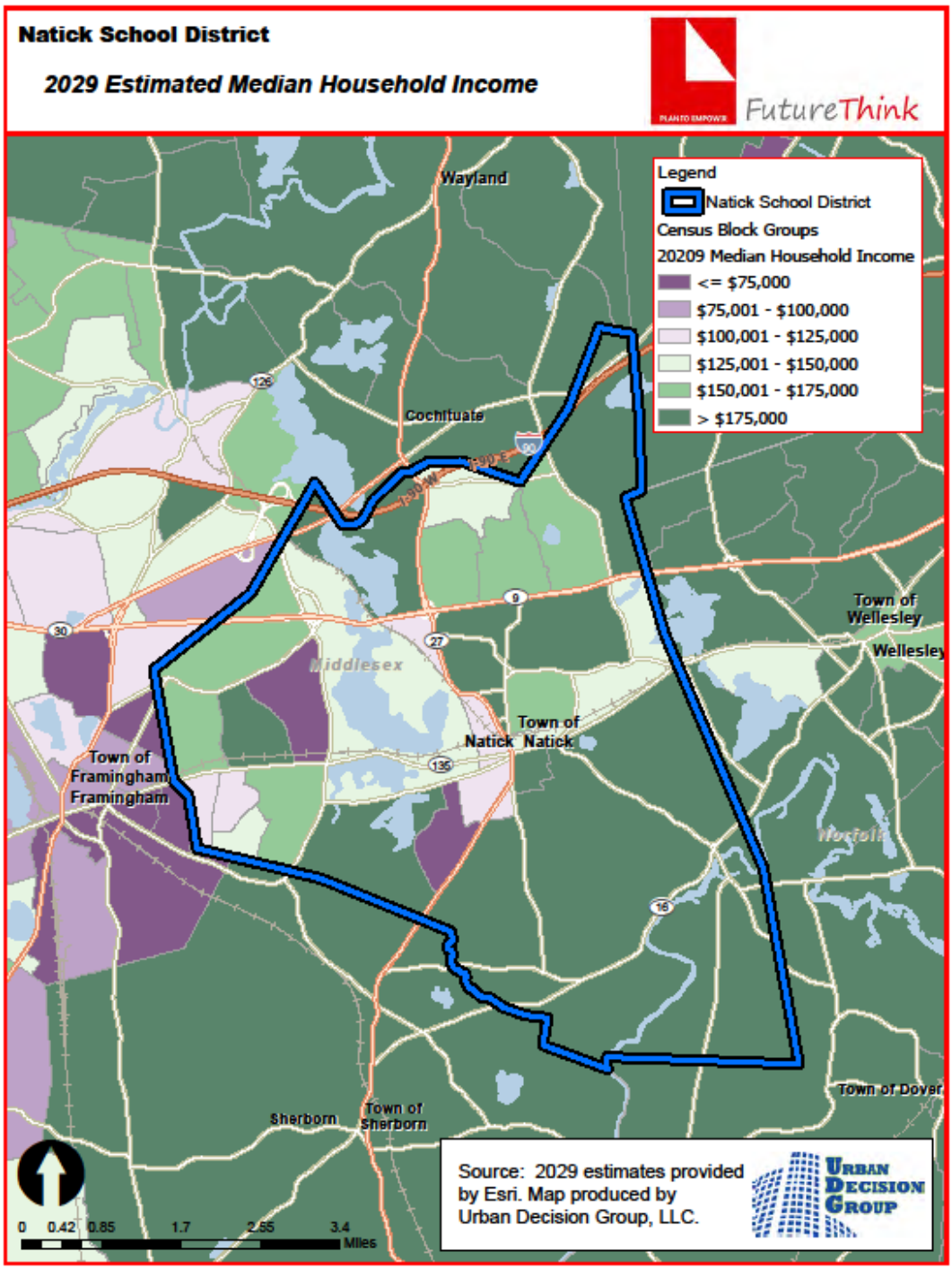

Natick School District
2024-2029 Total Population Growth\Decline
FutureThink
Legend
Natick School District
Census Block Groups
2024-2029 Population Growth
<= -2.0% (decline)
-1.9% to -1.0% (decline)
-0.9% to 0.0% (decline)
0.1% to 1.0%
1.1% to 2.0%
> 2.0%
Wayland
Cochituate
I-90 E
I-90 W
Town of Wellesley
Wellesley
Middlesex
Town of Natick
Natick
Town of Framingham
Framingham
Norfolk
Town of Dover
Sherborn
Town of Sherborn
0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles
Source: 2024-2029 estimates provided by Esri. Map produced by Urban Decision Group, LLC.
Urban Decision Group


Natick School District
2024-2029 Ages 5-18
Population Growth/Decline
FutureThink
Legend
Natick School District
Census Block Groups
2024-2029 Ages 5-18 Growth
<= -10.0% (decline)
-9.9% to -5.0% (decline)
-4.9% to 0.0% (decline)
0.1% to 5.0%
5.1% to 10.0%
> 10.0%
Wayland
Cochituate
Town of Wellesley
Wellesley
Middlesex
Town of Natick
Natick
Town of Framingham
Framingham
Norfolk
Town of Dover
Sherborn
Town of Sherborn
0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles
Source: 2024-2029 estimates provided by Esri. Map produced by Urban Decision Group, LLC.
Urban Decision Group


Natick School District
2024 Estimated Median Age
FutureThink
Legend
Natick School District
Census Block Groups
2024 Median Age
<= 35.0
35.1 - 40.0
40.1 - 45.0
45.1 - 50.0
50.1 - 55.0
> 55.0
Wayland
Cochituate
Town of Wellesley
Wellesley
Middlesex
Town of Natick
Natick
Town of Framingham
Framingham
Norfolk
Town of Dover
Sherborn
Town of Sherborn
0 0.42 0.85 1.7 2.55 3.4 Miles
Source: 2024 estimates provided by Esri. Map produced by Urban Decision Group, LLC.
Urban Decision Group


Natick School District
2029 Estimated Median Age
FutureThink
Legend
Natick School District
Census Block Groups
2029 Median Age
<= 35.0
35.1 - 40.0
40.1 - 45.0
45.1 - 50.0
50.1 - 55.0
> 55.0
Wayland
Cochituate
Town of Wellesley
Wellesley
Middlesex
Town of Natick
Natick
Town of Framingham
Framingham
Norfolk
Town of Dover
Sherborn
Town of Sherborn
0 0.42 0.85 1.7 2.55 3.4 Miles
Source: 2029 estimates provided by Esri. Map produced by Urban Decision Group, LLC.
Urban Decision Group


Natick School District
2024 Estimated Median Household Income
FutureThink
Legend
Natick School District
Census Block Groups
2024 Median Household Income
<= $75,000
$75,001 - $100,000
$100,001 - $125,000
$125,001 - $150,000
$150,001 - $175,000
> $175,000
Wayland
Cochituate
Town of Wellesley
Wellesley
Middlesex
Town of Natick
Natick
Town of Framingham
Framingham
Sherborn
Town of Sherborn
Town of Dover
0 0.42 0.85 1.7 2.55 3.4 Miles
Source: 2024 estimates provided by Esri. Map produced by Urban Decision Group, LLC.
Urban Decision Group


Natick School District
2029 Estimated Median Household Income
FutureThink
Legend
Natick School District
Census Block Groups
20209 Median Household Income
<= $75,000
$75,001 - $100,000
$100,001 - $125,000
$125,001 - $150,000
$150,001 - $175,000
> $175,000
Wayland
Cochituate
Town of Wellesley
Wellesley
Middlesex
Town of Natick
Natick
Town of Framingham
Framingham
Norfolk
Town of Dover
Sherborn
Town of Sherborn
0 0.42 0.85 1.7 2.55 3.4 Miles
Source: 2029 estimates provided by Esri. Map produced by Urban Decision Group, LLC.
Urban Decision Group

HOUSING INFORMATION

The following table illustrates the number of single-family permits issued in dwelling building permits issued each year in Natick and Middlesex County.

# of Building Permits Issued for Single Family Dwellings

Year	Natick	Middlesex County
2015	24	1,617
2016	26	1,668
2017	29	1,485
2018	33	1,452
2019	24	1,161
2020	27	1,278
2021	32	1,279
2022	31	999
2023	26	848
2024*	29	897
2025*	6	173

Source: SOCDS Building Permits Database
*preliminary through March 2025

The following table illustrates the number of multi-family permits issued in dwelling building permits issued each year in Natick.

# of Building Permits Issued for Multi Family Dwellings

Year	2-Unit	3 & 4-Unit	5+ Unit	Total
2015	6	0	0	6
2016	4	0	5	9
2017	4	0	5	9
2018	4	0	0	4
2019	8	0	0	8
2020	0	0	0	0
2021	2	0	0	2
2022	0	0	0	0
2023	0	0	0	0
2024*	0	0	0	0
2025*	0	0	0	0

Source: SOCDS Building Permits Database
*preliminary through March 2025

The following table illustrates the new housing underway in Natick. There are four developments with 145 total units planned. The number of students expected from these developments is 31 based on the state average for students in newly constructed multi-family units. The average yield is approximately 21 students per every 100 multi-family units.

New Housing Developments

Name	Studio	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	Apartment Mix	Duplex	Total
69 East Central Street	0	24	6	0	0	30
45 East Central Street	0	0	0	46	8	54
21 Summer Street	0	11	2	0	0	13
11 Washington Street	40	0	8	0	0	48
Total	**40**	**35**	**16**	**46**	**8**	**145**

Source: Natick Public Schools
excludes 55+ housing

SURVIVAL RATIOS

The chart below demonstrates the changes in enrollment as students move through the system. Percentages greater than 100 indicate that there are more students than there were in the previous grade the previous year. In other words, there was growth and new students entered the system. Percentages less than 100 indicate that there was decline with students leaving the system.

- Birth to Kindergarten: This ratio indicates the number of children born in the area who attend kindergarten in the District 5 years later. Percentages less than 100% result from movement out of the district, attendance at a non-public or charter school, or residence in another district within the same area.

The following table illustrates the survival ratios for the Natick Public Schools.

from	to	birth -> K	K->1	1->2	2->3	3->4	4->5	5->6	6->7	7->8	8->9	9->10	10->11	11->12
2015	2016	102.1%	99.5%	96.9%	100.6%	96.1%	99.3%	98.3%	102.2%	100.0%	101.2%	95.5%	97.5%	102.2%
2016	2017	101.2%	98.9%	99.1%	98.4%	98.5%	99.8%	97.8%	95.0%	99.5%	98.5%	102.4%	102.7%	103.7%
2017	2018	98.8%	102.3%	98.0%	99.8%	102.3%	98.3%	96.0%	99.3%	100.8%	101.6%	103.0%	99.3%	101.1%
2018	2019	87.9%	99.3%	97.0%	97.9%	100.2%	100.4%	93.6%	100.0%	96.5%	102.3%	100.8%	100.0%	102.1%
2019	2020	80.0%	96.6%	99.0%	95.7%	97.4%	98.4%	96.2%	97.6%	98.8%	97.7%	96.9%	99.0%	100.0%
2020	2021	96.0%	108.1%	97.2%	101.0%	97.3%	99.8%	96.9%	100.9%	100.2%	98.3%	101.3%	101.8%	99.5%
2021	2022	91.3%	103.0%	102.5%	103.4%	99.8%	102.8%	99.5%	98.8%	101.8%	101.9%	100.3%	99.0%	101.8%
2022	2023	91.1%	99.4%	100.0%	97.3%	91.4%	102.1%	99.8%	100.2%	102.5%	98.0%	101.7%	96.5%	99.5%
2023	2024	92.4%	101.4%	101.4%	104.1%	104.2%	111.1%	98.1%	100.7%	99.3%	95.2%	100.7%	98.8%	101.0%
	average	93.42%	100.949%	99.02%	99.8%	98.58%	101.3%	97.4%	99.4%	99.9%	99.406%	100.287%	99.396%	101.205%
	standard deviation	6.600%	3.133%	1.875%	2.613%	3.497%	3.742%	1.825%	1.992%	1.654%	2.314%	2.333%	1.847%	1.319%

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

Three sets of enrollment projections (moderate, high, low) were developed after analyzing the data collected in this report. The moderate projections indicate a decrease of 51 students (or 1%) in grades Pre-K through 12 from the 2024-25 to the 2034-35 school year. The following tables illustrate projected enrollments by grade and by grade group through the 2034-35 school year.

Natick Public Schools
Projected Enrollment - Moderate

Grade	2024-25 Actual	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
Pre-K	**124**	122	120	132	130	130	130	130	130	130	130
K	**367**	347	335	368	364	364	364	364	364	364	364
1	**364**	372	347	338	374	370	370	370	370	370	370
2	**359**	372	380	354	347	381	376	376	376	376	376
3	**435**	372	385	393	365	358	395	389	389	389	389
4	**373**	439	374	387	395	368	360	399	392	392	392
5	**401**	398	462	395	405	422	388	380	420	414	414
6	**421**	399	395	458	392	403	419	386	377	417	412
7	**407**	422	399	396	459	392	403	419	386	378	417
8	**409**	413	429	406	401	466	399	410	426	392	384
9	**394**	406	409	425	401	393	456	390	400	416	383
10	**436**	399	411	413	430	406	397	461	395	405	421
11	**422**	431	394	406	409	425	401	393	456	390	401
12	**385**	425	435	397	409	412	428	404	396	460	393
Pre-K - 12 Total	**5,297**	5,317	5,275	5,268	5,281	5,290	5,286	5,271	5,277	5,293	5,246

Source: FutureThink

Natick Public Schools
Projected Enrollment by Grade Group - Moderate

Grade	2024-25 Actual	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
Pre-K	**124**	122	120	132	130	130	130	130	130	130	130
K - 4	**1,898**	1,902	1,821	1,840	1,845	1,841	1,865	1,898	1,891	1,891	1,891
5 - 8	**1,638**	1,632	1,685	1,655	1,657	1,683	1,609	1,595	1,609	1,601	1,627
9 - 12	**1,637**	1,661	1,649	1,641	1,649	1,636	1,682	1,648	1,647	1,671	1,598
Pre-K - 12 Total	**5,297**	5,317	5,275	5,268	5,281	5,290	5,286	5,271	5,277	5,293	5,246

Source: FutureThink

The high projections indicate an increase of 340 students (or 6%) from the 2024-25 to the 2034-35 school year.

Natick Public Schools
Projected Enrollment - High

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
Pre-K	127	124	137	135	135	135	135	135	135	135
K	347	338	373	369	369	369	369	369	369	369
1	377	358	349	385	380	380	380	380	380	380
2	376	392	368	360	398	392	392	392	392	392
3	376	393	408	385	377	415	411	411	411	411
4	445	383	401	416	393	384	424	420	420	420
5	402	478	411	424	446	416	407	450	444	444
6	402	402	478	411	425	447	418	409	451	445
7	423	404	404	481	413	427	449	420	410	452
8	415	432	413	412	491	422	437	458	428	419
9	415	419	436	413	410	488	419	433	455	440
10	401	422	426	444	421	417	496	426	441	463
11	433	398	419	423	440	418	414	492	423	438
12	428	438	403	424	429	446	423	420	499	429
Pre-K - 12 Total	5,367	5,381	5,426	5,482	5,527	5,556	5,574	5,615	5,658	5,637

Source: FutureThink

Natick Public Schools
Projected Enrollment by Grade Group - High

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
Pre-K	127	124	137	135	135	135	135	135	135	135
K - 4	1,921	1,864	1,899	1,915	1,917	1,940	1,976	1,972	1,972	1,972
5 - 8	1,642	1,716	1,706	1,728	1,775	1,712	1,711	1,737	1,733	1,760
9 - 12	1,677	1,677	1,684	1,704	1,700	1,769	1,752	1,771	1,818	1,770
Pre-K - 12 Total	5,367	5,381	5,426	5,482	5,527	5,556	5,574	5,615	5,658	5,637

Source: FutureThink

The low projections indicate a decrease of 480 students (or 9%) from the 2024-25 to the 2034-35 school year.

Natick Public Schools
Projected Enrollment - Low

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
Pre-K	116	114	125	124	124	124	124	124	124	124
K	347	323	356	352	352	352	352	352	352	352
1	367	331	324	358	353	353	353	353	353	353
2	370	374	337	330	365	360	360	360	360	360
3	367	377	382	344	336	371	365	365	365	365
4	433	364	376	379	341	335	370	365	365	365
5	385	441	369	374	383	351	343	378	373	373
6	397	381	436	365	370	378	346	338	374	369
7	420	396	380	435	364	369	377	345	338	373
8	407	421	397	380	435	365	369	378	346	338
9	402	404	418	393	379	435	364	369	377	345
10	396	404	406	420	395	382	437	366	371	379
11	428	389	397	399	412	387	374	429	359	364
12	420	426	387	395	397	410	385	372	427	357
Pre-K - 12 Total	5,255	5,145	5,090	5,048	5,006	4,972	4,919	4,894	4,884	4,817

Source: FutureThink

Natick Public Schools
Projected Enrollment by Grade Group - Low

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
Pre-K	116	114	125	124	124	124	124	124	124	124
K - 4	1,884	1,769	1,775	1,763	1,747	1,771	1,800	1,795	1,795	1,795
5 - 8	1,609	1,639	1,582	1,554	1,552	1,463	1,435	1,439	1,431	1,453
9 - 12	1,646	1,623	1,608	1,607	1,583	1,614	1,560	1,536	1,534	1,445
Pre-K - 12 Total	5,255	5,145	5,090	5,048	5,006	4,972	4,919	4,894	4,884	4,817

Source: FutureThink

The following defines, in terms of economy and housing, the differences between the projections.

Low Projection

- Higher inflation/interest rates
- Housing progresses at a slower rate than currently seen

Moderate Projection

- Current inflation/interest rates
- Housing progresses at a steady rate

High Projection

- Lower inflation/interest rates
- Housing progresses at a faster rate

By School Projections

Enrollment projections were also developed for each school.

Bennett-Hemenway Elementary School
Historical Enrollment

Grade	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
K	122	115	108	100	95	84	112	73	102	106
1	125	119	119	110	105	97	92	114	72	104
2	140	124	118	117	113	101	95	93	116	73
3	129	143	118	120	119	108	98	98	99	122
4	128	123	131	119	118	117	110	102	99	99
Grand Total	644	624	594	566	550	507	507	480	488	504

Source: Natick Public Schools

Bennett-Hemenway Elementary School
Projected Enrollment - Moderate

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
K	97	93	102	101	101	101	101	101	101	101
1	107	96	93	103	102	102	102	102	102	102
2	105	108	97	95	104	103	103	103	103	103
3	75	109	112	100	98	108	106	106	106	106
4	124	77	110	114	102	99	110	108	108	108
Grand Total	508	483	514	513	507	513	522	520	520	520

Source: FutureThink

Brown Elementary School
Historical Enrollment

Grade	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
K	96	121	95	107	104	84	97	105	95	87
1	107	106	116	88	94	100	81	108	101	91
2	103	96	105	111	84	95	99	81	117	101
3	86	109	94	102	106	83	101	108	87	122
4	90	83	114	97	101	103	75	101	108	93
Grand Total	482	515	524	505	489	465	453	503	508	494

Source: Natick Public Schools

Brown Elementary School
Projected Enrollment - Moderate

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
K	89	87	95	94	94	94	94	94	94	94
1	84	85	83	92	91	91	91	91	91	91
2	93	85	87	85	93	92	92	92	92	92
3	107	98	90	91	89	99	97	97	97	97
4	125	109	100	92	93	91	101	100	100	100
Grand Total	498	464	455	454	460	467	475	474	474	474

Source: FutureThink

Johnson Elementary School
Historical Enrollment

Grade	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
K	47	45	50	46	41	34	44	0	0	
1	43	45	48	57	45	36	39	30	0	
2	47	38	45	48	55	44	37	32	7	
3	49	48	39	46	46	53	46	31	13	
4	48	46	47	39	45	42	53	43	31	
Grand Total	234	222	229	236	232	209	219	136	51	

Source: Natick Public Schools

Lilja Elementary School
Historical Enrollment

Grade	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
K	94	74	95	87	88	64	75	92	82	103
1	87	86	73	102	90	74	73	81	91	85
2	98	86	88	69	94	85	75	75	92	95
3	90	88	86	88	69	86	83	78	71	92
4	75	83	89	90	90	64	81	80	74	70
Grand Total	444	417	431	436	431	373	387	406	410	445

Source: Natick Public Schools

Lilja Elementary School
Projected Enrollment - Moderate

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
K	87	83	92	91	91	91	91	91	91	91
1	106	88	86	95	94	94	94	94	94	94
2	88	110	91	89	98	97	97	97	97	97
3	95	88	110	91	89	98	97	97	97	97
4	89	92	85	107	88	87	96	94	94	94
Grand Total	465	461	464	473	460	467	475	473	473	473

Source: FutureThink

Memorial Elementary School
Historical Enrollment

Grade	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
K	76	93	78	84	79	66	78	86	80	71
1	94	77	87	79	87	86	74	85	90	84
2	74	98	73	89	77	92	76	87	93	90
3	87	77	98	72	85	75	93	80	101	99
4	76	89	77	100	75	88	75	94	80	111
Grand Total	407	434	413	424	403	407	396	432	444	455

Source: Natick Public Schools

Memorial Elementary School
Projected Enrollment - Moderate

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
K	74	72	79	78	78	78	78	78	78	78
1	75	78	76	84	83	83	83	83	83	83
2	86	77	79	78	86	84	84	84	84	84
3	95	90	81	83	82	90	89	89	89	89
4	101	96	92	82	85	83	92	90	90	90
Grand Total	431	413	407	405	414	418	426	424	424	424

Source: FutureThink

Kennedy Middle School
Historical Enrollment

Grade	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
5	169	162	172	215	233	212	226	205	241	221
6	152	164	162	162	192	229	204	233	211	239
7	168	155	157	162	167	187	231	207	236	217
8	185	168	150	162	156	167	189	239	223	234
Grand Total	674	649	641	701	748	795	850	884	911	911

Source: Natick Public Schools

Kennedy Middle School
Projected Enrollment - Moderate

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
5	212	246	211	216	225	207	203	224	221	221
6	225	216	250	214	220	229	211	206	228	225
7	244	229	220	255	218	224	233	215	210	232
8	224	252	237	227	264	226	232	241	222	217
Grand Total	905	943	918	912	927	886	879	886	881	895

Source: FutureThink

Wilson Middle School
Historical Enrollment

Grade	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
5	238	252	251	235	214	210	187	200	188	180
6	220	236	243	244	229	201	205	178	193	182
7	234	225	223	240	239	224	203	197	176	190
8	233	234	228	221	232	234	223	203	191	175
Grand Total	925	947	945	940	914	869	818	778	748	727

Source: Natick Public Schools

Wilson Middle School
Projected Enrollment - Moderate

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
5	186	216	184	189	197	181	177	196	193	193
6	174	179	208	178	183	190	175	171	189	187
7	178	170	176	204	174	179	186	171	168	185
8	189	177	169	174	202	173	178	185	170	167
Grand Total	727	742	737	745	756	723	716	723	720	732

Source: FutureThink

Natick High School
Historical Enrollment

Grade	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
9	381	423	396	384	392	379	394	420	433	394
10	393	364	433	408	387	380	384	395	427	436
11	361	383	374	430	408	383	387	380	381	422
12	378	369	397	378	439	408	381	394	378	385
Grand Total	1,513	1,539	1,600	1,600	1,626	1,550	1,546	1,589	1,619	1,637

Source: Natick Public Schools

Natick High School
Projected Enrollment - Moderate

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
9	406	409	425	401	393	456	390	400	416	383
10	399	411	413	430	406	397	461	395	405	421
11	431	394	406	409	425	401	393	456	390	401
12	425	435	397	409	412	428	404	396	460	393
Grand Total	1,661	1,649	1,641	1,649	1,636	1,682	1,648	1,647	1,671	1,598

Source: FutureThink

High Projections by School

Bennett-Hemenway Elementary School
Projected Enrollment - High

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
K	97	94	103	102	102	102	102	102	102	102
1	108	98	95	105	104	104	104	104	104	104
2	105	110	99	97	107	105	105	105	105	105
3	77	111	115	104	102	112	111	111	111	111
4	125	79	113	118	106	104	115	114	114	114
Total	512	492	525	526	521	527	537	536	536	536

Source: FutureThink

Brown Elementary School
Projected Enrollment - High

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
K	89	87	96	95	95	95	95	95	95	95
1	85	88	86	95	93	93	93	93	93	93
2	93	87	89	87	96	95	95	95	95	95
3	107	98	92	95	93	102	101	101	101	101
4	126	110	101	95	98	95	105	104	104	104
Total	500	470	464	467	475	480	489	488	488	488

Source: FutureThink

Lilja Elementary School

Projected Enrollment - High

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
K	87	85	94	93	93	93	93	93	93	93
1	108	92	90	99	98	98	98	98	98	98
2	89	114	96	94	104	103	103	103	103	103
3	96	90	115	97	95	105	104	104	104	104
4	92	96	90	115	97	95	105	104	104	104
Total	472	477	485	498	487	494	503	502	502	502

Source: FutureThink

Memorial Elementary School

Projected Enrollment - High

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
K	74	72	80	79	79	79	79	79	79	79
1	76	80	78	86	85	85	85	85	85	85
2	89	81	84	82	91	89	89	89	89	89
3	96	94	86	89	87	96	95	95	95	95
4	102	98	97	88	92	90	99	98	98	98
Total	437	425	425	424	434	439	447	446	446	446

Source: FutureThink

Kennedy Middle School

Projected Enrollment - High

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
5	215	256	220	227	239	223	218	241	238	238
6	227	221	263	226	234	246	230	225	248	245
7	244	232	226	269	231	239	251	235	229	253
8	226	254	242	235	280	241	249	261	244	239
Total	912	963	951	957	984	949	948	962	959	975

Source: FutureThink

Wilson Middle School

Projected Enrollment - High

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
5	187	222	191	197	207	193	189	209	206	206
6	175	181	215	185	191	201	188	184	203	200
7	179	172	178	212	182	188	198	185	181	199
8	189	178	171	177	211	181	188	197	184	180
Total	730	753	755	771	791	763	763	775	774	785

Source: FutureThink

Natick High School

Projected Enrollment - High

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
9	415	419	436	413	410	488	419	433	455	440
10	401	422	426	444	421	417	496	426	441	463
11	433	398	419	423	440	418	414	492	423	438
12	428	438	403	424	429	446	423	420	499	429
Total	1,677	1,677	1,684	1,704	1,700	1,769	1,752	1,771	1,818	1,770

Source: FutureThink

Low Projections by School

Bennett-Hemenway Elementary School

Projected Enrollment - Low

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
K	97	91	100	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
1	106	93	91	101	99	99	99	99	99	99
2	105	107	94	92	102	100	100	100	100	100
3	75	107	110	96	94	104	102	102	102	102
4	124	76	109	111	97	95	105	104	104	104
Total	507	474	504	499	491	497	505	504	504	504

Source: FutureThink

Brown Elementary School

Projected Enrollment - Low

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
K	89	82	91	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
1	83	80	79	87	86	86	86	86	86	86
2	92	84	81	80	88	87	87	87	87	87
3	105	96	88	85	83	92	90	90	90	90
4	122	105	96	88	85	83	92	90	90	90
Total	491	447	435	430	432	438	445	443	443	443

Source: FutureThink

Lilja Elementary School

Projected Enrollment - Low

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
K	87	79	87	86	86	86	86	86	86	86
1	104	82	80	88	87	87	87	87	87	87
2	87	107	84	82	91	90	90	90	90	90
3	95	87	107	84	82	90	89	89	89	89
4	88	91	83	102	80	79	87	86	86	86
Total	461	446	441	442	426	432	439	438	438	438

Source: FutureThink

Memorial Elementary School

Projected Enrollment - Low

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
K	74	71	78	77	77	77	77	77	77	77
1	74	76	74	82	81	81	81	81	81	81
2	86	76	78	76	84	83	83	83	83	83
3	92	87	77	79	77	85	84	84	84	84
4	99	92	88	78	79	78	86	85	85	85
Total	425	402	395	392	398	404	411	410	410	410

Source: FutureThink

Kennedy Middle School

Projected Enrollment - Low

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
5	204	234	196	198	203	186	182	200	198	198
6	223	206	236	198	200	205	187	183	202	200
7	242	226	209	239	200	203	207	190	186	205
8	219	245	229	211	242	203	205	210	192	188
Total	888	911	870	846	845	797	781	783	778	791

Source: FutureThink

Wilson Middle School

Projected Enrollment - Low

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
5	181	207	173	176	180	165	161	178	175	175
6	174	175	200	167	170	173	159	155	172	169
7	178	170	171	196	164	166	170	155	152	168
8	188	176	168	169	193	162	164	168	154	150
Total	721	728	712	708	707	666	654	656	653	662

Source: FutureThink

Natick High School

Projected Enrollment - Low

Grade	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
9	402	404	418	393	379	435	364	369	377	345
10	396	404	406	420	395	382	437	366	371	379
11	428	389	397	399	412	387	374	429	359	364
12	420	426	387	395	397	410	385	372	427	357
Total	1,646	1,623	1,608	1,607	1,583	1,614	1,560	1,536	1,534	1,445

Source: FutureThink

CONCLUSION

As with any projection, the District should pay close attention to live birth counts, enrollment in elementary schools, and housing growth. Each of these factors will have an impact on future student enrollment.

FutureThink is pleased to have had the opportunity to provide the District with enrollment projection services. We hope this document will provide the necessary information to make informed decisions about the future of the Natick Public Schools.