



Demographic Study

for the

Bergenfield Public School District

December 2022

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Executive Summary

Statistical Forecasting LLC (“Statistical Forecasting”) completed a demographic study for the Bergenfield Public School District (“Bergenfield School District”), projecting grade-by-grade enrollments from 2023-24 through 2027-28, a five-year period. In addition, the following tasks were completed:

- analyzed community population trends and age structure, demographic characteristics, birth counts, and fertility rates,
- examined historical enrollment trends districtwide, by grade configuration (PK-5, 6-8, and 9-12), and by school,
- determined historical birth counts for each elementary attendance area,
- compared building capacities to current and projected enrollments, and
- researched new housing starts and the impact on the school district.

Community Overview

In the 2020 Census, the Borough of Bergenfield (“Bergenfield”) had 28,321 residents, which is a gain of 1,557 persons (+5.8%) from 2010. Forecasts prepared by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority project the population to be 29,162 in 2040, which would be a 3.0% increase from the 2020 Census and a gain of 841 persons.

Bergenfield is a racially diverse community. While Whites are the largest race in Bergenfield, their population is declining. In the 2020 Census, Bergenfield was 32.8% White as compared to 39.4% in 2010, which is a loss of 6.6 percentage points. Hispanics were the second-largest race at 32.2% in 2020, which is a gain of 5.7 percentage points from 2010 (26.5%). Asians were the third-largest race consisting of 25.5% of the population in 2020, which is nearly unchanged from the 2010 percentage (25.3%).

With respect to nativity, 36.1% of Bergenfield residents are foreign-born, which is greater than that of New Jersey (22.7%). The Philippines is the largest source, accounting for 34.0% of the foreign-born population, while India is the second-largest source at 10.4%.

Historical Enrollment Trends

Historical enrollments (PK-12) were analyzed from 2013-14 through 2022-23, a ten-year period. Enrollments slowly increased through 2020-21 before reversing trend. Enrollments have declined in the last two years. In 2022-23, enrollment is 3,582, which is a gain of 77 students (+2.2%) from the 2013-14 enrollment of 3,505.

For grades PK-5, enrollments increased through 2019-20 before reversing trend. In 2022-23, enrollment is 1,526, which is slightly higher (+11) than the 2013-14 enrollment of 1,515.

For grades 6-8 at Roy Brown Middle School, enrollments slowly increased through 2020-21 before reversing trend. In 2022-23, enrollment is 841, which is a gain of 38 students from the 2013-14 enrollment of 803.

Finally, for grades 9-12 at Bergenfield High School, enrollments have been fairly stable over the last decade, ranging from 1,162-1,220. In 2022-23, enrollment is 1,215, which is slightly higher (+28) than the 2013-14 enrollment of 1,187.

Kindergarten Replacements

Kindergarten replacements were analyzed to determine whether there was any relationship between overall enrollment change and kindergarten replacement, which is the numerical difference between the number of graduating 12th graders and the number of entering kindergarten students. In each of the last nine years, the district has experienced negative kindergarten replacement, ranging from 30-100 students per year. Negative kindergarten replacement occurs when the number of kindergarten students entering the district is less than the number of graduating twelfth grade students from the prior year. In the last three years, the district has lost an average of 79 students per year due to kindergarten replacement.

In each of the last nine years, the district's losses due to negative kindergarten replacement were partially offset (or totally, resulting in a net enrollment gain) by a net inward migration of students in the other grades (K to 1, 1 to 2, 2 to 3, etc.). This was confirmed as 11 of the 13 average survival ratios in the five-year trend were above 1.000.

Birth Counts

The number of births in Bergenfield from 2008-2021 was used to project kindergarten enrollments five years later. Births have been generally declining in the borough over this time period. In 2021, there were 255 births, which are 72 fewer births than the 2008 birth count (327).

When comparing birth counts in 2008 to those in 2021 at the elementary attendance area level, each attendance area had fewer births in 2021 as compared to 2008. The Lincoln attendance area had the largest decline (-15) in the birth count over this time period, although the differences were fairly similar in size.

Upon aggregating the number of births by elementary attendance area from 2008-2021, the Lincoln attendance area had the greatest number of births (1,402) over this time period while the Jefferson attendance area had the fewest (537).

Population Age Structure

Age-sex diagrams from the 2010 Census and the 2016-2020 American Community Survey ("ACS") were created for Bergenfield to show the percentage of males and females in each age class. In 2010, the largest number of individuals was aged 50-54 for both males and females. In communities with little inward or outward migration and low mortality, the largest

cohort in subsequent years is typically the next oldest cohort as people advance in age. As such, the largest cohort for males in the 2016-2020 ACS was aged 60-64 as they aged in place. However, the largest cohort for females was the 65-69 age group. As the largest group in the 2016-2020 ACS was not the next oldest cohort for females, migration is likely occurring in the borough. Over this time period, the greatest declines occurred in the 45-49 age group for both genders. The greatest gains occurred in the 60-64 age group for males and the 65-69 age group for females.

Potential New Housing

Bergenfield municipal representatives provided information regarding current and future residential development in the community. In total, there is the potential for 65 non age-restricted housing units in five separate developments, all of which are multi-family units such as apartments, duplexes, and townhouses. Of the 65 proposed units, five units (8%) will be set aside to meet affordable housing requirements. Of the five elementary attendance areas, the largest impact will be on Washington and Hoover, which will contain more than three-quarters (78%) of the new housing units.

An estimate was made of the number of public school children that could potentially come from the approved and proposed housing developments. **It should be clearly stated that this is a rough estimate, as the bedroom distribution of one of the developments was unavailable, which is needed to compute the estimated number of public school children. In addition, two developments have not been approved and may not come to fruition, may change in scope before being approved, or may be constructed and occupied outside of the five-year enrollment projection timeframe.** In total, 15 public school children (K-5 = 7, 6-8 = 3, and 9-12 = 5) in grades K-12 are projected to be generated.

Home Sales

Home sales in Bergenfield were analyzed from 1994-2021. After peaking at 469 sales in 2004, the number of home sales declined to 190 in 2008 due to the housing market crash and banking crisis. During this period (2008-2012), the annual number of home sales was low, ranging from 190-208. Since then, home sales have rebounded. From 2013-2017, home sales steadily increased before stabilizing. In the last five years, the annual number of sales has ranged from 313-343, which is an average of 332 sales per year. Despite the increase in recent years, the annual number of sales is still lower than prior to the housing market crash and banking crisis.

Enrollment Projections

Enrollments were calculated at the school level from 2023-24 through 2027-28, a five-year period. Enrollments (PK-12) are projected to decline, in general, throughout the projection period. Enrollment is projected to be 3,424 in 2027-28, which would be a decline of 158 students from the 2022-23 enrollment of 3,582.

For the elementary grades (PK-5), enrollments are projected to increase in 2023-24 before reversing trend. Enrollment is projected to be 1,470 in 2027-28, which would be a decline of 56 students from the 2022-23 enrollment of 1,526.

For grades 6-8 at Roy Brown Middle School, enrollments are projected to decline for the next two years before reversing trend and stabilizing. Enrollment is projected to be 794 in 2027-28, which would be a decline of 47 students from the 2022-23 enrollment.

For grades 9-12 at Bergenfield High School, enrollments are projected to decline, in general, throughout the projection period. Enrollment is projected to be 1,160 in 2027-28, which would be a decline of 55 students from the 2022-23 enrollment.

Building Capacities

The capacities of the schools in the district were compared to the current enrollments in 2022-23 and the enrollment projections in the 2027-28 school year. Using the building capacities from the district's Long Range Facilities Plan, the differences between capacity and current/projected number of students were computed. Positive values indicate available extra seating while negative values indicate inadequate seating (also known as "unhoused students"). It should be noted that the capacity values are not fixed and can change from year-to-year based on classroom usage. For instance, additional special education classes in a building would reduce the building's capacity. On the other hand, districts with unhoused students can accommodate these children by increasing class sizes, which in turn increases the school's capacity. As such, the capacity of a school is not a fixed value and can be changed depending on how the building is used.

At the elementary level, a small shortage of seating currently exists in three schools in 2022-23, with the largest being at Jefferson (-25). In the upper level schools, while Roy Brown Middle School currently has a shortage of seating (-23), there is surplus seating at Bergenfield High School (+75).

By 2027-28, a shortage of seating is projected in two schools at the elementary level, Lincoln (-49) and Jefferson (-45), due to a projected increase in enrollment. In the upper level schools, surplus seating is projected in Roy Brown Middle School (+24) due to a projected decline in enrollment. Bergenfield High School is projected to have a greater number of surplus seats (+130) due to a projected decline in enrollment.

Final Thoughts

After a period of increasing enrollment (PK-12) in the Bergenfield School District, enrollments have declined in the last two years. In the next five years, declining enrollment is projected to continue, which is primarily due to a decline in the borough's birth rate. The projected enrollment decline is expected to occur fairly equally across each of the three grade configurations. While there are 65 new housing units proposed in Bergenfield, the housing unit type and bedroom distribution is likely to lead to fewer public school students than may have been anticipated and therefore is not likely to have a significant impact on the school district's enrollment.

In closing, it is difficult to measure the impact of the coronavirus on the school district's enrollments moving forward. In a New York Times article¹, families with financial means are leaving large metropolitan areas to reside in their second homes in rural areas or are purchasing an existing home in these new locations. These individuals can typically work remotely and are seeking to escape the pandemic. It is not clear whether these households will permanently reside in these locations or return to suburban/urban centers. While the duration of the pandemic is unknown and available data are limited, we are continuing to monitor data as it becomes available to assess its future impact on enrollments both short- and long-term.

¹ (<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/26/us/coronavirus-vermont-transplants.html>)

Introduction

Statistical Forecasting LLC (“Statistical Forecasting”) completed a demographic study for the Bergenfield Public School District (“Bergenfield School District”), projecting grade-by-grade enrollments from 2023-24 through 2027-28, a five-year period. In addition, the following tasks were completed:

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- researched new housing starts and the impact on the school district.

Population Trends in Bergenfield

Located in Bergen County, the Borough of Bergenfield (“Bergenfield”) contains a land area of 2.88 square miles with an additional 0.01 square miles of water area. In the 2020 Census, Bergenfield had 28,321 residents, which is 9,833.7 persons per square mile. Historical and projected populations for Bergenfield from 1940-2040 are shown in Table 1 and Figure 1.

Table 1
Historical and Projected Populations for Bergenfield
1940-2040

Year	Population	Percent Change
Historical¹		
1940	10,275	N/A
1950	17,647	+71.7%
1960	27,203	+54.2%
1970	29,000	+6.6%
1980	25,568	-11.8%
1990	24,458	-4.3%
2000	26,247	+7.3%
2010	26,764	+2.0%
2020	28,321	+5.8%
Projected²		
2030	28,083	-0.8%
2040	29,162	+3.8%

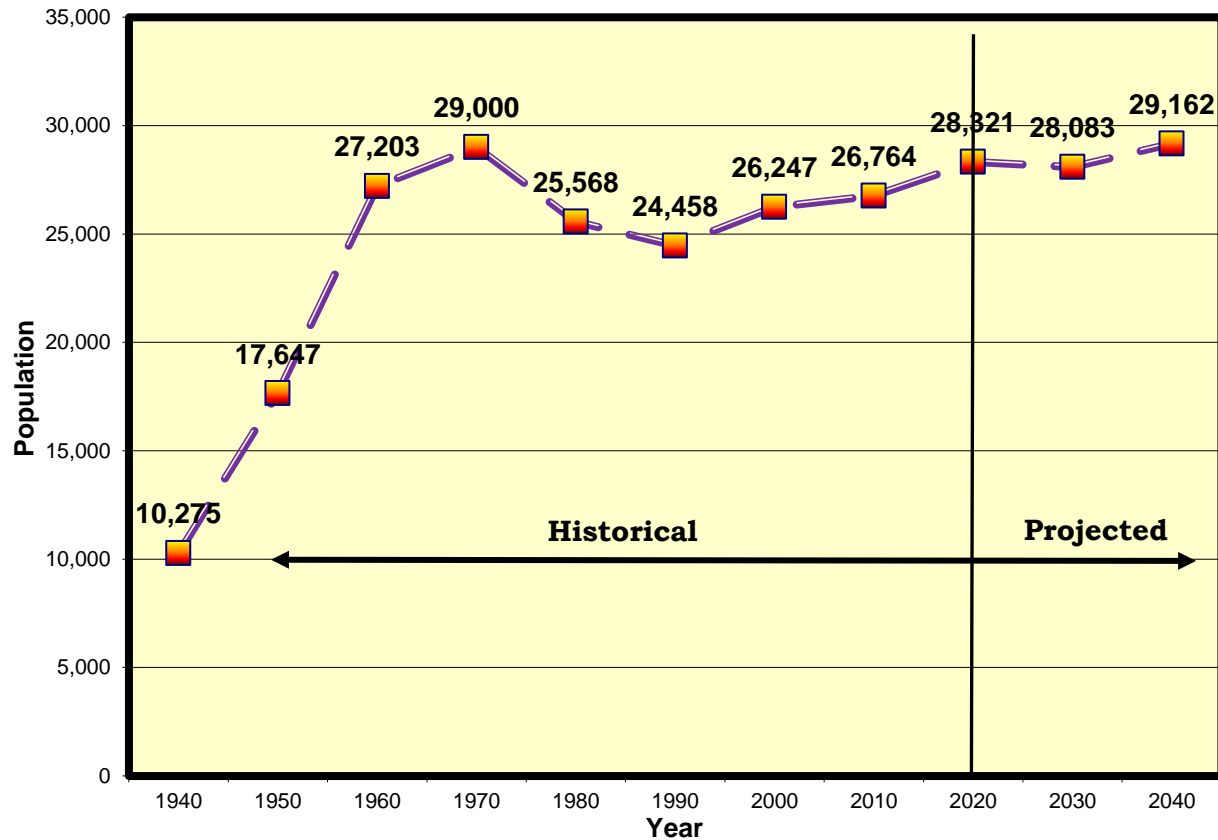
Sources: ¹United States Census Bureau

²North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc. (2017).

From 1940-1970, Bergenfield's population steadily increased and nearly tripled in size, with its greatest gain occurring in the 1940s (+71.7%). After declines in the 1970s and 1980s, the population has reversed trend and has increased in the last three decades. In the most recent decade, there was a gain of 1,557 persons.

Population projections for 2030 and 2040, which were prepared by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority ("NJTPA"), indicate that the population will slowly increase. However, as the projections were based off of the 2010 Census, and the 2020 Census count has already surpassed the 2030 projection, the NJTPA needs to revise its projections now that the 2020 Census results are available. As it currently stands, the forecast projects the population to be 29,162 in 2040, which would be a 3.0% increase from the 2020 Census and a gain of 841 persons.

Figure 1
Bergenfield Historical and Projected Populations
1940-2040



Bergenfield Demographic Profile

In Table 2, selected demographic characteristics of Bergenfield are compared from the 2010 and 2020 Censuses and the 2006-2010 and 2016-2020 American Community Surveys (“ACS”). At the time of this writing, a limited amount of demographic data was available from the 2020 Census, which was limited to total population counts and racial distributions from the Redistricting Data, which is used by states to redraw electoral district boundaries based on where populations have increased or decreased. While some Census variables account for everyone in the population (e.g., age and race), other variables are collected from a sample (e.g., median household income, educational attainment, poverty status, etc.). The ACS replaced the long form of the Census, last administered in 2000 to approximately 16% of the population in the United States. For communities with fewer than 65,000 persons such as Bergenfield, ACS data represent a sample collected over a five-year time period, where the estimates represent the average characteristics between January 2016 and December 2020, for example. This information does not represent a single point in time like the long form of earlier Censuses. The five-year ACS contains 1% annual samples from all households and persons from 2016 to 2020, resulting in a 5% sample of the population. Due to the small sample size, the sampling error is quite large, which increases the degree of uncertainty of the estimated values. Therefore, the forthcoming ACS data should be interpreted with caution.

Bergenfield is a racially diverse community. While Whites are the largest race in Bergenfield, their population is declining. In the 2020 Census, Bergenfield was 32.8% White as compared to 39.4% in 2010, which is a loss of 6.6 percentage points. Hispanics were the second-largest race at 32.2% in 2020, which is a gain of 5.7 percentage points from 2010 (26.5%). Asians were the third-largest race consisting of 25.5% of the population in 2020, which is nearly unchanged from the 2010 percentage (25.3%). Figures 2-4 show the White, Hispanic, and Asian percentages by Census block group, which are the three largest races in Bergenfield. In addition, the elementary attendance areas are shown to provide context of where the highest and lowest percentages are occurring. The White percentage is greatest in the southwestern section of the borough in the Lincoln elementary attendance area. The Hispanic percentage is greatest in the southeastern section of the borough in the Hoover elementary attendance area while the Asian percentage is greatest in the northwestern section of the borough in the Franklin elementary attendance area.

Regarding nativity, 36.1% of Bergenfield residents were foreign-born in the 2016-2020 ACS as compared to 37.9% in the 2006-2010 ACS, which is a loss of 1.8 percentage points. As a point of comparison, New Jersey’s foreign-born resident percentage was 22.7% in the 2016-2020 ACS, which is much lower than that of Bergenfield. While not shown in the table, place of birth, which serves as a proxy for country of origin, indicates that the Philippines and India were the largest sources of immigrants in the 2006-2010 ACS, accounting for 34.6% and 9.9%, respectively, of the foreign-born population. In the 2016-2020 ACS, the Philippines continues to be the largest source (34.0%) of the foreign-born population while India remains the second-largest source (10.4%). Figures 5 and 6 show the percentage of foreign-born persons and the percentage of persons speaking English less than “Very Well” in Bergenfield by Census block group, which may potentially correlate with English as a New Language (“ENL”) students in need of English language development instruction.

Table 2
Selected Demographic Characteristics of Bergenfield

Race Origin¹	2006-2010 ACS 2010 Census	2016-2020 ACS 2020 Census
White	10,546 (39.4%)	9,278 (32.8%)
Black or African American	1,724 (6.4%)	1,894 (6.7%)
Hispanic or Latino	7,097 (26.5%)	9,121 (32.2%)
American Indian and Alaska Native	32 (0.1%)	30 (0.1%)
Asian	6,778 (25.3%)	7,222 (25.5%)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	9 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Other Race	59 (0.2%)	244 (0.9%)
Two or more Races	519 (1.9%)	532 (1.9%)
Place of Birth		
Foreign-Born	37.9%	36.1%
Age		
Under 18	23.9%	22.1%
18-64	63.1%	62.4%
65 and over	13.0%	15.5%
Median age	39.0 years	38.8 years
Educational Attainment		
Bachelor's degree or higher	38.6%	46.2%
Graduate or professional degree	12.0%	12.8%
Income		
Median household income	\$82,546	\$102,724
Percentage of Persons in Poverty ages 5-17	8.2%	4.9%
Housing Units		
Total number	9,200	9,376
Occupied units	8,852 (96.2%)	9,037 (96.4%)
Owner-occupied units	6,221 (70.3%)	6,191 (68.5%)
Renter-occupied units	2,631 (29.7%)	2,846 (31.5%)
Median value of an owner-occupied unit	\$381,400	\$369,500
Average household size	3.02	3.02
Housing Type¹		
Total number	9,657	9,376
1-unit, attached or detached	6,580 (68.1%)	6,611 (70.5%)
Two units	1,081 (11.2%)	1,339 (14.3%)
Three or four units	266 (2.8%)	460 (4.9%)
Five to nine units	223 (2.3%)	239 (2.5%)
10 to 19 units	691 (7.2%)	293 (3.1%)
20 or more units	809 (8.4%)	434 (4.6%)
Mobile home, boat, RV, van, etc.	7 (0.1%)	0 (0.0%)

Sources: American Community Survey (2006-2010 and 2016-2020), United States Census (2010 and 2020)

Notes: ¹Data may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding.

Cells shaded orange are from the decennial Census while cells shaded blue are from the American Community Survey.

The foreign-born percentage is greatest in the northwestern and eastern sections of the borough in the Franklin, Hoover, and Washington elementary attendance areas. The percentage of persons speaking English less than “Very Well” is greatest in the southeastern section of Bergenfield in the Hoover elementary attendance area.

The median age in Bergenfield has decreased slightly from 39.0 years in 2010 to 38.8 years in the 2016-2020 ACS, which is similar to the median age in New Jersey (40.0 years). During the same time period, the percentage of people under the age of 18 years, which corresponds predominantly to school-age children, decreased slightly from 23.9% to 22.1%. Figure 7 shows the percentage of school-age children (5-17) in Bergenfield by Census block group. The greatest percentages of school-age children are in the southwestern section of the borough in the Lincoln elementary attendance area.

Regarding educational attainment for adults aged 25 and over, 46.2% of the population had a bachelor’s degree or higher in the 2016-2020 ACS as compared to 38.6% in the 2006-2010 ACS, which is a gain of 7.6 percentage points. Bergenfield’s percentage of persons having a bachelor’s degree or higher is slightly greater than that of New Jersey (40.7%). Persons with graduate or professional degrees increased from 12.0% to 12.8% during this time period.

Median household income increased from \$82,546 in the 2006-2010 ACS to \$102,724 in the 2016-2020 ACS, a gain of 24.4%. By comparison, median household income in New Jersey is \$85,245, which is \$17,000 lower than Bergenfield’s. During this time period, the percentage of school-age children (5-17) that are in poverty decreased from 8.2% to 4.9%. Figure 8 shows the percentage of persons living in poverty in Bergenfield by Census block group. The percentage of persons living in poverty is greatest in the central and southern sections of the borough, which are located in the Franklin, Hoover, and Washington elementary attendance areas.

Regarding housing, there were 9,376 housing units in Bergenfield in the 2016-2020 ACS, which is a gain of 176 units (+1.9%) from 2010. Over this time period, the overall occupancy rate remained nearly unchanged (96.4% in the 2016-2020 ACS) as well as the average household size (3.02 persons in the 2016-2020 ACS). Renter-occupied units accounted for 31.5% of the occupied units in the 2016-2020 ACS, which is a gain of 1.8 percentage points from the 2010 percentage (29.7%). As a point of comparison, the percentage of renter-occupied units in Bergenfield is slightly lower than that of New Jersey (36.0%). Finally, the median home price of an owner-occupied unit in the 2016-2020 ACS was \$369,500, which is a 3.1% decline from the value reported in the 2006-2010 ACS (\$381,400).

With respect to housing type, 70.5% of the homes in the 2016-2020 ACS were one-unit, either attached or detached, which is a gain of 2.4 percentage points from the 2006-2010 ACS percentage (68.1%). Homes with two units (duplexes) were the second-largest type of housing in the 2016-2020 ACS, consisting of 14.3% of the housing stock. Housing with 10-19 units, which contain renters, had the largest percentage-point change (-4.1) over this time period.

Figure 2
Bergenfield White Percentage

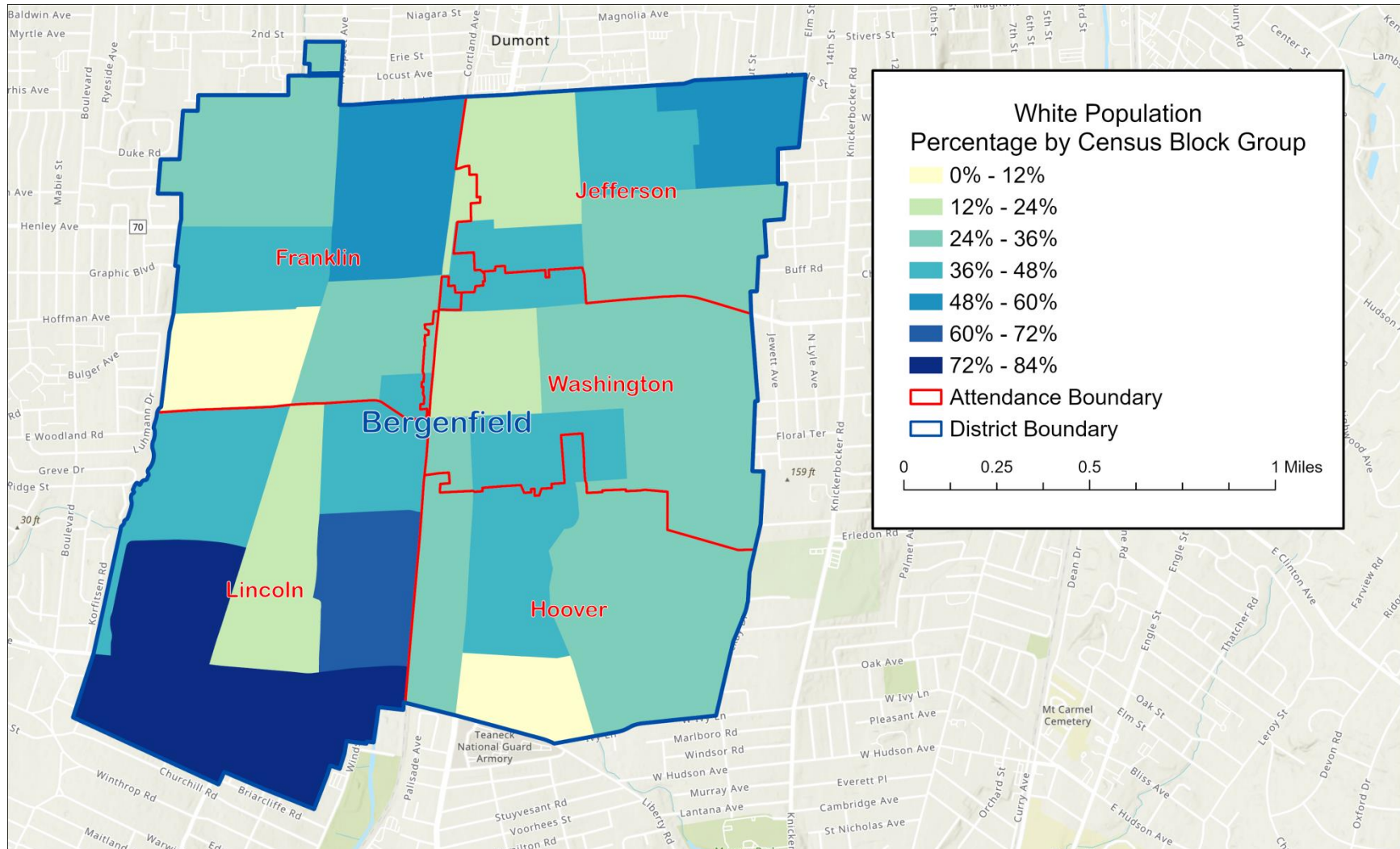


Figure 3
Bergenfield Hispanic Percentage

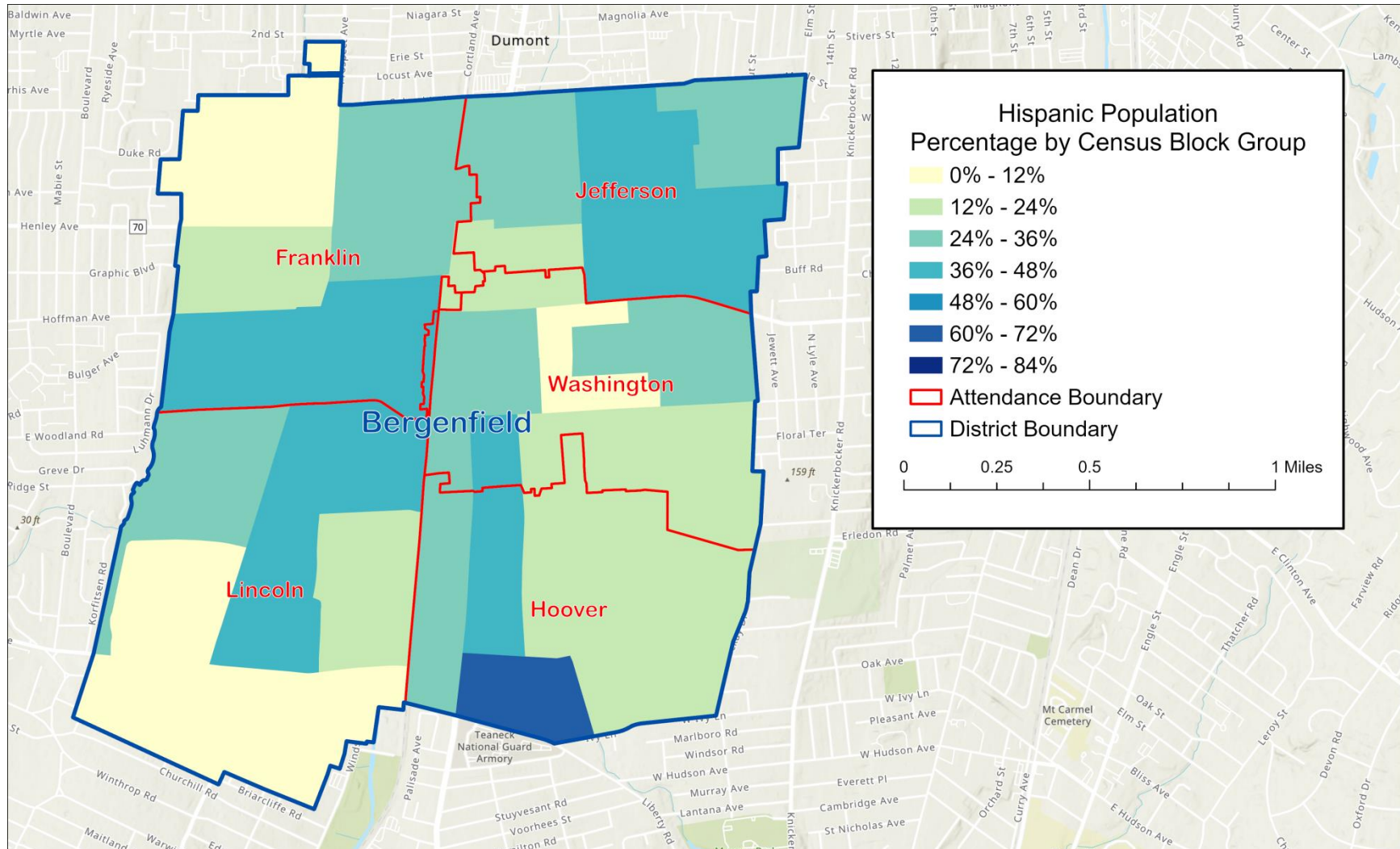


Figure 4
Bergenfield Asian Percentage

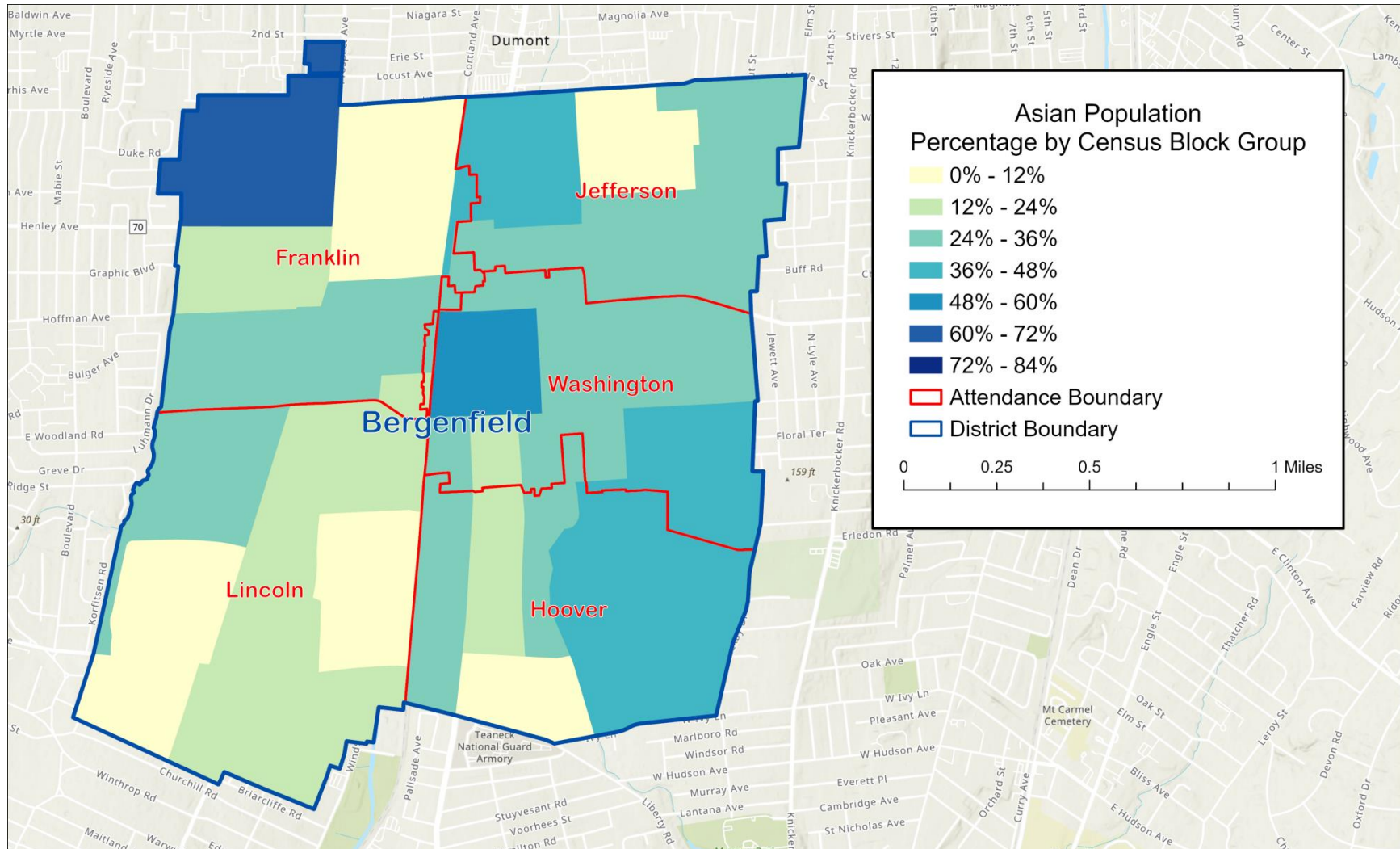


Figure 5
Bergenfield Foreign-Born Percentage

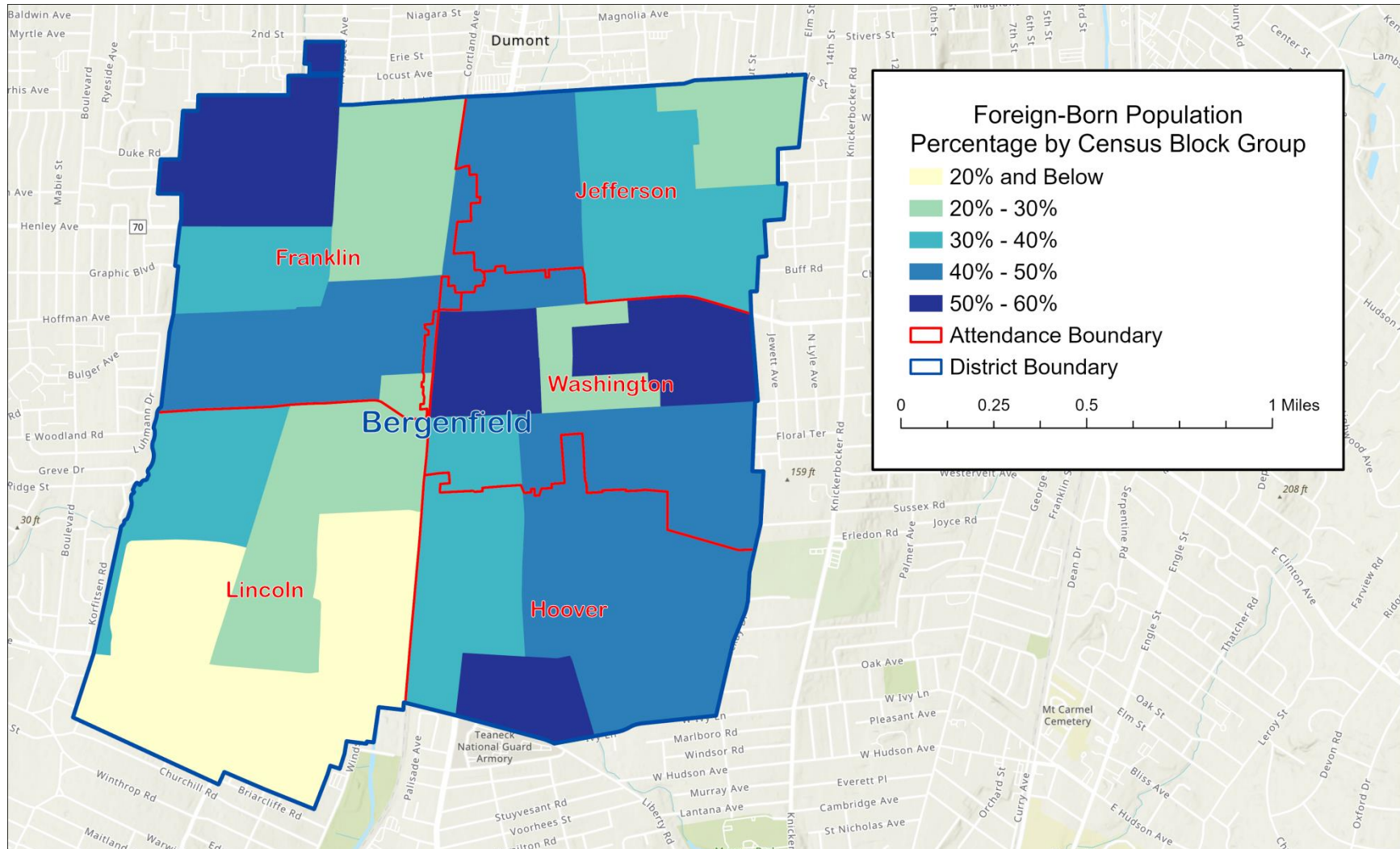


Figure 6
Bergenfield Percentage of Persons Speaking English Less than "Very Well"

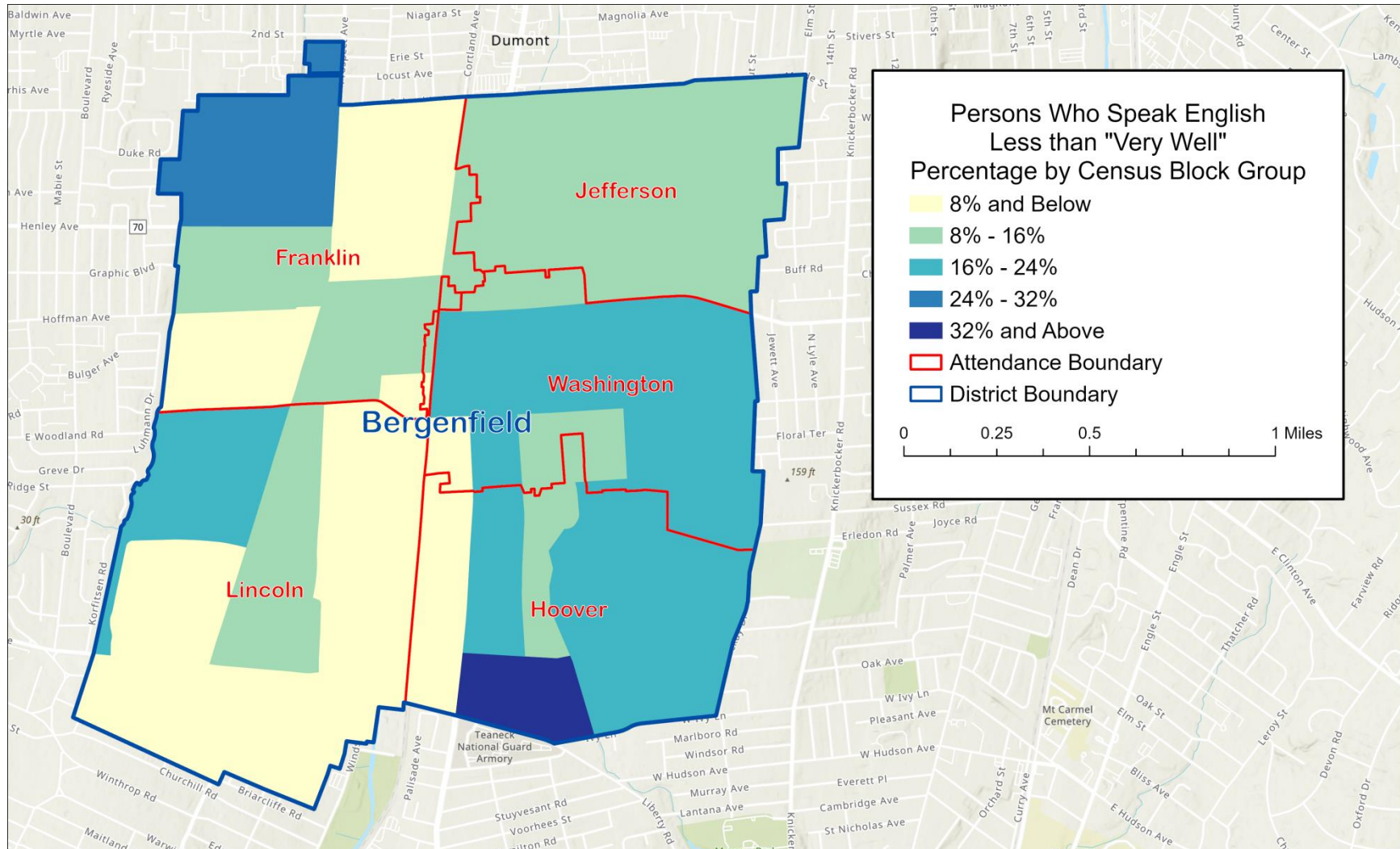


Figure 7
Bergenfield School-Age Population (5-17) Percentage

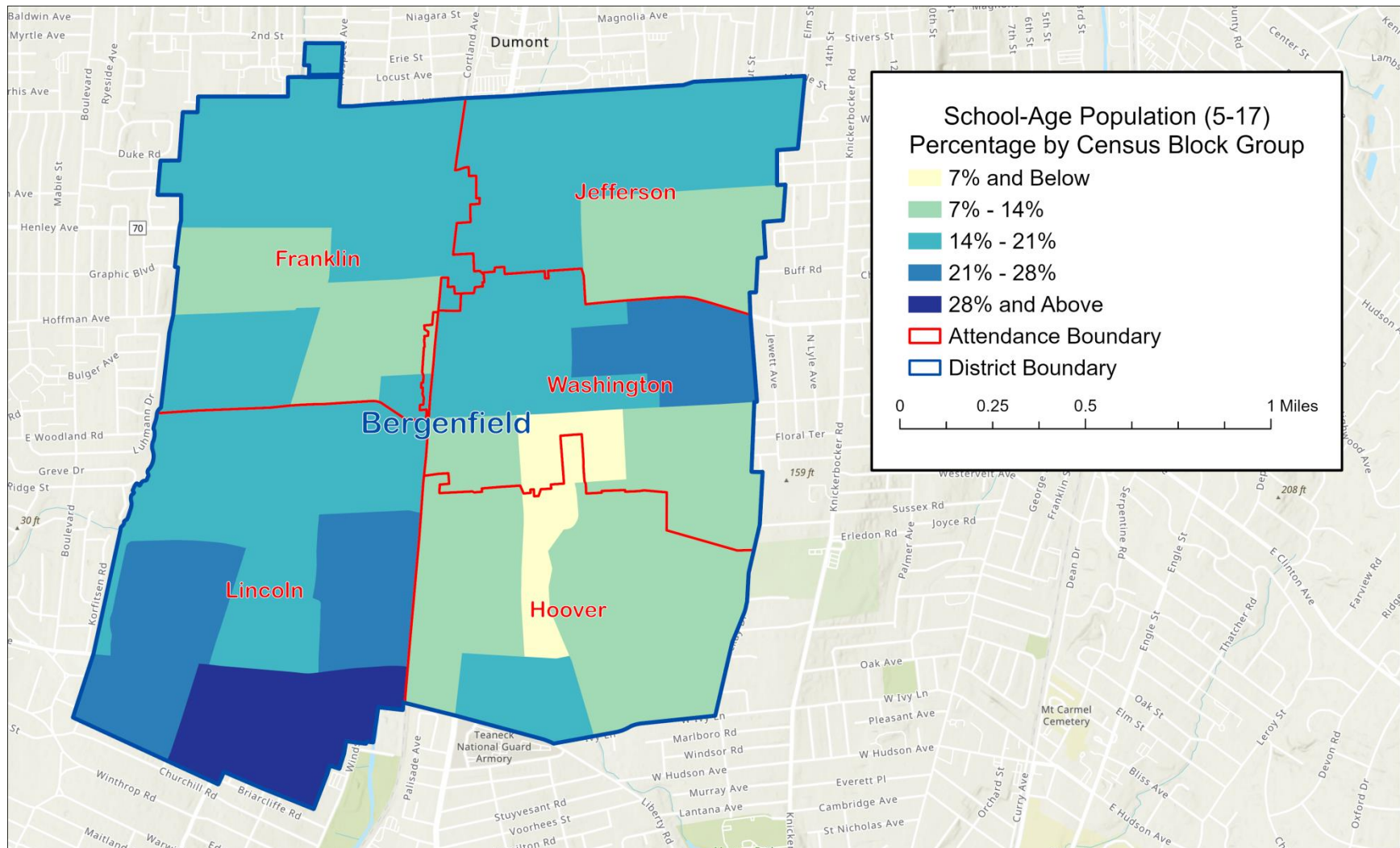
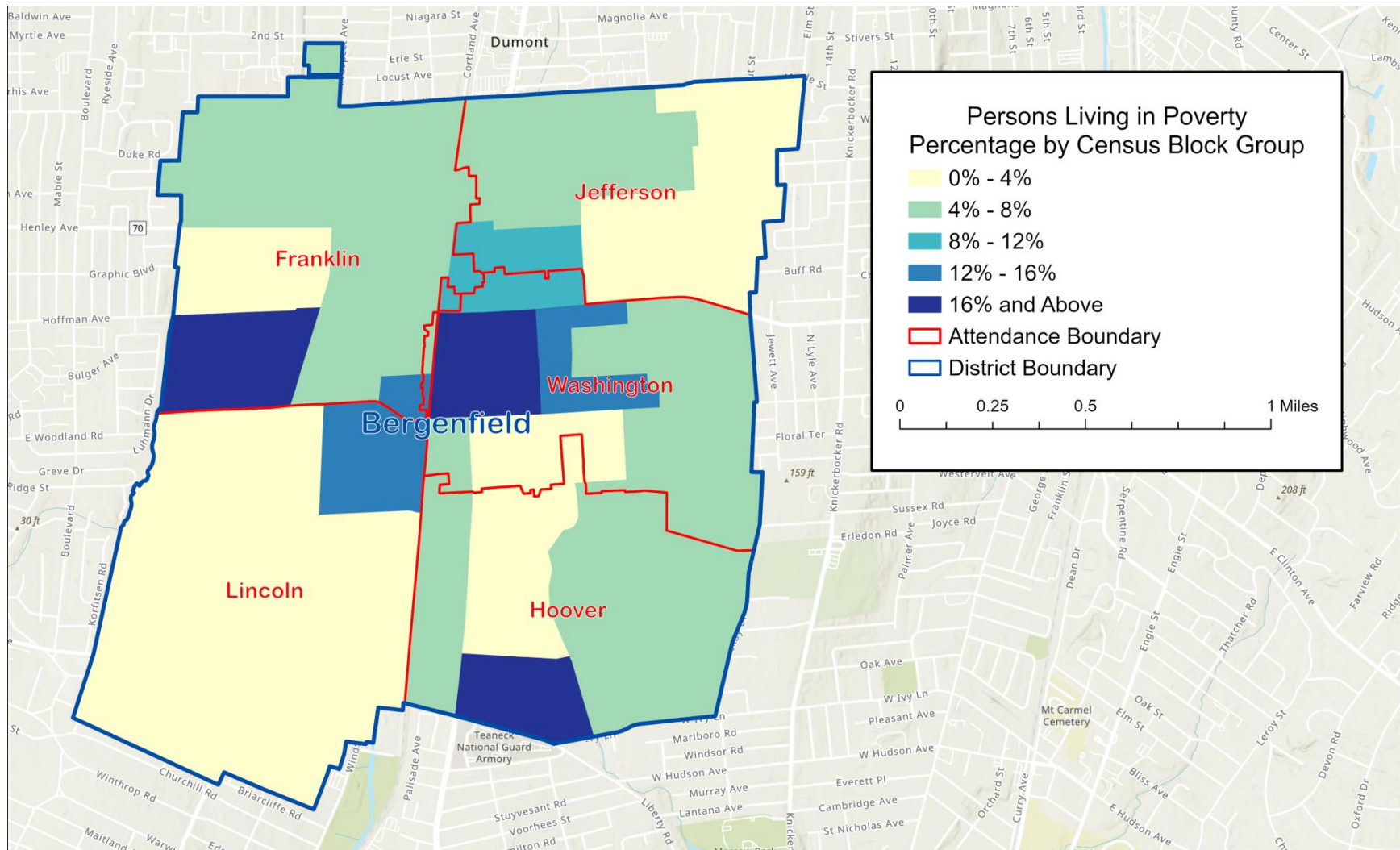


Figure 8
Bergenfield Percentage of Persons Living in Poverty



District Overview

The Bergenfield School District has seven (7) schools educating children in grades pre-kindergarten through twelfth. Children attend one of five elementary schools for grades PK-5: Franklin Elementary School (“Franklin”), Hoover Elementary School (“Hoover”), Jefferson Elementary School (“Jefferson”), Lincoln Elementary School (“Lincoln”), or Washington Elementary School (“Washington”). Roy Brown Middle School (“Brown”) educates children in grades 6-8 while Bergenfield High School educates children in grades 9-12. In Figure 9, the location of each of the district’s schools is shown with respect to the municipal boundaries. Figure 10 shows only the elementary schools and their respective attendance areas.

According to the district’s Long Range Facilities Plan (“LRFP”), total educational capacity in the district is 3,636 using District Practices methodology and 2,886 using Facilities Efficiency Standards (“FES”) methodology. The District Practices methodology considers how a building is utilized by the school district and its targeted student-teacher ratios, while the FES methodology utilizes FES-recommended class sizes. Capacity using FES methodology is often lower, particularly for middle and high schools, than when using District Practices methodology. Since buildings cannot be 100% utilized, due in part to scheduling conflicts, most districts employ either an 85% or 90% utilization factor to determine school capacity. A comparison of each school’s capacity to current and projected enrollments is provided later in the report.

In this study, historical enrollments from the New Jersey Department of Education (“NJDOE”) New Jersey Standards Measurement and Resource for Teaching (“NJ SMART”) database were used to project enrollments five years into the future using the Cohort-Survival Ratio method.

Figure 9
School Locations – Bergenfield School District

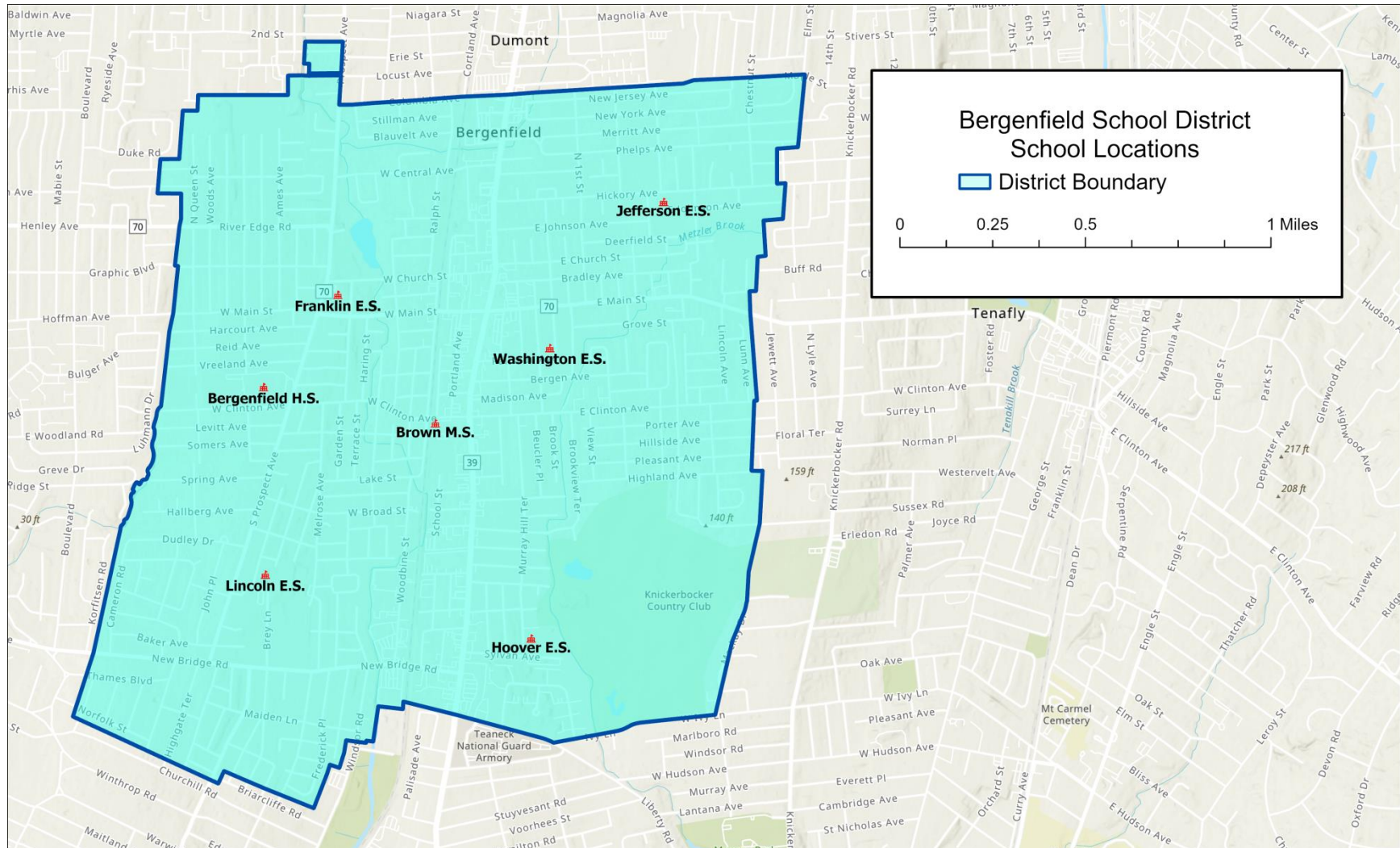
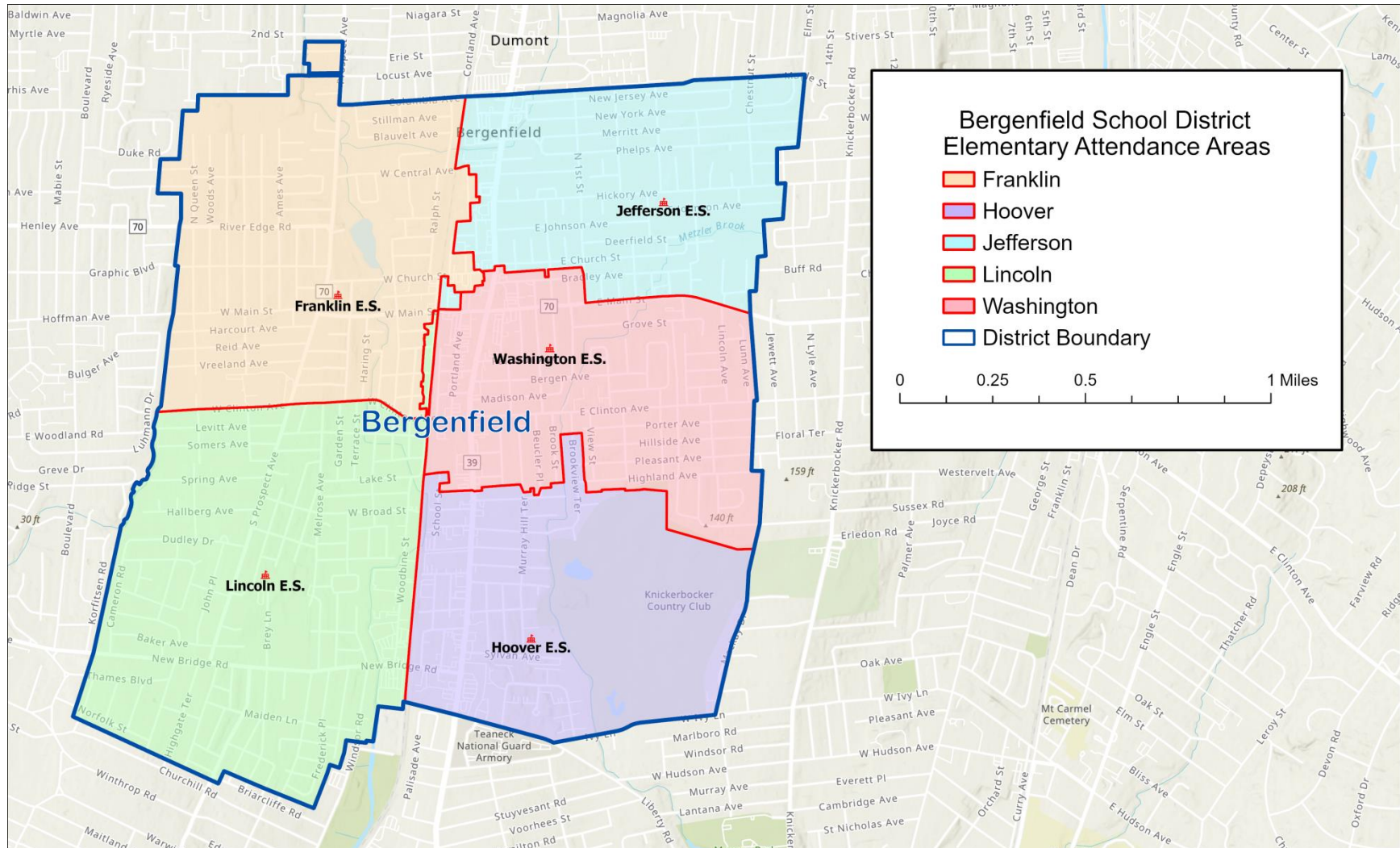


Figure 10
Elementary School Locations and Attendance Areas – Bergenfield School District



Explanation of the Cohort-Survival Ratio Method

In 1930, Dublin and Lodka provided an explicit age breakdown, which enabled analysts to follow each cohort through its life stages and apply appropriate birth and death rates for each generation. A descendant of this process is the Cohort-Survival Ratio (“CSR”) method, which is the NJDOE-approved methodology to project public school enrollments. In this method, a survival ratio is computed for each grade progression, which essentially compares the number of students in a particular grade to the number of students in the previous grade during the previous year. The survival ratio indicates whether the enrollment is stable, increasing, or decreasing. A survival ratio of 1.00 indicates stable enrollment, less than 1.00 indicates declining enrollment and outward migration, while greater than 1.00 indicates increasing enrollment and inward migration. If, for example, a school district had 100 fourth graders and the next year had 95 fifth graders, the survival ratio would be 0.95.

The CSR method assumes that what happened in the past will also happen in the future. In essence, this method provides a linear projection of the population. The CSR method is most applicable for districts that have relatively stable trends without any major unpredictable fluctuations from year to year. In school districts encountering rapid growth or decline not experienced historically (a change in the historical trend), the CSR method must be modified and supplemented with additional information. In this study, survival ratios were calculated using historical data for birth to kindergarten, kindergarten to first grade, first grade to second grade, etc. Due to the fluctuation in survival ratios from year to year, it is appropriate to calculate an average survival ratio, which is then used to calculate grade-level enrollments five years into the future.

The accuracy of the projections is contingent on the most recent historical trends continuing into the future. If there is a departure from these trends caused by, for example, migration or withdrawal of students due to the coronavirus pandemic, numerous new housing starts (or planned housing starts that do not occur), changes in school district policy, changes to immigration laws, an economic downturn, a change in the housing resale market, etc., the enrollment projections presented are less likely to be accurate in future years, as this analysis does not forecast future trends. Therefore, the projections need to be revised annually to detect potential reversals in enrollment trends. Changes in enrollment are dependent on several factors such as birth counts, migration of students into or out of the school district, the presence of charter schools, private schools, or parochial schools, and school district policy changes.

Historical Enrollment Trends

Historical enrollments for the Bergenfield School District from 2013-14 through 2022-23, a ten-year period, are shown in Figure 11 and Table 3. Enrollments slowly increased through 2020-21 before reversing trend. Enrollments have declined in the last two years. In 2022-23, enrollment is 3,582, which is a gain of 77 students (+2.2%) from the 2013-14 enrollment of 3,505.

Figure 11
Bergenfield School District Historical Enrollments
2013-14 to 2022-23

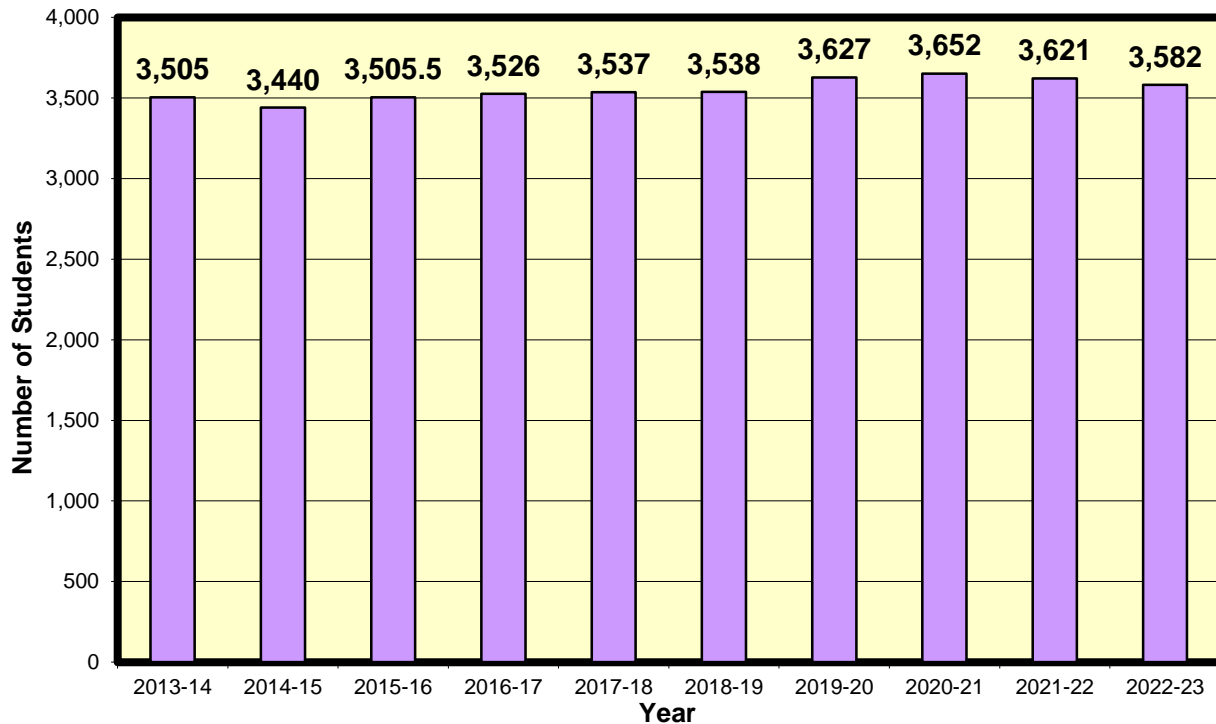


Table 4 shows computed grade-by-grade survival ratios from 2013-14 to 2022-23. In addition, the average, minimum, and maximum survival ratios are shown for the past ten years along with the five-year averages, which were used to project enrollments. The average survival ratios also indicate the net migration by grade, where values over 1.000 reflect net inward migration and values below 1.000 reflect net outward migration. Eleven of the 13 average survival ratios in the five-year trend were above 1.000, indicating a general net inward migration of students. In 2021-22, which represents the second year of the coronavirus pandemic, four survival ratios were the lowest value in the last decade, two of which were in the elementary school grades. The decline in the ratios may be due to the coronavirus pandemic, as parents sought alternative educational experiences for their children (private or parochial schools, homeschooling, etc.), or may have had to relocate. In comparing the five-year averages with the ten-year averages, the most notable difference was for birth to kindergarten, which has experienced a gain in its ratio in the near term. The remaining differences were very small, demonstrating the long-term stability of the survival ratios over the last decade, although eight (8) of 13 differences were negative, indicating a decline in the ratios in the short term.

Table 3
Bergenfield School District Historical Enrollments
2013-14 to 2022-23

Year ¹	PK ²	K	1	2	3	4	5	SE ³	PK-5 Total	6	7	8	SE ⁴	6-8 Total	9	10	11	12	SE ⁵	9-12 Total	PK-12 Total
2013-14	27	222	239	242	217	227	233	108	1,515	233	242	308	20	803	293	284	292.5	295.5	22	1,187	3,505
2014-15	23	215	219	238	247	213	228	115	1,498	238	246	235	19	738	321	289	288.5	281.5	24	1,204	3,440
2015-16	25	222	232	223	233	260	222	98	1,515	251	248	264	24	787	274	325	285	289.5	30	1,203.5	3,505.5
2016-17	27	203	234	237	227	242	260	121	1,551	234	267	258	26	785	294	263	326	282	25	1,190	3,526
2017-18	33	198	199	239	255	237	253	113	1,527	270	256	278	32	836	264	297	270	322	21	1,174	3,537
2018-19	30	238	206	211	256	260	245	106	1,552	263	275	259	27	824	315	266	284	268	29	1,162	3,538
2019-20	31	238	238	211	218	272	272	114	1,594	252	285	289	26	852	287	313	276	274	31	1,181	3,627
2020-21	41	207	240	238	227	232	282	127	1,594	275	266	285	29	855	299	287	306	273	38	1,203	3,652
2021-22	72	202	205	244	229	226	232	137	1,547	283	283	265	23	854	285	305	289	298	43	1,220	3,621
2022-23	71	198	214	204	258	237	230	114	1,526	233	287	293	28	841	266	296	325	292	36	1,215	3,582

Notes: ¹Data were provided by the New Jersey Department of Education (<http://www.nj.gov/education/data/enr/>) and the Bergenfield School District.

²Pre-kindergarten regular education enrollment

³Self-contained special education enrollment/ungraded students at the elementary school level

⁴Self-contained special education enrollment/ungraded students at the middle school level

⁵Self-contained special education enrollment/ungraded students at the high school level

Table 4
Bergenfield School District Historical Survival Ratios
2013-14 to 2022-23

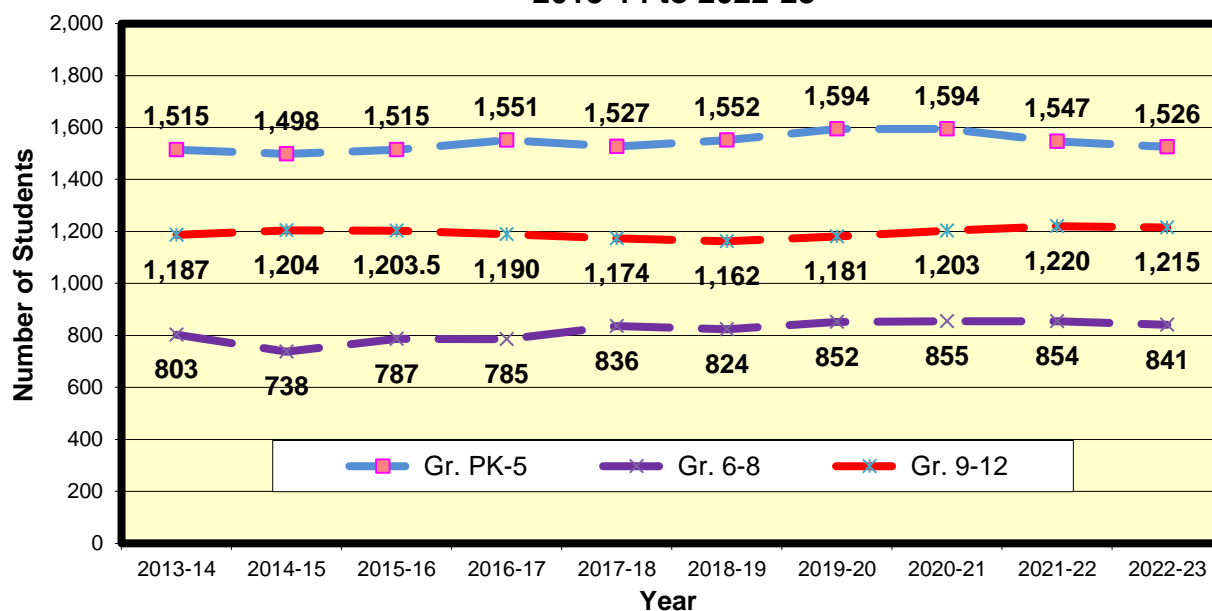
Progression Years	B-K	K-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12
2013-14 to 2014-15	0.6361	0.9865	0.9958	1.0207	0.9816	1.0044	1.0215	1.0558	0.9711	1.0422	0.9863	1.0158	0.9624
2014-15 to 2015-16	0.7789	1.0791	1.0183	0.9790	1.0526	1.0423	1.1009	1.0420	1.0732	1.1660	1.0125	0.9862	1.0035
2015-16 to 2016-17	0.6789	1.0541	1.0216	1.0179	1.0386	1.0000	1.0541	1.0637	1.0403	1.1136	0.9599	1.0031	0.9895
2016-17 to 2017-18	0.7361	0.9803	1.0214	1.0759	1.0441	1.0455	1.0385	1.0940	1.0412	1.0233	1.0102	1.0266	0.9877
2017-18 to 2018-19	0.7907	1.0404	1.0603	1.0711	1.0196	1.0338	1.0395	1.0185	1.0117	1.1331	1.0076	0.9562	0.9926
2018-19 to 2019-20	0.8322	1.0000	1.0243	1.0332	1.0625	1.0462	1.0286	1.0837	1.0509	1.1081	0.9937	1.0376	0.9648
2019-20 to 2020-21	0.7782	1.0084	1.0000	1.0758	1.0642	1.0368	1.0110	1.0556	1.0000	1.0346	1.0000	0.9776	0.9891
2020-21 to 2021-22	0.7860	0.9903	1.0167	0.9622	0.9956	1.0000	1.0035	1.0291	0.9962	1.0000	1.0201	1.0070	0.9739
2021-22 to 2022-23	0.7279	1.0594	0.9951	1.0574	1.0349	1.0177	1.0043	1.0141	1.0353	1.0038	1.0386	1.0656	1.0104
Maximum Ratio	0.8322	1.0791	1.0603	1.0759	1.0642	1.0462	1.1009	1.0940	1.0732	1.1660	1.0386	1.0656	1.0104
Minimum Ratio	0.6361	0.9803	0.9951	0.9622	0.9816	1.0000	1.0035	1.0141	0.9711	1.0000	0.9599	0.9562	0.9624
Avg. 5-Year Ratios	0.7830	1.0145	1.0090	1.0321	1.0393	1.0252	1.0119	1.0456	1.0206	1.0366	1.0131	1.0219	0.9845
Avg. 10-Year Ratios	0.7494	1.0221	1.0170	1.0326	1.0326	1.0252	1.0335	1.0507	1.0244	1.0694	1.0032	1.0084	0.9860
Diff. Between 5-Year and 10-Year Ratios	+0.0336	-0.0075	-0.0080	-0.0004	+0.0067	0.0000	-0.0217	-0.0051	-0.0038	-0.0328	+0.0099	+0.0135	-0.0014

Note: Bolded values reflect survival ratios from 2020-21 to 2021-22, which represents the second year of the coronavirus pandemic.

Factors related to inward migration include families with school-age children purchasing an existing home or new housing unit, or renting an apartment. The reasons for families moving into a community vary. For instance, a family could move into Bergenfield to be close to work, the presence of affordable housing, or to be near family members. Another plausible reason for inward migration is the reputation of the school district, as the appeal of a school district draws families into a community, resulting in the transfer of students into the district. On the flip side, outward migration is caused by families with children moving out of the community, perhaps due to difficulty in finding employment or affordable housing. Outward migration in the school district can also be caused by parents choosing to withdraw their children from public school to attend private, parochial, or charter schools, to be homeschooled, or to attend a different public school district. In the case of the Bergenfield School District, the reasons for migration are not explicitly known (such as for economic reasons or the appeal of the school district), as exit and entrance interviews would need to be conducted for all children leaving or entering the district.

Historical enrollments are also shown in Table 3 and Figure 12 by grade configuration (PK-5, 6-8, and 9-12). Self-contained special education/ungraded students were incorporated into the totals for each grade configuration. For grades PK-5, enrollments increased through 2019-20 before reversing trend. In 2022-23, enrollment is 1,526, which is slightly higher (+11) than the 2013-14 enrollment of 1,515. For grades 6-8 at Brown, enrollments slowly increased through 2020-21 before reversing trend. In 2022-23, enrollment is 841, which is a gain of 38 students from the 2013-14 enrollment of 803. Finally, for grades 9-12 at Bergenfield High School, enrollments have been fairly stable over the last decade, ranging from 1,162-1,220. In 2022-23, enrollment is 1,215, which is slightly higher (+28) than the 2013-14 enrollment of 1,187.

Figure 12
Bergenfield School District
Historical Enrollments by Grade Configuration
2013-14 to 2022-23



Kindergarten Replacement

Kindergarten replacements were analyzed to determine whether there was any relationship between overall enrollment change and kindergarten replacement, which is the numerical difference between the number of graduating 12th graders and the number of entering kindergarten students. In each of the last nine years, the district has experienced negative kindergarten replacement. Negative kindergarten replacement occurs when the number of kindergarten students entering the district is less than the number of graduating twelfth grade students from the prior year. Conversely, positive kindergarten replacement occurs when the number of kindergarten students entering the district is greater than the number of graduating twelfth grade students from the prior year. As shown in Figure 13, negative kindergarten replacement has ranged from 30-100 students per year. In 2022-23, there was a loss of 100 students due to kindergarten replacement, as 298 twelfth graders graduated in 2021-22 and were replaced by 198 kindergarten students in 2022-23. In the last three years, the district has lost an average of 79 students per year due to kindergarten replacement.

Figure 13
Bergenfield School District
Historical Kindergarten Replacement

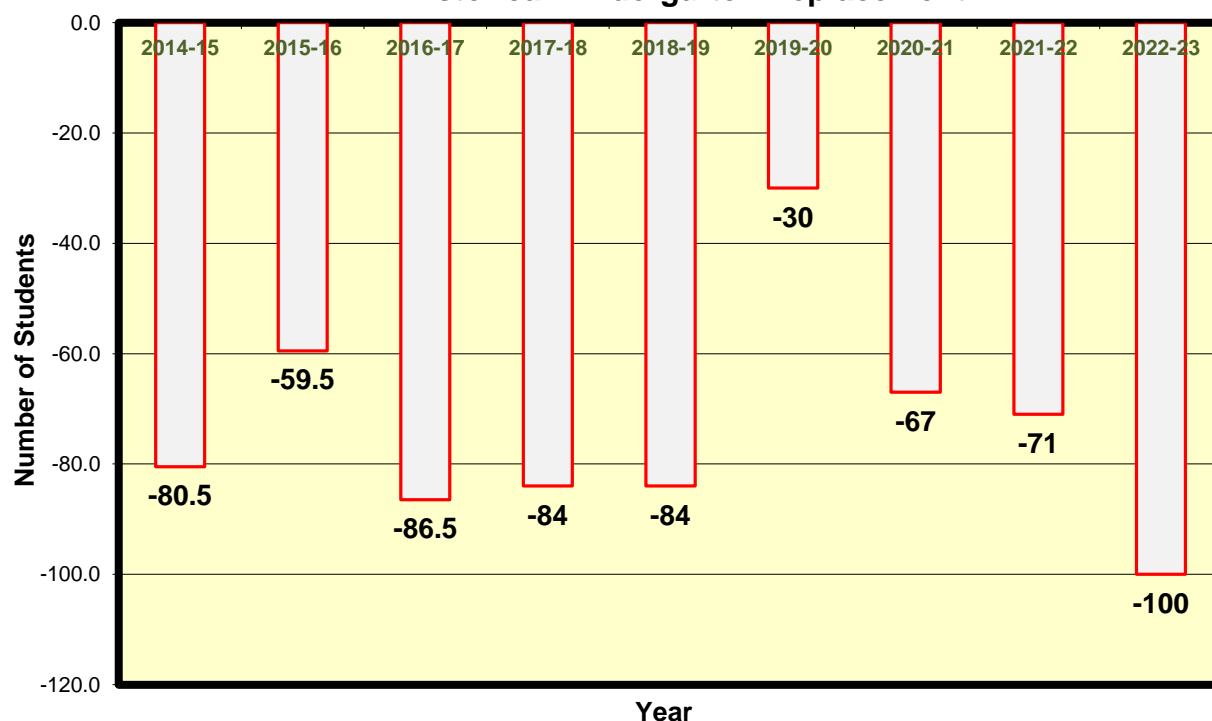
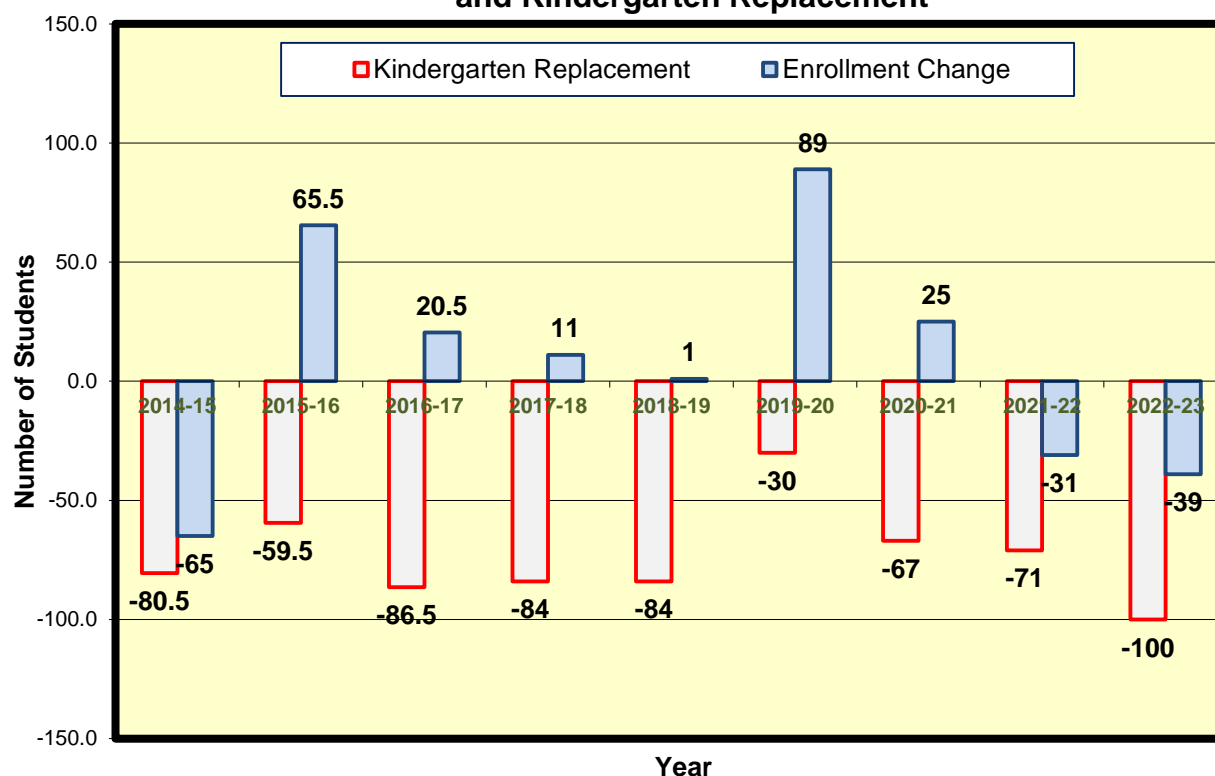


Figure 14 shows the annual change in total enrollment compared to kindergarten replacement. As the figure demonstrates, there appears to be a strong relationship, statistically speaking, between the overall change in enrollment and kindergarten replacement. Although this data represents a small sample, the correlation coefficient between the two variables was +0.749. Correlation coefficients measure the relationship or association between two variables; this does not imply that there is cause and effect between the two variables. Other variables, known as lurking variables, may have an effect on the true relationship between kindergarten replacement and total enrollment change. Negative correlation coefficients indicate that as one variable is increasing (decreasing), the other variable is decreasing (increasing). Positive correlation coefficients indicate that as one of the variables increases (decreases), the other variable increases (decreases) as well. The computed linear correlation coefficient is always between -1 and +1. Values near -1 or +1 indicate a strong linear relationship between the variables while values near zero indicate a weak linear relationship. Based on the correlation of +0.749, there appears to be a strong relationship between kindergarten replacement and enrollment change in the school district in the last nine years.

In each of the last nine years, the district's losses due to negative kindergarten replacement were partially offset (or totally, resulting in a net enrollment gain) by a net inward migration of students in the other grades (K to 1, 1 to 2, 2 to 3, etc.). This was confirmed previously as 11 of the 13 average survival ratios in the five-year trend were above 1.000.

Figure 14
Comparison of PK-12 Enrollment Change
and Kindergarten Replacement



Birth Data

Birth data were needed to compute kindergarten enrollments, which were calculated as follows. Birth data, which are lagged five years behind their respective kindergarten classes, were used to calculate the survival ratio for each birth-to-kindergarten cohort. For instance, in 2017, there were 272 births in Bergenfield. Five years later (the 2022-23 school year), 198 children enrolled in kindergarten, which is equal to a survival ratio of 0.728 from birth to kindergarten. Birth counts and birth-to-kindergarten survival ratios are displayed in Table 5. Values greater than 1.000 indicate that some children are born outside of a community's boundaries and are attending kindergarten in the school district five years later, i.e., an inward migration of children. This type of inward migration is typical in school districts with excellent reputations, because the appeal of a good school district draws families into the community. Inward migration is also seen in communities where there are a large number of new housing starts (or home resales), with families moving into the community having children of age to attend kindergarten. Birth-to-kindergarten survival ratios that are below 1.000 indicate that a number of children born within a community are not attending kindergarten in the school district five years later. This is common in communities where a high proportion of children attend private, parochial, charter, or out-of-district special education facilities, or where there is a net migration of families moving out of the community. It is also common in school districts that have a half-day kindergarten program where parents choose to send their child to a private full-day kindergarten for the first year.

Table 5
Birth Counts and Historical Birth-to-Kindergarten Survival Ratios
Bergenfield School District

Birth Year	Number of Births Bergenfield¹	Kindergarten Students 5 Years Later	Birth-to- Kindergarten Survival Ratio
2008	327	222	0.679
2009	338	215	0.636
2010	285	222	0.779
2011	299	203	0.679
2012	269	198	0.736
2013	301	238	0.791
2014	286	238	0.832
2015	266	207	0.778
2016	257	202	0.786
2017	272	198	0.728
2018	275	N/A	N/A
2019	260	N/A	N/A
2020	249	N/A	N/A
2021	255	N/A	N/A

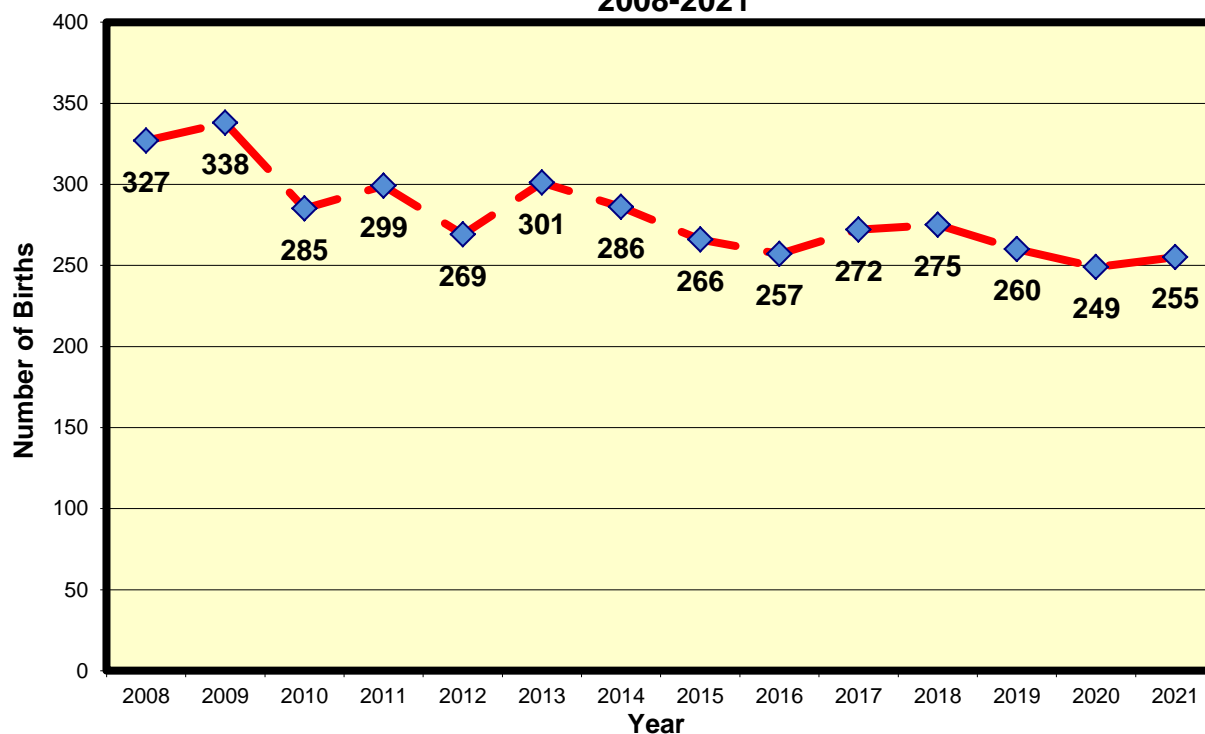
Note: ¹Birth data were provided by the New Jersey Center for Health Statistics.

Birth-to-kindergarten survival ratios have been below 1.000 in each of the last ten years and have been fairly consistent, ranging from 0.636-0.832. In the last five years, birth-to-kindergarten survival ratios have increased, ranging from 0.728-0.832 (average = 0.783), as compared to the five years prior when they ranged from 0.636-0.779 (average = 0.702). This may reflect that fewer families with children under the age of five are moving out of the community or that a greater number of parents are choosing to enroll their child in public school rather than private or parochial school. As the birth-to-kindergarten survival ratios have been consistently below 1.000, this indicates that some children who were born in the borough have likely enrolled in private or parochial schools, or moved out before school age and are attending other public school districts for kindergarten, reflecting outward migration.

Geocoded birth data were provided by the New Jersey Center for Health Statistics (“NJCHS”) from 2008-2021 by assigning geographic coordinates to a birth mother based on her street address. Births for 2021 are provisional. Since the NJCHS did not have birth data for 2022, an estimate was formulated by averaging historical births. Birth counts were needed for 2022 since this cohort will become the kindergarten class of 2027.

Figure 15 shows the annual number of births in Bergenfield from 2008-2021. Births have been generally declining in the borough over this time period. In 2021, there were 255 births, which are 72 fewer births than the 2008 birth count (327).

Figure 15
Bergenfield Historical Birth Counts
2008-2021



Using mapping software, elementary school attendance area boundaries, and NJCHS birth data by Census block, the number of births from 2008-2021 was determined for each elementary school attendance area and is displayed in Table 6. In each year, some addresses of the mothers within Bergenfield were unknown. The greatest number of unknown addresses occurred in 2009, accounting for 22 of the 338 births (6.5%) in that year. For the purpose of projecting enrollments, the unknown addresses were redistributed into the five elementary attendance areas using proportional allocations of the births in each school attendance area with respect to the total number of births.

Table 6
Births by Elementary School Attendance Area
Bergenfield School District
2008-2021

Birth Year	Franklin	Hoover	Jefferson	Lincoln	Washington	Unknown
2008	57	47	45	110	58	10
2009	49	38	51	120	58	22
2010	57	28	38	109	44	9
2011	50	46	50	93	52	8
2012	56	38	40	89	41	5
2013	64	47	33	98	52	7
2014	51	52	29	107	45	2
2015	54	49	31	89	43	0
2016	39	41	33	93	51	0
2017	48	40	41	98	45	0
2018	52	33	41	100	49	0
2019	43	41	47	93	35	1
2020	43	34	22	108	40	2
2021	44	34	36	95	46	0
Total 2008-2021	707	568	537	1,402	659	
Difference 2008-2021	-13	-13	-9	-15	-12	

For comparison purposes, Figures 16 and 17 show the number of births by elementary attendance area in 2008 and 2021 (using the same scale). In 2008 and 2021, the greatest number of births occurred in the Lincoln attendance area. While the Jefferson attendance area had the fewest births in 2008, the Hoover attendance area had the fewest in 2021.

Table 6 also shows the differences in the birth counts by attendance area when comparing birth counts in 2008 to 2021. Each attendance area had fewer births in 2021 as compared to 2008. The Lincoln attendance area had the largest decline (-15) in the birth count over this time period, although the differences were fairly similar in size.

Figure 18 shows the aggregated number of births by attendance area from 2008-2021. The Lincoln attendance area had the greatest number of births (1,402) over this time period while the Jefferson attendance area had the fewest (537).

In addition, as the elementary attendance areas in the school district are fairly large, it is sometimes difficult to determine the specific location(s) where birth counts are changing. To show these locations, maps of births by census block were created for 2008 and 2021 and are shown in Figures 19 and 20. Census blocks are the smallest geographic unit in which data are collected by the Census Bureau. Blocks are typically bound by streets, roads, or bodies of water. For comparison purposes, the same scale was used for both maps, whereby dark blue reflects the greatest number of births in a census block. In 2008, the greatest number of births occurred in the southern section of Bergenfield in the Hoover attendance area. In 2021, the greatest number of births also occurred in the southern section of the borough in the Hoover attendance area. In comparing the two figures, there are fewer census blocks shaded green, aqua, or blue in 2021 as compared to 2008, which indicates a decline in the number of births in those census blocks.

Figure 21 shows the aggregated number of births by census block from 2008-2021. The greatest number of births, which is shaded dark blue, occurred throughout the borough in each attendance area with the exception of Jefferson.

Figure 16
Bergenfield Births by Elementary Attendance Area
2008

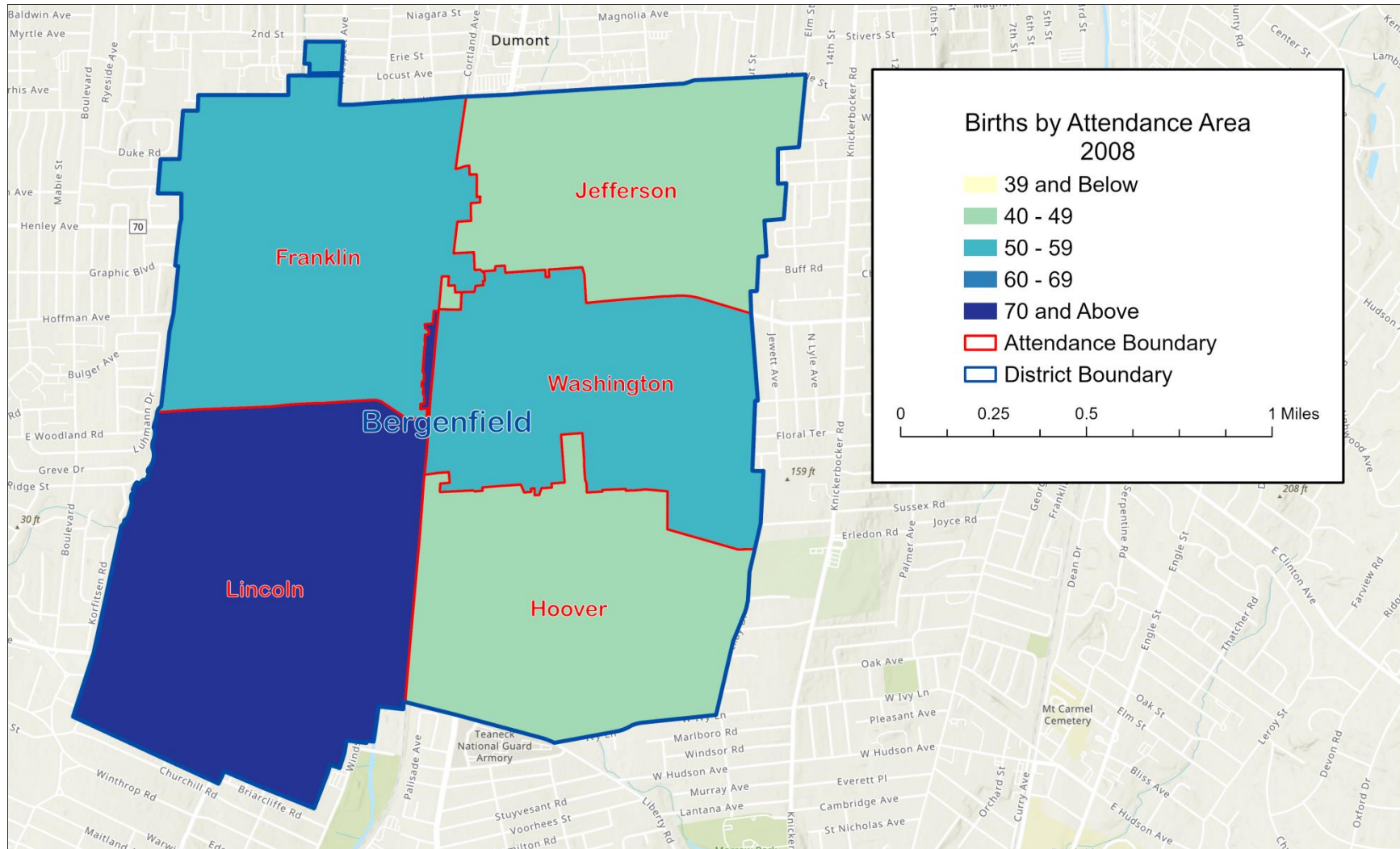


Figure 17
Bergenfield Births by Elementary Attendance Area
2021

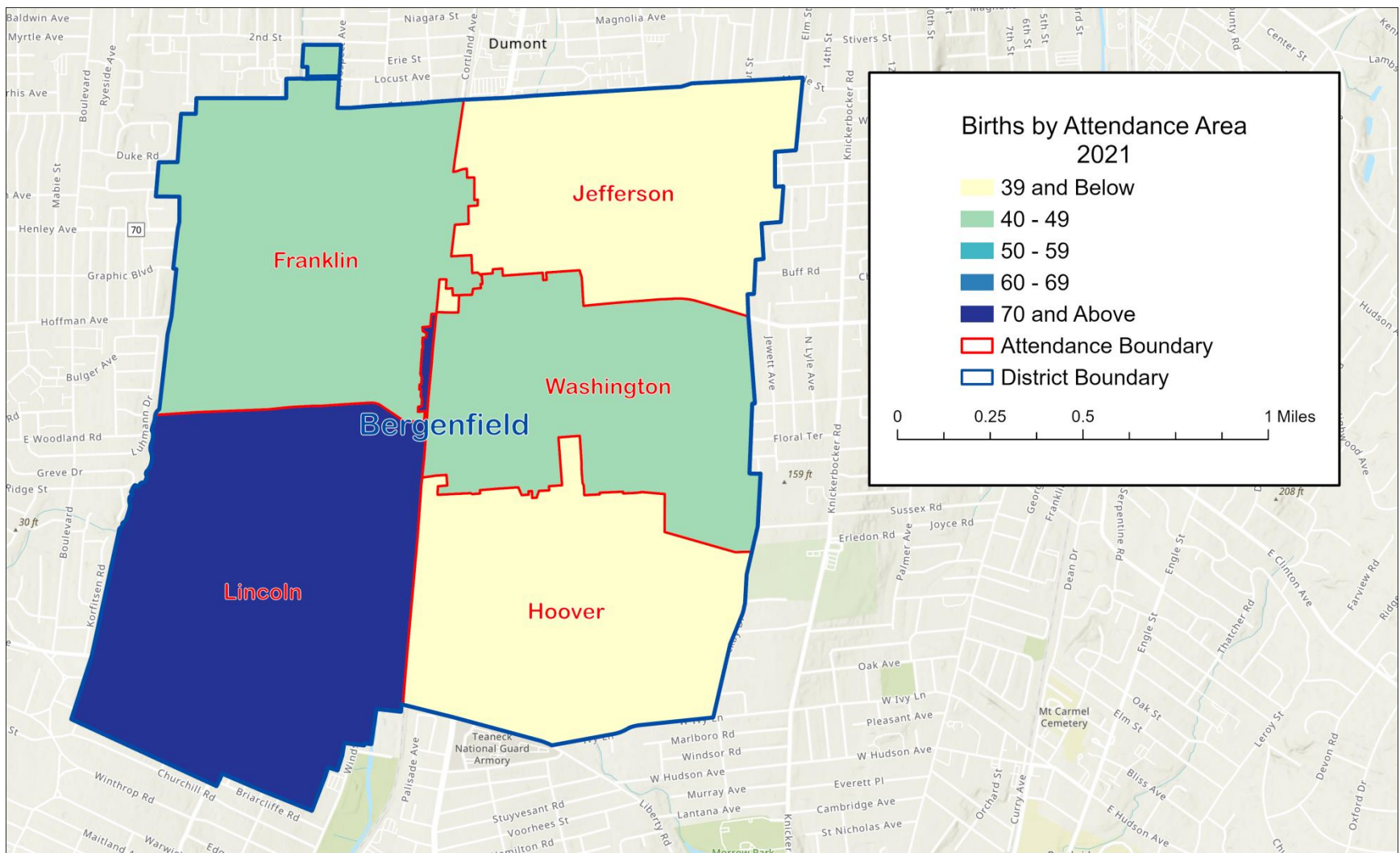


Figure 18
Bergenfield Births by Elementary Attendance Area
2008-2021

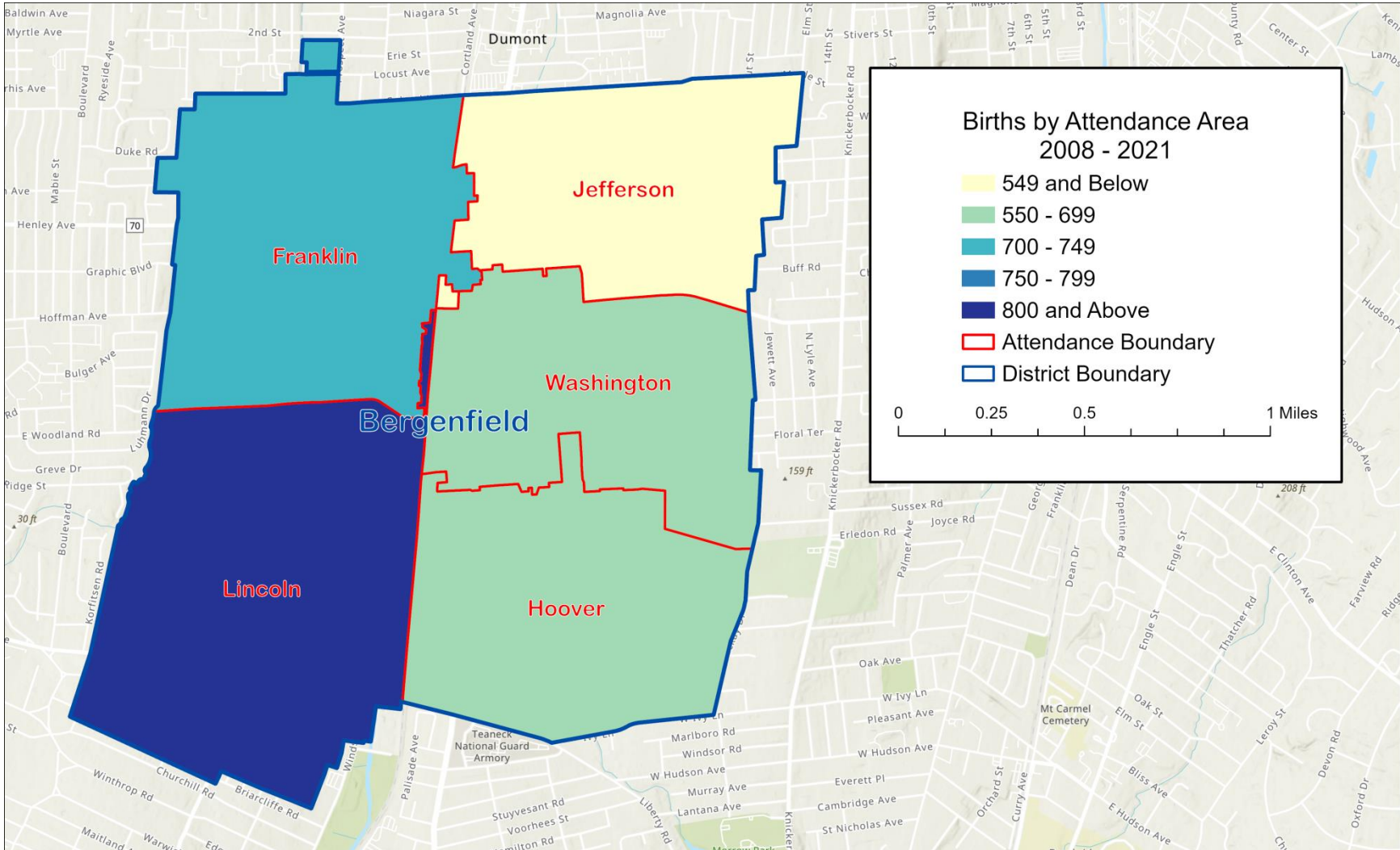


Figure 19
Bergenfield Births by Census Block
2008

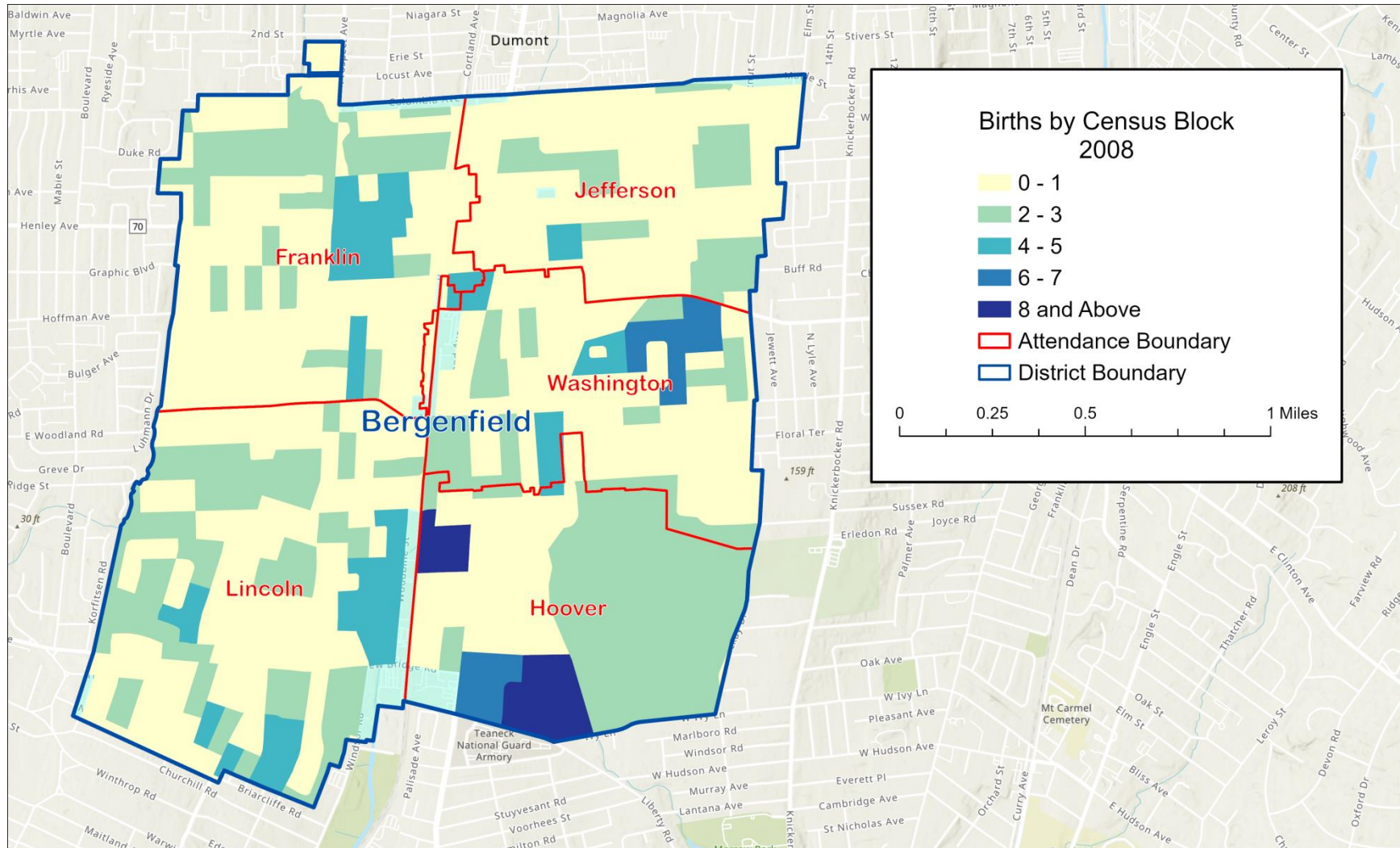


Figure 20
Bergenfield Births by Census Block
2021

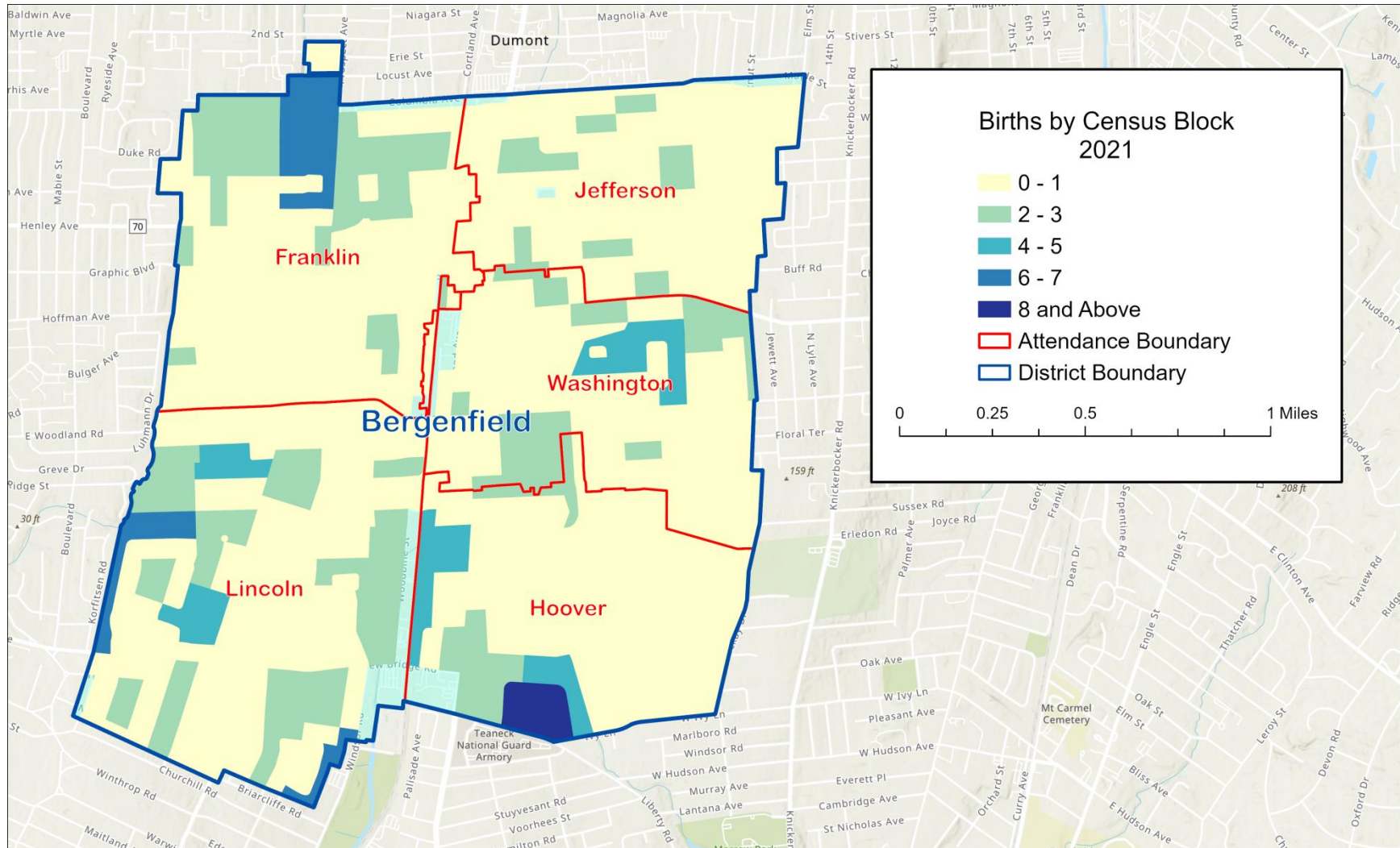
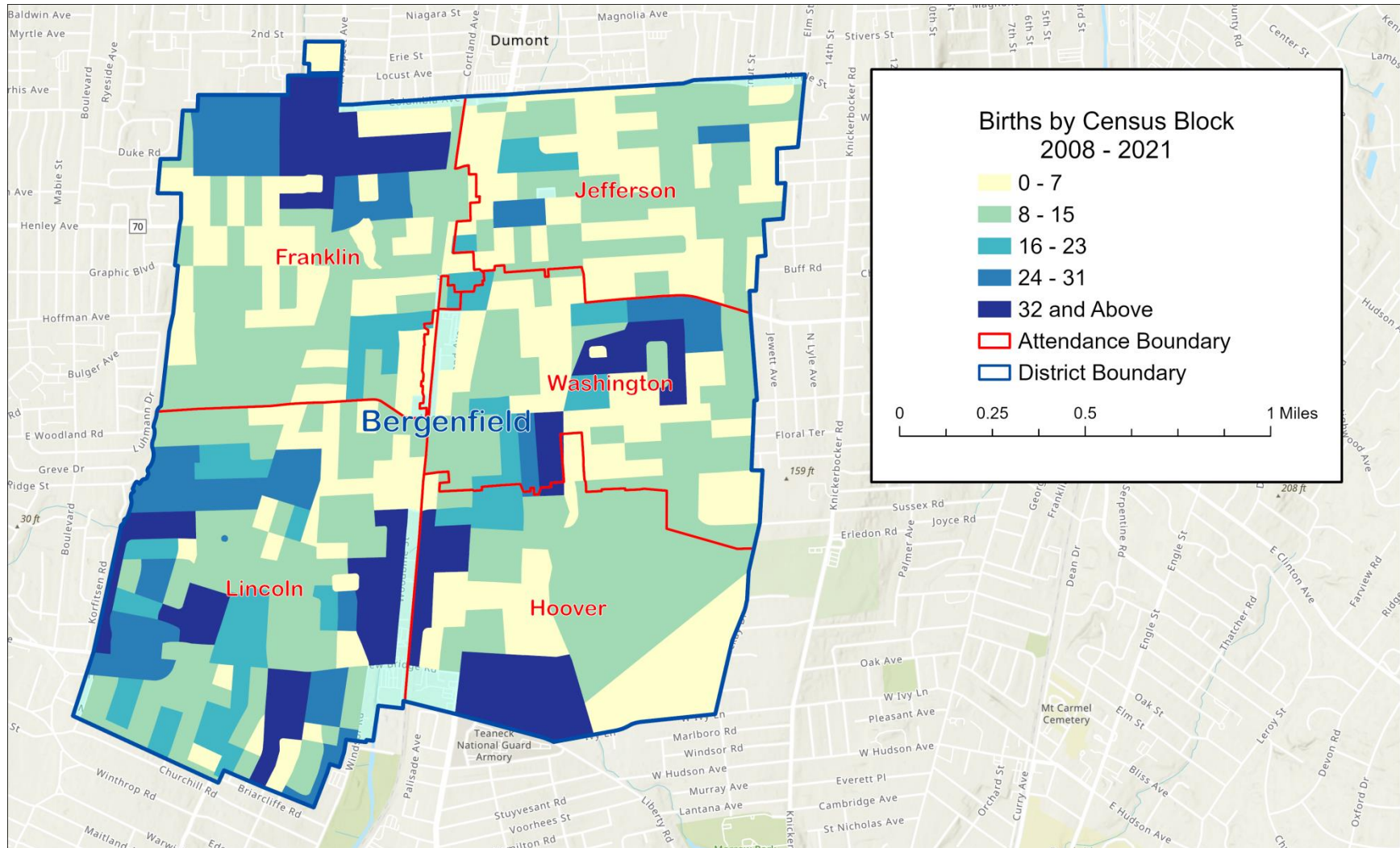


Figure 21
Bergenfield Births by Census Block
2008-2021



The fertility rate in Bergenfield is lower than the rate in both Bergen County and New Jersey. According to the 2016-2020 ACS, the fertility rate of women aged 15 to 50 in Bergenfield was 43 births per 1,000 women. In comparison, as reported by the NJCHS, the 2020 fertility rate in Bergen County was 50.4 births per 1,000 women (ages 15-49) and was 58.1 births per 1,000 women in New Jersey. However, it should be noted that while the municipal, county, and state data are all based on a sample, the Bergenfield data has a margin of error that is much higher than the county and state data and may not reflect the “true” fertility rate in the community.

Population Age Structure

Figures 22 and 23 show the age pyramids of males and females in Bergenfield from both the 2010 Census and the 2016-2020 ACS. In 2010, the largest number of individuals was aged 50-54 for both males and females. In communities with little inward or outward migration and low mortality, the largest cohort in subsequent years is typically the next oldest cohort as people advance in age. As such, the largest cohort for males in the 2016-2020 ACS was aged 60-64 as they aged in place. However, the largest cohort for females was the 65-69 age group. As the largest group in the 2016-2020 ACS was not the next oldest cohort for females, migration is likely occurring in the borough. As shown in Table 7, the greatest declines (shaded red) over this time period, both in number and percentage points, occurred in the 45-49 age group for both genders. The greatest gains (shaded blue), both in number and percentage points, occurred in the 60-64 age group for males and the 65-69 age group for females.

Figure 22
Population Pyramid of Bergenfield
2010 Census

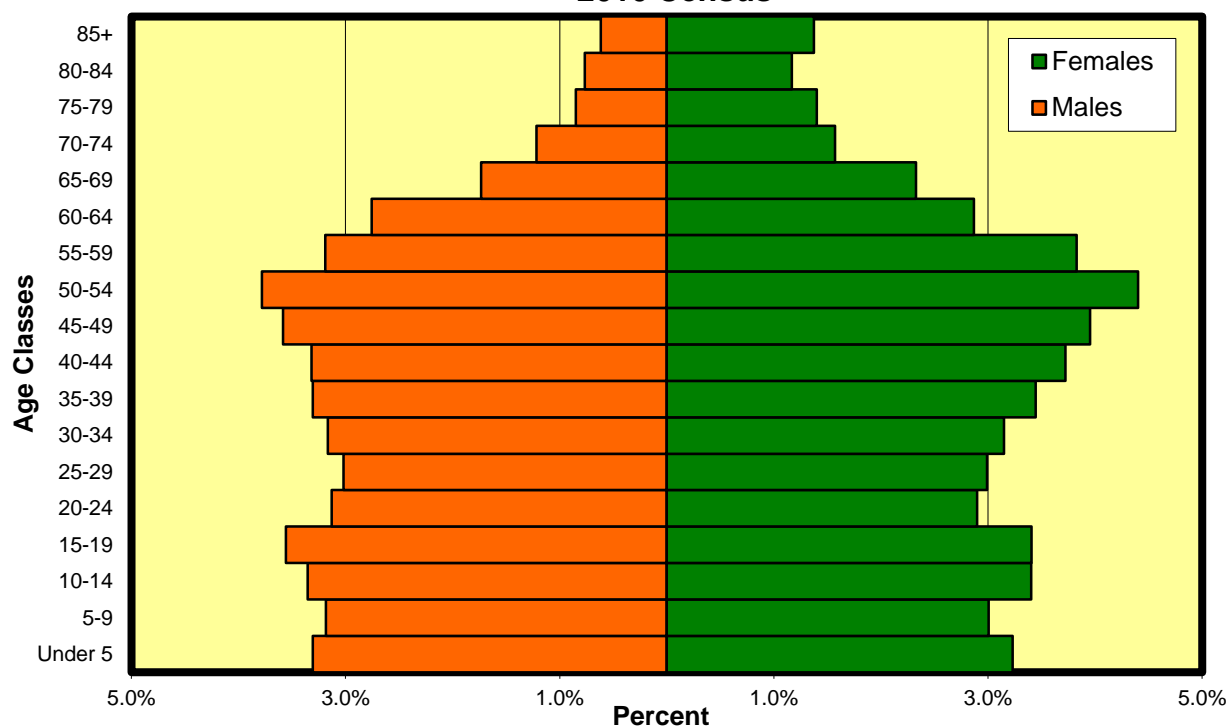


Figure 23
Population Pyramid of Bergenfield
2016-2020 ACS

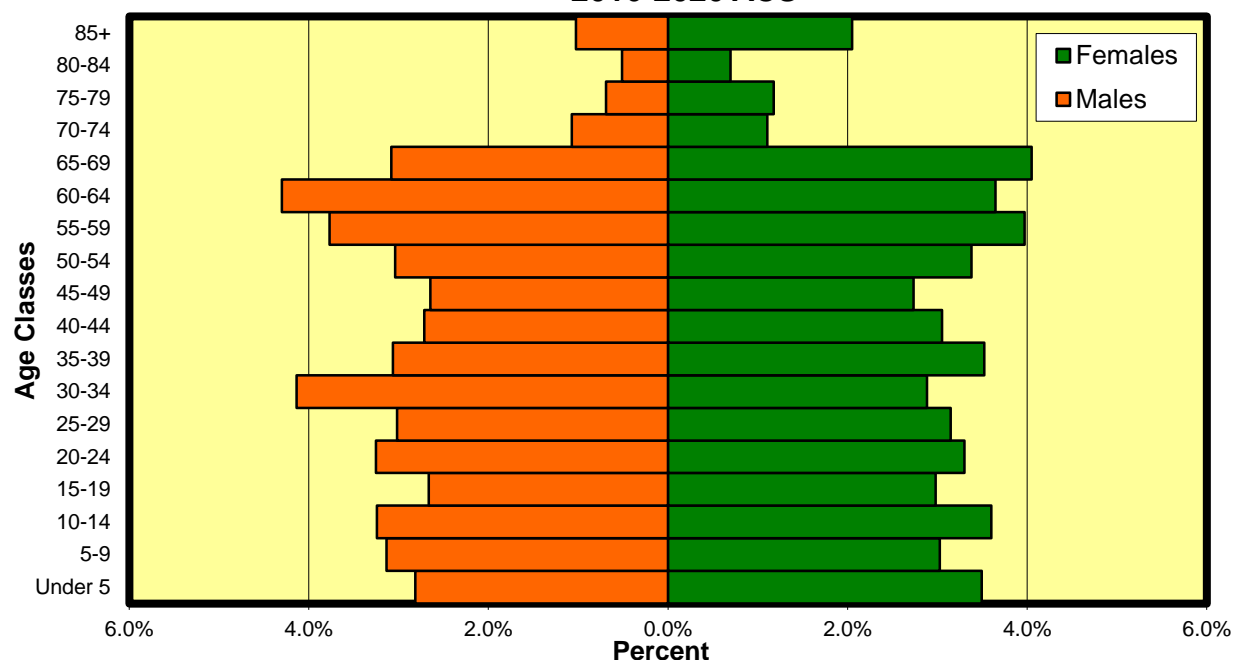


Table 7
Numerical and Percentage Point Changes of Males and Females in Bergenfield
2010 Census to 2016-2020 ACS

Age Group	Males		Females	
	Numerical Change	Percentage Point Change	Numerical Change	Percentage Point Change
Under 5	-115	-0.5	+92	+0.3
5-9	+6	0.0	+24	0.0
10-14	-11	-0.1	+75	+0.2
15-19	-223	-0.9	-96	-0.4
20-24	+52	+0.1	+128	+0.4
25-29	+18	0.0	+61	+0.2
30-34	+285	+1.0	-53	-0.3
35-39	-46	-0.2	+42	+0.1
40-44	-145	-0.6	-161	-0.7
45-49	-235	-0.9	-309	-1.2
50-54	-180	-0.7	-253	-1.0
55-59	+178	+0.6	+62	+0.1
60-64	+439	+1.5	+231	+0.8
65-69	+379	+1.3	+486	+1.7
70-74	-33	-0.1	-118	-0.5
75-79	-38	-0.2	-53	-0.2
80-84	-65	-0.3	-122	-0.5
85+	+116	+0.4	+193	+0.7

Notes: Cells shaded blue reflect the greatest gains over the ten-year period.
Cells shaded red reflect the greatest losses over the ten-year period.

New Housing in Bergenfield

Bergenfield municipal representatives provided information regarding current and future residential development in the community. A list of approved and proposed housing developments, location, affected elementary attendance areas, number of units, bedroom distribution (if available), housing type, and development status is shown in Table 8. The table excludes new houses to be built on single in-fill lots, or the subdivision of existing lots, or homes that are built after the demolition of an existing older home. In the latter instance, there is no net gain in the number of housing units. In total, there is the potential for 65 non age-restricted housing units in five separate developments, all of which are multi-family units such as apartments, duplexes, and townhouses.

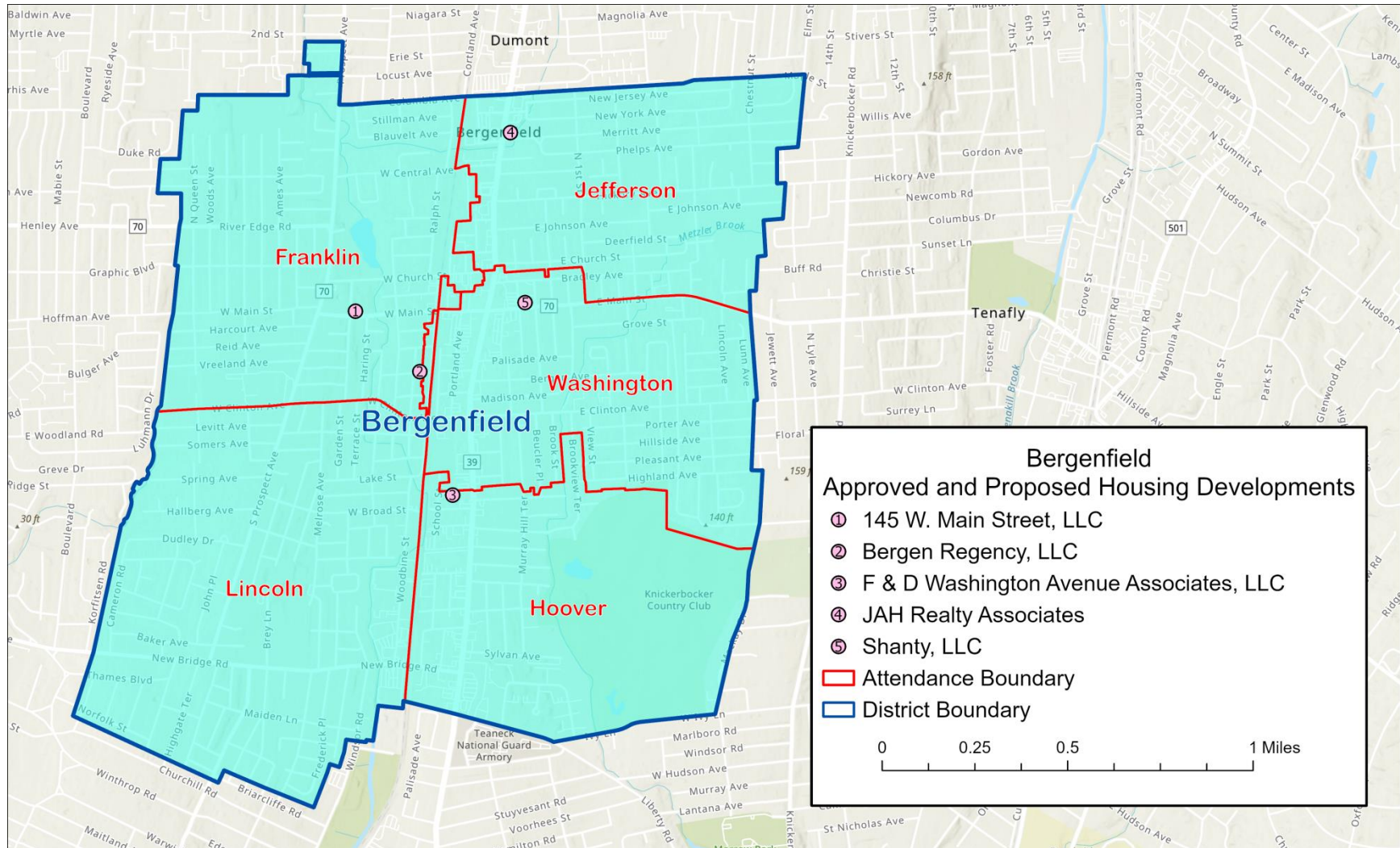
Table 8
Approved and Proposed Residential Developments in Bergenfield

Development/ (Location)	Elementary Attendance Area	Number of Units	Bedroom Distribution	Housing Type	Notes/Project Status
JAH Realty Associates (205-207 N. Washington Avenue)	Jefferson	4	1-BR	Apartment (Market-Rate)	Approved. Conversion of first floor from medical/general offices to apartments.
Shanty, LLC (51 E. Main Street)	Washington	26	Market-Rate (22) 18 1-BR 3 2-BR 1 3-BR Affordable (4) 2 1-BR 2 2-BR	Apartment (Market-Rate and Affordable)	Approved 3-story apartment building. 4 units will be set aside for Low-Moderate Income households.
Bergen Regency, LLC (51-59 Bedford Avenue)	Franklin	7	1 1-BR 4 2-BR 2 3-BR	Townhouse (Market-Rate and Affordable)	Approved. One unit will be set aside for Low-Moderate Income households.
F & D Washington Avenue Associates, LLC (20 Terhune Street)	Hoover	25	0-2-BR Distribution unknown	Multi-family/Duplex (Market-Rate)	Not approved. Seeking preliminary and final major site plan approval from Zoning Board of Adjustment. Possible affordable component may exist.
145 W. Main Street, LLC (145 W. Main Street)	Franklin	3	3-BR	Duplex (Market-Rate)	Not approved. Seeking preliminary and final major site plan approval from Zoning Board of Adjustment.
Total	65 Units				

Source: Bergenfield Deputy Borough Clerk

Bergenfield recently approved a settlement agreement with the Fair Share Housing Center to help address the borough's affordable housing obligation. Of the 65 proposed units, five units (8%) will be set aside to meet affordable housing requirements. Of the five elementary attendance areas, the largest impact will be on Washington and Hoover, which will contain more than three-quarters (78%) of the new housing units. While three developments have been approved, two developments have not been approved. The bedroom distribution of one of the developments (F & D Washington Avenue Associates, LLC) seeking Zoning Board approval was unknown. The location of each development is shown in Figure 24.

Figure 24
Bergenfield Approved and Proposed New Housing Developments



Estimate of Public School Children from New Housing

An estimate was made of the number of public school children that could potentially come from the approved and proposed housing developments in Bergenfield. **It should be clearly stated that this is a rough estimate, as the bedroom distribution of one of the developments was unavailable, which is needed to compute the estimated number of public school children. In addition, two developments have not been approved and may not come to fruition, may change in scope before being approved, or may be constructed and occupied outside of the five-year enrollment projection timeframe.** In the process of determining how many children will come from the new housing units, *Who Lives in New Jersey Housing?*², published by the Rutgers University Center for Urban Policy Research (“CUPR”), was utilized. The resource provides statewide housing multipliers (student yields) based on housing type, number of bedrooms, housing value, housing tenure (ownership versus rental), and whether the housing units are market-rate or affordable.

To project the number of public school children per housing unit, several additional assumptions were made:

1. The student yield multipliers used from CUPR are from a sample of New Jersey homes and these multipliers would be representative of the families moving into Bergenfield.
2. The bedroom distribution of F & D Washington Avenue Associates, LLC was assumed to be an equal mix of one- and two-bedroom units since the bedroom distribution was unavailable.
3. All market-rate apartment units were assumed to have the following student yield multipliers: 1-bedroom = 0.127, 2-bedroom = 0.339, 3-bedroom = 0.821.
4. All affordable apartment/townhouse units were assumed to have the following student yield multipliers: 1-bedroom = 0.088, 2-bedroom = 0.408, 3-bedroom = 1.087.
5. All market-rate townhouse/duplex units were assumed to have the following student yield multipliers: 1-bedroom = 0.127, 2-bedroom = 0.226, 3-bedroom = 0.477.
6. The full build-out and occupation of JAH Realty Associates and Bergen Regency Renewal, LLC would be completed in the 2023-24 school year.
7. The full build-out and occupation of 145 W. Main Street, LLC would be completed in the 2024-25 school year.

² Listokin, David, and Voicu, Alexandru. (2018). *Who Lives in New Jersey Housing?* Updated New Jersey Demographic Multipliers. Rutgers University Center for Urban Policy Research.

8. The full build-out and occupation of Shanty, LLC would be completed over a two-year period (2023-24 and 2024-25).
9. The full build-out and occupation of F & D Washington Avenue Associates, LLC would be completed over a two-year period (2024-25 and 2025-26).

A total of 15 public school children (K-5 = 7, 6-8 = 3, and 9-12 = 5) in grades K-12 are projected according to the following distribution:

- JAH Realty Associates – 0 (0 K-5, 0 6-8, 0 9-12)
- Shanty, LLC – 5 (2 K-5, 1 6-8, 2 9-12)
- Bergen Regency, LLC – 3 (1 K-5, 1 6-8, 1 9-12)
- F & D Washington Avenue Associates, LLC – 6 (3 K-5, 1 6-8, 2 9-12)
- 145 W. Main Street, LLC – 1 (1 K-5, 0 6-8, 0 9-12)

Historical Residential Construction

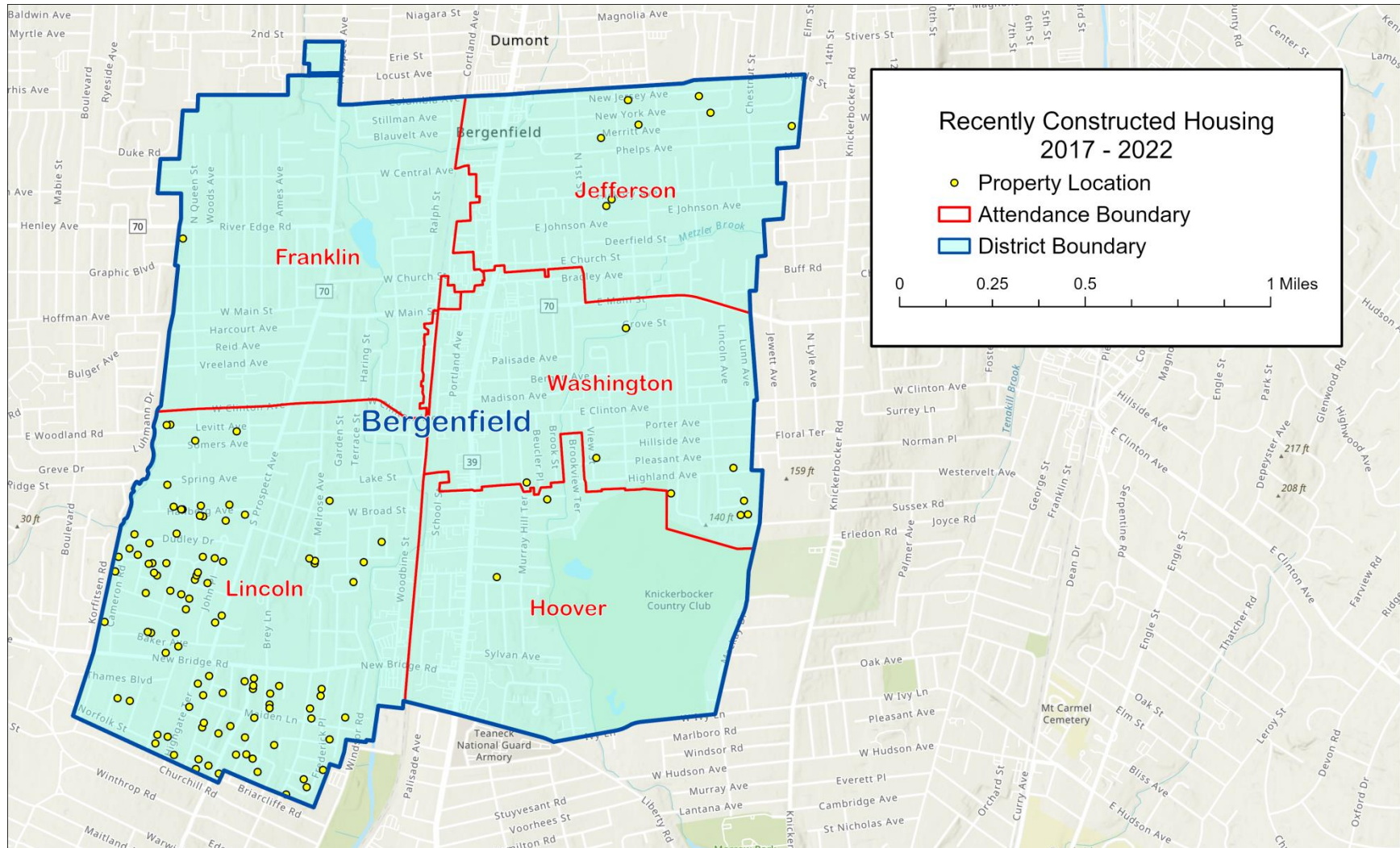
With respect to historical new construction, the number of homes constructed in Bergenfield from 2017-2022 is shown by elementary attendance area in Table 9. Figure 25 shows the location of each recently-constructed housing unit. A total of 192 homes were built over this time period, with the greatest number (97) occurring in the Lincoln attendance area. Of the 192 units constructed, 62 were one- and two-bedroom apartment units in Bella at Bergenfield and 14 were one-bedroom apartment units in North Washington Square at Hickory, both of which are located in the Jefferson attendance area. Through internet research, it appears that most of the remaining homes constructed have been limited to building a new home after the demolition of an existing older home (“knockdown”) or constructing new houses on single in-fill lots. While not shown in the table, 14 single-family or two-family housing units were demolished during the same time period, which results in a net gain of 178 housing units since 2017.

Table 9
Number of New Homes by Elementary Attendance Area
2017-2022

Year	Elementary Attendance Area ¹					
	Franklin	Hoover	Jefferson	Lincoln	Washington	Total
2017	0	0	1	30	1	32
2018	0	0	0	14	1	15
2019	0	0	4	29	3	36
2020	1	2	64	15	2	84
2021	0	0	1	8	0	9
2022	0	0	14	1	1	16
Total	1	2	84	97	8	192

Note: ¹As derived from the Bergenfield property tax database

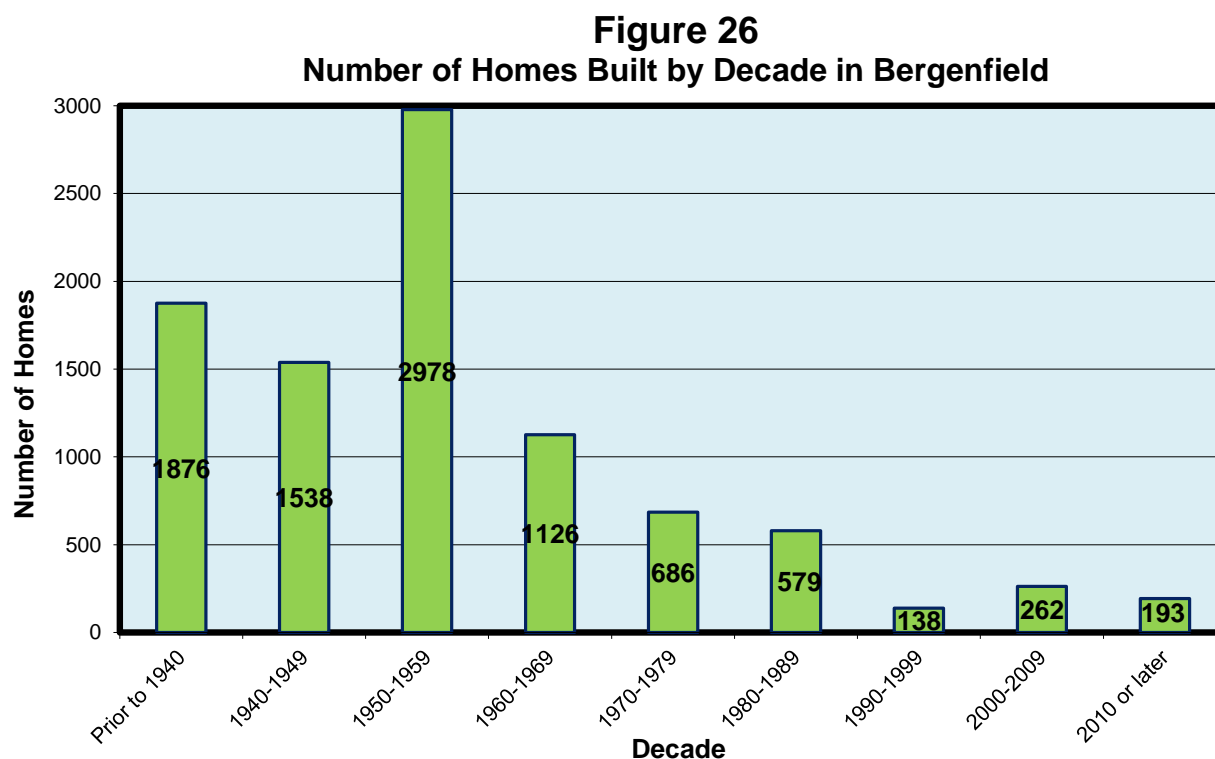
Figure 25
Bergenfield Recently-Constructed Housing by Elementary Attendance Area
2017-2022



When determining the impact of future new housing, it should be clearly stated that enrollment projections utilize cohort survival ratios that do take into account prior new home construction growth. Children who move into new homes during the historical period are captured by the survival ratios, as these ratios will be used to project future enrollments. Therefore, it is not appropriate to add all of the new children generated from future housing units without considering the historical period, as double counting would occur, since the survival ratios have already increased due to the new children. The baseline enrollment projections should only be adjusted if the projected housing growth is significantly greater than prior housing growth. From 2017-2022, there was a net gain of 178 non age-restricted new housing units in Bergenfield. With respect to future construction, there is the potential for 65 non age-restricted housing units, which would be less than the number built since 2017. Therefore, the baseline enrollment projections were not modified to account for additional children from the new housing.

Distribution of Homes by Decade Built

Figure 26 shows the number of homes built by decade in Bergenfield as provided by the 2016-2020 ACS. As shown in the figure, Bergenfield has an older housing stock, as 88% of the homes were built before 1980. After peaking in the 1950s, the number of homes built per decade declined through the 1990s before stabilizing. New home construction has been fairly limited in the last three decades, ranging from 138-262 homes per decade. Of the decades shown, the largest number of homes was built in the 1950s, which is nearly one-third (32%) of the housing stock and corresponds to the sizable population gain in Bergenfield (+54.2%) shown previously in Table 1.



Home Sales

In Figure 27, the number of annual home sales in Bergenfield is shown from 1994-2021. The information was retrieved from the Monmouth County Tax Board database, which possesses tax records and home sales for all municipalities in the state. “Paper sales,” which are sales between members of the immediate family for a low price (e.g., \$1 or \$100) and result in a change in title but often not a change of the occupant, were excluded from the totals. After peaking at 469 sales in 2004, the number of home sales declined to 190 in 2008 due to the housing market crash and banking crisis. During this period (2008-2012), the annual number of home sales was low, ranging from 190-208. Since then, home sales have rebounded. From 2013-2017, home sales steadily increased before stabilizing. In the last five years, the annual number of sales has ranged from 313-343, which is an average of 332 sales per year. Despite the increase in recent years, the annual number of sales is still lower than prior to the housing market crash and banking crisis.

Figure 27
Bergenfield Home Sales
1994-2021

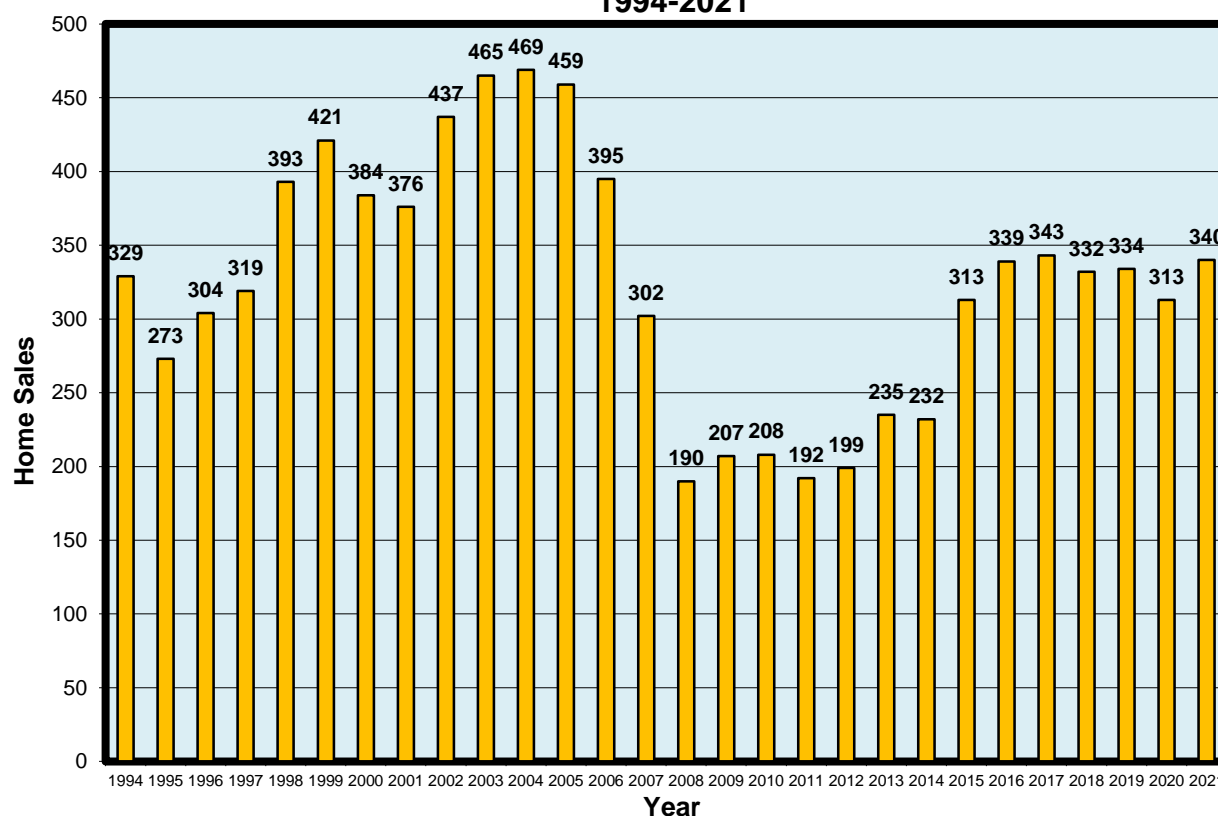
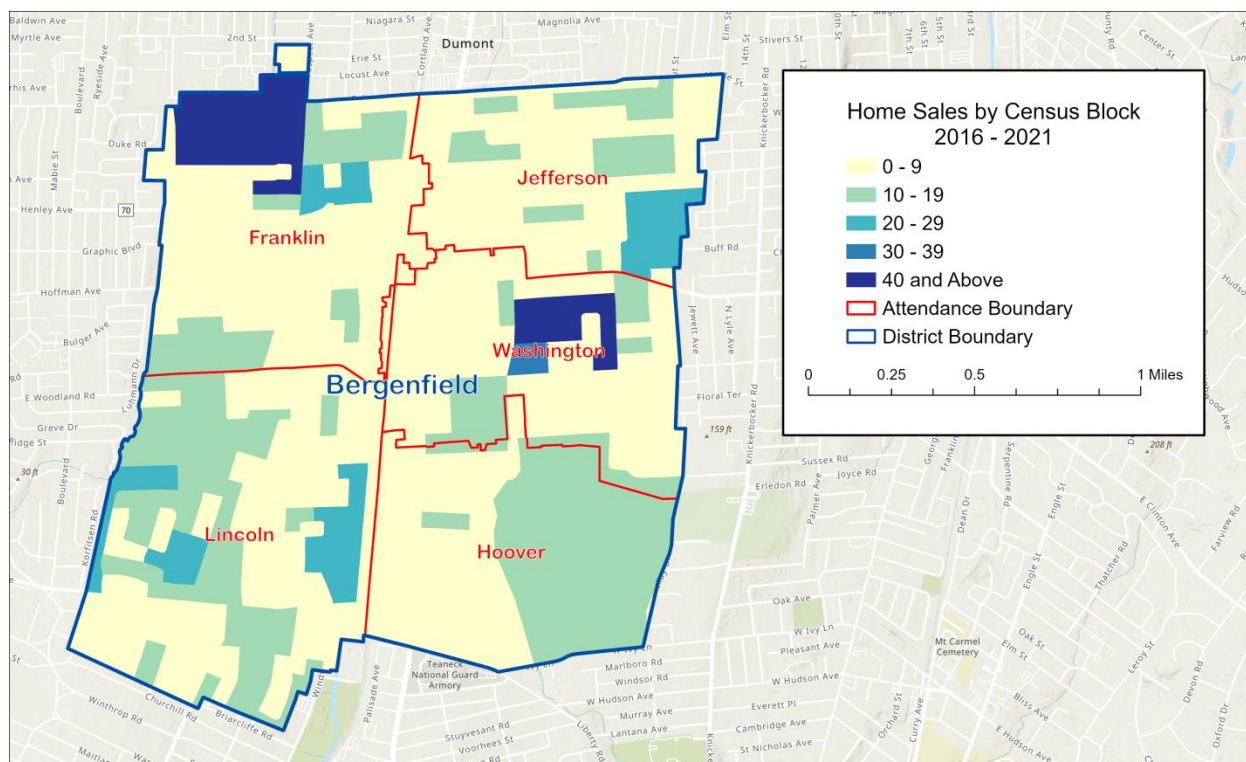


Figure 28 shows the aggregated number of home sales by census block in Bergenfield from 2016-2021. Over this time period, the greatest number of sales occurred in census blocks in the northwestern and eastern sections of the borough, which are located in the Franklin and Washington attendance areas.

Figure 28
Bergenfield Home Sales
2016-2021



Enrollment Projections

Enrollments were calculated at the school level from 2023-24 through 2027-28, a five-year period. Since the grade counts in the school-level projections are smaller as compared to computing districtwide grade counts, the reliability of the school projections are lower than the overall districtwide projections. In general, the smaller the forecasted population, the higher the probability of error associated with the projection.

Enrollments for the self-contained special education/ungraded classes were computed by calculating the historical proportions of self-contained special education/ungraded students with respect to the regular education subtotals in each school and multiplying an average proportion by the future regular education subtotals. The proportions will be shown in the forthcoming tables.

On September 10, 2010, former New Jersey Governor Chris Christie signed into law the Interdistrict School Choice Program (“Choice”), which took effect in the 2011-12 school year. This enables students the choice in attending a school outside their district of residence if the selected school is participating in the Choice program. The Choice district sets the number of openings per grade level. The Bergenfield School District does participate in the program and accepts a limited number of students in grades K-12 (two new students can be accepted for 2023-24 according to the NJDOE’s Choice Profile for the school district). Choice students are included in the enrollment projection totals.

As part of the School Funding Reform Act of 2008 (“SFRA”), all school districts in New Jersey are to provide expanded Abbott-quality pre-school programs for at-risk 3- and 4-year olds as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:13A. The State of New Jersey intends to provide aid for the full-day program based on projected enrollments. School districts categorized as District Factor Group³ (“DFG”) A, B, and CD with a concentration of at-risk pupils equal to or greater than 40 percent, must offer a pre-school program to all pre-school aged children regardless of income, known as “Universal” pre-school. For all other school districts, a pre-school program must be offered only to at-risk children, known as “Targeted” preschool. School districts may educate the pre-school children in-district, by outside providers, or through Head Start programs. School districts were required to offer these programs to at least 90% of the eligible pre-school children by 2013-14.

Due to budgetary constraints, the NJDOE postponed the roll-out of the program, which was scheduled for the 2009-10 school year. According to a recent conversation with Ms. Karin Garver, Educational Program Development Specialist in the NJDOE Early Childhood Education, there are no plans in the imminent future by the State Legislature to fund the program, which would prevent school districts from implementing the program. The pre-school program would have been rolled out over a five-year period according to the following schedule:

- At least 20% of the eligible pre-school universe in Year 1
- At least 35% of the universe in Year 2
- At least 50% of the universe in Year 3

³ Introduced by the New Jersey Department of Education in 1975, it provides a system of ranking school districts in the state by their socio-economic status. While the system is no longer used, the number of pre-kindergarten students was determined by the former DFG rankings.

- At least 65% of the universe in Year 4
- At least 90% of the universe in Year 5

The universe of pre-school children in “Universal” districts is computed by multiplying the 1st grade enrollment in 2007-08 by two. The universe of pre-school children in “Targeted” districts is computed by multiplying the 1st grade enrollment in 2007-08 by two and then multiplying by the percentage of students having free or reduced lunch in the district. The Bergenfield School District is a “Targeted” district since its DFG is “FG” with a concentration of at-risk pupils less than 40 percent (21.49%). In Table 10, the number of total eligible pre-school students is provided with the estimated rollout by year. For the purpose of this study, it has been assumed that the district will educate its pre-school children in-house. As the table shows, there is the potential for 89 pre-kindergarten students as a result of the SFRA. Since it is unclear if and when the program will be funded and subsequently mandated, the forthcoming enrollment projections do not include additional pre-kindergarten students from the SFRA.

Table 10
Estimated Number of Eligible Pre-School Students
as Per School Funding Reform Act of 2008

DFG (2000)	Total eligible	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
FG	89	18	31	45	58	80

Source: New Jersey Department of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education

In a different pre-school initiative, the administration of Governor Phil Murphy announced the availability of Preschool Education Expansion Aid (“PEEA”) in 2018. In September 2018, the first round of funding (\$20.6 million) was publicized, where 31 districts received aid to expand their pre-kindergarten programs. A second round of funding was announced in January 2019, providing 33 additional school districts with roughly \$27 million in funding. The second round targeted districts whose free and reduced lunch percentage was above 20% and who have not previously received State preschool aid. Some districts that were eligible to apply for PEEA would fall under the “Universal” category under SFRA while others would be considered “Targeted” districts. However, the main difference with this expansion aid is that districts under SFRA were restricted to serve low-income children where now districts can educate all pre-school age children through PEEA. It appears that the Murphy administration may be moving towards a pre-school program for all children, rather than just for those who are low-income.

The Bergenfield School District received a PEEA grant in the second round of funding to help finance its pre-kindergarten program. The pre-kindergarten program was expanded from 41 students in 2020-21 to 72 in 2021-22 (in-district students only). It is the district’s intention to keep future pre-kindergarten counts similar to the enrollments in the last two years. As such, pre-kindergarten enrollments were projected by computing an average based on historical data from the last two years and using this value throughout the five-year projection period. Pre-

kindergarten children with special needs (if any) were not included in these counts and were instead included with the special education projections.

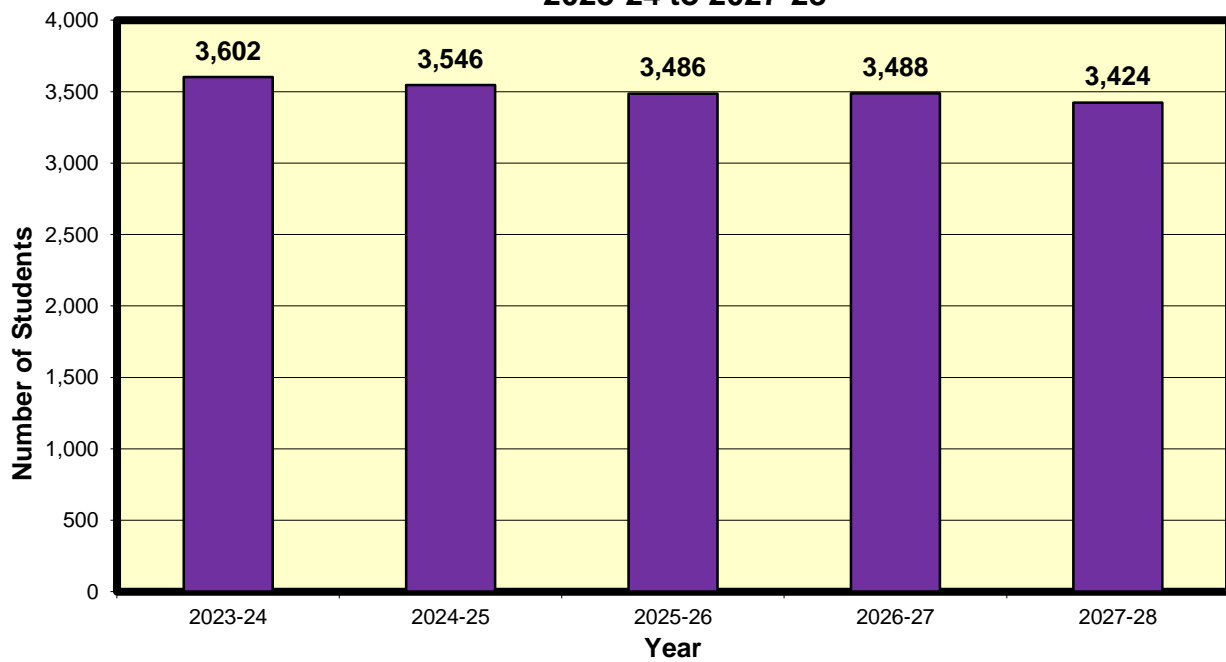
Projected enrollments (PK-12) follow in Table 11 and Figure 29. Enrollments are projected to decline, in general, throughout the projection period. Enrollment is projected to be 3,424 in 2027-28, which would be a decline of 158 students from the 2022-23 enrollment of 3,582.

Table 11
Bergenfield School District Projected Enrollments (PK-12)
2023-24 to 2027-28

Year	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	SE ¹	Total
2023-24	73	219	200	217	211	265	243	247	244	293	304	269	302	320	195	3,602
2024-25	73	207	222	203	224	217	274	244	258	249	304	308	275	297	191	3,546
2025-26	73	187	210	225	210	231	224	268	255	263	258	308	315	271	188	3,486
2026-27	73	200	187	214	233	216	238	238	280	260	273	261	315	310	190	3,488
2027-28	73	196	202	189	222	240	222	234	249	286	270	277	267	310	187	3,424

Note: ¹Self-contained special education enrollment/ungraded students

Figure 29
Bergenfield School District Enrollment Projections
2023-24 to 2027-28



Projections by School

Franklin Elementary School

Historical enrollments for Franklin from 2013-14 to 2022-23, and projected enrollments from 2023-24 to 2027-28, are shown in Table 12. Since 2015-16, enrollments have been fairly stable, ranging from 338-360. In 2022-23, enrollment is 348, which is slightly higher (+20) than the 2013-14 enrollment of 328. Enrollments are projected to decline throughout the projection period. Enrollment is projected to be 308 in 2027-28, which would be a decline of 40 students from the 2022-23 enrollment.

Table 12
Historical and Projected Enrollments of Franklin Elementary School

Year	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	SE ²	Total
Historical¹									
2013-14	0	47	51	54	46	54	58	18	328
2014-15	0	48	48	47	62	45	53	20	323
2015-16	0	48	67	55	48	66	50	18	352
2016-17	0	47	50	68	55	45	66	20	351
2017-18	0	40	49	51	70	60	49	19	338
2018-19	0	68	46	51	54	67	60	2	348
2019-20	15	48	68	48	48	60	71	2	360
2020-21	13	49	50	67	48	52	64	2	345
2021-22	29	43	49	50	63	50	51	22	357
2022-23	30	40	43	48	50	64	47	26	348
CSR 5-Yr. Ratios		0.9630 ³	1.0104	1.0021	0.9704	1.0630	1.0118	0.0732 ⁴	
Projected									
2023-24	30	50	40	43	47	53	65	24	352
2024-25	30	41	51	40	42	50	54	23	331
2025-26	30	41	41	51	39	45	51	22	320
2026-27	30	42	41	41	49	41	46	21	311
2027-28	30	41	42	41	40	52	41	21	308

Notes: ¹Data were provided by the New Jersey Department of Education (<http://www.nj.gov/education/data/enr/>) and the Bergenfield School District.

² Self-contained special education enrollment/ungraded students

³ Birth-to-kindergarten survival ratio based on birth data five years prior

⁴ Average proportion of self-contained special education/ungraded students with respect to PK-5 subtotals based on the last two years of historical data

Hoover Elementary School

Historical enrollments for Hoover from 2013-14 to 2022-23, and projected enrollments from 2023-24 to 2027-28, are shown in Table 13. Enrollments declined through 2015-16 before reversing trend. In 2022-23, enrollment is 263, which is a gain of 41 students from the 2013-14 enrollment of 222. Enrollments are projected to decline throughout the projection period. Enrollment is projected to be 224 in 2027-28, which would be a decline of 39 students from the 2022-23 enrollment.

Table 13
Historical and Projected Enrollments of Hoover Elementary School

Year	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	SE ²	Total
Historical¹									
2013-14	0	47	38	37	26	36	38	0	222
2014-15	0	25	47	38	35	26	36	7	214
2015-16	0	22	27	43	37	35	24	15	203
2016-17	0	25	24	25	42	43	36	27	222
2017-18	0	36	25	25	34	45	47	25	237
2018-19	0	40	39	25	27	39	43	22	235
2019-20	14	36	39	36	26	39	39	18	247
2020-21	26	33	39	37	40	27	38	21	261
2021-22	29	31	40	42	38	40	31	11	262
2022-23	26	34	34	37	42	39	40	11	263
CSR 5-Yr. Ratios		0.7899 ³	1.0596 ⁴	0.9684	1.0445	1.0216 ⁵	1.0306	0.0437 ⁶	
Projected									
2023-24	28	26	36	33	39	43	40	11	256
2024-25	28	32	28	35	34	40	44	11	252
2025-26	28	27	34	27	37	35	41	10	239
2026-27	28	27	29	33	28	38	36	10	229
2027-28	28	28	29	28	34	29	39	9	224

Notes: ¹Data were provided by the New Jersey Department of Education (<http://www.nj.gov/education/data/enr/>) and the Bergenfield School District.

² Self-contained special education enrollment/ungraded students

³ Birth-to-kindergarten survival ratio based on birth data five years prior using the last six years of historical data

⁴ Outlier survival ratio from 2021-22 was not used in the computation of the average ratio.

⁵ Survival ratio using the last four years of historical data

⁶ Average proportion of self-contained special education/ungraded students with respect to PK-5 subtotals based on the last two years of historical data

Jefferson Elementary School

Historical enrollments for Jefferson from 2013-14 to 2022-23, and projected enrollments from 2023-24 to 2027-28, are shown in Table 14. Enrollments were fairly stable before increasing in 2019-20. In 2022-23, enrollment is 285, which is a gain of 25 students from the 2013-14 enrollment of 260. Enrollments are projected to increase for the next two years before reversing trend and stabilizing. In 2027-28, enrollment is projected to be 305, which would be a gain of 20 students from the 2022-23 enrollment.

Table 14
Historical and Projected Enrollments of Jefferson Elementary School

Year	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	SE ²	Total
Historical¹									
2013-14	0	41	41	42	47	37	48	4	260
2014-15	0	50	33	38	40	48	42	3	254
2015-16	0	46	47	33	37	45	48	0	256
2016-17	0	47	48	49	36	38	45	0	263
2017-18	0	38	46	49	52	36	40	1	262
2018-19	0	36	41	45	51	50	40	0	263
2019-20	0	46	35	44	50	51	53	0	279
2020-21	0	40	51	37	48	50	50	2	278
2021-22	0	42	43	50	37	47	47	0	266
2022-23	0	44	51	46	53	41	50	0	285
CSR 5-Yr. Ratios		1.2013 ³	1.0926	1.0451	1.0655	1.0218	1.0111	0.0000 ⁴	
Projected									
2023-24	0	49	48	53	49	54	41	0	294
2024-25	0	56	54	50	56	50	55	0	321
2025-26	0	28	61	56	53	57	51	0	306
2026-27	0	43	31	64	60	54	58	0	310
2027-28	0	42	47	32	68	61	55	0	305

Notes: ¹Data were provided by the New Jersey Department of Education (<http://www.nj.gov/education/data/enr/>) and the Bergenfield School District.

² Self-contained special education enrollment/ungraded students

³ Birth-to-kindergarten survival ratio based on birth data five years prior using the last six years of historical data

⁴ Average proportion of self-contained special education/ungraded students with respect to PK-5 subtotals based on the last two years of historical data

Lincoln Elementary School

Historical enrollments for Lincoln from 2013-14 to 2022-23, and projected enrollments from 2023-24 to 2027-28, are shown in Table 15. Enrollments had been fairly stable before declining in the last year. In 2022-23, enrollment is 375, which is a decline of 24 students from the 2013-14 enrollment of 399. Enrollments are projected to increase in 2023-24 before stabilizing, ranging from 396-410. In 2027-28, enrollment is projected to be 406, which would be a gain of 31 students from the 2022-23 enrollment.

Table 15
Historical and Projected Enrollments of Lincoln Elementary School

Year	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	SE ²	Total
Historical¹									
2013-14	27	44	44	45	53	60	45	81	399
2014-15	23	45	45	49	47	48	59	85	401
2015-16	25	66	46	49	47	51	51	65	400
2016-17	27	46	63	45	47	48	53	74	403
2017-18	33	40	41	69	46	46	53	68	396
2018-19	30	53	34	47	73	42	51	82	412
2019-20	2	59	51	37	49	71	48	93	410
2020-21	2	44	51	49	41	52	70	101	410
2021-22	14	49	36	58	49	39	54	104	403
2022-23	15	44	49	36	63	52	39	77	375
CSR 5-Yr. Ratios		0.5093 ³	0.9112	1.0466	1.0592	1.0116	1.0418	0.3110 ⁴	
Projected									
2023-24	15	51	40	51	38	64	54	97	410
2024-25	15	48	46	42	54	38	67	96	406
2025-26	15	56	44	48	44	55	40	94	396
2026-27	15	48	51	46	51	45	57	97	410
2027-28	15	50	44	53	49	52	47	96	406

Notes: ¹Data were provided by the New Jersey Department of Education (<http://www.nj.gov/education/data/enr/>) and the Bergenfield School District.

² Self-contained special education enrollment/ungraded students

³ Birth-to-kindergarten survival ratio based on birth data five years prior

⁴ Average proportion of self-contained special education/ungraded students with respect to PK-5 subtotals based on the last three years of historical data

Washington Elementary School

Historical enrollments for Washington from 2013-14 to 2022-23, and projected enrollments from 2023-24 to 2027-28, are shown in Table 16. Enrollments were fairly stable before declining in the last two years. In 2022-23, enrollment is 255, which is a decline of 51 students from the 2013-14 enrollment of 306. Enrollments are projected to decline throughout the projection period. Enrollment is projected to be 227 in 2027-28, which would be a decline of 28 students from the 2022-23 enrollment.

Table 16
Historical and Projected Enrollments of Washington Elementary School

Year	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	SE ²	Total
Historical¹									
2013-14	0	43	65	64	45	40	44	5	306
2014-15	0	47	46	66	63	46	38	0	306
2015-16	0	40	45	43	64	63	49	0	304
2016-17	0	38	49	50	47	68	60	0	312
2017-18	0	44	38	45	53	50	64	0	294
2018-19	0	41	46	43	51	62	51	0	294
2019-20	0	49	45	46	45	51	61	1	298
2020-21	0	41	49	48	50	51	60	1	300
2021-22	0	37	37	44	42	50	49	0	259
2022-23	0	36	37	37	50	41	54	0	255
CSR 5-Yr. Ratios		0.8683 ³	1.0000	0.9912	1.0362	1.0274	1.0503	0.0000 ⁴	
Projected									
2023-24	0	43	36	37	38	51	43	0	248
2024-25	0	30	43	36	38	39	54	0	240
2025-26	0	35	30	43	37	39	41	0	225
2026-27	0	40	35	30	45	38	41	0	229
2027-28	0	35	40	35	31	46	40	0	227

Notes: ¹Data were provided by the New Jersey Department of Education (<http://www.nj.gov/education/data/enr/>) and the Bergenfield School District.

² Self-contained special education enrollment/ungraded students

³ Birth-to-kindergarten survival ratio based on birth data five years prior

⁴ Average proportion of self-contained special education/ungraded students with respect to PK-5 subtotals based on the last two years of historical data

Roy Brown Middle School

Historical enrollments for Brown from 2013-14 to 2022-23, and projected enrollments from 2023-24 to 2027-28, are shown in Table 17. Enrollments slowly increased through 2020-21 before reversing trend. In 2022-23, enrollment is 841, which is a gain of 38 students from the 2013-14 enrollment of 803. Enrollments are projected to decline for the next two years before reversing trend and stabilizing. Enrollment is projected to be 794 in 2027-28, which would be a decline of 47 students from the 2022-23 enrollment.

Table 17
Historical and Projected Enrollments of Roy Brown Middle School

Year	6	7	8	SE ²	Total
Historical¹					
2013-14	233	242	308	20	803
2014-15	238	246	235	19	738
2015-16	251	248	264	24	787
2016-17	234	267	258	26	785
2017-18	270	256	278	32	836
2018-19	263	275	259	27	824
2019-20	252	285	289	26	852
2020-21	275	266	285	29	855
2021-22	283	283	265	23	854
2022-23	233	287	293	28	841
CSR 5-Yr. Ratios	1.2926 ³	1.0456	1.0206	0.0325 ⁴	
Projected					
2023-24	247	244	293	25	809
2024-25	244	258	249	24	775
2025-26	268	255	263	26	812
2026-27	238	280	260	25	803
2027-28	234	249	286	25	794

Notes: ¹Data were provided by the New Jersey Department of Education (<http://www.nj.gov/education/data/enr/>) and the Bergenfield School District.

²Self-contained special education enrollment/ungraded students

³Grade 5-6 ratio is based on aggregated 5th grade enrollments of the feeder elementary schools.

⁴Average proportion of self-contained special education/ungraded students with respect to 6-8 subtotals

Bergenfield High School

Historical enrollments for Bergenfield High School from 2013-14 to 2022-23, and projected enrollments from 2023-24 to 2027-28, are shown in Table 18. Enrollments have been fairly stable over the last decade, ranging from 1,162-1,220. In 2022-23, enrollment is 1,215, which is slightly higher (+28) than the 2013-14 enrollment of 1,187. Enrollments are projected to decline, in general, throughout the projection period. Enrollment is projected to be 1,160 in 2027-28, which would be a decline of 55 students from the 2022-23 enrollment.

Table 18
Historical and Projected Enrollments of Bergenfield High School

Year	9	10	11	12	SE ²	Total
Historical¹						
2013-14	293	284	292.5	295.5	22	1,187
2014-15	321	289	288.5	281.5	24	1,204
2015-16	274	325	285	289.5	30	1,203.5
2016-17	294	263	326	282	25	1,190
2017-18	264	297	270	322	21	1,174
2018-19	315	266	284	268	29	1,162
2019-20	287	313	276	274	31	1,181
2020-21	299	287	306	273	38	1,203
2021-22	285	305	289	298	43	1,220
2022-23	266	296	325	292	36	1,215
CSR 5-Yr. Ratios	1.0366 ³	1.0131	1.0219	0.9845	0.0317 ⁴	
Projected						
2023-24	304	269	302	320	38	1,233
2024-25	304	308	275	297	37	1,221
2025-26	258	308	315	271	36	1,188
2026-27	273	261	315	310	37	1,196
2027-28	270	277	267	310	36	1,160

Notes: ¹Data were provided by the New Jersey Department of Education (<http://www.nj.gov/education/data/enr/>) and the Bergenfield School District.

²Self-contained special education enrollment/ungraded students

³Grade 8-9 ratio based on 8th grade enrollments at Roy Brown Middle School

⁴Average proportion of self-contained special education/ungraded students with respect to 9-12 subtotals based on the last four years of historical data

Projected Enrollments by Grade Configuration

In Table 19, projected enrollments are shown by grade configuration (PK-5, 6-8, and 9-12) in the Bergenfield School District. Ungraded special education students were reassigned into each of the grade configurations.

For the elementary grades (PK-5), enrollments are projected to increase in 2023-24 before reversing trend. Enrollment is projected to be 1,470 in 2027-28, which would be a decline of 56 students from the 2022-23 enrollment of 1,526.

For grades 6-8 at Brown, enrollments are projected to decline for the next two years before reversing trend and stabilizing. Enrollment is projected to be 794 in 2027-28, which would be a decline of 47 students from the 2022-23 enrollment.

For grades 9-12 at Bergenfield High School, enrollments are projected to decline, in general, throughout the projection period. Enrollment is projected to be 1,160 in 2027-28, which would be a decline of 55 students from the 2022-23 enrollment.

Table 19
Projected Enrollments for Grades PK-5, 6-8, and 9-12
2023-24 to 2027-28

Historical	PK-5	6-8	9-12
2022-23	1,526	841	1,215
Projected	PK-5	6-8	9-12
2023-24	1,560	809	1,233
2024-25	1,550	775	1,221
2025-26	1,486	812	1,188
2026-27	1,489	803	1,196
2027-28	1,470	794	1,160
5-year Change	-56	-47	-55

Capacity Analysis

Table 20 shows the educational capacities of the school buildings in the Bergenfield School District in comparison to both the current enrollments in 2022-23 and the enrollment projections in the 2027-28 school year. Positive values indicate available extra seating while negative values indicate inadequate seating (also known as “unhoused students”). It should be noted that the capacity values are not fixed and can change from year-to-year based on classroom usage. For instance, additional special education classes in a building would reduce the building’s capacity. On the other hand, districts with unhoused students can accommodate these children by increasing class sizes, which in turn increases the school’s capacity. As such, the capacity of a school is not a fixed value and can be changed depending on how the building is used.

At the elementary level, a small shortage of seating currently exists in three schools in 2022-23, with the largest being at Jefferson (-25). In the upper level schools, while Brown currently has a shortage of seating (-23), there is surplus seating at Bergenfield High School (+75).

By 2027-28, a shortage of seating is projected in two schools at the elementary level, Lincoln (-49) and Jefferson (-45), due to a projected increase in enrollment. In the upper level schools, surplus seating is projected in Brown (+24) due to a projected decline in enrollment. Bergenfield High School is projected to have a greater number of surplus seats (+130) due to a projected decline in enrollment.

Table 20
Capacity Analysis
Bergenfield School District

School	Capacity ^{1,2}	Current Enrollment 2022-23	Difference	Projected Enrollment 2027-28	Difference
Franklin E.S. (PK-5)	338	348	-10	308	+30
Hoover E.S. (PK-5)	278	263	+15	224	+54
Jefferson E.S. (K-5)	260	285	-25	305	-45
Lincoln E.S. (PK-5)	357	375	-18	406	-49
Washington E.S. (K-5)	293	255	+38	227	+66
Brown M.S. (6-8)	818	841	-23	794	+24
Bergenfield H.S. (9-12)	1,290	1,215	+75	1,160	+130

Notes: ¹District Practices capacity from the Bergenfield School District LRFP (2021)

²As the capacities were last calculated in 2021, the actual capacities of the buildings in 2022-23 may have changed if the buildings’ instructional spaces are being used differently than when the capacities were computed.