2025 Demographic Report

Student Projections 2025-2035

July 2025 (Final)

Prepared by the firm of:
citygateGIS
Intelligence Mapped

Contents

Executive Summary

This report was organized to examine demographic trends starting from a macro level, i.e. State and County, to a micro level at the surrounding school districts and the MARSD. This approach allows a better understanding of trends within the district and how those trends compare to changes at the state and national levels. A similar approach was undertaken with the relevant populations analyzed and the timelines of the data considered. We began by looking at overall population trends between 2010 and 2020, then moved to data spanning 2021 to 2023, looking specifically at the school age population groups.

Focusing more on the micro level, the next portion of the report covers student data provided by MARSD and trends within the district. This data, in combination with the overall population trends, was used to create cohort survival ratios for each grade level. The ratios were then used in combination with known residential development projects to generate a 10-year student projection.

The final portion of the report includes maps of where students are located within the MARSD. This section of the report provides an overall view of student density across the various neighborhoods of the MARSD, and location by grade level summarized by the grade level feeder system currently in use at MARSD.

To assist the reader in following the logic of this report, the conclusions for each section are outlined below.

1. **Population growth between 2010 and 2020.** MARSD had a 6.9% increase in total population between 2010 and 2020 as measured by the Decennial Census in 2020.

   In terms of population growth, MARSD's growth rate was significantly larger than neighboring school districts, Monmouth County, and the State of New Jersey.

2. **MARSD is a well-established community.** Aerial photographs over the last two decades were reviewed to determine the number of large-scale development projects in MARSD. The review determined that MARSD is a well-established community with most potentially developable land already developed. Based on the U.S. Census, between 2010 and 2020, there were 1,269 housing units built in MARSD, which represented a 12% addition. This number is in line with the 700 residential housing units currently permitted and planned for development in MARSD.
3. **The Decennial Census.** The results for racial demographics and housing units from the 2010 and

2020 Decennial Census' are included in Tables 1 and 2 on page 13. The following observations were made:

a. The population of MARSD grew from 27,287 to 28,670.
b. The increase was largely among minority groups. The population of individuals identifying as white alone decreased from 21,088 to 20,178.
c. The population of minorities (individuals not identifying as white alone) grew from 5,932 to 8,716.
d. The population of individuals identifying as Hispanic origin grew from 2,849 to 4,073.
e. The population of individuals identifying only as Black or African American alone, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander remained relatively the same between 2010 and 2020.
f. While the six adjacent school districts that were also analyzed did not experience MARSD's population growth, the change in the demographics as related to minorities was the same. This indicates that the trend is regional rather than specific to MARSD.

4. **The American Community Survey (ACS).** ACS data was used to analyze school age populations for the years 2020 to 2023. This portion of the report includes data for MARSD as well as the six adjacent school districts. The following observations were noted:

a. The survey noted a population jump between 2020 and 2021 of 4.5% for MARSD. The growth for other years covered by ACS was in line with rates between 2010 and 2020.
b. The under 5 years of age population initially increased by 135, then in 2021 dropped by 233 individuals. Between 2021and 2023, the number steadily grew to be nearly the same as 2019.
c. The populations of the remaining cohorts increased between 2020 and 2023, with the 10 to 14 years of age cohort experiencing the least growth, increasing only by10 individuals between 2020 and 2023.
d. In viewing the neighboring school districts, there were no general trends that could be readily identified. The total population for these districts increased by 2.9% between 2020 and 2023, as compared to 5.4% in MARSD.

5. **Income and Poverty.** The ACS also includes questions regarding individual and household income and poverty. This information was analyzed for MARSD between 2014 and 2023. The following observations were made from the data:

a. At $123,389, the median household income for MARSD is above the median household income for New Jersey and the U.S.
b. Median income for all households in MARSD, which had stayed consistent between 2012 and 2016 at approximately $86,000 per year, began to steadily grow from 2016 to the 2023 value of $123,389 per year.
c. The rate of poverty for all school age groups within MARSD was compared to Monmouth County, the State of New Jersey, and the U.S. at large. With the exception of the 6 to 11 years of age group, all others had the lowest rate of poverty. For ages 6 to 11, the poverty rate was below the national average but above the average for Monmouth County and the State.
d. 6.1% of the total population and 9.3% of school aged children were reported as being below the poverty line for more than 12 months in 2023.
e. The overall poverty rate for the decade between 2012 and 2023 fluctuated between 4.2% and 7.1%, with the current number being 6.1%. There is no discernable trend.

6. **Number of Births.** Data on the number of births was collected from the State of New Jersey Department of Health. Review of the data provided the following conclusions:
   a. The number of births in the district decreased between 2010 and 2015.
   b. Between 2015 and 2019, the number of births fluctuated but generally averaged approximately 317 per year.
   c. From 2020 to 2022, the last year for which data is available, the number of births increased. The value for 2022 was 379.
7. **Cohort numbers from the last 16 years.** MARSD provided student population data by grade from 2009 to 2024. The data was also broken down by schools, allowing feeder patterns to be identified. The following observations were made:
   a. In 2009, the total student population at MARSD was 3,831. The student population trended downwards until 2021, when the number was 3,671.
   b. Beginning in 2021, the number of students began increasing, reaching 3,958 in 2024.
   c. The increase in the last 3 years is primarily due to added Pre-K students.
   d. Census ACS data for the same 3 years corroborates the data from MARSD, indicating that the increase in the last 3 years is a trend rather than year to year fluctuation.

8. **Population Projection.** To determine whether trends identified during the analysis of historic data from MARSD will continue into the future, we reviewed population projections for the coming decades. The following observations were made:
    a. The total population of MARSD is expected to grow by 4.2% between 2020 and 2030.
    b. Starting in 2030, the growth rate is anticipated to slow to an average of 0.1% for the following 2 decades.
    c. For age groups up to 9 years old, a similar trend (i.e. growth between 2020-2030, then stabilization after 2030) is observed.
    d. For age groups 10 to 19, the population is expected to decline between 2020 and 2030. After 2030, the population is expected to revert back to 2020 levels.
    e. For the purpose of projecting rates of birth, the average population birth rate was calculated then applied to the projected population totals.
9. **Calculation of Grade Level Survival Ratios.** Calculating survival ratios is a mathematical process where the ratio of students moving through grades is calculated and then averaged. The ratios for years 2018 to 2024 were averaged to provide a survival ratio for each grade. The following conclusions were made:
    a. The ratio of students entering Pre-K fluctuates significantly, moving from 40% in 2018 to 174% in 2024.
    b. Beginning in 2022 with funding for additional Pre-K students, the ratio for Pre-K grew by more than 100% as more children entered MARSD earlier.
    c. The significant change in ratios between 2017 and 2024 for Pre-K resulted in standard deviation of 54% which was not in line with the most recent trends for other grades.
    d. For Pre-K a 5-year history was used, resulting in a 96% survival rate.
    e. The ratios for Grades K through 12 are generally stable at near 100%. Most students, once in the MARSD system, continue until they graduate from high school in Grade 12.
10. **Planned Residential Construction**. The planning departments at Mattawan Borough and Aberdeen Townships were contacted to obtain a list of residential projects both planned/permitted and currently underway. The following is a summary of the information collected and the analysis performed:
    a. There are a total of 649 residential units planned or currently under construction.

b. 299 units are currently under construction, while 350 are still in the planning phase.
c. The 299 units currently under construction were assumed to be coming online during the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years.
d. The 350 units in the planning phase were assumed to be coming online during the 2029-30 school year.
e. The number of housing units for 2023 was compared to the student population. The student yield for the planned housing units was calculated by apportioning the students to the housing units.

11. **Student Projection Based on Cohort Ratios.** To project student populations, the 2024-25 student population and birth rates were used in combination with the cohort survival ratios to mathematically project student population over the next decade. The projections include Low-range, Mid-range, and High-range. The following is a summary of the observations made from the results.
    a. Low-range uses the calculated average cohort ratios minus 5% for each year.
    b. Mid-range uses the calculated average cohort ratios.
    c. High-range uses the average plus 5% for each year.
    d. Using the Mid-range ratios, the total school population is expected to grow from 3,958 to 4,424 by 2034. The following graph shows the 10-year student projections for MARSD.

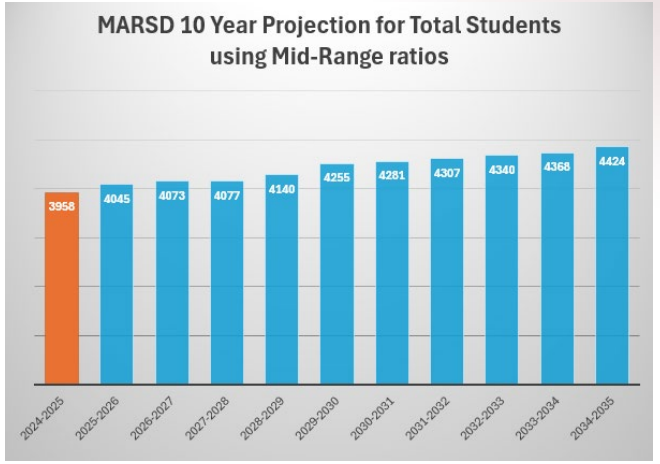


Figure 1 - MARSD 10 Year projection for Total Students using Mid-Range ratios

    e. The students generated from the additional housing units is a contributing factor.
    f. The Low-range and High-range student populations for the 2034-35 school year are 3,396 and 5,850 respectively.

12. **Capacity Analysis.** The educational capacities of the school buildings in MARSD were provided by Mr. William Hopkins III, AIA, LEED AP of FVHD Architects-Planners in Trenton, NJ. The calculation of the capacities was based on existing usage of classrooms. Since Light Bridge Academy is not a part of the MARSD, its capacity was not noted by FVHD Architects-Planners. For the purpose of

calculating future enrollment verses capacity, Light Bridge Academy was not considered.

a. Cambridge Park Elementary will be over capacity for the duration of the enrollment projection. Strathmore Elementary will also be over capacity for the duration of the enrollment projection. The other two Elementary Schools serving Pre-K to 3rd Grade will be under capacity for the duration of the projection. The overall capacity between the four schools is 1,754 students. The maximum number of projected students for Pre-K to 3rd Grade is 1,735 students, which will occur in the 2030-31 school year. Since that enrollment is less than the overall capacity, the excess students in individual schools can be managed through a combination of redistricting and/or changes in classroom configurations.
b. For the 2031-32 school year, Lloyd Road Elementary School's enrollment is expected to increase to 632, which is 30 students more than capacity. Enrollment is expected to stay above capacity through the remainder of the study period. Accommodating the additional students beyond current capacity may require grade configuration and/or changing class sizes.
c. For the 2034-35 school year, Matawan-Aberdeen Middle school is expected to have enrollment of 950 students, which is below the school's current capacity of 1,070.
d. The highest enrollment at Matawan Regional High School is expected to be 1,121 students during the 2034-35 school year, which is below the school's 1,298 capacity.

13. **Where Students Reside**. For the 2024-25 class, MARSD provided addresses for the student population (without any identifying information). The addresses were geocoded and geographically placed on a map of MARSD. The following are conclusions drawn from the data.
    a. The density map highlighted the following areas where student population was the highest: Cliffwood Beach, Cliffwood, and the area around Main Street in Matawan.
    b. The Pre-K students attending Light Bridge Academy are evenly distributed throughout the district.
    c. The majority of students attending Cambridge Park Elementary (159 of 283) reside near the school in the Strathmore Elementary attendance zone.
    d. There are students between Pre-K and 3rd Grade attending schools outside of their attendance zones. In the following table, the

green boxes indicate students attending schools based on their attendance zones. Orange boxes indicate students located in the attendance zone but who are attending school elsewhere.

	Cliffwood Elementary School	Ravine Drive Elementary	Strathmore Elementary School
Cliffwood Attendance zone	312	19	8
Ravine Drive Attendance zone	23	345	26
Strathmore Attendance zone	6	17	430

e. Students attending Lloyd Road Elementary, Matawan Aberdeen Middle School, and Matawan Regional High School are equally disbursed throughout the district.

Introduction

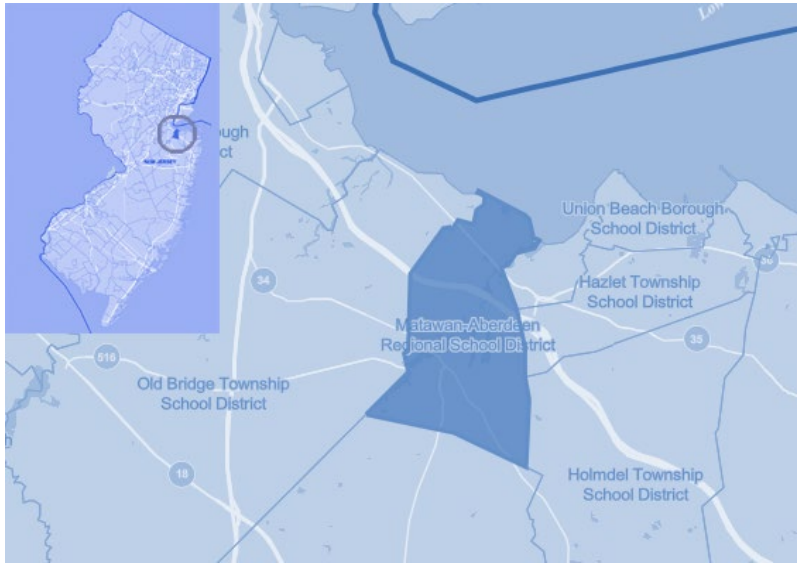


*Figure 2- Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District Boundary - **US Census Bureau***

The **Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District (MARSD)** is located in Monmouth County in Central New Jersey. The district is bisected by the Garden State Parkway. The surrounding school districts to the east include Hazlet Township School District, Holmdel Township School District, Keyport Borough School District, Keansburg Borough School District, and Union Beach Borough School District. Old Bridge Township School District is located on the western boundary of the school district. The north side of the school district is Raritan Bay, which is connected to the lower New York Bay and the Atlantic Ocean to the east. On the southern side of the school district is the unincorporated township of Morganville.

MARSD includes seven schools which serve students from Pre-K through 12th Grade from the communities of Matawan Borough and Aberdeen Township. The schools include:

- Matawan Regional High School
- Matawan-Aberdeen Middle School
- Lloyd Road Elementary School
- Cliffwood Elementary School
- Ravine Drive Elementary School
- Strathmore Elementary School
- Cambridge Park Elementary School

MARSD's proximity to multiple transportation options makes the area an excellent choice for commuters who work in New York City but prefer living in a quiet community with access to beaches and other outdoor activities.

The most accurate population information available for the district is from the Census Bureau's Decennial Census which is performed at the end of each decade. Between 2010 and 2020, the district's population grew from 27,020 to 28,894, which represents a growth rate of 6.9%. Figure 2

below highlights population growth between 2010 and 2020 for the country, the Northeastern region, the State of New Jersey, Monmouth County, adjacent school districts, and MARSD. The key takeaway from the figures below is that MARSD's population gain has been similar to the national average and larger than the neighboring school districts. It is also one of the largest population gains in Monmouth County and the State of New Jersey.

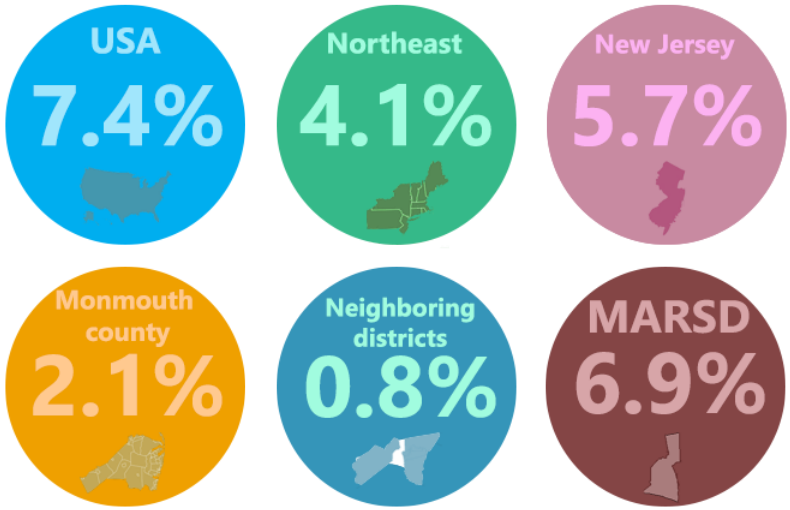


*Figure 3- Population growth between 2010 and 2020 - **US Census Bureau***

Of course, population growth is only one of the measures used in analyzing the demographics of the school district. To gain a complete picture of the dynamics of a school district and its attendance areas, a multitude of variables must be examined and considered. These variables include rates of in-migration, the age structure of the population, the number and size of new residential projects, fertility rates, and number of births for Monmouth County. Additional factors can include racial makeup of the district, rates of poverty, and demographic changes over time. These variables can have both positive and negative impacts on population and enrollment trends.

This report will first focus on the historic local and regional trends that have affected student population over time. Next, we will examine how these factors can affect the future student population in combination with current data regarding birth rates and student enrollment.

The areas covered by this report include:

- Population diversity and demographics
- Population trends
- Regional district growth
- Birth rates
- Income and poverty
- Future student enrollment
- Other factors affecting demographics in the district.

Source Data

This report includes data from a variety of sources. MARSD provided student population by grade for each school in the district from 2009 to 2024. For the 2024-2025 school year, the district also provided additional information to pinpoint the location of students in the district. The information

regarding rates of birth in Monmouth County was obtained from the New Jersey Department of Health website (https://www-doh.nj.gov/doh-shad/indicator/view/BirthRate.County.html). Population projections for the State of New Jersey were obtained from national projections released on July 1, 2024, by the University of Virginia, Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service (https://www.coopercenter.org/national-population-projections). Total population, age structures, poverty rates, and racial demographics were obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau's Decennial and ACS data. The Decennial Census is a constitutionally mandated, nationwide count of the U.S. population conducted every ten years by the U.S. Census Bureau. The data obtained is primarily used to determine congressional representation and distribution of federal funds. The Decennial Census is focused on the collection of basic demographic information such as total population, voting age, race, and Hispanic origin. Basic data regarding housing and group quarters is also collected.

The American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau that provides communities with detailed, yearly demographic, social, economic, and housing data, complementing the Decennial Census. The ACS releases data in the form of 1-year and 5-year estimates. The 1-year estimates provide data for areas with populations of 65,000 or more. The 5-year estimates combine five years of survey data and are available for all areas. For MARSD and neighboring school districts, the 5-year estimates were used.

It should be noted that the Decennial Census is a survey conducted on the entire population of the country. The ACS on the other hand is a rolling survey of a limited number of households and businesses. The results are then extrapolated to the entire geographic area. This is the primary reason why ACS data is referred to as estimates. This report also made use of data compilations from USAFACTS.org (https://usafacts.org/)

Assumptions

A review of MARSD's geography indicates the area is mostly developed. It is therefore reasonable to assume future development of new housing units will likely be redevelopment of existing areas or modification of commercial land into residential development.

There are numerous other factors which can contribute to fluctuations in populations resulting in changes to the number of school-aged children. These include policy changes, economic factors, political shifts, as well as environmental and transportation issues. The following is a list of some of the key assumptions utilized in this report.

1. There will be no building moratorium within the district.

2. The regional economy does not experience a deep recession during the forecasted period. A deep recession is a period of sustained and significant economic contraction lasting longer than a few months, and is characterized by a substantial decline in key economic indicators such as GDP, income, employment, and industrial production.
3. The State of New Jersey does not change the current policy on school enrollment or school vouchers.
4. The rate of housing foreclosures does not exceed 130% of the 2015 - 2025average for Monmouth County.
5. The rate of mortgage approval stays at 2024 levels and lenders do not return to "sub-prime" mortgage practices.
6. All currently planned, approved, and permitted residential developments are completed by 2030.
7. Average annual unemployment rates for Monmouth County and the City of New York remain below 7.5% for the forecasted years.
8. Private school and home school attendance rates will remain constant at 2024 - 2025 levels.
9. Demographic trends will be linear in nature. Actual year-to-year variations may occur; however, long-term trends will be constant.

Methodology

Data points, such as birth rates or population predictions, are only available at the county and state levels. To provide analysis at the school district level, the data was apportioned based on population. For example, if the district's population has been 0.3% of the state's total population for the past decade, to calculate the population for the next decade, the same 0.3% is applied to the forecasted population projection for the state.

The student projections presented in this report were created using a modified cohort-survival method. Cohort survival projections are based on historic enrollment and birth data for the district and incorporate six or more years of demographic data. This method of projection is generally considered reliable in areas where trends are expected to continue without significant change in housing or birth rates.

The cohort survival model that was used to calculate the projections in this report was modified based on known residential development projects. The model used also provided 5% high and low projections for each year.

Demographics

The rate of new housing developments in both Matawan Borough and Aberdeen Township have remained stable over the last 20 years. It is anticipated that the district will

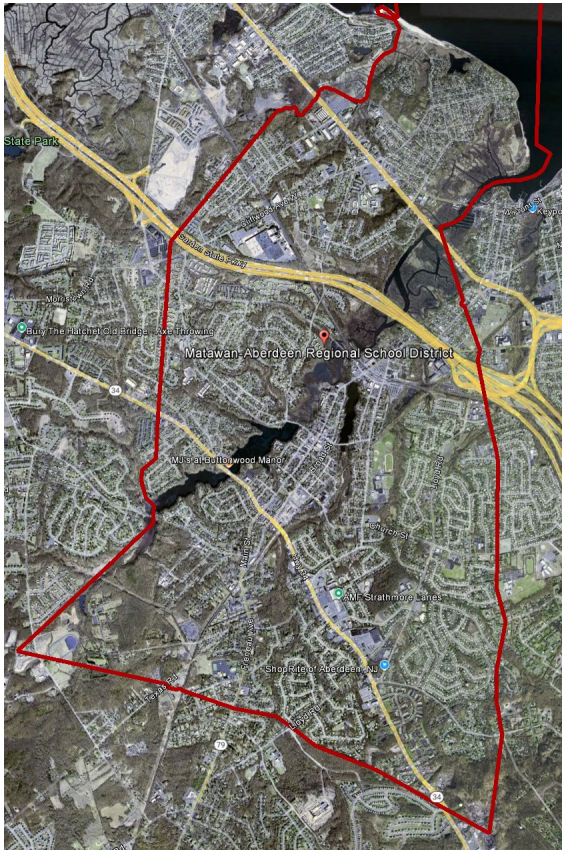


Figure 4 - Image 12/2002- Google Earth

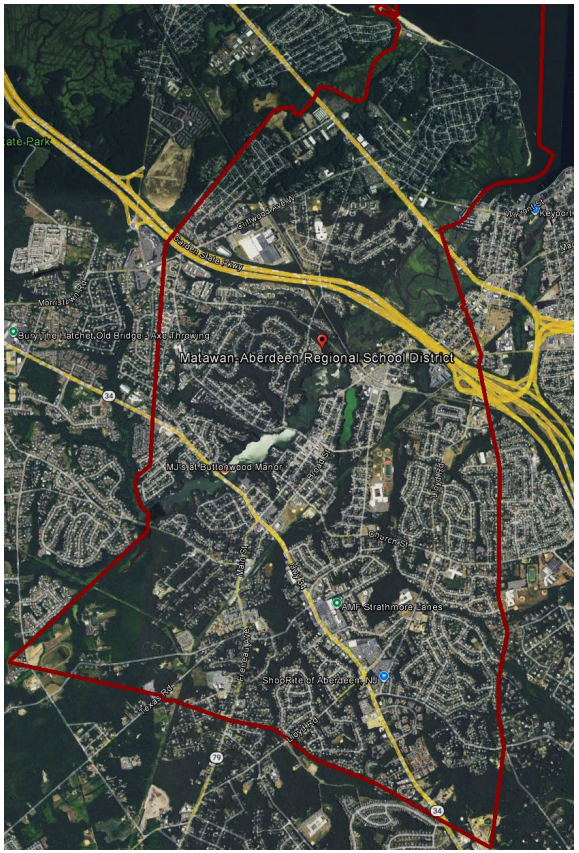


Figure 5- Image 11/2011 -Google Earth

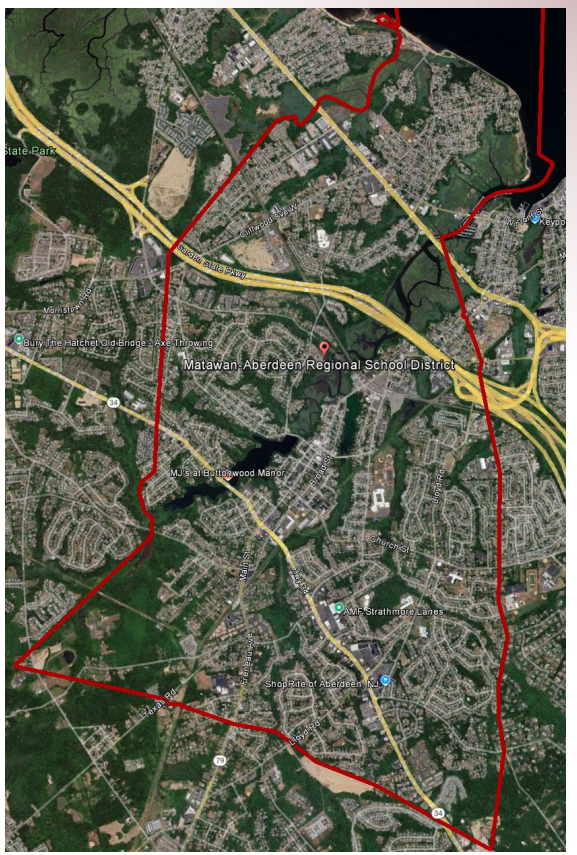


Figure 6 - Image 11/2022 - Google Earth

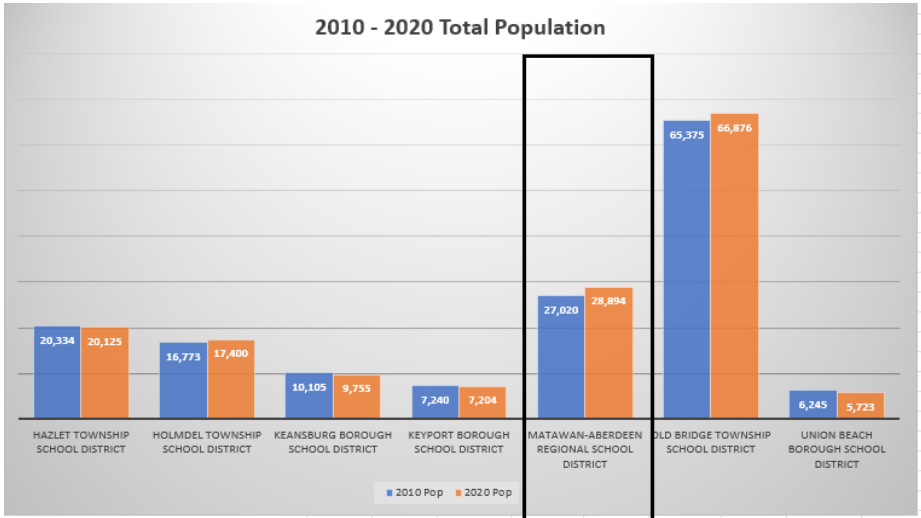
follow a similar pattern in the future. Figures 3, 4, and 5 above are images from Google Earth collected in 2002, 2011, and 2022. In reviewing the images, it is readily apparent that there were no large-scale additions of residential areas in the district. In fact, most of the remaining open spaces in the district are existing parks and other public spaces. It is worth noting that the population of the district during the same time period increased by 2,804, which primarily occurred between 2010 and 2020 (1,874).

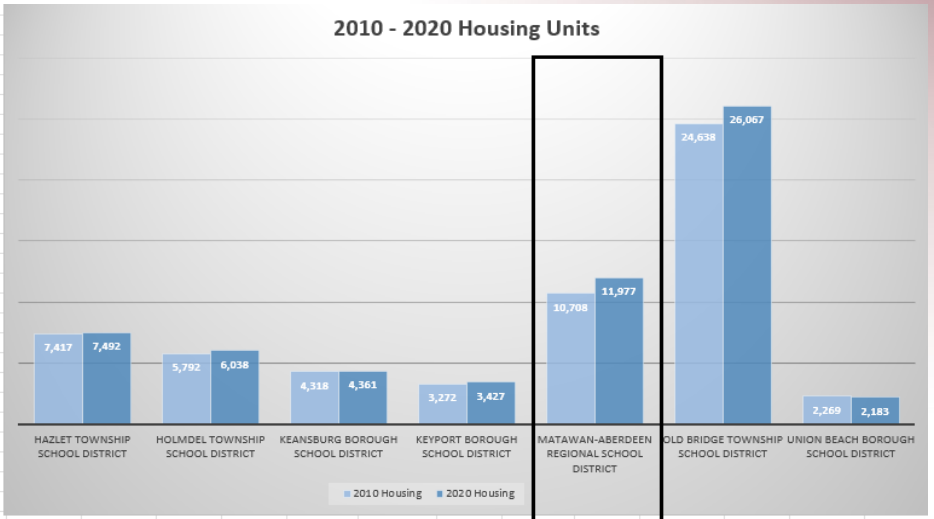
The Decennial Census

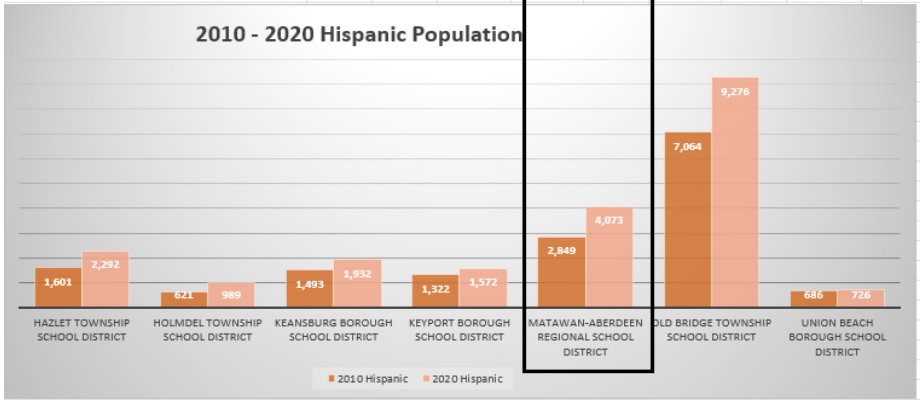
Focusing primarily on the most recent decade (2010 to 2020), we can see the population profile for MARSD in comparison with its neighboring school districts.

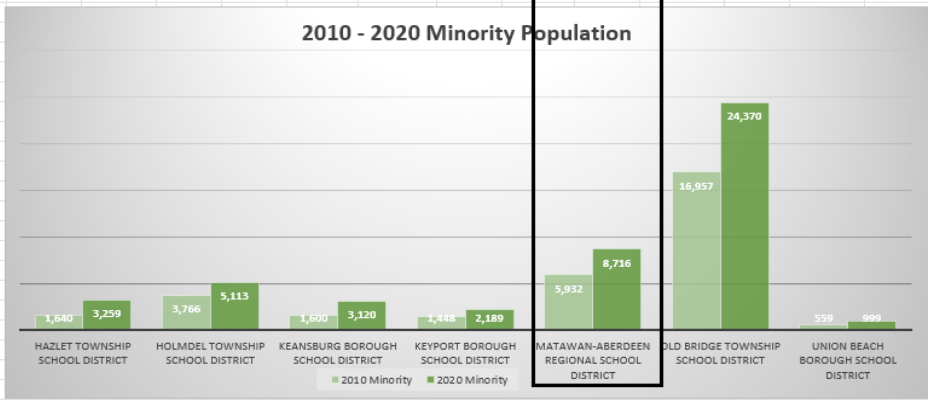
Table 1 – 2010 Decennial Census	2010 Census										
School District	2010 Pop	White alone	Black or African American alone	American Indian and Alaska Native alone	Asian alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	2010 Minority	**2010 Hispanic**	**2010 Housing**	**Occupied**	**Vacant**
Hazlet Township School District	**20,334**	18,694	301	15	691	3	1,640	1,601	7,417	7,140	277
Holmdel Township School District	**16,773**	13,007	145	11	3,213	2	3,766	621	5,792	5,584	208
Keansburg Borough School District	**10,105**	8,505	664	23	172	8	1,600	1,493	4,318	3,805	513
Keyport Borough School District	**7,240**	5,792	521	20	172	2	1,448	1,322	3,272	3,067	205
MARSD	**27,020**	21,088	2,781	51	1,736	9	5,932	2,849	10,708	10,234	474
Old Bridge Township School District	**65,375**	48,418	4,063	129	9,374	10	16,957	7,064	24,638	23,777	861
Union Beach Borough School District	**6,245**	5,686	96	10	113	0	559	686	2,269	2,143	126

Table 2 – 2020 Decennial Census	2020 Census										
School District	2020 Pop	White alone	Black or African American alone	American Indian and Alaska Native alone	Asian alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	2020 Minority	**2020 Hispanic**	**2020 Housing**	**Occupied**	**Vacant**
Hazlet Township School District	**20,125**	16,866	373	46	705	11	3,259	2,292	7,492	7,179	313
Holmdel Township School District	**17,400**	12,287	199	14	3,568	0	5,113	989	6,038	5,787	251
Keansburg Borough School District	**9,755**	6,635	1,027	33	275	5	3,120	1,932	4,361	3,808	553
Keyport Borough School District	**7,204**	5,015	426	30	227	1	2,189	1,572	3,427	3,202	225
MARSD	**28,894**	20,178	2,757	105	1,732	10	8,716	4,073	11,977	11,546	431
Old Bridge Township School District	**66,876**	42,506	5,002	209	10,188	28	24,370	9,276	26,067	25,059	1,008
Union Beach Borough School District	**5,723**	4,724	123	10	125	0	999	726	2,183	2,036	147









As can be noted from Tables 1 and 2 on page 13, the total population of MARSD grew from 27,020 in 2010 to 28,894 in 2020. This represents a 6.9% population increase. By comparison, the neighboring six school districts grew by an average of 0.8%. The majority of the growth in population is attributed to minorities (i.e. those not identifying as white alone), and more specifically to persons of Hispanic origin.

In 2010, 22% of the district's population were minorities. In 2020, that number grew to 30%. The Hispanic population as a percentage of the total population during the same period grew from 11% to 14%. The same trend can be observed in neighboring school districts, where minority populations grew from 25% to 38%, and the Hispanic population grew from 12% to 16%.

Between 2010 and 2020, there were 1,269 housing units added in the district. The vacancy rate in 2010 was 4.4%. In 2020, the vacancy rate dropped to 3.6%. The average vacancy rates for neighboring school districts were 4.6% and 4.8% respectively.

How Race and Ethnicity are Categorized

The U.S. Census Bureau considers race and Hispanic origin as separate and distinct concepts, with Hispanic origin being an ethnicity and not a race. Individuals of Hispanic origin may be of any race, and the Census Bureau collects data on race and Hispanic origin separately.

The Census Bureau defines "Hispanic or Latino" as a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin. Race is a person's self-identification with one or more social groups, and the census allows respondents to report multiple races. The census asks about Hispanic origin in a separate question from the race question, as people of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

The Census Bureau uses the following five race categories: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and White.

During the Decennial Census, individuals are asked to identify themselves as one or more combination(s) of the five racial categories. In a separate question, they are asked if they identify as of Hispanic origin or not. During the tabulation, the data is broken down by individuals selecting a single race alone, then by the various combinations of the 5 race categories. Counts for these combinations are provided for all persons identifying as Hispanic or Non-Hispanic. The totals are further broken down for all persons and those of voting age (18 and over).

In Tables 1 and 2 on Page 13, the totals for individuals that identified as a single racial category are highlighted. For MARSD, the number individuals that identified as having multiple races were not significant and as such, were not included in this report. Because individuals can select multiple race categories and separately select ethnicity in census data collection, adding the different minority and ethnic categories can result in over counts. For the purpose of this report, minorities are defined as individuals that do not identify as white alone.

The American Community Survey (ACS)

While the Decennial Census is a complete survey of all Americans, it is only performed once per decade. The ACS is an annual, rolling survey which provides metrics of population, economics, transportation, and citizenship, as well as over 50,000 other attribute fields. The latest 5-year estimates for 2019 - 2023 were released on December 12, 2024. Table 3 includes total population and school aged population for years 2019 to 2023 (which is the latest year for which ACS data is available).

Table 3 – 2024 ACS Census	2019					2020				
School District	2019 Total Pop	Under 5 years	5 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	15 to 19 years	2020 Total Pop	Under 5 years	5 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	15 to 19 years
Hazlet Township School District	19,844	1,004	960	1,257	1,369	19,793	876	1,125	1,129	1,100
Holmdel Township School District	16,609	574	904	1,292	1,013	16,652	524	1,050	1,212	983
Keansburg borough, Monmouth County	9,735	465	596	923	677	9,697	569	447	752	379
Keyport borough, Monmouth County	7,034	382	401	236	224	7,005	536	357	255	258
Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District	27,287	1,479	1,602	1,555	1,565	27,425	1,614	1,473	1,358	1,435
Old Bridge Township School District	65,782	3,925	3,948	3,606	3,692	65,657	3,222	3,961	3,756	3,659
Union Beach borough, Monmouth County	5,390	396	228	358	336	5,362	235	260	314	368

Table 3 – Continued	2021					2022					2023				
School District	2021 Total Pop	Under 5 years	5 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	15 to 19 years	2022 Total Pop	Under 5 years	5 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	15 to 19 years	2023 Total Pop	Under 5 years	5 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	15 to 19 years
Hazlet Township School District	20,193	1,006	938	1,228	1,246	20,249	1,140	869	1,207	1,184	20,353	1,075	1,025	1,026	1,277
Holmdel Township School District	17,317	621	1,181	1,196	1,162	17,369	596	1,244	1,303	1,084	17,401	636	1,220	1,219	1,190
Keansburg borough, Monmouth County	9,781	303	542	905	308	9,761	306	398	660	488	9,729	400	475	646	571
Keyport borough, Monmouth County	7,204	563	301	227	361	7,188	546	354	222	355	7,159	528	366	181	381
Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District	28,670	1,381	1,578	1,515	1,492	28,780	1,568	1,623	1,471	1,708	28,910	1,655	1,701	1,368	1,828
Old Bridge Township School District	66,925	3,023	3,689	3,779	4,114	67,113	2,979	3,670	4,006	4,242	67,392	3,204	3,715	3,809	4,033
Union Beach borough, Monmouth County	5,781	258	197	237	441	5,751	296	251	287	243	5,722	303	209	358	344

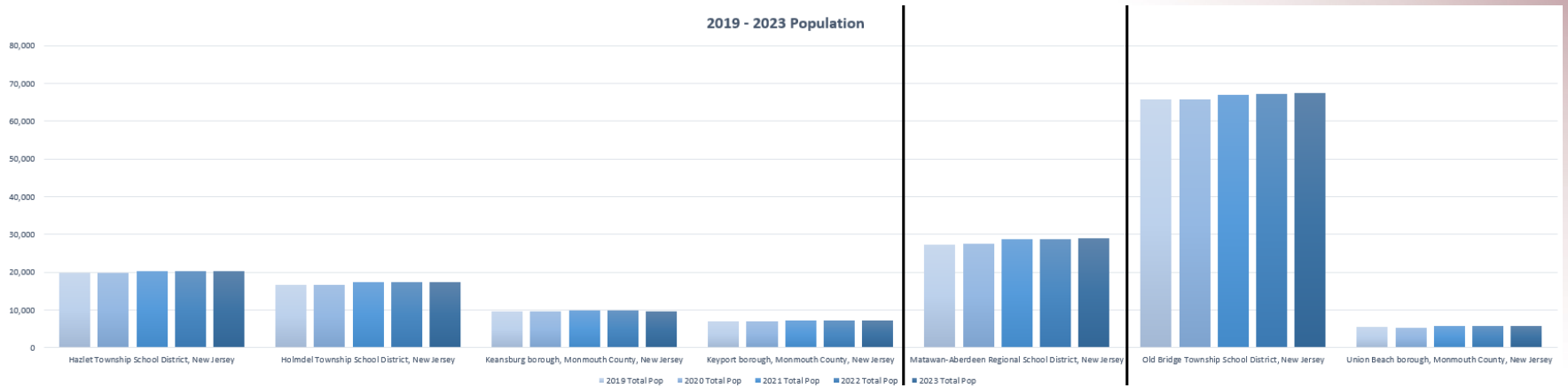


*Figure 7 - 2019 - 2023 Population - **ACS Census Bureau***

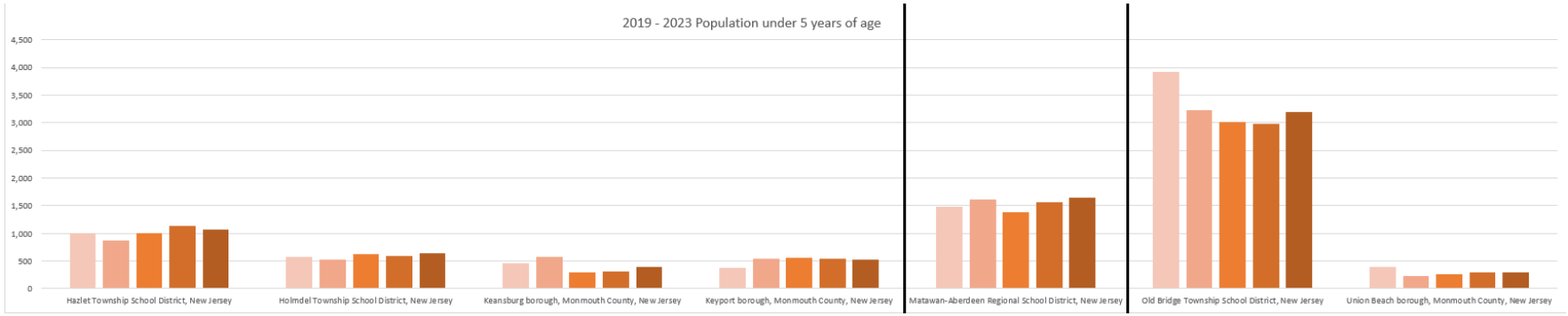


*Figure 8 - 2019 - 2023 Under 5 Population - **ACS Census Bureau***

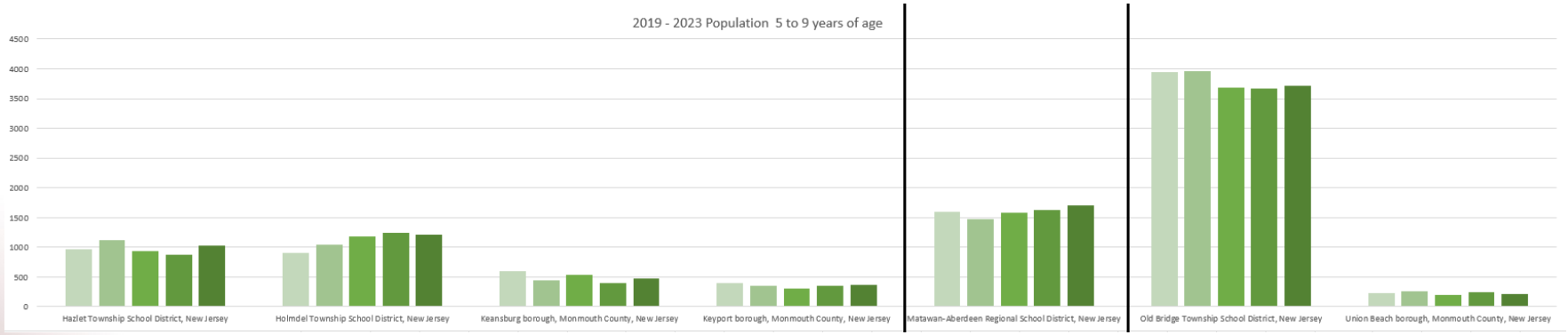


*Figure 9 - 2019-2023 Population 5 to 9 years of age - **ACS Census Bureau***

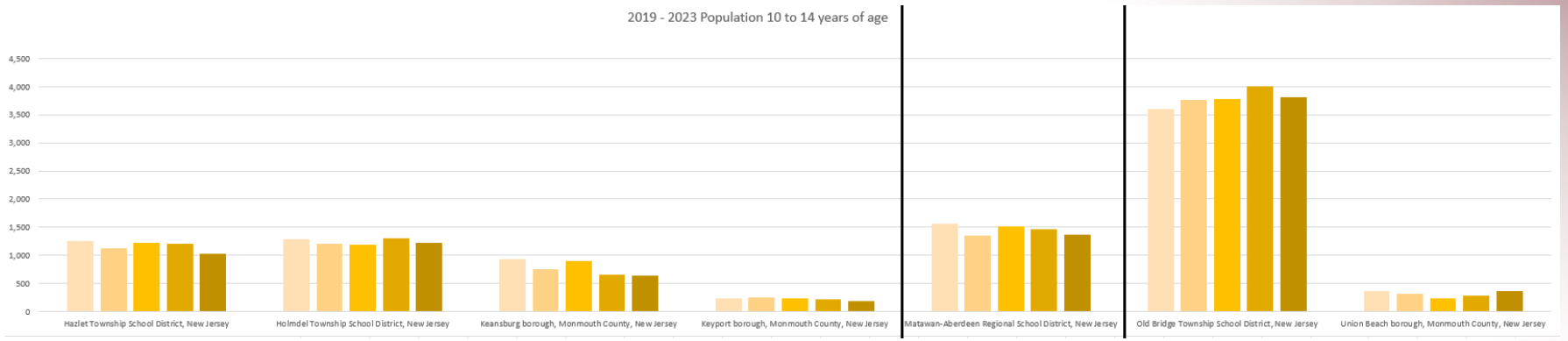


*Figure 10 - 2019-2023 Population 10 to 14 years of age - **ACS Census Bureau***

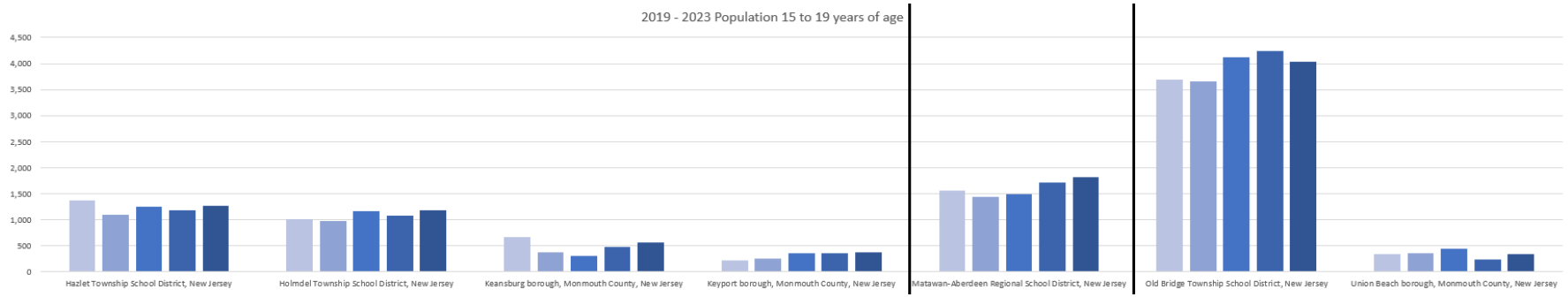


*Figure 11 - 2019-2023 Population 15 to 19 years of age - **ACS Census Bureau***

Based on the data from Table 3 on Page 16, we can see that the total population for MARSD between 2020 and 2023 was estimated to grow by 1,485, representing a 5.4% increase (or 1.8% annually). As previously discussed, the population growth rate for the 2010 to 2020 decade was 6.8% (or 0.68% annually). In reviewing population changes in Table 3 and Figure 6, a population jump can be observed between 2020 and 2021, with the growth rate returning to its average for the following years.

The population of children under the age of 5 as outlined in Table 3 remains nearly the same between 2020 and 2023. However, as noted in Figure 7, there is a drop in this population between 2020 and 2021. Starting in 2021, and for the next 2 years, the population of this age group begins to grow from its lowest estimated number in 2021 of 1,381, to 1,655 in 2023.

The population between 5 and 9 years of age experienced growth between 2020 and 2023. However, similar to the under 5 age group, there was an initial drop in population,

in this case being between 2019 and 2020. The population had its lowest number in 2020 of 1,473, then grew to 1,701 in 2023.

The population between 10 and 14 years of age remained nearly the same between 2020 and 2023. As shown in Figure 9, this population first increased between 2020 and 2021, then slowly decreased in the following two years. This population had its lowest count in 2020 at 1,358, then increased to 1,368 by 2023.

The population between 15 and 19 years of age steadily increased from 1,435 in 2020 to 1,828 in 2023. This population also experienced a drop between 2019 and 2020.

In viewing the neighboring school districts, there is no general trend that can be readily identified. The total population for these districts increased by 2.9% between 2020 and 2023, as compared to 5.4% in MARSD during the same time period. The population of individuals 19 years of age and under grew by 3.2% in the neighboring districts, as compared to 11.4% in MARSD.

Income and Poverty

The U.S. Census Bureau collects income data at various levels (e.g. individuals, households, etc.). The following table provides 10 years of income information for MARSD collected for households.

Income	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Less than $10,000	327	378	409	358	326	334	288	210	225	210
$10,000 to $14,999	143	215	235	184	147	140	100	187	344	362
$15,000 to $24,999	696	685	532	511	590	484	432	397	308	210
$25,000 to $34,999	563	511	583	531	537	506	388	362	391	385
$35,000 to $49,999	849	940	962	910	927	915	808	900	818	829
$50,000 to $74,999	1699	1799	1831	1686	1706	1636	1550	1496	1256	1132
$75,000 to $99,999	1699	1605	1504	1462	1411	1324	1439	1180	1197	1296
$100,000 to $149,999	2261	2198	2148	2187	2380	2498	2823	3529	3318	3116
$150,000 to $199,999	1187	1165	1248	1278	1306	1572	1550	1437	1884	1903
$200,000 or more	788	736	777	1114	1211	1367	1683	1987	2109	2229

Table 4 – MARDS Household income 2014 – 2023 – Source: Census ACS

In reviewing the above table, we can observe that, over time, households making $100,000 or more per year make up the largest group. In order to better understand the underlying trends in income and poverty, in the following graph, the data is broken down into three groups. Households making less than $24,999, those making between $25,000 and $99,999, and those earning $100,000 and above.

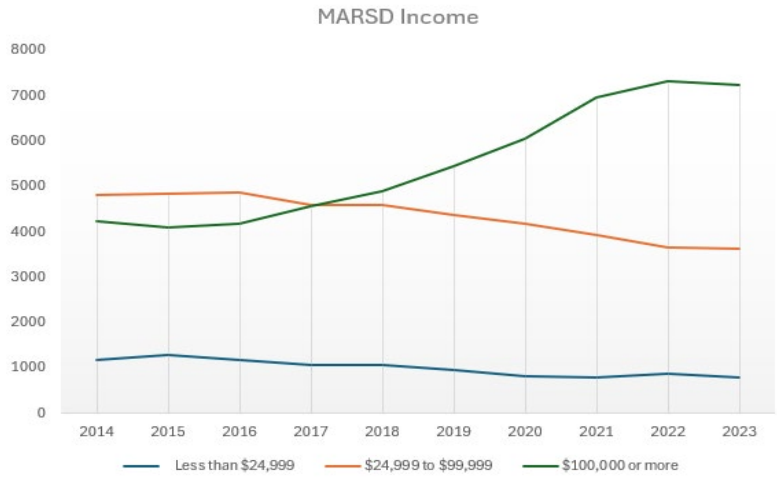


Figure 12- MARSD Income - Source Census ACS

As can be observed from Figure 11, the total number of households making over $100,000 has increased (by 71%), while the total population for the other two groups has decreased (by a combined 57%). We can conclude that the change is the result of improved economics for residents as well as in-migration of individuals with higher incomes.

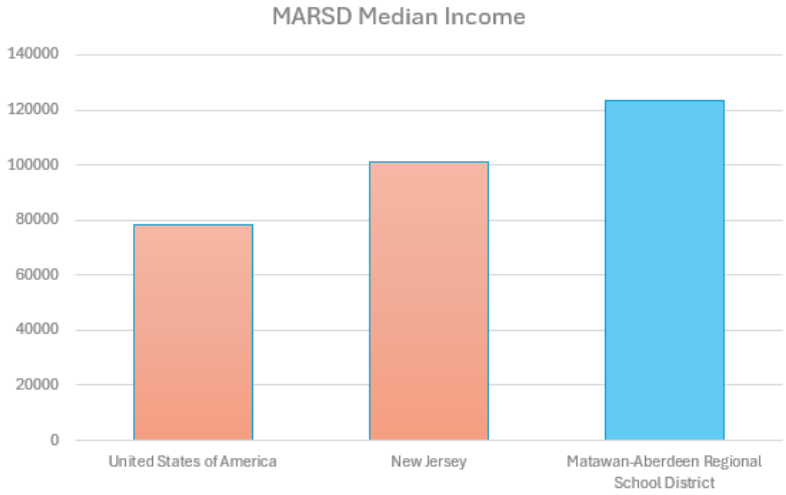


Figure 13 - 2023 MARSD Median Household Income - Source: Census ACS

Figure 12 above is a comparative graph showing median household incomes for the U.S. and the State of New Jersey as compared to MARSD. It is apparent that the median income for the district is higher than both the national average and the average for the State of New Jersey.

Figure 13 highlights 2023 rates of poverty for minors. Comparative data is provided for the U.S., the State of New Jersey, Monmouth County, and MARSD. With the exception of the population aged 6 to 11, MARSD's rates of poverty are below the national, State, and county levels.

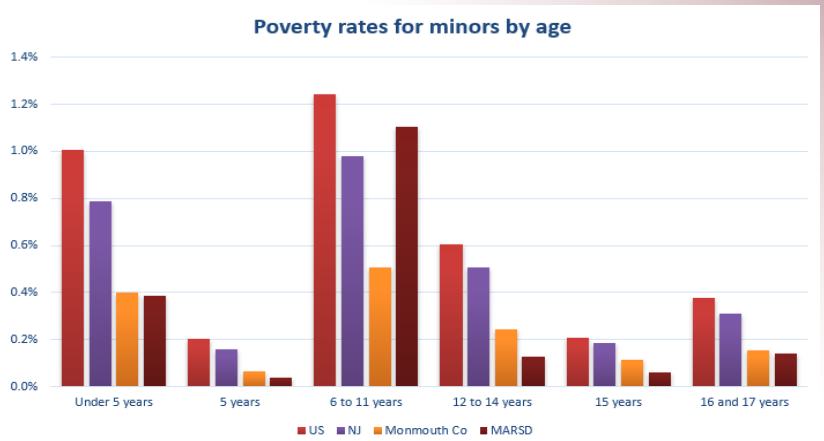


Figure 14 - Poverty rates for minors by age.

Number of Births

The New Jersey Department of Health collects the number of births for the Matawan Borough and the Township of Aberdeen. This information is made available online. The dataset captures births from 2010 to 2022, the latest year for which birth rates are available. To calculate the number of births in MARSD, the number of births in Matawan and Aberdeen were added together.

Table 5 on Page 21 shows the total county population, the number of births, and the population and the sum of births in Matawan and Aberdeen as reported by the New Jersey Department of Health.

In reviewing Figure 14, we can see that between 2010 and 2014, the annual number of births declined from 363 to 301. Between 2014 and 2019, the number fluctuated without any discernable pattern. Starting in 2020, the

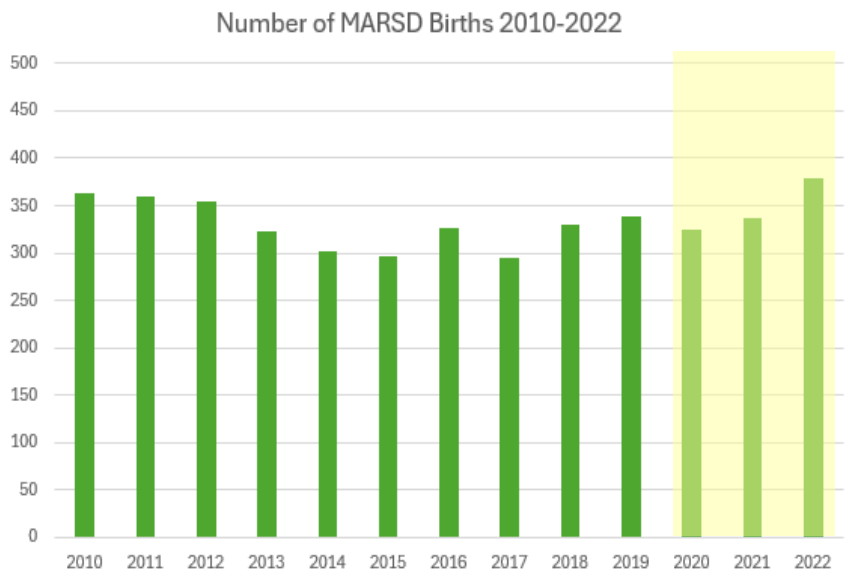


Figure 15 - Number of Births 2010 – 2022

Year	Total Pop Monmouth County	Monmouth County Births	Total Pop MARSD	No. of MARSD Births
2010	630,454	6,332	27,019	363
2011	629,144	6,198	26,988	360
2012	627,682	6,128	26,958	355
2013	626,964	5,951	26,997	322
2014	625,581	5,806	27,108	301
2015	624,180	5,847	27,121	297
2016	623,055	5,861	27,044	326
2017	622,122	5,650	26,973	295
2018	620,859	5,833	27,306	329
2019	619,687	5,567	28,006	339
2020	642,771	5767	28,841	324
2021	646,392	6124	29,017	337
2022	644,098	6439	28,865	379

Table 5 – Births from NJ Department of Health.

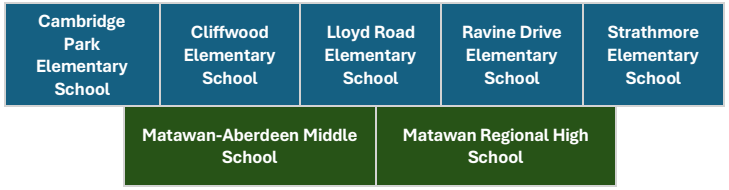
number of annual births grew from 324 to in 2022. 2022 had the highest number of births during the 12 years of data available from the New Jersey Department of Health.

The most notable part of the data, which is highlighted in Table 5 and Figure 14, are the years from 2020 to 2022. These numbers form the entering classes for Kindergarten in the next five years. The average annual increase in births between 2020 and 2022 is 6%.

Cohort Survival Analysis

The cohort survival method predicts school enrollment by tracking a group of students (a cohort) as they progress through the education system, assuming that past enrollment patterns will continue. This method is most useful in situations where the population of the district is generally stable. In the case of MARSD, the total population of the district grew by 7% between 2010 and 2022 (the time period for which birth rates are available). This translates to a 0.6% population growth annually, making cohort survival analysis appropriate for MARSD.

The data used to support the analysis was received from MARSD and included district and grade totals between 2009 and 2024. The grade totals covered Pre-K to Grade 12 for the seven schools in MARSD listed below.



Grade Level	Elementary									Middle				High					Total Students	K-12
	Pre-K	KG	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Elem. K-3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Elem. 4-5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Middle	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	High School		
2009-2010	110	309	321	293	299	1222	264	305	569	287	247	299	833	297	296	230	274	1097	3831	3721
2010-2011	93	290	295	326	287	1198	298	264	562	304	280	251	835	301	258	269	222	1050	3738	3645
2011-2012	95	340	290	292	313	1235	288	304	592	266	296	280	842	254	269	238	262	1023	3787	3692
2012-2013	85	305	326	271	290	1192	303	280	583	307	269	286	862	274	227	257	239	997	3719	3634
2013-2014	92	321	300	325	269	1215	292	310	602	282	303	279	864	276	248	211	261	996	3769	3677
2014-2015	93	351	320	287	321	1279	284	290	574	316	288	308	912	258	258	226	211	953	3811	3718
2015-2016	95	255	338	302	281	1176	315	275	590	285	307	286	878	272	234	237	238	981	3720	3625
2016-2017	97	276	255	326	294	1151	275	317	592	278	282	306	866	268	247	216	247	978	3687	3587
2017-2018	98	265	280	240	327	1112	285	287	572	326	269	289	884	271	256	242	235	1004	3670	3572
2018-2019	100	272	272	262	258	1064	327	284	611	282	324	275	881	279	270	243	237	1029	3690	3585
2019-2020	145	255	263	272	273	1063	255	327	582	293	282	332	907	287	263	254	254	1058	3755	3610
2020-2021	142	217	246	254	282	999	263	260	523	329	289	280	898	331	261	243	259	1094	3656	3514
2021-2022	178	255	248	253	254	1010	271	262	533	244	333	288	865	316	283	239	247	1085	3671	3493
2022-2023	355	269	263	257	260	1049	262	277	539	274	242	328	844	292	278	285	274	1129	3916	3561
2023-2024	441	282	271	273	262	1088	260	275	535	279	280	244	803	307	263	258	308	1136	4003	3562
2024-2025	442	276	276	272	258	1082	261	261	522	277	271	289	837	234	293	260	288	1075	3958	3516

Table 6 – MARSD Student population 2009-2024 (Grey box shows the portion of data used for calculation of cohort ratios) – Source: MARSD

Between 2009 and 2021, all Pre-K students were generally enrolled in Cambridge Park Elementary (note: there were Pre-K classes at Cliffwood Elementary during 2019 and 2020). For the 2021 to 2023 school years, Pre-K classes were added to Cliffwood Elementary School and continued through 2024 - 2025. For the 2022 - 2023 school year, Pre-K classes were also added to Ravin Drive and Strathmore Elementary Schools, which continued to 2024 - 2025. In Table 6, Pre-K is highlighted in blue in the far-left column.

Students in Kindergarten through 3rd Grade have traditionally been split between Cliffwood, Ravine Drive, and Strathmore Elementary schools. This group is totaled in Table 6 in the column marked “Elem K-3” and is highlighted in blue.

Grades 4 and 5 have historically attended Lloyd Road Elementary School. This group is totaled in Table 6 in the column marked “Elem 4-5” and is highlighted in blue.

Grades 6, 7, and 8 attend Matawan-Aberdeen Middle School. The group is totaled in Table 6 in the column marked “Middle” and is also highlighted in blue.

Grades 9 to 12 attend Matawan Regional High School and are totaled in the column marked "High School" and is also highlighted in blue. The population of the MARSD schools is broken down into five groups. This method of organization was selected because the groups share schools.

In reviewing the data with regard to the total student population, we can see that while there has been year to year fluctuations (between 2009 and 2021 generally), the total population has trended slightly downward as shown via the blue line in Figure 15. The student population in 2009 was 3,831, and in 2021 it was 3,671, representing a 4.2% decrease.

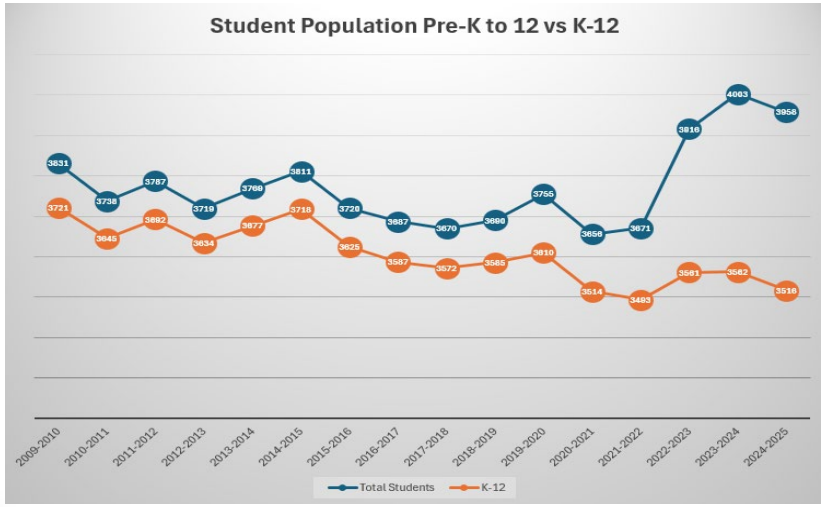


Figure 16 - Total Student Population vs. K-12 - Source: MARSD

With additional funding for Pre-K, starting in 2022 the district experienced a surge in the number of Pre-K students. The orange line in Figure 15 shows the student population without the Pre-K students. The district's Pre-K funding is expected to be for a maximum of 500 students.

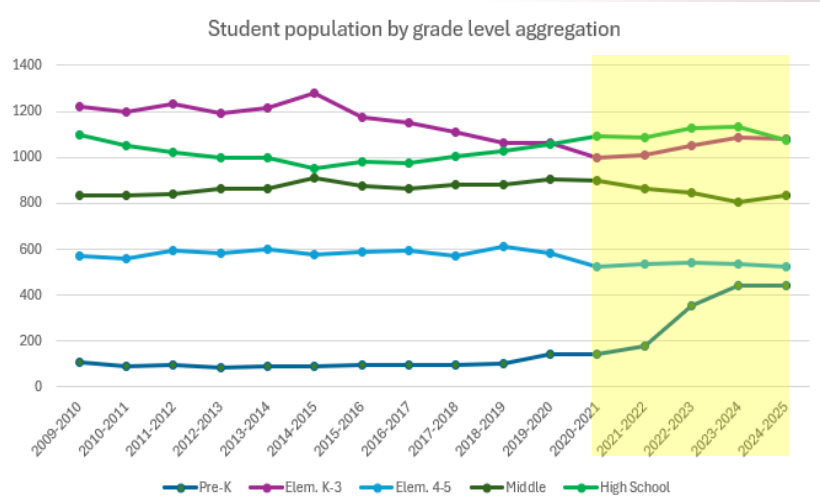


Figure 17 - Student population by grade level aggregation - Source: MARSD

Figure 16 is a graph of aggregated student totals from 2009 to 2024. The aggregations are from Table 6 for Pre-K, Elementary K-3, Elementary 4-5, Middle 6-8, and High School 9-12. The highlighted portion of Figure 16 shows the years where the increase in population occurred for Pre-K. We can also note that the Elementary K-3 population totals also increase during the same time period.

It is worth noting that beginning in 2020, the number births attributed to MARSD, which were previously discussed, began to increase. This data was highlighted in Table 5 and Figure 14 on Page 21. Table 3 on Page 16, which provided population data from the Census Bureau's ACS, showed a

similar increase for the under 5 population between 2021 and 2023. Similar trends from different data sources confirm that the increase in Pre-K and Kindergarten is a multi-year trend rather than year- to-year fluctuations.

The duration of this trend is affected by several factors, including how cohorts of students have progressed through the MARSD system in the past. This will require the establishment of cohort survival rates, then the application of those rates to determine future student counts. Additionally, any forecast of future students will need to take into account planned residential development projects which are permitted or under construction. The forecast must also consider long-term, overall population projections for the area.

Population Projection

The population projections used for this part of the analysis were released on July 1, 2024, by the University of Virginia, Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service (https://www.coopercenter.org/national-population-projections). This data provides projections of the total population for each state in the U.S. from 2020 to 2050. The data for New Jersey was apportioned to Monmouth County by total population, then to MARSD. The results of this analysis are displayed in the following table.

Year	2020	2030	2040	2050
New Jersey	9,288,994	9,675,872	9,828,845	9,867,242
Monmouth County	643,615	670,421	681,020	683,681
MARSD	28,894	30,097	30,573	30,693

Table 7 – Population Projection 2020 – 2050 – Source: UVA Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service (Apportioned based on Census data)

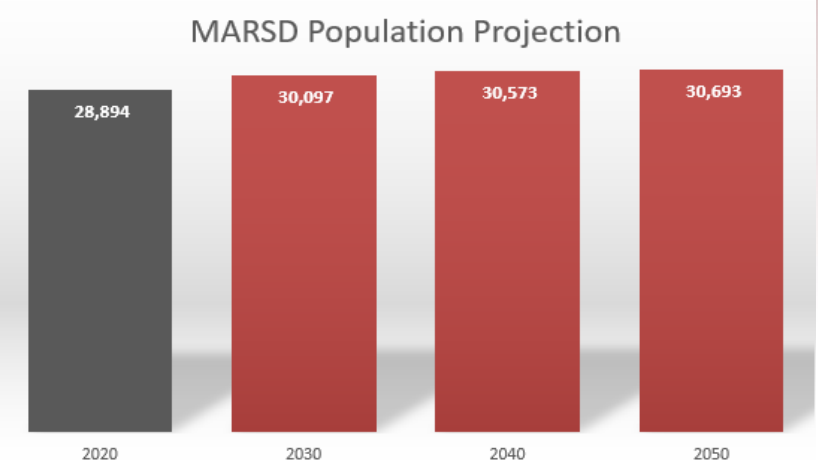


Figure 18- MARSD Total Population Projection

As can be noted, the overall expected population growth for MARSD between 2020 and 2030 is approximately 4.2%, which is lower than the 6.9% population growth rate that the district experienced between 2010 and 2020.

The Weldon Cooper Center data also includes projections for age ranges matching those produced by the Census Bureau. The following table highlights the data for ages 0 to 19. This data was also apportioned using total population.

Year	2020			
Age Group	Under 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19
New Jersey	502,046	547,708	592,713	604,078
Monmouth Co	29,562	34,713	41,010	42,053
MARSD	1,541	1,495	1,647	1,603

Table 8 – 2020 Population – Source: Decennial Census

Year	2030			
Age Group	Under 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19
New Jersey	553,731	588,518	542,727	570,394
Monmouth Co	32,605	37,300	37,551	39,708
MARSD	1,700	1,606	1,508	1,514

Table 9 – 2030 Population Projection – Source: UVA Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service (Apportioned based on Census data)

Year	2040			
Age Group	Under 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19
New Jersey	552,857	588,200	591,187	605,304
Monmouth Co	32,554	37,279	40,904	42,138
MARSD	1,697	1,606	1,643	1,606

Table 10 – 2040 Population Projection – Source: UVA Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service (Apportioned based on Census data)

In reviewing the projected data for different age groups in Tables 9 and 10 and Figure 18, we can see that in the current decade (2020-2030) there is an increase in population for children up to age 9. However, the population group stabilizes in the next decade. For ages 10 to 19, a decline in population is expected.

Based on the available information, it is likely that the increase in Pre-K and Kindergarten populations, while representing a multi-year pattern, will not be long-term. Rather, the numbers for 2021 through 2024 should be considered in concert with the data from previous years.

For the purpose of calculating the number of future births, the existing data for 2022 shows a value +4.5% annually. However, for 2030, the best indication of birth rates comes from the under 5 age group in Tables 7 and 8. That number is calculated to be +10.3% for the decade or +1.0% annually.

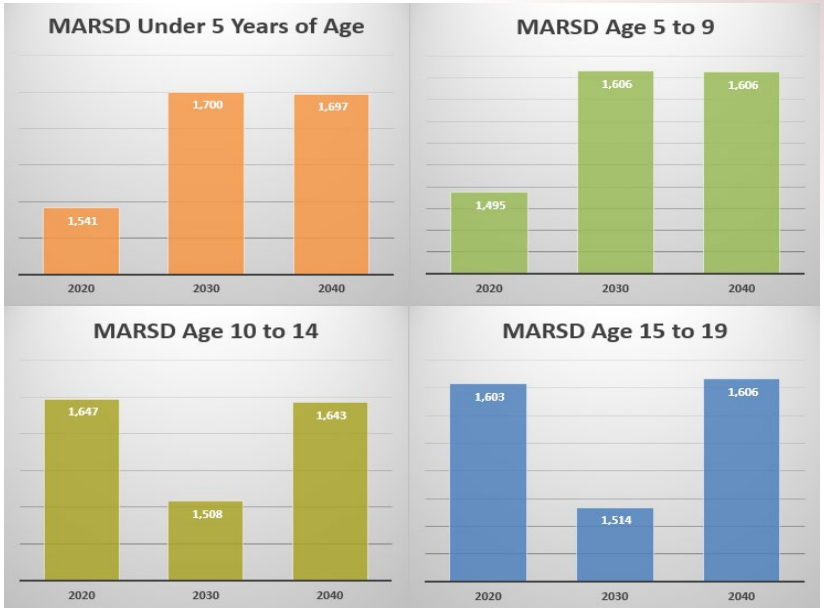


Figure 19 - MARSD projected population by age - Source: UVA Weldon Cooper Center

Calculation of Grade Level Survival Ratios

Survival ratios indicate the percentage of students that advance from one grade level to the next higher grade level the following school year. A survival ratio greater than 100% indicates that enrollment grew as the cohort advanced. A ratio of less than 100% indicates membership declined as the cohort progressed to the next grade level.

For MARSD, data from the seven most recent years were averaged. The following tables highlight the cohort ratios for each of the years in the analysis.

Grade Level	Birth-PK	Birth-KG	KG-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05
2018-2019	33%	84%	103%	94%	108%	100%	100%
2019-2020	49%	85%	97%	100%	104%	99%	100%
2020-2021	44%	73%	96%	97%	104%	96%	102%
2021-2022	60%	78%	114%	103%	100%	96%	100%
2022-2023	108%	91%	103%	104%	103%	103%	102%
2023-2024	130%	86%	101%	104%	102%	100%	105%
2024-2025	136%	81%	98%	100%	95%	100%	100%
Average Survival rate	**80.1%**	**82.7%**	**101.7%**	**100.1%**	**102.1%**	**99.1%**	**101.3%**

Table 11 – Cohort Survival Ratio Birth to 4-5

Grade Level	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12
2018-2019	98%	99%	102%	97%	100%	95%	98%
2019-2020	103%	100%	102%	104%	94%	94%	105%
2020-2021	101%	99%	99%	100%	91%	92%	102%
2021-2022	94%	101%	100%	113%	85%	92%	102%
2022-2023	105%	99%	98%	101%	88%	101%	115%
2023-2024	101%	102%	101%	94%	90%	93%	108%
2024-2025	101%	97%	103%	96%	95%	99%	112%
Average Survival Ratio	**100.3%**	**99.7%**	**100.9%**	**100.6%**	**92.0%**	**95.0%**	**105.8%**

Table 12 – Cohort Survival Ratio 5-6 to 11-12

The average survival ratios from Tables 11 and 12 are displayed below in Table 13.

Grade Level	Average Survival Ratio	Relative Standard Deviation
Birth-PK	80%	54%
Birth-KG	83%	7%
KG-01	102%	6%
01-02	100%	4%
02-03	102%	4%
03-04	99%	2%
04-05	101%	2%
05-06	100%	3%
06-07	100%	2%
07-08	101%	2%
08-09	101%	6%
09-10	92%	5%
10-11	95%	4%
11-12	106%	6%

Table 13 – Average Cohort Survival Ratio

As can be noted from Table 13, with the exception of Birth to Pre-K, the relative standard deviation values are low, indicating consistent year-to-year ratios between 2018 and 2024. The enrollment in Pre-K appears to be in flux. Figure 19 is a line graph showing average survival ratios based on enrollment from 2018 to 2024-25 for birth to Pre-K, and Birth to Kindergarten survival ratios.

The blue line in Figure 19 below indicates survival ratios from Birth to four years prior to Pre-K. Between 2018 and 2020, this number remained below 50%, indicating that an estimated 50% of children born during that time period entered Pre-K in three to four years' time. Beginning in 2020, the ratio trended up, passing 100% in 2022, indicating that in-migration played a role in the increased numbers.

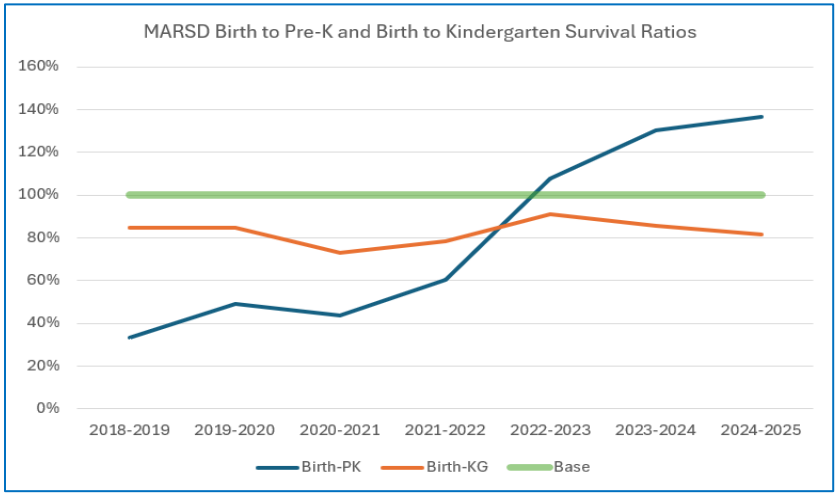


Figure 20 - Birth to Kindergarten Survival Ratios

In reviewing Table 6 on Page 22, we can note that the number of students moving from Pre-K to Kindergarten had a large decline from 2022 to 2024. There are many reasons why this may be occurring, including changes in economic circumstances and availability of public Pre-K options. Irrespective of the reasons, the overall pattern is clear. More children are entering Pre-K and the increase in student population between Pre-K and Kindergarten observed between 2018 and 2020 is no longer occurring.

Based on the above information, since Pre-K enrollment appears to be in flux, it was not advisable to use birth to Pre-K survival ratios as the basis for calculating Kindergarten enrollment. Rather, separate ratios were created for Birth to Pre-K and Birth to Kindergarten. Using this approach, the variability of recent Pre-K enrollment data would not have a downstream effect on enrollment projections for later grades.

The survival ratio for Birth to Pre-K from 2018 to 2024 ranges from 33% to 136%, with the average for the most recent three years being 125%. It is recommended that, rather than using a seven-year average as was used for all other grades, the average for the five most recent years be used. Additionally, the available data does not currently show a correlation between number of births to Pre-K and from Pre-K to Kindergarten. Kindergarten enrollment will be based on the number of births, which its has historically correlated with. As a result, using 5 years of historic data will only affect the calculation of projected Pre-K students and not any other grades. The proposed change is shown in Table 14 below.

Grade Level	Average Survival Ratio	Relative Standard Deviation
7 Yr Birth-Pre-K	80%	54%
5 Yr Birth-Pre-K	96%	44%

Table 14 – Updated Average Cohort Survival Ratio Birth – Pre-K

Based on the data from the last five years, the Birth to Pre-K ratio is 96%, which is more in line with recent trends for this cohort. However, we simply do not have enough data to extrapolate a more accurate value.

It is also worth noting the absence of a high percentage for Grades 8-9, which typically reflects: 1) students being retained at the 9th Grade level due to lacking sufficient credits to be classified as 10th Grade students, and 2) entries to the public school system at the 9th Grade level by students previously home schooled or attending private or parochial schools. The consistency of the ratios indicates that the majority of students stay within MARSD schools, beginning their education at the elementary level and completing it at the 12th Grade level.

Planned Residential Construction

The process of developing the enrollment projections for MARSD included a review of future residential construction projects. In order to identify these projects, the planning departments of the Borough of Matawan and the Township

of Aberdeen were contacted. Table 15 below outlines the information provided by the two departments.

	Name of the Development	Number of units	Year
Aberdeen Township			
1	Ken Gardens	21	2029-30
2	Glass Works	199	2025-26
Matawan Borough			
3	Matawan Junction	100	2026-27
4	Emlenrich	60	2029-30
5	114-116 Main LLC	39	2029-30
6	NJ Transit Rehab	122 *	2029-30
7	Santander	46	2029-30
8	Toll Brothers	62	2029-30
	Total	**649**	

Table 15 – List of permitted Developments – Source: Matawan Borough, Aberdeen Township

In reviewing the developments noted above, only Glass Works in Aberdeen Township and Matawan Junction in Matawan Borough are under construction. Based on input from the town managers, Glass Works will be assumed to be complete for the 2025-26 school year and Matawan Junction for the 2026-27 school year. The remaining 350 units will be assumed to be complete by the 2029-30 school year. The development of the NJ Transit Rehab is considered unlikely to move forward. However, the number of planned units have been added to account for the possibility of its ultimate construction.

The average yield for residential housing based on a study performed by the National Association of Home Builders is 41 children per 100 units of housing. However, for MARSD, we are able to use the most recent number of housing units (from 2023 ACS data) and school student population data from the same year, which yields 37 students per 100 housing units.

Total housing units	**11,957** (2023)		**199**	**100**	**350**
Birth and Student data	**students**	**Student yield per 100 Units of Housing**	**2025-25**	**2026-27**	**2029-30**
Birth	351	3	6	3	10
Pre-K	441	4	7	4	13
KG	282	2	5	2	8
Grade 1	271	2	5	2	8
Grade 2	273	2	5	2	8
Grade 3	262	2	4	2	8
Grade 4	260	2	4	2	8
Grade 5	275	2	5	2	8
Grade 6	279	2	5	2	8
Grade 7	280	2	5	2	8
Grade 8	244	2	4	2	7
Grade 9	307	3	5	3	9
Grade 10	263	2	4	2	8
Grade 11	258	2	4	2	8
Grade 12	308	3	5	3	9
Total Students	**4003**	**37**	**72**	**36**	**127**

Table 16 – Population yield based on housing development – Source: Census ACS, Matawan Borough, Aberdeen Township

Table 16 above highlights the number of total housing units and student counts from birth and Grades 1- 12 in MARSD in 2023. Using this information, we can calculate the population per 100 units of housing for each grade. Based on the planned number of housing units, we can then estimate the expected students for each grade. This information can now be added to the student projection table at the appropriate time period.

Student Projection Based on Cohort Ratios

As previously mentioned in this report, the cohort survival ratios are measured as a percentage of student population moving from grade to grade. A value of over 100% indicates that the population increased between grades. A value of less than 100% indicates fewer students progressing from grade to grade. To project student populations, the current baseline population is used as a starting point. The baseline here is the 2024-2025 student population. In addition, the birth rates from the previous five years were used for kindergarten, and the previous four years for Pre-K.

The New Jersey Department of Health provides the number of births by county, with the most recent data set being for 2022.

Year	Number of Births
2024-2025	352
2025-2026	360
2026-2027	359
2027-2028	358
2028-2029	360
2029-2030	372
2030-2031	364
2031-2032	364
2032-2033	365
2033-2034	365
2034-2035	366

Table 17 – Projected birth counts

For the cohort analysis, the average birth rate between 2010 and 2022 was calculated to be 1.21%. The known population for 2022 was used as the starting point, and the projected population for 2030 (from Table 7 on Page 24) was used as the end point. For each year between 2022 and 2030, the population was added linearly. A similar process was used to calculate total population for each year between 2030 to 2040. For this portion of the analysis, only the first four years were used as the enrollment projection for this report ends at 2034.

In Table 17, for the years 2025-36, 2026-27 and 2029-30, the new housing population calculated in Table 16 on Page 28 was added. The modified number of births are highlighted in the table.

Based on the ten-year projection, we can see that the total student population for MARSD is expected to grow from 3,958 to 4,424, which represents a 12% growth over the decade. In the 2014-15 school year, there were 3,811 students. The growth rate between the 2014-15 and 2024-25 school years was 4%.

An additional factor in the increase is the yield of 236 students expected from the 649 additional housing units currently planned for construction. Table 16 on Page 28 detailed more specifically how the calculations were made. 72 students were added to the 2025-26 school year, 36 students were added to the 2026-27 school year, and 127 were added to the 2029-30 school year based on the breakdown in Table 16.

Year	Birth	Pre-K	KG	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Total
2024-2025	352	442	276	276	272	258	261	261	277	271	289	234	293	260	288	3958
2025-2026	360	492	273	285	281	282	260	269	266	281	277	296	220	283	280	4045
2026-2027	359	495	281	279	288	289	282	266	272	268	285	282	274	211	302	4073
2027-2028	358	495	313	286	280	294	286	285	266	271	270	287	259	261	223	4077
2028-2029	360	495	290	319	286	286	291	290	286	266	273	272	264	246	276	4140
2029-2030	372	495	300	303	327	300	291	303	299	293	275	284	258	258	270	4255
2030-2031	364	495	298	305	303	334	297	294	304	298	296	277	261	245	273	4281
2031-2032	364	495	304	303	305	309	331	301	295	303	301	298	255	248	259	4307
2032-2033	365	495	296	310	303	311	307	335	302	294	306	303	274	242	263	4340
2033-2034	365	495	298	301	310	310	309	311	336	301	297	307	278	260	256	4368
2034-2035	366	495	317	303	301	316	307	313	311	335	303	299	283	264	275	**4424**

Table 18 – MARSD 10 Year student projection using cohort survival rates using **Mid-Range** Ratio

Year	Birth	Pre-K	KG	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Total
2024-2025	335	442	276	276	272	258	261	261	277	271	289	234	293	260	288	3958
2025-2026	342	492	273	271	267	268	247	256	253	267	264	281	209	269	266	3883
2026-2027	341	495	281	266	260	261	255	240	246	242	258	255	248	191	273	3770
2027-2028	340	495	313	271	253	252	246	245	229	233	232	247	223	224	192	3654
2028-2029	342	495	275	303	258	245	238	237	233	217	223	222	215	201	225	3587
2029-2030	353	495	285	274	296	258	238	237	234	229	215	222	202	202	211	3598
2030-2031	345	495	283	275	261	287	243	229	225	221	220	205	194	182	203	3524
2031-2032	346	495	290	273	262	253	270	234	218	213	212	210	179	175	183	3468
2032-2033	347	495	281	280	260	254	238	260	223	207	205	203	183	162	176	3427
2033-2034	347	495	283	272	266	252	239	229	248	211	198	196	177	166	163	3394
2034-2035	348	495	302	273	258	258	238	230	218	235	202	189	171	160	166	**3396**

Table 19 – MARSD 10 Year student projection using cohort survival rates using **Low Range** Ratio (Includes additions for new development)

Year	Birth	Pre-K	KG	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Total
2024-2025	370	442	276	276	272	258	261	261	277	271	289	234	293	260	288	3958
2025-2026	378	492	273	299	295	296	273	282	279	295	291	310	230	297	294	4206
2026-2027	377	495	281	293	317	318	310	292	299	295	314	310	302	232	332	4391
2027-2028	376	495	313	300	308	340	331	330	308	313	312	332	300	301	258	4541
2028-2029	378	495	304	335	315	331	354	352	347	322	332	330	320	299	335	4771
2029-2030	391	495	314	333	360	346	352	384	379	372	349	360	326	327	341	5037
2030-2031	382	495	313	336	350	386	360	374	404	396	394	368	347	326	364	5212
2031-2032	382	495	319	334	353	375	401	383	394	423	420	416	356	347	362	5377
2032-2033	383	495	311	341	351	378	391	427	403	412	448	444	402	355	385	5542
2033-2034	384	495	313	332	358	376	394	415	449	422	436	473	428	401	394	5688
2034-2035	384	495	333	334	349	384	392	418	437	470	447	461	457	428	445	**5850**

Table 20 – MARSD 10 Year student projection using cohort survival rates using **High Range** Ratio (Includes additions for new development)

In Tables 18, 19 and 20, the rows where students were added due to expected development are highlighted in purple. Additionally, the numbers in black represent actual numbers from current data. Numbers in blue are the projected student counts.

To appropriately account for future deviations in student projections, we also calculate high and low cohort rates. The high projection in this case is based on a 5% increase in birth rates and in cohort survival between grades. The low projection represents a 5% year-to-year decrease in the survival ratio and 5% decrease in future birth rates. Table 19 on Page 30 highlights the low range projection. As can be seen, the low projection would decrease the overall student population from 3,958 to 3,396, representing a negative 14% change over the next ten years. Table 20 on Page 30 utilizes the high range survival ratio and shows an increase in student population over the next decade from 3,958 to 5,850, or a 49% increase.

Figure 20 highlights the total student population during the past decade, along with Low, Mid, and High ratio projections for the next ten years. The green to red coloration is meant to emphasize that projections become more uncertain as we move forward through the decade. The uncertainty applies to mid-level as well as the high and low projections.

The district has funding for a maximum of 500 Pre-K students. Since Pre-K attendance is optional, the projected Pre-K numbers were based on capacity rather than birth rates. Reviewing Pre-K 3 and 4 enrollments since the change in funding confirmed that capacity appear to be the limiting factor in enrollment for this cohort. However, given that only 4 years of data exists, the confidence level for Pre-K projections is statistically lower than other cohorts.

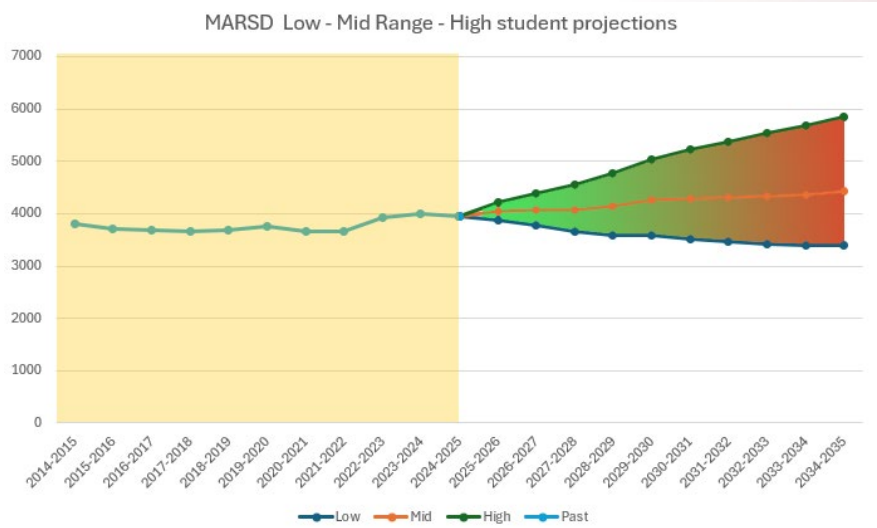


Figure 21 - MARSD, Low, Mid and High range projections 2025-2035

Capacity Analysis

The educational capacities of the school buildings in MARSD were provided by Mr. William Hopkins III, AIA, LEED AP of FVHD Architects-Planners in Trenton, NJ. The calculation of the capacities was based on existing usage of classrooms.

For Pre-K, a total of 15 students per classroom was used. For Special Education, 12 students per classroom was

School	Grades	Capacity	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031	2031-2032	2032-2033	2033-2034	2034-2035
Cambridge Park Elementary School	PreK-K	**270**	285	308	311	318	320	329	331	328	327	327	331
Cliffwood Elementary School	PreK-3	**511**	352	399	401	409	411	415	418	414	413	413	417
Ravine Drive Elementary School	PreK-3	**493**	386	410	412	421	423	429	432	428	427	427	432
Strathmore Elementary School	PreK-3	**480**	471	500	503	514	516	554	557	551	551	550	556
Lloyd Road Elementary School	4-5	**602**	523	529	548	572	581	594	592	632	642	619	620
Matawan-Aberdeen Middle School	6-8	**1070**	837	825	825	808	825	867	898	899	902	934	950
Matawan Regional High School	9-12	**1298**	1075	1078	1069	1030	1058	1070	1056	1060	1081	1102	1121

Table 21 – Combined school capacities and enrollment projections – Source for Capacities: FVHD Architects-Planners, Trenton, NJ.

used. For Kindergarten through 5th Grade, 21students per classroom was used. For 6th to 8th Grade, 23 students per classroom was used. For 9th to 12th Grade, 24 students per classroom was used. The utilization factor used was 90% for Kindergarten through 5th Grade, 85% for Grades 6 to 8, and 80% for Grades 9 to 12.

Table 21 combines the capacities provided by FVHD Architects-Planners for each school with mid-level projected enrollment calculated in Table 18. The enrollment projections are by grade and school year. Since there are currently four schools that serve students in Pre-K to Grade 3, for these school the number of students was apportioned based on current levels. For the 3 schools that have attendance zones (Cliffwood, Ravine Drive and Strathmore), the enrollment projection was modified to account for planned development in their specific

For each school, the current (2024-2025) capacity and student enrollment is listed in table 21. Cambridge Park Elementary is the only school that currently shows as being over-populated (highlighted with red text). However, the list of schools does not include Light Bridge Academy, where 29 Pre-K students are currently enrolled. Adding the current 29 spots at Light Bridge Academy would result in all schools being under capacity.

Since Light Bridge Academy is not a part of the MARSD, its capacity was not noted by FVHD Architects-Planners. For the purpose of calculating future enrollment verses capacity, Light Bridge Academy was not considered.

In reviewing the above table, we can note that Cambridge Park Elementary will be over capacity for the duration of the enrollment projection. Strathmore Elementary will also be over capacity beginning in 2025-26. The other two Elementary Schools serving Pre-K to Grade 3 (Cliffwood and Ravine Drive) will be under capacity through the duration of the projection.

attendance area. The overall capacity between the four schools is 1,754 students. In reviewing the enrollment projections, we can note that the maximum number of projected students for Pre-K to Grade 3 is 1,735 students

School	Grades	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031	2031-2032	2032-2033	2033-2034	2034-2035
Cambridge Park Elementary School	PreK-K	**23**	3	7	2	9	2	-3	-1	0	4
Cliffwood Elementary School	PreK-3	**47**	2	8	2	3	3	-4	-1	0	4
Ravine Drive Elementary School	PreK-3	**24**	2	9	2	6	3	-4	-1	0	5
Strathmore Elementary School	PreK-3	**29**	3	11	2	**38**	3	-6	0	-1	6
Lloyd Road Elementary School	4-5	6	19	**24**	9	13	-2	**40**	10	**-23**	1
Matawan-Aberdeen Middle School	6-8	-12	0	-17	17	**42**	**31**	1	3	32	16
Matawan Regional High School	9-12	3	-9	**-39**	**28**	12	-14	4	**21**	**21**	19

Table 22 – Year over year projected enrollment change by school

which will occur in the 2030-31 school year. Since that enrollment is less than the overall capacity, the excess students can be managed through a combination of redistricting and/or changes in classroom configurations.

Lloyd Road Elementary School is currently configured for 4th and 5th Grade students. It is anticipated that, starting in the 2031-32 school year, enrollment will be above capacity. It is also anticipated that the highest enrollment for Lloyd Road Elementary will be during the 2031-32 school year, where enrollment be at 632 students (which is 30 students more than the school capacity of 602). The school will stay above average for the remainder of the study period.

Since Lloyd Road Elementary is currently the only school for 4th and 5th Graders in MARSD, accommodating the additional students beyond current capacity may require grade configuration and/or changing class sizes.

The largest enrollment at Matawan-Aberdeen Middle school is expected for the 2034-35 school year, with expected enrollment of 950 students (which is below the school's current capacity of 1,070).

The highest expected enrollment for Matawan Regional High School is also expected for the 2034-35 school year, with expected enrollment of 1,121 students (which is below the school's current capacity of 1,298).

It should be noted that the current available facilities at MARSD are likely sufficient to address the projected enrollment. However, allocation of resources will continue to be required to address year-to-year changes in enrollment. Table 22 above highlights the expected changes in enrollment for each year of the study. Changes over 20 students are highlighted in Bold.

The average Pre-K enrollment for the last three years is 413, which is significantly larger than the average 110 students for the previous twelve years. This increase in primarily due to the added funding for Pre-K, opening up new classrooms. The available data indicates that students that were previously entering at Kindergarten, are entering as Pre-K 3 or 4. As more parents take advantage of the available Pre-K classes, a clearer picture of the survival

rates from Pre-K to Kindergarten should emerge. The current funding is for approximately 500 Pre-K students.

Given the limited historical data available for Pre-K enrollment under the new funding levels, Kindergarten projections in this report were based on birth rates. The Kindergarten enrollment has historically correlated with birth rates, irrespective of whether parents take advantage of Pre-K programs.

Where Students Reside

For the 2024-25 school year, MARSD provided address and grade information for students. The data did not include any names or other identifying information. To locate students, the ArcGIS Multi-Tier Geocoding engine was used. Geocoding is the process of converting an address (such as “1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW") into geographic coordinates (e.g., 38.8811111, -77.036871).

Figure 21 on Page 35 shows the location of the geocoded students represented by red dots, overlaid on a map of MARSD. This information was used to create a density map of students, which is shown on Figure 22 on Page 35. The density map highlighted areas where student concentration was the highest, occurring in Cliffwood Beach, Cliffwood, and the area around Main Street in Matawan.

Figure 23 on Page 36 shows the locations of the 29 Pre-K students currently attending Light Bridge Academy. Figure 24 on Page 33 shows the location of Cambridge Park Elementary School, along with the locations of students currently attending that school.

Figure 25 on Page 36 displays the attendance boundaries for Cliffwood, Ravine Drive, and Strathmore Elementary Schools. The location of the schools and the students attending each of the schools is also displayed. The students attending each school are noted in the same color as the school. We can observe that there are students attending schools outside of their attendance area. The number of these students is not unusually large, assuming MARSD provides options for waivers (e.g. children of staff).

Figure 26 on Page 37 highlights students from Grades 4 and 5 who are attending Lloyd Road Elementary School, along with the location of the school. Figure 27 on Page 38 highlights Middle School students in Grades 6 to8 attending Matawan Aberdeen Middle School. The location of the school is also noted on the map. Figure 28 on Page 38 displays the location of the Matawan Regional High School and its students.

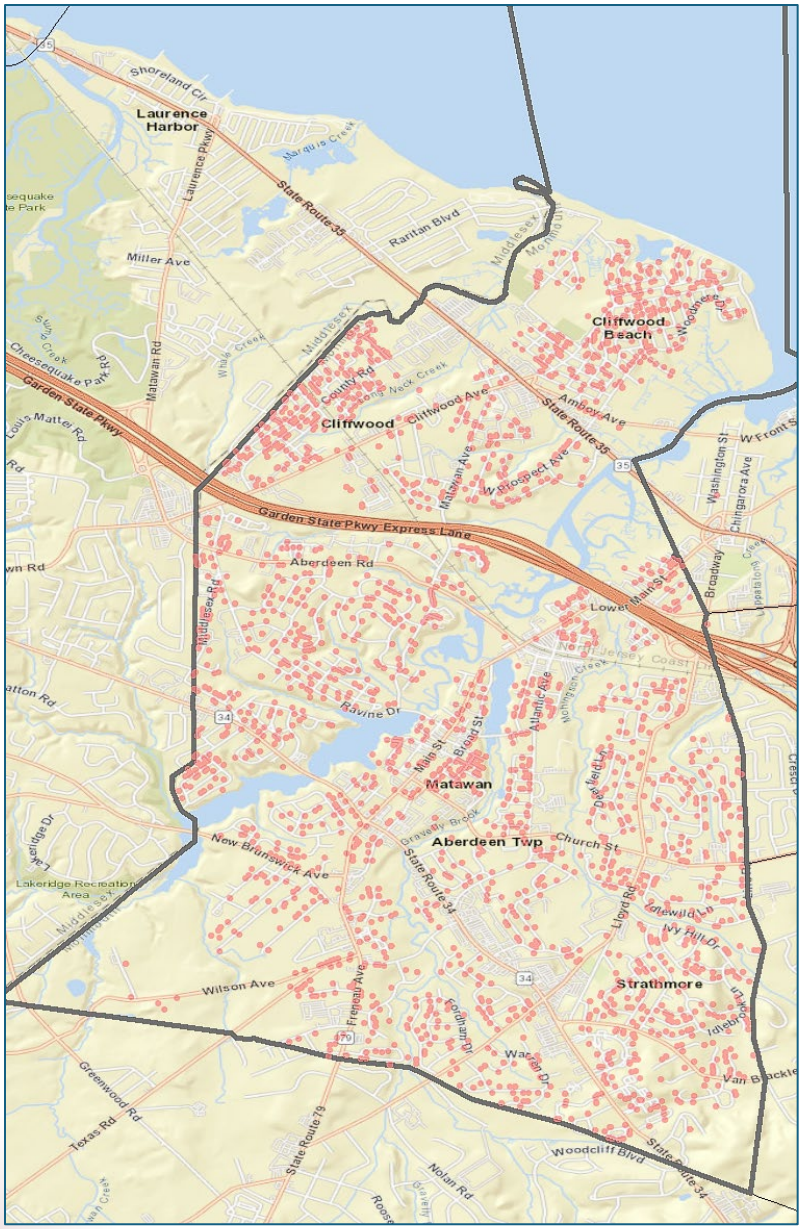


Figure 22 - 2024-25 Geocoded Students

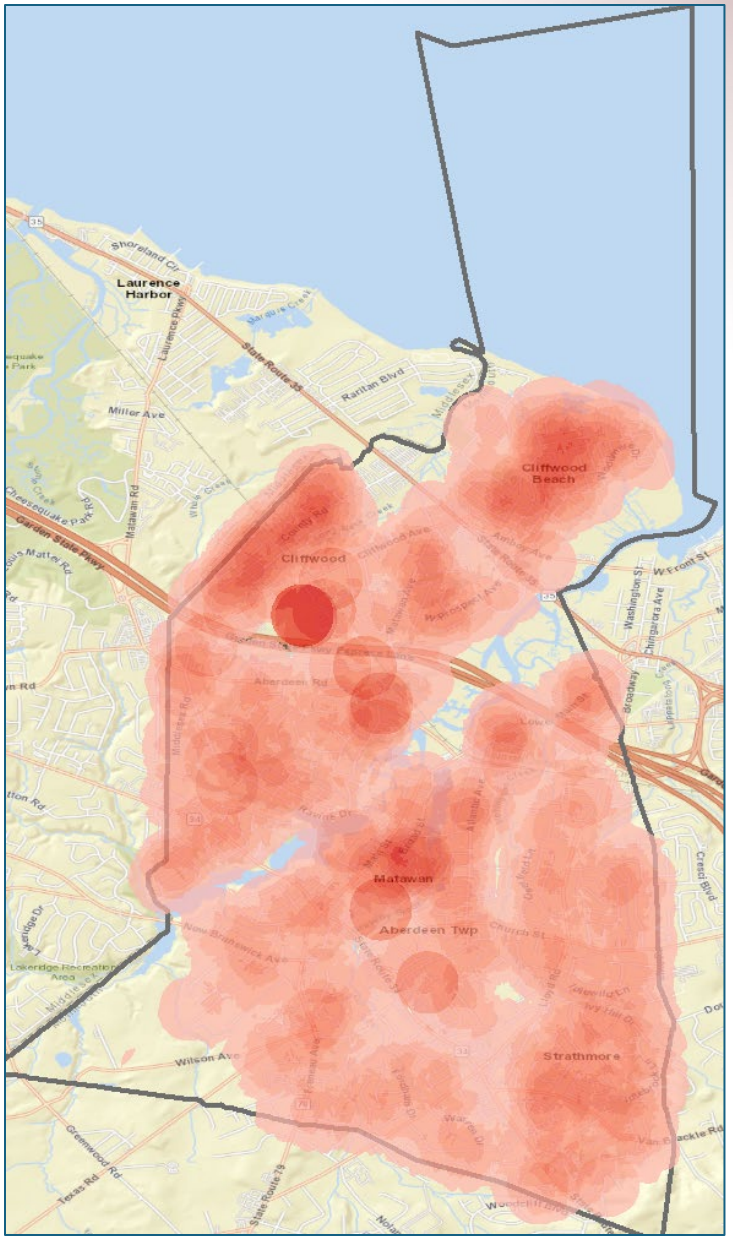


Figure 23 - Density for all Students 2024-25

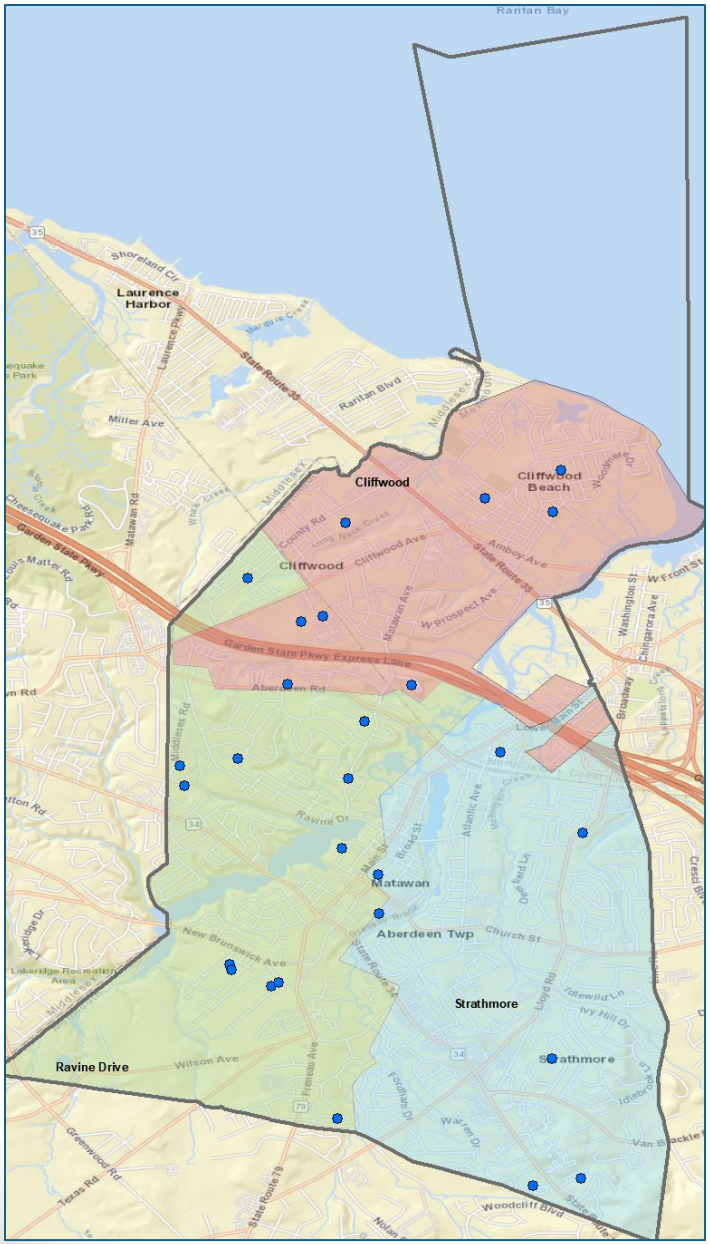


Figure 24- Pre-K Students currently attending Light Bridge Academy

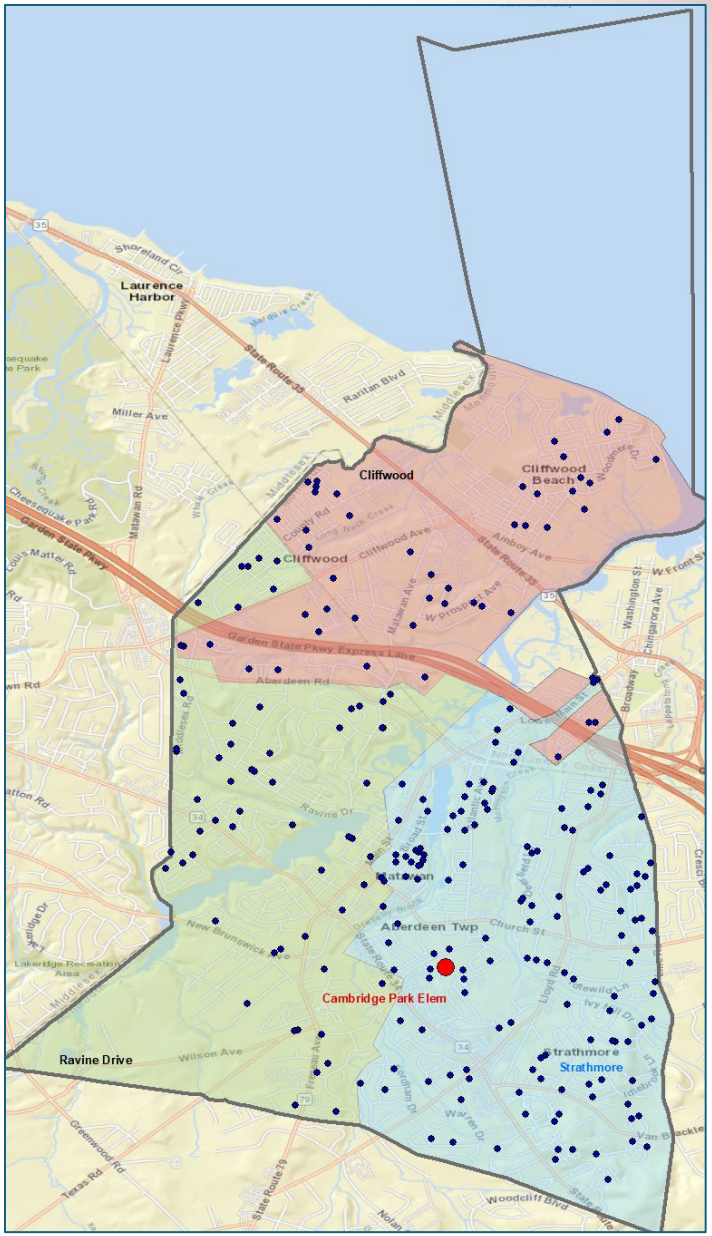


Figure 25 – PreK to K Students currently attending Cambridge Park Elementary School

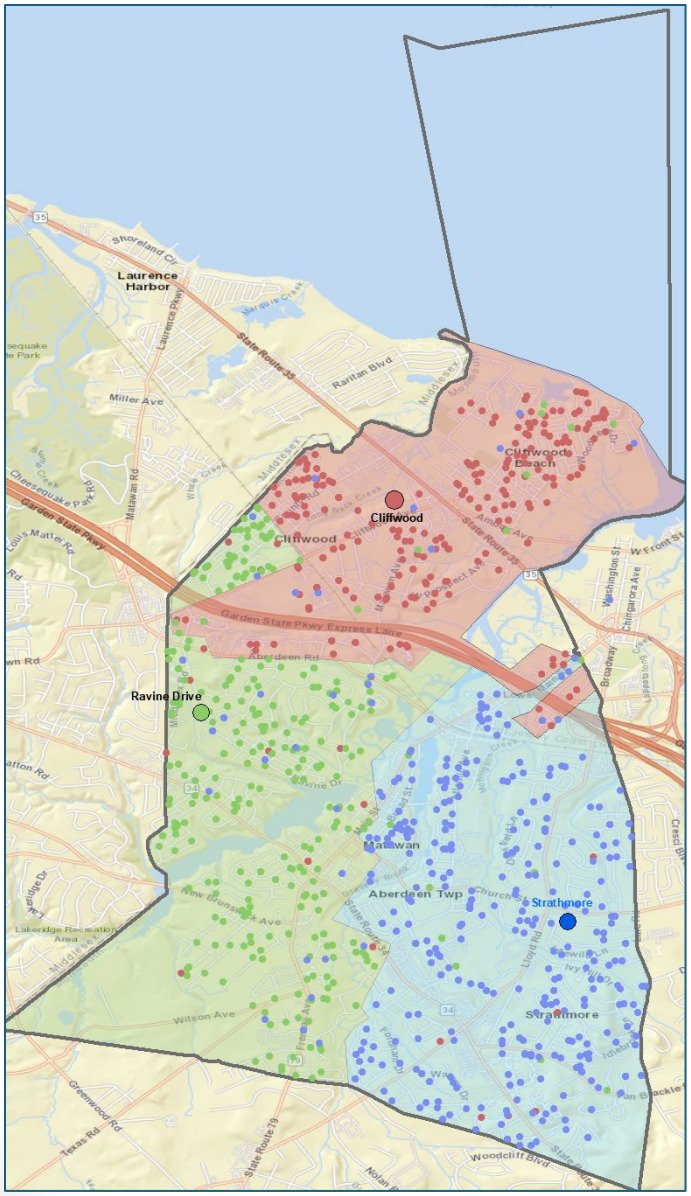


Figure 26- PreK - 3 Students currently at Cliffwood, Ravine Drive and Strathmore Elementary Schools

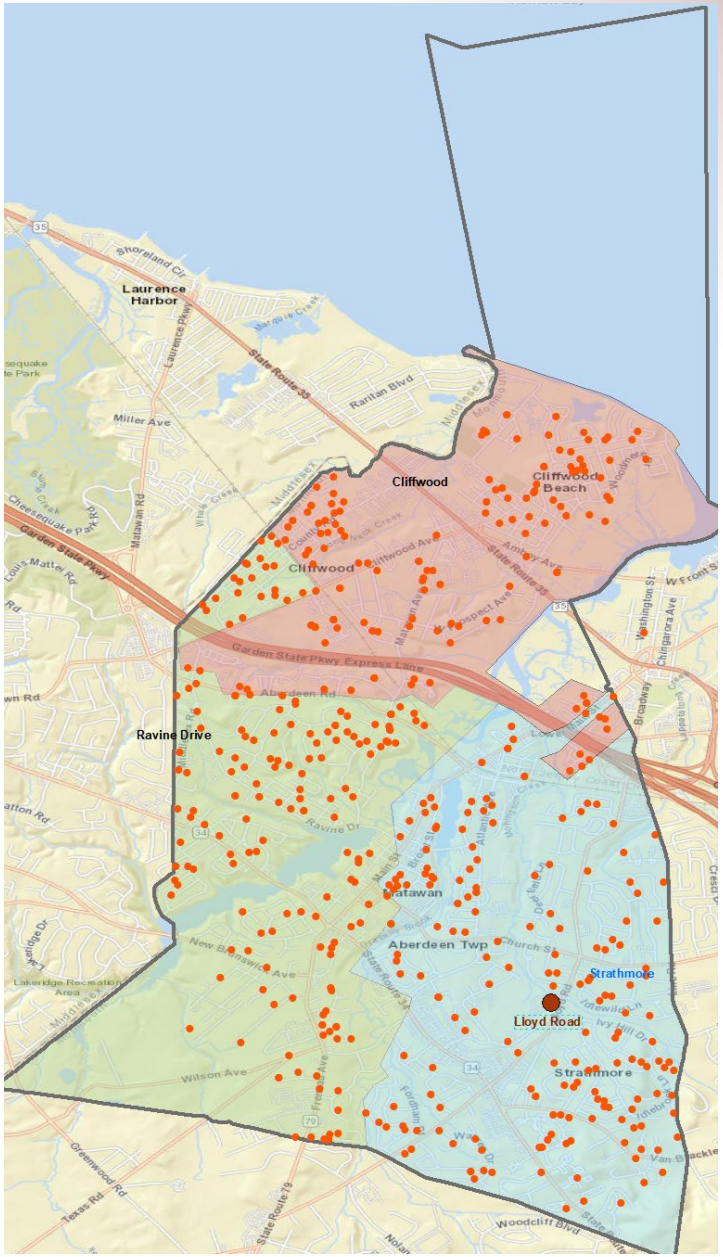


Figure 27 - Grade 4,5 Students currently at Lloyd Road Elementary School

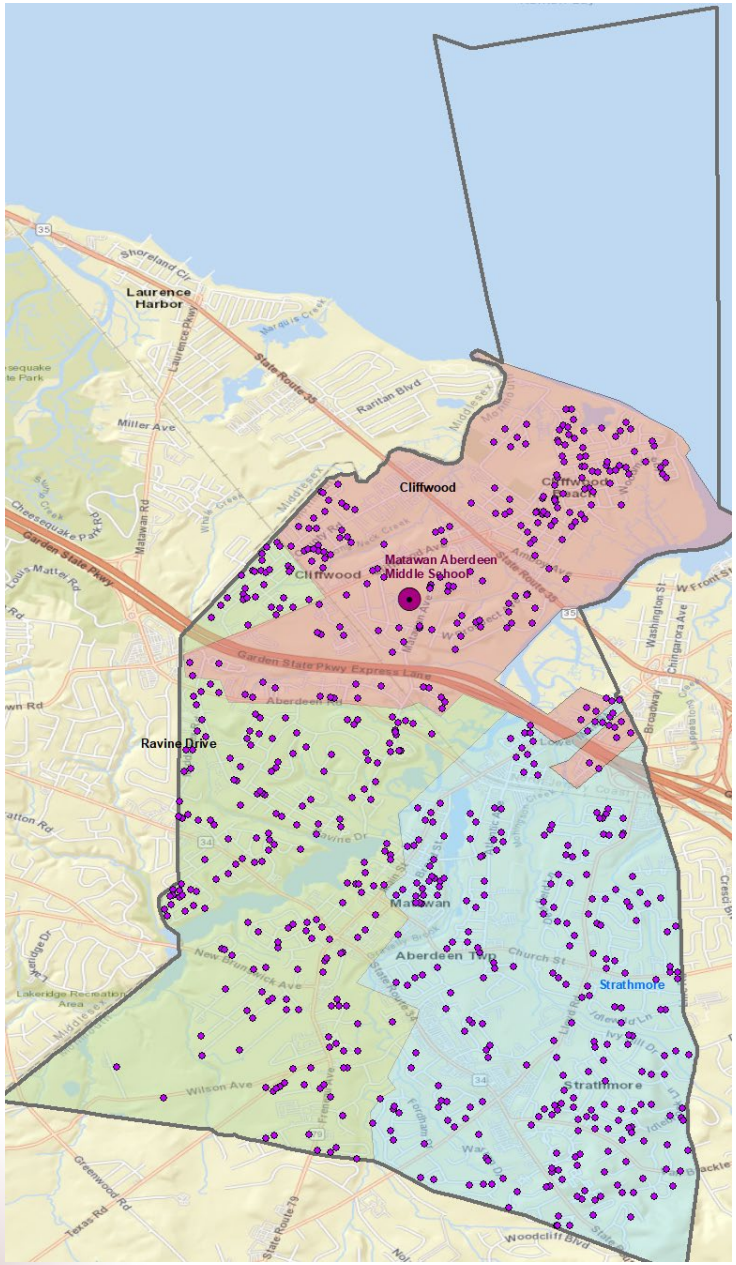


Figure 28 - Grade 6-8 Students currently at Matawan Aberdeen Middle School

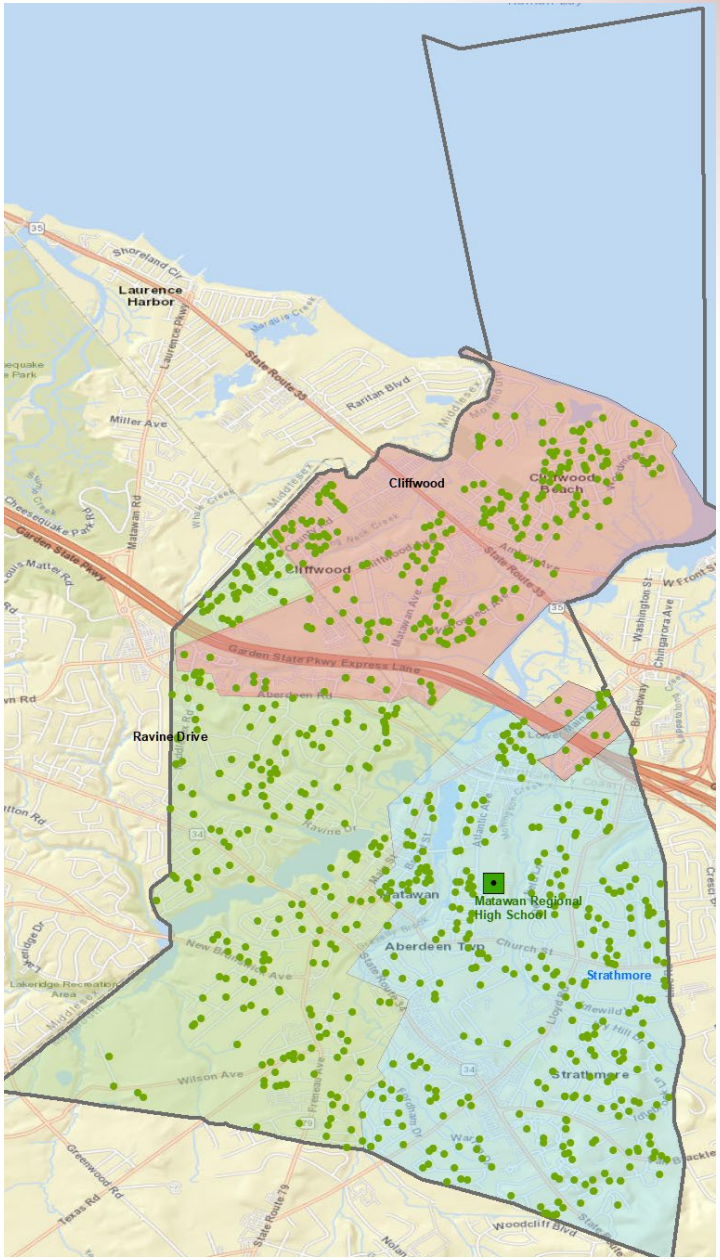


Figure 29 - Grade 9-12 Students currently at Matawan Regional High School

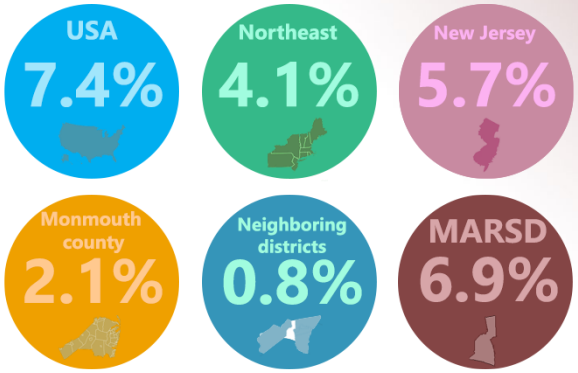
Conclusions

This report was designed to examine demographic trends starting from a macro level, i.e. State and County, to the micro level in MARSD and surrounding school districts. This approach allows for a better understanding of trends within the district as well as how they compare to changes at the regional, state, and national levels. A similar approach was undertaken with the populations analyzed and the timelines of the data considered.

We began by looking at overall population trends during the decade from 2010 and 2020, then moved to data for the years 2021 to 2023, looking specifically at the school age population groups. Finally, the historic student population trends were used in combination with planned residential developments to project student population for the next decade.

To assist the reader in following the methodology of this report, the conclusions for each section are outlined below.

1. **Population growth between 2010 and 2020**. MARSD had a 6.9% increase in total population between 2010 and 2020 as measured by the Decennial Census in 2020.



MARSD's growth rate was larger than neighboring school districts, Monmouth County, and the State of New Jersey.

Take away: MARSD's population growth over the 2010 - 2020 decade was on par with national levels and larger than the local and regional trends.

2. **A well-established community**. In reviewing aerial photographs from the last two decades, it is apparent that MARSD is a well-established community with the majority of the large parcels of developable land already developed.

Take away: The possibility of a surge in new housing development is unlikely given limited availability of large developable land parcels.

3. **The Decennial Census.** The following conclusions were made based on racial demographics and housing units from the 2010 and 2020 Decennial Census':
    a. The population of MARSD grew from 27,287 to 28,670.

b. The increase was largely due to an increase in minority populations. The population of individuals identifying as white alone decreased from 21,088 to 20,178.

c. The population of minorities (individuals not identifying as white alone) grew from 5,932 to 8,716.

d. The population of individuals identifying as Hispanic origin grew from 2,849 to 4,073.

e. The population of individuals identifying only as Black or African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander alone remained relatively the same.

f. While the six adjacent school districts also analyzed did not experience MARSD's population growth, the change in the demographics as related to minorities was the same, indicating that trend is regional rather than specific to MARSD.

Take away: MARSD's population growth from 27,287 to 28,670 from 2010 and 2020 is primarily due to in-migration of minorities (primarily those of Hispanic origin). This may result in the need for additional English as a Second Language classes.

4. **The American Community Survey (ACS).** This portion of the report included data for MARSD and the six adjacent school districts, focusing on the total population and school aged children. ACS data for 2019 to 2023 was reviewed. The following observations were noted:

   a. The survey noted a population jump between 2020 and 2021 of 4.5% for MARSD. The growth for other years was in line with rates between 2010 and 2020.

   b. The under 5 years of age population initially increased by 135, then in 2021 dropped by 233 individuals. Between 2021and 2023, the number steadily grew to be nearly the same as 2019.

   c. The remaining cohorts increased between 2020 and 2023, with the 10 to 14 age group experiencing the lowest level of growth (10 individuals between 2020 and 2023).

   d. In viewing the neighboring school districts, there were no general trends that could be readily identified. The total population for these districts increased by 2.9% between 2020 and 2023, as compared to 5.4% in MARSD.

Take away: MARSD's population continued to grow from 2020 to 2023, which is the last year Census data is available. This indicates that the population gains noted in the 2020 Decennial Census occurred later in the decade and are continuing.

5. **Income and Poverty.** The ACS also includes questions regarding individual and household income and poverty. This information was analyzed

for MARSD between 2014 and 2023. The following observations can be made from the data:

a. At $123,389, the median household income for MARSD is above the median household income for New Jersey and the U.S.

b. Median income for all households in MARSD, which had stayed consistent between 2012 and 2016 at approximately $86,000 per year, began to steadily grow from 2016 to the 2023 value of $123,389 per year.

c. The poverty rate for MARSD for school aged children was compared to Monmouth County, the State of New Jersey, and the U.S. at large. The rates of poverty for all age groups, except the 6 to 11 age group, was the lowest as compared to regional and national rates. For ages 6 to 11, the poverty rate was below the national average but above the average for Monmouth County and the State of New Jersey.

d. 6.1% of the total population and 9.3% of school aged children are reported as being in poverty for more than 12 months in 2023.

e. The overall poverty rate between 2012 and 2023 fluctuated between 4.2% and 7.1%, with the current rate being 6.1%. There is no discernable trend.

Take away: Median household income for MARSD has been steadily growing since 2016. The poverty rate has fluctuated without any discernable trend. The number of free and reduced lunches at MARSD schools are not expected to increase.

6. **Number of Births.** The number of births was collected from New Jersey's Department of Health for the Borough of Matawan and Township of Aberdeen. A review of the data provided the following conclusions:

   a. The number of births in the district decreased between 2010 and 2015.

   b. Between 2015 and 2019, the number of births fluctuated but generally averaged approximately 317 per year.

   c. From 2020 to 2022, the last year for which data is available, the number of births increased every year. The value for 2022 was 379.

Take away: MARSD's birth rate has been increasing in the past 3 years, but is expected to stabilize during the next decade.

7. **Cohort numbers from the last 16 years.** MARSD provided student population data by grade from 2009 to 2024. The data was also broken down by schools, allowing feeder patterns to be identified. The following observations were made:

   a. In 2009, the total student population at MARSD was 3,831. The student population trended downwards until 2021, when the number was 3,671.

b. Beginning in 2021, the number of students began increasing, reaching 3,958 in 2024.

c. The increase in the last 3 years is primarily due to added Pre-K students.

d. Census ACS data for the same 3 years corroborates the data from MARSD, indicating that the increase in the last 3 years is a trend rather than year to year fluctuation.

Take away: The student enrollment at MARSD school district had, for the past 16 years, been trending down. In the past 3 years, the number of students has begun to increase. This increase is primarily due to Pre-K students. The number of Pre-K students, which averaged 110 between 2009 and 2021, has averaged out to 413 for the past 3 years.

8. **Population Projection.** In order to determine if trends identified during the analysis of historic data from MARSD will continue into the future, we reviewed population projections for the coming decades. The following observations were made:

    a. The total population of MARSD is expected to grow by 4.2% between 2020 and 2030.

    b. Starting in 2030, the growth rate is anticipated to slow to an average of 0.1% for the following 2 decades.

    c. For age groups up to 9 years old, a similar trend (i.e. growth between 2020-2030, then stabilization after 2030) is observed.

    d. For age groups 10 to 19, the population is expected to decline between 2020 and 2030. After 2030, the population is expected to revert back to 2020 levels.

    e. For the purpose of projecting rates of birth, the average population birth rate was calculated then applied to the projected population totals.

Take away: The total population for MARSD is expected to grow in the decade between 2020 and 2030. It will then stabilize at 0.1% annual increase.

9. **Calculation of Grade Level Survival Ratios.** Calculating survival ratios is a mathematical process where the ratio of students moving through grades is calculated and then averaged. The ratios for years 2018 to 2024 was averaged to provide a survival ratio for each grade. The following conclusions were made:

    a. The ratio of students entering Pre-K fluctuates significantly, moving from 40% in 2018 to 174% in 2024.

    b. Beginning in 2022 with funding for additional Pre-K students, the ratio for Pre-K grew by more than 100% as more children entered MARSD earlier.

    c. The significant change in ratios between 2017 and 2024 for Pre-K resulted in standard deviation of 54% which was not in line with the most recent trends for other grades.

    d. For Pre-K a 5-year history was used, resulting in a 96% survival rate.

e. The ratios for Grades K through 12 are generally stable at near 100%. Most students, once in the MARSD system, continue until they graduate from high school in Grade 12.

Take away: MARSD's cohort survival rates are near 100% for Grades K through 12. Birth to Pre-K and Pre -K to Kindergarten survival ratio had significant fluctuations over the past decade. The Pre-K rate was calculated using the 5 most recent years. Kindergarten rates were calculated from birth five years before.

10. **Planned residential construction.** The planning departments at Mattawan Borough and Aberdeen Townships were contacted to obtain a list of residential projects both planned/permitted and currently underway. The following is a summary of the information collected and the analysis performed:

    a. There are a total of 649 residential units planned or currently under construction.

    b. 299 units are currently under construction, while 350 are still in the planning phase.

    c. The 299 units currently under construction were assumed to be coming online during the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years.

    d. The 350 units in the planning phase were assumed to be coming online during the 2029-30 school year.

    e. The number of housing units for 2023 was compared to the student population. The student yield for the planned housing units was calculated by apportioning the students to the housing units.

Take away: Of the 8 residential development projects identified, 2 are currently under construction. The NJ Transit Rehab project was noted as least likely to be built during the timeline of this project.

11. **Student Projection Based on Cohort Ratios.** To project student populations, the 2024-25 student population and birth rates were used in combination with the cohort survival ratios to mathematically project student population over the next decade. The projections include Low-range, Mid-range, and High-range. The following is a summary of the observations from the results.

    a. Low-range uses the calculated average cohort ratios and birth rates minus 5% for each year.

    b. Mid-range uses the calculated average cohort ratios.

    c. High-range uses the calculated average cohort ratios and birth rates plus 5% for each year.

    d. Using the Mid-range ratios, the total school population is expected to grow from 3,958 to 4,274 by 2034. The following graph shows the 10-year student projections for MARSD.

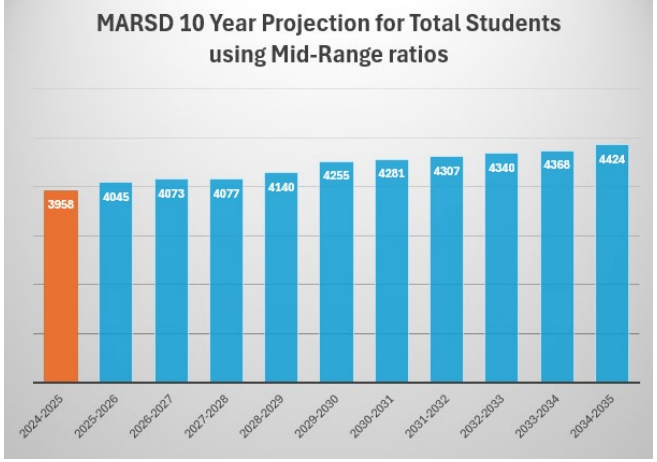


Figure 30 - MARSD 10 Year projection for Total Student using Mid-Range ratios

e. The students generated from the additional housing units is a contributing factor.

f. The Low-range and the High-range student populations for the 2034-35 school year are 3,396 and 5,850 respectively.

Take away: The Mid-range ratio, which is the highest likelihood, is 4,424, or 12% increase over the next 10 years. By comparison, the increase in student population for the last 10 years was 4%.

12. Capacity Analysis. The educational capacities of the school buildings in MARSD were provided by Mr. William Hopkins III, AIA, LEED AP of FVHD Architects-Planners in Trenton, NJ. The calculation of the capacities was based on existing usage of classrooms. Since Light Bridge Academy is not a part of the MARSD, its capacity was not noted by FVHD Architects-Planners. For the purpose of calculating future enrollment verses capacity, Light Bridge Academy was not considered.

a. Cambridge Park Elementary will be over capacity for the duration of the enrollment projection. Strathmore Elementary will also be over capacity for the duration of the enrollment projection. The other two Elementary Schools serving Pre-K to 3rd Grade will be under capacity for the duration of the projection. The overall capacity between the four schools is 1,754 students. The maximum number of projected students for Pre-K to 3rd Grade is 1,735 students, which will occur in the 2030-31 school year. Since that enrollment is less than the overall capacity, the excess students in individual schools can be managed through a combination of redistricting and/or changes in classroom configurations.

b. For the 2031-32 school year, Lloyd Road Elementary School's enrollment is expected to increase to 632, which is 30 students more than capacity. Enrollment is expected to stay above capacity through the remainder of the study period. Accommodating the additional students beyond current capacity may require grade configuration and/or changing class sizes.

c. For the 2034-35 school year, Matawan-Aberdeen Middle school is expected to have

enrollment of 950 students, which is below the school's current capacity of 1,070.

d. The highest enrollment at Matawan Regional High School is expected to be 1,121 students during the 2034-35 school year, which is below the school's 1,298 capacity.

Take away: The primary issues related to capacity will be at the elementary school level, affecting Cambridge Park, Strathmore, and Lloyd Road elementary schools. The total number of elementary students, however, is not anticipated to exceed the district's overall capacity for elementary students. A combination of redistricting, changes to class sizes, or grade configuration can be used to address capacity issues at the elementary level.

13. Where students reside. For the 2024-25 class, MARSD provided addresses for the student population (without any identifying information). The addresses were geocoded and geographically placed on a map of MARSD. The following are conclusions drawn from the data.

a. The density map highlighted areas where student concentration was the highest, being Cliffwood Beach, Cliffwood, and the area around Main Street in Matawan.

b. The Pre-K students attending Light Bridge Academy are evenly distributed throughout the district.

c. The majority of students (159 of 283) attending Cambridge Park Elementary reside near the school in the Strathmore Elementary attendance zone.

d. There are students between Pre-K and 3rd Grade attending schools outside of their attendance zones. In the table below, the green boxes indicate students within appropriate attendance zones, and the orange boxes indicate students attending schools outside of their attendance zone.

	Cliffwood Elementary School	Ravine Drive Elementary	Strathmore Elementary School
Cliffwood Attendance zone	312	19	8
Ravine Drive Attendance zone	23	345	26
Strathmore Attendance zone	6	17	430

Table 21 – Students schools attending outside their attendance area

e. Students attending Lloyd Road Elementary, Matawan Aberdeen Middle School, and Matawan Regional High School are equally disbursed throughout the district.

Take away: The highest concentration of students is in Cliffwood Beach, Cliffwood, and the area around Main Street in Matawan. 8.2% of elementary students attend schools outside of their attendance zone. The majority of the students attending schools outside of their attendance area are not near the edges of the district boundaries.