



**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
DR. HOWARD HEPBURN
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

PHONE: 754-321-2600

FAX: 754-321-2701

EMAIL: superintendent@browardschools.com

Signatures on file

September 16, 2026

TO: School Board Members

FROM: Dr. Valerie S. Wanza
Chief Strategy & Operations Officer

VIA: Dr. Howard Hepburn
Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: 2026-27 BENCHMARK DAY ENROLLMENT COUNT

This memorandum provides the official school student enrollment to be used for statistical purposes, obtained on September 14, 2026. The benchmark enrollment count officially occurs on the Monday, or first school day thereafter, following the Labor Day holiday.

As can be seen in the attached appendices, the total enrollment for this year on the benchmark day was 224,324, representing prekindergarten through twelfth grade students enrolled in Broward County's 312 schools (128 elementary, 34 middle, 31 high, 14 combination schools, 15 centers, 1 contract credit recovery high school, 7 Exceptional Student Education contract agency schools, and 82 charter schools). One new charter school opened for the 2026-27 school year, while five charter schools closed or consolidated with other charter schools since last school year's benchmark enrollment count.

As shown in Table 1, the benchmark enrollment count reflects an overall decrease in District and charter schools enrollment of 12,343 students from last year, with decreases in all levels except District prekindergarten, which increased by four students. District enrollment in grades kindergarten through five decreased by 4,685 students, grades six through eight decreased by 1,817 students, grades nine through twelve decreased by 3,517 students, while center school enrollment decreased by 257 students. Charter schools decreased in enrollment by 2,071 students. Detailed information on student enrollment by level is provided in Appendices A and B.

2026-27 BENCHMARK DAY ENROLLMENT COUNT

September 16, 2026

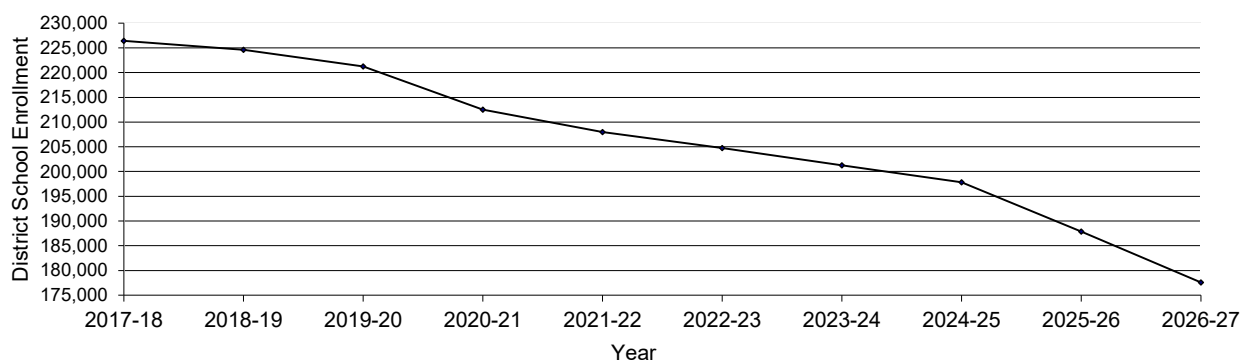
Page 2 of 3

Table 1. Comparison of Last Year's Benchmark Day Enrollment to This Year

Table 1. Comparison of Last Year's Benchmark Day Enrollment to This Year, District and Charter Schools			
District Schools	2025-26	2026-27	Increase/(Decrease)
PreK	5,244	5,248	4
K-5	75,437	70,752	(4,685)
6-8	38,416	36,599	(1,817)
9-12	65,269	61,752	(3,517)
Centers	3,481	3,224	(257)
District Total	187,847	177,575	(10,272)
Charters	2025-26	2026-27	Increase/(Decrease)
PreK	0	0	0
K-5	24,512	23,805	(707)
6-8	14,191	13,647	(544)
9-12	10,117	9,297	(820)
Charter Total	48,820	46,749	(2,071)
	2025-26	2026-27	Increase/(Decrease)
District Total with Charters	236,667	224,324	(12,343)

Table 2 and the graph below it illustrate historic benchmark day enrollment trends at District schools from 2017-18 to the present year.

Table 2: Ten-Year District Schools Benchmark Day Enrollment										
Year	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Enrollment	226,424	224,631	221,266	212,507	207,975	204,721	201,273	197,834	187,847	177,575



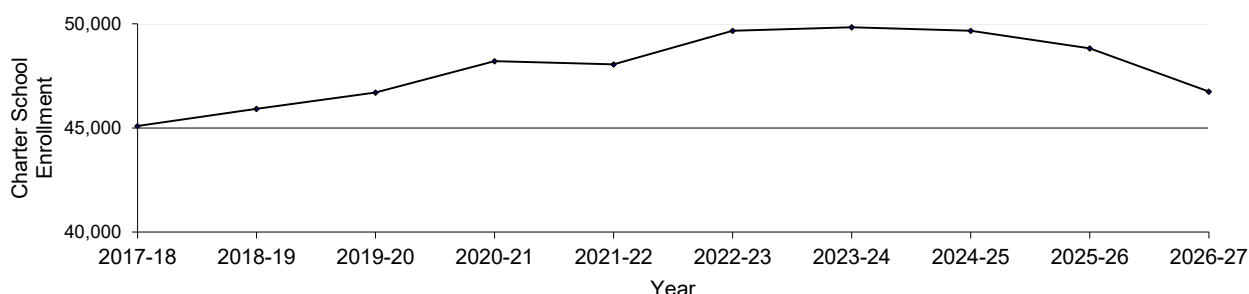
2026-27 BENCHMARK DAY ENROLLMENT COUNT

September 16, 2026

Page 3 of 3

Table 3 and the graph below it illustrate historic benchmark day enrollment trends at charter schools from 2017-18 to the present year.

Table 3: Ten-Year Benchmark Day Charter Enrollment										
Year	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Enrollment	45,093	45,919	46,704	48,208	48,046	49,663	49,833	49,667	48,820	46,749



Appendix C reports demographic data for all District schools, including gender, race, Hispanic ethnicity, English language learners, student exceptionality, and students eligible to receive free or reduced lunches. "Hispanic" is reported as an ethnicity rather than a race in order to comply with the racial and ethnic diversity classification system mandated by the Florida Department of Education and to align with the U.S. Census reporting format required by all federal reporting systems.

Appendix C.2 is provided to allow comparison of the current reporting of race to historical reporting formats, by listing the numbers of ethnically Hispanic and non-Hispanic members in each race category.

Appendix D reports enrollment by grade and level at all District schools and charter schools.

Appendix E reports the total enrollment for District schools, charter schools, and District and charter schools combined for the five-year period 2022-23 through 2026-27 at twenty-day intervals from the 1st through 180th day of school, including the 10th day and benchmark day enrollment counts.

Appendix F reports historical benchmark day enrollment for the five-year period from 2022-23 through 2026-27, by school, for all District and charter schools.

This memorandum and the attached reports can be accessed on the Demographics & Enrollment Planning Department website located at browardschools.com/dep.

If you need additional information, **please contact Joseph Beck, Director, Demographics & Enrollment Planning, at 754-321-2565.**

HH/VSW/JB:pw

Attachments

c: Cabinet Members
Senior Leadership Team
Donté Fulton-Collins, Director, Charter Schools Management Support
Principals