

MCCSC Student Enrollment Trends

February 25, 2025

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Indiana School Corporation Enrollment Trends



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Indiana Business Research Center

School-age population (under age 20) has declined over the past 10 years, and is projected to decline even more rapidly over the next three decades due to a decrease in birth rates.

- **82% of counties experienced school-age population decreases**
- **Monroe County will see school-age population declines of 10% over the next three decades**

Indiana Business Research Center. (2024, September-October). *Indiana's school-age population projections: 2020 to 2050*. InContext. <https://www.incontext.indiana.edu/2024/sept-oct/article2.asp>

Center for Evaluation and Education Policy

There is a complex and dynamic nature to student enrollment patterns in Indiana schools.

- **Emerging stability across the state**
- **Urban enrollment declines**
- **Suburban enrollment increases**
- **Charter school enrollment increases, particularly with online programming**
- **Risk for small school corporations**

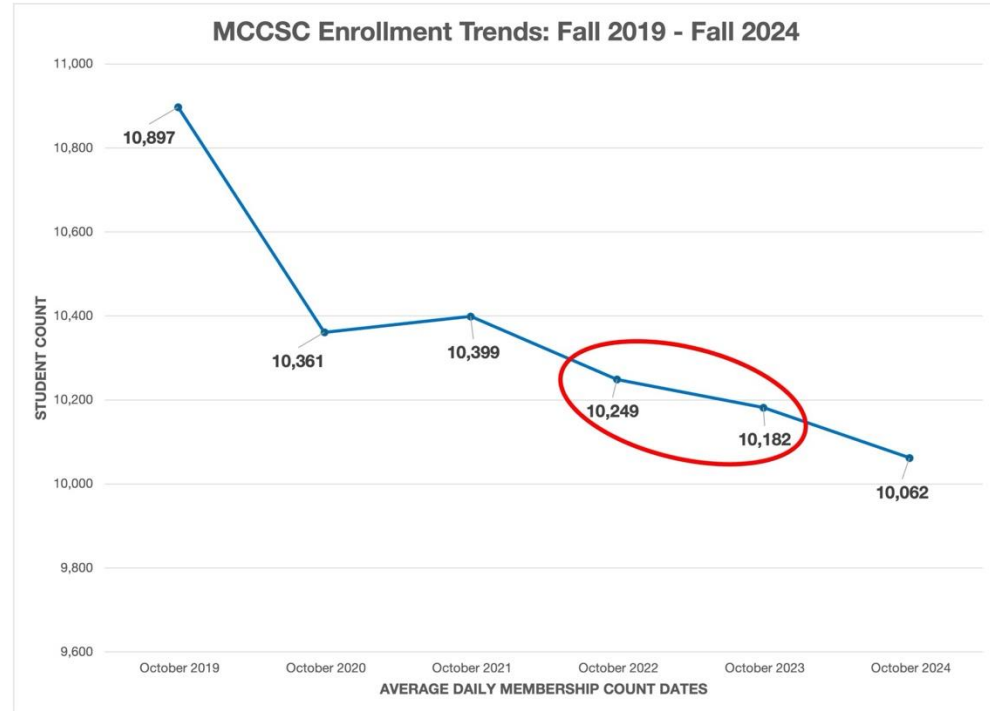
Hamid, M., Moore, M., & Lubienski, C. (2025, January). *Changes in Student Enrollment in Indiana Public School Corporations and Charters, 2006-2024* (Policy Brief 25-A). Center for Evaluation and Education Policy, Indiana University Bloomington. <https://education.indiana.edu/ceep/education-policy/policy-reports/2025/changes-in-student-enrollment-in-indiana-public-school-corps-and-charters-2006-2024.html>

2019-2025 MCCSC Enrollment Trends



Beginning in 2020-2021 school year, K-12 enrollment experienced a significant decline.

- **4.92% Enrollment drop from Fall 2019 to Fall 2020 (536 students)**
 - largest single year decrease in the district's history.
- **7.66% Enrollment drop from Fall 2019 to Fall 2024 (835 students)**
 - 10,897 in 2019-2020
 - 10,062 in 2024-2025



Source: Fall ADM Counts as submitted to the IDOE on October 1st of each year.

Demographics and Enrollment Projection Study (Business Information Services)



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MCCSC should expect to see a continued decrease in enrollment over the next several years.

- **Fewer children are being born in Monroe County**
- **New housing has not led to increased enrollment**
- **Students are attending other public school districts, local charters, and local nonpublic schools via Choice Scholarships.**



Presented to the MCCSC Board of School Trustees on November 19, 2024

Birth Rate Trends

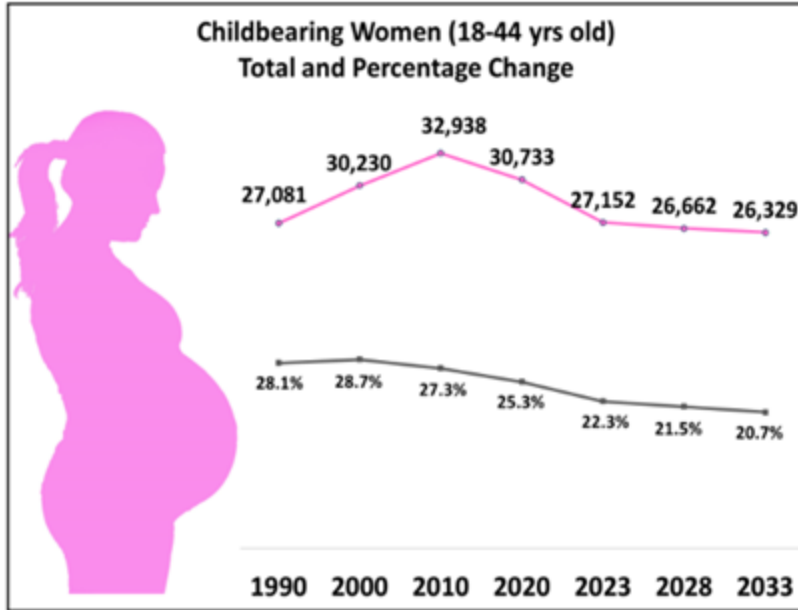


Figure 40. Number of childbearing-age women in the district and the percentage of childbearing-age women of the total population.

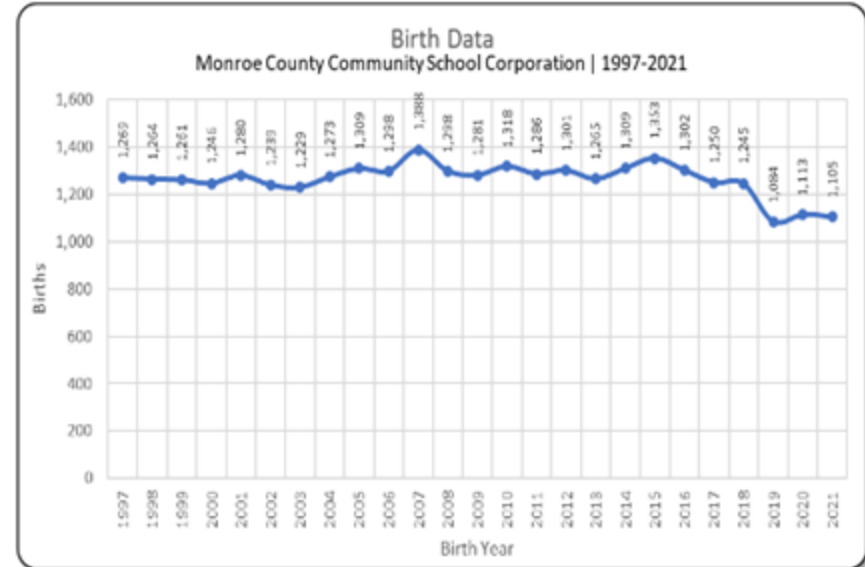


Figure 7. Birth data by Monroe County, 1997-2021.

Demographics and Enrollment Projection Study (Business Information Services)

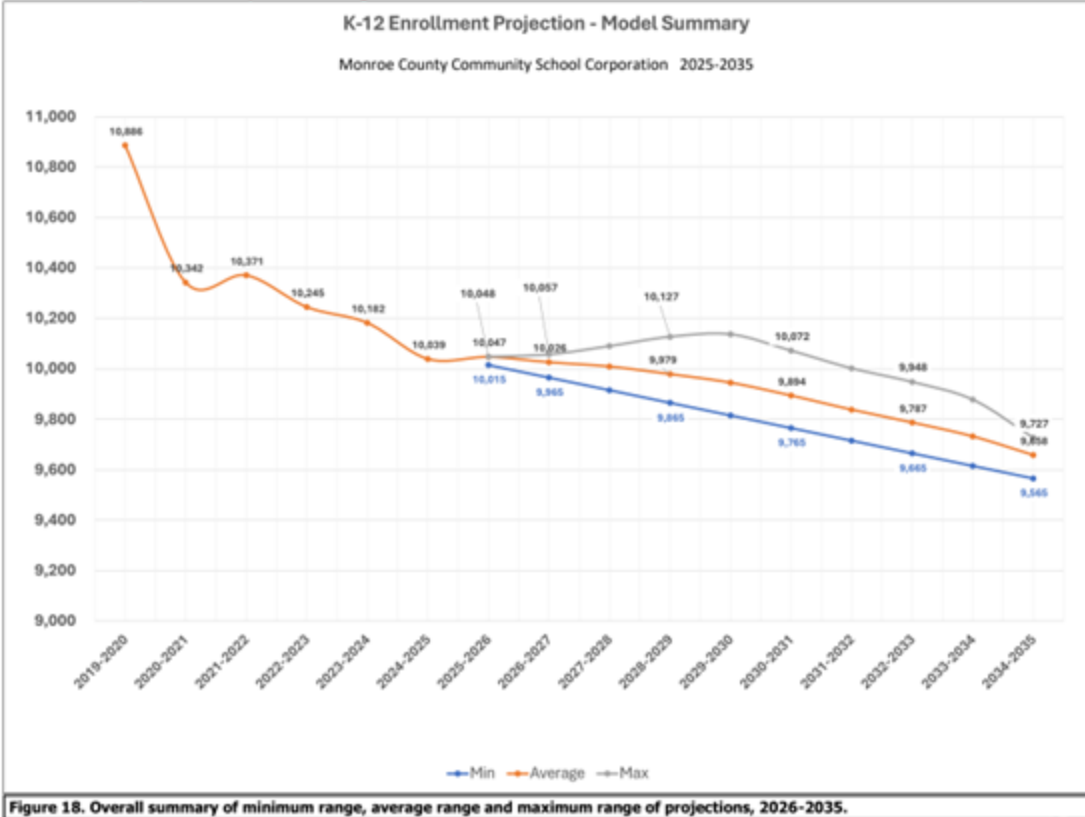


Figure 18. Overall summary of minimum range, average range and maximum range of projections, 2026-2035.

Source: Demographics & Enrollment Projection Study 2024-2025 by Business Information Services, Retrieved 12/10/24

MCCSC Settlement Data

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Terminology

Legal Settlement	"Legal settlement" of a student means the student's status with respect to the school corporation that has the responsibility to allow the student to attend its local public schools without the payment of tuition, or to pay transfer tuition under IC 20-26-11 if the student attends school in a local public school of another school corporation.
Public School	"Public school" means a school maintained by a school corporation. The student does not incur a cost to attend public school.
Charter School	"Charter school" means a public elementary school or secondary school established under IC 20-24-1-4 that is nonsectarian and nonreligious and operates under a charter. It is tuition-free, open to any state resident, and they control their own curriculum, staffing, organization, governing body, and budget, but are still required to take state accountability tests (i.e., IREAD, ILEARN, SAT).
Nonpublic School	"Nonpublic school" means a school that is not maintained by a school corporation. The term includes a private school or parochial school. There is usually a tuition fee to attend these schools.
Choice Scholarship	Indiana's Choice Scholarship Program, commonly referred to as the voucher program, (authorized under IC 20-51-1 and IC 20-51-4) provides scholarships to eligible Indiana students in grades K-12 to offset tuition costs at participating nonpublic schools. To qualify, students must be a member of a household with an annual income of not more than 400% of the amount to qualify for the federal free and reduced price lunch program.

Transferring to All Outside Schools



Area Settlement Students

Year	% Attending MCCSC	# Attending Outside Schools	# Students Increase from Previous Year
2021-22	89.69%	1,158	First Year of Report
2022-23	88.75%	1,259	+101
2023-24	86.82%	1,495	+236
2024-25	85.62%	1,637	+142

Summary of Settlement Students Attending Non-MCCSC Schools



Area Students Attending Non-MCCSC Schools

Year	Other Public, Non-charter Schools	Charter Schools	Nonpublic Schools- Choice Scholarship	Total
2021-22	22% (250)	55% (632)	24% (276)	1,158
2022-23	23% (288)	50% (622)	28% (349)	1,259
2023-24	23% (341)	42% (634)	35% (520)	1,495
2024-25	26% (426)	38% (629)	36% (582)	1,637

Key Takeaways



MCCSC should expect to see a continued decrease in enrollment over the next several years.

- **Consistent decline of student enrollment since Fall 2021**
- **41% increase MCCSC settlement students not attending MCCSC from 2021-2024**
 - **Most notably, a 111% increase in the number of settlement students attending nonpublic schools using Choice Scholarships.**
 - **70% increase in the number of settlement students attending other public, non-charter schools.**
 - **The trend is likely to continue and perhaps increase with the potential increase in allowable income for Choice Scholarships qualification.**

Thank you!

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