

# 2021 Enrollment Projection

For fiscal years 2021 through 2025

October 8, 2019

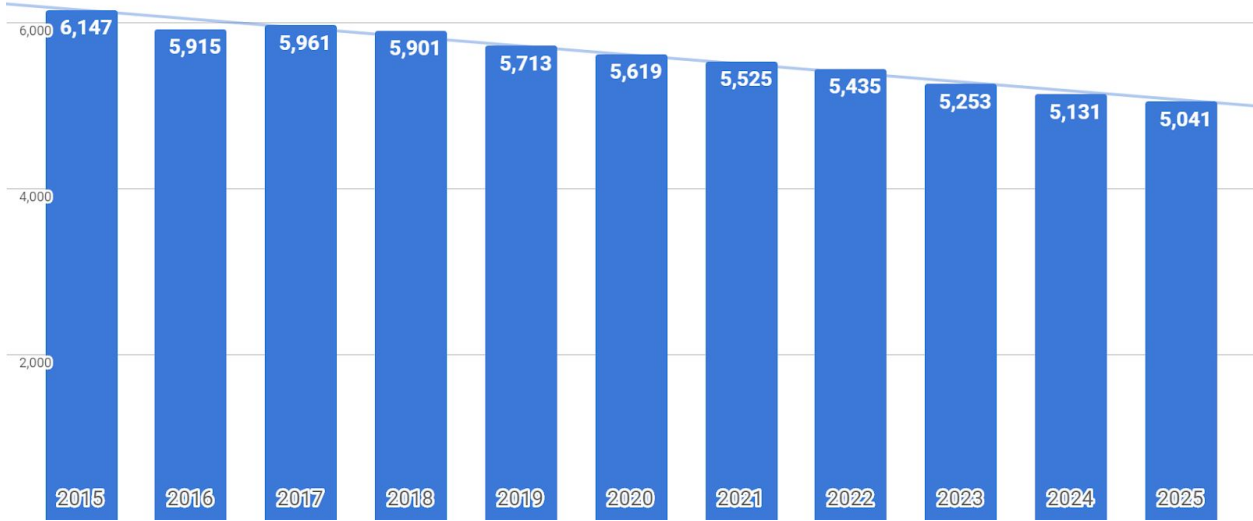
# Background

Each year, the District conducts a five-year student enrollment projection. The projection model uses the cohort survival method with ISBE Fall Housing Report data to forecast future enrollment based upon the retention rates of grade-level cohorts and births. A five-year weighted average of historical enrollments is used to anticipate future enrollments relative to students' home and serving schools.

# Enrollment Trends

The District's home school enrollment (official residents) of pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students declined by 94 students (-1.6%) to 5,619 in 2020, continuing an eight-year trend. The District's serving school enrollment, which reflects students who actually attend its eight regular schools, declined by 99 students to 5,567 (-1.8%).

Historical and Projected Total Enrollment



Kindergarten enrollment increased from 347 to 373 students. All other cohorts remained stable and four increased slightly.

Elementary and middle school enrollments will continue to realize modest declines due to smaller grade cohorts. High school enrollment will likely remain stable for one more year and then begin to decline in 2022 as smaller cohorts matriculate.

## **Birth Rates**

The Kane County birth rates slightly increased in 2018, up 1.0% from the prior year. While the trend suggests that the birth rate may have stabilized in the last three years, the 2020 kindergarten cohort is likely to be 10% smaller than present enrollment.

## **Average Class Sizes**

The enrollment decline in grades K-8 calls for a reduction of approximately 4-6 teaching FTE in the next school year. It is not anticipated that the District's average class sizes will change significantly in 2021.

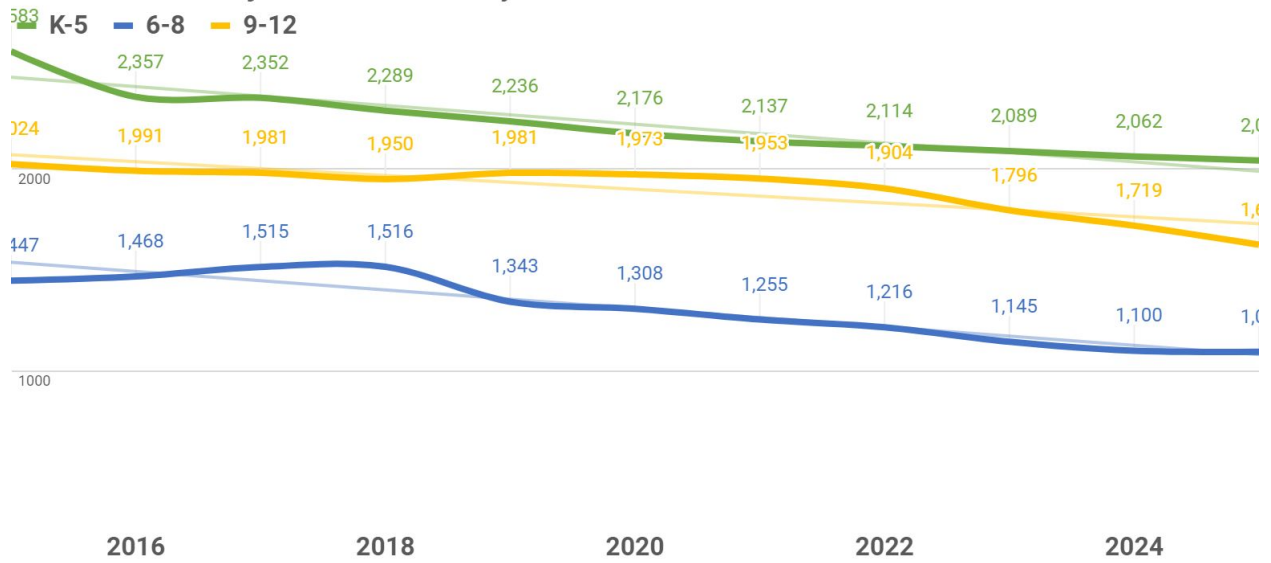
## **Projection Accuracy**

This projection model utilizes a 5-year weighted historical average of the cohort survival method and birth rates for kindergarteners to predict future student enrollment. The margin of error for the actual 2020 enrollments versus the projection was -0.3%.

## **Findings**

- Birth rates in Kane County may have stabilized, however, the 2022 cohort and beyond are likely to be approximately 10% less than present.
- Cohorts at all other grade levels remains stable.
- Elementary and middle school enrollments will continue modest declines due to smaller cohorts.
- High school enrollment is expected to remain stable for the year, then begin to decline in 2022 as smaller cohorts matriculate.

### Historical and Projected Enrollment by Level



### Implications

Enrollment is projected to continue to decline over the next five years by roughly approximately -2.0% annually. This trend will require proportional staffing adjustments.