

### ***Five-Year Enrollment Projections***

Historical and projected total enrollment, pre-kindergarten-12, in Palm Beach County School District are shown in the companion Enrollment Projections 2011 Table 1 document. These data include students housed in District-owned facilities, pre-kindergarten students, students in charter schools, as well as students housed in non District-owned facilities.

The five-year forecast is for 178,265 total K-12 enrollment in FY2016; an increase of 5,601 students over the five-year period; projected FY16 pre-kindergarten enrollment is 3,916 students.

The economic recession, protracted recovery, local housing market conditions (foreclosures/median housing price declines) and employment status (unemployment rate; job creation) are expected to remain primary influencing factors during calendar year 2012 and into 2013. Option Adjustable Rate Mortgages obtained in 2005 and 2006 started resetting in 2010, adding to the significant number of foreclosures in Palm Beach County over the last several months; the additional foreclosures will add to the current inventory of homes owned by the bank and short sales. More Option ARMs will reset in 2011. The unemployment rate in May 2011, 10.2% is still over the US rate, but has declined from 12.6% in August of 2010.

Private school transfers are forecast to continue to increase in some areas due to the economy. The doubling-up phenomenon seen in the last two years in some areas is anticipated to continue for the next few years. This trend will impact enrollment at some district schools. The demographic make-up of homebuyers is expected to continue shifting over the ensuing five to ten years. Empty nesters, pre-retirees and baby-boom retirees are anticipated to comprise a larger share of the local housing market.

Data in Table 1 is the basis for determining the future capacity needs in the District. Capital Planning focuses on students housed in district-owned facilities. Enrollment in district-owned facilities is generally comparable to State Department of Education Capital Outlay Full-Time Equivalent (COFTE) enrollment projections. (State FDOE counts students in two conversion charter schools still owned by the district in their forecast).

#### **Total K-12 Enrollment:**

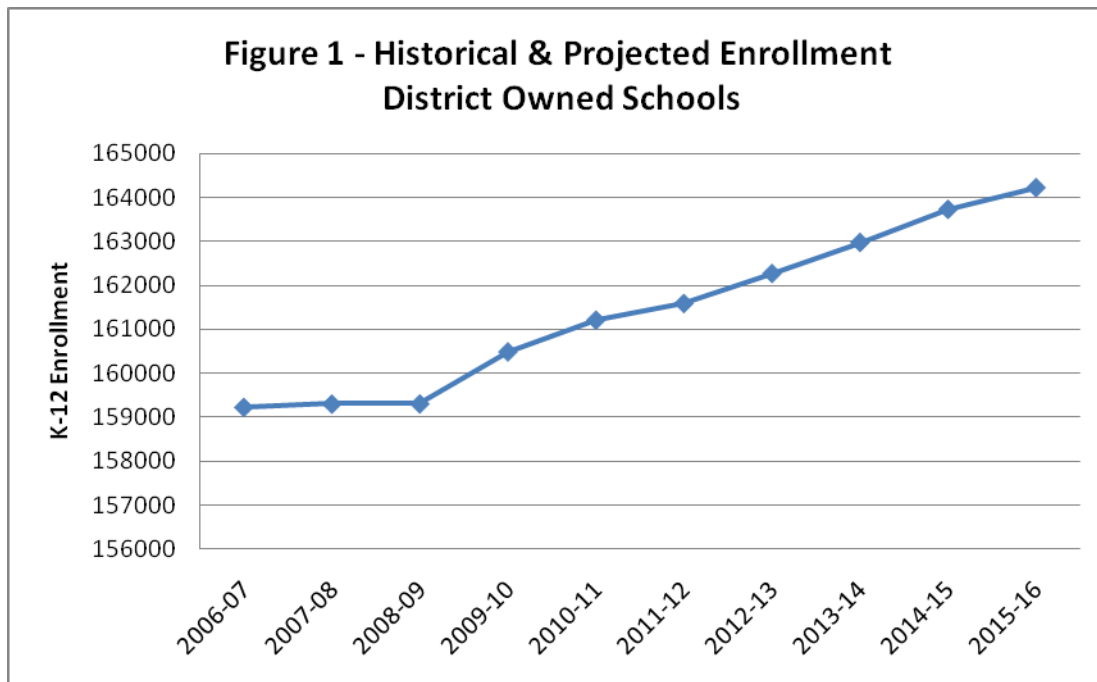
The district demographer is projecting 177,495 total K-12 Students, excluding virtual school students, by FY2016 – including students housed in district owned facilities, charter schools, and alternative and ESE centers; elementary enrollment is forecast to increase by 2,440 students; middle school enrollment by 1,050 students; high school enrollment is anticipated to increase by 1,594 students. The total projected increase, FY11 to FY16, excluding virtual school students is 5,084 students. Projected increases in the last two years of the five-year period are smaller due to lower birth totals which feed into kindergarten in these two years. Total K-12 charter school enrollment is forecast to grow by 1,985 students over five years; enrollment in alternative and ESE schools is anticipated to remain flat increasing by only 44 students over the period.

**Enrollment in District–Owned Facilities:**

Projected enrollment in District-owned elementary, middle and high schools is forecast to increase by 3,008 students by FY16; the enrollment increase is in district- owned E.S.E. and alternative centers will go up by 39 students. The predicted increases by level are:

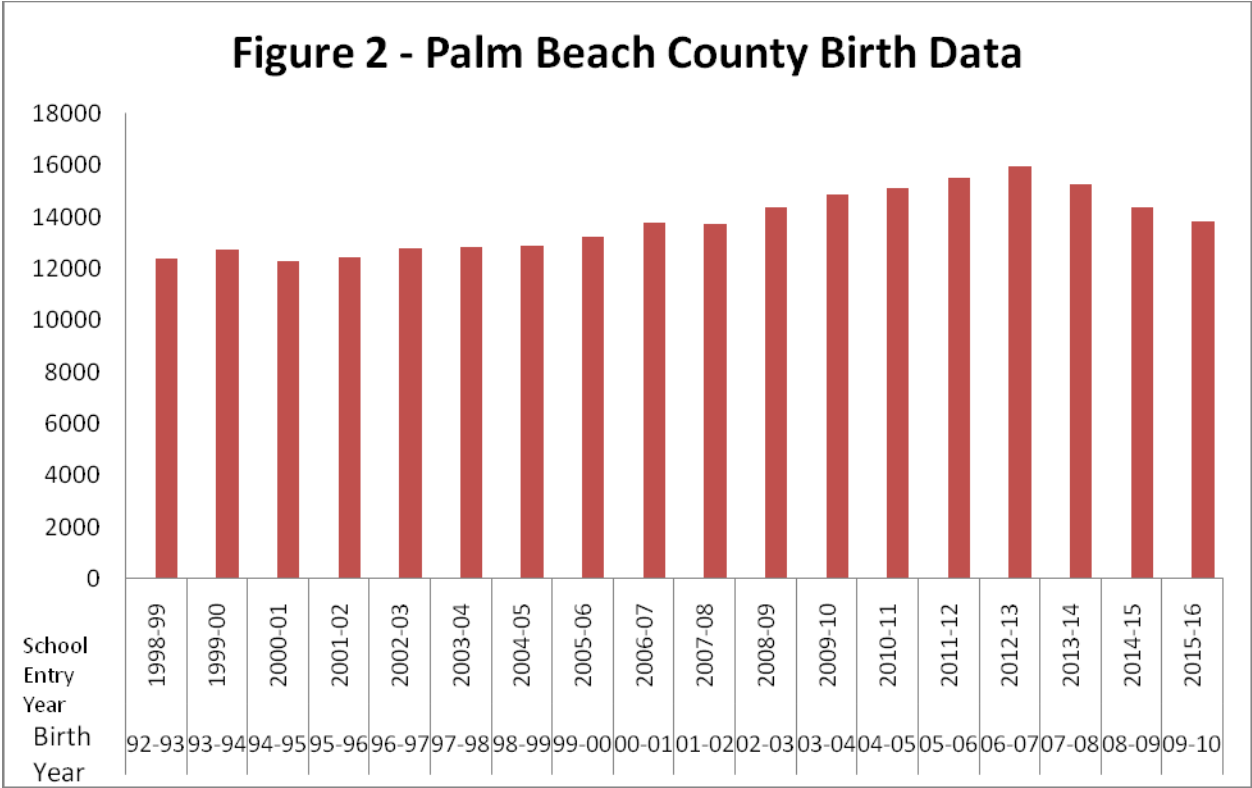
- Elementary Schools- +1,458 students;
- Middle Schools- +545 students
- High Schools - +1,005 students
- ESE/Alternative Schools - +39 students

Figure 1 is a graphic representation of historical and projected K-12 enrollment in district-owned schools (excluding ESE and alternative schools).



**Births**

Birth rates are a prime indicator of future student enrollment trends, particularly elementary enrollment, for the next five years. Palm Beach County birth data is shown in Figure 2. Florida state law requires children to be five years old on or before September 1st to enter Kindergarten. Actual birth data shown corresponds to school entrance dates from 1998-99 through 2015-16. Year 2009-10 birth data is provisional. The number of births in Palm Beach County increased every year between 1995 and 2006, except in a slight dip in 2001. The average yearly increase over this twelve year period was 304 births per year. Births declined each year in 2007, 2008 and 2009; there were 682 fewer births in 2007-08 than in 2006-07; 889 fewer babies were born in 2008-09 than in 2007-08, and 552 fewer births in 2009-10 than the previous year.



Another statistic which indicates future elementary enrollment is the ratio of actual kindergarten enrollment to births five-years earlier. This ratio is an indirect measure of net in-migration. The K/births ratio has declined every year since SY2004-05 through SY2009-10 as follows. The ratio stayed the same in SY2010-11, as the previous year:

| <u>FY</u> | <u>K/Births Ratio</u> |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| 05        | 102%                  |
| 06        | 99%                   |
| 07        | 92%                   |
| 08        | 90%                   |
| 09        | 87%                   |
| 10        | 85%                   |
| 11        | 85%                   |

*Births entering school over the next two years are increasing; however, kindergarten enrollment historically has not increased as much as births or has declined. Births entering school in August 2013, 2014 and 2015 are lower each year.* Current projections assume a K/Births ratio of 85% for two years, then a gradual turn-around through SY2015-16. This assumption recognizes the historical trend and lowers the estimated future kindergarten enrollment.