



## Enrollment Declines are Widespread since 2000

Martha McMurry

- Public school enrollments in Minnesota declined between the 2000-2001 and 2004-2005 school years.
- Enrollments are falling faster in lower grades than in junior high and high school.
- Minority, especially Hispanic, enrollments have risen while white enrollments have fallen.
- Enrollments fell in 71 of 87 counties and 285 of 422 districts.
- The numbers of limited English proficiency, free lunch and special education students continue to rise.
- More students are using open enrollment, home schools and charter

schools; fewer are attending private schools.

Public school K-12 enrollments in Minnesota fell from 845,040 in the fall of 2000 to 827,331 in the fall of 2004, a decline of 2.1 percent. The primary reason for the decline was a drop in enrollment in the lower grades. Though enrollments in grades 7 through 12 rose modestly by 1,937, this was offset by a decrease of 19,646 in kindergarten through sixth grade.

During the past decade, enrollments rose from 803,393 in 1993-1994 to a peak of 847,339 in the 1998-1999 school year. Since then, enrollments have fallen gradually in each year.

Statewide enrollment trends reflect a number of factors: births in previous years, migration, dropout rates, and parents' choices to send their children to public schools, private schools or home schools. At the school district level these same factors apply, and in addition enrollment in charter schools and enrollment outside the home district influence enrollments.

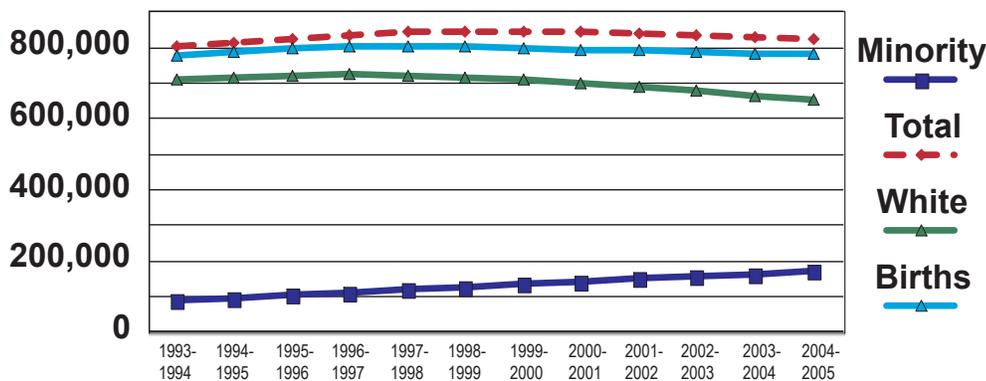
Birth trends have been primarily responsible for post-2000 enrollment declines. Births are an excellent predictor of future school enrollments. Enrollments tend to rise and fall according to trends in the sum of births 6 to 17 years earlier. During the

### Minnesota's largest school districts, 2004-2005 K-12 enrollments

District number	District name	County	Total enrollment	Minority enrollment
0011	Anoka-Hennepin	Anoka	41,028	6,059
0625	St. Paul	Ramsey	40,554	29,168
0001	Minneapolis	Hennepin	39,902	28,989
0196	Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan	Dakota	27,977	4,592
0279	Osseo	Hennepin	21,337	7,622
0535	Rochester	Olmsted	15,995	3,920
0833	South Washington County	Washington	15,727	2,647
0281	Robbinsdale	Hennepin	13,233	4,780
0622	North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale	Ramsey	11,106	2,731
0709	Duluth	St. Louis	10,772	1,470

Source: Minnesota Department of Education

### Minnesota K-12 enrollments track with births 6 to 17 years earlier; white enrollments fall while minority enrollments increase



Source: Minnesota Department of Education; Minnesota Department of Health. Births are total births occurring between 6 and 17 years before enrollment date.

Census Bureau estimates show a near-balance in the numbers of in-migrants and out-migrants in the past few years. Grade progression ratios, based on the ratio of enrollment in each grade to enrollment in the previous grade a year earlier, have hovered around 1.000, indicating negligible overall migration.

The progression ratios are higher for minorities, especially for Latinos and African Americans, suggesting in-migration for these groups. Progression ratios for whites have been slightly under 1.000 in some years, suggesting a slight out-migration in those years. In other years white progression ratios have been slightly higher than 1.000.

past decade, Minnesota school enrollments peaked in the 1998-1999 school year. The number of births 6 to 17 years previously peaked one year earlier, in 1997-1998.

Opting out of public schools has not been responsible for falling enrollments. More children are being schooled at home, but fewer are enrolled in private schools.

Out-migration probably does not account for the declines in enrollment since 2000. In recent years net migration has been close to zero, according to most indicators.

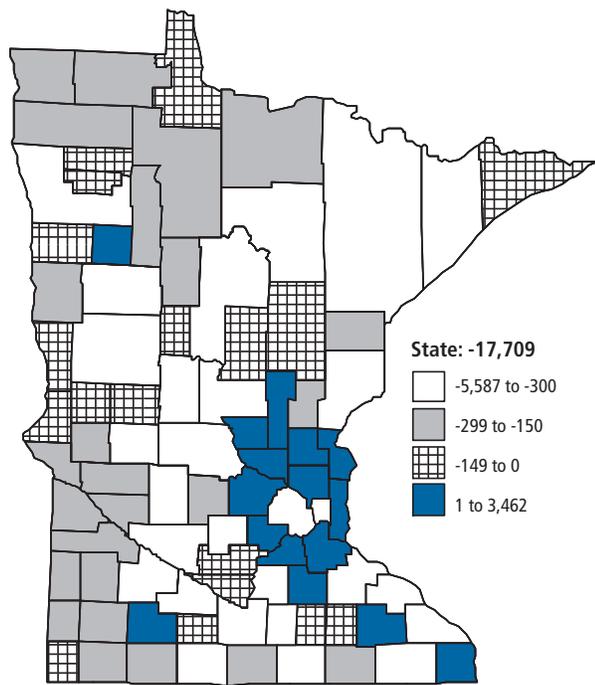
### Minnesota public school grade progression ratios, 2000-2001 to 2004-2005

	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic	Black	White	Total Minority	Total
<b>2000-2001 to 2001-2002</b>							
Kindergarten to grade 6 average	1.0002	1.0091	1.0501	1.0207	0.9977	1.0216	1.0023
Kindergarten to grade 12 average	0.9833	1.0204	1.0502	1.0344	1.0033	1.0274	1.0075
<b>2001-2002 to 2002-2003</b>							
Kindergarten to grade 6 average	1.0332	1.0071	1.0373	1.0188	0.9969	1.0213	1.0018
Kindergarten to grade 12 average	1.0134	1.0149	1.0446	1.0203	1.0030	1.0229	1.0067
<b>2002-2003 to 2003-2004</b>							
Kindergarten to grade 6 average	1.0228	1.0079	1.0375	1.0296	0.9981	1.0249	1.0037
Kindergarten to grade 12 average	1.0041	1.0182	1.0357	1.0416	1.0056	1.0297	1.0103
<b>2003-2004 to 2004-2005</b>							
Kindergarten to grade 6 average	1.0038	1.0127	1.0179	1.0278	1.0001	1.0189	1.0041
Kindergarten to grade 12 average	0.9954	1.0284	1.0359	1.0452	1.0069	1.0327	1.0118

Source: Minnesota Department of Education.

The grade progression ratio is the ratio of the number of students in a grade to the number of students in the next lower grade in the previous year.

### Majority of counties saw declines in K-12 enrollments between 2000 and 2004



Source: Minnesota Department of Education

In districts for which data was available in both years, 137 of 422 had gains in enrollments. The other 285 districts saw no change or enrollment declines. The Minneapolis and St. Paul districts had the largest declines, followed by Duluth, St. Cloud and Mounds View. The biggest gains were in rapidly growing suburban districts: Elk River, Prior Lake-Savage, Lakeville, Shakopee and Chaska.

Though migration's effect at the state level has been small, it is of key importance in determining enrollment trends in individual school districts. Growing districts are in areas with substantial

recent in-migration and residential development.

Between 2000 and 2004 many new charter schools were created and some existing charter schools went out of business. Though school district mergers have been less frequent since 2000 than in the 1990s, several districts disappeared in mergers. No trend comparisons are available for merged, new or disbanded districts or schools.

### White enrollment falls; minority enrollment rises

The number of white students enrolled in Minnesota public schools dropped six percent in

Despite the current near-zero level of total statewide migration, Minnesota has more students than would be expected based solely on the number of past births. This suggests that in-migration occurring before 2000 continues to contribute to the state's school population.

### Most areas see enrollment declines

Enrollment declines have been widespread across the state. K-12 enrollments grew in only 16 of Minnesota's 87 counties. Growth was strong in the Twin Cities suburban counties of Scott, Sherburne, Wright, Carver and Dakota. The largest declines occurred in Hennepin, Ramsey, St. Louis and Stearns counties.

### Minnesota school districts with largest gains and largest losses in K-12 enrollment between 2000-2001 and 2004-2005

#### Greatest gains:

District number	District name	County	Gain
0728	Elk River	Sherburne	1,575
0719	Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools	Scott	1,274
0194	Lakeville	Dakota	1,245
0720	Shakopee	Scott	1,160
0112	Chaska	Carver	1,096
0885	St. Michael-Albertville	Wright	1,024
0833	South Washington County	Washington	916
0192	Farmington	Dakota	814
0877	Buffalo	Wright	673
0727	Big Lake	Sherburne	647

#### Greatest losses:

District number	District name	County	Loss
0001	Minneapolis	Hennepin	-8,495
0625	St. Paul	Ramsey	-4,091
0709	Duluth	St. Louis	-1,512
0742	St. Cloud	Stearns	-1,108
0621	Mounds View	Ramsey	-1,083
0191	Burnsville	Dakota	-660
0482	Little Falls	Morrison	-660
0624	White Bear Lake	Ramsey	-612
0861	Winona Area Public School	Winona	-602
0031	Bemidji	Beltrami	-508

Source: Minnesota Department of Education

## Minnesota school districts with largest gains and losses in white and minority K-12 enrollments, 2000-2001 to 2004-2005

### Largest gains in white enrollment

District Number	District Name	County	Change in enrollment
0728	Elk River	Sherburne	1,256
0719	Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools	Scott	925
0194	Lakeville	Dakota	890
0885	St. Michael-Albertville	Wright	851
0112	Chaska	Carver	666
0192	Farmington	Dakota	563
0721	New Prague Area Schools	Scott	544
0727	Big Lake	Sherburne	502
0877	Buffalo	Wright	493
0720	Shakopee	Scott	447

### Largest losses in white enrollment

District Number	District Name	County	Change in enrollment
0625	St. Paul	Ramsey	-3,430
0279	Osseo	Hennepin	-2,666
0001	Minneapolis	Hennepin	-2,201
0011	Anoka-Hennepin	Anoka	-2,128
0281	Robbinsdale	Hennepin	-1,768
0742	St. Cloud	Stearns	-1,627
0709	Duluth	St. Louis	-1,550
0622	North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale	Ramsey	-1,457
0621	Mounds View	Ramsey	-1,401
0196	Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan	Dakota	-1,329

### Largest gains in minority enrollment

District Number	District Name	County	Change in enrollment
0011	Anoka-Hennepin	Anoka	2,382
0279	Osseo	Hennepin	2,259
0281	Robbinsdale	Hennepin	1,386
0196	Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan	Dakota	1,317
0622	North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale	Ramsey	1,151
0833	South Washington County	Washington	1,105
0535	Rochester	Olmsted	969
0271	Bloomington	Hennepin	770
0720	Shakopee	Scott	713
0280	Richfield	Hennepin	698

### Largest losses in minority enrollment

District Number	District Name	County	Change in enrollment
0001	Minneapolis	Hennepin	-6,294
0625	St. Paul	Ramsey	-661
0031	Bemidji	Beltrami	-98
0595	East Grand Forks	Polk	-52
0115	Cass Lake-Bena Schools	Cass	-48
0118	Northland Community Schools	Cass	-40
0022	Detroit Lakes	Becker	-35
2689	Pipestone Area Schools	Pipestone	-27
2180	M.A.C.C.R.A.Y.	Chippewa	-26
4019	New Voyage Academy Charter School	Ramsey	-26

Source: Minnesota Department of Education.

just four years between 2000 and 2004. White enrollments fell by 30,122 in kindergarten through sixth grade, and by 14,311 between 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades.

Declines in white enrollment have been offset by rising minority enrollments. The number of minority students rose 18 percent, with gains in every grade. In contrast, white enrollment fell in every grade except the 12<sup>th</sup>. By the fall of 2004-2005, minority students accounted for 20.7 percent of all public school students, up from 17.1 percent in the fall of 2000-2001.

Twin Cities suburban school districts recorded the largest gains in minority K-12 enrollment. Anoka-Hennepin added 2,382 minority students; Osseo, 2,259; Robbinsdale, 1,386; Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan, 1,317; North St. Paul-Maplewood, 1,151; and South Washington County, 1,105. Outside the Twin Cities, Rochester gained the most minority students, 969. At the other extreme, Minneapolis' minority enrollment fell by 6,294. Minority enrollment in St. Paul declined 661.

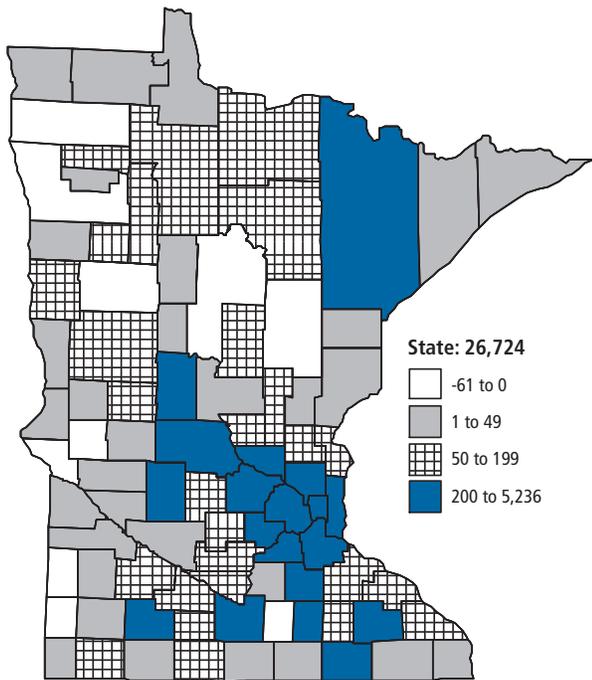
Growth was especially dramatic for Hispanic students. The number of Latino students soared 44 percent between 2000 and 2004, with strong growth in both primary and secondary grades. The Minneapolis school district saw the largest gain in the number of Latino students, 1,354, followed by St. Paul, Richfield, Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan, Robbinsdale and Osseo.

Minority student populations other than Hispanics grew at a slower rate. The number of black students rose 21 percent;

Asians, 5 percent; and American Indians, 2 percent. In these three groups, gains in primary school enrollment lagged behind gains in secondary school enrollment, suggesting a potentially slower rate of growth in the future.

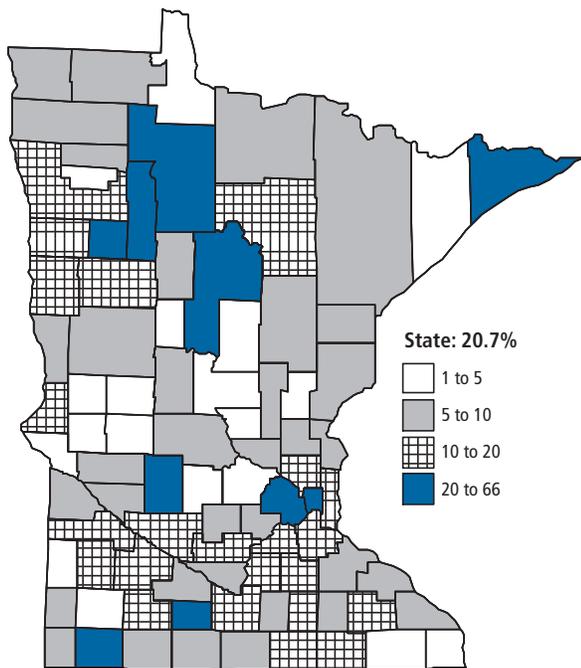
The largest increases in K-12 black enrollment occurred in the Osseo, Anoka-Hennepin, St. Paul, Robbinsdale and Rochester districts. At the other end of the spectrum, African American enrollments fell by 4,592 in the Minneapolis school district.

**Minority K-12 enrollments grew in most counties between 2000 and 2004**



Source: Minnesota Department of Education

**Minority enrollments as percent of total K-12 enrollment, 2004-2005**



Source: Minnesota Department of Education

Asian K-12 enrollments grew the most in the suburban districts of Anoka-Hennepin, Osseo and South Washington County. Both Minneapolis and St. Paul experienced substantial declines in Asian enrollment.

Most districts saw modest changes in American Indian enrollments. The largest increases were in the Red Lake, International Falls and Anoka-Hennepin districts with gains of 90, 88 and 79 respectively. Indian enrollments fell in Minneapolis, Bemidji, Duluth, Cass Lake-Bena and St. Paul.

**Public school alternatives are used more**

In recent years, Minnesotans have been able to choose from a number of public school options, including charter schools, post-secondary enrollment options and open enrollment. Parents may also choose to educate their children at home. Many families have chosen to take advantage of these options.

**Charter school enrollments surge upward**

Charter schools are independently operated public schools that are not part of any school district. Many try to attract students by offering a specialized curriculum, teaching philosophy or cultural program. Charter schools

have become increasingly popular. Enrollment in charter schools grew from 9,384 to 17,544 between 2000 and 2004, a gain of 87 percent in four years.

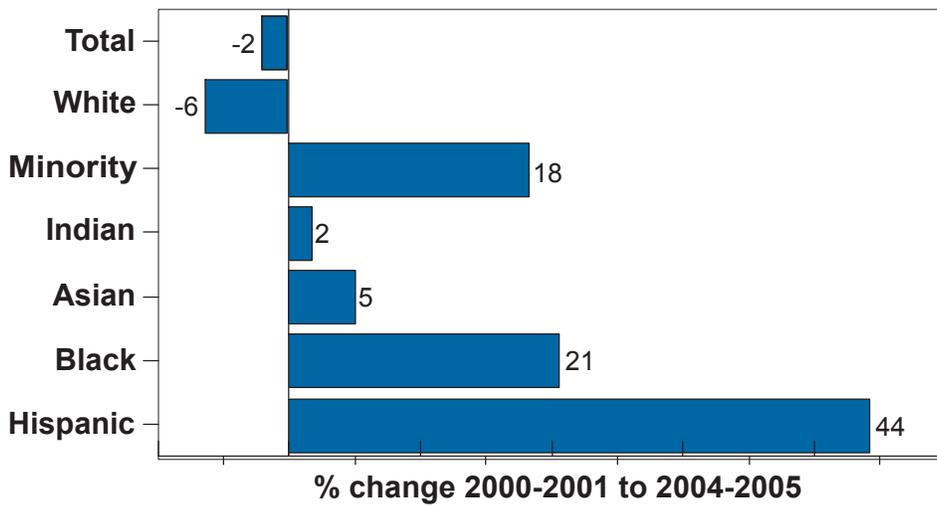
Charter schools have attracted many minority students, especially African Americans. Thirty-one percent of charter school students were African American in 2004-2005, and black enrollment in charter schools more than doubled between 2000 and 2004.

Charter school students are more likely to receive free or reduced price meals than students in other public schools, and are twice as likely to have limited English proficiency. The percent of special education students is about the same in charter schools as in other public schools.

**More students in district college programs**

The state-funded post-secondary enrollment option allows 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students to take college courses for high school credit. In 2004-2005, an estimated 7,200 students were expected to take college courses. This number has not changed much from the 7,098 figure in 2000-2001. Students using the post-secondary option remain enrolled in their regular districts, but they are considered part-time, so district funding is affected.

**Latino K-12 enrollment growth in Minnesota schools was substantial between 2000-2001 and 2004-2005**



Source: Minnesota Department of Education

As an alternative to the post-secondary option, many public school districts are offering the College in the Schools program, which allows students to take college-level classes in their own schools. The College in the Schools program is supported by an agreement between the district and the higher education institution. The number of students participating in these courses rose from an estimated 9,500 in 2000-2001 to an estimated 14,000 in 2003-2004.

**Home schooling increases**

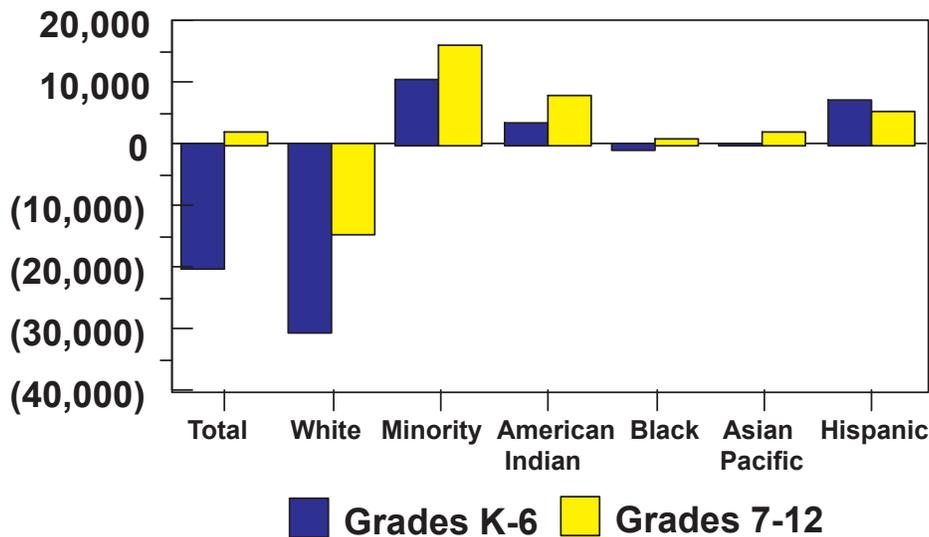
The number of students being schooled at home grew from 15,249 in 2000-2001 to 17,533 in 2003-2004, the latest year for which data is available.

Children ages 7 to 11 are most likely to be home-schooled, according to Minnesota Department of Education data and U.S. Census Bureau age estimates. About 24 of every 1,000 children in this age group were schooled at home, compared to 20 per 1,000 of those ages 12 to 15 and 8 per 1,000 of those 16 to 18.

The highest ratio of home-schooled students to public school students was found in Pine County, 54 per 1,000, followed by Kittson County with 53 and Pope County with 51 per 1,000. Nobles, Murray and Jackson counties in southwestern Minnesota had the lowest ratios of

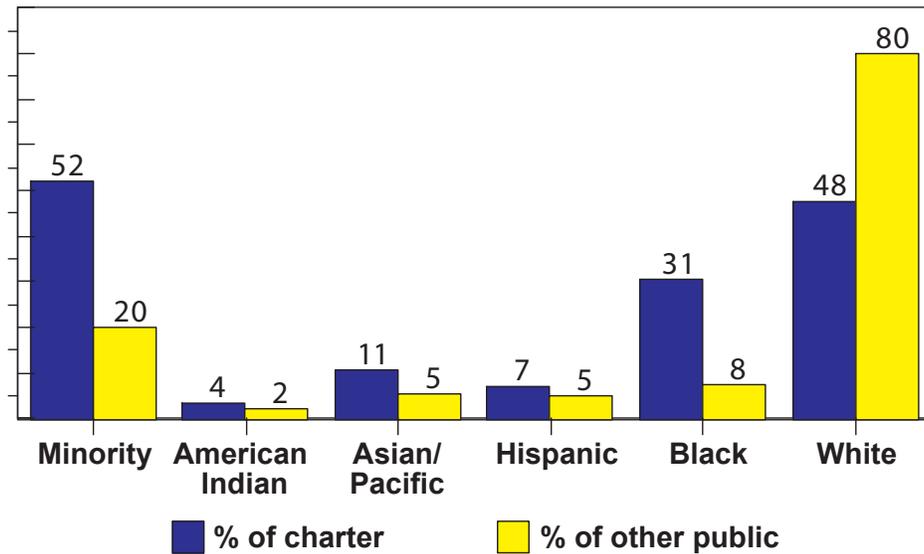
**Most groups except Hispanics see larger enrollment declines or smaller gains in lower grades, 2000 to 2004**

Change in enrollment, 2000 to 2004



Source: Minnesota Department of Education

**Minnesota minority students are more likely to be enrolled in charter schools, 2004-2005**



Source: Minnesota Department of Education, K-12 enrollments

Minneapolis had the largest number of residents enrolled in other districts, followed by Anoka-Hennepin, St. Paul and Osseo. The districts attracting the most students from other districts were Robbinsdale, Minneapolis, Hopkins, Edina and Wayzata.

Comparing the number of resident students who attend school in other districts to the number who come into the district from outside shows that some districts are more successful than others in attracting students from elsewhere. Edina, St. Anthony-New Brighton, Hopkins and Houston had the greatest net gains from open enrollment. Houston, a district in southeastern Minnesota, has attracted students by offering an online learning opportunity.

home-schooled to public school students, with values of 5, 7 and 8 per 1,000 respectively. Hennepin and Ramsey counties also had small proportions of home-schooled students.

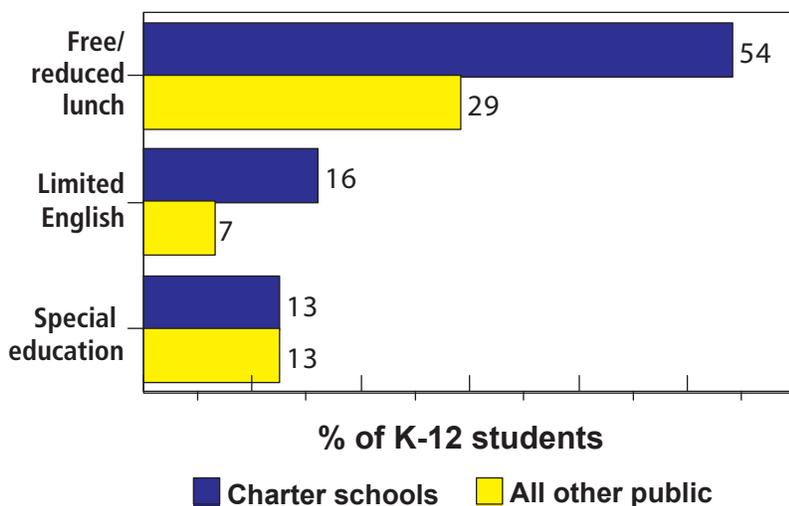
**Open Enrollment is more widely used**

Minnesota's open enrollment program allows public school students the opportunity to apply to attend school outside the district where they live. In the 2004-2005 school

year, 34,346 students took advantage of the state's open enrollment program by enrolling outside their home districts. This was an increase of 41 percent from the 2000-2001 figure.

Minneapolis, Anoka-Hennepin, Rochester and Osseo had the greatest net losses. For example, while Minneapolis attracted 1,095 nonresident students, a substantially larger number, 2,655, lived in Minneapolis but attended school in other districts.

**Minnesota charter school students more likely to be lower income, limited English: 2004-2005 enrollment**

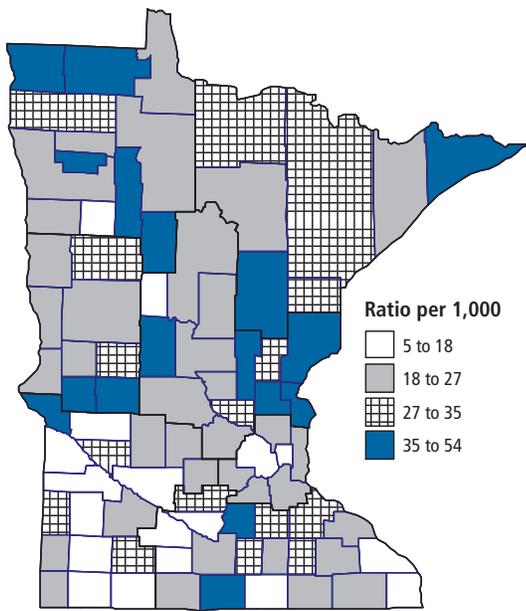


Source: Minnesota Department of Education

**Fewer students attend private schools**

Although more students are taking advantage of public school options, the number attending private schools fell from 89,680 to 86,943 between 2000 and 2004. The rate of decline for private schools, 3.1 percent, was greater than for

**Hennepin, Ramsey and southwest have lowest ratio of home-schooled to public school students**



Source: 2003-2004 Minnesota Department of Education

public schools, 2.1 percent. Private school enrollments grew in secondary grades, but fell by 4,254 in grades kindergarten through 6. About 10 percent of Minnesota students attended private schools in 2004-2005. This figure excludes home-schooled students.

**Number of special education and limited English students rises**

Even as overall enrollments have fallen, the number of K-12 students with limited English proficiency rose 28 percent; the number of special education students rose 4 percent, and the number of students qualifying for the free lunch program rose 19 percent. Special education students and those who

do not speak English are more expensive to serve, suggesting that falling enrollments may not lead to proportional declines in costs.

Suburban school districts such as Anoka-Hennepin, Osseo, Robbinsdale and Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan have added substantial numbers of limited English, free lunch and special education students.

**Population shifts have major effect in some small districts**

Immigration has greatly increased the proportion of limited English proficiency students in many small southern Minnesota districts such as Madelia, St. James, Tracy and Sleepy

Eye. Though the numbers of immigrant students are small compared to suburban and urban districts, the impact in small districts can be dramatic. For example, in the Sleepy Eye school district the proportion of limited English proficiency students rose from 13 percent in 2000 to 27 percent in 2004, at the same time the total enrollment was falling.

**Spanish is most common language behind English**

The number of students speaking foreign languages at home rose from 63,116 in 2000-2001 to 81,025 in 2004-2005. The number of students who spoke English at home fell 33,504 over the same time period. Spanish is the most common language other than English, and the number of Spanish-speaking students rose from 17,870 to 28,227.

Hmong was the next most commonly spoken language, but the number of Hmong-speaking students remained stable between 2000 and 2004. In the 2004-2005 school year there were 21,515 students who spoke Hmong at home. This number has probably grown recently with the influx of Hmong refugees from the Wat Tham Krabok camp in Thailand.

The number of students speaking Somali increased from 4,176 to 6,736. Other languages spoken by more than 1,000 students include

Vietnamese, 3,010; Russian, 2,434; Laotian, 2,142; Cambodian, 1,716; Chinese 1,566; Creolized English 1,139; and Arabic, 1,122. Department of Education data collected data on 85 different languages spoken by Minnesota students.

**Summary**

Public school enrollments are falling in most parts of Minnesota. Enrollment growth remains substantial in rapidly growing second and third ring suburbs, but numbers are falling in central cities, inner ring suburban districts, and in many parts of Greater Minnesota. The student population includes larger numbers of minority students, poor students, special education students, and students with limited English proficiency.

## Open enrollment data for selected Minnesota school districts, 2004-2005

### Districts with the most resident students enrolled in other districts

District number	District name	Residents enrolled outside district
1	Minneapolis	2,655
11	Anoka-Hennepin	838
625	St. Paul	754
279	Osseo	748
535	Rochester	732
281	Robbinsdale	715
742	St. Cloud	531
2142	St. Louis County	439
270	Hopkins	421
709	Duluth	364

### Districts with the most students enrolled from outside the district

District number	District name	Nonresidents enrolled in district
281	Robbinsdale	1,095
1	Minneapolis	1,039
270	Hopkins	883
273	Edina	880
284	Wayzata	686
282	St. Anthony-New Brighton	677
625	St. Paul	614
623	Roseville	557
294	Houston	487

Source: Minnesota Department of Education, unpublished data.

### Districts with biggest difference between students enrolled from other districts and resident students enrolled outside the district

#### Biggest net losses to open enrollment

District number	District name	Into district minus out of district
1	Minneapolis	-1,616
11	Anoka-Hennepin	-817
535	Rochester	-584
279	Osseo	-496
2142	St. Louis County	-371
742	St. Cloud	-351
621	Mounds View	-267
277	Westonka	-240
2170	Staples-Motley	-229
2071	Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial	-212

#### Biggest net gains from open enrollment

District number	District name	Into district minus out of district
273	Edina	814
282	St. Anthony-New Brighton	654
270	Hopkins	462
294	Houston	431
278	Orono	425
284	Wayzata	407
623	Roseville	391
281	Robbinsdale	380
533	Dover-Eyota	355
16	Spring Lake Park	289

**Minnesota school districts with greatest numbers of K-12 students receiving free meals, limited English proficiency students, and special education students**

**Greatest number of limited English proficiency students**

District number	District name	County	Number, 2004-2005
0625	St. Paul	Ramsey	15,201
0001	Minneapolis	Hennepin	9,286
0011	Anoka-Hennepin	Anoka	2,233
0535	Rochester	Olmsted	2,199
0279	Osseo	Hennepin	2,072
0281	Robbinsdale	Hennepin	1,351
0196	Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan	Dakota	1,081
0191	Burnsville	Dakota	1,053
0280	Richfield	Hennepin	845
0271	Bloomington	Hennepin	775

**Greatest number of students receiving free meals**

District number	District name	County	Number, 2004-2005
0001	Minneapolis	Hennepin	24,243
0625	St. Paul	Ramsey	23,598
0011	Anoka-Hennepin	Anoka	6,073
0279	Osseo	Hennepin	4,523
0535	Rochester	Olmsted	3,596
0281	Robbinsdale	Hennepin	3,079
0709	Duluth	St. Louis	3,066
0742	St. Cloud	Stearns	2,537
0622	North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale	Ramsey	2,171
0196	Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan	Dakota	2,050

**Greatest number of special education students**

District number	District name	County	Number, 2004-2005
0625	St. Paul	Ramsey	6,789
0001	Minneapolis	Hennepin	5,467
0011	Anoka-Hennepin	Anoka	5,041
0196	Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan	Dakota	3,743
0279	Osseo	Hennepin	2,301
0833	South Washington County	Washington	1,826
0535	Rochester	Olmsted	1,714
0742	St. Cloud	Stearns	1,619
0709	Duluth	St. Louis	1,389
0281	Robbinsdale	Hennepin	1,384

Source: Minnesota Department of Education data.

**Minnesota school districts with greatest increases in K-12 students receiving free meals, limited English proficiency students, and special education students**

**Greatest increases in limited English proficiency students**

District number	District name	County	Change, 2000 to 2004
0011	Anoka-Hennepin	Anoka	1,236
0279	Osseo	Hennepin	1,223
0191	Burnsville	Dakota	677
0281	Robbinsdale	Hennepin	636
0038	Red Lake	Beltrami	527
0196	Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan	Dakota	527
0286	Brooklyn Center	Hennepin	447
0280	Richfield	Hennepin	410
0535	Rochester	Olmsted	395
0720	Shakopee	Scott	392

**Greatest increases in students receiving free meals**

District number	District name	County	Change, 2000 to 2004
0011	Anoka-Hennepin	Anoka	2,534
0279	Osseo	Hennepin	1,795
0535	Rochester	Olmsted	1,133
0281	Robbinsdale	Hennepin	1,004
0622	North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale	Ramsey	941
0280	Richfield	Hennepin	805
0191	Burnsville	Dakota	711
0271	Bloomington	Hennepin	666
0742	St. Cloud	Stearns	664
0013	Columbia Heights	Anoka	639

**Greatest increases in special education students**

District number	District name	County	Change, 2000 to 2004
0625	St. Paul	Ramsey	756
0011	Anoka-Hennepin	Anoka	534
0196	Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan	Dakota	409
0279	Osseo	Hennepin	244
0281	Robbinsdale	Hennepin	214
0833	South Washington County	Washington	208
0728	Elk River	Sherburne	198
0271	Bloomington	Hennepin	170
0271	St. Michael-Albertville	Wright	148
0720	Shakopee	Scott	137

Source: Minnesota Department of Education data.

**Sources**

Minnesota Department of Education Data Center

<http://cfl.state.mn.us/datactr/>

U.S. Census Bureau estimates of population by single year of age

<http://www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html>

Sharon Peck from the Minnesota Department of Education provided data on open enrollment.

Carol Hokenson from the Minnesota Department of Education provided data on home schooling , post-secondary enrollment options and 2004-2005 private school enrollment. She also provided comments on an earlier draft of this report.

Most data in this report are for grades K-12 and for the 2004-2005 school year. Post-secondary enrollment option data and home school data were available only through 2003-2004.

Upon request, *Population Notes* will be made available in alternative format, such as Braille, large print or audio tape. For TTY, contact Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 and ask for the State Demographic Center. For more information or additional copies of *Population Notes*, contact:



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