



Student Demographics Report for 2025-2026

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Wausau School District Sites

Elementary Campuses

There are nine elementary schools in the district serving 3074 elementary students and 63 early learners. They include:

- Franklin
- G.D. Jones
- John Marshall
- Lincoln
- Maine
- Rib Mountain
- Riverview
- South Mountain
- Stettin
- Thomas Jefferson

Middle School Campuses

There are two middle schools serving 1554 students. They include:

- Horace Mann
- John Muir

High Schools Campuses

There are two high schools serving 2302 students. They include

- Wausau East
- Wausau West

Charter Campuses

There are four charter schools serving 387 students from early learning to high school. They include:

- Enrich, Excel, Achieve Learning Academy (EEA)
- Red Granite Charter School (Red Granite)
- Wausau Area Montessori Chart School (Montessori)
- Wausau Area Virtual Education (WAVE)

Alternative Campuses

There are three alternative schools providing additional learning opportunities for students. They include:

- Alternative High School
- Prepare, Empower, Education, Rebuild (PEER)
- Project LIFE 18-21 Transition Program

Early Childhood Centers

There is one 4k Academy operated by the Wausau School District and four early childhood centers operated by community partners. They Include:

- Lincoln 4k Academy (operated by the Wausau School District)
- Woodson YMCA – Wausau Branch
- Wausau Child Care
- Newman Catholic Schools
- Mountain View Montessori

Letter to the Board

TO: Board of Education

Cale Bushman, Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Ralph Williams, Director of Technology

DATE: January 8, 2025

RE: 2024-2025 Student Demographics

Each school year, the District completes an analysis of our student demographic information based on the state mandated Third Friday in September and December student snapshot Counts. This information illustrates short and long-term trends. The data provides key information to inform both instructional and financial decisions. Finally, the data are used to describe our current conditions to organizations or in grant writing processes.

Important highlights from the full report follow:

- The report changed due to the consolidation. The closing schools are in the Third Day Count report as a reference to last year but are not in the other reports.
- Enrollment in grades 4K-12 decreased this year by 136 students for a total District enrollment of 7,586.
- Analysis of available data reveals 442 students moved into the Wausau School District while 344 students moved out of the District. These numbers are very similar to the 2024-2025 school year. The number of students moving out of the District increased slightly compared to last year's 343.

- The overall number of students leaving the Wausau School District through Open Enrollment increased by 18, for a total of 538 students. Of the 538 students Open Enrolling out, 108 are new applicants this year. The overall number of students entering the Wausau School District through Open Enrollment increased by 8 for a total of 283. Of the 283 students Open Enrolling in, 95 students are new applicants.
- Kindergarten enrollment continues to attract approximately 85% of available 5-year old students in the Wausau School District area.
- The Wausau School District continues to support a diverse student body with 39% of students representing a race other than white. Additionally, approximately 9.4% of students are English Learners and receive support.
- As of the 2025 Third Friday Count, 172 students are listed at Home Based Education which is an increase of 57 students.
- The District Free/Reduced lunch overall average is 44% compared to 49% for 2024-2025 school year.
- Please contact my office if you have any questions about the data presented.

Pre K – 12 Enrollment Information Third Friday Count September 19, 2025

Introduction:

This section provides a comprehensive breakdown of student enrollment across all district schools for the 2025-2026 school year. Based on the state-mandated Third Friday in September snapshot, the data compares current enrollment figures to the previous year, highlighting the impacts of school consolidations and shifts in grade-level populations.

District Enrollment by School and Grade Level (2025-2026)

School	EEC 4K	4K	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	2025 Total	2024 Total	Difference	
Franklin	0	0	47	44	54	46	49	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	290	181	109	
Grant (CLOSED)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	189	-189	
Hawthorn Hill (CLOSED)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	227	-227	
Hewitt Texas (CLOSED)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	85	-85	
Thomas Jefferson	0	0	76	78	67	80	80	68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	449	372	77	
G.D. Jones	0	0	73	66	78	85	90	84	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	476	397	79	
John Marshall	0	0	57	50	53	48	58	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	316	231	85	
Lincoln (Transitioned to 4K Academy)	41	188	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	229	204	25	
4K Outreach	0	139	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	139	95	44	
Maine	0	0	33	39	30	31	47	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	223	229	-6	
Red Granite	0	11	12	12	3	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45	51	-6	
Rib Mountain	0	0	24	25	36	32	36	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	180	194	-14	
Riverview	5	58	69	59	64	67	83	94	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	499	445	54	
South Mountain	0	0	33	43	41	39	38	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	237	235	2	
Stettin	0	0	44	48	43	51	53	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	305	327	-22	
Montessori	0	13	18	18	12	14	21	16	20	2	1	0	0	0	0	135	121	14	
Horace Mann	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	185	193	210	0	0	0	0	588	633	-45	
John Muir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	354	309	303	0	0	0	0	966	966	0	
EEA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	5	6	11	8	33	38	-5	
East	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	236	216	212	226	890	892	-2
West	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	364	357	358	333	1412	1460	-48
WAVE	0	0	3	4	4	5	8	5	5	8	7	14	28	42	41	174	150	24	
2025 Totals	46	409	489	486	485	500	568	546	564	514	522	619	607	623	608	7586	7722	-136	
2024 Totals	47	379	484	483	512	569	556	561	517	524	600	604	618	609	659	7722			
Difference	-1	30	5	3	-27	-69	12	-15	47	-10	-78	15	-11	14	-51	-136			

Wausau School District Enrollment Summary by Grade Band (2025-2026)

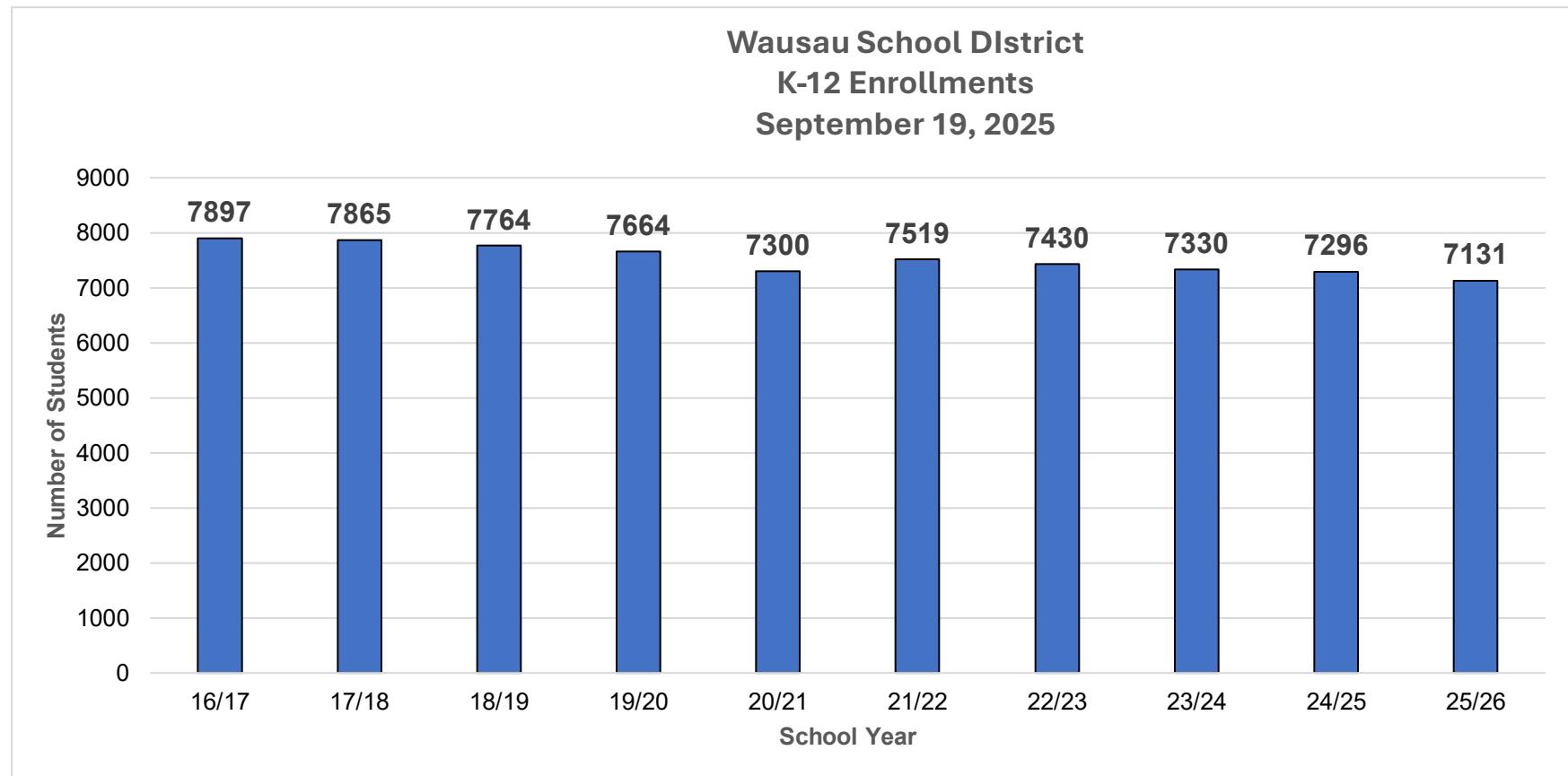
Grade Band	2024/2025 Enrolment	2025/2026 Enrolment	Enrollment Difference
Preschool	426	455	29
Elementary	3165	3074	-91
Middle	1641	1600	-41
High	2490	2457	-33
K-12	7722	7586	-136

10- Year Enrollment Trends

Introduction:

Long-term enrollment data is essential for understanding the district's trajectory and informing future financial and instructional planning. This ten-year analysis tracks total student headcount from the 2016-2017 school year through the current 2025-2026 term, illustrating a gradual decline in the overall student population.

Visual Representation of 10-Year Enrollment Decline (2016-2026)



Annual Enrollment Figures for the Wausau School District (2016-2026)

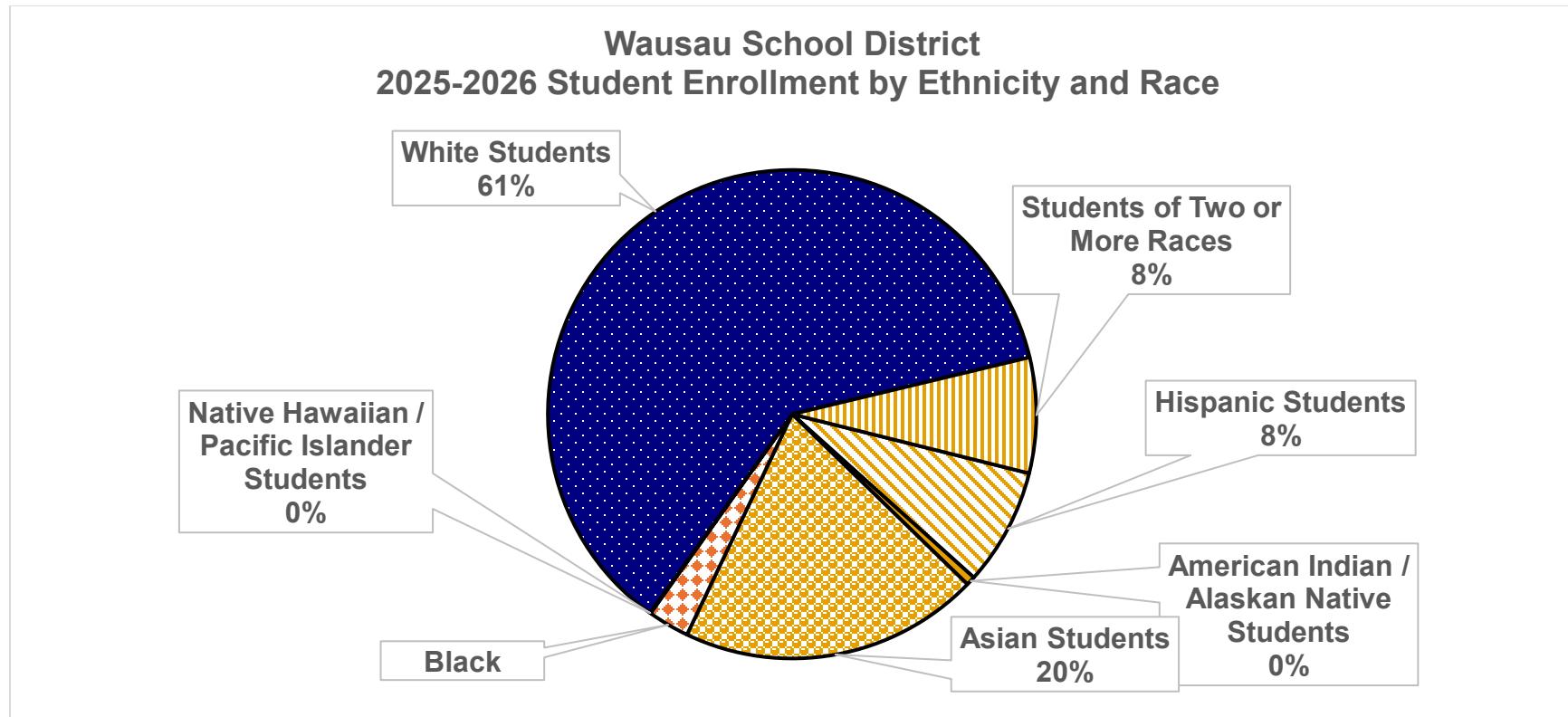
Year	Students
16/17	7897
17/18	7865
18/19	7764
19/20	7664
20/21	7300
21/22	7519
22/23	7430
23/24	7330
24/25	7296
25/26	7131

Student Enrollment by Ethnicity and Race

Introduction:

The Wausau School District remains committed to supporting a diverse student body. This data outlines the racial and ethnic composition of our students, with 39% of the population identifying as a race other than white. Understanding these demographics ensures our resources and support systems are aligned with the needs of our diverse community.

Demographic Composition



Minority Representation

Demographic Category	Students Count	Percentage of Total
Hispanic Students	589	8%
American Indian / Alaskan Native Students	46	1%
Asian Students	1504	20%
Black Students	209	3%
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander Students	3	0%
White Students	4656	61%
Students of Two or More Races	579	8%
Total	7586	100%

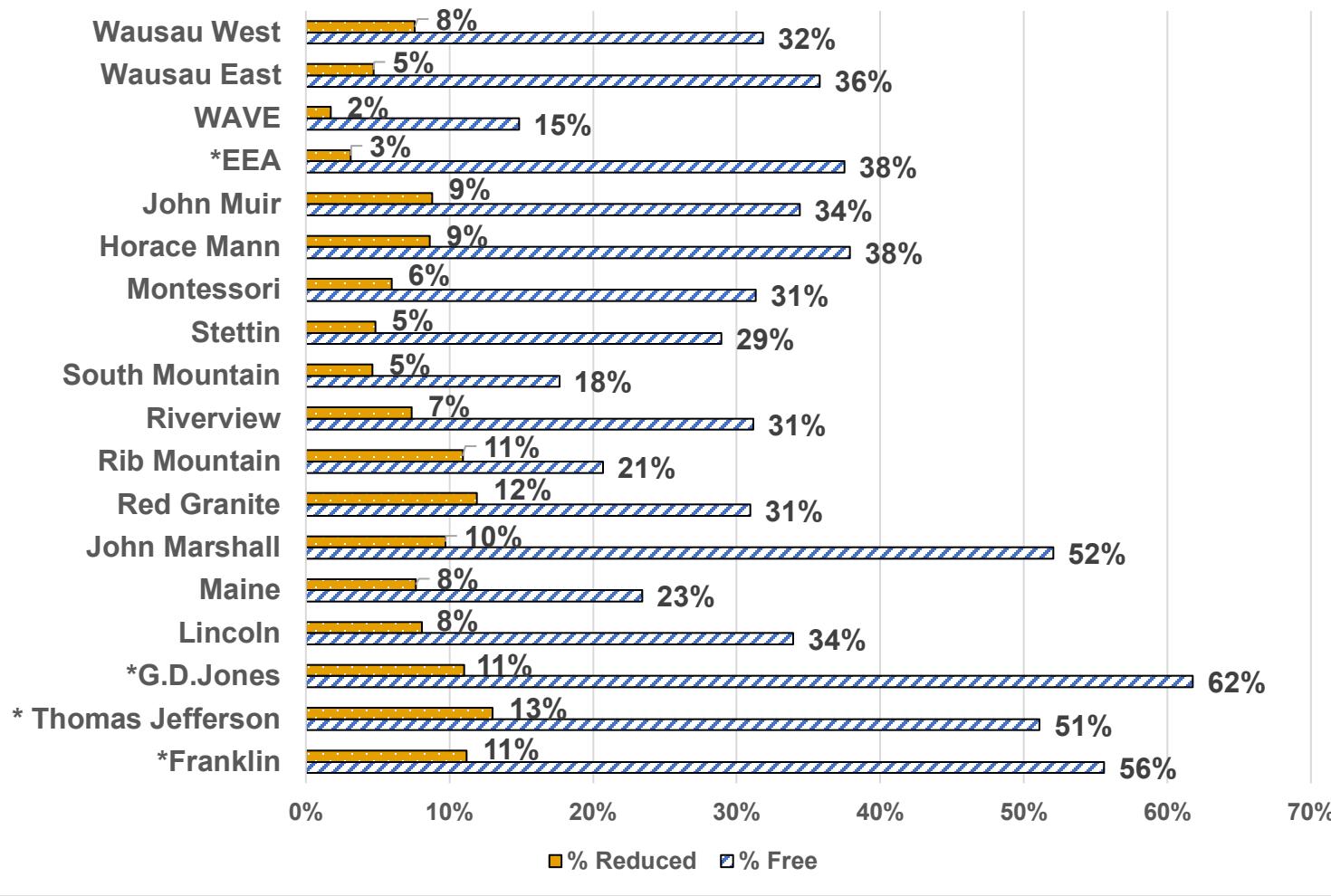
Student Enrollment by Free and Reduced Meal Percentages from Dec 9 Snapshot

Introduction:

Socioeconomic data, measured through Free and Reduced Meal eligibility, is a key indicator used for grant writing and determining instructional resource allocation. The district-wide average for the 2025-2026 school year is 44%, a decrease from the 49% reported in the previous year

School-by-School Free and Reduced Meal Eligibility (December 2025)

Student Enrollment by Free and Reduced Meal Percentages December 9, 2025



District Wide Averages

School	% Free	% Reduced
*Franklin	56%	11%
* Thomas Jefferson	51%	13%
*G.D.Jones	62%	11%
Lincoln	34%	8%
Maine	23%	8%
John Marshall	52%	10%
Red Granite	31%	12%
Rib Mountain	21%	11%
Riverview	31%	7%
South Mountain	18%	5%
Stettin	29%	5%
Montessori	31%	6%
Horace Mann	38%	9%
John Muir	34%	9%
*EEA	38%	3%
WAVE	15%	2%
Wausau East	36%	5%
Wausau West	32%	8%

Annual Student Transfer Analysis

Introduction:

This analysis tracks students moving into and out of the district through various channels, excluding open enrollment. In the current cycle, 442 students moved into the district while 344 moved out, showing a net gain in traditional transfers from sources such as private schools, home-based education, and other states. This data includes students who attended the Wausau School District for at least one school day.

Student Transfer Analysis by Source and Destination (2025-2026)

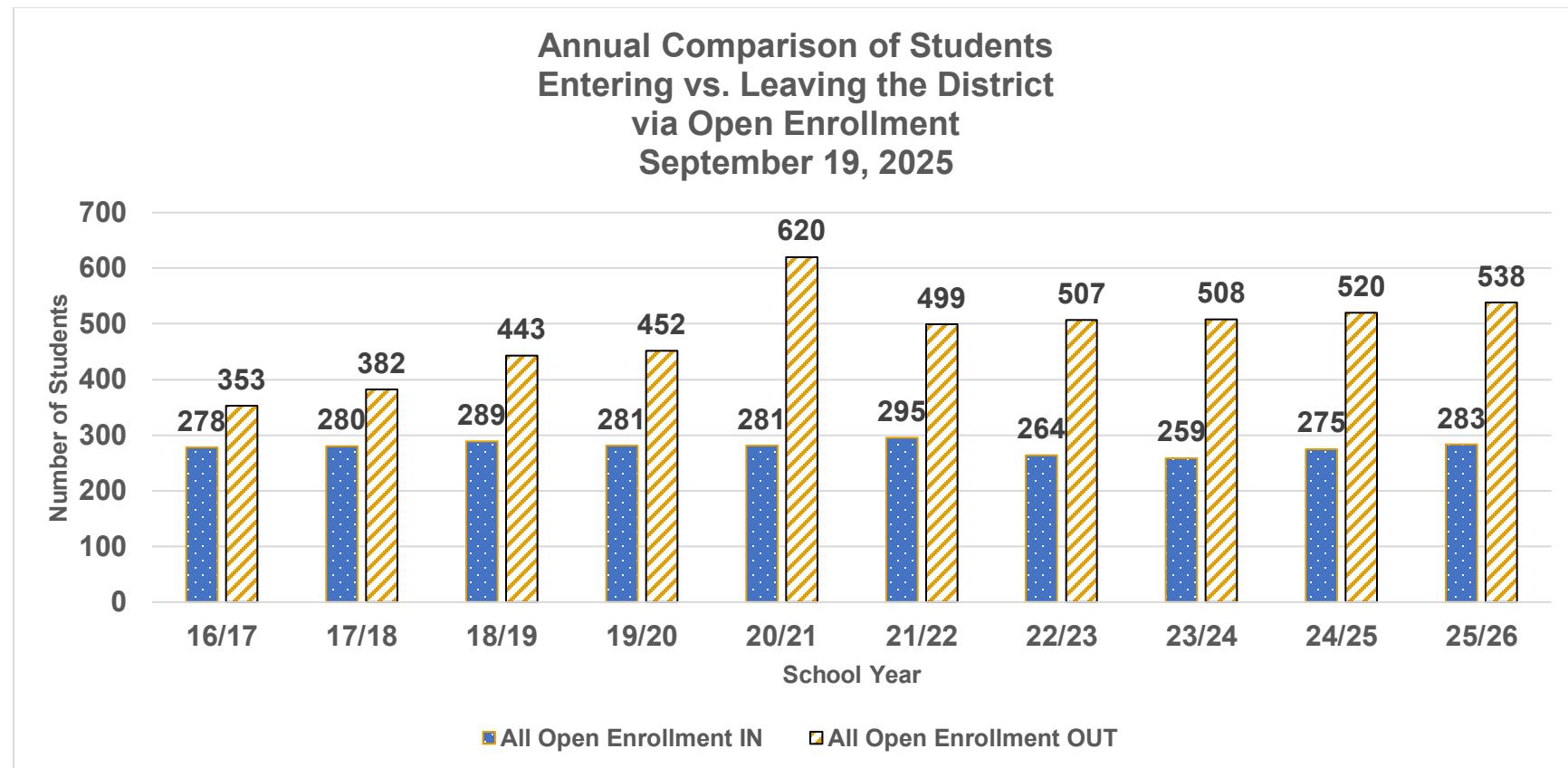
Transfer Source/Destination	Direction	Elementary School	Middle School	High School	Total
Private School	Into District	94	16	26	136
Private School	Out of District	38	8	0	46
DC Everest	Into District	45	16	18	79
DC Everest	Out of District	60	10	5	75
Mosinee	Into District	3	1	2	6
Mosinee	Out of District	7	0	0	7
Merrill	Into District	4	2	6	12
Merrill	Out of District	6	4	1	11
Marathon	Into District	3	0	1	4
Marathon	Out of District	1	0	0	1
Home Based Education	Into District	11	5	6	22
Home Based Education	Out of District	8	2	2	12
Other WI. School Districts	Into District	50	28	30	108
Other WI. School Districts	Out of District	80	24	29	133
Out of State	Into District	35	15	17	67
Out of State	Out of District	22	15	20	57
Out of Country	Into District	0	2	6	8
Out of Country	Out of District	2	0	0	2
Grand Total	Into District	245	85	112	442
Grand Total	Out of District	224	63	57	344

Open Enrollment Trends

Introduction:

Open enrollment data tracks the movement of students between the Wausau School District and other Wisconsin public school districts. This year, the number of students open enrolling out of the district increased to 538, while the number of students open enrolling into the district grew to 283.

10-Year Open Enrollment Inflow and Outflow Summary (2016-2026)



Annual Net Change

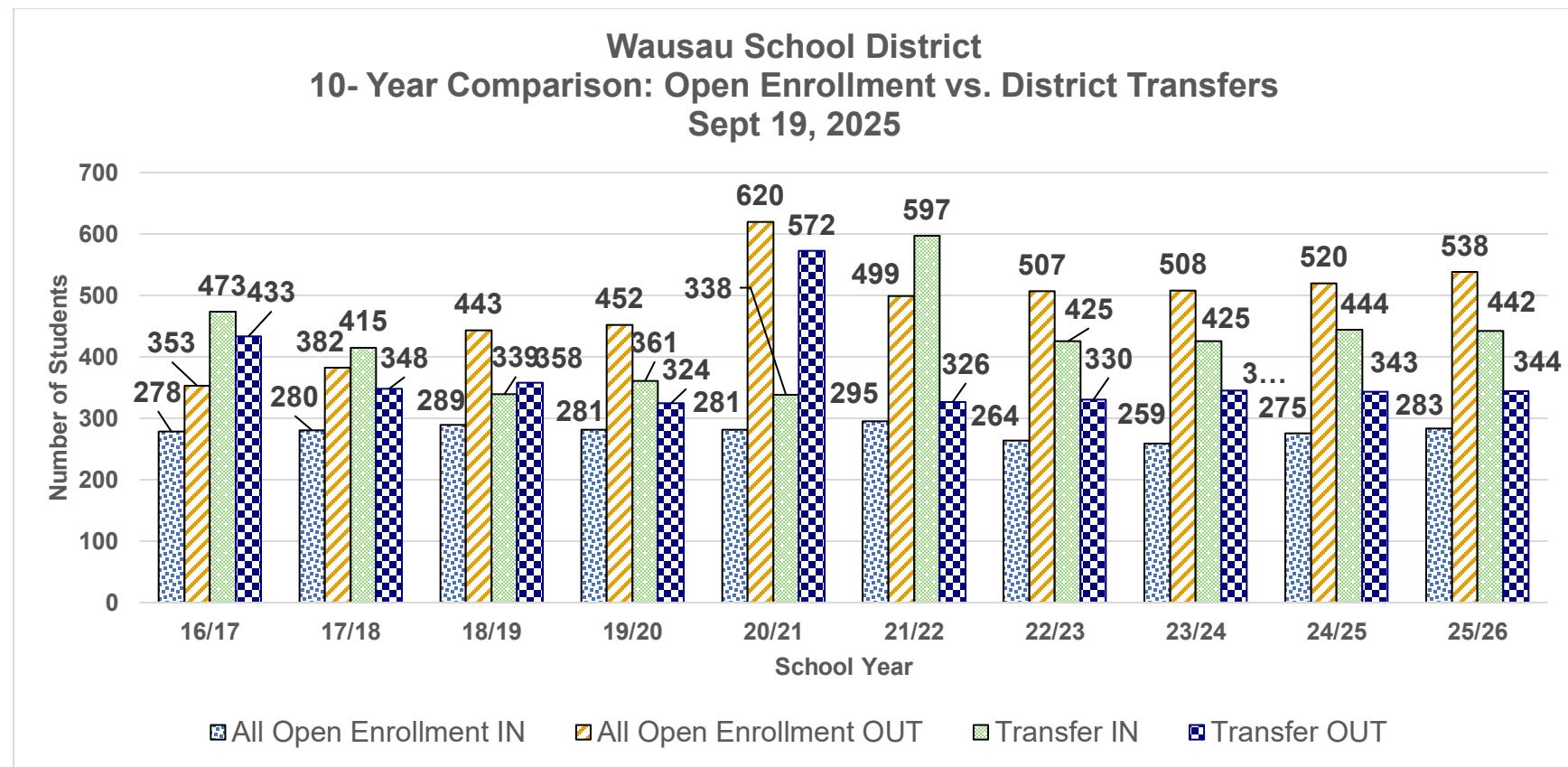
Year	All Open Enrollment IN	All Open Enrollment OUT
16/17	278	353
17/18	280	382
18/19	289	443
19/20	281	452
20/21	281	620
21/22	295	499
22/23	264	507
23/24	259	508
24/25	275	520
25/26	283	538

Annual Student Movement Summary

Introduction:

This summary provides a high-level view of all student movement, combining both open enrollment and traditional transfer data. By viewing these metrics together, the Board can assess the district's overall stability and its ability to attract and retain families over time.

Annual Student Movement Summary (2016-2026)



Total Migration Summary (2016-2026)

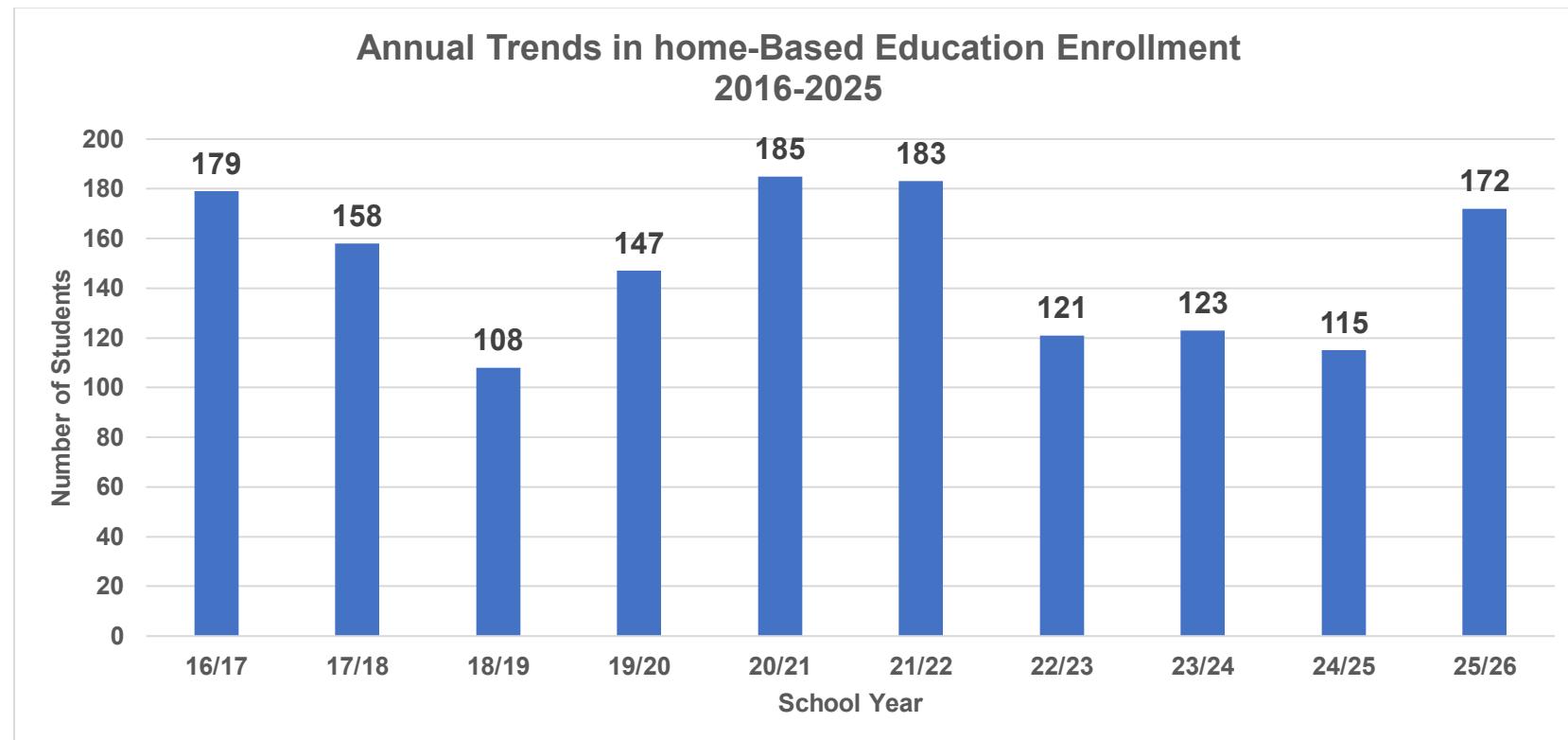
Year	All Open Enrollment IN	All Open Enrollment OUT	Transfer IN	Transfer OUT
16/17	278	353	473	433
17/18	280	382	415	348
18/19	289	443	339	358
19/20	281	452	361	324
20/21	281	620	338	572
21/22	295	499	597	326
22/23	264	507	425	330
23/24	259	508	425	345
24/25	275	520	444	343
25/26	283	538	442	344

Home-Based Private Education Trends

Introduction:

Home-based education figures represent students within our boundaries whose families have opted for private home-schooling. There has been a significant increase this year, with 172 students currently listed in home-based education, up from 115 in the 2024-2025 school year.

10-Year Home-Based Private Education Enrollment (2016-2026)



10-Year Home-Schooling Data

Year	Students
16/17	179
17/18	158
18/19	108
19/20	147
20/21	185
21/22	183
22/23	121
23/24	123
24/25	115
25/26	172

Immigrant and Refugee population

Introduction:

Wausau School District continues to welcome students from around the globe, providing a rich cultural environment. Currently, the district serves 157 immigrant and refugee students representing 36 different countries of origin. Mexico, Afghanistan, and Nicaragua are currently the most common countries of origin for our newest residents.

Immigrant and Refugee Student Population by Country of Origin (2025-2026)

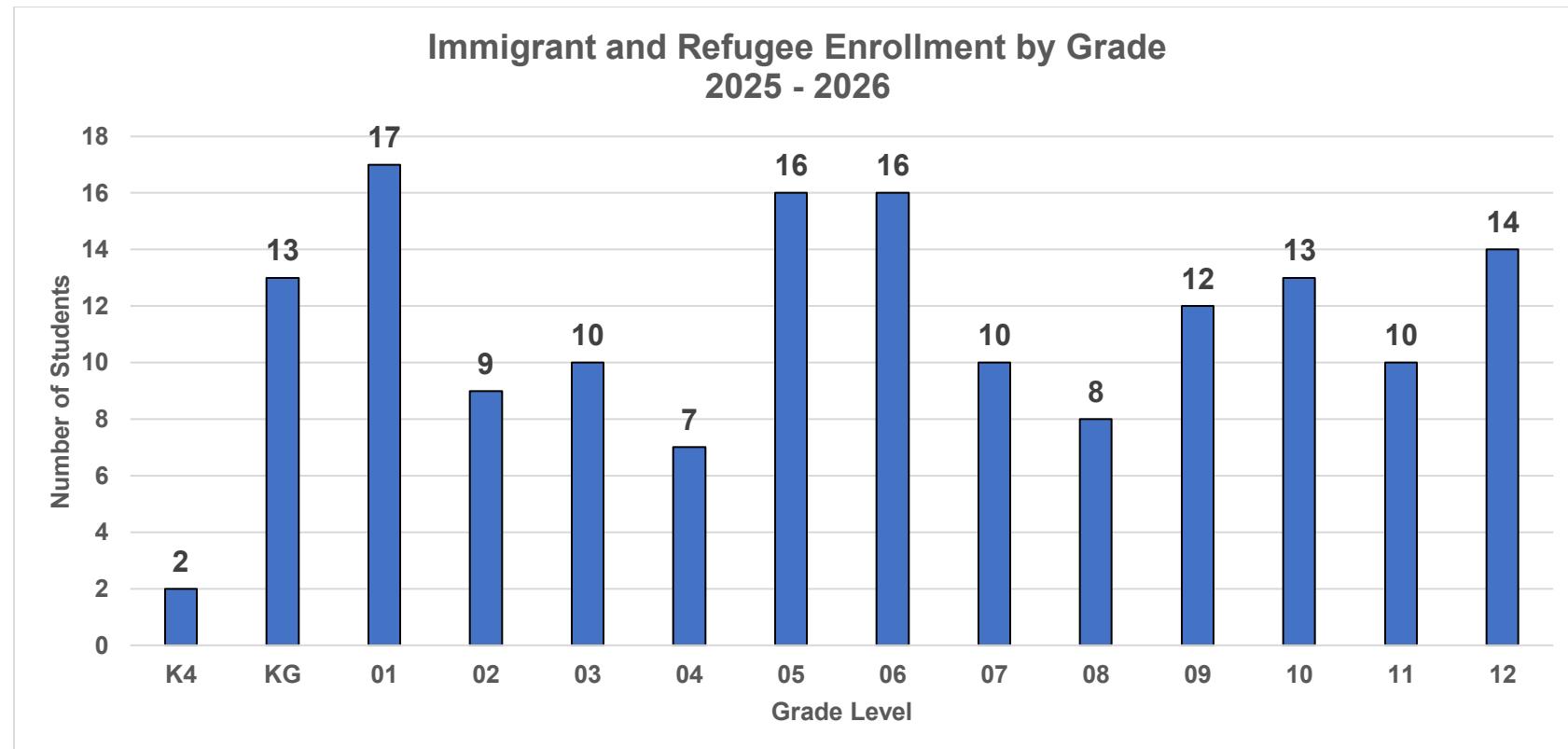
Country of Origin	Number of Students
Mexico	21
Afghanistan	15
Nicaragua	10
Congo	8
Venezuela	7
Kenya	7
Colombia	6
Vietnam	6
Malawi	6
Zambia	5
Bangladesh	5
Tanzania	5
Zimbabwe	5
Lao	5
India	4
Yemen	4
Albania	4
Central African Republic	3
Burma	3
Honduras	3
Jordan	3
Ukraine	3
Brazil	3
Cuba	2
Myanmar	2
Laos	2
China	1
Haiti	1
Somalia	1
Syria	1
Netherlands	1
Malaysia	1
Philippines	1
Uganda	1
Sri Lanka	1
Democratic Republic of Congo	1
Grand Total	157

Immigrant and Refugee Enrollment by Grade

Introduction:

The Wausau School District takes pride in being a welcoming community for families from around the globe. This section provides a detailed breakdown of our 157 immigrant and refugee students, distributed by their current grade level for the 2025-2026 school year. By analyzing this distribution, the District can better allocate English Language Learner (ELL) resources and specialized instructional support to the grade levels with the highest concentration of newly arrived students.

Immigrant and Refugee Student Distribution by Grade (2025-2026)



Summary of Immigrant and Refugee Enrollment Totals

K4	2
KG	13
01	17
02	9
03	10
04	7
05	16
06	16
07	10
08	8
09	12
10	13
11	10
12	14