

Year	Head Count
1965-1966	3,687
1966-1967	3,964
1967-1968	4,192
1968-1969	4,433
1969-1970	4,619
1970-1971	4,664
1971-1972	5,020
1972-1973	5,289
1973-1974	5,477
1974-1975	5,583
1975-1976	5,814
1976-1977	6,428
1977-1978	7,006
1978-1979	7,495
1979-1980	8,098
1980-1981	8,497
1981-1982	8,973
1982-1983	9,360
1983-1984	9,950
1984-1985	10,600
1985-1986	11,230
1986-1987	12,050
1987-1988	12,727
1988-1989	13,296
1989-1990	13,974
1990-1991	14,870
1991-1992	15,356
1992-1993	15,957
1993-1994	16,635
1994-1995	17,194
1995-1996	17,801
1996-1997	18,509
1997-1998	18,846
1998-1999	19,598
1999-2000	20,301

II. District Enrollment Trends

The Olathe Public Schools experienced continued enrollment growth from unification in 1965 till 2019. During that time enrollment increased from 3,687 students in 9 buildings to 30,166 in 60 buildings. However, that upward growth trend is changing. In three of the past four years, enrollment has declined in the district dropping the enrollment to an estimated 28,454 in 2024-25. Enrollment estimates show a continual decline in enrollment for at least the next 10 years, dropping to 27,500 by 2032.

Enrollment projection for Olathe Public School are based primarily upon: historic enrollment information and new residential building permit information. Historic enrollment information would include District growth rate, program growth rate, student location and promotion rates. Enrollment data has been maintained since unification in 1965, with particular weight given to information in the past 3-5 years. This information is supplemented with residential building permit reports. The school district is broken down into 91 study areas (map grids). Building permits are mapped each quarter and information about the permit [the type of housing product (single family or multi-family), the developer of the subdivision and the price of the unit] is entered and analyzed with geographic information system (GIS) software. Changes within fully developed areas of the District are estimated based on promotion rates by grade.



This process has created enrollment estimates that are within 1.0% of the actual enrollment of the District over the past 4 years, leading to a great deal of confidence in the methodology.

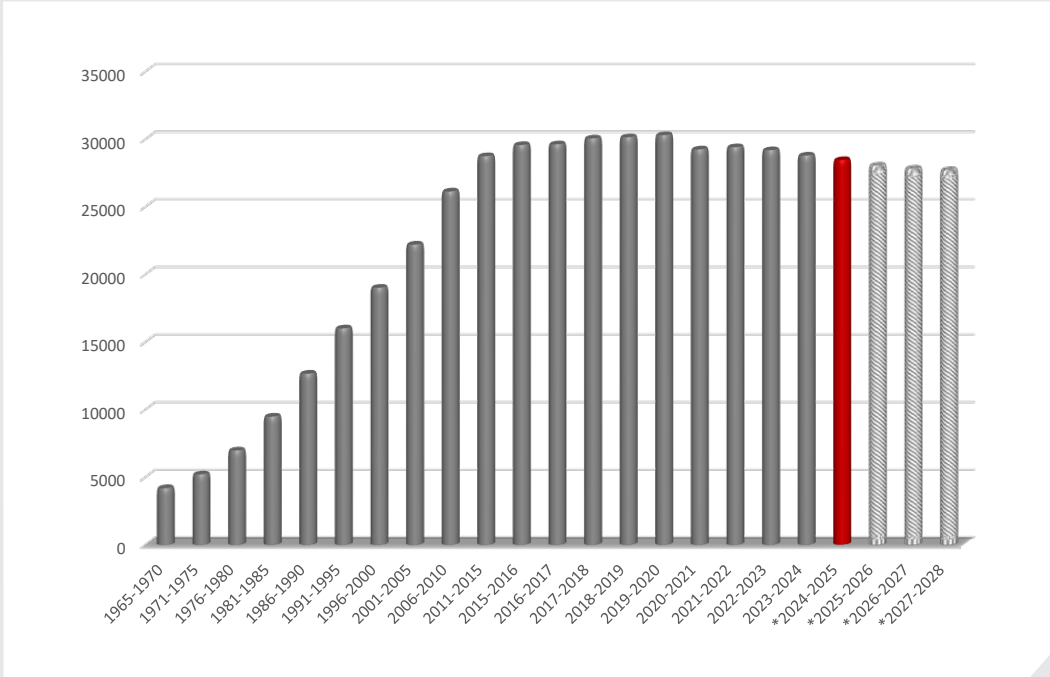
While the District’s methodologies have proven extremely accurate in projecting enrollment for the short-term, the District uses information from Mid-American Regional Council (MARC) for long-term enrollment projections. MARC is a non-profit association of city and county governments and the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the bi-state Kansas City region. MARC provides long-term enrollment estimates for the metro area and individual cities. Applying a ratio technique to those forecasts provides the district an estimate of 43,000-45,000 students at full build-out. Though with the district’s declining birth rate, and increasing average age of its population the likelihood of reaching 40,000 students is decreasing.

Olathe Public Schools Annual Budget

II. District Enrollment Trends

The following chart provides actual enrollment information since 1965 and projected enrollments through 2027-2028.

All numbers represent student headcounts, not FTE.



Note: Years prior to 2015 are 5-year averages.

Year	Head Count
2000-2001	20,794
2001-2002	21,500
2002-2003	22,153
2003-2004	22,949
2004-2005	23,615
2005-2006	24,696
2006-2007	25,520
2007-2008	26,351
2008-2009	26,894
2009-2010	27,202
2010-2011	27,943
2011-2012	28,288
2012-2013	28,889
2013-2014	29,171
2014-2015	29,410
2015-2016	29,567
2016-2017	29,616
2017-2018	30,054
2018-2019	30,145
2019-2020	30,299
2020-2021	29,244
2021-2022	29,404
2022-2023	29,186
2023-2024	28,787
*2024-2025	28,454
*2025-2026	28,041
*2026-2027	27,814
*2027-2028	27,704

*Projected

As demonstrated above, the District is anticipating a slower but steadily decreasing enrollment over the next four years.



Olathe
PUBLIC SCHOOLS