



## Business, Finance and Planning

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TO: School Committee

FROM: Katy Hogue, Director of Data Analysis and Enrollment Planning

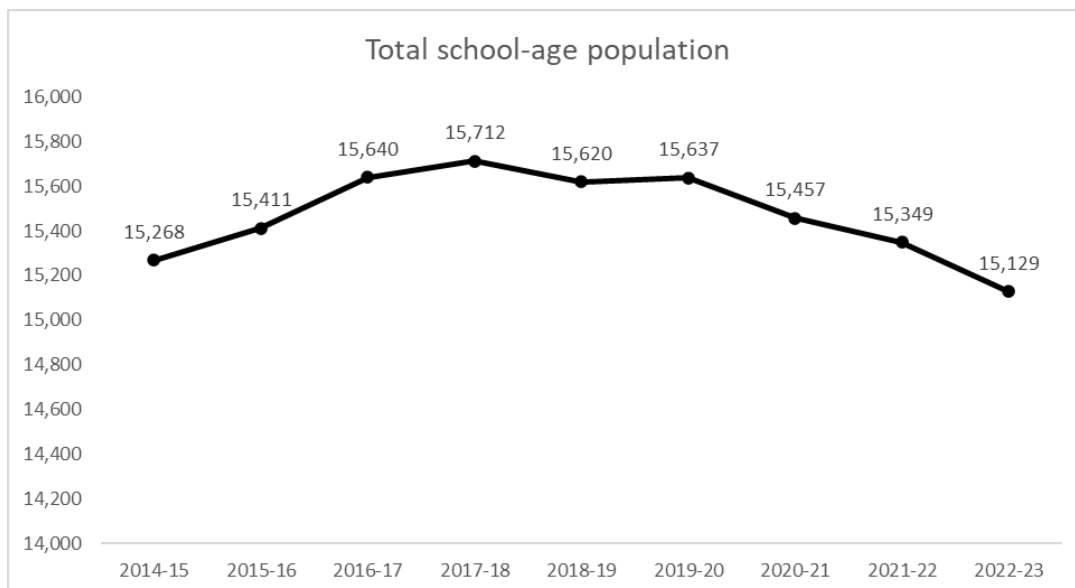
DATE: April 24, 2023

RE: 2022-2023 Non-public/private school enrollment

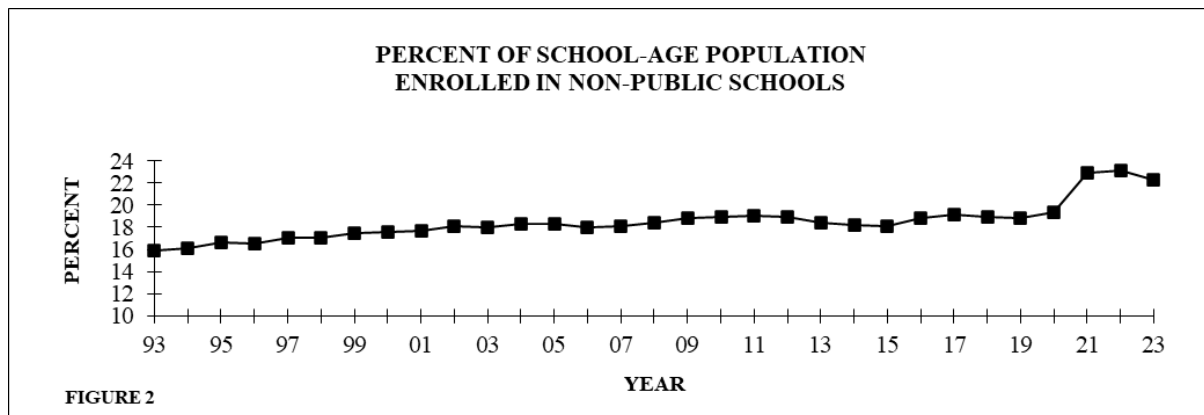
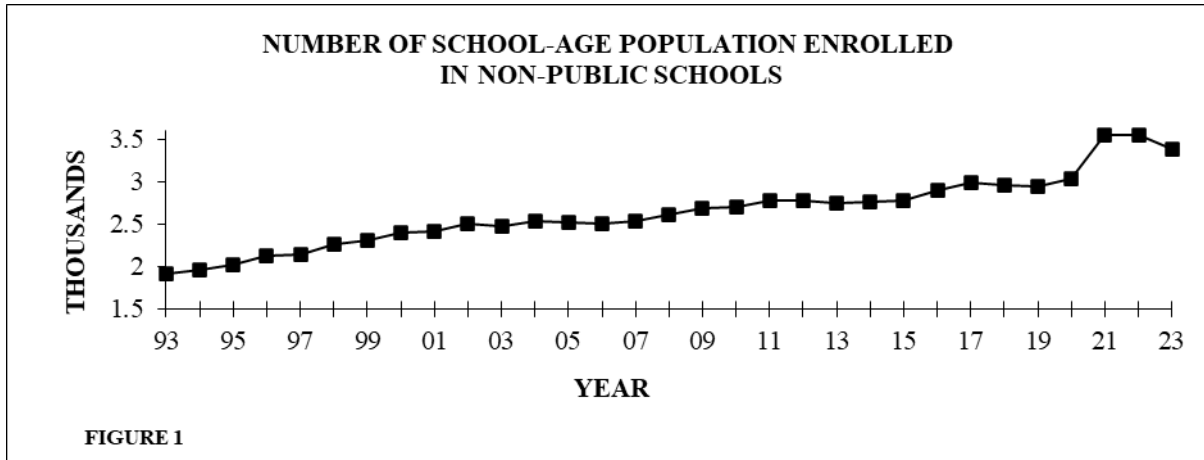
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This memo reports on the total school-age population in Newton and the school-age children residing in Newton who are attending non-public or private schools during the 2022-2023 school year, as well as providing historical trend data. A census of non-public school students is conducted each January, as required by Massachusetts law, and provides information on where Newton's school-age population is attending school outside of Newton Public Schools. This includes private independent schools (including those with a religious affiliation), private special education schools, other public schools, charter schools, and students who are homeschooled. Special education students outplaced by Newton Public Schools are included in this census. The data reported in this memo is based on the 2023 non-public school student census that was conducted in January 2023.

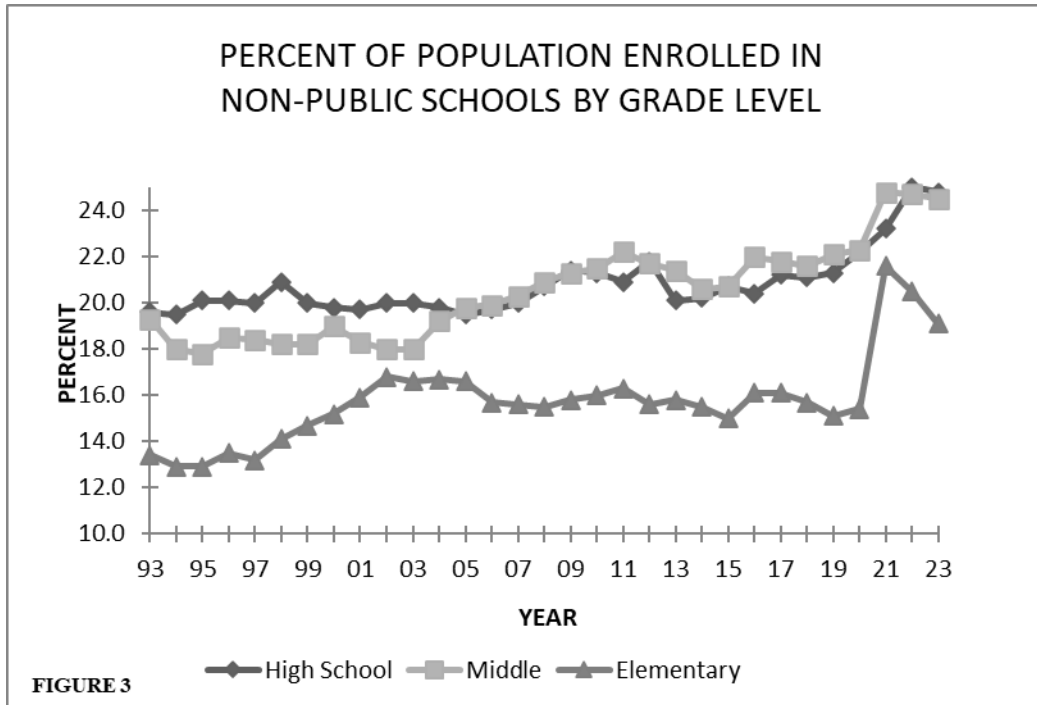
Based on the January 2023 census, the overall school-age population in Newton (including public school and non-public school students) decreased by 220 students from last year (from 15,349 students in 2022 to 15,129 students in 2023), or a decline of -1.4%. The graph below displays the total school-age population in Newton from 2014-2015 through the current year. The total school-age population began declining in the 2018-2019 school year, which is also when the growth trend that NPS was experiencing shifted to one of enrollment decline. Although the total school-age population remained relatively stable in the 2019-2020 school year, the total population has continued to decrease in each subsequent year. One of the main factors of this trend is incoming kindergarten cohorts that are smaller than the prior year's graduating twelfth grade cohort. The size of the overall kindergarten cohort in Newton has declined in each year since 2018-2019, from 1,011 kindergarteners in 2018-2019 to 886 kindergarteners in the current year.



In 2022-23, 22.3% of the school-age population, or 3,381 students, are enrolled in non-public schools. This is a decrease of 158 students from the previous year, when 23.1% of the school-age population (3,539 students) was enrolled in non-public schools. Although both the overall number and the percentage of the school-age population enrolled in non-public schools has decreased in the current school year, both are still above the levels seen prior to the pandemic. As displayed in figures 1 and 2, both the overall number and the percentage of the school-age population enrolled in non-public schools increased in the 2020-2021 school year (with the majority of the increase likely due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic).



The decline in the overall number and percentage of students in non-public schools this school year is mainly due to a decrease in elementary non-public school enrollments. As Figure 3 shows, the percentage of the school-age population enrolled in non-public schools at the elementary level has decreased to 19% this year, although it is still higher than pre-pandemic. Overall, enrollments in non-public schools for elementary grades has declined by 116 students (-9%) from last year. As shown in Table 1 at the end of this memo, the individual cohorts of students at the elementary level have also seen cohort decline from last year, indicating that students in these cohorts have left non-public schools (either to return to NPS or to move out of Newton). In middle and high school, the percentage of the school-age population enrolled in non-public schools has decreased slightly this year, although again, both remain above the pre-pandemic levels. In middle school, the individual cohorts of students in non-public schools in all three grade levels has increased from last year, which is typical for Newton. In high school, there has been small cohort growth for the current ninth graders (+9 students) from last year. Prior to the pandemic, Newton usually saw cohort decline in non-public school enrollment from grade 8 to grade 9; since the pandemic, Newton has seen small cohort growth in this grade level transition.



The table below shows the breakdown of non-public school enrollment by type of school in 2022-23. The majority of the school-age population in Newton that is enrolled in non-public schools is enrolled in private schools in Massachusetts (95%), which is typical for Newton.

**PERCENT OF NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT BY TYPE OF SCHOOL**

Special Education Collaborative	Charter School	Other Public School	Home Schooled	In-State Private School	Out-of-State Private School
<1%	<1%	<1%	2%	95%	2%

Of the students enrolled in private schools in Massachusetts (in-state private school), 24% are enrolled in private schools that are physically in Newton (including private special education schools), while the remaining 76% attend private school outside of Newton.

Just over a quarter (27% or 918 students) of all students enrolled in non-public schools in 2022-2023 are enrolled in private schools with a religious affiliation.

The following three tables provide additional detail on non-public school enrollment by grade level, grade level and NPS districted school, and outplaced students. Table 1 displays non-public school enrollment by grade, while Table 2 presents this information further separated by districted school. Table 3 displays the distribution of Newton Public Schools students who are placed out-of-district as of the time of the census due to the special education needs of the students by grade level and districted school.

Table 2 indicates that the percentage of the school-age population enrolled in non-public schools varies widely by districted school, especially at the elementary level. In elementary school, the percentage of the school-age population enrolled in non-public schools ranges from 6.5% in the Williams district to 42.4% in the Ward district, with an overall elementary percentage of 19% in non-public schools. In middle school, the percentage

of the school-population enrolled in non-public schools ranges from 17.6% in the Day district to 29% in the Bigelow district, with an overall middle school percentage of 24.4%. In high school, the percentage of the school-age population enrolled in non-public schools in the North district is 22% and the percentage in the South district is 27.9%.

Table 3 displays the enrollment for students with special education placements out-of-district and indicates that in January 2023, 117 students were placed out-of-district. In the prior year, 113 students were placed out-of-district.

**TABLE 1  
NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AS PERCENT OF  
TOTAL SCHOOL-AGE POPULATION  
BY GRADE**

Grade	2021-22		2022-23		Change from Prior Year (N, %)		Cohort Change from Prior Year (N, %)	
	N	% of School-Age Population	N	% of School-Age Population				
K	190	20.5%	159	17.9%	-31	-16.3%	--	--
1	229	22.0%	163	16.5%	-66	-28.8%	-27	-14.2%
2	212	20.2%	209	19.5%	-3	-1.4%	-20	-8.7%
3	215	19.6%	199	18.8%	-16	-7.4%	-13	-6.1%
4	239	21.8%	216	19.6%	-23	-9.6%	1	0.5%
5	211	18.8%	234	21.3%	23	10.9%	-5	-2.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>-116</b>	<b>-9.0%</b>		
6	311	26.1%	239	20.8%	-72	-23.2%	28	13.3%
7	311	23.9%	340	27.9%	29	9.3%	29	9.3%
8	307	24.4%	321	24.3%	14	4.6%	10	3.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>24.4%</b>	<b>-29</b>	<b>-3.1%</b>		
9	380	28.4%	316	24.5%	-64	-16.8%	9	2.9%
10	285	23.2%	374	27.2%	89	31.2%	-6	-1.6%
11	318	24.7%	290	23.4%	-28	-8.8%	5	1.8%
12	302	22.5%	297	23.3%	-5	-1.7%	-21	-6.6%
SP	29	49.2%	24	41.4%	-5	-17.2%	-5	-17.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,314</b>	<b>25.0%</b>	<b>1,301</b>	<b>24.9%</b>	<b>-13</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>		
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3,539</b>	<b>23.1%</b>	<b>3,381</b>	<b>22.3%</b>	<b>-158</b>	<b>-4.5%</b>		

Change from the prior year compares the same grade level from one year to the next year (these are different groups of students). Cohort change from the prior year compares the size of the same cohort of students from one year to the next year (i.e., last year's first graders compared to this year's second graders).

**TABLE 2  
NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS  
AS PERCENT OF TOTAL SCHOOL-AGE POPULATION  
BY DISTRICTED SCHOOL AND GRADE LEVEL**

Elementary District	2021-22		2022-23 by Grade						2022-23	
	N	% of School Age Population	K	1	2	3	4	5	N	% of School Age Population
Angier	112	20.9%	11	14	21	11	23	32	112	22.8%
Bowen	95	21.6%	8	10	14	19	6	7	64	15.1%
Burr	52	12.8%	7	5	9	3	7	7	38	9.4%
Cabot	100	19.5%	13	10	14	14	18	15	84	15.7%
Countryside	79	17.6%	12	6	13	9	16	27	83	17.8%
Franklin	37	8.4%	6	3	10	6	6	4	35	8.8%
Horace Mann	45	10.9%	8	9	6	7	8	13	51	12.4%
Lincoln-Eliot	56	15.1%	6	5	4	13	6	6	40	10.6%
Mason-Rice	121	26.4%	14	27	19	25	24	24	133	28.5%
Memorial-Spaulding	164	29.3%	16	17	29	30	29	29	150	27.5%
Peirce	90	27.4%	10	11	17	14	15	22	89	27.1%
Underwood	55	19.9%	14	11	10	10	9	8	62	21.7%
Ward	175	45.3%	21	17	31	19	28	27	143	42.4%
Williams	24	9.6%	3	3	3	0	6	1	16	6.5%
Zervas	91	17.7%	10	15	9	19	15	12	80	16.5%
<b>Total Elementary</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>19.0%</b>
						<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>		
Bigelow Middle	142	23.4%				56	59	68	183	29.0%
Brown Middle	293	27.9%				73	111	94	278	26.9%
Day Middle	239	20.3%				49	75	74	198	17.6%
Oak Hill Middle	255	27.8%				61	95	85	241	26.8%
<b>Total Middle School</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>24.7%</b>				<b>239</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>24.4%</b>
						<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>SP</b>
Newton North	587	21.8%	122	173	144	145	11		595	22.0%
Newton South	727	28.4%	194	201	146	152	13		706	27.9%
<b>Total High School</b>	<b>1,314</b>	<b>25.0%</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>24</b>		<b>1,301</b>	<b>24.9%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>3,539</b>	<b>23.1%</b>							<b>3,381</b>	<b>22.3%</b>

Students residing in buffer zones are assigned a districted school according to the attendance percentages of currently enrolled buffer zone resident students.

**TABLE 3  
SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS  
TUITIONED-OUT TO NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BY DISTRICTED SCHOOL AND GRADE LEVEL**

Elementary	Total As of 2021-22	2022-23 Grade							Total As of 2022-23
		PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	
Angier	0						3		3
Bowen	1					1			1
Burr	2		1				1		2
Cabot	0							1	1
Countryside	1								0
Franklin	0								0
Horace Mann	0								0
Lincoln-Eliot	0								0
Mason-Rice	0								0
Memorial-Spaulding	4								0
Peirce	0						1		1
Underwood	0								0
Ward	2						1		1
Williams	1								0
Zervas	0							1	1
<b>Total Elementary</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>
						<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	
Bigelow Middle	3					2	1	2	5
Brown Middle	5					2	7	2	11
Day Middle	8					1	3	3	7
Oak Hill Middle	5					2	3	3	8
<b>Total Middle School</b>	<b>21</b>					<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>31</b>
				<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>SP</b>	
Newton North	41			4	10	5	12	9	40
Newton South	40			6	6	3	8	13	36
<b>Total High School</b>	<b>81</b>			<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>113</b>								<b>117</b>