
DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY

for the

BERGENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

Bergenfield, Bergen County, State of New Jersey

Prepared By:

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April 1, 2015

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Whereas, all New Jersey Public School Districts are required by N.J.A.C. 6A:26-2.1 to prepare a Long Range Facility Plan and,

Whereas, N.J.A.C. 6A:26-2.2 requires the certification of the school district's Long Range Facility Plan demographics by a qualified demographer and,

Whereas, Whitehall Associates, Inc. is considered a qualified demographer by the New Jersey Department of Education.

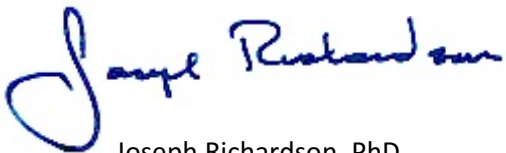
Therefore, Whitehall Associates, Inc. states that the demographic report it prepared for the Bergenfield Board of Education was prepared in compliance with the appropriate law and administrative code.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The enrollments for these demographics begin with the 2009-2010 school year and end with the 2014-2015 school year. The enrollment projections are through the 2019-2020 school year. They take into account the dynamics of the district and may or may not agree with the report posted on the web by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). The NJDOE report does not take into account some of the dynamics such as residential development or changes in programs. Bernard Piaia, at the NJDOE Office of School Facilities, has agreed to accept this report, if it is submitted in its complete final form, with an original signature, along with the NJDOE cohort survival worksheets for the Long Range Facility Plan.

The original of this report is on electronic file at the offices of Whitehall Associates, Inc. and is available for examination by the appropriate authorities.

For:

WHITEHALL ASSOCIATES, INC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph Richardson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joseph Richardson, PhD
President

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INTRODUCTION

Whitehall Associates was retained by the Bergenfield Board of Education to prepare a demographic study for the Bergenfield School District. The information in this demographic report is suitable for inclusion in any document to be forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Education for matters concerning school facilities.

OVERVIEW OF THE DISTRICT

Bergenfield Borough covers 2.89 square miles in Bergen County, New Jersey. The school district is in District Factor Group **FG**. The Board of Education maintains seven schools in a K-12 district. Board offices are located at 225 West Clinton Avenue in Bergenfield.

SPECIAL NOTE CONCERNING THE LONG RANGE FACILITY PLAN SUBMISSION

If the cohort projections, as developed in the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) Long Range Facility Plan (LRFP) electronic data sheets, do not fit a particular district, the correct information may be entered manually. Even so there are some cells on the worksheets that cannot be modified, such as the birth to kindergarten ratio in districts where the birth figures are inaccurate. If a reason exists not to use the birth to kindergarten ratios and some other method is used, such as a regression analysis of the kindergarten figures, the information may be entered manually. Any modification to the NJDOE worksheets will be fully explained in this report. In some instances there is no way to rectify this report with the NJDOE worksheets. The Office of the Chief of Staff - School Facilities of the NJDOE will accept this report in its final form if submitted, in its entirety, along with the NJDOE worksheets. This report must be submitted with an original signature on page 2.

SPECIAL NOTE CONCERNING PRE-SCHOOL REPORTING

As of June 13, 2008, The NJDOE promulgated N.J.A.C. 6A-13A which established the ground rules for state funded pre-school programs. One of the factors was determining the “universe”. According to the definitions in paragraph 1.2, “Universe of eligible three- and four-year-old children” means all three- and four-year-old general education children eligible for preschool pursuant to the School Funding Reform Act (P.L. 2007, c. 260) in a public school district providing a *universal* or *targeted* pre-school program. This is different than what was previously used by demographers. Previously, the “universe” was considered the maximum number of students that could be expected to be enrolled in pre-school programs. It was generally accepted that this figure would be the live births for that cohort. The NJDOE Data Center now combines the pre-kindergarten figures and list them as **PK**.

Of special concern, at the time this report is being prepared, is the reporting of pre-school students to NJDOE by the district, whose figures are used to prepare this report. Current instructions from NJSMART give an option to the district NOT to report pre-school students under certain circumstances. This can substantially affect the total enrollment figures and provide a false number of students for which the district must provide space. The problem has been presented to NJDOE by Whitehall and several concerned districts. At this time there is no definitive solution. Whitehall must rely on the district to provide the correct numbers at the time the draft is reviewed or preferably before.

NOTE CONCERNING THE SOURCE OF ENROLLMENT DATA

In 2010 the Fall Survey Report, which was previously used as the basis for demographic projections dealing with facilities, was eliminated by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). Official

student enrollments are now computed from NJSMART using the **Program Type Codes**. This was done to standardize reporting and make it simpler for the NJDOE to prepare reports that are needed by Federal, State, and local entities.

The projections for the pre-school students are calculated by the cohort survival method. We have found this to be the most accurate method.

ENROLLMENT DATA AND PROJECTIONS

In studies for the New Jersey Department of Education, enrollment data, by grade, as of October 15th of each year for the past six years is required. A five year enrollment projection based on these data and computed by the cohort survival method is required. The resulting enrollments are used as a factor in determining the adequacy of the educational facilities. Birth figures are obtained from the Center for Health Statistics of the New Jersey Department of Health. Enrollment figures are as described in the previous section. The only special education students in this report are those in self-contained classrooms. Self-contained students are defined as those with 39 percent or less time in regular classes. Prior to the 2010-11 school year these students were reported by classification as special education students and by grade grouping such as pre-kindergarten, K-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Now they are grouped together as “ungraded” or “UG”.

In developing a projection of five year enrollments, the cohort-survival method has been used as a base. This method is the one required by law and expected by the New Jersey Department of Education unless a cogent reason exists for another method to be used. The use of a different method must be explained and justified

to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Education.

The cohort-survival method acquires its name from the use of grade to grade survival figures derived from a recent history of the school district. Grade survival ratios at each level can then be computed on the basis of the recent years' known enrollment with an average survival ratio per grade determined. Ratios less than one usually reflect such factors as out-transfers, ex-migration from the school district and other such losses. A survival ratio of more than one usually reflects such factors as in-transfers and in-migration. Projections of enrollment can then be made by applying the individual grade by grade survival ratio to each grade level for future years with a base of known enrollments for the present year. In reports for districts with self-contained special education students, projections are made by using the percent of population method. That is, the number of special education students is divided by the total school population to arrive at a percentage for each year. The last year's percentage in Table 2 is used to project the number of special education students reported in Table 3.

With some adaptation to local circumstances, the cohort survival method is the most accurate we have to project enrollments. In rapidly developing districts, the impact of new residential development must be taken into account. This is accomplished by using data derived from the Center for Urban Policy Research at Rutgers University and Whitehall's research. In Bergenfield's case there is no proposed residential development that will warrant the modification of the cohort survival projections.

MUNICIPAL POPULATION TRENDS

This table lists the population of Bergenfield since 1930. The borough population grew heavily in the 1940's and 1950's and slowed

considerably from that point. There was a decrease in the 1970's and 1980's followed by a relatively flat population through 2010.

TABLE 1

The pre-kindergarten data for the district, both the “universe” and the actual is provided. Please refer back to the special comments on page 4 concerning pre-school enrollment projections.

TABLE 2

The district’s enrollment history is exhibited wherein the survival ratios mentioned in the preceding paragraphs are developed. Student enrollments used were those provided by the district administration to the New Jersey Department of Education or to Whitehall Associates directly. These figures are for students housed in the district schools and do not include out of district placements. This method is standard and is fully acceptable by the Department of Education and required by law as the source of enrollments. Birth figures were obtained from the Center for Health Statistics of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDOH). This also is standard and is required by law.

TABLE 3

This is the main table and is designed to be used in conferences and meetings and conforms to the NJDOE worksheet. It allows the participant to be able to refer to one page rather than searching through a document for more information. The back-up for Table 3 entries will be found in other tables. All calculations are carried to eight or more decimal places. Since there cannot be fractions of a student, the district totals may vary by one or two students if added

manually. These projections can and should be updated every year.

The solid boxed area to the lower left of the table is an area of low confidence in that these children have either not been born or reported.

Births in the red dashed boxed area may be shown as a regression, an average of the last nine year’s births, or the last known birth figure. In this case we used a regression analysis.

Table 3 shows the live births attributed to Bergenfield for the five years prior to the kindergarten year shown.

The projection of student enrollment for the next five years has been made. The total school population is expected to decrease by 158 students or 4.60 percent in the next five years, excluding any residential development impact.

TABLE 4

This table shows the population impact of planned and approved residential development in the district. According to Harry Hillenius of the Bergenfield Building Department the Borough is built out and there is no current residential development.

TABLE 5

The enrollment projections by school, by grade for the year 2019-20 are shown here. The ratio of students was taken from the October 15, 2014 enrollment data supplied by the district, as mentioned in the section on the source of enrollment data, and applied to the 2019-20 district wide projections. This method is required by the NJDOE in the Long Range Facilities Plan.

**BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD
MUNICIPAL POPULATION TRENDS**

LAND AREA = 2.89 Sq. Mi.

YEAR	POPULATION	INCREASE	% INCREASE
1930	8,816		
		1,459	16.55%
1940	10,275		
		7,372	71.75%
1950	17,647		
		9,556	54.15%
1960	27,203		
		1,797	6.61%
1970	29,000		
		-3,432	-11.83%
1980	25,568		
		-1,110	-4.34%
1990	24,458		
		1,789	7.31%
2000	26,247		
		517	1.97%
2010	26,764		

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

TABLE 1
BERGENFIELD BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
PRE-SCHOOL STUDENT ENROLLMENT HISTORY

PRE-SCHOOL UNIVERSE CALCULATIONS

District Factor Group: **FG**

Universal Districts = 1st Grade X 2 = **434**

Targeted Districts = 1st Grade X 2 X % of free and reduced (K-12) = **157**

Number of free and reduced lunches (K-12) = **1243**

Percent of free and reduced lunches = **36.10**

YEAR	PK
ACTUAL	
09-10	16
10-11	0
11-12	28
12-13	0
13-14	27
14-15	23
PROJECTED	
15-16	24
16-17	25
17-18	25
18-19	25
19-20	25

NOTES:

1. The method for Pre-school universe calculations shown to the left above is that required by the NJDOE Pre-School Education Office.
2. The table to the right is a cohort survival calculation of regular pre-school enrollments as of the 2014-15 school year, exclusive of Pre-K handicapped. Pre-K handicapped students are accounted for with the "UNGRADED" students.
3. Please read the narrative concerning the Pre-school projections.

**TABLE 2
BERGENFIELD BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
STUDENT ENROLLMENT HISTORY**

School Year	Births 5 Yrs. Ago	PK	K	1st Gr.	2nd Gr.	3rd Gr.	4th Gr.	5th Gr.	6th Gr.	7th Gr.	8th Gr.	9th Gr.	10th Gr.	11th Gr.	12th Gr.	UNGRADED	DISTRICT TOTAL
2009-10	300	0.05 16	0.60 179	1.15 222	0.92 216	0.94 218	1.00 272	1.03 256	1.03 263	1.00 266	1.06 277	0.90 332	0.97 318	0.98 274	300	120	3529
2010-11	308	0.00 0	0.52 160	1.25 205	1.01 205	1.05 202	1.02 217	1.02 280	1.04 253	1.04 271	1.11 267	0.99 294	1.00 299	1.04 307	269	100	3329
2011-12	328	0.08 28	0.67 221	1.07 200	1.04 208	1.02 215	1.07 206	1.06 222	1.02 290	1.05 263	1.04 282	1.01 296	1.05 290	1.03 298	319	148	3486
2012-13	347	0.00 0	0.73 253	0.94 237	1.02 207	1.05 213	1.07 230	1.01 219	1.06 229	1.04 297	1.07 275	0.97 292	0.97 300	0.97 305	306	147	3510
2013-14	328	0.08 27	0.68 222	0.98 239	0.99 242	1.02 217	0.98 227	1.00 233	1.06 233	0.97 242	1.05 308	0.98 293	1.03 284	0.96 292	296	150	3505
2014-15	338	0.08 23	0.64 215	0.98 217	0.99 237	1.02 247	0.98 212	1.00 228	1.06 238	0.97 246	1.05 235	0.98 322	1.03 288	0.96 292	281	162	3443
Average Survival Ratio		0.08	0.64	1.08	1.00	1.02	1.03	1.03	1.04	1.02	1.06	0.97	1.00	1.00			

NOTE: Only the last two years were used to compute the birth to pre-kindergarten average survival ratio.

**TABLE 3
BERGENFIELD BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
STUDENT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS**

School Year	Births 5 Yrs. Ago	PK	K	1st Gr.	2nd Gr.	3rd Gr.	4th Gr.	5th Gr.	PK-5 Total	6th Gr.	7th Gr.	8th Gr.	6-8 Total	9th Gr.	10th Gr.	11th Gr.	12th Gr.	9-12 Total	UNGRADED	DISTRICT TOTAL
2015-16	285	24	0.64 182	232	216	241	253	218	1366	234	248	251	733	250	313	289	291	1142	160	3401
2016-17	299	25	0.08 1.08 191	196	231	220	247	260	1370	224	244	253	721	267	243	314	288	1111	158	3359
2017-18	311	25	1.00 1.02 198	206	196	235	225	253	1338	267	233	249	749	269	259	243	312	1084	157	3328
2018-19	309	25	1.03 1.03 198	214	205	199	241	231	1312	260	278	238	777	265	261	260	242	1028	154	3270
2019-20	308	25	1.03 1.03 197	213	213	208	204	247	1307	238	271	284	793	253	257	262	259	1030	155	3285
NET DEVELOPMENT IMPACT		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019-20 TOTAL ENROLLMENT		25	197	213	213	208	204	247	1307	238	271	284	793	253	257	262	259	1030	155	3285

- NOTES:**
1. Births in the dashed boxes were calculated by a regression analysis. Students in those year groups have not been born or reported to date.
 2. The solid boxed area to the lower left of the table is an area of low confidence in that these children have not been born or reported to date.
 3. All calculations are carried to eight or more decimal places. Since there cannot be fractions of a student, the district total may vary by one or two students if added manually.

**TABLE 4
BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT**

DEVELOPMENT	TYPE OF UNIT	NUMBER OF		REMARKS	TOTAL STUDENTS
		UNITS	BEDROOMS		
NONE					
TOTALS					0

NOTE:
According to Harry Hillenius of the Bergenfield Building Department the Borough is built out and there is no current residential development.

TABLE 5
BERGENFIELD BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
OCTOBER 15, 2014 ENROLLMENT, BY SCHOOL, BY GRADE

SCHOOL	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	UG	TOTAL
Bergenfield High School (020)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	322	288	292	281	25	1208
Roy W. Brown Middle School (075)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	238	246	235	0	0	0	0	19	738
Franklin Elementary School (040)	0	48	48	47	62	45	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	324
Hoover Elementary School (050)	0	25	47	38	35	26	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	214
Jefferson Elementary School (060)	0	50	33	38	40	48	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	254
Lincoln Elementary School (070)	23	45	43	48	47	47	59	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	87	399
Washington Elementary School (080)	0	47	46	66	63	46	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	306
TOTAL	23	215	217	237	247	212	228	238	246	235	322	288	292	281	162	3443

PROJECTED ENROLLMENT BY SCHOOL, BY GRADE - FOR 2019-20

SCHOOL	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	UG	TOTAL
Bergenfield High School (020)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	253	257	262	259	24	1054
Roy W. Brown Middle School (075)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	238	271	284	0	0	0	0	18	811
Franklin Elementary School (040)	0	44	47	42	52	43	57	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	306
Hoover Elementary School (050)	0	23	46	34	30	25	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	203
Jefferson Elementary School (060)	0	46	32	34	34	46	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	241
Lincoln Elementary School (070)	25	41	42	43	40	45	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	83	383
Washington Elementary School (080)	0	43	45	59	53	44	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	286
TOTAL	25	197	213	213	208	204	247	238	271	284	253	257	262	259	155	3285

TABLE 3 PROJECTIONS FOR 2019-20	25	197	213	213	208	204	247	238	271	284	253	257	262	259	155	3285
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