

## Students Leaving and Entering WCPSS in 2010-11

Growth and Planning Department

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A comparison of enrollment in Month 1, 2010 with Month 1, 2009 shows a net one-year growth of **3,690** students for the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS). An analysis of student entry and exit coding by data managers shows that a large majority of new students came from other public school systems (**64.1% from U.S. schools** and **7.8% from foreign schools**). In addition, the district enrolled more students from private, religious, and home schools during the past year than left the district to enter those types of schools.

As shown in Table 2 on the following page:

- While **826** students left WCPSS at the end of the 2009-10 school year to enter private or religious schools, **1,102** students entered WCPSS from private or religious schools at the start of the 2010-11 school year.
- While **255** students left to enter home schools at the end of 2009-10, **294** entered from home schools at the start of 2010-11.
- While **411** left to enter charter schools at the end of 2009-10, **433** entered from charter schools at the start of 2010-11.
- While **3,211** left to enter other public school systems outside Wake County at the end of 2009-10, **4,932** entered from public schools outside the county, state or US at the start of 2010-11.

Enrollment growth in WCPSS results from a complex pattern of children being enrolled or withdrawn by their parents, both prior to the start of a school year and during the school year. While some students leave WCPSS each year to enter home, charter, or private schools or move out of Wake County, many more students enter the school system, resulting in a rising rate of growth. On the 20th day of the 2009-10 school year, there were **139,599** students in WCPSS. By the end of the year, total system membership had fallen to **138,461**. However, the changes after the 20th day varied by level with a net gain of **511** students in elementary schools, a net gain of **46** in middle schools, and a net loss of **1,695** students in high schools due to mid-year graduation and dropouts. Between the end of the 2009-10 school year and the beginning of the 2010-11 school year, **5,863** students left the school district and **7,801** graduated. Taking their place were **11,555** kindergarten students and **6,863** new students in grades 1-12. On the 20th day of the 2010-11 school year, there were **143,289** students in WCPSS.

The following statements describe the **6, 863** new students who entered our school system in grades 1-12 prior to the 20th day of the 2010-11 school year:

- **532** (7.8%) were from public schools outside the United States;
- **2,686** (39.1%) were from U.S. public schools outside North Carolina;
- **1,714** (25.0%) were from North Carolina public schools outside Wake County;
- **1,102** (16.1%) were from private or religious schools;
- **433** (6.3%) were from charter schools;
- **294** (4.3%) were from home schools;
- **102** (1.5%) prior school unknown;
- **3,216** (46.9%) were White, **2,097** (30.6%) were Black, **821** (12.0%) were Hispanic, **466** (6.8%) were Asian, **227** (3.3%) were Multi-Racial, and **36** (0.5%) were American Indian.

The following statements describe the **5,863** students who left the school system after the end of the 2009-10 school year:

- **344** (5.9%) went to public schools outside the United States;
- **1,515** (25.8%) went to U.S. public schools outside North Carolina;
- **1,352** (23.1%) went to North Carolina public schools outside Wake County;
- **826** (14.1%) went to private or religious schools;
- **411** (7.0%) went to charter schools;
- **255** (4.3%) went to home schools;
- **567** (9.7%) were identified as summer dropouts;
- **593** (10.1%) went to unknown destination;
- **2,702** (46.1%) were **White**, **1,775** (30.3%) were **Black**, **680** (11.6%) were **Hispanic**, **378** (6.4%) were **Asian**, **313** (5.3%) were **Multi-Racial**, and **15** (0.3%) were **American Indian**.

Table 1 shows the changes in student membership that occurred during the 2009-10 school year, after the 2009-10 school year, and during the 2010-11 school year. As noted earlier, elementary schools experience a significant gain in membership after the first month of school. Table 2 shows the students entering and leaving WCPSS between the end of the 2009-10 school year and the 20th day of 2010-11.

	Elementary	Middle	High	total
Net Change 20 <sup>th</sup> Day 09-10 to EOY 09-10	511	46	-1,695	-1,138
Net Change EOY 09-10 to 20 <sup>th</sup> Day 10-11	839	1,112	2,877	4,828
Net Change 20 <sup>th</sup> Day 09-10 to 20 <sup>th</sup> Day 10-11	1,350	1,158	1,182	3,690
Net Change 20 <sup>th</sup> Day 10-11 to 40 <sup>th</sup> Day 10-11	326	24	-114	236

Student membership at the end of the 2009-10 school year	<b>138,461</b>	
Source or Destination of Students	Number Entering The 2010-11 School Year by The 20 <sup>th</sup> Day (1-12)	Number Leaving After The 2009-10 School Year (K-12)
Students who graduated in May 2009		7,801
Students who were in WCPSS before and after summer break (1-12)	125,419	
Kindergarten students (20th Day)	11,555	
NC public schools outside WCPSS	1,714	1,352
Public schools outside NC	3,218	1,859
Private or religious schools	1,102	826
Charter schools	433	411
Home schools	294	255
Prior school unknown/ unknown destination	102	593
Identified as summer dropouts		567
Left WCPSS within the first 20 days of 2010-11		724
Student membership on the 20th day of 2010-11	<b>143,289</b>	

Note: The kindergarten students were not all new to WCPSS. This number includes students who were retained in kindergarten from the previous year and students who were served in WCPSS as pre-k students.

### Demographics of Exiting Students

Students who exited WCPSS after the end of the 2009-10 school year can be divided into three groups:

- Students who left WCPSS to enter some other school system,
- Students who dropped out, and
- Students who graduated at the end of the year.

Table 3 shows the ethnicity of those three groups. As shown, the ethnic composition varies by student destination. White students comprise a large majority of those leaving WCPSS to enter private, religious, or home schools, and a smaller majority of those entering charter schools or public schools outside of North Carolina.

<b>Table 3 Ethnicity of Students Leaving WCPSS After The End Of 2009-10 School Year</b>							
	<b>Total</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black or African American</b>	<b>Hispanic or Latino</b>	<b>Asian/Pacific Islander</b>	<b>Multi-Racial</b>	<b>American Indian/Alaskan Native</b>
Unknown	593	203	247	85	29	29	0
		34.2%	41.7%	14.3%	4.9%	4.9%	0.0%
Home Schools	255	205	17	10	12	11	0
		80.4%	6.7%	3.9%	4.7%	4.3%	0.0%
Private or Religious Schools	826	577	116	28	64	40	1
		69.9%	14.0%	3.4%	7.7%	4.8%	0.1%
Charter Schools	411	224	108	18	35	26	0
		54.5%	26.3%	4.4%	8.5%	6.3%	0.0%
Public Outside NC	1,859	835	446	286	175	106	11
		44.9%	24.0%	15.4%	9.4%	5.7%	0.6%
Public in NC	1,352	515	579	132	36	88	2
		38.1%	42.8%	9.8%	2.7%	6.5%	0.1%
Subtotal: Exiting WCPSS To Enter Other Schools	5,296	2,559	1,513	559	351	300	14
		48.3%	28.6%	10.6%	6.6%	5.7%	0.3%
Summer Dropouts	567	143	262	121	27	13	1
		25.2%	46.2%	21.3%	4.8%	2.3%	0.2%
Subtotal: Exiting Students Grades K-12	5,863	2,702	1,775	680	378	313	15
		46.1%	30.3%	11.6%	6.4%	5.3%	0.3%
End-Of-Year Graduates	7,801	4,569	2,038	516	434	221	23
		58.6%	26.1%	6.6%	5.6%	2.8%	0.3%
Total Leaving After 2009-10	13,664	7,271	3,813	1,196	812	534	38
		53.2%	27.9%	8.8%	5.9%	3.9%	0.3%

### Demographics of New Students

Students served in the 2010-11 school year can be separated into three groups:

- Students who came into WCPSS from various sources after attending other schools in the 2009-10 school year,
- Students who began 2010-11 after attending WCPSS schools in 2009-10,
- Students in kindergarten.

Table 4 shows the race/ethnicity of those three groups. As shown, the ethnic composition varies slightly. While White students comprise 49.6% of students who attended WCPSS in 2009-10 and continued in WCPSS in 2010-11, they comprise 49.7% of new kindergarten students and 46.9% of new students entering grades 1-12. Conversely, while Hispanic students comprised 14.4% of continuing students, they comprise 18.5% of kindergarten students and 12.0% of new students in grades 1-12. Asian students increased their representation slightly among both kindergarten and new 1-12 students, while the percentage of Multi-Racial students in kindergarten and 1-12 students has slightly decreased. The percentage of Black students entering the school system in grades 1-12 was higher than the percentage continuing from 2009-10, while the percentage of Black students in kindergarten was slightly lower than the other three groups. As a result of these shifts, and the implementation of the new federally mandated race/ ethnicity data collection and reporting guidelines, overall student population is slightly more ethnically diverse in 2010-11 than it was in 2009-10.

Type of Prior School		White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Multiracial	Amer. Indian
Unknown	102	38	40	13	5	6	0
		37.3%	39.2%	12.7%	4.9%	5.9%	0.0%
Home School	294	225	41	7	3	18	0
		76.5%	13.9%	2.4%	1.0%	6.1%	0.0%
Private/Religious School	1,102	734	203	74	54	32	5
		66.6%	18.4%	6.7%	4.9%	2.9%	0.5%
Charters Outside NC	43	7	17	14	2	2	1
		16.3%	39.5%	32.6%	4.7%	4.7%	2.3%
NC Charters	390	145	197	27	13	7	1
		37.2%	50.5%	6.9%	3.3%	1.8%	0.3%
Public Outside NC	3,218	1,452	830	497	324	96	19
		45.1%	25.8%	15.4%	10.1%	3.0%	0.6%
Public In NC	1,714	615	769	189	65	66	10
		35.9%	44.9%	11.0%	3.8%	3.9%	0.6%
Subtotal: New Students Grades 1-12	6,863	3,216	2,097	821	466	227	36
		46.9%	30.6%	12.0%	6.8%	3.3%	0.5%
WCPSS Students From The 2009- 10 School Year (K-12)	125,419	62,245	31,122	18,046	7,603	5,832	571
		49.6%	24.8%	14.4%	6.1%	4.7%	0.5%
Kindergarten (20th Day)	11,555	5,744	2,464	2,133	761	423	30
		49.7%	21.3%	18.5%	6.6%	3.7%	0.3%

As shown in Table 5, a comparison of 20th day reports of student membership by race and gender shows a slight shift in WCPSS demographics in 2010-11. Some changes are due to the implementation of the new federally mandated race/ ethnicity data collection and reporting guidelines, effective 2010-11 school year.

<b>Table 5</b>					
<b>20th Day Membership By Ethnicity and Gender</b>					
		2009-10		2010-11	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
American Indian	Male	197	0.14%	335	0.23%
	Female	183	0.13%	303	0.21%
Asian	Male	4,222	3.02%	4,427	3.09%
	Female	4,279	3.07%	4,364	3.05%
Hispanic	Male	8,465	6.06%	10,572	7.38%
	Female	8,051	5.77%	10,337	7.21%
Black	Male	18,332	13.13%	18,004	12.56%
	Female	17,842	12.78%	17,490	12.21%
White	Male	36,599	26.22%	36,520	25.49%
	Female	34,789	24.92%	34,466	24.05%
Multi-Racial	Male	3,277	2.35%	3,186	2.22%
	Female	3,363	2.41%	3,285	2.29%
Total	Male	71,092	50.93%	73,044	50.98%
	Female	68,507	49.07%	70,245	49.02%
		139,599		143,289	

### Summary

Despite the rapid growth in student membership in WCPSS, the overall makeup of the student population changed only slightly. A large majority (64.1%) of new students in grades 1-12 came from U.S. public schools outside Wake County, and a similar majority (50.0%) of students leaving the school system to a known destination prior to graduation went to other U.S. public school systems. The number of students entering the district from private, religious, or home schools was larger than the number leaving the district to attend those types of schools with the exception of charter schools. Some differences were found in the ethnicity of students entering and leaving the school district in 2010, due to the changing in race/ethnicity data collection and reporting, implemented among school districts nationwide in 2010-11 school year.