



# Demographics Bulletin

## Zachary Community Schools

Charles M. Tolbert, Ph.D.

October 2008

2008—4

### Zachary schools set for growth:

- 6,080 students by 2013
- 7,410 students by 2018

### Key assumptions:

- High-growth scenario is most likely of the three
- 95% of school-age residents in public schools
- 50% enrollment in Pre-K
- In-migration far exceeds that of 1990-2000

### Watch for the next bulletin:

- Analysis of district growth 2007-08 to 2008-09

### Contact:



Charles M. Tolbert

StrategicDemographics.com

(254) 722-2306 ctolbert@hotmail.com

We welcome your input and tips on developments that may impact the school-age population in the Zachary Community Schools.

## Initial 5-Year and 10-Year School-Age Population Projections: 2013 and 2018

Population projections are an important part of an ongoing demographic monitoring program. Projections assist us in focusing on future growth, facility utilization and capacity, needed renovation and construction, and the likelihood of changes in a population being served. Demographers working on behalf of the Zachary Community School Board have developed an initial set of 5- and 10-year school-age and enrollment projections. Standard demographic projection techniques were used. The cohort-component projection procedures are outlined in a technical report that will be posted on the Zachary Schools website. These projections will be updated twice a year (fall and spring) as new information becomes available. A major revision will be undertaken after the 2010 Census. The assumptions on which these projection were made are: 1) 95% enrollment of the school-age population, 2) 50% of the eligible Pre-K population enrolled, and 3) a higher in-migration rate than prevailed in the last available Census data. It is common for projection series to be given in low, medium, and high-growth scenarios. Since most indicators show robust growth for the Zachary area, our recommendation is to expect the high scenario to hold for 2013 and 2018. Total projected enrollment for 2013 is 6,080; for 2018 it is 7,410. The age and grade breakdowns show a relatively large cohort in grades 4-8 in 2013. That large cohort will be in high school in 2018. At this point, it appears as if smaller grade and age cohorts will come through the system after 2018, but those groups will be larger than those projected for 2013. This will need to be monitored on an ongoing basis as we issue biannual sets of projections. Due to the assumptions made, the projected enrollment is slightly less than the total overall school-age population. It is important to note that 2018 enrollment could exceed 8,000 if more than 95% of the eligible population enrolls and/or the Pre-K enrollment rate is greater than 50%.

### Projections for Zachary Community Schools: 2013 and 2018

Age	Grade Equivalent	2013			2018		
		Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High
4	Pre-Kindergarten	170	170	180	230	240	250
5	Kindergarten	320	330	340	420	450	460
6	Grade 1	370	390	400	420	450	470
7	Grade 2	390	420	430	430	460	480
8	Grade 3	420	450	460	440	470	490
9	Grade 4	450	480	490	450	490	510
10	Grade 5	470	500	520	460	500	520
11	Grade 6	470	510	520	510	560	580
12	Grade 7	450	490	510	520	570	590
13	Grade 8	440	470	490	530	580	600
14	Grade 9	400	420	440	540	590	620
15	Grade 10	400	420	440	550	600	620
16	Grade 11	370	400	410	550	600	620
17	Grade 12	410	440	450	520	570	600
<b>Projected School Enrollment</b>		<b>5530</b>	<b>5890</b>	<b>6080</b>	<b>6570</b>	<b>7130</b>	<b>7410</b>
<b>Projected School-Age Population</b>		<b>5970</b>	<b>6370</b>	<b>6570</b>	<b>7140</b>	<b>7720</b>	<b>8030</b>

Source: Dr. Troy C. Blanchard, LSU and Louisiana Demographics, LLC, consulting with Dr. Charles M. Tolbert, Baylor University and Strategic Demographics, LLC. To be updated and reissued twice each year.