

**ROGUE RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT
POPULATION AND ENROLLMENT FORECASTS
2008-09 TO 2016-17**



Portland State
UNIVERSITY

Population Research
Center



OCTOBER, 2007

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**Prepared By
Population Research Center
Portland State University**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The area served by the Rogue River School District (RRSD) has experienced population and housing growth in recent years, but the District's K-12 school enrollment of 1,101 students in 2006-07 was 19 percent lower than its 1995-96 peak of 1,364. The largest sustained elementary enrollment losses occurred between 1999-2000 and 2002-03, while most of the secondary enrollment losses have occurred since 2002-03.

This report presents the results of a study conducted by the Portland State University Population Research Center (PRC) presenting three different enrollment forecast scenarios for the District between the 2007-08 and 2016-17 school years:

- The “LOW forecast” is a continuation of recent trends. It assumes that fertility rates will remain low, that the District's housing stock will continue to increase by about one percent (40 units) annually, and that slow local job growth will cause the migration of families with children to remain a relatively small part of the overall migration stream. Enrollment at all school levels continues to decline in the LOW forecast. The overall K-12 enrollment forecast for 2016-17 is 970 students, a loss of 12 percent over the 10 year period.
- The “HIGH forecast” envisions a combination of local job growth and accelerated housing development. Under this scenario, local job growth allows more families with children to move into the area, fertility rates increase slightly, and housing growth averages about two percent (80 units) annually. In the HIGH forecast, K-12 enrollment bottoms out within the next two years, by 2009-10, and grows to 1,145 students by 2016-17. Elementary enrollment grows by about 40 students over the 10 year period, and secondary enrollments are relatively stable.
- The “MID forecast” is the one that we characterize as the most likely scenario. It is similar to the LOW forecast, but we assume that an average of about 20 additional housing units (60 total) will be built each year. This moderate increase

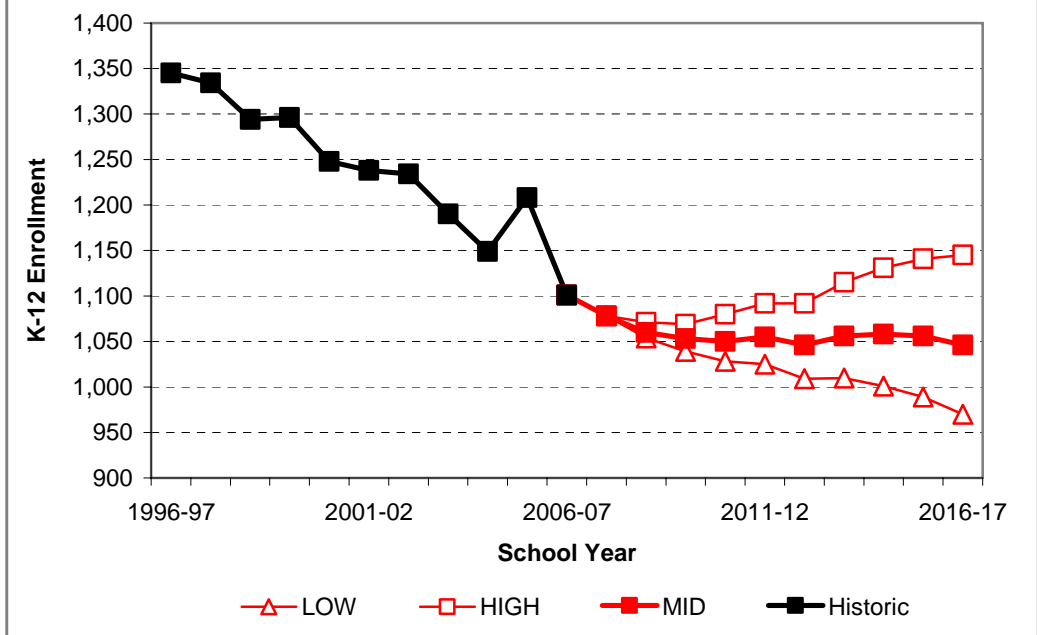
is likely because of the large subdivisions recently approved within the District and potential subsequent development that could occur on vacant residential land. In the MID forecast, overall K-12 enrollment remains stable within the range of 1,040 to 1,060 throughout the forecast period.

Table 1 below and Chart 1 on the next page compare overall K-12 enrollment forecasts under the three scenarios with historic K-12 enrollments. Table 2 contains detail by school level (K-5, 6-8, 9-12) for the MID forecast scenario.

	Actual			Forecast	
	1996-97	2001-06	2006-07	2011-12	2016-17
LOW-RANGE <i>5 year change</i>	1,345	1,238 -107	1,101 -137	1,025 -76	970 -55
MID-RANGE <i>5 year change</i>	1,345	1,238 -107	1,101 -137	1,055 -46	1,046 -9
HIGH-RANGE <i>5 year change</i>	1,345	1,238 -107	1,101 -137	1,092 -9	1,145 53

	Actual			MID-RANGE Forecast	
	1996-97	2001-06	2006-07	2011-12	2016-17
K-5 <i>5 year change</i>	586	476 -110	435 -41	428 -7	432 4
6-8 <i>5 year change</i>	326	314 -12	274 -40	265 -9	254 -11
9-12 <i>5 year change</i>	433	448 15	392 -56	362 -30	360 -2
Total <i>5 year change</i>	1,345	1,238 -107	1,101 -137	1,055 -46	1,046 -9

Chart 1
RRSD K-12 Enrollment Forecast Scenarios



INTRODUCTION

The Rogue River School District (RRSD) requested that the Portland State University Population Research Center (PRC) prepare enrollment forecasts for use in the District's long-range planning. This study integrates information about RRSD enrollment trends with local area population, housing, and economic trends, and includes population forecasts for the District as well as forecasts of district-wide enrollment by grade level for the period between 2008-09 and 2016-17. Information sources include the U.S. Census Bureau, birth data from the Oregon Center for Health Statistics, county population forecasts from the Oregon Office of Economic Analysis, employment trends and forecasts from the Oregon Employment Department, and personal interviews with city and regional officials and business people.

The District serves the most northwestern portion of Jackson County, including the City of Rogue River and surrounding unincorporated areas, notably the community of Wimer in Evans Valley, north of Rogue River. At the time of the 2000 Census, 21 percent of the District's population lived within the City of Rogue River and 79 percent lived in unincorporated Jackson County.

Following this introduction are sections presenting recent population, housing, and enrollment trends within the District. Another section is devoted to our research on the average number of RRSD students residing in newer (built since 1990) and recently sold housing. Next are the results of the district-wide population and enrollment forecasts and a description of the forecast methodology. A final section contains a brief discussion of the nature and accuracy of forecasts, and the appendix contains details of the population forecasts.

Enrollment forecasts were initially prepared using observed 2006-07 enrollments as the base year data. Therefore, the tables, charts, and text compare the forecast with 2006-07. Just prior to publication of this report, Fall 2007 enrollment data became available, so

tables that include enrollment figures for 2007-08 present actual enrollments rather than the initial 2007-08 enrollment forecasts.

We would like to acknowledge (in alphabetical order) the help of the following individuals who contributed to the study by answering questions, providing local insight, or providing data:

- Anne Dumas, RRSD
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POPULATION AND HOUSING TRENDS, 1990 to 2006

During the decade between 1990 and 2000, total population within the RRSD grew by 16 percent, from 7,738 persons to 8,967. Jackson County grew by 24 percent overall, and nearby Josephine County grew by 21 percent. Within RRSD, the unincorporated area grew at a faster rate than the City, so the share of the District's population living within the City of Rogue River fell from 23 percent in 1990 to 21 percent in 2000. Since 2000 the City has grown at a faster rate than in the 1990s, adding over 150 residents. Table 3 shows the 1990 and 2000 census counts and 2006 population estimates for the City, the District and the County.

	1990	2000	2006	Avg. Annual Growth Rate	
				1990-2000	2000-2006
City of Rogue River	1,759	1,851	2,010	0.5%	1.3%
RRSD Total	7,738	8,967	N/A	1.5%	
RRSD Unincorporated	5,979	7,116	N/A	1.7%	
Jackson County	146,389	181,273	198,615	2.1%	1.5%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 and 2000 censuses; Portland State University Population Research Center, 2006 estimates.

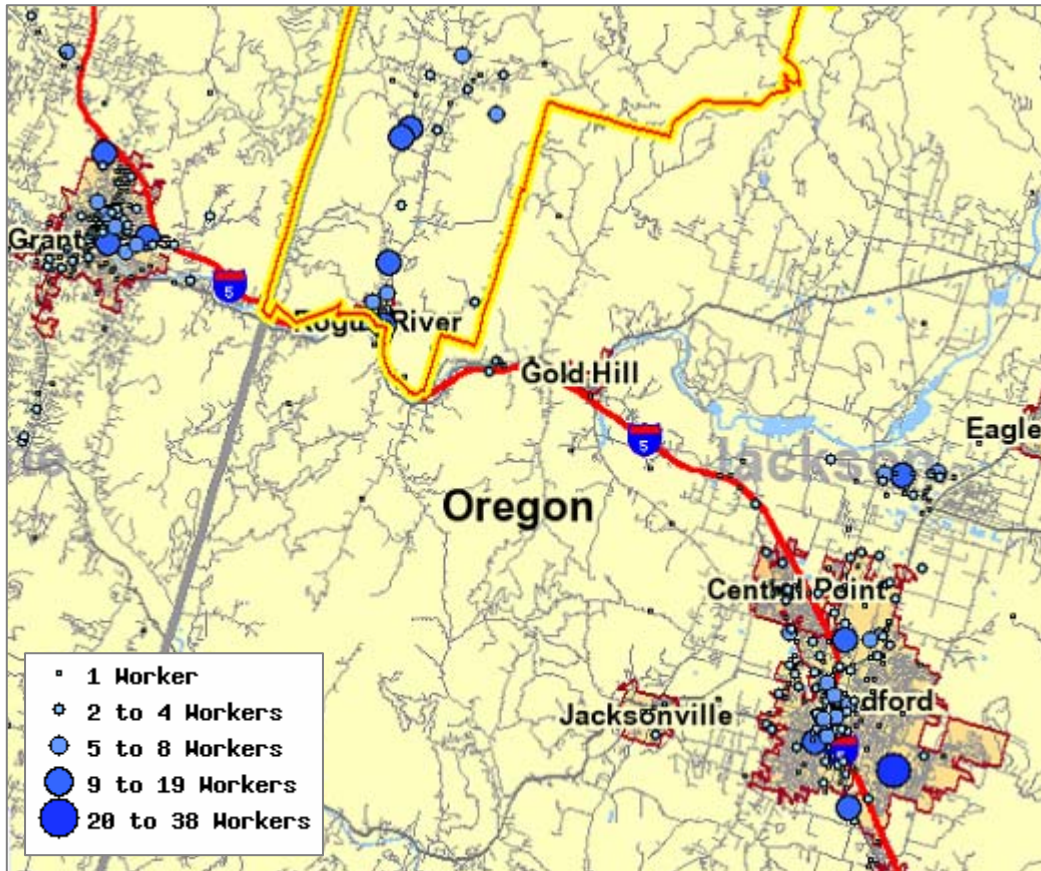
Residential choices are influenced by many factors including proximity to one's place of work, but Rogue River's location on I-5 just nine miles from Grants Pass and 20 miles from Medford facilitates commuting to and from the major employment and population centers of the Rogue Valley. The 2000 Census revealed that only 22 percent of the City of Rogue River's employed residents worked within the City itself.¹ A majority of RRSD area residents work in or just outside of the cities of Grants Pass and Medford.²

¹U.S. Census Bureau. Summary File 3, Table P27.

²U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics Origin-Destination Database (2004). Map and reports created on line at <http://lehdmap2.did.census.gov/themap/>

The dots on Map 1 indicate the places of work in 2004 for area residents. School districts are not among the geographic areas for which the employment data may be summarized, so ZIP 97537, which includes 75 percent of the District’s population, is used as a proxy.

Map 1
Place of Work of ZIP 97537 Residents, 2004



Population by Age Group

The District’s school-age population grew by 19 percent in the 1990s, more than keeping pace with overall population growth. However, only 16.5 percent of the District’s population in 2000 was of school age (age 5 to 17), a lower share than both Jackson County’s 18.4 percent and Josephine County’s 17.7 percent.

Population by age group for 1990 and 2000 is shown in Table 4. The highest growth rates in the 1990s were among older teenagers (15 to 19), older baby boomers (45 to 54), and the oldest adults (age 80 and over). The declines that occurred to the 25 to 34 and 65 to 74 age groups between 1990 and 2000 have some precedent in state and national demographic trends, as those age groups in 2000 related to smaller birth cohorts. People age 25 to 34 in 2000 were born during the late 1960s and 1970s “baby bust” that followed the “baby boom.” People age 65 to 74 in 2000 include those born during the depression era of the early 1930s, when births also fell from previous levels.

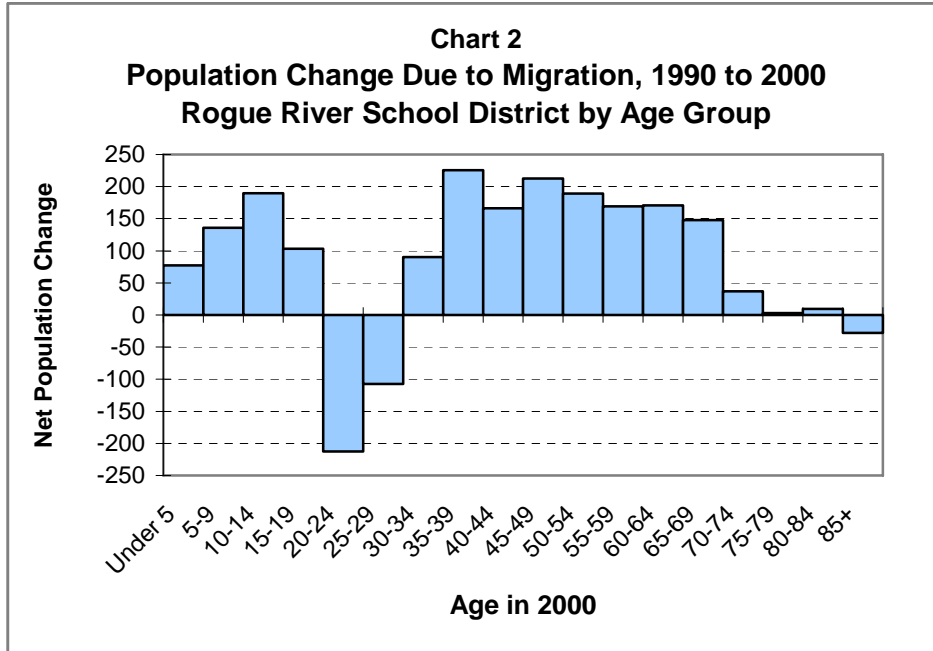
Table 4
Population by Age Group
Rogue River School District, 1990 and 2000

	1990	2000	1990 to 2000 Change	
			Number	Percent
Under Age 5	394	410	16	4%
Age 5 to 9	468	503	35	7%
Age 10 to 14	521	593	72	14%
Age 15 to 17	256	385	129	50%
Age 18 to 19	142	185	43	30%
Age 20 to 24	279	305	26	9%
Age 25 to 29	341	287	-54	-16%
Age 30 to 34	482	366	-116	-24%
Age 35 to 39	591	561	-30	-5%
Age 40 to 44	544	639	95	17%
Age 45 to 49	487	790	303	62%
Age 50 to 54	389	717	328	84%
Age 55 to 59	460	634	174	38%
Age 60 to 64	534	531	-3	-1%
Age 65 to 69	638	555	-83	-13%
Age 70 to 74	543	481	-62	-11%
Age 75 to 79	361	480	119	33%
Age 80 to 84	216	349	133	62%
Age 85 and over	92	196	104	113%
Total Population	7,738	8,967	1,229	16%
Total age 5 to 17	1,245	1,481	236	19%
share age 5 to 17	16.1%	16.5%		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 and 2000 Censuses; data aggregated to RRSD boundary by Portland State University Population Research Center.

Like many parts of Southern Oregon, all of the District’s population growth is attributable to migration, as its age structure contributes to more deaths than births. We estimate that over 1,500 more people moved into RRSD between 1990 and 2000 than out of it, and Chart 2 shows the estimated population change that each age group contributed

due to migration between 1990 and 2000. Net losses due to migration for the age groups between 20 and 29 and gains for ages 30 to 44 are typical of areas outside of large urban centers, as young people move away for college and other opportunities, and older adults settle in the area for employment, housing, or a rural or small town lifestyle. The chart shows the area’s appeal to active adults in even older age groups, with net in-migration up to age 74.



Births and Fertility Rates

Although overall population in the RRSD has grown since 1990, the number of births in the District in the early 2000s was lower than in the early 1990s, due to the lower population of women in prime childbearing ages 20 to 34, as well as lower fertility rates. Table 5 on the next page reports the number of births each year from 1990 to 2005 for the District. The annual average number of births by five year period fell from 73 during the 1991 to 1995 period to 67 between 1996 and 2000 and 63 between 2001 and 2005.

Table 5
Annual Births, 1990 to 2005
Rogue River School District

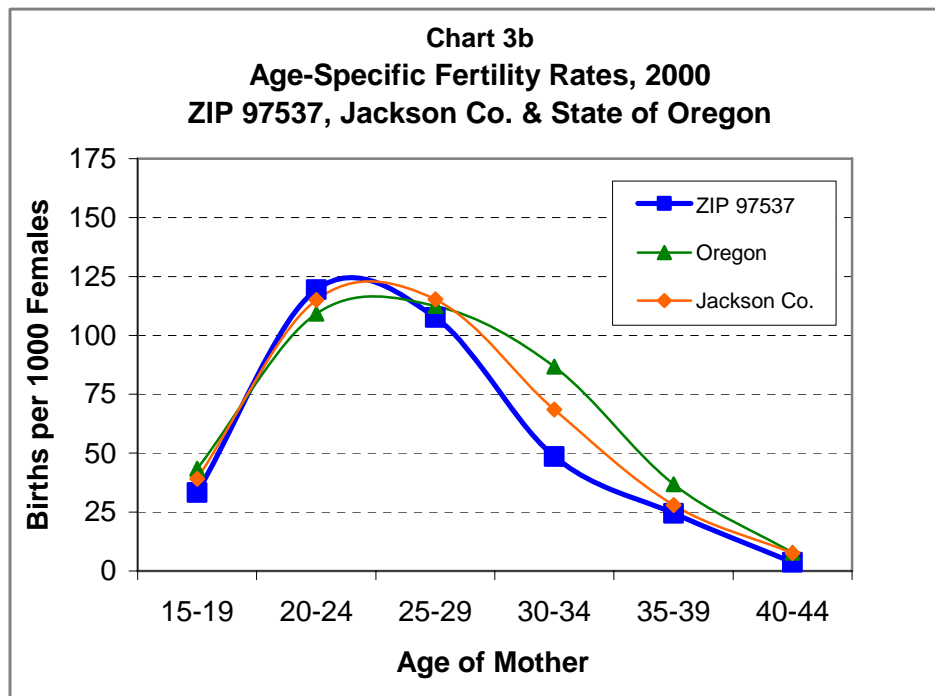
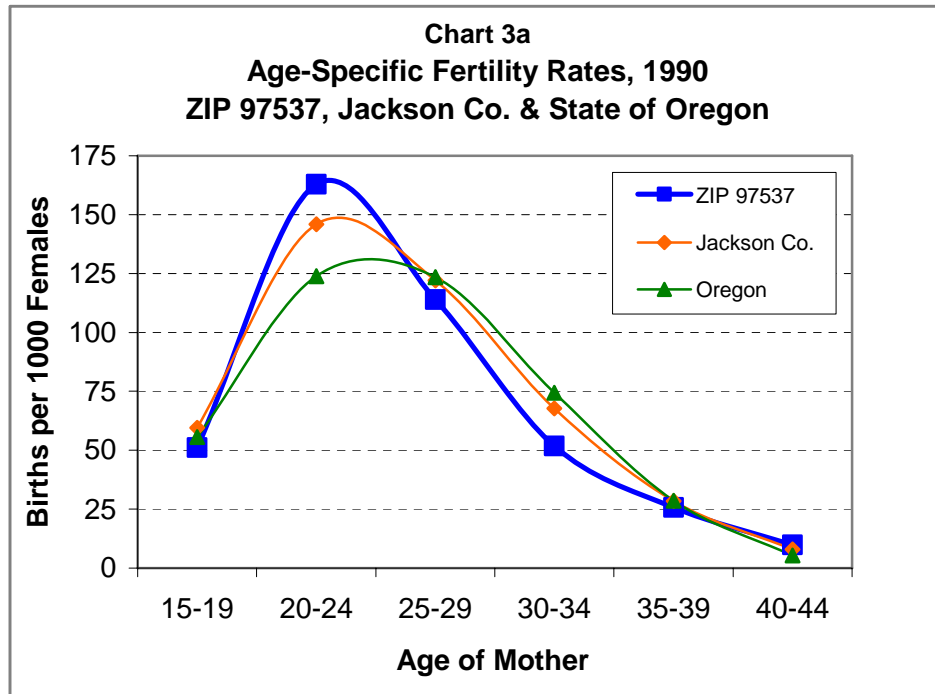
Year	Births
1990	76
1991	78
1992	61
1993	82
1994	77
1995	65
1996	71
1997	57
1998	82
1999	58
2000	69
2001	60
2002	69
2003	60
2004	64
2005	60

Source: PSU-PRC estimates using Oregon Center for Health Statistics zip code data and geocoded birth records.

The population forecast model used in this study requires age-specific fertility rates in order to forecast births. Historic fertility rates for ZIP 97537 in 1990 and 2000 were calculated for each age group by dividing the average annual number of births in the three year period around each census (1989 to 1991 and 1999 to 2001) by the female population counted in the census. For example, there were an average of 15 births per year to mothers age 20 to 24 in 1999 to 2001 and a population of 126 women age 20 to 24 counted in the 1990 Census. So the fertility rate in 1990 for women age 20 to 24 was $15/126 = 0.119$ births per female, or 119 per thousand. Charts 3a and 3b show these rates, as well as rates for Jackson County and State of Oregon. In 1990, fertility rates for women age 20 to 24 within the ZIP (which includes most of the RRSD) were higher than comparable rates for Jackson County and the State of Oregon. By 2000, fertility rates in the Rogue River area had fallen significantly for women under age 25, and had also fallen slightly for women age 25 and older.

Another common measure of fertility is the Total Fertility Rate (TFR). This is an estimate of the number of children that would be born to the average woman during her

childbearing years, based on age-specific fertility rates observed at a given time. The TFR for ZIP 97537 fell from 2.08 in 1990 to 1.68 in 2000. Smaller declines were observed in Jackson County (2.16 in 1990 and 1.87 in 2000) and the State (2.06 in 1990 and 1.98 in 2000).



Housing Growth

During the 1990s, the number of housing units within the District’s boundaries increased by 554 (16 percent), as shown in Table 6 below. There was no gain in multiple family housing (apartments), which comprised only nine percent of the District’s housing stock in 2000. The number of households (occupied housing units) also increased by 16 percent, with nearly identical rates of growth for households with or without children. The share of households in the RRSB that included at least one child under the age of 18 remained at 27 percent in 2000. The average number of persons per household increased slightly, from 2.35 in 1990 to 2.38 in 2000.

Table 6
Rogue River School District
Housing and Household Characteristics, 1990 and 2000

	1990	2000	1990 to 2000 Change	
			Number	Percent
Housing Units	3,518	4,072	554	16%
Single Family <i>share of total</i>	2,180 62%	2,662 65%	482	22%
Multiple Family <i>share of total</i>	366 10%	349 9%	-17	-5%
Mobile Home and Other <i>share of total</i>	972 28%	1,061 26%	89	9%
Households	3,250	3,765	515	16%
Households with children under 18 <i>share of total</i>	875 27%	1,004 27%	129	15%
Households with no children under 18 <i>share of total</i>	2,375 73%	2,761 73%	386	16%
Household Population	7,647	8,952	1,305	17%
Persons per Household	2.35	2.38	0.02	1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 and 2000 Censuses; data aggregated to RRSB boundary by Population Research Center, PSU.

Beginning in 2002, the pace of residential development within the City of Rogue River accelerated somewhat. Table 7 shows the number of housing units authorized by building permits within the City. The average increased from five annually between 1996 and 2001 to 18 annually during the 2002 to 2006 period.

Year Permit Issued	Single Family	Multiple Family
1996	4	0
1997	2	0
1998	2	4
1999	5	0
2000	2	6
2001	7	0
2002	15	2
2003	20	4
2004	14	14
2005	6	0
2006	16	0
2007 (Jan-Aug)	2	0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Residential Construction Branch. Data available online at <http://censtats.census.gov/bldg/bldgprmt.shtml>.

Information from tax assessor records is also helpful in chronicling historic housing growth within the District. We acquired shape files (digital boundaries to import into mapping software) from Jackson County GIS Services. The geographic data includes school district boundaries, city boundaries, urban growth boundaries, and tax lots. We used tax lot attribute data to estimate the number of single family housing units by year built, and summarized the information by jurisdiction in Table 8. An annual average of about 40 single family homes have been built within the District in both the 1990s and 2000s, but the share built within the City has increased from 15 percent of the District total between 1990 and 2001 to 32 percent of the District total since 2002.

Table 8
Rogue River School District
Single Family Homes¹ Built 1990 to 2006

Jurisdiction	1990-99	Year Built							2000-06
	Total	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006 ²	Total
City of Rogue River	62	1	10	11	24	12	7	6	71
Unincorporated Area	344	20	42	27	25	39	25	14	192
District Total	406	21	52	38	49	51	32	20	263

1. Includes manufactured homes on individual tax lots; does not include manufactured homes in parks.
2. May not include all homes built in 2006; some are not yet included in the source data.

Source: Data compiled by PSU-PRC, using geographic shape files and attribute data from Jackson County GIS Services, May and September 2007. Original source for the attribute data is the Jackson County Assessor's office. Single family homes were identified by PSU-PRC using the "buildcode" and other fields in the tax lot attribute data.

Housing growth within the City is poised to continue, perhaps on a greater scale than in recent years. Most of the homes built since 2002 have been in the 26 lot subdivision on Cypress Avenue, or in a few other subdivisions with five to 12 lots. But the City recently approved the 71 lot Foothill Estates subdivision just west of downtown. Development of water and sewer infrastructure has begun, and the first homes may be ready by Spring 2008. Additional vacant residential parcels exist within the City that could undergo similar development. Just outside the City but within its UGB, Blue Ridge Estates is a new development of 35 building lots, each about 2.5 acres.

The impact of future housing development on school enrollment will depend on the number of new homes and the share of those homes that are occupied by families with children. The section of this report titled "Housing Development and Student Generation" presents data on the average number of RRSd students in the District's existing housing units, helping readers to quantify the actual relationship between housing and school enrollment.

ENROLLMENT TRENDS

Total K-12 enrollment in the Rogue River School District fell by 19 percent (263 students) between its 1995-96 peak and the 2006-07 school year. Recent enrollment counts from Fall 2007 indicate that enrollment fell again this year, by 23 students (two percent). Enrollment has fallen by 10 or more students in nine of the past 12 years. In particular, district-wide elementary (K-5) and middle school (6-8) enrollments have declined significantly over the past decade. By 2006-07, elementary enrollment was 151 students (26 percent) lower than its 1995-96 peak, and middle school enrollment was down 52 students (15 percent) from its peak, also in 1995-96. High school (9-12) enrollment was relatively stable through 2002-03, but fell by 54 students (12 percent) between 2002-03 and 2006-07.

The losses since 1995-96 contrast with five consecutive years of K-12 enrollment growth that occurred between 1990-91 and 1995-96. During that period the District gained students in elementary, middle, and high school.

Table 9 on the next page summarizes the enrollment history for the District by grade level annually from 1996-97 to 2006-07. At the bottom of the table, summaries of change by five year interval show that the biggest elementary enrollment declines occurred before 2001-02 during a period when overall secondary enrollment changed very little. Since 2001-02 the percentage losses have been larger in the secondary grades than in the elementary grades. These trends are also illustrated in Charts 4a and 4b following Table 9.

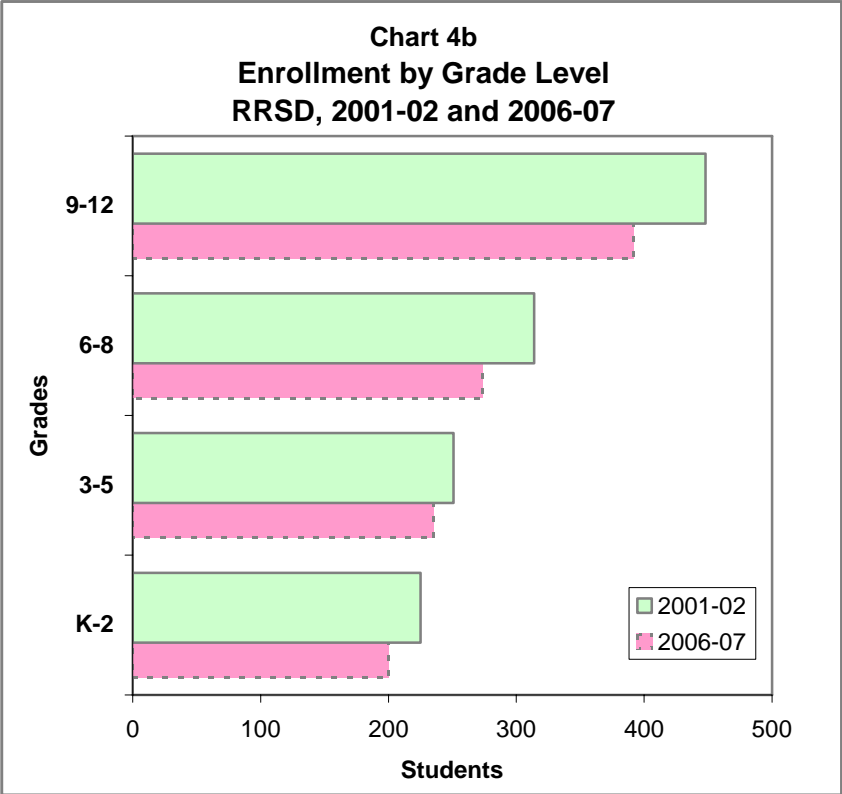
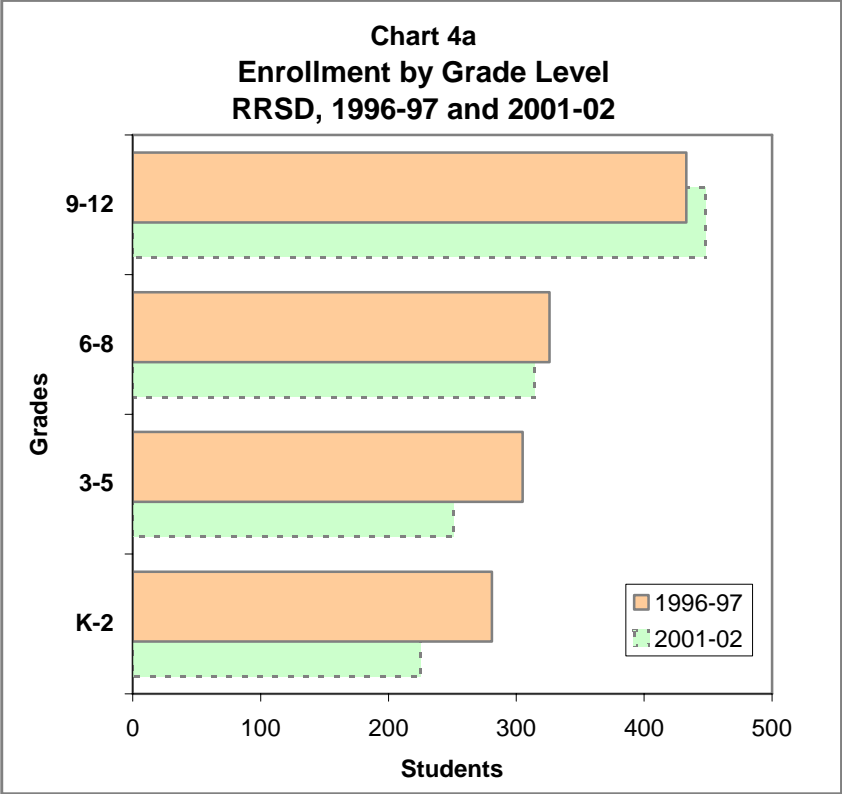
**Table 9
Rogue River School District, Historic Enrollment, 1996-97 to 2006-07**

Grade	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
K	90	78	67	88	59	61	67	78	75	71	63
1	96	90	78	73	91	75	76	67	78	81	60
2	95	95	82	82	76	89	68	77	75	83	77
3	102	97	100	99	75	74	90	71	74	76	82
4	107	95	90	102	94	75	87	93	74	85	79
5	96	105	102	106	103	102	75	84	89	87	74
6	110	100	106	97	110	110	109	81	82	106	85
7	105	123	93	109	99	104	114	106	80	87	97
8	111	114	117	109	116	100	102	110	95	96	92
9	115	115	124	121	120	108	125	120	129	108	95
10	121	115	119	118	117	119	111	111	111	112	94
11	94	115	98	103	99	115	101	94	103	109	105
12	103	92	118	84	85	103	108	98	84	100	89
US*	0	0	0	5	4	3	1	0	0	7	9
Total	1,345	1,334	1,294	1,296	1,248	1,238	1,234	1,190	1,149	1,208	1,101
<i>Annual change</i>		-11 -0.8%	-40 -3.0%	2 0.2%	-48 -3.7%	-10 -0.8%	-4 -0.3%	-44 -3.6%	-41 -3.4%	59 5.1%	-107 -8.9%
K-5	586	560	519	550	498	476	463	470	465	483	435
6-8	326	337	316	315	325	314	325	297	257	289	274
9-12	433	437	459	431	425	448	446	423	427	436	392

	5 Year Change: 1996-97 to 2001-02		5 Year Change: 2001-02 to 2006-07		10 Year Change: 1996-97 to 2006-07	
	Change	Pct.	Change	Pct.	Change	Pct.
K-5	-110	-20%	-41	-9%	-151	-27%
6-8	-12	-4%	-40	-13%	-52	-15%
9-12	15	3%	-56	-13%	-41	-9%
Total	-107	-8%	-137	-11%	-244	-18%

*Note: "US" are ungraded secondary students, included in grade 9-12 totals.

Source: Oregon Department of Education, October 1 Enrollment Summaries.



Private and Home School Enrollment

There is one private school within the RRSD boundaries, Christian Life School, enrolling about 55 K-8 students. District residents also attend private schools in Grants Pass and Medford. Since there is no private high school in Rogue River, some students from Christian Life School enroll at Cascade Christian High School, which moved this year from Jacksonville to Medford and has increased its enrollment.

Responses to the “long form” of the Census indicate that in both 1990 and 2000 about 10 percent of RRSD’s school age population attended private schools. The share is nearly identical to both Jackson and Josephine Counties’ shares. The estimate for RRSD residents based on the long form sample was that about 125 students in grades 1-12 attended private schools in 2000.

In addition to public and private schools, the other option is home schooling. Home schooled students living in the District are required to register with the Southern Oregon Education Service District (SOESD), though the statistics kept by the SOESD are not precise because students who move out of the area are not required to drop their registration. Students who enroll in public schools after being registered as home schooled are dropped from the home school registry. In 2002-03 there were 67 residents of the RRSD registered as home schoolers, including 24 of high school age. In 2006-07 there were 54 RRSD residents registered, including 20 of high school age. The drop in the past four years may be due to the overall demographic trends that are also impacting public school enrollment, or there may have been a larger number of inactive students on the roles in 2002-03. In 2006-07, the share of registered home school students was about four percent of the RRSD’s total school age population.

Enrollment Growth Due to Migration

Although the District’s overall enrollment has been falling during the last decade, very little of the decline is due to migration. In most years there have been more school age students moving into the RRSD than out of it, and the decline has been driven primarily by the decrease in births resulting in smaller kindergarten classes. This conclusion is based on an analysis of historic grade progression rates (GPRs). The GPR is the ratio of

enrollment in a specific grade to the enrollment in the preceding grade in the previous year. For example, the number of students enrolled in second grade this year divided by the number of students enrolled in first grade last year. Rates for some grades may be consistently high, indicating that new students are entering the District from private schools. For this reason, it is common to see higher GPRs for the kindergarten to 1st and the 8th to 9th grade transitions. After grade 9, low GPRs can indicate that students are dropping out of school. But for most elementary grades, if the population entering and leaving the District is in balance and students are not being retained at particular grades for academic reasons, one can expect GPRs very close to 1.00. Rates above 1.00 in the elementary grades usually indicate net migration into the District.

Table 10 compares the average GPRs observed in the past 10 years. In a small district such as the RRSd, movement of a few students can cause unusual fluctuations in rates, like the large growth between 3rd and 4th grades in recent years. However, the trend in both recent five year periods is that a majority of grade transitions in elementary and middle grades are above 1.00. This indicates that migration generally contributes to enrollment increases, in spite of the overall trend of enrollment decrease.

Grade Transition	1997-98 to 2001-02	2001-02 to 2006-07
K-1	1.08	1.03
1-2	0.99	1.01
2-3	1.03	1.00
3-4	0.97	1.09
4-5	1.07	0.99
5-6	1.02	1.06
6-7	1.01	0.99
7-8	1.06	1.02
8-9	1.04	1.15
9-10	0.99	0.92
10-11	0.90	0.91
11-12	0.95	0.92

**Ratio of enrollment in an individual grade to enrollment in the previous grade the previous year. The figures are averages for each period.*

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND STUDENT GENERATION

Residential developments generally contribute enrollment growth to local schools, but the average number of students in each home may vary based on the characteristics of the new housing. In this section, we present estimates of student generation for RRSD homes by year built (1990 to 1999 and 2000 to 2005), and by sale price for recently sold homes. These estimates help to inform the enrollment forecasts, and they can be used by District staff on an *ad hoc* basis to estimate potential student generation from future developments as they are proposed or approved.

We estimated the number of students per unit in 2006-07 with a geographic information system (GIS), combining tax lots from Jackson County (polygons) with RRSD student residences (points) and the Rogue River city boundaries. In all cases, the student records used in this study contain no personally identifiable data such as names or birth dates, and the confidential locations of student residences are reported only in summary form, such as in the tables in this section.

Information from the tax assessor's records is associated with the tax lot polygons. In this analysis we used the "buildcode" field to determine whether a tax lot included a home, and the "year" field to identify homes built since 1990. We limited the analysis to homes built in the year 2005 and before, because some of the units built in 2006 may not have been completed and occupied in time for the 2006-07 school year. Also, not all of the units built in 2006 had been included in the tax lot shape file at the time that we acquired the data in July, 2007.

A summary of the results by jurisdiction is shown in Table 11. For homes built within the City of Rogue River since 2000, the average number of K-12 students per housing unit was 0.31, just over three students for every 10 homes. The unincorporated area rate of 0.28 was slightly lower. For homes built in the 1990s, the rate in the City was also 0.31, but the unincorporated area rate was only 0.18.

Table 11
Average Number of RRS D Students per Housing Unit, 2006-07
Homes Built Since 1990 by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Homes ¹	Students per Home			
		K-5	6-8	9-12	K-12 ³
Homes built 1990 to 1999 -- RRS D	406	0.08	0.05	0.08	0.20
<i>City of Rogue River</i> ²	62				0.31
<i>Unincorporated Area</i> ²	344				0.18
Homes built 2000 to 2005 -- RRS D	243	0.14	0.05	0.10	0.29
<i>City of Rogue River</i> ²	65				0.31
<i>Unincorporated Area</i> ²	178				0.28

1. Includes manufactured homes on individual tax lots; does not include manufactured homes in parks.
2. Rates by grade level groups are not shown by jurisdiction because the number of units built in the City of Rogue River is not sufficient to produce reliable estimates by grade level.
3. May not equal sum of grade level rates due to independent rounding.

Source: Data compiled by PSU-PRC, using geographic shape files and attribute data from Jackson County GIS Services, May and September 2007 and student records from RRS D. Original source for the attribute data is the Jackson County Assessor's office. Single family homes were identified by PSU-PRC using the "buildcode" and other fields in the tax lot attribute data.

Table 12
Average Number of RRS D Students per Housing Unit, 2006-07
RRS D Homes Sold in 2006 by Sale Price

Sale Price	Homes Sold in 2006*	K-12 Students per home
Less than \$250,000	39	0.35
\$250,000 to \$350,000	47	0.41
More than \$350,000	36	0.15
All homes sold in 2006*	122	0.31

Average sale price = \$317,816; median sale price = \$292,500

**Note: Includes manufactured homes on individual tax lots; does not include manufactured homes in parks. Also excludes homes on parcels of 10 acres or more and condominium units.*

Source: Data compiled by PSU-PRC, using geographic shape files and attribute data from Jackson County GIS Services, May and September 2007 and student records from RRS D. Original source for the attribute data is the Jackson County Assessor's office. Single family homes were identified by PSU-PRC using the "buildcode" and other fields in the tax lot attribute data.

Table 12 shows the average number of RRS D students per home in 2006-07 by the sale price of homes that were sold in calendar year 2006. The table shows that RRS D students were more likely to live in homes that sold for less than \$350,000 than those that

sold for over \$350,000. In homes selling for near the District's median price of \$292,500, there were an average of 0.41 RRSD students per home, while those selling for over \$350,000 had an average of only 0.15 RRSD students each.

Home prices have escalated rapidly throughout Southern Oregon since 2000, making it difficult for young families to afford housing. The implications of rising home prices were addressed at a Workforce Housing Summit in Medford in February, 2006. Between 2000 and 2005 the average price of resale homes in Rogue River more than doubled. According to Charlie Mitchell, Economic Development Coordinator for the City of Grants Pass, "if workers cannot afford to live in or relocate to this area, it will exacerbate an already shrinking labor pool."³ Recent results from the Census Bureau's 2006 American Community Survey shown in Charts 5a and 5b on the next page estimate that Jackson County ranks third highest among Oregon's 15 largest counties in the average value of owner-occupied homes, but third lowest in family income for families with children under 18.⁴

³Southern Oregon Workforce Housing Summit, Medford, Oregon, February 21, 2006. Document available at http://www.ashland.or.us/Files/wfh_book_final.pdf.

⁴U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Tables B25077 and B19125.

Chart 5a
2006 Median Value, Largest Oregon Counties
Owner-Occupied Housing Units

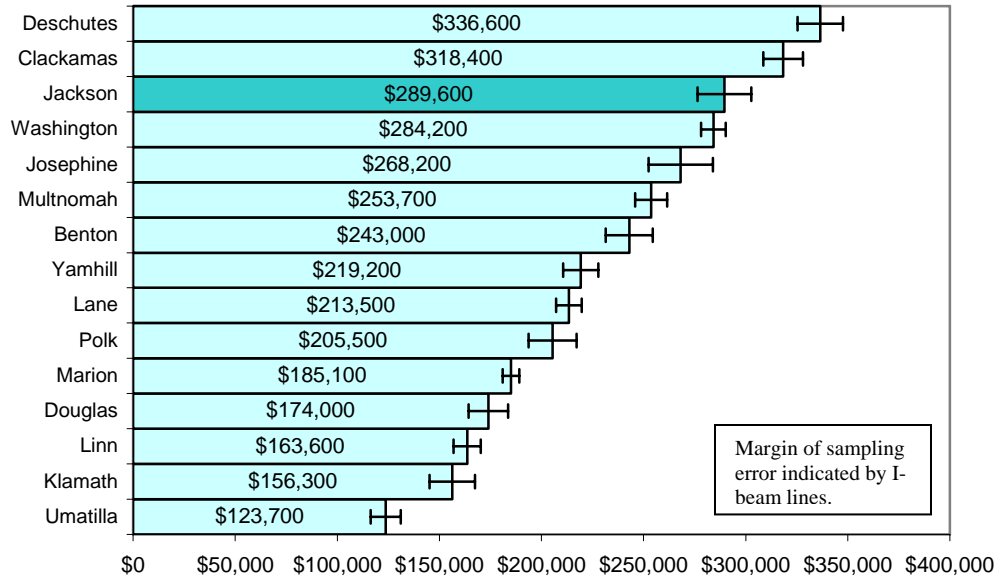
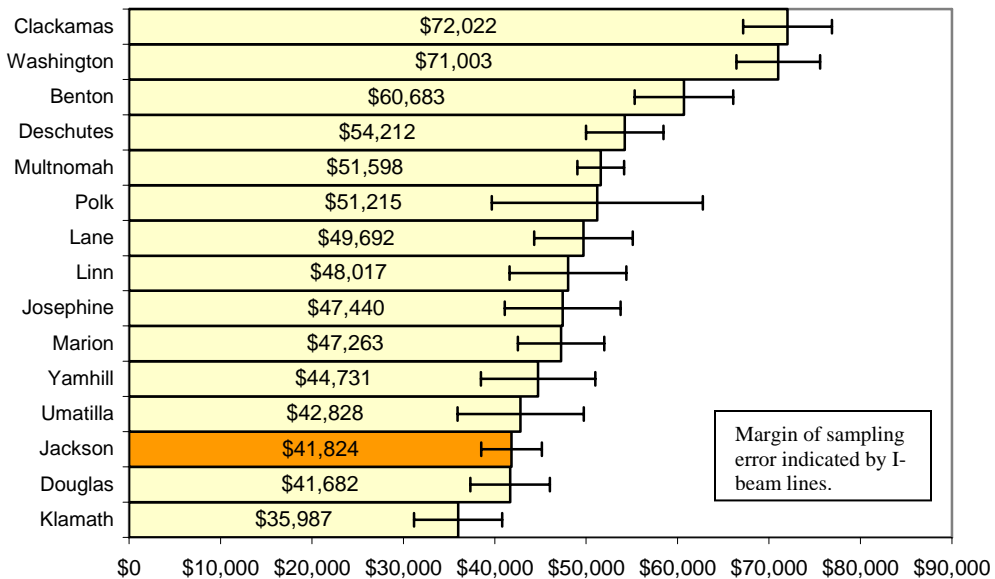


Chart 5b
2006 Median Family Income, Largest Oregon Counties
Families with Children Under 18



ENROLLMENT FORECASTS

District-wide Population Forecasts

A demographic cohort-component model was used to forecast population for the District by age and sex. The components of population change are births, deaths, and migration (residential relocation). Using age-specific fertility rates, age-sex specific mortality rates, age-sex specific migration rates, estimates of recent net migration levels, and forecasts of future migration levels, each component is applied to the base year population in a manner that simulates the actual dynamics of population change.

Some of the findings described in the earlier section “Population and Housing Trends” inform the assumptions used in the population forecast for the 2000 to 2020 period. In particular, the migration levels experienced since the 1990s characterize a period of modest growth associated with the construction of about 40 to 50 housing units annually. Slightly more families with school age children move into the area than out of it, but their share of the added residents is small. Most of the area’s population growth is attributable to older adults without school age children.

Because of the potential for increased growth, and the long term stability of recent population growth even during recessionary periods and without large scale local economic expansion or housing development, we characterize the forecast based on current trends as the “LOW forecast.” It assumes that fertility rates have continued to fall since 2000 and will remain low, that the District’s housing stock will continue to increase by about one percent (40 units) annually, and that slow local job growth will cause the migration of families with children to remain a relatively small part of the overall migration stream.

Given the continuing growth of the Grants Pass and Medford areas, the availability of residential land within the City of Rogue River and its UGB, the appeal of a small town lifestyle that is becoming harder to find in the Rogue Valley, and the potential economic

development in the City’s new enterprise zone, we also developed a “HIGH forecast” that envisions a combination of local job growth and accelerated housing development. Under this scenario, local job growth allows more families with children to move into the area, fertility rates increase slightly, and housing growth averages about two percent (80 units) annually.

We also consulted external population and employment forecasts published by state and local agencies:

- The Oregon Office of Economic Analysis (OEA) forecasts that Jackson County’s population will grow by 32 percent (1.4 percent annually) between 2000 and 2020, from 181,273 in 2000 to 238,865 in 2020.⁵
- The recently revised Population Element of the Jackson County Comprehensive Plan allocates OEA’s county forecast to incorporated cities, and the 2020 population forecast for the City of Rogue River is 2,392.⁶ Comparing the forecast with the 2000 Census population of 1,851 implies a 20 year growth rate of 29 percent (1.3 percent annually).
- The Oregon Employment Department forecasts a 19.5 percent increase in total non-farm employment in Workforce Region 8 (Jackson and Josephine Counties) between 2004 and 2014. The increase of 19,820 jobs corresponds to a 1.8 percent average annual growth rate.⁷

Our LOW forecast for 2020 population in the RRSB is 10,464, an increase of 1,497 persons from the 2000 Census (17 percent growth). School-age population ages 5 to 17 is expected to fall by 412 persons, or 28 percent. Details of the LOW population forecast are presented in Table A1 and Chart A1 in the appendix.

⁵“Forecasts of Oregon’s County Populations and Components of Change, 2000 to 2040.” Oregon Department of Administrative Services, Office of Economic Analysis, April, 2004.

⁶“Jackson County Comprehensive Plan, Revised Population Element.” Jackson County Ordinance No. 2007-3, adopted February 21, 2007. At <http://www.co.jackson.or.us/Files/Population%20Element.pdf>.

⁷“Employment Projections by Industry, 2004-2014.” Oregon Employment Department, Workforce Analysis, July, 2005. Employment in Region 8 was 104,150 in 2004 and 124,425 in the 2014 forecast.

Our HIGH forecast for 2020 population in the RRSD is 11,485, an increase of 2,518 persons from the 2000 Census (28 percent growth). The 20 year forecast of school-age population shows a loss of 139 persons (nine percent). Since losses have already occurred in the early part of the forecast, there is a small increase in school age population forecast between 2010 and 2020. Details of the HIGH population forecast are presented in Table A2 and Chart A2 in the appendix.

In Table 13, the forecast rates of growth are compared to the county and city forecasts summarized above and also to the 1990 to 2000 growth rates for each area.

Area	Average Annual Growth Rates		
	1990 to 2000 Historic	2000 to 2010 Forecast*	2010 to 2020 Forecast*
Jackson County	2.1%	1.4%	1.4%
City of Rogue River	0.5%	1.4%	1.2%
Rogue River S.D. -- LOW Forecast	1.5%	0.8%	0.7%
Rogue River S.D. -- HIGH Forecast	1.5%	1.1%	1.4%

**Jackson County 2000 to 2020 Forecast from "Forecasts of Oregon's County Populations and Components of Change, 2000 to 2040." Oregon Department of Administrative Services, Office of Economic Analysis, April, 2004. The OEA forecast is used in the Jackson County Comprehensive Plan, Revised Population Element, adopted by Ordinance #2007-3 on 2/21/07. City of Rogue River forecast for 2010 and 2020 from Table 7 of the Jackson County Comprehensive Plan, Revised Population Element. Rogue River S.D. forecasts by PSU-PRC.*

District-wide Enrollment Forecasts

Historic school enrollment is linked to the population forecast in two ways. First, the kindergarten and first grade enrollments at the time of the most recent census (the 1999-2000 school year) are compared to the population at the appropriate ages counted in the census. The “capture rate,” or ratio of enrollment to population, is an estimate of the share of area children who are enrolled in RRSD schools. Assumptions for capture rates based on census data are used to bring new kindergarten and first grade students into the District’s enrollment. If there is evidence that capture rates have changed since the time of the census, they may be adjusted in the forecast. The capture rates used for each forecast scenario are 0.84 for Kindergarten and 0.90 for first grade.

The other way that historic population and enrollment are linked is through migration. Annual changes in school enrollment by cohort closely follow trends in the net migration of children in the District’s population. The way that migration is integrated in the forecast is described below.

Once the students are in first grade, a set of baseline grade progression rates (GPRs) are used to move students from one grade to the next. These baseline GPRs, usually 1.00 for elementary grades, represent a scenario under which there is no change due to migration. Enrollment change beyond the baseline is added (or subtracted, if appropriate) at each grade level depending on the migration levels of the overall population by single years of age.

The base year data for the population forecast is 1990 Census data. From the 1990 base, the model is calibrated to actual change using 2000 Census results and annual school enrollment data beginning with the earliest year available (1989-90) and extending to the most recent year (2007-08). Forecast births in this historic period are calibrated to actual births that occurred within the District, and net migration levels are calibrated to the net migration that was estimated between the 1990 and 2000 censuses.

We produced LOW and HIGH enrollment forecasts corresponding to both the LOW and HIGH population forecasts. Each of the two scenarios used the methodology described

above, and the differences in the enrollment forecasts are attributable to differences in the District's school age population.

We also produced a "MID forecast" that we characterize as the most likely scenario for future enrollment change. Assumptions such as for the MID forecast are the same as for the LOW forecast, with additional growth allocated to the District based in the expectation that housing growth will average about 1.5 percent annually, with about 20 units built each year over and above the recent average of 40 units annually. This moderate increase is likely because of the recent subdivisions approved within the District and potential similar development that could occur on vacant residential land.

The modification used to produce the MID forecast is called the housing unit method. It uses forecasts of additional housing and estimates of the additional number of students per housing unit to append the LOW forecast. Based on the results from the "Housing Development and Student Generation" section we expect that a hypothetical annual average of about 15 additional moderately priced homes and five additional higher priced homes would contribute about six to eight more RRSD students each year than the LOW enrollment forecast.

Tables 14, 15, and 16 on the following pages contain grade level forecasts for the Rogue River School District for each year from 2008-09 to 2016-17. The forecasts are also summarized by school level (K-5, 6-8, and 9-12).

Enrollment at all school levels continues to decline in the LOW forecast, with an overall K-12 enrollment of 970 students in 2016-17, a loss of 12 percent over the 10 year period.

In the MID forecast, overall K-12 enrollment remains stable within the range of 1,040 to 1,060 throughout the forecast period.

In the HIGH forecast, K-12 enrollment bottoms out within the next two years, by 2009-10, and grows to 1,145 students by 2016-17. Elementary enrollment grows by about 40 students over the 10 year period, and secondary enrollments are relatively stable.

Table 14
Rogue River School District, *LOW RANGE* Enrollment Forecasts, 2008-09 to 2016-17

Grade	Actual		Forecast								
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
K	63	63	63	61	60	59	60	60	59	59	59
1	60	69	68	68	66	66	64	65	65	64	64
2	77	59	70	69	69	67	67	65	66	66	65
3	82	83	60	72	70	70	68	68	66	67	67
4	79	86	86	62	75	72	73	70	70	68	69
5	74	82	88	88	63	77	74	75	72	72	70
6	85	80	86	92	92	66	81	78	79	76	76
7	97	76	81	88	94	94	67	82	79	80	77
8	92	101	78	84	91	98	98	70	85	82	83
9	95	89	107	83	90	97	105	105	75	91	88
10	94	92	84	101	78	85	92	99	99	71	86
11	105	92	88	80	96	75	81	88	95	95	68
12	89	96	85	81	74	89	69	75	81	88	88
US*	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Total	1,101	1,078	1,054	1,039	1,028	1,025	1,009	1,010	1,001	989	970
<i>Annual change</i>		-23 -2.1%	-24 -2.2%	-15 -1.4%	-11 -1.1%	-3 -0.3%	-16 -1.6%	1 0.1%	-9 -0.9%	-12 -1.2%	-19 -1.9%
K-5	435	442	435	420	403	411	406	403	398	396	394
6-8	274	257	245	264	277	258	246	230	243	238	236
9-12	383	369	364	345	338	346	347	367	350	345	330

	5 Year Growth: 2006-07 to 2011-12		5 Year Growth: 2011-02 to 2016-17		10 Year Growth: 2006-07 to 2016-17	
	Growth	Pct.	Growth	Pct.	Growth	Pct.
K-5	-24	-6%	-17	-4%	-41	-9%
6-8	-16	-6%	-22	-9%	-38	-14%
9-12	-37	-10%	-16	-5%	-53	-14%
Total	-76	-7%	-55	-5%	-131	-12%

*Note: "US" are ungraded secondary students, included in grade 9-12 totals.
 Population Research Center, Portland State University, October 2007

Table 15
Rogue River School District, MID RANGE Enrollment Forecasts, 2008-09 to 2016-17

Grade	Actual		Forecast								
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
K	63	63	64	62	61	62	63	63	64	65	64
1	60	69	69	69	68	68	67	69	69	70	71
2	77	59	71	71	71	70	70	69	71	71	72
3	82	83	61	74	73	73	72	72	71	73	73
4	79	86	86	64	78	75	77	75	74	73	76
5	74	82	88	89	65	80	78	79	77	76	76
6	85	80	87	92	94	69	84	82	84	82	81
7	97	76	81	90	95	97	70	86	84	86	84
8	92	101	78	85	93	99	102	74	89	87	89
9	95	89	108	83	91	99	107	109	80	95	94
10	94	92	84	103	78	86	94	102	104	76	90
11	105	92	88	80	98	76	82	90	98	100	73
12	89	96	85	81	75	91	70	76	83	92	93
US*	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Total	1,101	1,078	1,060	1,053	1,050	1,055	1,046	1,056	1,058	1,056	1,046
<i>Annual change</i>		-23 -2.1%	-18 -1.7%	-7 -0.7%	-3 -0.3%	5 0.5%	-9 -0.9%	10 1.0%	2 0.2%	-2 -0.2%	-10 -0.9%
K-5	435	442	439	429	416	428	427	427	426	428	432
6-8	274	257	246	267	282	265	256	242	257	255	254
9-12	392	379	375	357	352	362	363	387	375	373	360

	5 Year Growth: 2006-07 to 2011-12		5 Year Growth: 2011-02 to 2016-17		10 Year Growth: 2006-07 to 2016-17	
	Growth	Pct.	Growth	Pct.	Growth	Pct.
K-5	-7	-2%	4	1%	-3	-1%
6-8	-9	-3%	-11	-4%	-20	-7%
9-12	-30	-8%	-2	-1%	-32	-8%
Total	-46	-4%	-9	-1%	-55	-5%

*Note: "US" are ungraded secondary students, included in grade 9-12 totals.
 Population Research Center, Portland State University, October 2007

Table 16
Rogue River School District, *HIGH RANGE* Enrollment Forecasts, 2007-08 to 2016-17

Grade	Actual		Forecast								
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
K	63	63	65	63	64	64	66	68	69	71	72
1	60	69	70	72	70	71	71	74	75	77	78
2	77	59	72	72	75	73	74	74	77	78	80
3	82	83	61	74	75	78	76	77	77	80	81
4	79	86	87	64	78	79	82	80	81	81	84
5	74	82	89	90	66	81	82	85	83	84	84
6	85	80	87	94	96	70	86	87	90	88	89
7	97	76	82	90	97	99	72	89	90	93	91
8	92	101	79	85	95	102	104	76	94	95	98
9	95	89	108	84	92	103	110	113	82	102	103
10	94	92	86	104	81	88	99	106	109	79	98
11	105	92	90	84	101	79	85	96	103	106	77
12	89	96	85	83	80	95	75	80	91	97	100
US*	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Total	1,101	1,078	1,071	1,069	1,080	1,092	1,092	1,115	1,131	1,141	1,145
<i>Annual change</i>		-23 -2.1%	-7 -0.6%	-2 -0.2%	11 1.0%	12 1.1%	0 0.0%	23 2.1%	16 1.4%	10 0.9%	4 0.4%
K-5	435	442	444	435	428	446	451	458	462	471	479
6-8	274	257	248	269	288	271	262	252	274	276	278
9-12	383	369	369	355	354	365	369	395	385	384	378

	5 Year Growth: 2006-07 to 2011-12		5 Year Growth: 2011-02 to 2016-17		10 Year Growth: 2006-07 to 2016-17	
	Growth	Pct.	Growth	Pct.	Growth	Pct.
K-5	11	3%	33	7%	44	10%
6-8	-3	-1%	7	3%	4	1%
9-12	-18	-5%	13	4%	-5	-1%
Total	-9	-1%	53	5%	44	4%

*Note: "US" are ungraded secondary students, included in grade 9-12 totals.
 Population Research Center, Portland State University, October 2007

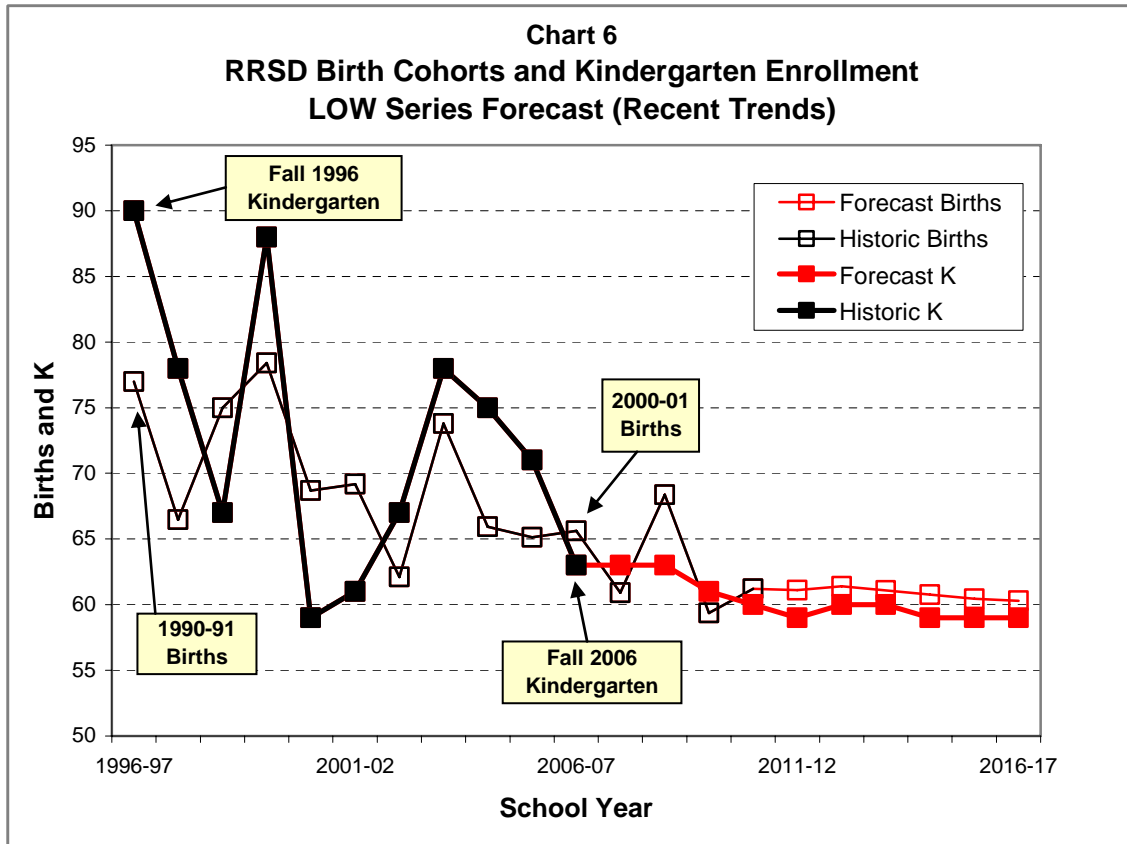
FORECAST UNCERTAINTY

By exploring recent population, housing, and enrollment trends in the Rogue River School District, linking population and enrollment forecasts in the demographic model, and producing district-wide enrollment forecasts by grade level, we have completed a study that we believe will be useful for a variety of long-range planning needs of the District. In the LOW forecast, enrollment is expected to fall, but not as much as it has in the most recent 10 years. In the MID forecast, enrollment is expected to be relatively stable. In the HIGH forecast, elementary enrollment is expected to increase and secondary enrollment is expected to be stable.

Although the forecasts represent a range of possible outcomes, we caution the users of this report on the nature of forecasting in general. Fertility and mortality rates are relatively stable, but migration can vary greatly in an uncertain future. The migration assumptions involve judgment and the expectation that future trends will fall neatly into place in alignment with current trends and external forecasts produced by other agencies. We know from past history that unforeseen events can affect these expectations. For example, if existing housing turns over to new households that have, on average, significantly different characteristics than current households, enrollment growth or decline could fall outside of the range of high and low forecasts presented in this study.

Another uncertainty in the forecasts involves the entry grades, kindergarten and 1st grade. The relationship between births and subsequent kindergarten and 1st grade enrollment five to six years later is affected by two factors — the migration of children during the years prior to enrolling in school, and the capture rate. The 2006-07 and 2007-08 kindergarten enrollments of 63 students are among the smallest of the past 20 years, and kindergarten enrollments in the next few years should be similar, if the historic relationship between births and kindergarten shown in Chart 6 continues. If there are sustained increases in kindergarten and 1st grade, they will influence District enrollment totals for years to come, since students have 13 years to progress through the system.

Conversely, if kindergarten and 1st grade enrollments fall below what we expect in the forecast, overall K-12 enrollments will ultimately be lower than forecast.



We have observed that in recent years migration has contributed additional students at almost every grade level, particularly the lower grades. All three forecast scenarios include positive net migration of students. There will be cycles of faster and slower economic and population growth in the future which no forecast will be able to predict, so the year-to-year pattern of actual growth will deviate from the forecast. However, the long-term enrollment changes are consistent with population, employment, and housing growth expected in the region.

Because of the uncertainties of forecasts described in this section, it is important to monitor the results and update the forecast as needed. In general, forecast error varies according to the size of the population being forecast and the length of the forecast horizon. The smaller the population and the longer the forecast period, the larger the

error is likely to be. The Rogue River School District currently has a population approaching 10,000, but is economically interdependent with other communities in Jackson and Josephine Counties, which have a total population of nearly 300,000. Depending on development trends and commuting patterns it may become an increasingly desirable place for members of the Rogue Valley workforce to live, or it may lag behind other communities in job and housing growth.

Finally, even if one of the forecast scenarios is highly accurate in the first few years, it is advisable to update the forecast as new information becomes available. New information may be school enrollment data, new census data, proposals for major new housing development, or land use changes that may result in housing or economic growth that differs significantly from recent and current trends.

APPENDIX

Low and High Series Population Forecasts

Table A1
Population by Age Group: *LOW RANGE* Forecast
Rogue River School District, 1990 to 2020

	1990 Census	2000 Census	2010 Forecast	2020 Forecast	2000 to 2020 Change	
					Number	Percent
Under Age 5	394	410	334	327	-83	-20%
Age 5 to 9	468	503	381	358	-145	-29%
Age 10 to 14	521	593	510	417	-176	-30%
Age 15 to 17	256	385	346	294	-91	-24%
Age 18 to 19	142	185	252	172	-13	-7%
Age 20 to 24	279	305	364	337	32	10%
Age 25 to 29	341	287	326	342	55	19%
Age 30 to 34	482	366	385	459	93	25%
Age 35 to 39	591	561	501	569	8	1%
Age 40 to 44	544	639	579	608	-31	-5%
Age 45 to 49	487	790	822	734	-56	-7%
Age 50 to 54	389	717	906	834	117	16%
Age 55 to 59	460	634	952	991	357	56%
Age 60 to 64	534	531	872	1,081	550	104%
Age 65 to 69	638	555	719	1,010	455	82%
Age 70 to 74	543	481	495	792	311	65%
Age 75 to 79	361	480	417	540	60	13%
Age 80 to 84	216	349	309	318	-31	-9%
Age 85 and over	92	196	291	281	85	43%
Total Population	7,738	8,967	9,761	10,464	1,497	17%
Total age 5 to 17	1,245	1,481	1,237	1,069	-412	-28%
<i>share age 5 to 17</i>	16.1%	16.5%	12.7%	10.2%		

	1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2020
Population Change	1,229	794	703
<i>Percent</i>	15.9%	8.9%	7.2%
<i>Average Annual</i>	1.5%	0.8%	0.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 and 2000 Censuses; data aggregated to RRSB boundary by Portland State University Population Research Center. PSU-PRC Forecasts, 2010 and 2020.

Table A2
Population by Age Group: *HIGH RANGE* Forecast
Rogue River School District, 1990 to 2020

	1990 Census	2000 Census	2010 Forecast	2020 Forecast	2000 to 2020 Change	
					Number	Percent
Under Age 5	394	410	353	413	3	1%
Age 5 to 9	468	503	397	463	-40	-8%
Age 10 to 14	521	593	536	521	-72	-12%
Age 15 to 17	256	385	355	358	-27	-7%
Age 18 to 19	142	185	252	210	25	14%
Age 20 to 24	279	305	376	358	53	17%
Age 25 to 29	341	287	337	388	101	35%
Age 30 to 34	482	366	391	537	171	47%
Age 35 to 39	591	561	507	622	61	11%
Age 40 to 44	544	639	586	658	19	3%
Age 45 to 49	487	790	833	746	-44	-6%
Age 50 to 54	389	717	919	863	146	20%
Age 55 to 59	460	634	968	1,093	459	72%
Age 60 to 64	534	531	886	1,124	593	112%
Age 65 to 69	638	555	748	1,121	566	102%
Age 70 to 74	543	481	506	825	344	72%
Age 75 to 79	361	480	417	568	88	18%
Age 80 to 84	216	349	309	328	-21	-6%
Age 85 and over	92	196	291	289	93	47%
Total Population	7,738	8,967	9,967	11,485	2,518	28%
Total age 5 to 17	1,245	1,481	1,288	1,342	-139	-9%
<i>share age 5 to 17</i>	16.1%	16.5%	12.9%	11.7%		

	1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2020
Population Change	1,229	1,000	1,518
<i>Percent</i>	15.9%	11.2%	15.2%
<i>Average Annual</i>	1.5%	1.1%	1.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 and 2000 Censuses; data aggregated to RRSB boundary by Portland State University Population Research Center. PSU-PRC Forecasts, 2010 and 2020.

