

Enrollment and Existing School Capacity

COMMUNITY REFERENCE • PREPARED SEPTEMBER 21, 2026 • FOR DISTRICT REVIEW

Current enrollment: a dated snapshot, not a projection

The six K–12 schools enrolled **1,550 students on September 1, 2026**. The September 17 Superintendent’s Report also reports 1,550 K–12 students. Building figures below use the September 1 sheet.^{1,2}

School	Grades	Sept. 2025	Jan. 2026	Sept. 1, 2026
KRES Bradford	K–5	169	167	162
KRES New London	K–5	299	303	303
Simonds School	K–5	124	120	124
Sutton Central School	K–5	77	77	64
Kearsarge Regional Middle School	6–8	428	420	410
Kearsarge Regional High School	9–12	483	474	487
K–12 building total		1,580	1,561	1,550

Reading the change: Compared with September 2025, K–12 enrollment is lower by 30 students (1.9%). Elementary K–5 enrollment is 653; Sutton and Simonds together account for 188. These are calculations from the sheet, not forecasts.¹

Count consistently: The 1,550 excludes 52 preschool students, 8 out-of-district students and 94 listed as “Home School Other.” The sheet’s broader total is 1,610, including preschool and out-of-district students. Do not compare that broader total with K–12 building capacity.¹

1. KRSD enrollment sheet, September 1, 2026. District-supplied record recovered from prior project materials; school rows and scope checked against the original image.

2. Superintendent’s Report, September 17, 2026, p. 2. Confirms 1,550 K–12; school detail comes from source 1.
https://www.kearsarge.org/sites/g/files/vyhlif731/f/pages/2026_09_17_superintendent_report.pdf

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Birth cohorts: Sutton

Resident-birth records describe the size of an incoming age group before school entry. They do not identify how many children will later enroll in the District. The series below counts child entries in each annual report.⁴⁻⁹

Birth year	Recorded resident births	Approximate K entry*
2020	8 ⁴	2025-26
2021	11 ⁵	2026-27
2022	5 ⁶	2027-28
2023	17 ⁷	2028-29
2024	4 ⁸	2029-30
2025	8 ⁹	2030-31

A small, uneven pipeline

The recorded count was 8 in both 2020 and 2025. The six-year range was 4 to 17. This is not a steady year-by-year decline.⁴⁻⁹

Keep the 2023 cohort visible

The 17 births recorded for 2023 are followed by 4 in 2024 and 8 in 2025. This brief retains all three counts; it does not replace the high year with an assumed “normal” value.⁷⁻⁹

Not a forecast: Confirm the unusually high and low cohorts with the Town Clerk or NH vital records before using them in a long-range enrollment forecast.

*Calendar birth year plus five is only an approximate school-year alignment. Entry-age cutoffs, delayed entry, family moves, tuition arrangements and other schooling choices can change the number and timing of students entering kindergarten.

4. Sutton 2020 Annual Report, resident births, printed p. 146.

<https://www.sutton-nh.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/2020-Annual-Town-Report.pdf>

5. Sutton 2021 Annual Report, resident births, printed p. 143.

<https://www.sutton-nh.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/2021-Annual-Town-Report.pdf>

6. Sutton 2022 Annual Report, resident births, printed p. 141.

<https://www.sutton-nh.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/2022-Annual-Report.pdf>

7. Sutton 2023 Annual Report, resident births, printed p. 136.

<https://www.sutton-nh.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/2023-Annual-Report-1.pdf>

8. Sutton 2024 Annual Report, resident births, printed p. 161.

<https://www.sutton-nh.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/2024-Town-of-Sutton-Annual-Report-1.pdf>

9. Sutton 2025 Annual Report, resident births, printed p. 168.

<https://www.suttonnh.gov/media/10336>

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Birth cohorts: Warner / Simonds

The Warner records provide a local demographic indicator for Simonds planning. They show fewer births in the most recent three-year period than in 2020–2022, with an increase after the 2023 low.^{10–15}

Birth year	Recorded resident births	Approximate K entry*
2020	17 ¹⁰	2025–26
2021	24 ¹¹	2026–27
2022	18 ¹²	2027–28
2023	11 ¹³	2028–29
2024	15 ¹⁴	2029–30
2025	16 ¹⁵	2030–31

The multi-year signal

Warner averaged 19.7 recorded births annually in 2020–2022 and 14.0 in 2023–2025, a decrease of about 29%. These averages are calculated from the six annual counts.^{10–15}

Recent change is not one-directional

The annual count rose from 11 in 2023 to 15 in 2024 and 16 in 2025. A single low year should not be presented as the permanent size of future kindergarten classes.^{13–15}

Scope: Sutton and Warner are the two town series documented here. They are not a seven-town birth total or a District-wide enrollment forecast.

*Approximate alignment only, using birth year plus five. Verification note: the 2021 report contains 24 child entries across pp. 115–116, including one date printed with a two-digit year. This brief uses 24 rather than the 23 in earlier working analysis.¹¹

10. Warner 2020 Annual Report, resident births, printed pp. 119–120.
https://warnernh.gov/tow/meetings/minutes/town/2020_Annual_Report.pdf

11. Warner 2021 Annual Report, resident births, printed pp. 115–116.
https://warnernh.gov/tow/meetings/minutes/town/2021_Annual_Report.pdf

12. Warner 2022 Annual Report, resident births, printed p. 126.
https://warnernh.gov/tow/meetings/minutes/town/2022_Annual_Report.pdf

13. Warner 2023 Annual Report, resident births, printed p. 118.
https://warnernh.gov/tow/meetings/minutes/town/2023_Annual_Report.pdf

14. Warner 2024 Annual Report, resident births, printed p. 117.
https://warnernh.gov/tow/meetings/minutes/town/2024_Annual_Report.pdf

15. Warner 2025 Annual Report, resident births, printed p. 124.
https://warnernh.gov/tow/meetings/minutes/town/2025_Annual_Report.pdf

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Receiving-school capacity: existing buildings only

The District’s published planning worksheet provides the existing-building benchmarks below. This brief pairs those benchmarks with September 1, 2026 enrollment; it does **not** add proposed classrooms or use the renovated Bradford capacity.^{1,3}

Receiving school	Current grades	Sept. 1 enrollment	Published population benchmark	Published rooms available	Enrollment ÷ benchmark
KRES Bradford	K–5	162	270	13	60.0%
KRES New London	K–5	303	405	20	74.8%
KRMS	6–8	410	600	24	68.3%

Population capacity is not usable receiving space. These ratios are not certified utilization rates or available transfer seats. Room counts are published planning inventories, not a September 2026 room-by-room reinspection.^{1,3}

Existing-space constraints

The no-renovation, Grade-5-transfer illustration uses all 13 Bradford rooms and flags a SOAR space conflict. It uses 15 of 20 New London rooms and lists 24 KRMS rooms available and needed. These are model assumptions, not current room assignments.³

Confirm before any transfer

Check current room uses, grade-level sections and class-size limits; preschool, special education, SOAR and specialist space; and cafeteria, gym and transportation schedules. Protect required services. Headcount alone cannot establish readiness.

Data boundary: The worksheet’s older “2026” enrollment inputs are not the September 1 actuals on page 1. No renovation-dependent capacity, future enrollment projection or emergency-consolidation model is presented here as a current operating condition.^{1,3}

1. KRSD enrollment sheet, September 1, 2026. District-supplied record recovered from prior project materials; school rows and scope checked against the original image.

3. District Consolidation Impact Sample Data, pp. 1, 4–5. Existing-building planning benchmarks, not a new occupancy certification.
https://www.kearsarge.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf731/f/pages/consolidation_impact_sample_data.pdf