

UNDERSTANDING E-CAST FORECAST COMPARISON REPORTS

What are E-CAST's Forecast vs. Norm Day Comparison Reports?

Posted on the E-CAST website in the Reference Document section, these two reports provide comparisons between E-CAST enrollment forecasts and corresponding Norm Day actual graded enrollments, for schools with neighborhood attendance areas, for the last two historical years. Comparisons are shown for total enrollment, resident enrollment, optional non-resident enrollment, and District-placed non-resident enrollment.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Cost Center	Region	Board District	Type	School	E-CAST 2025 Enrollment Forecast (1)	2025-26 NORM Day Enrollment (1)	Difference Forecast vs NORM DAY	Difference as % under/over NORM DAY
1	1585701	S	7	E	107th St El	609	579	30	5.2%
2	1583601	S	7	E	109th St El	291	270	21	7.8%
3	1708201	E	2	E	10th St El	302	303	-1	-0.3%
4	1588401	S	7	E	112th St El	296	286	10	3.5%
5	1586301	S	7	E	116th St El	358	330	28	8.5%
6	1574001	S	7	E	118th St El	410	434	-24	-5.5%
7	1588701	S	7	E	122nd St El	536	527	9	1.7%
8	1587701	S	7	E	135th St El	494	490	4	0.8%
9	1582201	S	7	E	153rd St El	298	294	4	1.4%
10	1588801	S	7	E	158th St El	222	222	0	0.0%

What data comparisons are included in the E-CAST Forecast Comparison Reports?

On each report, columns 6 through 9 show the data and comparisons for total graded enrollment (without Special Education counts).

How do the reports indicate whether a school qualifies for a 'Rationale A' Staffing Appeal?

If a school's total enrollment forecasts (column 6) for both of the last two school years are significantly lower than each corresponding year's official Norm Day total enrollment (column 7), then the school may meet the required criteria for a 'Rationale A' Staffing Appeal. Each Staffing Appeal is evaluated by specialists from SMS-MPD and/or Student Integration Services, and their recommendations are provided to LAUSD Region Administrators. It is the Region Administrators who make the final decisions regarding a school's Staffing Appeal and determination on the allocation of any additional FTEs.

How accurate are Master Planning and Demographics' Forecasts?

For each of the last eleven years, the District's overall E-CAST forecasts, as developed by SMS-MPD, ***have almost always been accurate to within 2%*** of their corresponding total Norm Day actual enrollments.

In recent years, the COVID pandemic has brought on some uncertainties for future student enrollment. For example, for 2021-22, there was a difference of 14,882 students between the

UNDERSTANDING E-CAST FORECAST COMPARISON REPORTS

forecast and actual enrollment. In the years after, as more data has become available, the differences between forecast and actual enrollment have grown smaller, but is still elevated compared to historic trends.

The differences between forecast total graded enrollments and actual Norm Day total graded enrollments were:

- In 2025: 5,622, or approximately 2.0%
- In 2024: 1,583, or approximately 0.5%
- In 2023: 7,319, or approximately 2.4%
- In 2022: 8,659, or approximately 2.9%
- In 2021: 14,882, or approximately 4.9%
- In 2020: 1,286, or approximately 0.4%
- In 2019: 5,787, or approximately 1.7%
- in 2018: 3,542, or approximately 0.9%
- in 2017: 2,006, or approximately 0.5%
- in 2016: 702, or approximately 0.2%
- in 2015: 3,244, or approximately 0.8%
- in 2014: 1,779, or approximately 0.4%
- In 2013: 1,930, or approximately 0.4%

The differences for resident enrollment, Permit/Open Enrollment, and Other Travel-In enrollment are shown in the reports to provide additional detail about the enrollment differences at each school. In the process of establishing each school's individual forecast, its Permit/Open Enrollment forecast is generally held equal to the current year count with the expectation that schools will strive to retain and attract their resident students.