
Elementary & Secondary enrolment trends in Ontario

Education Finance Branch
September 2010

reach every student
appuyer chaque élève



PURPOSE

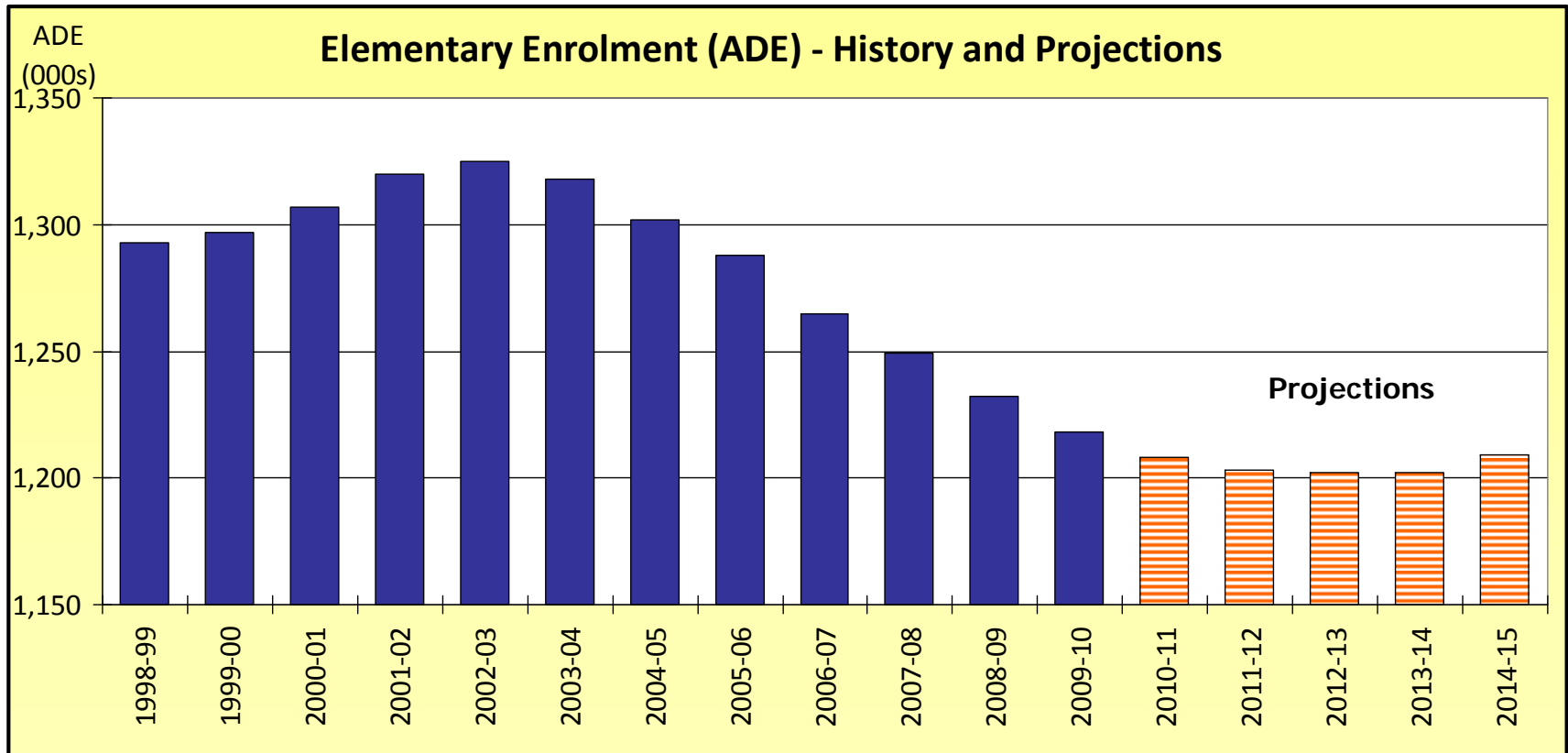
- ❑ The purpose of this package is to present key facts and trends in enrolment of the 72 publicly funded school boards in Ontario.

NOTES:

1. Enrolment refers to Average Daily Enrolment (ADE), which is a full-time equivalent count of students.
 - » For example, a student in a half-day Kindergarten program is counted as 0.5 of a full-time student; two Kindergarten pupils in a half-day program equal 1.0 full-time student. Despite the introduction of the Early Learning Program (ELP), Kindergarten pupils in this package are counted as 0.5 of a full time student.
2. Multi-year enrolment projection for the 2010-11 to 2014-15 school years was developed in January 2010.
3. Projections do not take into account the possibility of other policies and initiatives that could affect enrolment. Some of these include: the Learning to 18 initiative, and the implementation of the Early Learning Program.

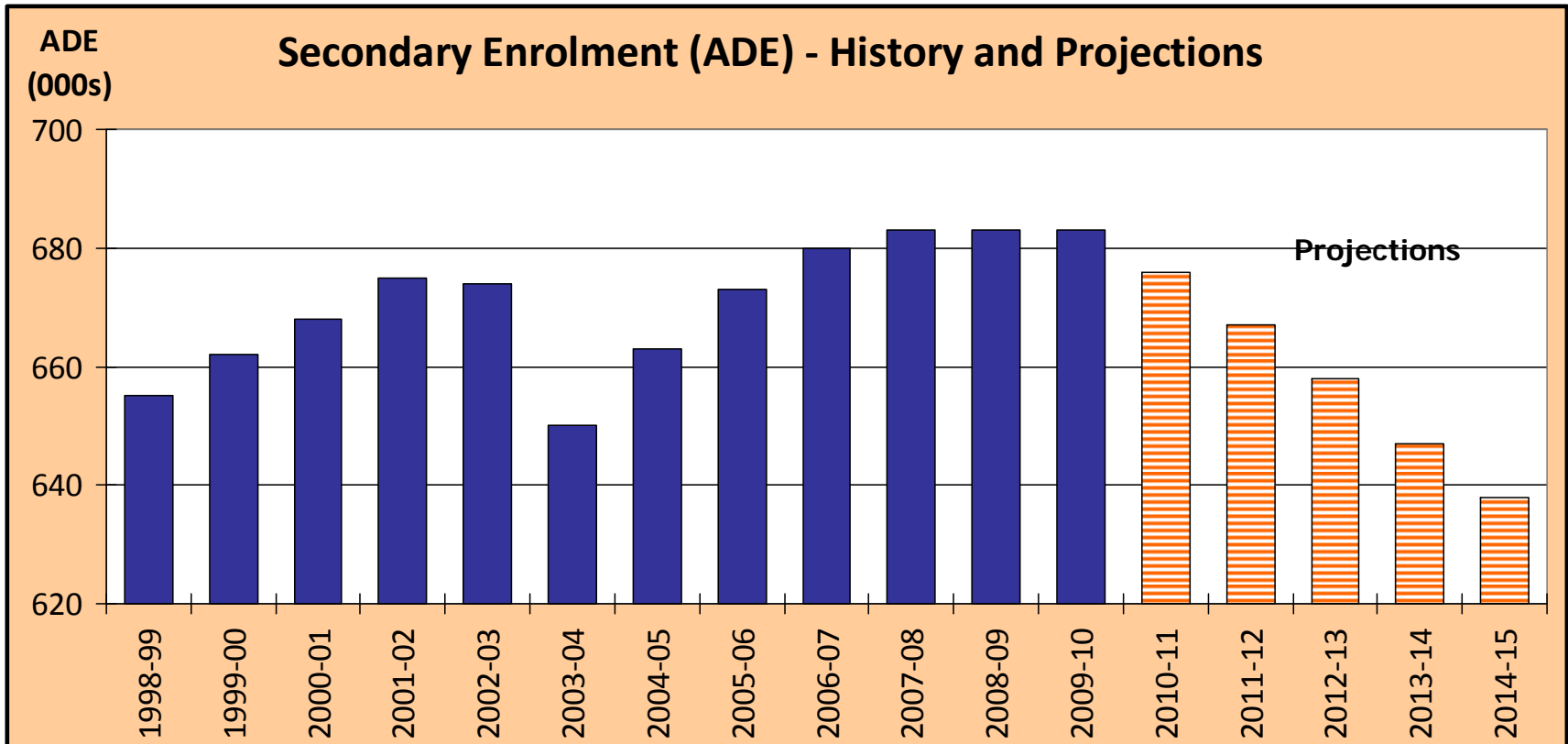
TRENDS in ELEMENTARY ENROLMENT

- Elementary enrolment (ADE) across the province peaked in 2002-03 and has been declining over the last seven years.



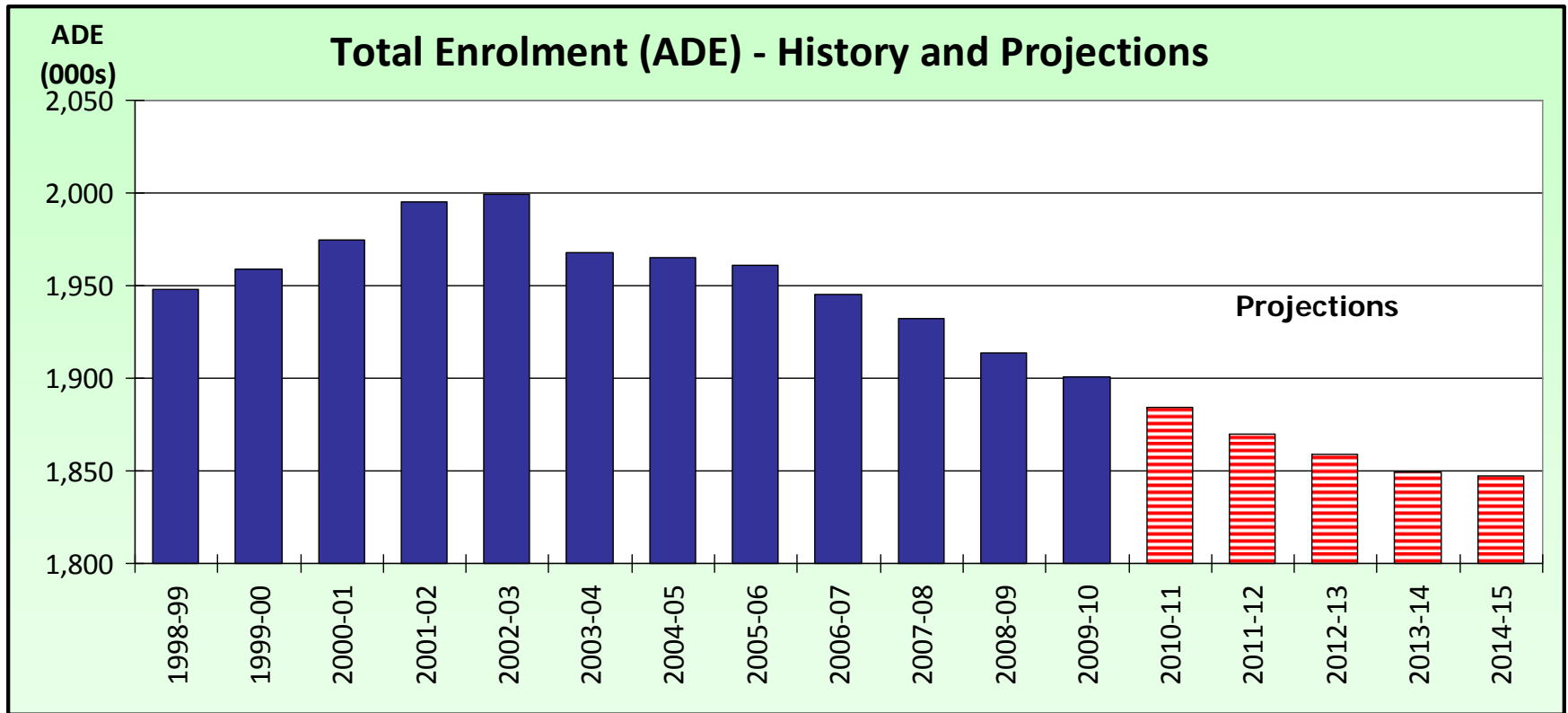
TRENDS in SECONDARY ENROLMENT

- Secondary enrolment (ADE) has remained un-changed over the last few years.

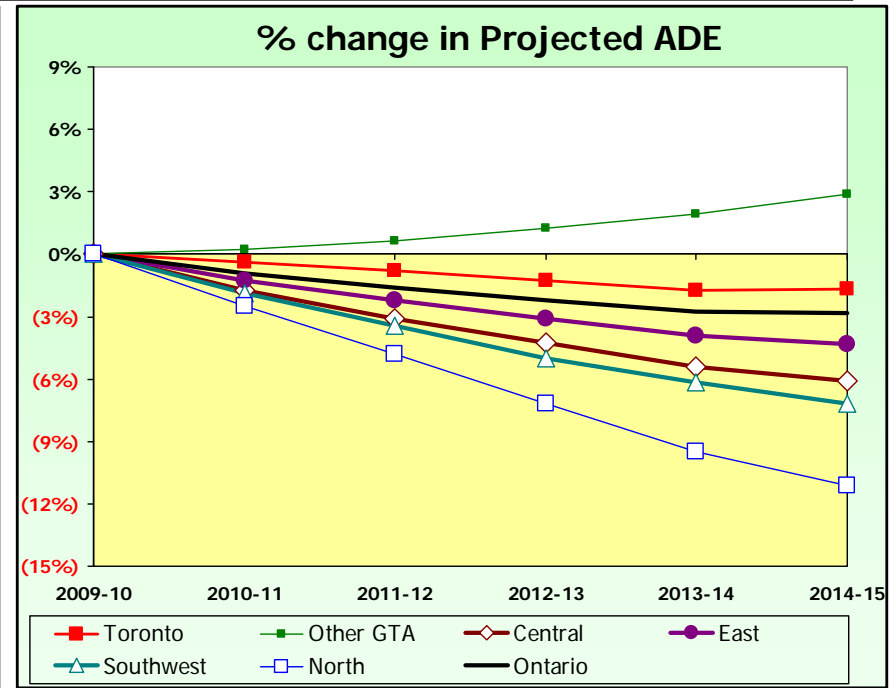
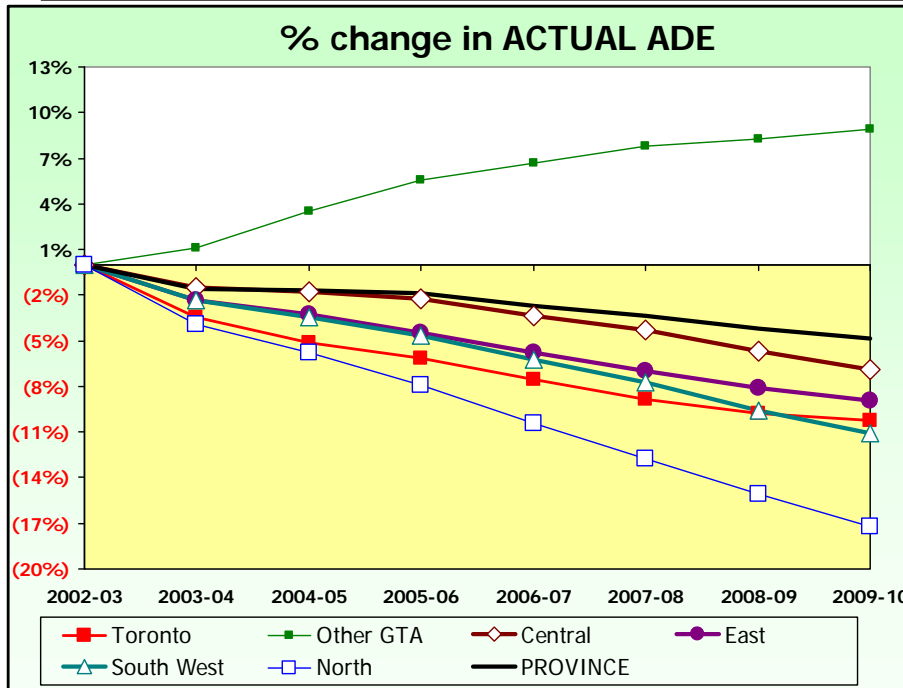


TOTAL (ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY) ENROLMENT

- Total enrolment across the province peaked in 2002-03 and has been declining over the last seven years.



REGIONAL ENROLMENT TRENDS



- While provincial enrolment has declined by almost 98,000 ADE (4.9%) since 2002-03, the regional experience varies significantly.
- Projections to 2014-15 indicate that the GTA (excluding Toronto) is the only region expected to grow, with Northern Ontario to experience the largest relative decline.

ENROLMENT TRENDS – Growth and Decline

TOTAL (Elementary and Secondary)			
	2002-2009	2009-2014	2002-2014
# GROWING	17	14	13
Growth (000s)	53	27	78
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# DECLINING	55	58	59
Decline (000s)	(151)	(81)	(230)
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NET	(98)	(54)	(152)

- ❑ The decline of 98,000 ADE over the last seven years is comprised of:
 - » a growth of **53,000** ADE in 17 boards across the province and a decline of **151,000** ADE in the remaining 55 boards.
- ❑ Projections indicate that a smaller number of boards are expected to grow over the next five years.

ENROLMENT TRENDS - Influences

- ❑ Despite the projected decline, enrolment trends over the next few years will be influenced by various policies and initiatives.
 - » Learning to 18 could increase secondary enrolment
 - » Early Learning Program (ELP) will likely increase enrolment in the elementary panel.
 - » Local economic conditions can have significant impacts on enrolment.

- ❑ In addition to program / policy changes (i.e. new secondary curriculum, ELP), enrolment will be affected by two major demographic factors.
 - » Changes in number of births
 - » Changing patterns of immigration/migration

SUMMARY

- ❑ Since peaking in 2002-03, enrolment has declining, and the decline has spread across more school boards.
- ❑ The decline has come in the backdrop of several policy changes including:
 - » New secondary school curriculum and the elimination of Grade 13/OAC.
 - » An expansion of boards offering Kindergarten programs
- ❑ Enrolment is projected to decline over next five years through to 2014-15.
- ❑ GTA (excluding Toronto) is the only region projected to grow while Northern Ontario will experience the largest relative decline.