Connecticut's Growing Student Needs

- The statewide resident student count declined by 1,160 students between the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years.
- However, the needs of Connecticut's students continue to grow:
 - o The number of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch (FRPL) increased by over 6,900 kids (an increase of over 3%)
 - The number of multilingual learners (MLLs) increased by over 4,000 students (an increase of over 8%)
- There were significant increases in the populations of FRPL-eligible and MLL students in municipalities that are economically disadvantaged (e.g. low property wealth, low median household income, and high mill rates)

Increase in FRPL Eligibility

Town	Increase in FRPL Student Count	Increase in FRPL Student %
Bridgeport	1,238 🕇	8.0% 1
Waterbury	744 🔨	5.2% 1
Danbury	498 🕇	8.6% 1
Groton	375 🕇	18.5% 🕇
Hamden	346 🕇	13.0% 1
Torrington	280 🔨	11.0% 1
Bristol	268 1	6.3% 1

Increase in MLL Student Populations

Town	Increase in MLL Student Count	Increase in MLL Student %
Bridgeport	444 🕇	8.6% 1
Waterbury	347 🕇	10.2% 1
New Haven	301 1	7.9% 1
Stamford	267 ↑	10.5% ↑
Norwalk	227 🕇	10.0% ↑
Hartford	216 🕇	4.7% 1
Danbury	189 🕇	4.5% ↑