



# Housing Affordability & Declining School Enrollment

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# Santa Clara County Elementary Enrollment is Declining in All School Types

*Enrollment declines were widespread before the pandemic*

## Both public and private K-12 schools are losing students

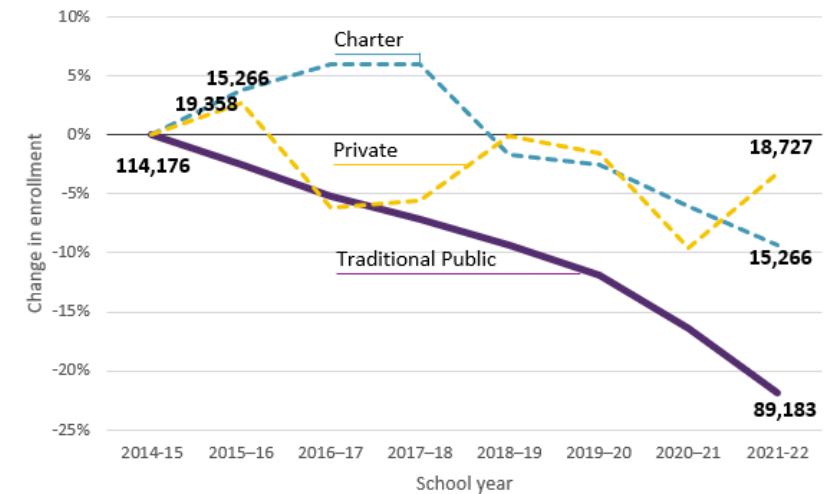
Cumulative Percent Change in Enrollment in Santa Clara County's K-12 Schools



- K-12 Enrollment has fallen 12% over the 7 years since 2014-15, a loss of more than 37,600 children.
- Elementary schools, serving younger children, are seeing larger declines.
- Enrollment declines were widespread before the pandemic began: the 2019-20 enrollment census was taken in October 2019.

## Elementary school enrollment has declined across traditional public schools, charter schools, & private schools.

Cumulative Percent Change in Enrollment in Santa Clara County's Elementary Schools



From California Department of Education: Enrollment Multi-Year Summary by Grade and Private School Affidavit Information

# The enrollment problem is widespread

- In our public schools countywide, elementary enrollment has declined every year since 2014.
- All but one elementary district is experiencing enrollment decline - most over 20%.
- This represents a loss of almost 25,000 elementary students.
- Both wealthy school districts and school districts in lower-income communities are suffering.

From California Department of Education: [Public Schools and Districts, Enrollment Multi-Year Summary by Grade, and Free and Reduced-Price Meal Eligibility](#)

SCC K-5 Elementary Enrollment Decline by School District	
	Cumulative 7-Year Enrollment Change
Mount Pleasant Elementary	-36%
Los Altos Elementary	-33%
Franklin-McKinley Elementary	-32%
Alum Rock Union Elementary	-32%
Evergreen Elementary	-30%
Luther Burbank	-29%
Lakeside Joint	-29%
Cupertino Union	-28%
Campbell Union	-26%
Palo Alto Unified School District	-26%
Los Gatos Union Elementary	-24%
San Jose Unified	-24%
Moreland	-23%
Saratoga Union Elementary	-22%
Sunnyvale	-21%
Oak Grove Elementary	-20%
Orchard Elementary	-18%
Berryessa Union Elementary	-17%
Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary	-16%
Gilroy Unified School District	-15%
Santa Clara Unified School District	-15%
Mountain View Whisman	-15%
Morgan Hill Unified	-14%
Union Elementary	-4%
Milpitas Unified	-1%
Cambrian	15%



# Rapid Growth in Rent and Home Prices Caused by Housing Shortage is Displacing Families



SOURCE: Santa Clara County Association of Realtors December 2021.

- Home prices have increased close to 300% in the last decade.
- Since 2012, rent has increased more than 75%.
- The housing shortage creates a market where young families are “priced out.”
- Lower and moderate income families are increasingly displaced by rising rents.

# What's ahead?



## Enrollment is Forecast to Continue to Decline Without New Housing

- Elementary school enrollment across traditional public, private, and charter schools will continue to decline 13% over the next decade.
- K-12 school enrollment will decline 15% over the next decade- a loss of more than 41,000 students.

From California Department of Finance: California Public K-12 Graded Enrollment and High School Graduate Projections by County — 2021 Series

A photograph of a classroom with several children. In the foreground, a girl in a pink shirt is raising her hand. To her left, a boy in a blue shirt is looking down at a book. In the background, other children are visible, some with their hands raised. A large yellow rectangular overlay is centered over the image, containing the text "What does this look like at the city level?".

**What does this look like  
at the city level?**

# Elementary Schools in the City of Sunnyvale Face Declining Enrollment

Changes in Elementary School Enrollment in the City of Sunnyvale									
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Cumulative 7-Year Change by School
*Chester W. Nimitz Elementary	733	721	673	668	628	604	517	417	-29%
*Louis E. Stocklmeir Elementary	1211	1192	1174	1191	1106	1055	1028	886	-15%
*West Valley Elementary	628	633	591	560	554	514	444	364	-29%
Bishop Elementary	628	592	538	490	475	436	413	377	-40%
Cherry Chase Elementary	871	852	845	860	835	773	677	615	-29%
Cumberland Elementary	746	745	767	768	806	870	744	616	-17%
Ellis Elementary	823	778	744	739	787	785	739	647	-21%
Fairwood Elementary	435	411	413	435	435	408	392	461	6%
Lakewood Elementary	457	439	432	424	437	418	405	392	-14%
San Miguel Elementary	404	388	371	398	403	415	408	390	-3%
Vargas Elementary	540	545	492	478	484	452	426	396	-27%
Total Enrollment	7476	7296	7040	7011	6950	6730	6193	5561	
Annual Change		-2%	-3%	0%	-1%	-3%	-9%	-10%	
Citywide Cumulative 6-Year Change		-2%	-5%	-5%	-6%	-9%	-17%	-26%	

From California Department of Education: [Public Schools and Districts and Enrollment Multi-Year Summary by Grade](#)

\*Schools in Cupertino Union School District  
All other schools in Sunnyvale School District

- Elementary enrollment has fallen every year since 2014, a total drop of 26%.
- 10 of 11 schools have seen enrollment declines, ranging as high as 40%.
- This represents a loss of nearly 2,000 students.
- Elementary enrollment declines are higher than average for the county.