



# 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

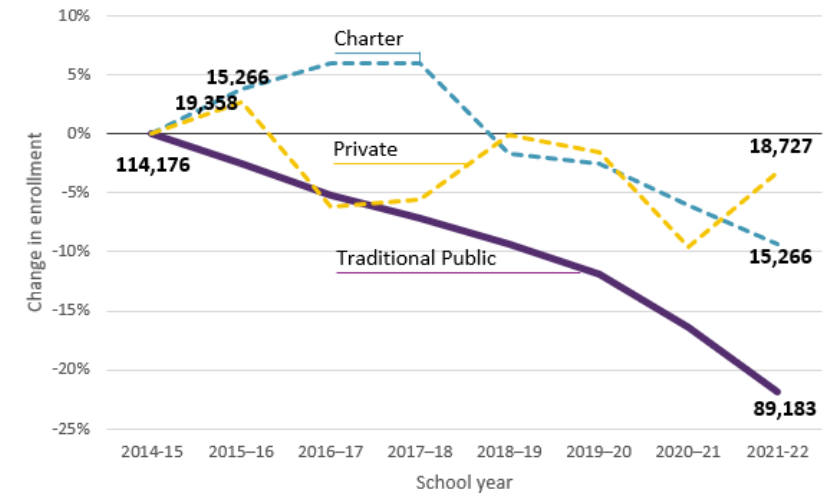
Cumulative Percent Change in Enrollment in Santa Clara County's K-12 Schools



- 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%



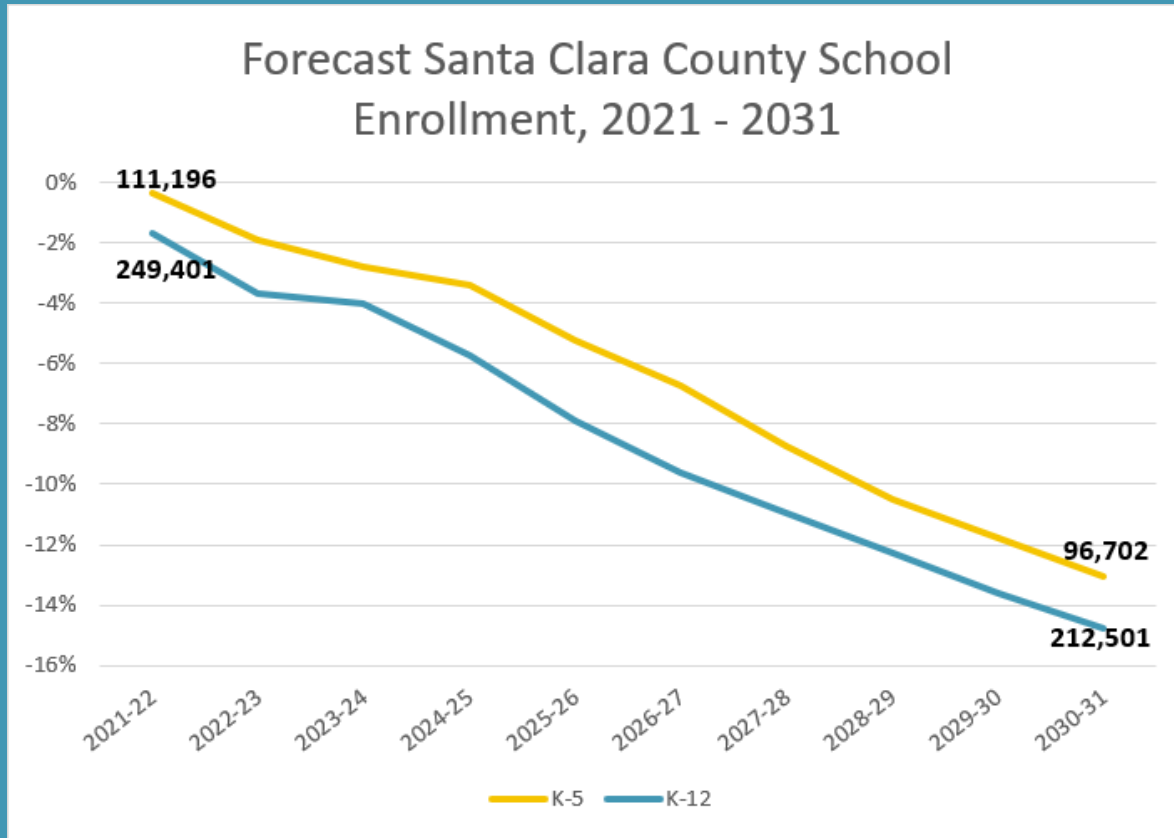
# Rapid Growth in Rent and Home Prices Caused by Housing Shortage is Displacing Families



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.

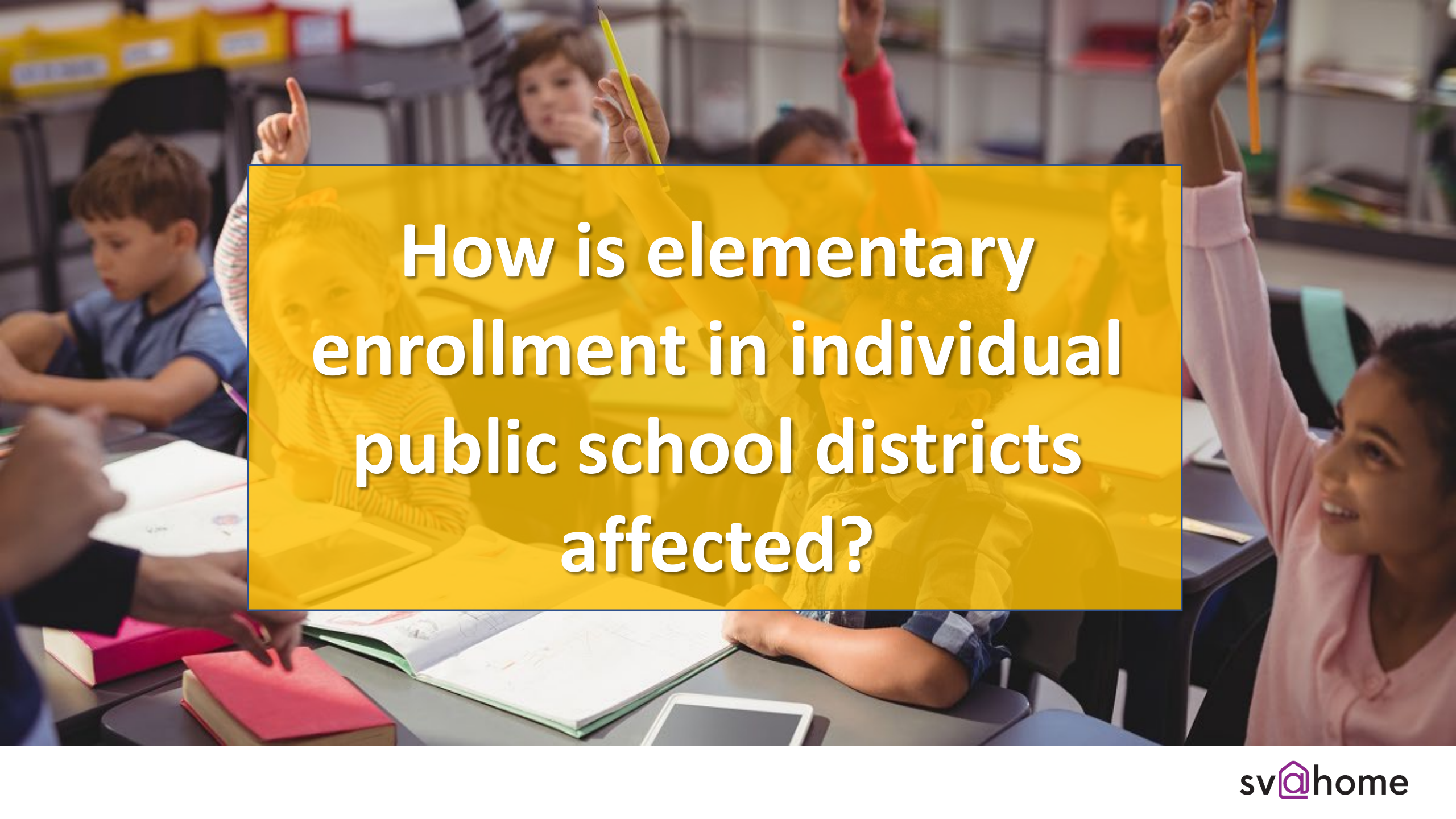
# What's ahead?



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

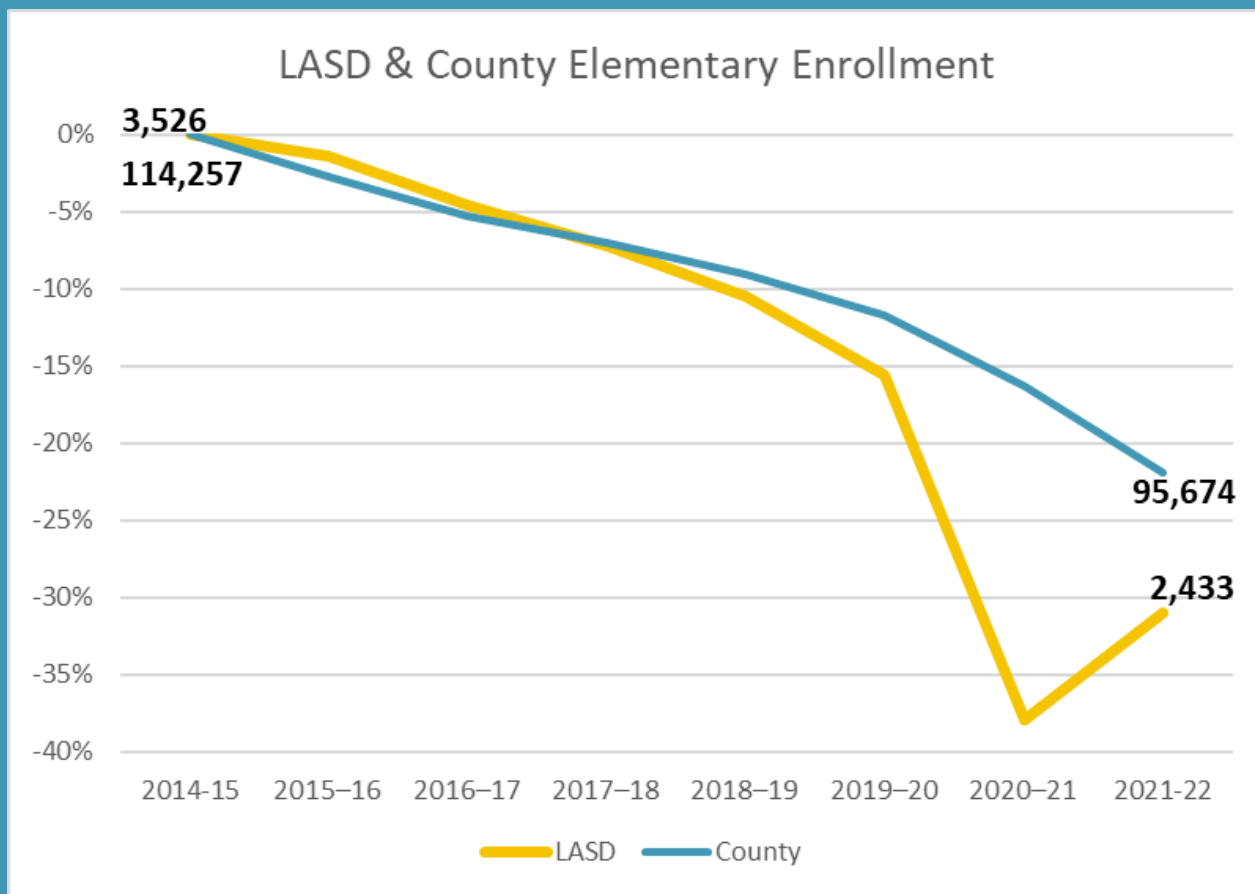
- Elementary school enrollment across traditional public, private, and charter schools will continue to decline 13% over the next decade.
- K-12 school enrollment will decline 15% over the next decade- a loss of more than 41,000 students.

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 young children sitting at desks. Some children have their hands raised, indicating they want to answer a question or participate. The scene is bright and active. A large yellow rectangular box is superimposed over the center of the image, containing white text.

**How is elementary  
enrollment in individual  
public school districts  
affected?**

# Los Altos School District's Elementary Enrollment is Declining



- Elementary enrollment has fallen in all years but one since 2014, a total drop of 31%.
- Los Altos School District's elementary enrollment declines are higher than average for the county.

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



# Los Altos School District's Elementary Enrollment is Declining

Changes in Elementary School Enrollment in Los Altos School District									
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Cumulative 7-Year Change by School
Almond Elementary	545	536	541	508	488	451	323	359	-34%
Covington Elementary	553	559	561	580	585	563	370	446	-19%
Gardner Bullis Elementary	337	352	345	309	302	288	234	247	-27%
Loyola Elementary	526	505	446	425	404	362	300	303	-42%
Oak Avenue Elementary	459	444	430	409	387	367	295	313	-32%
Santa Rita Elementary	568	558	541	546	524	491	319	377	-34%
Springer Elementary	538	522	501	495	468	454	346	388	-28%
Total	3526	3476	3365	3272	3158	2976	2187	2433	
Annual change		-1%	-3%	-3%	-3%	-6%	-27%	11%	
Districtwide Cumulative 7-Year Change		-1%	-5%	-7%	-10%	-16%	-38%	-31%	

- All elementary schools have seen enrollment declines, ranging from -19% to -42%.
- Los Altos School District has 1,093 fewer elementary students than it did in 2014.

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