



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

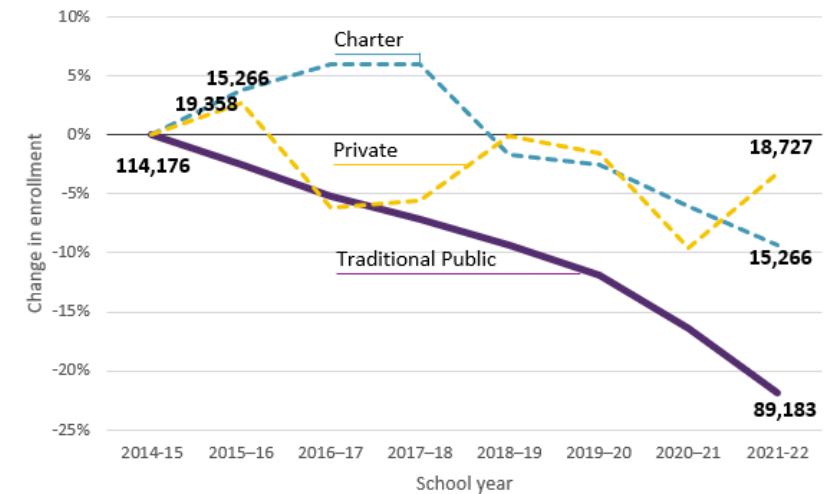
Cumulative Percent Change in Enrollment in Santa Clara County's K-12 Schools



- 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.

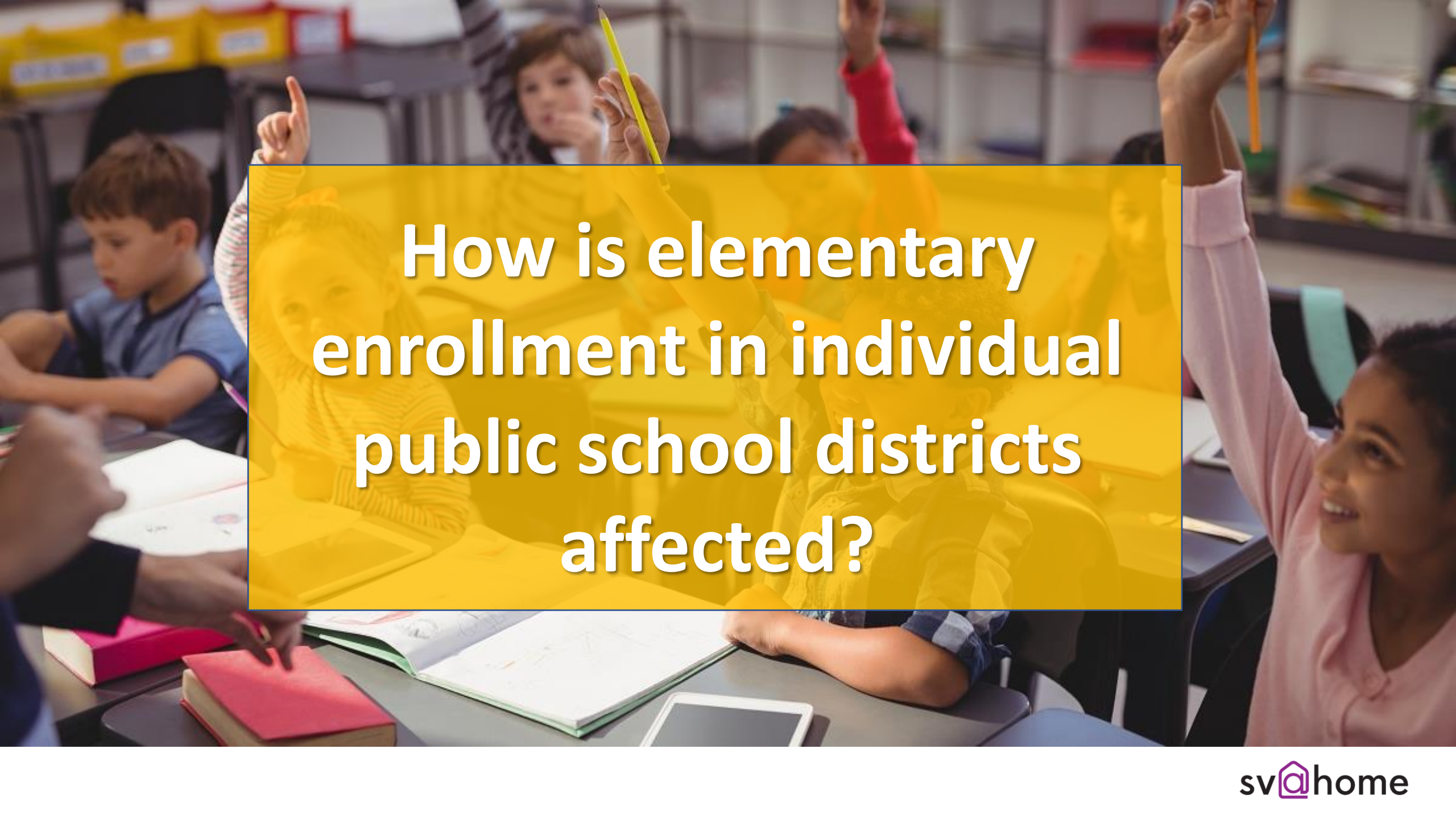
What's ahead?



Enrollment is Forecast to Continue to Decline Without New Housing

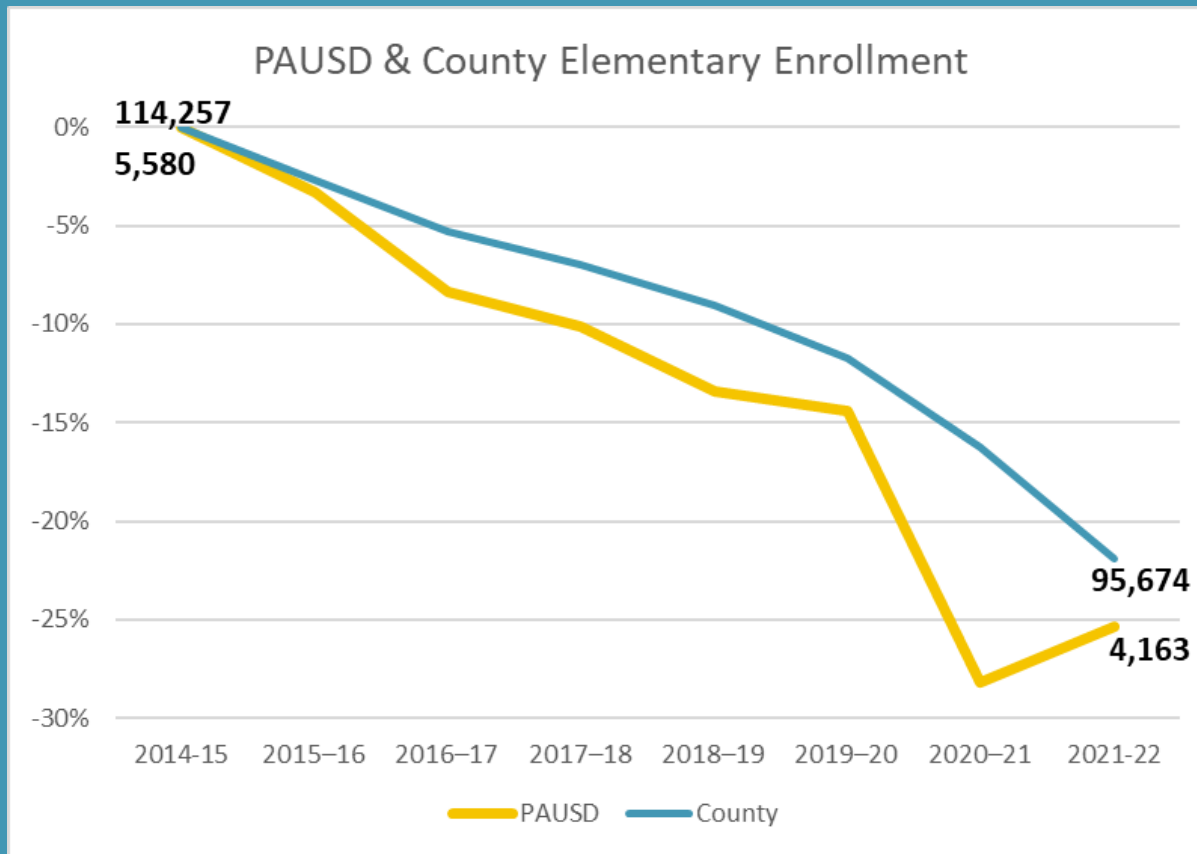
- Elementary school enrollment across traditional public, private, and charter schools will continue to decline 13% over the next decade.
- K-12 school enrollment will decline 15% over the next decade- a loss of more than 41,000 students.

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 yellow semi-transparent box is overlaid in the center of the image, containing white text.

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

Palo Alto Unified School District's Elementary Enrollment is Declining



- Elementary enrollment has fallen in all but one year since 2014, a total drop of 25%.
- Palo Alto Unified's elementary enrollment declines are above the average for the county.

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

Palo Alto Unified School District's Elementary Enrollment is Declining

Changes in Elementary School Enrollment in Palo Alto Unified School District									
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Cumulative 7-Year Change by School
Addison Elementary School	463	475	437	435	402	391	319	332	-28%
Barron Park Elementary School	338	289	285	259	244	240	203	198	-41%
Duveneck Elementary School	482	479	442	430	374	417	340	356	-26%
El Carmelo Elementary School	407	395	359	377	360	347	295	303	-26%
Escondido Elementary School	581	550	535	538	535	547	467	471	-19%
Fairmeadow Elementary School	548	514	496	469	445	438	360	408	-26%
Herbert Hoover Elementary School	406	406	392	397	395	392	352	372	-8%
Juana Briones Elementary School	348	335	319	314	307	317	277	263	-24%
Lucille M. Nixon Elementary School	477	473	457	442	445	433	359	378	-21%
Ohlone Elementary School	605	600	576	567	560	525	438	444	-27%
Palo Verde Elementary School	404	415	389	399	393	383	337	369	-9%
Walter Hays Elementary School	521	463	428	389	371	348	259	269	-48%
Total Enrollment	5580	5394	5115	5016	4831	4778	4006	4163	
Annual Change		-3%	-5%	-2%	-4%	-1%	-16%	4%	
Districtwide Cumulative 7-Year Change		-3%	-8%	-10%	-13%	-14%	-28%	-25%	

- Every elementary school has seen enrollment declines, with the average school experiencing a decline of 25%.
- Palo Alto Unified has 1,417 fewer elementary students than it did in 2014.

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