

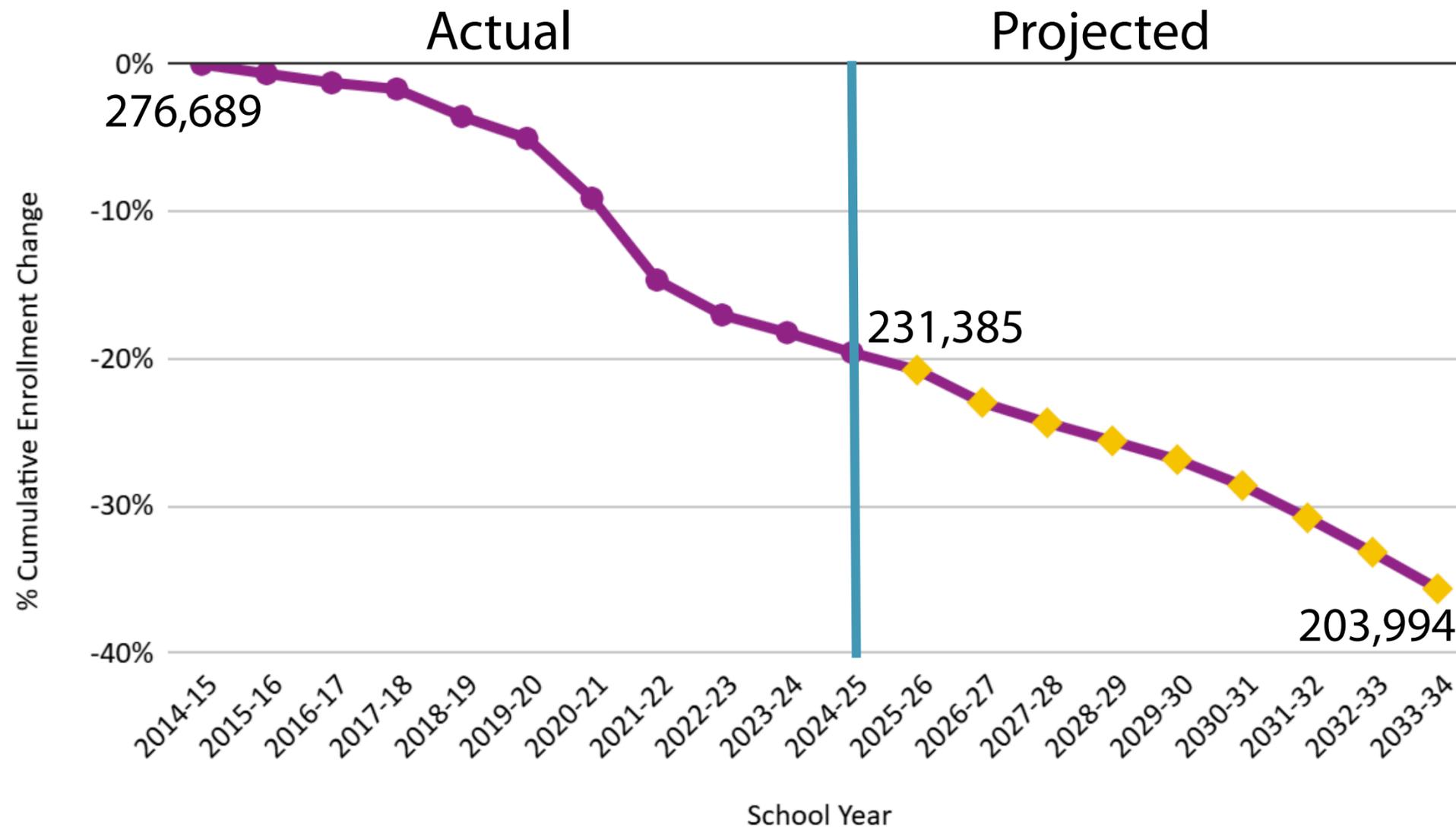


Where Did the Students Go?

Housing & the School Enrollment Crisis

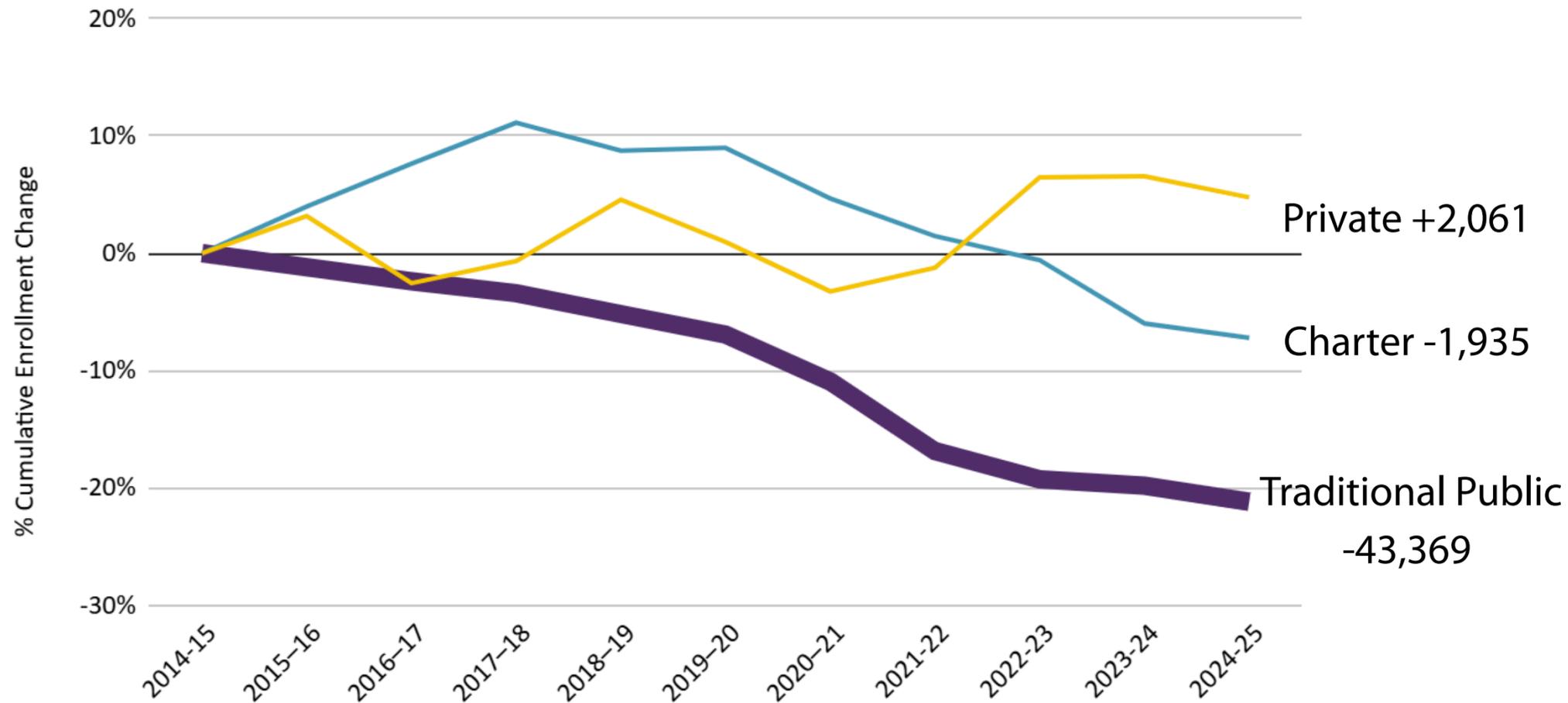
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Santa Clara County Actual & Projected Public School Enrollment



- We have over 45,000 students **fewer** countywide than we did in the 2014-2015 school year
- Enrollment projections from the California Department of Finance show the trend will continue, **if we're not able to make significant changes**, for a 20-year total enrollment decline of 36%, or nearly 73,000 fewer students.

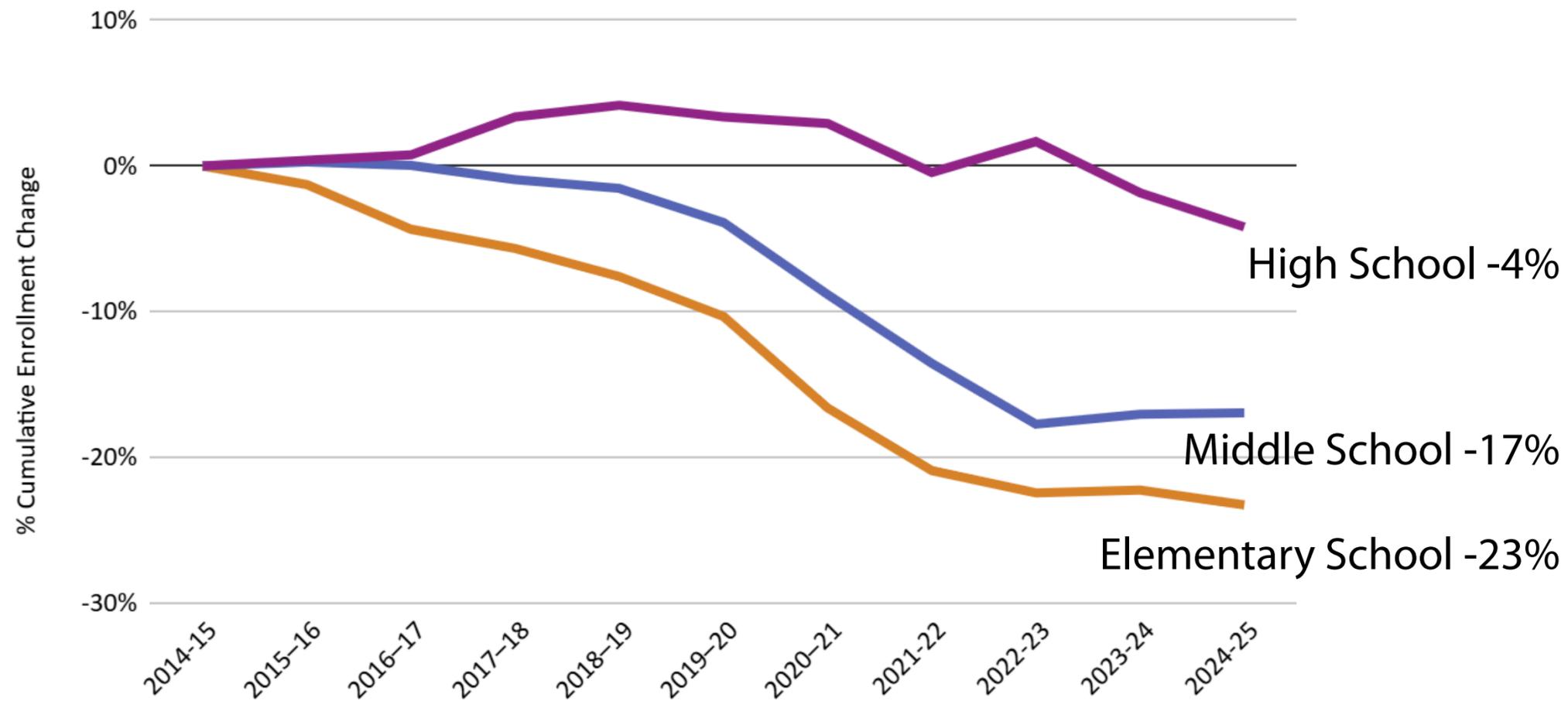
Enrollment is Changing Across All School Types in Santa Clara County



- Students are not moving from traditional public to charter & private schools in significant numbers
- Modest 5% gain in private schools from 2014 to 2025- but only about 2,000 students.
- 2,000 students gone from charter schools, more than 43,000 students from traditional public schools, where most students are enrolled.

Source: California Department of Education Enrollment Multi-Year Summary by Grade & Private School Enrollment by Grade

Enrollment Changes Are Worst for Younger Students



- TK-5th grade has the largest drop in enrollment
- Income pressures are often higher for families with younger children/ earlier careers, leading to more displacement
- A sign of what's to come: as smaller groups of elementary and middle-school aged children move into high school, larger enrollment drops will moving up with them

Source: California Department of Education Enrollment Multi-Year Summary by Grade

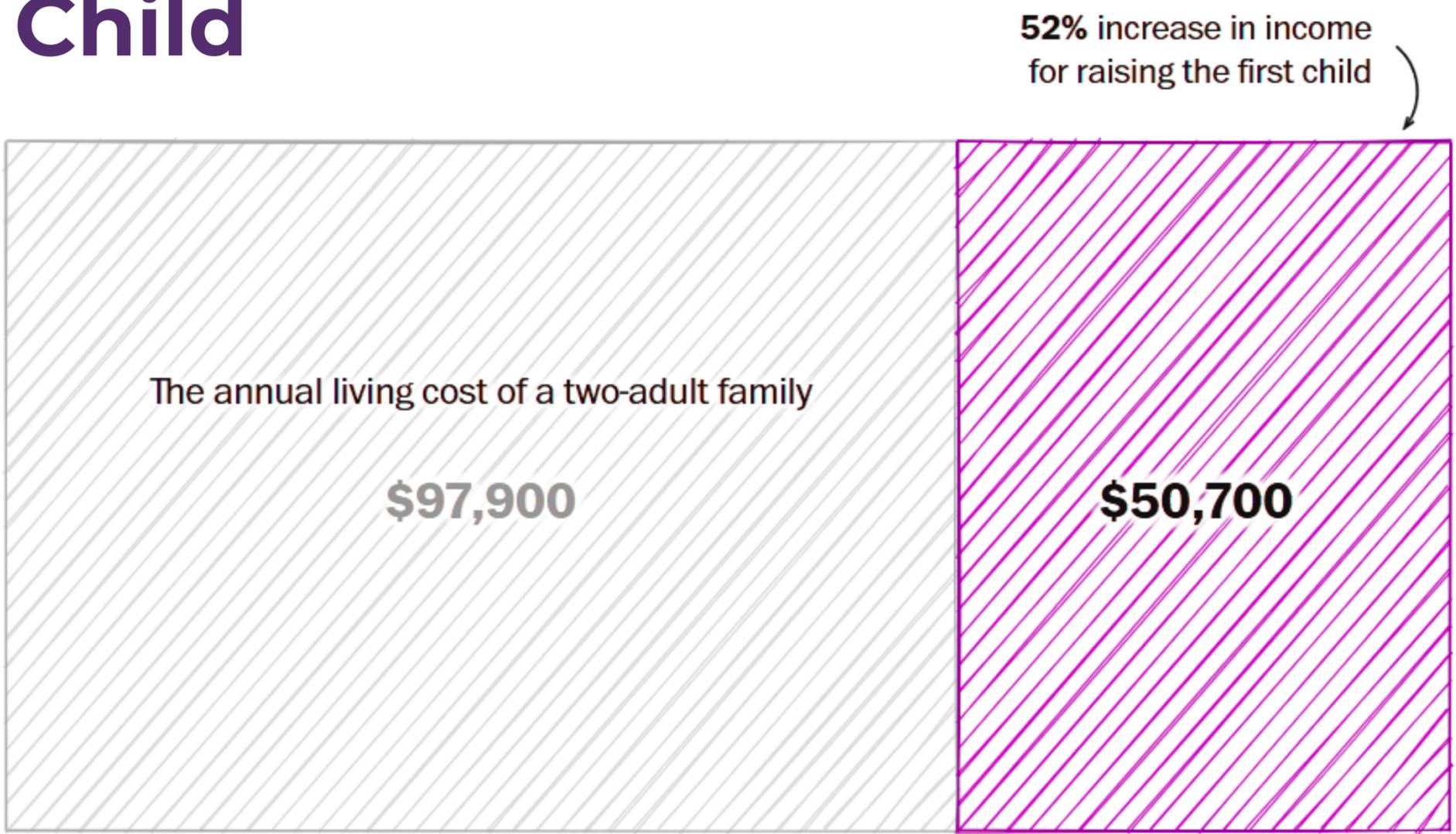
Why Are People **Having Fewer Children?**

- While there are many reasons people might choose not to have kids, 41% of adults ages 18-39 who don't have children say **they can't afford to have a child.**
- **Rising home values are linked to lower birth rates;** they represent the largest component of the cost of raising a child. This leads couples to delay childbearing or have fewer children.
- **Changes in house prices have a larger effect on current period birth rates** than changes in unemployment rates.

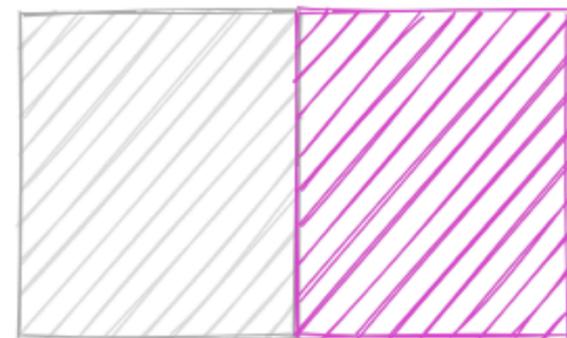


The Cost of Raising a Child

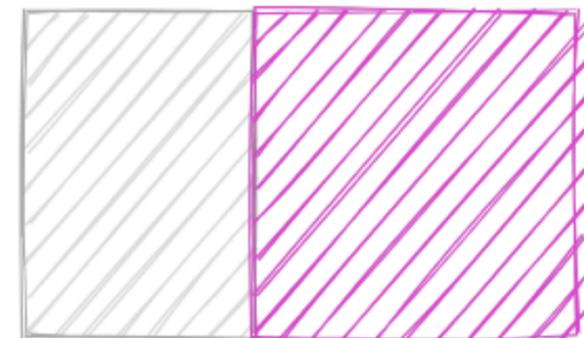
In Santa Clara County, a family of two would need to **increase their income by 52%**, for a total of \$148,600 per year, to maintain their standard of living **after having their first child.**



Raising **two children** requires a **98%** increase in income



Raising **three children** requires a **140%** increase in income



Raising **four children** requires a **157%** increase in income

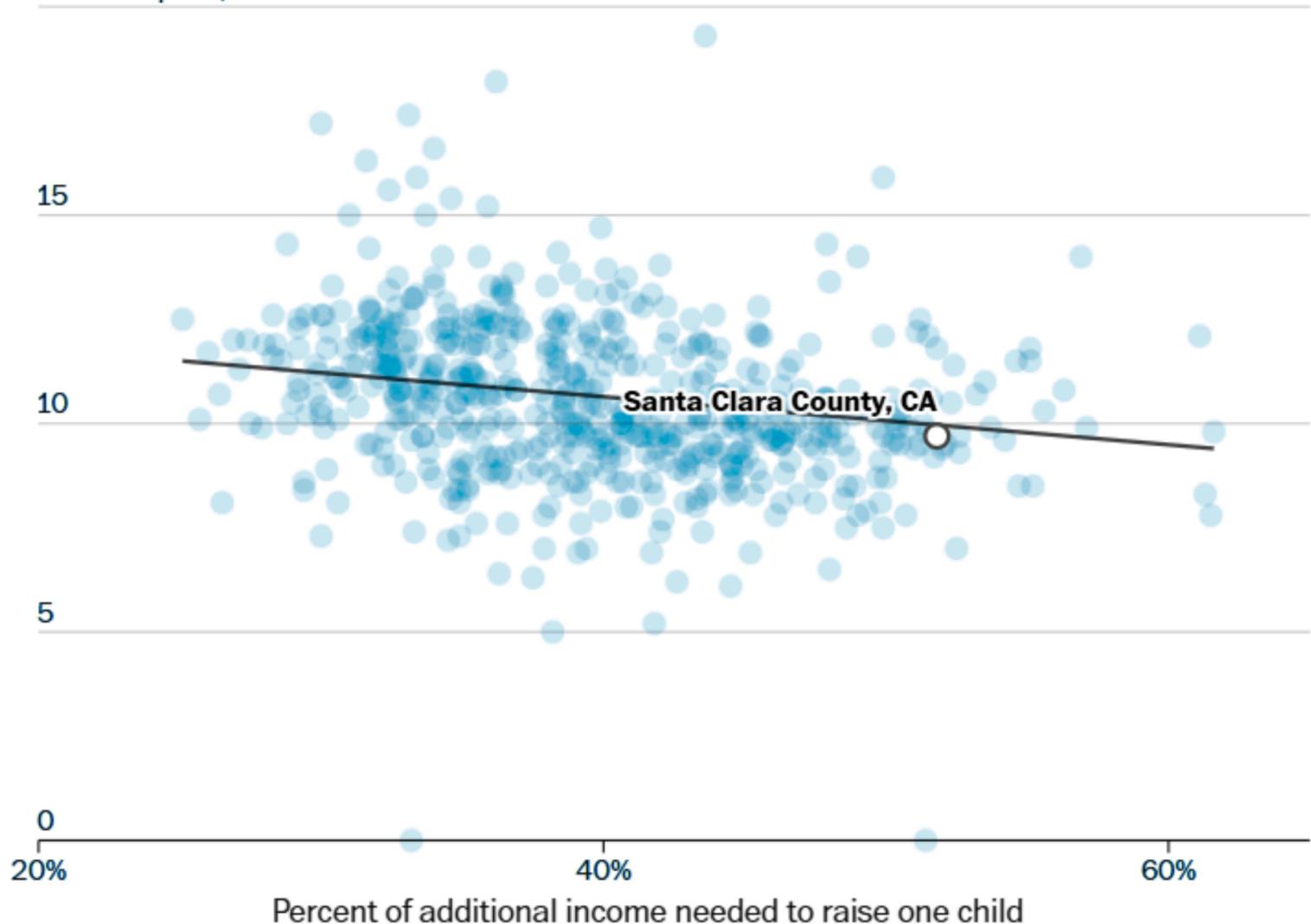


Source: Family Budget Calculator by the Economic Policy Institute

Higher Housing Cost Means Fewer Children Born

Each dot represents one county

20 births per 1,000

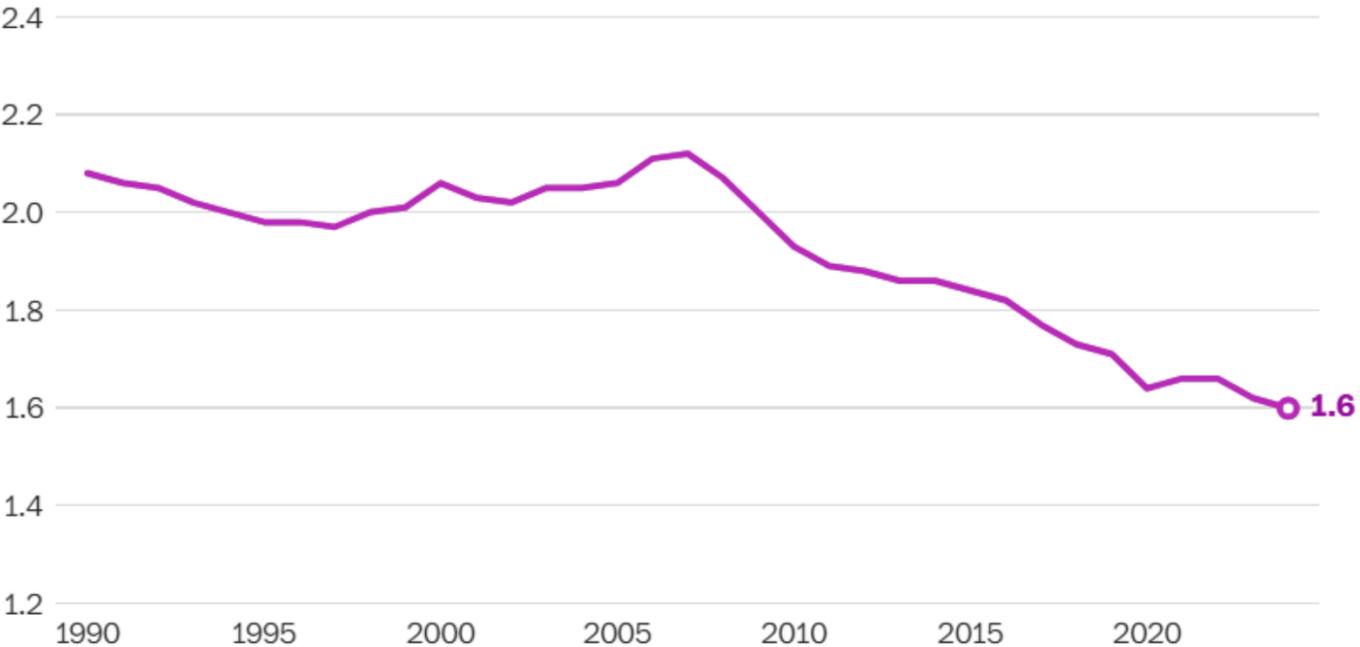


Birth rates are available for counties with populations of more than 100,000. Only 580 counties are shown.
Source: Author's analysis of data from CDC and Economic Policy Institute

Birth rates are lower in areas where raising children takes a bigger share of a family's income.

The U.S. fertility rate reached a record low in 2024

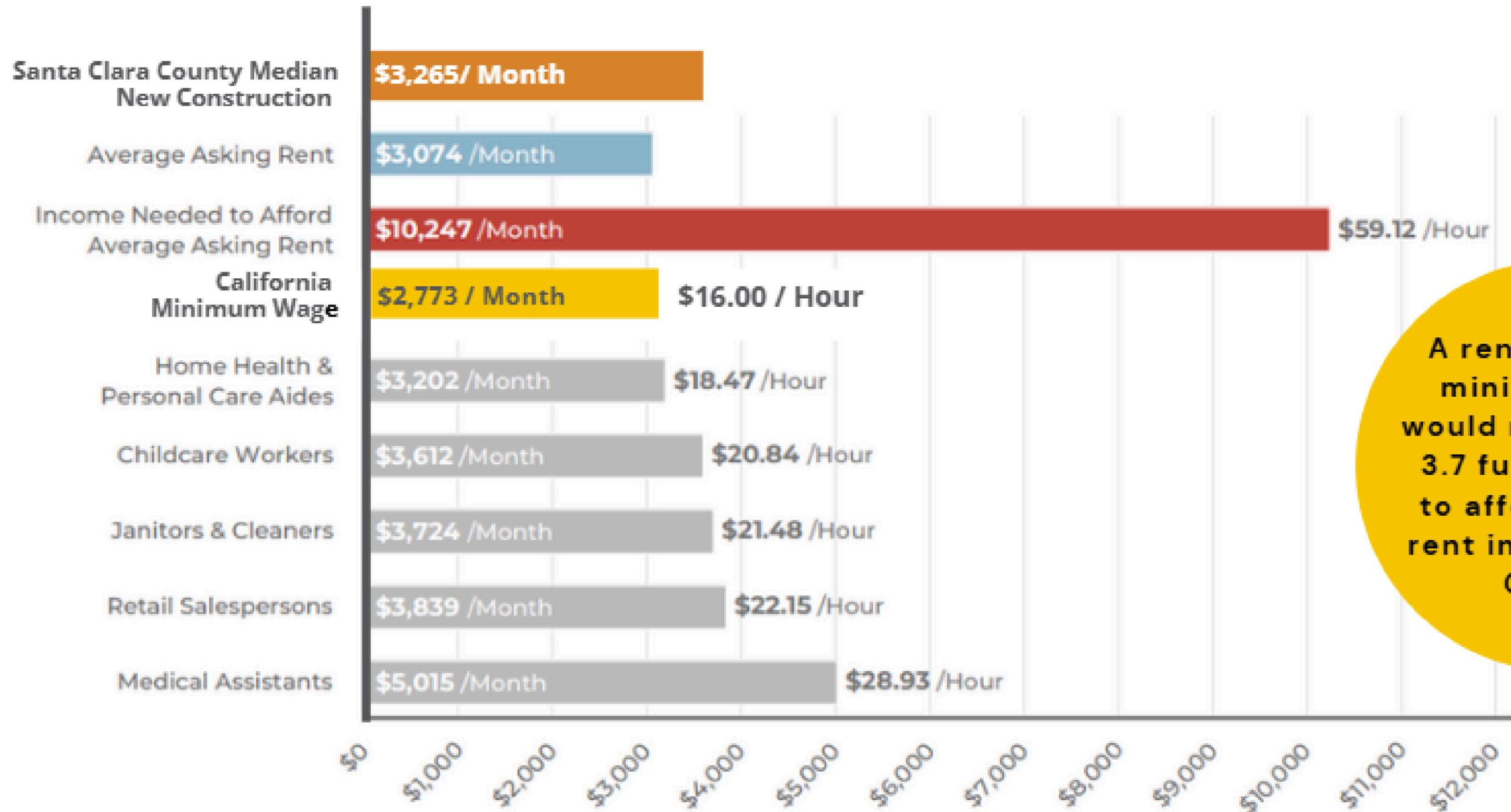
The fertility rate measures the number of children women are expected to have during their lifetime.



Source: National Vital Statistics System, CDC



Who Can Afford to Rent?



A renter earning minimum wage would need to work 3.7 full-time jobs to afford average rent in Santa Clara County

Source: California Housing Partnership's Santa Clara County 2024 Affordable Housing Needs Report



In Almost Every School District Enrollment is Falling

SCC Districts Ranked by Elementary School Enrollment Decline	
	Cumulative 10-Year Change by District
Mount Pleasant Elementary	-47%
Cupertino Union	-44%
Evergreen Elementary	-36%
Franklin-McKinley Elementary	-33%
Alum Rock Union Elementary	-31%
Lakeside Joint	-31%
Los Altos Elementary	-30%
San Jose Unified	-28%
Oak Grove Elementary	-27%
Palo Alto Unified School District	-24%
Luther Burbank	-23%
Berryessa Union Elementary	-23%
Sunnyvale	-21%
Saratoga Union Elementary	-20%
Campbell Union	-19%
Moreland	-19%
Orchard Elementary	-17%
Los Gatos Union Elementary	-15%
Mountain View Whisman	-14%
Santa Clara Unified School District	-14%
Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary	-14%
Morgan Hill Unified	-10%
Union Elementary	-6%
Gilroy Unified School District	-5%
Milpitas Unified	1%
Cambrian	53%
Countywide Cumulative 10-Year Change	-21%



Source: California Department of Education Enrollment Multi-Year Summary by Grade



Impacts on Students of School Closures

- Lower test scores
- Worse attendance
- Behavioral problems
- Less likely to graduate from college
- Lower earnings as a young adult
- Disruption of support processes

Housing is Critical for the **Wellbeing of Children & Schools**

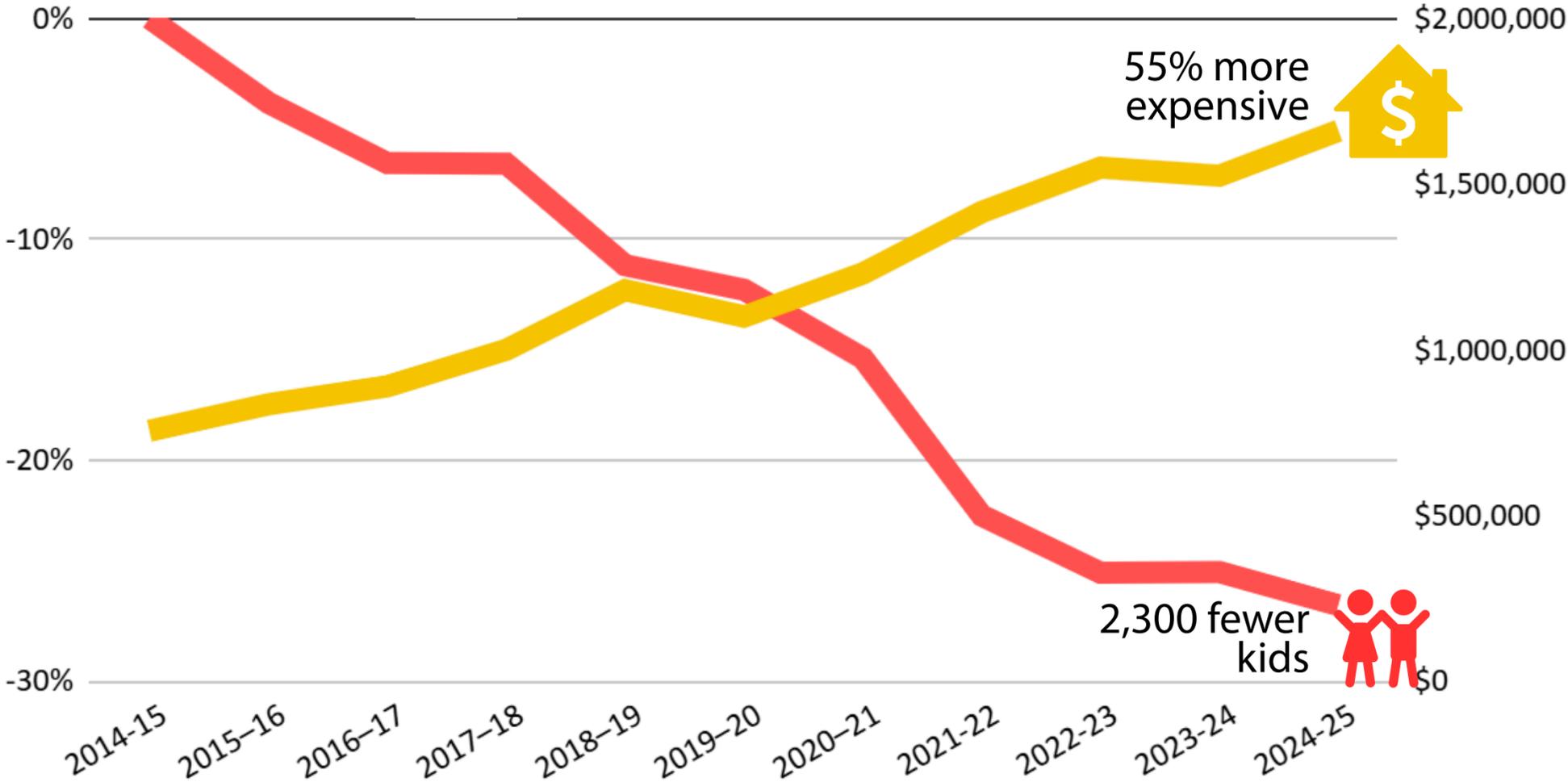
Safe, stable, healthy, and affordable housing **sets kids up for learning**, and allows schools to **focus on what they do best.**

Strong, supported schools with the resources they need can be **anchors for communities** during the school day and outside of it.



Oak Grove School District's Elementary Enrollment Falls as Home Prices Rise

Oak Grove TK-5th Grade Cumulative Enrollment Change



Enrollment has fallen 27% over the last 11 years.

Median home prices in San Jose have soared by 55% over that same time to \$1,660,888.

Source: California Department of Education Enrollment Multi-Year Summary by Grade, Santa Clara County Association of Realtors Year-End Data

Oak Grove School District's **Elementary School Enrollment is Falling**

Changes in Elementary School Enrollment in Oak Grove School District												
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Cumulative 10-Year Change by School
Anderson (Alex) Elementary	453	456	553	589	514	544	537	656	478	490	492	9%
Baldwin (Julia) Elementary	396	384	374	379	485	467	478	450	447	478	425	7%
Christopher Elementary	463	439	409	404	375	383	382	372	415	423	446	-4%
Del Robles Elementary	507	460	416	422	556	527	533	503	470	461	420	-17%
Edenvale Elementary	566	510	483	467	485	469	422	397	367	354	357	-37%
Frost (Earl) Elementary	666	652	683	671	638	668	644	291	295	302	313	-53%
Glider Elementary	668	615	619	620	0	CLOSED						
Hayes Elementary	517	474	413	401	592	555	508	491	477	460	470	-9%
Ledesma (Rita) Elementary	490	482	446	451	494	504	511	464	463	452	426	-13%
George Miner Elementary	466	474	451	437	0	CLOSED						
Oak Ridge Elementary	534	512	491	474	551	547	525	476	508	508	495	-7%
Parkview Elementary	603	567	563	557	579	578	577	571	609	587	549	-9%
Sakamoto Elementary	595	598	562	558	639	611	593	545	525	574	571	-4%
Santa Teresa Elementary	646	620	616	635	623	615	561	539	527	515	542	-16%
Stipe (Samuel) Elementary	380	394	346	337	423	400	372	348	330	316	310	-18%
Taylor (Bertha) Elementary	647	632	609	630	683	673	632	559	529	522	497	-23%
Total Enrollment	8597	8269	8034	8032	7637	7541	7275	6662	6440	6442	6313	
Annual Change		-4%	-3%	0%	-5%	-1%	-4%	-8%	-3%	0%	-2%	
Districtwide Cumulative 10-Year Change		-4%	-7%	-7%	-11%	-12%	-15%	-23%	-25%	-25%	-27%	-27%

Source: California Department of Education Enrollment Multi-Year Summary by Grade

All but two of Oak Grove's elementary schools have **suffered enrollment declines** over the last 11 years, with a district-wide **loss of almost 2,300 elementary students** and **two painful school closures** over that period.



References

Why Are People Having Fewer Children? (p. 5)

- <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0047272713001904#:~:text=Recognizing%20that%20housing%20is%20a,do%20changes%20in%20unemployment%20rates.>
- <https://www.nber.org/digest/feb12/impact-real-estate-market-fertility?page=1&perPage=50>
- <https://ifstudies.org/report-brief/homes-for-young-families-a-pro-family-housing-agenda>
- <https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2024/07/25/reasons-adults-give-for-not-having-children/>

The Cost of Raising a Child (p. 6)

- <https://www.epi.org/resources/budget/>

Higher Housing Cost Means Fewer Children Born (p. 7)

- <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/interactive/2025/trump-baby-boom-birth-rate-declining/>

Impacts on Students of School Closures (p. 10)

- <https://edworkingpapers.com/sites/default/files/ai24-963.pdf>
- <https://www.americanbar.org/groups/litigation/resources/newsletters/childrens-rights/school-closings-challenges-students-communities-litigators/>

Housing is Critical for the Wellbeing of Children & Schools (p. 11)

- <https://shelterforce.org/2024/11/11/the-housing-education-intersection/>

A woman with dark curly hair and glasses is smiling and hugging a young girl with long dark hair. They are outdoors in a grassy area with a building and trees in the background. The woman is wearing a colorful patterned sleeveless top, and the girl is wearing a red top.

QUESTIONS?

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