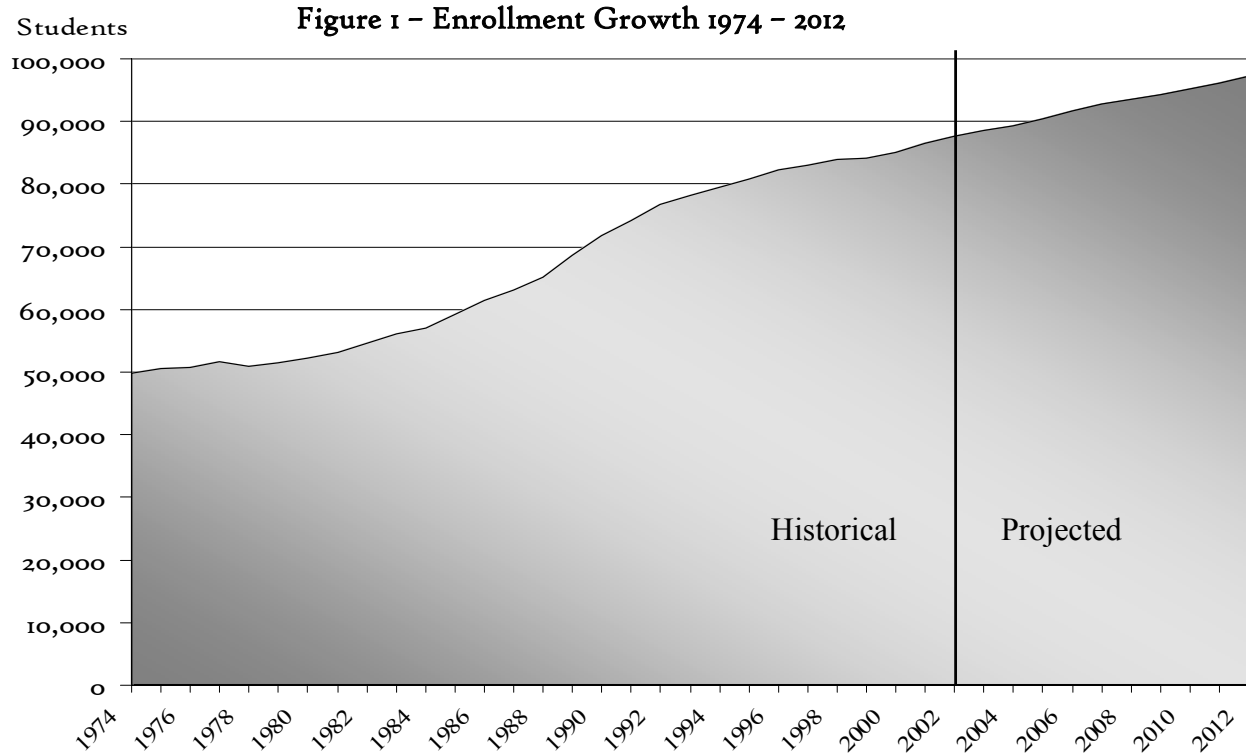


Public School Enrollment Projections for Tulare County

The 2003 Department of Finance school enrollment projections detail public school enrollment levels for grades K-12 for the period from 1974 to 2012. This release covers enrollment within Tulare County and shows some comparisons to other counties.



All enrollment figures shown in the chart above and detailed in the chart below are at a county-wide level only. Sub county figures are difficult to project due to a variety of factors. Those factors include but are not limited to: school construction, neighborhood development, and localized socio-economic differences.

Figure 2 – Enrollment Growth for all grades 1992 – 2002 – 2012

GRADE LEVEL	1992 Actual Enrollment	% Increase from 1992	2002 Actual Enrollment	Projected Increase	2012 Projected Enrollment
Kindergarten	6,846	4.2%	7,135	12.5%	8,024
Grade 1	6,822	4.7%	7,144	11.9%	7,992
Grade 2	6,550	6.0%	6,943	12.2%	7,789
Grade 3	6,615	6.0%	7,009	10.8%	7,767
Grade 4	6,478	9.7%	7,104	9.1%	7,751
Grade 5	6,402	9.6%	7,019	9.7%	7,701
Grade 6	6,298	12.4%	7,081	7.7%	7,628
Grade 7	6,040	18.6%	7,166	7.5%	7,702
Grade 8	5,646	19.3%	6,738	6.8%	7,194
Grade 9	5,525	15.1%	6,362	13.3%	7,208
Grade 10	5,141	22.6%	6,303	13.8%	7,173
Grade 11	4,529	33.5%	6,044	15.7%	6,990
Grade 12	3,822	48.5%	5,675	12.8%	6,399

KEY POINTS FROM THE PROJECTIONS

Historical Trends in School Enrollment

- School enrollment rates were stable during the 1970's among all grade levels.
- Kindergarten enrollment in Tulare County experienced significant growth during the 1980's. This growth leveled off during the 1990's before trending upwards from 1999 onward.
- By 1992, all grades had experienced an "enrollment bulge".
- In the last few years, the highest enrollment growth has occurred in the high school grades, increasing by average of 28% in 10 years, as the last of the 1980's era "enrollment bulge" matured. Over the last 28 years, high school enrollment has increased by 78%.
- Factors behind the increased enrollments in the 1980's were:
 - Baby boom "echo" - The generation born 1945 to 1964 reached their peak reproductive years resulting in an above average number of births.
 - Immigration of school age individuals from Latin America and Asia added significant numbers of students to the school systems
- By the 1990's overall enrollment growth slowed as the "Baby Boom" generation passed out of their reproductive years.
- Most enrollment growth during that decade was due to continued immigration and a growing number of children borne to the earlier arriving immigrants.

Anticipated Future Enrollment Changes

- Continued immigration and an increase in the birth rates will be the driving force behind renewed enrollment growth. In the coming decade, an increasing number of women in Tulare County will reach child bearing ages, resulting in more births.
- Public school enrollment is now predominately Hispanic. According to Census2000 figures, 61% of all Tulare County students were Hispanic while 29% were White. Continued immigration from Latin America and a growing number of their children entering their reproductive years combined with a White population declining in overall numbers will further accentuate this trend in the coming decade.
- Growth rates for elementary aged children will begin to increase again, a trend already discernable in Kindergarten enrollments from 2000 to 2002.
- After a few years, the renewed growth in enrollment will be observed in the middle grades.
- High school enrollments will likely level off between 2003 and 2006 as the last of the "Baby Boom Echo" cohort leaves the public school systems.
- High school enrollments could likely begin to increase again in the years beyond the conclusion of this projection as the latest new enrollment cohort matures.

All historical and projected data courtesy of the California Department of Finance.

Complete Tulare County projection data, including charts, state rankings and additional tables can be downloaded from www.tularecog.org Census page.