District Enrollment Projection Study Summary

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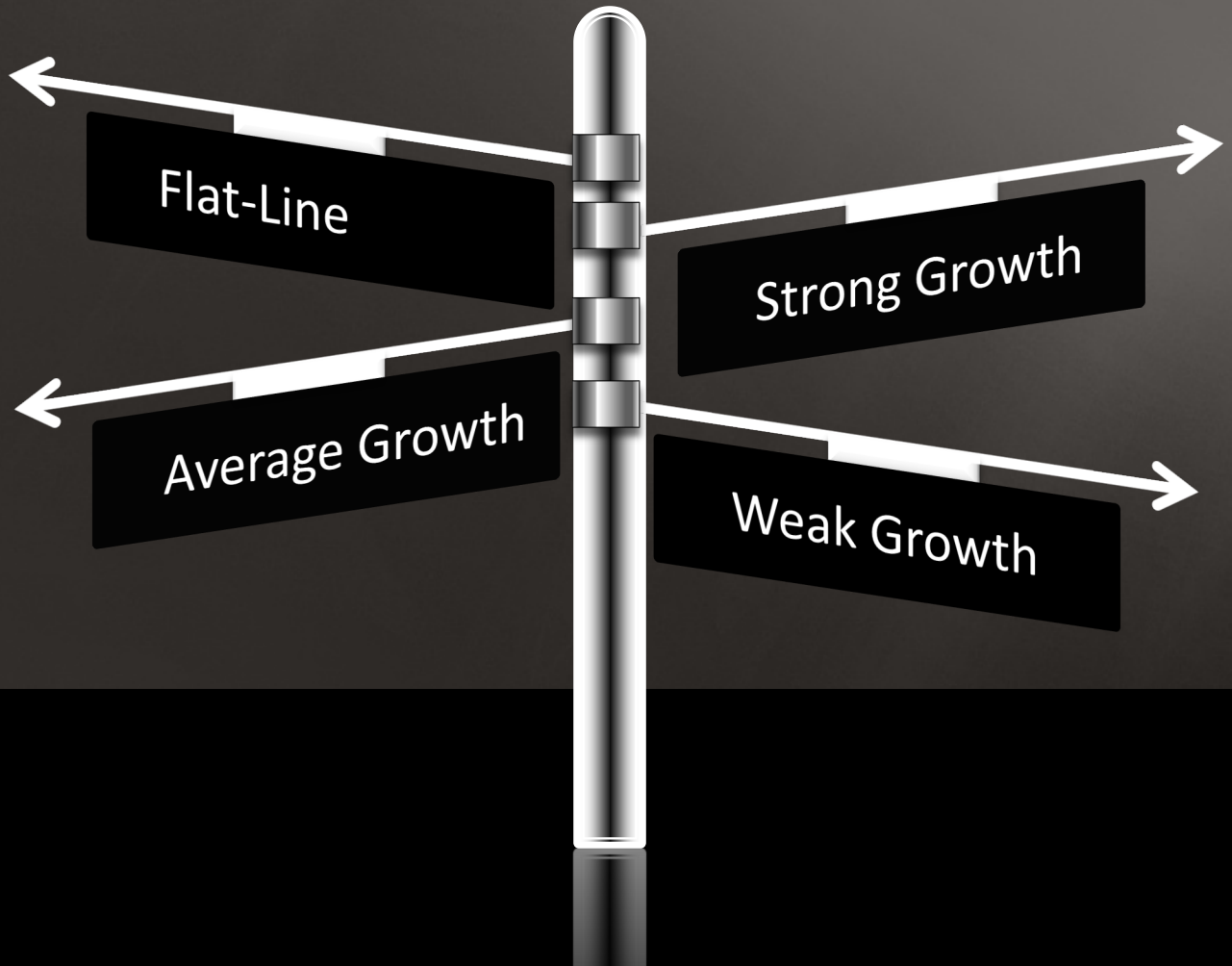
Data Used

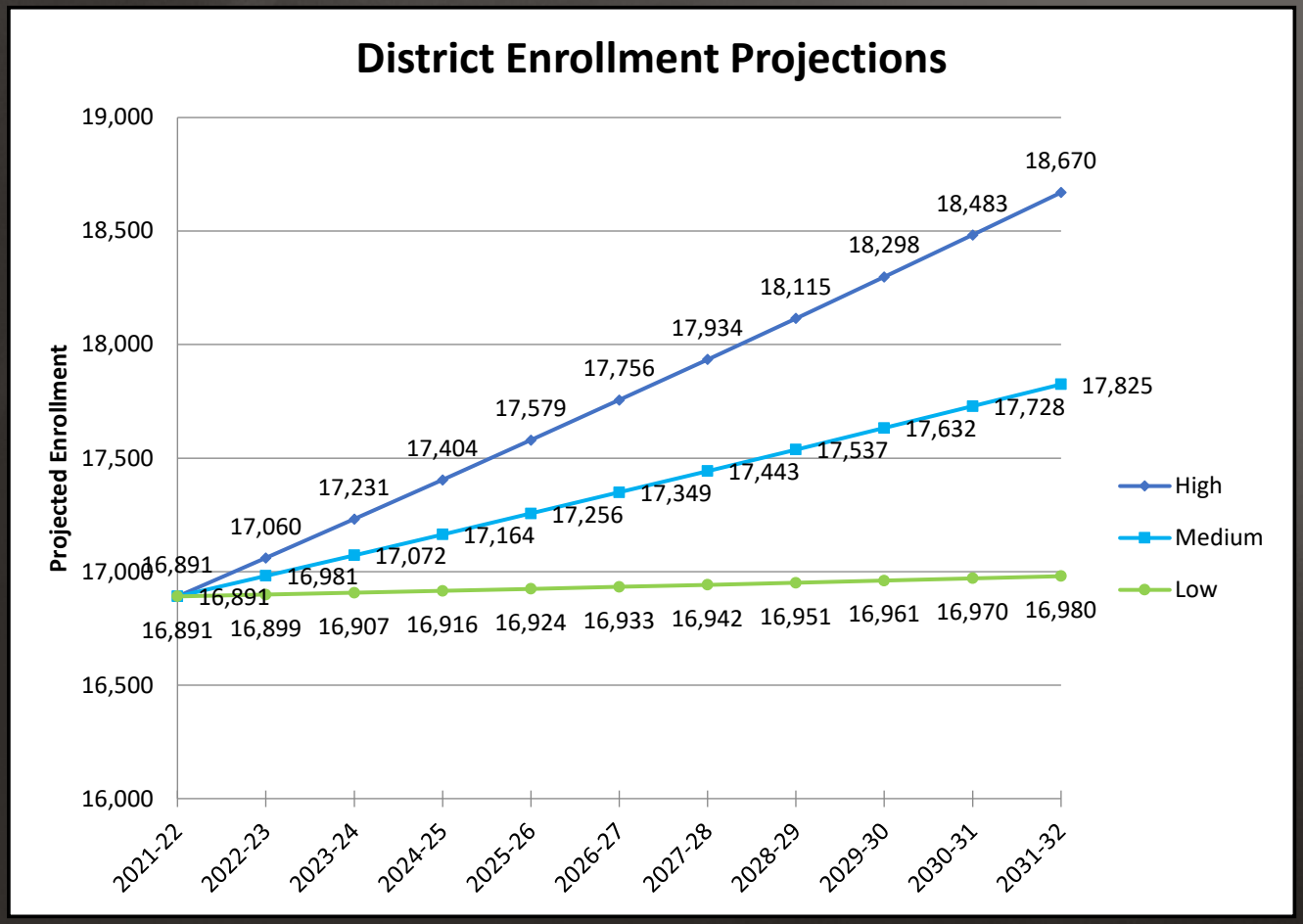
- 3 demographic vendor data databases.
- Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
- Alaska Department of Education & Early Development
- Mat-Su Borough Information Technology Department
- Mat-Su Borough Planning & Land Use Department
- Mat-Su Borough Assessment Department
- Alaska Department of Revenue
- US Department of Census, Building Permit Database
- Interviews with private school administrators
- Online K-12 ranking services
- National Center for Educational Statistics
- IRS, Social Security Administration
- US Bureau of Labor Statistics
- 1990, 2000, 2010 US Census
- American Community Survey, 2019

Four different paths

Your district is at a crossroads and has been for about five years. No declining enrollment in the mix.



Key Findings



Our predictions show three very different models—a 5.5% growth in mid-range, 10.5% in the upper range and 0.5% growth in the low range,

This is for K-12 enrollment, excluding charter schools.

Weighing options : Strong Positives

- Number of Childbearing-Age Women to Increase
- Number of Under-5-Year-Old Children to Increase
- Good overall population growth

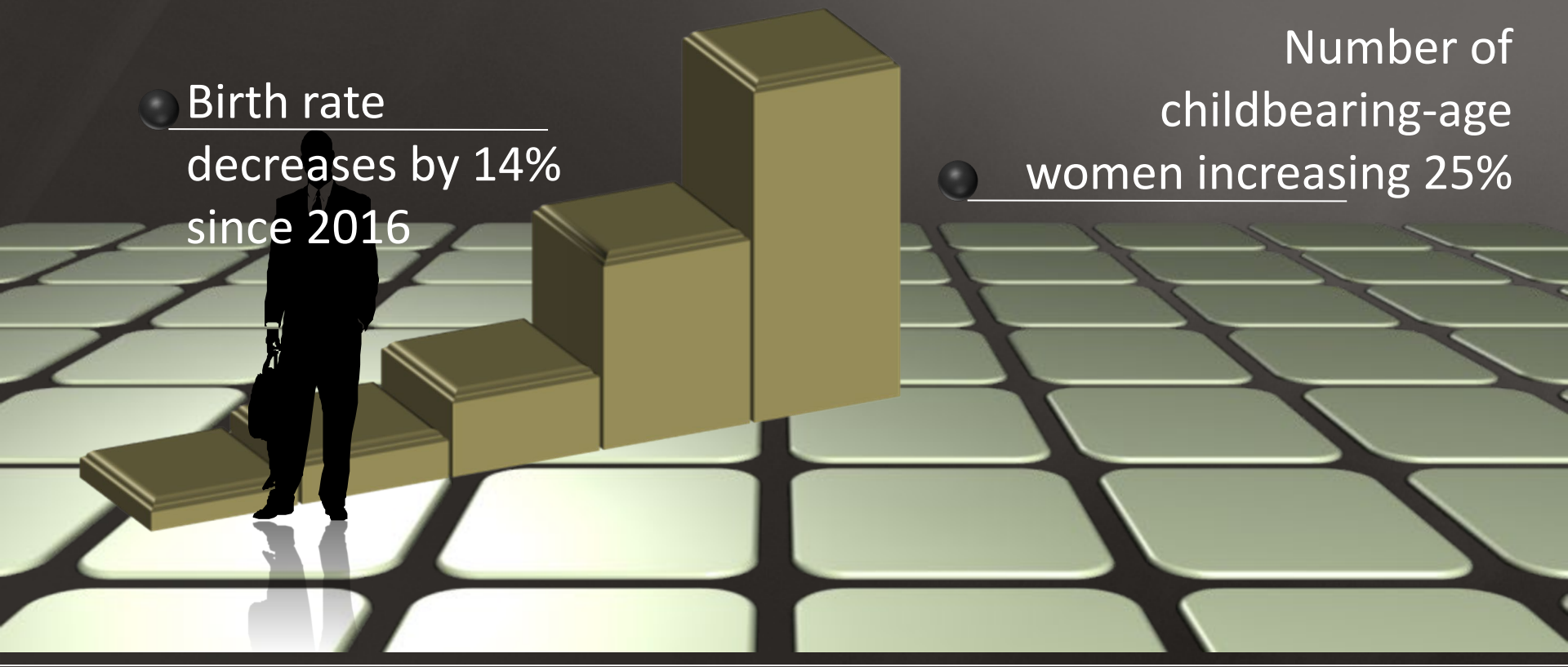
Weighing options : Strong Negatives

- No change in Avg HH Size
- Slower increase in number of school-age children
- Over 70 year old population increasing **6 times** as fast as school-age population
- Births decrease

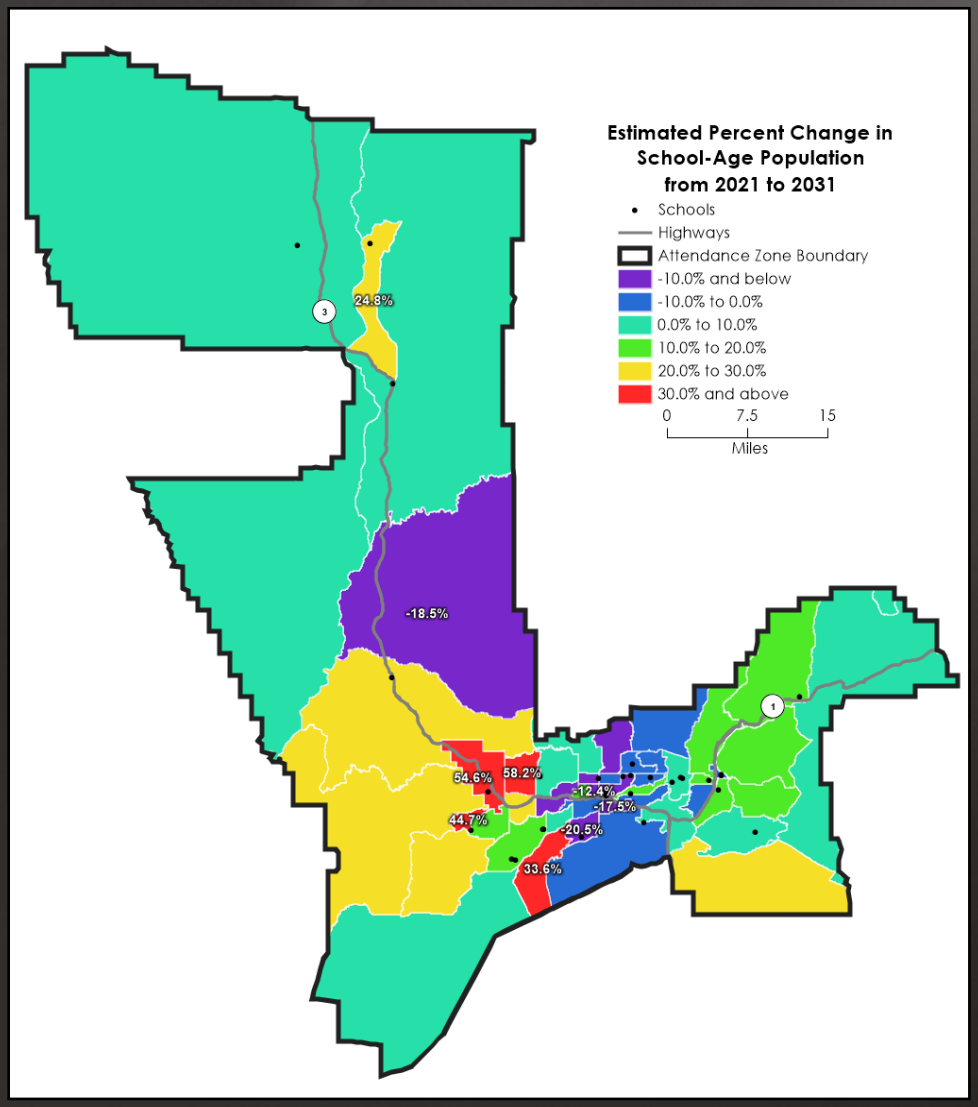
Key Findings

Reasons for enrollment patterns

- Under 5 year-old children to increase 36.5%
- Birth rate decreases by 14% since 2016
- Number of childbearing-age women increasing 25%



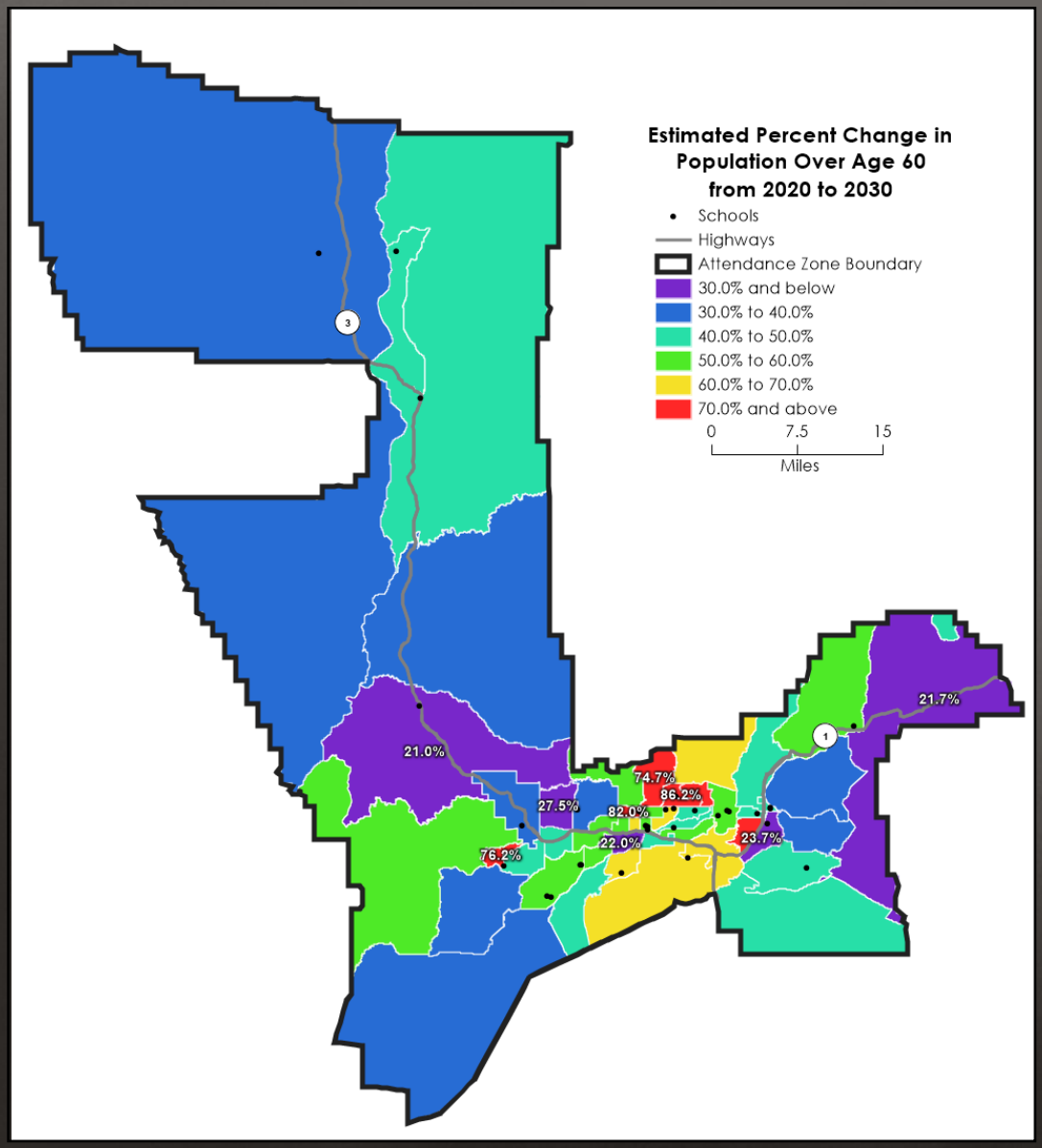
Where will the growth occur?



- The red areas in the district will increase by more than 30% during the next 10 years.

Findings

Persons older than 70 years old is expected to increase by more than 113% during the next decade in the district. More than 10,600 added to the district. This is more than 6 times the expected increase in the number of school-age children.



Numbers Showing the Growth

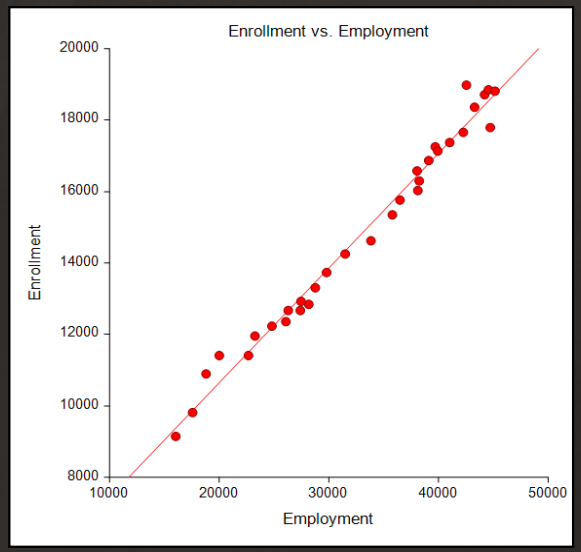
District Totals (Including Charter School Enrollments)						
District	**2021-22**	**2022-23**	**2023-24**	**2024-25**	**2025-26**	**2026-27**
High	18,806	18,975	19,146	19,319	19,494	19,670
Medium	18,806	18,896	18,987	19,079	19,171	19,264
Low	18,806	18,814	18,822	18,830	18,839	18,848

District Totals (Including Charter School Enrollments)					
District	**2027-28**	**2028-29**	**2029-30**	**2030-31**	**2031-32**
High	19,849	20,030	20,213	20,397	20,584
Medium	19,358	19,452	19,547	19,643	19,740
Low	18,857	18,866	18,876	18,885	18,895

Note: For the projection analysis, these numbers are K-12.

Key Findings
New Jobs = New Enrollment

For every 2.7 new jobs in the Mat-Su Area = 1 new student

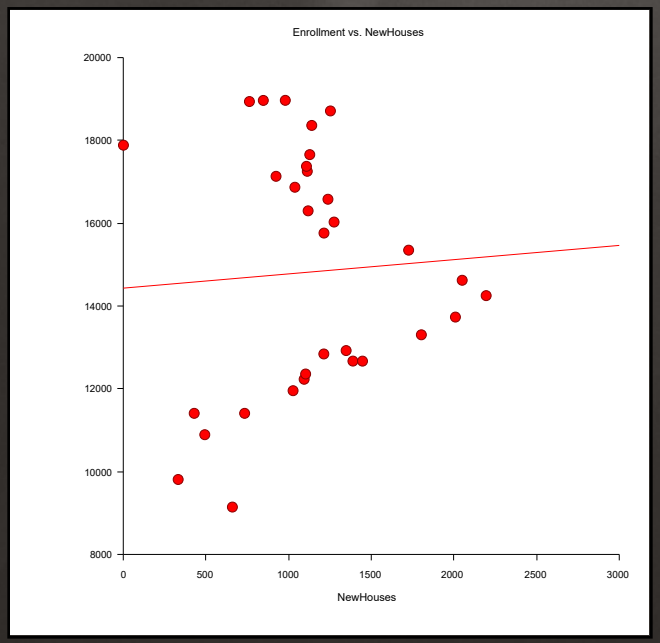


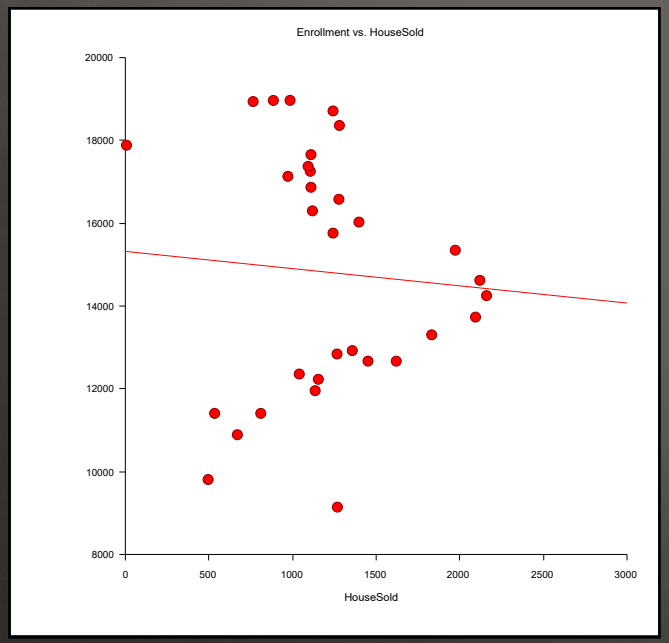
Comparison of Mat-Su Area Employment, and Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District Enrollment (1990-2021)					
Year	Matanuska-Susitna Area Employment (Sept of each year)	Actual K-12 Enrollment (Sept of each year)	Predicted K-12 Enrollment	Variance	%
1990	16,037	9,144	9,370	-226	-2.5%
1991	17,574	9,810	9,864	-54	-0.6%
1992	18,804	10,892	10,259	633	5.8%
1993	20,004	11,408	10,644	764	6.7%
1994	22,666	11,408	11,499	-91	-0.8%
1995	23,259	11,955	11,689	266	2.2%
1996	24,809	12,231	12,187	44	0.4%
1997	26,081	12,358	12,596	-238	-1.9%
1998	27,395	12,670	13,018	-348	-2.7%
1999	28,171	12,842	13,267	-425	-3.3%
2000	26,299	12,669	12,666	3	0.0%
2001	27,466	12,924	13,040	-116	-0.9%
2002	28,763	13,305	13,457	-152	-1.1%
2003	29,793	13,733	13,788	-55	-0.4%
2004	31,492	14,251	14,333	-82	-0.6%
2005	33,838	14,622	15,086	-464	-3.2%
2006	35,793	15,349	15,714	-365	-2.4%
2007	36,487	15,762	15,937	-175	-1.1%
2008	38,112	16,028	16,459	-431	-2.7%
2009	38,242	16,299	16,501	-202	-1.2%
2010	38,048	16,579	16,438	141	0.8%
2011	39,110	16,869	16,779	90	0.5%
2012	39,706	17,254	16,971	283	1.6%
2013	39,934	17,133	17,044	89	0.5%
2014	41,024	17,374	17,394	-20	-0.1%
2015	42,264	17,657	17,792	-135	-0.8%
2016	43,288	18,362	18,121	241	1.3%
2017	44,204	18,712	18,415	297	1.6%
2018	44,553	18,966	18,527	439	2.3%
2019	45,146	18,968	18,717	251	1.3%
2020	42,547	18,939	17,883	1,056	5.6%
2021	44,719	17,885	18,580	-695	-3.9%
2022		18,806			

Predictability of enrollment vs. jobs: 98.39%

Correlation: 99.19%

New Residential Development





Is there a strong statistical relationship between new development and new enrollment?

The is NO statistical relationship whatsoever.

Students Linked to Houses

We were able to match nearly all of the students' addresses to a parcel. We estimate that 37% of the students live in rental housing.

We also estimate that only 5 percent of the students live in housing built since 2018.

Year Houses were Built, based on Assessor Data

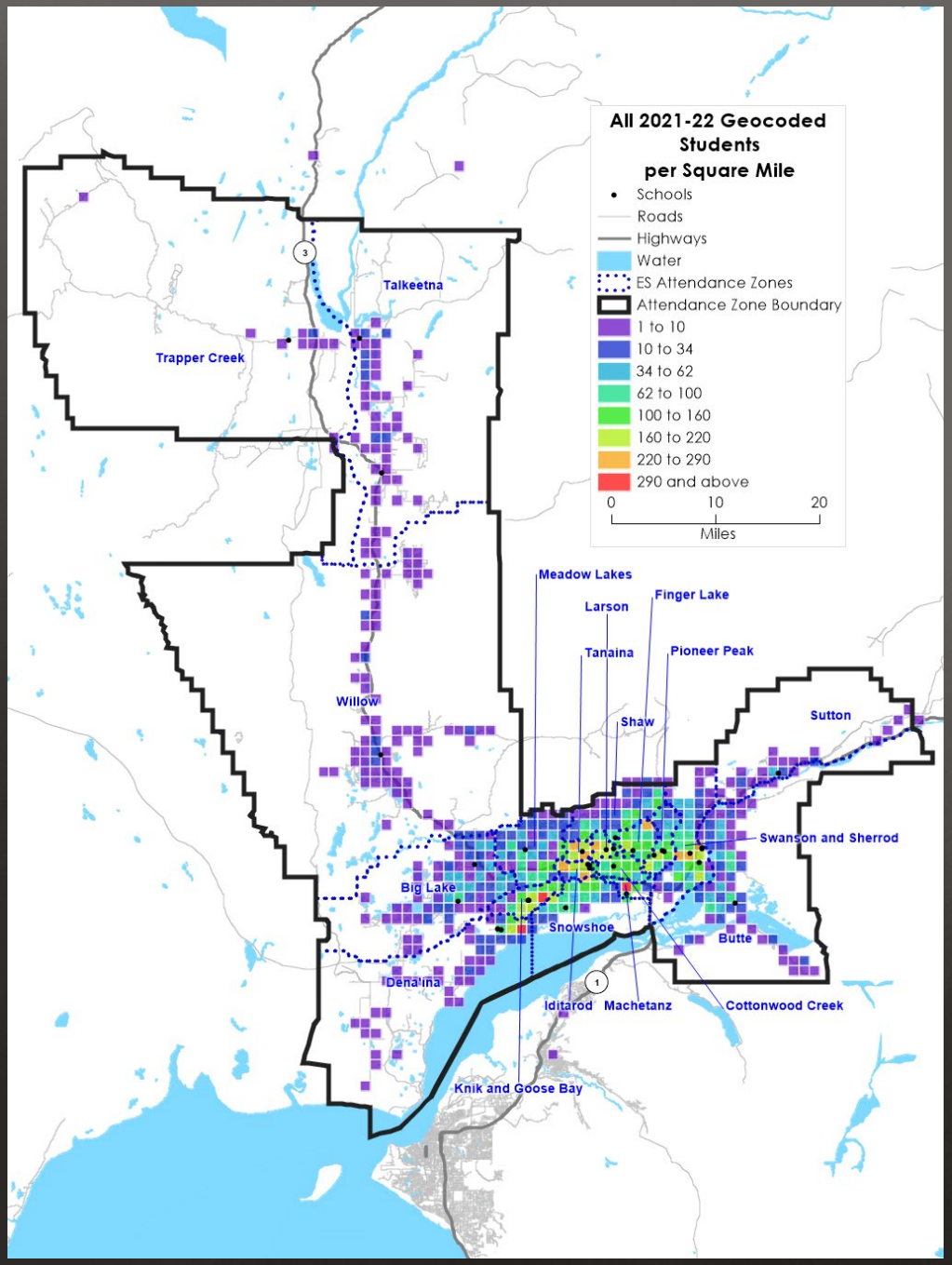
	Household with Students	
Year Built	Number	Percentage
Before 1900	0	0.0%
1900-1910	0	0.0%
1911-1920	0	0.0%
1921-1930	1	0.0%
1931-1940	16	0.1%
1941-1950	75	0.4%
1951-1960	133	0.8%
1961-1970	217	1.3%
1971-1980	1304	7.6%
1981-1985	2748	15.9%
1986-1990	348	2.0%
1991-1995	587	3.4%
1996-2000	1685	9.8%
2001	490	2.8%
2002	530	3.1%
2003	749	4.3%
2004	883	5.1%
2005	931	5.4%
2006	684	4.0%
2007	496	2.9%
2008	383	2.2%
2009	391	2.3%
2010	402	2.3%
2011	342	2.0%
2012	469	2.7%
2013	425	2.5%
2014	611	3.5%
2015	526	3.1%
2016	458	2.7%
2017	519	3.0%
2018	369	2.1%
2019	311	1.8%
2020	152	0.9%
2021	0	0.0%
Blank	0	0.0%
Not Assigned	0	0.0%
Grand Total	**17235**	**100.0%**

Property Ownership

	Number of Students	Percent
No	7,074	37.2%
Yes	11,922	62.7%
(blank)	7	0.0%
Grand Total	19,003	100.0%

Findings

The distribution of students in the district is generally very sparse and scattered.



Current Elementary Capacity

			Gross Square Footage Calculation Method			
SCHOOL	Grade Levels	2021-22 Enrollment	Gross Building Area (sq.ft.)	Maximum Number of Sq. Foot per Student	Maximum Number of Students Possible	Utilization (Method B, %)
Big Lake Elementary School	PK-5	332	57,240	110	520	64%
Butte Elementary School	PK-5	243	49,550	110	450	54%
Cottonwood Creek Elementary	PK-5	398	49,550	110	450	88%
Dena'ina Elementary	K-5	385	46,010	110	418	92%
Finger Lake Elementary	PK-5	370	53,457	110	486	76%
Fred and Sara Machetanz Elementary School	PK-5	447	52,000	110	473	95%
Goose Bay Elementary School	PK-2	284	53,457	110	486	58%
Iditarod Elementary School	K-5	368	50,607	110	460	80%
John Shaw Elementary	K-5	497	54,300	110	494	101%
Knik Elementary School	3-5	264	51,533	110	494	53%
Larson Elementary	PK-5	375	54,378	110	494	76%
Meadow Lakes Elementary	PK-5	260	54,378	110	494	53%
Old Sherrod Elementary			46,272	110	421	0%
Pioneer Peak Elementary	PK-5	495	48,944	110	445	111%
Sherrod Elementary	3-5	372	54,700	110	497	75%
Snowshoe Elementary School	K-5	318	49,550	110	450	71%
Sutton Elementary School	K-5	45	25,414	110	231	19%
Swanson Elementary School	K-5	396	51,335	110	467	85%
Talkeetna Elementary School	K-5	85	28,125	110	256	33%
Tanaina Elementary School	PK-5	344	53,457	110	486	71%
Trapper Creek Elementary School	K-5	17	16,080	110	146	12%
Willow Elementary School	K-5	125	33,797	110	307	41%
TOTAL		**6,420**	**1,034,134**		**9,427**	**68%**

Not much of a problem here. Could rebalance the enrollment a bit, but the open enrollment across the district makes redrawing boundary lines difficult.

Current Middle School Capacity

			Gross Square Footage Calculation Method			
SCHOOL	Grade Levels	2021-22 Enrollment	Gross Building Area (sq.ft.)	Maximum Number of Sq. Foot per Student	Maximum Number of Students Possible	Utilization (Method B, %)
Colony Middle School	6-8	703	120,000	135	889	79%
Palmer Middle School	6-8	557	128,452	135	951	59%
Teeland Middle School	6-8	773	135,000	135	1,000	77%
Wasilla Middle School	6-8	606	124,809	135	925	66%
TOTAL		**2,639**	**508,261**		**3,765**	**70%**

No issues here. Plenty of capacity available.

Current High School Capacity

			Gross Square Footage Calculation Method			
SCHOOL	Grade Levels	2021-22 Enrollment	Gross Building Area (sq.ft.)	Maximum Number of Sq. Foot per Student	Maximum Number of Students Possible	Utilization (Method B, %)
Colony Senior High School	9-12	1,146	194,000	160	1,213	95%
Houston Jr/Sr High School	6-12	684	88,240	147.5	552	124%
Palmer High School	9-12	738	196,606	160	1,229	60%
Redington Jr Sr High	6-12	574	95,000	147.5	644	89%
Susitna Valley High	6-12	208	50,578	147.5	343	61%
Wasilla High School	9-12	817	200,326	160	1,252	65%
TOTAL		**4,167**	**824,750**		**5,232**	**80%**

2031 Elementary Capacity

			Gross Square Footage Calculation Method			
SCHOOL	Grade Levels	2031-32 Enrollment	Gross Building Area (sq.ft.)	Maximum Number of Sq. Foot per Student	Maximum Number of Students Possible	Utilization (Method B, %)
Big Lake Elementary School	PK-5	341	57,240	110	520	66%
Butte Elementary School	PK-5	282	49,550	110	450	63%
Cottonwood Creek Elementary	PK-5	425	49,550	110	450	94%
Dena'ina Elementary	K-5	414	46,010	110	418	99%
Finger Lake Elementary	PK-5	351	53,457	110	486	72%
Fred and Sara Machetanz Elementary School	PK-5	446	52,000	110	473	94%
Goose Bay Elementary School	PK-2	293	53,457	110	486	60%
Iditarod Elementary School	K-5	407	50,607	110	460	88%
John Shaw Elementary	K-5	485	54,300	110	494	98%
Knik Elementary School	3-5	327	51,533	110	494	66%
Larson Elementary	PK-5	379	54,378	110	494	77%
Meadow Lakes Elementary	PK-5	298	54,378	110	494	60%
Old Sherrod Elementary			46,272	110	421	0%
Pioneer Peak Elementary	PK-5	484	48,944	110	445	109%
Sherrod Elementary	3-5	417	54,700	110	497	84%
Snowshoe Elementary School	K-5	352	49,550	110	450	78%
Sutton Elementary School	K-5	52	25,414	110	231	23%
Swanson Elementary School	K-5	455	51,335	110	467	97%
Talkeetna Elementary School	K-5	78	28,125	110	256	31%
Tanaina Elementary School	PK-5	379	53,457	110	486	78%
Trapper Creek Elementary School	K-5	18	16,080	110	146	12%
Willow Elementary School	K-5	125	33,797	110	307	41%
TOTAL		**6,808**	**1,034,134**		**9,427**	**72%**

2031 Middle School Capacity

			Gross Square Footage Calculation Method			
SCHOOL	Grade Levels	2031-32 Enrollment	Gross Building Area (sq.ft.)	Maximum Number of Sq. Foot per Student	Maximum Number of Students Possible	Utilization (Method B, %)
Colony Middle School	6-8	839	120,000	135	889	94%
Palmer Middle School	6-8	557	128,452	135	951	59%
Teeland Middle School	6-8	882	135,000	135	1,000	88%
Wasilla Middle School	6-8	665	124,809	135	925	72%
TOTAL		**2,943**	**508,261**		**3,765**	**78%**

2031 High School Capacity

			Gross Square Footage Calculation Method			
SCHOOL	Grade Levels	2031-32 Enrollment	Gross Building Area (sq.ft.)	Maximum Number of Sq. Foot per Student	Maximum Number of Students Possible	Utilization (Method B, %)
Colony Senior High School	9-12	1,529	194,000	160	1,213	126%
Houston Jr/Sr High School	6-12	767	88,240	160	552	139%
Palmer High School	9-12	806	196,606	160	1,229	66%
Redington Jr Sr High	6-12	571	95,000	147.5	644	89%
Susitna Valley High	6-12	119	50,578	147.5	343	35%
Wasilla High School	9-12	1,010	200,326	160	1,252	81%
TOTAL		**4,802**	**824,750**		**5,232**	**92%**

By 2031, there is going to be a need to rebalance enrollment at the high schools.

Summary

- The key factor that will drive the district's enrollment will be new jobs in the area. There is a near-perfect statistical relationship between new jobs and new enrollment.
- Factors such as online reviews and district policies can have a big impact on enrollment growth—outside the pure demographics analysis.