

School Enrollment in Post-Pandemic Virginia

JANUARY, 2022

PRESENTATION FOR THE SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON K-12 EDUCATION

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for Public Service
Demographics Research Group

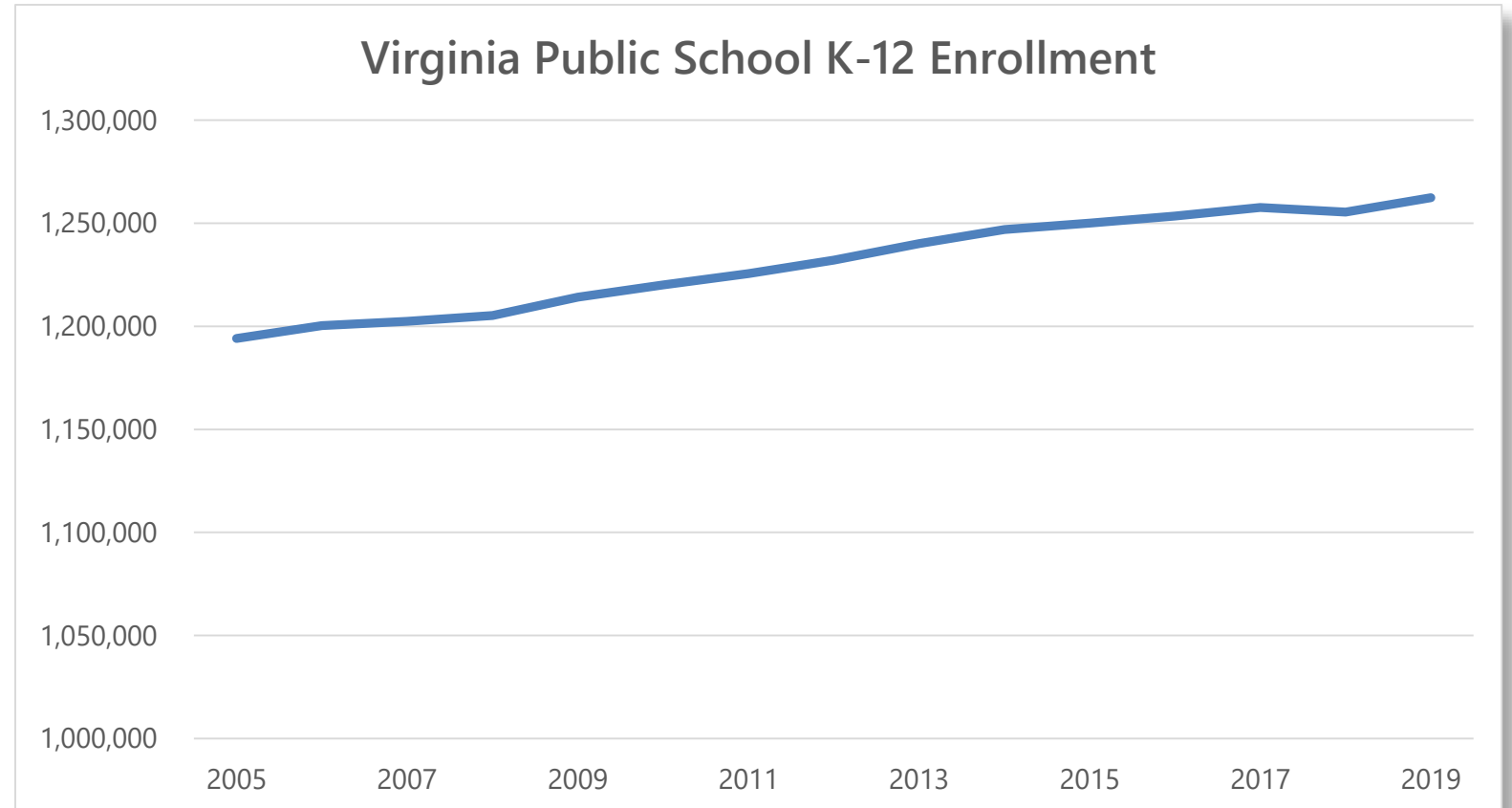
Prior to the Pandemic

K-12 SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IN VIRGINIA

Prior to the Pandemic

Virginia Public School K-12 Enrollment

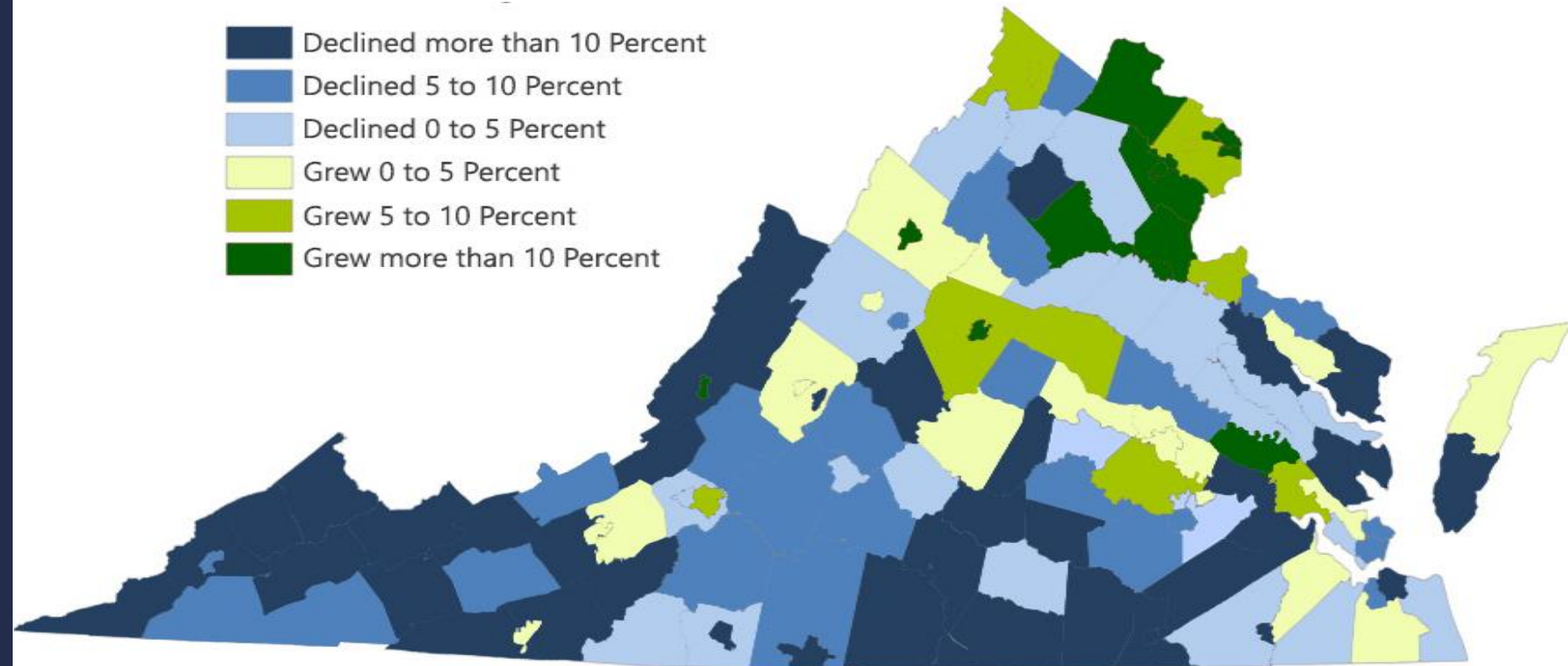
School enrollment in Virginia was steadily growing before the pandemic.



Prior to the Pandemic

K-12 Enrollment Change: 2010 to 2019

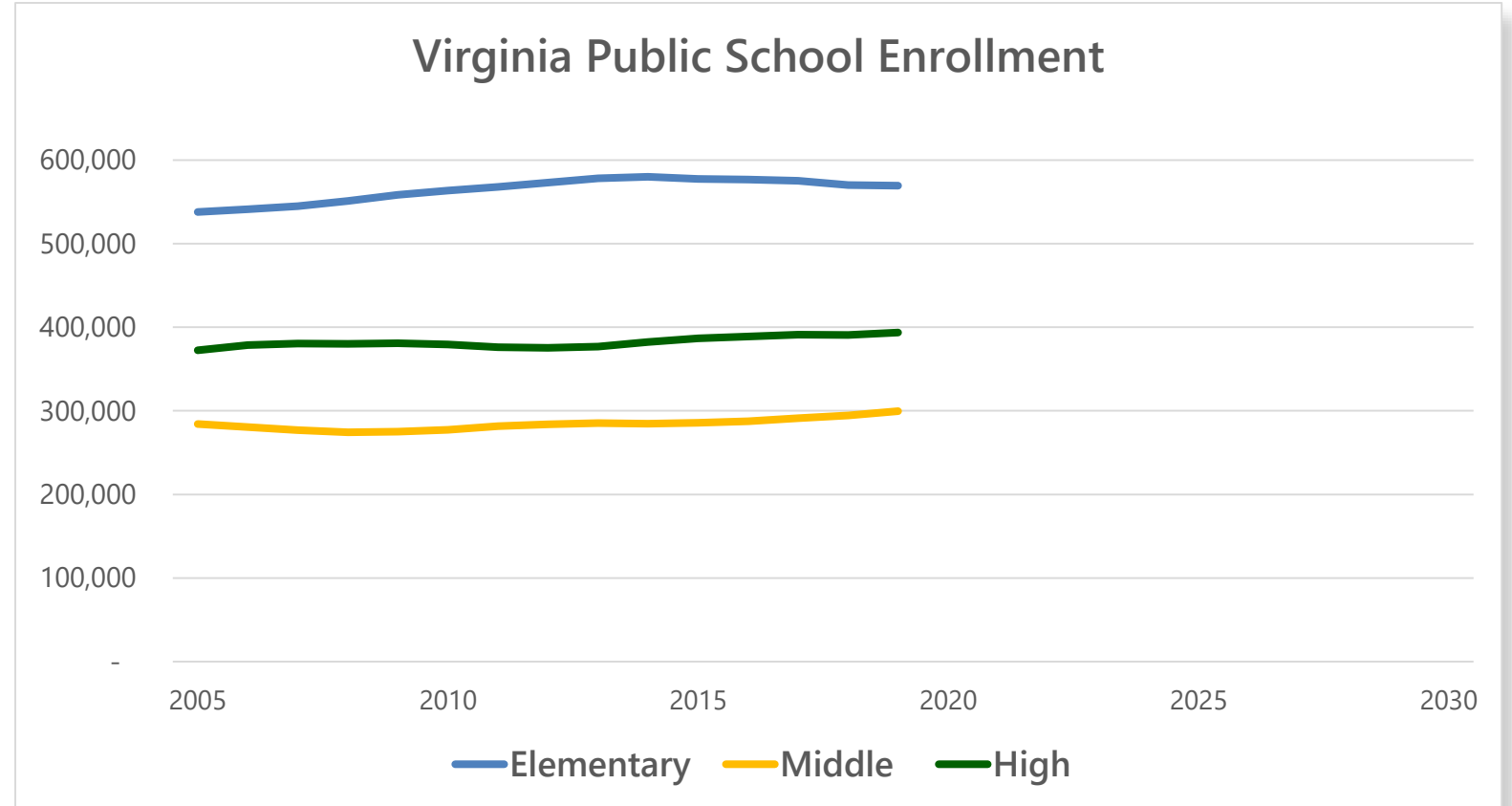
Enrollment growth was concentrated in the largest divisions.



Prior to the Pandemic

Elementary School Enrollment

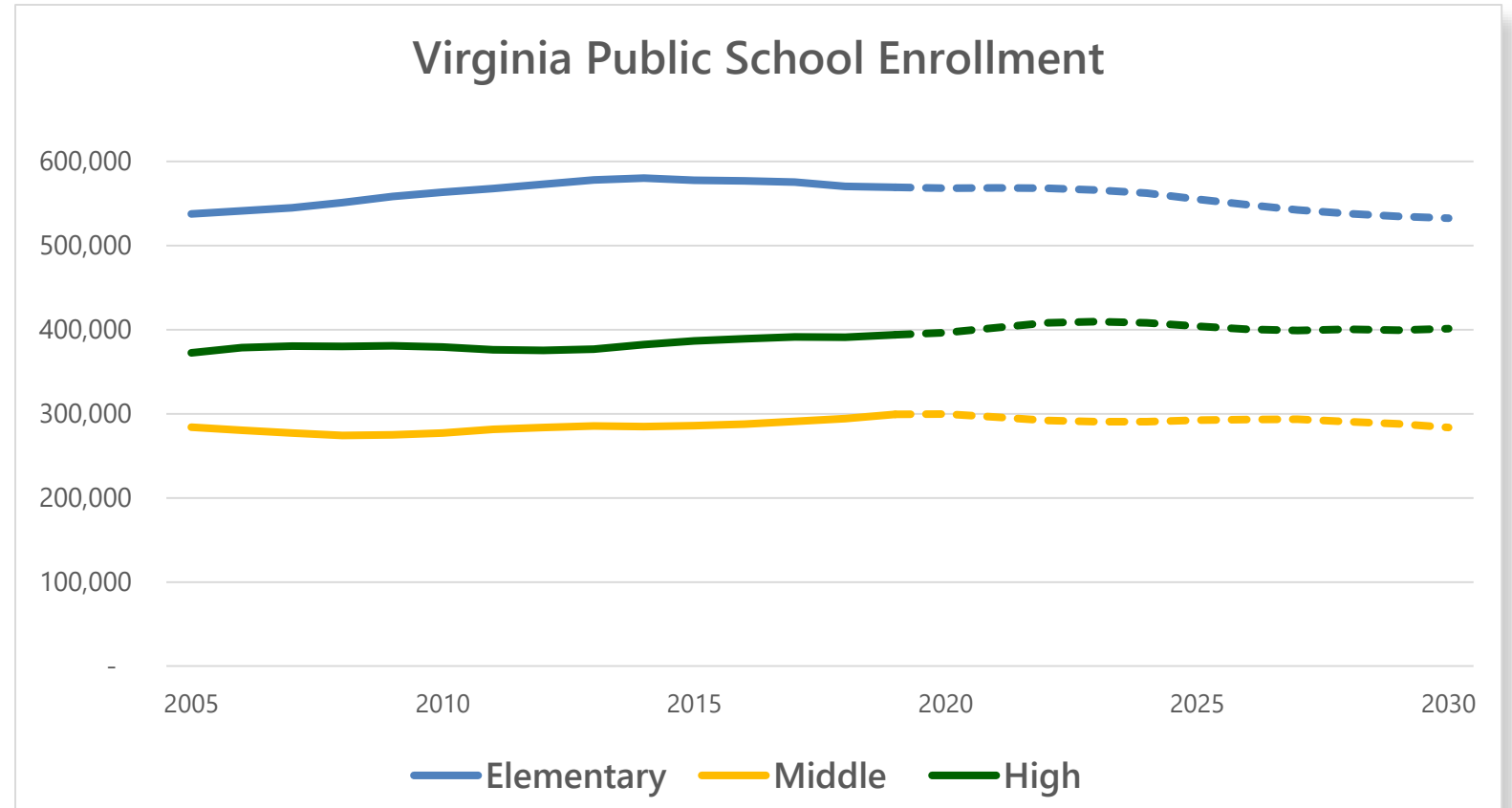
Before the pandemic enrollment was declining in elementary grades.



Prior to the Pandemic

Middle and High School Enrollment

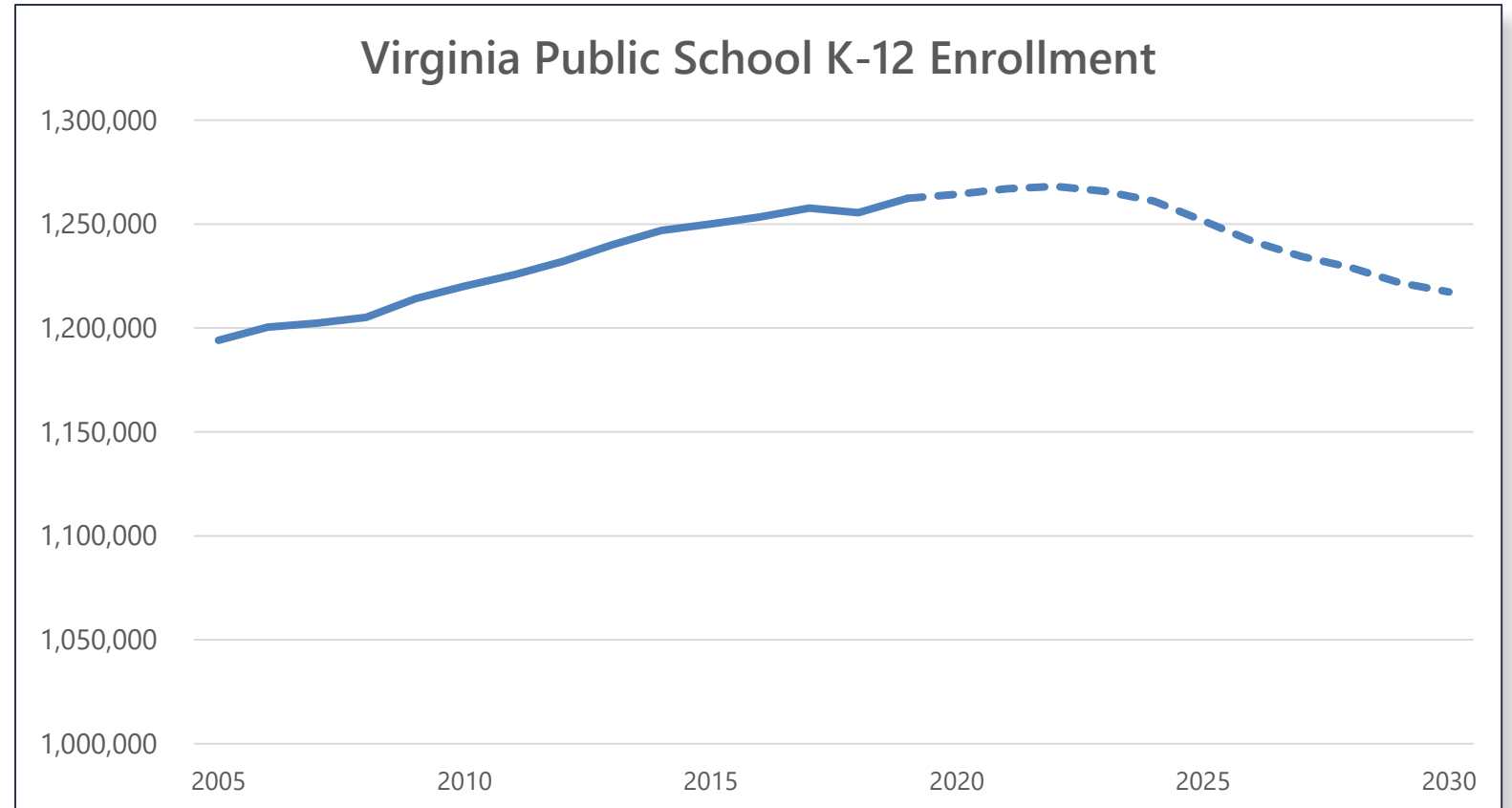
The decline in enrollment was expected to spread to the upper grades.



Prior to the Pandemic

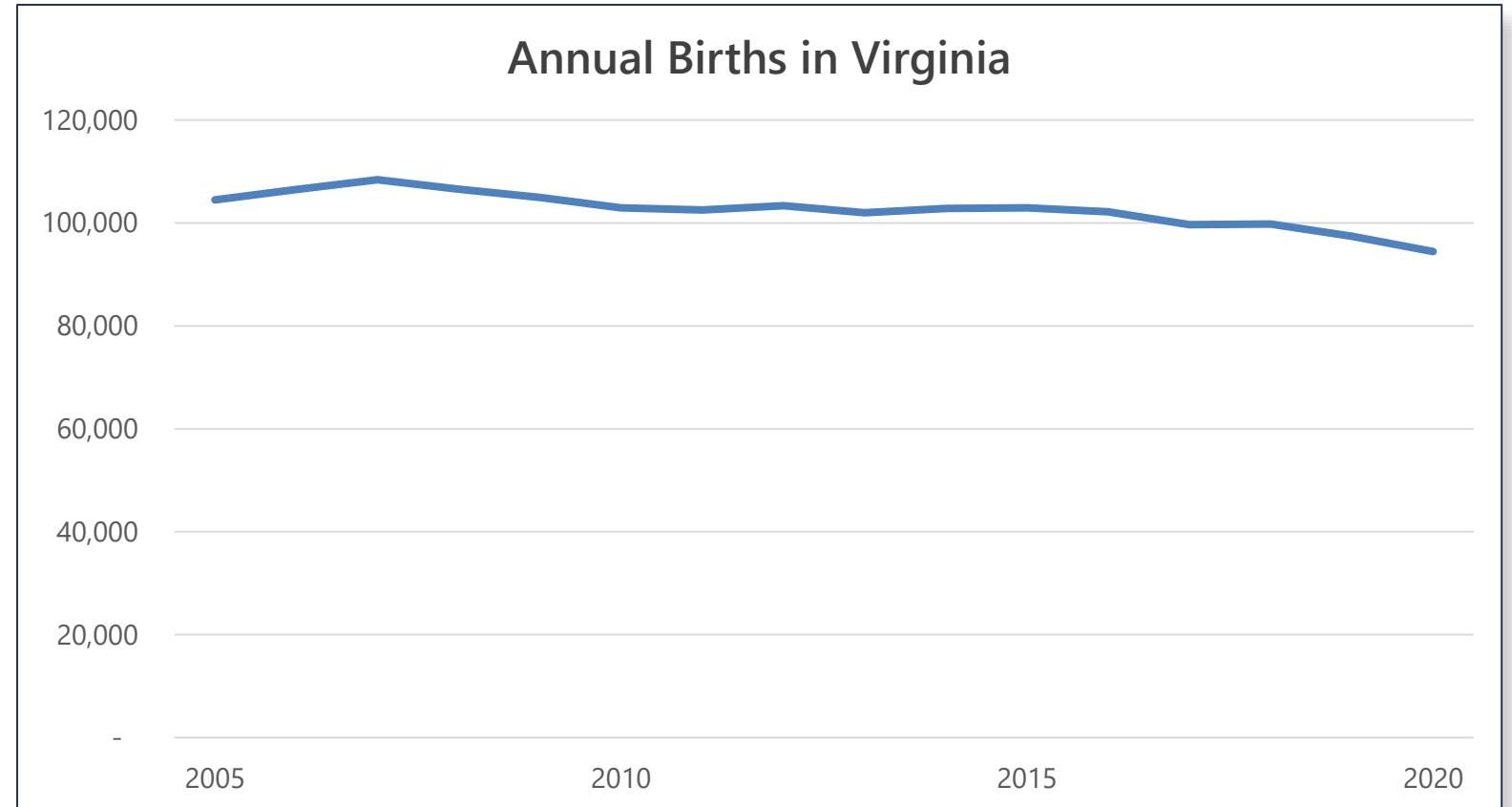
Enrollment was heading for a decline

In 2019, enrollment in Virginia's schools was projected to decrease by almost 50,000 students during the 2020s.



Prior to the Pandemic Births in Virginia

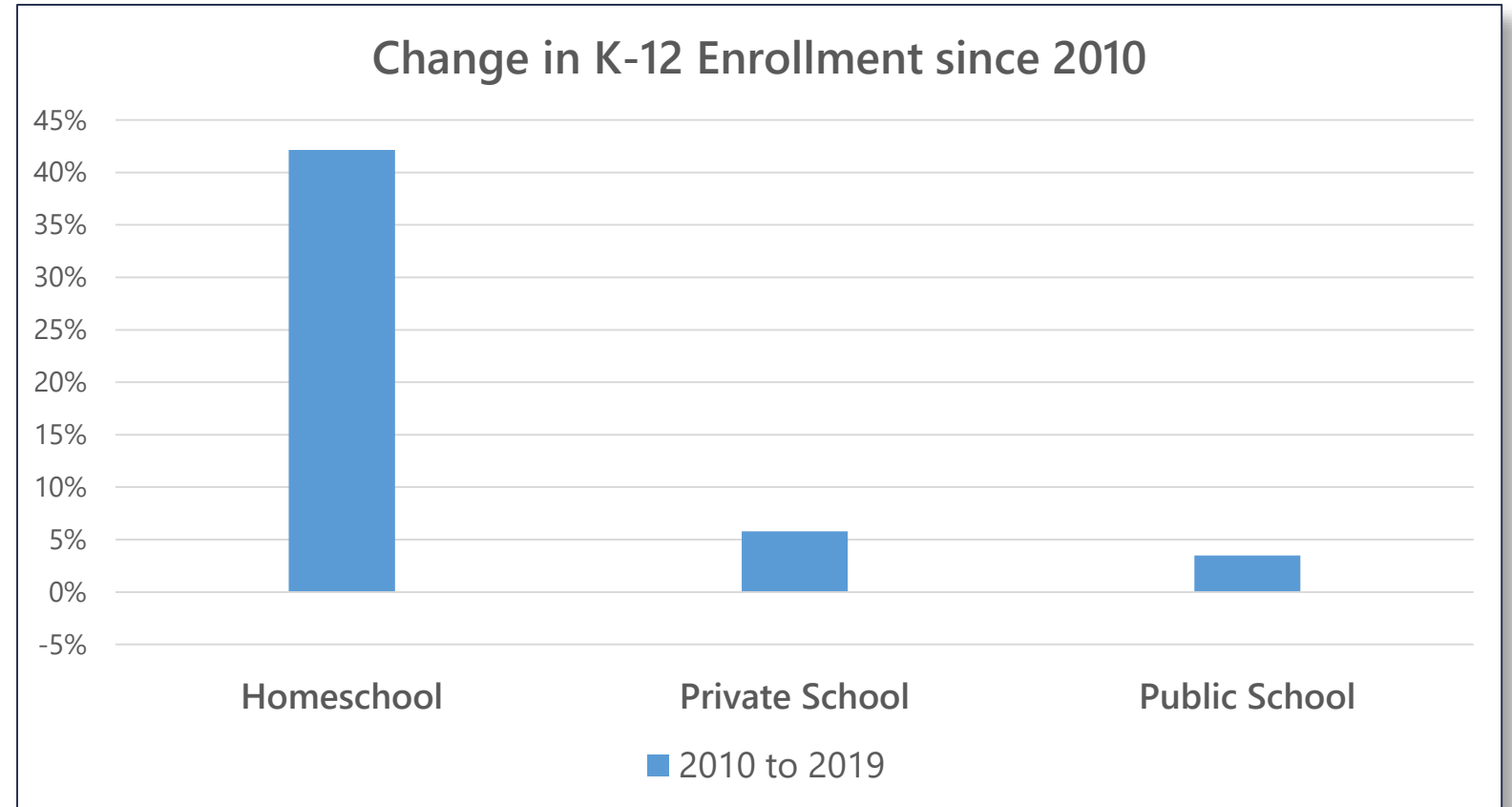
The number of births in Virginia has been declining since 2007.



Prior to the Pandemic

Private and Home Schooling

Private and home school growth outpaced public school growth.



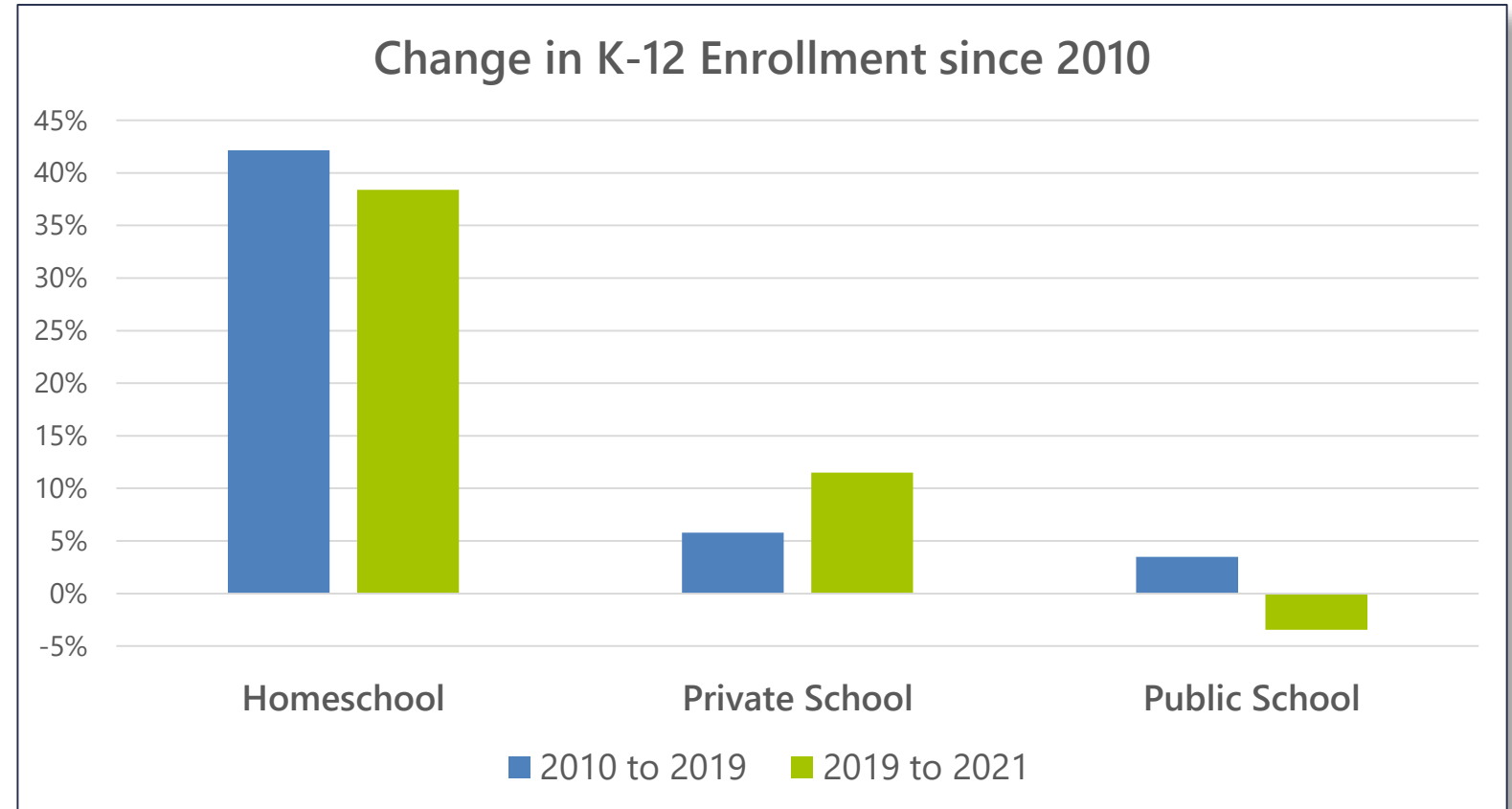
Since the Pandemic

K-12 SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IN VIRGINIA

Since the Pandemic

Private School Enrollment

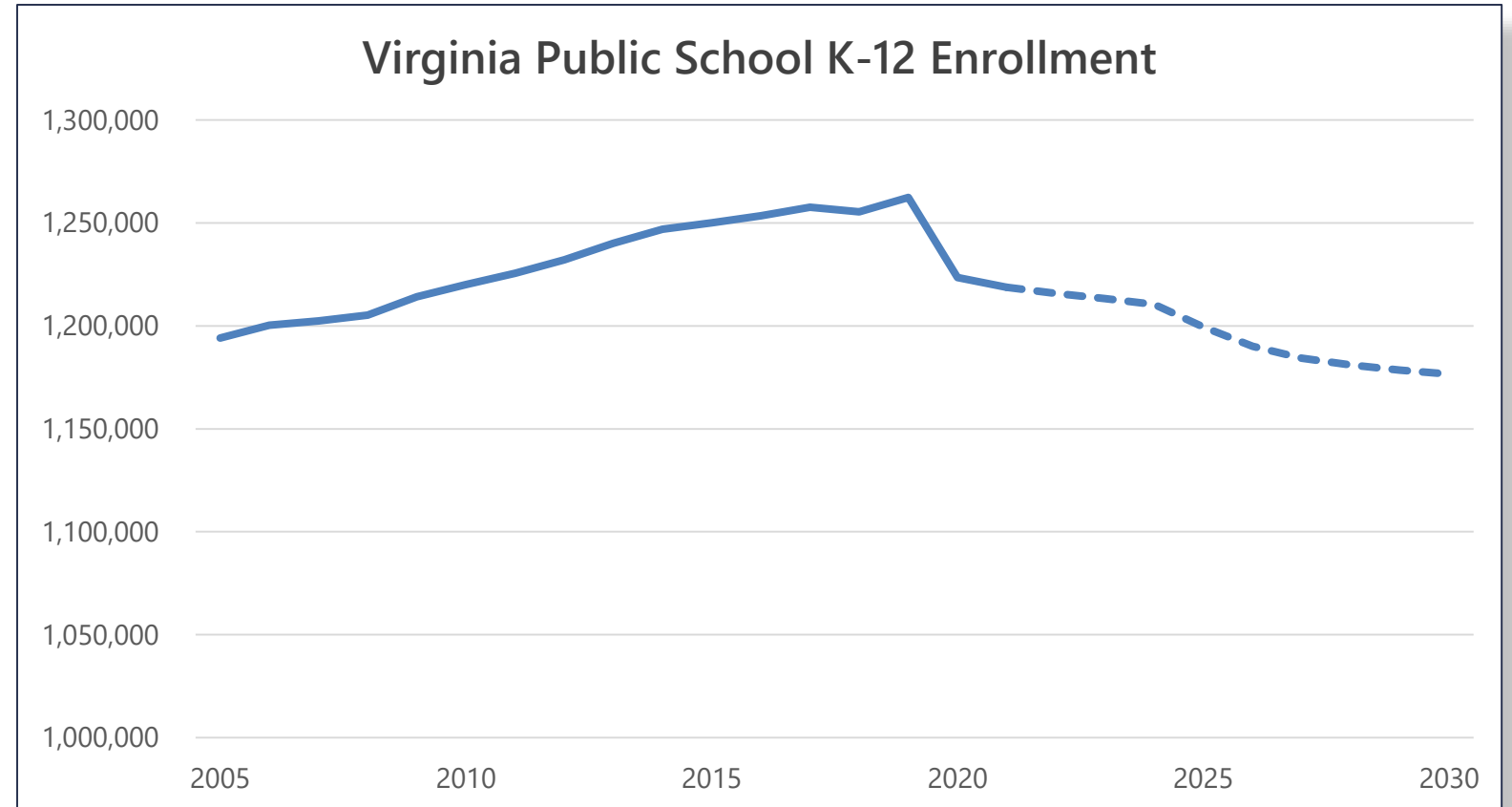
The pandemic accelerated pre-pandemic growth in private K-12 education.



Since the Pandemic

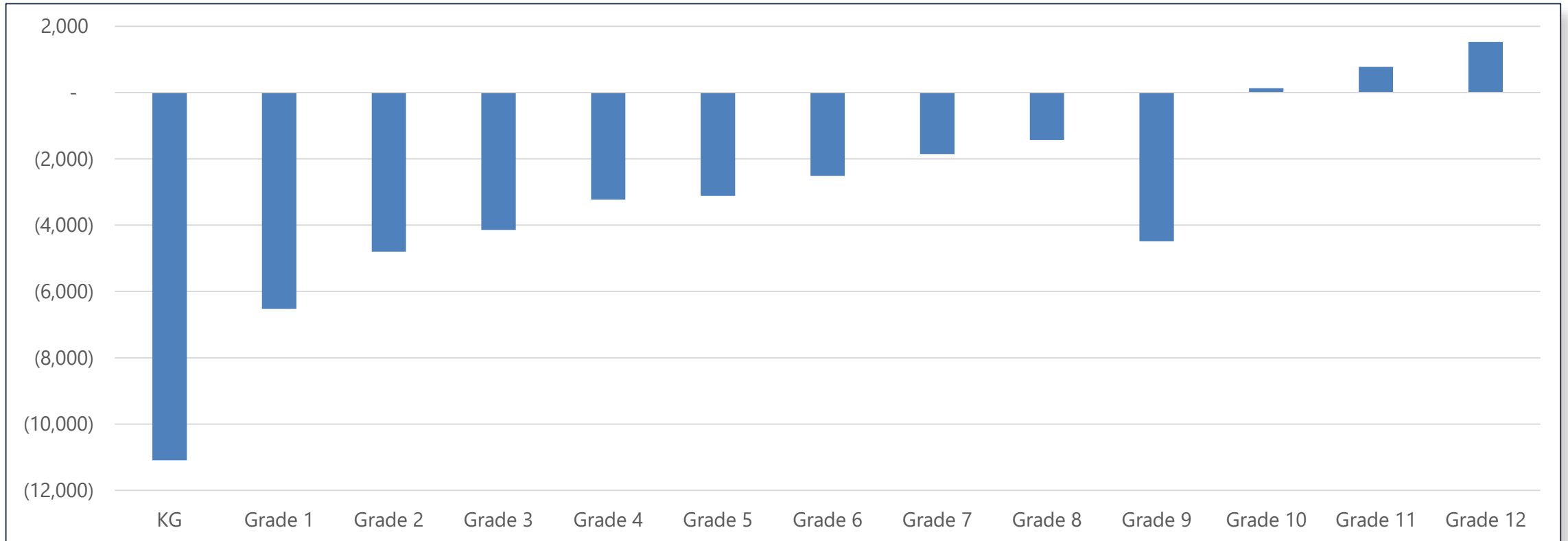
Public School Enrollment Decline

Public School enrollment losses in the 2020s will likely be larger than the number projected in 2019.



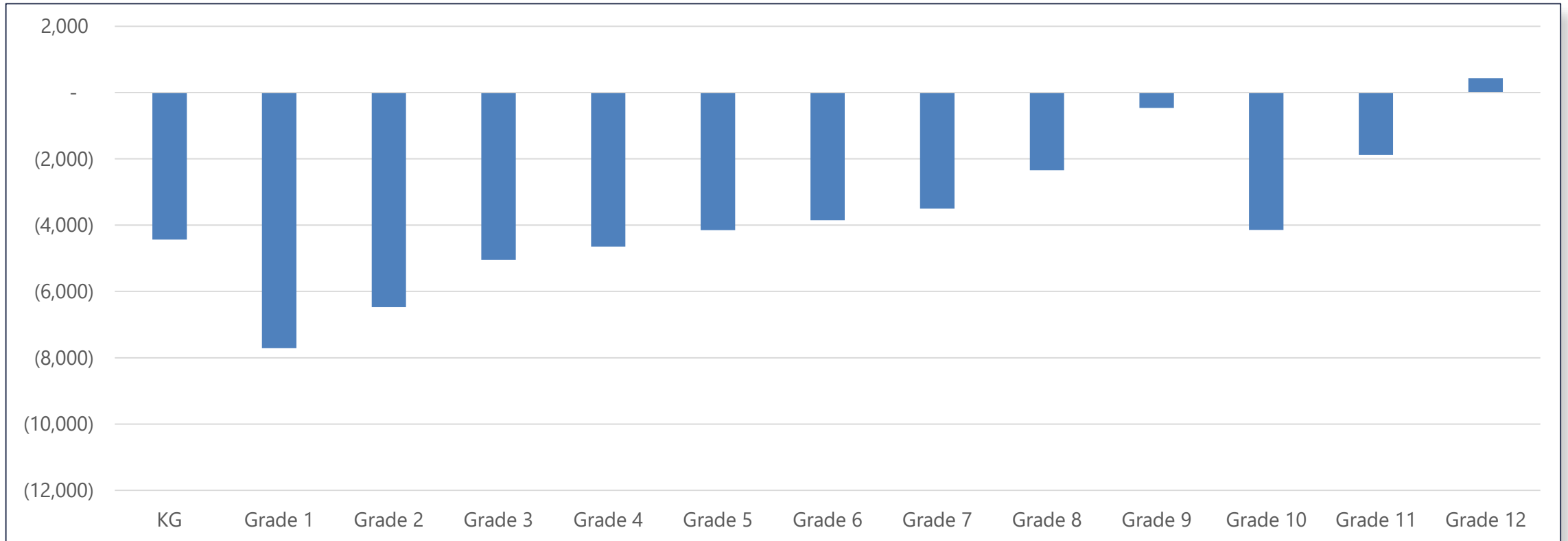
Since the Pandemic

2020 K-12 Enrollment: Actual minus Expected



Since the Pandemic

2021 K-12 Enrollment: Actual minus Expected

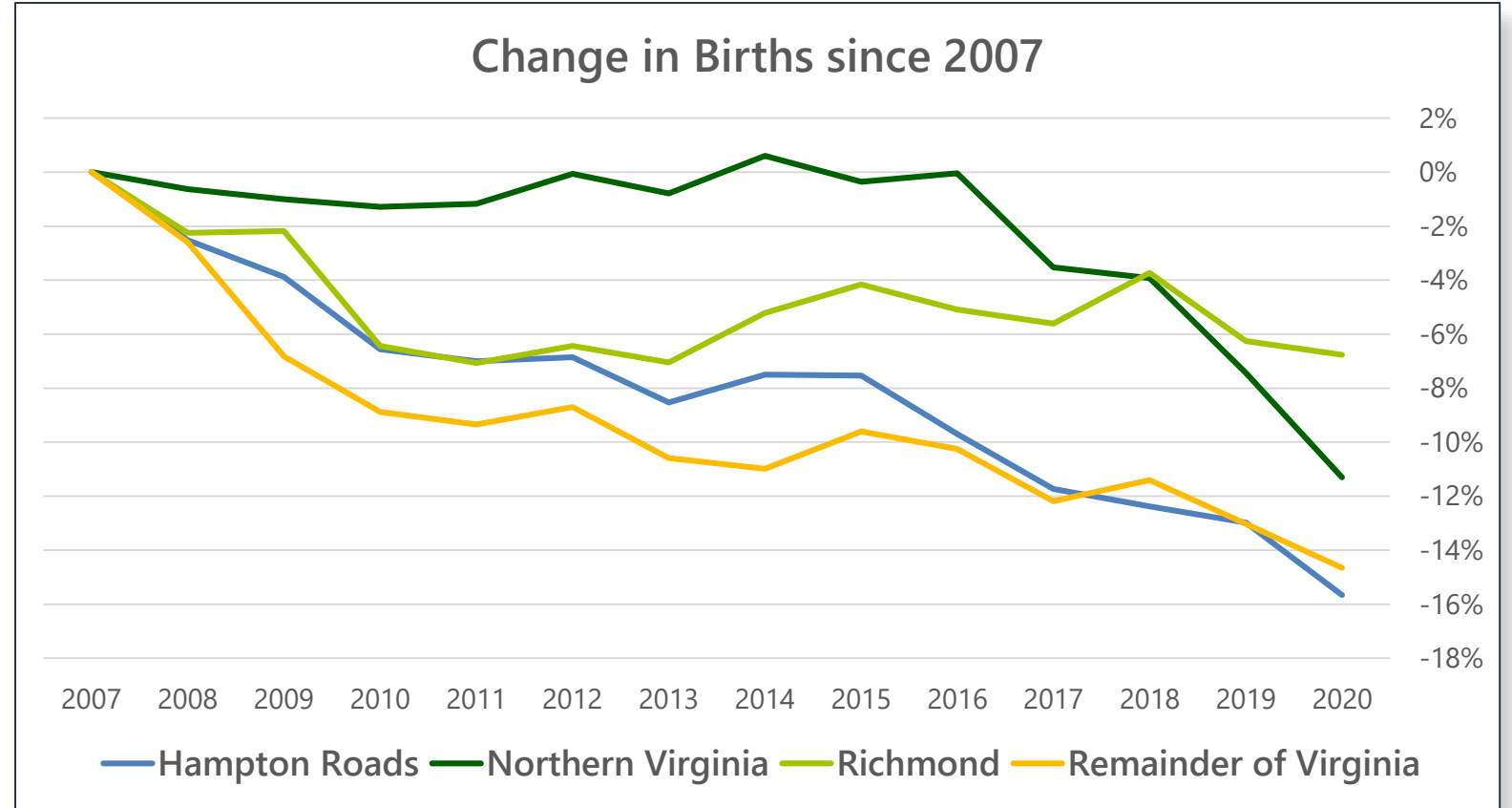


Birth Trends

IN VIRGINIA

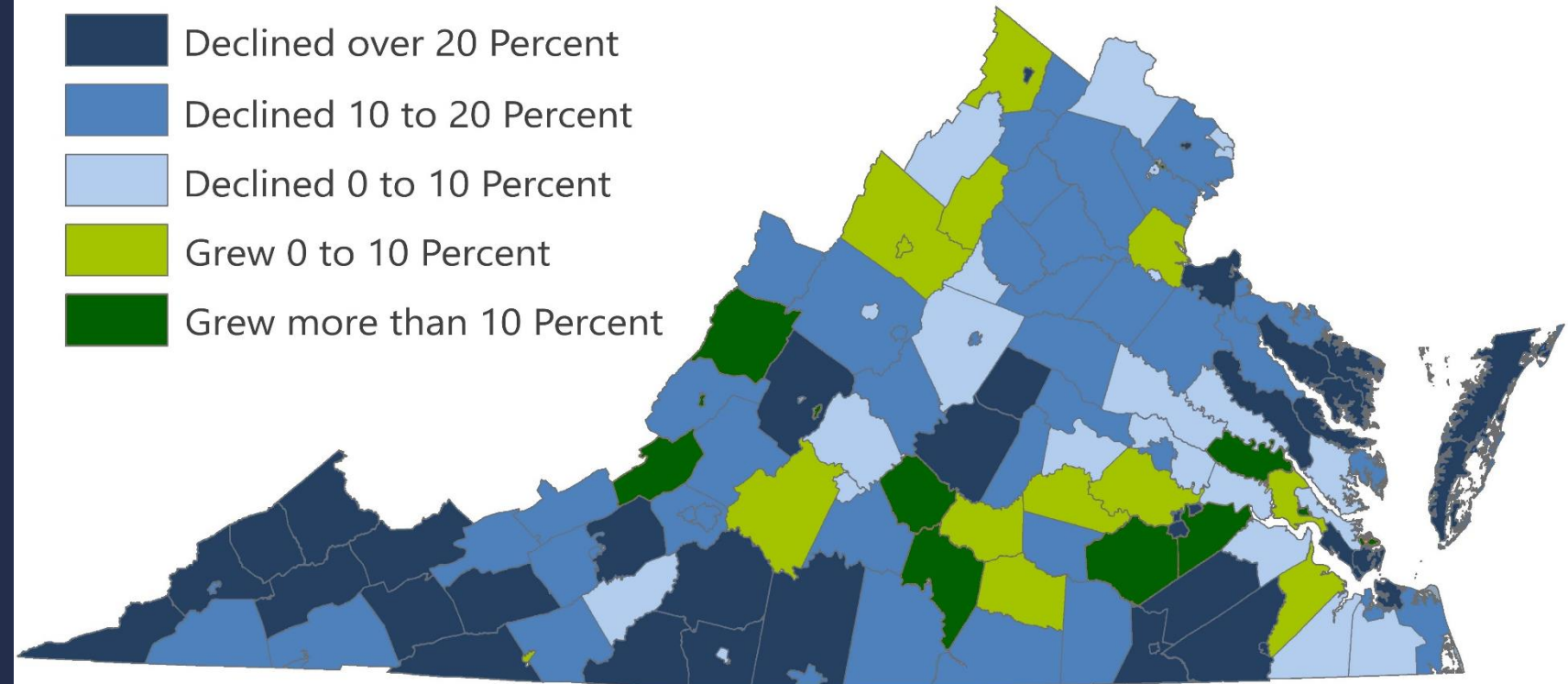
Births by Region

Northern Virginia's recent decline in births may cause its enrollment to decline later this decade.



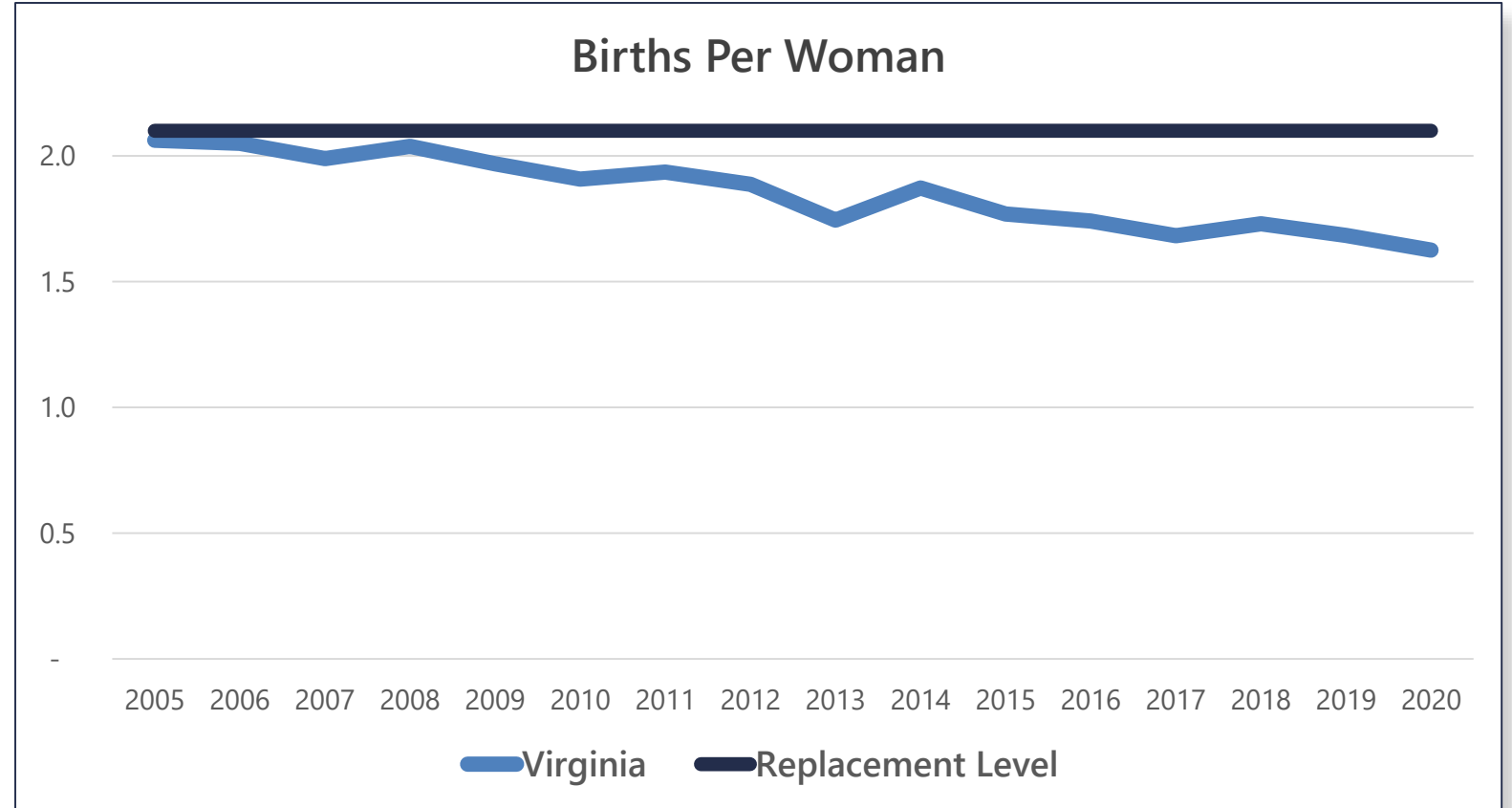
Change in Births: 2007-2020

Enrollment change across Virginia will likely be as uneven as its birth trends.



Birth Trends Virginia

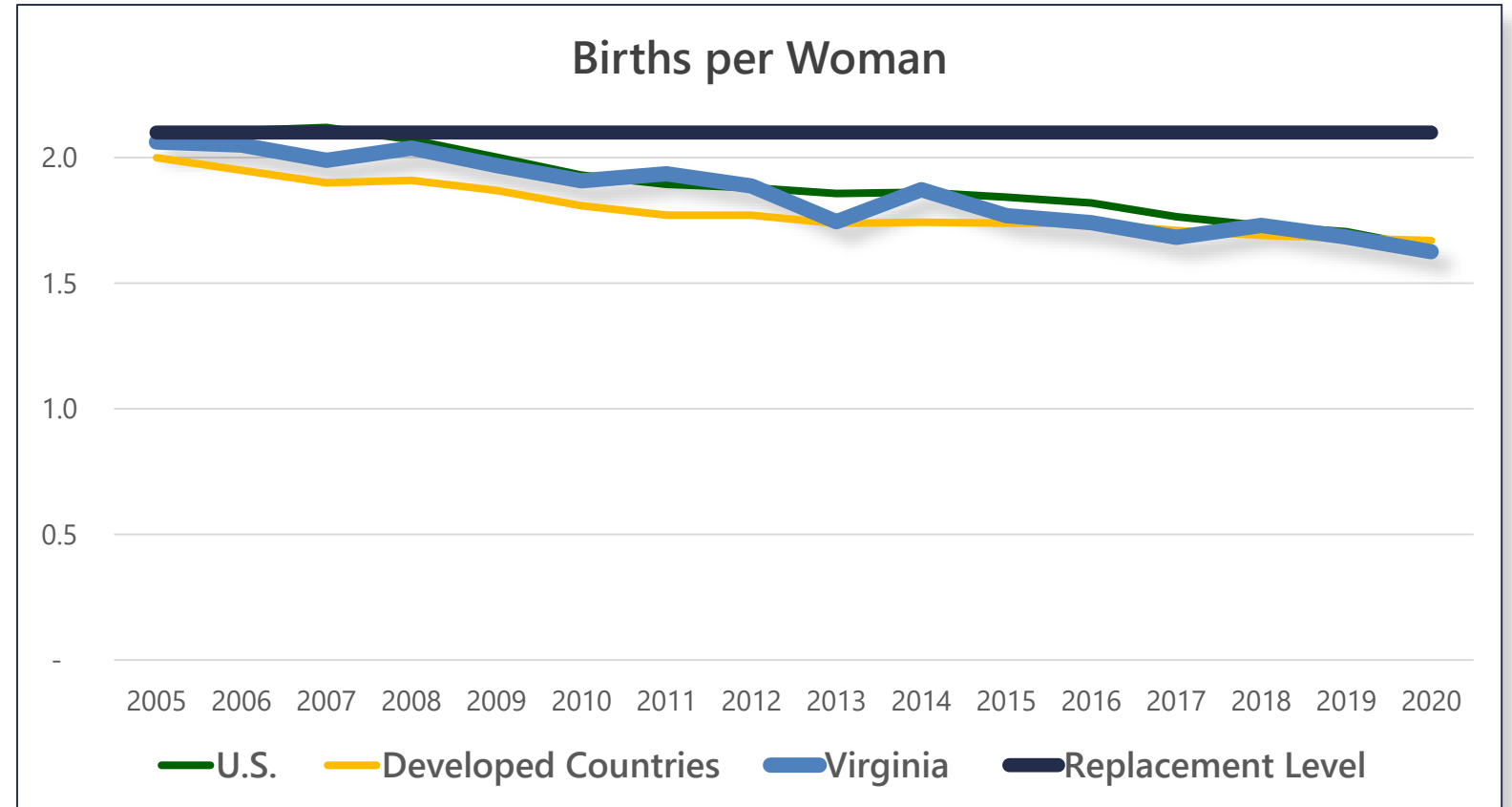
Births in Virginia are well below levels necessary to replace the students who are graduating high school.



Birth Trends

Virginia, U.S., and OECD countries

Virginia's declining fertility rate follows trends in the rest of the U.S. and OECD countries



Key Points

1

Public K-12 enrollment was already on course to begin declining before the pandemic.

2

The pandemic may have permanently boosted the share of Virginia K-12 students educated privately.

3

A rebound in births would take a decade to reverse total K-12 enrollment trends.

4

The decline in births will have an impact on Virginia outside its schools.

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