

Healthier Kids Foundation 9th Annual Symposium
May 29, 2019

**Doubled Importance of
Children for All Generations
in California**

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How Many Ways Can the Demographics CHANGE ??

the things we
take for granted

Children
Born & Raised

Aging



Growth

Racial
Change

where's the
policy
attention?

Migration

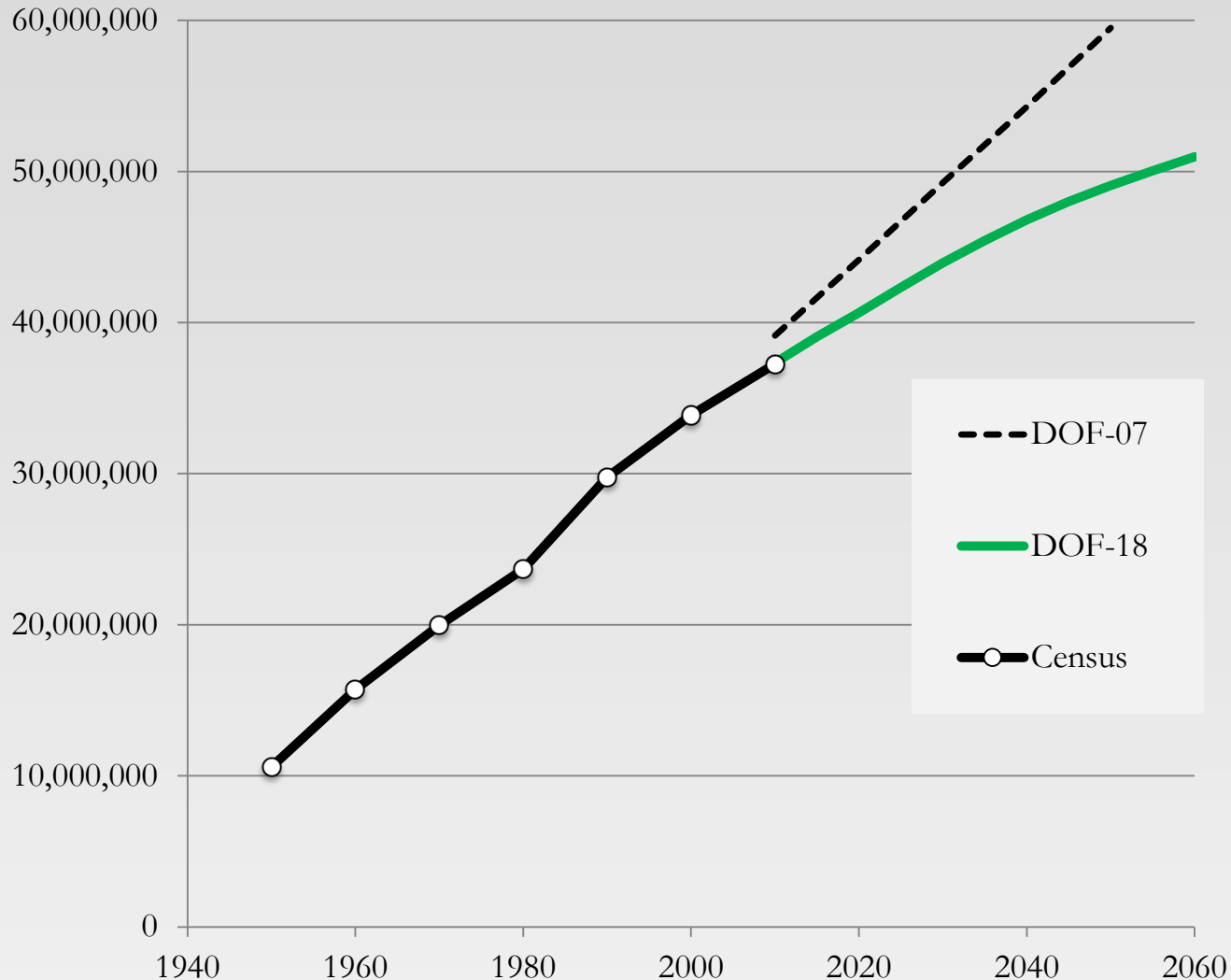
where's the
policy
attention?

Revisiting the Old Narratives About California

- Growth is Overwhelming Us
- Children are Too Numerous
- Children are a Burden on the Taxpayers
- We Don't Need Other People's Kids
- We Really Just Can't Afford It

Total Population of California

Slowdown in Growth Projections



Source:
California Department of Finance, 2007 and 2018

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Population Growth Slowdown

What Year Does California Reach 50 Million Population?

- Old Expectation 2032

Source:

California Department of Finance, 2007 and 2018

Steady Growth in Santa Clara County?

What Year Does Santa Clara County Reach 2.5 Million Population?

- Old Expectation 2041
- New Outlook 2044

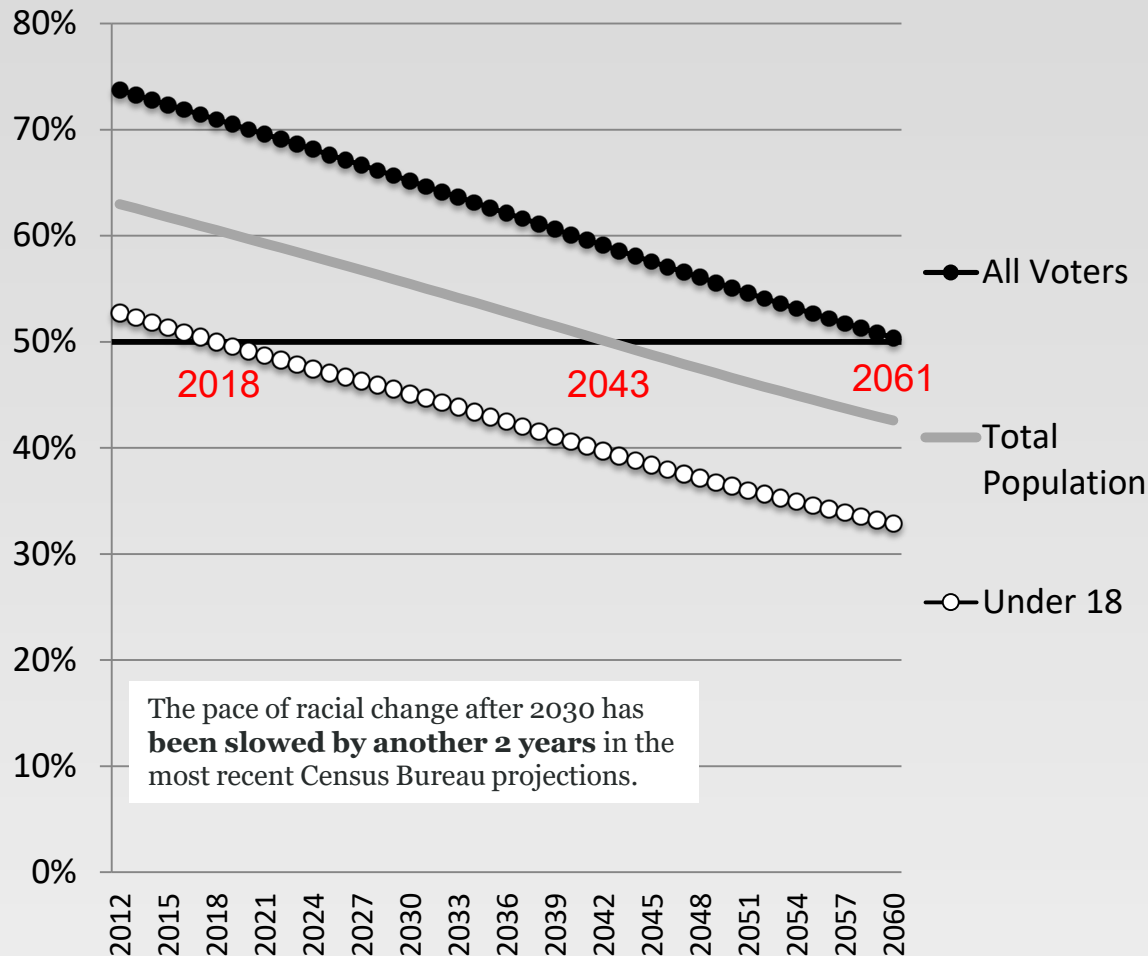
Source:

California Department of Finance, 2007 and 2018

What about Racial Change?



Steady Decline in White Share of U.S. Population



The pace of racial change after 2030 has **been slowed by another 2 years** in the most recent Census Bureau projections.

There is NO acceleration before or after the white share approaches the 50% milestone, the so-called scary “tipping point.”

Change occurs earliest among children (2018) and last among all voters, when whites fall below 50% likely in 2061.

Racial change among voters lags behind the rest of the population because older people turnout twice as reliably and are more likely to be white.

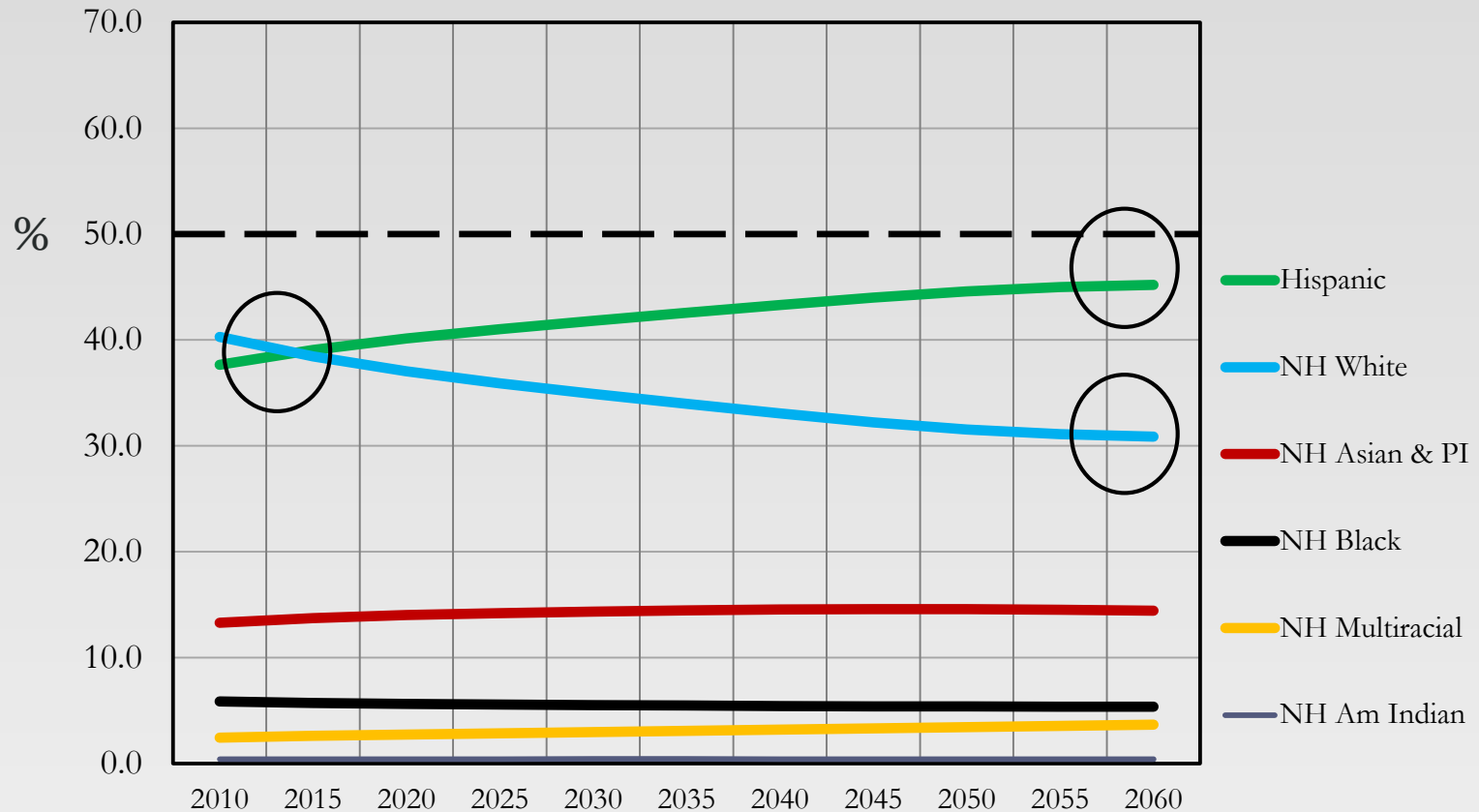
Change is gradual—a year at a time, no surges, no “boiling point.”

But the national news rhetoric sure is heated about an issue California is long past -- since the 1990s.

Source: Dowell Myers voting projections based on Census Bureau CPS Election Survey 2012 and Census Bureau Population Projections 2012; Note: white is non-Hispanic alone

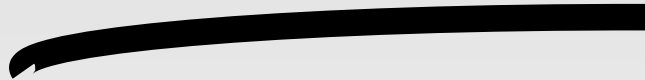
We Are All Minorities Now in California

Percentage Shares of Total Population

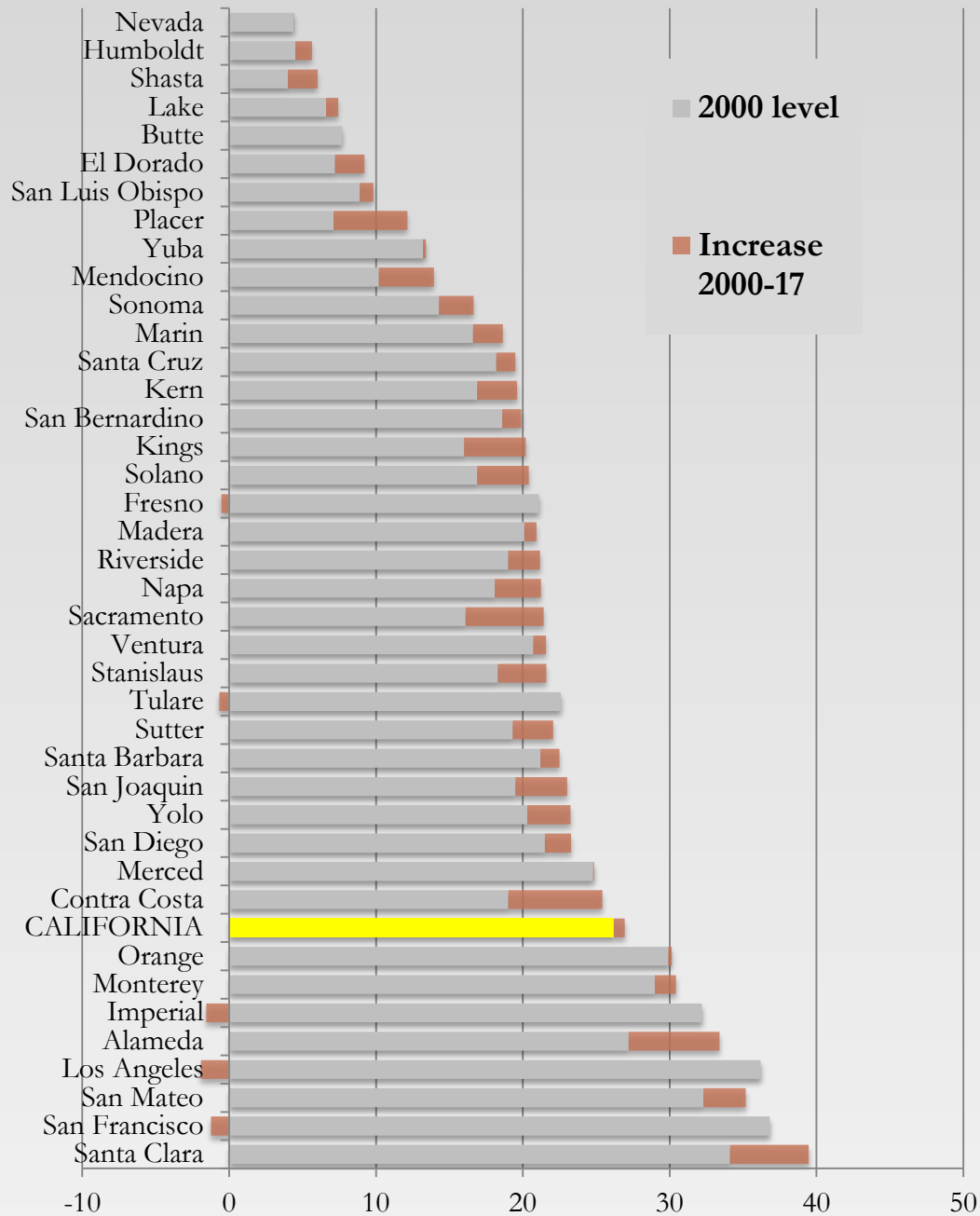


Source:
California Department of Finance, 2018

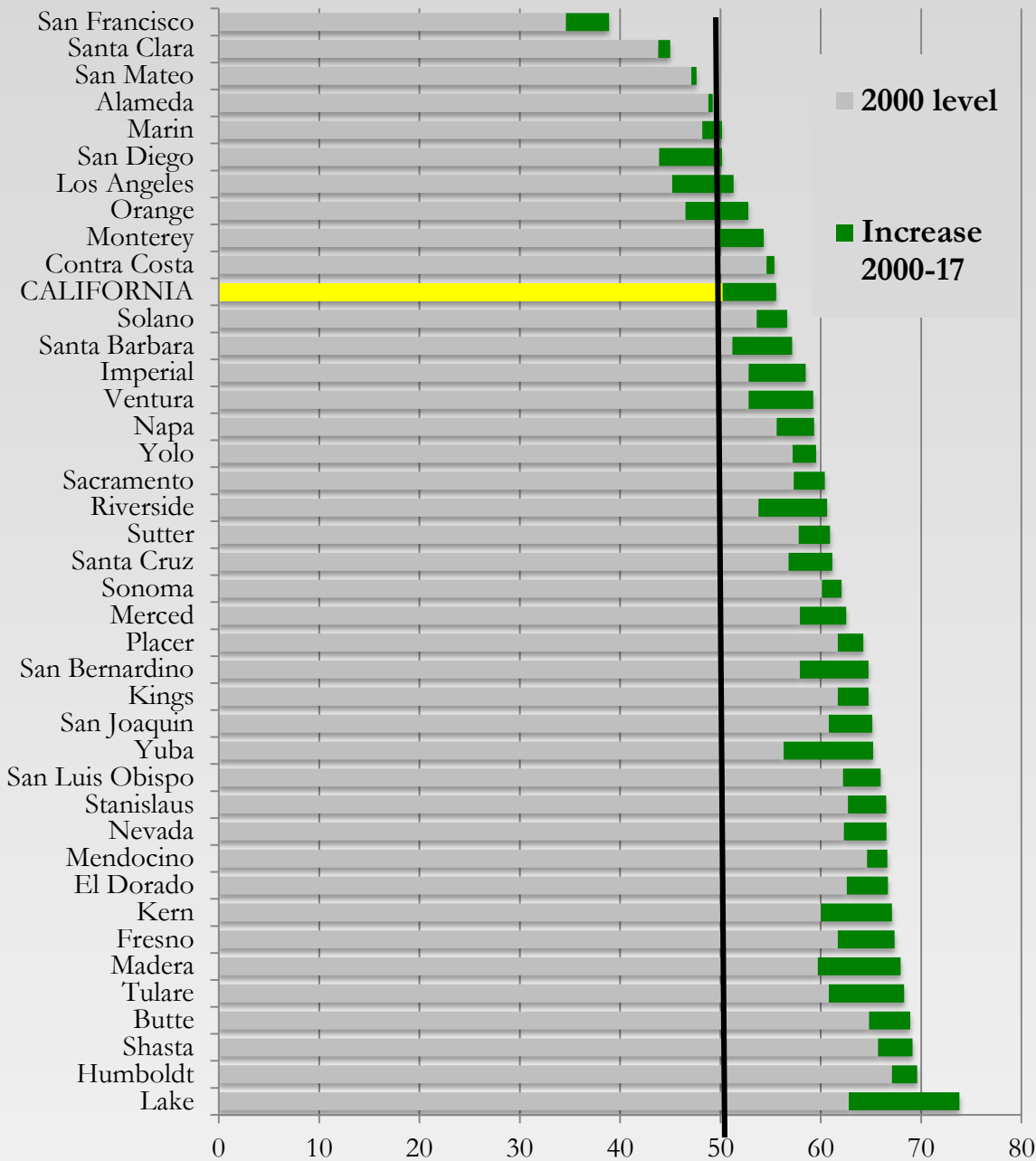
Migration...
or
Home Grown?



Percent Foreign Born in 2000 and the Recent Changes in Larger Counties

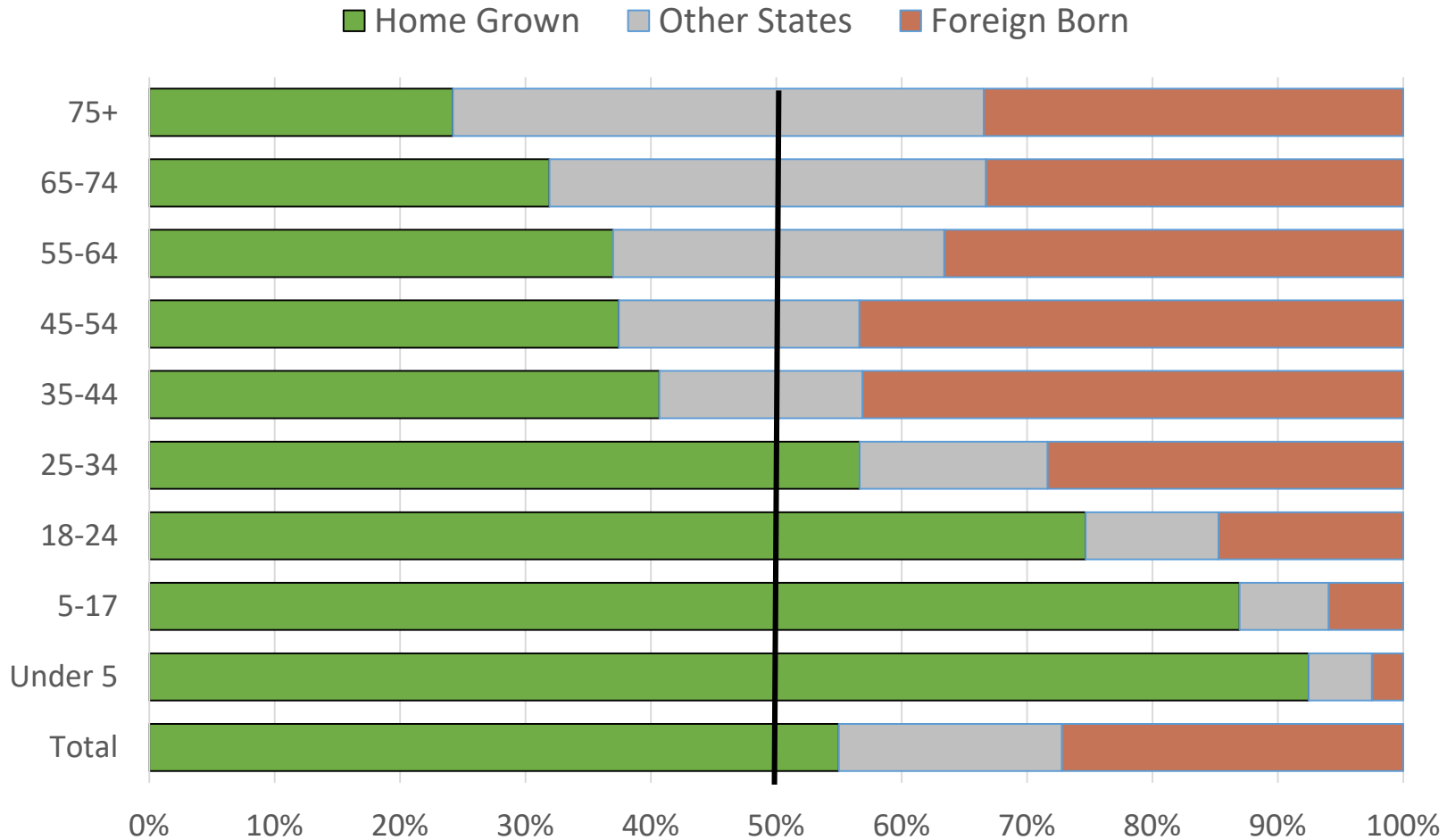


Percent California Born in 2000 and the Recent Increase in Larger Counties



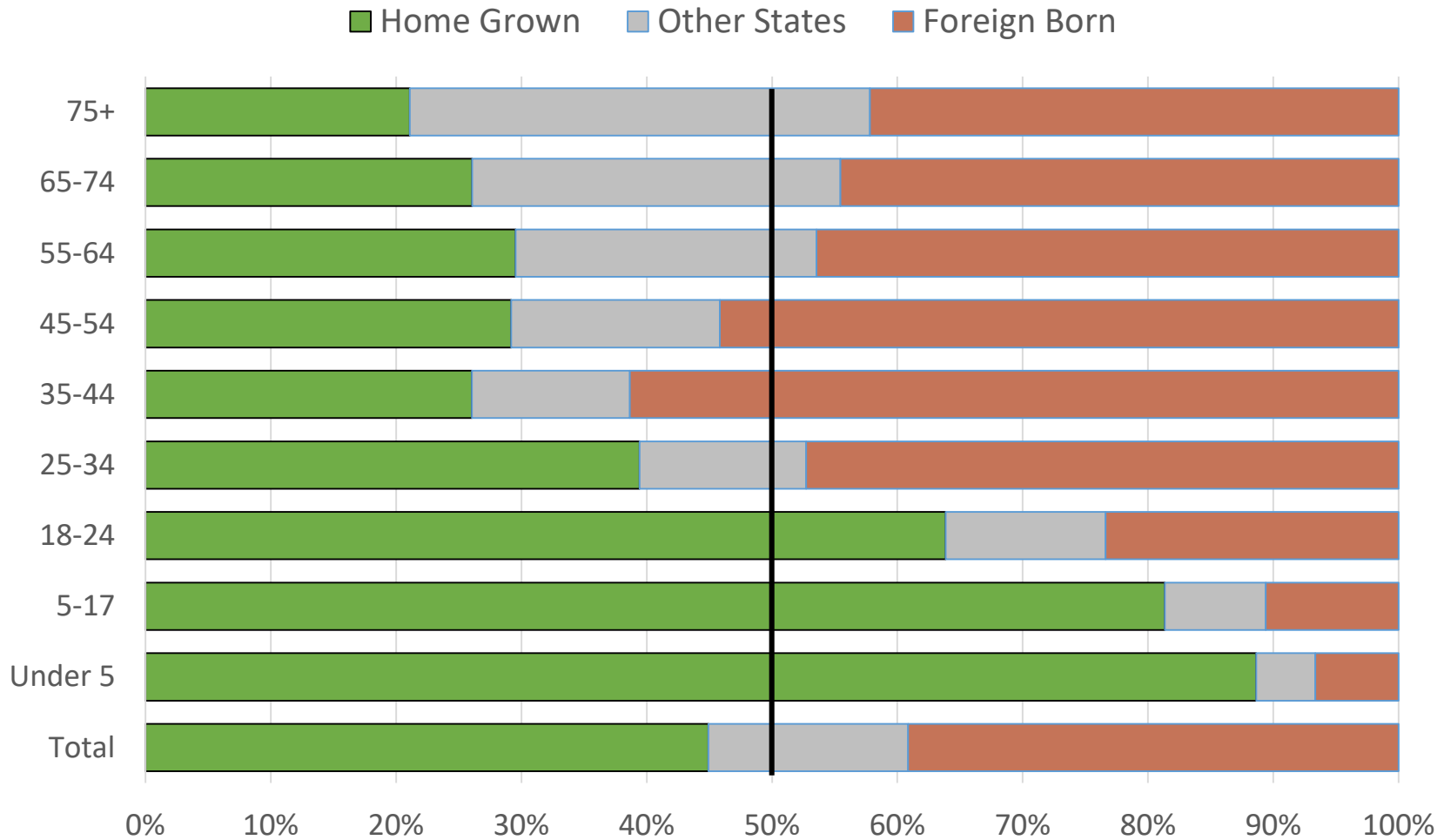
Birth Place, by Current Age, 2016

California



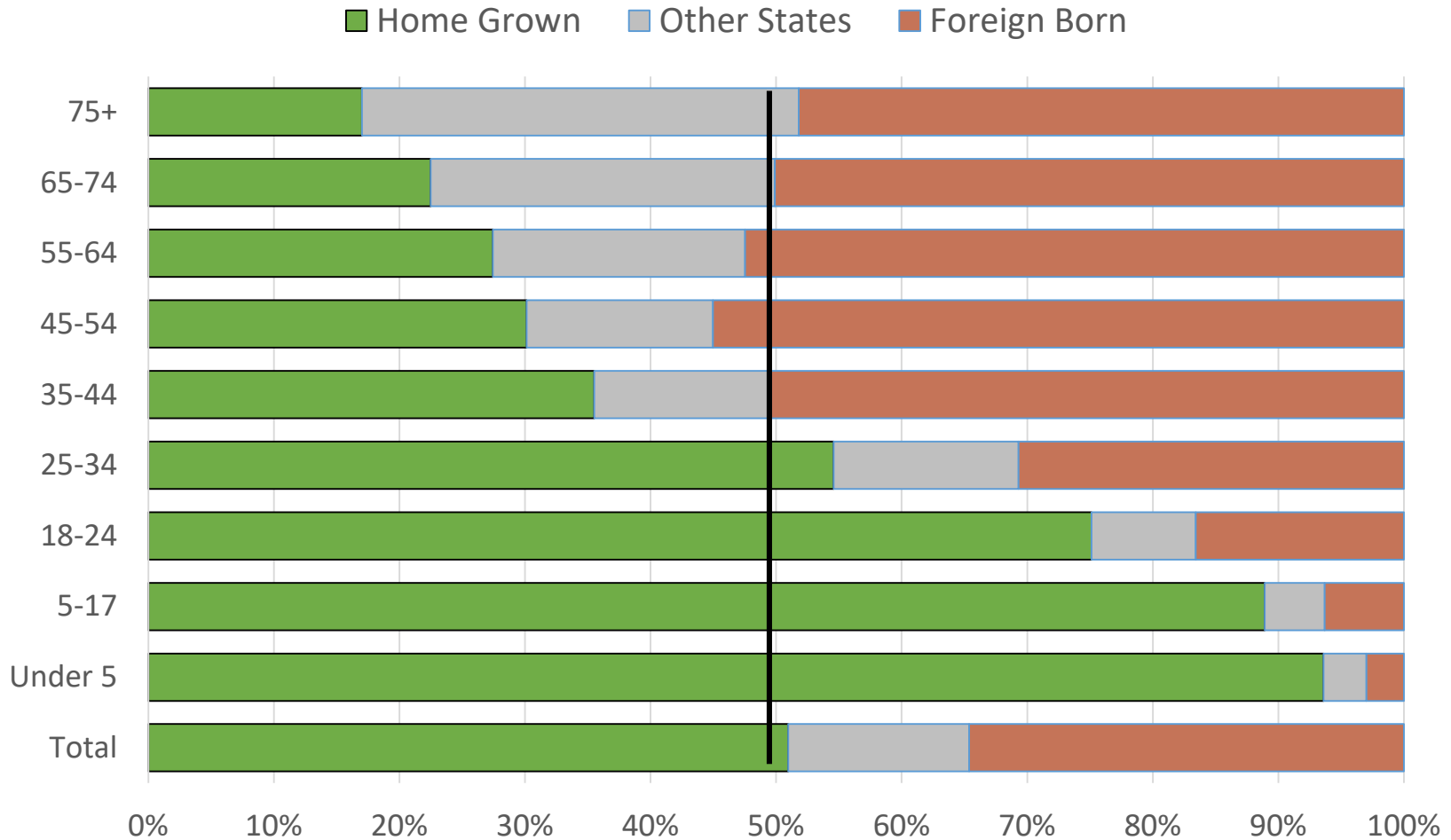
Birth Place, by Current Age, 2016

Santa Clara County



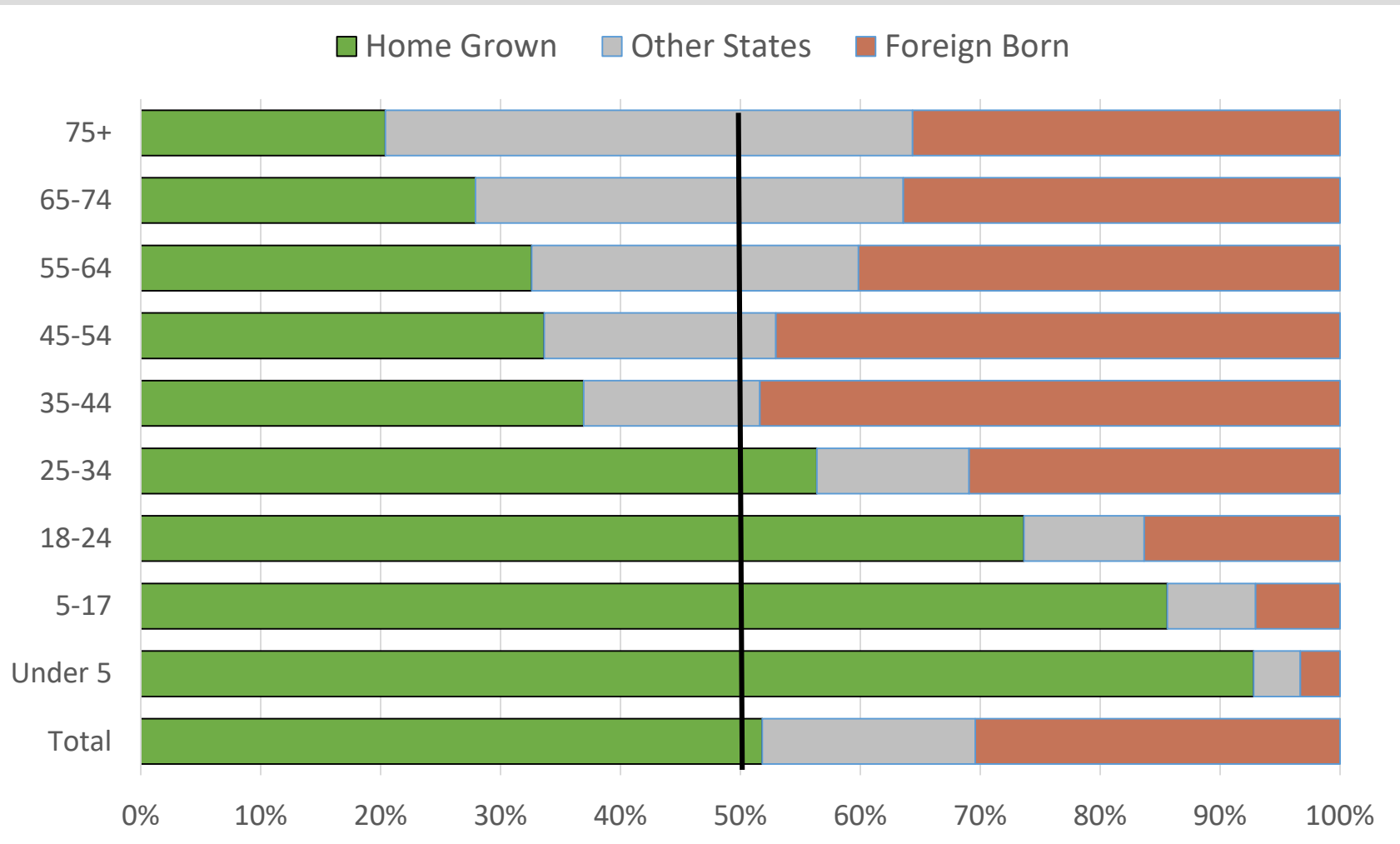
Birth Place, by Current Age, 2016

Los Angeles County



Birth Place, by Current Age, 2016

Orange County



So What's the Problem with Changing Demographics?

Children
Born & Raised

Aging



Racial
Change

Migration

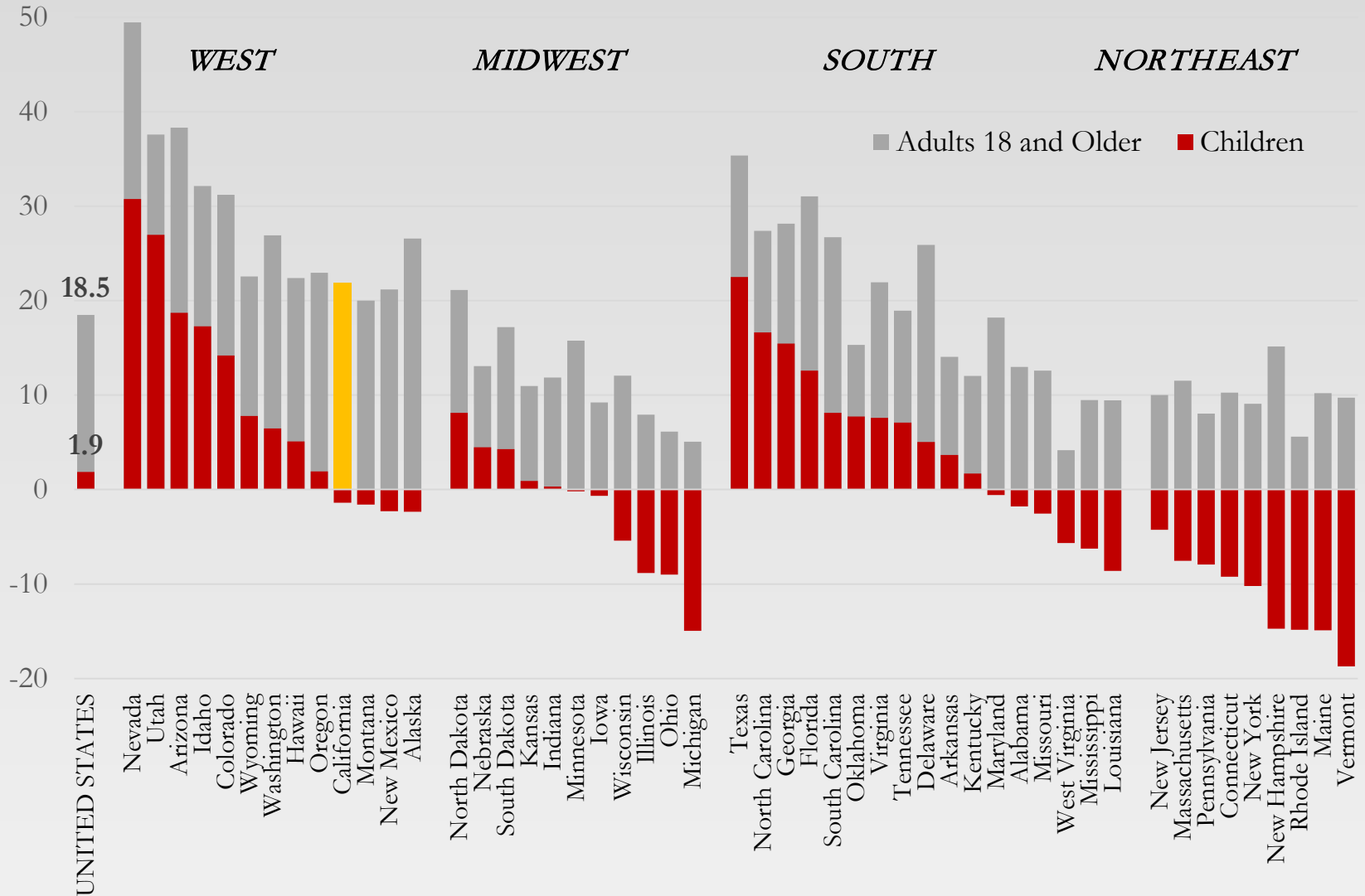
Too Many Children?

**Top Heavy
with too few children**

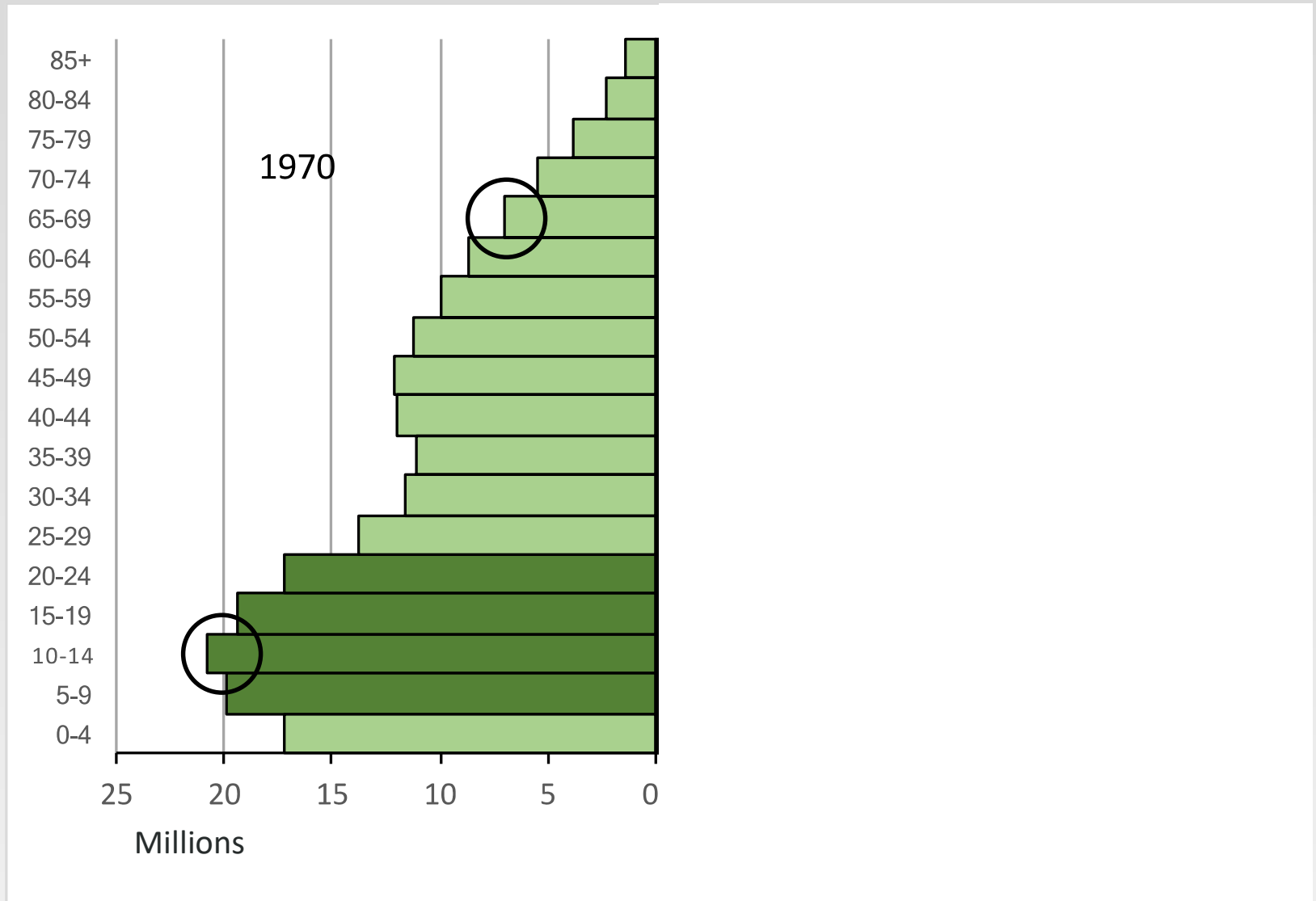


Growth of Children Compared to Adults

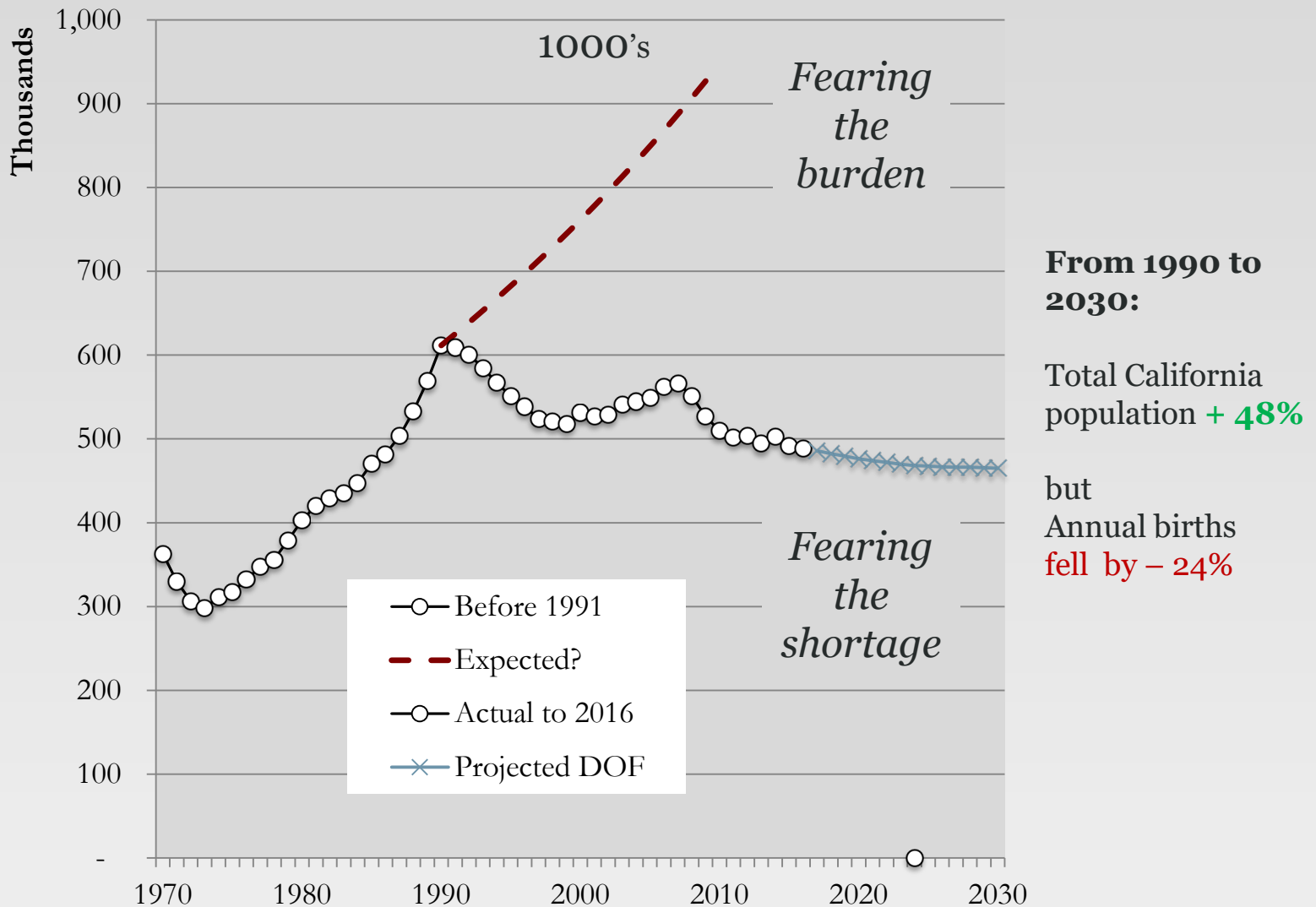
Percentage Increase in Number, 2000 to 2015



U.S. Population Age Compared, Then & Now



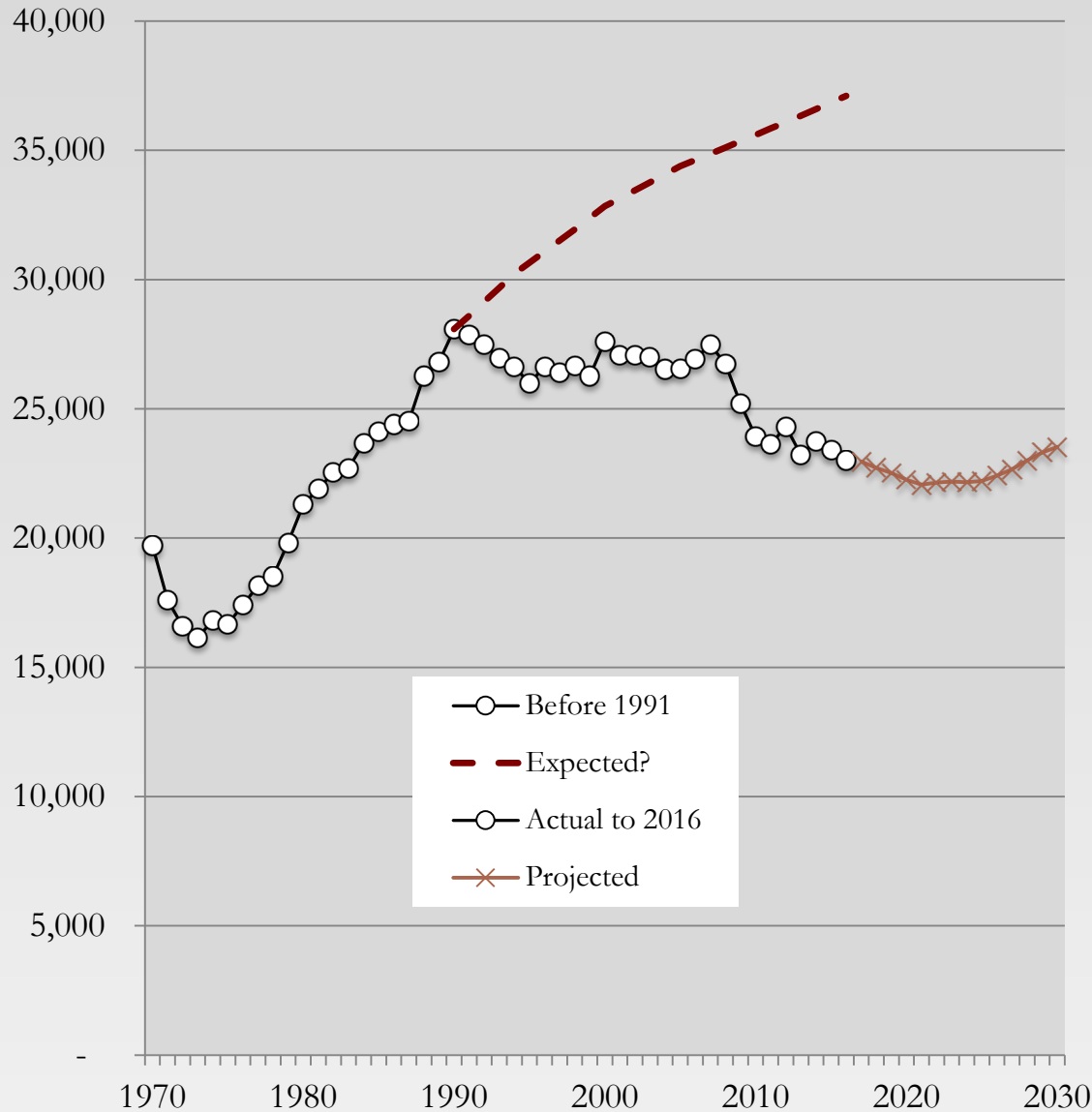
Annual Births in California Soar to 1990



Source: California Department of Finance 2018; analysis by Dowell Myers

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Annual Births in Santa Clara County



From 1990 to 2030:

Total Santa Clara county population **+ 49%**

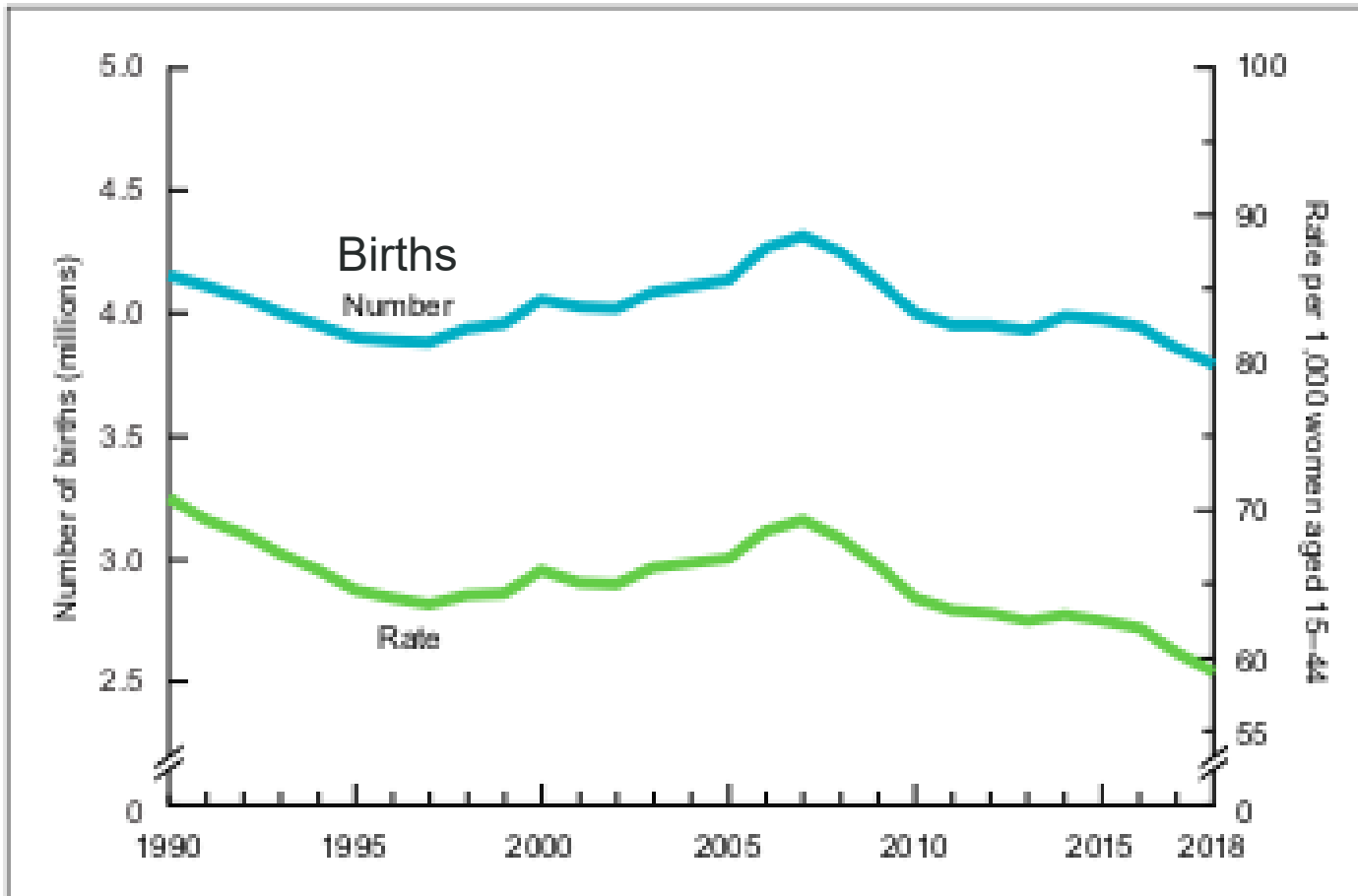
but Annual births **fell by - 16%**

Source: California Department of Finance 2018; analysis by Dowell Myers

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CDC Birth Report May 2019 for the US

Figure 2. Number of live births and general fertility rates: United States, final 1990–2017 and provisional 2018



SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Natality

Why the baby bump in 2007?

Recession downturn is clear post 2007

Finally in 2014 recession recovery begins

BUT why the baby dive after 2016?

Why is it a *Problem* to have Falling Numbers of Children?

Fewer young people to assume the duties of society

- Future workers
 - Future taxpayers
 - Future consumers
 - Future parents
- } *great social benefits*

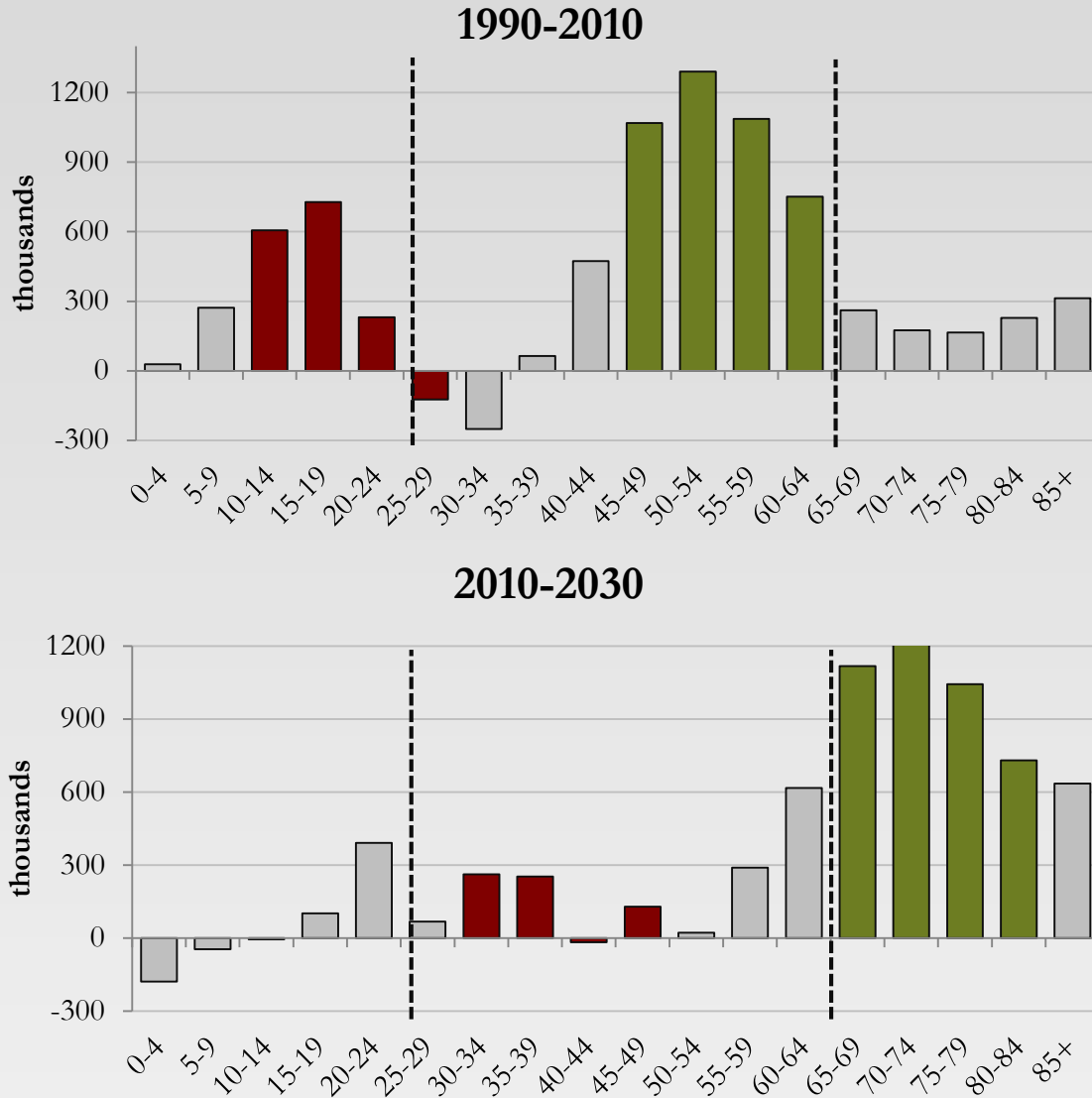
Also reflects on the hurdles faced by young women

- Overburdened by time commitments ages 20 to 34
- Lacking social support
- Expenses not shared by the public (*see benefits*)
- A “barometer of despair” in the younger generation

Our Top Heavy Society

Does it Mean Everything Else is
 Holding Steady?

Growth by Age in California: Then and Now

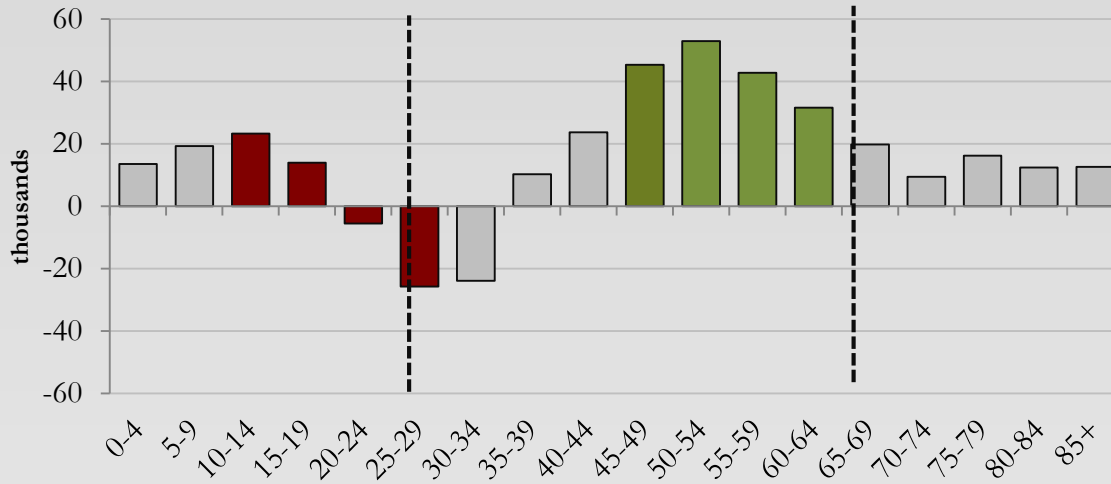


Source: Dowell Myers, Census Bureau decennial census of 1990 and 2010, and CA DOF 2017 vintage projections

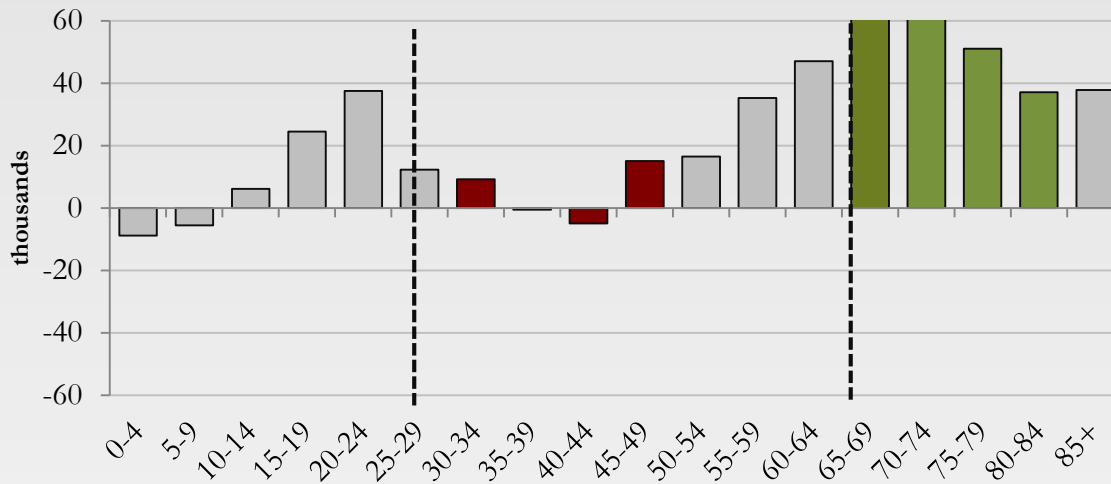
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Growth by Age in Santa Clara County

1990-2010



2010-2030



Source: Dowell Myers, Census Bureau decennial census of 1990 and 2010, and CA DOF 2017 vintage projections

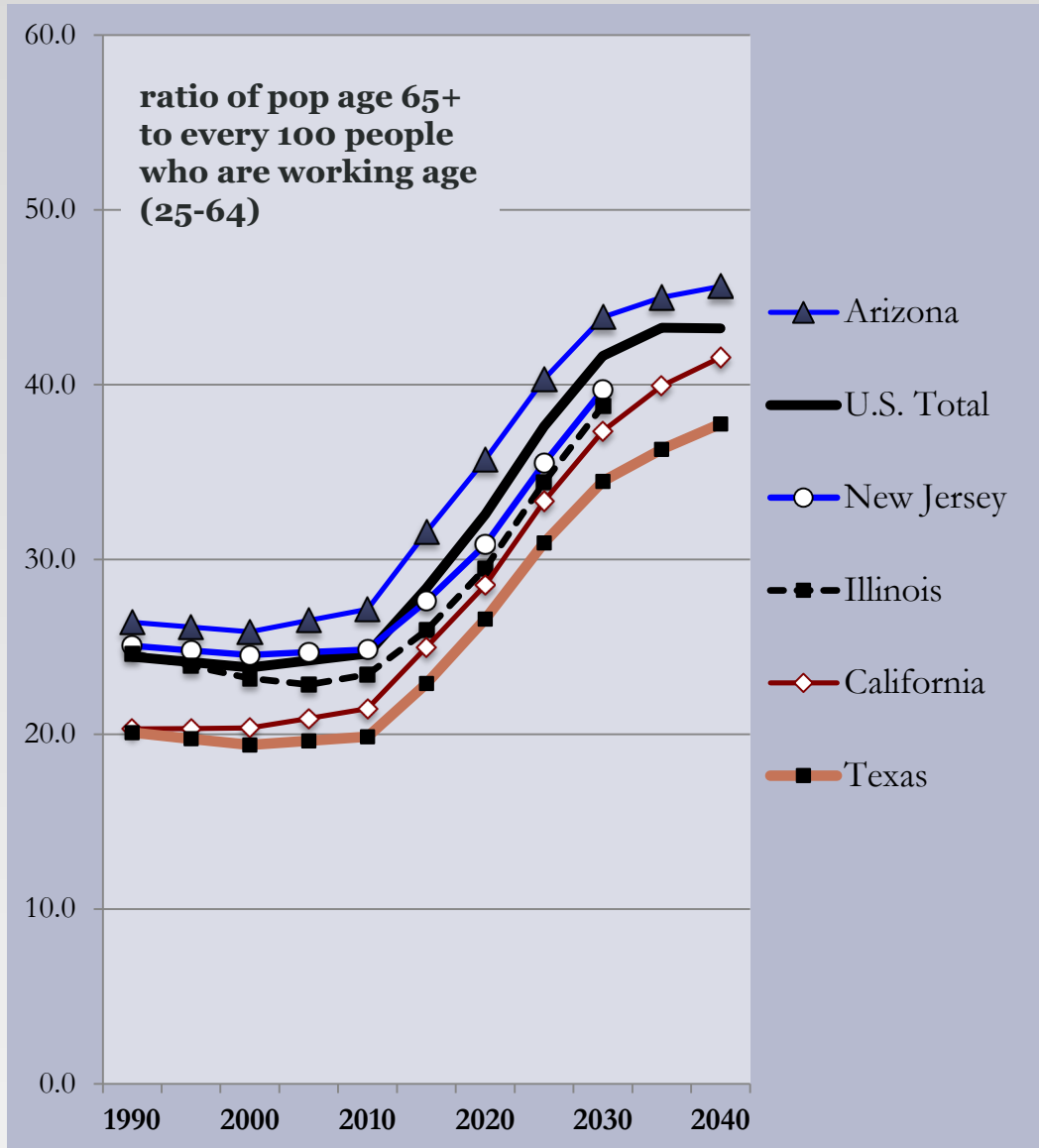
There's getting to be A LOT of older people.
Anybody have a problem with that?

We just can't have *too many* older people because
..... if they retire, who will be the workers?
..... are there enough taxpayers to support
their pensions and health care?

We *need enough* young people as supporters.
Key is the **RATIO** between number of seniors 65+
and
Working age people, ages 25 to 64

“So how many is too many and
what are you gonna do about it?”

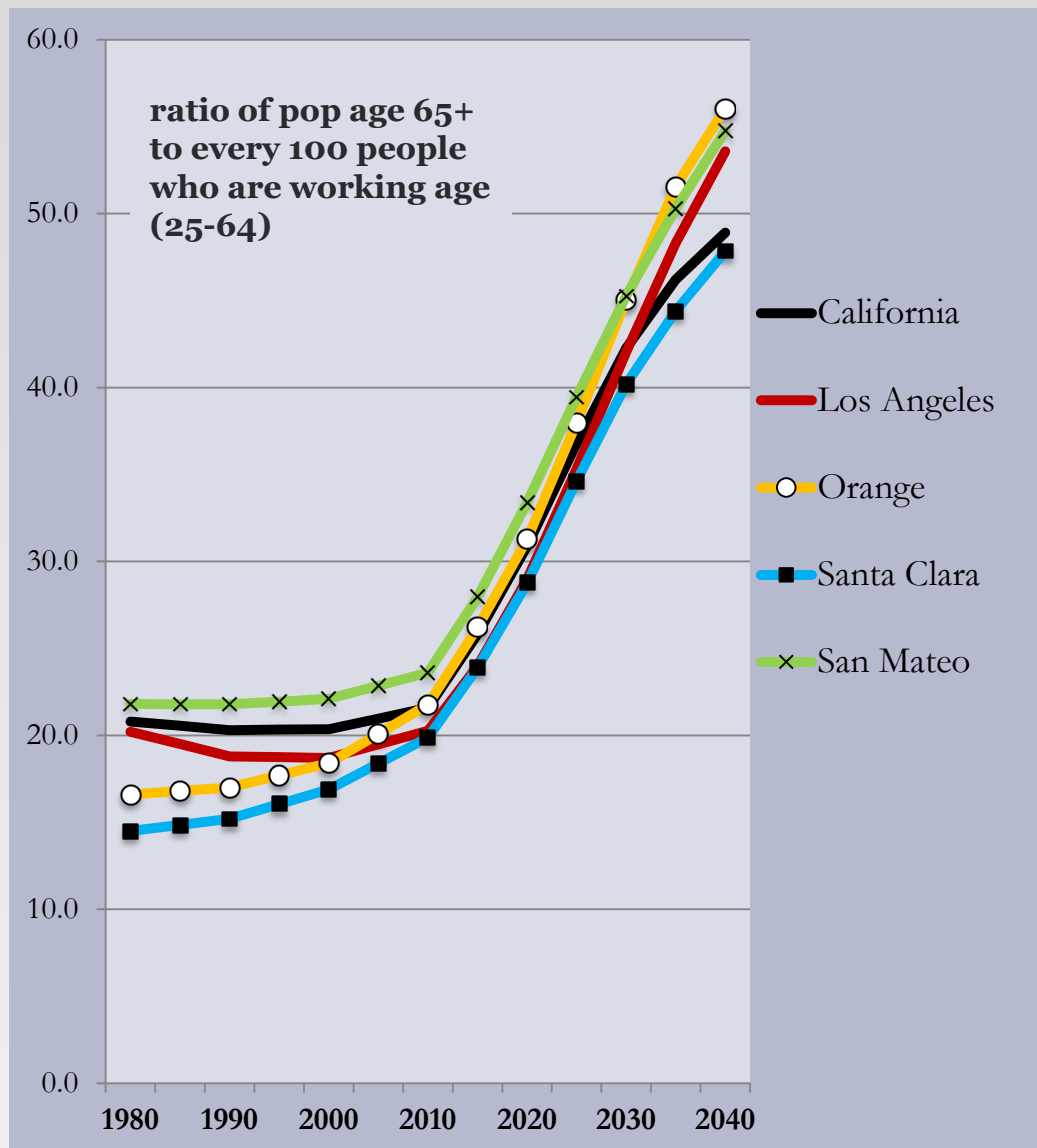
Senior Ratio Soars—after flat since 1970



*These projections are from the early 2010s and yield **conservative** estimates of the rising senior ratio.*

*They **do not** embed current assumptions of declining numbers of children and young workers*

Senior Ratio Soars Even More in California



These projections are from 2017 but may be revised to an even older population as the unexpectedly low fertility and low migration take root.

*The doubled ratios place **extreme reliance on our homegrown children** who will have to carry even more weight.*

Implication of this Aging

oooooooo

A child born in 2015 or later
will enter the working world in 2040,
and face responsibilities
of bearing twice the senior ratio.

Accordingly,
as a worker, taxpayer, and consumer, they will
assume literally **TWICE** the societal importance
of children born before 1985.

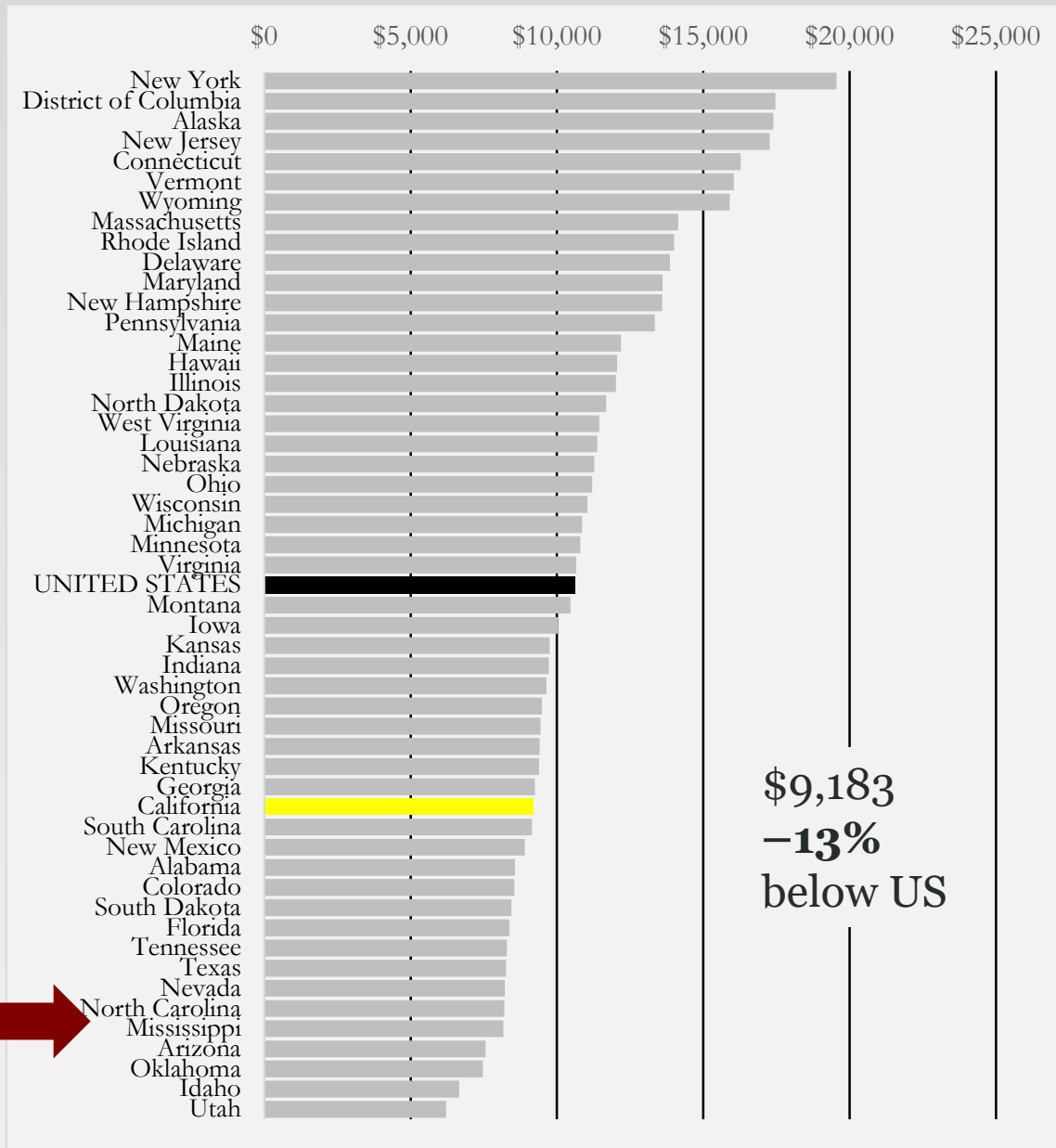
To carry twice the weight of before,
young people will need
to be **TWICE** as prepared,

All evidence shows that
begins with a **STRONG** foundation
of care in early childhood through HS,
paying back investments 6-to-1 or more
in health, child care, and education

So how are we doing?
How high is California
education spending?

*(Spoiler alert: bad news, but getting
better, still much more to go)*

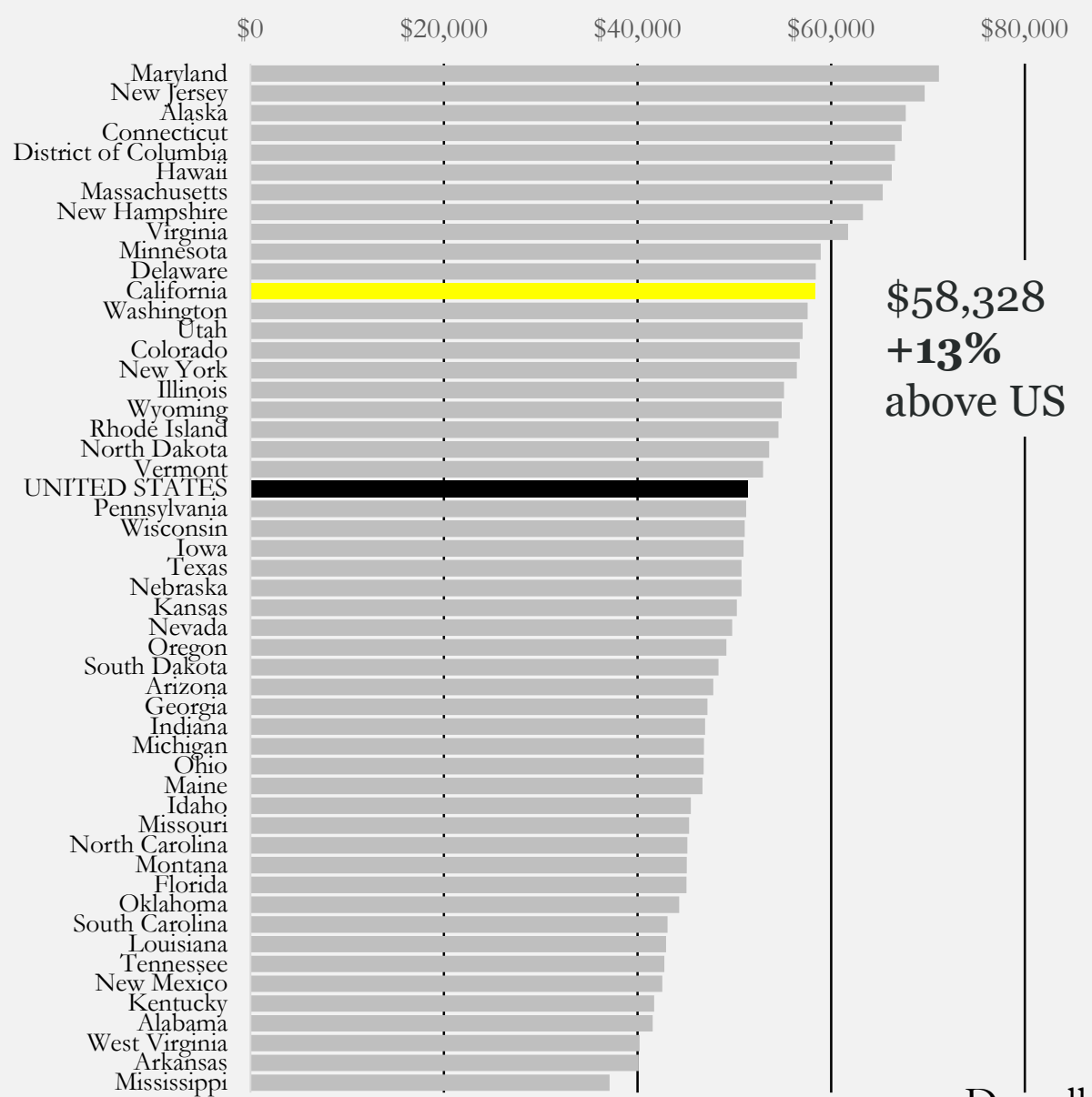
K-12 Spending per Pupil, by State (2012)



\$9,183
 -13%
 below US

source: Census Bureau
 Annual Survey of
 School System Finances

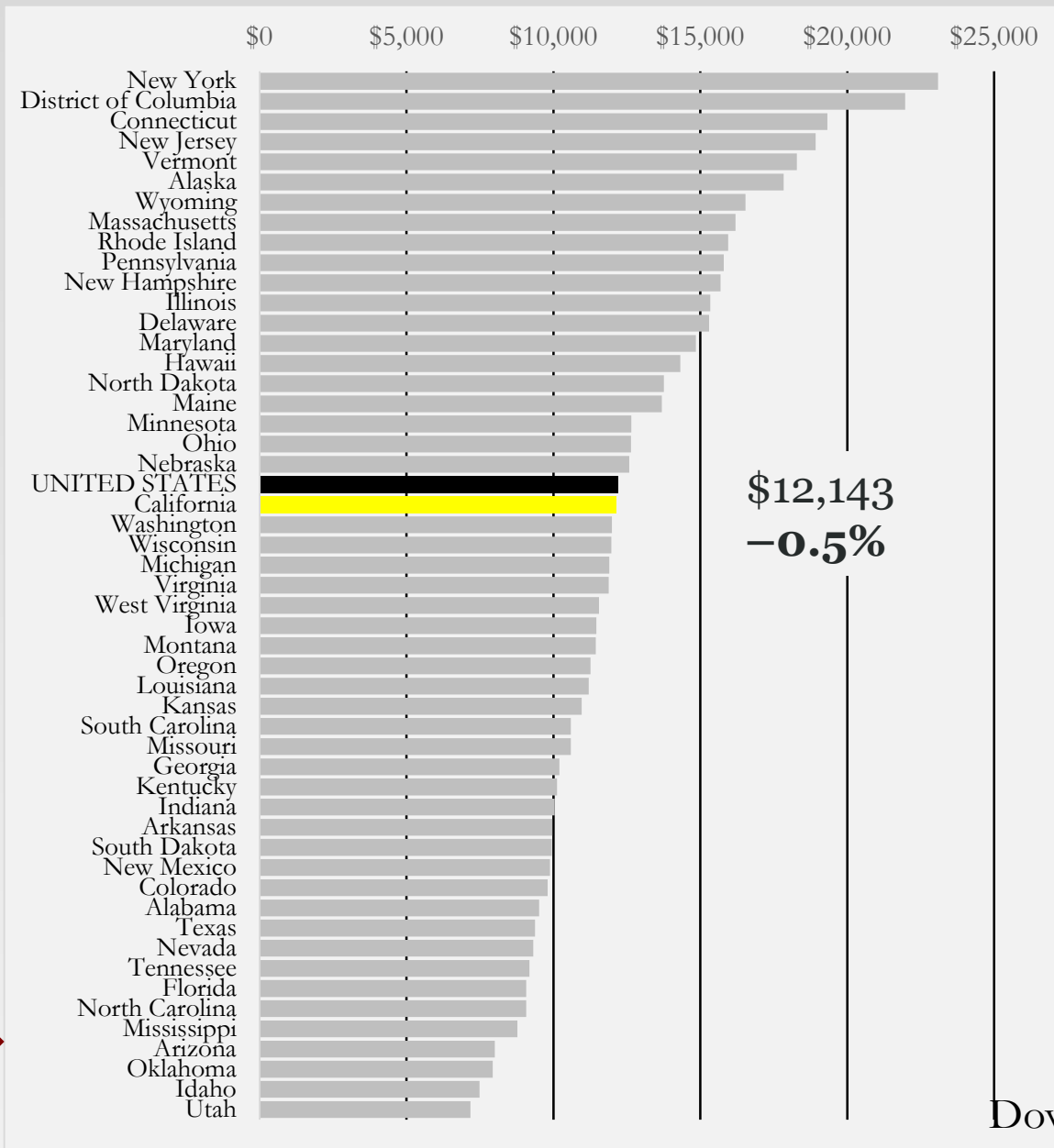
Median Household Income, by State (2012)



\$58,328
+13%
 above US



K-12 Spending per Pupil, by State (2017)



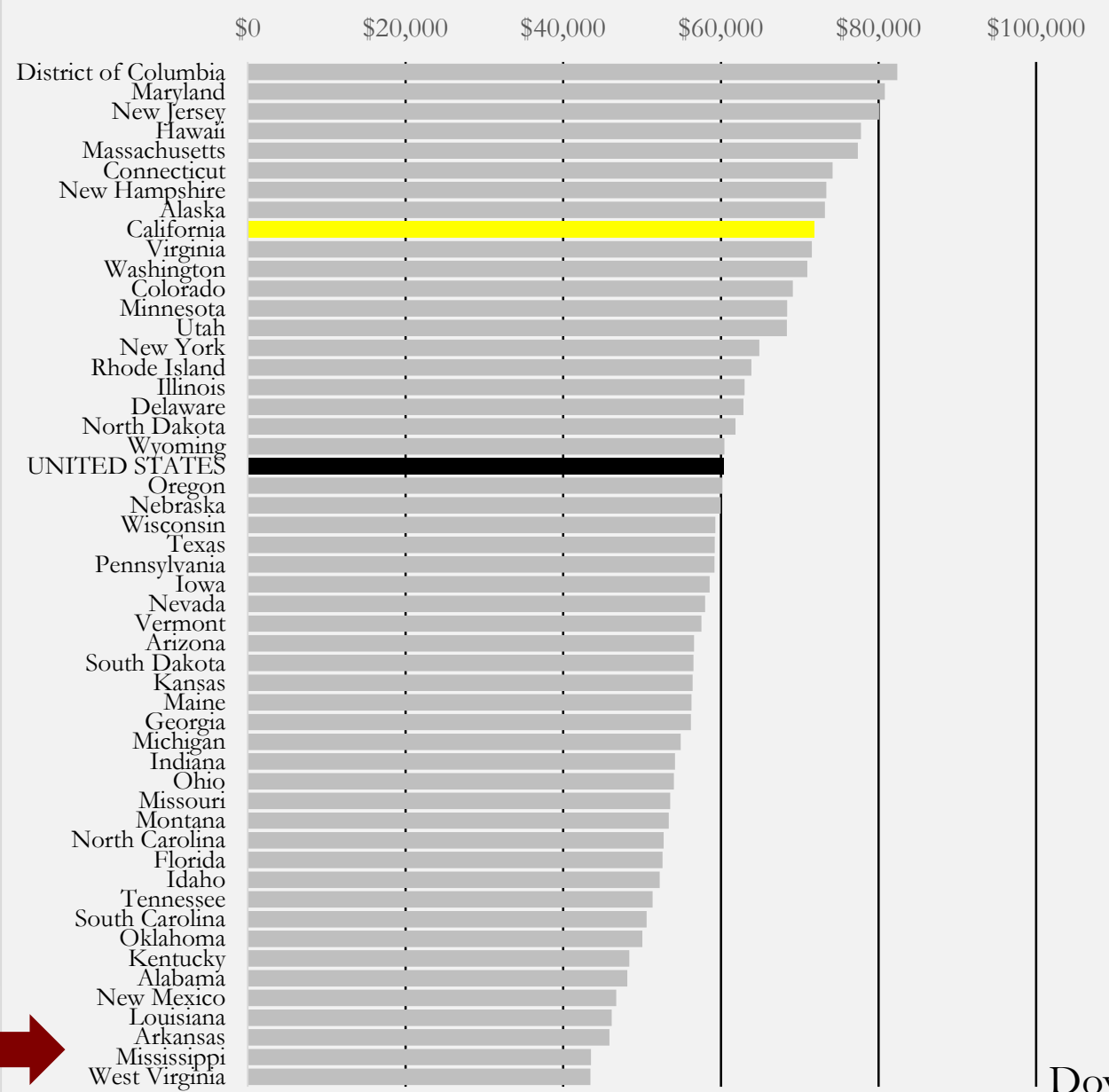
California spending per pupil rose **32.2%** vs. US increase of **15.0%** from 2012 to 2017

source: Census Bureau Annual Survey of School System Finances

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Median Household Income, by State (2017)

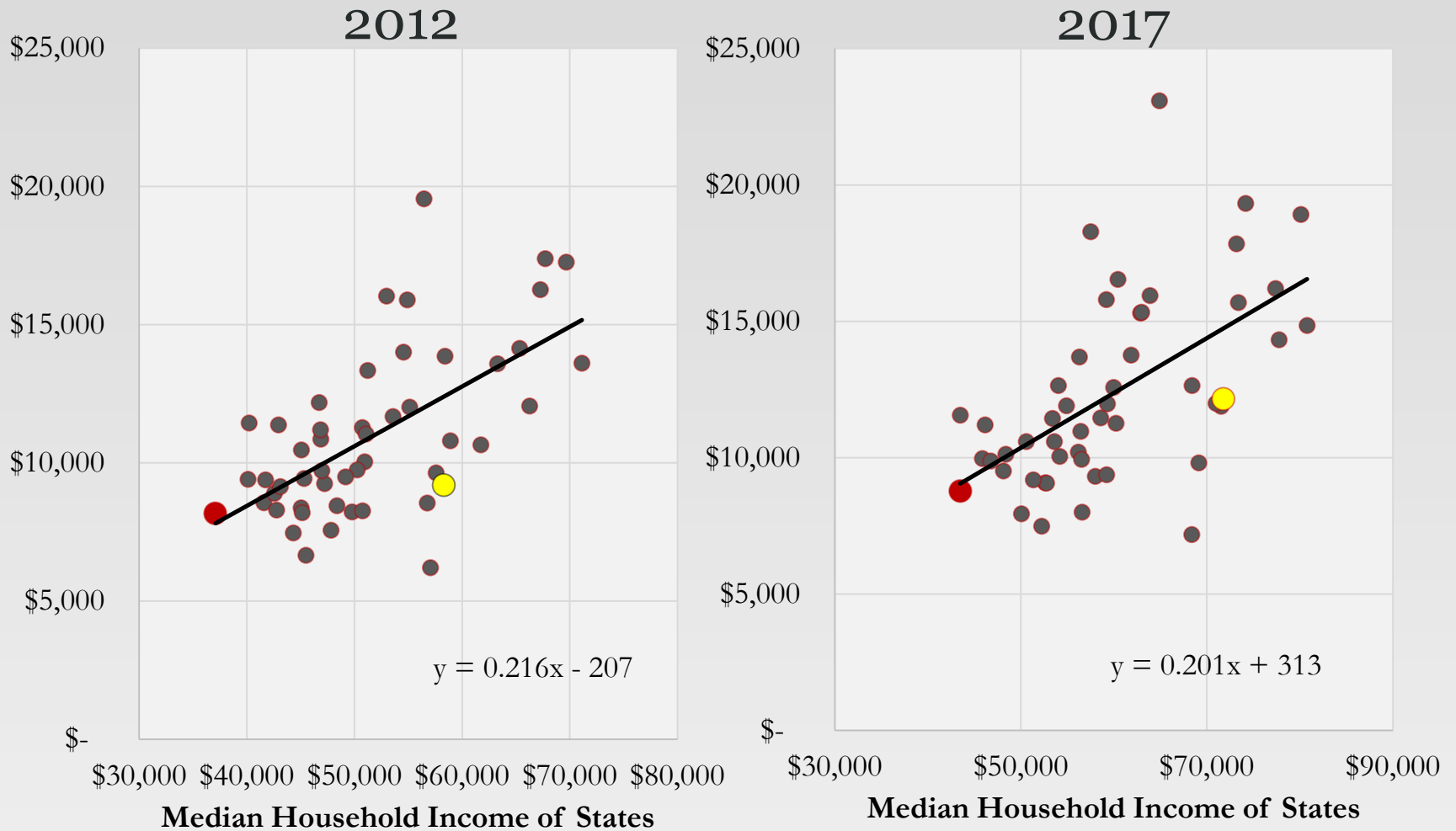


\$71,805
 +19%
 above US

in 2012
 was +13%
 above US



K-12 Spending per Pupil, by State Income



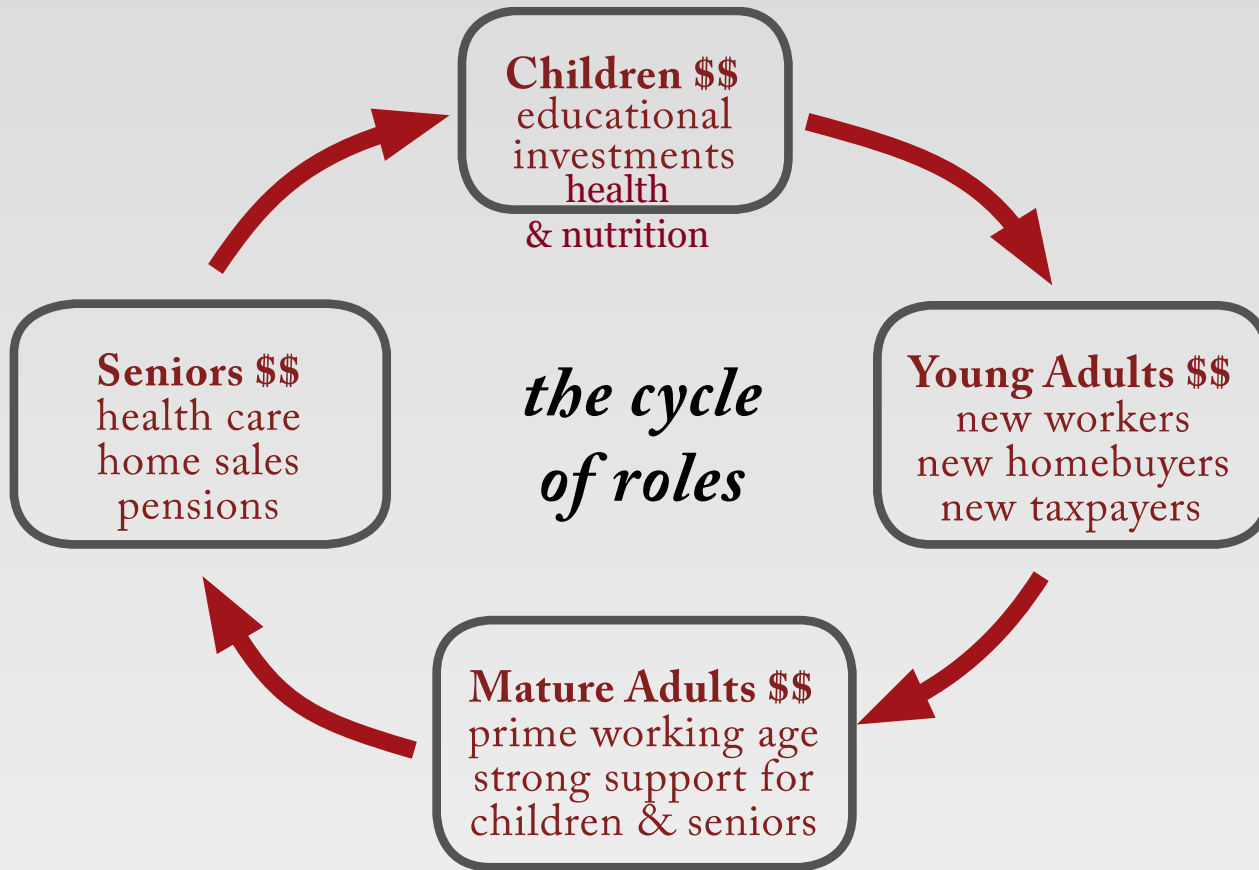
source: Census Bureau Annual Survey of School System Finances

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Given the Doubled Importance of Children
No Youth Can be Neglected

- Need all hands on deck
- No drop outs are acceptable
- College financial aid for all who need it
- **Early childhood interventions**
→ major lifetime benefits
- This is not just a nice thing to do: **its an economic boost for both younger and older Californians alike**

The Intergenerational Partnership Rediscovered



In Conclusion

Here's the simple takeaway:

*We totally need
other people's kids*

And we need them to grow into their
fullest capabilities possible



Thank you

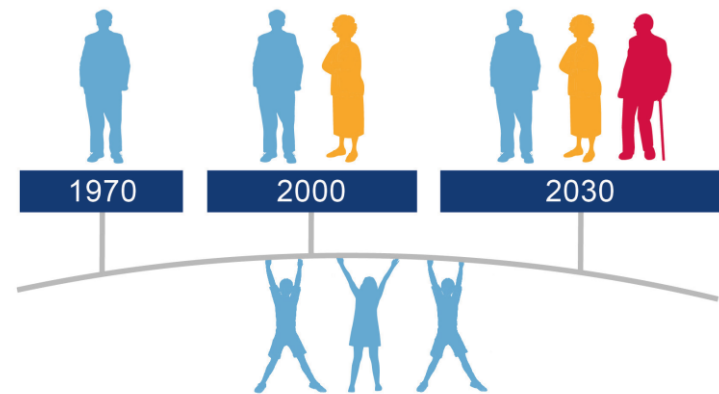
**Visit USC
PopDynamics**

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Report

**The New Importance of Children
in America**



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Population Dynamics Research Group

Acknowledging Research Supporters

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Children's Hospital Association of America

Publications Referenced in this Presentation

Myers, Dowell, "The New Importance of Children in America," Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health and Children's Hospital Association of America, 2017.

Myers, Dowell, "California Futures: New Narratives for a Changing Society," *Boom: A Journal of California*, July 2012.

Pitkin, John and Dowell Myers, "Generational Projections of the California Population: By Nativity and Year of Immigrant Arrival," USC Population Dynamics Research Group, 2012.

Myers, Dowell, "Benefits for California and Its Growing Number of Seniors of Expanded Youth Access to Higher Education," written testimony before the Joint Committee on the Master Plan for Higher Education, California State Legislature, February 2, 2010.

Myers, Dowell, *Immigrants and Boomers: Forging a New Social Contract for the Future of America*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2007.

And see my animated interview on children's importance (9 mins) on the First 5 Placer YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/rAgogNGvHTo>

NOTE: most publications are available at
<http://www.usc.edu/schools/price/research/popdynamics/>

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