

High School Enrollment Trends El Camino Community College District and Local Area High Schools 2002-03 to 2011-12

Introduction

This report profiles recent enrollment trends from local area high schools. Featured schools include those coming from school districts within the El Camino Community College District (ECC), such as those in the Centinela Valley (Hawthorne area), Inglewood, Manhattan Beach, Redondo and Torrance and El Segundo school districts. Continuation and charter schools within the ECC district boundaries are not reviewed here individually but are included when an entire school district is aggregated.

There are five schools from Los Angeles USD and one from Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified, outside the ECC district that also send relatively large numbers of students to ECC. The LAUSD schools are Carson, Gardena, Narbonne, San Pedro, and George Washington. Palos Verdes Peninsula High School is the final school located outside the ECC district included in this report.

Enrollment trends are tracked from 2002-03 through 2011-12. Source data for these trends are from the California Department of Education (CDE), Educational Demographics Unit. Recent graduate enrollment figures are quoted from the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC) and from campus databases.

Executive Summary

Enrollments in feeder high schools have been declining over the last half of the decade.

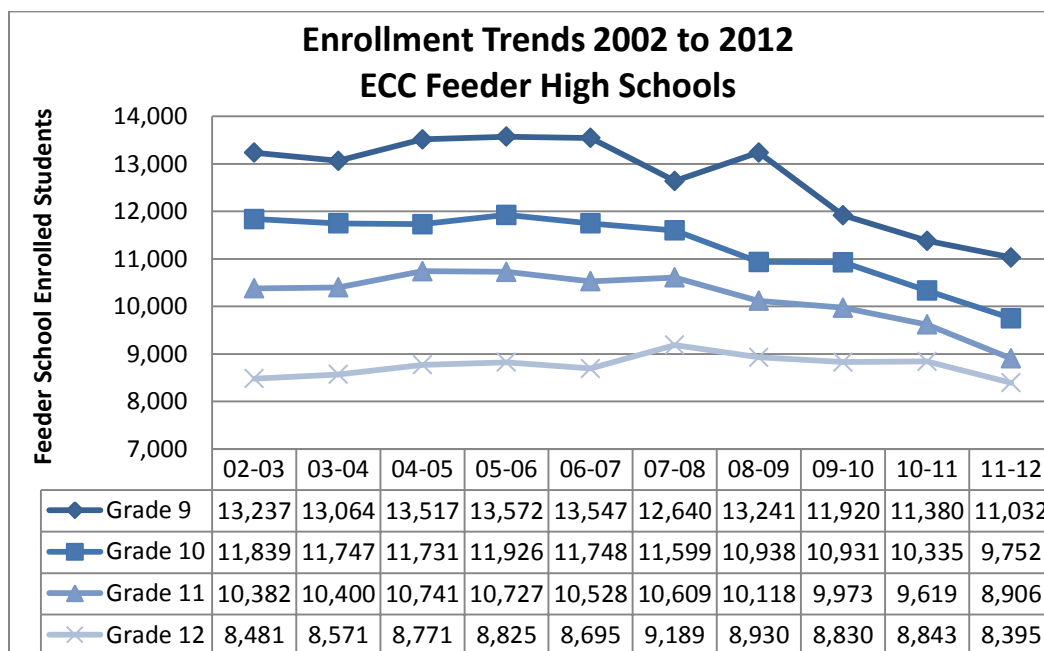
Several high schools and districts show recent declines to varying degrees. Some, like Gardena, are showing double digit percentage declines in enrollments. Others, like the Torrance district, are losing very small percentages annually. However many schools seem to be going through a natural ebb and flow with years of growth followed by decline. Regardless of what happens in an individual school or district, the area trend is one of declining high school population which coincides with the aging population in the region.

Elementary and middle schools that feed into the district high schools have experienced steady declines in enrollment since 2004, which suggest enrollments at the high school level will continue to decline in the next few years.

Projections of enrollments at ECC show continued declines in students coming from feeder high schools over the next few years.

District-wide Trends

Enrollments at the feeder high schools have been declining since the 2005-06 school year. Total local high school enrollment is down by over 5,000 students since the 2005-06. While 12th grade enrollments have remained fairly consistent over the last decade, all other high school grades have been declining since 2005-06. If trends continue this way, fewer students will be coming through the feeder school pipeline in the near future. However, a greater percentage of people at the traditional college age range (18-24) will have completed high school as the gap in numbers between freshmen and seniors narrows.



Source: CDE Dataquest

Another way of looking at this data is to adjust the cells so the data is organized by class. Whereas the chart above gives an idea of the number of students enrolling at feeder high schools each academic year, the table below shows the number of students enrolled each year in each graduating class. In looking at the class of 2012, there are 13,241 students who began as freshmen at one of the feeder high schools. By senior year, only 8,395 students were enrolled. This leaves a net retention rate of 63% through senior year, a number which, despite some minor fluctuations, has remained consistent throughout the last decade. Though this is not an actual cohort since the same set of students are not being followed throughout each period, the data clearly demonstrates that classes are losing approximately 1/3 of their enrollments between freshman and senior years. Most of this attrition comes from the LAUSD feeder schools which typically have more than 50% losses in number of students between freshman and senior year. Feeder schools within the ECC district typically have much higher retention rates, including 8 schools which maintained over 90% of their enrollment numbers.

	Class of 2006	Class of 2007	Class of 2008	Class of 2009	Class of 2010	Class of 2011	Class of 2012
9th	13,237	13,064	13,517	13,572	13,547	12,640	13,241
10th	11,747	11,731	11,926	11,748	11,599	10,938	10,931
11th	10,741	10,727	10,528	10,609	10,118	9,973	9,619
12th	8,825	8,695	9,189	8,930	8,830	8,843	8,395
Retention	66.7%	66.6%	68.0%	65.8%	65.2%	70.0%	63.4%

Source: CDE Dataquest

District and High School Trends

Breaking down the enrollment trends by district and high school paints a more varied picture. Most schools and districts are in a state of decline in recent years. However, some are fluctuating between growth and decline while others, like Inglewood, have shown a recent growth spurt. Charter high schools may have something to do with that increase since they can enroll students from outside their school district. There is a cluster of charter schools in the Inglewood and Centinela Valley school districts (see map below). The following tables provide enrollment levels by high school or district with the annual percent change at the bottom of each.

Centinela Valley High School District

Centinela Valley High School District includes Hawthorne, Lawndale and Leuzinger High Schools. Hawthorne and Leuzinger are especially large schools and major feeders to ECC. Centinela saw substantial growth between 2001 and 2005, followed by substantial declines in the more recent terms. There were 1,600 fewer students enrolled in Centinela Valley high schools in 2011-12 than there were at the peak in 2004-05. The number of seniors at Centinela Valley schools has continued to increase but all of the other grades are in decline. Over the past three years, 75% of Centinela Valley's freshmen made it to senior year. If this trend continues, we will expect the number of seniors in the district to start declining since less students are entering the pipeline. The growth in the number of seniors in 2011-12 when compared to juniors in 2010-11 is probably due to a large increase in enrollments at the district continuation school, but it is unclear where these students are coming from.

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Grade 9	2,199	2,081	2,218	2,295	2,106	1,960	1,886	1,587	1,612	1,543
Grade 10	1,962	2,154	2,102	2,032	2,083	2,067	1,868	1,753	1,545	1,652
Grade 11	1,781	1,779	1,976	1,923	1,774	1,913	1,917	1,755	1,671	1,549
Grade 12	1,534	1,551	1,811	1,727	1,581	1,677	1,615	1,629	1,740	1,756
Total	7,476	7,565	8,107	7,977	7,544	7,617	7,286	6,724	6,568	6,500
% Change		1.2%	7.2%	-1.6%	-5.4%	1.0%	-4.3%	-7.7%	-2.3%	-1.0%

Source: CDE Dataquest

El Segundo Unified School District

El Segundo High School is located at the far north section of the ECC District. It sends relatively few students to El Camino College each year. El Segundo has experienced continued moderate growth from 2002 to 2008. After a period of declining enrollment, the school is back to the 08-09 levels. Over 97% of the students who start at El Segundo as freshmen are still enrolled their senior year.

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Grade 9	280	313	329	307	316	324	304	297	295	344
Grade 10	274	281	307	332	310	322	320	312	293	306
Grade 11	257	263	270	306	313	311	316	306	307	289
Grade 12	244	249	259	261	281	312	308	313	298	307
Total	1,055	1,106	1,165	1,206	1,220	1,269	1,248	1,228	1,193	1,246
% Change		4.8%	5.3%	3.5%	1.2%	4.0%	-1.7%	-1.6%	-2.9%	4.4%

Source: CDE Dataquest

Inglewood Unified School District

The Inglewood Unified School District consists of Inglewood and Morningside High Schools, as well as three public charter high schools. These schools are modest feeders to ECC, likely due to their northern location in the district. Inglewood district has seen a slight growth from 2003 to 2006. The district experienced a steady decline from 2006 to 2010 before experiencing a large growth in 10-11. Since each class from the 2010-11 school year is larger than the corresponding class from the previous year, it is likely that the district has assumed some students who were previously enrolled elsewhere. Animo Inglewood Charter High School, of the Green Dot schools was founded in 2002 (www.greendot.org), but data for the school is only associated with the Inglewood Unified School District on the CDE website since the 2010-11 school, year so this school is a likely contributor to the perceived district growth.

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Grade 9	1085	1045	1069	1080	1004	1022	951	822	1058	918
Grade 10	1173	1065	995	1060	1049	950	1032	939	1028	1,042
Grade 11	922	1076	991	994	977	977	902	967	1115	940
Grade 12	743	795	944	902	877	880	853	816	1008	959
Total	3,923	3,981	3,999	4,036	3,907	3,829	3,738	3,544	4,209	3,859
% Change		1.5%	0.5%	0.9%	-3.2%	-2.0%	-2.4%	-5.2%	18.8%	-8.3%

Source: CDE Dataquest

Los Angeles Unified School District Feeders

The LAUSD feeder schools are Carson, Gardena, Narbonne, San Pedro, and Washington high schools. They experienced a fairly large decline in enrollments during the last five years. As freshmen numbers continue to decline and since approximately half of the incoming freshmen are still enrolled in their senior year, we can expect to see a decrease in the number of seniors graduating from these schools over the next few years.

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Grade 9	5682	5651	5930	5894	6256	5503	6166	5357	4790	4359
Grade 10	4516	4310	4403	4495	4462	4461	3816	4028	3765	3152
Grade 11	3581	3447	3568	3599	3736	3682	3344	3222	3010	2850
Grade 12	2509	2548	2579	2578	2369	2655	2505	2450	2445	2290
Total	16,288	15,956	16,480	16,566	16,823	16,301	15,831	15,057	14,010	12,651
% Change		-2.0%	3.3%	0.5%	1.6%	-3.1%	-2.9%	-4.9%	-7.0%	-9.7%

Source: CDE Dataquest

Manhattan Beach Unified School District

The Manhattan Beach Unified School District consists of Mira Costa High School. The school is a moderate feeder to ECC. Mira Costa enrollments have been fluctuating between years of moderate growth and moderate decline over the last decade. Overall, enrollments are staying steady and fall within a predictable range.

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Grade 9	690	602	623	527	603	628	614	592	578	687
Grade 10	628	680	603	613	532	618	635	611	595	594
Grade 11	571	581	630	565	592	532	607	612	584	585
Grade 12	535	533	546	593	557	606	524	605	602	595
Total	2,424	2,396	2,402	2,298	2,284	2,384	2,380	2,420	2,359	2,461
% Change		-1.2%	0.3%	-4.3%	-0.6%	4.4%	-0.2%	1.7%	-2.5%	4.3%

Source: CDE Dataquest

Palos Verdes Peninsula High School

Palos Verdes Peninsula High School, located in the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District located south of the district, showed decreasing enrollments, but recent increases in freshmen enrollments is spurring an increase in overall enrollments.

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Grade 9	621	623	618	633	598	538	644	548	631	688
Grade 10	729	648	640	617	630	605	580	636	580	635
Grade 11	836	723	653	643	609	621	613	557	639	577
Grade 12	786	825	689	634	626	590	622	596	552	640
Total	2972	2819	2600	2527	2463	2354	2459	2337	2402	2540
% Change		-5.1%	-7.8%	-2.8%	-2.5%	-4.4%	4.5%	-5.0%	2.8%	5.7%

Source: CDE Dataquest

Redondo Beach District

The Redondo Beach Unified School District consists of Redondo Union and Redondo Shores High Schools. Redondo Union is a major feeder school to ECC. The Redondo district has seen continued moderate to large growth in the recent past, however there has been a general decline over the last four years.

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Grade 9	554	667	668	680	664	663	680	660	642	647
Grade 10	560	542	634	662	658	646	655	653	650	637
Grade 11	531	569	532	641	703	658	658	656	629	667
Grade 12	561	526	548	519	748	708	679	711	699	684
Total	2,206	2,304	2,382	2,502	2,773	2,675	2,672	2,680	2,620	2,635
% Change	1.2%	4.4%	3.4%	5.0%	10.8%	-3.5%	-0.1%	0.3%	-2.2%	0.6%

Source: CDE Dataquest

Torrance District

The Torrance Unified School District includes Torrance, North, South and West High Schools. These are all major feeder schools with Torrance sending the most graduates recently. Schools

in the Torrance district have experienced continued modest growth from 2001 to 2006 before plateauing.

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Grade 9	2,222	2,237	2,272	2,355	2,234	2,278	2,167	2,198	2,118	2,161
Grade 10	2,164	2,219	2,229	2,282	2,329	2,208	2,294	2,178	2,164	2,203
Grade 11	2,119	2,287	2,416	2,360	2,230	2,321	2,155	2,315	2,181	2,211
Grade 12	1,844	1,807	1,934	2,070	2,241	2,262	2,336	2,212	2,344	2,231
Total	8,349	8,550	8,851	9,067	9,034	9,069	8,952	8,903	8,807	8,806
% Change	3.7%	2.4%	3.5%	2.4%	-0.4%	0.4%	-1.3%	-0.5%	-1.1%	0.0%

Source: CDE Dataquest

Future Trends

The set of tables and charts below show enrollment trends by school level or type for districts within the ECC District. Schools located outside the ECC district boundaries are not included here. Growth/decline is represented both in real counts and as percentage of change from the previous year.

Enrollment peaked across the system in 2004-05 and has declined each year since, with the exception of the most recent years. Elementary school enrollments have been declining modestly every year. This has contributed to a decline in middle school and high school enrollments in the last few years and should continue to do so for the next few years.

School Type	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Kindergarten	7,159	7,324	6,958	6,859	6,734	6,493	6,770	6,871	6,729	6,983
Elementary	45,635	45,394	44,859	43,468	42,125	41,620	41,157	41,090	40,935	40,933
Middle	14,970	15,378	15,234	15,296	15,253	14,869	14,769	14,582	14,530	14,303
High School	26,097	26,974	28,299	28,708	28,806	28,948	28,796	28,773	29,601	29,704
Total	93,861	95,070	95,350	94,331	92,918	91,930	91,492	91,316	91,795	91,923

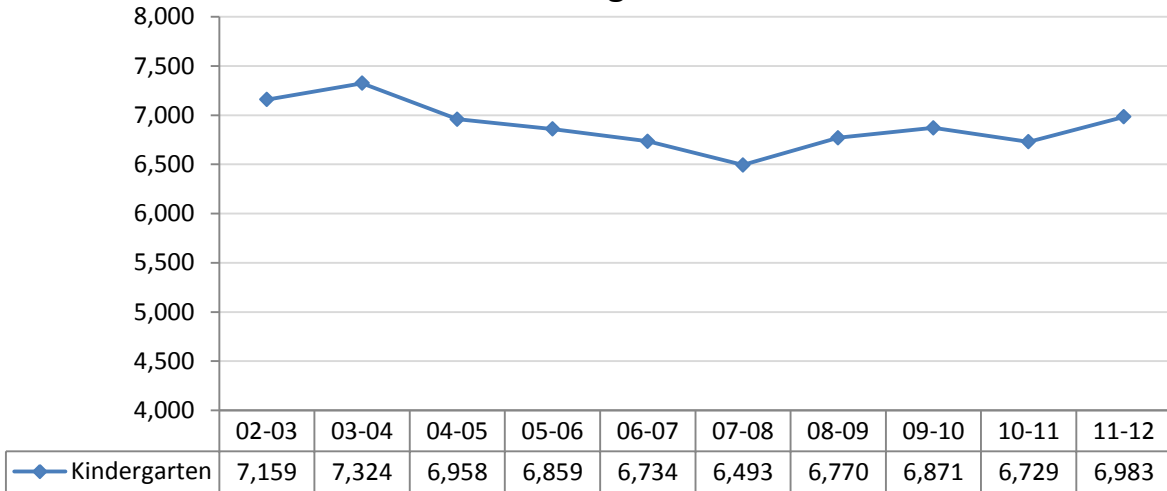
Source: CDE Dataquest

Grade	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Kindergarten	2.3%	-5.0%	-1.4%	-1.8%	-3.6%	4.3%	1.5%	-2.1%	3.8%
Elementary	-0.5%	-1.2%	-3.1%	-3.1%	-1.2%	-1.1%	-0.2%	-0.4%	0.0%
Middle	2.7%	-0.9%	0.4%	-0.3%	-2.5%	-0.7%	-1.3%	-0.4%	-1.6%
High School	3.4%	4.9%	1.4%	0.3%	0.5%	-0.5%	-0.1%	2.9%	0.3%
Total	1.3%	0.3%	-1.1%	-1.5%	-1.1%	-0.5%	-0.2%	0.5%	0.1%

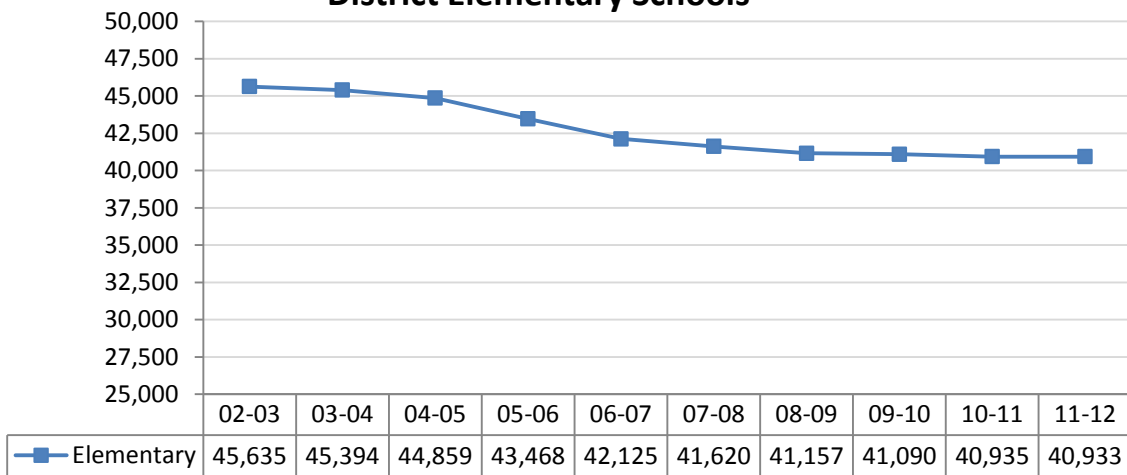
Source: CDE Dataquest

The following three charts graphically display enrollment trends by each school type. With the exception of the much smaller kindergarten classes, all schools show steady declines in recent years. However, elementary, middle, and high schools are all showing steady declines in the last few years. These declines foreshadow a continued decrease in students coming from the typical feeders.

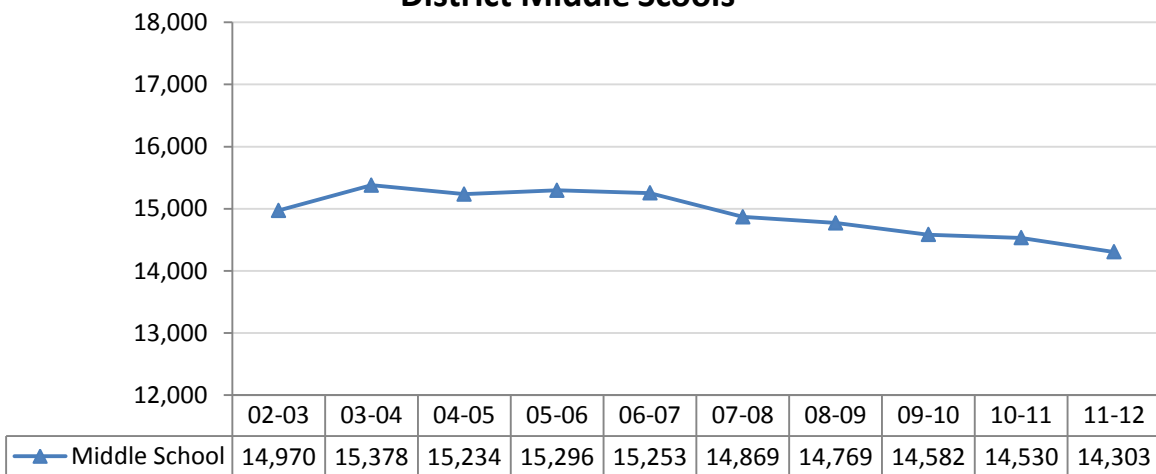
Enrollment Trends (2002-03 to 2011-12) District Kindergartens



Enrollment Trends (2002-03 to 2011-12) District Elementary Schools



Enrollment Trends (2002-03 to 2011-12) District Middle Schools



ECC Projections

A projection of new enrollments coming from feeder schools was developed based on high school freshmen enrollments. Using a ratio of the average ECC enrollments coming from each feeder school and the number of freshmen who started at each feeder school gives an indication of what each school will provide in the coming years. This model assumes other factors remain constant and that schools will continue to funnel students towards ECC at the same rates as they have been. Freshman counts are used because they were found to provide more accurate outputs than senior counts when comparing to known counts of students enrolled at ECC based on self-reported high school of first time El Camino College students. As the chart illustrates, there is likely to be a minor decline in new students coming from feeder high schools over the next three years.

High School	New Students per Year		
	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015
Hawthorne	83	94	93
Lawndale	101	136	160
Leuzinger	94	69	43
El Segundo	48	47	55
Inglewood	32	31	29
Morningside	26	26	22
Gardena	114	90	65
Narbonne	123	121	112
Carson	95	90	77
Mira Costa	92	90	106
Redondo Union	74	72	72
Torrance	167	161	162
North	214	207	199
South	136	128	134
West	184	179	183
San Pedro	81	66	73
Palos Verdes	78	90	98
Washington	29	27	25
Total	1,770	1,725	1,707

Source: CPEC and Local data

El Camino Feeder High Schools

