# Long-Term Enrollment Forecast

ACPS and City of Alexandria

# Long-Term Forecast

- Uses enrollment inputs forecasting model
  - Population forecast and birth rate
  - Kindergarten capture
  - Cohort survival by grade
- Reality check against
  - ACPS Mid-Term Projection
  - Student generation by residential type
  - Students per 1,000 population over time and compared to other jurisdictions

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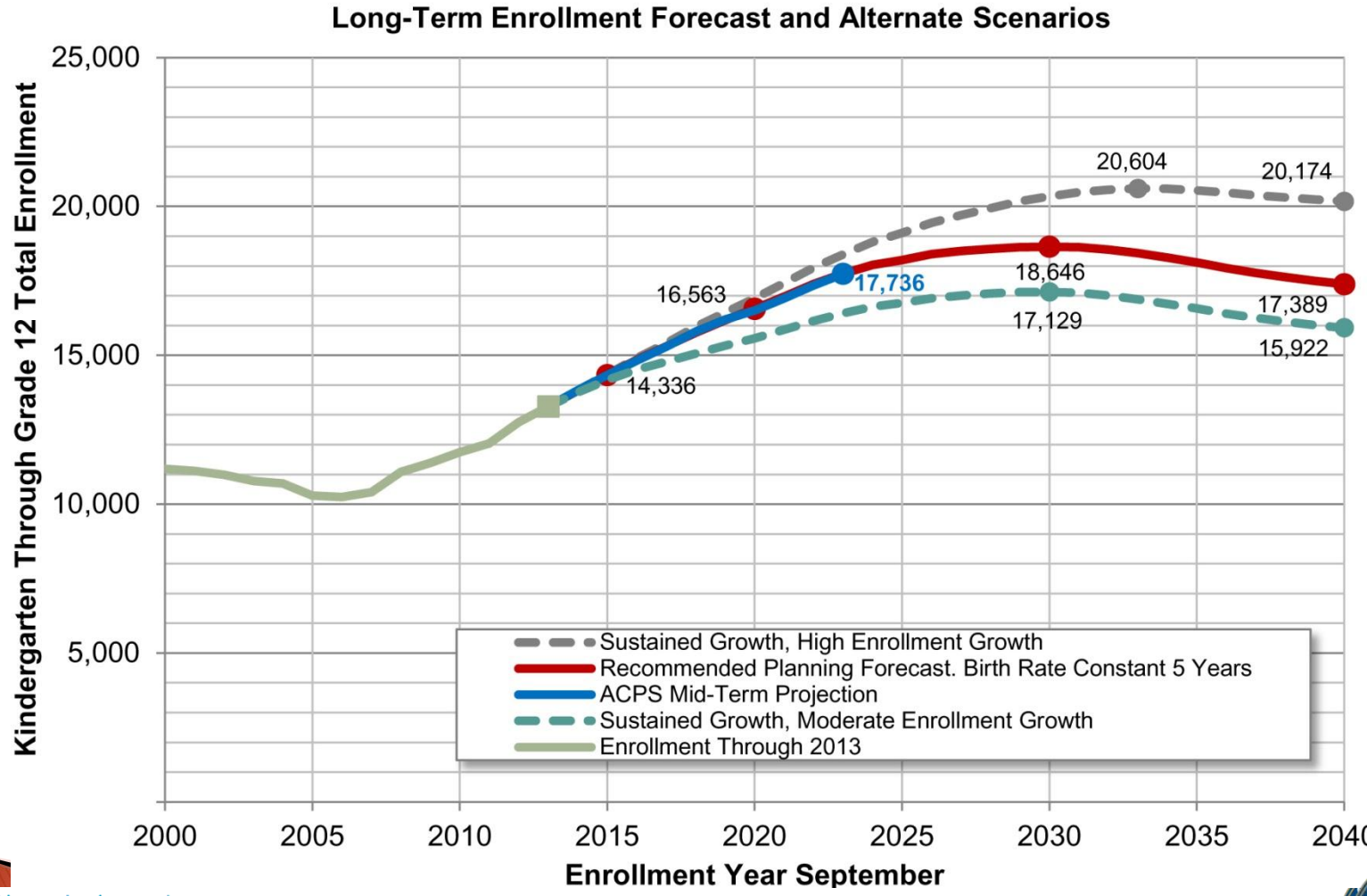
# Long-Term Forecast

- Includes a recommended forecast and alternate potential scenarios
  - Anticipate facility needs based on realistic high enrollment scenario.
  - Be aware of other possible scenarios including higher and low potential enrollment scenarios
- Plan for flexibility in response to unknowns

# Long-Term Forecast

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# Long-Term Forecast Scenarios

- Recommended Forecast
  - Current baby “boomlet”: births, now rising, will hold steady, then decline
  - Improved economy, limited housing modestly increases number of families moving out of Alexandria. Counterbalanced by more families seeking urban location and lifestyle.
- High enrollment forecast: births continue to increase
- Moderate enrollment forecast: outmigration increases more rapidly

# Long-Term Forecast

| Scenario | Year | Birth Rate | K Capture | Cohort Survival |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ACPS-Mid-Term Projection | 2023 | Trend in 15-year average | 3-year average (60.7%) | 3-year average by school by grade |
| High Forecast | 2040 | Increases 5 years then falls | 60% falls to 58% by 2040 | By grade, falls 1 pt to 2040 |
| Recommended Forecast | 2040 | Steady 5 years then falls | 60% to 58% 5 yrs then 56% by 2040 | Same |
| Moderate Forecast | 2040 | Same | 60% to 58% 2 yrs then 56% by 2040 | Falls 2 pts 2 years then 2 pts to 2040 |

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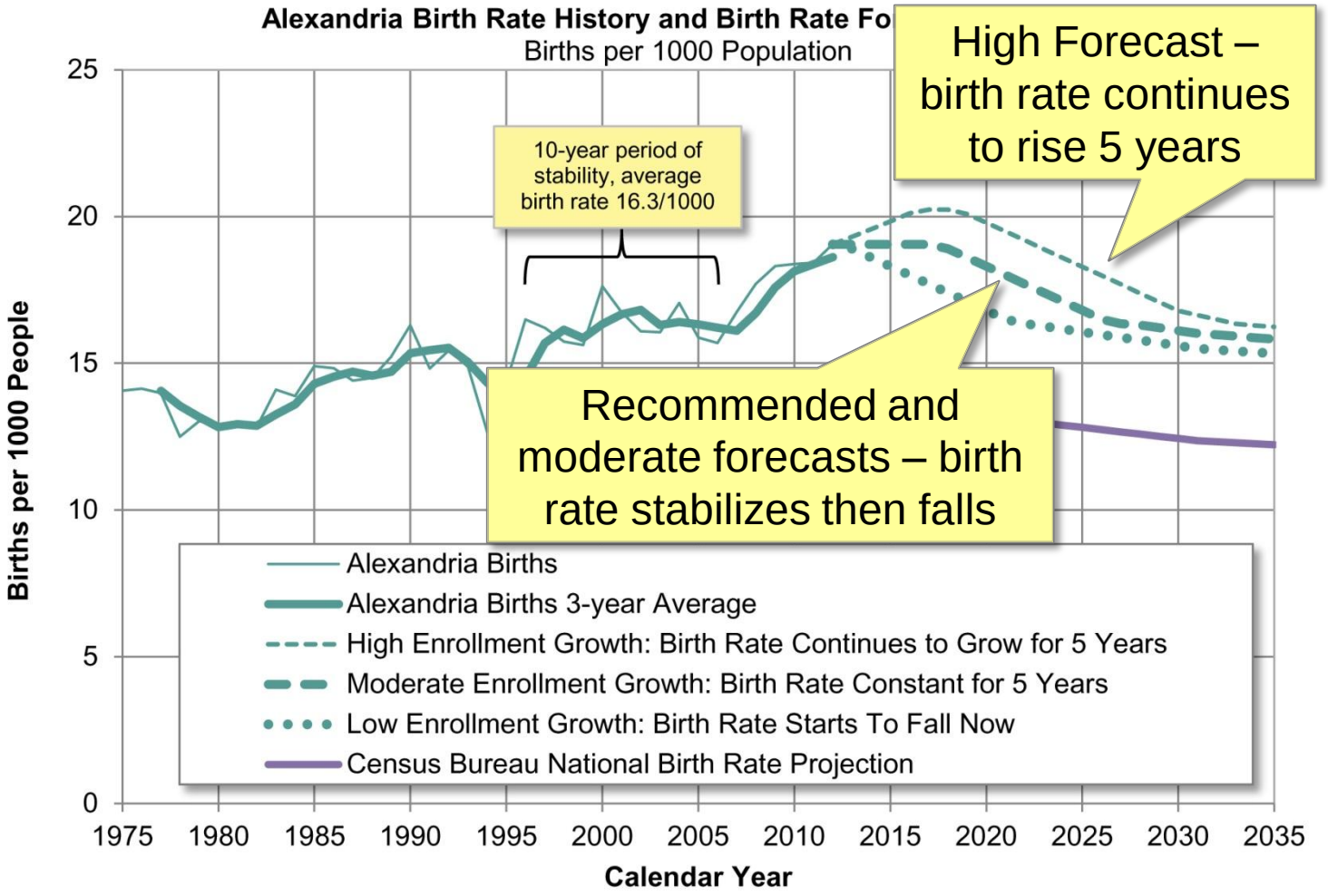
# Birth Rate

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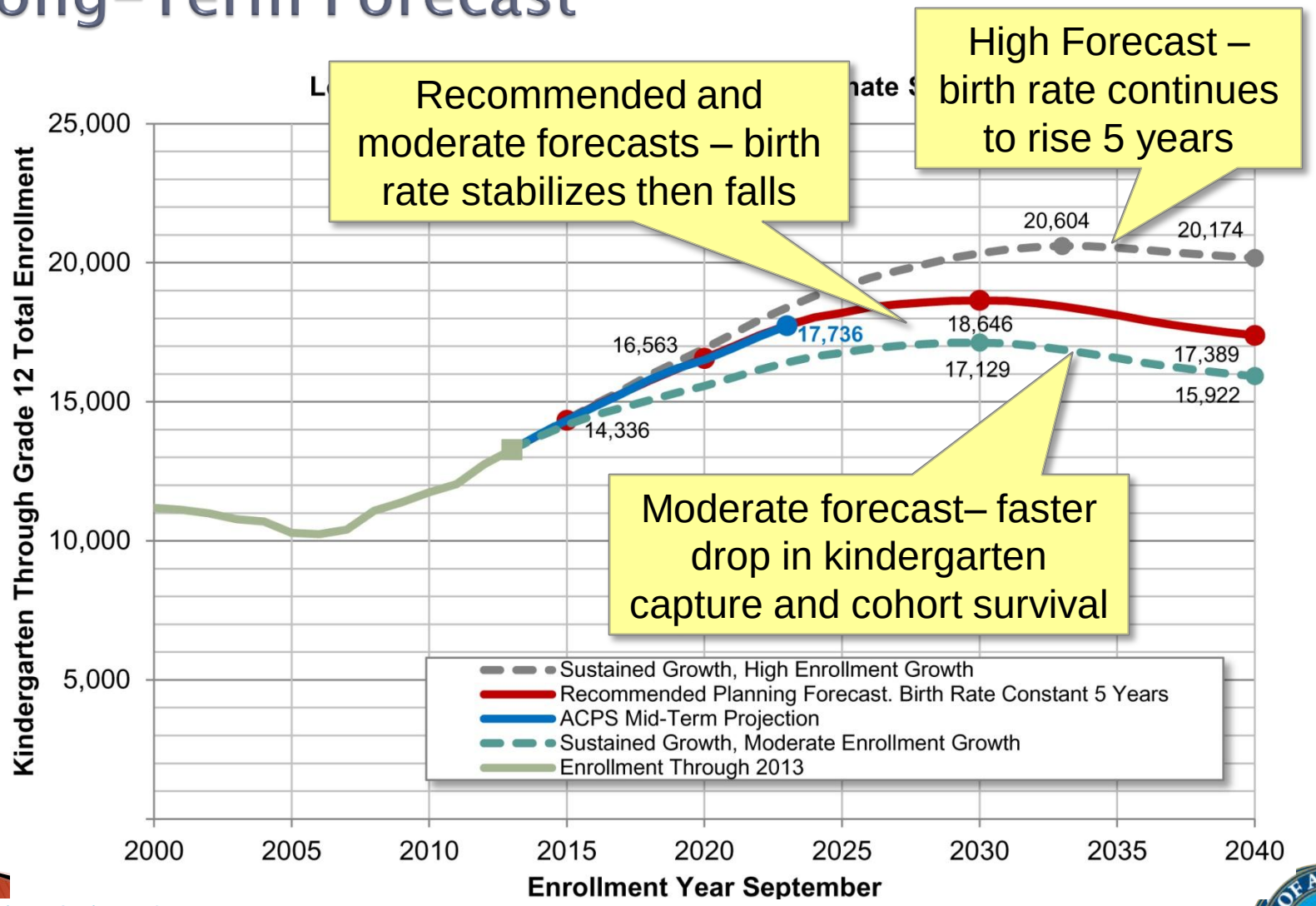


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# Kindergarten Capture and Cohort Survival

- Forces for reduction
  - Larger percentage of housing in the future will be multi-family housing.
  - Unit sizes in new multifamily units are currently low.
- Forces for increase
  - Families choosing an urban environment in which to raise their children
  - Shorter commutes/greater access to non-auto modes of travel

# Long-Term Forecast

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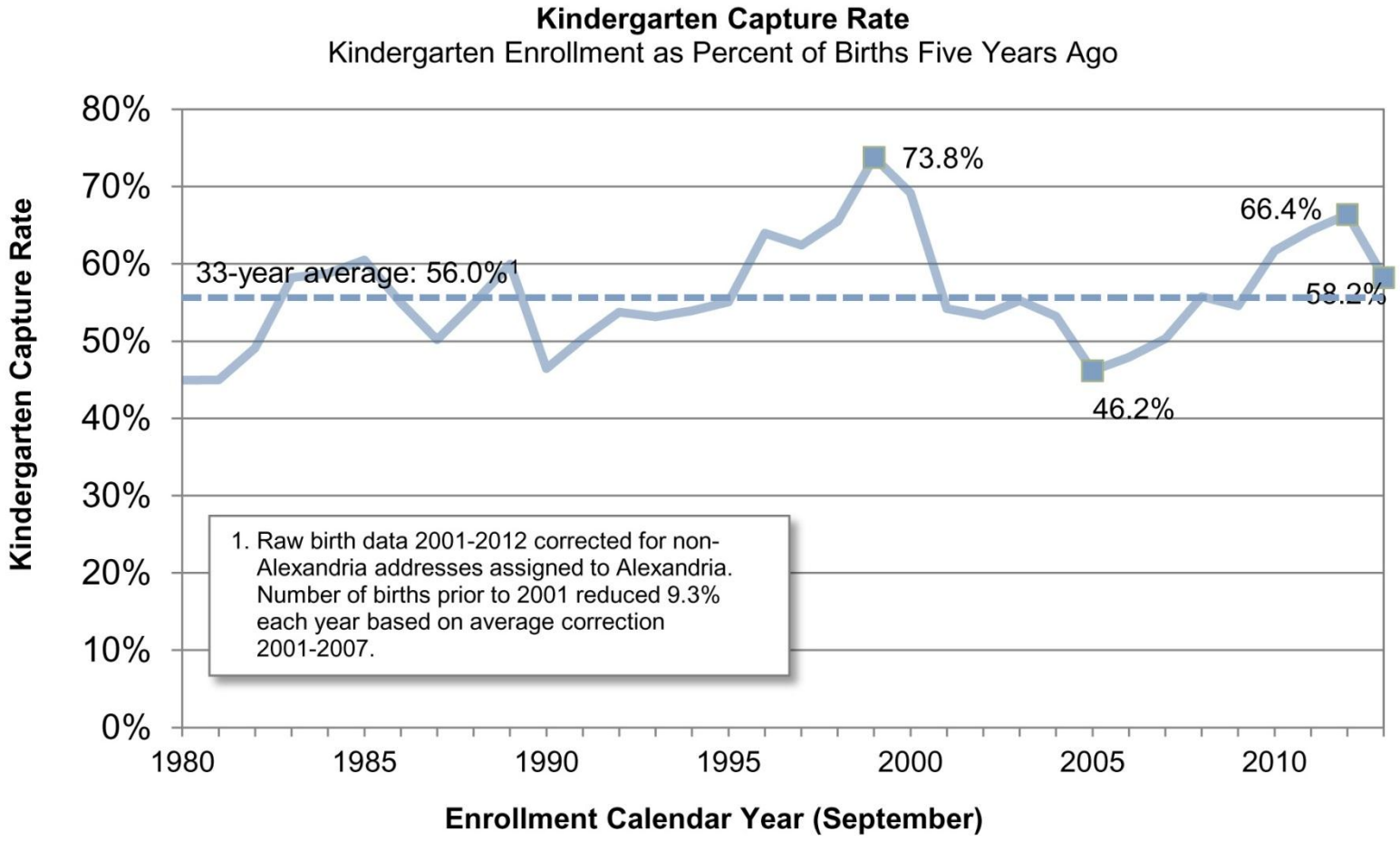
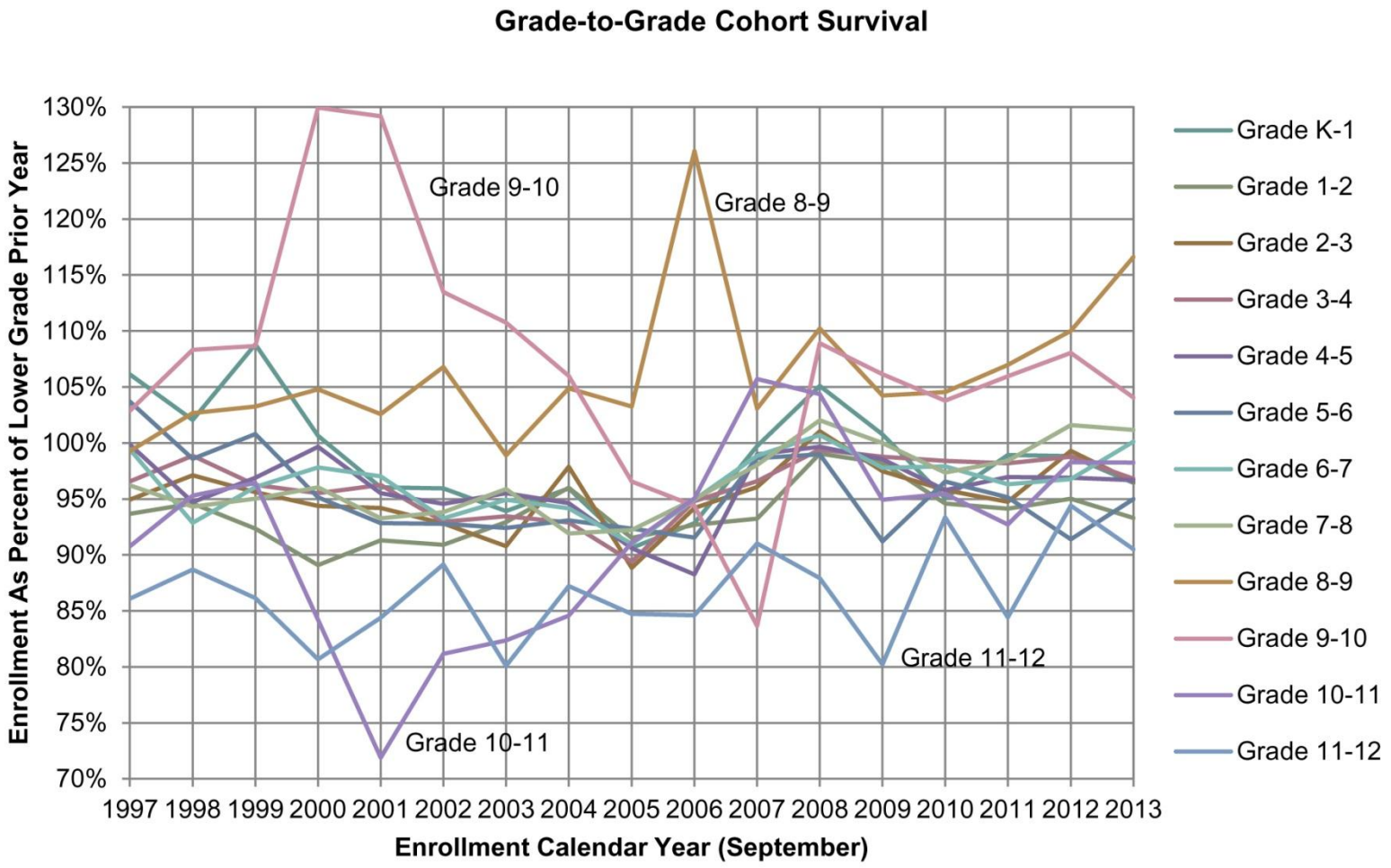
# Kindergarten Capture



# Cohort Survival



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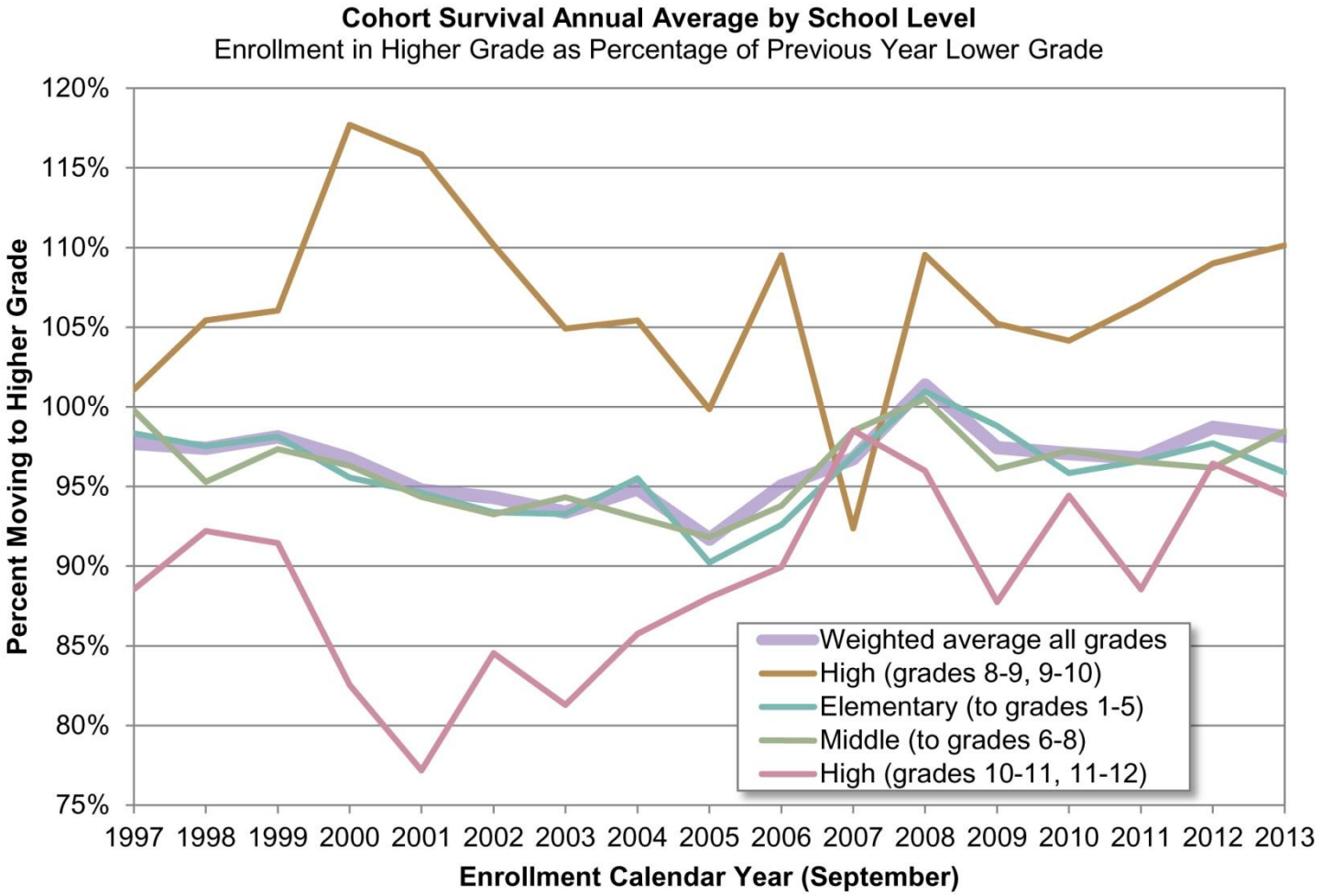

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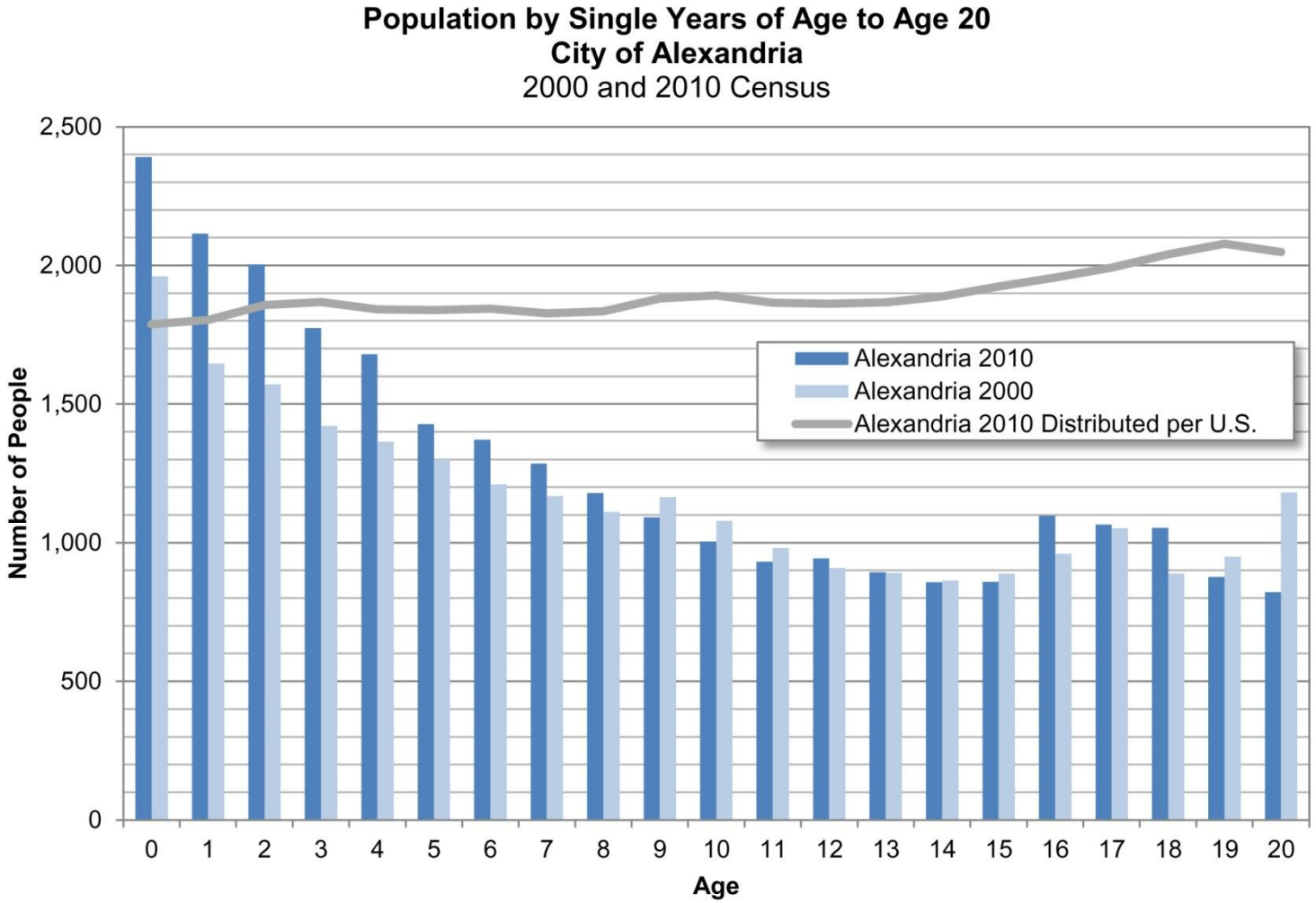


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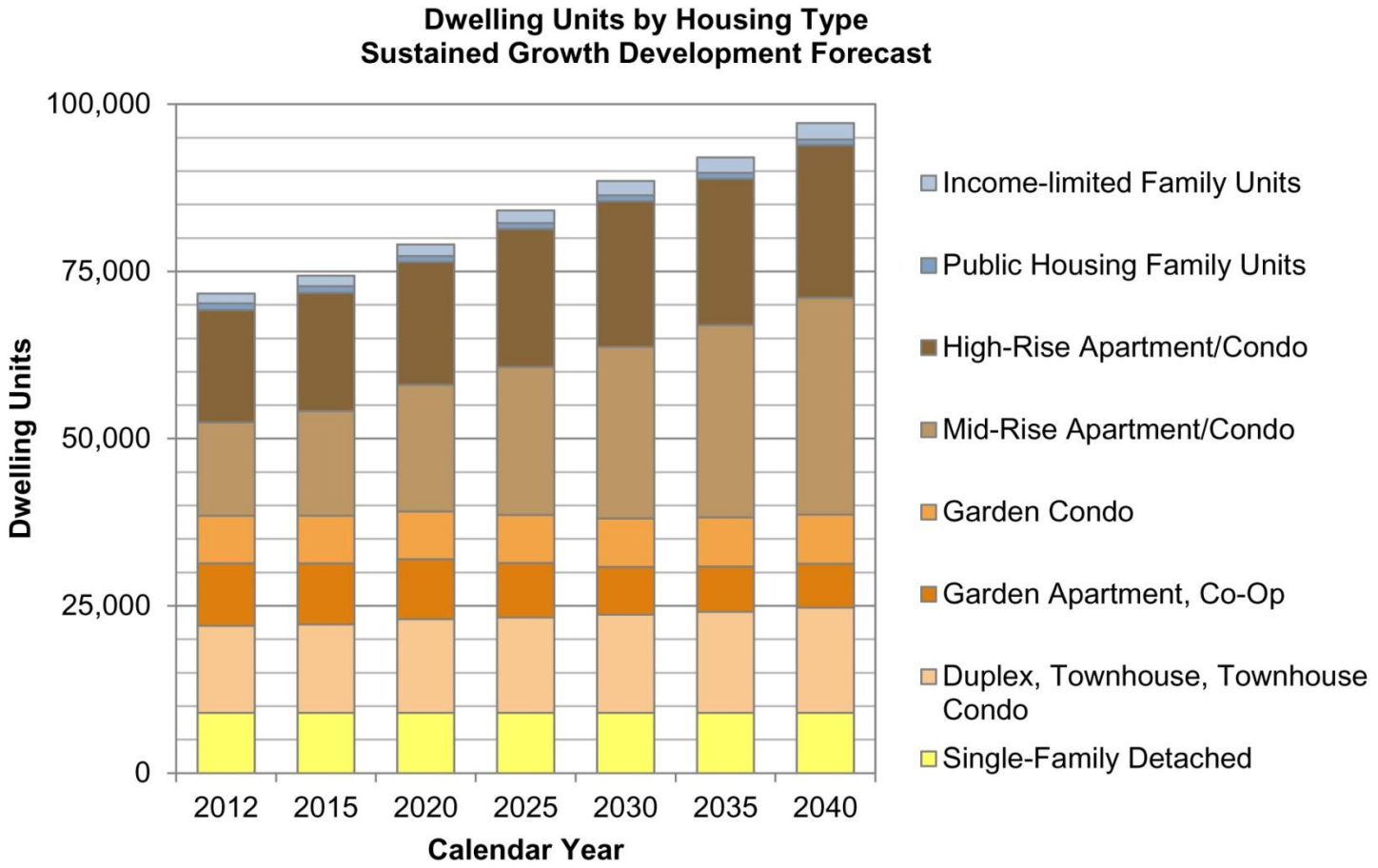
# Reality Checks – Student Generation

- Student generation rates – how much will our housing stock push back on enrollment growth?
  - What generation rates are implied by the forecast?
  - How to these compare to historic rates?
  - Are these rates reasonable given historic rates and rates in other jurisdictions?

# Reality Checks – Student Generation



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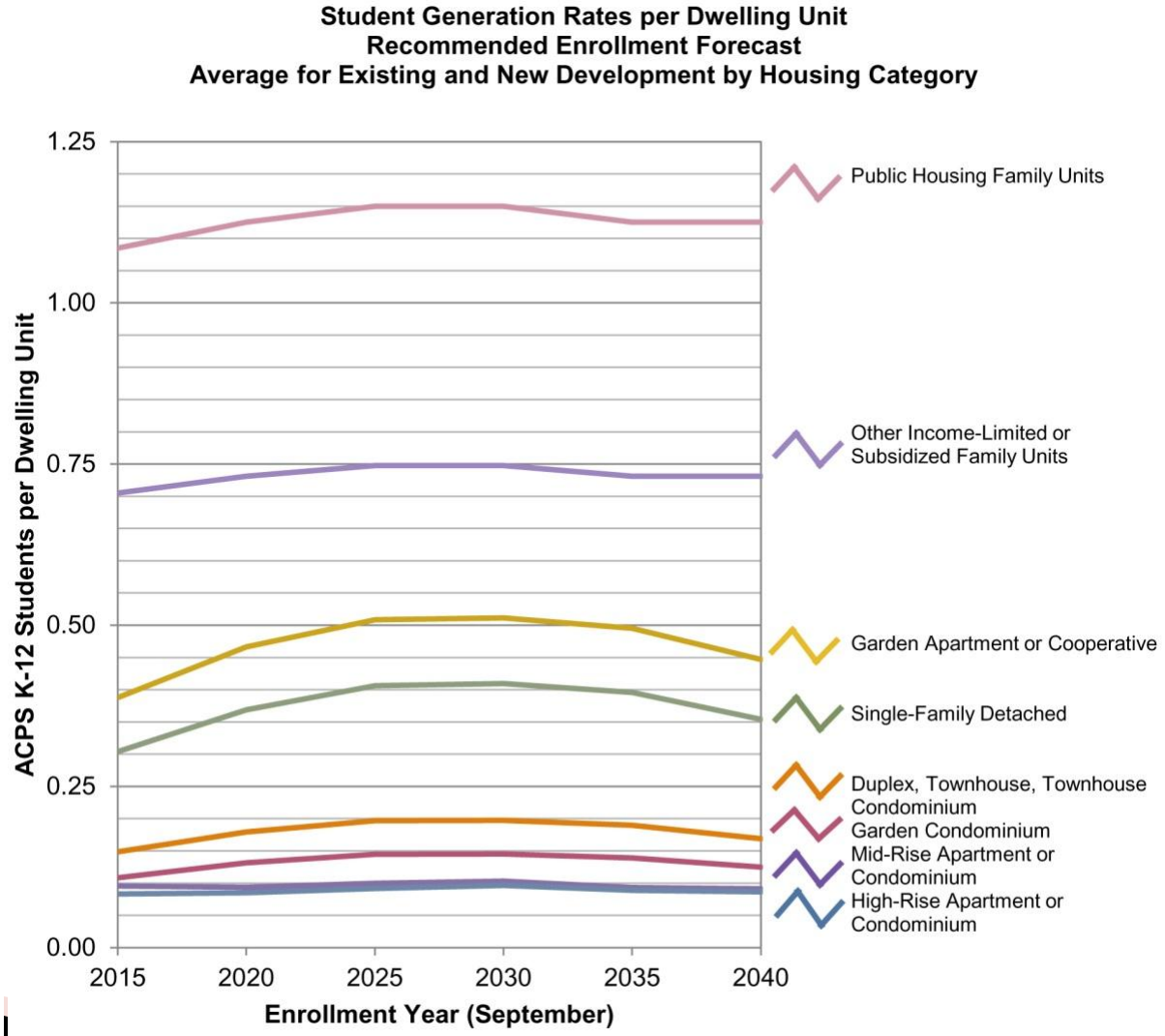
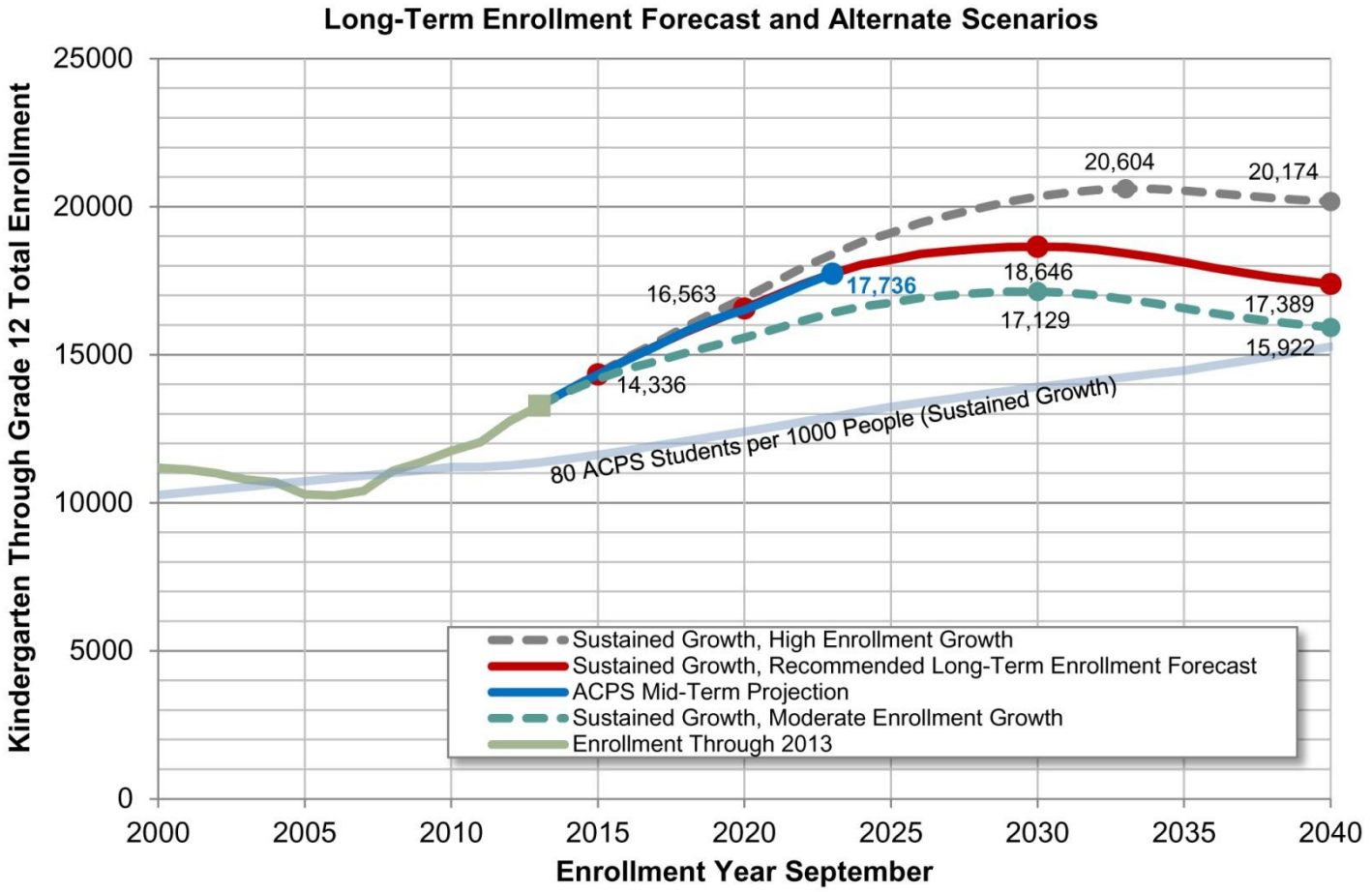


# Reality Checks – Students per 1000 people

- How does the forecast change the number of students as a share of total population?
- Is this rate reasonable given Alexandria's history and the rates in comparable jurisdictions?

# Reality Checks – Students per 1000 people



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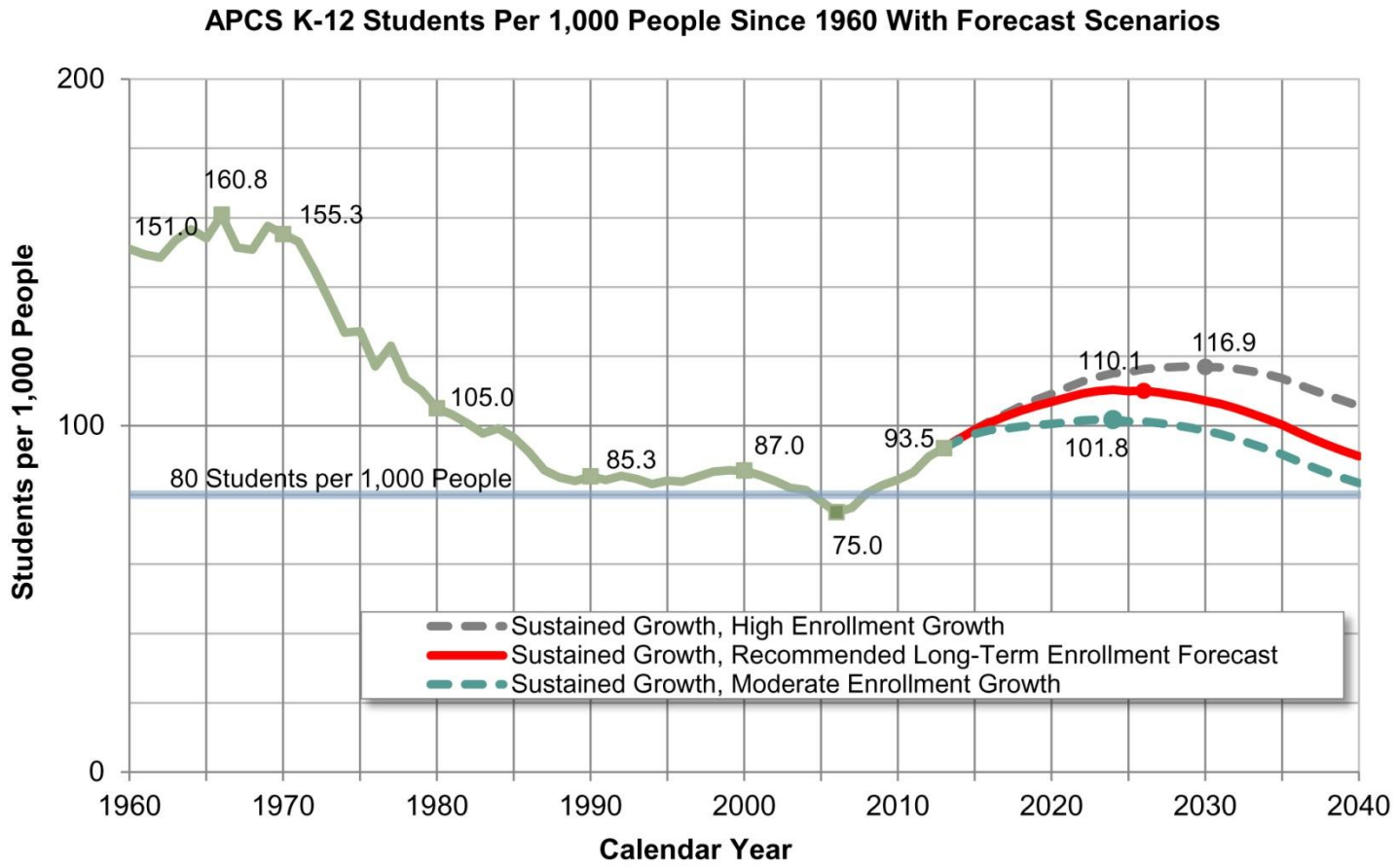


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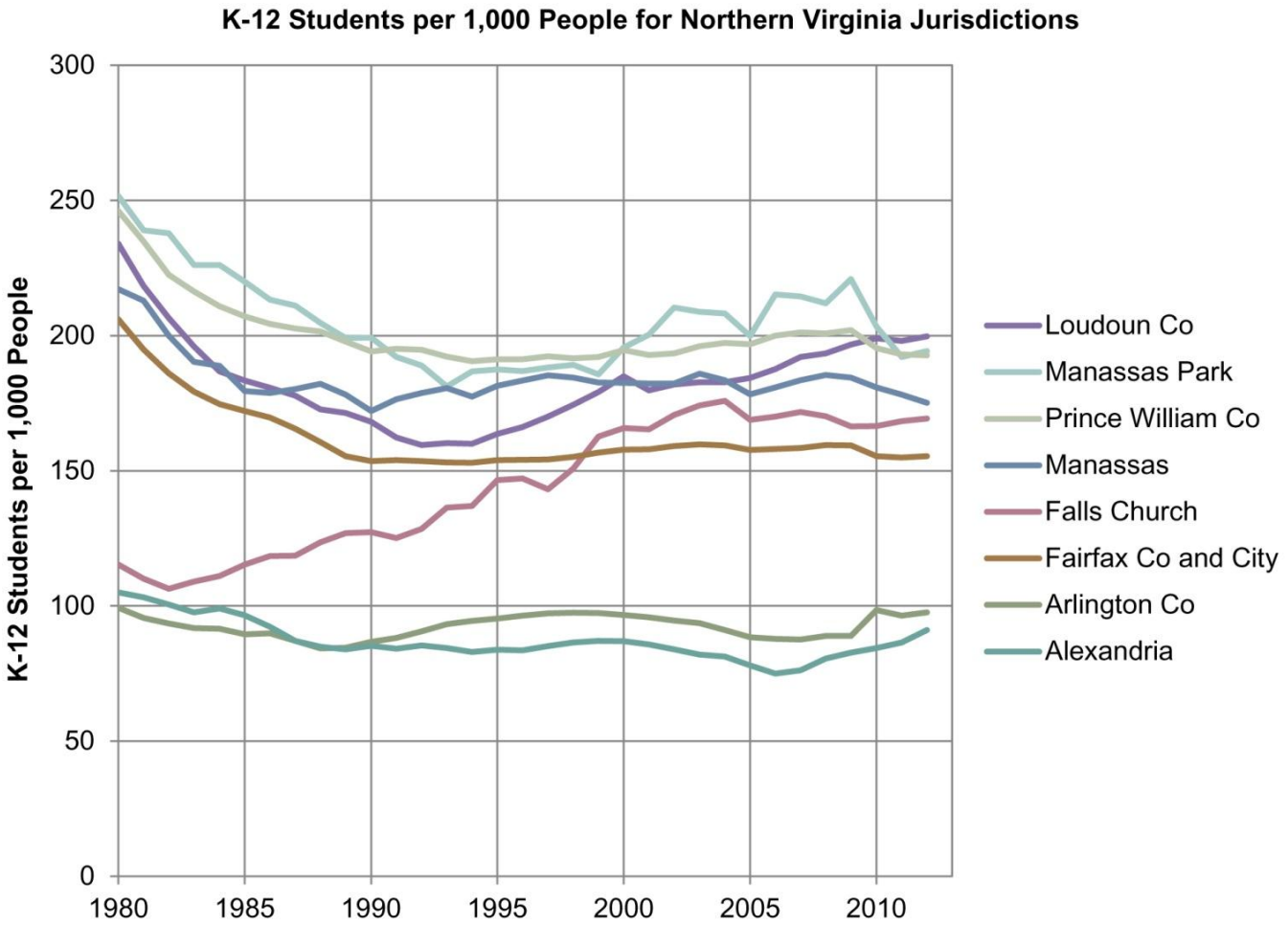

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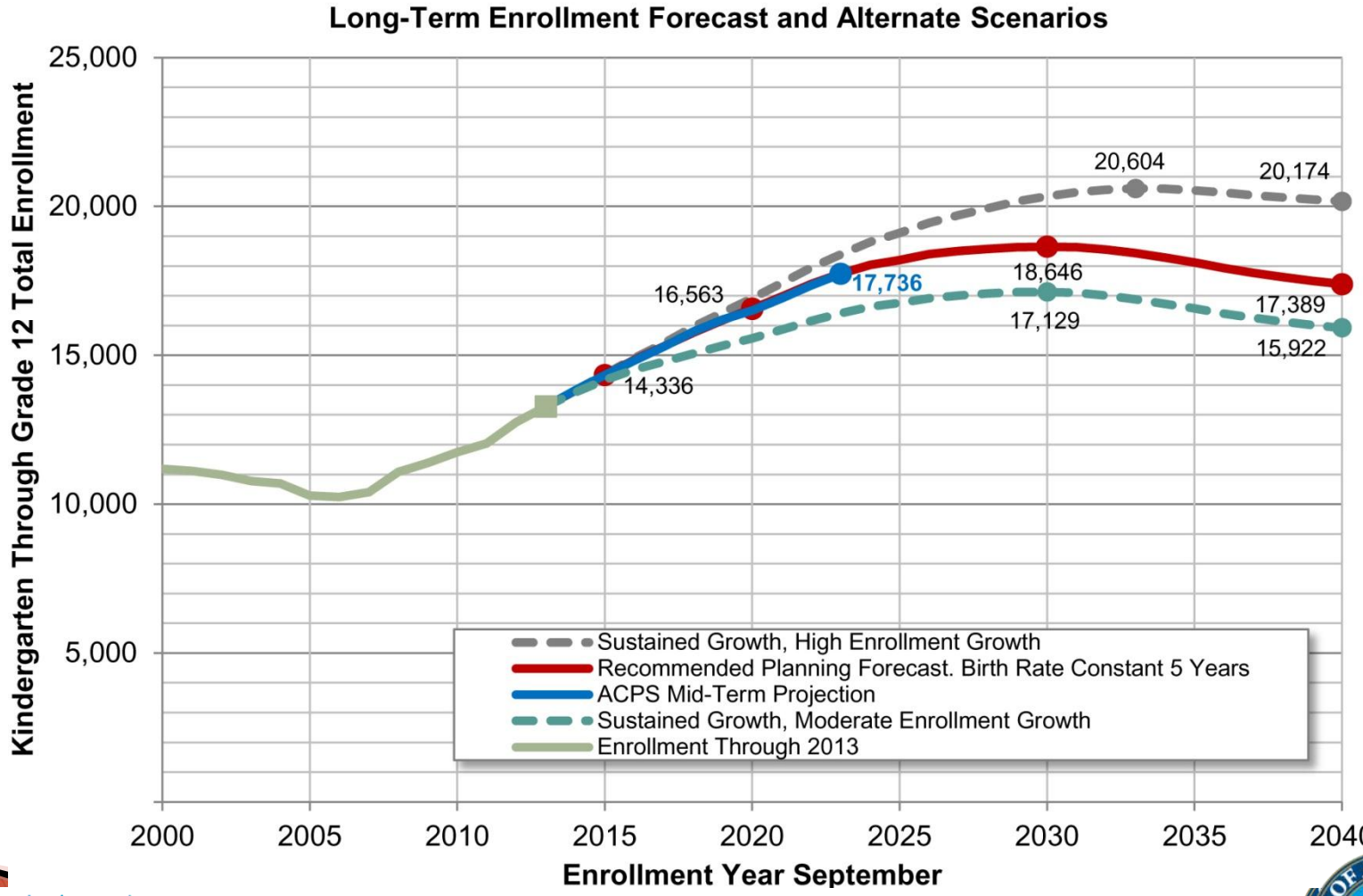


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# Long-Term Forecast

- Includes a recommended forecast and alternate potential scenarios
  - Anticipate facility needs based on a realistic, relatively high enrollment scenario.
  - Be aware of other possible scenarios including higher and lower potential enrollment
- Revise forecasts annually
- Plan for flexibility in response to unknowns – enrollment can change without much warning, as the period since 2000 shows.

# Next Steps

- Forecasting by geography
  - Births, kindergarten capture and cohort survival
  - Track students for cohort survival through the grades
- Complete student generation review for 2013, go back in time to identify ranges and trends from specific projects where census data fits projects.
- Update long-term forecast with 2013 birth data.
- Prepare a long-term forecast to accompany FY 2015 enrollment projections.

# Comments?
# Questions?