

THE CHANGING FACE OF STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

November 20, 2022





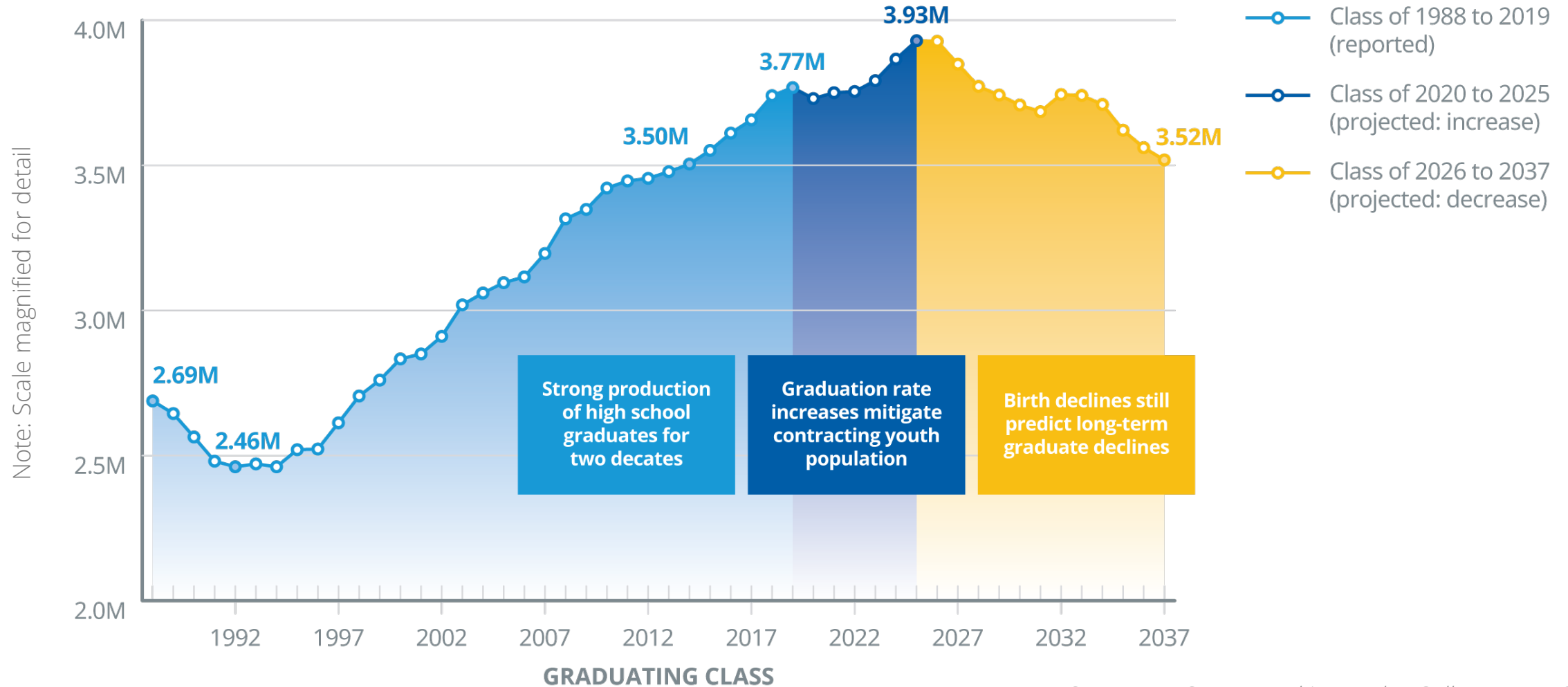
Profiles - Knocking

knocking.wiche.edu



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE PROJECTIONS

TREND #1 SLOWING NUMBER OF U.S. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES, THEN DECLINE



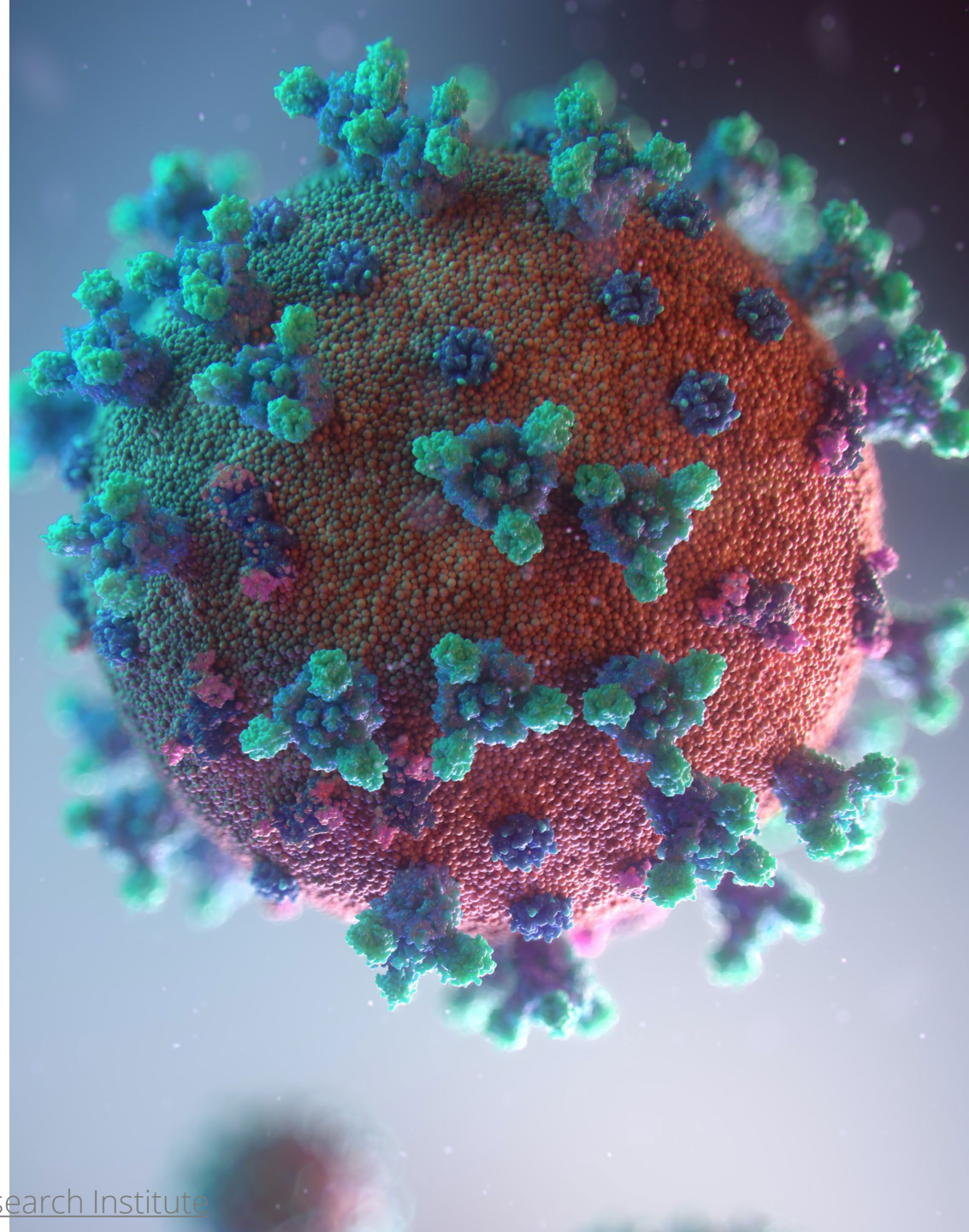
Source: WICHE, *Knocking at the College Door*, 2020.

CAVEATS

- Predicted trends reflect data through SY 2019-20 (Class of 2019)
- COVID-19 likely to have significant and long-lasting impacts on education pathways

In the 2020-21 school year (estimated):

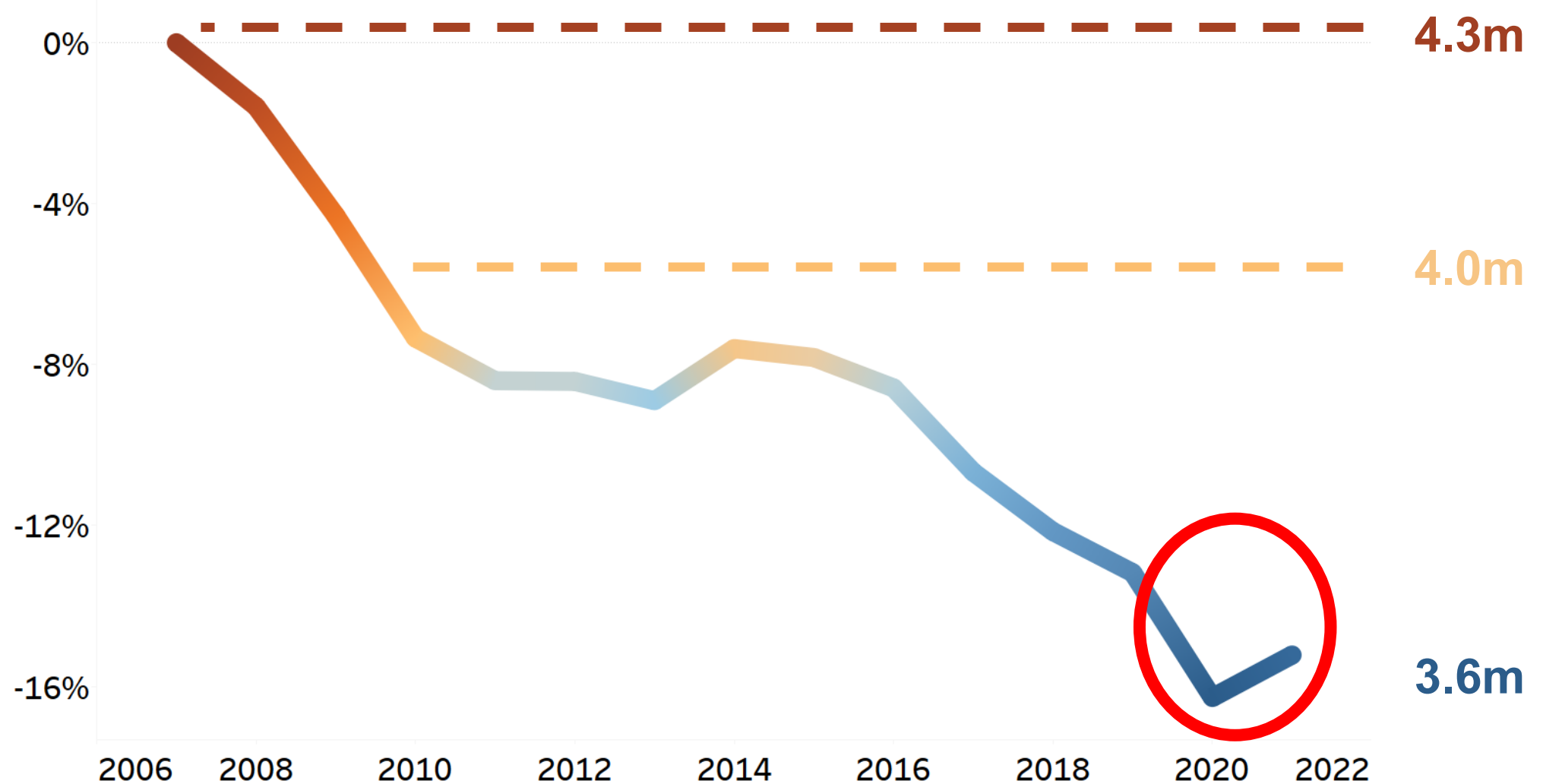
- 86% - 87% public schools
- ~8% private schools
- 5% - 6% were homeschooled



WHAT'S DRIVING TREND #1?

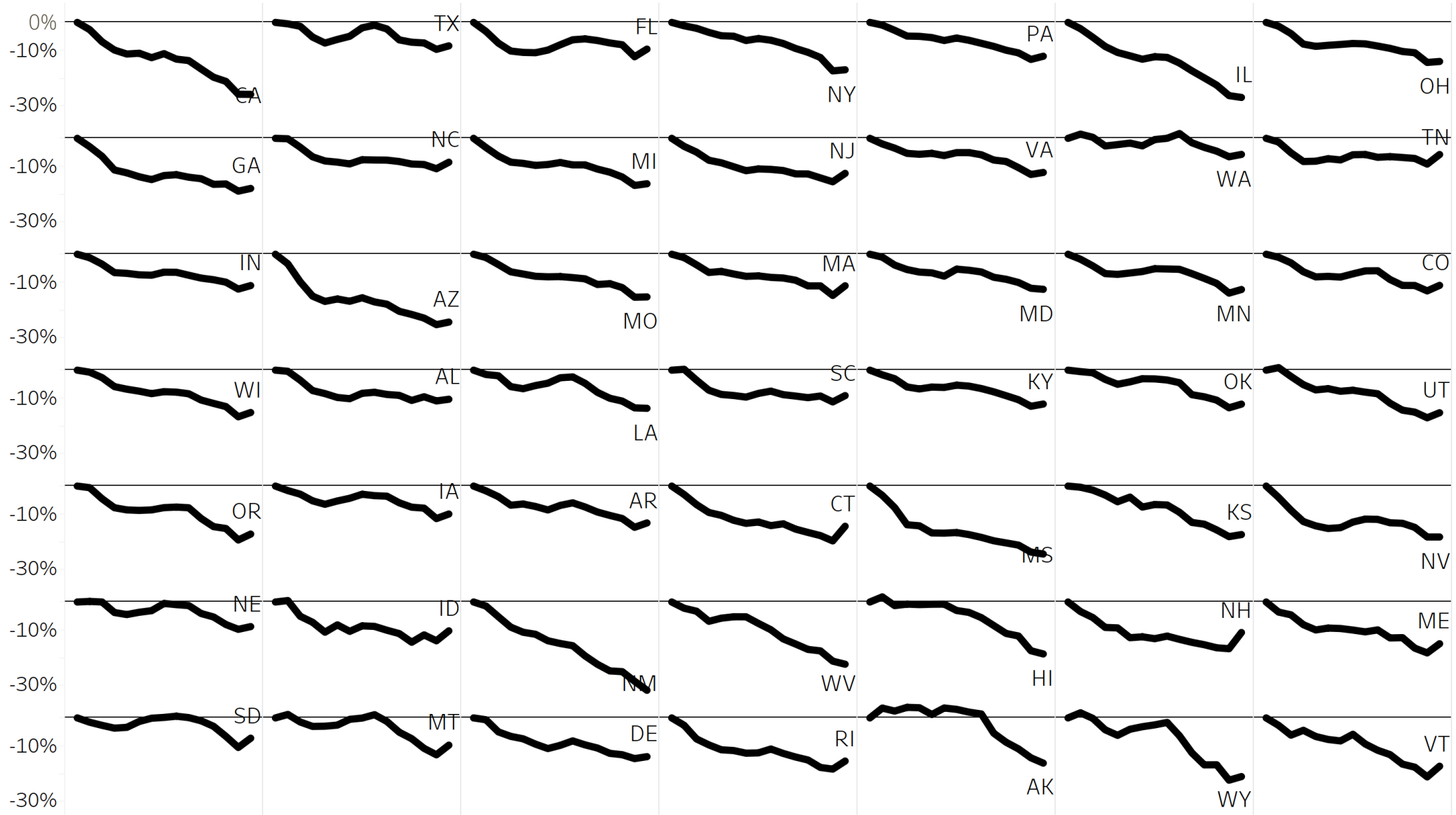


U.S. BIRTHS



Source: WICHE Analysis of data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CHANGE IN BIRTHS, 2007 TO 2021



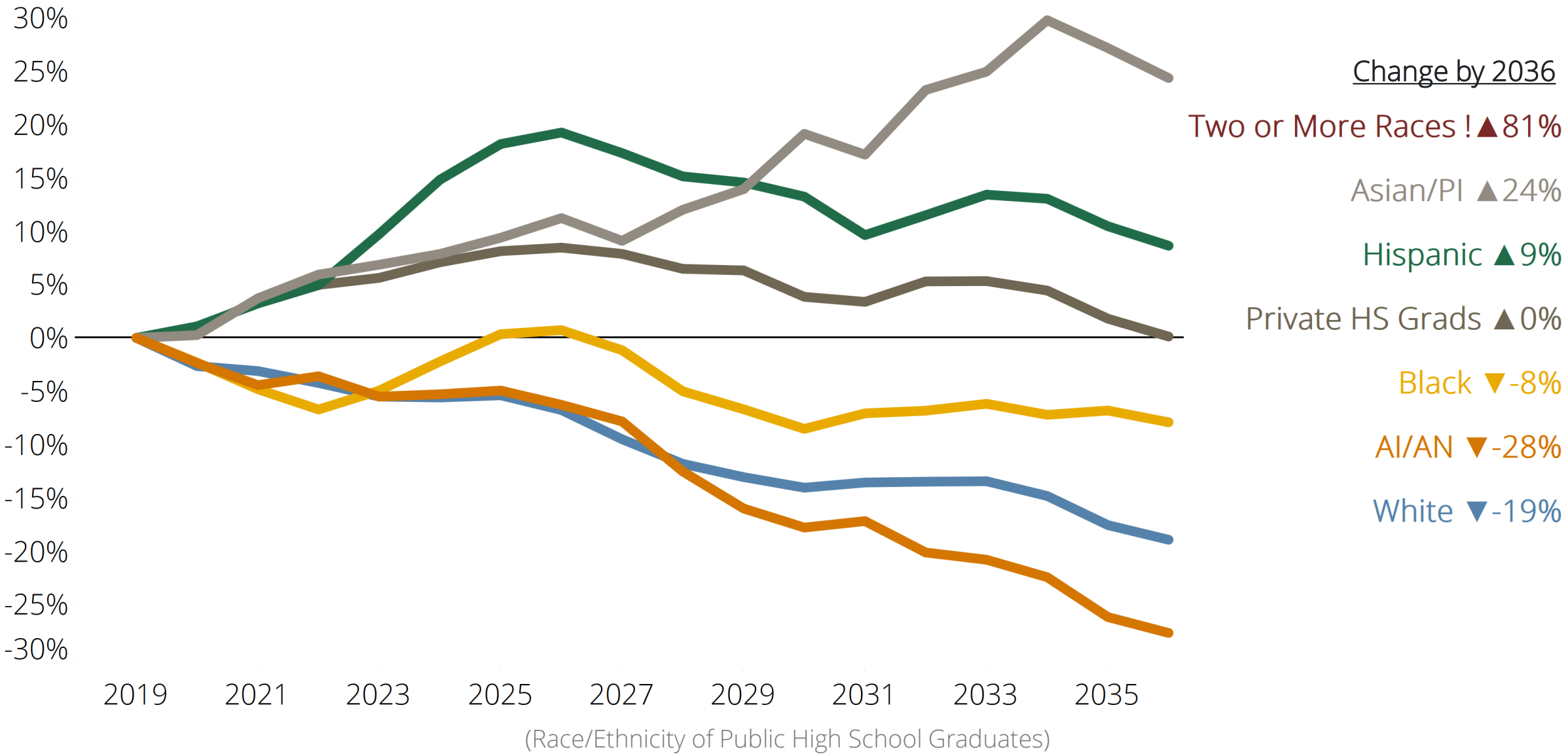
Source: WICHE Analysis of Data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (D.C. and N.D. not shown)



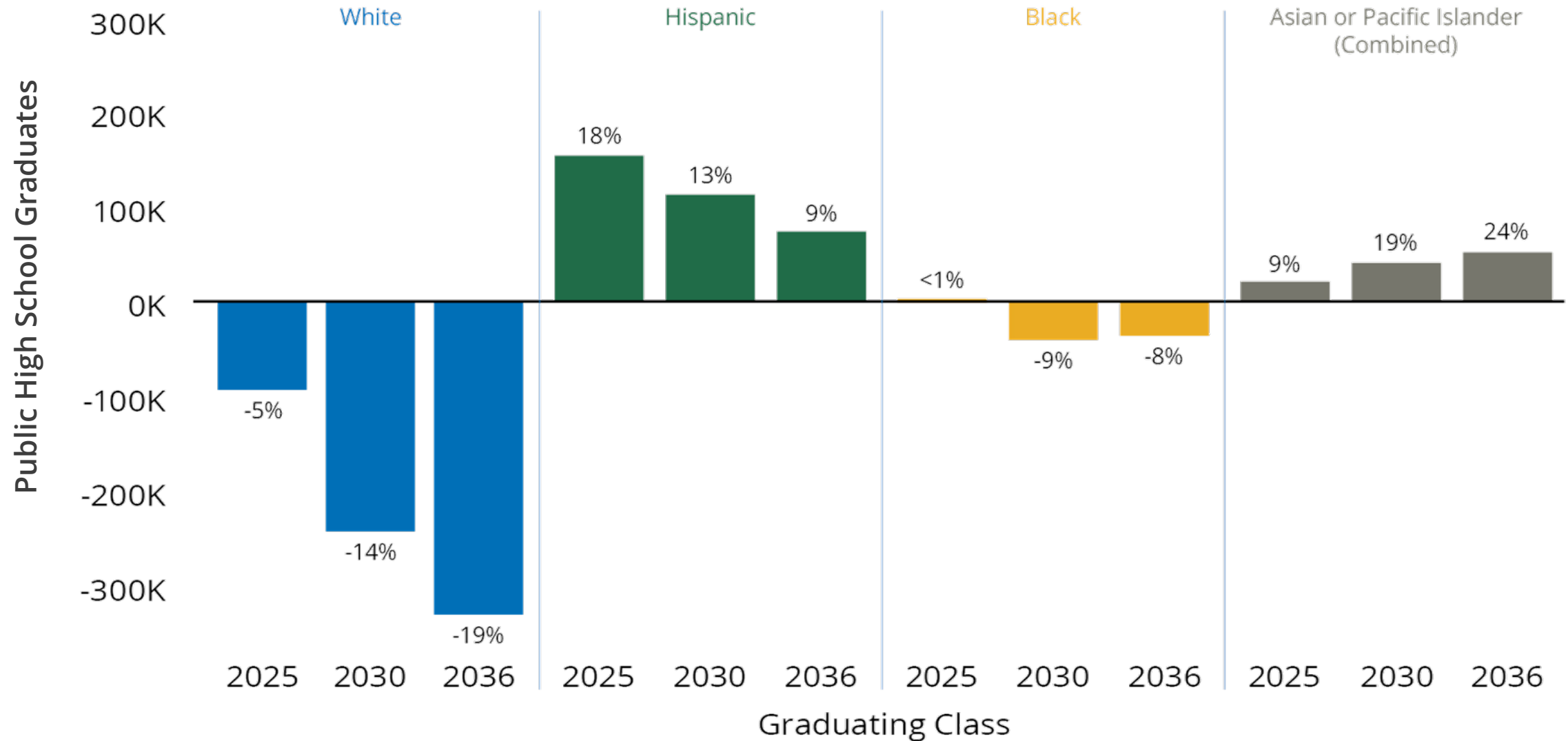
TREND #2: DIVERSIFICATION

Recommended Reading: Every Learner Everywhere "[Toward Ending the Monolithic View of 'Underrepresented Students'](#)"
Common App "[Unpacking race and ethnicity](#)"

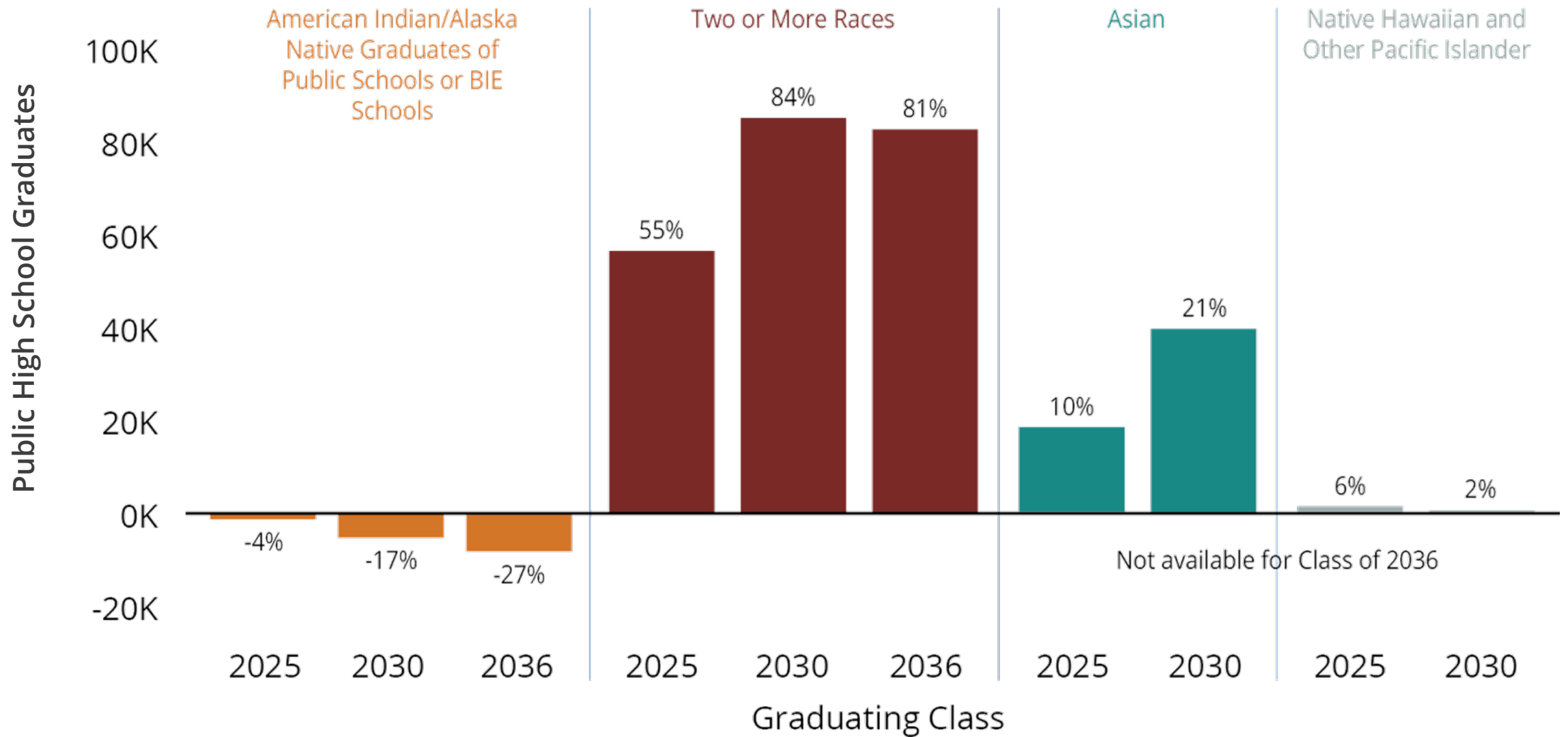
PROJECTED CHANGE IN GRADUATES VS. 2019



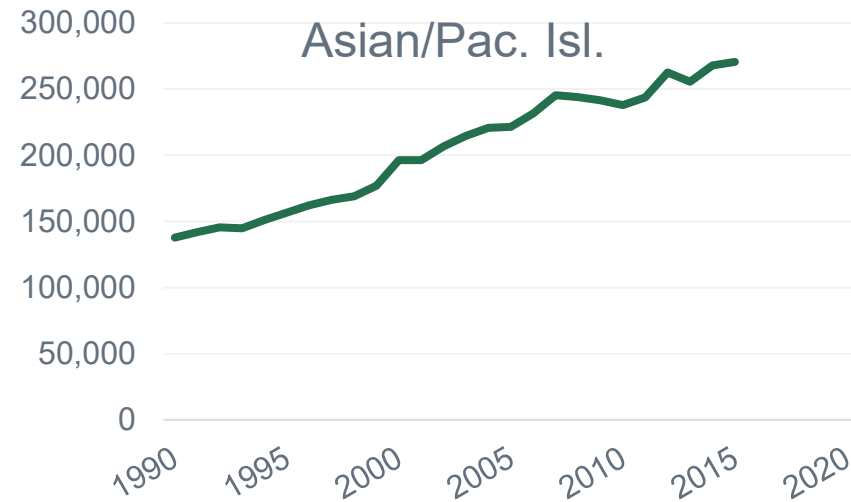
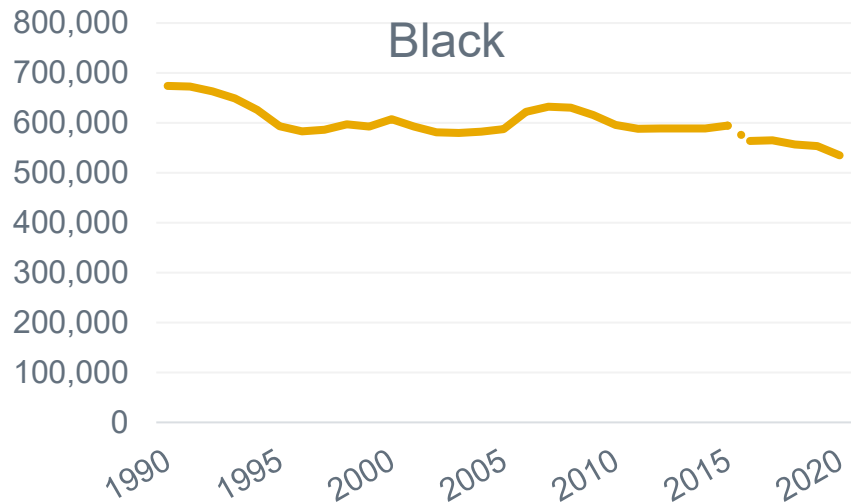
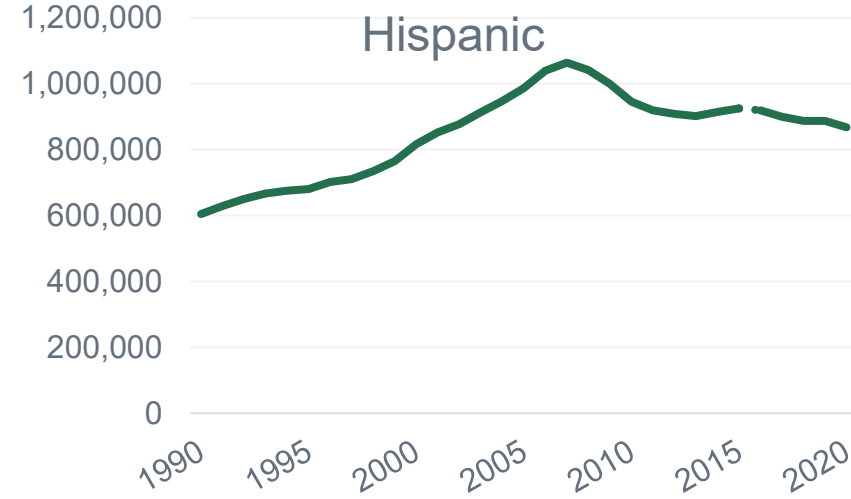
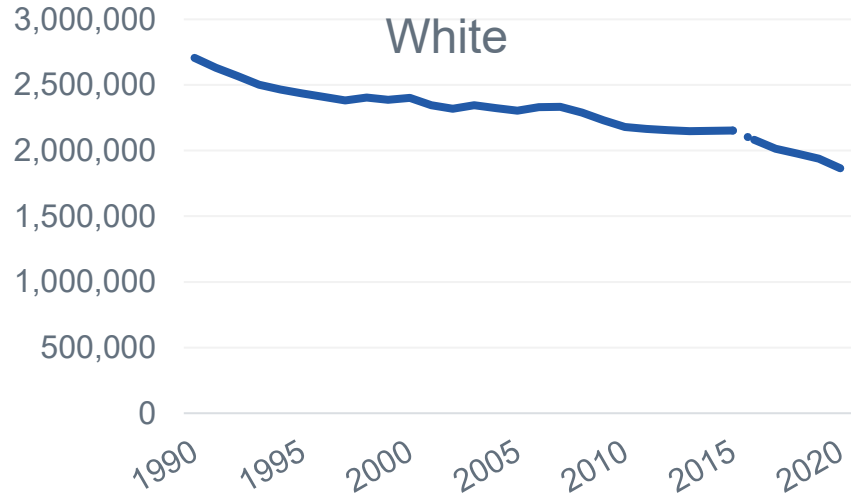
PROJECTED CHANGE FROM 2019 BY RACE/ETHNICITY



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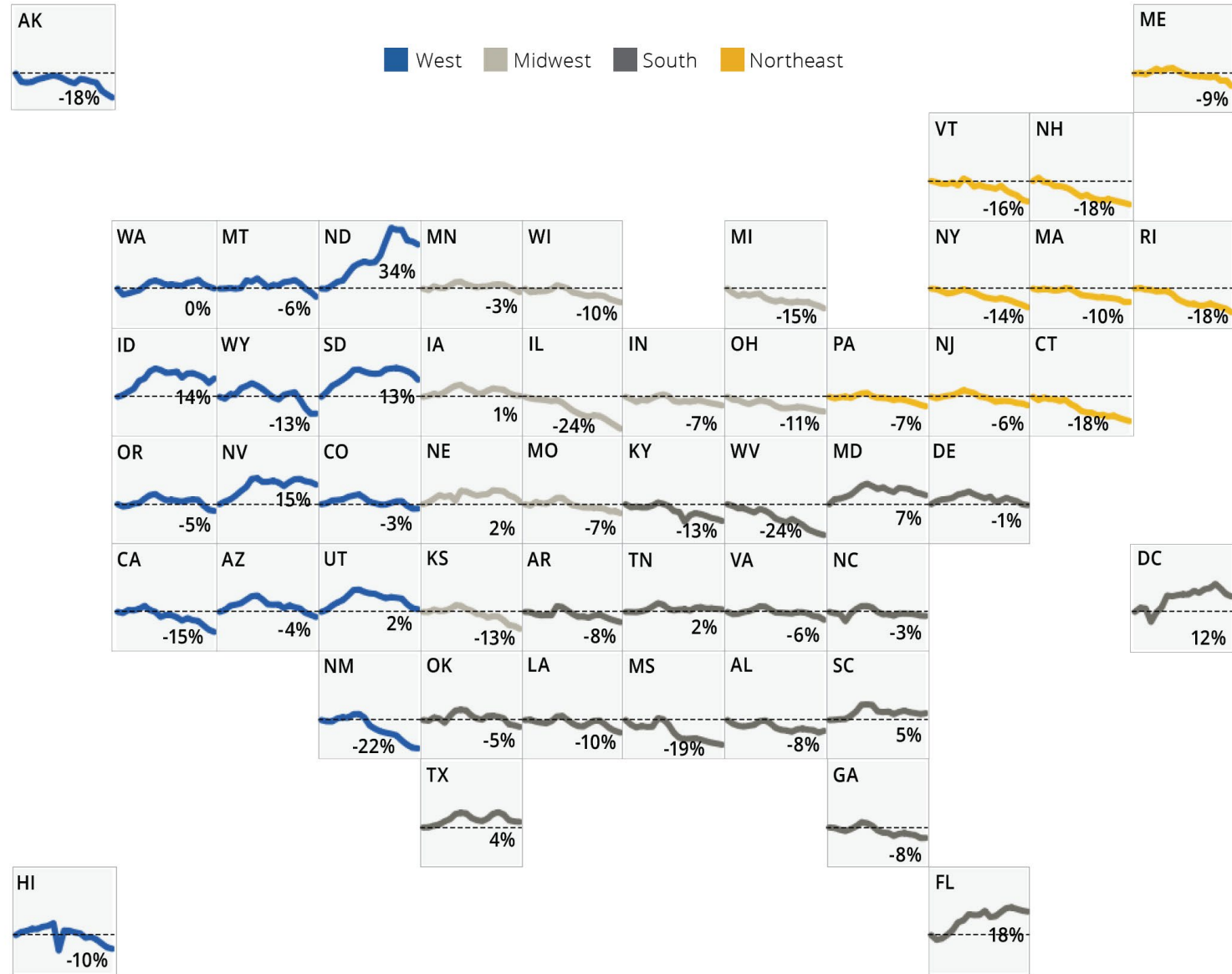


U.S. BIRTHS BY RACE & ETHNICITY

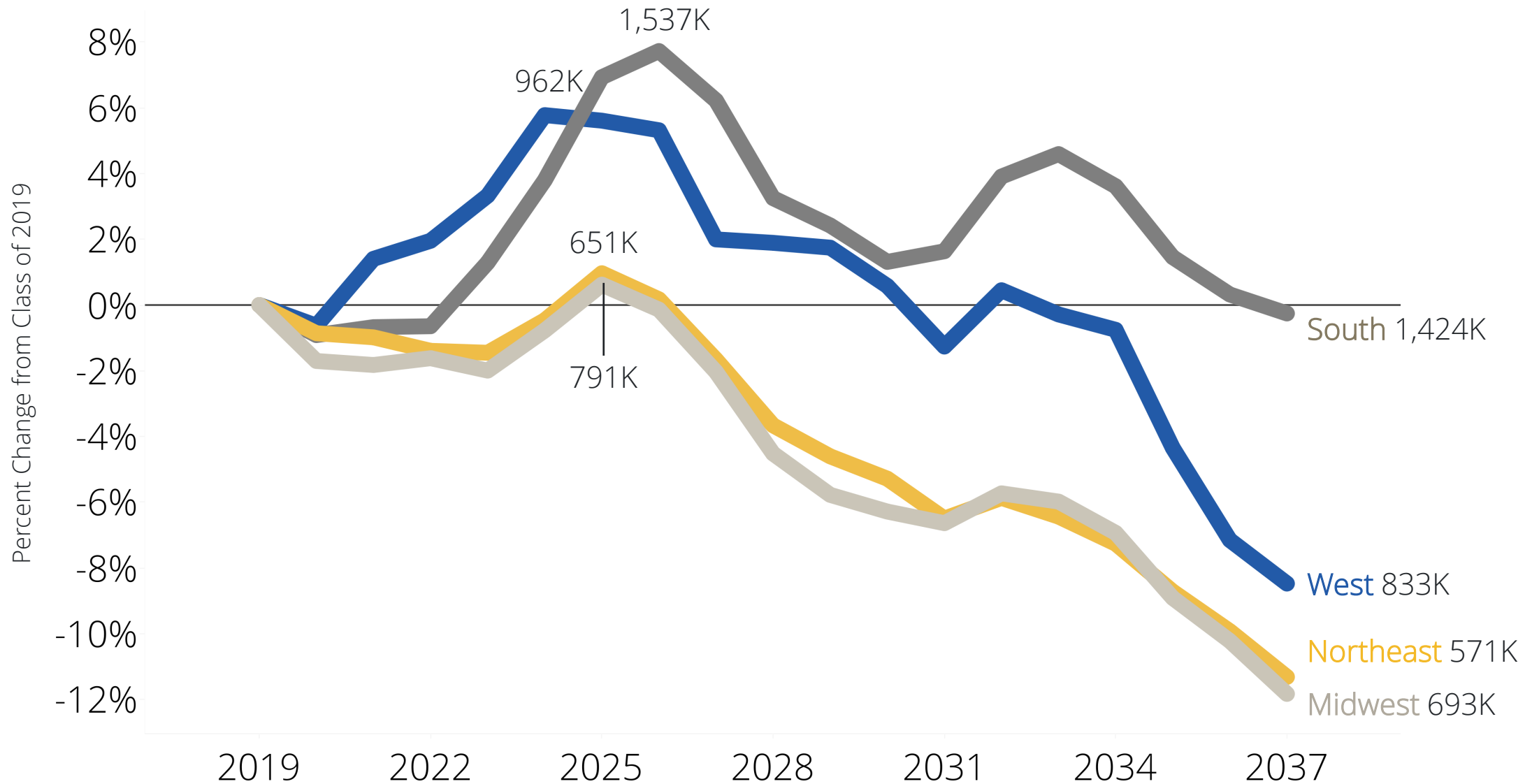


Source: WICHE Analysis of Data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

TREND #3 - VARIATION

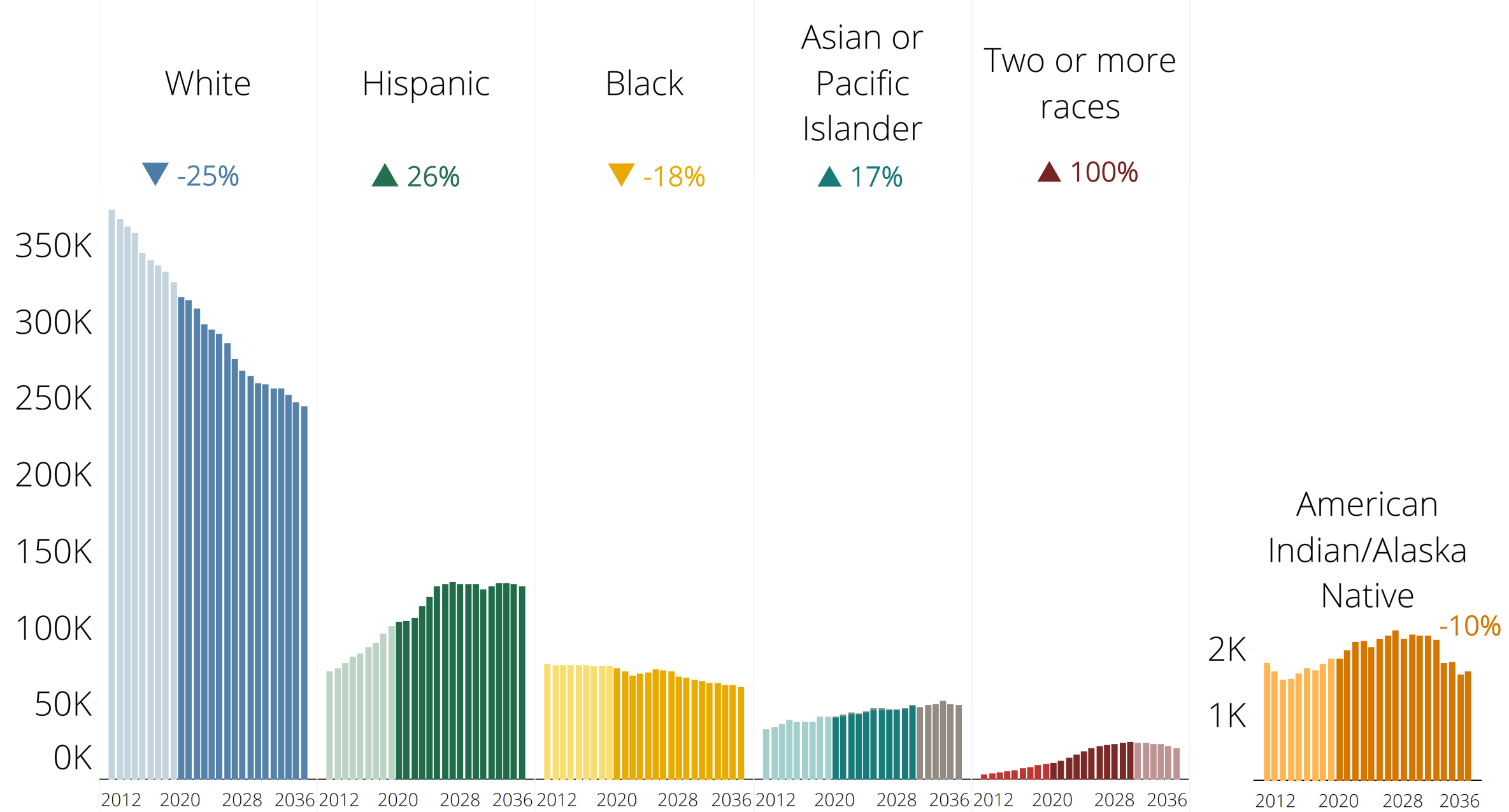


REGIONAL VARIATION: TOTAL PUBLIC & PRIVATE GRADUATES



Source: WICHE, *Knocking at the College Door*, 2020.

U.S. NORTHEAST, Through the Class of 2036



White

▼ -25%

Hispanic

▲ 26%

Black

▼ -18%

Asian or Pacific Islander

▲ 17%

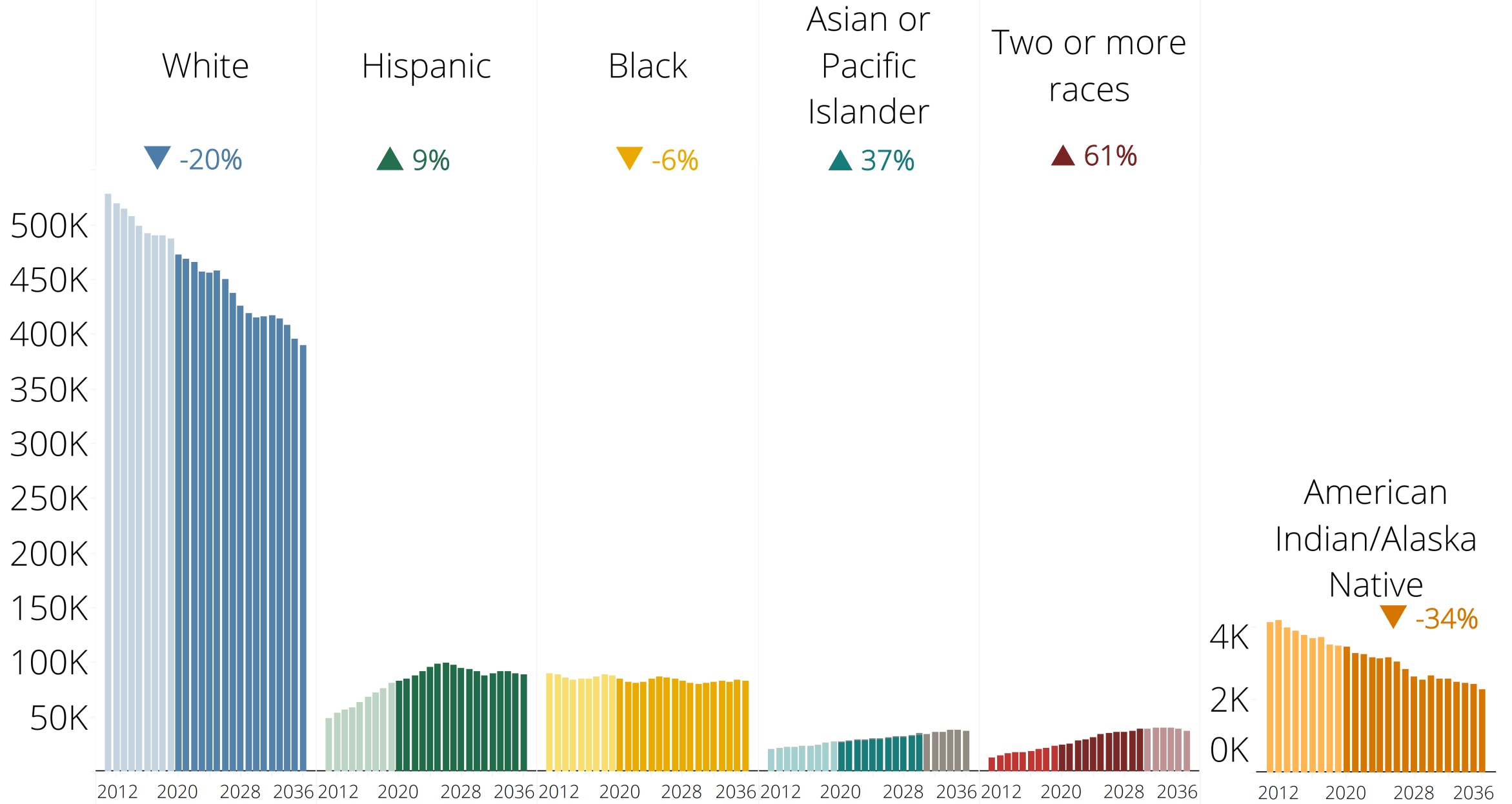
Two or more races

▲ 100%

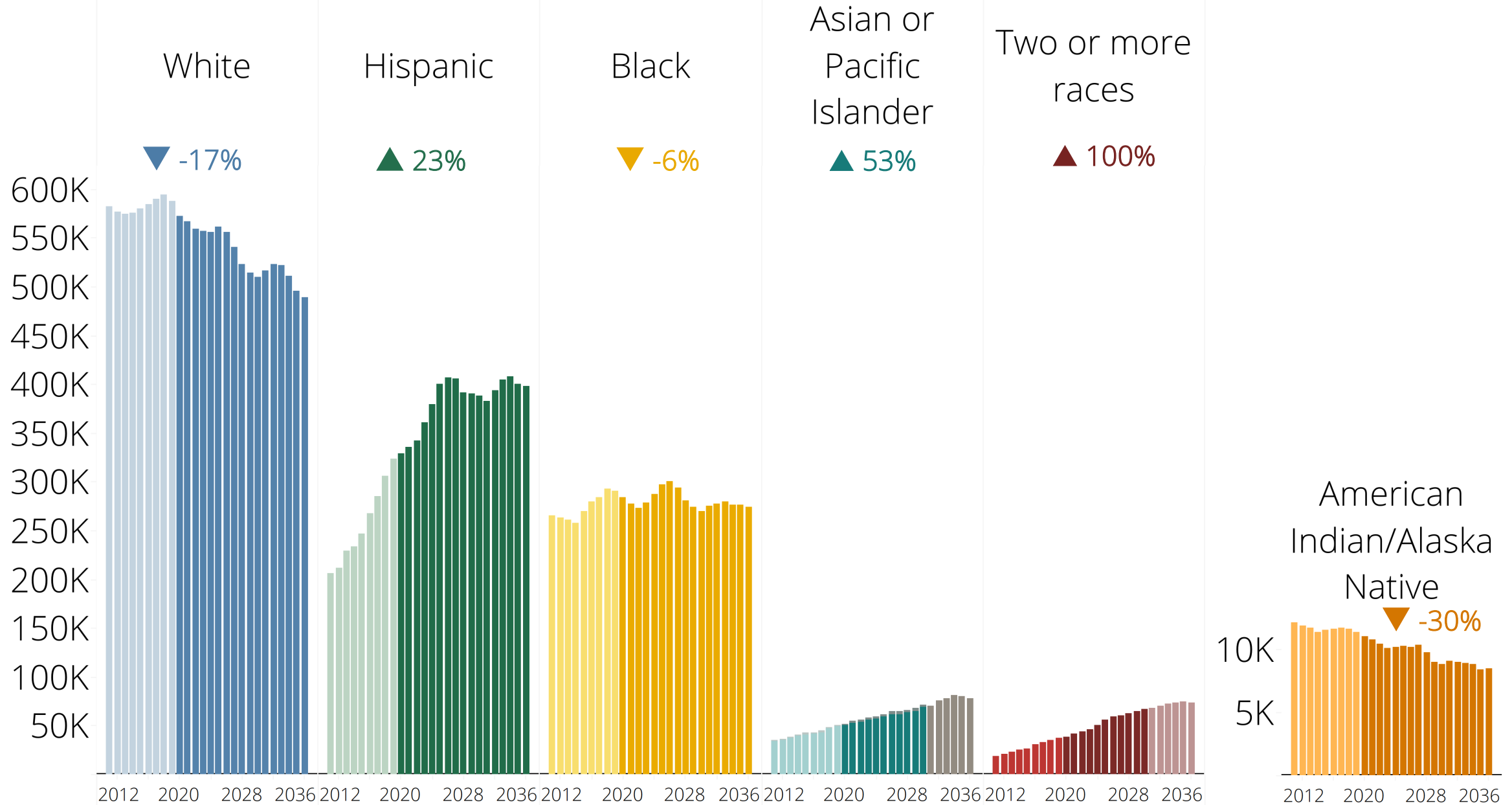
American Indian/Alaska Native

-10%

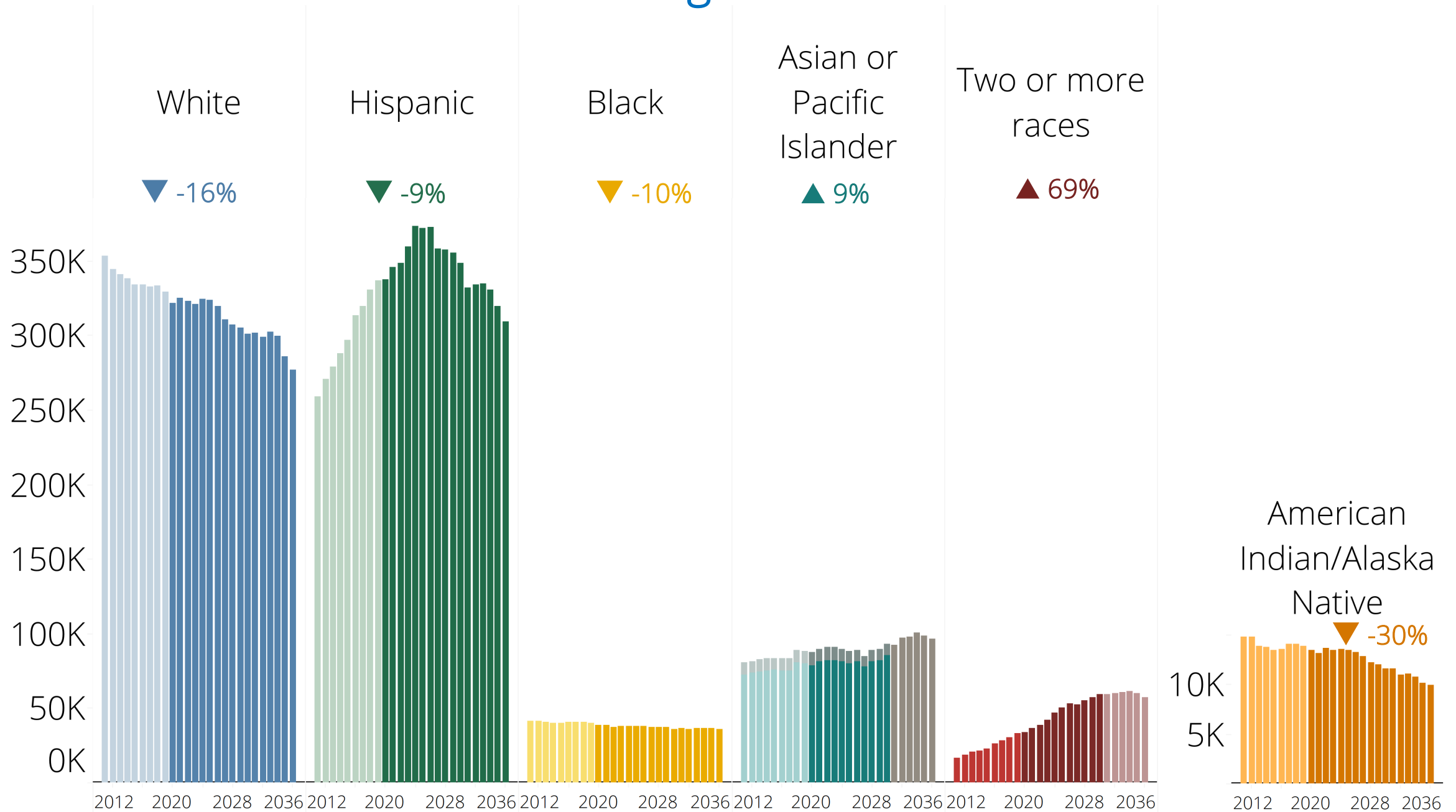
U.S. MIDWEST, Through the Class of 2036



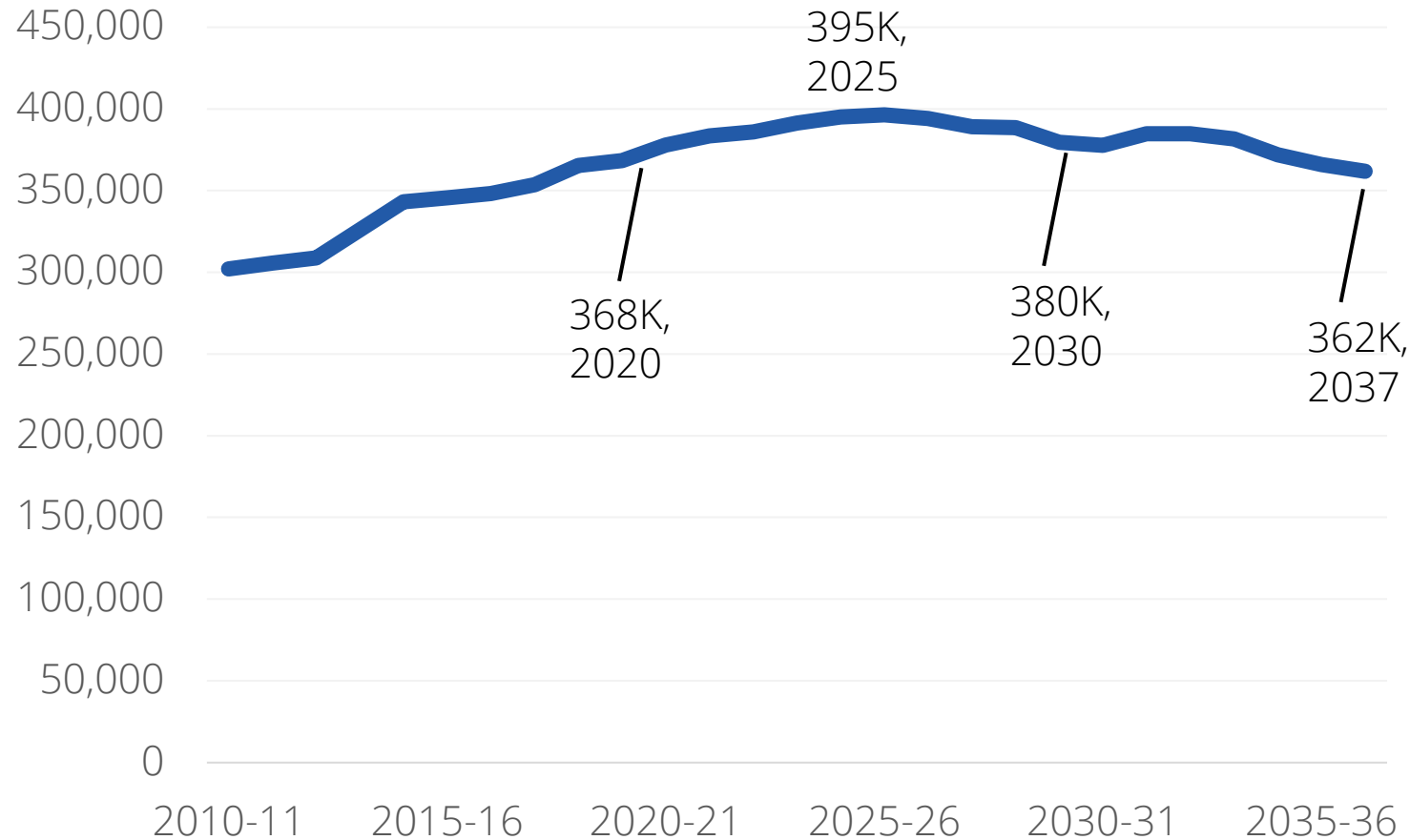
U.S. SOUTH, Through the Class of 2036



U.S. WEST Through the Class of 2036



PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

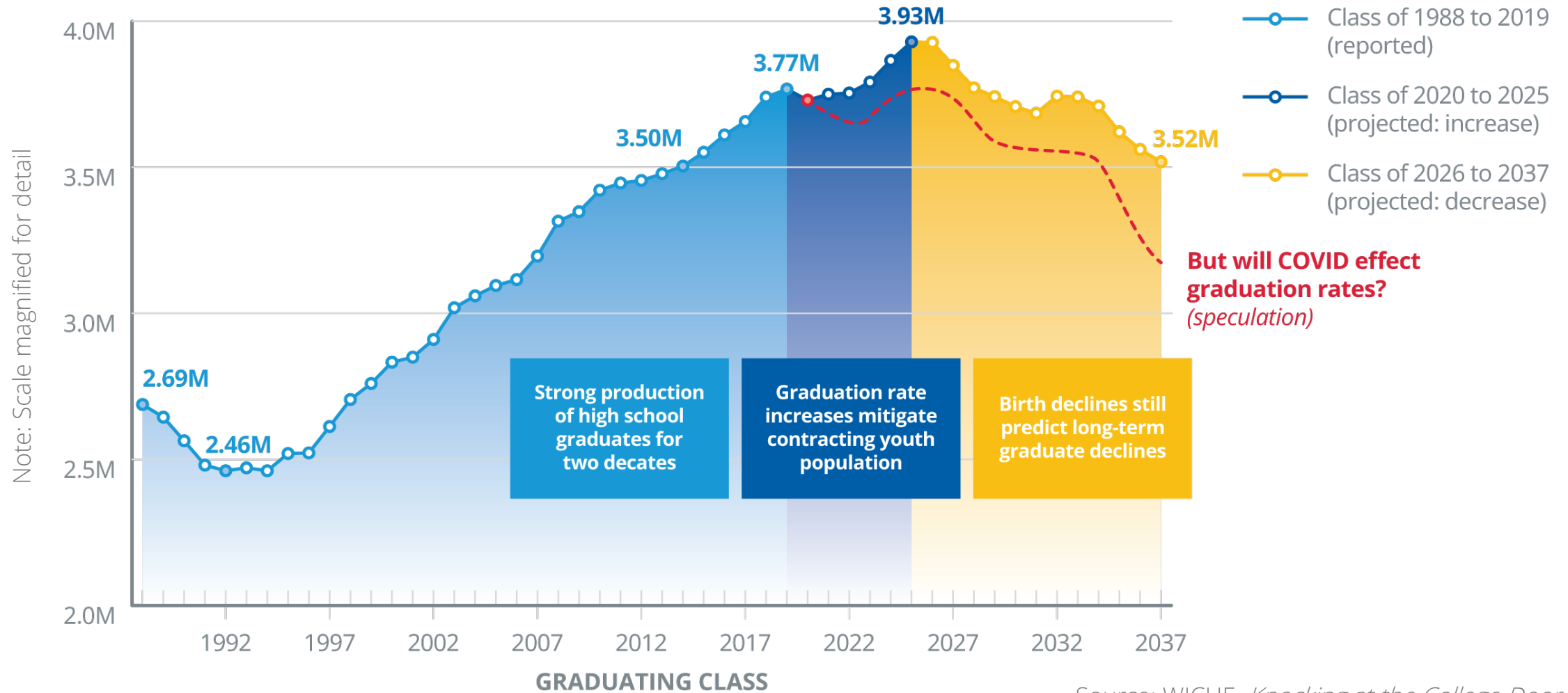


- Sustained increase projected
- Offsets ~10% of the decreases of White public high school graduates in 2030's
- Increases dwarfed by increases in public high school graduates of color



PANDEMIC TRENDS

COVID: INTERSECTS WITH SLOWING AND DECLINING NUMBER OF U.S. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Source: WICHE, *Knocking at the College Door*, 2020.

COVID: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

- ▶ Spring 2020: Accommodations to graduate
- ▶ 2021, 2022: State data just emerging)



COVID: REPORTED PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES (TO DATE) SIMILAR TO PROJECTED TREND

	Class of 2020	Class of 2021
No. of States	27	14
Graduates	2.28 million	1.3 million
% of Annual U.S. Graduates	67%	39%
Compared to Projected	0.1% fewer in 4 of 27	-1.1% fewer in 7 of 14

- ACT and SAT scores stagnating before the pandemic
- Dropped further
- Fewer graduates meeting benchmarks

COVID: IMPACT NUMBER OF FUTURE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES?

Could impacts to **middle schoolers** deepen predicted declines after 2025?

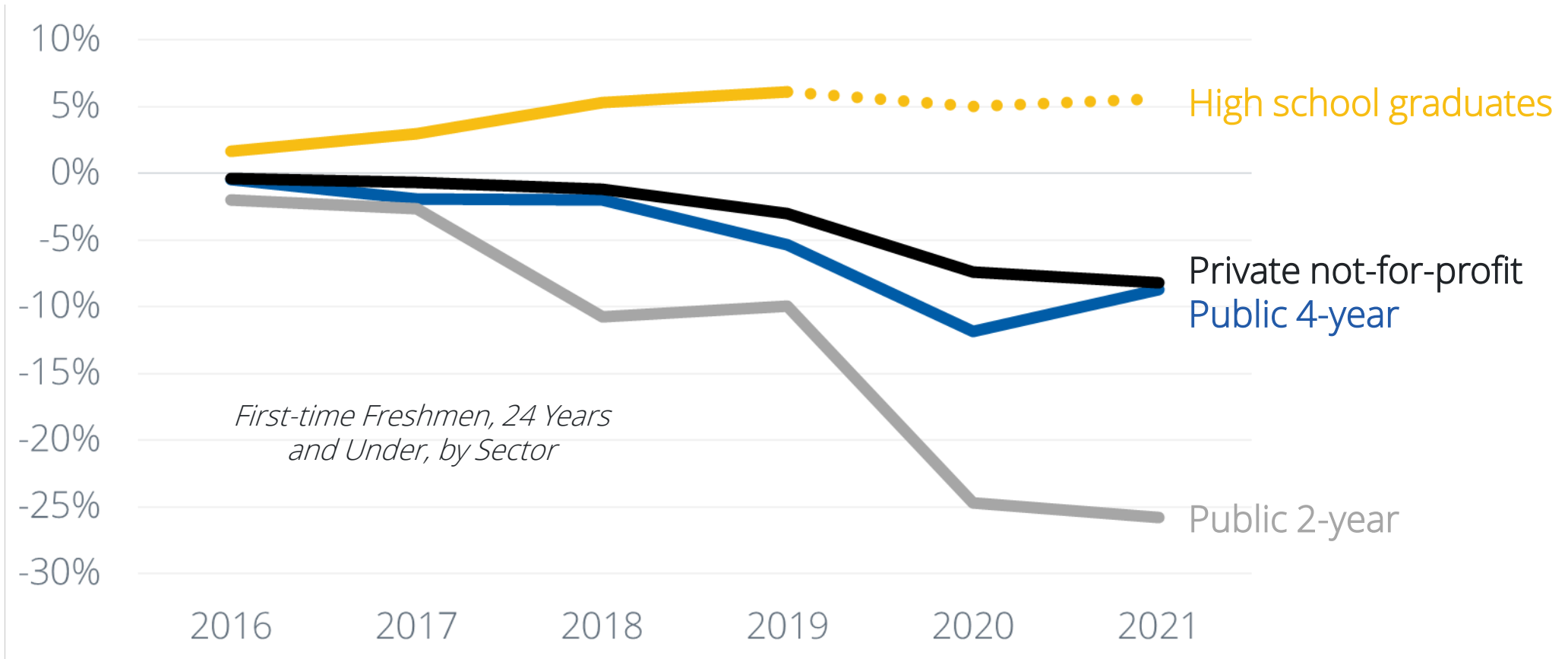
- ▶ [Math](#) skills, in particular
- ▶ Up to [5 years](#) to recover learning lost; impacting new learning in H.S.

Elementary schoolers

Where did they go?
Will they be ok?

- ▶ 5% to 10% now homeschooled?
- ▶ Struggling students lost greatest ground; gaps increased

COVID: RECENT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES & FALL COLLEGE ENROLLMENTS



Source: National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, *Current Term Enrollment Estimates*, <https://nscresearchcenter.org/current-term-enrollment-estimates>, and WICHE, *Knocking at the College Door*, 2020.

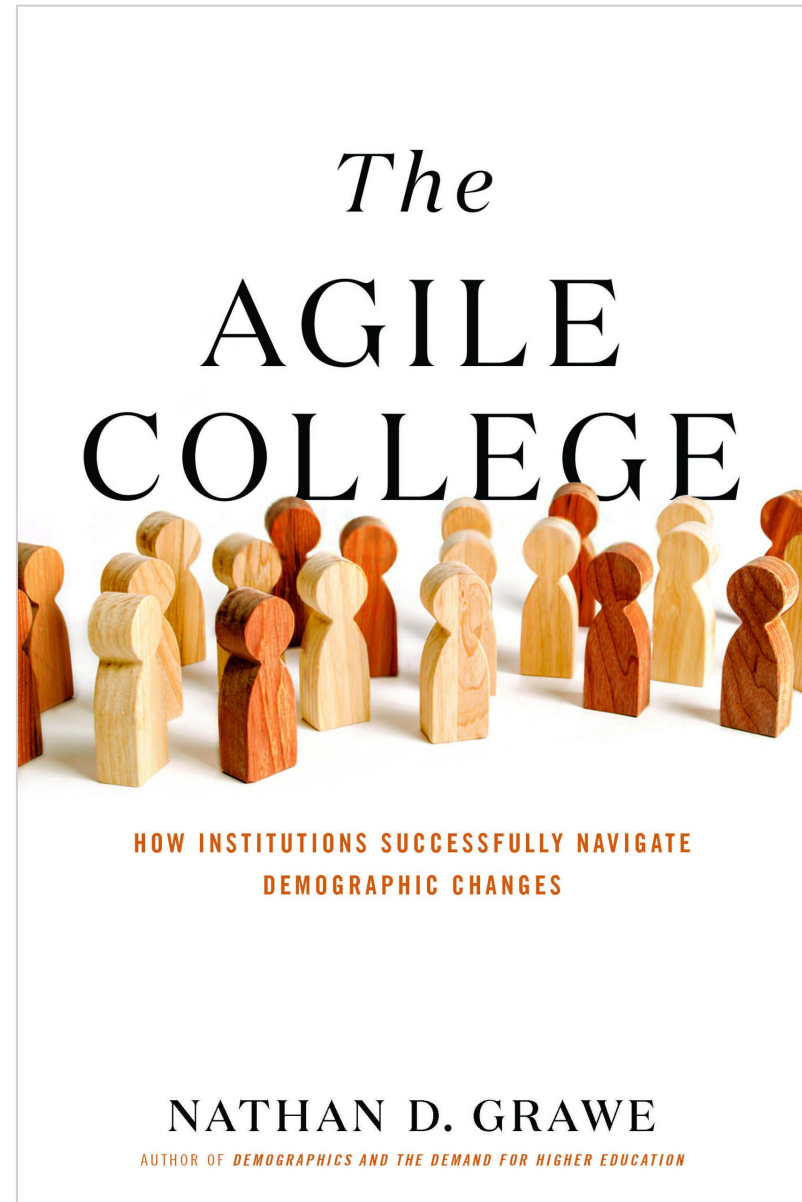
COLLEGE ENROLLMENT TRENDS MORE WORRISOME THAN DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS?

- How many of the fewer 18 year olds will graduate high school?
- How many of those will go on to college?
- How many other students will try or resume college?
- Immigration policy?
- Economic conditions?
- Federal funding and policy?



**WARNING:
CAVEATS
AHEAD**

RECOMMENDED
READING



QUESTIONS AND FOLLOW-UP

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