

---

## **S. PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

---

### **1. School Enrollment (Table S-1, S-2)**

Table S-1 shows a total of 14 school districts in 47 school buildings which have been established to cover the Valley's widespread and diverse population. Enrollment in the fall of 2007 totaled 8,048, with Alamosa RE-11J representing 26.7% of all the public school enrollment in the Valley. Monte Vista C-8 had the second highest enrollment at 1,200 (14.9%), followed by North Conejos RE-1J at 1,130 (14.0%).

Table S-2 shows 4,260 (52.9%) in elementary grades pre-K through 6; 1,171 (14.6%) in middle school grades 7-8; and 2,617 (32.5%) enrolled in high school grades 9-12.

### **2. Graduation Rates (Table S-3)**

Table S-3 shows 600 graduating seniors in the class of 2006, and a graduation rate of 75.6%, a little better than the State's 74.1%. Our last CEDS showed a graduation rate for the class of 2001 at 79.1%, and 80.5% for Colorado. This does not look good for our school systems, and requires further study beyond the scope of our report. This also has implications for the quality of our workforce, and failure to graduate from high school eliminates so many future choices and job opportunities.

Schools with 90% graduation rates or better included Creede Consolidated (100.0%); Sargent (100.0%); Sangre de Cristo (96.3%); Sanford (94.1%); South Conejos (93.1%); and Sierra Grande (90.9%). Those below the Valley average of 74.1% included Mountain Valley (73.3%); Center (71.1%); Alamosa (65.7%); and Monte Vista (54.4%). For the larger cities to be dragging bottom also deserves an explanation.

The graduates represent an important talent pool for the area, but a majority are leaving to pursue higher education or to seek higher paying jobs elsewhere. This was expressed as a deep regret at the Strategy Committee meetings. The more affordable education at Adams State and Trinidad State is a great help to many students from the region, but the majority of graduates leave to find jobs matching their achievement levels or go to schools in other areas offering specialties in their career line of interest.

### **3. Enrollment Trends (Table S-4)**

Table S-4 compares fall enrollment for the region's public schools in the 5-year period from 2003-2006, which shows a -8.4% loss in students. This is worse than the -6.6% loss in the previous CEDS timeframe, and indicates

a further downward shift. Some of this can be explained by the change in demographics with fewer persons in the age groups with families, and this also reflects a gradual decline in the size of households and numbers of children in the family.

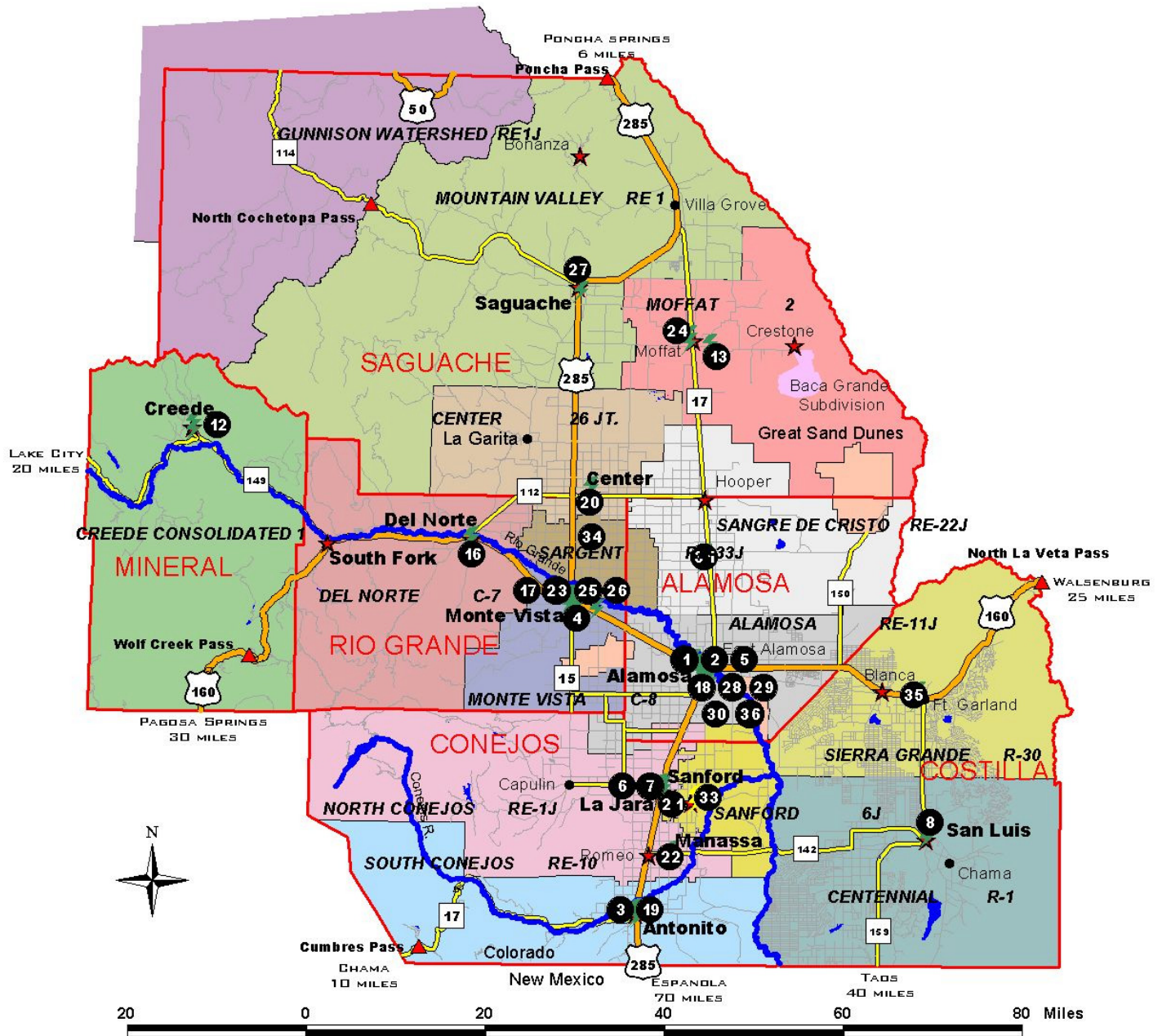
Schools with the largest drop in enrollment are as follows: Creede Consolidated (-30.5%); Center (-14.0%); South Conejos (-13.8%); Sierra Grande (-12.9%); Alamosa (-12.6%); Del Norte (-11.8%); and Monte Vista (-9.5%).

The losses in school enrollment are often symptomatic of population loss or no-gain situations, which is true of all the districts above save Creede, which has been showing some population gain from two-person families and retired persons.

Four schools, however, actually increased enrollment over the same period. These included: Centennial (21.9%); Sargent (16.9%); Moffat (5.4%); and Sangre de Cristo (1.5%). Several of these schools are showing higher graduation rates, and the increases in enrollment are due more to their ability to attract students from other school districts than to population growth or demographics.

# Map 20

## San Luis Valley Region – School Districts and Schools



Source: San Luis Valley GIS/GPS Authority.

- |                    |                     |                     |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Adams State Coll | 10 Centennial Pre-S | 19 Guadalupe Elem   | 28 Open High        |
| 2 Alamosa High     | 11 Center High      | 20 Haskin Elem      | 29 Ortega Middle    |
| 3 Antonito High    | 12 Creede PS-HS     | 21 La Jara Elem     | 30 Polston Primary  |
| 4 Bill Metz Elem   | 13 Crestone Charter | 22 Manassa Elem     | 31 SDC Elem         |
| 5 Boyd Elementary  | 14 Del Norte Elem   | 23 Marsh Elem       | 32 SDC High         |
| 6 Centauri High    | 15 Del Norte High   | 24 Moffat School    | 33 Sanford Public   |
| 7 Centauri Middle  | 16 Del Norte Middle | 25 Monte Vista High | 34 Sargent Jr-Sr HI |
| 8 Centennial Elem  | 17 Delta Center     | 26 Monte Vista M.S. | 35 Sierra Grande    |
| 9 Centennial High  | 18 Evans Elementary | 27 Mtn. Valley Sch  | 36 Trinidad State J |

**Table S-1**

**Summary of School District Data, Fall 2007**

School District	Number of Schools					Fall 2007 Pupil Membership	Percent of SLV
	Elementary	Middle/Junior	Senior High	Other	Total		
<b><u>Alamosa County</u></b>							
Alamosa RE-11J	3	1	1	1	6	2,147	26.7%
Sangre de Cristo RE-22J	1	0	1	0	2	<u>330</u>	<u>4.1</u>
<b>Total</b>						2,477	30.8
<b><u>Conejos County</u></b>							
North Conejos RE-1J	2	1	1	1	5	1,130	14.0%
Sanford 6J	1	0	1	0	2	354	4.4
South Conejos RE-10	1	1	1	0	3	<u>279</u>	<u>3.5</u>
<b>Total</b>						1,763	21.9
<b><u>Costilla County</u></b>							
Centennial R-1	1	1	1	0	3	217	2.7%
Sierra Grande R-30	1	0	1	0	2	<u>250</u>	<u>3.1</u>
<b>Total</b>						467	5.8
<b><u>Mineral County</u></b>							
Creede Consolidated 1	1	0	1	0	2	123	1.5%
<b><u>Rio Grande County</u></b>							
Del Norte C-7	2	1	1	0	4	591	7.3%
Monte Vista C-8	2	1	2	1	6	1,200	14.9
Sargent RE-33J	1	0	1	0	2	<u>471</u>	<u>5.9</u>
<b>Total</b>						2,262	28.1
<b><u>Saguache County</u></b>							
Center 26 JT	1	1	1	0	3	602	7.5%
Moffat 2	1	1	2	0	4	216	2.7
Mountain Valley RE 1	1	1	1	0	3	<u>138</u>	<u>1.7</u>
<b>Total</b>						956	11.9
<b>San Luis Valley</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>8,048</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Source:** Colorado Department of Education website, December 2007.

**Table S-2**

**Public School Enrollment by District and Grade, Fall 2007**

<b>County and District</b>	<b>Pre-K</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b><u>Alamosa County</u></b>															
Alamosa RE-11J	0	155	186	168	151	192	156	159	158	161	181	184	165	131	<b>2,147</b>
Sangre de Cristo RE-22J	15	30	20	18	21	25	23	22	26	27	30	22	29	22	<b>330</b>
<b><u>Conejos County</u></b>															
North Conejos RE-1J	5	66	85	10	81	76	82	81	75	70	89	91	95	132	<b>1,130</b>
Sanford 6J	17	36	34	23	32	26	26	18	20	21	24	30	32	15	<b>354</b>
South Conejos RE-10	1	17	23	17	10	20	17	19	25	25	29	42	23	18	<b>279</b>
<b><u>Costilla County</u></b>															
Centennial R-1	10	21	23	21	12	12	10	17	24	13	13	9	16	10	<b>217</b>
Sierra Grande R-30	0	13	22	18	17	16	16	25	26	22	18	19	17	21	<b>250</b>
<b><u>Mineral County</u></b>															
Creede Consolidated 1	8	7	6	8	6	7	7	14	8	12	8	11	10	11	<b>123</b>
<b><u>Rio Grande County</u></b>															
Del Norte C-7	0	45	47	42	52	46	47	43	43	53	53	49	30	41	<b>591</b>
Monte Vista C-8	41	83	84	83	86	80	69	74	74	88	123	127	107	81	<b>1,200</b>
Sargent RE-33J	0	37	35	40	37	25	40	36	41	30	38	41	34	36	<b>470</b>
<b><u>Saguache County</u></b>															
Center 26 JT	22	50	45	38	52	49	32	33	38	37	60	59	51	35	<b>602</b>
Moffat 2	14	13	20	20	19	11	17	19	16	14	19	16	9	15	<b>222</b>
Mountain Valley RE 1	8	11	8	7	13	5	5	11	8	16	13	18	7	8	<b>138</b>
<b>San Luis Valley</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>8,048</b>

Source: Colorado Department of Education, December 2007.

**Table S-3****Graduating Seniors, Class of 2006**

<b>County/School District</b>	<b>Final Grade Base</b>	<b>Graduates (incl alternative schools)</b>	<b>Graduation Rate</b>
<b><u>Alamosa</u></b>			
Alamosa RE-11J	213	140	65.7%
Sangre de Cristo RE-22J	27	26	96.3
<b><u>Conejos</u></b>			
North Conejos RE-1J	118	94	99.7%
Sanford 6J	34	32	94.1
South Conejos RE-10	29	27	93.1
<b><u>Costilla</u></b>			
Centennial R-1	32	25	78.1%
Sierra Grande R-30	22	20	90.3
<b><u>Mineral</u></b>			
Creede Consolidated 1	11	11	100.0%
<b><u>Rio Grande</u></b>			
Del Norte C-7	47	41	87.2%
Monte Vista C-8	180	98	54.4
Sargent RE-33J	30	30	100.0
<b><u>Saguache</u></b>			
Center 26 JT	45	32	71.1%
Moffat 2	15	13	86.7
Mountain Valley RE 1	15	11	73.3
<b><u>San Luis Valley</u></b>	793	600	75.6%
<b><u>Colorado</u></b>	59,972	44,424	74.1%

---

Source: Colorado Department of Education website, December 2007.

Table S-4

**Public School Enrollment Trends, 2003-2007**

County and District	Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007	2003-2007	
						Number chg	Percent chg
<b>Alamosa County</b>							
Alamosa RE-11J	2,456	2,252	2,265	2,148	2,147	-309	12.6%
Sangre de Cristo RE-22J	335	337	328	335	330	-5	-1.5
<b>Conejos County</b>							
North Conejos RE-1J	1,197	1,208	1,197	1,205	1,130	-67	-5.6%
Sanford 6J	384	360	371	335	354	-30	-7.8
South Conejos RE-10	321	309	302	290	279	-42	-13.1
<b>Costilla County</b>							
Centennial R-1	178	263	253	237	217	39	21.9%
Sierra Grande R-30	287	294	297	298	250	-37	-12.9
<b>Mineral County</b>							
Creede Consolidated 1	177	158	149	136	123	-54	-30.5%
<b>Rio Grande County</b>							
Del Norte C-7	570	661	613	622	591	21	3.7%
Monte Vista C-8	1,326	1,291	1,249	1,186	1,200	-126	-9.5
Sargent RE-33J	403	419	426	464	471	68	16.9
<b>Saguache County</b>							
Center 26 JT	700	673	654	624	602	-98	-14.0%
Moffat 2	205	209	230	220	216	11	5.4
Mountain Valley RE 1	150	152	126	129	138	-12	-8.0
<b>San Luis Valley</b>	<b>8,689</b>	<b>8,586</b>	<b>8,460</b>	<b>8,229</b>	<b>8,048</b>	<b>-641</b>	<b>-7.4%</b>

Source: Colorado Department of Education website, December 2007.