

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

DIVISION OF AUTHORIZING

2022 CHARTER SCHOOL WAITLIST REPORT

MARCH 2023

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STATUTORY AUTHORITY

In 2019, the 86th Legislature passed [Senate Bill 2293](#), which added [Section 12.1174](#) to the Texas Education Code (TEC) and required open-enrollment charter schools to report the following:

- the number of students enrolled;
- the enrollment capacity;
- if a charter holder uses a waiting list of admission to campus: the total number of students on the waitlist and the number of students on the waiting list disaggregated by grade level;
- the information described by Subdivision aggregated for all campuses operating under the charter holder's charter; and
- any information required by the commissioner as necessary to identify each student admitted to or on a waiting list for admission to a campus operating under the charter holder's charter who is or was previously enrolled in a public school in this state.

This information must be reported to the agency's Internet website no later than March 15 of each year. The information contained within this report fulfills the statutory requirement outlined in [TEC §12.1174](#).

BACKGROUND

Senate Bill 2293, authored by Senator Fallon in the 86th Regular Legislative Session, added [Sections 12.1173 and 12.1174](#) to the TEC. [Section 12.1173](#) required the commissioner to adopt a common admission application form and a waiting list of admission for use by all open-enrollment charter schools in the state of Texas. [Section 12.1174](#) required the annual reporting of data referred to as the Charter School Waitlist (CSW).

The Charter Student Admission Application (CSAA) creation allows for a uniform admission form to be utilized portfolio wide. Additionally, this common admission application form provides for eliminating questions or fields that may have an inherent bias. The CSAA helps gather the required CSW data for submission by charter schools in the state's portfolio.

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) employs the Texas Student Data System (TSDS) to collect data from local education agencies (LEAs). The Texas Student Data System is a statewide data collection system utilized to collect, manage, and report Texas education data. Local education agencies (LEAs) load their data into the system, and the data is stored in a central repository.

CHARTER SCHOOL ADMISSION AND ENROLLMENT POLICIES

Charter schools authorized in Texas must create admission and enrollment policies per the Texas Education Code (TEC). The requirements for these policies are outlined in [Sections 12.111 and 12.117](#). Charter schools that receive more applications than available seats are considered 'oversubscribed' and must conduct a lottery to determine accepted enrollees. Applicants who do not receive enrollment during a lottery are placed on a waiting list.

PROCEDURE

Since August 1, 2020, all charter schools are required to use the CSAA for admission of students, and all students applying for admission to an open-enrollment charter school in Texas are required to submit the CSAA to the charter school(s) they are applying to, thus ensuring the collection of necessary CSW data each year.

The required CSW data is gathered through a special collection with a snapshot of data taken on the last Friday in September and finalized reporting submitted no later than the last Friday in October. The 2022 CSW special collection snapshot date was Friday, September 23, 2022, with final reporting due no later than Friday, October 28, 2022.

LIMITATIONS

All public schools rely on a software matching system to identify individual student data. TSDS utilizes the 'Unique ID' (UID) system in which each student in the state of Texas is assigned a unique identification number. This UID is generated or 'matched' based on the student's social security number or alternative state assigned ID (S-number when a social security number is not provided).

Consequently, each charter school registrar uses a student's social security number (SSN) or S-number to match the student to their UID. The CSAA does not require the submission of a social security number for privacy purposes ([Privacy Act, 1974, 5 USC § 552a](#)), nor is it required in Texas statute ([TEC §25.002](#)). The CSAA form provides a field for voluntary submission of an SSN to facilitate a match between an individual student and their UID. These requirements may pose limitations in reporting.

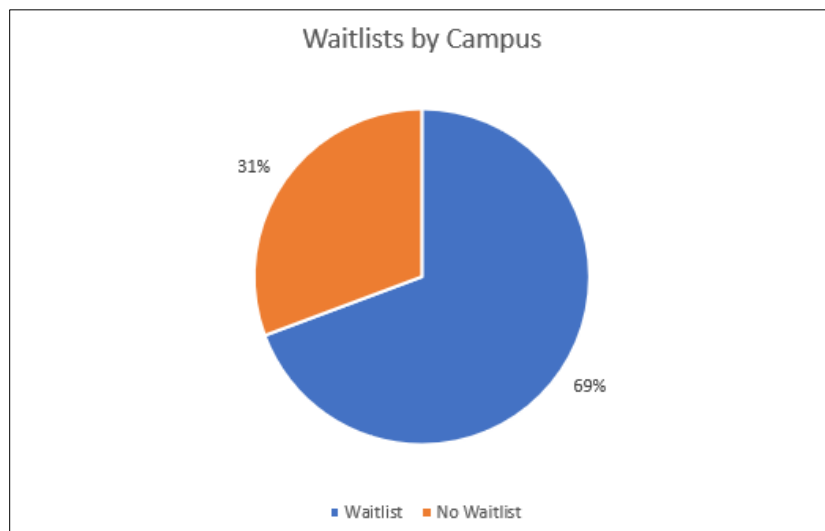
KEY FINDINGS

The 2022 CSW resulted in 100% (188) charter schools reporting. Of the charter school campuses in the state's portfolio:

- 69% (637) reported having a waitlist;
- 31% (282) of campuses reported no waitlist.

The total reported charter school waitlist count was 77,624, which contains approximately 8,507 duplicated students who have applied to and been reported by multiple charter schools on their respective waitlists. These 8,507 students were representative of 19,619 entries on the waitlist. This accounts for 11,112 duplicate responses.

When filtering for duplicative students reported on multiple waitlists, the total number of individual students reported on charter schools with waitlists in 2022 was 66,512.



As of the October 2021 Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) snapshot, there were 377,375 students enrolled in charter schools in the state of Texas. This represents roughly 7% of all public-school enrollment. During the 2022 CSW collection, charter schools submitted enrollment data as of the last Friday in September 2022. This year’s reported enrollment reflected 404,740 students.

Charter schools also reported a facility enrollment capacity of 523,160. Enrollment capacity is defined as the number of students to which the charter school's campus can provide instruction without exceeding staffing and facility limitations and the approved charter holder's maximum enrollment.

Actual Enrollment	Enrollment Capacity	Waitlist Count
404,740	523,160	66,512

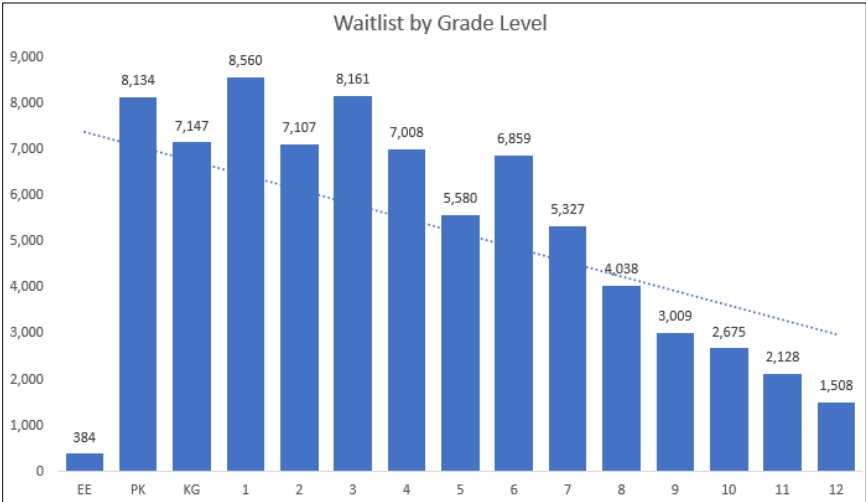
While there appears to be a difference of 118,420 seats between actual enrollment and enrollment capacity, upon the aggregation and analysis of statewide totals, there is no causal relationship between these data points.

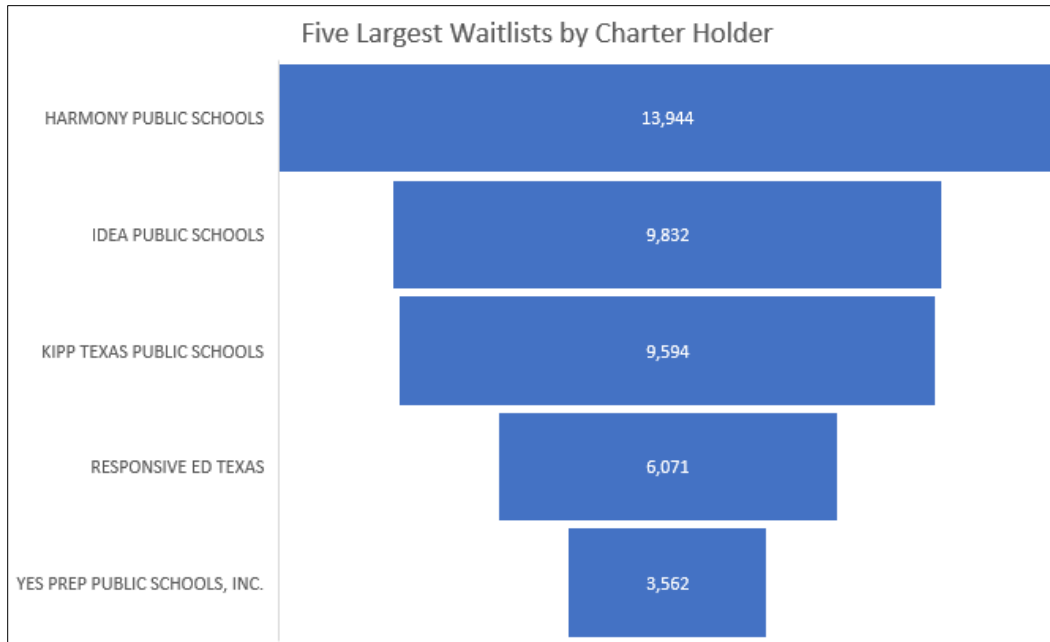
For instance, a charter campus may report a larger enrollment capacity than actual enrollment with no waitlist. This is due to the difference in definition of each type of enrollment. Although the building and staffing may allow for additional enrollment, the charter school may not have received applicants to fulfill the positions or may not serve the requested grade-levels.

In contrast, another charter campus may report a limited enrollment capacity and an extensive waitlist. This occurs when there is increased interest in the charter school with limited building and staff capacity.

When combined, this data is not necessarily a reflection of seats available at individual charter campuses. The 118,420 seats are disseminated across the state's charter portfolio and fourteen grade levels (EE-12).

Notably, as grade levels increase, waitlist numbers tend to decline. The following chart shows the reported waitlist count by grade level. This decline in part may be attributed to the decreased likelihood of a student to transfer to a new educational setting once they are established at a school. Another contributing factor to large waitlists during the elementary grade levels may be the fewer number of open seats available at those grade levels.





The graph above represents the five charter holders with the largest submitted waitlists in the state of Texas. Charter schools have been grouped according to their charter holder when appropriate. The totals within this graph contain duplicate unique student IDs as reported by the charter school. Duplication occurs when a Texas student applies to multiple charter schools in a given year. Individual school waitlists are not deduplicated to represent the true count of students who have submitted applications at each school.

OPEN-ENROLLMENT CHARTER SCHOOLS

Charter schools are public schools or LEAs operated by eligible entities such as 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, governmental entities, and colleges or universities. At a minimum, charter schools will have one charter school campus associated with the charter LEA, and in many instances, there are multiple charter school campuses associated with a charter LEA. The chart below contains a summary of information for charter schools that participated in the 2022 Charter School Waitlist collection.

Large Operators 10+ Campuses		Medium Operators 6-9 Campuses		Small Operators 2-5 Campuses		Standalone Operators 1 Campus	
15 Operators		21 Operators		76 Operators		76 Operators	
483 Campuses	236,214 Students Enrolled	140 Campuses	58,848 Students Enrolled	220 Campuses	82,770 Students Enrolled	76 Campuses	26,908 Students Enrolled

SUMMARY

This data, summarized below, represents the third year of this collection. The agency continues to evaluate and analyze methodology and collections to ensure accurate reporting.

CSW Report Year	Actual Enrollment	Enrollment Capacity	Waitlist Count
2022	404,740	523,160	66,512
2021	374,466	470,779	58,588
2020	336,745	441,293	55,059

APPENDIX

A. Future collection dates

Snapshot Date	Submission Date	Report Date
Friday, September 29, 2023	Friday, October 27, 2023	Friday, March 15, 2024
Friday, September 27, 2024	Friday, October 25, 2024	Friday, March 14, 2025
Friday, September 26, 2025	Friday, October 31, 2025	Friday, March 13, 2026

B. Count of student UID reported by Charter District

CDN	CHARTER NAME	WAITLIST COUNT
227816 101858 101846 101862 161807 015828 071806	HARMONY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	13,944
108807	IDEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS	9,832
227820	KIPP TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS	9,594
221801 072801	RESPONSIVE ED TEXAS	6,071
101845	YES PREP PUBLIC SCHOOLS, INC.	3,562
057848	INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP OF TEXAS (ILTEXAS)	3,248
057803	UPLIFT EDUCATION	3,171
070801	WAXAHACHIE FAITH FAMILY ACADEMY	3,117
246801	MERIDIAN WORLD SCHOOL	2,708
043801	IMAGINE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF NORTH TEXAS	2,315
220810	WESTLAKE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	1,863
015827	SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	1,683
014804	ORENDA CHARTER SCHOOL	1,471
227829	VALOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS	1,412
015834	BASIS TEXAS	1,349

015831	SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DISCOVERY	1,335
220817	NEWMAN INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF ARLINGTON	1,022
061804	LEADERSHIP PREP SCHOOL	857
068802	COMPASS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	765
101870	BETA ACADEMY	657
057847	VILLAGE TECH SCHOOLS	576
108808	VANGUARD ACADEMY	476
015835	GREAT HEARTS TEXAS	446
101803	ARISTOI CLASSICAL ACADEMY	428
057813	TRINITY BASIN PREPARATORY	399
227826	MONTESSORI FOR ALL	342
057807	LIFE SCHOOL	320
057829	A+ ACADEMY	273
015838	COMPASS ROSE PUBLIC SCHOOLS	258
084802	ODYSSEY ACADEMY, THE	215
123807	BOB HOPE SCHOOL	213
057839	LA ACADEMIA DE ESTRELLAS	207
227825	AUSTIN ACHIEVE PUBLIC SCHOOLS	197
212804	UT TYLER UNIVERSITY ACADEMY	196
057808	UNIVERSAL ACADEMY	177
101853	BAKERRIPLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS	153
220802	ARLINGTON CLASSICS ACADEMY	152
246802	GOODWATER MONTESSORI SCHOOL	151
123805	EHRHART SCHOOL	149
226801	TEXAS LEADERSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS	149
057845	UME PREPARATORY ACADEMY	141
015822	JUBILEE ACADEMIES	129
015808	INSPIRE ACADEMIES	118
170802	THRIVE CENTER FOR SUCCESS	118
101847	BEATRICE MAYES INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL	117
212801	CUMBERLAND ACADEMY	110
161802	RAPOPORT ACADEMY PUBLIC SCHOOL	107
071801	BURNHAM WOOD CHARTER SCHOOL DISTRICT	105
108802	HORIZON MONTESSORI PUBLIC SCHOOLS	105
174801	STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY CHARTER SCHOOL	81
057841	CITYSCAPE SCHOOLS	67
101815	ALIEF MONTESSORI COMMUNITY SCHOOL	56
227814	CHAPARRAL STAR ACADEMY	56
057830	INSPIRED VISION ACADEMY	54
101838	SOUTHWEST SCHOOLS	53
021805	ARROW ACADEMY	47
152802	RISE ACADEMY	47
101819	AMIGOS POR VIDA-FRIENDS FOR LIFE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL	45

015839	PROMESA ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	45
003801	PINEYWOODS COMMUNITY ACADEMY	42
013801	ST MARYS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	42
227819	UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOL	41
057846	LEGACY PREPARATORY	37
236802	SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY CHARTER SCHOOL	32
061805	TRIVIUM ACADEMY	32
220815	CHAPEL HILL ACADEMY	25
101828	HOUSTON GATEWAY ACADEMY, INC.	24
227803	WAYSIDE SCHOOLS	21
178807	CORPUS CHRISTI MONTESSORI SCHOOL	20
220819	HIGH POINT ACADEMY	19
057851	BRIDGEWAY PREPARATORY ACADEMY	18
057805	LUMIN EDUCATION	17
227805	TEXAS EMPOWERMENT ACADEMY	17
220809	FORT WORTH ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS	15
015807	SOUTHWEST PREPARATORY SCHOOL	15
220801	TREETOPS SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL	14
057828	WINFREE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOLS	14
015815	HERITAGE ACADEMY	12
220820	ROCKETSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS	12
071809	VISTA DEL FUTURO CHARTER SCHOOL	12
057806	ADVANTAGE ACADEMY	10
057819	JEAN MASSIEU ACADEMY	10
178808	SEASHORE CHARTER SCHOOLS	10
101876	REVE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL	9
170801	TEXAS SERENITY ACADEMY	9
165802	MIDLAND ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	8
101871	A+ UNLIMITED POTENTIAL	7
057816	A. W. BROWN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY	6
101861	THE RHODES SCHOOL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS	6
220814	TEXAS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS	3
015841	THE GATHERING PLACE	3
105804	DORAL ACADEMY OF TEXAS	2
092801	EAST TEXAS CHARTER SCHOOLS	2
183801	PANOLA CHARTER SCHOOL	2
043802	LONE STAR LANGUAGE ACADEMY	1
057844	MANARA ACADEMY	1