

# Texas Public Charter Schools 101

## Char•ter Schools

[chahr-ter skools]

(noun) Charter schools are tuition-free public schools that are open to all students. They are held to strict financial and academic accountability standards in exchange for more autonomy and flexibility.

### By the Numbers



**316,869**  
charter school students<sup>1</sup>



**179**  
charters active<sup>2</sup>



**761**  
charter school campuses<sup>1</sup>



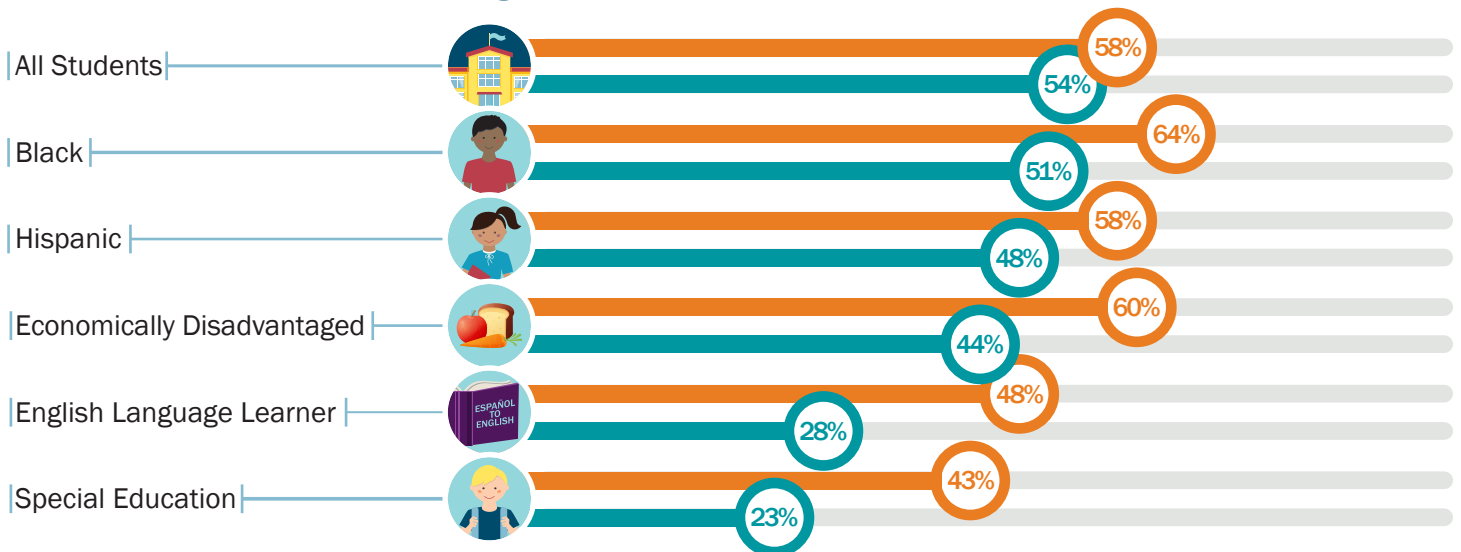
**141,000**  
names on charter school waiting lists<sup>2</sup>

### Academic Performance

- Public charter schools send more of their graduates to college, including nearly twice as many graduates with special needs.<sup>3</sup>
- Texas public charter schools educate **6%** of Texas' public school students, but make up more than **60% of A rated districts**.<sup>4</sup>
- Every year, public charter school students gain **17 more days of learning in reading**. Over the course of a student's K-12 life time, this comes out to 1 additional year of learning in reading.<sup>5</sup>
- 20% more charter school students on average graduate with AP or IB credit.<sup>3</sup>
- African American charter school students are on average meeting grade level in every subject at higher rates and nearly twice as many ELL students are meeting grade level standards.<sup>4</sup>

### Enrollment in Texas Colleges<sup>1</sup>

● Charter Schools ● ISD Schools



Sources: 1. Texas Education Agency  
2. TPCSA member data, last collected 2017  
3. Public Education Information Management System, Texas Education Agency  
4. 2018-19 State Academic Accountability Ratings, Texas Education Agency  
5. 2017 CREDO Center for Research on Education Outcomes Stanford University

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