

# Texas Families Need More Access to Public Charter Schools

From Laredo to Houston, Texas families are asking for more high-quality public school opportunities, including more public charter schools.

Unfortunately, Texas isn't keeping up with demand. The number of students on public charter school waitlists reached an all-time high this school year. We need to deliver for these children and parents.

## FACT

# 76,000



There are 76,000 individual Texas students on at least one public charter school waitlist.

## FACT

57% of campuses have waitlists, and at 50 campuses, the waitlist has **at least 500 students.**



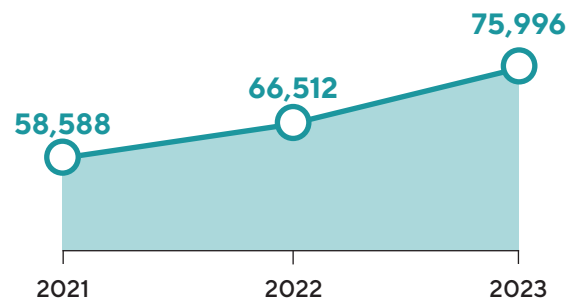
## FACT

The number of students on public charter school waitlists increased 14% in the past year alone. Much of that demand comes from the highest-need families in Texas.

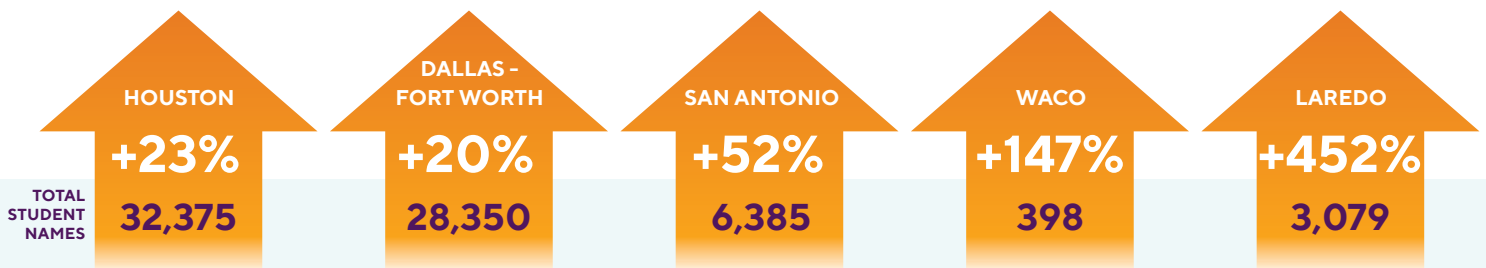
Among public charter school campuses with a waitlist, 274 (more than 50%) educate 80% or more low-income students.



## Students on Public Charter School Waitlists



## The Biggest Increases in Student Names on Public Charter School Waitlists By Metro Area



**Public charter school waitlists got longer in metro areas across the state. That includes:**

- Large cities such as Houston and Dallas, where tens of thousands of students remain stuck without a seat
- Waco, where the number of student names on waitlists more than doubled as public charter schools have proven they meet families' needs
- Laredo, where the number of student names on waitlist more than quintupled

# Too many families are still waiting.

More than **76,000** Texas students are on public charter school waitlists.

Don't just take  
our word for it.



## Meridian School in Round Rock has a waitlist of 2,630 students.

"The truth is that getting into Meridian School literally felt like a multi-million dollar prize for our family. We didn't just want it; we needed it. Both my children had their educational experience – and frankly, their lives – put onto a **completely different trajectory** after moving to an environment that was suited to their needs."

**Jennifer Noonan**  
*Parent*



## Beatrice Mayes Institute enrolls about 460 students, but 120 more are on the waitlist. That means 1 in 5 students who want to attend aren't able to do so.

"Ever since my parents founded the organization in 1966 and transitioned the school (K-8) to a public charter school, Beatrice Mayes Institute has **meant so much to the community**. It's the school I attended and the place I returned, after working for NASA, because I want all children to believe in their potential. Many of our teachers are alumni and all the work we do is out of love.

Today, more families want to send their students here than we have seats available. We need BMI to be able to grow so that we can provide rich educational opportunities to everyone who needs support."

**Christopher Mayes**  
*Superintendent*