

GET THE FACTS

Charter schools are public, tuition-free, open-enrollment, free to innovate and held to strict financial and academic accountability standards.

Public Charter & District Similarities

- ✓ Academic Accountability
- ✓ Financial Accountability
- ✓ Teacher Retirement System
- ✓ Immunity from Tort
- ✓ Open Meetings
- ✓ Open Records
- ✓ Mandatory Board Training
- ✓ State Curriculum & Graduation
- ✓ PEIMS Reporting
- ✓ Criminal History Background Checks
- ✓ Conflicts of Interest
- ✓ Nepotism

5% Public school students served in charter schools

39% Public school districts were charter schools honored by the Texas Comptroller’s Office for their five-star 2014 Financial Allocation Study for Texas (FAST)

Public Charter & District Differences

305 Statutory Cap (By 2019)	More Than 1,000 Districts
Employment At-Will	Employment Contracts
Three Strikes of Poor Financial or Academic Rating Triggers Mandatory Closure.	No Automatic Closure Triggers in Place for Poor Academic or Financial Performance
No Minimum Salary Scale for Teachers	Minimum Salary Scale for Teachers
Locally Proscribed Student Code of Conduct	Statutorily Proscribed Student Code of Conduct
No Authority to Levy Property Taxes	Authority to Levy Property Taxes
Not Eligible for Certain State Funding Opportunities; No Facilities Funding Provided (State or Local)	Eligible for More State Funding Opportunities; Facilities Funding Subsidized by State or Local Tax
Services Contracts Pre-approved by TEA	Services Contracts Approved Solely by School Board
Some Properties Tax-Exempt	All Real Properties Tax-Exempt

Public Charter Students Excel

More economically disadvantaged students and minority students are being served at charter schools and those students are **thriving**.

Economically disadvantaged students in standard charter schools **outperformed** their traditional public school peers in every subject level.

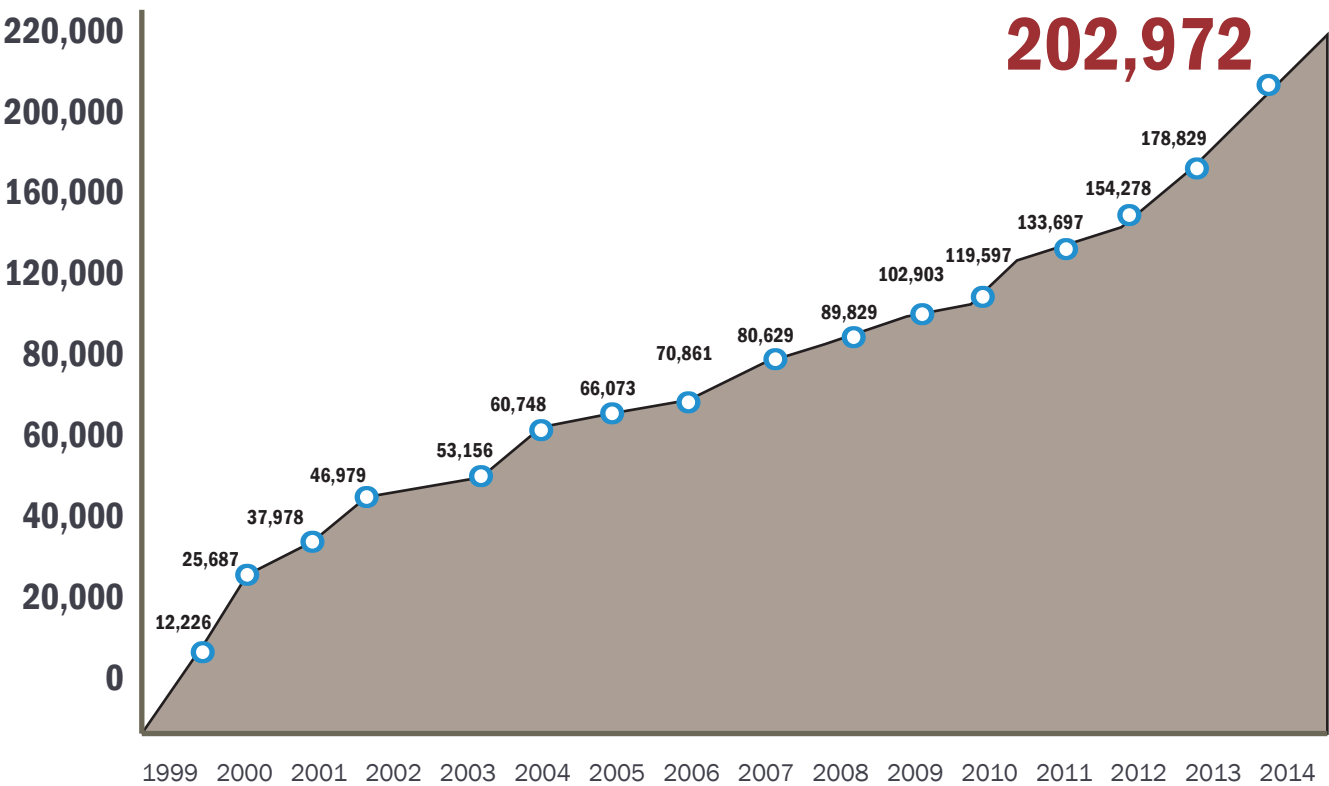
African American charter school students **outperformed** their traditional public school peers in reading and writing.

Hispanic charter school students **outperformed** their traditional public school peers in every subject area, with the exception of science, where they performed at the same level.

Overall, **standard charter school** students performed at similar levels to traditional public schools, and **exceeded** traditional public school students in reading.

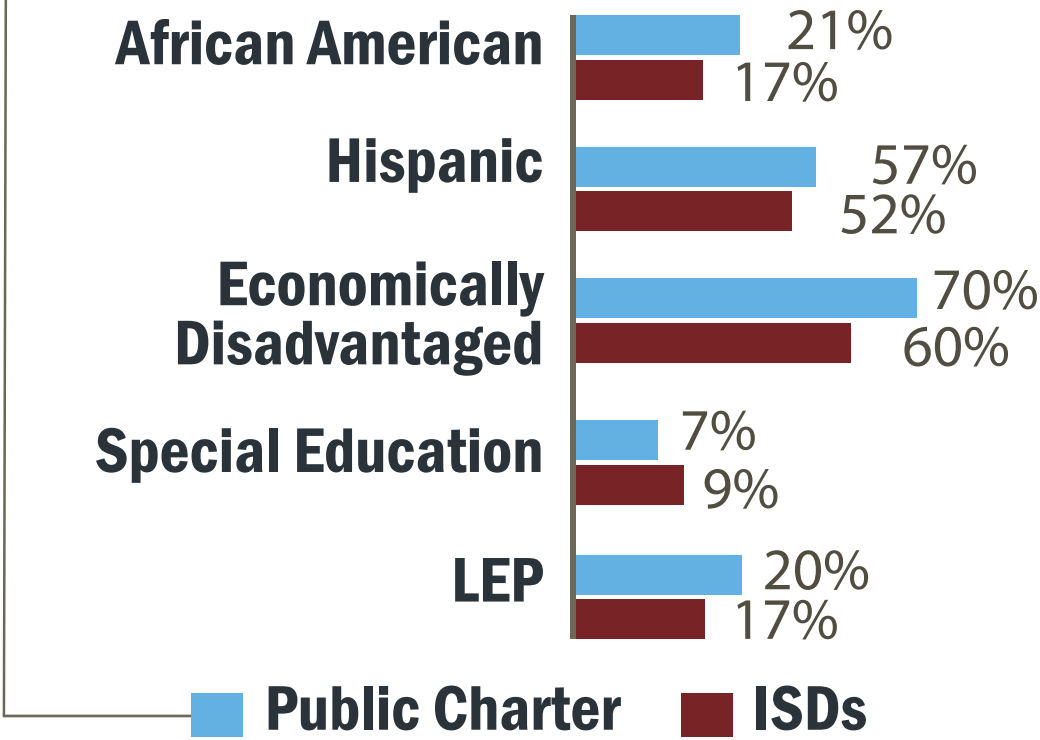
FAST CHARTER FACTS

Charter Student Enrollment Growth



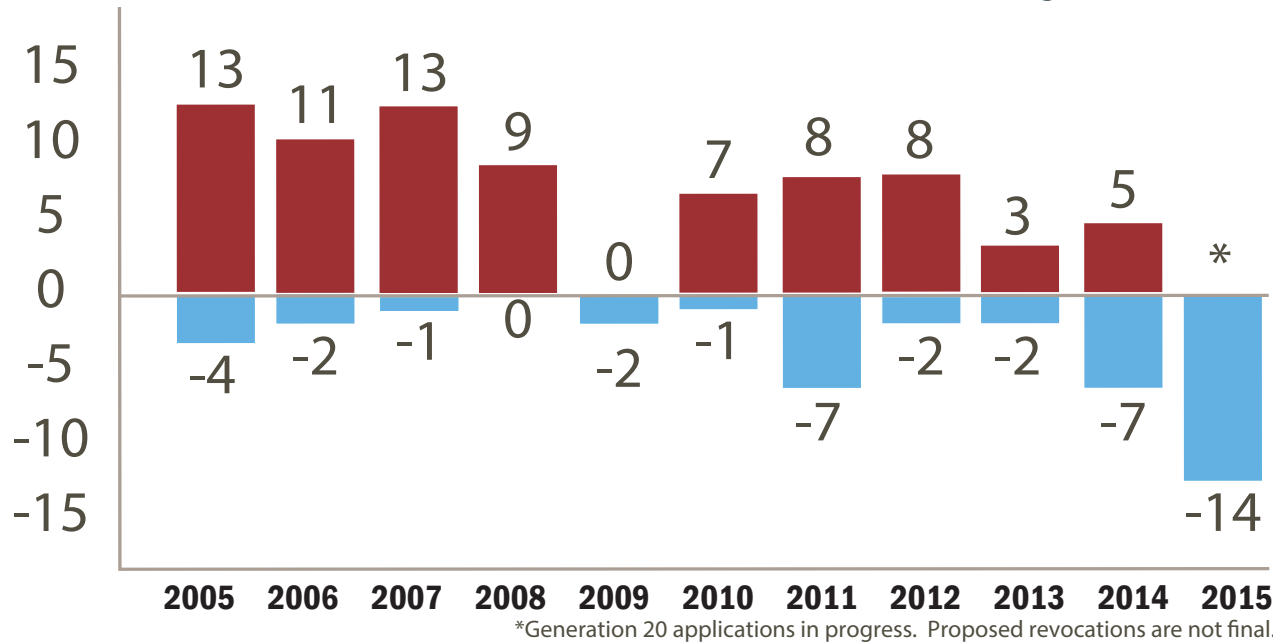
202,972 Charter school students
105,000 Students on wait-lists
182 Charters awarded
628 Charter school campuses

Student Enrollment

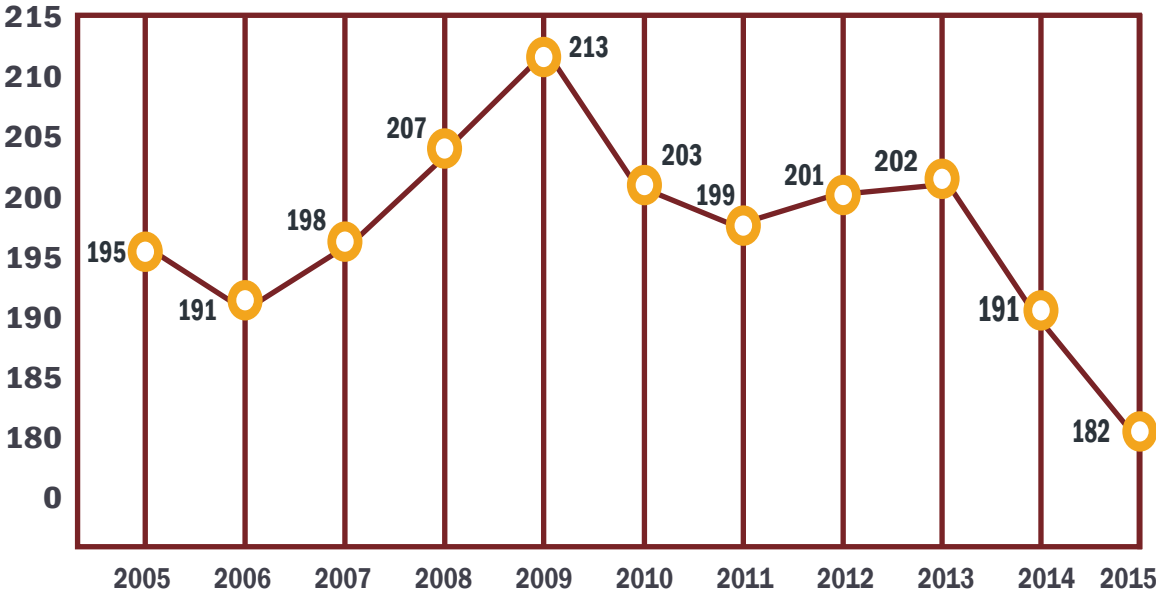


\$ ON AVERAGE CHARTER SCHOOLS
RECEIVE **\$1,000** LESS PER STUDENT THAN ISDs

Granted vs. Revoked Charters by Year



Total Number of Charters



Types of Charter Schools

- Dropout Recovery** - Serve students who drop out or are at risk of dropping out.
- Pre-K/Elem** - Expressly serve Pre-K, Elementary students.
- Residential Treatment Center / Juvenile Detention Centers** - Serve students in residential setting, ordered to attend school by a court of law.
- Specialized Mission** - Serve students of any grade level in a distinctive focus.
- College Preparatory** - Prepare students for four-year college degree.

1995 Texas lawmakers authorize public charter schools.

2008 TCSA formed to provide one voice for public charter schools.

2013 Charter cap lifted from 215 to 305 by 2019.

