Charter Schools

(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**

- 296,213 charter school students
- 177 charters active
- 705 charter school campuses
- 141,000 names on charter school waiting lists

**Academic Performance**

- Texas public charter schools educate 6% of Texas' public school students, but make up more than 20% of A rated districts.
- A recent Stanford study showed that students attending Texas public charter schools gained on average an additional 17 days of learning in reading annually, as compared to their traditional school district peers.
- Hispanic students attending Texas charter schools outscored all statewide averages for Hispanic students in all states across the country on the Nation’s Report Card 8th grade math test.
- African American public charter students had higher passage rates on STAAR reading and writing tests and White public charter students passed at higher rates on reading.

**Student Enrollment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Charter Schools</th>
<th>ISD Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economically Disadvantaged</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited English Proficiency</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sources:**
1. 2018 Texas Academic Performance Report, Texas Education Agency
2. TCSA member data
3. 2018 State Academic Accountability Ratings, Texas Education Agency
4. 2017 CREDO Center for Research on Education Outcomes Stanford University

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