



Charter Schools: Facts You Need to Know | For More Information

Policy Feature Issue: Charter Schools

This week, the House is recognizing National Charter School Week. Below are 10 quick facts about charter schools.

Facts You Need to Know:

- 1. The first charter school opened its doors in 1992 in Minnesota. Minnesota continues to have the number one ranked state chartering system. Indiana ranks number two.
- 2. In 1999, 36 states and the District of Columbia had charter school authorizing legislation in place. In 2014, the number increased to 42 states and the District of Columbia.
- 3. There were approximately 1,941 charter schools in 2001. For the 2013-2014 school year, it is estimated there will be 6,440 charter schools.
- 4. There were 459,000 charter school students in 2011. In 2007, there were 1.29 million students enrolled in charter schools. Now, approximately, 2.57 million students attend charter schools nationwide.
- 5. There are approximately one million students on the waiting list to attend a charter school.
- 6. During the 2012-2013 school year, 561 new charter schools opened, an increase of 6.7 percent. There are an estimated 642 new charter schools in operation during the 2013-2014 school year.
- 7. For the 2010-2011 school year, the most recent year available, more than half the students made AYP compared to the 40 percent in public schools.
- 8. 87.7 percent of charter schools were non-unionized during the 2009-2010 school year, the most recent year for which data is available.
- 9. For the 2012-2013 school year, 89.3 percent of the charter schools were startups. 10.6 percent were conversion schools.
- 10. Approximately 3,548 charter schools or 67 percent were free standing in 2010-2011.

For More Information:

For more information on charter schools in your district, please click here: http://www.publiccharters.org/get-the-facts/law-database/