Each spring, charter schools send the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (Department) the number of students enrolled for the upcoming school year as well as the number of students who were placed on the schools' waitlists through each school’s initial lottery, which is typically held in February or March.

The information provided below reflects the number of students who applied to charter schools but did not gain admittance as of March 15, 2022. This *initial* 2022-2023 waitlist report finds the following:

* 66 out of 76[[1]](#footnote-2) charter schools in the Commonwealth have waitlists[[2]](#footnote-3).
* There are 35,776 entries on all waitlists, representing 21,110 unique students.
  + Of the 21,110 unique students, 19 students applied for admittance prior to March 2014[[3]](#footnote-4).
  + The remaining 21,091 unique students[[4]](#footnote-5) newly applied for admittance to at least one charter school for the 2022-2023 school year; representing an increase of 3,639 students when compared to the number of unique students who newly applied for the 2021-2022 school year.
  + Of the unique students, 15,882 students appear on a single waitlist and 5,228 students (24.8 percent) appear on more than one waitlist.

**Figure 1.** Unique Number of Students on Charter School Waitlists3

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Number of Waitlists a Student Appears On** | **Unique (Unduplicated) Number of Students on Charter School Waitlist(s)** |
|
| 1 | 15,882 |
| 2 | 2,175 |
| 3 | 964 |
| 4 | 536 |
| 5 | 429 |
| 6 | 338 |
| 7 | 313 |
| 8 | 291 |
| 9 | 84 |
| 10 | 54 |
| 11 | 29 |
| 12 | 7 |
| 13 | 2 |
| 14 | 4 |
| 16 | 1 |
| 19 | 1 |
| **Total** | **21,110** |

In 2014, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education adopted regulations requiring charter schools to refresh their waitlists every year, based on the most recent application cycle for the upcoming school year. These regulations, however, allowed schools to keep students on their waitlists who submitted applications before March 31, 2014. As shown and footnoted in the table below, two schools continue to include waitlisted students from prior years on their active waitlists.

**Figure 2.** Total Number of Applications Reported on Charter School Waitlists

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **School Name** | **Type** | **Total Number of  Applicants Reported on  Charter School Initial Waitlists** |
|
| Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School | Common wealth (CW) | 603 |
| Academy of the Pacific Rim Charter Public School\* | CW | 467 |
| Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School | CW | 887 |
| Alma del Mar Charter School | CW | 579 |
| Argosy Collegiate Charter School | CW | 109 |
| Atlantis Charter School† | CW | 384 |
| Benjamin Banneker Charter Public School | CW | 113 |
| Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School | CW | 506 |
| Berkshire Arts and Technology Charter Public School | CW | 52 |
| Boston Collegiate Charter School\* | CW | 1,323 |
| Boston Day and Evening Academy Charter School | Horace Mann (HM) | 53 |
| Boston Green Academy Horace Mann Charter School | HM | 209 |
| Boston Preparatory Charter Public School\* | CW | 877 |
| Boston Renaissance Charter Public School\* | CW | 966 |
| Bridge Boston Charter School | CW | 1,721 |
| Brooke Charter School\* | CW | 3,141 |
| Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School | CW | 238 |
| Christa McAuliffe Charter Public School | CW | 6 |
| City on a Hill Charter Public School | CW | 210 |
| Codman Academy Charter Public School\* | CW | 1,637 |
| Collegiate Charter School of Lowell | CW | 359 |
| Community Charter School of Cambridge | CW | 18 |
| Community Day Charter Public Schoolᶲ | CW | 1,135 |
| Conservatory Lab Charter School\* | CW | 1,875 |
| Dudley Street Neighborhood Charter School | HM | 35 |
| Edward M Kennedy Academy for Health Careers (Horace Mann) | HM | 400 |
| Excel Academy Charter School\* | CW | 1,163 |
| Four Rivers Charter Public School | CW | 58 |
| Foxborough Regional Charter School | CW | 737 |
| Francis W Parker Charter Essential School | CW | 136 |
| Global Learning Charter Public School | CW | 203 |
| Hampden Charter School of Science East | CW | 221 |
| Hampden Charter School of Science West | CW | 153 |
| Hill View Montessori Charter Public School | CW | 318 |
| Hilltown Cooperative Charter Public School | CW | 200 |
| Innovation Academy Charter School | CW | 280 |
| KIPP Academy Boston Charter School\* | CW | 1,232 |
| KIPP Academy Lynn Charter School | CW | 1,834 |
| Lawrence Family Development Charter School | CW | 312 |
| Learning First Charter Public School | CW | 239 |
| Libertas Academy Charter School | CW | 8 |
| Lowell Community Charter Public School | CW | 202 |
| Marblehead Community Charter Public School | CW | 130 |
| Martha's Vineyard Charter School | CW | 25 |
| Martin Luther King Jr Charter School of Excellence | CW | 42 |
| Match Charter Public School\* | CW | 2,180 |
| Mystic Valley Regional Charter School | CW | 1,609 |
| Neighborhood House Charter School\* | CW | 1,436 |
| New Heights Charter School of Brockton | CW | 171 |
| Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School | CW | 406 |
| Pioneer Charter School of Science | CW | 1,321 |
| Pioneer Charter School of Science II | CW | 568 |
| Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School | CW | 166 |
| Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School | CW | 175 |
| Prospect Hill Academy Charter School | CW | 25 |
| Rising Tide Charter Public School | CW | 212 |
| River Valley Charter School | CW | 144 |
| Roxbury Preparatory Charter School\* | CW | 14 |
| Salem Academy Charter School | CW | 201 |
| Sizer School: A North Central Charter Essential School | CW | 32 |
| South Shore Charter Public School | CW | 554 |
| Springfield International Charter School (formerly Sabis International Charter School)† | CW | 159 |
| Springfield Preparatory Charter School | CW | 600 |
| Sturgis Charter Public School | CW | 292 |
| UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester | HM | 38 |
| Veritas Preparatory Charter School | CW | 77 |
| **Commonwealth (CW) Subtotal** |  | **35,041** |
| **Horace Mann (HM) Subtotal** |  | **735** |
| **Grand Total** |  | **35,776** |
|  |  |  |

Please note that the total number figure represents every student record found on each charter school's submitted initial waitlist.

†Atlantis Charter School and Springfield International Charter School reported 11 and 8 students who were waitlisted prior to March 31, 2014, respectively, in accordance with 603 CMR 1.05(10)(a).

\*These 12 schools utilized the Boston Charter School Application online application system.

ᶲCommunity Day Charter Public School previously operated as three separate charter schools that were consolidated into a single school beginning in the 2022-2023 school year.

The Department has made significant improvements over the years in quantifying the exact number of students who may be actively waiting for admission to a charter school. **The unique waitlist counts provided in this current report should be taken as the Department's best understanding and representation of the demand for the current 2022-2023 school year rather than exact numbers of students willing to accept offers at each school.**

Each charter school is responsible for maintaining its own individual waitlist. To ensure uniformity, the Department created a waitlist collection template and required charter schools to use it to input waitlist data. This template embedded tools that automatically flagged duplicate records, which each school could then remove before submitting its waitlist. The template also embedded tools that flagged the waitlist for other inconsistencies, such as unrealistic dates of birth (e.g., 2/28/2022) and student age. In order to verify student information and address overall waitlist accuracy, the Department corrected any transcription errors or inconsistencies in submitted charter school waitlists. Additionally, charter schools that self-identified as including waitlists established prior to March 31, 2014, as permitted by 603 CMR 1.05(10)(a), were required to identify each individual student who was included in those waitlists (and continued to remain on their waitlist) and each student who was removed from those waitlists. Finally, the Department continues to implement its matching process, which is refined and updated to increase accuracy in identifying students who applied for admission to more than one charter school.

The Department thanks all of the charter school administrators and staff who worked diligently to report their waitlists as accurately as possible. The Department appreciates the efforts made by schools to submit their waitlist reports as promptly as possible.

The appendix to this report contains the following numbers based on a March 15, 2022 data collection:

1. the unique number of students on waitlists;
2. the total number of pre-March 2014 applicants and new applicants reported on charter school waitlists by March 15, 2022;
3. the unique number of students on waitlists by grade;
4. the unique number of students on waitlists by city/town;
5. the total number of students on waitlists for each charter school by grade (with backfilling overlay);
6. the total number of students on waitlists, by grade, for each charter school that includes pre-March 2014 applicants on their waitlist;
7. the unique number of students on waitlists by city/town and grade; and
8. the total number of students on waitlists for each charter school by city/town by grade.

For more information on waitlist policy and procedures and the number of students found on previous cycles of charter school waitlists, see <http://www.doe.mass.edu/charter/guidance/2016-3.html> and <http://www.doe.mass.edu/charter/enrollment/>. For further information regarding this report, please contact Brenton Stewart at [brenton.stewart@mass.gov](mailto:brenton.stewart@mass.gov) or the Office of Charter Schools and School Redesign at [charterschools@doe.mass.edu](mailto:charterschools@doe.mass.edu).

1. Please note that the reduction in the number of charters overall is due to the consolidation of three schools into one school for FY23. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education adopted changes to the charter school regulations in March 2014 (see [603 CMR 1.05(10)(a)](http://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/603cmr1.html?section=05)), which has affected how charter schools collect waitlist data. Under the amended regulations, charter schools maintain waitlists only for the school year for which students applied (i.e., carrying over student names from enrollment lotteries from one year to another is no longer permitted). However, charter schools were allowed to maintain any waitlists that were established prior to March 31, 2014 until such waitlists are exhausted, provided that such maintenance is clearly articulated in the school's enrollment policy approved by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education (Commissioner). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. The Department works with schools to identify the students who were placed on waitlists prior to March 31, 2014 and continue to be maintained on a waitlist. Please note that the number of uniquely identified students who applied for admittance prior to March 2014 declined by 474 when compared to the 2021-2022 waitlist initial report. Only 19 students who were placed on waitlists prior to March 31, 2014 were reported for the 2022-2023 school year. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Of the 21,091 students who newly applied in 2022-2023, none were found on school waitlists established prior to March 31, 2014. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)