

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY  
DIVISION OF AUTHORIZING  
2023 CHARTER SCHOOL WAITLIST REPORT  
MARCH 2024

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## STATUTORY AUTHORITY

In 2019, the 86th Legislature passed [Senate Bill 2293](#), which added [Section 12.1174](#) to the Texas Education Code (TEC) and required open-enrollment charter schools to report the following:

- the number of students enrolled;
- the enrollment capacity;
- if a charter holder uses a waiting list of admission to campus: the total number of students on the waitlist and the number of students on the waiting list disaggregated by grade level;
- the information described by Subdivision aggregated for all campuses operating under the charter holder's charter; and
- any information required by the commissioner as necessary to identify each student admitted to or on a waiting list for admission to a campus operating under the charter holder's charter who is or was previously enrolled in a public school in this state.

This information must be reported to the agency's Internet website no later than March 15 of each year. The information contained within this report fulfills the statutory requirement outlined in [TEC §12.1174](#).

## BACKGROUND

Senate Bill 2293, authored by Senator Fallon in the 86<sup>th</sup> Regular Legislative Session, added [Sections 12.1173 and 12.1174](#) to the TEC. [Section 12.1173](#) required the commissioner to adopt a common admission application form and a waiting list of admission for use by all open-enrollment charter schools in the state of Texas. [Section 12.1174](#) required the annual reporting of data referred to as the Charter School Waitlist (CSW).

The Charter Student Admission Application (CSAA) creation allows for a uniform admission form to be utilized portfolio wide. Additionally, this common admission application form provides for eliminating questions or fields that may have an inherent bias. The CSAA helps gather the required CSW data for submission by charter schools in the state's portfolio.

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) employs the Texas Student Data System (TSDS) to collect data from local education agencies (LEAs). The Texas Student Data System is a statewide data collection system utilized to collect, manage, and report Texas education data. Local education agencies (LEAs) load their data into the system, and the data is stored in a central repository.

## CHARTER SCHOOL ADMISSION AND ENROLLMENT POLICIES

Charter schools authorized in Texas must create admission and enrollment policies per the Texas Education Code (TEC). The requirements for these policies are outlined in [Sections 12.111 and 12.117](#). Charter schools that receive more applications than available seats are considered 'oversubscribed' and must conduct a lottery to determine accepted enrollees. Applicants who do not receive enrollment during a lottery are placed on a waiting list.

## PROCEDURE

Since August 1, 2020, all charter schools are required to use the CSAA for admission of students, and all students applying for admission to an open-enrollment charter school in Texas are required to submit the

CSAA to the charter school(s) they are applying to, thus ensuring the collection of necessary CSW data each year.

The required CSW data is gathered through a special collection with a snapshot of data taken on the last Friday in September and finalized reporting submitted no later than the last Friday in October. The 2024 CSW special collection snapshot date was Friday, September 29, 2023, with final reporting due no later than Friday, October 27, 2023

## LIMITATIONS

All public schools rely on a software matching system to identify individual student data. TSDS utilizes the 'Unique ID' (UID) system in which each student in the state of Texas is assigned a unique identification number. This UID is generated or 'matched' based on the student's social security number or alternative state-assigned ID (S-number when a social security number is not provided).

Consequently, each charter school registrar uses a student's social security number (SSN) or S-number to match the student to their UID. The CSAA does not require the submission of a social security number for privacy purposes ([Privacy Act, 1974, 5 USC § 552a](#)), nor is it required in Texas statute ([TEC §25.002](#)). The CSAA form provides a field for voluntary submission of an SSN to facilitate a match between an individual student and their UID. These requirements may pose limitations in reporting.

Finally, five different charter campuses did not report their waitlist counts for various reasons. Some are residential facilities, while others service a unique population. Their information was not included in the waitlist information but is counted in the overall total number of charter school campuses and students.

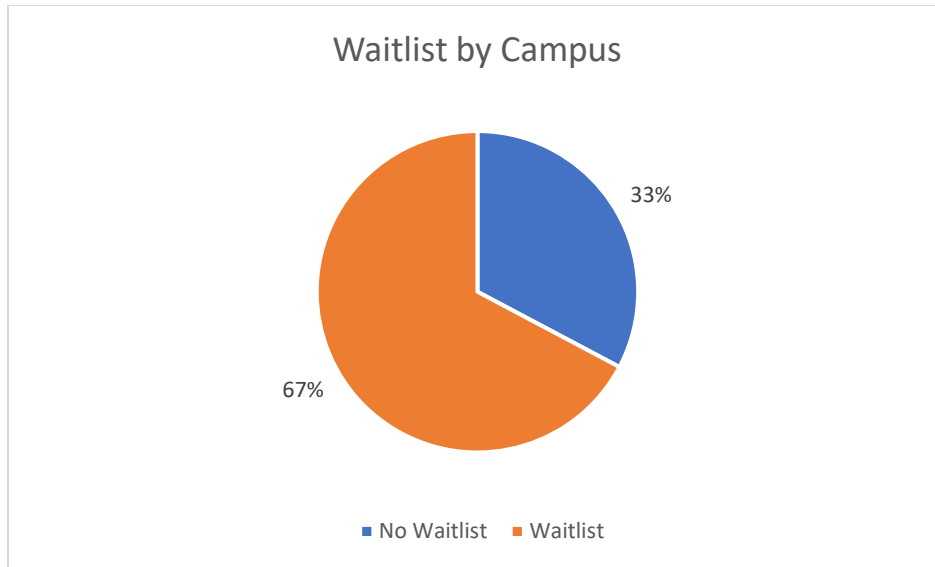
## KEY FINDINGS

The 2024 CSW resulted in 100% (186) charter schools reporting. Of the charter school campuses in the state's portfolio:

- 67% (625) reported having a waitlist.
- 33% (306) of campuses reported no waitlist.

The total reported charter school waitlist count was 91,069, which contains approximately 10,953 duplicated students who have applied to and been reported by multiple charter schools on their respective waitlists. These 10,953 students were representative of 26,026 entries on the waitlist. This accounts for 15,073 duplicate responses.

When filtering for duplicative students reported on multiple waitlists, the total number of individual students reported on charter schools with waitlists in 2023 was 75,996.



As of the October 2023 Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) snapshot, there were 422,930 students enrolled in charter schools in the state of Texas. This represents roughly 7.6% of all public-school enrollment. During the 2023 CSW collection, charter schools submitted enrollment data as of the last Friday, October 27, 2023. This year’s reported enrollment reflected 418,378 students.

Charter schools also reported a facility enrollment capacity of 512,469. Enrollment capacity is defined as the number of students to which the charter school's campus can provide instruction without exceeding staffing and facility limitations and the approved charter holder's maximum enrollment.

Actual Enrollment	Enrollment Capacity	Waitlist Count
422,930	512,469	75,996

While there appears to be a difference of 89,539 seats between actual enrollment and enrollment capacity, upon the aggregation and analysis of statewide totals, there is no causal relationship between these data points.

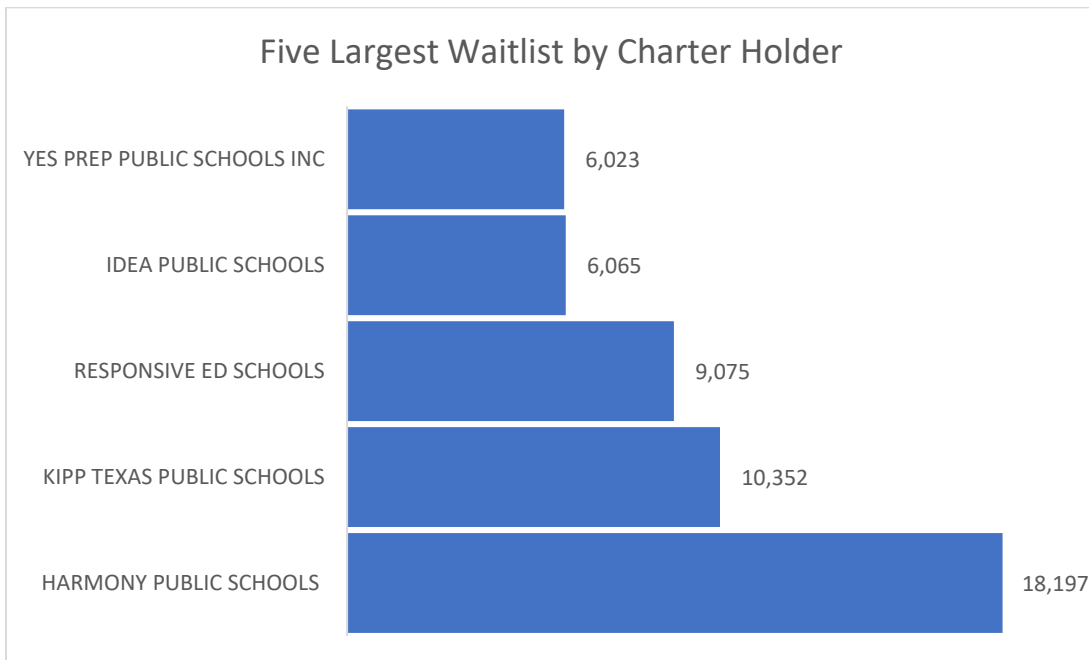
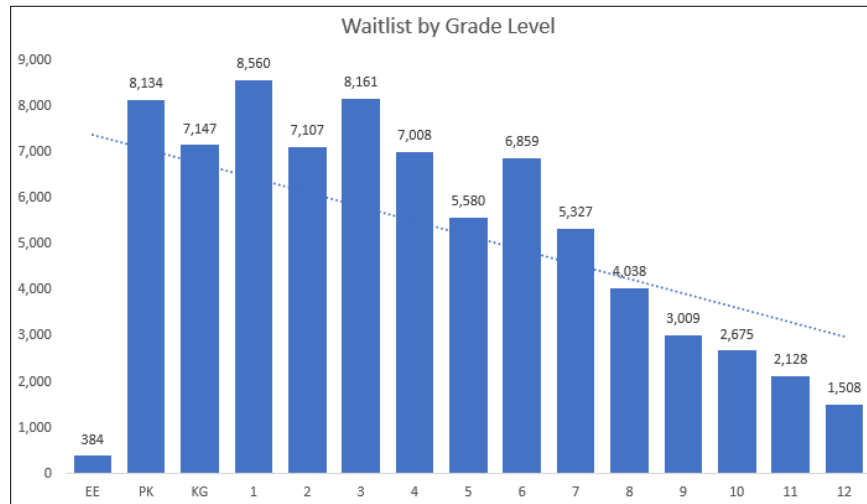
For instance, a charter campus may report a larger enrollment capacity than actual enrollment with no waitlist. This is due to the difference in definition of each type of enrollment. Although the building and staffing may allow for additional enrollment, the charter school may not have received applicants to fulfill the positions or may not serve the requested grade-levels.

In contrast, another charter campus may report a limited enrollment capacity and an extensive waitlist. This occurs when there is increased interest in the charter school with limited building and staff capacity.

When combined, this data is not necessarily a reflection of seats available at individual charter campuses. The 89,539 seats are disseminated across the state's charter portfolio and fourteen grade levels (EE-12).

Notably, as grade levels increase, waitlist numbers tend to decline. The following chart shows the reported waitlist count by grade level. This decline in part may be attributed to the smaller number of seats available in high school. As well as the decreased likelihood of a student transferring to a new educational

setting once they are established at a school. Another contributing factor to large waitlists during the elementary grade levels may be the fewer number of open seats available at those grade levels.



The graph above represents the five charter holders with the largest submitted waitlists in the state of Texas. Charter schools have been grouped according to their charter holder when appropriate. The totals within this graph contain duplicate unique student IDs as reported by the charter school. Duplication occurs when a Texas student applies to multiple charter schools in a given year. Individual school waitlists are not deduplicated to represent the true count of students who have submitted applications at each school.

## OPEN-ENROLLMENT CHARTER SCHOOLS

Charter schools are public schools or LEAs operated by eligible entities such as 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, governmental entities, and colleges or universities. At a minimum, charter schools will have one charter school campus associated with the charter LEA, and in many instances, there are multiple charter school campuses associated with a charter LEA. The chart below contains a summary of information for charter schools that participated in the 2023 Charter School Waitlist collection.

<b>Large Operators 10+ Campuses</b>		<b>Medium Operators 6-9 Campuses</b>		<b>Small Operators 2-5 Campuses</b>		<b>Standalone Operators 1 Campus</b>	
14 Operators		21 Operators		78 Operators		73 Operators	
471 Campuses	244,714 Students Enrolled	145 Campuses	71,457 Students Enrolled	227 Campuses	80,470 Students Enrolled	73 Campuses	26,289 Students Enrolled

## SUMMARY

This data, summarized below, represents the third year of this collection. The agency continues to evaluate and analyze methodology and collections to ensure accurate reporting.

<b>CSW Report Year</b>	<b>Actual Enrollment</b>	<b>Enrollment Capacity</b>	<b>Waitlist Count</b>
2023	422,930	512,469	75,996
2022	404,740	523,160	66,512
2021	374,466	470,779	58,588
2020	336,745	441,293	55,059

## APPENDIX

### A. Future collection dates

<b>Snapshot Date</b>	<b>Submission Date</b>	<b>Report Date</b>
<b>Friday, September 29, 2023</b>	Friday, October 27, 2023	Friday, March 15, 2024
<b>Friday, September 27, 2024</b>	Friday, October 25, 2024	Friday, March 14, 2025
<b>Friday, September 26, 2025</b>	Friday, October 31, 2025	Friday, March 13, 2026

B. Count of student UID reported by Charter District

CDN	CHARTER NAME	WAITLIST COUNT
227816 101858 101846 101862 161807 015828 071896	HARMONY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	18,197
227820	KIPP TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS	10,352
221801 072801	RESPONSIVE ED	9,075
108807	IDEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS	6,065
101845	YES PREP PUBLIC SCHOOLS INC	6,023
015835	GREAT HEARTS TEXAS	4,445
015834	BASIS TEXAS	4,393
057803	UPLIFT EDUCATION	4,115
057848	INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP OF TEXAS (ILTEXAS)	2,965
043801	IMAGINE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF NORTH TEXAS	2,834
227829	VALOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS	2,710
246801	MERIDIAN WORLD SCHOOL	2,630
015827	SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	1,946
014804	ORENDA CHARTER SCHOOL	1,471
220810	WESTLAKE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	1,471
227804	NYOS CHARTER SCHOOL	1,151
061804	LEADERSHIP PREP SCHOOL	1,149
015831	SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DISCOVERY	1,149
101803	ARISTOI CLASSICAL ACADEMY	707
057807	LIFE SCHOOL	613
101870	BETA ACADEMY	610
068802	COMPASS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	533
057847	VILLAGE TECH SCHOOLS	492
057845	UME PREPARATORY ACADEMY	427



<b>CDN</b>	<b>CHARTER NAME</b>	<b>WAITLIST COUNT</b>
227826	MONTESSORI FOR ALL	420
227825	AUSTIN ACHIEVE PUBLIC SCHOOLS	389
123807	BOB HOPE SCHOOL	333
108808	VANGUARD ACADEMY	260
070801	FAITH FAMILY ACADEMY	254
170802	THRIVE CENTER FOR SUCCESS	232
161802	RAPOPORT ACADEMY PUBLIC SCHOOL	220
220802	ARLINGTON CLASSICS ACADEMY	219
015838	COMPASS ROSE PUBLIC SCHOOLS	199
057829	A+ ACADEMY	193
220817	NEWMAN INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF ARLINGTON	185
084802	ODYSSEY ACADEMY INC	179
212804	UT TYLER UNIVERSITY ACADEMY	155
123805	EHRHART SCHOOL	151
057813	TRINITY BASIN PREPARATORY	138
108802	HORIZON MONTESSORI PUBLIC SCHOOLS	131
101847	BEATRICE MAYES INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL	120
101838	SOUTHWEST PUBLIC SCHOOL	107
227819	UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOL	90
101853	BAKERRIPLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL	89
174801	STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY CHARTER SCHOOL	87
071801	BURNHAM WOOD CHARTER SCHOOL DISTRICT	85
057839	LA ACADEMIA DE ESTRELLAS	80
015808	INSPIRE ACADEMIES	79
061805	TRIVIUM ACADEMY	73
246802	GOODWATER MONTESSORI SCHOOL	71
015839	PROMESA ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	68
152802	RISE ACADEMY	63
003801	PINEYWOODS COMMUNITY ACADEMY	59
220815	CHAPEL HILL ACADEMY	53
057808	UNIVERSAL ACADEMY	53
013801	ST MARY'S ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	50

<b>CDN</b>	<b>CHARTER NAME</b>	<b>WAITLIST COUNT</b>
236802	SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY CHARTER SCHOOL	49
227805	TEXAS EMPOWERMENT ACADEMY	47
227803	WAYSIDE SCHOOLS	45
015815	HERITAGE ACADEMY	44
101878	HOUSTON CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOL	43
226801	TEXAS LEADERSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS	43
212801	CUMBERLAND ACADEMY	41
227814	CHAPARRAL STAR ACADEMY	39
101819	AMIGOS POR VIDA-FRIENDS FOR LIFE PUB CHTR SCH	35
057846	LEGACY PREPARATORY	35
057830	INSPIRED VISION ACADEMY	29
015807	SOUTHWEST PREPARATORY SCHOOL	25
101861	THE RHODES SCHOOL FOR PERFORMING ARTS	22
057828	WINFREE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOLS	19
057844	MANARA ACADEMY	18
015806	LEGACY TRADITIONAL SCHOOLS - TEXAS	17
057841	CITYSCAPE SCHOOLS	15
227817	CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY	13
057819	JEAN MASSIEU ACADEMY	12
178807	CORPUS CHRISTI MONTESSORI SCHOOL	11
101859	STEP CHARTER SCHOOL	10
057806	ADVANTAGE ACADEMY	7
220801	TREETOPS SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL	7
101872	ETOILE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	6
015836	ELEANOR KOLITZ HEBREW LANGUAGE ACADEMY	5
220809	FORT WORTH ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS	4
015805	NEW FRONTIERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS INC	4
015844	ESSENCE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL	3
015830	SOMERSET ACADEMIES OF TEXAS (Formally BROOKS ACADEMY)	3
021805	ARROW ACADEMY	2
105804	DORAL ACADEMY OF TEXAS	2

<b>CDN</b>	<b>CHARTER NAME</b>	<b>WAITLIST COUNT</b>
015822	JUBILEE ACADEMIES	2
043802	LONE STAR LANGUAGE ACADEMY	2
015841	THE GATHERING PLACE	2
057816	A W BROWN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY	0
101871	A+ UNLIMITED POTENTIAL	0
057814	ACADEMY FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE	0
101810	ACADEMY OF ACCELERATED LEARNING INC	0
057810	ACADEMY OF DALLAS	0
220821	ACADEMY OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS	0
101849	ACCELERATED INTERMEDIATE ACADEMY	0
101815	ALIEF MONTESSORI COMMUNITY SCHOOL	0
084804	AMBASSADORS PREPARATORY ACADEMY	0
227821	AUSTIN DISCOVERY SCHOOL	0
152806	BETTY M CONDRA SCHOOL FOR EDUCATION INNOVATION	0
015809	BEXAR COUNTY ACADEMY	0
193801	BIG SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL	0
101875	BLOOM ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	0
213801	BRAZOS RIVER CHARTER SCHOOL	0
021803	BRAZOS SCHOOL FOR INQUIRY & CREATIVITY	0
057851	BRIDGEWAY PREPARATORY ACADEMY	0
108810	BRILLANTE ACADEMY	0
101837	CALVIN NELMS CHARTER SCHOOLS	0
101842	COMQUEST ACADEMY	0
184801	CROSSTIMBERS ACADEMY	0
178801	DR M L GARZA-GONZALEZ CHARTER SCHOOL	0
101856	DRAW ACADEMY	0
220811	EAST FORT WORTH MONTESSORI ACADEMY	0
092801	EAST TEXAS CHARTER SCHOOLS	0
057833	EDUCATION CENTER INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY	0
071804	EL PASO ACADEMY	0
071810	EL PASO LEADERSHIP ACADEMY	0
101877	ELEVATE COLLEGIATE CHARTER SCHOOL	0
072802	ERATH EXCELS ACADEMY INC	0

<b>CDN</b>	<b>CHARTER NAME</b>	<b>WAITLIST COUNT</b>
057834	EVOLUTION ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	0
101811	EXCEL ACADEMY	0
108809	EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY	0
057831	GATEWAY CHARTER ACADEMY	0
015802	GEORGE GERVIN ACADEMY	0
101804	GEORGE I SANCHEZ CHARTER	0
057835	GOLDEN RULE CHARTER SCHOOL	0
015833	HENRY FORD ACADEMY ALAMEDA SCHOOL FOR ART + DESIGN	0
101828	HOUSTON GATEWAY ACADEMY INC	0
101821	HOUSTON HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL	0
105801	KATHERINE ANNE PORTER SCHOOL	0
105803	KI CHARTER ACADEMY	0
071807	LA FE PREPARATORY SCHOOL	0
111801	LAKE GRANBURY ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	0
101874	LEGACY SCHOOL OF SPORT SCIENCES	0
015825	LIGHTHOUSE PUBLIC SCHOOLS	0
130801	MEADOWLAND CHARTER DISTRICT	0
101855	MEYERPARK ELEMENTARY	0
165802	MIDLAND ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	0
061802	NORTH TEXAS COLLEGIATE ACADEMY	0
057809	NOVA ACADEMY (OAK CLIFF)	0
057827	NOVA ACADEMY SOUTHEAST	0
183801	PANOLA CHARTER SCHOOL	0
057802	PEGASUS SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES	0
057850	PIONEER TECHNOLOGY & ARTS ACADEMY	0
015801	POR VIDA ACADEMY	0
015814	POSITIVE SOLUTIONS CHARTER SCHOOL	0
015843	PRELUDE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL	0
014803	PRIORITY CHARTER SCHOOLS	0
234801	RANCH ACADEMY	0
101806	RAUL YZAGUIRRE SCHOOLS FOR SUCCESS	0
236801	RAVEN SCHOOL	0

<b>CDN</b>	<b>CHARTER NAME</b>	<b>WAITLIST COUNT</b>
101876	REVE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL	0
014801	RICHARD MILBURN ALTER HIGH SCHOOL - KILLEEN	0
057840	RICHLAND COLLEGIATE HIGH SCHOOL	0
220820	ROCKETSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOL	0
015842	ROYAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS	0
015840	SAN ANTONIO PREPARATORY SCHOOLS	0
178808	SEASHORE CHARTER SCHOOLS	0
101802	SER-NINOS CHARTER SCHOOL	0
057836	ST ANTHONY SCHOOL	0
123803	TEKOA ACADEMY OF ACCELERATED STUDIES STEM SCHOOL	0
057804	TEXANS CAN ACADEMIES	0
105802	TEXAS PREPARATORY SCHOOL	0
220814	TEXAS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS	0
227827	THE EXCEL CENTER - FOR ADULTS	0
101864	THE LAWSON ACADEMY	0
101868	THE PRO-VISION ACADEMY	0
046802	TRINITY CHARTER SCHOOL	0
071803	TRIUMPH PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS-EL PASO	0
240801	TRIUMPH PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS-LAREDO	0
152803	TRIUMPH PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS-LUBBOCK	0
108804	TRIUMPH PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS-RIO GRANDE VALLEY	0
101840	TWO DIMENSIONS PREPARATORY ACADEMY	0
227806	UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS UNIVERSITY CHARTER SCHOOL	0
227824	VALERE PUBLIC SCHOOLS	0
101814	VARNETT PUBLIC SCHOOL, THE	0
071809	VISTA DEL FUTURO CHARTER SCHOOL	0
101873	YELLOWSTONE COLLEGE PREPARATORY	0