Charter schools are public schools that are given the freedom to innovate while being held accountable for advancing student achievement. They create an environment in which parents are partners in their child’s education, teachers are allowed to innovate in the classroom, and students are provided the structure they need to learn.

Nearly 70% of Americans favor charter schools.

This is up from less than 40% only 11 years ago.

2 in 3 support opening new charter schools.
During the 2013-14 school year, there were an estimated 6,400 charter schools in 40 states and the District of Columbia.

The number of public charter schools listed in the top 100 of the U.S. News Best High Schools Rankings has increased from 10 to 24.
DEMAND FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS

More than 2.5 million students are enrolled in public charter schools across the country.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT GROWTH

- **2013-14 students enrolled**: 2.57 Million
- **2012-13 students enrolled**: 1.45 Million
- **2011-12 students enrolled**: 789,000
- **2010-11 students enrolled**: 350,000

Growth rates:
- **78%** growth from 2008-09
- **225%** growth from 2003-04
- **635%** growth from 1999-00

STUDENT NAMES ON CHARTER SCHOOL WAITING LISTS

Since 2008, the number of student names on charter school waiting lists has grown by a staggering 186%.

- **2008-09**: 365,000
- **2009-10**: 420,000
- **2011-12**: 610,000
- **2012-13**: 920,007
- **2013-14**: 1,043,311
WHO ENROLLS IN CHARTER SCHOOLS?

During the 2010-11 school year, 63% of charter school students were minorities.

51% of charter school students were eligible for free or reduced price lunch.

Charter school students range from pre-schoolers to high school seniors, with the majority, 44%, currently enrolled in elementary school.

WHERE CHARTER SCHOOL STUDENTS LIVE

Rural 15%
Suburban 24%
Urban 56%
HOW ARE STUDENTS PERFORMING?

A 2013 Stanford University research study compared minority students in public charter schools and traditional public schools. The study found that minority students are learning more in public charter schools as measured by additional weeks of learning.¹

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<th>ADDITIONAL WEEKS OF LEARNING</th>
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<td><strong>BLACK STUDENTS</strong></td>
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| **LOW INCOME BLACK STUDENTS** |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |
| Math                         | 2  | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |    |
| Reading                      |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |

| **LOW INCOME HISPANIC STUDENTS** |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |
| Math                         | 2  | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |    |
| Reading                      |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |

| **ELL** HISPANIC STUDENTS     |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |
| Math                         | 2  | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |    |
| Reading                      |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |

¹ Additional weeks of learning is a measurement of how much more a student learned, not necessarily an indicator of a longer school year.

** Students designated as English Language Learners

Charter school attendance increases the likelihood that a student takes at least one Advanced Placement (AP) test by 28%.

More than 50% of charter school students take an AP test compared to 25% at nearby traditional public schools.

Charter high school attendance is associated with a 12.7% increase in maximum annual earnings for students between ages 23 and 25 compared to students who attended a charter middle school, but went on to attend a traditional high school.

Performance of Los Angeles charter schools compared to traditional public schools:

- **Reading**: 48% of charter school students performed significantly better in both reading and math.
- **Math**: 44% of charter school students performed significantly better.

Gained 50 additional days of learning
Gained 79 additional days of learning

**Boston**

Charter school attendance increases the likelihood that a student takes at least one Advanced Placement (AP) test by 28%.

More than 50% of charter school students take an AP test compared to 25% at nearby traditional public schools.

**Chicago**

Compared to their peers, charter school high school students are 10.9% more likely to enroll in college within six years.

**Florida**

Charter high school attendance is associated with a 12.7% increase in maximum annual earnings for students between ages 23 and 25 compared to students who attended a charter middle school, but went on to attend a traditional high school.
In 2011-12, 25% of teachers and principals in public charter schools were Hispanic and Black compared to 14% of teachers and principals in traditional public schools.

The number of full-time teachers in public charter schools grew by 60% between 2007-08 and 2011-12.
In the past four years, 100% of Aspire Public Schools’ graduating seniors have been accepted to college. Aspire predominantly serves low-income students in California and Tennessee.

For the last three years, every single one of Dallas’ Uplift Education charter school graduates has been accepted to college.

Urban Prep Academies in Chicago serves 100% minority students and has had 100% college acceptance rates since their inaugural class in 2010. The Illinois state average college acceptance rate is 57%.

In 2013, 98% of Achievement First’s black seniors in Connecticut, New York, and Rhode Island took the SAT exam, achieving an average score 200 points higher than the national average for black students.