

## 2018-19 New California Charter Schools Fact Sheet

### California Charter Schools Serve 660,000 Students

The California Charter Schools Association (CCSA) announced that an estimated 660,000 students are enrolled in 1,323 charter public schools across the state for the 2018-19 school year. This year the equivalent of 70 new schools opened across the state. This includes 63 new startups and replications, as well as seven planned significant expansions of existing schools (such as a K-5 elementary school adding the equivalent of a new middle school by expanding to grades 6-8).

Charter enrollment grew by an estimated 30,000 students, or 5%. This year, the Los Angeles region had the largest charter school growth (25 new charters opening). The second largest growth area is the Southern California region (17 new charters).

An additional 44 schools opened as a result of the [Anderson Union HSD v Shasta ruling](#). The case impacted nonclassroom-based charter schools operating resource centers outside of the school district in which it is authorized but within the same county. CCSA is not including them in its new school totals since most were in existence last year as resource centers.

### Charter School Growth in CA: 1998-2018

- 1998-99: 177 charter schools
- 1999-00: 235 charter schools
- 2000-01: 299 charter schools
- 2001-02: 349 charter schools
- 2002-03: 408 charter schools
- 2003-04: 443 charter schools
- 2004-05: 502 charter schools
- 2005-06: 560 charter schools
- 2006-07: 585 charter schools
- 2007-08: 682 charter schools
- 2008-09: 746 charter schools
- 2009-10: 809 charter schools
- 2010-11: 912 charter schools
- 2011-12: 982 charter schools
- 2012-13: 1,063 charter schools
- 2013-14: 1,130 charter schools
- 2014-15: 1,182 charter schools
- 2015-16: 1,230 charter schools
- 2016-17: 1,254 charter schools
- 2017-18: 1,275 charter schools
- 2018-19: 1,323 charter schools

California has more charter schools and students than any other state in the country.

### By the Numbers

- **1,323:** Total number of charter schools existing in California.
- **70:** Number of new charter school equivalents opening in 2018-19 school year. Of these, 63 were new startups and replications and seven were planned significant expansions of existing schools.
- **44:** Additional schools opened as a result of the Shasta ruling (previously resource centers).
- **660,000:** Estimated number of students attending charters statewide as of 2018-19.
- **30,000:** Estimated student growth in charter schools in 2018-19.
- **25:** Number of charters opening in Los Angeles, the region with the highest growth in new charter schools.
- **17:** Number of charters opening in Southern California, the region with second highest growth new charter schools.
- **68:** Number of schools that closed in 2017-18. Of these 68 schools, 10 were re-opened under a new school code, 5 were merged with another school, and the remaining 53 truly closed or returned to traditional.

- California approved the Charter Schools Act in 1992.
- California was the second state in the nation to pass a charter school law—after Minnesota.
- California has the most charter schools and charter school students in the U.S.