



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Department of Education Update

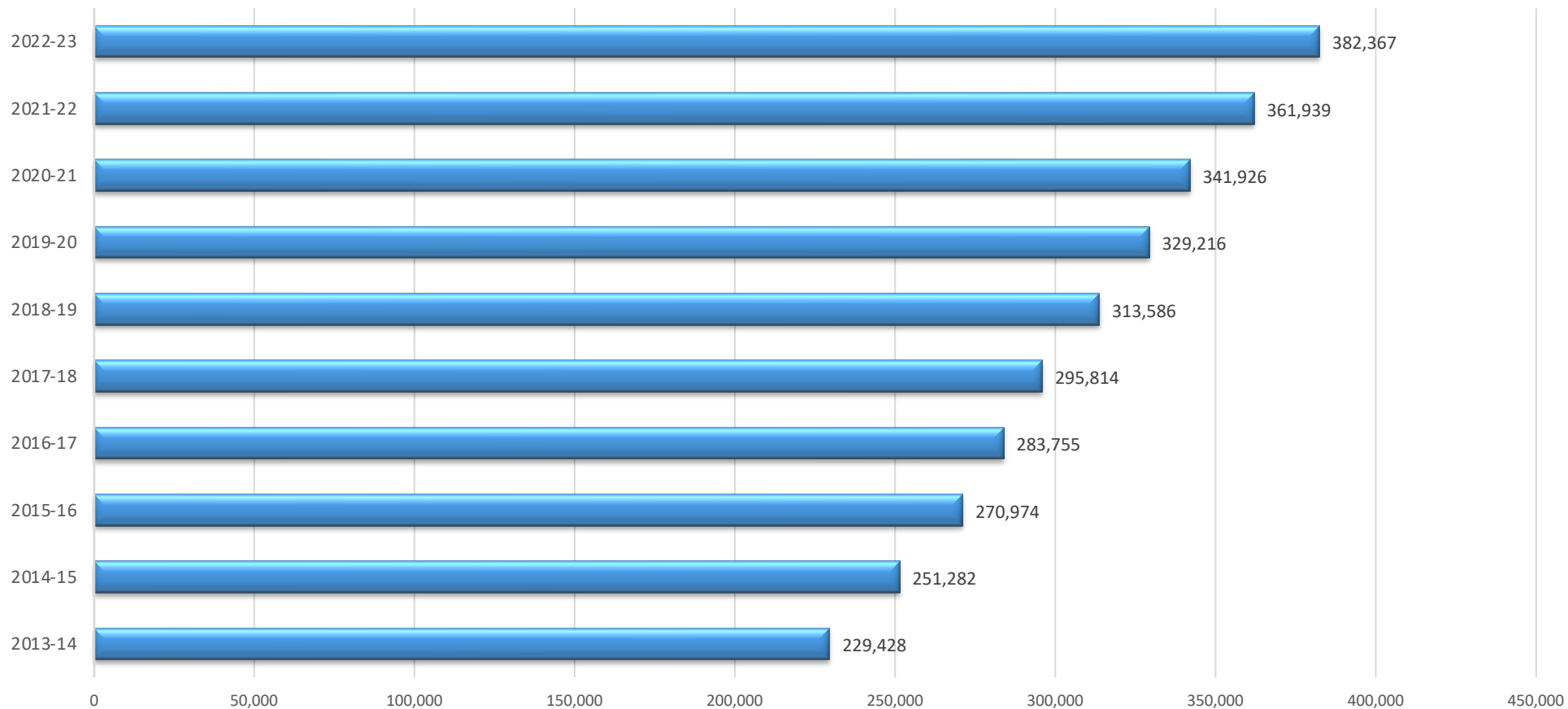
Florida Charter School Conference and School Choice Update

October 20, 2023

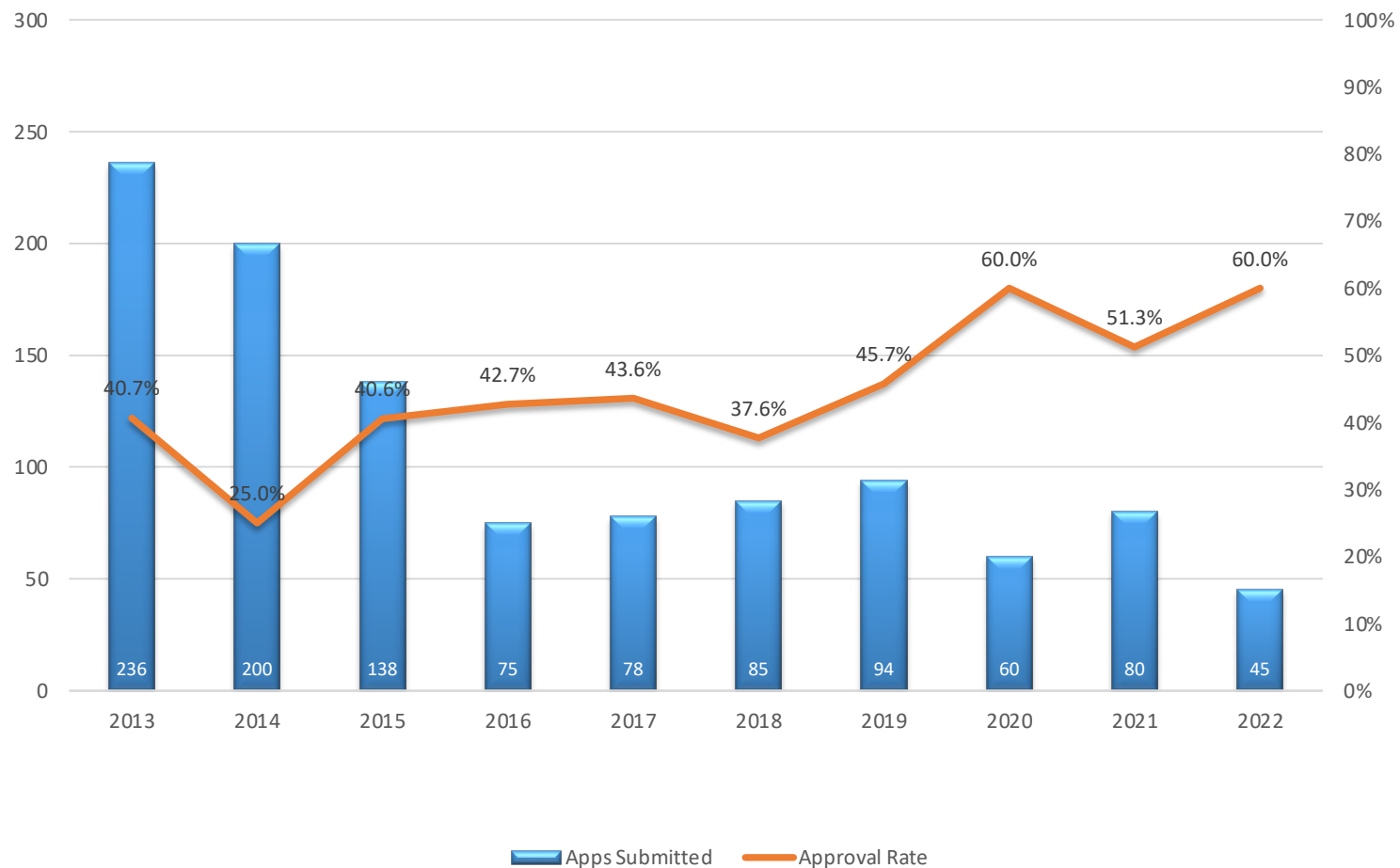
Overview

- Charter schools by the numbers
- House Bill 1
- Charter School Review Commission
- Florida Institute for Charter School Innovation
- Other legislative updates
- Rules
- Questions

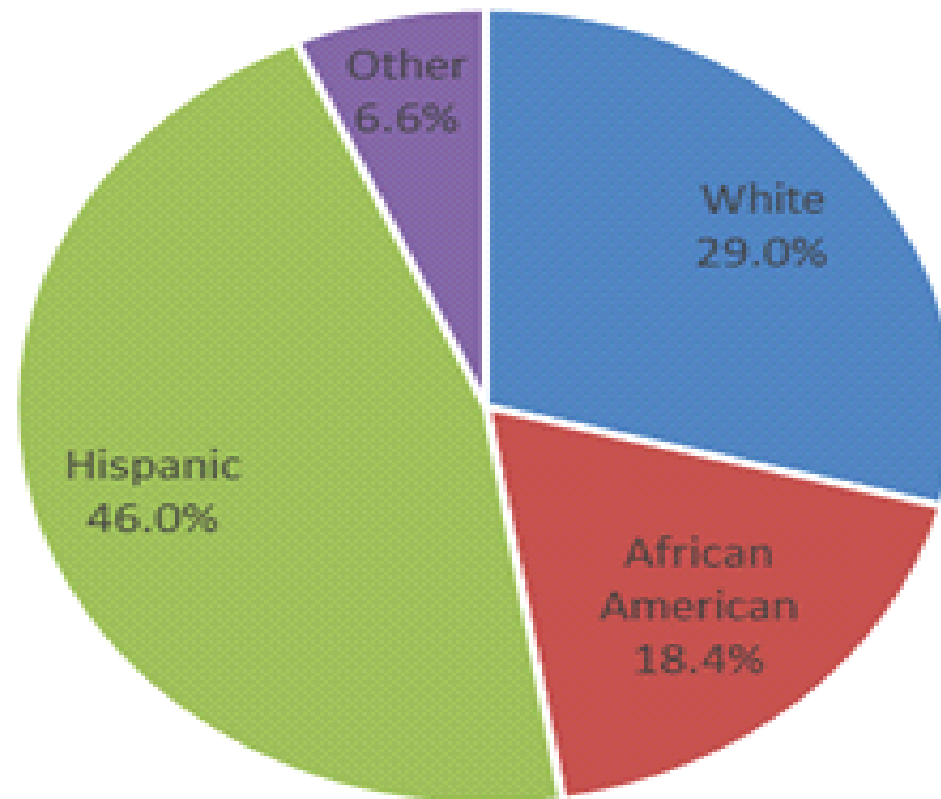
PK-12 Enrollment in Charter Schools



History of Charter Application Approval Rate



Charter School Demographics



House Bill 1

- Expands eligibility for the Family Empowerment Scholarship Program (FES) to *all* students who are residents of the state of Florida and are eligible to enroll in a K-12 public school in Florida.
- Creates the Personalized Education Program (PEP) within the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship; PEP students have same the flexibilities and opportunities as a home education student.
- Requires the Commissioner to develop an online portal to enable parents to choose the best educational option for their student.

Charter School Review Commission

- The 2022 Legislature created the Charter School Review Commission within the Department of Education. The Commission will have the same power and duties as other charter school sponsors regarding the review and approval of charter schools.
- If the Commission approves a charter school application, the district school board of the school district in which the proposed charter school will be located shall be the sponsor of the new charter school. The State Board must adopt rules for the Commission's work, pursuant to Section 1002.3301, F.S.

Charter School Review Commission

- The rule:
 - Establishes the process by which the Charter School Review Commission will review charter school applications.
 - Sets forth the timeline in which the Commission must complete its work.
 - Prescribes how the Commission will inform the sponsoring district of an application approval and when the district must initiate contract negotiations.
 - Incorporates standard forms to:
 - Allow applicants to request a review from the Commission; and
 - Facilitate feedback from school districts on an application that the Commission must consider

Florida Institute for Charter School Innovation

- Legislature established the Florida Institute for Charter School Innovation (FCI) at Miami-Dade College to do the following:
 - Analyze charter school applications, identify best practices, and create a state resource for developing and reviewing charter school applications;
 - Provide charter school sponsors with training, technical assistance, and support in reviewing initial and renewal charter applications;
 - Conduct applied research on policy and practices related to charter schools;

Florida Institute for Charter School Innovation

- Continued ...
 - Conduct or compile basic research on the status of educational choice, charter authorizing, and charter school performance in the state;
 - Disseminate information regarding research-based charter school teaching practices educators in Florida;
 - Host research workshops and conferences that allow charter school sponsors, charter school operators, students and parents to engage in topics related to charter schools.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Other Legislation

Charter School Capital Outlay

- House Bill 1259;
- The legislature appropriated \$213,453,885 in charter school capital outlay for 2023-24;
- HB 1259 mandates that capital outlay will consist of state funds and revenue resulting from the discretionary 1.5 millage authorized by statute;
- Bill allows for a ramp-up:
 - 2023-24: 20 percent of calculated amount
 - 2024-25: 40 percent
 - 2025-26: 60 percent
 - 2026-27: 80 percent
 - 2027-28: 100 percent (and thereafter)

House Bill 443

- Creates a standard monitoring tool (model forms);
- For charter schools operated by a not-for-profit, any unrestricted current or capital assets identified in the school's annual audit may be used for other charter schools operated by the not-for-profit entity which are located outside the originating charter school's school district, but within the state, through an unforgiveable loan that must be repaid within five years;
- Must be a "timely review and reimbursement of federal grant funds."

Other legislation

- Section 1013.62, F.S., modifies charter capital outlay funding eligibility requirements relating to school grades (*HB 1537*);
- Section 1012.57, requires charter school governing boards to adopt rules to allow for the issuance of adjunct teaching certificates to qualified applicants (*HB 1537*);
- Section 1012.56(7), F.S., allows teachers who complete a Teacher Apprenticeship Program to be employed by a district or a charter school (*HB 1035*);



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Rules

6A-1.0019, Threat Management

- All public schools, including charter schools, must identify, assess, manage and monitor potential and real threats to student safety.
- District Threat Management Teams must assess serious situations and provide support to school-based teams, including charter schools in their district.
- Each school district and charter school governing board must adopt policies, consistent with this rule, for the establishment of threat management teams and for the completion of threat assessments.
- All members of school-based Threat Management Teams must be trained by January 1.

6A-10.086, Designation of Restrooms and Changing Facilities in K-12 Institutions

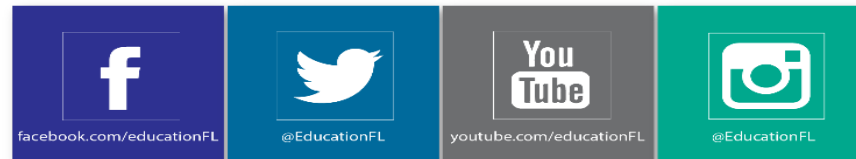
- By April 1, 2024, each school district and charter school authorizer must submit the Safety in Private Spaces Act, Form SPSA, to certify all of their schools' compliance to the Department;
- If a new facility is established after July 1, 2023, the school district or charter authorizer must submit Form SPSA within one year of establishment;
- Each school district or charter authorizer must implement procedures to collect compliance information from their charter schools.

6A-6.0786, Model Forms for Charter Schools

- House Bill 7039
- Reading instructional strategies for foundational skills shall include phonics instruction for decoding and encoding as the primary instructional strategy. Instructional strategies may not employ the three-cueing system model of reading or visual memory as a basis for teaching word reading.
- Describe math curriculum and differentiated strategies that will be used for students performing at grade level or higher and a separate math curriculum and strategies for students who are performing below grade level.



www.FLDOE.org



facebook.com/educationFL

[@EducationFL](https://twitter.com/EducationFL)

youtube.com/educationFL

[@EducationFL](https://instagram.com/EducationFL)

www.FLDOE.org