

Center for Education Reform



1001 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 204, Washington, DC 20036

Tel 202-822-9000
Fax 202-822-5077

Back-to- School Alert 2000 *1st in a series from CER*

CHARTER SCHOOL RANKS SWELL SCHOOLS AND ATTENDANCE ABOVE FORMER PROJECTIONS

(Washington, DC, 8/17/00) The story is simple: Today the Center for Education Reform released figures showing that 518,609 children will be attending charter schools this fall, up 19 1/2 % percent since the Spring. Overall 2,069 charter schools are open -- while CER expects these numbers to be slightly different once school starts and districts report changes. In addition, many school districts that have the authority to charter may not report their numbers until later this year.

Not only are more children involved in this burgeoning reform effort, but more parents and teachers are affected by charter schools than ever before, said CER President Jeanne Allen. "This welcome growth is a sign of the continued acceptance and appreciation of parents and the community for new and different kinds of schools and the benefits of school choice."

Recent reports about charter schools have been positive, and in states like Florida charter schools have boasted 36% gains serving 44% more students, in New York the amount of charter schools have quadrupled and will serve more than double the students.

Attached are the official projections for the 2000-01 school year.

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**OPERATING AND APPROVED
CHARTER SCHOOLS AND ENROLLMENT BY STATE**

*** Numbers below are based on projections and may vary as much as 10%. CER will be continuing to research and update – new numbers will be released quarterly.*

State	Schools Opened by Spring, 2000	Enrollment as of Spring, 2000	**Schools Opening Fall, 2000	**New Students
Alaska	17	1,271	0	0
Arizona	352	81,767	56	12,992
Arkansas	0	0	4	748
California	239	110,642	22	10,956
Colorado	65	16,356	11	2,772
Connecticut	16	2,138	0	0
Delaware	5	1,221	3	1,465
D.C.	31	7,881	6	1,373
Florida	111	16,757	40	10,956
Georgia	32	20,260	3	1,595
Hawaii	2	790	4	1,580
Idaho	8	918	1	110
Illinois	19	4,891	2	216
Kansas	15	1,788	0	0
Louisiana	17	3,084	6	821
Massachusetts	39	11,265	3	300
Michigan	173	49,102	8	4,000
Minnesota	59	7,171	16	2,240
Mississippi	1	334	0	0
Missouri	18	4,337	6	1,446
Nevada	5	898	1	316
New Jersey	48	10,068	14	3,450
New Mexico	3	706	8	800
New York	5	2,017	20	5,040
North Carolina	75	14,616	20	3,900
Ohio	48	10,311	37	7,770
Oklahoma	0	0	7	1,450
Oregon	4	254	9	498
Pennsylvania	47	11,715	18	5,952
Rhode Island	2	455	1	78
South Carolina	8	628	1	72
Texas	167	35,753	11	2354
Utah	3	233	1	82
Virginia	0	0	1	30
Wisconsin	55	4,170	40	3,040
Nationwide Total	1,689	433,797	380	84,812

