## Philadelphia Public School Enrollment, 2023-24

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## Key Findings

- As of October 1, 2023, overall enrollment in Philadelphia public schools was 197,115 students. Of that number:
- 116,115 students were enrolled in District and Alternative schools.
- 112,816 students were enrolled in District schools.
- 3,299 students were enrolled in Alternative schools.
- 64,119 students were enrolled in Philadelphia Charter schools.
- 14,643 students were enrolled in Cyber Charter schools.
- 2,238 students were enrolled in Other school categories.
- From 2014-15 to 2023-24:
- District school enrollment declined by $13.3 \%$ ( 17,259 fewer students).
- Alternative school enrollment declined by $0.8 \%$ ( 25 fewer students).
- Philadelphia Charter school enrollment declined by $0.3 \%$ ( 182 fewer students).
- Cyber Charter school enrollment increased by over $2500 \%$ (14,096 more students).
- As of October 1, 2023, Spanish was the most common non-English home language reported among students in District schools. The number of District students whose families reported that they speak Portuguese at home has grown rapidly since the 2021-22 school year, surpassing the number of Mandarin Chinese speakers as the second most common nonEnglish language spoken at home in 2023-24.


## Introduction

This brief provides information about enrollment patterns for K-12 students in Philadelphia's public schools. ${ }^{1}$ The analyses focus on enrollment changes with respect to governing sector (District, Philadelphia Charter, Cyber Charter, Alternative, or Other ${ }^{2}$ ), admission type (Catchment,

[^0]Citywide, or Criteria-Based), and student demographics, based on data from the October 1 Enrollment Snapshot for each year indicated, unless stated otherwise.

## Definitions

## Sectors

District school - Schools governed and operated by the School District of Philadelphia (SDP).
Alternative school - Schools designed to address the needs of out-of-school youth, students who are significantly at risk for dropping out, and students who are subject to disciplinary transfer or expulsion.

Charter school - Schools that operate through a "charter," or a formal, written agreement, with the School District of Philadelphia and Philadelphia Board of Education.

- Philadelphia Charter school - Charter schools that operate from a physical space in the city of Philadelphia and provide full-time, traditional, in-person instruction.
- Cyber Charter school - Charter schools that provide full-time web-based instruction.

Other - Schools that are Non-Philadelphia Charters, Non-Public Special Education schools, or Intermediate Unit \#26 (IU26) schools.

## SDP High School Admission Types

Catchment school - District schools that have a neighborhood attendance boundary and give admission priority to those students whose primary residence is located within the boundary.
Citywide school - District schools that admit Philadelphia students regardless of the location of the students' primary residence.
Criteria-Based schools (formerly Special Admission schools) - District schools that have eligibility requirements related to attendance, course grades, standardized test scores, and in some cases auditions or project-based presentations.

## Research Questions

Questions guiding the analyses in this brief include:

1. What are the student enrollment trends by sector from the 2014-15 school year to the 2023-24 school year?
2. What are the grade level student enrollment trends for District and Charter schools between the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years?
3. What are the enrollment trends among student demographic groups (e.g. race/ethnicity, home language, English Learner status, Individualized Education Plan status) between the 2014-15 and 2023-24 school years?
4. What are the high school enrollment trends for District schools with different admission types between the 2014-15 and 2023-24 school years?
5. Which schools had the largest increases and decreases in enrollment between the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years?

## Findings

As of October 1, 2023, overall enrollment in Philadelphia public schools was 197,115 students. Enrollment in District and Alternative schools was 116,115 students (112,816 District school students and 3,299 Alternative school students), enrollment in Philadelphia Charter schools was 64,119 , and an additional 14,643 students were enrolled in Cyber Charter schools. The remaining 2,238 were enrolled in schools in the Other category.

Overall, Philadelphia public school enrollment has declined from 2014-15 to 2022-23. During this nine year period, enrollment was highest in 2019-20 with 205,778 students, and has steadily declined since then.

## Overall Philadelphia Public School Enrollment

Enrollment declined in most school sectors between the 2014-15 and 2022-23 school years. Cyber Charter schools were the only sector with consistent increases in enrollment over that period.

Overall enrollment in Philadelphia public schools declined by 1\% (1,989 students) from 2014-15 to 2022-23 (Figure 1). Enrollment grew from 199,104 students to 205,778 students between 2014-15 to 2019-20, but has declined consistently each year since, reaching the 2023-24 enrollment count of 197,115 students.

Enrollment in District schools has declined by 17,259 students (13.3\%) since 2014-15, from 130,075 students in the 2014-15 school year to 112,816 students in the 2023-24 school year. The only increase in enrollment was in the 2015-16 school year (an increase of 1,623 students); student enrollment declined in every other school year between 2014-15 and 2023-24.

Philadelphia Charter school enrollment grew from 64,301 students to 69,920 students between the 2014-15 and 2020-21 school years, but declined each year through 2023-24 with an enrollment count of 65,366 students. Alternative school enrollment declined by 25 students since the 2014-15 school year, a decline of less than $1 \%$. The only sector that has consistently grown since the 201415 school year was Cyber Charter schools, which saw their enrollment increase from 547 students in 2014-15 to 14,643 in 2023-24, an increase of 2,577\%. The increase in enrollment was larger for Cyber Charters after the 2019-20 school year; enrollment increased by $90.7 \%$ ( 6,966 students) between the 2019-20 and 2023-24 school years.

One year enrollment trends: 2022-23 to 2023-24
Overall enrollment remained relatively flat between the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years, declining by 173 students (Figure 1). District school enrollment decreased by 627 students, a decline of $0.6 \%$. Philadelphia Charter school enrollment decreased by 434 students, a $0.7 \%$ change
in enrollment. Alternative school enrollment decreased by 325 students (9\%). Cyber Charter school enrollment increased by $9.2 \%$ year-over-year, from 13,405 to 14,643 students.

Figure 1. Number of students enrolled in public schools in Philadelphia overall and by sector, 201415 through 2023-24 (October 1 Enrollment Snapshot)




Source: Qlik October 1 Enrollment Snapshot App Details Table, accessed November 8, 2023
Note: The vertical axis indicates the total number of students enrolled in each category of public school from the 2014-15 academic year to the 2022-23 academic year.

## Enrollment Changes by Grade Level in District and Alternative Schools from 2022-23 to 2023-24

Enrollment declined year over year for most grade levels in District and Alternative schools between 2022-23 and 2023-24.

Enrollment in District schools decreased for most grade levels (Figure 2 and Table 1). The enrollment declines for grades $K, 5,8$, and 12 were each less than $1 \%$. Enrollment in 7 th grade decreased by $1.3 \%, 10^{\text {th }}$ grade declined by $2.2 \%$, $1^{\text {st }}$ grade declined by $2.6 \%$, and $3^{\text {rd }}$ grade declined by $2.9 \%$. The largest decline in grade level enrollment occurred for 9 th grade, which saw a $7.4 \%$ enrollment decline between the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years. On the other hand, grades 4
and 6 saw enrollments increase by less than $1 \%$, and grades 2 and 11 each saw a $6.3 \%$ increase in year-over-year enrollment.

Figure 2. Change in enrollment in District schools, by grade level, 2022-23 to 2023-24 (October 1 Enrollment Snapshot)


Source: Qlik October 1 Enrollment Snapshot Report Library, accessed November 8, 2023
How to read this figure: Each horizontal line on this figure represents a grade level, with kindergarten at the top and grade 12 at the bottom. On each horizontal line, the dots on each end represent enrollment by grade level for 2022-23 (blue dot) and 2023-24 (yellow dot). The line indicates the size of the change in enrollment, and the arrow and percentage above the line indicate whether there was an increase or decrease in enrollment. For example, in 2022-23, grade 2 enrollment was approximately 8,600 (blue dot). In 2023-24, grade 2 enrollment was over 9,000 students (yellow dot). This is an increase of $6.3 \%$.

Table 1. Change in enrollment in District schools, by grade level, 2022-23 to 2023-24 (October 1 Enrollment Snapshot)

| Grade Level | Number of Students Enrolled <br> in SY 2022-23 | Number of Students Enrolled in <br> SY 2023-24 | Percent Change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Kindergarten | 8,200 | 8,193 | $-0.1 \%$ |
| 1 | 9,004 | 8,772 | $-2.6 \%$ |
| 2 | 8,544 | 9,079 | $6.3 \%$ |
| 3 | 8,770 | 8,521 | $-2.8 \%$ |
| 4 | 8,853 | 8,877 | $0.3 \%$ |
| 5 | 8,795 | 8,741 | $-0.6 \%$ |
| 6 | 8,284 | 8,307 | $0.3 \%$ |
| 7 | 8,336 | 8,233 | $-1.3 \%$ |
| 8 | 8,390 | 8,321 | $-0.8 \%$ |
| 9 | 10,377 | 9,611 | $-7.4 \%$ |
| 10 | 9,869 | 9,660 | $-2.1 \%$ |
| 11 | 7,990 | 8,491 | $6.3 \%$ |
| 12 | 8,031 | 8,010 | $-0.3 \%$ |

Source: Qlik October 1 Enrollment Snapshot Report Library, accessed November 8, 2023

Enrollment in Alternative schools declined from 2022-23 to 2023-24 for all grade levels, except grades 7 and 12 (Table 2). In $9^{\text {th }}$ grade, Alternative school enrollment declined by $26.2 \%$ (128 students), and $11^{\text {th }}$ grade enrollment declined by $20.3 \%$ ( 187 students). These two grades accounted for the largest yearly enrollment shifts in Alternative schools. In $10^{\text {th }}$ grade, Alternative school enrollment declined by $7.2 \%$ ( 55 students), and $8^{\text {th }}$ grade enrollment declined by $6.2 \%$ (five students). In $7^{\text {th }}$ grade, Alternative school enrollment grew by $7.9 \%$ (three students), and $12^{\text {th }}$ grade enrollment was $2.6 \%$ higher in the 2023-24 school year ( 34 students). ${ }^{3}$

[^1]Table 2. Change in Alternative school enrollment, by grade level, 2022-23 to 2023-24 (October 1 Enrollment Snapshot)

| Grade Level | Number of Students Enrolled <br> in SY 2022-23 | Number of Students Enrolled <br> in SY 2023-24 | Percent Change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7 | 38 | 41 | $7.9 \%$ |
| 8 | 81 | 76 | $-6.2 \%$ |
| 9 | 489 | 361 | $-26.2 \%$ |
| 10 | 764 | 709 | $-7.2 \%$ |
| 11 | 920 | 733 | $-20.3 \%$ |
| 12 | 1,304 | 1,338 | $2.6 \%$ |

Source: October 1 Enrollment Snapshot Report Library, accessed November 8, 2023. Grades with fewer than 20 students have been suppressed.

## Enrollment Changes by Grade Level in Philadelphia Charter and Cyber Charter Schools from 2022-23 to 2023-24

Enrollment in most elementary grades declined in both Philadelphia Charter and Cyber Charter schools, but increased in high school grades between 2022-23 and 2023-24 for both school types.

Year-over-year grade level enrollment in Philadelphia Charter schools declined in most grades, but increased in grades 2, 5, 9 and 10 (Figure 3 and Table 3). Enrollment in $2^{\text {nd }}$ grade increased by $0.8 \%$, and $5^{\text {th }}$ grade increased by $1.5 \%$. In elementary grades, $4^{\text {th }}$ grade had the greatest decline, with $3.5 \%$ lower enrollment in 2023-24 than in 2022-23. Enrollment in 3rd grade declined by $2.2 \%$, 1 st grade declined by $1.9 \%$, and kindergarten by less than $1 \%$. At the middle school level, $8^{\text {th }}$ grade enrollment was $2 \%$ lower, $7^{\text {th }}$ grade declined by $1.8 \%$, and $6^{\text {th }}$ grade by $1.4 \%$. At the high school level, $9^{\text {th }}$ grade had the greatest enrollment increase between 2022-23 and 2023-24, which grew by $10.7 \%$. While $10^{\text {th }}$ grade enrollment also increased by $0.4 \%$, enrollment in $11^{\text {th }}$ and $12^{\text {th }}$ grades declined by $0.4 \%$ and $5.5 \%$, respectively.

Figure 3. Change enrollment in Philadelphia Charter schools, by grade level, 2022-23 to 2023-24 (October 1 Enrollment Snapshot)


Source: Qlik October 1 Enrollment Snapshot Report Library, accessed November 8, 2023
How to read this figure: Each horizontal line on this figure represents a grade level, with kindergarten at the top and grade 12 at the bottom. On each horizontal line, the dots on each end represent enrollment by grade level for 2022-23 (blue dot) and 2023-24 (yellow dot). The line indicates the size of the change in enrollment, and the arrow and percentage above the line indicate whether there was an increase or decrease in enrollment. For example, in 2022-23, grade 9 enrollment was approximately 4,100 (blue dot). In 2023-24, grade 9 enrollment was over 4,500 students (yellow dot). This is an increase of $10.7 \%$.

Table 3. Change in enrollment in Philadelphia Charter schools, by grade level, 2022-23 to 2023-24 (October 1 Enrollment Snapshot)

| Grade Level | Number of Students Enrolled <br> in SY 2022-23 | Number of Students Enrolled <br> in SY 2023-24 | Percent Change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Kindergarten | 5,098 | 5,062 | $-0.7 \%$ |
| 1 | 5,335 | 5,236 | $-1.9 \%$ |
| 2 | 5,319 | 5,360 | $0.8 \%$ |
| 3 | 5,393 | 5,273 | $-2.2 \%$ |
| 4 | 5,476 | 5,285 | $-3.5 \%$ |
| 5 | 5,398 | 5,480 | $1.5 \%$ |
| 6 | 5,698 | 5,618 | $-1.4 \%$ |
| 7 | 5,664 | 5,563 | $-1.8 \%$ |
| 8 | 5,583 | 5,472 | $-2 \%$ |
| 9 | 4,131 | 4,574 | $10.7 \%$ |
| 10 | 3,924 | 3,941 | $0.4 \%$ |
| 11 | 3,615 | 3,602 | $-0.4 \%$ |
| 12 | 3,864 | 3,651 | $-5.5 \%$ |

Source: Qlik October 1 Enrollment Snapshot Report Library (Development Version), accessed November 8, 2023

Enrollment in Cyber Charter schools declined from 2022-23 to 2023-24 for most grade levels between kindergarten and $8^{\text {th }}$, but enrollment increased in grades 9 through 12 (Table 4). The largest increase was in $12^{\text {th }}$ grade, with an increase of $54.4 \%$ ( 1,016 students), followed by a $19.2 \%$ enrollment growth in $11^{\text {th }}$ grade, an increase of 301 students. Enrollment increases in lower high school grades were smaller, with $10^{\text {th }}$ grade enrollment growing by $14.4 \%$ ( 235 students) and $9^{\text {th }}$ grade by $3.6 \%$ ( 53 students) in the 2023-24 school year.

At the elementary level, grade 4 was the only grade that grew year-over-year, and only by $0.4 \%$ ( 3 students). The largest year-over-year enrollment declines were in kindergarten and 1 st grade, which showed declines of $19.4 \%$ ( 58 students) and $24.1 \%$ ( 146 students) respectively. Note that the number of students enrolled in Cyber Charters in these grades is relatively small. The next largest percentage decline was in $3^{\text {rd }}$ grade, with an enrollment decline of $13.1 \%$ ( 89 students), followed by declines of $7.1 \%$ ( 56 students) in $5^{\text {th }}$ grade and $1.1 \%$ ( 7 students) in $2^{\text {nd }}$ grade.

In middle school grades, there was a $4.8 \%$ ( 45 students) enrollment decline in $6^{\text {th }}$ grade and a $1.3 \%$ ( 16 students) decline in $8^{\text {th }}$ grade between 2022-23 and 2023-24. In $7^{\text {th }}$ grade, enrollment increased by $4.5 \%$ ( 47 students).

Table 4. Change in Cyber Charter school enrollment, by grade level, 2022-23 to 2023-24 (October 1 Enrollment Snapshot)

| Grade Level | Number of Students Enrolled <br> in SY 2022-23 | Number of Students Enrolled <br> in SY 2023-24 | Percent Change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Kindergarten | 299 | 241 | $-19.4 \%$ |
| 1 | 605 | 459 | $-24.1 \%$ |
| 2 | 618 | 611 | $-1.1 \%$ |
| 3 | 680 | 591 | $-13.1 \%$ |
| 4 | 677 | 680 | $0.4 \%$ |
| 5 | 797 | 741 | $-7.0 \%$ |
| 6 | 930 | 885 | $-4.8 \%$ |
| 7 | 1,045 | 1,092 | $4.5 \%$ |
| 8 | 1,219 | 1,203 | $-1.3 \%$ |
| 9 | 1,474 | 1,527 | $3.6 \%$ |
| 10 | 1,630 | 1,865 | $14.4 \%$ |
| 11 | 1,866 | 1,866 | $19.2 \%$ |
| 12 | 2,882 | $54.4 \%$ |  |

Source: Qlik October 1 Enrollment Snapshot Report Library, accessed November 8, 2023

## District School Enrollment Demographics

In District schools, enrollment of Black/African American students consistently declined from 2014-15 to 2023-24, while enrollment of Hispanic/Latine students increased.
Enrollment of White and Asian students was relatively stable.
From 2014-15 to 2023-24, Black/African American student enrollment declined by 18,959 students, a $28.1 \%$ decline (Figure 4). White and Multi-Racial/Other student enrollment also declined during that period: White student enrollment declined by 1,391 students ( $7.6 \%$ ) and Multi-Racial/Other student enrollment declined by 3,590 (42.6\%). The number of Asian students enrolled increased by 1,112 students (10.6\%) between the 2014-15 and 2023-24 school years, and Hispanic/Latine student enrollment increased by 5,552 (22\%) students over that same period.

Figure 4. Number of students in District schools from 2014-15 through 2023-24, by race/ethnicity (October 1 Enrollment Snapshot)


Source: Qlik October 1 Enrollment App Snapshot Details Table, accessed December 18, 2023
*Includes students from the Native American/Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander ethnic groups

The number of English Learners increased in District schools between 2014-15 and 2023-24, while enrollment of students who are not English Learners decreased.

English Learners (ELs) are students in the School District of Philadelphia who take the WIDA English proficiency screener and receive a composite score that identifies them as ELs. ${ }^{4}$ Since the 2014-15 school year, the number of students who are English Learners has increased in District schools, from 12,492 students to 23,018 , an increase of $84.3 \%$ (Figure 5). The number of enrolled ELs increased by 7,004 students between 2020-21 and 2023-24. In the 2014-15 school year, English Learners made up $9.6 \%$ of students enrolled in District schools, which increased 10.8 percentage points to 20.4 \% in 2023-24. The number of students who are not English Learners has declined by 27,785 , a difference of $23.6 \%$, similar to the enrollment decline in District schools overall during that time.

Figure 5. Number of students enrolled in District schools from 2014-15 to 2023-24, by English Learner status (October 1 Enrollment Snapshot)


Source: Qlik October 1 Enrollment App Details Table, accessed December 18, 2023

[^2]In District schools, the number of students whose home language is Spanish increased between 2014-15 and 2023-24. After Spanish, Portuguese was the second most-reported home language other than English in 2023-24. Portuguese ranked higher than Mandarin Chinese for the first time in 2023-24.

The top ten home languages of District students in the 2023-24 school year as reported by parents were Spanish ( 20,508 students), Portuguese ( 3,433 students), Mandarin Chinese ( 3,337 students), Arabic ( 2,274 students), Russian (1,683 students), Vietnamese ( 873 students), Uzbek ( 718 students), Khmer ( 643 students), Ukrainian (629 students), and Bengali (602 students) (Figure 6). There were 20,508 students whose home language was Spanish in the 2023-24 school year, up from 14,850 in 2014-15. The number of students whose home language was Portuguese grew from 431 in 2014-15 to 3,433 in 2023-24, an increase of 696.6\%. Russian, Uzbek, and Ukrainian all grew as home languages of District students, with much of that growth occurring since the 2021-22 school year. Arabic and Bengali have both shown more consistent growth since 2014-15 with 2,274 students with a home language of Arabic and 602 students with Bengali in the 2023-24 school year. Mandarin Chinese has declined as a home language after a long period of growth, reaching a peak of 3,571 students in 2020-21 and dropping to 3,337 in 2023-24. There has also been a steady decline of District students with home language of Vietnamese and Khmer, with Vietnamese dropping from 1,423 students in 2014-15 to 873 in 2023-24, a decline of $38.7 \%$. The number of families reporting Khmer as a home language decreased by 51.9\%, going from 1,338 students in 2014-15 to 643 in 2023-24.

Figure 6. Number of students enrolled in District schools from 2014-15 to 2023-24, by non-English home language (October 1 Enrollment Snapshot)


Source: Qlik October 1 Enrollment Snapshot App Details Table, accessed November 8, 2023
How to read this figure: Each line represents a non-English home language of District students. The languages are shown based on the most frequently reported home languages in 2023-2024. There is a break in the $y$-axis between 4,000 and 14,000 in order to fit all lines on the same graph.

In District schools, enrollment of students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) increased between 2014-15 and 2023-24, while enrollment declined for students without IEPs over the same period.

From 2014-15 to 2023-24, there was an increase of 1,153 students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) in District schools (Figure 7). Over the same time period, the number of students without IEPs declined from 111,914 to 93,502, a $16.5 \%$ decrease ( 18,412 students). Students with IEPs made up 17.1\% of District enrollment in the 2023-24 school year.

Figure 7. Number of students enrolled in District schools from 2014-15 to 2023-24, by IEP status (October 1 Enrollment Snapshot)

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Source: October 1 Enrollment Snapshot Details Table, accessed December 18, 2023

## District High School Enrollment by Admission Type

Enrollment in Catchment high schools increased from 2020-21 to 2023-24, while enrollment in Criteria-Based and Citywide high schools declined over that same period.

District high schools have three types of admission: Catchment, Citywide, and Criteria-Based (see Box 1 for definitions of each). Between 2014-15 and 2023-24, enrollment in Catchment and Citywide high schools increased, while Criteria-Based school enrollment declined (Figure 8).

Enrollment patterns in Catchment and Criteria-Based high schools mirrored each other, trending in opposite directions since the 2014-15 school year. Catchment high schools saw an increase in enrollment with 18,963 students in 2023-24, a 2,325 student increase from the lowest point of 16,638 in the 2018-19 school year. In contrast, following a period of increasing enrollment that peaked at 12,387 students in the 2018-19 school year, enrollment fell to 11,126 students in Criteria-Based schools in 2023-24. Enrollment in Citywide high schools grew from 4,381 students in 2014-15 to 5,288 students in 2023-24, a 20.7\% increase.

Figure 8. Number of students enrolled in District high schools from 2014-15 to 2023-24, by admission type (October 1 Enrollment Snapshot)


Source: October 1 Enrollment Snapshot Details Table, accessed November 8, 2023

## District Schools with the Largest Enrollment Changes from 2022-23

## to 2023-24

At the school level, the largest year-to-year enrollment changes were nearly symmetrical in the numbers of students gained or lost (Figure 9). George Washington High School added 192 students between the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years, a 10.1\% increase. Enrollment at Philadelphia Virtual Academy ${ }^{5}$ decreased by 193 students, which represented a $27.2 \%$ decline during the same time period. Other schools had smaller enrollment shifts. Overall, the total enrollment decline in schools with the largest changes $(1,140)$ was very close to the total enrollment increase in schools with the largest changes $(1,119)$.

Figure 9: District schools with the largest enrollment changes from 2022-23 to 2023-24 (October 1 Enrollment Snapshot)


Source: October 1 Enrollment Snapshot Report Library, accessed November 8, 2023
How to read this figure: Each bar corresponds to a school on the vertical axis. The horizontal axis indicates the change in enrollment from 2021-22 to 2022-23. Schools with a decrease in enrollment have red bars, while schools with an increase in enrollment have blue bars. The larger the change, the darker the color of the bar.

[^3]
## Summary

Between the 2014-15 and 2023-24 school years, overall enrollment in Philadelphia public schools declined by 1\%. Enrollment in District schools declined by 13.3\%. Enrollment in Philadelphia Charter schools declined by $0.3 \%$. Alternative school enrollment declined by $0.8 \%$, and Cyber Charter school enrollment increased by 2577\%. Enrollment declined from 2022-23 to 2023-24 in most grades in District schools, with the greatest decrease occurring in 9th grade. Year-over-year enrollment in Philadelphia Charter schools either declined or made gains of less than $2 \%$ in all grades except $9^{\text {th }}$, which grew by $10.7 \%$. Cyber Charter schools were the only sector that grew consistently since the 2014-15 school year, with much of that growth happening in high school grades. Between the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years, Cyber Charter student enrollment decreased in all lower grade levels except $4^{\text {th }}$ and $7^{\text {th }}$ grades, with the largest declines in kindergarten, $1^{\text {st }}$ grade, and $3^{\text {rd }}$ grade. Student enrollment in all high school grade levels in Cyber Charter schools increased by between $3.6 \%$ and $54.4 \%$ in the same period.

Between 2014-15 and 2023-24, the number of Black/African American students enrolled in District schools declined by $28.1 \%$. On the other hand, enrollment of Hispanic/Latine students has increased consistently since the 2014-15 school year. English Learners made up a larger share of overall enrollment in District schools in 2023-24 compared to 2014-15, and the share of non-ELs followed the overall enrollment decline seen since 2014-15. Enrollment of students with IEPs increased from 2014-15 to 2023-24, with 17.1\% of enrolled students having an IEP in the 2023-24 school year.

Trends for high school enrollment by admission type show an overall increase in Catchment and Citywide high school enrollments between 2014-15 and 2023-24 and a small overall decrease in Criteria-Based high school enrollments during that time.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ For school and grade-level enrollment Open Data files, please visit:
    https://www.philasd.org/performance/programsservices/open-data/school-information/\#school enrollment
    ${ }^{2}$ These schools include Non-Philadelphia Charter schools, Non-Public Special Education schools, and IU26 schools.

[^1]:    ${ }^{3}$ Year-over-year enrollment changes in lower grade levels at Alternative schools are not reported in this brief due to the small cohort sizes.

[^2]:    ${ }^{4}$ To see further research on linguistic diversity from the Office of Research and Evaluation, visit: https://www.philasd.org/research/2023/08/25/english-learner-el-home-language-and-enrollment-trends-in-the-school-district-of-philadelphia-2014-15-to-2022-23/

[^3]:    ${ }^{5}$ The Philadelphia Virtual Academy's enrollment was greatly impacted by Covid-19. Enrollment increased from 637 students in 2020-21 to 1,925 students in 2021-22. Enrollment has been declining in each year since then but still remains above pre-pandemic levels.

