



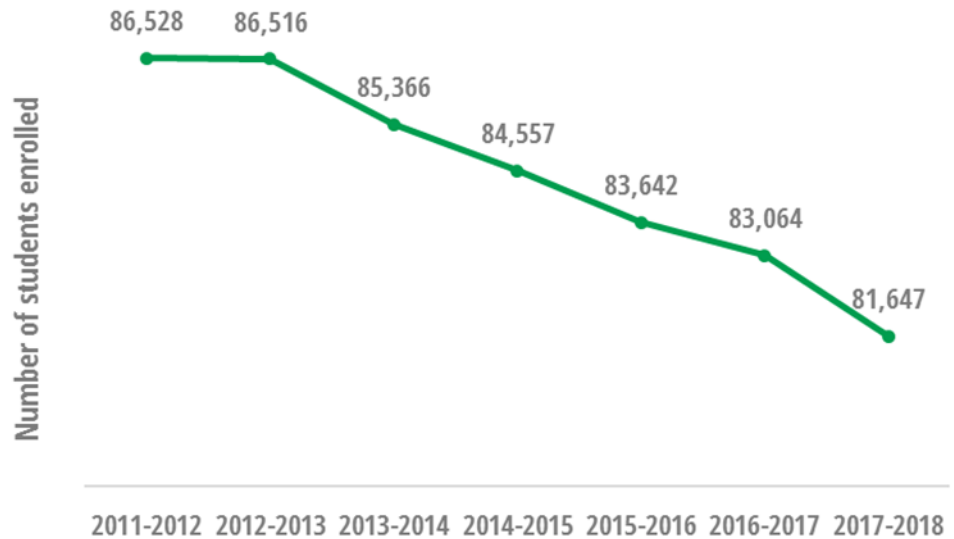
District Enrollment Trends

Trends, by Grade Level and Student Group

General Changes in Student Enrollment

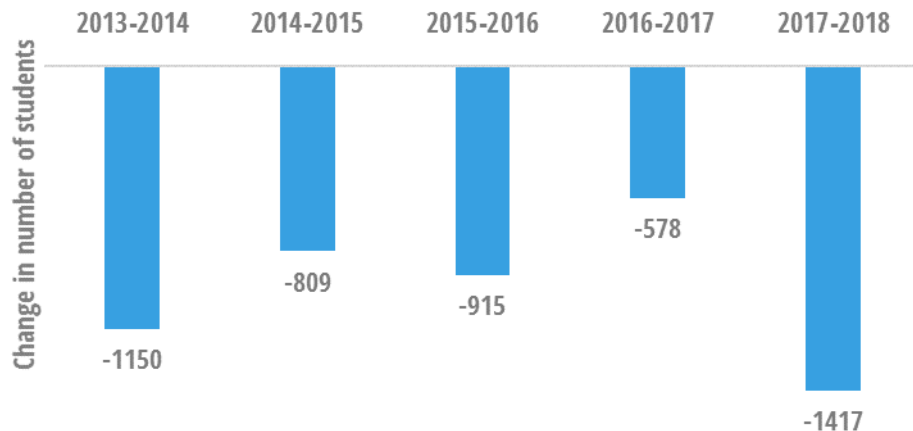
Student enrollment in Austin Independent School District (AISD) has been steadily declining since the 2011–2012 school year, the highest year of enrollment for AISD (Figure 1). In 2011–2012, AISD had 86,528 students enrolled, compared with 81,647 students enrolled in 2017–2018. The amount of decline in student enrollment varied from year to year, with the largest amount of student loss occurring in the 2017–2018 school year (Figure 2).

Figure 1.
Student enrollment has been declining over the last 5 years, with a more rapid



Source. PEIMS Enrollment, Fall submission, collected from Forecast5 June 2018

Figure 2.
Student enrollment reported officially in October each year has been decreasing over the last 5 years, with a large decrease in 2017–2018.

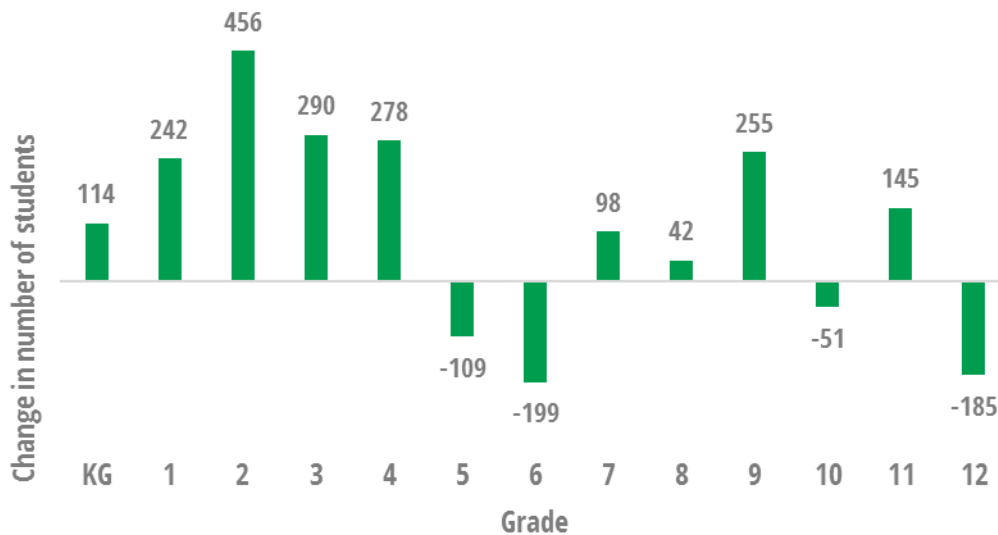


Source. PEIMS Enrollment, Fall submission, collected from Forecast5 June 2018

Enrollment Changes, by Grade Level

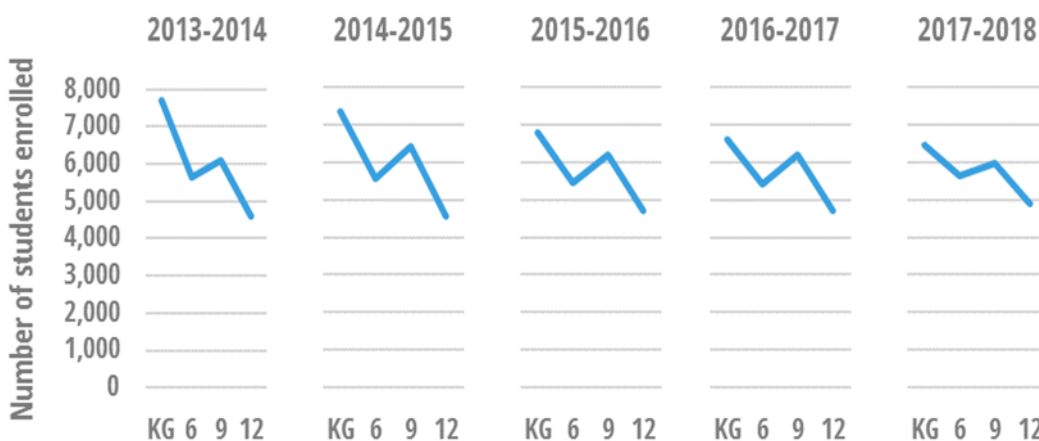
Grade level enrollment varied across grade levels. Sixth grade experienced the largest loss of students between Fall 2016 and Fall 2017, while 2nd grade experienced the largest increase in students (Figure 3). In contrast with the decline at the 6th-grade level, there was a notable increase in students at 9th grade. This may indicate that students leave the district before entering middle school and may return to the district when entering high school. This trend was relatively stable over time (Figure 4).

Figure 3. Sixth grade had the largest decrease in students between Fall 2016 and Fall 2017 while 2nd grade had the largest increase.



Source: PEIMS Enrollment, Fall submission, collected from Forecast5 June 2018

Figure 4. Enrollment for each grade was comparable from 2013–2014 through 2017–2018.



Source: PEIMS Enrollment, Fall submission, collected from Forecast5 June 2018

About Forecast5 Analytics

Forecast5 Analytics is a analysis tool that provides analytic technology to school districts, community colleges, and local governments to support decision making. All school districts in the state of Texas have data listed in Forecast5, so the system allows for comparison between districts as well as more in-depth examinations of individual district data.

Forecast5 consists of several data platforms, including 5Sight, which is the platform used to gather the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) and Texas Education Agency (TEA) data included in this report. Data can be easily downloaded from the 5Sight platform and utilized in Excel or other statistical software for analyses.

5Sight not only has enrollment data, but also has information related to district staff, budgeting and salary, transportation, student performance, and Texas Academic Performance Reports (TAPR).

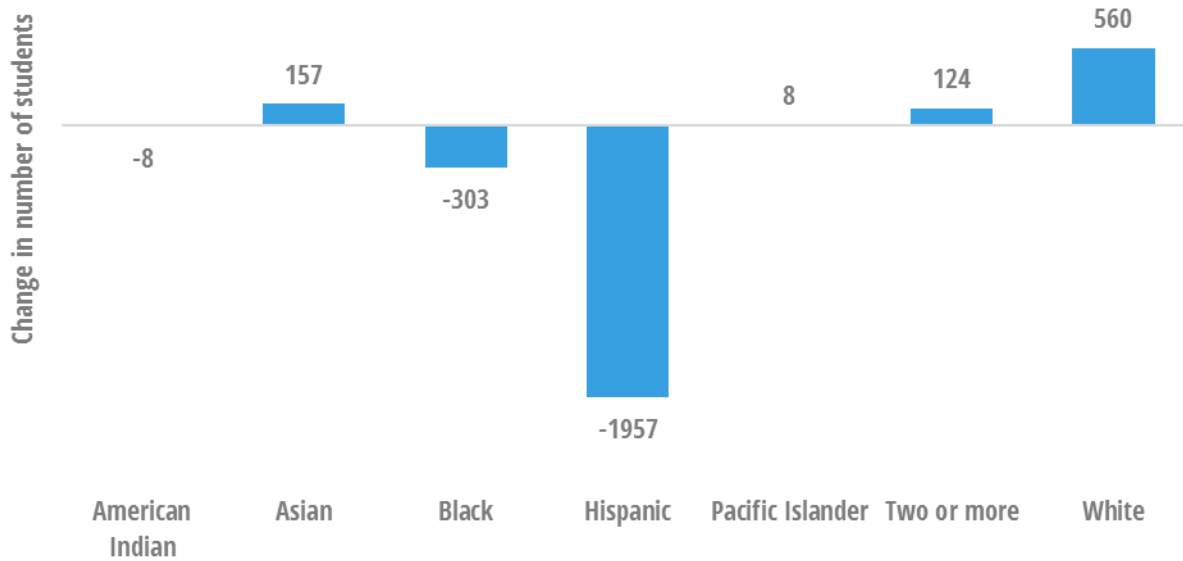
All data used from 5Sight for the purposes of this report were sourced from PEIMS in June 2018.



Enrollment Changes, by Race/Ethnicity

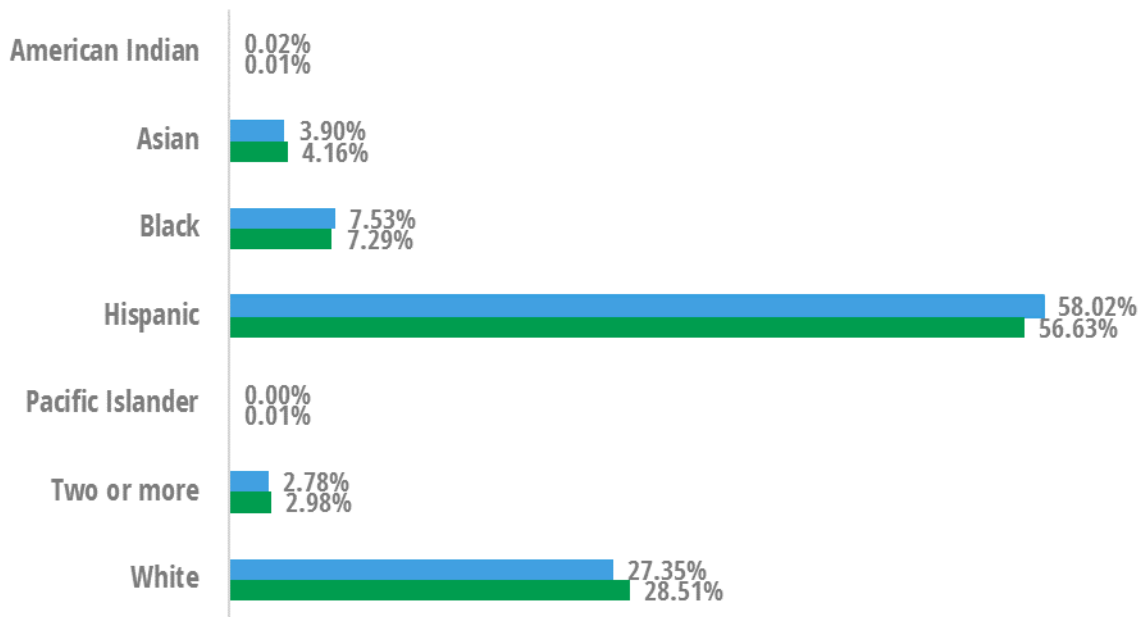
Enrollment also varied across student race/ethnicity groups. The largest enrollment increases from Fall 2016 to Fall 2017 were for White and Asian students. The largest declines in enrollment during these 2 school years were for Hispanic and Black or African American students (Figure 5). However, these changes in enrollment between Fall 2016 and Fall 2017 did not affect the overall distribution of the student population in AISD (Figure 6).

Figure 5.
Enrollment declined the most for **Hispanic** students and increased the most for **White** students between Fall 2016 and Fall 2017.



Source: PEIMS Enrollment, Fall submission, collected from Forecast5 June 2018

Figure 6.
The race/ethnicity distribution of the student population was similar in **Fall 2016** and **Fall 2017**.

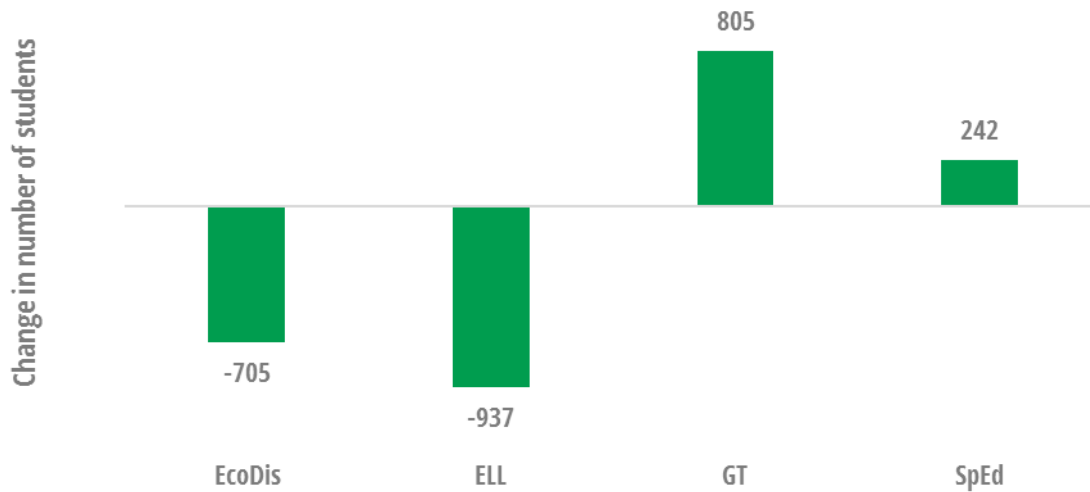


Source: PEIMS Enrollment, Fall submission, collected from Forecast5 June 2018

Enrollment Changes, by Program Participation

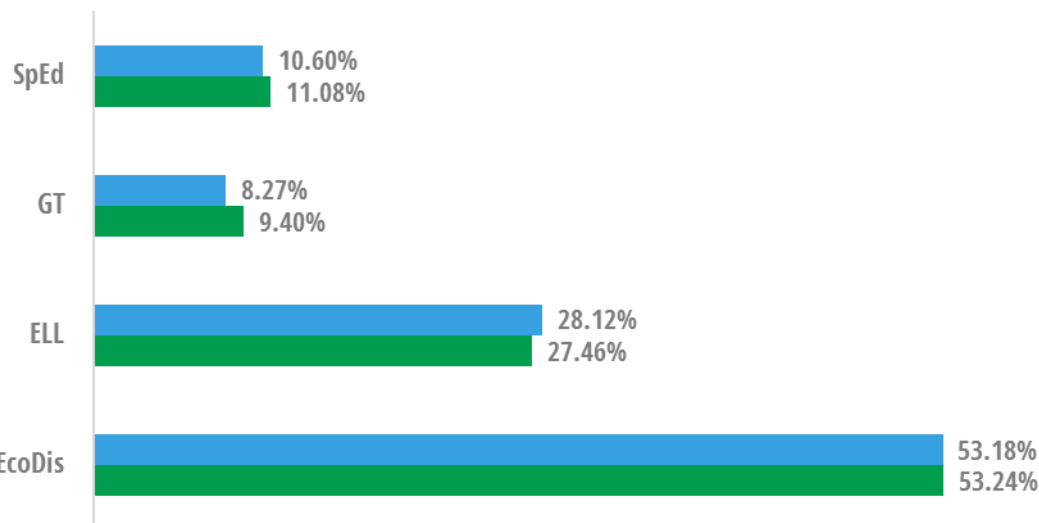
The greatest changes in student program participation between Fall 2016 and Fall 2017 were for students who were categorized as English language learners (ELLs), economically disadvantaged (EcoDis), or gifted/talented (GT). The number of GT students increased between Fall 2016 and Fall 2017, while the number of ELLs and EcoDis students decreased (Figure 7). However, these changes did not result in a notable change in the overall representation of EcoDis, ELL, or GT students in the AISD student population (Figure 8). The percentages of students receiving services or involved in these programs were similar in Fall 2016 and in Fall 2017, with the largest increase seen for students in the GT program.

Figure 7.
There were more **GT** and fewer **ELLs** and **EcoDis** students in Fall 2017 than in Fall 2016.



Source. PEIMS Enrollment, Fall submission, collected from Forecast5 June 2018

Figure 8.
The composition of SpEd, GT, ELL, and EcoDis students was similar in **Fall 2016** and **Fall 2017**.



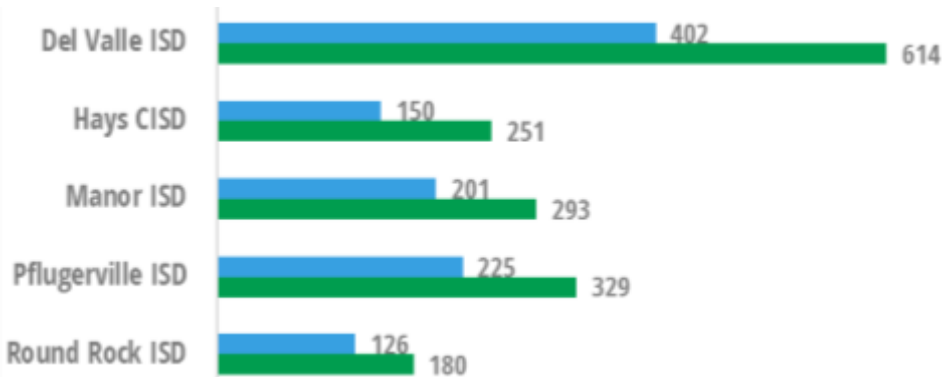
Source. PEIMS Enrollment, Fall submission, collected from Forecast5 June 2018

Enrollment Changes, by District or Charter

The following student transfer data was provided through the Texas Education Agency’s Transfer Reports. For each school district, transfer reports provided the number of students for whom the selected district was their district of residence along with their actual district of attendance. However, charter schools cannot be a student’s district of residence. Thus, data presented for charter schools represent the number of students who lived in school district boundaries yet elected to attend a charter school each year, rather than transfers in or out of the district. Details about TEA transfer reports can be accessed at https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/adhocrpt/Standard_Reports/About/about_transfer_reports.html.

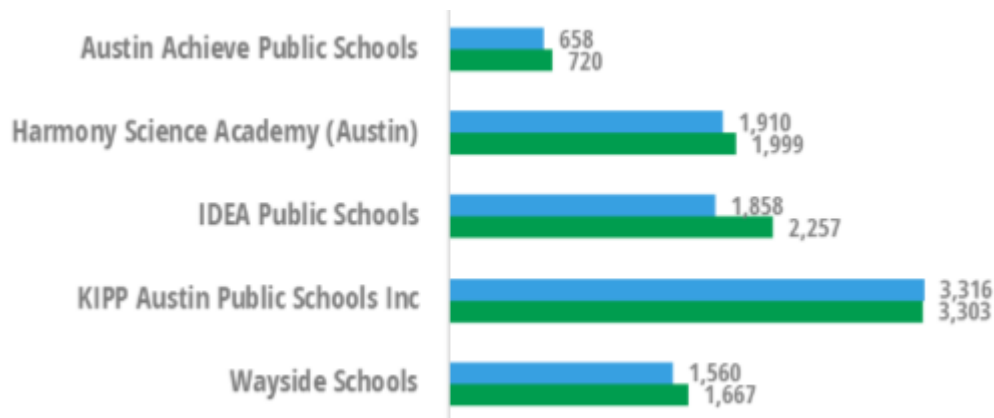
While there was an increase in student transfers into the district in 2017-2018, the district still experienced a net loss of students. From other ISD’s, 1,319 students in total transferred into AISD in 2016–2017, and 1,908 students in total transferred into AISD in 2017–2018. In 2016–2017, AISD experienced an overall net loss of 12,701 students, or a -15.3% net transfer of enrollment. In 2017–2018, AISD experienced an overall net loss of 12,915, or a -15.8% net transfer of enrollment. AISD student leavers were transferring to schools outside of district attendance boundaries, but also were attending charter schools within Austin. Del Valle, Pflugerville, and Manor Independent School Districts (ISDs) provided AISD with the most transfer students (Figure 9), which is consistent with transfer trends in previous years (Looby, Lyons, & Williams, 2016). Students living within AISD attendance boundaries also may have elected to attend charter schools. Those who chose charters were most commonly enrolled in KIPP Austin Public Schools, Harmony Science Academy, or IDEA Public Schools (Figure 10).

Figure 9. Students who entered AISD in 2016–2017 and 2017–2018 came mostly from Del Valle, Pflugerville, or Manor ISDs.



Source. TEA PEIMS Transfer Reports, collected from Forecast5 October 2018

Figure 10. Some students who lived in AISD attendance boundaries elected to attend KIPP Austin Public Schools, Harmony Science Academy, or IDEA Public Schools in 2016–2017 and 2017–2018.



Source. TEA PEIMS Transfer Reports, collected from Forecast5 October 2018

Enrollment Changes for Comparison Schools

AISD was not the only district to have students residing within district attendance boundaries elect to attend charter schools. Many other large urban districts in Texas experienced similar levels of loss to nearby charter schools. For example, Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio ISDs had many students who lived within their respective attendance boundaries attend charter schools over the last two school years (Table 1). Additionally, based on total number of enrolled students at these other large urban Texas districts, the amount of loss to charter schools for these large urban districts in comparison to Austin ISD was similar, and in some cases, Houston and Dallas ISDs were losing a higher percentage of their students to charters.

Table 1.
Students who left other large urban districts in Texas transferred most frequently to nearby charter schools in 2016–2017 and 2017–2018.

Top 5 Schools Students Transferred to by District	2016-2017	2017-2018
San Antonio ISD		
Brooks Academy of Science and Engineering	1,019	1,125
IDEA Public Schools	1,750	2,513
Jubilee Academies	1,312	1,839
KIPP San Antonio	1,651	1,816
New Frontiers Public Schools Inc	515	481
Dallas ISD		
KIPP Dallas-Fort Worth	1,771	2,113
Texans CAN Academies	2,098	2,113
Trinity Basin Preparatory	1,744	1,873
Uplift Education	7,817	8,667
Waxahachie Faith Family Academy	2,188	2,164
Houston ISD		
Harmony Science Academy	1,871	1,924
Houston Gateway Academy Inc	2,017	2,053
KIPP Inc Charter	9,212	9,628
Southwest School	1,163	1,347
YES Prep Public Schools Inc	8,294	8,969

Source. TEA PEIMS Transfer Reports, collected from Forecast5 October 2018

When comparing AISD to districts within the Austin area (i.e., Del Valle, Round Rock, and Pflugerville ISDs), other districts also had substantial numbers of students residing within their respective district boundaries elect to attend charter schools (Table 2). Therefore, the problem of losing students to charter schools was not unique to AISD.

Table 2.
Students who left other districts in Austin transferred most frequently to nearby charter schools in 2016–2017 and 2017–2018.

Top 5 Schools Students Transferred to by District	2016-2017	2017-2018
Del Valle ISD		
Austin ISD	402	614
Harmony Science Academy (Austin)	176	172
IDEA Public Schools	307	396
KIPP Austin Schools Inc	701	797
Wayside Schools	216	225
Round Rock ISD		
Austin ISD	126	180
Harmony Science Academy (Austin)	610	548
Jubilee Academies	363	303
Meridian World School LLC	958	1,090
Orenda Charter School	626	586
Pflugerville ISD		
Austin ISD	225	329
Harmony Science Academy (Austin)	704	684
Jubilee Academies	355	365
KIPP Austin Public Schools Inc	160	194
NYOS Charter School	319	337

Source. TEA PEIMS Transfer Reports, collected from Forecast5 October 2018

References

Looby, K., Lyons, A, & Williams, H. (2016). *Enrollment from fall 2015 to fall 2016: Trends by grade level and student group* (DRE Publication #16.07). Austin, TX: Austin Independent School District.

AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Paige H. DeBaylo, Ph.D.
Karen L. Looby, Ph.D.

Department of Research and Evaluation



1111 West 6th Street, Suite D-350 | Austin, TX 78703-5338
512.414.1724 | fax: 512.414.1707
www.austinisd.org/dre | Twitter: @AISD_DRE

October 2018

Publication 17.47