



# **New York City Charter Schools:** 2013-14 Enrollment Lottery Estimates

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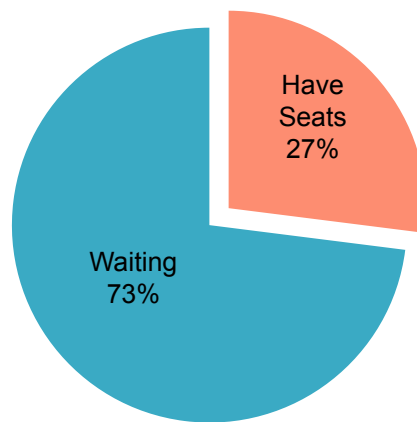
*May 2013*

## New York City Charter Schools: 2013-14 Enrollment Lottery Estimates

Out of the 183 New York City charter schools currently enrolling students for 2013-14, 155 (85%) responded to the NYC Charter School Center’s survey about their lottery application rates. Based on survey data, the Charter Center estimates that New York City charter schools received a total of 181,600 applications for 18,600 available seats. Discounting for students who apply to more than one school, this represents an estimated 69,000 applicants for 18,600 seats—creating a citywide charter school “waiting list” of an estimated 50,400.

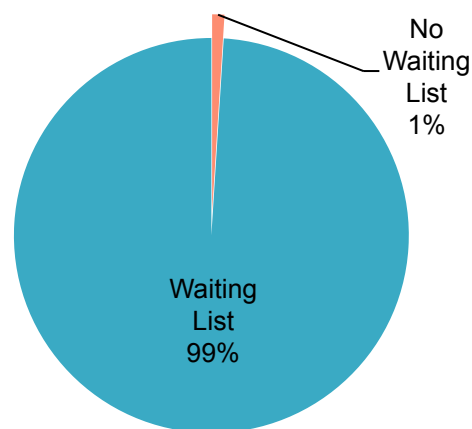
Approximately 3.7 applicants are competing for each charter school seat.

*NYC charter school applicants by enrollment status (2013-14, estimated)<sup>1</sup>*



Almost every charter school has a waiting list for enrollment.

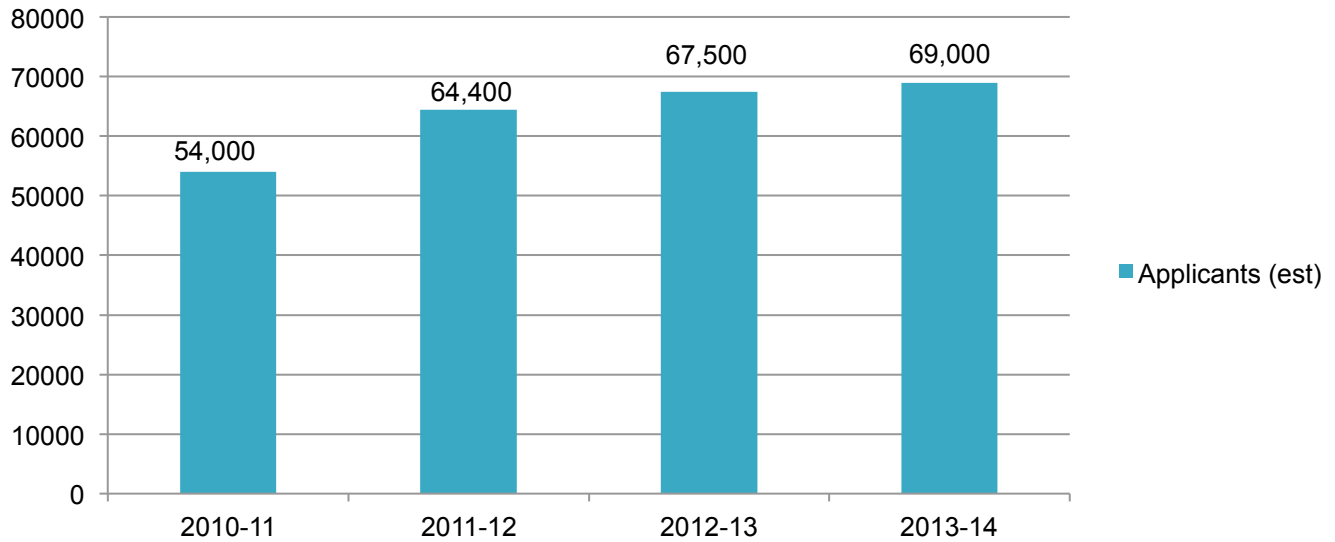
*Reporting charter schools by waiting list status (2013-14, n=155)<sup>1</sup>*



<sup>1</sup> Source: NYC Charter School Center survey and analysis, May 2013

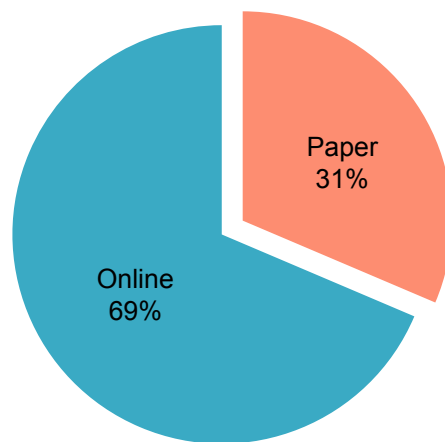
Charter school applicants have steadily increased over time.

*Total applicants to NYC charter schools (estimated, 2010-2013)<sup>2</sup>*



More than two out of three applications are submitted online.

*Total applications NYC charter schools by application type (estimated, 2013-14)<sup>3</sup>*

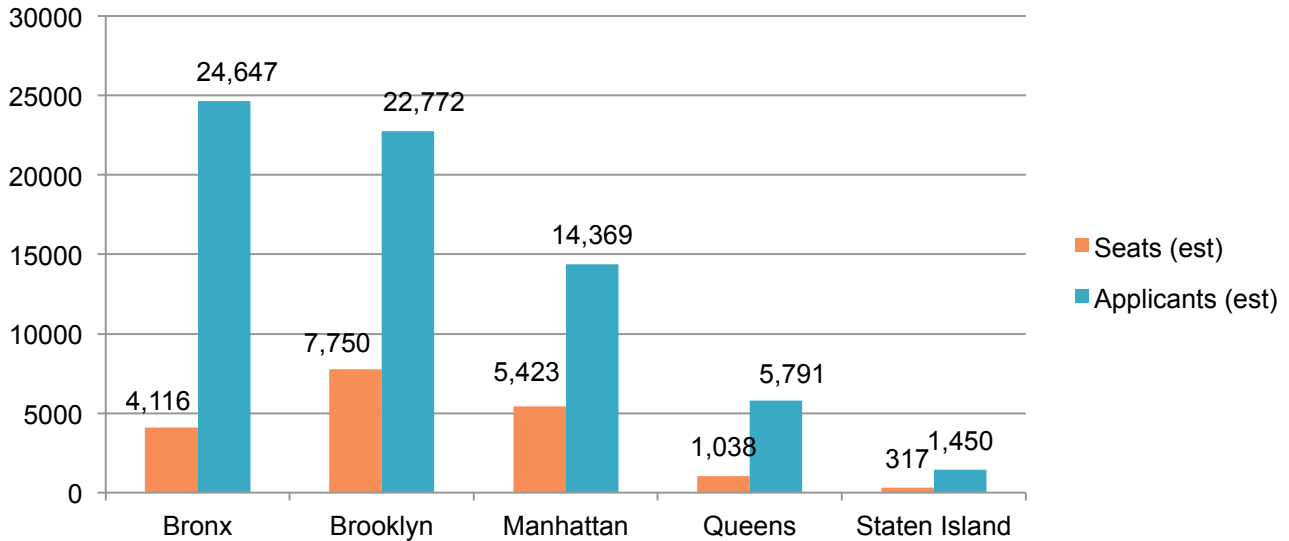


<sup>2</sup> Sources: Charter Center survey and analysis, April 2010, April 2011, April 2012, May 2013

<sup>3</sup> Source: Charter Center survey and analysis, May 2013

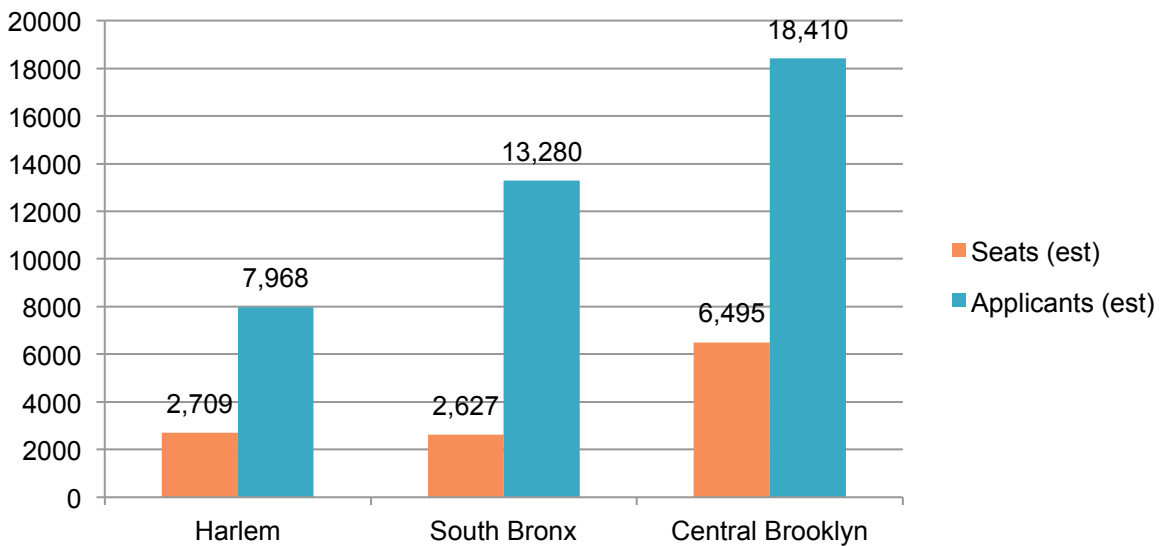
Applicants exceed available seats in every borough.

*NYC charter school applicants and seats, by borough (estimated, 2013-14)<sup>4</sup>*



A majority of applicants apply in Harlem, the South Bronx, or Central Brooklyn.

*NYC charter school applicants and seats, by neighborhood (estimated, 2013-14)<sup>5</sup>*



<sup>4</sup> Source: NYC Charter School Center Survey, April 2012

<sup>5</sup> Harlem is defined as CSD 4, 5; Central Brooklyn 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 32; South Bronx 7, 8, 9.

Applicants exceed seats in every Community School District,  
with thousands of applicants in many CSDs.

*Top Ten CSDs by applicants to local charter schools, with seats (estimated, 2013-14)*

<i>Rank</i>	<i>CSD (Neighborhood)</i>	<i>Applicants (est.)</i>	<i>Seats (est.)</i>
1	CSD 11 (NE Bronx)	6717	366
2	CSD 8 (SE Bronx)	4899	633
3	CSD 9 (SW Bronx)	4715	770
4	CSD 5 (Central Harlem)	4613	1563
5	CSD 18 (Central Brooklyn)	3855	739
6	CSD 7 (S Bronx)	3790	1425
7	CSD 30 (NW Queens)	3489	488
8	CSD 3 (West Harlem / West Side)	3399	1167
9	CSD 4 (East Harlem)	3355	1146
10	CSD 10 (NW Bronx)	2917	554

## Estimation Methodology

The Charter Center's annual estimates of total citywide charter school applicants have always carefully discounted for applicants who apply to multiple charter schools. To develop the estimates reported above, we use 1) survey data about individual charter schools' applications and available seats, by grade level; 2) survey data about charter school networks' unique applicant counts across schools, where available; and 3) data about unique applicants across the Charter Center's Common Online Charter School Application. Our method also uses insights about single-school vs. common application rates from spring 2012, when the Charter Center hosted an online application in both formats.

Taking into account geographic proximity to other charter schools accepting applications in the same grade levels, network affiliation and school age, we estimate a set of deflation factors that are specific to each charter school and each grade level where the school had available seats. For survey non-respondents, which represented 15% of charter schools in this year's survey, we estimate applications received based on two regression models of the responding charter schools' key characteristics and applications received. We then use the grade-by-grade applications and deflation factors to calculate fractional estimates of citywide-unique applicants who applied to each school, which are then summed to create the total citywide estimate.

This year, our deflation methodology resulted in a system-wide estimate of each charter applicant applying to 2.63 schools (up from 1.97 last year). In other words, this year's citywide discount rate—to estimate applicants from applications—was 62% (up from 49%). This shift can be attributed to an increase in charter schools using common applications provided by networks and/or the Charter Center, as well as an increase in charter school options across the five boroughs.

For more information about the Charter Center's enrollment estimates, contact Petra Tuomi at [ptuomi@nyccharterschools.org](mailto:ptuomi@nyccharterschools.org).