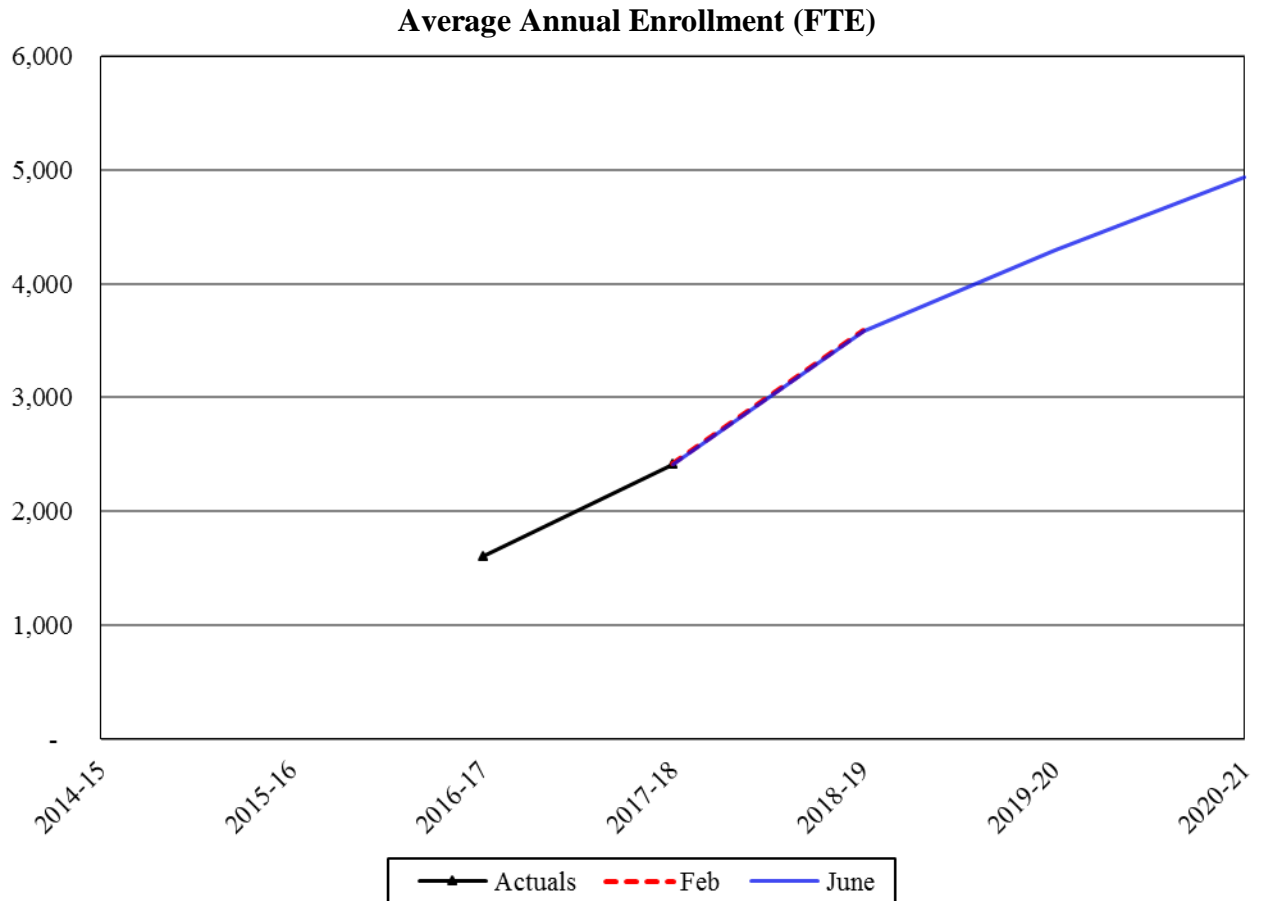


# Charter Schools Enrollment

Caseload Forecast Council  
June 13, 2018



The charter school forecast includes grade-level enrollments, special education, and bilingual education. The CFC’s current charter school forecast dates to the 2016 Legislative Session, when ESSB 6194 re-established charter schools as an educational system operating separately from the common school system. ESSB 6194 specifically stated that charter schools are not common schools. The 2016 supplemental operating budget directed the CFC to provide a separate forecast of enrollment for charter schools. This reset the charter school forecast to the 2016-17 academic year. The Washington State Charter School Commission (WA CSC) and the Spokane School District (SSD) are the only approved authorizers of charter schools at this time.

### **Forecast Comparisons (Academic Year Averages)**

Academic Year	Feb-18 Forecast	Jun-18 Forecast	Feb to June Difference	Percent Difference
2017-18	2,416	2,414	-2	-0.1%
2018-19	3,589	3,586	-3	-0.1%
2019-20	-	4,294	-	-
2020-21	-	4,940	-	-

The June 2018 and February 2018 forecasts for the 2017-19 Biennium are nearly identical.

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The forecast model includes current year enrollment data as reported to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. It also includes enrollment growth projections provided by authorized charter schools planning to open or add grade levels to their programs. Growth projections are provided for each forecast cycle.

### Tracking the Current Forecast

	Feb-18 Forecast*	Actual*	Variance	Percent Variance
Jan-18	2,413	2,407	-6	-0.2%
Feb-18	2,398	2,391	-7	-0.3%
Mar-18	2,375	2,376	1	0.1%
Apr-18	2,371	2,361	-9	-0.4%
May-18	2,350	2,347	-3	-0.1%

\*Charter Schools monthly full-time equivalent (FTE) students

The February 2018 forecast is tracking on par with current year enrollment data.

### Academic Year Caseload Change

	Academic Year	Caseload	Change from Prior Year	Percent Change
Actual	2014-15	0	0	0.0%
	2015-16	0	0	0.0%
	2016-17	1,603	1,603	0.0%
Forecast	2017-18	2,414	811	50.6%
	2018-19	3,586	1,172	48.6%
	2019-20	4,294	708	19.7%
	2020-21	4,940	646	15.0%

For the 2017-18 academic year, ten charter schools will be operational with two additional authorized charter schools opening in the 2018-19 academic year. Enrollment will continue at a sharp rate as charter schools open and expand.

#### *Risks to the Forecast*

The risks to the charter school forecast are high as they are new to Washington State. The number of authorized schools will likely increase as both the WA CSC and the SSD have applications under review for three new charter schools. If the three are authorized, it would increase the forecast by an additional 9 percent (409 students) in 2019-20 and 13 percent (652 students) in 2020-21. Additional risk to the forecast include the lack of historical data for month-to-month enrollment ratios and charter school student re-enrollment rates.