



**MY SCHOOL DC**

The Public School Lottery

[MySchoolDC.org](http://MySchoolDC.org)

# Common Lottery Board Quarterly Meeting

April 25, 2024

# Common Lottery Board Roll Call

	Member	Organization
Voting Members	Paul Kihn	Deputy Mayor for Education
	Daniela Anello	DC Bilingual PCS
	Ijeoma Anyanwu	DC Public Schools
	Cinthia Ruiz (standing in for Emerald Becker)	DC Public Schools
	Hilary Darilek	E.L. Haynes PCS
	Chyanne Eyde	DC Public Schools
	Shannon Hodge	KIPP DC PCS
Non-Voting Members	Michelle Walker-Davis	DC Public Charter School Board
	Christina Grant	Office of the State Superintendent for Education
	Megan Dho	My School DC



# Agenda

- 01 | SY24-25 Lottery Results
- 02 | Equitable Access & Ward Parity Results
- 03 | EdFEST 2024 Planning Updates
- 04 | Policy Issue Discussion
- 05 | Boundary & Student Assignment Study
- 06 | SY23-24 Audit



DC'S PUBLIC  
SCHOOL LOTTERY





**MY SCHOOL DC**

The Public School Lottery

[MySchoolDC.org](http://MySchoolDC.org)

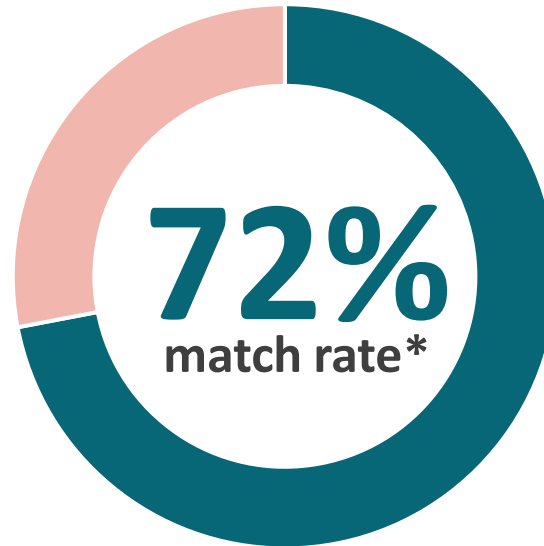
# SY24-25 Lottery Results

# Lottery Results at a Glance

In the 2024-25 lottery  
a total of

**23,312**

students submitted one or  
more applications.



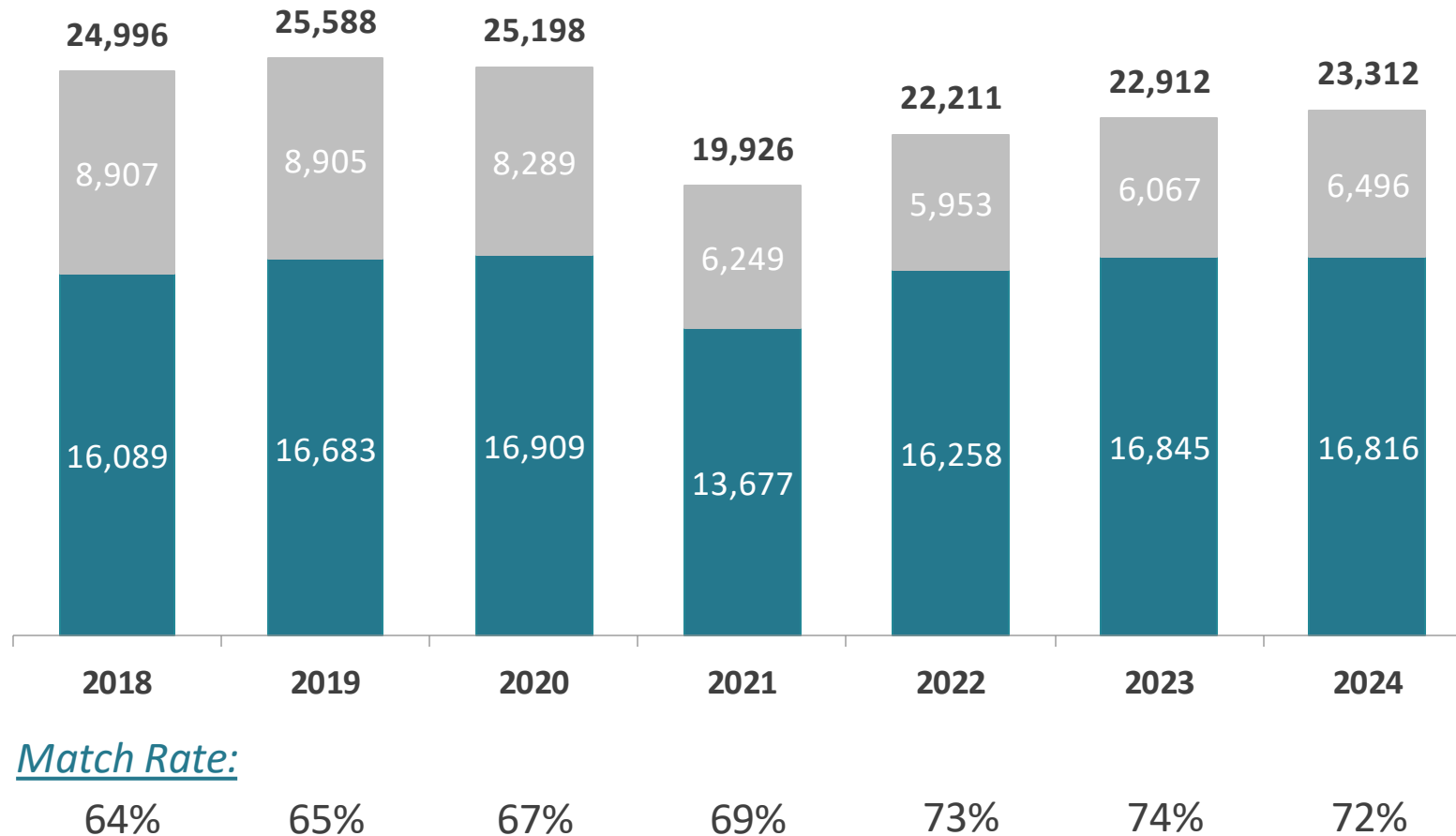
Of the 16,816 applicants who  
were matched to a school,

**61%**

matched to their  
#1 choice school.

*\*The match rate is the percentage of applicants who were matched to a school on their application.*

# Total Number of Matches – Year to Year

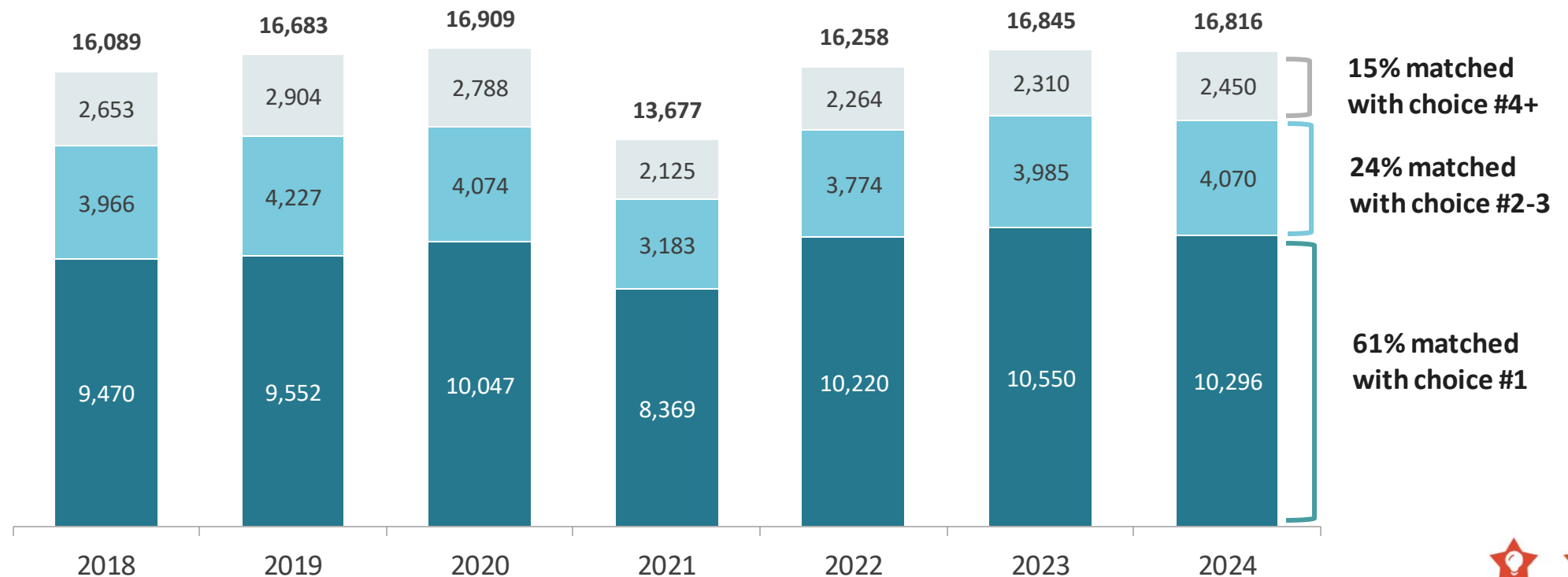


■ Number of Matched Applicants  
■ Number of Unmatched Applicants

- Compared to SY23-24, the total number of applicants increased by +400, yet the total number of matches declined by -29 (-0.2%).
- Applicants who did not match to any initial school increased by +429, or +7% over last year.

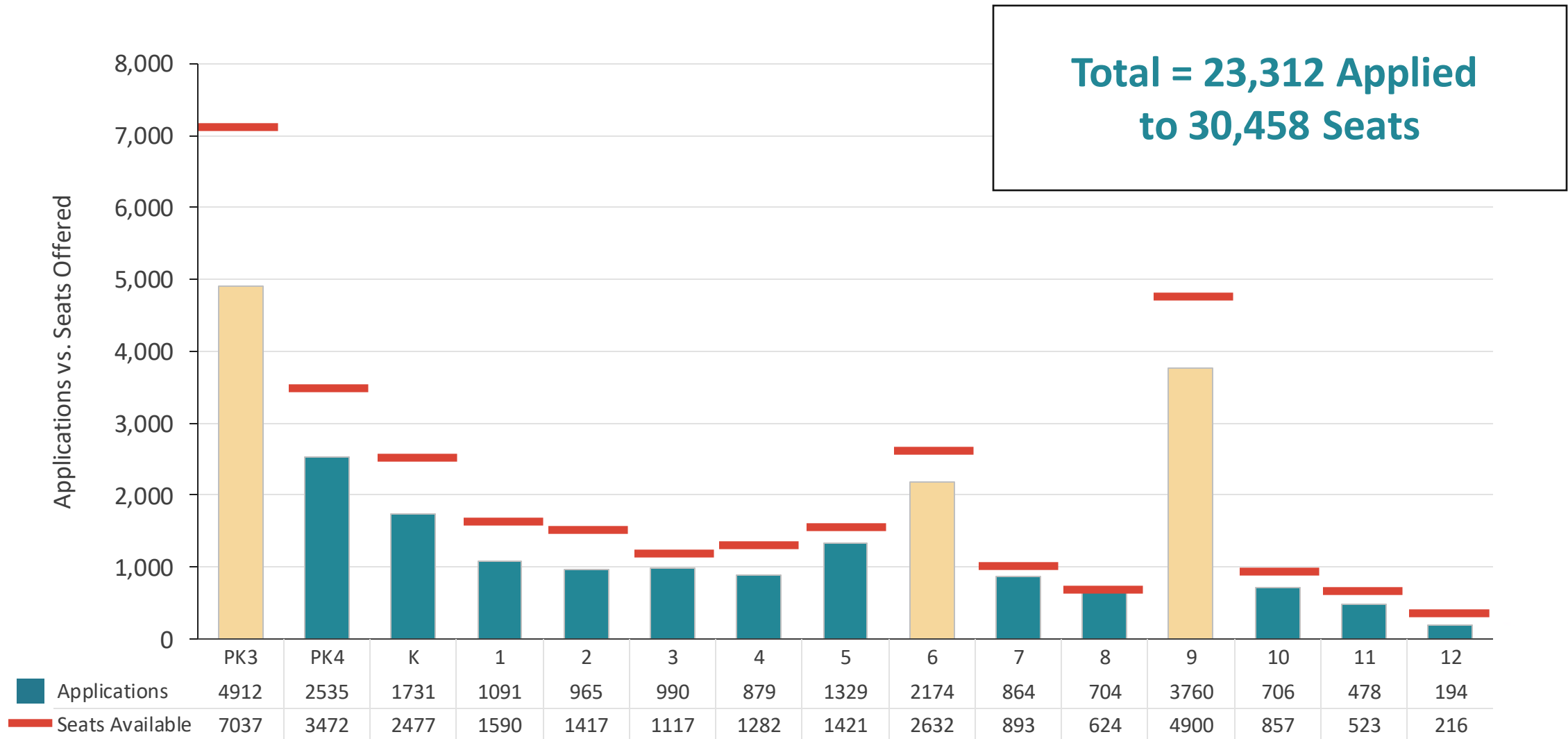
# Distribution of Matches by Ranked Preference

While we had a slight decrease in matches to applicant's first choice schools in SY24-25, we had an increased number of students matched to the schools they ranked 4<sup>th</sup> or higher on their application.



# Number of Applications v. Seats Offered

In SY24-25, LEAs offered a total of 30,458 seats. Over 7,000 seats were offered at PK3 for 4,900 applicants - a gap of 2,100 additional seats to unique applicants.

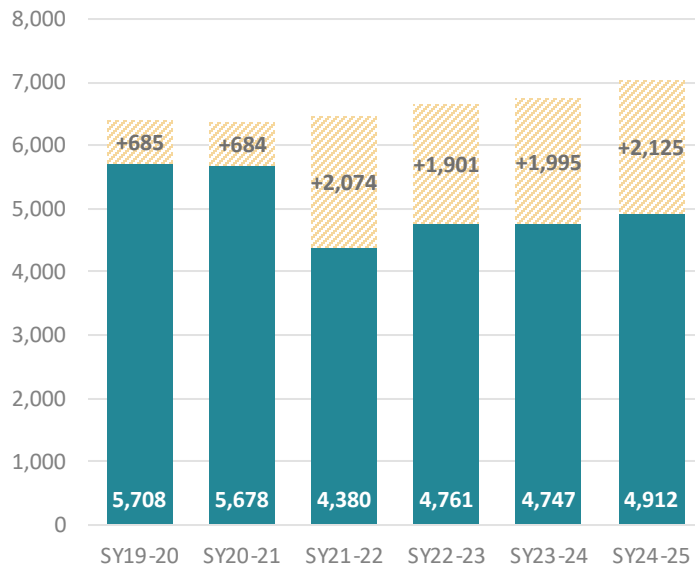




# Applications v. Seats Offered in Transition Grades

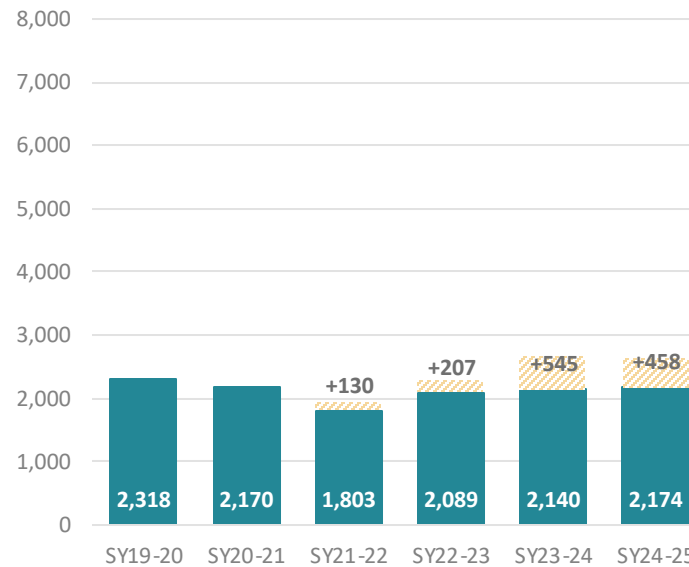
In SY24-25, more seats were offered than applicants across all entry grades, with the greatest increase seen in PK3.

## PK3:



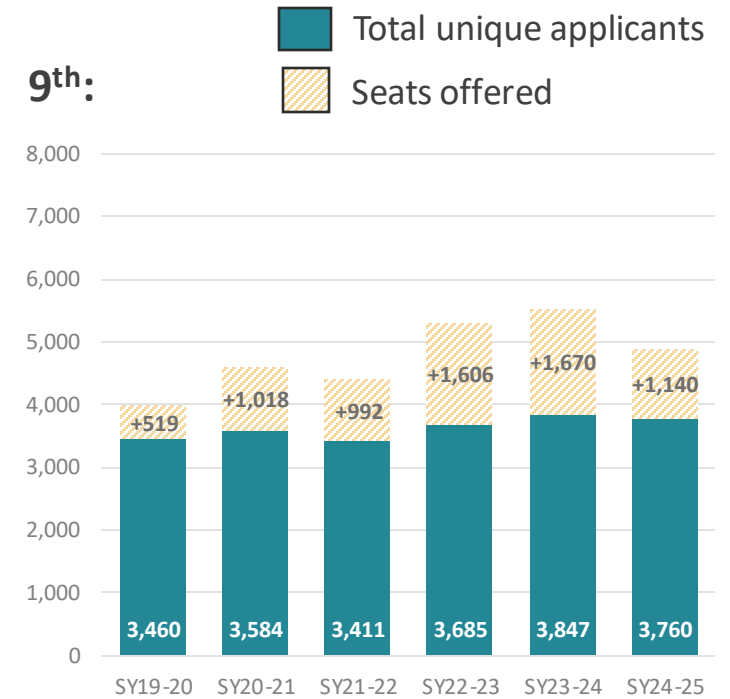
At PK3, D.C. offered over 7,000 seats for just under 5,000 three-year-olds. This increase is partially driven by new schools, while the remainder are from existing LEAs.

## 6<sup>th</sup>:



For 6<sup>th</sup> grade before SY2021, the number of applicants exceeded the number of seats offered. Post-SY2021, the number of seats offered has steadily increased and now exceed the number of applicants.

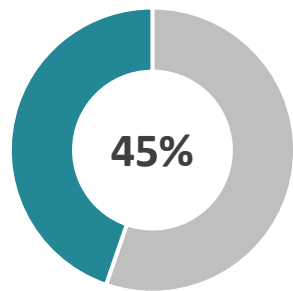
## 9<sup>th</sup>:



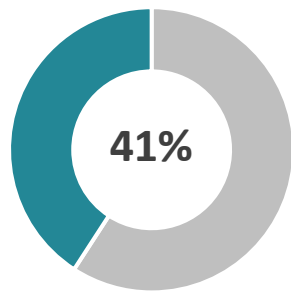
In 9<sup>th</sup> grade, the number of applicants has remained quite steady, but the number of seats offered has increased most years.

# Percent of Schools Matching 100% of Their Seats

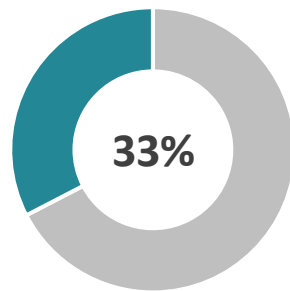
With the continued increase in overall seats this year, less than 1 in 4 schools matched 100% of their seats in SY24-25.



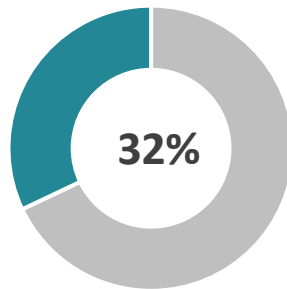
2019



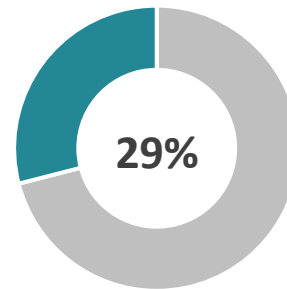
2020



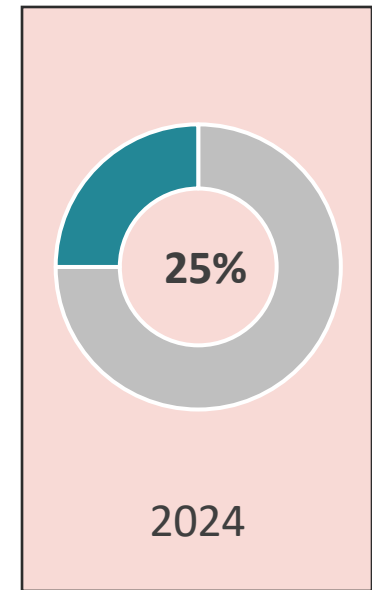
2021



2022



2023

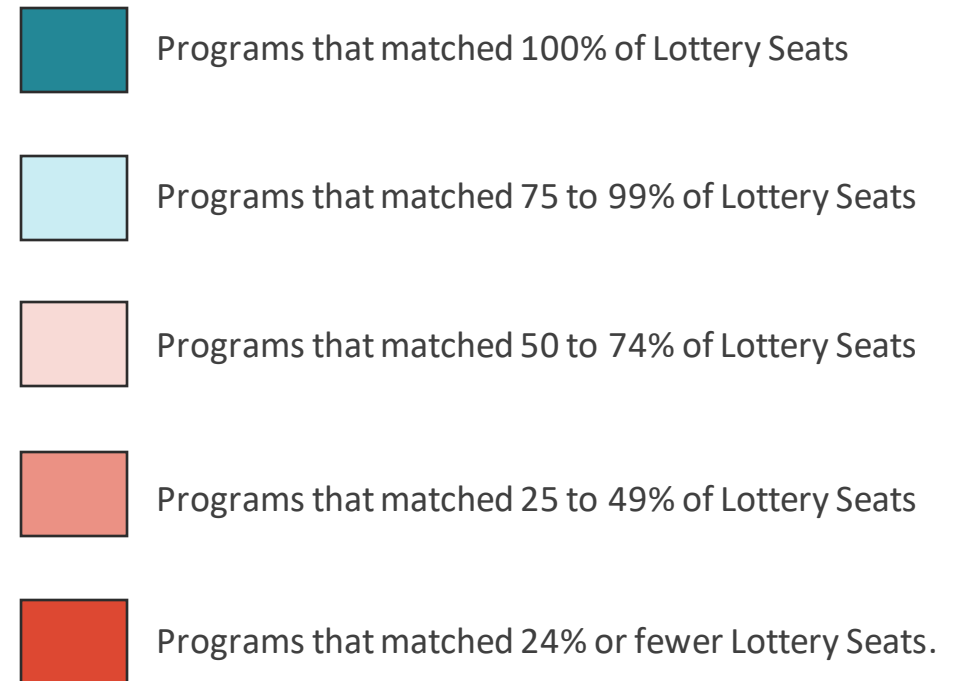
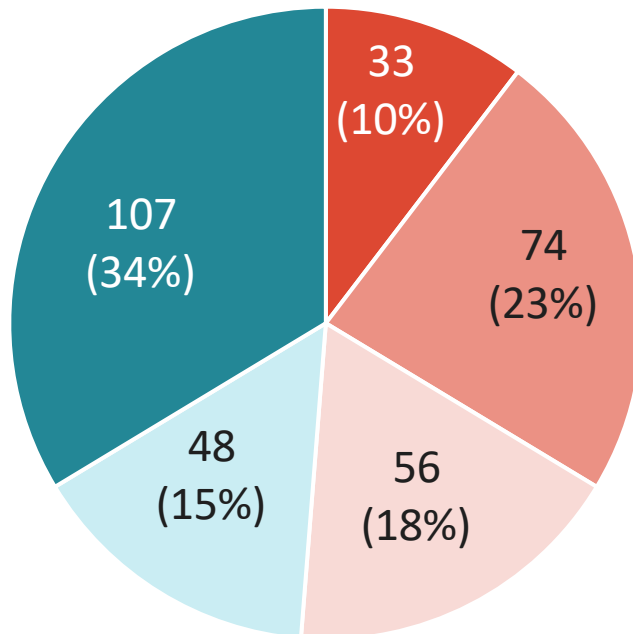


2024

# Majority of Programs Match Less Than 75% of Seats

318 programs\* offered 30,458 seats in the lottery (+244, ~1%).

Programs Offering Seats



\*Does not include 11 school options that did not offer seats in the lottery.





**MY SCHOOL DC**

The Public School Lottery

[MySchoolDC.org](http://MySchoolDC.org)

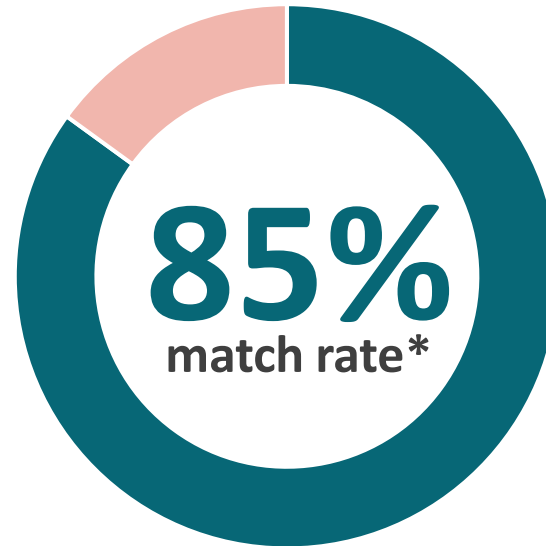
# SY24-25 Equitable Access & Ward Parity Results

# Equitable Access at a Glance

In the 2024-25 lottery  
a total of

**3,661**

students were found eligible  
and applied to one or more  
schools participating in  
Equitable Access (EA).



Of the 3,661 EA  
eligible applicants

**622**

matched via an Equitable  
Access preference or  
designated seat.

*\*The match rate is the percentage of applicants who were matched to a school on their application.*

# How did Equitable Access Influence Matches?

We ran the Lottery without Equitable Access, and found that the equitable access preference added:

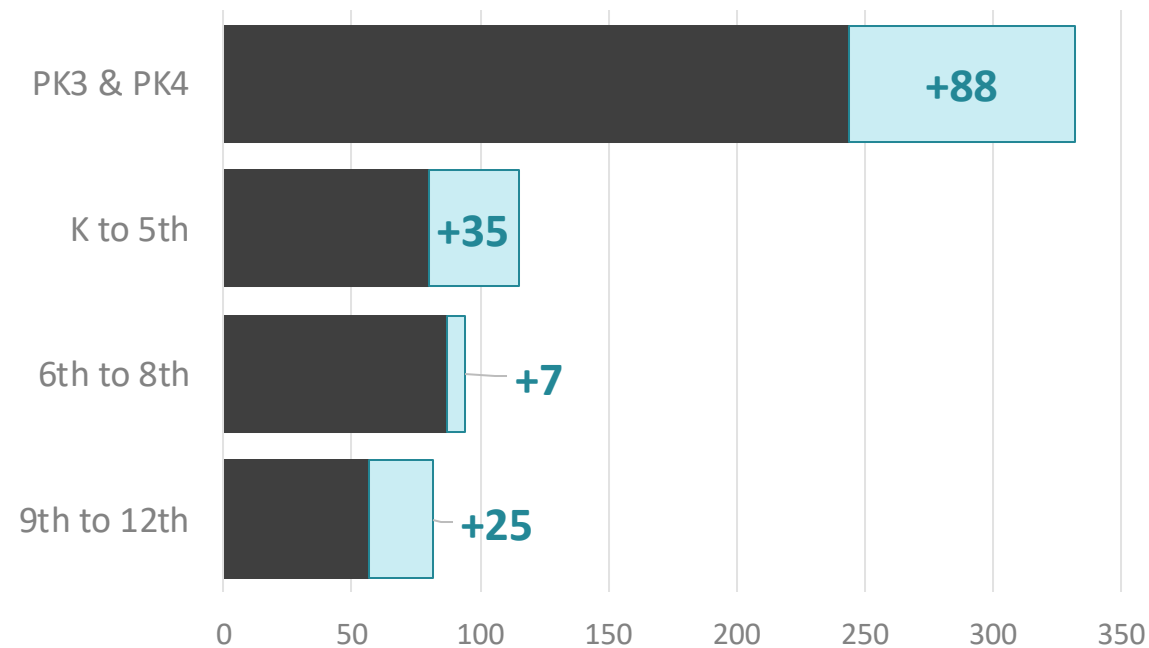
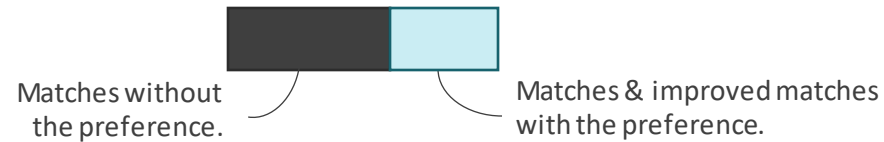


Put another way, 155 (4%) of the 3,661 qualifying equitable access students received either an initial match, or more preferred match, than they would have received without the preference.



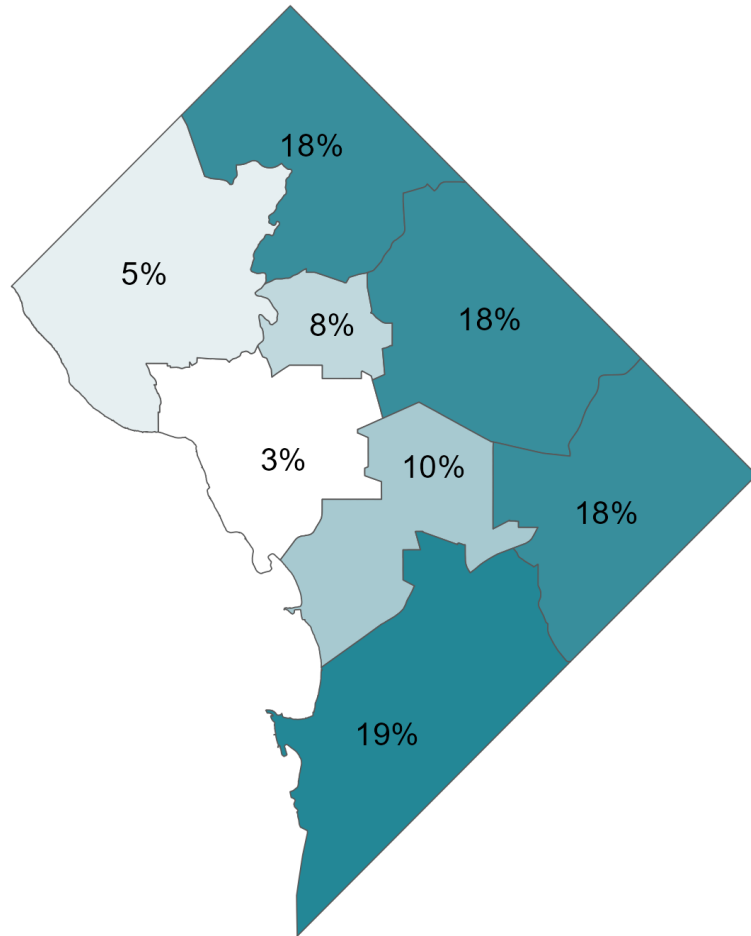
# How did Equitable Access Influence Matches?

*How To Read This Chart:*



Similar to last year, families with youth in grades PreK-5 without a preference benefited the most from the implementation of equitable access, especially at schools with longer waitlists.

# SY24-25 Ward Parity



Ward	Total Public-School Enrollment by Ward of Residence (SY22-23)*	Applicants by Ward of Residence (SY24-25)
1	9%	8%
2	3%	3%
3	6%	5%
4	17%	18%
5	15%	18%
6	7%	10%
7	20%	18%
8	23%	19%

Note: data compares 03/01/2024 compared to data from EdScape's [Where Public School Students Live](#)

# New & Expanded Outreach in SY24-25

Ward	Grassroots Activations by Ward (SY23-24)	Grassroots Activations by Ward (SY24-25)
1	20	17
2	8	15
3	5	3
4	19	11
5	14	26
6	2	2
7	5	20
8	12	23
Virtual	24	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>145</b>



## DHS Contact List x Expanded MOA

- Included in all full alerts (texts/emails)
- Dedicated additional deadline one week reminder alert (text/email)
- Dedicated additional deadline day reminder alert (text/email) for Ward 7 and 8 residents with students who qualify for PK3 or PK4 in SY24-25
- Targeted digital advertising for Ward 7 and 8 residents with students in transition grades.



## Expanded Traditional Advertising in Ward 8





**MY SCHOOL DC**

The Public School Lottery

[MySchoolDC.org](https://MySchoolDC.org)

# EdFEST 2024 Planning Updates

# EdFEST 2024 Plan: Maintain Two Event Model (with modifications)

***Based on the feedback of community stakeholders, MSDC plans to continue the two event model for EdFEST in 2024 for the following reasons:***

- Overwhelmingly positive response from EdFEST participants (85% event satisfaction, 97% found event helpful)
- Record-Breaking Attendance (8,007 total attendees - beating 2018's previous record of 7,350 attendees)
- The majority of survey respondents (68%) preferred the two-event model.

***Based on feedback we received from attendees at the Eastern HS event in 2023, MSDC will make the following modifications to the 2024 HS event to improve access and flow:***

- Shift the event entrance to the front of the building and allow for the use of three doors – two with full security measures, one for those without bags.
- Key Educational Partners and DC Health will be in the cafeteria and High Schools will remain in the gymnasium.
- Pending DDOT approval, we will have the KID Mobile near the front entrance of the school.

# Possible EdFEST Dates & Venues

## PK3 – Grade 8 EdFEST

**When:**

**Saturday, November 23, 2024**

or

**Saturday, December 14, 2024**

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Where:**

DC Armory

## Grades 9 – 12 EdFEST

**When:**

Saturday, December 7, 2024

10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Where:**

Eastern High School

## **Why are we still between two different dates for the PK3 – Grade 8 event?**

- The DC Armory is currently "held" by The National Guard the first two weekends of December – the weekends we have traditionally held EdFEST.
- We have a hold on the DC Armory for Saturday, November 23, 2024 as an alternative event date for EdFEST (PK3 – Grade 8), while we try to secure our preferred, Dec. 14 date.

# Next Steps:

- **May 2024:** Finalize dates and venue space agreements.
- **June 2024:** Begin next stage in planning and outreach for the 2024 EdFEST events.







**MY SCHOOL DC**

The Public School Lottery

[MySchoolDC.org](http://MySchoolDC.org)

# Policy Issue Discussion



# Policy Issue: Preventing changes to grades offered post application deadline

## LEA Scenario:

- **Advertised serving PK3 from time lottery application opened to March 10**
  - SY23-24 – offered 3 PK3 classrooms
- **Told MSDC in mid-March (post lottery deadline) they no longer wanted to serve PK3 due to space constraints**
  - 70+ families had already submitted applications to their PK3 classrooms
  - 20+ of them had sibling preference and did not apply to any other school
- **Concerns/considerations:**
  - **Unfairly penalized applicant families**
    - relied on information in making their choices
    - would have potentially applied to different schools if they knew they would not have PK3
  - **Re-opening application to fix = too risky**
    - only way to make families whole is to reopen application and allow them to edit their school selections
    - no precedent of MSDC reopening application post-deadline b/c:
      - too risky to reopen and change data in applications that close to the time we run the lottery
      - sends wrong message to LEAs

# My School DC Policy Considerations

## Current Policy:

- Requires the school to first obtain written approval and authorization from PCSB or DCPS central office before the change will be considered.
- Does not prohibit or discourage changes to published grades served post lottery application closure
  - *In fact, it invites LEAs to do so, by contemplating different responses to such change requests, depending on the timing of the submitted request*
- Does not prohibit reopening the application to allow applicants to revise their choices before the lottery is run.

## MSDC Proposed Policy Changes:

- Add paragraph to the “**Changes to School Location, Information, and Operating Status**” that states MSDC strongly discourages LEAs from making any changes to their published profile once the lottery application has opened and explain the reasons why such changes can be problematic.
- Mandate that LEAs advise MSDC and all prospective families (especially those families that have already submitted applications to any impacted grades) of any changes to their published grades served at least 20 days in advance of the lottery application deadline.
  - *This aligns with the timeline we set for LEAs to submit change requests in their published school location(s).*
  - *This timeline would give families at least two weeks to alter their school selections based on their receipt of the information.*
- Prohibit LEAs from changing published grades served after the lottery application closes unless the entire school must close.
  - *This will prevent us from having to reopen the application after the deadline for families to edit their choices and preserve the integrity of our data before we run the lottery.*



**MY SCHOOL DC**

The Public School Lottery

[MySchoolDC.org](https://MySchoolDC.org)

# 2023 Boundary & Student Assignment Study

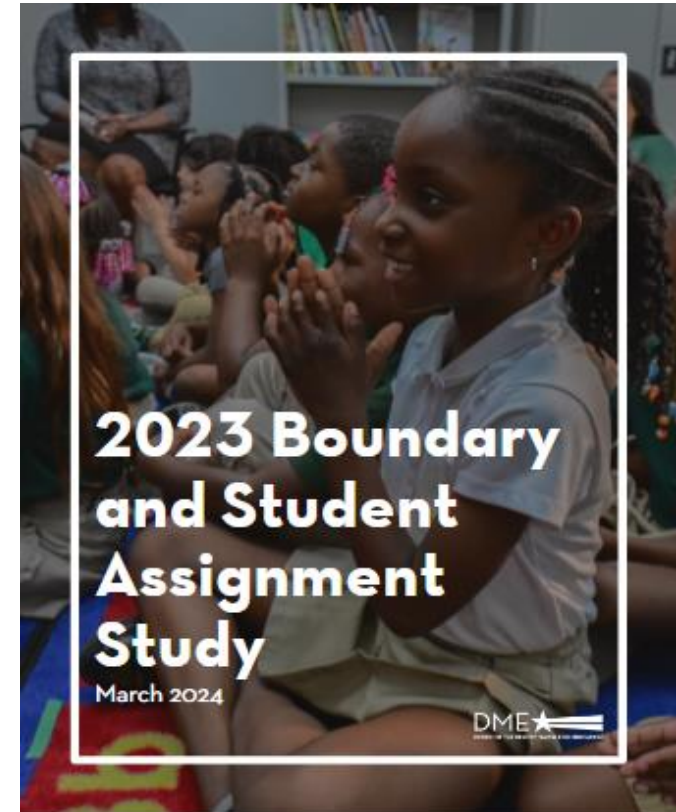
# Boundary & Student Assignment Study Updates

- **Status:**

- Recommendations were finalized by the Committee in March and the report was published in early April.
- See final recommendations here:  
<https://dcgov.app.box.com/v/2023dcboundaryreport>

- **Next Steps:**

- Mayoral approval of recommendations
- Implementation planning
- Development of phase in policies





# Types of Boundary Study Recommendations

## Revised boundary and feeder patterns\*

Modify existing DCPS school boundaries to address overutilization or creation of school boundaries for new DCPS schools.

## Socioeconomic integration\*

Increase socioeconomic integration of schools and provide greater equity in access to schools.

## Students with special education needs\*

Communicate special education stand alone feeder pathways and identify processes to better support families with special education need students.

## Programmatic investments

Communicate existing DCPS program opportunities, ensure parity in robust programming across DCPS feeder patterns, and identify shared secondary programming across sectors.

## Planning and coordination

Implement coordinated school enrollment and facility planning within DCPS and across DCPS and the public charter sector without changing existing legal authority.

## Implementation phase in\*

Implement phase in policies for siblings and new students for new and revised enrollment rights. Sunset previous phase in policies from the previous Boundary Study.

*\*Recommendations within the category may impact My School DC, if implemented*



# Recommendations relevant to MSDC\*

## Recommendation 3:

- DCPS shall limit the number of seats provided via the MSDC lottery to reduce overcrowding at DCPS boundary schools with high utilization.

## Recommendation 8:

- DCPS shall, effective SY2025-26, sunset the 2015 Boundary & Student Assignment revisions that extended the phase-in policy for families assigned to a new middle until 2022 (aka – those families that could enroll at MacFarland MS and Deal MS) and sunset the establishment of dual rights for 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Kelly Miller MS.

## Recommendation 20:

- DCPS and public charter schools with less than 52% of at-risk students (the citywide average) should set aside existing lottery seats for students meeting the at-risk criteria.

*\*NOTE: These recommendations still need the review and consideration of the DCPS Chancellor and final approval of the Mayor. Once approved, DCPS and the relevant agencies will determine the implementation plans and schedule for those that are adopted.*

# Possible Next Steps – Implementation

If these recommendations are adopted, this spring and summer, MSDC will:

## Support implementation of Recommendation #20 by:

- Working with DME, OER, and PCSB to identify which LEAs are recommended to implement the equitable access preference based on meeting the recommendation's criteria
- Ensure those LEAs are included in our annual LEA Equitable Access overviews and training
- Update Equitable Access Implementation Guides with new regulations
- Work with PCSB to update their policy on Equitable Access implementation
- Conduct outreach to offer their schools extra technical support and assistance in implementing the preference for the first time

## Support the phase-in of the new boundaries by:

- Meeting with OCTO/DCPS to implement new boundary and feeder changes
- Meeting with DCPS to review the implications of extending the 2014 sibling phase-in policies while implementing a new set of phase-in policies stemming from this study for SY2025-26 and beyond



**MY SCHOOL DC**

The Public School Lottery

[MySchoolDC.org](http://MySchoolDC.org)

# SY23-24 Audit Results

# LSG Statement of Work

- Identify participating schools that enrolled students outside of the My School DC process
- Analyze requested lottery grades and enrolled lottery grades of applicants
- Analyze enrollment error trends in the SY23-24 lottery and the Centralized Waitlist Management System (“CWMS”) usage

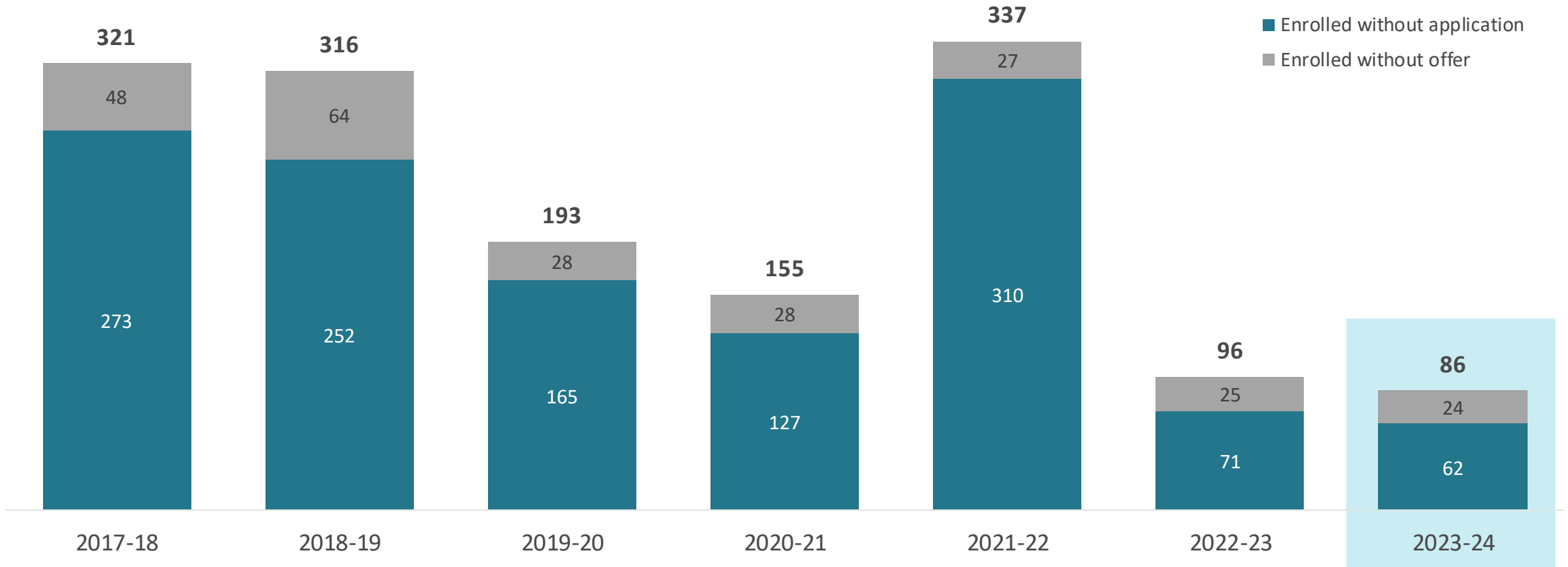
## KEY SY23-24 FINDINGS

- **49% decrease (41 in SY23-24 versus 81 in SY22-23) in errors that could have caused displacement**
  - 10% decrease in total errors
  - Conducted targeted meetings throughout the summer to support process improvement.
- **21% decrease in grade level discrepancies compared to SY22-23**
  - Similar to prior years, majority of grade errors driven by applications to high school grades; reduction in errors in PK & KG



# Enrollment Errors Over Time

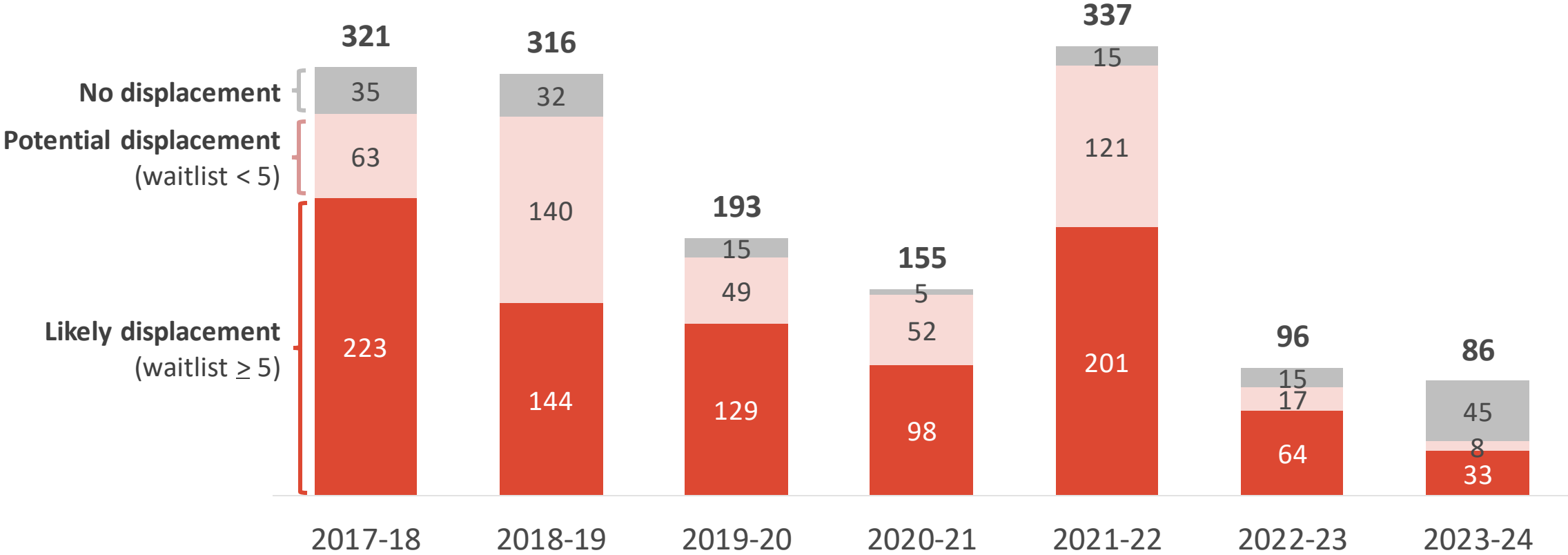
10% total decrease in enrollment errors compared to SY22-23.





# Student Displacement Due to Enrollment Errors

Fewer students were likely displaced in SY23-24 than we've seen since the start of our auditing process.





**MY SCHOOL DC**

The Public School Lottery

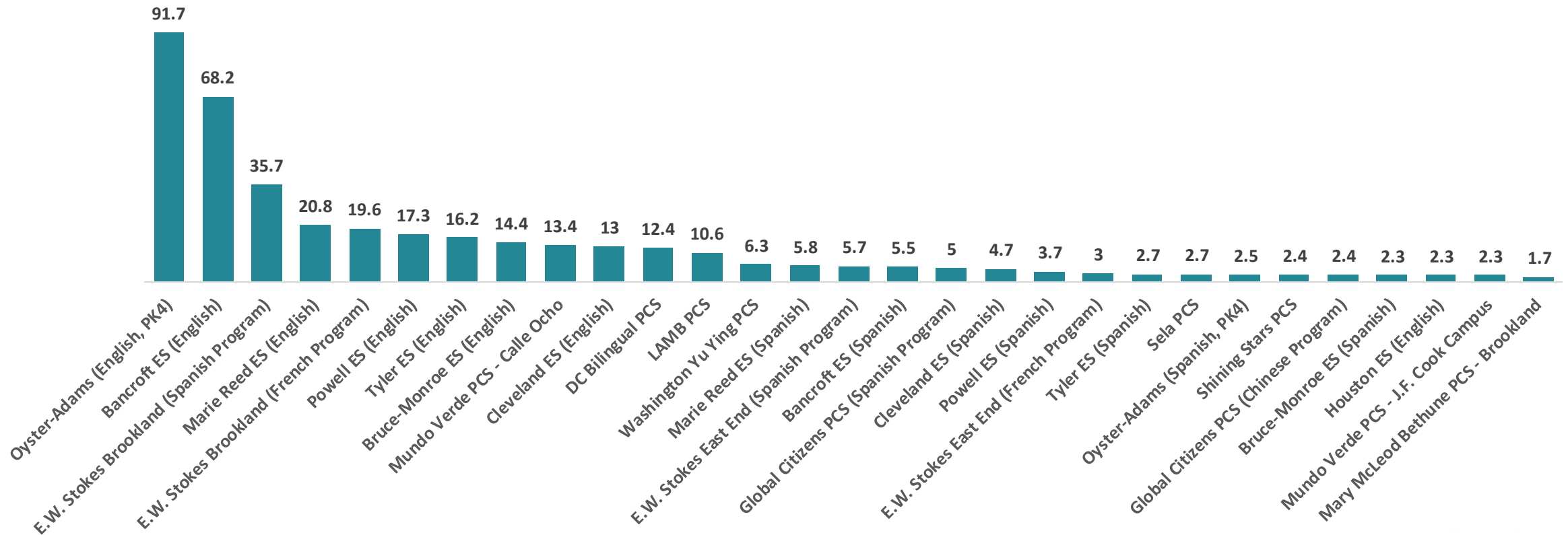
[MySchoolDC.org](http://MySchoolDC.org)

# Appendix

# Dual Language Program Demand at PK

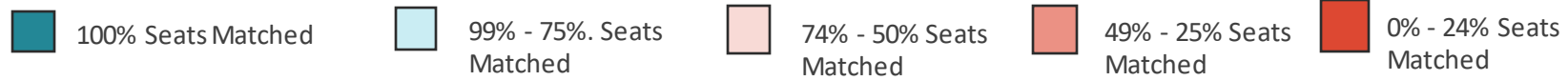
Compared to SY18-19, the last time this data was reviewed, applications to seats offered in Pre-Kindergarten continues to vary across schools and programs.

How to read this chart: for every one seat offered in PK4 at Oyster-Adams (English, PK4), there were ~92 applications.

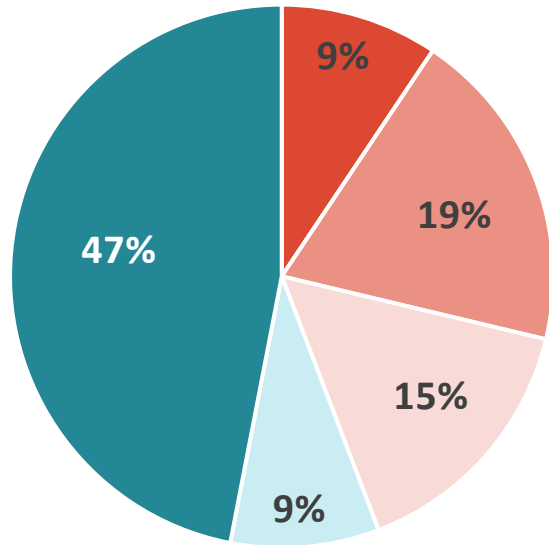


Notes: All dual language elementary schools start at PK3 except for Oyster-Adams, which starts at PK4. The language in parenthesis refers to dominant language of the applicant for DCPS schools. At PCS, the language refers to the program offered. Houston ES (Spanish) is excluded for data suppression purposes. Mary McLeod Bethune Day Academy PCS – NW Campus is excluded as they did not offer seats in SY24-25.

# Percent of Programs Matching their Seats in Entry Grades



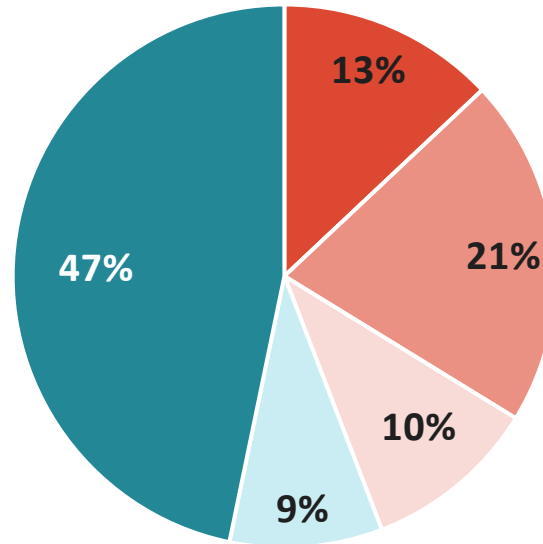
PK3 :



At PK3, 56% of programs matched 75% or more of the seats they offered in the lottery.

28% (52 programs) matched 49% or fewer.

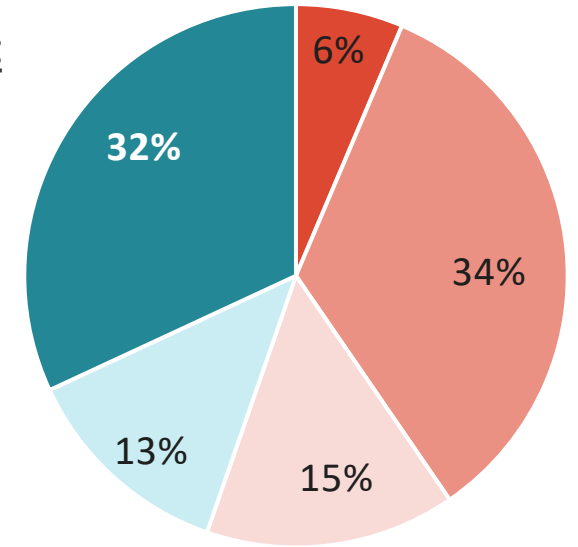
6<sup>th</sup>:



At 6<sup>th</sup> grade, 56% of programs matched 75% or more of the seats they offered in the lottery.

34% (26 programs) matched 49% or fewer.

9<sup>th</sup>:



At 9<sup>th</sup> grade, 45% of programs matched 75% or more of the seats they offered in the lottery.

40% (19 programs) matched 49% or fewer.

# Grade Enrollments Differing from Submitted Application

In SY23-24, fewer applicants enrolled in a grade that differed from their application. This decline is due to specific training engagement of My School DC staff with LEAs.

