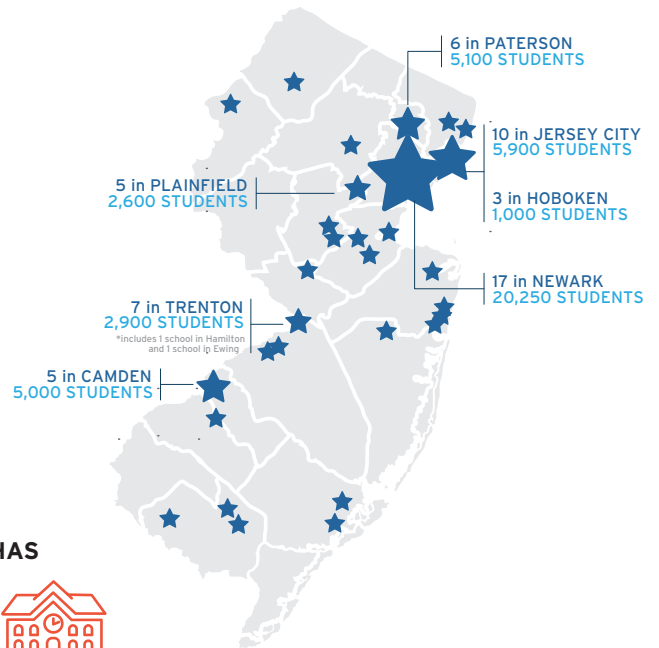


Get the Facts

New Jersey's Public Charter Schools

2020-21



What Is a Public Charter School?

Charter schools are **free, nonprofit public schools** that are open to all students. They operate with more flexibility than traditional public schools in exchange for increased accountability including rigorous financial, academic and operational standards.

NEW JERSEY HAS

87 

CHARTER SCHOOLS

IN **40** CITIES

AND **18** COUNTIES



57,200
STUDENTS



36,000
CHARTER
WAITLIST TOTAL

SOURCES: School count (2020-21 aid notices), Cities/COUNTIES (March 2020 GIS Point Locations enhanced with Creativity CoLab), SDA Market Share (10/15 FY20 aid notice data)



Public charter schools serve **1 in 6 public school students** in NJ's 31 poorest communities (former Abbott/SDA districts).

KEY DEMOGRAPHICS

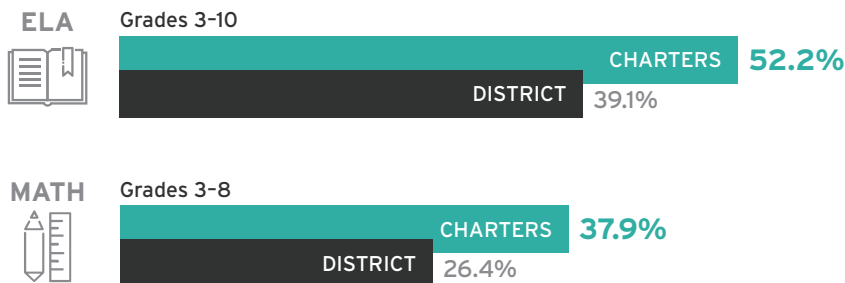


Charter schools serve **12%** of all public school **Black students**.
Charter schools serve **6%** of all public school **Latinx students**.

SOURCES: Ethnicity (2019-20 latest available ENR), Enrollment count (July 2020-21 Supplemental aid notices, enhanced), Low-income (10/15 2019-20 aid notices), Special Ed & ELL (2018-19 perf reports), Waitlist (2018-19 Annual Reports enhanced)

PERFORMANCE

2018-19 Percent of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations



Charter students are **33%** more likely to read at grade level, and **44%** more likely to do math at grade level.

Black Charter Students

+12% in ELA

+14% in math

Latinx Charter Students

+5% in ELA

+4% in math

Economically Disadvantaged Charter Students

+9% in ELA

+10% in math

Low-income students of color are **thriving** in New Jersey's public charter schools and **outperforming** their counterparts statewide.



FUNDING

Public Charter Schools Are Deeply Underfunded



Due to an outdated technicality in state law, public charter schools aren't eligible to receive facilities funding from the state. **Since 2001, public charter schools have been excluded from \$13 billion** provided to 555 school districts statewide.

CHARTERS RECEIVE
\$4,200

LESS PER STUDENT
Compared to traditional school districts

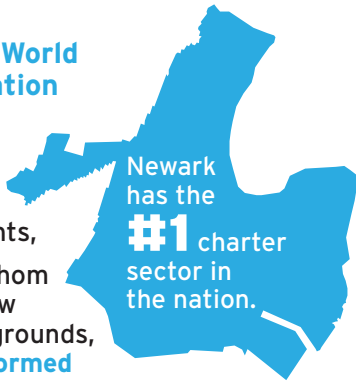
CHARTERS NEED
\$900 MILLION

FOR SAFE AND SECURE FACILITIES

NEWARK'S CHARTER SCHOOLS

Providing a World Class Education

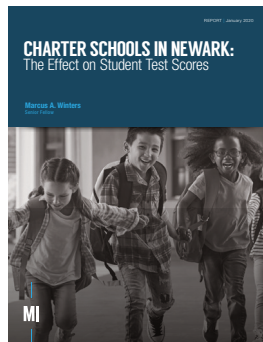
Newark's public charter school students, **84%** of whom come from low income backgrounds, have **outperformed the state average** on the state test in grades 3-8 two years in a row.



75% of Newark's charter school students are enrolled in a school beating the odds vs. 16% in the district.*

*2020 study from MarGrady Research

In 2020, the Manhattan Institute published a first-of-its-kind study on Newark's charter sector using a rigorous research design that took advantage of the city's unified enrollment system that has a randomized admissions component. The study found that **attending a Newark charter school "has a larger effect than 80% of other educational interventions that have been recently studied using an experimental design."**



Hoboken Dual Language Charter School provides an exceptional education in Spanish and English to develop engaged, well-rounded bilingual citizens with a global and multicultural perspective.



Foundation Academy Charter School in Trenton ensures that all students secure the academic knowledge and skills to prepare them for the nation's finest colleges and to instill in them the core values of caring, respect, responsibility, and honesty.



Unity Charter School in Morristown infuses Education for Sustainability throughout the school culture. Student agency drives critical thinking and inspires advocacy through a constructivist learning approach so that students graduate ready to change the world for the better.

ACCOUNTABILITY TO FAMILIES

Public charter schools have **greater flexibility** to bring in new and creative approaches, and with that flexibility comes **greater accountability**. Public charter schools:



Provide **financial reports** to the state and conduct an annual audit



Must meet all state and federal **education standards**



Must be **renewed every five years**—and face closure if not delivering results

AUTONOMY EMPOWERS CREATIVITY

Public charter schools have more autonomy over their budgets, curriculum, and personnel than traditional districts. Teachers at public charter schools are empowered to use **creative approaches** to meet the individual needs of students in their classroom. Public charter schools include incredibly **diverse learning models**, including:

