

PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS SHOULDN'T PAY RENT

Why Are Students Paying Rent?

District schools and nearly half of charter schools are co-located in NYC DOE-owned buildings. Under the Facilities Access Law passed in 2014, many NYC charter schools are able to receive rental assistance if they do not receive co-located space. Unfortunately, the law excluded privately located charters that had grown to capacity or established grades prior to the 2014-15 school year. These schools were essentially penalized for being long-standing members of the communities they serve.

There are currently more than 26,000 NYC charter students who don't have access to facilities funding. These students' per-pupil funding is being diverted from the classroom to pay for the buildings in which they are being educated. Students in these underfunded charter schools receive almost \$5,000 less per-pupil than district students.¹

Borough	# of Schools	# of Students NOT Receiving Rental Assistance
Bronx	25	8,533
Brooklyn	17	6,115
Manhattan	18	5,916
Queens	11	5,153
Staten Island	2	919
Total	73	26,636

Historically Underserved Students Most Impacted

NYC's Black and Latino students attending independent or small network community charter schools are suffering the brunt of the funding disparity. NYSED's preliminary enrollment data show that overall, nearly 90% of charter schools students are Black or Latino; 82% of NYC charter school students are economically disadvantaged.

Borough	Economically Disadvantaged		Black Students		Latino Students	
	charter	district	charter	district	charter	district
Bronx	88%	90%	37%	23%	58%	64%
Brooklyn	79%	77%	59%	26%	28%	31%
Manhattan	83%	66%	41%	16%	49%	47%
Queens	72%	75%	45%	14%	38%	43%
Staten Island	75%	65%	31%	11%	44%	30%

Source: NYSED Preliminary School Level Data by Grade, 2023-24

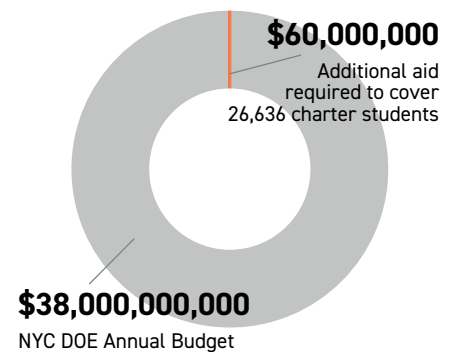
26,636*
NYC charter students pay rent

*Source: NYC DOE Demographic Snapshot, 2023-24 SY

How Much Would It Cost to Fix the Problem?

Charter schools are already the most under-funded public schools in NYC - the charter schools that don't receive rental assistance are left even *further behind*.

NYC spends almost \$38 billion on schools annually, along with a five-year capital budget of over \$19 billion to build, renovate and take care of school buildings. Providing facilities funding to 26,636 NYC public students would cost less than \$150 million – of which NYC is only responsible for 40%, or approximately \$60 million. This is less than a quarter of a percent of the total school budget - a drop in the bucket as we seek to achieve equity.



¹ The most recent analysis done by the Independent Budget Office of the City of New York (IBO), an arm of NYC's government, found that NYC charter schools were underfunded between more than a thousand dollars to up to \$4,863. See With State Formula for Charter School Funding Likely to Change, City Costs to Grow More Than Budgeted, March 2017, available at <http://www.ibo.nyc.ny.us/iboreports/with-state-formula-for-charter-school-funding-likely-to-change-city-costs-to-grow-more-than-budgeted-march-2017.pdf>.

MYTHS VS. FACTS | Charter Schools are free

public schools that offer high quality education options for families. Governor Hochul's proposal to simplify the process of siting charter schools is sound policy. By creating one pool of charters under the state's cap and reissuing charters that have been closed, the State's Authorizers can ensure qualified educators and community-based groups can open schools in communities with the most need.

MYTH: Charter schools drain resources from traditional district schools.

FACT: Funding for traditional district schools is at an all-time high. NYC's traditional district schools are set to receive 100% of their Fair Student Funding for the 2023-24 SY. Foundation Aid is also slated to increase by at least 12% – and likely considerably more by the time the budget is negotiated. Meanwhile, charter schools are scheduled to only receive a 3.3% increase during the same period. This, coupled with the fact that the latest Independent Budget Office report established that charter schools receive less public support than their traditional district counterparts, makes charter schools a financial bargain for the City.

MYTH: Families aren't interested in more charter schools in their community.

FACT: The overwhelming majority of NYC families – 64% – have a favorable opinion of charter schools and support increasing the charter cap. That's compared to just 23% who oppose increasing the cap. While certain so-called "parent representatives" are against more charter schools, the majority of families in the community are not, and these officials do not represent them.

MYTH: Charter schools aren't held accountable by public officials.

FACT: Charter schools are not only held accountable by their authorizing entity, but also by numerous government agencies including the City and State Comptrollers. Annually, charter schools must provide extensive reporting on their student outcomes and operations to NYSED, as well as conduct financial audits and publicly post annual reports on the school's progress. The NYC Comptroller exercises audit authority over them as well. Every 3-5 years, each charter school is subject to a highly rigorous renewal process by one of three authorizers: the New York State Board of Regents, the NYC Department of Education, and the SUNY Charter Schools Institute. Charter schools must demonstrate their value to their students and communities through a review of their academic achievement, addressing of social emotional needs, and financial soundness. If a charter school fails to meet its obligations to its students, it will be closed.

MYTH: Charter schools pick and choose the students they serve.

FACT: New York City charter schools are free, public schools open to all students in New York State. If the number of applicants to a charter school exceeds the number of available seats, then charter schools are legally required to conduct a random enrollment lottery to fill them. Furthermore, NYC charter schools serve nearly the same numbers of students with disabilities as the district (18.1% to the district's 19.5%) and ELL enrollment in charter schools has grown by 63% in the last five years. Charter schools are required by law to serve all students and must define their services for students with IEPs and English learners in their charter agreements. Over one third of all NYC charter schools also offer preferences for these special populations. The cap lift will allow for the creation of even more schools designed to serve special populations such as students with dyslexia and autism, students impacted by the juvenile justice system and children in the foster care system.

MYTH: Charter schools are "corporate" and for-profit.

FACT: 100% of charter schools are not-for-profit public schools that must adhere to numerous federal, state and city laws and regulations. A 2010 law mandated that no new charter school can be run by - or even managed by - a for-profit entity. In fact, many charter schools work in partnership with highly respected, nonprofit, social-service agencies such as The Door, the New York Foundling and Children's Aid.

MYTH: There's no need for more charter schools in NYC.

FACT: Coming out of the pandemic, NYC is in the midst of a full-scale educational crisis. Families want and need more high-quality public schools – especially in communities like the Bronx, where the status quo has left so many kids struggling to succeed. In the Bronx, 4 out of 5 students at traditional public schools are not meeting proficiency in math and just 1 in 3 are proficient in reading.

In contrast, Bronx charter school student achievement is nearly double that of their district counterparts, and, despite the Bronx losing 3.2% of its population, charter school enrollment increased by 5.5%. Let's let families decide – open more charter schools and give all families options.

Multilingual Learners and NYC Charter Schools

2023
2024

Multilingual Learners/English Language Learners (MLLs) now comprise 10.1% of enrollment in NYC public charter schools. Charter schools remain committed to recruiting and providing services to MLL students.

140

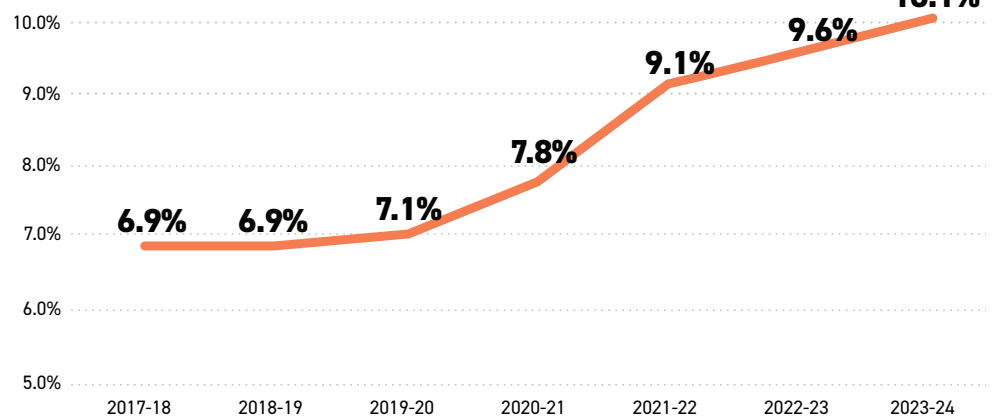
charter schools featured a preference for MLLs in their 2023-24 admission lotteries

MLL enrollment in NYC charter schools increased by **11%** in last five years (from 2017-18 to 2022-23)

54

charter schools enroll a higher proportion of MLLs in their schools than the citywide average of 17.2%

PERCENTAGE OF ENROLLED MLL STUDENTS

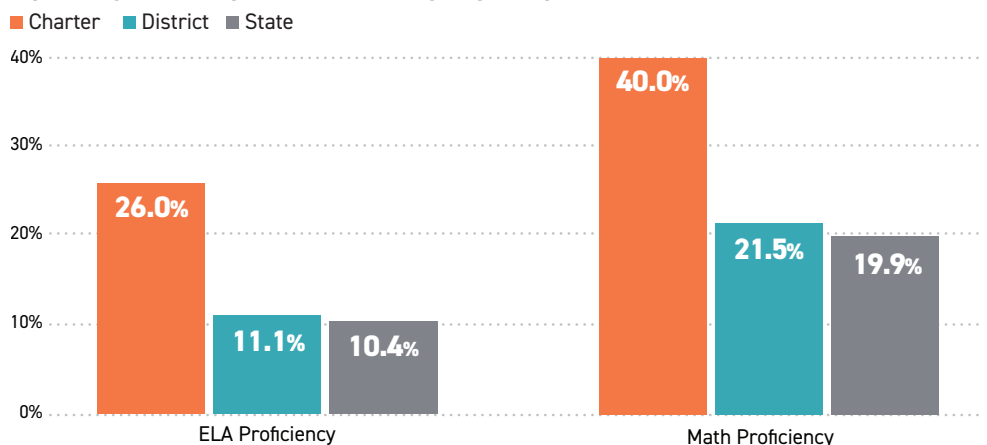


Source: NYC DOE Demographics Snapshot

9

number of dual language charter schools in NYC (Spanish, Hebrew, and French)

2022-23 MATH & ELA MLL PROFICIENCY



Source: NYSED Public School 3-8 Assessment Data.

NYSED Preliminary District Level Data by Grade 2023-24

The Collaborative for Inclusive Education

NEW YORK CITY CHARTER SCHOOL CENTER

111 Broadway, Suite 604 New York, NY 10006

nycCharterSchools.org

inclusiveEDNY.org

Students with Disabilities and NYC Charter Schools

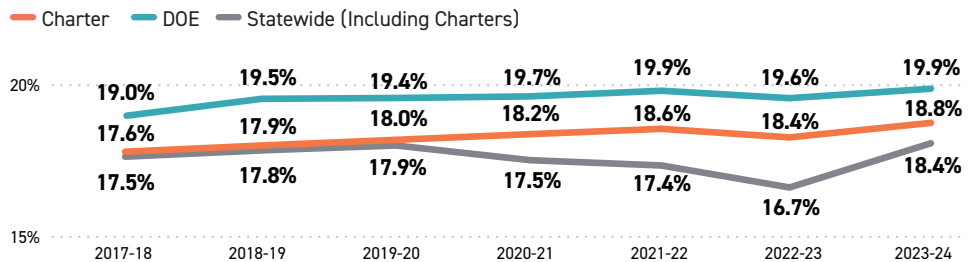
2023
2024

Charter schools are committed to serving all students, including those with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). For several years now, NYC charter schools have enrolled students with disabilities in numbers comparable to the district.

76

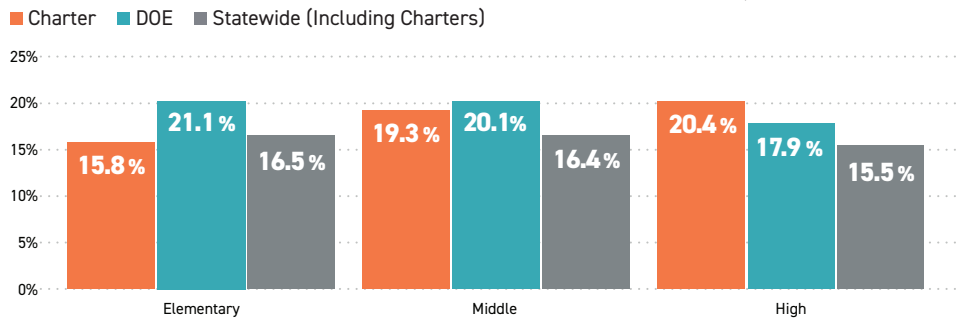
charter schools enroll a higher proportion of students with disabilities than the city wide average

PERCENT OF ENROLLED STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES, 2017-2024



Source: NYC DOE Demographics Snapshot and NYS Preliminary Enrollment; Districts 75 and 79 have been excluded.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS WITH IEPs BY GRADE BAND, 2023-24



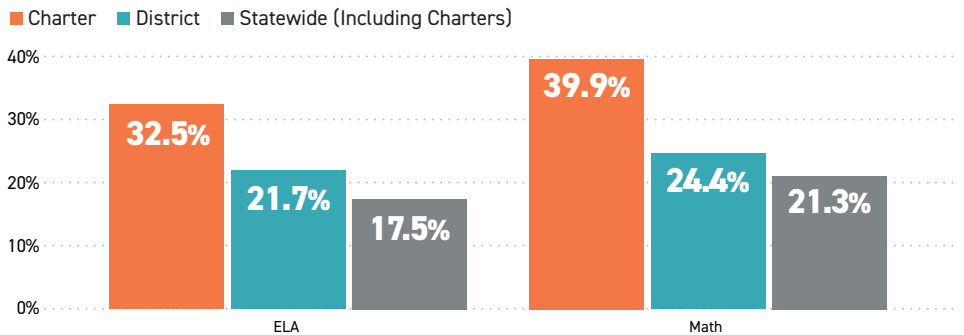
Source: NYSED Preliminary District Level Data by Grade 2023-24

Nearly

19%

of students enrolled in charter schools have IEPs

2022-23 MATH AND ELA PROFICIENCY, STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES



Source: NYSED Public School 3-8 Assessment Data, the last available data.

Enrollment of students with IEPs in charter schools increased from **16.9%** in 2015 to **18.8%** in 2023 – an overall **11%** increase

25 Years of NYC Charter Schools



New York state's first charter school opened in Harlem in 1999, one year after the passage of the Charter Schools Act in 1998. Since then, New York City's public charter school sector has grown to encompass 274 schools across the 5 boroughs. Charter schools currently serve an estimated 142,500 students in NYC.

15%

of all NYC public school students attend a charter school

420

NYC charter school campuses currently in operation—growing from 3 campuses in 1999

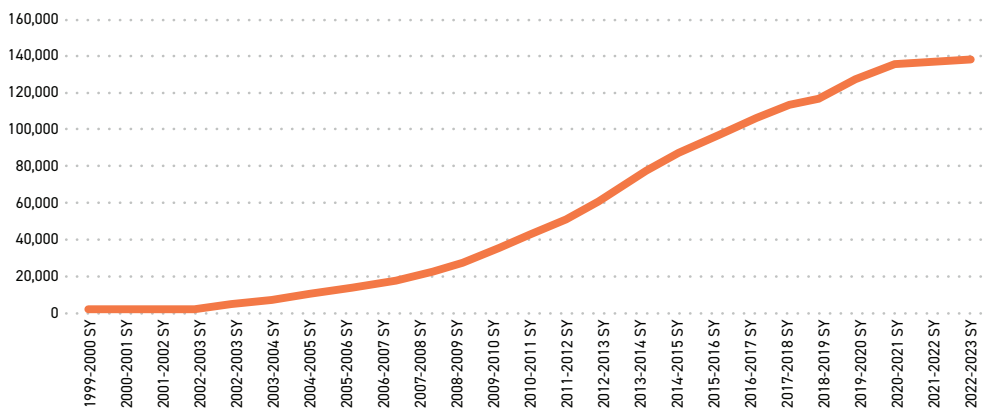


More than

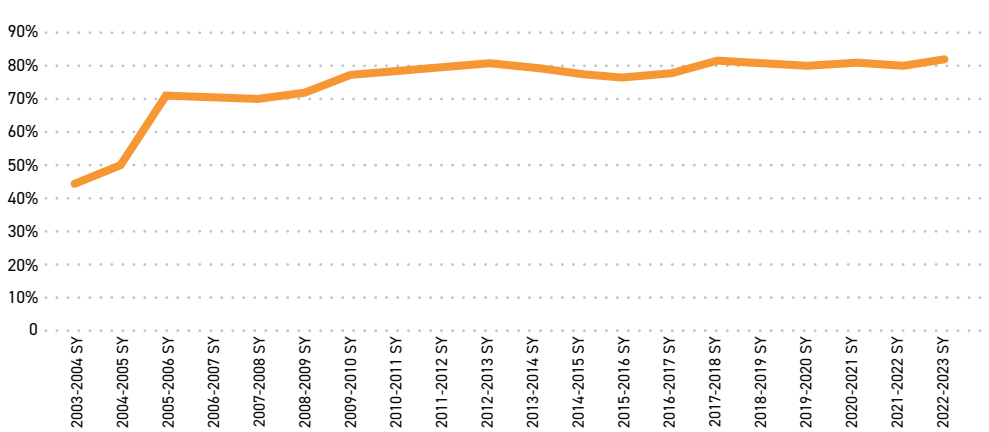
37,000

students have graduated from NYC charter schools in the past 15 years.*

NYC'S CHARTER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT HAS INCREASED EVERY YEAR SINCE THE FIRST SCHOOLS OPENED



NEW YORK CITY CHARTER SCHOOLS HAVE PREDOMINANTLY SERVED ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS*



For the last 15 years, approximately 80% of the students served in NYC charter schools are economically disadvantaged—higher than the citywide average of district schools (72%).

Source: NYC Public Schools, August 2023

* City date sources are unavailable for years prior to those charted



NEW YORK CITY
CHARTER SCHOOL
CENTER

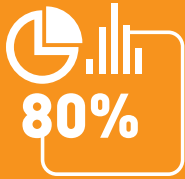
111 Broadway, Suite 604 New York, NY 10006

nycCharterSchools.org

inclusiveEDNY.org



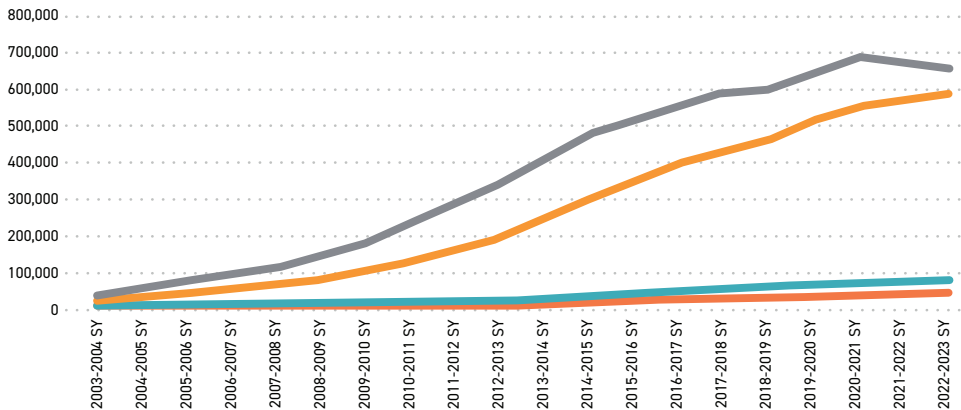
25 Years of NYC Charter Schools



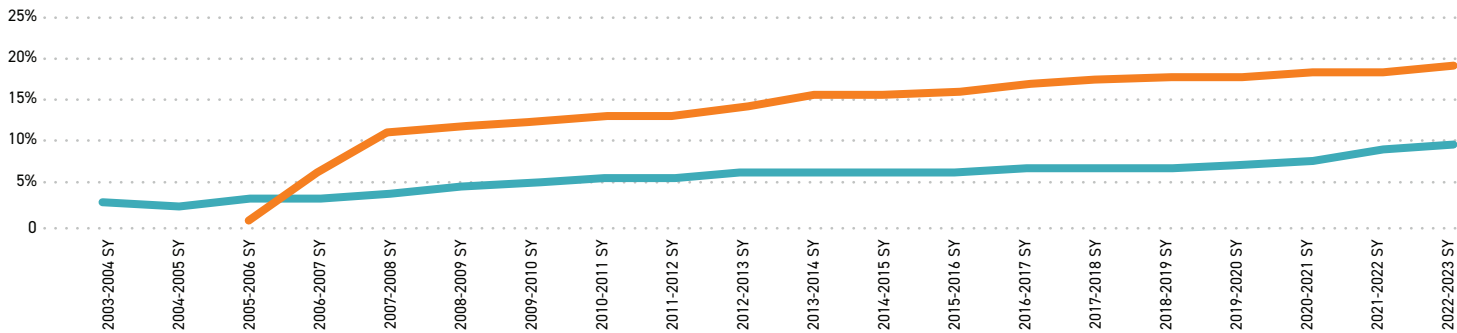
Testing data over the past 8 years show that charter school students of color have consistently achieved higher proficiency rates than their district counterparts.

See full State Test Score Analysis at www.nyccharterschools.org

THE NUMBER OF BLACK AND HISPANIC STUDENTS - AS WELL AS ALL OTHER SUBGROUPS - HAS SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED IN NYC CHARTER SCHOOLS* — #Asian — #Black — #Hispanic — #White



ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS IN CHARTER SCHOOLS CONTINUES TO GROW* — % ELL — % SWD



18%

The percent of students with IEPs in charter schools has been comparable to the district for years

101

charter schools enroll a higher proportion of students with disabilities than the citywide average

ELL enrollment in NYC charter schools increased by

39%

from 2019 to 2022

Source: NYC Public Schools, August 2023

* City date sources are unavailable for years prior to those charted



NEW YORK CITY
CHARTER SCHOOL
CENTER

111 Broadway, Suite 604 New York, NY 10006

nycCharterSchools.org

inclusiveEDNY.org



Academic Proficiency in NYC Charter Schools

2023
2024

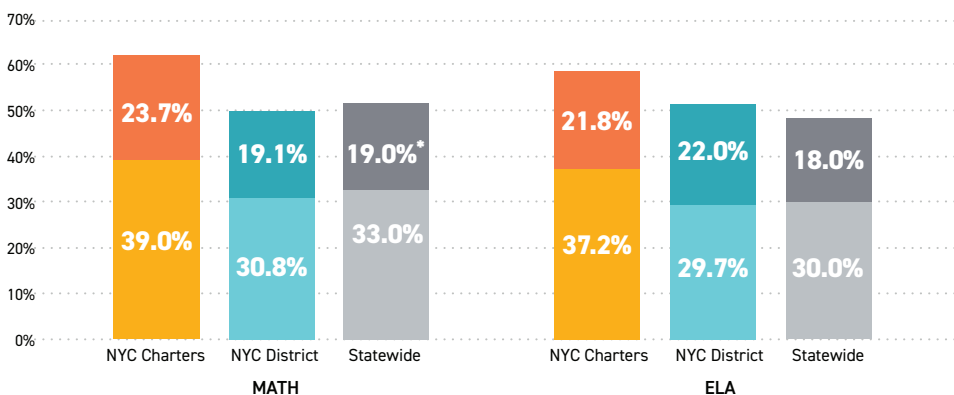
Public charter schools are accountable for the academic proficiency of their students. Charter school students must master the same New York state standards and take the same state assessments as other public school students.

- Overall, charter schools in NYC continued the trend of achieving higher proficiency rates than traditional district and state counterparts in math (63% proficient to 50% for district students) and in ELA (59% proficient to 52% for district students).
- Black and Hispanic students in NYC charter schools achieved higher rates of proficiency than their counterparts in district schools in both ELA and math.
- Economically disadvantaged students in NYC charter schools greatly outperformed their district peers.

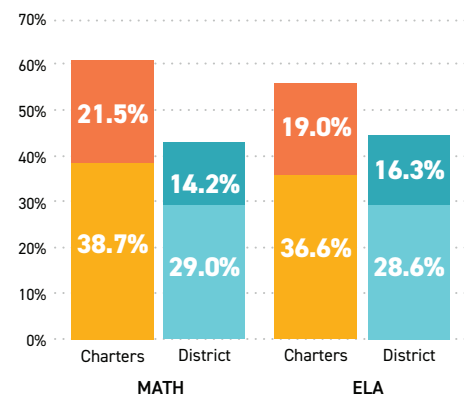
MATH & ELA PROFICIENCY 2022-23

Overall Student Proficiency Statewide

Charter: ■ Level 3 ■ Level 4 ■ District: ■ Level 3 ■ Level 4 ■ State: ■ Level 3 ■ Level 4



Economically Disadvantaged Students

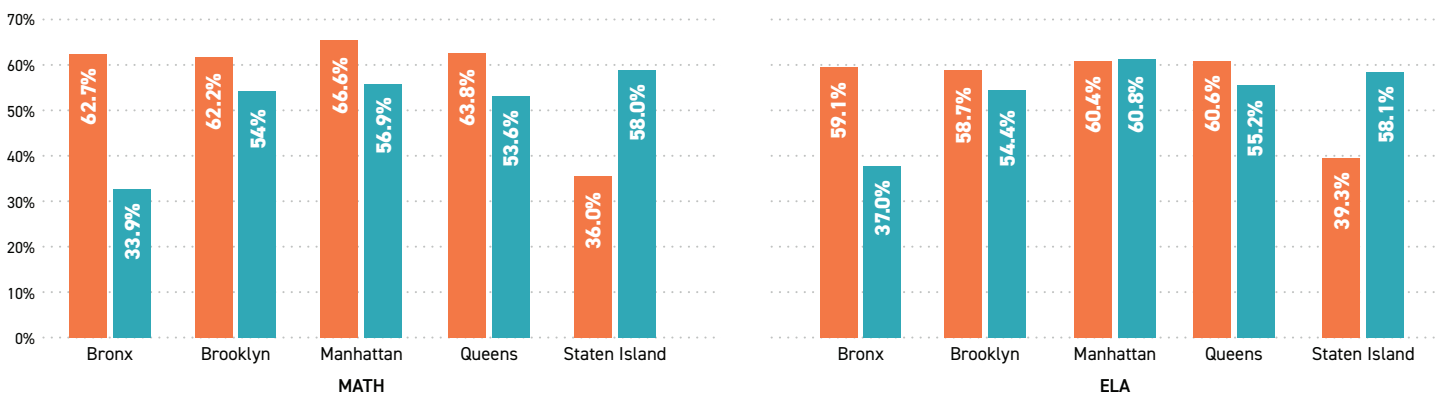


*includes levels 4 and 5 for NYS Math results only

Source: NYSED Public School 3-8 Assessment Data

MATH & ELA CHARTER VS. DISTRICT PROFICIENCY BY BOROUGH 2022-23

Charter: ■ District: ■



Central Brooklyn includes CSDs 13, 16, 17, 18, 19 & 23; Harlem includes CSDs 4 & 5; the South Bronx includes CSDs 7, 8 & 9. Source: NYSED Public School 3-8 Assessment Data

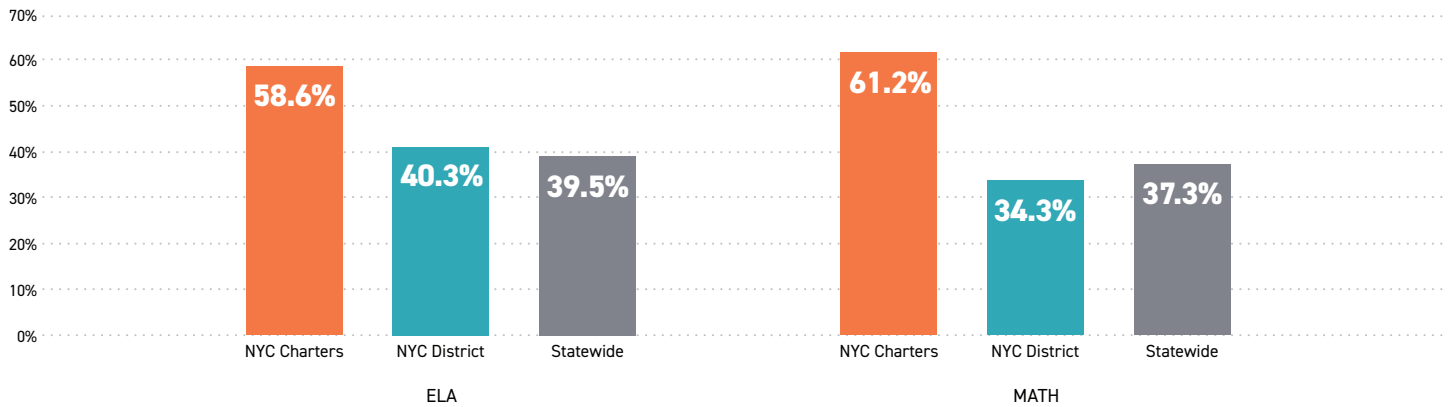
Academic Proficiency in NYC Charter Schools

2023
2024

MATH & ELA CHARTER VS DISTRICT VS STATEWIDE FOR BLACK AND LATINO STUDENTS 2022-23

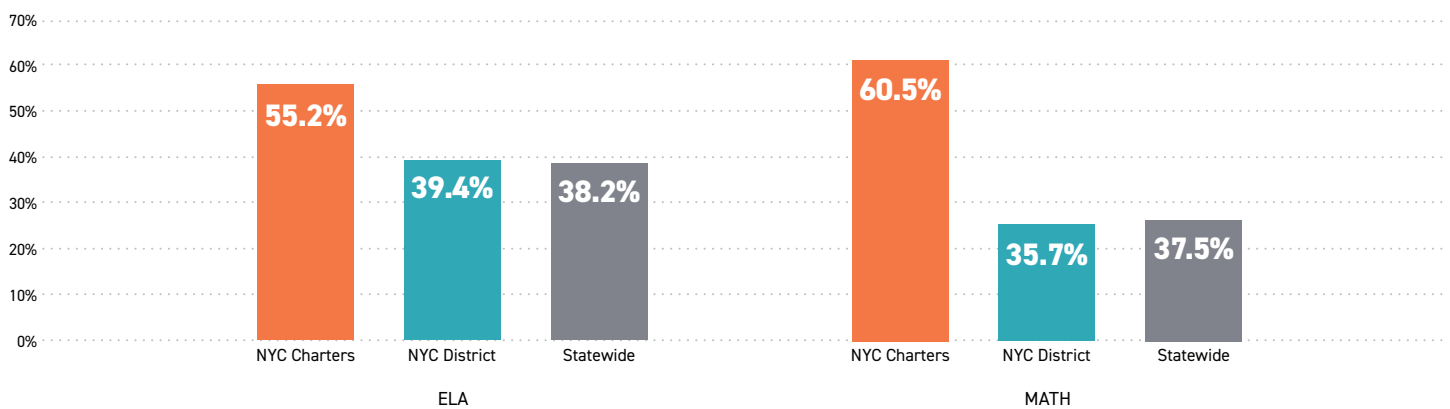
Combined 3-8 Scores for Black Students

Charter: ■ District: ■ State: ■



Combined 3-8 Scores for Hispanic Students

Charter: ■ District: ■ State: ■



Source: NYSED Public School 3-8 Assessment Data

NYC Charter School Facts

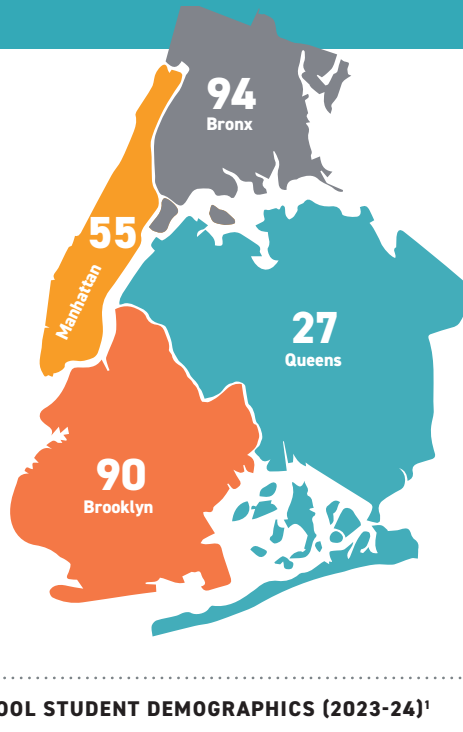
2023
2024

274

Number of charter schools in NYC

90 Brooklyn | 94 Bronx
55 Manhattan | 27 Queens
8 Staten Island

As of August 2023



146,200

Estimated students enrolled in NYC charter schools

(Based on NYSED enrollment data)

15%

of NYC public school students attend charter schools

(estimated based on public enrollment data)

CHARTER SCHOOL STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS (2023-24)¹

82%

of students are economically disadvantaged

10%

of students are Multilingual Learners

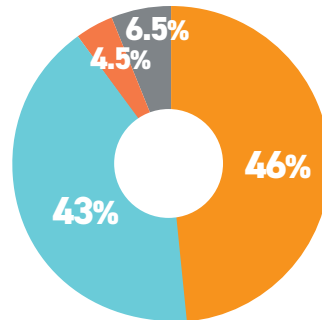
8.2%

of students live in temporary housing²

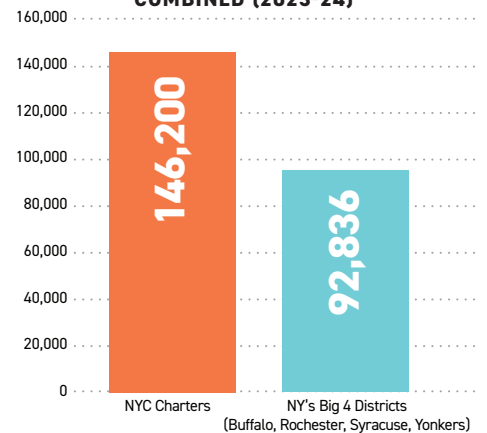
19%

of students have IEPs

Black/African American Latino
White Other



NYC'S CHARTER SECTOR SERVES MORE STUDENTS THAN NY'S BIG 4 DISTRICTS COMBINED (2023-24)³



¹ Source: NYSED Preliminary Data, 2024 ² Source: NYSED enrollment data, latest available from 2022-23 school year

³ Source: NYSED preliminary enrollment data for 2023-24 school year

Charter School State Assessment Proficiency Results (2023)*

OVERALL STUDENT PROFICIENCY:

	NYC Charter Schools	NYC District Schools	All Schools Statewide
Math	62.8%	49.9%	52.0%
ELA	59.0%	51.7%	48.0%

BLACK STUDENT PROFICIENCY:

	NYC Charter Schools	NYC District Schools	All Schools Statewide
Math	61.2%	34.3%	37.3%
ELA	58.6%	40.3%	39.5%

LATINO STUDENT PROFICIENCY:

	NYC Charter Schools	NYC District Schools	All Schools Statewide
Math	60.5%	35.7%	37.5%
ELA	55.2%	39.4%	38.2%

*NYSED Public School 3-8 Assessment Data, 2022

NYC Charter School Facts

2023
2024

Charter School Specialized Programs:

- 51** schools have programs for students with autism or have more than 25% of students with IEPs for Special Education.
- 9** schools have dual language programs.
- 34** schools are offering pre-K.
- 9** schools serve high school students at risk of dropping out.
- 7** schools serve single-sex student populations.

Charter School Management Structures:

- 86** independent schools
- 59** replicators¹
- 125** affiliated with non-profit Charter Management Organizations (CMOs)
- 4** affiliated with for-profit Educational Management Organizations (EMOs)²

¹ Not affiliated with a CMO

² State law prohibits EMOs from operating new charters.

NYC Charter Schools by Authorizer:

- 37** NYC DOE
- 62** Board of Regents
- 175** SUNY

Facilities:

- 128** charter schools are located in buildings owned or leased by the NYC DOE.
- 146** charter schools are in private (non-DOE) space.

Collective Bargaining Agreements:

- 19** NYC charter schools (7%) have collective bargaining agreements with the United Federation of Teachers.

\$18,340

Per pupil funding

(Amount charter schools receive per pupil for the 2023-24 school year)

Charter Years of Operation:

Initial Charter Term	45
6-10 Years	63
11-15 Years	92
15+ Years	74

About the New York City Charter School Center:

The New York City Charter School Center is an independent non-profit committed to fostering an environment in which public charters can open and flourish, and, through their innovative approaches, provide models for improving all public schools. The Charter Center helps new charter schools get started, supports existing schools, and engages the charter school community around key issues.

About NYC's charter schools:

Charter schools are free, independently run public schools that are able to innovate in their classroom structures, curriculum, and teaching methods. In return, they're held to higher standards of accountability.

Last updated: August 2023