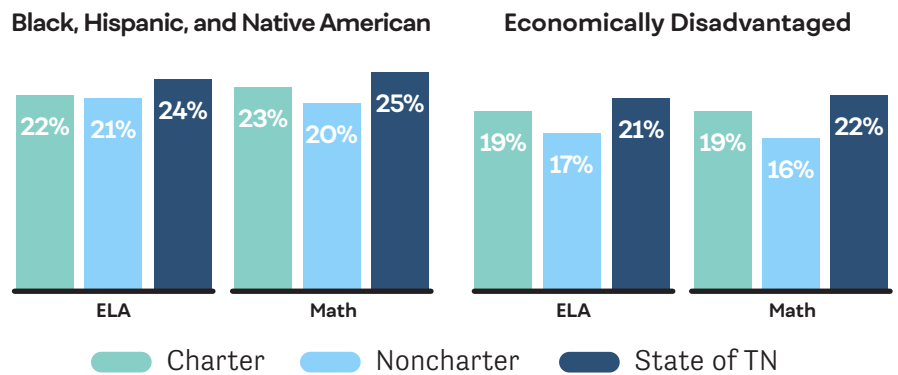


Historically Underserved Student Groups in Tennessee Public Charter Schools

Public charter schools serve a greater proportion of students from historically underserved groups — namely students of color and economically disadvantaged students — compared to noncharter schools across the state. On average, these charter students show faster academic growth and higher proficiency levels than their district peers.



Students From Historically Underserved Groups in Charter Schools Perform Just Above District Peers



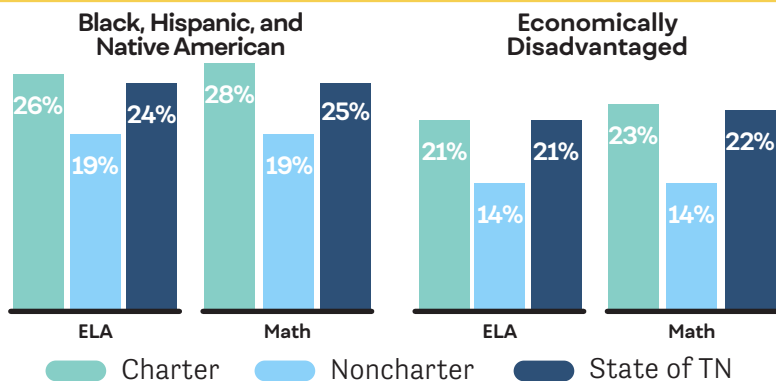
Source: Tennessee Department of Education, 2024

However, there is still progress to be made for charter students to meet or surpass state-level achievement.

Across the public charter sector, students from historically underserved groups show proficiency rates for both English language arts (ELA) and math just above district peers—though proficiency rates are still below the state average and show only about 1 in 5 students proficient. This signals progress and a continued need for schools and districts across Tennessee to better serve students of color and economically disadvantaged students.

On the 2024 Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) exams, public charters in Nashville are an important bright spot in the sector. **Not only are students from historically underserved groups performing above district peers, they are also meeting or exceeding the state average for proficiency across ELA and math.**

Students From Historically Underserved Groups in Nashville Charter Schools Are Outpacing District and State Peers

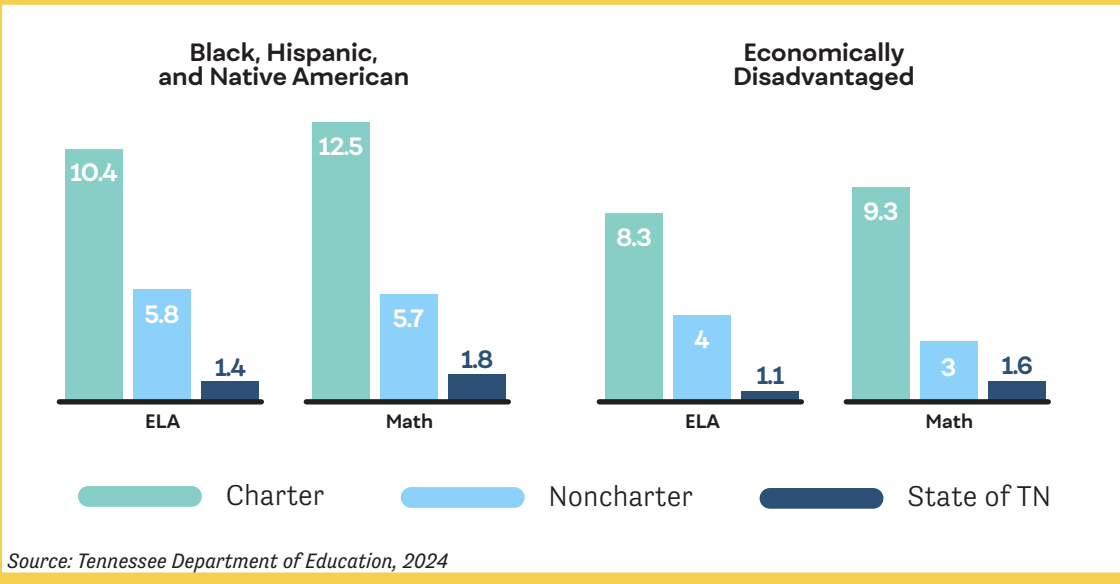


Source: Tennessee Department of Education, 2024



While there is still considerable need to better support charter students statewide, Nashville's public charter sector shows a promising trend of closing achievement gaps in student outcomes as charter students outpace their district and state peers.

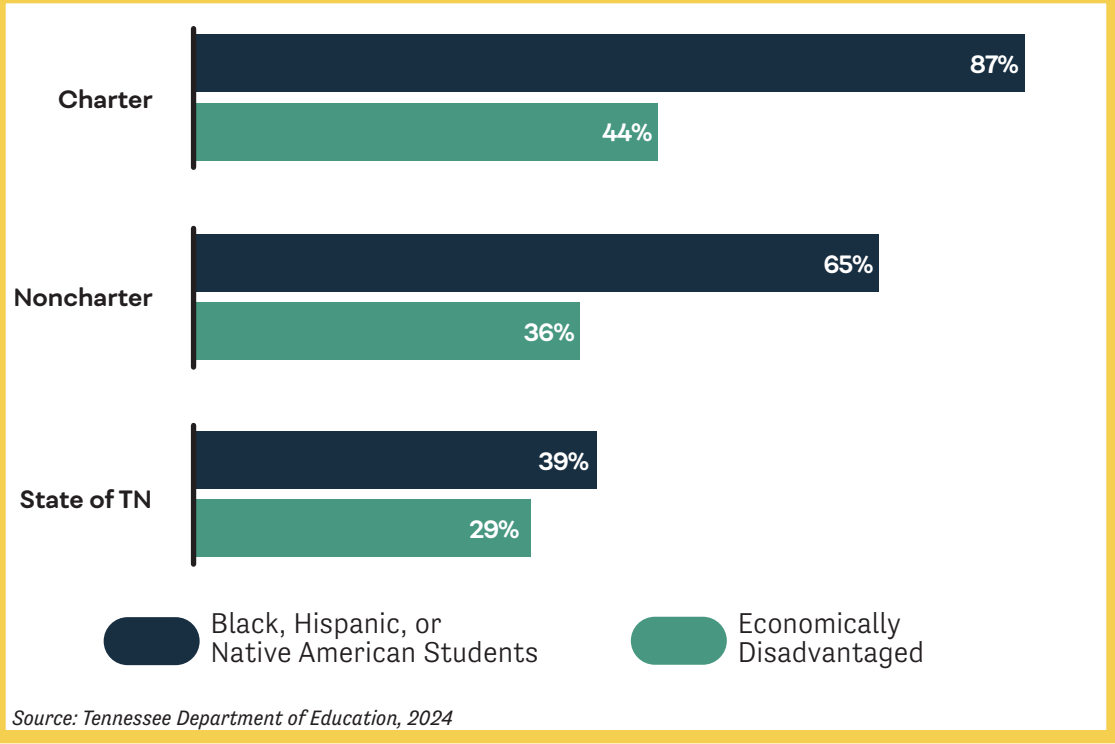
Charter Schools Show Stronger Post-Pandemic Growth for Students From Historically Underserved Student Groups Compared to District Peers



As a sector, public charter schools previously showed lower proficiency rates for students of color and economically disadvantaged students compared to the state average across math and ELA. However, since pandemic declines in 2021, **charter students from these historically underserved groups show outsized growth across subjects** compared to district peers and even outpace the state overall.



Tennessee's Public Charter Schools Serve More Students From Historically Underserved Backgrounds



In 2024, nearly 90% of all students in public charter schools were Black, Hispanic, or Native American — roughly 50 percentage points above the state average. Additionally, economically disadvantaged students make up 44% of the student population in public charter schools, while students in that group make up less than a third of the state's overall public school enrollment.

Charter and noncharter data are not inclusive of the Achievement School District (ASD). Noncharter data reflect the performance of noncharter schools in districts with public charter options.