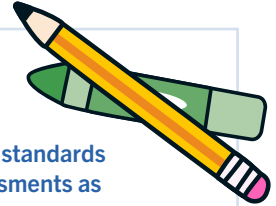


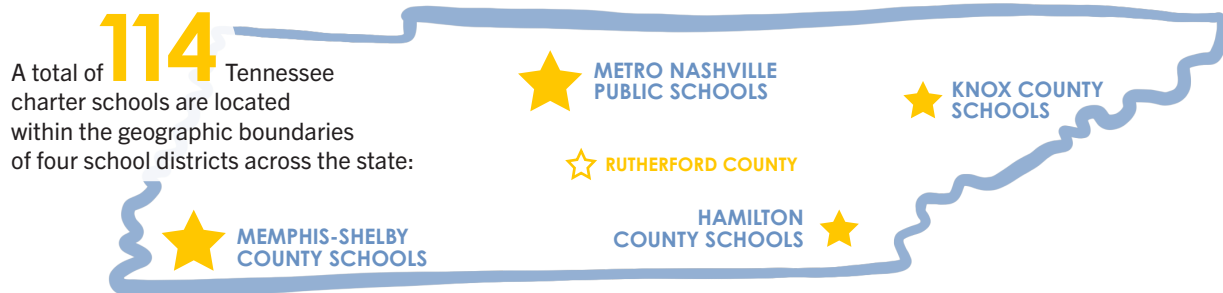
## Tennessee Charter School Quick Facts

### PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS:



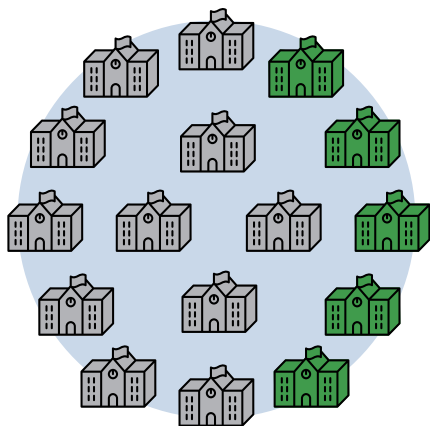
- Are public and free to attend
- Are operated by a non-profit organization
- Must enroll any student who applies, regardless of behavior, special need, or academic performance
- Are required to use a lottery if demand exceeds available seats
- Employ licensed educators
- Must meet the same academic standards and administer the same assessments as traditional public schools
- Are required by law to undergo an independent financial audit every year
- Can be closed if the school fails to meet academic or financial expectations

Public charter schools are concentrated in Tennessee's largest districts and are authorized by a variety of entities.



Six entities acting as local education agencies (LEAs) authorized charter schools in operation during the 2021-22 school year: Hamilton County Schools, Knox County Schools, Metro Nashville Public Schools, and Memphis-Shelby County Schools, along with the state's appellate authorizer — the Tennessee Public Charter School Commission (CSC) — and the state's school turnaround district — the Achievement School District (ASD).

Rutherford County also serves as an authorizer, but its first approved school does not open until Fall 2023.



### DURING 2021 AND 2022,

the Tennessee Public Charter School Commission considered 16 appeals for charter schools seeking initial authorization to open.

The commission **approved five of these charter applications** and will serve as the authorizer for four of those new schools.

The commission affirmed seven LEA decisions to deny, and four applications were withdrawn before a decision. The commission also received and approved five charter schools to transition from the ASD.



## Charter School Enrollment By Authorizer, 2021-22

	Number Of Charters	Charter Only Enrollment	% Charter Enrollment of LEA
<b>Achievement School District (ASD)</b>	19	7,122	85%
<b>Hamilton County Schools (HCS)</b>	6	1,886	4%
<b>Knox County Schools (KCS)</b>	1	442	1%
<b>Memphis-Shelby County Schools (MSCS)</b>	57	19,162	17%
<b>Metro Nashville Public Schools (MNPS)</b>	27	13,153	16%
<b>Tennessee Public Charter School Commission (CSC)</b>	4	1,775	100%
<b>State Of Tennessee</b>	114	43,540	5%

Source: Tennessee Department of Education, 2023

On average, public charter schools serve a higher percentage of students of color and economically disadvantaged students than their district counterparts.

During the 2021-22 school year, Tennessee charter schools served over 43,000 students — roughly 5 percent of the student population statewide and about **9 percent of the state's Black, Hispanic, and Native American student population.**

About half (48 percent) of the students served by Tennessee charter schools (non-ASD) are economically disadvantaged, and 87 percent identify as Black, Hispanic, or Native American. Compared with district-run schools in districts with charter options (non-ASD), on average, **the enrollment of economically disadvantaged students is 11 percentage points higher and the enrollment of Black, Hispanic, and Native American students at charter schools is 23 percentage points higher.**

Approximately 75 percent (85 schools) of Tennessee charter schools are elementary and middle schools, while only 25 percent (29 schools) are high schools and middle/high schools.

**48%**  
Economically Disadvantaged

**87%**  
Students of Color

## Demographics Of Charter Schools By Authorizer, 2021-22

	HCS		KCS		MNPS		MSCS		ASD		CSC
	Charter	District	Charter	District	Charter	District	Charter	District	Charter	District	Charter
<b>Black</b>	47%	30%	71%	17%	44%	39%	76%	75%	87%	89%	51%
<b>Hispanic</b>	27%	18%	14%	12%	36%	31%	21%	18%	11%	8%	23%
<b>White</b>	26%	48%	14%	67%	18%	25%	6%	6%	6%	2%	21%
<b>Black, Hispanic, Native American</b>	73%	49%	86%	29%	80%	71%	94%	93%	94%	97%	75%
<b>Economically Disadvantaged</b>	39%	28%	54%	21%	33%	35%	60%	57%	61%	62%	37%
<b>Students with Disabilities</b>	11%	13%	16%	17%	12%	12%	8%	10%	12%	12%	10%
<b>English Learners</b>	19%	11%	8%	8%	28%	27%	15%	13%	10%	7%	27%

Source: Tennessee Department of Education, 2023



## In 2022, public charter schools outpaced their district counterparts in academic growth and graduation rates.

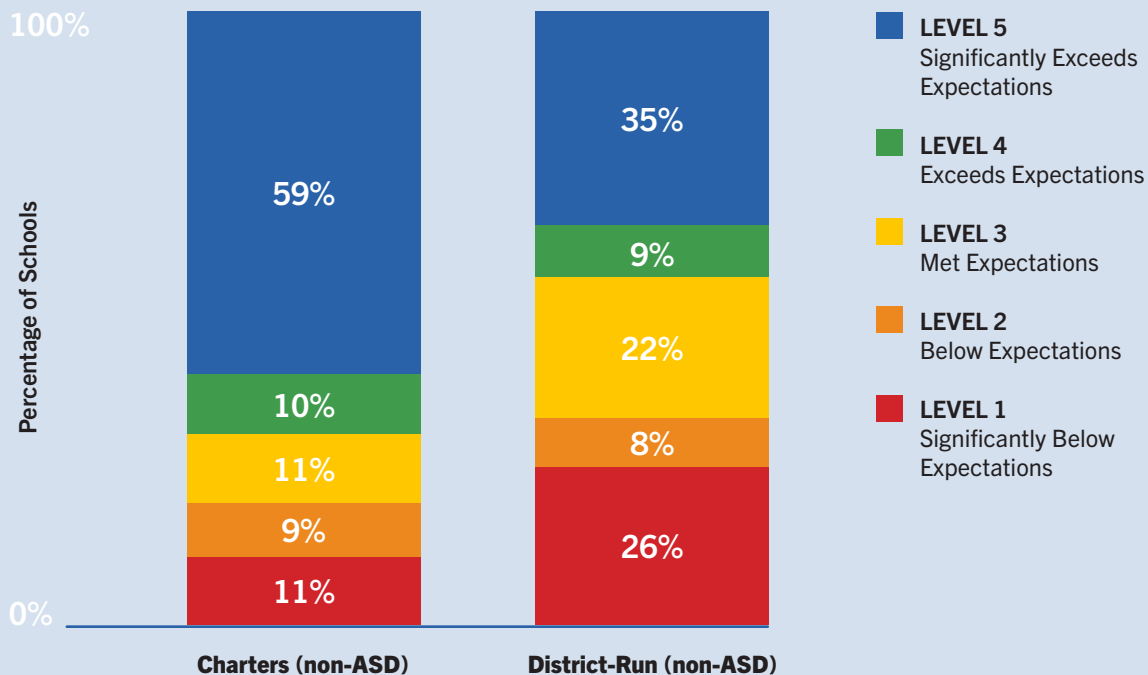


59 percent of charter schools (non-ASD) earned a Tennessee Value Added Assessment System (TVAAS) Level 5 “Significantly Exceeding Expectations” score as compared to 35 percent of district-run schools in districts with charter options (non-ASD).

78 percent of charter schools in Metro Nashville Public Schools (MNPS) earned a TVAAS Level 5 compared to 34 percent of district-run schools in MNPS.

The average charter high school (non-ASD) graduation rate (89.9 percent) was 7.5 percentage points higher than the average high school graduation rate (82.4 percent) at district-run schools in districts with charter options (non-ASD).

### Composite TVAAS Scores, 2021-22



Source: Tennessee Department of Education, 2023

### Percent of Students Proficient On 3-8 TCAP By Authorizer, 2021-22

	HCS		KCS		MNPS		MSCS		CSC
	Charter	District	Charter	District	Charter	District	Charter	District	Charter
<b>Reading</b>	21%	33%	24%	39%	30%	26%	15%	21%	35%
<b>Math</b>	18%	36%	22%	34%	27%	21%	12%	15%	33%

Source: Tennessee Department of Education, 2023

