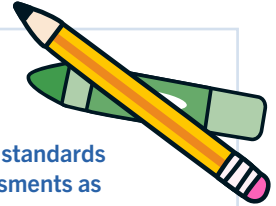


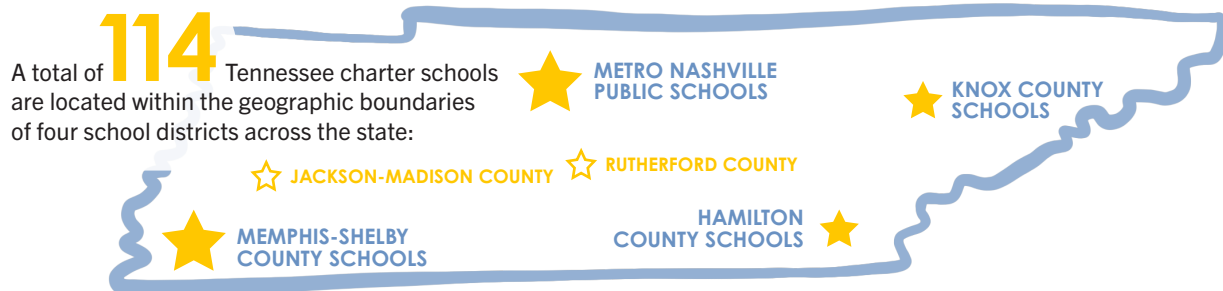
Tennessee Charter School Quick Facts

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS:



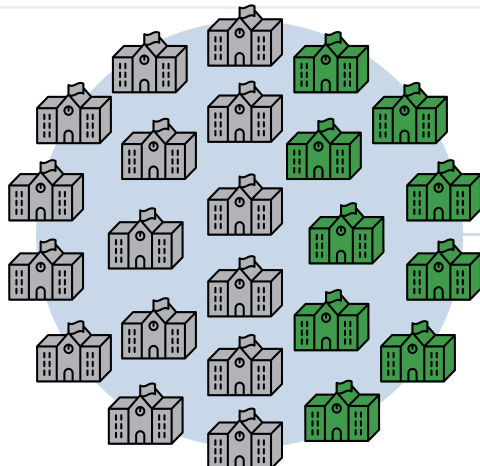
- Are public and free to attend
- Are operated by a non-profit organization
- Must enroll any student who applies, regardless of behavior, special need, or academic performance
- Are required to use a lottery if demand exceeds available seats
- Employ licensed educators
- Must meet the same academic 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 2022-23 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, or TPCSC) and the state's school turnaround district (the Achievement School District, or ASD).

Charter schools approved in the Rutherford and Jackson-Madison county school districts will open in the Fall of 2024 and 2025, respectively.



SINCE 2021, the Tennessee Public Charter School Commission has considered 24 appeals for charter schools seeking initial authorization to open.

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

The commission affirmed 11 LEA decisions to deny, and four applications were withdrawn before a decision. The commission also received six applications for schools to transition from the ASD. The commission approved five of these ASD transitions.

Charter School Enrollment By Authorizer, 2022-23

	Number Of Charters	Charter Only Enrollment	% Charter Enrollment Of LEA
Achievement School District (ASD)	15	5,536	94%
Hamilton County Schools (HCS)	8	2,056	4.6%
Knox County Schools (KCS)	1	448	.75%
Memphis-Shelby County Schools (MSCS)	55	19,311	18%
Metro Nashville Public Schools (MNPS)	26	13,159	17%
Tennessee Public Charter School Commission (CSC)	9	3,687	100%
State Of Tennessee	114	44,197	4.5%

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 2022-23 school year, Tennessee charter schools served over 44,000 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 (49 percent) of the students served by Tennessee charter schools (non-ASD) are economically disadvantaged, and 88 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 10 percentage points higher and the enrollment of Black, Hispanic, and Native American students at charter schools is 24 percentage points higher.**

Approximately 74 percent (84 schools) of Tennessee charter schools are elementary and middle schools, while only 26 percent (30 schools) are high schools and middle/high schools.

49%
Economically Disadvantaged

88%
Students Of Color

Demographics Of Charter Schools By Authorizer, 2021-23

	HCS		KCS		MNPS		MSCS		ASD		TPCSC
	Charter	Noncharter	Charter	Noncharter	Charter	Noncharter	Charter	Noncharter	Charter	Noncharter	Charter
Black, Hispanic, Native American	73%	49%	82%	30%	81%	69%	95%	91%	95%	96%	81%
Economically Disadvantaged	45%	37%	53%	21%	39%	36%	57%	55%	66%	79%	48%
Students With Disabilities	13%	14%	17%	16%	13%	13%	8%	12%	13%	4%	12%
English Learners	19%	12%	9%	9%	27%	28%	15%	13%	9%	7%	20%

Source: Tennessee Department of Education, 2023



In 2023, public charter schools outpaced their district counterparts in academic growth and graduation rates.

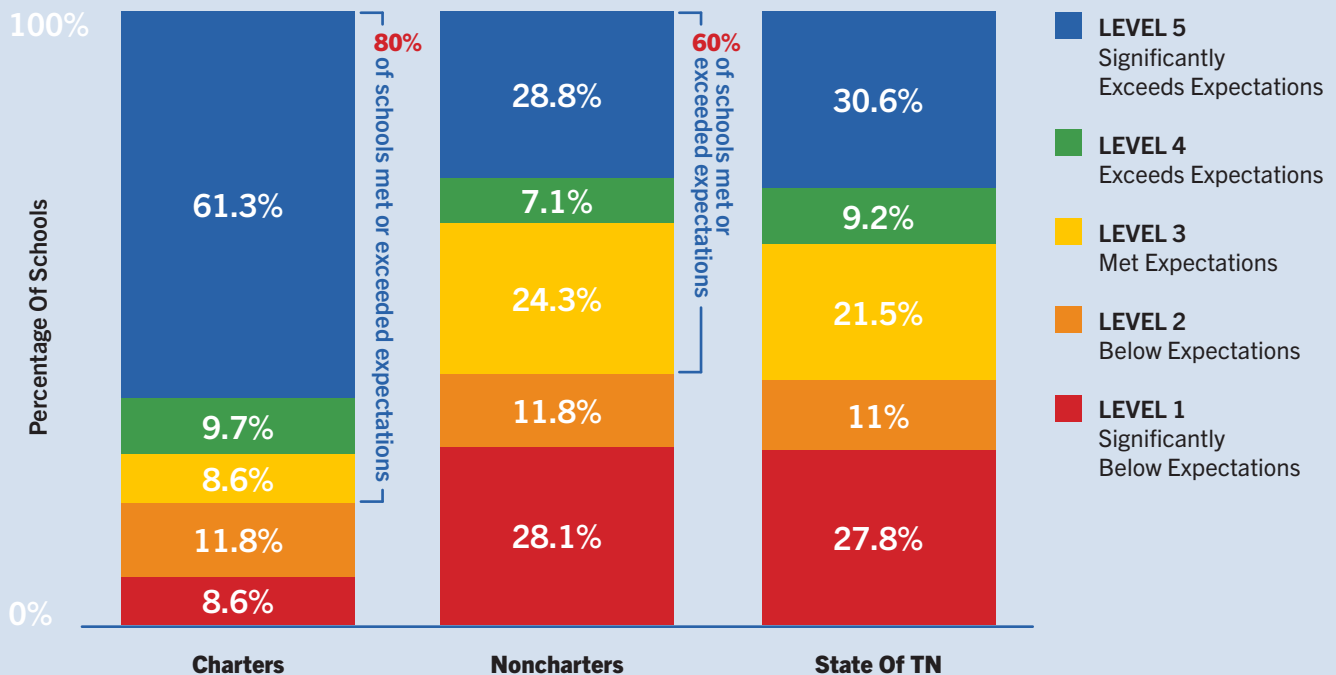


61 percent of charter schools (non-ASD) earned a Tennessee Value Added Assessment System (TVAAS) Level 5 “Significantly Exceeding Expectations” score as compared to 29 percent of district-run schools in districts with charter options (non-ASD).

80 percent of charter schools met or exceeded student growth expectations (TVAAS levels 3-5) compared to 60 percent of noncharter schools in districts with public charter options.

The average charter high school (non-ASD) graduation rate (91.1 percent) was **7.2 percentage points higher** than the average high school graduation rate (83.9 percent) at district-run schools in districts with charter options (non-ASD).

Composite TVAAS Scores, 2022-23



Source: Tennessee Department of Education, 2023

Percent of Students Proficient On 3-8 TCAP By Authorizer, 2022-23

	HCS		KCS		MNPS		MSCS		TPCSC
	Charter	Noncharter	Charter	Noncharter	Charter	Noncharter	Charter	Noncharter	Charter
Reading	22%	39%	27%	40%	28%	28%	17%	22%	27%
Math	21%	42%	25%	38%	30%	27%	17%	20%	31%

Source: Tennessee Department of Education, 2023

