



Charter Schools Annual Report

Tennessee Department of Education | Division of Choice | March 2022



Introduction

Each year, the Tennessee Department of Education produces an annual report on charter schools operating in the State. In compliance with Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 13, the report provides information on the charter school landscape in Tennessee, charter school numbers, academic performance, enrollment, and student characteristics. All data presented in this report is from the **2018-19 school year**, unless otherwise noted.

Additional information regarding charter schools is available on the [Tennessee Department of Education's website](#), including application materials, available grants, required reports, authorizer matters and answers to frequently asked questions.

Tennessee Charter School Quick Facts for 2018-19

- A total of 117 Tennessee charter schools were located within the geographic boundaries of four (4) school districts across the State: Hamilton County, Knox County, Metro Nashville, and Shelby County.
- Six (6) entities acting as local education agencies (LEAs) authorized charter schools to operate: Hamilton County, Knox County, Metro Nashville, and Shelby County, along with the Achievement School District (ASD) and the Tennessee State Board of Education (SBOE).
- Nine (9) new charter schools began operating in 2018 and four (4) charter schools were closed at the end of the 2018-19 school year.
- The SBOE heard six (6) appeals regarding LEA decisions on new applications and upheld four (4) of those decisions.
- Tennessee charter schools enrolled over 40,700 students, roughly 4% of the student population statewide.
- Approximately 61% of the student population at charter schools was deemed economically disadvantaged, and over 90% of students belonged to racial and ethnic minority groups. Compared with district-run schools, on average, the enrollment of minority students at charter schools was 29 percentage points higher and the enrollment of economically disadvantaged students was 17 percentage points higher.
- Approximately 72% of Tennessee charter schools were elementary and middle schools, while only 28% were high schools and middle/high schools.
- 30% of charter schools were identified as Tennessee Value Added Assessment System (TVAAS) Level 5 "Most Effective" as compared to 31% of district-run schools.

- The average charter high school graduation rate was 6 percentage points lower than the average high school graduation rate at district-run schools.

The Charter School Landscape in Tennessee

Legislative History

A charter school is a public school that is established and operating under the terms of a charter agreement in accordance with the Tennessee Public Charter Schools Act of 2002. A charter school, while still part of its LEA, is governed by an independent governing board and has greater autonomy over its budget, personnel, curricula, and operations, in exchange for heightened accountability. Tennessee law prohibits for-profit entities from operating or managing charter schools and requires all governing bodies to be not-for-profit organizations with a 501(c) (3) exemption.

Charter schools are publicly funded, and as such, are subject to the same performance standards outlined by the SBOE for traditional public schools. A charter school may be closed if it fails to make sufficient progress toward performance expectations set forth in its charter agreement, materially violates its charter agreement, or fails to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management. A charter school agreement may be revoked by the authorizer if the school is designated a Priority School under the State's accountability system.

In 2018, schools earned Priority designations if their one- or two-year success rates—for the K8 and HS pools, respectively—were in the bottom five percent statewide and the schools did not have TVAAS composites of 4 or 5 in both 2016-17 and 2017-18. The success rates included 2015-16 and 2016-17 data for schools in the HS pool and 2016-17 data only for schools in the K8 pool. Schools with graduation rates of less than 67 percent were also designated as Priority schools.¹

If the authorizer decides not to revoke a charter school agreement once the school has been identified as a Priority School, then the school must develop and implement a comprehensive support and improvement plan. A charter school agreement must be revoked by the authorizer if the school is designated a Priority School for two consecutive years. (More about Tennessee's accountability system is available [here](#).)

¹ [2019 Accountability Protocol \(tn.gov\)](#), page 44.

The Tennessee Public Charter Schools Act of 2002 allowed for the establishment of charter schools as “an alternative means within the public school system for ensuring accomplishment of the necessary outcomes of education” (T.C.A. §49-13-102(b)). Initially, a mandatory cap limited the number of charter schools that could operate in Tennessee, but that cap was removed in 2011 to facilitate the replication of high-quality charter schools in the State. Enrollment eligibility was also extended to all students in 2011. Previously, preference had been given to students in failing schools or students qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch.

Enacted in 2017, the Tennessee High-Quality Charter Schools Act was aimed at increasing the number of high-performing charter schools in Tennessee. This Act required charter authorizers to adopt high-quality authorizing practices and established an authorizer fee to be paid by charter schools to the LEA for costs associated with charter authorizing. It also clarified funding procedures for charter schools and established a grant that could be used by charter schools to purchase school facilities or to pay for renovation and maintenance costs for existing facilities.

In 2018-19, local boards of education, the ASD, and the SBOE served as charter school authorizers in Tennessee. Local boards of education authorize the majority of charter schools and were once the only charter authorizers in Tennessee. In 2018-19, the SBOE received requests for appeals from charter school applicants that were denied by their local boards of education. The SBOE could choose to uphold or overturn a local board’s denial. The SBOE could only serve as the authorizer for charter schools whose applications were denied by a local board with at least one Priority School operated by the district. If the district did not have a Priority School, a reversal by the SBOE upon appeal would result in the local board serving as the authorizer for the school. The establishment of the ASD in 2012 created a State-run entity with the power to authorize charters for schools designated as Priority Schools; in 2018-19, it authorized 26 charter schools.

Charter Schools by the Numbers

In 2018-19, six (6) authorizers existed in Tennessee. Local boards of education acting as authorizers included Hamilton County, Knox County, Metro Nashville, and Shelby County. Charter schools were also authorized by the ASD and the SBOE. In 2018-19, a total of 117 charter schools serving 40,789 students operated within the geographic boundaries of the school districts identified above.

117 charter schools operated during the 2018-19 school year, serving 40,789 students.

Figure 1 depicts the change in total number of charter schools statewide since the first charter schools opened in 2003-04.

Figure 1. Openings and Closings of Charter Schools over Time

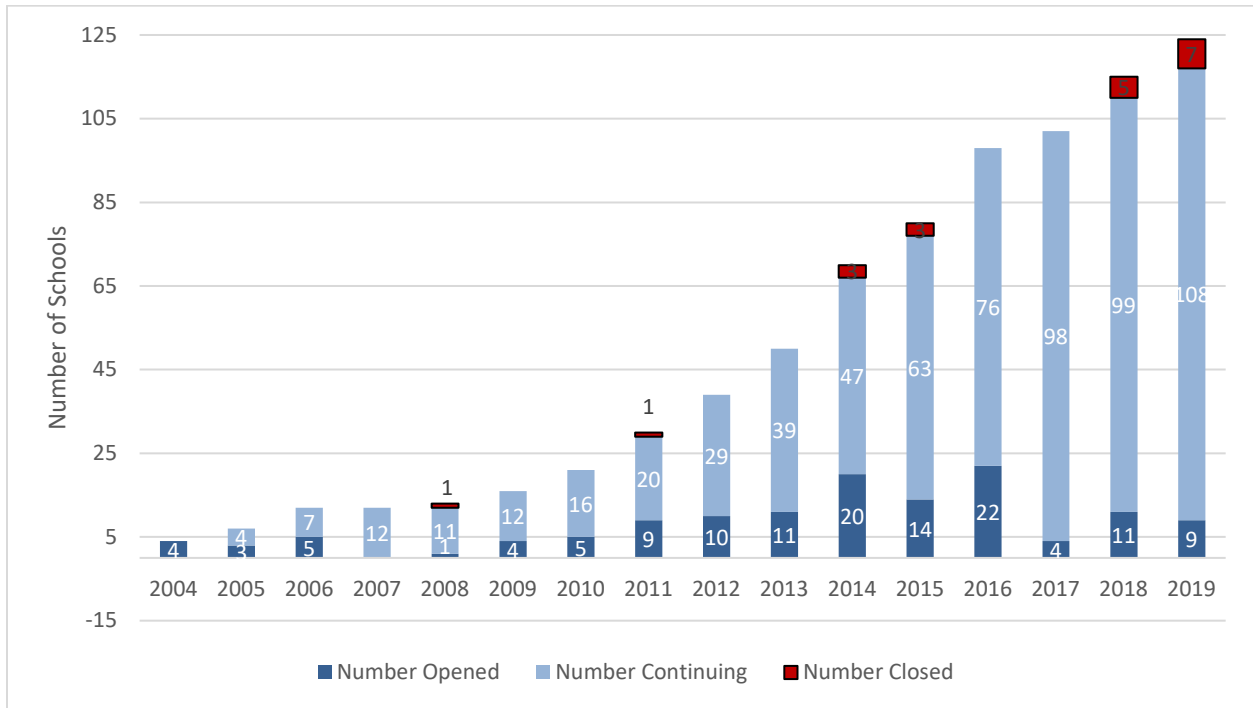
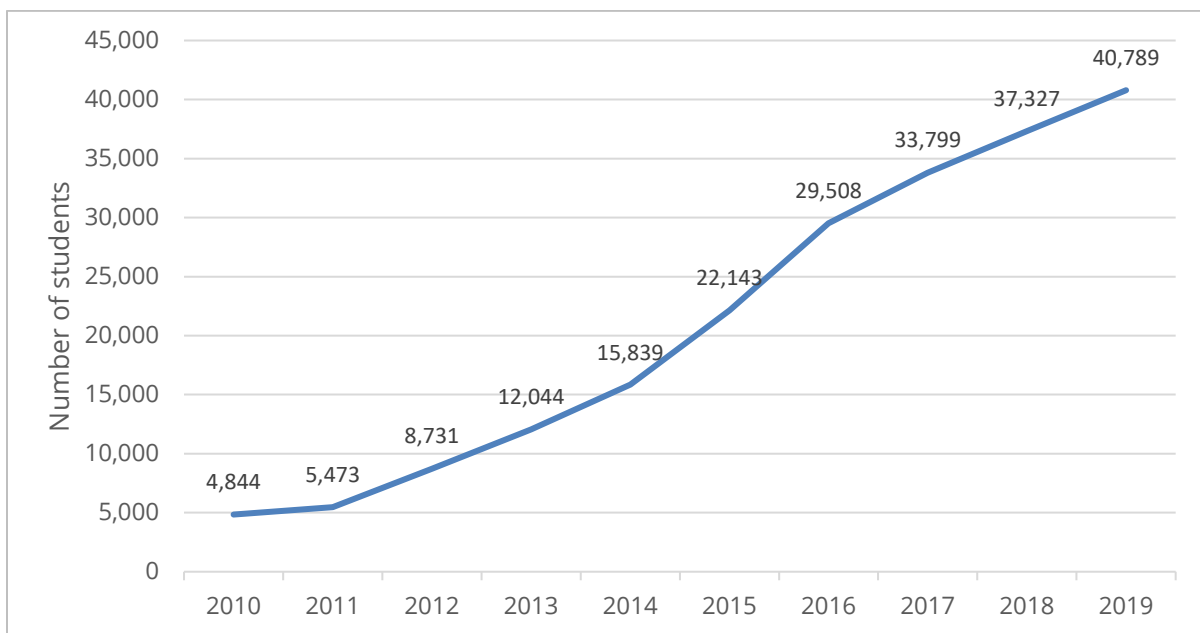


Figure 2 shows the corresponding growth in charter school enrollment since 2010. The number of students enrolled at charter schools increased over 700%, from around 5,000 students to over 40,000 students.

Figure 2. Growth in Charter School Enrollment over Time



Even with the growth in students enrolled in charter schools, charter enrollments still only accounted for approximately 4% of the total 973,659 public school students in the State. Table 1 below breaks down charter enrollment across the authorizers at the end of the 2018-19 school year.

Table 1. Charter School Enrollment by Authorizer, EOY 2018-19

	Number of Charters	Charter only Enrollment	Total Enrollment	% Charter Enrollment within the LEA
Hamilton County	5	1,358	44,477	3.1%
Metro Nashville	29	12,823	81,733	15.7%
Shelby County	54	16,007	107,708	14.9%
Achievement School District	26	9,655	10,582	91.2%
Knox County	1	497	59,708	0.8%
Tennessee State Board of Education	2	449	449	100%
Tennessee	117	40,789	976,809	4.2%

Twenty (20) charter schools have closed since the Tennessee Public Charter Schools Act of 2002 was enacted. Fifteen (15) of those closures occurred from 2015 - 2019. At the same time, authorizers have set a high bar for charter approval. Table 2 documents the ratio of new applications submitted compared to new applications approved, as well as the ratio of the number of appeals to the SBOE compared to the number of successful appeals. To date, 35% of charter school applications have been approved by their respective local boards of education, and only about 31% of charter school appeals to the SBOE have been successful.

Table 2. Charter School Applications, Approvals, and Appeals

Year	# New Applications: # Approved	# SBOE Appeals: # Successful	# ASD Applications: # Approved
2002	8:4	3:0	--
2003	18:4	8:1	--
2004	14:7	2:1	--
2005	3:0	1:0	--
2006	5:2	1:0	--
2007	10:4	1:0	--
2008	12:6	1:1	--
2009	28:8	9:0	--
2010	23:11	6:2	--
2011	38:6	20:15	9:2
2012	15:5	5:1	10:8
2013	22:4	3:0	18:9
2014	26:17	6:0	7:1
2015	25:11	6:2	8:2
2016	17:8	1:1	--
2017	21:4	2:0	--
2018	20:9	4:0	--
2019	13:1	6:2	--
Total	318:111	85:26	52:22

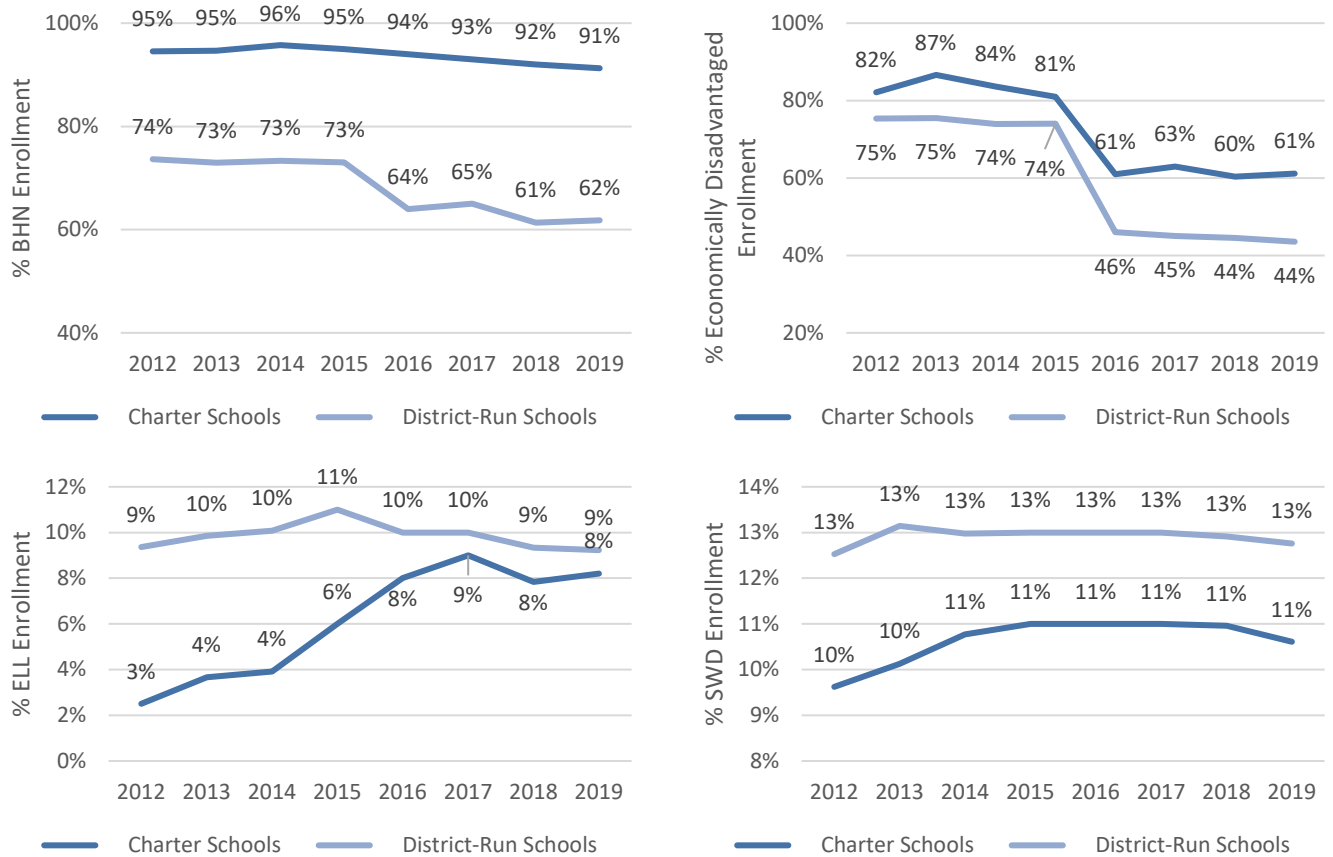
Student Characteristics

The following sections compare the demographics of students in charter schools to the demographics of students in non-charter public schools within the same district. Throughout this report, the non-charter public schools within districts that authorize charter schools are referred to as “district-run” schools. Total charter comparisons reflect students in all charter schools compared to students in non-charter, traditional public schools in districts with charter schools.

Compared to district-run schools, Tennessee’s charter schools enroll a larger proportion of minority and economically disadvantaged students. Figure 3 depicts the percentages of minority students, economically disadvantaged students, English language learners (ELL), and students with disabilities (SWD) enrolled in charter schools compared to district-run schools since 2012. The significant reduction of students identified as economically disadvantaged from 2015 to 2016 resulted when the State redefined the term. In previous years, the State's definition of

"economically disadvantaged" counted all students receiving free or reduced-priced lunches. Commencing in 2016, students who were directly certified to receive free lunches were counted as economically disadvantaged, together with migrant, homeless, runaway and foster students. The newer definition more clearly captures the students who are most at-risk in terms of poverty and family stability.

Figure 3. Student Demographics Enrolled in Charter Schools over Time²



Over the past seven (7) years, charter schools have consistently enrolled a population of students that represents a larger proportion of minority students than district-run schools, with differences of up to 30 percentage points. Likewise, charter schools have consistently enrolled a greater proportion of economically disadvantaged (ED) students than district-run schools. In 2018-19, that difference was 17 percentage points. Table 3 provides charter school demographics specific to each authorizer.

² "BHN" means Black, Hispanic, and Native American.

Table 3. Demographics of Charter Schools by Authorizer, 2018-19

	Hamilton County		Knox County		MNPS		Shelby County		ASD		State Board ³
	Charter Schools	District-Run Schools	Charter Schools	District-Run Schools	Charter Schools	District-Run Schools	Charter Schools	District-Run Schools	Charter Schools	District-Run Schools ⁴	Charter Schools
% White	23%	53%	17%	70%	18%	30%	1%	8%	3%	1%	5%
% Black	47%	30%	75%	16%	47%	40%	86%	75%	91%	96%	70%
% Hispanic	30%	14%	8%	10%	33%	25%	12%	15%	6%	3%	22%
% Asian	<1%	3%	0%	3%	2%	5%	<1%	2%	<1%	0%	4%
% Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0%	<1%	0%	<1%	<1%	<1%	0%	<1%	<1%	<1%	0%
% ED	52%	35%	60%	27%	49%	43%	65%	58%	73%	84%	45%
% ELL	13%	6%	2%	5%	15%	17%	5%	8%	4%	0%	14%
% SWD	9%	13%	11%	14%	12%	13%	8%	12%	13%	11%	19%

School Size and Structure

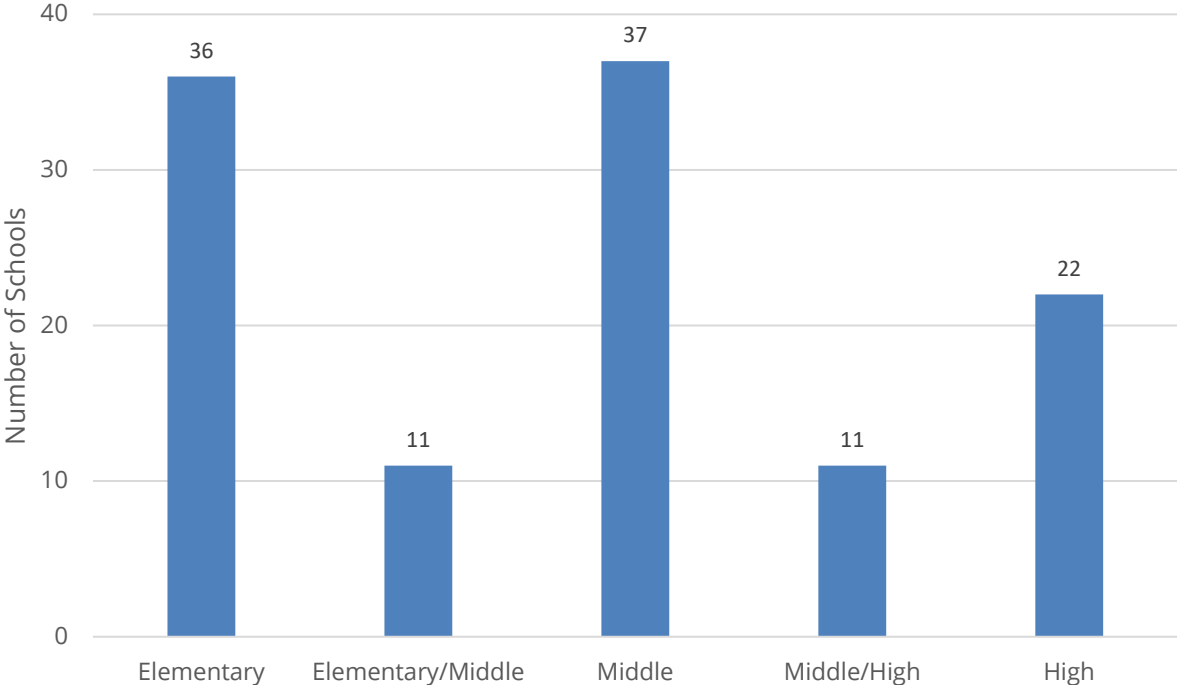
Charter schools have the freedom to organize and structure themselves in the manner they determine to be most effective for educating students. Many use the same models as traditional district-run schools, organizing into elementary, middle, and high schools.

Figure 4 shows the planned grade configurations of all charter schools operating in 2018-19, as indicated in their original charter applications. As illustrated, most charters planned to operate as either elementary or middle schools. However, there are 11 schools that planned to span elementary and middle school grades and 11 that planned to span middle and high school grades.

³ The State Board only authorizes charter schools and does not directly operate any school.

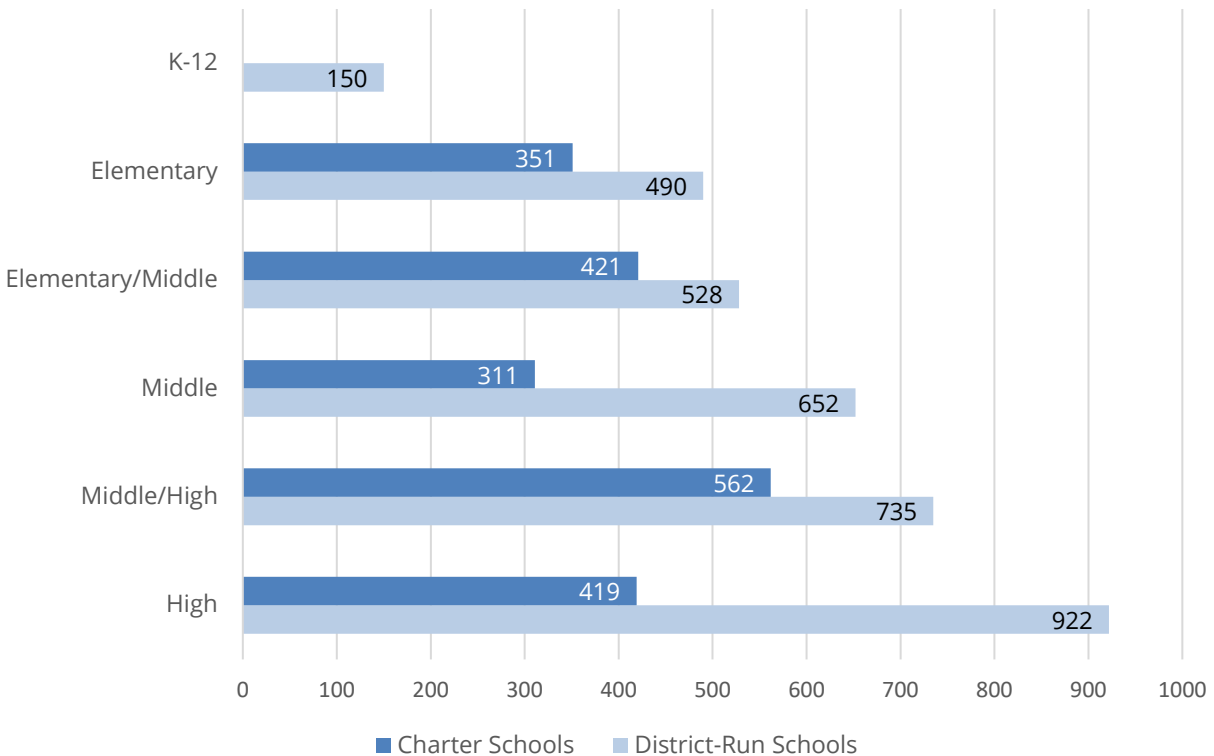
⁴ Includes four Achievement Schools directly operated by the district.

Figure 4. Grade Configurations of Charter Schools, 2018-19



Charter schools in Tennessee tend to enroll fewer students than comparable district-run schools (Figure 5). Often new charter schools scale up over time, starting with only a single grade and taking multiple years to reach a planned grade configuration. Only charter schools that have reached their full grade span are included in the average total school enrollment metric (26 charter schools that had not reached their full grade span were excluded). Characteristics of individual charter schools are listed in [Appendix A](#).

Figure 5. Average Enrollment at Charter Schools and District-Run Schools, 2018-19



Student Mobility

Student mobility refers to students changing schools during a school year, whether voluntary or involuntary. The student mobility rates included in [Appendix D](#) are indicated as a percentage of students who transferred (calculated as the number of students who transferred divided by the number of students who attended the school at any point in the 2018-19 school year).

Charter School Outcomes

The following sections provide data on a variety of academic and behavioral outcomes that the State tracks over time for both charter and district-run schools. Recent studies that have attempted to unpack the causal impact of Tennessee charter schools on student outcomes are available from the Center for Research on Education Outcomes at Stanford University and can be found at the following link: <https://credo.stanford.edu/>.

Value-Added Measures of School Effectiveness

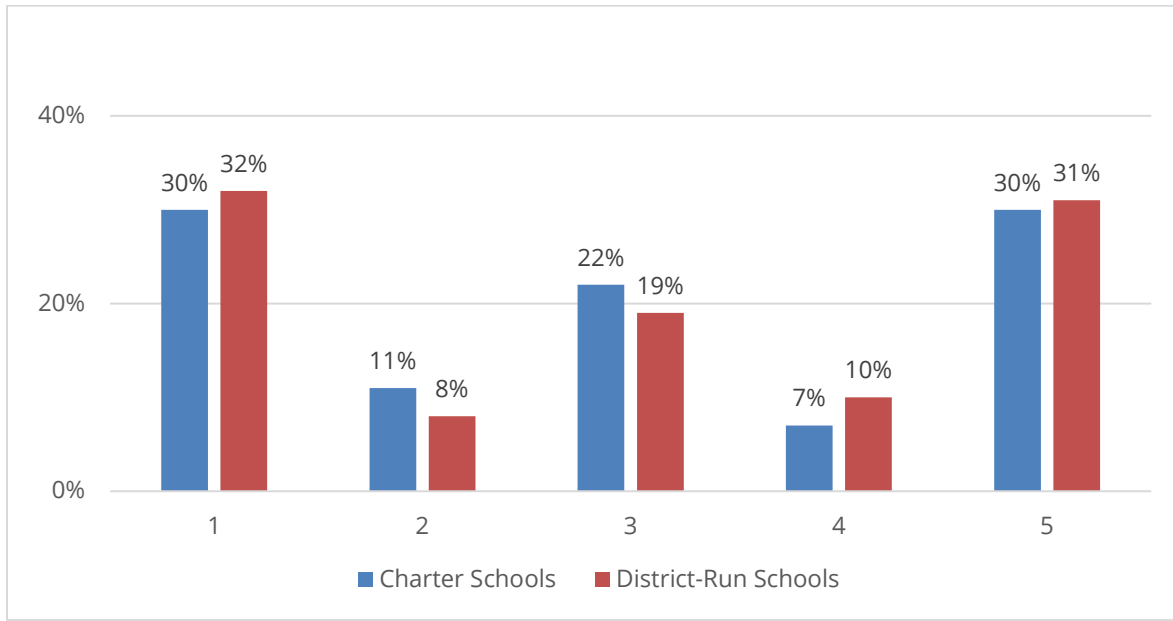
Tennessee's accountability system holds schools accountable for the academic performance of their students. The Tennessee Value Added Assessment System (TVAAS) provides measures of school effectiveness by estimating the impact teachers and schools have on their students' academic progress.

TVAAS measures growth in student achievement from one year to the next. Schools earn composite TVAAS scores each year ranging from Level 1 to Level 5. Level 1 schools are described as "Least Effective," while Level 5 schools are "Most Effective." A Composite TVAAS score of 3 indicates that students are making expected levels of growth over a year. Composite TVAAS scores measure growth in math, reading, science, and social studies on TCAP assessments for schools serving grades 3-8. For schools offering end-of-course (EOC) exams, Composite TVAAS scores measure students' growth in English I, English II, English III, Algebra I, Algebra II, Biology, and U.S. History.

As shown in Figure 6, both charter schools and district-run schools display variation in overall effectiveness as measured by composite TVAAS scores. Approximately 59% of charter schools received TVAAS scores that suggest students were making expected or greater than expected growth (TVAAS 3-5). Composite TVAAS scores for individual schools, where available, are included in [Appendices B and C](#).

Approximately 59% of charter school students were making expected or greater than expected growth.

Figure 6. Composite TVAAS Scores, 2018-19



Academic Achievement

Tennessee students in grades 3-8 take TCAP assessments in math, reading/language arts, science, and social studies. Students in Grades 9-12 take EOC exams in English I, English II, English III, Algebra I, Algebra II, Biology, and U.S. History. Students who score On Track or Mastered on these exams are meeting grade-level expectations.

Figures 7 and 8 depict the percentage of students in both charter and district-run schools scoring On Track or Mastered on TCAP and EOC exams in 2018-19. Statewide, charter schools performed lower on average than district-run schools on EOC exams. However, substantial variation in student performance exists across charter schools, which can be seen in the breakdown of achievement by district in Table 4 on the next page. Moreover, there are many fewer charter high schools than district-run schools. For school-level percentages of students scoring On Track or Mastered in each subject, please see [Appendices B and C](#).

Figure 7. Percent of Students Scoring on Track or Mastered on EOC exams, 2018-19

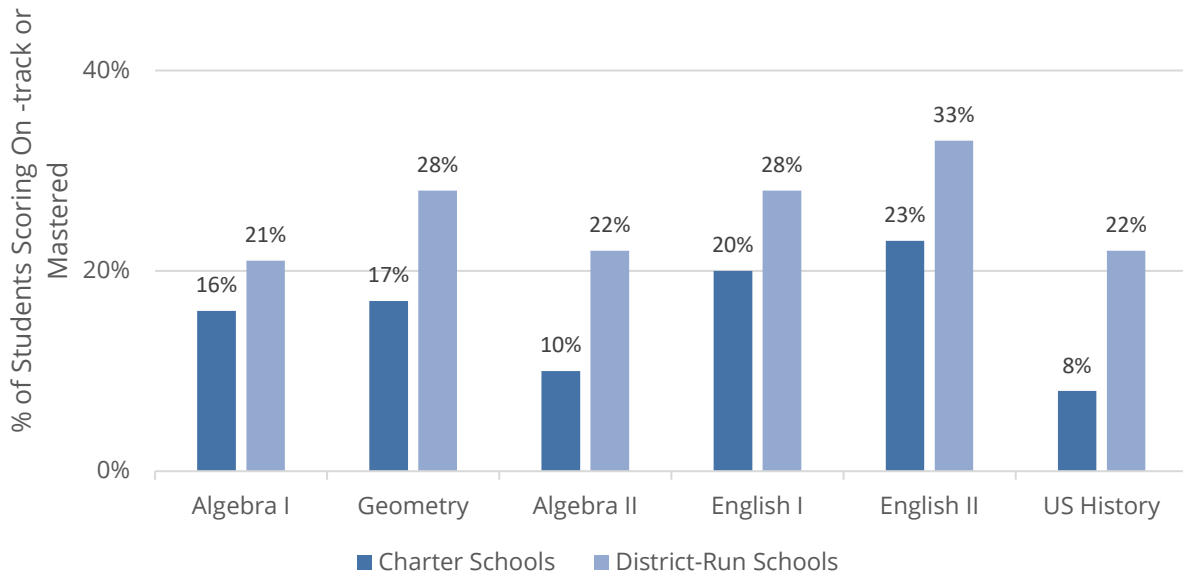


Figure 8. Percent of Students Scoring On Track or Mastered on 3-8 TCAP exams, 2018-19

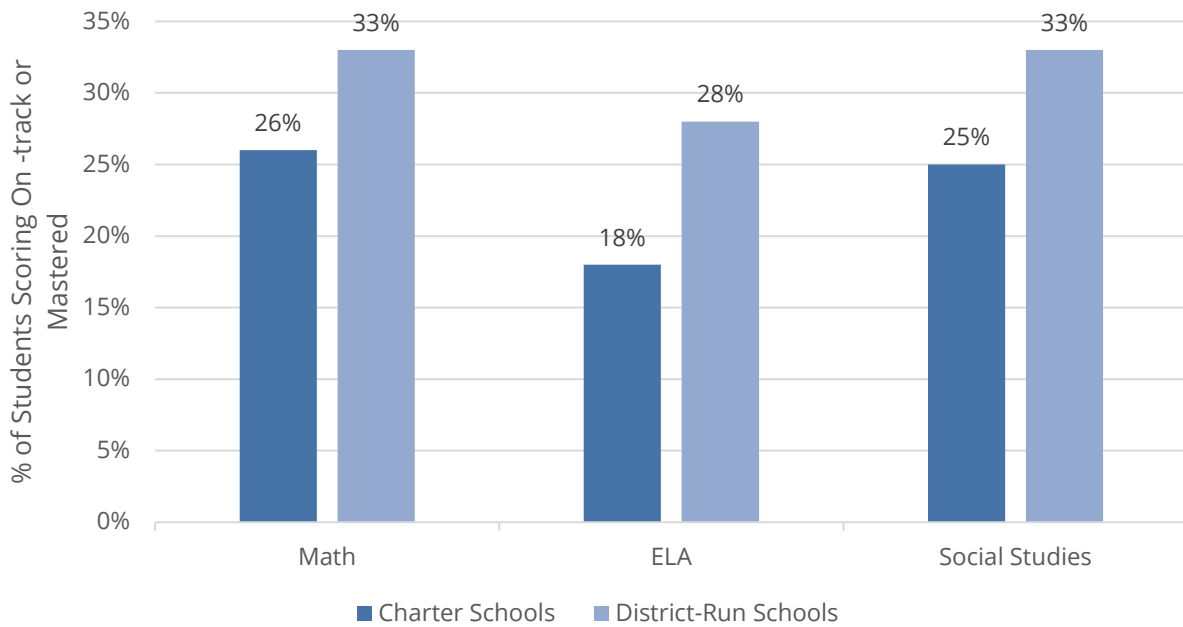


Table 4. Percent of Students Scoring On Track or Mastered on 3-8 TCAP and EOC Exams by District

	Hamilton County		Knox County		MNPS		Shelby County		ASD		State Board ⁵
	Charter Schools	District-Run Schools	Charter Schools	District-Run Schools	Charter Schools	District-Run Schools	Charter Schools	District-Run Schools	Charter Schools	District-Run Schools ⁶	Charter Schools
3-8 TCAP											
Reading	22%	34%	23%	39%	29%	25%	15%	22%	78%	8%	N/A
Math	26%	44%	17%	41%	43%	27%	22%	28%	12%	15%	N/A
EOC Exams											
Algebra I	17%	27%	**	27%	38%	**	11%	12%	**	**	**
Geometry	39%	33%	**	36%	40%	**	15%	18%	**	**	7%
Algebra II	26%	37%	**	32%	26%	**	9%	13%	**	**	N/A
English I	33%	32%	**	40%	31%	26%	16%	17%	**	**	8%
English II	32%	38%	N/A	48%	31%	24%	23%	25%	**	5%	11%

Chronic Absenteeism and Graduation

Chronic absenteeism is identified as the percentage of students who miss at least 10% of school days, or about eighteen (18) days if enrolled the full year. Table 5 shows rates of student chronic absenteeism and graduation across charters and district-run schools in 2018-19.

Table 5. Chronic Absenteeism and Graduation Rates 2018-19

	Chronic Absenteeism	Graduation
Charter Schools	19.4%	77%
District-Run Schools	16.0%	83%

In 2018-19, chronic absenteeism rates were higher at charter schools. Although high school graduation rates have in the past been significantly higher in charter schools as compared to district-run schools, over the last several years, that gap has closed, and district-run schools achieved higher graduation rates in 2018-19.

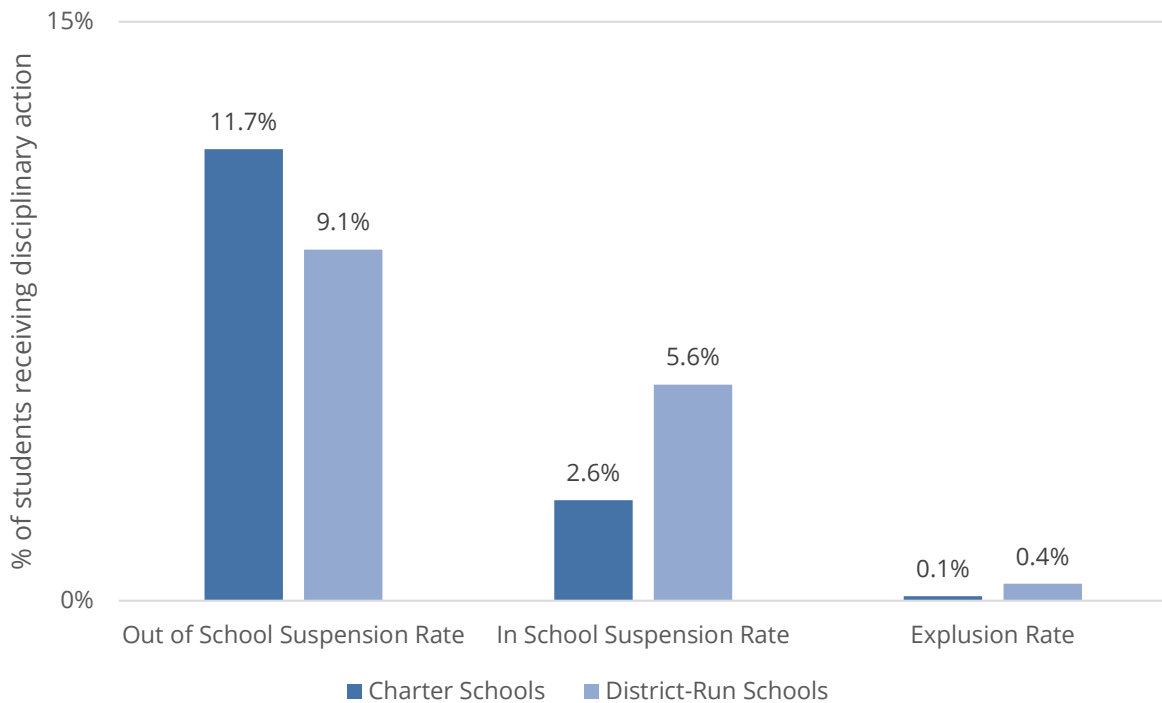
⁵ The State Board only authorizes charter schools and does not directly operate any school.

⁶ Includes four Achievement Schools directly operated by the district.

Discipline

Each year, Tennessee schools report on disciplinary incidents experienced by students, including the reason for the incident and the type of disciplinary action taken. The rates for in-school suspensions, out-of-school suspensions, and expulsions are calculated as the total number of students who receive at least one of the specific types of discipline divided by the total number of students in the specific school overall. This rate takes into account any disciplinary instances issued to a particular student while that student was enrolled in the particular school throughout the year. Figure 9 depicts the percentage of students who received disciplinary action during the 2018-19 school year. These percentages represent all students and all grade levels in charter schools and in district-run schools.

Figure 9. Discipline Rates 2018-19



School Recognitions – Reward Schools

Each year, in accordance with Tennessee's accountability system, as well as federal and State law, the Tennessee Department of Education recognizes schools for their success, as well as those needing additional support. For 2017, Reward Schools represented the top 5% of schools in the State for performance and the top 5% of schools in the State for year-over-year growth. In 2018, the department implemented a new school accountability system based on multiple indicators

and built on the principles that poverty is not destiny and the success of each student matters. In the new model, all schools are able to achieve Reward status, and there is no cap on the number of Reward Schools. Reward Schools are generally those that are improving in terms of achievement and growth for all students and student groups. A school cannot be designated a Reward School if: (i) any student group performs in the bottom 5% in the State for that group, or (ii) it is also designated a Priority School or in need of Comprehensive Support and Improvement or Additional Targeted Support and Improvement. In 2018-19, 11% of charter schools were named Reward Schools in 2018-19, as compared to 25% of district-run schools. Table 6 lists the charter schools that received Reward School designation in 2018-19.

Table 6. Charter Schools Designated Reward Schools in 2018-19

Authorizer	School
Metro Nashville	KIPP Academy Nashville
Metro Nashville	KIPP Academy Nashville Elementary School
Metro Nashville	KIPP Nashville College Prep
Metro Nashville	Liberty Collegiate Academy
Metro Nashville	Nashville Classical
Metro Nashville	Rocketship Nashville Northeast Elementary
Metro Nashville	Valor Flagship Academy
Metro Nashville	Valor Voyager Academy
Hamilton County	Chattanooga Charter School of Excellence
Hamilton County	Chattanooga Girls Leadership Academy
Shelby County	Aurora Collegiate Academy
Shelby County	City University School of Liberal Arts
Shelby County	Memphis Rise Academy

Priority Schools

Tennessee designates the schools most in need of support and improvement as Priority Schools. Priority Schools are eligible for additional funding and are supported by the Tennessee Department of Education, particularly in developing an evidence-based school improvement plan based on needs assessments and root cause analysis work. Priority Schools are designated at least every three (3) years, but schools are able to exit the list annually if they meet specific performance criteria. Schools are identified as Priority for one of two reasons:

- Being in the bottom 5% in 2015-16 and 2016-17 AND not meeting the TVAAS safe harbor, which allows schools to be unidentified if they are showing high growth.
- Having a graduation rate of less than 67% in 2017-18.

Following State legislation passed in April 2018, no school is identified as a Priority School using 2017-18 TCAP data. However, schools could use data from 2017-18 to come off the Priority list.

In 2018-19, 17% of charter schools were designated Priority Schools, while only 3% of district-run schools received that designation. Table 7 lists the charter schools that received Priority School designation in 2018-19.

Table 7. Charter Schools Designated as 2018-19 Priority Schools

Authorizer	School
Achievement School District	Aspire Coleman
Achievement School District	Aspire Hanley Elementary
Achievement School District	Aspire Hanley Middle School
Achievement School District	Brick Church: A LEAD Public School
Achievement School District	Cornerstone Prep - Lester Campus
Achievement School District	Cornerstone Prep Denver Campus
Achievement School District	Fairley High School
Achievement School District	Freedom Preparatory Academy Charter Elementary School
Achievement School District	Hillcrest High School
Achievement School District	Humes Preparatory Academy Middle School
Achievement School District	KIPP Memphis Academy Elementary
Achievement School District	KIPP Memphis Preparatory Elementary
Achievement School District	KIPP Memphis Preparatory Middle
Achievement School District	Kirby Middle School
Achievement School District	Lester Prep
Achievement School District	Martin Luther King Preparatory High School
Achievement School District	Memphis Scholars Caldwell-Guthrie
Achievement School District	Memphis Scholars Florida Kansas
Achievement School District	Memphis Scholars Raleigh-Egypt
Achievement School District	Neely's Bend: A LEAD Public School
Achievement School District	Promise Academy - Spring Hill
Achievement School District	Westside Middle School
Achievement School District	Wooddale Middle School
Shelby County	City University School Girls Preparatory
Shelby County	DuBois Elementary School of Arts Technology*
Shelby County	DuBois Middle of Leadership Public Policy*
Shelby County	DuBois Middle School of Arts Technology*
Shelby County	Granville T. Woods Academy of Innovation Charter School
Shelby County	Memphis Delta Preparatory Charter School
Shelby County	The Excel Center**

* Indicates school closed at the end of the 2018-19 school year.

** Indicates school changed instructional types and is no longer eligible for identification.

Conclusion

The 2018-19 school year evidenced continued growth in Tennessee's charter school sector, both in number of schools and in enrollment. Over 40,000 students were enrolled in 117 charter schools across Tennessee, the largest numbers to date. Similarly, charter schools continued to serve larger populations of economically disadvantaged and minority students compared to district-run public schools.

However, in 2018-19 Tennessee's charter schools experienced a decline in comparable performance metrics, on average, as compared to district-run schools. Most notable was a sharp decline in the percentage of charter schools scoring a TVAAS Composite Level 5, from 40% in 2017-2018 to 30% in 2018-19. District-run schools saw a modest increase from 29% to 31% during that same period. Furthermore, district-run schools fared better than charter schools in graduation rates. The average graduation rate for charter schools decreased from 84% in 2017-2018 to 77% in 2018-19, while the graduation rate at district-run schools increased from 82% to 83% during that same period.

Charter schools continue to serve as an alternative means within the public school system for ensuring accomplishment of the necessary outcomes of education, as prescribed by the Tennessee Public Charter Schools Act of 2002. Many families are taking advantage of this choice option to ensure a high-quality education for their children.

Appendices

Appendix A. Charter School Enrollment, Type, and Grades Served

Hamilton County				
School	Enrollment	Charter Type	Year Opened	Grades Served (2018)
Chattanooga Charter School of Excellence	413	Start-up	2011-12	K-5
Chattanooga Charter School of Excellence Middle School	222	Start-up	2015-16	6-8
Chattanooga Girls Leadership Academy	351	Start-up	2009-10	6-12
Chattanooga Preparatory	66	Start-up	2018-19	6-12
Ivy Academy, Inc.	306	Start-up	2009-10	9-12
Knox County				
School	Enrollment	Charter Type	Year Opened	Grades Served (2018)
Emerald Academy	497	Start-up	2015-16	K-8
Metro Nashville Public Schools				
School	Enrollment	Charter Type	Year Opened	Grades Served (2018)
Cameron College Preparatory	603	Conversion	2011-12	5-8
East End Preparatory School	885	Start-up	2011-12	K-8
Explore Community School	296	Start-up	2015-16	K-8
Intrepid College Preparatory Charter School	581	Start-up	2013-14	5-11
KA @ the Crossings	308	Start-up	2016-17	5-8
KIPP Academy Nashville	370	Start-up	2005-06	5-8
KIPP Academy Nashville Elementary School	488	Start-up	2015-16	K-4
KIPP Nashville College Prep (Middle)	385	Start-up	2013-14	5-8
KIPP Nashville College Prep Elementary	263	Start-up	2017-18	K-4
KIPP Nashville Collegiate High School	307	Start-up	2014-15	9-12
Knowledge Academies High School	356	Start-up	2015-16	9-12

School	Enrollment	Charter Type	Year Opened	Grades Served (2018)
Knowledge Academy	286	Start-up	2012-13	5-8
Lead Academy	445	Start-up	2007-08	9-12
LEAD Prep Southeast	706	Start-up	2013-14	5-11
Liberty Collegiate Academy	442	Start-up	2011-12	5-8
Nashville Academy of Computer Science	301	Start-up	2014-15	5-8
Nashville Classical	393	Start-up	2013-14	K-4
Nashville Prep	343	Start-up	2011-12	5-8
New Vision Academy	159	Start-up	2010-11	5-8
Purpose Preparatory Academy	384	Start-up	2013-14	K-4
RePublic High School	666	Start-up	2015-16	9-12
Rocketship Nashville Northeast Elementary	428	Start-up	2014-15	K-4
Rocketship United	544	Start-up	2015-16	K-4
Smithson Craighead Academy	183	Start-up	2003-04	K-4
STEM Prep Academy	538	Start-up	2011-12	5-8
STEM Prep High School	473	Start-up	2015-16	9-12
Strive Collegiate Academy	355	Start-up	2015-16	5-8
Valor Flagship Academy	734	Start-up	2014-15	5-10
Valor Voyager Academy	521	Start-up	2015-16	5-8

Shelby County

School	Enrollment	Charter Type	Year Opened	Grades Served (2018)
Arrow Academy of Excellence	74	Start-up	2013-14	K-3
Aspire East Academy	294	Start-up	2016-17	K-8
Aurora Collegiate Academy	335	Start-up	2012-13	K
Believe Memphis Academy	115	Start-up	2018-19	4-8
Circles Of Success Learning Academy	239	Start-up	2003-04	K-5
City University Boys Preparatory	88	Start-up	2009-10	6-8
City University School Girls Preparatory	100	Start-up	2013-14	6-8
City University School of Independence	16	Start-up	2015-16	9-12
City University School of Liberal Arts	269	Start-up	2004-05	9-12
Crosstown High School	149	Start-up	2018-19	9-12
DuBois Elementary School of Arts Technology	205	Start-up	2013-14	K-5
DuBois Elementary School of Entrepreneurship	239	Start-up	2013-14	K-5
DuBois Middle of Leadership Public Policy	127	Start-up	2013-14	6-8

School	Enrollment	Charter Type	Year Opened	Grades Served (2018)
DuBois Middle School of Arts Technology	129	Start-up	2013-14	6-8
Freedom Preparatory Academy	672	Start-up	2009-10	6-12
Freedom Preparatory Academy Charter Schools	178	Start-up	2018-19	6-12
Freedom Preparatory Academy Elementary School	360	Start-up	2016-17	K-5
Gateway University	162	Start-up	2017-18	9-12
Granville T. Woods Academy of Innovation Charter School	417	Start-up	2015-16	K-8
Kaleidoscope School of Memphis	69	Start-up	2017-18	6-8
KIPP Memphis Collegiate Elementary	438	Start-up	2012-13	K-1
KIPP Memphis Collegiate High School	488	Start-up	2011-12	9-12
KIPP Memphis Collegiate Middle	323	Start-up	2008-09	5-8
KIPP Memphis Middle Academy	340	Start-up	2012-13	5-6
Leadership Preparatory Charter School	266	Start-up	2015-16	K-1
Memphis Academy of Health Sciences (Middle)	311	Start-up	2003-04	6-8
Memphis Academy of Health Sciences High School	423	Start-up	2008-09	9-12
Memphis Academy of Science Engineering Middle/High	605	Start-up	2003-04	6-12
Memphis Business Academy Elementary School	305	Start-up	2011-12	K-3
Memphis Business Academy Hickory Hill Elementary	69	Start-up	2018-19	PK-2
Memphis Business Academy Hickory Hill Middle	26	Start-up	2018-19	K-6
Memphis Business Academy High School	467	Start-up	2008-09	9-12
Memphis Business Academy Middle	479	Start-up	2005-06	6-7
Memphis College Preparatory	252	Start-up	2010-11	K-3
Memphis Delta Preparatory Charter School	341	Start-up	2016-17	K-8
Memphis Grizzlies Preparatory Charter School	346	Start-up	2012-13	6-7
Memphis Rise Academy	599	Start-up	2014-15	6-12
Memphis School of Excellence	522	Start-up	2013-14	6-12
Memphis School of Excellence Elementary	168	Start-up	2017-18	K-5
Memphis STEM Academy	185	Start-up	2016-17	K-5
Perea Elementary School	76	Start-up	2018-19	K-5
Power Center Academy Elementary - Southeast	127	Start-up	2017-18	K-5
Power Center Academy Elementary School	639	Start-up	2015-16	K-5
Power Center Academy High School	581	Start-up	2010-11	9-12
Power Center Academy Middle	432	Start-up	2011-12	6-8
Power Center Academy Middle - Southeast	227	Start-up	2016-17	6-8
Promise Academy	365	Start-up	2008-09	PK-5
Soulsville Charter School	658	Start-up	2005-06	6-12
Southern Avenue Charter School of Academic Excellence Creative Arts	364	Start-up	2005-06	K-5
Southwest Early College High School	178	Start-up	2017-18	9-12

School	Enrollment	Charter Type	Year Opened	Grades Served (2018)
Star Academy	277	Start-up	2010-11	K-5
The Excel Center	428	Start-up	2015-16	9-12
Veritas College Preparatory	142	Start-up	2004-05	6-8
Vision Preparatory Charter School	363	Start-up	2014-15	K-5

Achievement School District

School	Enrollment	Charter Type	Year Opened	Grades Served (2016)
Aspire Coleman	612	Conversion	2014-15	PK-7
Aspire Hanley Elementary	544	Conversion	2013-14	PK-5
Aspire Middle School	239	Conversion	2013-14	6-8
Brick Church: A LEAD Public School	305	Conversion	2012-13	5-8
Cornerstone Prep - Lester Campus	375	Conversion	2012-13	PK-5
Cornerstone Prep Denver Campus	590	Conversion	2015-16	PK-5
Fairley High School	520	Conversion	2014-15	9-12
Freedom Preparatory Academy Charter Elementary School	538	Conversion	2014-15	PK-5
Hillcrest High School	461	Conversion	2017-18	9-12
Humes Preparatory Academy Middle School	236	Conversion	2013-14	6-8
KIPP Memphis Academy Elementary	339	Conversion	2013-14	K-4
KIPP Memphis Preparatory Elementary	412	Conversion	2015-16	K-4
KIPP Memphis Preparatory Middle	296	Conversion	2013-14	5-8
Kirby Middle School	384	Conversion	2016-17	6-8
Lester Prep	246	Conversion	2014-15	6-8
Libertas School	286	Start-up	2015-16	PK-5
Martin Luther King Preparatory High School	513	Conversion	2014-15	9-12
Memphis Scholars Caldwell-Guthrie	460	Conversion	2016-17	PK-5
Memphis Scholars Florida Kansas	244	Conversion	2015-16	PK-5
Memphis Scholars Raleigh-Egypt	103	Conversion	2016-17	6-8
Neely's Bend: A LEAD Public School	499	Conversion	2015-16	5-8
Pathways in Education - TN	174	Contract	2014-15	9-12
Pathways in Education - Whitehaven	173	Contract	2014-15	9-12
Promise Academy - Spring Hill	412	Conversion	2014-15	PK-5
Westside Middle School	296	Conversion	2018-19	6-8
Wooddale Middle School	398	Conversion	2015-16	6-8

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School	Enrollment	Charter Type	Year Opened	Grades Served (2018)
Bluff City High School	305	Start-up	2017-18	9-10
KIPP Antioch College Prep Elementary	144	Start-up	2018-19	K-1

Appendix B. Charter School Performance, Grades 3-8

Hamilton County

School	Composite TVAAS	% On Track or Mastered		
		Reading	Math	Social Studies
Chattanooga Charter School of Excellence	5	10%	20%	N/A
Chattanooga Charter School of Excellence Middle School	5	18%	21%	9%
Chattanooga Girls Leadership Academy	5	28%	32%	40%
Chattanooga Preparatory	5	17%	36%	46%
Ivy Academy, Inc.	4	33%	28%	50%

Knox County

School	Composite TVAAS	% On Track or Mastered		
		Reading	Math	Social Studies
Emerald Academy	1	23%	17%	14%

Metro Nashville Public Schools

School	Composite TVAAS	% On Track or Mastered		
		Reading	Math	Social Studies
Cameron College Preparatory	5	14%	35%	33%
East End Preparatory School	1	31%	42%	52%
Explore Community School	N/A	27%	14%	N/A
Intrepid College Preparatory Charter School	2	27%	33%	34%
KA @ the Crossings	3	15%	18%	14%
KIPP Academy Nashville	5	29%	51%	28%
KIPP Academy Nashville Elementary School	5	16%	36%	N/A
KIPP Academy Nashville Elementary School	5	11%	26%	N/A
KIPP Nashville College Prep	5	26%	52%	27%
KIPP Nashville College Prep Elementary	N/A			
Knowledge Academy	4	16%	20%	24%
LEAD Prep Southeast	5	22%	39%	46%
Liberty Collegiate Academy	5	28%	44%	22%
Nashville Academy of Computer Science	5	22%	30%	24%
Nashville Classical	3	49%	65%	N/A
Nashville Prep	5	18%	35%	36%

School	Composite TVAAS	% On Track or Mastered		
		Reading	Math	Social Studies
New Vision Academy	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Purpose Prep	2	52%	45%	N/A
Rocketship Nashville Northeast Elementary	5	25%	34%	N/A
Rocketship United	3	28%	48%	N/A
Smithson Craighead Academy	5	19%	26%	N/A
STEM Prep Academy	5	28%	34%	45%
Strive Collegiate Academy	1	21%	14%	32%
Valor Flagship Academy	5	65%	83%	88%
Valor Voyager Academy	5	53%	78%	73%

Shelby County

School	Composite TVAAS	% On Track or Mastered		
		Reading	Math	Social Studies
Arrow Academy of Excellence	4	26%	26%	N/A
Aspire East Academy	N/A	11%	23%	N/A
Aurora Collegiate Academy	5	38%	47%	N/A
Believe Memphis Academy	5	15%	36%	N/A
Circles Of Success Learning Academy	3	28%	35%	N/A
City University Boys Preparatory	3	7%	24%	10%
City University School Girls Preparatory	1	7%	21%	**
City University School of Independence	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
City University School of Liberal Arts	5	N/A	N/A	N/A
DuBois Elementary School of Arts Technology	1	10%	16%	N/A
DuBois Elementary School of Entrepreneurship	3	26%	30%	22%
DuBois Middle School of Arts Technology	2	6%	6%	**
DuBois Middle School of Leadership Public Policy	5	14%	10%	26%
Freedom Preparatory Academy	5	13%	33%	26%
Freedom Preparatory Academy Elementary School	3	12%	24%	N/A
Granville T. Woods Academy of Innovation Charter School	3	13%	12%	8%
Kaleidoscope School of Memphis	3	9%	10%	**
KIPP Memphis Collegiate Elementary	5	5%	18%	N/A
KIPP Memphis Collegiate Middle	2	7%	10%	**
KIPP Memphis Middle Academy	2	10%	5%	10%
Leadership Preparatory Charter School	1	27%	26%	N/A
Memphis Academy Of Health Sciences	1	6%	10%	14%
Memphis Academy Of Science Engineering Middle/High	4	11%	12%	16%

School	Composite TVAAS	% On Track or Mastered		
		Reading	Math	Social Studies
Memphis Business Academy Elementary School	3	22%	32%	N/A
Memphis Business Academy Hickory Hill Elementary School	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Memphis Business Academy Hickory Hill Middle School	5	27%	58%	**
Memphis Business Academy Middle	1	12%	17%	8%
Memphis College Preparatory	1	17%	20%	N/A
Memphis Delta Preparatory Charter School	3	7%	20%	N/A
Memphis Grizzlies Preparatory Charter School	3	14%	18%	41%
Memphis Rise Academy	5	28%	60%	48%
Memphis School of Excellence	3	19%	21%	30%
Memphis School of Excellence Elementary	2	20%	40%	N/A
Memphis STEM Academy	N/A	17%	39%	N/A
Perea Elementary School	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Power Center Academy Elementary - Southeast	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Power Center Academy Elementary School	1	8%	16%	N/A
Power Center Academy Middle	4	22%	31%	30%
Power Center Academy Middle - Southeast	3	18%	16%	20%
Promise Academy	1	16%	32%	N/A
Soulsville Charter School	3	15%	17%	15%
Southern Avenue Charter School Of Academic Excellence Creative Arts	1	16%	29%	N/A
Star Academy	1	16%	22%	N/A
Veritas College Preparatory	3	12%	18%	16%
Vision Preparatory Charter School	3	21%	14%	N/A

Achievement School District

School	Composite TVAAS	% On Track or Mastered		
		Reading	Math	Social Studies
Aspire Coleman	1	6%	11%	**
Aspire Hanley Elementary	4	6%	15%	N/A
Aspire Middle School	1	**	9%	**
Brick Church: A LEAD Public School	5	8%	10%	16%
Cornerstone Prep - Lester Campus	2	9%	12%	N/A
Cornerstone Prep Denver Campus	5	10%	27%	N/A
Freedom Preparatory Academy Charter Elementary School	3	12%	22%	N/A
Humes Preparatory Academy Middle School	1	5%	**	**
KIPP Memphis Academy Elementary	1	7%	18%	N/A
KIPP Memphis Preparatory Elementary	2	6%	13%	N/A

School	Composite TVAAS	% On Track or Mastered		
		Reading	Math	Social Studies
KIPP Memphis Preparatory Middle	1	7%	8%	6%
Kirby Middle School	1	8%	7%	9%
Lester Prep	5	7%	17%	16%
Libertas School	N/A	16%	5%	N/A
Memphis Scholars Caldwell-Guthrie	4	5%	12%	N/A
Memphis Scholars Florida Kansas	1	**	9%	N/A
Memphis Scholars Raleigh-Egypt	2	**	5%	7%
Neely's Bend: A LEAD Public School	5	13%	14%	20%
Promise Academy - Spring Hill	1	7%	13%	N/A
Westside Middle School	3	**	**	5%
Wooddale Middle School	1	8%	8%	9%

Tennessee State Board of Education

School	Composite TVAAS	% On Track or Mastered		
		Reading	Math	Social Studies
KIPP Antioch College Prep Elementary	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: ** Indicates that results were suppressed due to FERPA regulations.

Appendix C. Charter School Performance, Grades 9-12⁷

Hamilton County								
School	Composite TVAAS	Graduation Rate	% On Track or Mastered					
			Alg I	Alg II	Eng I	Eng II	Geometry	US History
Chattanooga Girls Leadership Academy	5	96%	20%	54%	29%	28%	39%	N/A
Chattanooga Preparatory School	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ivy Academy, Inc.	4	91%	15%	14%	37%	39%	38%	41%
Metro Nashville Public Schools								
School	Composite TVAAS	Graduation Rate	% On Track or Mastered					
			Alg I	Alg II	Eng I	Eng II	Geometry	US History
Intrepid College Prep	2	N/A	20%	67%	40%	47%	59%	N/A
KIPP Nashville Collegiate High School	1	84%	12%	33%	31%	44%	35%	**
Knowledge Academies High School	1	90%	**	6%	10%	18%	9%	**
Lead Academy	3	88%	11% (IM I)	14% (IM III)	18%	21%	10% (IM II)	13%
Lead Prep Southeast	5	N/A	14% (IM I)	33% (IM III)	20%	38%	12% (IM II)	27%
RePublic High School	1	91%	12% (IM I)	** (IM III)	22%	23%	12% (IM II)	11%
STEM Prep High School	3	93%	5% (IM I)	32% (IM III)	22%	41%	21% (IM II)	5%
Valor Flagship Academy	5	N/A	65%	N/A	63%	N/A	**	N/A

⁷No charter school in Knox County has this grade configuration.

Note: ** Indicates that results were masked due to FERPA regulations.

Shelby County

School	Composite TVAAS	Graduation Rate	% On Track or Mastered					
			Alg I	Alg II	Eng I	Eng II	Geometry	US History
City University School of Independence	N/A	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
City University School Of Liberal Arts	5	94%	13%	13%	9%	28%	20%	16%
Crosstown High School	1	N/A	**	N/A	45%	N/A	63%	N/A
Freedom Preparatory Academy	5	91%	11%	17%	23%	18%	25%	N/A
Gateway University	1	N/A	**	N/A	12%	12%	**	**
KIPP Memphis Collegiate High School	2	87%	8%	**	9%	17%	13%	5%
Memphis Academy of Health Sciences High School	3	91%	9%	**	**	25%	11%	5%
Memphis Academy Of Science Engineering Middle/High	4	99%	12%	9%	15%	23%	13%	10%
Memphis Business Academy High School	2	94%	**	**	13%	27%	5%	9%
Memphis Rise Academy	5	N/A	44%	47%	16%	45%	33%	N/A
Memphis School of Excellence	3	98%	23%	15%	15%	30%	28%	12%

School	Composite TVAAS	Graduation Rate	% On Track or Mastered					
			Alg I	Alg II	Eng I	Eng II	Geometry	US History
Power Center Academy High School	1	95%	9%	6%	17%	22%	16%	5%
Soulsville Charter School	3	97%	12% (IM I)	25% (IM III)	22%	26%	18% (IM II)	27%
Southwest Early College High School	1	N/A	**	**	12%	21%	**	**
The Excel Center	1	15%	**	**	**	**	**	**

Achievement School District

School	Composite TVAAS	Graduation Rate	% On Track or Mastered					
			Alg I	Alg II	Eng I	Eng II	Geometry	US History
Fairley High School	1	81%	**	**	5%	5%	**	**
Hillcrest High School	3	60%	9%	**	5%	9%	**	6%
Martin Luther King Preparatory High School	1	73%	**	**	**	**	**	**
Pathways in Education - TN	3	12%	**	11%	N/A	7%	N/A	**
Pathways in Education - Whitehaven	2	11%	**	**	7%	6%	**	14%

Tennessee State Board of Education

School	Composite TVAAS	Graduation Rate	% On Track or Mastered					
			Alg I	Alg II	Eng I	Eng II	Geometry	US History
Bluff City High School	5	N/A	**	N/A	8%	11%	7%	N/A

Note: ** Indicates that results were suppressed due to FERPA regulations.

Appendix D: Student Mobility

Student Mobility Rates by School 2018-19: Defined as the number of students who transferred out of a school in a given school year, divided by the total number of students who attended the school at any point during the school year. Notes:

- Only includes a student’s primary enrollment
- Excluded students who entered and exited the school on the same day
- Excluded students whose end date at a school preceded their begin date
- Excluded students who entered a school in July or August and remained less than 14 days in the same school
- Students who entered and exited the same school multiple times within a school year are only counted once for that school

Hamilton County	
School	Percentage of Students who Transferred
Chattanooga Charter School of Excellence	5%
Chattanooga Charter School of Excellence Middle School	3%
Chattanooga Girls Leadership Academy	3%
Chattanooga Preparatory	2%
Ivy Academy, Inc.	4%
Knox County	
School	Percentage of Students who Transferred
Emerald Academy	19%
Metro Nashville Public Schools	
School	Percentage of Students who Transferred
Cameron College Preparatory	15%

School	Percentage of Students who Transferred
East End Preparatory School	7%
Explore Community School	10%
Intrepid College Preparatory Charter School	12%
KA @ the Crossings	17%
KIPP Academy Nashville	6%
KIPP Academy Nashville Elementary School	15%
KIPP Nashville College Prep (Middle)	9%
KIPP Nashville College Prep Elementary	12%
KIPP Nashville Collegiate High School	6%
Knowledge Academies High School	14%
Knowledge Academy	18%
Lead Academy	12%
LEAD Prep Southeast	10%
Liberty Collegiate Academy	12%
Nashville Academy of Computer Science	19%
Nashville Classical	4%
Nashville Prep	15%
New Vision Academy (*School Closed)	100%
Purpose Preparatory Academy	10%
RePublic High School	13%
Rocketship Nashville Northeast Elementary	14%
Rocketship United	12%
Smithson Craighead Academy	7%
STEM Prep Academy	9%
STEM Prep High School	6%
Strive Collegiate Academy	12%
Valor Flagship Academy	4%
Valor Voyager Academy	4%
Shelby County	
School	Percentage of Students who Transferred
Arrow Academy of Excellence	6%
Aspire East Academy	9%
Aurora Collegiate Academy	4%
Believe Memphis Academy	16%
Circles Of Success Learning Academy	5%
City University Boys Preparatory	11%

School	Percentage of Students who Transferred
City University School Girls Preparatory	6%
City University School of Independence	0%
City University School of Liberal Arts	13%
Crosstown High School	5%
DuBois Elementary School of Arts Technology	12%
DuBois Elementary School of Entrepreneurship	9%
DuBois Middle of Leadership Public Policy	12%
DuBois Middle School of Arts Technology	11%
Freedom Preparatory Academy	13%
Freedom Preparatory Academy Charter Schools	4%
Freedom Preparatory Academy Elementary School	12%
Gateway University	16%
Granville T. Woods Academy of Innovation Charter School	8%
Kaleidoscope School of Memphis	13%
KIPP Memphis Collegiate Elementary	8%
KIPP Memphis Collegiate High School	16%
KIPP Memphis Collegiate Middle	18%
KIPP Memphis Middle Academy	15%
Leadership Preparatory Charter School	10%
Memphis Academy of Health Sciences (Middle)	6%
Memphis Academy of Health Sciences High School	15%
Memphis Academy of Science Engineering Middle/High	8%
Memphis Business Academy Elementary School	8%
Memphis Business Academy Hickory Hill Elementary	18%
Memphis Business Academy Hickory Hill Middle	17%
Memphis Business Academy High School	8%
Memphis Business Academy Middle	5%
Memphis College Preparatory	19%
Memphis Delta Preparatory Charter School	22%
Memphis Grizzlies Preparatory Charter School	12%
Memphis Rise Academy	7%
Memphis School of Excellence	9%
Memphis School of Excellence Elementary	11%
Memphis STEM Academy	4%
Perea Elementary School	11%

School	Percentage of Students who Transferred
Power Center Academy Elementary - Southeast	9%
Power Center Academy Elementary School	5%
Power Center Academy High School	11%
Power Center Academy Middle	4%
Power Center Academy Middle - Southeast	8%
Promise Academy	14%
Soulsville Charter School	11%
Southern Avenue Charter School of Academic Excellence Creative Arts	7%
Southwest Early College High School	12%
Star Academy	11%
The Excel Center	69%
Veritas College Preparatory	13%
Vision Preparatory Charter School	11%

Achievement School District

School	Percentage of Students who Transferred
Aspire Coleman	11%
Aspire Hanley Elementary	13%
Aspire Middle School	13%
Brick Church: A LEAD Public School	15%
Cornerstone Prep - Lester Campus	9%
Cornerstone Prep Denver Campus	15%
Fairley High School	21%
Freedom Preparatory Academy Charter Elementary School	10%
Hillcrest High School	24%
Humes Preparatory Academy Middle School	16%
KIPP Memphis Academy Elementary	14%
KIPP Memphis Preparatory Elementary	13%
KIPP Memphis Preparatory Middle	12%
Kirby Middle School	11%
Lester Prep	8%
Libertas School	13%
Martin Luther King Preparatory High School	20%
Memphis Scholars Caldwell-Guthrie	15%
Memphis Scholars Florida Kansas	19%

School	Percentage of Students who Transferred
Memphis Scholars Raleigh-Egypt	18%
Neely's Bend: A LEAD Public School	12%
Pathways in Education - TN	42%
Pathways in Education - Whitehaven	31%
Promise Academy - Spring Hill	9%
Westside Middle School	13%
Wooddale Middle School	14%
Tennessee State Board of Education	
School	Percentage of Students who Transferred
Bluff City High School	13%
KIPP Antioch College Prep Elementary	5%