

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



2009-2010 and 2010-2011 Illinois Charter School Biennial Report

Submitted January 2012

Background

Charter schools are public schools governed by an independent board of directors that come into existence through a contract with an authorized public chartering agency. In Illinois, local school districts are the primary authorizers of charter schools. The charter — or contract — establishes the framework within which the school operates and provides public support for the school for a specified period of time. At the end of the contract period, the charter must be renewed.

Illinois adopted its Charter Schools Law in April 1996 as Article 27A of the Illinois School Code. In authorizing charter schools, 105 ILCS 5/27A-2 states that it is the intent of the General Assembly:

[T]o create a legitimate avenue for parents, teachers, and community members to take responsible risks and create new, innovative, and more flexible ways of educating children within the public school system. The General Assembly seeks to create opportunities within the public school system of Illinois for development of innovative and accountable teaching techniques.

To help them meet their goals, charter schools are afforded significant flexibility under the Illinois Charter Schools Law. The law exempts charter schools from nearly all mandates and restrictions applicable to public schools and school districts, except for those that are designed to protect the well-being and privacy of students and staff. Charter schools are operated by an independent governing board, and each charter school has complete autonomy over its educational plan and operations, provided that it adheres to the terms and conditions of its charter. Key components of the charter school's education plan, such as curriculum, staffing, professional development, length of school day and year, and "seat time," are left to the discretion of the charter school. In exchange for autonomy and flexibility in operations, charter schools are subject to rigorous accountability standards and can be closed if they are not performing.

Section 27A-12 of the School Code requires the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to issue a biennial report on Illinois charter schools (the "Charter School Report" or "Report") to the Governor and the General Assembly that evaluates Illinois charter schools and charter school authorizers (105 ILCS 5/27A-12). The biennial Charter School Report shines a spotlight on the performance and activities of Illinois charter schools and charter school authorizers; it allows law and policymakers and other government officials to evaluate what changes in the law might strengthen the charter school sector and how best to support these schools. This report is submitted for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years in compliance with Section 27A-12 of the Illinois Charter Schools Law.

Public Act 97-0152, effective July 20, 2011, added to what must be included in the Report contemplated by 27A-12. Specifically, pursuant to the amended Charter Schools Law, ISBE must now promulgate rules for collecting certain information from all local school boards with at least one charter school, as well as from the State Charter School Commission, and must report the following with respect to each charter school authorizer: (i) each authorizer's strategic vision for chartering and its progress toward achieving that vision; (ii) the academic and financial performance of each authorizer's charter schools; (iii) the status of each authorizer's charter school portfolio; and (iv) all authorizing functions provided by the authorizer and its operating costs and expenses.

Because this amendatory Act did not go into effect until late July 2011, and because the Commission was not appointed until the end of September 2011, ISBE staff did not have sufficient time to (i) promulgate rules for this new data collection; and/or (ii) collect such information in time for incorporation in this Report. Thus, the 2012 Illinois Charter School Report will include the same categories of data set forth in the last Charter School Report issued by this agency in January 2010.

Charter Landscape: Legal

In hindsight, 2011 was a watershed year for Illinois public education. First, as previously noted, the Illinois General Assembly passed a new charter law, Senate Bill 79 (Public Act 97-0152), which most significantly created the State Charter School Commission, an independent state agency with statewide chartering jurisdiction and authority. One of the primary functions of the Commission will be to hear, investigate and decide appeals in cases where a school district fails to act on a charter application or denies the application. ISBE previously decided charter appeals, but because ISBE has only overturned the decision of a local school district on three occasions since the passage of the Illinois Charter Law, an appeal to ISBE was not widely viewed as a viable path to authorization. The Commission is also charged with evaluating and determining best practices in charter school authorizing, including without limitation evaluating proposals, oversight of charter schools, and renewal of charter schools. In future charter reports, the Commission may play a substantial role in collecting, analyzing and distilling data regarding the collective performance of Illinois' charter schools.

In addition, 2011 also saw the passage of another key piece of education reform: Senate Bill 7 (Public Act 97-8). Senate Bill 7 stemmed in part from the Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA) (Senate Bill 315, Public Act 96-0861). PERA, signed by the Governor into law in January 2010, requires school districts and other covered entities to include student growth as a "significant factor" in evaluating principals, assistant principals, and teachers by certain implementation dates; requires that evaluations include a four category rating system; and regulates training programs for anyone undertaking such evaluations. Senate Bill 7, an offshoot of PERA, regulates the relationship between school districts and covered entities and employees in a number of ways, ranging from the standard for certificate/license actions against an educator for incompetency, to acquisition of tenure, to reductions in force/layoffs and recall rights. These laws will not impact charter schools but are so significant in terms of their impact on the public education system as a whole that they bear mention here.

Charter Landscape: Facts at a Glance

Charter schools are a continuously growing sector of Illinois' public education system. There are currently 52 charter schools and 123 charter school campuses operating across the State, with a total student enrollment of just under 50,000.

Charter Schools By the Numbers (as of the 2011-2012 school year)

- 52 charter schools: 43 start-up charter schools and 9 contract to charter school conversions. Two of the 9 conversion schools—Urban Prep Bronzeville and Instituto Health Sciences Career Academy, converted from contract to charter school prior to commencing operations. This total number of charter schools does not include the Academy of Communications & Technology (“ACT”) Charter school, which voluntarily suspended operations after the 2009-2010 school year for a period not to exceed 2 years, for financial and academic reasons.
- Under the Charter Law, schools *outside* of Chicago have the ability to create new campuses under an existing charter (i.e, to “replicate”) if authorized under their negotiated charter contract. No charter schools outside of Chicago have replicated to date. Conversely, a 2003 amendment to the Charter School Law restricts charter schools within Chicago to one campus per charter, but this did not apply to charter schools granted replicating status prior to 2003. There are now 13 charter schools in Chicago with the ability to create multiple campuses under the same charter. Including all campuses of these multi-campus charter schools, there are 123 charter school campuses in current operation. This number does not include ACT Charter School's one campus.
- 49,066 charter school students.
- Statewide, 2.4 percent of public school students enrolled in charter schools.
- Within Chicago, 11 percent of public school students enrolled in charter schools.

Charter School Academic Performance

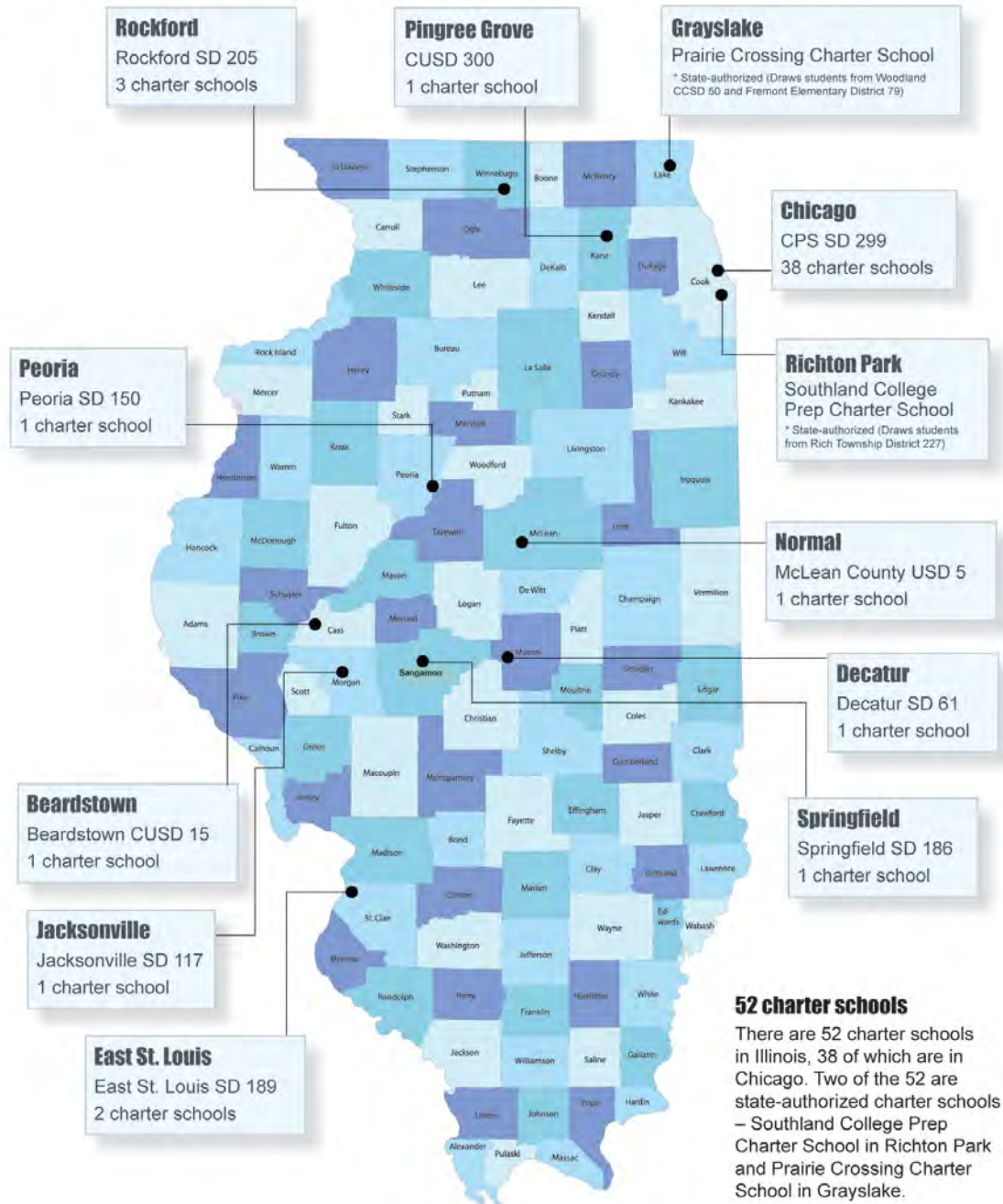
- In 2009-2010, 26.3 percent of charter schools made Adequate Yearly Progress. And 13.6 percent of charter schools made AYP in 2010-2011. The decrease followed increased performance benchmarks under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.
- The 2009-2010 high school graduation rate among all charter schools was 80.3 percent. The 2010-2011 high school graduation rate among all charter schools was 63.5 percent.

Charter School Landscape

- Thirteen school districts currently have at least one charter school. This number includes three school districts — Rich Township High School District 227, Woodland School District 50 and Fremont School District 79 — each served by state-authorized charter schools.
- The vast majority of charter schools are located in Chicago.

- In 2011, CPS District 299 received: Five full proposals to create new campuses of existing charter schools (four approved, one application withdrawn); three full proposals for charters classified as traditional new starts (one approved, two applications withdrawn). CPS also invited four charter schools and three contract schools to submit full proposals for alternative charters (one contract school provider elected not to submit a full proposal). Recommendations on these RFP submissions are now being finalized.
- Outside of Chicago, charter development teams submitted charter proposals to Maywood-Melrose Park-Broadview School District 89, Decatur Public Schools District 61 and Thornton Township High Schools District 205; in addition, the Early College Charter School development team submitted a multidistrict charter application to 11 different school districts served by Richland Community College in Decatur. All of the proposals were denied, with the exception of the Decatur application by the Pearlee Charter School development team, which was withdrawn by the developer prior to the public hearing.
- New charter schools opening in 2011-2012:
 - One new charter school, Kwame Nkrumah Academy Charter School serving grades K-8, opened in Chicago. Kwame is a contract to charter school conversion rather than a true new start. Kwame operated as a contract school from 2008-2009 through the 2010-2011 school year.
 - Four new charter school campuses opened in CPS District 299: LEARN Charter School Network (one new campus, five campuses total in 2011-2012); Chicago International Charter School Network (one new campus, 15 campuses total in 2011-2012); and UNO Charter School Network (two new campuses, 11 campuses total in 2011-2012)
 - One new charter school, 8 Points Charter School, opened in Jacksonville School District 117. This is Jacksonville’s first charter school, serving grades 5-8.
- Future openings:
 - Chicago Public Schools District 299 has approved three new start up charter schools — a third Catalyst School (to serve grades K-12), Legal Prep Charter Academy (to serve grades 9-12), and Montessori School of Englewood Charter (to serve grades K-6) — as well as six new charter campuses to open during the 2012-2013 school year. New campuses include: Noble Charter School Network (two new campuses, 12 campuses total); LEARN Charter School Network (one new campus, six campuses total); and UNO Charter School Network (three new campuses, 14 campuses total).
 - CPS District 299 has also approved one new charter school, Christopher House (to serve grades K-8), and seven new campuses for existing charter schools to open in 2013-2014. New campuses include: Noble Network of Charter Schools (two new campuses, 14 campuses total); LEARN Charter School Network (two new campuses, eight campuses total); and UNO Charter School Network (three new campuses, 17 campuses total).
 - Outside of Chicago, no new charters are currently scheduled to open in 2012-2013 or beyond.

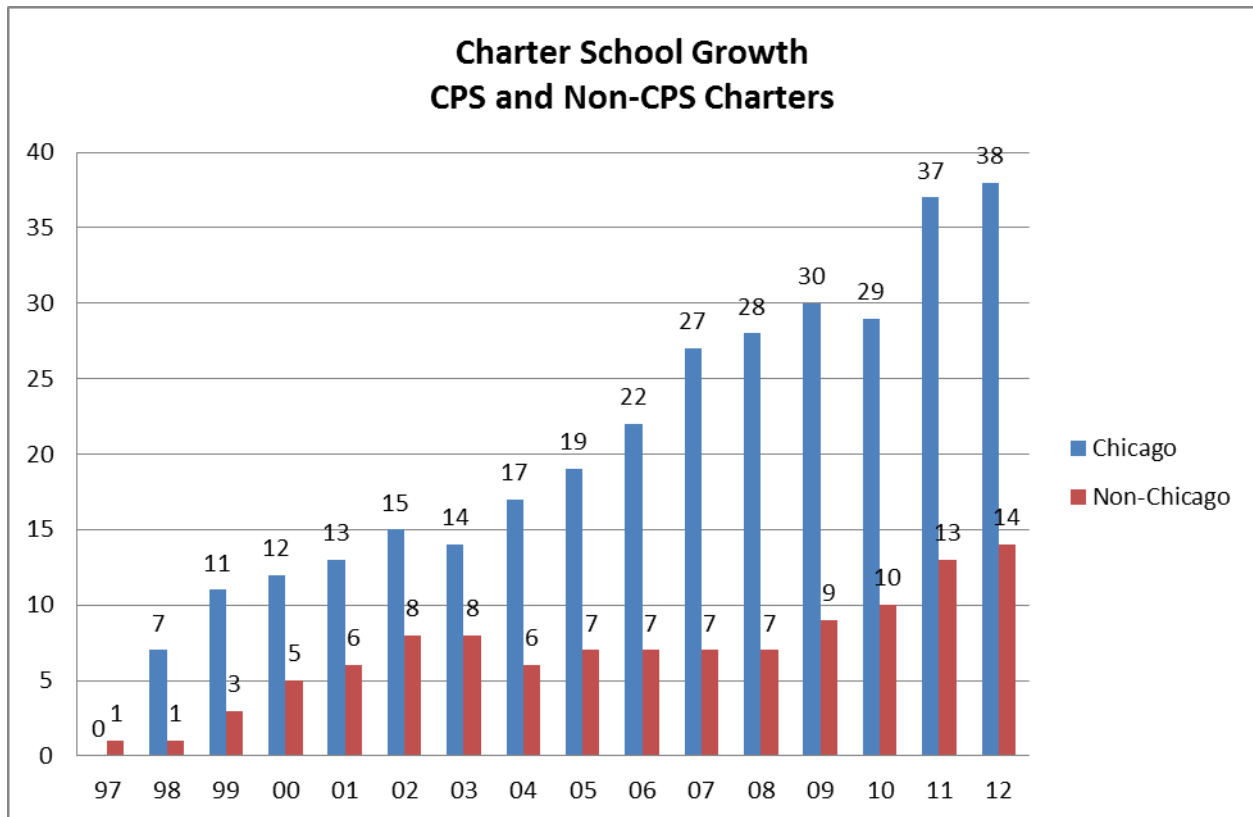
Charter schools in Illinois



1. Number of Charter Schools and Enrollment Trends

The Illinois Charter Schools Law is structured to establish separate “caps” for the number of charter schools that may operate at one time in Chicago and in the remainder of the State. Since the law passed, the Illinois General Assembly has voted twice to increase the charter cap for CPS District 299 (from 15 to 30 in 2003 and from 30 to 75 in 2009, including five charters devoted exclusively to re-enrolled high school dropouts) in response to Chicago reaching the cap in the preceding years. In 2009 the cap also increased outside of Chicago, from 30 to 45. As a result, the number of charter schools in Illinois has grown steadily, from one charter school in 1996-1997 to 52 charter schools (38 schools in Chicago and 14 outside) and 123 campuses operating during the 2011-2012 school year. This data comes from ISBE’s School Directory, and does not include ACT Charter School, which temporarily suspended its operations after the 2009-2010 school year.

Table 1A: Growth in Number of Charters Since 1997



In 2011, ISBE for the first time collected data from each individual charter school *campus* for purposes of creating a campus-level report card. The public can now evaluate and compare the performance of charter schools as a whole, as well as the performance of campuses within each charter network. Previously, ISBE did not disaggregate data by charter campus, so this Report does not include a chart showing charter campus growth, which would be a more complete picture of the growth of charter schools in Illinois. However, Table 1B below shows charter school student enrollment since 2000, which is more illustrative of growth in the charter sector over time than is the number of charters. Data in Tables 1B and 1C below come from the statewide Student Information System.

Table 1B: Growth in Charter School Enrollment Since 2000

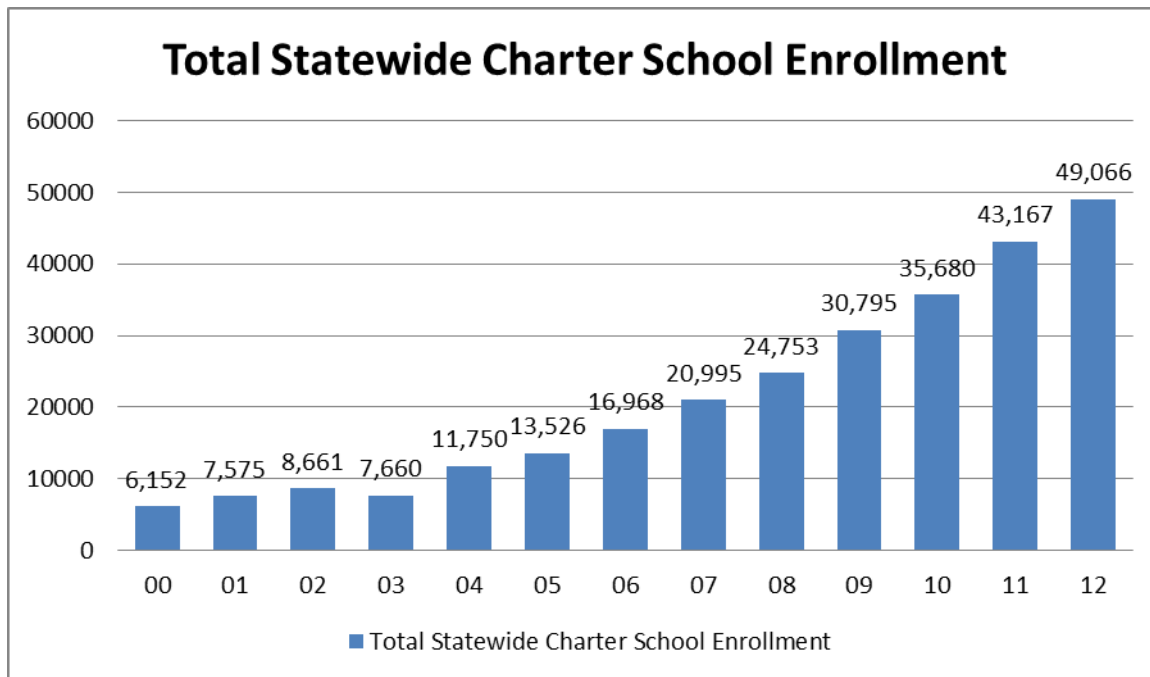


Table 1C: District and Charter 5-Year Enrollment Trends

District/Charter Schools (# of campuses 2011-2012)	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	Estimated 2011-2012
CPS District 299	380,787	409,055	404,589	403,770	412,929
Academy for Global Citizenship (AGC) Charter School				176	246
Academy of Communications & Technology (ACT) Charter High School	296	360	324		
Alain Locke Charter Academy Charter School	506	502	511	572	587
Amandla Charter School		101	216	298	345
Architecture, Construction, and Engineering (ACE) Tech Charter School	462	491	507	479	502
Aspira Charter School (3 campuses)	1,012	1,169	1,333	1,489	1,490
Betty Shabazz International Charter School (3 campuses)	741	880	879	1012	996
Bronzeville Lighthouse Charter School	349	409	457	470	452
Catalyst Elementary Charter School - Circle Rock				491	520
Catalyst Charter School - Howland	192	338	389	495	507
Chicago International Charter School (CICS) (15 campuses)	6,306	7,281	8,076	8,586	8,890
Chicago Math & Science Academy (CMSA) Charter School	388	488	599	586	589
Chicago Talent Development Charter High				212	203
Chicago Virtual Charter High School	381	611	553	564	590

District/Charter Schools (# of campuses 2011-2012)	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	Estimated 2011-2012
EPIC Academy Charter High School				244	362
Erie Elementary Charter School	160	206	247	297	350
Galapagos Charter School	274	316	316	350	350
Henry Ford Academy: Power House Charter High School		110	260	373	453
Instituto Health Sciences Career Academy (IHSCA) Charter High School				181	336
KIPP Ascend Charter School	318	328	320	430	552
Kwame Nkrumah Charter Academy					214
L.E.A.R.N. Charter School (5 campuses)	365	581	957	1,351	1,889
Legacy Charter School	252	303	368	442	512
Namaste Charter School	250	312	370	419	453
Noble Street Charter School (10 campuses)	1,331	2,210	3,683	5,330	6,544
North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School (2 campuses)	463	644	741	882	883
Passages Charter School	229	239	291	373	425
Perspectives Charter School (5 campuses)	1,081	1,659	2,201	2,224	2,319
Polaris Charter Academy	116	181	244	280	335
Prologue - Joshua Johnston Charter School for Fine Art and Design				95	202
Providence Englewood Charter School	287	400	415	392	404
Rowe Elementary Charter School				248	349
University of Chicago Charter School (UCCS) (4 campuses)	1,064	1,247	1,563	1,695	1,713
UNO Charter School (11 campuses)	2,325	3,334	3,428	4,328	5,380
Urban Prep Academy for Young Men Charter School	265	450	565	517	482
Urban Prep Academy for Young Men Charter High School - West				226	371
Urban Prep Academy for Young Men Charter High School- Bronzeville				136	268
Young Women's Leadership Charter School ("YWLCS")	339	350	334	325	322
Youth Connection Charter School (YCCS) (23 "locations")	2,842	3,371	3,408	3,513	4,082
BEARDSTOWN CUSD 15	1,382	1,428	1,464	1,422	1,640
Beardstown Charter Academy		23	25	26	31
CUSD 300	18,532	19,329	19,680	20,274	20,821
Cambridge Lakes Charter School	512	411	477	584	739
DECATUR SD 61	8,782	8,558	8,739	8,624	9,051
Robertson Charter School	227	222	236	299	275
EAST ST. LOUIS SD 189		7,520	7,374	7,275	7,049
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville - East St. Louis Charter School	106	100	106	113	113
Tomorrow's Builders YouthBuild Charter School	126	79	76	123	69
JACKSONVILLE SD 117	3,450	3,462	3,418	3,499	3,652

District/Charter Schools (# of campuses 2011-2012)	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	Estimated 2011-2012
8 Points Charter School					83
MCLEAN CUSD 5	12,452	12,593	12,855	13,031	13,268
YouthBuild McLean County Charter School		20	34	40	45
PEORIA SD 150	13,642	13,825	13,021	14,266	14,038
Quest Charter Academy				219	295
WOODLAND CCSD 50	7,130	6,977	6,840	6,713	6,521
FREMONT SD 79	2,087	2,153	2,125	2,256	2,202
PRAIRIE CROSSING CHARTER SCHOOL	360	361	362	392	391
ROCKFORD SD 205	27,622	26,990	27,181	27,579	28,213
CICS-Rockford Patriots Charter School				251	351
Galapagos Rockford Charter School			94	208	250
Legacy Academy of Excellence Charter School			269	266	331
RICH TOWNSHIP HSD 227	4,287	4,167	4,032	4,031	3,905
SOUTHLAND COLLEGE PREP CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL				122	249
SPRINGFIELD SD 186	14,157	14,120	14,543	14,561	15,074
Springfield Ball Charter School	378	417	446	443	378

As public schools, charter schools must be open to all students who reside in the school district served, and if there are more applications to the school than spaces available, enrollment must be determined by lottery. Preference is allowed under the Illinois Charter Law only under the following limited circumstances: for siblings of pupils enrolled in the charter school and pupils who were enrolled in the charter school the previous school year. The law also allows CPS District 299 to create a limited number of attendance boundaries for charter schools — as needed to relieve overcrowding or to better serve low-income and at-risk students — and students within such attendance boundaries may receive preference in the lottery process. Finally, the law allows CPS District 299 to authorize up to five charter schools devoted exclusively to re-enrolled high school dropouts, and such schools may restrict admission to students who are high school dropouts. Table 1D provides lottery information for the 2009-2010 and 2010-211 school years. The lottery data was self-reported by charter schools on annual surveys. The “grades served” and “number of sites” data is also self-reported on the surveys, but gaps for non-reporting schools were filled by data from CPS District 299 and/or ISBE School Report Card data.

Table 1D: Grades Served, Number of Campuses and Lottery Results, 2009-2011

Charter School	Grades Served		Number of Sites		Lottery Used # Students Selected/ # of Apps Received	
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011
CPS DISTRICT 299	PK-12	PK-12	611	617		
AGC		K-3		1		22/310
ACT	7-12		1		NR	
Alain Locke	PK-8	PK-8	1	1	40/643	20/474
Amandla	5-6	5-7	1	1	No lottery	No lottery
ACE Tech	9-12	9-12	1	1	140/410	150/196
Aspira	6-12	6-12	3	3	54/157	435/685
Betty Shabazz	K-12	K-12	3	3	146/638	150/242
Bronzeville Lighthouse	K-8	K-8	1	1	31/359	NR
Catalyst - Circle Rock		K-8		1		196/471
Catalyst - Howland	K-8	K-8	1	1	No lottery	No lottery
CICS	PK-12	K-12	13	14	1344/3899	967/2167
CMSA	6-12	6-12	1	1	40/967	NR
Chicago Talent		9-10		1		No lottery
Chicago Virtual	K-11	K-12	1	1	79/287	102/314
EPIC		9-10		1		150/561
Erie Elementary	K-5	K-6	1	1	39/89	54/102
Galapagos – Chicago	K-8	K-8	1	1	102/372	95/380
Henry Ford Academy	9-10	9-11	1	1	120/560	150/573
IHSCA		9		1		NR
KIPP Ascend	5-8	K, 5-8	1	1	20/143	24/644
Kwame Nkrumah						
L.E.A.R.N.	PK-8	K-8	3	4	397/425	288/425
Legacy- Chicago	PK-6	PK-7	1	1	32/210	168/254
Namaste	K-6	K-7	1	1	61/287	64/368
Noble Street	9-12	9-12	9	10	605/5657	1428/6304

Charter School	Grades Served		Number of Sites		<u>Lottery Used</u> # Students Selected/ # of Apps Received	
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011
North Lawndale	9-12	9-12	2	2	250/745	250/1164
Passages	PK-7	PK-7	1	1	NR	NR
Perspectives	6-12	6-12	5	5	973/4787	754/4956
Polaris	K-4	K-5	1	1	65/140	63/166
Prologue – Joshua Johnston		9-12		1		89/178
Providence Englewood	K-8	K-8	1	1	115/569	130/200
Rowe Elementary		K-3		1		No lottery
UCCS	PK-12	PK-12	4	4	373/1503	411/1074
UNO	K-10	K-11	8	9	1491/1491	4565/4565
Urban Prep	9-12	9-12	1	1	160/524	135/324
Urban - West		9-10		1		NR
Urban Prep - Bronzeville		9		1		135/281
YWLCS	7-12	7-12	1	1	70/580	NR
YCCS	10-12	10-12	22	22	No lottery	3885/6889
BEARDSTOWN CUSD 15	K-12	K-12	4	4		
Beardstown Charter	9-12	9-12	1	1	No lottery	No lottery
CUSD 300	PK-12	PK-12	25	25		
Cambridge Lakes	K-8	K-8	1	1	No lottery	No lottery
DECATUR SD 61	PK-12	PK-12	21	21		
Robertson	K-8	K-8	1	1	45/182	115/240
EAST ST. LOUIS SD 189	PK-12	PK-12	19	18		
SIUE - East St. Louis Charter School	9-12	9-12	1	1	27/40	53/73
Tomorrow's Builders	9-12	9-12	1	1	No lottery	No lottery
JACKSONVILLE SD 117	K-12	K-12	9	9		
8 Points						
MCLEAN CUSD 5	PK-12	PK-12	21	22		
YouthBuild McLean County	9-12	9-12	1	1	35/35	No lottery

Charter School	Grades Served		Number of Sites		Lottery Used # Students Selected/ # of Apps Received	
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011
PEORIA SD 150	PK-12	PK-12	27	27		
Quest		5-7		1		NR
WOODLAND CCSD 50	PK-8	PK-8	4	4		
FREMONT SD 79	PK-8	PK-8	3	3		
PRAIRIE CROSSING	K-8	K-8	1	1	39/182	44/198
ROCKFORD SD 205	PK-12	PK-12	49	50		
CICS-Rockford Patriots		K-4		1		105/105
Galapagos - Rockford	K-3	K-4	1	1	NR	NR
Legacy – Rockford	K-5	K-6	1	1	No lottery	No lottery
RICH TOWNSHIP HSD 227	9-12	9-12	3	3		
SOUTHLAND COLLEGE PREP		9		1		125/186
SPRINGFIELD SD 186	PK-12	PK-12	32	33		
Springfield Ball Charter	K-8	K-8	1	1	68/381	73/325

* NR means that the charter school did not return a survey for that year.

Under Illinois Charter Law, a charter may be revoked or not renewed by its authorizer in cases where the charter school failed to comply with any of the requirements of Article 27A, or in the following specifically-enumerated circumstances: (1) the charter committed a material violation of its charter agreement; (2) the charter failed to meet or make reasonable progress toward achievement of the goals and objectives set forth in its charter; (3) the charter failed to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management; and/or (4) the charter violated any other provision of law from which it was not exempted. A charter school may also terminate operations by mutual agreement with the authorizer. As shown in Table 1E, 11 charter schools have closed since the 1996-97 school year. One additional charter school, ACT, voluntarily suspended operations for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 school years.

Table 1E: Charter Schools That Have Closed/Suspended Operations Since 1997

With the exception of Chicago Preparatory Charter School and Nuestra America Charter High School, each of these charter schools closed at the end of the school year indicated. Chicago Prep and Nuestra America each closed mid-school year. This data comes from ISBE's Public School Directory.

School Year	Total # Closed	CPS	Non-CPS	School Name(s)/Authorizer
96-97	0			
97-98	0			
98-99	2	1	1	Chicago Preparatory Charter School (CPS District 299) Peoria Alternative Charter School (Peoria SD 150)
99-00	0			
00-01	0			
01-02	1		1	Governor's State University Charter School (Crete-Monee District 201-U)
02-03	4	2	2	Nuestra America Charter High School (CPS District 299) Global Villages Charter School (CPS District 299)* Thomas Jefferson Charter School (CCSD 59, Des Plaines) KEYS (Keep Every Youth Successful) Charter School (Edwardsville SD 7)
03-04	0			
04-05	1	1		Triumphant Charter Middle School (CPS District 299)
05-06	0			
06-07	1		1	Lincoln Charter School (Venice, IL)
07-08	0			
08-09	2	1	1	Children's Choir Academy Charter School (CPS District 299) Ft. Bowman Charter School (Cahokia CUSD 187)
09-10	1	1		Academy of Communications & Technology ("ACT") Charter School** (CPS District 299)
10-11	0			

* Global Villages closed after 2003 and became: Passages Charter School (still open) and Children's Choir Academy Charter School (closed after 2008-2009 school year).

** ACT Charter voluntarily suspended operations for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 school years, but has not officially closed. The charter school is currently in the process of renewal with its authorizer, CPS District 299.

2. Charter School Demographics

One of the primary goals of the Illinois Charter Schools Law is to increase learning opportunities for all pupils, with a special emphasis on expanded learning opportunities for at-risk pupils. The Law provides the only definition for “at-risk” found in the Illinois School Code, defining the term as pupils who, because of physical, emotional, socioeconomic or cultural factors, are less likely to succeed in a conventional educational environment. Likewise, under the law, local school boards and the State Charter School Commission must give preference to charter proposals that are designed to enroll and serve a substantial proportion of at-risk children.

At the same time, as public schools of choice, the student body of a charter school is determined by parent selection plus a lottery process when the school is oversubscribed. The orientation of charter schools in Illinois varies widely, and such orientation may drive the student population (e.g., a charter school whose mission is to educate LEP students may have a higher population of Hispanic students than another school within the same district). With the confluence of these factors, a charter school’s demographics may not necessarily mirror the district’s population.

The following tables show student demographic data by charter school and as compared to student demographics of the school district where the charter schools are located and the state overall. As shown in Table 2A, charter schools overall serve a much higher percentage of minority students, especially black and Hispanic students, than the state overall. This is partly explained by the fact that the majority of charter schools are located in Chicago, where the percentage of minority students served by the school district is nearly twice as high as the statewide percentage (91.5 percent versus 48.6 percent for 2011, respectively). Within Chicago, charter schools serve a much higher percentage of black students than CPS (60.8 percent to the District’s 42.9 percent for 2011), but a lower percentage of Hispanic students than CPS (34.7 percent to the District’s 43.7 percent for 2011). Including all racial demographic groups, charter schools in Chicago serve a larger percentage of minority students than the school district (97.9 percent versus 91.5 percent for 2011, respectively).

Table 2A: Overall Student Demographic Data, all schools and charters

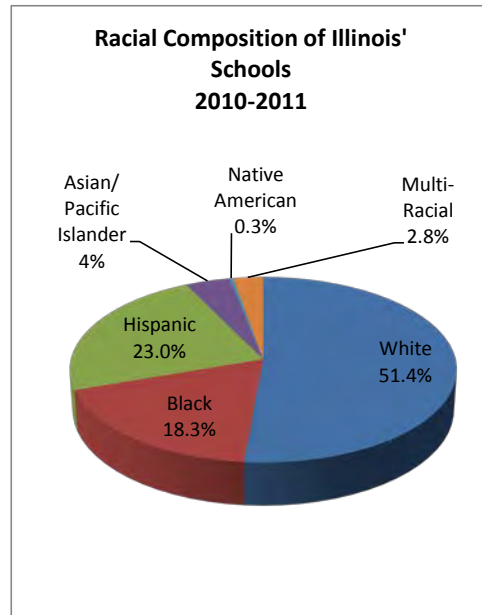
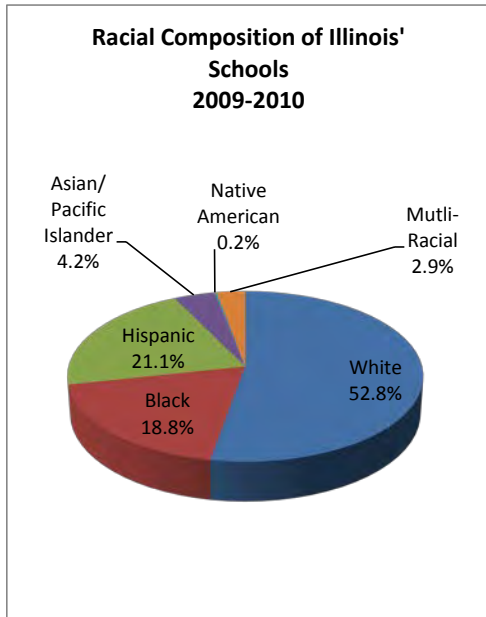
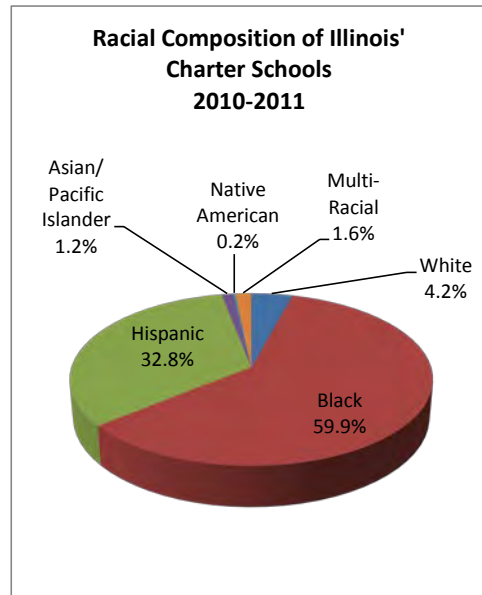
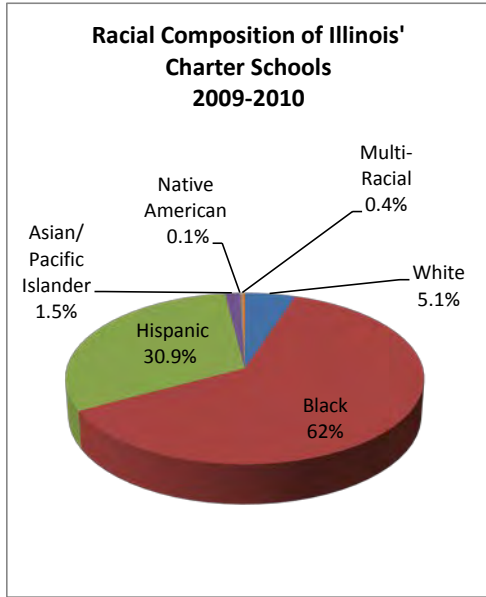


Table 2B identifies the racial composition of each charter school in Illinois, by school district. Within CPS, 79.3 percent of charter schools operating in 2009-2010 (23 of 29), and 75.7 percent of charter schools operating in 2010-2011 (28 of 37), served a larger percentage of Black students than the District. Chicago charter schools generally served a smaller percentage of Hispanic students than the District in both 2009-2010 (20.7 percent) and 2010-2011 (24.3 percent). Outliers include:

- Academy for Global Citizenship Charter School (80.1 percent Hispanic student population in '10-11);
- Aspira Charter School (88.6 percent Hispanic population in '10-11);
- Chicago Math Science Academy (62.8 percent Hispanic student population in '10-11);
- Erie Elementary Charter School (78.1 percent Hispanic student population in '10-11);
- Instituto Health Sciences Career Academy (94.5 percent Hispanic student population in '10-11);
- Namaste Charter (80.9 percent Hispanic student population in '10-11);
- Noble Street Charter (62.3 percent Hispanic population in '10-11);
- Rowe Elementary Charter (78.2 percent Hispanic student population in '10-11; and
- UNO Charter School (95 percent Hispanic student population in '10-11).

Again, these student demographics may largely be a function of the charter school's location and orientation. Another interesting anomaly is Chicago Virtual Charter School: Chicago Virtual is the only online charter school in Illinois and serves the highest percentage of non-minority students among Chicago charter schools, at 17.9 percent white in 2009-2010 and 14.4 percent white in 2010-2011.

Outside of Chicago, minorities are sometimes overrepresented in charter schools when compared to the feeder school districts, and in other cases underrepresented. For example:

- In 2010-2011, Cambridge Lakes Charter School in Pingree Grove, Illinois served a smaller percentage of black students (2.6 percent versus the District's 5.4 percent) and Hispanic students (20.2 percent versus the District's 31.8 percent) than the charter school's feeder district, CUSD 300.
- Beardstown Charter School had underrepresentation of Hispanic students in both 2009-2010 and 2011. These numbers have been redacted due to cell size.
- Finally, Prairie Crossing Charter School in Grayslake, Illinois has underrepresentation of minority students, with a minority student population of 22.7 percent in 2010-2011, as compared to the minority student population for Woodland CCSD 50, the larger of the charter school's two feeder districts, of 47.6 percent.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, Robertson Charter School in Decatur, YouthBuild McLean County Charter in McLean County Unit School District 5, and all three charter schools in Rockford (CICS-Rockford Patriots, Galapagos Rockford, and Legacy Rockford), all served a significantly higher

percentage of minority students than the school district. Of particular note is Robertson Charter School, which had a minority student population of 96.3 percent in 2010-2011, compared to the District's minority student population of 58.2 percent.

Table 2B: Student Demographics- Ethnicity and District Comparison

Charter School	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian		American Indian		Multi-Racial	
	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11
CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 299	9.1	8.5	45	42.9	42.1	43.7	3.7	3.3	0.2	0.4	0	1.2
AGC		13.1		*		80.1		0		*		*
ACT	*		99.1		*		0		0		0	
Alain Locke	0	*	99.2	97.7	*	*	0	0	0	*	0	*
Amandla	0	0	98.6	100	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ACE Tech	5.9	3.8	65.7	62.6	27.8	29.4	*	0	*	*	0	2.9
Aspira	4.5	2.9	7.2	6.4	86.4	88.6	1.9	1.5	0	*	0	*
Betty Shabazz	*	*	99.3	99	*	*	0	0	*	0	0	*
Bronzeville Lighthouse	*	*	98.2	98.1	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	*
Catalyst - Circle Rock		0		99		*		0		0		*
Catalyst - Howland	*	0	99.5	99	*	*	0	0	0	0	0	*
CICS	4.1	3.7	71.7	69.9	22.4	23.7	1.6	1.4	*	0	0	1.2
CMSA	7.7	3.8	26.2	22.7	58.6	62.8	7.5	6.7	0	*	0	3.4
Chicago Talent		0		97.2		*		0		0		*
Chicago Virtual	17.9	14.4	65.6	56.7	9.4	14.2	6.9	4.6	*	*	0	9.8
EPIC		*		65.2		30.3		0		*		*
Erie	*	*	15.8	17.8	81	78.1	*	*	0	0	0	*
Galapagos – Chicago	0	0	99.1	98.9	*	*	0	0	0	0	0	0
Henry Ford Academy	0	0	99.2	98.7	*	*	0	0	0	0	0	0
IHSCA		*		*		94.5		*		*		0
KIPP Ascend	*	*	98.1	93.5	*	5.1	0	0	0	0	0	*
Kwame Nkrumah												
L.E.A.R.N.	*	*	98.7	95.2	*	3.2	*	0	0	*	0	1.3
Legacy - Chicago	0	*	98.9	95.2	*	2.5	0	0	0	*	0	*
Namaste	10	10.3	7.8	5.5	78.4	80.9	*	*	*	*	0	*
Noble Street	3.5	1.9	30.2	32.6	65.3	62.3	1	1.1	0	0.4	0	1.8
North Lawndale	*	0	98.2	98.5	1.6	1.4	0	0	0	0	0	*
Passages	7.9	6.7	54.3	52.5	15.1	16.4	21.6	11.8	*	*	0	10.7
Perspectives	1	1	91.7	91.8	6.9	6	*	*	*	0	0	0.8
Polaris	*	0	90.6	92.1	9	7.5	0	0	0	0	0	*
Prologue –Joshua Johnston		0		98.9		*		0		0		0
Providence Englewood	0	0	98.8	96.7	*	2.6	0	*	*	0	0	*
Rowe Elementary		*		18.5		78.2		0		*		*
UCCS	*	*	98.5	97.8	0.8	0.9	*	*	*	*	0	0.6
UNO	1.2	0.7	4.8	2.7	93.5	95	0.4	*	*	*	0	1.2
Urban Prep	*	0	99.8	97.1	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	2.1
Urban Prep - West		0		98.7		*		0		0		0
Urban Prep - Bronzeville		0		98.5		*		0		0		0
YWLCs	6.6	6.8	78.7	77.5	14.4	14.2	*	0	0	*	0	*
YCCS	2.7	1.5	68.7	69.9	28.2	27.8	0.4	*	*	*	0	0.5
BEARDSTOWN CUSD 15	52.3	49.5	2.4	3.4	38.5	44.1	*	0	0	*	6.6	2.7
Beardstown Charter	80	69.2	*	*	*	*	0	0	0	0	*	*

Charter School	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian		American Indian		Multi-Racial	
	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11
CUSD 300	58	54.3	4.9	5.4	27.4	31.8	5.7	5.4	0.2	0.2	3.9	2.9
Cambridge Lakes	57	54.5	2.7	2.6	16.1	20.2	16.4	18.3	0	*	7.8	4.3
DECATUR SD 61	44	41.8	44.6	45.5	1.7	1.9	0.9	0.8	0.2	0.3	8.5	9.6
Robertson	*	3.7	90.3	89	*	*	0	0	0	0	5.9	7
EAST ST. LOUIS SD 189	0.2	0.4	98.2	98.6	1.3	0.8	0	*	0	0	0.2	*
SIUE - East St. Louis	*	0	99.1	99.1	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tomorrow's Builders	0	*	100	99.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JACKSONVILLE SD 117	83.4	82.8	7.3	7.8	1.5	2.1	0.8	0.8	0.3	*	6.7	6.3
8 Points												
MCLEAN COUNTY USD 5	70.7	69.6	11.7	11.8	5.1	6.8	6.1	6.4	0.2	0.3	6.1	5.1
YouthBuild McLean County	38.2	30	61.8	55	0	*	0	*	0	0	0	*
PEORIA SD 150	29	25.8	62.4	56.4	5.9	7.8	2	1.9	0.1	0.4	2.9	7.7
Quest		22.4		63		*		*		0		11
WOODLAND CCSD 50	56	52.4	8.1	7.2	20.2	23.9	12.7	12.1	0.2	0.4	2.7	3.9
FREMONT SD 79	72.9	71.8	2.6	2.2	8.6	9.5	10.4	11.2	0.1	0.2	5.4	5.1
PRAIRIE CROSSING	77.9	77.3	*	*	3.9	7.1	11.3	12	*	0	5.8	*
ROCKFORD SD 205	37.1	35.6	29.6	29.7	23.1	24.9	3.4	3.7	0.1	0.2	6.6	5.8
CICS-Rockford Patriots		8		74.1		4		*		0		12
Galapagos - Rockford	12.8	10.6	52.1	60.1	16	14.4	0	0	*	*	17	13.9
Legacy – Rockford	19.7	15	68	71.4	6.7	8.6	0	*	0	*	5.6	3.8
SOUTHLAND		0		95.9		*		0		0		*
RICH TOWNSHIP HSD 227	4.3	3.8	89.4	89.9	1.7	3.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	3.9	2.3
SPRINGFIELD SD 186	50.6	49.5	37.3	38.1	1.8	2.3	1.8	1.7	0.3	0.3	8.1	8.1
Springfield Ball Charter	44.8	46.5	41.9	40.4	*	2.9	3.1	*	*	*	7.6	9

* Redacted due to cell size

A number of interrelated socioeconomic factors impact student achievement. Perhaps the most documented indicator for student achievement is poverty. In order to assist educationally disadvantaged students and other students meet Illinois academic content standards and student achievement standards, ISBE has supported the development of high-quality charter schools as schools of choice in areas of the state with some of the highest concentrations of low-income students.

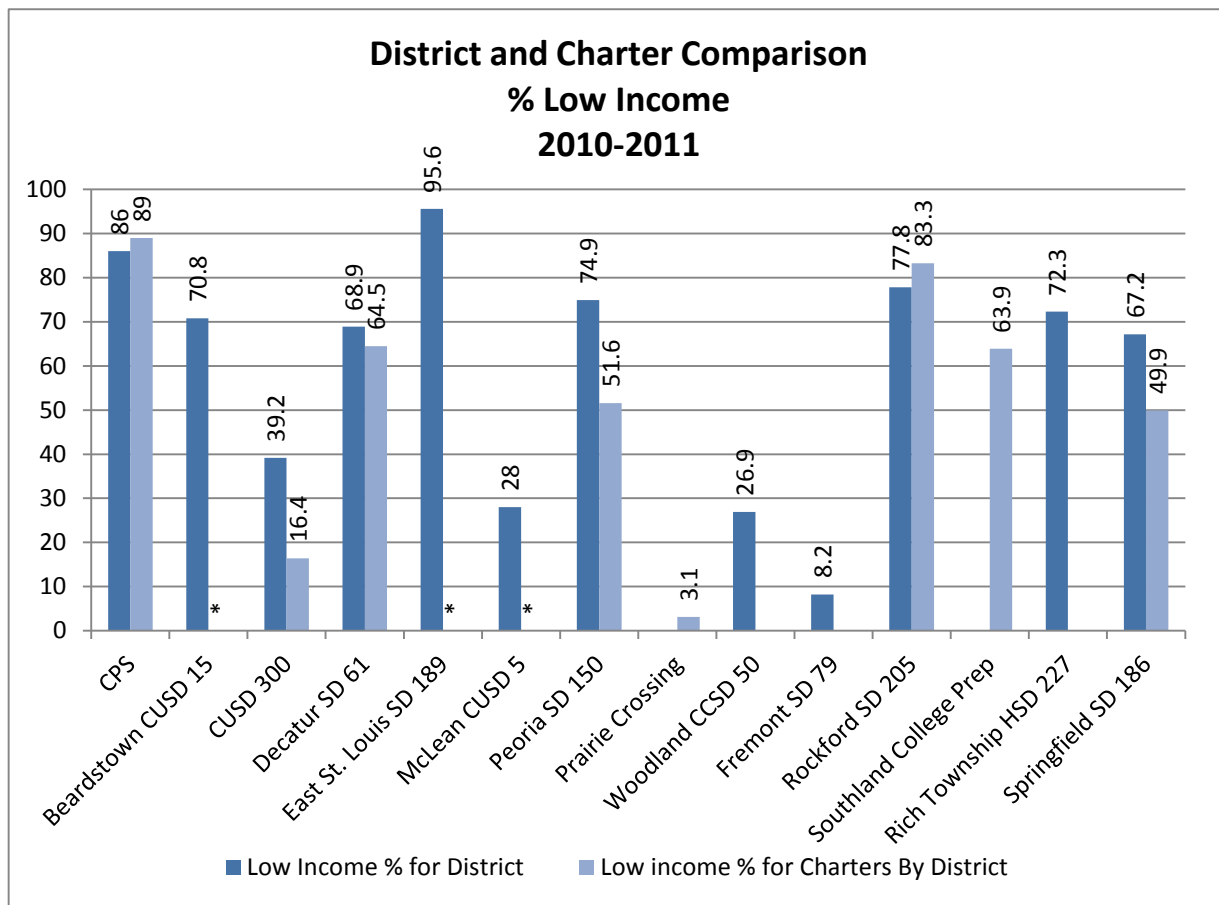
As reflected in the following charts, the percentage of low-income students in charter schools is generally reflective of the school district where the charter is located, with some notable exceptions.

- Cambridge Lakes Charter School in Pingree Grove has a significantly smaller proportion of low-income students than CUSD 300 (16.4 percent in 2010-2011 to the District's 39.2 percent).

- The same is true of Springfield Ball Charter School in Springfield SD 186 (49.9 percent in 2010-2011 to the District’s 67.2 percent); and
- Prairie Crossing Charter School in Grayslake (3.1 percent in 2010-2011 to the Fremont School District’s 8.2 percent and Woodland School District’s 26.9 percent).

At the opposite end of the spectrum, in 2010-2011 YouthBuild McLean County served a low-income student population that soared above the McLean County Unit School District’s low-income student population of 28 percent. That number had to be redacted due to cell size. In addition, Galapagos Rockford and Legacy Rockford both surpassed the Rockford School District’s low-income student population of 77.8 percent, at 86.1 percent and 88 percent respectively.

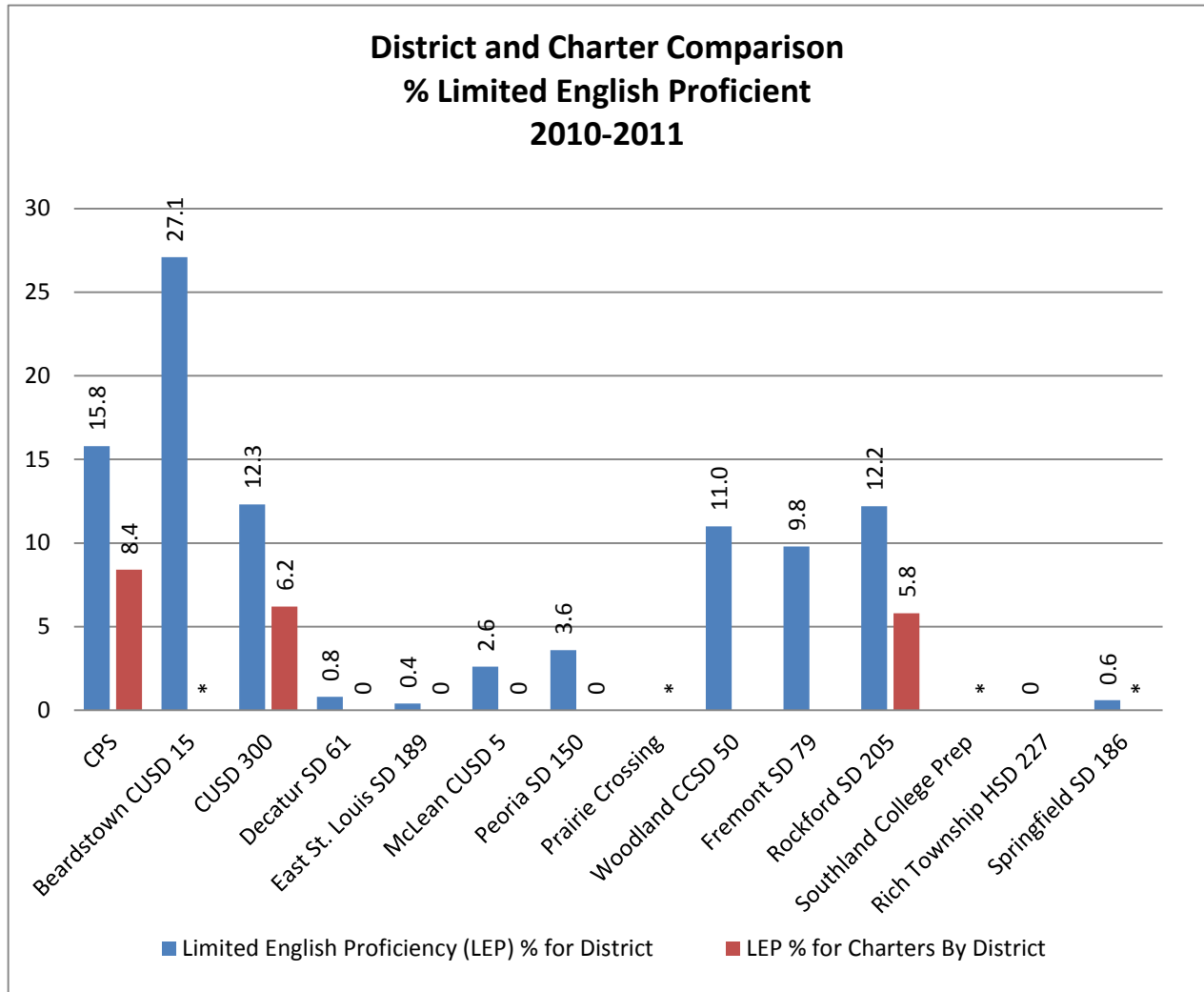
Table 2C: Comparison of District and Charter School Low-Income Student Populations



As shown in table 2D, across the board charter schools are generally serving a disproportionately smaller number of Limited English Proficient students than the school district where they are located. This ranges from a difference as stark as Cambridge Lakes Charter School (6.2 percent LEP student population in 2010-2011 to the District’s 12.3 percent) and the Rockford charter schools (5.8 percent to the District’s 12.2 percent), down to less statistically significant differences in Decatur, East St. Louis, and Springfield.

In addition, charter schools are also generally serving a small percentage of students with disabilities than the school district where located. Outliers include on one end of the spectrum Cambridge Lakes Charter School (6.7 percent IEP student population to the District's 13.7 percent) and Robertson Charter School (8.0 percent IEP student population to the District's 15.6 percent), and on the other end Beardstown Charter Academy, which serves a significantly higher percentage of IEP students than the District, although this number has been redacted due to cell size.

Table 2D: Comparison of District and Charter School Other Special Student Populations



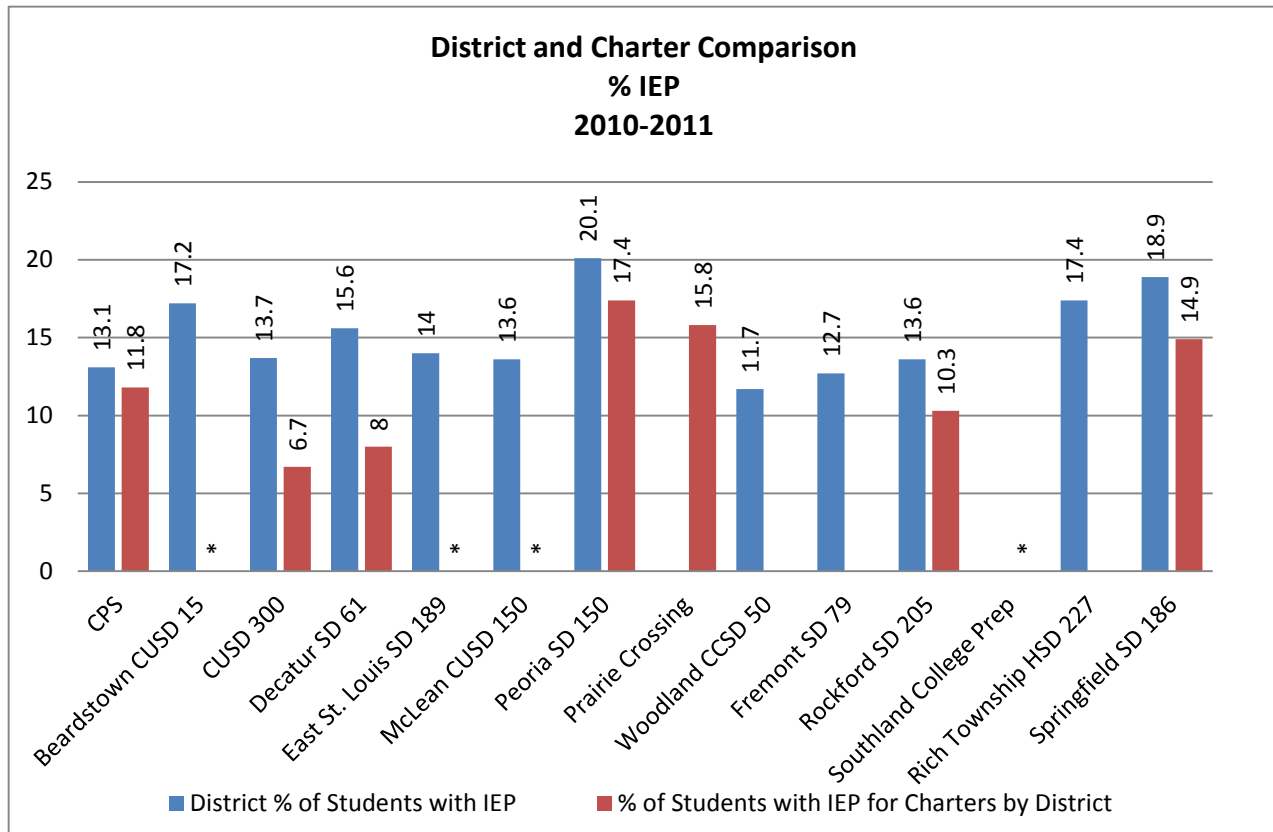


Table 2E: School-By-School Comparison of Low-Income, Limited English Proficiency and Students with Disabilities, Results 2009-2010 and 2010-2011

Charter School	Percent Low-Income		Percent Limited English Proficient		Percent Students with Disabilities	
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011
CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 299	87	86	12.2	15.8	13.3	13.1
AGC		78.4		34.7		17
ACT	94.4		0		11.4	
Alain Locke	90	88.8	0	*	8	5.6
Amandla	94.9	91.6	0	0	11.1	11.7
ACE Tech	94.7	91.4	*	3.5	17	14.2
Aspira	94.9	92.1	15.5	18.9	17.3	16.9
Betty Shabazz	88.4	90	*	*	10	9.1
Bronzeville Lighthouse	93.7	93	0	0	8.8	11.3
Catalyst - Circle Rock		91.6		0		8.6
Catalyst - Howland	87.1	97	0	0	14.1	9.1
CICS	85.9	86.7	4.9	5.4	12.1	12.2
CMSA	88	90.8	13.4	13.1	13.4	12.3
Chicago Talent		94.8		0		21.2
Chicago Virtual	57.9	61.7	4.9	5.5	8.9	8.2
EPIC		95.5		4.9		15.6
Erie	88.3	87.9	28.3	37	11.7	13.5
Galapagos Charter School	93.4	91.7	0	0	7.9	8.6
Henry Ford Academy	90	94.1	0	0	16.2	18.5

Charter School	Percent Low-Income		Percent Limited English Proficient		Percent Students with Disabilities	
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011
IHSCA		*		16.6		16
KIPP Ascend	89.7	90.5	0	*	15	9.8
Kwame Nkrumah						
L.E.A.R.N.	92.5	95.3	*	*	5.9	6.1
Legacy- Chicago	94	91	0	0	9.5	11.8
Namaste	72.2	83.1	30.3	31.7	20.8	18.4
Noble Street	87.2	88	4.3	4.8	12.9	11.5
North Lawndale	95.4	93.2	0	0	10.3	9.4
Passages	84.2	87.7	24.1	29.5	8.6	7.2
Perspectives	88.1	86.9	*	.8	16	15.6
Polaris	91	92.5	0	0	9.8	11.4
Prologue – Joshua Johnston		*		*		14.7
Providence Englewood	86.3	83.2	*	*	5.3	7.7
Rowe Elementary		85.9		34.3		6.9
UCCS	82.7	83.5	0	0	11.6	9.4
UNO	95.3	95.4	37	37	8	8
Urban Prep	84.1	83.6	*	0	19.6	17.4
Urban Prep - West		92.9		0		19
Urban Prep - Bronzeville		82.4		*		18.4
YWLCS	90.4	86.8	*	*	14.4	9.8
YCCS	92.9	89.3	1.3	1.7	15.3	15.8
BEARDSTOWN CUSD 15	68.4	70.8	20.9	27.1	15.2	17.2
Beardstown Charter	*	*	0	*	*	*
CUSD 300	34.4	39.2	11.3	12.3	13.9	13.7
Cambridge Lakes	9.6	16.4	*	6.2	7.3	6.7
DECATUR SD 61	69.5	68.9	.7	.8	15.8	15.6
Robertson	91.5	64.5	0	0	6.8	8
EAST ST. LOUIS SD 189	77.3	95.6	.3	.4	10.7	14
SIUE - East St. Louis	* ¹	*	0	0	0	0
Tomorrow's Builders	0	*	0	0	0	*
JACKSONVILLE SD 117	49.2	52.9	.4	.5	20.5	19.3
8 Points						
MCLEAN COUNTY USD 5	24.2	28	2.4	2.6	13	13.6
YouthBuild McLean County	0	*	0	0	0	*
PEORIA SD 150	74.7	74.9	3.0	3.6	23	20.1
Quest		51.6		0		17.4
WOODLAND CCSD 50	22.1	26.9	7.8	11.0	12.6	11.7
FREMONT SD 79	6.0	8.2	9.9	9.8	11.3	12.7
PRAIRIE CROSSING	*	3.1	0	*	13.8	15.8
ROCKFORD SD 205	75.3	77.8	10.2	12.2	12.9	13.6
CICS-Rockford Patriots		76.1		*		11.2
Galapagos - Rockford	84	86.1	*	13	*	11.1
Legacy - Rockford	85.5	88	*	4.1	13	9

Charter School	Percent Low-Income		Percent Limited English Proficient		Percent Students with Disabilities	
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011
RICH TOWNSHIP HSD 227	99.4	72.3	0	*	12.8	17.4
SOUTHLAND COLLEGE PREP		63.9		0		*
SPRINGFIELD SD 186	65.5	67.2	.2	.6	18.4	18.9
Springfield Ball Charter	45.1	49.9	0	*	13.9	14.9

* Redacted due to cell size

3. Charter School Operations

Charter schools are afforded significant flexibility under the Illinois Charter Schools Law. The law exempts charter schools from almost all state laws and regulations in the School Code governing public schools and local school boards except for those designed to protect the well-being and privacy of students and staff, such as Sections 10-21.9 and 34-18.5 of the School Code regarding criminal background investigations of applicants for employment, and sections 24-24 and 34-84A of the School Code regarding discipline of students.

Charter schools are operated by independent governing boards, and each charter school has complete autonomy over its educational plan and operations, provided that it adheres to the terms and conditions of the approved charter agreement. Key components of the charter school’s education plan, such as curriculum, staff, professional development, length of school day and year, and “seat time” are left to the discretion of the charter school. In this way, charter schools may serve as testing grounds for innovative educational approaches that address the unique needs of students who may not succeed in a conventional educational environment.

In both 2009-2010 and 2010-2011, each charter school received a survey from the Illinois State Board of Education asking the school to report certain data for that academic year. The survey for 2010-2011 is attached as Attachment A. The 2009-2010 survey was substantially the same. In 2009-2010, 36 of 39 charter schools (92.3 percent) responded to the survey.ⁱⁱ In 2010-2011, 42 of 50 charter schools (84 percent) responded to the survey.ⁱⁱⁱ Among other data pieces, the surveys asked charter schools to identify the key areas of flexibility the charter school utilized in that school year. The 2010-2011 survey also asked each school to provide a brief explanation of how that exemption assisted or impeded the charter school’s stated goals and objectives. Results are aggregated in Table 3A below, as well as in the narrative that follows.

Table 3A: Key Areas of Flexibility Utilized by Illinois Charter Schools During the 2008-2009 and 2010-2011 school years:

Area of Flexibility	Number of Charters Reporting Use	
	2009-2010 ^{iv} (36)	2010-2011 (42)
Teacher Certification	24	29
Administrator Certification	24	24
Autonomy to set educational priorities	30	39
Autonomy to design curriculum independent from the school district	33	40
Autonomy to allow teaching methods that are new or different from the school district	32	37
Autonomy to design different, additional performance standards	26	32
Autonomy to set unique school day and school year schedules	30	39
Autonomy to manage fiscal affairs independent of the school district	32	34
Autonomy to set employee compensation rates and/or bonuses	31	35
Autonomy to contract with external providers for various services	22	29

SECTION 3.1 - CURRICULUM DESIGN

As noted in Table 3A, the No. 1 area of flexibility used by charter schools in both 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 was autonomy to design a curriculum independent from the school district. Thirty-three of 36 charter schools responding to the 2009-2010 survey, and 40 of 42 charter schools responding to the 2010-2011 survey, reported using this area of flexibility. Charter schools report that autonomy in developing and implementing curriculum allows them to incorporate Illinois learning standards in innovative ways to best address the instructional needs of their unique student populations. For example:

- *Chicago Talent Development Charter High School, which converted from a contract school to a charter school in the 2010-2011 school year, reports that it uses curriculum development and supports developed by John Hopkins University to close specific skills gaps across the content areas.*
- *Beardstown Learning Academy reports that the use of online curriculum allows the charter school to provide differentiated instruction that targets individual needs in a cost-effective way.*
- *Catalyst Charter School - Howland Campus reports that in its Communities in Schools Chicago (CICS) Network: (i) financial providers implement a series of age- and grade level-appropriate lessons in grades 4 through 8 to improve financial literacy; (ii) literacy providers bring lessons to grades K through 2 around a common theme; and (iii) art providers bring lessons in grades 2, 4 and 5 integrating math and art.*

- *Chicago International Charter Schools reports that a new campus that opened in the 2011-2012 school year is based on a school in New York City and will use game design theory to deliver instruction.*

SECTION 3.2 - STAFF CERTIFICATION

Under the Illinois Charter Law, charter schools have the ability to hire administrators who do not hold an administrative certificate under Article 21 of the School Code, as well as a certain percentage of instructional personnel who do not hold a teaching certificate under Article 21 of the School Code but meet other rigorous requirements, including: graduation with a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education; employment of at least five years in an area requiring application of the individual's education; and successfully passing the required basic skills and subject matter knowledge tests necessary for teacher certification. For 2009-2010 and 2010-2011, the law required certification of at least 75 percent of instructors in Chicago charter schools established before April 16, 2003, and 50 percent of instructors in Chicago charter schools established on or after April 16, 2003; there were no certification requirements for individuals employed in instructional positions in charter schools outside of Chicago. The law currently provides that by 2012-2013, or by the beginning of the fourth year of the charter school's operations (depending on when the charter was established), at least 75 percent of individuals employed in instructional positions in all charter schools — both within and outside of Chicago — must hold teaching certificates.

Charter schools report that the flexibility to hire a certain percentage of non-certificated staff in certain instructional positions has enabled them to recruit and retain instructors in areas of high need, such as math, science, fine arts and foreign language. They also report that this flexibility allows charters to hire individuals who have developed specific content area expertise in their previous careers and/or bring skills that benefit the particular charter school's model. For example, for the 2010-2011 school year:

- *Springfield Ball Charter School reports that the school was able to hire a former speech language pathologist who is Spanish-speaking and was in the process of completing State teacher certification requirements to teach their Spanish classes.*
- *Chicago Talent reports that the school was able to hire an experienced Technology teacher who did not have an initial teaching certificate but did have extensive field experience. This individual was able to obtain a provisional certificate.*
- *EPIC reports that the certification flexibility has been key in one area – the College, Careers, and Skills position, which is a college advising position.*
- *Namaste reports that all classroom teachers are certified. However, Namaste also reports that it uses this flexibility in alignment with its mission of using health, physical fitness, and nutrition as avenues for students to reach their full academic potential. Namaste students have one hour of physical education daily. In order to*

implement this schedule, Namaste employs five physical education teachers, two of whom have a wealth of experience in teaching and personal training but are still in the process of obtaining state certification.

Many charters also report that while they relied upon this flexibility in the last two school years, they now have policies to hire only certified staff for instructional positions and/or are moving toward 100 percent certification for instructional staff. Table 3B details the number of certified and noncertified instructional and administrative staff in the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years, by charter school. All of this data was self-reported by the charter schools on the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 surveys.

The table shows that most charter schools, both within and outside of Chicago, far exceeded the 75 percent certification thresh mark for teacher certification in 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. Indeed, in 2010-2011, 57 percent of reporting charter schools (24 of 42) had a greater than 90 percent teacher certification rate, including 12 charter schools with 100 percent teacher certification. The table also indicates that at least one Chicago charter school, Aspira, was not in compliance with teacher certification requirements as of 2009-2010, with only 7 percent of individuals in FTE instructional positions maintaining an Illinois teaching certificate. Likewise, Noble Charter, with only 73 percent of instructional personnel holding Illinois teaching certificates in 2009-2010, also appears to have been out of compliance with the charter school teacher certification requirements in effect at the time.

Table 3B: Instructional and Administrative Staff Certification

Charter School	School Year	Number of Certified Instructional Staff	Total Number of Instructional Staff	Percentage of Certified Instructional Staff (rounded)	Number of Certified Administrative Staff	Total Number of Administrative Staff	Head of School Certified? (Y/N)
CPS DISTRICT 299							
AGC	09-10						
	10-11	17	17	100%	1	5	YES
ACT	09-10	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	Not collected
	10-11						
Alain Locke	09-10	21	22	95%	NR	2	Not collected
	10-11	21	22	95%	0	3	NO
Amandla	09-10	11	12	92%	2	3	Not collected
	10-11	18	18	100%	0	5	NO
ACE Tech	09-10	49	49	100%	5	17	Not collected
	10-11	43	44	98%	3	19	YES
Aspira	09-10	6	88	7%	4	5	Not collected
	10-11	87	87	100%	26	26	NR
Betty Shabazz	09-10	26	52	50%	2	6.5	Not collected
	10-11	53	71	75%	5	27	YES
Bronzeville Lighthouse	09-10	21	25	84%	1	1	Not collected
	10-11	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Catalyst-Circle Rock	09-10						
	10-11	26	27	96%	2	3	YES
Catalyst-Howland	09-10	12	20	60%	2	5	Not collected
	10-11	23	26	88%	2	5	YES
CICS	09-10	523	545	96%	13	13	Not collected

Charter School	School Year	Number of Certified Instructional Staff	Total Number of Instructional Staff	Percentage of Certified Instructional Staff (rounded)	Number of Certified Administrative Staff	Total Number of Administrative Staff	Head of School Certified? (Y/N)
CMSA	10-11	535	581	92%	13	13	YES
	09-10	50	55	91%	2	6	Not collected
	10-11	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Chicago Talent	09-10						
	10-11	19	19	100%	2	2	NR
Chicago Virtual	09-10	16	16	100%	NR	8	Not collected
	10-11	22	22	100%	0	3	NO
EPIC	09-10						
	10-11	18	18	100%	1	5	YES
Erie	09-10	12	14	86%	1	2	Not collected
	10-11	15	17	88%	1	1	YES
Galapagos-Chicago	09-10	23	27	85%	2	4	Not collected
	10-11	22	27	81%	2	4	YES
Henry Ford	09-10	14	16	88%	1	5	Not collected
	10-11	18	25	72%	2	13	NR
IHSCA	09-10						
	10-11	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
KIPP Ascend	09-10	20	21	95%	1	3	Not collected
	10-11	24	27	89%	4	5	YES
Kwame Nkrumah	09-10						
	10-11						
L.E.A.R.N.	09-10	48	58	83%	3	5	Not collected
	10-11	88	88	100%	0	11	NO
Legacy-Chicago	09-10	21	30	70%	2	6	Not collected
	10-11	24	34	71%	2	4	YES
Namaste	09-10	22.5	23.5	96%	1	2	Not collected
	10-11	37.5	39.5	95%	3	3	YES
Noble Street	09-10	182	250	73%	3	16	Not collected
	10-11	243	298	82%	25	99	YES
North Lawndale	09-10	47	51	92%	1	4	Not collected
	10-11	60	64	94%	2	6	YES
Passages	09-10	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	Not collected
	10-11	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Perspectives	09-10	141	172	82%	21	97	Not collected
	10-11	189	208	91%	26	103	YES
Polaris	09-10	11	11	100%	1	3	Not collected
	10-11	13	14	93%	0	6	NO
Prologue	09-10						
	10-11	2	4	50%	1	2	YES
Providence Englewood	09-10	21	23	91%	0	2	Not collected
	10-11	21	24	88%	0	3	NO
Rowe	09-10						
	10-11	25	26	96%	1	5	YES
UCCS	09-10	91	114.48	79%	5	11	Not collected
	10-11	92	109.85	84%	3	9	YES
UNO	09-10	145	167	87%	5	5	Not collected
	10-11	186	202	92%	5	9	NR
Urban Prep	09-10	23	36	64%	0	2	Not collected
	10-11	23	38	61%	1	15	YES
Urban Prep – West	09-10						
	10-11	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR

Charter School	School Year	Number of Certified Instructional Staff	Total Number of Instructional Staff	Percentage of Certified Instructional Staff (rounded)	Number of Certified Administrative Staff	Total Number of Administrative Staff	Head of School Certified? (Y/N)
Urban Prep - Bronzeville	09-10						
	10-11	6	8	75%	2	5	NR
YWLCS	09-10	29	30	97%	2	2	Not collected
	10-11	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
YCCS	09-10	193	220	88%	15	27	Not collected
	10-11	200	215	93%	29	33	YES
BEARDSTOWN CUSD 15	09-10						
	10-11						
Beardstown Charter	09-10	2.5	2.5	100%	0	.5	Not collected
	10-11	2	4	50%	0	1	NO
CUSD 300							
Cambridge Lakes	09-10	36	36	100%	2	2	Not collected
	10-11	41	41	100%	3	3	YES
DECATUR SD 61							
Robertson	09-10	8	12	67%	2	2	Not collected
	10-11	11	14	79%	2	2	YES
EAST ST. LOUIS SD 189							
SIUE-East St. Louis	09-10	2	6	33%	2	3	Not collected
	10-11	8	9	89%	1	2	YES
Tomorrow's Builders	09-10	2	6	33%	2	3	Not collected
	10-11	6	6	100%	2	3	NR
JACKSONVILLE SD 17							
8 Points Charter	09-10						
	10-11						
MCLEAN COUNTY USD 5							
Youthbuild-McLean County	09-10	3	3	100%	1	3	Not collected
	10-11	2	3	67%	0	3	NO
PEORIA SD 150							
Quest	09-10						
	10-11	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
WOODLAND CCSD 50							
FREMONT SD 79							
PRAIRIE CROSSING	09-10	25	44	57%	2.5	2.5	Not collected
	10-11	28	44	64%	2	3	YES
ROCKFORD SD 205							
CICS-Rockford Patriots	09-10						
	10-11	14	14	100%	1	1	YES
Galapagos-Rockford	09-10	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	Not collected
	10-11	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Legacy-Rockford	09-10	NR	13	NR	0	1	Not collected
	10-11	15	15	100%	1	1	NO
RICH TOWNSHIP							

Charter School	School Year	Number of Certified Instructional Staff	Total Number of Instructional Staff	Percentage of Certified Instructional Staff (rounded)	Number of Certified Administrative Staff	Total Number of Administrative Staff	Head of School Certified? (Y/N)
HSD 227							
SOUTHLAND	09-10						
	10-11	8	8	100%	3	3	YES
SPRINGFIELD SD 186							
Springfield Ball Charter	09-10	2	29	7%	3	3	Not collected
	10-11	27	28	96%	3	3	YES

SECTION 3.3 - SCHOOL CALENDAR

The freedom to set school hours and calendars that differ from those of the public school districts has allowed charter schools to create unique educational opportunities through field studies, internships, mentoring programs and community service experiences. Such scheduling freedom also provides charter schools with the ability to provide for increased professional development.

Table 3C below compares the number of instructional days, schools hours of operation and average number of instructional minutes per school day, for each charter school and the school district. An important caveat is that the charter school data was all self-reported by the schools on the ISBE surveys and has not otherwise been verified by ISBE or the school district. In some cases, the charter schools have reported anomalous data, such as Tomorrow’s Builders YouthBuild Charter School in East St. Louis, which reports an average of only 180 instructional minutes, or 3 hours, per school day, and Aspira Charter School, which reports an average of only 220 instructional minutes per school day, or about 3 hours and 40 minutes.

Conversely, the data reported for each of the school districts comes from ISBE’s Public School Calendar System. That system only collects one official district calendar, so if a district has more than one building within the district that provides student instruction, the User Guide instructs the administrator to enter the Start and End Time of the building which provides the *shortest* instructional day. Administrators are directed not to include lunch, passing time, or recess. Thus, certain buildings within each district below may have longer hours of operation or a higher average number of instructional minutes per school day than is reported in the Table. Likewise, charter schools completing the surveys may not have followed exactly the same guidance when determining what to include as instructional time on the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 surveys.

Within this framework, in 2010-2011 students in Chicago charter schools had, on average, 385 minutes of instructional time per school day, or 77 more minutes of instructional time per school day than students in CPS District 299 regular public schools. Instructional times varied outside of Chicago, with some charter school students receiving more instructional time than received by students attending regular public schools in the district (Cambridge Lakes Charter, Robertson Charter, SIUE – East St. Louis Charter, CICS-Rockford Patriots, Legacy Academy of Excellence Charter, and Southland College Prep Charter High School), and others receiving less (Beardstown Charter, Tomorrow’s Builders YouthBuild Charter School, YouthBuild McLean County Charter, and Springfield Ball Charter). Prairie Crossing Charter School reports *more* average daily instructional

time than one of its feeder elementary districts (Fremont SD 79), but *less* than its other feeder district (Woodland CCSD 50).

Table 3C: Number of Instructional Days, Schools Hours of Operation, and Average Number of Daily Instructional Minutes, 2009-2010 and 2010-2011

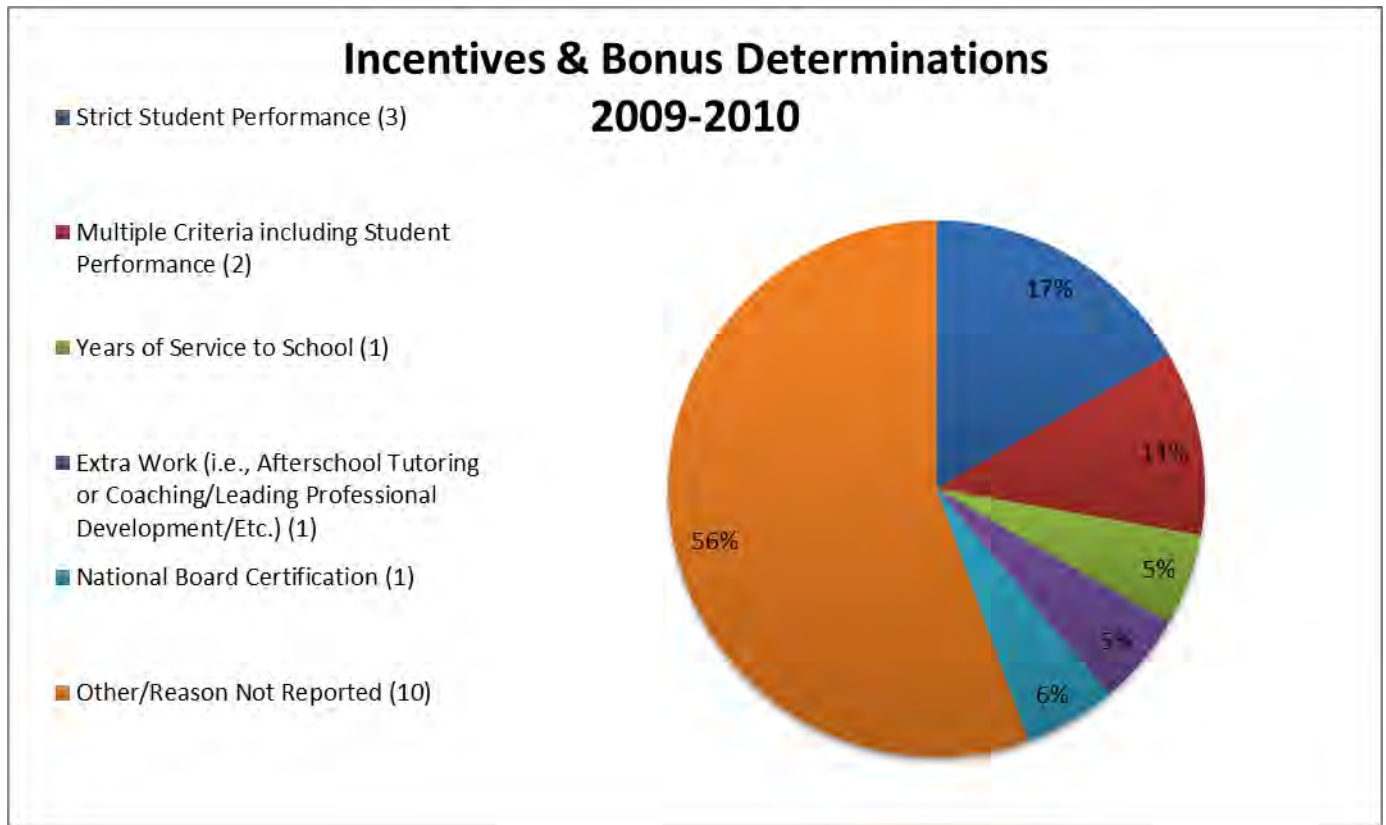
Charter School	Number of Instructional Days		School Hours of Operation		Average Number of Instructional Minutes Per School Day
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011	2010-2011 Only
CPS DISTRICT 299	170	170	6 hrs. 30 min.	6 hrs. 30 min.	308
AGC		181		8:00-4:00	460
ACT	NR		NR		
Alain Locke	191	191	8:30-5:00	8:00-5:00	480
Amandla	184	179	7:25-3:30	7:25-3:30	390
ACE Tech	173	176	8:00-2:35	7:50-2:57	427
Aspira	179	183	8:00-3:30	7:30-3:30	220
Betty Shabazz	172	175	8:00-3:45	8:00-3:30	388
Bronzeville Lighthouse	190	NR	8:00-4:00	NR	NR
Catalyst - Circle Rock		177		7:30-4:00	410
Catalyst - Howland	181	180	7:20-3:30	8:00-3:30	450
CICS	191	191	8:00-3:30	8:00-3:30	410
CMSA	181	NR	8:15-3:12	NR	NR
Chicago Talent		174.5		8:55-3:38	360
Chicago Virtual	178	180	8:00-3:00	9:00-2:45	300
EPIC		170		8:45-3:35	370
Erie Elementary	172	175	8:00-3:00 M,T,Th,F 8:00-2:00 W	8:00-3:00 M,T,Th,F 8:00-2:00 W	350
Galapagos – Chicago	180	180	8:00-3:30	8:00-3:30	360
Henry Ford Academy	177	180	8:30-3:45	8:30-3:30	365
IHSCA		NR		NR	NR
KIPP Ascend	178	186	8:00-5:00	8:00-5:00	485
Kwame Nkrumah					
L.E.A.R.N.	200	197	8:00-4:00	8:30-4:00	350
Legacy- Chicago	183	185	8:00-3:30	8:30-3:30	360
Namaste	178	178	8:30-4:00	8:30-4:00	400
Noble Street	180	181	8:15-4:00	8:00-4:00	429
North Lawndale	171	178	8:00-3:30	8:00-3:30	360
Passages	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Perspectives	170	174	8:30-3:30	8:30-3:30	360
Polaris	172	172	7:50-4:00	7:50-4:00	430
Prologue – Joshua Johnston		180		9:15-3:19	364
Providence Englewood	171	196	8:00-3:10	8:00-3:10	395
Rowe Elementary		173		8:00-4:00	440

Charter School	Number of Instructional Days		School Hours of Operation		Average Number of Instructional Minutes Per School Day
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011	2010-2011 Only
UCCS	181-184 (different campuses)	180-181 (different campuses)	8:15-3:00 8:00-2:38 8:15-3:45 (different campuses)	8:15-3:00 8:00-2:38 8:15-3:45 (different campuses)	330
UNO	176	172	8:00-3:00	8:00-3:00	390
Urban Prep	171	171	8:30-4:30	8:30-4:30	405
Urban Prep - West		NR		NR	NR
Urban Prep - Bronzeville		171		8:00-4:00	395
YWLCS	177	NR	8:30-3:30	NR	NR
YCCS	171	173	8:30-3:30	8:00-3:00	300
BEARDSTOWN CUSD 15	174	171	7 hrs. 0 min.	7 hrs. 0 min.	380
Beardstown Charter	175	178	8:00-2:45	8:00-3:00	330
CUSD 300	175	175	6 hrs. 15 min.	6 hrs. 15 min.	345
Cambridge Lakes	179	180	8:00-3:30	8:00-3:30	410
DECATUR SD 61	172	172	7 hrs. 15 min.	7 hrs. 15 min.	315
Robertson	180	180	8:30-3:30	8:30-3:30	395
EAST ST. LOUIS SD 189	176	174	7 hrs. 0 min.	7 hrs. 30 min.	360
SIUE - East St. Louis	176	174	7:45-4:15	7:45-4:15	450
Tomorrow's Builders	176	174	7:30-4:00	7:30-3:00	180
JACKSONVILLE SD 117	174	173	6 hrs. 50 min.	6 hrs. 50 min.	315
8 Points Charter School					
MCLEAN COUNTY USD 5	173	173	7 hrs. 15 min.	7 hrs. 15 min.	350
YouthBuild McLean County	186	193	8:00-3:15	8:30-3:30	330
PEORIA SD 150	174	174	6 hrs. 30 min.	6 hrs. 30 min.	330
Quest		NR			NR
WOODLAND CCSD 50	174	174	7 hrs. 0 min.	7 hrs. 0 min.	400
FREMONT SD 79	174	174	6 hrs. 48 min.	6 hrs. 48 min.	363
PRAIRIE CROSSING	183	183	8:00-3:30	8:00-3:30	390
ROCKFORD SD 205	172	172	7 hrs. 30 min.	7 hrs. 30 min.	330
CICS-Rockford Patriots		191		8:00-3:30	410
Galapagos - Rockford	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Legacy - Rockford	185	182	8:30-3:30	8:30-3:30	405
RICH TOWNSHIP HSD 227	178	177	7 hrs. 20 min.	7 hrs. 20 min.	340
SOUTHLAND COLLEGE PREP		174		8:00-5:00	460
SPRINGFIELD SD 186	171	171	6 hrs. 42 min.	6 hrs. 42 min.	390
Springfield Ball Charter	183	183	9:00-3:30	9:00-3:30	330

SECTION 3.4 – EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION AND/OR BONUSES

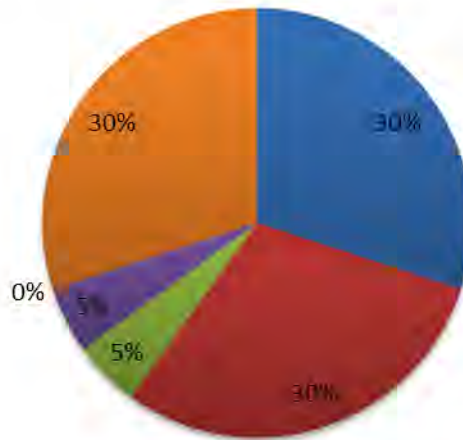
Charter schools also rely heavily upon the ability to set independent employee compensation rates and/or to provide bonuses. In many cases, charter schools tailor their compensation schedules or bonuses to student achievement benchmarks. On both the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 surveys, charter schools were asked if any staff members were paid incentives or bonuses in that school year, and on what basis such incentives or bonuses were determined. In 2009-2010, 18 of 36 charter schools responding to the survey reported providing employee incentives and bonuses. This number does not include bonuses for staff who returned from the previous school year (Kipp Ascend Charter School). In 2010-2011, 20 of 42 charter schools responding to the survey reported providing employee incentives and bonuses. This number does not include hiring bonuses offered to compensate additional years of experience (Chicago Talent), or an across the board Christmas bonus (Urban Prep Academy for Young Men Charter High School – Bronzeville). The following graph represents how charters made these determinations:

Table 3D: Employee Incentives and Bonus Determinations



Incentives & Bonus Determinations 2010-2011

- Strict Student Performance (6)
- Multiple Criteria including Student Performance (6)
- Years of Service to School (1)
- Extra Work (i.e., Tutoring or Coaching) (1)
- National Board Certification (0)
- Other/Reason Not Reported (6)

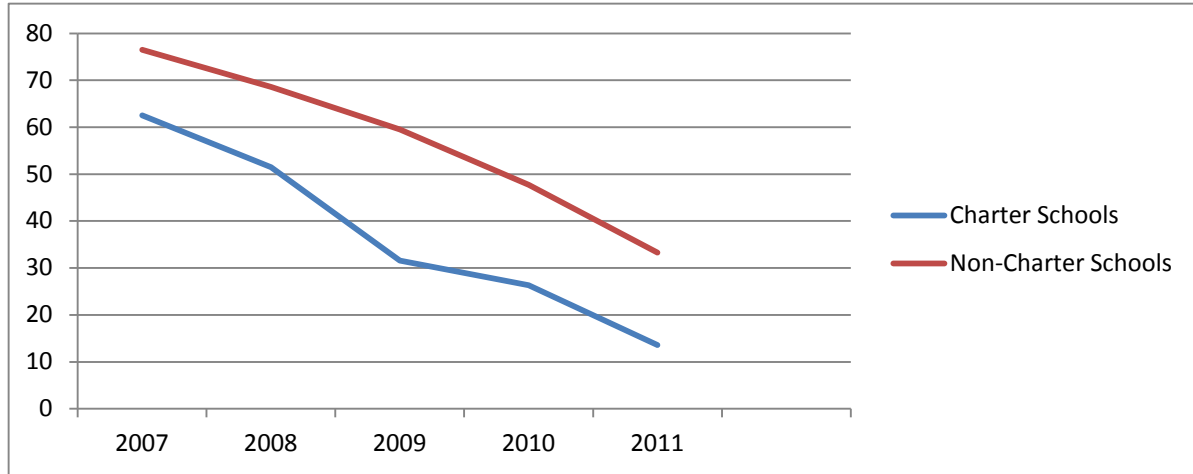


4. Charter School Student Performance

The federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires states to measure each public school's and district's achievement and establish achievement targets for the state. The overarching goal is for all students to meet or exceed standards in reading and mathematics by 2014. The state calculates a school's or district's Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) to see if students are improving their performance based on established annual targets. AYP calculations in Illinois are now based on three (3) factors, beginning in 2003:

- i. Meeting Target Math & Reading Scores, which must meet or exceed the state's annual targets:
 - In 2010, the reading and math score targets were 77.5 percent.
 - In 2011, the reading and math score targets were 85 percent.
- ii. Participation Rates: The requirement is a 95 percent participation rate of students in all measurable subgroups taking state assessments.
- iii. Other Indicators: The attendance rates of students in elementary and middle schools, and the graduation rates of students in high schools, which must meet or exceed the state's annual targets.
 - In 2010, the performance target for attendance rates was 91 percent.
 - In 2010, the performance target for graduation rates was 80 percent.
 - In 2011, the performance target for attendance rates was 91 percent.
 - In 2011 the performance target for graduation rates was 82 percent.

Table 4A: Percentage of Schools Making Adequate Yearly Progress



AYP targets increase each year, moving toward the goal of all students meeting or exceeding standards in reading and mathematics by 2014. As reflected in Table 4A, the percentage of both charter and non-charter schools making AYP has decreased as the standards have increased, indicating that AYP targets are rising faster than many schools can boost achievement levels.

Tables 4B, 4C, and 4D show a breakdown of state assessments among charter schools by school district. Table 4B shows the overall percent of charter school students meeting or exceeding standards in ISAT and PSAE reading, math and composite scores, by district. The strongest areas of growth are seen in the ISAT reading and math scores, including among CPS charter schools.

Tables 4C and 4D show the meet and exceed rate by charter school and school district. As shown by snapshot in Table 4E, the data shows a much stronger performance by the charter school sector relative to its regular public school counterparts on the ISAT exam (grades 3-8), than on the PSAE exam (grade 11). Asterisked cells indicate redaction due to cell size. Blank cells indicate that the school did not administer the assessment in that school year.

Table 4B: Overall Percent of Charter School Students Meeting or Exceeding Standards by District, and State Comparison

		STATE AVERAGE (ALL SCHOOLS)	Rockford SD 205	City of Chicago SD 299	McLean County USD 5	CUSD 300	Prairie Crossing Charter School	Decatur SD 61	Beardstown CUSD 15	East St. Louis SD 189	Springfield SD 186	Peoria SD 150
ISAT - Reading	2009	76.8		68.1		77.6	94.3	67.4			76.4	
	2010	77.5	50.0	69.9		79.8	93.6	74.5			81.9	
	2011	79.0	44.9	72.8		85.2	95.0	69.9			81.9	75.1
ISAT - Math	2009	83.4		74.8		91.7	97	75			85.6	
	2010	84.7	61.9	77.3		92.0	*	77.9			88.0	
	2011	85.6	57.8	79.9		92.7	*	74.4			88.3	80.8
ISAT - Composite	2009	79.8		70.6		84.1	96.1	68.8			80.5	
	2010	80.9	54.8	72.6		85.7	96.0	71.7			85.2	
	2011	82.0	51.5	75.3		89.1	97.0	68.9			84.7	79.0
PSAE - Reading	2009	56.9		32.3	0.0				*	16.3		
	2010	54.0		28.6	*				*	14.3		
	2011	51.0		25.7	*				*	4.4		
PSAE - Math	2009	51.6		28.1	*				*	6.1		
	2010	52.7		26.3	*				0.0	7.1		
	2011	51.3		27.4	*				*	*		
PSAE - Composite	2009	53.0		26.8	*				*	8.2		
	2010	53.0		25.2	*				*	9.5		
	2011	50.5		24.0	*				*	*		

* Redacted due to cell size

Table 4C: Student Assessment Results for All Tests, 2009-2010 and 2010-2011

Charter School	Percent Minority		Percent Low-Income		Overall Meet/Exceed % – All State Tests	
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011
CPS DISTRICT 299	90.9	91.5	87.0	86.0	64.0	66.3
AGC		86.9		78.4		72.9
ACT	*		94.4		44.7	
Alain Locke	100	*	90	88.8	86.8	88.2
Amandla	100	100	94.9	91.6	71.2	71.9
ACE Tech	94.1	96.2	94.7	91.4	13.7	17.1
Aspira	95.5	97.1	94.9	92.1	52.8	52.9
Betty Shabazz	*	*	88.4	90	50.5	52.4
Bronzeville Lighthouse	*	*	93.7	93	71	77.2
Catalyst - Circle Rock		100		91.6		71
Catalyst - Howland	*	100	87.1	97	60.8	57.2
CICS	95.9	96.3	85.9	86.7	68.7	69.1
CMSA	92.3	96.2	88	90.8	63.3	67
Chicago Talent		100		94.8		
Chicago Virtual	82.1	85.6	57.9	61.7	69.7	75.6
EPIC		*		95.5		
Erie Elementary	*	*	88.3	87.9	70.8	71.3
Galapagos – Chicago	100	100	93.4	91.7	63.3	66.3
Henry Ford Academy	100	100	90.0	94.1	*	9.7
IHSCA		*		*		
KIPP Ascend	*	*	89.7	90.5	69.1	71
Kwame Nkrumah						
L.E.A.R.N.	*	*	92.5	95.3	83.1	80.9
Legacy- Chicago	100	*	94	91	79.6	79.6
Namaste	90	89.7	72.2	83.1	74	86.9
Noble Street	96.5	98.1	87.2	88	44.6	50.4

Charter School	Percent Minority		Percent Low-Income		Overall Meet/Exceed % – All State Tests	
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011
North Lawndale	*	100	95.4	93.2	13.8	16.1
Passages	92.1	93.3	84.2	87.7	62.9	71.3
Perspectives	99	99	88.1	86.9	54.7	57.2
Polaris	*	100	91	92.5	63.2	74.1
Prologue – Joshua Johnston		100		*		*
Providence Englewood	100	100	86.3	83.2	76.6	81.7
Rowe Elementary		*		85.9		76.9
UCCS	*	99.5	82.7	83.5	69.6	72.5
UNO	98.8	99.3	95.3	95.4	72	73.1
Urban Prep	*	100	84.1	83.6	17.2	14.7
Urban - West		100		92.9		
Urban Prep - Bronzeville		100		82.4		
YWLCS	93.4	93.2	90.4	86.8	45	53.4
YCCS	97.3	98.5	92.9	89.3	19.3	9.7
BEARDSTOWN CUSD 15	47.7	50.5	68.4	70.8	62.7	59.0
Beardstown Charter	*	*	*	*	*	*
CUSD 300	42.0	45.7	34.4	39.2	77.7	78.9
Cambridge Lakes	43	45.5	9.6	16.4	85.7	89.1
DECATUR SD 61	56.0	58.2	69.5	68.9	68.5	68.2
Robertson	96.6	96.3	91.5	64.5	71.7	68.9
EAST ST. LOUIS SD 189	99.8	99.6	77.3	95.6	56.7	60.2
SIUE - East St. Louis Charter School	*	100	*	*	*	*
Tomorrow's Builders	100	*	0	*	*	*
JACKSONVILLE SD 117	16.6	17.2	49.2	52.9	78.0	77.3
8 Points						
MCLEAN CUSD 5	29.3	30.4	24.2	28.0	82.9	83.6
YouthBuild McLean County	61.8	70	0	*	*	*
PEORIA SD 150	71.0	74.2	74.7	74.9	64.2	65.4

Charter School	Percent Minority		Percent Low-Income		Overall Meet/Exceed % – All State Tests	
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011
Quest		77.6		51.6		79
WOODLAND CCSD 50	44.0	47.6	22.1	26.9	87.1	86.6
FREMONT SD 79	27.1	28.2	6.0	8.2	93.3	93.9
PRAIRIE CROSSING	22.1	22.7	*	3.1	95.9	97
ROCKFORD SD 205	62.9	64.4	75.3	77.8	63.0	62.7
CICS-Rockford Patriots		92		76.1		47.9
Galapagos - Rockford	87.2	89.4	84	86.1	67.4	46.5
Legacy – Rockford	80.3	85	85.5	88	52.4	57.5
RICH TOWNSHIP HSD 227	95.7	96.2	99.4	72.3	36.6	28.5
SOUTHLAND COLLEGE PREP		100		63.9		
SPRINGFIELD SD 186	49.4	50.5	65.5	67.2	66.5	67.6
Springfield Ball Charter	55.2	53.5	45.1	49.9	85.2	84.7

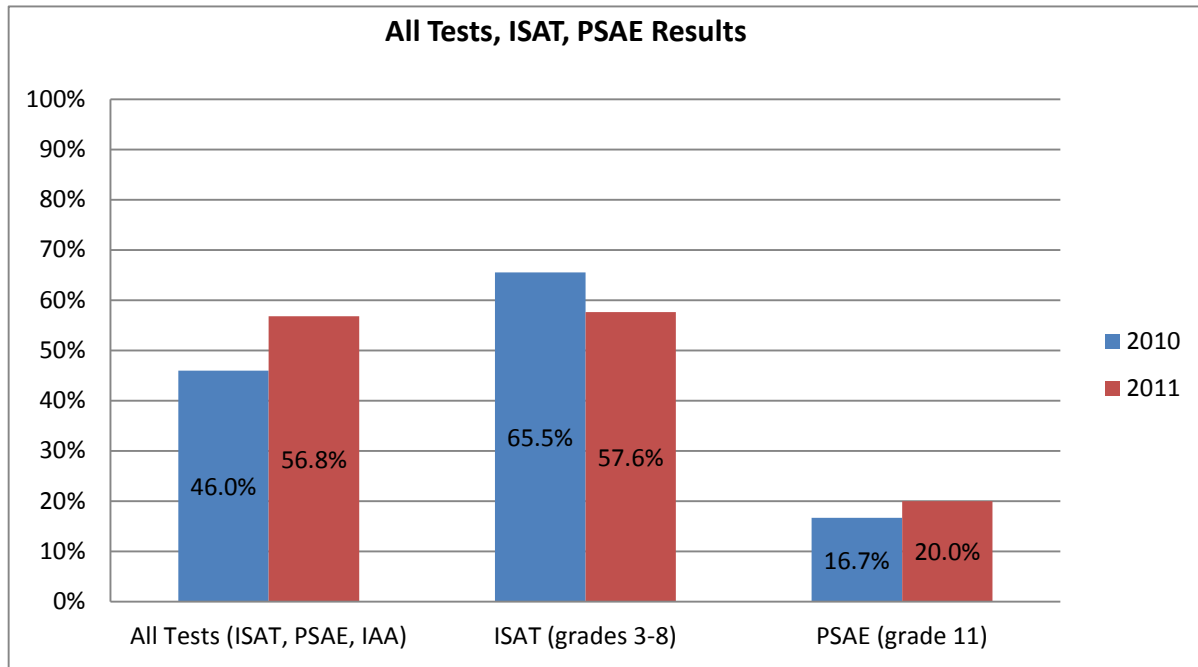
* Redacted due to cell size

Table 4D: ISAT and PSAE School and District Comparison

Charter School	Enrollment			Test Taken	Overall Meet/Exceed % – ISAT			Overall Meet/Exceed % – PSAE		
	2009	2010	2011		2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
CPS District 299	409,055	404,589	403,770	ISAT/PSAE	67.5	69.5	73.3	27.9	29.3	28.3
AGC			176	ISAT			72.9			
ACT	360	324		ISAT/PSAE	61.5	65.8		8.8	11.6	
Alain Locke	502	511	572	ISAT	84.9	86.8	88.2			
Amandla	101	216	298	ISAT	53.3	71.3	71.8			
ACE Tech	491	507	479	PSAE				12.3	13.7	17.1
Aspira	1169	1333	1489	ISAT/PSAE	62.6	70.6	70.1	17.1	18.5	17.1
Betty Shabazz	880	879	1012	ISAT/PSAE	69.8	66	66.4	8.8	11	7.4
Bronzeville Lighthouse	409	457	470	ISAT	65.5	71	77.2			
Catalyst - Circle Rock			491	ISAT			71			
Catalyst - Howland	338	389	495	ISAT	49.8	60.8	57.2			
CICS	7281	8076	8586	ISAT/PSAE	73.4	74.1	76.6	35	30.6	23.4
CMSA	488	599	586	ISAT/PSAE	77.5	75.4	79.9	46.2	26.2	32.4
Chicago Talent			212							
Chicago Virtual	611	553	564	ISAT/PSAE	77.4	71.3	77.4		35.9	43.8
EPIC			244							
Erie	206	247	297	ISAT	61.2	70.8	71.3			
Galapagos – Chicago	316	316	350	ISAT	65	63.3	66.3			
Henry Ford Academy	110	260	373	PSAE						9.7
IHSCA			181							
KIPP Ascend	328	320	430	ISAT	72.3	69.1	71.1			
Kwame Nkrumah										
L.E.A.R.N.	581	957	1351	ISAT	77.7	83.1	80.9			

Charter School	Enrollment			Test Taken	Overall Meet/Exceed % – ISAT			Overall Meet/Exceed % – PSAE		
	2009	2010	2011		2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
Legacy - Chicago	303	368	442	ISAT	73.4	79.6	79.6			
Namaste	312	370	419	ISAT	75.5	74	86.7			
Noble Street	2210	3683	5330	PSAE				51.3	44.5	50.4
North Lawndale	644	741	882	PSAE				10.3	13.8	16.1
Passages	239	291	373	ISAT	71.2	62.9	71.4			
Perspectives	1659	2201	2224	ISAT/PSAE	67	69.6	75	13.6	16.7	20
Polaris	181	244	280	ISAT	50.5	63.2	74.1			
Prologue –Joshua Johnston			95	PSAE						4
Providence Englewood	400	415	392	ISAT	66.7	76.6	81.7			
Rowe Elementary			248	ISAT			76.9			
UCCS	1247	1563	1695	ISAT/PSAE	73.9	74.3	77	20.1	20.1	18.5
UNO	3334	3428	4328	ISAT/PSAE	69.3	72	75.1			37
Urban Prep	450	565	517	PSAE				15.3	17.2	14.7
Urban Prep - West			226							
Urban Prep - Bronzeville			136							
YWLCS	350	334	325	ISAT/PSAE	65.3	69.4	75.1	12.3	15.2	22.5
YCCS	3371	3408	3513	PSAE				19.8	19.1	9.7
BEARDSTOWN CUSD 15	1,428	1,464	1,422	ISAT/PSAE	70.3	69.0	64.9	28.5	31.2	32.0
Beardstown Charter	23	25	26	PSAE				10	*	*
CUSD 300	19,329	19,680	20,274	ISAT/PSAE	81.2	82.7	83.8	52.8	51.8	54.0
Cambridge Lakes	411	477	584	ISAT	84.1	85.7	89.1			
DECATUR SD 61	8,558	8,739	8,624	ISAT/PSAE	69.1	71.8	72.8	36.6	40.2	33.5
Robertson	222	236	299	ISAT	68.8	71.7	68.9			
EAST ST. LOUIS SD 189	7,520	7,374	7,275	ISAT/PSAE	63.4	65.4	69.1	8.7	8.7	9.9
SIUE - East St. Louis	100	106	113	PSAE				10.2	*	5.3
Tomorrow's Builders	79	76	123	PSAE				2.6	*	1.3
JACKSONVILLE SD 117	3,462	3,418	3,499	ISAT/PSAE	83.7	83.0	83.9	45.7	50.6	45.9
8 Points										
MCLEAN CUSD 5	12,593	12,855	13,031	ISAT/PSAE	87.0	87.8	88.2	64.1	59.0	62.2
YouthBuild McLean County	20	34	40	PSAE				*	11.1	8
PEORIA SD 150	13,825	13,021	14,266	ISAT/PSAE	68.5	69.9	70.5	33.2	34.6	36.0
Quest			219	ISAT			79			
WOODLAND CCSD 50	6,977	6,840	6,713	ISAT	86.7	87.3	86.8			
FREMONT SD 79	2,153	2,125	2,256	ISAT	91.7	93.4	94.0			
PRAIRIE CROSSING	361	362	392	ISAT	96.1	96	97			
ROCKFORD SD 205	26,990	27,181	27,579	ISAT/PSAE	66.6	67.4	67.4	35.2	35.2	33.7
CICS-Rockford Patriots			251	ISAT			47.9			
Galapagos - Rockford		94	208	ISAT		67.4	46.5			
Legacy – Rockford		269	266	ISAT		52.4	57.5			
RICH TOWNSHIP HSD 227	4,167	4,032	4,031	PSAE				39.3	35.9	27.4
SOUTHLAND			122							
SPRINGFIELD SD 186	14,120	14,453	14,561	ISAT/PSAE	69.1	71.0	72.2	41.8	41.0	40.0
Springfield Ball Charter	417	446	443	ISAT	80.5	85.2	84.7			

Table 4E: Percentage of Charter Schools With a Meet & Exceed Rate Greater than or Equal to the District's Rate



Another interesting way to slice the data is to look at the percent of schools in various categories making gains when compared to a statewide control group. The chart on the left in Table 4E below shows average statewide gains from 2010 to 2011 in the “all students” category and by subgroups. Against this control group, schools that had gains in reading and math from 2010 to 2011 that exceeded the statewide control group gains in the “all students” category *and* in each subgroup are considered “making progress.” Among (1) Schools in Federal Improvement Status, (2) All Non-Charter Schools, and (3) Charter Schools, the charter school group had the highest percentage of schools making progress in reading, and slightly exceeded the percentage of All Non-Charter Schools making progress in math.

READING

- Schools in Federal Improvement Status: 1011 schools with 2010 and 2011 data/222 schools making progress = **22%** of Schools in Federal Improvement Status made progress from 2010 in “all students” group and each subgroup
- Non-Charter Schools: 3,058 schools with 2010 and 2011 data/579 schools making progress = **18.9%** of Non-Charter Schools made progress from 2010 in “all students” group and each subgroup.
- Charter Schools: 34 schools with 2010 and 2011 data/10 schools making progress = **29.4%** of Charter Schools made progress from 2010 in “all students” group and each subgroup.

MATH

- Schools in Federal Improvement Status: 1011 schools with 2010 and 2011 data/251 schools making progress = **24.8%** of Schools in Federal Improvement Status made progress from 2010 in “all students” group and each subgroup.
- Non-Charter Schools: 3058 schools with 2010 and 2011 data/618 schools making progress = **20.2%** of Non-Charter Schools made progress from 2010 in “all students” group and each subgroup.
- Charter Schools: 34 schools with 2010 and 2011 data/7 schools making progress = **20.6%** of Charter Schools made progress from 2010 in “all students” group and each subgroup.

Table 4F: Average Statewide School Gains '10 to '11 in “All Students” Category and Subgroups

Student Group	Reading	Math
Overall	0.6	0.9
White	0.0	0.5
Black	1.5	2.2
Hispanic	2.9	0.8
Asian	0.3	0.1
Native American		
Multi-Racial	0.4	0.3
LEP	0.7	-1.1
Migrant	-11.4	-7.8
IEP	-0.1	0.8
Economically Disadvantaged	1.0	1.1

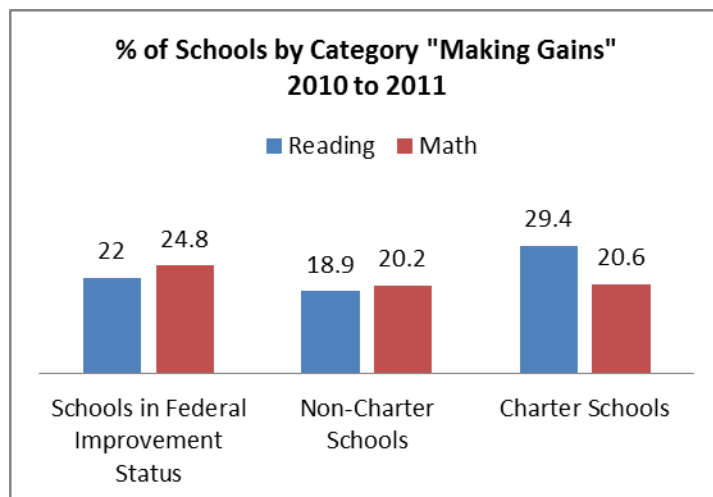


Table 4G: Student Retention and Graduation ^v

The data below is self-reported by charter schools on the annual surveys, and graduation percentages come from the statewide Student Information System.

Charter School	Students Who Did Not Return From Previous Year		Students Transferring to Another School Within the District		Students Transferring to Another School Outside the District		Graduation Percent	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 299	Student Mobility 2010: 18.7% Student Mobility 2011: 17.6%						71.8	73.8
AGC		*		NR		NR		N/A
ACT	NR		NR		NR		82.1	
Alain Locke	55	0	42	42	13	13	N/A	N/A
Amandla	28	*	26	33	11	15	N/A	N/A
ACE Tech	12	15	37	13	0	37	74.6	94.5
Aspira	61	46	101	115	60	51	79.8	82.3
Betty Shabazz	168	104	54	50	54	18	81.3	89.7
Bronzeville Lighthouse	39	NR	*	NR	35	NR	N/A	N/A
Catalyst Circle Rock		28		25		NR		N/A
Catalyst - Howland	10	73	NR	42	NR	0	N/A	N/A
CICS	236	267	234	480	28	153	85.1	93.3
CMSA	51	NR	*	NR	53	NR	100	NR
Chicago Talent		*		15		*		N/A
Chicago Virtual	37	53	14	104	*	35	N/A	81.8
EPIC		15		*		*		N/A
Erie	28	32	*	*	10	*	N/A	N/A
Galapagos – Chicago	30	35	NR	30	NR	*	N/A	N/A
Henry Ford Academy	14	NR	19	26	0	16	N/A	N/A
IHSCA		N/A		NR		NR		NR
KIPP Ascend	33	37	18	26	*	11	N/A	N/A
Kwame Nkrumah								
L.E.A.R.N.	NR	148	NR	N/A	NR	N/A	N/A	N/A
Legacy – Chicago	51	43	16	35	20	45	N/A	N/A
Namaste	13	14	*	0	*	*	N/A	N/A
Noble Street	211	473	131	181	41	65	78.8	86.2
North Lawndale	51	42	31	27	*	18	100	96.6
Passages	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	N/A	N/A
Perspectives	421	470	72	296	52	124	82.4	88.2
Polaris	*	17	*	46	*	12	N/A	N/A
Prologue–Joshua Johnston		N/A		23		*		54.2
Providence Englewood	43	58	37	N/A	*	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rowe Elementary		12		*		*		N/A
UCCS	36	127	33	56	22	35	55.7	89.4
UNO	193	170	109	95	84	94	N/A	N/A
Urban Prep	27	149	25	93	*	18	62.6	83
Urban Prep - West		N/A		NR		NR		N/A
Urban Prep - Bronzeville		N/A		*		*		N/A
YWLCS	23	NR	18	NR	*	NR	75.7	92.9
YCCS	147	140	439	201	217	308	82.3	44.7
BEARDSTOWN CUSD 15	Student Mobility 2010: 31.5% Student Mobility 2011: 33.2%						97.5	82.8
Beardstown Charter	*	13	*	0	*	0	100	58.8
CUSD 300								
Cambridge Lakes	66	31	52	11	14	17	N/A	N/A

Charter School	Students Who Did Not Return From Previous Year		Students Transferring to Another School Within the District		Students Transferring to Another School Outside the District		Graduation Percent	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
DECATUR SD 61	Student Mobility 2010: 23.3% Student Mobility 2011: 22.7%						92.4	70.6
Robertson	25	21	*	12	18	*	N/A	N/A
EAST ST. LOUIS SD 189	Student Mobility 2010: 18.3% Student Mobility 2011: 23.8%						79.3	65.4
SIUE - East St. Louis	31	10	NR	12	NR	0	100	*
Tomorrow's Builders	31	20	*	*	*	*	41.3	14
JACKSONVILLE SD 117	Student Mobility 2010: 18.1% Student Mobility 2011: 21.9%						96.6	83.7
8 Points								
MCLEAN COUNTY USD 5	Student Mobility 2010: 12.1% Student Mobility 2011: 13.0%						90.5	84.8
YouthBuild McLean County	*	*	0	0	0	*	100	47.1
PEORIA SD 150	Student Mobility 2010: 32.2% Student Mobility 2011: 30.1%						90.0	76.6
Quest								
WOODLAND CCSD 50	Student Mobility 2010: 10.2% Student Mobility 2011: 6.6%						N/A	N/A
FREMONT SD 79	Student Mobility 2010: 6.8% Student Mobility 2011: 4.5%						N/A	N/A
PRAIRIE CROSSING	21	16	12	*	*	*	N/A	N/A
ROCKFORD SD 205	Student Mobility 2010: 13.5% Student Mobility 2011: 34.5%						79.9	72.0
CICS-Rockford Patriots		N/A		14		11		N/A
Galapagos - Rockford	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	N/A	N/A
Legacy – Rockford	N/A	167	NR	138	NR	18	N/A	N/A
RICH TOWNSHIP HSD 227	Student Mobility 2010: 21.0% Student Mobility 2011: 13.6%						95.2	90.9
SOUTHLAND		N/A		0		*		N/A
SPRINGFIELD SD 186	Student Mobility 2010: 26.9% Student Mobility 2011: 26.7%						87.8	76.0
Springfield Ball Charter	26	30	14	14	11	16	N/A	N/A

* Redacted due to cell size; N/A means that the charter school did not serve high school grades that year.

5. Suggested Statutory Changes

The biennial report must include “suggested changes in State law necessary to strengthen charter schools.” To address this required element, Charter Schools were asked to review a list of suggested amendments to the Illinois Charter Law and indicate which suggested amendment they would support. As evidenced from the below chart, the No. 1 requested amendment by charter schools—cited by 33 of 36 charter schools responding to the 2009-2010 survey, and 35 of 42 charter schools responding to the 2010-2011 survey—was to allocate additional operating funds to charter schools beyond the per capita assistance from the authorizing charter school.

Under the Law, charter schools must receive not less than 75 percent nor more than 125 percent of the school district’s per capita student tuition, multiplied by the number of students enrolled in the charter school who are residents of the school district. Both of the state-authorized charter schools, Prairie Crossing and Southland College Prep Charter High School, receive a reimbursement rate of 100 percent of the resident school district’s per capita student tuition. ISBE does not currently have comprehensive data on the average per capita funding rate provided to district-authorized charter schools by their authorizing school districts. On surveys returned by charter schools, CPS charter schools indicated that they receive toward the bottom end of the statutory range for per capita funding, or in some cases reported a belief that they receive less per capita funding than is required by statute. A number of charters also reported that they must devote considerable energies toward private fundraising in order to offset funding deficits. ISBE is currently working with Chicago Public Schools to better understand its charter funding practices.

The Illinois Charter Law provides for transition impact aid for school districts during the initial term of a new charter school, in order to offset the impact of the charter school on the district’s budget. Specifically, the law provides that a school district with a new charter school is entitled to receive aid equal to 90 percent of the per capita funding paid to the charter school during the first year of its initial charter term, 65 percent of the per capita funding paid to the charter school during the second year of its initial term, and 35 percent of the per capita funding paid to the charter school during the third year of its initial term. Unfortunately, because of the current fiscal climate, transition impact aid has not been available to school districts since fiscal year 2009. The absence of transition impact aid may in part account for lower charter funding levels and the reluctance of school districts outside of Chicago, especially smaller school districts, to consider a charter option for their districts.

Survey respondents also indicated in high numbers that they would support a change in the Charter Law to provide additional operational funding in the forms of facilities financing, transportation funding, and State start-up grants.

Table 5A: Suggested Statutory Changes

Suggested Amendment		Number of Charters Requesting Change	
		2009-2010 (36)	2010-2011 (42)
1	Allocate additional operating funds to charter schools beyond the per capita assistance from the authorizing district	33	35
2	Provide state grants to all schools, including those in renewal periods	29	25
3	Increase the amount of state start-up grants to \$1,000 per enrolled student	27	23
4	Appropriate funds sufficient to fully fund state start-up grants as well as transition impact aid to districts	19	18
5	Provide facilities financing	29	30
6	Providing transportation funding	21	24
7	Mandate at least 100% per capital funding from the authorizer	24	26
8	Prohibit districts from charging rent for district buildings used by charter schools	18	19
9	Allow additional enrollment preferences	5	10
10	Allow employee's children to attend regardless of their home district	17	13
11	Allow ISBE to authorize charter schools without first presenting to local school boards	13	20
12	Increase the cap to allow more charter schools to open	19	18
13	Allocate funds to provide incentive grants to districts that approve charter schools	19	15
14	Extend the charter renewal period to up to 10 years	24	24
15	Allow loan repayment after the initial charter term	8	5
16	Allow multiple campuses for all schools	18	17
17	Prohibit additional campuses for all schools		
18	Allow for-profit management companies for all schools	5	2
19	Remove the requirement that charter schools give the same standardized tests as the authorizing district	12	7
20	Eliminate the teacher certification requirements included in Public Act 093-0003	16	13

Attachment A: 2010-2011 Charter School Report Information Survey

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
 Legal Department
 100 West Randolph Street, Suite 14-300
 Chicago, Illinois 60601-3268
 Telephone: 312.814.2223 Fax: 312.814.8871

2010-2011 CHARTER SCHOOL REPORT INFORMATION

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete this form and return by **August 1, 2011**.
MAIL TO Jennifer Saba, Illinois State Board of Education, Legal Department, 100 West Randolph Street, Suite 14-300, Chicago, Illinois 60601-3268,
OR FAX TO Jennifer Saba at 312.814.8871; or **E-MAIL TO** jsaba@isbe.net.

A. DIRECTORY INFORMATION (Provide the most recent information in all fields.)		
NAME OF CHARTER SCHOOL	MAIN TELEPHONE NUMBER	MAIN FAX NUMBER
STREET ADDRESS (Number, Street, City, State, 9 Digit Zip Code)	E-MAIL OF CHARTER SCHOOL DIRECTOR	
NAME OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM	TELEPHONE OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM	
NAME OF CHARTER SCHOOL DIRECTOR	NUMBER OF SCHOOL SITES IN 2010-2011 Attach a listing of multiple sites; include address, phone, fax, site administrator's name and title.	
NAME OF CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD PRESIDENT	SCHOOL'S WEBSITE ADDRESS	Include this as a link from ISBE's Website <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

B. STUDENT DATA	
Did your school hold an enrollment lottery for 2010-2011?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
How many student enrollment applications were received for 2010-2011?	_____
From these applications, how many students were selected via lottery?	_____
Grades served in 2010-2011	_____
Student enrollment in 2010-2011	_____
Estimated student enrollment for 2011-2012	_____
Number of instructional days in charter school calendar in 2010-2011	_____
School Day in 2010-2011	FROM _____ a.m. TO _____ p.m.
Average number of instructional minutes per school day	_____
Number of students who attended during 2009-2010 school year who did not return at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year	_____

	NUMBER/PERCENT OF STUDENTS		NUMBER OF STUDENTS LEAVING THE CHARTER SCHOOL		NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES
	SUSPENDED	EXPELLED	TRANSFERRING TO ANOTHER PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE DISTRICT	TRANSFERRING TO ANOTHER SCHOOL OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT	
During 2010-2011 indicate →	____ / ____ %	____ / ____ %	_____	_____	_____
Number of out-of-district students served on a tuition basis	_____				

C. STAFF DATA	
Number of Instructional Personnel (in FTE) in 2010-2011 _____	Of these, how many (in FTE) maintain Illinois teaching certificates? _____
Number of Administrative Personnel (in FTE) in 2010-2011 _____	Of these, how many (in FTE) maintain Illinois administrative certificates? _____
Performance-based pay is one innovative strategy employed by some schools.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Were any of your staff members paid incentives or bonuses in 2010-2011? If yes, how many? _____	
If yes, explain on what basis the incentives or bonuses were determined. _____ _____	

D. Performance Comparison—Compare the performance of students at your school with the performance of comparable groups of students in other public schools. (Attach additional pages as necessary.)

E. Charter schools are exempt from much of the School Code—Indicate the areas of flexibility used by your school in 2010-2011.

Check (✓) all that apply. For each area you check, please include a brief explanation of how that exemption assisted or impeded your ability to meet your stated goals and objectives.

- 1. Teacher certification

- 2. Administrator certification

- 3. Autonomy to set educational priorities

- 4. Autonomy to design curriculum independent from the school district

- 5. Autonomy to allow teaching methods that are new or different from the school district

- 6. Autonomy to design different, additional performance standards

- 7. Autonomy to set unique school day and school year schedules

- 8. Autonomy to manage fiscal affairs independent of the school district

- 9. Autonomy to set employee compensation rates and/or provide bonuses

- 10. Autonomy to contract with external providers for various services (please list)

- 11. Other (please describe)

F. Suggested Changes in the Law—Indicate any changes in state law you would recommend to strengthen charter schools. Check (✓) all that apply. For each area you check, please include a brief explanation of how that change would strengthen your charter school.

- 1. Allocate additional operating funds to charter schools beyond the per capita assistance from the authorizing district
- 2. Provide state grants to all schools, including those in renewal periods
- 3. Increase the amount of state start-up grants to up to \$1,000 per enrolled student
- 4. Appropriate funds sufficient to fully fund state start-up grants as well as transition impact aid to districts
- 5. Provide facilities financing
- 6. Provide transportation funding
- 7. Mandate at least 100% per capita funding from the authorizer
- 8. Prohibit districts from charging rent for district buildings used by charter schools
- 9. Allow additional enrollment preferences (specify)
- 10. Allow employee's children to attend regardless of their home district
- 11. Provide for alternative routes to authorization that do not require charter schools to first present to local school boards
- 12. Increase the cap to allow more charter schools to open
- 13. Allocate funds to provide incentive grants to districts that approve charter schools
- 14. Extend the charter renewal period to up to 10 years
- 15. Allow loan repayment after the initial charter term
- 16. Allow multiple campuses for all schools
- 17. Prohibit additional campuses for all schools
- 18. Allow for-profit management companies for all schools
- 19. Remove the requirement that charter schools give the same standardized tests as the authorizing district
- 20. Eliminate the teacher certification requirements included in Public Act 093-0003
- 21. Other (please specify; attach additional pages as necessary.)

G. Management Relationships—Indicate the relationship of your school to educational management organizations (EMO).

Check (✓) all that apply.

- 1. The school had a contract with a not-for-profit EMO for the first time in 2010-2011
- 2. The school has had a contract with a not-for-profit EMO in the past (specify number of years _____)
- 3. The school had a contract with a for-profit EMO for the first time in 2010-2011
- 4. The school has had a contract with a for-profit EMO in the past (specify number of years _____)
- 5. The school has never had a contract with an EMO, either for-profit or not-for-profit

H. Accountability—Indicate how your school is held accountable by the charter authorizer.

Check (✓) all that apply.

- 1. The school submits a written performance report to the authorizer each year
- 2. The school submits a written performance report to the authorizer only for renewal
- 3. The school provides a copy of the annual School Report Card to the authorizer
- 4. The authorizer makes an onsite visit to the school each year
- 5. The authorizer makes an onsite visit to the school only for renewal
- 6. Other (please describe)

I. Mission and Goals—Describe the extent to which your school is accomplishing its mission and goals.
(Attach additional pages as necessary.)

- J. **Best Practices**—Name three to four “best practices” used by your school and describe how each benefits your student population. (Attach additional pages as necessary.)

-
- K. **Optional Information**—Providing information on the points below is optional. Please attach additional pages as necessary if you choose to address the issues noted.
- Describe the need for changes in the approval process
 - Summarize the results of any parent surveys conducted in the past year
 - Describe any “success stories” from your school
 - Describe any “lessons learned” for those interested in starting a charter school
 - Describe the greatest challenge your school faced in the past year
 - Provide any additional information not covered above

Illinois Charter Schools Division Contact Information

Illinois State Board of Education

Attn: Jennifer M. Saba, Legal Advisor/Charter Schools Program Director

100 West Randolph Street

Suite 14-300

Chicago, IL 60601

(312) 814-2223

(312) 814-8871 (Fax)

ⁱ Student demographic data is self-reported in that charter schools enter such data in the statewide Student Information System. We have some concerns with the accuracy of the data reported by the two charter schools in East St. Louis for percent low-income and percent IEP students.

ⁱⁱ Non-responding charter schools were Academy of Communications and Technology (ACT) Charter School (CPS 299), Galapagos Rockford Charter School (Rockford 205), and Passages Charter School (CPS 299).

ⁱⁱⁱ Non-responding charter schools were Bronzeville Lighthouse Charter School (CPS 299), Chicago Math & Science Academy Charter School (CPS 299), Galapagos Rockford Charter School (Rockford 205), Instituto Health Sciences Career Academy Charter High School (CPS 299), Passages Charter School (CPS 299), Quest Charter Academy (Peoria 150), Urban Prep Academy for Young Men Charter High School – West Campus (CPS 299), and Young Women’s Leadership Charter School (CPS 299).

^{iv} The 2009-2010 survey asked charter schools to report areas of flexibility used in 2008-2009. This was a typo. We presume for purposes of this Report that charters responded using 2009-2010 information, in order to be consistent with the rest of the Report.

^v Student mobility rate is based on the number of times students enroll in or leave a school during the school year.