## Sibdent Achievement in Fiorida's Charier Schools:

A Comparison uf the Performance of Charter School stuclents with Traditionas Puslis School Stuslents


# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION 

 Improving K-12 Educational Choice Options

## About This Report

Section 1002.33(23), Florida Statutes, requires the Florida Department of Education to prepare an annual statewide analysis of student achievement in charter schools versus the achievement of comparable students in traditional public schools. This report of charter school student performance fulfills that annual requirement. The analysis examines the average performance of charter school students and traditional public school students on statewide assessments in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. Only students who were enrolled in a charter school or a traditional public school for an entire school year are included in the analysis. Limiting the analysis to include only full-year students is consistent with the state's school accountability system for calculating school grades. The report compares charter and traditional public schools in terms of grade level achievement, learning gains and achievement gap. The data included in this report is based on test scores from the 2021-22 school year.

The analysis and production of this report was a coordinated effort between the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice and the Bureau of Accountability Reporting in the Division of Accountability, Research and Measurement. Additional information about charter schools and other school choice options is available on the Department's website at www.floridaschoolchoice.org.


## Student Achievement in Florida's Charter Schools: Key Findings

The data contained in this report is derived from student performance on the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) for English Language Arts and Mathematics (Mathematics data includes Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry end-of-course exams) as well as the statewide assessments for Science (NGSSS Science and Biology) and Social Studies (Civics and U.S. History). This report is designed to allow a comparative analysis of the academic achievement of students attending charter schools versus students attending traditional public schools. Using data from the 2021-22 school year, the report makes 195 comparisons in three areas: absolute achievement, learning gains and achievement gaps. Each of these areas includes overall as well as subgroup comparisons across subject areas and grade levels.

The achievement section of this report measures the percentage of students who scored a level three or above on the statewide assessment. This data is used to measure overall rates of grade-level performance by grade groupings and by subgroup. This section of the report contains 77 separate comparisons of student achievement. In 58 of the 77 comparisons, students enrolled in charter schools demonstrated higher rates of grade level performance. In 18 of the 77 comparisons, students enrolled in traditional public schools demonstrated higher rates of grade level performance. There was no difference in one comparison.

The achievement gap section of the report contains data that are used to analyze the gap between white students and African-American students and white students and Hispanic students in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. This section of the report includes 22 separate comparisons of achievement gaps. The achievement gap was lower for charter school students in 18 of the 22 comparisons while the achievement gap was lower for traditional public schools in 3 of the 22 comparisons. There was no difference in one comparison.

The learning gains section of the report includes 96 comparisons. The report compares the percentage of students in charter schools making learning gains against the percentage of students in traditional public schools making learning gains by subject, grade level and subgroup. The percentage of students making learning gains was higher in charter schools in 81 of the 96 comparisons. The percentage of students making learning gains was higher in traditional public schools in 13 of the 96 comparisons. There was no difference in the percentage of students making learning gains in 2 of the 96 comparisons.



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F L O R \| D A' S
CHARTER
schools

## Students Served by Florida Charter Schools

Charter schools provide parents with additional choices for selecting the most effective educational programs for their children and offer creative solutions for improving student achievement in Florida. The charter school sector in Florida strives to improve student learning, increase parental choice, and foster innovative instructional and leadership approaches. Charter school enrollment has more than doubled over the last decade and represents more than 12 percent of public school enrollment in Florida. As shown below, charter schools served more than 361,000 students in the 2021-22 school year.

|  | Charter Schools |  | Traditional Public Schools (TPS) |  | All |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Race/Color/Sex | Students | Percent | Students | Percent | Students | Percent |
| White | 107,154 | 29.6\% | 909,424 | 36.7\% | 1,016,578 | 35.8\% |
| Black | 68,072 | 18.8\% | 533,647 | 21.5\% | 601,719 | 21.2\% |
| Hispanic | 163,160 | 45.1\% | 851,807 | 34.4\% | 1,014,967 | 35.8\% |
| Other | 23,480 | 6.5\% | 181,609 | 7.3\% | 205,089 | 7.2\% |
| Male | 181,124 | 50.1\% | 1,275,441 | 51.5\% | 1,456,565 | 51.3\% |
| Female | 180,742 | 49.9\% | 1,201,046 | 48.5\% | 1,381,788 | 48.7\% |
| Total Enrollment | 361,866 | 100.0\% | 2,476,487 | 100.0\% | 2,838,353 | 100.0\% |

Special
Categorie

| FRPL* | 184,962 | $51.1 \%$ | $1,387,388$ | $56.0 \%$ | $1,572,350$ | $55.4 \%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| ELL** | 35,934 | $9.9 \%$ | 252,431 | $10.2 \%$ | 288,365 | $10.2 \%$ |
| SWD*** | 37,304 | $10.3 \%$ | 389,555 | $15.7 \%$ | 426,859 | $15.0 \%$ |

* FRPL: Free and Reduced Priced Lunch
** ELL: English Language Learners
*** SWD: Students with Disabilities
Data Source: 2021-22 Survey 3 final data; Know Your Data
Advanced Reports Portal (formerly EDStats)

ENGISH

## LANGUAGE

ALL STUDENTS COMPARISONS 2022
Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA English Language Arts Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools All Students

SUBGROUPCOMPARISONS2022

Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA English Language Arts
Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools
White Students


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA English Language Arts Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools African-American Students


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA English Language Arts Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools Hispanic Students


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA English Language Arts
Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL)


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA English Language Arts Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools

Exceptional Education Students


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA English Language Arts Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools

English Language Learner Students (ELL)


ENGIISH:

MATHEMATICS

## $\square-20$

 Traditional Public Schools and Charter SchoolsA L L
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2022
Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA Mathematics and End-of-Course Exams (EOCs), Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools All Students


SUBGROUPCOMPARISONS2022
Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA Mathematics and EOCs Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools White Students

$\square$ Charter $\square$ Traditional

Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA Mathematics and EOCs Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools African-American Students


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA Mathematics and EOCs
Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools
Hispanic Students


[^0]Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA Mathematics and EOCs Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL)


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA Mathematics and EOCs Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools Exceptional Education Students


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on FSA Mathematics and EOCs
Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools
English Language Learner Students


## SCIENCE

## Statewide Science Assessments Tiraditional Public Schools and Charter Schools

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N S
2022

Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Science Assessments Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools All Students


SUBGROUPCOMPARISONS2022
Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Science Assessments Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools White Students


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Science Assessments Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools African-American Students


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Science Assessments Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools Hispanic Students


# Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Science Assessments Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) 



Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Science Assessments Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools Exceptional Education Students


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Science Assessments
Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools


## SOCIAL STUDIES

SUBGROUP COMPARISONS 2022
Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Social Studies EOCs Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools
$\square$ Charter $\quad$ Traditional

## Social Studies End-of-Course Exams Traditional Public Schools and Charter Schools

ALL STUDENTS COMPARISONS 2022

Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Social Studies End-of-Course Exams (EOCs), Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools All Students


2\% White Students


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Social Studies EOCs
Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools African-American Students


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Social Studies EOCs Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools Hispanic Students


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Social Studies EOCs Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL)


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Social Studies EOCs Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools

Exceptional Student Education


Percent of Students Scoring a Level 3 or Above on Social Studies EOCs Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools English Language Learner Students


## Achievement Gap Summary Data 2021-22 School Year

Achievement Gap in English Language Arts Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools African-American and White Students


Achievement Gap in English Language Arts Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools Hispanic and White Students


## Achievement Gap in Mathematics Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools <br> African-American and White Students



Achievement Gap in Mathematics Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools Hispanic and White Students


## SCIENCE

Achievement Gap in Science Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools African-American and White Students


Achievement Gap in Science Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools Hispanic and White Students


## Achievement Gap in Social Studies Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools

African-American and White Students


Achievement Gap in Social Studies Charter Schools and Traditional Public Schools Hispanic and White Students


ENGISH
LANGUAGE

## ARTS

## Learning Gains Comparison 2021-2022 School Year

Percent of Students Making Learning Gains in FSA English Language Arts All Students


Percent of Students Making Learning Gains in FSA English Language Arts African-American Students


Percent of Students Making Learning Gains in FSA English Language Arts White Students


Percent of Students Making Learning Gains in FSA English Language Arts Hispanic Students


## ENGISH

## LANGUAGE

## Percent of Students Making Learning Gains in FSA English Language Arts FRL Students



## Percent of Students Making Learning Gains in FSA English Language Arts Exceptional Education Students



Percent of Students in Lowest Quartile Making Learning Gains in FSA English Language Arts All Students

$\square$ Charter $\square$ Traditional

Percent of Students in Lowest Quartile Making Learning Gains in FSA English Language Arts African-American Students


## ENGISH

## LANGUAGE

## Percent of Students in Lowest Quartile Making Learning Gains in FSA English Language Arts White Students



Percent of Students in Lowest Quartile Making Learning Gains in FSA English Language Arts Hispanic Students


Percent of Students in Lowest Quartile Making Learning Gains in FSA English Language Arts Exceptional Education Students


Percent of Students in Lowest Quartile Making Learning Gains in FSA English Language Arts

FRL Students


## MATHEMATICS

Percent of Students Making Learning Gains in FSA Mathematics All Students


Percent of Students Making Learning Gains in FSA Mathematics African-American Students


## Percent of Students Making Learning Gains in FSA Mathematics White Students



Percent of Students Making Learning Gains in FSA Mathematics Hispanic Students


[^1]
## MATHEMATICS

Percent of Students Making Learning Gains in FSA Mathematics FRL Students


Percent of Students Making Learning Gains in FSA Mathematics Exceptional Education Students


Percent of Students In Lowest Quartile Making Learning Gains in FSA Mathematics

All Students


Percent of Students In Lowest Quartile Making Learning Gains in FSA Mathematics African-American Students


## MATHEMATICS

Percent of Students In Lowest Quartile Making Learning Gains in FSA Mathematics White Students


Percent of Students In Lowest Quartile Making Learning Gains in FSA Mathematics Hispanic Students


## Percent of Students In Lowest Quartile Making Learning Gains in FSA Mathematics FRL Students



## Percent of Students In Lowest Quartile Making Learning Gains in FSA Mathematics Exceptional Education Students



[^2]FSA ACHIEVEMENT DATA

|  |  | Charter | Traditional |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Total \# of Students <br> with FSA results | English Language Arts | 218,963 | $1,423,365$ |
|  | Mathematics | 219,855 | $1,397,868$ |
|  | Science | 78,154 | 545,349 |
|  | Social Studies | 47,982 | 345,135 |



| Total Percent Scoring Level 3 or Above |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| White Students | English Language Arts <br> - White |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem | 68.3 | 18,105 | 66.2 | 126,412 |
|  | Mid | 64.9 | 19,083 | 59.4 | 112,423 |
|  | High | 64.8 | 6,139 | 60.2 | 84,655 |
|  | Mathematics White |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem | 66.4 | 17,498 | 69.0 | 131,027 |
|  | Mid | 68.9 | 20,204 | 65.0 | 122,833 |
|  | High | 52.5 | 4,386 | 49.9 | 57,266 |
|  | Science - White |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem | 57.8 | 5,031 | 62.4 | 40,018 |
|  | Mid | 61.5 | 5,937 | 60.5 | 40,385 |
|  | High | 69.4 | 3,287 | 71.5 | 49,252 |
|  | Social Studies - White |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem |  | N/A |  | N/A |
|  | Mid | 82.2 | 8,289 | 78.3 | 50,428 |
|  | High | 73.1 | 2,838 | 75.7 | 48,229 |




|  |  | Charter |  | Traditional |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Percent Scoring Level 3 or Above |  | \% | Total Students | \% | Total Students |
| FRL Students | English Language Arts |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem | 51.6 | 23,621 | 44.3 | 138,283 |
|  | Mid | 49.8 | 24,954 | 38.3 | 112,135 |
|  | High | 49.7 | 8,462 | 38.7 | 74,671 |
|  | Mathematics |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem | 49.7 | 22,538 | 47.3 | 146,823 |
|  | Mid | 50.9 | 25,427 | 40.3 | 117,853 |
|  | High | 36.7 | 6,988 | 29.9 | 59,918 |
|  | Science |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem | 39.2 | 5,916 | 37.8 | 40,223 |
|  | Mid | 43.2 | 7,065 | 36.5 | 37,228 |
|  | High | 45.2 | 3,834 | 48.4 | 44,458 |
|  | Social Studies |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem |  | N/A |  | N/A |
|  | Mid | 68.6 | 11,625 | 59.4 | 58,162 |
|  | High | 52.8 | 3,958 | 56.0 | 46,662 |


| Total Percent Scoring Level 3 or Above |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SWD Students | English Language Arts |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem | 28.7 | 2,655 | 25.0 | 21,825 |
|  | Mid | 22.5 | 2,179 | 16.0 | 11,902 |
|  | High | 21.6 | 674 | 15.8 | 6,745 |
|  | Mathematics |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem | 31.6 | 2,894 | 31.6 | 27,417 |
|  | Mid | 27.1 | 2,607 | 20.6 | 15,294 |
|  | High | 17 | 747 | 15.3 | 7,703 |
|  | Science |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem | 19.4 | 630 | 20.7 | 6,411 |
|  | Mid | 19.7 | 565 | 16.6 | 4,032 |
|  | High | 26 | 484 | 27.0 | 5,781 |
|  | Social Studies |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem |  | N/A |  | N/A |
|  | Mid | 44.4 | 1,469 | 38 | 9,315 |
|  | High | 32.3 | 487 | 35.5 | 6,525 |


| Total Percent Scoring Level 3 or Above |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ELL <br> Students | English Language Arts |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem | 38.4 | 5,386 | 32.8 | 30,225 |
|  | Mid | 22.7 | 2,388 | 16 | 9,568 |
|  | High | 17.8 | 525 | 12.5 | 3,884 |
|  | Mathem |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem | 44 | 6,129 | 41 | 37,632 |
|  | Mid | 32.3 | 3,403 | 23.9 | 14,332 |
|  | High | 23.6 | 1,025 | 21.8 | 8,936 |
|  | Science |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem | 23.3 | 935 | 22.2 | 6,436 |
|  | Mid | 16.5 | 473 | 13.4 | 2,391 |
|  | High | 25.3 | 447 | 26.6 | 4,125 |
|  | Social S |  |  |  |  |
|  | Elem |  | N/A |  | N/A |
|  | Mid | 45.2 | 1,579 | 36.6 | 7,319 |
|  | High | 23.9 | 340 | 29.0 | 3,953 |

## LEARNING GAINS DATA

| English <br> Language Arts | All Students <br> \% making learning gains | AfricanAmerican \% making learning gains | White <br> \% making learning gains | Hispanic <br> \% making learning gains | FRL <br> \% making learning gains | SWD <br> \% making learning gains |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Charter Schools |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grades 4 and 5 | 62 | 55 | 64 | 63 | 59 | 46 |
| Grades 6, 7 and 8 | 54 | 50 | 55 | 55 | 51 | 38 |
| Grades 9 and 10 | 59 | 53 | 59 | 59 | 56 | 42 |
| All Grade levels | 58 | 52 | 59 | 58 | 54 | 41 |
| Traditional Schools |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grades 4 and 5 | 61 | 54 | 64 | 61 | 57 | 45 |
| Grades 6, 7 and 8 | 49 | 41 | 51 | 49 | 44 | 32 |
| Grades 9 and 10 | 51 | 44 | 54 | 51 | 46 | 34 |
| All Grade levels | 53 | 46 | 56 | 53 | 49 | 37 |

## LEARNING GAINS OF THE LOWEST QUARTILE

| English <br> Language Arts | All Students <br> \% in the lowest quartile making learning gains | AfricanAmerican \% in the lowest quartile making learning gains | White <br> \% in the lowest quartile making learning gains | Hispanic <br> \% in the lowest quartile making learning gains | FRL <br> \% in the lowest quartile making learning gains | SWD <br> \% in the lowest quartile making learning gains |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Charter Schools |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grades 4 and 5 | 53 | 50 | 53 | 54 | 52 | 42 |
| Grades 6, 7 and 8 | 46 | 45 | 44 | 47 | 45 | 35 |
| Grades 9 and 10 | 50 | 48 | 49 | 50 | 47 | 39 |
| All Grade levels | 49 | 47 | 48 | 50 | 47 | 38 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Traditional Schools |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grades 4 and 5 | 52 | 49 | 54 | 52 | 51 | 42 |
| Grades 6, 7 and 8 | 39 | 36 | 39 | 40 | 37 | 30 |
| Grades 9 and 10 | 41 | 38 | 42 | 41 | 39 | 32 |
| All Grade levels | 43 | 41 | 45 | 44 | 42 | 35 |

Note: Retained third-grade students eligible for gains, therefore included with grades 4 and 5 .

LEARNING GAINS DATA

| Mathematics | All Students <br> \% making learning gains | AfricanAmerican \% making learning gains | White <br> \% making learning gains | Hispanic <br> \% making learning gains | FRL <br> \% making learning gains | SWD <br> \% making learning gains |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Charter Schools |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grades 4 and 5 | 61 | 52 | 63 | 62 | 57 | 45 |
| Grades 6, 7 and 8 | 65 | 59 | 66 | 66 | 62 | 51 |
| Grades 9 and 10 | 54 | 49 | 55 | 55 | 52 | 44 |
| All Grade levels | 62 | 56 | 64 | 63 | 59 | 48 |
| Traditional Schools |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grades 4 and 5 | 64 | 57 | 66 | 64 | 60 | 50 |
| Grades 6, 7 and 8 | 59 | 50 | 62 | 58 | 53 | 43 |
| Grades 9 and 10 | 49 | 43 | 51 | 48 | 45 | 38 |
| All Grade levels | 58 | 51 | 61 | 58 | 54 | 45 |

## LEARNING GAINS OF THE LOWEST QUARTILE

| Mathematics | All Students <br> \% in the lowest quartile making learning gains | AfricanAmerican \% in the lowest quartile making learning gains | White <br> \% in the lowest quartile making learning gains | Hispanic <br> \% in the lowest quartile making learning gains | FRL <br> \% in the lowest quartile making learning gains | SWD <br> \% in the lowest quartile making learning gains |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Charter Schools |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grades 4 and 5 | 52 | 48 | 51 | 55 | 52 | 41 |
| Grades 6, 7 and 8 | 63 | 60 | 63 | 64 | 62 | 51 |
| Grades 9 and 10 | 54 | 52 | 56 | 54 | 53 | 44 |
| All Grade levels | 58 | 55 | 58 | 60 | 57 | 47 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Traditional Schools |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grades 4 and 5 | 55 | 53 | 54 | 56 | 53 | 45 |
| Grades 6, 7 and 8 | 55 | 51 | 57 | 56 | 53 | 44 |
| Grades 9 and 10 | 50 | 50 | 48 | 51 | 49 | 42 |
| All Grade levels | 54 | 51 | 54 | 55 | 52 | 44 |

[^3]


[^0]:    A Comparison of Performance

[^1]:    A Comparison of Performance

[^2]:    A Comparison of Performance

[^3]:    Note: Retained third-grade students eligible for gains, therefore included with grades 4 and 5 .

