



National Alliance for Public Charter Schools

TOP 10 CHARTER COMMUNITIES BY MARKET SHARE Third Annual Edition

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October 2008**

Today, a record 12 communities have at least 20% of their public school students enrolled in public charter schools, double the number from just two years ago. Additionally, 64 communities now have at least 10% of public school students in charter schools. These numbers illustrate that charter enrollment growth at the community level remains strong.

For the third year in a row, the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools has gathered public school enrollment data from around the country to find the highest local proportions of students enrolled in public charter schools. The table below shows the results for the 2007-08 school year.

The “Top 10”

Community	Charter Market Share	Charter	Non-Charter	All	Rank and Market Share in 2007
1. New Orleans, LA	55%	17,925	14,962	32,887	#1 and 57%
2. Washington, DC	31%	22,175	50,270	72,445	Tied at #2 and 27%
3. Southfield, MI	28%	3,638	9,372	13,010	Tied at #2 and 27%
Dayton, OH	28%	6,252	16,241	22,493	Tied at #2 and 27%
4. Pontiac, MI	25%	2,649	8,162	10,811	Tied at #3 and 23%
5. Youngstown, OH	24%	2,663	8,282	10,945	Tied at #3 and 23%
6. Phoenix Union High School District, AZ	23%	7,901	26,450	34,351	Not Available ¹
Kansas City, MO	23%	7,134	24,449	31,583	Tied at #4 and 20%
7. Detroit, MI	22%	30,433	105,554	135,987	Tied at #4 and 20%
San Antonio, TX	22%	13,015	45,888	58,903	Not Available ²

¹ For the first and second editions of the “Top 10 Charter Communities by Market Share” report, we were able to get charter school enrollment data by the county where charter schools were located in Arizona, but not by the school districts where they were located. For this edition of this report, we were able to get the data by school district and reported it that way so that Arizona’s data is consistent with the data from the other states.

8. Tempe Union High School District, AZ	21%	3,714	13,702	17,416	Not Available ³
9. Cleveland, OH	20%	12,674	50,175	62,849	Tied at #6 and 17%
10. St. Louis, MO	19%	7,726	32,135	39,861	Tied at #8 and 15%
Toledo, OH	19%	6,428	28,129	34,557	#5 and 18%

A Closer Look

Twelve Communities Now at 20% or More: In the first year that we compiled this report, a market share of 20% would land a community at #4. This year, such a concentration puts a community at #9. **The number of communities with at least a 20% market share has steadily climbed from six in 2005-06 to eight in 2006-07 to 12 in 2007-08.**

The Floor for the “Top 10” List Jumped from 13% to 19%: For the first two years that we assembled this report, the 10th highest market share percentage happened to work out to the same number – 13%. Because of the strong and steady growth in charter enrollment in several communities, the 10th highest market share percentage this year is 19%. It’s worth noting, however, that the number of communities with at least a 13% market share has steadily climbed from 19 in 2005-06 to 29 in 2006-07 to 42 in 2007-08. **And there are 64 communities with at least a 10% market share** (see Appendix A on pp. 4-5 for a list of these communities).

New Orleans Remains at #1: More than three years since New Orleans began rebuilding its public education system after Hurricane Katrina, public charter schools continue to play a primary role in these efforts. Not only are charters in New Orleans serving a higher percentage of public school students – 55% – than anywhere else in the nation. They are also the highest performing sector of public schools in the city. More importantly, the city’s public schools as a whole are already outperforming the pre-Katrina system.

Washington, D.C. Stands Alone at #2: The percentage of public school students enrolled in charters in Washington, D.C. jumped from 27% in 2006-07 to 31% in 2007-08. Because of this surge in enrollment, D.C. pulled away from the two other communities with which it was tied at the second spot last year (Dayton, OH and Southfield, MI). With six parochial schools closing and re-opening as public charters in 2008-09, charter enrollment in D.C. is sure to leap again next year, further solidifying D.C.’s status as the community with the second largest concentration of public school students enrolled in public charters.

² For the first and second editions of the “Top 10 Charter Communities by Market Share” report, we were able to get charter school enrollment data by the metropolitan area where charter schools were located in Texas, but not by the school districts where they were located. For this edition of this report, we were able to get the data by school district and reported it that way so that Texas’s data is consistent with the data from the other states.

³ See Footnote #1.

Size of Communities Ranges from 10,811 to 135,987: Nine of the 14 communities in the “Top 10” each have more than 30,000 public school students. The smallest community in the “Top 10” is Pontiac, MI, and the largest one is Detroit.

4 of the 6 Big Charter States Represented in the “Top 10”: As the state with the sixth highest number of students enrolled in charters, Ohio had the most communities on our list with four. Michigan, which is the #3 charter state, had the second-highest number of communities with three – all in the Detroit metropolitan area. Arizona (the #4 state) had two communities on our list and Texas (the #5 charter state) had one community on our list. California and Florida, the #1 and #2 states in terms of charter student population, have no communities in the “Top 10.” For a list of states by charter market share, see Appendix B on pp. 6-7.

A Note About Methodology

In this analysis, we examined market share in communities with more than 10,000 public school students (both charter and non-charter) in the 2007-08 school year. We gathered charter and non-charter public school enrollment data from state department of education personnel and databases and from state charter association and resource center staff.

The growing numbers of virtual charter schools that enroll children from across an entire state present another issue. Because many states haven’t developed student enrollment reporting systems that allow the sorting of individual students by community of residence at each charter school, we excluded communities where virtual charter schools enrolling large numbers of students from outside the community constituted much of the charter market share in that community. We recognize that this decision might create some undercounting in communities of residence.

After gathering the data, we determined the ten highest market share percentages: 55, 31, 28, 25, 24, 23, 22, 21, 20, and 19. As shown above, some of these percentages included multiple communities.

Anna Nicotera, Director of Research and Evaluation at the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, provided significant help in gathering the data for this report.

Appendix A
Communities With At Least 10% Market Share

Community	<u>Charter Market Share</u>	<u>Charter</u>	<u>Non- Charter</u>	<u>All</u>
New Orleans, LA	55%	17,925	14,962	32,887
Washington, DC	31%	22,175	50,270	72,445
Southfield, MI	28%	3,638	9,372	13,010
Dayton, OH	28%	6,252	16,241	22,493
Pontiac, MI	25%	2,649	8,162	10,811
Youngstown, OH	24%	2,663	8,282	10,945
Phoenix Union High School District, AZ	23%	7,901	26,450	34,351
Kansas City, MO	23%	7,134	24,449	31,583
Detroit, MI	22%	30,433	105,554	135,987
San Antonio, TX	22%	13,015	45,888	58,903
Tempe Union High School District, AZ	21%	3,714	13,702	17,416
Cleveland, OH	20%	12,674	50,175	62,849
St. Louis, MO	19%	7,726	32,135	39,861
Toledo, OH	19%	6,428	28,129	34,557
Brighton, CO	18%	2,232	10,436	12,668
Chula Vista Elementary School District, CA	18%	4,842	22,409	27,251
Gary, IN	18%	3,047	14,078	17,125
Grossmont Union High School District, CA	18%	4,475	19,721	24,196
Milwaukee, WI	18%	16,965	75,141	92,106
Minneapolis, MN	18%	7,755	34,314	42,069
Albany, NY	17%	1,720	8,336	10,056
Buffalo, NY	17%	7,141	33,712	40,853
Oakland, CA	16%	7,620	38,827	46,447
Cincinnati, OH	16%	6,794	34,818	41,612
Camden, NJ	16%	2,545	13,105	15,650
Dearborn, MI	16%	3,505	18,154	21,659
Mesa Unified District, AZ	16%	13,665	73,054	86,719
Philadelphia, PA	15%	30,516	167,128	197,644
Taylor, MI	15%	1,736	9,580	11,316
Oshkosh, WI	15%	1,518	8,812	10,330
Columbus, OH	15%	9,259	54,242	63,501
Cristina School District, DE	14%	2,924	17,292	20,216
Appleton, WI	14%	2,143	13,090	15,233
St. Paul, MN	14%	6,137	39,050	45,187
Academy 20 School District, CO	14%	2,917	18,583	21,500
Saginaw, MI	13%	1,491	9,611	11,102
Greeley, CO	13%	2,460	15,974	18,434
Natomas Unified School District, CA	13%	1,513	9,892	11,405
Tucson Unified School District, AZ	13%	9,071	59,329	68,400
Napa Valley Unified School District, CA	13%	2,319	15,238	17,557
Vista Unified School District, CA	13%	3,563	23,443	27,006
Flagstaff Unified School District, AZ	13%	1,672	11,166	12,838
Indianapolis, IN	12%	4,974	35,257	40,231
Duluth, MN	12%	1,399	10,148	11,547

Dysart Unified School District, AZ	12%	3,201	23,401	26,602
Gilbert Unified School District, AZ	12%	5,169	38,539	43,708
Houston, TX	12%	25,244	188,360	213,604
Pueblo, CO	12%	2,154	16,139	18,293
Lake County, FL	12%	4,758	35,952	40,710
Trenton, NJ	12%	1,514	11,446	12,960
Glendale Union High School District, AZ	12%	1,958	15,066	17,024
Yuma Elementary School District, AZ	11%	1,298	10,455	11,753
Oklahoma City, OK	11%	4,479	36,056	40,985
Kyrene Elementary School District, AZ	11%	2,235	18,283	20,518
Flint, MI	11%	2,054	16,817	18,871
Litchfield Elementary School District, AZ	11%	1,156	9,562	10,718
Falcon 49 School District, CO	11%	1,385	11,477	12,862
San Diego Unified School District, CA	11%	14,189	117,729	131,918
Harrison 2 School District, CO	10%	1,157	10,048	11,205
San Juan Unified School District, CA	10%	4,987	42,479	47,466
Polk County, FL	10%	9,458	84,706	94,164
Jersey City, NJ	10%	2,987	28,119	31,106
Lee County, FL	10%	7,722	72,819	80,541
Sheboygan Area School District, WI	10%	995	9,450	10,445

Appendix B

Charter Market Share in States

State	Charter Market Share	Charter	Non-Charter	All
Arizona	9%	99,267	1,049,181	1,148,448
Colorado	7%	56,458	746,181	802,639
Delaware	7%	8,512	115,529	124,041
Michigan	6%	100,310	1,545,432	1,645,742
Ohio	5%	81,130	1,670,381	1,751,511
Utah	4%	22,129	515,524	537,653
Wisconsin	4%	35,572	839,061	874,633
Idaho	4%	10,993	261,065	272,058
California	4%	250,000	6,025,469	6,275,469
Florida	4%	104,319	2,548,365	2,652,684
Hawaii	4%	6,657	171,712	178,369
Alaska	4%	4,772	126,257	131,029
Pennsylvania	4%	63,946	1,736,054 (est.)	1,800,000 (est.)
Minnesota	3%	28,034	809,544	837,578
Louisiana	3%	21,695	659,376	681,071
New Mexico	3%	10,300	318,961	329,261
Massachusetts	3%	25,026	937,780	962,806
North Carolina	2%	32,398	1,354,693	1,387,091
Oregon	2%	12,000	553,854	565,854
Georgia	2%	31,258	1,602,997	1,634,255
Rhode Island	2%	2,812	144,817	147,629
Texas	2%	88,180	4,583,313	4,671,493
Missouri	2%	14,860	884,698	899,558
Nevada	1%	5,988	427,897	433,885
Illinois	1%	25,670	2,090,795	2,116,465
New Jersey	1%	16,500	1,362,130	1,378,630
New York	1%	32,274	2,679,726	2,712,000
Arkansas	1%	5,514	460,877	466,391
Indiana	1%	11,122	1,143,450	1,154,572
Maryland	1%	7,000	838,700	845,700
Oklahoma	1%	5,362	646,424	651,786
South Carolina	1%	5,502	680,140	685,642
Connecticut	1%	4,030	566,509	570,539
Kansas	1%	2,880	468,383	471,263
Tennessee	<1%	2,795	942,205 (est.)	945,000 (est.)
Wyoming	<1%	235	85,343	85,578
New Hampshire	<1%	450	200,322	200,772
Iowa	<1%	1,000	484,115	485,115
Mississippi	<1%	374	461,084	461,458
Virginia	<1%	240	1,232,196	1,232,436