

North Carolina Fact Sheet

I. Enrollment and Growth since 2000

In North Carolina, charter school enrollment increased from 15,523 in 2000-01 to 31,193 in 2007-08 (a 101% increase from 2000-2007). In 2007-08, 2.2% of all public school students were enrolled in charter schools. In 2000-01, there were ninety charter schools in North Carolina, a number which increased by one in 2007-08.

- Table 1: Charter School Enrollment and Growth, 2000-01 and 2007-08
- Table 2: Charter School Enrollment as Percentage Public School Enrollment
- Number of Charter Schools by State, 2000-01 and 2007-08 [Appendix]

There were three metropolitan areas with at least thirteen charter schools in North Carolina. In each of these metros, at least two percent of public school students were in charter schools. Durham had the highest share of metropolitan area students in charter schools.

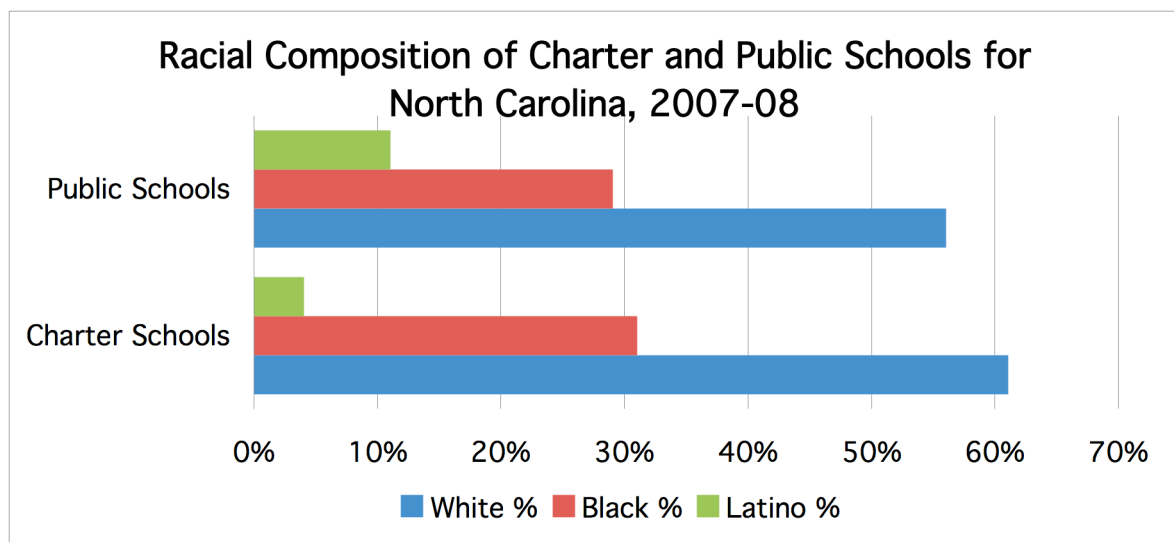
- Charter School Enrollment and Percentage of Total Enrollment by MSA [Appendix]

Metropolitan area	Charter Schools	Charter Enrollment	Charter %
Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord, NC-SC	14	5,867	2.1%
Durham, NC	14	4,092	6.0%
Raleigh-Cary, NC	15	5,666	3.2%

II. Racial/Ethnic Composition of Charter Schools

Of the 31,192 students in North Carolina charter schools, 61% were White, 31% were Black, and 4% were Latino. The public schools consisted of approximately 56% White, 29% Black, and 11% Latino students.

- Table 6: Enrollment and Racial Composition of Charter Schools by State with more than 5,000 Charter Schools Students, 2007-08



- Figure 1: White Proportion of All Students Enrolled in Charter Schools and Public Schools, 2007-08
- Figure 2: Black Proportion of All Students Enrolled in Charter Schools and Public Schools, 2007-08
- Figure 3: Latino Proportion of All Students Enrolled in Charter Schools and Public Schools, 2007-08

In the three metropolitan areas of North Carolina with a substantial number of charter schools, White and Black students comprised the vast majority of charter school students. In each, White students comprised a higher percentage of the charter school enrollment than of the traditional public school enrollment. While Latino students made up between 12 and 15% of the public school enrollment in each MSA, they comprised no more than 4% of the charter school enrollment.

Metropolitan area	Charter			Traditional Public		
	Latino %	Black %	White %	Latino %	Black %	White %
Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord, NC-SC	2%	25%	69%	12%	32%	53%
Durham, NC	4%	49%	46%	15%	38%	42%
Raleigh-Cary, NC	3%	30%	63%	12%	26%	57%

- Racial Composition of Charter and Regular Public Schools in Selected MSAs, 2007-08 [Appendix]

III. Segregation of Schools

Segregated Minority Schools

Even though charter schools enrolled a higher percentage of White students than public schools, Black and Latino students in charter schools were enrolled in intensely segregated minority schools at much higher rates than their public school peers.

- Table 9: Percentage of Charter and Public School Students in Intensely Segregated Minority Schools, by Race/Ethnicity and State, 2007-08

State	White Share of School Enrollment			90-100% Minority Charter School Enrollment Rate			90-100% Minority Public School Enrollment Rate		
	Charter	Public	Charter-Public Difference	White	Black	Latino	White	Black	Latino
NC	61	57	5	0	46	43	1	18	13

In 2007-08, the percentage of charter and public students in schools that were 90-100% minority reached no more than 20% in each metro. In the Raleigh metro, charter schools have a considerably higher percentage of students in these intensely segregated minority schools.

Metropolitan area	Percentage of Students 90-100% Minority Schools	
	Charter	Public
Charlotte-Gastonia-Salisbury, NC-SC	13%	14%
Durham, NC	21%	18%
Raleigh-Cary, NC	20%	1%

- Selected MSAs, Minority Segregation in Charter and Regular Public Schools, 2007-08 [Appendix]

Segregated White Schools

White charter school students were more likely to be in segregated White schools (20% for segregated white charter schools and 16% for segregated White public schools). In 2007-08, 3% of Latino students in both White charter and traditional public schools were in segregated White schools. About 2% of Blacks students attended segregated White charter schools, compared to only 1% in segregated White segregated public schools in North Carolina.

- Table 12: Percentage of Charter and Public School Students in Intensely Segregated White Schools, by race/Ethnicity and State, 2007-08

State	White Share of School Enrollment			90-100% White Charter School Enrollment Rate			90-100% White Public School Enrollment Rate		
	Charter	Public	Charter-Public Difference	White	Black	Latino	White	Black	Latino
NC	61	57	5	20	2	3	16	1	3

Similar to above, where we saw higher percentage of charter students in segregated minority schools in North Carolina's metropolitan areas, in two metros with at least a dozen charter schools, higher percentages of charter students enrolled in segregated White schools as well.

- Selected MSAs, White Segregation in Charter and Regular Public Schools, 2007-08 [Appendix]

Metropolitan Area	White Difference (Charter-Public)	Charter	Public
Charlotte-Gastonia-Salisbury, NC-SC	17%	16%	6%
Durham, NC	4%	0%	0%
Raleigh-Cary, NC	3%	1%	0%

IV. Interracial Exposure

During 2007-08, White students experienced higher isolation in charter schools than in public schools in North Carolina. Whites also had a lower exposure to minorities in charter schools (14% to Blacks and 3% to Latinos) than in traditional public schools.

- Table 16: White Exposure in Public and Charter Schools, by State, 2007-08

State	Percent White		White Isolation		White Exposure to Blacks		White Exposure to Latinos	
	Charter	Public	Charter	Public	Charter	Public	Charter	Public
NC	61	57	80	69	14	19	3	9

In North Carolina, during 2007-08, Black isolation was higher in charter schools (64% charter to 48% public) while Latino isolation was higher in public schools (20% public to 16% charter).

- Table 17: Minority Isolation in Public and Charter Schools, by Race/Ethnicity and by State, 2007-08

State	Black Isolation (Black/Black Exposure)		Latino Isolation (Latino/Latino Exposure)	
	Charter	Public	Charter	Public
NC	64	48	16	20

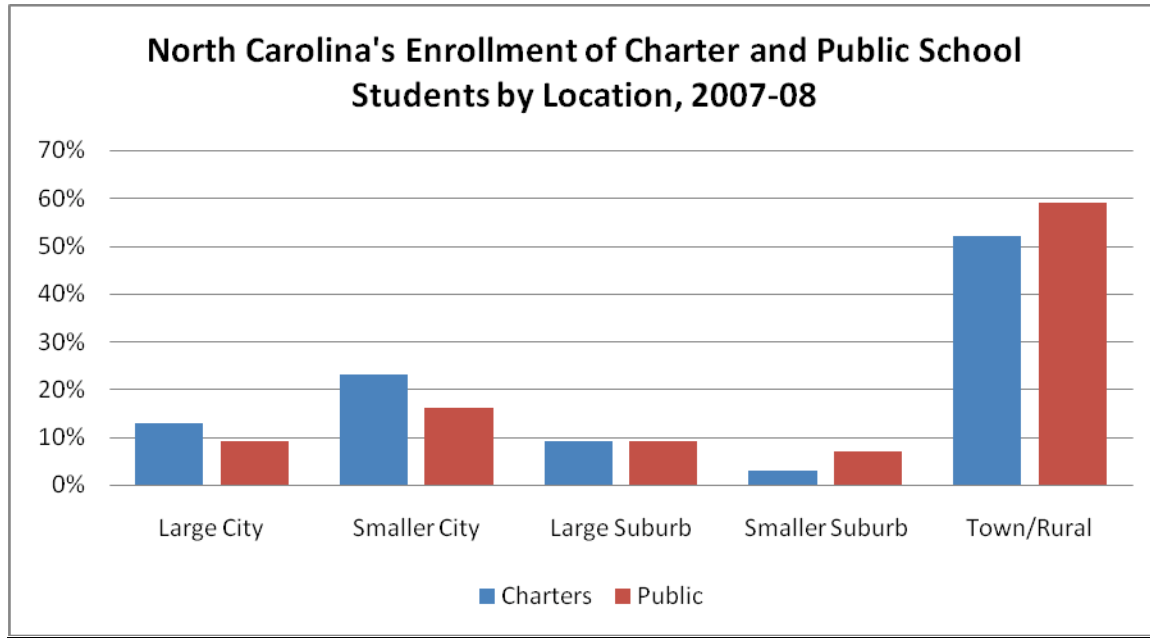
In 2007-08, Blacks and Latinos both had higher exposure to white students in the traditional public schools than in charter schools in North Carolina.

- Table 18: Minority Student Exposure to White Students in Public and Charter Schools, by Race/Ethnicity and State, 2007-08

State	Black/White Exposure		Latino/White Exposure	
	Charter	Public	Charter	Public
NC	28	37	36	46

V. Geographic Location of Charter Schools

During 2007-08, approximately 52% of North Carolina's enrollment of charter school students went to schools that were in rural or town areas, 12% went to schools in the suburbs, and 36% in the city. In comparison, approximately 59% of North Carolina's enrollment of traditional public school students attended schools in rural or town areas, 16% in the suburbs, and a quarter in the city.



- Figure 4: Enrollment of Charter Students by Location and State, 2007-08
- Table A-16: Charter School Students by Location and State
- Table A-17: Percentage of Traditional Public School Students by Location and State, 2007-08 [appendix]
- Figure A-1: Enrollment of Non-Charter Students by Location and State, 2007-08 [appendix]

VI. State Legislation about Diversity

- After one year, charter school must reasonably reflect racial and ethnic composition of the local school administrative unit or the special population the school seeks to serve within that unit, and the school will be subject to any court-ordered desegregation plan in effect for the unit.¹

¹ CRP Policy Brief, Nov. 2009, <http://www.civilrightsproject.ucla.edu/research/deseg/equity-overlooked-report-2009.pdf>