

Arizona Fact Sheet

I. Enrollment and Growth since 2000:

In Arizona, charter school enrollment increased from 45,596 students in 2000-01 to 98,728 in 2007-08 (a 117% increase from 2000 to 2007), and 9.2% of the students were enrolled in charter schools.

- Table 1: Charter School Enrollment and Growth, 2000-01 and 2007-08
- Table 2: Charter School Enrollment as Percentage Public School Enrollment

The number of Arizona charter schools increased from 288 in 2000-01 to 448 in 2007-08. There were five metropolitan areas with at least ten charter schools in Arizona. In some of these metros, at least one-tenth of public school students attended charter schools.

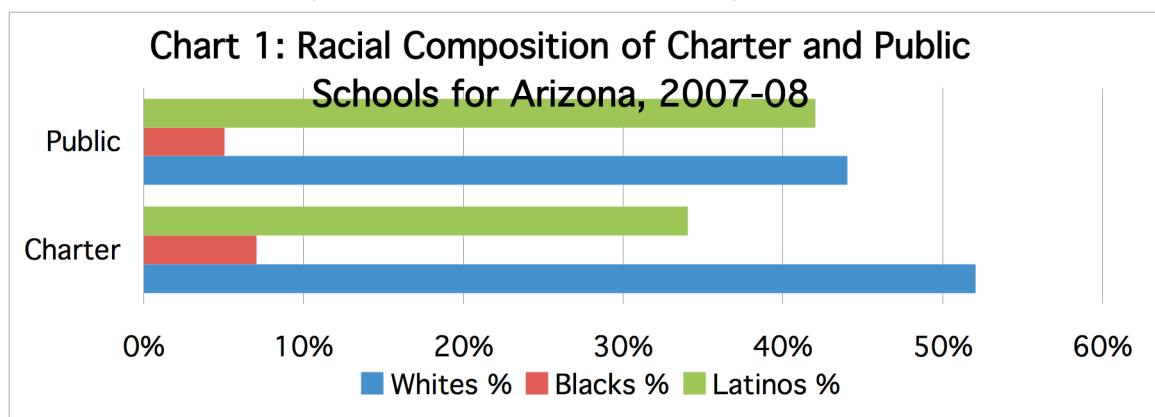
- Number of Charter Schools by State, 2000-01 and 2007-08 [Appendix]
- Table 3: Charter School Enrollment and Percentage of Total Enrollment by MSA
- Charter School Enrollment and Percentage of Total Enrollment by MSA [Appendix]

Metropolitan Area	Charter Schools	Charter Enrollment	Charter %
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	265	69,245	9.5%
Prescott, AZ	30	3,564	13.4%
Tucson, AZ	87	14,834	10.1%
Lake Havasu City-Kingman, AZ	14	3,615	13.1%
Sierra Vista-Douglas, AZ	10	1,519	7.3%

II. Racial/Ethnic Composition of Charter School:

Of the 98,728 students in Arizona charter schools, 52% were White, 7% Black, 34% Latino, 3% Asian, and 4% American Indian. In comparison, the public schools consisted of approximately 44% White students, 5% Black students, and 43% Latino students.

- Table 5: 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 five metropolitan areas of Arizona, White and Latino students made up the predominate share of both charter and public school students. In all but one metro, white students are overenrolled in charter schools. The Black population makes up no more than one-tenth of the charter and public school students in every district.

Metropolitan Area	Charter			Traditional Public		
	Latino %	Black %	White %	Latino %	Black %	White %
Lake Havasu City-Kingman, AZ	13%	1%	84%	24%	2%	70%
Sierra Vista-Douglas, AZ	67%	5%	26%	46%	6%	44%
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	33%	8%	52%	42%	6%	46%
Prescott, AZ	12%	1%	80%	24%	1%	71%
Tucson, AZ	41%	6%	45%	50%	5%	39%

- Table 7: Racial Composition of Charter and Regular Public Schools in Selected MSAs, 2007-08
- Racial Composition of Charter and Regular Public Schools in Selected MSAs, 2007-08 [Appendix]

Of the three Arizona metro areas below, White students were significantly over represented in charter schools, with 115.4% as the highest over-representation in the Tucson area.

- White over-representation in charter schools, top 15 MSAs, 2007-08 [Appendix]

Metropolitan Area	Charter White %	Public White %	White Charter Over-representation
Tucson, AZ	45%	39%	115.4%
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	52%	46%	113.0%
Prescott, AZ	80%	71%	112.7%

IV. Segregation of Schools:

Segregated Minority Schools

Even though charter schools enrolled a higher percentage of white students than public schools, black and Latino students had similar levels of segregation in intensely segregated minority charter? schools.

- 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
AZ	52	44	8	1	18	38	2	18	38

In 2007-08, low percentages of Arizona charter and public school students attended schools that were 90-100% minority. Sierra Vista-Douglas is the only metropolitan area in which almost two-thirds of the charter school students attended intensely segregated minority schools.

- Table 10: Charter and Traditional Public School Students in Intensely Segregated Minority Schools by MSA, 2007-08
- Selected MSAs, Minority Segregation in Charter and Regular Public Schools, 2007-08 [Appendix]

Metropolitan Area	Percentage of Students in 90-100% Minority Schools	
	Charter Schools	Public Schools
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	16%	19%
Prescott, AZ	0%	0%
Tucson, AZ	17%	24%
Lake Havasu City-Kingman, AZ	0%	1%
Sierra Vista-Douglas, AZ	60%	24%

Segregated White Schools

White charter school students are more likely to be in segregated white schools (7% for intensely segregated white charter schools and 2% for intensely segregated white public schools). In 2007-08, there were negligible numbers of Latinos and Blacks in these segregated white schools in both traditional public or charter schools in Arizona.

- 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	Latin o	Whit e	Black	Latino
AZ	52	44	8	7	1	0	2	0	0

In Arizona's metropolitan areas with the largest number of charter schools, higher percentages of charter students are in segregated white schools than among traditional public school students.

- Table 13: Charter and Traditional Public School Students in Segregated White Schools by MSA, 2007-08

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

Metropolitan Area	White Difference (Charter-Public)	Charter Students in 90-100% White schools	Public Students in 90-100% White schools
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	6%	3%	1%
Prescott, AZ	9%	0%	0%
Tucson, AZ	7%	1%	0%
Lake Havasu City-Kingman, AZ	14%	0%	2%
Sierra Vista-Douglas, AZ	-18%	0%	3%

V. Interracial Exposure:

During 2007-08, White students had higher isolation in charter schools than in public schools. Their exposure to Black students is the same in both types for schools --low -- but white exposure to Latino students is lower in charter 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
AZ	52	44	69	63	5	5	19	26

In Arizona, during 2007-08, Black isolation was higher in charter schools than in public schools. Latino isolation was high in both types of schools: approximately 57% in charter schools and 62% in public schools.

- 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
AZ	14	9	57	62

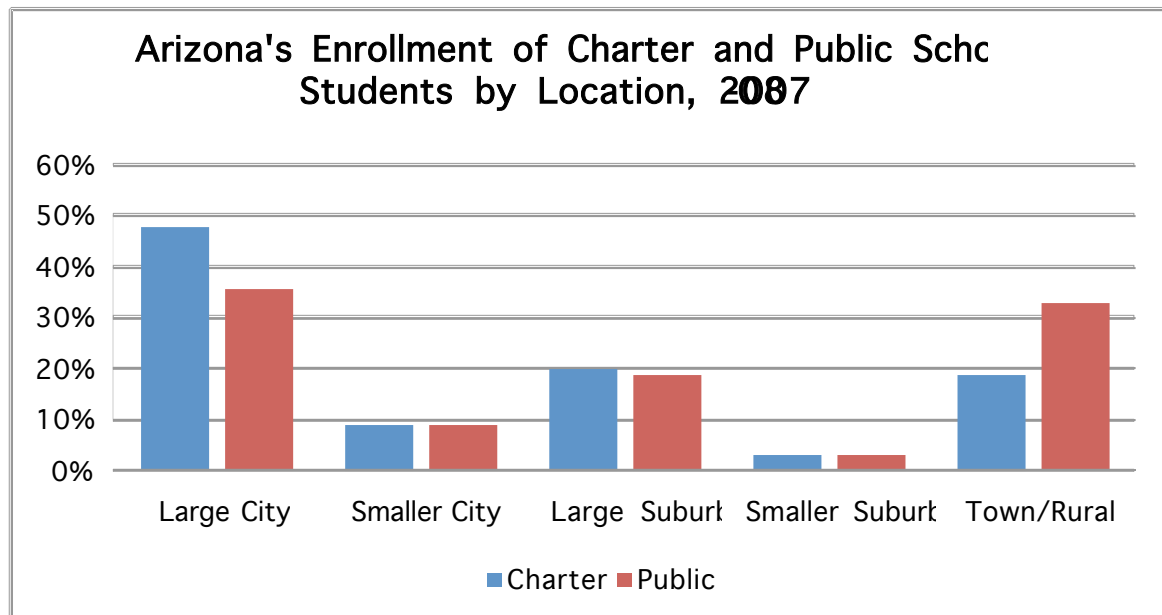
In 2007-08, Black and Latino students both had higher exposure to white students in charter schools than in traditional public schools in Arizona.

- 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
AZ	41	39	30	27

III. Geographic Location of Charter Schools

During 2007-08, approximately 19% of Arizona's enrollment of charter school students was in rural or town areas, 23% went to schools in the suburbs, 57% in the city. During 2007-08, approximately one-third of Arizona's enrollment of traditional public school students attended schools in rural or town areas, approximately 22% in the suburbs, and a little under 50% in the cities.



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

VI. State Legislation about Diversity

- Adopted/amended in 1994 - Charters in districts under court-ordered desegregation plans must use a weighted lottery in student selection as well as issues relative to funding; State board cannot approve charter schools that the board believes will hamper desegregation efforts of public school district in the state. [Appendix of Policy Brief, p. 21]¹

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