

# And the winner is ... public schools!

Traditional public schools, which educate about 95% of U.S. schoolchildren, have to teach every student eligible to enroll. Public schools can't counsel students out or select who they want. Yet the numbers show Ohio's public schools are significantly outperforming their charter school counterparts.

**According to the Ohio Department of Education, 40.1% of Ohio charter schools are failing, whereas only 1.5% of public schools are in academic emergency or watch.**

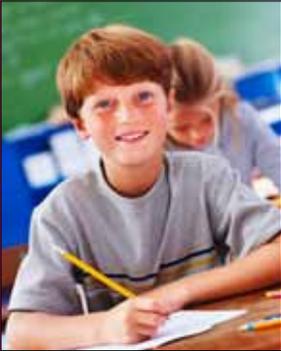
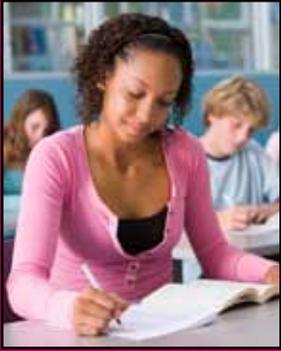
Of the 286 charter schools receiving an academic designation for the 2009-10 school year, only Noble Academy Cleveland, was rated excellent with distinction. Eighty-one of 610\* public school districts were rated Excellent with Distinction (\*excludes island and state-line districts).

|                            | Public Districts |         | Charter Schools |         |
|----------------------------|------------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
|                            | number           | percent | number          | percent |
| Academic Emergency         | 1                | 0.2%    | 75              | 26.2%   |
| Academic Watch             | 9                | 1.5%    | 53              | 18.5%   |
| Continuous Improvement     | 64               | 10.5%   | 97              | 33.9%   |
| Effective                  | 240              | 39.3%   | 32              | 11.2%   |
| Excellent                  | 215              | 35.2%   | 28              | 9.9%    |
| Excellent with Distinction | 81               | 13.3%   | 1               | 0.3%    |
| Totals                     | 610              | 100%    | 286             | 100%    |

**Yet, \$266.6 million in state aid payments flowed to low-performing charter schools last school year, according to the Ohio Education Association (OEA).**



# Public Schools Make a Difference





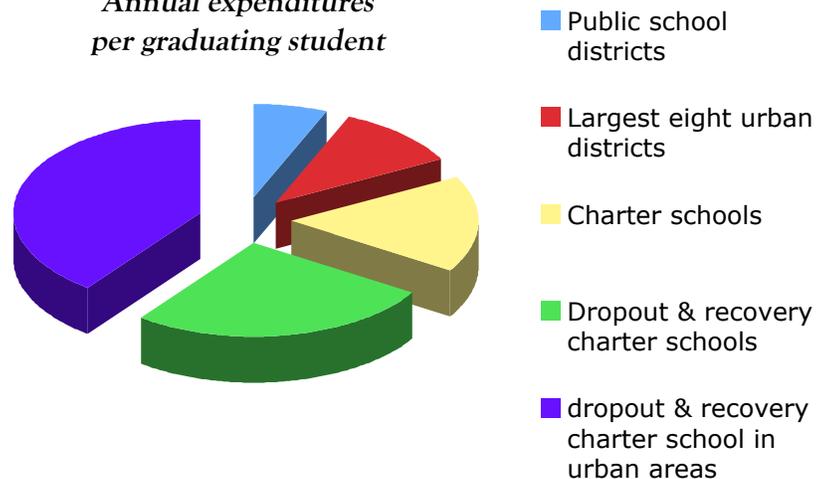
In the aggregate, charter schools met only 27.6% of academic standards on the 2009-10 report cards. Public school districts met 79.5% of report card standards.\*

Public Schools Make a **Difference**

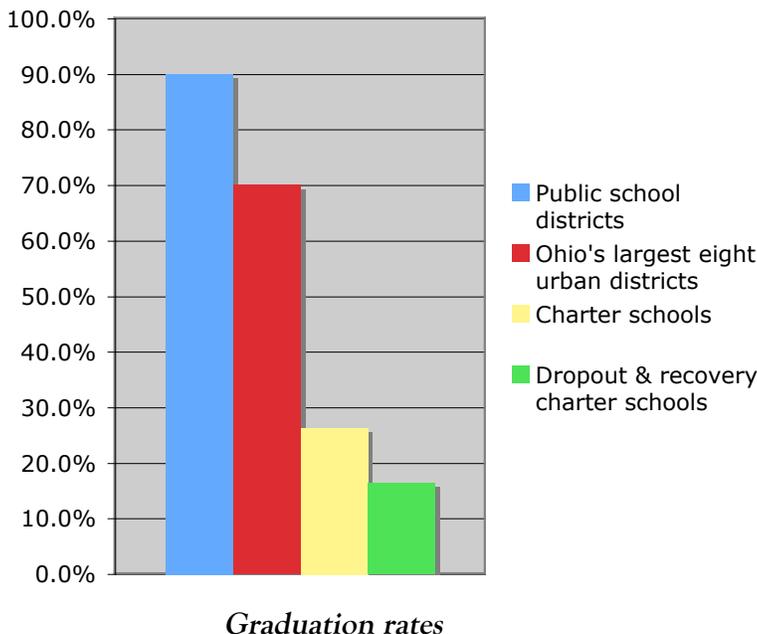


Traditional public school districts annually expend \$11,371 per graduating student. That amount increases to \$18,977 for Ohio's largest eight urban districts. For charter schools, the cost per graduate is \$29,175.\*

Annual expenditures per graduating student



For charter schools designated as dropout prevention and recovery, the cost soars to \$46,383. Dropout prevention charter schools located in the state's eight largest urban areas expend \$69,397 per graduate.



Traditional public school districts post an overall graduation rate of 90.1%. The graduation rate for Ohio's largest urban districts is 70.1%. For charter schools, the graduation rate falls to 26.4%. Only 16.5% of eligible students graduated from charter schools designated as dropout recovery and prevention schools.

Life Skills Centers have a graduation rate of 10.7%.\*

\* Source: the Ohio Education Association