



Florida Department of Education | Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice  
 Main Line: (850) 245-0502 | Toll-Free School Choice Hotline: (800) 447-1636 | <http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org>

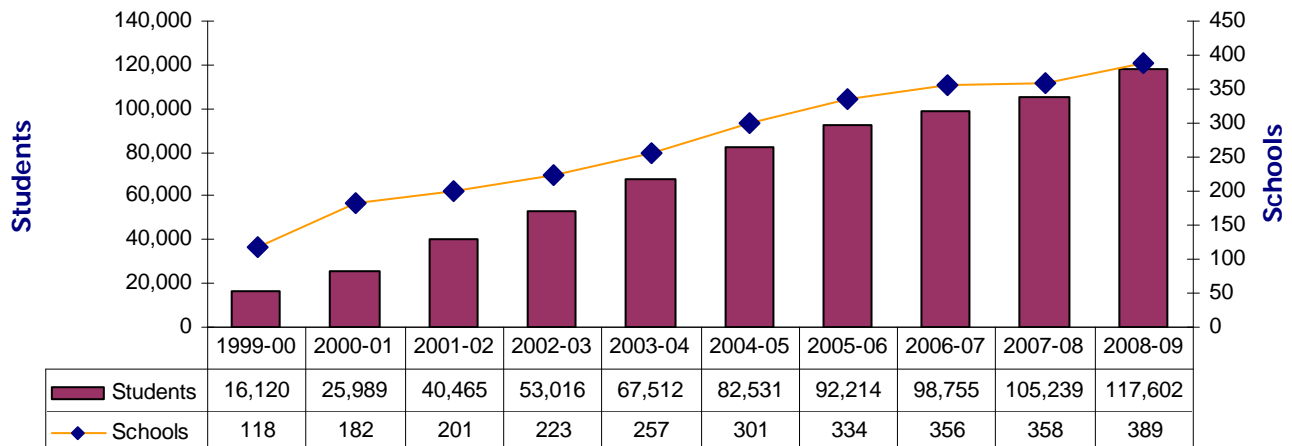
## Florida's Charter Schools

Charter schools are tuition-free public schools created through an agreement or "charter" between the school and the local school board or a state university. This agreement gives the charter school a measure of expanded freedom relative to traditional public schools in return for a commitment to meet higher standards of accountability. Since 1996, Florida charter schools have played a key role in increasing parental options in public education and providing innovative learning opportunities for students.

### Charter Schools Are a Popular Choice Option for Parents

With more than 117,000 students enrolled in 389 charter schools, Florida currently ranks fourth in the nation both in the number of charter schools and in charter school enrollment. Many charter schools in Florida have innovative missions. Some charter schools include themed learning approaches focusing on areas such as arts, sciences, and technologies. Other charter schools provide services to special populations such as students at risk of academic failure or students with disabilities.

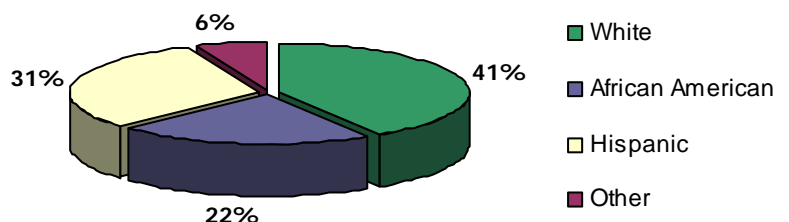
Florida's Charter Schools and K-12 Enrollment Increasing Steadily



### Charter Schools Have Diverse Student Populations

Florida's charter schools have increasingly diverse student populations and 60 percent of the students served in 2008-09 are minorities. One noticeable trend in Florida's charter schools has been the enrollment of Hispanic students. Hispanic students comprise 31% of Florida's charter school enrollment in 2008-09.

Race/Ethnicity of 2008-09 Charter School Students



## Charter School Program Statistics

<b>GRADE PK – 12 STUDENT ENROLLMENT</b>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 20%;"><b>2008 – 2009</b></td><td>117,602 Students</td></tr> <tr><td><b>2007 – 2008</b></td><td>105,239 Students</td></tr> <tr><td><b>2006 – 2007</b></td><td>98,755 Students</td></tr> <tr><td><b>2005 – 2006</b></td><td>92,214 Students</td></tr> <tr><td><b>2004 – 2005</b></td><td>82,531 Students</td></tr> <tr><td><b>2003 – 2004</b></td><td>67,512 Students</td></tr> <tr><td><b>2002 – 2003</b></td><td>53,016 Students</td></tr> <tr><td><b>2001 – 2002</b></td><td>40,465 Students</td></tr> <tr><td><b>2000 – 2001</b></td><td>25,989 Students</td></tr> <tr><td><b>1999 – 2000</b></td><td>16,120 Students</td></tr> </table>	<b>2008 – 2009</b>	117,602 Students	<b>2007 – 2008</b>	105,239 Students	<b>2006 – 2007</b>	98,755 Students	<b>2005 – 2006</b>	92,214 Students	<b>2004 – 2005</b>	82,531 Students	<b>2003 – 2004</b>	67,512 Students	<b>2002 – 2003</b>	53,016 Students	<b>2001 – 2002</b>	40,465 Students	<b>2000 – 2001</b>	25,989 Students	<b>1999 – 2000</b>	16,120 Students			
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<b>SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY 2007-2008</b>	<p><b>Charter School Performance Grades:</b></p> <p><b>Total graded charter schools in 2008: 216</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin: 10px 0;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Grade</u></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Number</u></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Percent</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>A</td><td style="text-align: right;">112</td><td style="text-align: right;">52%</td></tr> <tr><td>B</td><td style="text-align: right;">44</td><td style="text-align: right;">20%</td></tr> <tr><td>C</td><td style="text-align: right;">41</td><td style="text-align: right;">19%</td></tr> <tr><td>D</td><td style="text-align: right;">8</td><td style="text-align: right;">4%</td></tr> <tr><td>F</td><td style="text-align: right;">11</td><td style="text-align: right;">5%</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Charter School AYP Status:</b></p> <p>Number of charter schools with AYP "Yes" status in 2008: 128  Number of charter schools with AYP "No" status in 2008: 192</p>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	A	112	52%	B	44	20%	C	41	19%	D	8	4%	F	11	5%					
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