



**PUBLIC CHARTER
SCHOOLS of
NEW MEXICO**

PCSNM 2025 Legislative Platform

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What is a Charter School in NM?

- **CHARTER SCHOOLS ARE ALWAYS PUBLIC SCHOOLS!**
- Charter schools are FREE to attend. No tuition!
- Charter schools have an open enrollment system. They cannot select their students.
 - Enrollment lottery exists so students have an equal chance of filling available seats.
- Charter schools are funded the same ways as district schools but with less funding overall.
 - Only 98% funding, and limited access to certain funds.
- In New Mexico, for-profit charter schools are banned in law.
- In NM, charter schools are led by local educators that saw a need for something different in their communities



Public Charter Schools in New Mexico

- Charter schools have been part of New Mexico's public school system since 2001.
- Currently, there are 99 charter schools in the state.
- Over 30,000 students attend charter schools in NM
- Albuquerque metro has the largest number of charter school students at about 18,500.





Public Charter Schools in New Mexico have 4 Core Features:

Independent
Community-Based
Mission-Driven
Accountable





Independent + Mission + Community = Innovation

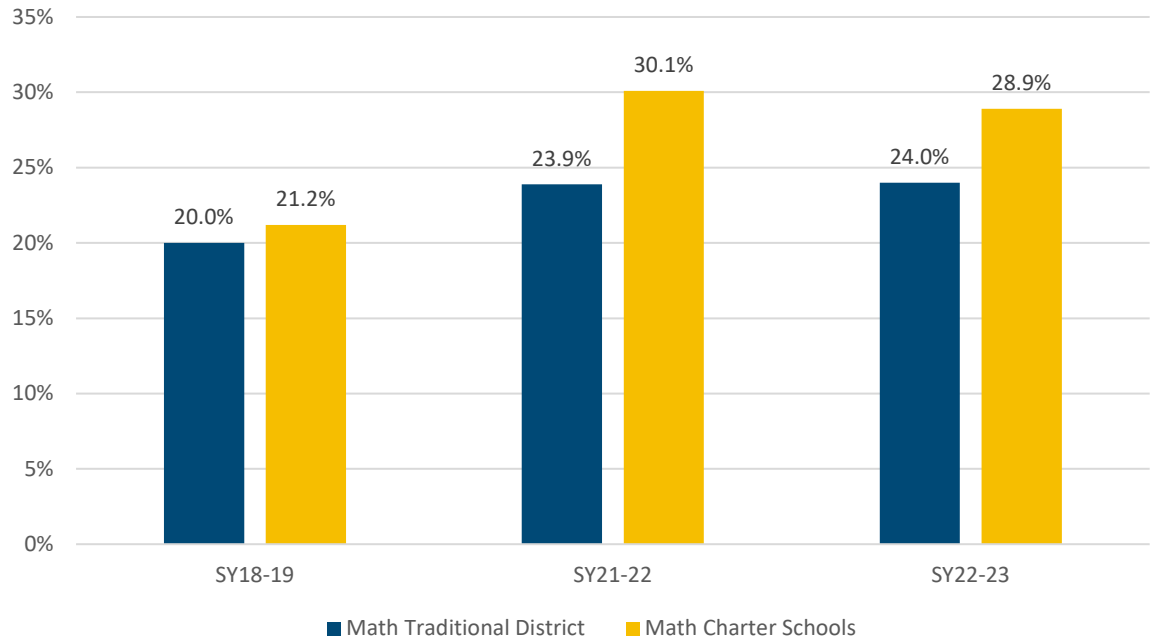
- Independent, mission-driven schools have blazed a trail for what is possible in New Mexico schools
- Community-based charter schools offered the first comprehensive programming for:
 - Arts
 - College & Career Prep (Dual Credit)
 - Project-based learning
 - STEM
 - Blended learning
 - Extended school days
 - Virtual learning
 - International Baccalaureate
 - New Mexican Culture
 - Bi-Lingual schools
 - Montessori
 - Social Emotional Learning



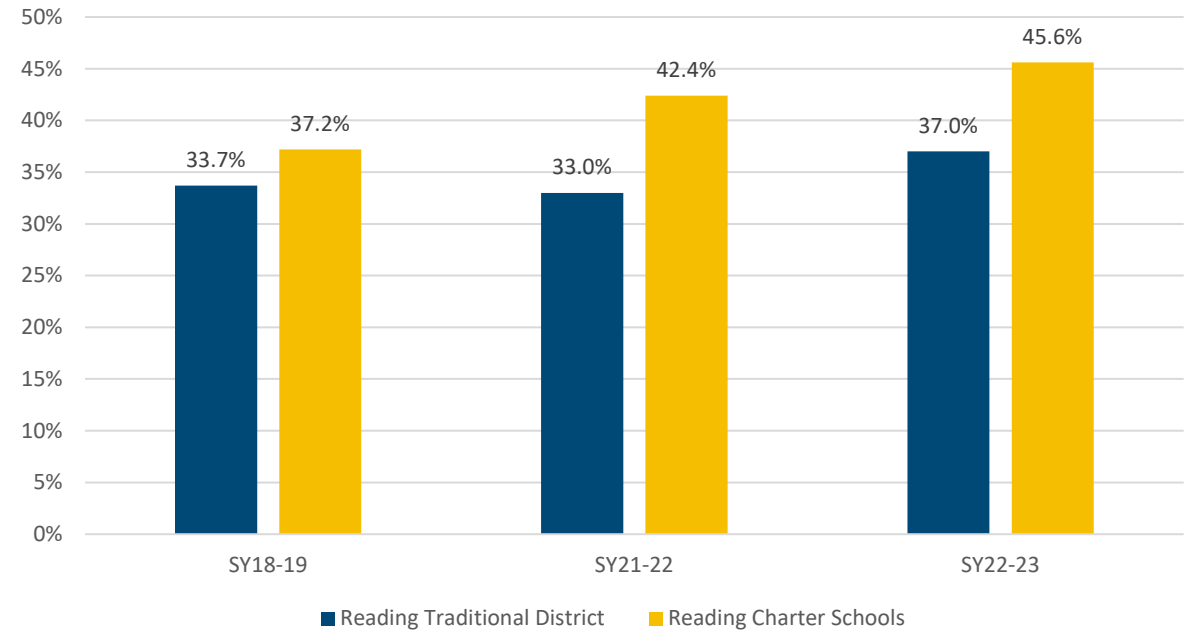
The Environment

Increasingly, being a charter school means being a quality school in New Mexico. Our performance with students across the board has rebounded substantially since the pandemic, with gains that outmatch our traditional district schools. This is particularly true for low-income students and key subgroups in the Yazzie Martinez Lawsuit.

Math Results by Public School Type, SY19-23



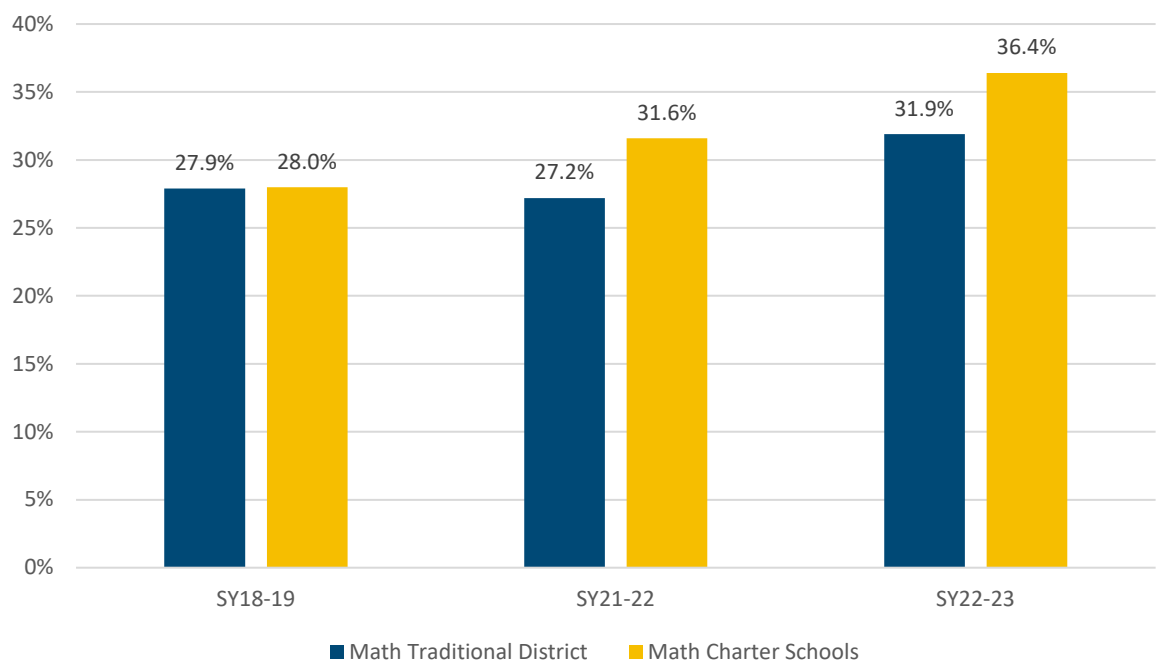
Reading Results by Public School Type, SY19-23



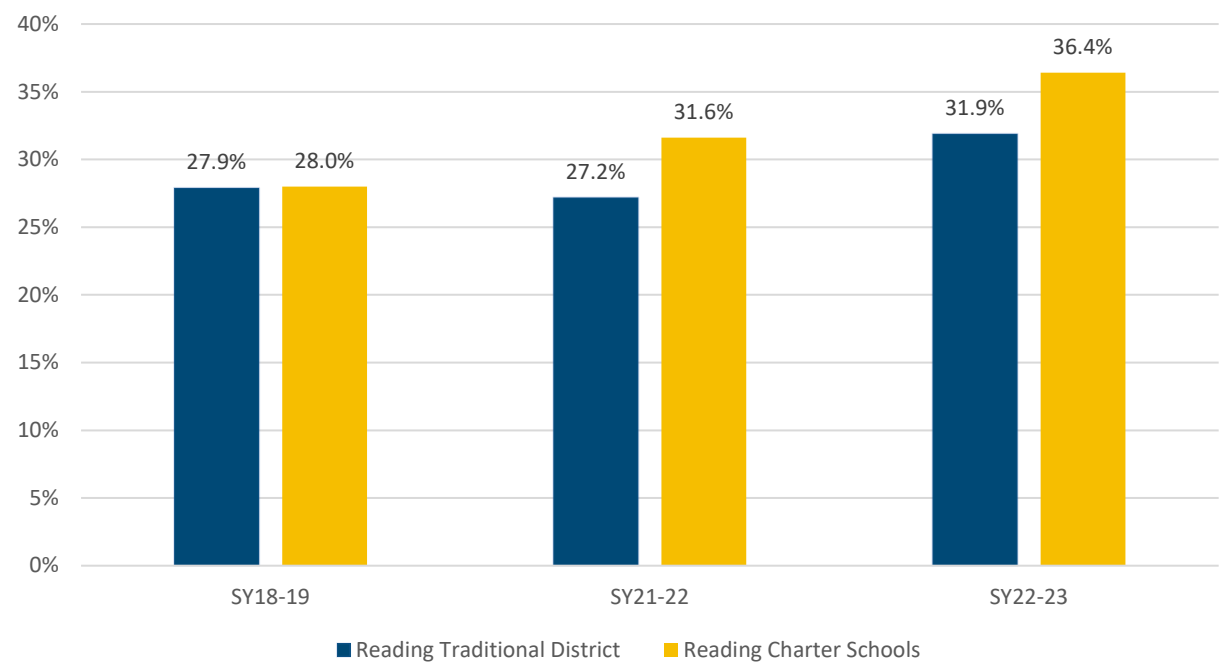
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Math Results by Public School Type, SY19-23, Low-Income Students



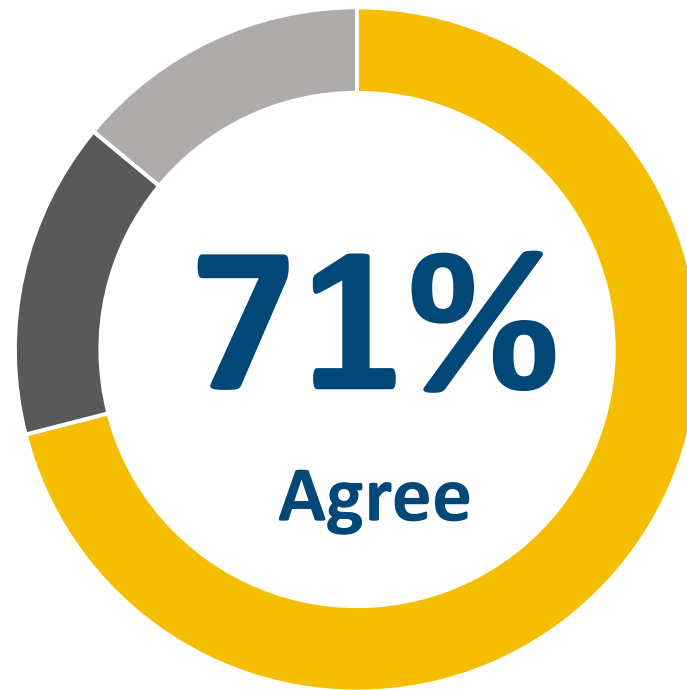
Reading Results by Public School Type, SY19-23, Low-Income Students



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Annually, we work with our partners to poll New Mexicans on their attitudes toward charter schools. We consistently hear from national education organizations that these are some of the highest statewide polling numbers in the country. The survey was completed by Research and Polling in September 2024, with a sample size of 506 New Mexicans.

Agree/Disagree: Public Charter Schools Help Improve Public Education in our State



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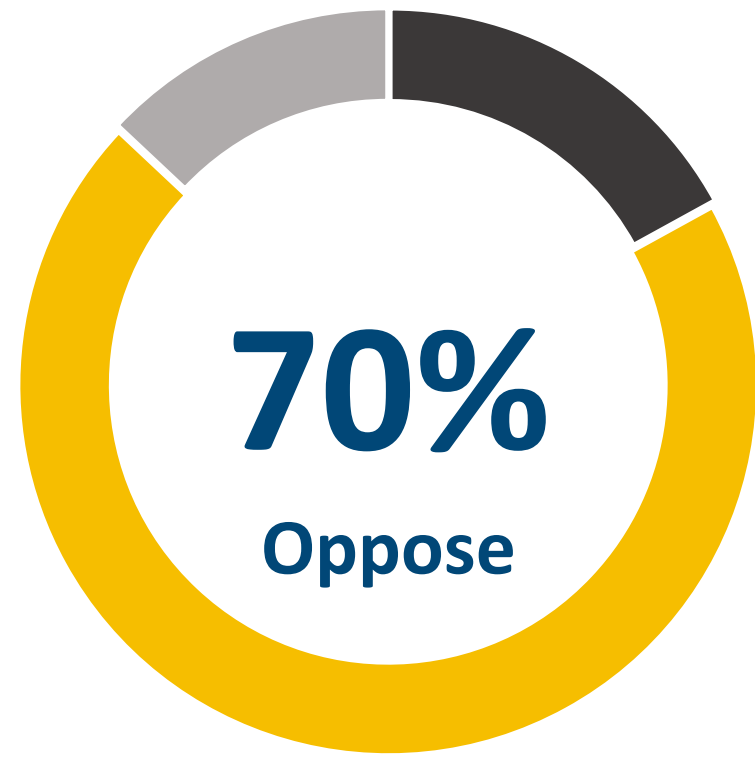
Support or Oppose New Mexico Continuing to Develop and Open More Public charter Schools in the State



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Support / Oppose New Mexico Passing a State Law That Would Stop the Opening of New Public Charter Schools Either Across the State or in Specific Communities for Several Years





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Questions?





Stay Connected with PCSNM

- NM Charter Day at the Capitol is February 10th!
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- Expand the use of charter school facts
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