



Educational Market Share

Despite the growth of school choice,
public schools dominate

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Executive Summary

Private, charter, and home schools continue to be popular in many states, including North Carolina. This popularity, however, has not produced a significant enrollment shift from district schools to schools of choice – private, charter, or home schools. North Carolina and nine other states had a net increase in the percentage of students attending a school of choice between 2001 and 2010, but statewide market share increases were trivial. School choice reformers must continue their praiseworthy efforts to expand educational options for families. They must also recognize that the traditional public school system will remain the primary provider of schooling for most families.

INTRODUCTION

Does school choice decrease district school market share?

Listening to opponents of school choice, one would conclude that school choice poses a dire threat to traditional public school districts. Bill Harrison, chair of the NC State Board of Education, recently commented that a proposed education tax credit bill was “the latest effort to dismantle public education.”¹

Of course, opponents of school choice seldom put such hyperbolic claims into context. Initially, the tax credit scholarship bill referenced by Chairman Harrison, *House Bill 1104: Scholarship Funding Corporate Tax Credit*, would grant \$4,000 tax credits for up to 500 children.² In a state with nearly 1.5 million public school students, the bill would affect, at most, approximately 0.03 percent of the public school population. The fully implemented scholarship program outlined in the bill, which would provide \$4,000 scholarships to 10,000 children, would move only 0.7 percent of the current public school population to a non-public school.

Unfortunately, public officials in other states have also employed similar rhetoric. Governor Jan Brewer of Arizona recently vetoed school choice legislation on the grounds that the bill would harm traditional public schools. Adam Emerson of the Fordham Institute questioned Brewer’s claim, commenting,

*...a Republican governor struck down a legislative initiative she feared would unfairly disadvantage a public school system that now has a 90 percent market share of all school-aged children in Arizona, a security due in no small part to decades of state provision for public education. No single voucher proposal in the nation has shown the ability to so dramatically affect that balance. At best, Governor Brewer is naive. At worst, duplicitous.*³

But what would happen if the legislatures of Arizona and North Carolina allowed public education funding to follow students to the schools of their choice? Would such a measure dismantle or destroy the North Carolina public school system as we know it?

Of course, there is no way to know for sure how parents in either state would respond to such a proposal.

Yet, I doubt that the residents of Arizona or North Carolina would respond differently than those who live in Alberta, a province in western Canada that maintains one of the most liberal school choice programs in the world.

Since 1994, the Government of Alberta has supported a school choice program that allows public funds to follow students to over 2,100 public, private, francophone [French-speaking], charter, alternative, and separate [parochial] schools operating in the province. Despite near universal school choice, approximately 70 percent of Alberta’s nearly 600,000 students still opted to attend a traditional public school this year.⁴ For nearly two decades, families in Alberta have voted with their feet, and the vast majority of them choose traditional public schools. Public funding of private schools has done little to diminish that preference.

Unfortunately, no U.S. states are close to adopting an Alberta-style school choice program. With the exception of home schooling, school choice in the United States has been a slow, albeit accelerating, process of working within the confines of the traditional public school system to provide a few, often distressed, families with the kinds of educational choices that all children deserve. Lawmakers and reformers must continue their praiseworthy efforts to give families viable educational options. But they must also recognize that the school choice movement has not weakened, much less dismantled, traditional public school systems.

MARKET SHARES IN U.S. STATES

A handful of studies have examined market share changes produced by school choice provisions. Researchers have used market share as a variable in studies of teacher attitudes, Catholic schools, and school curriculum, but most of them have focused on charter schools.⁵ Charter schools are tuition-free public schools that have more freedom than traditional public schools but are required to meet certain state regulations.

In an article published in *Education Policy Analysis Archives*, for example, Simona Kúscová and Jack Buckley found a relationship between the size of the charter school market share and two aspects of charter school legislation – the quality of the charter sponsors/authorizers and funding mechanisms for charter schools.⁶

Table 1. Market Share, 2001-2010⁷

State	2001-2002				2009-2010				2001-2010
	Total Population, Ages 5-17	Public School Students	Public Market Share	Choice Market Share	Total Population, Ages 5-17	Public School Students	Public Market Share	Choice Market Share	Choice Market Change
Alabama	824,614	725,245	87.9%	12.1%	829,697	741,115	89.3%	10.7%	-1.4%
Alaska	141,175	133,105	94.3%	5.7%	133,157	129,186	97.0%	3.0%	-2.7%
Arizona	1,004,927	915,556	91.1%	8.9%	1,163,591	1,068,656	91.8%	8.2%	-0.7%
Arkansas	498,286	448,182	89.9%	10.1%	510,982	467,055	91.4%	8.6%	-1.5%
California	6,833,605	6,146,491	89.9%	10.1%	6,748,247	6,191,655	91.8%	8.2%	-1.8%
Colorado	817,919	722,629	88.3%	11.7%	873,567	802,667	91.9%	8.1%	-3.5%
Connecticut	625,689	559,178	89.4%	10.6%	617,722	548,286	88.8%	11.2%	+0.6%
Delaware	144,234	114,974	79.7%	20.3%	149,776	126,046	84.2%	15.8%	-4.4%
Florida	2,746,157	2,443,440	89.0%	11.0%	2,918,974	2,583,027	88.5%	11.5%	+0.5%
Georgia	1,600,730	1,437,324	89.8%	10.2%	1,793,720	1,625,745	90.6%	9.4%	-0.8%
Hawaii	215,457	183,629	85.2%	14.8%	214,551	178,649	83.3%	16.7%	+2.0%
Idaho	273,195	244,180	89.4%	10.6%	304,555	273,653	89.9%	10.1%	-0.5%
Illinois	2,369,046	2,013,841	85.0%	15.0%	2,298,253	2,019,448	87.9%	12.1%	-2.9%
Indiana	1,154,139	989,986	85.8%	14.2%	1,175,320	1,034,217	88.0%	12.0%	-2.2%
Iowa	539,816	480,218	89.0%	11.0%	524,811	470,038	89.6%	10.4%	-0.6%
Kansas	522,339	468,173	89.6%	10.4%	518,917	463,980	89.4%	10.6%	+0.2%
Kentucky	727,779	621,956	85.5%	14.5%	740,478	652,180	88.1%	11.9%	-2.6%
Louisiana	887,971	714,129	80.4%	19.6%	802,870	661,468	82.4%	17.6%	-2.0%
Maine	229,407	204,253	89.0%	11.0%	207,756	185,442	89.3%	10.7%	-0.2%
Maryland	1,011,203	840,326	83.1%	16.9%	988,740	819,786	82.9%	17.1%	+0.2%
Massachusetts	1,109,721	952,474	85.8%	14.2%	1,055,673	929,182	88.0%	12.0%	-2.2%
Michigan	1,924,462	1,714,106	89.1%	10.9%	1,770,337	1,619,232	91.5%	8.5%	-2.4%
Minnesota	957,200	841,713	87.9%	12.1%	927,719	823,120	88.7%	11.3%	-0.8%
Mississippi	564,564	491,702	87.1%	12.9%	547,133	488,874	89.4%	10.6%	-2.3%
Missouri	1,056,951	891,277	84.3%	15.7%	1,037,098	892,398	86.0%	14.0%	-1.7%
Montana	172,122	151,441	88.0%	12.0%	161,657	140,598	87.0%	13.0%	+1.0%
Nebraska	329,840	280,031	84.9%	15.1%	324,848	283,414	87.2%	12.8%	-2.3%
Nevada	382,942	354,667	92.6%	7.4%	475,606	424,994	89.4%	10.6%	+3.3%
New Hampshire	236,137	205,017	86.8%	13.2%	219,520	194,153	88.4%	11.6%	-1.6%
New Jersey	1,541,487	1,321,905	85.8%	14.2%	1,527,788	1,362,092	89.2%	10.8%	-3.4%
New Mexico	373,278	316,761	84.9%	15.1%	370,031	327,013	88.4%	11.6%	-3.5%
New York	3,451,644	2,831,920	82.0%	18.0%	3,187,532	2,714,801	85.2%	14.8%	-3.1%
North Carolina	1,450,132	1,306,043	90.1%	9.9%	1,638,678	1,456,709	88.9%	11.1%	+1.2%
North Dakota	117,621	105,326	89.5%	10.5%	104,570	93,788	89.7%	10.3%	-0.1%
Ohio	2,128,033	1,807,129	84.9%	15.1%	2,024,231	1,734,968	85.7%	14.3%	-0.8%
Oklahoma	648,654	596,432	91.9%	8.1%	659,612	615,018	93.2%	6.8%	-1.3%
Oregon	624,207	551,018	88.3%	11.7%	627,747	561,696	89.5%	10.5%	-1.2%
Pennsylvania	2,185,056	1,819,090	83.3%	16.7%	2,074,112	1,770,754	85.4%	14.6%	-2.1%
Rhode Island	184,839	156,817	84.8%	15.2%	168,242	143,009	85.0%	15.0%	-0.2%
South Carolina	747,634	656,917	87.9%	12.1%	776,964	698,718	89.9%	10.1%	-2.1%
South Dakota	149,445	126,366	84.6%	15.4%	141,700	122,346	86.3%	13.7%	-1.8%
Tennessee	1,030,274	909,912	88.3%	11.7%	1,087,872	956,043	87.9%	12.1%	+0.4%
Texas	4,312,223	3,993,346	92.6%	7.4%	4,864,112	4,611,180	94.8%	5.2%	-2.2%
Utah	511,246	477,801	93.5%	6.5%	595,705	561,766	94.3%	5.7%	-0.8%
Vermont	112,464	98,612	87.7%	12.3%	98,315	86,564	88.0%	12.0%	-0.4%
Virginia	1,287,077	1,148,954	89.3%	10.7%	1,337,198	1,214,740	90.8%	9.2%	-1.6%
Washington	1,119,575	1,001,098	89.4%	10.6%	1,137,252	1,024,310	90.1%	9.9%	-0.7%
West Virginia	295,424	276,115	93.5%	6.5%	284,677	268,768	94.4%	5.6%	-0.9%
Wisconsin	1,023,568	854,688	83.5%	16.5%	983,516	825,382	83.9%	16.1%	-0.4%
Wyoming	95,270	88,128	92.5%	7.5%	95,026	87,621	92.2%	7.8%	+0.3%

The Reason Foundation publishes an annual school privatization study that reports charter school market share in the ten districts nationwide that serve the highest percentage of public charter school students.⁸ Similarly, the National Alliance of Public Charter Schools publishes a yearly market share report that highlights charter school market share in the nation's largest school districts.⁹ According to the report, New Orleans led the way with a charter market share of 70 percent, but it was the only school district in the nation that had a majority charter enrollment. Charter schools had a market share of ten percent or above in nearly 100 school districts. No North Carolina districts made the list. While the growth of charter school market share in the nation's largest school districts has been impressive, these districts represent a fraction of the over 13,800 school districts in the United States.

Charter school market share studies are an important source of information for evaluating the success and scope of the school choice movement. Nevertheless, state-level market share studies that account for private, home, and charter school enrollment also provide school choice proponents with valuable insight into the educational choices that parents make for their children.

As Stephen Gorard, John Fitz, and Chris Taylor point out in their book, *Schools, Markets and Choice Policies*, unexpected fluctuations in enrollment may skew single-year market share calculations.¹⁰ As a result, these authors argue that market shares are best represented over time. In most cases, this study uses state and federal data from 2001 to 2010 to calculate market share changes.

In 40 of the 50 states, the public school market share increased between 2001 and 2010. Only ten states (Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Kansas, Maryland, Montana, Nevada, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Wyoming) had a net increase in the percentage of students attending a school of choice – private, charter, or home school. The magnitude of those increases was trivial – between 0.2% in Kansas and Maryland and 3.3% in Nevada (See Table 1).¹¹ The political, demographic, historical, and economic reasons behind this phenomenon are unique to each state and region.

Indeed, researchers have not identified the combina-

tion of factors that lead to quantifiable changes in market shares. In a study of school choice in Chile, Donald Winkler and Taryn Rounds found that ease of market entry, family socioeconomic status, and the relative performance of public and private schools account for some of the variation in market share but concluded that their model “does not offer a satisfactory explanation of the growth in private school enrollments in Chile over time.”¹² This should be no surprise to those who recognize that it is impossible to account for the decisions of a multitude of individuals making choices in the marketplace.

To better understand the dynamics of state market shares, it is important to assess enrollment trends among three alternatives to traditional public schools – private, charter, and home schools.

PRIVATE, CHARTER, AND HOME SCHOOLS

Over the last ten years, a handful of states have introduced or expanded private school choice measures – including vouchers, education savings accounts, and tax credits – that allow school-age children to use public funds to pay for a portion of their private education. Despite those measures, private school enrollment has declined significantly over the last ten years.

According to federal education data, there are nearly 8,000 fewer private school students today than there were in 2001 (See Table 2). North Carolina's private schools lost 4,600 students during this period.¹³ Even in states that passed sizable school choice legislation, the change was minimal. Arizona added around 200 students to their private school rolls between 2001 and 2010, while Florida lost 15,400 students. One study suggests that only a fraction of Arizona's private school enrollment can be attributed to their school choice options.¹⁴ Surely, the Great Recession and growth of charter school options played major roles in this decline.

On the other hand, charter school enrollment has skyrocketed over the last ten years (See Table 3). Despite their public school classification, charter schools fundamentally are schools of choice.

In 2000, the nation's charter schools enrolled around 333,000 students. By 2010, that figure had jumped five times to nearly 1.6 million students.¹⁵ The introduction

Table 2. Private School Choice and Enrollment, 2001-2010¹⁶

State	Voucher Law	Education Savings Account	Tax Credit	Private School Enrollment, 2001-2002	Private School Enrollment, 2009-2010	Enrollment Difference	Percentage Difference
Alabama	N/A	N/A	N/A	76,634	78,351	1,717	2%
Alaska	N/A	N/A	N/A	6,747	4,426	-2,321	-34%
Arizona	N/A	2011	1997, 2006, & 2009	44,360	44,559	199	0%
Arkansas	N/A	N/A	N/A	29,290	23,889	-5,401	-18%
California	N/A	N/A	N/A	655,502	539,726	-115,776	-18%
Colorado	2011	N/A	N/A	54,450	48,545	-5,905	-11%
Connecticut	N/A	N/A	N/A	71,147	64,384	-6,763	-10%
Delaware	N/A	N/A	N/A	26,365	22,758	-3,607	-14%
Florida	1999	N/A	2001	303,093	287,689	-15,404	-5%
Georgia	2007	N/A	2008	117,229	130,263	13,034	11%
Hawaii	N/A	N/A	N/A	40,199	33,536	-6,663	-17%
Idaho	N/A	N/A	N/A	10,291	14,507	4,216	41%
Illinois	N/A	N/A	N/A	293,290	243,405	-49,885	-17%
Indiana	2011	N/A	2009	111,257	104,169	-7,088	-6%
Iowa	N/A	N/A	2006	47,647	39,694	-7,953	-17%
Kansas	N/A	N/A	N/A	41,027	40,252	-775	-2%
Kentucky	N/A	N/A	N/A	72,819	61,384	-11,435	-16%
Louisiana	2008 & 2010	N/A	N/A	137,266	131,866	-5,400	-4%
Maine	N/A	N/A	N/A	18,779	16,933	-1,846	-10%
Maryland	N/A	N/A	N/A	153,861	126,415	-27,446	-18%
Massachusetts	N/A	N/A	N/A	140,810	119,112	-21,698	-15%
Michigan	N/A	N/A	N/A	177,026	134,125	-42,901	-24%
Minnesota	N/A	N/A	N/A	101,180	78,389	-22,791	-23%
Mississippi	N/A	N/A	N/A	52,565	47,361	-5,204	-10%
Missouri	N/A	N/A	N/A	124,326	105,548	-18,778	-15%
Montana	N/A	N/A	N/A	9,941	7,987	-1,954	-20%
Nebraska	N/A	N/A	N/A	43,137	34,819	-8,318	-19%
Nevada	N/A	N/A	N/A	16,623	20,108	3,485	21%
New Hampshire	N/A	N/A	N/A	24,750	20,807	-3,943	-16%
New Jersey	N/A	N/A	N/A	218,187	188,307	-29,880	-14%
New Mexico	N/A	N/A	N/A	23,637	20,548	-3,089	-13%
New York	N/A	N/A	N/A	492,518	430,605	-61,913	-13%
North Carolina	N/A	N/A	2011	103,219	98,582	-4,637	-4%
North Dakota	N/A	N/A	N/A	6,782	6,732	-50	-1%
Ohio	1995, 2003, 2005, & 2011	N/A	N/A	256,427	222,218	-34,209	-13%
Oklahoma	2010	N/A	2011	30,579	28,159	-2,420	-8%
Oregon	N/A	N/A	N/A	45,448	47,123	1,675	4%
Pennsylvania	N/A	N/A	2001	331,471	265,399	-66,072	-20%
Rhode Island	N/A	N/A	2006	26,125	21,871	-4,254	-16%
South Carolina	N/A	N/A	N/A	58,937	49,203	-9,734	-17%
South Dakota	N/A	N/A	N/A	10,950	9,394	-1,556	-14%
Tennessee	N/A	N/A	N/A	92,099	87,754	-4,345	-5%
Texas	N/A	N/A	N/A	241,674	245,568	3,894	2%
Utah	2005	N/A	N/A	16,814	18,038	1,224	7%
Vermont	N/A	N/A	N/A	13,058	9,542	-3,516	-27%
Virginia	N/A	N/A	N/A	109,993	103,076	-6,917	-6%
Washington	N/A	N/A	N/A	82,189	77,024	-5,165	-6%
West Virginia	N/A	N/A	N/A	15,737	12,321	-3,416	-22%
Wisconsin	1990 & 2011	N/A	N/A	141,812	115,985	-25,827	-18%
Wyoming	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,209	1,998	-211	-10%
MEDIAN	N/A	N/A	N/A	56,694	48,874	-5185	-13%

of charter school laws, as well as the loosening of restrictions on enrollment and schools, account for the dramatic increase. In addition, citizens have a greater understanding of charter schools than they did a decade ago. As understanding and acceptance have grown, so has enrollment.¹⁷

While impressive, charter schools do not enroll a significant portion of students in any state. Indeed, the nationwide charter school enrollment total of 1.6 million represents only around 3 percent of the public school population. Similarly, charter students represent only 3 percent of the total public school population in North Carolina.¹⁸

Like charter school enrollment, home schooling continues to grow in most states (See Table 4). According to the federal Digest of Education Statistics, the United States had approximately 850,000 home school students in 1999. This accounted for only 1.7 percent of the total student population. By 2007, over 1.5 million students were home schooled. This increased the overall share of home school students to 2.9 percent.¹⁹

Unfortunately, precise home school enrollment figures are not available for all states. According to the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) home schooling is legal in all 50 states, but states organize home school laws and regulations differently. The HSLDA points out that even states that do not have a specific home school statute still permit home schooling. States like North Carolina have a legal statute that distinguishes between a home school and a private school (See Table 4). In other states, private school laws include home school provisions. Differences in the ways states define and regulate home schooling produces inconsistent data across states.²⁰

Fortunately, the North Carolina Division of Non-Public Education maintains aggregate home school statistics for the state. Between 2001 and 2010, there was an 81 percent increase in home schools and a 74 percent increase in the number of home school students in North Carolina. During the 2009-2010 school year, 81,500 students were taught in 43,300 home schools.²¹

MARKET SHARE IN NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES

There are considerable variations in market share

Table 3. Charter School Laws and Enrollment, 1999-2010²²

State	Charter Law	Students, 1999-2000	Students, 2009-2010	Difference
Alabama	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Alaska	1995	2,300	5,196	2,896
Arizona	1994	31,176	113,974	82,798
Arkansas	1995	0	8,662	8,662
California	1992	104,730	317,363	212,633
Colorado	1993	17,822	66,826	49,004
Connecticut	1996	2,148	5,215	3,067
Delaware	1995	115	9,173	9,058
Florida	1996	17,251	137,887	120,636
Georgia	1993	11,005	37,545	26,540
Hawaii	1994	790	7,869	7,079
Idaho	1998	915	14,529	13,614
Illinois	1996	6,152	35,836	29,684
Indiana	2001	N/A	18,488	N/A
Iowa	2002	N/A	593	N/A
Kansas	1994	0	4,684	4,684
Kentucky	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Louisiana	1995	2,449	31,467	29,018
Maine	2011	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maryland	2003	N/A	11,995	N/A
Massachusetts	1993	12,518	27,393	14,875
Michigan	1993	46,078	110,845	64,767
Minnesota	1991	7,794	35,375	27,581
Mississippi	2010	347	375	28
Missouri	1998	4,303	18,415	14,112
Montana	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nebraska	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nevada	1997	898	11,614	10,716
New Hampshire	1995	0	816	816
New Jersey	1996	N/A	22,981	N/A
New Mexico	1993	22	13,090	13,068
New York	1998	0	43,963	43,963
North Carolina	1996	12,691	38,973	26,282
North Dakota	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ohio	1997	9,809	90,989	81,180
Oklahoma	1999	0	6,315	6,315
Oregon	1999	109	18,334	18,225
Pennsylvania	1997	11,413	79,167	67,754
Rhode Island	1995	446	3,233	2,787
South Carolina	1996	327	13,035	12,708
South Dakota	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tennessee	2002	N/A	N/A	N/A
Texas	1995	25,687	148,392	122,705
Utah	1998	390	33,968	33,578
Vermont	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Virginia	1998	0	179	179
Washington	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
West Virginia	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wisconsin	1993	3,561	36,153	32,592
Wyoming	1995	0	269	269
Total	N/A	333,246	1,581,176	1,193,873

among North Carolina counties (See Table 5). Martin County had the lowest percentage market share (3 percent) among North Carolina counties, while Northampton County had the highest (31 percent). Nevertheless, the average county market share of North Carolina's public and private schools of choice – charter, home, and private – continues to grow. In 2010-2011, their market share was 12 percent, a slight increase from two years ago.

In Northampton County, a charter school – KIPP Gaston College Preparatory Academy – continues to attract a significant portion of the county's school age population. Similarly, Person County, which has two charter schools, also enrolls a large percentage of the county's children. Both are low wealth counties.

Of course, many charter and residential private schools often enroll children from multiple counties. Thus, the county-by-county market share data are only estimates and may be higher or lower based on the home counties of those enrolled.

CONCLUSION

Private, charter, and home schools continue to be popular in many states, including North Carolina. This popularity, however, has not produced a significant enrollment shift from district schools to schools of choice. This is consistent with expectations. Evidence from unrestricted school choice programs, in Alberta, Canada, for example, suggest that a vast majority of parents will choose to send their children to traditional public schools.

The purpose of school choice is not to ensure that all children attend a private, charter, or home school. Most proponents of school choice have little interest in dismantling public schools or privatizing primary and secondary education. Rather, they envision a system of school choice that ensures that all families have the capacity and means to choose the schools that best meet the needs of their children regardless of provider.

Table 4. Home School Laws and Enrollment²³

State	Home School Statutes or Regulations	2001-2002 Enrollment	2009-2010 Enrollment	Difference
Alabama	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Alaska	1997	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arizona	1982	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arkansas	1985	11,871	16,061	4,190
California	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Colorado	1988	9,680	6,501	-3,179
Connecticut	1990	2,266	N/A	N/A
Delaware	1997	2,288	2,606	318
Florida	1985	41,128	62,567	21,439
Georgia	1984	32,309	40,510	8,201
Hawaii	1989	N/A	N/A	N/A
Idaho	2009	N/A	N/A	N/A
Illinois	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Indiana	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Iowa	1991	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kansas	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kentucky	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Louisiana	1984	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maine	2003	4,595	4,927	332
Maryland	1987	19,423	N/A	N/A
Massachusetts	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Michigan	1996	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minnesota	1987	15,610	N/A	N/A
Mississippi	1982	N/A	N/A	N/A
Missouri	1986	N/A	N/A	N/A
Montana	1983	3,571	4,075	504
Nebraska	N/A	5,000	6,295	1,295
Nevada	1947 & 2007	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Hampshire	1990	4,105	5,113	1,008
New Jersey	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Mexico	1985	N/A	N/A	N/A
New York	1988	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Carolina	1988	46,909	81,509	34,600
North Dakota	1989 & 2009	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ohio	1989	N/A	23,715	N/A
Oklahoma	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oregon	1985	N/A	20,617	N/A
Pennsylvania	1988	23,903	21,240	-2,663
Rhode Island	1984	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Carolina	1988	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Dakota	N/A	2,481	2,855	374
Tennessee	1985	N/A	N/A	N/A
Texas	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Utah	2006	N/A	9,177	N/A
Vermont	1987	N/A	N/A	N/A
Virginia	1984	16,268	23,290	7,022
Washington	1985	19,481	N/A	N/A
West Virginia	1987	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wisconsin	1983	21,013	19,049	-1,964
Wyoming	1985	2,101	2,325	224
Totals	N/A	284,002	352,432	68,430

Table 5. Estimates of Market Share by NC County, 2010-2011²⁴

County	Home School Enrollment	Private School Enrollment	Charter School Enrollment (ADM ²⁵)	District School Enrollment (ADM)	Choice School Market Share
Alamance	1,251	1,337	1,186	22,133	15%
Alexander	543	1	0	5,450	9%
Alleghany	72	0	0	1,447	5%
Anson	186	5	0	3,755	5%
Ashe	334	0	0	3,145	10%
Avery	221	12	105	2,120	14%
Beaufort	388	353	281	6,904	13%
Bertie	105	437	0	2,730	17%
Bladen	250	49	0	5,066	6%
Brunswick	868	367	866	11,969	15%
Buncombe	3,217	3,164	926	29,113	20%
Burke	929	148	100	13,290	8%
Cabarrus	1,974	1,734	509	33,584	11%
Caldwell	729	186	0	12,555	7%
Camden	89	0	0	1,906	4%
Carteret	493	344	250	8,342	12%
Caswell	267	0	0	2,880	8%
Catawba	1,332	1,335	0	24,216	10%
Chatham	611	129	810	7,750	17%
Cherokee	322	27	176	3,347	14%
Chowan	98	0	0	2,288	4%
Clay	71	14	0	1,328	6%
Cleveland	1,041	98	0	15,721	7%
Columbus	345	310	481	8,639	12%
Craven	913	712	0	14,751	10%
Cumberland	2,291	4,096	215	51,631	11%
Currituck	224	11	0	3,862	6%
Dare	261	65	0	4,823	6%
Davidson	1,604	1,238	0	25,499	10%
Davie	453	104	0	6,492	8%
Duplin	340	117	0	8,945	5%
Durham	1,303	4,300	2,987	31,946	21%
Edgecombe	312	0	0	7,088	4%
Forsyth	2,515	5,056	1,803	51,824	15%
Franklin	1,022	30	141	8,478	12%
Gaston	1,762	2,109	1,772	30,900	15%
Gates	175	0	0	1,804	9%
Graham	150	56	0	1,191	15%
Granville	738	70	0	8,545	9%
Greene	112	85	0	3,191	6%
Guilford	3,308	6,844	1,713	71,227	14%
Halifax	322	713	0	7,742	12%
Harnett	1,281	488	0	19,211	8%
Haywood	653	181	0	7,582	10%
Henderson	1,467	898	173	13,177	16%
Hertford	79	428	0	3,095	14%
Hoke	470	72	0	7,945	6%
Hyde	52	39	0	575	14%
Iredell	1,743	1,007	2,089	26,550	15%
Jackson	312	155	189	3,553	16%
Johnston	2,039	168	386	31,982	7%

County	Home School Enrollment	Private School Enrollment	Charter School Enrollment (ADM)	District School Enrollment (ADM)	Choice School Market Share
Jones	129	0	0	1,138	10%
Lee	331	601	0	9,565	9%
Lenoir	353	1,002	485	9,128	17%
Lincoln	822	43	1,273	11,674	15%
Macon	587	63	0	4,272	13%
Madison	386	70	0	2,550	15%
Martin	133	0	0	3,745	3%
McDowell	563	193	0	6,300	11%
Mecklenburg	6,098	19,007	6,175	134,598	19%
Mitchell	169	82	0	2,055	11%
Montgomery	311	118	0	4,104	9%
Moore	788	972	464	12,378	15%
Nash	842	1,105	965	16,802	15%
New Hanover	1,485	3,035	443	24,060	17%
Northampton	141	235	688	2,328	31%
Onslow	1,503	855	0	23,365	9%
Orange	706	1,159	361	18,761	11%
Pamlico	96	17	338	1,391	24%
Pasquotank	434	407	0	5,884	13%
Pender	475	0	0	8,156	6%
Perquimans	121	0	0	1,720	7%
Person	397	178	951	4,926	24%
Pitt	1,026	1,846	0	22,971	11%
Polk	267	38	0	2,331	12%
Randolph	1,728	679	0	22,937	19%
Richmond	278	385	0	7,546	8%
Robeson	793	620	111	23,296	6%
Rockingham	881	365	183	13,527	10%
Rowan	1,461	949	0	20,002	11%
Rutherford	727	269	1,285	8,765	21%
Sampson	373	554	0	11,327	8%
Scotland	165	270	0	6,153	7%
Stanly	630	427	312	8,966	13%
Stokes	549	185	0	6,847	10%
Surry	407	81	458	11,227	8%
Swain	145	40	169	1,888	16%
Transylvania	443	108	146	3,511	17%
Tyrrell	33	0	0	565	6%
Union	3,192	1,595	1,094	39,040	13%
Vance	421	812	619	6,868	21%
Wake	8,033	16,084	6,119	142,351	18%
Warren	117	54	142	2,458	11%
Washington	103	0	0	1,749	6%
Watauga	493	90	145	4,297	14%
Wayne	797	1,231	155	19,033	10%
Wilkes	803	202	147	9,874	10%
Wilson	556	1,027	852	12,033	17%
Yadkin	376	42	0	5,805	7%
Yancey	305	45	0	2,341	13%
Totals	83,609	96,232	41,238	1,409,895	12%

END NOTES

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9. Todd Ziebarth, "A Growing Movement: America's Largest Charter School Communities, Sixth Annual Edition," National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, October 2011, http://www.publiccharters.org/data/files/Publication_docs/2011%20NAPCS%20Market%20Share%20Report_20111013T104601.pdf
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“To prejudge other men’s notions
before we have looked into them
is not to show their darkness
but to put out our own eyes.”

JOHN LOCKE (1632–1704)

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