

WI Public Charter School Facts 2011

An Overview of Public Charter Schools in Wisconsin

What are Public Charter Schools?

Charter Schools are public, non religious, tuition free schools that are based on a performance contract with an authorizer. Public charter schools have operational and educational autonomy to implement an innovative educational program in return for accountability in the form of student outcomes. Unlike other public schools, public charter schools can be closed based on their academic or operational performance.

What types of Charter Schools exist in Wisconsin?

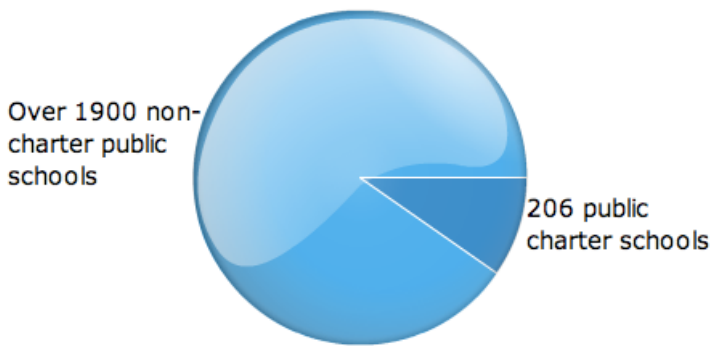
A wide variety of charter schools exist in our state including but not limited to:

- Arts and Culture
- Environmental/Green
- Montessori Philosophy
- Technology
- Project Based Learning
- Direct Instruction
- Math and Science
- At-Risk Students
- Core Knowledge

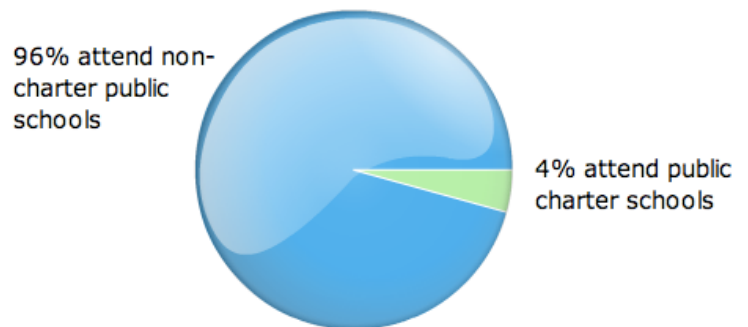
Numbers of Public Charter Schools and Students

In the 2010-'11 school year there are 206 public charter schools serving over 37,000 students in Wisconsin.

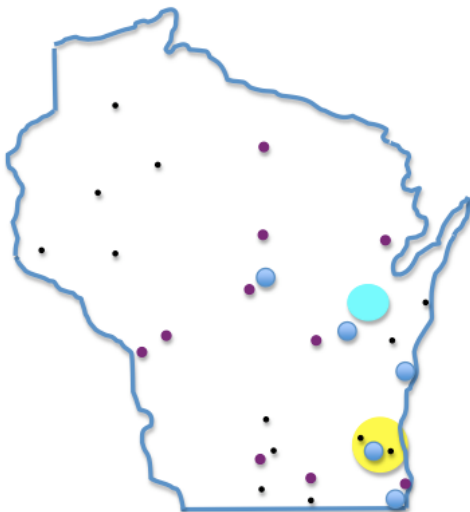
Public Schools in WI



Public School Students in WI



Location of Public Charter Schools



Types of Public Charter Schools

There are three different charter school designations in Wisconsin. Regardless of designation, ALL charter schools are public, cannot select students, and must employ fully licensed teachers.

An Instrumentality Charter School's teachers are employed by the school district and its students are counted as a part of the school district.

Non Instrumentality Charter Schools' teachers are fully licensed and are employed by the charter school. The students attending a non instrumentality charter school are counted as a part of the school district.

Independent Charter Schools are considered their own teachers, and receive funds through a special state formula.

168 (82%) of the 206 public charter schools are instrumentalities of their district. The other 38 (18%) are non-instrumentalities or independent charter schools.

