



**NORTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR
PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH INC.**

NEWS RELEASE

For release on Wednesday, June 6, 2007.

May be broadcast Wednesday a.m. and
may appear in Wednesday newspapers.

For an electronic version of the news
release, email tbromley@nccppr.org

The charter school report is available online at <http://www.nccppr.org/charterschools.pdf> until June 15, 2007.

For more information,

call Ran Coble or Mebane Rash Whitman
at the N.C. Center for Public Policy Research
at 919-832-2839.

Research Center Says Keep Cap on Charter Schools Until Performance Improves

The North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research released a major study of charter schools today, concluding that their performance needs to improve before the state allows more across the state. The Center's research found that charter schools need to improve in four areas before the state considers raising the cap of 100 charter schools. These four weaknesses are low academic performance, lack of racial balance as required by state law, lack of transfers of innovation to public schools, and sometimes questionable management and financial compliance.

“Charter schools are an important experiment, but just providing a choice is not enough. It's got to be a good choice for educating North Carolina's students,” says Ran Coble, the director of the Center. “Charter schools need to perform well before we expand the experiment.”

Charter Schools in North Carolina

There were 93 charter schools operating in North Carolina during the 2006-07 school year. Another seven are in the planning stages. Charter schools are hybrids of nonprofit organizations and publicly-funded schools. As nonprofits, they receive freedom from many government regulations applicable to other public schools, and their volunteer governing boards are not subject to local boards of education. They are free to recruit the best teachers and to raise money from foundations, corporations, and individuals. Yet charter schools are public schools in that anyone is eligible to attend, they do not charge tuition, and they receive normal state funding per student. The idea behind charter schools is that freedom from various regulations will create room for innovation and then transmit fresh ideas to the public school system.

North Carolina first authorized charter schools in 1996. The six goals for charter schools under that state law are to: (1) improve student learning; (2) increase learning opportunities for all students, with a special emphasis on at-risk or gifted students; (3) encourage the use of different or innovative teaching methods; (4) create new professional opportunities for teachers; (5) provide expanded choice for parents and students within the school system; and (6) hold charter schools accountable for student performance.

Since 1996, each of the available 100 charters has been awarded under the law. With some charters revoked or relinquished, 138 schools have at one time or another held a state charter. Proponents have tried to raise or eliminate the cap in the North Carolina General Assembly since the cap was reached in the year 2000. However, the Center found that the charter schools program has expanded over the years without an increase in the cap. Of the 93 charter schools operating in 2006, 57 expanded by increasing the number of grades they serve since they opened.

The N.C. Center for Public Policy Research first evaluated charter schools in 2002. However, at that time, there were not enough data on academic performance at many of the schools to provide a clear trend line on performance. Based on its findings, the Center concluded then that the state should have five full years of state accountability testing data in hand before deciding whether the cap on the number of charter schools should be raised, eliminated, or kept at 100.

Academic Performance of Charter Schools

With 10 years of data now in hand, the Center's new study looks at several indicators of academic performance – test results under the state's ABCs accountability program and high school graduation rates, as well as other studies of charter school performance.

- The state accountability testing program, known as the ABCs, classifies schools according to seven categories of performance. The top four categories are Honor Schools of Excellence, Schools of Excellence, Schools of Distinction, and Schools of Progress. The lowest three categories are No Recognition, Priority Schools, and Low-Performing Schools. Of the 99 charter schools in North Carolina in 2005-06, seven were determined to be Honor Schools of Excellence, none were Schools of Excellence, 12 were Schools of Distinction, 15 were Schools of Progress, 23 were No Recognition schools, 23 were Priority Schools, and six were Low-Performing Schools. Thus, 23 percent of charter schools were in the No Recognition category, meaning they did not attain the academic progress the state thinks they should have, given the make-up of their student bodies.

When No Recognition Schools, Priority Schools, and Low-Performing Schools are combined, an alarming 53 percent, or more than half, of the charter schools fell into the lowest three categories. Statewide, 48.1 percent of all public schools fell into the bottom three performance categories in 2005-06.

The ABCs program also assigns each school a performance composite, which is a percentage of students scoring at or above grade level. Charter schools achieving 70-100 percent performance composites rose from 37.5 percent in 1997-98 to 39.7 percent in 2000-01 to 68.9 percent in 2004-05. Results for 2005-06 are based on a revised accountability model, and the results are not comparable to those from previous years. In 2005-06, only 43.4 percent of charter schools achieved performance composites between 70 and 100.

Based on 1997-2005 data, the Center said charter schools seemed to be improving for a while, as measured by end-of-grade testing results. However, the 2005-06 data, while not comparable to the data from previous years, raises new questions about the performance of charter schools.

- In February 2007, the N.C. Department of Public Instruction released for the first time the four-year cohort graduation rates for 2006 by school. While 68.1 percent of students across the state graduated in four years, the Center's study found that only 55.3 percent of students in charter *high* schools graduated in four years.

- In addition to the Center's study of charter *school* performance, another strong qualitative study in North Carolina examined the performance of charter school *students*. The study by researchers Helen Ladd and Robert Bifulco of the Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy at Duke University found that charter school students did not perform as well on end-of-grade tests as demographically similar students in traditional public schools. Even more importantly, the Duke researchers found that some of the difference was attributable to the charter schools themselves rather than to characteristics of the students. They conclude that the academic gains of charter school students in both reading and math are significantly lower than would have been the case had those same students remained in traditional public schools.

Ladd and Bifulco conducted additional analysis to control for the length of time a charter had been open. They found that the negative effects of charter schools in North Carolina “remain statistically significant and large even for schools that have been operating for five years.”

Racial Balance

Of further concern is that charter schools remain more racially segregated than the traditional public schools as a whole. The Center’s original study in 2002 found that the state Office of Charter Schools and the Department of Public Instruction were not enforcing the state law requiring charter schools to “reasonably reflect the racial and ethnic composition” of their school districts. “It was a problem then, and unfortunately it’s still a problem now,” says the Center’s Mebane Rash Whitman, editor of *North Carolina Insight*.

North Carolina’s population is 21.6% African American and 1.2 percent Native American. Of the 97 charter schools operating in 2000-01, 30 had more than 80 percent non-white students. In 2003-04, 24 of 93 charter schools then operating were more than 80 percent non-white, and 15 of these 24 had student bodies that were more than 95 percent African American. In 2005-06, 39 of 99 charter schools had more than a 50 percent minority student population. Twenty-six of these schools had 80 percent or more non-white students, and 14 schools were more than 95 percent African American. Four of the 99 charter schools were 100 percent African American. Two schools – Haliwa-Saponi Tribal and CIS Academy – have Native American student populations over 85 percent.

Transfers of Innovations to Charter Schools

The Center praised a number of charter schools that have adopted innovative approaches to learning. Examples include schools with international themes such as Carolina International School in Harrisburg and Exploris Middle School in Raleigh, as well as schools emphasizing Socratic dialogue such as Socrates Academy in Charlotte and Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy in Mooresboro. However, the Center found little evidence that charter school innovations have been adopted by traditional public schools. Thus, the notion that charter schools serve as a testing ground for educational innovations that ultimately move into the public schools is unfounded.

Whitman, the Center’s *Insight* editor, says, “There are some shining jewels among the state’s charter schools, but they represent an unrealized promise for the experiment as a whole.”

Management and Financial Compliance

When the Center first examined the charter school experiment in 2002, 14 schools had closed or had their charters revoked, eight of them at least in part because of financial management problems. Concerns about financial management have eased somewhat after adoption of a 2002 requirement that charter school applicants spend a year planning before they can open their doors to students. The Center commended the N.C. Department of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education for implementing this requirement, which was recommended by the Center in its 2002 evaluation.

However, the Center said concerns about management and financial compliance have not abated entirely. The total number of charter schools that have closed or had their charters revoked has now reached 27 of the total number of 138, or 20 percent, mostly because of insufficient enrollment or financial noncompliance. For example, the State Board of Education revoked the charter of Imani Institute Charter School in Greensboro in July 2006. The school had not filed financial audits from 2001-02 through 2004-05. Baker Charter High School, authorized to operate in the Wake County Jail, had its charter revoked in October 2006, effective June 30, 2007. State regulators declared the books of the school could not even be audited due to inadequate record-keeping and said that students attended classes no more than an hour a day.

Center Recommendations on Charter Schools

In 2004-05, the most recent financial data available, charter schools received \$189,582,506 in public funds – including federal (\$16,472,667), state (\$112,798,911), and local revenue (\$60,310,928). The Center’s Coble says, “Almost \$190 million spent on charter schools is a lot of money. Yet since more than half of the charter schools fell in the bottom three categories in academic performance, as determined by the state’s ABCs testing program, the state needs to ensure that charter schools are worth the money. Charter schools are a worthy experiment only if we get a good return on our investment.”

The Center made three recommendations:

- (1) **Charter schools that have failed to meet expected academic growth for five consecutive years should be placed on immediate probation and given two years to achieve expected growth or give up their charters.**
- (2) **Revoked charters should be awarded to proposed schools that stand a strong chance of meeting or exceeding the state’s academic expectations. Preference should be given to granting charters in counties that do not already have a charter school.** This would further the statutory goal of expanding school choice.
- (3) **The North Carolina General Assembly should not increase the current cap of 100 charter schools as authorized by state statute in 1996.**

Rep. Rick Glazier (D-Cumberland) has introduced a bill that would implement the Center’s first recommendation on low-performing charter schools. Glazier’s bill, House Bill 236, would terminate the charter of charter schools that fail to meet expected academic growth for seven consecutive years. The N.C. House also recently passed a bill (H.B. 30) that would require a study of charter school performance under the six goals set out in the law. In addition, seven bills have been introduced to raise or eliminate the cap.

Center director Ran Coble says, “The state must ensure that parents who exercise school choice can choose among charter schools that provide the ‘sound basic education’ that the State Constitution requires for all of North Carolina’s children. And, the state must show taxpayers that the \$113 million in *state* funds is spent on good charter schools.” He adds, “It should go to charter schools that produce students who do as well or better academically as students in traditional schools, that avoid segregating schools, that transfer educational innovations to public schools, and that are good stewards of the people’s funds.”

About the Center

The N.C. Center for Public Policy Research is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit research corporation created in 1977 to evaluate state government programs and to study public policy issues facing North Carolina. The Center is supported in part by a grant from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation in Winston-Salem, with additional support from nine other private foundations, 150 corporate contributors, and about 600 individual and organizational members. The Center thanks The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation of Durham, N.C., and The Cemala Foundation of Greensboro, N.C. for their grants in support of this project. In addition to publishing *North Carolina Insight*, the Center also publishes *Article II: A Guide to the N.C. Legislature* and in-depth research reports. The Center recently has conducted studies on governance of North Carolina’s public universities, the shortage of public school teachers in North Carolina, domestic violence, economic development in Eastern North Carolina, and the pros and cons of state lotteries.

Copies of the issue of *North Carolina Insight* containing the Center’s research evaluating charter schools in North Carolina are available for \$20, which includes tax, postage, and handling. To order, write the Center at P.O. Box 430, Raleigh, NC 27602, call (919) 832-2839, fax (919) 832-2847, or email tbromley@nccppr.org

* * *

For more information, contact Ran Coble, executive director, or Mebane Rash Whitman, editor of *North Carolina Insight*, at the N.C. Center for Public Policy Research at (919) 832-2839.

Table 1. Performance of All N.C. Charter

Charter School / Grade Span	Year Opened	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite
	1997–1998			1998–1999			1999–2000			
<i>County/Local School District</i>										
A Child’s Garden School K-5	<i>Franklin</i>									
1 Alpha Academy K-8	<i>Cumberland</i>									
2 American Renaissance Charter School K-5	<i>Iredell</i>									
3 American Renaissance Middle 6-8	<i>Iredell</i>									
4 Ann Atwater Community School 4-9	<i>Durham</i>									
5 Arapahoe Charter School K-8	<i>Pamlico</i>									
6 Arts Based Elementary K-5	<i>Forsyth/Winston-Salem</i>									
7 ArtSpace Charter School K-8	<i>Buncombe</i>									
8 John H. Baker Charter School 9-12	<i>Wake</i>									
9 Bethany Community Middle School 6-8	<i>Rockingham</i>									
10 Bethel Hill Charter School K-6	<i>Person</i>									
11 Brevard Academy K-8	<i>Transylvania</i>									
12 Bridges Charter School K-8	<i>Wilkes</i>									
13 C. G. Woodson School of Challenge K-12	<i>Forsyth</i>									
14 Cape Fear Center for Inquiry K-8	<i>New Hanover</i>									
15 Cape Lookout Marine Science H.S. 9-12	<i>Carteret</i>									
16 Carolina International School K-9	<i>Cabarrus</i>									
17 Carter Community School K-8	<i>Durham</i>									

Schools on End-of-Grade Tests from 1997–2006

Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite
2000–2001			2001–2002			2002–2003			2003–2004			2004–2005			2005–2006		
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	65.7	Yes	Yes	90.6	Changed name to Crosscreek Charter School (see No. 28 below)					
No	No	52.7	No	No	49.8	Yes	No	55.8	No	No	69.7	No	No	72.8	Yes	No	50.7
No	No	64.0	No	No	73.6	Yes	No	81.9	No	No	80.2	Yes	Yes	84.1	No	No	75.5
No	No	62.9	No	No	74.3	Yes	Yes	85.8	No	No	85.2	Yes	Yes	87.4	No	No	75.2
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	52.0	No	No	61.5	No	No	61.7	Closed		
Yes	No	81.8	No	No	87.5	Yes	Yes	91.5	Yes	Yes	95.1	Yes	No	93.5	Yes	No	77.2
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	86.7	No	No	77.1	No	No	72.8	No	No	60.2
NA	NA	NA	No	No	74.5	Yes	Yes	82.4	Yes	No	85.3	Yes	No	82.0	Yes	No	71.0
NA	NA	NA	No	No	19.0	NA	NA	NA	Yes	No	50.0	Yes	Yes	50.0	No	No	38.7
No	No	63.8	No	No	81.8	Yes	No	82.8	No	No	87.2	No	No	87.1	No	No	76.7
No	No	60.0	Yes	Yes	80	Yes	Yes	88.5	Yes	No	91.3	Yes	No	90.9	No	No	81.0
No	No	84.2	No	No	82.3	Yes	Yes	85.8	Yes	No	89.9	Yes	Yes	89.2	No	No	68.4
No	No	68.5	Yes	No	69.2	Yes	No	64.0	Yes	Yes	75.3	No	No	65.1	No	No	53.5
No	No	42.6	No	No	39.3	Yes	Yes	64.3	Yes	Yes	71.6	Yes	Yes	73.6	No	No	50.0
No	No	89.7	Yes	No	88.8	Yes	No	88.9	Yes	No	88.0	No	No	83.9	No	No	76.0
Yes	No	46.0	Yes	No	53.8	Yes	Yes	44.7	Yes	Yes	49.4	No	No	0.0	Yes	Yes	53.0
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	94.5	Yes	No	85.9
No	No	31.5	No	No	33.1	No	No	54.6	No	No	53.4	Yes	Yes	67.7	Yes	No	46.6

(continues)

Table 1. Performance of All N.C. Charter Schools

Charter School / Grade Span	Year Opened	1997–1998			1998–1999			1999–2000			Performance Composite
		Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	
<i>County/Local School District</i>											
18 Casa Esperanza Montessori K-6	Wake	2003	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
19 Central Park School for Children K-5	Durham	2001	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Chapel Hill Free Academy K-8 (Formerly Village Charter)	Orange	1997	Yes	No	77.0	Yes	Yes	74.1	No	No	67.1
20 Charter Day School K-8	Brunswick	2000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
21 Chatham Charter School K-8	Chatham	1997	No	No	56.1	Yes	Yes	63.0	Yes	Yes	81.1
22 Children’s Community School K-5	Mecklenburg	2004	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
23 Children’s Village Academy K-6 (Formerly Children’s Academy)	Lenoir	1997	No	No	30.4	Yes	Yes	55.1	No	No	54.9
24 CIS Academy 6-8	Robeson	1997	No	No	7.3	Yes	No	29.0	No	No	26.0
25 Clover Garden K-12	Alamance/Burlington	2001	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
26 Community Charter School K-5	Charlotte/Mecklenburg	1997	No	No	35.0	No	No	40.5	No	No	46.2
27 Community Partners Charter High 9-12	Wake	2000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
28 Crosscreek Charter School K-8	Franklin	2001	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
29 Crossnore Academy K-12	Avery	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Yes	No	35.8
30 Crossroads Charter High 9-12	Charlotte/Mecklenburg	2001	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
31 Dillard Academy K-4	Wayne	1998	NA	NA	NA	No	No	33.3	No	No	38.1
32 Downtown Middle 5-8	Forsyth/Winston-Salem	1997	No	No	84.3	No	No	81.4	No	No	79.4
33 East Wake Academy K-12	Wake	1998	NA	NA	NA	Yes	No	81.9	No	No	62.7
34 East Winston Primary School K-3	Forsyth/Winston-Salem	1998	NA	NA	NA	No	No	3.3	Yes	No	20.8

on End-of-Grade Tests from 1997–2006, *continued*

Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite
2000–2001			2001–2002			2002–2003			2003–2004			2004–2005			2005–2006		
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	ID	ID	ID	No	No	82.0	Yes	No	78.3
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	ID	ID	ID	No	No	82.8	No	No	64.1
No	No	73.1	No	No	69.6	No	No	67.6	Closed								
ID	ID	ID	No	No	53.5	Yes	Yes	80.5	Yes	No	86.2	Yes	Yes	91.9	Yes	Yes	78.8
No	No	73.2	Yes	No	78.6	Yes	Yes	89.2	No	No	79.2	Yes	No	81.8	Yes	Yes	73.2
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Yes	No	93.8	Yes	No	87.0
No	No	47.0	No	No	48.6	Yes	Yes	60.2	Yes	Yes	65.8	Yes	Yes	80.8	Yes	No	56.0
Yes	Yes	39.0	Yes	No	50.7	Yes	Yes	79.2	Yes	Yes	63.6	No	No	63.2	No	No	33.0
NA	NA	NA	No	No	77.2	Yes	Yes	83.8	No	No	80.9	Yes	No	88.1	No	No	73.1
No	No	57.0	No	No	68.6	Yes	Yes	82.6	No	No	70.5	Yes	Yes	78.9	No	No	51.3
No	No	49.2	Yes	No	53.5	Yes	No	57.3	No	No	51.7	No	No	63.6	No	No	53.6
NA	NA	NA	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	No	No	80.5	No	No	56.2
No	No	39.7	No	No	39.2	Yes	Yes	51.8	Yes	Yes	62.5	Yes	No	68.5	Yes	No	50.0
NA	NA	NA	No	No	14.6	Yes	Yes	15.1	Yes	Yes	26.7	NA	NA	NA	No	No	23.7
No	No	37.9	Yes	Yes	77.3	Yes	Yes	52.9	Yes	Yes	78.6	Yes	Yes	57.1	No	No	50.0
No	No	79.5	No	No	83.9	No	No	87.3	No	No	87.4	Yes	No	86.6	No	No	65.3
No	No	76.2	No	No	81.8	Yes	No	79.9	No	No	79.5	No	No	83.0	No	No	71.2
NA	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	76.8	Yes	Yes	76.6	No	No	38.9	Closed					

(continues)

Table 1. Performance of All N.C. Charter Schools

Charter School / Grade Span	Year Opened	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	
	1997–1998			1998–1999			1999–2000				
<i>County/Local School District</i>											
Engelmann School of the Arts & Sciences K-8	<i>Catawba</i>	1997	No	No	64.3	No	No	40.5	No	No	40.8
35 Evergreen Community Charter School K-8	<i>Buncombe</i>	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	70.2
36 Exploris Middle School 6-8	<i>Wake</i>	1997	Yes	Yes	98.1	Yes	Yes	94.8	Yes	Yes	94.9
37 Forsyth Academies K-8	<i>Forsyth/Winston-Salem</i>	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	61.9
38 Francine Delany New School for Children K-8	<i>Buncombe/Asheville City</i>	1997	Yes	No	70.0	Yes	Yes	74.6	No	No	71.1
39 Franklin Academy K-12	<i>Wake</i>	1998	NA	NA	NA	No	No	64.8	Yes	Yes	81.0
40 Gaston College Preparatory (GCP) 5-10	<i>Northampton</i>	2001	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
41 Grandfather Academy 4-12	<i>Avery</i>	1997	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	Yes	No	37.5
42 Gray Stone Day School 9-12	<i>Stanly</i>	2002	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
43 Greensboro Academy K-8	<i>Guilford</i>	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	76.4
44 Guilford Preparatory K-11 (Formerly Guilford-SABIS® Charter School and then Guilford Charter)	<i>Guilford</i>	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	ID	ID	ID
45 Haliwa-Saponi Tribal K-11	<i>Warren</i>	2000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
46 Healthy Start Academy Charter Elem. K-8	<i>Durham</i>	1997	ID	ID	ID	No	No	41.9	No	No	35.2
47 Highland Charter Public School K-3	<i>Gaston</i>	1997	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID
48 Hope Elementary School K-5	<i>Wake</i>	2001	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
49 Imani Institute Charter School 6-8	<i>Guilford</i>	1998	NA	NA	NA	No	No	57.5	No	No	56.3
50 Kennedy School 6-12	<i>Charlotte/Mecklenburg</i>	1998	NA	NA	NA	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID
51 Kestrel Heights School 6-11	<i>Durham</i>	1998	NA	NA	NA	ID	ID	ID	Yes	No	59.7

on End-of-Grade Tests from 1997–2006, *continued*

Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite
2000–2001			2001–2002			2002–2003			2003–2004			2004–2005			2005–2006		
Yes	Yes	64.0	No	No	66.4	Yes	Yes	63.4	Changed name to Visions Charter School (see No. 98 below)								
No	No	76.1	No	No	84.5	Yes	Yes	87.0	No	No	92.1	No	No	87.0	Yes	No	74.1
Yes	Yes	96.5	Yes	Yes	98.4	No	No	97.3	Yes	Yes	97.8	Yes	Yes	98.3	Yes	Yes	94.6
No	No	63.5	No	No	74.9	Yes	Yes	84.1	Yes	No	86.3	Yes	No	86.5	Yes	No	70.8
Yes	Yes	85.4	Yes	Yes	86.6	Yes	Yes	85.4	Yes	Yes	90.7	Yes	Yes	89.7	No	No	74.0
No	No	82.5	No	No	91.2	Yes	Yes	92.4	Yes	No	91.5	Yes	No	92.2	Yes	No	84.9
NA	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	91.8	Yes	Yes	99.6	Yes	No	94.8	Yes	Yes	97.5	Yes	Yes	86.7
No	No	34.1	No	No	44.6	No	No	54.8	Yes	No	60.7	Yes	No	65.9	Yes	No	55.7
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	97.7	Yes	Yes	94.7	Yes	No	93.8	No	No	89.4
No	No	82.3	No	No	86.6	Yes	Yes	92.9	Yes	No	94.5	Yes	No	94.9	Yes	Yes	90.5
ID	ID	ID	No	No	66.7	Yes	Yes	74.8	No	No	76.6	No	No	72.5	Yes	No	61.7
No	No	52.3	No	No	59.6	Yes	Yes	72.0	Yes	No	80.2	Yes	No	75.7	No	No	59.2
No	No	43.9	No	No	45.6	Yes	Yes	56.9	No	No	64.3	No	No	50.0	No	No	38.0
ID	ID	ID	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	NA	No	No	NA	NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA	No	No	50.0	Yes	Yes	78.1	No	No	79.3	No	No	56.2	No	No	50.0
No	No	53.0	No	No	52.8	No	No	58.9	No	No	63.0	No	No	62.8	No	No	50.0
Yes	Yes	16.3	Yes	Yes	28.3	No	No	27.0	Yes	No	18.6	Yes	No	28.1	Yes	No	21.4
Yes	No	71.6	Yes	Yes	73.6	No	No	70.7	No	No	72.6	No	No	70.3	No	No	67.8

(continues)

Table 1. Performance of All N.C. Charter Schools

Charter School / Grade Span	Year Opened	1997–1998			1998–1999			1999–2000			
		Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	
<i>County/Local School District</i>											
52 Kinston Charter Academy K-8	<i>Lenoir</i>	2004	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
53 Lake Norman Charter School 5-8	<i>Charlotte/Mecklenburg</i>	1998	NA	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	87.0	Yes	Yes	88.6
54 Lakeside School 6-12	<i>Alamance/Burlington</i>	1997	ID	ID	ID	No	No	7.0	Yes	Yes	23.7
55 Laurinburg Charter School 9-12	<i>Scotland</i>	1998	NA	NA	NA	ID	ID	ID	No	No	2.9
56 Laurinburg Homework Center 8-12	<i>Scotland</i>	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	33.3
57 Lincoln Charter School K-6	<i>Lincoln</i>	1998	NA	NA	NA	No	No	76.0	No	No	70.9
58 Magellan Charter School 4-8	<i>Wake</i>	1997	Yes	Yes	95.7	Yes	Yes	97.2	Yes	Yes	96.4
59 Maureen Joy Charter School K-3	<i>Durham</i>	1997	ID	ID	ID	No	No	26.9	No	No	29.8
60 Metrolina Regional Scholars' Academy K-8	<i>Charlotte/Mecklenburg</i>	2000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
61 Millennium Charter Academy K-7	<i>Surry/Mt. Airy</i>	2000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
62 Mountain Discovery Charter K-8	<i>Swain</i>	2002	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
63 New Century Charter High School 9-12	<i>Alamance</i>	1998	NA	NA	NA	ID	ID	ID	Yes	Yes	52.2
64 Omuteko Gwamaziima K-8	<i>Durham</i>	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	29.6
65 Orange Charter School K-8	<i>Orange</i>	1997	No	No	78.4	Yes	Yes	78.6	Yes	Yes	82.0
66 PACE Academy 9-12	<i>Orange</i>	2004	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
67 Phoenix Academy K-9	<i>Guilford</i>	2000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
68 Piedmont Community Charter School K-11	<i>Gaston</i>	2000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
69 PreEminent Charter School K-8	<i>Wake</i>	2000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

on End-of-Grade Tests from 1997–2006, *continued*

	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Met Expected Growth
	2000–2001			2001–2002			2002–2003			2003–2004			2004–2005			2005–2006		
	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	79.6	Yes	Yes	63.0
	Yes	Yes	93.2	Yes	Yes	98.1	Yes	Yes	99.3	No	No	98.9	Yes	Yes	98.6	Yes	No	92.4
	No	No	26.1	No	No	10.1	No	No	22.6	No	No	39.7	Yes	No	26.3	No	No	NA
	Yes	Yes	24.7	No	No	23.5	NA	NA	NA	Yes	No	52.8	NA	NA	NA	No	No	15.3
	No	No	15.4	No	No	37.5	Yes	Yes	52.9	Yes	Yes	63.2	Yes	No	30.4	Yes	No	25.7
	Yes	No	80.6	No	No	79.9	Yes	Yes	86.7	Yes	No	84.3	NA	NA	NA	Yes	No	78.8
	Yes	Yes	99.2	Yes	Yes	99.2	Yes	Yes	99.9	Yes	Yes	99.9	Yes	Yes	100	Yes	Yes	97.9
	Yes	Yes	60.3	No	No	61.6	Yes	Yes	69.5	No	No	63.8	No	No	60.9	No	No	43.6
	No	No	98.7	Yes	Yes	100	No	No	100	Yes	Yes	99.2	Yes	Yes	100	Yes	No	100
	No	No	81.2	No	No	82.5	Yes	Yes	89.0	No	No	86.4	Yes	No	91.6	Yes	No	86.0
	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Yes	No	79.5	Yes	Yes	86.9	No	No	74.7	No	No	59.0
	No	No	26.1	No	No	49.0	No	No	39.2	Yes	Yes	36.9	Yes	No	40.2	Yes	Yes	44.7
	No	No	30.5	No	No	46.3	Yes	No	50.3	Yes	Yes	58.3	No	No	58.6	No	No	50.0
	No	No	86.8	No	No	82.2	Yes	Yes	87.0	No	No	87.5	Yes	Yes	91.3	Yes	No	71.8
	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	56.3	Yes	Yes	56.7
	No	No	79.1	Yes	Yes	83.0	Yes	Yes	93.1	Yes	No	95.3	No	No	95.7	No	No	81.5
	No	No	59.9	Yes	No	75.4	Yes	Yes	89.4	No	No	88.0	Yes	No	91.3	Yes	No	74.1
	ID	ID	ID	No	No	47.4	Yes	No	66.4	Yes	No	76.1	Yes	Yes	79.2	No	No	46.6

(continues)

Table 1. Performance of All N.C. Charter Schools

Charter School / Grade Span	Year Opened	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	
	1997–1998			1998–1999			1999–2000				
<i>County/Local School District</i>											
70 Provisions Academy 6-12	<i>Lee</i>	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	20.2	
71 Quality Education Academy 6-8	<i>Forsyth</i>	1997	No	No	26.4	Yes	Yes	53.6	No	No	52.5
72 Queen’s Grant Community Schools K-8	<i>Charlotte/Mecklenburg</i>	2002	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
73 Quest Academy K-8	<i>Wake</i>	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	94.3	
74 Raleigh Charter High School 9-12	<i>Wake</i>	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	87.6	
75 Research Triangle Charter Academy K-8	<i>Durham</i>	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	31.4	
76 River Mill Academy K-12 (Formerly River Mill Charter)	<i>Alamance</i>	1998	NA	NA	NA	No	No	51.2	Yes	No	62.5
77 Rocky Mount Preparatory K-12 (Formerly Charter Public School and then Rocky Mount Charter)	<i>Nash</i>	1997	No	No	52.5	No	No	52.5	Yes	No	51.9
78 Rowan Academy K-5	<i>Rowan</i>	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	37.4
79 Sallie B. Howard School K-8	<i>Wilson</i>	1997	No	No	51.4	Yes	No	45.8	No	No	45.7
80 Sandhills Theatre Arts Renaissance School (STARS) K-8	<i>Moore</i>	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	46.6
81 Socrates Academy K-2	<i>Mecklenburg</i>	2005	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
82 SPARC Academy K-8	<i>Wake</i>	1998	NA	NA	NA	ID	ID	ID	No	No	31.4
83 Sterling Montessori Academy K-8	<i>Wake</i>	1997	ID	ID	ID	Yes	Yes	75.6	Yes	Yes	78.6
84 Success Institute K-8	<i>Iredell</i>	2000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
85 Sugar Creek Charter School K-8	<i>Charlotte/Mecklenburg</i>	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	26.6
86 Summit Charter School K-8	<i>Jackson</i>	1997	Yes	Yes	87.2	No	No	80.6	Yes	Yes	80.0

on End-of-Grade Tests from 1997–2006, *continued*

Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite
2000–2001			2001–2002			2002–2003			2003–2004			2004–2005			2005–2006		
No	No	39.0	No	No	39.2	No	No	45.0	Yes	No	44.2	Yes	No	39.0	Yes	No	18.1
Yes	No	57.0	No	No	54.0	Yes	Yes	63.7	Yes	Yes	75.9	Yes	No	76.2	No	No	61.5
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	88.3	Yes	Yes	91.1	Yes	No	93.1	Yes	No	83.4
Yes	Yes	93.5	Yes	Yes	99.5	Yes	Yes	100	Yes	Yes	100	Yes	Yes	100	Yes	Yes	99.1
Yes	Yes	92.7	Yes	Yes	92.9	Yes	Yes	94.9	Yes	Yes	96.9	Yes	Yes	95.4	Yes	No	97.6
No	No	49.1	Yes	Yes	71.7	Yes	Yes	80.6	No	No	82.9	Yes	No	81.2	Yes	No	67.1
Yes	No	66.3	No	No	79.0	Yes	No	88.0	No	No	91.8	Yes	No	92.6	No	No	80.7
Yes	Yes	65.0	No	No	65.7	Yes	Yes	76.9	No	No	76.2	No	No	73.5	No	No	57.8
Yes	Yes	36.4	Yes	Yes	64.1	Yes	Yes	75.7	Yes	No	76.8	Yes	Yes	74.2	NA	NA	NA
Yes	No	60.1	No	No	66.3	Yes	Yes	77.2	Yes	Yes	81.8	NA	NA	NA	No	No	46.6
No	No	54.3	Yes	No	63.6	No	No	62.5	Yes	No	74.0	No	No	64.8	No	No	50.0
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
No	No	47.6	No	No	52.8	Yes	Yes	57.3	No	No	63.0	No	No	70.8	Yes	No	42.7
No	No	76.8	No	No	80.0	Yes	Yes	86.8	No	No	90.7	NA	NA	NA	Yes	No	81.4
No	No	45.3	NA	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	56.0	Yes	No	82.1	No	No	71.5	No	No	54.7
No	No	41.1	No	No	41.8	Yes	Yes	59.4	Yes	No	64.4	No	No	69.3	No	No	50.3
No	No	85.7	Yes	Yes	93.7	Yes	No	88.5	Yes	No	95.7	Yes	No	92.3	Yes	No	88.2

(continues)

Table 1. Performance of All N.C. Charter Schools

Charter School / Grade Span	Year Opened	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite
	1997–1998			1998–1999			1999–2000			
<i>County/Local School District</i>										
87 The Academy of Moore County 5-8 (Formerly Mast School)	1997	No	No	81.9	Yes	Yes	76.3	No	No	72.3
88 The Learning Center K-8	1997	No	No	56.1	Yes	No	68.6	No	No	57.8
89 The Mountain Community School K-8	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	90.7
90 The New Dimensions School K-5	2001	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
91 The Woods Charter School 1-12	1998	NA	NA	NA	ID	ID	ID	No	No	62.1
92 Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy 6-12	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	81.0
93 Tiller School 1-6	1998	NA	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	74.4	Yes	Yes	77.0
94 Torchlight Academy K-5 (Formerly NE Raleigh Charter Academy)	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	52.6
95 Two Rivers Community School K-8	2005	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
96 Union Academy K-10	2000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
97 Vance Charter School K-8	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	72.9
98 Visions Charter School K-6	2003	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
99 Washington Montessori K-8	2000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Wayne Technical Academy 9-12	1999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	8.5

Source: N.C. Department of Public Instruction. See <http://abcs.ncpublicschools.org/abcs/> for data.

ID = Insufficient data as reported by N.C. Department of Public Instruction

NA = School not open or data not available

Note: Results for 2005–06 are based on a revised accountability model and are not comparable to results from previous years. High growth was referred to as exemplary growth prior to 2002.

on End-of-Grade Tests from 1997–2006, *continued*

Met Expected Growth	Met Exemplary Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite	Met Expected Growth	Met High Growth	Performance Composite
2000–2001			2001–2002			2002–2003			2003–2004			2004–2005			2005–2006		
No	No	65.1	Yes	Yes	68.4	Yes	No	70.3	Yes	Yes	80.3	No	No	62.3	No	No	55.8
No	No	77.1	No	No	71.8	Yes	Yes	72.2	No	No	73.5	Yes	No	78.3	Yes	Yes	83.1
No	No	88.4	Yes	Yes	94.2	Yes	No	85.5	Yes	No	94.2	Yes	No	93.6	No	No	88.1
NA	NA	NA	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	ID	No	No	59.4	No	No	63.5	Yes	No	49.0
Yes	Yes	81.8	Yes	Yes	79.5	No	No	88.6	Yes	No	86.7	NA	NA	NA	Yes	No	88.3
No	No	83.3	No	No	86.8	No	No	87.1	No	No	86.8	Yes	No	90.6	No	No	85.0
Yes	Yes	87.8	Yes	No	89.2	Yes	Yes	90.0	No	No	84.9	Yes	No	92.3	No	No	69.9
No	No	39.8	No	No	48.8	Yes	Yes	55.2	No	No	66.3	No	No	58.1	No	No	38.3
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	No	80.4
No	No	84.2	Yes	No	87.0	Yes	No	90.4	No	No	91.4	No	No	88.6	Yes	No	83.6
No	No	73.3	Yes	No	85.6	Yes	Yes	90.7	Yes	No	93.5	Yes	Yes	93.6	Yes	No	82.9
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Yes	No	51.6	No	No	56.9	Yes	No	60.0
ID	ID	ID	No	No	78.6	Yes	Yes	82.7	Yes	Yes	87.2	No	No	85.1	No	No	66.2
No	No	5.8	Yes	No	16.4	No	No	31.4	Closed								

The N.C. Department of Public Instruction reported ABC data for 99 charter schools in 2005–06. Seven of those charter schools have closed: East Winston Primary School, Lakeside School, Ann Atwater Community School, Rowan Academy, Visions Charter, Laurinburg Charter School, and Imani Institute. In 2006–07, there are 98 charter schools operating in North Carolina, including John H. Baker Charter High, which will close on June 30, 2007. Seven charter schools are in the preliminary planning stages: Charlotte Secondary School, KIPP: Charlotte, Columbus Charter School, Voyager Academy, Pine Lake Preparatory, Neuse Charter School, and the Wilmington Preparatory Academy. Only Columbus Charter in Columbus County and Neuse Charter in Johnston County would be in counties without charter schools.

In conclusion, the academic performance of charter schools—as measured by the ABCs, adequate yearly progress, and cohort graduation rates—needs to improve before North Carolina increases or eliminates the cap on the number of charter schools.

Other Studies of Charter Schools in North Carolina

So how do North Carolina’s charter schools compare to traditional public schools on the whole? In 2004, two studies were published that specifically compared the performance of several charter schools with traditional public schools in North Carolina. Researchers Helen Ladd and Robert Bifulco of the Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy at Duke University published “The Impacts of Charter Schools on Student Achievement: Evidence from North Carolina” in August 2004. This study asked three questions:

Table 2. 2006 Four-Year Cohort High School Graduation Rates by Charter School

School Name	Graduates/ Numerator	Class Size/ Denominator	Percent Graduated
1. Crossroads Charter High	4	28	14.3%
2. Kennedy Charter	3	15	20.0%
3. The Laurinburg Homework Center	7	30	23.3%
4. Crossnore Academy	6	22	27.3%
5. Laurinburg Charter	5	18	27.8%
6. Cape Lookout Marine Science High	18	63	28.6%
7. CG Woodson School of Challenge	12	30	40.0%
8. Baker Charter High	6	14	42.9%
9. Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy	15	31	48.4%
10. New Century Charter	11	22	50.0%
Charters Average			55.3%
11. Gray Stone Day	31	55	56.4%
12. Clover Garden	6	10	60.0%
Statewide Average			68.1%
13. East Wake Academy	16	22	72.7%
14. Community Partners Charter	16	20	80.0%
15. Rocky Mount Preparatory	17	20	85.0%
16. Woods Charter	21	23	91.3%
17. Franklin Academy	24	26	92.3%
18. River Mill Academy	13	14	92.9%
19. Raleigh Charter High	98	101	97.0%

Source: N.C. Department of Public Instruction. 2006 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate by School. See <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/docs/newsroom/news/2006-07/byschool-attach4.pdf>.

Table 3. N.C. Charter Schools That Are Majority African American (2005–06)

#	School Name	County/School System	Percent African American
1	Children’s Village	Lenoir	100.00%
2	Dillard Academy	Wayne	100.00%
3	Laurinburg Charter	Scotland	100.00%
4	Omuteko Gwamaziima	Durham	100.00%
5	Healthy Start	Durham	99.10%
6	Highland Charter	Gaston	99.07%
7	Hope Elementary	Wake	98.95%
8	Maureen Joy	Durham	98.62%
9	Sugar Creek Charter	Charlotte/Mecklenburg	98.19%
10	Torchlight Academy	Wake	98.19%
11	Success Institute	Iredell	97.94%
12	PreEminent Charter	Wake	97.89%
13	SPARC Academy	Wake	96.94%
14	Imani Institute	Guilford	95.31%
15	Kinston Charter	Lenoir	94.63%
16	Crossroads Charter	Charlotte/Mecklenburg	94.15%
17	Kennedy Charter	Charlotte/Mecklenburg	92.86%
18	Rowan Academy	Rowan	90.90%
19	Carter Community	Durham	90.51%
20	Gaston College Prep	Northampton	89.87%
21	Quality Education Academy	Forsyth/Winston-Salem	87.37%
22	Guilford Charter	Guilford	85.53%
23	East Winston Primary	Forsyth/Winston-Salem	84.62%
24	Alpha Academy	Cumberland	80.00%
25	Baker Charter	Wake	79.17%
26	CG Woodson	Forsyth	77.59%
27	Research Triangle Charter	Wake	76.15%
28	Downtown Middle	Forsyth/Winston-Salem	71.90%
29	Community Charter	Charlotte/Mecklenburg	70.83%
30	Laurinburg Homework Center	Scotland	66.02%
31	Ann Atwater	Durham	65.63%
32	Provisions Academy	Lee	62.66%
33	Rocky Mount Preparatory	Nash	61.13%
34	Sallie B. Howard*	Wilson	59.02%
35	Kestrel Heights	Durham	57.75%
36	STARS Charter	Moore	56.79%
37	Forsyth Academies	Forsyth/Winston-Salem	51.24%

N.C. Charter Schools That Are Majority Native American

#	School Name	County/School System	Percent Native American
1	Haliwa-Saponi Tribal	Warren	88.08%
2	CIS Academy	Robeson	85.86%

* The Sallie B. Howard School also has a significant Hispanic population — 38.53% of the student population. The total percentage of non-white students at this school is 97.85%.

Source: North Carolina Public Schools Statistical Profile 2006. Table 36. Charter School Membership by Race and Sex, 2005–06, pp. 317–18. See http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/docs/fbs/resources/data/statistical_profile/2006profile.pdf.

Table 4. Number of Charter Schools in N.C., by County (2006–07)

County	Number	County	Number	County	Number
1. Alamance	3	35. Franklin	1	69. Pamlico	1
2. Alexander	0	36. Gaston	2	70. Pasquotank	0
3. Alleghany	0	37. Gates	0	71. Pender	0
4. Anson	0	38. Graham	0	72. Perquimans	0
5. Ashe	0	39. Granville	0	73. Person	2
6. Avery	2	40. Greene	0	74. Pitt	0
7. Beaufort	1	41. Guilford	4	75. Polk	0
8. Bertie	0	42. Halifax	0	76. Randolph	0
9. Bladen	0	43. Harnett	0	77. Richmond	0
10. Brunswick	1	44. Haywood	0	78. Robeson	1
11. Buncombe	3	45. Henderson	1	79. Rockingham	1
12. Burke	1	46. Hertford	0	80. Rowan	0
13. Cabarrus	1	47. Hoke	0	81. Rutherford	1
14. Caldwell	0	48. Hyde	0	82. Sampson	0
15. Camden	0	49. Iredell	3	83. Scotland	1
16. Carteret	2	50. Jackson	1	84. Stanly	1
17. Caswell	0	51. Johnston	0	85. Stokes	0
18. Catawba	0	52. Jones	0	86. Surry	1
19. Chatham	2	53. Lee	1	87. Swain	1
20. Cherokee	1	54. Lenoir	2	88. Transylvania	1
21. Chowan	0	55. Lincoln	1	89. Tyrrell	0
22. Clay	0	56. Macon	0	90. Union	1
23. Cleveland	0	57. Madison	0	91. Vance	1
24. Columbus	0	58. Martin	0	92. Wake	14
25. Craven	0	59. McDowell	0	93. Warren	1
26. Cumberland	1	60. Mecklenburg	9	94. Washington	0
27. Currituck	0	61. Mitchell	0	95. Watauga	1
28. Dare	0	62. Montgomery	0	96. Wayne	1
29. Davidson	0	63. Moore	2	97. Wilkes	1
30. Davie	0	64. Nash	1	98. Wilson	1
31. Duplin	0	65. New Hanover	1	99. Yadkin	0
32. Durham	6	66. Northampton	1	100. Yancey	0
33. Edgecombe	0	67. Onslow	0	Total:	93
34. Forsyth	5	68. Orange	2		

Number of 100 counties without charter schools: 54

Source: <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/docs/charterschools/resources/charterschoolqa.ppt#269,19>.
Charter Schools by County 2006–2007 School Year.

**Table 5. 10 Highest-Performing Charter Schools
on End-of-Grade Tests, 2005–06**

	School System	School Name	Grade Span	Performance Composite Score
1.	Charlotte/Mecklenburg	Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy	K-8	100.0
2.	Wake County	Quest Academy	K-8	99.1
3.	Wake County	Magellan Charter	4-8	97.9
4.	Wake County	Raleigh Charter High	9-12	97.6
5.	Wake County	Exploris	6-8	94.6
6.	Charlotte/Mecklenburg	Lake Norman Charter	5-8	92.4
7.	Guilford County	Greensboro Academy	K-8	90.5
8.	Stanly County	Gray Stone Day	9-12	89.4
9.	Chatham County	Woods Charter	1-12	88.3
10.	Jackson County	Summit Charter	K-8	88.2

**10 Lowest-Performing Charter Schools
on End-of-Grade Tests, 2005–06**

	School System	School Name	Grade Span	Performance Composite Score
1.	Scotland County	Laurinburg Charter	9-12	15.3
2.	Lee County	Provisions Academy	6-12	18.1
3.	Charlotte/Mecklenburg	Kennedy Charter	6-12	21.4
4.	Charlotte/Mecklenburg	Crossroads Charter High	9-12	23.7
5.	Scotland County	The Laurinburg Homework Center	8-12	25.7
6.	Robeson County	CIS Academy	6-8	33.0
7.	Durham County	Healthy Start Academy	K-8	38.0
8.	Wake County	Torchlight Academy	K-6	38.3
9.	Wake County	Baker Charter High	9-12	38.7
10.	Wake County	SPARC Academy	K-8	42.7

Source: N.C. Department of Public Instruction. Kennedy Charter, Laurinburg Homework Academy, Provisions Academy, Crossroads Charter High, Lakeside School, Laurinburg Charter, Grandfather Academy, Crossnore Academy, and Baker Charter High are allowed to use alternative assessments due to the high-risk nature of their students. Laurinburg Charter closed in June 2006. Baker Charter High is located in the Wake County Jail. In October 2006, the State Board of Education voted to revoke the school's charter. It will close June 30, 2007.

Table 7. Revocations and Voluntary Relinquishments of

County	Charter School	Year Approved	Year Opened
1. Pitt	Right Step Academy	1997	1997
2. Forsyth	LIFT Academy	1997	1997
3. Wilkes	Elizabeth Grinton Charter School	1997	1997
4. Wayne	Bright Horizons	1997	1997
5. Caldwell	Nguza Saba Charter School	1997	1997
6. Wake	Bonner Academy	1997	1997
7. Onslow	PHASE Academy	1998	1998
8. Orange/Chapel Hill City School	School in the Community	1997	1997
9. Orange	Odyssey Charter School	1997	Withdrew — did not open (one year delay)
10. Martin	Bear Grass Charter School	1998	Withdrew — did not open
11. Wake	Sankore	1998	1998
12. Cumberland	OMA's Inc. Charter School	1998	1998
13. Durham	Partnership Academy	1998	Withdrew — did not open (one year delay)
14. Wilkes	Arts and Basics Charter	1998	1998
15. Wayne	Change for Youth	1998	1998
16. Catawba	Catawba Valley Tech	1998	Withdrew — did not open
17. Wilkes	Wilkes Technical High	1998	1998
18. Iredell	Developmental Day School	1999	1999
19. Wake	Hope Elementary School	1999	Withdrew — did not open (one year delay)
20. Harnett	Harnett Technical High School	1999	Withdrew — did not open
21. Cabarrus	Cabarrus County Charter School	1999	Withdrew — did not open

Charters Authorizing Charter Schools, 1997–2006

Action	Date	Reason for Action
Revocation	January 2001	Financial noncompliance
Revocation	December 1999	Financial noncompliance
Revocation	December 1999	Exceptional children noncompliance
Revocation	August 1999	Student enrollment/business
Revocation	January 1999	Student numbers/business
Revocation	May 1998	Financial/governance noncompliance
Revocation	December 2000	Financial noncompliance
Relinquishment	May 1999	Enrollment/business
Relinquishment	January 1998	Incomplete planning
Relinquishment	August 2001	Incomplete planning
Relinquishment	March 2001	Enrollment/business
Relinquishment	December 2000	Enrollment/business
Relinquishment	August 2000	Incomplete planning
Relinquishment	October 1999	Enrollment/business
Relinquishment	September 1999	Enrollment/business
Relinquishment	April 1999	Enrollment
Relinquishment	November 1998	Enrollment/business
Relinquishment	January 2002	Inadequate funding/declining enrollment
Relinquishment	February 2000	Incomplete planning
Relinquishment	September 1999	Incomplete planning
Relinquishment	February 2000	Incomplete planning

(continues)

Table 7. Revocations and Voluntary Relinquishments of

County	Charter School	Year Approved	Year Opened
22. Mecklenburg	Tarheel Challenge-West	1999	Withdrew—did not open
23. Sampson	Tarheel Challenge-East	1999	Withdrew—did not open
24. Harnett	Harnett Early Childhood Academy	1998	1998
25. Durham	Turning Point Academy	1998	1998
26. Durham	Success Academy	1999	1999
27. Stanly	Stanly County Outreach	1999	1999
28. Bladen	Tar Heel Charter High School	2000	Withdrew—did not open
29. Guilford	Oak Ridge Charter School	2001	Withdrew—did not open
30. Wayne	Wayne Technical Academy	1998	1999
31. Forsyth	East Winston Primary School	1998	1998
32. Alamance	Lakeside School	1997	1997
33. Durham	Ann Atwater Community School	2001	2001
34. Rowan	Rowan Academy	1999	1999
35. Catawba	Visions Charter	1997	1997
36. Scotland	Laurinburg Charter School	1998	1998
37. Guilford	Imani Institute	1998	1998
38. Wake	John H. Baker Charter High	1997	1997

Note: One school, Chapel Hill Free Academy formerly Village Charter, is no longer open. It is unclear why it is not on this list from DPL.

Source: Data maintained by N.C. Office of Charter Schools and meeting records of the State Board of Education.

Charters Authorizing Charter Schools, 1997–2006, *continued*

Action	Date	Reason for Action
Relinquishment	May 1999	Unresolved legal issues
Relinquishment	May 1999	Unresolved legal issues
Relinquishment	February 2002	Enrollment/business
Relinquishment	August 2002	Enrollment/business
Relinquishment	August 2002	Enrollment/business
Relinquishment	August 2002	Enrollment
Relinquishment	May 2002	Facilities
Relinquishment	July 2002	Facilities
Renewal not approved	July 2003	Business, enrollment, reporting, governance
Revocation	December 2003	Governance, business, reporting, financial
Relinquishment	December 2005	Closing of children's facility
Relinquishment	December 2005	Low enrollment
Relinquishment	February 2006	Finance
Relinquishment	March 2006	Low enrollment/finance
Renewal not approved	June 2006	Governance, finance, enrollment
Revocation	July 2006	Governance, finance
Revocation	Effective June 30, 2007	Governance