# The State of Public Education IN BUFFALO

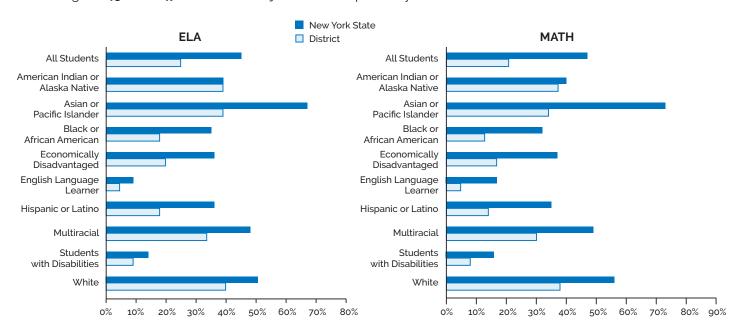
## About the Buffalo City School District

The Buffalo City School District is one of the "Big 5" school districts in New York. It enrolls over 30,505 students in 46 district schools.



#### Buffalo district schools are performing below the state average.

The proficiency rate, which is a determinant of whether a student is a performing on grade level, in Buffalo district schools on the SY2018-19 ELA exam was only **25**% and **21**% in math compared to the statewide average of **45**% and **47**% for those subject areas, respectively.

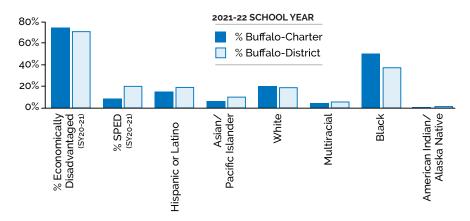


**NOTE**: Certain subgroup populations were so small in the district and charter school enrollment, that they were not measurable. In those cases, proficiency data has been omitted by the state. SY18-19 data is provided as this is the last year of academic testing data with a statistically representative level of student participation.

### About Charter Schools in Buffalo

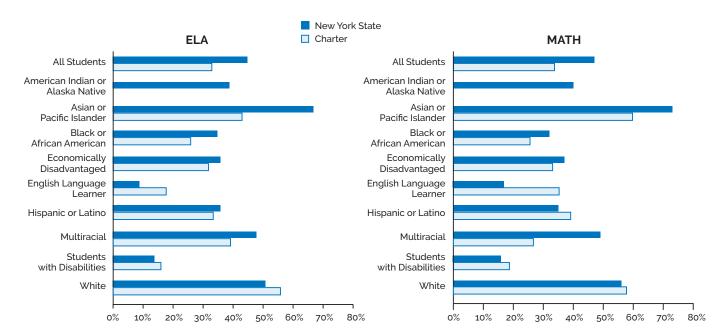
As of the Fall of 2021, there are 21 charter schools operating in the Buffalo metro area serving nearly 12,000 students in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade. The oldest charter schools opened their doors in 2000 and additional schools are planning to open between the Fall of 2022 and 2024 in response to increasing family demand. Charter schools are independent from one another and have the flexibility to design their own programs.

Buffalo charter schools serve predominantly students who are Black and economically disadvantaged.



#### Buffalo charter schools are working to close opportunity gaps for students.

The overall proficiency rates for Buffalo charter schools trailed the statewide average on the SY18-19 ELA and math exams. Nonetheless, proficiency rates for students with disabilities, White students, Hispanic students, and English Language Learners attending charter schools exceeded the state average for these populations on either or both the ELA and math exams. In addition to preparing students for success on state assessments, these schools are capable of designing their curriculum to meet the needs of their community. Among the unique curricular options offered by many schools, there exist charter schools in Buffalo with specialized programs focused on careers in the health sciences, expeditionary learning, and African culture and heritage. These instructional design elements are made possible through a system that allows for both creativity in instruction while maintaining high standards of accountability.



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