

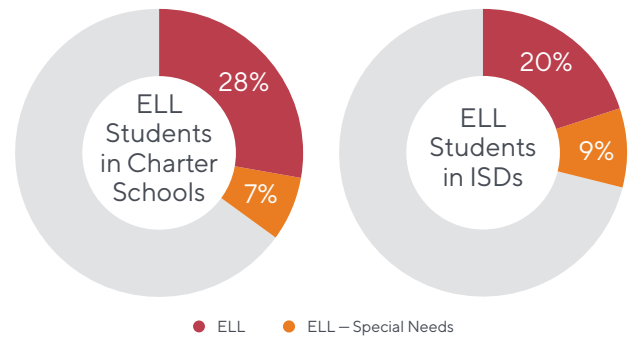
English Language Learners Fly Higher in Texas Public Charter Schools

BY TIMOTHY MATTISON, Ph.D.

Every English language learner (ELL) should have the opportunity to attend a high-quality public school that best meets their needs and helps them to reach their full potential. In Texas, all traditional district and public charter schools have similar requirements regarding ELLs and follow the same process for identifying, assessing and providing services to ELL students to help them become fluent in English as soon as possible.

Charter Schools Are Delivering Stronger Outcomes

- Texas public charter schools have higher rates of ELLs, enrolling one third more ELL students than ISDs.
- Charter schools are helping many more English learners translate their language fluency gains into better academic performance, compared to ISDs.
- A higher percentage of English learners at charter schools are on grade level in every tested subject: science, math, ELA, social studies, and writing.



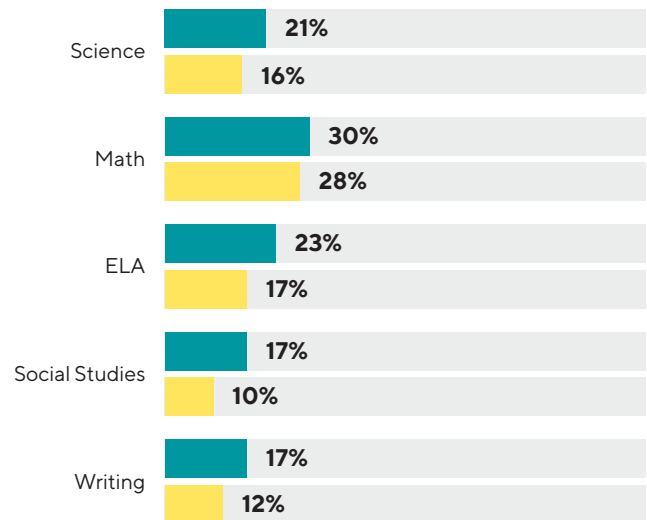
What Explains Charter School Success

Every ELL student in Texas should have the opportunity to attend a high-quality public school that best meets their needs and helps them to reach their full potential. ELL students in public charter schools do better academically than those in traditional ISDs, even though charter schools serve 8% more of them. And by increasing ELL English proficiency and getting them more prepared for college, public charter schools are ensuring that higher rates of ELLs will enroll in college.

Charter Schools are doing this by:

- Aligning curriculum, professional development, and teacher resources with state standards not only for academic content but also for ELLs.
- Spending 3 times as much of their total operating revenue on bilingual and ESL programs.
- Having more ESL and Bilingual-certified educators and ensuring they are collaborating with their colleagues on planning lessons. Unlike other kinds of certification for teachers, this training helps lead to stronger outcomes for students.

Percent of ELLs Receiving ELL Services & On Grade Level



School Operations Metrics Related to ELL Students

