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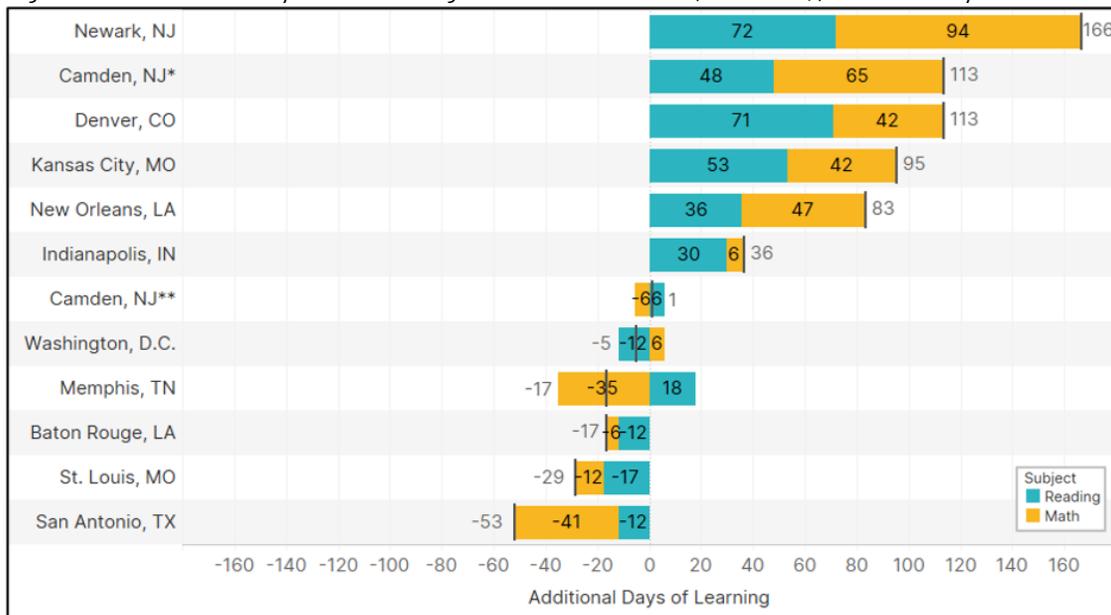
Revised March 24, 2021 11:00 A.M. EST

**NEW STANFORD STUDY: NEWARK CHARTERS POST BEST STUDENT LEARNING GAINS
IN THE NATION**

*Newark's Public Charter Schools Outperform Newark's Selective Enrollment Magnet Schools
In Math Three Years In A Row*

(TRENTON) - According to a [new study out of Stanford University](#), Newark's public charter schools are the best in the nation, with student learning gains outpacing every other city studied since 2019. Newark charter schools posted student learning gains of 72 additional school days per year in Reading and 94 additional school days per year in Math compared to the state average, far outperforming all other cities and ranking them #1 in the country.

Figure 1: Additional Days of Learning in Charter Schools, 2016-17‡, CREDO City Studies



‡ Latest year of data available for all 11 cities; * Camden, NJ Renaissance Schools; ** Camden, NJ Charter Schools
Source: <https://credo.stanford.edu/studies/city-school-studies>, Days of Learning inferred from standard deviations presented.

The Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO) at Stanford University - which produces rigorous, non-partisan research and evaluation to enhance the body of empirical evidence around education policy - released a new independent analysis about the effectiveness and success of public charter, district, and magnet schools in Newark. The new Newark-specific study, which analyzes a three-year period between 2015 and 2018, found that students in public charter schools posted significantly larger learning gains in all three years of the study that translate into the equivalent of hundreds of additional days of learning compared to the state average in Reading and Math.

The Performance Equivalent of Additional Learning Days Compared to the State Average

Newark Public Charter Schools	
School Year and Subject	Additional Days of Learning
2015-16 Reading	100
2015-16 Math	72
2016-17 Reading	72
2016-17 Math	94
2017-18 Reading	70
2017-18 Math	79

Recently, [New Jersey was hailed the #1 ranked public school system in the nation](#). Overall, public schools in Newark (district, charter, magnet) exhibited *greater growth than the state average* in all three years of the study, adding to the

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already considerable evidence demonstrating that student outcomes in Newark are both improving and being driven by public charter schools.

"This study further validates what we already know - public charter schools in Newark are the best in the nation. Charter schools are an integral part of the public education landscape, particularly in our urban districts, and it's another illustration of how our schools are delivering game-changing outcomes for students who need great public schools the most," **said Harry Lee, President and CEO of the New Jersey Public Charter Schools Association.** "The study also demonstrates that not only can district and charter schools successfully co-exist, they can thrive alongside one another."

Public charter schools are tuition-free public schools run by non-profit organizations open to all students regardless of zip code, race/ethnicity, income or ability level. There are no tests, entrance exams or other special requirements for admission to a charter school. Among Newark's public charter school students, 85% come from low-income backgrounds, 10% are students with disabilities and a vast majority of charter schools have implemented weighted lotteries to serve *more* economically disadvantaged and special needs students through Newark's universal enrollment system. Yet, public charter schools posted stronger learning gains than Newark's magnet schools in Math in all three years of the study. While the district's selective magnet schools posted 8 additional days of learning, public charter schools showed the equivalent of 79 additional days of learning in Math in the last year of the study.

Lee continued, "The fact that public charter schools, which have zero admissions requirements and are preferencing our most disadvantaged kids, are substantially outperforming schools that screen for academic ability and serve fewer economically disadvantaged kids is a true testament to how charter schools are using their flexibility to meet students' individual needs. Public charter schools hire passionate, devoted teachers and give them the freedom and support they need to deliver the great education their students deserve."

Existing achievement data shows that [Newark's public charter school students have outperformed the statewide averages on NJ state exams for two years in a row.](#) Newark currently has 17 public charter schools that serve over 20,000 students - and they are in significant demand among families: more than 8,100 students are on waiting lists, with parents clamoring for more options.

"Every New Jersey child should go to a school that works best for them, and public charter schools are making this happen for kids in Newark. Entry into one of Newark's thriving public charter schools can truly be a ticket to a brighter future for thousands of children. It is a decision that I made for my children and we must demand the same educational opportunity for tens of thousands of children on charter school waiting lists," **said Eron Havard, a New Jersey parent whose child attends North Star Academy Charter School in Newark** and who recently testified at a state budget hearing on behalf of public charter schools.

"In this once-in-century pandemic, schools like ours are overcoming incredible obstacles, and working to meet the unique needs of all of our students. This new analysis is a testament to the extraordinary work of not just the educators and staff at Great Oaks Legacy Charter School, but so many across Newark that continue to put students and families first each and every day," **said Jared Taillefer, Executive Director of Great Oaks Legacy Charter School.** "We have to continue honoring parent choice to ensure that all Newark students have access to a high-quality public education."

About Public Charter Schools

Charter schools are tuition-free public schools run by non-profit organizations open to all students regardless of zip code, race/ethnicity, or ability level. Charter schools operate with more flexibility than traditional district schools in exchange for increased accountability and high financial, academic, and managerial standards by an authorizer.

About the New Jersey Public Charter Schools Association

The New Jersey Public Charter Schools Association (NJPCSA) is the non-profit membership association that represents the state's charter school community and, by extension, charter school students and their parents. There are currently 87 charter schools in New Jersey serving approximately 57,000 students. We are committed to advancing quality public education for New Jersey's children through the cultivation of excellent public charter schools. The Association seeks to influence legislative and policy environments, leverage collective advocacy, and provide resources to support our members in developing and operating high quality, public charter schools.