

Comparison charts

The following pages contain two kinds of charts. The first set of charts (“**School comparisons**”) illustrates how each district school and charter school compares to district averages on indicators selected by A+ Schools. The second set of charts is based on the **Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System (PVAAS)**, which measures growth in PSSA scores.

School comparisons

The charts on pages 12 through 16 show how each school compares to averages at the same grade or level across all schools in the report. Achievement information was compared by grade (all 3rd through 5th grades, for example), while attendance was compared by school configuration (elementary, K-8, middle, or high). Please note that Milliones, Obama, the Science & Technology Academy, and CAPA’s 6th through 8th grades are included on the middle school chart, and CAPA’s 9th through 12th grades are included on the high school chart. Northside Urban Pathways Charter School, also a 6-12 school, is divided by grade level as well. The Environmental Charter School at Frick Park appears on the elementary chart.

This year we added information about enrollment gain or loss from 2007 to 2010.

Although this component of the report is based on averages, readers should not conclude that we are endorsing average achievement.

How to interpret comparisons that group students by race or family income

PSSA test results were compared in these ways:

- All students in a school, a grade span, or a grade compared to averages for all students at that grade span or grade (for example, all third through fifth graders, or all high school seniors)
- Black students in a school, grade span, or grade compared to averages for black students at that grade span or grade
- White students in a school, grade span, or grade compared to averages for white students at that grade span or grade
- Low-income students (eligible for free/reduced-price lunch) in a school, grade span, or grade compared to averages for low-income students at that grade span or grade

Keep in mind that these comparison groups hold even when the school’s population is all one race, or all low-income. For example, a purple arrow (indicating below average) for low-income students in a school with 100% low-income students is still a comparison of those students to averages for low-income students in the same grades, not to all students in those grades.

PVAAS

The Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System (PVAAS) is a measure of growth in PSSA achievement, produced by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). PVAAS reports whether or not each grade in a school met the state’s standard for growth: at least a year’s worth of growth in scores for a year’s worth of schooling. Other measures in this report compare PSSA scores to a standard of proficiency—whether students’ scores fell into the “Advanced” or “Proficient” ranges, or whether their scores are below the standard in the “Basic” or “Below Basic” ranges. By contrast, PVAAS estimates whether or not selected grades made progress, no matter where their starting points were.

PDE calculates PVAAS information differently for high schools. That information is not included in this report.

The charts on pages 17 through 19 show an indicator for fourth through eighth grades in the district’s elementary, K-8, middle, and 6-12 schools; and in charter schools with relevant grade levels. The 6-12 schools are included on the middle school chart. Information for the Environmental Charter School at Frick Park was not available. The indicators show whether cohorts (groups) of students met the growth standard, made less growth than the standard, made even less growth, or made little growth. *Note:* PVAAS analyzes more than one year of data. Therefore, there are no PVAAS reports for third grade, the first year students take the PSSA.

For more information about PVAAS, go to the Pennsylvania Department of Education Web site: www.education.state.pa.us. In the menu on the left, click on “Programs,” then “Programs O-R,” then “PA Value-Added Assessment System (PVAAS).”

Additional information used for school comparisons

Enrollment gain/loss 2007-10

Definition: The percentage of change in enrollment from the 2006-07 school year to the 2009-10 school year. Percentages were calculated by dividing the gain or loss in enrollment by the 2006-07 enrollment number.

Source: PPS.

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PVAAS charts

Elementary schools: 17
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School comparisons: Elementary schools

- ▲ Greater than one standard deviation above the district average
- ▲▲ Greater than two standard deviations above the district average
- Near the district average
- ▼ Greater than one standard deviation below the district average
- ▼▼ Greater than two standard deviations below the district average
- n/a Not applicable or not available (some data were unavailable because there were not enough students in a subgroup for scores to be reported)

The “standard deviation” is a measure of how much schools vary from the district average on the indicators we selected. For the purposes of this report, we determined the number of standard deviations that each school was above or below the average. One standard deviation indicates a substantial difference from the average, and two or more standard deviations indicates an even greater difference from the average.

For Attendance, we compared elementary only. Otherwise, averages include all students at that grade level, whether they attend an elementary or a K-8 school. The charter schools were compared to the district average. For more information about interpreting the chart, see page 11.

	2010 PSSA scores												Enrollment gain/loss 2007-10		
	3rd through 5th grades — All students						3rd through 5th grades — Subgroups of students								
	All students		Low-income		Black		White		White		White				
	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	2010 Attendance		
ALLEGHENY	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	▲	15%
ARSENAL	▼	▼	○	○	▼	○	○	▼	○	▼	○	○	○	○	-7%
BANKSVILLE	○	○	○	○	n/a	n/a	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	10%
BEECHWOOD	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	13%
CONCORD	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	4%
DILWORTH	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	7%
FORT PITT	▼	▼	○	○	○	○	○	○	n/a	n/a	○	○	○	▼	-44%
FULTON	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	7%
GRANDVIEW	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-5%
LIBERTY	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	0%
LINDEN	▲	▲	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	▲	3%
MILLER	▼	▼	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	n/a
MINADEO	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-8%
MORROW	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-18%
NORTHVIEW	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	○	○	-29%
PHILLIPS	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	2%
ROOSEVELT	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	17%
SPRING HILL	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	3%
WEST LIBERTY	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	5%
WHITTIER	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-3%
WOOLSLAIR	▼	▼	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	▼	-18%
FRICK ENV. CHARTER	▲	▲	○	○	▲	▲	▲	▲	○	○	○	○	○	○	n/a
URBAN LEAGUE CHARTER	▲	▲	○	○	▲	▲	▲	▲	n/a	n/a	○	○	○	○	n/a

▼ 3 Greater than three standard deviations below the district average

CHARTER SCHOOL

School comparisons: Middle schools

- Greater than one standard deviation above the district average
- Greater than two standard deviations above the district average
- Near the district average
- Greater than one standard deviation below the district average
- Greater than two standard deviations below the district average
- n/a Not applicable or not available (some data were unavailable because there were not enough students in a subgroup for scores to be reported)

The "standard deviation" is a measure of how much schools vary from the district average on the indicators we selected. For the purposes of this report, we determined the number of standard deviations that each school was above or below the average. One standard deviation indicates a substantial difference from the average, and two or more standard deviations indicates an even greater difference from the average.

For Attendance, we compared middle schools only. Otherwise, averages include all students at that grade level, whether they attend a middle, K-8 or 6-12 school. The charter school was compared to the district average. For more information about interpreting the chart, see page 11.

2010 PSSA scores													Enrollment gain/loss 2007-10
6th through 8th grades All students		6th through 8th grades — Subgroups of students						2010 Attendance					
		Low-income		Black		White							
	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math			
ALLEGHENY	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-1%
ARSENAL	▲	○	○	○	○	○	▲ 3	○	○	○	○	○	-38%
CLASSICAL	○	○	▲	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-5%
SCHILLER	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-29%
SOUTH BROOK	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-6%
SOUTH HILLS	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-13%
STERRETT	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-5%
CAPA (Gr. 6-8)	▲	○	▲	○	▲	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	n/a
MILLIONES (Gr. 6-8)	▲	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	n/a
OBAMA (Gr. 6-8)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	n/a
SCI-TECH (Gr. 6-8)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	n/a
NUP CHARTER (Gr. 6-8)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	n/a

PITTSBURGH 6-12 SCHOOL
CHARTER SCHOOL

▲ 3 Greater than three standard deviations below the district average

School comparisons: K-8 schools (elementary grades)

- Greater than one standard deviation above the district average
- Greater than two standard deviations above the district average
- Near the district average
- Greater than one standard deviation below the district average
- Greater than two standard deviations below the district average
- n/a Not applicable or not available (some data were unavailable because there were not enough students in a subgroup for scores to be reported)

The “standard deviation” is a measure of how much schools vary from the district average on the indicators we selected. For the purposes of this report, we determined the number of standard deviations that each school was above or below the average. One standard deviation indicates a substantial difference from the average, and two or more standard deviations indicates an even greater difference from the average.

For Attendance, we compared K-8s only. Otherwise, averages include all students at that grade level, whether they attend a K-8, elementary, middle, or 6-12 school. The charter school was compared to the district average. For more information about interpreting the chart, see page 1.1.

	2010 PSSA scores												Enrollment gain/loss 2007-10 (all students)	
	3rd through 5th grades All students						3rd through 5th grades – Subgroups of students							
	Low-income		Black		White		Low-income		Black		White			
	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	2010 Attendance (all students)	
ARLINGTON														-12%
BROOKLINE														4%
CARMALT														-5%
COLFAX														11%
GREENFIELD														-18%
FAISON														-19%
KING														-16%
LINCOLN														-12%
MANCHESTER														-21%
MIFFLIN														-6%
MURRAY														-35%
MONTESSORI														10%
SCHAEFFER														-22%
STEVENS														-12%
SUNNYSIDE														-24%
WEIL														-24%
WESTWOOD														-4%
MANCHESTER CHARTER														n/a

3 Greater than three standard deviations below the district average

CHARTER SCHOOL

School comparisons: K-8 schools (middle grades)

- Greater than one standard deviation above the district average
- Greater than two standard deviations above the district average
- Near the district average
- Greater than one standard deviation below the district average
- Greater than two standard deviations below the district average
- n/a Not applicable or not available (some data were unavailable because there were not enough students in a subgroup for scores to be reported)

The “standard deviation” is a measure of how much schools vary from the district average on the indicators we selected. For the purposes of this report, we determined the number of standard deviations that each school was above or below the average. One standard deviation indicates a substantial difference from the average, and two or more standard deviations indicates an even greater difference from the average.

For Attendance, we compared K-8s only. Otherwise, averages include all students at that grade level, whether they attend a K-8, elementary, middle, or 6-12 school. The charter school was compared to the district average. For more information about interpreting the chart, see page 1.1.

	2010 PSSA scores												Enrollment gain/loss 2007-10 (all students)	
	6th through 8th grades All students						6th through 8th grades – Subgroups of students							
	Low-income		Black		White		Low-income		Black		White			
	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Attendance (all students)	
ARLINGTON	○	▲	▲	○	▲	▲	○	▲	○	○	○	▲	○	-12%
BROOKLINE	○	▲	▲	n/a	○	n/a	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	4%
CARMALT	○	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	○	○	○	○	○	○	▲	-5%
COLFAX	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	▲	○	11%
GREENFIELD	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-18%
FAISON	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	n/a	n/a	▲	▲	▲	-19%
KING	▲	▲	▲	○	○	○	○	○	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	-16%
LINCOLN	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	n/a	n/a	○	○	○	-12%
MANCHESTER	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	n/a	n/a	○	○	○	-21%
MIFFLIN	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-6%
MURRAY	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	-35%
MONTESSORI	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	n/a	n/a	○	○	▲	10%
SCHAEFFER	▲	▲	▲	○	○	○	○	○	▲	▲	○	○	○	-22%
STEVENS	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	-12%
SUNNYSIDE	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-24%
WEIL	▲	▲	▲	○	○	○	○	○	n/a	n/a	○	○	▲	-24%
WESTWOOD	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-4%
MANCHESTER CHARTER	○	○	○	▲	○	○	○	○	n/a	n/a	○	○	▲	n/a

▲ 3 Greater than three standard deviations below the district average

CHARTER SCHOOL

School comparisons: High schools

- ▲ Greater than one standard deviation above the district average
- ▲▲ Greater than two standard deviations above the district average
- Near the district average
- ▼ Greater than one standard deviation below the district average
- ▼▼ Greater than two standard deviations below the district average
- n/a Not applicable or not available (some data were unavailable because there were not enough students in a subgroup for scores to be reported)

	2010 PSSA scores											Enrollment gain/loss 2007-10			
	11th grade — All students			11th grade — Subgroups of students									2010 Attendance		
	Reading	Math		Low-income		Black		White							
			Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math					
ALLDERDICE	○	▲	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	▲	-19%	
BRASHEAR	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	2%
CARRICK	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-24%
LANGLEY	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-27%
OLIVER	▼	▼	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-45%
PEABODY	▼	▼	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-16%
PERRY	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-18%
SCHENLEY	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	n/a
WESTINGHOUSE	▼	▼	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	-26%
CAPA (Gr. 9-12)	▲▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	n/a
CAREER CONNECTIONS CHARTER	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	n/a
CITY HIGH CHARTER	▲	○	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	n/a
NUP CHARTER (Gr. 9-12)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	n/a

	2010 SAT			Percent taking test
	SAT Critical Reading	SAT Math		
ALLDERDICE	▲	▲	○	○
BRASHEAR	○	○	○	○
CARRICK	○	○	○	○
LANGLEY	○	○	○	○
OLIVER	▼	▼	○	○
PEABODY	▼	▼	○	○
PERRY	▼	○	○	○
SCHENLEY	○	○	○	○
WESTINGHOUSE	▼	▼	○	○
CAPA (Gr. 9-12)	▲	▲	▲	▲
CAREER CONNECTIONS CHARTER	○	▼	▼	▼
CITY HIGH CHARTER	○	○	n/a	n/a
NUP CHARTER (Gr. 9-12)	▼	▼	▲	▲

The "standard deviation" is a measure of how much schools vary from the district average on the indicators we selected. For the purposes of this report, we determined the number of standard deviations that each school was above or below the average. One standard deviation indicates a substantial difference from the average, and two or more standard deviations indicates an even greater difference from the average.

For Attendance, we compared high schools only. Otherwise, averages include all students at that grade level, whether they attend a 9-12 or 6-12 school. Charter schools were compared to the district average. For more information about interpreting the chart, see page 11.

▲ 3 Greater than three standard deviations above the district average

PITTSBURGH 6-12 SCHOOL
CHARTER SCHOOL

The Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System (PVAAS): A growth measure

PVAAS estimates whether or not each grade level in a school met the state’s standard for growth in PSSA scores: at least a year’s worth of growth for a year’s schooling. For more information, see page 11.

Note: PVAAS analyzes more than one year of PSSA data. Therefore, there are no PVAAS reports for third grade, the first year students take the PSSA.

The chart below shows an indicator for fourth and fifth grades in each district elementary school and the Urban League of Pittsburgh Charter School.

	Elementary schools 2010			
	Grade 4		Grade 5	
	Reading	Math	Reading	Math
ALLEGHENY	▲	▲	▼	▼
ARSENAL	▼	▲	▲	▼
BANKSVILLE	▼	▲	▼	▲
BEECHWOOD	▲	▼	▼	▼
CONCORD	▲	▲	▼	▼
DILWORTH	▼	▼	▲	▲
FORT PITT	▼	▲	▲	▼
FULTON	▲	▲	▼	▲
GRANDVIEW	▲	▲	▲	▼
LIBERTY	▲	▲	▼	▲
LINDEN	▲	▲	▼	▼
MILLER	▼	▼	▲	▲
MINADEO	▲	▼	▼	▲
MORROW	▲	▲	▲	▲
NORTHVIEW	▲	▼	▼	▼
PHILLIPS	▲	▼	▼	▼
ROOSEVELT	▲	▲	▲	▲
SPRING HILL	▼	▼	▼	▲
WEST LIBERTY	▲	▲	▼	▼
WHITTIER	▲	▲	▲	▼
WOOLSLAIR	▼	▼	▼	▼
URBAN LEAGUE	▲	▲	▲	▲
DISTRICT AVERAGE	▲	▲	▼	▼

▲ Students in this cohort (group) met the state’s standard: they made at least a year’s worth of growth.*

▼ Students in this cohort grew less than the standard: they made less than a year’s worth of growth.**

▼ Students in this cohort made even less growth.***

▼ Students in this cohort made little growth.****

CHARTER SCHOOL

* Estimated mean Normal Curve Equivalent (NCE) gain equal to or greater than the growth standard
 ** Estimated mean NCE gain below the growth standard by 1 standard error or less
 *** Estimated mean NCE gain below the growth standard by more than 1 standard error but not more than 2 standard errors

The Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System (PVAAS): A growth measure

PVAAS estimates whether or not each grade level in a school met the state’s standard for growth in PSSA scores: at least a year’s worth of growth for a year’s schooling. For more information, see page 11.

Note: PVAAS analyzes more than one year of PSSA data. Therefore, there are no PVAAS reports for third grade, the first year students take the PSSA.

The chart below shows an indicator for fourth through eighth grades in each district K-8 school and Manchester Academic Charter School. No data were available for the Environmental Charter School at Frick Park.

- ▲ Students in this cohort (group) met the state’s standard: they made at least a year’s worth of growth.*
- ▼ Students in this cohort grew less than the standard: they made less than a year’s worth of growth.**
- ◆ Students in this cohort made even less growth.***
- ▼ Students in this cohort made little growth.****

K-8 schools 2010										
	Grade 4		Grade 5		Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8	
	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math
ARLINGTON	▲	▲	◆	▼	◆	◆	▲	▼	▼	▼
BROOKLINE	▲	▲	▼	▲	◆	▲	▲	▲	▼	▼
CARMALT	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▼
COLFAX	▲	▲	▼	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▼	▼
FAISON	▲	▲	▼	▼	◆	▲	▲	◆	▲	▼
GREENFIELD	▼	▲	◆	▲	▲	◆	▲	▲	▲	▲
KING	◆	▼	▼	▼	◆	▲	▲	▲	▲	▼
LINCOLN	▲	◆	▲	▲	▲	▲	▼	▲	▲	▲
MANCHESTER	▼	▲	▲	▲	◆	▲	▲	◆	▲	▲
MIFFLIN	▼	▼	◆	▼	▼	▼	▲	▼	▲	▲
MONTESSORI	◆	▼	▼	▼	◆	▼	▲	▼	▲	▲
MURRAY	▲	▲	▼	◆	◆	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
SCHAEFFER	▲	◆	▼	▲	▲	▲	▲	▼	▲	▲
STEVENS	▼	▼	▲	▲	▲	▼	◆	▼	◆	◆
SUNNYSIDE	▼	▲	▲	▲	▼	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
WEIL	▼	▼	▲	▲	▲	▼	◆	▼	▲	▼
WESTWOOD	▲	▼	◆	▼	▲	◆	▲	▼	▲	▼
MANCHESTER CHARTER	▲	▼	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▼	◆
DISTRICT AVERAGE	▲	▲	▼	▼	◆	▲	▲	▲	▲	▼





CHARTER SCHOOL

* Estimated mean Normal Curve Equivalent (NCE) gain equal to or greater than the growth standard
 ** Estimated mean NCE gain below the growth standard by 1 standard error or less
 *** Estimated mean NCE gain below the growth standard by more than 1 standard error but not more than 2 standard errors
 **** Estimated mean NCE gain below the growth standard by more than 2 standard errors

The Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System (PVAAS): A growth measure

PVAAS estimates whether or not each grade level in a school met the state’s standard for growth in PSSA scores: at least a year’s worth of growth for a year’s schooling. For more information, see page 11.

The chart below shows an indicator for sixth through eighth grades in each district school and Northside Urban Pathways Charter School.

-  Students in this cohort (group) met the state’s standard: they made at least a year’s worth of growth.*
-  Students in this cohort grew less than the standard: they made less than a year’s worth of growth.**
-  Students in this cohort made even less growth.***
-  Students in this cohort made little growth.****

Middle schools 2010						
	Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8	
	Reading	Math	Reading	Math	Reading	Math
ALLEGHENY						
ARSENAL						
CLASSICAL						
SCHILLER						
SOUTH BROOK						
SOUTH HILLS						
STERRETT						
CAPA (Gr. 6-8)						
MILLIONES (Gr. 6-8)						
OBAMA (Gr. 6-8)						
SCI-TECH (Gr. 6-8)						
NUP CHARTER (Gr. 6-8)	n/a	n/a				
DISTRICT AVERAGE						

PITTSBURGH 6-12 SCHOOL
CHARTER SCHOOL

* Estimated mean Normal Curve Equivalent (NCE) gain equal to or greater than the growth standard
 ** Estimated mean NCE gain below the growth standard by 1 standard error or less
 *** Estimated mean NCE gain below the growth standard by more than 1 standard error but not more than 2 standard errors
 **** Estimated mean NCE gain below the growth standard by more than 2 standard errors