

Section V: Akron, Canton, Toledo, and Youngstown City Analyses

1. Key Findings

- Of these four cities, Canton has the smallest percentage of charter students as a percentage of all public school students (7 percent), and Youngstown has the highest (30 percent).
- Traditional district performance index scores exceeded the charter school average scores in all four cities. In Akron, Canton, and Youngstown, the district PI exceeded the charter school average by 7 to 10 points. Toledo City’s PI slightly exceeded Toledo’s charter school PI.
- More school buildings, charter and district combined, were rated academic watch (D) or worse than effective (B) or better in Akron, Toledo, and Youngstown.

2. Enrollment

Overall public student enrollment (charter plus traditional district) has declined in Akron, Canton, Toledo, and Youngstown over the past ten years. Youngstown has lost the highest percentage of its public school students, losing 26 percent, while Canton has lost the fewest, at 8 percent.

Despite the overall public student losses, charter school enrollment grew over this time period. Toledo’s charter student population grew the most, more than tripling in size. Canton’s charter school enrollment grew the least—and, of these four cities, has by far the smallest charter student population as of 2011-12. From 2002-03 to 2011-12, these four traditional public school districts all lost a significant number of students: from 10 percent (Canton City) to 39 percent (Youngstown City). Table 5.1 shows the enrollment data for these school years.

Table 5.1. K-12 enrollment for Akron, Canton, Toledo, and Youngstown, charter and traditional public school district, 2002-03 to 2011-12. **Note:** Charter school enrollment includes only students whose home district is the comparable traditional district school. Charter school enrollment also includes statewide e-school students, whose home district is the comparable school.¹

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Akron City	29,019	28,265	27,166	26,827	25,758	24,986	23,439	23,395	22,603	22,753
Akron Charter	1,548	1,970	2,430	2,527	2,321	2,533	2,808	3,182	3,196	3,302
Canton City	11,119	10,633	10,530	10,688	10,474	10,273	10,153	9,834	9,750	9,946
Canton Charter	513	657	468	892	918	887	556	606	586	720
Toledo City	34,570	33,194	31,359	29,157	27,984	27,200	25,816	25,195	22,277	23,174
Toledo Charter	2,586	4,152	5,452	6,560	6,362	6,381	7,290	7,498	7,575	8,206
Youngstown City	9,683	9,319	8,843	8,093	7,693	7,215	6,819	6,541	6,088	5,902
Youngstown Charter	1,652	2,052	2,271	2,324	2,612	2,524	2,736	2,690	2,521	2,482

¹ This can be calculated through Ohio Department of Education, “District Payment Reports,” <http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=990&ContentID=10849&Content=132707>

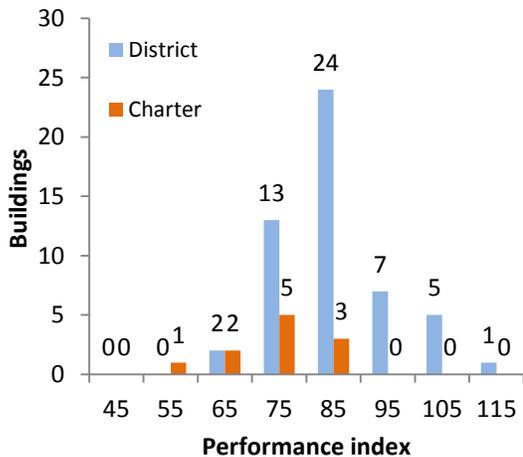
3. Performance index

The performance index (PI) is a measure of aggregate student achievement in a school building or school district. It's a weighted average of proficiency rates, with greater weight given to students who perform at higher performance levels.

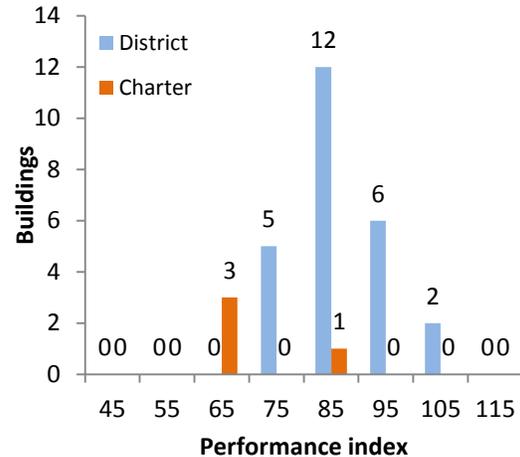
The distribution of performance index scores is similar when these cities' charters and district school buildings are compared. Toledo's charter and district building distribution is remarkably similar [figure 5.1(C)]. In all of these four cities the modal performance index range was between 80 and 89.9, when district and charter school buildings are combined. Four charter schools—three in Toledo and one in Youngstown—met the state goal of having a performance index greater than 100. Twelve public school buildings achieved this goal: 6 from Akron City, 2 from Canton City, 3 from Toledo City, and 1 from Youngstown City.

The composite performance index scores for the traditional districts as a whole were: Akron City 85.6, Canton City 84.5, Toledo City 81.8, Youngstown City 76.1. The average aggregated PI (unweighted by student enrollment) for charters: Akron 74.2, Canton 69.8, Toledo 80.4, Youngstown 69.5. In all four of these cities, then, the traditional districts slightly outperform the charter group average.

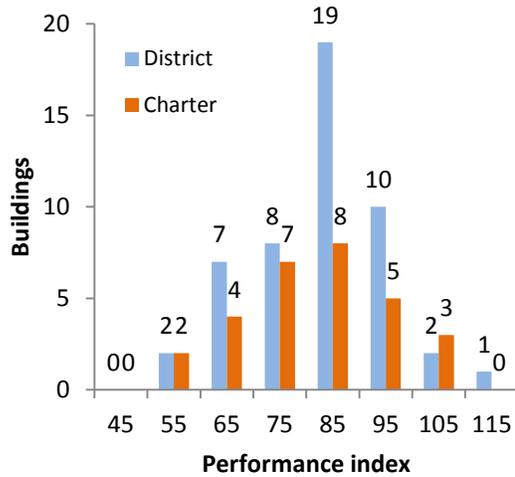
(A) Akron



(B) Canton



(C) Toledo



(D) Youngstown

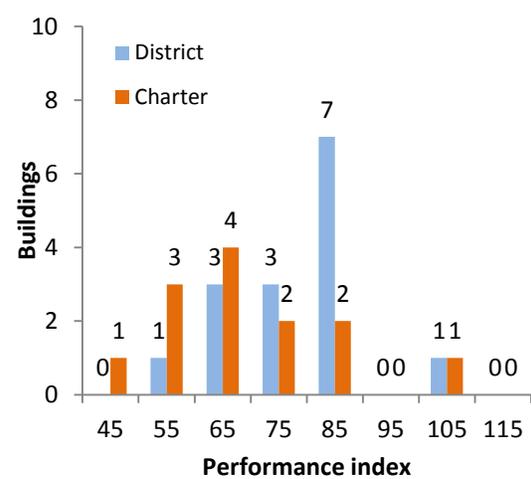


Figure 5.1. Distribution of performance index scores, charter and traditional district school buildings, for Akron, Canton, Toledo, and Youngstown, 2011-12. **Note:** Charter schools that enroll less than 30 percent of students from the comparable city school were excluded. State goal for building-level performance index is 100. Performance index is broken into intervals of 10, with the middle number shown (e.g., interval: 70-79.9 would be shown as 75 on the horizontal axis).

4. Value-added growth

Ohio designates schools as “below,” “met,” or “above” to indicate whether a district or building has provided less than (below), equal to (met), or more than (above) a year’s worth of student growth. In contrast to the PI, which measures raw student achievement, value-added is a measure of the impact that a school has on student learning. Value-added is calculated through a statistical model based on students’ current and past test scores.

The distribution of value-added rating by school building look similar for charters and districts in Akron, Canton, and Youngstown (figure 5.2). In Toledo, however, the charter school distribution tilts toward the above designation, especially relative Toledo City. In fact, the modal school building designation for Toledo City is below. This indicates that, along the value-added performance indicator, Toledo’s charters outperform the district. The overall value-added rating for the traditional public districts are as follows: Akron City, met; Canton City, met; Toledo City, below; Youngstown City, below.

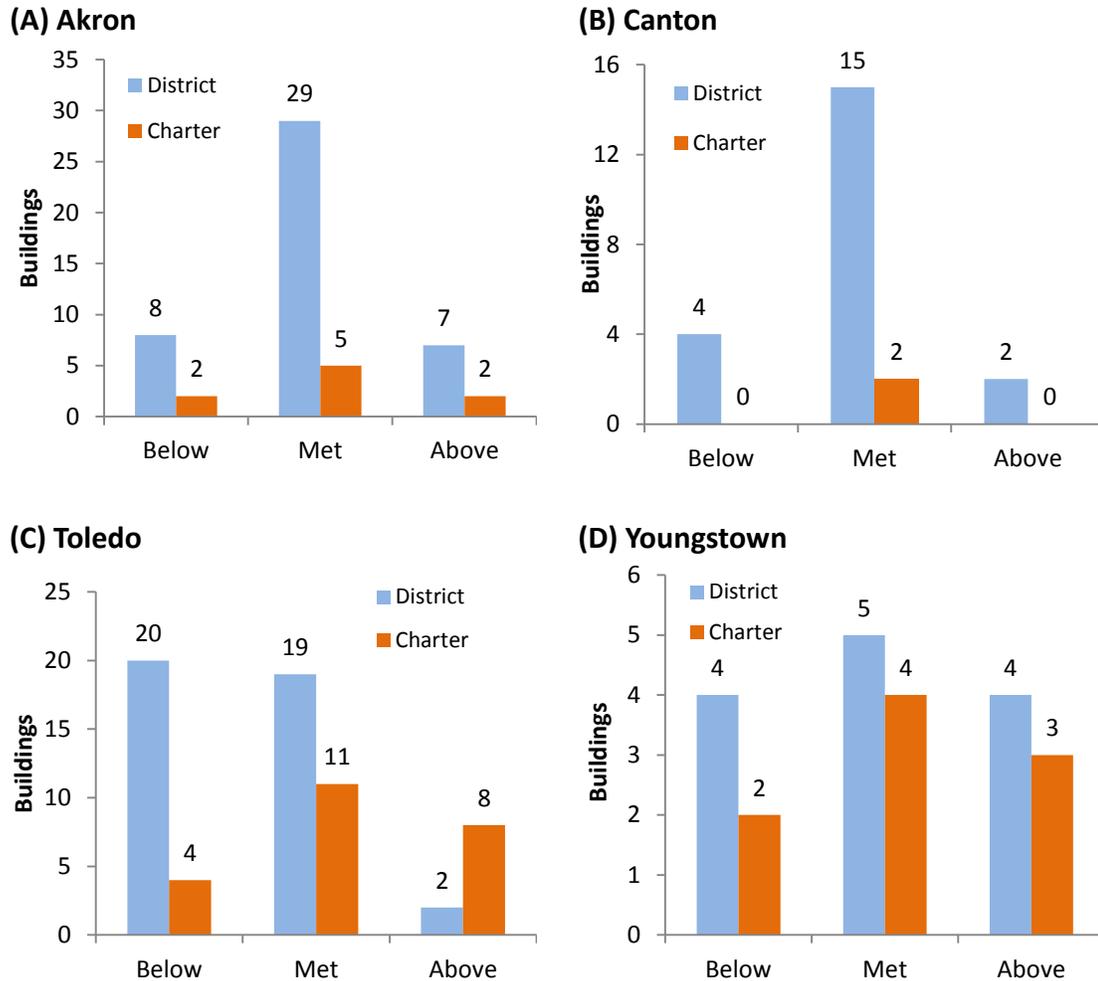


Figure 5.2. Distribution of value-added designations, charter and traditional district school buildings, for Akron, Canton, Toledo, and Youngstown, 2011-12. **Note:** Charter schools that enroll less than 30 percent of its student enrollment from the comparable city school were excluded.

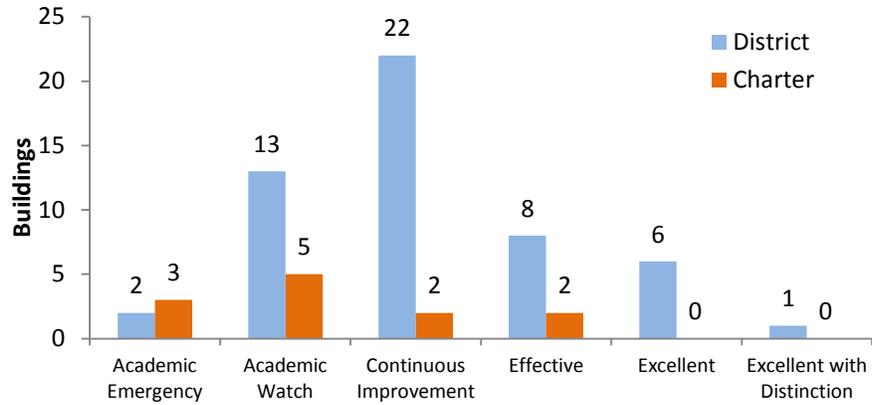
5. Ratings

Based on multiple performance indicators, Ohio gives each public school building and district an overall academic rating. There are six rating categories (from lowest to highest): academic emergency, academic watch, continuous improvement, effective, excellent, and excellent with distinction.

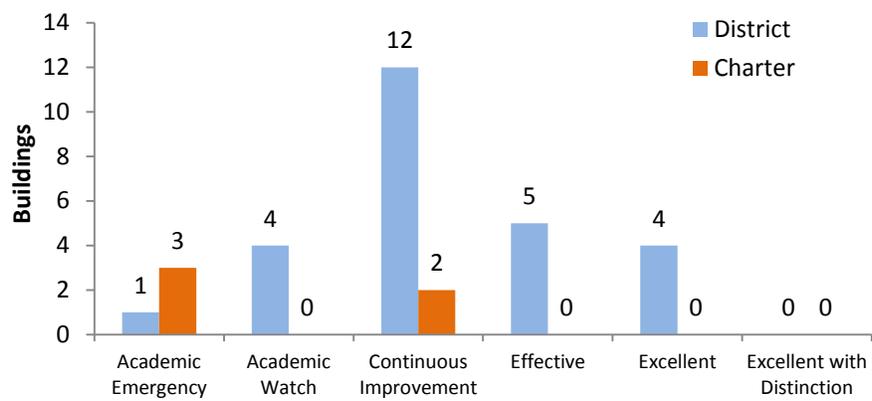
Figure 5.3 shows the ratings distribution, by school building. The state rating of schools in all four cities indicate that schools—both charter and district buildings—are struggling. Of these four cities, there is only one school that achieved an excellent with distinction (A+) designation: King Elementary School in Akron City. The modal rating category (charter and district buildings combined) was continuous improvement (C) for Akron, Canton, and Toledo. For Youngstown, the modal rating was academic emergency (F). The overall ratings for traditional districts were:

Akron City, continuous improvement; Canton City, continuous improvement; Toledo City, academic watch; Youngstown City, academic watch.

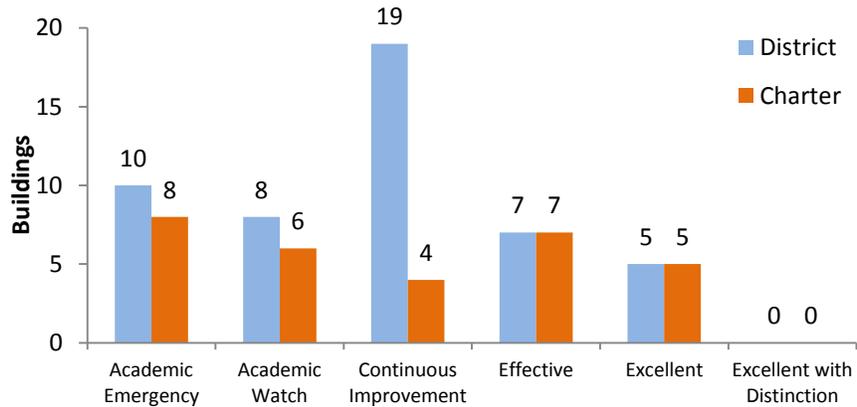
(A) Akron



(B) Canton



(C) Toledo



(D) Youngstown

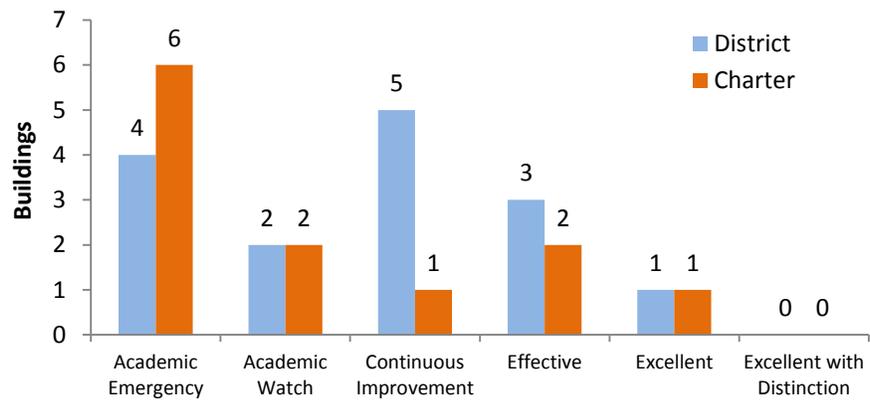


Figure 5.3. Distribution of state ratings, charter and traditional district school buildings, for Akron, Canton, Toledo, and Youngstown, 2011-12. **Note:** Charter schools that enroll less than 30 percent of its student enrollment from the comparable city school were excluded.