

Charter School Research Collaborative: Research Agenda

1. What are the long-term effects of charter schools?

- a. How does attending a charter school affect post-secondary outcomes, including college enrollment, type of college(s) attended, persistence, degree completion, and major?
- b. How does attending a charter school affect labor market trajectory, including employment, earnings, and industry of employment?
- c. What short-term measures accurately predict long-term success?

2. What is the effect of charters on non-test score outcomes? How do these effects relate to testscore effects?

- a. How does attending a charter school affect:
 - i. school climate and student behavior?
 - ii. teenage and early adult childbearing?
 - iii. health outcomes?
 - iv. civic participation?
 - v. criminal justice system involvement?
- b. Which non-test score measures accurately predict long-term success?

3. Which charter school practices have the largest effect on performance?

- a. How do the programs and practices of effective charters e.g., extended school day, more instructional time, data-driven instruction, emphasis on discipline impact student performance?
- b. How do teacher hiring and retention practices impact student performance? (e.g., charters with TFA)
- c. How do disciplinary policies impact student performance? (e.g., integration of restorative justice into disciplinary practices)
- d. How do different curriculum standards impact student performance? (e.g., more time on math and ELA)
- e. Which practices are most effective in closing pandemic learning loss gaps?

4. How does charter performance vary across different contexts?

- a. How has school performance evolved over time?
- b. Does school performance vary across geographic regions and school models (e.g., demographics, family income)?

5. How do charter school effects vary with demographic characteristics, family background, and for students receiving language and special education services?

- 6. How do charter schools impact non-student outcomes?
 - a. How do charter schools' policies affect teacher burnout and improve retention?
 - b. What are the impacts of charters on nearby district schools?

7. How do system-level factors, such as authorizing practices, impact charter school performance?

- a. How do different authorizing practices and performance frameworks impact student performance? (e.g., CMO and non-CMO charters, authorizer renewal criteria)
- b. How do charter school admissions processes affect student access to schools? How do families decide where to send their children?
- c. What is the impact of charter unionization on teachers and students?