



**THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S
CHARTER SCHOOLS PROGRAM
OVERVIEW
JULY 2019**

What is the purpose and history of the
U.S. Department of Education's
Charter Schools Program?

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S CHARTER SCHOOLS PROGRAM (CSP) HAS FOUR MAIN STATUTORY PURPOSES:

1. • Providing financial assistance for the planning, program design, and initial implementation of public charter schools;
2. • Evaluating the effects of public charter schools, including effects on students, student academic achievement, staff, and parents;
3. • Expanding the number of high-quality charter schools available to students across the United States; and
4. • Encouraging States to provide support to charter schools for facilities financing.

THE CSP HAS PROVIDED \$3.9 BILLION TO FUND THE STARTUP, REPLICATION AND EXPANSION OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS.

The CSP has awarded **\$3.9 billion** for the creation of charter schools since its inception in 1995, through three grant competitions:

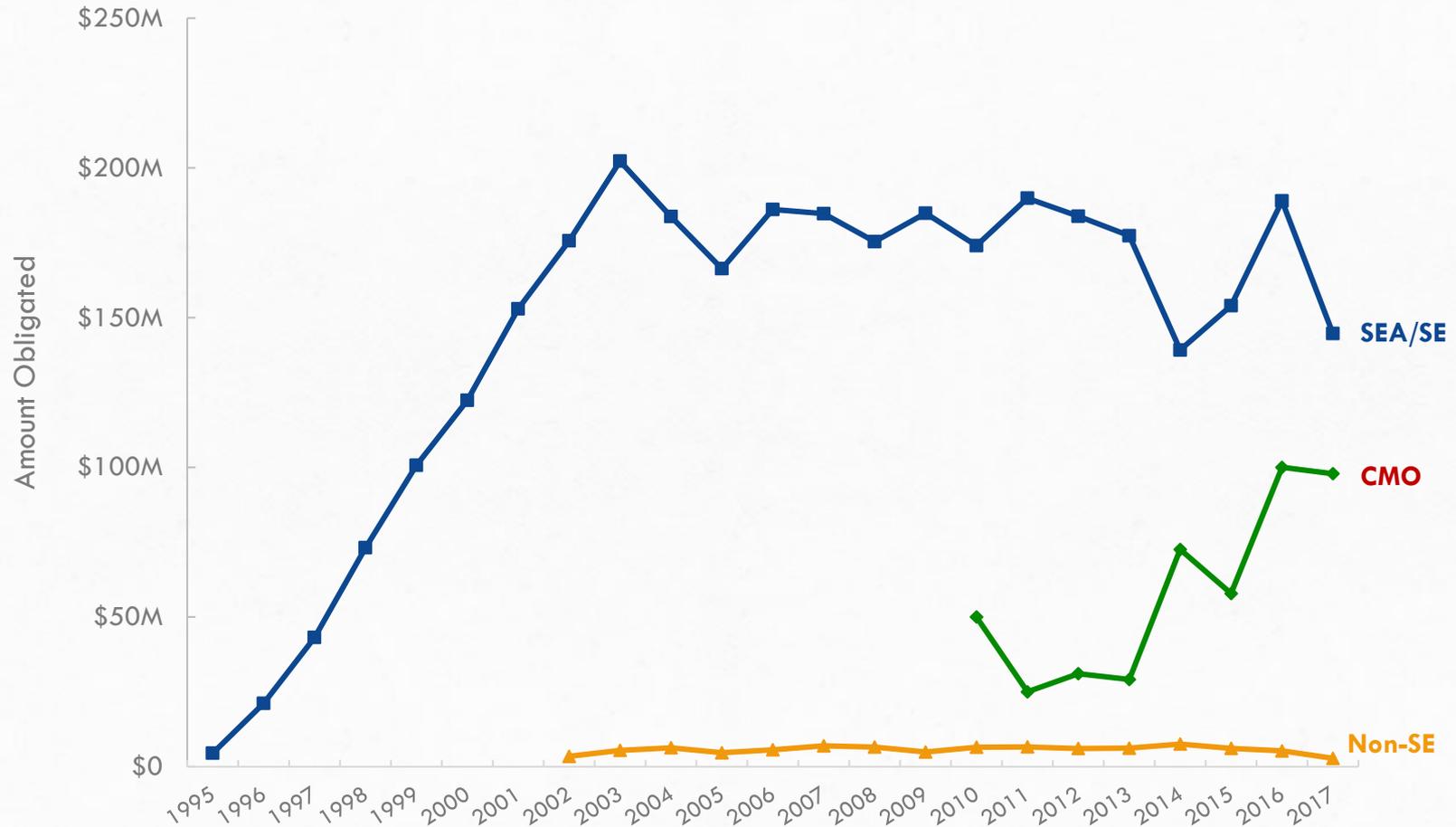


1. **State Educational Agencies/
State Entities (SEA/SE):**
\$3.3 billion from 1995-2017
2. **Replication and Expansion of
High-Quality Charter Schools (CMO):**
\$463 million from 2010-2017
3. **Non-State Entities (Non-SE):**
\$91 million from 2002-2017

Federal funds have also helped charter schools find suitable facilities, disseminate promising charter school practices, promote exemplary collaborations with traditional public schools, and invest in national activities and initiatives that support charter schools.

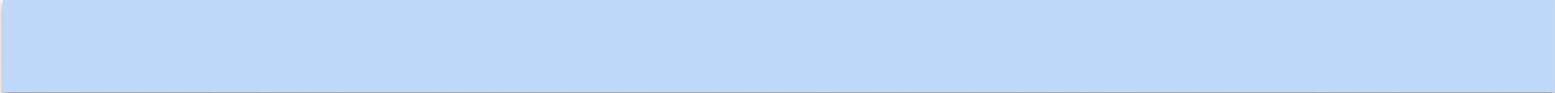
NOTE: This presentation focuses only on the SEA/SE, CMO, and non-SE grants.

THE MAJORITY OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL GRANTS ARE PROVIDED THROUGH THE SEA/SE PROGRAM



CSP AWARDS HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANT—AVERAGING \$499,818 PER OPERATIONAL PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL SINCE 2006.

\$499,818 average award per public charter school open as of SY 2016-17 that had received CSP funding between SY 2006-07 and SY 2016-17



\$164,085 average award per prospective public charter school that had received CSP funding between SY 2006-07 and SY 2016-17¹



¹Prospective schools refers to schools that received CSP funds, but have not yet opened a school—this encompasses recent recipients that may still open a school as well as recipients where it is unlikely that they will open a school.

Between SY 2006-07 and SY 2016-17 how many **schools and students have benefitted** from the SEA/SE, CMO, and non-SE programs?¹

¹2006 was the first year that SEAs/SEs were required to report comprehensive data on subgrantees.

CSP HAS FUNDED NEARLY 45% OF OPERATIONAL PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS, SERVING 1.3 MILLION STUDENTS.

As of SY 2016-17:

7,014 public charter schools were open nationwide

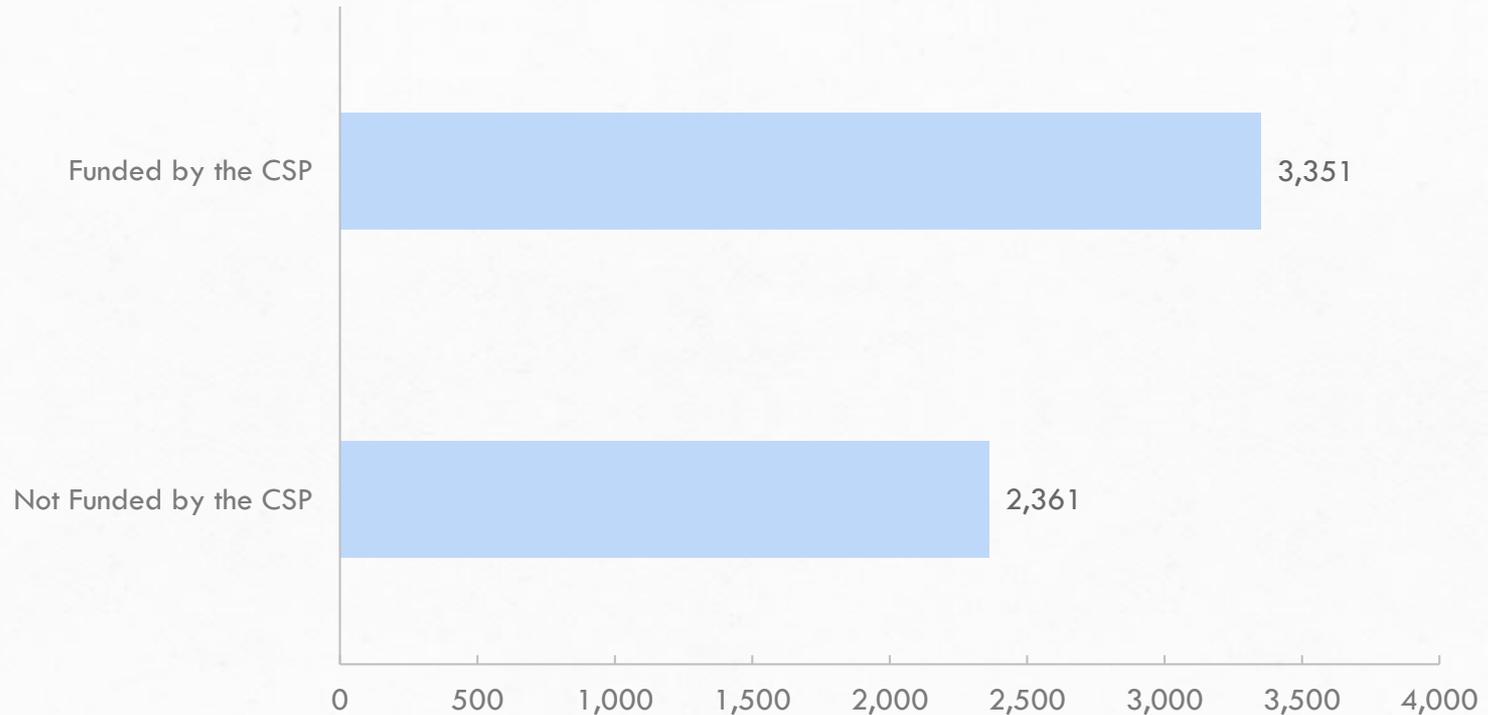
3,138 of these public charter schools had received CSP funding between SY 2006-07 and SY 2016-17



45% (3,138/7,014) of public charter schools operating had received CSP funding during the period of SY 2006-07 and SY 2016-17

1.3 million students were served by these schools in 2016-17

CSP FUNDED NEARLY 60% OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS OPENED BETWEEN SY 2006-07 AND SY 2016-17.



Number of Charter Schools Opened Between SY 2006-07 and SY 2016-17

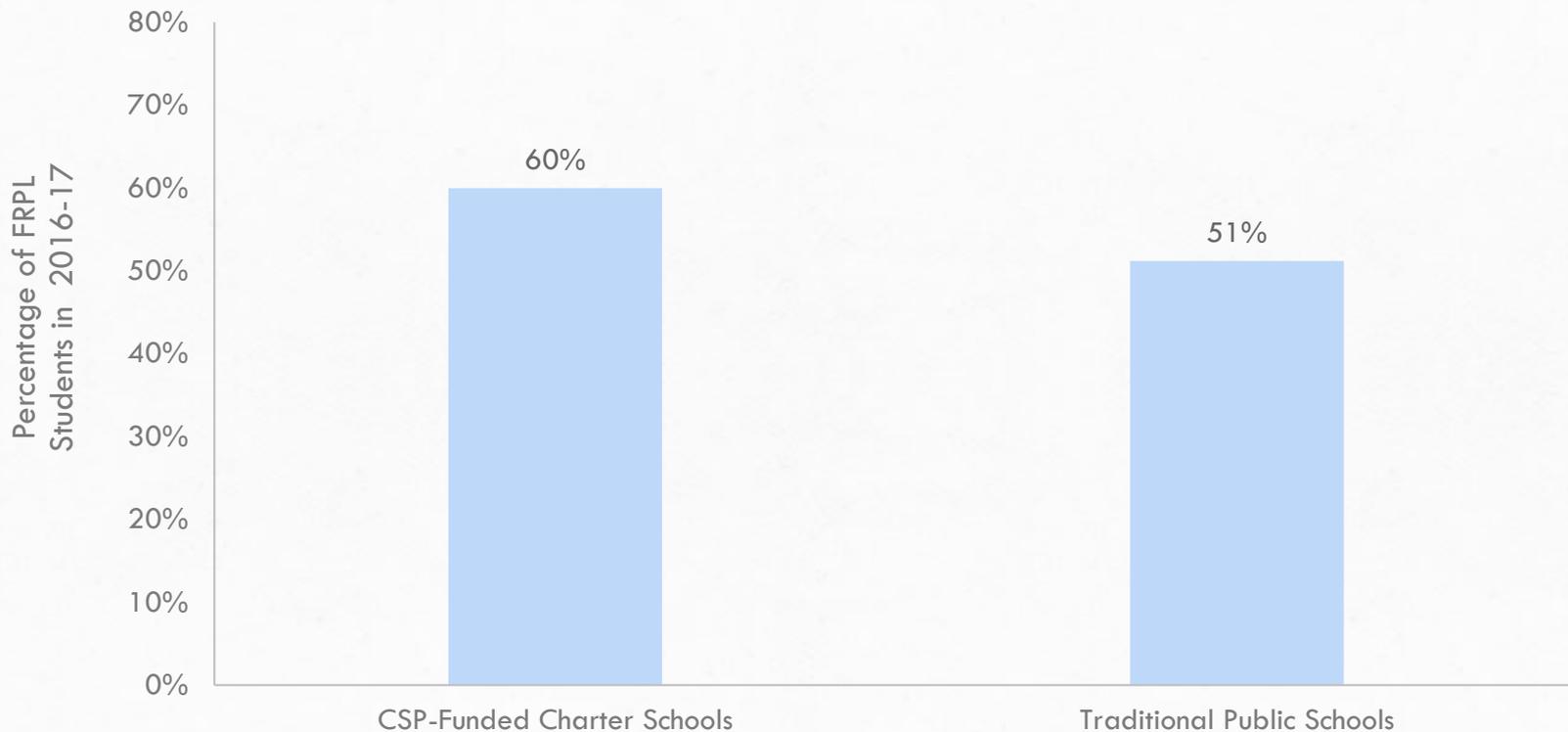
Which students are benefitting from CSP funds?

CSP-FUNDED SCHOOLS SERVED HIGHER PERCENTAGES OF BLACK AND HISPANIC STUDENTS IN 2016-17.

	CSP-Funded Schools (n = 3,129)		Traditional Public Schools (n = 88,320)	
	n	%	n	%
Total number of students	1,341,480	100.0%	47,266,542	100.0%
Hispanic	454,605	33.9%	12,282,085	26.0%
Black	409,010	30.5%	6,901,043	14.6%
White	371,462	27.7%	23,268,443	49.2%
Asian	50,637	3.8%	2,440,986	5.2%
Two or more races	43,410	3.2%	1,719,774	3.6%
American Indian/Alaska Native	7,759	0.6%	482,088	1.0%
Hawaiian Native/Pacific Islander	4,597	0.3%	172,123	0.4%

Source: 2016-17 Common Core of Data.

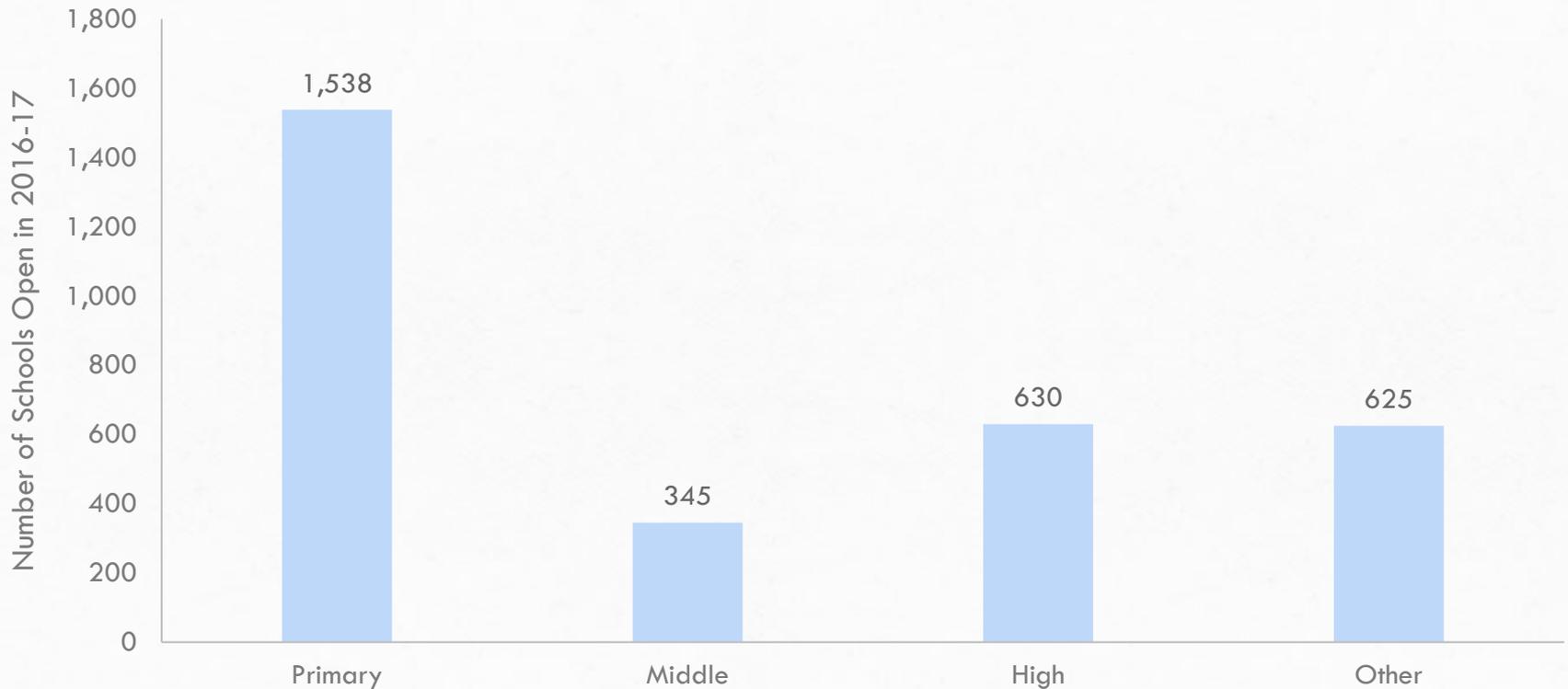
CSP-FUNDED SCHOOLS SERVED HIGHER PERCENTAGES OF LOW-INCOME STUDENTS IN 2016-17.



Source: 2016-17 Common Core of Data.

Note: The percentages are based on counts of students qualifying for free and reduced price lunch (FRPL) and Direct Certification counts when FRPL counts were not available or when schools had values of “3” (which likely indicates the counts were masked due to privacy protections). Schools that had missing data or had values of “3” for the FRPL counts were excluded from the analysis. In the following states, at least 15% of the CSP-funded charter schools were excluded from the analysis: Arizona, Delaware, Idaho, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

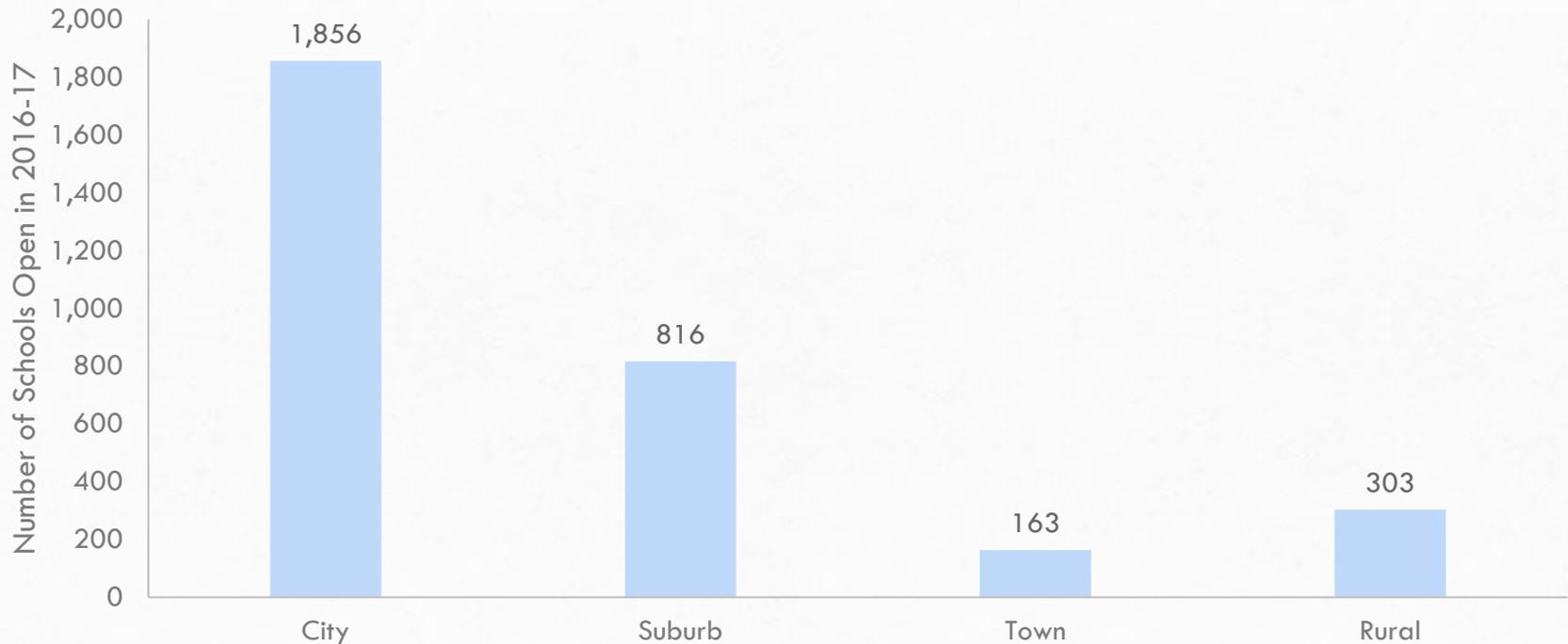
CSP-FUNDED PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS SERVE STUDENTS AT EVERY GRADE LEVEL IN 2016-17.



Source: 2016-17 Common Core of Data.

Note: Categories as defined by Common Core of Data coding system.

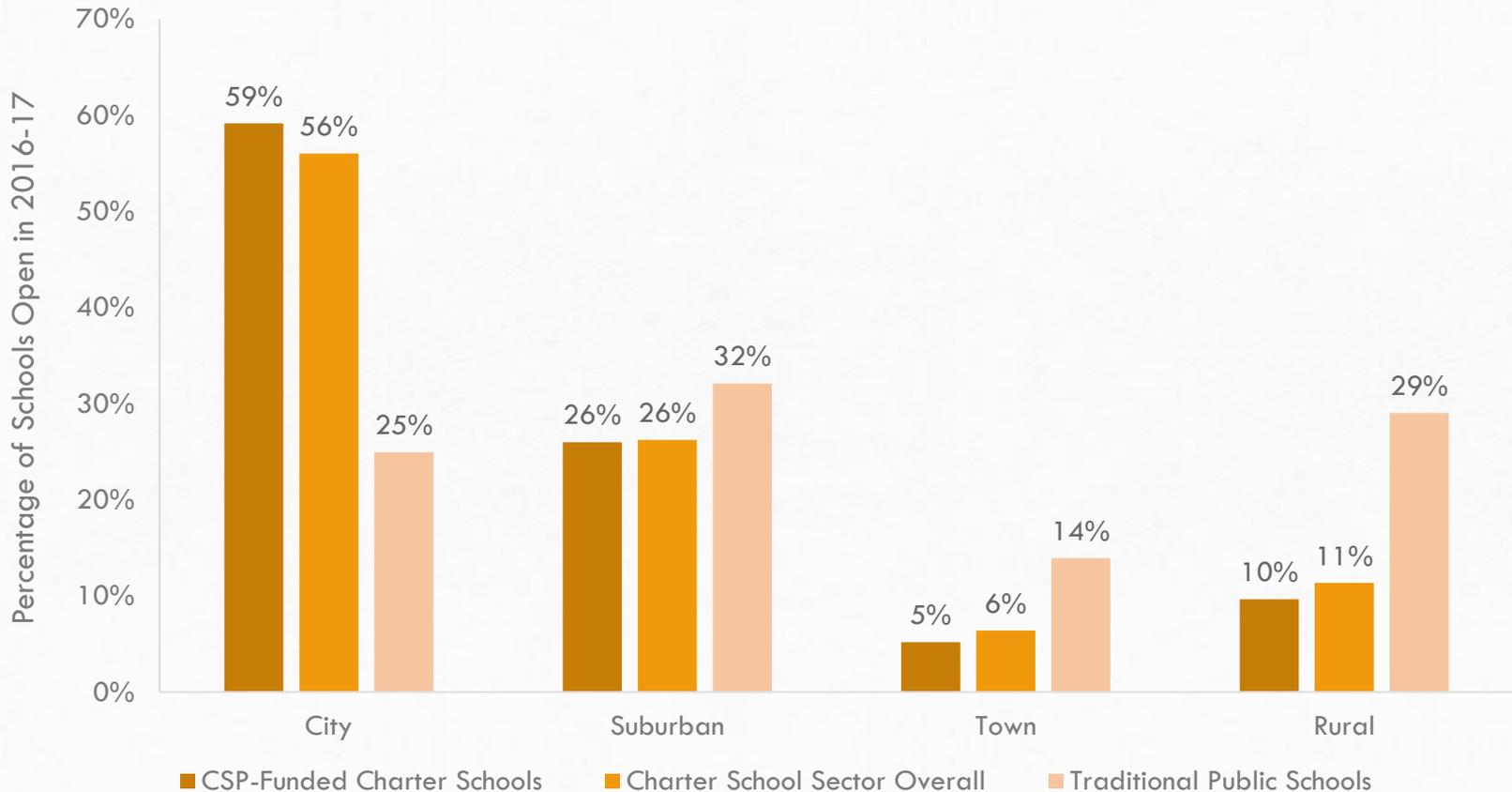
THE CSP FUNDS PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS IN A VARIETY OF SETTINGS IN 2016-17, WITH THE MAJORITY IN URBAN AREAS.



Source: 2016-17 Common Core of Data.

Note: Categories as defined by Common Core of Data coding system.

A SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF CSP-FUNDED SCHOOLS ARE IN CITIES VS. TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

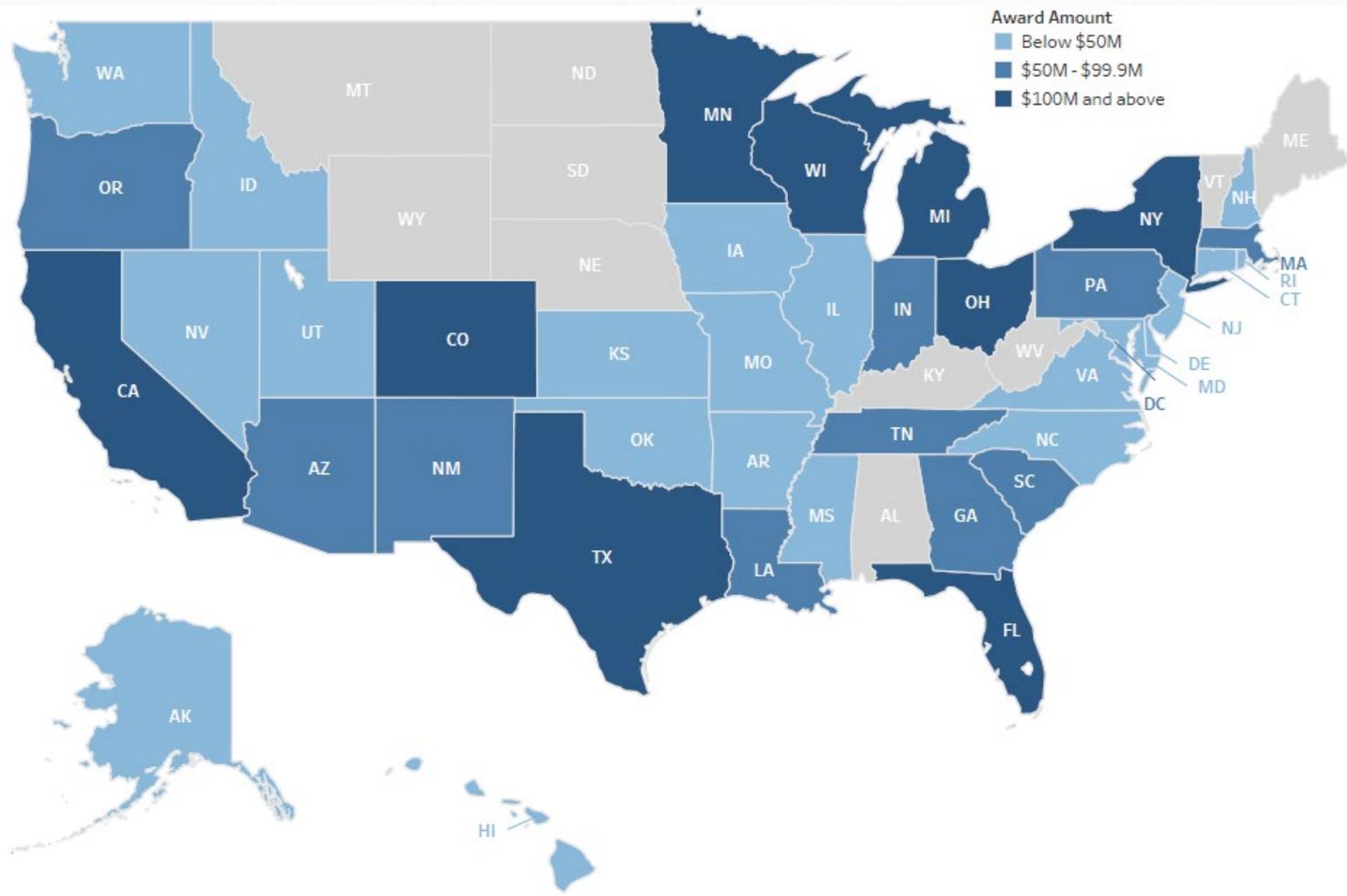


Source: 2016-17 Common Core of Data.

Note: Categories as defined by Common Core of Data coding system.

Do states with the highest-performing charter schools
receive SEA funding?

42 STATES ACROSS THE COUNTRY HAVE RECEIVED GRANTS FROM THE SEA PROGRAM¹.



Note: States in gray (i.e., AL, KY, ME, MT, ND, NE, SD, VT, WV, WY) did not receive an SEA/SE grant. KY, MT, ND, NE, SD, VT, and WV have not had charter laws in place during this time.

¹ Since the inception of the CSP program in 1995.

STATES WITH THE HIGHEST-PERFORMING CHARTER SCHOOLS ARE ALL RECENT SEA-PROGRAM GRANTEEES.

A 2013 report by the Center for Research on Educational Outcomes (CREDO) identified eleven states where charter school performance outpaced traditional schools in both Math and ELA.

**All are
recent CSP
SEA
program
grantees**

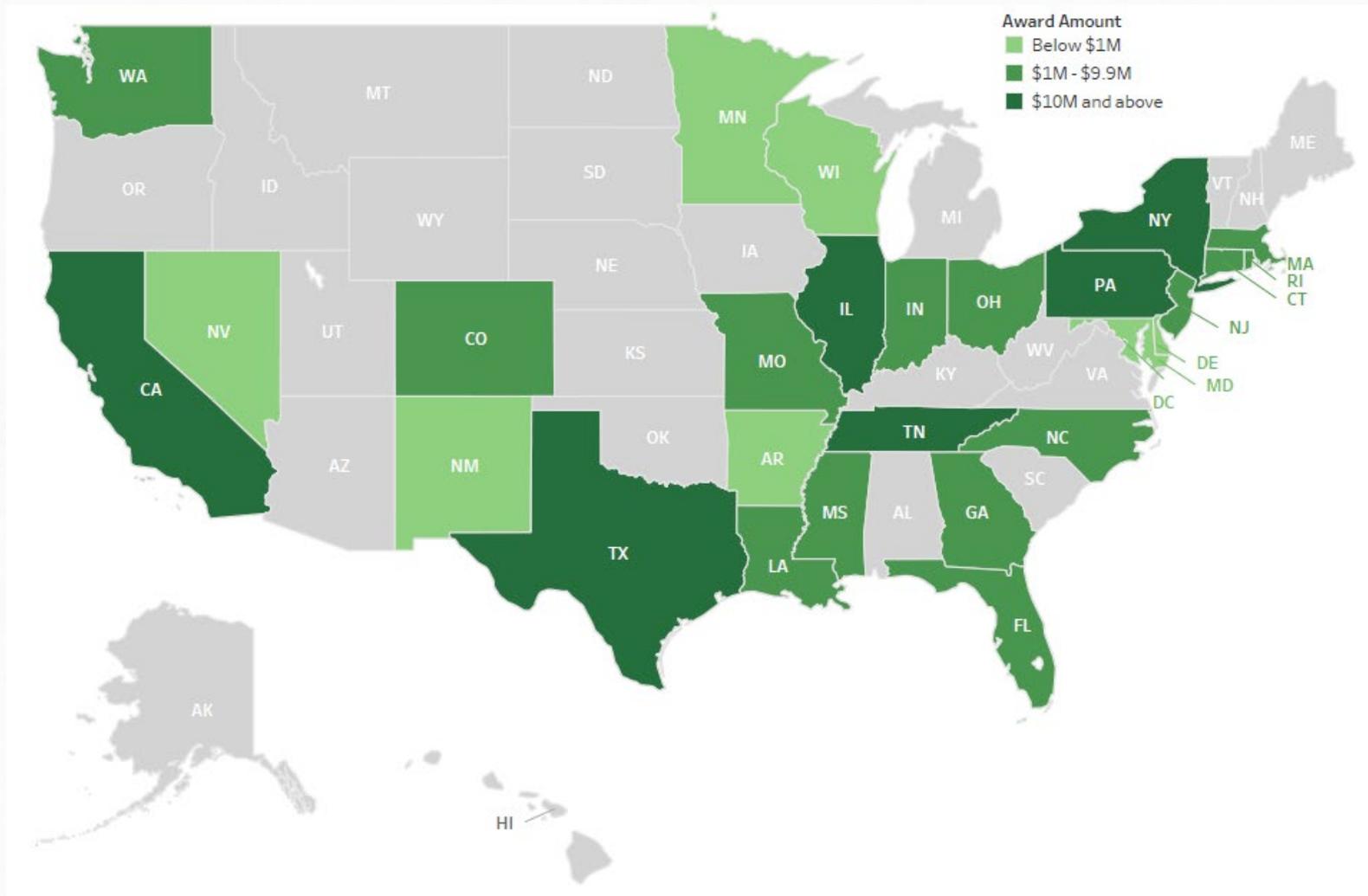


STATE:	RECENT SEA GRANT YEAR(S):
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	2010, 2015
ILLINOIS	2015
INDIANA	2010, 2015
LOUISIANA	2009
MASSACHUSETTS	2012, 2016
MICHIGAN	2010
MISSOURI	2010
NEW JERSEY	2012
NEW YORK (UPSTATE)	2011
RHODE ISLAND	2010
TENNESSEE	2009, 2016

Source: Woodworth, J. L., Raymond, M. E., et al. (2013). *National Charter School Study*. Stanford, CA: CREDO.

Do the highest-performing CMO operators receive
replication and expansion funding?

CMO GRANTS HAVE FUNDED SCHOOLS IN 28 STATES ACROSS THE COUNTRY¹.



¹ Since the inception of the CMO program in 2010.

HIGHEST-PERFORMING CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT ARE RECENT CMO-PROGRAM GRANTEEES.

Over half of CMO grants (55%) have been awarded to CMOs identified by CREDO in 2017 as CMOs that outpaced traditional public schools in growth rates for both math and reading.

**CSP CMO
program
grantees**

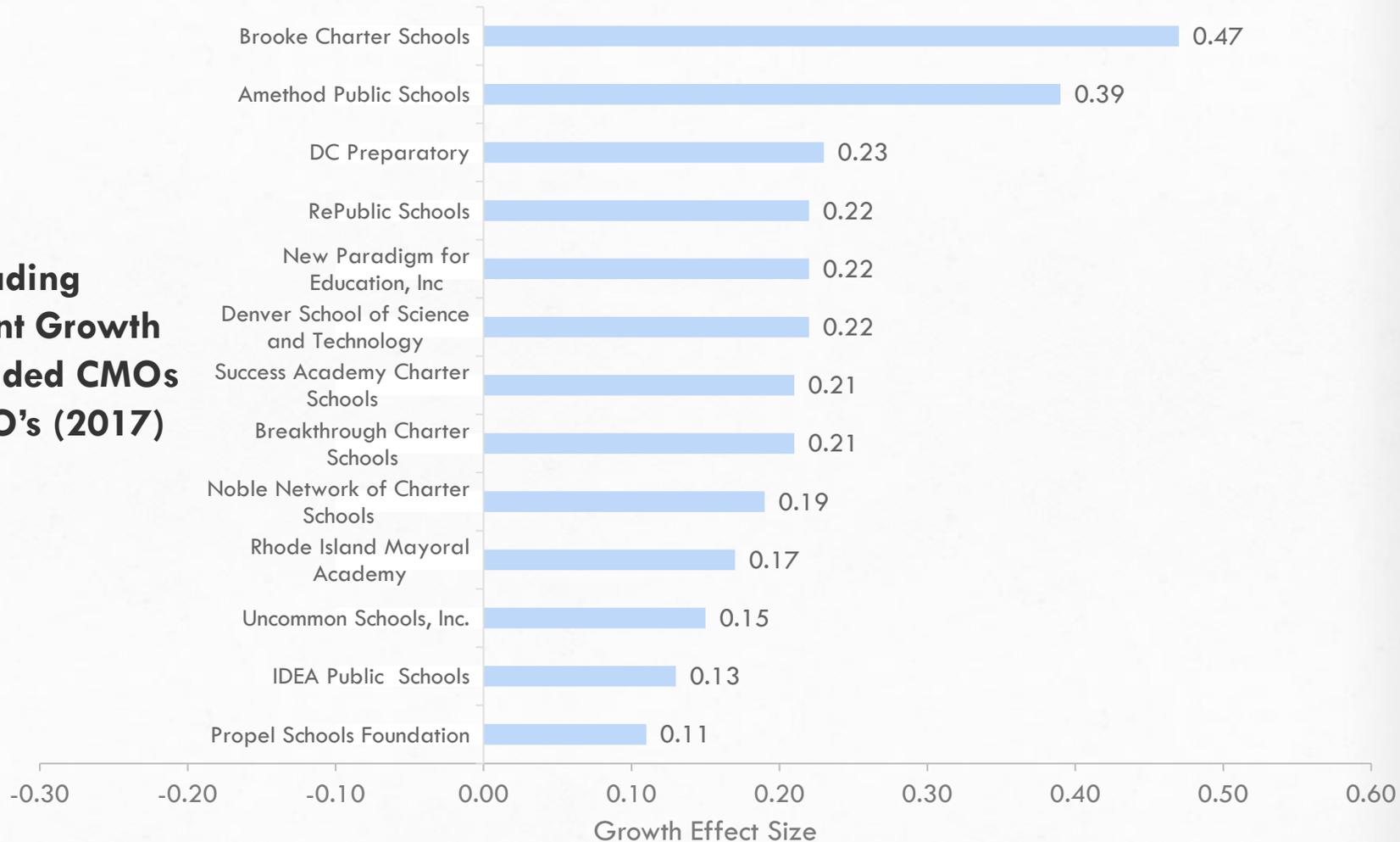


CMOs with Multiple Awards:	Recent CMO Grant Years:
Achievement First	2010, 2015
Alliance College-Ready Public Schools	2011, 2014
Aspire Public Schools	2010, 2014
Democracy Prep Public Schools	2012, 2016
IDEA Public Schools	2010, 2014, 2016, 2017
KIPP Foundation	2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2016
Mastery Charter High School	2010, 2015
Noble Network of Charter Schools	2010, 2015
Propel Schools Foundation	2010, 2016
Success Academy Charter Schools	2010, 2011, 2014, 2015, 2017
Uncommon Schools, Inc.	2010, 2011, 2016

Source: Woodworth, J. L., Raymond, M. E., Han, C., Richardson, W. P., & Snow, W. (2017). *Charter management organizations: 2017*. Stanford, CA: CREDO.

THE REPLICATION AND EXPANSION PROGRAM INVESTS IN CMOs WITH IMPRESSIVE GROWTH IN READING SCORES.

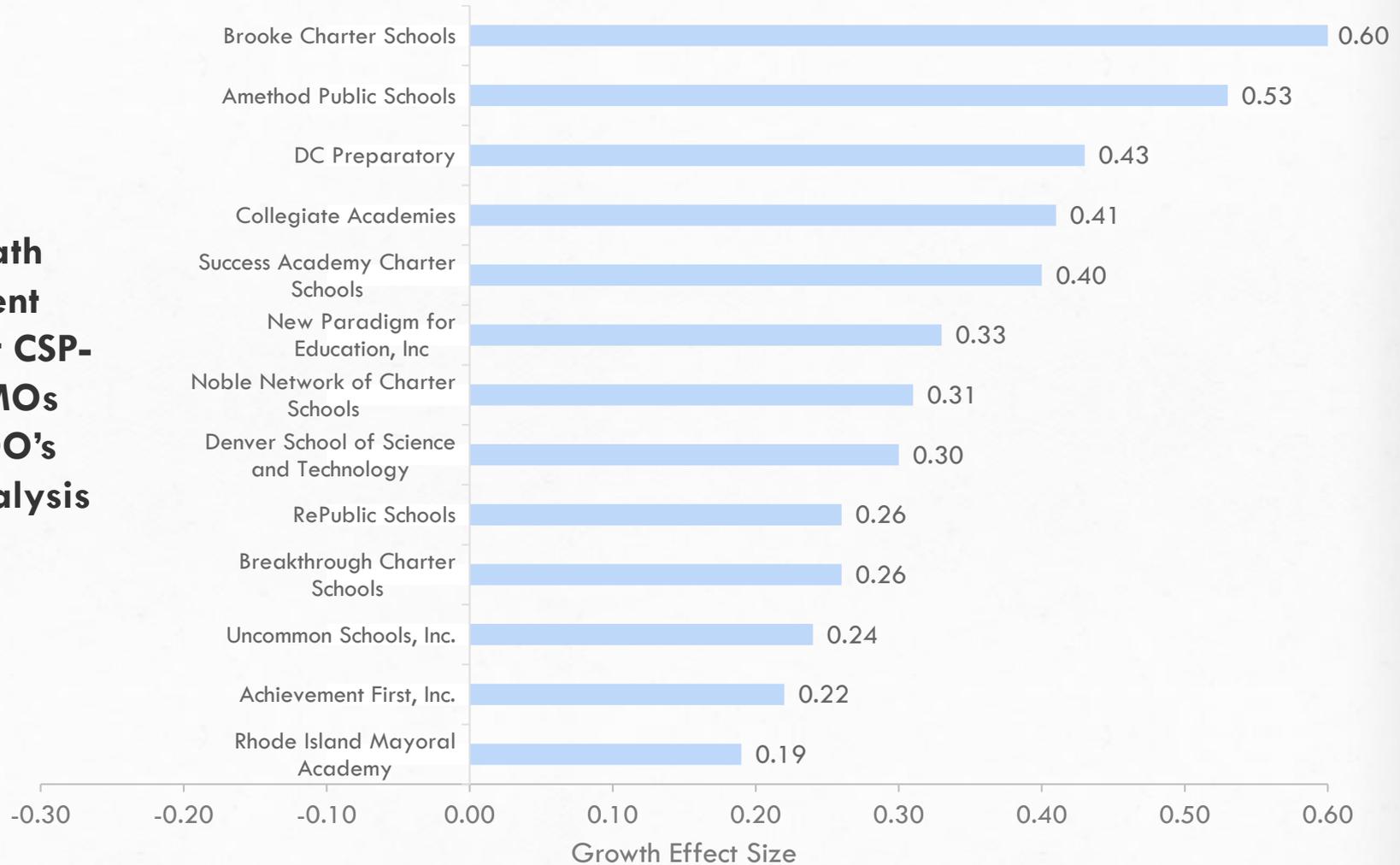
Highest Reading Achievement Growth for CSP-Funded CMOs from CREDO's (2017) Analysis



Source: Woodworth, J. L., Raymond, M. E., Han, C., Richardson, W. P., & Snow, W. (2017). *Charter management organizations: 2017*. Stanford, CA: CREDO.

THE REPLICATION AND EXPANSION PROGRAM ALSO INVESTS IN CMOs WITH PROMISING MATH RESULTS.

Highest Math Achievement Growth for CSP-Funded CMOs from CREDO's (2017) Analysis

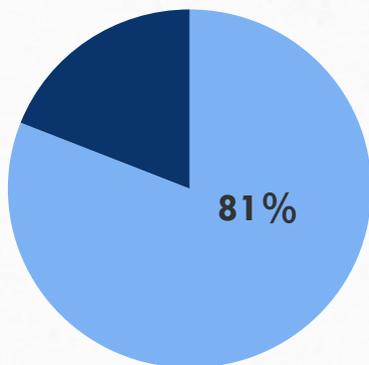


Source: Woodworth, J. L., Raymond, M. E., Han, C., Richardson, W. P., & Snow, W. (2017). Charter management organizations: 2017. Stanford, CA: CREDO.

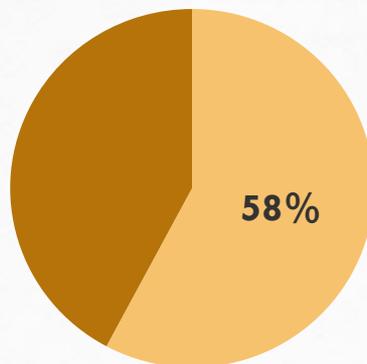
REPLICATION AND EXPANSION PROGRAM OVERWHELMINGLY INVESTS IN CMOs SERVING LOW-INCOME STUDENTS.

Students Eligible for Free and Reduced Price Lunch (FRPL) as % of Total Student Population

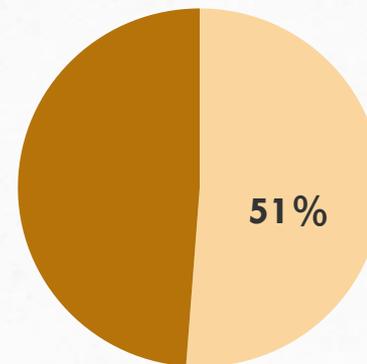
CMO-Funded
Charter Schools



Charter Sector
Overall



Traditional Public
Schools



#FRPL 133,656

Total 165,061

1,602,852

2,775,055

23,993,037

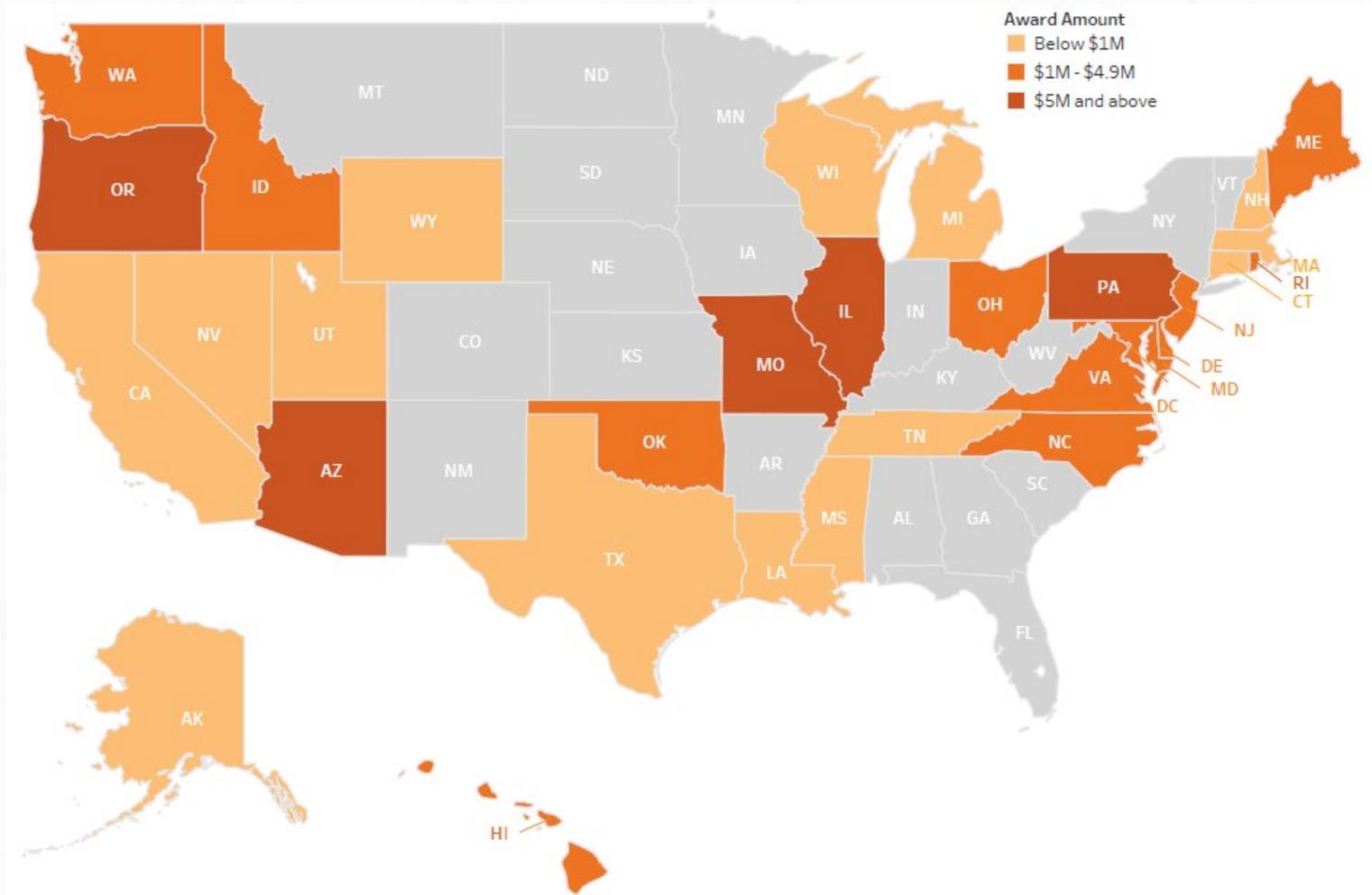
46,862,970

Source: Common Core of Data.

Note: The percentages are based on counts of students qualifying for free and reduced price lunch (FRPL) and Direct Certification counts when FRPL counts were not available or when schools had values of "3" (which likely indicates the counts were masked due to privacy protections). Schools that had missing data or had values of "3" for the FRPL counts were excluded from the analysis.

Where are Non-SE grantees located?

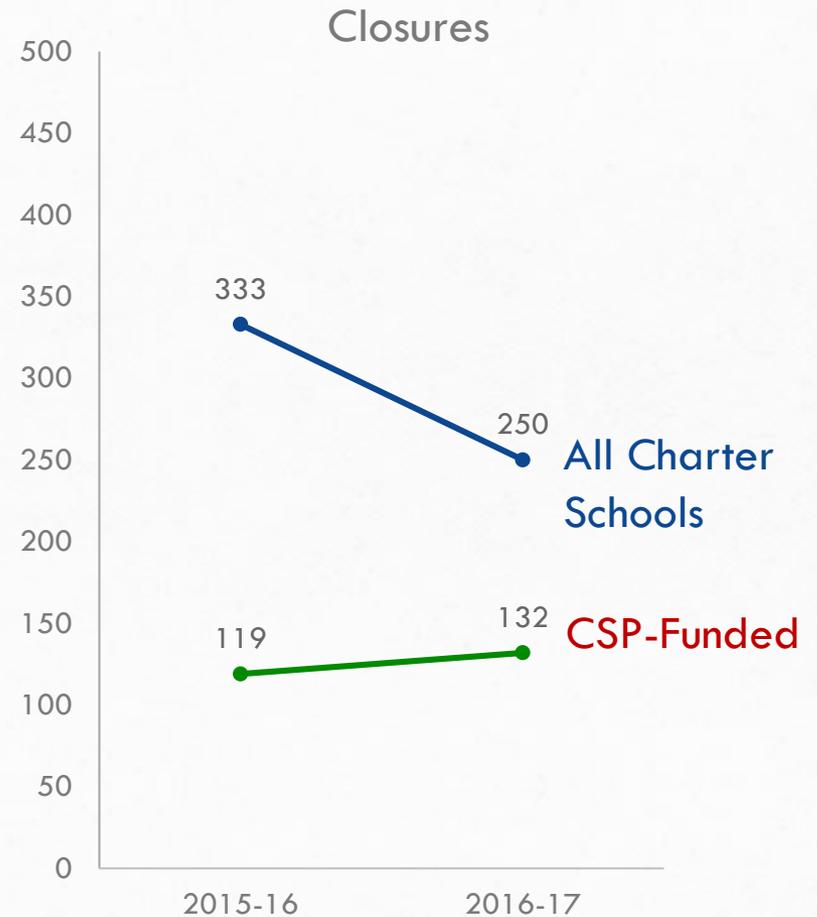
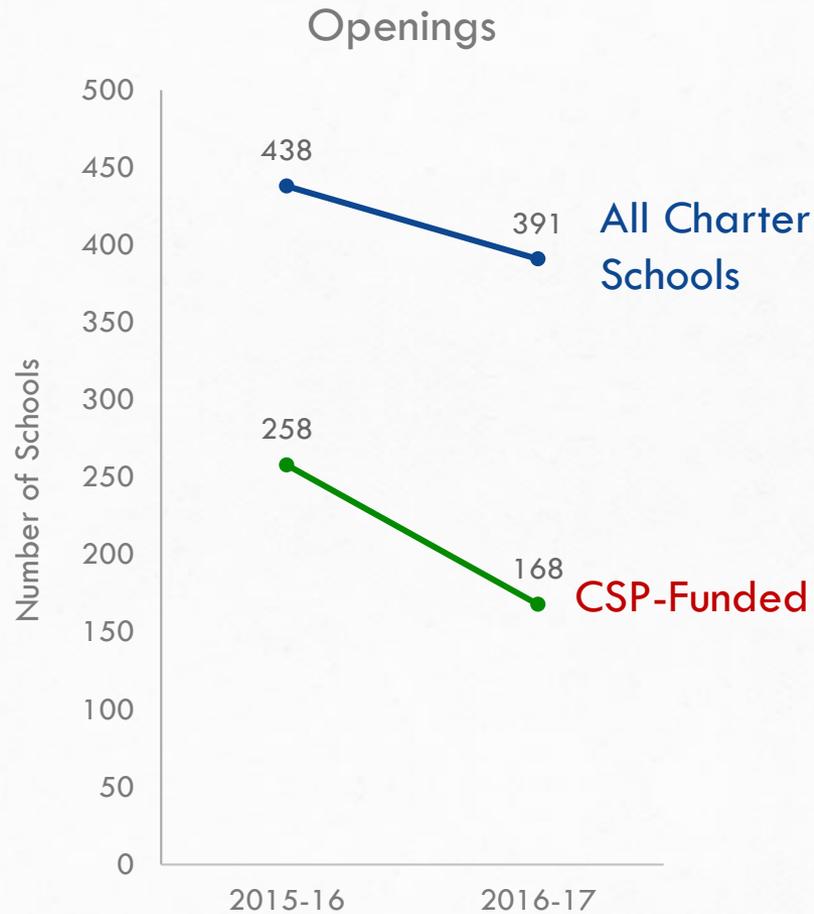
NON-STATE ENTITIES FROM 31 STATES ACROSS THE COUNTRY HAVE RECEIVED GRANTS FROM THE NON-SE PROGRAM¹.



¹ Since the inception of the non-SE program in 2002.

How many CSP-funded schools have opened in the past 2 years, and where are they located?

426 CSP-FUNDED CHARTER SCHOOLS OPENED IN THE LAST TWO YEARS

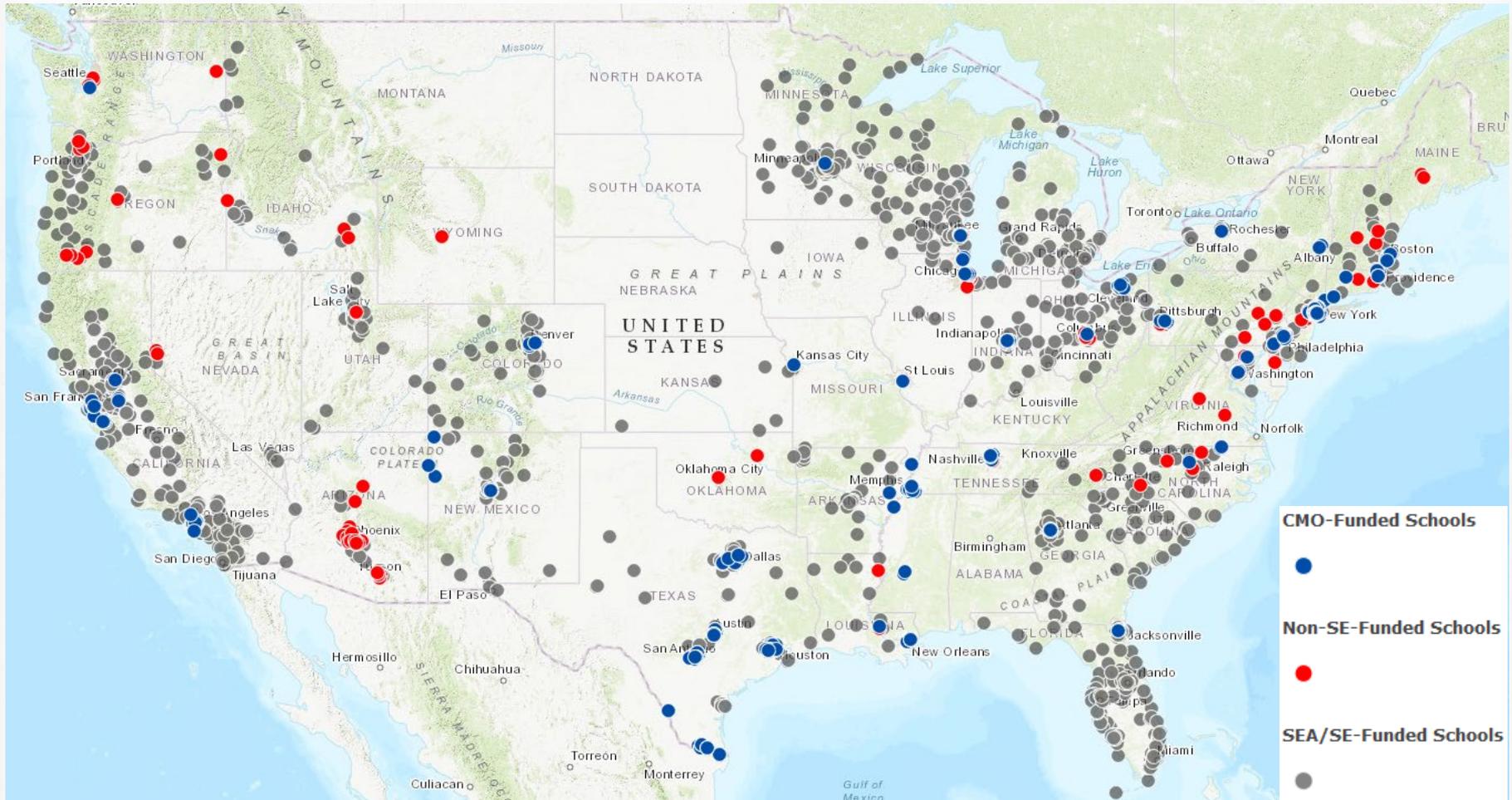


Source: Common Core of Data.

NUMBER OF CSP-FUNDED SCHOOLS OPENED IN 2015-16 AND 2016-17



LOCATIONS OF SEA/SE, CMO, AND NON-SE SCHOOLS IN 2016-17



DATA SOURCES

DATA SOURCES:

THE ANALYSIS INCLUDES DATA FROM THREE SOURCES:

- **CSP Grantee Annual Reporting Data**
 - Period covered: 2006 through 2017
 - Data categories include award amount and type

- **Common Core of Data (CCD)**
 - Data categories include charter school identifier (“tag”), operational status, enrollment for racial/ethnic groups, free and reduced price lunch eligible students, Direct Certification students, location

- **G5**
 - Grant award data from 1995 to 2017