

Locating Quality and Access: The Keys to Denver's Plan for Educational Excellence



Locating Quality and Access: The Keys to Denver's Plan for Educational Excellence

Funded by the National
Association of Charter School
Authorizers (NACSA)

Research conducted by IFF



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Letter from NACSA

December 2009

Dear Reader:

Locating Quality and Access: The Keys to Denver's Plan for Educational Excellence provides essential new information on the relationship between the location of and enrollment in Denver public schools that meet the 2009 School Performance Framework (SPF) standards. Funded by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA), this research is designed primarily to identify and highlight those areas with the largest numbers of school-age children and the fewest seats in schools that meet SPF standards. The report details how many of the 75,000 Denver Public Schools (DPS) students are enrolled in these schools and where these schools are located. Then it ranks or prioritizes the need for better performing elementary, middle and high schools within Denver's neighborhoods as measured by DPS' high school zones, the geography on which this analysis is based. This leads to a clear set of priorities for school transformation, new school creation, and reform.

In addition to the needs assessment, *Locating Quality and Access: The Keys to Denver's Plan for Educational Excellence* provides a comprehensive analysis of Colorado's Schools of Choice Program in Denver (Choice Program). This report compares students in their neighborhood or attendance schools with students choosing to attend other neighborhood and non-attendance area schools. The description of these students at the city and neighborhood level includes a breakdown of the students by the type of school, free and reduced price lunch eligibility (FRL), ethnicity, and school performance.

Locating Quality and Access was conducted by IFF, a nonprofit and community development financial institution that engages in independent external research, finance, and real estate consulting. The analysis uses a methodology that IFF developed in 2003 to analyze Chicago's Public Schools and make recommendations on where charter schools should be located in the City. This is the first time the method is being applied in a district outside the Midwest and in a state with a school choice program.

It is clear that in Denver and DPS there is a commitment to using data not only to guide the work of DPS, but to educate stakeholders and families. As a national voice for charter schools, NACSA recognizes the value of this educational needs assessment and of making available detailed data on students, school location, and school choice. By sharing the data and profiles in this report, not only with DPS, but with fellow stakeholders, NACSA strengthens the ability of the entire educational community in Denver to take advantage of opportunities to achieve the district's improvement goals.

Introduction

Since 2005, DPS and its stakeholders have been actively engaged in reform efforts to meet the needs of the city's diverse students enrolled in preschool through high school. Most of the school-age children who reside in Denver attend DPS neighborhood, charter, magnet or alternative schools, as well as several thousand students living outside the city who chose to attend a DPS school. In 2005 DPS released the first Denver Plan, a comprehensive reform strategy designed to meet the district's primary goal of improved student achievement.

The plan was initiated by Michael Bennet, who had been appointed Superintendent of DPS earlier that year. Denver was determined to draw on both the experience of other large urban districts and the important knowledge and insights of Denver's own teachers, principals, families, and stakeholders. In a recent evaluation of the 2005 Denver Plan the key stakeholder groups conclude that beyond measuring the academic success of innovative schools there is the essential next step of "intervening when schools struggle—including...recruiting new schools to serve neighborhoods and groups of students that the district has identified as needing better options."¹ The data in this report provide the demographic, enrollment, and school information needed to address these next steps.

As this report was being completed, the 2009 Denver Plan was released by Superintendent Tom Boasberg, who replaced Michael Bennet in January of 2009. This second strategic plan acknowledges the important foundation established by the 2005 Denver Plan and the failure of DPS to prepare the majority of its students for college. The 2009 Denver Plan starts with the following challenge:

Now is the time to accelerate our reforms, to sharpen the focus on student achievement, and to get all our children—in every neighborhood of Denver—on track to walk across the commencement stage armed with everything they need to forge a great future for themselves.²

In addition, the current plan is focused on the disparity in performance between the district's White and Asian students and its African-American and Hispanic students, who comprise 75 percent of the DPS enrollment, as well as the few American Indian/Alaskan Native enrolled in the district. There is a persistent gap of 35 percent between the two groups on the Colorado State Achievement Program (CSAP) tests. The District Goals by which the success of the plan will be measured target a 3.5 percent annual growth in the number of schools at 50 percent on the overall SPF. As of 2009, there were a total of 66 district schools that

measured at or above 50 percent and 74 schools below 50 percent on the SPF. As the plan itself highlights, reform must be focused in the neighborhoods where the greatest numbers of students are struggling.

Locating Quality and Access complements the 2009 Denver Plan by providing information at the neighborhood level on schools that are struggling and by including comprehensive individual profiles of the high school zones. The fundamental assumption of this report is that all children in Denver should have high quality schools near where they reside. In order to achieve that goal, the school district and stakeholders require more detailed information on the magnitude and extent of the problem. They need information on:

- The number and capacity of schools that meet SPF standards
- Where schools meeting SPF standards are located
- Who is enrolling in high-performing schools under Denver's Choice program

More importantly, Denver needs a means of prioritizing the reform work in the short term in order to achieve long-term system-wide reform.

Key Findings and Recommendations

Findings

The needs assessment and analysis of school choice result in four key findings regarding the need for performing school options in Denver.

1. DPS needs approximately 36,000 additional seats to ensure that all Denver students have access to a performing school option. Currently, 43 percent of Denver students are enrolled in the city's 59 performing schools. These schools met DPS performance standards in 2009 and they have the performing capacity to serve 34,668 students, resident and non-resident. Forty-six of these schools are neighborhood schools and 13 are magnet, charter, or alternative schools.

2. There is a significant need for additional performing elementary school capacity in Denver.

- a.** Denver needs an additional 20,043 seats of elementary performing capacity alone. Only half of Denver's elementary students are in a performing elementary school.
- b.** The need is especially great in the Montbello, North High School and West High School zones, where almost two-thirds of the city's need is concentrated.
- c.** There are five high performing charter schools that enroll the majority of their students from the high school zone where they are located and provide, therefore, additional neighborhood elementary performing capacity.

3. Montbello, North High School and West High School zones have the greatest need for performing school options and were ranked among the top three in terms of need at all grade divisions. Resolving the need for performing school options in these three zones would address 60 percent of the need citywide. Almost all of Montbello's school-age children are enrolled in a DPS school, and Montbello is Denver's largest high school zone. It needs almost 10,500 seats of performing capacity. The North High School and West High School zones need 5,400 and 6,800 seats of performing capacity, respectively.

4. There is a need to engage Hispanic students more fully in the Choice Program. Currently, 45 percent of the students who reside in Denver and attend DPS are Choice Program students attending neighborhood and non-neighborhood schools near and far from where they reside. However, the Choice Program is not serving all populations equally. Hispanic students are less likely than other ethnic groups to choose to attend a school outside the zone where they reside, although they are equally likely to choose another school within their zone of residence.

5. On the other hand, the Choice Program has created options for low-income students as measured by FRL with a high percentage of these students choosing to attend schools outside their zones. When the Choice Program is analyzed based on school performance, the data indicate that there are higher percentages of choice students in performing schools than in non-performing schools. Denver's neighborhood schools that are rated Distinguished enroll half of their students through the Choice Program and most of them enroll students from other high school zones. Moreover, 8,792 Choice students are attending a performing school instead of their non-performing neighborhood

school. At the same time, however, there remain 15,456 Choice Program students enrolled in non-performing schools.

Recommendations on Responding to the Need

Three key recommendations provide a strategic response to the need to increase access to better performing schools.

1. Focus school reform and school development efforts in the zones ranked top three in need of performing schools: Montbello, North High School and West High School.

These are communities where few schools are performing, but there are large populations of school-age children, most of whom are enrolled in DPS schools. Charter schools should also be used to address the needs in these communities because they are successful at creating performing schools where nearby traditional public schools are not performing.

2. Expand Denver's performing elementary capacity by an additional 10,000 seats or 20 schools in the next five years.

The success of all future reform efforts can be tied to the district's ability to increase the number of performing elementary schools, especially neighborhood schools. As noted above, charters are an important part of the solution, especially when they are focused on meeting the needs of children that do not have a performing neighborhood option. However, neighborhood schools must play the central role when the goal is an additional 50% increase in performing elementary school capacity, half of the current citywide elementary service gap.

3. Improve access to the Choice Program for Hispanic students by targeted communication on the program and its school options as well as by locating school options in the neighborhoods where they reside.

More than half of DPS students are Hispanic, and yet they are least likely to participate in Choice. As a result, more Hispanic students are in non-performing neighborhood schools than other ethnic groups. Although this study did not address the specific barriers to participation, the data shows that Hispanics were less likely than other ethnic groups to use Choice to attend another school outside of the high school zone in which they reside. This suggests that lack of information and distance, or a combination, are limiting factors for Hispanic students. In the long term, Hispanic students will benefit from strategies designed to put schools in the three priority zones identified in this analysis as well as in the Lincoln zone. They will also benefit from strategies that build a foundation for academic success in all of Denver's elementary schools, neighborhood, magnet, or charter.

Definition of Terms

Neighborhood School

A DPS school with a designated neighborhood attendance area that gives preference to children residing in the attendance area.

Non-neighborhood School

A DPS school without a designated attendance area.

Performing School

A school designated as either “Distinguished” or “Meets Expectations” on the School Performance Framework.

Adjusted Program Capacity (APC)

The total number of students that a school is designed to serve or seat. DPS provided the APC for its schools based on an evaluation of each individual school facility and programs. For schools without an APC, enrollment serves as a proxy for capacity.

System Capacity

The total number of seats in performing DPS schools.

Citywide Capacity

The sum of the total number of seats in performing DPS schools in each of the ten Denver high school zones.

Neighborhood Capacity

The total number of seats in performing neighborhood schools and performing charter and magnet schools that enroll more than 50 percent of students from the high school zone where the school is located.

Current Enrollment

The total number of students enrolled in a public school.

Potential Enrollment

The total number of school-age children.

Service Level

The proportion or percentage of potential and current enrollment that can be served by the performing capacity located in the geographic unit of analysis.

Service Gap

The total number of students that cannot be served by a performing school in a given geographic unit of analysis.

School Utilization

For each school, the ratio of school enrollment to the DPS APC. Schools with a ratio over 100 percent enroll more students than the school is designed to serve.

Choice Students

DPS students who choose to attend either a neighborhood school other than their assigned school or a non-neighborhood school. These students include those who enroll in DPS from outside of Denver.

Resident Students

DPS students who reside in the city of Denver and attend their assigned neighborhood school.

Choice Within Zone

DPS students who attend any school other than their assigned school within the high school zone in which they reside.

Choice from Outside Zone

DPS students who attend any school outside of the high school zone in which they reside.

Research Methodology

Purpose of the Study

The primary purpose of the NACSA *Locating Quality and Access* report is to identify where the greatest number of students need access to better performing school options. This purpose is achieved by ranking need geographically, in the case of Denver, by its ten high school zones. In this report, Denver demographics and the data on enrollment and performance are examined through the lens of school location. This perspective provides a clear indication of where resources, such as new charter, performance, or innovation schools, will have the greatest value in the city.

An important secondary objective was to gain an understanding of the effect of school choice in Denver. This objective was achieved by completing a comprehensive analysis of students enrolled in the Choice Program. This program enables families to identify and enroll in the public schools that they believe best meet the needs of their children. Therefore, this report explores the patterns of enrollment between students attending their neighborhood school in Denver and those attending other schools. With almost half of the students attending a school other than their assigned neighborhood school, enrollment in the Choice Program must be examined by both location and performance.

Finally, in order for this report to benefit a broad group of stakeholders, the population, enrollment, school and school performance data is compiled and presented for each of the ten high school zones. Together the data, analysis, maps and neighborhood zone profiles comprise critical information for future decision-making and planning by DPS and the district's partners.

Methodology

In 2003, IFF developed a methodology for studying the relative need for better performing schools in a school district. The need is relative because the method takes into account information on location and school performance as opposed to only the number of children, i.e. demand, and the number of school seats, i.e. supply. This method has recently been applied to help set priorities in Chicago and St. Louis.

The guiding principle of the analysis is that all students should have performing schools close to or in their neighborhoods. This report represents a point-in-time analysis of the school-age population as well as the schools' performance and enrollment in Denver. For this report, that time is the 2008-2009 school year. The method relies on the following data:

- School-age population
- Public school enrollment
- School performance
- School capacity
- School location
- School attendance area

All data was provided by DPS except the estimates of the school-age population. Those numbers are based on 2008 estimates compiled by Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI).

Study Geography

This report determines where there is the greatest need for new performing seats by examining enrollment at the neighborhood level, rather than the individual school or the city. Denver's ten high school zones are a meaningful and feasible geographic unit on which to base the analysis. Neighborhood elementary and middle school students are grouped with the high schools into which the elementary and middle schools feed. If a school's attendance area fell across more than one high school area, students were assigned to a high school zone consistent with the proportion of the attendance area that falls into each high school zone. Map 1 depicts the ten high school zones. Non-neighborhood or attendance area schools are assigned their zone using the schools' addresses.

Determining Denver's Potential and Current Enrollment

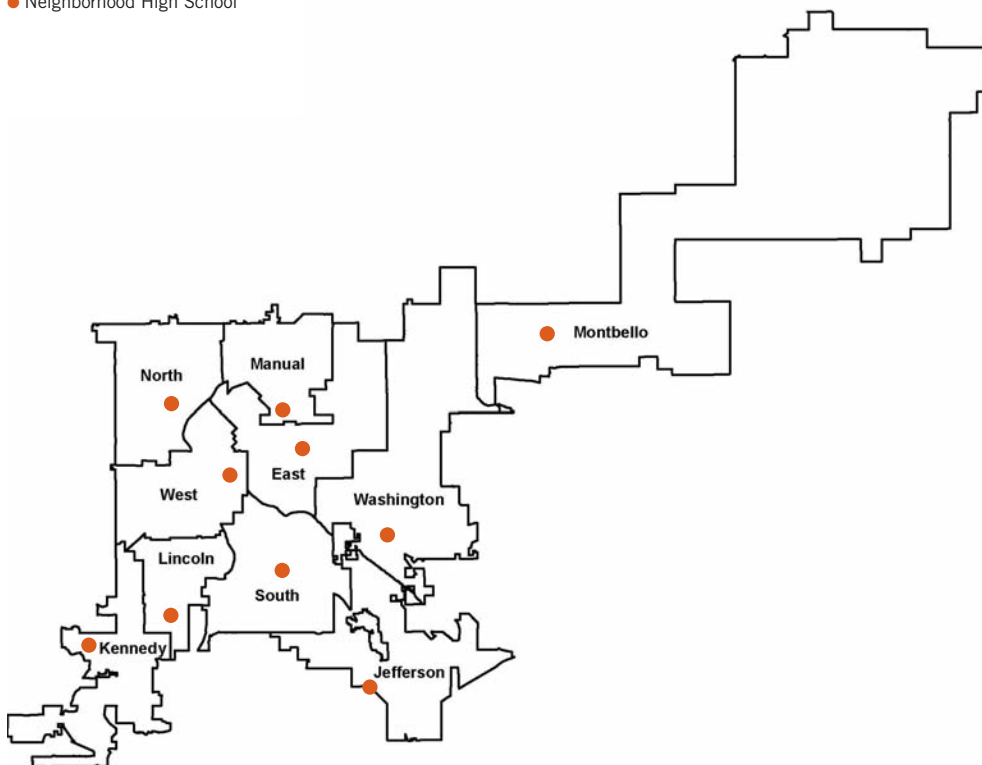
The analysis divides the demographic data or school-age children into DPS' ten high school neighborhood zones. Each of the 470 block groups that comprise the DPS district were coded to reflect their high school zone. Thirty-four block groups overlap into more than one high school zone. To ensure the most accurate population estimates for each high school zone, the demographic data in these block groups were apportioned according to the estimated share of residential blocks falling in each high school zone. This approach accounts for possible unpopulated commercial and industrial blocks. The population of school-age children (4-10 years, 11-13 years and 14-17 years) in each high school zone becomes the Potential Enrollment, (i.e. potential demand.)

DPS provided data for each student enrolled in a Denver public school, including preschool, elementary, middle and high school zones in which the student resides. Grade level counts were compiled based on each student's assigned high school zone and then aggregated to the different grade divisions in order to determine the number of students

Map 1

Denver Public Schools High School Zones

● Neighborhood High School



enrolled in kindergarten through grade 5 (elementary), grades 6-8 (middle) and grades 9-12 (high). In Denver most primary and elementary schools include preschool classrooms for four-year-olds so these children are included in the analysis. The grade division sums represent the Current Enrollment or current demand, for performing school seats.

Measuring School Performance

The study relies on Denver's School Performance Framework (SPF) to distinguish between performing and non-performing schools. The SPF is a composite measure of performance based on indicators designed to capture all areas that impact school success. Each school's overall SPF score correlates with one of four ratings: 1) Distinguished; 2) Meets Expectations; 3) Accredited on Watch; 4) Accredited on Probation. The indicators that contribute to the overall school rating for all grade divisions are Student Growth, Student Achievement Status, Student Engagement and Satisfaction, School Demand and Parent Engagement. Denver's high school measure also includes an indicator for post-secondary readiness.

Performing schools are those that are rated either Distinguished or Meets Expectations according to the 2009 SPF.

Non-performing schools are those that are rated Accredited on Watch or Accredited on Probation. DPS schools that did not report SPF data are excluded from the high school zone analysis. In 2009, there were four schools that did not receive an SPF rating because they do not include grade 3 or are new and are not reporting the Colorado State Assessment Program (CSAP) scores, the state assessment exam that is first administered in grade 3.* Therefore, the analysis of Denver and its high school zones is based on the determination of the total number of seats in schools that met performance standards in 2009.

Determining Performing Capacity in Neighborhood and Non-neighborhood Schools

Another important distinction in this study is between neighborhood schools and other types of schools. Neighborhood schools are designed to serve any student who resides

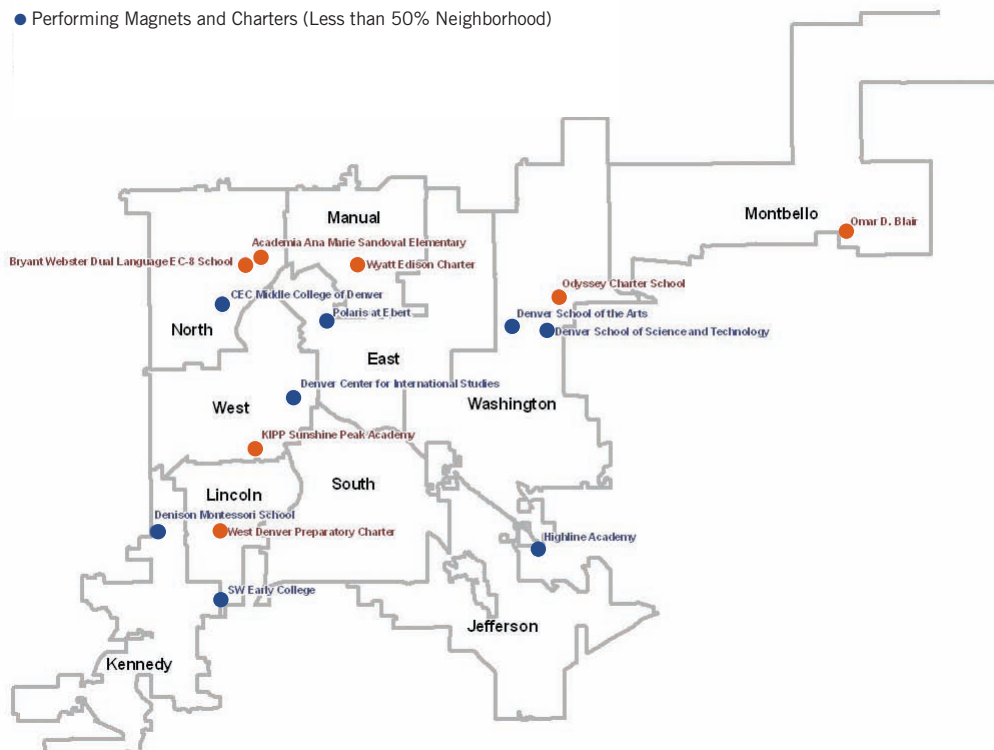
*Enrollment in these schools is counted in the total enrollment causing some disparity between the overall enrollment and the totals generated based on the performance analysis.

Map 2

DPS Charter and Magnet Schools by Percent of Neighborhood Enrollment

● Performing Magnets and Charters (More than 50% Neighborhood)

● Performing Magnets and Charters (Less than 50% Neighborhood)



within the school's attendance area and these schools represent the most accessible option for families. Neighborhood Capacity represents the most basic measure of supply. It is the performing capacity of neighborhood schools with designated attendance areas.

All School Capacity includes the Neighborhood Capacity and the performing capacity in performing magnet, charter, and alternative schools that serve children in Denver. Despite being available to students citywide, magnet, charter and alternative schools may, in fact, serve as neighborhood options. Enrollment in magnet schools is by application and in charter schools by lottery. Yet, neighborhood children sometimes compose the majority of the student body in these schools. Any of these schools that enroll more than 50 percent of their students from the zone in which they are located are considered "neighborhood" schools for purposes of calculating overall neighborhood performing capacity in this report. Attendance in these schools from their zones ranged from a low of 9.6 percent to a high of 91.4 percent. Magnet, charter, and alternative schools that are considered "neighborhood" schools are noted on Map 2.

The calculation of performing seats includes seats at charter and magnet schools that enroll 50 percent or more of their students from the neighborhood zone, as noted above. Seven of the 12 schools fit that category. The performing capacity from these schools and the other non-neighborhood schools is determined by calculating the actual proportion of students from the zone currently enrolled in each school and then attributing the same proportion of performing capacity or seats to each of the zones. In the analysis that ranks each of the high school zones, the performing capacity in those seven schools was considered neighborhood capacity and the remaining schools were considered additional capacity. Therefore, the All School Capacity or supply in each high school zone is the sum of the Neighborhood Capacity and the additional capacity in non-neighborhood area schools.

DPS Schools Excluded from the Analysis

The analysis excludes four schools that have selective enrollment criteria. Three are magnet schools that use academically selective enrollment processes and, therefore, are not available to all students in Denver. They are Polaris at Ebert, a K-5 elementary school, the Denver School of the

Arts and the Denver Center for International Studies. The latter two schools are combined middle and high schools that enroll students in grades 6-12. Together these three schools serve 1,774 students. The fourth school is Ridgeview Academy, which is a charter school and residential facility outside of Denver for adjudicated youth that serves 434 students. These four schools met or exceeded performance expectations in 2008-09 and, therefore, contribute to the city's overall performing capacity. However, they are not included in the high school zone analysis because of their selective enrollment criteria.

Assessing the Need for Performing Schools

Using the performing capacity and enrollment numbers, the service level and the service gap are calculated to gauge both the relative and absolute need for performing schools in Denver:

- **Service Level** is the percentage of students who DPS can serve through existing capacity in performing schools. It equals the total number of students who attend performing schools divided by the total number of students who live in the high school zone.
- **Service Gap** is the total number of students who cannot be served by existing performing capacity. It equals the total number of students who live in the high school zone less the number of performing seats.

Service level is a relative or scaled measure of need, whereas service gap is an absolute measure of need. For Denver and each of its high school zones, service levels and service gaps are calculated based on Neighborhood Capacity and All School Capacity relative to current demand as measured by Current Enrollment in public schools in Denver and potential demand as measured by the estimated school-age population. All high school zones with a zero percent service level receive a rank of one. These two measures are then averaged into indicators for the Neighborhood Schools as well as All Schools for both Current and Potential Enrollment. The high school zones are

ranked from 1-10 for each indicator based on their score. The high school zone ranked number one corresponds to the highest relative need.

School utilization, whether schools are overcrowded or underutilized, affects access to performing seats and each zone receives a Space Gap Rank. It is a measure of overall school utilization. Each individual school's utilization is the difference between the Adjusted Program Capacity (APC) and its enrollment. A high school zone's "Space Gap" is the sum of the difference between enrollment and APC for all the neighborhood schools located in the zone regardless of performance or the aggregate surplus or deficit of seats. Utilization can also be expressed as a percentage with overcrowded zones reporting utilization over 100 percent and zones where schools are underutilized reporting figures less than 100 percent. The high school zones are assigned Space Gap Ranks from 1-10.

Ranking the Need

The final step in the analysis combines the five enrollment and space gap indicators described above into a weighted average. Each of Denver's high school zones receives a rank from 1-10 for each of the indicators included in the analysis. Using the weights listed in the table, a composite score is calculated for each zone for each division. The greatest weight is given to the comparison between performing capacity in the high school zone with current enrollment. The composite high school zone scores are ranked from 1-10 to determine each zone's final rank. The final high school zone ranks are calculated for need in each grade division: elementary, middle and high. (See Appendix A for a more detailed methodology.)

Indicator	Weight
Current Enrollment Neighborhood Indicator	25%
Current Enrollment All School Indicator	25%
Potential Enrollment Neighborhood Indicator	15%
Potential Enrollment All School Indicator	15%
Space Gap Rank (school utilization)	20%

Results & Analysis

Enrollment and Demographic Overview

Denver's total Potential Enrollment, children between ages 4 and 17, is approximately 100,000³ students, or 16.3 percent, of a total city population of 600,000.⁴ Table 1 shows that these 100,000 school-age children are not distributed equally across grades; the population in the primary grades, or under 10 years of age, is slightly larger than the total children in middle and high school combined.

In 2008, DPS enrolled a total of 75,269 students from preschool through grade 12. These students were enrolled in one of 145 schools with the exception of 1,000 students, who were not technically enrolled in any physical school but were in a brief transition phase between schools when the enrollment data was collected. Students came not only from Denver, but from the surrounding areas to attend DPS' diverse portfolio of neighborhood, magnet, charter and alternative schools. DPS served a total of 5,144 students from outside the city. Most of these students were enrolled in high school although there are some nonresident students in all grades from preschool through grade 12. (Table 1)

The percentage of the school-age population enrolled in DPS declines as students get older. On average, 77 percent of all school-age children were enrolled in a public school in 2008. However, 82.1 percent of elementary school children are enrolled in a public school while only 70.5 percent are enrolled in high schools. (Table 1) This reflects both the underlying differences in the distribution of the population by age and the student dropout rate, which has the greatest effect on the rates of high school enrollment.

Enrollment by School Type

DPS students attend four primary types of schools: neighborhood schools (defined by a geographic attendance boundary), charters, magnets, and alternatives. Table 2 shows the number of schools and enrollment by school type. One-fifth of DPS students currently exercise the option to attend a non-traditional, non-neighborhood public school, from which they have many options. In 2008, a total of 15,725 students, 21% of the DPS population, enrolled in Denver's 44 non-neighborhood schools. Students attending these schools are Choice Program students by definition.

Table 1: 2008 Denver School-Age Population and Public School Enrollment by Division and Residence

	Denver School Age Population	Denver Residents Enrolled in DPS	Non-residents Enrolled in DPS*	Total DPS Enrollment	Percent of Population Enrolled in DPS
Elementary	52,388	40,184	1,924	42,108	82.1%
Middle	20,315	13,555	946	14,501	72.2%
High	26,169	16,386	2,274	18,660	70.5%
Total	98,872	70,125	5,144	75,269	77.0%

*With regard to students from outside Denver, DPS' portfolio of schools includes two schools, Ridgeview Academy and Connections Academy, that are located outside the city. These schools are residential facilities that serve approximately 1,100 students who are counted as non-resident DPS students.

Table 2: 2008-2009 DPS Schools and Enrollment by Type

Type	Number	2008-2009 Enrollment	Percent of Total Enrollment
Neighborhood	101	58,491	77.7
Charter	18 *	6,546	8.7
Magnet	13	6,877	9.1
Alternative	13	2,302	3.1
Other **	3	1,053	1.4
Total	148	75,269	100

*Amandla School, which operated under a contract and was listed as a charter school closed at the conclusion of the 2008-09 academic year. Its enrollment is reported because the analysis includes schools operating in that year.

**DPS' student data also includes enrollment in three other programs, two preschools and one high school program, whose students were not assigned to a specific school at the time the student data were provided to IFF. These approximately 1,000 students are part of the total DPS enrollment, but are excluded from the high school zone analysis.

Figure 1: DPS Enrollment by School Type and Grade Division

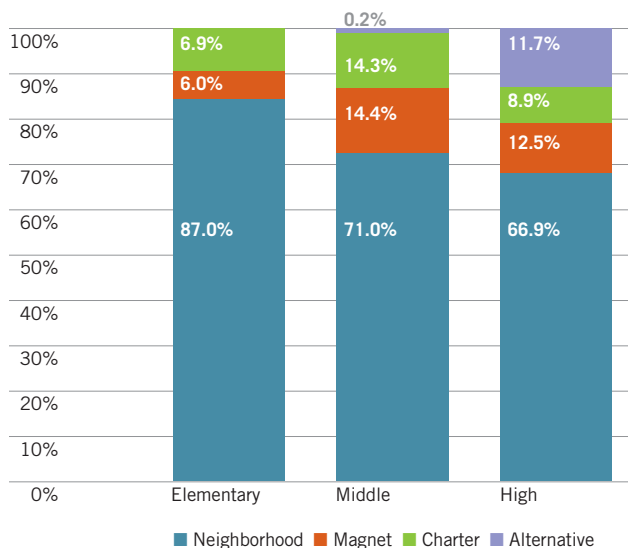


Figure 1 reports the distribution of DPS students by both school type and grade division. It highlights that elementary students are more likely to attend neighborhood schools than both magnet and charter schools. The percent of middle school students and high school students attending magnet schools is almost equal. Only two-thirds of high school students are in traditional high schools drawing attention to the challenge of meeting the needs of students that do not succeed in those environments. In Denver,

almost 12 percent of high school students and even some middle school students are enrolled in the 13 different alternative schools. The higher percentages of middle and high school students in magnets and charter schools as compared to elementary school students suggests that families would choose to enroll in non-neighborhood options if there was an increase in these types of schools at the elementary grade level.

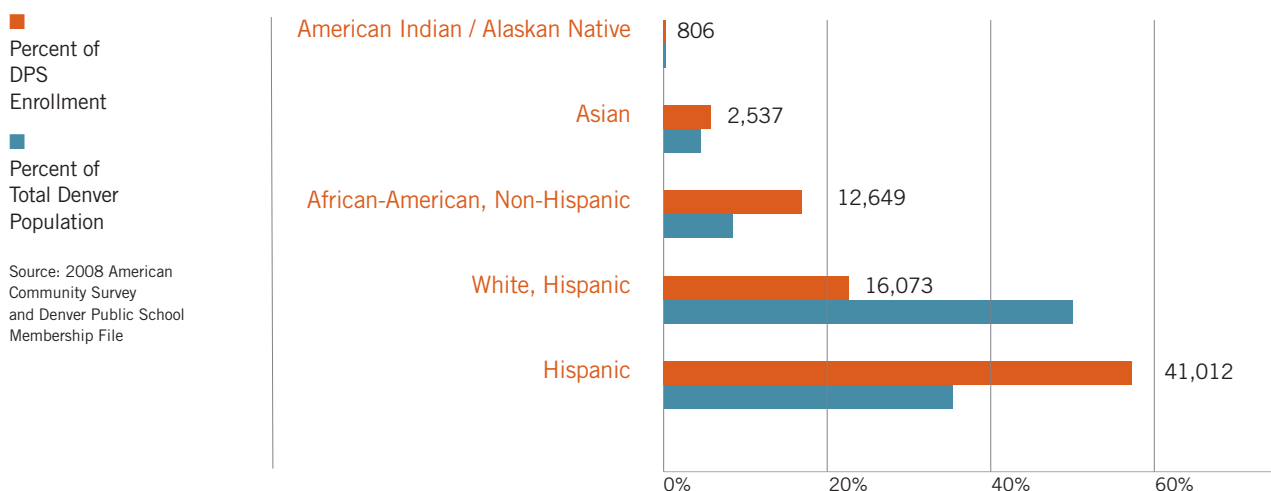
Enrollment by Ethnicity and FRL

Race, ethnicity and free or reduced lunch eligibility (FRL) are important variables when looking at school performance and the exercise of choice.**

More than twice as many Hispanic students are enrolled in DPS as Non-Hispanic Whites, and three times as many Hispanics as African-Americans. The African-American population of Denver is nine percent of the overall population, whereas it is 17 percent of DPS enrollment. (Figure 2) When compared with the ethnic distribution of Denver's population overall, it is clear that DPS students are more likely to be Hispanic and African-American. The Choice Program analysis examines whether program participation varies among different ethnic groups both overall and within the Denver high school zones.

**Like many urban school districts nationwide, DPS reflects the broader demographic shifts with continued growth in the city's Latino population, which increased by more than 23,000 people, or 2.4 percent, between 2000 and 2008.

Figure 2: Ethnicity of DPS Student Population Compared to Denver Population



Source: 2008 American Community Survey and Denver Public School Membership File

The number of students who qualify for free or reduced price lunches (FRL) is the most commonly used measure of student and/or family income status. In 2008, 48,798, or two-thirds of the students enrolled in a DPS school, were eligible for FRL. As expected, there are differences in income status between Denver’s neighborhoods, and in several high school zones 80 percent of the students qualify for the program. The section on the Choice Program examines these differences and analyzes them within the Denver Choice Program.

Summary of DPS Enrollment and Population Figures

- Denver School-Age Population: 98,872
- 2008-09 DPS System-wide Enrollment: 75,269
- Denver Residents in DPS: 70,125
- Non-Resident DPS Students: 5,144

The Need for Performing School Options in Denver

The analysis that follows will examine the performing capacity in Denver that is available to serve all children enrolled in a DPS school regardless of residence and then performing capacity at the neighborhood level available to serve only those children who are residents of Denver. The result of the analysis for each of the grade divisions is a clear prioritization of where there is the greatest need for performing school options in Denver. For each of the grade divisions, data is reported on schools, enrollment, and performing capacity. Based on the ranking of the three divisions, implications of the ranking of need for the city are reported.

System-wide Analysis

A total of 59 of the 145 schools in the high school zone analysis are performing, (i.e., rated Distinguished or Meets Expectations in 2009 based on the SPF), and have a performing capacity of 34,668 seats. (Table 3) These schools enrolled 31,571 students during the 2008-2009 school year, and at least one of every type of school that Denver operates met the standards set under the 2009 SPF.

The data indicate that these schools are not fully enrolled and have capacity for an additional 3,100 students because enrollment reports the actual number of children in the school and capacity reports the total number of children the school can be accommodated. Although in the aggregate there appears to be excess capacity in Denver, there are some performing schools whose enrollment exceeds the Adjusted Program Capacity (APC). (See Zone Profiles)

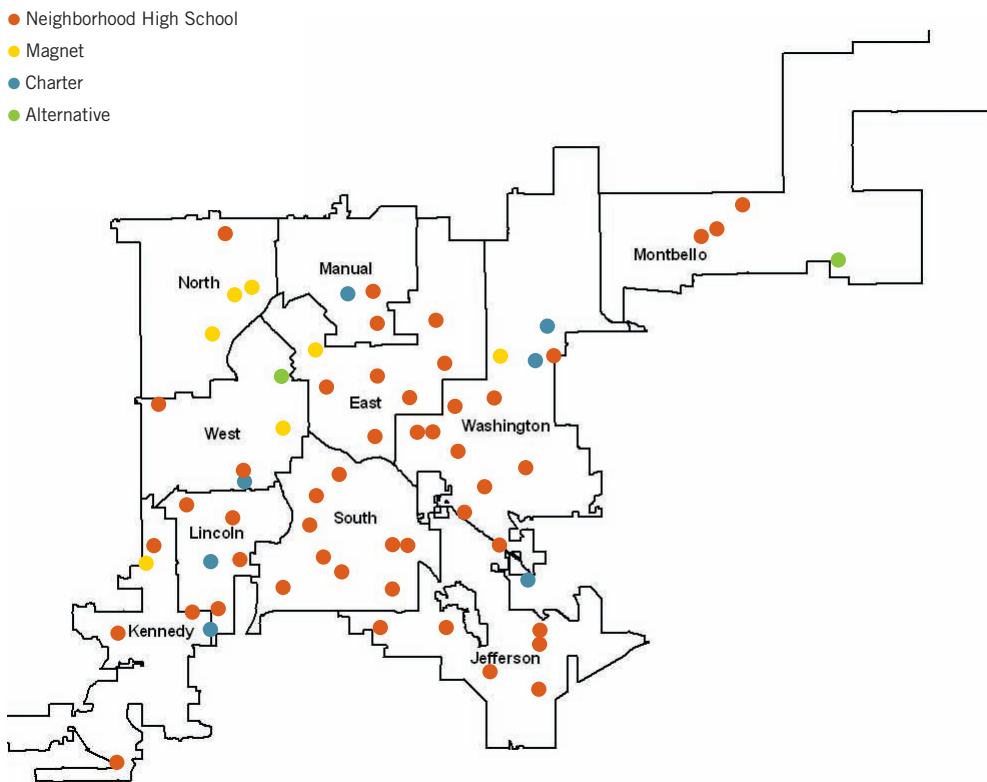
Table 3: 2008-2009 System-wide Performing Denver Public Schools by Type

Type of School	Number	Enrollment	System Performing Capacity*
Neighborhood	46	25,579	27,410
Magnet	4	1,689	2,064
Charter	8	3,743	3,694
Alternative	1	560	1,500
Total	59	31,571	34,668

*Performing capacity for all current DPS students, including those that do not reside in Denver.

Map 3

Performing Public Schools in Denver



Variations in DPS and High School Zone Enrollment and Performing Capacity Figures

Thus far the analysis has described in detail the schools and students in the DPS system. These numbers are based upon the total DPS enrollment. The next section of the analysis will focus on the DPS students who reside in Denver. These numbers can be considered the citywide totals as opposed to the system-wide total. As a result, there are variations between the total enrollment and performing capacity figures previously reported and those that result from the high school zone analysis that follows. The preceding Table 3 reports the system-wide performing capacity within DPS, which takes into account non-Denver residents attending DPS. Table 4, however, will show only the total performing capacity available for Denver residents, which is based upon the number of DPS students residing in each zone as calculated in the high school zone analysis. The smaller citywide capacity numbers that follow can be attributed to each of the ten high school zones and are derived by aggregating or summing the ten zones into a total for Denver residents. These figures are slightly smaller than the system-wide totals reported above, which includes all

students enrolled in DPS. All references to findings that are specific to the high school zones must report these smaller numbers. (See DPS Facts and Figures box for a summary of the different totals.)

Citywide Analysis

Only half of DPS' elementary school students are in performing seats. There is some variation by grade level with middle schools serving the highest percentage (52.8%) of children in a performing school. The greatest need is at the elementary school level where the Service Level Gap exceeds 20,000, due in part to the high number of elementary school students enrolled in DPS. Denver high schools have both the lowest Service Level (39.9%) and a substantial Service Gap of almost 10,000 performing seats that are needed to meet the needs of high school students currently attending low performing schools.

The 59 performing schools can enroll just under half, 48.2 percent, of all the students who are currently enrolled in DPS and reside in Denver. When the citywide performing capacity is compared against all Denver school-age children,

Table 4: Citywide Performing Capacity, Service Levels, and Service Gaps by Grade Division

	Performing Capacity	Current * Enrollment in DPS of Denver Residents	Current Enrollment Service Level	Current Enrollment Service Gap	Potential Enrollment (All School- Age Children	Potential Enrollment Service Level	Current Enrollment Service Gap
Elementary (EC-5)	20,141	40,184	50.1%	20,043	52,388	38.4%	32,247
Middle	7,159	13,555	52.8%	6,396	20,315	35.2%	13,156
High	6,536	16,386	39.9%	9,850	26,169	24.9%	19,633
Total	33,836	70,125	48.2%	36,289	98,872	34.2%	65,036

*Current enrollment does not reflect the 5,144 students who reside outside Denver, but attend DPS.

the service level drops to approximately 34 percent. An additional 36,000 seats of performing capacity are needed to meet the needs of students currently enrolled in non-performing public schools. If DPS wants performing capacity to serve all school-age children in the city, it would require a total of 65,000 performing seats, an additional 29,000 on top of those needed to close the Service Gap for currently enrolled students.

The report examines the distribution of these performing seats across neighborhoods as measured by Denver's high school neighborhood zones. The analysis identifies the areas of greatest need throughout Denver by highlighting the differences in service levels and service gaps among the ten neighborhood areas. Again, it is important to note that within each zone the analysis does not distinguish school types and considers all schools as DPS schools regardless of whether they are neighborhood, charter, magnet or alternative. These students are counted as having access to a performing seat in their zone regardless of where the school is located.

Elementary School Analysis

Elementary Neighborhood schools, Non-neighborhood schools, and Public School Enrollment

There are 95 DPS schools serving the elementary grades, but there is not a standard grade configuration among the schools that start at preschool or kindergarten. The most common structure for elementary schools in Denver is preschool or K through grade 5. However, there are currently 23 schools operating under a preschool or K through grade 7 or 8 model. Three schools offer only preschool through primary grades 2 or 3 and two schools serve students from kindergarten through grade 12. Most of these schools were neighborhood schools with attendance areas, but there are also elementary magnet and charter schools.

Neighborhood Elementary Schools

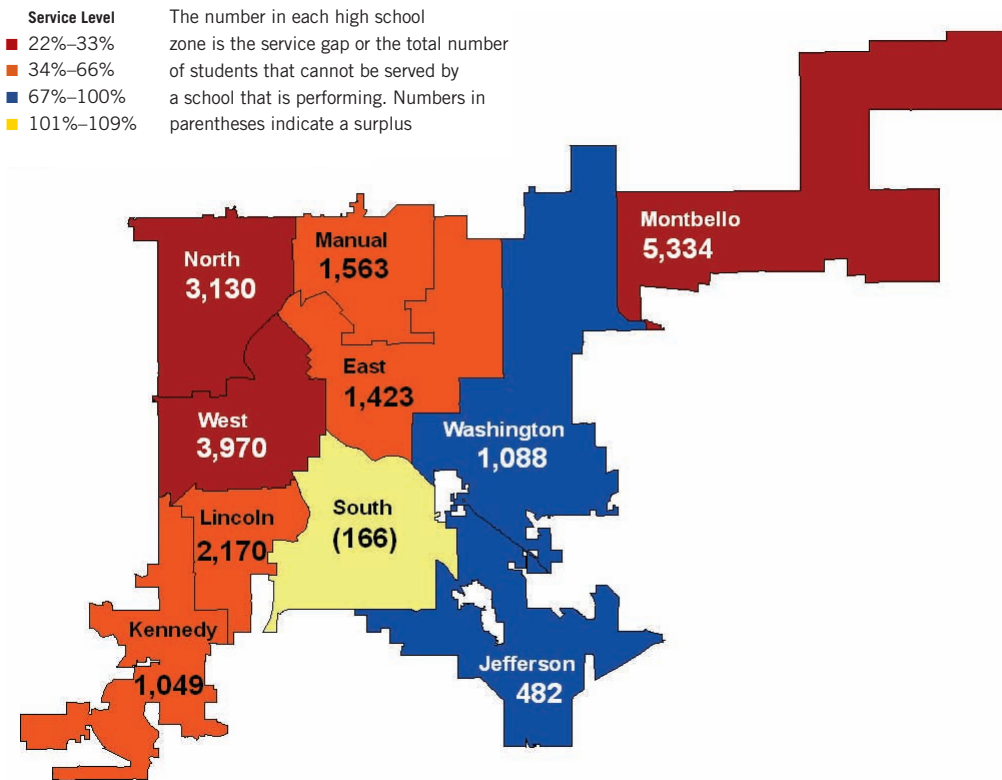
DPS' neighborhood elementary schools enrolled a total of 40,184 elementary students in 2008-2009. In all ten zones at least 62 percent of elementary students are enrolled in public schools. (Table 5) While on average 77 percent of students are enrolled in a public school, there are two zones, Lincoln and Montbello where all children are enrolled in DPS schools. In fact, Montbello population estimates of school-age children for the year 2008 reported a smaller number than the actual 7,620 students reported by DPS. Whereas the neighborhoods of North High School, Washington and West High School also have large populations of elementary school-age children, but only 62 to 76 percent of children attend DPS. The lowest percentages of public school enrollment among elementary school-age children are in the North and South High School zones. (Table 5)

Table 5: Percent of School-Age Children Residing in Denver in Public School

	All	Elementary	Middle	High
Lincoln	90%	94%	87%	82%
East H.S.	63%	68%	52%	63%
Washington	65%	74%	54%	57%
Kennedy	62%	70%	59%	50%
North H.S.	56%	62%	56%	45%
South H.S.	54%	62%	45%	47%
Jefferson	69%	76%	64%	59%
West H.S.	70%	76%	66%	61%
Montbello	100%	100%	100%	100%
Manual	67%	71%	69%	57%
Total	71%	77%	67%	63%

Map 4

Elementary School Service Level and Service Gap



Performing Elementary Capacity

The approximately 20,100 seats of elementary performing capacity are almost entirely in neighborhood schools and a portion of the capacity is in four of the performing charter schools that are serving mostly neighborhood children. The neighborhood charter schools provided critical performing capacity for 2,100 students. When Map 2 is compared with the high need areas soon to be identified, it is clear that these schools are providing capacity in high school zones with few performing neighborhood schools. There are only 340 performing elementary magnet seats and 195 seats in Denver's other charter schools.

Service Levels and Service Gaps

Map 4 highlights several key findings with regard to the need for performing elementary school seats in the high school zones:

- Three zones contain very low service levels and large gaps: Montbello, North High School and West High School.
- Eight out of the ten zones have a need for at least 1,000 additional performing elementary school seats.

- The Lincoln High School zone has a large gap of 2,170 seats despite having greater performing capacity than the three zones of highest need.

While all zones need additional performing elementary capacity except the South High School, there are variations in how many students are currently enrolled in a performing school. The most significant undersupply of performing seats is in the West High School zone with a service level of only 21.6 percent. As reported earlier, 76 percent of children in that zone are enrolled in public schools, which means most children are in non-performing elementary schools. The Montbello and North High School zones also have low service levels. Their performing elementary schools serve less than one-third of the elementary school children. However, many more of Montbello's children are in the DPS schools as opposed to in the North High School zone, 100 percent as compared to 62 percent of school-age population. Lincoln and Manual zones post service levels under 50 percent with gaps of 2,170 and 1,563, respectively. Tables detailing the service levels and service gaps for each zone can be found in Appendix C.

Ranking the Need for Performing Elementary School Options

The need for performing elementary seats is prioritized by ranking the high school zones from one to ten using the previously described method. Once again, the measures of service level, service gap, and space utilization account for the absolute and relative differences in need between the high school zones.

The elementary school rankings of the top five neighborhood zones in need of performing elementary seats are:

- 1) West High School
- 2) North High School
- 3) Montbello
- 4) Lincoln
- 5) Manual

These rankings reflect the sizeable gaps and low service levels discussed above. The five top-ranked zones have a combined service gap of 16,838 seats and the top three zones, West High School, North High School and Montbello, each have gaps greater than 3,000 and together they need 12,500 additional performing seats. Those three combine to account for nearly two thirds of the total elementary level service gap. It is clear that a focus on elementary schools located in these areas could have a significant impact on overall district performance.

Middle School Analysis

Middle School Neighborhood schools, Non-neighborhood schools, and Public School Enrollment

Sixty public schools currently enroll middle school students in Denver. However, less than a third of these schools offer grades 6-8 exclusively. Most middle school students attend elementary schools that operate K-8 or K-6 models while 11 magnet or charter schools offer middle and high school grades.

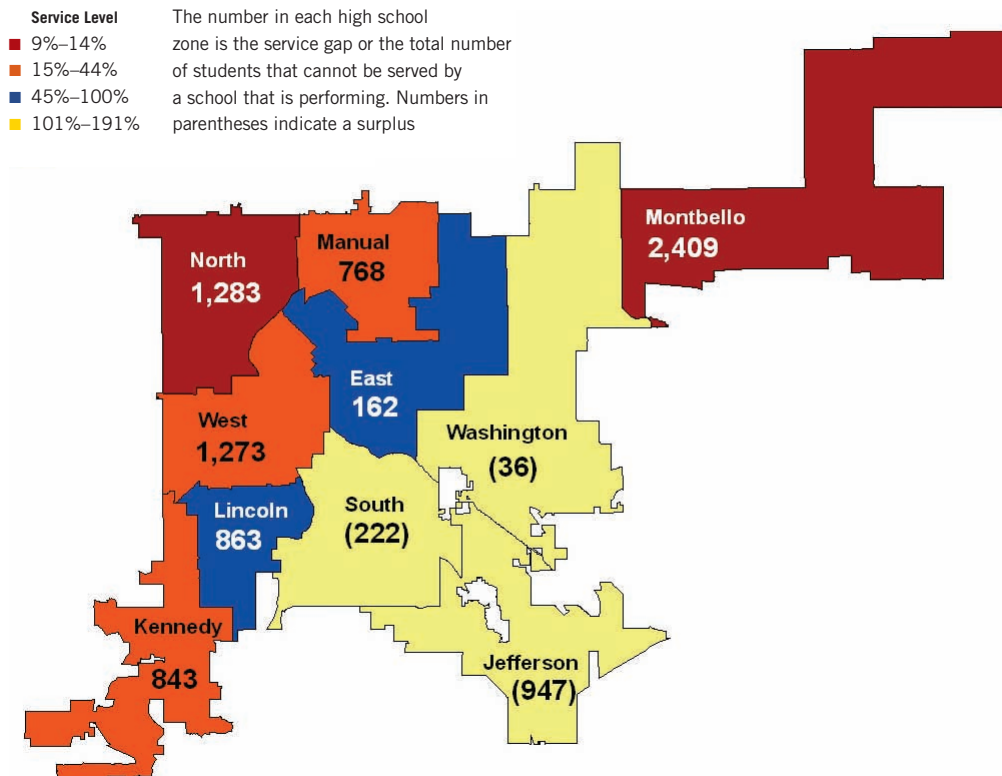
Larger middle schools, as well as greater variation in enrollment by high school zone, create a slightly different picture of need than emerged at the elementary school level. Of the approximately 20,000 Denver school-age children between the ages of 11 and 13, 72 percent attend DPS. This DPS enrollment rate is ten percent lower for the elementary schools. Across the 10 zones, there is a range from a low of 45 percent public middle school enrollment in the South High School zone to 100 percent in Montbello. The drop in enrollment from elementary school to middle school is much larger in the South High School and Washington zones than elsewhere in the city.

Middle School Performing Capacity

Charter and magnet schools added significantly to performing capacity in the middle school grades. Middle school performing capacity totaled 7,159 seats. In 2008, this performing capacity was almost exclusively in neighborhood schools, including the performing magnets and charters who have more than 50 percent of their enrollment from the zone in which they are located. The performing “neighborhood” charters and magnet schools educate over 3,000 children and all except one offer grades 6-8. There was significant performing capacity of 1,216 middle school seats in those charter schools. Therefore, more than 40% of the performing capacity in middle schools came from charters and magnets. (See Appendix D)

Map 5

Middle School Service Level and Service Gap



Service Level and Service Gap

Map 5 highlights key findings regarding middle school performing capacity in Denver:

- Less than one-fifth of students in the Montbello and North High School zones have access to a performing middle school option.
- Montbello's service gap is twice the size of the gap in other zones.
- While more middle school students in the West High School zone have access to a performing middle school seat than in the North High School zone, the West High School zone still has a large service gap with almost 1,300 children without a seat in a performing school in that zone.
- The Jefferson zone has significant excess middle school capacity.

Middle school performing capacity is distributed unevenly

in Denver. In six of the ten zones, fewer than half of middle school children are in a performing seat and in most cases the percentage drops to 25 percent or less. However, Jefferson has two performing middle schools and almost 2,000 seats of neighborhood capacity. The large surplus results because only half as many middle school DPS students reside there. The areas of the city with middle school service gaps need between 800 and 1,300 additional seats of performing capacity. The three zones with surplus capacity contain over 1,200 performing seats that are not currently being utilized by resident students. In other words, the demand for middle school seats is not as great in these areas.

Ranking the Need for Performing Middle School Options

The result of the ranking of the high school zones based on the need for performing middle school options found that four of the five highest-need zones for the elementary school analysis are also ranked as highest-need zones for performing middle school seats. This reflects the fact that many middle school students are in non-performing K-8 schools. Due to the few large performing middle schools in Denver, there was a

greater disparity in service gaps among the ten high school zones. The middle school rankings of the top five zones in need of performing middle school seats are:

- 1) North High School
- 2) Montbello
- 3) West High School
- 4) Kennedy
- 5) Lincoln

The Kennedy High School zone only appears among the Top 5 in the middle school ranking. The zone has almost 1,100 middle school students and less than 250 seats of performing middle school capacity. While some students are enrolled in neighborhood charters, most of them remain in non-performing neighborhood schools.

High School Analysis

High School Neighborhood and Non-Neighborhood Schools and Public School Enrollment

The overall analysis was defined by Denver's ten neighborhood high schools. There are also an additional 25 magnet, charter or alternative schools serving high school students in Denver. Total enrollment in all DPS high schools totals

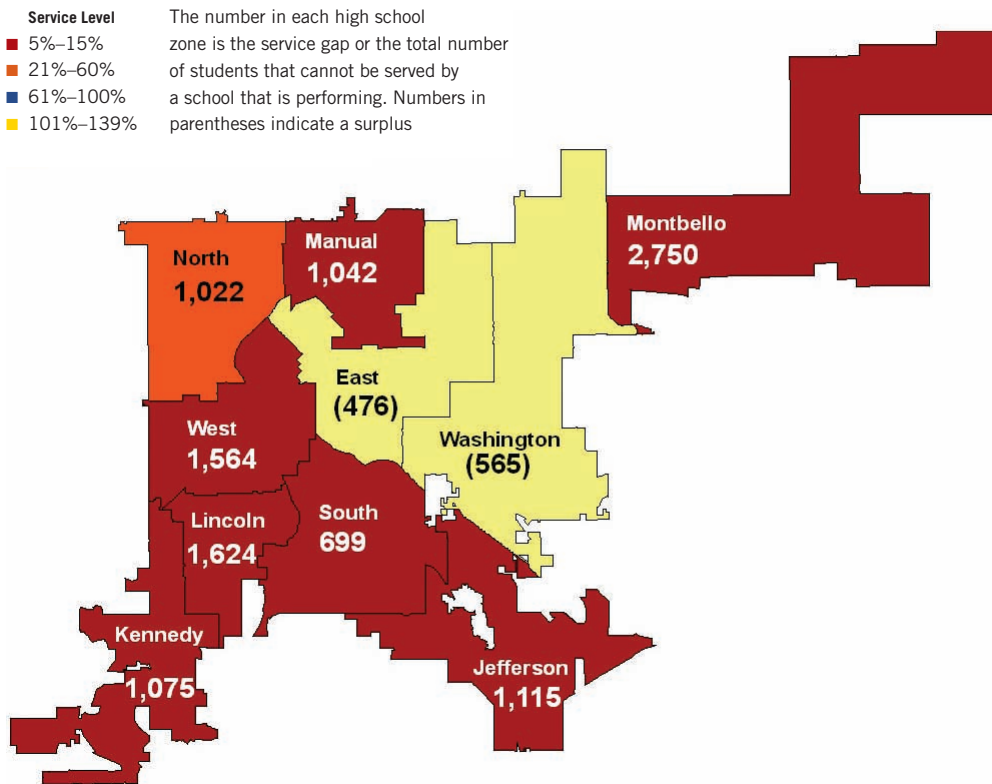
18,660 students, or 70.5 percent of the estimated high school-age population. There are substantial differences in the rate of high school enrollment by zone reported. (Table 5) For example, 91.5 percent of high school students in the Montbello zone were enrolled in a public school. The next highest rate occurs in the Lincoln zone where 82 percent of high school students are enrolled in a public school. The average for the remaining eight high school zones drops to 55 percent, but in the North High School zone only 45 percent of high school age children are enrolled in a public school.

Performing High School Capacity

Denver's neighborhood high schools are struggling to meet the SPF standards established by DPS. Only two of the ten neighborhood high schools are performing: East High School and Washington High School. These two large schools have the performing capacity to serve 4,079 students and their capacity equals 62.4 percent of the 6,536 performing high school seats in the city. Alternative high schools currently provide substantial high school capacity and serve an additional 1,100 students. Charter schools provide an additional 632 seats of performing capacity and magnet schools 636 seats of performing capacity in Denver. (See Appendix E)

Map 6

High School Service Level and Service Gap



Service Levels and Service Gaps

Map 6 highlights the following key findings regarding the distribution of the high school capacity in Denver:

- Less than 10 percent of high school students in Jefferson, Montbello and South High School have access to a performing school.
- The two zones that have performing neighborhood high schools are East High School zone and Washington zone.
- All zones that need additional high school performing capacity require more than 1,000 additional seats of performing high school capacity except the South High School zone.

The zones on the west side of the city meet the needs of less than one-fifth of their high school students. According to this analysis of the total performing capacity in East High School and George Washington High School, there is enough capacity to serve all the high school students enrolled in DPS, who reside in the zone. However, due to the Choice

Program, East High School is currently overcrowded and enrolled over 2,000 students in 2008-2009 and the school's APC is about 1,900. Similarly, George Washington houses an international baccalaureate program that may not be enrolling additional students. The service levels and service gaps do not take into consideration space utilization, which is accounted for in the final ranking of the zones. The difference in the results of the capacity analysis and space utilization analysis in the East High School zone occurs because students in Denver's choice Program can enroll in schools outside their neighborhood or high school zone.

The high school service gap in Denver doubles to more than 18,000 seats when the performing capacity is compared with the demand from all potential high school students and all zones would need additional performing capacity. The estimated school-age population, or potential enrollment, accounts for students who attend private schools, are home schooled or leave high school altogether. The decrease in public school enrollment is another indicator of this problem.

Ranking the Need for Performing High School Options

The high school zone rankings result in the same top three areas of need as the elementary and middle school analyses. Because most of the high school zones have extremely low service levels, seven of the ten zones have a high absolute need for performing high school seats. In number one ranked Montbello, 92 percent of high school students are enrolled in public school, an exceptional rate of public high school enrollment. The need in Montbello is high and requires almost 2,800 seats, 1,000 more than the areas ranked 2-7. Montbello as well as Lincoln and Washington have 100 seats of performing charter capacity. All of the performing charter and magnet high school capacity is in schools that enroll students citywide.

The top five zones in need of performing high school options are:

- 1) Montbello
- 2) North High School
- 3) West High School
- 4) South High School
- 5) Lincoln

Final Grade Division Ranks for Denver High School Zones

A summary of the results of the needs assessment is provided in Table 6, which lists the high school zone rankings for all grade divisions.

Table 6: High School Zone Rankings by Division

Zone	Elementary School Rank	Middle School Rank	High School Rank
West High School	1	3	3
North High School	2	1	2
Montbello	3	2	1
Lincoln	4	5	5
Manual	5	6	9
East High School	6	9	8
Washington	7	7	10
Kennedy	8	4	7
Jefferson	9	8	6
South High School	10	10	4

Conclusions from Ranking the Need for Performing School Options in Denver

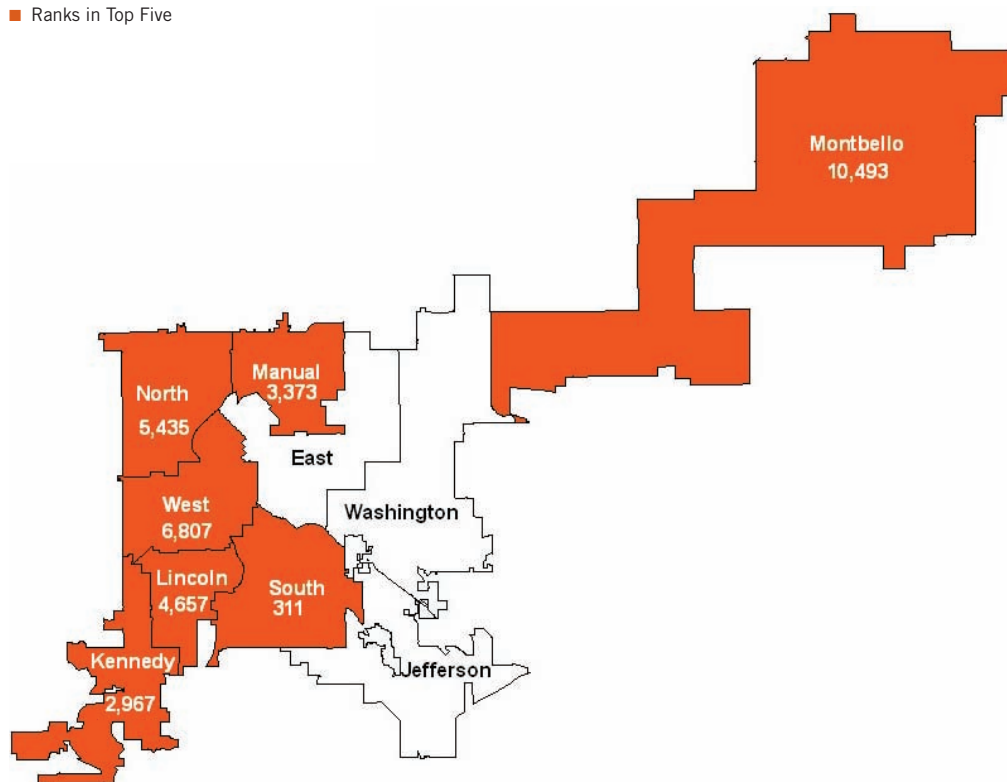
The ranking of the need for performing school options for each grade division identifies a clear set of priorities for DPS as it works to increase performing options for its students.

- 1) Half of Denver's elementary school students attend non-performing schools. As a result, Denver needs 20,043 performing elementary seats. (See Table 4) All of the zones in the city require additional performing capacity except the South High School zone. The service gaps range from a high of 5,334 seats in Montbello to a low of 482 seats in Jefferson.
- 2) Montbello, North High School and West High School are the three zones in Denver where targeted efforts are needed to provide performing capacity at all grade levels from elementary school through high school. These areas need a total of almost 24,000 performing seats, or 61 percent of the total need in Denver. (See Appendices C through E) Almost half of the need is in Montbello where population estimates did not anticipate the dramatic growth in the school-age population. The need is reduced by approximately 1,200 seats when the performing capacity of non-neighborhood schools is included.
- 3) The Lincoln, Kennedy, and South High School zones also have significant needs in at least one of the grade divisions. Although the need is not as concentrated as it is in the top three zones. The Lincoln High School zone ranks fourth in need of performing elementary and high school capacity and fifth for middle school. Its service level is 41 percent, it is among the more densely populated areas of Denver and most of the children who live in the high school zone are enrolled in DPS. The Kennedy zone is also a high need area for middle school performing capacity.
- 4) In Denver, five charter schools offer essential neighborhood performing capacity for elementary and middle school students. They currently enable 2,400 Denver students to attend a performing school near where they reside. Moreover, these schools are all located in one of the top five ranked high school zones.

Map 7

Zones That Rank in the Top Five in Need for Performing Schools in at Least One Grade Division

■ Ranks in Top Five



Map 7 identifies the seven high school zones that were ranked in the Top Five in at least one grade division with their total EC-12 service gap.

Denver's Choice Program

An Analysis of Student Participation by High School Zone, FRL, Ethnicity and School Performance

The families of school-age children in Denver have had the option of choosing a district school other than their assigned neighborhood school for over a decade. The Choice Program allows children to enroll in neighborhood schools, if space is available, as well as charter, magnet or alternative schools. Like access to performing school options, participation in the Choice Program can be analyzed citywide as well as by high school zone. Participating families can access school options both inside and outside their neighborhoods. These families make decisions about which public school they believe will best meet the needs of their child or children. They are making decisions about whether their child will travel a great distance to school and what curriculum will guide their child's education.

Denver's Choice Program impacts the number of non-neighborhood children enrolled in the different neighborhood and non-neighborhood schools in each high school zone. It may also impact the availability of performing seats for children residing in each high school zone. Therefore, it is important to understand how many children are utilizing the Choice Program and what is the distribution of enrollment between students attending their assigned neighborhood schools and those choosing another school. By definition, non-neighborhood school enrollment is comprised 100 percent by children exercising a choice option. However, as the performing capacity report highlights, there are a number of charter and magnet schools where the majority of enrollment consists of children from the high school zone where the school is located. (See Map 2)

Defining Denver Students by Choice Status

The following section reports on the number of "Choice" students as well as "Resident" students. Resident students are those who attend their assigned neighborhood school, whereas the children in families exercising their option to select a school other than their assigned neighborhood school are called "Choice" students. Choice students can be categorized as either Choice Within Zone or Choice from Outside Zone. Choice Within Zone students attend a neighborhood school other than their assigned school or non-neighborhood school located in the zone where they live. Choice Outside Zone students attend a neighborhood or non-neighborhood school outside the zone where they live.

The schools that Denver Choice students may elect to attend fall into one of these categories, which are relative to where they reside:

- 1) Another neighborhood school within the zone where they live
- 2) A neighborhood school outside of the zone where they live
- 3) A non-neighborhood school, including charters, magnets, and alternatives, within their zone
- 4) A non-neighborhood school outside of their zone

Therefore, the DPS student enrollment in neighborhood schools can be categorized into three different groups: Residents, Choice within Zone and Choice from Outside Zone. Similarly, enrollment in non-neighborhood schools can be separated into Choice Within Zone and Choice from Outside Zone. However, students enrolled in charter schools that serve large numbers of neighborhood children are not considered "Residents" in the Choice Program analysis.

The analysis of the Choice Program also examines whether children who are eligible for free and reduced price lunch (FRL) and those of different ethnic backgrounds are equally likely to take advantage of school choice in Denver. Finally, the analysis looks at the Choice status of the students enrolled in DPS' performing and non-performing schools.

Choice Program Participation of Students Who Reside in Denver

During the 2008-2009 school year 31,798, or 45 percent, of the 70,125 students who both reside in Denver and attend a DPS school participated in the Choice program. Therefore, there are almost equal numbers of Resident and Choice students among DPS students who live in the city. Map 8 shows the variations between the zones. Children who reside in Manual, East High School and North High School zones are more likely to participate in the Choice Program than those in Jefferson and Kennedy neighborhood zones. These differences raise the question of whether the high school zones with fewer Choice students are those with greater numbers of performing neighborhood schools. The needs assessment found that Jefferson's neighborhood performing capacity was able to serve 82.5 percent of the students residing in the zone, whereas Kennedy only has neighborhood capacity for 39.7 percent of its students. It appears, therefore, that performance is not the only factor affecting Choice participation at the neighborhood level.

Map 8

Percent of DPS Students Residing in Denver in the Choice Program

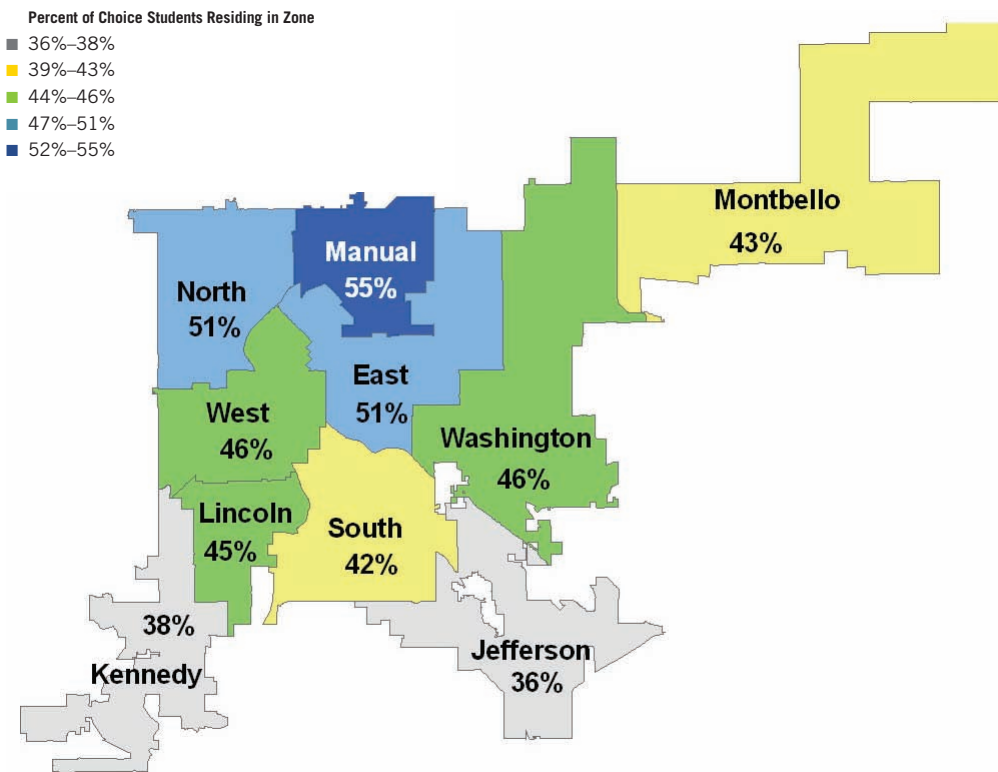


Table 7 reports the actual enrollment by student status of the 70,125 DPS students who are Denver residents.

Choice Program Participation of All Students Enrolled in DPS Schools

The subsequent analysis examines students who reside in Denver as well as students from outside Denver who attend a DPS school. When the additional 5,144 Choice students from outside the city are included, the percentage of Choice students in DPS increases by 5.5 percent to 50.5 percent. The majority of Choice students enroll in DPS neighborhood schools. The 21,822 students enrolled in neighborhood schools with attendance areas equal approximately 63 percent of Choice students. The remaining 12,912 students, or 37 percent, attend a non-neighborhood school. (See Appendix F)

Table 7: Students Residing in Each High School Zone by Choice Status

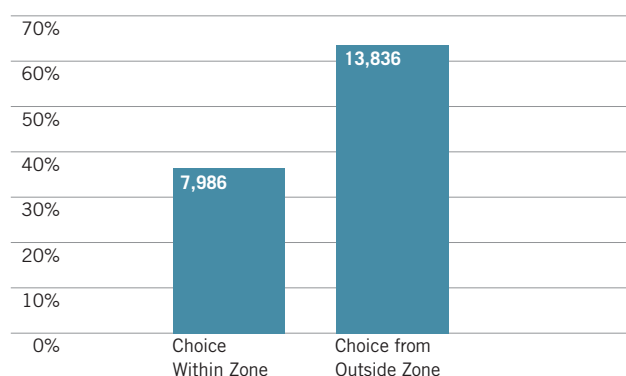
	Resident Students	Choice Students	
		Attend Assigned Neighborhood School	Do Not Attend Assigned Neighborhood School
			Percent Who Do Not Attend
Lincoln	4,379	3,552	45%
East H.S.	2,888	2,959	51%
Washington	4,257	3,596	46%
Kennedy	3,380	2,041	38%
North H.S.	3,536	3,656	51%
South H.S.	1,828	1,315	42%
Jefferson	3,381	1,932	36%
West H.S.	4,699	3,992	46%
Montbello	7,620	5,824	43%
Manual	2,359	2,931	55%
Total	38,327	31,798	45%

Table 8: Students Enrolled in Each High School Zone by School Type and Choice Status

	Neighborhood Schools			Non-Neighborhood Schools	
	Resident	Choice Within Zone	Choice from Outside Zone	Choice Within Zone	Choice from Outside Zone
Lincoln	4,280	693	1,364	174	137
East H.S.	3,050	635	2,677	171	332
Washington	4,238	853	2,002	436	1,259
Kennedy	3,578	742	1,564	336	776
North H.S. *	3,667	1,314	1,065	929	1,031
South H.S.	2,361	356	2,286	9	221
Jefferson	2,912	480	1,129	168	283
West H.S.	4,346	928	999	551	1,990
Montbello	7,636	1,563	211	2,177	469
Manual	2,275	422	539	1,009	454
Total	38,343	7,986	13,836	5,960	6,952

* 60 4th and 5th grade students enrolled in Bryant Webster Dual Language School in North High School zone are listed as resident students.

Figure 3: DPS Students in the Choice Program Attending Neighborhood Schools



Based on enrollment figures, as shown in Table 8, a total of 38,343 students are enrolled in their neighborhood schools. The remaining 34,734 students use the Choice Program to attend a school other than their neighborhood school, but the number choosing schools within their high school zone of residence is not small. Figure 3 reports the percentage of students choosing to attend neighborhood schools within and outside the zones where they reside. It shows that approximately 40 percent of students are enrolled in a neighborhood school within their zone and 60 percent in a school outside their zone. In other words, in Denver significantly more

students are enrolling in a neighborhood school outside their zone as within their zone, 13,836 students as compared to 7,986. When the total number of students who Choice from Outside Zone to attend neighborhood and non-neighborhood schools is compared with those Within Zone, it is clear that children are accessing schools outside their neighborhoods. (See also Appendix F) Due to their locations and more limited numbers, there is less difference between the enrollment of the two groups in non-neighborhood schools. However, these enrollment figures support the original intent of the legislation because almost 1,000 more children are Choice from Outside Zone students, meaning that they are taking advantage of the opportunity to go to a school outside their neighborhood.

Participation in the Choice Program by High School Zone

Families in Denver use the Choice Program to access schools outside their high school zones. However, at the high school zone level, significant differences emerge. Choice students residing in North High School, Montbello and Manual zones are twice as likely as students in other zones to select Choice Within Zone. These three zones have large numbers of children enrolled in DPS. (Table 8) As a result, the 7,400 Choice Within Zone students from these three zones equals 53 percent of all the district's Choice Within Zone students. Moreover, these three zones have fewer performing schools and are in need of additional performing school options.

As mentioned above, families in these zones also take advantage of non-neighborhood options. There are 2,177 choice students in Montbello, 1,009 in Manual and 929 in North High School zones attending non-neighborhood schools. This contrasts with the South High School zone where only nine children or four percent, of children use the Choice Program to attend a non-neighborhood school in the zone. In the other high school zones between 12 and 17 percent of Choice students attend a nearby neighborhood or non-neighborhood school. (See Appendix F)

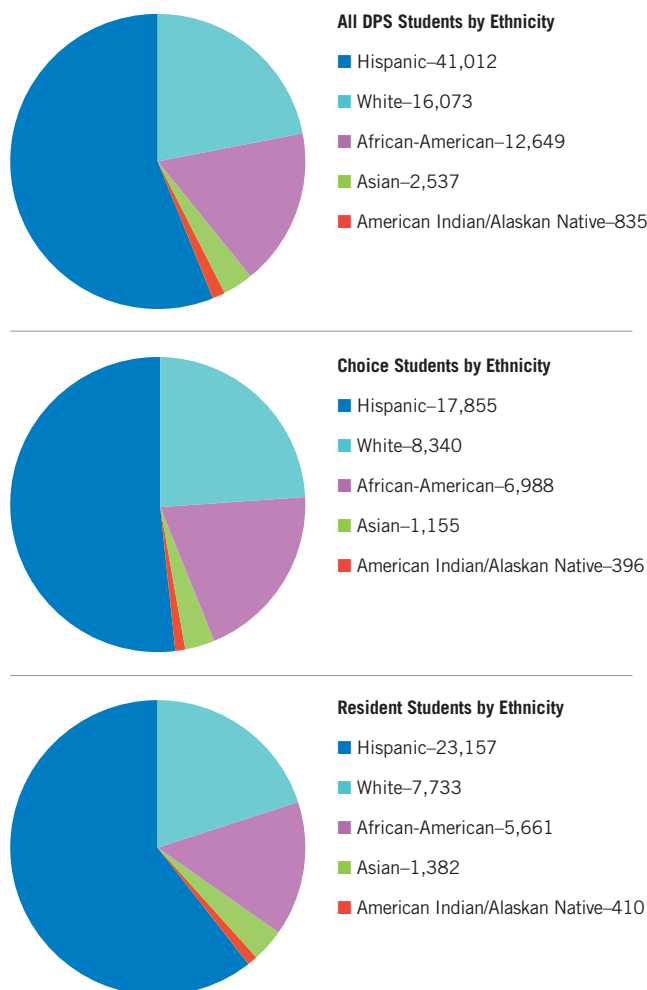
DPS Choice students are not equally likely to attend a choice school outside their high school zone. More DPS students choice into neighborhood and non-neighborhood schools in Washington (3,261), East High School (3,009) and West High School (2,989) from outside these zones. (Table 8) In the East High School zone, these students are equal to 44 percent of the enrolled students and in Washington and West High School zones they are about a third of students. At 48 percent, the South High School zone has the highest proportion of students choosing to attend its schools. Montbello and Manual are large zones with many students, but the 1,700 students who use the Choice Program to attend a school in these zones from an outside zone represent a small percentage of the total enrollment. (See Appendix F)

Participation in the Choice Program by Free and Reduced Price Lunch Eligibility and Ethnicity

A child's eligibility for a free or reduced price lunch (FRL) is the most commonly used proxy for low-income status in education studies nationwide. The use of the Choice Program by FRL eligible children is an indirect measure of access to school choice among low-income students. There were a total of 21,385 FRL-eligible students in the Choice Program which is 44.8 percent of the 48,798 FRL-eligible students in Denver and is an equal percentage of students as those participating in the Choice Program overall. The remaining 55.2 percent or the majority of FRL-eligible students are Resident students that attend their neighborhood schools. However, when participation in the Choice Program of the students who do not qualify for FRL is analyzed, the percentages are reversed. The majority, or 54.3 percent, is comprised of Choice students and Residents are only 46.7 percent. This suggests that there is some variation in participation in the Choice Program by income. (See Appendices H and J)

Another important question regarding the Choice Program is whether participation varies by student ethnicity. To meet the needs of Denver's diverse student body, children of all ethnicities need access to all available educational options. The three pie charts in Figure 4 illustrate the ethnic breakdown of all DPS students, Choice students and Resident students. The figures demonstrate that White and African-American public school students are more likely to participate in the Choice Program, whereas Hispanics and Asians are less likely to be Choice students. Hispanic students are a larger percentage of the students enrolled in their neighborhood schools. However, it is also true that Hispanic Choice students account for 51.4 percent of the total Choice population because they make up a larger proportion of the DPS enrollment overall.

Figure 4: DPS Students by Choice Status and Ethnicity



Choice Students by FRL and Ethnicity by High School Zone

The following section explores FRL and Choice as well as Ethnicity and Choice by high school zone. When the data are cross-tabulated at the zone level, a clear picture emerges of how these factors interact with school enrollment across Denver. Currently, two-thirds of the students enrolled in DPS qualify for FRL, and they are a significant proportion of the population in all zones. The percentage of FRL qualified students ranges from a low of 41 percent in the Jefferson zone to a high of 88 percent in both the Manual and Lincoln zones. (Table 9) There are three other zones, Montbello, West High School and North High School, where FRL populations equal 75 percent or more of the enrollment. The zone analysis concluded that all of these zones were among the Top Five in need of additional performing elementary capacity. Key findings from the analysis regarding students who Choice Within Zone are:

- In the zones where most children qualify for FRL, children attending other schools in their zones through the Choice Program also qualify for FRL.
- Children who Choice Within Zone in Jefferson, South High School and Washington zones are less likely than children in the neighborhood schools, (i.e., Residents,) in these zones to qualify for FRL.

Enrollment patterns differ for the students who use the Choice Program to attend a school outside their zone of residence. In this case, the percentage of students who choose neighborhood schools in Jefferson and South High School zones are more likely to be FRL-eligible than those who

Choice Within Zone; whereas they are equally likely in Washington and less likely in Montbello and West High School zones. Although the analysis has not considered whether the schools they are attending are performing, it appears that low-income students are accessing different schools through the Choice Program. In addition, when they choose to attend schools where enrollment includes both students who are FRL-eligible and those who do not qualify, they may be attending schools with more diverse student bodies than their assigned school. At the same time, there is some evidence that in the high-need zones, where most children are also low-income students, schools are enrolling students from other zones that may have better performing neighborhood schools.

An important finding of the above analysis was that Denver's Hispanic students are less likely than other ethnic groups to participate in the Choice Program, which is clear when the Hispanic portion of the pie is compared for Choice versus Resident students. The following analysis looks at whether these differences persist when students are categorized based on where they are choosing schools, (i.e. Choice Within Zone and Choice from Outside Zone.) Figure 5 reports a difference in the rate at which Hispanics use the Choice Program to attend a school outside of their zone when compared with other ethnicities. They are more likely to attend other neighborhood and non-neighborhood schools in the zones where they reside. In conclusion, other ethnic groups benefit more from the educational opportunities outside their neighborhoods that are made available through Denver's Choice Program. Complete data tables by FRL and Ethnicity are included as appendices to the report.

Table 9: Students Enrolled in DPS by School Type, Choice Status and High School Zone

	Resident		Choice Within Zone		Choice Outside Zone		Total Enrolled	
	Free or Reduced	Does Not Qualify	Free or Reduced	Does Not Qualify	Free or Reduced	Does Not Qualify	Free or Reduced	Does Not Qualify
Lincoln	88%	12%	90%	10%	86%	14%	88%	12%
East H.S.	46%	54%	44%	56%	44%	56%	45%	55%
Washington	55%	45%	39%	61%	40%	60%	47%	53%
Kennedy	63%	37%	63%	37%	67%	33%	64%	36%
North H.S.	84%	16%	70%	30%	73%	27%	77%	23%
South H.S.	51%	49%	19%	81%	60%	40%	53%	47%
Jefferson	46%	54%	24%	76%	37%	63%	41%	59%
West H.S.	91%	9%	86%	14%	63%	37%	81%	19%
Montbello	79%	21%	71%	29%	56%	44%	75%	25%
Manual	90%	10%	88%	12%	84%	16%	88%	12%
Total	71%	29%	67%	33%	58%	42%	67%	33%

Choice Program Participation and DPS School Performance

A primary objective of Denver’s Choice Program is to enables families to enroll their children in better performing district schools regardless of where they live. By voting with their feet, it is argued that families encourage changes in lower performing schools because they must compete for students. This report analyzed the data on school performance and the Choice Program to determine whether Denver children are accessing better performing neighborhood and non-neighborhood schools. The following important conclusions can be drawn from the bar chart (Figure 6) showing the percentage of Resident and Choice students in Denver’s neighborhood schools grouped by SPF rating:

- First, there is a relationship between school performance and the percentage of Choice students attending a school.
- Also, equal numbers of Resident and Choice students attend Distinguished neighborhood schools, but fewer students Choice within Zone, which suggests that they already have access to a performing school.
- Ten percent fewer Choice students attend schools that are rated Meet Expectations than attend Distinguished schools.
- As expected, both categories of performing schools attracted more Choice students from outside the neighborhood than from within.

- However, there are still substantial numbers, about one-third of enrolled students, that chose to attend non-performing schools.

When all public schools are included in the analysis, Figure 7 shows that, as expected, the percentage of Choice students increases with the inclusion of the non-neighborhood. (i.e., all Choice schools.) The relationship between performance and school choice persists and an additional six to seven percent of DPS students are attending other types of schools in their zones. There are, unfortunately, many Denver students who have not been able to access better performing schools through the Choice Program as seen in the high percentage of Resident enrollment in non-performing neighborhood schools. At the same time, almost a quarter of the students in these schools are choosing to attend them from outside the zone. Finally, this report has mentioned that there are schools in Denver for whom performance data is missing because they opened recently. When the analysis was conducted by school performance, the data showed that there are families in the Choice Program that have enrolled in these schools despite the fact that they are new and parents have no information on their performance.

Once again, it is clear from the above analysis that families are trying to use Denver’s Choice Program to find schools outside their immediate neighborhoods or schools that are not traditional public schools. These students now equal

Figure 5: Ethnicity of DPS Students Chosiced Within or Outside Their Residential Zone

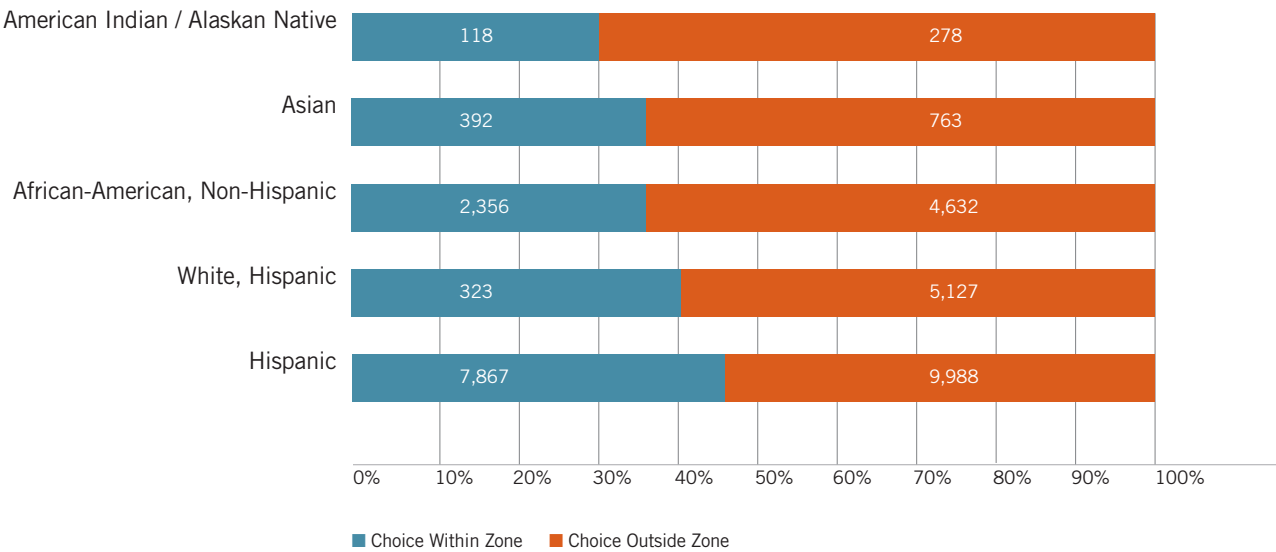


Figure 6: Percent of Students Enrolled in Neighborhood Schools by Performance and Choice Status

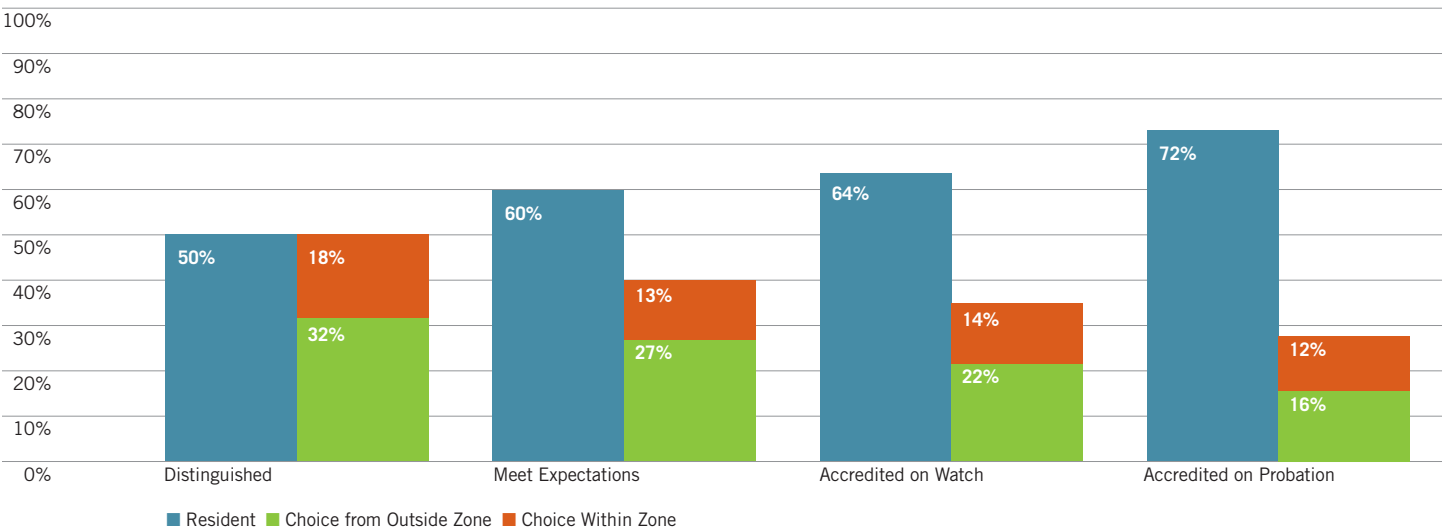
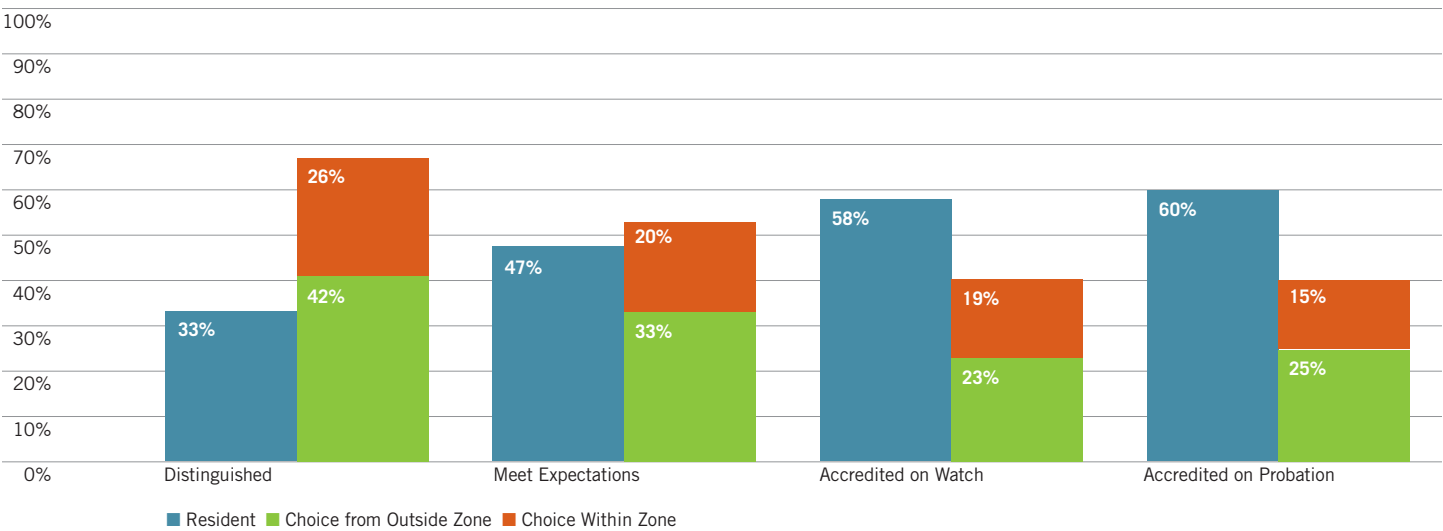


Figure 7: Percent of Students Enrolled in All Schools by Performance and Choice Status



almost half of the students that reside in the city. The data also show, however, that while the Choice Program creates options, it does not always increase access to performing options. The analysis showed first that most children in zones with more non-performing schools were more likely to Choice Within Zone. This may occur for complex and differing reasons in the diverse neighborhoods of Denver. Neighborhood children are more likely to attend performing schools, limiting the availability of seats through the Choice Program to students outside the schools' attendance areas. However, at the same time, other barriers such as information and travel may also restrict the possible choices for families most in need of performing options. In conclusion, the key finding that not only Resident students but Choice students are in non-performing schools underscores the fundamental premise of this report that creating performing schools in the neighborhoods where children live is an effective reform strategy.

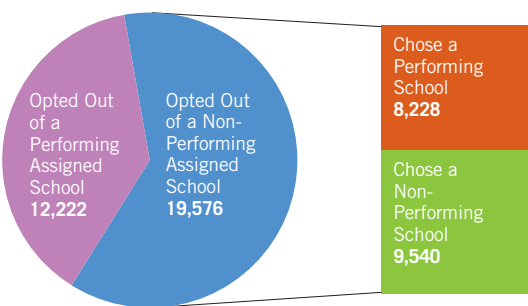
Choice Students Assigned to Non-Performing Schools

Denver enrollment data allows students to be analyzed based on the assigned neighborhood schools that Choice students would have attended had they not chosen to participate in the Choice Program. These data report how many students are able to leave their non-performing neighborhood school through the Choice Program. Of the 31,798 Choice students who reside in Denver, 62 percent, or 19,576 children, chose to attend another DPS school instead of their non-performing assigned neighborhood school. Of these students, 8,228 chose to attend one of Denver's performing neighborhood, magnet, charter, or alternative

schools. Conversely, there are 48 percent, or 9,450, of these students who chose instead to attend other non-performing schools in the DPS system, which supports the above finding that not all students use the Choice Program to attend a performing school. Although this result may be surprising, it is important to bear in mind that many families may perceive these other non-performing schools as better options than their assigned neighborhood schools.

The Choice Program provides Denver families with the opportunity to find what they believe to be the right schools for their children and they can choose whether to consider school performance data when making a decision. In short, these families are able to make their own choices in order to find the best options for their children.

Figure 8: Choice Students Who Reside in Denver by Assigned Neighborhood School and Performance of Current School



Conclusions and Recommendations

Locating Quality and Access is the first report on the Denver public schools and its students to quantify the need for better performing schools at the local level. It is also the first report to describe how families are using Choice to find the educational option they believe is best for their child or children. Denver currently has 34,668 performing seats in 59 performing schools, which is enough performing capacity to serve almost half of the students residing in Denver and enrolled in a DPS school. At the same time, some of those seats are occupied by the approximately 5,100 students from the surrounding counties who enroll in Denver schools. The challenge posed by the findings in this report is how best to meet the needs of the remaining half, students whose neighborhood schools are not performing and who find themselves choosing between two non-performing options rather than two performing ones.

By analyzing the data at the high school zone level, *Locating Quality and Access* captures important local differences and then prioritizes the areas where there are few performing schools and/or large numbers of public school students. A clear picture emerges of where the almost 37,000 seats are needed when the high school zones are ranked. Many of the performing seats are needed in the city's growing northeast neighborhoods and the city's densely populated northwest side in the Montbello, North High School and West High School zones. On the south side of the city there are many more performing schools and fewer school-age children.

When the grade divisions became the second level of analysis, the results contradicted the common wisdom that school performance problems are concentrated in middle and high schools. In Denver, 20,000 seats of performing elementary capacity are needed as opposed to 16,000 seats of secondary school capacity. This is not, however, entirely unexpected given that more elementary students are enrolled in public school. In addition, Denver has two large performing high schools that each enroll ten percent or more of the total high school population in the city. While the analysis incorporates private school attendance and the high school dropout rate when ranking the capacity to serve all school-age children, the study is focused on meeting the needs of students currently enrolled in DPS.

The analysis also found that charter schools, which are authorized and monitored by DPS, are playing an important role, especially the five performing schools that have enrolled at least half of their student body from the neighborhood. These schools serve elementary and middle school students and are located in the Top Five ranked high school

zones in need of performing elementary school capacity. They enrolled 2,400 students in 2008-09. These schools create the options that are implied and promised when choice programs are legislated.

Finally, the analysis of students enrolled in Denver schools by their Choice status, (i.e., Resident or Choice), identified the differences in the Choice population by geography, income as measured by FRL eligibility, ethnicity and the location of the schools. Among students residing in Denver, those residing in Manual, which was ranked fifth in need of performing elementary school options, were the most likely to use Choice. Students in the Montbello, North High School and West High School zones were just as likely to use Choice as students in other zones. FRL students are less likely to Choice from Outside the Zone than they are to Choice within Zone, but they are using the program. A notable variation occurred between the percent of Hispanics who Choice from Outside Zone, 24 percent, as compared to African-Americans, 37 percent, and Whites, 32 percent. Hispanics are not taking full advantage of all the options available in Denver.

An additional important finding was that students are more likely to Choice into a performing school. However, because there are not enough performing options, often students have no option but to enroll in a non-performing neighborhood school. Fully 48 percent of Choice students leaving non-performing neighborhood schools are enrolling in other non-performing schools. Locating new school options and improving neighborhood schools where these students live is not only sensible, but is an imperative for DPS and its partners in school reform, such as NACSA.

Recommendations

Locating Quality and Access' point-in-time analysis of the location of performing public schools in Denver and use of Choice by Denver students identifies the strengths and weaknesses inherent in a diverse district with school choice. Three key recommendations provide a strategic response to the need to increase access to better performing schools.

1. Focus school reform and school development efforts in the top three ranked high school zones.

These are communities where few schools are performing, but there are large populations of school-age children, most of who are enrolled in DPS schools. Montbello, West High School and North High School need thousands of elementary school seats and at least 1,000 middle and high school seats each. Moreover, students in Montbello reside a

long way from many of the performing schools that are available through the Choice program.

Charter schools should also be used to address the needs in these communities because they are successful at creating performing schools where nearby traditional public schools are not performing. For example, the Omar Blair Charter School in Montbello provides performing capacity for 800 students, 91 percent of whom are from the area. Montbello needs ten more of these schools as 100 percent of the school-age population is enrolled in a public school. There is currently one performing charter in the West High School zone, but none in the North High School zone. Charters are also providing essential performing capacity in the Lincoln, Manual and Washington zones.

2. Expand Denver's performing elementary capacity by an additional 10,000 seats or 20 schools in the next five years.

The success of all future reform efforts can be tied to the district's ability to increase the number of performing elementary schools, especially neighborhood schools. The challenges of addressing the educational needs of children that fall behind before middle school are well-documented and evidenced in the low performance of many high schools nationwide. As noted above, charters are an important part of the solution, especially when they are focused on meeting the needs of children that do not have a performing neighborhood option. However, neighborhood schools must play the central role when the goal is an additional 50% increase in performing elementary school capacity, half of the current citywide elementary service gap.

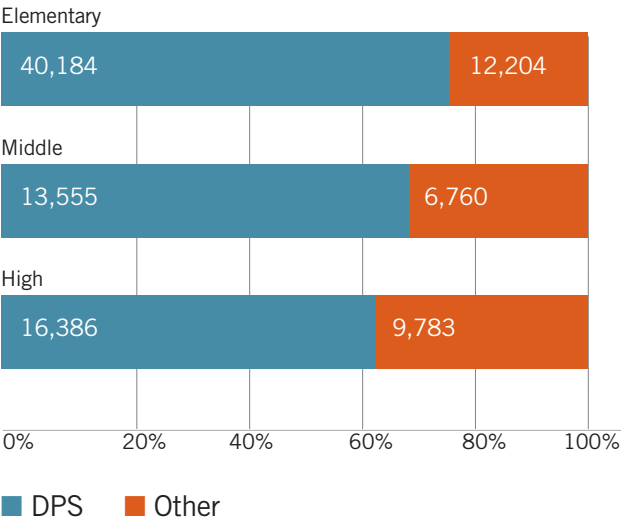
3. Improve access to the Choice Program for Hispanic students by targeted communication on the program and its school options as well as by locating school options in the neighborhoods where these students reside.

More than half of DPS students are Hispanic, and yet they are least likely to participate in the Choice Program. As a result, more Hispanic students are in non-performing neighborhood schools than other ethnic groups. Although this study did not address the specific barriers to participation, the data shows that Hispanics were less likely than other ethnic groups to use the Choice Program to attend another school outside of the high school zone in which they reside. This suggests that lack of information and distance, or a combination, are limiting factors for Hispanic students. Given that there are fewer performing schools in the high school zones where a majority of the students are Hispanic; these students are likely choosing to attend other non-performing schools within their zone. DPS should consider strategies to increase access of Hispanic students to performing schools through Choice in the short term, (i.e., enrolling in schools outside their zone of residence.) In the long term, Hispanic students will benefit from strategies designed to put schools in the three priority zones as well as the Lincoln zone. They will also benefit from strategies that build a foundation for academic success in all of Denver's elementary schools, neighborhood, magnet, or charter.

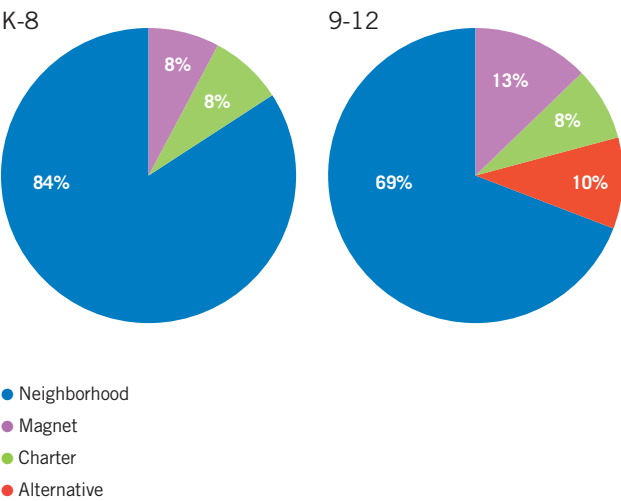
High School Zone Profiles

City Profile

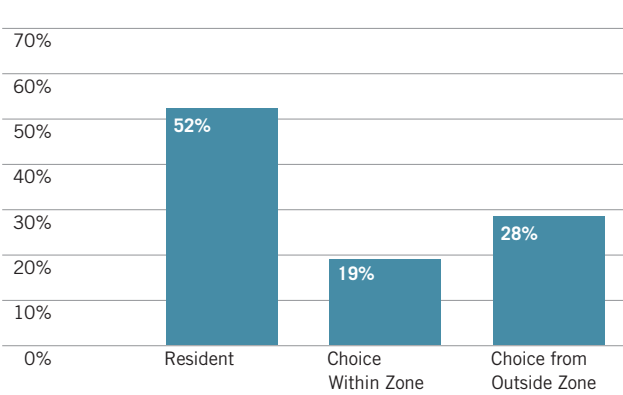
Enrollment of School-Age Population



Enrollment by DPS School Type

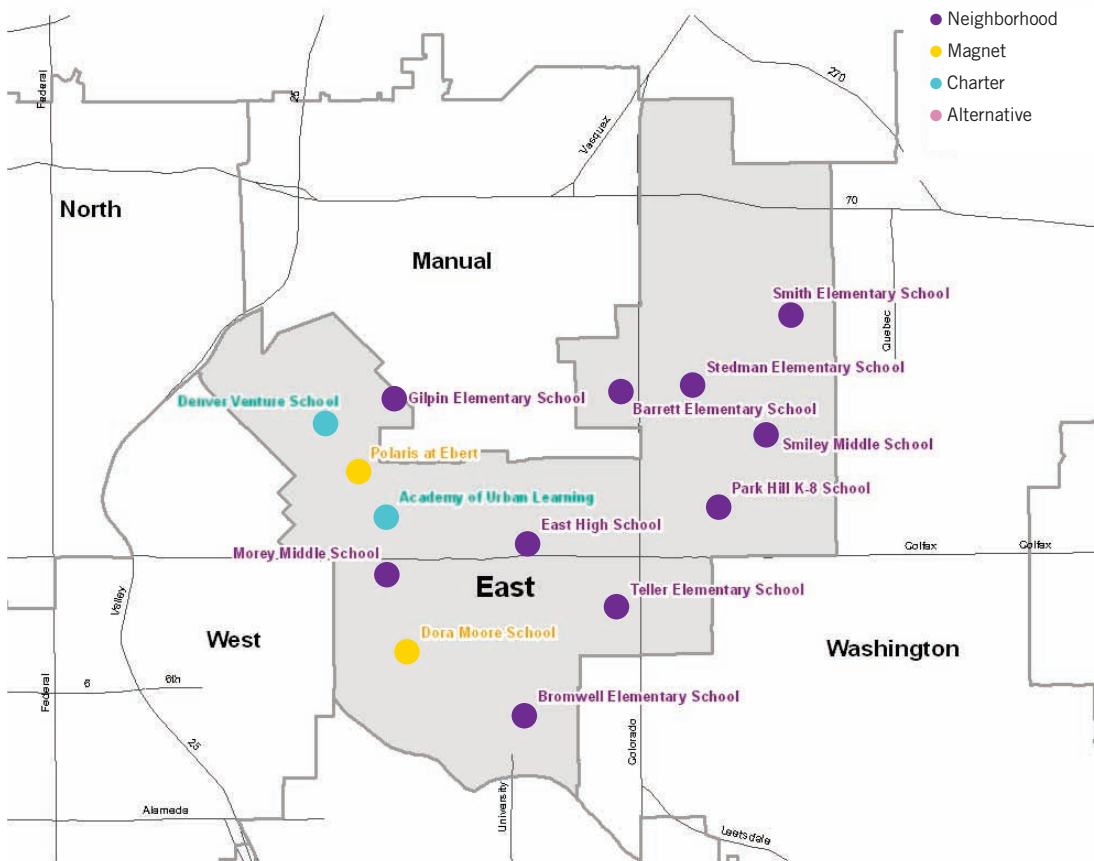


Choice Status of Enrolled DPS Students



High School Zone Profiles

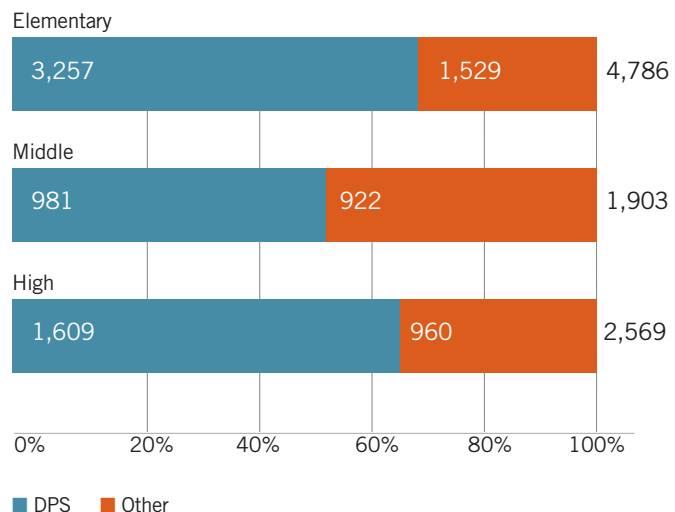
East High School



East High School

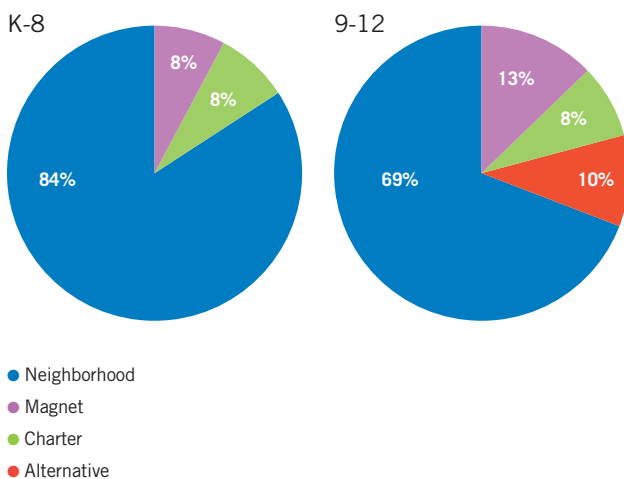
- Total population estimate: 86,754
- Total school-age population estimate (ages 4-17): 9,257
- Less than half of East High School students, 45 percent qualify for FRL and it is one of three zones with fewer low-income children.
- Fifty one percent of students residing in the East High School zone are in the Choice Program and do not attend their assigned neighborhood school, the second highest of all zones, among the three largest in the city.
- In this zone, 16% of elementary school students attend one of Denver's magnet schools, the highest percentage from a zone in Denver.

Estimated School-Age Population by School Type

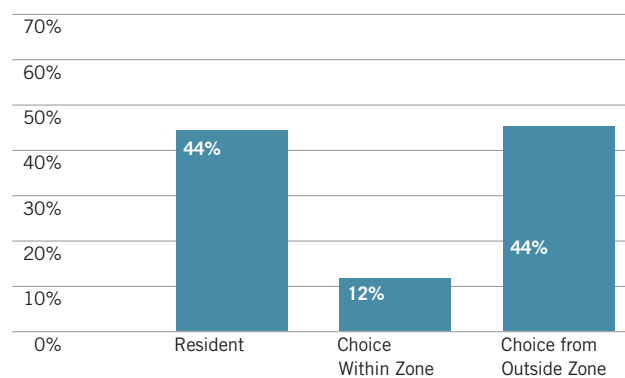


	Type	Grade Levels	Capacity	Total Enrollment	Overall SPF Rating	SPF Growth %	Space Utilization	Resident Enrollment	Choice Student Enrollment	Choice Students from Within Zone	Choice Students from Outside Zone
Elementary											
Barrett Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	237	285	Accredited On Probation	31%	120.3%	140	145	56	89
Smith Elementary	Neighborhood	ECE-5	556	483	Accredited On Probation	25%	86.9%	392	91	40	51
Stedman Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	354	341	Meets Expectations	81%	96.3%	180	161	89	72
Teller Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	424	354	Meets Expectations	61%	83.5%	174	180	78	102
Bromwell Elementary School	Neighborhood	K-5	300	331	Distinguished	91%	110.3%	217	114	42	72
Polaris at Ebert	Magnet	K-5	335	340	Distinguished	84%	101.5%	0	340	160	180
Dora Moore School	Magnet	ECE-8	395	409	Accredited On Watch	38%	103.5%	148	261	83	178
Gilpin Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-8	607	313	Accredited On Probation	42%	51.6%	213	100	25	75
Park Hill K-8 School	Neighborhood	ECE-8	636	543	Meets Expectations	67%	85.4%	301	242	107	135
Middle											
Morey Middle School	Neighborhood	6-8	880	841	Meets Expectations	53%	95.6%	100	741	114	627
Smiley Middle School	Neighborhood	6-8	1071	386	Accredited On Watch	33%	36.0%	250	136	1	135
High											
East High School	Neighborhood	9-12	1880	2076	Meets Expectations	76%	110.4%	935	1141	0	1141
Academy of Urban Learning	Charter	9-12	84	84	Accredited On Probation	33%	100.0%	0	84	7	77
Denver Venture School	Charter	9-12	79	79	Accredited On Watch	46%	100.0%	0	79	4	75

Enrollment by DPS School Type

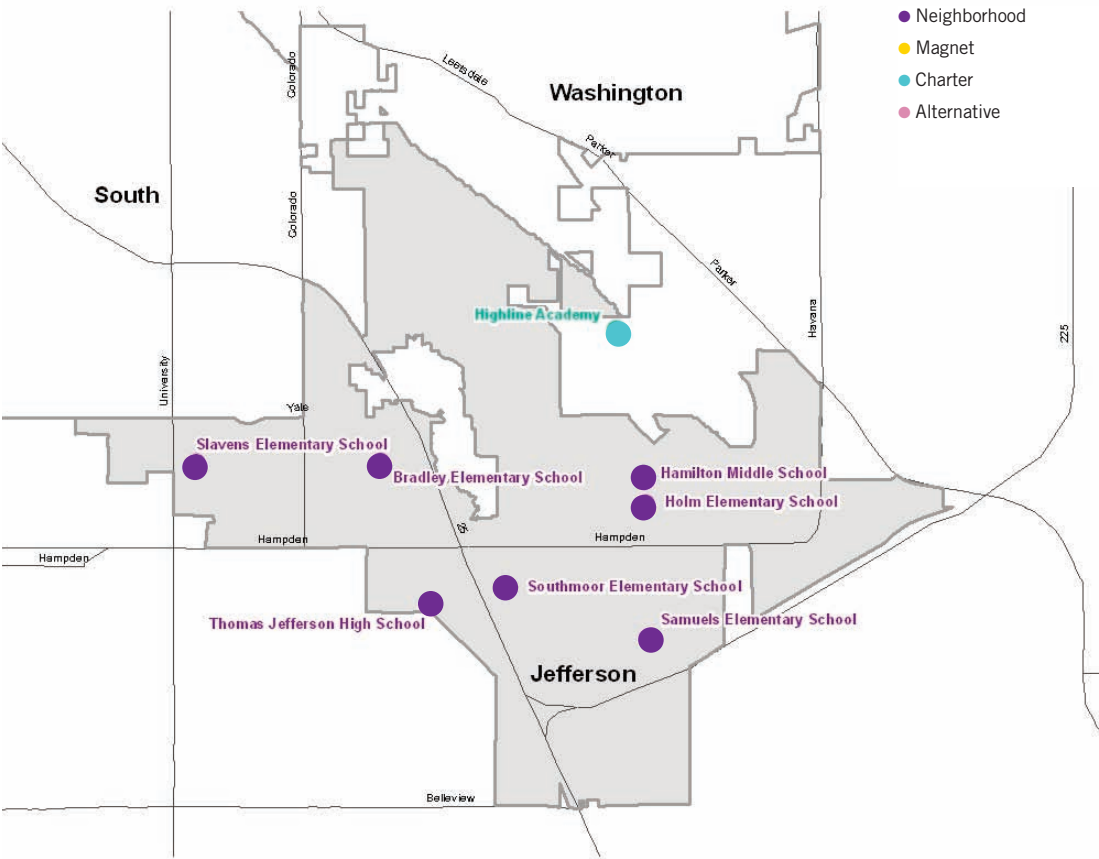


Choice Status of Enrolled DPS Students



High School Zone Profiles

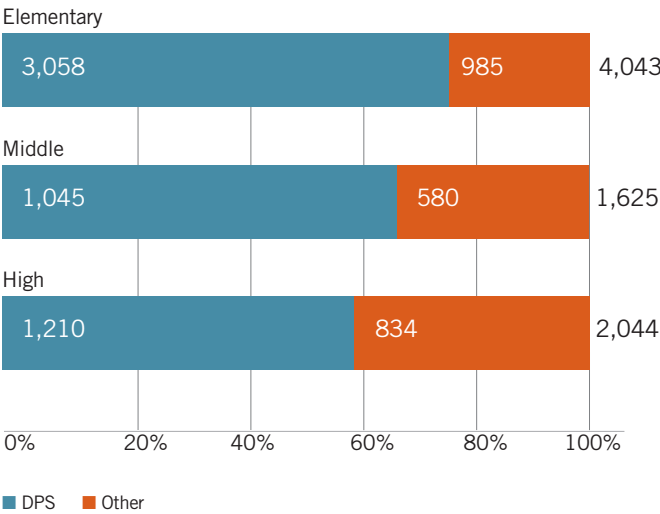
Jefferson



Jefferson

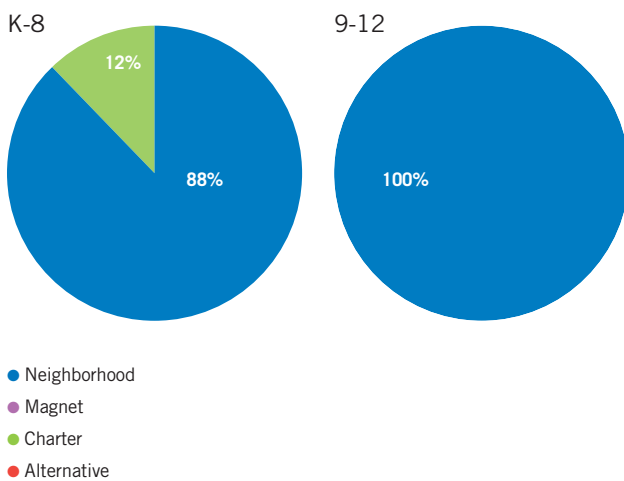
- Total population estimate: 63,280
- Total school-age population estimate (ages 4-17): 7,712
- Seven of the eight schools in the Jefferson zone are performing, which includes all of the elementary and middle schools located there.
- Almost two-thirds, 64 percent, of students residing in the Jefferson zone attend their assigned neighborhood school, the highest percentage of any zones.
- 41% of students in the Jefferson zone are eligible for free or reduced lunch, the lowest percentage of all zones.

Estimated School-Age Population by School Type

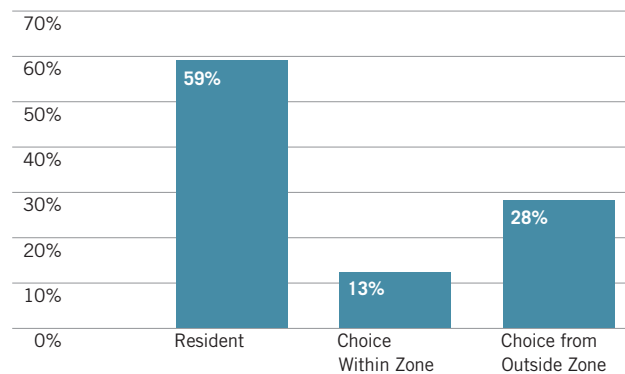


	Type	Grade Levels	Capacity	Total Enrollment	Overall SPF Rating	SPF Growth %	Space Utilization	Resident Enrollment	Choice Student Enrollment	Choice Students from Within Zone	Choice Students from Outside Zone
Elementary											
Bradley Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	504	456	Meets Expectations	61%	90.5%	188	268	156	112
Holm Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	524	501	Meets Expectations	66%	95.6%	466	35	19	16
Samuels Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	534	525	Meets Expectations	69%	98.3%	443	82	48	34
Southmoor Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	377	451	Meets Expectations	58%	119.6%	336	115	83	32
Slavens Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-8	427	470	Distinguished	85%	110.1%	267	203	113	90
Highline Academy	Charter	K-8	451	451	Meets Expectations	72%	100.0%	0	451	168	283
Middle											
Hamilton Middle School	Neighborhood	6-8	1230	966	Meets Expectations	65%	78.5%	530	436	61	375
High											
Thomas Jefferson High School	Neighborhood	9-12	1635	1152	Accredited On Watch	35%	70.5%	682	470	0	470

Enrollment by DPS School Type

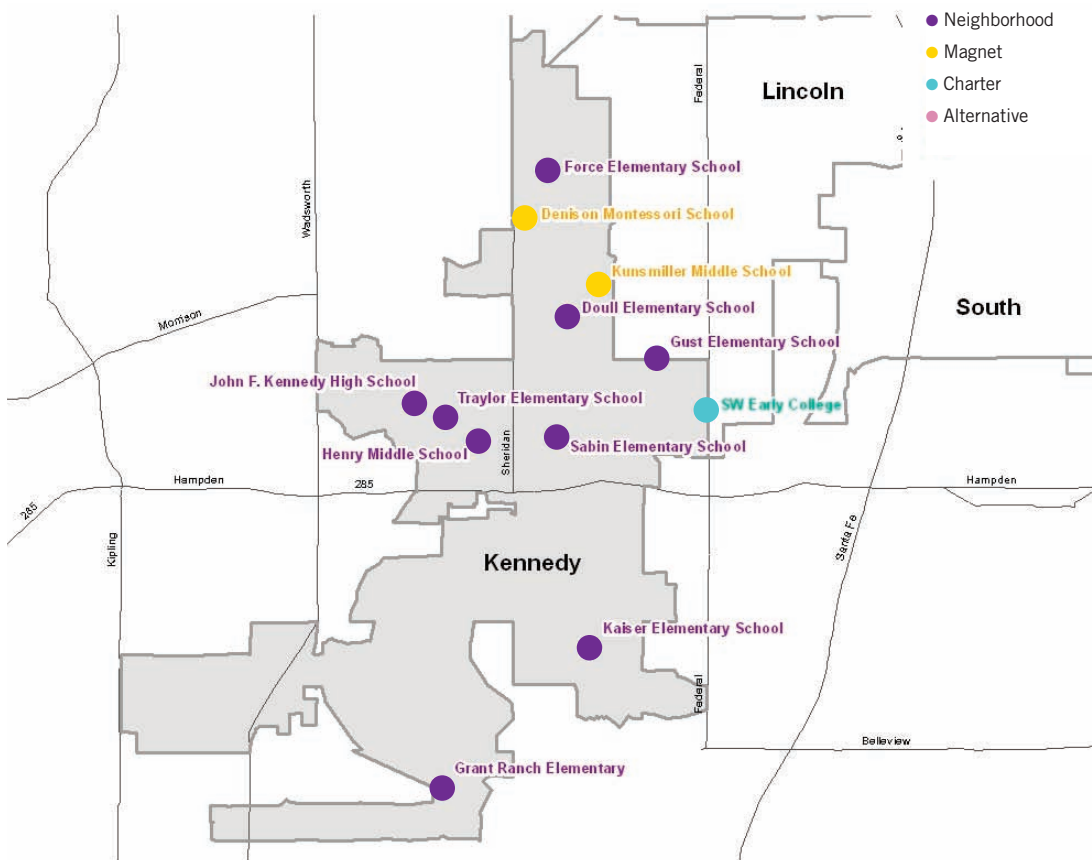


Choice Status of Enrolled DPS Students



High School Zone Profiles

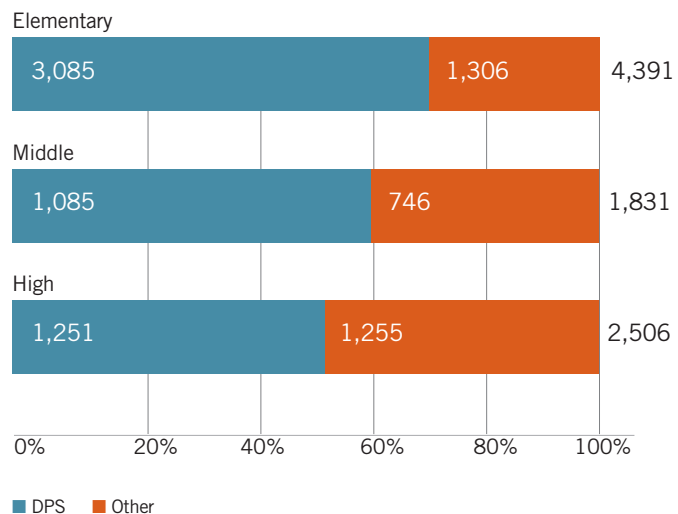
Kennedy



Kennedy

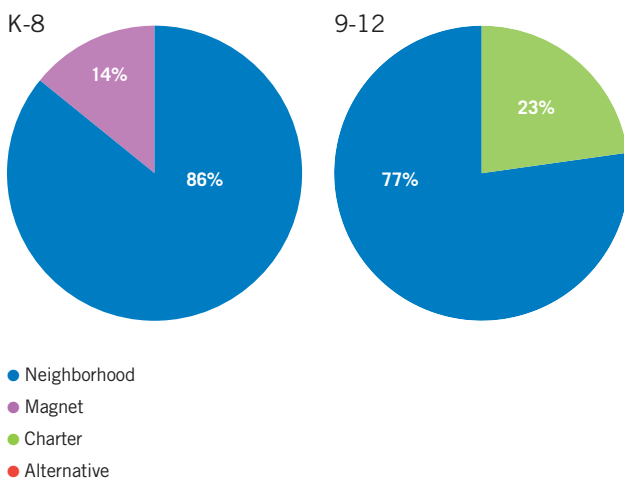
- Total population estimate: 50,877
- Total school-age population estimate (ages 4-17): 8,727
- Kennedy has the highest percentage of high school students attending charter schools at 23%.
- The majority of students residing in the Kennedy zone, 62%, attend their assigned neighborhood school, the second highest percentage of all zones.
- Only half of Kennedy's high school age students are enrolled in public school among the fewest in Denver.

Estimated School-Age Population by School Type

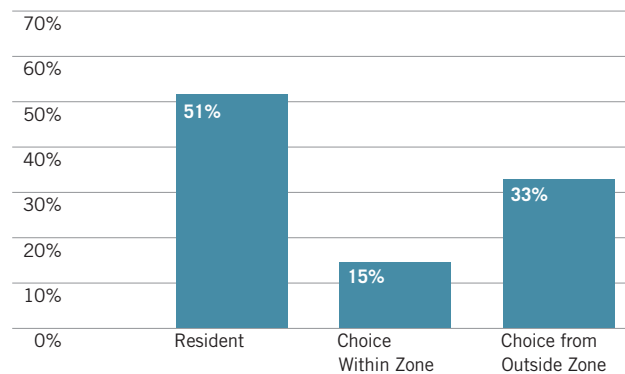


	Type	Grade Levels	Capacity	Total Enrollment	Overall SPF Rating	SPF Growth %	Space Utilization	Resident Enrollment	Choice Student Enrollment	Choice Students from Within Zone	Choice Students from Outside Zone
Elementary											
Denison Montessori School	Magnet	3yrs-6	383	445	Meets Expectations	66%	116.2%	0	445	149	296
Doull Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	616	499	Accredited On Watch	50%	81.0%	393	106	27	79
Force Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	556	514	Meets Expectations	79%	92.4%	416	98	20	78
Gust Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	594	471	Meets Expectations	63%	79.3%	268	203	48	155
Kaiser Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	470	353	Accredited On Watch	34%	75.1%	182	171	73	98
Sabin Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	694	611	Accredited On Watch	45%	88.0%	234	377	203	174
Traylor Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	514	586	Meets Expectations	58%	114.0%	332	254	142	112
Grant Ranch Elementary	Neighborhood	ECE-8	734	665	Meets Expectations	70%	90.6%	472	193	81	112
Middle											
Henry Middle School	Neighborhood	6-8	990	935	Accredited On Watch	38%	94.4%	516	419	148	271
Kunsmiller Middle School	Magnet	7-8	1412	297	Accredited On Watch	39%	21.0%	0	297	100	197
High											
John F. Kennedy High School	Neighborhood	9-12	1930	1250	Accredited On Watch	59%	64.8%	765	485	0	485
SW Early College	Charter	9-12	370	370	Meets Expectations	56%	100.0%	0	370	87	283

Enrollment by DPS School Type

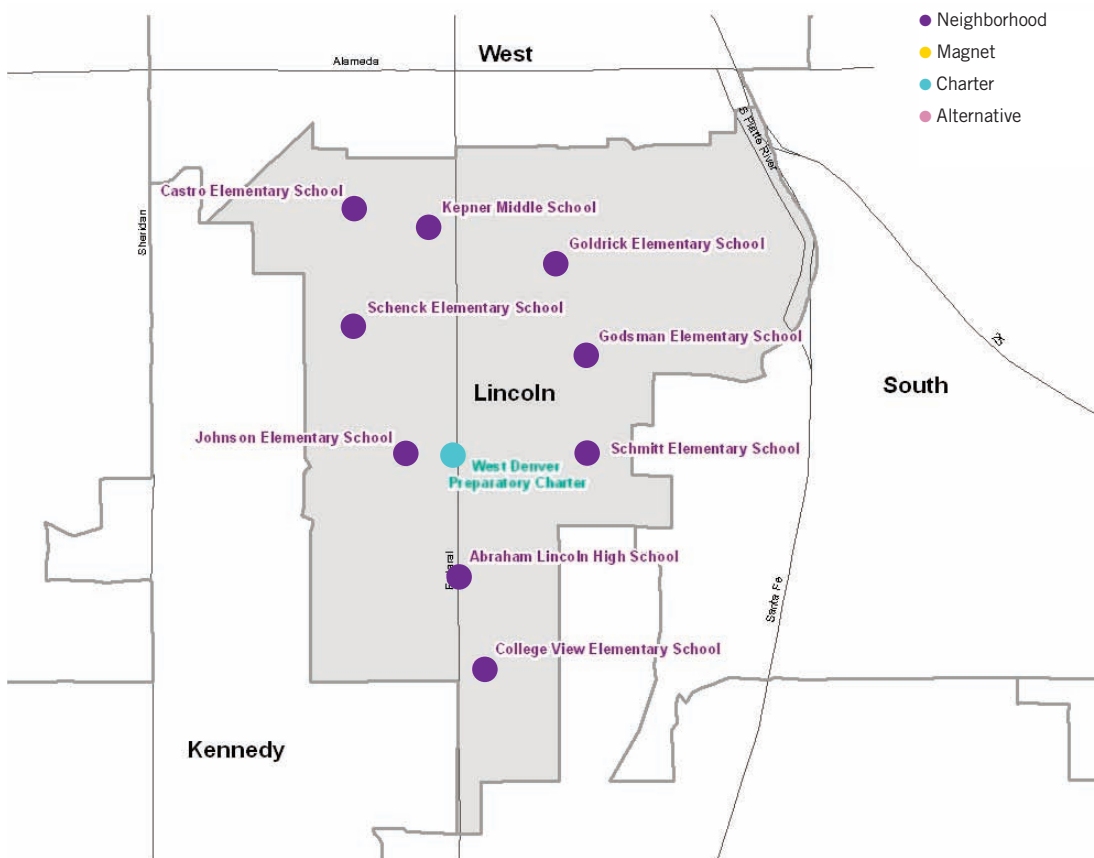


Choice Status of Enrolled DPS Students



High School Zone Profiles

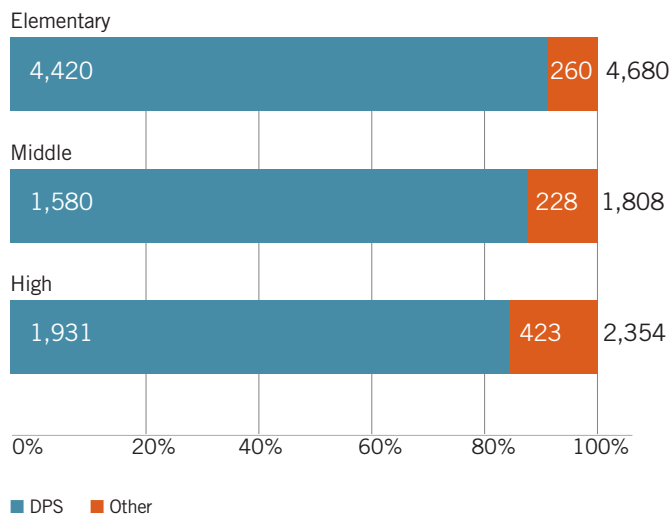
Lincoln



Lincoln

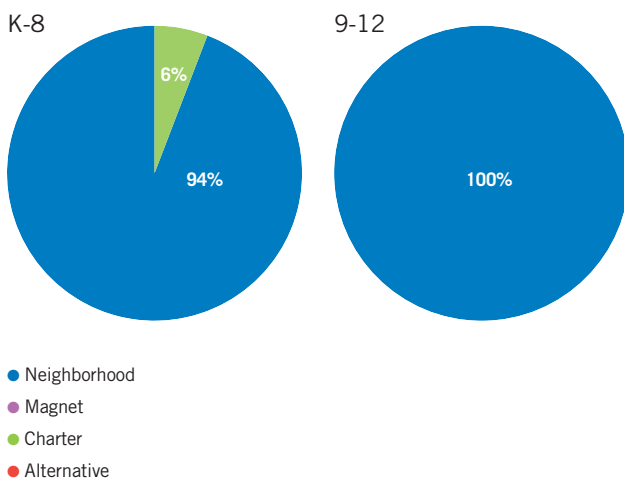
- Total population estimate: 39,347
- Total school-age population estimate (ages 4-17): 8,842
- The majority of students in the Lincoln zone, 55%, are residents who attend their assigned neighborhood school.
- A high percentage of all enrolled students in Lincoln, 88%, qualify for the FRL program. This is equal to only one other zone, Montbello, and is the largest percentage in Denver's high school zones.
- Ninety percent of students in Lincoln attend a DPS school, the second highest of all zones.

Estimated School-Age Population by School Type

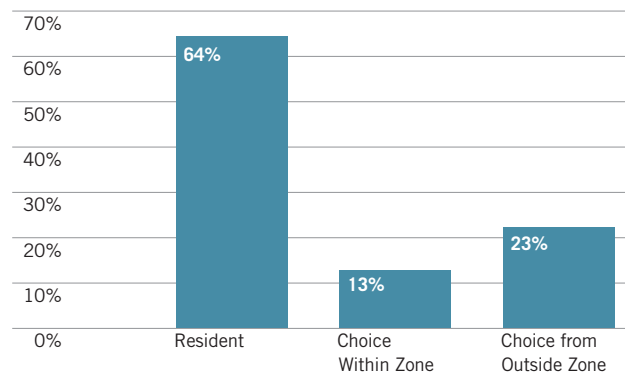


	Type	Grade Levels	Capacity	Total Enrollment	Overall SPF Rating	SPF Growth %	Space Utilization	Resident Enrollment	Choice Student Enrollment	Choice Students from Within Zone	Choice Students from Outside Zone
Elementary											
Castro Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	573	701	Meets Expectations	55%	122.3%	475	226	79	147
College View Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	437	412	Meets Expectations	56%	94.3%	295	117	64	53
Godsman Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	511	492	Accredited On Watch	44%	96.3%	349	143	95	48
Goldrick Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	556	616	Meets Expectations	61%	110.8%	428	188	125	63
Johnson Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	444	411	Accredited On Watch	50%	92.6%	293	118	74	44
Schenck Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	581	616	Accredited On Watch	34%	106.0%	372	244	120	124
Schmitt Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	399	403	Meets Expectations	63%	101.0%	341	62	31	31
Middle											
Kepner Middle School	Neighborhood	6-8	1295	958	Accredited On Watch	45%	74.0%	736	222	105	117
West Denver Preparatory Charter	Charter	6-8	311	311	Distinguished	92%	100.0%	0	311	174	137
High											
Abraham Lincoln High School	Neighborhood	9-12	2050	1728	Accredited On Watch	38%	84.3%	991	737	0	737

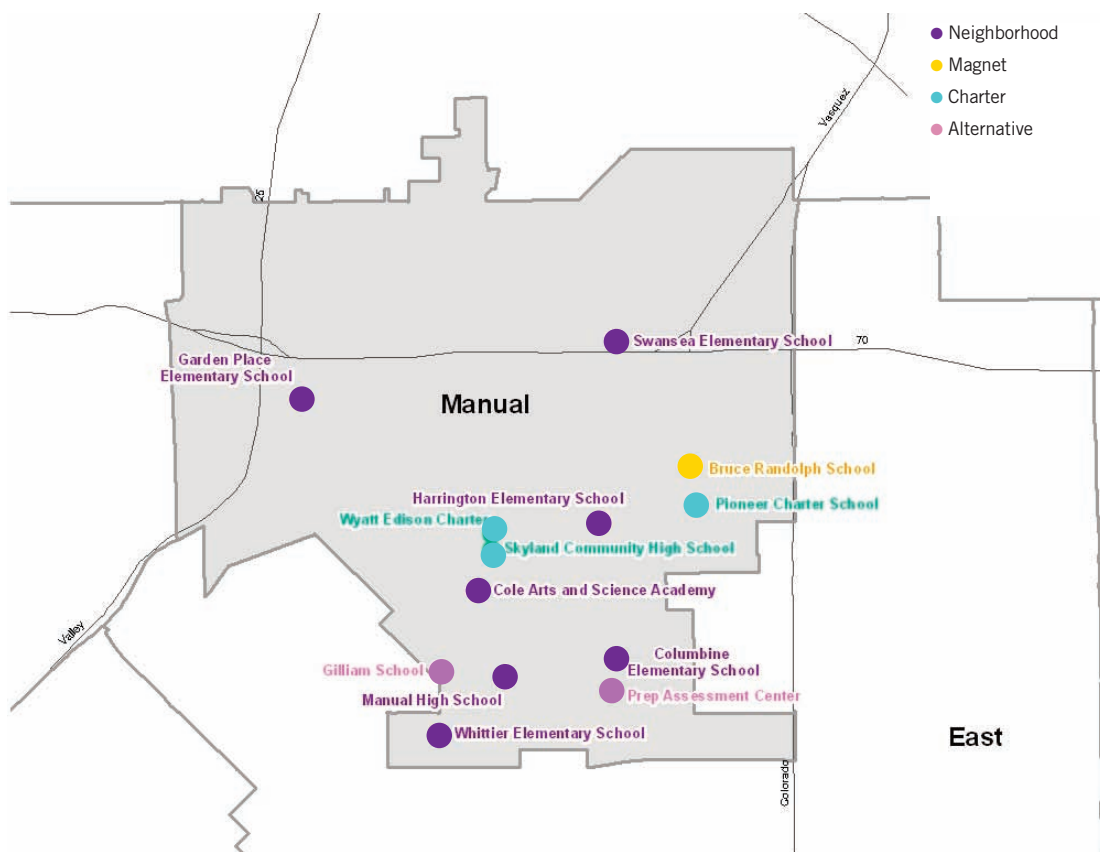
Enrollment by DPS School Type



Choice Status of Enrolled DPS Students



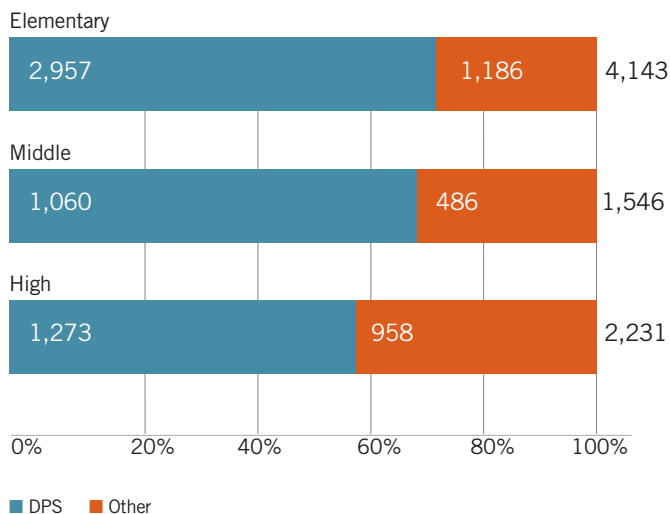
High School Zone Profiles Manual



Manual

- Total population estimate: 32,705
- Total school-age population estimate (ages 4-17): 7,920
- The Manual zone has the fewest performing schools, with only 3 of 12 schools with ratings of Meets Expectations or Distinguished.
- Fifty-five percent of students in the Manual zone are in the Choice Program, the highest percentage of all zones.
- The Manual zone, like Lincoln, reports the highest percentage of students who qualify for FRL, 88%, in the city.

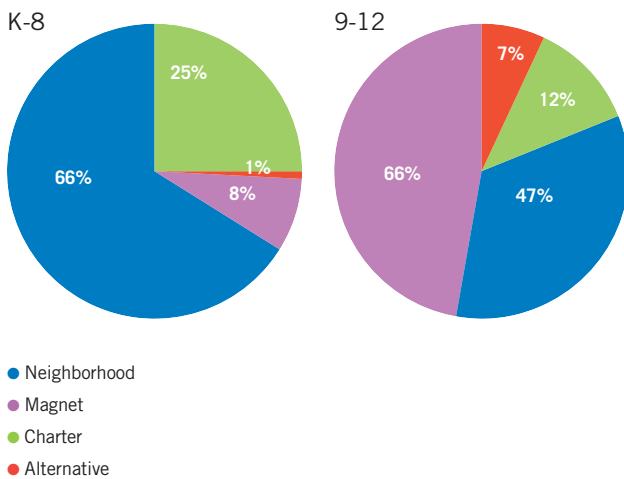
Estimated School-Age Population by School Type



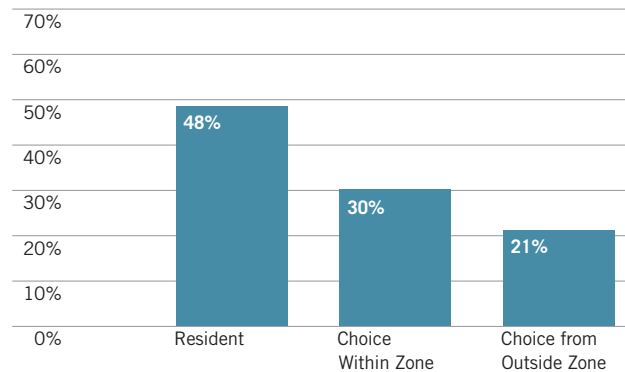
	Type	Grade Levels	Capacity	Total Enrollment	Overall SPF Rating	SPF Growth %	Space Utilization	Resident Enrollment	Choice Student Enrollment	Choice Students from Within Zone	Choice Students from Outside Zone
Elementary											
Columbine Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-6	435	300	Meets Expectations	55%	69.0%	209	91	36	55
Garden Place Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-6	534	343	Accredited On Watch	56%	64.2%	295	48	15	33
Harrington Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-6	577	471	Meets Expectations	58%	81.6%	311	160	95	65
Swansea Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-6	624	566	Accredited On Watch	45%	90.7%	490	76	46	30
Pioneer Charter School	Charter	ECE-6	392	306	Accredited On Watch	34%	78.1%	0	306	222	84
Cole Arts and Science Academy	Neighborhood	ECE-7	1208	550	Accredited On Watch	55%	45.5%	324	226	139	87
Whittier Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-7	314	297	Accredited On Watch	46%	94.6%	119	178	52	126
Wyatt Edison Charter	Charter	K-8	666	666	Meets Expectations	61%	100.0%	0	666	430	236
High											
Manual High School	Neighborhood	9-10	1315	294	Accredited On Watch	53%	22.4%	196	98	0	98
Skyland Community High School	Charter	9-12	105	105	Accredited On Probation	27%	100.0%	0	105	52	53
Multi-Level											
Gilliam School*	Alternative	K-12	n/a	46	No Data	n/a	No Data	0	46	37	9
Prep Assessment Center	Alternative	6-12	246	38	Accredited On Probation	9%	15.4%	0	38	7	31
Bruce Randolph School	Magnet	6-12	942	717	Accredited on Watch	57%	76.1%	331	386	300	86

*Schools not included in the overall performance analysis

Enrollment by DPS School Type

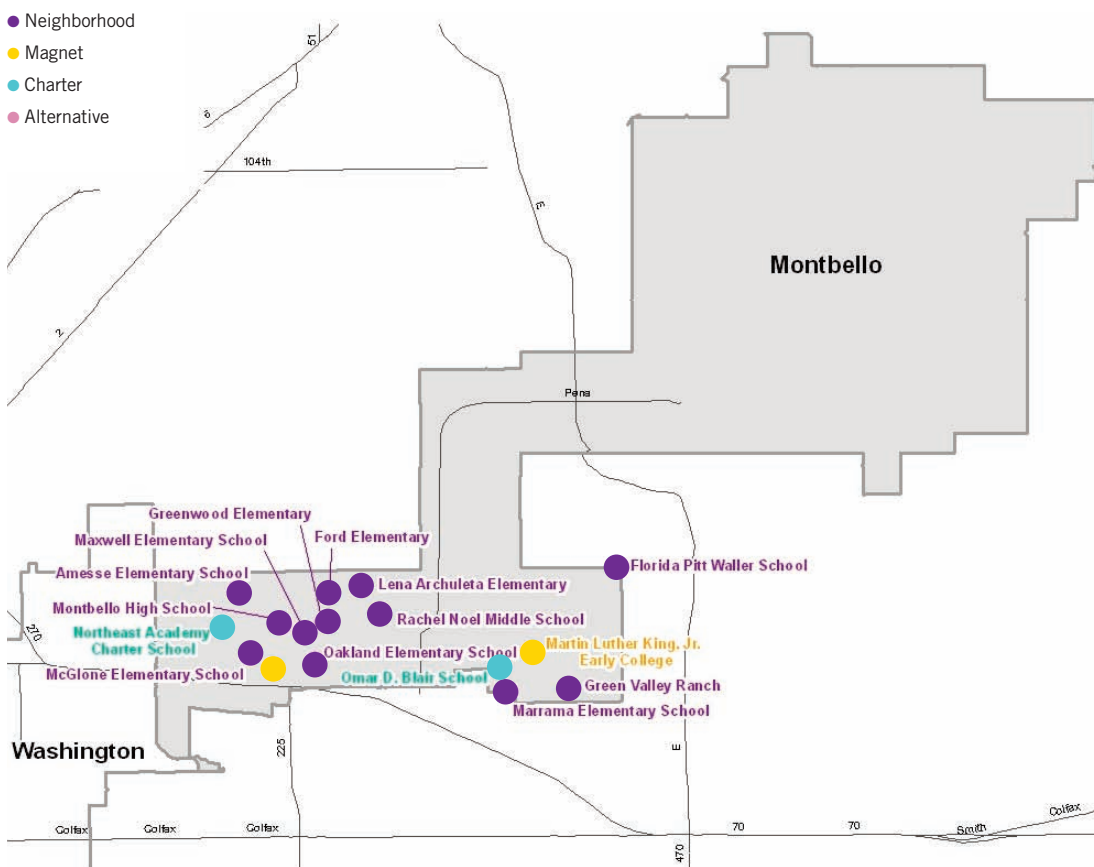


Choice Status of Enrolled DPS Students



High School Zone Profiles

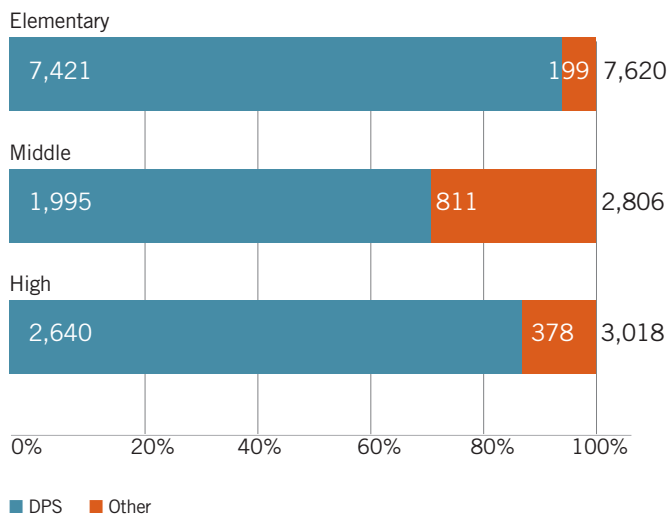
Montbello



Montbello

- Total population estimate: 54,041
- Total school-age population estimate (ages 4-17): 12,388. However, the actual 2008 K-12 enrollment was 13,444. There were more elementary and middle school students than estimated.
- The Montbello zone ranks highest in need for performing seats at the high school level.
- The Montbello zone has the lowest percentage of students who Choice from Outside the Zone, only 6%, and the second highest percentage of resident students, with 63%.
- Only 24% of schools, 4 in 17, in the zone are performing, the second lowest percentage in the city.
- In Montbello, 91.5 percent of high school students are enrolled in public school more than twice the percent than the zone with the lowest enrollment.

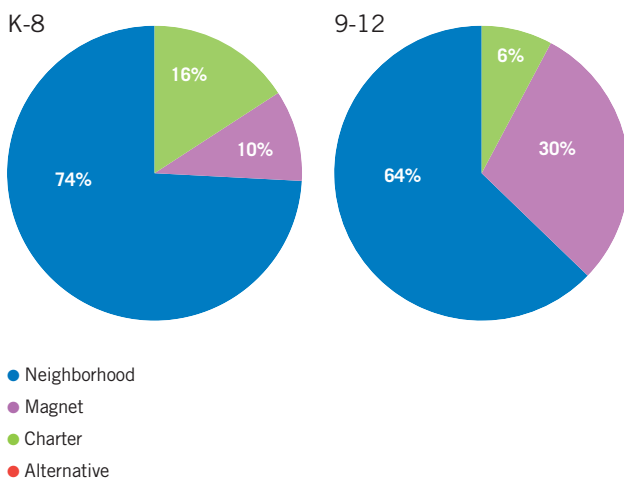
Estimated School-Age Population by School Type



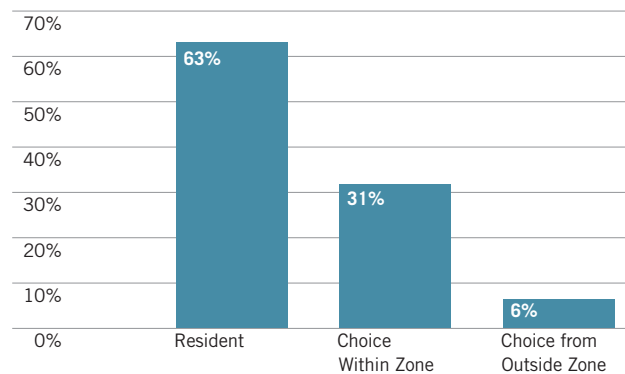
	Type	Grade Levels	Capacity	Total Enrollment	Overall SPF Rating	SPF Growth %	Space Utilization	Resident Enrollment	Choice Student Enrollment	Choice Students from Within Zone	Choice Students from Outside Zone
Elementary											
Amesse Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	599	552	Accredited On Watch	53%	92.2%	457	95	81	14
Ford Elementary	Neighborhood	ECE-5	671	666	Accredited On Watch	37%	99.3%	574	92	79	13
Green Valley Ranch	Neighborhood	ECE-5	627	607	Accredited On Probation	26%	96.8%	494	113	99	14
Lena Archuleta Elementary	Neighborhood	ECE-5	539	630	Meets Expectations	68%	116.9%	495	135	119	16
Marrama Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	675	544	Accredited On Watch	53%	80.6%	425	119	101	18
Maxwell Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	541	556	Meets Expectations	58%	102.8%	435	121	109	12
McGlone Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	549	575	Accredited On Probation	42%	104.7%	472	103	94	9
Oakland Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	569	503	Accredited On Probation	24%	88.4%	369	134	121	13
Farrell B. Howell School	Magnet	ECE-8	899	682	Accredited On Watch	54%	75.9%	0	682	653	29
Florida Pitt Waller School	Neighborhood	ECE-8	911	881	Accredited On Watch	51%	96.7%	542	339	317	22
Greenwood Elementary	Neighborhood	ECE-8	701	782	Meets Expectations	55%	111.6%	460	322	308	14
Northeast Academy Charter School	Charter	K-8	455	455	Accredited On Probation	26%	100.0%	0	455	346	109
Omar D. Blair	Charter	K-8	882	791	Meets Expectations	61%	89.7%	0	791	723	68
Middle											
Rachel Noel Middle School	Neighborhood	6-8	964	638	Accredited On Probation	28%	66.2%	537	101	93	8
High											
Montbello High School	Neighborhood	9-12	1970	1686	Accredited On Watch	47%	85.6%	1649	37	0	37
Multi-Level											
Amandla Charter Academy**	Charter	K-12	637	429	Accredited on Probation	n/a	67.3%	0	429	182	247
Martin Luther King, Jr. Early College	Magnet	6-12	1918	1079	Accredited On Watch	44%	56.3%	727	352	315	37

**School closed after 2008-2009 school year

Enrollment by DPS School Type

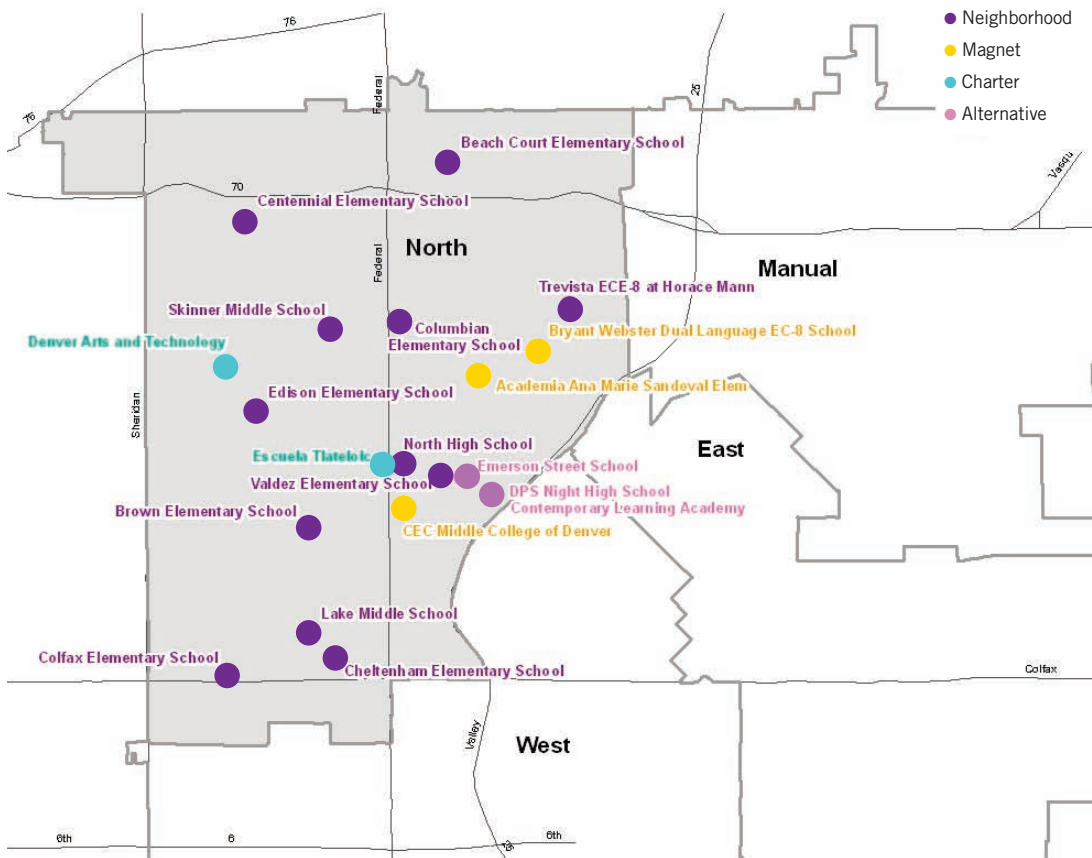


Choice Status of Enrolled DPS Students



High School Zone Profiles

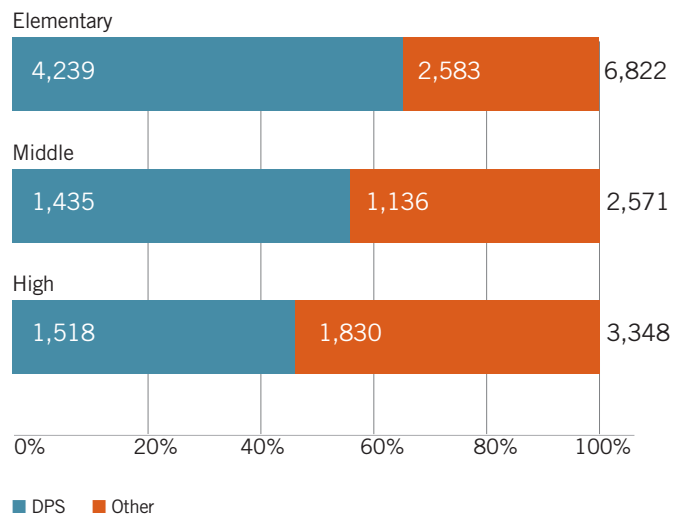
North High School



North High School

- Total population estimate: 70,688
- Total school-age population estimate (ages 4-17): 12,741
- The North High School zone ranks highest in need for performing seats at the middle school level.
- Only 20% of schools, 4 of 20, in the zone are performing, the smallest percentage in any zone and as few schools as in Montbello.
- Only 56% of children in the North High School zone are enrolled in public schools among the smallest percentage in the City.
- Fifty-one percent of students residing in the North High School zone are in the Choice Program and do not attend their assigned neighborhood school as many as in the East High School zone.

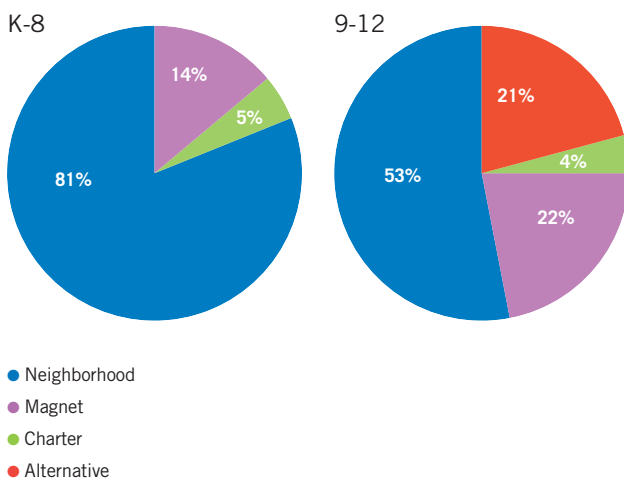
Estimated School-Age Population by School Type



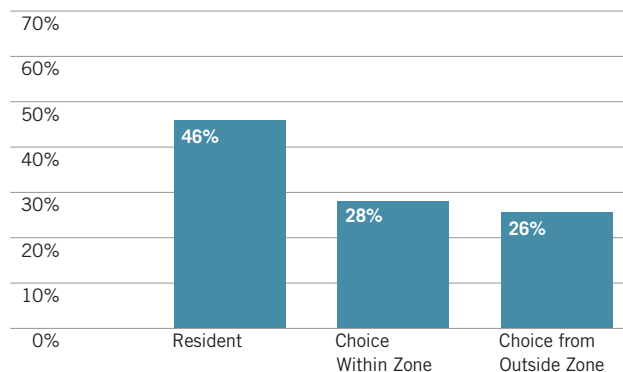
	Type	Grade Levels	Capacity	Total Enrollment	Overall SPF Rating	SPF Growth %	Space Utilization	Resident Enrollment	Choice Student Enrollment	Choice Students from Within Zone	Choice Students from Outside Zone
Elementary											
Academia Ana Marie Sandoval Elem	Magnet	3yrs-6	400	382	Meets Expectations	66%	95.5%	n/a	382	268	114
Beach Court Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	332	354	Meets Expectations	47%	106.6%	265	89	55	34
Brown Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	479	385	Accredited On Watch	53%	80.4%	230	155	96	59
Cheltenham Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	624	461	Accredited On Probation	26%	73.9%	328	133	52	81
Colfax Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	332	364	Accredited On Watch	25%	109.6%	254	110	40	70
Columbian Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	314	320	Accredited On Watch	50%	101.9%	140	180	146	34
Edison Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	541	567	Accredited On Watch	24%	104.8%	233	334	246	88
Bryant Webster Dual Language School	Magnet	ECE-8	481	466	Meets Expectations	68%	96.9%	60	406	332	74
Centennial Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-8	664	582	Accredited On Watch	30%	87.7%	223	359	257	102
Trevista ECE-8 at Horace Mann	Neighborhood	ECE-8	821	663	Accredited On Probation	33%	80.8%	485	178	93	85
Valdez Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-8	612	396	Accredited On Watch	45%	64.7%	110	286	220	66
Denver Arts and Technology	Charter	K-8	301	301	Accredited On Watch	43%	100.0%	n/a	301	137	164
Middle											
Lake Middle School	Neighborhood	6-8	1030	595	Accredited On Probation	20%	57.8%	413	182	36	146
Skinner Middle School	Neighborhood	6-8	1080	338	Accredited On Watch	27%	31.3%	215	123	73	50
High											
North High School	Neighborhood	9-12	2120	961	Accredited On Probation	18%	45.3%	711	250	0	250
CEC Middle College of Denver	Magnet	9-12	800	396	Meets Expectations	69%	49.5%	n/a	396	124	272
Contemporary Learning Academy	Magnet	9-12	425	188	Accredited On Probation	24%	44.2%	n/a	188	27	161
Denver Online High School*	Alternative	9-12	na	121	Accredited On Watch	0%	n/a	n/a	121	5	116
DPS Night High School*	Alternative	9-12	na	24	No Data	n/a	n/a	n/a	24	5	19
GED High School*	Alternative	16.5-21yrs	na	7	No Data	n/a	n/a	n/a	7	2	5
Multi-Level											
Emerson Street School	Alternative	7-12	224	53	Accredited On Probation	18%	23.7%	n/a	53	6	47
Escuela Tlatelolco	Charter	7-12	82	82	Accredited On Watch	43%	100.0%	n/a	82	23	59

*Schools not included in overall performance analysis

Enrollment by DPS School Type

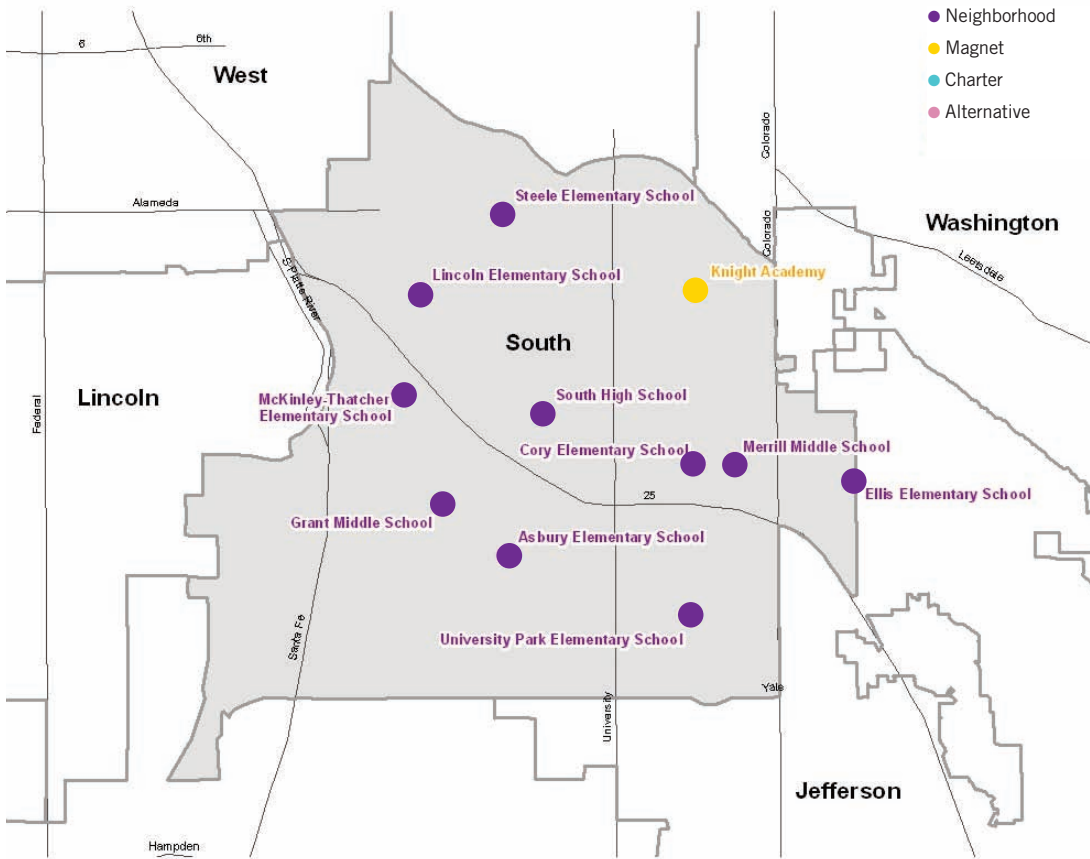


Choice Status of Enrolled DPS Students



High School Zone Profiles

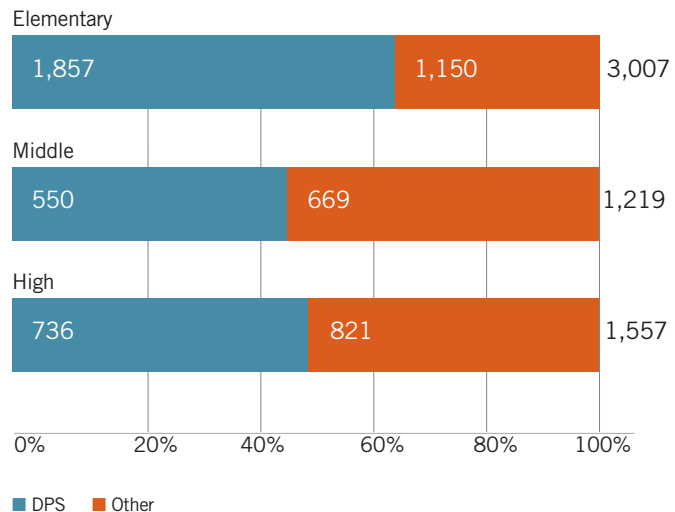
South High School



South High School

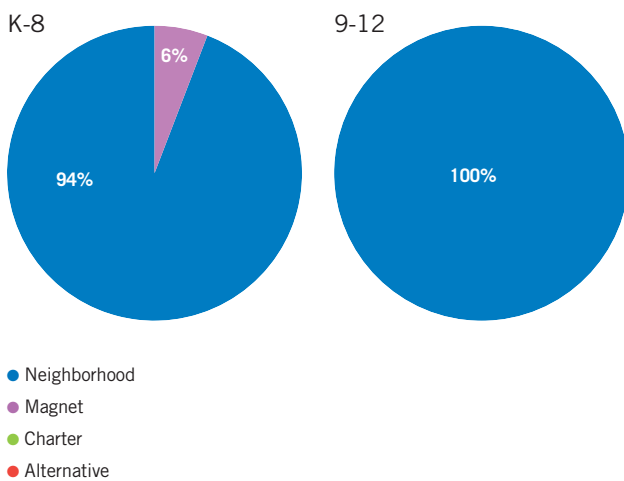
- Total population estimate: 60,076
- Total school-age population estimate (ages 4-17): 5,782
- South High School zone ranks lowest in need for performing schools at the elementary and middle school levels.
- South High School zone has the smallest percentage of resident students who choose to attend another neighborhood school in the zone—only 7 percent Choice from Within the Zone.
- Only 54% of students in the South High School zone attend a public school, the lowest percentage in Denver.

Estimated School-Age Population by School Type

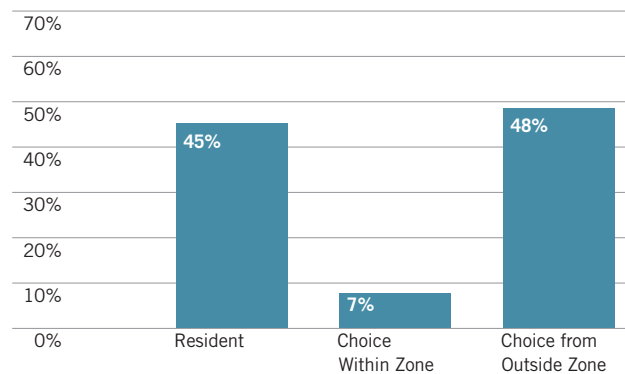


	Type	Grade Levels	Capacity	Total Enrollment	Overall SPF Rating	SPF Growth %	Space Utilization	Resident Enrollment	Choice Student Enrollment	Choice Students from Within Zone	Choice Students from Outside Zone
Elementary											
Lincoln Elementary School	Neighborhood	3yrs-5	290	301	Distinguished	81%	103.8%	80	221	58	163
Asbury Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	302	336	Meets Expectations	70%	111.3%	205	131	33	98
Cory Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	348	417	Distinguished	76%	119.8%	214	203	75	128
Ellis Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	524	601	Accredited On Watch	48%	114.7%	520	81	2	79
McKinley-Thatcher Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	229	229	Meets Expectations	78%	100.0%	67	162	38	124
Steele Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	406	438	Meets Expectations	81%	107.9%	213	225	84	141
University Park Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	434	449	Distinguished	86%	103.5%	225	224	47	177
Knight Academy	Magnet	K-5	379	230	Accredited On Probation	5%	60.7%	0	230	9	221
Middle											
Grant Middle School	Neighborhood	6-8	555	318	Meets Expectations	58%	57.3%	239	79	5	74
Merrill Middle School	Neighborhood	6-8	1106	537	Meets Expectations	74%	48.6%	211	326	14	312
High											
South High School	Neighborhood	9-12	1655	1377	Accredited On Watch	53%	83.2%	387	990	0	990

Enrollment by DPS School Type

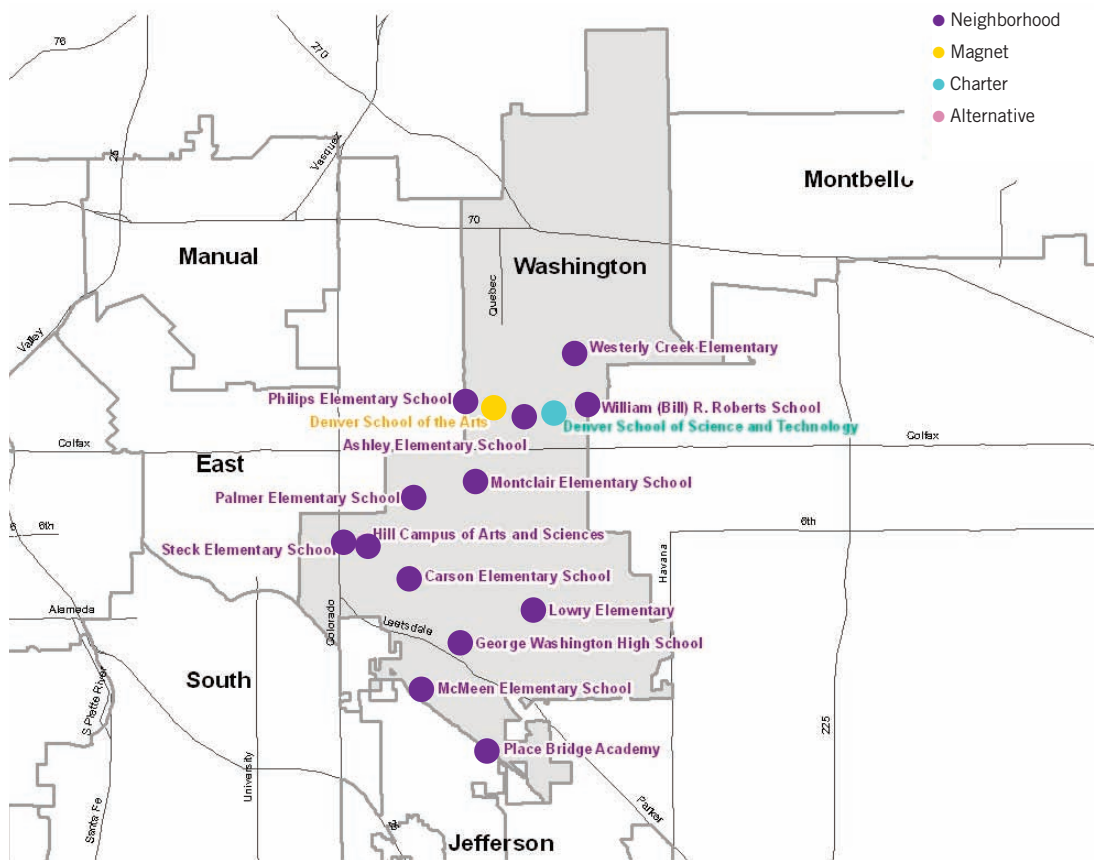


Choice Status of Enrolled DPS Students



High School Zone Profiles

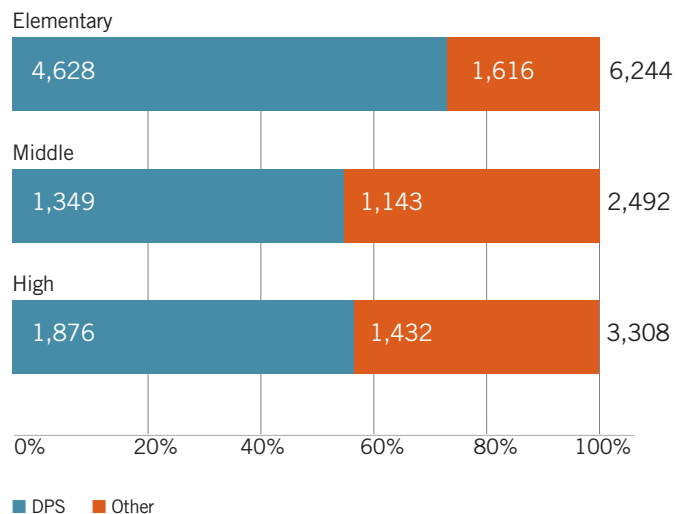
Washington



Washington

- Total population estimate: 81,935
- Total school-age population estimate (ages 4-17): 12,044
- Washington ranks lowest in need for performing schools at the high school level.
- Thirteen of the 15 schools in Washington or 87% are performing schools rated as Meets Expectations or Distinguished.
- All of Washington's middle and high schools, including those that offer grades 6-12 are performing.
- Forty-seven percent of Washington's students qualify for the FRL program and this is among the fewest in the City.
- Just over one-third of students enrolled in Washington, 37%, Choice into the zone from Outside, i.e. live elsewhere in the City.

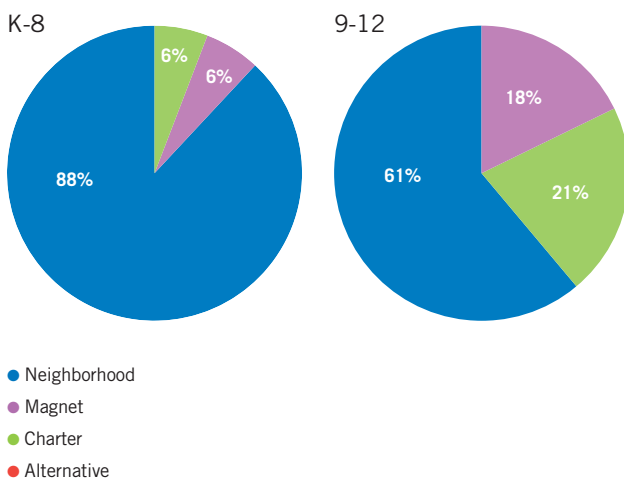
Estimated School-Age Population by School Type



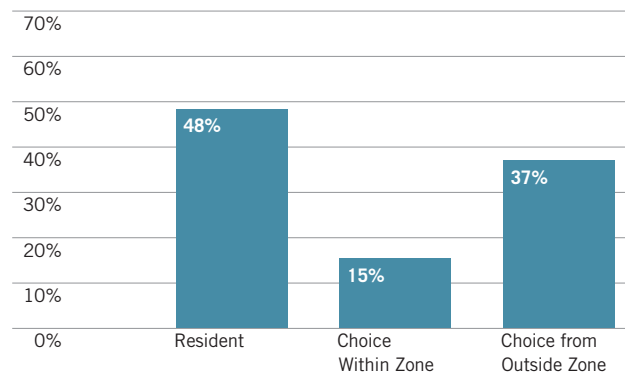
	Type	Grade Levels	Capacity	Total Enrollment	Overall SPF Rating	SPF Growth %	Space Utilization	Resident Enrollment	Choice Student Enrollment	Choice Students from Within Zone	Choice Students from Outside Zone
Elementary											
Westerly Creek Elementary*	Neighborhood	ECE-2	357	270	No Data	n/a	75.6%	258	12	6	6
Ashley Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	377	345	Accredited On Watch	45%	91.5%	252	93	54	39
Carson Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	336	380	Meets Expectations	55%	113.1%	95	285	152	133
Lowry Elementary	Neighborhood	ECE-5	492	474	Meets Expectations	47%	96.3%	272	202	102	100
McMeen Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	511	602	Meets Expectations	87%	117.8%	498	104	30	74
Montclair Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	309	404	Meets Expectations	61%	130.7%	262	142	71	71
Palmer Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	337	330	Meets Expectations	69%	97.9%	107	223	75	148
Philips Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	291	210	Accredited On Probation	3%	72.2%	67	143	66	77
Steck Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	310	386	Distinguished	97%	124.5%	172	214	99	115
Place Bridge Academy	Neighborhood	ECE-8	794	735	Meets Expectations	63%	92.6%	605	130	72	58
William (Bill) R. Roberts School	Neighborhood	ECE-8	835	688	Meets Expectations	46%	82.4%	574	114	56	58
Odyssey Charter School	Charter	K-8	221	221	Meets Expectations	64%	100.0%	0	221	111	110
Middle											
Hill Campus of Arts and Sciences	Neighborhood	6-8	1101	747	Meets Expectations	68%	67.8%	389	358	70	288
High											
George Washington High School	Neighborhood	9-12	2199	1522	Meets Expectations	59%	69.2%	687	835	0	835
Multi-Level											
Denver School of the Arts	Magnet	6-12	1244	902	Meets Expectations	55%	72.5%	0	902	180	722
Denver School of Science and Technology	Charter	6-12	572	572	Distinguished	98%	100.0%	0	572	145	427

*Schools not included in the overall performance analysis

Enrollment by DPS School Type

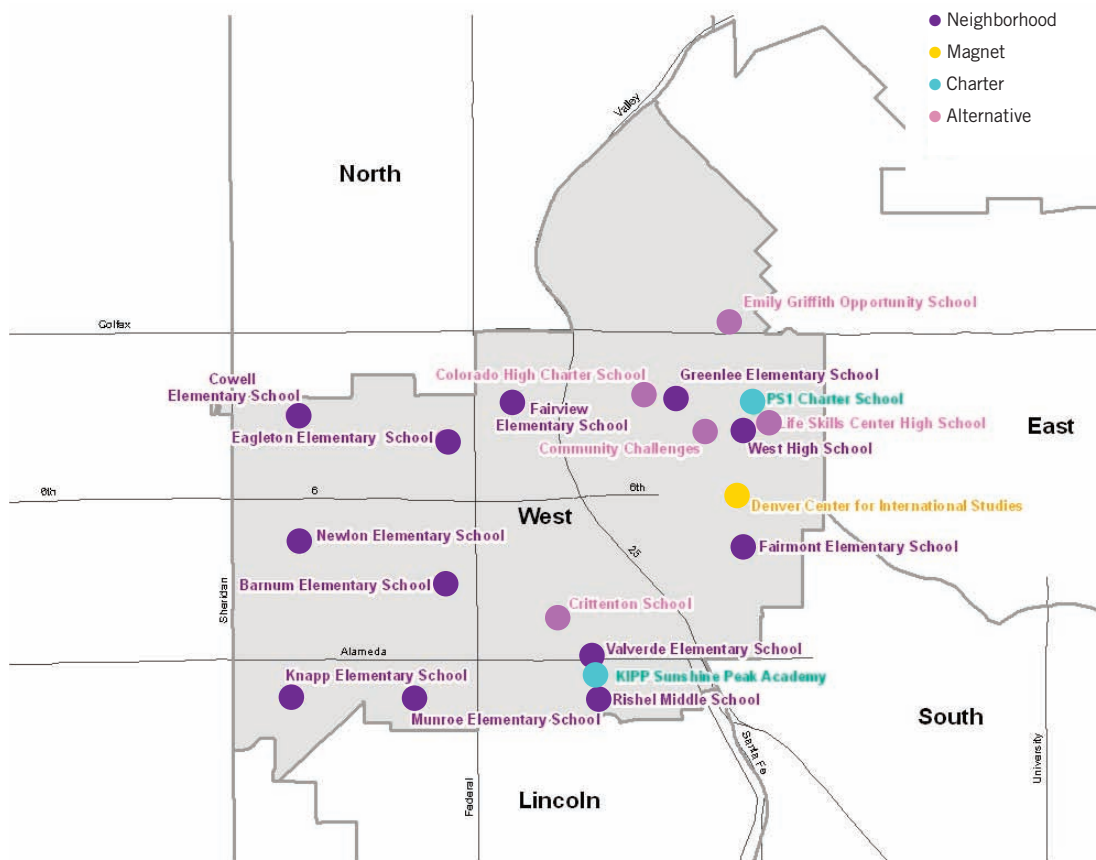


Choice Status of Enrolled DPS Students



High School Zone Profiles

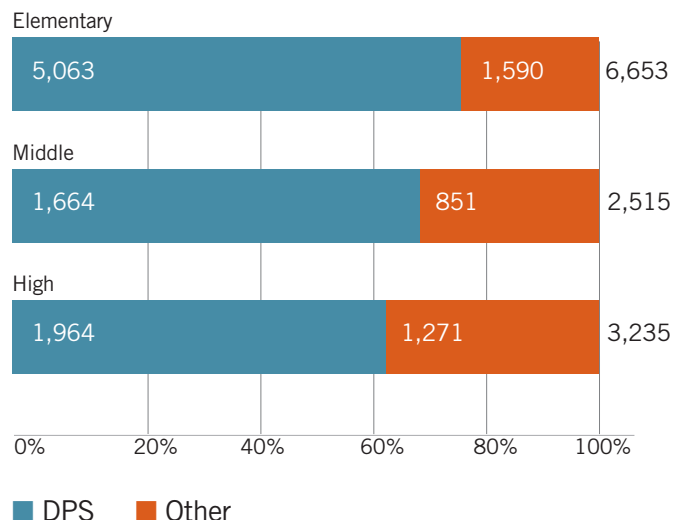
West High School



West High School

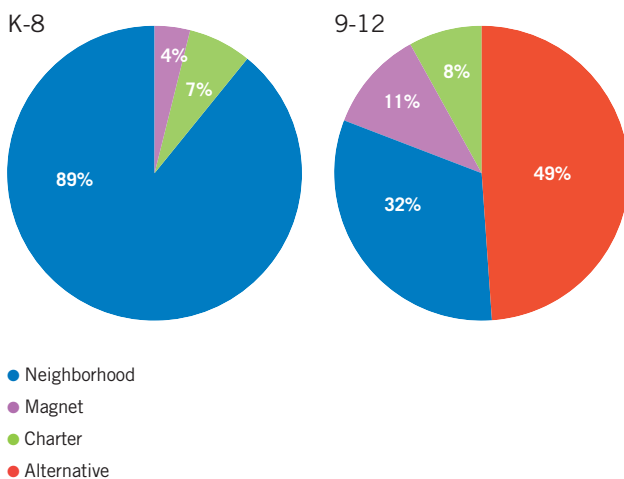
- Total population estimate: 58,380
- Total school-age population estimate (ages 4-17): 12,403
- The West High School zone ranks highest in need for performing seats at the elementary school level.
- Only 25% of schools, 5 of 20, in the zone are performing.
- The West High School zone has the highest percentage of resident students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch at 91%.
- In 2008, 49% of high school students in the zone were enrolled in an alternative school.

Estimated School-Age Population by School Type

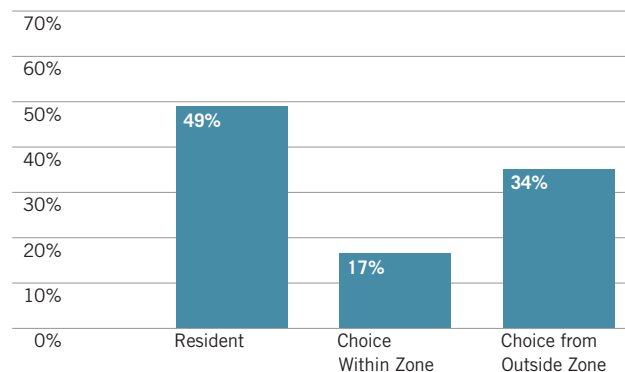


	Type	Grade Levels	Capacity	Total Enrollment	Overall SPF Rating	SPF Growth %	Space Utilization	Resident Enrollment	Choice Student Enrollment	Choice Students from Within Zone	Choice Students from Outside Zone
Elementary											
Barnum Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	516	501	Accredited On Watch	50%	97.1%	363	138	110	28
Cowell Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	546	563	Meets Expectations	61%	103.1%	425	138	77	61
Eagleton Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	470	410	Accredited On Probation	31%	87.2%	288	122	55	67
Fairmont Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-8	573	422	Accredited On Watch	38%	73.6%	56	366	242	124
Fairview Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	458	235	Accredited On Watch	53%	51.3%	178	57	25	32
Knapp Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	666	681	Accredited On Watch	53%	102.3%	547	134	53	81
Munroe Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	559	564	Accredited On Probation	25%	100.9%	449	115	53	62
Newlon Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	647	510	Accredited On Watch	32%	78.8%	438	72	40	32
Valverde Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-5	412	407	Meets Expectations	76%	98.8%	283	124	56	68
Greenlee Elementary School	Neighborhood	ECE-8	594	614	Accredited On Probation	14%	103.4%	389	225	138	87
Middle											
KIPP Sunshine Peak Academy	Charter	5-8	361	361	Meets Expectations	69%	100.0%	0	361	182	179
Rishel Middle School	Neighborhood	6-8	1105	476	Accredited On Watch	45%	43.1%	339	137	79	58
High											
West High School	Neighborhood	9-12	2170	890	Accredited On Probation	26%	41.0%	591	299	0	299
Emily Griffith Opportunity School	Alternative	9-12	1500	560	Meets Expectations	75%	37.3%	0	560	54	506
Life Skills Center High School	Alternative	9-12	295	295	Accredited On Probation	38%	100.0%	0	295	41	254
Colorado High Charter School	Alternative	10-12	163	163	Accredited On Watch	63%	100.0%	0	163	27	136
Multi-Level											
Community Challenges	Alternative	8-10	196	196	Accredited On Watch	18%	100.0%	0	196	66	130
Crittenton School	Alternative	6-12	n/a	177	Accredited On Watch	41%	0	177	40	137	
Denver Center for International Studies	Magnet	6-12	900	532	Meets Expectations	53%	59.1%	0	532	92	440
PS1 Charter School	Charter	6-12	257	257	Accredited On Probation	37%	100.0%	0	257	49	208

Enrollment by DPS School Type



Choice Status of Enrolled DPS Students



Appendices

Appendix A: Detailed Methodology

- Formula for ranking (reference on page ~16)

Appendix B: Ethnicity of DPS Students Compared to Denver Population

	DPS Students	Percent of DPS Enrollment	Percent of Total Denver Population
Hispanic	41,012	56.1%	34.3%
White, Non-Hispanic	16,073	22	50.8%
African-American, Non-Hispanic	12,649	17.3	9.1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	806	.01	.08%
Asian	2,537	3.5	3.2%
Total	73,077	100	98.2%

Appendix C: Elementary School Zone Summary

Elementary	Current Enrollment*	Potential Enrollment	Performing Capacity	Service Gap*	Service Level	Ranking
Lincoln	4,420	4,680	2,250	2,170	50.9%	4
East H.S.	3,257	4,786	1,834	1,423	56.3%	6
Washington	4,628	6,244	3,540	1,088	76.5%	7
Kennedy	3,085	4,391	2,036	1,049	66.0%	8
North H.S.	4,239	6,822	1,109	3,130	26.2%	2
South H.S.	1,857	3,007	2,023	-166	108.9%	10
Jefferson	3,058	4,043	2,576	482	84.2%	9
West H.S.	5,063	6,653	1,093	3,970	21.6%	1
Montbello	7,620	7,620	2,286	5,334	30.0%	3
Manual	2,957	4,143	1,394	1,563	47.1%	5
Total	40,184	52,389	20,141	20,043	50.1%	
Outside DPS	1,924					
Total	42,108					

*Students who reside in Denver and attend a Denver Public School.

Appendix D: Middle School Zone Summary

Middle	Current Enrollment*	Potential Enrollment	Performing Capacity	Service Gap*	Service Level	Ranking
Lincoln	1,580	1,808	717	863	45.4%	5
East H.S.	981	1,903	819	162	83.5%	9
Washington	1,349	2,492	1,385	-36	102.7%	7
Kennedy	1,085	1,831	242	843	22.3%	4
North H.S.	1,435	2,571	152	1,283	10.6%	1
South H.S.	550	1,219	772	-222	140.4%	10
Jefferson	1,045	1,625	1,992	-947	190.6%	8
West H.S.	1,664	2,515	391	1,273	23.5%	3
Montbello	2,806	2,806	397	2,409	14.1%	2
Manual	1,060	1,546	292	768	27.5%	6
Total	13,555	20,316	7,159	6,396	52.8%	

Outside DPS 946

Total 14,501

*Students who reside in Denver and attend a Denver Public School.

Appendix E: High School Zone Summary

High	Current Enrollment*	Potential Enrollment	Performing Capacity	Service Gap*	Service Level	Ranking
Lincoln	1,931	2,354	307	1,624	15.9%	5
East H.S.	1,609	2,569	2,085	-476	129.6%	8
Washington	1,876	3,308	2,441	-565	130.1%	10
Kennedy	1,251	2,506	176	1,075	14.1%	7
North H.S.	1,518	3,348	496	1,022	32.7%	2
South H.S.	736	1,557	37	699	5.0%	4
Jefferson	1,210	2,044	95	1,115	7.9%	6
West H.S.	1,964	3,235	400	1,564	20.4%	3
Montbello	3,018	3,018	268	2,750	8.9%	1
Manual	1,273	2,231	231	1,042	18.1%	9
Total	16,386	26,170	6,536	9,850	39.9%	

Outside DPS 2,274

Total 18,660

*Students who reside in Denver and attend a Denver Public School.

Appendix F: Students Enrolled in Each Zone by School Type and Choice Status

	Neighborhood Schools			Non-Neighborhood Schools	
	Resident	Choice Within Zone	Choice from Outside Zone	Choice Within Zone	Choice from Outside Zone
Lincoln	4,280	693	1,364	174	137
East H.S.	3,050	635	2,677	171	332
Washington	4,238	853	2,002	436	1,259
Kennedy	3,578	742	1,564	336	776
North H.S. *	3,667	1,314	1,065	929	1,031
South H.S.	2,361	356	2,286	9	221
Jefferson	2,912	480	1,129	168	283
West H.S.	4,346	928	999	551	1,990
Montbello	7,636	1,563	211	2,177	469
Manual	2,275	422	539	1,009	454
Total	38,343	7,986	13,836	5,960	6,952

*Note - 60 4th and 5th grade students enrolled in Bryant Webster Dual Language School in North are listed as resident students.

	Neighborhood Schools			Non-Neighborhood Schools	
	Resident	Choice Within Zone	Choice from Outside Zone	Choice Within Zone	Choice from Outside Zone
Lincoln	68%	11%	22%	56%	44%
East H.S.	48%	10%	42%	34%	66%
Washington	60%	12%	28%	26%	74%
Kennedy	61%	13%	27%	30%	70%
North H.S.	61%	22%	18%	47%	53%
South H.S.	47%	7%	46%	4%	96%
Jefferson	64%	11%	25%	37%	63%
West H.S.	69%	15%	16%	22%	78%
Montbello	81%	17%	2%	82%	18%
Manual	70%	13%	17%	69%	31%
Total	64%	13%	23%	46%	54%

Appendix G: Students Enrolled in Each Zone by Free and Reduced-Price Lunch (FRL) Qualification and Choice Status

	Qualifies for Free or Reduced Lunch			Does Not Qualify			Total Enrolled		
	Resident	Choice Within Zone	Choice from Outside Zone	Resident	Choice Within Zone	Choice from Outside Zone	Resident	Choice Within Zone	Choice from Outside Zone
Lincoln	3,780	779	1,288	500	88	213	4,280	867	1,501
East H.S.	1,414	352	1,310	1,636	454	1,699	3,050	806	3,009
Washington	2,318	505	1,298	1,920	784	1,963	4,238	1,289	3,261
Kennedy	2,246	679	1,564	1,332	399	776	3,578	1,078	2,340
North H.S.	3,078	1,563	1,523	589	680	573	3,667	2,243	2,096
South H.S.	1,201	71	1,501	1,160	294	1,006	2,361	365	2,507
Jefferson	1,338	157	521	1,574	491	891	2,912	648	1,412
West H.S.	3,975	1,268	1,886	371	211	1,103	4,346	1,479	2,989
Montbello	6,007	2,651	381	1,629	1,089	299	7,636	3,740	680
Manual	2,056	1,258	830	219	173	163	2,275	1,431	993
Total	27,413	9,283	12,102	10,930	4,663	8,686	38,343	13,946	20,788

	Qualifies for Free or Reduced Lunch			Does Not Qualify			Total Enrolled		
	Resident	Choice Within Zone	Choice from Outside Zone	Resident	Choice Within Zone	Choice from Outside Zone	Resident	Choice Within Zone	Choice from Outside Zone
Lincoln	65%	13%	22%	62%	11%	27%	64%	13%	23%
East H.S.	46%	11%	43%	43%	12%	45%	44%	12%	44%
Washington	56%	12%	31%	41%	17%	42%	48%	15%	37%
Kennedy	50%	15%	35%	53%	16%	31%	51%	15%	33%
North H.S.	50%	25%	25%	32%	37%	31%	46%	28%	26%
South H.S.	43%	3%	54%	47%	12%	41%	45%	7%	48%
Jefferson	66%	8%	26%	53%	17%	30%	59%	13%	28%
West H.S.	56%	18%	26%	22%	13%	65%	49%	17%	34%
Montbello	66%	29%	4%	54%	36%	10%	63%	31%	6%
Manual	50%	30%	20%	39%	31%	29%	48%	30%	21%
Total	56%	19%	25%	45%	19%	36%	52%	19%	28%

Appendix H: Students Enrolled in Each Zone by Choice Status and FRL Qualification

	Resident		Choice Within Zone		Choice from Outside Zone		Total Enrolled	
	Free or Reduced	Does Not Qualify	Free or Reduced	Does Not Qualify	Free or Reduced	Does Not Qualify	Free or Reduced	Does Not Qualify
Lincoln	3,780	500	779	88	1,288	213	5,847	801
East	1,414	1,636	352	454	1,310	1,699	3,076	3,789
Washington	2,318	1,920	505	784	1,298	1,963	4,121	4,667
Kennedy	2,246	1,332	679	399	1,564	776	4,489	2,507
North	3,078	589	1,563	680	1,523	573	6,164	1,842
South	1,201	1,160	71	294	1,501	1,006	2,773	2,460
Jefferson	1,338	1,574	157	491	521	891	2,016	2,956
West	3,975	371	1,268	211	1,886	1,103	7,129	1,685
Montbello	6,007	1,629	2,651	1,089	381	299	9,039	3,017
Manual	2,056	219	1,258	173	830	163	4,144	555
Total	27,413	10,930	9,283	4,663	12,102	8,686	48,798	24,279

	Resident		Choice Within Zone		Choice from Outside Zone		Total Enrolled	
	Free or Reduced	Does Not Qualify	Free or Reduced	Does Not Qualify	Free or Reduced	Does Not Qualify	Free or Reduced	Does Not Qualify
Lincoln	88%	12%	90%	10%	86%	14%	88%	12%
East H.S.	46%	54%	44%	56%	44%	56%	45%	55%
Washington	55%	45%	39%	61%	40%	60%	47%	53%
Kennedy	63%	37%	63%	37%	67%	33%	64%	36%
North H.S.	84%	16%	70%	30%	73%	27%	77%	23%
South H.S.	51%	49%	19%	81%	60%	40%	53%	47%
Jefferson	46%	54%	24%	76%	37%	63%	41%	59%
West H.S.	91%	9%	86%	14%	63%	37%	81%	19%
Montbello	79%	21%	71%	29%	56%	44%	75%	25%
Manual	90%	10%	88%	12%	84%	16%	88%	12%
Total	71%	29%	67%	33%	58%	42%	67%	33%

Endnotes

- 1 Bray, J. and Medler, A., Denver's Public Schools: Reforms, Challenges, and the Future, Colorado Children's Campaign, Denver, Colorado, 2009.
- 2 DPS, 2009 Denver Plan Executive Summary, <http://2009denverplan.dpsk12.org/>
- 3 ESRI, 2008.
- 4 American Community Survey 2006. US Census Bureau.



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