



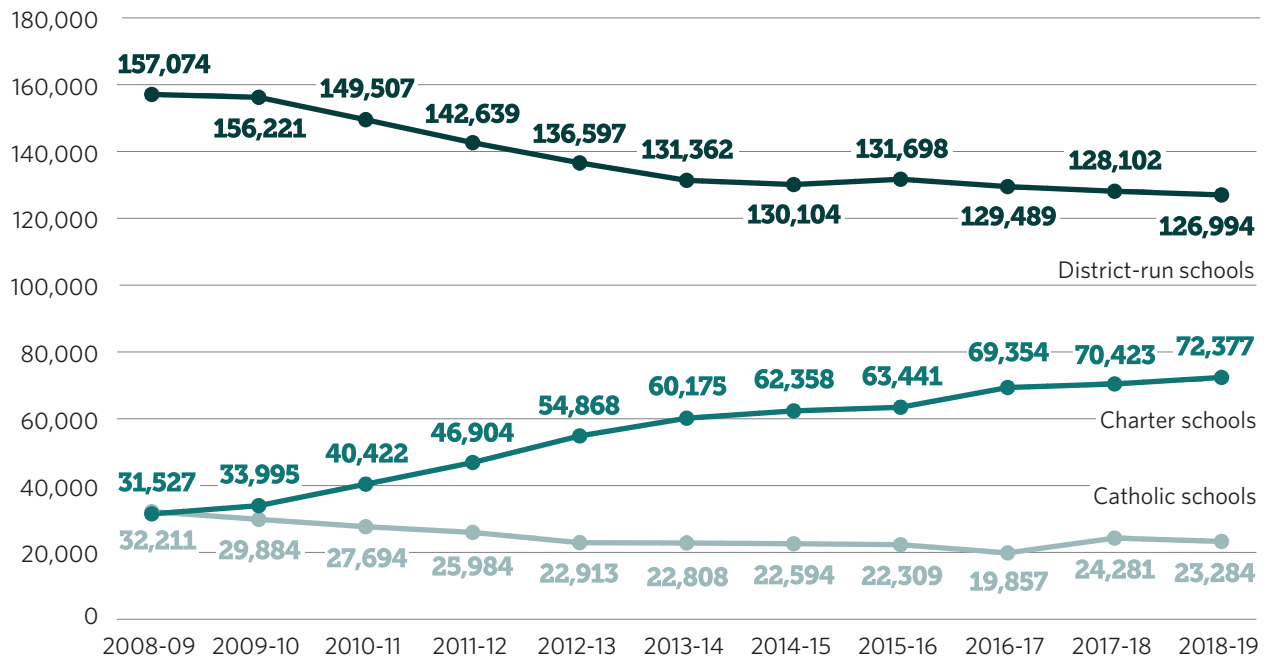
Lexey Swall

# The State of Education in Philadelphia, 2019

## Overview

For years, civic leaders have been concerned about the level of education among Philadelphia residents. Twenty-eight percent of Philadelphians 25 or older have at least a bachelor's degree—a lower percentage than in many U.S. cities—and 16 percent of Philadelphians have completed some college credits but do not have a degree. Sixteen percent of the degrees awarded by Philadelphia's colleges and universities are in STEM fields—science, technology, engineering, and math; this rate is among the lowest of our comparison cities. The vast majority of the city's K-12 students attend schools run by the School District of Philadelphia. That number has been decreasing for a decade as more students enroll in publicly funded charter schools.

## K-12 Enrollment Trends, 2008-18



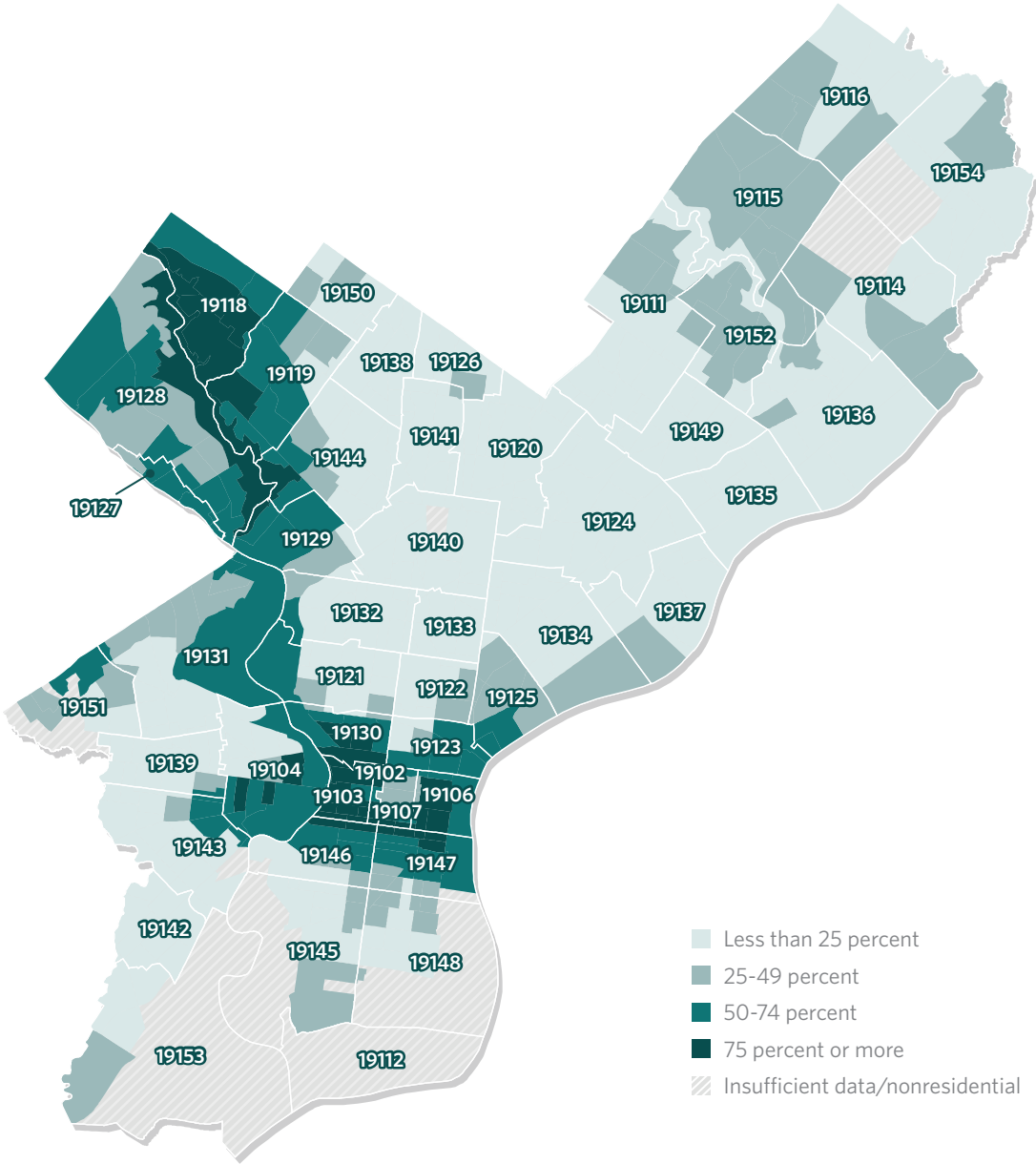
For most of the past 10 years, enrollment in schools run directly by the School District of Philadelphia has been declining—gradually in recent years—and the number of students in publicly funded charter schools, including cybercharters, has been growing. The population in the Catholic schools run by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, which fell sharply from the 2008-09 school year through 2012-13, appears to have stabilized.

Note: Enrollment data for district-run schools (<https://www.philasd.org/performance/programsservices/open-data/school-information>) and charter schools (<https://dashboards.philasd.org/extensions/philadelphia/index.html#>) are from the School District of Philadelphia, and Catholic school enrollment data are from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Numbers for district-run schools do not include pre-K or institutional placement students who attend nondistrict schools.

Sources: School District of Philadelphia and Archdiocese of Philadelphia

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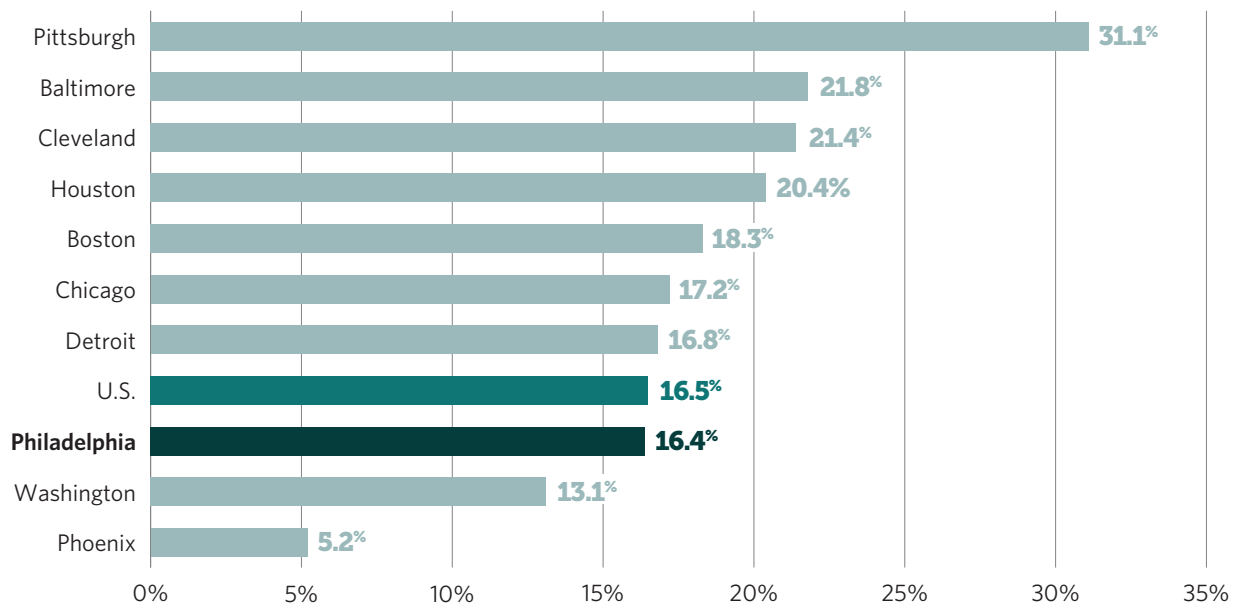
# Percentage of Philadelphia Residents Age 25 or Older With a Bachelor's Degree or Higher



The geographic variation in educational attainment in Philadelphia is extreme. More than 75 percent of adults have bachelor's degrees or higher in Chestnut Hill, parts of University City, and neighborhoods in and around Center City. But the percentage is below 25 percent in vast stretches of the city, including parts of Southwest, West, and North Philadelphia, as well as much of the Northeast.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, five-year estimates, 2013-17, Table S1501 (Educational Attainment), <http://factfinder.census.gov>

## Percentage of Postsecondary Degrees Awarded in STEM Fields, 2016-17



Among the comparison cities, Philadelphia ranks toward the bottom in the percentage of postsecondary degrees awarded in STEM fields—those in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Note: This analysis includes nonprofit institutions (private and public) that qualify for Title IV federal financial aid funds. STEM degrees are defined as those in computer and information sciences and support services; engineering; engineering technologies and engineering-related fields; biological and biomedical sciences; mathematics and statistics; physical sciences; and science technologies/technicians.

Source: U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (2016-2017), <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/use-the-data>

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**Contact:** Elizabeth Lowe, communications officer

**Email:** [elowe@pewtrusts.org](mailto:elowe@pewtrusts.org)

**Project website:** [pewtrusts.org/philaresearch](https://pewtrusts.org/philaresearch)

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