ED SCAPE

DC Public Education Landscape

July 26, 2021

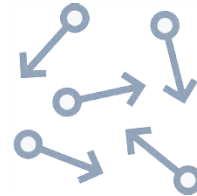# EdScape Table of Contents

Chapter 1. Population and Students

Chapter 4. Enrollment Patterns

Chapter 2. Public Schools

Chapter 5. Neighborhood Factors

Chapter 3. Facilities

DME
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR EDUCATION

WE ARE WASHINGTON
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

Chapter 3.
Public School Facilities

How many public school facilities are in there in Washington, DC and where are they located?

How many students can the public school facilities hold? How does this differ by the School Transparency and Reporting (STAR) Framework?

How full are Washington, DC's public school facilities, or what are their utilization rates? How does this differ by the STAR Framework?

Public School Facilities Contents

Number of Public School Facilities

Number of Public School Facilities by STAR Rating

Public School Facility Programmatic Capacity

Public School Facility Programmatic Capacity by STAR Rating

Utilization of Public School Facilities

Utilization of Public School Facilities by STAR Rating

Unfilled Seats

Unfilled Seats by STAR Rating

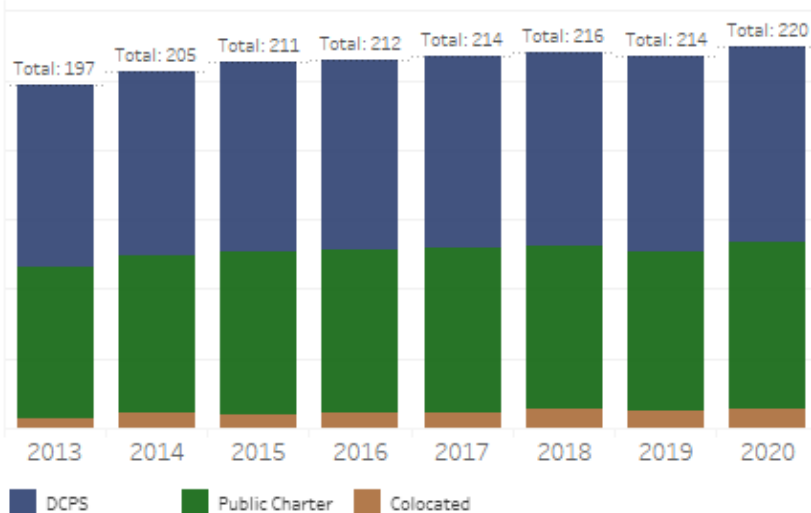Public School Facilities - Sources and Methodology

DME
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR EDUCATION
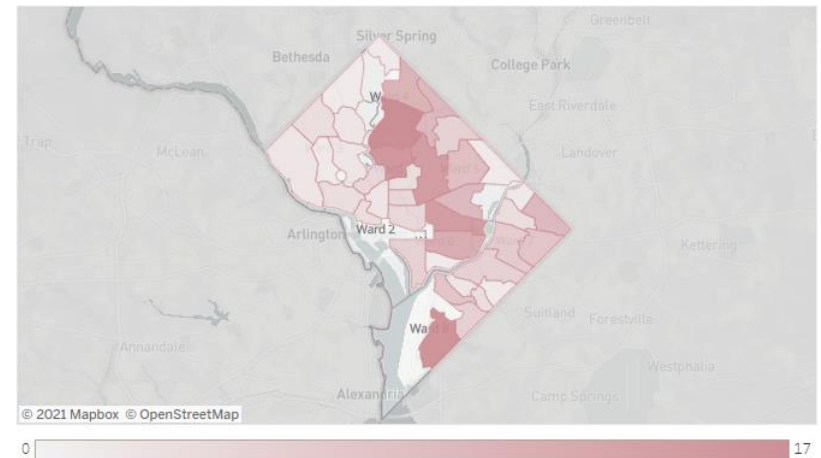
WE ARE WASHINGTON
DC GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

This chapter focuses on the number of facilities or buildings that DCPS and public charter schools operate. Some facilities house more than one school and some schools are dispersed across multiple facilities. Colocated facilities are those that house two different LEAs. In SY20-21, there were 220 public school facilities in the District, an increase from the 197 facilities in SY13-14. Crestwood and Petworth (Cluster 18), Congress Heights (Cluster 39), and Columbia Heights and Mt. Pleasant (Cluster 2) were home to the most public school facilities, with 17, 16, and 15 located in each cluster, respectively. See the interactive dashboard for more details about the clusters where facilities are concentrated.

Citywide Number of Facilities

Number of Facilities by Neighborhood Cluster
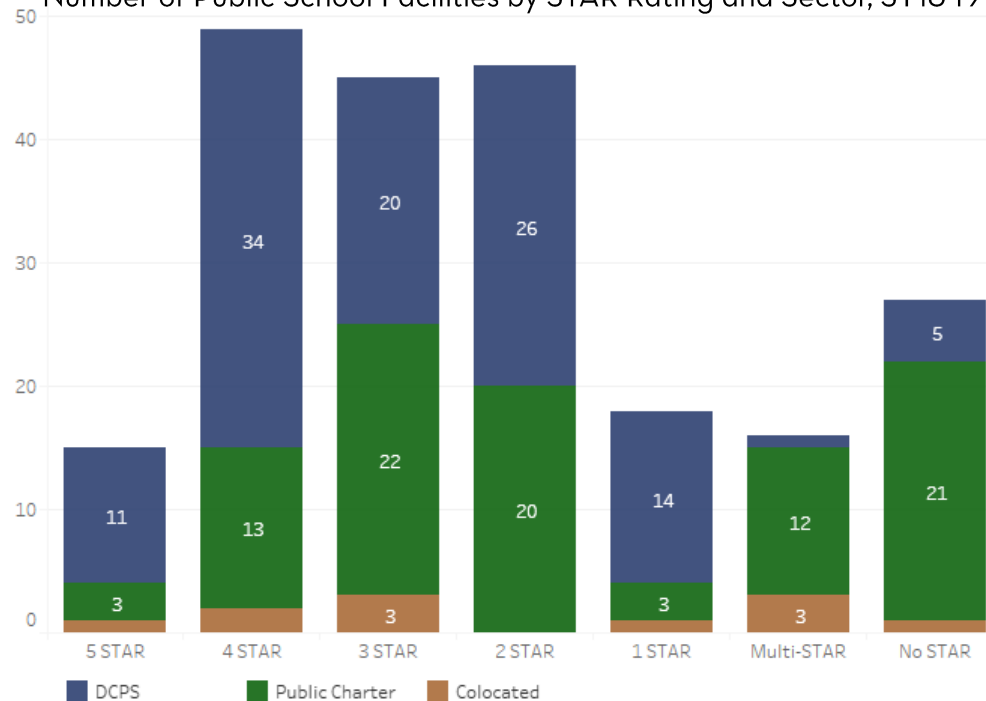

Source: Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education

The state-level accountability system, the School Transparency and Reporting (STAR) Framework, is designed to provide schools with multiple pathways to demonstrate their performance and success. Depending on the specific grade configuration of a school, the STAR framework includes a list of metrics representing academic performance, academic growth, school environment, English language proficiency, graduation rates (for high schools and alternative schools), and educational progress (for alternative schools). Each school is provided an overall star rating, with one STAR being the lowest and five the highest. Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the most recent STAR data are from SY18-19; STAR ratings were paused for SY19-20 and SY20-21.

In SY18-19, most public school facilities had schools with a 4 STAR rating, followed by facilities with 3 and 2 STAR rated schools.

Number of Public School Facilities by STAR Rating and Sector, SY18-19

Facilities that are "multi-STAR" are facilities that have multiple schools in a facility with different STAR ratings.

Facilities with no STAR rating include schools that did not receive a rating because they were either a new school, had a particular grade configuration that is not rated, or their enrollment was too small.
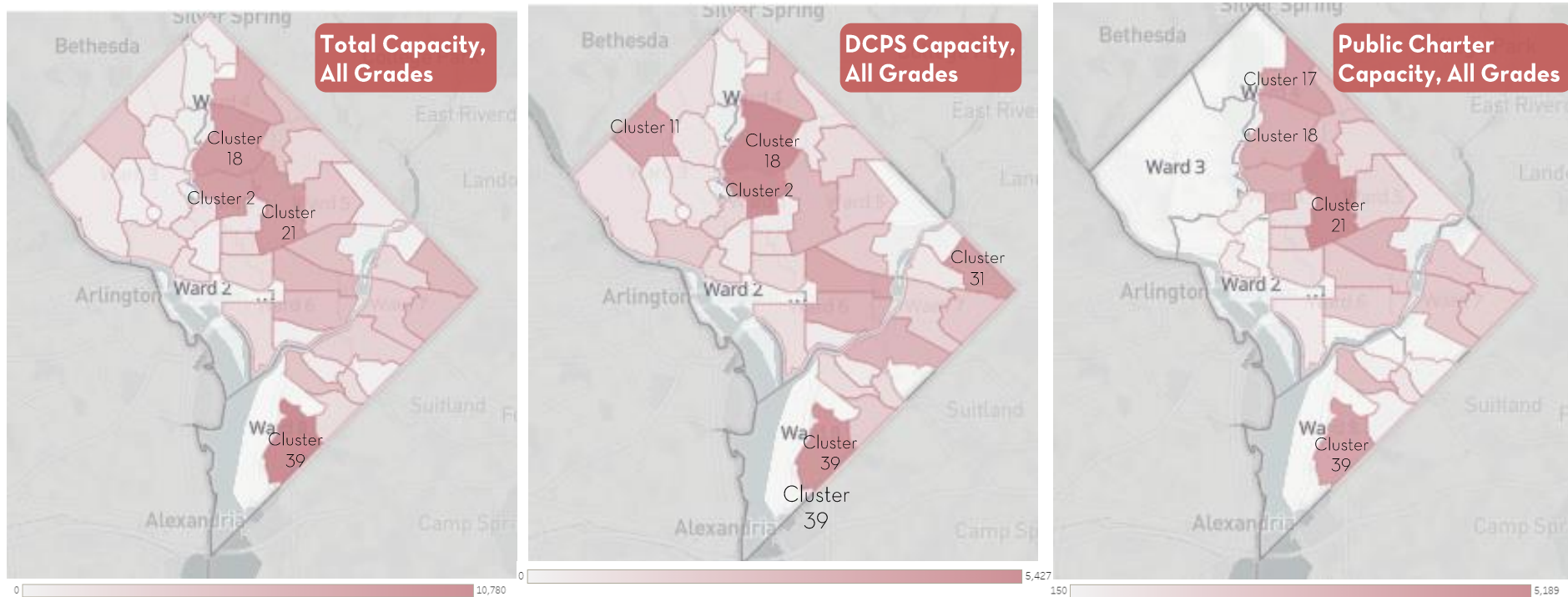
Source: OSSE 2018 and 2019 DC School Report Card and STAR Framework

Programmatic capacity reflects the maximum number of students that can be housed in a school building. Total public school capacity largely mirrors the number of facilities located in the neighborhood cluster – more facilities usually equates to more seats. By neighborhood cluster, Congress Heights (Cluster 39), Crestwood and Petworth (Cluster 18), Edgewood and Bloomingdale (Cluster 21), and Columbia Heights and Mt. Pleasant (Cluster 2) had the most total seats across both sectors in SY20-21. Crestwood and Petworth (Cluster 18) had the largest number of DCPS seats and Edgewood and Bloomingdale (Cluster 21) had the greatest number of public charter seats.

Note: The interactive dashboard allows the user to view this analysis with and without DCPS portable capacities (or temporary classrooms).
Source: DCPS capacities and public charter LEA capacities collected by DC PCSB
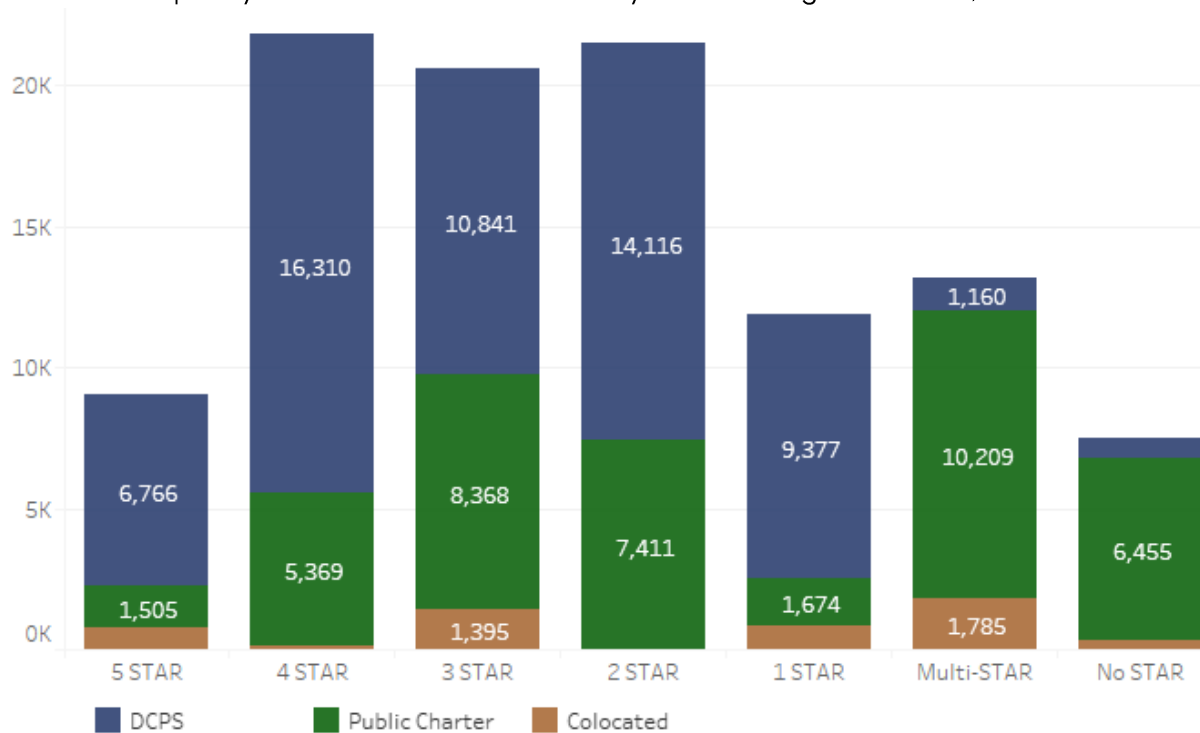
In SY18-19, the greatest total capacity across all public school facilities was located in 4 STAR rated schools, driven by DCPS facilities with a capacity of 16,310 seats. This was closely followed by capacity in 2 STAR facilities (either DCPS or PCS) followed next by facilities housing 3 STAR schools. The most public charter school capacity was located in Multi-STAR facilities. This means that the public charter facility houses multiple schools from a single LEA that were given different STAR ratings in SY18-19. Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the most recent STAR data are from SY18-19; STAR ratings were paused for SY19-20 and SY20-21.

Capacity of Public School Facilities by STAR Rating and Sector, SY18-19

Facilities that are "multi-STAR" are facilities that have multiple schools in a facility with different STAR ratings.

Facilities with no STAR rating include schools that did not receive a rating because they were either a new school, had a particular grade configuration that is not rated, or their enrollment was too small.
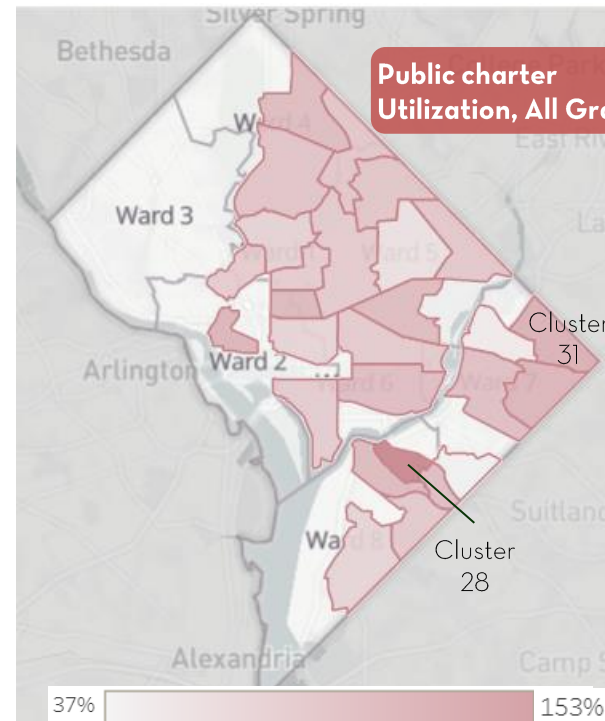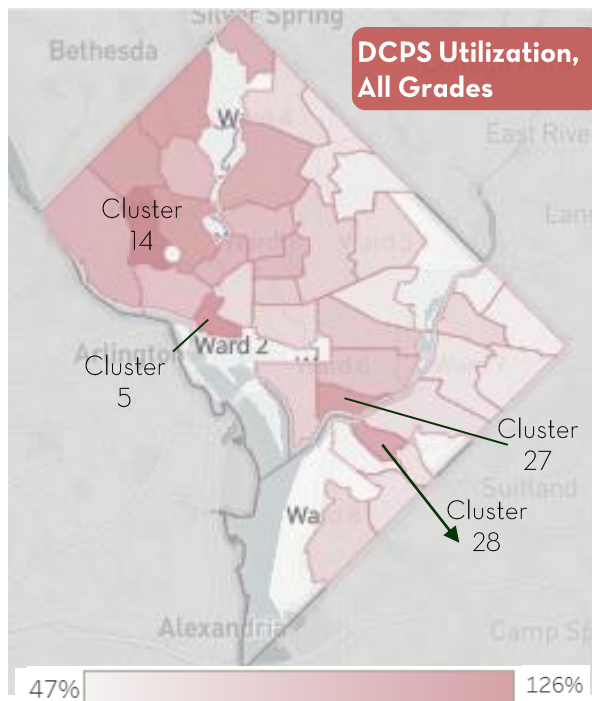
Source: OSSE 2018 and 2019 DC School Report Card and STAR Framework

DME
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR EDUCATION

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

Utilization is a measurement of how full a facility is to meet educational programmatic needs. School districts often aim for utilizations of approximately 80% to accommodate fluctuations in population. In SY20-21, the average total public school utilization was 76%, which is a decrease from years prior due to a school year affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Similarly by sector, DCPS and public charter school utilizations decreased slightly this year to 72% and 81%, respectively. DCPS facilities were fullest in neighborhoods like Cathedral Heights and Glover Park (Cluster 14), West End and Foggy Bottom (Cluster 5), and Navy Yard (Cluster 27), having greater than 100% utilization. Public charter school utilization was highest in Historic Anacostia (Cluster 28), and Deanwood and Lincoln Heights (Cluster 31).

DCPS Utilization, All Grades

Cluster 14
Cluster 5
Cluster 27
Cluster 28

47%　　126%

Public charter Utilization, All Grades

Cluster 31
Cluster 28

37%　　153%

*Schools that are growing (i.e., growing a grade each year) can be excluded from the analysis, since it may not provide an accurate representation of their facility utilization. See the interactive dashboard for more information.

Note: The interactive dashboard allows the user to view this analysis with and without DCPS portable capacities (or temporary classrooms).
Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY20-21, DCPS capacities, and public charter LEA capacities collected by DC PCSB
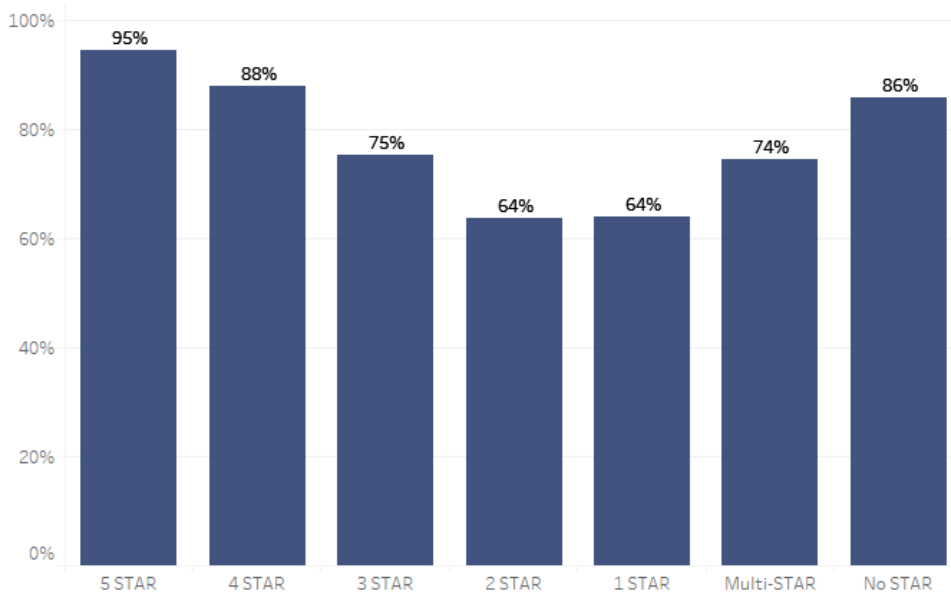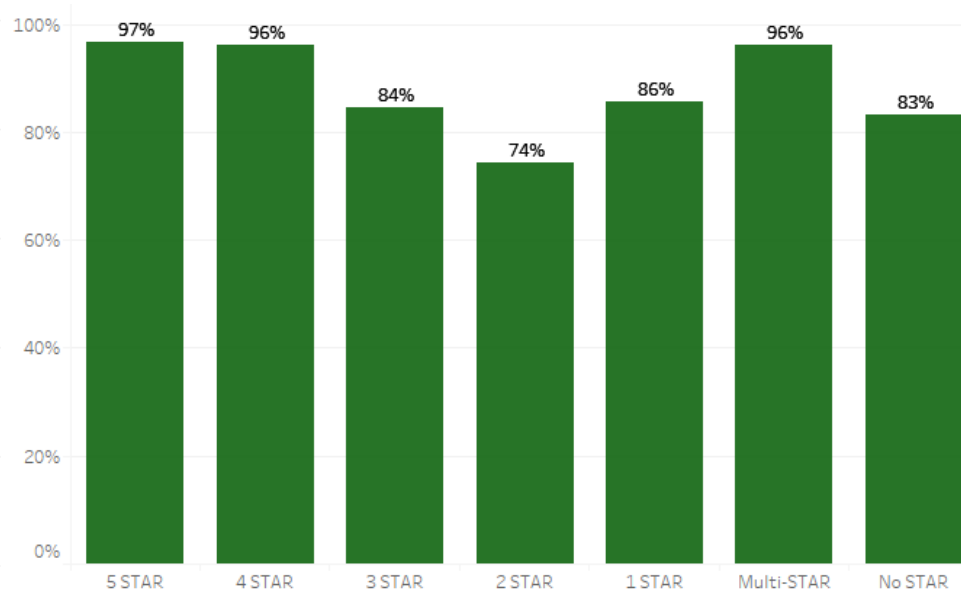
For both DCPS and public charter schools, utilization in SY18-19 was greatest in public school facilities with 5 STAR and 4 STAR rated schools, as well as "multi-STAR" facilities. For DCPS facilities, utilization declined as the STAR rating of schools in the facility also went down. For public charter school facilities, this was also true, with the exception of facilities with 1 STAR rated schools, which saw a utilization rate of 86%, higher than the utilization rate for facilities with either 2 STAR rated schools or 3 STAR rated schools. Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the most recent STAR data are from SY18-19; STAR ratings were paused for SY19-20 and SY20-21.

Utilization of DCPS Facilities by STAR Rating, SY18-19

Utilization of Public Charter Facilities by STAR Rating, SY18-19

Facilities that are "multi-STAR" are facilities that have multiple schools in a facility with different STAR ratings.

Facilities with no STAR rating include schools that did not receive a rating because they were either a new school, had a particular grade configuration that is not rated, or their enrollment was too small.
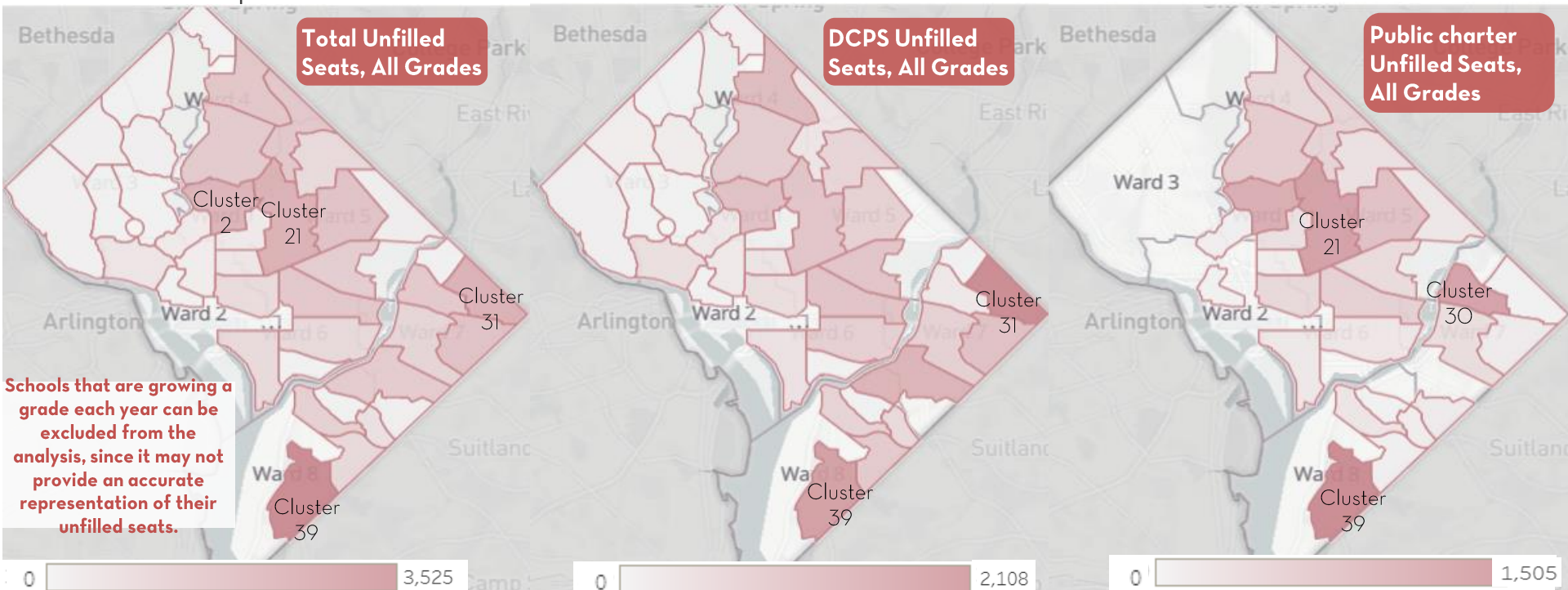
Source: OSSE 2018 and 2019 DC School Report Card and STAR Framework

DME
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR EDUCATION

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WE ARE WASHINGTON
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

Chapter 3. Public School Facilities
Unfilled Seats

Underutilized public school facilities means that there are seats available to enroll additional students in the building. Large numbers of unfilled seats indicate low enrollment in comparison to the size of the building or that a new school has not fully enrolled to their maximum grade. Also, school districts nationally typically have some seats available in order to accommodate increases in population. The majority of unfilled seats are in Congress Heights (Cluster 39) and Edgewood and Bloomingdale (Cluster 21). Deanwood and Lincoln Heights (Cluster 31) has a large number of unfilled DCPS seats, while Mayfair and Hillbrook (Cluster 30) has a large number of unfilled public charter school seats.

Total Unfilled Seats, All Grades

DCPS Unfilled Seats, All Grades

Public charter Unfilled Seats, All Grades

Schools that are growing a grade each year can be excluded from the analysis, since it may not provide an accurate representation of their unfilled seats.

0 — 3,525

0 — 2,108

0 — 1,505

Note: The interactive dashboard allows the user to view this analysis with and without DCPS portable capacities (or temporary classrooms).
Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY20-21, DCPS capacities, and public charter LEA capacities collected by DC PCSB
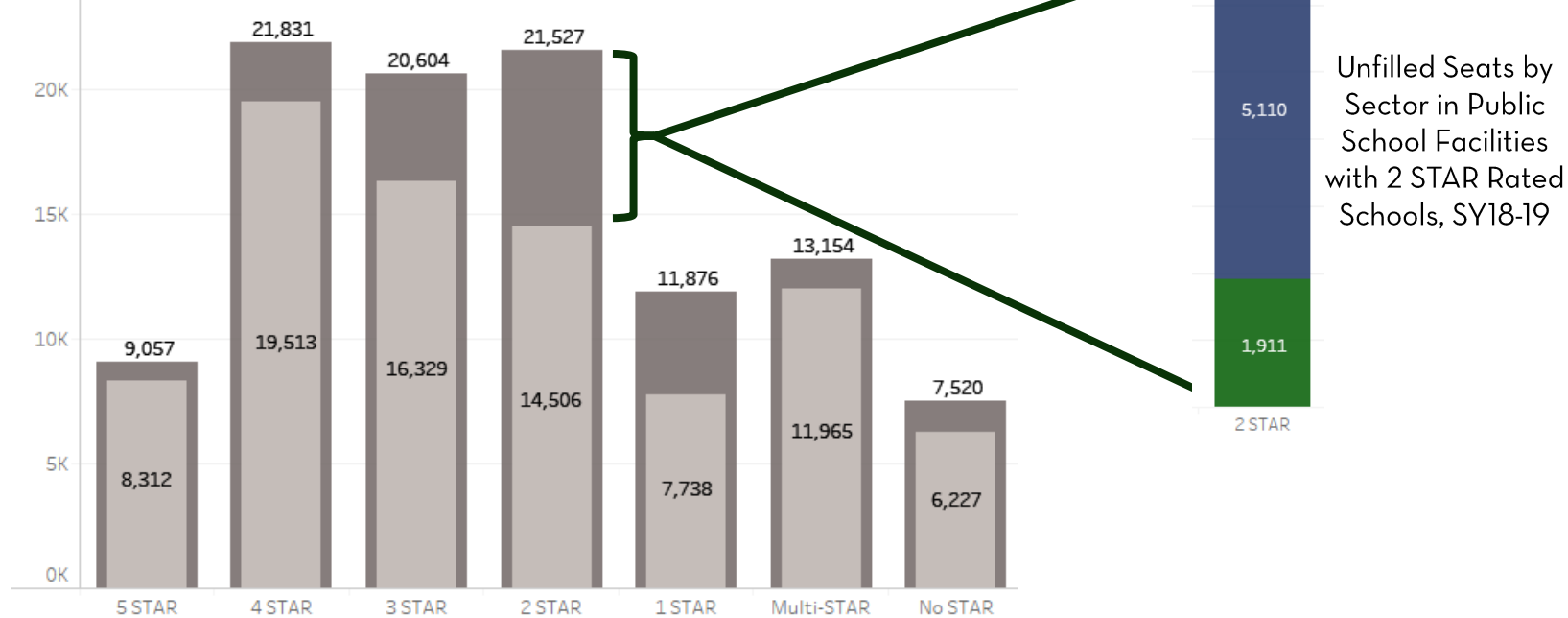
DME ★
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR EDUCATION

WE ARE WASHINGTON
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

In SY18-19, facilities across both sectors rated as either 4 or 5 STAR had the fewest number of unfilled seats (hover over the interactive graphic online to see the number). The most unfilled seats across sectors were located in facilities with 2 STAR rated schools. The next greatest amount of unfilled seats in DCPS facilities were those with 1 STAR rated schools, while for public charter schools facilities it was in facilities with 3 STAR rated schools. Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the most recent STAR data are from SY18-19; STAR ratings were paused for SY19-20 and SY20-21.

Capacity versus Filled Seats in Public School Facilities by STAR Rating, SY18-19

Unfilled Seats by Sector in Public School Facilities with 2 STAR Rated Schools, SY18-19

Facilities that are "multi-STAR" are facilities that have multiple schools in a facility with different STAR ratings.

Facilities with no STAR rating include schools that did not receive a rating because they were either a new school, had a particular grade configuration that is not rated, or their enrollment was too small.

Source: OSSE 2018 and 2019 DC School Report Card and STAR Framework

DME
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR EDUCATION

WE ARE WASHINGTON
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

Sources and Methodology:

Public School Facilities: The unit of analysis in this chapter are the buildings that DCPS and public charters operate their schools in. Some facilities house more than one school and some schools are dispersed across multiple facilities. Colocated facilities are those that house two different Local Education Agencies (LEAs) (for instance, two different public charter LEAs, or DCPS and a public charter LEA). School facility addresses were verified with District of Columbia Public Schools and the DC Public Charter School Board. School facility addresses were geocoded by the Office of the Chief Technology Officer with all District-appropriate neighborhood geographies included.

Facility Enrollment: DME related the school-level OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY2013-14 through SY2020-21 to individual facilities based on grades served. In instances where multiple facilities served the same school's grade configurations enrollment was based on enrollment splits provided by DC PCSB when available or was divided proportional to their facility capacity in cases where that information was not available. The following audited enrollment business rules were applied to the audited enrollment files for SY17-18 through SY20-21: 1) The universe of DCPS students include audited UPSFF residents + Non-resident tuition paying + Residency unverified and 2) The universe of public charter students include audited UPSFF residents.

Programmatic capacity: Facility programmatic capacity was provided by DCPS and from the individual public charter LEAs, which was collected by the DC PCSB. These capacities reflect the maximum number of students that can be housed in each school facility given the schools' existing educational programs, class size, and staffing. Programmatic capacities can be revised by the LEAs to reflect new class sizes or classroom configurations in existing facility space or reflect new facilities or new modernizations. Programmatic capacities can include portables (or temporary classrooms). The user can analyze the capacity and utilization data with and without the portables.

Sources and Methodology, continued:

OSSE School Transparency and Reporting (STAR) Framework:

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the most recent STAR data are from SY18-19; STAR ratings were paused for SY19-20 and SY20-21.

- The STAR Framework provides an overall school performance rating from one to a five stars based on an overall school performance score (one STAR being the lowest and five the highest). STAR calculates an overall school performance rating using measures of academic achievement, student growth, school environment, English language proficiency, and graduation rates for student groups in the school. The STAR Framework first measures a school's performance for all students for each of the applicable metrics and then measures performance for students with disabilities, students who are at-risk, English learners, and each racial/ethnic group in the school with more than ten students. Schools that serve exclusively adults, exclusively students in grades PK3 thru grade 2, schools that are new, and schools that serve small numbers of students (below the threshold for student data privacy protections) do not receive STAR ratings. In 2018, 203 out of 235 schools in DC earned a STAR rating. In 2019, 206 out of 239 schools in DC earned a STAR rating. See OSSE's 2018 and 2019 Framework Briefs and Technical Guides for more information.

- Facilities are assigned a STAR rating based on the ratings of the schools in the facilities. If there are multiple schools in a facility that all have the same rating, the STAR rating assigned to the facility would be the same. For facilities that have multiple schools in a facility with different ratings, the facility is a assigned a STAR rating of "multi-STAR." Facilities with no STAR rating include schools that did not receive a rating because they were either a new school, had a particular grade configuration that is not rated, or their enrollment was too small.

DME
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR EDUCATION

WE ARE WASHINGTON GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR