

# More Franklin County students are economically disadvantaged; many attend suburban schools



- 43% of Ohio public school students are economically disadvantaged, up from 33% five years ago.
- Much of this increase has taken place in suburban schools such as Worthington, where the rate of disadvantaged students rose from 6 to 22% in five years.
- 44% of Franklin County’s disadvantaged students are enrolled in a suburban school district.
- 11 of Franklin County’s 16 school districts have a rate of disadvantaged students above 20 percent; five of these have rates over 50%; 65% of students attending Franklin County brick-and-mortar charter schools are disadvantaged, up from 44% five years ago.
- Disadvantaged students— as a group— have lower achievement levels and lower graduation and college completion rates. But, many disadvantaged students achieve at high levels. Disadvantaged students often require additional attention to help close knowledge and skill gaps.

“We do not ask first graders *if* they are going to college. We ask students, “*Where* are you going to college?”

– Jana Alig, Principal,  
Reynoldsburg elementary  
school

## Student Need Increases in Columbus and Franklin County's Suburban School Districts, School Year 2009-2010

District	Disadvantaged Student Rate, School Year 2004-2005	Disadvantaged Student Rate, School Year 2009-2010	Percentage-Point Rate Change from 2004-2005 to 2009-2010	Overall Enrollment, 2009-2010	State Report Card Rating	Overall Value-Added Classification, Expected Growth*	Overall 2009-2010 Adequate Yearly Progress	Race to the Top Participant Status****
Bexley	6%	9%	3	2,016	A+	Above	Met	Yes
Canal Winchester	15%	26%	11	3,436	B	Below	Not Met	Yes
Columbus	71%	82%	11	51,352	C	Below	Not Met	Yes
Dublin	7%	13%	6	13,374	A+	Above	Met	Yes
Gahanna-Jefferson	12%	24%	12	6,928	A	Below	Met	No
Grandview Heights	10%	16%	6	1,101	A+	Above	Met	Yes
Groveport Madison	31%	54%	23	5,472	B	Above	Not Met	Yes
Hamilton	36%	55%	19	2,901	A	Above	Not Met	No
Hilliard	10%	21%	11	14,797	A+	Above	Met	Yes
New Albany-Plain	3%	7%	4	4,051	A+	Above	Met	No
Reynoldsburg	20%	38%	18	5,905	B	Met	Met	Yes
South-Western	39%	53%	14	20,035	A	Above	Not Met	No
Upper Arlington	1%	1%	0	5,521	A+	Above	Met	Yes
Westerville	17%	26%	9	13,875	A+	Above	Met	No
Whitehall	53%	73%	20	2,848	C	Above	Not Met	Yes
Worthington	6%	22%	16	9,272	A	Met	Met	Yes
Franklin Co. Charter Schools**	44%	65%	21	12,631**	***	***	***	43 of 62 Schools
<b>State Average</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1,744,969</b>	<b>***</b>	<b>***</b>	<b>***</b>	<b>325 of 610 Districts</b>

Source: Ohio Department of Education, 2010. Calculations by KidsOhio.org. Numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

\* Value-added classifications represent whether students in grades 4-8 performed above, met, or performed below expectations for one year of academic growth in math and reading.

\*\* This data represents Franklin County students who attended a brick-and-mortar charter school in 2009-2010. An additional 3,524 students attended virtual charter schools, which are headquartered throughout the state. Thus, more than 16,000 Franklin County students attend either a brick-and-mortar or virtual charter school. While there is data available on the overall rate of economic disadvantaged students attending each virtual charter school, data is not readily available based on where these students live. This explains why virtual students are not included in the above analysis of economic status among Franklin County's charter school students.

\*\*\*Data is available per school building and per school district.

\*\*\*\* Ohio is one of 11 states and the District of Columbia selected by the US Department of Education to improve student outcomes in a nationwide Race to the Top competition. Ohio will receive \$400 Million over the next four years to reduce achievement gaps and improvement graduation rates.

- All but two Franklin County school districts earned an A or B rating on the 2009-2010 state report card.
- All but three Franklin County school districts met or exceeded the level of academic growth they were expected to make from school year 2008-2009 to 2009-2010.
- All but six met Adequate Yearly Progress, which measure how well ethnic and economic subgroups of students perform on state tests.
- All but five districts are participating in Ohio's Race to the Top plan, which is a \$400 million federal grant aimed at improving academic achievement, improving the recruitment, evaluation, retention, and rewarding of effective teachers and principals; making more effective use of data to improve instruction; ; and turning around the lowest-performing schools.

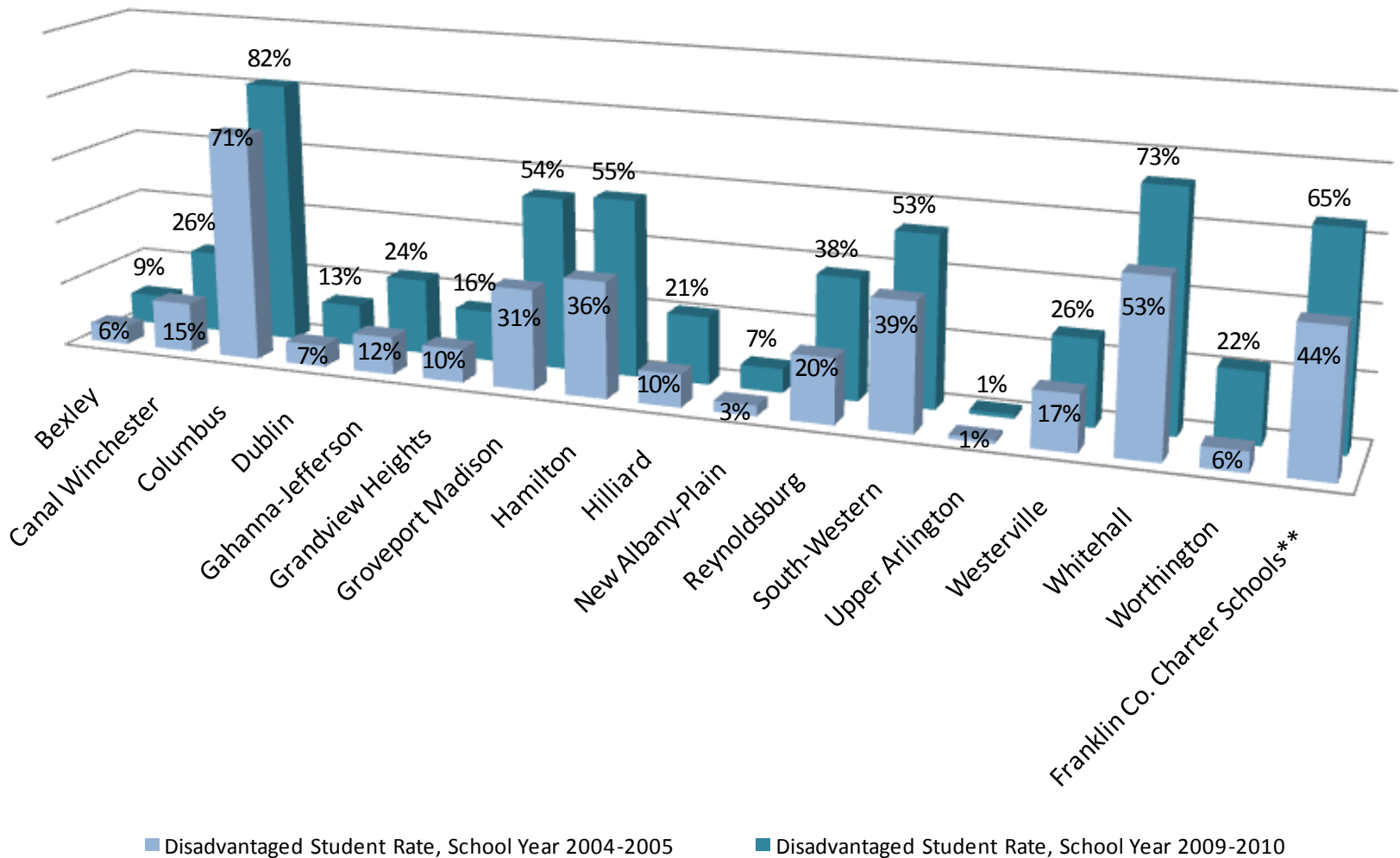


*"Kids aren't stupid just because they come from a situation with poverty. (Our school has) a culture of high expectations for all students." – Tina Thomas-Manning, Principal of Hannah J. Ashton Middle School in Reynoldsburg*



## Student Need Increases in 15 of 16 Franklin County School Districts

“There is a significant disparity between our buildings. In some Worthington elementary schools, as many as 40% of children are disadvantaged; while, only 2 or 3% are disadvantaged in other district schools.” - Worthington Superintendent Melissa Conrath



# What do two suburban Franklin County superintendents have to say about the increase in student need among their schools?

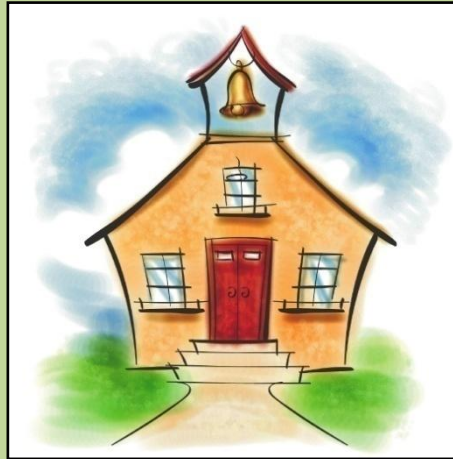
“Our job is to help all kids learn; not just the easy-to-educate kids. Our teachers remain committed to ensuring that all students are successful.”  
~Superintendent Conrath

“I see the central office as a resource to assist buildings. We get resources where they are needed most, based on student need.”  
~Superintendent Dackin\*

Want to read more from the leaders of Worthington and Reynoldsburg schools?  
Visit: [www.KidsOhio.org](http://www.KidsOhio.org).

“If we’re not getting the job done, parents should have the option to go elsewhere. When it comes down to it, we believe we can do it as well or better than anybody.”  
~Superintendent Dackin

“Our teachers are passionately committed to being successful with all students, regardless of their economic status.”  
~Superintendent Conrath



“We focus on results. Every kid matters.”  
~ Superintendent Dackin

“We purposely build small buildings, so every child is known. You can’t teach kids well, if you don’t know them.”  
~ Superintendent Dackin

“It’s refreshing to hear teachers’ conversations center on meeting the unique needs of disadvantaged students.”  
~Superintendent Conrath\*\*

\*Reynoldsburg Superintendent: Steve Dackin

\*\*Worthington Superintendent: Melissa Conrath



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