



The First Year of College

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)

February 2024

Powered by Bing
© GeoNames, Microsoft, TomTom

TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

WHAT DOES THECB SHOW?

- Academic data for Texas high school graduates at Texas public post-secondary institutions.

Class of 2021

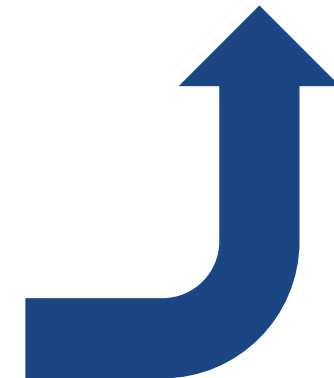
LIMITATIONS

- THECB only reports census data for 2- and 4-year colleges in Texas.
- Data does **not** include high school graduates at out-of-state colleges.

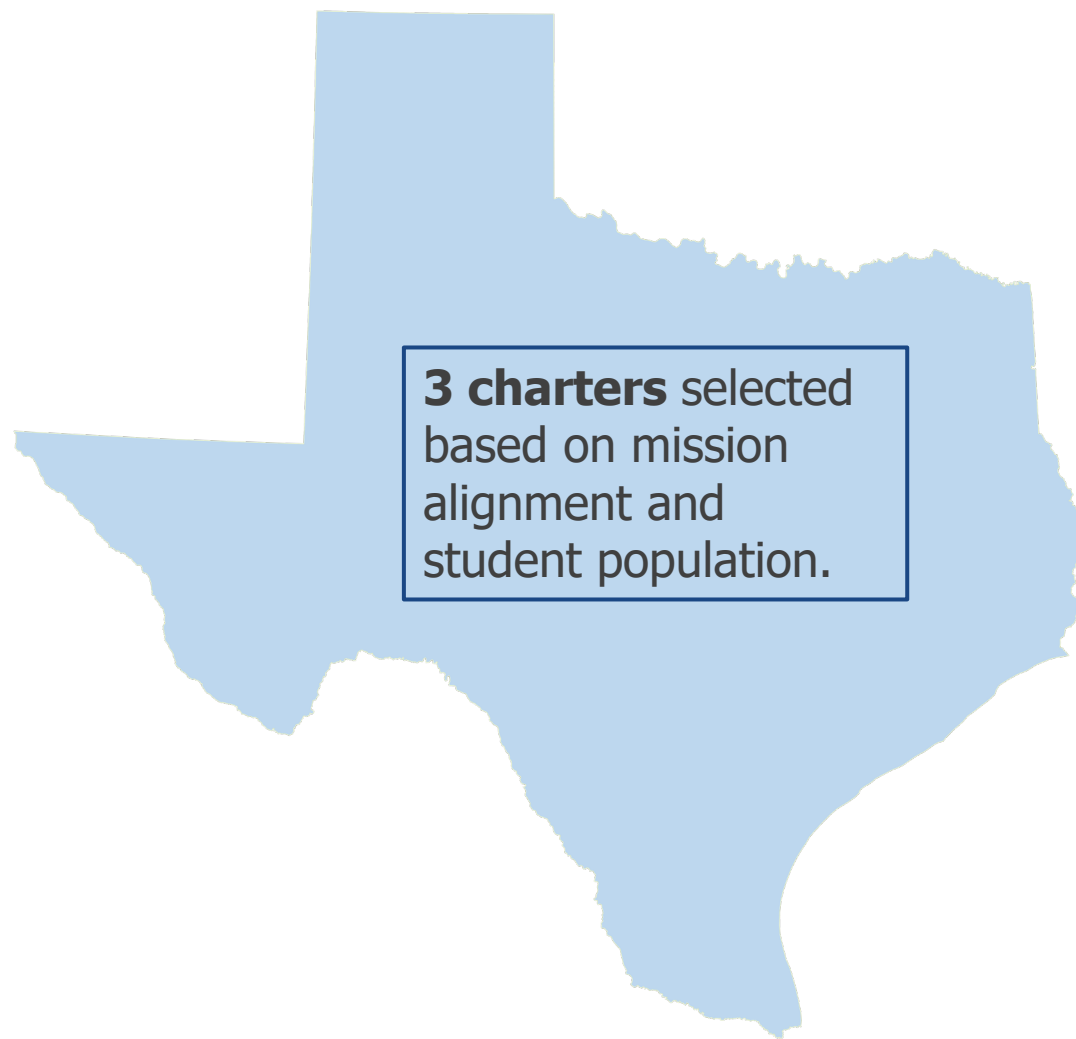


WHAT DID WE ANALYZE?

- First-year college enrollment and GPA data for IDEA alumni.
- Comparative data from a sample of Texas charter schools and ISDs.



TEXAS CHARTERS FOR COMPARISON

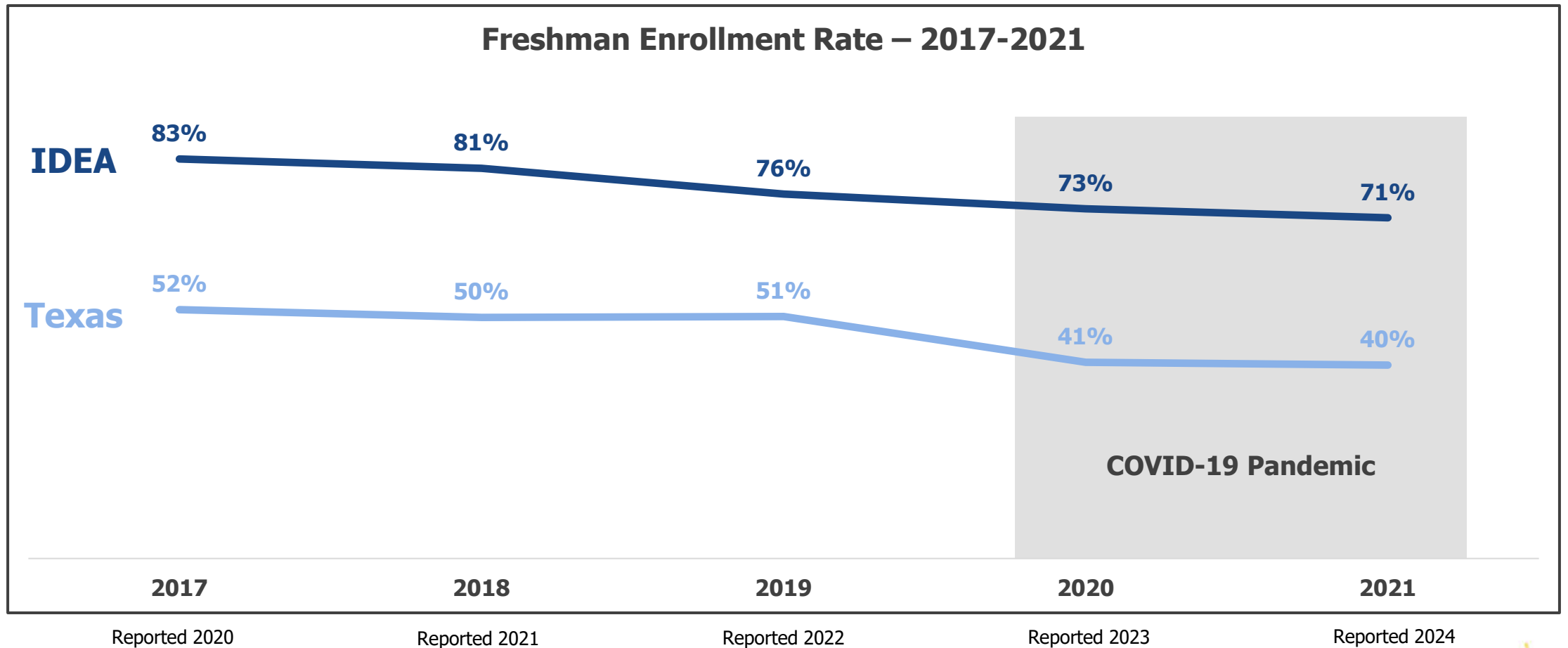


TEXAS ISDs FOR COMPARISON

18 ISDs selected based on geographical proximity to IDEA campuses and student population.

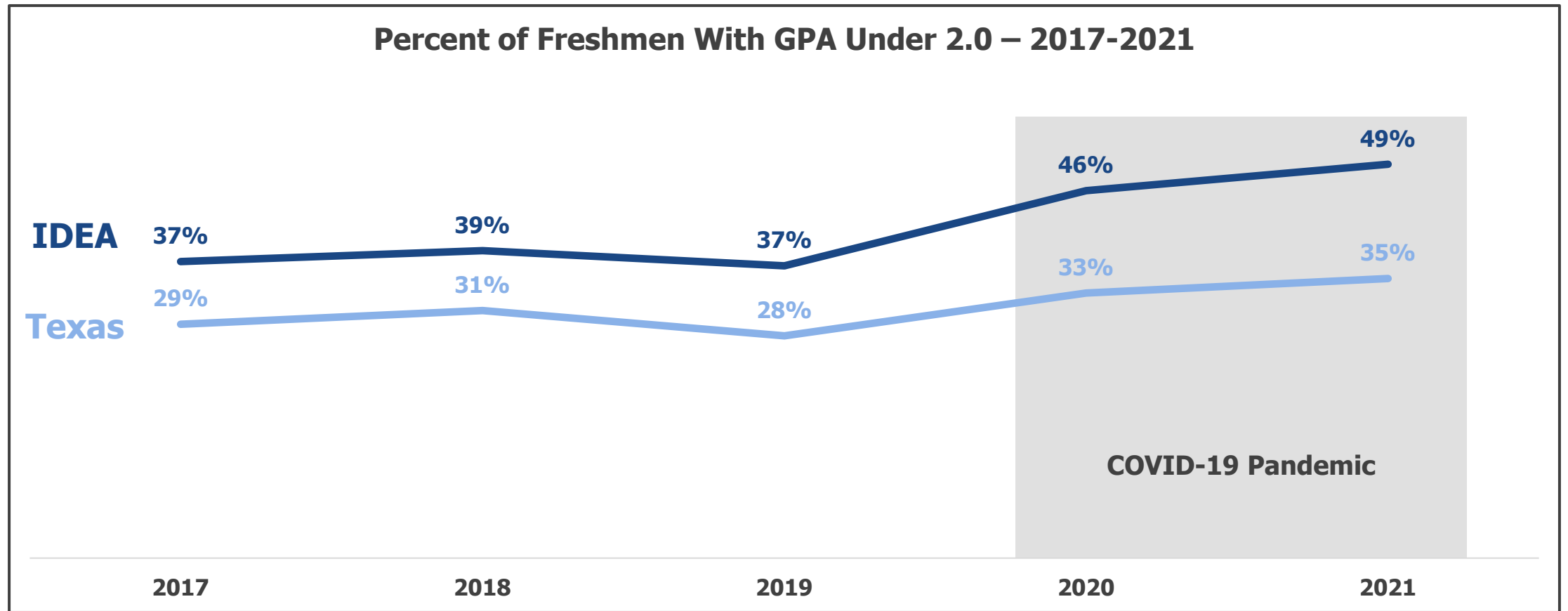


IDEA continues to lead college enrollment, despite the pandemic.



Note: Texas data points are the average of all districts in the sample.

Nearly half of IDEA freshmen earned **below a 2.0** in 2021, **14% more** than the Texas average.



Reported 2020

Reported 2021

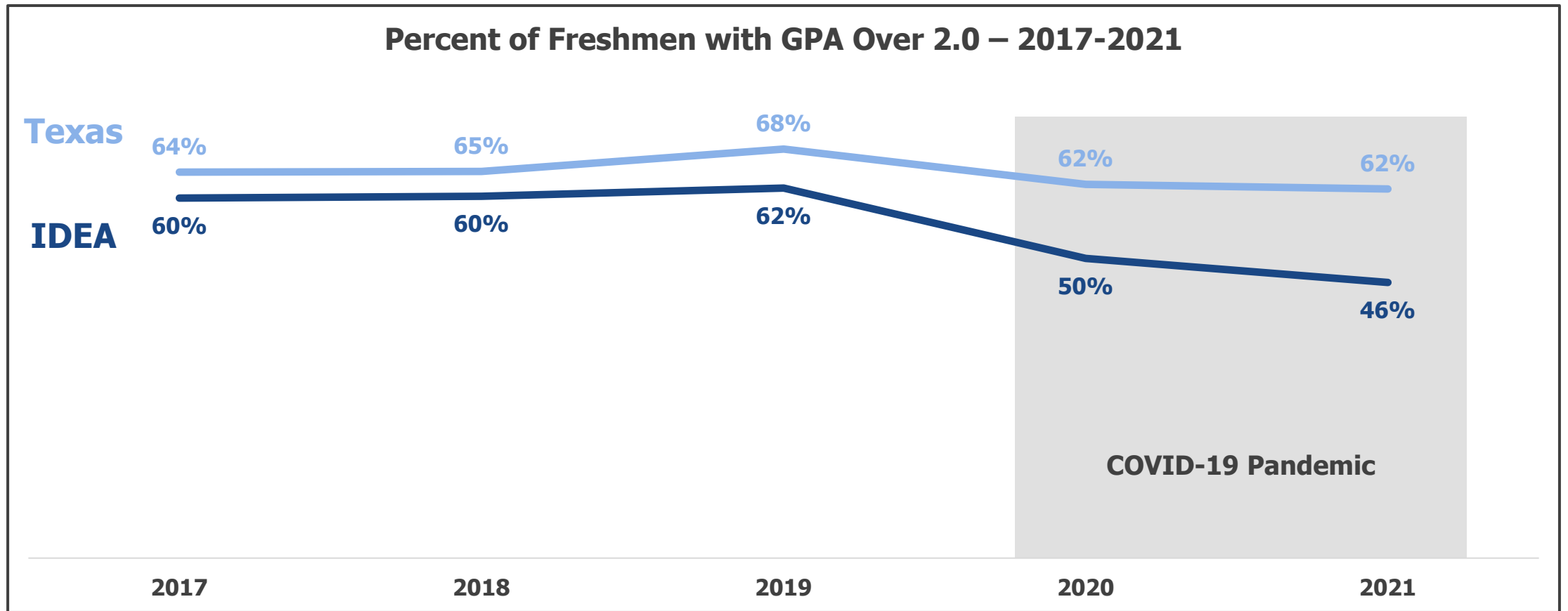
Reported 2022

Reported 2023

Reported 2024

Note: Texas data points are the average of all districts in the sample.

IDEA freshmen earning **above a 2.0** declined by **15%** from before the pandemic.



Reported 2020

Reported 2021

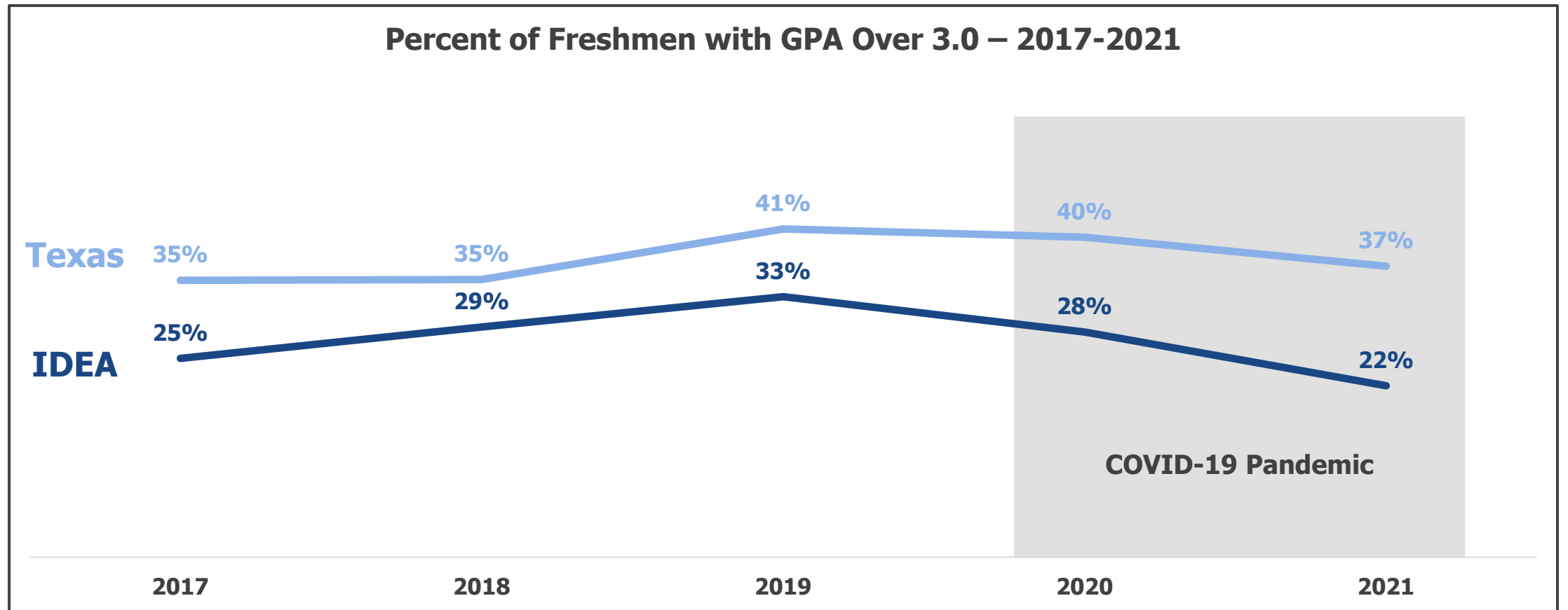
Reported 2022

Reported 2023

Reported 2024

Note: Texas data points are the average of all districts in the sample.

IDEA freshmen with **high GPAs declined by 11%** after peaking right before the pandemic.



Reported 2020

Reported 2021

Reported 2022

Reported 2023

Reported 2024

Note: Texas data points are the average of all districts in the sample.

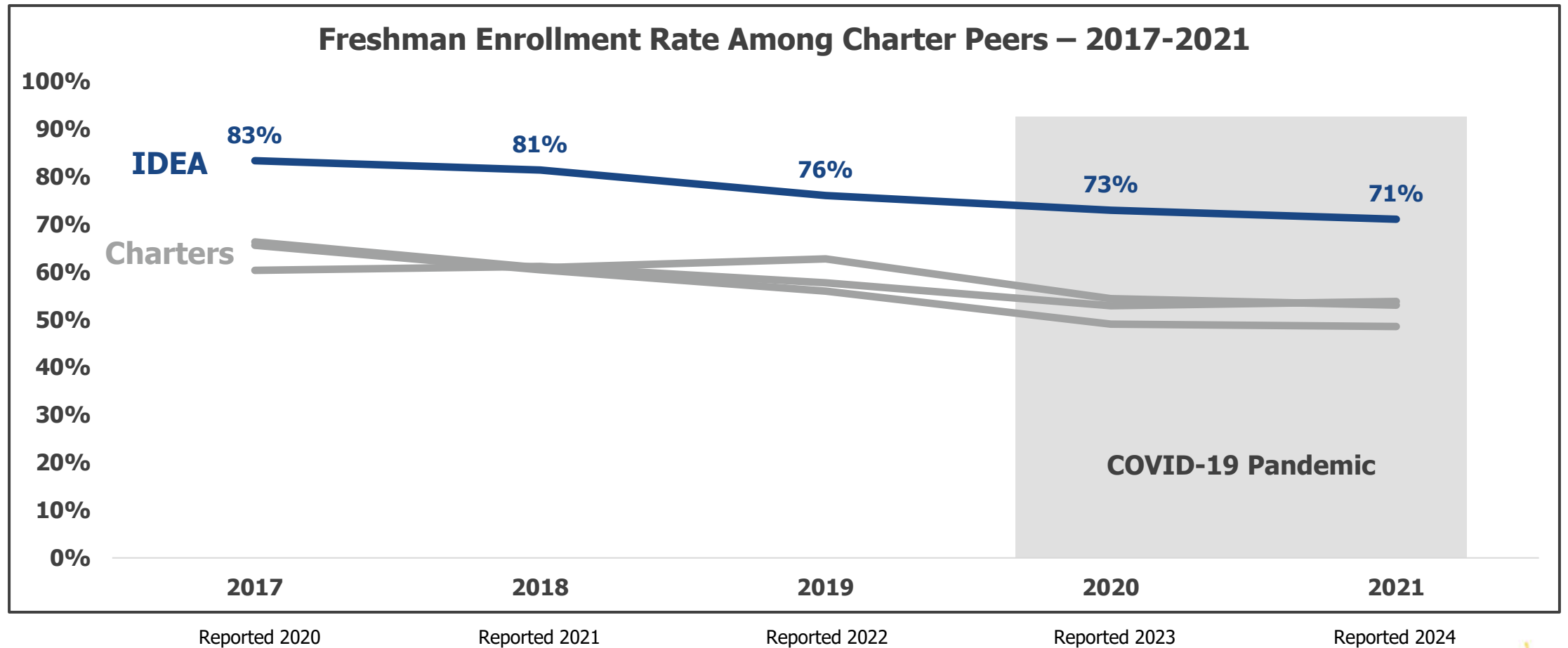


The Charter Context

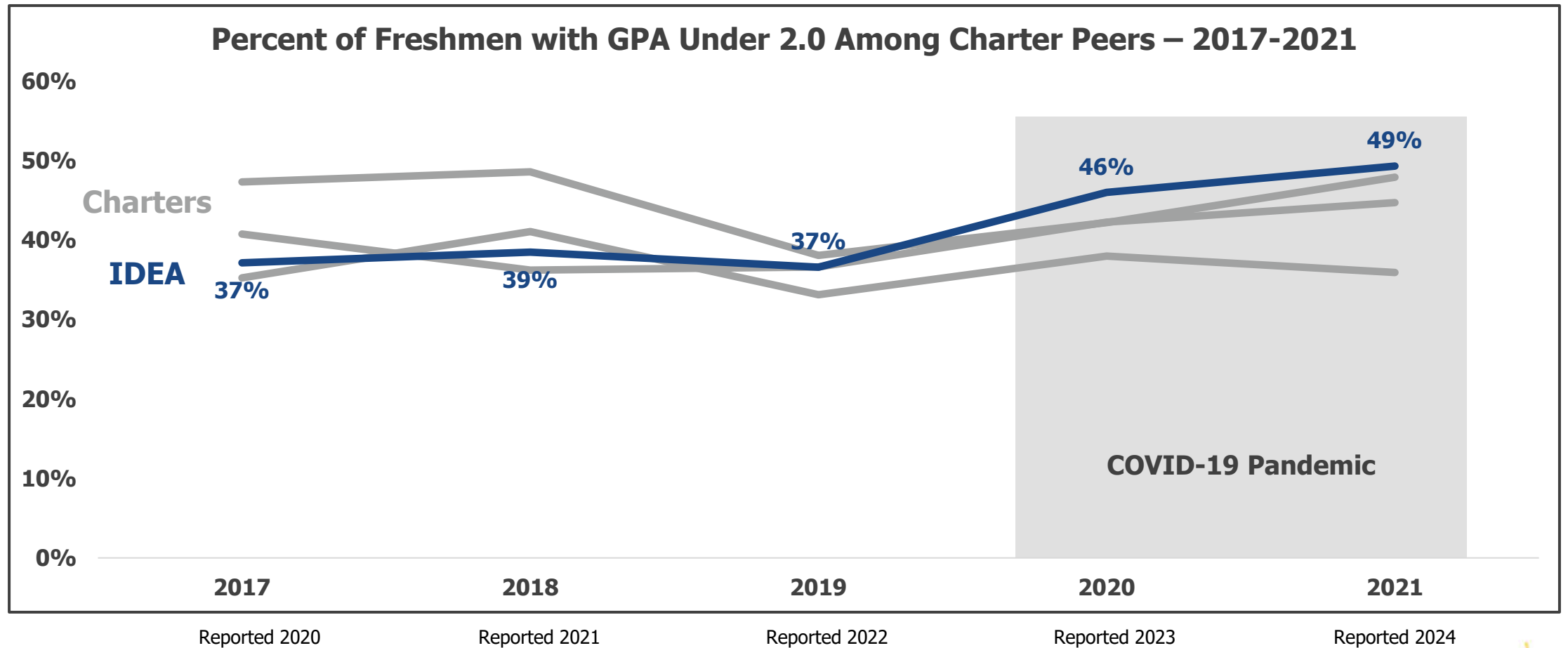
How IDEA Compares to Our Charter Peers

Powered by Bing
© GeoNames, Microsoft, TomTom

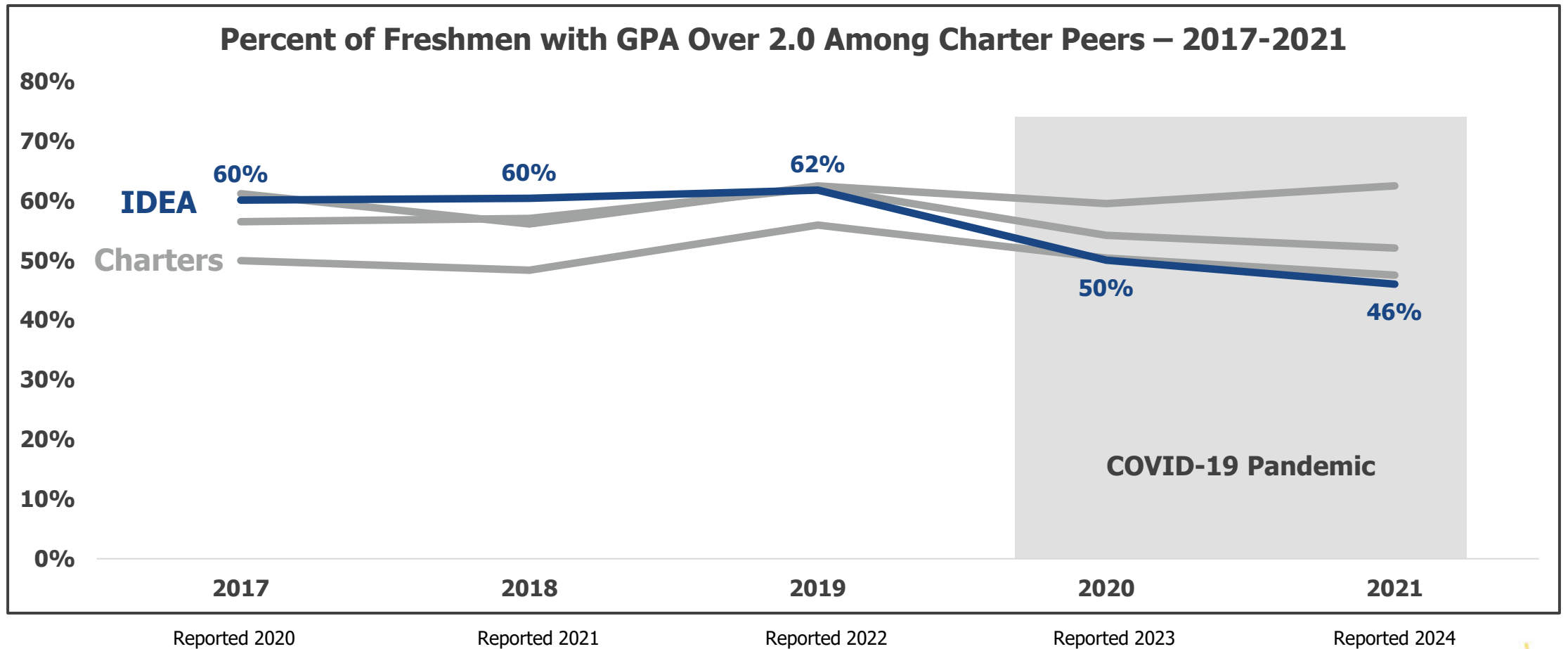
IDEA continues to **lead** its charter peers in college **enrollment** by a **wide margin**.



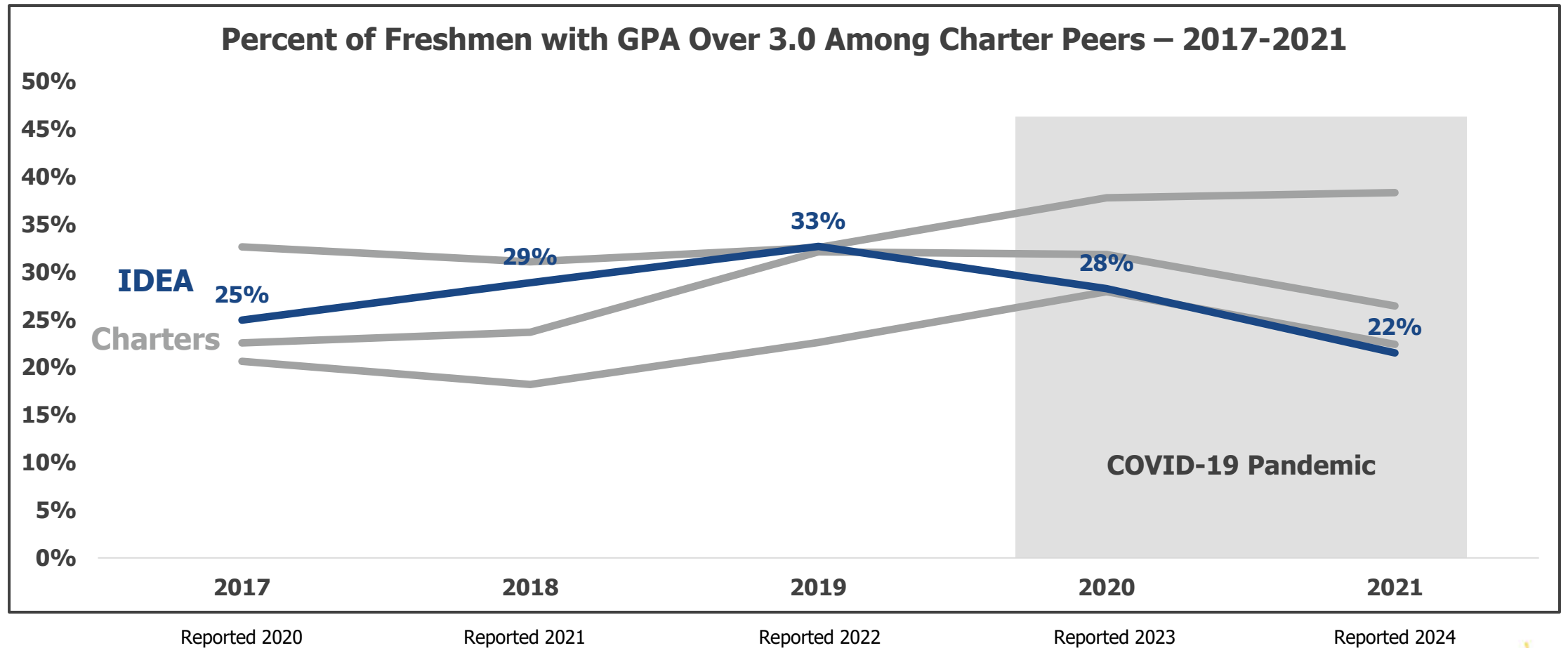
IDEA freshmen with **low GPAs** has **increased more severely** relative to our charter peers.



IDEA freshmen with **GPA's over 2.0 declined significantly** relative to our charter peers.



IDEA freshmen with **high GPAs fell more** than our charter peers after **co-leading in 2019**.



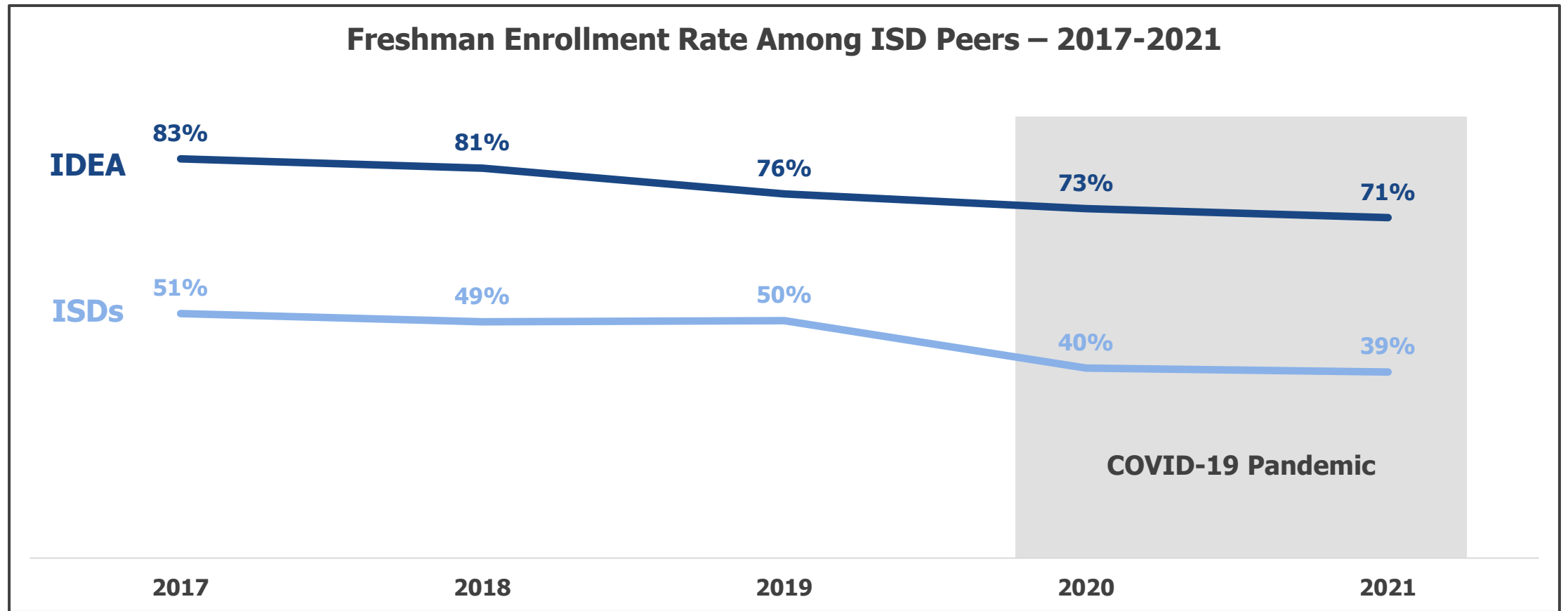


The ISD Context

How IDEA Compares to Our ISD Peers

Powered by Bing
© GeoNames, Microsoft, TomTom

IDEA continues to lead our ISD peers in college enrollment by **31%**, on average.



Reported 2020

Reported 2021

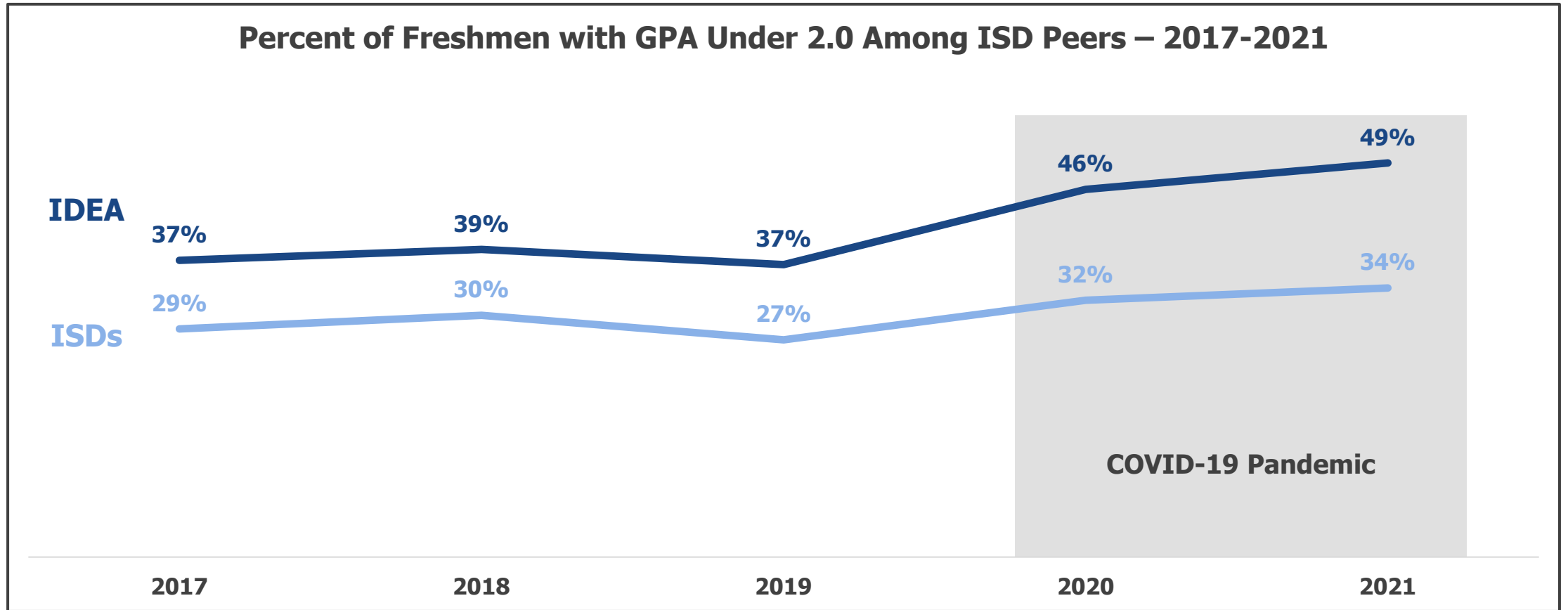
Reported 2022

Reported 2023

Reported 2024

Note: ISD data points are the weighted average of all ISDs in the sample.

1 in 2 IDEA freshmen earned **low GPAs** during the pandemic, compared to **1 in 3** for our ISD peers.



Reported 2020

Reported 2021

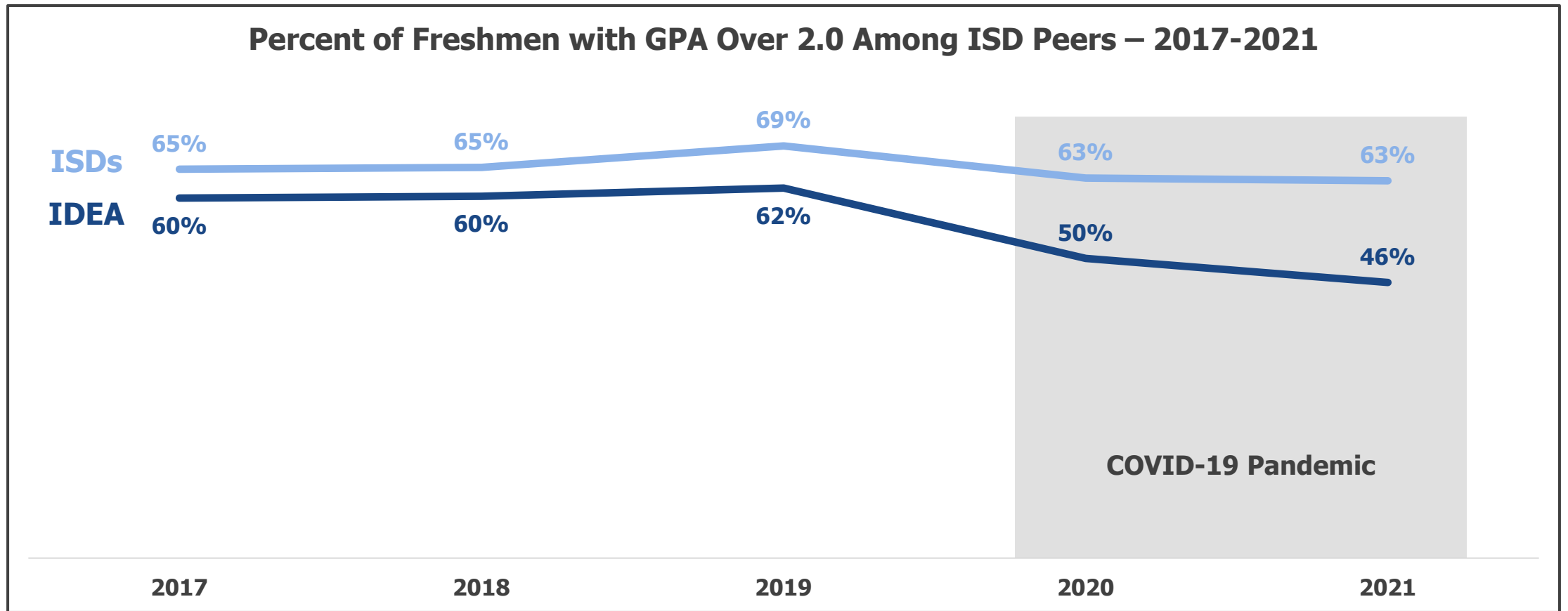
Reported 2022

Reported 2023

Reported 2024

Note: ISD data points are the weighted average of all ISDs in the sample.

The **gap** between IDEA and our ISD peers **widened** each year of the pandemic for **GPA over 2.0**.



Reported 2020

Reported 2021

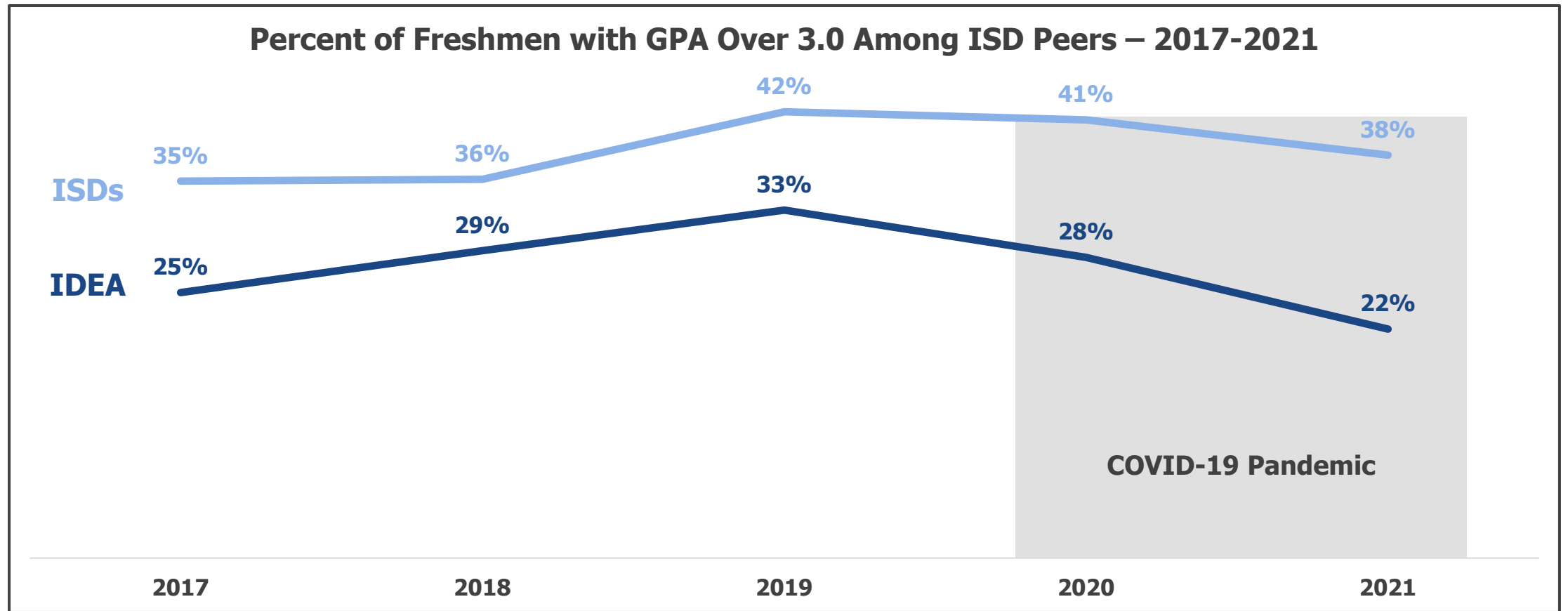
Reported 2022

Reported 2023

Reported 2024

Note: ISD data points are the weighted average of all ISDs in the sample.

IDEA freshmen with **high GPAs declined more severely** during the pandemic than our ISD peers.



Reported 2020

Reported 2021

Reported 2022

Reported 2023

Reported 2024

Note: ISD data points are the weighted average of all ISDs in the sample.

What are the takeaways?

IDEA Gets Kids to College

💡 **IDEA led all charters and ISDs** in freshman enrollment in 2021 and over the last 5 years.

COVID-19 Impacted College

💡 **Enrollment and academic performance** continued to **decline** across school districts.



IDEA Has Academic Gaps to Close

💡 IDEA **trailed** most of our charter and all ISD peers in **academic performance** in 2021.