



Bureau of Legislative Research

Policy Analysis & Research Section



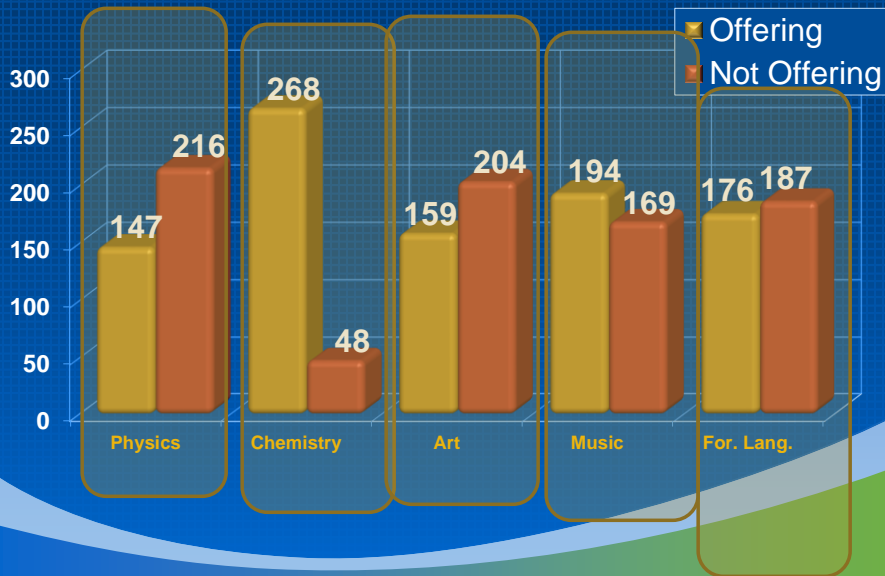
Arkansas's Learning Standards for Students

June 19, 2018

2017-18
Adequacy
Study
18-001-22



1983: 363 High Schools



1983

A Nation at Risk

Alma v. Dupree

10.4% of AR adults with college degrees (50th)

Act 445

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1984 Standards for Accreditation

- 38 units that had to be taught at least every other year
- 20 units to graduate
- About 30 districts consolidated



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Opposite Philosophies

Taylor / Bobbitt

Dewey

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Taylorism v Dewey in Arkansas

- 1984 Standards
- Early '90s – NGA goals
- Late '90s – curriculum frameworks and accountability

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Standards Movement

- Not just what courses taught, but what's taught in each
- Learning standards graded by organizations

(Yep, this would be Taylorism)

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2005 Standards for Accreditation

- 38 units must be taught each year
- Grad requirements
 - Smart Core (22 units to graduate)
 - Common Core (21 units to graduate)
- Tougher for small districts (Act 60)

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Relaxing the Standards

- Federal ESEA Flexibility / ESSA
- Waivers
- Act 853 of 2015

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Act 853 of 2015

No ding under standards for accreditation for not teaching one of the 38 if could show it was offered

One school district on probation for not offering

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Offered, Not Taught

2016-17 Most Frequent

- Physics (11 / 11)
- Computer Science and Math (11 / 11)
- Transitional English 12 (10 / 9)
- More of them now in required 38 (p. 11)

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Offered, Not Taught

Strong High School (2016-17)

- Art II
- Music II
- Sociology
- World Geography
- Journalism
- Pre-Calculus
- Computer Science w/Math
- Spanish I & Spanish II

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2018

- Rules Governing Standards for Accreditation revised
- Course listings now in separate document; removed from rules process

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Annual Instruction K-8

CONTENT AREA	GRADE SPAN(S)
English Language Arts	K-4, 5-8
Mathematics	K-4, 5-8
Social Studies	K-4, 5-8
Science	K-4, 5-8
Health/Safety/Physical Ed	K-4, 5-8
Career and Technical Ed	5-8
Arkansas History	A unit at each elementary grade w/emphasis in grades 4 & 5; one full semester to all students at grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12.

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Annual Instruction 9-12

- Broad outline in Rules
- “Required 38” in separate document for State Board vote
 - Now offered, not taught
- Major changes in new standards (p. 9-10)
 - Journalism
 - Drama
 - Physics

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Arkansas Academic Standards

- Computer Science
- English Language Arts*
- Fine Arts
- Foreign Language
- Library Media Services
- Mathematics*
- PE & Health
- Science**
- Social Studies
- English Language Proficiency
- Personal Finance

*Revised from Common Core State Standards

**Next Generation Science Standards

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Civics Standards

Strand: Civic and Political Institutions Content Standard 2: Students will analyze the roles of political institutions in governing and protecting citizens.			
		CCSS ELA-Literacy Alignment	C3 Alignment
CPI.2.C.1	Explain how federal, state, and local governments acquire power	CCRA.R.1, 2, 3, 10 CCRA.W.2, 7, 8, 9 CCRA.SL.1, 4	D1.1.9-12
CPI.2.C.2	Differentiate among delegated, concurrent, and reserved powers	CCRA.R.1, 2, 3, 9, 10 CCRA.W.2, 7, 8, 9 CCRA.SL.1, 4	D1.1.9-12 D2.Civ.4, 8.9-12
CPI.2.C.3	Construct arguments about the strengths, weaknesses, and reasons for checks and balances and separation of powers using multiple primary and secondary sources	CCRA.R.1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 10 CCRA.W.1, 2, 3, 8 CCRA.SL.1, 4	D1.1.9-12 D2.Civ.1, 4.9-12
CPI.2.C.4	Examine ways the powers, responsibilities, and limits of the federal government have changed over time and are still contested	CCRA.R.1, 2, 3, 9, 10 CCRA.W.2, 7, 8, 9 CCRA.SL.1, 4	D1.1.9-12 D2.Civ.4.9-12

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Arkansas Academic Standards

- Computer Science
- English Language Arts*
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**Next Generation Science Standards

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Graduation Requirement

- Also in the separate document
- Smart Core and Core (22)
- Different math requirements
- Science now same for Core and Smart Core

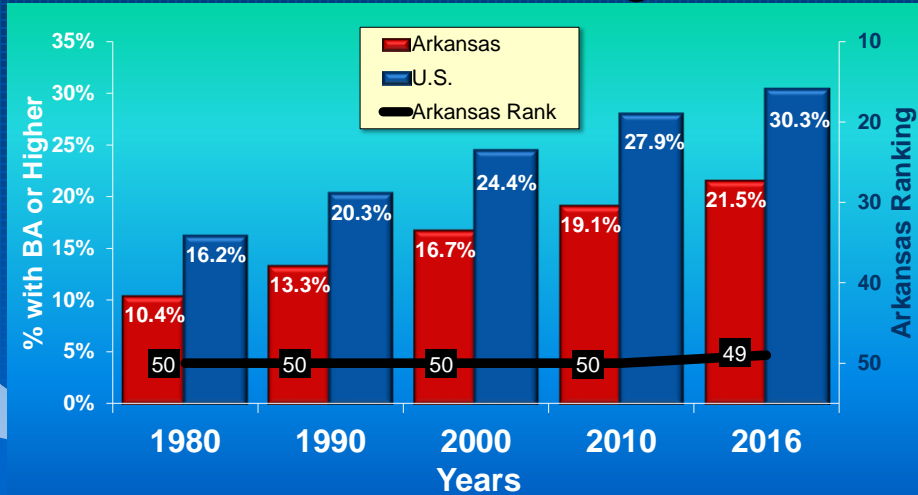
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Smart Core

School Year	Smart Core	Core	Total Enrollment
2013-14	93.2%	6.7%	213,721
2014-15	93.8%	6.2%	215,263
2015-16	94.4%	5.6%	215,369
2016-17	94.9%	5.1%	215,951

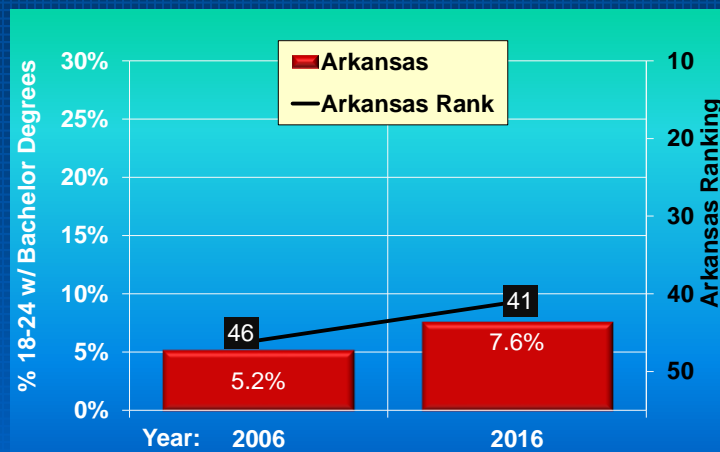
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Smart Core Percent with Bachelor's or Higher and Arkansas Ranking



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% 18-24 with Bachelor Degrees



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Advanced Placement

All high schools to offer at least one AP course in each core subject area

In 2016-17:

- **75%** of Arkansas traditional high schools taught at least one (**48K** enrollment)
- **66.6%** of charter high schools taught at least one (**2,628**)

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Computer Science

Act 187 of 2015 required one quality course to be offered at each high school

Fall 2015

- **3K** traditional, **300** charter
- **Half enrolled in online courses**

Fall 2016

- **4K** traditional, **400** charter
- **1/5 enrolled in online courses**

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Student-Focused Learning

- Act 930 of 2017
- “Student Success Plans”
- First step toward competency-based learning system
- Costs?
- Critiques

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Questions?

***ARKANSAS'S LEARNING
STANDARDS FOR STUDENTS***

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