State Profile: Arkansas

R14CC and the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) are collaboratively implementing projects to address high leverage problems such as student access to effective educators, supporting schools serving specific student populations, and building school district capacity to design school models aligned to parent choice. This profile provides a summary of these selected projects and an overview of state education statistics for Arkansas.

Selected Projects Conducted With ADE

Project 1

Increasing Access to Effective Educators in Arkansas

Summary

Support the Arkansas Department of Education with the alignment of its programs in a talent development system and by strengthening the metrics for evaluating impact

Sample Activities

- Revise and strengthen the <u>Teach</u>
 <u>Arkansas Goals</u> to align with
 the Division of Elementary and
 Secondary Education's (DESE's)
 comprehensive <u>strategic goals</u>
- Analyze the data used to create the <u>Workforce Stability Index (WSI)</u> and recommend variables for inclusion that positively relate to workforce quality: Experience, Attainment, Licensure, and Retention
- Guide the Office of Educator
 Effectiveness (OEE) staff in
 articulating and documenting the
 core competencies, knowledge,
 and skills, and potential classroom
 roles of both the Lead and Master
 designations by developing an
 infographic that delineated the
 desired outcomes for those teachers
- Develop a <u>Talent Management</u>
 <u>Alignment Workbook</u> and
 corresponding Articulate module
 that can be used broadly by state
 education agencies (SEAs) to
 self-direct through the talent
 management alignment process

Project 2

Supporting Arkansas's Special Schools in Becoming National Exemplars

Summary

Create one strategic plan for the Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ASBVI) and the Arkansas School for the Deaf (ASD) that is aligned with ADE's strategic plan

Sample Activities

- Support ASBVI with developing the literacy and staff and systems components of its strategic plan, including determining what data the school would collect to understand whether it was progressing toward the plan
- Support ASD with aligning its strategic plan to the foundational literacy focus of ADE's strategic plan by assisting ASD in selecting a literacy curriculum and implementing professional development for educators
- Train ASD leadership in literacy instruction, classroom observations, effective coaching, and making datainformed decisions
- Assist ASBVI with planning and rolling out a school climate and culture survey

Project 3

Parent Choice Schools in Bentonville, Arkansas

Summary

Coordinate community needs sensing, shared communications strategies, and school design teams, which will inform Bentonville Schools' design, implementation, and communication plans to carry out two elementary school redesigns

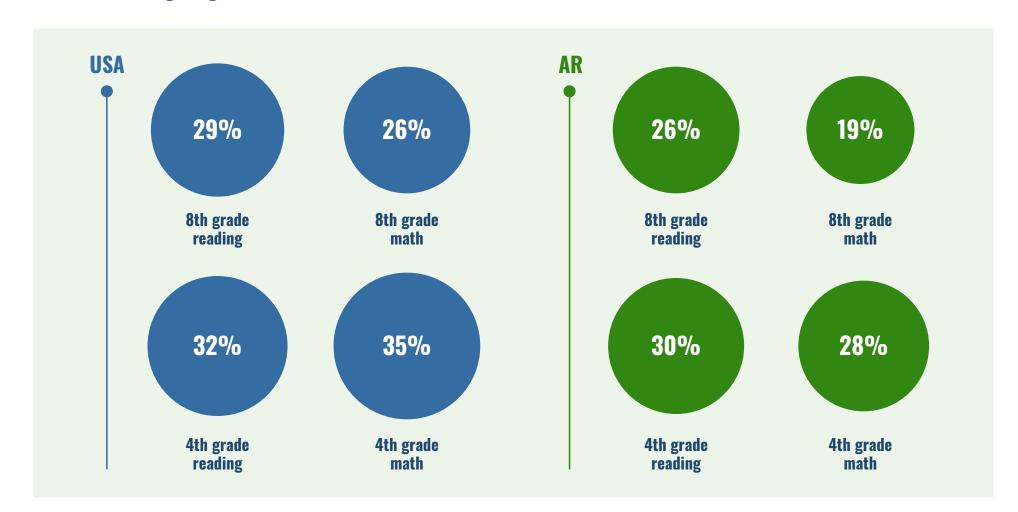
Sample Activities

- Conduct community needs sensing with survey and focus groups and analyze data to inform design principles
- Facilitate virtual and in-person site visits with exemplar model schools
- Provide best practices and recommended tools for communications planning at the district and school level
- Draft a Parent Choice Schools
 Playbook to document best practices throughout this process including a case study with lessons learned, which may be shared with other districts, states, and regions

State Overview, 2021-22 School Year

Percentage of Students With NAEP Proficiency

Results from the 2022 <u>mathematics</u> and <u>reading</u> assessments are based on nationally representative samples of fourth and eighth graders.



State Education at a Glance



476,579
Total student enrollment



Number of local education agencies (LEAs)

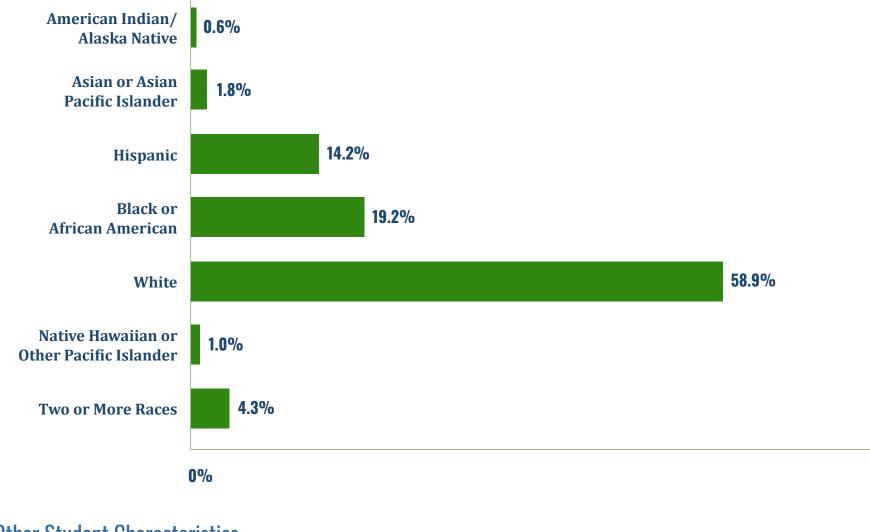


1,056
Number of public or open-enrollment charter schools



32,666
Number of teachers

Percentage of Students by Race



Other Student Characteristics

13.4%

disabilities

Students with

63.6%

Economically

disadvantaged

8.0%
English

80%

learners





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