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Outstanding Educational Performance Awards: Highlighting High-Growth Arkansas Schools, 2017

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ARKANSAS EDUCATION REPORT
Volume 14, Issue 2

**OUTSTANDING EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE AWARDS:
HIGHLIGHTING HIGH-GROWTH ARKANSAS SCHOOLS, 2017**

**BEATING THE ODDS: HIGH-GROWTH SCHOOLS
BASED ON THE ACT ASPIRE EXAMINATIONS,
SERVING LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES**

June 13, 2018

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INTRODUCTION

The mission of the Office for Education Policy is to examine educational issues through the lens of academic research and disseminate our findings to educators, policymakers, and other stakeholders around Arkansas. Annually, we highlight excellent schools around the state in our **Outstanding Educational Performance Awards**, or the OEP awards.

This edition of the **OEP Awards** highlights schools in Arkansas based on student growth on the ACT Aspire exams in Mathematics and English Language Arts (ELA). This is a departure from prior awards, which were based on student proficiency.

We choose to focus on student growth for these OEP awards because we think it is a better reflection than proficiency rates of how the school is impacting students. Growth is calculated at the student level, and essentially reflects how much a student improved his or her score from the prior year compared to what was predicted based on prior achievement history. Proficiency rates, even those that move beyond the ‘percent proficient’ like our OEP GPA and Arkansas’ weighted achievement score, are more correlated with student demographics than growth scores. This means that schools can demonstrate high student growth regardless of the characteristics of the students that they serve.

In the 2016-17 academic year, ACT Aspire examinations were administered to students in grades 3 through 10 in Math, Reading, Writing, English and Science. For the purposes of this report, the scores obtained in Reading, Writing and English were combined to create a combined ELA score.

For the purposes of these awards, we are using the content-area growth calculated and reported by the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE). Note that we used only growth for math and English Language Arts, excluding the growth score for English Learner progress to English Language Proficiency). In addition, we identify the highest growth schools by school level as identified by the ADE under Arkansas’ ESSA Plan: Elementary, Middle, and High school level.

In this report, we present a list of the top 20 schools in the state for Overall growth (average of Math and ELA growth), Math growth, and ELA growth. In some cases, these “top 20 lists” will contain more than 20 schools as some schools’ growth scores will be identical. This is not a new phenomenon, as we also exceeded 20 schools in previous reports when using the OEP GPA as an indicator for student achievement.

In the following weeks, we will focus on high-growth elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools in the various regions across the state. We will conclude this edition of the report by highlighting schools that are beating the odds (that is, schools that have high levels of student growth while serving a high percentage of low-income students).

We are pleased to be able to highlight how students are growing academically in schools across the state, and hope the information will spark discussion among stakeholders about how to ensure all schools are growing the knowledge of Arkansas students.

IV. 2017 OEP AWARDS: BEATING THE ODDS – HIGH-GROWTH SCHOOLS, BASED ON THE ACT ASPIRE EXAMINATIONS, SERVING LOW INCOME COMMUNITIES

This section highlights high-growth schools across Arkansas based on the ACT Aspire examinations in Math and English Language Arts (ELA) for the 2016-2017 academic year. For these awards, we consider schools that serve free or reduced lunch to at least 66% of the student body.

High-poverty schools are ranked by school level (Elementary, Middle, or High) based on Overall Growth (Math and ELA combined), as well as for growth in each content area independently. High-poverty schools are also ranked within each region of the state. Tables include the region in which the school is located, the number of test takers, the Final Weighted Achievement as calculated by the Arkansas Department of Education, and the growth score of that school in the relevant content area.

J. Elementary Schools “Beating the Odds”

Beating the Odds: Overall ACT Aspire, 2017

Table 55: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Elementary Schools in Arkansas based on Overall ACT Aspire Growth (Math and ELA combined)

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Salem Elementary (Salem)	NE	K-6	67%	227	99.74	89.66
2	Central Elementary (Batesville)	NE	K-6	66%	190	78.31	89.30
3	Green Forest Elementary (Green Forest)	NW	P-3	84%	92	77.05	88.55
4	John Tyson Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	77%	214	81.50	88.44
5	Bismarck Elementary (Bismarck)	CN	K-4	69%	123	89.76	87.99
6	Jones Elementary (Rogers)	NW	K-5	84%	229	79.74	87.56
7	Oscar Hamilton Elementary (Foreman)	SW	K-6	73%	132	80.67	87.53
8	Sonora Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	70%	252	73.37	87.34
9	Jones Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	98%	228	61.72	87.16
10	Wakefield Elementary (Little Rock)	CN	P-5	97%	240	54.34	87.13

Beating the Odds: Math ACT Aspire, 2017

Table 56: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Elementary Schools in Arkansas based on ACT Aspire Math Growth

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Bismarck Elementary (Bismarck)	CN	K-4	69%	123	89.76	91.90
2	Monitor Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	86%	246	66.54	91.20
3	Salem Elementary (Salem)	NE	K-6	67%	227	99.74	90.50
3	Central Elementary (Batesville)	NE	K-6	66%	190	78.31	90.50
5	John Tyson Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	77%	213	81.50	89.10
5	Sonora Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	70%	252	73.37	89.10
7	West Elementary (Batesville)	NE	K-6	70%	284	85.73	88.75
8	Oscar Hamilton Elementary (Foreman)	SW	K-6	73%	132	80.67	88.40
8	County Line Elementary (County Line)	NW	K-6	74%	113	86.33	88.40
10	Green Forest Elementary (Green Forest)	NW	P-3	84%	92	77.05	87.70
10	Tuckerman Elementary (Jackson Co.)	NE	K-4	72%	107	84.72	87.70
10	Timbo Elementary (Mountain View)	NE	K-6	89%	55	88.86	87.70

Tables 57-61: Top 5 “High-Poverty” Schools in Arkansas by Region, **Math** Growth.



Table 57: Top 5 “high-poverty” Elementary schools in **Northwest** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Monitor Elementary (Springdale)	K-5	86%	246	66.54	91.20
2	John Tyson Elementary (Springdale)	K-5	77%	213	81.50	89.10
2	Sonora Elementary (Springdale)	K-5	70%	252	73.37	89.10
4	County Line Elementary (County Line)	K-6	74%	113	86.33	88.40
5	Green Forest Elementary (Green Forest)	P-3	84%	92	77.05	87.70



Table 58: Top 5 “high-poverty” Elementary schools in **Northeast** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Salem Elementary (Salem)	K-6	67%	227	99.74	90.50
1	Central Elementary (Batesville)	K-6	66%	190	78.31	90.50
3	West Elementary (Batesville)	K-6	70%	284	85.73	88.75
4	Tuckerman Elementary (Jackson Co.)	K-4	72%	107	84.72	87.70
4	Timbo Elementary (Mountain View)	K-6	89%	55	88.86	87.70



Table 59: Top 5 “high-poverty” Elementary schools in **Central** Region based on **Math ACT Aspire Growth**

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Bismarck Elementary (Bismarck)	K-4	69%	123	89.76	91.90
2	Wakefield Elementary (Little Rock)	P-5	97%	240	54.34	87.00
2	Cato Elementary (Pulaski County Special)	P-5	67%	129	70.36	87.00
4	Gardner Stem Magnet (Hot Springs)	K-4	89%	130	74.36	85.25
5	McDermott Elementary (Little Rock)	P-5	75%	118	52.79	84.90



Table 60: Top 5 “high-poverty” Elementary schools in **Southwest** Region based on **Math ACT Aspire Growth**

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Oscar Hamilton Elementary (Foreman)	K-6	73%	132	80.67	88.40
2	Nashville Primary (Nashville)	K-3	75%	160	65.09	87.00
3	Centerpoint Primary (Centerpoint)	P-3	79%	54	79.61	85.60
4	Fairview Elementary (Camden Fairview)	K-1	83%	177	52.41	84.20
4	Ivory Primary (Camden Fairview)	2-3	80%	177	52.41	84.20
4	Nashville Elementary (Nashville)	4-6	73%	440	76.46	84.20



Table 61: Top 5 “high-poverty” Elementary schools in Southeast Region based on Math ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc)	P-6	75%	143	87.41	83.50
2	Hermitage Elementary (Hermitage)	P-6	83%	123	58.47	83.15
3	Park Avenue Elementary (Stuttgart)	K-4	75%	226	61.26	82.10
4	Kingsland Elementary (Cleveland County)	K-5	82%	42	73.51	81.05
5	C.B. Partee Elementary (Brinkley)	K-6	81%	132	59.60	79.65

Beating the Odds: ELA ACT Aspire, 2017

Table 62: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Elementary Schools in Arkansas based on ACT Aspire ELA Growth

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Green Forest Elementary (Green Forest)	NW	P-3	84%	92	77.05	89.45
1	Jones Elementary (Rogers)	NW	K-5	84%	229	79.74	89.45
3	Lepanto Elementary (East Poinsett Co. Dist.)	NE	K-4	83%	48	69.53	89.10
4	Salem Elementary (Salem)	NE	K-6	67%	227	99.74	88.75
5	Sutton Elementary (Fort Smith)	NW	P-6	94%	247	63.47	88.40
6	Central Elementary (Batesville)	NE	K-6	66%	189	78.31	88.05
6	Beard Elementary (Fort Smith)	NW	K-6	68%	156	79.40	88.05
6	Dardanelle Intermediate (Dardanelle)	NW	4-5	75%	312	81.29	88.05
9	John Tyson Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	77%	212	81.50	87.70
9	Linda Knapp-Childers Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	89%	240	65.09	87.70

Tables 63-67: Top 5 “**High-Poverty**” Schools in Arkansas by Region, **ELA Growth**.



Table 63: Top 5 “high-poverty” Elementary schools in **Northwest** Region based on **ELA ACT Aspire Growth**

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Green Forest Elementary (Green Forest)	P-3	84%	92	77.05	89.45
1	Jones Elementary (Rogers)	K-5	84%	229	79.74	89.45
3	Sutton Elementary (Fort Smith)	P-6	94%	247	63.47	88.40
4	Beard Elementary (Fort Smith)	K-6	68%	156	79.40	88.05
4	Dardanelle Intermediate (Dardanelle)	4-5	75%	312	81.29	88.05



Table 64: Top 5 “high-poverty” Elementary schools in **Northeast** Region based on **ELA ACT Aspire Growth**

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Lepanto Elementary (East Poinsett Co. Dist.)	K-4	83%	48	69.53	89.10
2	Salem Elementary (Salem)	K-6	67%	227	99.74	88.75
3	Central Elementary (Batesville)	K-6	66%	189	78.31	88.05
4	Viola Elementary (Viola)	K-6	70%	111	85.54	87.00
5	West Elementary (Batesville)	K-6	70%	284	85.73	85.25



Table 65: Top 5 “high-poverty” Elementary schools in **Central** Region based on ELA ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Wakefield Elementary (Little Rock)	P-5	97%	239	54.34	87.00
2	Oaklawn Magnet (Hot Springs)	K-4	92%	216	66.54	86.65
3	Theodore Jones Elem. (Conway)	K-4	71%	147	70.83	86.30
4	Amboy Elementary (N. Little Rock)	P-5	93%	181	55.89	84.90
5	Cato Elementary (Pulaski County Special)	P-5	67%	129	70.36	84.55
5	Lake Hamilton Primary (Lake Hamilton)	K-1	70%	301	76.42	84.55
5	Ida Burns Elementary (Conway)	K-4	72%	142	76.11	84.55
5	Jessieville Elementary (Jessieville)	P-5	77%	176	61.40	84.55



Table 66: Top 5 “high-poverty” Elementary schools in **Southwest** Region based on ELA ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Oscar Hamilton Elementary (Foreman)	K-6	73%	132	80.67	86.65
2	Bobby Barrett Elementary (Mount Ida)	K-6	75%	114	76.95	85.95
3	DeQueen Elementary (DeQueen)	3-5	79%	534	76.11	85.25
3	DeQueen Primary (DeQueen)	K-2	81%	534	76.11	85.25
5	Centerpoint Primary (Centerpoint)	P-3	79%	54	79.61	84.20



Table 67: Top 5 “high-poverty” Elementary schools in Southeast Region based on ELA ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Hermitage Elementary (Hermitage)	P-6	83%	123	58.47	85.60
2	Clarendon Elementary (Clarendon)	K-6	94%	137	57.32	83.15
3	Drew Central Elem. (Drew Central)	K-4	79%	120	58.67	81.75
4	Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc)	P-6	75%	143	87.41	80.35
4	Park Avenue Elementary (Stuttgart)	K-4	75%	226	61.26	80.35

K. Middle Schools “Beating the Odds”

Beating the Odds: Overall ACT Aspire, 2017

Table 68: Top 10 “High-Poverty” Middle Schools in Arkansas based on Overall ACT Aspire Growth (Math and ELA combined)

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Garland Learning Center (Hope)	SW	P-8	85%	144	84.29	84.54
2	Beryl Henry Upper Elementary (Hope)	SW	5-6	89%	244	55.68	84.12
3	Little Rock Prep Academy Middle (Little Rock Preparatory Academy)	CN	5-8	86%	122	52.34	84.01
4	Paragould Junior High (Paragould)	NE	7-8	70%	430	63.39	83.72
5	Riverview Junior High (Riverview)	NE	7-8	74%	154	67.09	83.60
6	J. O. Kelly Middle (Springdale)	NW	6-7	87%	618	73.10	83.52
7	Cedarville Middle (Cedarville)	NW	5-8	73%	211	73.16	83.34
8	Oak Grove Middle (Paragould)	NE	5-6	74%	417	74.71	83.24
9	Nashville Junior High (Nashville)	SW	7-9	71%	401	71.32	83.18
10	William O. Darby Jr. High (Fort Smith)	NW	7-9	93%	582	52.99	82.99

Beating the Odds: Math ACT Aspire, 2017

Table 69: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Middle Schools in Arkansas based on ACT Aspire Math Growth

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Paragould Junior High (Paragould)	NE	7-8	70%	430	63.39	85.95
2	Little Rock Prep Academy Middle (Little Rock Preparatory Academy)	CN	5-8	86%	121	52.34	84.90
3	Cedarville Middle (Cedarville)	NW	5-8	73%	211	73.16	84.55
4	Riverview Junior High (Riverview)	NE	7-8	74%	154	67.09	83.85
5	J. O. Kelly Middle (Springdale)	NW	6-7	87%	618	73.10	83.50
5	Sonora Middle (Springdale)	NW	6-7	84%	734	66.28	83.50
7	William O. Darby Jr. High (Fort Smith)	NW	7-9	93%	582	52.99	82.80
7	Butterfield Trail Middle (Van Buren)	NW	6-8	71%	575	67.54	82.80
7	Meekins Middle (Stuttgart)	SE	5-6	66%	199	69.35	82.80
10	Oak Grove Middle (Paragould)	NE	5-6	74%	417	74.71	82.45
10	Nashville Junior High (Nashville)	SW	7-9	71%	401	71.32	82.45
10	Helen Tyson Middle (Springdale)	NW	6-7	73%	663	76.14	82.45
10	Dardanelle Middle (Dardanelle)	NW	6-8	72%	416	75.90	82.45

Tables 70-74: Top 5 “**High-Poverty**” Schools in Arkansas by Region, **Math** Growth.



Table 70: Top 5 “high-poverty” Middle schools in **Northwest** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Cedarville Middle (Cedarville)	5-8	73%	211	73.16	84.55
2	J. O. Kelly Middle (Springdale)	6-7	87%	618	73.10	83.50
2	Sonora Middle (Springdale)	6-7	84%	734	66.28	83.50
4	William O. Darby Jr. High (Fort Smith)	7-9	93%	582	52.99	82.80
4	Butterfield Trail Middle (Van Buren)	6-8	71%	575	67.54	82.80



Table 71: Top 5 “high-poverty” Middle schools in **Northeast** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Paragould Junior High (Paragould)	7-8	70%	430	63.39	85.95
2	Riverview Junior High (Riverview)	7-8	74%	154	67.09	83.85
3	Oak Grove Middle (Paragould)	5-6	74%	417	74.71	82.45
4	Imboden Area Charter (Imboden Charter)	K-8	84%	26	50.00	81.75
5	Harrisburg Middle (Harrisburg)	5-8	74%	275	67.97	81.40



*Table 72: Top 5 “high-poverty” Middle schools in **Central** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire Growth*

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Little Rock Prep Academy Middle (Little Rock Preparatory Academy)	5-8	86%	121	52.34	84.90
2	Covenant Keepers Charter (Covenantkeepers Charter)	6-8	94%	124	49.63	81.75
3	Jessieville Middle (Jessieville)	6-8	71%	193	66.34	80.35
3	Mann Magnet Middle (Little Rock)	6-8	70%	796	62.63	80.35
5	Malvern Middle (Malvern)	7-8	72%	270	61.39	80.00
5	Mabelvale Middle (Little Rock)	6-8	89%	521	46.61	80.00
5	North Little Rock Middle (N. Little Rock)	6-8	74%	1598	53.86	80.00



*Table 73: Top 5 “high-poverty” Middle schools in **Southwest** Region based **Math** ACT Aspire Growth*

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Nashville Junior High (Nashville)	7-9	71%	401	71.32	82.45
2	Beryl Henry Upper Elem. (Hope)	5-6	89%	244	55.68	80.00
3	Garland Learning Center (Hope)	P-8	85%	144	84.29	79.65
4	Mena Middle (Mena)	6-8	66%	362	78.64	79.30
5	Yerger Junior High (Hope)	7-8	80%	233	41.35	78.95



Table 74: Top 5 “high-poverty” Middle schools in Southeast Region based on Math ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Meekins Middle (Stuttgart)	5-6	66%	199	69.35	82.80
2	Kipp:Delta College Prep (Kipp Delta Public School)	5-8	92%	248	55.08	78.95
3	Dumas Junior High (Dumas)	7-9	78%	276	48.58	78.25
3	Lakeside Middle (Lakeside (Chicot))	6-8	85%	199	59.48	78.25
5	Drew Central Middle (Drew Central)	5-8	74%	277	56.88	76.50

Beating the Odds: ELA ACT Aspire, 2017

Table 75: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Middle Schools in Arkansas based on ACT Aspire ELA Growth

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Garland Learning Center (Hope)	SW	P-8	85%	144	84.29	89.45
2	Beryl Henry Upper Elem. (Hope)	SW	5-6	89%	244	55.68	88.40
3	Berryville Middle (Berryville)	NW	6-8	69%	418	77.04	84.20
3	Oak Grove Middle (Paragould)	NE	5-6	74%	416	74.71	84.20
5	Cave City Middle (Cave City)	NE	6-8	75%	270	75.79	83.85
5	J. O. Kelly Middle (Springdale)	NW	6-7	87%	618	73.10	83.85
5	Nashville Junior High (Nashville)	SW	7-9	71%	400	71.32	83.85
5	Pleasant View Campus (Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County)	NW	5-8	78%	90	74.18	83.85
9	Covenant Keepers Charter (Covenantkeepers Charter)	CN	6-8	94%	119	49.63	83.50
10	Little Rock Prep Academy Middle (Little Rock Preparatory Academy)	CN	5-8	86%	122	52.34	83.15
10	William O. Darby Jr. High (Fort Smith)	NW	7-9	93%	572	52.99	83.15
10	Riverview Junior High (Riverview)	NE	7-8	74%	154	67.09	83.15

Tables 76-80: Top 5 “**High-Poverty**” Schools in Arkansas by Region, **ELA Growth**.



Table 76: Top 5 “high-poverty” Middle schools in **Northwest** Region based on **ELA ACT Aspire Growth**

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Berryville Middle (Berryville)	6-8	69%	418	77.04	84.20
2	J. O. Kelly Middle (Springdale)	6-7	87%	618	73.10	83.85
2	Pleasant View Campus (Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County)	5-8	78%	90	74.18	83.85
4	William O. Darby Jr. High (Fort Smith)	7-9	93%	572	52.99	83.15
5	Helen Tyson Middle (Springdale)	6-7	73%	636	76.14	82.80



Table 77: Top 5 “high-poverty” Middle schools in **Northeast** Region based on **ELA ACT Aspire Growth**

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Oak Grove Middle (Paragould)	5-6	74%	416	74.71	84.20
2	Cave City Middle (Cave City)	6-8	75%	270	75.79	83.85
3	Riverview Junior High (Riverview)	7-8	74%	154	67.09	83.15
4	Bald Knob Middle (Bald Knob)	6-8	69%	256	61.69	82.45
5	Blytheville Middle (Blytheville)	6-8	84%	353	45.37	81.75



Table 78: Top 5 “high-poverty” Middle schools in *Central* Region based on *ELA* ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Covenant Keepers Charter (Covenantkeepers Charter)	6-8	94%	119	49.63	83.50
2	Little Rock Prep Academy Middle (Little Rock Preparatory Academy)	5-8	86%	122	52.34	83.15
3	Watson Chapel Jr. High (Watson Chapel)	7-9	75%	526	41.43	82.45
4	Jessieville Middle (Jessieville)	6-8	71%	193	66.34	81.75
5	Dunbar Magnet Middle (Little Rock)	6-8	88%	564	55.04	79.30
5	Hot Springs Middle (Hot Springs)	7-8	83%	430	50.06	79.30



Table 79: Top 5 “high-poverty” Middle schools in *Southwest* Region based *ELA* ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Garland Learning Center (Hope)	P-8	85%	144	84.29	89.45
2	Beryl Henry Upper Elem. (Hope)	5-6	89%	244	55.68	88.40
3	Nashville Junior High (Nashville)	7-9	71%	400	71.32	83.85
4	Ashdown Junior High (Ashdown)	6-8	69%	302	61.38	82.45
5	Yerger Junior High (Hope)	7-8	80%	233	41.35	81.75



Table 80: Top 5 “high-poverty” Middle schools in Southeast Region based on ELA ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Dumas Junior High (Dumas)	7-9	78%	276	48.58	82.45
2	Lakeside Middle (Lakeside (Chicot))	6-8	85%	199	59.48	80.70
3	Kipp:Delta College Prep (Kipp Delta Public)	5-8	92%	248	55.08	80.00
4	Meekins Middle (Stuttgart)	5-6	66%	199	69.35	78.25
5	Drew Central Middle (Drew Central)	5-8	74%	277	56.88	76.50

L. High Schools “Beating the Odds”

Beating the Odds: Overall ACT Aspire, 2017

Table 81: Top 10 “High-Poverty” High Schools in Arkansas based on Overall ACT Aspire Growth (Math and ELA combined)

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Trumann High (Trumann)	NE	9-12	69%	226	46.59	84.50
2	Southside Charter High (Southside Independence)	NE	10-12	68%	126	60.94	84.39
3	Danville High (Danville)	NW	9-12	70%	139	51.58	83.81
4	Timbo High (Mountain View)	NE	7-12	78%	57	77.54	83.71
5	Wilbur D. Mills High (Pulaski County Special)	CN	9-12	66%	271	28.05	83.30
6	Gosnell High (Gosnell)	NE	7-12	70%	359	67.80	83.14
7	Shirley High (Shirley)	NW	7-12	80%	94	58.66	83.12
8	Southwest Junior High (Springdale)	NW	8-9	71%	550	69.61	83.11
9	Augusta High (Augusta)	NE	7-12	84%	102	46.60	83.01
10	Des Arc High School (Des Arc)	SE	7-12	66%	172	76.73	82.93

Beating the Odds: Math ACT Aspire, 2017

Table 82: Top 10 "High-Poverty" High Schools in Arkansas based on ACT Aspire Math Growth

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Timbo High (Mountain View)	NE	7-12	78%	57	77.54	85.60
2	DeQueen Junior High (DeQueen)	SW	8-9	76%	336	71.81	85.25
3	Gosnell High (Gosnell)	NE	7-12	70%	359	67.80	84.90
4	Danville High (Danville)	NW	9-12	70%	139	51.58	84.20
4	Manila High (Manila)	NE	9-12	66%	144	55.17	84.20
4	Southwest Junior High (Springdale)	NW	8-9	71%	550	69.61	84.20
7	Trumann High (Trumann)	NE	9-12	69%	226	46.59	83.85
8	Des Arc High (Des Arc)	SE	7-12	66%	172	76.73	83.50
8	Southside Charter High (Southside Independence))	NE	10-12	68%	126	60.94	83.50
10	Augusta High (Augusta)	NE	7-12	84%	102	46.60	83.15
10	Northside High (Fort Smith)	NW	10-12	82%	472	41.95	83.15
10	The Academies Of West Memphis Charter (West Memphis)	NE	10-12	72%	330	43.10	83.15
10	Wilbur D. Mills High (Pulaski County Special)	CN	9-12	66%	270	28.05	83.15

Tables 83-87: Top 5 “High-Poverty” Schools in Arkansas by Region, **Math** Growth.



Table 83: Top 5 “high-poverty” High schools in **Northwest** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Danville High (Danville)	9-12	70%	139	51.58	84.20
1	Southwest Junior High (Springdale)	8-9	71%	550	69.61	84.20
3	Northside High (Fort Smith)	10-12	82%	472	41.95	83.15
4	Booneville High (Booneville)	10-12	67%	86	54.57	82.45
4	Lakeside Junior High (Springdale)	8-9	84%	595	47.91	82.45



Table 84: Top 5 “high-poverty” High schools in **Northeast** Region based on **Math** ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Timbo High (Mountain View)	7-12	78%	57	77.54	85.60
2	Gosnell High (Gosnell)	7-12	70%	359	67.80	84.90
3	Manila High (Manila)	9-12	66%	144	55.17	84.20
4	Trumann High (Trumann)	9-12	69%	226	46.59	83.85
5	Southside Charter High (Southside (Independence))	10-12	68%	126	60.94	83.50



Table 85: Top 5 “high-poverty” High schools in Central Region based on Math ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Wilbur D. Mills High (Pulaski County Special)	9-12	66%	270	28.05	83.15
2	Jessieville High (Jessieville)	9-12	66%	120	50.81	82.80
3	North Little Rock High (N. Little Rock)	9-12	67%	1098	43.04	81.40
4	England High (England)	7-12	75%	182	47.21	80.70
5	Dollarway High School (Dollarway)	9-12	90%	131	24.45	80.35



Table 86: Top 5 “high-poverty” High schools in Southwest Region based Math ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	DeQueen Junior High (DeQueen)	8-9	76%	336	71.81	85.25
2	Murfreesboro High (South Pike County)	7-12	66%	198	52.32	82.80
3	Blevins High (Blevins)	7-12	80%	126	52.66	82.10
3	Umpire K-12 (Cossatot River)	K-12	76%	73	58.55	82.10
5	Mineral Springs High (Mineral Springs)	7-12	87%	106	42.95	81.40
5	Oden High (Ouachita River)	7-12	81%	44	67.39	81.40



Table 87: Top 5 “high-poverty” High schools in Southeast Region based on Math ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Des Arc High (Des Arc)	7-12	66%	172	76.73	83.50
2	Kipp Blytheville Collegiate High (Kipp Delta Public)	7-12	86%	151	50.65	81.75
3	Kipp:Delta Collegiate High (Kipp Delta Public)	9-12	88%	122	51.02	80.70
3	Lee High (Lee County)	7-12	87%	182	24.07	80.70
5	Hermitage High (Hermitage)	7-12	68%	137	48.05	80.35
5	Lakeside High (Lakeside (Chicot))	9-12	78%	120	32.80	80.35

Beating the Odds: ELA ACT Aspire, 2017

Table 88: Top 10 "High-Poverty" High Schools in Arkansas based on ACT Aspire ELA Growth)

	School (District)	Region	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Shirley High (Shirley)	NW	7-12	80%	94	58.66	85.25
1	Southside Charter High (Southside (Independence))	NE	10-12	68%	126	60.94	85.25
1	Trumann High (Trumann)	NE	9-12	69%	226	46.59	85.25
4	Pine Bluff Lighthouse College Prep Academy High (Pine Bluff Lighthouse Academy)	CN	7-12	93%	38	46.71	84.55
5	Palestine-Wheatley Senior High (Palestine-Wheatley)	NE	7-12	86%	249	53.02	84.20
6	Quest Middle Of Pine Bluff (Responsive Ed Solutions Quest Middle Of Pine Bluff)	CN	5-12	94%	84	28.22	83.85
7	Wilbur D. Mills High (Pulaski County Special)	CN	9-12	66%	271	28.05	83.50
8	Bradford High (Bradford)	NE	7-12	80%	123	57.00	83.15
8	Danville High (Danville)	NW	9-12	70%	138	51.58	83.15
8	Flippin High (Flippin)	NW	9-12	69%	93	51.56	83.15
8	Maynard High (Maynard)	NE	7-12	69%	132	49.63	83.15

Tables 89-93: Top 5 “**High-Poverty**” Schools in Arkansas by Region, **ELA Growth**.



Table 89: Top 5 “high-poverty” High schools in **Northwest** Region based on **ELA ACT Aspire Growth**

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Shirley High (Shirley)	7-12	80%	94	58.66	85.25
2	Danville High (Danville)	9-12	70%	138	51.58	83.15
2	Flippin High (Flippin)	9-12	69%	93	51.56	83.15
4	Lead Hill High (Lead Hill)	7-12	72%	88	55.28	82.80
5	Hartford High (Hackett)	7-12	75%	67	46.48	82.45
5	Waldron High (Waldron)	9-12	73%	203	54.33	82.45
5	Western Grove High (Ozark Mountain)	7-12	67%	80	38.58	82.45



Table 90: Top 5 “high-poverty” High schools in **Northeast** Region based on **ELA ACT Aspire Growth**

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Trumann High (Trumann)	9-12	69%	226	46.59	85.25
1	Southside Charter High (Southside Independence))	10-12	68%	126	60.94	85.25
3	Palestine-Wheatley Senior High (Palestine-Wheatley)	7-12	86%	249	53.02	84.20
4	Bradford High (Bradford)	7-12	80%	123	57.00	83.15
4	Maynard High (Maynard)	7-12	69%	132	49.63	83.15



Table 91: Top 5 “high-poverty” High schools in *Central* Region based on *ELA ACT Aspire Growth*

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Pine Bluff Lighthouse College Prep Academy High (Pine Bluff Lighthouse Academy)	7-12	93%	38	46.71	84.55
2	Quest Middle Of Pine Bluff (Responsive Ed Solutions Quest Middle Of Pine Bluff)	5-12	94%	84	28.22	83.85
3	Wilbur D. Mills High (Pulaski County Special)	9-12	66%	271	28.05	83.50
4	North Little Rock High (N. Little Rock)	9-12	67%	1,094	43.04	82.10
5	Jessieville High (Jessieville)	9-12	66%	120	50.81	80.70
5	England High (England)	7-12	75%	182	47.21	80.70



Table 92: Top 5 “high-poverty” High schools in *Southwest* Region based *ELA ACT Aspire Growth*

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Umpire K-12 (Cossatot River)	K-12	76%	73	58.55	82.80
2	Murfreesboro High (South Pike County)	7-12	66%	198	52.32	81.75
2	Bradley High (Emerson-Taylor-Bradley)	7-12	71%	97	66.88	81.75
4	Mineral Springs High (Mineral Springs)	7-12	87%	106	42.95	81.40
4	Junction City High (Junction City)	7-12	67%	203	44.48	81.40



Table 93: Top 5 “high-poverty” High schools in Southeast Region based on ELA ACT Aspire Growth

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Final Weighted Achievement	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Des Arc High (Des Arc)	7-12	66%	172	76.73	82.10
1	Kipp:Delta Collegiate High (Kipp Delta Public)	9-12	88%	122	51.02	82.10
3	Dermott High (Dermott)	7-12	94%	85	38.46	81.40
4	Hermitage High (Hermitage)	7-12	68%	137	48.05	80.70
4	Central High (Helena/ West Helena)	7-12	95%	352	34.87	80.70

APPENDIX

A. Methods

All data used in this report were obtained from the Arkansas Department of Education via the link <https://myschoolinfo.arkansas.gov/Plus/Schools>.

We generated a statewide report for the 2016-17 school year, using the ESSA School Index report. Values included

- Final Weighted Achievement Adjusted for 95% Tested
- Grade Range
- Grade Span (School Level)
- Poverty Rate
- Combined Content Growth Score Current Year
- Combined Math Growth Score Current Year
- Combined ELA Growth Score Current Year

For more information about how school levels were assigned, see http://www.arkansased.gov/public/userfiles/ESEA/Documents_to_Share/Grade_Spans_and_Grade_Configurations_rv.pdf

For more information about how growth values were calculated, see

http://www.arkansased.gov/public/userfiles/ESEA/Documents_to_Share/School%20Growth%20Explanation%20for%20ES%20and%20DC%20111017.pdf