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## Beating the Odds: High-Growth Schools Based on the ACT Aspire Examinations, Serving Low-Income Communities

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**OUTSTANDING EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE AWARDS:  
HIGHLIGHTING HIGH-GROWTH ARKANSAS SCHOOLS, 2021**

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

**December 01, 2021**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	42
IV. 2021 OEP Awards: Beating the Odds – High-Growth schools, based on the ACT Aspire examinations, serving Low Income Communities.....	42
J. Elementary Schools “Beating the Odds”.....	44
Beating the Odds: Overall ACT Aspire, 2021 .....	44
Beating the Odds: Math ACT Aspire, 2021.....	45
Beating the Odds: ELA ACT Aspire, 2021 .....	49
K. Middle Schools “Beating the Odds” .....	53
Beating the Odds: Overall ACT Aspire, 2021 .....	53
Beating the Odds: Math ACT Aspire, 2021.....	54
Beating the Odds: ELA ACT Aspire, 2021 .....	58
L. High Schools “Beating the Odds” .....	62
Beating the Odds: Overall ACT Aspire, 2021 .....	62
Beating the Odds: Math ACT Aspire, 2021.....	63
Beating the Odds: ELA ACT Aspire, 2021 .....	67
Appendix.....	A1

## 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).

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. In this case, as there was no testing in the prior year due to COVID-related school closures, the calculations are based on the 2018-19 scores. 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 2020-21 academic year, ACT Aspire examinations were administered to students in grades 3 through 10 in Math, Reading, Writing, English, and Science. 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.

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. 2021 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 2020-2021 academic year. For these awards, we consider schools where at least 66% of the student body is eligible for free or reduced-price lunch (FRL).

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 and the growth score of that school in the relevant content area.

## J. Elementary Schools “Beating the Odds”

Beating the Odds: Overall ACT Aspire, 2021

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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Weiner Elementary (Harrisburg)	NE	K-6	67%	55	91.85
2	George Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	88%	187	90.24
3	John Tyson Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	76%	203	88.10
4	Monitor Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	83%	239	87.96
5	Green Forest Elementary (Green Forest)	NW	P-3	87%	76	87.53
6	Wickes Elementary (Cossatot River)	SW	P-6	81%	142	87.33
7	King Elementary (Van Buren)	NW	K-5	77%	178	87.23
8	Linda Childers Knapp Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	90%	213	86.92
9	Salem Elementary (Salem)	NE	K-6	69%	218	86.87
10	Harp Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	77%	178	86.54

Beating the Odds: Math ACT Aspire, 2021

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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Weiner Elementary (Harrisburg)	NE	K-6	67%	55	95.27
2	Tuckerman Elementary (Jackson Co.)	NE	K-4	77%	95	91.10
3	Wickes Elementary (Cossatot River)	SW	P-6	81%	142	90.48
4	George Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	88%	187	89.50
5	Monitor Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	83%	239	89.24
6	Salem Elementary (Salem)	NE	K-6	69%	216	88.87
6	Westside Elementary (Rogers)	NW	K-5	66%	160	88.87
8	Linda Childers Knapp Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	90%	213	88.45
9	John Tyson Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	76%	201	88.41
10	Harp Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	77%	178	88.20

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

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>Combined Content Growth Score</b>
1	George Elementary (Springdale)	K-5	88%	187	89.50
2	Monitor Elementary (Springdale)	K-5	83%	239	89.24
3	Westside Elementary (Rogers)	K-5	66%	160	88.87
4	Linda Childers Knapp Elementary (Springdale)	K-5	90%	213	88.45
5	John Tyson Elementary (Springdale)	K-5	76%	201	88.41



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

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>Combined Content Growth Score</b>
1	Weiner Elementary (Harrisburg)	K-6	67%	55	95.27
2	Tuckerman Elementary (Jackson Co.)	K-4	77%	95	91.10
3	Salem Elementary (Salem)	K-6	69%	216	88.87
4	Gosnell Elementary (Gosnell)	K-6	75%	327	87.20
5	Cross County Elementary Tech Academy (Cross County)	K-6	73%	161	86.83





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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Jessieville Elementary (Jessieville)	P-5	77%	147	88.04
2	Ida Burns Elementary (Conway)	K-4	77%	125	84.74
3	Wakefield Elementary (Little Rock)	P-5	98%	226	84.28
4	Preston & Florence Mattison Elementary (Conway)	K-4	78%	165	84.03
5	Warren Dupree Elementary (Jacksonville North Pulaski)	K-5	85%	120	83.59



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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Wickes Elementary (Cossatot River)	P-6	81%	142	90.48
2	Nashville Primary (Nashville)	K-3	76%	121	88.13
3	Nashville Elementary (Nashville)	4-6	77%	366	88.07
4	Oscar Hamilton Elementary (Foreman)	K-6	74%	131	86.29
5	Fouke Elementary (Fouke)	P-5	67%	224	85.49



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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc)	P-6	70%	159	81.98
2	Hermitage Elementary (Hermitage)	P-6	82%	113	81.10
3	McGehee Elementary (McGehee)	K-6	80%	318	78.96
4	Eudora Elementary (Lakeside (Chicot))	P-3	92%	19	78.87
5	Brown Elementary (Star City)	K-5	70%	291	78.57

Beating the Odds: ELA ACT Aspire, 2021

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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	George Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	88%	186	90.82
2	Weiner Elementary (Harrisburg)	NE	K-6	67%	55	88.43
3	Green Forest Elementary (Green Forest)	NW	P-3	87%	75	88.30
4	John Tyson Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	76%	203	87.54
5	Monitor Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	83%	236	86.56
6	King Elementary (Van Buren)	NW	K-5	77%	177	86.55
7	Westwood Elementary (Springdale)	NW	K-5	86%	172	86.45
8	Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc)	SE	P-6	70%	158	86.11
9	Friendship Aspire Academy (Friendship Aspire Academy Pine Bluff)	CN	K-3	85%	34	86.08
10	Jones Elementary (Rogers)	NW	K-5	76%	223	85.39

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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	George Elementary (Springdale)	K-5	88%	186	90.82
2	Green Forest Elementary (Green Forest)	P-3	87%	75	88.30
3	John Tyson Elementary (Springdale)	K-5	76%	203	87.54
4	Monitor Elementary (Springdale)	K-5	83%	236	86.56
5	King Elementary (Van Buren)	K-5	77%	177	86.55



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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Weiner Elementary(Harrisburg)	K-6	67%	55	88.43
2	Gosnell Elementary (Gosnell)	K-6	75%	327	84.99
3	Salem Elementary (Salem)	K-6	69%	214	84.96
4	Cross County Elementary Tech Academy (Cross County)	K-6	73%	161	84.42
5	Sidney Deener Elementary (Searcy)	K-3	72%	80	83.36



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

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>Combined Content Growth Score</b>
<b>1</b>	Friendship Aspire Academy(Friendship Aspire Academy Pine Bluff)	K-3	85%	34	86.08
<b>2</b>	Ida Burns Elementary (Conway)	K-4	77%	124	84.34
<b>3</b>	Theodore Jones Elementary (Conway)	K-4	70%	152	84.30
<b>4</b>	Marguerite Vann Elementary (Conway)	K-4	73%	112	84.04
<b>5</b>	Taylor Elementary (White Hall)	K-5	66%	167	83.88



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

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>Combined Content Growth Score</b>
<b>1</b>	Wickes Elementary (Cossatot River)	P-6	81%	142	84.18
<b>2</b>	Bobby Barrett Elementary (Mount Ida)	K-6	77%	108	83.76
<b>3</b>	Delight Elementary (South Pike County)	K-6	74%	43	83.59
<b>4</b>	Nashville Elementary (Nashville)	4-6	77%	363	83.54
<b>5</b>	Nashville Primary (Nashville)	K-3	76%	120	82.65



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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc)	P-6	70%	158	86.11
2	Drew Central Elementary (Drew Central)	K-4	79%	138	83.16
3	Eastside Elementary (Warren)	K-3	76%	107	80.52
4	Hermitage Elementary (Hermitage)	P-6	82%	112	79.94
5	Kipp Delta Elementary Literacy Academy (Kipp Delta Public Schools)	P-5	92%	140	79.00

## K. Middle Schools “Beating the Odds”

Beating the Odds: Overall ACT Aspire, 2021

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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Helen Tyson Middle (Springdale)	NW	6-7	81%	567	85.25
2	Swifton Middle (Jackson Co.)	NE	5-7	71%	181	84.25
3	Cave City Middle (Cave City)	NE	6-8	78%	259	82.92
4	Jessieville Middle (Jessieville)	CN	6-8	71%	176	82.88
5	Decatur Middle (Decatur)	NW	5-8	81%	147	82.87
6	Butterfield Trail Middle (Van Buren)	NW	6-8	68%	503	82.77
7	Nemo Vista Middle (Nemo Vista)	NW	6-8	71%	86	82.67
8	Clarksville Middle (Clarksville)	NW	6-7	76%	376	82.55
9	Atkins Middle (Atkins)	NW	5-8	68%	271	82.41
10	Star City Middle (Star City)	SE	6-8	72%	303	82.40

Beating the Odds: Math ACT Aspire, 2021

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

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>Combined Content Growth Score</b>
<b>1</b>	Swifton Middle (Jackson Co.)	NE	5-7	71%	181	88.98
	Helen Tyson Middle					
<b>2</b>	(Springdale)	NW	6-7	81%	567	88.39
<b>3</b>	Cave City Middle (Cave City)	NE	6-8	78%	259	84.60
<b>4</b>	Atkins Middle (Atkins)	NW	5-8	68%	271	84.48
	Butterfield Trail Middle (Van					
<b>5</b>	Buren)	NW	6-8	68%	503	84.17
	College Hill Middle					
<b>6</b>	(Texarkana)	SW	6-6	81%	285	83.86
<b>7</b>	Star City Middle (Star City)	SE	6-8	72%	303	83.83
	Paragould Junior High					
<b>8</b>	(Paragould)	NE	7-8	71%	388	83.44
<b>9</b>	Mansfield Middle (Mansfield)	NW	5-8	78%	196	83.41
<b>10</b>	Highland Middle (Highland)	NE	5-8	72%	425	83.20



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

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>Combined Content Growth Score</b>
1	Helen Tyson Middle (Springdale)	6-7	81%	567	88.39
2	Atkins Middle (Atkins)	5-8	68%	271	84.48
3	Butterfield Trail Middle (Van Buren)	6-8	68%	503	84.17
4	Mansfield Middle (Mansfield)	5-8	78%	196	83.41
5	Morrilton Junior High (South Conway County)	7-8	71%	312	82.86



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

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>Combined Content Growth Score</b>
1	Swifton Middle (Jackson Co.)	5-7	71%	181	88.98
2	Cave City Middle (Cave City)	6-8	78%	259	84.60
3	Paragould Junior High (Paragould)	7-8	71%	388	83.44
4	Highland Middle (Highland)	5-8	72%	425	83.20
5	Harrisburg Middle (Harrisburg)	5-8	74%	291	81.39



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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Jessieville Middle (Jessieville)	6-8	71%	176	81.55
2	Malvern Middle (Malvern)	7-8	69%	272	81.37
3	Prodigy Preparatory Academy Of Service (Scholarmade Achievement Place Of Arkansas)	7-9	94%	30	80.47
4	Lonoke Middle (Lonoke)	6-8	66%	328	79.96
5	Bob Courtway Middle (Conway)	5-7	68%	447	79.29



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

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Combined Content Growth Score
1	College Hill Middle (Texarkana)	6-6	81%	285	83.86
2	Mena Middle (Mena)	6-8	74%	324	82.62
3	North Heights Jr. High (Texarkana)	7-8	72%	563	80.79
4	Cabe Middle (Gurdon)	5-8	73%	190	80.25
5	DeQueen Middle (DeQueen)	6-7	77%	358	80.09



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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Star City Middle (Star City)	6-8	72%	303	83.83
2	Warren Middle (Warren)	6-8	70%	357	83.13
3	Dumas Junior High (Dumas)	7-9	73%	245	81.44
4	Meekins Middle (Stuttgart)	5-6	66%	221	80.62
5	Kipp:Delta College Prep (Kipp Delta Public Schools)	6-8	92%	184	77.55

Beating the Odds: ELA ACT Aspire, 2021

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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Decatur Middle (Decatur)	NW	5-8	81%	147	86.83
2	Jessieville Middle (Jessieville)	CN	6-8	71%	176	84.20
3	Bob Courtway Middle (Conway)	CN	5-7	68%	448	84.05
4	Pleasant View Campus (Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County Schools)	NW	5-8	77%	99	83.52
5	Clarksville Middle (Clarksville)	NW	6-7	76%	376	83.44
6	Nemo Vista Middle (Nemo Vista)	NW	6-8	71%	86	83.31
7	Lonoke Middle (Lonoke)	CN	6-8	66%	328	82.80
8	Paris Middle (Paris)	NW	5-8	76%	294	82.63
9	Cedarville Middle (Cedarville)	NW	5-8	74%	197	82.32
10	Nashville Junior High (Nashville)	SW	7-9	73%	456	82.31

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**

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>Combined Content Growth Score</b>
1	Decatur Middle (Decatur) Pleasant View Campus (Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County Schools)	5-8	81%	147	86.83
2	View Bi-County Schools	5-8	77%	99	83.52
3	Clarksville Middle (Clarksville)	6-7	76%	376	83.44
4	Nemo Vista Middle (Nemo Vista)	6-8	71%	86	83.31
5	Paris Middle (Paris)	5-8	76%	294	82.63



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

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>Combined Content Growth Score</b>
1	Oak Grove Middle (Paragould)	5-6	76%	405	81.56
2	Riverview Junior High (Riverview)	7-8	73%	158	81.49
3	Imboden Area Charter (Imboden Charter)	K-8	75%	29	81.33
4	Cave City Middle (Cave City)	6-8	78%	259	81.24
5	Harrisburg Middle (Harrisburg)	5-8	74%	290	80.87



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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Jessieville Middle (Jessieville)	6-8	71%	176	84.20
2	Bob Courtway Middle (Conway)	5-7	68%	448	84.05
3	Lonoke Middle (Lonoke)	6-8	66%	328	82.80
4	Friendship Aspire Middle Academy Little Rock (Friendship Aspire Academy Little Rock)	6-8	99%	57	81.35
5	Exalt Academy Of Southwest Little Rock (Exalt Academy Of Southwest Little Rock)	K-8	96%	250	80.33



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

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Nashville Junior High (Nashville)	7-9	73%	456	82.31
2	North Heights Jr. High (Texarkana)	7-8	72%	564	81.69
3	Hope Academy Of Public Service (Hope)	5-8	84%	214	81.59
4	Beryl Henry Upper Elementary (Hope)	5-6	89%	211	80.63
5	Yerger Junior High (Hope)	7-8	80%	204	80.18



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

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>Combined Content Growth Score</b>
<b>1</b>	Dumas Junior High (Dumas)	7-9	73%	246	82.11
<b>2</b>	Star City Middle (Star City)	6-8	72%	303	80.96
<b>3</b>	Lakeside Middle (Lakeside (Chicot))	6-8	86%	214	80.03
<b>4</b>	Warren Middle (Warren)	6-8	70%	357	79.50
<b>5</b>	Drew Central Middle (Drew Central)	5-8	75%	319	79.25

## L. High Schools “Beating the Odds”

Beating the Odds: Overall ACT Aspire, 2021

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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Arkansas Consolidated High – Harrisburg (Division Of Youth Services School System)	CN	5-12	100%	N<10	86.65
2	Danville High (Danville)	NW	9-12	77%	105	85.02
3	Kingston High (Jasper)	NW	7-12	67%	69	85.01
4	Arkansas Consolidated High – Dermott (Division Of Youth Services School System)	CN	5-12	100%	N<10	84.60
5	Horatio High (Horatio)	SW	7-12	77%	206	83.78
6	Jasper High (Jasper)	NW	7-12	67%	116	83.72
7	Decatur High (Decatur)	NW	9-12	71%	67	82.75
8	Oark High (Jasper)	NW	7-12	89%	39	82.68
9	Highland High (Highland)	NE	9-12	71%	217	82.48
10	Kipp Blytheville Collegiate High (Kipp Delta Public Schools)	SE	7-12	86%	78	82.31



Beating the Odds: Math ACT Aspire, 2021

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

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>Combined Content Growth Score</b>
<b>1</b>	Arkansas Consolidated High – Dermott (Division Of Youth Services School System)	CN	5-12	100%	N<10	93.62
<b>2</b>	Horatio High (Horatio)	SW	7-12	77%	206	86.03
<b>3</b>	Danville High (Danville)	NW	9-12	77%	105	85.27
<b>4</b>	Kingston High (Jasper)	NW	7-12	67%	69	84.77
<b>5</b>	Arkansas Consolidated High – Harrisburg (Division Of Youth Services School System)	CN	5-12	100%	N<10	84.22
<b>6</b>	Arkansas Consolidated High – Alexander (Division Of Youth Services School System)	CN	5-12	100%	N<10	84.11
<b>7</b>	Decatur High (Decatur)	NW	9-12	71%	67	83.78
<b>8</b>	Jasper High (Jasper)	NW	7-12	67%	116	83.48
<b>9</b>	Highland High (Highland)	NE	9-12	71%	217	83.43
<b>10</b>	West Side High (West Side (Cleburne))	NE	7-12	66%	135	82.98

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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Danville High (Danville)	9-12	77%	105	85.27
2	Kingston High (Jasper)	7-12	67%	69	84.77
3	Decatur High (Decatur)	9-12	71%	67	83.78
4	Jasper High (Jasper)	7-12	67%	116	83.48
5	Berryville High (Berryville)	9-12	66%	266	82.74



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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Highland High (Highland)	9-12	71%	217	83.43
2	West Side High (West Side (Cleburne))	7-12	66%	135	82.98
3	Trumann High (Trumann)	9-12	70%	201	82.90
4	Gosnell High (Gosnell)	7-12	73%	388	81.91
5	Calico Rock High (Calico Rock)	7-12	68%	104	81.66



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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Arkansas Consolidated High –Dermott (Division Of Youth Services School System)	5-12	100%	N<10	93.62
2	Arkansas Consolidated High –Harrisburg (Division Of Youth Services School System)	5-12	100%	N<10	84.22
3	Arkansas Consolidated High –Alexander (Division Of Youth Services School System)	5-12	100%	N<10	84.11
4	North Little Rock Center Of Excellence (North Little Rock)	9-12	74%	135	81.91
5	Lonoke High (Lonoke)	9-12	67%	218	80.81



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

	School (District)	Grades Served	% FRL	# of Test Takers	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Horatio High (Horatio)	7-12	77%	206	86.03
2	Hampton High (Hampton)	7-12	70%	150	81.66
3	Umpire K-12 (Cossatot River)	K-12	76%	46	81.58
4	Acorn High (Ouachita River)	7-12	67%	167	80.42
5	Caddo Hills High (Caddo Hills)	7-12	72%	159	80.30



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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Hermitage High (Hermitage)	7-12	68%	135	80.95
2	McGehee High (McGehee)	7-12	69%	326	79.86
3	Clarendon High (Clarendon)	7-12	90%	116	79.77
4	Kipp Blytheville Collegiate High (Kipp Delta Public Schools)	7-12	86%	78	79.70
5	Lakeside High (Lakeside (Chicot))	9-12	78%	126	79.05

Beating the Odds: ELA ACT Aspire, 2021

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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Arkansas Consolidated High – Harrisburg (Division Of Youth Services School System)	CN	5-12	100%	N<10	89.09
2	Graduate Arkansas School Charter High(Graduate Arkansas School Charter)	CN	9-12	81%	N<10	86.37
3	Kingston High (Jasper)	NW	7-12	67%	69	85.25
4	Kipp Blytheville Collegiate High (Kipp Delta Public Schools)	SE	7-12	86%	78	84.92
5	Danville High (Danville)	NW	9-12	77%	105	84.78
6	Jasper High (Jasper)	NW	7-12	67%	116	83.97
7	Oark High (Jasper)	NW	7-12	89%	39	83.90
8	Premier High School Of North Little Rock (Responsive Ed Solutions Premier High School Of North Little Rock)	CN	9-12	100%	17	82.09
9	Scott Charter (Academics Plus Public Charter Schools)	CN	K-10	71%	150	82.01
10	Yellville-Summit High (Yellville-Summit)	NW	7-12	72%	229	81.85

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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Kingston High (Jasper)	7-12	67%	69	85.25
2	Danville High (Danville)	9-12	77%	105	84.78
3	Jasper High (Jasper)	7-12	67%	116	83.97
4	Oark High (Jasper)	7-12	89%	39	83.90
5	Yellville-Summit High (Yellville-Summit)	7-12	72%	229	81.85



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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Rural Special High (Mountain View)	7-12	67%	51	81.82
2	Highland High (Highland)	9-12	71%	217	81.54
3	East Poinsett Co. High (East Poinsett Co.)	7-12	71%	174	81.27
4	Calico Rock High (Calico Rock)	7-12	68%	104	81.08
5	Cross County High A New Tech (Cross County)	7-12	73%	183	80.92



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

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>Combined Content Growth Score</b>
<b>1</b>	Arkansas Consolidated High –Harrisburg (Division Of Youth Services School System)	5-12	100%	N<10	89.09
<b>2</b>	Graduate Arkansas School Charter High (Graduate Arkansas School Charter)	9-12	81%	N<10	86.37
<b>3</b>	Premier High School Of North Little Rock (Responsive Ed Solutions Premier High School Of North Little Rock)	9-12	100%	17	82.09
<b>4</b>	Scott Charter (Academics Plus Public Charter Schools)	K-10	71%	150	82.01
<b>5</b>	Mountain Pine High (Mountain Pine)	7-12	80%	162	81.69



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

	<b>School (District)</b>	<b>Grades Served</b>	<b>% FRL</b>	<b># of Test Takers</b>	<b>Combined Content Growth Score</b>
<b>1</b>	Umpire K-12 (Cossatot River)	K-12	76%	47	81.81
<b>2</b>	Murfreesboro High (South Pike County)	7-12	67%	178	81.60
<b>3</b>	Horatio High (Horatio)	7-12	77%	206	81.54
<b>4</b>	Prescott High (Prescott)	9-12	68%	137	81.25
<b>5</b>	DeQueen High (DeQueen)	10-12	74%	146	81.16



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	Combined Content Growth Score
1	Kipp Blytheville Collegiate High (Kipp Delta Public Schools)	7-12	86%	78	84.92
2	Clarendon High (Clarendon)	7-12	90%	114	81.27
3	Warren High (Warren)	9-12	70%	230	80.58
4	Hermitage High (Hermitage)	7-12	68%	135	80.37
5	Kipp:Delta Collegiate High (Kipp Delta Public Schools)	9-12	88%	89	79.56



## 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 2020-21 school year, using the ESSA School Index report. Values included

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