Arkansas

State Plan Yes	The Arkansas Department of Education developed a state plan in 2016. In 2020, the Computer Science and Cybersecurity Force will release a new set of recommendations for the Department.
Standards Yes	The state adopted K–8 computer science standards in 2015 and 9–12 standards in 2016. All students learn the K–6 standards and take a coding block in 7th or 8th grade.
Funding Yes	Act 154 (FY 2021), Act 877 (FY 2020), Act 243 (FY 2019), Act 1044 (FY 2018), and Act 189 (FY 2016 and 2017) allocated $2.5M annually for the Computer Science Initiative. One grant program for schools prioritizes programs that broaden participation in computer science courses.
Certification Yes	Teachers with existing licensure can add a 4–12 endorsement by passing the Praxis CS exam; teachers can also earn an initial license in computer science. Until the 2021–2022 school year, any teacher with a grade-appropriate license can obtain an approval code. State funding for computer science can support credentialing for teachers.
Preservice Yes	The state has approved secondary computer science preparation programs and requires all preservice elementary teachers to receive instruction in computer science education. ForwARd Arkansas scholarships are available for students studying to become licensed computer science instructors and commit to teaching in a ForwARd Community school district.
CS Supervisor Yes	The Department of Education has an office of computer science with four staff members focusing on computer science, including the State Director of Computer Science Education. There are also multiple statewide computer science specialists.
All HS Offer Yes	Act 187 (2015) required all high schools to offer computer science by the 2015–2016 school year. Each school reports computer science enrollment by grade and race.
Grad Credit Yes	Any computer science course can count as a mathematics or science credit for high school graduation.
IHE Admission Yes	Any computer science course can count as a mathematics or science credit required for admission at institutions of higher education, which aligns with the high school graduation policy.

Arkansas is a member of the ECEP Alliance, has a CSTA chapter, and Governor Asa Hutchinson is a member of the Governors' Partnership for K–12 Computer Science.

High Schools Teaching CS

High Schools Teaching CS by School Type

Percent of School Type That Teach CS

AP CS Student Participation

Access and Participation by Race/Ethnicity

Overall Student Demographics

Demographics in Schools Teaching AP CS

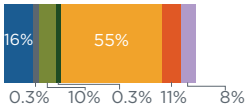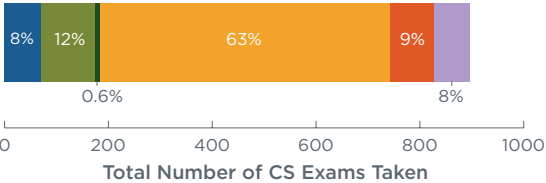**Demographics of Students Taking AP CS Exams**

LEGEND

- Black/African American
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- Hispanic/Latino/Latina
- Native American/Alaskan
- White
- Asian
- 2+ Races/Other
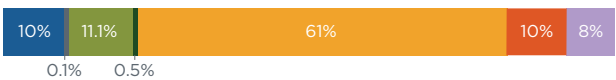
AP CS Participation by Race/Ethnicity and Gender

Female Students

Male Students

Total Number of CS Exams Taken
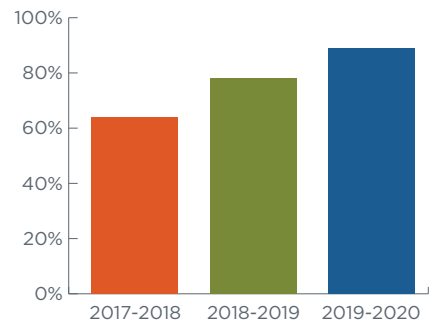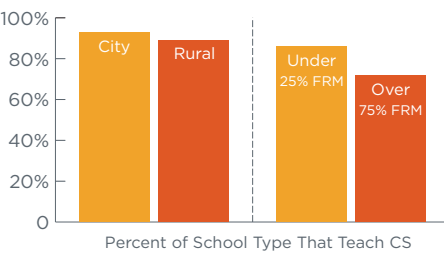
Students of all racial and ethnic groups have access to AP CS on par with their state population, but Native American students are 1.5 times less likely, Hispanic/Latinx students are 2 times less likely, and Black students are 2.5 times less likely than their white and Asian peers to take an AP CS exam when they attend a school that offers it.