

CIVIC MARSHALL PLAN TO BUILD A GRAD NATION

2015 INDEX

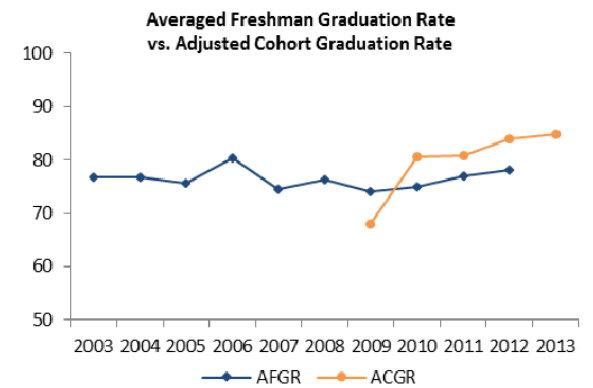
WHERE DOES ARKANSAS STAND?

CONTEXT

Poverty: 39 states have lower childhood poverty rates than Arkansas, at **23.8** percent.

College Education: Arkansas has a higher proportion of college completion than 2 states at **18.8** percent.

Sources: Poverty: 2013 Current Population Survey (joint effort of Bureau of Labor Statistics and Census Bureau)
College Education: 2013 American Community Survey (Census Bureau)



PROGRESS

CHALLENGES

<p>I Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR): Arkansas increased 3.9 points from 81 percent in 2011 to 84.9 percent in 2013.</p>	<p>The ACGR for Arkansas needs to increase 0.73 points per year starting in 2013-2014 to reach 90 percent by 2020.</p>
<p>II The Class of 2012-2013 had 28,683 graduates and the Class of 2010-2011 had 29,155 graduates.</p>	<p>The Class of 2020 needs 1,723 more graduates than the Class of 2012-2013 to reach 90 percent in this state.</p>
<p>III 1 more dropout factory in 2013 than 2002.</p>	<p>In 2013, there were 6 dropout factories in Arkansas. To reach 0 by 2020, 1 school needs to improve per year.*</p> <p><small>*If the state has 7 or fewer dropout factories, 1 is assigned for 2013-2014.</small></p>
<p>IV 172 more students attended dropout factories in 2013 than in 2002.</p>	<p>4,118 students still attend dropout factories in 2013.</p>
<p>V 80.3 percent of low-income* students graduated high school on time in 2013.</p> <p><small>*In this context, low-income is defined as the percentage of students eligible for free- or reduced-price lunch.</small></p>	<p>89.5 percent of medium and high income students graduated high school on time in 2013, leaving an “opportunity” gap of 9.2 percentage points.</p>
<p>VI Percent of 4th-graders testing at or above proficient in reading (NAEP) increased from 28 percent to 32 percent, from 2003 to 2013.</p>	<p>24,930 4th-graders still not proficient in reading.</p>
<p>VII Percent of 8th-graders testing at or above proficient in math (NAEP) increased from 19 percent to 28 percent, from 2003 to 2013.</p>	<p>26,164 8th-graders still not proficient in math.</p>
<p>VIII The number of students who took at least one AP exam during high school increased 35.4 percentage points, from 10.7 percent to 46.1 percent, from 2003 to 2013.</p>	<p>Only 26.9 percent of test-takers scored at least one “3” or higher.</p>

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

With a 90 percent graduation rate, the additional graduates could deliver an estimated **\$14 million** in increased annual earnings, **\$1.3 million** in increased annual state and local tax revenues, and an increase in the Gross State Product of **\$23 million**.

Source: Previously unpublished Alliance for Excellent Education analysis of data from Economic Modeling Specialists, Inc.