

The State of STEM in Your State – 2017



ARKANSAS STATE REPORT

The average STEM score for Arkansas's graduating class of 2017 was **19.5**.

Percentage of all Arkansas ACT-tested HS Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks by Subject

	Math	Science	STEM
Met Benchmark	27%	25%	11%
Within 1-2 Points of Benchmark	9%	14%	8%

Arkansas College Readiness Benchmark Percentages by Race/Ethnicity

Race	Math	Science	STEM
2 or More Races	28%	28%	11%
White	35%	33%	15%
Pacific Islander	6%	4%	2%
Hispanic	19%	17%	6%
Asian	53%	40%	27%
Native American	19%	17%	6%
Black	8%	7%	2%

The data in this report represent all ACT-tested students in Arkansas's 2017 graduating class.

Tomorrow's STEM Workforce in Arkansas

16,421 Arkansas students, or 48%, had an interest in STEM, but only 5,063 (15%) had **both** an expressed interest (they plan to pursue a STEM major or career) and a measured interest (their ACT Interest Inventory score pointed to a STEM field).

Arkansas's future STEM educator pipeline may be in danger—only 108 students planned to enter math education, and only 25 science education.

ARKANSAS STEM STUDENT PROFILE

David Hwang

Ozark Adventist Academy, *class of 2018*

In what grade did you first become interested in a STEM field?

Eleventh Grade

What sparked your interest in STEM?

I became interested with STEM by following my mother to medical volunteer services.

How do you picture your future, in higher education and career?

Pharmacy

What challenges do STEM students face when following through with their interest in STEM fields?

Pursing a STEM field is much harder than other careers, so I had to spend time studying outside of school while my peers were entertaining themselves.



ACT thanks STEMPremier for sharing student STEM profiles for this report.

