

Needs Improvement Focus Schools

Arkansas was required to identify a number of schools equal to at least ten percent of the state's Title I schools. Arkansas had 803 Title I schools in 2011, requiring at least 80 Title I schools be identified among the schools identified as Needs Improvement Focus Schools. Arkansas identified 109 schools which included 82 Title I schools. The criteria for identification of Focus Schools set by USDE included identifying schools that had:

- The largest within-school gaps between the highest-achieving subgroup or subgroups and the lowest-achieving subgroup or subgroups or, at the high school level, the largest within-school gaps in the graduation rate; or
- A subgroup or subgroups with low achievement or, at the high school level, a low graduation rate, or
- All Title I-participating high schools with a graduation rate less than 60% over a number of years that were not identified as priority schools.

Needs Improvement Focus Schools are identified based on the size of the achievement gap rather than the performance of the All Students group. Arkansas created a Targeted Achievement Gap Group (TAGG) to determine schools with the largest achievement gaps to ensure students at risk were counted, but only once, in the accountability model. The TAGG consists of students at risk due to economic disadvantage, English Learner status (EL), or Students with Disabilities (SWD). Students who met more than one of these risk categories were only included once in the TAGG.

The achievement gaps between the TAGG and Non-TAGG students were calculated for all schools using three years of scores to minimize the impact of wide variations from year-to-year, which may occur in smaller schools. The details of the method used to calculate the achievement gap are provided on pages 97 – 100 of Arkansas's approved ESEA Flexibility request.

The Non-TAGG to TAGG achievement gaps for schools identified as Needs Improvement Focus Schools ranged from 28.5 to 47.7 percentage points.

Interventions for Needs Improvement Focus Schools are detailed on pages 100 – 108 of Arkansas's approved ESEA Flexibility request.

The criteria for Needs Improvement Focus Schools to exit Focus status are provided on page 108 of Arkansas's approved ESEA Flexibility request.

These schools have been identified for Needs Improvement Focus School status:

School	District
Ashdown High School	Ashdown School District
L.F. Henderson Intermediate School	Ashdown School District

Ashdown Junior High School	Ashdown School District
Augusta Elementary School	Augusta School District
Blytheville High School	Blytheville School District
Blytheville Middle School	Blytheville School District
Brinkley High School	Brinkley School District
Bethel Middle School	Bryant School District
Academic Center for Excellence	Cabot School District
Camden Fairview Middle School	Camden Fairview School District
Camden Fairview High School	Camden Fairview School District
Cedarville High School	Cedarville School District
Clarendon High School	Clarendon School District
Van Cove High School	Cossatot River School District
Mount Judea High School	Deer/Mt. Judea School District
Dermott Elementary School	Dermott School District
Dewitt Middle School	Dewitt School District
Dumas Junior High School	Dumas School District
Dumas High School	Dumas School District
Washington Middle School	El Dorado School District
El Dorado High School	El Dorado School District
Washington Elementary School	Fayetteville School District
Fayetteville High School East	Fayetteville School District
Fordyce Middle School	Fordyce School District
Fordyce High School	Fordyce School District
Foreman High School	Foreman School District
Lincoln Academy of Excellence	Forrest City School District
Central Elementary School	Forrest City School District
Stewart Elementary School	Forrest City School District
Harry C. Morrison Elementary School	Fort Smith School District
Tilles Elementary School	Fort Smith School District
William O. Darby Junior High	Fort Smith School District
Gurdon High School	Gurdon School District
Wilmot Elementary School	Hamburg School District
Sparkman High School	Harmony Grove Camden School District
Miller Junior High	Helena/West Helena School District
J.F. Wahl Elementary School	Helena/West Helena School District
Hermitage High School	Hermitage School District
Hermitage Elementary School	Hermitage School District
Hot Springs Middle School	Hot Springs School District
Langston Magnet School	Hot Springs School District
Mildred Jackson Elementary School	Hughes School District
Oark High School	Jasper School District
Jonesboro High School	Jonesboro School District
Douglas MacArthur Junior High School	Jonesboro School District

Microsociety Magnet School	Jonesboro School District
Health/Wellness Environmental Magnet	Jonesboro School District
Annie Camp Junior High School	Jonesboro School District
Kirby High School	Kirby School District
Lakeside Upper Elementary School	Lakeside School District (Chicot County)
Lakeside Lower Elementary School	Lakeside School District (Chicot County)
Franklin Incentive Elementary School	Little Rock School District
Brady Elementary School	Little Rock School District
Pulaski Heights Middle School	Little Rock School District
Stephens Elementary School	Little Rock School District
Romine Interdistrict Elementary School	Little Rock School District
Central High School	Little Rock School District
Martin Luther King Magnet School	Little Rock School District
Bale Elementary School	Little Rock School District
Wakefield Elementary School	Little Rock School District
Dunbar Magnet Middle School	Little Rock School District
East-West Elementary School	Magnolia School District
Central Elementary School	Magnolia School District
Magnolia High School	Magnolia School District
Magnolia Junior High School	Magnolia School District
Marion High School	Marion School District
Marvell Primary School	Marvell School District
Maynard High School	Maynard School District
Saratoga Elementary School	Mineral Springs School District
Monticello High School	Monticello School District
Marvin Primary School	Mulberry School District
Pleasant View Junior High School	Mulberry School District
Mulberry High School	Mulberry School District
Lynch Drive Elementary School	North Little Rock School District
Belwood Elementary School	North Little Rock School District
Poplar Street Middle School	North Little Rock School District
Seventh Street Elementary School	North Little Rock School District
Lakewood Middle School	North Little Rock School District
North Heights Elementary School	North Little Rock School District
Indian Hills Elementary School	North Little Rock School District
Crestwood Elementary School	North Little Rock School District
Pike View Elementary School	North Little Rock School District
Nevada High School	Nevada School District
Newport Junior High School	Newport School District
Western Grove High School	Ozark Mountain School District
Palestine-Wheatley Middle School	Palestine-Wheatley School District
Palestine-Wheatley Senior High School	Palestine-Wheatley School District
McRae Middle School	Prescott School District

Maumelle Middle School	Pulaski County Special School District
Murrell Taylor Elementary School	Pulaski County Special School District
Fuller Middle School	Pulaski County Special School District
Smackover Elementary School	Smackover School District
Har-ber High School	Springdale School District
Springdale High School	Springdale School District
Parson Hills Elementary School	Springdale School District
Southwest Junior High School	Springdale School District
George Elementary School	Springdale School District
Central Junior High School	Springdale School District
Helen Tyson Middle School	Springdale School District
Monitor Elementary School	Springdale School District
Stephens Elementary School	Stephens School District
Stuttgart Junior High School	Stuttgart School District
Meekins Middle School	Stuttgart School District
North Heights Junior High School	Texarkana School District
Union Elementary School	Texarkana School District
College Hill Middle School	Texarkana School District
Watson Chapel High School	Watson Chapel School District
East Junior High School	West Memphis School District
West Memphis High School	West Memphis School District