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**Demographic Changes in the Arkansas Public Schools:
A Five Year Comparison**

November 20, 2013

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I. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the total population of students attending public schools in Arkansas has been increasing at a modest rate each year and is now over 470,000. In Arkansas, approximately 95 percent of the students in Kindergarten through twelfth grade attend public schools, either traditional, charter or special schools serving students with special needs, such as the deaf. State funding to districts is based on the number and characteristics of students, with certain types of students eligible for supplemental categorical funding, such as students eligible for free or reduced lunch, English language learners, and special education students. State education funding follows the student, so changes in the total population and the demographic makeup of school districts impact districts' budgets. In 2011-2012, the base state support (state foundation funding before calculations for supplements) for students in Arkansas was \$6,144 per student. Loss of students can have a significant impact on a district's budget; funding for ten students is roughly equivalent to one teacher's annual salary including benefits.

This report provides a glimpse into the changes in public school demographics in Arkansas at the state, county and district level over a five-year period. This report compares enrollment information from the fall of 2007 to the fall of 2012 based on data obtained from the Arkansas Department of Education website during the summer of 2013 (Arkansas Department of Education, Data Center).

II. DESCRIPTIVE BACKGROUND

Counties

Although there are no longer any county education units other than a handful of school districts that encompass an entire county, reporting demographic data by county is more manageable for Arkansas' 75 counties compared to its 258 districts or equivalent units, e.g., charter schools during the time of this data collection. It should be noted that some school districts cut across county lines, but ADE reports enrollment by county totals.

Table 1: Statewide Districts, 2007 to 2012

| Districts | 2007 | 2012 | Change |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Traditional | 246 | 239 | -7 |
| Special | 2 | 3 | +1 |
| Charter | 10 | 16 | +6 |
| Total | 258* | 258* | 0 |

* Includes charter school districts and special schools such as Arkansas School for the Blind.

Table 2: Statewide Schools, 2007 to 2012

| Schools | 2007 | 2012 | Change |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Elementary | 585 | 572 | -13 |
| Middle/Junior High | 207 | 224 | +17 |
| High Schools | 300 | 284 | -16 |
| Alternative Schools | 34 | 36 | +2 |
| Total | 1092 | 1080 | -12 |

Districts

In 2007, there were two schools that counted as special districts in the ADE, ten charter districts, and 246 traditional districts. In 2012, there were three special districts, 16 charter districts and 239 traditional districts.

Schools

The number of schools has remained relatively constant over the five years, with 1,092 schools in 2007 and 1,080 in 2012. The number of the different types of schools has remained relatively consistent as well; the number of elementary schools decreased from 585 in 2007 to 572 in 2012, the number of middle/junior high schools increased from 207 to 224, the number of high schools decreased from 300 to 284, and the number of alternative schools increased from 34 to 36.

III. STATEWIDE ENROLLMENT

Districts

In 2012, the traditional school districts in the state served the vast majority of the public school students (98.2 percent) while charter schools served only 7,896 students (1.7 percent), and the three special schools served only 511 students (0.1 percent) (Table 3). The 124 small districts (less than 1,000) enrolled 16.6 percent of the state's total students, while the 23 large districts (4,000 plus) enrolled 44.0 percent of the state's total students. The average size of the 124 small districts was just over 630, while the average for the 23 large districts was just over 9,022.

Thirty-eight districts had less than 500 students enrolled in 2012, and 124 had enrollments of less than 1,000 (Table 3). These 124 districts represent 48 percent of all school districts in Arkansas, but only 16.6 percent of the students across the state. The 23 largest districts (districts with 4,000 students or more) comprise only 9 percent of the total number of districts but enroll 44 percent of Arkansas' public school students.

Table 3: Statewide Enrollment by District Size, 2012

| Size of District | Number of Districts | Enrollment Total | % State Total | Average Enrollment |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Traditional | 242 | 463,971 | 98.4 | 3596 |
| 0-499 | 38 | 15,958 | 3.4 | 420 |
| 500-999 | 86 | 62,166 | 13.2 | 723 |
| 1000-1999 | 61 | 88,595 | 18.8 | 1,452 |
| 2000-2999 | 20 | 51,159 | 10.8 | 2,558 |
| 3000-3999 | 11 | 38,075 | 8.1 | 3,461 |
| 4000-4999 | 8 | 34,878 | 7.4 | 4,372 |
| 5000-5999 | 4 | 22,099 | 4.7 | 5,525 |
| 6000 plus | 11 | 150,530 | 31.9 | 13,686 |
| Special | 3 | 511 | 0.1 | 170 |
| Charter | 16 | 7,896 | 1.7 | 494 |
| Total | 258 | 471,867 | 100.0 | 1,829 |

Enrollment by Grades

Enrollments during both periods (Table 4) were the largest at the Kindergarten level (2007—38,192; 2012—40,463) and lowest at Grade 12 (2007—30,708; 2012—30,734). Over the course of five years, nine of the grades gained enrollment, with Kindergarten growing the most, and four grades lost enrollment, with grade one losing the most. Overall enrollment increased 1.2 percent, growing from 411,391 in 2007 to 471,867 in 2012.

Table 4: Statewide Enrollment by Grade, 2007 to 2012

| Grade | 2007 Enrollment | 2012 Enrollment | Change | % Change |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------|----------|
| Kindergarten | 38,192 | 40,463 | 2,271 | +5.9 |
| 1 | 37,872 | 37,093 | -779 | -2.0 |
| 2 | 36,570 | 36,450 | -120 | -0.3 |
| 3 | 36,275 | 36,362 | 87 | +0.2 |
| 4 | 35,710 | 36,140 | 430 | +1.2 |
| 5 | 35,588 | 36,569 | 981 | +2.8 |
| 6 | 35,057 | 36,727 | 1,670 | +4.8 |
| 7 | 35,502 | 36,693 | 1,191 | +3.3 |
| 8 | 35,944 | 36,607 | 663 | +1.9 |
| 9 | 37,819 | 37,978 | 159 | +0.4 |
| 10 | 36,781 | 36,343 | -438 | -1.2 |
| 11 | 33,613 | 33,373 | -240 | -0.7 |
| 12 | 30,708 | 30,734 | 26 | +0.1 |
| Ungraded | 590 | 335 | -255 | -43.2 |

Enrollment by Race, Ethnicity and Gender

The three largest enrollment categories for race and ethnicity for 2007 to 2012 (Tables 5 and 6) respectively were white (313,839 to 301,480); black (104,462 to 97,779) and Hispanic (37,447 to 49,421). The changes for these groups were a loss of 6,683 Blacks and 12,359 whites and a gain of 11,974 Hispanics. Asian, Native American/Native Alaskan, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, two or more races, and not specified represented 23, 187 students or 4.9 percent of the total in 2012.

Because there were 8,665 students in the two or more races category in 2012 and this was not a category in 2007, it is difficult to make comparisons since it is not possible to know which race the students would have reported in 2007. Gender differences in enrollment remained constant, with males outnumbering females in both years (51.2% to 48.8%).

Table 5: Statewide Enrollment by Race, 2007 to 2012

| Race | 2007: Number of Students (%) | 2012: Number of Students (%) | Change | % Change |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Two or more races** | N/A | 8,665 (1.8) | +8,665 | NA |
| Asian | 7,258 (1.6) | 7,018 (1.5) | -240 | -3.3 |
| Black | 104,462 (22.4) | 97,779 (20.7) | -6,683 | -6.4 |
| Hispanic | 37,447 (8.0) | 49,421 (10.5) | +11,974 | +32.0 |
| Native American/ Native Alaskan | 3,385 (0.7) | 3,256 (0.7) | -129 | -3.8 |
| Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander | NA | 2,617 (0.6) | NA | NA |
| Not Specified | NA | 1,631 (0.3) | NA | NA |
| White | 313,839 (67.3) | 301,480 (63.9) | -12,359 | -3.9 |
| Total | 466,391 (100.0) | 471,867 (100.0) | ---- | ---- |

* Because of the way in which the race/ethnicity classifications have changed during the five year span, some data do not reflect the same measurement process. For example, "two or more races" as a category was added during the time.

**Not a reported category in the 2007 report.

Table 6: Statewide Enrollment by Gender, 2007 to 2012

| Gender | 2007: Number of Students (%) | 2012: Number of Students (%) | Change | % Change |
|---------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Male | 238,907 (51.2) | 241,591 (51.2) | +2,621 | 1.1 |
| Female | 227,421 (48.8) | 230,276 (48.8) | +2,855 | 1.3 |
| Total | 466,391 | 471,867 | +5,476 | 1.2 |

Enrollment by Free and Reduced Lunch Status

The number of students receiving free and reduced lunches, a common measure of poverty in education, increased from 258,816 (55.49 percent) to 287,775 (60.99 percent) (Table 7). By far, the largest growth was in the free lunch category, which increased 12.2 percent.

Table 7: Statewide Enrollment by Meal Status, 2007 to 2012

| Meal Status | 2007 | 2012 | Change | % Change |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Total Enrollment | 466,391 | 471,867 | +5,476 | 1.2 |
| Paid | 207,575 | 183,954 | -23,621 | -11.4 |
| Total FRL | 258,816 | 287,775 | +28,959 | 11.2 |
| Free | 216,315 | 242,779 | +26,464 | 12.2 |
| Reduced | 42,501 | 44,996 | +2,495 | 5.9 |
| Percent FRL | 55.5% | 61% | +5.5% | 9.9 |

IV. ENROLLMENT BY COUNTY

Total Enrollment

Enrollment by county allows for a picture of the changes that are taking place in the 75 counties across the state. Table 8 provides the data on counties by the groupings based on enrollment in 2012. For example, there were three counties with less than 1,000 students while there were 13 counties with 10,000 or more students. Twenty-eight percent of the counties had less than 2,000 students while 62.7 percent had less than 4,000 students.

Table 8: Country Enrollment, 2012

| Enrollment | Number of Counties | % of Total |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 0-499 | 0 | 0.0 |
| 500-999 | 3 | 4.0 |
| 1000-1999 | 18 | 24.0 |
| 2000-2999 | 11 | 14.7 |
| 3000-3999 | 15 | 20.0 |
| 4000-4999 | 6 | 8.0 |
| 5000-5999 | 3 | 4.0 |
| 6000-6999 | 2 | 2.7 |
| 7000-7999 | 2 | 2.7 |
| 8000-8999 | 1 | 1.3 |
| 9000-9999 | 1 | 1.3 |
| 10,000 or more | 13 | 17.3 |
| Total | 75 | 100.0 |

Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity

County enrollments varied in terms of the percentages of non-white students enrolled, with one county having less than ten percent white students, 52 counties with 60 percent or more white students, and 19 counties with 90 percent or more white students (Table 9). Of the 238 traditional districts, 198 (83.2%) had 50 plus percent white students while six (37.5 %) of the 16 charter schools had 50 plus percent white students.

Table 9: Percentage of White Students by County and District, 2012

| Percentage White | Counties # (%) | Traditional Districts # (%) | Special Districts # (%) | Charter Districts # (%) |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 0-9 | 1 (1.3) | 7 (2.9) | -- | 5 (31.3) |
| 10-19 | 2 (2.7) | 7 (2.9) | -- | -- |
| 20-29 | 2 (2.7) | 5 (2.1) | -- | 1 (6.3) |
| 30-39 | 4 (5.3) | 8 (3.4) | -- | 2 (12.5) |
| 40-49 | 7 (9.3) | 13 (5.5) | 1 (33.3) | 2 (12.5) |
| 50-59 | 7 (9.3) | 17 (7.1) | 2 (66.7) | 1 (6.3) |
| 60-69 | 12 (16) | 19 (8.0) | -- | -- |
| 70-79 | 10 (13.3) | 26 (10.9) | -- | 2 (12.5) |
| 80-89 | 11 (14.7) | 37 (15.6) | -- | 2 (12.5) |
| 90-100 | 19 (25.3) | 99 (41.6) | -- | 1 (6.3) |
| Total | 75 (100.0) | 238*(100.0) | 3 (100.0) | 16 (100.0) |

* Norphlet School District is missing from the report resulting in data for 238 traditional districts.

Enrollment by Free and Reduced Lunch Status

The number of free and reduced lunch students by counties also varied from one county with 30-39 percent free and reduced lunch (FRL) rate to four counties with 90-100 percent FRL. The incidence of FRL is 50 percent or more for 70 of the 75 counties (Table 10) while 207 (87.0%) of the 238 districts had 50 plus percent FRL and eight (50.0%) of the charter districts had 50 plus percent FRL.

Table 10: Percentage of Free and Reduced Lunch Status Students by County and District, 2012

| Percentage FRL | Counties # (%) | Number of Traditional Districts (%) | Number of Special Districts (%) | Number of Charter Districts (%) |
|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 0-9 | -- | -- | -- | 1 (6.3) |
| 10-19 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 20-29 | -- | 1 (0.4) | -- | -- |
| 30-39 | 1 (1.3) | 10 (4.2) | -- | 7 (43.8) |
| 40-49 | 4 (5.3) | 20 (8.4) | -- | -- |
| 50-59 | 12 (16.0) | 53 (22.3) | 1 (33.3) | 1 (6.3) |
| 60-69 | 31 (41.3) | 62 (26.1) | -- | 1 (6.3) |
| 70-79 | 20 (26.7) | 59 (24.8) | -- | -- |
| 80-89 | 3 (4.0) | 14 (5.9) | 1 (33.3) | 4 (25.0) |
| 90-100 | 4 (5.3) | 19 (8.0) | 1 (33.3) | 2 (12.5) |
| Total | 75 (100.0) | 238* (100.0) | 3 (100) | 16 (100.0) |

*Cossatot River is missing from the report resulting in data for 238 districts.

Enrollment Change by County

Appendix Table A provides the enrollment data for each county for 2007 and 2012 with the changes in the number of students. The data are presented in ascending order with the smallest county first.

There were 19 counties (25.3%) with enrollment growth during the period and 56 counties (74.7%) with enrollment losses. In 2012, the 19 growth counties had a total enrollment of 283,768 or 60.1 percent of the state's total enrollment. Six of these counties are in the northwest region, six in central, three in north central, two in northeast, and two in southwest. The ten counties that had the most growth were Benton (4,418/12.6%), Washington (4,299/12.7%), Saline (2,116/15.3%), Craighead (1,483/9.6%), Pulaski (1,443/2.7%), Faulkner (1,391/8.3%), Garland (812/5.9%), Lonoke (800/6.3%), White (427/3.5%) and Greene (277/4.1%).

The ten counties that had the largest declines in enrollment were: Jefferson (-1,470/-10.9%), Crittenden (-758/-6.8%), Mississippi (-757/-8.6%), St. Francis (-702/-15.0%), Union (-553/-7.0%), Sharp (-395/-12.0%), Phillips (-393/-8.8%), Pike (-327/-14.0%), Lee (-351/-27.6%) and Ouachita (-324/-6.9%).

There were thirteen counties that enrolled more than 10,000 students in 2012: Benton, Craighead, Crawford, Crittenden, Faulkner, Garland, Jefferson, Lonoke, Pulaski, Saline, Sebastian, Washington, and White. These 13 represented 278,674 students or 59.1 percent of the state's total enrollment. Four of these counties are in the northwest region, seven are in central, and two are in the northeast.

The first 50 counties on the list (66.7% of all counties) represented 118,805 students or 25.2 percent of the state's total enrollment of 471,867 students while the remaining 25 represented fewer than 75 percent students.

Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity

Appendix Table A also provides the percentage of white students by county; all races and ethnicities are not presented since there are seven categories for this making for a long and cumbersome table (the detailed tables can be readily accessed from the ADE website). There are sixteen counties (21.3%) with 50 percent or less white students and 59 counties (78.7%) with 51 percent or more white students.

The counties with the smallest percentages of white students (50% or less) are Bradley, Chicot, Columbia, Crittenden, Dallas, Desha, Hempstead, Jefferson, Lee, Mississippi, Monroe, Ouachita, Phillips, Pulaski, St. Francis, and Sevier. Three of these counties had less than 25 percent white students (Chicot, Lee and Phillips). With the exception of Pulaski and Jefferson, these counties are located in the southern and eastern parts of the state.

Eighteen counties had 500 or more students of Hispanic origin with eleven of these having 1,000 or more Hispanic students. Counties with the largest populations in this category are Benton (9,208), Pulaski (4,603), Sebastian (4,385) and Washington (10,330).

Thirty-five counties (46.7%) had 500 or more black students enrolled. Those with the largest enrollment of black students are Craighead (3,549), Crittenden (6,821), Faulkner (2,765), Jefferson (8,316), Miller (2,123), Mississippi (3,790), Phillips (3,316), Pulaski, (30,730) and Union (2,878). Most of these 35 counties are below a line from the northeast to the southwest corners of the state. Sebastian, Washington, and Benton counties are the exceptions to this. In contrast, there are 36 counties above the same line (northeast to southwest) with 75 or more percent whites students.

Enrollment by Free and Reduced Lunch Status

In Arkansas, 70 of the 75 (93.3%) counties have 50 percent or more of their students eligible for free and reduced lunches (Appendix Table A). Only five counties (Benton, Cleveland, Faulkner, Lonoke and Saline) reported less than 50 percent. Thirteen counties reported that 75 percent or more of their students are on free and reduced lunches (Bradley, Chicot, Desha, Hempstead, Lafayette, Mississippi, Monroe, Nevada, Phillips, Poinsett, Polk, St. Francis and Woodruff).

V. ENROLLMENT BY DISTRICT

Overall Enrollment

Data were reported for 2012 by the ADE on 239 traditional school districts, three special schools and 16 charter schools for a total of 258 districts (Appendix Table B). The three special districts enrolled 511 students (0.01% of the state total) and the charter schools enrolled 7,896 students (1.7% of the total). The remainder is enrolled in one of the 239 traditional districts (Appendix Table B). Traditional districts had enrollments ranging from 338 to 23,594 students and had a total enrollment of 463,460. The average district size was 1,974 students, and 124 (51.9%) of the districts enrolled less than 1,000 students. The average size of special school districts was 170 while the average size of charter districts was 494 students. The charter districts ranged from enrollments of 40 to 1,161. The 38 districts in the smallest category accounted for 3.4 percent of the state's total enrollment and had an average size of 420. The 11 districts in the largest category accounted for 31.9% of the state's total enrollment and had an average size of 13,685.

Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity

District enrollments are presented by percentage of white students since there are a number of categories in the ADE report that would make this table somewhat cumbersome. Using the percentage of white students provides a quick overall picture of the racial and ethnic composition of the districts. The percentage of white students in districts varied from 4.2 percent to 98.9 percent of the total in the traditional districts; from 41.0 percent to 52.8 percent in the special districts; and 0.0 percent to 95.0 percent in the charter districts.

The traditional districts experienced gains and losses in enrollment (Table 11). Overall, 90 districts (37.7%) gained enrollment and 1,149 (62.3%) lost enrollment. Of the 38 traditional districts in the smallest enrollment category (0-499), over 92 percent lost enrollment. In the largest enrollment category (6,000 plus), 72.7 percent gained enrollment while 27.3 percent lost enrollment.

Table 11: Gains and Losses in Enrollment by Size of Traditional District, 2001-2012

| Size of District | Gains # (%) | Losses # (%) | Total |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 0-499 | 3 (7.9) | 35 (92.1) | 38 |
| 500-999 | 27 (31.4) | 59 (68.6) | 86 |
| 1000-1999 | 29 (47.5) | 32 (52.5) | 61 |
| 2000-2999 | 7 (35.0) | 13 (65.0) | 20 |
| 3000-3999 | 9 (81.8) | 2 (18.2) | 11 |
| 4000-4999 | 4 (50.0) | 4 (50.0) | 8 |
| 5000-5999 | 3 (75.0) | 1 (25.0) | 4 |
| 6000 plus | 8 (72.7) | 3 (27.3) | 11 |
| Total | 90 (37.7) | 149 (62.3) | 239 |

There were 53 (22.2% of the total) traditional districts that lost over 100 students. The ten districts that lost the most students were Little Rock (-2,144), Helena/West Helena (-1060), Pine

Bluff (-748), Forrest City (-637), Dollarway (-584), Blytheville (-492), West Memphis (-436), North Little Rock, (-364), Lee County (-351) and Magnolia (-297).

Thirty-eight (15.9% of the total) districts gained more than 100 students. The top ten growing districts were Springdale (3,349), Bentonville (2,921), Lakeside- Garland County (1,539), Bryant (1,457), Rogers (962), Cabot (941), Fayetteville (736), Conway (628), Jonesboro (551) and Lake Hamilton (441).

Of the 16 charter schools reporting in 2012, nine were not reported in 2007. The total enrollment growth of the charters was 5,705 students (2,191 in 2007 versus 7,896 in 2012).

VI. SUMMARY

Traditional districts were down in number (246 to 239) while charter districts were up (10 to 16). The number of schools were down slightly overall (1092 to 1080) with fewer at the elementary and high school levels and more at the middle/junior high and alternative school levels.

The state as a whole saw only modest gains in overall student enrolment with a 1.2% increase. Enrollments by grade levels reflected similar patterns with largest numbers in Kindergarten and smallest in 12th grade--12th grade enrollment changes very little across the five years. Although these data do not reflect what happens with groups as they move through the educational process, they do raise concerns about what is happening with the shifts in the numbers that continue to be enrolled. For example, other reports reflect major concerns with drop-outs and the failure of too many students to graduate. Finally, the growth across the state is reflected in students who are Hispanic and those who come from two or more races with rather substantial losses in those reporting to be white or Black. The largest groups of students are: whites, about 64 of every 100 students; Blacks, 21 of 100; Hispanics, 11 of 100; and other, five of 100. The number and percentage of students receiving free and reduced lunch meals increased dramatically, mostly in the free category. The 124 small districts (less than 1,000) included 48.0 percent of all districts, but only 16.6 percent of all students while the 23 large districts (more than 4,000) included 9 percent of all districts and 44.0% of all students

Counties varied widely in enrollment from less than 1,000 to over 55,000, while over 80% of the districts had 50 plus percent white students. Also, the counties varied in free and reduced lunch rate from the 30-39 percent range to the 90-100 percent range with 87 percent having 50 plus percent FRH. Nineteen of the 75 counties had enrolment growth while 56 lost enrollment.

Growth took place primarily in the northwest and central counties while decline took place primarily in eastern and southern counties of the state. The thirteen counties with enrolment of more than 10,000 students in 2012 accounted for 59 percent of the state's total. The fifty smallest counties accounted for about 25 percent of the state's total while the largest 25 counties accounted for the remainder.

Counties with the higher percentages of non-white students were located in the central, eastern and southern parts of the state. The largest concentrations of Hispanic students were found in four counties: three in the northwest (Benton, Sebastian, and Washington) and one in the central part (Pulaski) of the state. Poverty levels, as reflected by the FRL, revealed that 70 of 75 counties reported 50 plus percent of their students on FRL with 13 counties reporting more than 75% on FRL

Three categories were reported as districts by ADE: traditional (239), special (3), and charter (10) for a total of 258 districts. Traditional districts accounted for 98.2 percent of total enrollment. Traditional district size varied from 338 to 23,594 students with average size of just over 1,974 and 124 (51.9%) of the districts enrolling less than 1,000 students. Overall, 90 (37.7%) of the traditional districts gained enrollment while 149 (62.3%) lost enrollment. Fifty-three (22.2%) of the districts lost over 100 students (mostly in central and eastern regions) while 39 (15.9%) gained 100 or more students (mostly in central and northwest regions). Charter

schools increased from 2,191 in 2007 to 7,896 in 2012. The percentage of white students in traditional districts varied from 4.2 to 98.9 percent.

VII. CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

The demographic changes in the public school enrollment in Arkansas underscore the long-term movement from rural to more urban areas in the state. In essence, the large districts are getting larger while the small districts are getting smaller. The fact that 149 (62.3%) of the districts lost enrollment should capture the attention of education policy makers. Declining district enrollment affects almost every aspect of school operations, from educator staffing to facility management. Continuing declines in enrollment mean continuing losses of state foundation, and sometimes categorical, funding. Districts experiencing growth, on the other hand, have the opposite problem, since they are required to expand to accommodate the new growth, which frequently requires additional local funding to meet the demand for new facilities.

There is no crystal ball available to predict what will happen in the future. However, it seems unlikely that there will be substantial gains in most of the rural areas unless they are located next to large districts that are experiencing growth, as is the case for the smaller districts in northwest Arkansas. It may be that facilities in some districts will have to be closed and that other districts will likely have to consolidate in order to meet the state's minimum enrollment threshold.

There are opportunities that could be explored to continue to serve students in districts with declining enrollment, including the increased use of distance education for courses and programs for which instruction is costly or limited. For example, districts could expand their offerings in areas such as mathematics, science and foreign languages beyond what they could afford if they had to employ teachers locally to offer small enrollment courses.

A discussion about demographic and enrollment changes is about funding in one sense because enrollment drives state funding, and most small districts are very dependent on state support for both operations and facilities. However, it is also about innovation, since we need to make sure that all students receive the best education possible even if they are located in small rural areas. It should be noted that size alone does not assure quality of education, as is evident in the struggles that some of our urban areas experience in serving large numbers of students, particularly when many of the students come from low-income families.

The state as a whole is serving more challenging students than in the past as the incidence of poverty is increasing. This will compound the funding issue since children from low-income families are not able to benefit from traditional education services to the extent that middle and upper income families are.

Regardless, local school boards and education leaders and state education department personnel will be challenged to assist these districts in delivering quality educational programming. Also, the executive and legislative branches will need to explore additional ways to strengthen the ability of small and rural school districts to serve their constituencies well.

APPENDIX

*Table A: Enrollment by County, 2007-2012*and Percent White Enrollment and Percent FRL Enrollment, 2012*

| County | 2007 | 2012 | Change | % Change | % White 2012 | % FRL 2012 |
|------------------|-------|-------|--------|----------|--------------|------------|
| 1. Calhoun | 673 | 529 | -144 | -21.4% | 60.5% | 72.8% |
| 2. Dallas | 1,053 | 863 | -190 | -18.0% | 40.2% | 69.9% |
| 3. Lee | 1,271 | 920 | -351 | -27.6% | 8.4% | 100.0% |
| 4. Lafayette | 1,256 | 1,064 | -192 | -15.3% | 58.3% | 79.4% |
| 5. Montgomery | 1,123 | 1,090 | -33 | -2.9% | 80.3% | 72.2% |
| 6. Woodruff | 1,182 | 1,092 | -90 | -7.6% | 62.4% | 75.4% |
| 7. Monroe | 1,444 | 1,138 | -306 | -21.2% | 37.6% | 93.3% |
| 8. Prairie | 1,309 | 1,219 | -90 | -6.9% | 74.7% | 70.3% |
| 9. Newton | 1,249 | 1,260 | 11 | 0.9% | 95.0% | 73.4% |
| 10. Cleveland | 1,442 | 1,384 | -58 | -4.0% | 79.8% | 48.8% |
| 11. Nevada | 1,491 | 1,459 | -32 | -2.1% | 55.6% | 76.0% |
| 12. Chicot | 1,739 | 1,494 | -245 | -14.1% | 12.2% | 100.0% |
| 13. Searcy | 1,706 | 1,549 | -157 | -9.2% | 95.7% | 74.6% |
| 14. Scott | 1,724 | 1,565 | -159 | -9.2% | 79.2% | 72.3% |
| 15. Marion | 1,804 | 1,584 | -220 | -12.2% | 96.3% | 69.8% |
| 16. Lincoln | 1,723 | 1,607 | -116 | -6.7% | 69.6% | 62.5% |
| 17. Perry | 1,744 | 1,617 | -127 | -7.5% | 92.8% | 54.8% |
| 18. Fulton | 1,631 | 1,627 | -4 | -0.2% | 94.4% | 64.2% |
| 19. Stone | 1,660 | 1,704 | 44 | 2.7% | 96.5% | 60.1% |
| 20. Izard | 1,789 | 1,784 | -5 | -0.3% | 95.7% | 64.0% |
| 21. Little River | 2,090 | 1,993 | -97 | -4.6% | 66.0% | 62.2% |
| 22. Bradley | 2,075 | 2,013 | -62 | -3.0% | 47.1% | 75.7% |
| 23. Pike | 2,342 | 2,015 | -327 | -14.0% | 84.3% | 66.8% |
| 24. Jackson | 2,373 | 2,162 | -211 | -8.9% | 68.8% | 70.2% |
| 25. Van Buren | 2,327 | 2,231 | -96 | -4.1% | 94.1% | 68.2% |
| 26. Madison | 2,510 | 2,267 | -243 | -9.7% | 87.2% | 60.5% |
| 27. Randolph | 2,369 | 2,315 | -54 | -2.3% | 93.9% | 69.0% |
| 28. Clay | 2,731 | 2,469 | -262 | -9.6% | 97.0% | 62.9% |
| 29. Desha | 2,805 | 2,609 | -196 | -7.0% | 36.3% | 79.8% |
| 30. Clark | 2,881 | 2,742 | -139 | -4.8% | 55.7% | 60.8% |
| 31. Sharp | 3,287 | 2,892 | -395 | -12.0% | 95.7% | 70.7% |
| 32. Howard | 2,895 | 2,993 | 98 | 3.4% | 56.2% | 68.8% |
| 33. Drew | 3,142 | 3,047 | -95 | -3.0% | 64.4% | 62.4% |
| 34. Arkansas | 3,308 | 3,055 | -253 | -7.6% | 62.7% | 63.3% |
| 35. Lawrence | 3,194 | 3,059 | -135 | -4.2% | 96.7% | 67.0% |
| 36. Conway | 3,299 | 3,121 | -178 | -5.4% | 76.4% | 61.6% |
| 37. Franklin | 3,372 | 3,225 | -147 | -4.4% | 92.4% | 55.4% |
| 38. Sevier | 3,318 | 3,248 | -70 | -2.1% | 42.1% | 73.3% |
| 39. Columbia | 3,634 | 3,350 | -284 | -7.8% | 49.9% | 63.5% |
| 40. Cleburne | 3,442 | 3,355 | -87 | -2.5% | 94.8% | 56.6% |
| 41. Logan | 3,590 | 3,377 | -213 | -5.9% | 91.0% | 67.9% |
| 42. Cross | 3,582 | 3,446 | -136 | -3.8% | 70.5% | 61.8% |
| 43. Hempstead | 3,769 | 3,560 | -209 | -5.5% | 40.0% | 77.7% |
| 44. Polk | 3,838 | 3,679 | -159 | -4.1% | 84.6% | 77.3% |
| 45. Ashley | 3,988 | 3,719 | -269 | -6.7% | 61.3% | 69.3% |
| 46. Carroll | 3,757 | 3,847 | 90 | 2.4% | 69.7% | 67.3% |
| 47. St. Francis | 4,695 | 3,993 | -702 | -15.0% | 25.2% | 99.9% |
| 48. Phillips | 4,491 | 4,098 | -393 | -8.8% | 16.5% | 88.3% |
| 49. Yell | 4,231 | 4,149 | -82 | -1.9% | 65.2% | 72.6% |
| 50. Poinsett | 4,482 | 4,227 | -255 | -5.7% | 83.4% | 80.2% |
| 51. Ouachita | 4,681 | 4,357 | -324 | -6.9% | 44.5% | 70.6% |
| 52. Johnson | 4,342 | 4,383 | 41 | .9% | 73.0% | 73.2% |

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| 53. Grant | 4,810 | 4,746 | -64 | -1.3% | 92.6% | 51.0% |
| 54. Baxter | 5,079 | 5,084 | 5 | 0.1% | 93.5% | 58.4% |
| 55. Hot Spring | 5,350 | 5,263 | -87 | -1.6% | 79.7% | 60.9% |
| 56. Independence | 5,707 | 5,890 | 183 | 3.2% | 85.0% | 57.8% |
| 57. Boone | 6,261 | 6,143 | -118 | -1.9% | 94.9% | 56.4% |
| 58. Miller | 6,384 | 6,414 | 30 | 0.5% | 60.4% | 61.4% |
| 59. Greene | 6,823 | 7,100 | 277 | 4.1% | 93.6% | 58.9% |
| 60. Union | 7,861 | 7,308 | -553 | -7.0% | 51.3% | 60.7% |
| 61. Mississippi | 8,792 | 8,035 | -757 | -8.6% | 47.5% | 83.2% |
| 62. Pope | 9,730 | 9,665 | -65 | -0.7% | 81.1% | 55.9% |
| 63. Crittenden | 11,128 | 10,370 | -758 | -6.8% | 30.8% | 69.7% |
| 64. Crawford | 11,438 | 11,232 | -206 | -1.8% | 80.2% | 62.2% |
| 65. Jefferson | 13,449 | 11,979 | -1,470 | -10.9% | 26.7% | 72.5% |
| 66. White | 12,337 | 12,764 | 427 | 3.5% | 84.4% | 56.1% |
| 67. Lonoke | 12,643 | 13,443 | 800 | 6.3% | 85.5% | 41.8% |
| 68. Garland | 13,753 | 14,565 | 812 | 5.9% | 71.5% | 61.6% |
| 69. Saline | 13,871 | 15,987 | 2,116 | 15.3% | 81.8% | 39.2% |
| 70. Craighead | 15,465 | 16,948 | 1,483 | 9.6% | 72.6% | 55.8% |
| 71. Faulkner | 16,766 | 18,157 | 1,391 | 8.3% | 76.9% | 45.6% |
| 72. Sebastian | 20,191 | 20,369 | 178 | 0.9% | 58.7% | 63.2% |
| 73. Washington | 33,754 | 38,053 | 4,299 | 12.7% | 58.5% | 56.7% |
| 74. Benton | 35,072 | 39,490 | 4,418 | 12.6% | 66.2% | 47.6% |
| 75. Pulaski | 53,874 | 55,317 | 1,443 | 2.7% | 32.1% | 64.6% |

Table B: Enrollment by Traditional District, 2007-2012, Enrollment Change, Percent Change, Percent White and FRL Enrollment, in Ascending Order Based on 2012 Enrollment

| District (Traditional) | 2007 | 2012 | Change | %Change | White 2012 | % White 2012 | % FRL 2012 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Stephens | 448 | 338 | -110 | -24.6% | 66 | 19.5% | 91.7 |
| 2. Hughes | 497 | 348 | -149 | -30.0% | 47 | 13.5% | 100 |
| 3. Mulberry | 455 | 348 | -107 | -23.5% | 337 | 96.8% | 100 |
| 4. Hartford | 392 | 356 | -36 | -9.2% | 312 | 87.6% | 72.2 |
| 5. Kirby | 449 | 356 | -93 | -20.7% | 326 | 91.6% | 66.0 |
| 6. Bradley | 380 | 360 | -20 | -5.3% | 210 | 58.3% | 74.4 |
| 7. Lead Hill | 377 | 361 | -16 | -4.2% | 344 | 95.3% | 80.9 |
| 8. Hillcrest | 444 | 362 | -82 | -18.5% | 354 | 97.8% | 66.0 |
| 9. Deer/Mt. Judea | 386 | 366 | -20 | -5.2% | 336 | 91.8% | 75.7 |
| 10. Nevada | 426 | 375 | -51 | -12.0% | 217 | 57.9% | 76.5 |
| 11. Dermott | 510 | 391 | -119 | -23.3% | 35 | 9.0% | 100.0 |
| 12. Scranton | 402 | 398 | -4 | -1.0% | 371 | 93.2% | 54.8 |
| 13. Calico Rock | 446 | 401 | -45 | -10.1% | 392 | 97.8% | 62.8 |
| 14. Viola | 421 | 406 | -15 | -3.6% | 384 | 94.6% | 58.1 |
| 15. Norphlet | 487 | 412 | -75 | -15.4% | 297 | 72.1% | 56.6 |
| 16. Shirley | 499 | 418 | -81 | -16.2% | 400 | 95.7% | 79.9 |
| 17. Omaha | 442 | 422 | -20 | -4.5% | 400 | 94.8% | 76.5 |
| 18. Strong-Huttig | 629 | 427 | -202 | -32.1% | 160 | 37.5% | 89.0 |
| 19. Guy-Perkins | 459 | 429 | -30 | -6.5% | 381 | 88.8% | 56.6 |
| 20. Armorel | 456 | 430 | -26 | -5.7% | 359 | 83.5% | 40.7 |
| 21. Hermitage | 533 | 430 | -103 | -19.3% | 238 | 55.3% | 76.1 |
| 22. Wonderview | 414 | 436 | 22 | 5.3% | 413 | 94.7% | 55.5 |
| 23. West Side-Clev. Co | 510 | 440 | -70 | -13.7% | 425 | 96.6% | 59.8 |
| 24. Maynard | 478 | 441 | -37 | -7.7% | 431 | 97.7% | 100.0 |
| 25. Western Yell | 478 | 449 | -29 | -6.1% | 94 | 20.9% | 79.1 |
| 26. Mineral Springs | 536 | 449 | -87 | -16.2% | 324 | 72.2% | 89.5 |
| 27. County Line | 517 | 450 | -67 | -13.0% | 409 | 90.9% | 61.1 |
| 28. Marvell-Elaine | 714 | 451 | -263 | -36.8% | 40 | 8.9% | 97.3 |
| 29. Norfolk | 450 | 451 | 1 | 0.2% | 431 | 95.6% | 81.6 |
| 30. Bradford | 529 | 458 | -71 | -13.4% | 453 | 98.9% | 70.3 |
| 31. Mammoth Spring | 430 | 460 | 30 | 7.0% | 445 | 96.7% | 66.1 |
| 32. Augusta | 549 | 462 | -87 | -15.8% | 157 | 34.0% | 87.7 |
| 33. Concord | 559 | 466 | -93 | -16.6% | 458 | 98.3% | 63.1 |
| 34. Ouachita | 445 | 469 | 24 | 5.4% | 444 | 94.7% | 45.2 |
| 35. Nemo Vista | 517 | 479 | -38 | -7.4% | 421 | 87.9% | 61.8 |
| 36. Mt. Vernon/Enola | 489 | 481 | -8 | -1.6% | 459 | 95.4% | 59.3 |
| 37. South Side (VB) | 532 | 486 | -46 | -8.6% | 463 | 95.3% | 53.9 |
| 38. Blevins | 690 | 496 | -194 | -28.1% | 318 | 64.1% | 83.3 |
| 39. IZard County | 519 | 503 | -16 | -3.1% | 477 | 94.8% | 74.0 |
| 40. Mount Ida | 577 | 515 | -62 | -10.7% | 501 | 97.3% | 62.7 |
| 41. Decatur | 579 | 526 | -53 | -9.2% | 299 | 56.8% | 81.8 |
| 42. Junction City | 611 | 526 | -85 | -13.9% | 369 | 70.2% | 68.4 |
| 43. Midland | 488 | 526 | 38 | 7.8% | 498 | 94.7% | 71.9 |
| 44. Hampton | 673 | 529 | -144 | -21.4% | 352 | 66.5% | 72.8 |
| 45. Woodlawn | 558 | 534 | -24 | -4.3% | 497 | 93.1% | 36.7 |
| 46. Magazine | 536 | 540 | 4 | 0.7% | 490 | 90.7% | 75.2 |
| 47. Clarendon | 646 | 547 | -99 | -15.3% | 203 | 37.1% | 86.1 |
| 48. Alpena | 552 | 559 | 7 | 1.3% | 526 | 94.1% | 59.8 |
| 49. Foreman | 492 | 562 | 70 | 14.2% | 445 | 79.2% | 69.6 |
| 50. Dierks | 520 | 563 | 43 | 8.3% | 510 | 90.6% | 61.8 |
| 51. Poyen | 566 | 563 | -3 | -0.5% | 540 | 95.9% | 58.8 |
| 52. Bearden | 613 | 568 | -45 | -7.3% | 320 | 56.3% | 75.5 |
| 53. Marked Tree | 631 | 572 | -59 | -9.4% | 365 | 63.8% | 77.5 |
| 54. Bay | 554 | 573 | 19 | 3.4% | 548 | 95.6% | 61.3 |
| 55. Caddo Hills | 546 | 575 | 29 | 5.3% | 462 | 80.3% | 80.7 |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|-----|------|--------|-----|-------|-------|
| 56. Spring Hill | 478 | 575 | 97 | 20.3% | 508 | 88.3% | 52.2 |
| 57. Cutter-Morning S. | 695 | 583 | -112 | -16.1% | 481 | 82.5% | 71.0 |
| 58. Des Arc | 650 | 584 | -66 | -10.2% | 513 | 87.8% | 70.9 |
| 59. Rector | 619 | 589 | -30 | -4.8% | 580 | 98.5% | 64.2 |
| 60. Mountain Pine | 610 | 590 | -20 | -3.3% | 493 | 83.6% | 79.0 |
| 61. Brinkley | 798 | 591 | -207 | -25.9% | 225 | 38.1% | 100.0 |
| 62. Hector | 642 | 603 | -39 | -6.1% | 580 | 96.2% | 74.8 |
| 63. Eureka Springs | 689 | 615 | -74 | -10.7% | 553 | 89.9% | 64.6 |
| 64. Cross County | 602 | 619 | 17 | 2.8% | 554 | 89.5% | 73.7 |
| 65. East End | 675 | 623 | -52 | -7.7% | 560 | 89.9% | 53.1 |
| 66. Emerson-Taylor | 612 | 625 | 13 | 2.1% | 529 | 84.6% | 44.6 |
| 67. McCrory | 633 | 630 | -3 | -0.5% | 524 | 83.2% | 66.4 |
| 68. Westside (Jo) | 633 | 634 | 1 | 0.2% | 587 | 92.6% | 100.0 |
| 69. Hazen | 659 | 635 | -24 | -3.6% | 458 | 72.1% | 69.8 |
| 70. Ozark Mountain | 706 | 635 | -71 | -10.1% | 606 | 95.4% | 78.9 |
| 71. Magnet Cove | 753 | 638 | -115 | -15.3% | 601 | 94.2% | 44.4 |
| 72. Hackett | 623 | 641 | 18 | 2.9% | 580 | 90.5% | 55.1 |
| 73. Earle | 841 | 645 | -196 | -23.3% | 27 | 4.2% | 100 |
| 74. Cotter | 638 | 646 | 8 | 1.3% | 623 | 96.4% | 68.7 |
| 75. Quitman | 598 | 647 | 49 | 8.2% | 601 | 92.9% | 56.4 |
| 76. Parkers Chapel | 697 | 663 | -34 | -4.9% | 574 | 86.6% | 34.4 |
| 77. Sloan-Hendrix | 553 | 664 | 111 | 20.1% | 644 | 97.0% | 64.9 |
| 78. White County Cen | 707 | 666 | -41 | -5.8% | 593 | 89.0% | 65.9 |
| 79. Palestine-Wheat. | 587 | 671 | 84 | 14.3% | 520 | 77.5% | 99.6 |
| 80. South Pike Co. | 512 | 696 | 184 | 35.9% | 615 | 88.4% | 64.4 |
| 81. Ouachita River | 724 | 701 | -23 | -3.2% | 640 | 91.3% | 70.8 |
| 82. Lafayette County | 876 | 704 | -172 | -19.6% | 258 | 36.6% | 82.0 |
| 83. East Poinsett Co. | 776 | 709 | -67 | -8.6% | 555 | 78.3% | 75.2 |
| 84. Mountainburg | 736 | 711 | -25 | -3.4% | 668 | 94.0% | 77.4 |
| 85. Marmaduke | 708 | 714 | 6 | 0.8% | 690 | 96.6% | 65.1 |
| 86. Carlisle | 745 | 717 | -28 | -3.8% | 620 | 86.5% | 58.2 |
| 87. England | 840 | 721 | -119 | -14.2% | 413 | 57.3% | 74.5 |
| 88. Gurdon | 825 | 760 | -65 | -7.9% | 405 | 53.3% | 75.0 |
| 89. Salem | 780 | 761 | -19 | -2.4% | 707 | 92.9% | 66.4 |
| 90. Yellville-Summit | 915 | 769 | -146 | -16.0% | 746 | 97.0% | 69.1 |
| 91. Greenland | 936 | 776 | -160 | -17.1% | 707 | 91.1% | 36.6 |
| 92. Pangburn | 722 | 782 | 60 | 8.3% | 760 | 97.2% | 56.0 |
| 93. Buffalo Island Ce | 839 | 794 | -45 | -5.4% | 644 | 81.1% | 58.9 |
| 94. Smackover | 867 | 806 | -61 | -7.0% | 606 | 75.2% | 50.4 |
| 95. Two Rivers | 1,004 | 807 | -197 | -19.6% | 715 | 88.6% | 79.4 |
| 96. Flippin | 889 | 815 | -74 | -8.3% | 779 | 95.6% | 70.4 |
| 97. Riverside | 797 | 817 | 20 | 2.5% | 767 | 93.9% | 64.0 |
| 98. Rosebud | 833 | 827 | -6 | -0.7% | 764 | 92.4% | 55.5 |
| 99. Cedar Ridge | 801 | 828 | 27 | 3.4% | 771 | 93.1% | 67.9 |
| 100. Jackson County | 833 | 830 | -3 | -0.4% | 764 | 92.0% | 63.5 |
| 101. Barton-Lexa | 781 | 832 | 51 | 6.5% | 503 | 60.5% | 78.1 |
| 102. Horatio | 829 | 835 | 6 | 0.7% | 576 | 69.0% | 72.0 |
| 103. Cleveland Co | 884 | 850 | -34 | -3.8% | 608 | 71.5% | 56.4 |
| 104. Lavaca | 917 | 851 | -66 | -7.2% | 762 | 89.5% | 51.2 |
| 105. Fordyce | 1,053 | 863 | -190 | -18.0% | 347 | 40.2% | 69.9 |
| 106. Hoxie | 1,040 | 868 | -172 | -16.5% | 840 | 96.8% | 73.2 |
| 107. Charleston | 925 | 870 | -55 | -5.9% | 807 | 92.8% | 45.4 |
| 108. Danville | 920 | 876 | -44 | -4.8% | 372 | 42.5% | 75.1 |
| 109. Mansfield | 989 | 880 | -109 | -11.0% | 813 | 92.4% | 61.7 |
| 110. Melbourne | 824 | 880 | 56 | 6.8% | 839 | 95.3% | 58.8 |
| 111. Piggott | 991 | 891 | -100 | -10.1% | 858 | 96.3% | 54.1 |
| 112. Cedarville | 936 | 894 | -42 | -4.5% | 777 | 86.9% | 100.0 |
| 113. Jasper | 863 | 894 | 31 | 3.6% | 861 | 96.3% | 72.5 |
| 114. Searcy County | 1,000 | 914 | -86 | -8.6% | 877 | 96.0% | 71.7 |
| 115. Jessieville | 890 | 915 | 25 | 2.8% | 771 | 84.3% | 64.3 |
| 116. Lee County | 1,271 | 920 | -351 | -27.6% | 77 | 8.4% | 100.0 |
| 117. Valley Springs | 962 | 938 | -24 | -2.5% | 912 | 97.2% | 50.0 |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| 118. Drew Central | 998 | 941 | -57 | -5.7% | 651 | 69.2% | 74.8 |
| 119. Centerpoint | 1,046 | 963 | -83 | -7.9% | 757 | 78.6% | 68.7 |
| 120. Glen Rose | 1,020 | 980 | -40 | -3.9% | 957 | 97.7% | 55.1 |
| 121. Corning | 1,121 | 989 | -132 | -11.8% | 957 | 96.8% | 70.2 |
| 122. Atkins | 1,075 | 991 | -84 | -7.8% | 939 | 94.8% | 60.9 |
| 123. Perryville | 1,069 | 994 | -75 | -7.0% | 941 | 94.7% | 55.8 |
| 124. Fouke | 1,009 | 999 | -10 | -1.0% | 972 | 97.3% | 59.0 |
| 125. Harmony Gr - O | 1,044 | 1,022 | -22 | -2.1% | 733 | 71.7% | 50.8 |
| 126. Manila | 1,041 | 1,024 | -17 | -1.6% | 953 | 93.1% | 64.0 |
| 127. Bismarck | 1,018 | 1,033 | 15 | 1.5% | 930 | 90.0% | 61.3 |
| 128. Harmony Gr - S | 926 | 1,060 | 134 | 14.5% | 1,004 | 94.7% | 41.7 |
| 129. Genoa Central | 948 | 1,073 | 125 | 13.2% | 1,048 | 97.7% | 47.1 |
| 130. Prescott | 1,065 | 1,084 | 19 | 1.8% | 594 | 54.8% | 75.8 |
| 131. Bergman | 1,033 | 1,090 | 57 | 5.5% | 1,039 | 95.3% | 53.6 |
| 132. Lakeside-Chicot | 1,229 | 1,103 | -126 | -10.3% | 148 | 13.4% | 100.0 |
| 133. Elkins | 1,142 | 1,114 | -28 | -2.5% | 998 | 89.6% | 46.8 |
| 134. Paris | 1,190 | 1,118 | -72 | -6.1% | 973 | 87.0% | 66.0 |
| 135. Cossatot River | 1,131 | 1,119 | -12 | -1.1% | 744 | 66.5% | 100.0 |
| 136. Lawrence Co | 1,099 | 1,125 | 26 | 2.4% | 1,081 | 96.1% | 63.2 |
| 137. Mayflower | 1,005 | 1,141 | 136 | 13.5% | 982 | 86.1% | 61.6 |
| 138. McGehee | 1,203 | 1,151 | -52 | -4.3% | 568 | 49.3% | 76.7 |
| 139. Lamar | 1,147 | 1,159 | 12 | 1.0% | 1,069 | 92.2% | 70.1 |
| 140. West Fork | 1,242 | 1,193 | -49 | -3.9% | 1,109 | 93.0% | 58.8 |
| 141. Lincoln | 1,284 | 1,240 | -44 | -3.4% | 987 | 79.6% | 71.1 |
| 142. Green Forest | 1,249 | 1,258 | 9 | 0.7% | 690 | 54.8% | 80.8 |
| 143. Bald Knob | 1,319 | 1,264 | -55 | -4.2% | 1,102 | 87.2% | 63.5 |
| 144. Fountain Lake | 1,186 | 1,284 | 98 | 8.3% | 1,096 | 85.4% | 56.9 |
| 145. Dewitt | 1,496 | 1,295 | -201 | -13.4% | 1,045 | 80.7% | 64.3 |
| 146. Dollarway | 1,883 | 1,299 | -584 | -31.0% | 78 | 6.0% | 93.5 |
| 147. S Mississippi Co. | 1,280 | 1,302 | 22 | 1.7% | 829 | 63.7% | 77.1 |
| 148. Osceola | 1,543 | 1,310 | -233 | -15.1% | 249 | 19.0% | 100.0 |
| 149. Booneville | 1,462 | 1,321 | -141 | -9.6% | 1,238 | 93.7% | 70.6 |
| 150. Clinton | 1,296 | 1,327 | 31 | 2.4% | 1,237 | 93.2% | 69.8 |
| 151. Newport | 1,540 | 1,332 | -208 | -13.5% | 724 | 54.4% | 74.4 |
| 152. Cave City | 1,335 | 1,362 | 27 | 2.0% | 1,305 | 95.8% | 73.9 |
| 153. Gosnell | 1,387 | 1,376 | -11 | -0.8% | 929 | 67.5% | 68.8 |
| 154. Harrisburg | 1,118 | 1,377 | 259 | 23.2% | 1,287 | 93.5% | 92.2 |
| 155. Gentry | 1,448 | 1,398 | -50 | -3.5% | 978 | 70.0% | 64.7 |
| 156. Dover | 1,421 | 1,402 | -19 | -1.3% | 1,349 | 96.2% | 57.1 |
| 157. Riverview | 1,270 | 1,406 | 136 | 10.7% | 1,030 | 73.3% | 74.5 |
| 158. Ashdown | 1,598 | 1,431 | -167 | -10.5% | 871 | 60.9% | 59.3 |
| 159. Dumas | 1,602 | 1,458 | -144 | -9.0% | 378 | 25.9% | 82.3 |
| 160. Highland | 1,574 | 1,530 | -44 | -2.8% | 1,463 | 95.6% | 67.9 |
| 161. Bauxite | 1,276 | 1,539 | 263 | 20.6% | 1,442 | 93.7% | 43.3 |
| 162. Waldron | 1,724 | 1,565 | -159 | -9.2% | 1,240 | 79.2% | 72.3 |
| 163. Trumann | 1,617 | 1,569 | -48 | -3.0% | 1,317 | 83.9% | 72.8 |
| 164. Warren | 1,542 | 1,583 | 41 | 2.7% | 710 | 44.9% | 75.6 |
| 165. Star City | 1,723 | 1,607 | -116 | -6.7% | 1,119 | 69.6% | 62.5 |
| 166. Southside - I | 1,478 | 1,622 | 144 | 9.7% | 1,508 | 93.0% | 55.6 |
| 167. Pottsville | 1,564 | 1,624 | 60 | 3.8% | 1,506 | 92.7% | 42.2 |
| 168. Westside Cons-C | 1,639 | 1,651 | 12 | 0.7% | 1,548 | 93.8% | 53.5 |
| 169. Helena/W Hel | 2,714 | 1,654 | -1,060 | -39.1% | 81 | 4.9% | 92.7 |
| 170. Pea Ridge | 1,527 | 1,685 | 158 | 10.3% | 1,526 | 90.6% | 46.7 |
| 171. Mountain View | 1,660 | 1,704 | 44 | 2.7% | 1,644 | 96.5% | 60.2 |
| 172. Stuttgart | 1,812 | 1,760 | -52 | -2.9% | 870 | 49.4% | 62.7 |
| 173. Heber Springs | 1,775 | 1,802 | 27 | 1.5% | 1,696 | 94.1% | 54.2 |
| 174. Gravette | 1,765 | 1,814 | 49 | 2.8% | 1,593 | 87.8% | 50.7 |
| 175. Crossett | 2,033 | 1,823 | -210 | -10.3% | 1,087 | 59.6% | 60.6 |
| 176. Lonoke | 1,832 | 1,838 | 6 | 0.3% | 1,286 | 70.0% | 56.0 |
| 177. Prairie Grove | 1,717 | 1,845 | 128 | 7.5% | 1,725 | 93.5% | 46.5 |
| 178. Brookland | 1,458 | 1,858 | 400 | 27.4% | 1,748 | 94.1% | 35.5 |
| 179. Mena | 1,983 | 1,859 | -124 | -6.3% | 1,728 | 93.0% | 66.1 |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|------------|----------------|------------|------------|
| 180. Pocahontas | 1,891 | 1,874 | -17 | -0.9% | 1,743 | 93.0% | 61.7 |
| 181. Hamburg | 1,955 | 1,896 | -59 | -3.0% | 1,193 | 62.9% | 77.7 |
| 182. Ozark | 1,930 | 1,905 | -25 | -1.3% | 1,764 | 92.6% | 58.7 |
| 183. Berryville | 1,819 | 1,974 | 155 | 8.5% | 1,440 | 72.9% | 59.5 |
| 184. Nashville | 1,839 | 1,981 | 142 | 7.7% | 1,078 | 54.4% | 66.0 |
| 185. Arkadelphia | 2,056 | 1,982 | -74 | -3.6% | 1,121 | 56.6% | 55.3 |
| 186. Dardanelle | 1,829 | 2,017 | 188 | 10.3% | 1,294 | 64.2% | 67.4 |
| 187. Monticello | 2,144 | 2,106 | -38 | -1.8% | 1,311 | 62.3% | 56.8 |
| 188. Malvern | 2,114 | 2,143 | 29 | 1.4% | 1,261 | 58.8% | 71.6 |
| 189. South Con Co. | 2,368 | 2,206 | -162 | -6.8% | 1,552 | 70.4% | 62.8 |
| 190. Huntsville | 2,510 | 2,267 | -243 | -9.7% | 1,976 | 87.2% | 60.5 |
| 191. Farmington | 2,148 | 2,283 | 135 | 6.3% | 1,962 | 85.9% | 39.1 |
| 192. DeQueen | 2,489 | 2,413 | -76 | -3.1% | 790 | 32.7% | 73.7 |
| 193. Camden Fair | 2,567 | 2,429 | -138 | -5.4% | 822 | 33.8% | 74.8 |
| 194. Hope | 2,601 | 2,489 | -112 | -4.3% | 598 | 24.0% | 82.5 |
| 195. Valley View | 2,083 | 2,521 | 438 | 21.0% | 2,335 | 92.6% | 22.1 |
| 196. Clarksville | 2,562 | 2,590 | 28 | 1.1% | 1,542 | 59.5% | 68.1 |
| 197. Blytheville | 3,085 | 2,593 | -492 | -15.9% | 496 | 19.1% | 100.0 |
| 198. Magnolia | 3,022 | 2,725 | -297 | -9.8% | 1,141 | 41.9% | 67.8 |
| 199. Harrison | 2,895 | 2,773 | -122 | -4.2% | 2,606 | 94.0% | 52.7 |
| 200. Wynne | 2,980 | 2,827 | -153 | -5.1% | 1,877 | 66.4% | 59.2 |
| 201. Paragould | 2,793 | 2,904 | 111 | 4.0% | 2,611 | 89.9% | 66.3 |
| 202. Batesville | 2,607 | 2,914 | 307 | 11.8% | 2,232 | 76.6% | 53.6 |
| 203. Forrest City | 3,611 | 2,974 | -637 | -17.6% | 440 | 14.8% | 100.0 |
| 204. Watson Chapel | 3,163 | 2,992 | -171 | -5.4% | 775 | 25.9% | 73.4 |
| 205. White Hall | 3,127 | 2,993 | -134 | -4.3% | 2,265 | 75.7% | 41.6 |
| 206. Beebe | 3,100 | 3,175 | 75 | 2.4% | 2,857 | 90.0% | 50.2 |
| 207. Vilonia | 2,946 | 3,180 | 234 | 7.9% | 3,017 | 94.9% | 41.2 |
| 208. Lakeside-Garland | 1,663 | 3,202 | 1,539 | 92.5% | 2,493 | 77.9% | 43.0 |
| 209. Nettleton | 3,162 | 3,214 | 52 | 1.6% | 1,766 | 54.9% | 62.6 |
| 210. Greenbrier | 2,865 | 3,296 | 431 | 15.0% | 3,120 | 94.7% | 37.0 |
| 211. Alma | 3,402 | 3,360 | -42 | -1.2% | 2,999 | 89.3% | 52.1 |
| 212. Greene Co Tech | 3,322 | 3,482 | 160 | 4.8% | 3,343 | 96.0% | 51.5 |
| 213. Greenwood | 3,530 | 3,592 | 62 | 1.8% | 3,191 | 88.8% | 36.6 |
| 214. Hot Springs | 3,618 | 3,628 | 10 | 0.3% | 1,511 | 41.6% | 75.9 |
| 215. Siloam Springs | 3,682 | 3,959 | 277 | 7.5% | 2,497 | 63.1% | 56.1 |
| 216. Mountain Home | 3,991 | 3,987 | -4 | -0.1% | 3,698 | 92.8% | 54.1 |
| 217. Marion | 3,919 | 4,110 | 191 | 4.9% | 1,986 | 48.3% | 60.7 |
| 218. Sheridan | 4,244 | 4,183 | -61 | -1.4% | 3,855 | 92.2% | 49.9 |
| 219. Searcy | 3,857 | 4,186 | 329 | 8.5% | 3,240 | 77.4% | 49.0 |
| 220. Texarkana | 4,427 | 4,342 | -85 | -1.9% | 1,852 | 42.7% | 65.6 |
| 221. Lake Hamilton | 3,922 | 4,363 | 441 | 11.2% | 3,562 | 81.6% | 60.6 |
| 222. Pine Bluff | 5,200 | 4,452 | -748 | -14.4% | 80 | 1.8% | 85.6 |
| 223. El Dorado | 4,570 | 4,474 | -96 | -2.1% | 1,832 | 40.9% | 63.2 |
| 224. Benton | 4,506 | 4,768 | 262 | 5.8% | 3,915 | 82.1% | 41.1 |
| 225. Russellville | 5,028 | 5,045 | 17 | 0.3% | 3,464 | 68.7% | 56.9 |
| 226. Jonesboro | 4,969 | 5,520 | 551 | 11.1% | 2,952 | 53.5% | 72.4 |
| 227. West Memphis | 6,051 | 5,615 | -436 | -7.2% | 1,179 | 21.0% | 72.8 |
| 228. Van Buren | 5,909 | 5,919 | 10 | 0.2% | 4,231 | 71.5% | 59.5 |
| 229. N Little Rock | 8,974 | 8,610 | -364 | -4.1% | 2,852 | 33.1% | 70.2 |
| 230. Bryant | 7,163 | 8,620 | 1,457 | 20.3% | 6,709 | 77.8% | 37.2 |
| 231. Fayetteville | 8,406 | 9,142 | 736 | 8.8% | 6,312 | 69.0% | 40.7 |
| 232. Conway | 9,002 | 9,630 | 628 | 7.0% | 6,011 | 62.4% | 46.9 |
| 233. Cabot | 9,226 | 10,167 | 941 | 10.2% | 9,171 | 90.2% | 35.8 |
| 234. Ft. Smith | 13,740 | 14,049 | 309 | 2.2% | 6,289 | 44.8% | 71.0 |
| 235. Rogers | 13,490 | 14,452 | 962 | 7.1% | 7,359 | 50.9% | 60.7 |
| 236. Bentonville | 11,959 | 14,880 | 2,921 | 24.4% | 11,272 | 75.8% | 30.4 |
| 237. Pulaski Co. Sp | 17,395 | 17,245 | -150 | -0.9% | 7,841 | 45.5% | 56.7 |
| 238. Springdale | 16,792 | 20,141 | 3349 | 19.9% | 8,181 | 40.6% | 67.2 |
| 239. Little Rock | 25,738 | 23,594 | -2,144 | -8.3% | 4,549 | 19.3% | 71.9 |
| Total | 463,990 | 463,460 | -530 | --- | 267,215 | --- | --- |

Table C: Enrollment by Special District, 2007-2012, Enrollment Change, Percent Change, Percent White and FRL Enrollment, in Ascending Order Based on 2012 Enrollment

| District (Special) | 2007 | 2012 | Change | %Change | White 2012 | % White 2012 | % FRL 2012 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 240. Ark School Blind | 83 | 76 | -7 | -8.4% | 40 | 52.6% | 59.2% |
| 241. Ark School Deaf | 127 | 125 | -2 | -1.6% | 66 | 52.8% | 80.0% |
| 242. Div. Youth Svcs. | --- | 310 | 310 | --- | 127 | 41.0% | 100.0% |
| Total | 210 | 511 | 301 | --- | 233 | --- | --- |

Table D: Enrollment by Charter District, 2007-2012, Enrollment Change, Percent Change, Percent White and FRL Enrollment, in Ascending Order Based on 2012 Enrollment

| District (Charter) | 2007 | 2012 | Change | %Change | White 2012 | % White 2012 | % FRL 2012 |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 243. Academics Plus | 403 | 648 | 235 | 58.3% | 481 | 74.2% | 31.5% |
| 244. Arkansas Virtual Academy | 499 | 499 | 0 | 0.0% | 426 | 85.4% | 59.5% |
| 245. Benton Co. Sch.Arts | 451 | 776 | 325 | 72.1% | 611 | 78.7% | 33.5% |
| 246. Covenant Keepers | --- | 223 | 223 | --- | 1 | 0.4% | 80.7% |
| 247. ESTEM Elem. | --- | 471 | 471 | --- | 212 | 45.0% | 38.2% |
| 248. ESTEM High | --- | 505 | 505 | --- | 183 | 36.2% | 31.1% |
| 249. ESTEM High | --- | 509 | 509 | --- | 218 | 42.8% | 35.0% |
| 250. Haas Hall Acad. | 87 | 319 | 232 | 267.7% | 275 | 86.2% | 0.9% |
| 251. Imboden Charter | 58 | 40 | -18 | -31.0% | 38 | 95.0% | 85.0% |
| 252. Jacksonville Light. | --- | 695 | 695 | --- | 259 | 37.3% | 62.9% |
| 253. KIPP Delta | 282 | 1,161 | 879 | 311.7% | 51 | 4.4% | 85.9% |
| 254. Lisa Academy | 411 | 792 | 381 | 92.7% | 220 | 27.8% | 36.6% |
| 255. Lisa Academy NLR | --- | 500 | 500 | --- | 252 | 50.4% | 31.2% |
| 256. Little Rock Prep. | --- | 391 | 391 | --- | 0 | 0.0% | 80.6% |
| 257. Pine Bluff Light. | --- | 243 | 243 | --- | 6 | 2.5% | 90.5% |
| 258. Siatech | --- | 124 | 124 | --- | 12 | 9.7% | 97.6% |
| Total | 2,191 | 7,896 | 5,695 | --- | 3,245 | --- | --- |