2023 State of Computer Science Education

The rapid pace of technological advancement, as seen with the widespread integration of generative artificial intelligence (AI), underscores the need for foundational knowledge in computer science for all students. This report calls upon advocates to embrace the urgency of this matter and revamp school curricula to align with the demands of the 21st century, including requiring that all students learn computer science.

Currently, 57.5% of public high schools in the United States (U.S.) offer a foundational computer science class—an achievement marking the largest percentage growth in the last five years. Across the 35 states* where data is available, 5.8% of high school students are enrolled in foundational computer science. Even with growing access this growth, large disparities still exist, and we must continue to focus on eliminating participation gaps.

*AL, AR, AZ, CT, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MS, NC, ND, NE, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WV, WI
### Ten Policies to Make Computer Science Foundational

1. **Create a statewide plan for K–12 computer science**

2. **Define computer science and establish standards for K–12 computer science**

3. **Allocate funding for rigorous computer science teacher professional learning**

4. **Implement clear certification pathways for computer science teachers at elementary and secondary levels**

5. **Create university programs to encourage all preservice teachers to gain exposure to computer science**

6. **Establish dedicated computer science positions in a state education agency**

7. **Require that all schools offer computer science with appropriate implementation timelines**

8. **Allow computer science to count toward a core graduation requirement**

9. **Allow computer science to satisfy an admission requirement at higher education institutions**

10. **Require that all students take computer science to earn a high school diploma**

### What Has Florida Done to Advance Computer Science Education?

Florida has funded computer science education annually since 2019, totaling $50M after the 2023 legislative session.

### How Can Florida Increase Opportunities for Students?

Florida should create a state plan to establish strategies and goals for computer science education statewide.

Florida should adopt a graduation requirement for all high school students in computer science.
Percentage of Public High Schools Offering Foundational Computer Science

Access by School Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Year</th>
<th>Access Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-2019</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-2021</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021-2022</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Access by Geography*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geography</th>
<th>Access Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suburban</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Access by School Size*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Size</th>
<th>Access Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large</td>
<td>295%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data is from the most recent data school year 2021-2022

Participation in Foundational High School Computer Science by Student Demographics

Enrollment by Subgroup

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subgroup</th>
<th>Access Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Language Learners</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economically Disadvantaged Students</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students with 504 Plans</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students Under IDEA</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enrollment by Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Access Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.6% of high school students took foundational computer science in 2021-2022

Enrollment by Race / Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race / Ethnicity</th>
<th>Access Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black / African American</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic / Latino / Latinx</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American / Alaskan</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or More Races</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Black students are 2 times less likely to take foundational computer science than their white and Asian peers

Student Demographics 9-12

Participation in Foundational Courses
Percentage of Public High Schools Offering Foundational Computer Science Nationally

57.5% — National Percentage Offering

State | Percentage
--- | ---
AR | 99%
MD | 99%
NV | 96%
AL | 95%
SC | 94%
IN | 91%
CT | 84%
IA | 84%
MA | 83%
NJ | 82%
NH | 81%
RI | 80%
KY | 79%
MS | 78%
WV | 78%
UT | 77%
VT | 76%
VA | 74%
HI | 72%
GA | 71%
NC | 71%
PA | 71%
ME | 66%
OK | 64%
OR | 64%
TN | 64%
WY | 63%
OH | 62%
WI | 62%
MI | 56%
CO | 55%
IL | 54%
TX | 54%
AK | 51%
MO | 50%
NE | 50%
NM | 50%
NY | 48%
WA | 48%
ND | 47%
CA | 45%
DC | 45%
SD | 44%
FL | 41%
DE | 40%
ID | 38%
AZ | 36%
KS | 36%
LA | 36%
MT | 35%
MN | 28%