



NEW MEXICO

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.

2,744

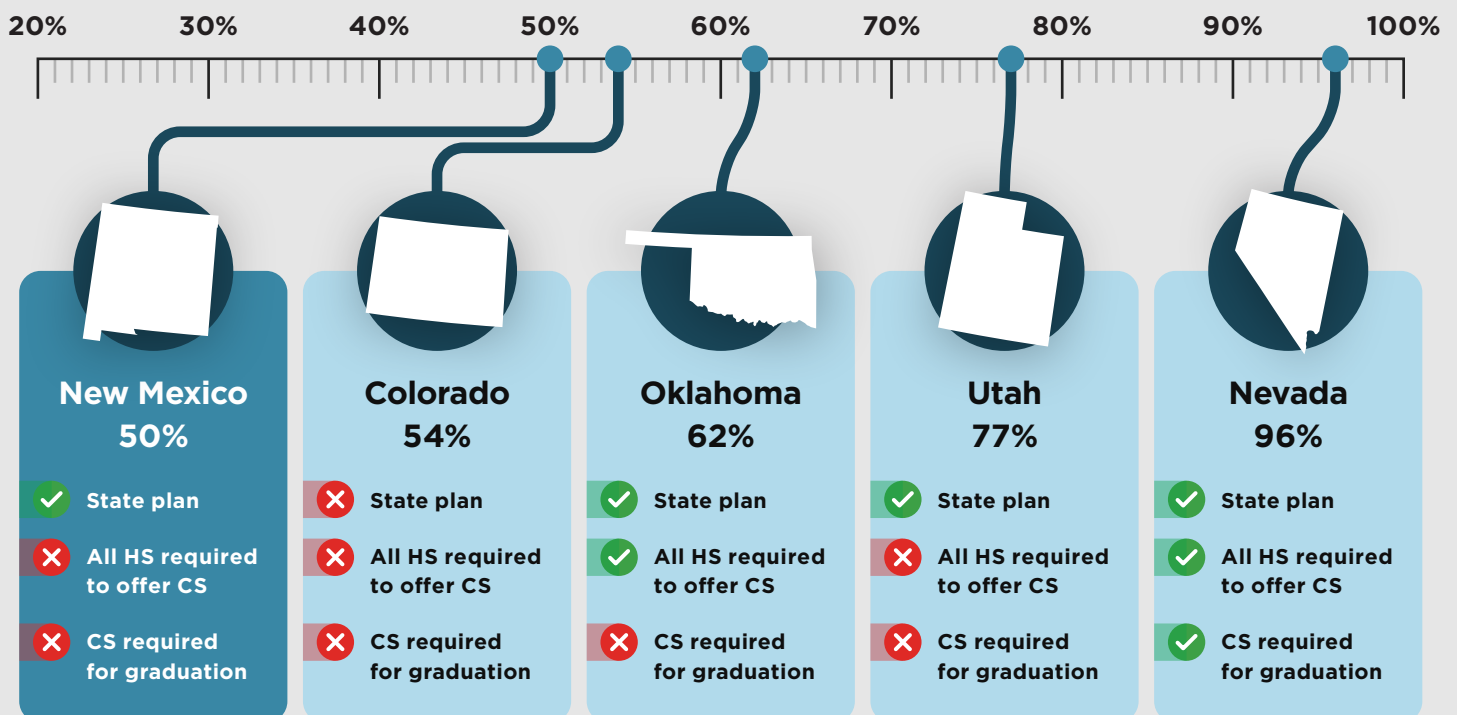
In 2023, NM averaged
2,744 open computing jobs
each month

\$89,290

These jobs have an average
salary of \$89,290

*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

Comparative Access to Computer Science Courses (percentage of high schools offering)





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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 New Mexico Done to Advance Computer Science Education?

The New Mexico Public Education Department developed a state plan for expanding computer science education in 2021.

New Mexico adopted the CSTA K-12 standards in 2018. Standards within each grade band address algorithmic bias, accessible technology, and inclusivity.

How Can New Mexico Increase Opportunities for Students?

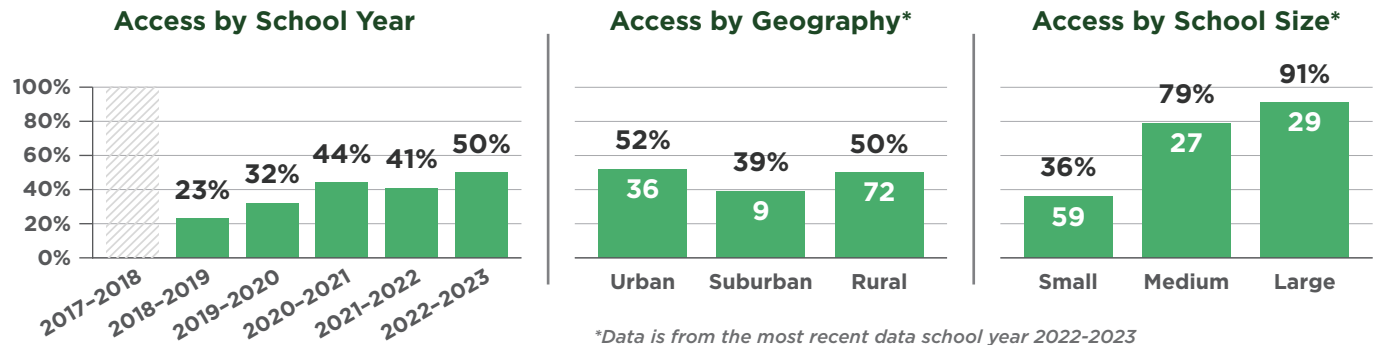
New Mexico should require all high schools to offer at least one computer science course.

New Mexico should require all preservice teachers to receive instruction in computer science education.



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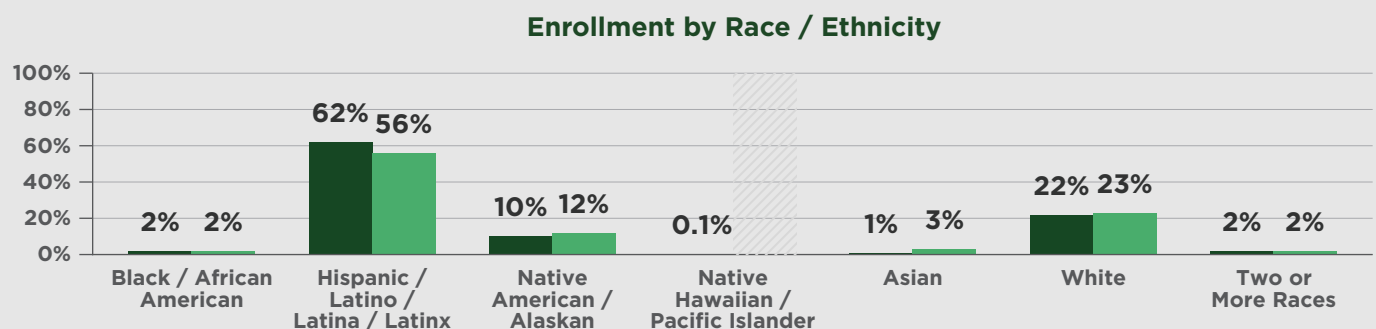
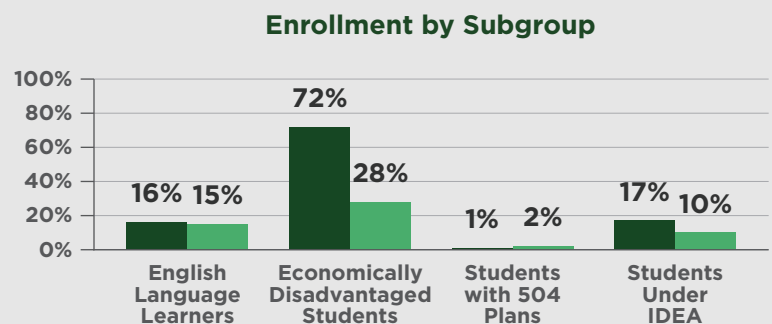
Percentage of Public High Schools Offering Foundational Computer Science



Participation in Foundational High School** Computer Science by Student Demographics

3.0% of high school students took foundational computer science in 2022-2023

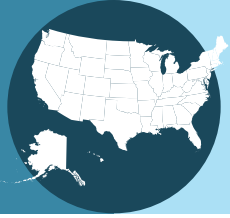
31% of students who took foundational computer science were female



Students of all racial and ethnic groups are similarly likely to take foundational computer science

- Student Demographics 9-12
- Participation in Foundational Courses

**New Mexico's participation data includes a small number of middle school students who took a high school level course



UNITED STATES

Percentage of Public High Schools Offering Foundational Computer Science Nationally

