



**Bureau of Legislative Research**

**Policy Analysis & Research Section**



# ***Alternative Learning Environments***

***2018 Adequacy Study  
Nov. 29, 2017***



# ***ALE – What's New?***

**Concerns about “parking” students in ALE**

**Increase in districts participating in consortia**

**Drop-out rates as an outcome measure**

# ***NCES Definition of ALE***

“[A] public elementary/secondary school that addresses needs of students that typically cannot be met in regular school ...”

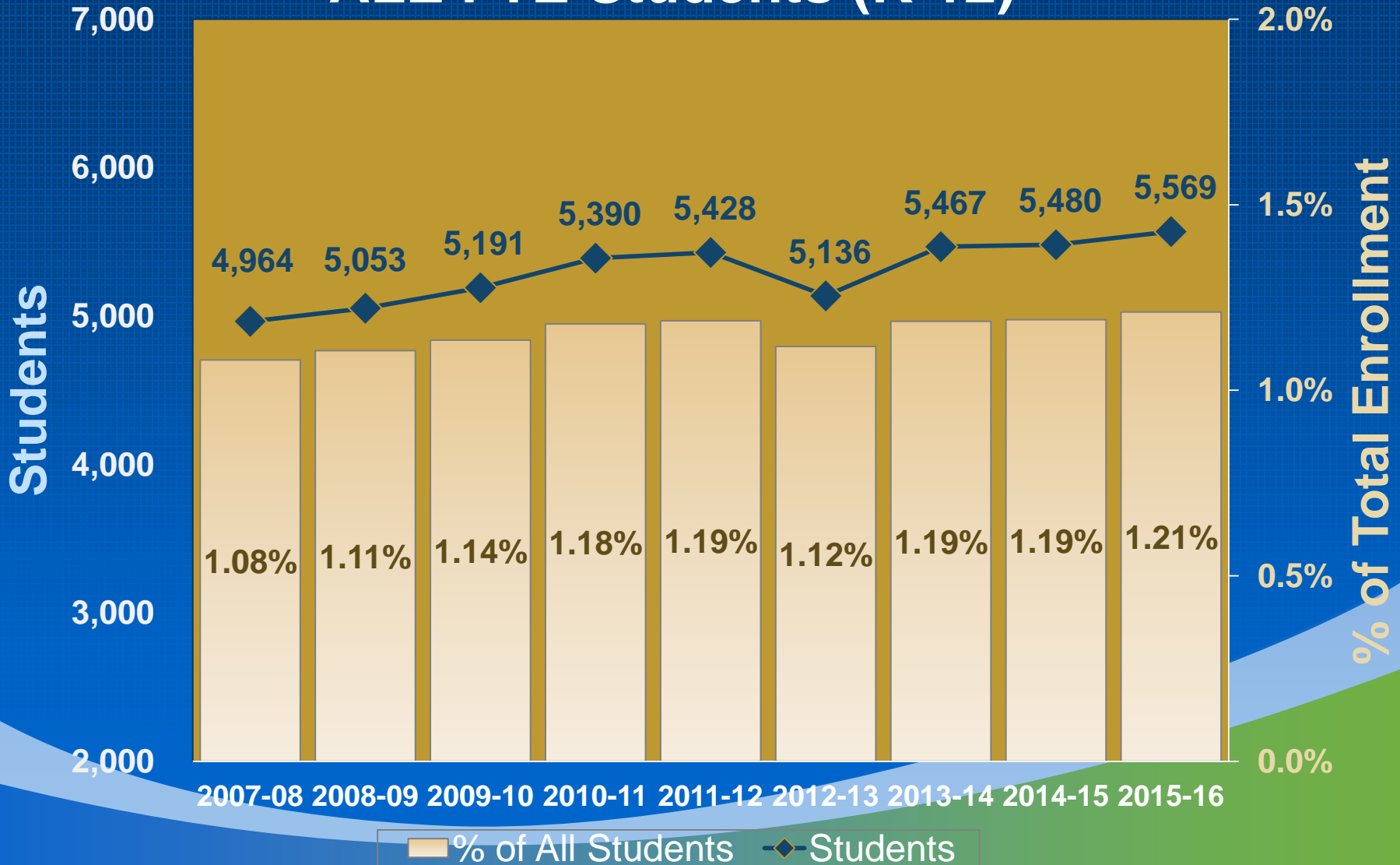
# ***Arkansas's Definition of ALE***

Act 59 of 2003

“to eliminate traditional barriers to learning  
for students”

# ALE Students

## ALE FTE Students (K-12)



# ***ALE Students***

## **Must meet 2 of 12 characteristics:**

- Ongoing, persistent lack of attaining proficiency in literacy and math
- Abuse – physical, mental or sexual
- Frequent relocation of residency
- Homelessness
- Inadequate emotional support
- Mental/physical health problems
- Pregnancy
- Single parenting
- Personal or family problems
- Recurring absenteeism
- Dropping out of school
- Disruptive behavior

# ***ALE Students***

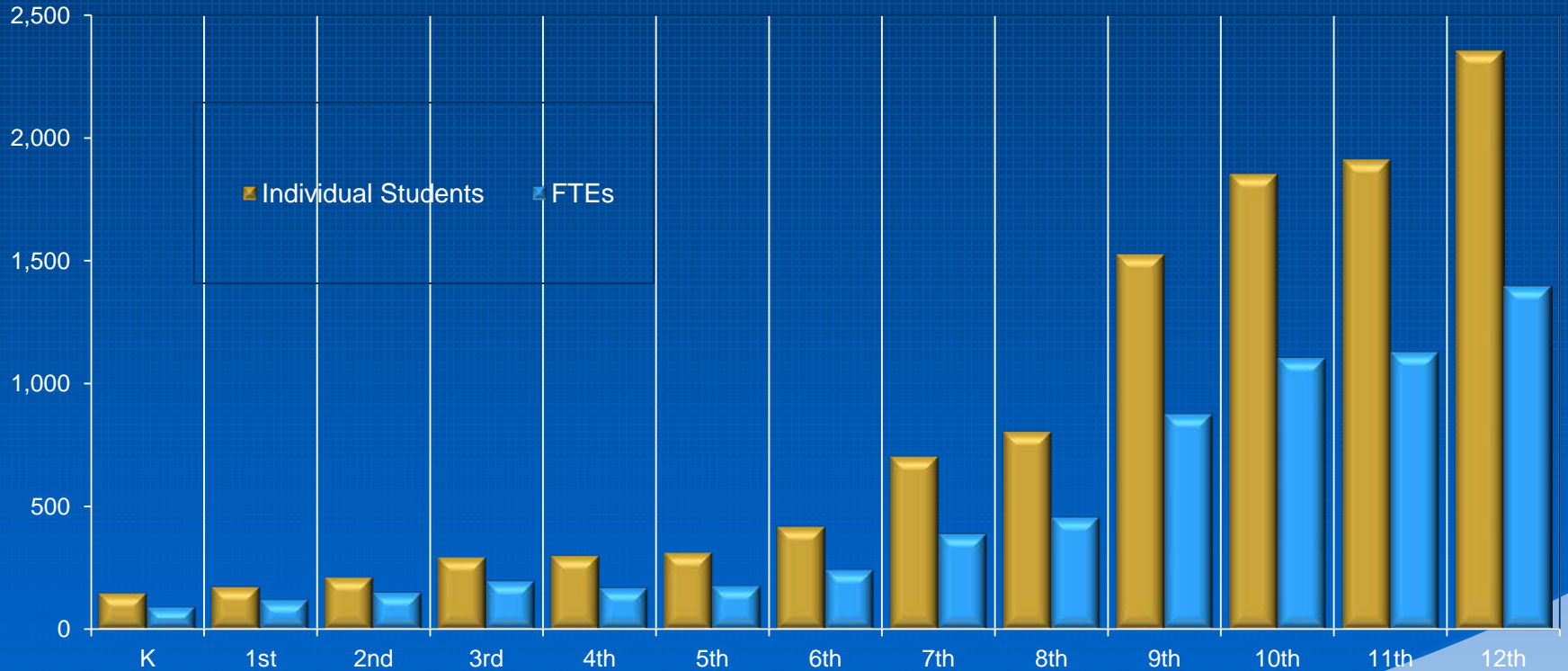
## Individual & FTE Students

20 or more consecutive days

$$\text{FTE} = \frac{\text{ALE Days} / \text{Total School Days}}{\text{ALE Hour} / 6 \text{ Hour School Day}} \times$$

# ALE Students

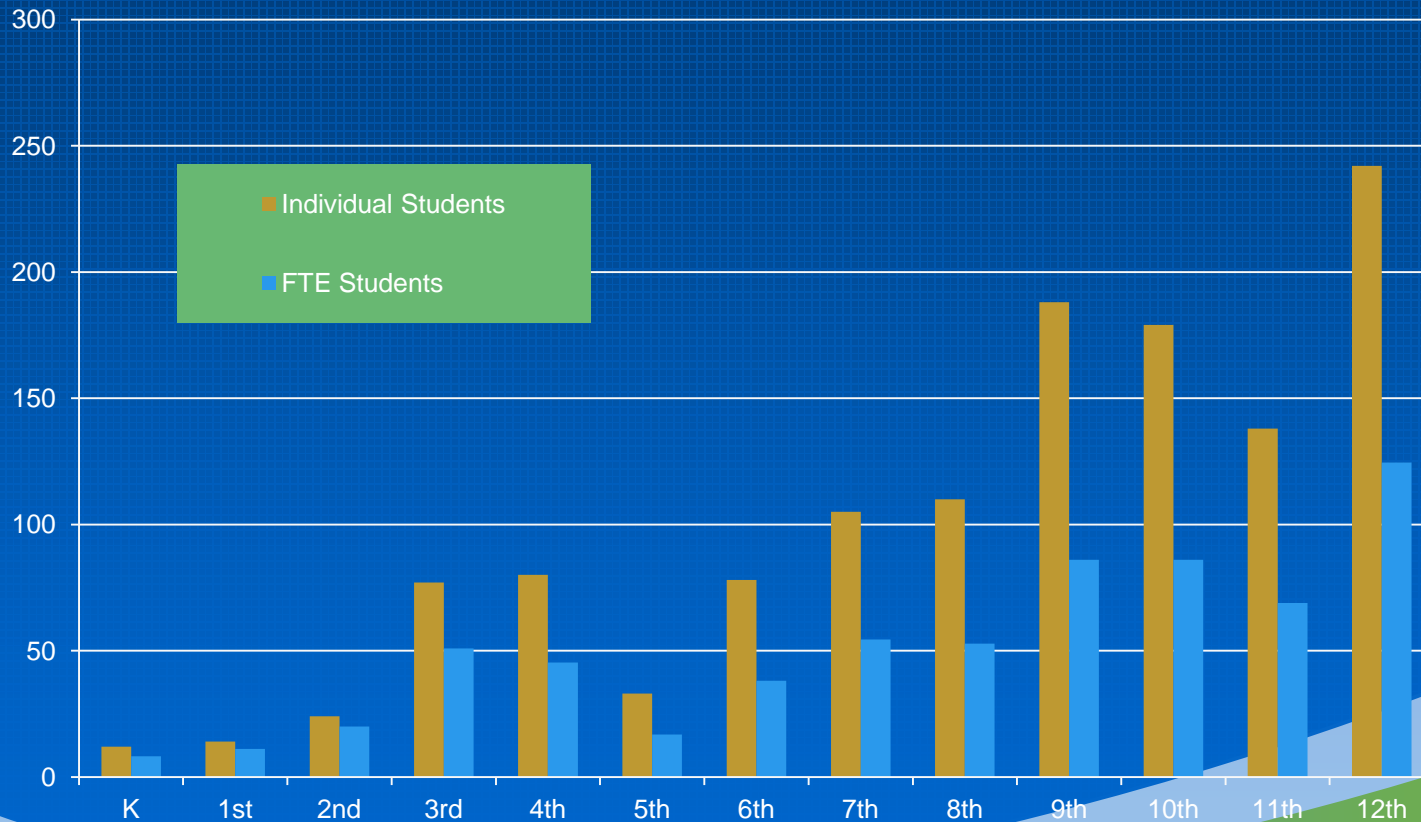
## 2015-16 ALE Student Counts by Grade -- Arkansas





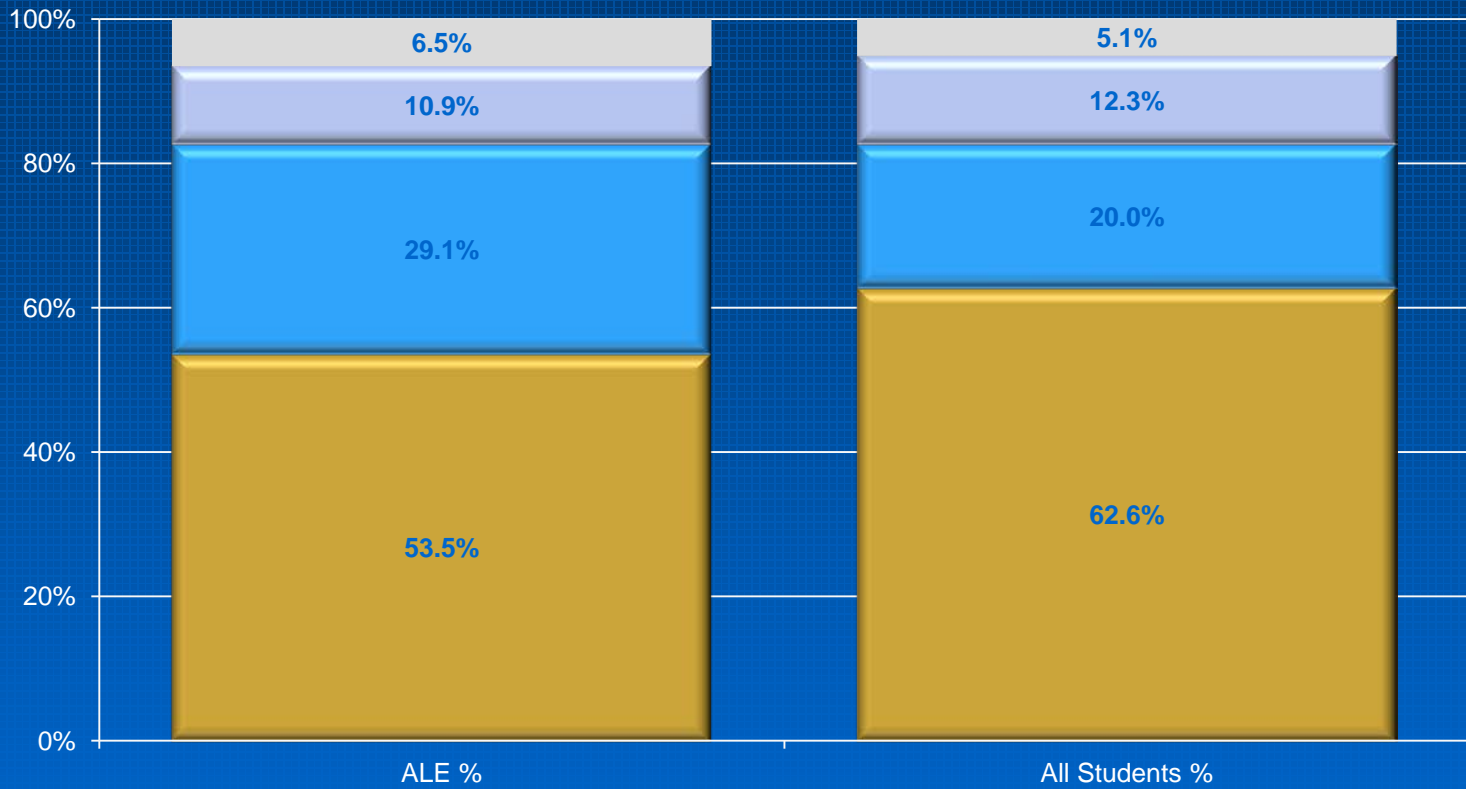
# ALE Students

## 2015-16 ALE Student Counts by Grade – Pulaski County Districts



# ALE Students

## Race (2015-16)



■ Other

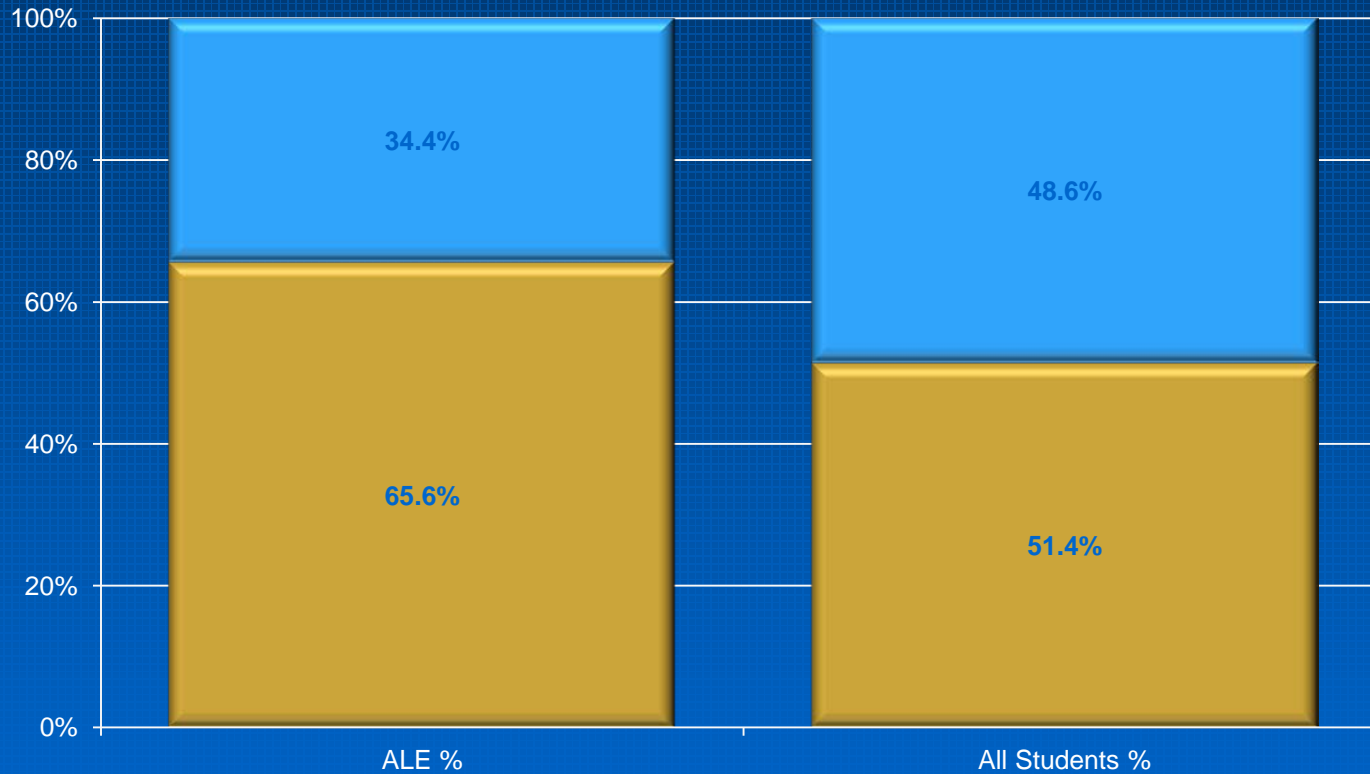
■ Hispanic

■ Black

■ White

# *ALE Students*

## **Gender (2015-16)**

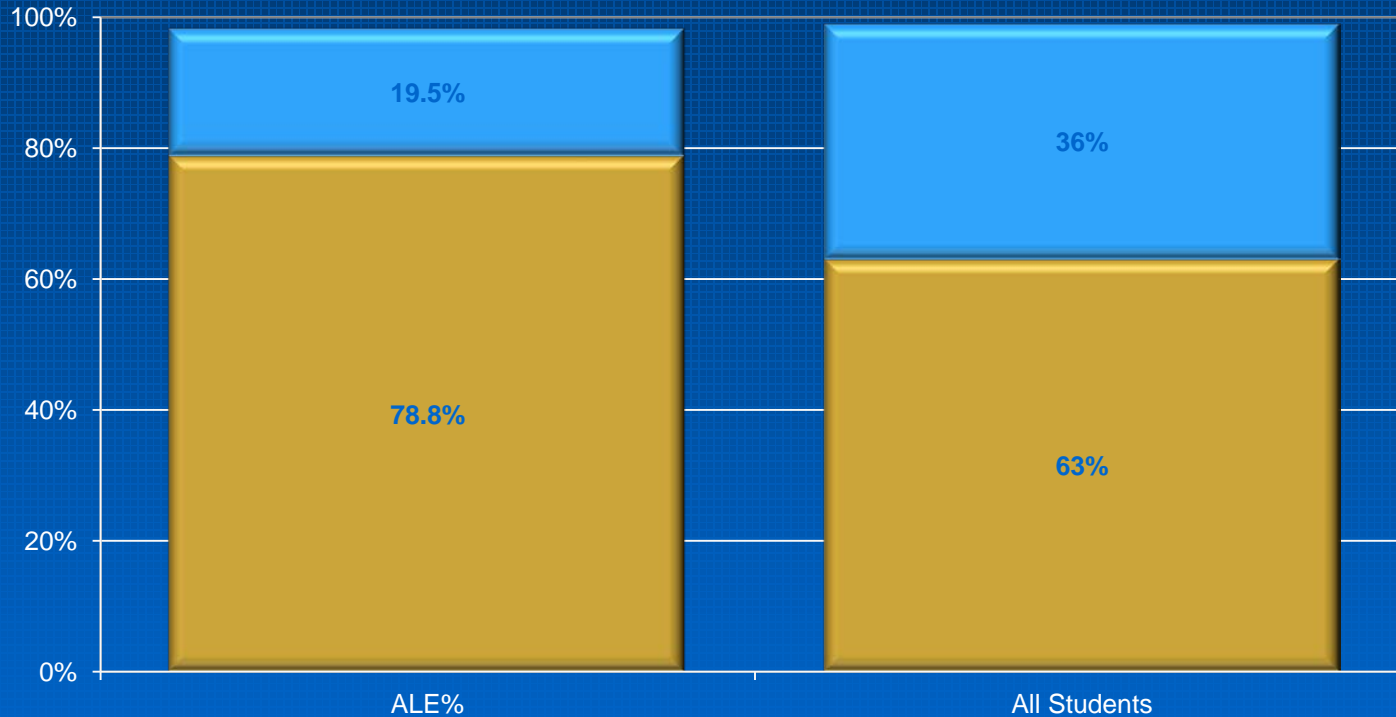


Female

Male

# ALE Students

## Free and Reduced-Price Lunch Status (2015-16)



■ Paid lunch

■ Free-reduced lunch

# ***ALE Programs***

**School-based (can be stand-alone)**

**Consortia – district run**

**Consortia – co-op run**

**District partnership with higher ed institution**

# ***ALE Teachers & Staff***

2015-16

561.6 FTE ALE Teachers

\$50,425 average salary

# ***ALE Teachers & Staff***

**Additional Support**  
Staff Only

**10%**

**Additional Support**  
Staff & Contractors

**90%**

# ***ALE Funding***

**Acts 1044 and 743 of 2017**

**\$26.4 million** for ALE

**\$4,640 / FTE**

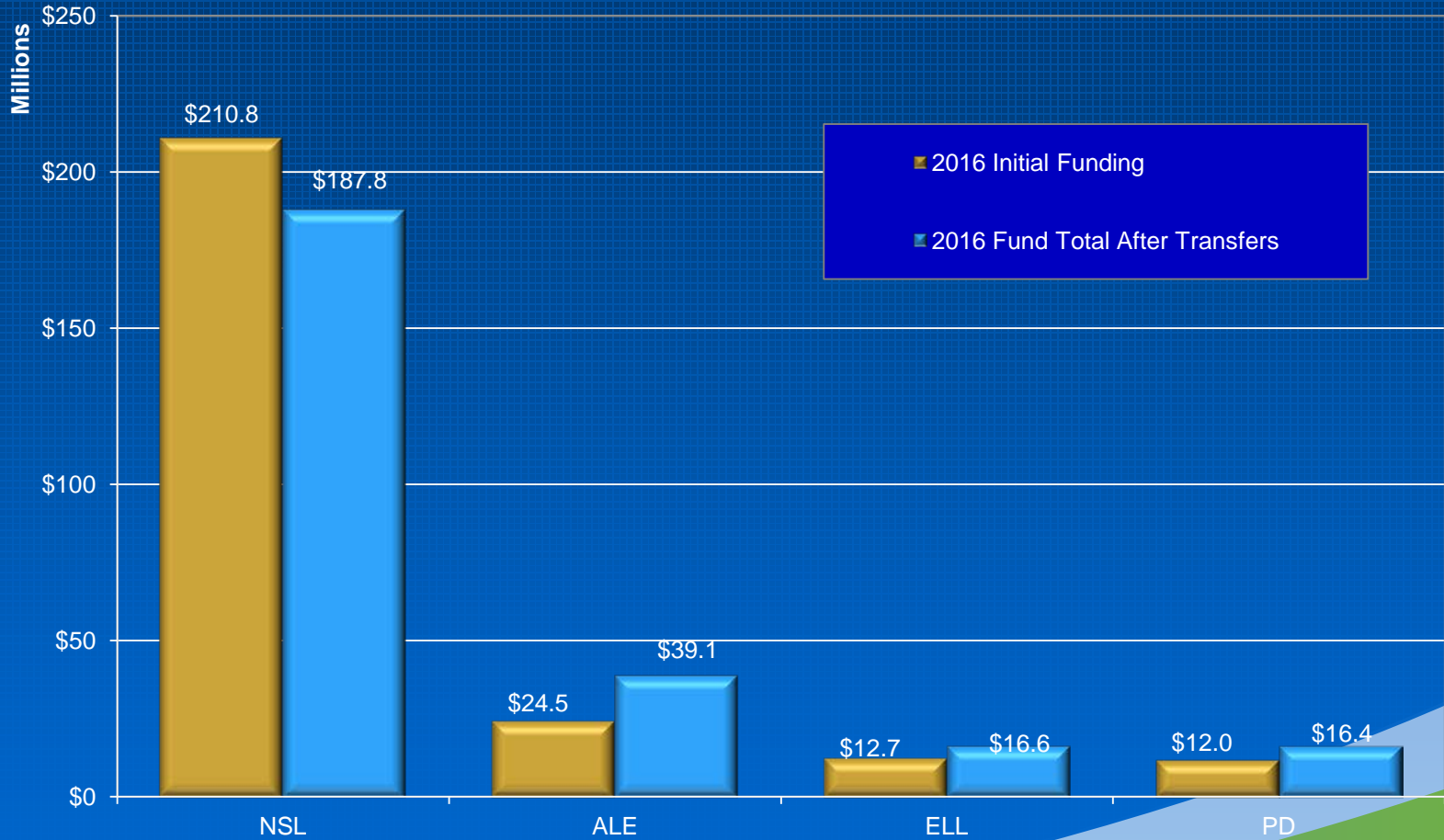


# ***ALE Funding***

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>
Foundation	\$6,584	\$6,646	<b>\$6,713</b>
ALE	\$4,471	\$4,560	<b>\$4,640</b>
ELL	\$324	\$331	<b>\$338</b>
NSL (< 70%)	\$522	\$526	<b>\$526</b>
NSL (70% - 90%)	\$1,042	\$1,051	<b>\$1,051</b>
NSL (90% - 100%)	\$1,562	\$1,576	<b>\$1,576</b>
Prof. Development	\$32.40	\$32.40	<b>\$32.40</b>

# ALE Funding

## Net After Categorical Transfers



# ***ALE Expenditures***

## **Statewide Spending by Districts**

	<b>Total Expenditures from ALE Categorical Funds*</b>	<b>Total Expenditures on ALE Programs Using Other Funds</b>	<b>Total Expenditures on ALE Programs</b>
2013-14	\$37,206,494	\$19,181,526	\$56,388,020
2014-15	\$37,964,576	\$19,261,042	\$57,225,616
2015-16	\$39,205,888	\$17,962,255	\$57,168,143

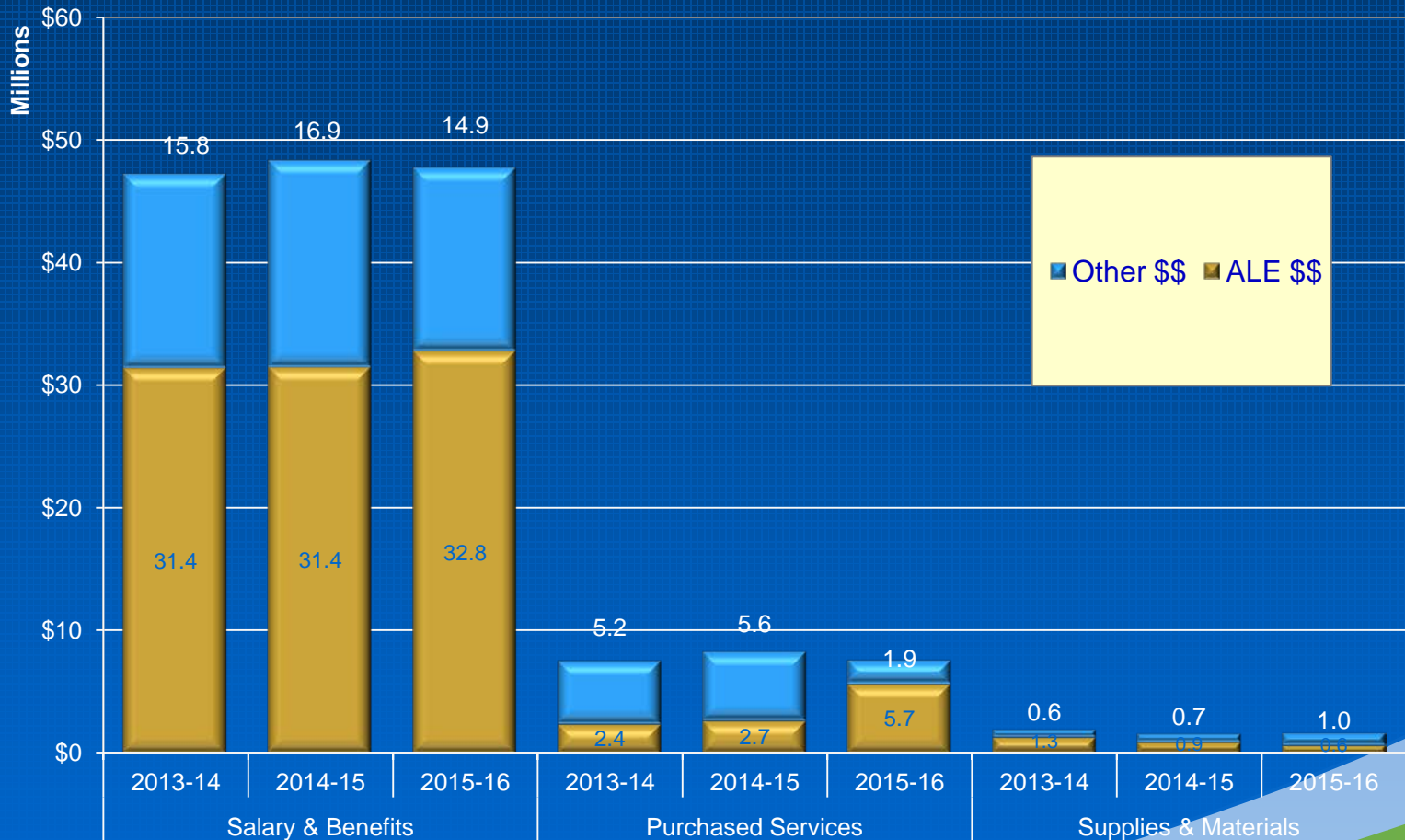
\* After transfers; could include duplicate spending to and by consortia

# ***ALE Expenditures***

## **Per Student Spending**

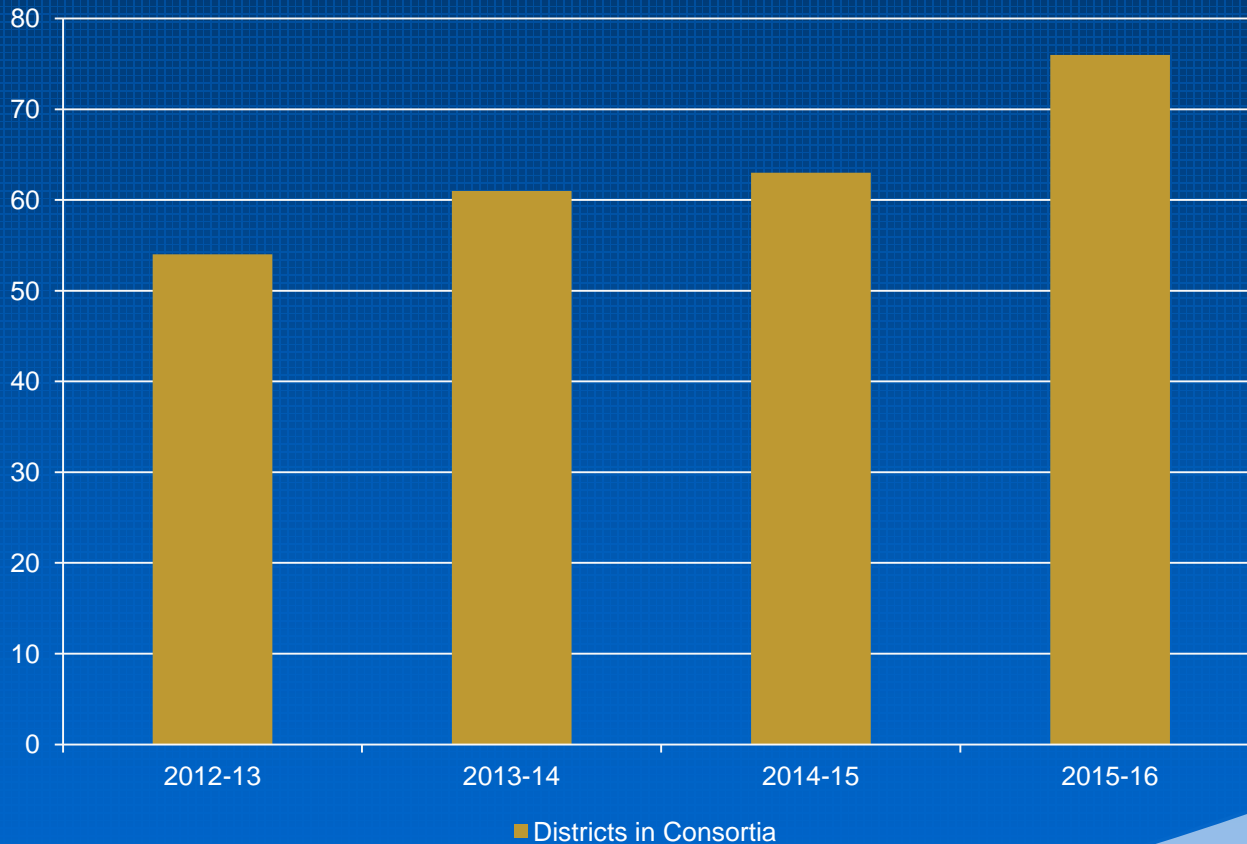
	<b>Per Student ALE Funding</b>	<b>Per Student Foundation Funding</b>	<b>Per Student ALE + Foundation</b>	<b>Per Student ALE Program Expenditures *</b>
2013-14	\$4,305	\$5,393	\$10,698	\$10,979
2014-15	\$4,383	\$6,521	\$10,904	\$10,467
2015-16	\$4,471	\$6,584	\$11,055	\$10,432

# ALE Expenditures

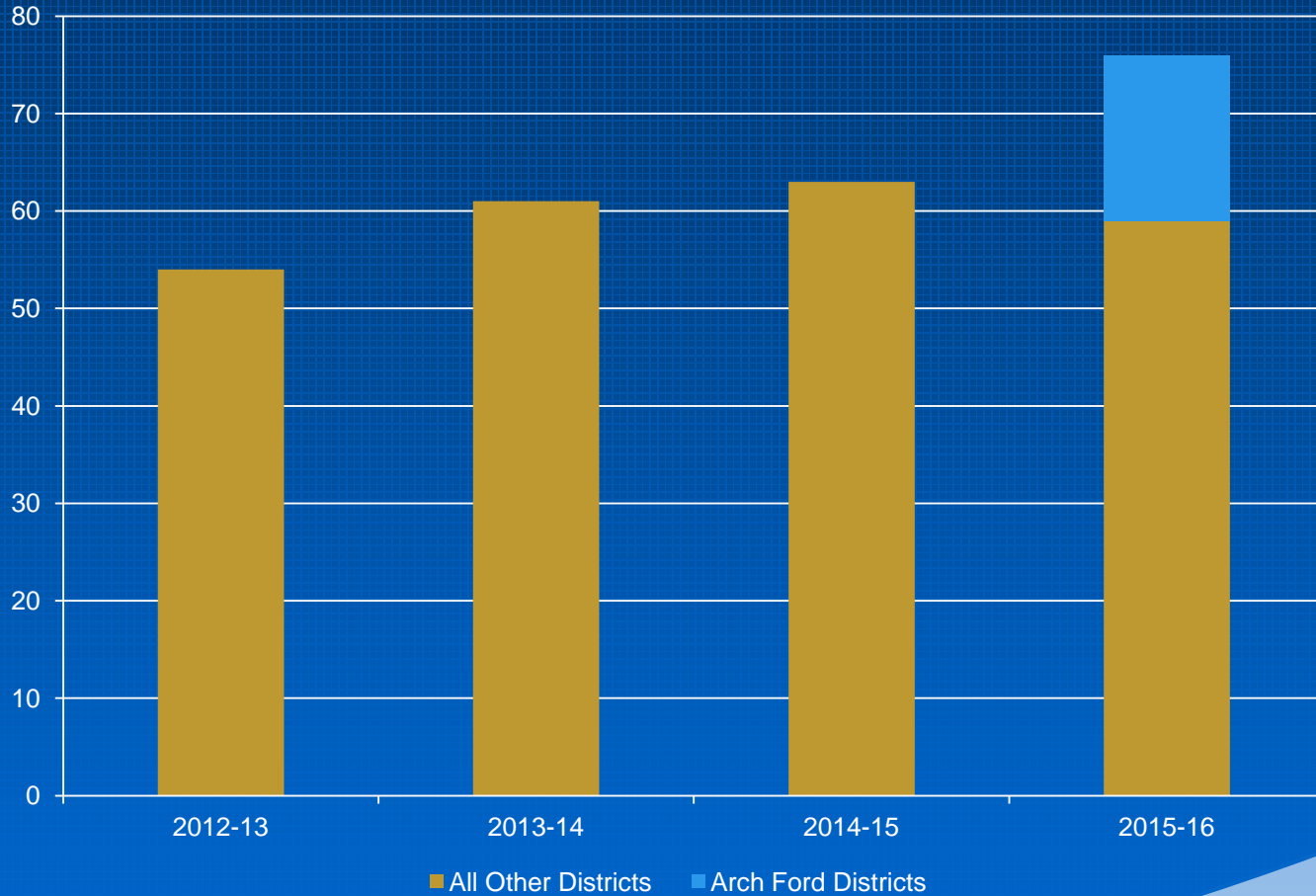


# ***ALE Consortia***

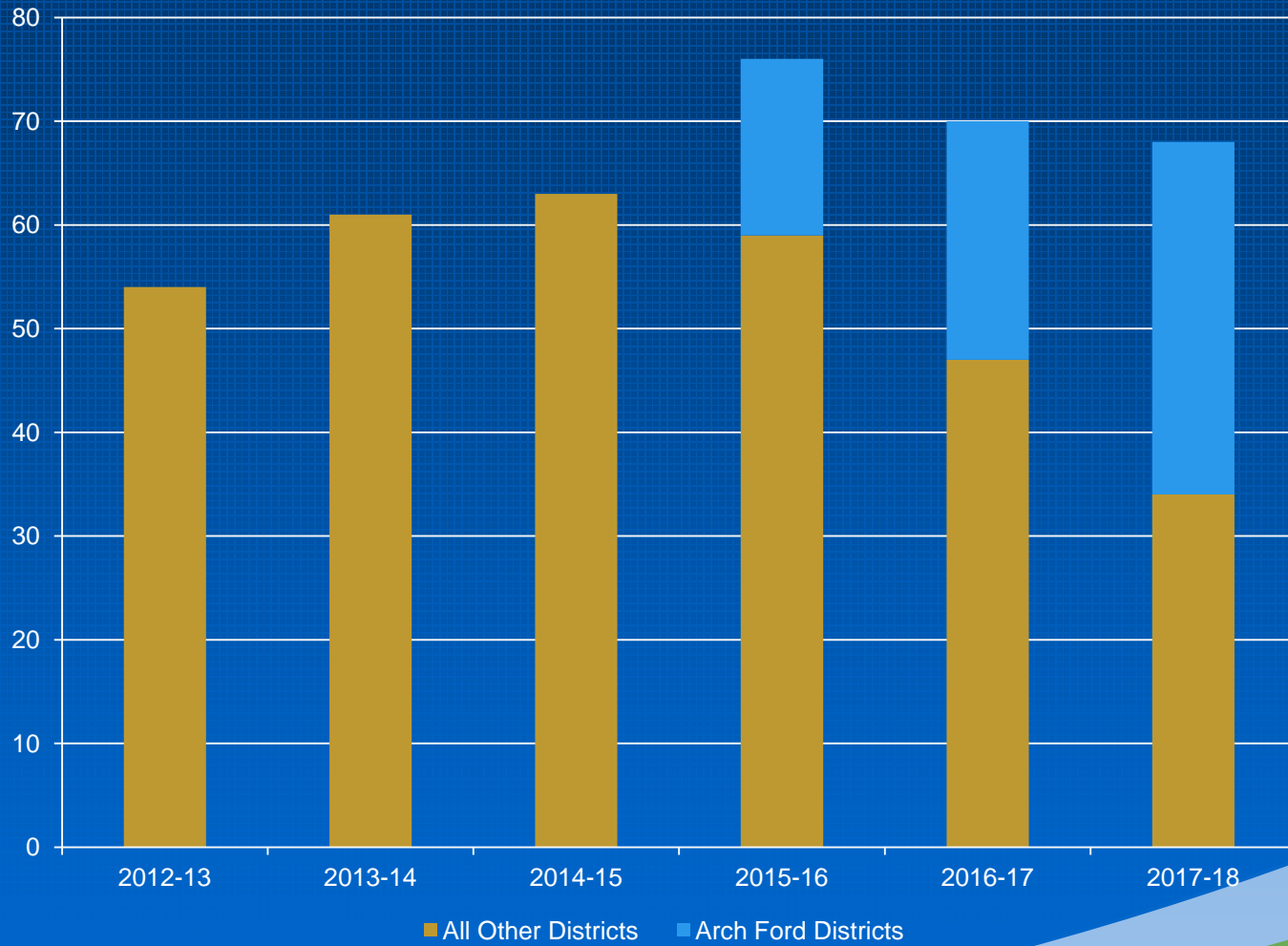
## **Districts in Consortia**



# ALE Consortia



# ALE Consortia





# ***ALE Consortia***

## **Arch Ford ALE Programs**

- Crossroads
  - Traditional ALE
  - K-12

# ***ALE Consortia***

## **Arch Ford ALE Programs**

- Hub
  - 9-12
  - Four Levels
    - Bronze – fulltime on campus
    - Silver – half days on campus
    - Gold – equivalent of 2 days/week on campus
    - Platinum – fully digital

# ***ALE Consortia***

## **Arch Ford Program Overview**

- Per student cost is \$3,678

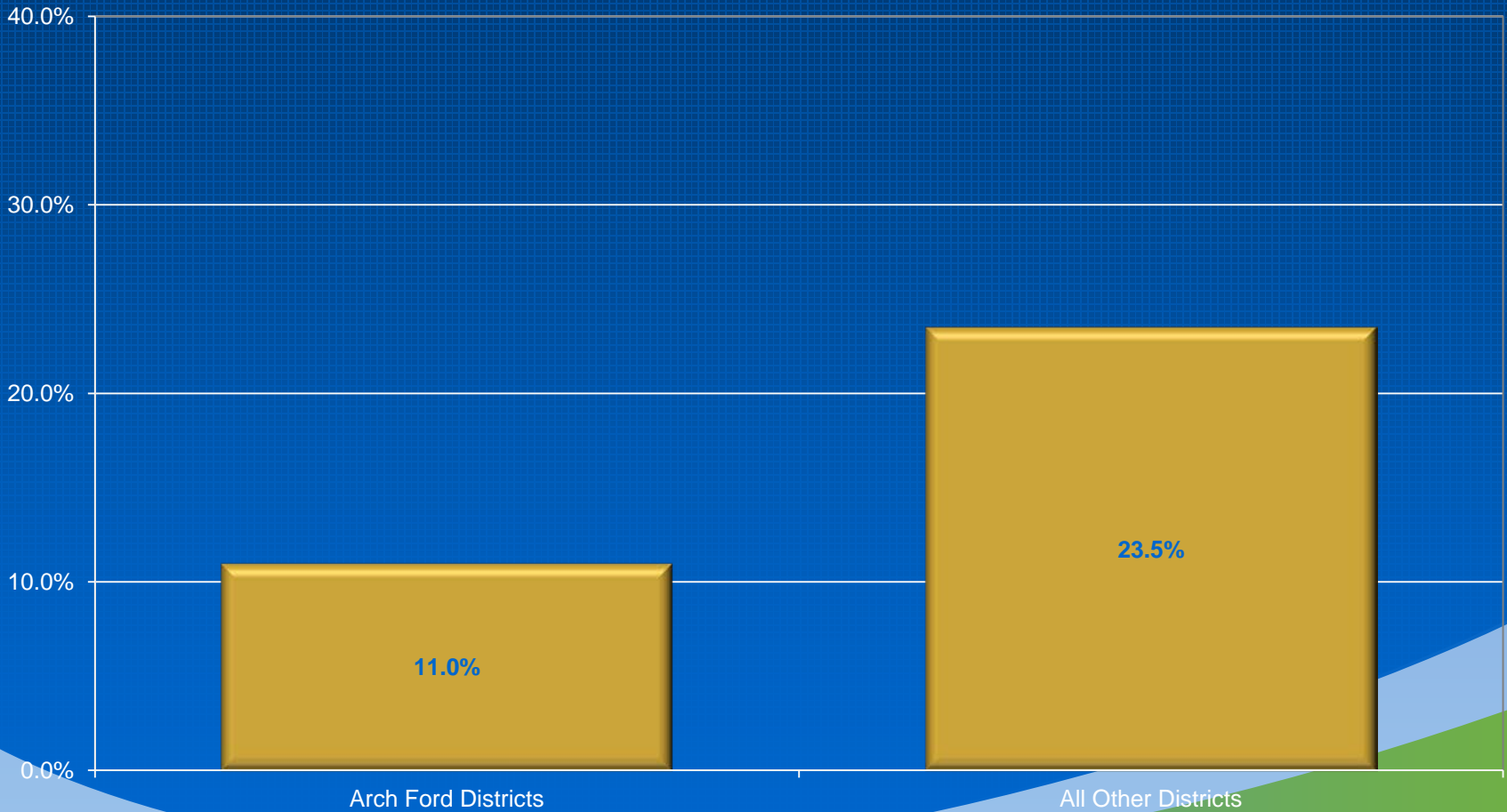
**\$11,353**

## **Arch Ford MOUs**

- Cost per seat ranges from \$1,125 to \$5,218
- Say differences due to:
  - Level of Arch Ford involvement
  - Number of districts participating
  - Number and level of interventions needed

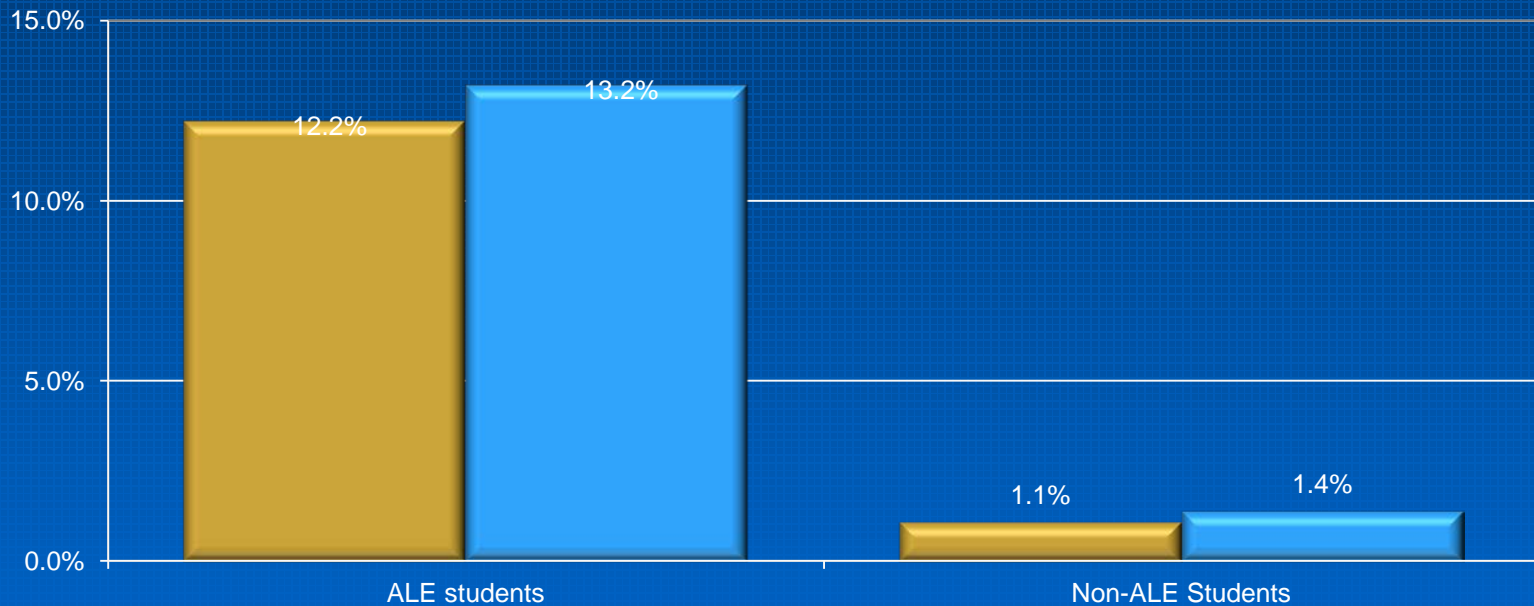
# ***ALE Consortia***

## **2016 ALE Students Returned to Regular Classroom**



# ALE Consortia

## 2015-16 Dropout Rates



■ Arch Ford Districts

■ Non-Arch Ford Districts

# ***ALE Accountability & Outcomes***

- Statute and rules call for reporting ALE measures and evaluation of programs
- Not all measures called for in law/rule reported; i.e., ALE dropout rate, ALE improved attendance, ALE credit recovery improvement

# ***ALE Accountability & Outcomes***

## Effectiveness Measures

<b>ALE Students - Indicator</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	
Returned to traditional educational environment	2,489	22.9%
Graduates who received ALE intervention at any point during K-!2	3,001	9.7% of all graduates
Receiving a GED	149	1.4%
Enrolled in ALE in previous year returning to ALE in current year	2,914	26.8%
Exiting ALE who returned in the same year	872	8%

# ***ALE Accountability & Outcomes***

## 2015-16 Test Scores

		% Scoring 3 or 4	
	# of Test-Takers	Math	ELA
ALE Students	3,920	7.2%	11.2%
Non-ALE Students	276,812	43.9%	48.3%



# ***ALE Accountability & Outcomes***

## 2015-16 Dropout Rates (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders)

	Dropout Rate
ALE Students	13.2%
Non-ALE Students	1.4%

# ***ALE & Adequacy***

Questions?