

[Subscribe](#)[Share](#) ▼[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

SREB states make progress in education

SHARE: [Like](#) [Tweet](#) [Forward](#)

*Press Release*  
**SREB News**



---

## Oklahoma Shows Gains in Education Outcomes, Policy

### *Serves More Than Half of Its 4-Year-Olds in State-Funded Pre-K*

*Atlanta, Georgia — July 12, 2016* — Oklahoma continues to improve public education by several key measures, according to a new report from the Southern Regional Education Board.

[\*Gauging Progress, Accelerating Pace\*](#) reports on recent growth on outcomes and policy activity in the SREB region. The reports show the 16-state SREB region leading the nation on early childhood education access and quality, narrowing some achievement gaps between racial and ethnic groups, and surpassing the national average for high school graduation rates. Yet the report's demographic and student achievement data foreshadow the difficult job states face: getting more students college- and career-ready so they can become successful adults and states can meet future workforce needs.

This report focuses on the region's progress — and on determining what it will take to help each state accelerate pace.

#### **Notable outcomes for Oklahoma students**

- The state is one of seven states in the nation to serve more than half of its 4-year-olds in state-funded pre-K.
- Fourth-graders outpaced the region and nation in gains in reading and math achievement on NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) at the Proficient level.
- Eighth-graders outpaced the nation in gains in reading achievement on NAEP at the Proficient level.
- The percentage of students with disabilities who graduated with standard diplomas exceeded that of the respective peer group nationwide.

#### **Strong policy in Oklahoma**

- The state is one of 10 in the nation — all in the SREB region — that require school districts to offer full-day kindergarten programs.
- The state has career-academic and readiness standards for career and technical education (CTE) completers.
- The state requires students to pass industry exams for specific career and technical education courses to earn postsecondary credit.

“Higher graduation rates are great news for Oklahoma and other states,” said SREB President Dave Spence. “Far too many of these high school graduates are still unprepared for college-level work, though. States need

[Subscribe](#)[Share](#) ▼[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

[Oklahoma: Gauging Progress, Accelerating Pace](#) details:

- state demographic and income trends
- student achievement from pre-K through postsecondary
- priorities for teacher evaluation and educational technology

SREB monitors progress of its 16 states on the SREB Challenge to Lead Goals for Education adopted by state leaders to help the region lead the nation in educational progress at all levels.

###

*The Southern Regional Education Board works with 16 member states to improve public education: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia. Based in Atlanta, SREB was created in 1948 by Southern governors and legislatures to help leaders in education and government advance education and improve the social and economic life of the region.*

#### Media contacts

[Matia Edwards](#), SREB Communications

404.879.5532

[Beth Day](#), SREB Communications

404.879.5544

770.315.2041



You are receiving this message because of your interest in news from the Southern Regional Education Board.

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update your profile](#) | [Forward to a friend](#)

Copyright © 2016 All rights reserved.

SREBComm 592 10th St., NW Atlanta, GA 30318 USA