

DKC by the Numbers:
**Accomplishment
Report**



deaf kids CODE

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Introduction

The labor market is in the midst of a technology boom. There are twice as many full time software developers today than there were in 2014, when Deaf Kids Code (DKC) was founded. All signs point to significant growth still to come in the industry; the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts immense growth in software development and data science positions by 2032 [\[1\]](#). In response to this growth and general innovation within the field of computer science (CS), the education system has been quick to increase CS education [\[2\]](#).

Unfortunately, this sustained labor force and education growth has not been quite as advantageous for the deaf and hard of hearing community, as indicated by data from the National Deaf Center. In general, the deaf/hard of hearing community already face lower levels of college degree attainment – 22% compared to 37% attainment for the hearing population – and employment – 55.8% compared to 72.9%. Even more striking, the percentage of deaf/hard of hearing people who do not participate in the labor force is double the percentage of hearing people who do the same; this phenomenon is known as the “school to couch pipeline.” [\[3\]](#)

These inequities are further amplified in CS careers. Fewer than 2% of the working deaf/hard of hearing population works in CS; this low rate reflects a difference that is statistically significant when compared to the hearing population. [4] Instead, deaf/hard of hearing workers are more likely than their hearing counterparts to work in labor intensive jobs, such as construction and maintenance. In many cases, these workers are underemployed – they are intellectually capable of working a technical job, but they do not have ample access to inclusive educational tools that work for them. In fact, there aren't even standard hand-signs for many computer concepts in American Sign Language. Furthermore, for deaf/hard of hearing people who do CS work, their median salary is still \$7,000 less than the median salary of their hearing colleagues. [5]

These disparities are evidence of the opportunity gap in education and employment that is harmful to the deaf/hard of hearing community. **At DKC, we aim to address this gap by promoting computer science, technology, and design thinking skills to students who are deaf/hard of hearing as a way to increase their participation in society economically and socially.**

We support educators working with deaf/hard of hearing students either directly in schools or through other educational platforms, like Khan Academy; many school teachers do not have technical experience themselves, but we equip them with the proper tools, information, and skills necessary for incorporating CS into their classrooms. We host workshops, organize coding events, and connect deaf/hard of hearing students to technical internships. Through these experiences, we aim not only to develop technical skills amongst deaf/hard of hearing students, but also to instill a genuine love for computer science amongst our students. This passion is what drives deaf/hard of hearing students to pursue careers in the CS space, and change the narrative around what deaf/hard of hearing people are capable of.

In this report, we present relevant figures and graphs that represent the success of DKC since 2020, both in the educational and financial aspects of our work. [\[6\]](#)

The Basics

Since 2020, Deaf Kids Code has hosted

230+ coding workshops and CS events for deaf/hard of hearing students.

Through these workshops and events, Deaf Kids Code has reached...

25+ different schools for the deaf/hard of hearing across the United States of America,

8500+ total students,

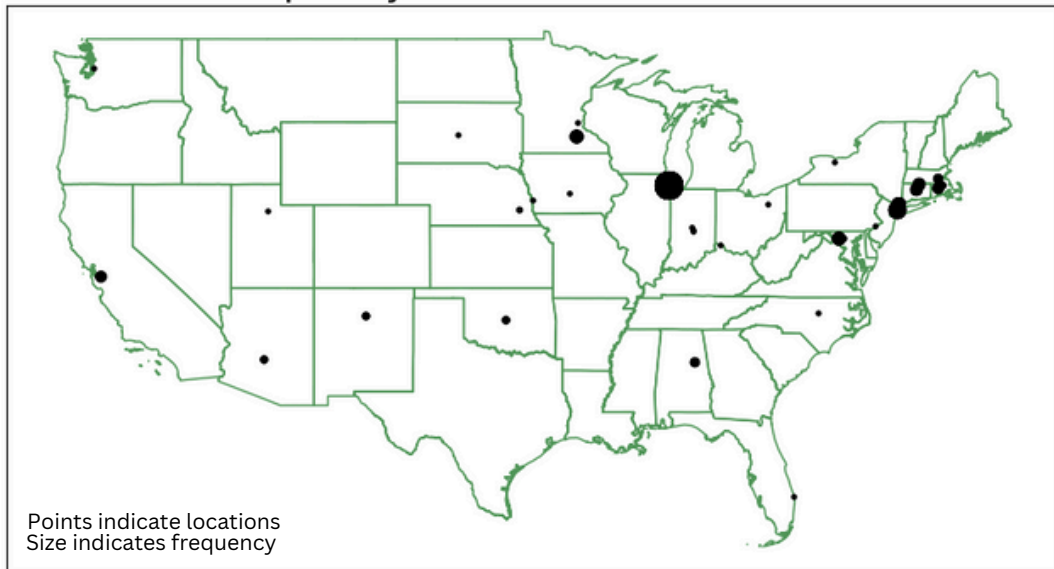
and contributed to a total of

19,665+ hours of CS education. [\[7\]](#)

Nation- and Worldwide Reach

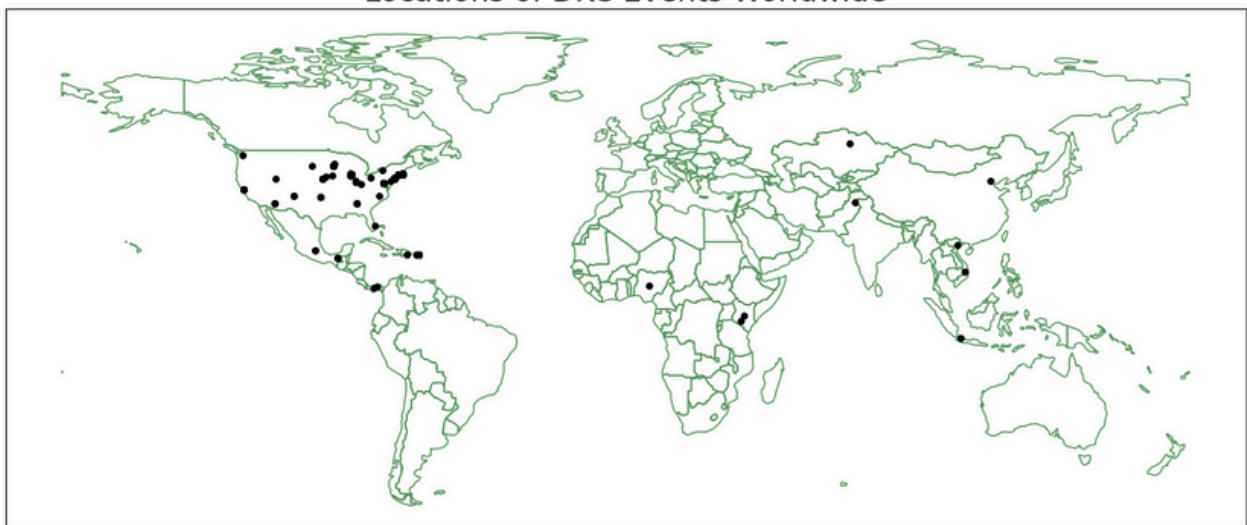
Although based in the Midwest, at DKC, we recognize that the need to uplift deaf/hard of hearing students is a need that extends across the entire US and globe. We are dedicated to providing and supporting CS education wherever there are deaf/hard of hearing students.

Locations and Frequency of DKC Events in the Continental USA



Since 2020, DKC has reached students in **20+ states**.

Locations of DKC Events Worldwide

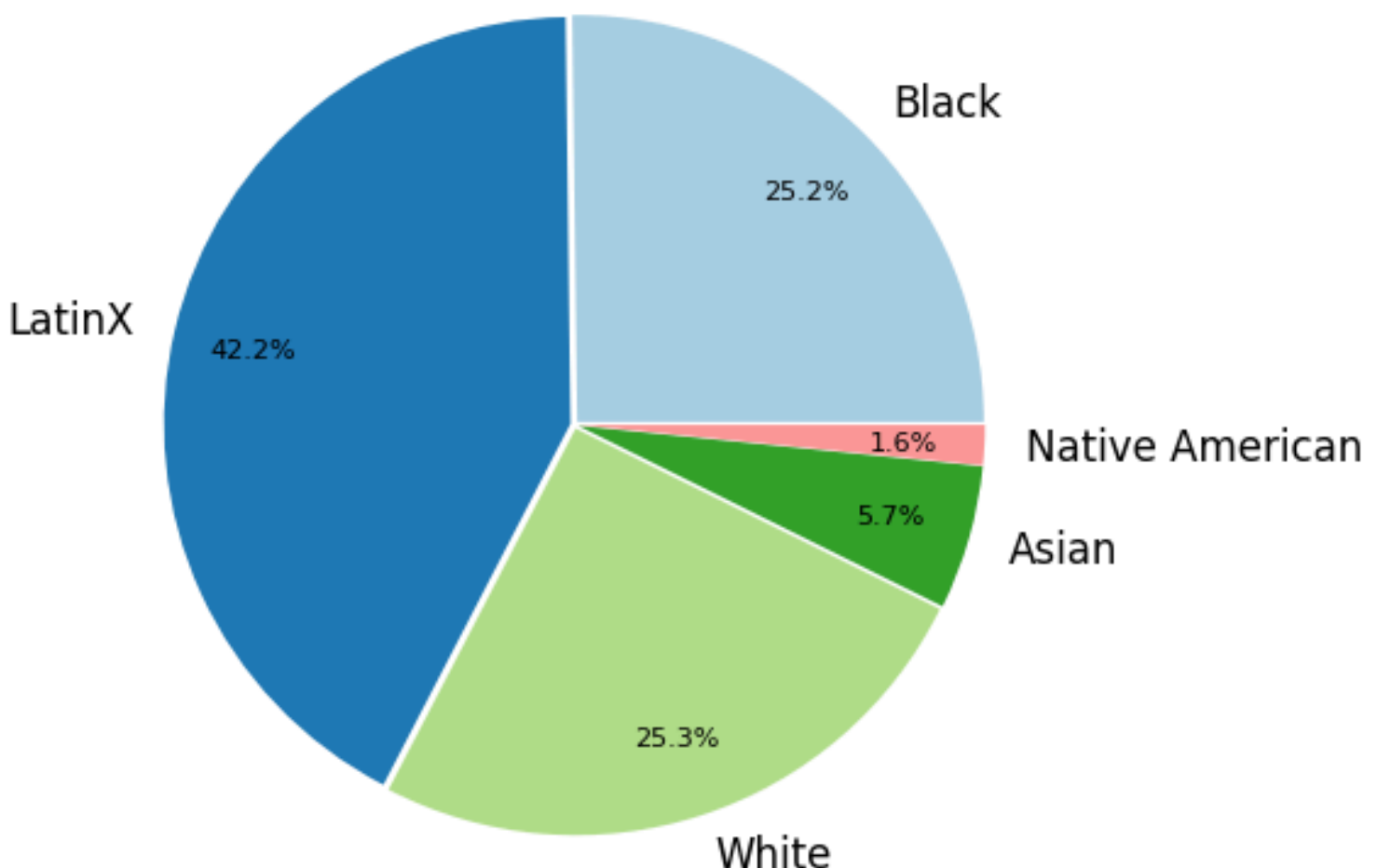


Since 2020, DKC has reached students in **10+ countries** across **3 continents**. We are constantly working to expand our reach even farther.

Inclusion *and* Diversity

Deafness does not discriminate. At DKC, we are committed to building an educational system that is not only inclusive to deaf/heard of hearing students, but also diverse and accessible to all no matter their background. Education should transcend all differences - physical ability, race, and socioeconomic status.

Race Distribution of DKC Students



Financial Figures

At DKC, we believe that a fulfilling education is a right. That is why we never charge students' families or educational institutions for our services.

98.8% of our budget is from public support – grants and individual donors. [\[8\]](#)

87.8% of our budget is spent directly on CS workshops and events – renting venues, supplies, and teacher travel expenses.

**Your support is crucial to Deaf Kids Code!
Every donation gets us one step closer to an education system and labor market that is equitable for all people.**

Donate Today @ DeafKidsCode.org/donate

Footnotes

1. “Fastest Growing Occupations.” U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 17 Apr. 2024, www.bls.gov/emp/tables/fastest-growing-occupations.htm.
2. [The amount of AP CS tests taken has doubled since 2013; CSTA is releasing revitalized CS education standards](#)
3. “Deaf Postsecondary Data Dashboard.” National Deaf Center, 2 July 2024, nationaldeafcenter.org/resources/research-data/dashboard/.
4. A one-sided two-proportion z-test using National Deaf Center’s data returns a p-value of $1.2e-35$.
5. [National Deaf Center](#)
6. All data, figures, and graphs are based on DKC’s records
7. The total hours for one event equals the number of students attend times the length of the event.
8. Deaf Kids Code’s finances are publicly available on the IRS website under “Tax Exempt Organizations.”