



GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TESTING SERVICE

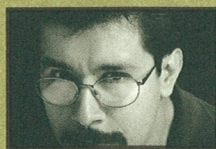
OF THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION



Who Took the GED



GED 1998 STATISTICAL REPORT



CENTER FOR ADULT LEARNING AND EDUCATIONAL CREDENTIALS



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F O R E W O R D

by Joan Chikos Auchter, Executive Director, GEDTS

More than 822,000 adults in 1998 recognized the GED as a first stop on their journey down the “road ahead,” taking the initiative to attempt to earn a GED high school-level diploma. Successfully meeting the passing score requirement, more than half a million adults received their high school credentials, a 5 percent increase over 1997. Two of every three (67.7 percent) U.S. adults who took the GED Tests reported that they plan to continue as lifelong learners and participate in education and training beyond the high school level.

The more than half a million adults who earned their GED high school equivalency diploma and are moving forward toward their next goal have something in common with Bill Gates, founder and CEO of Microsoft. Even with his monumental success, Gates is focused on *The Road Ahead* and devotes a chapter in his book to education, called “Education: The Best Investment.” In

his concluding statements, Gates, who pursued his strongest interests outside the classroom, speaks for all non-traditional learners. “The information highway will alter the focus of education from the institution to the individual. The ultimate goal will be changed from getting a diploma to enjoying lifelong learning.”

More than 822,000 adults in 1998 recognized the GED as a first stop on their journey down the “road ahead,” taking the initiative to attempt to earn a GED high school-level diploma. Two of every three (67.7 percent) of U.S. adults who took the GED Tests recognized the return on investment in education and reported that they

plan to continue as lifelong learners and participate in education and training beyond the high school level. Others

took the tests to advance their occupational goals or for personal satisfaction. For all these reasons, for more than 55 years the GED has provided a meaningful credential for more than 13.6 million adults seeking a high school diploma and for the institutions that require the credential as well. The acceptance of the GED adds power to the control these individuals gain as they access new passageways.

While the number of adults attempting to earn a GED has remained somewhat constant over the past decade (about 800,000 annually), the composition of this community has expanded. Since 1988, the GED Testing Service (GEDTS) has used a system for granting accommodations to adults with documented specific learning disabilities and to candidates with physical and emotional disabilities. The challenge is to remove barriers associated with standard test administration while maintaining the same passing standard for earning a GED high school credential. During the past ten years, GEDTS has made progress. The number of adults taking special editions (e.g., audiocassette and braille) of the GED Tests has more than doubled (1,169 in 1989 to 2,503 in 1998) (see Figure 5).





The application process for nonstandard administration of the GED Tests, particularly for those candidates with specific learning disabilities, can be time consuming, making access to the GED Tests more difficult for this population. Under the leadership of Fred Edwards, Director of Partner Outreach, GEDTS has implemented a major initiative to better serve adults with disabilities. GEDTS staff, working with national experts, has revised the application form and developed a national model for reviewing requests for accommodations. To successfully migrate the responsibility of this process to the jurisdictional level and reduce the length of time required to review the applications, GEDTS provided a three-day training and certification session for all jurisdictional GED Administrators.

While the number of requests for specific learning disability accommodations decreased in 1998, the number of adults taking special editions of the tests increased by nearly 9 percent (see Figure 5). In addition, there was a 7 percent increase in the number of special accommodations (e.g., extended time, reading device, answer marking) granted for physical and emotional disabilities (see Figure 6). These changes indicate that more adults who have physical and emotional disabilities are using the appropriate application form and are no longer requesting accommodations for a specific learning disability. Over the next year, GEDTS will concentrate on developing a revised application form and model for requesting accommodations for physical and emotional disabilities. With this concerted effort among the service providers, GEDTS hopes to provide access and accommodations to thousands more adults with documented disabilities.

Additionally, over the last decade, the number of adults taking the Spanish-language edition of the GED Tests has increased substantially (58 percent). Although GEDTS initially developed this edition of the GED Tests and established passing standards for use in Puerto Rico, more than six of ten adults (30,480 of the 48,641) taking the Spanish-language GED Tests in 1998 resided in the continental United States (see Table 5). For that reason, GEDTS, with the guidance of national experts, initiated the translation of existing English-language versions of the GED Tests to Spanish. The purpose of the translation project

was to promote access by removing the language barrier while maintaining the same passing standard as that required for the English-language version of the GED Tests. The translated Spanish-language versions of the GED Tests were released on March 1, 1999. Passing rates on these tests will be reported in the *Who Took the GED? 1999 Statistical Report*.

As the composition of adults taking the GED Tests has expanded, so has the make-up of the international staff devoted to the publication of this issue of *Who Took the GED*.

With dedication, Lisa Richards Hone has coordinated production and directed data collection and quality control activities. Sen Qi continued to refine and extend procedures for data analysis and for producing tables and graphs. With the outstanding skills of the CALEC Marketing and Communications staff, we were able to produce this issue of *Who*

Took the GED in house. Special thanks to Jim Graham, Kathleen Halverson, and Kim Meek for designing, editing, and producing this report. Once again, former GED Director Doug Whitney provided an insightful interpretation and substantive analysis of the tables, while Debra Louallen-Cole, Suzette Stone Busa, Fred Edwards, Stephen Sattler, and Lyn Schaefer added their expertise to the review of the accuracy and presentation of the information. Our sincere appreciation to the GED Administrators (whose names appear beginning on page 36) and Chief Examiners who labor in the field to serve the GED candidates and to collect and report the data that make this report possible. Most importantly, we dedicate this report to those who took the GED, and we wish them success as they journey down their roads ahead.

Since 1998, GEDTS has used a system for granting accommodations to adults with documented learning disabilities. The challenge is to remove the barriers associated with standard test administration while maintaining the same passing standard for earning a GED high school credential. During the past ten years, GEDTS has made progress; the number of adults taking special editions of the GED Tests has more than doubled.

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GED TESTS



Front Row (left to right): Kenneth Von Alt, *Information Systems Coordinator*; Cassandra Alston, *Special Projects Coordinator*; Joan Chikos Auchter, *Executive Director*; Arthur Halbbrook, *Writing Assessment Specialist*; Debra Louallen-Cole, *Test Development Manager*; Fred Edwards, *Director, Partner Outreach*; Judy Allen, *Production Coordinator*; Suzette Stone Busa, *Director, Operations*

Middle Row (left to right): Lisa Richards Hone, *Special Projects Manager*; Aster Tessema, *Manager, Psychometrics*; Cornelia Munroe, *Test Specialist, Science*; Katherine Woodward, *Test Specialist, Interpreting Literature and the Arts*; Patricia H. Jones, *Manager, Partner Outreach*; Juliana Jones, *Federal Contracts Coordinator*; Adora Beard, *Contracts/Inventory Control Coordinator*

Back Row (left to right): Sen Qi, *Policy and Research Analyst*; David Messersmith, *Manager, Information Technology*; Joyce Downey Hoover, *Test Specialist, Social Studies*; Cherryl Donahue, *Administrative Assistant*; Rodolfo Mason, *Materials Management Coordinator*; Kati Niemi, *Customer Service Manager*; Marie Woods, *Test Production Manager*

Not pictured: Pamela Hall, *Operations Administrative Assistant*; Jocelyn Jolley, *Program Manager*; Kyle S. Malone, *Field Service Manager*; Kenn Pendleton, *Test Specialist, Mathematics*; Cheryl Roberts, *Client Services Coordinator*; Lyn Schaefer, *Director, Test Development*

The GED Tests certify the attainment of subject matter knowledge and skills associated with high school completion. The GED credential reflects the acquisition of academic skills and proficiencies widely viewed as necessary for social and economic advancement and for exercising the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

THE GED TESTING SERVICE

Joan Chikos Auchter, Executive Director

The Tests of General Educational Development (GED Tests) provide adults who did not complete high school with an opportunity to earn a high school equivalency diploma. By taking and passing a series of five tests in Writing Skills, Social Studies, Science, Interpreting Literature and the Arts, and Mathematics, adults demonstrate that they have acquired a level of learning comparable to that of high school graduates.

The GED Tests were first developed in 1942 to provide returning World War II veterans who had not earned a high school diploma before entering military service with the opportunity to earn a high school credential. The purpose of the GED Tests, essentially unchanged for more than fifty-five years, is to measure the academic skills and knowledge developed in a four-year program of high school education in the core content areas of U.S. and Canadian high school curricula. Recognized nationwide in the United States and Canada by employers and institutions of higher learning, the GED Program has served as a bridge to education and employment opportunities for millions of adults since 1942. More than 13 million people have earned high school equivalency diplomas since the program began. Each year, approximately 750,000 adults complete

the GED test battery, and more than half a million obtain high school credentials based on the tests. About one in seven high school diplomas issued in the United States each year is based on the successful completion of the GED Tests.

A program of the American Council on Education's Center for Adult Learning and Educational Credentials, the GED Testing Service develops the GED Tests and collects, produces, and disseminates research information on those who take, as well as those who pass, the GED Tests. In addition, the GED Testing Service contracts with nearly 3,500 Official GED Testing Centers in the United States, Canada, and overseas to provide test materials and to monitor services to examinees. The GED testing program is jointly administered by the GED Testing Service of the American Council on Education and each participating state, provincial, or territorial department or ministry of education.

But the real story of the GED Testing Service stems from the people it serves—the individuals who take the tests to fulfill their goals and aspirations. For these individuals, the GED Tests truly represent a second opportunity. As you read this report, you will find that those who take the GED Tests are a richly diverse group. Some have recently left school. Others have been out of school for several years. While most people take the tests to qualify for further education, others hope that passing the GED Tests will encourage their children or grandchildren to stay in school.

Many adults who take the GED Tests are preparing to enter a community college or four-year university. In fact, each year approximately one out of twenty first-year college students has earned a GED diploma. GED graduates have achieved ambitious career goals, securing successful positions such as business professionals, office workers, mechanics, college professors, military leaders, writers, and artists.



THE CENTER FOR ADULT LEARNING AND EDUCATIONAL CREDENTIALS

Susan Porter Robinson, Director

Founded in 1942, the Center for Adult Learning and Educational Credentials pioneered the evaluation of education and training attained outside the classroom. For fifty-seven years, the Center has championed the concept of lifelong learning through its three main program activities: high school credentialing, college credit recommendations, and educational recordkeeping.

High School Credentialing

Many adults who dropped out of high school have later acquired a comparable level of learning while on the job or at home. In an effort to help these adults earn a high school credential, the Center offers the Tests of General Educational Development (GED Tests). The GED Tests are a battery of examinations that measure the general academic skills and knowledge usually acquired in a four-year high school program of study. Passing scores on the tests are set so that examinees must perform as well as or better than 66 percent of the norm group of graduating high school seniors.



Joan Chikos Auchter,
GED Executive Director



Susan Porter Robinson,
CALEC Director



Stanley O. Ikenberry,
ACE President

College Credit Recommendations

In step with its commitment to lifelong learning, the Center administers three programs that recommend credit for work-related education. The American Council on Education's College Credit Recommendation Service recommends college credit for workplace training offered by business and industry, labor unions, associations, and government agencies. Its counterpart for the armed services, the Military Evaluations Program, helps thousands of servicemembers and veterans earn credit for the college-level learning they've acquired while on active duty. Likewise, the Credit by Examination Program recommends college credit for testing and certification programs offered by national organizations.

Educational Recordkeeping

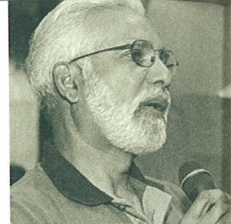
To keep track of these college credit recommendations and other training, the Center offers three computerized recordkeeping services. The Registry of Credit Recommendations offers adults a computerized record of their credit recommendations, including those made by the ACE College Credit Recommendation Service and Credit by Examination Program. The National Registry of Training Programs

provides a transcript service for adults who are pursuing continuing education units (CEUs) for professional development, career advancement, or state licensing requirements. Lastly, the Army/ACE Registry Transcript System provides enlisted soldiers and National Guard members with an individualized record of their military educational experiences. Taken together, these transcripting systems help college and other officials recognize workplace learning along with the responsibilities and skills that registry participants gained while on the job.

THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

Stanley O. Ikenberry, President

The American Council on Education (ACE), founded in 1918, is the nation's umbrella higher education association. ACE is dedicated to the belief that equal educational opportunity and a strong higher education system are essential cornerstones of a democratic society. Its approximately 1,800 members include accredited, degree-granting colleges and universities from all sectors of higher education and other education and education-related organizations. ACE is a forum for the discussion of major issues relating to higher education and its potential to contribute to the quality of American life. ACE maintains both a domestic and an international agenda and seeks to advance the interests and goals of higher and adult education in a changing environment by providing leadership and advocacy on important issues, representing the views of the higher and adult education community to policymakers, and offering services to its members.



GATHERING THE DATA

The collection of data for the GED Annual Statistical Report is a joint responsibility of GED Administrators, GED Chief Examiners, and the GED Testing Service (GEDTS). This data collection is international in scope, requiring the cooperation of educators and testing professionals throughout North America and abroad.

Currently, more than 3,500 GED Testing Centers are in operation in the fifty states, the District of Columbia, nine U.S. Insular Areas and Freely Associated States, and eleven participating Canadian provinces and territories, as well as on military bases in the

United States and overseas, in correctional institutions, in Veterans Administration hospitals, and in Sylvan Learning Centers outside the United States and Canada.

In the fall of 1998, the GED Special Projects unit began producing *Who Took the GED? The GED 1998 Annual Statistical Report*, and GEDTS updated its computer programs to generate the

statistical tables. In February 1999, GED Administrators at the state, provincial, and territorial levels sent their jurisdictional reports to GEDTS. We at GEDTS checked the data for accuracy and entered this information into our national database. In March, preliminary tables were prepared and returned to the GED Administrators, who then reviewed, revised, and approved the final figures. During March and April, GEDTS updated all statistical databases to

reflect the revisions. In April and May, we generated and edited all statistical tables, prepared graphs and text, and printed the final report.

The *GED Annual Statistical Report* presents tabulations of the numbers and percentages of all persons who took and passed the GED Tests in a calendar year within each participating jurisdiction. Procedures for collecting these data can differ greatly from one jurisdiction to another. For example, in a calendar year, Texas, California, and Michigan collect summary reports on thousands of examinees from hundreds of testing centers. In contrast, Guam, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island collect data on hundreds of examinees from a single center. Furthermore, some jurisdictions rely on computerized scoring and recordkeeping systems to generate these data, while others perform the tasks manually.

In reviewing the tables in *Who Took the GED? The GED 1998 Annual Statistical Report*, it is useful to bear in mind that local conditions—such as extreme weather—as well as a jurisdiction's policies, procedures, and education funding levels can influence the number of persons in a given year who take the GED Tests, complete the test battery, meet score requirements, and receive credentials. As we work to improve the quality, clarity, and usefulness of the data we collect, we encourage readers to write to us to suggest ways we can improve this report.



H O W T O U S E T H I S R E P O R T



We are all users of data and consumers of information. To make informed educational and policy decisions in this time of rapid social and economic change, we require accurate and up-to-date information about our programs. The GED Testing Service (GEDTS) has produced annual statistical reports profiling GED test-takers for every calendar year since 1958. In response to growing demands for more information about our program, we revised the *GED Annual Statistical Report* in 1993 to make it easier to read. The positive reactions of our readers to these revisions encourage us to continue improving the usefulness and readability of this report. Plans and pilot projects are now under way to streamline and expand our data collection operations beginning with the new series of GED Tests, scheduled for release in 2001.

Throughout this report, the term “GED test-taker” refers to people who have taken at least one of the five GED Tests. The term “GED completer” refers to people who have taken all five tests in the GED battery. The term “GED graduate” refers to people who have earned high school credentials based on passing all five tests in the GED battery. Since 1994, the *GED Annual Statistical Report* has included the number of persons completing

the entire battery of five GED Tests. It is useful to note that about 13 percent of those who take the tests each year do not complete the entire battery. Thus, they may be counted again in subsequent years.

GED test-takers must take and pass all five tests in order to meet their jurisdiction’s score requirements for a high school equivalency credential. The number of persons completing all five tests in the battery provides the basis for calculating the pass rate for the program.

For readers new to the *GED Annual Statistical Report*, the data presented in Tables 1 through 14 provide summary information about those who take the GED Tests and the jurisdictions that administer those tests. Most tables summarize information for the United States, its Insular Areas and Freely Associated States, Canada, and GEDTS-administered programs, and also offer program totals. Readers can compare information across categories, jurisdictions, and years. Each table is arranged to provide data within the following umbrella topics: percent changes from 1997 to 1998 (Table 1); number tested, number completing tests, and number meeting score requirements (Table 2); people tested and credentials issued by age groups (Tables 3 and 4); special test editions and testing accommodations (Tables 5 and 6); formal education and future plans (Tables 7 and 8); trends in participation and credentialing (Tables 9 and 11); participation and credentialing rates (Table 10); and minimum score requirements and testing policies (Tables 12–14).

The names, addresses, and phone numbers of the GED Administrators and participating jurisdictions are included on pages 36 through 39.

This report was developed with several audiences in mind. For those who rely on the content of the statistical tables for program status and trend information, the tables and graphs are designed to provide comparisons across categories, jurisdictions, and years.

This report provides photographs, expanded text, and informative captions for those interested in using this report to learn about the program’s purpose and the diversity of those who take the GED Tests.

TRENDS IN GED TEST-TAKING

■ In 1997, GEDTS increased the passing score standard, which requires that all GED graduates must exceed the performance of at least 33 percent of traditional graduating high school seniors. As a result, 36 jurisdictions were required to raise their passing standard in 1997. For those jurisdictions, the passing rate decreased by 3.8 percent from 1996 (71.8 percent) to 1997 (68 per-



cent). However, the passing rate for the same jurisdictions recovered by 2.5 percent in 1998 (70.5 percent). This trend suggests that adults might have increased their level of preparation for the tests by the second year since the raised standard.

■ Sixteen of those 36 jurisdictions reported 1998 passing rate increases above their 1996 passing rate (when their lower passing score requirements were still in place). Those states with increased passing rates were Arizona (10.2 percent), Puerto Rico (8.9 percent), Connecticut (6.6 percent), Alabama (5.0 percent), Wyoming (4.9 percent), Iowa (3.9 percent), Hawaii (2.1 percent), Minnesota (3.2 percent), Georgia (3.0 percent), Maine (2.9 percent), Nevada (2.1 percent), Kansas (2.2 percent), New Hampshire (2.0 percent), South Carolina (1.3 percent), Pennsylvania (.9 percent), and North Carolina (.4 percent) (see Table 13A).



■ The overall change in the 1998 passing rate (71.2 percent) in those 33 jurisdictions where the standard was not raised in 1997 was a 2 percent increase over the 1997 rate (69.2), which was the same as the 1996 passing rate (71.2) (see Table 13B).

■ In 1998, more than 718,000 adults worldwide completed the GED battery of tests—about the same number as in 1995 (723,899) and 1997 (722,461) (see Table 1). These numbers suggest that the 4.8 percent increase in testing volume in 1996 can be most likely attributed to adults attempting to complete the test battery before the implementation of the 1997 raised standard.

■ Of those adults completing the GED test battery in 1998, more than half a million (70.9 percent) met their jurisdictions' score requirements and earned their GED high school credential—a 5 percent increase over 1997 (see Table 1). This number brings to more than 13.6 million the estimated number of adults who have earned GED high school credentials since 1949 (see Table 11).

■ The number of adults taking the GED Tests in the United States has increased markedly (17.8 percent) during the past decade, while the participation in Canada has declined by 29.1 percent (see Table 9).

■ Five U.S. states showed an increase in testing volume of at least 10 percent from 1997 to 1998. These states included New Mexico



(17.3 percent), Texas (13.2 percent), Wisconsin (12.9 percent), Wyoming (13.1 percent), and Minnesota (11.3 percent) (see Table 1).

► Four Canadian jurisdictions showed an increase of at least 10 percent from 1997 to 1998. These jurisdictions were Northwest Territories (23.7 percent), Ontario (19.8 percent), Prince Edward Island (20.1 percent), and Saskatchewan (14.6 percent) (see Table 1).

► From 1997 to 1998, testing volume declined by at least 10 percent in eight jurisdictions. U.S. states included Vermont (26.4 percent), District of Columbia (23.3 percent), Mississippi (18.4 percent), Florida (18.1 percent), and New Jersey (12.8 percent). In Canada, Newfoundland (44.6 percent), Yukon Territory (35.4 percent), and Manitoba (22.2 percent) all saw a drop in testing (see Table 1).

► New York, the first state to administer the GED Tests to civilians, was the second jurisdiction to exceed one million GED high school credentials issued. By December 1998, a total of 1,033,040 credentials had been issued to New York adults. Texas was first to surpass the one million mark in 1996 (see Table 9).

► Program wide, only 1 percent of adults who left high school without diplomas earned GED high school credentials in 1998 (see Table 10).

Age, formal schooling, and academic goals

► The average age of adults taking the GED Tests in 1998 was 24.4 in the United States and 30.7 in Canada (see Table 3).

► Most U.S. adults earning GED high school credentials were between ages 18 and 24 (54.4 percent). Most

Canadian GED graduates earned their credentials between ages 20 and 34 (57.4 percent) (see Table 4).

► As in previous years, two in three adults (67.1 percent) reported that they completed grade ten or higher before leaving traditional schooling. More than one in three (37.4 percent) reported completing grade eleven or higher (see Table 7).

► Two of every three (67.7 percent) U.S. and more than one of every two (53.6 percent) Canadian adults reported that they took the GED Tests for reasons related to further education (e.g., entering college or trade school) (see Table 8).

Special Editions and Special Testing Accommodations

► During the past decade, the number of adults taking special editions of the GED Tests has more than doubled (1,169 in 1989 to 2,503 in 1998) (see Figure 5).

► In 1998, the number of adults taking special editions of the GED Tests increased by 9 percent over 1997 (see Figure 5).

► About 3,482 adults requested and received additional time to complete the GED Tests because of documented disabilities—a 7 percent increase over 1997 (see Table 6).

► In 1998, there was a 9 percent increase from 1997 in the number of adults taking the Spanish-language version of the tests (see Figure 5).



TABLE 1

GED Participation and Credentials Issued: Percent Change¹ from 1997 to 1998

¹ Percent change is calculated by subtracting the number reported for 1997 from the number reported for 1998, then dividing the difference by the number reported for 1997.

² N/C = Credentialing data not collected at state level in 1997.

³ N/A = not available at time of publication.

⁴ Prior to 1998, data for the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands were reported under Micronesia; 1997 data for the combined jurisdictions have been reported under Micronesia. All three jurisdictions are self-governing and have free-association status with the U.S.

⁵ For all tables in this report, note that the Northern Mariana Islands is a self-governing commonwealth of the U.S.

⁶ IAFAS = Insular Areas and Freely Associated States.

⁷ GEDTS categories (Tables 1-3; 5-8): Successful test-takers taking the GED Tests through these venues are awarded credentials by a jurisdiction based on their address of record, current residency status, or through special prior arrangement.

International—Civilians of any nationality tested through Sylvan Prometric. In previous years, testing overseas was available only to U.S. and, later, Canadian civilians through specially established centers and/or U.S. Embassies. These data were reported in prior years as U.S. Civilians Overseas and later as U.S. Embassies.

Overseas: Non-Military—Military family members and U.S. government personnel tested on U.S. military bases overseas.

Overseas: Military—U.S. military personnel tested on U.S. military bases overseas.

CONUS Military—U.S. military personnel tested on military bases within the continental U.S. This category may include some non-military personnel, such as a dependent family member, tested on a military base in the U.S.

Jurisdiction	Completed Battery		Percent Change	Met Score Requirements		Percent Change	Credentials Issued		Percent Change
	1997	1998	1997-98	1997	1998	1997-98	1997	1998	1997-98
Alabama	13,770	13,387	-2.8	8,039	8,065	0.3	8,039	8,065	0.3
Alaska	2,068	1,930	-6.7	1,784	1,640	-8.1	1,563	1,815	16.1
Arizona	13,181	13,795	4.7	9,545	10,214	7.0	9,802	10,514	7.3
Arkansas	9,604	9,571	-0.3	7,979	7,991	0.2	7,998	8,134	1.7
California	47,211	44,458	-5.8	36,989	35,098	-5.1	37,463	35,654	-4.8
Colorado	8,213	8,809	7.3	7,969	8,663	8.7	8,168	8,885	8.8
Connecticut	6,426	6,430	0.1	4,425	4,645	5.0	4,554	4,789	5.2
Delaware	1,117	1,009	-9.7	747	769	2.9	747	769	2.9
District of Columbia	2,057	1,578	-23.3	827	725	-12.3	827	725	-12.3
Florida	55,510	45,445	-18.1	39,371	33,030	-16.1	39,371	35,530	-9.8
Georgia	25,963	26,213	1.0	15,364	17,474	13.7	15,577	17,774	14.1
Hawaii	1,881	1,918	2.0	1,305	1,395	6.9	1,303	1,333	2.3
Idaho	3,477	3,759	8.1	3,196	3,362	5.2	660	611	-7.4
Illinois	30,696	31,665	3.2	18,737	19,665	5.0	N/C ²	18,549	N/A ³
Indiana	17,747	16,968	-4.4	13,137	12,799	-2.6	13,137	12,799	-2.6
Iowa	5,793	4,961	-14.4	5,289	4,729	-10.6	5,377	5,448	1.3
Kansas	6,794	7,205	6.0	5,642	5,993	6.2	5,835	5,993	2.7
Kentucky	14,485	13,849	-4.4	10,141	9,957	-1.8	10,368	10,196	-1.7
Louisiana	9,339	8,847	-5.3	7,010	6,631	-5.4	7,020	6,638	-5.4
Maine	2,544	2,392	-6.0	2,331	2,322	-0.4	2,386	2,322	-2.7
Maryland	10,600	11,281	6.4	5,855	6,446	10.1	5,855	6,446	10.1
Massachusetts	12,244	11,208	-8.5	8,116	7,716	-4.9	8,208	7,873	-4.1
Michigan	18,410	19,936	8.3	12,584	12,918	2.7	14,428	12,906	-10.5
Minnesota	7,511	8,363	11.3	6,205	7,182	15.7	6,535	7,117	8.9
Mississippi	10,095	8,240	-18.4	4,886	4,183	-14.4	4,886	4,186	-14.3
Missouri	13,160	14,291	8.6	9,732	10,804	11.0	9,789	10,864	11.0
Montana	2,550	2,653	4.0	1,903	2,037	7.0	1,903	2,061	8.3
Nebraska	2,870	2,466	-14.1	2,638	2,198	-16.7	2,414	1,934	-19.9
Nevada	5,052	5,320	5.3	3,802	4,175	9.8	3,931	4,234	7.7
New Hampshire	1,956	1,999	2.2	1,616	1,703	5.4	1,616	1,707	5.6
New Jersey	15,578	13,591	-12.8	8,299	7,425	-10.5	8,790	8,097	-7.9
New Mexico	5,771	6,772	17.3	3,777	4,650	23.1	5,150	4,481	-13.0
New York	64,588	62,786	-2.8	33,345	36,252	8.7	35,425	36,479	3.0
North Carolina	16,722	17,141	2.5	13,871	14,580	5.1	13,871	14,580	5.1
North Dakota	1,081	1,128	4.3	858	931	8.5	938	1,013	8.0
Ohio	22,809	22,054	-3.3	16,890	16,780	-0.7	16,831	16,745	-0.5
Oklahoma	11,230	11,081	-1.3	8,002	7,986	-0.2	8,085	7,986	-1.2
Oregon	8,345	9,096	9.0	7,420	7,883	6.2	7,378	7,718	4.6
Pennsylvania	25,666	25,032	-2.5	17,874	18,453	3.2	17,440	19,658	12.7
Rhode Island	3,272	3,301	0.9	2,188	2,284	4.4	2,592	2,545	-1.8
South Carolina	8,467	8,015	-5.3	4,801	5,285	10.1	4,801	5,285	10.1
South Dakota	1,796	1,752	-2.4	1,464	1,507	2.9	1,505	1,552	3.1
Tennessee	20,432	20,102	-1.6	13,051	13,037	-0.1	13,136	13,168	0.2
Texas	61,248	69,346	13.2	39,337	46,098	17.2	44,793	47,098	5.1
Utah	5,702	6,001	5.2	4,545	4,878	7.3	4,643	4,878	5.1
Vermont	1,332	981	-26.4	1,227	829	-32.4	1,310	855	-34.7
Virginia	14,399	14,564	1.1	8,973	9,315	3.8	9,132	9,426	3.2
Washington	14,610	13,425	-8.1	12,068	10,962	-9.2	11,853	10,961	-7.5
West Virginia	5,767	5,750	-0.3	4,001	3,657	-8.6	4,001	3,658	-8.6
Wisconsin	8,672	9,789	12.9	6,904	7,415	7.4	7,601	7,888	3.8
Wyoming	1,188	1,344	13.1	1,064	1,271	19.5	1,127	1,271	12.8
American Samoa	29	N/A ³	N/A	10	N/A	N/A	10	N/A	N/A
Fed. Micronesia ⁴	42	N/A ³	N/A	9	N/A	N/A	9	N/A	N/A
Guam	229	301	31.4	166	176	6.0	159	176	10.7
N. Mariana Islands ⁵	51	59	15.7	17	23	35.3	17	23	35.3
Palau ⁴	N/A ³	36	N/A	N/A	26	N/A	N/A	26	N/A
Puerto Rico	15,755	19,084	21.1	10,502	14,404	37.2	10,502	14,404	37.2
Marshall Islands ⁴	N/A ³	165	N/A	N/A	10	N/A	N/A	10	N/A
Virgin Islands	209	348	66.5	109	187	71.6	115	201	74.8
U.S. + IAFAS⁶	697,317	692,990	-0.6	477,939	490,833	2.7	470,977	496,053	5.3

Jurisdiction	Completed Battery		Percent Change	Met Score Requirements		Percent Change	Credentials Issued		Percent Change
	1997	1998	1997-98	1997	1998	1997-98	1997	1998	1997-98
Alberta	2,028	2,137	5.4	1,401	1,526	8.9	1,401	1,526	8.9
British Columbia	3,214	3,323	3.4	2,314	2,270	-1.9	2,314	2,270	-1.9
Manitoba	1,164	906	-22.2	787	610	-22.5	787	610	-22.5
New Brunswick	1,270	1,230	-3.1	757	717	-5.3	757	717	-5.3
Newfoundland	639	354	-44.6	302	171	-43.4	302	171	-43.4
Northwest Terr.	97	120	23.7	43	57	32.6	43	57	32.6
Nova Scotia	2,101	1,923	-8.5	1,252	1,215	-3.0	1,322	1,215	-8.1
Ontario	1,817	2,177	19.8	1,547	1,755	13.4	1,547	1,755	13.4
Prince Edward Isld.	219	263	20.1	182	236	29.7	182	236	29.7
Saskatchewan	2,095	2,400	14.6	1,349	1,539	14.1	1,349	1,539	14.1
Yukon Territory	96	62	-35.4	56	41	-26.8	56	41	-26.8
Canada	14,826	14,895	0.5	10,060	10,137	0.8	10,060	10,137	0.8
Federal Corr. Inst. ⁷	6,440	6,926	7.5	5,179	5,652	9.1			
International ⁷	3	259	8533	3	194	6367			
Michigan Prisons ⁷	2,730	2,328	-14.7	1,757	1,861	5.9			
Overseas: Non-Mil. ⁷	394	351	-10.9	317	265	-16.4			
Overseas: Military ⁷	117	89	-23.9	104	85	-18.3			
CONUS Military ⁷	626	623	-0.5	507	547	7.9			
VA Hospitals ⁷	8	3	-62.5	7	2	-71.4			
GEDTS	10,318	10,579	2.5	7,874	8,606	9.3			
Program Total	722,461	718,464	-0.6	495,873	509,576	2.8	481,037	506,190	5.2

TABLE 1

Continued

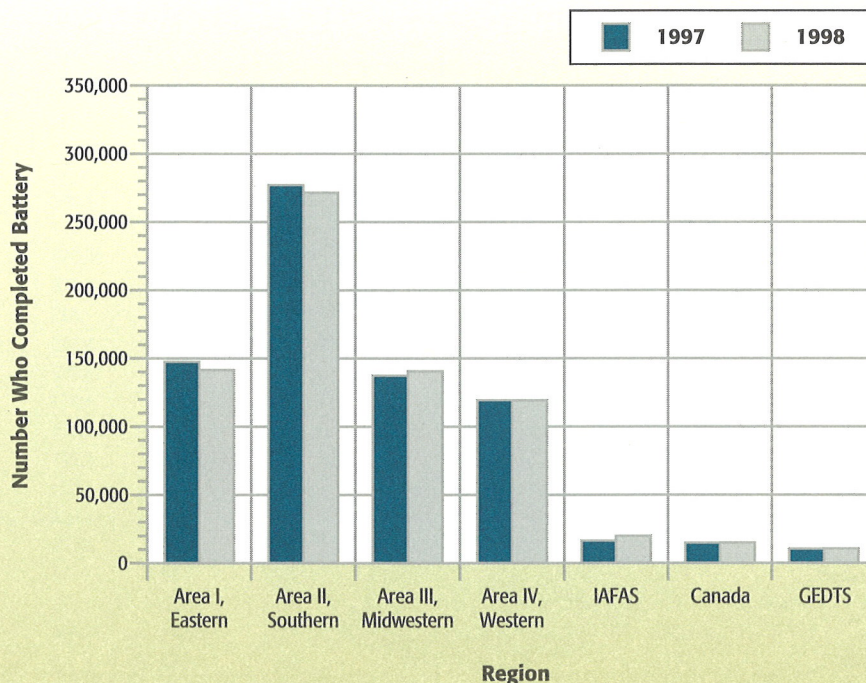
► In 1998, more than 718,000 adults world-wide completed the GED battery—about the same number as in 1995 and 1997.

► Nearly 510,000 GED test-takers met the score requirement in their jurisdictions—about 3 percent higher than in 1997.

► The number of adults earning GED credentials increased by 5 percent in 1998.

FIGURE 1

Number of People Who Completed the GED Test Batteries in 1997 and 1998, by Region



NOTE: Please refer to p. 35 for definition of geographic regions.

SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 2
Testing Volumes

Jurisdiction	Total Number Tested	Took Part of Battery	Completed Battery			Met Score Requirements	
			1998	Retested in 1998	Total ¹	Number	Percent ²
Alabama	13,465	78	10,161	3,226	13,387	8,065	60.2
Alaska	2,822	892	1,759	171	1,930	1,640	85.0
Arizona	14,303	508	12,902	893	13,795	10,214	74.0
Arkansas	9,571	0	8,523	1,048	9,571	7,991	83.5
California	54,362	9,904	40,186	4,272	44,458	35,098	78.9
Colorado	13,865	5,056	2,158	6,651	8,809	8,663	98.3
Connecticut	6,884	454	5,252	1,178	6,430	4,645	72.2
Delaware	1,050	41	846	163	1,009	769	76.2
District of Columbia	1,578	0	1,123	455	1,578	725	45.9
Florida	46,680	1,235	45,379	66	45,445	33,030	72.7
Georgia	31,511	5,298	24,225	1,988	26,213	17,474	66.7
Hawaii	2,018	100	1,594	324	1,918	1,395	72.7
Idaho	6,092	2,333	3,307	452	3,759	3,362	89.4
Illinois	37,759	6,094	24,650	7,015	31,665	19,665	62.1
Indiana	17,135	167	15,256	1,712	16,968	12,799	75.4
Iowa	7,871	2,910	4,002	959	4,961	4,729	95.3
Kansas	9,453	2,248	6,188	1,017	7,205	5,993	83.2
Kentucky	15,115	1,266	8,876	4,973	13,849	9,957	71.9
Louisiana	8,868	21	7,945	902	8,847	6,631	75.0
Maine	3,366	974	2,254	138	2,392	2,322	97.1
Maryland	11,655	374	7,862	3,419	11,281	6,446	57.1
Massachusetts	13,434	2,226	8,460	2,748	11,208	7,716	68.8
Michigan	26,821	6,885	16,316	3,620	19,936	12,918	64.8
Minnesota	11,659	3,296	7,637	726	8,363	7,182	85.9
Mississippi	8,692	452	4,674	3,566	8,240	4,183	50.8
Missouri	14,560	269	13,024	1,267	14,291	10,804	75.6
Montana	3,042	389	2,146	507	2,653	2,037	76.8
Nebraska	4,081	1,615	2,343	123	2,466	2,198	89.1
Nevada	5,421	101	4,353	967	5,320	4,175	78.5
New Hampshire	2,298	299	1,802	197	1,999	1,703	85.2
New Jersey	14,446	855	10,046	3,545	13,591	7,425	54.6
New Mexico	8,379	1,607	5,687	1,085	6,772	4,650	68.7
New York	64,789	2,003	46,827	15,959	62,786	36,252	57.7
North Carolina	21,654	4,513	14,541	2,600	17,141	14,580	85.1
North Dakota	1,727	599	1,024	104	1,128	931	82.5
Ohio	22,633	579	18,867	3,187	22,054	16,780	76.1
Oklahoma	11,200	119	9,747	1,334	11,081	7,986	72.1
Oregon	12,900	3,804	8,517	579	9,096	7,883	86.7
Pennsylvania	27,494	2,462	20,559	4,473	25,032	18,453	73.7
Rhode Island	5,229	1,928	2,638	663	3,301	2,284	69.2
South Carolina	8,083	68	6,743	1,272	8,015	5,285	65.9
South Dakota	2,505	753	1,689	63	1,752	1,507	86.0
Tennessee	20,568	466	15,488	4,614	20,102	13,037	64.9
Texas	80,032	10,686	59,385	9,961	69,346	46,098	66.5
Utah	6,443	442	4,703	1,298	6,001	4,878	81.3
Vermont	1,595	614	878	103	981	829	84.5
Virginia	14,661	97	11,867	2,697	14,564	9,315	64.0
Washington	19,860	6,435	10,754	2,671	13,425	10,962	81.7
West Virginia	6,112	362	4,654	1,096	5,750	3,657	63.6
Wisconsin	18,316	8,527	8,539	1,250	9,789	7,415	75.7
Wyoming	1,704	360	1,311	33	1,344	1,271	94.6
American Samoa	N/A ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fed. Micronesia	N/A ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Guam	313	12	229	72	301	176	58.5
N. Mariana Islands	94	35	36	23	59	23	39.0
Palau	43	7	30	6	36	26	72.2
Puerto Rico	19,084	0	13,741	5,343	19,084	14,404	75.5
Marshall Islands	171	6	72	93	165	10	6.1
Virgin Islands	348	0	182	166	348	187	53.7
U.S. + IAFAS	795,814	102,824	573,957	119,033	692,990	490,833	70.8

¹This percentage is based on the number of examinees who met their jurisdiction's score requirements divided by the number completing the entire battery, either for the first time or by retesting from previous years.

²This number includes high school students who participated in special pilot GED programs for in-school youth. In 1996, the American Council on Education decided to discontinue in-school youth testing. These projects are scheduled to be phased out by the year 2000.

³N/A = not available at time of publication.

Jurisdiction	Total Number Tested	Took Part of Battery	Completed Battery			Met Score Requirements	
			1998	Retested in 1998	Total	Number	Percent
Alberta	2,206	69	1,893	244	2,137	1,526	71.4
British Columbia	3,407	84	2,980	343	3,323	2,270	68.3
Manitoba	943	37	734	172	906	610	67.3
New Brunswick	1,270	40	981	249	1,230	717	58.3
Newfoundland	365	11	338	16	354	171	48.3
Northwest Terr.	120	0	96	24	120	57	47.5
Nova Scotia	1,967	44	1,517	406	1,923	1,215	63.2
Ontario	2,216	39	1,906	271	2,177	1,755	80.6
Prince Edward Isld.	263	0	248	15	263	236	89.7
Saskatchewan	2,508	108	1,963	437	2,400	1,539	64.1
Yukon Territory	63	1	54	8	62	41	66.1
Canada	15,328	433	12,710	2,185	14,895	10,137	68.1
Federal Corr. Inst.	6,982	56	6,255	671	6,926	5,652	81.6
International	259	0	259	0	259	194	74.9
Michigan Prisons	2,686	358	1,973	355	2,328	1,861	79.9
Overseas: Non-Mil.	362	11	335	16	351	265	75.5
Overseas: Military	90	1	86	3	89	85	95.5
CONUS Military	657	34	595	28	623	547	87.8
VA Hospitals	3	0	3	0	3	2	66.7
GEDTS	11,039	460	9,506	1,073	10,579	8,606	81.3
Program Total	822,181	103,717	596,173	122,291	718,464	509,576	70.9

TABLE 2

Continued

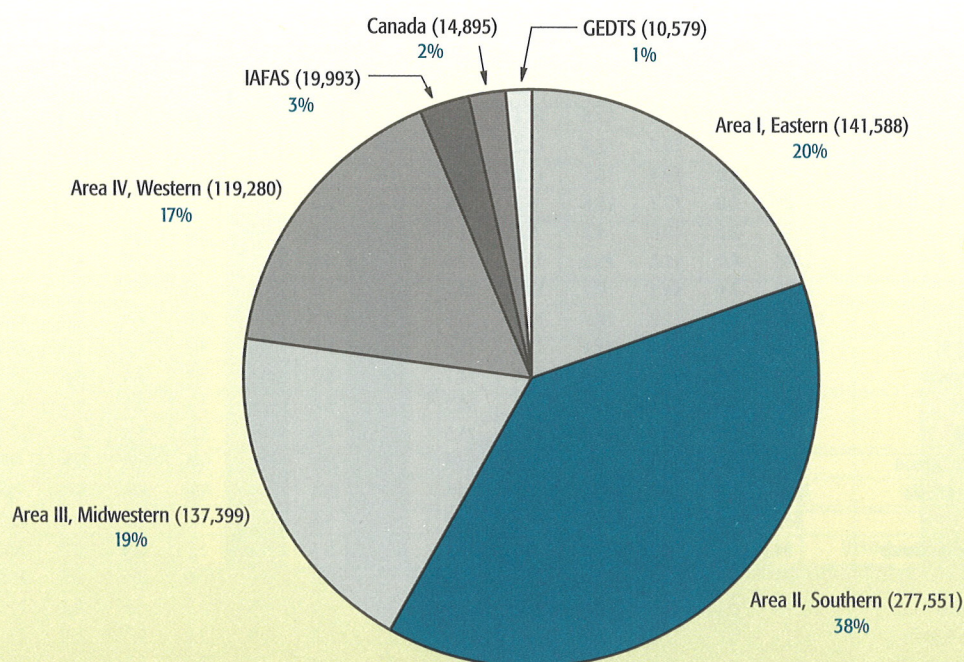
► More than 820,000 adults took the GED Tests in 1998, similar to the number in 1997.

► Seven of every ten (70.9 percent) earned scores sufficient to meet their jurisdiction's score requirement for earning a GED credential.

► About 15 percent of the adults taking the tests did not earn a credential in prior years and were retested to obtain their GED high school credential.

FIGURE 2

Percentage and Number of People Who Completed the GED Tests in 1998, by Region



NOTE: Please refer to p. 35 for definition of geographic regions.
SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 3
**Number of
People Tested
and Percentages
by Age Group**

Jurisdiction	No. Tested	Age Groups											Avg. Age
		< 16	17	18	19	20- 24	25- 29	30- 34	35- 39	40- 49	50- 59	> 60	
Alabama	13,465	1.1	14.0	19.1	12.1	23.9	10.6	6.2	5.0	5.2	2.2	0.6	24.0
Alaska	2,822	11	16.0	14.8	10.3	19.4	9.6	7.0	5.5	4.8	1.3	0.3	23.2
Arizona	14,303	2.7	9.6	14.6	11.4	28.7	11.9	8.2	5.8	5.5	1.5	0.3	24.4
Arkansas	9,571	10	17.9	14.9	9.2	19.0	8.7	6.5	5.3	5.6	2.0	0.4	23.5
California	54,362	0.0	8.4	16.0	10.6	23.8	14.6	10.6	7.9	6.5	1.4	0.3	25.5
Colorado	13,865	1.7	20.8	17.5	10.8	21.4	9.7	6.7	5.4	4.6	1.1	0.2	23.2
Connecticut	6,884	0.2	8.0	12.1	13.6	24.5	13.5	10.3	7.9	7.3	2.1	0.4	26.0
Delaware	1,050	2.2	8.3	12.3	10.2	29.5	14.4	8.7	5.5	5.8	2.3	0.8	25.3
District of Columbia	1,578	2.7	7.4	14.8	11.3	28.1	12.9	8.6	6.0	5.6	2.0	0.5	24.9
Florida	46,680	7.2	14.6	13.9	14.3	22.4	9.8	6.3	4.5	4.9	1.7	0.5	23.4
Georgia	31,511	3.4	9.0	19.6	13.1	23.6	10.8	6.8	5.3	5.7	2.2	0.5	24.2
Hawaii	2,018	0.2	16.6	20.6	12.2	24.4	11.5	5.5	4.1	3.6	1.0	0.2	22.8
Idaho	6,092	10	20.0	13.7	9.3	20.5	8.8	5.9	5.3	4.0	1.7	0.6	22.9
Illinois	37,759	1.5	5.7	12.6	12.8	29.9	14.2	8.4	6.7	5.9	1.7	0.5	25.2
Indiana	17,135	0.0	6.9	16.8	14.6	30.4	11.1	6.8	5.2	5.5	2.1	0.5	24.5
Iowa	7,871	2.3	16.7	15.2	11.6	25.5	9.9	7.0	5.8	3.8	1.8	0.4	23.6
Kansas	9,453	8.2	16.4	17.9	11.4	21.9	8.5	5.6	4.5	3.9	1.3	0.3	22.6
Kentucky	15,115	2.5	8.8	13.3	13.3	26.6	10.5	7.4	6.3	7.3	3.1	0.8	25.5
Louisiana	8,868	2.6	24.2	17.6	10.6	20.7	8.8	5.6	4.2	4.1	1.1	0.5	22.6
Maine	3,366	0.0	11.6	19.0	12.6	24.3	10.3	7.9	5.4	5.4	2.9	0.5	24.6
Maryland	11,655	2.0	10.2	14.4	10.9	26.3	12.8	9.0	5.9	5.9	2.3	0.3	25.0
Massachusetts	13,434	2.8	8.4	13.8	12.4	24.7	13.4	9.5	6.8	6.0	1.6	0.5	25.1
Michigan	26,821	1.3	6.5	17.1	15.0	29.9	12.7	7.5	5.1	3.4	1.1	0.3	23.7
Minnesota	11,659	1.5	8.0	13.0	17.8	30.9	11.2	7.0	5.1	3.7	1.2	0.5	23.7
Mississippi	8,692	4.9	15.4	19.7	13.5	24.1	7.4	4.6	3.5	4.1	1.3	1.5	22.9
Missouri	14,560	5.8	12.4	13.6	10.0	23.0	11.2	8.2	6.7	6.7	2.1	0.5	24.8
Montana	3,042	1.1	24.8	16.4	14.1	21.7	8.0	5.0	3.7	3.6	1.4	0.3	22.3
Nebraska	4,081	4.2	13.7	18.5	14.1	24.6	10.1	5.3	4.3	3.8	1.2	0.3	22.8
Nevada	5,421	1.3	19.4	17.3	11.0	20.8	10.5	7.0	5.4	4.9	1.8	0.6	23.8
New Hampshire	2,298	3.6	7.6	18.1	12.6	23.2	13.1	9.0	5.5	5.5	1.4	0.4	24.4
New Jersey	14,446	3.1	9.1	12.5	10.5	26.6	13.9	9.3	6.8	5.8	2.0	0.4	25.2
New Mexico	8,379	0.9	19.6	20.8	11.4	20.5	8.8	6.5	5.0	4.7	1.4	0.3	23.1
New York	64,789	1.2	9.1	11.8	12.0	25.8	12.7	10.2	7.5	7.4	2.0	0.3	25.7
North Carolina	21,654	8.1	12.6	14.3	9.9	21.9	11.1	6.9	5.7	6.4	2.6	0.5	24.5
North Dakota	1,727	7.0	18.3	16.0	14.5	24.3	6.5	4.8	3.1	3.9	1.2	0.5	22.2
Ohio	22,633	2.3	7.5	13.1	13.5	28.1	12.4	7.3	6.4	6.4	2.4	0.6	25.2
Oklahoma	11,200	4.6	12.6	14.8	10.8	23.6	11.4	7.7	6.4	5.7	1.9	0.5	24.5
Oregon	12,900	6.4	14.9	17.2	11.6	22.9	8.7	6.1	5.6	4.5	1.4	0.8	23.3
Pennsylvania	27,494	7.3	15.5	13.8	8.9	20.7	11.0	7.8	5.8	6.0	2.2	1.1	24.6
Rhode Island	5,229	0.4	5.4	12.6	18.1	26.2	14.8	8.8	6.5	5.1	1.7	0.4	25.0
South Carolina	8,083	2.4	15.7	12.9	12.2	25.0	10.8	6.4	5.4	6.1	2.6	0.4	24.4
South Dakota	2,505	8.0	19.4	16.3	11.8	22.9	7.6	3.9	3.9	4.2	1.5	0.5	22.4
Tennessee	20,568	0.0	17.7	15.8	9.7	20.9	11.7	8.0	5.8	6.9	2.9	0.6	25.1
Texas	80,032	2.3	18.6	14.2	9.8	22.2	10.7	7.6	6.1	6.2	1.9	0.3	24.3
Utah	6,443	0.0	11.3	25.3	16.2	27.4	8.0	4.6	3.6	2.4	0.5	0.7	22.1
Vermont	1,595	7.4	14.1	19.2	12.6	24.3	8.8	5.2	3.6	2.9	1.7	0.3	22.3
Virginia	14,661	2.5	11.2	18.7	11.0	21.5	11.0	7.7	6.2	6.8	2.9	0.6	25.1
Washington	19,860	6.3	13.6	13.9	11.6	23.9	11.1	7.1	6.0	4.9	1.2	0.4	23.7
West Virginia	6,112	2.7	9.1	16.0	11.4	24.7	11.3	8.2	6.7	7.1	2.4	0.3	25.2
Wisconsin	18,316	0.0	14.7	16.4	11.4	30.7	11.6	6.2	4.8	3.1	1.1	0.2	23.1
Wyoming	1,704	0.6	12.4	21.4	15.1	25.5	8.3	4.9	4.9	5.0	1.3	0.7	23.3
American Samoa	N/A ¹	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fed. Micronesia	N/A ¹	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Guam	313	1.6	9.3	11.8	16.3	32.9	15.0	9.6	1.6	1.3	0.6	0.0	22.7
N. Mariana Islands	94	4.3	6.4	8.5	8.5	40.4	24.5	5.3	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	22.8
Palau	43	0.0	4.7	27.9	25.6	32.6	2.3	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.5
Puerto Rico	19,084	0.0	0.0	31.3	20.4	28.8	8.4	4.9	4.8	0.2	0.9	0.2	21.9
Marshall Islands	171	0.6	1.2	6.2	13.7	57.8	9.3	6.8	1.9	2.5	0.0	0.0	22.7
Virgin Islands	348	0.0	2.3	7.2	6.9	24.7	17.8	14.4	9.5	13.8	2.6	0.9	29.5
U.S. + IAFAS	795,814	2.9	12.1	15.5	12.0	24.6	11.4	7.7	5.9	5.5	1.8	0.5	24.4

¹ N/A = not available at time of publication.

Jurisdiction	No. Tested	Age Groups											Avg. Age
		< 16	17	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-49	50-59	> 60	
Alberta	2,206	0.0	0.5	4.4	6.8	29.0	16.4	13.5	13.6	12.2	3.4	0.1	29.7
British Columbia	3,407	0.0	0.0	0.1	8.7	30.7	16.0	13.5	13.4	14.0	3.5	0.1	30.2
Manitoba	943	0.0	0.1	0.3	7.3	27.3	17.3	12.9	14.7	16.2	3.6	0.2	31.1
New Brunswick	1,270	0.0	0.0	0.2	6.9	27.2	15.6	13.3	15.7	16.0	4.8	0.3	31.5
Newfoundland	365	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.1	28.7	16.5	11.0	17.7	14.5	3.2	0.3	30.7
Northwest Terr.	120	0.0	0.0	5.0	12.5	28.3	32.5	8.3	5.8	5.8	1.7	0.0	26.4
Nova Scotia	1,967	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.5	25.3	15.7	12.9	15.8	18.3	4.5	0.1	31.8
Ontario	2,216	0.0	0.0	0.5	6.7	29.0	16.7	12.9	14.4	15.9	3.8	0.1	30.9
Prince Edward Isld.	263	0.4	1.9	4.6	6.9	19.5	9.2	10.3	16.4	24.8	6.1	0.0	33.1
Saskatchewan	2,508	0.0	0.1	0.8	6.8	27.9	17.3	14.1	14.6	15.2	3.1	0.2	30.7
Yukon Territory	63	0.0	0.0	4.8	12.7	20.6	27.0	11.1	3.2	15.9	4.8	0.0	29.4
Canada	15,328	0.0	0.1	1.0	7.4	28.2	16.4	13.2	14.4	15.2	3.7	0.2	30.7
Federal Corr. Inst.	6,982	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.4	18.5	24.8	18.4	15.0	15.6	4.9	1.3	33.0
International	259	0.4	28.2	40.2	6.6	16.6	2.7	1.9	1.9	1.2	0.4	0.0	19.6
Michigan Prisons	2,686	0.4	1.5	4.2	6.0	32.4	21.7	13.7	10.2	7.7	1.8	0.3	27.9
Overseas: Non-Mil.	362	3.0	11.9	14.4	11.6	29.0	13.8	9.4	4.1	2.5	0.3	0.0	23.1
Overseas: Military	90	0.0	1.1	3.3	14.4	50.0	21.1	5.6	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0	23.3
CONUS Military	657	0.2	4.0	13.1	11.7	40.3	13.7	5.2	6.7	5.2	0.0	0.0	24.0
VA Hospitals	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.3	33.3	0.0	33.0	47.0
GEDTS	11,039	0.2	1.7	3.3	3.7	23.7	22.5	15.7	12.6	12.2	3.5	0.9	30.5
Program Total	822,181	2.8	11.7	15.0	11.8	24.7	11.6	7.9	6.2	5.8	1.9	0.5	24.6

TABLE 3

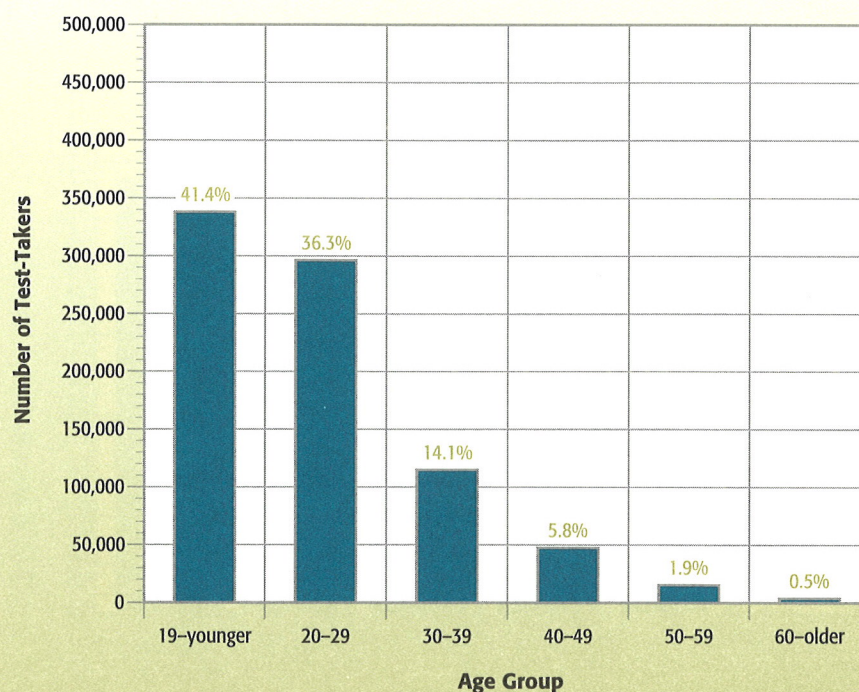
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► The average age of adults taking the GED Tests was 24.4 in the U.S. and 30.7 in Canada.

► Among those taking the tests in 1998, seven in ten (70 percent) were age 19 or older.

FIGURE 3

Number of People Who Took the GED Tests in 1998, by Age Group



SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 4**Number of
Credentials¹
Issued and
Percentages by
Age Group**

Jurisdiction	No. Tested	Age Groups											Avg. Age
		< 16	17	18	19	20- 24	25- 29	30- 34	35- 39	40- 49	50- 59	> 60	
Alabama	8,065	0.5	6.8	18.4	15.3	28.4	11.4	6.5	4.5	5.6	2.1	0.6	24.3
Alaska	1,815	12	18.2	17.1	10.5	18.1	8.6	5.2	5.0	4.5	0.9	0.1	22.4
Arizona	10,514	2.7	9.5	14.3	12.1	28.4	12.2	8.1	5.9	5.0	1.4	0.5	24.4
Arkansas	8,134	11	18.1	14.7	8.6	18.7	9.1	6.5	5.4	5.7	2.0	0.5	23.6
California	35,654	0.0	9.1	16.2	10.0	23.1	15.0	10.6	7.8	6.4	1.4	0.3	25.5
Colorado	8,885	1.5	20.6	17.8	11.2	21.7	9.8	6.7	5.2	4.3	1.0	0.2	23.0
Connecticut	4,789	0.2	8.8	13.1	13.8	23.2	13.1	9.9	7.7	7.8	2.0	0.4	25.8
Delaware	769	2.5	9.9	14.3	10.7	28.5	13.3	7.3	4.6	5.6	2.9	0.7	24.9
District of Columbia	725	2.7	7.5	14.8	11.3	27.8	13.0	9.2	6.2	5.5	1.8	0.3	24.9
Florida	35,530	7.9	15.2	14.5	14.2	21.5	9.6	6.1	4.3	4.7	1.7	0.5	23.1
Georgia	17,774	3.5	10.8	22.4	13.1	22.2	10.3	5.8	4.6	5.0	1.9	0.4	23.5
Hawaii	1,333	0.2	19.7	20.2	11.9	23.8	11.0	5.0	3.5	3.6	1.0	0.2	22.5
Idaho	611	8.7	19.1	15.7	9.7	16.5	7.0	4.9	5.6	7.5	4.6	0.7	24.7
Illinois	18,549	1.6	5.3	12.0	11.7	31.2	16.1	8.3	6.4	5.4	1.5	0.4	25.1
Indiana	12,799	0.0	7.9	17.8	14.3	30.1	10.9	6.4	4.8	5.3	2.0	0.5	24.2
Iowa	5,448	1.1	5.8	15.9	15.4	27.5	12.2	7.7	6.1	5.3	2.4	0.6	24.8
Kansas	5,993	6.4	16.3	18.7	12.4	22.1	8.7	5.2	4.3	4.2	1.1	0.5	22.6
Kentucky	10,196	2.1	7.9	12.7	12.3	26.0	11.6	8.3	7.0	8.0	3.3	0.8	26.1
Louisiana	6,638	3.0	26.1	17.1	10.0	20.2	8.8	5.7	4.0	3.9	1.0	0.4	22.4
Maine	2,322	0.0	14.0	21.3	13.7	20.8	6.6	9.0	7.7	5.2	1.5	0.2	24.1
Maryland	6,446	2.5	11.3	15.6	11.6	27.0	12.7	8.0	5.0	4.6	1.4	0.2	24.0
Massachusetts	7,873	0.9	6.1	14.1	15.3	28.3	12.1	8.6	6.2	5.7	1.9	0.7	25.0
Michigan	12,906	0.0	0.0	20.4	16.8	31.9	13.3	6.5	5.1	4.5	1.2	0.4	24.1
Minnesota	7,117	1.7	7.9	15.0	18.2	31.1	9.8	6.4	4.5	3.8	1.2	0.4	23.3
Mississippi	4,186	6.7	18.5	19.8	12.1	22.0	6.9	4.4	3.3	3.5	1.2	1.4	22.4
Missouri	10,864	6.4	12.9	14.2	9.9	22.5	11.1	8.1	6.4	6.2	2.0	0.4	24.6
Montana	2,061	1.5	27.5	17.5	14.5	20.1	7.4	3.8	3.1	3.2	1.2	0.2	21.7
Nebraska	1,934	0.1	0.2	31.5	16.2	27.5	9.3	4.8	4.6	3.8	1.4	0.5	23.2
Nevada	4,234	1.0	21.3	17.1	11.5	20.1	10.0	7.0	4.9	4.8	1.9	0.5	23.6
New Hampshire	1,707	4.1	9.3	20.2	13.0	23.2	11.0	7.8	4.8	4.9	1.4	0.4	23.7
New Jersey	8,097	4.5	11.9	15.5	11.6	25.6	12.4	7.1	5.3	4.4	1.4	0.3	23.7
New Mexico	4,481	0.0	0.1	40.9	14.0	20.9	7.8	6.0	4.7	4.3	1.2	0.1	22.9
New York	36,479	1.5	11.2	13.4	13.6	24.8	12.2	9.1	6.1	6.2	1.6	0.3	24.8
North Carolina	14,580	8.9	13.3	15.3	9.8	21.7	10.9	6.4	5.2	5.8	2.4	0.4	24.0
North Dakota	1,013	5.0	17.3	19.5	17.0	24.9	4.7	3.8	2.5	3.8	0.9	0.5	21.7
Ohio	16,745	2.4	7.6	13.9	14.1	28.2	12.2	7.1	6.0	6.0	2.2	0.4	24.8
Oklahoma	7,986	4.8	12.1	14.8	10.7	23.4	11.7	7.8	6.7	5.7	1.8	0.5	24.5
Oregon	7,718	6.3	15.8	18.4	12.0	22.3	8.3	5.5	5.1	4.1	1.4	0.8	23.0
Pennsylvania ²	19,658	0.0	0.0	43.8	8.6	19.1	9.6	6.3	4.7	5.0	1.9	0.9	23.8
Rhode Island	2,545	0.0	0.0	14.4	10.9	24.7	15.3	12.7	10.2	7.2	3.6	0.8	27.7
South Carolina	5,285	2.1	17.3	13.3	12.1	26.1	11.3	5.7	4.6	5.0	2.2	0.3	23.8
South Dakota	1,552	6.1	17.6	17.3	12.4	24.0	6.7	4.4	4.5	4.7	1.6	0.8	22.8
Tennessee	13,168	0.0	20.3	16.7	9.6	20.5	11.5	7.1	5.4	6.0	2.5	0.4	24.4
Texas	47,098	2.1	19.4	14.2	9.7	21.7	11.0	7.5	6.0	6.2	1.8	0.3	24.3
Utah	4,878	0.0	12.0	26.9	16.0	27.1	7.4	4.1	3.3	2.3	0.4	0.6	21.8
Vermont	855	3.5	16.0	19.3	15.1	23.4	8.2	4.6	4.2	3.2	1.9	0.7	22.7
Virginia	9,426	3.1	12.2	19.7	11.4	22.1	10.9	7.1	5.3	5.3	2.5	0.4	24.2
Washington	10,961	6.7	14.9	15.0	12.7	23.3	9.8	5.9	5.8	4.5	1.2	0.2	23.2
West Virginia	3,658	3.0	10.5	17.5	12.3	24.4	10.5	7.2	5.8	6.5	2.2	0.2	24.5
Wisconsin	7,888	0.0	6.3	21.9	13.5	29.1	12.9	6.4	4.7	3.7	1.2	0.3	23.6
Wyoming	1,271	0.8	15.0	24.0	15.3	22.4	8.6	3.8	4.6	3.8	1.3	0.5	22.6
American Samoa	N/A ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fed. Micronesia	N/A ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Guam	176	2.3	9.7	12.5	17.0	34.7	13.6	7.4	1.7	0.6	0.6	0.0	22.0
N. Mariana Islands	23	13	8.7	13.0	13.0	30.4	13.0	0.0	4.3	4.3	0.0	0.0	21.7
Palau	26	0.0	0.0	34.6	26.9	23.1	3.8	11.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.9
Puerto Rico	14,404	0.0	0.0	34.6	22.2	22.4	8.7	5.0	5.5	0.2	1.2	0.3	22.1
Marshall Islands	10	10	0.0	10.0	20.0	40.0	10.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.5
Virgin Islands	201	0.0	0.5	10.4	9.0	36.3	17.9	8.5	7.0	6.5	3.0	1.0	26.9
U.S. + IAFAS	496,053	2.7	11.4	17.9	12.4	24.1	11.3	7.2	5.6	5.2	1.7	0.4	24.1

¹In many states, the issuance of credentials is a two-stage process. First, candidates must attain scores on the GED Tests that meet their jurisdiction's requirements for a high school credential (see Tables 12 and 13). Second, they must submit an application to their jurisdiction—in some cases with an additional fee—in order to receive their credentials. Issuance of credentials may be delayed or denied if the jurisdiction's administrative or other requirements are not met, or if the jurisdiction experiences severe backlogs in processing applications. Thus, persons who meet GED score requirements in a given year may not receive their high school credentials in the same year. And some may choose not to apply for them. Therefore, in a given calendar year, the number of credentials may not always equal the number of persons meeting the jurisdiction's score requirements.

²In Pennsylvania, credentials reported for persons ages 16 and 17 are issued automatically when these individuals reach age 18.

³N/A = not available at time of publication.

Jurisdiction	No. Tested	Age Groups											Avg. Age
		< 16	17	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-49	50-59	> 60	
Alberta	1,526	0.1	0.4	4.3	6.6	29.8	16.8	13.0	13.8	11.9	3.3	0.1	29.6
British Columbia	2,270	0.0	0.0	0.1	8.8	30.8	16.3	13.8	13.2	13.8	3.2	0.1	30.0
Manitoba	610	0.0	0.2	0.5	9.2	27.9	16.2	12.3	14.3	15.2	4.1	0.2	30.8
New Brunswick	717	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.1	25.4	15.9	14.9	15.8	16.3	3.3	0.3	31.2
Newfoundland	171	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.8	35.3	12.4	10.0	13.5	16.5	2.9	0.6	30.0
Northwest Terr.	57	0.0	0.0	8.8	19.3	29.8	26.3	7.0	3.5	3.5	1.8	0.0	24.7
Nova Scotia	1,215	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.0	23.1	16.4	12.8	15.7	20.5	4.4	0.0	32.3
Ontario	1,755	N/A*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Prince Edward Isld.	236	0.4	1.7	4.3	6.8	19.6	8.5	10.6	15.7	26.4	6.0	0.0	33.4
Saskatchewan	1,539	0.0	0.1	1.0	6.6	27.7	17.0	12.7	15.7	15.7	3.4	0.3	31.0
Yukon Territory	41	0.0	0.0	4.9	14.6	19.5	34.1	9.8	0.0	14.6	2.4	0.0	28.2
Canada	10,137	0.0	0.1	1.2	7.7	28.0	16.3	13.1	14.4	15.4	3.6	0.1	30.7
Program Total	506,190	2.7	11.2	17.6	12.4	24.1	11.3	7.3	5.7	5.4	1.8	0.4	24.2

TABLE 4

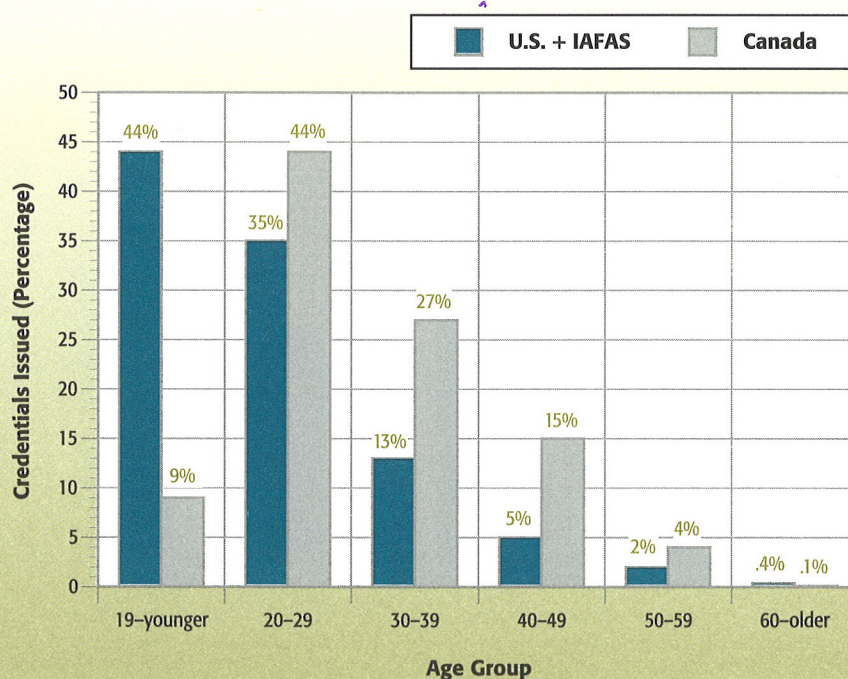
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► One in three GED credentials in the U.S. (31.4 percent) were earned by adults aged 25 and older.

► More than half (54.4 percent) of the U.S. adults earning GED credentials were between the ages of 18 and 24, while 57.4 percent of Canadian adults were between the ages of 20 and 34.

FIGURE 4

Percentage of GED Credentials Issued in 1998, in U.S., Insular Areas and Freely Associated States, and in Canada, by Age Group



SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 5

**Number of
People Tested,
by Edition**

Jurisdiction	Number Tested	Language			Special Edition		
		English	Spanish	French	Audio Cass.	Braille	Lg. Print
Alabama	13,465	13,445	11	0	7	0	2
Alaska	2,822	2,732	77	0	1	0	12
Arizona	14,303	13,305	702	1	11	0	284
Arkansas	9,571	9,423	139	0	4	4	1
California	54,362	50,105	4,238	1	7	1	10
Colorado	13,865	13,611	242	0	1	5	6
Connecticut	6,884	6,207	666	0	7	0	4
Delaware	1,050	1,028	20	0	2	0	0
District of Columbia	1,578	1,549	25	0	0	0	4
Florida	46,680	45,588	1,065	0	16	0	11
Georgia	31,511	31,411	60	2	15	1	22
Hawaii	2,018	2,018	0	0	0	0	0
Idaho	6,092	6,028	61	0	3	0	0
Illinois	37,759	35,537	2,160	1	15	1	45
Indiana	17,135	17,029	64	2	31	0	9
Iowa	7,871	7,768	89	0	2	0	12
Kansas	9,453	9,148	282	0	8	1	14
Kentucky	15,115	14,845	126	0	7	5	132
Louisiana	8,868	8,837	24	1	2	2	2
Maine	3,366	3,351	7	0	0	0	8
Maryland	11,655	11,574	45	0	14	0	22
Massachusetts	13,434	12,277	1,114	0	5	0	38
Michigan	26,821	26,588	214	1	1	2	15
Minnesota	11,659	11,414	229	0	9	0	7
Mississippi	8,692	8,668	6	1	8	4	5
Missouri	14,560	14,520	17	0	10	0	13
Montana	3,042	3,007	0	0	9	0	26
Nebraska	4,081	4,071	7	0	3	0	0
Nevada	5,421	5,373	46	0	1	0	1
New Hampshire	2,298	2,274	16	3	4	0	1
New Jersey	14,446	13,322	1,089	33	0	0	2
New Mexico	8,379	7,945	425	0	5	0	4
New York	64,789	56,944	6,572	822	370	0	81
North Carolina	21,654	21,401	210	0	31	0	12
North Dakota	1,727	1,718	3	0	6	0	0
Ohio	22,633	22,487	69	1	6	4	66
Oklahoma	11,200	11,088	100	0	4	1	7
Oregon	12,900	12,443	385	0	49	0	23
Pennsylvania	27,494	26,665	705	20	29	0	75
Rhode Island	5,229	4,619	610	0	0	0	0
South Carolina	8,083	7,965	39	0	21	0	58
South Dakota	2,505	2,495	1	0	1	1	7
Tennessee	20,568	20,290	135	7	11	3	122
Texas	80,032	74,700	5,228	0	9	1	94
Utah	6,443	6,385	53	0	1	4	0
Vermont	1,595	1,591	0	0	2	0	2
Virginia	14,661	14,366	126	0	34	1	134
Washington	19,860	19,331	490	0	19	0	20
West Virginia	6,112	6,075	2	0	6	1	28
Wisconsin	18,316	18,028	232	0	37	1	18
Wyoming	1,704	1,694	2	0	4	0	4
American Samoa ¹	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fed. Micronesia ¹	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Guam	313	313	0	0	0	0	0
N. Mariana Islands	94	94	0	0	0	0	0
Palau	43	43	0	0	0	0	0
Puerto Rico	19,084	939	18,145	0	0	0	0
Marshall Islands	171	171	0	0	0	0	0
Virgin Islands	348	332	16	0	0	0	0
U.S. + IAFAS	795,814	746,175	46,389	896	848	43	1,463

¹ N/A = not available at time of publication.

Jurisdiction	Number Tested	Language			Special Edition		
		English	Spanish	French	Audio Cass.	Braille	Lg. Print
Alberta	2,206	2,204	0	0	1	0	1
British Columbia	3,407	3,398	0	5	3	0	1
Manitoba	943	942	0	1	0	0	0
New Brunswick	1,270	998	0	192	1	0	79
Newfoundland	365	365	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest Terr.	120	120	0	0	0	0	0
Nova Scotia	1,967	1,961	0	3	0	0	3
Ontario	2,216	2,199	0	12	0	0	5
Prince Edward Isld.	263	263	0	0	0	0	0
Saskatchewan	2,508	2,490	0	0	3	0	15
Yukon Territory	63	63	0	0	0	0	0
Canada	15,328	15,003	0	213	8	0	104
Federal Corr. Inst.	6,982	4,776	2,206	0	0	0	0
International	259	259	0	0	0	0	0
Michigan Prisons	2,686	2,631	20	0	0	2	33
Overseas: Non-Mil.	362	335	26	1	0	0	0
Overseas: Military	90	90	0	0	0	0	0
CONUS Military	657	655	0	0	0	2	0
VA Hospitals	3	3	0	0	0	0	0
GEDTS	11,039	8,749	2,252	1	0	4	33
Program Total	822,181	769,927	48,641	1,110	856	47	1,600

TABLE 5
Continued

► Over the past decade, the number of adults taking special editions of the GED Tests has more than doubled (from 1,169 in 1989 to 2,503 in 1998).

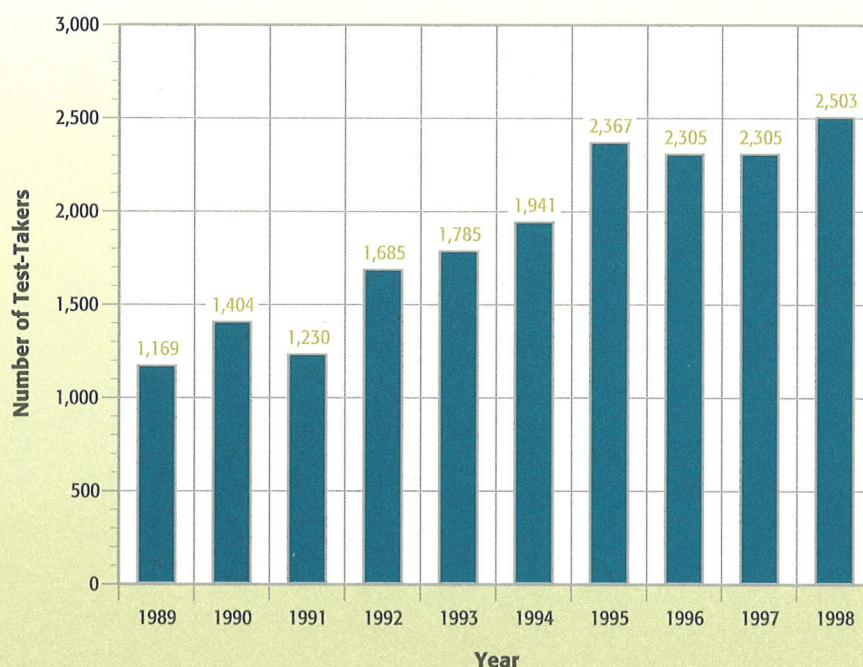
► The number of adults taking special editions of the GED Tests increased nearly 9 percent from 1997 to 1998.

► New York saw a 73 percent increase in the number of adults taking the audiocassette edition (from 214 in 1997 to 370 in 1998).

► From 1997 to 1998, there was a 9 percent increase in the number of adults taking the Spanish-language edition of the tests, with about one in three taking the Spanish-language tests in Puerto Rico.

FIGURE 5

Number of People Who Took Special Editions of the GED Tests, 1989–1998



NOTE: Please refer to p. 35 for definition of geographic regions.
SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 6**Volume of
Special Testing
Accommoda-
tions¹**

¹ Accommodations to standard testing conditions include extended testing time, use of special reading or optical devices, alternative answer-recording methods, and miscellaneous other adaptations to standard testing conditions. An examinee may be granted a combination of these adaptations as described in the *GED Examiner's Manual*.

² These numbers represent requests to GEDTS and to jurisdictions for special accommodations based on specific learning disabilities (SLD).

Note: "Special Testing Accommodations" refers to the number of adaptations to standard testing conditions. "SLD Requests" refers to the number of persons requesting accommodations based on specific learning disabilities. Some candidates may require multiple accommodations to be tested fairly. An additional method of accommodation is the use of special editions of the GED Tests—Audiocassette, Braille, and Large Print (please refer to Table 5).

³ N/A = not available at time of publication.

Jurisdiction	Special Accommodation ¹				Requests for SLD Accommodations ²
	Time	Reading Device	Answer Marking	Other	
Alabama	42	5	3	8	14
Alaska	5	0	1	1	2
Arizona	53	21	6	41	51
Arkansas	14	2	6	7	16
California	100	10	4	10	112
Colorado	19	2	0	12	33
Connecticut	42	0	2	141	26
Delaware	3	1	2	2	1
District of Columbia	0	0	0	0	1
Florida	173	5	21	319	81
Georgia	7	0	5	2	12
Hawaii	0	0	0	0	0
Idaho	10	1	2	5	3
Illinois	203	54	22	30	47
Indiana	56	39	26	42	63
Iowa	101	1	5	6	12
Kansas	42	0	5	17	26
Kentucky	20	3	10	13	28
Louisiana	10	1	1	28	19
Maine	5	2	0	0	4
Maryland	82	1	13	57	48
Massachusetts	42	0	4	3	28
Michigan	74	5	7	4	36
Minnesota	57	12	6	31	58
Mississippi	0	1	0	0	32
Missouri	63	23	14	31	20
Montana	9	0	0	0	6
Nebraska	14	4	6	5	9
Nevada	3	1	0	0	1
New Hampshire	8	1	0	2	7
New Jersey	11	3	3	9	8
New Mexico	21	10	9	16	17
New York	766	354	192	1,154	629
North Carolina	87	46	0	66	97
North Dakota	19	6	0	20	12
Ohio	42	0	15	19	27
Oklahoma	11	0	4	9	5
Oregon	340	165	38	138	163
Pennsylvania	78	0	3	44	55
Rhode Island	2	0	1	0	2
South Carolina	28	28	20	51	28
South Dakota	24	17	14	13	1
Tennessee	40	14	6	15	10
Texas	127	1	19	105	145
Utah	1	0	0	5	3
Vermont	13	3	3	2	4
Virginia	111	16	41	3	110
Washington	78	7	10	16	17
West Virginia	14	8	3	10	30
Wisconsin	269	25	24	118	94
Wyoming	15	8	3	2	14
American Samoa	N/A ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fed. Micronesia	N/A ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Guam	0	0	0	0	0
N. Mariana Islands	0	0	0	0	0
Palau	11	0	0	0	0
Puerto Rico	54	0	0	0	0
Marshall Islands	0	0	0	0	0
Virgin Islands	0	0	0	0	0
U.S. + IAFAS	3,419	906	579	2,632	2,267

Jurisdiction	Special Accommodation ¹				Requests for SLD Accommodations ²
	Time	Reading Device	Answer Marking	Other	
Alberta	2	0	0	0	2
British Columbia	20	1	2	17	N/A ³
Manitoba	0	0	1	0	0
New Brunswick	3	0	0	5	2
Newfoundland	N/A ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Northwest Territories	0	0	0	0	0
Nova Scotia	10	0	3	1	N/A
Ontario	6	0	1	4	5
Prince Edward Isl.	0	1	0	0	N/A
Saskatchewan	21	0	0	2	20
Yukon Territory	0	0	0	0	1
Canada	62	2	7	29	30
Federal Corr. Inst.	0	0	0	0	0
International	1	0	0	0	0
Michigan Prisons	0	0	0	0	24
Overseas: Non-Mil.	0	0	0	0	0
Overseas: Military	0	0	0	0	0
CONUS Military	0	0	0	0	0
VA Hospitals	0	0	0	0	0
GEDTS	1	0	0	0	24
Program Total	3,482	908	586	2,661	2,321

TABLE 6

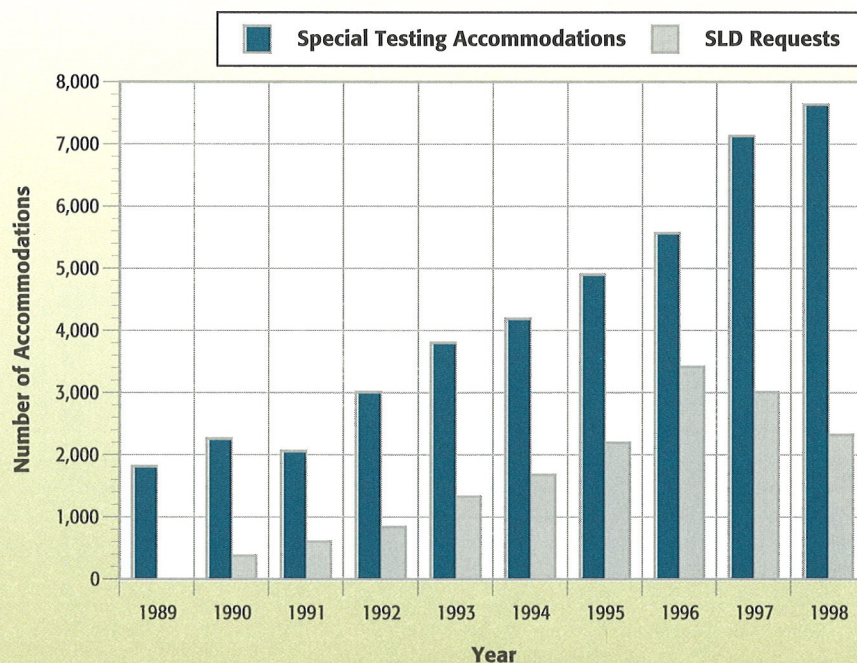
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► About 1,500 adults used special reading devices (e.g., magnifiers) or marking devices (e.g., scribes or keyboards) to accommodate individual needs.

► A total of 3,482 adults requested and received additional time to complete the GED Tests because of diagnosed disabilities.

FIGURE 6

Number of Special Testing Accommodations (1989–1998) and Number of Persons Requesting SLD Accommodations (1990–1998)



SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 7**Highest Grade Completed**

Jurisdiction	Percentage of People Tested Who Completed Grade							Avg. Grade
	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	
Alabama	0.6	2.1	9.2	19.3	30.3	31.1	7.4	10.0
Alaska	1.4	1.2	8.4	19.6	32.5	32.8	4.1	10.0
Arizona	1.4	1.4	9.7	17.8	28.4	33.8	7.6	10.0
Arkansas	0.8	2.1	9.0	19.3	30.8	34.4	3.7	10.0
California	10.4	0.9	3.8	10.9	23.6	43.9	6.5	9.9
Colorado	1.1	1.1	7.3	19.3	31.7	35.6	4.0	10.0
Connecticut	1.6	1.0	10.2	23.4	29.5	29.7	4.5	9.9
Delaware	0.8	0.7	11.9	22.3	36.6	26.5	1.3	9.8
District of Columbia	0.8	1.7	7.0	19.9	30.8	35.1	4.7	10.0
Florida	0.7	1.4	8.6	19.7	29.8	34.4	5.5	10.0
Georgia	6.4	1.2	9.1	20.1	30.6	28.4	4.3	9.7
Hawaii	0.3	0.4	5.4	16.5	29.1	41.0	7.2	10.3
Idaho	1.2	1.7	9.2	21.1	31.6	30.6	4.6	9.9
Illinois	2.0	1.2	7.0	17.7	31.3	35.0	5.7	10.0
Indiana	0.5	1.0	8.6	19.1	33.0	34.7	3.1	10.0
Iowa	0.4	0.9	7.2	16.7	37.1	35.2	2.5	10.0
Kansas	1.0	1.2	7.7	21.0	32.0	33.9	3.2	10.0
Kentucky	0.5	1.8	11.5	22.0	32.2	30.5	1.5	9.8
Louisiana	14.5	1.5	12.3	25.5	19.1	25.2	2.0	9.2
Maine	0.8	1.5	11.8	22.5	30.7	29.8	2.9	9.8
Maryland	0.9	2.1	11.5	25.1	29.8	27.4	3.1	9.8
Massachusetts	1.6	1.7	10.3	20.0	29.6	34.7	2.1	9.9
Michigan	0.7	1.4	7.5	18.2	35.2	35.2	1.8	10.0
Minnesota	0.7	0.7	4.5	15.3	31.8	43.0	4.1	10.2
Mississippi	0.9	3.0	12.7	22.6	28.3	27.0	5.4	9.8
Missouri	0.6	1.6	9.4	21.9	34.6	28.4	3.5	9.9
Montana	0.7	1.1	10.2	21.4	31.1	30.7	4.8	9.9
Nebraska	1.0	1.2	6.9	19.9	33.1	33.2	4.7	10.0
Nevada	0.5	0.9	5.4	15.2	31.7	40.6	5.6	10.2
New Hampshire	0.6	1.9	11.1	20.7	32.3	30.8	2.6	9.9
New Jersey	0.9	1.3	8.1	18.6	30.3	32.7	8.1	10.1
New Mexico	1.6	1.4	9.1	21.6	30.0	32.5	3.9	9.9
New York	1.8	1.1	6.7	18.4	29.0	31.6	11.3	10.1
North Carolina	3.5	3.5	7.0	26.7	33.3	24.4	1.6	9.6
North Dakota	0.2	1.3	11.1	22.5	30.9	31.0	2.9	9.9
Ohio	2.1	0.7	8.6	18.5	30.2	36.2	3.6	10.0
Oklahoma	1.0	1.7	9.9	22.0	30.5	31.7	3.2	9.9
Oregon	1.2	1.2	9.0	20.3	31.8	32.4	4.1	9.9
Pennsylvania	1.4	1.4	8.7	21.4	32.6	31.2	3.3	9.9
Rhode Island	0.7	2.2	6.5	20.1	29.4	30.7	10.3	10.1
South Carolina	0.7	1.7	12.3	27.6	31.7	23.6	2.4	9.7
South Dakota	0.5	1.3	14.5	25.0	30.9	26.4	1.5	9.7
Tennessee	0.6	1.9	8.5	19.5	32.0	33.7	3.8	10.0
Texas	6.0	2.0	9.8	23.0	27.1	26.4	5.6	9.7
Utah	0.4	0.8	3.5	11.6	24.6	46.4	12.8	10.5
Vermont	0.3	1.9	12.2	19.2	31.3	31.5	3.6	9.9
Virginia	0.8	1.8	10.1	21.0	30.8	33.0	2.4	9.9
Washington	1.7	1.7	8.6	18.8	30.1	33.3	5.8	10.0
West Virginia	0.8	2.9	12.2	23.8	29.4	28.6	2.4	9.7
Wisconsin	0.7	0.6	5.2	15.1	27.6	47.6	3.3	10.2
Wyoming	0.8	0.9	6.4	15.6	29.8	38.3	8.1	10.2
American Samoa	N/A ¹	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fed. Micronesia	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Guam	0.0	0.0	2.2	8.9	29.7	55.0	4.2	10.5
N. Mariana Islands	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.7	34.0	52.1	2.1	10.4
Palau	0.0	2.9	5.7	17.1	40.0	31.4	2.9	10.0
Puerto Rico	1.0	4.1	27.4	32.6	22.2	11.1	1.5	9.1
Marshall Islands	0.0	0.0	13.5	9.2	26.4	42.3	8.6	10.2
Virgin Islands	0.3	1.1	12.9	14.4	17.2	24.7	29.3	10.4
U.S. + IAFAS	2.6	1.6	8.7	19.9	29.7	32.6	5.0	9.9

¹ N/A = not available at time of publication.

² Secondary school grade placement systems in Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and elsewhere are not easily correlated to North American practices.

NOTE: These numbers include both those examinees who did and did not meet the minimum score requirement in each jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction	Percentage of People Tested Who Completed Grade							Avg. Grade
	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	
Alberta	0.5	1.6	4.5	18.1	36.6	31.2	7.5	10.1
British Columbia	0.6	2.2	6.7	17.1	44.8	28.1	0.6	9.9
Manitoba	0.9	2.6	9.7	25.0	31.2	29.7	1.0	9.8
New Brunswick	1.2	3.8	11.2	17.3	31.8	25.4	9.3	9.9
Newfoundland	0.0	3.8	9.8	28.1	29.7	28.6	0.0	9.7
Northwest Terr.	1.7	4.2	10.0	30.0	27.5	26.7	0.0	9.6
Nova Scotia	1.6	4.5	11.2	25.7	32.2	24.5	0.5	9.6
Ontario	0.2	0.5	6.4	13.0	31.7	38.3	10.0	10.3
Prince Edward Isld.	2.4	2.8	10.3	26.9	31.6	26.1	0.0	9.6
Saskatchewan	1.6	3.2	10.4	24.8	35.8	21.8	2.3	9.6
Yukon Territory	1.6	11.3	4.8	19.4	41.9	17.7	3.2	9.5
Canada	0.9	2.6	8.3	20.2	35.9	28.1	3.9	9.9
Federal Corr. Inst.	9.5	3.9	10.2	17.7	22.1	27.9	8.8	9.6
International	N O T R E P O R T E D ²							
Michigan Prisons	1.6	2.4	11.2	22.4	33.2	26.3	2.9	9.7
Overseas: Non-Mil.	0.9	1.7	5.2	11.5	28.8	36.6	15.3	10.4
Overseas: Military	1.1	0.0	1.1	4.5	19.1	57.3	16.9	10.8
CONUS Military	0.0	0.0	1.9	5.7	23.7	51.3	17.4	10.8
VA Hospitals	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	10.0
GEDTS	6.5	3.1	9.7	17.9	25.3	29.5	8.1	9.7
Program Total	2.6	1.6	8.7	19.9	29.7	32.4	5.0	9.9

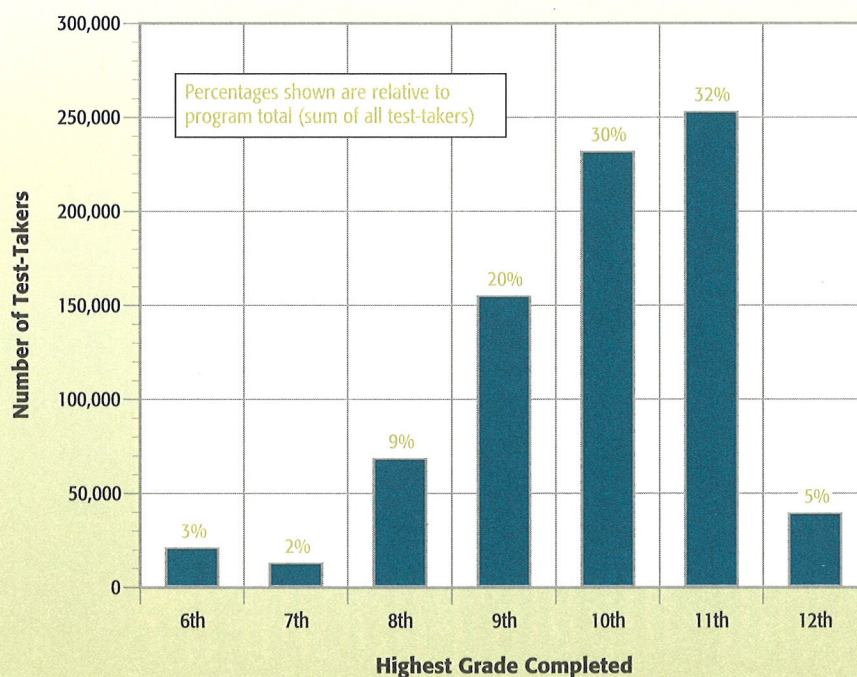
TABLE 7
Continued

► More than one in three (37 percent) adults who took the tests in 1998 reported completing eleventh grade or higher before leaving high school.

► More than two out of every three (67.1 percent) adults reported completing tenth grade or higher before leaving high school.

FIGURE 7

Number and Percentage of People Who Took the GED Tests in 1998, by Highest Grade Completed



SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 8

**Additional Data:
Number of
People Tested,
GED Testing
Centers, Active-
Duty Military
Personnel, and
Reasons for
Taking GED
Tests**

Jurisdiction	Number Tested	Number of GED Testing Centers	Active-Duty Military Personnel	Reasons for Taking the GED Tests			
				Education		Employment	
				Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Alabama	13,465	56	23	8,380	62.2	4,160	30.9
Alaska	2,822	28	2	1,687	59.8	985	34.9
Arizona	14,303	37	0	11,792	82.4	5,691	39.8
Arkansas	9,571	63	1	7,304	76.3	3,002	31.4
California ¹	54,362	216	33	34,795	64.0	N/C ⁴	N/C
Colorado ¹	13,865	35	17	9,507	68.6	N/C ⁴	N/C
Connecticut	6,884	25	10	2,267	32.9	1,658	24.1
Delaware	1,050	5	0	774	73.7	204	19.4
District of Columbia	1,578	1	5	1,197	75.9	75	4.8
Florida	46,680	78	65	37,480	80.3	7,872	16.9
Georgia	31,511	65	4	8,958	28.4	5,617	17.8
Hawaii	2,018	13	4	1,497	74.2	604	29.9
Idaho	6,092	9	6	4,465	73.3	1,912	31.4
Illinois	37,759	78	12	29,882	79.1	7,437	19.7
Indiana	17,135	79	74	13,482	78.7	7,929	46.3
Iowa	7,871	15	0	4,778	60.7	1,661	21.1
Kansas	9,453	48	0	7,012	74.2	2,522	26.7
Kentucky	15,115	56	20	10,756	71.2	5,136	34.0
Louisiana	8,868	49	11	7,366	83.1	3,447	38.9
Maine	3,366	82	2	1,745	51.8	1,405	41.7
Maryland	11,655	21	16	8,986	77.1	1,126	9.7
Massachusetts	13,434	34	16	10,089	75.1	3,431	25.5
Michigan	26,821	153	3	16,135	60.2	8,298	30.9
Minnesota	11,659	65	4	8,476	72.7	3,924	33.7
Mississippi	8,692	74	24	6,256	72.0	3,390	39.0
Missouri	14,560	24	0	12,651	86.9	6,267	43.0
Montana	3,042	26	3	2,499	82.1	1,471	48.4
Nebraska	4,081	48	3	2,998	73.5	820	20.1
Nevada	5,421	21	7	4,200	77.5	2,028	37.4
New Hampshire	2,298	22	7	1,491	64.9	585	25.5
New Jersey	14,446	26	18	11,558	80.0	4,820	33.4
New Mexico	8,379	26	8	5,881	70.2	2,606	31.1
New York	64,789	88	0	47,348	73.1	17,021	26.3
North Carolina	21,654	78	35	15,493	71.5	1,041	4.8
North Dakota	1,727	20	0	823	47.7	536	31.0
Ohio	22,633	180	0	17,391	76.8	2,570	11.4
Oklahoma	11,200	52	16	8,746	78.1	4,784	42.7
Oregon	12,900	42	21	5,966	46.2	3,061	23.7
Pennsylvania	27,494	81	51	6,033	21.9	6,161	22.4
Rhode Island	5,229	12	2	3,710	71.0	839	16.0
South Carolina ¹	8,083	1	401	6,692	82.8	N/C ⁴	N/C
South Dakota	2,505	32	6	1,746	69.7	1,247	49.8
Tennessee	20,568	40	11	12,378	60.2	7,117	34.6
Texas ²	80,032	228	0	61,064	76.3	30,358	37.9
Utah	6,443	22	11	4,847	75.2	1,796	27.9
Vermont	1,595	17	0	1,005	63.0	405	25.4
Virginia	14,661	63	28	10,635	72.5	5,614	38.3
Washington	19,860	58	22	12,813	64.5	4,994	25.1
West Virginia	6,112	63	10	3,966	64.9	3,516	57.5
Wisconsin	18,316	70	5	10,672	58.3	2,852	15.6
Wyoming	1,704	29	1	1,035	60.7	597	35.0
American Samoa	N/A ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fed. Micronesia	N/A ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Guam	313	1	0	217	69.3	70	22.4
N. Mariana Islands	94	1	0	66	70.2	28	29.8
Palau	43	1	0	26	60.5	26	60.5
Puerto Rico	19,084	9	0	9,421	49.4	9,325	48.9
Marshall Islands	171	1	0	110	64.3	44	25.7
Virgin Islands	348	2	0	193	55.5	145	41.7
U.S. + IAFAS	795,814	2,769	1,018	538,740	67.7	204,230	28.4

¹ California, Colorado, and South Carolina did not collect this data in 1998.

² In 1997, Texas reported 2,630 active-duty military personnel. This figure was later determined to reflect the number of candidates taking the GED Tests for enlistment.

³ N/A = not available at time of publication.

⁴ N/C = data not collected.

⁵ Centers are the same as those used for overseas non-military.

TABLE 8

Continued

Jurisdiction	Number Tested	Number of GED Testing Centers	Active-Duty Military Personnel	Reasons for Taking the GED Tests			
				Education		Employment	
				Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Alberta	2,206	22	45	1,693	76.7	768	34.8
British Columbia	3,407	1	0	1,876	55.1	1,229	36.1
Manitoba	943	1	5	649	68.8	373	39.6
New Brunswick	1,270	2	20	755	59.4	229	18.0
Newfoundland	365	1	1	267	73.2	0	0.0
Northwest Terr.	120	2	0	108	90.0	12	10.0
Nova Scotia	1,967	1	37	1,547	78.6	691	35.1
Ontario	2,216	1	0	12	0.5	1	0.0
Prince Edward Isld.	263	1	2	173	65.8	166	63.1
Saskatchewan	2,508	1	0	1,097	43.7	1,235	49.2
Yukon Territory	63	1	0	42	66.7	19	30.2
Canada	15,328	33	110	8,219	53.6	4,723	31.6
Federal Corr. Inst.	6,982	96	0	5,241	75.1	1,745	25.0
International	259	381	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Michigan Prisons	2,686	38	0	2,337	87.0	1,016	37.8
Overseas: Non-Mil.	362	125	0	292	80.7	106	29.3
Overseas: Military ⁵	90	—	90	76	84.4	39	43.3
CONUS Military	657	268	486	494	75.2	341	51.9
VA Hospitals	3	8	0	3	100	2	66.7
GEDTS	11,039	916	576	8,443	78.3	3,249	30.1
Program Total	822,181	3,718	1,704	555,402	67.6	212,202	28.5

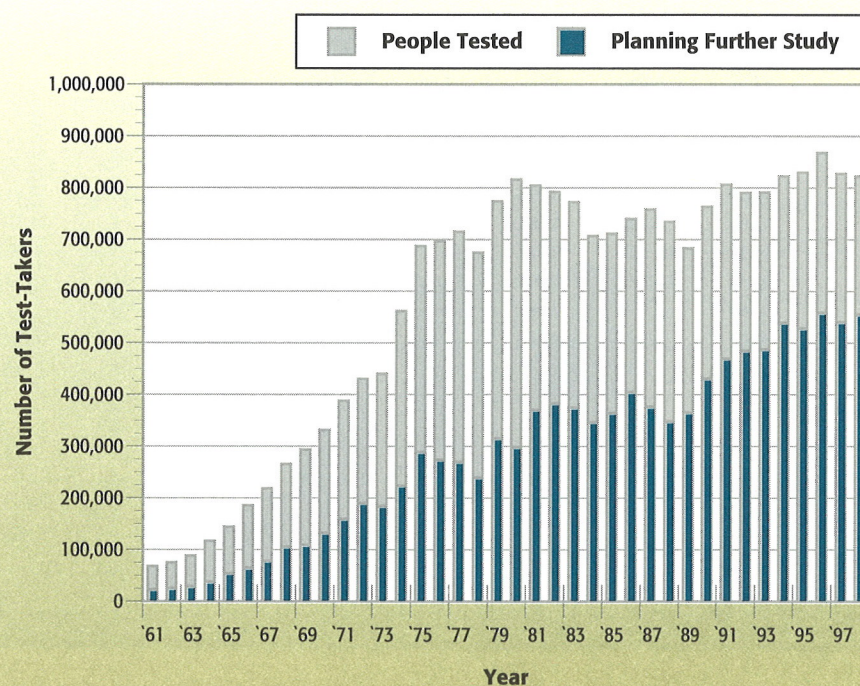
► Nearly two of every three (67.7 percent) U.S. adults, and one in two (53.6 percent) Canadian adults reported that they took the tests for further training and education beyond the high school level.

► More than one in four (28.5 percent) adults cited employment as the motivation for earning a GED high school credential.

► GED Tests were administered at 3,718 testing centers in 1998.

FIGURE 8

Number of GED Candidates Planning Further Study Compared with Total Number Tested, 1961–1998



SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 9

**Credentials
Issued, 1988,
1994–1998;
Percent Change,
1988–1998; and
Cumulative
Credentials
Issued Since
1971**

Jurisdiction	1988	1994	1995 ¹	1996	1997	1998	Percent Change 88–98	Cum. 71–98
Alabama	6,486	8,477	8,070	7,647	8,039	8,065	24.3	254,666
Alaska	1,736	1,679	1,714	2,111	1,563	1,815	4.6	57,036
Arizona	9,098	10,619	11,608	11,042	9,802	10,514	15.6	215,728
Arkansas	6,375	6,794	7,570	7,686	7,998	8,134	27.6	167,210
California	11,888	41,187	39,268	39,211	37,463	35,654	199.9	474,173
Colorado	7,592	6,987	7,482	8,126	8,168	8,885	17.0	191,818
Connecticut	4,213	4,693	5,152	4,758	4,554	4,789	13.7	120,601
Delaware	768	1,042	784	839	747	769	0.1	24,086
District of Columbia	461	1,025	794	851	827	725	57.3	31,148
Florida	21,825	36,122	37,057	38,318	39,371	35,530	62.8	726,307
Georgia	12,656	21,200	21,166	17,914	15,577	17,774	40.4	360,333
Hawaii	1,723	1,389	1,313	1,361	1,303	1,333	-22.6	39,808
Idaho	899	787	824	1,133	660	611	-32.0	24,798
Illinois	14,803	17,798	16,842	8,011	N/C ¹	18,549	25.3	396,872
Indiana	10,916	11,439	12,044	13,363	13,137	12,799	17.2	221,688
Iowa	3,858	5,525	5,372	5,525	5,377	5,448	41.2	133,491
Kansas	6,479	6,193	5,899	6,517	5,835	5,993	-7.5	177,598
Kentucky	12,885	10,545	10,959	10,738	10,368	10,196	-20.9	301,485
Louisiana	8,592	8,292	8,371	8,517	7,020	6,638	-22.7	246,300
Maine	1,932	2,536	2,472	2,427	2,386	2,322	20.2	70,680
Maryland	5,444	5,843	5,948	5,600	5,855	6,446	18.4	183,236
Massachusetts	10,928	9,642	10,317	9,318	8,208	7,873	-28.0	247,091
Michigan	12,578	13,612	13,277	14,124	14,428	12,906	2.6	343,067
Minnesota	4,311	6,270	6,329	6,122	6,535	7,117	65.1	162,083
Mississippi	6,189	6,594	7,121	8,822	4,886	4,186	-32.4	176,534
Missouri	8,391	8,098	8,611	9,090	9,789	10,864	29.5	230,057
Montana	1,820	2,042	1,963	2,149	1,903	2,061	13.2	55,115
Nebraska	2,528	2,188	2,253	2,425	2,414	1,934	-23.5	63,210
Nevada	2,531	3,704	3,596	4,223	3,931	4,234	67.3	65,956
New Hampshire	1,739	1,997	1,912	1,717	1,616	1,707	-1.8	49,124
New Jersey	9,625	9,438	9,204	9,120	8,790	8,097	-15.9	307,345
New Mexico	4,324	5,050	5,082	4,657	5,150	4,481	3.6	129,751
New York	38,922	36,789	39,266	38,112	35,425	36,479	-6.3	1,033,040
North Carolina	13,604	13,186	14,090	14,091	13,871	14,580	7.2	365,473
North Dakota	830	856	860	982	938	1,013	22.0	27,256
Ohio	17,127	16,315	18,039	17,236	16,831	16,745	-2.2	351,653
Oklahoma	3,677	6,882	6,965	7,645	8,085	7,986	117.2	167,771
Oregon	7,731	7,035	7,966	7,889	7,378	7,718	-0.2	193,203
Pennsylvania	11,601	17,941	18,448	19,162	17,440	19,658	69.5	475,424
Rhode Island	1,808	1,827	2,507	2,626	2,592	2,545	40.8	69,133
South Carolina	4,597	5,062	5,421	5,320	4,801	5,285	15.0	123,699
South Dakota	1,023	1,072	1,149	1,261	1,505	1,552	51.7	37,774
Tennessee	12,551	11,767	12,430	13,613	13,136	13,168	4.9	274,865
Texas	45,027	59,888	57,794	62,409	44,793	47,098	4.6	1,170,400
Utah	1,050	869	3,065	4,242	4,643	4,878	364.6	31,886
Vermont	1,195	1,186	1,048	1,512	1,310	855	-28.5	33,011
Virginia	9,133	10,167	9,822	8,774	9,132	9,426	3.2	260,681
Washington	12,790	11,091	10,849	11,657	11,853	10,961	-14.3	252,456
West Virginia	5,564	4,124	4,463	4,434	4,001	3,658	-34.3	131,839
Wisconsin	4,603	5,944	8,184	7,254	7,601	7,888	71.4	178,915
Wyoming	1,270	1,220	1,073	1,175	1,127	1,271	0.1	34,147
American Samoa	14	17	23	20	10	N/A ²	N/A	N/A
Fed. Micronesia ³	30	205	124	103	9	N/A ²	N/A	N/A
Guam	62	161	175	157	159	176	183.9	3,468
N. Mariana Islands	N/A ²	N/A	N/A	N/A	17	23	N/A	40
Palau ³	N/A ²	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	26	N/A	26
Puerto Rico	11,098	6,299	9,046	11,053	10,502	14,404	29.8	200,719
Marshall Islands ³	N/A ²	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	N/A	10
Virgin Islands	116	161	119	152	115	201	73.3	3,578
U.S. + IAFAS	421,016	498,872	513,301	514,341	470,977	496,053	17.8	11,670,924

¹ N/C = These data were not collected at the state level in 1997.

² N/A = not available at time of publication.

³ Prior to 1998, data for the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands were reported under the category of Micronesia; 1997 data for the combined jurisdictions have been reported under the category of Fed. Micronesia. All three jurisdictions are self-governing and have free-association status with the United States of America.

⁴ Ontario initiated GED testing in 1996.

Jurisdiction	1988	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	Percent Change 88-98	Cum. 71-98
Alberta	2,649	1,912	1,863	1,768	1,401	1,526	-42.4	37,742
British Columbia	4,495	3,213	2,855	2,542	2,314	2,270	-49.5	82,971
Manitoba	1,434	837	681	751	787	610	-57.5	39,746
New Brunswick	1,636	1,016	983	944	757	717	-56.2	25,135
Newfoundland	517	470	319	385	302	171	-66.9	16,140
Northwest Terr.	66	97	42	56	43	57	-13.6	2,108
Nova Scotia	1,716	2,483	1,781	1,476	1,322	1,215	-29.2	46,515
Ontario ⁴	N/A	N/A	N/A	594	1,547	1,755	N/A	3,896
Prince Edward Isld.	190	123	133	164	182	236	24.2	6,116
Saskatchewan	1,565	1,512	1,453	1,454	1,349	1,539	-1.7	52,508
Yukon Territory	34	52	52	51	56	41	20.6	1,309
Canada	14,302	11,715	10,162	10,185	10,060	10,137	-29.1	314,186
Program Total	435,318	510,587	523,463	524,526	481,037	506,190	16.3	11,985,110

TABLE 9

Continued

► New York, the first state to administer GED Tests to civilians, is the second state to exceed one million credentials issued, with 1,033,040 GED credentials issued as of 1998.

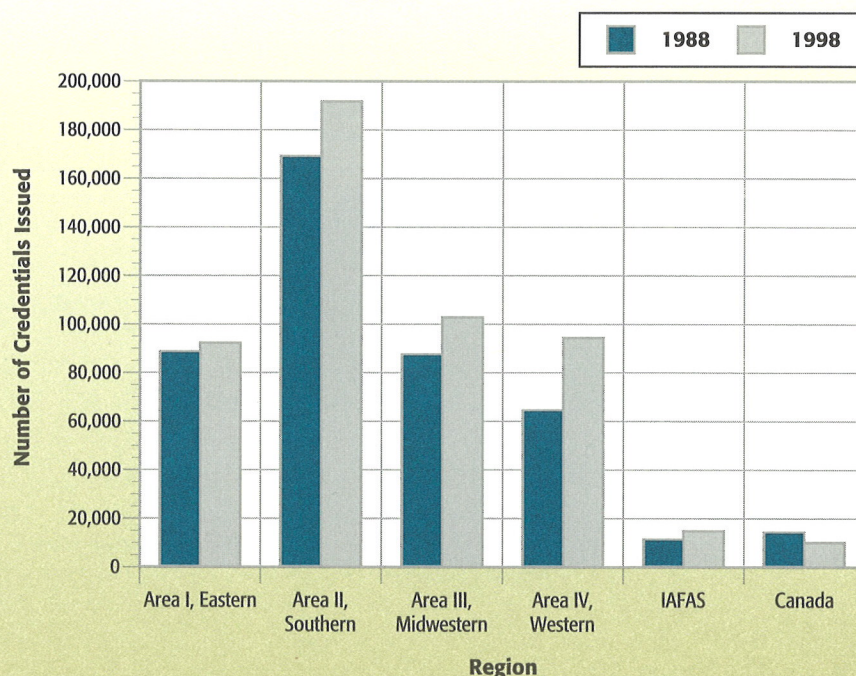
► More than half a million (506,190) adults worldwide earned GED credentials in 1998.

► The number of adults taking the GED Tests in the U.S. has increased 16 percent during the past decade.

► The number of Canadian adults taking the GED Tests has declined significantly (29.1 percent) over the past decade.

FIGURE 9

Changes in a Decade: Number of Credentials Issued in 1988 and in 1998, by Region



NOTE: Please refer to p. 35 for definition of geographic regions.

SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 10

Population of Adults Without High School Diplomas, GED Participation Rate, and GED Credentialing Rate, by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Population of Adults Without Diplomas ¹	Number Completing Battery	Participation Rate (percent) ²	Number of Credentials Issued	Credentialing Rate (percent) ³
Alabama	936,269	13,387	1.4	8,065	0.9
Alaska	51,195	1,930	3.8	1,815	3.5
Arizona	579,369	13,795	2.4	10,514	1.8
Arkansas	549,931	9,571	1.7	8,134	1.5
California	5,327,621	44,458	0.8	35,654	0.7
Colorado	375,970	8,809	2.3	8,885	2.4
Connecticut	503,961	6,430	1.3	4,789	1.0
Delaware	107,443	1,009	0.9	769	0.7
District of Columbia	125,948	1,578	1.3	725	0.6
Florida	2,541,872	45,445	1.8	35,530	1.4
Georgia	1,329,996	26,213	2.0	17,774	1.3
Hawaii	152,820	1,918	1.3	1,333	0.9
Idaho	138,389	3,759	2.7	611	0.4
Illinois	1,937,684	31,665	1.6	18,549	1.0
Indiana	951,428	16,968	1.8	12,799	1.3
Iowa	380,196	4,961	1.3	5,448	1.4
Kansas	325,477	7,205	2.2	5,993	1.8
Kentucky	909,162	13,849	1.5	10,196	1.1
Louisiana	905,263	8,847	1.0	6,638	0.7
Maine	184,979	2,392	1.3	2,322	1.3
Maryland	754,722	11,281	1.5	6,446	0.9
Massachusetts	882,624	11,208	1.3	7,873	0.9
Michigan	1,515,421	19,936	1.3	12,906	0.9
Minnesota	529,532	8,363	1.6	7,117	1.3
Mississippi	610,713	8,240	1.3	4,186	0.7
Missouri	944,893	14,291	1.5	10,864	1.1
Montana	105,698	2,653	2.5	2,061	1.9
Nebraska	196,144	2,466	1.3	1,934	1.0
Nevada	195,739	5,320	2.7	4,234	2.2
New Hampshire	144,234	1,999	1.4	1,707	1.2
New Jersey	1,324,806	13,591	1.0	8,097	0.6
New Mexico	260,091	6,772	2.6	4,481	1.7
New York	3,301,373	62,786	1.9	36,479	1.1
North Carolina	1,416,966	17,141	1.2	14,580	1.0
North Dakota	97,028	1,128	1.2	1,013	1.0
Ohio	1,851,680	22,054	1.2	16,745	0.9
Oklahoma	560,140	11,081	2.0	7,986	1.4
Oregon	393,844	9,096	2.3	7,718	2.0
Pennsylvania	2,160,811	25,032	1.2	19,658	0.9
Rhode Island	203,614	3,301	1.6	2,545	1.2
South Carolina	763,897	8,015	1.0	5,285	0.7
South Dakota	106,575	1,752	1.6	1,552	1.5
Tennessee	1,144,588	20,102	1.8	13,168	1.2
Texas	3,299,572	69,346	2.1	47,098	1.4
Utah	160,799	6,001	3.7	4,878	3.0
Vermont	76,341	981	1.3	855	1.1
Virginia	1,099,302	14,564	1.3	9,426	0.9
Washington	583,563	13,425	2.3	10,961	1.9
West Virginia	432,738	5,750	1.3	3,658	0.8
Wisconsin	721,374	9,789	1.4	7,888	1.1
Wyoming	51,995	1,344	2.6	1,271	2.4
American Samoa	11,364	N/A ⁴	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fed. Micronesia	N/A ⁴	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Guam	21,688	301	1.4	176	0.8
N. Mariana Islands	11,025	59	0.5	23	0.2
Palau	3,950	36	0.9	26	0.7
Puerto Rico	1,241,864	19,084	1.5	14,404	1.2
Marshall Islands	N/A ⁴	165	N/A	10	N/A
Virgin Islands	27,962	348	1.2	201	0.7
U.S. + IAFAS	45,523,643	692,990	1.5	496,053	1.1

¹ Population totals for the U.S. and Insular Areas and Freely Associated States are based on 1990 U.S. Census data for persons ages 16 and older, out of school, without high school diplomas (unpublished document tabulated for the U.S. Department of Education by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1993). The numbers are estimates from a 20 percent sample of the U.S. population and are derived from the Summary Tape File 3 (STF3), 1990 Census of Population and Housing. Population totals for Canadian jurisdictions are based on 1991 Canadian Census data for persons ages 15 and older, out of school, without secondary-level credentials or further training (Statistics Canada, 1991 Canada Census; Cat. No. 93-328, Table 5).

² Participation rate is the number of persons completing the GED battery divided by the population of out-of-school adults without secondary-level (high school) credentials.

³ Credentialing rate is the number of persons issued GED credentials divided by the population of out-of-school adults without secondary-level (high school) credentials.

⁴ N/A = not available at time of publication.

Jurisdiction	Population of Adults Without Diplomas ¹	Number Completing Battery	Participation Rate (percent) ²	Number of Credentials Issued	Credentialing Rate (percent) ³
Alberta	573,165	2,137	0.4	1,526	0.3
British Columbia	745,970	3,323	0.4	2,270	0.3
Manitoba	323,970	906	0.3	610	0.2
New Brunswick	218,190	1,230	0.6	717	0.3
Newfoundland	182,075	354	0.2	171	0.1
Northwest Terr.	14,520	120	0.8	57	0.4
Nova Scotia	256,545	1,923	0.7	1,215	0.5
Ontario	2,399,740	2,177	0.1	1,755	0.1
Prince Edward Isld.	36,590	263	0.7	236	0.6
Saskatchewan	289,740	2,400	0.8	1,539	0.5
Yukon Territory	4,595	62	1.3	41	0.9
Canada	5,045,100	14,895	0.3	10,137	0.2
Federal Corr. Inst.	N/A ⁴	6,926	N/A		
International	N/A ⁴	259	N/A		
Michigan Prisons	N/A ⁴	2,328	N/A		
Overseas: Non-Mil.	N/A ⁴	351	N/A		
Overseas: Military	N/A ⁴	89	N/A		
CONUS Military	N/A ⁴	623	N/A		
VA Hospitals	N/A ⁴	3	N/A		
GEDTS	N/A ⁴	10,579	N/A		
Program Total	50,568,743	718,464	1.4	506,190	1.0

TABLE 10

Continued

► In 1990, more than 50 million adults throughout North America lacked high school diplomas: 44 million in the U.S., 1 million in the U.S. Insular Areas and Freely Associated States, and 5 million in Canada.

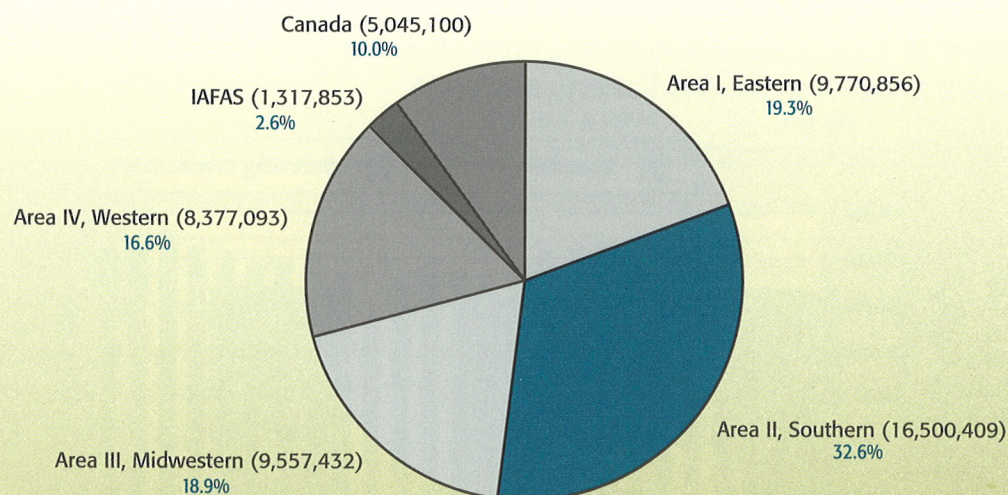
► In 1998, only 1.4 percent of adults who did not graduate from high school took the GED Tests.

► Program wide, only 1 percent of adults without high school diplomas earned GED credentials in 1998.

► Six states at least doubled the 1 percent international credentialing rate: Alaska (3.5), Utah (3.0), Wyoming (2.4), Colorado (2.4), Nevada (2.2), and Oregon (2.0).

FIGURE 10

Percentage and Number of Out-of-School Adults Without High School Diplomas, by Region



NOTE: Please refer to p. 35 for definition of geographic regions.
SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 11

Trends in GED Testing, 1949–1998

► An estimated 13.6 million adults have earned GED credentials since 1949.

► In 1998, the percentage of adults meeting the GED score requirement increased to 70.9 percent from 68.6 percent in 1997. The 1998 figure is close to the 1996 rate of 71.7 percent, which reflects the percentage of adults earning credentials before the implementation of increased minimum score requirements in January 1997.

► The percentage of adults planning education beyond the high school level (67.6 percent) has more than doubled since 1963 (33 percent).

¹ The percentage of people meeting the score requirement in 1949–1953 was estimated by the average percentage in 1954–1959.

² The numbers of credentials issued in 1949–1970 are estimated by the numbers of all examinees who met state score requirements in those years.

³ N/A = not available.

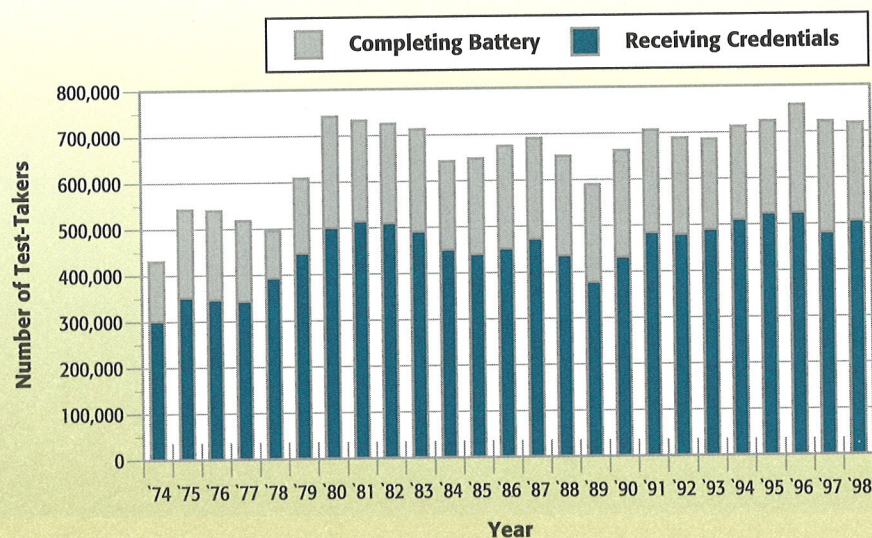
⁴ Average number of testing centers for the 18-year period.

SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

Year	Official GED Test Centers Number	Completed Battery Number	Met Score Req. ¹ Percent	Age Average	Years of Schooling Average	Planning Further Study Percent	Credentials Issued ² Number	Total Number Tested
1949–67 ⁴	706	—	75.0	28.8	9.9	34.8	—	1,057,358
1968	1,336	—	69.4	29.5	9.7	39.9	184,256	265,499
1969	1,566	—	71.7	29.4	9.7	37.3	210,404	293,451
1970	1,711	—	70.8	29.1	9.7	40.1	234,726	331,534
1971	1,858	—	68.7	28.0	9.8	41.2	231,558	387,733
1972	1,997	—	67.4	27.4	9.8	44.3	248,790	430,346
1973	2,135	—	68.2	25.1	9.8	42.0	256,905	440,216
1974	2,421	430,253	68.9	27.2	10.7	40.0	300,674	561,203
1975	2,462	541,914	70.2	25.1	10.0	42.1	351,327	687,426
1976	2,549	539,729	67.8	25.4	10.0	39.4	346,490	696,623
1977	2,704	517,847	69.7	25.0	10.0	37.8	342,828	715,116
1978	2,708	495,728	N/A ³	25.9	9.9	35.6	392,511	674,724
1979	2,799	608,229	68.4	25.3	10.0	40.8	445,426	773,996
1980	2,753	741,601	70.8	25.1	10.0	36.6	500,203	816,176
1981	2,900	732,229	72.1	25.1	9.9	46.1	513,549	804,813
1982	3,046	724,971	73.9	25.1	9.9	48.4	509,155	792,132
1983	3,009	711,946	73.1	25.4	9.8	48.6	490,329	772,080
1984	3,395	641,697	73.0	25.8	9.8	49.1	450,331	707,076
1985	3,371	647,496	72.4	25.8	9.8	51.3	439,922	711,392
1986	3,243	674,430	72.6	26.5	9.9	54.8	451,294	739,683
1987	3,314	690,509	74.1	26.7	9.9	49.7	472,007	758,367
1988	3,450	651,247	72.3	26.7	9.9	47.5	435,318	734,087
1989	3,468	589,002	68.4	26.2	10.0	53.6	376,879	682,728
1990	3,316	662,789	69.9	26.5	9.9	56.5	431,231	763,618
1991	3,445	706,182	71.5	26.4	9.9	58.6	483,854	806,038
1992	3,401	688,582	71.4	26.6	9.9	61.4	479,252	790,565
1993	3,250	685,304	71.4	26.0	9.9	61.7	489,474	790,165
1994	3,300	712,421	73.0	25.6	9.9	65.6	510,587	822,537
1995	3,255	723,899	72.0	25.3	9.9	63.7	523,463	829,904
1996	3,493	758,570	71.7	25.0	9.9	64.4	524,526	867,802
1997	3,287	722,461	68.6	24.7	9.9	65.4	481,037	827,105
1998	3,718	718,464	70.9	24.6	9.9	67.6	506,190	822,181
Total							13,671,855	22,525,490

FIGURE 11

Number of GED Candidates Receiving Credentials Compared with Number Completing the Test Battery, 1974–1998



Minimum GED Score Standard ²	Percentage of H.S. Graduates Meeting Standard ³	Jurisdictions Requiring GED Standard
U.S. + Territories		
Minimum 40 and Mean 45	67	Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, ⁴ Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Kwajalein, Puerto Rico, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of Palau, Virgin Islands
Minimum 40 and Mean 46	64	Wisconsin
42 on Test 1, 40 on Tests 2–4, 45 on Test 5 and Mean 45		New Jersey
Minimum 42 and Mean 45		Florida ⁴
Canada		
Minimum 45	66	Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick (English and French), Newfoundland, ⁵ Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Yukon Territory

TABLE 12
GED Passing Score Requirements:¹ Percentage of High School Graduates Meeting GED Standard and Jurisdictions Requiring GED Standard in 1998

¹ Jurisdictional requirements are described in the *GED Examiner's Manual*, Sections 3.8-3-3.8-5.

² Each jurisdiction that awards high school equivalency credentials based on the GED Tests establishes its own minimum score requirement. As of January 1997, the GED Testing Service raised the minimum score requirement for passing the GED Tests to "a minimum of 40 and a mean of 45." In the United States, this minimum standard was met by 67 percent of graduating high school seniors. Jurisdictions may set passing score requirements that are more stringent than this established minimum, but may not set a lower standard.

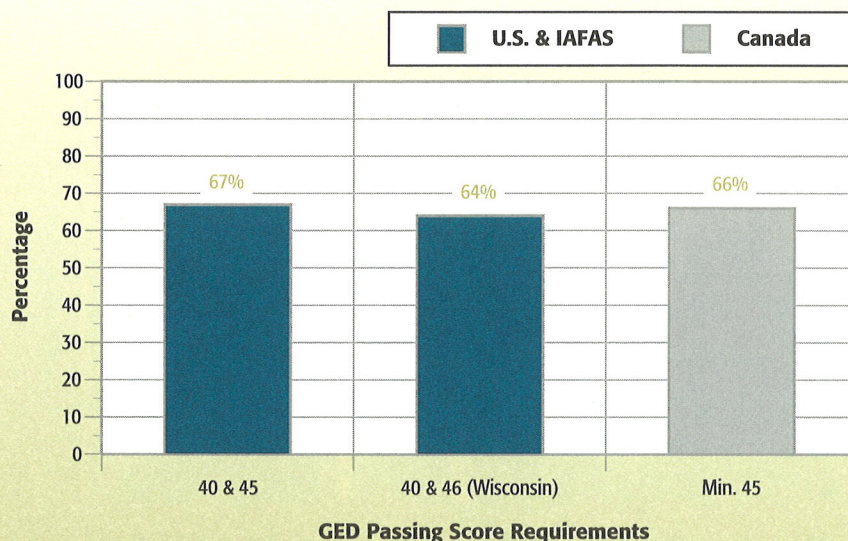
³ U.S. percentages are based on data from a national sample of graduating high school seniors who took all five sections of the GED Tests in the spring of 1996. The percentage reported for Canada is an estimate based on the performance of Canadian high school seniors who took individual GED Tests during the spring of 1996. This percentage was estimated using a conditional probability method.

⁴ Effective July 1, 1998, Florida raised its passing standard to a minimum standard score of 42 on each test and an average of 45.

⁵ In Table 12 of the 1996–97 *GED Annual Statistical Report*, Newfoundland was incorrectly reported as requiring a minimum of 40 and mean of 45. In September 1996, Newfoundland raised its passing standard to a minimum standard score of 45 on each test.

FIGURE 12

Percentage of High School Graduates Meeting GED Passing Score Requirements in U.S., Insular Areas and Freely Associated States, and in Canada



SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 13A

Effects of Higher GED Score Requirements on Passing Rate—Jurisdictions Where Standard Was Raised in 1997

► The overall increase in the 1998 passing rate in those jurisdictions where the standard was raised in 1997 was 2.5 percent, with 70.5 percent of the adults meeting the raised standard.

► Sixteen jurisdictions reported 1998 passing rates above their 1996 passing rate before the standards were raised: Alabama (5.0), Arizona (10.2), Connecticut (6.6), Georgia (3.0), Hawaii (2.1), Iowa (3.9), Kansas (2.2), Maine (2.9), Minnesota (3.2), Nevada (2.1), New Hampshire (2.0), North Carolina (.4), Pennsylvania (.9), South Carolina (1.3), Wyoming (4.9), and Puerto Rico (8.9).

¹ N/A = not available at time of publication.

² Previously reported under Micronesia.

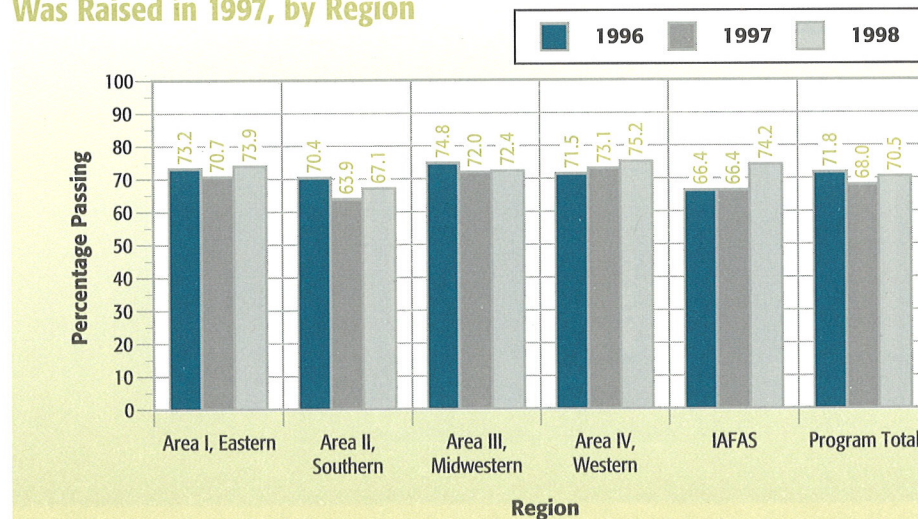
NOTE: Please refer to p. 35 for definition of geographic regions.

SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

Jurisdiction	Standard	Met Score Req. (Percent)	Standard	Met Score Req. (Percent)	Rate Change	Met Score Req. (Percent)	Rate Change
	1996	1996	1997	1997	1996-97	1998	1997-98
Alabama	35 and 45	55.2	40 and 45	58.4	3.2	60.2	1.9
Alaska	35 and 45	89.7	40 and 45	86.3	-3.4	85.0	-1.3
Arizona	35 and 45	63.8	40 and 45	72.4	8.7	74.0	1.6
Connecticut	35 and 45	65.6	40 and 45	68.9	3.2	72.2	3.4
Georgia	35 and 45	63.7	40 and 45	59.2	-4.5	66.7	7.5
Hawaii	35 and 45	70.6	40 and 45	69.4	-1.2	72.7	3.4
Illinois	35 and 45	64.0	40 and 45	61.0	-2.9	62.1	1.1
Indiana	35 and 45	76.8	40 and 45	74.0	-2.8	75.4	1.4
Iowa	35 and 45	91.4	40 and 45	91.3	-0.1	95.3	4.0
Kansas	35 and 45	81.0	40 and 45	83.0	2.0	83.2	0.1
Louisiana	40 or 45	76.7	40 and 45	75.1	-1.6	75.0	-0.1
Maine	35 and 45	94.2	40 and 45	91.6	-2.6	97.1	5.4
Massachusetts	35 and 45	70.1	40 and 45	66.3	-3.8	68.8	2.6
Michigan	35 and 45	72.8	40 and 45	68.4	-4.5	64.8	-3.6
Minnesota	35 and 45	82.7	40 and 45	82.6	-0.1	85.9	3.3
Mississippi	40 or 45	58.1	40 and 45	48.4	-9.7	50.8	2.4
Montana	35 and 45	77.9	40 and 45	74.6	-3.3	76.8	2.2
Nebraska	40 or 45	93.2	40 and 45	91.9	-1.2	89.1	-2.8
Nevada	35 and 45	76.4	40 and 45	75.3	-1.1	78.5	3.2
New Hampshire	35 and 45	83.2	40 and 45	82.6	-0.6	85.2	2.6
New Mexico	40 or 50	74.3	40 and 45	65.4	-8.8	68.7	3.2
North Carolina	35 and 45	84.7	40 and 45	83.0	-1.7	85.1	2.1
Ohio	35 and 45	78.6	40 and 45	74.0	-4.5	76.1	2.0
Pennsylvania	35 and 45	72.8	40 and 45	69.6	-3.2	73.7	4.1
Rhode Island	35 and 45	71.3	40 and 45	66.9	-4.4	69.2	2.3
South Carolina	35 and 45	64.6	40 and 45	56.7	-7.9	65.9	9.2
Tennessee	35 and 45	65.3	40 and 45	63.9	-1.4	64.9	1.0
Texas	40 or 45	75.2	40 and 45	64.2	-10.9	66.5	2.2
Vermont	35 and 45	90.5	40 and 45	92.1	1.6	84.5	-7.6
Virginia	35 and 45	71.6	40 and 45	62.3	-9.3	64.0	1.6
Wyoming	35 and 45	89.7	40 and 45	89.6	-0.1	94.6	5.0
American Samoa	40	60.6	40 and 45	34.5	-26.1	N/A ¹	N/A
Guam	35 and 45	66.7	40 and 45	72.5	5.8	58.5	-14.0
Marshall Islands ²	40 or 45	N/A ¹	40 and 45	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
N. Mariana Islands	40 or 45	N/A ¹	40 and 45	33.3	N/A	39.0	5.6
Puerto Rico	35 and 45	66.6	40 and 45	66.7	0.0	75.5	8.8
Virgin Islands	35 and 45	53.7	40 and 45	52.2	-1.6	53.7	1.6
Average	—	71.8	—	68.0	-3.8	70.5	2.5

FIGURE 13A

Passing Rate in Jurisdictions Where GED Score Standard Was Raised in 1997, by Region



Jurisdiction	Standard	Met Score Req. (Percent)	Standard	Met Score Req. (Percent)	Rate Change	Met Score Req. (Percent)	Rate Change
	1996	1996	1997	1997	1996-97	1998	1997-98
Arkansas	40 and 45	81.1	40 and 45	83.1	2.0	83.5	0.4
California	40 and 45	78.8	40 and 45	78.3	-0.5	78.9	0.6
Colorado	40 and 45	98.0	40 and 45	97.0	-1.0	98.3	1.3
Delaware	40 and 45	68.8	40 and 45	66.9	-1.9	76.2	9.3
District of Columbia	40 and 45	42.3	40 and 45	40.2	-2.1	45.9	5.7
Florida	40 and 45	77.2	40 and 45 *	70.9	-6.3	72.7	1.8
Idaho	40 and 45	88.5	40 and 45	91.9	3.4	89.4	-2.5
Kentucky	40 and 45	70.1	40 and 45	70.0	-0.1	71.9	1.9
Maryland	40 and 45	50.7	40 and 45	55.2	4.5	57.1	1.9
Missouri	40 and 45	72.7	40 and 45	74.0	1.3	75.6	1.6
New Jersey	NJ Min. ¹	53.3	NJ Min. ¹	53.3	-0.1	54.6	1.4
New York	40 and 45	58.0	40 and 45	51.6	-6.4	57.7	6.1
North Dakota	40 and 45	87.2	40 and 45	79.4	-7.8	82.5	3.2
Oklahoma	40 and 45	70.8	40 and 45	71.3	0.5	72.1	0.8
Oregon	40 and 45	89.1	40 and 45	88.9	-0.2	86.7	-2.3
South Dakota	40 and 45	81.0	40 and 45	81.5	0.6	86.0	4.5
Utah	40 and 45	79.4	40 and 45	79.7	0.3	81.3	1.6
Washington	40 and 45	83.0	40 and 45	82.6	-0.4	81.7	-0.9
West Virginia	40 and 45	70.2	40 and 45	69.4	-0.8	63.6	-5.8
Wisconsin	40 and 46	86.4	40 and 46	79.6	-6.7	75.7	-3.9
Fed. Micronesia	40 or 45	30.7	40 or 45	21.4	-9.2	N/A ²	N/A
Palau ³	40 and 45	N/A ²	40 and 45	N/A	N/A	72.2	N/A
Alberta	45	69.5	45	69.1	-0.4	71.4	2.3
British Columbia	45	70.4	45	72.0	1.6	68.3	-3.7
Manitoba	45	56.5	45	67.6	11.1	67.3	-0.3
New Brunswick	45	62.3	45	59.6	-2.7	58.3	-1.3
Newfoundland	45	57.8	45	47.3	-10.5	48.3	1.0
Northwest Terr.	45	43.4	45	44.3	0.9	47.5	3.2
Nova Scotia	45	53.6	45	59.6	6.0	63.2	3.6
Ontario	45	81.3	45	85.1	3.9	80.6	-4.5
Prince Edward Isld.	45	73.5	45	83.1	9.6	89.7	6.6
Saskatchewan	45	63.7	45	64.4	0.7	64.1	-0.3
Yukon Territory	45	59.3	45	58.3	-1.0	66.1	7.8
Average	—	71.2	—	69.2	-2.0	71.2	2.0

TABLE 13B

Effects of Higher GED Score Requirements on Passing Rate—Jurisdictions Where Standard Was Not Raised in 1997

► The overall change in the 1998 passing rate in those jurisdictions where the standard was not raised in 1997 was a 2 percent increase, which brought the passing rate to the same level as 1996.

¹ See Table 12 for New Jersey's minimum state requirements.

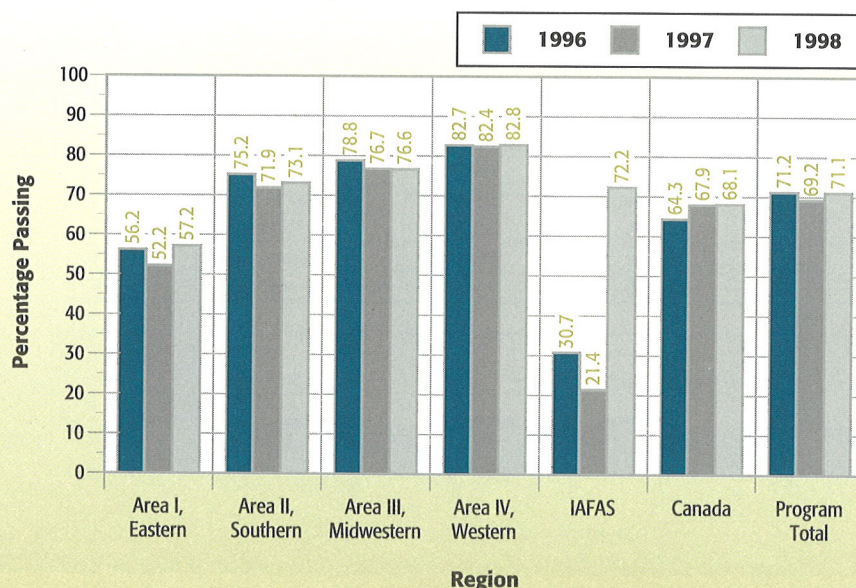
² N/A = not available at time of publication.

³ Previously reported under Micronesia.

* Effective July 1, 1998 minimum 42 and mean 45.

FIGURE 13B

Passing Rate in Jurisdictions Where GED Score Standard Was Not Raised in 1997, by Region



NOTE: Please refer to p. 35 for definition of geographic regions.

SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 14

**Policies¹ for
Issuing High
School
Equivalency
Credentials
Based on GED
Tests, by
Jurisdiction**

Jurisdiction	Minimum Scores ²	Residency Requirements	Testing Fee Per Battery	Min. Age for Testing ³	Min. Age for Credential ³
United States					
Alabama	40 & 45	30 days	\$30	18	18
Alaska	40 & 45	resident	\$25 max.	18	18
Arizona	40 & 45	none	\$50 max.	18	18
Arkansas	40 & 45	resident	none	16	16
California	40 & 45	resident	\$12 and up	18	18
Colorado	40 & 45	resident	\$25-\$50	17	17
Connecticut	40 & 45	resident	\$13 age 21 and over ⁴	17	17
Delaware	40 & 45	resident	\$50	18	18
District of Columbia	40 & 45	resident	\$20	18	18
Florida	40 & 45 ⁵	resident	\$50 max.	18	18
Georgia	40 & 45	none	\$35	18	18
Hawaii	40 & 45	none	\$50	17	17
Idaho	40 & 45	resident	varies	18	18
Illinois	40 & 45	30 days	\$25	18	18
Indiana	40 & 45	30 days	\$30 max.	17	17
Iowa	40 & 45	none	\$20	17	17
Kansas	40 & 45	resident	\$30	18	18
Kentucky	40 & 45	resident	\$30	19	19
Louisiana	40 & 45	resident	\$35 max.	17	17
Maine	40 & 45	none	none	18	18
Maryland	40 & 45	90 days	\$25	16	16
Massachusetts	40 & 45	resident	\$50	18	18
Michigan	40 & 45	30 days	varies	18	18
Minnesota	40 & 45	resident	\$30-\$60	19	19
Mississippi	40 & 45	30 days	\$30	18	18
Missouri	40 & 45	resident	\$27	18	18
Montana	40 & 45	resident	\$24	17	17
Nebraska	40 & 45	30 days	\$25-\$50	18	18
Nevada	40 & 45	resident	\$45	18	16
New Hampshire	40 & 45	resident	\$40	18	18
New Jersey	see note below ⁶	none	\$25	16	16
New Mexico	40 & 45	resident	varies	18	18
New York	40 & 45	30 days	none	19	19
North Carolina	40 & 45	resident	\$7.50	18	16
North Dakota	40 & 45	none	varies	18	18
Ohio	40 & 45	resident	\$42	19	19
Oklahoma	40 & 45	resident	varies	18	18
Oregon	40 & 45	resident	varies	18	18
Pennsylvania	40 & 45	resident	varies	18	18
Rhode Island	40 & 45	resident	\$15	18	18
South Carolina	40 & 45	resident	\$30-60	17	17
South Dakota	40 & 45	resident	\$38 max.	16	18
Tennessee	40 & 45	resident	\$35-\$45	18	18
Texas	40 & 45	resident	varies	18	18
Utah	40 & 45	resident	\$35 and up	18	18
Vermont	40 & 45	resident	\$35-\$40	16	16
Virginia	40 & 45	resident	\$35	18	18
Washington	40 & 45	resident	up to \$40	19	19
West Virginia	40 & 45	30 days	\$33 max.	18	18
Wisconsin	40 & 46	resident ¹	approx. \$40	18	18
Wyoming	40 & 45	resident	varies	18	18

¹ See jurisdictional requirements in the *GED Examiner's Manual* for exceptions, limitations, and additional fees, or contact the jurisdictional GED Administrator (listing on pages 36-39).

² Minimum scores of "40 & 45" mean that a person must score at least 40 on each test and achieve an average of 45 on the entire battery.

³ In some jurisdictions, exceptions to the minimum age policy are granted on a case-by-case basis. For more information, contact the jurisdictional GED Administrator (listing on pages 38-41).

⁴ Connecticut offers free GED testing for persons under age 21.

⁵ Florida raised its requirement to a minimum of 42 on each test and average of 45, effective July 1, 1998.

⁶ New Jersey's requirements are a minimum of: 42 on Test 1, 40 on Tests 2-4, 45 on Test 5, and a total standard score of 225.

Jurisdiction	Minimum Scores ²	Residency Requirements	Testing Fee Per Battery	Min. Age for Testing ³	Min. Age for Credential ³
U.S. Insular Areas and Freely Associated States					
American Samoa	40 & 45	resident	\$20	18	18
Fed. Micronesia	40 & 45	resident	\$7.50	17	17
Guam	40 & 45	resident	\$10	18	18
Marshall Islands	40 & 45	30 days	\$7.50	17	17
N. Mariana Islands	40 & 45	none	\$25	18	18
Palau	40 & 45	resident	—	17	17
Puerto Rico	40 & 45	resident ¹	none	18	18
Virgin Islands	40 & 45	90 days	\$20	17	17
Canada					
Alberta	45 each test	none	\$65–\$100	18	18
British Columbia	45 each test	resident	\$45	19	19
Manitoba	45 each test	none	\$65	19	19
New Brunswick	45 each test	none	\$10	19	19
Newfoundland	45 each test	resident	\$25	19	19
Northwest Terr.	45 each test	6 months	\$20	18	18
Nova Scotia	45 each test	none	\$20	19	19
Ontario	45 each test	resident	\$50	19	19
Prince Edward Isld.	45 each test	resident	\$20	19	19
Saskatchewan	45 each test	resident	\$25	19	19
Yukon	45 each test	resident	\$25	19	19

TABLE 14

Continued

► For most jurisdictions, the minimum age policy for issuing credentials was at least 18.

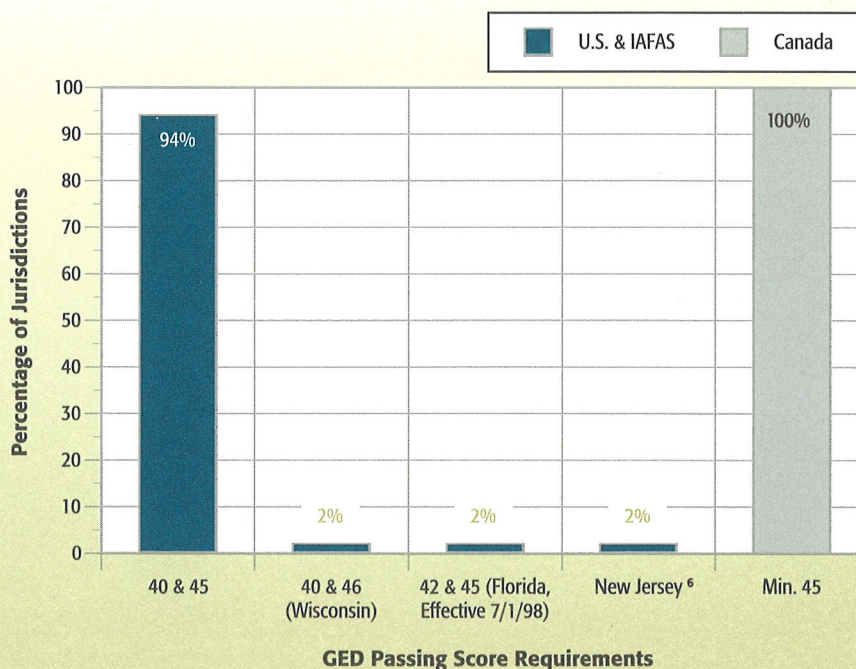
► Residency and testing fee requirements are established by each jurisdiction.

► Only four jurisdictions test and credential 16-year-old adults: Arkansas, Maryland, New Jersey, and Vermont.

► While South Dakota and other jurisdictions grant exceptions to the minimum age policy on a case-by-case basis and test 16-year-old adults, credentials are not issued until the adult meets the jurisdiction's minimum age for credentialing.

FIGURE 14

Percentage of Jurisdictions by Minimum GED Score Requirements in U.S., Insular Areas and Freely Associated States, and in Canada



SOURCE: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

A P P E N D I C E S

DEFINITION GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS

Region	Jurisdictions Where Standard Was Raised in 1997	Jurisdictions Where Standard Was Not Raised in 1997
Area I Eastern	Connecticut Maine Massachusetts New Hampshire Pennsylvania Rhode Island Vermont	Delaware District of Columbia Maryland New Jersey New York
Area II Southern	Alabama Georgia Louisiana Mississippi North Carolina South Carolina Tennessee Texas Virginia	Arkansas Florida Kentucky Oklahoma West Virginia
Area III Midwestern	Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Michigan Minnesota Nebraska Ohio	Missouri North Dakota South Dakota Wisconsin
Area IV Western	Alaska Arizona Hawaii Montana Nevada New Mexico Wyoming	California Colorado Idaho Oregon Utah Washington
U.S. Insular Areas and Freely Associated States (IAFAS)	American Samoa Guam Northern Mariana Islands Puerto Rico Republic of Marshall Islands Virgin Islands	Federated States of Micronesia Republic of Palau
Canada		Alberta British Columbia Manitoba New Brunswick Newfoundland Northwest Territories Nova Scotia Ontario Prince Edward Island Saskatchewan Yukon Territory

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