

Wyoming Adult Education Profile for 2013

Workforce Investment Act Title II –Adult Education and Family Literacy

A Preemptive Focus on Adult Education Actually Saves Government Money

According to a recent policy paper, “The Return on Investment from Adult Education and Training,” McGraw-Hill Research Foundation, May 2011,

“A preemptive focus on adult education actually saves governments money by reducing societal healthcare, public assistance and incarceration costs. Adult education also improves and expands the nation’s available pool of human capital by helping motivated but under educated people achieve gainful employment in today’s increasingly high-tech and global job market, and at a far lower cost per learner when compared to either K-12 or higher education.”

Adult Education (AE) continues to evolve in Wyoming. The statewide program and its partner, Family Literacy, are offering the following services to your constituents:

- Basic math, reading and writing skills
- Adult Secondary Education/High School Equivalency Certificate preparation
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESL)
- Transition services – including employment and post-secondary education/skills training
- Life skills, employability skills and computer literacy
- Family Literacy – enriching the parental role of adult learners
- Workplace Literacy – education services offered in collaboration with business, industry, government and/or labor to increase the productivity of the workforce through improved literacy skills
- Corrections Education – partnerships with jails, detention centers, community-based rehabilitation centers and other similar institutions
- Distance Education

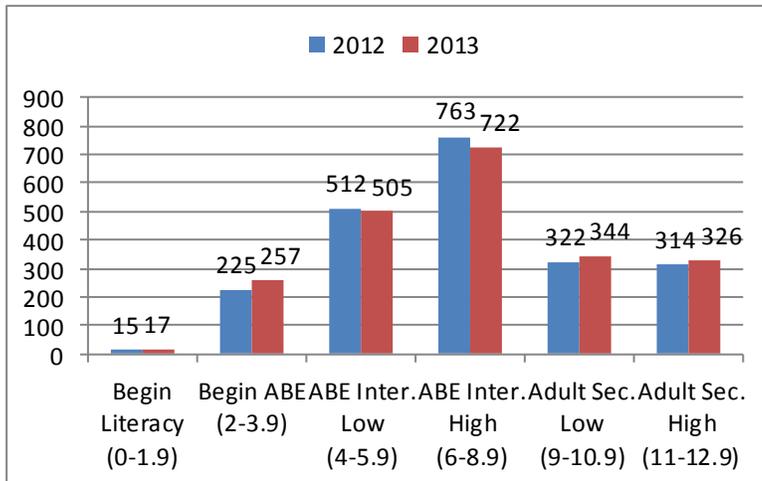
In May 2013 the US Department of Education - Office of Vocational and Adult Education announced the adoption of the “College and Career Readiness Standards” for AE programs across the United States. These were the result of a lengthy process that examined the “Common Core State Standards” from the perspective of AE. The project was funded to provide a set of manageable yet significant standards that reflect what subject matter experts in AE determined to be desirable for adult students to know to be prepared for the rigors of postsecondary education and training. To this effort the AE program in Wyoming has focused its efforts to inform and train the instructional staff in the Adult Basic Education program to be ready for the challenge.

The challenge will be to prepare adults for the new 2014 High School Equivalency tests that are based on the Common Core Standards and will begin in January 2014. Students are now engaged in the most rigorous AE program ever offered in Wyoming. State funding is vital in supporting our efforts.

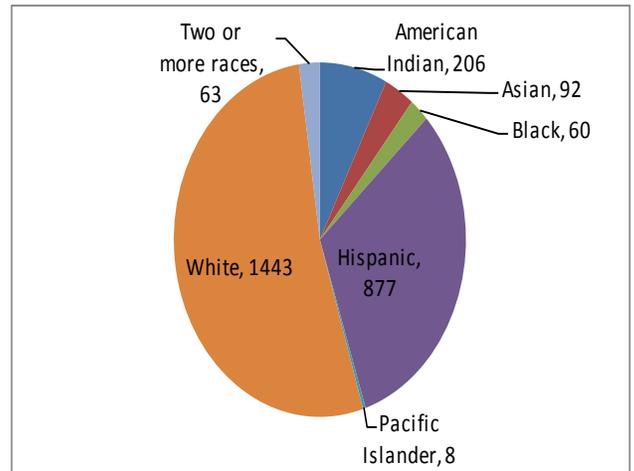


WHO WE SERVE BY ETHNICITY, SEX AND EDUCATIONAL LEVEL

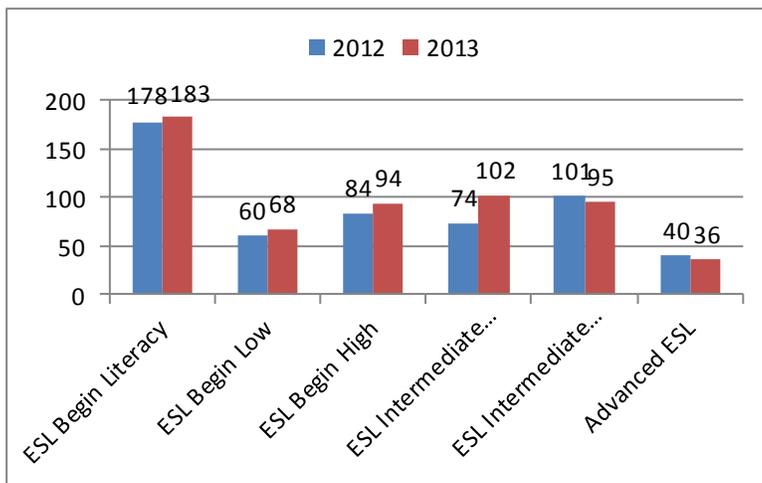
Adult Education Students by Functioning Level



Students by Ethnicity in Adult Education



English Language Learners



Factors influencing the AE program present both successes and challenges:

- ◇ In the past 3 years, performance has increased from 33.7% to 44.7% for student educational gains.
- ◇ The percentage of English language learners has increase by 7%.
- ◇ Funding has decreased from federal and state sources requiring more efficient and effective programming. There has been a loss of instructors.
- ◇ Demands for greater rigor and complexity in the classroom demand higher quality instruction which challenges the one room school house environment in rural areas.
- ◇ With the use of distance learning, technology in the classroom, and a dedicated staff the future is bright.

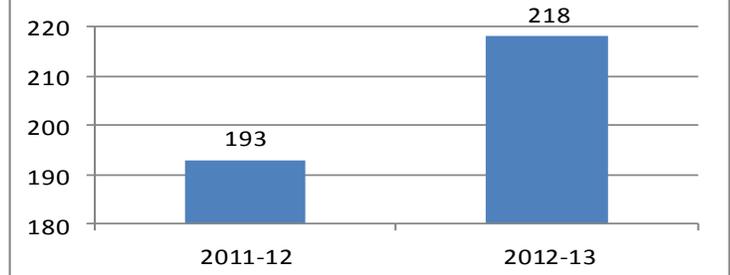
A participant is an adult who receives at least twelve (12) hours of instruction.

STUDENTS TRANSITIONING TO POST SECONDARY EDUCATION

Adult Education

- Wyoming AE is raising the standard. It is our goal to have students enter directly into credit bearing classes.
- AE is incorporating College and Career Readiness Standards.
- AE uses life roles as a context for learning.
- AE is the non-traditional pathway to college.
- AE addresses the following students goals:
 - Workforce readiness skills
 - College readiness skills
 - Computer/technical skills
 - Self-sufficiency

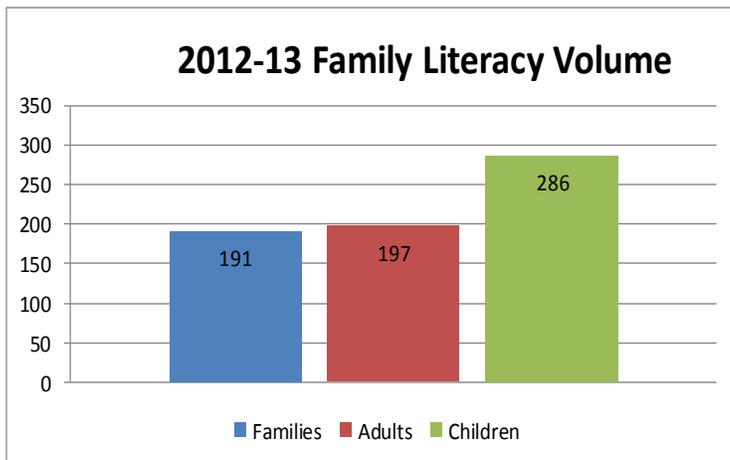
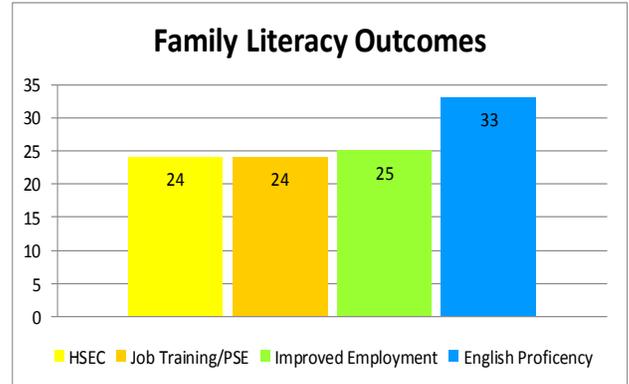
Students Entered Postsecondary Education or Training



2011-12 New managed classes to offer greater rigor was introduced.

WYOMING ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP WITH WYOMING FAMILY LITERACY

For 2012-13, the Wyoming Family Literacy Program (WyFLi) launched four new local centers, effectively doubling the previous coverage footprint within the state. During the second half of the program year, a new data tracking and student management software project was launched and development has taken us into 2013-14. Eight fully state-funded centers are currently operating in Casper, Cheyenne, Evanston, Gillette, Jackson, Laramie, Powell and Torrington. The adult basic education centers are strong partners of WyFLi. Parents of families served through the family literacy center receive AE through their local ABE program and children are served in-house and with partner agencies.



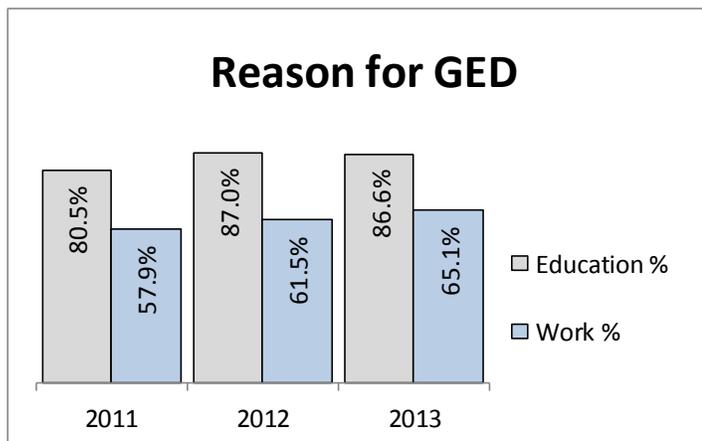
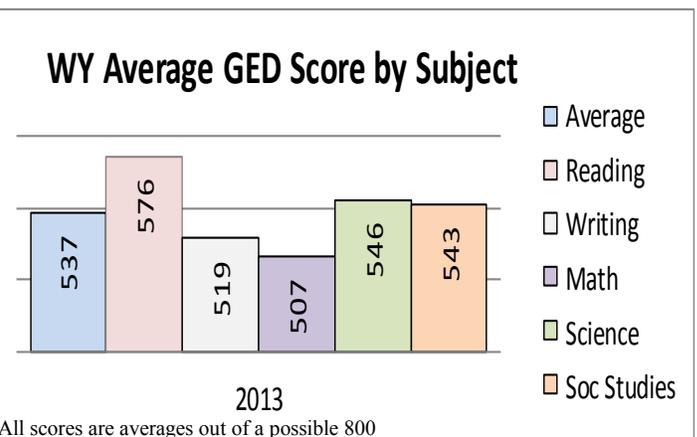
WyFLi's new student management software helps increase data accuracy and allows daily updates of attendance and class information.

For 12-13 the state program served over 190 families and nearly 300 kids!

We graduated 24 new adult GED® students and also transitioned 24 other students to college and the workforce. The WyFLi focus on English literacy also increased more than 30 students language proficiency and increased their ability to use English fluently in their homes, schools and jobs.

GED: THE END OF A SERIES

2014 marks the end of the 2002 Series GED® test and of GED paper tests as well. For 2014 and beyond, GED Testing Service® will only provide paper-based testing for candidates with specific disabilities. According to Marty Kehe, Vice President of Products, GEDTS, "Using only multiple choice items restricts our ability to measure higher order thinking skills effectively and so we are not willing to make the compromise for large numbers of test-takers to implement paper-based testing..." The 2014 GED test is an all new, fully Common Core State Standards aligned, computer based test with a rich suite of services ranging from online registration and scheduling, to an online readiness test



For 2013, NRSpro.com scoring snapshot, 1-5-2014

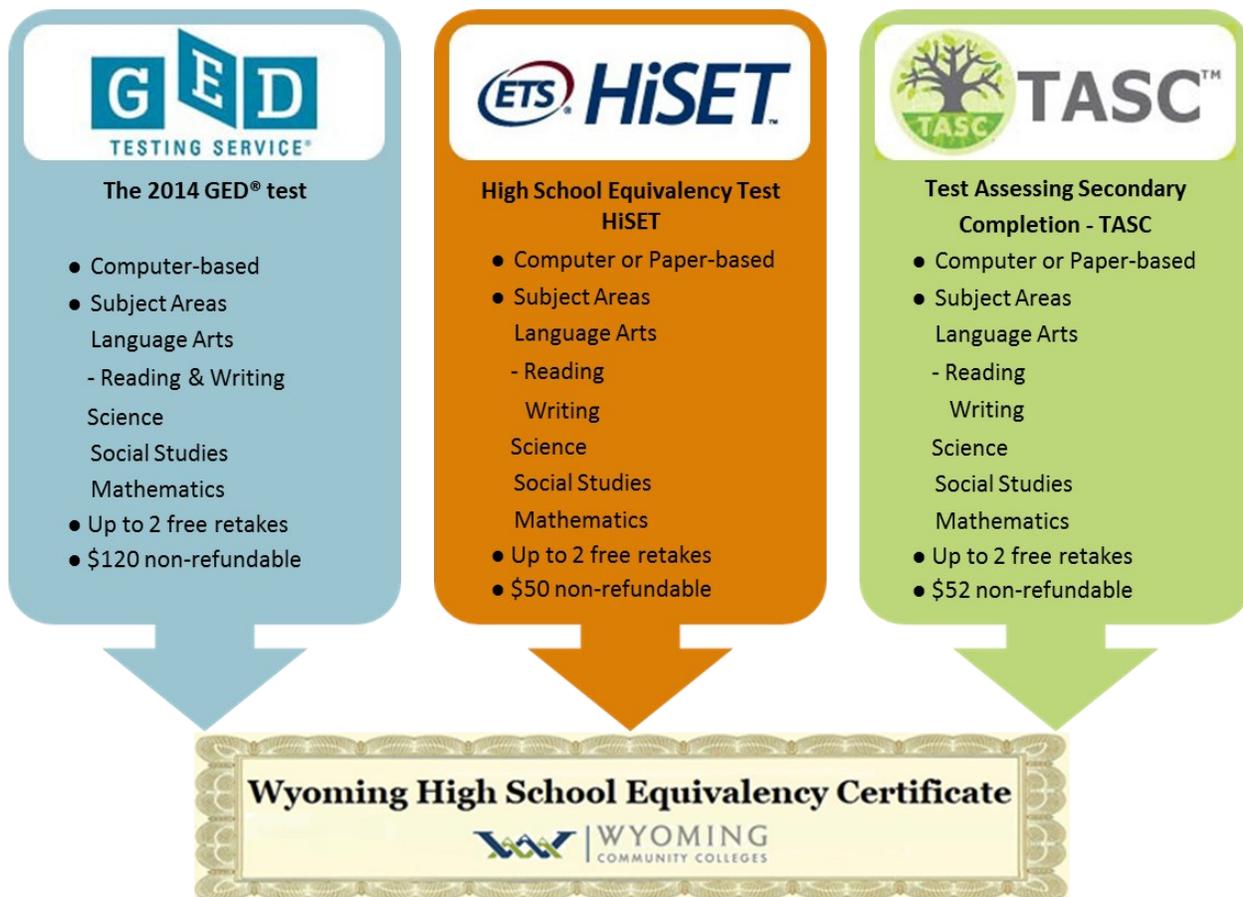
All scores are averages out of a possible 800

NRSpro.com scoring snapshot, 1-5-2014

called "GED Ready™. A host of after test services include integrated scoring and reporting, called GED Credentialing and Analytics, and even assistance in finding local post-secondary resources. 2014 also brings to WY the addition of two new nationally available HSEC assessments, the HiSET from Educational Testing Services and the Test Assessing Secondary Completion - TASC from CTB/McGraw-Hill. For 2013, Wyoming's average GED score, 537, remained consistent with the state ten year trend. For comparison the 2012 national GED average was 528. Work related reasons for taking GED went up slightly, continuing the trend since 2007, with "Get a better job" being the #1 reason.

From GED to HSEC... The 2014 WY Equivalency Certificate Program

There are multiple pathways to your Wyoming High School Equivalency Certificate



All tests are considered equal by: JobCorps, College Financial Aid, U.S. Military & Employers!

Not all options are available at all test centers. Some restrictions apply. Examinees must meet certain eligibility requirements. **Additional services and local Administrative fees not included in price.** Inquire at local testing center for complete details.

WYOMING ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM LOCATIONS

ABE Main Campus Locations:

Casper
Cheyenne/Laramie
Evanston
Mountain View
Powell
Riverton
Rock Springs
Sheridan/Gillette
Torrington

