

## Wyoming Adult Education Profile for 2018-19

Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (W10.1)
Title II-Adult Education & Family Literacy



#### WYOMING ADULT EDUCATION IN TOP TEN!!!

National Reporting System performance reports released in FY 2018/19 for FY 2017/18 show that Wyoming's Adult Education is rated number seven in the nation in terms of high performing programs! This success is the direct result of a multi-year educational initiative entitled Align and Redesign. The results of a full implementation were seen in FY 2017/18 with significant progress made in student retention, educational gains, and preparing adults to enter skills training and postsecondary education. These educational reforms have seen the implementation of standards based education integrated into career pathways initiatives in all Wyoming Adult Education programs.

Wyoming's Adult Education Program

Ranked 7th in the

**Country in Performance!** 

# THE NEW FACE OF ADULT EDUCATION: ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING SUPPORTING STATEWIDE ECONOMIC INITIATITYE



The past few years have seen a great amount of change to the field of Adult Education (AE), particularly in Wyoming where greater emphasis has been placed on work readiness skills and preparing students for postsecondary and/or the workplace.

Gone are the days where AE was simply a high school equivalency certificate program. Today AE is a workforce preparation program closely aligned with the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services (DWS) and the Dept. of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), to provide literacy skill training for students and employers.

WIOA legislation has created tremendous opportunities for new innovations in Adult Education.

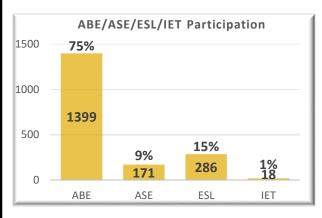
- Integrated Education and Training (IET) models help adult learners gain college credits and improve basic skills faster than traditional adult education programs.
- Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IECLE) models enable non-native speakers of English to achieve competency in English while providing work-based training opportunities in conjunction with Adult Education.
- Bridge programming provides students with the skills needed to be academically successful in post-secondary
- On-site workforce professional development training provides employers with the tools they need to "re-skill" existing employees.
- All AE students complete a 'Career Services' course.
- Contextualized instruction along identified career pathways is becoming the norm, not the exception.
- Partnerships are resulting in on-the-job training placements.

Adult Education Program Alignments to:							
Wyoming State Plan	Governor's Goals for Workforce Development	ENDOW	Next Generation Sector Partnerships	Educational Attainment Initiative	Perkins V	Workforce Training Grants	Wyoming Works

## Adult Education Data and Statistics

We are very proud of our nine local programs for exceeding federal performance level targets for the fifth consecutive year. The data presented in the charts and graphs found in this year's Profile provide information on the students served by the Wyoming AE program and their performance during the 2018-19 grant year.

#### CHARACTERISTICS & DEMOGRAPHICS OF AE STUDENTS

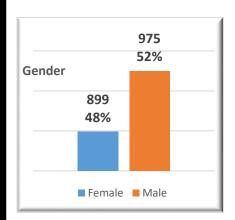


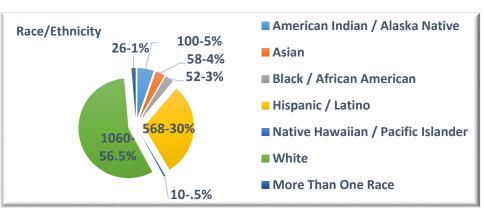
#### **Total Participants = 1,874**

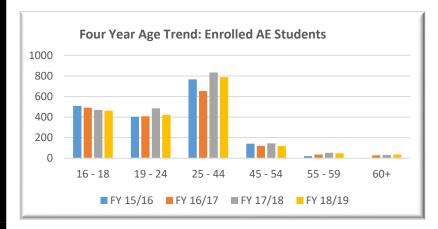
Assessments in reading, writing, and mathematics place students into one of the educational functioning levels shown in the chart

- ✓ Adult Basic Education (ABE) functions below the 9<sup>th</sup> grade skill level.
- ✓ Adult Secondary Education (ASE) functions at the high school skill level.
- ✓ English as a Second Language (ESL) students range from no education to advanced degrees, but are not proficient in the English language.
- ✓ Integrated Education and Training (IET) has three main components: Adult Education, Workforce Preparation, and workforce training. Each are run concurrently utilizing contextualized materials.

The demographics of the AE student population in Wyoming is fairly similar to national averages with with the largest ethnic groups served being White and Hispanic. The one notable difference from national averages is that Wyoming's third largest demographic group is American Indian/Alaskan Native compared to Black/African American.





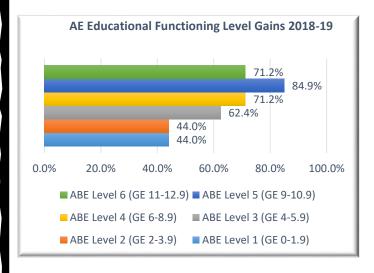


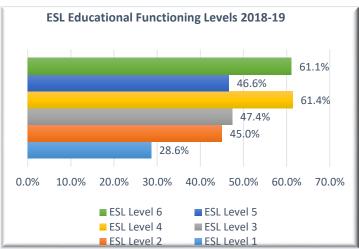
Across the past several years there has been a consistent drop in the number of 16-18 year old students enrolling in Adult Education. This correlates to increasing high school graduation rates as published by the WY Dept. of Education. During these same time periods AE has been enrolling higher numbers of students in the 25-44 age groups; thereby suggesting a need for increased trainings for non-traditional students as more and more of them are returning to complete education paths.

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#### WHO WE SERVE: BY EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVEL

Educational Functioning Levels are reported to the National Reporting System (NRS), which is an outcome-based reporting system for AE programs across the country. Student data collected throughout the year is reported to the US Department of Education: Office of Career, Technical & Adult Education (OCTAE). State data is then reported to Congress each year.

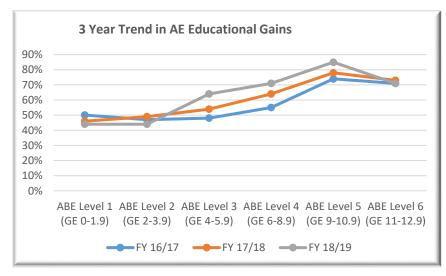




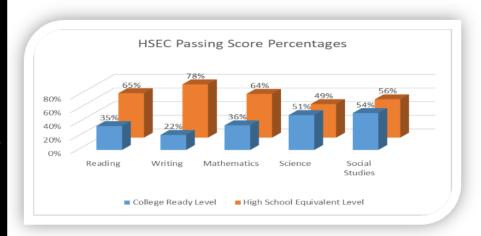
Across the past several years performance gains have consistently increased as a direct result of educational reforms made by the AE programs in Wyoming.

- Implemented standards-based education in career pathways systems
- Adopted participatory learning strategies
- Screening for barriers to learning
- Increased number of students placed into job training programs

These reforms have resulted in increased retention and completion rates across the entire State.



## WYOMING HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY CERTIFICATION (HSEC)



The most common high school equivalency assessment used in Wyoming is the HiSET. FY 2018/19 saw 468 Adult Education students complete their HSEC. Of those students completing their HSEC many are passing at 'College Readiness' levels. Students who score at these levels are within the 75th percentile of graduating high school students and indicates that they should be able to enroll in credit-bearing course work at the university level.

#### POST-SECONDARY OUTCOME MEASURES: CHALLENGES

Post-Secondary Educational (PSE) outcomes are collected by the community colleges for all accredited programs of study through the National Student Clearinghouse for AE reporting purposes. FY 2018-19 marked the first full year under WIOA that post-secondary data was collected for reporting purposes and Wyoming recorded a total of **323** students earning a credential.

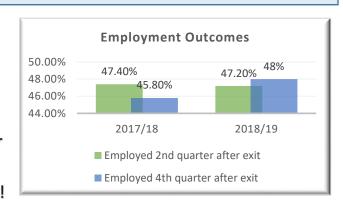
Today, many non-traditional AE students, who are working family members, have limited time to complete a two/four year program of study and are opting to enter non-credit bearing workforce training programs to earn an industry recognized certificate. Because these non-credit programs of study are not reported to the National Student Clearinghouse, AE programs are unable to track credentials earned through this mechanicism; therefore AE in Wyoming is unable, at the moment, to provide a true picture of certificates/credentials earned by AE students.

#### EMPLOYMENT OUTCOME MEASURES

The federal reporting metrics "Employed after 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter after exit" and "Employed after 4<sup>th</sup> quarter after exit" are new to AE. WIOA implementation saw more stringent rules for inclusion into an employment cohort and FY 2018/19 represented the first full year in which employment data was gathered for reporting purposes.



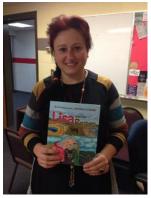
Wyoming employment measures for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter after exit are two times higher than national averages for AE!



### SUCCESS STORIES!

Scott Mueller entered the youth program at Uinta B.O.C.E.S in January 2018 after leaving the K-12 system without enough credits to graduate. Scott was a bright young man and was an excellent student. After identifying career goals, Scott realized he wanted to become a welder. After completing his HSEC in April 2018, he enrolled in the welding program at Western and continues to study with the intent of completing the entire program. While undertaking his studies at Western, Scott became gainfully employed as a full-time welder for Union Tank Car Company. We are very proud of Scott and all his accomplishments!





Viktoria Peterson immigrated to the United States in 2014 and enrolled in the AE program in Sundance, WY where she studied English as a Second Language. In her Ukrainian homeland, Viktoria was a licensed massage therapist and continues to practice this art in Sundance. Despite her talents in massage therapy, Viktoria's real passion has long been in drawing and illustrating children's books. After improving her English language skills, this passion began to morph into real talent when she wrote, illustrated, and published her first children's book entitled "Lisa and the Bears". She has since published several other books! In 2018, Viktoria applied for her U.S. citizenship and so a challenging road of civics education then commenced with her AE instructor at EWC. Viktoria dedicated herself to these studies and her efforts were rewarded when she passed her citizenship examination in August 2018. Her "Oath of Citizenship" ceremony was held in early 2019. We are very proud of her!