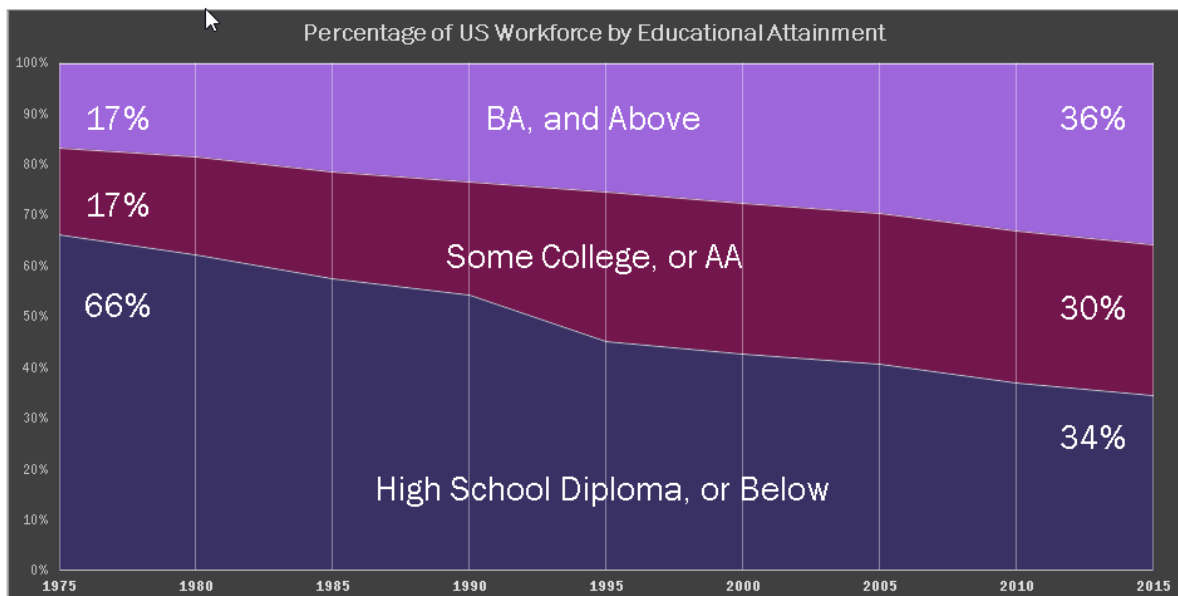


# Wyoming Adult Education Profile for 2017

## Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act Title II –Adult Education and Family Literacy

### Moving toward Economic Diversity also Means More Education

Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act is now in its third year. Wyoming is making steady progress in collaboration and streamlining the new workforce system with the three core partners including Workforce Services, Adult Education (AE), and Vocational Rehabilitation. Our main focus now is preparing a new workforce with the education, skills and training to meet the new demands of a growing and diversifying economy. The education needed in the 1970's to acquire a family sustaining wages has changed dramatically for today's job seekers. The chart below, shared by the National Governors Association at the WIOA Partners Day, illustrates the shift in educational attainment of the the US workforce over the years.



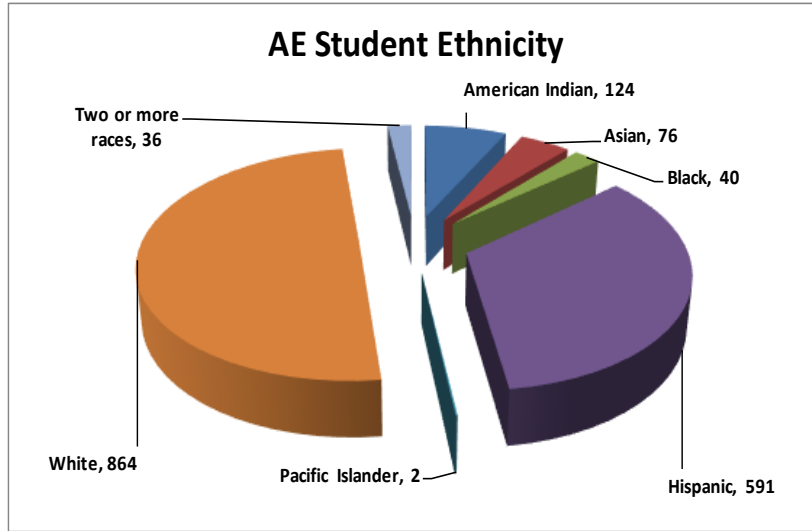
Source: US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Multiple Years



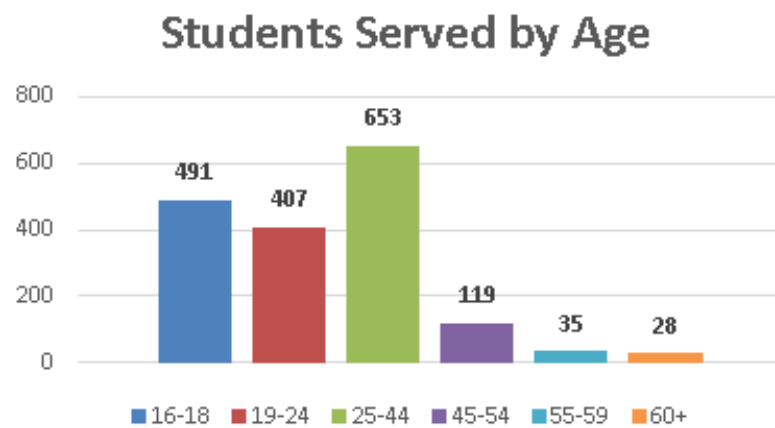
Wyoming AE has been focusing on the Align and Redesign initiative for the past 3 years which identified student persistence and greater performance as its targets. We are proud to report we have made significant progress in student retention, educational gains, and preparing adults to enter skills training and postsecondary education. The new adult student in Adult Education is more likely to be upskilling for a new job, preparing to earn a skills certificate to become more employable, and meet the needs that employers are looking for to meet their mid-level and entry level jobs. Businesses are now helping to inform the system of their needs.

With an average AE student age of 29 years old, WY AE has made a major shift in our programming to focus on career pathways for adults and preparing them to meet the more rigorous and complex academics required in colleges and on the job. Being work ready, using technology, planning a course of study, and combining education and training in the areas local businesses require is informing our path toward the future.

## WHAT ARE THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF AE STUDENTS?



Demographics for AE students



There has been a marked decline in the 16-18 year olds served by the AE program over the past five years from 616 in 2012-13 to 491 in the current year.

This is a positive trend since it is believed that more high school students are staying in school and graduating.

Wyoming Department of Education states: “High school graduation rates in Wyoming increased slightly for the fourth consecutive year during the 2015-16 school year. Students achieved an “on-time” graduation rate of 80.0 percent in 2015-16..”

As the education systems in Wyoming become better aligned with career pathways, it is expected that we will see this trend continue.

## POSTSECONDARY OUTCOMES

Post-Secondary Educational (PSE) outcomes were collected by the various community colleges through the National Student Clearinghouse. This tracking data is necessary for federal reporting and are required in the new WIOA Performance reports for 2016-17 and beyond. PSE outcomes must be started within 1 year of exit from the AE program. Historically, the majority of AE students who attend postsecondary education choose to attend certificate programs over four year degree programs. Typically these can be completed in six months to two years.

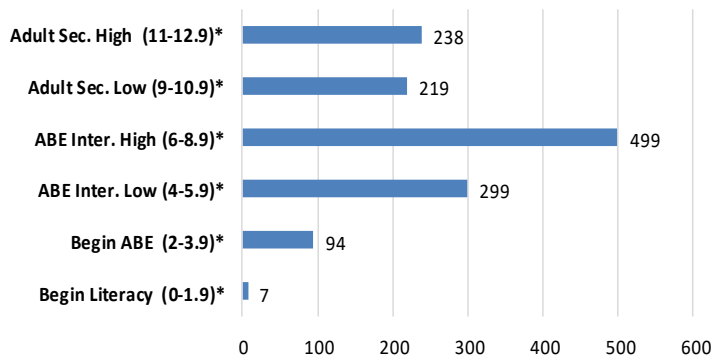
## EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES

The employment information for 2016-17 is not available. The federal reporting metrics “Entered” and “Retained” employment for AE students were changed from first and third quarters after exit respectively to the second and fourth quarters after exit.

More stringent rules for being included in the cohorts have now been implemented. Additionally, high school equivalency completers must enter training, college, or enter employment within one year of completion to now be included in follow-up reporting. These new changes it will take up to two years to obtain full data coverage. Partial data will be reported beginning in program year 2018-19

## WHO DO WE SERVE - EDUCATIONAL SKILL LEVEL ?

### AE Educational Functioning Levels 2016-17



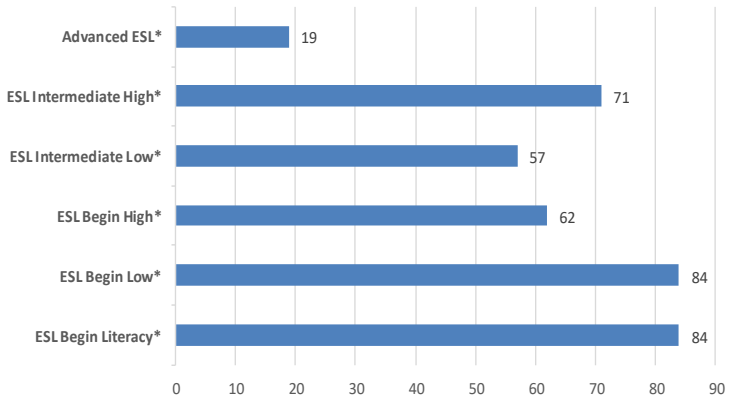
**Educational Functioning Levels** are reported to the National Reporting System (NRS). NRS is an outcome-based reporting system for the State-administered, federally and state funded adult education program.

Information is reported to the US Department of Education – Office of Career Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE). State data is then reported to Congress each year.

The Wyoming AE Profile is a snapshot of how the Adult Education Program is performing and who we are serving.

A greater focus is being targeted to the ABE Intermediate High level to retain and move these student forward. This is typically one of the largest groups that AE serves. Skill sets included at this level imbed greater rigor and text complexity to instruction in order to prepare the adults for college, training or a career.

### ESL Educational Functioning Levels 2016-17

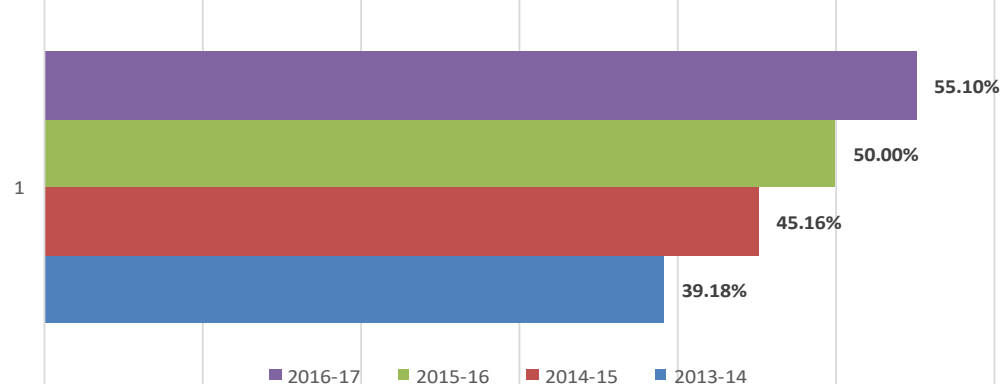


### Program Year Totals 2016-17

Number Enrolled	1,733
Attendance Hours	104,176
Completed Level	486
Completed a HS Equivalency	469
Number Separated Before Completion	539
Remaining within Level	239
Percentage Completing Level	55%

## WYOMING ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM EDUCATIONAL GAINS

### Adult Student Educational Gains



Educational gains have increased over the past four years. We attribute this to the Align and Redesign initiative started in 2013.

Incorporating standards based instruction, participatory learning, and screening for barriers to learning have empowered the students to initiate and sustain their learning toward the career path of their choice.

Continuous monitoring of program progress by program administrators and monthly desk monitoring by the state documents the progress we have seen during the past four years.

# WYOMING HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY CERTIFICATION (HSEC)

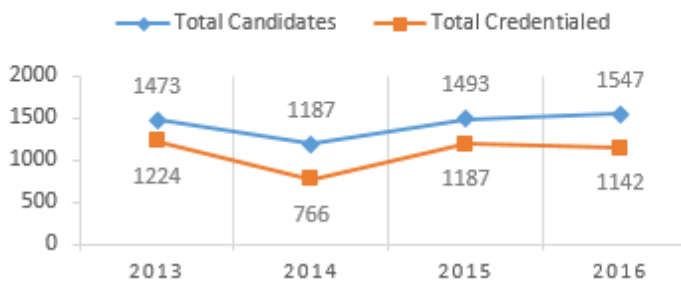
The diagrams below show volume and test performance information for examinees who took the HiSET or GED between January 1, 2016, and December 31, 2016. Because HSEC test vendors observe a calendar based testing year, no 2017 data is available.

In the state of Wyoming, the downward trend in overall test volume and completers appears to have rebounded to just above 2013 levels and stayed relatively steady from 2015 to 2016. The average scores increased slightly over the past year, and Wyoming scores continue to stay just above the average nationally. For 2016 Wyoming had an 80.3% pass rate, compared to 65.4% nationally. **HiSET** requires all subject test scores to be above 8, and at least a 9 average to pass the battery.

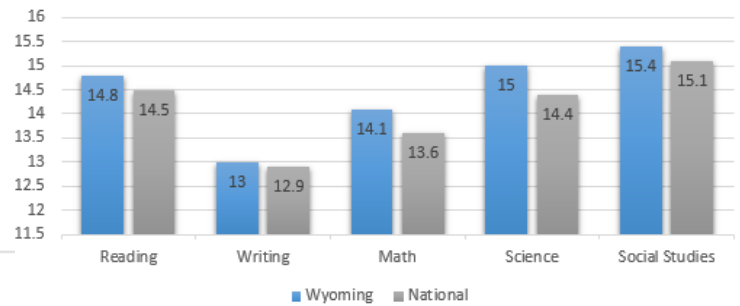
In 2015 the **TASC** contract was completed and Wyoming had four sites volunteer to become pilot testing centers, however, due to the universal budget cuts all programs suspending any further expansion of services. Due to the lack of interest in our state TASC did not renew Wyoming contract in 2017.

**GED Testing Service** and the GED Program continue to rebound from significant losses in testing volume nationwide. They are still a testing option in Wyoming but the volume of testers who utilize GED is minimal. In 2016 only 43 testers completed their HSEC using GED Testing Service.

TOTAL HSEC CANDIDATES TESTED AND CREDENTIALLED IN WYOMING 2013-2016



2016 HiSET WY vs National Average Scores by Subject



Note: The candidates are those in the process of taking all the subtests. Credentialed are those who have completed the subtests and passed the battery.

## AE Locations Around the State

AE Main Campus Locations:

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

