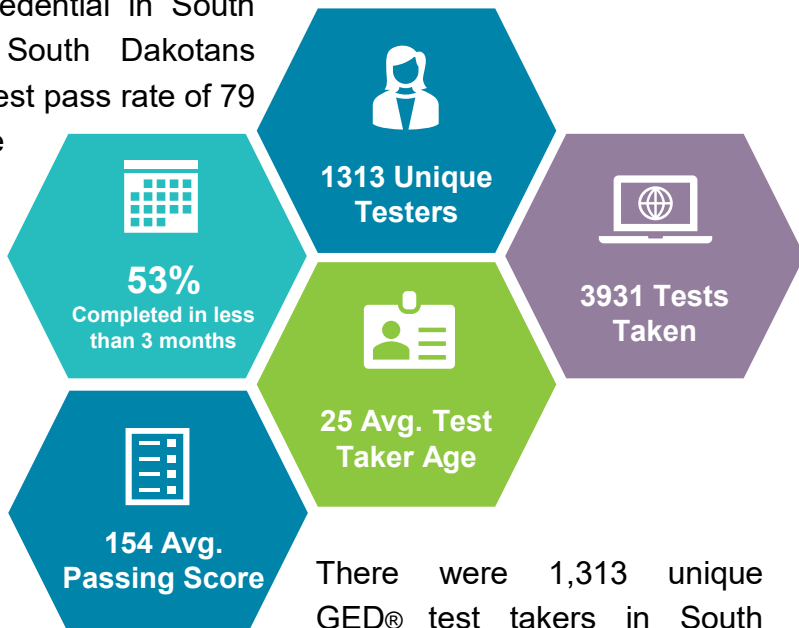


2025 High School Equivalency South Dakota Quick Facts

590 people earned their GED® credential in South Dakota in 2025. Once again, South Dakotans outpaced their peers with a GED® Test pass rate of 79 percent, versus the national average of 74 percent. In total, 3,931 tests were completed by test takers hoping to earn their GED® credential.



590 
Credential Earners

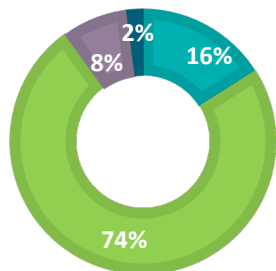
79% 
SD Pass Rate

850 
1st Time Testers

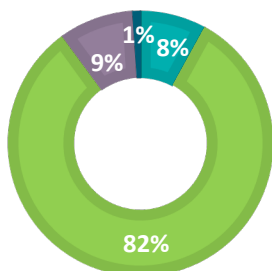
There were 1,313 unique GED® test takers in South Dakota in 2025, including 850 first time testers. More than half of these test takers (53 percent) took less than three months to earn their GED® credential with an average passing score of 154. South Dakotans continue to score higher and see higher pass rates on all four content tests than the national average.

Testing Data by Subject Area

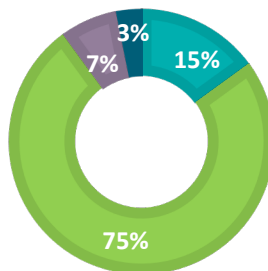
REASONING THROUGH LANGUAGE ARTS (RLA)



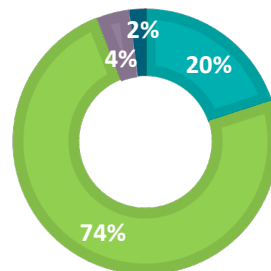
SCIENCE



SOCIAL STUDIES



MATH





The GED® Credential

Originally created to help veterans who joined the military without finishing high school earn a credential that would allow them access to careers and postsecondary programs requiring a high school diploma, the GED® credential is the only high school equivalency credential offered in South Dakota.

72,000+ South Dakota GED® graduates and counting

Over 45% of GED® grads enroll in postsecondary training within 3 years

98% of postsecondary and employers accept the GED® credential

South Dakotans with a high school diploma or a high school equivalency (HSE) credential like the GED® credential and have some postsecondary training, earn on average **\$14,368 more per year** than those who didn't graduate or complete their HSE. South Dakota Labor Market data also indicates that over 67 percent of job openings projected statewide between 2022-2032 will require at least a high school diploma or GED® credential.





https://dlr.sd.gov/lmic/publications/labor_market_reports/workforce_report_2024.pdf

DID YOU KNOW?



UNDERSTANDING THE TEST

The GED® testing measures an individual's knowledge comparable to a traditional high school graduate. Credential earners are just as prepared to enter the workforce, launch a

REASONING THROUGH LANGUAGE ARTS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading for Meaning• Grammar & Language• Identifying and Creating Arguments 	SOCIAL STUDIES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading for Meaning in Social Studies• Analyzing Historical Events & Arguments in Social Studies• Using Numbers & Graphs in Social Studies 
SCIENCE <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading for Meaning in Science• Designing & Interpreting Science Experiments• Using Numbers and Graphics in Science 	MATHEMATICAL REASONING <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic Math• Geometry• Algebra• Graphs & Functions 

GED® SUBJECT AREAS

career, or enroll into a postsecondary training or degree seeking program as their counterparts that received a high school diploma. Students must earn a minimum score of 145 on each of the GED® subtests before earning their credential.