



# The **GED**® Credential

## *South Dakota 2024 Data Summary*

*Prepared January 2025*



Originally developed in the 1940s, the GED® test was 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.

**Over 22,000 South Dakota  
GED® grads since 2000**

**Over 72,500 South Dakota  
GED® grads since 1940s**





43%

*of individuals without a high school education or an equivalency credential are living in poverty in South Dakota.*

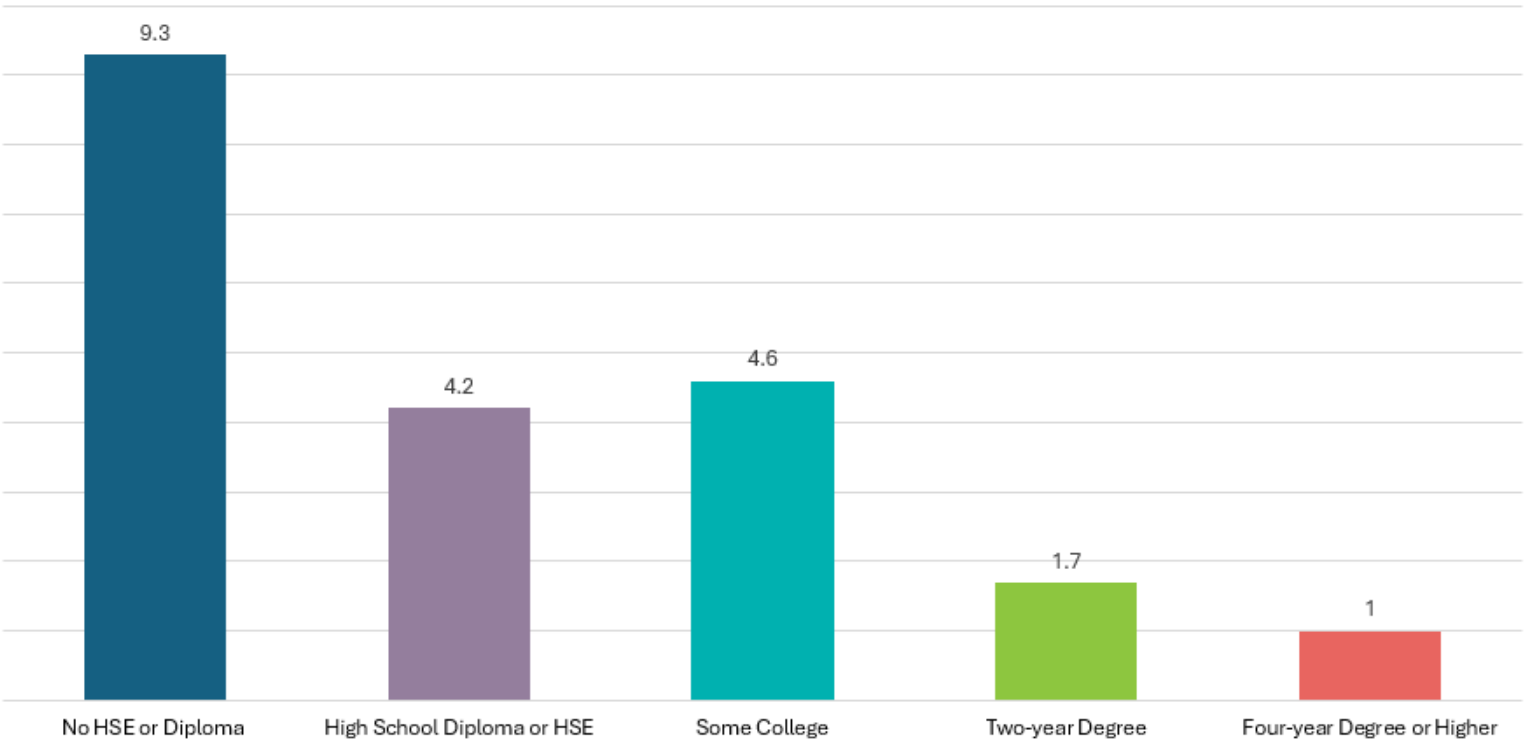
4x

*more likely to experience unemployment*

25%

*less earning potential for individuals without a HS diploma or equivalent than those with at least a HS diploma or equivalent*

Unemployment Rates by Educational Attainment in South Dakota  
2018-2019 (CPS 2-Year Averages)

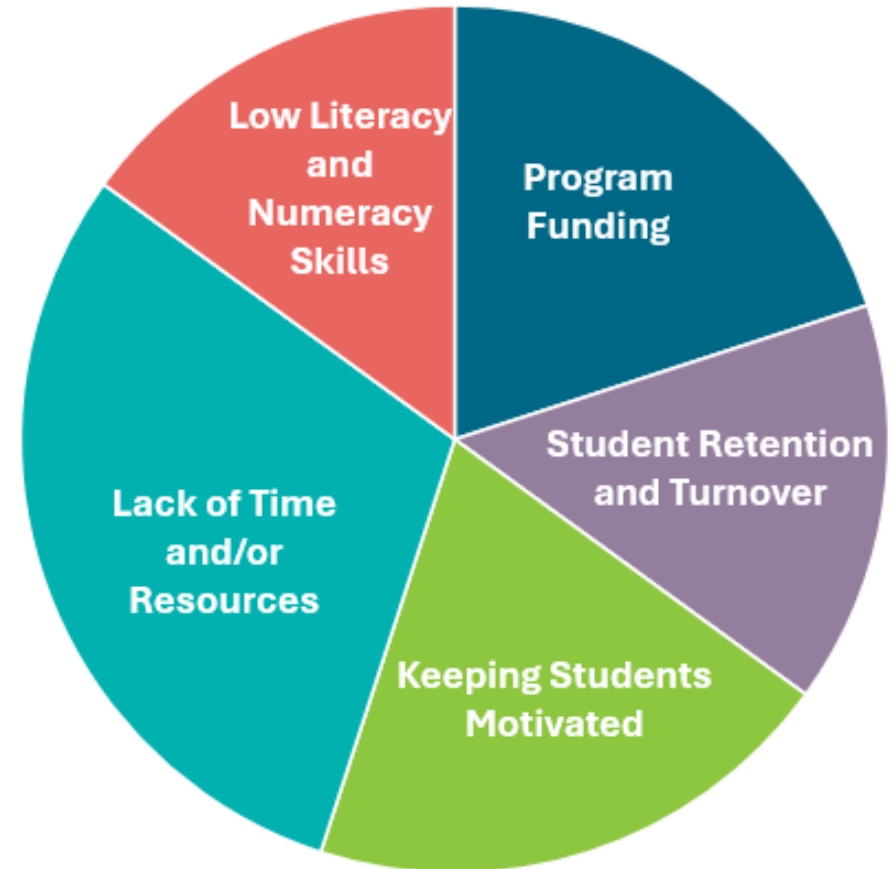




### **MOST COMMON BARRIERS FOR SOUTH DAKOTA GED® TEST TAKERS**



### **MOST COMMON BARRIERS FOR SOUTH DAKOTA GED® PROGRAM PROVIDERS**



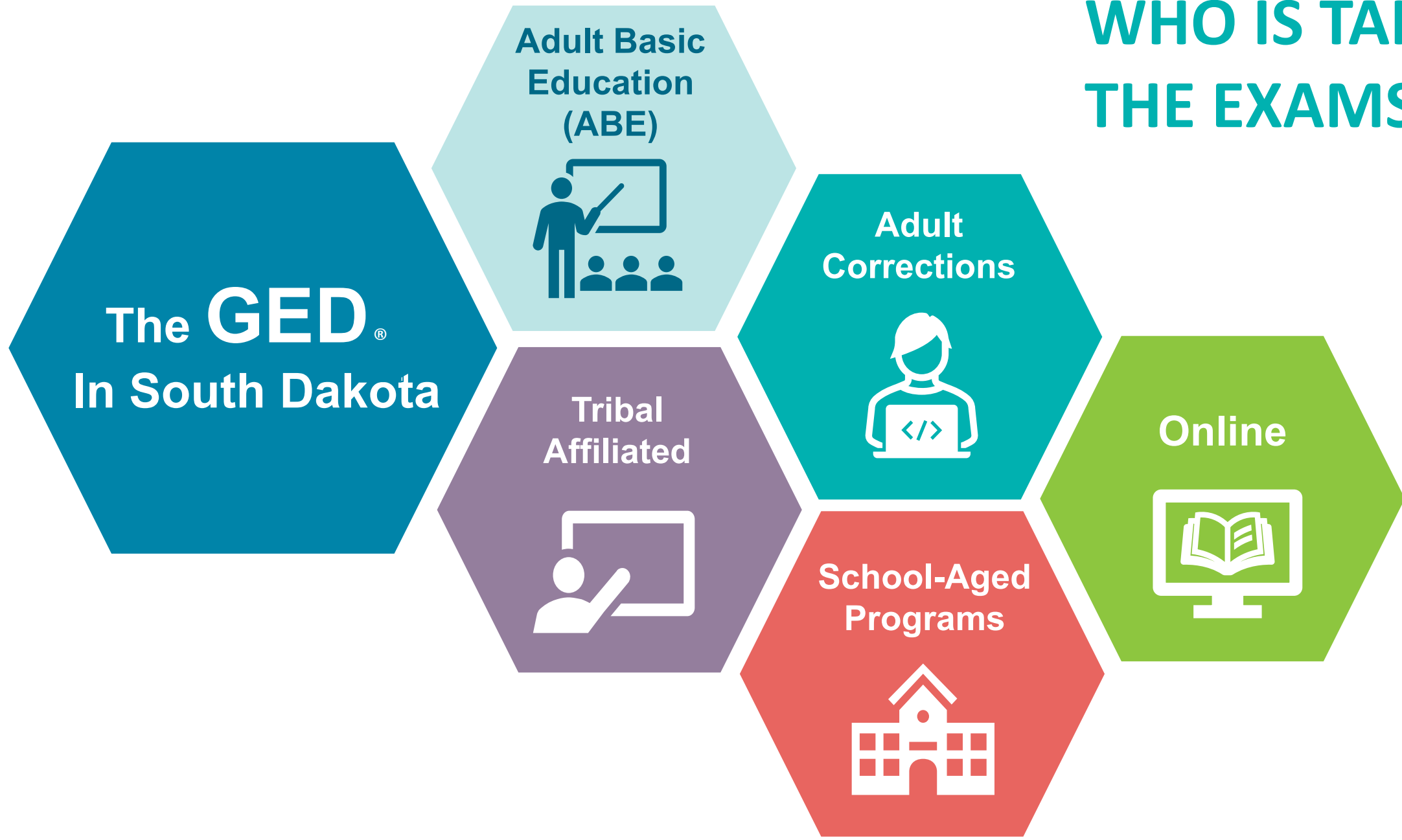
# GED® Preparation and Testing Centers

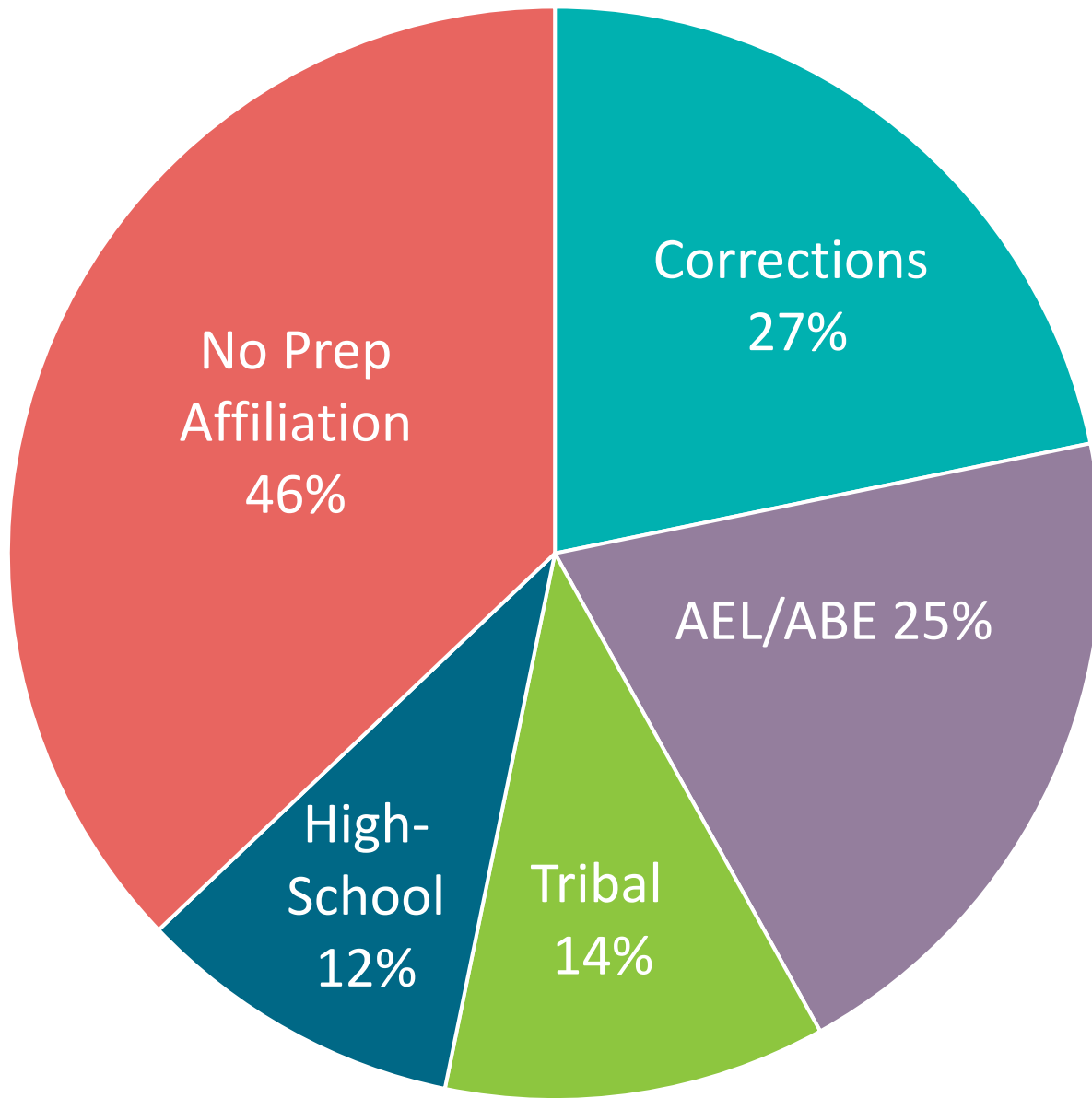


*\*Not all Test Prep locations also support Official Testing. Some locations are only open to current students enrolled in the provider's program. To view details about what is available at each center click [HERE](#).*



# WHO IS TAKING THE EXAMS?



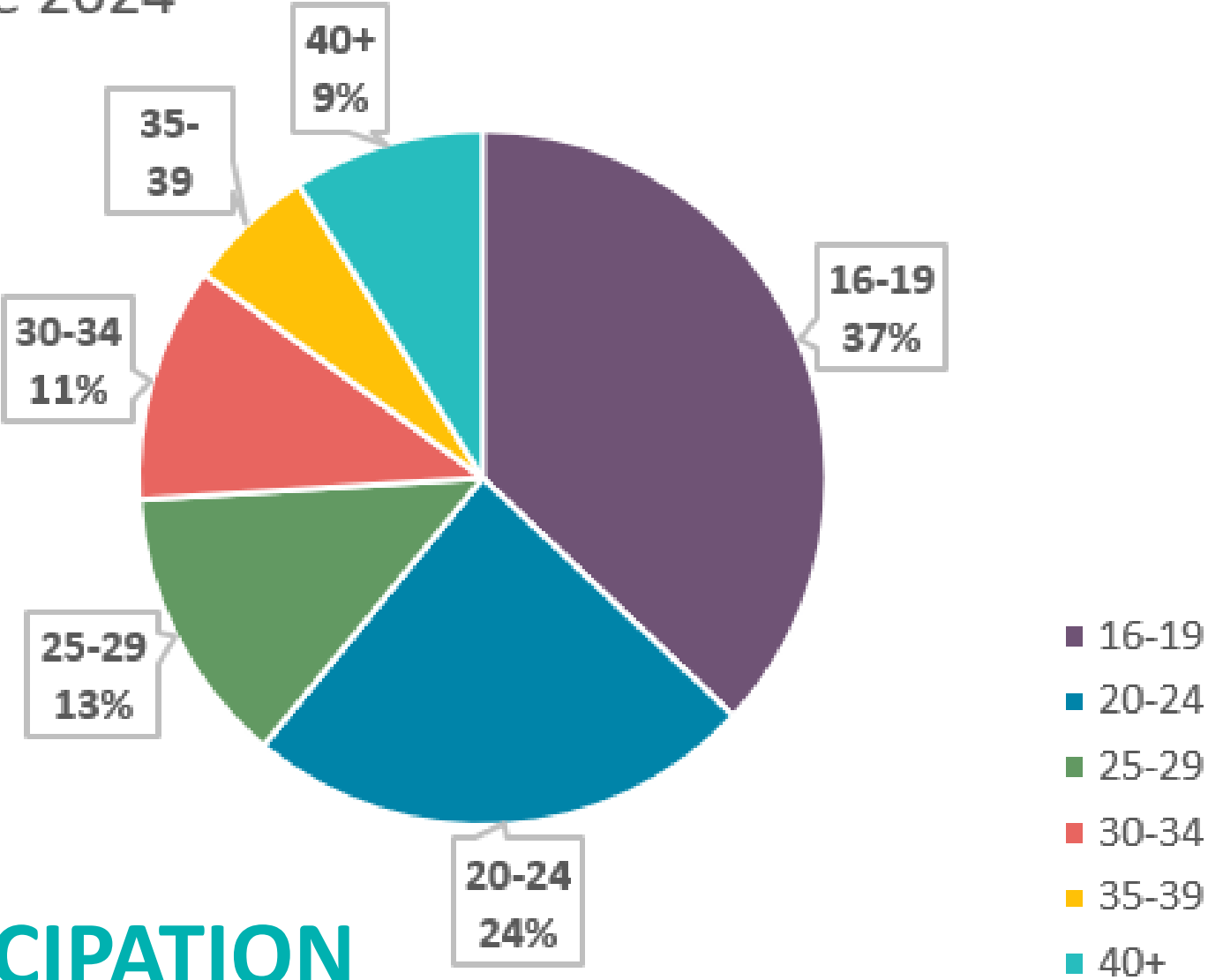


**2024**

**PROGRAM PARTICIPATION**



Tester Age 2024

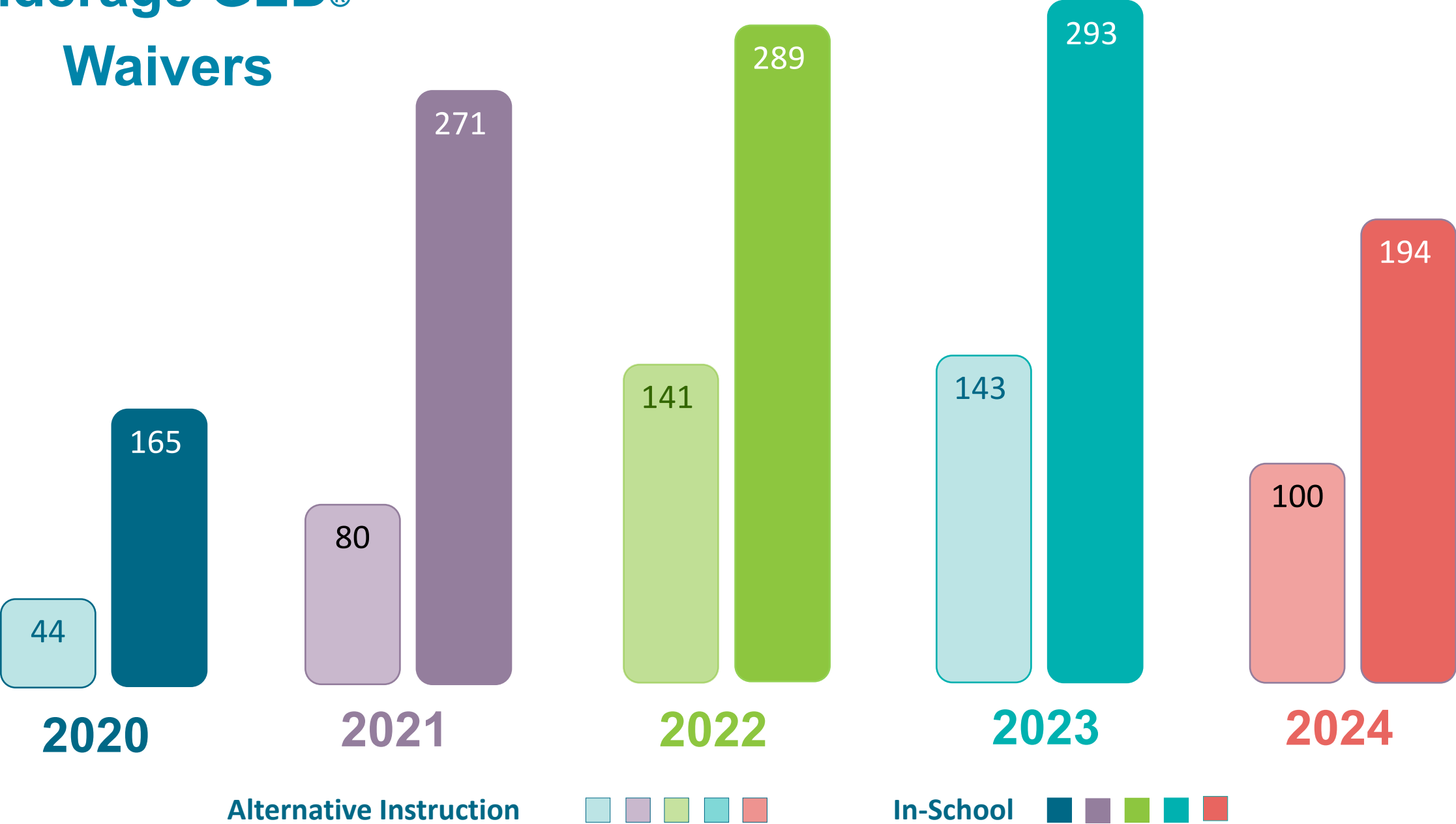


**2024**  
**PROGRAM PARTICIPATION**





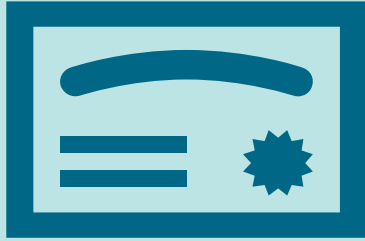
# Underage GED® Waivers





591

Earned a Credential



79%

SD Passer Rate



74%

National Passer Rate



2024

Test Taker & Passer Data



25 Avg Test Taker Age



3 Avg # Tests Per Student



150 Avg Test Score



67% In-person pass rate



80% Online pass rate



# 2024



**3,879**  
Tests Taken



**3,259**  
In-person



**620**  
Online



**1,278**  
Unique  
Test Takers



**806**  
First Time  
Test Takers



30% Test takers between the ages of 16-18

33% Credential earners between the ages of 16-18

31% Test takers between the ages of 19-24

35% Credential earners between the ages of 19-24 years

24%  
Test takers between the ages of 25-34

21%  
Credential earners between the ages of 25-34

11%  
Test takers between the ages of 35-44

8%  
Credential earners between the ages of 35-44

4%  
45+ test takers

3%  
45+ credential earners

**Test Takers**  
those who took at least one test in 2024.

**Credential Earners**  
Those who completed all four tests and earned their credential in 2024.

# Test Taker & Credential Earners by Age 2024



# REASONING THROUGH LANGUAGE ARTS

- Reading for Meaning
- Grammar & Language
- Identifying and Creating Arguments



# SOCIAL STUDIES

- Reading for Meaning in Social Studies
- Analyzing Historical Events & Arguments in Social Studies
- Using Numbers & Graphs in Social Studies



## GED<sup>®</sup> SUBJECT AREAS

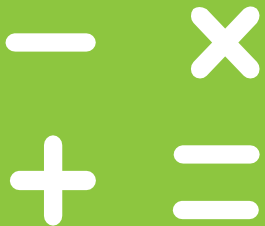
# SCIENCE

- Reading for Meaning in Science
- Designing & Interpreting Science Experiments
- Using Numbers and Graphics in Science



# MATHEMATICAL REASONING

- Basic Math
- Geometry
- Algebra
- Graphs & Functions



# Understanding GED® Scores

## Not Passing (144 ↓ )

A score in this range indicates the student has not yet demonstrated the skills necessary to earn their credential.

## High School Equivalency (145-164)

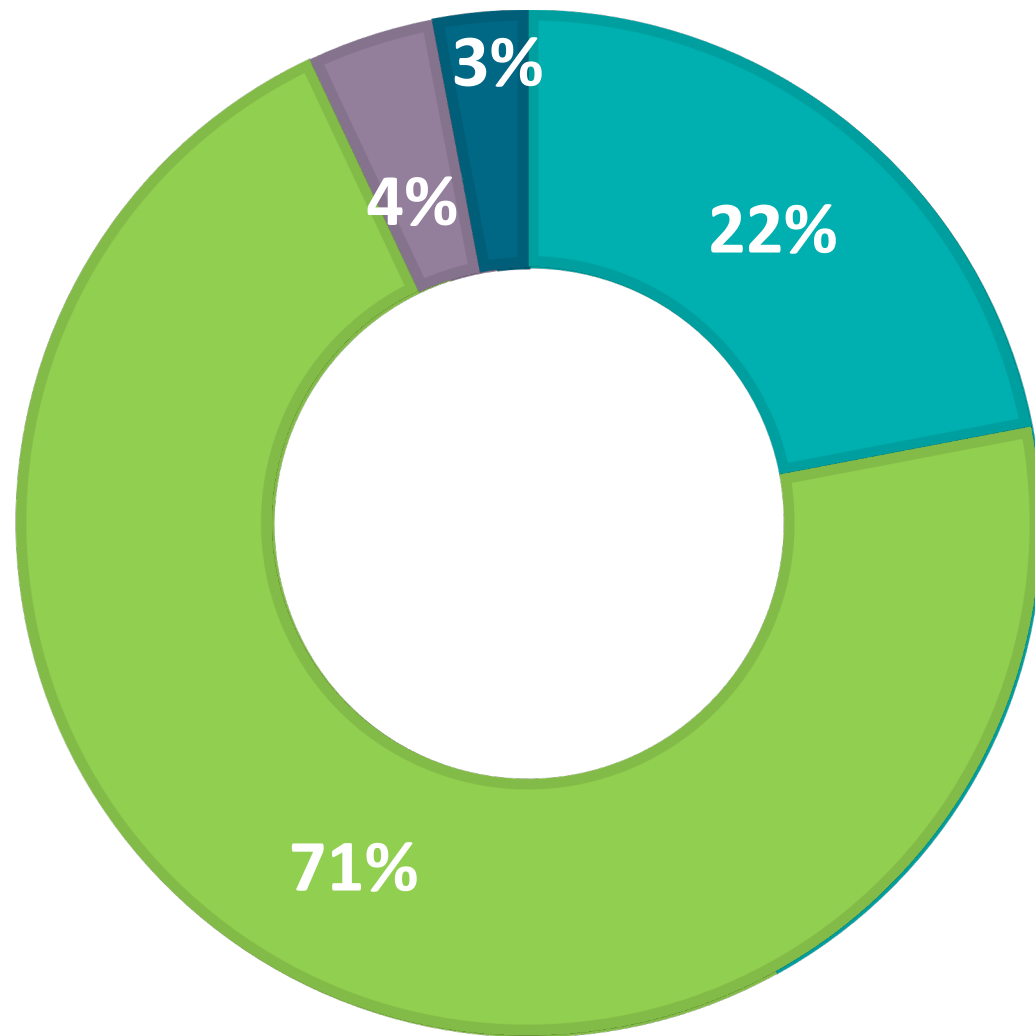
A score in this range means a student has the skills and knowledge equivalent to that of a high school graduate. These scores are set by the American Council® on Education.

## GED® College Ready (165-174)

A score in this range indicates a student is both college and career ready. Some colleges require a score in this range to begin taking their credit-bearing courses.





## GED® College Ready + Credit (175 ↑)

A score in this range indicates that the student is demonstrating some knowledge and skills taught at the postsecondary level. Students may be eligible to earn college credit for scores in this range.



## 1057 Total Math Tests Attempted

Average Passing Math Score: 153

-  Non-passing Attempts
-  High School Equivalency (145-164)
-  College Ready (165-174)
-  College + Credit (175+)



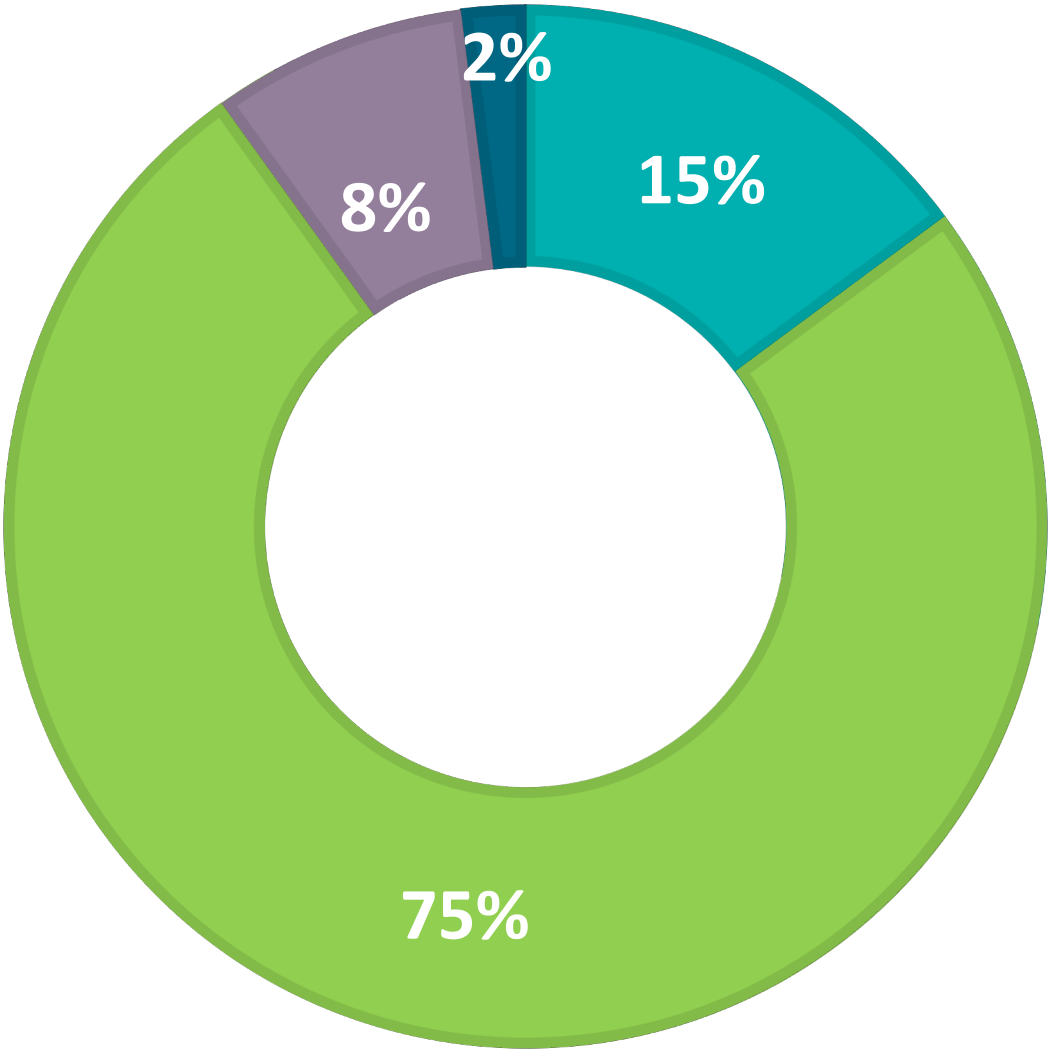
# MATH

# REASONING THROUGH LANGUAGE ARTS (RLA)



- Non-passing Attempts
- High School Equivalency (145-164)
- College Ready (165-174)
- College + Credit (175+)

**919 Total**  
**RLA Tests Attempted**  
Average Passing RLA Score: 154

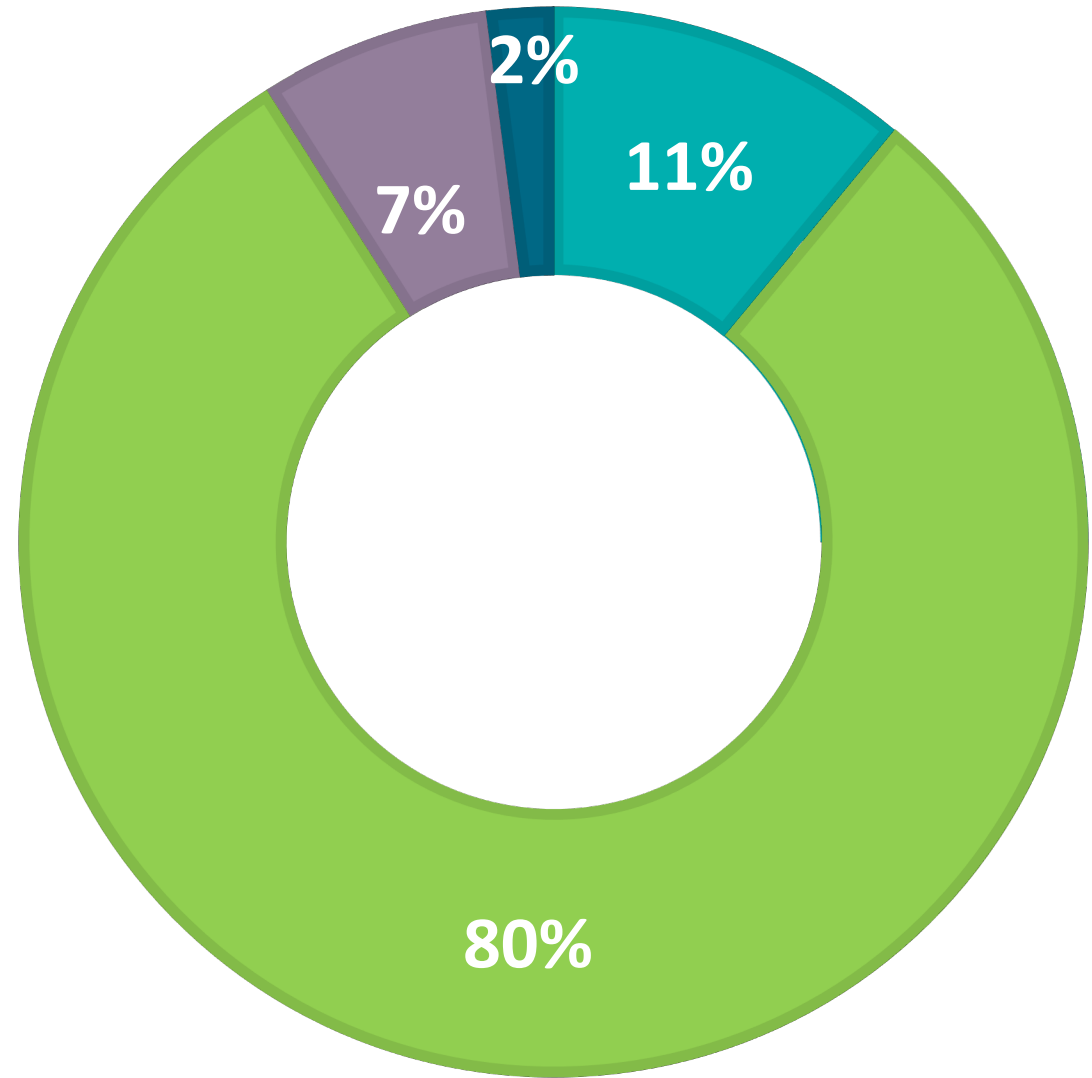




# 945 Total Science Tests Attempted

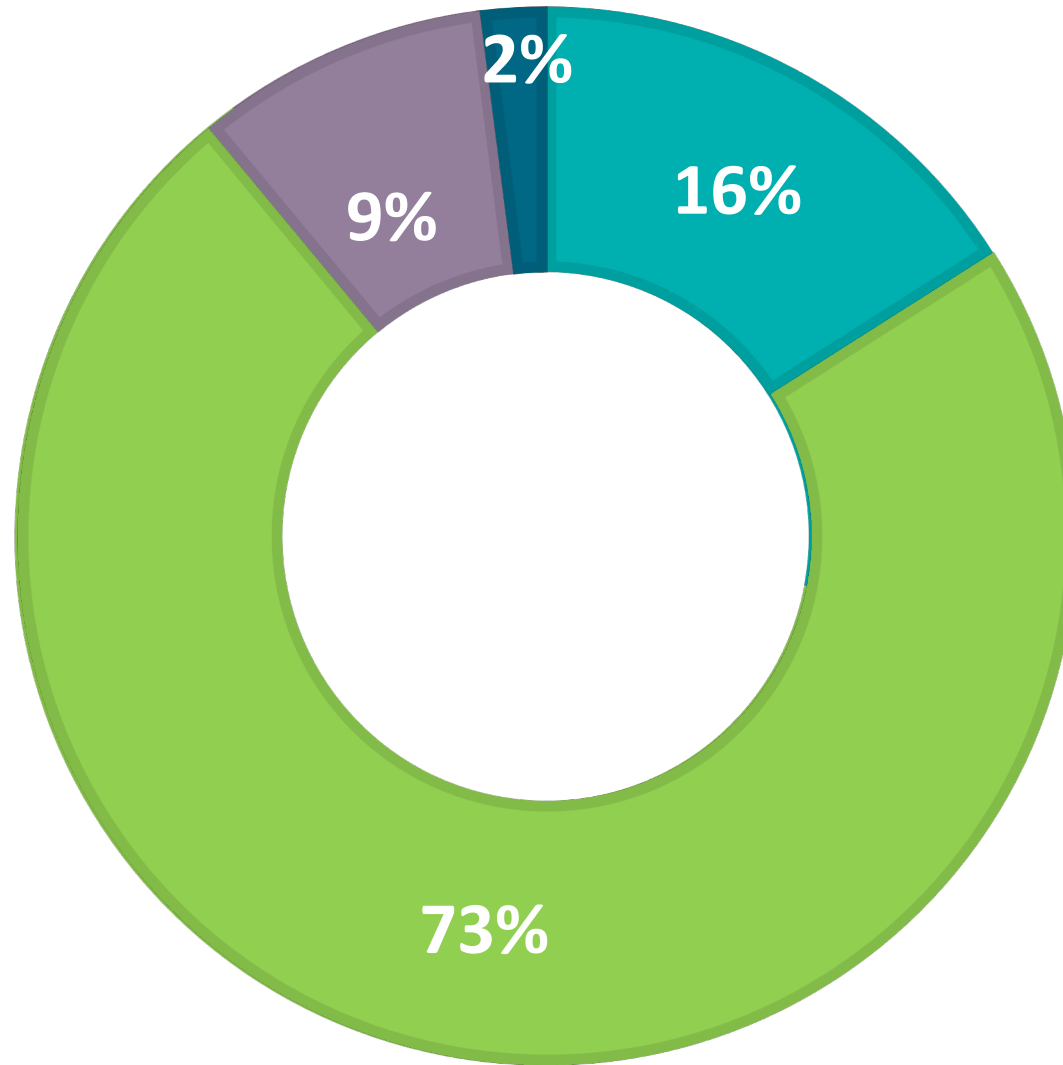
Average Passing Science Score: 155

- Non-passing Attempts
- High School Equivalency (145-164)
- College Ready (165-174)
- College + Credit (175+)







# SCIENCE





## 958 Total Social Studies Tests Attempted

Average Passing Social Studies Score: 155

-  Non-passing Attempts
-  High School Equivalency (145-164)
-  College Ready (165-174)
-  College + Credit (175+)



# SOCIAL STUDIES

# PRESENTED BY:



# RESOURCES



[GED.com Official Website](#)

[SDDOE High School Equivalency](#)

[DLR Adult Education and Literacy Programs](#)

[South Dakota State Library – HSE Center](#)

# HELP



[How to Create a GED® Account](#)

[GED® Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Official Student “BlogGED” from GEDTS®](#)

[South Dakota Specific GED® Requirements](#)

# CONTACTS



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