

Table 104.—General Educational Development (GED) credentials issued, and number and age of test takers: United States and outlying areas, 1971 to 1999

Year	Number of credentials issued, in thousands ¹	Number completing test battery, in thousands ²	Number of test takers, in thousands ³	Percentage distribution of test takers, by age				
				19 years old or less	20- to 24-year-olds	25- to 29-year-olds	30- to 34-year-olds	35 years old or over
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1971	227	—	377	—	—	—	—	—
1975	342	507	652	33	26	14	9	18
1980	488	708	779	37	27	13	8	15
1981	500	701	770	37	27	13	8	15
1982	494	692	756	37	28	13	8	15
1983	477	678	740	34	29	14	9	15
1984	437	613	676	32	28	15	9	16
1985	427	622	685	33	26	15	10	16
1986	439	648	713	33	26	15	10	16
1987	458	662	729	33	24	15	10	18
1988	421	617	701	36	23	14	10	17
1989	364	554	645	36	24	13	10	16
1990	419	628	727	35	25	14	10	17
1991	471	672	770	33	27	14	10	17
1992	465	653	754	32	28	13	11	16
1993	476	652	757	33	27	14	11	16
1994	499	684	793	34	26	13	10	16
1995	513	698	803	37	25	13	10	15
1996	514	733	842	40	25	13	9	15
1997	471	697	802	41	25	12	8	14
1998	496	693	796	43	25	11	8	14
1999	516	723	831	43	25	11	8	14

—Not available.

¹Number of people receiving high school equivalency credentials based on the GED tests.

²Number of people completing the entire GED battery of five tests.

³Number of people taking the GED tests (one or more subtests).

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding.

SOURCE: American Council on Education, General Educational Development Testing Service, *Who took the GED? Statistical Report*, various years. (This table was prepared September 2000.)