

**Table 105. General Educational Development (GED) test takers and credentials issued, by age: 1971 to 2001**

Year	Number of test takers, in thousands <sup>1</sup>	Number completing test battery, in thousands <sup>2</sup>	Number of credentials issued, in thousands <sup>3</sup>	Percentage distribution of credentials issued, <sup>4</sup> 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 <sup>5</sup> .....	377	—	227	—	—	—	—	—
1972 <sup>5</sup> .....	419	—	245	—	—	—	—	—
1973 <sup>5</sup> .....	423	—	249	—	—	—	—	—
1974 .....	—	—	294	35	27	13	9	17
1975 .....	—	—	340	33	26	14	9	18
1976 .....	—	—	333	31	28	14	10	17
1977 .....	—	—	332	40	24	13	8	14
1978 .....	—	—	381	31	27	13	10	18
1979 .....	—	—	426	37	28	12	13	11
1980 .....	—	—	479	37	27	13	8	15
1981 .....	—	—	489	37	27	13	8	14
1982 .....	—	—	486	37	28	13	8	15
1983 .....	—	—	465	34	29	14	8	15
1984 .....	—	—	427	32	28	15	9	16
1985 .....	—	—	413	32	26	15	10	16
1986 .....	—	—	428	32	26	15	10	17
1987 .....	—	—	444	33	24	15	10	18
1988 .....	—	—	410	35	22	14	10	18
1989 .....	632	541	357	35	24	13	—	—
1990 .....	714	615	410	36	25	13	10	15
1991 .....	755	657	462	33	28	13	10	16
1992 .....	739	639	457	33	28	13	9	17
1993 .....	746	651	469	33	27	13	10	16
1994 .....	774	668	491	36	25	13	9	15
1995 .....	787	682	504	38	25	13	9	15
1996 .....	824	716	488	39	25	13	9	14
1997 .....	785	681	460	43	24	12	8	13
1998 .....	776	673	481	44	24	11	7	13
1999 .....	808	702	498	44	25	11	7	13
2000 .....	811	699	487	45	25	11	7	13
2001 .....	1,016	928	648	41	26	11	8	14

—Not available.

<sup>1</sup> Number of people taking the GED tests (one or more subtests).<sup>2</sup> Number of people completing the entire GED battery of five tests.<sup>3</sup> Number of people receiving high school equivalency credentials based on the GED tests.<sup>4</sup> Data for 1988 and prior years are for number of test takers and may not be comparable to later years.<sup>5</sup> Includes outlying areas.

NOTE: Except where indicated, data are for United States only and exclude outlying areas. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Some data have been revised from previously published figures.

SOURCE: American Council on Education, General Educational Development Testing Service, *Who took the GED? Statistical Report*, various years. (This table was prepared September 2002.)