

NO.: 02.012
DATE: February 7, 2002
TO: Parent Center Chief GED Examiners, Alternate Examiners, ABE Coordinators
FROM: Bureau of Community Colleges
SUBJECT: Iowa GED Statistical Report for Calendar Year 2001
(January 1, 2001 - December 31, 2001)

INTRODUCTION: The following information summarizes the major statistical trends relative to Iowa's GED testing program for calendar year 2001 (N=10,061).

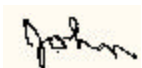
STATISTICAL TRENDS: The following data summarizes some of the significant trends based on total testing volume.

- 94 percent passed by Iowa state standards.
- The average highest grade completed for Iowa's GED candidates is 10.0, as compared to a national average of 9.9.
- The average age of Iowa's GED candidates is 23.4, as opposed to the national average of 24.5.
- There was a 34.24 percent increase in testing volume over 2000.
- 56.58 percent were male and 43.76 percent were female.
- 75.98 percent were majority and 24.02 percent were minority. The 24.02 percent minority figure compares to an overall 6% minority population figure for Iowa's adult population according to 2000 census figures.
- The number of Iowa High School Equivalency Diplomas issued in calendar year 2001 (N=8,259) increased 166 percent over calendar year 2000 (N=4,983). This increase was primarily due to GED candidate completion due to the phasing out of the 1988 GED test battery prior to the phasing in of the GED 2002 test battery.

SUMMARY: The GED testing program in Iowa has traditionally sustained a 89-92 percent GED candidates' pass rate. Iowa has always ranked in the top ten states for GED candidates' pass rate. This high pass rate is an excellent testimony to the effectiveness of Iowa's ABE/GED instructional and GED testing delivery system. Iowa's high pass rate is due, to a large extent, to the fact that 94 percent of Iowa's GED candidates are direct referrals from the ABE/GED instructional component. Iowa has successfully met the state benchmark pass range (92-95 percent) for calendar years 1998-2001.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me.

Sincerely,

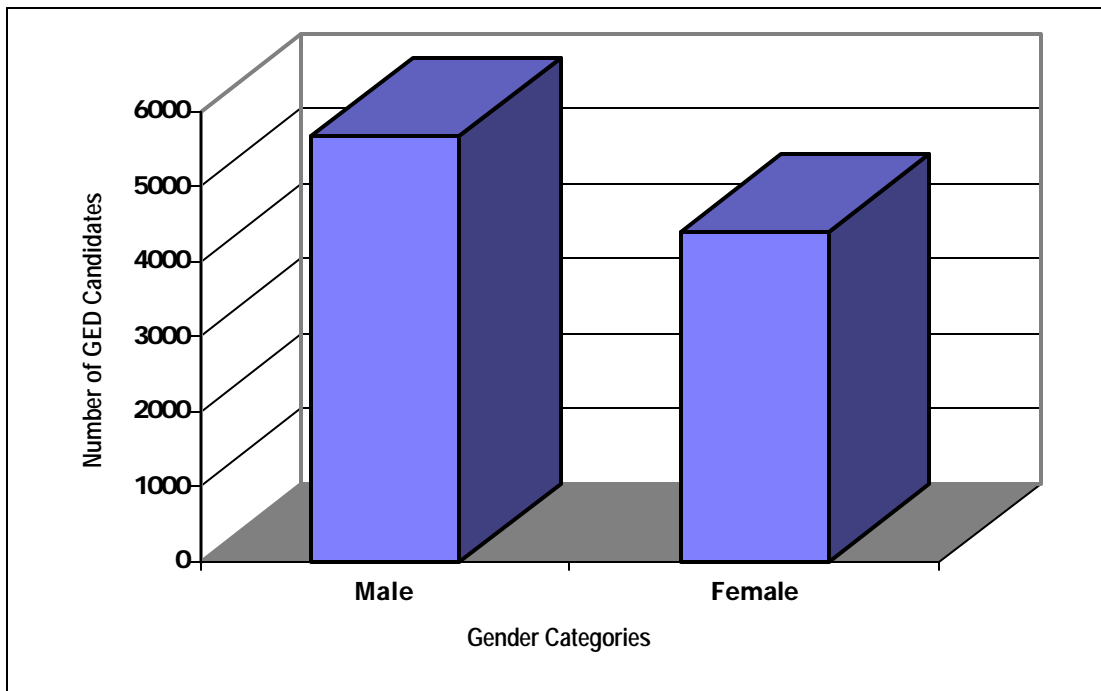


John Hartwig
Iowa State GED Administrator
Division of Community Colleges & Workforce Preparation

Enclosures

Number of Iowa GED Candidates by Gender Category for Calendar Year 2001

Graph 1

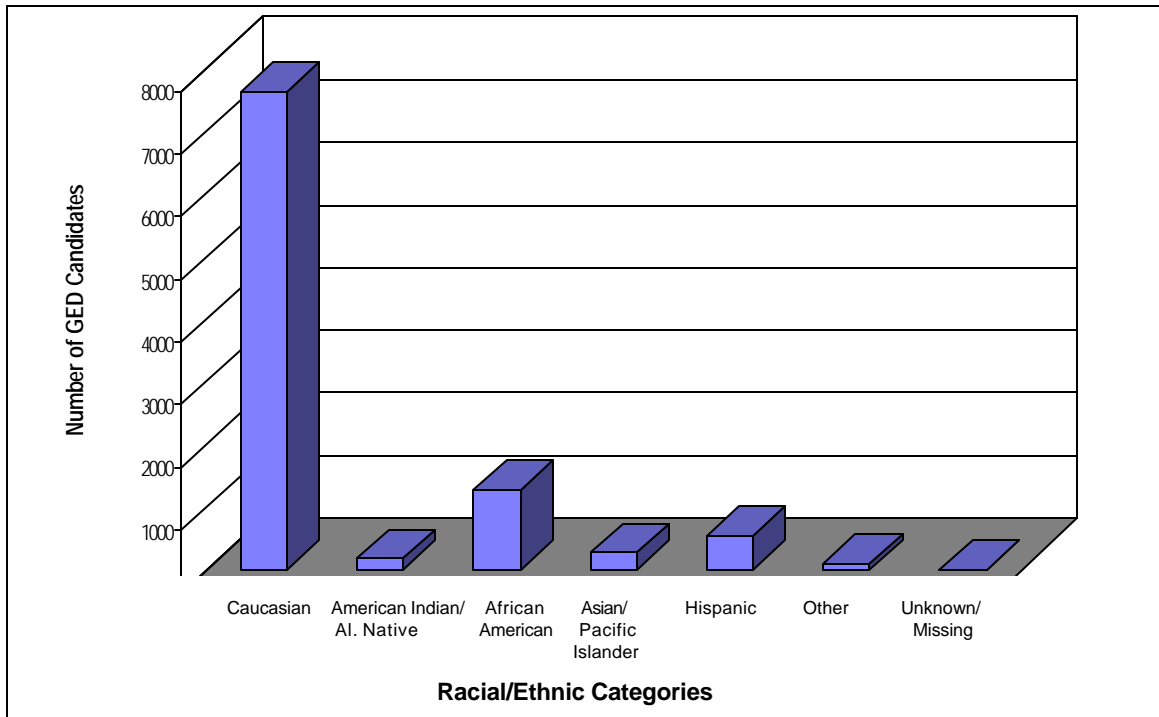


Gender Category	N	Percent
Male	5,658	56.24
Female	4,403	43.76
	<u>10,061</u>	<u>100.00</u>

Source: 2001 GED Annual Statistical Report: Iowa Department of Education

Number of Iowa GED Candidates by Racial/Ethnic Category for Calendar Year 2001

Graph 2

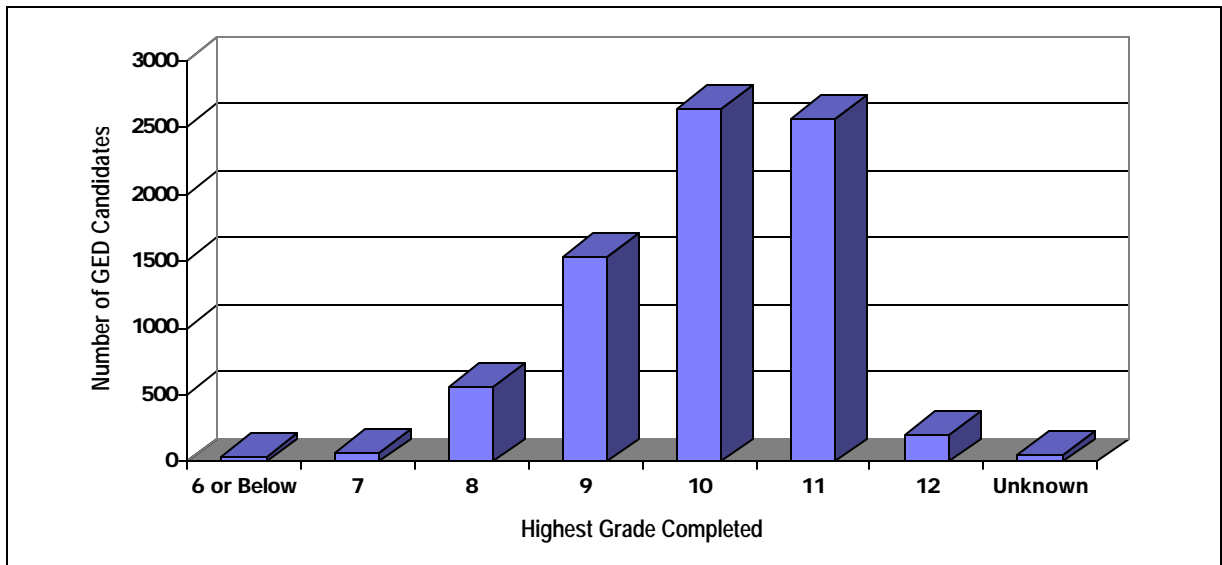


Racial Ethnic Category	N	Percent
Caucasian	7,644	75.98
Amer. Indian/Al. Native	186	1.85
African American	1,283	12.75
Asian/Pacific Islander	279	2.77
Hispanic	547	5.44
Other	103	1.02
Unknown/Missing	19	.19
Total	10,061	100.00

76% were majority and 24% were minority. The 24% minority figure for GED candidates compares to an overall 6% minority population figure for Iowa's adult population according to 2000 census figures.

Number of Iowa GED Candidates by Highest Grade Completed for Calendar Year 2001

Graph 3



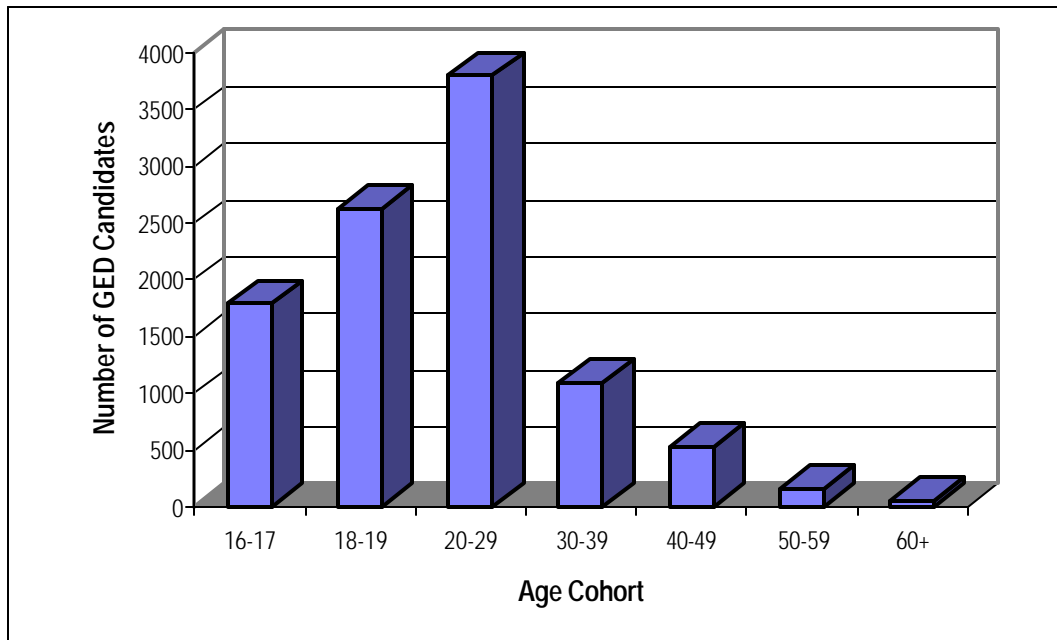
Highest Grade Level Completed	N	Percent
6 or Below	34	.34
7	157	1.56
8	910	9.04
9	1,936	19.44
10	3,390	33.69
11	3,271	32.51
12	271	2.69
Unknown/Missing	<u>72</u>	<u>.73</u>
Total	10,061	100.00

Highest average grade completed is 10.0 compared to the national average of 9.9

Source: 2001 GED Annual Statistical Report: Iowa Department of Education

Number of Iowa GED Candidates by Age Cohorts for Calendar Year 2001

Graph 4



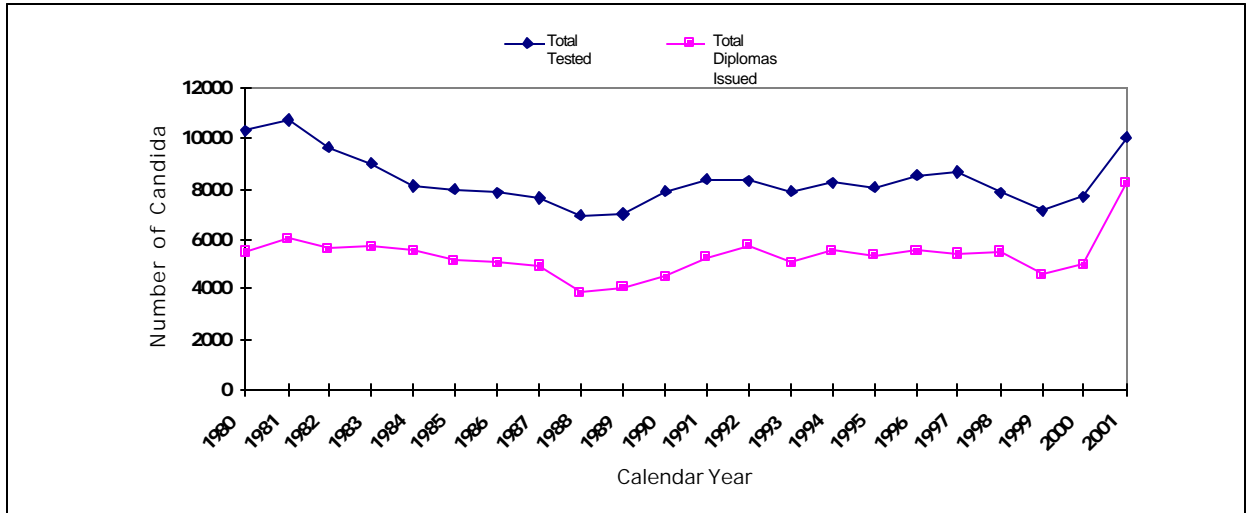
Age Cohort	N	Percent
16-17	1,791	17.80
18-19	2,625	26.09
20-29	3,797	37.73
30-39	1,096	10.89
40-49	536	5.32
50-59	164	1.63
60+	52	.52
Total	10,061	100.00

Average age is 23.4 compared to the national average of 24.5

Source: 2001 GED Annual Statistical Report: Iowa Department of Education

A Comparison of:
 (1) Total Number of Iowa GED Candidates Tested,
 (2) Number of GED Candidates Who Received the Iowa High
 School Equivalency Diploma
 from Calendar Years 1980-2001

Graph 5

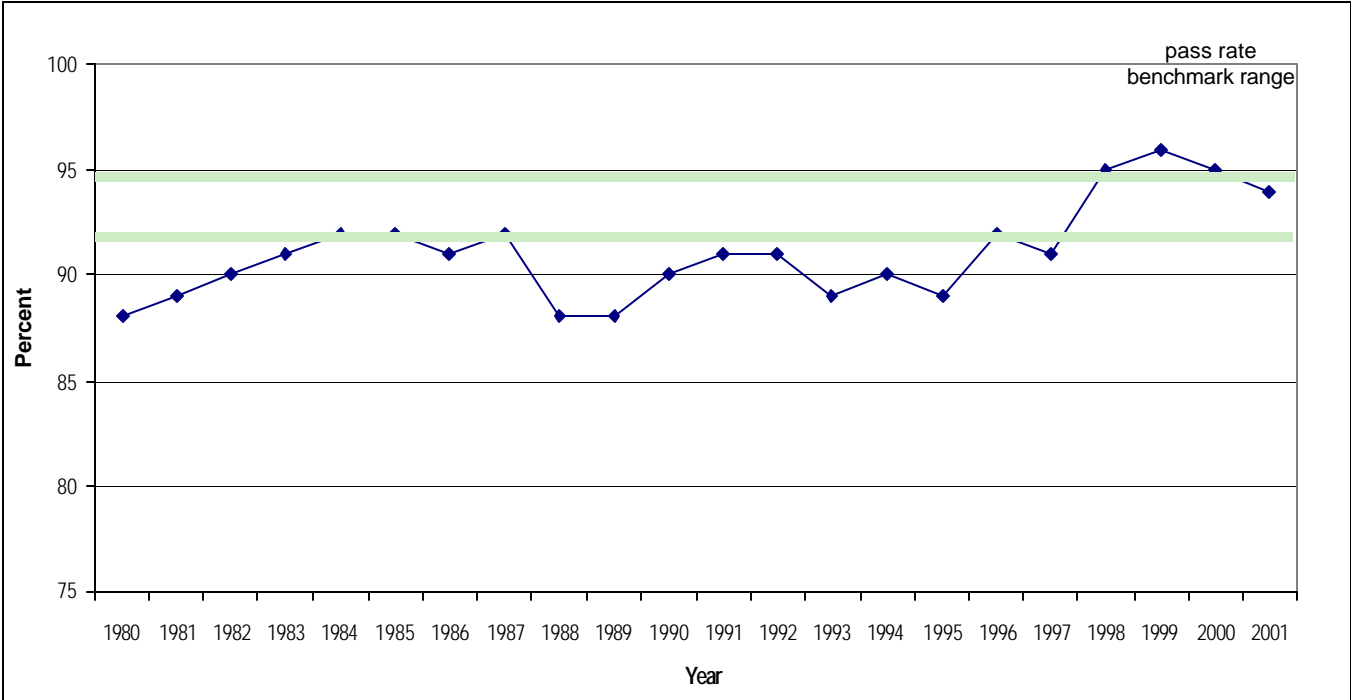


Calendar Year	Total Tested	Total Diplomas Issued
1980	10,342	5,452
1981	10,753	6,024
1982	9,635	5,602
1983	9,035	5,710
1984	8,147	5,531
1985	8,003	5,106
1986	7,832	5,036
1987	7,650	4,957
1988	6,902	3,858
1989	7,027	4,126
1990	7,909	4,497
1991	8,373	5,305
1992	8,348	5,764
1993	7,917	5,063
1994	8,277	5,525
1995	8,044	5,372
1996	8,566	5,525
1997	8,666	5,377
1998	7,871	5,448
1999	7,120	4,544
2000	7,666	4,983
2001	10,061	8,259

Source: 1980-2001 GED Annual Statistical Reports and 1980-1999 GED Diploma Recipient Reports:
 Iowa Department of Education

Iowa's GED Pass Rate by Percent: 1980-2001

Graph 6



The 94% pass rate meets the accountability benchmark percentage range of 92-95% pass rate for Iowa's GED testing program. The national average pass rate is 69.3%

Calendar Year	Pass Rate (Percent)	Calendar Year	Pass Rate (Percent)
1980	88	1991	91
1981	89	1992	91
1982	90	1993	89
1983	91	1994	90
1984	92	1995	89
1985	92	1996	92
1986	91	1997	91
1987	92	1998	95
1988	88	1999	96
1989	88	2000	95
1990	90	2001	94

Source: 1980-2001 GED Annual Statistical Report:s: Iowa Department of Education