



**KENTUCKY**  
**ADULT EDUCATION** REPORT CARD – 2005  
 LEARNING FOR LIFE

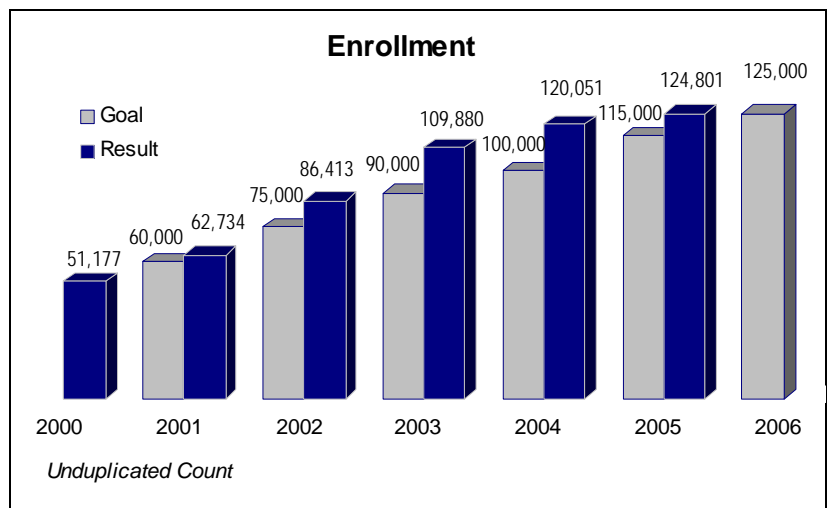
### Kentucky's Challenge:

- In 2000, only 5.0 percent of the 996,000\* adult Kentuckians functioning at the lowest levels of literacy were participating in adult education programs. (\*Kentucky Adult Literacy Survey, 1997)
- One in five Kentuckians age 25 and older do not have a high school diploma or GED, compared to 14.85 percent nationally. (Current Population Survey, 2004)
- Eighty percent of new jobs created in the next two decades will require some postsecondary education. (Adult Learners and State Policy, 2003, State Higher Education Executive Officers and the Council for Adult and Experiential Education)
- Of 2.4 million working-age Kentuckians, 40 percent (nearly one million) function at the two lowest levels of literacy (Kentucky Adult Literacy Survey, 2003).

### Kentucky measures its success in adult education with five questions.

#### Are more Kentuckians participating in adult education programs?

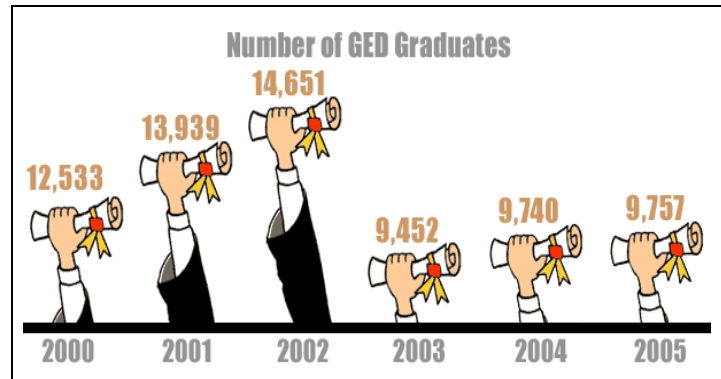
- 35,533 enrolled in Adult Basic Education
- 50,401 enrolled in Workforce Education
- 17,705 enrolled in GED Preparation
- 4,379 enrolled in Family Literacy
- 7,160 enrolled in Distance Education, [www.kyvae.org](http://www.kyvae.org)
- 4,108 enrolled in English as a Second Language
- 9,185 enrolled in Corrections Education



NOTE: Adult education students may participate in more than one area of study.

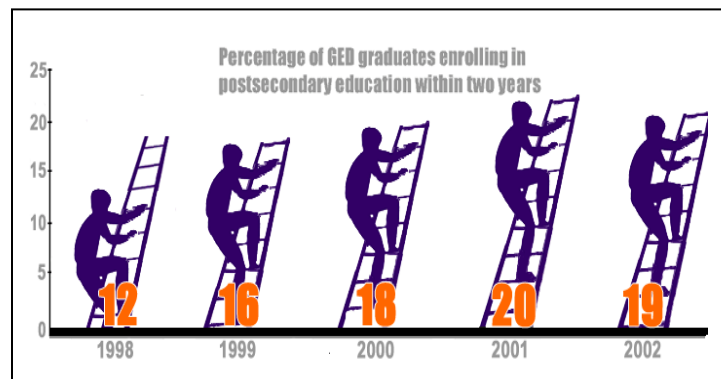
## Are more adult education students meeting their educational goals?

- Kentucky ranked 24th in the U.S. in the percentage of non-high school completers earning a GED in 2003. (*GEDTS 2003 Statistical Report*)  
 NOTE: National rankings for 2004 are not yet available.
- In both 2001 and 2002, Kentucky ranked in the top 5 states in GEDs awarded as a percent of all high school completers. (*The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems*)  
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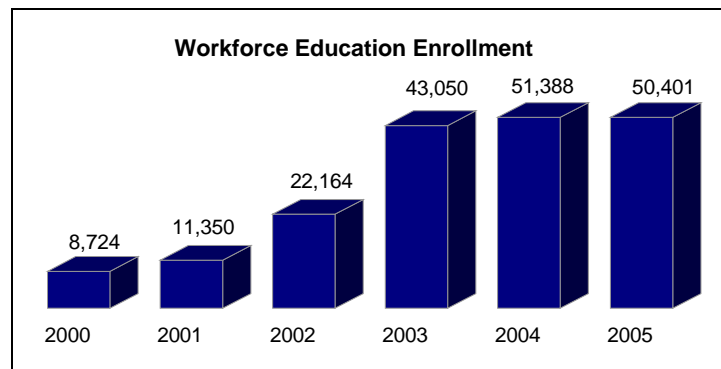
## Are more adult education students advancing on to postsecondary education?

- Nineteen percent of the fiscal year 2002 GED graduates enrolled in postsecondary education by fall 2004.
- Of those who enrolled:
  - 80.8% enrolled in a public two-year institution
  - 14.3% enrolled in a public four-year institution
  - 4.9% enrolled in an independent institution



## Are more adult education students prepared for employment?

- Employees benefiting from workforce education programs represented 1,867 employers in 112 Kentucky counties.
- In 2005, 1,257 Kentucky Employability Certificates (KEC) were issued to adult education students. The KEC, based upon the ACT WorkKeys assessment, is a standardized credential that validates reading, math and locating information skills for specific occupations.



## Are Kentucky's communities and economy benefiting?

- On average, individuals with a high school diploma or GED earn \$7,827 more a year in wages. The potential increased earnings for the 9,757 graduates in 2005 will be more than \$1.5 billion over a 20-year period. (*Mortenson's "Postsecondary Education Opportunity" median earnings in 2003 (U.S.)*).