



Adult Education delivers literacy services to out-of-school adults who are 16 years of age and older and who are not enrolled in K-12 school.

In Arizona, only providers who meet rigorous standards and produce positive student outcomes are funded. **Cochise College** is the program certified to provide Adult Education throughout Cochise County. The Arizona Department of Education – Adult Education Services allocated **\$567,125** to Cochise County for adult education services for the Program Year 2009-2010.

The Need for Adult Education in Cochise County

Of the approximately 130,000 people living in Cochise County, 74% (96,272) are 18 years old and older. Of that number, 17% (16,416) lack a high school credential. 10% (737) of 16 to 19 year olds are not enrolled in school and do not have a high school diploma.

5% of individuals 18 years and older (4,942) live in “linguistically isolated” (*all members of the household 14 years and over have at least some difficulty with English*).

Source: American Community Survey 2005-2009



Cochise County Adult Education Data ■ Program Year 2009-2010

- 646 adults enrolled in Adult Education classes
- 49,375 instructional hours were provided in Adult Education classes
- \$11.49 of Adult Education funding was expended per instructional hour
- \$877.90 of Adult Education funding was expended per adult student (*compared to over \$6,000 funded per K-12 student*)
- 53% of enrolled students improved more than two grade levels
- 56% who sought a high school equivalency credential passed the GED® Test and earned a diploma
- 86% who sought a job found employment
- 62% who sought to retain or improve employment were successful
- 91% who had a goal of entering post-secondary education or training went on to further education
- **GED® Testing Data: 409 Arizona High School Equivalency Diplomas were issued.**

Cochise County is home to a multi-year initiative linking Adult Education and Workforce Development. Since Program Year 2007-2008, Cochise College has received four consecutive performance-based funding awards, over \$330,000, to integrate Adult Education and Post-secondary training in the Allied Healthcare field for Cochise County residents. Lessons learned from this model have been implemented in Arizona’s current statewide initiative to build Adult Career Pathways in targeted industry sectors. Cochise has been a leader in including private industry in their workforce development model.

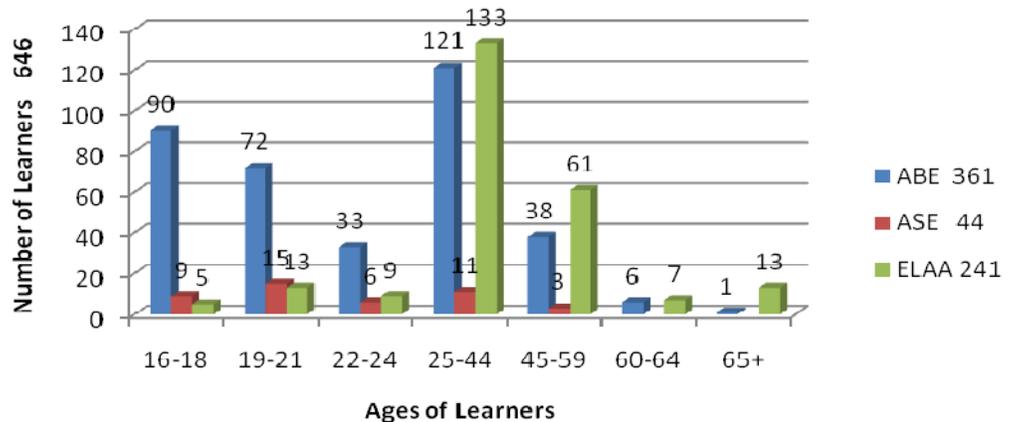


SNAPSHOT: Adult Education in Cochise County

- The U.S. Department of Labor-Bureau of Labor Statistics has determined the 2008 median annual earnings difference between no diploma and a high school credential to be \$8,580. The 409 individuals earning a GED® in Cochise County represent a potential increase in taxable income of approximately \$3,510,000 per year.
- 41% of adult learners in Cochise County are between the ages of 25 and 44.
- 36% of adult learners in Cochise County are employed.
- Of the population 18 and over representing child-bearing and employment ages in Cochise County, 7% (6,411) have less than a high school education. The 2003 National Assessment of Adult Literacy research confirms once again that the educational attainment of the parents, particularly that of the mother, has a direct bearing on the educational achievement of a child.
- 20,422 students were enrolled in public pre-school through high school during the 2009-2010 school year. Cochise County reported 6,246 public high school (Grades 9-12) students and a dropout rate for grades 7-12 in 2007-2008 of 3% (338). ADE-AES served 252 people under the age of 25, of whom 81% (204) were between ages 16 and 21.
- 56% of the adults in Apache County enrolling in Adult Education classes had reading, writing, and/or math proficiency skills at eighth grade or below.

Improving an adult's skills in reading, writing and/or math SIGNIFICANTLY increases his/her earning potential and ultimate contributions as a member of a family, the workforce, and the community.

Cochise County Adult Learners



■ **ABE = Adult Basic Education**
Instruction in reading, writing, & math through 8th grade level.

■ **ASE = Adult Secondary Education**
Instruction in reading, writing, math, science & social studies. May lead to a high school equivalency diploma.

■ **ELAA = English Language Acquisition for Adults**
Instruction in listening, speaking, reading & writing for non-native English speakers.

EL/Civics – Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education is provided throughout Arizona Adult Education programming.