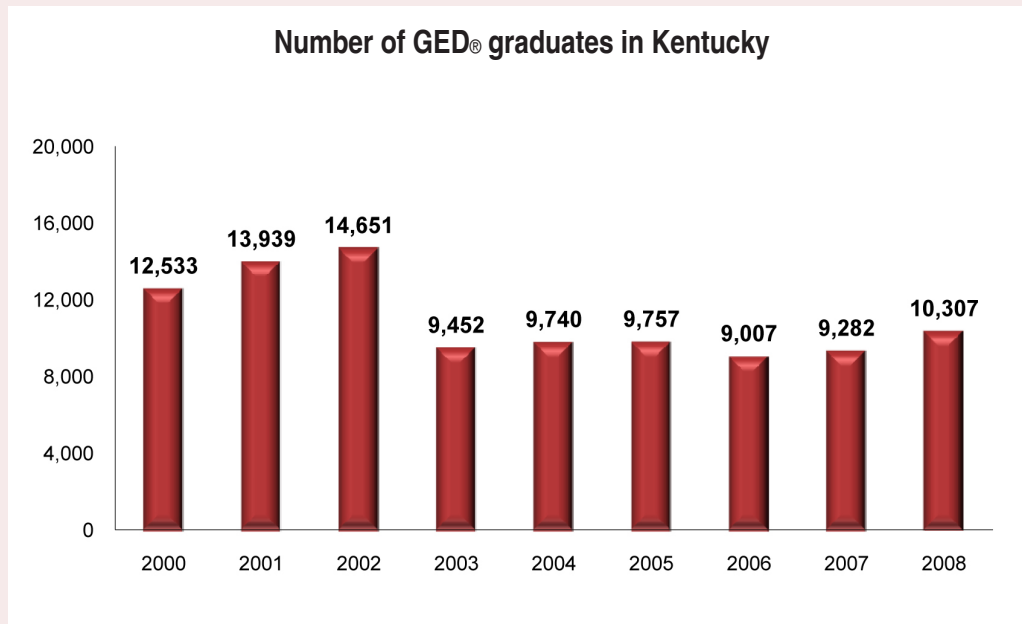




## GED® attainment

Status: Making progress



Source: GED Testing Service® and Kentucky Adult Education

### Highlights

- GED graduates increased 11% over last year, from 9,282 in 2007 to 10,307 in 2008, the largest annual increase since 2001.
- Nevertheless, 2008 GED graduates fell slightly short of the goal of 10,631.
- GED graduates in Kentucky and the nation declined sharply in 2003, in part due to perceptions about the difficulty of the new test, but are now beginning to rebound.

### About this measure

The General Educational Development (GED®) exam offers individuals who have not completed high school a chance to obtain an equivalent credential and pursue postsecondary education. The GED Tests include five content areas—reading, writing, social studies, science, and mathematics. The GED Tests reflect high school curriculum standards developed at the national and jurisdictional levels.

Nearly 20% of Kentucky's working-age, adult population has not finished high school, a barrier to the state's ability to keep pace with the global economy. This indicator monitors a critical objective of Kentucky Adult Education, a unit of the Council, and focuses attention on the need to re-engage working-age adults into the state's educational pipeline.