

the condition of education 2004



INDICATOR 7

Adult Participation in Work-Related Learning

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2004*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2004* visit the NCES web site (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004077>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

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Adult Learning

Adult Participation in Work-Related Learning

Forty percent of adults ages 16 and above participated in adult education for work-related reasons in 2002–03. Educational attainment was positively associated with such participation.

In an age of rapid economic and technological change, work-related adult education can provide benefits for individuals and for society as a whole. People enroll in adult education courses and activities to learn new skills, to maintain and enhance existing skills, and to make themselves more productive and marketable.

In 2002–03, 40 percent of all persons ages 16 and above who are no longer in elementary or secondary school participated in some work-related adult education (see supplemental table 7-1). Adults were most likely to report taking formal work-related courses¹ and college or university degree programs for work-related reasons (33 and 9 percent of all persons ages 16 and above, respectively). Educational attainment was positively associated with participating in adult education for work-related reasons: those with higher levels of education were more likely to report taking adult education. Adults in professional or managerial occupations (70 percent) were more likely than adults in service, sales, or support (49 percent) or in trades (32 percent) to participate in adult education for work-related reasons. Asian/Pacific Islander adults (49 per-

cent) were more likely than White, Black, and Hispanic adults to take any work-related adult education activity. White and Black adults (41 and 39 percent, respectively) were more likely than their Hispanic peers (31 percent) to participate in any adult education.

Business or industry was the most common provider of work-related adult education, with 51 percent of participants involved in activities provided by business or industry in 2002–03 (see supplemental table 7-2). The next most common providers of work-related adult education were colleges/universities or vocational/technical schools (21 percent), government agencies, and professional or labor associations/organizations (19 percent each).

Among those taking formal work-related courses, 30 percent of adults took between 9 and 24 classroom hours, 27 percent took 8 hours or fewer, and 26 percent took 41 hours or more in 2002–03 (see supplemental table 7-3). A smaller proportion, 18 percent, took between 25 and 40 classroom hours.

Rounds to zero.

¹Formal work-related courses include training, workshops, seminars, courses, or classes taken for work-related reasons.

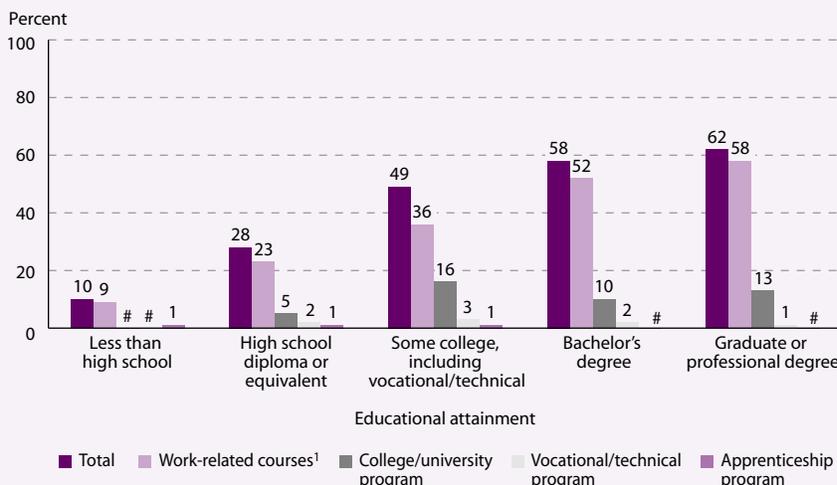
NOTE: The survey population includes civilian, noninstitutionalized individuals ages 16 and above who are not enrolled in elementary or secondary school. The survey defined work-related adult education as both formal and informal learning activities that are done for reasons related to work. Formal types of work-related adult education may include apprenticeships, formal work-related courses (e.g., training, workshops, or seminars), college or university degree or certificate programs for work-related reasons, and vocational/technical programs for work-related reasons. This analysis excludes informal learning (e.g., brown bag demonstrations, conferences, or self-paced study). Percentages of individual activities do not sum to the overall participation rate because individuals may have participated in multiple activities.

SOURCE: Kleiner, B., Carver, P., Hagedorn, M., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Participation in Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons: 2002–2003* (NCES 2004–063), tables 1, 2, 3, and 4. Data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons Survey of the 2003 National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES) (AEWR–NHES:2003).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Supplemental Notes 1,3
Supplemental Tables 7-1,
7-2,7-3



ADULT EDUCATION: Percentage of persons ages 16 and above participating in work-related adult education in the past 12 months, by educational attainment and type of activity: 2002–03



Adult Participation in Work-Related Learning

Table 7-1. Percentage of persons ages 16 and above taking work-related adult education courses or activities in the past 12 months, by type of activity and selected characteristics: 2002–03

Characteristic	Number of adults (thousands)	Type of activity				
		Total	College or university degree/certificate program	Vocational or technical diploma program	Apprenticeship program	Work-related courses ¹
Total	206,533	40	9	2	1	33
Sex						
Male	98,793	40	8	2	1	33
Female	107,740	40	10	2	#	33
Race/ethnicity ²						
Asian/Pacific Islander	6,330	49	16	1	#	38
Black	23,145	39	10	3	1	31
White	149,135	41	9	2	1	35
Hispanic	24,248	31	6	2	1	25
Other	3,675	43	15	3	2	31
Education						
Less than high school	32,357	10	#	#	1	9
High school diploma or equivalent	61,194	28	5	2	1	23
Some college, including vocational/technical	58,055	49	16	3	1	36
Bachelor's degree	32,122	58	10	2	#	52
Graduate or professional degree	22,804	62	13	1	#	58
Age						
16–24	24,053	59	37	3	2	31
25–44	82,223	48	10	3	1	41
45–64	66,447	39	2	1	#	37
65 and above	33,810	7	#	#	#	7
Household income						
\$25,000 or less	53,796	21	8	1	1	14
\$25,001–50,000	55,435	38	9	3	1	31
\$50,001–75,000	43,189	48	10	2	1	40
\$75,001–100,000	24,286	54	9	2	#	49
\$100,001 or more	29,826	54	9	1	1	49
Occupation ³						
Professional or managerial	45,292	70	13	1	1	64
Service, sales, or support	65,769	49	12	3	1	40
Trades	34,969	32	5	2	3	26

#Rounds to zero.

¹Formal work-related courses include training, workshops, seminars, courses, or classes taken for work-related reasons.

²Black includes African American, Pacific Islander includes Native Hawaiian, and Hispanic includes Latino. Racial categories exclude Hispanic origin.

³Includes only those who reported working in the previous 12 months.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. Participation in any adult education for work-related reasons includes apprenticeships, formal work-related courses, college or university degree or certificate programs for work-related reasons, and vocational/technical diploma programs for work-related reasons. Excludes informal learning (e.g., brown bag demonstrations, conferences, or self-paced study). Percentages of individual activities do not sum to the overall participation rate because individuals may have participated in multiple activities. For more information on race/ethnicity, household income, education, and occupation, see *supplemental note 1*.

SOURCE: Kleiner, B., Carver, P., Hagedorn, M., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Participation in Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons: 2002–2003* (NCES 2004–063), tables 1 and 2. Data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons Survey of the 2003 National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES) (AEWR–NHES:2003).

Adult Participation in Work-Related Learning

Table 7-2. Total number (in thousands) and percentage of adults taking work-related courses, by type of instructional providers: 2002–03

Instructional provider	Percentage of participants in work-related courses
Total adults participating in work-related courses (in thousands)	68,499
Instructional provider	
Business or industry	51
College/university, vocational/technical school	21
Government agency (federal, state, local)	19
Professional or labor association/organization	19
Other (religious or community organization, tutor, etc.)	8
Elementary/secondary school	6

NOTE: Some adults took courses from more than one type of provider; therefore, percentages sum to more than 100.

SOURCE: Kleiner, B., Carver, P., Hagedorn, M., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Participation in Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons: 2002–2003* (NCES 2004–063), table 4. Data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons Survey of the 2003 National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES) (AEWR–NHES:2003).

Table 7-3. Number (in thousands) and percentage of persons ages 16 and above taking work-related adult education courses or activities in the past 12 months by type of activity, by the total credit hours or classroom instruction hours: 2002–03

Instructional hours ¹	College or university degree/certificate program ²		Vocational or technical diploma program ³		Apprenticeship program		Work-related courses ⁴	
	Number of adults (thousands)	Percent	Number of adults (thousands)	Percent	Number of adults (thousands)	Percent	Number of adults (thousands)	Percent
Credit hours per semester/equivalent								
12 hours or fewer	5,895	35	1,040	62	—	—	—	—
13–24 hours	5,556	33	456	27	—	—	—	—
25 hours or more	5,622	33	181	11	—	—	—	—
Classroom hours								
8 hours or fewer	—	—	350	30	295	17	18,281	27
9–24 hours	—	—	373	31	491	28	20,460	30
25–40 hours	—	—	310	26	408	23	12,124	18
41 hours or more	—	—	152	13	591	33	17,635	26

— Not available.

¹All instructional hours reported as quarter or trimester hours were converted to semester hours by multiplying the number of quarter or trimester hours by 0.67.

²Estimates pertain only to time spent in the most advanced degree program in which a respondent had been enrolled.

³Each participant reported either semester/equivalent hours or classroom hours for each educational activity but not both. Estimates are representative only of those who elected to report the specified unit of participation.

⁴Formal work-related courses include training, workshops, seminars, courses, or classes taken for work-related reasons.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: Kleiner, B., Carver, P., Hagedorn, M., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Participation in Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons: 2002–2003* (NCES 2004–063), table 3. Data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons Survey of the 2003 National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES) (AEWR–NHES:2003).

Adult Participation in Work-Related Learning

Table S7. Standard errors for the percentage of persons ages 16 and above participating in work-related adult education in the past 12 months, by type of activity and educational attainment: 2002–03

Educational attainment	Total	College or university degree/certificate program	Vocational or technical diploma program	Apprenticeship program	Work-related courses
Less than high school	1.1	#	#	0.4	1.1
High school diploma or equivalent	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.9
Some college, including vocational/technical	1.1	0.8	0.3	0.2	1.1
Bachelor's degree	1.2	0.6	0.4	#	1.3
Graduate or professional degree	1.6	1.0	0.3	#	1.6

Rounds to zero.

SOURCE: Kleiner, B., Carver, P., Hagedorn, M., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Participation in Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons: 2002–2003* (NCES 2004–063), table 1. Data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons Survey of the 2003 National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES) (AEWR–NHES:2003).

Adult Participation in Work-Related Learning

Table S7-1. Standard errors for the percentage of persons ages 16 and above taking work-related adult education courses or activities in the past 12 months, by type of activity and selected characteristics: 2002–03

Characteristic	Type of activity				
	Total	College or university degree/certificate program	Vocational or technical diploma program	Apprenticeship program	Work-related courses
Total	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.5
Sex					
Male	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.9
Female	0.7	0.4	0.2	#	0.6
Race/ethnicity					
Asian/Pacific Islander	3.4	2.6	0.4	#	3.2
Black	1.8	1.0	0.5	0.2	1.6
White	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.6
Hispanic	2.0	0.8	0.4	0.3	1.7
Other	5.0	3.2	1.0	1.2	3.9
Education					
Less than high school	1.1	#	#	0.4	1.1
High school diploma or equivalent	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.9
Some college, including vocational/technical	1.1	0.8	0.3	0.2	1.1
Bachelor's degree	1.2	0.6	0.4	#	1.3
Graduate or professional degree	1.6	1.0	0.3	#	1.6
Age					
16–24	2.1	1.9	0.6	0.5	1.9
25–44	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.2	1.0
45–64	1.0	0.2	0.2	#	1.0
65 and above	0.4	#	#	#	0.4
Household income					
\$25,000 or less	1.0	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.8
\$25,001–50,000	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.2	1.0
\$50,001–75,000	1.3	0.8	0.3	0.3	1.3
\$75,001–100,000	2.0	0.8	0.4	#	1.8
\$100,001 or more	1.7	0.8	0.3	0.4	1.7
Occupation					
Professional or managerial	1.2	0.7	0.2	0.1	1.3
Service, sales, or support	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.1	1.0
Trades	1.4	0.6	0.4	0.5	1.4

#Rounds to zero.

SOURCE: Kleiner, B., Carver, P., Hagedorn, M., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Participation in Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons: 2002–2003* (NCES 2004–063), tables 1 and 2. Data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons Survey of the 2003 National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES) (AEWR–NHES:2003).

Adult Participation in Work-Related Learning

Table S7-2. Standard errors for the total number (in thousands) and percentage of adults taking work-related courses, by type of instructional providers: 2002–03

Instructional provider	Percentage of participants in work-related courses
Total adults participating in work-related courses (in thousands)	1,053
Instructional provider	
Business or industry	1.1
College/university, vocational/technical school	0.9
Government agency (federal, state, local)	0.8
Professional or labor association/organization	0.8
Other (religious or community organization, tutor, etc.)	0.5
Elementary/secondary school	0.3

SOURCE: Kleiner, B., Carver, P., Hagedorn, M., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Participation in Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons: 2002–2003* (NCES 2004–063), table 4. Data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons Survey of the 2003 National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES) (AEWR–NHES:2003).

Table S7-3. Standard errors for the number (in thousands) and percentage of persons ages 16 and above taking work-related adult education courses or activities in the past 12 months by type of activity, by the total credit hours or classroom instruction hours: 2002–03

Instructional hours	College or university degree/certificate program	Vocational or technical diploma program	Apprenticeship program	Work-related courses
Credit hours per semester/equivalent				
12 hours or fewer	1.7	4.6	†	†
13–24 hours	1.9	4.4	†	†
25 hours or more	1.8	2.6	†	†
Classroom hours				
8 hours or fewer	†	6.9	4.4	0.9
9–24 hours	†	7.1	5.7	0.8
25–40 hours	†	4.8	7.7	0.8
41 hours or more	†	3.5	6.6	0.9

†Not applicable.

SOURCE: Kleiner, B., Carver, P., Hagedorn, M., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Participation in Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons: 2002–2003* (NCES 2004–063), table 3. Data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons Survey of the 2003 National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES) (AEWR–NHES:2003).