



National Council of
State Directors of
Adult Education

Adult Student Waiting List Survey

2009-2010
NCSDAE

Adult Education State Directors

National Council of State Directors of
Adult Education

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Findings

- ▶ 1368 local programs in 50 states and 1 territory responded to the adult education waiting list survey.
- ▶ 50 of the 51 states/territories confirmed students on waiting lists in their state.
- ▶ 986 of the 1368 (72%) of the local programs reporting confirmed waiting lists.
- ▶ Some 160,000 potential learners want to access services but cannot.
- ▶ The number of months on waiting lists has doubled since the 2008 survey.
- ▶ \$160M additional appropriation would begin to erase this waiting list.

Introduction

This two part report sheds light on the question regarding waiting lists for adult education and literacy classes.

Part I, the Executive Summary highlights the findings from the survey of local programs conducted in the spring of 2010.

Part II includes the data tables and individual state reports on which the Executive Summary is based.

Part I Executive Summary

There is a need to expand access to adult education programs.

- ▶ 93 million adults have reading, math, and/or English deficiencies (NAAL, 2005).
- ▶ Only 3 million can access services now.
- ▶ Most jobs with family sustaining income require GED/high school plus some college.
- ▶ For the country to remain competitive, we need an educated adult workforce.
- ▶ Only 2% of the annual workforce comes from public schools.
- ▶ How can education reform, job training, welfare to work, public health, immigration and other national initiatives be successful if 40% of the adult population has limited skills?

Waiting Lists:

Before increasing funding for services, it is important to know if current services are being fully used.

Because few states collect waiting list information, the State Directors' national office (NCSDAE) conducted a waiting list survey for the 2009-2010 program year. The voluntary electronic survey was sent to State Directors who in turn forwarded the URL to local program directors. A number of programs in 49 states and one territory responded.

Here are some of the general findings:

Data Sources:

- ▶ 1368 of the 4,000+ programs in the US responded to the survey--about one third of all local programs.
- ▶ Response was voluntary; there was no random selection.
- ▶ Some states (Arizona, Illinois, Oregon, and Texas) collect statewide waiting list data and, as a result, did not forward the survey to their local programs.

The Number on Waiting Lists:

- ▶ 50 of the 51 (50 states; 1 territory) reporting had waiting lists in their local programs
- ▶ Of the 1368 local programs reporting, 986 (72%) had waiting lists
- ▶ 160,000 expectant learners are on waiting lists in these 968 programs. That number has doubled from 80,000 potential learners on waiting list in 710 programs in 2008.

Number of Months Waiting to Get

Access:

Length	2010	2008
One month or less	183	234
2-4 months	603	326
5-8 months	129	62
9+ months	48	21

In general, the length of time on the waiting list has doubled.

More Specific Data:

- ▶ As you will note on the Arizona attachment, nearly 7,000 adults remain on the waiting list year round.
- ▶ In New York City, because waiting periods can reach one to two years, some programs have resorted to a lottery system. If your number is drawn, you may attend class.
- ▶ As you will also note on the Texas attachment, every Co-op in the state had students on a waiting list.

Summary:

A waiting list can be a psychological barrier to participation in adult education and literacy programs. It takes courage for any of us to return to school. Imagine the apprehension of an adult who has not been successful in school. Imagine the doubts. Then imagine trying to hold that determination while he or she waits, even for one month, to get into class. These survey results confirm that many students are seeking to access services but cannot. The detail tables are found in Part II.

At current student costs, an additional \$160M could clear the waiting lists reported in this survey.

The waiting lists are only one part of the conversation regarding the need to expand access to adult education services.

- ▶ The National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL) released by NCES in December 2005 reported that 93 million adults, 40+% of the adult population, have reading, math, and/or English deficiencies that inhibit them from making their full contribution as workers, parents, and community members.
- ▶ Only 3 million adults can enroll at current funding levels.
- ▶ If the United States is going to address the competitiveness challenge, it must have an educated workforce.
- ▶ How can economic recovery, education reform, job training, public health, welfare to work, immigration, and other federal priorities be successful when only 3 million of the 93 million can access services?
- ▶ 43 adult education state programs meet or exceed the performance standards as prescribed by Congress and the U.S. Department of Education. We have quality programs.

If under-prepared adults are going to qualify for jobs with family sustaining incomes, if the economy is going to recover, if we are going to be competitive, and if federal initiatives are going to be successful, we must increase access to adult education programs in every state.

NCSDAE Adult Student Waiting List Survey Results

For Program Year 2009-2010

Adult Student Waiting List Survey Conducted by the National Council of State Directors of Adult Education

3/21/2010

State	# of Grantees Responding	Local Program Respondents									Months on Waiting List				Low Estimate	Mid Estimate	High Estimate	
		Waiting List?		Yes							<1	2-4	5-8	9+				
		Yes	No	# on Waiting List														
				<20	21-50	51-100	101-250	251-500	501-1000	1000+								
AL	11	6	5	2	3	1						3	2			154	220	290
AK																0	0	0
AR	25	15	10	10	2	1	1					5	9	1		394	520	650
AZ*																7,795	7,795	7,795
CA	72	63	7	9	19	10	12	10	2	1		7	37	4		6,813	9,695	13,630
CO	29	21	8	4	11	4	1					3	17	1		616	940	1,280
CT	18	15	3	5	3	3	3		1				10	3	2	1,120	1,705	2,300
DE	20	18	2	2	4	5	3	3		1			10	6	2	2,435	3,305	4,490
FL	86	59	27	25	17	9	5	2	1			15	36	5	2	2,824	4,045	5,500
GA	46	36	10	12	6	9	7	2				5	27	4		2,034	3,000	4,190
HI	6	3	3	1	1	1						2		1		92	130	170
ID	5	3	2			1	1	1					3			403	575	850
IL*																5,791	5,791	5,791
IN	37	27	10	5	9	4	3	5				2	23	1		2,051	2,865	4,200
IA	4	3	1	1	2							1	1	1		62	90	120
KS	30	26	4	12	7	5	2					2	24			844	1,210	1,590
KY	104	37	67	27	4	4	2					21	15	1		1,030	1,330	1,640
LA	46	26	20	12	5	4	3	1		1		8	17		1	2,103	2,815	3,640
ME	28	23	5	15	6	2						3	13	6	1	528	660	800
MD	21	21	0	3	6	6	3	2				4	15	2		1,297	1,895	2,710
MA*	1	1								1					1	1,000	1,250	1,500
MI	60	51	9	11	16	11	9	3	1			5	32	10	4	3,280	4,905	6,870
MN	31	26	5	7	10	5	2	1	1			5	15	5	1	1,559	2,290	3,140
MS	24	21	3	5	4	4	3	3	2			3	15	2	1	2,446	3,540	4,950
MO	23	18	5	3	7	4	2	2				4	14			1,115	1,605	2,310
MT	6	3	3	2		1						2	1			91	115	140

State	# of Grantees Responding	Local Program Respondents								Months on Waiting List				Low Estimate	Mid Estimate	High Estimate	
		Waiting List?		Yes						<1	2-4	5-8	9+	Minimal # on Waiting List	Maximum # on Waiting Lists		
		Yes	No	# on Waiting List													
		<20	21-50	51-100	101-250	251-500	501-1000	1000+									
NE	15	9	6	3		4	1	1			2	6	1				616
NV	8	7	1		2	1	4					1	3	2	497	845	1,200
NH	8	8	0	5	3						4	1	2	1	163	205	250
NJ	31	30	1	4	10	6	4	3	3		3	15	12		3,256	4,805	6,680
NM	14	10	4		5	1		4			1	6	3		1,160	1,550	2,350
NY**	41	32	9	14	5	6	3	1	3		8	15	7	2	2,748	4,005	5,380
NC	61	46	15	17	12	8	6	3			12	29	5		2,359	3,385	4,740
ND	10	6	4	5			1				4	2			201	275	350
OH	50	38	12	12	11	10	4	1			10	18	6	4	1,636	2,400	3,290
OK	17	14	3	7	4	1	1	1			3	9	2		627	855	1,190
OR*							1					1			101	175	250
PA	106	93	13	27	15	16	18	11	5	2	5	51	20	16	10,755	15,240	20,890
RI	26	22	4	6	3	3	3	4	3			13	5	3	3,146	4,525	6,320
SC	44	28	16	5	11	6	3	2			4	22			1,442	2,110	3,000
SD	2	0	2												0	0	0
TN	45	16	29	8	5	1		2			6	9		1	818	1,060	1,510
TX*															11,431	11,431	11,431
UT	1	1							1				1		1,000	1,250	1,500
VT	5	3	2	2	1							3			61	75	90
VA	38	16	22	9	6		1				4	11	1		407	565	730
WA	20	17	3		6	3	6	2				15	2		1,387	2,135	3,100
DC															0	0	0
WV	55	40	15	21	14	4	1				9	26	3	2	1,019	1,385	1,770
WI	30	23	7	8	9	1	4	1			6	14	1	2	1,055	1,575	2,210
WY	6	3	3	1	1	1					1	1	1		92	130	170
AM.SAMOA															0	0	0
NMI															0	0	0
VISLANDS															0	0	0
P.RICO															0	0	0
GUAM	2	2	0				1		1		1		1		1,101	1,425	1,750

State	# of Grantees Responding	Local Program Respondents								Months on Waiting List				Low Estimate	Mid Estimate	High Estimate
		Waiting List?		Yes						<1	2-4	5-8	9+			
		Yes	No	# on Waiting List												
				<20	21-50	51-100	101-250	251-500	501-1000					1000+		
TOTAL	1368	986	380	327	265	166	124	71	8	183	604	129	48	93,854	123,132	160,157

* States collect state wide data rather than complete local program surveys. SEE ATTACHMENT

** New York City uses a lottery system to select the adults who can participate in classes.

NOTE: The 2007 cost per student was \$979.57. At that rate it would take \$160M to serve those on the waiting list.

This survey was conducted and compiled by the National Council of State Directors of Adult Education.

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202.624.5250



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Tom Horne
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

MEMO

TO: Mr. Robert Burns
President, Arizona State Senate
Mr. Kirk Adams
Speaker, Arizona House of Representatives

FROM: Karen Liersch
Deputy Associate Superintendent, Adult Education Services

DATE: December 8, 2009

RE: **A.R.S. 15-232 Semiannual Report to the Arizona Legislature from
Adult Education Services: June 1, 2009 – November 30, 2009)**

The Arizona Adult Education System consistently ranks in the top quartile of all states, producing over 2 grade levels of educational gains per student for less than \$1300 annually. Additional data from the U.S. Department of Labor reports that adults who complete Adult Secondary Education and earn their high school diploma by passing the GED Test earn an additional \$9000+ annually in taxable wages, producing tax revenue at both the state and federal levels almost immediately (in FY 2009 over 13,000 Arizona adults earned their high school diploma by passing the GED Test).

Arizona Adult Education Services (AES) intensified monitoring of state funded programs in FY 2009 and found 100% of monitored programs to be in compliance with the Proposition 300 amendment to ARS 15-232. Of the 18,488 people who applied for instruction in Arizona Adult Education during the reporting period, 523 people (2.82% percent) were denied instruction because they failed to provide acceptable evidence of citizenship or legal residence in the United States. The following table provides current and historical state totals for the number of people (1) who are waitlisted for classes in each AES service area, (2) who applied for classes, and (3) who were denied enrollment under the Proposition 300 amendment to ARS 15-232 during the reporting period.

Arizona Adult Education ARS 15-232 Compliance Report Comparison June 2007 to December 2009

<u>ARS Report Date:</u>	<u>Waitlist ABE/ASE*</u>	<u>Waitlist ELAA**</u>	<u>Waitlist TOTAL</u>	<u>ARS 15-232 Applicants</u>	<u>ARS 15-232 Service Denials</u>
December, 2009	4775	3020	7795	18,488	523
June, 2009	4048	2551	6599	19,040	890
December, 2008	4025	2877	6902	20,060	470
June, 2008	3347	2703	6050	16,373	771
December, 2007	3151	2434	5585	18,276	1149
June, 2007	2342	4382	6724	11,931	1403

* ABE: Adult Basic Education (Reading, Writing, Math through 8th grade)
* ASE: Adult Secondary Education (Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies: grades 9-12)
** ELAA: English Language Acquisition for Adults

Illinois Community College Board



Guy H. Alongi
Chairman

Geoffrey S. Obrzut
President/CEO

The Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) Adult Education Program has provided services annually to more than 123,000 students in Illinois. With more than 2.3 million individuals in need of adult education services, we most certainly understand the dilemma in serving everyone who comes to the 100 plus programs in Illinois.

The following report shows an analysis of the results of the Second Annual Adult Education Waiting List Survey conducted by ICCB. This year's survey was conducted, not only to determine the number of students who are waiting for educational services, but also to include enrollment trends and services. The data was obtained from a participating total of 88 providers throughout the state. Program Directors and educators from providers representing Community Colleges, High School Districts, Regional Offices of Education, Community Based Organizations, The Illinois Department of Corrections and one four year University completed the survey.

Seventy-five percent of the programs that completed the survey indicated that a waiting list is kept by the adult education program for those students not able to access instructional services. Below is a comparison of the FY2009 and FY2010 of individuals on program waiting lists in the specific instructional categories.

Instructional Category	Fall 2008 (FY2009)	Fall 2009 (FY2010)
Adult Basic Education (ABE)	1,244	1,918
Adult Secondary Education (ASE)	472	1,253
English as-a-Second Language (ESL)	2,016	2,403
High School Credit (HSCR)	283	217
Vocational Training (VOC)	350	381
Total	4,365	6,172

The final total of students waiting to enter adult education in Illinois is 6,172. This represents an increase of 29.2% over FY2009.

TEXAS INDIVIDUAL WAITING LIST BY CO-OP

11,431 Total Number of Statewide Participants on Waiting List

(ESL - 5,497, ABE - 5,231, ASE - 703)

PROGRAM	BREAK DOWN	TOTAL #
AUSTIN ISD EL CIVICS	(ESL - 73, ABE - 0, ASE - 0)	73
AUSTIN LEARNING ACADEMY	(ESL - 35, ABE - 0, ASE - 0)	35
AVANCE - EL PASO	(ESL - 80, ABE - 0, ASE - 0)	80
AVANCE - RGV	(ESL - 10, ABE - 0, ASE - 0)	10
BIRDVILLE ISD EL CIVICS	(ESL - 39, ABE - 0, ASE - 0)	39
CARROLLTON-FARMERS BRANCH EL CIVICS	(ESL - 951, ABE - 113, ASE - 0)	1064
CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE	(ESL - 6, ABE - 11, ASE - 5)	22
CLEAR CREEK ISD	(ESL - 24, ABE - 0, ASE - 0)	24
CLEBURNE ISD	(ESL - 43, ABE - 74, ASE - 1)	118
COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND	(ESL - 102, ABE - 413, ASE - 0)	515
COMMUNITY ACTION INC	(ESL - 114, ABE - 305, ASE - 0)	419
CORPUS CHRISTI ISD	(ESL - 20, ABE - 99, ASE - 0)	119
DENTON ISD	(ESL - 240, ABE - 656, ASE - 0)	896
EL PASO ISD	(ESL - 240, ABE - 0, ASE - 0)	240
FORT WORTH ISD	(ESL - 330, ABE - 556, ASE - 3)	889
GRAYSON COUNTY COLLEGE	(ESL - 40, ABE - 88, ASE - 0)	128
HARRIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	(ESL - 331, ABE - 52, ASE - 10)	393
HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT	(ESL - 26, ABE - 0, ASE - 57)	83
HOWARD COLLEGE	(ESL - 0, ABE - 77, ASE - 0)	77
HOWARD COLLEGE IN SAN ANGELO	(ESL - 3, ABE - 0, ASE - 0)	3
HUMBLE ISD - EL CIVICS	(ESL - 293, ABE - 0, ASE - 0)	293
LEANDER ISD - EL CIVICS	(ESL - 59, ABE - 0, ASE - 0)	59
MIDLAND COLLEGE	(ESL - 1, ABE - 131, ASE - 192)	324
NORTH EAST ISD	(ESL - 105, ABE - 33, ASE - 1)	139
NORTHSIDE ISD	(ESL - 407, ABE - 56, ASE - 63)	526
PANOLA COLLEGE	(ESL - 7, ABE - 0, ASE - 0)	7
PARIS JUNIOR COLLEGE	(ESL - 0, ABE - 1, ASE - 0)	1
REGION I EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER	(ESL - 979, ABE - 856, ASE - 2)	1837
REGION IX EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER	(ESL - 9, ABE - 59, ASE - 1)	69
REGION VI EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER	(ESL - 209, ABE - 19, ASE - 1)	229
REGION XX EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER	(ESL - 31, ABE - 118, ASE - 1)	150
SAN ANTONIO ISD	(ESL - 144, ABE - 375, ASE - 152)	671
SEGUIN ISD	(ESL - 21, ABE - 53, ASE - 0)	74
SOUTHWEST TEXAS JUNIOR COLLEGE	(ESL - 222, ABE - 193, ASE - 88)	503
TEMPLE COLLEGE	(ESL - 38, ABE - 0, ASE - 0)	38
TEXARKANA ISD	(ESL - 20, ABE - 130, ASE - 2)	152
TRINITY VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	(ESL - 7, ABE - 31, ASE - 0)	38
TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE	(ESL - 163, ABE - 298, ASE - 118)	579
VICTORIA COLLEGE	(ESL - 24, ABE - 357, ASE - 0)	381
WEATHERFORD ISD	(ESL - 17, ABE - 68, ASE - 0)	85
WHARTON COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE	(ESL - 0, ABE - 1, ASE - 6)	7
YSLETA ISD	(ESL - 34, ABE - 8, ASE - 0)	42
TOTAL		11,431

8 to 12 months