High School Equivalency Statistics

**Employment**
Individuals without a high school diploma have a higher unemployment rate.

**Unemployment Rate Based on Education**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Unemployment Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than a high school diploma</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school diploma</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college, no degree</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Earnings**
High school diploma holders earn on average $35,086 per year, $10,000 more than workers without a high school diploma.

**Earnings Based on Education**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Average Earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than a high school diploma</td>
<td>$24,963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school diploma or HSE</td>
<td>$35,086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college, no degree</td>
<td>$38,531</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Note: Data are for persons employed full-time, age 25 and over. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2013)

**College and Training**
Each year thousands of New York State residents with HSE diplomas enroll in post-secondary education.

Online Resources to prepare for the High School Equivalency Test

For information about TASC – Test Assessing Secondary Completion™

http://www.tasctest.com/

For information on the application process and about HSE preparation programs:

http://www.acces.nysed.gov/hse/

For information on applying for special testing accommodations:

http://www.tasctest.com/accommodations-for-disabilities.html

For free preparation materials:

http://www.acces.nysed.gov/aepp/online_media_connection/home.html

The State Education Department does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, religion, creed, disability, marital status, veteran status, national origin, race, gender, genetic predisposition or carrier status, or sexual orientation in its educational programs, services and activities. Portions of this publication can be made available in a variety of formats, including braille, large print or audio tape, upon request. Inquiries concerning this policy of nondiscrimination should be directed to the Department’s Office for Diversity, Ethics, and Access, Room 530, Education Building, Albany, NY 12234.
What is the exam for High School Equivalency (HSE) in New York State?
New York State has chosen the TASC – Test Assessing Secondary Completion™ for the HSE exam beginning January 2014.
This exam is produced by CTB/McGraw-Hill for national use. Passing an HSE exam is one way adults and out of school youth who did not finish high school can get a high school equivalency diploma. In New York State, the GED® test is no longer the path to a high school equivalency diploma.

Who can take the High School Equivalency Test?
Any New York State resident, 19 years of age or older, and without a high school diploma or HSE diploma can take the HSE exam. For the rules about eligibility to take the HSE test for people under 19 years of age:
http://www.acces.nysed.gov/hse/app_process.html

What is on the exam?
TASC – Test Assessing Secondary Completion™ includes five sections:
• Language Arts – Reading
• Language Arts – Writing
• Mathematics
• Science
• Social Studies
The TASC – Test Assessing Secondary Completion™ takes about nine hours to complete and is usually administered in one or two days.
If one or more of the five subject area subtests are not passed, those parts may be retaken after 60 days. First time TASC – Test Assessing Secondary Completion™ test takers must complete all five subtests. In most cases the HSE exam may be taken up to three times in a calendar year.

The HSE exam is FREE of charge to New York State residents.

Will my old GED® test scores count?
Passing scores from previous GED® tests will count toward passing the TASC – Test Assessing Secondary Completion™ until 2016. For more information:
http://www.acces.nysed.gov/hse/

Are you ready to take the HSE exam?
The TASC – Test Assessing Secondary Completion™ is a rigorous exam, assessing knowledge at the high school level in Math, Writing, Reading, Social Studies, and Science. Sample test questions are available on-line:
http://www.tasctest.com/sample-questions.html

Languages
TASC – Test Assessing Secondary Completion™ is available in English or Spanish.

Testing Accommodations
TASC – Test Assessing Secondary Completion™ is offered in some special formats and special testing accommodations are available. For information:
http://www.tasctest.com/accommodations-for-disabilities.html

Learning Standards
The TASC – Test Assessing Secondary Completion™ is based on Common Core Learning Standards for Mathematics and English Language Arts and other national standards for Science and Social Studies. For information about these standards:
http://www.engageny.org/common-core-curriculum-assessments