# Virginia Adult Education
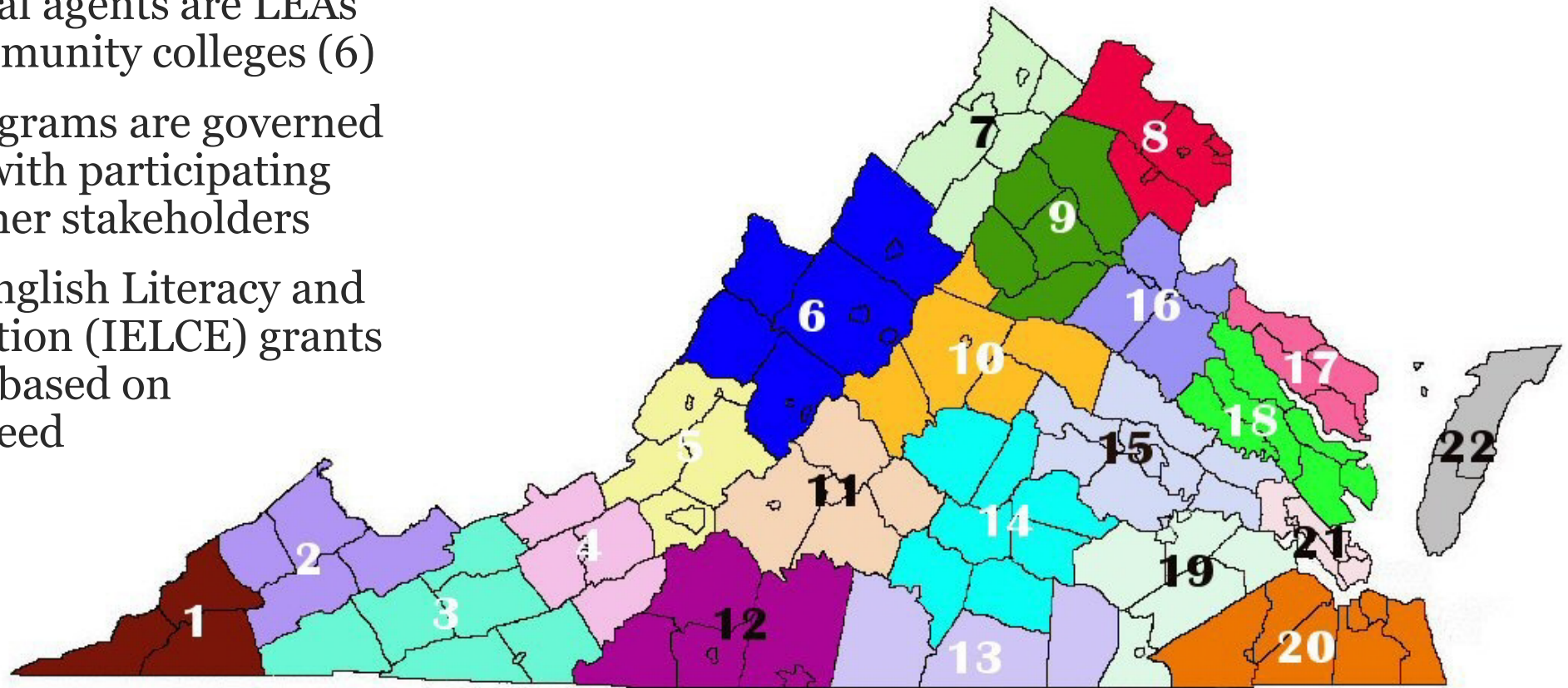
Senate Finance & Appropriations Committee

January 9, 2023

# 22 Regions, 16 IELCE grantees

- Regional fiscal agents are LEAs (15) and community colleges (6)

- Regional programs are governed by an MOU with participating LEAs and other stakeholders

- Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE) grants are awarded based on population need

# Virginia Adult Education 2023-2025 Competitive Grant Application

**Due: March 17, 2023**

Find the full proposal on the [Grants and Funding](#) page.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

# Eligible Providers

An organization that has demonstrated effectiveness in providing adult education and literacy activities:

- local education agency
- community-based literacy organization or faith-based organization
- volunteer literacy organization
- institution of higher education
- public or private nonprofit agency
- library
- public housing authority
- nonprofit institution that is not described previously and has the ability to provide literacy services to eligible individuals
- consortium or coalition of agencies, organizations, institutions, libraries, or authorities described previously
- partnership between an employer and an entity described above
- other

# Eligible Individuals

An eligible individual for services funded through WIOA title II is one

(a) who has attained 16 years of age;

(b) is not enrolled or required to be enrolled in secondary school under state law [compulsory attendance age is 18 in Virginia]; and
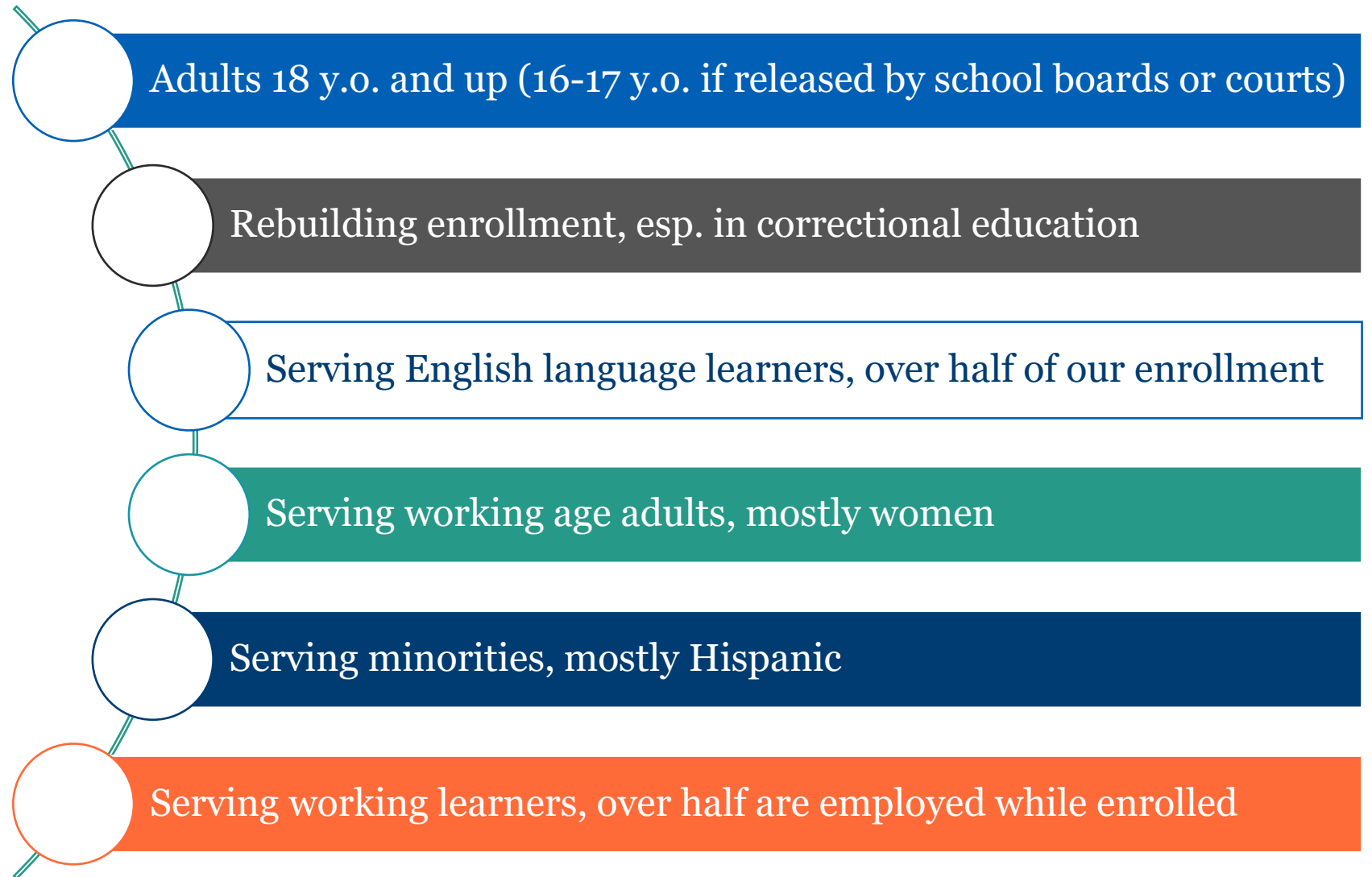
(c) who

i.     is basic skills deficient;

ii.    does not have a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, and has not achieved an equivalent level of education; or

iii.   is an English language learner.

# Whom Do We Serve?

- Adults 18 y.o. and up (16-17 y.o. if released by school boards or courts)
- Rebuilding enrollment, esp. in correctional education
- Serving English language learners, over half of our enrollment
- Serving working age adults, mostly women
- Serving minorities, mostly Hispanic
- Serving working learners, over half are employed while enrolled

# Enrollment Trends

Rebuilding enrollment
- On trend with national declines and rebounds
- PY2021-22 enrollment 14,152
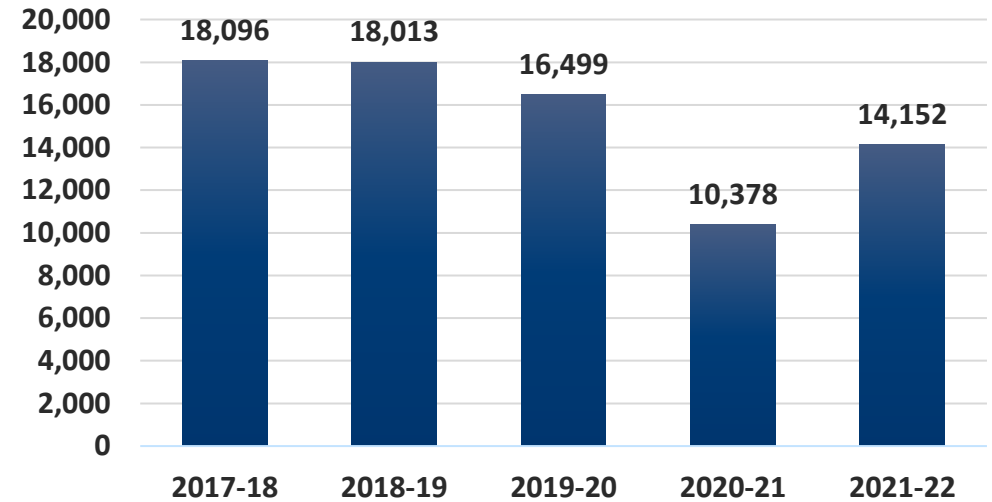- PY2022-23 enrollment is on track to be higher

Retention rates have been high through the pandemic
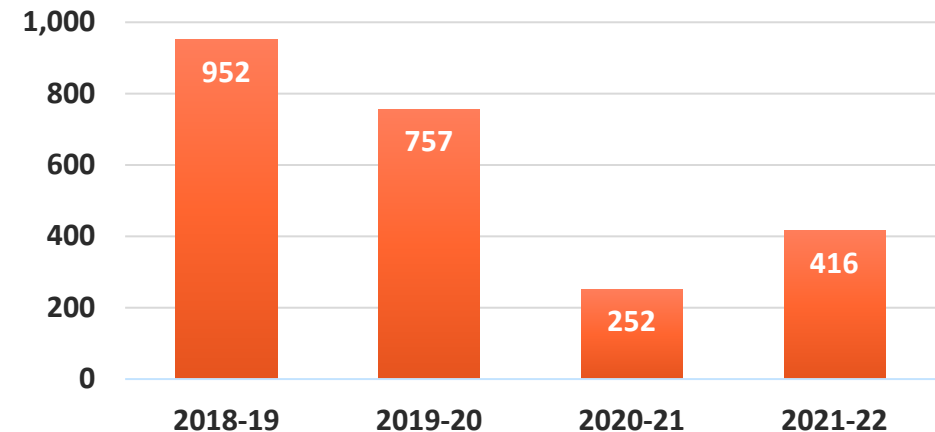- Provided tutoring and personal outreach

Correctional education enrollment dropped significantly
- PY2021-22 enrollment was not back to robust service, 424 participants

### Enrollment

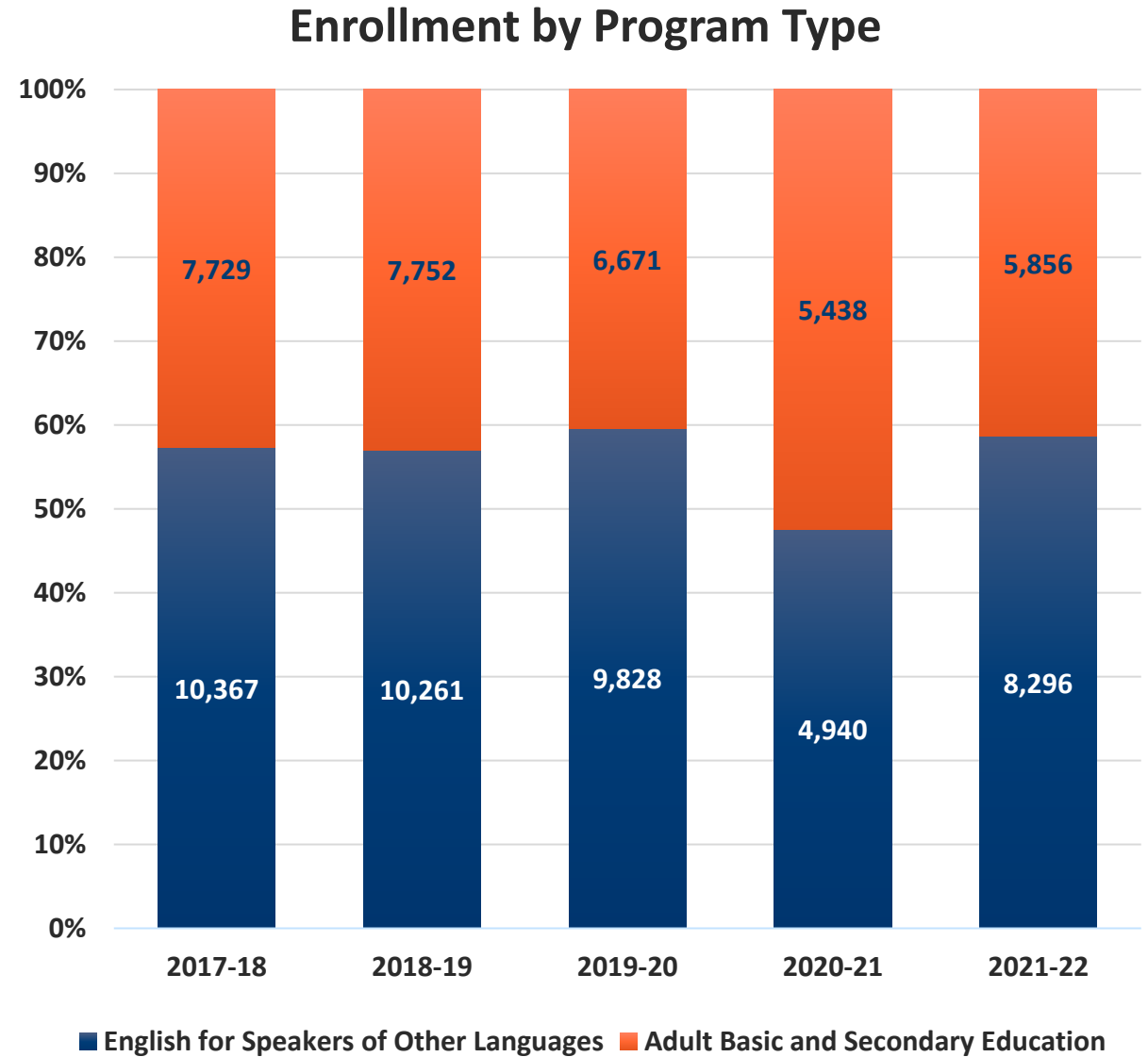| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18,096 | 18,013 | 16,499 | 10,378 | 14,152 |
| 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 |

### Enrollment in Correctional Education

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 952 | 757 | 252 | 416 |
| 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 |

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# Enrollment Trends by Program Type

Over half are served in English language programs
- PY 2020-21 was off trend
- PY 2021-22 back on trend

## Enrollment by Program Type

| | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Adult Basic and Secondary Education | 7,729 | 7,752 | 6,671 | 5,438 | 5,856 |
| English for Speakers of Other Languages | 10,367 | 10,261 | 9,828 | 4,940 | 8,296 |

■ English for Speakers of Other Languages   ■ Adult Basic and Secondary Education
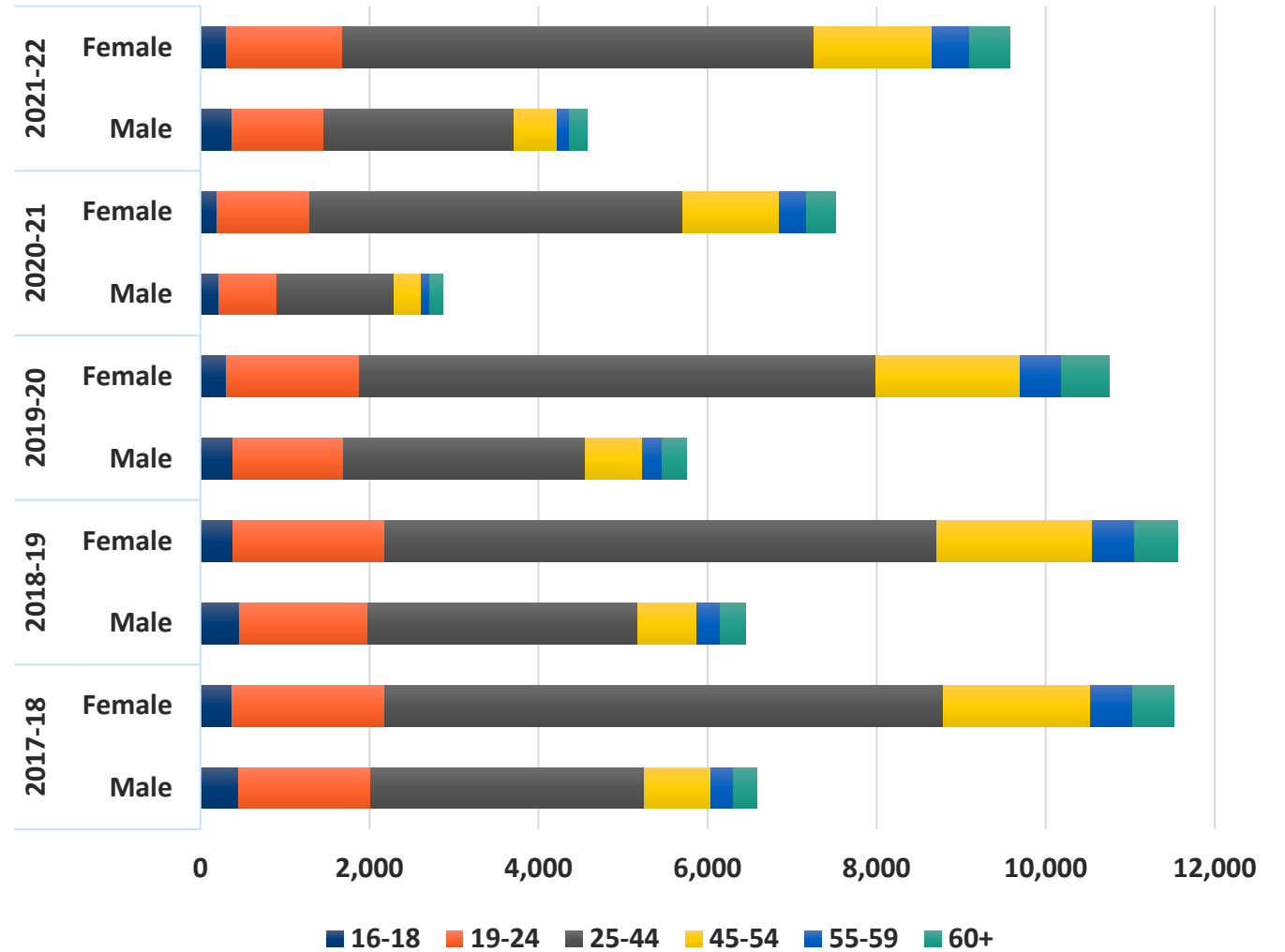
# Serving Working Age Adults, Mostly Women

Largest age group: 25-44 y.o.

Over 65% of students are women

- PY2020-21, male enrollment declined the most
- PY2021-22 back on trend



**Enrollment by Age and Gender**

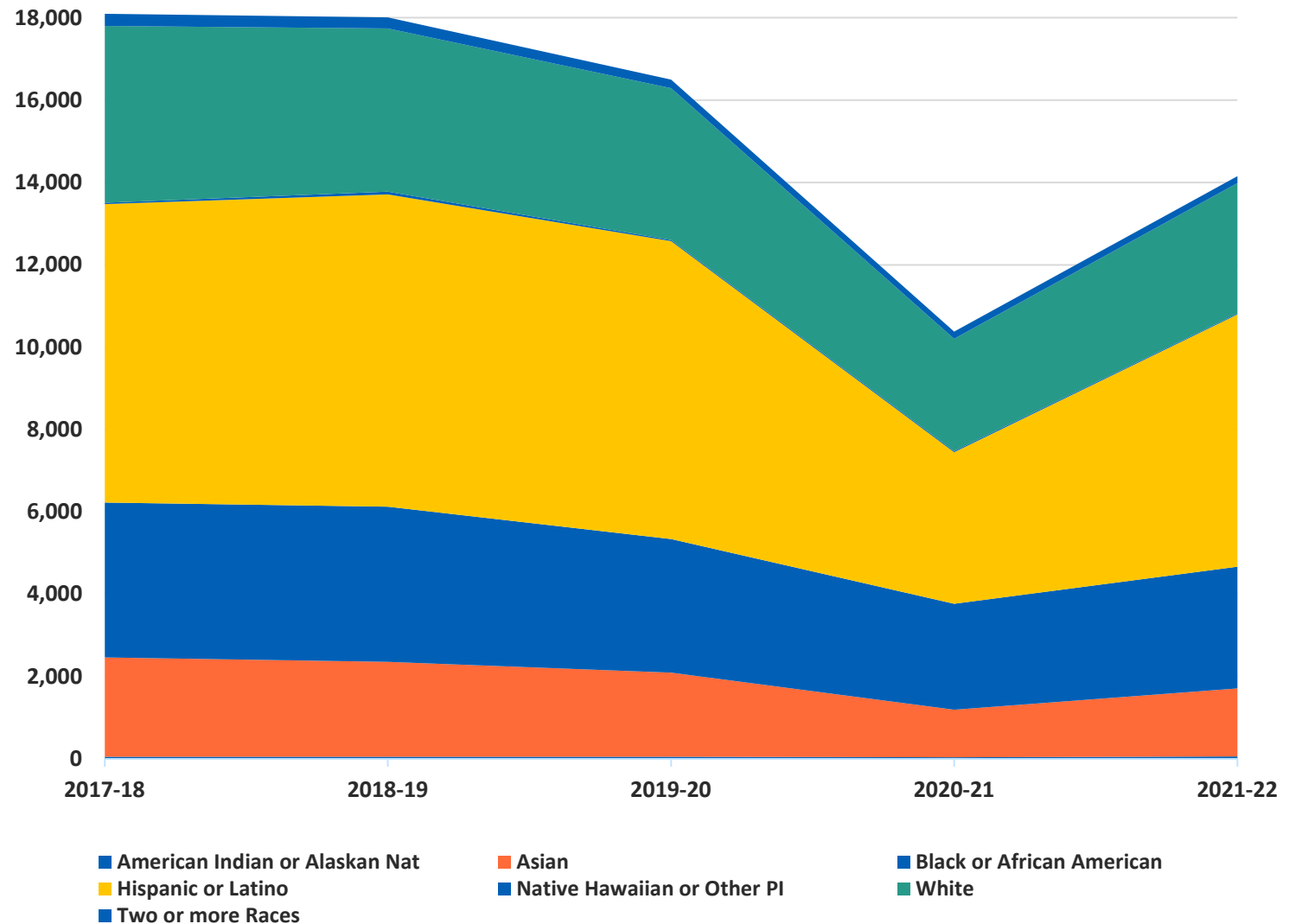Legend: 16-18, 19-24, 25-44, 45-54, 55-59, 60+

# Serving Minorities, Mostly Hispanic

Single largest demographic group is Hispanic women

- 40% or more of the total enrollment is Hispanic women except for PY2020-21
- Hispanic enrollment dropped significantly during PY2020-21
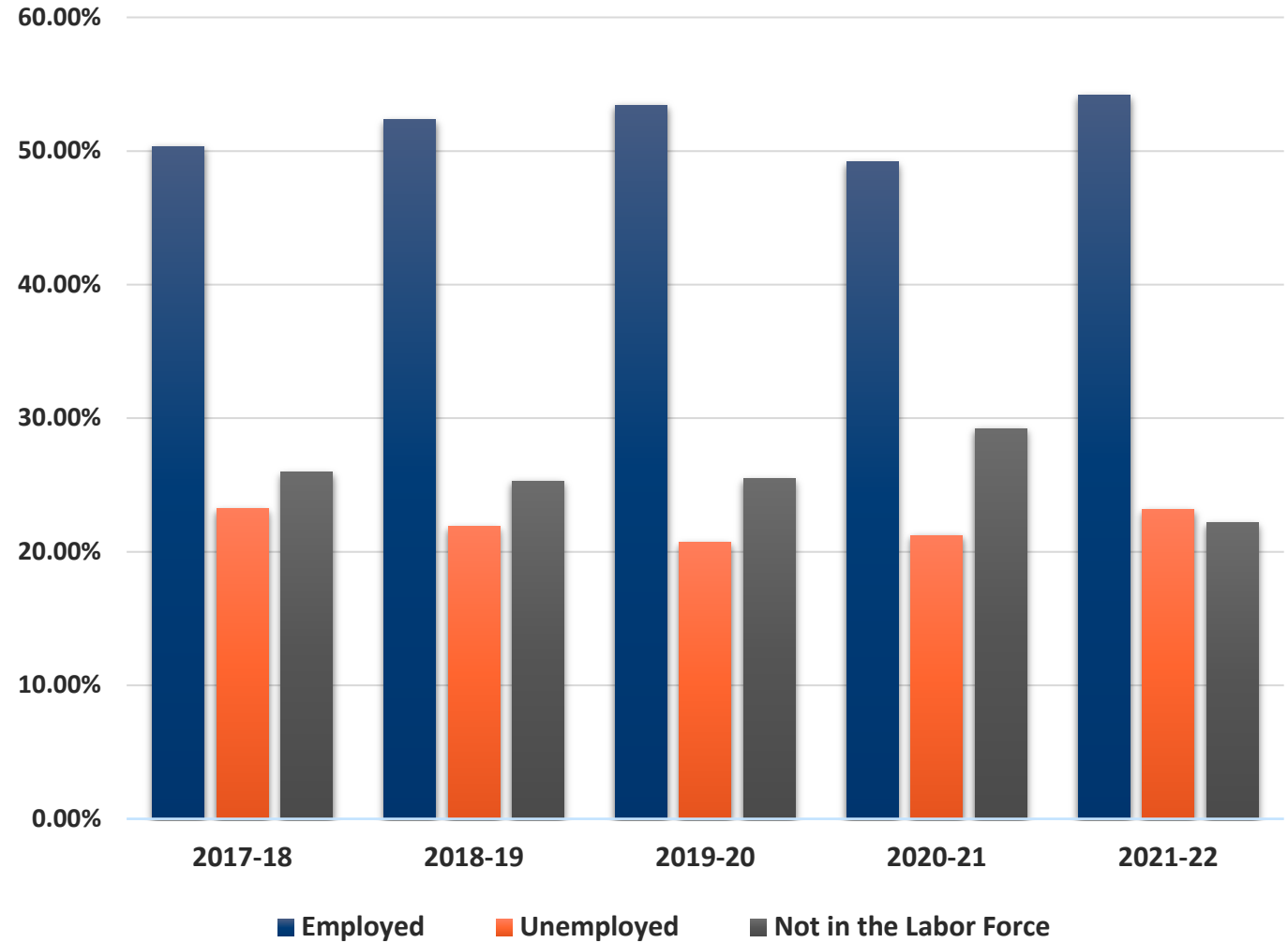- PY2021-22 back on trend

## Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity



Legend:
- American Indian or Alaskan Nat
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian or Other PI
- White
- Two or more Races

# Serving Working Learners

Approx. 50% of students are employed while enrolled

- PY2021-22 was on trend

## Enrollment by Employment Status



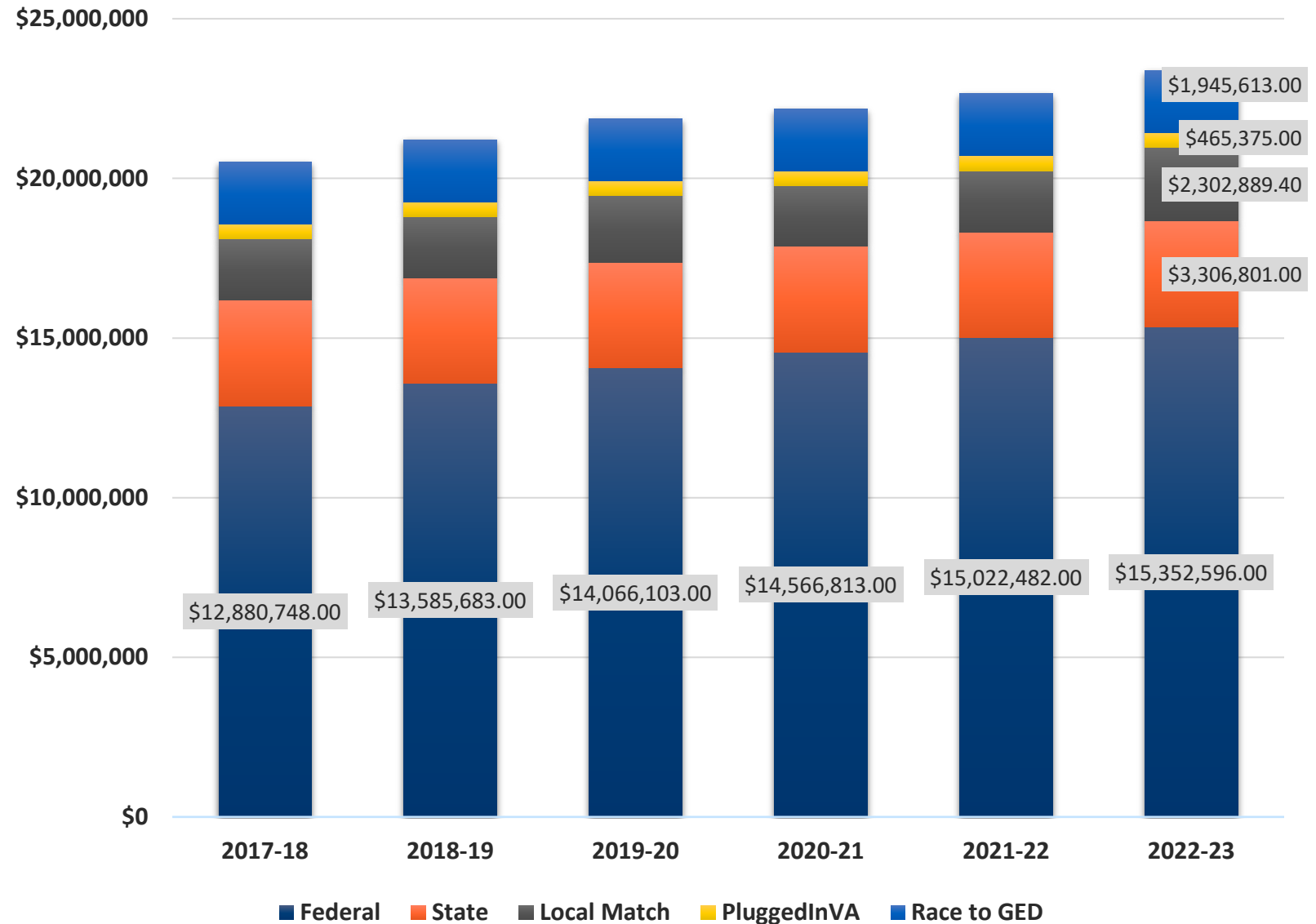| | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Employed | | | | | |
| Unemployed | | | | | |
| Not in the Labor Force | | | | | |

# Funding

Federal awards have increased

State awards have remained stable

States are required to provide a 25% match

- State accounts for General Adult Education, Adult Literacy, and the PluggedIn Virginia funds are reported as match

- Localities are required by state requirement to provide a 15% match to the federal funds

- Race to GED funds testing sites, proctors, and test vouchers – it cannot be used as match
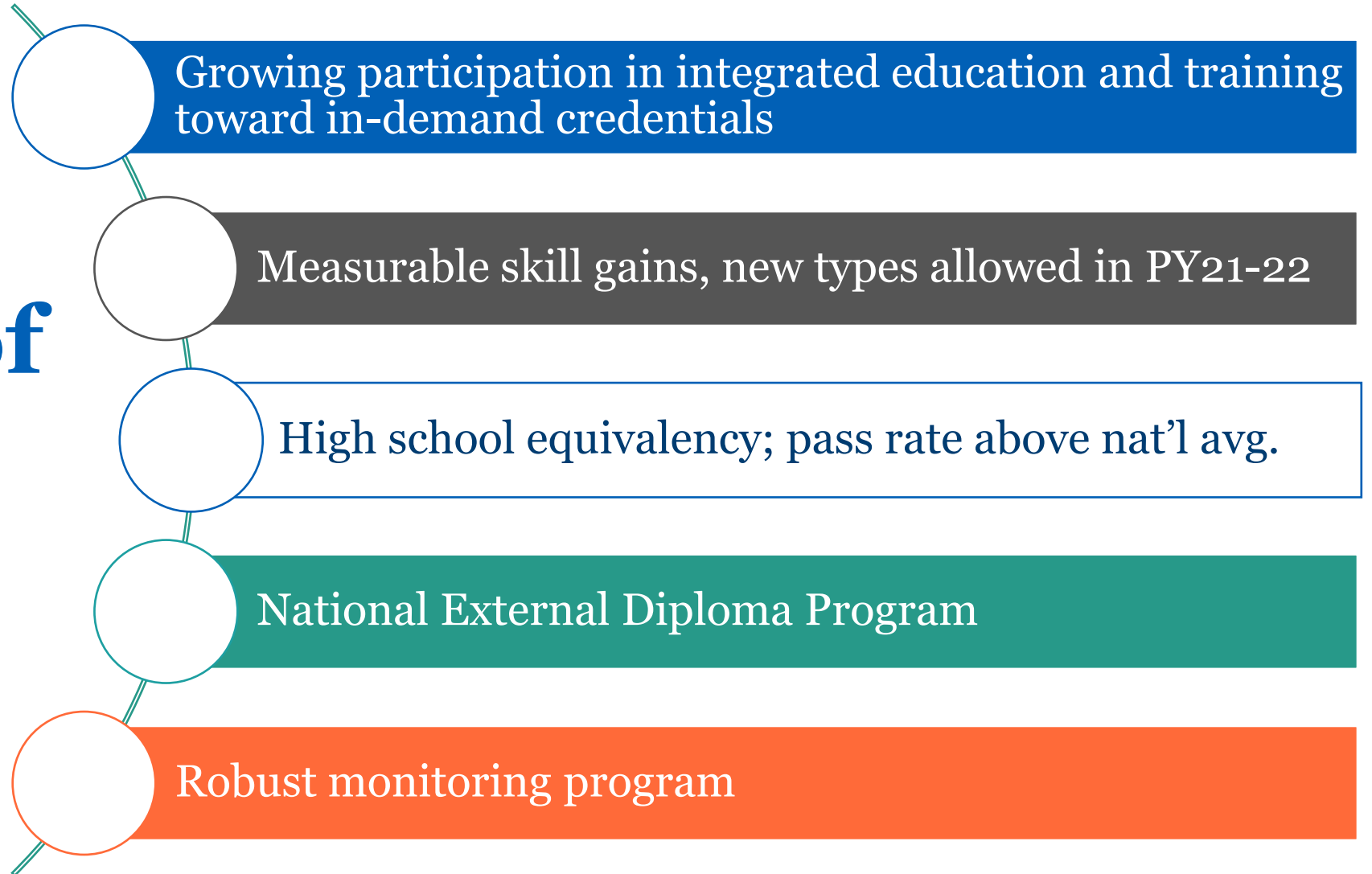
## Awarded Funds and Match



**Legend:** Federal, State, Local Match, PluggedInVA, Race to GED

| Category | 2022-23 |
|---|---|
| Race to GED | $1,945,613.00 |
| PluggedInVA | $465,375.00 |
| Local Match | $2,302,889.40 |
| State | $3,306,801.00 |
| Federal | $15,352,596.00 |

Federal awards by year:
- 2017-18: $12,880,748.00
- 2018-19: $13,585,683.00
- 2019-20: $14,066,103.00
- 2020-21: $14,566,813.00
- 2021-22: $15,022,482.00
- 2022-23: $15,352,596.00

# Matching Funds

- Funds declared as state match must be expended according to the same regulations and allowances as the federal funds. Currently this applies to:
  - General Adult Education (GAE, $1,051,800), supports instructional personnel and materials
  - Adult Literacy (State Lead Coordinating Agency, SLCA, $2,255,000), supports the regional program manager and other coordinating staff for regional programs
  - PluggedIn Virginia ($465,375 set-aside within the Race to GED line item), supports personnel and training costs for integrated education and training programming
  - Local match from school divisions and fiscal agents, can be cash or in-kind
    - Note: requiring a local match is a state, not federal, requirement
    - FYI: Virginia is one of the few states that require a local match and has a relatively low rate of state match at approximately $8.00 per student (see Dec. 14, 2022 article at https://www.propublica.org/article/literacy-adult-education-united-states)
- Lottery funds (Race to GED®, PluggedIn Virginia) are only distributed to LEAs; community college fiscal agents work with one of their partnering LEAs to manage the reimbursement of these funds through the DOE.

# Measures of Success

Growing participation in integrated education and training toward in-demand credentials

Measurable skill gains, new types allowed in PY21-22

High school equivalency; pass rate above nat'l avg.

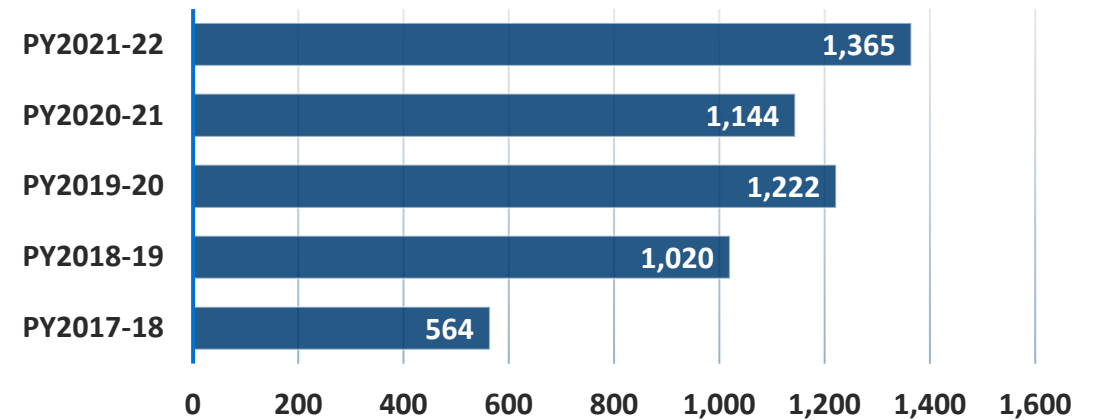National External Diploma Program

Robust monitoring program

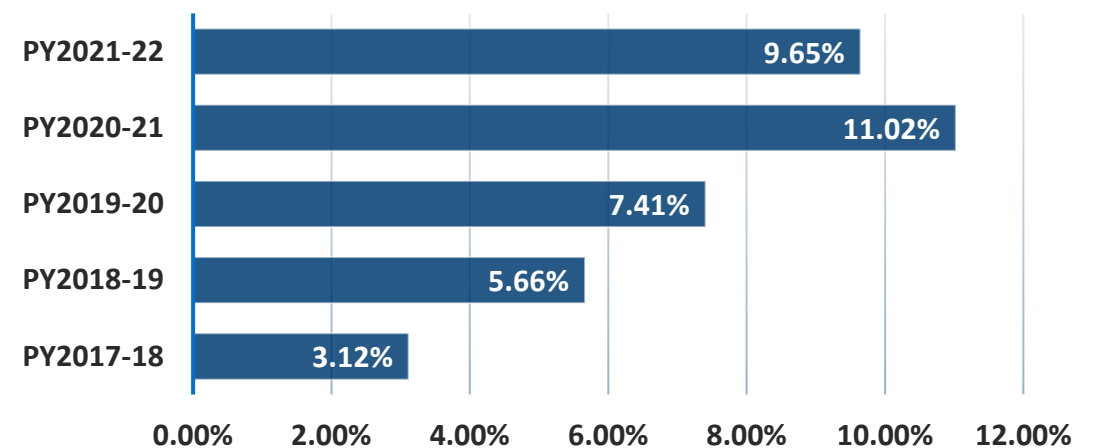# Growing Participation in Integrated Education and Training (IET)

Top career clusters in PY2021-22:

- Manufacturing
- Healthcare
- Education
- Transportation and Warehousing
- See a map of offerings at IETBlueprint.com

**Enrollment in IET Programs**

| Program Year | Enrollment |
|---|---|
| PY2021-22 | 1,365 |
| PY2020-21 | 1,144 |
| PY2019-20 | 1,222 |
| PY2018-19 | 1,020 |
| PY2017-18 | 564 |

**IET as a Percent of Total Enrollment**

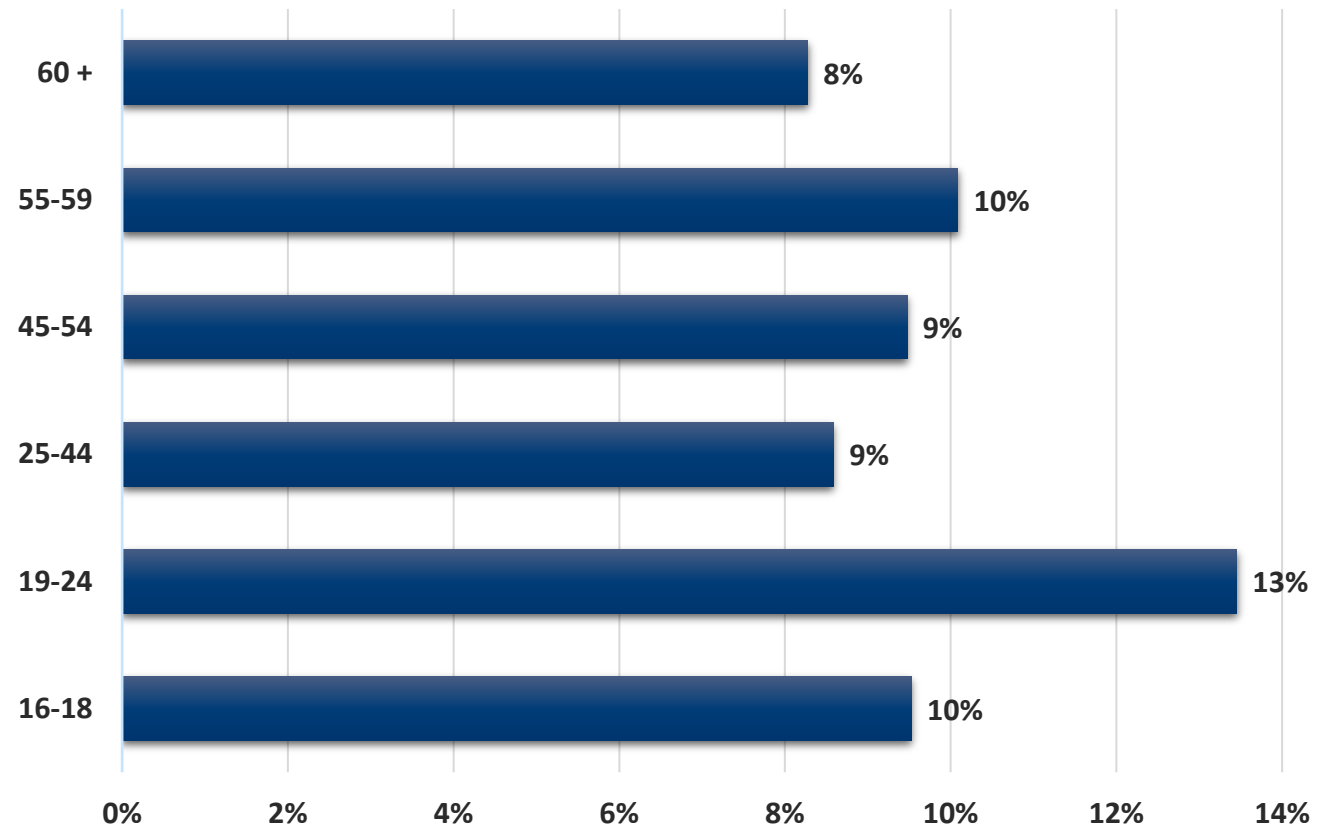| Program Year | Percent |
|---|---|
| PY2021-22 | 9.65% |
| PY2020-21 | 11.02% |
| PY2019-20 | 7.41% |
| PY2018-19 | 5.66% |
| PY2017-18 | 3.12% |

# IET Participation by Age Group

IET enrollment as a portion of the age group

- Increasing enrollment in young adult cohorts

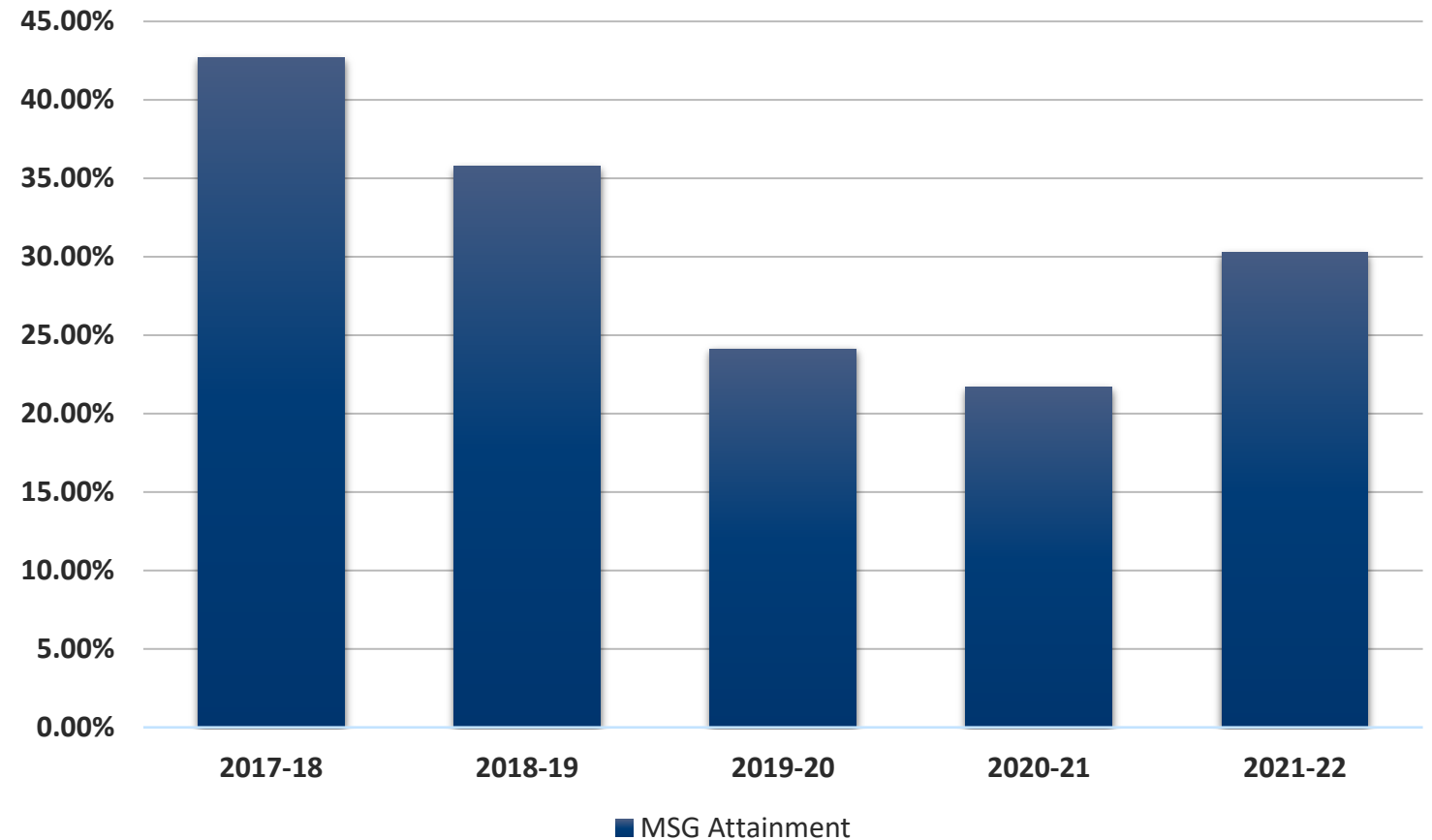**IET Enrollment as a Portion of Age Group (PY2021-22)**

| Age Group | Percentage |
|-----------|-----------|
| 60 + | 8% |
| 55-59 | 10% |
| 45-54 | 9% |
| 25-44 | 9% |
| 19-24 | 13% |
| 16-18 | 10% |

# Measurable Skills Gain (MSG)

MSG trend disrupted by COVID-related assessment waivers

PY2021-22 required full assessments

PY2021-22 added three types of MSGs for students in IET and workplace literacy
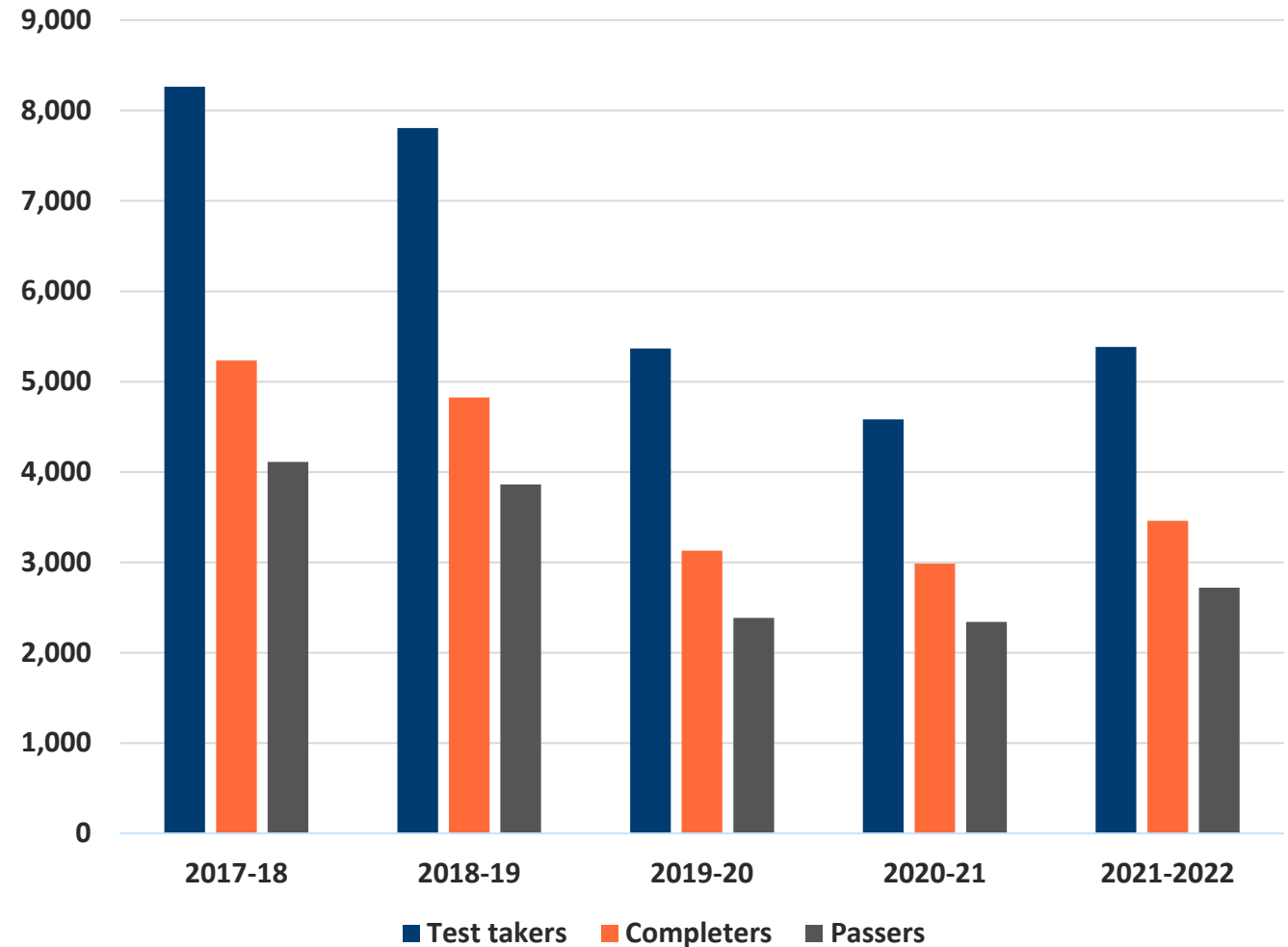
**Performance: MSG Attainment**

# High School Equivalency Credential

Currently, the GED® is the only approved HSE test in Virginia

- There is an open application period every second year for the other vendor(s)

Virginia's pass rate, 79%, is above national average of 76%

### GED® Testing Statistics

Bar chart showing Test takers, Completers, and Passers by year:

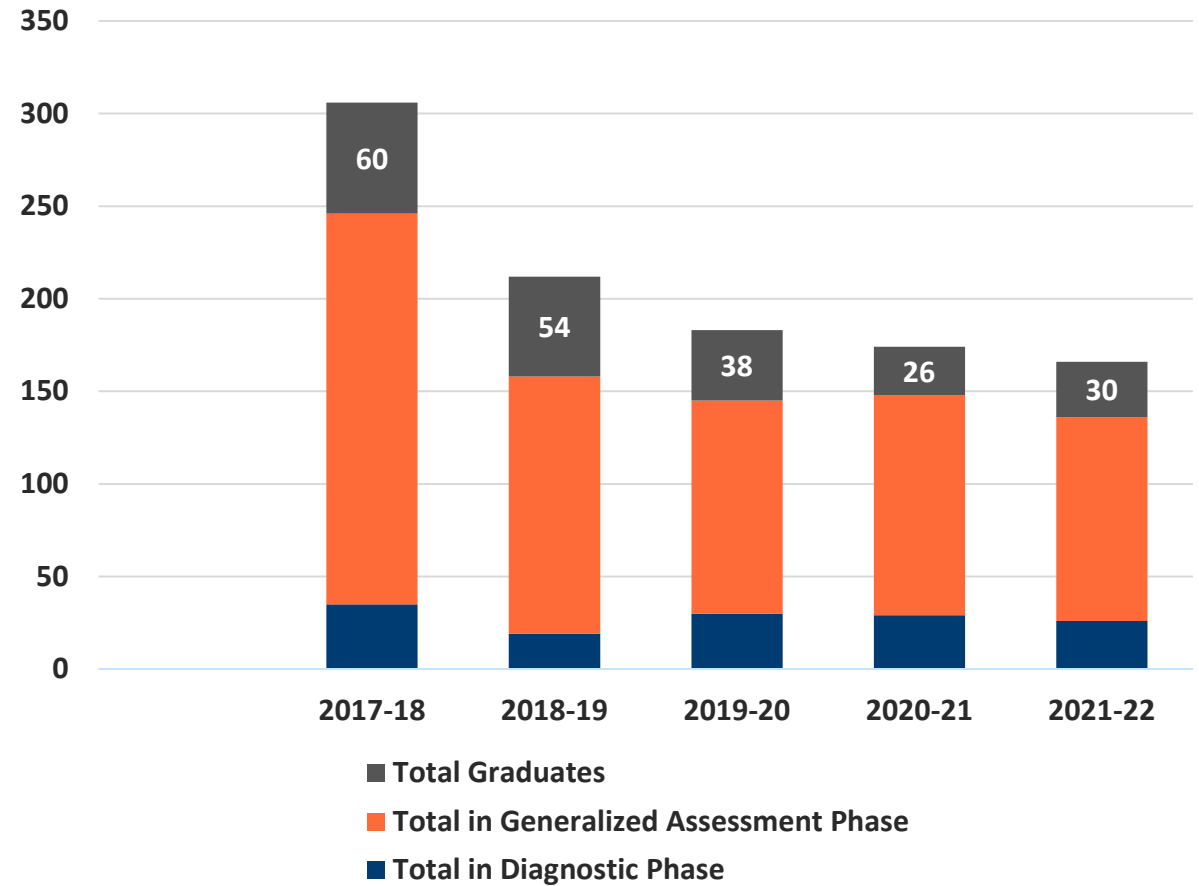| Year | Test takers | Completers | Passers |
|------|-------------|------------|---------|
| 2017-18 | ~8,250 | ~5,250 | ~4,100 |
| 2018-19 | ~7,800 | ~4,800 | ~3,850 |
| 2019-20 | ~5,350 | ~3,150 | ~2,400 |
| 2020-21 | ~4,600 | ~3,000 | ~2,350 |
| 2021-2022 | ~5,400 | ~3,450 | ~2,700 |

# National External Diploma Program (NEDP)

Online, self-paced, competency-based HSE option

Graduates earn an Adult High School Diploma issued by a local school division

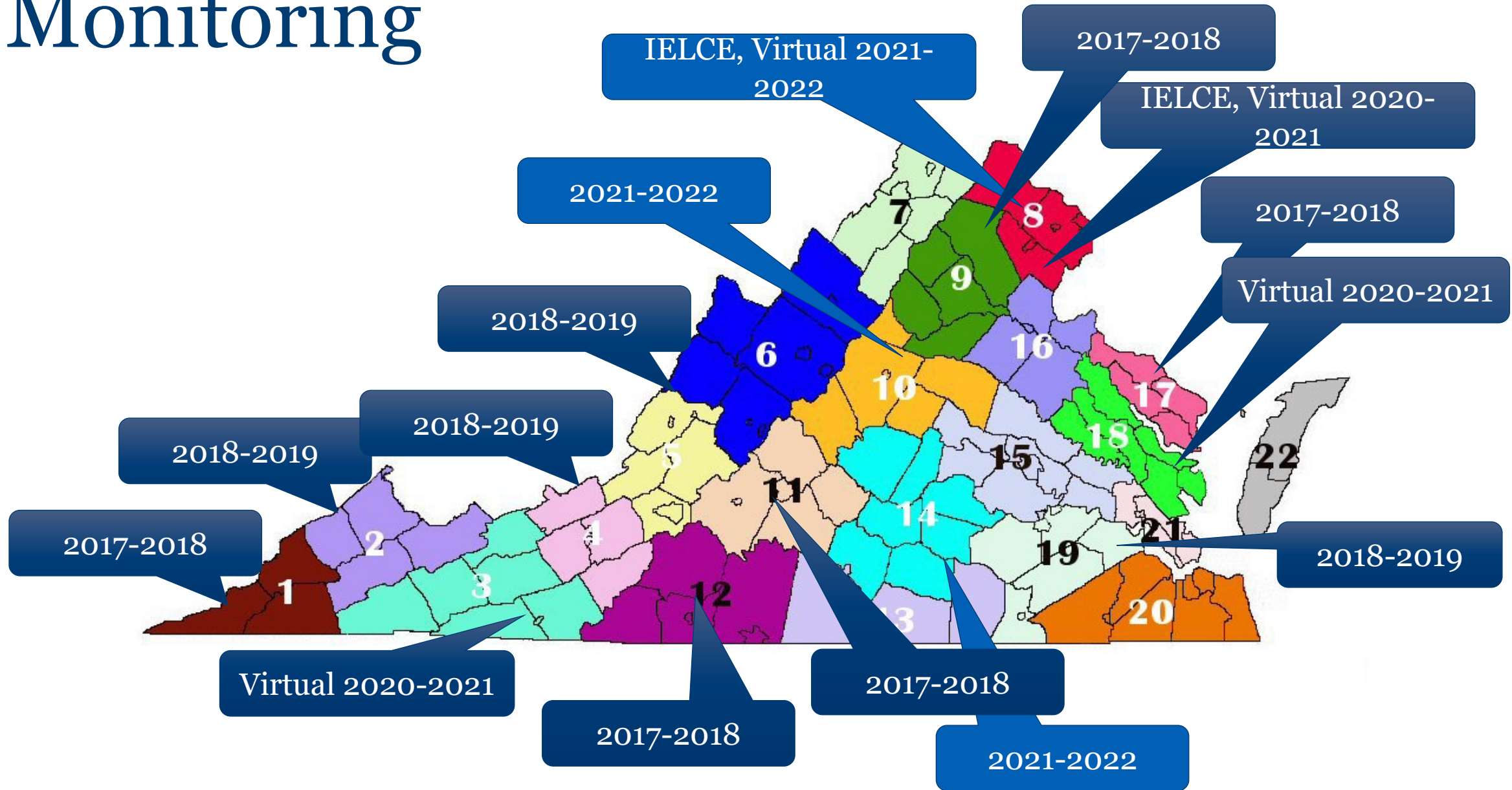**NEDP Enrollment and Graduates**

| Year | Total Graduates |
|---|---|
| 2017-18 | 60 |
| 2018-19 | 54 |
| 2019-20 | 38 |
| 2020-21 | 26 |
| 2021-22 | 30 |

Legend:
- ■ Total Graduates
- ■ Total in Generalized Assessment Phase
- ■ Total in Diagnostic Phase

# Largely Part-Time Workforce

**Adult Education Personnel (2021-2022)**



| | Part-Time | Full-Time |
|---|---|---|
| Teachers | 94.73% | 5.27% |
| Paraprofessionals | 84.62% | 15.38% |
| Counselors | 100.00% | |
| Administrators | 42.45% | 57.55% |

Part-Time    Full-Time
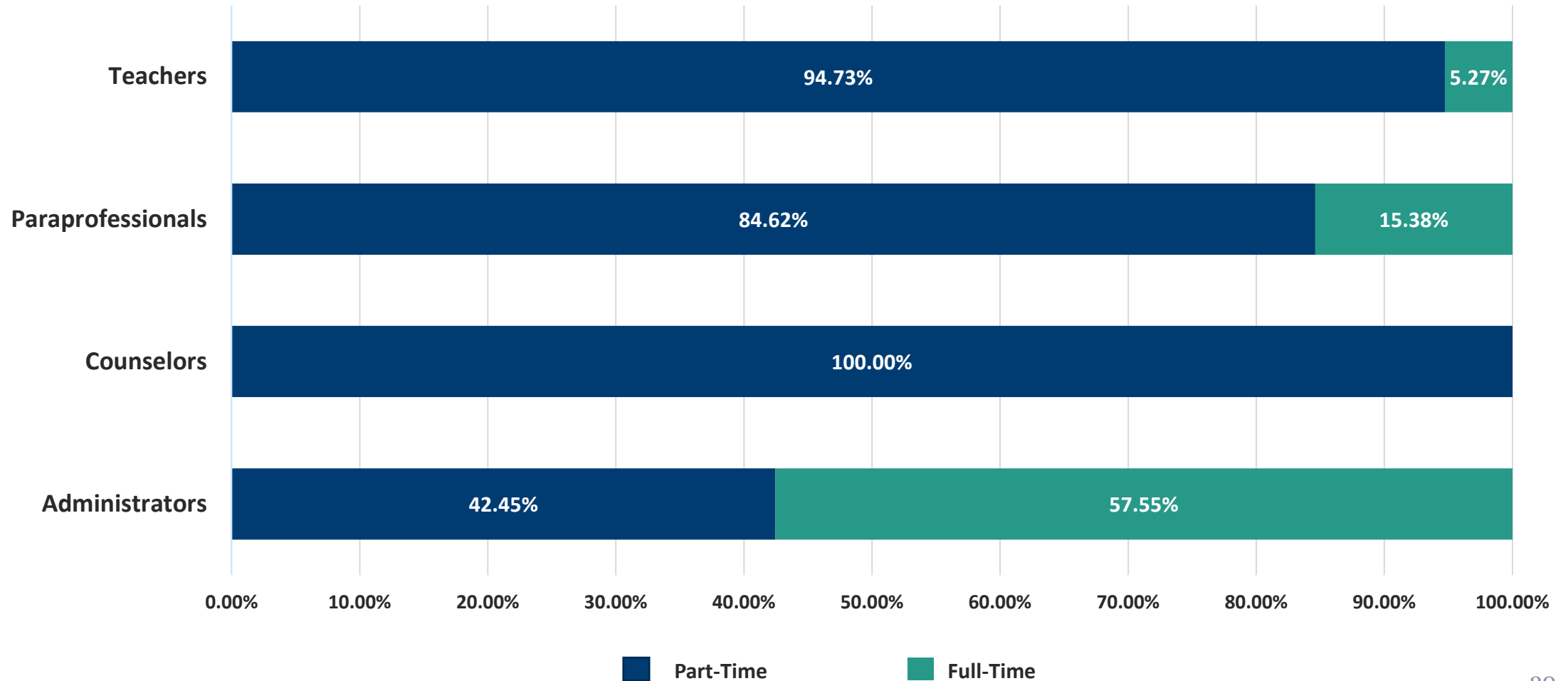
# Monitoring

# Leadership Investments



Region 5 Adv. ESL Class Celebrating AEFL Week 2022, Roanoke City, VA



Region 19 GED Graduate and Teachers
AEFL Week 2022, Petersburg, VA

# Innovations and Investments

- Leadership training for administrators and career coaches
- High-quality, instructor-led online courses through Virtual Virginia
- Investments in family literacy programing
- Two "test for free" GED® outreach campaigns
- Innovation Challenge Awards to expand service

# The Adult Education Workforce

Program managers participated in a leadership training March-October in 2021, topics included:

- Leading at a distance

- Transformational leadership

- Fiscal stewardship

- Using data for program improvement

Career Coach Certification training was sponsored for a cohort of educators to:

- Gain career coaching and LMI skills

- Earn a nationally-recognized certification

- Build a network of colleagues



Photo credit: *Brooks Crossing Innovation and Opportunity Center*

# Online Courses to Meet Student Interest

- Commissioned nine instructor-led, standards-based online courses
  - Mathematics
  - English language arts
  - English language acquisition
- Courses available for programs to host and run on their own system
- Released for piloting fall 2022
- Facilitation support from Virtual Virginia and the VALRC

VIRTUAL VIRGINIA
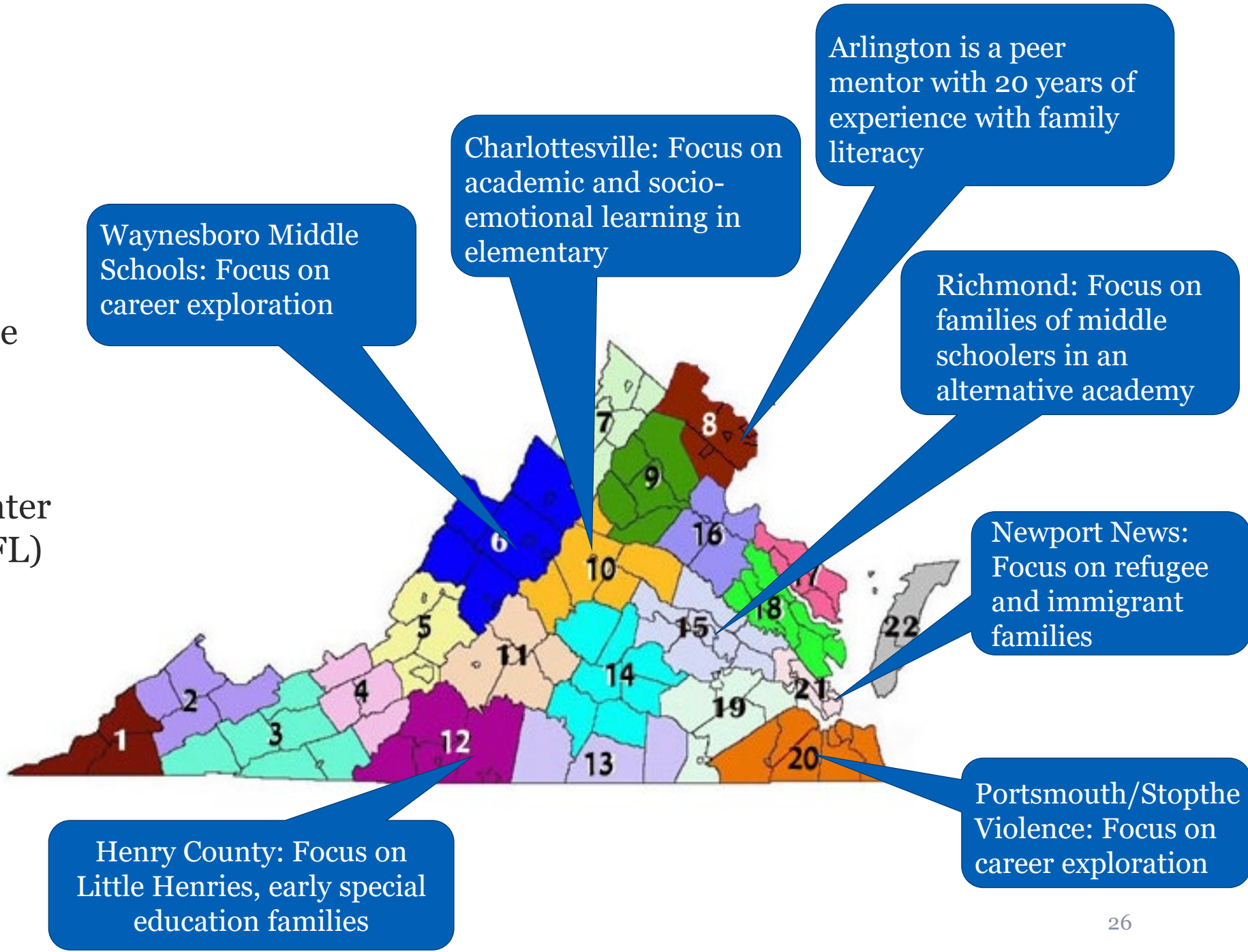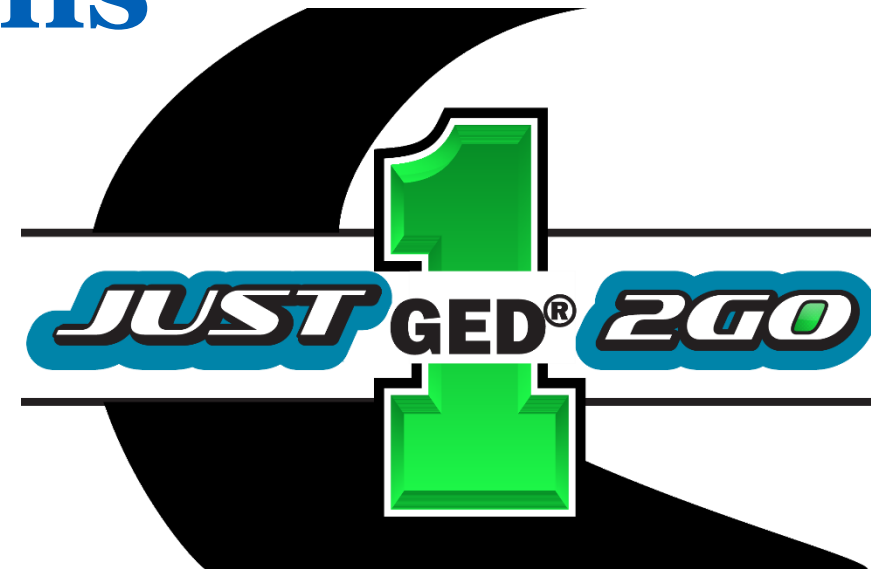VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
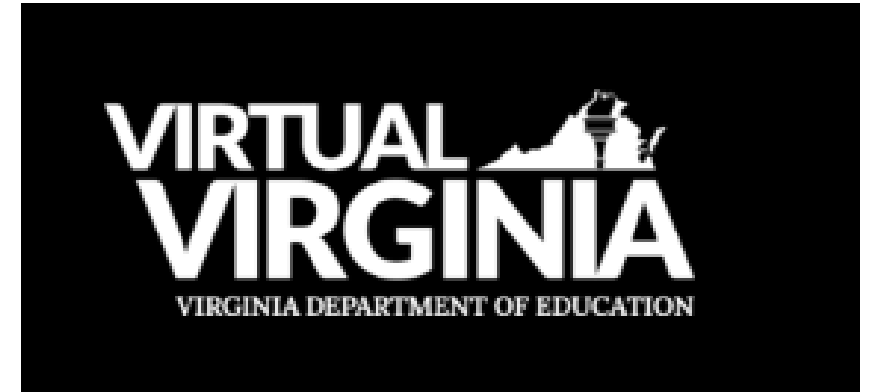
# Family Literacy

Offering place-based service in 2022-2023.

Professional development offered by the National Center for Families Learning (NCFL) with ongoing technical assistance from VALRC.

Waynesboro Middle Schools: Focus on career exploration

Charlottesville: Focus on academic and socio-emotional learning in elementary

Arlington is a peer mentor with 20 years of experience with family literacy

Richmond: Focus on families of middle schoolers in an alternative academy

Newport News: Focus on refugee and immigrant families

Portsmouth/Stopthe Violence: Focus on career exploration

Henry County: Focus on Little Henries, early special education families

# "Test for Free" Campaigns

- Ongoing "Test for Free in VA" campaigns for adult education students
  - Additional vouchers were purchased to support up to 712 testers (4 subtests each)
  - Programs are focusing on outreach to GED® testers with "Just 1 to Go"
  - 10% of our "Just 1 to Go" list has completed their credential
- Online proctored and in-person testing availability is returning to pre-pandemic levels



JUST GED® 2GO

Take the GED test for FREE

Enroll in an Adult Education Program to get started

Find an Adult Ed Program

GED Graduates: Robert, Marquita, Ellie, and Trinh

# Innovation Challenge Awards 2022-23

**$810,000** awarded in September to fund expansion projects:

- **Serve the re-entry population** through a coalition of service providers in the Shenandoah Valley and in Scott county;

- **Prepare incarcerated individuals** for successful release by expanding service in correctional facilities in Henry, Patrick, and Richmond counties;

- **Expand service to underserved communities** through partnerships such as those with public libraries in Damascus, Petersburg, Pulaski, and Shawsville; and

- **Offer integrated education and training (IET) opportunities** for industry-recognized credentials on the Eastern Shore, in the Peninsula, Shenandoah Valley, and Piedmont regions and in the cities of Petersburg, Lynchburg, and Charlottesville.

# Adult Education Staff Contacts

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