

## XII. MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

### BACKGROUND

**Adult and Alternative Education** — covers several distinct programs including the Adult High School Diploma (AHSD) program for students over 17 years of age (includes prison education programs); Adult Basic Education (ABE) for literacy and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes; General Educational Development (GED) tests for adults to obtain a high school diploma; and alternative education for students at risk of dropping out of high school.

**Charter Schools** — were initially authorized by Senate Bill 220 in the 1997 Session. The first charter school opened in Nevada in 1998. By the next year there were five operational charter schools and, for School Year (SY) 2003-2004, 16 charter schools were open in Nevada serving over 3,803 students. Statewide fiscal data were collected for charter schools and through In\$ite. In SY 2002-2003, total state expenditures for charter schools were approximately \$13 million.

**Early Childhood Education** — in Nevada is primarily provided through state funds for the Nevada Early Childhood education program. These projects promote early care and education programs for pre-schoolers. Senate Bill 8 of the 20<sup>th</sup> Special Session appropriated \$2.9 million in each year of the 2003-2005 biennium to the Nevada Department of Education to award competitive grants to school districts and community-based organizations for early childhood education programs.



| Adult & Alternative Education |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                        |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Current Data                  | Adult Basic Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |           | Adult High School Diploma                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | GED Testing                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Alternative            |
| FY04 Funding                  | Federal                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | State     | State                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Federal                                                  | State                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | State                  |
| Amount                        | \$4,156,379                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | \$465,072 | \$17,843,596                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No State or Federal Funds Available                      | \$4,424<br>Statewide average per regular enrolled pupil.                                                                                                                                                                           |                        |
| Source                        | USDOE/State Match<br>Average per Student: \$420.65                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |           | Distributive School Account<br>Average per Student: \$830.86                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Applicant pays \$50 fee to local test center.            | Distributive School Account                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                        |
| Method                        | RFP (April)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |           | Formula/RFP                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Calendar Year                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | District Determination |
| Period                        | Fiscal Year                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |           | Fiscal Year                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Fiscal Year                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Fiscal Year            |
| FY04 Count                    | 8,732                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |           | 21,476                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 3,854 GEDs issued in 2003                                | 16,808 Estimated in FY04 (not identified in year-end data)                                                                                                                                                                         |                        |
| Legislation                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                        |
| Federal                       | WIA Title II                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |           | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | N/A                                                      | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                        |
| State                         | Adult Literacy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |           | NRS 385.080<br>NAC 389.017; 389.688                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | NAC 385                                                  | NRS 388.532, 537, 550-70<br>NAC 387, 388.500-520                                                                                                                                                                                   |                        |
| Requirements                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                        |
| Age                           | 17 or older                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |           | 17 or older                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | NV Resident 16 or older                                  | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                        |
| Education                     | No high school diploma or GED                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |           | No High School Diploma                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | No High School Diploma Withdrawn                         | No High School Diploma Enrolled                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                        |
| Income                        | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |           | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | N/A                                                      | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                        |
| Target Population             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                        |
|                               | Low income, disabled, single parent, displaced homemaker, multiple barriers, homeless, institutionalized, minority, limited literacy, without high school diploma.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |           | Without High School Diploma                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Without High School Diploma                              | At risk of dropping out; (pregnant, parent, chronic illness, self-supporting, credit deficient, chronic absence special needs).                                                                                                    |                        |
| Program Elements              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                        |
|                               | (1) Provide basic skills including literacy and numeracy as well as preparation for transition to secondary education or job preparation classes; and (2) Provide instructional preparation for the GED test. Workplace literacy and family literacy are also components in all programs. Referrals are made to partner programs for assistance with childcare, transportation, and other potential barriers to class attendance. CASAS testing is required for assessment. |           | Core curriculum and electives. Many programs provide basic education, ESL, GED prep and testing, and dual credit courses. Most programs are self-paced and competency based with open enrollment/ exit. Some programs provide flexibility for students who have difficulty attending class due to work, childcare, or transportation issues. Must pass proficiency exam for diploma. | GED test centers test anyone meeting above requirements. | Minimally include core curriculum for standard, adult or advanced HSD. May include flexible hours, childcare, transportation, correspondence or dual credit courses, or independent study. Must pass proficiency exam for diploma. |                        |

Source: Nevada Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education, January 2005

# MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

## ADULT & ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

| <b>ADULT HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA PROGRAM<br/>ENROLLMENT, DIPLOMAS, AND GED CERTIFICATES<br/>2003-2004</b> |                    |                                         |                                |               |                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Program Name                                                                                          | Number<br>Enrolled | Obtained<br>A High<br>School<br>Diploma | Percent<br>Obtained<br>Diploma | Passed<br>GED | Percent<br>Passed<br>GED |
| Carson City School District                                                                           | 449                | 27                                      | 6.01 %                         | 85            | 17.35 %                  |
| Churchill County School District                                                                      | 149                | 14                                      | 9.39 %                         | 4             | 2.68 %                   |
| Clark County School District                                                                          | 12,369             | 738                                     | 5.97 %                         | 1,226         | 9.91 %                   |
| Douglas County School District                                                                        | 32                 | 1                                       | 3.13 %                         | 4             | 12.50 %                  |
| Elko County School District                                                                           | 175                | 23                                      | 13.14 %                        | 30            | 17.14 %                  |
| Humboldt County School District                                                                       | 389                | 4                                       | 1.02 %                         | 26            | 6.68 %                   |
| Lander County School District                                                                         | 64                 | 1                                       | 1.56 %                         | 13            | 20.31 %                  |
| Lincoln County School District                                                                        | 83                 | 17                                      | 19.10 %                        | 53            | 63.86 %                  |
| Lyon County School – Dayton                                                                           | 403                | 53                                      | 13.15 %                        | 107           | 26.55 %                  |
| Mineral County School District                                                                        | 38                 | 1                                       | 2.63 %                         | 14            | 36.84 %                  |
| Nye County School District                                                                            | 269                | 9                                       | 3.35 %                         | 4             | 1.49 %                   |
| Pershing County School District                                                                       | 72                 | 3                                       | 4.17 %                         | 1             | 1.39 %                   |
| Washoe High School                                                                                    | 2,520              | 139                                     | 5.51 %                         | 172           | 6.83 %                   |
| White Pine County School District                                                                     | 17                 | 1                                       | 5.88 %                         | 5             | 29.41 %                  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                                                          | <b>17,029</b>      | <b>1,031</b>                            | <b>6.05 %</b>                  | <b>1,744</b>  | <b>10.24 %</b>           |

Source: Nevada Department of Education, January 3, 2005.



# MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

## ADULT & ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

| ADULT HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA PROGRAM – CORRECTIONS<br>ENROLLMENTS, DIPLOMAS, AND GED CERTIFICATES<br>2003-2004 |                    |                                      |                                |               |                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Program Name                                                                                                | Number<br>Enrolled | Obtained a<br>High School<br>Diploma | Percent<br>Obtained<br>Diploma | Passed<br>GED | Percent<br>Passed<br>GED |
| Carson City School District                                                                                 | 1,397              | 72                                   | 5.15%                          | 87            | 6.22%                    |
| CCSD –Institutional Programs                                                                                | 1,950              | 114                                  | 5.85%                          | 160           | 8.20%                    |
| Pershing County School District                                                                             | 497                | 0                                    | 0.00%                          | 0             | 0.00%                    |
| White Pine County School District                                                                           | 594                | 24                                   | 4.00%                          | 9             | 1.51%                    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                                                                | <b>4,438</b>       | <b>210</b>                           | <b>4.73%</b>                   | <b>256</b>    | <b>5.77%</b>             |

CCSD = Clark County School District

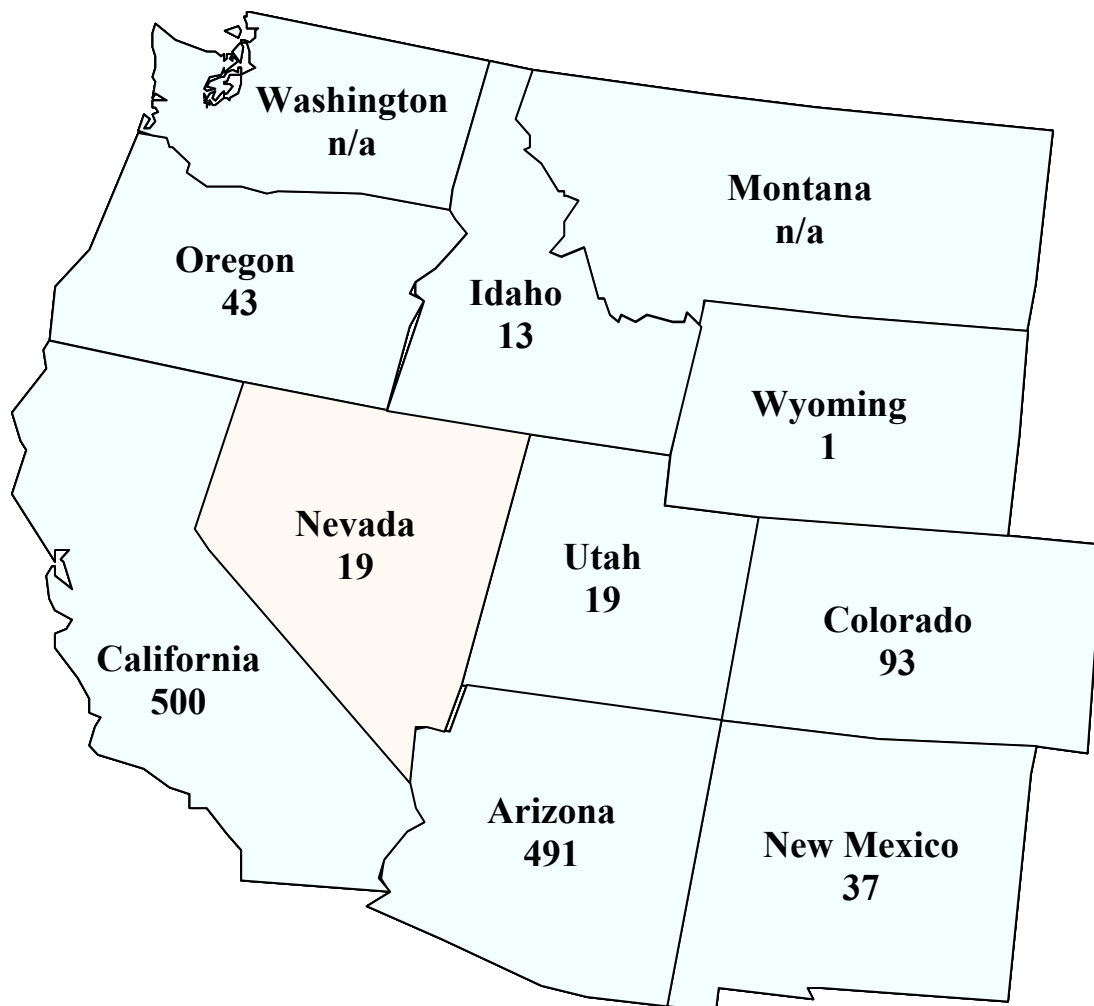
**SOURCE:** Nevada Department of Education, Career, Technical, and Adult Education, January 03, 2005.



# MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

## CHARTER SCHOOLS

### NUMBER OF CHARTER SCHOOLS IN SPRING 2003 FOR THE WESTERN STATES



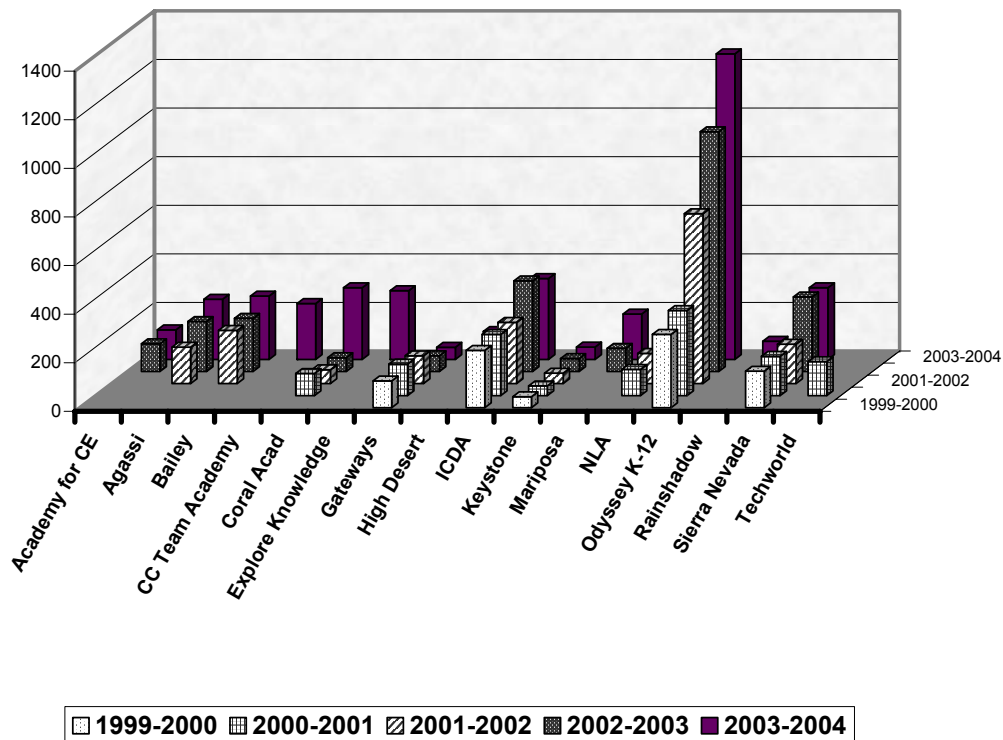
**Source:** Center for Education Reform

**Note:** Washington and Montana do not have charter school legislation.

# MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

## CHARTER SCHOOLS

### Charter School Enrollment



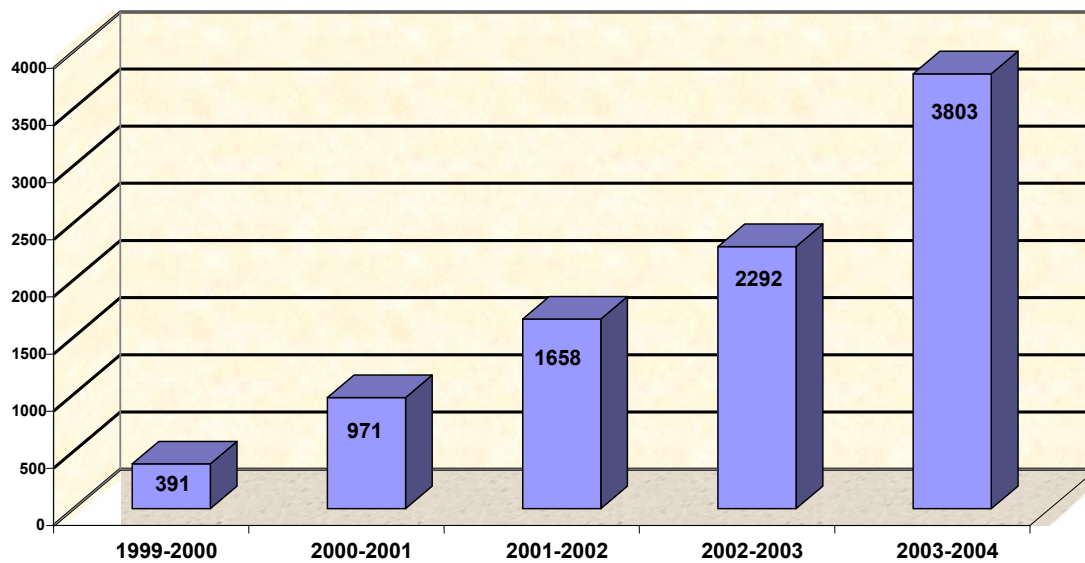
Source: Nevada Department of Education



# MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

## CHARTER SCHOOLS

**TOTAL CHARTER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT  
STATEWIDE  
1999-2004**

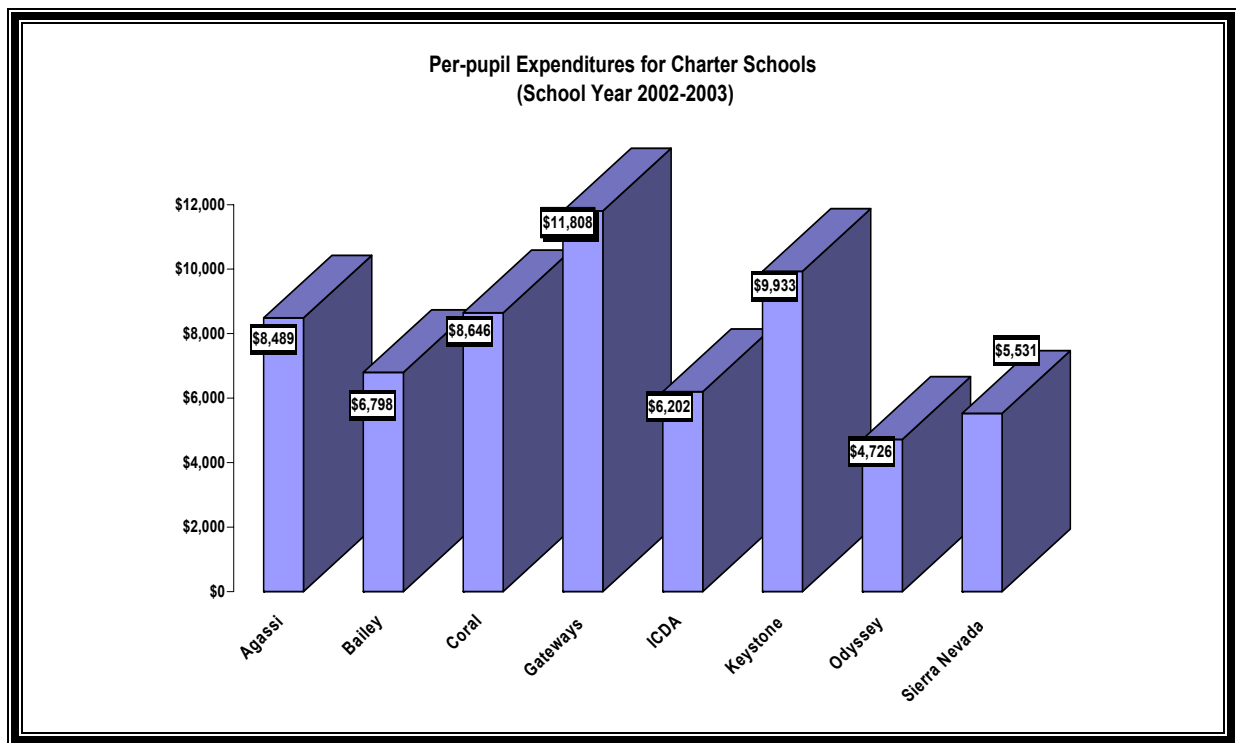


Source: Nevada Department of Education



# MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

## CHARTER SCHOOLS



Source: InSite Financial Report, 5-Function Data



# MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

Senate Bill 8 of the 20<sup>th</sup> Special Session of the Nevada Legislature appropriated \$2.9 million in each year of the 2003-05 biennium to the Nevada Department of Education to award competitive grants to school districts and community-based organizations for early childhood education programs. The funding could be used either to initiate or expand pre-kindergarten education programs. The following table shows the ten sponsors that received funds during FY 2003-04, as well as information concerning the number sites and whether the programs were initiated or expanded programs.

| Sponsor Agency/<br>Program Location | Number of<br>Sites | Initiated<br>Program | Expanded<br>Program | FY 2001-02<br>Award |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Carson City School District         | 2                  | 1                    | 1                   | \$220,000           |
| Churchill County School District    | 1                  | 1                    |                     | \$108,000           |
| Clark County School District        | 12                 | 5                    | 7                   | \$1,229,804         |
| Classroom on Wheels (COW)           | 15                 | 8                    | 7                   | \$301,000           |
| Douglas County School District      | 1                  | 1                    |                     | \$100,000           |
| Great Basin College                 | 1                  |                      | 1                   | \$105,000           |
| Humboldt County School District     | 1                  | 1                    |                     | \$180,000           |
| Pershing County School District     | 1                  | 1                    |                     | \$100,000           |
| Washoe County School District       | 7                  | 5                    | 2                   | \$444,000           |
| White Pine County School District   | 1                  | 1                    |                     | \$108,779           |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>42</b>          | <b>24</b>            | <b>18</b>           | <b>\$2,896,583</b>  |

**Source:** Evaluation of the Nevada Early Childhood Education Program, Pacific Research Associates.

# MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

### Participation – FY 2003-04

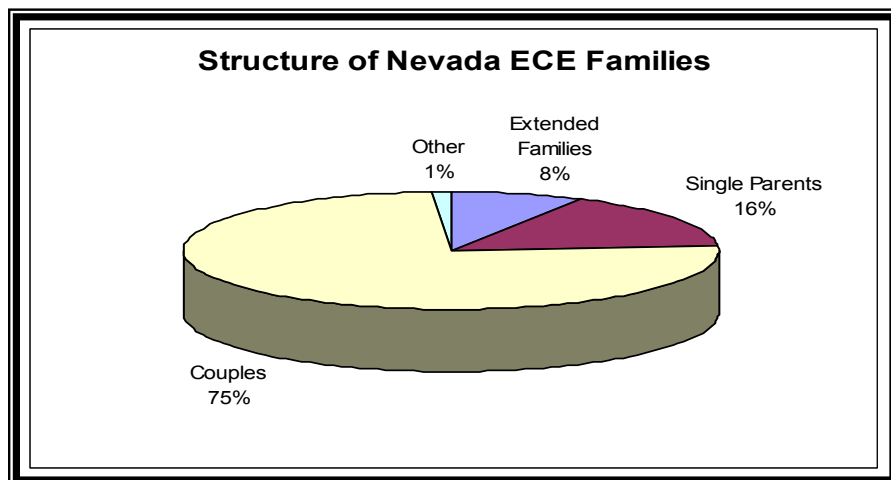
The characteristics of Nevada Early Childhood Education (ECE) participants are based upon data from ten projects that provided services to 1,027 families, including 1,054 children and 1,055 adults who participated in services from July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2004. The following table shows the number of families, adults, and children served by Nevada ECE projects during FY 2003-04:

| Project             | Families     | Children     | Adults       | Total Participants |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Carson City         | 84           | 84           | 86           | 170                |
| Churchill County    | 35           | 35           | 39           | 74                 |
| Clark County        | 291          | 298          | 299          | 597                |
| Classroom on Wheels | 236          | 242          | 236          | 478                |
| Douglas County      | 25           | 25           | 28           | 53                 |
| Great Basin College | 34           | 35           | 35           | 70                 |
| Humboldt County     | 49           | 49           | 49           | 98                 |
| Pershing County     | 36           | 38           | 38           | 76                 |
| Washoe County       | 220          | 230          | 228          | 458                |
| White Pine County   | 17           | 18           | 17           | 35                 |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>1,027</b> | <b>1,054</b> | <b>1,055</b> | <b>2,109</b>       |

**Source:** Evaluation of the Nevada Early Childhood Education Program, Pacific Research Associates.

### Characteristics of Families – 2003-04

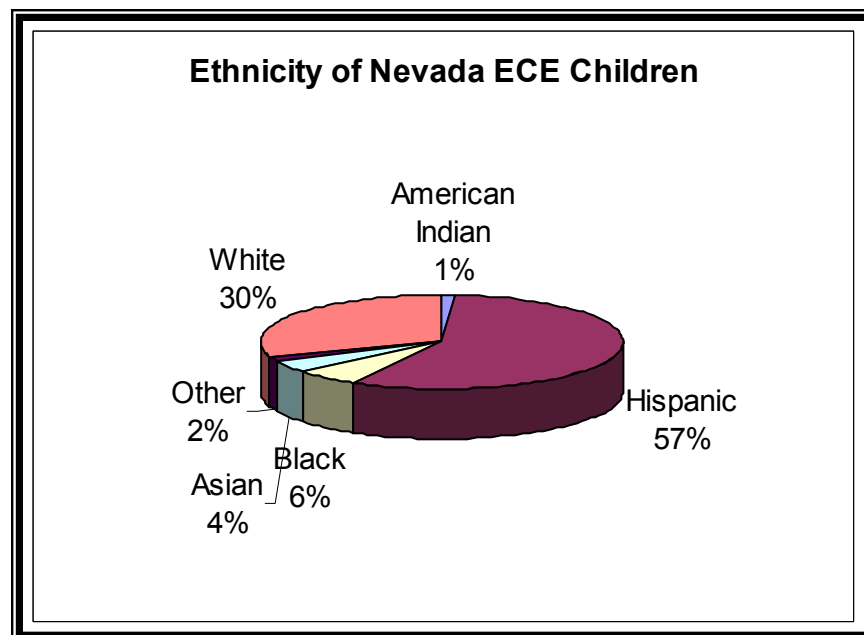
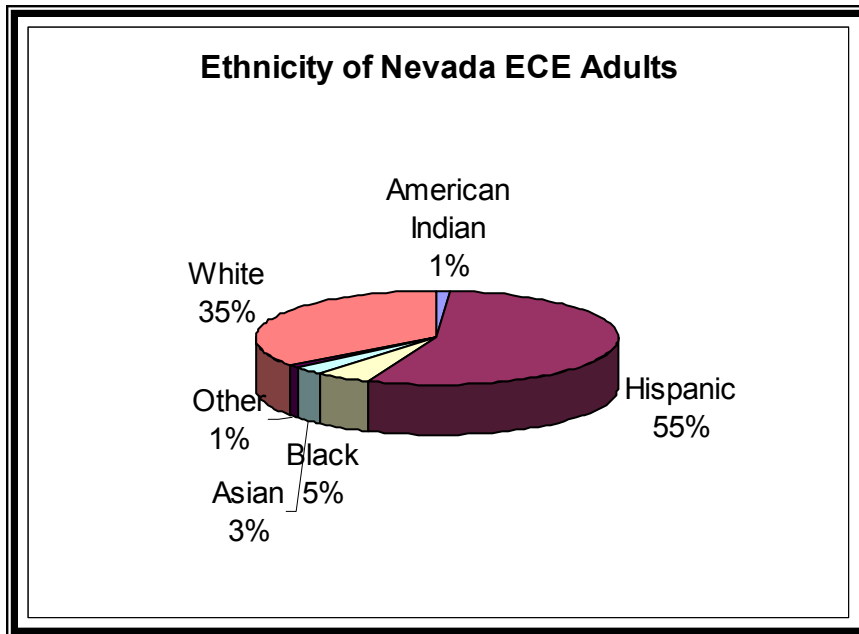
The largest percentage of families participating in Nevada ECE described themselves as couples (773 families or 75 percent), followed by single parent families (162 families or 16 percent), extended family households (81 families or 8 percent), and other (9 families or 1 percent).



# MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

### CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES – 2003-04 (CONTINUED)



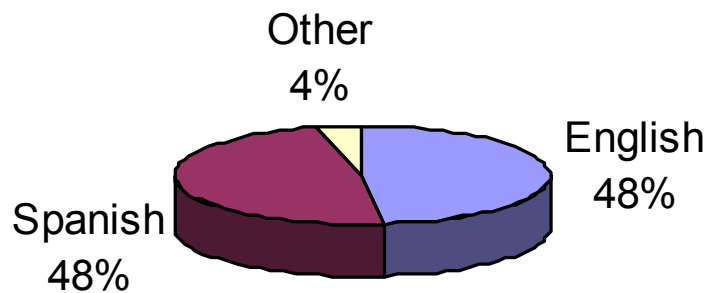
**Source:** Evaluation of the Nevada Early Childhood Education Program, Pacific Research Associates.

# MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

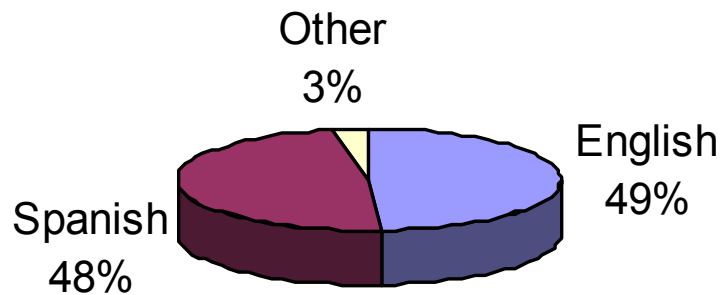
## EARLY CHILDHOOD

### CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES – 2003-04 (CONTINUED)

#### Language of Nevada ECE Adults



#### Language of Nevada ECE Children



Source: Evaluation of the Nevada Early Childhood Education Program, Pacific Research Associates.

# MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

### Outcome Indicators — Pre- Post-Test Gains

Pre- and post-test measures for children participating in the Nevada ECE program were collected to determine overall impact of the program. The test utilized was the Preschool Language Scale-3 (PLS-3). The following table shows the pre- and post-test scores for children during FY 2001-02. To help interpret the overall impact of Nevada ECE on children as measured by the PLS-3, the mean gain scores were calculated. Results show that the 30 children tested made a mean gain of 6.3 standard score points on the Auditory Comprehension subtest and 29 children made a mean gain of 6.4 standard score points on the Expressive Communication subtest. These results show that, overall, Nevada ECE had a positive effect on the auditory comprehension and expressive communication of participating children; however, the gains were not consistent enough among the children to achieve the state outcome indicator of *“Seventy percent (70%) of ECE children from birth until they enter kindergarten with a minimum of four months of participation will increase their standard score on the auditory comprehension and expressive communication subtests of the PLS-3.”*

| Subtest (n)                     | Pre-Test Mean | Post-Test Mean | Mean Gain |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|
| Auditory Comprehension (n=30)   | 95.3          | 101.6          | 6.3       |
| Expressive Communication (n=29) | 96.2          | 102.6          | 6.4       |

### Parent/Child Reading Time Together (2001-02)

Another outcome indicator for the program was *“Thirty percent (30%) of first-year ECE parents will increase the amount of time they spend reading with their children within a reporting year.”* Pre-test and post-test data were available for 743 children. The table below shows that parents of these children spent an average of 0.76 more hours (46 minutes) per week reading to or with their child (a gain of 45 percent) at the end of the evaluation period.

| Pre-Test Mean | Post-Test Mean | Mean Gain |
|---------------|----------------|-----------|
| 3.12          | 3.68           | .56       |

**Source:** Evaluation of the Nevada Early Childhood Education Program, Pacific Research Associates.

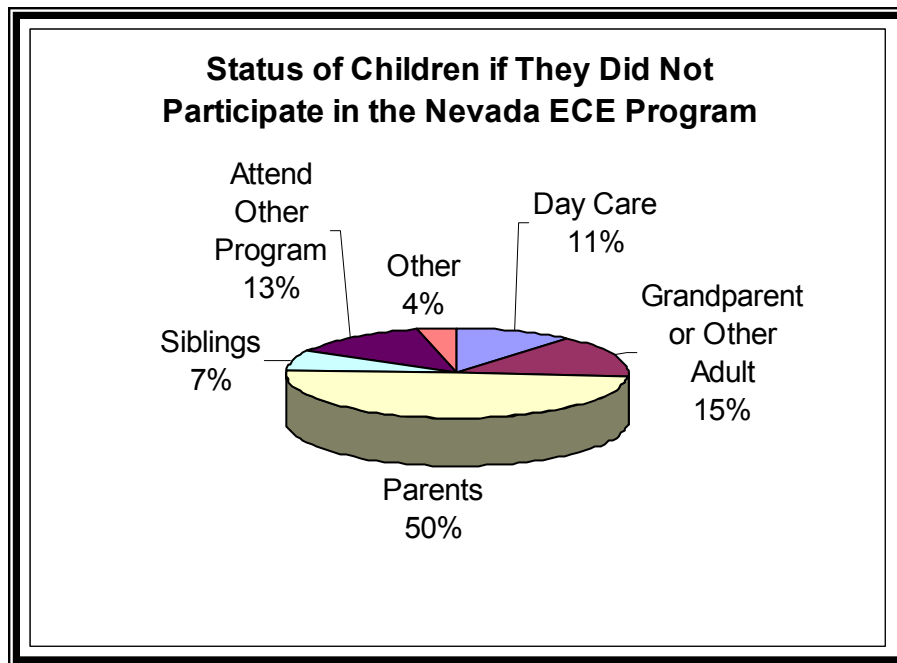
# MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

### Status if Child Did Not Participate in Early Childhood Education Program (2003-04)

An important question is what would Nevada ECE children do if they did not participate in the early childhood education program. Project staff asked participating adults at intake what would the child do if he/she did not participate in Nevada ECE; the following table provides the responses received:

| What would the child do if he/she did not participate in the Early Childhood Education Program? | Number and Percent of Children |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a) Attend day care                                                                              | 144 (11%)                      |
| b) Stay with grandparents or other adult family member                                          | 196 (15%)                      |
| c) Stay at home with parents                                                                    | 641 (50%)                      |
| d) Stay at home with siblings                                                                   | 87 (7%)                        |
| e) Attend other preschool or infant/toddler program                                             | 166 (13%)                      |
| f) Other                                                                                        | 48 (4%)                        |



**Source:** Evaluation of the Nevada Early Childhood Education Program, Pacific Research Associates.