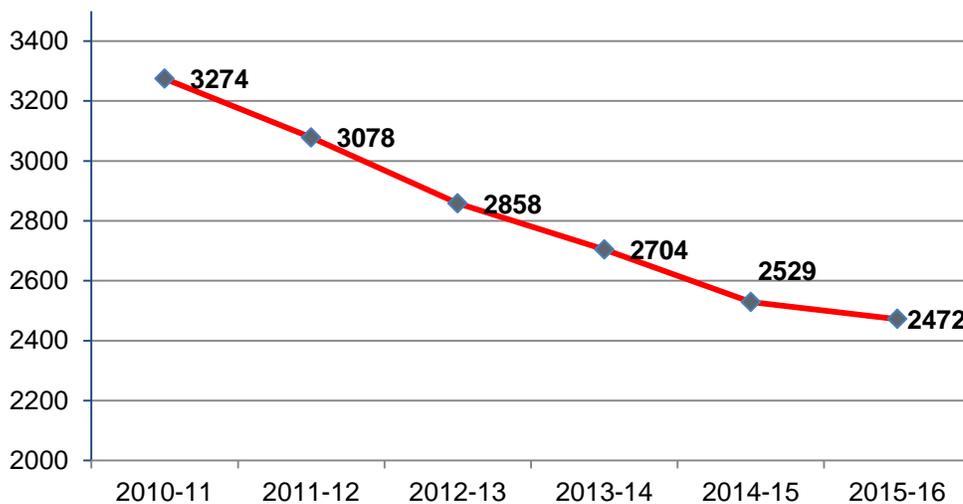




Colorado Educator Preparation at a Glance

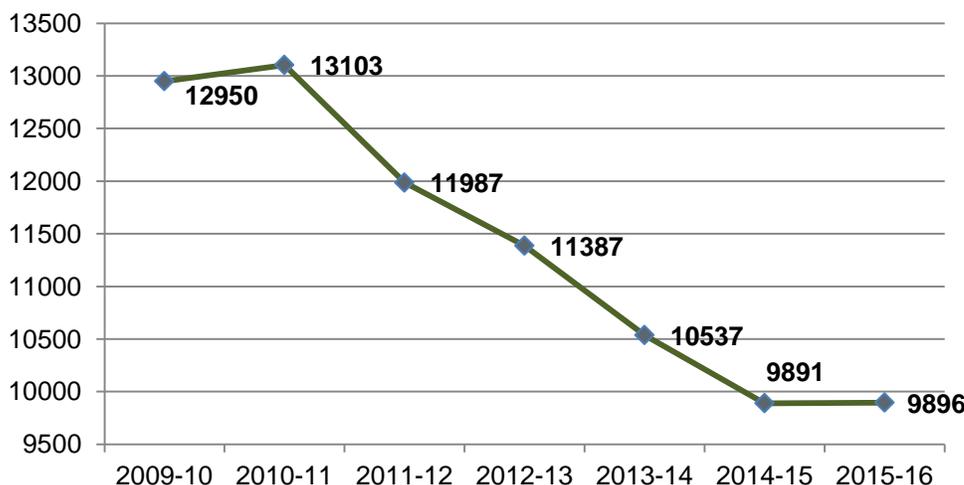
Program Completion

Declining completion continues to impact Colorado districts. Completion dropped 2.2% since last year, continuing a six-year trend. Since 2010, completion has dropped 24%.



Program Enrollment

Enrollment has flat-lined. Even with three new programs launched this year, enrollment is still down 23% since 2010.



Fast Facts

In 2015-2016:

- **3,268** individuals completed an educator preparation program, **25%** of whom went through an alternative licensure route
- **9,896** students enrolled in education preparation programs

Since 2010:

- 24% drop in education preparation program completions
- 23% drop in enrollment

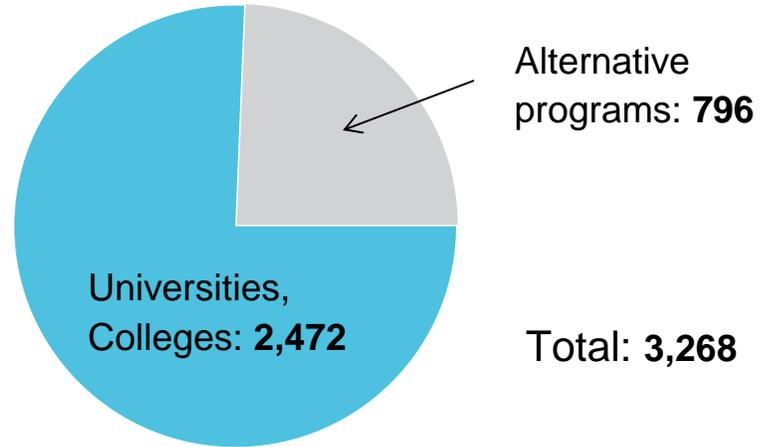
Statewide completers by teaching area

- **4** Business education
- **6** agriculture and natural resources
- **31** world language
- **84** mathematics
- **101** early childhood
- **108** science
- **751** elementary education



Completion Breakdown

Most Colorado students completed traditional programs through a college or university. About a quarter went through an alternative license route, such as an online program.



Why the decline?

To students, education careers seem difficult, low-paying and thankless.

Reviewing national and state surveys—as well as our own qualitative research—we've identified three main reasons why students opt for other career fields:

- **Perception:** Job is undesirable and teachers seem undervalued by society.
- **Compensation:** In many Colorado communities, the pay does not cover basic costs of living.
- **Return on Investment:** Low salaries result in students struggling to pay back college loans.

What can we do about it?

Colorado must act on this looming crisis. DHE and the Colorado Department of Education are working on key initiatives, including:

- Lifting up the value of the profession
- Developing a plan to better recruit and retain teachers, looking closely at compensation
- Researching and implementing new educator pathways that maintain quality and maximize retention
- Supporting ongoing work in rural districts and with STEM teacher development

Where can I learn more?

For more information on educator preparation programs, visit

- 2015-2016 Educator Preparation Report:
http://highered.colorado.gov/Publications/Reports/Legislative/TED/201612_TED_toGGA.pdf
- Educator Preparation in Colorado:
<http://highered.colorado.gov/Academics/TeacherEd>