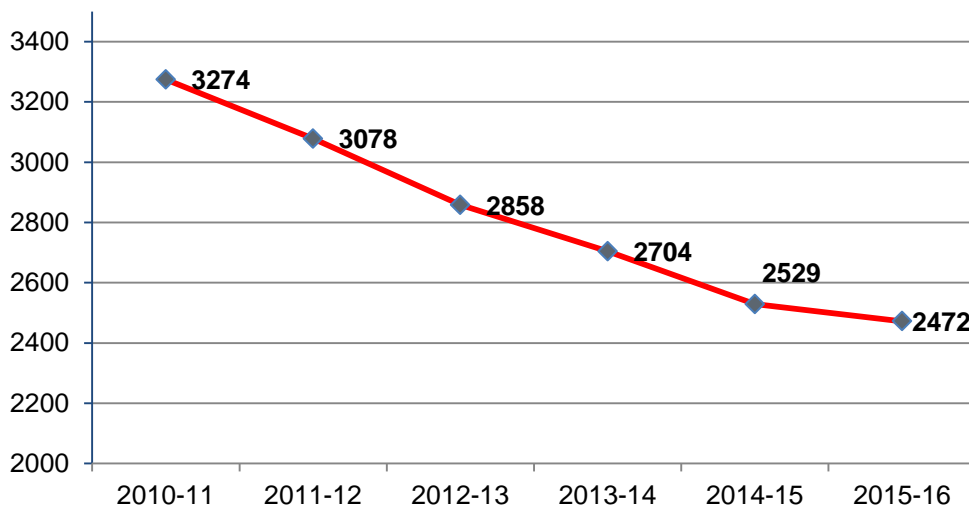




Colorado Educator Preparation at a Glance

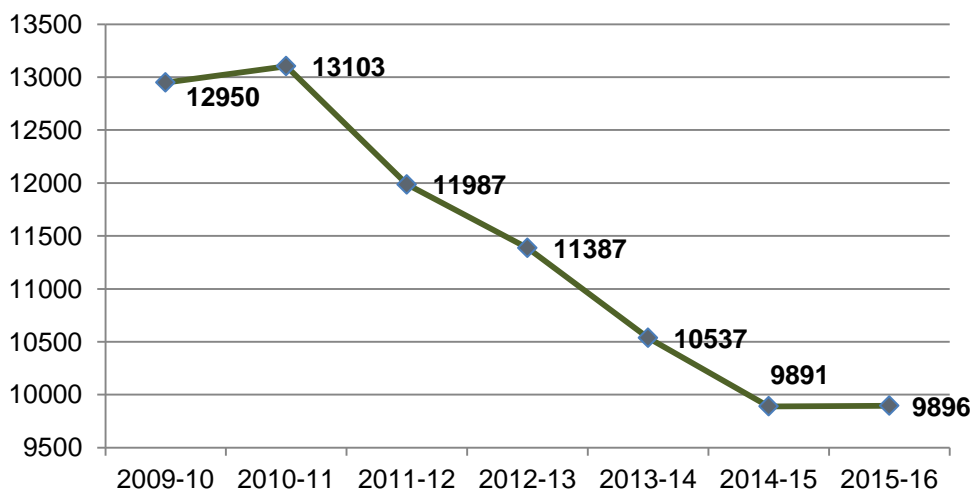
Program Completion

Declining completion continues to impact Colorado districts. Completers dropped 2.2% since last year, continuing a six-year trend. Since 2010, completion has dropped 24.4%.



Program Enrollment

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



Fast Facts

For 2015-2016:

- **3,268** educator preparation completers
- **9,896** students enrolled in education preparation programs
- **25%** completed an alternative licensure route

Since 2010:

- 24.4% drop in completers
- 23% drop in enrollment

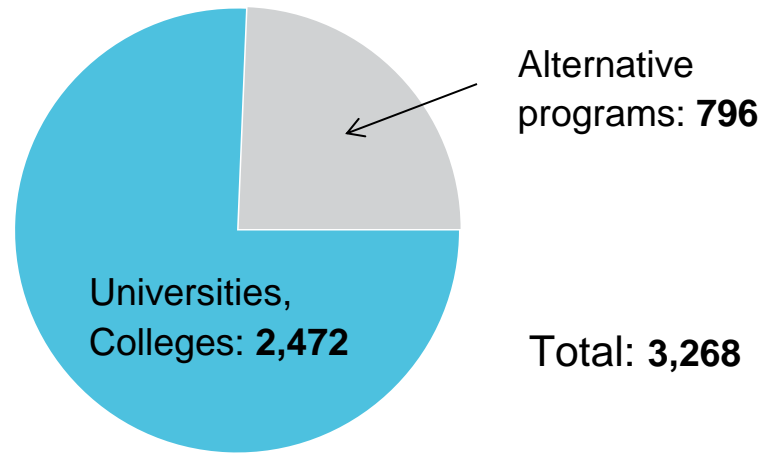
Statewide completers in key teaching areas

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



Completer Breakdown

Most Colorado students completed traditional programs through a college or university. About a quarter went through an alternative license routes, 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 are 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:

- 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 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>