

## Results Analysis

### Ministry Financial Information

#### Financial Results and Performance

(More detailed financial information can be found in the Ministry's financial statements on pages 32-54.)

(in millions)	2004/05		2003/04
	Budget	Actual	Actual (restated)
<b>Revenues</b>			
Transfers from Government of Canada	\$ 244	\$ 217	\$ 226
Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund	22	23	22
Lottery Fund	21	21	21
Investment Income	5	4	3
Premiums, fees, licenses and other revenue	3	6	4
	295	271	276
<b>Ministry Expenses by Core Business</b>			
Support the Learning System	1,246	1,254	1,193
Support the Learner	200	186	141
Support the Ministry	10	9	8
	1,456	1,449	1,342
<b>Net Operating Results</b>	\$ (1,161)	\$ (1,178)	\$ (1,066)

### Overview

The Government of Alberta gave financial support to facilitate its increased focus on the Advanced Education system in the 2004/05 fiscal year. Funding to Advanced Education programs rose \$107 million over the prior year, an increase of 8%. Of total Ministry spending, 96% was for grants provided directly to post-secondary institutions, adult learners and other recipients. It is of note that Ministry expenditures stayed within approved targets.

The Ministry's new core business structure breaks financial information into three key areas:

#### **Support the Learning System – Lead, Promote and Support Excellence in the Learning System**

Support to the Learning System increased by \$61 million in 2004/05 over the prior year. This increase in funding was primarily due to the provision of additional operating grants to post-secondary institutions and increased program support for Apprenticeship and Industry Training programs.

#### **Support the Learner – Provide Opportunities for Learner Success**

Funding for programs to Support the Learner increased \$45 million in 2004/05. This increase reflects the cost recognized in the current year for student loans issued, as well as increased scholarships, bursaries and loan relief benefits.

#### **Support the Ministry to Ensure Excellence of the Learning System**

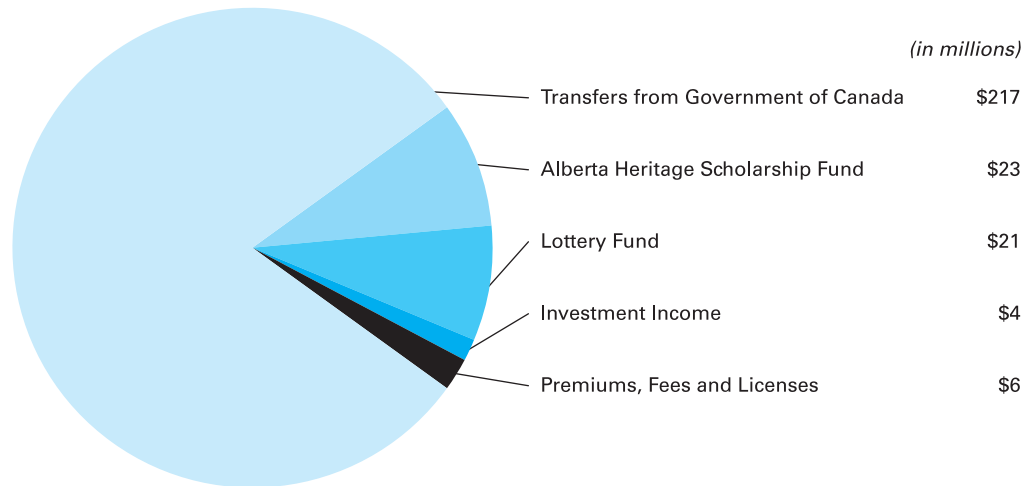
Ministry Support Services worked to provide high level service in an efficient manner. Costs for the year came in at \$9 million, \$1 million less than budgeted, and less than 1% of the total ministry expenses.

## Revenues

The Ministry of Advanced Education took in \$271 million in revenue in 2004/05 from various sources:

- \$217 million in revenue was received in transfers from the Government of Canada:
  - \$216 million in Canada Social Transfers; and
  - \$1 million in support of Canada Student Loans administration.
- \$44 million was received through internal government transfers:
  - \$23 million from the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund; and
  - \$21 million from the Lottery Fund.
- Approximately \$4 million in interest revenue was earned as a result of providing student loans to learners.
- \$6 million in premiums, fees, licenses other revenue was derived from various programs such as Marketing Apprenticeship and the International Qualifications Assessment Service, as well as other miscellaneous revenue sources.

Revenues by Source



### Comparison of 2004/05 Actuals to Budget

Revenues were \$24 million lower than budgeted as a result of the following:

- \$27 million less than budgeted in Canada Social Transfer revenue; offset by
- A total of \$3 million more than budgeted in other areas, including refunds of expenditures made in prior years.

### Comparison of 2004/05 Actuals to Prior Year

Revenues for the Ministry decreased \$5 million from 2003/04. The decrease is comprised of:

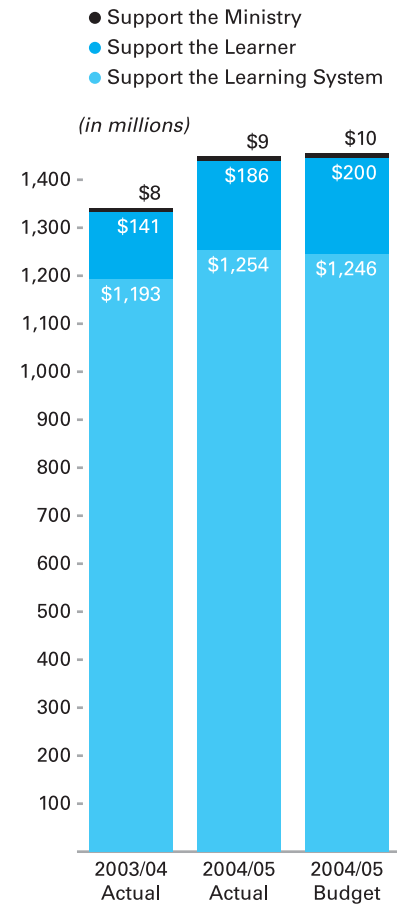
- A reduction in the Ministry's share of Canada Social Transfers from the federal government of \$9 million; offset by
- Small increases totaling \$4 million in other revenue areas including investment income and Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund revenue.

## Expenses

Expenses for the Ministry of Advanced Education totaled \$1,449 million in 2004/05. Expenses were incurred by each core businesses as follows:

- \$1,254 million in expenses to Support the Learning System:
  - \$1,222 million in funding to post-secondary institutions through several grant programs:
    - \$1,088 million in operating grants;
    - \$117 million in special funding aimed at increasing the accessibility of post-secondary programs;
    - \$12 million in performance envelope funding; and
    - \$5 million in funding to inter-jurisdiction programs.
  - \$18 million in delivery support for Apprenticeship and Industry Training programs;
  - \$14 million in other program funding, including high speed networking and delivery support.
- \$186 million to Support the Learner:
  - \$62 million in scholarships and bursaries including Alberta Heritage Scholarships, Achievement Scholarships, Alberta Opportunities and Special Needs Bursaries and Maintenance Grants;
  - \$49 million in costs associated with student loans that have been issued;
  - \$34 million in student loan relief benefits;
  - \$20 million in learner-related programs including Community Programs and Learning Television;
  - \$10 million in program systems support, and a further \$8 million in program delivery support; and
  - \$3 million in Marketing Apprenticeship.
- \$9 million in expenses to Support the Ministry. Support costs for the Ministry include:
  - \$3 million for Information and Strategic Services;
  - \$2 million for Financial and Administrative Services;
  - \$1 million for Human Resource Services;
  - \$3 million for other ministry support areas, including Legislative Services and Communications, among others.

Ministry Expense by Core Business



Source: Alberta Advanced Education

**Comparison of 2004/05 Actuals to Budget**

Over the three core businesses, expenses in total were \$7 million less than budgeted as a result of the following:

- \$15 million decrease in expenses to Support the Learners primarily due to:
  - \$11 million decrease in the provision for the liability for student loans issued, and
  - \$4 million unexpended budget for the Alberta Centennial Education Savings plan.
- \$1 million decrease in expenses to Support the Ministry.
- \$9 million increase in expenses to Support the Learning System including the following changes from budget:
  - \$5 million increase in general operating grants to post-secondary institutions;
  - \$4 million increase in Apprenticeship and Industry Training program support;
  - \$12 million increase for unbudgeted, one-time performance envelope grants;
  - \$12 million decrease in other program delivery expenses;
  - \$29 million decrease due to a reallocation of Access funding to general operating grants for post-secondary institutions.

**Comparison of 2004/05 Actuals to Prior Year**

The Ministry of Advanced Education's financial support to adult learning increased \$107 million over 2003/04. This is a result of:

- \$61 million increase in expenses for Support the Learning System:
  - \$41 million increase as a result of a 4% increase in post-secondary operating grants rates;
  - \$13 million increase due to additional performance envelope funding and other grant increases to post-secondary institutions;
  - \$4 million increase in Apprenticeship delivery funding;
  - \$3 million increase in delivery support initiatives including high speed networking.
- \$45 million increase in expenses for Support the Learner:
  - \$35 million increase in the provision for the liability for student loans issued;
  - \$4 million increase in scholarships and bursaries including Alberta Heritage Scholarships;
  - \$3 million increase in student loan relief benefits;
  - \$3 million increase in support for learner-related programs including Community Programs, Learning Television and Marketing Apprenticeship.
- \$1 million increase in expenses to Support the Ministry.

## Grants

Grants accounted for \$1,389 million (96%) of the total amount of the Ministry's expenses.

- Grants to post-secondary institutions totaled \$1,230 million and consisted of:
  - \$1,090 million in operating and conditional grant funding;
  - \$117 million to support program expansion through the Access Fund; and
  - \$23 million in other funding initiatives including Inmate Programs and Community Adult Learning programs provided through post-secondary institutions.
- Grants to adult learners totaled \$145 million and were comprised of:
  - \$73 million in assistance to learners in the form of Student Loan Relief Benefit grants, Maintenance Grants, Alberta Opportunities Bursaries, achievement and other scholarships;
  - \$49 million as a provision for the future cost of student loans for remissions, defaults, interest and loan guarantees; and
  - \$23 million in scholarships funded through the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund.
- Other grants were provided to recipients providing community education programs and learning television for a total of \$14 million.

## Expenses by Function

- All expenses (\$1,449 million) incurred by the Ministry of Advanced Education are in support of the Government of Alberta's 'Education' function.

## Non-Budgetary Disbursements

The Ministry of Advanced Education provides additional, non-budgetary support to adult learners through the administration and servicing of student loans. \$97 million in disbursements occurred to support the student loan system:

- \$89 million in direct loan disbursements,
- \$4 million in student loan Servicing costs; and
- \$4 million in loan relief completion payments.

Also included in non-budgetary disbursements was payment of a \$31 million commitment to assist the University of Calgary to acquire a research facility.

## Auditor General's Report



### Report of the Auditor General on the Results of Applying Specified Auditing Procedures to Performance Measures

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly

In connection with the Ministry of Advanced Education's performance measures included in the *2004-2005 Annual Report of the Ministry of Advanced Education*, I have:

1. Agreed information from an external organization to reports from the organization.
2. Agreed information from reports that originated from organizations included in the financial statements of the Ministry to source reports. In addition, I tested the procedures used to compile the underlying data into the source reports. For the measure shown as *High School to Post-secondary Transition Rate*, I tested the procedures used to compile the underlying data for the most recent and immediately preceding year, and reviewed earlier results for reasonableness.
3. Checked that the presentation of results is consistent with the stated methodology.
4. Checked that the results presented are comparable to stated targets, and information presented in prior years.
5. Checked that the performance measures, as well as targets, agree to and include results for all of the measures presented in Budget 2004.

As a result of applying the above procedures, I found no exceptions. These procedures, however, do not constitute an audit and therefore I express no opinion on the performance measures included in the *2004-2005 Annual Report of the Ministry of Advanced Education*.

FCA  
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta  
August 10, 2005

## Goal 1

**Discussion and Analysis of Results****High Quality Learning Opportunities for All****Strategies**

In support of this goal in 2004/05, Advanced Education adopted the following strategies:

- Promote learning excellence through the continuous improvement of the learning system.
- Respond to emerging labour market demands and support Alberta's transition to a knowledge-based economy.
- Increase the level of educational attainment within Alberta through expanded access, awareness, and participation.
- Integrate new learning technologies to support development of the learning system.

**Key Accomplishments**

- Introduced Bill 1, the *Access to the Future Act*, outlining planned investments towards a new \$3 billion Access to the Future endowment, a \$1 billion expansion to the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund, and a \$500 million expansion to the Ingenuity Fund.
- Announced the creation of 60,000 learning opportunities in such areas as adult literacy, community adult learning, full and continuing learning at post-secondary institutions, and apprenticeship over the next 15 years with 15,000 of those opportunities in place by 2008, expected to provide Albertans the best access to post-secondary education in Canada.
- Announced, for Alberta's Centennial year, the payment of tuition fee increases for September 2005-06 at public, board-governed post-secondary institutions, saving students and apprentices an estimated \$43 million.
- Raised the level of support for registered nursing programs at universities and licensed practical nursing programs at colleges by \$3.6 million.
- Awarded \$1,000 scholarships to 219 apprentices, including Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) apprentices, to recognize their excellence and encourage them to continue with their training.
- Implemented the Learning Clicks CD-ROM and Youth Ambassador program to communicate with young Albertans about the long-term benefits of post-secondary education and the importance of early planning. Approximately 800 presentations were made to Grade 9-12 students and over 22,000 CD-ROMs were distributed to students, teachers, and administrators.
- Launched a secure, self-serve website that allows student borrowers to access and to view information on their Direct Alberta Student Loans.

**Performance Summary**

- 79% of post-secondary institute graduates were satisfied with the overall quality of their education.
- 93% of apprenticeship graduates were satisfied with their technical training.
- 91% of apprenticeship graduates were satisfied with their on-the-job training.
- Employment rates for post-secondary graduates remain at 86% for certificate and diploma graduates and 84% for degree graduates.
- 69% of the public is satisfied that adult Albertans have access to lifelong learning.
- 46% of the public agrees that the learning system is within the means of most Albertans.

Goal 1

Core Measures

Outcome

The learning system meets the needs of all learners, society and the economy.

Measure

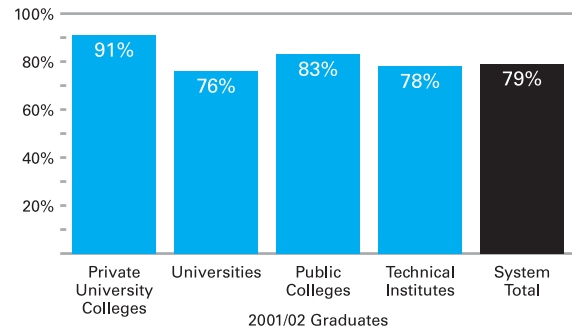
**Satisfaction of Post-Secondary Institution Graduates**

This measure is based on a significant change in methodology, so previous data is not comparable. No target was established.

- A large majority of 2001/02 graduates (79%) surveyed in 2003/04 were satisfied with the overall quality of their post-secondary education.
- Results were strong in each sector as well, ranging from 76% for universities to 91% for private university colleges.
- Only 6% of respondents expressed some level of dissatisfaction with the overall quality of their education, and 15% expressed neither satisfaction nor dissatisfaction.
- 2001/02 graduates of certificate, diploma and degree programs were surveyed two years after graduation as part of the new combined post-secondary graduate satisfaction and employment survey. Previous satisfaction surveys were exit surveys, conducted at the time of graduation, and also included adult learners completing preparatory and basic upgrading programs.

Performance Measure

Satisfaction of Recent Post-Secondary Graduates with the Overall Quality of their Education (new methodology)



Source: Alberta Advanced Education

Notes

- Includes graduates of parchment programs (i.e. certificate, diploma and degree programs).
- The survey was last conducted by R.A. Malatest and Associates in 2003/04 for students who graduated in 2001/02.
- See Endnote A (page 74) for information on surveys conducted for Alberta Advanced Education.
- See Endnote B (page 77) for information on the use of confidence intervals to interpret survey results.

Outcome

The learning system meets the needs of all learners, society and the economy.

Measure

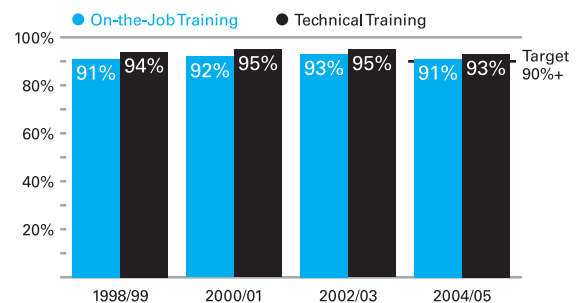
**Satisfaction of Apprenticeship Training Graduates**

The target for both measures was 90%+. The targets were met.

- Very high percentages of recent apprenticeship graduates continue to be satisfied with the quality of their on-the-job and technical training.
- 2004/05 satisfaction levels for both on-the-job training and technical training experienced a statistically significant decrease. In good economic times, when jobs are plentiful, satisfaction may be affected because of the pressure of work reducing the time available for training.

Performance Measure

Satisfaction of Recent Apprenticeship Graduates with On-the-Job Training and Technical Training



Source: Alberta Advanced Education; Nichols Applied Management. – 1999, 2003; R.A. Malatest & Associates – 2001; Banister Research Inc. – 2005

Notes

- Graduates of apprenticeship programs in 1997/98, 1999/2000, 2001/02 and 2003/04 (based on the August 1 – July 31 year) were surveyed 6 to 18 months after graduation.
- See Endnote A (page 74) for information on surveys conducted for Alberta Advanced Education.
- See Endnote B (page 77) for information on the use of confidence intervals to interpret survey results.



## Goal 1

## Core Measures

## Outcome

The learning system meets the needs of all learners, society and the economy.

## Measure

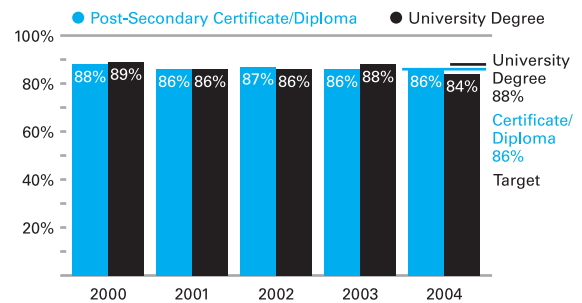
**Preparation for Employment**

The targets for 2004/05 were 86% for post-secondary certificate/diploma graduates and 88% for university degree graduates. Targets were met since results are within 5% of the target.

- Employment rates for post-secondary graduates remain high at 86% for certificate and diploma graduates, and 84% for degree graduates.
- Employment rates are consistently higher for post-secondary graduates than for high school graduates. Post-secondary graduates typically have developed more job-related skills than high school graduates.

**Performance Measure**

Employment Rate of Albertans aged 25 to 34



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Special tabulation for Alberta Advanced Education

## Notes

- The post-secondary certificate/diploma category includes apprenticeship graduates.
- See Endnote B (page 77) for information on the use of confidence intervals to interpret survey results.
- See Endnote D (page 78) for information on the use of the Labour Force Survey to estimate employment rates.

## Outcome

All Albertans can participate in quality learning.

## Measure

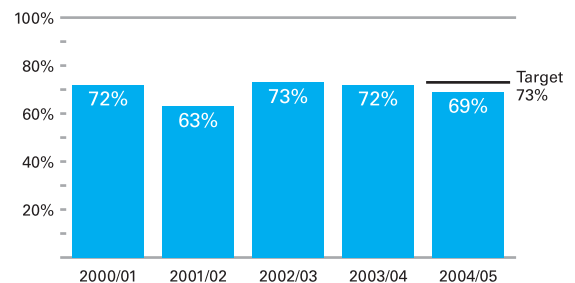
**Access to Lifelong Learning**

The target for 2004/05 was 73%.

- A significant majority of the public is satisfied that most adults have access to the education or training they want.
- The target was considered met since the result achieved (69%) was within 5% of the target.
- Other information from the annual public surveys provides additional perspectives on Albertans' access to learning opportunities:
  - The proportion of adults reporting participation in education or training has been relatively stable in recent years at about 29%.
  - For those not taking education or training in 2004/05, the reasons cited most often were "lack of time" (by 26% of respondents) and "no need/not required by job" (by 23% of respondents). In recent years, these have ranked consistently as the top two reasons given.

**Performance Measure**

Public Satisfaction that Adult Albertans have Access to Lifelong Learning



Source: Alberta Advanced Education: Criterion Research Corp. – 2000, 2001; R.A. Malatest & Associates – 2002, 2003; Compustat Consultants Inc. – 2004, 2005

## Notes

- This measure reports the weighted average result of questions asked of two components of the public: adult learners (those who reported taking education or training in the last 12 months) and adult Albertans who did not take education or training in the last 12 months.
- The wording of the question asked of adult learners was clarified in the 2002/03 survey. In previous years, adult learners were asked about their satisfaction that "most adults are able to access the education or training they want". Starting in 2002/03, they were asked about their satisfaction that "you are able to access the education or training you want".
- See Endnote A (page 74) for information on surveys conducted for Alberta Advanced Education.

Goal 1

Outcome

Measure

**Core Measures**

All Albertans can participate in quality learning.

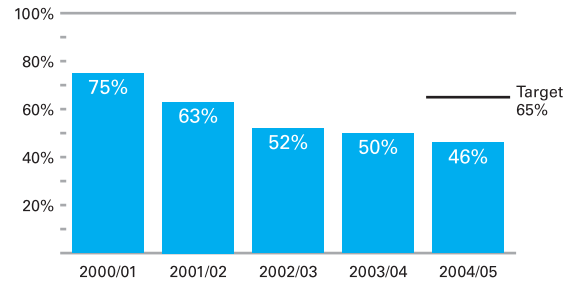
**Affordability of the Learning System**

The target for 2004/05 was not met.

- Less than half of the public agrees that the learning system is within the means of most Albertans. Agreement levels have declined steadily since 2000/01.
- Of adults who did not take education or training in the past 12 months (two-thirds of those surveyed), only 11% cited cost as the reason.

**Performance Measure**

Public Agreement that the Learning System is Within the Means of Most Albertans



Source: Alberta Advanced Education: Criterion Research Corp. – 2000, 2001; R.A. Malatest & Associates – 2002, 2003; Compustat Consultants Inc. – 2004, 2005

Notes

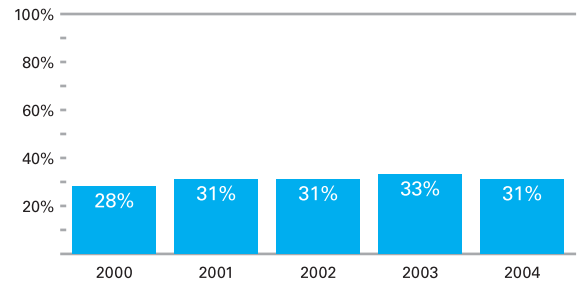
- See Endnote A (page 74) for information on surveys conducted for Alberta Advanced Education.

Measure

- Alberta Advanced Education has introduced “Participation in Post-Secondary Education” as a new measure in the next Business Plan, for the period 2005-08. This measure is a better reflection on the outcome related to Albertans participating in quality learning.
- Notwithstanding the decline in percentage of adults agreeing that the learning system is within the means of most Albertans, the actual participation of adults in post-secondary education has been relatively stable in recent years.
- A measure of participation in advanced education by different socio-economic groups is being investigated as a possible replacement for the survey measure based on public perceptions about costs.

**Performance Measure**

Participation in Post-Secondary Education, Albertans aged 18 to 24



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Notes

- See Endnote C (page 78) for information on the Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

## Goal 2

**Discussion and Analysis of Results****Excellence in Learner Outcomes****Strategies**

In support of this goal in 2004/05, Advanced Education adopted the following strategies:

- Improve First Nations, Métis and Inuit learner success.
- Improve completion rates for all learners.
- Improve learning opportunities for Albertans by enhancing transitions to work and further study for learners.
- Enhance accessibility and promote consistent practices of learning programs for all learners.

**Key Accomplishments**

- Worked with trades' employers, Aboriginal communities and Aboriginal youth to encourage participation in trades-related careers, resulting in over 760 Aboriginal apprentices currently registered in the apprenticeship and industry training system.
- Implement the Youth Apprenticeship Project in five schools in the communities of High Prairie, Lac La Biche, and Wabasca/Desmarais. Over 200 Grade 7 students are participating.
- Administered the Early Leavers Survey to over 5,000 individuals to help identify programs and policies that encourage students to complete their programs of study.
- Funded 83 Community Adult Learning Councils, which provided 4,728 learning opportunities for 57,630 registrants in adult basic literacy, English as a second language, employability enhancement or community issue.
- Awarded \$11.8 million in Performance Envelope funding to 23 post-secondary institutions in recognition of outstanding performance in areas such as graduate employment and satisfaction, increasing accessibility, reducing administration expenditures and generating enterprise revenue.
- Provided approximately \$81 million in loan relief benefits and completion payments to reduce student debt levels.
- Provided over \$23 million in scholarships under the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund to over 10,700 students, an increase from the previous year.
- Issued over \$17 million in Achievement Scholarships to over 15,180 Alberta post-secondary students, an increase of over 15% from last year.
- Launched the Alberta Centennial Education Savings Plan, which will make a one-time contribution of \$500 to any Alberta child born in 2005 and beyond whose family has opened a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) in that child's name.
- Provided \$13.1 million from the Apprenticeship Access Fund to post-secondary technical training providers to maintain an additional 5,275 apprenticeship technical training spaces in response to industry needs.

**Performance Summary**

- 57% of Albertans aged 25-34 have completed post-secondary programs.
- 32% of students enter a post-secondary program within 4 years of entering Grade 10.
- 54% of students enter a post-secondary program within 6 years of entering Grade 10.
- 89% of employers are satisfied with the skills and quality of work of all learning system graduates.
- 90% of employers are satisfied with the skills and quality of work of post-secondary graduates.

## Goal 2

## Outcome

## Measure

**Core Measures**

Learners complete programs.

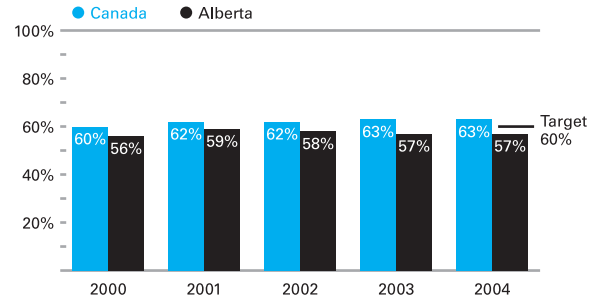
**Educational Attainment**

The target for post-secondary completion was considered met, since the result was within 5% of the target.

- The post-secondary completion rate of Albertans aged 25-34 has been relatively flat since 2000, and remains below the Canadian average.
- Alberta's 25-34 year olds continue to have the highest employment rate in Canada, suggesting ample employment opportunities for young adults. This may affect post-secondary completion rates as individuals take advantage of Alberta's employment opportunities.
- Research has been initiated to determine reasons for non-completion by students who start, but do not complete post-secondary studies.
- This measure has been expanded to encompass Albertans aged 25 to 64 in Alberta Advanced Education's 2005-08 Business Plan. This broader range is more reflective of the Ministry's focus on lifelong learning. The target in the 2005-08 Business Plan has been established at 57%.

**Performance Measure**

Educational Attainment of Albertans aged 25 to 34: Post-Secondary Completion



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Special tabulation for Alberta Advanced Education

**Notes**

- See Endnote B (page 77) for information on the use of confidence intervals to interpret survey results.
- See Endnote E (page 78) for information on the use of the Labour Force Survey to track educational attainment.

## Goal 2

## Core Measures

## Outcome

Learners complete programs.

## Measure

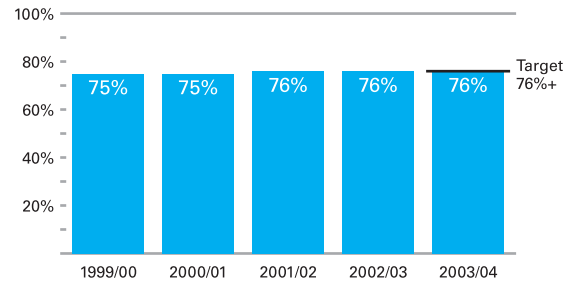
**Apprenticeship Completion**

The target was met.

- In 2003/04, a majority of apprentices (76%) received their journeyman certificates for completion of an apprenticeship program within two years of expected completion.
- Completion rates have been stable for several years. Three-quarters of apprentices who completed their first period requirements in a trade went on to complete their programs.
- Improving economic conditions in Alberta in the mid-1990s and healthy economic conditions since 2000 may facilitate completions as apprentices have opportunity to work and train. On the other hand, busy times may also extend the time taken by apprentices to complete their programs.
- Apprentices were tracked for two years past the normal program length to determine the completion rate.

**Performance Measure**

## Apprenticeship Completion Rate



Source: Alberta Advanced Education

## Notes

- Includes apprentices who have completed all the requirements of their first period of apprenticeship training. Excludes programs of less than two years in length.
- Based on July 1 to June 30 for all years of data provided.
- See Endnote G, Apprenticeship Completion Rate (page 80).

## Goal 2

## Core Measures

## Outcome

Learners complete programs.

## Measure

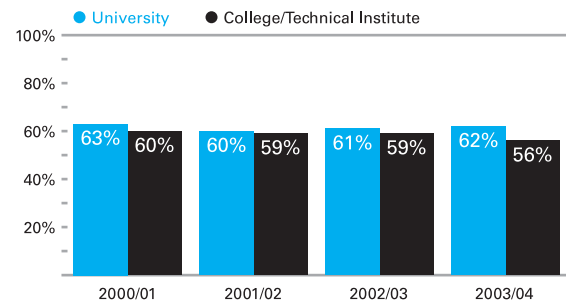
### Post-Secondary Institution Completion Rate

The measure of system-wide completion is based on an interim methodology. For this reason no target completion rate was established.

- The post-secondary completion rate aggregates the institutional completion rates for universities and for colleges and technical institutes. To determine completion, post-secondary students were tracked for three years beyond the length of the program at the institution where they began as first-year students.
- With this interim methodology, system-wide completion rates may be under-represented because information is not available to account for the completion of students who start at one post-secondary institution then complete at another one.
- Alberta Advanced Education is currently implementing the Alberta Student Number (ASN) for all post-secondary students. This will allow for a more accurate calculation of completion rates in the advanced education system, including the tracking of transfer students.
- The university sector completion rate has been increasing gradually since 2001/02.
- The colleges and technical institutes completion rate dropped in 2003/04, continuing the slight downward trend. This may reflect Alberta's strong economy, which may entice some students to transfer to another institution to gain marketable skills more quickly or to enter the labour force before completing their credential.

### Performance Measure

Post-Secondary Institution Completion Rate – Interim Measure



Source: Alberta Advanced Education

#### Notes

- Alberta College of Art & Design's programs are included in the University Sector as these programs are four-year undergraduate degree programs.
- The university sector completion rate is based on undergraduate programs tracked for seven years; therefore the 2000/01 rate is based on the 1994/95 entry cohort, the 2001/02 rate is based on the 1995/96 entry cohort, the 2002/03 rate is based on the 1996/97 entry cohort and the 2003/04 rate is based on the 1997/98 entry cohort.
- The completion rates for the college and technical institute sectors is based on tracking first-time students for the program length plus three years, i.e. tracking for four years for a certificate program and five years for a diploma program.
- See Endnote F, Post-Secondary Completion Rate (page 79).

## Goal 2

## Outcome

## Measure

## Core Measures

Learners are well prepared for lifelong learning.

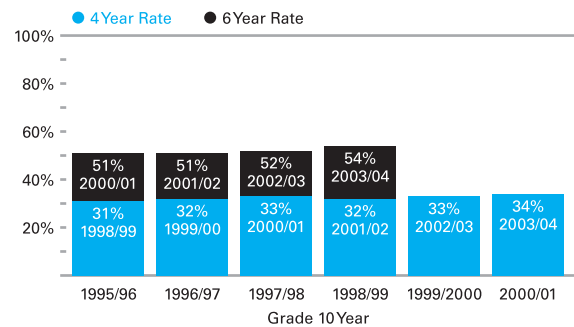
## Transition to Post-Secondary

New measure under development in 2004/05 – no target set.

- The high school to post-secondary transition rate measure reports the proportion of students who enter a post-secondary program within four and six years of entering Grade 10.
- The percentage of Alberta's high school students who have entered a post-secondary program has risen slightly over time.
- The results show that a substantial proportion of Alberta's young people delay their entry to post-secondary programs after high school, as about one-third are attending a post-secondary program four years after starting Grade 10 while more than half are attending two years later.
- The strength of Alberta's economy and the subsequent high employment demand may encourage Alberta's young people to enter the workforce immediately upon graduation from high school. After a number of years on the job, they may return to further learning as a means to upgrade their skills or to initiate a new career.

## Performance Measure

## High School to Post-Secondary Transition Rate



Source: Alberta Education

## Notes

- Students are considered to be attending post-secondary if they are enrolled in a public or private institution in Alberta or registered in an apprenticeship program in Alberta. Adjustments for attrition and attending post-secondary out of province are based on estimates.
- See Endnote H, High School to Post-Secondary Transition Rate (page 80).

## Goal 2

## Outcome

## Measure

## Core Measures

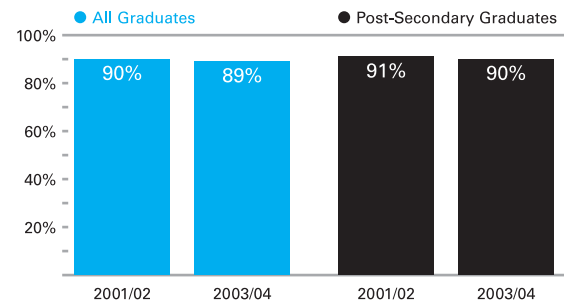
Learners are well prepared for employment.

## Preparation for Employment

- Employees are asked about their level of satisfaction with high school and post-secondary graduates. The levels of satisfaction for all graduates (inclusive of high school graduates) have been consistently high. When post-secondary graduates are considered alone, satisfaction levels are slightly higher.
- Alberta Advanced Education is co-leading the *Leading in Learning and Skilled Workforce Initiative* to address the increased demand for skilled labour in light of sustained economic growth in Alberta. The department has also adopted strategies to encourage increased industry participation and investment in the apprenticeship and industry training system and to ensure the apprenticeship and industry training system is responsive to the needs of industry.
- The new *Post-secondary Learning Act* now recognizes colleges' and technical institutions' role in applied research, which provides another avenue to increase skill levels of all graduates.

## Performance Measure

Employer Satisfaction with the Skills and Quality of Work of Learning System Graduates



Source: Alberta Education and Advanced Education Survey

## Notes

- The Employer Satisfaction Survey is conducted biennially. In 2001/02 and 2003/04 it was conducted by the Environics Research Group
- The last survey was conducted in 2003/04, so no new data is available for 2004/05.
- All graduates includes High School graduates as well as post-secondary graduates.
- See Endnote A (page 74) for information on Advanced Education surveys.
- See Endnote B (page 77) for information on the use of confidence intervals to interpret results over time.



## Goal 2

## Core Measures

## Outcome

Learners are well prepared for citizenship.

## Measure

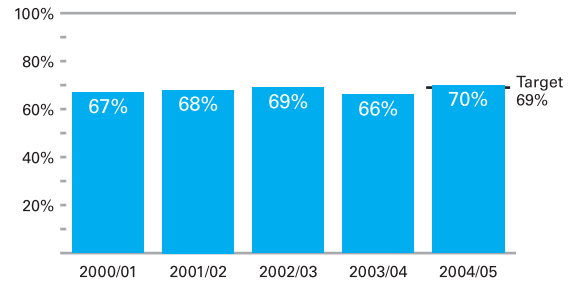
**Preparation for Citizenship**

The target was met.

- Public satisfaction that adult learners are well prepared for citizenship is high (70%). The satisfaction rate has been relatively stable over time.

**Performance Measure**

Public Satisfaction that Learners are Well Prepared for Citizenship



Source: Alberta Advanced Education:  
 Criterion Research Corp.– 2000, 2001;  
 R.A. Malatest & Associates – 2002, 2003;  
 Compustat Consultants Inc. – 2004, 2005.

**Notes**

- The questions were clarified in the 2001/02 survey as a result of field testing. The new question asked how satisfied they are that adults taking education or training are well prepared for citizenship. In prior years, the public was asked to indicate if they agreed that adult learners are getting an appropriate combination of skills and knowledge to prepare them for the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- See Endnote A (page 74) for other information on surveys conducted for Alberta Advanced Education.
- “Public satisfaction that learners are well prepared for citizenship” will not appear as a measure of preparation for citizenship in Alberta Advanced Education’s business plan for 2005-08.

## Goal 3

**Discussion and Analysis of Results****Highly Responsive and Responsible Ministry****Strategies**

In support of this goal in 2004/05, Advanced Education adopted the following strategies:

- Work collaboratively with partners and stakeholders for the learning system.
- Promote financial sustainability of the learning system.
- Provide Albertans with timely, accurate, and relevant information about the learning system.
- Develop long-term human resource capacity for the Department.

**Key Accomplishments**

- In collaboration with the federal government and the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC), launched the Pan-Canadian Designation Policy Framework, which establishes minimum pan-Canadian criteria with respect to management of student financial assistance by designated educational institutions.
- Handled over 159,000 inquiries from clients and delivery partners through the Student Funding Contact Centre in collaboration with Alberta Human Resources and Employment, providing information about financial assistance programs for further education and training.
- Increased general operating and conditional grants to post-secondary institutions by \$102 million.
- Promoted increased hiring of apprentices by employers, resulting in over 11,600 employers currently training apprentices.
- Processed over 138,000 applications for student loans, scholarships, bursaries and loan relief payments from over 91,800 applicants.
- Accommodated an increase in the number of visitors to the Students Finance and Scholarships & Bursaries sections of the Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS) website by approximately 18% and 21% respectively.

**Performance Summary**

- 98% of the Ministry's partners and stakeholders agreed that Alberta Advanced Education staff are collaborative.
- 82% of the Ministry's partners and stakeholders agreed that Alberta Advanced Education staff are responsive and flexible.

## Goal 3

## Core Measures

## Outcome

Improved results through effective working relationships on Cross-Ministry Initiatives and with stakeholders.

## Measure

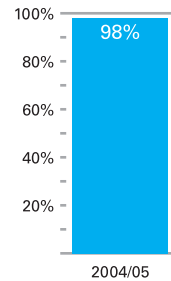
**Collaborative Working Relationships**

New methodology – no target.

- In 2004/05, 98% of the Ministry's partners and stakeholders agreed that Alberta Advanced Education staff are collaborative.

**Performance Measure**

Cross-Ministry Partners and Learning System Stakeholders who Agree that Alberta Advanced Education Staff are Collaborative



Source: Alberta Advanced Education:  
Hargroup Management Consultants Inc. – 2005

## Notes

- In previous years, the survey results were for Alberta Learning, which included Education stakeholders and partners, as well as those of Advanced Education. Because of the split of Alberta Learning into two ministries in 2004/05, the previous results cannot be used for comparison purposes.
- See Endnote A (page 74) for information on Advanced Education surveys.

## Outcome

The Ministry demonstrates leadership and continuous improvement.

## Measure

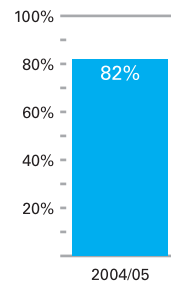
**Responsive and Flexible**

New methodology – no target.

- In 2004/05, 82% of the Ministry's partners and stakeholders agreed that Alberta Advanced Education staff are responsive and flexible.

**Performance Measure**

Cross-Ministry Partners and Learning System Stakeholders who Agree that Alberta Advanced Education Staff are Responsive and Flexible



Source: Alberta Advanced Education:  
Hargroup Management Consultants Inc. – 2005

## Notes

- In previous years, the survey results were for Alberta Learning, which included Education stakeholders and partners, as well as those of Advanced Education. Because of the split of Alberta Learning into two ministries in 2004/05, the previous results cannot be used for comparison purposes.
- See Endnote A (page 74) for information on Advanced Education surveys.

## Financial Information

*Audited  
Information*

***Ministry of Advanced Education  
Financial Statements  
March 31, 2005***

Auditor's Report

Statement of Operations

Statement of Financial Position

Statement of Cash Flows

Notes to the Financial Statements

Schedule 1 Revenues

Schedule 2 Dedicated Revenue Initiatives

Schedule 3 Expenses – Directly Incurred by Object

Schedule 4 Budget

Schedule 5 Comparison of Directly Incurred Expenses, Equipment/Inventory Purchases, Statutory Expenses and Non-Budgetary Disbursements by Element to Authorized Budget

Schedule 6 Funding Provided to Post-Secondary Institutions

Schedule 7 Statement of Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund Expenses

Schedule 8 Tangible Capital Asset Purchases

Schedule 9 Salary and Benefits Disclosure

Schedule 10 Related Party Transactions

Schedule 11 Allocated Costs