



High School Equivalency (HSE)

The Latest and Greatest within the High School
Equivalency Program in Kansas

★ LEADING HIGHER EDUCATION ★

ATTAINMENT

ALIGNMENT

EXCELLENCE

Today's Objective:

- Be Brief
- Be Brilliant
- Be Gone

The Brilliant Part: (We shall see . . .)

- Remember the military model for speeches?
- Kansans without HS Diplomas
- Why are they important?
- Who are they?
- Where are they?
- What can we do to help?
- How do we make it happen?

Foresight 2020 Goal No. 1:

- 60% of working-age Kansans will hold a postsecondary credential by the year 2020
- CJ Online's Celia Llopis-Jepsen reported Saturday, "Kansas has been on track . . . but it will need to sustain growth for another six years."

Uh-Oh!

- Declining university enrollment
- Rising costs of college
- ??? in public education

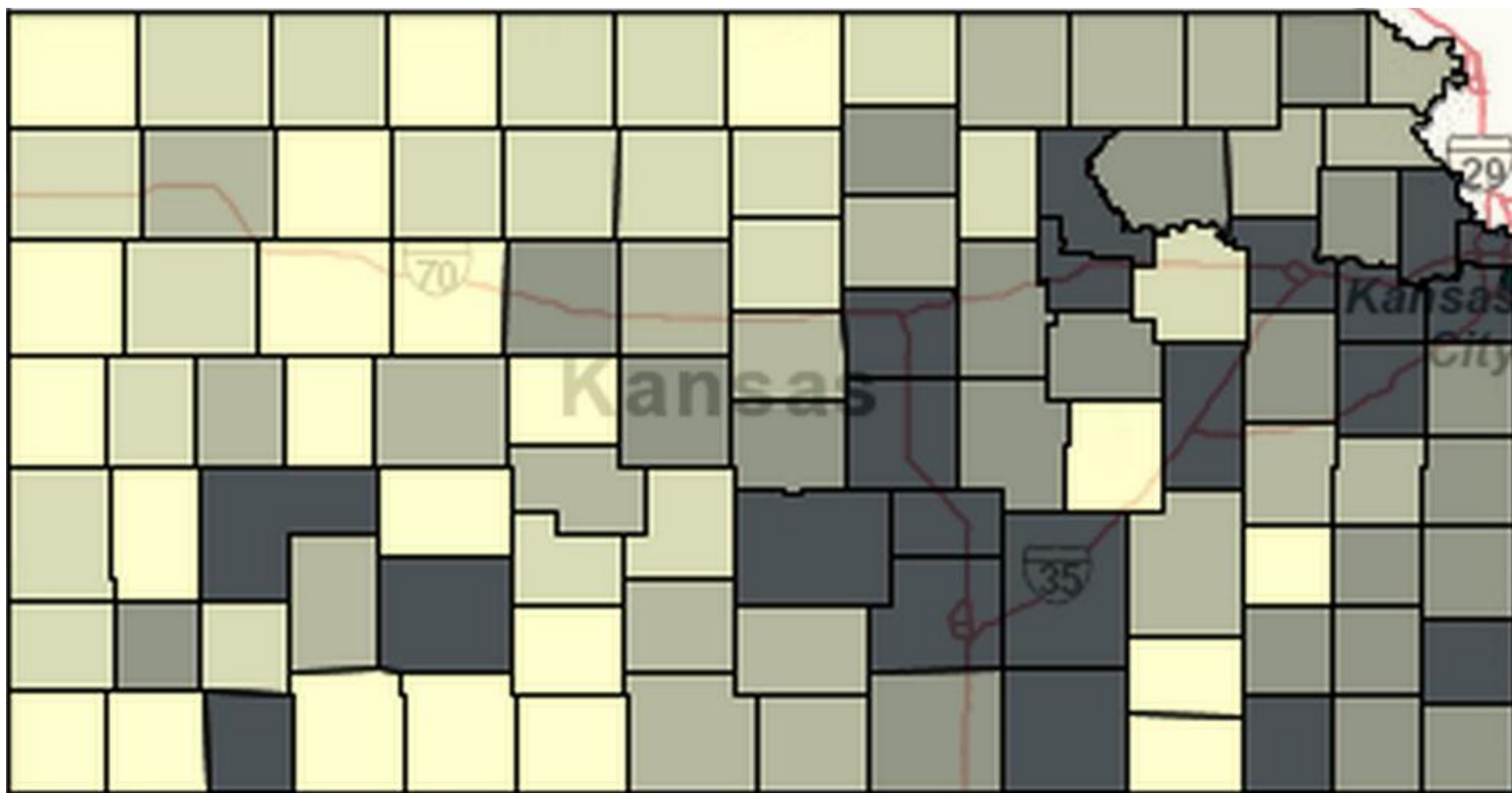
Here are some numbers:

- Over 250,000 Kansans
- 172,700 Kansans
- 36,550 Kansans

- Over 250,000 Kansas adults lack a HS Diploma or its equivalent
- 172,700 working-age Kansans (age 18-64) have no HS Diploma or its equivalent
- 36,555 Kansans were enrolled in Private Postsecondary Education in FY2014

Where are they?

Darker = More without a diploma.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey
Kansas, 25 years or older, 12th grade with no diploma, by county

Imagine this conversation:

Hey, Boss, can I have a minute?

Sure! What's up?

I have a plan to increase our enrollment, decrease the middle-skills gap, drive the Kansas economy, and make the Kansas Board of Regents look spectacular.

How?

Offer High School Equivalency Preparation.

Outstanding! You get a raise!

Ability To Benefit (ATB) access to Title IV funding

- Student takes a Wonderlic (or similar) test
OR
- Pays for and complete 6+ credits at school
toward a degree or certificate
- Completes a financial aid application
- Enrolls in “Eligible career pathways program”

What's missing with
ATB?

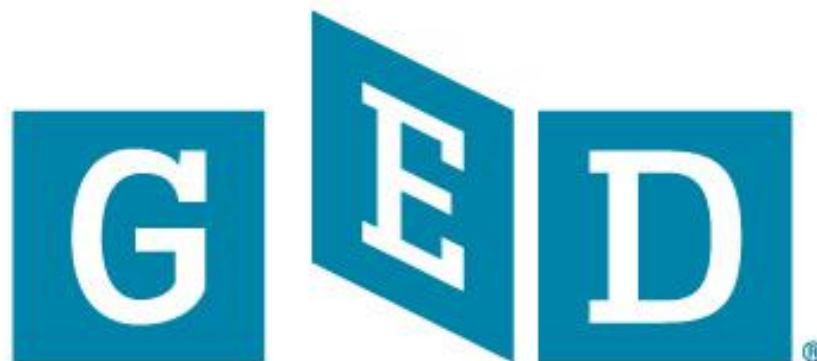
High School
Equivalency (HSE)
Credential

Accelerated Opportunity-Kansas

- AO-K helps students improve basic skills in reading, math, and writing to prepare for the GED® tests
- English language services are also available
- AO-K serves adults with families, those who are still learning English, and people who haven't been in school in years
- Even those who didn't finish high school or complete the GED® tests can find a path for success in today's workplace
- State pays the school for each credential

- Be creative in your recruitment!
- Study and utilize ATB!
- Create your own version of AO-K!
- Call it the Kansas Kickstart!
- Get some of those 172,700 Kansans into your programs!

- Offer synchronized enrollment:
 - GED Preparation + Your Program
- Incentivize GED® test completion
- Offer a scholarship reducing fees for a postsecondary program upon GED® test completion
- Layer or tier your scholarship incentives:
 - \$_____ for completing GED® tests
 - \$_____ for completing a certificate
 - \$_____ for completing a degree program



- GED® is the biggest name in High School Equivalency, owned by Pearson VUE
- College and Career Readiness Standards are in place
- All tests are taken on computer
 - Nearly instantaneous results
 - Excellent tracking and analytics

Other HSE Tests Available:

- High School Equivalency Test (HiSET®), owned by Educational Testing Service
- Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC®), owned by McGraw-Hill Education
- All three are widely accepted in the workforce and postsecondary institutions
- Kansas uses the GED® Tests, so here are some details:

GED® Tests:

- Reasoning through Language Arts
 - The ability to read closely
 - The ability to write clearly
 - The ability to edit and understand written English in context
- Social Studies
 - Civics and government
 - United States history
 - Economics
 - Geography and the world

GED® Tests:

- Science
 - Life science
 - Physical science
 - Earth and space science
- Mathematical Reasoning
 - Quantitative problem solving
 - Algebraic problem solving
 - Where-to-eat-today problem solving
 - (just seeing who still with me after Algebraic problem solving)

GED® Tests:

- The tests are available in Spanish
- The entire battery of tests costs \$132
- Each test costs \$33
- Breakdown:
 - \$20 to GED Testing Service
 - \$10 to Test Center
 - \$3 to State of Kansas
- Official Practice Test is called GED Ready
 - Periodically, promotions are announced

Current Promotion: BACKTOSCHOOL to October 31

- GED Ready practice tests are \$1, not \$6
- Represents 50% of the operational test
- Score categories:
 - Likely to Pass
 - Too Close to Call
 - Not Likely to Pass
- Practice test Guarantee until October 31
 - If you score Likely to Pass, but fail the real test, GED TS pays 100% of the retake

Become a Pearson VUE Authorized Test Center (PVTC)

- Basic Needs:
 - Two computers
 - Security equipment package (\$450)
- Meet the following requirements:
 - Technology
 - Quality
 - Financial
 - Security
 - Staffing

Offer High School Equivalency Preparation Program

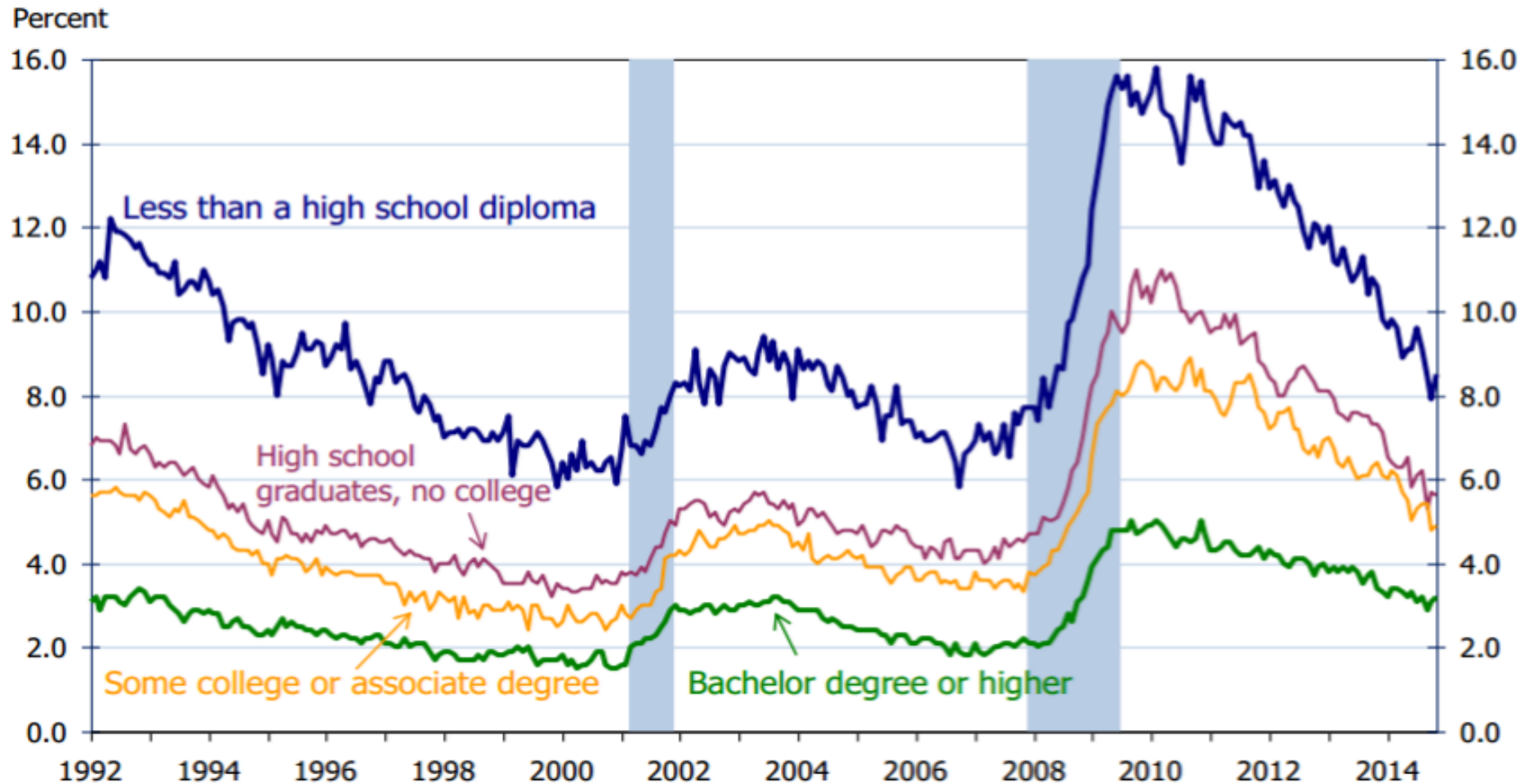
- Choose a curriculum for pre-testing and GED® Preparation
- Hire staff to teach Adult Basic Education
- Kansas uses the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) to pre-test basic skills

- See the opportunity to recruit those without a HS Diploma
- Create a process to get them into your program
- Become part of the Kansas solution
- Take the same idea to your other states

Who benefits?

- Students and their families
- Walk-in GED® Candidates not in your programs, if you have a PVTC test site
- Employers hiring skilled workers
- State Economy

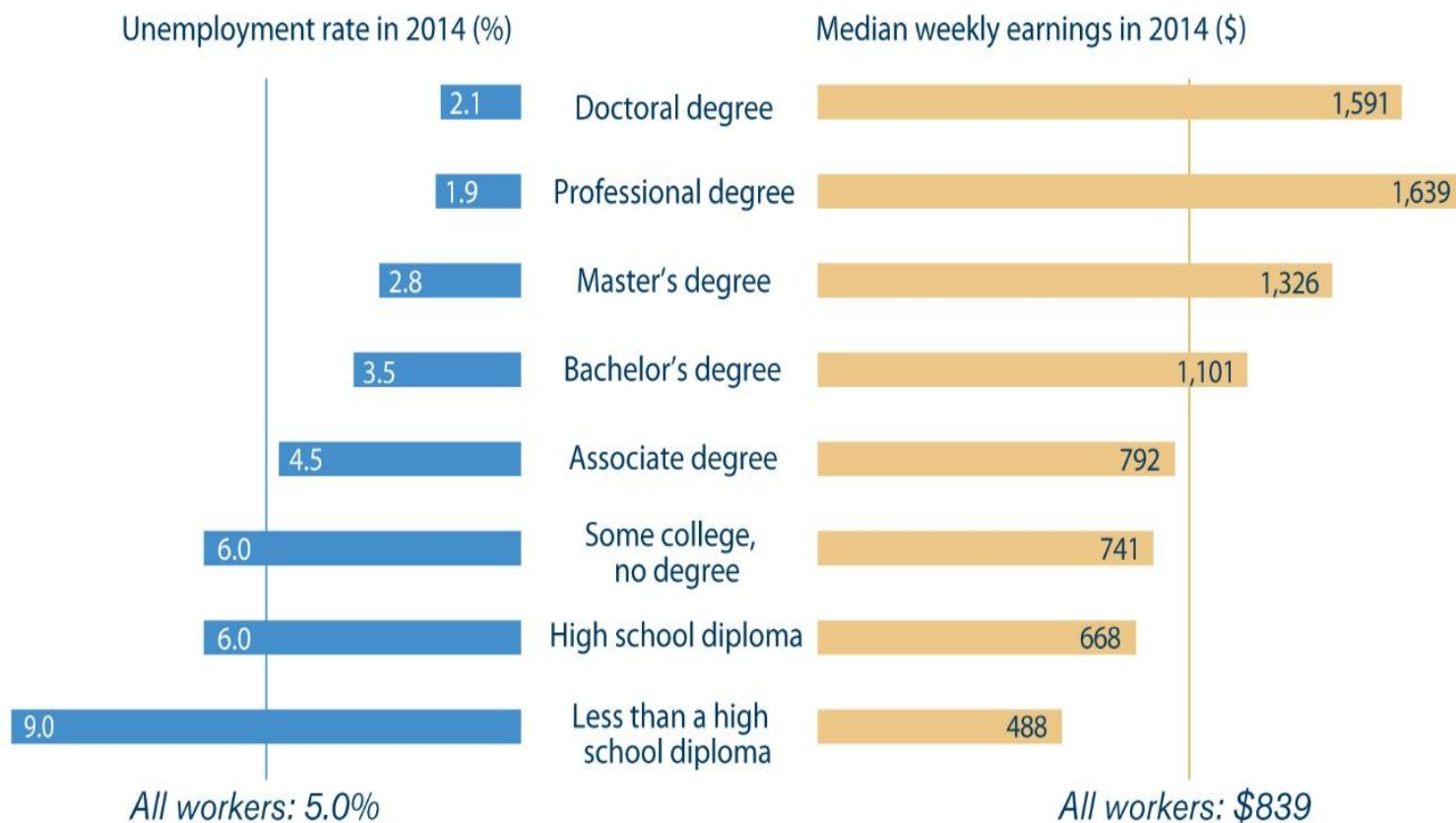
Unemployment Rates by Educational Attainment



Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Data online at http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS14027659&series_id=LNS14027660&series_id=LNS14027689&series_id=LNS14027662.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, December 5, 2014.

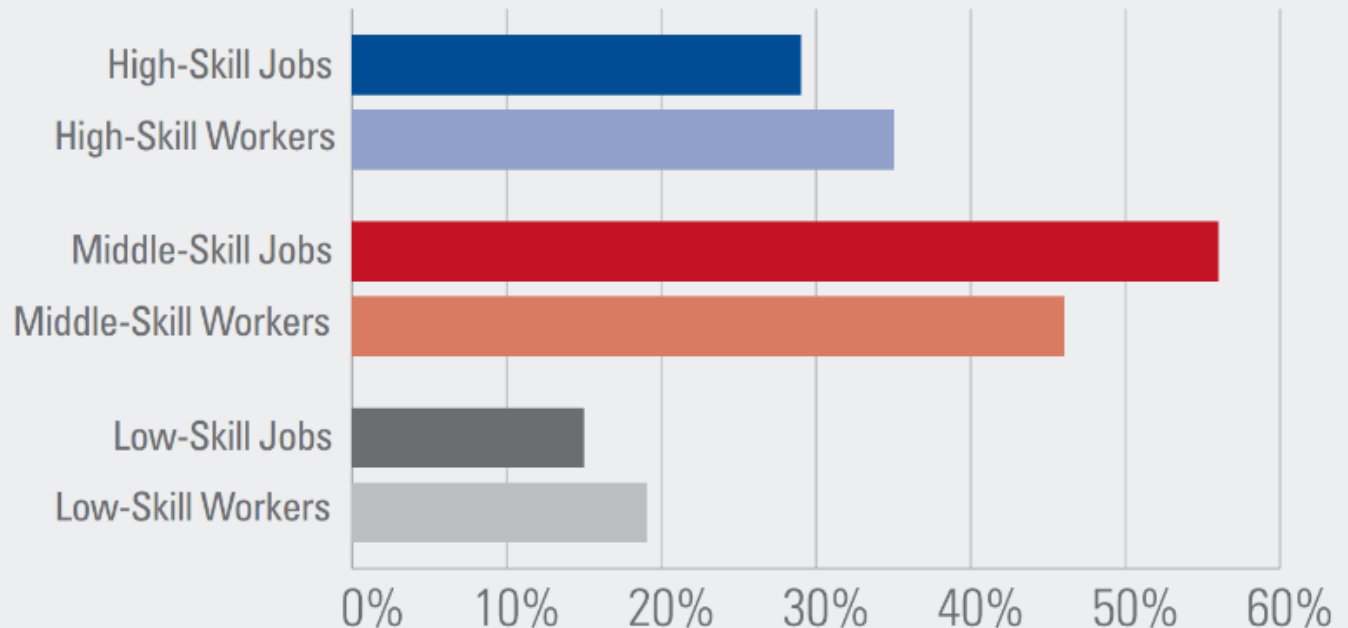
EARNINGS AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, 2014.
Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.

Foresight 2020 Goal No. 3: Reduce workforce shortages in high-demand fields

Jobs and Workers by Skill Level, Kansas, 2012



Source: NSC analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment Statistics by State, May 2012 and American Community Survey data, 2012.

*"The beginning is
the most important
part of the work."*

—Plato

A close-up photograph of a baby with light brown hair and blue eyes, looking directly at the camera with a grumpy or determined expression. The baby is wearing a green and white long-sleeved shirt. In the bottom left corner, the baby's clenched fist is visible, holding a small amount of sand. The background is a blurred outdoor setting, likely a beach.

**LET'S
GET
TO
WORK!**



THANK YOU

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