

Creating intentional student success with YouScience®

In the 2023-24 academic year, Cullman County Schools utilized YouScience® Aptitude & Career Discovery in 7th-12th grades. This document highlights the key findings and takeaways.

Cullman County Schools YouScience usage numbers

- 2023-24 academic year
- 1 district
- 16 organizations
- 2,081 students

Program utilized:

- YouScience® Aptitude & Career Discovery

“Our students can take a survey of what they’re interested in and they take a series of aptitude tests and it compares both what they’re good at.

— Dr. Shane Barnette,
Cullman County Schools
Superintendent

Brighter futures start with knowing students’ aptitudes

With funding from Cullman City and Cullman County Economic Development Agency, Cullman County Schools utilized YouScience® Aptitude & Career Discovery to help students understand their natural talents and make informed career choices. This program includes a unique performance-based measure of aptitude, an interest inventory, and a personality profile.

Identifying student aptitudes and using that information to create personalized pathway plans is crucial for helping students know which skills to develop and which careers to pursue—leading to a better return on investment of time, effort, and money. It also boosts engagement as students’ recognize the relevance of their learning and know they are pursuing their best-fit pathway. This approach meets evolving industry needs and strengthens Alabama’s economy.

Cullman County students have the talent to meet industry needs

Data from the 2023-24 school year reveals that Cullman County students have aptitudes for careers in: **Computers & Technology, Advanced Manufacturing, Agriculture & Natural Resources, and Health Science.** However, due to limited exposure and representation, their interest in these fields is low, leading to insufficient numbers pursuing these careers to meet Alabama’s workforce demands. This career exposure gap means students may miss out on lucrative career opportunities where they have aptitudes to excel.

Notable highlights include:

604 students

have an aptitude for Computers & Technology, but only 138 show interest.

Cullman Area Technology Academy (CATA) uses this data to identify students for a new Cyber Security program.

170 students

have an aptitude for Cyber Security, with more than half being female.

638 students

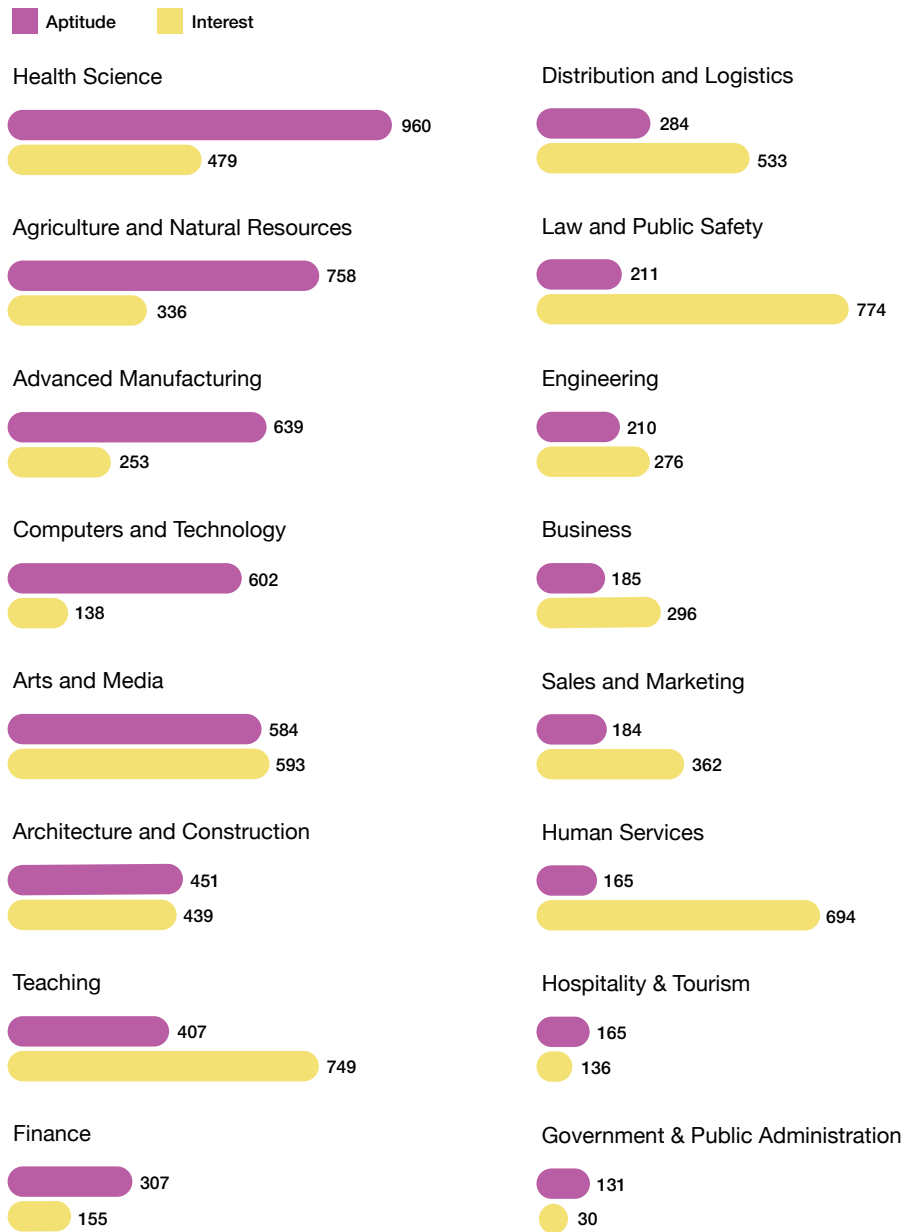
are identified with an aptitude for Advanced Manufacturing, but only 253 express interest.

To fill teaching positions with quality candidates, we are focusing on recruiting the

407 students

with both an aptitude and interest in Teaching.

We are identifying not only how many students have these talents but also who they are, allowing us to actively recruit students into their best-fit pathways and meet industry demand.



Continue empowering Cullman County students with the knowledge to confidently plan their futures.