

the condition of education 2002



INDICATOR 22

Enrollment of Students With Risk Factors

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2002*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2002*, visit the NCES web site (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2002025>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

Suggested Citation:

U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *The Condition of Education 2002*, NCES 2002-025, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2002.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS

U.S. Department of Education
Office of Educational Research and Improvement

Transition to College

Enrollment of Students With Risk Factors

About one-third of young people at risk for low educational attainment persist in high school and enroll in a 4-year college despite being at risk.

Some students who enter high school with risk factors associated with dropping out nonetheless graduate from high school and enroll in postsecondary education. About 58 percent of all 1992 high school graduates had at least one factor in their family background or school experiences prior to entering high school that placed them at some risk of lower educational attainment. These risk factors include changing schools two or more times from 1st to 8th grade (except to the next level), being in the lowest socioeconomic status quartile, having average grades of C's or lower from 6th to 8th grade, being in a single-parent household in 8th grade, having one or more older siblings who left high school without completing, and being held back one or more grades from 1st to 8th grade.

However, 35 percent of the graduates with any risk factors not only finished high school but also enrolled in a 4-year college or university within 2 years of their high school graduation (and 68 percent enrolled in some type of postsecondary institution).

Why were some students with risk factors able to make it to college while others were not? Many factors may have contributed to their success, including academic preparation, family background, and support from schools, parents, and friends.

Students with risk factors who aspired in 10th grade to earn at least a bachelor's degree, were at least minimally academically prepared for enrollment in a 4-year college, and got help with college applications from their school were more likely to enroll in a 4-year college than those who did not have these experiences. In addition, those who completed at least one advanced mathematics course and those who participated in two or more extracurricular activities in 10th grade were more likely than others to enroll in a 4-year college. Also, students whose parents discussed school and college matters at least moderately frequently during 12th grade and those with parents who had completed a bachelor's degree were more likely to enroll in a 4-year college than those whose parents were not in these categories. Finally, when most of the friends of a student with risk factors planned to enroll in a 4-year college, the student was more likely than other students with risk factors to do so as well.

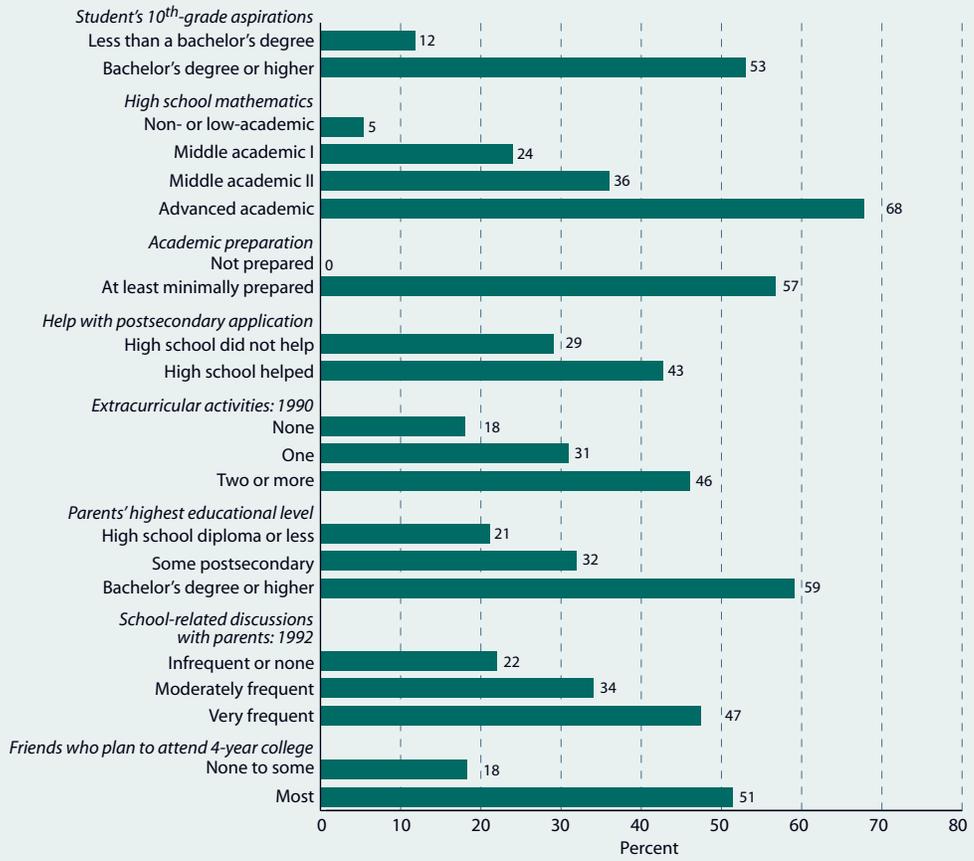
A multivariate analysis confirmed that the positive association between enrolling in a 4-year college and each of these characteristics persists even after controlling for the interrelationships of the characteristics (NCES 98-094).



TRANSITION TO COLLEGE: Percentage of 1992 high school graduates with risk factors for low educational attainment, and percentage distribution according to type of institution in which first enrolled (by 1994)

Risk factors	Percentage of all students	Type of institution first enrolled			
		4-year	Public 2-year	Other less-than-4-year	Never enrolled
Number of risk factors					
No risk factors	42.2	63.5	21.9	2.4	12.2
Any risk factors	57.8	35.0	27.3	5.7	32.0
One risk factor	32.2	45.1	26.0	5.2	23.8
Two risk factors	16.3	27.0	28.4	5.9	38.7
Three or more risk factors	9.3	14.0	29.7	7.1	49.2
Risk factors					
Changed schools two or more times from 1 st to 8 th grade (except to next level)	26.8	39.8	28.0	6.1	26.1
Lowest SES quartile	18.2	21.7	25.2	6.3	46.8
Average grades C's or lower from 6 th to 8 th grade	16.7	16.3	29.8	7.7	46.2
Single-parent household in 8 th grade	15.3	38.6	28.1	4.7	28.7
One or more older siblings left high school	11.2	25.7	28.7	5.5	40.1
Held back one or more grades from 1 st to 8 th grade	11.2	20.6	30.0	5.3	44.2

TRANSITION TO COLLEGE: Percentage of 1992 high school graduates with risk factors who had enrolled in a 4-year college by 1994, by selected student characteristics



NOTE: High school mathematics levels are described in *Supplemental Note 5*. Academic preparation levels are described in *Supplemental Note 77*. Table percentages may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES. National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988, "Third Follow-up" (NELS:1988/1994).



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Supplemental Notes 1, 5, 11
NCES 98-094

Enrollment of Students With Risk Factors

Table S22a Standard errors for the percentage of 1992 high school graduates with risk factors for low educational attainment, and percentage distribution according to type of institution in which first enrolled (by 1994)

Risk factors	Percentage of all students	Type of institution first enrolled			
		4-year	Public 2-year	Other less-than-4-year	Never enrolled
Number of risk factors					
No risk factors	0.7	1.2	1.0	0.3	0.7
Any risk factors	0.7	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.9
One risk factor	0.6	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.9
Two risk factors	0.5	1.3	1.6	0.7	1.6
Three or more risk factors	0.4	1.3	2.9	1.1	2.6
Risk factors					
Changed schools two or more times from 1 st to 8 th grade (except to next level)	0.7	1.5	1.5	0.9	1.2
Lowest SES quartile	0.6	1.1	1.5	0.7	1.6
Average grades C's or lower from 6 th to 8 th grade	0.6	1.1	1.9	0.9	1.7
Single-parent household in 8 th grade	0.6	1.7	2.0	0.7	1.7
One or more older siblings left high school	0.4	1.6	1.7	1.0	2.0
Held back one or more grades from 1 st to 8 th grade	0.5	1.6	2.5	0.8	2.3

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES. National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988, "Third Follow-up" (NELS:1988/1994).

Enrollment of Students With Risk Factors

Table S22b Standard errors for the percentage of 1992 high school graduates with risk factors who had enrolled in a 4-year college by 1994, by selected student characteristics

Student's 10 th -grade aspirations	
Less than a bachelor's degree	0.8
Bachelor's degree or higher	1.2
High school mathematics	
Non- or low-academic	0.8
Middle academic I	1.0
Middle academic II	1.8
Advanced academic	1.8
Academic preparation	
Not prepared	(#)
At least minimally prepared	1.2
Help with postsecondary application	
High school did not help	1.1
High school helped	1.4
Extracurricular activities: 1990	
None	1.5
One	1.2
Two or more	1.4
Parents' highest educational level	
High school diploma or less	1.1
Some postsecondary education	1.3
Bachelor's degree or higher	2.2
School-related discussions with parents: 1992	
Infrequent or none	1.5
Moderately frequent	1.2
Very frequent	1.8
Friends who plan to attend 4-year college	
None to some	1.1
Most	1.4

#Too small to report.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES. National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988 Eighth Graders, "Third Follow-up" (NELS:1988/1994).