

the condition of education 2003



INDICATOR 17

Status Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2003*. 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 2003*, visit the NCES web site (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2003067>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

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Elementary/Secondary Persistence and Progress

Status Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity

Since 1972, status dropout rates for Whites and Blacks ages 16–24 have declined; rates for Hispanics have not decreased and remain higher than those for other racial/ethnic groups.

Dropouts from high school are more likely to be unemployed and earn less when they are employed than those who complete high school (NCES 2002–114). In addition, high school dropouts are more likely to receive public assistance than high school graduates who do not go to college (NCES 98–013, *indicator 34*).

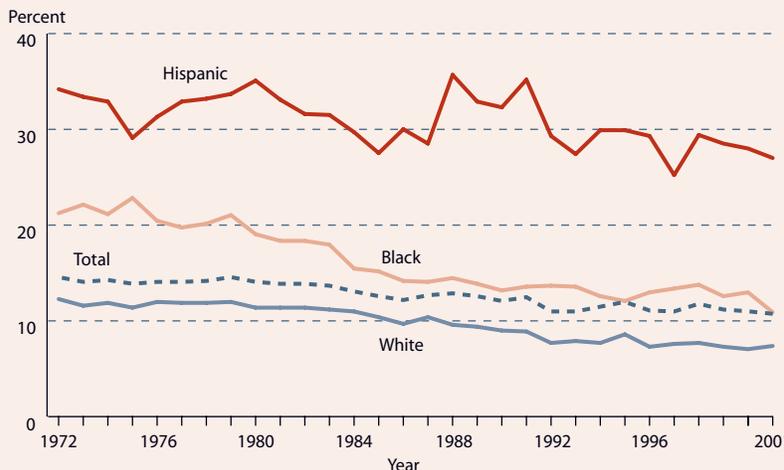
The status dropout rate represents the percentage of an age group that is not enrolled in school and has not earned a high school credential (i.e., diploma or equivalent, such as a GED). According to this measure, 11 percent of 16- to 24-year-olds were out of school without a high school credential in 2001. Although the status dropout rate declined for young adults as a group between the early 1970s and 2001, it remained fairly stable from 1992 to 2001.

Racial/ethnic differences exist in the status dropout rates and in the changes in the rates over time. Each year between 1972 and 2001, the status dropout rate was lowest for Whites and

highest for Hispanics (see supplemental table 17-1). Between 1972 and 2001, the status dropout rates for White and Black young adults declined, while the rate for Hispanics remained relatively constant. The gap between Blacks and Whites narrowed during the 1970s and 1980s, but not in the period since then.

Greater dropout rates among Hispanic immigrants partly account for the persistently high dropout rates for all Hispanic young adults. Among Hispanic 16- to 24-year-olds who were born outside the 50 states and the District of Columbia, the status dropout rate of 43 percent in 2001 was more than double the rates for first- or later-generation Hispanic young adults born in the United States (15 percent and 14 percent, respectively). Nevertheless, Hispanic young adults born in the United States are more likely to be high school dropouts than their peers of other race/ethnicities (see supplemental table 17-2).

STATUS DROPOUTS: Drop rates of 16- to 24-year-olds, by race/ethnicity: October 1972–2001



NOTE: Due to relatively small sample sizes, American Indians or Alaska Natives and Asians or Pacific Islanders are included in the total but are not shown separately. The erratic nature of the Hispanic status rates reflects, in part, the historically small sample size of Hispanics. Black includes African American, and Hispanic includes Latino. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin unless specified.

SOURCE: U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October 1972–2001.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Supplemental Notes 1, 2
Supplemental Tables
17-1, 17-2



NCES 98–013
NCES 2002–114

Status Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity

Table 17-1. Status dropout rates of 16- to 24-year-olds, by race/ethnicity: October 1972–2001

Year	Race/ethnicity (percent) ¹			
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic
1972	14.6	12.3	21.3	34.3
1973	14.1	11.6	22.2	33.5
1974	14.3	11.9	21.2	33.0
1975	13.9	11.4	22.9	29.2
1976	14.1	12.0	20.5	31.4
1977	14.1	11.9	19.8	33.0
1978	14.2	11.9	20.2	33.3
1979	14.6	12.0	21.1	33.8
1980	14.1	11.4	19.1	35.2
1981	13.9	11.4	18.4	33.2
1982	13.9	11.4	18.4	31.7
1983	13.7	11.2	18.0	31.6
1984	13.1	11.0	15.5	29.8
1985	12.6	10.4	15.2	27.6
1986	12.2	9.7	14.2	30.1
1987	12.7	10.4	14.1	28.6
1988	12.9	9.6	14.5	35.8
1989	12.6	9.4	13.9	33.0
1990	12.1	9.0	13.2	32.4
1991	12.5	8.9	13.6	35.3
1992	11.0	7.7	13.7	29.4
1993	11.0	7.9	13.6	27.5
1994	11.5	7.7	12.6	30.0
1995	12.0	8.6	12.1	30.0
1996	11.1	7.3	13.0	29.4
1997	11.0	7.6	13.4	25.3
1998	11.8	7.7	13.8	29.5
1999	11.2	7.3	12.6	28.6
2000	10.9	6.9	13.1	27.8
2001	10.7	7.3	10.9	27.0

¹Due to relatively small sample sizes, American Indians or Alaska Natives and Asians or Pacific Islanders are included in the total but are not shown separately. Black includes African American, and Hispanic includes Latino. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin unless specified.

NOTE: Numbers for years 1987 through 2001 reflect new editing procedures instituted by the Bureau of the Census for cases with missing data on school enrollment items. Numbers for years 1992 through 2001 reflect new wording of the educational attainment item in the CPS beginning in 1992. Numbers for years 1994 through 2001 reflect changes in the CPS due to newly instituted computer-assisted interviewing and the change in the population controls used in the 1990 Census-based estimates, with adjustments for undercounting in the 1990 Census. See *supplemental note 2* for more information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October 1972–2001.

Status Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity

Table 17-2. Status dropout rates and number and percentage distribution of dropouts ages 16–24, by selected characteristics: October 2001

Characteristic	Status dropout rate (percent)	Number of status dropouts (thousands)	Population (thousands)	Percent of all dropouts	Percent of population
Total	10.7	3,774	35,195	100.0	100.0
Sex					
Male	12.2	2,151	17,645	57.0	50.1
Female	9.3	1,623	17,549	43.0	49.9
Race/ethnicity¹					
Asian/Pacific Islander	3.6	53	1,487	1.4	4.2
Black	10.9	557	5,111	14.7	14.7
White	7.3	1,677	22,903	44.4	66.0
Hispanic	27.0	1,442	5,350	38.2	15.2
Age					
16	4.2	168	3,984	4.4	11.3
17	5.6	2,151	4,060	57.0	11.5
18	12.9	1,623	3,975	43.0	11.3
19	12.5	528	4,227	14.0	12.0
20–24	12.3	2,336	18,949	61.9	53.8
Immigration status					
Born outside the 50 states and the District of Columbia					
Hispanic	43.4	980	2,261	26.0	6.4
Non-Hispanic	6.2	125	2,001	3.3	5.7
First generation ²					
Hispanic	15.4	267	1,735	7.1	4.9
Non-Hispanic	4.8	92	1,917	2.4	5.4
Second generation or more ³					
Hispanic	14.4	195	1,353	5.2	3.8
Non-Hispanic	8.2	2,116	25,927	56.1	73.7
Region					
Northeast	8.8	543	6,133	14.4	17.4
Midwest	8.6	717	8,288	19.0	23.5
South	13.1	1,643	12,527	43.5	35.6
West	10.6	872	8,248	23.1	23.4

¹Due to relatively small sample sizes, American Indians or Alaska Natives are included in the total but are not shown separately. Black includes African American, and Hispanic includes Latino. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin unless specified.

²Individuals defined as "first generation" were born in the 50 states or the District of Columbia, and one or both of their parents were born outside the 50 states or the District of Columbia.

³Individuals defined as "second generation or more" were born in the 50 states or the District of Columbia, as were both of their parents.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October 2001.

Status Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity

Table S17. Standard errors for the dropout rates of 16- to 24-year olds, by race/ethnicity: October 1972–2001

Year	Race/ethnicity (percent)			
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic
1972	0.3	0.3	1.1	2.2
1973	0.3	0.3	1.1	2.2
1974	0.3	0.3	1.1	2.1
1975	0.3	0.3	1.1	2.0
1976	0.3	0.3	1.0	2.0
1977	0.3	0.3	1.0	2.0
1978	0.3	0.3	1.0	2.0
1979	0.3	0.3	1.0	2.0
1980	0.3	0.3	1.0	1.9
1981	0.3	0.3	0.9	1.8
1982	0.3	0.3	1.0	1.9
1983	0.3	0.3	1.0	1.9
1984	0.3	0.3	0.9	1.9
1985	0.3	0.3	0.9	1.9
1986	0.3	0.3	0.9	1.9
1987	0.3	0.3	0.9	1.8
1988	0.3	0.3	1.0	2.3
1989	0.3	0.3	1.0	2.2
1990	0.3	0.3	0.9	1.9
1991	0.3	0.3	1.0	1.9
1992	0.3	0.3	1.0	1.9
1993	0.3	0.3	0.9	1.8
1994	0.3	0.3	0.8	1.2
1995	0.3	0.3	0.7	1.2
1996	0.3	0.3	0.8	1.1
1997	0.3	0.3	0.8	1.1
1998	0.3	0.3	0.8	1.1
2000	0.3	0.3	0.8	1.1
2001	0.3	0.3	0.7	1.1

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October 1972–2001.

Status Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity

Table S17-1. Standard errors for the status dropout rates of 16- to 24-year-olds, by race/ethnicity: October 1972–2001

Year	Race/ethnicity (percent)			
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic
1972	0.28	0.29	1.07	2.22
1973	0.27	0.28	1.06	2.24
1974	0.27	0.28	1.05	2.08
1975	0.27	0.27	1.06	2.02
1976	0.26	0.28	1.01	2.01
1977	0.27	0.28	1.00	2.02
1978	0.27	0.28	1.00	2.00
1979	0.27	0.28	1.01	1.98
1980	0.26	0.27	0.97	1.89
1981	0.26	0.27	0.93	1.80
1982	0.27	0.29	0.98	1.93
1983	0.27	0.29	0.97	1.93
1984	0.27	0.29	0.92	1.91
1985	0.27	0.29	0.92	1.93
1986	0.27	0.28	0.90	1.88
1987	0.28	0.30	0.91	1.84
1988	0.30	0.32	1.00	2.30
1989	0.31	0.32	0.98	2.19
1990	0.29	0.30	0.94	1.91
1991	0.30	0.31	0.95	1.93
1992	0.28	0.29	0.95	1.86
1993	0.28	0.29	0.94	1.79
1994	0.26	0.27	0.75	1.16
1995	0.27	0.28	0.74	1.15
1996	0.27	0.26	0.75	1.13
1997	0.27	0.28	0.80	1.11
1998	0.27	0.28	0.81	1.12
1999	0.26	0.27	0.77	1.11
2000	0.26	0.26	0.78	1.08
2001	0.25	0.26	0.71	1.06

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October 1972–2001.

Status Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity

Table S17-2. Standard errors for the status dropout rates and number and percentage distribution of dropouts ages 16–24, by selected characteristics: October 2001

Characteristic	Status dropout rate (percent)	Number of status dropouts (thousands)	Percent of all dropouts	Percent of population
Total	0.25	89	†	†
Sex				
Male	0.38	67	1.24	0.41
Female	0.34	59	1.24	0.41
Race/ethnicity				
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.84	13	0.29	0.10
Black	0.71	36	0.89	0.29
White	0.26	61	1.24	0.41
Hispanic	1.06	57	1.22	0.40
Age				
16	0.49	20	0.52	0.17
17	0.56	49	1.24	0.41
18	0.82	48	1.24	0.41
19	0.78	33	0.87	0.28
20–24	0.37	70	1.22	0.40
Immigration status				
Born outside the 50 states and the District of Columbia				
Hispanic	1.82	41	1.25	0.41
Non-Hispanic	0.83	17	0.45	0.15
First generation				
Hispanic	1.51	26	0.73	0.24
Non-Hispanic	0.75	14	0.39	0.13
Second generation or more				
Hispanic	1.67	23	0.63	0.21
Non-Hispanic	0.26	68	1.24	0.41
Region				
Northeast	0.56	34	0.88	0.29
Midwest	0.48	39	0.98	0.32
South	0.46	58	1.24	0.41
West	0.52	43	1.06	0.35

†Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October 2001.