

Table 107.—Percent of high school dropouts (status dropouts) among persons 16 to 24 years old, by income level, and distribution of dropouts by labor force status and educational attainment: October 1970 to October 1999

Year	Dropout rate of 16- to 24-year-olds	Dropout rate of 16- to 24-year-olds, by family income quartile				Distribution of dropouts, by labor force status				Distribution of dropouts, by years of school completed				
		Lowest quartile	Middle-low quartile	Middle-high quartile	Highest quartile	Total	Em-ployed ¹	Unem-ployed	Not in labor force	Total	Less than 9	9	10	11 or 12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1970	15.0 —	28.0 (0.8)	21.2 (0.6)	11.7 (0.5)	5.2 (0.3)	100.0	49.8 (1.0)	10.3 (0.6)	39.9 (1.0)	100.0	28.5	20.6	26.8	24.0
1971	14.7 —	28.8 (0.8)	20.7 (0.6)	10.9 (0.4)	5.1 (0.3)	100.0	49.5 (1.0)	10.9 (0.6)	39.6 (0.9)	100.0	27.9	21.7	27.8	22.7
1972	14.6 (0.3)	27.6 (0.8)	20.8 (0.6)	10.2 (0.4)	5.4 (0.3)	100.0	51.2 (1.0)	10.2 (0.6)	38.6 (0.9)	100.0	27.5	20.8	29.0	22.7
1973	14.1 (0.3)	28.0 (0.8)	19.6 (0.6)	9.9 (0.4)	4.9 (0.3)	100.0	53.2 (1.0)	9.2 (0.6)	37.5 (0.9)	100.0	26.5	20.9	27.4	25.3
1974	14.3 (0.3)	—	—	—	—	100.0	51.8 (0.9)	12.3 (0.6)	35.9 (0.9)	100.0	25.4	20.1	28.7	25.8
1975	13.9 (0.3)	28.8 (0.8)	18.0 (0.5)	10.2 (0.4)	5.0 (0.3)	100.0	46.0 (0.9)	15.6 (0.7)	38.4 (0.9)	100.0	23.5	21.1	27.5	27.9
1976	14.1 (0.3)	28.1 (0.7)	19.2 (0.6)	10.1 (0.4)	4.9 (0.3)	100.0	48.8 (0.9)	16.0 (0.7)	35.2 (0.9)	100.0	24.3	20.1	27.8	27.8
1977	14.1 (0.3)	28.5 (0.7)	19.0 (0.6)	10.4 (0.4)	4.5 (0.3)	100.0	52.9 (0.9)	13.6 (0.6)	33.6 (0.9)	100.0	24.3	21.7	27.3	26.6
1978	14.2 (0.3)	28.2 (0.7)	18.9 (0.6)	10.5 (0.4)	5.5 (0.3)	100.0	54.3 (0.9)	12.4 (0.6)	33.3 (0.9)	100.0	22.9	20.2	28.2	28.8
1979	14.6 (0.3)	28.1 (0.7)	18.5 (0.6)	11.5 (0.4)	5.6 (0.3)	100.0	54.0 (0.9)	12.7 (0.6)	33.3 (0.9)	100.0	22.6	21.0	28.6	27.8
1980	14.1 (0.3)	27.0 (0.7)	18.1 (0.6)	10.7 (0.4)	5.7 (0.3)	100.0	50.4 (0.9)	17.0 (0.7)	32.6 (0.9)	100.0	23.6	19.7	29.8	27.0
1981	13.9 (0.3)	26.4 (0.7)	17.8 (0.5)	11.1 (0.4)	5.2 (0.3)	100.0	49.8 (0.9)	18.3 (0.7)	31.9 (0.9)	100.0	24.3	18.6	30.2	26.9
1982	13.9 (0.3)	27.2 (0.7)	18.3 (0.6)	10.2 (0.4)	4.4 (0.3)	100.0	45.2 (1.0)	21.1 (0.8)	33.7 (0.9)	100.0	22.9	20.8	28.8	27.6
1983	13.7 (0.3)	26.5 (0.7)	17.8 (0.6)	10.5 (0.5)	4.1 (0.3)	100.0	48.4 (1.0)	18.2 (0.8)	33.4 (0.9)	100.0	23.0	19.3	28.8	28.8
1984	13.1 (0.3)	25.9 (0.7)	16.5 (0.6)	9.9 (0.4)	3.8 (0.3)	100.0	49.7 (1.0)	17.3 (0.8)	32.9 (1.0)	100.0	23.6	21.4	27.5	27.5
1985	12.6 (0.3)	27.1 (0.7)	14.7 (0.6)	8.3 (0.4)	4.0 (0.3)	100.0	50.1 (1.1)	17.5 (0.8)	32.4 (1.0)	100.0	23.9	21.0	27.9	27.2
1986	12.2 (0.3)	25.4 (0.7)	14.8 (0.6)	8.0 (0.4)	3.4 (0.3)	100.0	51.1 (1.1)	16.4 (0.8)	32.5 (1.0)	100.0	25.4	21.5	25.7	27.4
1987	12.6 (0.3)	25.5 (0.7)	16.6 (0.6)	8.0 (0.4)	3.6 (0.3)	100.0	52.4 (1.1)	13.6 (0.7)	34.0 (1.0)	100.0	25.9	20.7	26.0	27.5
1988	12.9 (0.3)	27.2 (0.8)	15.4 (0.6)	8.2 (0.5)	3.4 (0.3)	100.0	52.9 (1.2)	32.4 (1.1)	14.7 (0.8)	100.0	28.9	19.3	25.1	26.8
1989	12.6 (0.3)	25.0 (0.8)	16.2 (0.7)	8.7 (0.5)	3.3 (0.3)	100.0	53.2 (1.2)	13.8 (0.8)	33.0 (1.1)	100.0	29.4	20.8	24.9	25.0
1990	12.1 (0.3)	24.3 (0.8)	15.1 (0.6)	8.7 (0.5)	2.9 (0.3)	100.0	52.5 (1.2)	13.3 (0.8)	34.2 (1.1)	100.0	28.6	20.9	24.4	26.1
1991	12.5 (0.3)	25.9 (0.8)	15.5 (0.6)	7.7 (0.5)	3.0 (0.3)	100.0	47.5 (1.2)	15.8 (0.9)	36.7 (1.1)	100.0	28.6	20.5	26.1	24.9
1992 ²	11.0 (0.3)	23.4 (0.7)	12.9 (0.6)	7.3 (0.4)	2.4 (0.2)	100.0	47.6 (1.3)	15.0 (0.9)	37.4 (1.2)	100.0	21.6	17.5	24.4	36.5
1993 ²	11.0 (0.3)	22.9 (0.7)	12.7 (0.6)	6.6 (0.4)	2.9 (0.3)	100.0	48.7 (1.3)	12.8 (0.8)	38.5 (1.2)	100.0	20.5	16.6	24.1	38.8
1994 ²	11.4 (0.3)	20.7 (0.7)	13.7 (0.6)	8.7 (0.5)	4.9 (0.3)	100.0	49.5 (1.2)	13.0 (0.8)	37.5 (1.2)	100.0	23.9	16.2	20.3	39.6
1995 ²	12.0 (0.3)	23.2 (0.7)	13.8 (0.6)	8.3 (0.5)	3.6 (0.3)	100.0	48.9 (1.2)	14.2 (0.8)	37.0 (1.2)	100.0	22.2	17.0	22.5	38.3
1996 ²	11.1 (0.3)	22.0 (0.7)	13.6 (0.6)	7.0 (0.4)	3.2 (0.3)	100.0	47.3 (1.3)	15.0 (0.9)	37.7 (1.2)	100.0	20.3	17.7	22.6	39.4
1997 ²	11.0 (0.3)	21.8 (0.7)	13.5 (0.6)	6.2 (0.4)	3.4 (0.3)	100.0	53.3 (1.3)	13.2 (0.9)	33.5 (1.2)	100.0	19.9	15.7	22.3	42.1
1998 ²	11.8 (0.3)	22.3 (0.7)	14.9 (0.6)	7.7 (0.5)	3.5 (0.3)	100.0	55.1 (1.2)	10.3 (0.7)	34.6 (1.2)	100.0	21.0	14.9	21.4	42.6
1999 ²	11.2 (0.3)	21.0 (0.7)	14.3 (0.6)	7.4 (0.4)	3.9 (0.3)	100.0	55.6 (1.2)	10.0 (0.7)	34.4 (1.2)	100.0	22.2	16.3	22.5	39.0

—Not available.

¹ Includes persons employed, but not currently working.² Data may not be comparable with figures for earlier years because of changes in data collection procedures.

NOTE: "Status" dropouts are 16- to 24-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and who have not completed a high school program, regardless of when they left school.

People who have received GED credentials are counted as high school completers. Data are based on sample surveys of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. Standard errors appear in parentheses.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, unpublished data. (This table was prepared December 2000.)