



Dropout rates

Question:

What are the dropout rates of high school students?

Response:

In 1996, the dropout rate for students ages 16 to 24 was 11 percent, indicating a slight decrease from the 1990 figure. The dropout rate for white students is lower than the rates for Hispanic and black students. For example, in 1996, the dropout rate for white, non-Hispanic students was 7 percent, 13 percent for black students and 29 percent for Hispanic students.

<i>Percent of High School Dropouts Among Persons 16 to 24 Years Old ¹, by Sex: April 1960 to October 1996</i>			
Year	Total	Men	Women
1960	27.2	27.8	26.7
1970	15.0	14.2	15.7
1980	14.1	15.1	13.1
1985	12.6	13.4	11.8
1990	12.1	12.3	11.8
1992	11.0	11.3	10.7
1993	11.0	11.2	10.9
1994	11.5	12.3	10.6
1995	12.0	12.2	11.7
1996	11.1	11.4	10.9

Percent of High School Dropouts Among Persons 16 to 24 Years Old ¹ , by Race/Ethnicity: April 1960 to October 1996			
Year	White	Black	Hispanic
1970	13.2	27.9	—
1980	11.4	19.1	35.2
1985	10.4	15.2	27.6
1990	9.0	13.2	32.4
1992	7.7	13.7	29.4
1993	7.9	13.6	27.5
1994	7.7	12.6	30.0
1995	8.6	12.1	30.0
1996	7.3	13.0	29.4

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, U. S. Department of Education, *Digest of Education Statistics, 1997*, Table 103, page 111.

Related Tables and Figures:

- [Percent of High School Dropouts among Persons 16 to 34 years old, by Age, Sex, and Ethnicity: October 1970 to October 1996](#)
- [The Condition of Education 1998, Indicator 6: Recent School Dropouts](#)

Other Resources:

- [Dropout Rates in the United States, 1996](#)

