

the condition of education 2004



INDICATOR 1

Enrollment Trends, by Age

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2004*. 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 2004* visit the NCES web site (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004077>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

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All Ages

Enrollment Trends, by Age

Between 1970 and 2002, the enrollment rate increased among those ages 18 and above, when they are typically enrolled in postsecondary education. For example, the enrollment rate of those ages 20–21 increased from 32 percent in 1970 to 48 percent in 2002.

Changes in enrollment have implications for the demand for educational resources. Enrollments change due to fluctuations in population size and rates of enrollment. A shift in the rate of enrollment implies a change in the enrollment behavior of the population, which, in turn, may reflect changes in the perceived value of formal education or the time taken to complete degrees. Between 1970 and 2002, the enrollment rate of adults ages 18–34 increased (see supplemental table 1-1). After increasing from 1970 to 1977, the enrollment rate of youth ages 5–6 has remained stable. Among youth ages 7–13 and ages 14–17, enrollment rates were very high and remained stable. Among youth ages 3–4, the enrollment rate increased between 1970 and 2002, though that may be partly due to changes in the method of collecting these data.

Among youth ages 5–17, enrollment in elementary and secondary education is generally compulsory. As a result, the enrollment rate for these age groups is very high, with increases or decreases in the enrollment count reflecting fluctuations in the population. Public elementary and secondary enrollment declined in the 1970s

and early 1980s before increasing to an all-time high in 2002 (indicator 4).

At ages 18–19, youth are moving from secondary to postsecondary education or into the workforce. The enrollment rate among youth ages 18–19 increased from 48 percent in 1970 to 63 percent in 2002. Among youth in this age group, there has been an increase in the percentage enrolled in elementary/secondary education (from 10 to 18 percent) and the percentage enrolled in postsecondary education (from 37 to 45 percent).

Among those ages 20–34, when most people who are enrolled are in postsecondary education, both the enrollment rate and the enrollment count increased from 1970 to 2000 (indicator 6). The enrollment rate of adults ages 20–24 increased from 22 percent in 1970 to 34 percent in 2002. The enrollment rate also increased among older adults, ages 25–34, when most people have typically finished postsecondary education. Between 1970 and 2002, the enrollment rate of those ages 25–29 increased from 8 percent to 12 percent, and the enrollment rate of those ages 30–34 increased from 4 to 7 percent.

¹Beginning in 1994, new procedures were used to collect preprimary enrollment data. As such, numbers before 1994 may not be comparable to 1994 or later numbers.

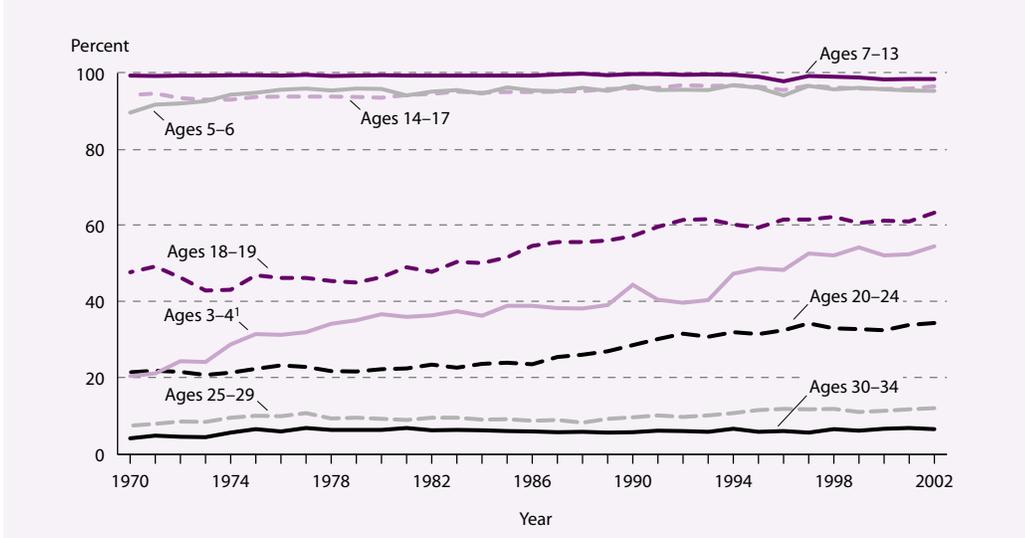
NOTE: Includes enrollment in any type of graded public, parochial, or other private schools. Includes nursery schools, kindergartens, elementary schools, high schools, colleges, universities, and professional schools. Attendance may be on either a full-time or part-time basis and during the day or night. Enrollments in “special” schools, such as trade schools, business colleges, or correspondence schools, are not included. Data are based upon sample surveys of the civilian noninstitutional population. In 1994, the survey methodology for the Current Population Survey (CPS) was changed and weights were adjusted. See supplemental note 2 for more information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES. (forthcoming). *Digest of Education Statistics 2003* (NCES 2004–024), table 6. Data from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October Supplement, 1970–2002.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Supplemental Notes 2, 8
Supplemental Table 1-1



EDUCATION ENROLLMENT: Percentage of the population ages 3–34 enrolled in school, by age group: October 1970–2002



Enrollment Trends, by Age

Table 1-1. Percentage of the population ages 3–34 enrolled in school, by age group: October 1970–2002

October	Total ages 3–34	Ages 3–4 ¹	Ages 5–6	Ages 7–13	Ages 14–17	Ages 18–19			Ages 20–24				
						Total	In elementary/ secondary	In post- secondary	Total	Ages 20–21	Ages 22–24	Ages 25–29	Ages 30–34
1970	56.4	20.5	89.5	99.2	94.1	47.7	10.5	37.3	21.5	31.9	14.9	7.5	4.2
1971	56.2	21.2	91.6	99.1	94.5	49.2	11.5	37.7	21.9	32.2	15.4	8.0	4.9
1972	54.9	24.4	91.9	99.2	93.3	46.3	10.4	35.9	21.6	31.4	14.8	8.6	4.6
1973	53.5	24.2	92.5	99.2	92.9	42.9	10.0	32.9	20.8	30.1	14.5	8.5	4.5
1974	53.6	28.8	94.2	99.3	92.9	43.1	9.9	33.2	21.4	30.2	15.1	9.6	5.7
1975	53.7	31.5	94.7	99.3	93.6	46.9	10.2	36.7	22.4	31.2	16.2	10.1	6.6
1976	53.1	31.3	95.5	99.2	93.7	46.2	10.2	36.0	23.3	32.0	17.1	10.0	6.0
1977	52.5	32.0	95.8	99.4	93.7	46.2	10.4	35.7	22.9	31.8	16.5	10.8	6.9
1978	51.2	34.2	95.3	99.1	93.7	45.4	9.8	35.6	21.8	29.5	16.3	9.4	6.4
1979	50.3	35.1	95.8	99.2	93.6	45.0	10.3	34.6	21.7	30.2	15.8	9.6	6.4
1980	49.7	36.7	95.7	99.3	93.4	46.4	10.5	35.9	22.3	31.0	16.3	9.3	6.4
1981	48.9	36.0	94.0	99.2	94.1	49.0	11.5	37.5	22.5	31.6	16.5	9.0	6.9
1982	48.6	36.4	95.0	99.2	94.4	47.8	11.3	36.5	23.5	34.0	16.8	9.6	6.3
1983	48.4	37.5	95.4	99.2	95.0	50.4	12.8	37.6	22.7	32.5	16.6	9.6	6.4
1984	47.9	36.3	94.5	99.2	94.7	50.1	11.5	38.6	23.7	33.9	17.3	9.1	6.3
1985	48.3	38.9	96.1	99.2	94.9	51.6	11.2	40.4	24.0	35.3	16.9	9.2	6.1
1986	48.2	38.9	95.3	99.2	94.9	54.6	13.1	41.5	23.6	33.0	17.9	8.8	6.0
1987	48.6	38.3	95.1	99.5	95.0	55.6	13.1	42.5	25.5	38.7	17.5	9.0	5.8
1988	48.7	38.2	96.0	99.7	95.1	55.6	13.9	41.8	26.1	39.1	18.2	8.3	5.9
1989	49.0	39.1	95.2	99.3	95.7	56.0	14.4	41.6	27.0	38.5	19.9	9.3	5.7
1990	50.2	44.4	96.5	99.6	95.8	57.2	14.5	42.7	28.6	39.7	21.0	9.7	5.8
1991	50.7	40.5	95.4	99.6	96.0	59.6	15.6	44.0	30.2	42.0	22.2	10.2	6.2
1992	51.4	39.7	95.5	99.4	96.7	61.4	17.1	44.3	31.6	44.0	23.7	9.8	6.1
1993	51.8	40.4	95.4	99.5	96.5	61.6	17.2	44.4	30.8	42.7	23.6	10.2	5.9
1994	53.3	47.3	96.7	99.4	96.6	60.2	16.2	43.9	32.0	44.9	24.0	10.8	6.7
1995	53.7	48.7	96.0	98.9	96.3	59.4	16.3	43.1	31.5	44.9	23.2	11.6	5.9
1996	54.1	48.3	94.0	97.7	95.4	61.5	16.7	44.9	32.5	44.4	24.8	11.9	6.1
1997	55.6	52.6	96.5	99.1	96.6	61.5	16.7	44.7	34.3	45.9	26.4	11.8	5.7
1998	55.8	52.1	95.6	98.9	96.1	62.2	15.7	46.4	33.0	44.8	24.9	11.9	6.6
1999	56.0	54.2	96.0	98.7	95.8	60.6	16.5	44.1	32.8	45.3	24.5	11.1	6.2
2000	55.9	52.1	95.6	98.2	95.7	61.2	16.5	44.7	32.5	44.1	24.6	11.4	6.7
2001	56.3	52.4	95.3	98.3	95.8	61.0	17.1	43.9	33.9	46.0	25.4	11.8	6.9
2002	56.1	54.5	95.2	98.3	96.4	63.3	18.0	45.3	34.4	47.8	25.6	12.1	6.6

¹Beginning in 1994, new procedures were used to collect preprimary enrollment data. As such, numbers before 1994 may not be comparable to 1994 or later numbers.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. Includes enrollment in any type of graded public, parochial, or other private schools. Includes nursery schools, kindergartens, elementary schools, high schools, colleges, universities, and professional schools. Attendance may be on either a full-time or part-time basis and during the day or night. Enrollments in all "special" schools, such as trade schools, business colleges, or correspondence schools, are not included. Data are based upon sample surveys of the civilian noninstitutional population. In 1994, the survey methodology for the Current Population Survey (CPS) was changed and weights were adjusted. See supplemental note 2 for more information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES. (forthcoming). *Digest of Education Statistics 2003* (NCES 2004–024), table 6. Data from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October Supplement, 1970–2002.

Enrollment Trends, by Age

Table S1. Standard errors for the percentage of the population ages 3–34 enrolled in school, by age group: October 1970–2002

October	Ages 3–4	Ages 5–6	Ages 7–13	Ages 14–17	Ages 18–19	Ages 20–24	Ages 25–29	Ages 30–34
1970	0.73	0.53	0.08	0.27	0.85	0.47	0.33	0.27
1971	0.75	0.49	0.08	0.26	0.84	0.46	0.33	0.29
1972	0.80	0.50	0.08	0.28	0.82	0.45	0.33	0.27
1973	0.78	0.49	0.08	0.28	0.81	0.44	0.32	0.26
1974	0.83	0.43	0.08	0.28	0.80	0.44	0.33	0.29
1975	0.87	0.41	0.08	0.27	0.80	0.44	0.33	0.30
1976	0.90	0.38	0.09	0.27	0.79	0.44	0.33	0.28
1977	0.93	0.38	0.07	0.27	0.80	0.44	0.34	0.30
1978	0.94	0.41	0.09	0.27	0.80	0.43	0.31	0.28
1979	0.95	0.40	0.09	0.28	0.79	0.42	0.31	0.28
1980	0.95	0.40	0.09	0.29	0.80	0.43	0.30	0.27
1981	0.92	0.46	0.09	0.27	0.80	0.42	0.29	0.27
1982	0.96	0.44	0.10	0.29	0.85	0.45	0.31	0.27
1983	0.94	0.42	0.09	0.27	0.86	0.44	0.31	0.27
1984	0.92	0.45	0.09	0.28	0.88	0.45	0.30	0.27
1985	0.94	0.38	0.09	0.27	0.89	0.46	0.30	0.26
1986	0.93	0.40	0.10	0.28	0.90	0.46	0.29	0.25
1987	0.93	0.41	0.07	0.28	0.89	0.48	0.30	0.25
1988	1.01	0.41	0.07	0.30	0.96	0.53	0.31	0.27
1989	1.00	0.44	0.09	0.29	0.95	0.55	0.33	0.26
1990	0.99	0.37	0.06	0.28	0.94	0.54	0.33	0.25
1991	0.96	0.41	0.06	0.27	0.96	0.55	0.34	0.26
1992	0.95	0.41	0.08	0.25	0.96	0.56	0.34	0.26
1993	0.93	0.41	0.07	0.25	0.95	0.56	0.35	0.25
1994	0.87	0.32	0.08	0.22	0.87	0.51	0.33	0.25
1995	0.87	0.34	0.10	0.23	0.85	0.52	0.34	0.24
1996	0.91	0.43	0.15	0.26	0.87	0.55	0.36	0.25
1997	0.92	0.33	0.09	0.22	0.86	0.55	0.36	0.25
1998	0.92	0.37	0.10	0.24	0.84	0.55	0.37	0.27
1999	0.93	0.36	0.11	0.24	0.84	0.54	0.36	0.27
2000	0.93	0.38	0.13	0.25	0.84	0.53	0.37	0.28
2001	0.93	0.39	0.12	0.24	0.83	0.53	0.38	0.28
2002	0.94	0.40	0.13	0.23	0.83	0.52	0.37	0.27

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October Supplement, 1970–2002.

Enrollment Trends, by Age

Table S1-1. Standard errors for the percentage of the population ages 3–34 enrolled in school, by age group: October 1970–2002

October	Total ages 3–34	Ages 3–4	Ages 5–6	Ages 7–13	Ages 14–17	Ages 18–19			Ages 20–24				
						Total	In elementary/secondary	In post-secondary	Total	Ages 20–21	Ages 22–24	Ages 25–29	Ages 30–34
1970	0.22	0.73	0.53	0.08	0.27	0.85	0.52	0.83	0.47	0.85	0.52	0.33	0.27
1971	0.21	0.75	0.49	0.08	0.26	0.84	0.54	0.81	0.46	0.83	0.51	0.33	0.29
1972	0.21	0.80	0.50	0.08	0.28	0.82	0.50	0.79	0.45	0.79	0.50	0.33	0.27
1973	0.21	0.78	0.49	0.08	0.28	0.81	0.49	0.77	0.44	0.78	0.49	0.32	0.26
1974	0.21	0.83	0.43	0.08	0.28	0.80	0.48	0.76	0.44	0.76	0.50	0.33	0.29
1975	0.21	0.87	0.41	0.08	0.27	0.80	0.48	0.77	0.44	0.76	0.51	0.33	0.30
1976	0.21	0.90	0.38	0.09	0.27	0.79	0.48	0.76	0.44	0.75	0.51	0.33	0.28
1977	0.21	0.93	0.38	0.07	0.27	0.80	0.49	0.77	0.44	0.75	0.51	0.34	0.30
1978	0.21	0.94	0.41	0.09	0.27	0.80	0.48	0.77	0.43	0.73	0.50	0.31	0.28
1979	0.21	0.95	0.40	0.09	0.28	0.79	0.48	0.76	0.42	0.74	0.49	0.31	0.28
1980	0.21	0.95	0.40	0.09	0.29	0.80	0.49	0.77	0.43	0.74	0.49	0.30	0.27
1981	0.21	0.92	0.46	0.09	0.27	0.80	0.51	0.78	0.42	0.73	0.48	0.29	0.27
1982	0.22	0.96	0.44	0.10	0.29	0.85	0.54	0.81	0.45	0.79	0.50	0.31	0.27
1983	0.22	0.94	0.42	0.09	0.27	0.86	0.57	0.83	0.44	0.79	0.50	0.31	0.27
1984	0.22	0.92	0.45	0.09	0.28	0.88	0.56	0.86	0.45	0.80	0.51	0.30	0.27
1985	0.22	0.94	0.38	0.09	0.27	0.89	0.56	0.88	0.46	0.83	0.51	0.30	0.26
1986	0.22	0.93	0.40	0.10	0.28	0.90	0.61	0.89	0.46	0.83	0.53	0.29	0.25
1987	0.22	0.93	0.41	0.07	0.28	0.89	0.60	0.89	0.48	0.88	0.53	0.30	0.25
1988	0.24	1.01	0.41	0.07	0.30	0.96	0.67	0.95	0.53	0.96	0.60	0.31	0.27
1989	0.22	1.00	0.44	0.09	0.29	0.95	0.68	0.95	0.55	0.97	0.63	0.33	0.26
1990	0.23	0.99	0.37	0.06	0.28	0.94	0.67	0.94	0.54	0.92	0.63	0.33	0.25
1991	0.22	0.96	0.41	0.06	0.27	0.96	0.71	0.97	0.55	0.92	0.64	0.34	0.26
1992	0.22	0.95	0.41	0.08	0.25	0.96	0.74	0.98	0.56	0.95	0.65	0.34	0.26
1993	0.22	0.93	0.41	0.07	0.25	0.95	0.74	0.97	0.56	0.97	0.65	0.35	0.25
1994	0.21	0.87	0.32	0.08	0.22	0.87	0.65	0.88	0.51	0.88	0.59	0.33	0.25
1995	0.21	0.87	0.34	0.10	0.23	0.85	0.64	0.86	0.52	0.89	0.60	0.34	0.24
1996	0.22	0.91	0.43	0.15	0.26	0.87	0.67	0.89	0.55	0.93	0.65	0.36	0.25
1997	0.22	0.92	0.33	0.09	0.22	0.86	0.66	0.88	0.55	0.91	0.66	0.36	0.25
1998	0.22	0.92	0.37	0.10	0.24	0.84	0.63	0.86	0.55	0.91	0.65	0.37	0.27
1999	0.22	0.93	0.36	0.11	0.24	0.84	0.64	0.85	0.54	0.90	0.64	0.36	0.27
2000	0.22	0.93	0.38	0.13	0.25	0.84	0.64	0.85	0.53	0.88	0.63	0.37	0.28
2001	0.22	0.93	0.39	0.12	0.24	0.83	0.64	0.84	0.53	0.87	0.64	0.38	0.28
2002	0.21	0.94	0.40	0.13	0.23	0.83	0.67	0.86	0.52	0.87	0.62	0.37	0.27

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October Supplement, 1970–2002.