

Table 106. Selected characteristics of 18- to 29-year-olds, by high school completion status: 1998 to 2001

Characteristic	1998			1999			2000 ¹			2001 ¹		
	Dropout	Completed by GED ²	Completed by diploma	Dropout	Completed by GED ²	Completed by diploma	Dropout	Completed by GED ²	Completed by diploma	Dropout	Completed by GED ²	Completed by diploma
1												
Number, in thousands	5,636	3,321	33,706	5,576	3,314	33,819	5,473	2,165	35,213	5,463	2,583	34,963
Percentage distribution	13.2	7.8	79.0	13.1	7.8	79.2	12.8	5.1	82.2	12.7	6.0	81.3
Sex	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Male	57.0	47.3	48.4	53.5	49.6	48.0	54.2	52.4	48.0	55.2	49.2	48.1
Female	43.0	52.7	51.6	46.5	50.4	52.0	45.8	47.6	52.0	44.8	50.8	51.9
Age	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
18 and 19	19.6	13.4	15.2	18.0	13.2	15.3	18.5	11.3	15.5	19.1	12.1	15.6
20 and 21	18.5	16.2	16.2	18.0	14.0	16.5	18.2	12.8	17.3	17.9	16.5	18.1
22 to 24	24.8	25.6	24.3	24.5	25.6	25.4	23.9	29.9	25.8	24.8	29.6	25.5
25 to 29	37.1	44.8	44.4	38.8	47.2	42.7	39.4	45.9	41.4	38.2	41.8	40.9
Race/ethnicity	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White, non-Hispanic	40.0	67.5	70.6	39.1	67.7	70.2	38.7	67.5	69.5	39.2	66.7	68.6
Black, non-Hispanic	15.7	13.9	13.1	14.8	14.8	13.4	14.8	15.5	13.6	14.3	16.5	13.4
Hispanic	41.6	13.2	10.7	42.5	12.7	10.5	43.0	12.3	10.9	43.3	12.9	11.6
Other	2.7	5.5	5.6	3.5	4.8	5.9	3.5	4.7	6.0	3.2	3.9	6.4
Educational attainment	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than high school	100.0	†	†	100.0	†	†	100.0	†	†	100.0	†	†
Completed high school	†	47.1	38.3	†	45.8	37.2	†	68.9	36.1	†	60.9	36.6
Some college	†	36.1	33.8	†	36.3	33.8	†	20.2	35.0	†	26.7	35.3
Associate degree	†	6.9	7.2	†	6.7	7.5	†	5.5	7.6	†	7.0	7.7
Bachelor's degree	†	8.0	17.1	†	9.0	18.1	†	4.5	17.7	†	4.8	17.0
Master's or higher degree	†	1.9	3.5	†	2.1	3.4	†	0.8	3.5	†	0.7	3.4
Family income quartile	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lowest quartile	46.3	27.8	18.5	42.4	24.6	18.7	44.8	29.7	18.7	41.7	27.6	19.1
Low-middle quartile	30.6	29.7	24.6	33.0	29.0	24.4	29.5	29.7	24.8	31.5	28.3	24.4
High-middle quartile	16.6	23.1	28.4	17.0	28.0	27.9	18.2	26.4	28.2	19.6	25.5	27.4
Highest quartile	6.5	19.3	28.5	7.7	18.3	29.0	7.5	14.2	28.3	7.3	18.5	29.1
Employment status	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	61.6	71.8	76.0	60.6	72.2	75.6	61.1	71.0	76.5	61.1	67.1	73.2
Unemployed	8.4	7.6	4.3	9.1	7.2	4.2	9.8	7.7	3.6	12.2	9.1	5.2
Not in labor force	30.0	20.6	19.7	30.3	20.6	20.2	29.1	21.3	19.8	26.7	23.8	21.6

† Not applicable.
¹ Due to questionnaire rewording, data are not comparable to figures for years prior to 2000.
² GED stands for General Educational Development test.

NOTE: Excludes persons still enrolled in high school. Data are based on sample surveys of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Standard errors appear in parentheses.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October 1998 through October 2001, unpublished tabulations. (This table was prepared May 2003.)