

## Indicator 43. Spending Patterns of High School Seniors

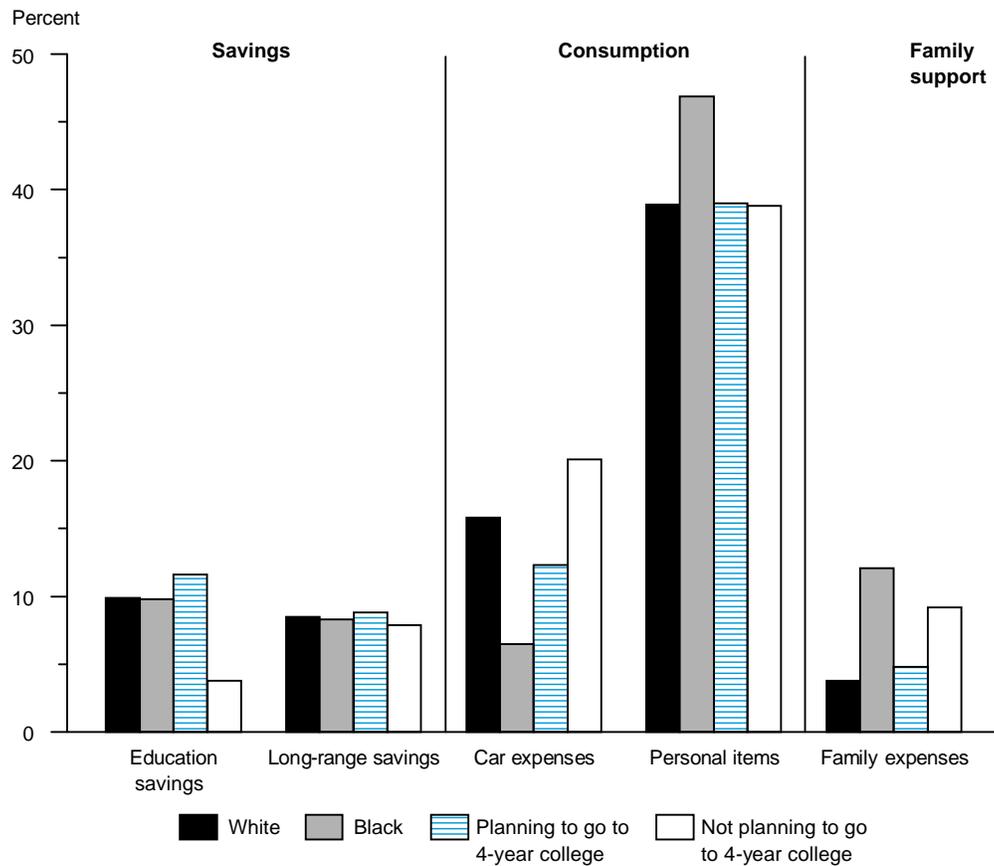
### Spending patterns of employed high school seniors, by sex, race, and college plans: 1981, 1991, and 1992

Type of expense and portion of earnings spent	Percent of 1981 seniors	Percent of 1991 seniors	Percent of 1992 seniors						
			Total	Sex		Race		Planning to go to 4-year college	Not planning to go to 4-year college
				Male	Female	White	Black		
<b>Savings for education</b>									
None or only a little	70.2	72.4	73.0	75.7	70.4	72.5	73.7	69.1	84.8
Some	12.4	10.6	11.1	10.1	11.8	11.7	9.3	12.5	6.7
About half	6.4	7.7	6.3	5.1	7.4	6.0	7.2	6.8	4.7
Most	6.4	4.5	5.5	4.8	6.4	5.7	6.4	6.5	2.4
All or almost all	4.6	4.9	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.2	3.4	5.1	1.4
<b>Car expenses</b>									
None or only a little	62.4	57.0	59.9	54.6	65.0	56.8	76.5	63.5	49.0
Some	14.7	16.1	15.4	17.9	13.1	16.3	12.2	14.0	19.3
About half	11.1	11.0	10.5	12.6	8.4	11.1	4.8	10.0	11.7
Most	6.6	9.0	8.0	7.9	8.0	9.5	3.6	7.3	10.7
All or almost all	5.3	6.9	6.1	6.9	5.5	6.3	2.9	5.0	9.4
<b>Long-range savings</b>									
None or only a little	70.7	71.2	72.0	72.8	71.5	71.4	73.1	71.8	73.3
Some	13.4	15.3	13.3	13.2	13.5	13.4	13.8	13.8	11.1
About half	7.0	5.9	6.1	6.2	5.8	6.7	4.9	5.7	7.7
Most	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.1	4.6	3.8	4.4	4.9
All or almost all	4.6	3.4	4.2	3.3	5.1	3.9	4.5	4.4	3.0
<b>Personal items</b>									
None or only a little	24.6	23.1	25.9	26.6	24.3	24.6	28.7	25.2	28.6
Some	19.1	20.3	18.3	17.6	19.1	19.2	13.4	18.9	16.3
About half	17.1	16.5	16.7	19.5	14.4	17.3	11.1	16.9	16.3
Most	16.8	16.5	15.6	15.5	15.6	16.4	14.3	15.9	14.7
All or almost all	22.4	23.5	23.5	20.7	26.6	22.5	32.6	23.1	24.1
<b>Family expenses</b>									
None or only a little	82.0	80.7	80.3	82.5	78.8	86.4	65.2	83.0	72.5
Some	9.7	8.4	9.9	9.7	9.2	7.2	17.3	8.7	13.0
About half	3.6	4.9	4.0	3.0	4.9	2.6	5.5	3.5	5.3
Most	2.0	2.4	2.0	1.7	2.3	1.3	3.9	1.9	2.4
All or almost all	2.8	3.6	3.9	3.1	4.8	2.5	8.2	2.9	6.8

SOURCE: University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research, *Monitoring the Future, 1981, 1991 and 1992.*

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Percent of employed high school seniors spending “most” or “all or almost all” of their earnings on selected expenses, by race and college plans: 1992



SOURCE: University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research, *Monitoring the Future, 1992*.

In 1992, about two-fifths percent of working high school seniors said that they spent “most” or “all or almost all” of their earnings on personal items such as clothing, records, and recreation. Black students contributed more of their earnings to meet family expenses than did white students. About 12 percent of those planning to attend a 4-year college were saving “most” or “all or almost all” of their money for education.