

Indicator 68. Employment of Dropouts

Employment status of high school dropouts in the year that they dropped out: October 1970 to October 1994

[Numbers in thousands]

October of year	Dropouts ¹		Dropouts in the civilian labor force ²				Dropouts not in the labor force
	Number	Percent employed	Number	Labor force participation rate ²	Percent employed	Unemployment rate ³	
1970	712	45	427	60	74	26	285
1975	727	41	455	63	66	34	272
1980	739	44	471	64	68	32	268
1981	714	40	450	63	64	36	264
1982	668	37	421	63	58	42	247
1983	597	43	377	63	68	32	220
1984	601	43	387	64	67	33	214
1985	612	43	413	67	64	36	199
1986	562	46	359	64	72	28	203
1987	502	41	333	66	62	38	169
1988	552	43	327	59	73	27	225
1989	446	47	292	65	72	28	154
1990	405	47	280	69	68	32	125
1991	380	37	235	62	60	40	145
1992	406	36	242	60	61	39	164
1993	399	47	254	64	74	26	145
1994 ⁴	510	43	311	61	70	30	198

¹ Includes persons from 16 to 24 years old who dropped out from any grade without completing high school during the previous 12 months (October through October).

² The civilian labor force includes all employed persons plus those seeking employment. It excludes persons in the military. The labor force participation rate is the percent of persons either employed or seeking employment.

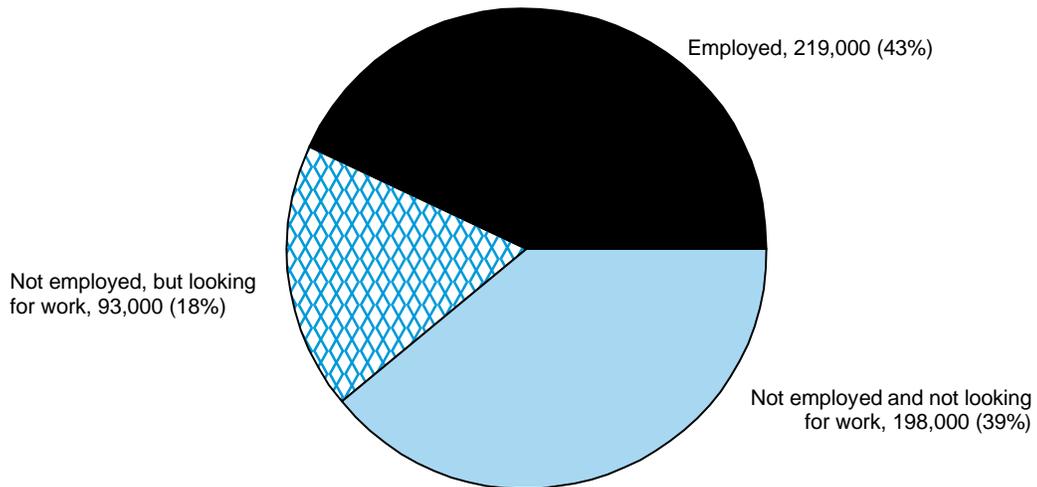
³ The unemployment rate is the proportion of those in the labor force who are not working and are looking for employment.

⁴ In 1994, new survey collection techniques and population weighting were used.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Employment of School-Age Youth, Graduates, and Dropouts*, various years; and unpublished tabulations.

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Employment status of 16- to 24-year-olds who dropped out of school between October 1993 and October 1994



Total persons who dropped out between October 1993 and October 1994 = 510,000

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Employment of School-Age Youth, Graduates, and Dropouts*.

The job outlook for high school dropouts is generally dismal. In October of 1994, slightly more than two out of five dropouts during the previous 12 months were employed. Some of those not working were looking for jobs, but a large majority of them were not looking for work.