

# WEB TABLES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
MARCH 2012 NCES 2012-271

## Characteristics of Associate's Degree Attainers and Time to Associate's Degree

The number of associate's degrees conferred by U.S. postsecondary institutions increased 30 percent from 1997 to 2007, from 571,000 to 745,000, and is projected to grow another 30 percent by 2020, a faster pace than the actual and projected growth in bachelor's degrees awarded (Horn and Li 2009; Hussar and Bailey 2011). Despite the growing prevalence of associate's degrees, however, there are few detailed statistics on how long students take to earn an associate's degree, particularly in comparison with completion time statistics for bachelor's degrees (Adelman 2006; Aud et al. 2011; Cataldi et al. 2011; Wei and Horn 2009). These Web Tables provide estimates on completion times for undergraduate students who entered postsecondary education for the first time in 2003–04 and whose first degree attained by spring 2009 was an associate's degree.

The results are based on the Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study of 2004/09 (BPS:04/09), a nationally representative sample of undergraduates first interviewed during the 2003–04 academic year and followed over a period of 6 academic years.

Table 1 puts the estimates on associate's degree completion time in the context of all postsecondary degree attainers by showing the distribution of type of first degree earned as of spring 2009 by such institutional and individual characteristics as the institution sector initially attended, whether the student had dependents, whether and how much the student worked in the first year of postsecondary education, high school completion type, age at postsecondary entry, and participation in remedial courses. The remaining tables describe the patterns of

attendance and the time it took to attain the associate's degree among the 11 percent of students who attained an associate's degree by 2009 (associate's degree attainers).

Table 2a shows the distribution of associate's degree attainers, within each of the student characteristics listed above. Table 2b shows the enrollment intensity for associate's degree attainers by each of the student characteristics in table 2a.

Table 3a reports the average and median elapsed time to associate's degree among associate's degree attainers, overall and by selected institutional and individual characteristics. Table 3b is restricted to attainers who attended full time only, and table 3c is restricted to attainers who attended either exclusively part time or a combination of full and part time.

This report was prepared for the National Center for Education Statistics under Contract No. ED-07-CO-0104 with MPR Associates, Inc. Mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations does not imply endorsement by the U.S. Government. These Web Tables were authored by Caitlin Green and David Radwin of MPR Associates, Inc. The NCES Project Officer was Thomas Weko. For questions about content or to view this report online, go to <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2012271>.

Table 4a reports the percentage of attainers who earned an associate's degree within specified time periods. Once again, the data are presented for attainers overall and by selected institutional and individual characteristics. As in the previous sets of tables, table 4b represents attainers who attended full time only, and table 4c represents attainers who attended either exclusively part time or a combination of full and part time.

## RELATED NCES REPORTS

Readers may also be interested in the following NCES products related to the topic of these Web Tables:

*Web Tables—Beginning Subbaccalaureate Students' Labor Market Experiences: Six Years Later in 2009* (NCES 2012-273).  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2012273>

*Web Tables—Community College Student Outcomes: 1994–2009* (NCES 2012-253).  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2012253>

*Web Tables—Six-Year Attainment, Persistence, Transfer, Retention, and Withdrawal Rates of Students Who Began Postsecondary Education in 2003–04* (NCES 2011-152).  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2011152>

*Persistence and Attainment of 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students: After Six Years* (NCES 2011-151).  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2011151>

*Persistence and Attainment Among Pell Grant Recipients: Results From the Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study of 2004/09* (NCES 2011-275).  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2011275>

*Changes in Postsecondary Awards Below the Bachelor's Degree: 1997 to 2007* (NCES 2010-167).  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2010167>

*On Track to Complete? A Taxonomy of Beginning Community College Students and Their Outcomes 3 Years After Enrolling: 2003–04 through 2006* (NCES 2009-152).  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2009152>

*Projections of Education Statistics to 2020* (NCES 2011-026).  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2011026>

## DATA

First-time postsecondary students in the 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09) were identified in the 2003–04 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:04). NPSAS:04 is a nationally representative sample of about 90,000 undergraduate, graduate, and first-professional students in about 1,600 postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico that are eligible to participate in federal Title IV student aid programs.<sup>1</sup>

The first-time postsecondary students in the BPS:04/09 study were interviewed three times: in 2004, at the end of their first year in postsecondary education; 3 years later, in 2006; and 6 years after they had started, in 2009. The 2009 interview focused on degree completion among those still enrolled after 2006. Approximately 19,000 respondents were identified in the NPSAS:04 survey as first-time postsecondary students who became the sample for the BPS:04/09 longitudinal study. The BPS:04/09 study sample represents the approximately 4 million undergraduates who were first-time postsecondary beginners in 2003–04.

For more information about the methodology of NPSAS:04, BPS:04/06, and BPS:04/09, see the following reports:

*2004/09 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS:04/09) Full-scale Methodology Report* (NCES 2012-246).  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2012246>

*2004 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:04) Full-scale Methodology Report* (NCES 2006-180).  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2006180>

*Persistence and Attainment of 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students: After Three Years* (NCES 2007-169).  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2007169>

2004/06 *Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS:04/06) Methodology Report* (NCES 2008-184).  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2008184>

*Persistence and Attainment of 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students: After Six Years: First Look* (NCES 2011-151).  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2011151>

## ABOUT POWERSTATS

PowerStats produces the design-adjusted standard errors necessary for testing the statistical significance of differences in the estimates. It also contains a detailed description of how each variable was created and includes question wording for items coming directly from an interview.

With PowerStats, users can replicate or expand upon the tables presented in this report. The output from PowerStats includes the table estimates (e.g., percentages or means), standard errors,<sup>2</sup> and weighted sample sizes for the estimates. If the number of valid cases is too small to produce a reliable estimate (fewer than 30 cases), PowerStats prints the double dagger symbol (‡) instead of the estimate.

In addition to producing tables, PowerStats users may conduct linear or logistic regressions. Many options are available for output with the regression results. For a description of all the options available, users should access the PowerStats website (<http://nces.ed.gov/datalab/index.aspx>). For more information, contact [powerstats@ed.gov](mailto:powerstats@ed.gov).

## VARIABLES USED

All estimates presented in these Web Tables were produced using PowerStats, a web-based software application that allows users to generate tables for many of the postsecondary surveys conducted by NCES. The variables used in these Web Tables are listed below. Visit the NCES DataLab website (<http://nces.ed.gov/datalab>) to view detailed information on how these variables were constructed and their sources. Under *Detailed Information About PowerStats Variables, Beginning Postsecondary Students, BPS: 2004/2009*, click by subject or by variable name. The program files that generated the statistics presented in these Web Tables can be found at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2012271>.

Label	Name
Age first year enrolled	AGE
Cumulative Pell through 2009	PELLCU09
Degree program 2003–04	UGDEG
Dependency status 2003–04	DEPEND
Dependents: Has dependents 2003–04	DEPANY
First degree intensity pattern through 2009	AT1DIP6Y
First degree months elapsed through 2009	AT1DM6Y
First degree type attained through 2009	AT1TY6Y
First institution sector (level and control) 2003–04	FSECTOR
Gender	GENDER
High school degree type	HSDEG
Job 2004: Work intensity (include work study)	JOBENR2
Major during first year 2003–04	MAJORS
Parents' highest level of education	PAREduc
Persistence and attainment 6-year total 2009	PRATT6Y
Race/ethnicity	RACE
Recent high school graduates enrolled full time in fall 2003	FALLHSFT
Transcript: Remedial courses: number taken	QETOTR

For more information, contact  
 Aurora D'Amico  
 Postsecondary Studies Division  
 National Center for Education Statistics  
 190 K Street NW  
 Washington, DC 20006-5652  
 (202) 502-7334  
[aurora.damico@ed.gov](mailto:aurora.damico@ed.gov)

For readers with disabilities, a Section 508-compliant version of these Web Tables is available at  
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2012171>.

## REFERENCES

Adelman, C. (2006). *The Toolbox Revisited: Paths to Degree Completion From High School Through College*. Office of Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC.

Aud, S., Hussar, W., Kena, G., Bianco, K., Frohlich, L., Kemp, J., and Tahan, K. (2011). *The Condition of Education 2011* (NCES 2011-033). National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC.

Cataldi, E.F., Green, C., Henke, R., Lew, T., Woo, J., Shepherd, B., and Siegel, P. (2011). *2008–09 Baccalaureate and Beyond Longitudinal Study (B&B:08/09): First Look* (NCES 2011-236). National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC.

Horn, L., and Li, X. (2009). *Changes in Postsecondary Awards Below the Bachelor's Degree: 1997 to 2007* (NCES 2010-167). National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC.

Hussar, W.J., and Bailey, T.M. (2011). *Projections of Education Statistics to 2019* (NCES 2011-017). National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC.

Wei, C.C., and Horn, L. (2009). *A Profile of Successful Pell Grant Recipients: Time to Bachelor's Degree and Early Graduate School Enrollment* (NCES 2009-156). National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC.

## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Title IV institutions are those eligible to participate in the federal financial aid programs included in Title IV of the Higher Education Act. These programs include Pell Grants, federal student loans, work-study, and other federal aid.

<sup>2</sup> The BPS samples are not simple random samples; therefore, simple random sample techniques for estimating sampling error cannot be applied to these data. PowerStats takes into account the complexity of the sampling procedures and calculates standard errors appropriate for such samples. The method for computing sampling errors used by PowerStats approximates the estimator by replication of the sampled population, using a bootstrap technique.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 1.

**CERTIFICATE OR DEGREE ATTAINERS: Percentage distribution of 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students, by first degree attained, and enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Attained a degree from any institution by spring 2009 First degree attained			Did not attain a degree from any institution by spring 2009 Status in spring 2009	
	Certificate	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Enrolled	Not enrolled
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>35.5</b>
First institution sector					
2-year or less	16.3	15.5	6.0	17.2	44.9
Public	10.9	17.1	7.4	19.1	45.4
Private nonprofit	18.1 !	21.8	‡	10.7	44.5
For-profit	39.5	8.0	‡	9.6	42.6
4-year	2.0	6.1	56.1	12.2	23.6
Public	1.8	5.0	58.0	12.9	22.2
Private nonprofit	1.9	5.5 !	62.4	11.1	19.0
For-profit	4.0 !	17.6	12.2 !	11.3	54.8
Degree program in 2003–04					
Certificate program	53.1	1.2 !	0.8 !	9.3	35.6
Associate's degree program	6.6	21.6	6.9	18.4	46.4
Bachelor's degree program	1.5	4.0	61.8	11.8	21.0
Not in a degree program	8.6	9.3	12.9	20.6	48.7
Field of study in 2003–04					
Academic <sup>1</sup>	4.4 !	11.3	42.1	15.2	27.0
Career <sup>2</sup>	11.6	12.5	25.6	14.1	36.2
Undeclared	10.1	9.5	25.8	16.4	38.2
Took any remedial course <sup>3</sup>					
Yes	8.3	15.0	18.3	20.4	37.9
No	10.1	8.3	40.0	10.2	31.4
Ever received Pell grant					
Yes	14.5	12.0	19.8	17.5	36.2
No	6.0	10.9	35.4	12.8	34.9
Sex					
Male	8.1	11.0	27.9	16.2	36.8
Female	11.4	11.6	28.4	14.1	34.5
Race/ethnicity <sup>4</sup>					
White	8.3	12.4	33.6	12.7	33.1
Black	13.0	8.5	15.4	19.8	43.4
Hispanic	16.4	10.1	14.8	16.7	42.1
Asian	5.3	10.9	42.2	19.2	22.4
Other	7.8	11.7	23.6	21.1	35.8
Highest level of education attained by either parent <sup>5</sup>					
High school or less	15.5	12.2	13.0	15.1	44.2
Some postsecondary	9.5	14.5	23.5	15.9	36.6
Bachelor's degree or higher	5.0	8.9	46.6	14.0	25.5

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

**Table 1.**  
**CERTIFICATE OR DEGREE ATTAINERS: Percentage distribution of 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students, by first degree attained, and enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Attained a degree from any institution by spring 2009 First degree attained			Did not attain a degree from any institution by spring 2009 Status in spring 2009	
	Certificate	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Enrolled	Not enrolled
Dependency status in 2003–04					
Dependent	6.6	12.0	37.6	14.9	29.0
Independent	18.6	9.9	4.6	15.2	51.7
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04					
Yes	20.4	9.0	3.2	15.4	52.0
No	7.6	11.9	34.0	14.9	31.7
High school degree type					
Diploma	8.7	11.4	30.6	14.9	34.3
GED or equivalence	21.6	10.1	2.3 !	16.5	49.5
Other <sup>6</sup>	15.9	12.4	21.6	14.7	35.4
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry					
Yes	5.8	11.8	41.6	14.4	26.5
No	16.4	10.8	7.8	15.9	49.2
Age at postsecondary entry					
18 or younger	5.9	11.4	41.6	14.6	26.5
19	7.4	12.4	35.0	14.9	30.3
20–23	14.0	11.5	8.9	19.2	46.5
24–29	20.3	10.1	4.5	14.2	50.9
30 or older	18.5	9.9	3.7	12.8	55.1
Employment status in 2003–04					
Not employed	10.5	9.0	36.4	13.8	30.3
Employed part time	8.0	13.6	31.6	14.4	32.5
Employed full time	13.2	10.3	10.2	17.8	48.4

! Interpret data with caution. Estimate is unstable because the standard error represents more than 30 percent of the estimate.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

<sup>1</sup> Includes fine/performing arts; humanities; interdisciplinary studies; letters/English; mathematics; science; and social and behavioral sciences.

<sup>2</sup> Includes agriculture and natural resources; business support; communications and design; computer and information sciences; education; engineering, architecture and science technologies; health sciences; marketing; consumer services; protective services; public, legal, and social services; and manufacturing, construction, repair, and transportation.

<sup>3</sup> Based on coding of student transcripts from all institutions attended.

<sup>4</sup> Black includes African American, Hispanic includes Latino, and Other includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, and students having origins in two or more races or a race not listed. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin.

<sup>5</sup> Excludes the 1.7 percent of students who did not know either parent's highest level of education.

<sup>6</sup> Includes those who had a high school completion certificate, attended a foreign high school, had no high school degree or certificate, or were home schooled.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S1.

Standard errors for table 1: Table 1. CERTIFICATE OR DEGREE ATTAINERS: Percentage distribution of 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students, by first degree attained, and enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Attained a degree from any institution by spring 2009 First degree attained			Did not attain a degree from any institution by spring 2009 Status in spring 2009	
	Certificate	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Enrolled	Not enrolled
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.39</b>	<b>0.44</b>	<b>0.61</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>0.65</b>
First institution sector					
2-year or less	0.64	0.59	0.49	0.84	0.91
Public	0.67	0.66	0.59	1.00	0.98
Private nonprofit	5.55	6.22	†	3.06	6.82
For-profit	2.99	1.65	†	1.22	2.25
4-year	0.25	0.66	1.46	0.60	0.97
Public	0.25	0.54	1.35	0.73	0.98
Private nonprofit	0.40	1.71	2.46	1.02	1.18
For-profit	1.81	3.37	4.46	2.44	3.82
Degree program in 2003–04					
Certificate program	1.70	0.38	0.30	1.11	1.69
Associate's degree program	0.63	0.79	0.57	1.10	1.07
Bachelor's degree program	0.19	0.50	1.19	0.59	0.81
Not in a degree program	1.34	1.37	1.74	2.13	2.44
Field of study in 2003–04					
Academic	1.32	0.94	1.78	1.28	1.56
Career	0.52	0.65	0.76	0.67	0.95
Undeclared	0.74	0.62	0.99	0.87	1.04
Took any remedial course					
Yes	0.55	0.75	0.74	0.91	1.05
No	0.65	0.61	1.15	0.59	0.92
Ever received Pell grant					
Yes	0.67	0.57	0.66	0.74	0.92
No	0.52	0.61	0.89	0.66	0.83
Sex					
Male	0.62	0.71	0.86	0.86	0.92
Female	0.58	0.52	0.78	0.55	0.86
Race/ethnicity					
White	0.60	0.61	0.88	0.59	0.81
Black	1.19	1.29	1.19	1.32	1.81
Hispanic	1.87	1.00	0.98	1.36	1.89
Asian	1.16	1.82	2.73	2.66	1.99
Other	1.45	1.78	1.95	2.36	2.50
Highest level of education attained by either parent					
High school or less	0.95	0.76	0.65	0.83	1.09
Some postsecondary	0.92	0.90	0.94	1.07	1.34
Bachelor's degree or higher	0.48	0.66	0.97	0.71	1.00

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S1.

Standard errors for table 1: Table 1. CERTIFICATE OR DEGREE ATTAINERS: Percentage distribution of 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students, by first degree attained, and enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Attained a degree from any institution by spring 2009 First degree attained			Did not attain a degree from any institution by spring 2009 Status in spring 2009	
	Certificate	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Enrolled	Not enrolled
Dependency status in 2003–04					
Dependent	0.39	0.57	0.84	0.61	0.68
Independent	0.93	0.80	0.55	1.06	1.29
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04					
Yes	1.41	0.90	0.56	1.28	1.75
No	0.39	0.53	0.76	0.57	0.67
High school degree type					
Diploma	0.43	0.48	0.66	0.61	0.70
GED or equivalence	1.65	1.37	0.70	1.78	2.31
Other	2.35	2.41	2.28	2.17	3.09
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry					
Yes	0.43	0.62	0.93	0.66	0.71
No	0.72	0.66	0.59	0.86	1.04
Age at postsecondary entry					
18 or younger	0.57	0.73	1.13	0.83	0.94
19	0.71	0.83	1.19	0.88	1.35
20–23	1.35	1.22	0.97	1.37	1.76
24–29	2.39	1.46	0.84	1.63	2.72
30 or older	1.31	1.17	0.85	1.53	1.83
Employment status in 2003–04					
Not employed	0.69	0.67	1.06	0.84	1.04
Employed part time	0.71	0.69	0.87	0.73	0.99
Employed full time	1.18	0.81	0.87	1.10	1.57

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 2a.

**ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE ATTAINERS: Percentage distribution of 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students whose first degree attained by spring 2009 was an associate's degree, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Total
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>
First institution sector	
2-year or less	76.3
Public	66.8
Private nonprofit	2.2
For-profit	7.2
4-year	23.7
Public	11.9
Private nonprofit	6.9
For-profit	5.0
Degree program in 2003–04	
Certificate program	1.2 !
Associate's degree program	78.2
Bachelor's degree program	13.7
Not in a degree program	6.9
Field of study in 2003–04	
Academic <sup>1</sup>	15.0
Career <sup>2</sup>	58.0
Undeclared	27.0
Enrollment intensity for associate's degree	
Exclusively full time	54.5
Exclusively part time	5.7
Mix of full time and part time	39.8
Took any remedial course <sup>3</sup>	
Yes	64.7
No	35.3
Ever received Pell grant	
Yes	49.1
No	50.9
Sex	
Male	41.3
Female	58.7
Race/ethnicity <sup>4</sup>	
White	66.8
Black	10.2
Hispanic	13.2
Asian	4.5
Other	5.2

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

**Table 2a.**

**ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE ATTAINERS: Percentage distribution of 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students whose first degree attained by spring 2009 was an associate's degree, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Total
Highest level of education attained by either parent <sup>5</sup>	
High school or less	38.1
Some postsecondary	31.9
Bachelor's degree or higher	30.0
Dependency status in 2003–04	
Dependent	75.1
Independent	24.9
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04	
Yes	15.0
No	85.0
High school degree type	
Diploma	88.6
GED or equivalence	6.4
Other <sup>6</sup>	4.9
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry	
Yes	62.3
No	37.7
Age at postsecondary entry	
18 or younger	43.3
19	25.9
20–23	12.8
24–29	6.9
30 or older	11.1
Employment status in 2003–04	
Not employed	24.9
Employed part time	54.3
Employed full time	20.9

! Interpret data with caution. Estimate is unstable because the standard error represents more than 30 percent of the estimate.

<sup>1</sup> Includes fine/performing arts; humanities; interdisciplinary studies; letters/English; mathematics; science; and social and behavioral sciences.

<sup>2</sup> Includes agriculture and natural resources; business support; communications and design; computer and information sciences; education; engineering, architecture and science technologies; health sciences; marketing; consumer services; protective services; public, legal, and social services; and manufacturing, construction, repair, and transportation.

<sup>3</sup> Based on coding of student transcripts from all institutions attended.

<sup>4</sup> Black includes African American, Hispanic includes Latino, and Other includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, and students having origins in two or more races or a race not listed. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin.

<sup>5</sup> Excludes the 1.7 percent of students who did not know either parent's highest level of education.

<sup>6</sup> Includes those who had a high school completion certificate, attended a foreign high school, had no high school degree or certificate, or were home schooled.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

**Table S2a.**

**Standard errors for table 2a: ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE ATTAINERS: Percentage distribution of 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students whose first degree attained by spring 2009 was an associate's degree, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Total
<b>Total</b>	<b>†</b>
First institution sector	
2-year or less	2.24
Public	2.31
Private nonprofit	0.60
For-profit	1.64
4-year	2.24
Public	1.25
Private nonprofit	2.03
For-profit	1.49
Degree program in 2003–04	
Certificate program	0.37
Associate's degree program	1.84
Bachelor's degree program	1.42
Not in a degree program	1.10
Field of study in 2003–04	
Academic	1.41
Career	1.78
Undeclared	1.55
Enrollment intensity for associate's degree	
Exclusively full time	2.10
Exclusively part time	1.01
Mix of full time and part time	2.13
Took any remedial course	
Yes	2.34
No	2.34
Ever received Pell grant	
Yes	1.92
No	1.92
Sex	
Male	2.16
Female	2.16
Race/ethnicity	
White	2.17
Black	1.57
Hispanic	1.53
Asian	0.80
Other	0.83

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

**Table S2a.**

**Standard errors for table 2a: ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE ATTAINERS: Percentage distribution of 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students whose first degree attained by spring 2009 was an associate's degree, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Total
Highest level of education attained by either parent	
High school or less	1.90
Some postsecondary	1.53
Bachelor's degree or higher	1.95
Dependency status in 2003–04	
Dependent	1.92
Independent	1.92
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04	
Yes	1.55
No	1.55
High school degree type	
Diploma	1.34
GED or equivalence	0.94
Other	1.05
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry	
Yes	2.06
No	2.06
Age at postsecondary entry	
18 or younger	2.27
19	1.44
20–23	1.48
24–29	1.03
30 or older	1.28
Employment status in 2003–04	
Not employed	1.58
Employed part time	2.37
Employed full time	1.48

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 2b.

**ENROLLMENT INTENSITY OF ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE ATTAINERS: Percentage distribution of enrollment intensity among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students whose first degree attained by spring 2009 was an associate's degree, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Enrollment intensity for associate's degree		
	Exclusively full time	Exclusively part time	Mix of full time and part time
<b>Total</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>39.8</b>
First institution sector			
2-year or less	49.4	6.9	43.7
Public	44.6	7.7	47.7
Private nonprofit	78.5	‡	‡
For-profit	85.3	‡	14.2 !
4-year	70.7	‡	27.5
Public	63.1	‡	33.6
Private nonprofit	74.9	‡	24.3
For-profit	82.8	#	17.2 !
Degree program in 2003–04			
Certificate program	‡	‡	‡
Associate's degree program	53.7	5.3	41.0
Bachelor's degree program	68.7	‡	28.4
Not in a degree program	39.6	‡	47.1
Field of study in 2003–04			
Academic <sup>1</sup>	48.6	8.6 !	42.8
Career <sup>2</sup>	57.6	4.0	38.3
Undeclared	51.0	7.6 !	41.4
Took any remedial course <sup>3</sup>			
Yes	50.1	5.7	44.3
No	62.7	5.8	31.6
Ever received Pell grant			
Yes	47.8	9.6	42.6
No	61.4	1.6 !	36.9
Sex			
Male	61.1	4.9	34.0
Female	49.8	6.2	43.9
Race/ethnicity <sup>4</sup>			
White	56.5	6.3	37.2
Black	59.8	‡	39.8
Hispanic	43.7	9.9 !	46.4
Asian	39.4	‡	57.7
Other	58.5	#	41.5
Highest level of education attained by either parent <sup>5</sup>			
High school or less	57.0	5.6	37.4
Some postsecondary	50.1	7.2	42.7
Bachelor's degree or higher	56.6	4.4 !	39.0

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 2b.

**ENROLLMENT INTENSITY OF ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE ATTAINERS: Percentage distribution of enrollment intensity among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students whose first degree attained by spring 2009 was an associate's degree, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Enrollment intensity for associate's degree		
	Exclusively full time	Exclusively part time	Mix of full time and part time
Dependency status in 2003–04			
Dependent	58.1	3.0	38.9
Independent	43.5	13.9	42.5
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04			
Yes	46.1	12.6 !	41.3
No	55.9	4.5	39.6
High school degree type			
Diploma	54.6	5.6	39.8
GED or equivalence	55.2	‡	36.9
Other <sup>6</sup>	50.8	‡	44.4
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry			
Yes	60.7	2.0 !	37.3
No	44.2	11.9	44.0
Age at postsecondary entry			
18 or younger	59.2	2.4 !	38.4
19	60.5	2.8 !	36.7
20–23	52.0	6.6 !	41.4
24–29	45.0	‡	52.5
30 or older	30.9	26.1	43.0
Employment status in 2003–04			
Not employed	57.9	‡	39.7
Employed part time	55.8	5.6	38.6
Employed full time	46.9	10.0	43.1

# Rounds to zero.

! Interpret data with caution. Estimate is unstable because the standard error represents more than 30 percent of the estimate.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

<sup>1</sup> Includes fine/performing arts; humanities; interdisciplinary studies; letters/English; mathematics; science; and social and behavioral sciences.

<sup>2</sup> Includes agriculture and natural resources; business support; communications and design; computer and information sciences; education; engineering, architecture and science technologies; health sciences; marketing; consumer services; protective services; public, legal, and social services; and manufacturing, construction, repair, and transportation.

<sup>3</sup> Based on coding of student transcripts from all institutions attended.

<sup>4</sup> Black includes African American, Hispanic includes Latino, and Other includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, and students having origins in two or more races or a race not listed. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin.

<sup>5</sup> Excludes the 1.7 percent of students who did not know either parent's highest level of education.

<sup>6</sup> Includes those who had a high school completion certificate, attended a foreign high school, had no high school degree or certificate, or were home schooled.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S2b.

Standard errors for table 2b: ENROLLMENT INTENSITY OF ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE ATTAINERS:  
 Percentage distribution of enrollment intensity among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students  
 whose first degree attained by spring 2009 was an associate's degree, by enrollment, demographic, and  
 employment characteristics: 2009

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Enrollment intensity for associate's degree		
	Exclusively full time	Exclusively part time	Mix of full time and part time
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.10</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>2.13</b>
First institution sector			
2-year or less	2.66	1.30	2.71
Public	2.97	1.46	2.99
Private nonprofit	8.76	†	†
For-profit	6.39	†	6.30
4-year	3.18	†	3.02
Public	4.28	†	3.98
Private nonprofit	5.94	†	5.64
For-profit	7.04	†	7.04
Degree program in 2003–04			
Certificate program	†	†	†
Associate's degree program	2.62	1.08	2.56
Bachelor's degree program	4.29	†	3.91
Not in a degree program	7.98	†	8.20
Field of study in 2003–04			
Academic	5.45	3.35	5.62
Career	2.85	1.07	2.61
Undeclared	3.58	2.44	3.75
Took any remedial course			
Yes	2.52	1.21	2.63
No	2.93	1.70	2.61
Ever received Pell grant			
Yes	2.63	0.66	2.60
No	3.03	1.86	3.10
Sex			
Male	3.74	1.41	3.32
Female	2.17	1.32	2.41
Race/ethnicity			
White	2.38	1.38	2.37
Black	6.55	†	6.50
Hispanic	5.27	3.92	5.23
Asian	7.53	†	7.25
Other	8.85	†	8.85
Highest level of education attained by either parent			
High school or less	3.87	1.67	3.56
Some postsecondary	3.51	1.97	3.44
Bachelor's degree or higher	3.10	1.68	3.08

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S2b.

Standard errors for table 2b: ENROLLMENT INTENSITY OF ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE ATTAINERS:  
 Percentage distribution of enrollment intensity among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students  
 whose first degree attained by spring 2009 was an associate's degree, by enrollment, demographic, and  
 employment characteristics: 2009—Continued

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Enrollment intensity for associate's degree		
	Exclusively full time	Exclusively part time	Mix of full time and part time
Dependency status in 2003–04			
Dependent	2.39	0.74	2.30
Independent	4.03	3.33	4.10
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04			
Yes	5.00	4.00	4.96
No	2.30	0.98	2.28
High school degree type			
Diploma	2.24	1.02	2.19
GED or equivalence	6.95	†	6.68
Other	10.99	†	10.79
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry			
Yes	2.45	0.72	2.29
No	2.98	2.47	3.36
Age at postsecondary entry			
18 or younger	3.06	0.88	3.03
19	3.45	1.36	3.04
20–23	6.03	2.41	5.47
24–29	7.49	†	7.46
30 or older	5.06	6.12	6.08
Employment status in 2003–04			
Not employed	3.43	†	3.41
Employed part time	3.17	1.41	3.11
Employed full time	3.96	2.50	3.98

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 3a.

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE: Average and median number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.3</b>	<b>33.0</b>
First institution sector		
2-year or less	38.2	33.0
Public	38.2	34.0
Private nonprofit	29.4	28.0
For-profit	27.7	24.0
4-year	38.3	33.0
Public	44.3	40.0
Private nonprofit	35.6	32.0
For-profit	27.8	25.0
Degree program in 2003–04		
Certificate program	‡	35.0
Associate's degree program	37.1	33.0
Bachelor's degree program	42.6	35.0
Not in a degree program	42.4	34.0
Field of study in 2003–04		
Academic <sup>1</sup>	41.0	35.0
Career <sup>2</sup>	37.1	33.0
Undeclared	39.3	34.0
Enrollment intensity for associate's degree		
Exclusively full time	32.2	29.0
Exclusively part time	44.0	41.0
Mix of full time and part time	45.7	45.0
Took any remedial course <sup>3</sup>		
Yes	39.9	34.0
No	35.3	29.0
Ever received Pell grant		
Yes	37.7	33.0
No	38.8	34.0
Sex		
Male	37.7	33.0
Female	38.7	34.0

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 3a.

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE: Average and median number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
Race/ethnicity <sup>4</sup>		
White	37.6	33.0
Black	41.0	34.0
Hispanic	39.5	34.0
Asian	38.5	34.0
Other	37.9	33.0
Highest level of education attained by either parent <sup>5</sup>		
High school or less	37.6	33.0
Some postsecondary	39.4	34.0
Bachelor's degree or higher	38.0	33.0
Dependency status in 2003–04		
Dependent	37.9	33.0
Independent	39.4	34.0
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04		
Yes	40.1	35.0
No	37.9	33.0
High school degree type		
Diploma	38.2	33.0
GED or equivalence	40.2	34.0
Other <sup>6</sup>	37.5	33.0
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry		
Yes	37.1	33.0
No	40.2	34.0
Age at postsecondary entry		
18 or younger	36.7	33.0
19	37.6	33.0
20–23	41.2	34.0
24–29	39.0	36.0
30 or older	41.8	39.0

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 3a.

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE: Average and median number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
Employment status in 2003–04		
Not employed	35.8	33.0
Employed part time	38.7	33.0
Employed full time	40.2	34.0

‡ Reporting standards not met.

<sup>1</sup> Includes fine/performing arts; humanities; interdisciplinary studies; letters/English; mathematics; science; and social and behavioral sciences.

<sup>2</sup> Includes agriculture and natural resources; business support; communications and design; computer and information sciences; education; engineering, architecture and science technologies; health sciences; marketing; consumer services; protective services; public, legal, and social services; and manufacturing, construction, repair, and transportation.

<sup>3</sup> Based on coding of student transcripts from all institutions attended.

<sup>4</sup> Black includes African American, Hispanic includes Latino, and Other includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, and students having origins in two or more races or a race not listed. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin.

<sup>5</sup> Excludes the 1.7 percent of students who did not know either parent's highest level of education.

<sup>6</sup> Includes those who had a high school completion certificate, attended a foreign high school, had no high school degree or certificate, or were home schooled.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S3a.

Standard errors for table 3a: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE: Average and median number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.58</b>	<b>0.52</b>
First institution sector		
2-year or less	0.77	0.63
Public	0.73	0.34
Private nonprofit	3.30	3.61
For-profit	2.68	1.97
4-year	1.37	0.91
Public	1.58	4.67
Private nonprofit	2.46	2.05
For-profit	1.77	1.22
Degree program in 2003–04		
Certificate program	†	5.56
Associate's degree program	0.69	0.35
Bachelor's degree program	1.82	4.71
Not in a degree program	2.86	2.96
Field of study in 2003–04		
Academic	1.56	3.57
Career	0.71	0.53
Undeclared	1.18	0.54
Enrollment intensity for associate's degree		
Exclusively full time	0.78	0.61
Exclusively part time	2.83	4.75
Mix of full time and part time	0.89	1.50
Took any remedial course		
Yes	0.84	0.51
No	1.02	1.48
Ever received Pell grant		
Yes	0.84	0.51
No	0.77	0.64
Sex		
Male	1.02	0.42
Female	0.78	0.60

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S3a.

Standard errors for table 3a: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE: Average and median number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
Race/ethnicity		
White	0.64	0.31
Black	2.59	3.02
Hispanic	1.78	1.05
Asian	2.01	2.04
Other	2.50	3.25
Highest level of education attained by either parent		
High school or less	0.92	0.45
Some postsecondary	1.11	0.64
Bachelor's degree or higher	1.04	0.53
Dependency status in 2003–04		
Dependent	0.67	0.26
Independent	1.32	2.60
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04		
Yes	1.58	3.56
No	0.65	0.30
High school degree type		
Diploma	0.58	0.45
GED or equivalence	2.61	3.59
Other	3.16	4.52
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry		
Yes	0.71	0.17
No	1.00	1.74
Age at postsecondary entry		
18 or younger	0.85	0.44
19	1.06	0.54
20–23	2.06	4.78
24–29	2.56	4.07
30 or older	1.65	3.78

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S3a.

Standard errors for table 3a: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE: Average and median number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
Employment status in 2003–04		
Not employed	0.95	1.10
Employed part time	0.82	0.48
Employed full time	1.51	1.78

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

**Table 3b.**

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED EXCLUSIVELY FULL TIME: Average and median number of months between initial postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended exclusively full time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
<b>Total</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>29.0</b>
First institution sector		
2-year or less	31.5	28.0
Public	32.9	29.0
Private nonprofit	27.6	25.0
For-profit	26.2	24.0
4-year	33.7	30.0
Public	38.8	34.0
Private nonprofit	32.6	29.0
For-profit	25.9	25.0
Degree program in 2003–04		
Certificate program	‡	‡
Associate's degree program	30.3	28.0
Bachelor's degree program	37.9	33.0
Not in a degree program	40.8	33.0
Field of study in 2003–04		
Academic <sup>1</sup>	33.9	30.0
Career <sup>2</sup>	31.3	28.0
Undeclared	33.6	29.0
Took any remedial course <sup>3</sup>		
Yes	33.5	30.0
No	30.2	28.0
Ever received Pell grant		
Yes	32.0	29.0
No	32.5	29.0
Sex		
Male	32.7	29.0
Female	31.8	29.0
Race/ethnicity <sup>4</sup>		
White	32.3	29.0
Black	33.3	31.0
Hispanic	29.8	28.0
Asian	32.8	33.0
Other	32.8	26.0
Highest level of education attained by either parent <sup>5</sup>		
High school or less	31.3	28.0
Some postsecondary	32.5	29.0
Bachelor's degree or higher	33.5	29.0

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

**Table 3b.**

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED EXCLUSIVELY FULL TIME: Average and median number of months between initial postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended exclusively full time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
Dependency status in 2003–04		
Dependent	33.0	29.0
Independent	29.2	28.0
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04		
Yes	31.1	29.0
No	32.4	29.0
High school degree type		
Diploma	32.4	29.0
GED or equivalence	31.2	29.0
Other <sup>6</sup>	29.9	28.0
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry		
Yes	32.9	29.0
No	30.6	28.0
Age at postsecondary entry		
18 or younger	32.2	29.0
19	33.4	29.0
20–23	31.7	28.0
24–29	30.4	29.0
30 or older	29.7	28.0
Employment status in 2003–04		
Not employed	30.4	28.0
Employed part time	33.4	29.0
Employed full time	31.3	28.0

‡ Reporting standards not met.

<sup>1</sup> Includes fine/performing arts; humanities; interdisciplinary studies; letters/English; mathematics; science; and social and behavioral sciences.

<sup>2</sup> Includes agriculture and natural resources; business support; communications and design; computer and information sciences; education; engineering, architecture and science technologies; health sciences; marketing; consumer services; protective services; public, legal, and social services; and manufacturing, construction, repair, and transportation.

<sup>3</sup> Based on coding of student transcripts from all institutions attended.

<sup>4</sup> Black includes African American, Hispanic includes Latino, and Other includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, and students having origins in two or more races or a race not listed. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin.

<sup>5</sup> Excludes the 1.7 percent of students who did not know either parent's highest level of education.

<sup>6</sup> Includes those who had a high school completion certificate, attended a foreign high school, had no high school degree or certificate, or were home schooled.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S3b.

**Standard errors for table 3b: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED EXCLUSIVELY FULL TIME: Average and median number of months between initial postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended exclusively full time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.78</b>	<b>0.61</b>
First institution sector		
2-year or less	1.08	0.81
Public	1.04	1.03
Private nonprofit	3.17	3.29
For-profit	2.86	2.25
4-year	1.18	1.60
Public	1.72	0.58
Private nonprofit	2.09	2.28
For-profit	0.98	1.12
Degree program in 2003–04		
Certificate program	†	†
Associate's degree program	0.92	0.93
Bachelor's degree program	1.63	0.79
Not in a degree program	5.98	8.97
Field of study in 2003–04		
Academic	1.96	1.61
Career	0.91	0.77
Undeclared	1.60	1.67
Took any remedial course		
Yes	1.30	1.63
No	0.89	1.66
Ever received Pell grant		
Yes	0.85	0.64
No	1.28	1.18
Sex		
Male	1.42	1.44
Female	0.79	0.63
Race/ethnicity		
White	0.95	0.67
Black	2.27	1.98
Hispanic	1.76	2.43
Asian	2.41	3.44
Other	2.92	2.95
Highest level of education attained by either parent		
High school or less	1.08	1.07
Some postsecondary	1.30	1.00
Bachelor's degree or higher	1.26	1.32

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S3b.

**Standard errors for table 3b: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED EXCLUSIVELY FULL TIME: Average and median number of months between initial postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended exclusively full time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
Dependency status in 2003–04		
Dependent	0.86	0.75
Independent	1.27	1.71
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04		
Yes	1.51	1.12
No	0.86	0.70
High school degree type		
Diploma	0.80	0.57
GED or equivalence	2.49	3.81
Other	2.47	2.66
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry		
Yes	0.97	0.95
No	1.04	0.96
Age at postsecondary entry		
18 or younger	1.14	1.17
19	1.04	1.06
20–23	2.07	2.51
24–29	2.83	2.64
30 or older	1.67	2.54
Employment status in 2003–04		
Not employed	0.93	1.24
Employed part time	0.97	1.03
Employed full time	1.88	2.05

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 3c.

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO EVER ATTENDED PART TIME: Average and median number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended part time or a mix of full time and part time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
<b>Total</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>45.0</b>
First institution sector		
2-year or less	44.8	45.0
Public	45.2	45.0
Private nonprofit	‡	‡
For-profit	‡	‡
4-year	49.4	50.0
Public	53.7	58.0
Private nonprofit	44.6	33.0
For-profit	‡	‡
Degree program in 2003–04		
Certificate program	‡	‡
Associate's degree program	44.9	45.0
Bachelor's degree program	52.9	57.0
Not in a degree program	43.5	34.0
Field of study in 2003–04		
Academic <sup>1</sup>	47.6	48.0
Career <sup>2</sup>	44.9	45.0
Undeclared	45.4	42.0
Took any remedial course <sup>3</sup>		
Yes	46.3	45.0
No	43.7	41.0
Ever received Pell grant		
Yes	46.8	48.0
No	44.5	43.0
Sex		
Male	45.5	42.0
Female	45.5	45.0
Race/ethnicity <sup>4</sup>		
White	44.5	45.0
Black	52.5	57.0
Hispanic	46.9	45.0
Asian	42.3	42.0
Other	45.3	45.0
Highest level of education attained by either parent <sup>5</sup>		
High school or less	46.0	45.0
Some postsecondary	46.5	46.0
Bachelor's degree or higher	43.7	40.0

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

**Table 3c.**

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO EVER ATTENDED PART TIME: Average and median number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended part time or a mix of full time and part time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
Dependency status in 2003–04		
Dependent	44.7	41.0
Independent	47.3	46.0
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04		
Yes	47.9	46.0
No	45.0	44.0
High school degree type		
Diploma	45.1	45.0
GED or equivalence	51.2	54.0
Other <sup>6</sup>	45.4	43.0
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry		
Yes	43.5	40.0
No	47.8	46.0
Age at postsecondary entry		
18 or younger	43.4	40.0
19	44.0	40.0
20–23	51.5	57.0
24–29	46.1	46.0
30 or older	47.2	46.0
Employment status in 2003–04		
Not employed	43.2	42.0
Employed part time	45.3	45.0
Employed full time	48.1	48.0

‡ Reporting standards not met.

<sup>1</sup> Includes fine/performing arts; humanities; interdisciplinary studies; letters/English; mathematics; science; and social and behavioral sciences.

<sup>2</sup> Includes agriculture and natural resources; business support; communications and design; computer and information sciences; education; engineering, architecture and science technologies; health sciences; marketing; consumer services; protective services; public, legal, and social services; and manufacturing, construction, repair, and transportation.

<sup>3</sup> Based on coding of student transcripts from all institutions attended.

<sup>4</sup> Black includes African American, Hispanic includes Latino, and Other includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, and students having origins in two or more races or a race not listed. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin.

<sup>5</sup> Excludes the 1.7 percent of students who did not know either parent's highest level of education.

<sup>6</sup> Includes those who had a high school completion certificate, attended a foreign high school, had no high school degree or certificate, or were home schooled.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S3c.

Standard errors for table 3c: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO EVER ATTENDED PART TIME: Average and median number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended part time or a mix of full time and part time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.80</b>	<b>1.29</b>
First institution sector		
2-year or less	0.89	2.01
Public	0.92	1.73
Private nonprofit	†	†
For-profit	†	†
4-year	1.96	4.91
Public	2.01	3.74
Private nonprofit	4.15	9.63
For-profit	†	†
Degree program in 2003–04		
Certificate program	†	†
Associate's degree program	0.95	1.46
Bachelor's degree program	2.48	4.20
Not in a degree program	2.51	2.43
Field of study in 2003–04		
Academic	2.06	4.41
Career	1.15	1.94
Undeclared	1.59	4.10
Took any remedial course		
Yes	0.96	1.25
No	1.53	4.06
Ever received Pell grant		
Yes	1.57	4.05
No	1.08	1.88
Sex		
Male	1.45	4.12
Female	1.01	1.10
Race/ethnicity		
White	0.95	1.95
Black	2.86	5.91
Hispanic	2.39	6.36
Asian	2.88	5.70
Other	3.20	7.67
Highest level of education attained by either parent		
High school or less	1.34	2.30
Some postsecondary	1.52	2.10
Bachelor's degree or higher	1.39	3.99

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S3c.

**Standard errors for table 3c: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO EVER ATTENDED PART TIME: Average and median number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended part time or a mix of full time and part time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment	
	Average	Median
Dependency status in 2003–04		
Dependent	1.04	3.06
Independent	1.33	1.86
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04		
Yes	1.66	2.75
No	0.89	2.45
High school degree type		
Diploma	0.82	1.85
GED or equivalence	3.22	5.22
Other	3.95	5.60
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry		
Yes	1.06	3.65
No	1.14	3.21
Age at postsecondary entry		
18 or younger	1.28	4.00
19	1.94	5.16
20–23	2.08	3.91
24–29	2.43	2.61
30 or older	1.79	2.37
Employment status in 2003–04		
Not employed	1.51	2.49
Employed part time	1.21	2.95
Employed full time	1.78	3.95

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 4a.

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE:** Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
<b>Total</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>13.9</b>
First institution sector					
2-year or less	23.6	37.6	12.9	12.9	13.0
Public	20.5	37.2	14.0	13.4	14.8
Private nonprofit	42.1 !	41.9	‡	‡	‡
For-profit	46.2	39.3	‡	‡	#
4-year	20.6	43.6	10.6	8.3	16.8
Public	12.3	36.3	13.3	11.8	26.3
Private nonprofit	30.1	40.6	10.8 !	7.4 !	11.1 !
For-profit	27.5 !	65.2	‡	‡	‡
Degree program in 2003–04					
Certificate program	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Associate's degree program	25.3	38.5	12.6	11.9	11.6
Bachelor's degree program	15.4	38.0	12.3	13.2	21.1
Not in a degree program	13.0 !	45.6	‡	‡	26.8
Field of study in 2003–04					
Academic <sup>1</sup>	17.7	34.0	16.3	18.3	13.7
Career <sup>2</sup>	24.4	40.4	11.2	11.4	12.6
Undeclared	22.4	38.8	12.7	9.1	17.1
Enrollment intensity for associate's degree					
Exclusively full time	33.7	46.6	6.9	6.1 !	6.7
Exclusively part time	14.7 !	24.0 !	22.6 !	13.2 !	25.6 !
Mix of full time and part time	9.3	30.7	18.4	19.4	22.2
Took any remedial course <sup>3</sup>					
Yes	17.7	39.4	14.5	13.4	14.9
No	31.3	39.4	8.4	9.0	11.9
Ever received Pell grant					
Yes	23.3	41.6	8.7	12.6	13.8
No	22.5	36.5	15.9	11.1	14.1
Sex					
Male	24.9	41.1	8.0	11.5	14.4
Female	21.4	37.5	15.4	12.0	13.6

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 4a.

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE:** Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
Race/ethnicity <sup>4</sup>					
White	24.8	38.0	12.7	12.3	12.2
Black	13.2 !	44.8	9.1	11.6	21.2
Hispanic	24.8	36.6	9.8	9.6	19.3
Asian	13.3 !	45.1	22.8 !	10.0 !	†
Other	20.0 !	41.2	11.9 !	13.8 !	13.1 !
Highest level of education attained by either parent <sup>5</sup>					
High school or less	21.9	42.2	11.2	13.0	11.7
Some postsecondary	21.6	35.9	15.0	12.8	14.8
Bachelor's degree or higher	25.1	38.7	10.6	9.7	15.9
Dependency status in 2003–04					
Dependent	24.7	40.1	10.5	10.3	14.4
Independent	17.3	35.8	18.1	16.4	12.4
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04					
Yes	15.0	36.3	19.8	15.5	13.5
No	24.3	39.5	11.1	11.2	14.0
High school degree type					
Diploma	23.1	39.5	11.9	11.8	13.8
GED or equivalence	26.4	27.9	12.7 !	14.9 !	18.1 !
Other <sup>6</sup>	14.9 !	45.2	20.8 !	†	10.9 !
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry					
Yes	26.0	41.0	10.2	9.7	13.1
No	17.7	35.7	15.9	15.3	15.4
Age at postsecondary entry					
18 or younger	26.7	40.0	11.6	9.5	12.2
19	24.0	43.3	7.8	11.5	13.5
20–23	16.1	37.8	11.3	13.5	21.2
24–29	19.6 !	29.5	22.6	20.1	8.2 !
30 or older	15.3	32.3	20.9	14.7	16.8

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 4a.

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE: Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
Employment status in 2003–04					
Not employed	28.3	37.8	14.6	12.0	7.4
Employed part time	21.5	41.1	11.6	10.2	15.7
Employed full time	20.0	35.0	11.8	15.9	17.3

# Rounds to zero.

! Interpret data with caution. Estimate is unstable because the standard error represents more than 30 percent of the estimate.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

<sup>1</sup> Includes fine/performing arts; humanities; interdisciplinary studies; letters/English; mathematics; science; and social and behavioral sciences.

<sup>2</sup> Includes agriculture and natural resources; business support; communications and design; computer and information sciences; education; engineering, architecture and science technologies; health sciences; marketing; consumer services; protective services; public, legal, and social services; and manufacturing, construction, repair, and transportation.

<sup>3</sup> Based on coding of student transcripts from all institutions attended.

<sup>4</sup> Black includes African American, Hispanic includes Latino, and Other includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, and students having origins in two or more races or a race not listed. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin.

<sup>5</sup> Excludes the 1.7 percent of students who did not know either parent's highest level of education.

<sup>6</sup> Includes those who had a high school completion certificate, attended a foreign high school, had no high school degree or certificate, or were home schooled.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S4a.

Standard errors for table 4a: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE: Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
Total	2.08	2.21	1.48	1.20	1.29
First institution sector					
2-year or less	2.45	2.57	1.86	1.45	1.56
Public	2.30	2.80	2.08	1.54	1.72
Private nonprofit	13.08	11.62	†	†	†
For-profit	10.58	10.72	†	†	†
4-year	3.54	4.32	1.72	1.57	2.77
Public	2.94	3.99	2.29	2.67	4.12
Private nonprofit	5.02	6.55	5.09	2.75	3.74
For-profit	12.27	14.05	†	†	†
Degree program in 2003–04					
Certificate program	†	†	†	†	†
Associate's degree program	2.49	2.63	1.75	1.40	1.52
Bachelor's degree program	2.89	4.22	2.25	2.40	3.66
Not in a degree program	6.09	7.42	†	†	7.38
Field of study in 2003–04					
Academic	3.48	5.21	3.68	3.85	3.20
Career	2.38	2.60	1.69	1.61	1.51
Undeclared	3.29	3.34	3.07	1.71	2.59
Enrollment intensity for associate's degree					
Exclusively full time	3.53	2.78	0.94	1.89	1.05
Exclusively part time	4.67	7.76	9.54	4.22	8.37
Mix of full time and part time	1.53	2.74	2.77	2.25	2.28
Took any remedial course					
Yes	2.21	2.11	1.96	1.99	1.72
No	3.70	5.32	1.74	1.84	2.11
Ever received Pell grant					
Yes	2.68	2.78	1.09	1.47	1.60
No	2.69	2.90	2.57	1.83	1.94
Sex					
Male	3.52	3.39	1.29	2.34	2.03
Female	2.22	2.58	2.09	1.38	1.62

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S4a.

Standard errors for table 4a: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE: Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
Race/ethnicity					
White	2.54	2.55	1.90	1.57	1.40
Black	4.39	6.56	2.31	2.59	5.42
Hispanic	4.64	4.76	2.66	2.84	3.41
Asian	4.53	6.27	8.08	3.82	†
Other	6.11	10.55	5.43	5.67	4.73
Highest level of education attained by either parent					
High school or less	2.96	3.40	1.90	2.26	1.97
Some postsecondary	2.75	3.80	3.20	2.27	2.64
Bachelor's degree or higher	2.72	2.99	1.89	1.69	2.15
Dependency status in 2003–04					
Dependent	2.41	2.36	1.56	1.44	1.51
Independent	3.11	4.25	3.21	2.30	2.83
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04					
Yes	4.29	5.80	4.41	3.06	3.86
No	2.25	2.27	1.55	1.41	1.39
High school degree type					
Diploma	2.18	2.37	1.51	1.24	1.34
GED or equivalence	7.08	5.85	4.41	4.66	6.15
Other	5.38	10.82	8.55	†	5.29
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry					
Yes	2.63	2.35	1.67	1.65	1.54
No	2.49	3.31	2.47	2.06	2.40
Age at postsecondary entry					
18 or younger	3.15	2.92	2.20	1.94	1.72
19	2.90	3.65	1.57	2.39	2.25
20–23	3.54	6.57	2.97	3.78	4.63
24–29	6.37	7.30	6.15	5.40	3.89
30 or older	3.34	5.48	5.28	2.97	5.02

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S4a.

Standard errors for table 4a: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE: Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
Employment status in 2003–04					
Not employed	3.17	3.40	2.62	2.13	1.57
Employed part time	2.47	2.82	2.06	1.83	2.03
Employed full time	3.79	4.45	2.75	2.93	3.31

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 4b.

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED EXCLUSIVELY FULL TIME:**  
**Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended exclusively full time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
<b>Total</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.1 !</b>	<b>6.7</b>
First institution sector					
2-year or less	36.7	45.3	5.5	6.4 !	6.1
Public	33.7	46.0	6.2	6.5 !	7.6
Private nonprofit	46.5 !	42.1 !	‡	‡	‡
For-profit	48.5	42.7	‡	‡	#
4-year	26.7	49.6	10.0	5.5	8.1
Public	17.3	47.8	12.6	8.1 !	14.2
Private nonprofit	35.3	41.1	‡	6.1 !	‡
For-profit	33.2 !	63.6	‡	#	#
Degree program in 2003–04					
Certificate program	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Associate's degree program	37.2	47.4	6.0	5.5 !	3.8
Bachelor's degree program	20.1	46.8	11.3	9.3	12.5
Not in a degree program	‡	35.7 !	‡	‡	30.2 !
Field of study in 2003–04					
Academic <sup>1</sup>	28.4	43.4	15.3	‡	‡
Career <sup>2</sup>	33.7	49.7	5.4	5.4 !	5.8
Undeclared	36.4	40.8	6.0 !	6.1	10.7
Took any remedial course <sup>3</sup>					
Yes	28.4	48.3	7.9	7.8 !	7.6
No	41.0	44.7	5.4	3.5 !	5.4
Ever received Pell grant					
Yes	31.0	49.8	7.6	5.0	6.6
No	37.0	42.6	6.0	7.6 !	6.8
Sex					
Male	33.9	45.4	5.9	7.6 !	7.2
Female	33.5	47.7	7.7	4.9	6.3
Race/ethnicity <sup>4</sup>					
White	35.5	44.5	6.4	7.0 !	6.7
Black	20.5 !	58.0	8.0 !	7.5 !	6.1 !
Hispanic	41.5	44.7	4.0 !	‡	7.0 !
Asian	25.6 !	51.4	‡	‡	‡
Other	26.8 !	51.3	‡	‡	‡

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 4b.

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED EXCLUSIVELY FULL TIME:**  
**Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended exclusively full time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
Highest level of education attained by either parent <sup>5</sup>					
High school or less	32.6	49.7	6.9	‡	5.2
Some postsecondary	32.3	48.5	5.7	8.2 !	5.3 !
Bachelor's degree or higher	35.6	40.7	8.3	5.1	10.2
Dependency status in 2003–04					
Dependent	34.0	44.9	6.6	6.9 !	7.6
Independent	32.5	53.6	7.9 !	3.0 !	3.1 !
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04					
Yes	27.2 !	55.9	8.4 !	‡	4.7 !
No	34.6	45.3	6.7	6.5 !	7.0
High school degree type					
Diploma	33.9	46.0	6.6	6.7 !	7.0
GED or equivalence	42.4	38.9	10.0 !	‡	‡
Other <sup>6</sup>	‡	69.9	‡	‡	‡
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry					
Yes	34.6	44.1	6.2	7.8 !	7.4
No	31.6	52.4	8.5	2.4 !	5.2 !
Age at postsecondary entry					
18 or younger	37.0	42.0	6.9	8.4 !	5.7
19	30.1	50.5	5.1	5.8 !	8.4
20–23	23.8	56.4	10.0 !	‡	8.9 !
24–29	35.2 !	47.4	‡	‡	‡
30 or older	42.9	43.4	‡	‡	‡

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 4b.

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED EXCLUSIVELY FULL TIME:**  
**Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended exclusively full time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
Employment status in 2003–04					
Not employed	39.3	45.1	7.3	4.0	4.3 !
Employed part time	30.7	47.9	6.7	6.5 !	8.2
Employed full time	34.5	44.7	7.1 !	8.2 !	5.5 !

# Rounds to zero.

! Interpret data with caution. Estimate is unstable because the standard error represents more than 30 percent of the estimate.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

<sup>1</sup> Includes fine/performing arts; humanities; interdisciplinary studies; letters/English; mathematics; science; and social and behavioral sciences.

<sup>2</sup> Includes agriculture and natural resources; business support; communications and design; computer and information sciences; education; engineering, architecture and science technologies; health sciences; marketing; consumer services; protective services; public, legal, and social services; and manufacturing, construction, repair, and transportation.

<sup>3</sup> Based on coding of student transcripts from all institutions attended.

<sup>4</sup> Black includes African American, Hispanic includes Latino, and Other includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, and students having origins in two or more races or a race not listed. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin.

<sup>5</sup> Excludes the 1.7 percent of students who did not know either parent's highest level of education.

<sup>6</sup> Includes those who had a high school completion certificate, attended a foreign high school, had no high school degree or certificate, or were home schooled.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S4b.

Standard errors for table 4b: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED EXCLUSIVELY FULL TIME: Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended exclusively full time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.53</b>	<b>2.78</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>1.89</b>	<b>1.05</b>
First institution sector					
2-year or less	4.61	3.18	1.02	2.63	1.30
Public	4.95	3.37	1.18	3.04	1.63
Private nonprofit	14.99	13.42	†	†	†
For-profit	11.29	11.64	†	†	†
4-year	4.51	5.24	2.09	1.28	1.99
Public	4.31	4.63	3.09	2.50	3.55
Private nonprofit	5.31	7.14	†	2.44	†
For-profit	15.04	16.14	†	†	†
Degree program in 2003–04					
Certificate program	†	†	†	†	†
Associate's degree program	4.42	3.35	1.07	2.42	0.83
Bachelor's degree program	3.51	4.33	2.58	2.17	3.13
Not in a degree program	†	11.63	†	†	13.30
Field of study in 2003–04					
Academic	6.52	7.06	4.55	†	†
Career	3.89	3.21	0.96	2.38	1.16
Undeclared	5.01	4.27	1.98	1.45	3.10
Took any remedial course					
Yes	3.74	3.40	1.40	3.60	1.45
No	5.36	6.10	1.23	1.05	1.58
Ever received Pell grant					
Yes	3.87	3.64	1.19	1.21	1.24
No	4.91	3.72	1.41	3.30	1.91
Sex					
Male	5.65	4.55	1.31	3.72	1.85
Female	3.52	3.53	1.26	0.89	1.23
Race/ethnicity					
White	4.23	3.11	0.95	2.63	1.32
Black	7.13	7.87	2.77	3.31	2.95
Hispanic	7.50	7.63	1.67	†	2.84
Asian	9.17	12.48	†	†	†
Other	9.37	13.24	†	†	†

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S4b.

Standard errors for table 4b: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED EXCLUSIVELY FULL TIME: Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended exclusively full time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
Highest level of education attained by either parent					
High school or less	5.18	4.59	1.63	†	1.53
Some postsecondary	4.40	4.38	1.51	2.97	1.66
Bachelor's degree or higher	3.69	3.84	1.91	1.25	2.57
Dependency status in 2003–04					
Dependent	3.77	2.82	1.01	2.27	1.27
Independent	6.37	6.64	2.58	1.37	1.48
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04					
Yes	8.34	9.09	2.93	†	2.27
No	3.69	2.80	1.03	2.12	1.16
High school degree type					
Diploma	3.71	2.98	0.92	2.06	1.17
GED or equivalence	10.68	9.70	4.42	†	†
Other	†	13.29	†	†	†
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry					
Yes	3.97	2.85	1.03	2.60	1.42
No	5.08	5.36	2.32	0.90	1.64
Age at postsecondary entry					
18 or younger	4.83	3.46	1.21	2.98	1.26
19	4.09	4.66	1.29	1.99	2.37
20–23	6.42	9.61	4.84	†	3.79
24–29	11.25	10.57	†	†	†
30 or older	9.46	9.70	†	†	†

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S4b.

Standard errors for table 4b: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED EXCLUSIVELY FULL TIME: Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended exclusively full time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
Employment status in 2003–04					
Not employed	4.15	4.10	1.70	1.13	1.45
Employed part time	4.29	3.55	1.30	2.97	1.79
Employed full time	7.33	7.34	2.55	3.75	2.38

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 4c.

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO EVER ATTENDED PART TIME: Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended part time or a mix of full time and part time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>22.6</b>
First institution sector					
2-year or less	10.7	30.1	20.1	19.3	19.9
Public	9.9	30.2	20.3	19.0	20.6
Private nonprofit	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
For-profit	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
4-year	5.9 !	29.1	12.2	15.0	37.8
Public	‡	16.6 !	14.7	18.2	46.9
Private nonprofit	14.6 !	39.1	‡	‡	27.2 !
For-profit	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Degree program in 2003–04					
Certificate program	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Associate's degree program	11.5	28.3	20.2	19.3	20.7
Bachelor's degree program	‡	18.8 !	14.5 !	21.8	39.9
Not in a degree program	‡	52.1	‡	‡	24.6 !
Field of study in 2003–04					
Academic <sup>1</sup>	7.7 !	25.2	17.2 !	26.7	23.3
Career <sup>2</sup>	11.8	27.7	19.1	19.6	21.8
Undeclared	7.8 !	36.6	19.6 !	12.2	23.7
Took any remedial course <sup>3</sup>					
Yes	7.1	30.5	21.2	19.0	22.2
No	15.0	30.4	13.4	18.2	22.9
Ever received Pell grant					
Yes	11.1	28.4	10.5	24.7	25.3
No	9.2	30.9	24.9	14.3	20.7
Sex					
Male	10.9	34.3	11.3	17.7	25.7
Female	9.5	27.5	23.0	19.1	20.9
Race/ethnicity <sup>4</sup>					
White	11.0	29.6	20.9	19.2	19.3
Black	‡	25.2	10.9 !	17.8	43.7
Hispanic	11.8 !	30.3	14.2 !	14.8 !	28.9
Asian	‡	41.0	26.6 !	15.1 !	‡
Other	‡	27.0 !	‡	30.3 !	18.6 !

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 4c.

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO EVER ATTENDED PART TIME: Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended part time or a mix of full time and part time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
Highest level of education attained by either parent <sup>5</sup>					
High school or less	7.7 !	32.4	16.9	22.8	20.3
Some postsecondary	10.8	23.1	24.3	17.3	24.4
Bachelor's degree or higher	11.4	36.2	13.6	15.6	23.3
Dependency status in 2003–04					
Dependent	11.9	33.4	15.7	15.0	23.9
Independent	5.5	22.0	26.0	26.8	19.6
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04					
Yes	4.6 !	19.5	29.5	25.4	21.0
No	11.1	32.1	16.6	17.2	22.9
High school degree type					
Diploma	10.1	31.6	18.3	18.0	22.0
GED or equivalence	‡	14.3 !	‡	31.3	31.7 !
Other <sup>6</sup>	‡	19.6 !	32.6 !	‡	21.2 !
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry					
Yes	12.8	36.2	16.5	12.7	21.9
No	6.7	22.6	21.7	25.6	23.5
Age at postsecondary entry					
18 or younger	11.8	37.2	18.3	11.0	21.7
19	14.6	32.2	11.8	20.1	21.3
20–23	7.9 !	17.7	12.8	27.0	34.7
24–29	‡	14.9 !	33.0	35.4	‡
30 or older	3.0 !	27.4	27.5	19.2	23.0

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table 4c.

**TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO EVER ATTENDED PART TIME: Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended part time or a mix of full time and part time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
Employment status in 2003–04					
Not employed	13.1 !	27.6	24.7	23.0	11.6
Employed part time	9.9	32.5	17.7	14.8	25.0
Employed full time	7.2	26.4	16.0	22.7	27.7

! Interpret data with caution. Estimate is unstable because the standard error represents more than 30 percent of the estimate.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

<sup>1</sup> Includes fine/performing arts; humanities; interdisciplinary studies; letters/English; mathematics; science; and social and behavioral sciences.

<sup>2</sup> Includes agriculture and natural resources; business support; communications and design; computer and information sciences; education; engineering, architecture and science technologies; health sciences; marketing; consumer services; protective services; public, legal, and social services; and manufacturing, construction, repair, and transportation.

<sup>3</sup> Based on coding of student transcripts from all institutions attended.

<sup>4</sup> Black includes African American, Hispanic includes Latino, and Other includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, and students having origins in two or more races or a race not listed. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin.

<sup>5</sup> Excludes the 1.7 percent of students who did not know either parent's highest level of education.

<sup>6</sup> Includes those who had a high school completion certificate, attended a foreign high school, had no high school degree or certificate, or were home schooled.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S4c.

Standard errors for table 4c: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO EVER ATTENDED PART TIME: Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended part time or a mix of full time and part time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>2.48</b>	<b>2.85</b>	<b>2.10</b>	<b>2.30</b>
First institution sector					
2-year or less	1.74	2.75	3.25	2.41	2.48
Public	1.59	2.81	3.30	2.47	2.54
Private nonprofit	†	†	†	†	†
For-profit	†	†	†	†	†
4-year	2.35	5.30	3.31	3.65	6.04
Public	†	5.17	4.11	4.91	7.60
Private nonprofit	5.70	9.98	†	†	9.90
For-profit	†	†	†	†	†
Degree program in 2003–04					
Certificate program	†	†	†	†	†
Associate's degree program	1.80	2.75	3.23	2.46	2.68
Bachelor's degree program	†	5.80	4.38	5.17	7.45
Not in a degree program	†	8.12	†	†	7.88
Field of study in 2003–04					
Academic	3.50	5.07	6.66	6.39	5.79
Career	1.75	3.34	3.52	2.65	2.94
Undeclared	3.03	5.04	5.88	3.15	4.40
Took any remedial course					
Yes	1.65	2.69	3.57	2.54	2.92
No	2.71	5.23	3.62	4.07	4.14
Ever received Pell grant					
Yes	2.72	3.71	2.08	3.46	3.50
No	1.76	3.25	4.23	2.46	3.25
Sex					
Male	3.06	4.21	2.40	3.27	3.63
Female	1.73	3.12	3.81	2.48	2.89
Race/ethnicity					
White	1.71	2.98	3.92	2.63	2.72
Black	†	7.46	4.18	5.05	8.70
Hispanic	5.12	5.94	4.34	4.65	5.54
Asian	†	8.66	11.34	6.58	†
Other	†	10.42	†	11.98	8.56

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S4c.

Standard errors for table 4c: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO EVER ATTENDED PART TIME: Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended part time or a mix of full time and part time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
Highest level of education attained by either parent					
High school or less	2.69	4.11	3.52	3.89	3.59
Some postsecondary	2.54	4.38	5.46	3.88	4.48
Bachelor's degree or higher	2.75	4.54	3.75	3.54	3.87
Dependency status in 2003–04					
Dependent	2.07	3.10	3.27	2.30	2.81
Independent	1.53	3.84	5.01	3.91	4.47
Had one or more dependents in 2003–04					
Yes	2.20	4.70	7.17	5.38	6.26
No	1.79	2.80	3.05	2.32	2.50
High school degree type					
Diploma	1.66	2.68	2.94	2.14	2.33
GED or equivalence	†	5.89	†	9.37	11.95
Other	†	8.60	13.74	†	9.62
Recent high school graduate at postsecondary entry					
Yes	2.38	3.42	3.70	2.08	2.72
No	1.37	3.09	4.02	3.40	3.91
Age at postsecondary entry					
18 or younger	2.75	3.86	4.76	2.05	3.43
19	3.71	5.01	3.04	4.90	4.55
20–23	3.03	4.25	3.62	6.88	7.76
24–29	†	6.48	9.33	8.79	†
30 or older	1.38	6.18	7.27	4.25	6.61

See notes at end of table.

# National Center for Education Statistics

Table S4c.

**Standard errors for table 4c: TIME TO ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE FOR STUDENTS WHO EVER ATTENDED PART TIME: Percentage distribution of number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment among 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students who attained an associate's degree as their first degree by spring 2009 and attended part time or a mix of full time and part time, by enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics: 2009—Continued**

Enrollment, demographic, and employment characteristics	Number of months between postsecondary enrollment and associate's degree attainment				
	24 months or less	25–36 months	37–48 months	49–60 months	More than 60 months
Employment status in 2003–04					
Not employed	4.17	5.37	5.61	4.60	2.90
Employed part time	1.91	3.58	4.31	2.50	3.57
Employed full time	2.09	4.51	4.78	4.23	5.62

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).