

Indicator 1. Number of Young Adults

Population, by selected age groups: 1950 to 1994

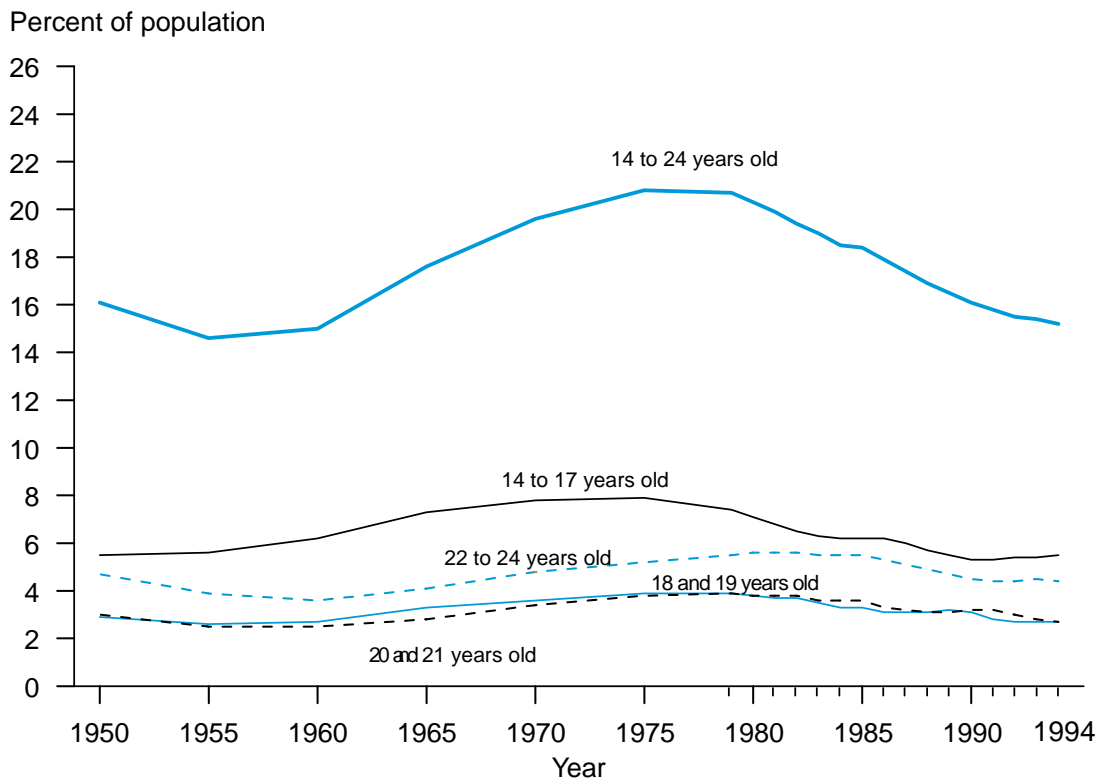
Year	Persons, all ages	Total 14 to 24 years old	14 to 17 years old	18 and 19 years old	20 and 21 years old	22 to 24 years old
Number of persons, in thousands						
1950	152,271	24,519	8,444	4,395	4,551	7,129
1955	165,931	24,215	9,248	4,254	4,189	6,525
1960	179,979	26,964	11,211	4,886	4,443	6,425
1965	193,526	33,999	14,146	6,450	5,503	7,902
1970	203,984	39,909	15,921	7,410	6,850	9,728
1975	215,465	44,860	17,125	8,418	8,089	11,228
1980	227,255	46,246	16,143	8,718	8,669	12,716
1985	237,924	43,790	14,888	7,637	8,370	12,895
1986	240,133	43,051	14,824	7,483	8,024	12,720
1987	242,289	42,196	14,502	7,502	7,742	12,450
1988	244,499	41,378	14,023	7,701	7,606	12,048
1989	246,819	40,692	13,536	7,898	7,651	11,607
1990	249,402	40,137	13,310	7,693	7,883	11,251
1991	252,131	39,760	13,418	7,173	8,013	11,156
1992	255,028	39,593	13,653	6,889	7,756	11,295
1993	257,783	39,590	13,928	6,899	7,265	11,498
1994	260,341	39,690	14,427	6,937	6,972	11,354
Percentage of total population						
1950	100.0	16.1	5.5	2.9	3.0	4.7
1955	100.0	14.6	5.6	2.6	2.5	3.9
1960	100.0	15.0	6.2	2.7	2.5	3.6
1965	100.0	17.6	7.3	3.3	2.8	4.1
1970	100.0	19.6	7.8	3.6	3.4	4.8
1975	100.0	20.8	7.9	3.9	3.8	5.2
1980	100.0	20.3	7.1	3.8	3.8	5.6
1985	100.0	18.4	6.3	3.2	3.5	5.4
1986	100.0	17.9	6.2	3.1	3.3	5.3
1987	100.0	17.4	6.0	3.1	3.2	5.1
1988	100.0	16.9	5.7	3.1	3.1	4.9
1989	100.0	16.5	5.5	3.2	3.1	4.7
1990	100.0	16.1	5.3	3.1	3.2	4.5
1991	100.0	15.8	5.3	2.8	3.2	4.4
1992	100.0	15.5	5.4	2.7	3.0	4.4
1993	100.0	15.4	5.4	2.7	2.8	4.5
1994	100.0	15.2	5.5	2.7	2.7	4.4

NOTE: Data for 1960 and later years are for resident population as of July 1 of the indicated year. Data for 1950 and 1955 are for total U.S. population as of July 1, including Alaska, Hawaii, and armed forces overseas. Because of rounding, details may not add to totals. Some data have been revised from previously published figures.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, *Population Estimates and Projections*, nos. 311, 519, 917, 1000, 1022, and 1095; *U.S. Population Estimates, by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 1990 to 1994*, PPL-21.

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Young adults as a percent of total population, by age group: 1950 to 1994



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Between 1955 and 1975 the proportion of young adults 14 to 24 years old increased from 15 to 21 percent. The number of 14- to 24-year-olds peaked in 1979 and has been declining, but has stabilized in the past couple of years. The proportion of this age group to the rest of the population fell steadily after 1975 to 15 percent in 1994, about where it was in 1960.