

Web Appendix:

The American High School Graduation Rate: Trends and Levels

This appendix provides supplementary tables and figures as well as a detailed description of the data and methods used in “American High School Graduation Rates: Levels and Trends” by Heckman and LaFontaine.

Part A. Data and Methodology

This section describes the data sources and methodology used to compute the graduation rate by race and sex in each year.

HOUSEHOLD SURVEY DATA

Our analysis includes two major sources of household survey data to analyze high school graduation levels and time-series trends. We now provide further details of sample construction and the methodology employed to compute graduation rates in each source.

1. CENSUS INTEGRATED PUBLIC USE MICRODATA SERIES (IPUMS)

Data Source: <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/>

Description: The Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS) is based on thirty nine high precision samples of the U.S. population and is administered by the Census Bureau. The IPUMS is a sub-sample of the decennial Census that is based on a longer questionnaire and contains more detailed information about individuals and households than can be found in the complete enumeration of the U.S. population using the Census short-form questionnaire. In general, the IPUMS data are available each year in a 1% sample of the total U.S. population or a 5% sample.¹

The Census IPUMS data is used for the baseline estimates for the high school graduation rate and is important because it covers the entire U.S. population. Unlike the CPS household survey, Census sample coverage is high and the sample includes both the institutional and armed forces populations.

The major drawback of Census data is that it does not allow us to distinguish between those who graduate high school and those who dropped out and later obtained a GED certificate. Therefore, we need to estimate the total number of reported high school completers in the Census (HS Graduates+GED) who are actually GED recipients in order to obtain true high school graduation rates. Furthermore, we need to estimate the fraction of GED recipients in the civilian, incarcerated, armed forces and recent immigrant populations in order to assess the bias that results from excluding these populations in CPS data. These detailed breakdowns of GED sources are only performed in the 2000 Census since the data that make these calculations possible is not available for earlier years. For earlier years we only need to estimate the number of recent immigrant GED recipients and the race/sex distribution of GED recipients to estimate the final graduation rates reported in the paper. Table A.1 provides the initial totals by education for 20-24 year olds in the 2000 Census. Tables A.8(a) and A.8(b) show the final totals we obtain after disaggregating GED recipients from high school graduates in order to estimate the bias on graduation rates due to each source. The details of these GED calculations are provided below.

Sample: The Census samples used in this paper are taken from the 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000 IPUMS data.

The details of the sample construction in each year are as follows.

2000 Census:

Our 2000 IPUMS data are drawn from the 5% population sample. The sample is restricted to those between the ages of 20 and 29. Those who are still enrolled in high school or below for the 20-24 year old sample are also excluded. No other cases are deleted and there are no missing values in the variables used in our analysis.²

The total sample size of individual's ages 20-24 is 863,229 unweighted and 18,642,465 weighted. The total

sample size of individual's ages 25-29 is 909,096 unweighted and 19,178,062 weighted. The population totals by race, sex, education and immigrant status are given in tables A.1 and A.2, respectively.

1990 Census:

Our 1990 IPUMS data are drawn from the 5% population sample. The sample is restricted to those between the ages of 20 and 29. Those still enrolled in high school are not excluded in the 1990 Census because the enrollment variable does not provide grade level of enrollment. No other cases are deleted and there are no missing values in the variables used in our analysis. The total sample size of individual's ages 20-24 is 876,723 unweighted and 18,588,832 weighted. The total sample size of individual's ages 25-29 is 1,009,673 unweighted and 21,245,319 weighted. The population totals by race, sex, immigrant status and education status are given in tables A.3 and A.4, respectively.

1980 Census:

Our 1980 IPUMS data are drawn from the 5% population sample. The sample is restricted to those between the ages of 20 and 29. Those who are still enrolled in high school or below for the 20-24 year old sample are also excluded. No other cases are deleted and there are no missing values in the variables used in our analysis. The total sample size of individual's ages 20-24 is 1,045,819 unweighted and 20,916,380 weighted. The total sample size of individual's ages 25-29 is 971,903 unweighted and 19,438,060 weighted. The population totals by race, sex, immigrant status and education status are given in tables A.5 and A.6, respectively.

1970 Census:

Our 1970 IPUMS data are drawn from the 1% Form 1 State sample. This sample is used because it includes immigrant status and year of entry into the U.S. The sample is restricted to those between the ages of 20 and 23. We restrict the sample to age 23 instead of 24 in this sample because there is a major trend break in graduation for those born before 1946 and those born in the baby boom following World War II. Those who are still enrolled in high school or below for the 20-23 year old sample are also excluded. No other cases are deleted and there are no missing values in the variables used in our analysis. Unlike previous Census data, GED recipients are included in the dropout category in the 1970 Census and do not need to be estimated

from independent data. In 1980 the Census Bureau explicitly told GED recipients to report completing high school according to IPUMS documentation while in 1970 they were to report the highest grade completed. The total sample size of individual's ages 20-23 is 132,300 unweighted and 13,230,000 weighted. The population totals by race, sex, education status and immigrant status are given in tables A.7.

Variables used in the Analysis:

Age: The Census provides a variable (AGE) giving the age of each respondent in the household. We restrict our graduation rate calculations to two cohorts in each Census, those between the ages of 20-24 and 25-29. The two cohorts provide a summary measure of the national graduation rate between Censuses since they cover a ten year span and the Census is administered on a decennial basis.

Sex: Sex is determined in each survey using the Census provided variable (SEX).

Race: The Census provided single race variable (RACESING) and Hispanic ethnicity variable (HISPANG) are used to code the following race/ethnicity categories: white non-Hispanic, black non-Hispanic, Hispanic and other non-Hispanic (all other races).

Group Quarters Status: Those living in group quarters (including the institutional and armed forces populations) are identified using the variables (GQ) and (GQTYPED).

Age of Immigration: Age of immigration to the U.S. is constructed using (YRIMMIG). Recent immigrants are those who entered the country in the past ten years for 20-24 year olds and the past fifteen years for 25-29 year olds.

HS Enrollment Status: We restrict those 20-24 year olds still enrolled in high school using the (HIGRADED) variable for the 1970-1980 Census and (GRADEATT) in the 2000 Census. It is not possible to exclude those still enrolled in high school in the 1990 Census.

HS Completion Status: For the 1970-1980 Censuses, years of education are reported as the highest grade completed. For the 1990 and 2000 Censuses, years of education are reported differently: by categories for first

through fourth grade and for fifth through eighth grade, by year for ninth through 12th grade, and then by degree attained. We use the variable HIGRADED for the 1970 and 1980 Census. The variable EDUC99 is used to code education for the 1990 and 2000 Census. Dropouts are those who report less than twelve years of education (including those who report 12 years of schooling and no HS diploma). High school completers are those who report twelve years of schooling (and received a diploma) or higher. Those who have completed some college are assumed to be high school completers (GED recipients or HS graduates) in all years. For recent years there is evidence that larger fractions of uncertified dropouts are attending college. This will serve to add a small upward bias to the rates reported in recent years.

CALCULATION OF GED RECIPIENTS FROM TESTING SERVICE DATA

In order to calculate the number of reported high school completers who are GED recipients in each Census year we make use of national data provided by the GED testing service (GEDTS) on the number of credentials issued and the age distribution of those who obtained the GED in a given year. These are contained in the annual publication “Who took the GED”. We use this information to construct cohort total for those ages 20-24 and 25-29 in each Census.

In order to determine the total number of GEDs attained by each cohort up to that year, we calculate the number of GEDs attained every year before the most recent census year for 10-13 years. So in order to capture all GEDs attained by a particular cohort, we calculate the number of GEDs attained each previous year by the same cohort. To do this we sum the GEDs attained by the 25-29 cohort in 2000 with the GEDs attained by the same cohort but now 24-28 years old in 1999, the GEDs attained by the 23-27 year olds in 1998, until we reach 16 year olds in 1987 (those who are 29 in 2000).

If the age ranges given by GEDTS are given in a range (e.g. 20-24) then we assume that the probability of GED certifying is uniform across the given age range. Table A.9 shows these calculations in detail for the 20-

24 and 25-29 Census 2000 cohorts using 1999 and 2000 GEDTS data. This method is used to calculate the total number of GED recipients in each Census and comes very close to estimates obtained from independent data sources (See Table S.1). We now have the total number of GEDs in the 2000 Census by age range but we still need to disaggregate this total further to assess the impact of excluding certain populations while still excluding GED recipients.

2. SURVEY OF INMATES IN STATE AND FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES (SISFCF)

Source: <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/sisfcf/>

Description: The Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities is a nationally representative sample of inmates in state and federal correctional facilities conducted by the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Inmate information such as criminal records, demographics, prison activities, and previous military service are included. The survey has been conducted in 1974, 1979, 1986, 1991 and 1997.

SISFCF is a large scale nationally representative sample of all jail inmates in the United States with detailed educational breakdowns of those currently being held. Most importantly for the purposes of this paper, it is possible to identify those prisoners who graduated high school versus those who dropped out and later obtained the GED credential. We use this information to estimate the number of prison GED recipients in the 2000 Census. The distinction between GED recipients and high school graduates is not available before 1991.

Sample: Inmates of 1409 state and 127 federal prisons were surveyed on basic demographic information, educational attainment, criminal history, sentencing and family background among other categories. This paper uses the 1997 wave of SISFCF to estimate the number of inmates by education level currently

incarcerated in state and federal prison system in the 2000 Census. We use the 1997 SISFCF data for this purpose since it is the closest available data in time to the 2000 Census. The total number of observations in the original sample is 18,326. We exclude 140 observations for which educational status cannot be determined resulting in our final sample of 18,186 observations.

Variables:

Facility Type: State or Federal prison status is coded using the original variable V1959.

Age: Age is coded using the original variable V2054.

Sex: Sex is coded using the original variable V2053.

Race: Race is coded using the BJS categorical race variable R233.

Education: Education and GED attainment status is coded using the following variables: highest grade of schooling attended and whether completed that year (V1311; V1312) and whether the individual has a GED (V1313; V1314; V1315).

Sample Weight: Final sample weight (V2067)

3. SURVEY OF INMATES IN LOCAL JAILS (SILJ)

Source: <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/>

Description: The Survey of Inmates in Local Jails is a nationally representative sample of inmates being held in local jail facilities while awaiting trial conducted for the Bureau of Justice Statistics by the U.S. Census Bureau. The survey has been conducted in 1972, 1978, 1983, 1989 and 1996. All of these samples collected detailed information on basic demographic information, educational attainment, criminal history, sentencing and family backgrounds.

SILJ is a large scale nationally representative sample of all jail inmates in the United States with detailed educational breakdowns of those currently being held. The distinction between GED recipients and high school graduates is not available before 1989.

Sample: This paper uses the 1996 wave of SILJ to estimate the number of inmates by education level currently being held in local jails in the 2000 Census. We use the 1996 wave for this purpose since it is the closest available data in timeframe to the 2000 Census. The 1996 survey sampled a total of 6,133 inmates in 3328 jails who represent a total of 470,263 jail inmates throughout the United States. For our sample, we drop 48 observations for which either age or education is missing resulting in a final sample size of 6,085.

Variables:

Age: Age is coded using the variable (BAGE).

Sex: Sex is coded using the variable (S1FRI1).

Race: Four race categories (White; Black, Hispanic, Other) are coded using the variable (RACE).

Education: Education and GED attainment status is coded using the variables (ED) and (ED1).

Sample Weight: Final sample weight (FW) is used in all calculations.

CALCULATING INCARCERATED GEDS IN 2000

Unlike the Current Population Survey, the 2000 Census sampled those currently living in a variety of group quarters including those currently being held in prisons and jails. The Census only gives the number of high school completers currently incarcerated but we would like to disaggregate GED recipients from this total to assess the impact of excluding the incarcerated population in the CPS surveys. To do so we make use of the SISFCF and SILJ data. We start by first computing the total jail and prison population by age in table A.10. We then multiply these totals by the race totals by facility type shown in table A.11 which are calculated from 1996 SILJ data and 1997 SISFCF data. This gives the estimated number of inmates by facility type for the

year 2000 shown in table A.12. The estimated educational attainments for inmates in federal, state and jail facilities listed in tables A.14, A.15 and A.16, respectively are then multiplied by the appropriate table A.13 estimates to arrive at the final estimates of prisoner educational attainment by race and sex listed in table A.17.

4. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DATA (DOD)

Source: <http://www.defenselink.mil/prhome/poprep2000/index.htm>

Description: Each year the Defense and Manpower Data Center (DMDC) and the U.S. Military Entrance Processing Command (USMEPCOM) collect data on the educational, family background, demographic backgrounds of all incoming military enlistments, or accessions. We use this data to estimate the number of GED credentials among those currently serving in the Armed Forces in the 2000 Census.

The data provide a complete accounting of the educational characteristics of all incoming military personnel in a given year and also separates GED recipients from high school graduates in the calculations. This only provides an approximation of the number of GED recipients ages 20-24 serving in the military in the 2000 Census since it provides the educational accounting of the flow of incoming recruits and not the total stock. However, this bias is very small in nature since only 5% of all new accessions have a GED and the total number of GED recipients in the military is few.

Sample: We use the 2000 DMDC report “Population Representation in the Military Services”. The DMDC does not provide raw unedited variables so we rely on the calculations of the educational breakdown of all military accessions provided by this agency and shown in table A.18.

CALCULATION OF GED RECIPIENTS IN ARMED FORCES

We use the percentage GED recipients of the total military accessions in 2000 from table A.18 to compute the total number of military GED recipients in the 2000 Census ages 20-24. The details of these calculations are shown in table A.19.

5. MARCH CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY (CPS MARCH)

Source: <http://www.unicon.com> and <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/cps/>

Description: The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a monthly survey of approximately 50,000 households that are selected scientifically in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The CPS has been conducted for more than 50 years by the Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The CPS collects data on the social and economic characteristics of the civilian, non-institutional population, including information on income, education, and participation in the labor force. Each month, a "basic" CPS questionnaire is used to collect data on participation in the labor force about each member 15 years old and over in every sample household. In addition, supplemental questionnaires are administered to collect information on other topics. In each household, the Bureau seeks information from a knowledgeable adult household member (known as the "household respondent"). That respondent answers all the questions on all of the questionnaires for all members of the household.

The Annual Demographic Survey or March CPS supplement is the primary source of detailed information on income and work experience in the United States. The March CPS is used to generate the annual Population Profile of the United States, reports on geographical mobility and educational attainment, and detailed analyses of money income and poverty status.

Sample: We use the 2000 March supplement to compare estimated totals by education, sex and race to the 2000 Census. These data are available for download from the Unicon website listed above. For the comparisons we restrict the sample to those who are ages 20-24 and 25-29 and who are not currently enrolled in secondary schooling. No other restrictions are placed on the data.

Variables:

Age: Age is coded using the variable (AGE).

Sex: Sex is coded using the variable (SEX).

Race: Four race categories (White; Black, Hispanic, Other) are coded using the variables (_RACE) and (_SPNETH)..

Education: Education is coded using the variable (GRDATN).

Sample Weight: The 2000 Census based sampling weight, (WGTALT), is used in all calculations.

Estimation: The population totals for the CPS March Supplement compared to the Census data are shown in Table A.20. Note that the CPS March severely underestimates those in the 12th grade no diploma category as noted in the text.

6. OCTOBER CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY (CPS OCTOBER)

Source: <http://www.unicon.com> and <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/cps/>

Description: Since 1968, NCES has funded the CPS October Supplement. The October Supplement gathers more detailed data on schooling enrollment and educational attainment among school aged youth. Unlike the CPS March and Census Surveys, in 1988 the CPS October supplement began to distinguish between GED recipients and regular high school graduates. These variables are available for 16-24 year olds from 1988-1992 and 16-29 year olds thereafter.

Sample: We use the CPS October supplement to estimate the race/sex distribution of for civilian non-institutional GED recipients. We use the CPS October data to estimate these distributions for 20-24 year olds in 1990, 20-24 year olds in 2000 and 25-29 year olds in 2000. These data are available for download from the Unicon website listed above. For the estimation we restrict the sample to those who are ages 20-24 and 25-29. No other restrictions are placed on the data. As noted by Kauffman [2000], the GED variable in the CPS

October supplement becomes unreliable after the 1999 survey. For this reason, we use the 1999 survey to estimate the year 2000 totals.

Variables:

Age: Age is coded using the variable (AGE).

Sex: Sex is coded using the variable (SEX).

Race: Four race categories (White; Black, Hispanic, Other) are coded using the variables (RACE) and (SPNETH).

Education: Education and GED status is coded using the variables (GRDATN), (DIPGED) and (HSGED).

Sample Weight: The final sampling weight, (WGTFNL), is used in all calculations.

Estimation: GED status is coded in the October data as follows. For those who have completed some college or more the variable HSGED is used. For those who have no college and report being a high school graduate, i.e. GRDATN=39, the variable DIPGED is used to code GED status. The estimated distributions of GED recipients by race, sex and birth cohort are listed in A.21 to A.36. The data sources for the estimates of cohorts not available in the CPS are as listed at the bottom of the table.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

7. COMMON CORE OF DATA (CCD)

Source: <http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/>

Description: Common Core of Data (CCD) is the main database of the U.S. government on elementary and secondary public education. The CCD consists of results from five surveys given to the state departments of education that are completed primarily with the data from the state educational agencies (SEAs). This statistical database is published yearly and covers every elementary and secondary public school and school

district, every local education agency, and every state education agency in the United States. The data in CCD are specifically adjusted to be comparable across states. The information provided includes basic information on public schools and school districts (name, phone number, address, type of location), demographic data on pupils and staff members, and fiscal information (current revenue and expenditures).

Sample: We use the 1992-2006 CCD to obtain total high school graduate and enrollment counts by race and sex for the 8th grade estimator. For overall totals not disaggregated by race, and for years prior to 1992, we use the totals reported in various Digests of Education Statistics to obtain diplomas and enrollment counts back to 1963. Diplomas include only those regular diplomas and not other completers or GED recipients.

Diplomas issued and enrollment counts by race are not available prior to 1992. Therefore, it is only possible to calculate the 8th grade estimator by race starting in 1997 and the percentage change from 8th to 9th grades starting in 1993.

Estimation: Total diploma and enrollment counts are listed in Table A.30. For the estimates by race, the following states are not included in all years: Idaho, Kentucky, North Dakota, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont and Washington due too many missing values in these states or no data at all. Some states had missing values in the time series for certain years. Instead of dropping these states we decided to impute the missing values using linear estimation. The missing values are imputed to be the linear growth rate within that state based on the closest past and future counts in time.

LONGITUDINAL DATA

8. NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL LONGITUDINAL STUDY (NELS88)

Source: <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/nels88/>

Description: The National Educational Longitudinal Study (NELS) started with a sample of 8th graders in 1988 and was conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). It is comparable in purpose and design to two studies preceding it – the National Longitudinal Study of 1972 and High School and Beyond, which surveyed high school seniors (both) and sophomores (High School and Beyond only) through high school, postsecondary education, work, occupational choices, and family formation experiences. NELS88 is broader in scope and time span than these other studies. In the 1988 base year, the study surveyed 24,599 eighth grade students from over 1000 public and private schools across the United States.

The NCES used two different phases to select the original sample members for NELS. In the first phase, NELS selected schools. Students within those schools were then sampled in the second phase. NELS used a stratified sample design, and each stratum consisted of schools with similar attributes in specified areas and schools were picked independently within every stratum. Also, there were two different levels of strata: super-strata and sub-strata. Super-strata grouped schools based on school type and region of the country. The sub-strata level then divided the super-strata based on urban status and racial composition.³

Additional data gathered from parents, teachers, and school principals supplement the student surveys. The topics include student family background, parental background and income, national origin and native language, cognitive test results, parental interaction with schools, detailed secondary school and student body characteristics, and teacher background. A sub-sample of the original cohort of 8th graders was again resurveyed in 1990, 1992, 1994, and for the last time in 2000. These are known as the first follow-up, the second follow-up, the third follow-up, and the fourth follow-up, respectively.

The NELS data were subject to a wide variety of non-random sampling from the original cohort through the fourth follow-up in the year 2000. First, the selection of schools was not a random process due to a number of choices made by NCES. Private schools were over-sampled relative to public schools. Within private schools, particular types were over-sampled due to some analysts' specific interest in them. Furthermore, the selection of students within schools was also nonrandom since Asian/Pacific Islander and

Hispanic students were over-sampled within schools. Lastly, those students who were listed by school administrators as learning disabled, physically disabled or mentally challenged were excluded from the base year selection process. Those excluded for this reason were disproportionately minority males (See Figure S.8). It was thought that the testing battery given to all NELS respondents in the base year would cause undue burden on these students (See Ingels and Quinn [1996] for a more extensive analysis of base year ineligibles). It was also found that this base year excluded sample had significantly lower levels of educational attainment and higher dropout rates by the second follow-up (See Figure S.9).

The core base year sample of 8th graders was then selectively retained for the first follow-up survey. Students who dropped out in their base year or students who went to a high school with at least ten other base-year sample members were kept with absolute certainty in the first follow-up survey. Those who did not have at least ten fellow base-year sample members at their respective high school were kept in the sample with a probability between zero and 1 based on the number of sample members at their school. Students who transferred between the first and second waves were also not all followed in order to reduce data collection costs. NELS also “freshened” the sample by adding students to the sample who were not enrolled in 8th grade in 1988 who were found to be enrolled in 10th grade in 1990. This was done in order to obtain a correct probability sample of students enrolled in 10th grade in 1990 and to make the data comparable to the previous HSB survey.

All students who were in the first-follow up survey were kept for the second follow-up sample. Once again, a “freshened” sample was added sample. These were students who were not enrolled in 10th grade in 1990 that were enrolled in 12th grade in 1992.

The sample members for the third follow-up were again a non-randomly selected sub-sample of the second follow-up due primarily to the necessity to cut down on data collection costs. At the same time, the NCES was concerned both with maintaining adequate numbers of sample members with research-precious characteristics and with sustaining a sufficiently high response rate to the questionnaire since most sample

members were no longer enrolled in high school. In order to succeed in all of these aims, NELS separated the sample members from the second follow-up into eighteen groups by “response history, dropout status, eligibility status, school sector type, race, test scores, SES, and freshened status.” (“Base Year to Fourth Follow-up Data File User’s Manual”, p.58) If a participant qualified for multiple groups, the individual was assigned to the first group for which he or she qualified since the groups were listed by order of importance. Every group received an overall selection probability. Groups with few sample members and groups of particular research import received high sub-sampling rates, varying from .6 to 1. Groups composed of those with low response rates received low sub-sampling probabilities, ranging from .15 to .3. The third follow-up weights were then adjusted to account for this non-random sampling procedure.

The fourth-follow up further reduced the sample size in order to again reduce costs. The same sampling scheme of the third follow-up was used with two additional caveats. For the fourth follow-up, NCES wanted to control for the effects of unequal weighting, which was not accounted for in the third follow-up. In order to correct for this, NCES studied two optimization models. One model minimized survey cost with constraints on “the overall unequal weighting effect, the weighted overall response percentage, and minimum sample sizes in specified domains”. (“Base Year to Fourth Follow-up Data File User’s Manual”, p. 62) The other model minimized overall unequal weighting with constraints on weighted overall response percentage and the least amount of sample members in specified domains. These models estimated the sub-sampling rates for the eighteen groups used to sub-sample the third follow-up survey.

In the end, NCES found that the best method was to alternate between the models, although NELS provides no details on exactly how they alternated. Within the groups, sample member’s selection probabilities were weighted by third follow-up weights. Furthermore, NCES conducted a second sub-sampling routine in order to secure a high enough response percentage among particularly research important groups, these include dropouts and the races Asian/Pacific Islander, American Indian/Alaska

Native, Hispanic, non-Hispanic Black, non-Hispanic White. This sub-sample succeeded in raising the response rates of these vital groups.

The NELS target population also changed from the third to the fourth follow-up. For the first time, the institutionalized population was excluded from the sample (See “Base Year to Fourth Follow-up Data File User’s Manual”, p.100). This tends to impart a severe bias to minority male graduation rates.

Sample: We originally used the fourth follow-up survey to compute the final high school graduation rate for the NELS cohort. The fourth follow-up (F4) has an unweighted sample size of 12,144 subjects, thus retaining only 49.4% of the original cohort of 24,599 8th graders. The included sample needed to have valid responses to the basic F4 race, sex and education variables. The fourth-follow up was found to be biased for computing graduation rates due to the exclusion of institutionalized populations. Therefore, for the final calculation in the text, the NELS third follow-up (F3) was used. The third follow-up has an unweighted sample size of 14,915 cases. Again, the included sample needed to have valid responses to the basic F3 race, sex and education variables listed below.

Variables:

F4 CALCULATIONS

High School Diploma/GED Status: We use the variable (F4HSTYPE) to determine high school completion status in F4. GED recipients are counted as dropouts.

Sex: Reported gender in F4 (F4SEX).

Race: Reported race in F4 (F4RACE).

Weight: We use the base-year to fourth follow-up panel weight (F4BYPNWT) for all graduation calculations. This weights target population is all 8th graders who were sampled in F4 regardless of status in F1, F2 and F3.

F3 CALCULATIONS

High School Diploma/GED Status: We use the variable (F3DIPLOM) to determine high school completion status in F3. GED recipients are counted as dropouts.

Sex: Gender is coded using (F3SEX).

Race: Race/ethnicity is coded using (F3RACE).

Universe: The variable (F3UNIV2A) is used to determine the sample status of each respondent. The possible samples are: Base Year Eligible; Base Ineligible; Freshened F1; and Freshened F2. In some calculations it is necessary to exclude certain samples e.g. excluding freshened samples for calculating the 8th grade cohort graduation rate.

Weight: We use the base-year to fourth follow-up panel weight (F4BYPNWT) for all graduation calculations. This weights target population is all 8th graders who were sampled in F4 regardless of status sample in F1, F2 and F3.

Estimation: The NELS sample design is complex and allows for a number of possible graduation estimators. These various estimators are shown in Table 2 in the text. For the base year ineligible sample we do not have final high school completion status. We do know the educational status for a sample of base year ineligibles in the second follow-up in 1990 when they were supposed to be seniors. By senior year, only 62% of the ineligibles were enrolled in school and of these, only 42.4% were enrolled in the expected grade (12th). To correct for the bias resulting from excluding the base-year ineligible sample, we assume that 50% of these ineligibles ever graduate from high school and that all of those who reported being in sequence in F2 graduated on-time. We feel these are conservative estimates given the reported educational status of this sample in the second follow-up.

9. HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND SOPHOMORE COHORT

Source: <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/hsb/>

Description: The High School and Beyond Sophomore Cohort (HSB) data set provides a valuable source of panel information on 27,204 sophomores. When weighted, there are 3,780,927 subjects in the base year, and

3,275,408 in the fourth follow-up. The base year survey was conducted in spring 1980. Three follow-up surveys were conducted in 1982, 1984, and 1992. The study design provided for a stratified national probability sample of over 1100 secondary schools as the first stage selection. In the second stage, 36 sophomores were selected in each school. Public schools with high percentages of Hispanic students, Catholic schools with high percentages of minority group students, alternative public schools and private schools with high-achieving students were over sampled. Individuals were asked about their family background, ethnicity, schooling histories, and labor force histories.

The HSB data are valuable because they give us another data source for cohorts born around the time of the NLSY79 survey covered and provide very detailed schooling histories and educational attainment measures. A major weakness of the HSB data is that the survey sample starts with students who are enrolled in the 10th grade in 1980. This sample design will tend to overstate high school graduation rates since those who dropped out prior to reaching 10th grade will be excluded.

Sample: We use the fourth follow up survey to compute final high school graduation rates for the HSB sophomore cohort. The fourth follow up has a total of 12,640 individuals, or 46% of the original sample. For our final sample we delete 1.5% of the sample with a missing value for the race/gender variable.

Variables:

High School Diploma/GED Status: We use the HSB variable (HSDIPGED), which gives the percentage of those with Regular Diplomas, GEDs, and Dropouts in 1992.

Sex: We use the HSB variable (SEX).

Race: To get the race of Whites, Blacks, and Hispanics, we use the variable (RACE), which is the Race of the respondent from the fourth follow-up survey.

Race and Sex: To break down the respondents by both race and gender, we use the variable (RACESEX).

Weight: We use (WTA000), which is the replicate weight for the follow-up survey in 1992.

Estimation: All graduation rate calculations are estimated using the NCES Data Analysis System (DAS). High school graduation rates are determined using the High school diploma/GED status variable (HSDIPGED) and are weighted using the 1992 replicate weight.

10. NATIONAL LONGITUDINAL SURVEY YOUNG MEN⁴

Source: <http://www.bls.gov/nls/oldyoungmen.htm>

Description: The NLS Young Men survey is a nationally representative sample of 5,225 men who were subject to 12 interviews between 1966 and 1981. The cohort was reduced to 3,398 people by 1981. The sample is meant to represent the civilian, non-institutionalized population of men ages 14-24 as of April 1, 1966, with black populations represented at three times the expected rate to allow statistically reliable estimates for the population. Weights are provided to correct for this over-sampling. These data contain rich measures of work, school, welfare, marital, and fertility histories.

The NLSY young men sample is an older cohort that has comparable demographic and outcome measures to more recent NLSY cohorts. The young men sample was stopped in 1981 due to high sample attrition. Therefore, no GED variable is available in the young men data and GED status must be imputed. GED recipients are assumed to be those who's highest grade completed changes to 12 years of schooling or over after the age of 20. This imputation technique yields a similar number of GED recipients as are found in the young women data.

Sample: We restrict the sample to those born between 1946 and 1950. This reduces the original sample size to 2,757 individuals. Of these remaining cases, 80 (2.9%) more cases are deleted due to a missing value in high school graduation status. The final observation count of our sample is 2,677 men.

Variables:

High School/GED Status: Coded from the highest grade completed and whether currently enrolled variables.

Race: Coded from the 1966 race variable. Hispanic ethnicity is determined from mother and fathers nationality.

Weight: The 1966 sampling weight is used in all calculations.

Estimation: The high school graduation rate is calculated using the 1966 survey weight and is the fraction of the total cohort with a regular high school diploma.

11. NATIONAL LONGITUDINAL SURVEY OF YOUNG WOMEN

Source: <http://www.bls.gov/nls/nlsorig.htm>

Description:

The original Young Women's cohort of 5159 females ages 14 to 24 who have been interviewed annually and biennially since 1968. The sample is meant to represent the civilian, non-institutionalized population of women ages 14-24 as of April 1, 1968, with black populations represented at three times the expected rate to allow statistically reliable estimates for the population. Weights are provided to correct for this over-sampling. These data contain rich measures of work, school, welfare, marital, and fertility histories.

The NLSY young women sample is an older cohort that has comparable demographic and outcome measures to more recent NLSY cohorts. The sample has been followed until the latest wave in 2003.

Sample: We restrict the sample to those born between 1946 and 1950. This reduces the original sample size to 2,520 individuals. Of these remaining cases, 63 (2.5%) more cases are deleted due to a missing value in high school graduation status. The final observation count of our sample is 2,457 men.

Variables:

High School/GED Status: Coded from the highest grade completed; current enrollment and GED attainment variables.

Race: Coded from the 1968 race variable. Hispanic ethnicity is determined from mother and fathers nationality.

Weight: The 1968 sampling weight is used in all calculations.

Estimation: The high school graduation rate is calculated using the 1968 survey weight and is the fraction of the total cohort with a regular high school diploma.

12. NATIONAL LONGITUDINAL SURVEY OF YOUTH (1979)

Source: <http://www.bls.gov/nls/nlsy79.htm>

Description: The NLSY79 includes both a randomly chosen sample of 6,111 U.S. youth and a supplemental sample of 5,295 randomly chosen Black, Hispanic, and non-Black non-Hispanic economically disadvantaged youths. Both of these samples are drawn from the civilian population. In addition, there is a small sample of individuals (1,280) who were enrolled in the military in 1979. All youths were age 13-20 in 1978 and were interviewed annually beginning in 1979 and then biennially starting in 1994. The NLSY79 data contain a rich variety of measures on family background, schooling histories, work histories, welfare histories, marital and fertility choices, and geographic location in each year.

Sample: Our samples consist of both males and females who were in the random sample, the Black supplemental sample, and the Hispanic supplemental sample. This results in a sample of 9,762 youths. We lose 254 sample members (2.6%) for whom high school educational attainment is unknown. This results in a final sample of 4,796 female and 4,712 male youths.

Variables:

High School/GED Status: Determined by the 1979-2000 variables: HS Diploma or GED; enrollment as of May 1st key variable and highest grade completed as of May 1st key variable.

Race: Coded from the NLSY79 key sample selection variable.

Sex: Coded from the NLSY79 key sample selection variable.

Weight: The 1979 base year sample weight is used in all calculations.

Estimation: The high school graduation rate is calculated using the 1979 survey weight and is the fraction of the total cohort with a regular high school diploma.

13. NATIONAL LONGITUDINAL SURVEY OF YOUTH (1997)⁵

Source: <http://www.bls.gov/nls/nlsy97.htm>

Description: The survey documents the transition from school to work of 8,894 individuals. Two subsamples comprise the NLSY97 cohort: 6,748 respondents representative of people living in the United States in 1997 who were born during the years 1980-1984, and 2,236 respondents designed to over-sample black and Hispanic people living in the US during the same period as the cross-sectional sample. Information was gathered from a youth questionnaire, parent questionnaire, screener/household informant questionnaire, household income updates, and school and transcript surveys.

Sample: Our sample consists of all youths contained in both the cross-section sample and the over-sample. This results in a total of 8,984 youths born from 1980 to 1984. We delete 372 cases (4.14%) for which high school graduation status could not be coded. The resulting final sample contains 6,493 members of the cross-sectional sample and 2,119 members of the black and Hispanic over-sample.

Variables:

High School/GED Status: Coded from the following variables: highest degree ever completed (key variable); current enrollment status (key variable); reason left school (transcript survey); and ever received a GED (Ed Status and Attainment).

Race: Coded from the 1997 race and ethnicity key variable.

Sex: Coded from the 1997 gender key variable.

Weight: The 1997 round 1 sampling weight is used in all calculations.

Estimation: The high school graduation rate is calculated using the 1997 survey weight and is the fraction of the total cohort with a regular high school diploma.

14. NATIONAL SURVEY OF FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS (NSFH)

Source: <http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/nsfh/>

Description: The NSFH is a national probability sample of 13,007 respondents first administered in 1987. The data include a cross-sectional sample of 9,637 households plus an over-sampling of blacks, Puerto Ricans, Mexican Americans, single-parent families, families with step-children, cohabiting couples and recently married persons. The first wave was in 1987-88, the second in 1992-94 and the third in 2001-02.

At NSFH1, one adult per household was randomly selected and interviewed as the primary respondent. In addition, a self-administered questionnaire was given to the spouse or cohabiting partner of the primary respondent. At NSFH2, original respondents, current spouses/cohabiting partners, and NSFH1 spouses/partners for relationships that had ended were interviewed. In addition, groups of “focal children,” who were ages 13-18 at NSFH1 and 18-23 at NSFH2, and who were 5-12 and 10-17, were given two different interviews.

Sample: Our NSFH sample is restricted to those born from 1946-1965 for whom we have valid responses for the variables listed below. We use only the first wave of data or NSFH1.

Variables:

HS Completion Status: High school completion status is determined using whether an individual has a high school diploma (M507) and GED status (M509 and M510).

Race: Coded using the variable (M484).

Sex: Coded using the variable (M2DP01).

Year of Birth: Coded from the variable (M485M).

Weight: All calculations are weighted using the individual case weight (WEIGHT).

Estimation: Weighted graduation rates are estimated for the following four NSFH birth cohorts by sex and race: 1946-1950, 1951-1955, 1956-1960 and 1961-1965.

15. NATIONAL LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF ADOLESCENT HEALTH (ADD HEALTH)

Source: <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/addhealth>

Description: The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health) is a school-based study of the health-related behaviors of adolescents in grades 7 to 12. It is designed to explore the causes of these behaviors with an emphasis on the influence of social context. Add Health surveys how family, friends and school play roles in the lives of adolescents that may lead to unhealthy, self-destructive behaviors.

Adolescents were interviewed at two points in time, first at Wave I (4/95 – 12/95) and then a year later at Wave II (4/96 – 8/96). 90,000 questionnaires were asked during the 1994-1995 school year. 20,000 of these students and their parents were interviewed in their homes during the summer of 1995 and 1996. In 2001 and 2002, Add Health respondents, 18 to 26 years old, were re-interviewed in a third wave to investigate the influence that adolescence has on young adulthood.

Add Health provides a comprehensive view of the health and health behaviors of adolescents including self-esteem, suicide indication, violent behaviors, substance use and abuse, sexual behavior and contraceptive use. It also has detailed information on child's schooling attendance, skipping and getting held back in school, getting suspended or expelled from school. In addition to that, detailed information on the grades the child receives at school is also available.

Sample: We restrict the sample to only those children who were enrolled in 7th or 8th grade in the first survey year in order to avoid biasing the sample by missing those who already dropped out in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade samples.

Variables:

HS Completion Status: High school completion status is determined by using the third follow-up variables for highest grade completed (HG_COMPW3), GED status (GED_W3) and whether or not the respondent holds a high school degree (HSDEG_W3).

Race: From Wave I in-home survey variable (H1GI4)

Sex: From Wave I in-home survey variable (BIO_SEX)

Year of birth: From Wave I in-home survey variables (H1GI1Y and H1GI1M).

Weight: All calculations are weighted using the variable (GSWGT3_2).

Estimation: The graduation rate reported for ADDHEALTH is the fraction of 7th and 8th graders in the first wave who report having a regular high school diploma by the third wave. This will tend to slightly underestimate the overall graduation rates for this cohort, particularly for minorities, because this sample is only ages 19-20 by the third wave. This likely account's for the small observed differences between the NLSY97 and ADDHEALTH calculations.

Bibliography

Ingels Steven, and Quinn Peggy. 1996. Sample Exclusion in NELS:88. Characteristics of Base Year Ineligible Students: Changes in Eligibility Status after Four Years. Technical Report. National Data Resource Center

Notes

¹ For more information see: (<http://usa.ipums.org/usa/intro.shtml#universe>).

² The Census Bureau provided imputations for missing values in age, race, sex or educational attainment are used throughout the analysis. Excluding imputed values does not change the conclusions we reach in the paper.

³ Private schools, however, were not divided into sub-strata based on race.

⁴ Information based on NLS Handbook, 2000.

⁵ Information obtained from NLSY97 User's Guide online at <http://www.bls.gov/nls/97guide/nls97usg.htm>

Part B. Supplemental Tables/Figures

The following is a list of tables and figures referenced in the text but not shown in the main body of the text.

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Figures:

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Figure S.3	GED Credentials Issued as a Percentage of All High School Completers, NCES and GEDTS
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Table S.1 Comparison of GEDs Issued using GEDTS data vs. Independent Sample Estimates

Birth Cohort	1951-1955	1956-1960	1961-1965	1966-1970	1971-1975	1976-1980	1980-1984
Year	1980	1980	1990	1990	2000	2000	2004
Age	25-29	20-24	25-29	20-24	25-29	20-24	20-24
GEDTS Estimate	1,004,323	1,025,369	1,740,018	1,040,537	1,587,737	1,389,540	1,672,688
Independent Data Estimate	na	983,762	1,872,896	933,982	1,484,432	1,355,106	1,730,665

* Estimate does not include recent immigrants GEDs who entered the U.S. after the initial survey.

**Estimate does not include incarcerated GEDs

Note: Authors calculations from various data sources. GEDTS estimate is calculated from GEDTS statistical reports using the methodology described in the data appendix. Independent data estimates are from the following sources: (1) 1980-1984 birth cohort-NLSY97 2004 survey; (2) 1976-1980 birth cohort-October CPS 1999 survey; (3) 1971-1975 cohort-October CPS 1999 survey; (4) 1966-1970 cohort-October CPS 1990 survey; (5) 1961-1965 cohort- NLSY79 1960-1964 birth cohort sample; (6) 1956-1960 estimates from NLSY79 1957-1960 birth cohort sample; (7) 1951-1955 cohort estimates from PSID 1990 sample (in order to include Latino sample). Respondents were between the ages of 29 and 35 but the year of GED attainment was restricted to be less than or equal to 1980.

Table S.2 GED Credentials Issued in Correctional Institutions as A Percentage of Total Issued

Year	Coverage	State Prisons	Federal Prisons	Total
1994	57.1%	6.7%	1.4%	8.1%
1995	71.9%	8.6%	1.2%	9.8%
1996	72.5%	9.2%	1.2%	10.4%
1997	73.1%	9.4%	1.4%	10.8%
1998	76.2%	9.6%	1.4%	11.0%
1999	75.4%	9.8%	1.5%	11.3%
2000	79.5%	9.8%	1.6%	11.4%
2001	55.9%	7.9%	1.6%	9.5%
2002	58.0%	11.3%	1.7%	13.0%
2003	58.4%	10.2%	1.6%	11.8%
2004	67.3%	11.0%	1.8%	12.8%
2005	60.5%	11.8%	1.8%	13.6%

Sources: Various state Department of Corrections and GED offices. Data for federal prisoners from GED Testing Service "Who took the GED?" various years. See appendix for data for each state considered in the estimation.

Notes: State coverage represents the total number of GED credentials issued in those states with information available as a percentage of total GED credentials issued in the US. Total percentage of GED credentials issued in state prisons represent credentials issued in correctional institutions of those states that have prison information for a given year as a percentage of total GED credentials issued in those states. The percentage of GED credentials issued in federal prisons is calculated on total credentials issued in the US (including federal prisons). Credentials issued in insular areas, freely associated states, Canada, overseas locations and military bases are excluded.

Table S.3. Male Graduation Estimator Comparison in NELS vs. CCD

A. Overall	NELS					
	8th Eligible	8th Ineligible*	8th Enrollment	Freshened F1***	Freshened F2****	Totals
Sample Sizes						
Initial Size	1,492,337	94,204	1,586,541	72,862	17,406	1,676,809
Final Size (F3)	1,487,478	93,897	1,581,375	66,411	11,346	1,659,132
Graduates						
1992 Graduates	1,160,041	33,803	1,193,844	31,784	9,752	1,235,380
Total Cohort Graduate	1,202,970	46,948	1,249,918	43,117	9,831	1,302,866
Graduation Rates						
Cohort Rate	80.87%	50.00%	79.04%	64.92%	86.64%	78.53%
8th grade Estimator	77.73%	35.88%	75.25%	...	...	77.87%
On time Cohort	77.99%	36.00%	75.49%	47.86%	85.95%	74.46%
B. Whites						
Sample Sizes						
Initial Size	1,015,864	47,176	1,063,040	34,697	7,132	1,104,869
Final Size (F3)	1,023,825	47,546	1,071,371	33,361	3,580	1,108,311
Graduates						
1992 Graduates	836,984	17,116	854,100	16,002	2,852	872,954
Total Cohort Graduate	861,872	23,773	885,645	21,894	2,930	910,470
Graduation Rates						
Cohort Rate	84.18%	50.00%	82.66%	65.63%	81.86%	82.15%
8th grade Estimator	82.39%	36.28%	80.35%	...	...	82.12%
On time Cohort	81.75%	36.00%	79.72%	47.96%	79.67%	78.76%
C. Blacks						
Sample Sizes						
Initial Size	194,630	15,577	210,207	16,271	2,059	228,537
Final Size (F3)	197,692	15,822	213,514	15,471	2,001	230,986
Graduates						
1992 Graduates	125,965	5,696	131,661	6,626	1,704	139,991
Total Cohort Graduate	135,948	7,911	143,859	9,328	1,704	154,891
Graduation Rates						
Cohort Rate	68.77%	50.00%	67.38%	60.30%	85.13%	67.06%
8th grade Estimator	64.72%	36.57%	62.63%	...	...	66.60%
On time Cohort	63.72%	36.00%	61.66%	42.83%	85.13%	60.61%
D. Hispanics						
Sample Sizes						
Initial Size	152,699	14,538	167,237	16,405	5,139	188,782
Final Size (F3)	148,568	14,145	162,713	12,490	3,203	178,406
Graduates						
1992 Graduates	105,487	5,092	110,579	5,218	2,940	118,737
Total Cohort Graduate	110,390	7,073	117,463	7,957	2,940	128,360
Graduation Rates						
Cohort Rate	74.30%	50.00%	72.19%	63.71%	91.78%	71.95%
8th grade Estimator	69.08%	35.03%	66.12%	...	...	71.00%
On time Cohort	71.00%	36.00%	67.96%	41.78%	91.78%	66.55%

*Ineligible attrition is assumed to be the same as the base year eligible cohort.

** Total sample includes private school students estimated from CPS.

Note: Computed from NELS88 Base Year to Third Follow up. 1992 graduates for ineligibles assumes all in sequence ineligibles in 1992 graduated that year. Bias in 8th Grade Estimator is a function of cohort sizes, retention rates, change in grad rates between cohorts and early graduation among other factors. The "Freshened F1" sample are those who were not enrolled in 8th grade in the base year who were found to be enrolled in 10th grade in the first follow-up (F1). Likewise, the F2 freshened sample are those not enrolled in 10th grade during the first follow up in 1990 who were enrolled in 12th grade in the second follow-up in 1992 (F2). Final estimates are based on the third follow-up in 1994 (F3).

Table S.4. Female Graduation Estimator Comparison in NELS vs. CCD

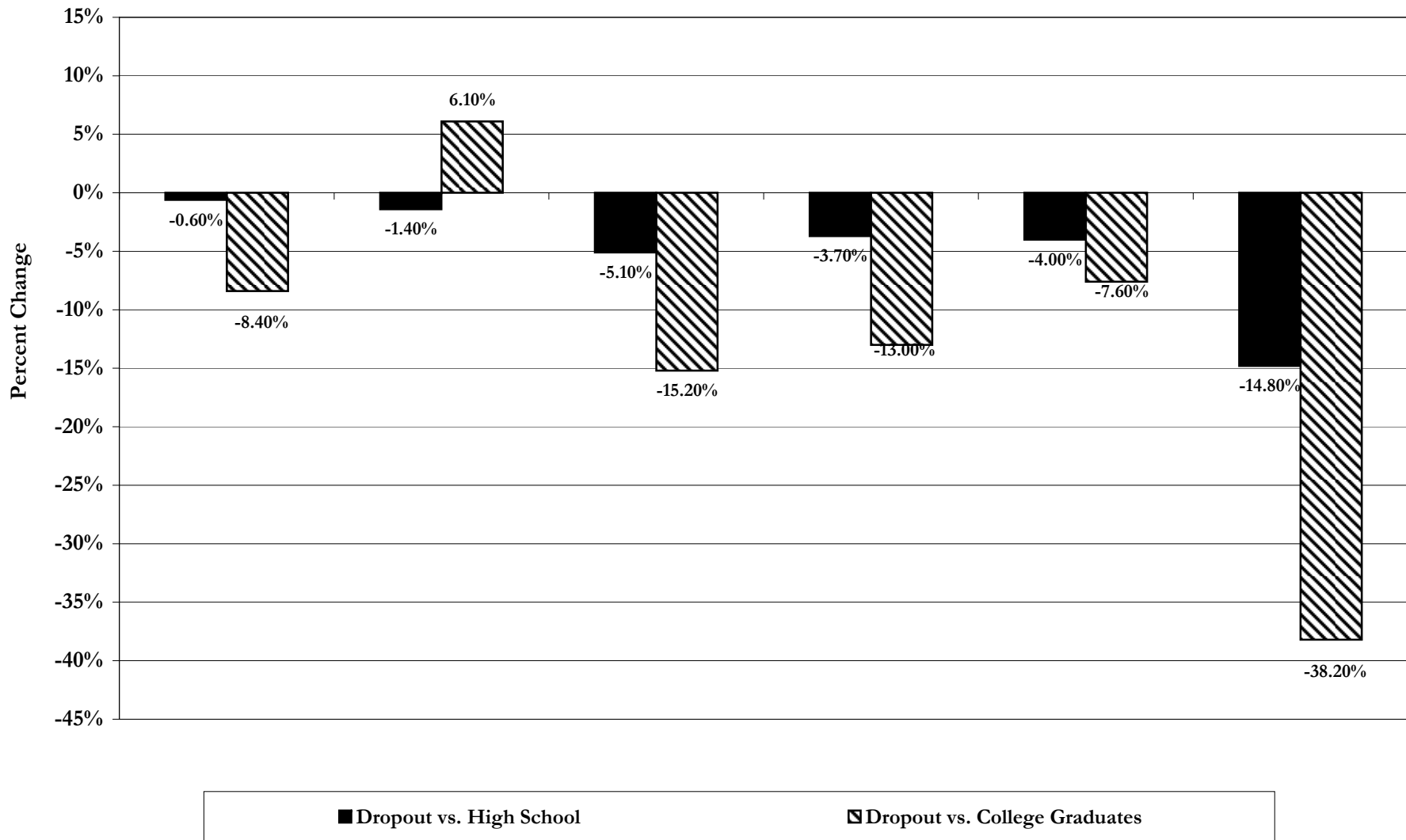
A. Overall	NELS					
	8th Eligible	8th Ineligible*	8th Enrollment	Freshened F1***	Freshened F2****	Totals
Sample Sizes						
Initial Size	1,489,213	54,148	1,543,361	58,523	17,286	1,619,170
Final Size (F3)	1,480,948	53,848	1,534,796	49,882	9,222	1,593,900
Graduates						
1992 Graduates	1,182,932	19,385	1,202,317	28,848	6,150	1,237,315
Total Cohort Graduate	1,230,526	26,924	1,257,450	39,591	6,672	1,303,713
Graduation Rates						
Cohort Rate	79.88%	50.00%	81.93%	79.37%	72.34%	81.79%
8th grade Estimator	56.76%	35.80%	77.90%	...	...	80.17%
On time Cohort	57.08%	36.00%	78.34%	57.83%	66.69%	77.63%
B. Whites						
Sample Sizes						
Initial Size	1,021,643	23,143	1,044,786	28,936	10,083	1,083,805
Final Size (F3)	1,014,569	22,983	1,037,552	19,978	4,532	1,062,062
Graduates						
1992 Graduates	845,274	8,274	853,548	14,330	3,107	870,985
Total Cohort Graduate	871,032	11,491	882,523	19,681	3,107	905,311
Graduation Rates						
Cohort Rate	85.85%	50.00%	85.06%	98.51%	68.55%	85.24%
8th grade Estimator	82.74%	35.75%	81.70%	...	...	83.36%
On time Cohort	83.31%	36.00%	82.27%	71.73%	68.55%	82.01%
C. Blacks						
Sample Sizes						
Initial Size	197,696	7,863	205,559	12,321	1,850	219,729
Final Size (F3)	197,992	7,874	205,866	11,734	1,513	219,113
Graduates						
1992 Graduates	139,140	2,835	141,975	6,669	773	149,417
Total Cohort Graduate	152,563	3,937	156,500	9,111	773	166,385
Graduation Rates						
Cohort Rate	77.06%	50.00%	76.02%	77.65%	51.11%	75.94%
8th grade Estimator	70.38%	36.05%	69.07%	...	...	72.69%
On time Cohort	70.28%	36.00%	68.96%	56.84%	51.11%	68.19%
D. Hispanics						
Sample Sizes						
Initial Size	152,923	13,500	166,423	10,594	3,309	180,326
Final Size (F3)	158,827	14,021	172,848	9,405	2,133	184,386
Graduates						
1992 Graduates	111,452	5,048	116,500	4,291	1,227	122,017
Total Cohort Graduate	117,818	7,011	124,829	6,700	1,748	133,276
Graduation Rates						
Cohort Rate	74.18%	50.00%	72.22%	71.24%	81.94%	72.28%
8th grade Estimator	72.88%	37.39%	70.00%	...	...	73.32%
On time Cohort	70.17%	36.00%	67.40%	45.63%	57.50%	66.17%

*Ineligible attrition is assumed to be the same as the base year eligible cohort.

** Total sample includes private school students estimated from CPS.

Note: Computed from NELS88 Base Year to Third Follow up. 1992 graduates for ineligibles assumes all in sequence ineligibles in 1992 graduated that year. Bias in 8th Grade Estimator is a function of cohort sizes, retention rates, change in grad rates between cohorts and early graduation among other factors. The "Freshened F1" sample are those who were not enrolled in 8th grade in the base year who were found to be enrolled in 10th grade in the first follow-up (F1). Likewise, the F2 freshened sample are those not enrolled in 10th grade during the first follow up in 1990 who were enrolled in 12th grade in the second follow-up in 1992 (F2). Final estimates are based on the third follow-up in 1994 (F3).

Figure S.1. Percent Change in the Relative Weekly Wages of HS Dropouts to HS and Four Year College Graduates, March CPS



Source: Autor, Katz and Kearney (2005), "Trends in U.S. Wage Inequality: Reassessing the Revisionists". Based on full time - full year workers. High school graduates are those without any post-secondary education. College graduates are those who hold at least a four year college degree.

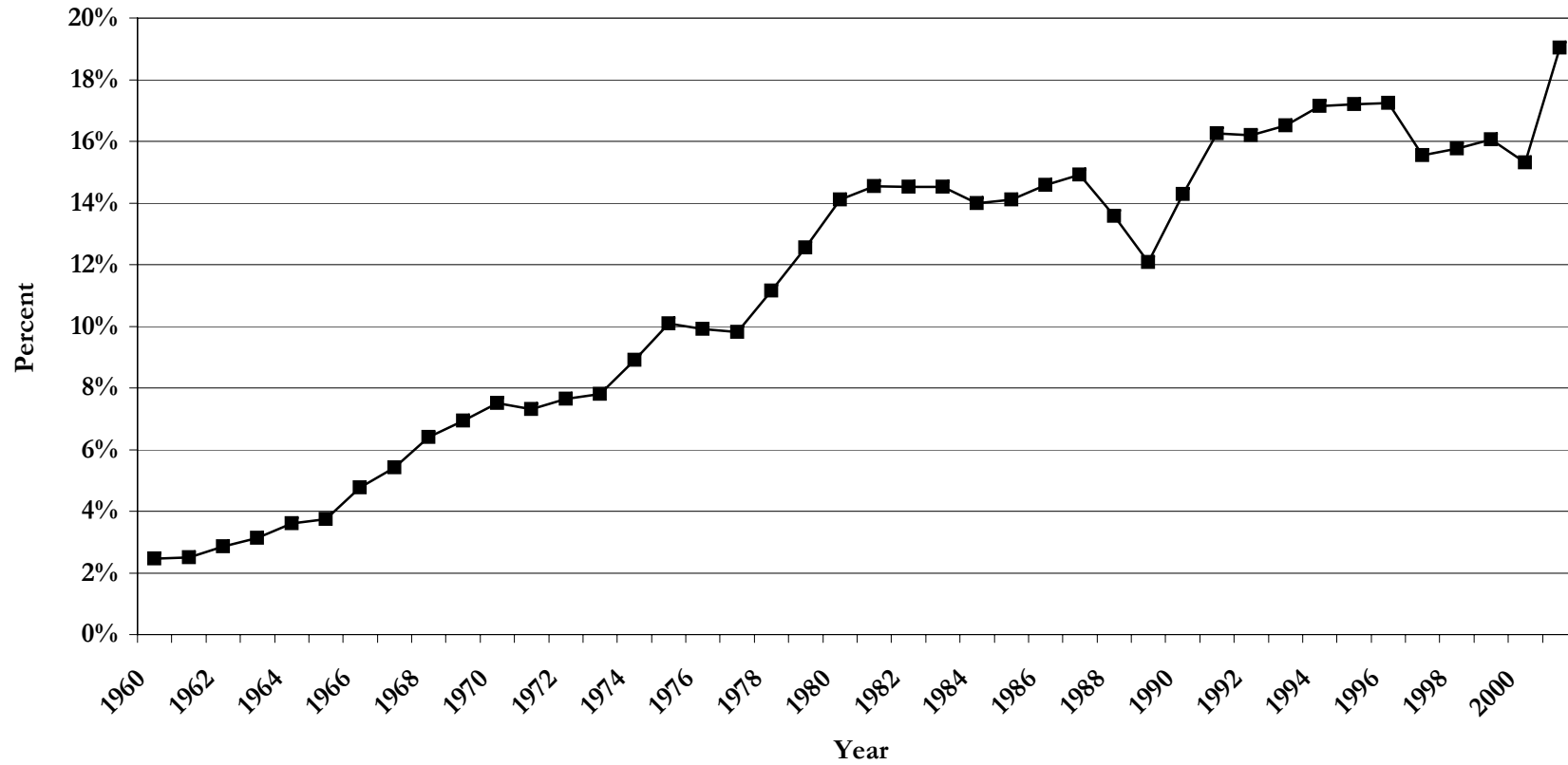
Figure S.2. Residual of Average Age of GED Recipients Regressed on the Percentage of the U.S. Population Ages 20-24, GEDTS 1959-2001*



SOURCE: American Council on Education, General Educational Development Testing Service Statistical Reports. Graph plots the residual of regressing average age of GED receipt on a 4-degree polynomial of the percentage of the U.S. population ages 18-24.

*The graph plots the residual $U(t)$ from the regression of the average age of GED recipients = $\alpha + \beta$ (percent of population 20-24) + $U(t)$. " $U(t)$ " is the average age at year t controlling for percent of people age 20-24. The downward drift in $U(t)$ means that the average test-taking age is declining.

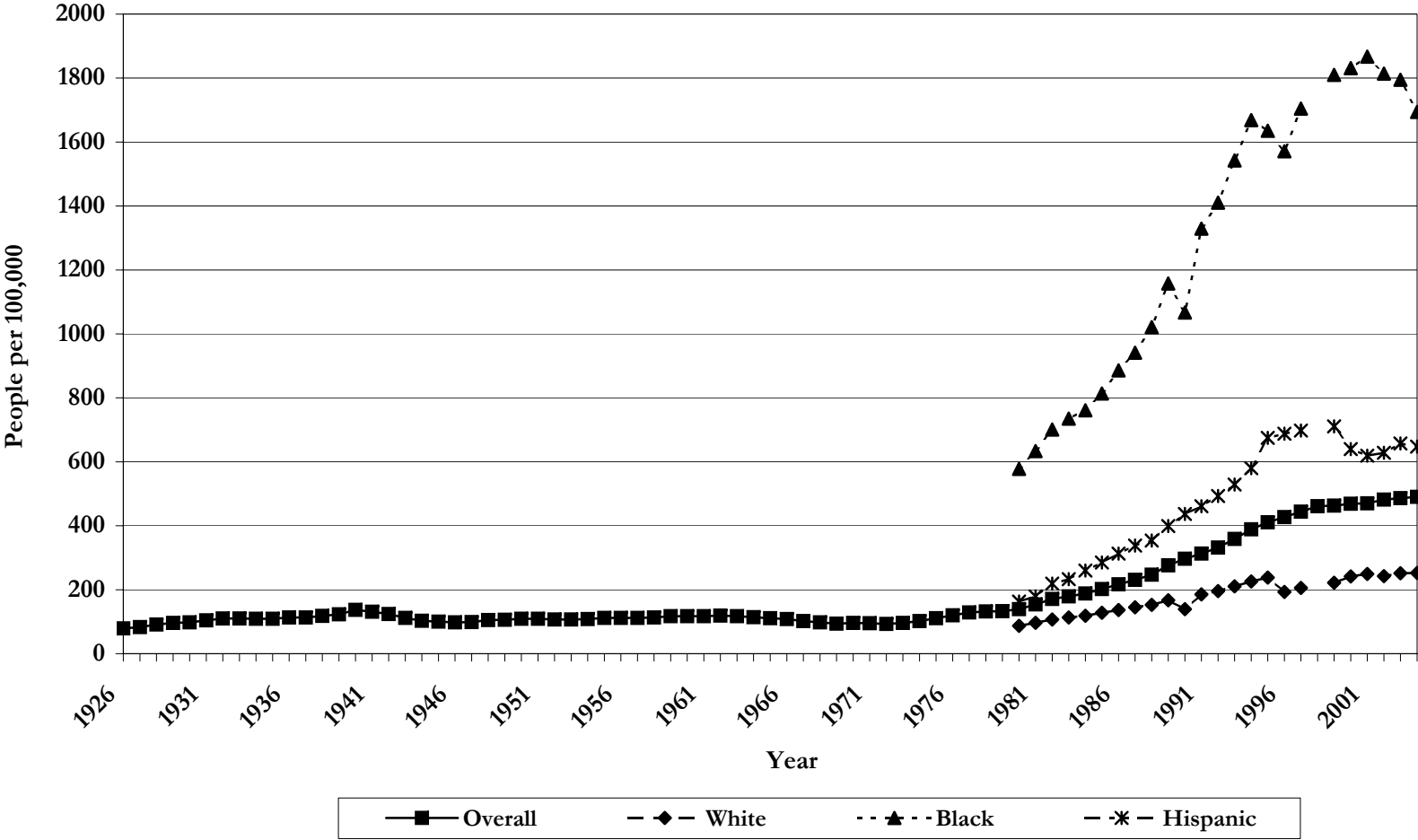
Figure S.3. GED Credentials Issued as a Percentage of All High School Completers, NCES and GEDTS



SOURCE: Public and private high school graduate totals from NCES Digest of Educational Statistics (2005) Table 101; GED Credentials Issued from GED Statistical Reports (Various Years).

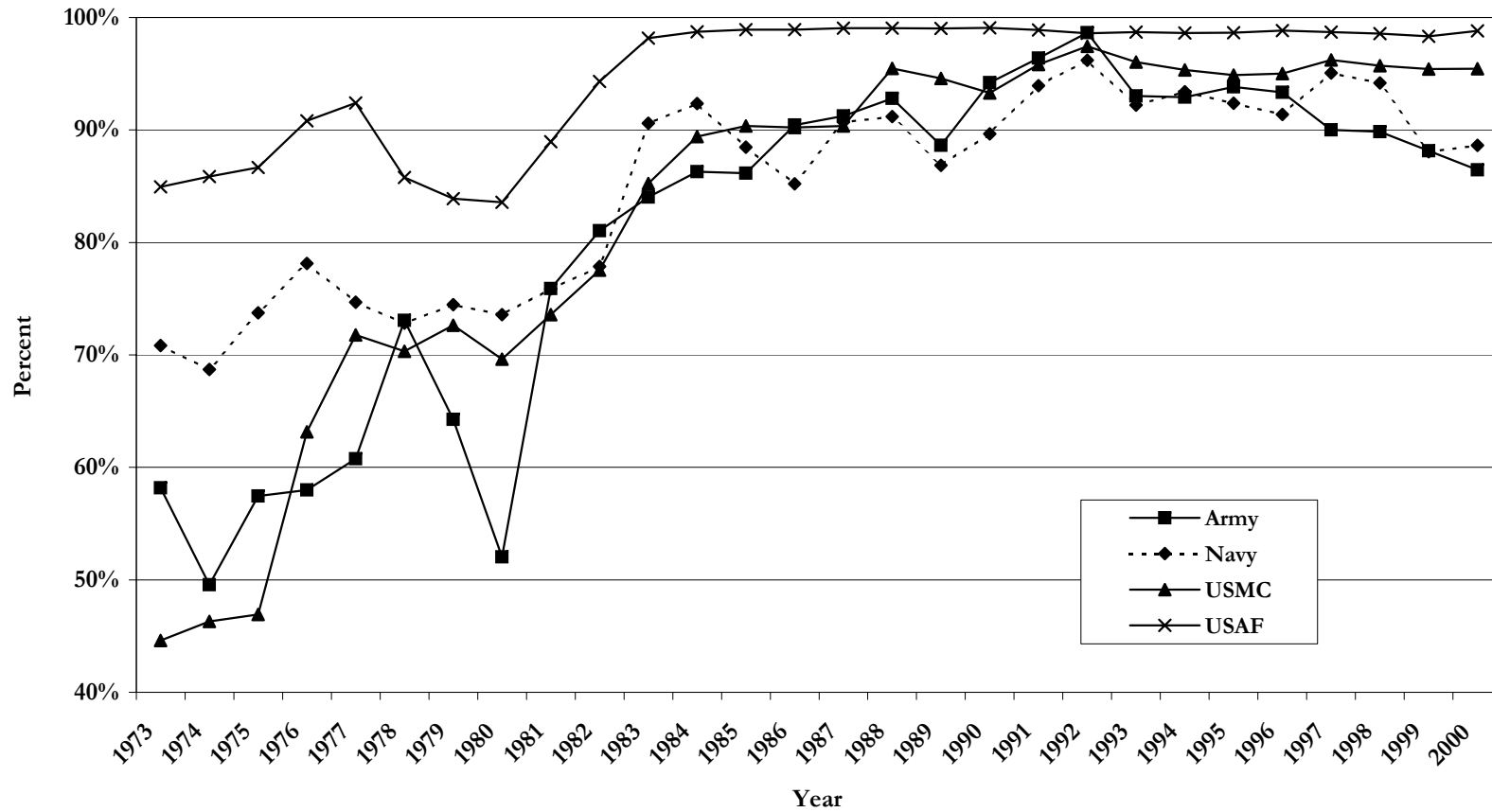
NOTE: The figure plots proportion of GEDs issued each year over the number of high school completers that year (high school graduates and GED recipients).

Figure S.4. Incarcerated Population per 100,000 U.S. Residents by Race, 1926-2004



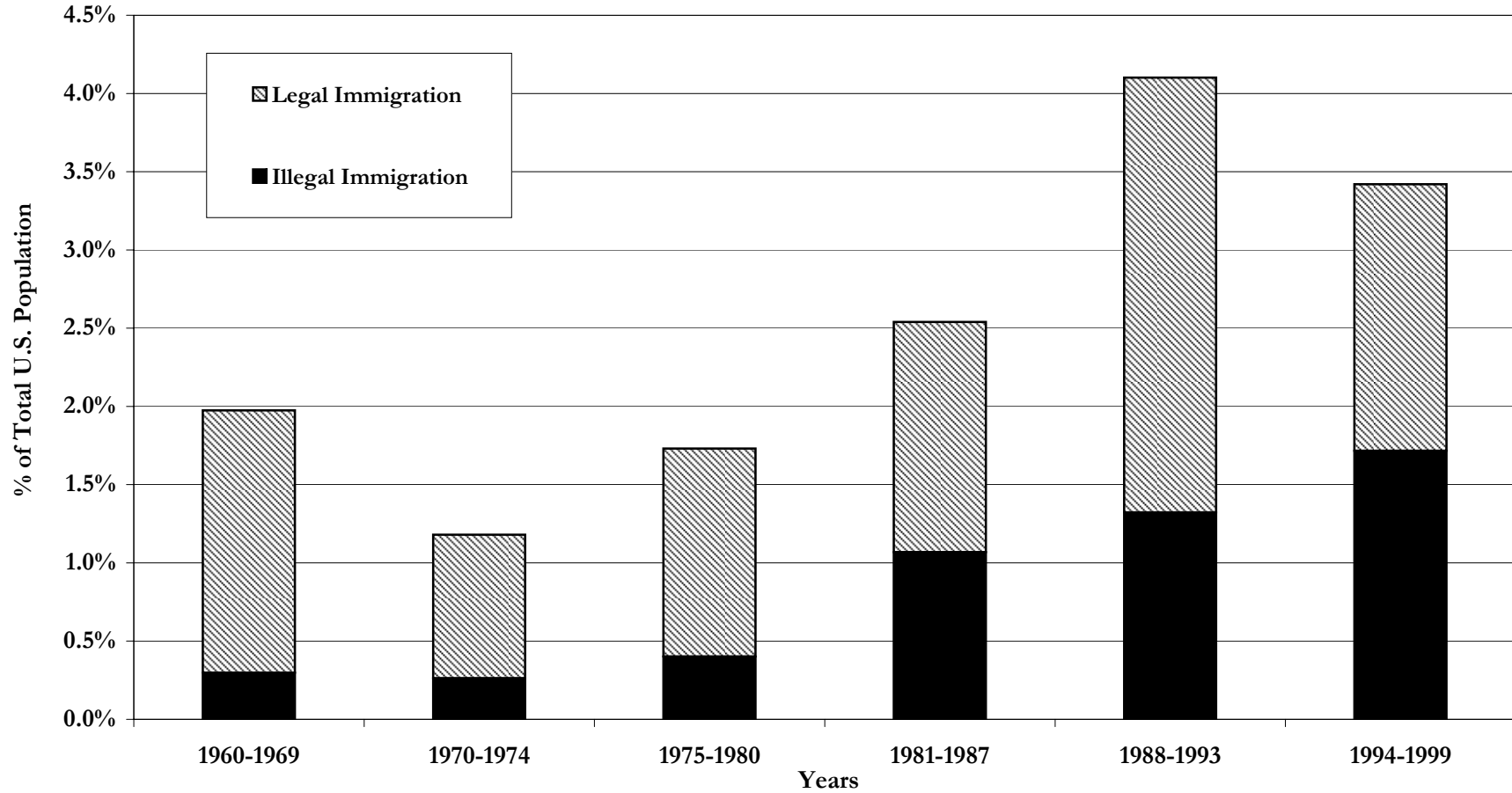
SOURCE: Bureau of Justice Statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau. Based on U.S. Census Bureau estimated resident population, as of December 31. Includes all persons under jurisdiction of federal and state authorities rather than those in the custody of such authorities. Represents inmates sentenced to minimum term of more than a year.

Figure S.5. Non-Prior Service Active Component Enlisted Accessions with High School Diplomas by Service with Civilian Comparison Group, FYs 1973-2000



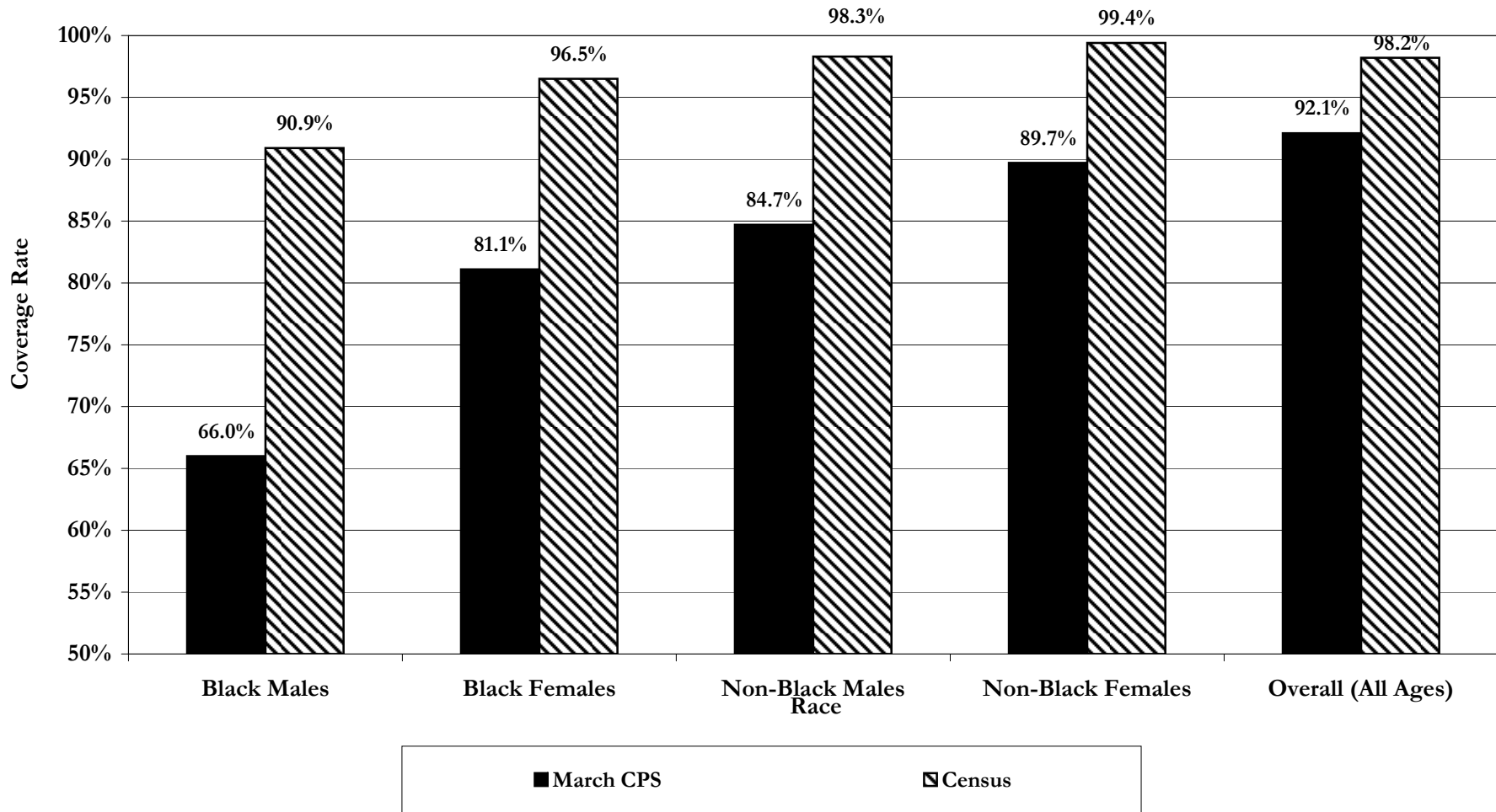
SOURCE: Department of Defense publication "Population Representation in the Military". See <http://www.defenselink.mil/prhome/poprep2002/>.

Figure S.6. Legal and Illegal Immigration into the U.S. as a Fraction of Total Population, 1960-1999



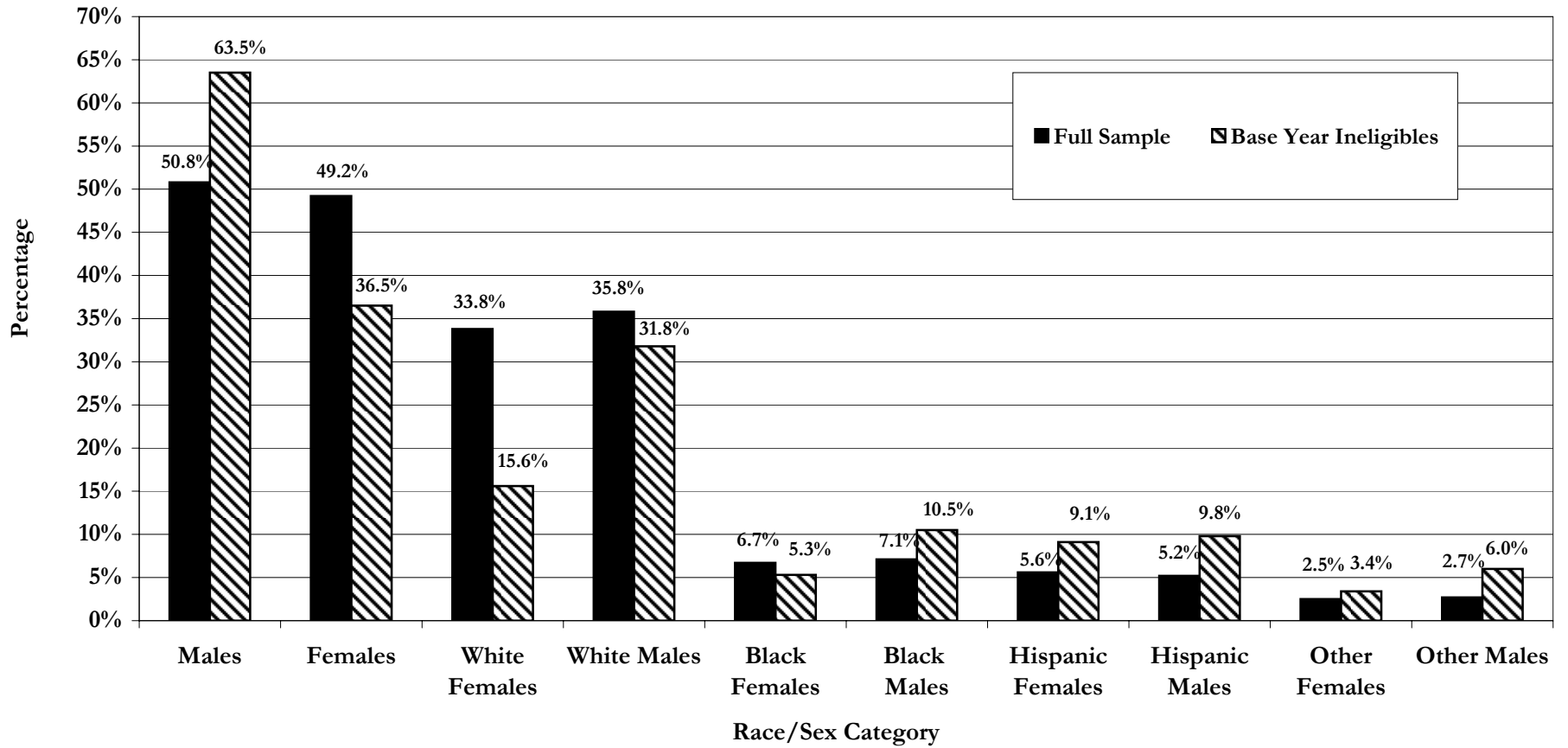
Source: Estimates of Illegal Aliens from Mexico Counted in the 1980 United States Census, "5 million Illegal Immigrants: An Analysis of New INS Numbers", "Estimates of the Unauthorized Immigrant Population Residing in the United States: 1990-2000", 2001 Statistical Yearbook of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Figure S.7. CPS vs. Census Inclusion Rate Comparisons of 20-29 Year Olds by Race and Sex, 1990



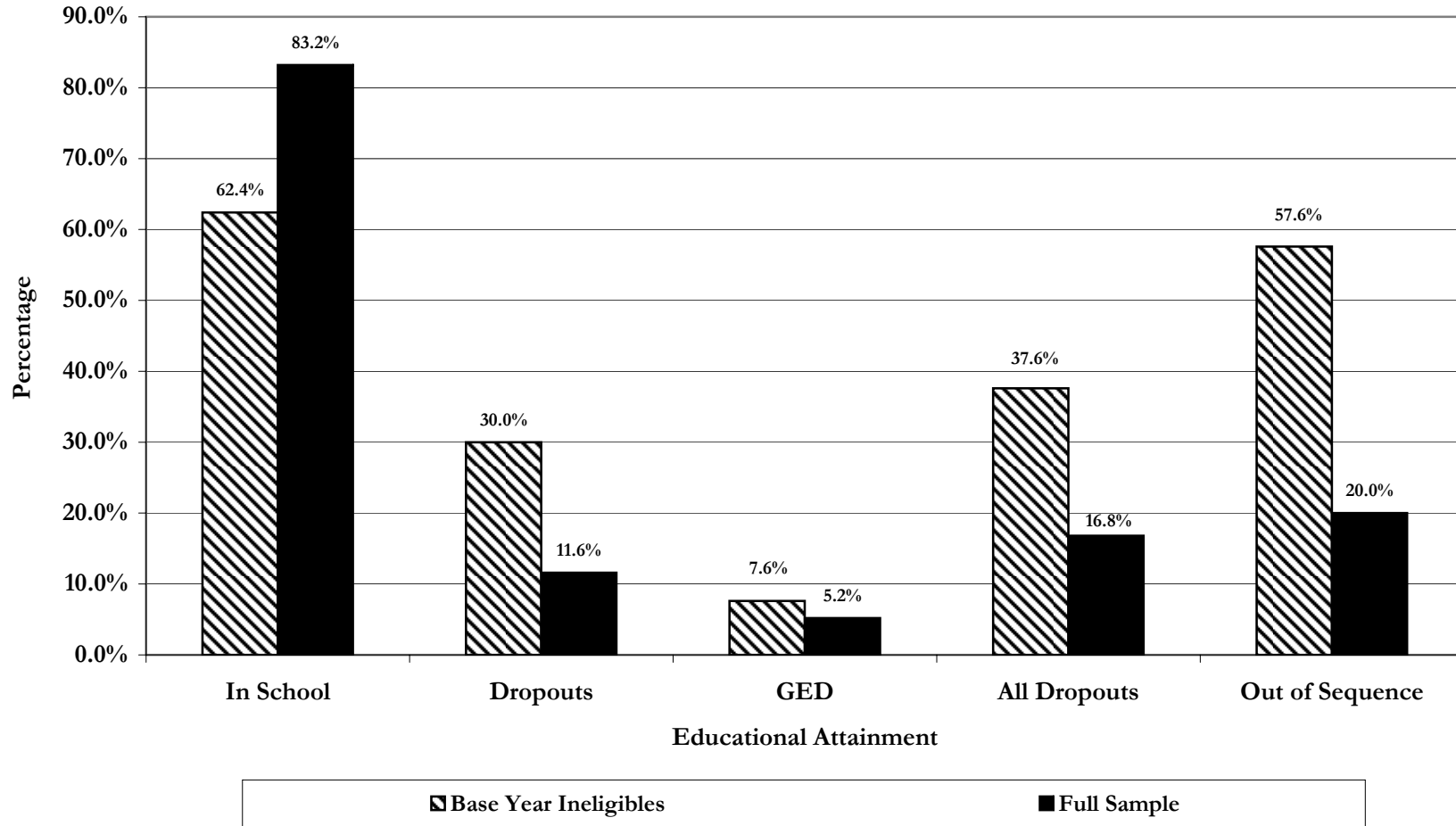
Source: Horrigan, Moore, Pedlow and Wolter (2002).

Fig. S.8. Race/Sex Distribution of Base Year Ineligibles vs. Full Sample (Eligible and Ineligible)



Source: Replicated from Table 1 of "Sample Exclusion in NELS:88, Characteristics of Base Year Ineligible Students." Calculations based on NELS88 second follow up survey data.

Fig. S.9 Educational Attainment by the Second Follow Up (F2) of Base Year Ineligibles vs. Full Sample (Eligible and Ineligible), NELS



Source: Replicated from Table 3 of "Sample Exclusion in NELS:88, Characteristics of Base Year Ineligible Students." Calculations based on NELS88 second follow up survey data. Out of sequence are those who are enrolled in school but not at the expected grade level.

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Table A.36 Immigrant GED % Issued by Race/Sex to 25-29 Year Olds in 1980

Table A.1 Age 20-24 Population Counts by Race, Sex and Education Status, Census 2000

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other
A. Unweighted (N)															
Overall Sample	874,061	560,243	113,626	150,151	50,041	443,421	282,494	54,557	81,379	24,991	430,640	277,749	59,069	68,772	25,050
Recent Immigrants	77,482	10,189	4,503	48,983	13,807	42,958	4,914	2,151	29,345	6,548	34,524	5,275	2,352	19,638	7,259
B. Overall															
Dropouts	3,338,706	1,278,407	626,702	1,318,330	115,267	1,956,576	731,806	359,268	799,870	65,632	1,382,130	546,601	267,434	518,460	49,635
HS and GED	15,537,692	10,641,947	1,999,864	1,945,943	949,938	7,666,471	5,303,256	915,553	979,871	467,791	7,871,221	5,338,691	1,084,311	966,072	482,147
Total	18,876,398	11,920,354	2,626,566	3,264,273	1,065,205	9,623,047	6,035,062	1,274,821	1,779,741	533,423	9,253,351	5,885,292	1,351,745	1,484,532	531,782
C. Insitutional															
Dropouts	187,646	51,144	94,711	36,828	4,963	175,917	46,656	89,585	35,239	4,437	11,729	4,488	5,126	1,589	526
HS and GED	164,125	72,854	60,667	25,647	4,957	149,554	65,537	55,917	23,693	4,407	14,571	7,317	4,750	1,954	550
Total	351,771	123,998	155,378	62,475	9,920	325,471	112,193	145,502	58,932	8,844	26,300	11,805	9,876	3,543	1,076
D. Military															
Dropouts	3,667	2,336	612	548	171	3,335	2,155	520	489	171	332	181	92	59	0
HS and GED	186,476	119,465	33,281	24,627	9,103	163,472	106,826	26,963	21,572	8,111	23,004	12,639	6,318	3,055	992
Total	190,143	121,801	33,893	25,175	9,274	166,807	108,981	27,483	22,061	8,282	23,336	12,820	6,410	3,114	992
E. Recent Immigrants															
Dropouts	746,206	26,864	20,592	665,550	33,200	461,915	13,957	10,662	419,763	17,533	284,291	12,907	9,930	245,787	15,667
HS and GED	981,728	208,752	88,568	407,017	277,391	497,550	100,160	42,275	224,749	130,366	484,178	108,592	46,293	182,268	147,025
Total	1,727,934	235,616	109,160	1,072,567	310,591	959,465	114,117	52,937	644,512	147,899	768,469	121,499	56,223	428,055	162,692
F. GED Recipients															
Total	1,389,540	898,881	249,294	185,441	55,351	778,877	527,859	131,338	88,380	30,719	609,759	370,783	117,550	96,967	24,556
Institutional	91,980	40,165	32,180	14,822	4,240	84,951	36,453	30,172	13,827	3,918	6,124	3,473	1,602	901	246
Non-Institutional	1,297,560	900,241	206,420	146,854	44,045	721,635	498,211	120,660	64,924	37,840	575,925	402,029	85,760	81,930	6,205
Recent Immigrants	61,625	12,462	9,795	26,122	13,245	27,443	11,188	3,349	8,544	4,362	34,182	1,275	6,446	17,578	8,883
Military	14,918	9,366	2,548	1,970	1,034	13,078	8,385	2,074	1,726	893	1,840	981	475	244	141
Excl. Immigrant/Military/Prison	1,221,017	878,413	194,077	118,762	29,766	681,115	478,638	115,238	54,654	32,585	539,902	399,774	78,839	64,108	-2,819
G. Graduation Rates															
Including Immigrants	74.95%	81.73%	66.65%	53.93%	83.98%	71.57%	79.13%	61.52%	50.09%	81.94%	78.47%	84.41%	71.52%	58.54%	86.05%
Standard Error	.0005	.0005	.0014	.0013	.0016	.0007	.0008	.0021	.0018	.0024	.0006	.0007	.0019	.0019	.0022
95% Lower CI	74.86%	81.63%	66.37%	53.68%	83.66%	71.44%	78.98%	61.11%	49.75%	81.46%	78.35%	84.28%	71.16%	58.18%	85.62%
95% Upper CI	75.04%	81.84%	66.92%	54.18%	84.30%	71.71%	79.28%	61.92%	50.43%	82.41%	78.60%	84.55%	71.88%	58.91%	86.48%
Excluding Immigrants	77.14%	81.70%	66.41%	62.95%	83.54%	74.07%	79.15%	61.00%	59.48%	80.69%	80.28%	84.33%	71.55%	66.68%	86.55%
Standard Error	.0005	.0005	.0014	.0015	.0019	.0007	.0008	.0021	.0022	.0029	.0006	.0007	.0019	.0021	.0026
95% Lower CI	77.05%	81.60%	66.13%	62.65%	83.16%	73.94%	79.00%	60.58%	59.06%	80.12%	80.15%	84.19%	71.18%	66.26%	86.05%
95% Upper CI	77.23%	81.81%	66.69%	63.24%	83.93%	74.21%	79.30%	61.41%	59.91%	81.26%	80.40%	84.47%	71.92%	67.09%	87.05%

Notes: Author's calculations based on Census 2000 data. All estimates are weighted by the person weight(perwt) and race categories are mutually exclusive. Those reporting never having attended school are excluded. Total GED recipients are estimated GED testing service data. The recent immigrant category are only those who are in the civilian non-institutional population and who emigrated to the U.S. after 1990. The percentage of GEDs who are recent immigrants is estimated from CPS October 2000 data. See the Web Appendix for details of these calculations.

Table A.2 Age 25-29 Population Counts by Race, Sex and Education Status, Census 2000

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other
A. Unweighted (N)															
Overall Sample	899,857	587,505	108,067	148,795	55,490	447,454	291,441	50,173	78,631	27,209	452,403	296,064	57,894	70,164	28,281
Recent Immigrants	115,620	16,755	6,324	67,104	25,437	60,563	8,214	2,935	37,416	11,998	55,057	8,541	3,389	29,688	13,439
B. Overall															
Dropouts	2,947,246	1,063,478	450,385	1,314,943	118,440	1,680,274	605,986	243,785	769,697	60,806	1,266,972	457,492	206,600	545,246	57,634
HS and GED	16,036,031	11,020,093	2,034,343	1,892,305	1,089,290	7,864,693	5,460,227	928,862	943,838	531,766	8,171,338	5,559,866	1,105,481	948,467	557,524
Total	18,983,277	12,083,571	2,484,728	3,207,248	1,207,730	9,544,967	6,066,213	1,172,647	1,713,535	592,572	9,438,310	6,017,358	1,312,081	1,493,713	615,158
C. Institutional															
Dropouts	151,039	40,510	71,849	34,668	4,012	138,471	35,974	66,251	32,526	3,720	12,568	4,536	5,598	2,142	292
HS and GED	191,849	75,702	80,129	30,314	5,704	174,779	67,253	74,183	28,342	5,001	17,070	8,449	5,946	1,972	703
Total	342,888	116,212	151,978	64,982	9,716	313,250	103,227	140,434	60,868	8,721	29,638	12,985	11,544	4,114	995
D. Military															
Dropouts	565	305	79	168	13	548	288	79	168	13	17	17	0	0	0
HS and GED	39,834	23,284	9,602	4,817	2,131	35,113	21,197	7,713	4,291	1,912	4,721	2,087	1,889	526	219
Total	40,399	23,589	9,681	4,985	2,144	35,661	21,485	7,792	4,459	1,925	4,738	2,104	1,889	526	219
E. Recent Immigrants															
Dropouts	974,342	37,589	24,426	851,399	60,928	561,967	19,587	11,418	502,096	28,866	412,375	18,002	13,008	349,303	32,062
HS and GED	1,594,668	347,055	128,782	599,714	519,117	790,660	171,694	60,538	312,832	245,596	804,008	175,361	68,244	286,882	273,521
Total	2,569,010	384,644	153,208	1,451,113	580,045	1,352,627	191,281	71,956	814,928	274,462	1,216,383	193,363	81,252	636,185	305,583
F. GED Recipients															
Total	1,587,737	1,001,526	308,992	225,290	52,379	813,804	509,984	151,544	118,099	34,557	773,528	499,146	134,549	107,212	32,738
Institutional	88,343	37,624	34,036	13,726	3,407	81,196	33,392	32,072	13,067	3,045	6,743	4,169	1,727	679	285
Recent Immigrants	139,787	9,883	9,640	27,077	15,026	73,085	12,226	7,391	38,513	14,955	66,702	10,192	14,476	22,906	19,128
G. Graduation Rates															
Including Immigrants	76.11%	82.91%	69.44%	51.98%	85.86%	73.87%	81.60%	66.29%	48.19%	83.91%	78.38%	84.10%	74.00%	56.32%	85.31%
Standard Error	.0004	.0005	.0014	.0013	.0015	.0007	.0007	.0021	.0018	.0022	.0006	.0007	.0018	.0019	.0021
95% Lower CI	76.02%	82.81%	69.16%	51.72%	85.57%	73.74%	81.46%	65.87%	47.84%	83.47%	78.26%	83.97%	73.64%	55.95%	84.90%
95% Upper CI	76.20%	83.01%	69.71%	52.23%	86.15%	74.00%	81.74%	66.70%	48.54%	84.34%	78.50%	84.23%	74.36%	56.69%	85.72%
Excluding Immigrants	79.16%	82.75%	68.89%	62.32%	84.89%	77.31%	81.55%	65.79%	61.36%	83.80%	81.01%	84.06%	74.52%	67.32%	87.34%
Standard Error	.0005	.0005	.0015	.0017	.0021	.0007	.0007	.0022	.0024	.0030	.0006	.0007	.0019	.0023	.0027
95% Lower CI	79.07%	82.66%	68.61%	61.99%	84.48%	77.18%	81.40%	65.36%	60.89%	83.21%	80.89%	83.92%	74.15%	66.86%	86.81%
95% Upper CI	79.25%	82.85%	69.18%	62.65%	85.29%	77.44%	81.69%	66.22%	61.83%	84.38%	81.13%	84.19%	74.88%	67.78%	87.88%

Notes: Author's calculations based on Census 2000 data. All estimates are weighted by the person weight(perwt) and race categories are mutually exclusive. Those reporting never having attended school are excluded. Total GED recipients are estimated GED testing service data. The recent immigrant category are only those who are in the civilian non-institutional population and who emigrated to the U.S. after 1985. The percentage of GEDs who are recent immigrants is estimated from CPS October 2000 data. See Appendix A for details of these calculations.

Table A.3 Age 20-24 Population Counts by Race, Sex and Education Status, Census 1990

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other
A. Unweighted (N)															
Overall Sample	870,006	632,420	101,894	99,665	36,027	437,259	317,356	48,509	53,115	18,279	432,747	315,064	53,385	46,550	17,748
Recent Immigrants	58,858	7,467	3,123	35,406	12,862	32,812	3,772	1,476	21,003	6,561	26,046	3,695	1,647	14,403	6,301
B. Overall															
Dropouts	3,103,517	1,572,515	576,244	847,583	107,175	1,753,482	878,083	317,632	500,938	56,829	1,350,035	694,432	258,612	346,645	50,346
HS and GED	15,344,288	11,614,813	1,826,586	1,258,031	644,858	7,601,457	5,791,544	847,807	635,289	326,817	7,742,831	5,823,269	978,779	622,742	318,041
Total	18,447,805	13,187,328	2,402,830	2,105,614	752,033	9,354,939	6,669,627	1,165,439	1,136,227	383,646	9,092,866	6,517,701	1,237,391	969,387	368,387
C. Institutional															
Dropouts	136,385	43,293	60,208	29,189	3,695	123,416	38,603	54,705	26,932	3,176	12,969	4,690	5,503	2,257	519
HS and GED	112,514	51,303	43,729	13,477	4,005	100,633	44,851	39,859	12,557	3,366	11,881	6,452	3,870	920	639
Total	248,899	94,596	103,937	42,666	7,700	224,049	83,454	94,564	39,489	6,542	24,850	11,142	9,373	3,177	1,158
D. Military															
Dropouts	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
HS and GED	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Total	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
E. Recent Immigrants															
Dropouts	522,109	19,500	15,678	444,907	42,024	317,790	10,168	8,282	278,199	21,141	204,319	9,332	7,396	166,708	20,883
HS and GED	752,636	149,043	64,474	299,662	239,457	394,837	76,156	30,338	164,854	123,489	357,799	72,887	34,136	134,808	115,968
Total	1,274,745	168,543	80,152	744,569	281,481	712,627	86,324	38,620	443,053	144,630	562,118	82,219	41,532	301,516	136,851
F. GED Recipients															
Total	1,040,537	717,842	161,348	106,589	54,758	581,781	398,491	95,491	54,693	33,105	581,781	398,491	95,491	54,693	33,105
Institutional	33,266	15,235	12,660	2,926	2,445	31,001	14,771	11,194	2,610	2,426	2,159	358	1,466	316	19
Recent Immigrants	81,200	10,975	6,829	32,008	11,813	34,287	3,664	5,688	20,453	4,481	46,913	10,797	3,310	21,722	11,084
E. Graduation Rates															
Including Immigrants	77.54%	82.63%	69.30%	54.68%	78.47%	75.04%	80.86%	64.55%	51.10%	76.56%	78.75%	83.23%	71.38%	58.60%	77.35%
Standard Error	.0004	.0005	.0014	.0016	.0022	.0007	.0007	.0022	.0022	.0031	.0006	.0007	.0020	.0023	.0031
95% Lower CI	77.45%	82.54%	69.02%	54.38%	78.04%	74.91%	80.72%	64.13%	50.67%	75.94%	78.63%	83.10%	71.00%	58.15%	76.73%
95% Upper CI	77.62%	82.73%	69.59%	54.99%	78.89%	75.17%	81.00%	64.98%	51.52%	77.17%	78.88%	83.36%	71.77%	59.05%	77.96%
Excluding Immigrants	79.38%	82.64%	69.21%	64.93%	77.03%	77.05%	80.82%	64.58%	62.93%	73.09%	80.30%	83.33%	71.28%	68.12%	77.76%
Standard Error	.0004	.0005	.0015	.0019	.0028	.0007	.0007	.0022	.0027	.0041	.0006	.0007	.0020	.0026	.0039
95% Lower CI	79.29%	82.55%	68.93%	64.57%	76.49%	76.92%	80.68%	64.14%	62.40%	72.29%	80.18%	83.20%	70.89%	67.61%	77.00%
95% Upper CI	79.47%	82.74%	69.50%	65.30%	77.57%	77.18%	80.96%	65.01%	63.46%	73.90%	80.42%	83.46%	71.67%	68.63%	78.53%

Notes: Author's calculations based on Census 1990 data. All estimates are weighted by the person weight(perwt) and race categories are mutually exclusive. Those reporting never having attended school are excluded. Total GED recipients are estimated GED testing service data. The recent immigrant category are only those who are in the civilian non-institutional population and who emigrated to the U.S. after 1980.

Table A.4 Age 25-29 Population Counts by Race, Sex and Education Status, Census 1990

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other
A. Unweighted (N)															
Overall Sample	1,001,130	753,812	106,418	101,559	39,341	494,115	373,474	48,766	52,705	19,170	507,015	380,338	57,652	48,854	20,171
Recent Immigrants	80,505	13,195	4,901	42,213	20,196	42,568	6,951	2,357	23,541	9,719	37,937	6,244	2,544	18,672	10,477
B. Overall															
Dropouts	3,301,305	1,733,012	577,625	873,059	117,609	1,812,295	956,780	305,298	493,019	57,198	1,489,010	776,232	272,327	380,040	60,411
HS and GED	17,759,115	13,661,315	2,028,771	1,352,522	716,507	8,742,108	6,778,530	926,015	682,223	355,340	9,017,007	6,882,785	1,102,756	670,299	361,167
Total	21,060,420	15,394,327	2,606,396	2,225,581	834,116	10,554,403	7,735,310	1,231,313	1,175,242	412,538	10,506,017	7,659,017	1,375,083	1,050,339	421,578
C. Institutional															
Dropouts	130,322	40,676	61,901	25,566	2,179	114,433	33,826	54,966	24,082	1,559	15,889	6,850	6,935	1,484	620
HS and GED	162,965	75,562	65,434	17,387	4,582	143,564	65,310	58,888	15,395	3,971	19,401	10,252	6,546	1,992	611
Total	293,287	116,238	127,335	42,953	6,761	257,997	99,136	113,854	39,477	5,530	35,290	17,102	13,481	3,476	1,231
D. Military															
Dropouts	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
HS and GED	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Total	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
E. Recent Immigrants															
Dropouts	639,911	34,302	22,106	522,482	61,021	363,379	18,853	11,345	305,641	27,540	276,532	15,449	10,761	216,841	33,481
HS and GED	1,167,661	264,466	110,326	403,063	389,806	604,927	143,039	53,596	215,003	193,289	562,734	121,427	56,730	188,060	196,517
Total	1,807,572	298,768	132,432	925,545	450,827	968,306	161,892	64,941	520,644	220,829	839,266	136,876	67,491	404,901	229,998
F. GED Recipients															
Total	1,740,018	1,096,209	343,847	165,412	134,550	905,865	583,835	154,569	99,032	68,428	834,153	512,375	189,277	66,379	66,122
Recent Immigrants	150,920	14,990	7,269	30,137	9,228	69,095	16,729	8,919	31,256	12,191	81,826	19,983	8,884	42,550	10,408
E. Graduation Rates															
Including Immigrants	76.06%	81.62%	64.65%	53.34%	69.77%	74.25%	80.08%	62.65%	49.62%	69.55%	77.89%	83.18%	66.43%	57.50%	69.99%
Standard Error	.0004	.0004	.0015	.0016	.0023	.0006	.0007	.0022	.0022	.0033	.0006	.0006	.0020	.0022	.0032
95% Lower CI	75.98%	81.53%	64.36%	53.03%	69.32%	74.12%	79.96%	62.22%	49.20%	68.90%	77.77%	83.06%	66.05%	57.06%	69.35%
95% Upper CI	76.15%	81.71%	64.93%	53.65%	70.22%	74.37%	80.21%	63.08%	50.05%	70.20%	78.00%	83.29%	66.82%	57.94%	70.62%
Excluding Immigrants															
Including Immigrants	77.92%	81.58%	63.94%	62.63%	52.54%	76.16%	80.13%	62.31%	61.02%	55.20%	79.67%	83.34%	66.20%	71.02%	56.86%
Standard Error	.0004	.0005	.0015	.0020	.0036	.0006	.0007	.0022	.0029	.0051	.0006	.0006	.0020	.0026	.0050
95% Lower CI	77.84%	81.50%	63.65%	62.24%	51.83%	76.03%	80.00%	61.87%	60.46%	54.19%	79.56%	83.22%	65.81%	70.51%	55.88%
95% Upper CI	78.01%	81.67%	64.24%	63.02%	53.25%	76.28%	80.26%	62.75%	61.58%	56.20%	79.79%	83.46%	66.60%	71.53%	57.85%

Notes: Author's calculations based on Census 1990 data. All estimates are weighted by the person weight(perwt) and race categories are mutually exclusive. Those reporting never having attended school are excluded. Total GED recipients are estimated GED testing service data. The recent immigrant category are only those who are in the civilian non-institutional population and who emigrated to the U.S. after 1974.

Table A.5 Age 20-24 Population Counts by Race, Sex and Education Status, Census 1980

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other
A. Unweighted (N)															
Overall Sample	1,049,536	816,334	131,690	76,906	24,606	521,373	408,036	61,954	39,222	12,161	528,163	408,298	69,736	37,684	12,445
Recent Immigrants	37,380	8,480	2,962	17,573	8,365	19,670	4,587	1,440	9,639	4,004	17,710	3,893	1,522	7,934	4,361
B. Overall															
Dropouts	3,645,340	2,274,380	685,340	595,400	90,220	1,949,800	1,223,600	367,240	314,740	44,220	1,695,540	1,050,780	318,100	280,660	46,000
HS and GED	17,345,380	14,052,300	1,948,460	942,720	401,900	8,477,660	6,937,120	871,840	469,700	199,000	8,867,720	7,115,180	1,076,620	473,020	202,900
Total	20,990,720	16,326,680	2,633,800	1,538,120	492,120	10,427,460	8,160,720	1,239,080	784,440	243,220	10,563,260	8,165,960	1,394,720	753,680	248,900
C. Institutional															
Dropouts	87,480	36,720	38,740	10,000	2,020	82,560	34,560	36,600	9,520	1,880	4,920	2,160	2,140	480	140
HS and GED	71,100	39,880	23,660	5,320	2,240	63,900	35,000	22,020	4,840	2,040	7,200	4,880	1,640	480	200
Total	158,580	76,600	62,400	15,320	4,260	146,460	69,560	58,620	14,360	3,920	12,120	7,040	3,780	960	340
D. Military															
Dropouts	48,860	29,600	13,420	4,320	1,520	47,300	28,720	12,960	4,240	1,380	1,560	880	460	80	140
HS and GED	284,660	188,420	68,140	19,900	8,200	259,420	172,720	60,880	18,540	7,280	25,240	15,700	7,260	1,360	920
Total	333,520	218,020	81,560	24,220	9,720	306,720	201,440	73,840	22,780	8,660	26,800	16,580	7,720	1,440	1,060
E. Recent Immigrants															
Dropouts	293,120	33,280	11,000	218,980	29,860	155,580	15,380	5,520	122,100	12,580	137,540	17,900	5,480	96,880	17,280
HS and GED	451,320	135,900	47,680	130,580	137,160	234,880	75,960	22,740	68,960	67,220	216,440	59,940	24,940	61,620	69,940
Total	744,440	169,180	58,680	349,560	167,020	390,460	91,340	28,260	191,060	79,800	353,980	77,840	30,420	158,500	87,220
F. GED Recipients															
Total	1,025,369	724,773	155,391	69,633	75,572	559,778	394,862	91,830	41,186	31,900	465,591	329,911	63,561	28,446	43,673
Recent Immigrants	51,248	10,975	6,829	32,008	11,813	21,640	2,313	3,590	12,909	2,828	29,609	6,814	2,089	13,710	6,996
E. Graduation Rates															
Including Immigrants	77.75%	81.63%	68.08%	56.76%	66.31%	75.93%	80.17%	62.95%	54.63%	68.70%	79.54%	83.09%	72.64%	58.99%	63.97%
Standard Error	.0004	.0004	.0013	.0018	.0030	.0006	.0006	.0019	.0025	.0042	.0006	.0006	.0017	.0025	.0043
95% Lower CI	77.67%	81.55%	67.83%	56.41%	65.72%	75.82%	80.05%	62.57%	54.13%	67.88%	79.43%	82.98%	72.30%	58.49%	63.13%
95% Upper CI	77.83%	81.71%	68.33%	57.11%	66.90%	76.05%	80.29%	63.33%	55.12%	69.53%	79.65%	83.21%	72.97%	59.48%	64.82%
Excluding Immigrants															
Including Immigrants	78.63%	81.71%	68.04%	65.16%	61.82%	76.76%	80.16%	62.84%	62.77%	62.85%	80.47%	83.23%	72.58%	66.65%	59.55%
Standard Error	.0004	.0004	.0013	.0020	.0038	.0006	.0006	.0020	.0028	.0054	.0006	.0006	.0017	.0027	.0055
95% Lower CI	78.55%	81.63%	67.79%	64.78%	61.07%	76.65%	80.04%	62.45%	62.22%	61.80%	80.36%	83.12%	72.25%	66.11%	58.48%
95% Upper CI	78.71%	81.80%	68.30%	65.55%	62.57%	76.88%	80.29%	63.22%	63.32%	63.90%	80.58%	83.35%	72.91%	67.18%	60.62%

Notes: Author's calculations based on Census 1980 data. All estimates are weighted by the person weight(perwt) and race categories are mutually exclusive. Those reporting never having attended school are excluded. Total GED recipients are estimated GED testing service data. The recent immigrant category are only those who are in the civilian non-institutional population and who emigrated to the U.S. after 1970.

Table A.6 Age 25-29 Population Counts by Race, Sex and Education Status, Census 1980

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other
A. Unweighted (N)															
Overall Sample	966,932	760,301	113,109	67,449	26,073	478,204	379,566	52,468	33,886	12,284	488,728	380,735	60,641	33,563	13,789
Recent Immigrants	49,315	12,106	3,807	20,576	12,826	24,617	6,142	2,037	10,799	5,639	24,698	5,964	1,770	9,777	7,187
B. Overall															
Dropouts	2,898,560	1,726,840	545,340	544,960	81,420	1,444,660	871,860	265,660	272,980	34,160	1,453,900	854,980	279,680	271,980	47,260
HS and GED	16,440,080	13,479,180	1,716,840	804,020	440,040	8,119,420	6,719,460	783,700	404,740	211,520	8,320,660	6,759,720	933,140	399,280	228,520
Total	19,338,640	15,206,020	2,262,180	1,348,980	521,460	9,564,080	7,591,320	1,049,360	677,720	245,680	9,774,560	7,614,700	1,212,820	671,260	275,780
C. Institutional															
Dropouts	58,560	22,200	28,360	6,820	1,180	54,280	20,420	26,260	6,480	1,120	4,280	1,780	2,100	340	60
HS and GED	68,760	35,180	26,840	4,760	1,980	61,560	30,680	24,660	4,480	1,740	7,200	4,500	2,180	280	240
Total	127,320	57,380	55,200	11,580	3,160	115,840	51,100	50,920	10,960	2,860	11,480	6,280	4,280	620	300
D. Military															
Dropouts	7,760	4,400	2,080	880	400	7,260	4,140	1,880	840	400	500	260	200	40	0
HS and GED	63,940	39,220	16,920	4,880	2,920	56,740	34,780	14,640	4,520	2,800	7,200	4,440	2,280	360	120
Total	71,700	43,620	19,000	5,760	3,320	64,000	38,920	16,520	5,360	3,200	7,700	4,700	2,480	400	120
E. Recent Immigrants															
Dropouts	356,280	52,400	13,680	250,100	40,100	177,920	24,320	6,540	133,380	13,680	178,360	28,080	7,140	116,720	26,420
HS and GED	627,120	189,100	62,120	159,720	216,180	311,740	97,980	33,880	81,000	98,880	315,380	91,120	28,240	78,720	117,300
Total	983,400	241,500	75,800	409,820	256,280	489,660	122,300	40,420	214,380	112,560	493,740	119,200	35,380	195,440	143,720
F. GED Recipients															
Total	1,004,323	709,897	152,201	68,203	74,021	522,857	368,818	85,773	38,470	29,796	481,466	341,160	65,728	29,416	45,162
Recent Immigrants	54,008	14,990	7,269	30,137	9,228	24,726	5,987	3,192	11,185	4,363	29,282	7,151	3,179	15,227	3,725
E. Graduation Rates															
Including Immigrants	79.82%	83.98%	69.17%	54.55%	70.19%	79.43%	83.66%	66.51%	54.04%	73.97%	80.20%	84.29%	71.52%	55.10%	66.49%
Standard Error	.0004	.0004	.0014	.0019	.0028	.0006	.0006	.0021	.0027	.0040	.0006	.0006	.0018	.0027	.0040
95% Lower CI	79.74%	83.89%	68.90%	54.17%	69.64%	79.31%	83.54%	66.11%	53.51%	73.19%	80.09%	84.18%	71.16%	54.57%	65.70%
95% Upper CI	79.90%	84.06%	69.43%	54.92%	70.75%	79.54%	83.77%	66.91%	54.58%	74.74%	80.31%	84.41%	71.88%	55.63%	67.28%
Excluding Immigrants	80.97%	84.17%	69.05%	64.55%	59.98%	80.55%	83.79%	66.13%	63.98%	65.51%	81.38%	84.51%	71.54%	64.39%	52.84%
Standard Error	.0004	.0004	.0014	.0022	.0043	.0006	.0006	.0021	.0032	.0058	.0006	.0006	.0019	.0031	.0061
95% Lower CI	80.89%	84.08%	68.78%	64.12%	59.15%	80.44%	83.68%	65.72%	63.36%	64.37%	81.27%	84.40%	71.18%	63.78%	51.64%
95% Upper CI	81.05%	84.25%	69.33%	64.98%	60.82%	80.67%	83.91%	66.55%	64.60%	66.65%	81.50%	84.63%	71.91%	65.00%	54.05%

Notes: Author's calculations based on Census 1980 data. All estimates are weighted by the person weight(perwt) and race categories are mutually exclusive. Those reporting never having attended school are excluded. Total GED recipients are estimated GED testing service data. The recent immigrant category are only those who are in the civilian non-institutional population and who emigrated to the U.S. after 1964.

Table A.7 Age 20-23 Population Counts by Race, Sex and Education Status, Census 1970

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other
A. Unweighted (N)															
Overall Sample	132,755	111,713	14,173	5,150	1,719	63,634	54,012	6,410	2,357	855	69,121	57,701	7,763	2,793	864
Recent Immigrants	2,721	1,238	141	960	382	1,143	481	52	432	178	1,578	757	89	528	204
B. Overall															
Dropouts and GEDs	2,639,500	1,853,600	526,000	223,000	36,900	1,260,300	885,100	257,100	99,000	19,100	1,379,200	968,500	268,900	124,000	17,800
High School	10,636,000	9,317,700	891,300	292,000	135,000	5,103,100	4,516,100	383,900	136,700	66,400	5,532,900	4,801,600	507,400	155,300	68,600
Total	13,275,500	11,171,300	1,417,300	515,000	171,900	6,363,400	5,401,200	641,000	235,700	85,500	6,912,100	5,770,100	776,300	279,300	86,400
C. Recent Immigrants															
Dropouts	2,403,000	1,723,500	484,600	168,400	26,500	1,088,700	782,300	220,400	72,700	13,300	1,314,300	941,200	264,200	95,700	13,200
HS and GED	9,930,300	8,775,200	824,500	234,800	95,800	4,508,300	4,035,400	325,300	104,300	43,300	5,422,000	4,739,800	499,200	130,500	52,500
Total	12,333,300	10,498,700	1,309,100	403,200	122,300	5,597,000	4,817,700	545,700	177,000	56,600	6,736,300	5,681,000	763,400	226,200	65,700
D. Graduation Rates															
Including Immigrants	80.39%	83.59%	63.80%	56.64%	79.09%	80.56%	83.85%	61.02%	58.12%	78.67%	80.24%	83.35%	66.07%	55.40%	79.49%
Standard Error	.0011	.0011	.0041	.0069	.0098	.0016	.0016	.0061	.0102	.0141	.0015	.0016	.0054	.0094	.0137
95% Lower CI	80.18%	83.37%	63.00%	55.29%	77.16%	80.25%	83.54%	59.82%	56.13%	75.91%	79.94%	83.04%	65.01%	53.56%	76.80%
95% Upper CI	80.61%	83.81%	64.59%	58.00%	81.02%	80.87%	84.16%	62.23%	60.11%	81.44%	80.54%	83.65%	67.13%	57.25%	82.18%
Excluding Immigrants	80.75%	83.76%	63.71%	58.65%	78.48%	80.84%	83.97%	60.89%	59.99%	76.55%	80.67%	83.56%	66.03%	57.53%	80.37%
Standard Error	.0011	.0011	.0041	.0076	.0114	.0016	.0016	.0062	.0112	.0167	.0015	.0016	.0054	.0104	.0155
95% Lower CI	80.54%	83.54%	62.91%	57.15%	76.24%	80.53%	83.66%	59.68%	57.79%	73.28%	80.38%	83.25%	64.96%	55.49%	77.33%
95% Upper CI	80.97%	83.97%	64.51%	60.14%	80.71%	81.15%	84.28%	62.10%	62.19%	79.82%	80.97%	83.86%	67.10%	59.56%	83.40%

Notes: Author's calculations based on Census1970 data. All estimates are weighted by the person weight(perwt) and race categories are mutually exclusive. Those reporting never having attended school are excluded. Total GED recipients are included in the dropout category prior to 1980 according to Census documentation. The recent immigrant category are only those who are in the civilian non-institutional population and who emigrated to the U.S. after 1959.

Table A.8(a) Age 20-24 Population Counts by Race, Sex and Education Status after Disaggregating GED Recipients, Census 2000

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	All	Whites	Blacks	Hispanics	Other	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
Panel A. Dropouts															
All	3,262,374	1,236,844	575,292	1,341,667	108,571	1,913,357	708,296	325,118	819,756	60,187	1,349,017	528,548	250,174	521,911	48,384
Civilian Non-Institutional	3,101,587	1,189,984	497,473	1,310,085	104,045	1,763,337	665,575	251,792	789,788	56,182	1,338,250	524,409	245,681	520,297	47,863
(a) Recent Immigrants	781,821	26,559	16,656	707,334	31,272	486,623	13,996	8,351	448,885	15,391	295,198	12,563	8,305	258,449	15,881
(b) Non-Recent Immigrants	2,319,766	1,163,425	480,817	602,751	72,773	1,276,714	651,579	243,441	340,903	40,791	1,043,052	511,846	237,376	261,848	31,982
Institutionalized	156,974	44,420	77,226	31,023	4,305	146,510	40,477	72,770	29,468	3,795	10,464	3,943	4,456	1,555	510
Military	3,813	2,440	593	559	221	3,510	2,244	556	500	210	303	196	37	59	11
Panel B. GED Recipients															
All	1,327,457	799,773	255,203	222,110	51,297	777,636	475,984	153,469	115,053	33,882	549,646	323,694	101,670	107,058	17,456
Civilian Non-Institutional	1,220,559	750,242	220,474	205,317	46,023	679,607	431,146	121,223	99,500	29,070	541,681	319,240	99,593	105,912	17,069
(a) Recent Immigrants	95,484	3,267	17,392	59,025	15,799	45,063	3,267	7,557	32,189	2,050	50,420	0	9,835	26,837	13,748
(b) Non-Recent Immigrants	1,125,075	746,975	203,082	146,292	30,224	634,543	427,879	113,666	67,311	27,020	491,261	319,240	89,758	79,076	3,320
Institutionalized	91,980	40,165	32,180	14,822	4,240	84,951	36,453	30,172	13,827	3,918	6,124	3,473	1,602	901	246
Military	14,918	9,366	2,548	1,970	1,034	13,078	8,385	2,074	1,726	893	1,840	981	475	244	141
Panel C. HS Graduates															
All	14,052,634	9,784,502	1,707,007	1,671,462	888,737	6,800,690	4,793,773	741,992	835,536	428,637	7,252,119	4,990,824	965,079	835,925	460,059
Civilian Non-Institutional	13,825,112	9,648,105	1,651,927	1,642,941	880,642	6,600,005	4,671,703	694,953	810,472	421,545	7,224,378	4,976,258	956,632	832,374	458,981
(a) Recent Immigrants	863,487	203,472	68,136	333,132	258,748	441,035	95,909	33,428	184,455	127,243	422,453	107,563	34,708	148,676	131,506
(b) Non-Recent Immigrants	12,961,625	9,444,633	1,583,791	1,309,809	621,894	6,158,971	4,575,794	661,525	626,017	294,302	6,801,925	4,868,695	921,924	683,697	327,476
Institutionalized	72,145	31,109	27,201	10,825	3,583	64,603	27,622	24,513	9,866	3,183	8,447	3,726	3,094	1,053	476
Military	171,558	107,704	29,303	22,657	11,894	150,394	96,428	23,845	19,846	10,275	21,164	11,276	5,457	2,811	1,619

Notes: Author's calculations based on Census 2000 data. All estimates are weighted and race categories are mutually exclusive. Total GED recipients are estimated GED testing service data. The recent immigrant category are only those who are in the civilian non-institutional population and who emigrated to the U.S. after 1990. The percentage of GEDs who are recent immigrants is estimated from CPS October 2000 data. Estimates of GEDs who are incarcerated or in the military are obtained from BJS and DOD data, respectively. See Appendix A for details of these calculations.

Table A.9 GEDs Issued in 2000 and 1999 to 1971-1975 and 1976-1980 Cohorts

2000			1999	
Age	%	Age Total	%	Age Total
29 ^a	2.14	10961	2.14	11293
28 ^a	2.14	10961	2.14	11293
27 ^a	2.14	10422	2.14	11293
26 ^a	2.14	10961	2.14	11293
25 ^a	2.14	10961	4.82	25436
24 ^b	5.06	25917	4.82	25436
23 ^b	5.06	25917	4.82	25436
22 ^b	5.06	25917	4.82	25436
21 ^b	5.06	25917	4.82	25436
20 ^b	5.06	25917	12.8	67549
Program Total		512203		527723
Cohort Total^a		54266		70609
Cohort Total^b		129587		169294

Note: Calculations based on GED Testing Service data from 1999 and 2000.

Table A.10 Number of Inmates in State, Federal and Local Jails, by Gender , Race and Age, June 30, 2000

Age	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
18-19	85,200	28,100	38,100	16,100	2,900	81,300	26,200	36,700	15,600	2,800	3,900	1,900	1,400	500	100
20-24	329,700	107,800	150,200	63,500	8,200	310,100	99,500	142,800	60,000	7,800	19,600	8,300	7,400	3,500	400
25-29	359,900	116,100	173,700	62,400	7,700	329,900	104,900	160,200	58,400	6,400	30,000	11,200	13,500	4,000	1,300

Source: U.S. Department of Justice publication "Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2000" (Table 12). See www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/pjim00.pdf

Table A.11 Number of Inmates by Gender Ages 20-24, Race and Institution Type, 1996 and 1997

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
Federal	7,630	1,100	3,991	1,906	633	7,124	1,021	3,747	1,748	608	506	79	244	158	25
State	174,191	47,392	83,457	36,972	6,370	167,934	45,158	80,962	35,608	6,206	6,257	2,234	2,495	1,364	164
Jail	101,498	34,779	39,903	23,494	3,322	92,971	31,641	36,891	21,576	2,863	8,527	3,138	3,012	1,918	459
Incarcerated Total	283,319	83,271	127,351	62,372	10,325	268,029	77,820	121,600	58,932	9,677	15,290	5,451	5,751	3,440	648
% Federal	0.027	0.013	0.031	0.031	0.061	0.027	0.013	0.031	0.030	0.063	0.033	0.014	0.042	0.046	0.039
% State	0.615	0.569	0.655	0.593	0.617	0.627	0.580	0.666	0.604	0.641	0.409	0.410	0.434	0.397	0.253
% Jail	0.358	0.418	0.313	0.377	0.322	0.347	0.407	0.303	0.366	0.296	0.558	0.576	0.524	0.558	0.708

Source: Author's calculations based on Bureau of Justice Statistics data. State and Federal prisoner estimates are from the 1997 "Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities". Jail estimates from the 1996 "Survey of Inmates from Local Jails".

Table A.12 Number of Inmates by Gender Ages 20-24, Race and Institution Type, 2000

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
Federal	8,879	1,424	4,707	1,940	503	8,242	1,305	4,400	1,780	490	649	120	314	161	15
State	202,707	61,352	98,431	37,641	5,059	194,294	57,739	95,077	36,253	5,002	8,021	3,402	3,210	1,388	101
Jail	118,114	45,024	47,062	23,919	2,638	107,564	40,456	43,323	21,967	2,308	10,931	4,778	3,876	1,951	283

Source: Computed using the 2000 prison population estimates in table A.1 and the percentage in each prison type in table A.2.

Table A.13 Education Attainment Federal Inmates Ages 20-24, by Race and Sex, 1997

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
(%)															
Dropouts	42.87	19.82	46.86	53.10	27.33	43.75	21.35	48.12	53.32	27.14	30.63	0.00	27.46	50.63	32.00
GEDs	27.91	36.91	29.34	17.84	33.33	27.85	36.43	29.54	16.87	34.21	28.85	43.04	26.23	28.48	12.00
HS	29.21	43.27	23.80	29.06	39.34	28.41	42.21	22.34	29.81	38.65	40.51	56.96	46.31	20.89	56.00
(N)															
Dropouts	3,806	282	2,206	1,030	137	3,606	279	2,117	949	133	199	0	86	81	5
GEDs	2,478	526	1,381	346	168	2,295	476	1,300	300	168	187	52	82	46	2
HS	2,594	616	1,120	564	198	2,342	551	983	531	189	263	69	145	34	9

Source: Author's calculations based on the 1997 "Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities".

Table A.14 Education Attainment State Inmates Ages 20-24, by Race and Sex, 1997

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
(%)															
Dropouts	46.98	31.09	52.85	55.92	36.15	47.00	30.94	52.91	55.78	36.22	46.31	34.04	50.87	59.46	33.54
GEDs	35.18	46.69	29.38	31.17	48.70	35.41	46.82	29.67	31.59	49.26	28.79	44.14	19.83	20.31	27.44
HS	17.85	22.22	17.77	12.91	15.15	17.59	22.24	17.42	12.63	14.52	24.90	21.82	29.30	20.23	39.02
(N)															
Dropouts	95,232	19,074	52,021	21,049	1,829	91,318	17,864	50,305	20,222	1,812	3,714	1,158	1,633	825	34
GEDs	71,312	28,645	28,919	11,733	2,464	68,799	27,033	28,209	11,452	2,464	2,309	1,501	637	282	28
HS	36,183	13,632	17,491	4,859	766	34,176	12,841	16,562	4,579	726	1,997	742	941	281	40

Source: Author's calculations based on the 1997 "Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities".

Table A.15 Education Attainment Local Jail Inmates Ages 20-24, by Race and Sex, 1996

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
(%)															
Dropouts	54.19	43.58	57.30	64.20	56.92	53.97	43.48	57.46	63.58	52.39	56.58	44.65	55.38	71.28	85.19
GEDs	16.61	21.35	15.08	12.48	14.69	16.88	21.68	15.29	12.55	17.05	13.70	18.07	12.55	11.63	0.00
HS	29.20	35.07	27.62	23.32	28.39	29.15	34.85	27.26	23.87	30.56	29.72	37.28	32.07	17.10	14.81
(N)															
Dropouts	64,006	19,621	26,967	15,356	1,502	58,052	17,590	24,893	13,967	1,209	6,185	2,133	2,146	1,391	241
GEDs	19,619	9,613	7,097	2,985	388	18,157	8,771	6,624	2,757	393	1,497	863	486	227	0
HS	34,489	15,790	12,999	5,578	749	31,355	14,099	11,810	5,244	705	3,249	1,781	1,243	334	42

Source: Author's calculations based on the 1996 "Survey of Inmates from Local Jails".

Table A.16 Final Education Attainment of Prisoners Totals Ages 20-24, by Race and Sex, 2000

	Total					Males					Females				
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
(%)															
Dropouts	49.45%	36.16%	54.06%	58.95%	42.29%	49.33%	35.91%	54.14%	58.56%	40.43%	51.52%	39.65%	52.24%	65.64%	70.07%
GEDs	28.33%	35.98%	24.90%	23.72%	36.82%	28.78%	36.46%	25.30%	24.18%	38.78%	20.38%	29.12%	16.29%	15.85%	7.41%
HS	22.22%	27.87%	21.05%	17.32%	20.89%	21.89%	27.63%	20.56%	17.25%	20.78%	28.10%	31.23%	31.47%	18.52%	22.53%
(N)															
Dropouts	163,044	38,978	81,193	37,435	3,468	152,976	35,733	77,316	35,138	3,154	10,098	3,291	3,866	2,298	280
GEDs	93,409	38,784	37,397	15,064	3,019	89,252	36,280	36,133	14,510	3,025	3,994	2,417	1,205	555	30
HS	73,266	30,038	31,610	11,001	1,713	67,873	27,491	29,355	10,353	1,621	5,509	2,592	2,329	648	90
% GED of HS+GED	56.04%	56.35%	54.19%	57.79%	54.19%	56.80%	56.89%	55.17%	58.36%	55.17%	42.03%	48.25%	34.10%	46.12%	34.10%

Source: Total prisoners in each educational category are calculated based on the estimates from tables A.3-A.6.

Table A.17 Comparison of BJS Prison Estimates to Census Ages 20-24, by Race and Sex, 2000

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
(%)															
Census Dropouts	54.11%	42.12%	61.61%	60.53%	47.31%	54.75%	42.31%	62.23%	61.30%	47.11%	46.26%	40.36%	52.45%	47.88%	49.19%
Census HS+GED	45.89%	57.88%	38.39%	39.47%	52.69%	45.25%	57.69%	37.77%	38.70%	52.89%	53.74%	59.64%	47.55%	52.12%	50.81%
(N)															
Total Institutionalize	357,635	123,145	154,669	64,974	14,847	330,519	111,075	144,793	61,225	13,426	27,116	12,070	9,876	3,749	1,421
Census Dropouts	193,510	51,871	95,288	39,327	7,024	180,965	47,000	90,108	37,532	6,325	12,545	4,871	5,180	1,795	699
Census HS+GED	164,125	71,274	59,381	25,647	7,823	149,554	64,075	54,685	23,693	7,101	14,571	7,199	4,696	1,954	722
(Final Census Totals)															
Dropouts	193,510	51,871	95,288	39,327	7,024	180,965	47,000	90,108	37,532	6,325	12,545	4,871	5,180	1,795	699
GED Recipients	91,980	40,165	32,180	14,822	4,240	84,951	36,453	30,172	13,827	3,918	6,124	3,473	1,602	901	246
HS Graduates	72,145	31,109	27,201	10,825	3,583	64,603	27,622	24,513	9,866	3,183	8,447	3,726	3,094	1,053	476

Source: Total prisoners in each educational category are calculated based on the estimates from tables A.3-A.6.

Table A.18 Levels of Education of FY 2000 Active Component NPS Accessions, by Service, and Civilians 18-24 Years Old (Percent)

Education Level (a)	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Air Force	DoD	18- to 24-Year-Old Civilians*
Tier 1: Regular High School Graduate or Higher	86.2 (91.2)**	90.0	95.2	99.2	91.1 (93.0)**	78.8
Tier 2: GED, Alternative Credentials	13.8	5.4	3.0	0.8	7.4	21.2
Tier 3: No Credentials	0.0	4.6	1.8	0.0	1.5	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
College Experience (Part of Tier 1) (b)	7.4	4.9	1.6	14.3	6.5	46.1

Source: Service data are from OASD(FMP)(MPP)/Accession Policy—submitted in accordance with DoD Instruction 7730.56.

USMC college experience data are from DMDC's USMEPCOM Edit File. Civilian data are from Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Population Survey File, October 1999 – September 2000.

Columns may not add to total due to rounding.

* Civilian numbers and percentages combine Tiers 1 and 2 as civilian data include GED certificates with high school graduate rates.

** Tier 1 data calculated excluding GED+ participants from total accessions. GED+ is an experimental program enlisting up to 4,000 active duty Army applicants with a GED or no credential who have met special screening criteria for enlistment.

¹Service data from OASD(FMP)(MPP)/Accession Policy have been reviewed and updated by the Services for official submission.

Data presented in this table may differ slightly from the data shown in appendix tables that are taken from DMDC's USMEPCOM Edit File.

²College experience data from the Services are defined as those individuals with the following credentials: associate degree, professional nursing diploma, baccalaureate, master's, post master's, doctorate, first-professional, or completed one semester of college. Also see Appendix Tables B-7 (Education by Service and Gender) and B-8 (Education by Service and Race/Ethnicity).

Table A.19 Calculation of Number of GED Recipients in the Armed Forces by Race and Sex, DOD 2000

	Males and Females					Males					Females				
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
Census Dropouts	3976	2,436	627	595	318	3618	2,252	535	536	295	358	184	92	59	23
Census HS+GED	186476	117,070	31,851	24,627	12,928	163472	104,813	25919	21572	11168	23004	12,257	5,932	3,055	1,760
% GED of HS+GED from DOD	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%
Final Imputed Military GEDs	14918	9366	2548	1970	1034	13078	8385	2074	1726	893	1840	981	475	244	141
Final Imputed Military HS Grads	171558	107704	29303	22657	11894	150394	96428	23845	19846	10275	21164	11276	5457	2811	1619
% Dropout from Census	2.09%	2.04%	1.93%	2.36%	2.40%	2.17%	2.10%	2.02%	2.42%	2.57%	1.53%	1.48%	1.53%	1.89%	1.29%
% Dropout from DOD	1.50%	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: U.S. Department of Justice publication "Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2000" (Table 12). See www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/pjim00.pdf

Table A.20 Comparison of CPS and Census Age 20-24 Population Totals for Non-institutional Civilian Population by Education, Gender and Race

	Males					Females					Males and Females				
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
Census															
1st-8th Grade	360,060	58,988	15,189	279,241	6,642	236,212	54,141	13,769	162,641	5,661	596,272	113,129	28,958	441,882	12,303
9th Grade	233,584	81,485	23,649	123,324	5,126	179,492	68,861	22,409	83,279	4,943	413,076	150,346	46,058	206,603	10,069
10th Grade	292,449	145,003	50,536	87,509	9,401	240,365	116,938	46,239	68,342	8,846	532,814	261,941	96,775	155,851	18,247
11th Grade	352,473	171,896	68,581	99,738	12,258	288,861	131,986	72,178	74,832	9,865	641,334	303,882	140,759	174,570	22,123
12th Grade no Diploma	421,825	186,598	83,446	132,599	19,182	323,220	135,687	81,980	91,593	13,960	745,045	322,285	165,426	224,192	33,142
HS no College	2,742,959	1,777,921	380,111	464,971	119,956	2,382,281	1,456,922	412,032	402,419	110,908	5,125,240	3,234,843	792,143	867,390	230,864
Some College no Degree	3,201,844	2,311,572	344,339	341,620	204,313	3,564,706	2,473,972	485,432	396,169	209,133	6,766,550	4,785,544	829,771	737,789	413,446
Associate Degree	463,932	350,954	36,547	47,532	28,899	586,084	433,194	55,276	63,674	33,940	1,050,016	784,148	91,823	111,206	62,839
BA	810,909	624,648	51,355	49,797	85,109	1,144,958	873,894	95,088	67,565	108,411	1,955,867	1,498,542	146,443	117,362	193,520
MA, Professional Degree, PHD	59,968	37,754	3,824	6,052	12,338	88,030	57,516	8,397	8,459	13,658	147,998	95,270	12,221	14,511	25,996
All Dropouts	1,660,391	643,970	241,401	722,411	52,609	1,268,150	507,613	236,575	480,687	43,275	2,928,541	1,151,583	477,976	1,203,098	95,884
All HS	7,279,612	5,102,849	816,176	909,972	450,615	7,766,059	5,295,498	1,056,225	938,286	476,050	15,045,671	10,398,347	1,872,401	1,848,258	926,665
HS, Some College and Above	4,536,653	3,324,928	436,065	445,001	330,659	5,383,778	3,838,576	644,193	535,867	365,142	9,920,431	7,163,504	1,080,258	980,868	695,801
Total Population	8,940,003	5,746,819	1,057,577	1,632,383	503,224	9,034,209	5,803,111	1,292,800	1,418,973	519,325	17,974,212	11,549,930	2,350,377	3,051,356	1,022,549
March															
1st-8th Grade	335,111	44,625	12,143	264,936	13,407	239,235	54,240	11,592	173,403	0	574,345	98,864	23,735	438,338	13,407
9th Grade	209,389	66,660	24,136	116,468	2,126	151,275	76,396	7,677	67,202	0	360,665	143,056	31,814	183,670	2,126
10th Grade	313,283	143,683	68,335	88,644	12,621	248,300	110,952	62,428	62,961	11,959	561,583	254,635	130,763	151,605	24,580
11th Grade	423,975	193,474	98,381	116,348	15,772	311,796	112,552	93,342	98,144	7,759	735,772	306,026	191,723	214,492	23,531
12th Grade no Diploma	181,638	60,810	38,928	70,252	11,649	167,031	53,234	37,234	72,297	4,267	348,670	114,044	76,161	142,549	15,916
HS no College	2,939,939	1,789,539	432,022	596,948	121,430	2,719,044	1,704,888	495,647	431,502	87,007	5,658,983	3,494,426	927,670	1,028,450	208,437
Some College no Degree	3,282,837	2,293,382	405,444	363,709	220,302	3,501,836	2,368,353	509,313	370,559	253,611	6,784,675	4,661,736	914,758	734,268	473,913
Associate Degree	469,149	357,454	53,676	41,790	16,229	500,234	337,843	56,274	67,714	38,403	969,384	695,297	109,951	109,505	54,632
BA	725,313	539,010	58,171	37,357	90,775	1,107,924	858,446	94,256	59,499	95,723	1,833,237	1,397,457	152,427	96,856	186,497
MA, Professional Degree, PHD	51,803	36,733	7,959	0	7,111	103,248	78,047	7,303	0	17,898	155,051	114,780	15,262	0	25,009
All Dropouts	1,463,397	509,251	241,923	656,648	55,575	1,117,638	407,374	212,272	474,007	23,985	2,581,035	916,625	454,196	1,130,654	79,560
All HS	7,469,042	5,016,118	957,273	1,039,805	455,846	7,932,286	5,347,577	1,162,793	929,275	492,642	15,401,330	10,363,696	2,120,068	1,969,079	948,487
Counterfactual (HS)	7,229,212	4,897,521	901,581	972,253	448,000	7,775,535	5,266,251	1,112,830	910,991	483,021	15,004,617	10,162,978	2,015,045	1,883,882	931,083
HS, Some College and Above	4,529,103	3,226,579	525,251	442,857	334,416	5,213,242	3,642,689	667,146	497,773	405,634	9,742,347	6,869,270	1,192,398	940,629	740,050
Total Population	8,932,438	5,525,369	1,199,196	1,696,452	511,421	9,049,924	5,754,952	1,375,065	1,403,281	516,626	17,982,366	11,280,322	2,574,264	3,099,733	1,028,047
T-Test: Ho: Not equal to 0															
All Dropouts	3.71	3.05	1.18	3.60	0.19	3.08	2.94	1.57	0.06	1.89	4.69	4.28	1.89	2.67	1.12
HS t-stats	3.63	3.01	1.17	3.57	0.19	3.02	2.90	1.55	0.06	1.82	4.59	4.22	1.87	2.63	1.09
Counterfactual (HS) t-stats	0.82	0.24	0.88	1.01	0.88	0.08	0.44	0.42	0.75	0.90	0.63	0.15	0.96	0.18	0.04

Notes: Author's calculations based on CPS and Census data. Those never enrolled were excluded from calculations. All calculations are weighted.

Table A.21. Comparison of GEDs Issued using GEDTS data vs. Independent Sample Final Estimates

Birth Cohort	1951-1955	1956-1960*	1961-1965*	1966-1970**	1971-1975**	1976-1980**	1980-1984*
Year	1980	1980	1990	1990	2000	2000	2004
Age	25-29	20-24	25-29	20-24	25-29	20-24	20-24
GEDTS Estimate	1,004,323	1,025,369	1,740,018	1,040,537	1,587,737	1,389,540	1,672,688
Independent Data Estimate	na	932,514	1,721,976	900,716	1,396,089	1,263,126	1,637,731
Prison Estimate	na	na	na	33,266	88,343	91,980	107,348
Recent Immigrant Estimate	54,008	51,248	150,920	81,200	139,787	61,625	92,934
Final Independent Estimate	na	983,762	1,872,896	933,982	1,484,432	1,355,106	1,730,665

*Independent estimate does not include recent immigrants GEDs who entered the U.S. after the initial survey.

** Independent estimate does not include incarcerated GED recipients

Note: Authors calculations from various data sources. GEDTS estimate is calculated from GEDTS statistical reports using the methodology described in the data appendix. Independent data estimates are from the following sources: (1) 1980-1984 birth cohort-NLSY97 2004 survey; (2) 1976-1980 birth cohort-October CPS 1999 survey; (3) 1971-1975 cohort-October CPS 1999 survey; (4) 1966-1970 cohort-October CPS 1990 survey; (5) 1961-1965 cohort- NLSY79 1960-1964 birth cohort sample; (6) 1956-1960 estimates from NLSY79 1957-1960 birth cohort sample; (7) 1951-1955 cohort estimates from PSID 1990 sample (in order to include Latino sample). Respondents were between the ages of 29 and 35 but the year of GED attainment was restricted to be less than or equal to 1980.

Table A.22. GED % Issued by Race/Sex to 20-24 Year Olds in 2004

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	100.00%	60.76%	21.98%	12.87%	4.08%
Totals	1672688	1016325	367583	215278	68286
% Males	56.85%	60.67%	22.46%	13.00%	3.88%
Totals	950949	576912	213540	123602	36896
% Females	43.15%	61.61%	21.34%	12.70%	4.35%
Totals	721739	444629	154043	91676	31391

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from NLSY97 data in 2004.

Table A.23. GED % Issued by Race/Sex to 20-24 Year Old Non-Institutional Pop. in 2004

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	100.00%	62.18%	20.76%	12.54%	4.15%
Totals	1565340	973404	325007	196371	65010
% Males	54.28%	34.36%	11.02%	6.75%	2.15%
Totals	849638	537788	172574	105586	33677
% Females	45.76%	28.18%	9.75%	5.80%	2.00%
Totals	716257	441135	152560	90852	31346

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from NLSY97 data in 2004.

Table A.24. GED % by Race/Sex to 20-24 Year Old Non-Institutional Population in 2000

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	100.00%	66.18%	16.73%	13.15%	3.94%
Totals	1297560	858716	217114	170619	51111
% Males	53.48%	70.82%	14.58%	10.74%	3.86%
Totals	693926	491406	101165	74553	26801
% Females	46.52%	60.85%	19.21%	15.91%	4.03%
Totals	603634	367309	115949	96066	24310

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from CPS October 1999/2000 data. GED total is for non-institutional population.

Table A.25. GED % by Race/Sex to 25-29 Year Old Non-Institutional Population in 2000

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	100.00%	64.29%	18.34%	14.11%	3.27%
Totals	1499393	963901	274956	211564	48972
% Males	48.86%	65.05%	16.31%	14.34%	4.30%
Totals	732608	476593	119471	105032	31513
% Females	51.14%	64.55%	17.32%	13.89%	4.23%
Totals	766785	494977	132823	106533	32453

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from CPS October 1999/2000 data. GED total is for non-institutional population.

Table A.26. CPS October % GEDs Issued by Race to 20-24 Year Olds in 1990

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	100.00%	69.75%	14.76%	10.29%	5.19%
Totals	1007271	702607	148688	103663	52313
% Males	54.68%	69.67%	15.31%	9.46%	5.57%
Totals	550780	383720	84297	52083	30679
% Females	45.32%	69.86%	14.11%	11.30%	4.74%
Totals	456491	318887	64391	51579	21634

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from CPS October 1990 data.

Table A.27 CPS October % GEDs Issued by Race to 25-29 Year Olds in 1990

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	100.00%	63.00%	19.76%	9.51%	7.73%
Totals	1740018	1096209	343847	165412	134550
% Males	52.06%	64.45%	17.06%	10.93%	7.55%
Totals	905865	583835	154569	99032	68428
% Females	47.94%	61.42%	22.69%	7.96%	7.93%
Totals	834153	512375	189277	66379	66122

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from NLSY79 1990 data.

Table A.28. CPS October % GEDs Issued by Race to 20-24 Year Olds in 1980

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	100.00%	70.68%	15.15%	6.79%	7.37%
Totals	1025369	724773	155391	69633	75572
% Males	54.59%	70.54%	16.40%	7.36%	5.70%
Totals	559778	394862	91830	41186	31900
% Females	45.41%	70.86%	13.65%	6.11%	9.38%
Totals	465591	329911	63561	28446	43673

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from NLSY79 1980 data.

Table A.29 CPS October % GEDs Issued by Race to 25-29 Year Olds in 1980

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	100.00%	70.68%	15.15%	6.79%	7.37%
Totals	1004323	709897	152201	68203	74021
% Males	52.06%	70.54%	16.40%	7.36%	5.70%
Totals	522857	368818	85773	38470	29796
% Females	47.94%	70.86%	13.65%	6.11%	9.38%
Totals	481466	341160	65728	29416	45162

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from PSID 1990 data.

Table A.30 Immigrant GED % Issued by Race/Sex to 20-24 Year Olds in 2004

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	5.94%	15.01%	12.49%	69.06%	3.44%
Totals	92934	13946	11604	64182	3201
% Males	45.29%	11.75%	16.89%	63.76%	7.61%
Totals	42087	4946	7107	26833	3201
% Females	54.71%	17.70%	8.84%	73.46%	0.00%
Totals	50847	9000	4497	37350	0

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from CPS October 2004 data. GED total is for non-institutional population.

Table A.31 Immigrant GED % Issued by Race/Sex to 20-24 Year Olds in 2000

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	4.75%	20.22%	15.90%	42.39%	21.49%
Totals	61625	12462	9795	26122	13245
% Males	44.53%	40.77%	12.20%	31.13%	15.89%
Totals	27443	11188	3349	8544	4362
% Females	55.47%	3.73%	18.86%	51.42%	25.99%
Totals	34182	1275	6446	17578	8883

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from CPS October 1999/2000 data. GED total is for non-institutional population.

Table A.32 Immigrant GED % Issued by Race/Sex to 25-29 Year Olds in 2000

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	9.32%	16.04%	15.64%	43.94%	24.38%
Totals	139787	9883	9640	27077	15026
% Males	52.28%	16.73%	10.11%	52.70%	20.46%
Totals	73085	12226	7391	38513	14955
% Females	47.72%	15.28%	21.70%	34.34%	28.68%
Totals	66702	10192	14476	22906	19128

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from CPS October 1999/2000 data. GED total is for non-institutional population.

Table A.33 Immigrant GED % Issued by Race/Sex to 20-24 Year Olds in 1990

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	8.06%	17.81%	11.08%	51.94%	19.17%
Totals	81200	10975	6829	32008	11813
% Males	42.23%	10.69%	16.59%	59.65%	13.07%
Totals	34287	3664	5688	20453	4481
% Females	57.77%	23.01%	7.05%	46.30%	23.63%
Totals	46913	10797	3310	21722	11084

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from CPS October 1990 data. GED total is for non-institutional population.

Table A.34 Immigrant GED % Issued by Race/Sex to 25-29 Year Olds in 1990

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	8.67%	24.33%	11.80%	48.90%	14.97%
Totals	150920	14990	7269	30137	9228
% Males	45.78%	24.21%	12.91%	45.24%	17.64%
Totals	69095	16729	8919	31256	12191
% Females	54.22%	24.42%	10.86%	52.00%	12.72%
Totals	81826	19983	8884	42550	10408

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from CPS October 1990 data. GED total is for non-institutional population.

Table A.35 Immigrant GED % Issued by Race/Sex to 20-24 Year Olds in 1980

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	5.00%	17.81%	11.08%	51.94%	19.17%
Totals	51248	10975	6829	32008	11813
% Males	42.23%	10.69%	16.59%	59.65%	13.07%
Totals	21640	2313	3590	12909	2828
% Females	57.77%	23.01%	7.05%	46.30%	23.63%
Totals	29609	6814	2089	13710	6996

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from CPS October 1990 data. GED total is for non-institutional population. % of all GED recipients who are recent immigrants is estimated from 1990 CPS GED totals and ratio of 1980 to 1990 immigration shown in Figure S.6.

Table A.36 Immigrant GED % Issued by Race/Sex to 25-29 Year Olds in 1980

	All	White	Black	Hispanic	Other
% All	5.38%	24.33%	11.80%	48.90%	14.97%
Totals	54008	14990	7269	30137	9228
% Males	45.78%	24.21%	12.91%	45.24%	17.64%
Totals	24726	5987	3192	11185	4363
% Females	54.22%	24.42%	10.86%	52.00%	12.72%
Totals	29282	7151	3179	15227	3725

Note: Distribution by race/sex calculated from CPS October 1990 data. GED total is for non-institutional population. % of all GED recipients who are recent immigrants is estimated from 1990 CPS GED totals and ratio of 1980 to 1990 immigration shown in Figure S.6.