

Current Population Reports

Population Characteristics

School Enrollment—Social and Economic Characteristics of Students: October 1996 (Update)

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C E N S U S B U R E A U

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DATA HIGHLIGHTS

Detailed tabulations are now available which provide statistics on school enrollment of the civilian, noninstitutional population of the United States, based on the October 1996 Current Population Survey. These tables provide information such as:

- More than one-fourth of the population, 70.3 million people, were enrolled in regular school — nursery school through college.
- About 8.2 million children were enrolled in nursery school or kindergarten (4.2 million in nursery school and 4.0 million in kindergarten; these numbers are not statistically different).
- Elementary school enrollment (grades 1-8) stood at 31.5 million children.
- Elementary school enrollment for White students was 24.7 million children.
- Elementary school enrollment for Black students was 5.2 million children.
- Elementary school enrollment for Hispanic students (of any race) was 4.4 million children.
- High school enrollment totaled 15.3 million people.
- The annual high school dropout rate (from grades 10-12) was 4.7 percent.
- The dropout pool (people not enrolled and not a high school graduate) of young adults 18 to 24 years old totaled 3.1 million or 12.8 percent of this age group.
- The number of people enrolled in college totaled 15.2 million. About 6.2 million college students or 40.9 percent were 25 years old and over.

DETAILED TABULATIONS

The set of detailed tabulations consists of 19 tables from the 1996 October CPS (83 pages) and 7 historical tables. The electronic version of these tables is available on the Internet, at the Census Bureau's World-Wide Web site (<http://www.census.gov>). Once on the site, click on "Subjects A-Z," then on "S", and finally on "School Enrollment."

A paper version of these tables is available as PPL-76 for \$31. To receive a paper copy, send your

request for "PPL-76, School Enrollment—Social and Economic Characteristics of Students: October 1996," along with a check or money order in the amount of \$31 payable to Commerce-Census-88-00-9010, to U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, P.O. Box 277943, Atlanta, GA 30384-7943, or call our Statistical Information Office on 301-457-2422. A copy of these tabulations will be made available to any existing CPR P20 subscriber without charge, provided that the request is made within 3 months of the issue date of this update. Contact our Statistical Information Office on 301-457-2422.

For additional information on these topics, contact Jennifer C. Day or Andrea E. Curry, Education and Social Stratification Branch, on 301-457-2464 or via Internet E-mail (jday@census.gov or acurry@census.gov).

The data in the detailed tables are estimates based on a sample survey (the Current Population Survey) and are subject to sampling variability since they are not based on a complete enumeration of the population. For information on the source of the data, the accuracy of the estimates, the use of standard errors, and the computation of standard errors, contact Geneva A. Burns, Demographic Statistical Methods Division (301-457-4214) or via Internet E-mail, (geneva.a.burns@ccmail.census.gov).

NOTICE TO USERS

In order to keep you informed of the major findings from the Current Population Survey, short data updates will be made available in both printed and electronic forms for years when full reports are not produced. Additionally, the detailed tabulations that have been part of the printed reports will be updated annually in electronic form on the Internet. If you wish to obtain the new tabulations for October 1996, updating *School Enrollment—Social and Economic Characteristics of Students: October 1995 (Update)* (Current Population Reports, P20-492), please see the "Detailed Tabulations" section.

Our decision to modify the format of the P20 series is based on a variety of factors. Ultimately, we hope this decision will provide users with more timely data on a wider variety of topics. If you have comments about this change or the P20 series in general, please contact us on the Internet at: pop@census.gov, or write to: Chief, Population Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233.