

**Table 382.—Labor force status of 1979–80 to 1998–99 high school dropouts, by sex and race/ethnicity:  
October 1980 to October 1999**

[Numbers in thousands]

Year, sex, and race	Dropouts		Dropouts in civilian labor force <sup>1</sup>						Not in labor force	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Labor force participation rate	Employed		Unemployed		Number	Percent of population
					Number	Percent of dropouts	Number	Unemployment rate		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>All dropouts<sup>2</sup></b>										
1980	739	100.0	471	63.7	322	43.6	149	31.6	268	36.3
1985	612	100.0	413	67.5	266	43.5	147	35.6	199	32.5
1990	405	100.0	280	69.0	189	46.7	90	32.3	125	30.9
1993	399	100.0	254	63.8	187	47.0	67	26.3	145	36.3
1994	510	100.0	311	61.1	219	42.9	93	29.8	198	38.8
1995	604	100.0	409	67.7	288	47.7	121	29.6	195	32.3
1996	496	100.0	289	58.4	210	42.3	80	27.6	206	41.5
1997	502	100.0	302	60.2	225	44.9	77	25.4	200	39.8
1998	505	100.0	308	60.9	221	43.7	87	28.2	197	39.0
1999	524	100.0	300	57.3	222	42.4	78	26.1	224	42.7
<b>Men</b>										
1980	422	57.1	305	72.3	212	50.2	93	30.5	117	27.7
1985	321	52.5	261	81.3	163	50.8	98	37.5	60	18.7
1990	215	53.1	173	80.2	110	51.2	63	36.2	42	19.5
1993	213	53.4	156	73.5	132	61.8	25	15.9	57	26.8
1994	259	50.8	198	76.5	151	58.2	47	23.9	61	23.6
1995	339	56.1	251	74.0	179	52.8	72	28.7	88	26.0
1996	241	48.6	178	74.0	123	51.0	56	31.1	63	26.1
1997	289	57.6	207	71.8	165	57.2	42	20.3	81	28.0
1998	257	50.9	164	63.9	133	51.8	31	19.0	93	36.2
1999	243	46.4	162	66.8	120	49.5	42	25.8	81	33.3
<b>Women</b>										
1980	317	42.9	166	52.4	110	34.7	56	33.7	151	47.6
1985	291	47.5	152	52.2	103	35.4	49	32.2	139	47.8
1990	190	46.9	107	56.3	79	41.6	28	26.1	83	43.7
1993	186	46.6	98	52.6	56	30.1	42	42.9	88	47.3
1994	251	49.2	113	45.2	68	27.1	45	40.0	137	54.6
1995	265	43.9	157	59.5	109	41.1	49	30.9	107	40.4
1996	255	51.4	111	43.6	87	34.1	24	21.8	144	56.5
1997	213	42.4	95	44.4	60	28.1	35	36.6	119	55.9
1998	248	49.1	143	57.8	88	35.4	56	38.7	105	42.3
1999	282	53.8	139	49.2	102	36.2	37	26.4	143	50.7
<b>White<sup>3</sup></b>										
1980	580	78.5	392	67.6	286	49.3	106	27.0	188	32.4
1985	458	74.8	330	72.1	214	46.7	116	35.2	128	27.9
1990	303	74.8	211	69.8	156	51.4	56	26.3	92	30.4
1993	304	76.2	209	68.8	159	52.2	50	24.1	95	31.3
1994	382	74.9	252	66.0	177	46.3	75	29.8	130	34.0
1995	448	74.2	312	69.8	227	50.8	85	27.2	135	30.1
1996	365	73.6	238	65.1	178	48.6	60	25.3	127	34.8
1997	386	76.9	250	64.8	199	51.5	51	20.5	136	35.2
1998	384	76.0	257	67.0	194	50.6	63	24.5	127	33.1
1999	377	71.9	227	60.3	174	46.1	54	23.6	150	39.8
<b>Black<sup>3</sup></b>										
1980	146	19.8	73	50.0	33	22.6	40	( <sup>4</sup> )	73	50.0
1985	132	21.6	69	52.3	39	29.5	30	( <sup>4</sup> )	63	47.7
1990	86	21.2	56	65.3	26	29.9	30	( <sup>4</sup> )	30	34.9
1993	80	20.1	34	42.9	21	26.2	13	( <sup>4</sup> )	46	57.5
1994	100	19.6	48	47.9	34	34.1	14	( <sup>4</sup> )	52	52.0
1995	109	18.0	66	61.0	40	36.4	27	( <sup>4</sup> )	42	38.5
1996	111	22.4	40	35.7	23	20.7	17	( <sup>4</sup> )	71	64.0
1997	90	17.9	41	45.1	18	20.4	22	( <sup>4</sup> )	49	54.4
1998	98	19.4	46	47.2	24	24.2	23	( <sup>4</sup> )	52	53.1
1999	118	22.5	59	50.0	39	33.0	20	( <sup>4</sup> )	59	50.0
<b>Hispanic<sup>5</sup></b>										
1980	91	12.3	60	65.9	43	47.3	17	( <sup>4</sup> )	31	34.1
1985	106	17.3	73	68.9	40	37.7	33	( <sup>4</sup> )	33	31.1
1990	67	16.5	32	( <sup>4</sup> )	22	( <sup>4</sup> )	10	( <sup>4</sup> )	35	52.2
1993	60	15.0	43	( <sup>4</sup> )	28	( <sup>4</sup> )	15	( <sup>4</sup> )	17	28.3
1994	108	21.2	51	47.5	31	28.6	20	( <sup>4</sup> )	57	52.8
1995	174	28.8	119	68.6	84	48.5	35	29.3	55	31.6
1996	105	21.2	71	67.7	57	54.5	14	( <sup>4</sup> )	34	32.4
1997	121	24.1	88	73.1	73	60.4	15	17.4	32	26.4
1998	120	23.8	82	68.5	60	50.0	22	27.1	38	31.7
1999	119	22.7	85	71.4	75	62.8	10	12.0	34	28.6

<sup>1</sup> The labor force includes all employed persons plus those seeking employment. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of persons either employed or seeking employment. The unemployment rate is the percent of persons in the labor force who are seeking employment.

<sup>2</sup> Persons 16 to 24 years old who dropped out of school in the 12-month period ending in October of years shown.

<sup>3</sup> Includes persons of Hispanic origin.

<sup>4</sup> Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.

<sup>5</sup> Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

NOTE: Data are based upon sample surveys of the civilian noninstitutional population. Includes dropouts from any grade, including a small number from elementary and middle schools. Percents are only shown when the base is 75,000 or greater. Even though the standard errors are large, smaller estimates are shown to permit users to combine categories in various ways. Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups. Because of rounding, sum of individual items may not equal totals.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, *College Enrollment of High School Graduates*, various years. (This table was prepared September 2000.)