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## **AMERICA'S YOUTH AT 20: SCHOOL ENROLLMENT, TRAINING, AND EMPLOYMENT TRANSITIONS BETWEEN AGES 19 AND 20**

Twenty-year-old male high school graduates were less likely to be enrolled in college than 20-year-old women while men who had been enrolled were more likely to drop out, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Women were more likely to have graduated from high school, and those who had graduated were more likely to attend college. In addition, women enrolled in college during October when they were age 19 were less likely than their male counterparts to have dropped out by the following October.

These findings are from the first nine annual rounds of the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997, which is a nationally representative survey of about 9,000 young men and women who were born during the years 1980 to 1984. These respondents were ages 12 to 17 when first interviewed in 1997 and ages 20 to 26 when interviewed for the ninth time in 2005-06. The survey provides information on the employment experiences, schooling, family background, social behavior, and other characteristics of these youths.

This release focuses on the school enrollment and employment experiences of these youths from the October when they were age 19 to the October when they were age 20. Respondents were age 19 in October during the years 1999 to 2004 and age 20 in October from 2000 to 2005. Highlights from the longitudinal survey include:

- By the October when they were age 20, 79 percent of men had graduated from high school compared with 84 percent of women.
- Among those who had dropped out of high school by the October when they were age 19, 11 percent had graduated from high school or earned a General Educational Development (GED) credential by the following October. Another 4 percent had not graduated but were enrolled in a training or apprenticeship program and few had reenrolled in high school.
- Ten percent of male high school graduates who had never enrolled in college were in the Armed Forces during the October when they were age 20, as were 7 percent of the 20-year-old men who had attended college but were no longer enrolled.
- Forty-two percent of high school dropouts and 20 percent of high school graduates not enrolled in college were neither employed nor in training during the October when they were age 20.

- Among high school dropouts who were not enrolled in school, 43 percent of non-Hispanic blacks were not employed in either the October when they were age 19 or the October when they were age 20 compared with 22 percent of non-Hispanic whites and 26 percent of Hispanics.
- High school graduates not enrolled in college were employed 78 percent of the weeks between the October when they were age 19 and the following October. By comparison, youths who had dropped out of high school by the October when they were age 19 were employed, on average, 55 percent of those weeks.

### Educational Attainment at Age 20

Forty-two percent of youths were enrolled in college during the October when they were age 20, down from 45 percent of 19-year-olds. Thirty-nine percent of 20-year-olds had graduated from high school and were not enrolled in college and 2 percent had earned a GED and were not enrolled in college. Fifteen percent of youths had dropped out of high school by the October when they were age 20. Men were more likely than women to have dropped out of high school and less likely to be attending college. At age 20, 47 percent of women were attending college compared with 38 percent of men. (See table 1.)

Non-Hispanic blacks and Hispanics were much more likely than non-Hispanic whites to be high school dropouts at age 20. Blacks and Hispanics also were less likely than whites to be enrolled in college during the October when they were age 20. Twenty-three percent of blacks and 20 percent of Hispanics had neither finished high school nor earned a GED by the October when they were age 20 compared with 13 percent of whites. Moreover, 46 percent of whites were enrolled in college compared with 31 percent of blacks or Hispanics.

### Schooling and Training between Ages 19 and 20

The level of educational attainment when a person first left school does not always indicate his or her final level of educational attainment. Eleven percent of youths who were high school dropouts in the October they were age 19 had graduated from high school or earned a GED by the following October. Whites who were dropouts in the October when age 19 were more likely than blacks or Hispanics to have graduated from high school or earned a GED by the following October. (See table 2.)

Some youths delay their college enrollment for a year or more after high school and others enroll in college and then leave before earning a degree. Among high school graduates not enrolled in college during the October when they were age 19, 15 percent were enrolled in college during the following October. Seventeen percent of youths attending college during the October when they were age 19 had left college by the following October while 82 percent remained in college and 1 percent were enrolled in a training program.

Instead of attending school, some youths enroll in training to further their skills. Four percent of those who were high school dropouts in the October when age 19 attended some kind of training or apprenticeship program during the October when they were age 20. Likewise, 5 percent of high school graduates not enrolled in college at age 19 were enrolled in training at age 20.

### Employment and Training at Age 20 of Youths Not Enrolled in School

At age 20, labor force status differed substantially between high school dropouts, high school graduates who had never attended college, and youths who had left college. High school dropouts were the least likely of these groups to be employed during the October when they were age 20. Black high school dropouts were more likely not to be in the labor force than to be employed. Forty-two percent of black high school

dropouts were employed or in the Armed Forces during the October when they were age 20 compared with 54 percent of Hispanic high school dropouts and 63 percent of white dropouts. (See table 3.)

Seventy-one percent of high school graduates who had never enrolled in college were employed in civilian jobs during the October when they were age 20. Another 6 percent were enlisted in the Armed Forces, 10 percent of male graduates and 2 percent of female graduates. Among high school graduates who had some college experience but were not enrolled in college during the October when they were age 20, 76 percent were employed in civilian jobs and 5 percent were enlisted in the Armed Forces. Women with some college experience but no longer enrolled were more likely than their male counterparts to be employed in civilian jobs; among high school dropouts and high school graduates who had never attended college, men were more likely than women to be employed in civilian jobs.

Forty-two percent of high school dropouts were neither employed nor in training during the October when they were age 20. Fifty-six percent were employed, including 3 percent who were both employed and enrolled in a training program. Another 2 percent of high school dropouts were enrolled in training but not employed. Among high school dropouts, women were more likely than men to be neither employed nor in training. Blacks were more likely than whites or Hispanics to be neither employed nor in training. (See table 4.)

Among high school graduates not enrolled in college during the October when they were age 20, 79 percent were employed, including 5 percent who were both employed and enrolled in training. About 1 percent were enrolled in training but not employed; 20 percent were neither employed nor in a training program.

#### Employment Attachment between Ages 19 and 20 of Youths Not Enrolled in School

Among youths who were not enrolled in school during the Octobers when they were ages 19 or 20, employment status varied considerably by level of educational attainment. Twenty-eight percent of high school dropouts were not employed in either October and 39 percent were employed in both Octobers. Among high school graduates who were not enrolled in college in the Octobers when they were ages 19 or 20, 67 percent were employed in both Octobers and 10 percent were employed in neither October. (See table 5.)

High school graduates not enrolled in college during the Octobers when they were ages 19 or 20 were employed 78 percent of the weeks between the October when they were age 19 and the following October. By comparison, high school dropouts were employed 55 percent of the weeks, on average, between the October when they were age 19 and the following October. Regardless of the level of educational attainment, men were employed a larger percent of weeks than women and whites were employed a larger percent of weeks than blacks or Hispanics. Men were more likely than women to work 40 hours or more per week. Male high school dropouts worked 40 hours or more 43 percent of the weeks between the October when they were 19 and the following October compared with 25 percent of weeks for female dropouts. (See table 6.)

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# Technical Note

The estimates in this release were obtained using data from the first nine rounds of the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 (NLSY97). The NLSY97 collects extensive information on youths' labor market behavior and educational experiences. Information about respondents' families and communities also is obtained in the survey.

This survey is conducted by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago and the Center for Human Resource Research at The Ohio State University, under the direction and sponsorship of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Partial funding support for the survey has been provided by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention of the U.S. Department of Justice, the Office of Vocational and Adult Education of the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Defense, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the National Science Foundation.

## Sample

The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 is a nationally representative sample of 8,984 young men and women who were ages 12 to 16 on December 31, 1996. This sample is composed of the following groups:

- A cross-sectional sample designed to represent the non-institutionalized, civilian segment of young people living in the U.S. in 1997 and born between January 1, 1980, and December 31, 1984.
- Supplemental samples of Hispanic or Latino and black youths living in the U.S. in 1997 and born between January 1, 1980, and December 31, 1984.

The ninth round of annual interviews took place between October 2005 and June 2006. This release examines the period from the October when respondents were age 19 until the following October when respondents were age 20. All results except the first three age categories of table 1 are weighted using the survey weights from the round in which the respondents were age 20. The estimates of school enrollment status at ages 17, 18, and 19 use the survey weights from the round in which the respondents were those ages. The survey weights correct for oversampling of some demographic groups and nonresponse. When weighted, the data represent all people who were born in the years 1980 to 1984 and living in the U.S. in 1997. Not represented by the survey are U.S. immigrants who were born from 1980 to 1984 and moved to the U.S. after 1997. NLSY97 sample members remain eligible to be interviewed during military service or if they become incarcerated or institutionalized.

## Interaction between time and age in a longitudinal survey

Because the NLSY97 is a longitudinal survey, meaning the same people are surveyed over time, the ages of the respondents change with each survey round. It is important

to keep in mind this inherent link between the calendar years and the ages of the respondents. The youngest respondents in the sample (birth year 1984) turned 19 during calendar year 2003, whereas the oldest respondents (birth year 1980) turned 19 during calendar year 1999. Some respondents may not be used in all tables if information about their work history is incomplete.

## Definitions

*School enrollment status.* If a respondent was enrolled in high school or college at any point during the month of October, he or she is counted as enrolled. If a respondent reported no school enrollment during October and also had not earned a high school diploma or General Educational Development (GED) credential, he or she is counted as a high school dropout.

*Training.* The NLSY97 obtains information on formal training experiences outside of regular schooling. The training questions explore what kinds of training respondents obtain, where and when they are trained, how the training is paid for, and what skills are acquired. Training programs include: Business or secretarial training; vocational, technical, or trade training; vocational rehabilitation centers; licensed practical nursing or registered nursing programs; apprenticeship programs; adult basic education and GED programs; correspondence courses; formal company training or seminars; and government training.

*Employed.* The NLSY97 collects employment histories for civilian jobs and military service. Respondents are classified as employed if they did any work during the specified time period as paid employees, as self-employed proprietors of their own businesses, or as unpaid workers in a business owned by a member of their family, or if they were enlisted in the Armed Forces.

*Unemployed.* Respondents are classified as unemployed if they did not work during the specified time period but reported that they looked for work or were on layoff from a job.

*Not in the labor force.* Respondents are classified as not in the labor force if they did not work or look for work during the specified time period.

*Race and ethnic groups.* In this release, the findings are reported for non-Hispanic whites, non-Hispanic blacks, and Hispanics or Latinos. These groups are mutually exclusive but not exhaustive. Other groups, which are included in the overall totals, are not shown separately because their representation in the survey sample is not sufficiently large to provide statistically reliable estimates. In other BLS publications, estimates usually are published for whites, blacks, and Hispanics or Latinos, but these groups are not mutually exclusive. "Hispanic or Latino" is considered to be an ethnic group, and people in that group can be of any race. Most other BLS publications include estimates for Hispanics or Latinos in the white and black race groups in addition to the Hispanic or Latino ethnic group.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory-impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone: 1-800-877-8339.

**Table 1. School enrollment status of youths during the October when ages 17 to 20 in 1997-2005 by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity**

(Percent distribution)

Characteristic	School enrollment status					
	Total	High school dropouts	Enrolled in high school	High school graduates, not enrolled in college	General Educational Development (GED) recipients, not enrolled in college	Enrolled in college
Total, October when age 17 .....	100.0	10.0	86.1	1.4	0.2	2.2
Men .....	100.0	10.4	86.5	1.3	0.2	1.6
Women .....	100.0	9.7	85.8	1.6	0.2	2.8
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	9.4	87.5	1.0	0.2	1.9
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	12.4	83.0	1.9	0.2	2.6
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	12.4	82.1	2.7	0.1	2.6
Total, October when age 18 .....	100.0	15.2	28.0	21.4	0.6	34.8
Men .....	100.0	16.6	32.2	21.4	0.6	29.1
Women .....	100.0	13.7	23.6	21.3	0.6	40.8
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	13.7	26.7	20.3	0.6	38.7
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	20.2	33.2	20.3	0.8	25.5
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	18.6	30.9	28.1	0.7	21.7
Total, October when age 19 .....	100.0	16.6	4.2	33.0	1.6	44.6
Men .....	100.0	19.2	4.7	35.5	1.5	39.1
Women .....	100.0	13.9	3.6	30.4	1.8	50.3
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	14.6	2.8	32.2	1.7	48.8
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	23.3	7.7	34.8	1.7	32.5
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	21.3	7.6	37.8	1.5	31.8
Total, October when age 20 .....	100.0	15.4	1.2	38.9	2.1	42.4
Men .....	100.0	17.7	1.4	41.4	2.0	37.6
Women .....	100.0	13.0	1.1	36.3	2.2	47.4
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	13.1	0.8	38.0	2.0	46.0
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	23.3	2.1	41.6	2.4	30.7
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	20.1	1.9	44.4	2.3	31.3

NOTE: The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 consists of young men and women who were ages 12 to 16 on December 31, 1996. Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity groups are mutually exclusive but not exhaustive. Other race groups, which are included in the overall totals, are not shown separately because their representation in the survey sample is not sufficiently large to provide statistically reliable estimates.

**Table 2. School or training enrollment status during the October when age 20 in 2000-2005 by school enrollment status during the October when age 19, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity**

(Percent distribution)

School enrollment status during the October when age 19	School enrollment status during the October when age 20						
	Total	Have not graduated from high school			Have graduated from high school <sup>1</sup>		
		Not enrolled in high school or training program	Enrolled in high school <sup>2</sup>	Enrolled in training program <sup>3</sup>	Not enrolled in college or training program	Enrolled in college <sup>2</sup>	Enrolled in training program <sup>3</sup>
High school dropouts .....	100.0	84.1	1.2	3.8	8.5	1.7	0.6
Men .....	100.0	84.9	1.2	3.8	7.4	1.9	0.8
Women .....	100.0	83.0	1.3	3.8	10.1	1.4	0.3
White, non-Hispanic.....	100.0	82.9	0.6	3.3	10.4	2.0	0.8
Men .....	100.0	82.9	0.7	3.3	8.8	2.9	1.4
Women .....	100.0	83.1	0.5	3.2	12.4	0.8	( <sup>4</sup> )
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	84.8	1.4	5.2	6.7	1.2	0.6
Men .....	100.0	85.9	2.0	5.2	6.6	0.3	( <sup>4</sup> )
Women .....	100.0	83.0	0.5	5.2	6.8	2.8	1.6
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	88.6	2.1	2.5	4.8	1.8	0.2
Men .....	100.0	88.4	2.1	2.8	5.1	1.1	0.4
Women .....	100.0	88.8	2.1	2.2	4.3	2.6	( <sup>4</sup> )
Enrolled in high school .....	100.0	19.6	22.8	1.6	42.6	9.0	4.4
Men .....	100.0	19.8	20.4	1.5	46.2	6.3	5.8
Women .....	100.0	19.2	26.2	1.7	37.6	12.8	2.5
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	17.5	23.6	1.0	42.0	9.6	6.4
Men .....	100.0	16.4	20.7	( <sup>4</sup> )	50.0	4.9	8.0
Women .....	100.0	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	25.7	22.1	2.9	41.8	4.9	2.7
Men .....	100.0	27.4	18.3	4.0	44.4	2.5	3.4
Women .....	100.0	22.8	28.3	1.2	37.3	8.8	1.6
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	19.9	18.6	1.3	45.6	13.0	1.5
Men .....	100.0	19.8	20.1	1.1	44.6	11.9	2.6
Women .....	100.0	20.1	16.6	1.7	47.0	14.6	( <sup>4</sup> )

**Table 2. School or training enrollment status during the October when age 20 in 2000-2005 by school enrollment status during the October when age 19, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity—continued**

(Percent distribution)

School enrollment status during the October when age 19	School enrollment status during the October when age 20						
	Total	Have not graduated from high school			Have graduated from high school <sup>1</sup>		
		Not enrolled in high school or training program	Enrolled in high school <sup>2</sup>	Enrolled in training program <sup>3</sup>	Not enrolled in college or training program	Enrolled in college <sup>2</sup>	Enrolled in training program <sup>3</sup>
High school graduates, not enrolled in college .....	100.0	-	-	-	80.1	15.4	4.5
Men .....	100.0	-	-	-	81.1	14.4	4.5
Women .....	100.0	-	-	-	78.8	16.7	4.5
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	-	-	-	80.0	15.0	5.0
Men .....	100.0	-	-	-	80.2	14.4	5.4
Women .....	100.0	-	-	-	79.7	15.9	4.5
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	-	-	-	81.0	15.0	4.0
Men .....	100.0	-	-	-	84.2	13.2	2.6
Women .....	100.0	-	-	-	77.8	16.7	5.4
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	-	-	-	81.6	14.7	3.7
Men .....	100.0	-	-	-	85.2	11.8	3.0
Women .....	100.0	-	-	-	77.3	18.1	4.6
Enrolled in college .....	100.0	-	-	-	17.1	81.8	1.2
Men .....	100.0	-	-	-	17.5	80.9	1.5
Women .....	100.0	-	-	-	16.7	82.5	0.9
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	-	-	-	15.6	83.2	1.2
Men .....	100.0	-	-	-	15.7	82.7	1.6
Women .....	100.0	-	-	-	15.6	83.6	0.8
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	-	-	-	22.4	75.9	1.7
Men .....	100.0	-	-	-	23.7	73.5	2.8
Women .....	100.0	-	-	-	21.5	77.5	1.0
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	-	-	-	24.0	74.9	1.0
Men .....	100.0	-	-	-	25.2	73.9	0.9
Women .....	100.0	-	-	-	23.0	75.9	1.1

<sup>1</sup> Respondents who have received a General Educational Development (GED) credential are counted as high school graduates.

<sup>2</sup> A small percent of respondents were enrolled in both formal schooling (that is, high school or college) and training. They are counted in the formal schooling categories only.

<sup>3</sup> Training includes any courses, training programs, or apprenticeships designed to help people find a job, improve their job skills, or learn a new job. Training also may include a GED preparation course.

<sup>4</sup> Less than .05 percent.

<sup>5</sup> Estimates are not shown for groups that include fewer than 50 survey respondents.

NOTE: The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 consists of young men and women who were ages 12 to 16 on December 31, 1996. Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity groups are mutually exclusive but not exhaustive. Other race groups, which are included in the overall totals, are not shown separately because their representation in the survey sample is not sufficiently large to provide statistically reliable estimates.

**Table 3. Employment status of youths not enrolled in school during the October when age 20 in 2000-2005 by high school graduation status, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity**

(Percent distribution)

High school graduation status during the October when age 20	Employment status during the October when age 20				
	Total	Employed civilian	Enlisted in Armed Forces	Unemployed	Not in the labor force
High school dropouts .....	100.0	55.2	0.7	10.7	33.4
Men .....	100.0	58.1	1.1	12.9	27.9
Women .....	100.0	51.1	( <sup>1</sup> )	7.6	41.2
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	61.7	1.0	9.1	28.2
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	41.3	0.4	13.2	45.2
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	54.0	( <sup>1</sup> )	12.6	33.1
High school graduates, never enrolled in college <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	70.5	6.4	7.5	15.6
Men .....	100.0	71.2	9.7	7.4	11.8
Women .....	100.0	69.6	2.0	7.6	20.8
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	74.6	6.5	6.5	12.4
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	58.4	6.2	10.5	24.9
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	69.0	6.0	6.9	18.2
Some college, no longer enrolled .....	100.0	75.9	4.6	3.7	15.7
Men .....	100.0	73.4	6.9	4.2	15.5
Women .....	100.0	78.3	2.5	3.3	15.9
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	77.8	5.2	2.6	14.4
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	68.1	3.4	7.9	20.6
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	72.7	4.8	5.0	17.5

<sup>1</sup> Less than 0.05 percent.

<sup>2</sup> Respondents who have received a General Educational Development (GED) credential are counted as high school graduates.

NOTE: The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 consists of young men and women who were ages 12 to 16 on December 31, 1996. Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity groups are mutually exclusive but not exhaustive. Other race groups, which are included in the overall totals, are not shown separately because their representation in the survey sample is not sufficiently large to provide statistically reliable estimates.



**Table 4. Employment and training status of youths not enrolled in school during the October when age 20 in 2000-2005 by high school graduation status, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity**

(Percent distribution)

High school graduation status during the October when age 20	Employment and training status during the October when age 20				
	Total	Employed <sup>1</sup>		Not employed	
		Enrolled in training <sup>2</sup>	Not enrolled in training	Enrolled in training <sup>2</sup>	Not enrolled in training
High school dropouts .....	100.0	2.5	53.6	2.0	41.9
Men .....	100.0	2.2	57.6	2.3	37.9
Women .....	100.0	3.1	47.9	1.5	47.5
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	2.5	60.4	1.3	35.7
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	2.6	38.7	3.7	55.1
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	1.6	53.8	1.5	43.1
High school graduates, not enrolled in college <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	4.6	73.9	1.2	20.3
Men .....	100.0	5.2	75.8	1.1	17.9
Women .....	100.0	3.9	71.6	1.3	23.2
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	5.3	76.7	1.1	16.9
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	3.2	63.2	2.2	31.4
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	3.4	73.6	0.9	22.1

<sup>1</sup> The employed category includes both civilian employment and enlistment in the Armed Forces.

<sup>2</sup> Training includes any courses, training programs, or apprenticeships designed to help people find a job, improve their job skills, or learn a new job. Training also may include a General Educational Development (GED) preparation course.

<sup>3</sup> Respondents who have received a GED credential are counted as high school graduates.

NOTE: The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 consists of young men and women who were ages 12 to 16 on December 31, 1996. Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity groups are mutually exclusive but not exhaustive. Other race groups, which are included in the overall totals, are not shown separately because their representation in the survey sample is not sufficiently large to provide statistically reliable estimates.

**Table 5. Employment status during the October when ages 19 and 20 in 1999-2005 of youths not enrolled in school at age 19 or 20 by high school graduation status, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity**

(Percent distribution)

High school graduation status during the October when age 20	Percent of youths <sup>1</sup>				
	Total	Not employed in either October	Employed at age 19, but not age 20	Employed at age 20 but not age 19	Employed both years
High school dropouts .....	100.0	27.7	16.5	16.8	39.0
Men .....	100.0	23.4	16.1	16.0	44.5
Women .....	100.0	33.8	17.0	17.9	31.4
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	22.2	15.7	15.7	46.4
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	43.1	16.1	20.1	20.7
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	26.2	18.3	17.1	38.4
High school graduates, not enrolled in college <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	10.3	10.5	12.4	66.7
Men .....	100.0	8.3	9.2	11.1	71.4
Women .....	100.0	12.9	12.2	14.0	60.9
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	7.5	10.1	10.9	71.4
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	20.3	12.7	16.9	50.0
Hispanic or Latino .....	100.0	12.1	8.8	14.7	64.5

<sup>1</sup> The employed category includes both civilian employment and enlistment in the Armed Forces.

<sup>2</sup> Respondents who have received a General Educational Development (GED) credential are counted as high school graduates.

NOTE: The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 consists of young men and women who were ages 12 to 16 on December 31, 1996. Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity groups are mutually exclusive but not exhaustive. Other race groups, which are included in the overall totals, are not shown separately because their representation in the survey sample is not sufficiently large to provide statistically reliable estimates.

**Table 6. Percent of weeks employed or not employed between the October when ages 19 and 20 for youths not enrolled in school during October at ages 19 and 20 by high school graduation status, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity**

(Percent distribution)

High school graduation status during the October when age 20	Percent of weeks between October when ages 19 and 20					
	Total	Employed <sup>1</sup>			Not employed	
		Total	1 to 29 hours	30 to 39 hours		40 hours or more
High school dropouts .....	100.0	54.5	9.1	9.5	35.0	45.5
Men .....	100.0	60.2	7.3	9.5	42.5	39.8
Women .....	100.0	46.5	11.5	9.5	24.7	53.5
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	60.3	10.1	10.7	38.8	39.7
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	38.8	8.5	7.1	22.0	61.2
Hispanic or Latino.....	100.0	56.0	6.4	8.5	40.4	44.0
High school graduates, not enrolled in college <sup>2</sup> ...	100.0	77.9	11.2	14.0	51.3	22.1
Men .....	100.0	81.7	8.6	11.8	59.6	18.3
Women .....	100.0	73.3	14.4	16.8	41.0	26.7
White, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	81.7	10.6	14.6	55.0	18.3
Black, non-Hispanic .....	100.0	64.2	12.4	11.7	38.7	35.8
Hispanic or Latino.....	100.0	76.4	12.0	13.9	49.7	23.6

<sup>1</sup> The employed category includes both civilian employment and enlistment in the Armed Forces. All weeks when enlisted in the Armed Forces are included in the "40 hours or more" category.

<sup>2</sup> Respondents who have received a General Educational Development (GED) credential are counted as high school graduates.

NOTE: The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 consists of young men and women who were ages 12 to 16 on December 31, 1996. Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity groups are mutually exclusive but not exhaustive. Other race groups, which are included in the overall totals, are not shown separately because their representation in the survey sample is not sufficiently large to provide statistically reliable estimates. Some categories do not sum to the totals because employment status or work hours could not be determined for some respondents during some weeks.