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ABSTRACT

This Department of Education (ED) Tabulation provides data in six tables on the effect of delay in entering postsecondary education (PE) on degree attainment for 1972, 1980, and 1982 high school graduates. The data compare the patterns of delay in PE among these three cohorts by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected student characteristics. Estimates in the six tables were based on either the National Longitudinal Study of 1972 high school seniors, the High School and Beyond 1980 senior cohort, or the High School and Beyond 1980 sophomore cohort. Data elements used in this analysis for the 1980 senior and sophomore cohorts were drawn from the base year and first through third follow-up surveys. Data for the 1972 senior cohort were drawn from the base year, first through fifth follow-ups, and transcript file. The data show that delays in beginning PE lower the rate of degree attainment. Students who begin PE immediately after graduating from high school are more likely to complete a postsecondary degree than are those who delay entry. Students in 4-year institutions who delayed initial enrollment were more likely to attain their degree than were those who delayed while at other types of institutions. A table displays the location of a few key statistics and their standard errors. Technical notes and a discussion of the methodology are included. (RLC)

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E.D. TABS

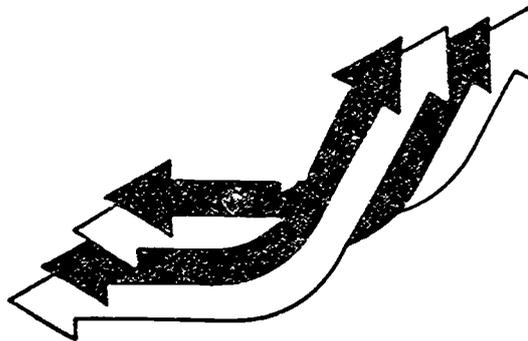
January 1990

National Longitudinal Study 1972
High School and Beyond

Consequences of Delay in Postsecondary Education: Degree Attainment for 1972, 1980, and 1982 High School Graduates

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Introduction

This E.D. Tabulation provides data on the consequences of delay in entering postsecondary education on degree attainment for 1972, 1980, and 1982 high school graduates. The data compare the patterns of delay in postsecondary education among these three cohorts by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected student characteristics.

Patterns of delay and degree attainment

The data show that delays in beginning postsecondary education lower the rate of degree attainment. Students who begin postsecondary education immediately after graduating high school are more likely to complete a postsecondary degree than those who delay entry. Students at 4-year institutions who delayed initial enrollment were more likely to attain their degree than those who delayed while at other types of institutions.

Source of data

Estimates in Tables 1 and 2 of this tabulation were based on the National Longitudinal Study of 1972 high school seniors (NLS-72). Estimates in Tables 3 and 4 were based on the High School and Beyond (HS&B) 1980 senior cohort. Estimates in Tables 5 and 6 were based on the High School and Beyond (HS&B) 1980 sophomore cohort. Data elements used in this analysis for the 1980 senior and sophomore cohorts were drawn from the base year, first follow-up, second follow-up, and third follow-up surveys. Data for the 1972 senior cohort were drawn from the base year, first through the fifth follow-ups, and transcript file.

For more information on the HS&B surveys, interested readers should consult *High School and Beyond 1980 Senior Cohort Third Follow-Up (1986) Data File Users Manual* (Sebring, P., et al, Chicago: National Opinion Research Center, 1987) and the *High School and Beyond 1980 Sophomore Cohort Third Follow-Up (1986) Data File User's Manual* (Sebring, P., et al, Chicago: National Opinion Research Center, 1987). For more information on the NLS-72 surveys, interested readers should consult *National Longitudinal Study of the High School Senior Class of 1972 Fifth Follow-Up (1986) Data File User's Manual* (Tourangeau, R, et al, Chicago: National Opinion Research Center, 1987) and *National Longitudinal Study: Base Year (1972) through Fourth Follow-up (1979) Data File User's Manual, Volume 1-3*. (Ricobono, J, et al, Center for Education Research and Evaluation, Research Triangle, Research Triangle Park, N.C. 2709, 1981). For further details concerning the transcript data, interested readers should consult *National Longitudinal Study of the High School Senior Class of 1972 Postsecondary Education Transcript Study Data File User's Manual* (Jones, C, et al, Chicago: National Opinion Research Center, 1986).

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Table 1. -- Percent of 1972 high school graduates attaining postsecondary degrees, by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected characteristics

	Immed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans
TOTAL	59.33	37.97	16.69	50.89	25.69	14.28	57.30	44.12	33.72
Sex									
Male	61.19	38.88	12.28	48.35	29.24	15.72	68.93	46.87	36.00
Female	58.04	37.05	21.09	53.29	22.87	13.07	65.52	41.51	31.45
Race / ethnicity									
Hispanic	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	29.69	26.24	14.54	53.19	24.53	18.16
Asian	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	32.66	Low-N	85.93	Low-N	Low-N
American Indian	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
Black	Low-N	33.09	Low-N	46.47	24.21	12.39	53.49	35.09	17.67
White	60.65	39.29	16.93	51.97	26.01	14.24	68.47	46.22	35.88
Hispanic subgroup									
Mexican	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	30.04	14.91	14.76	46.90	41.01	23.73
Cuban	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
Puerto Rican	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
Other Hispanic	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	38.47	Low-N	Low-N	11.46	Low-N
Ability quartile									
Lower 25%	51.19	39.07	Low-N	31.27	18.94	12.78	39.46	21.22	19.12
Middle 50%	58.99	40.18	17.91	50.05	26.42	16.98	60.37	41.39	30.12
Upper 25%	78.78	39.68	16.62	59.23	21.82	13.98	75.87	56.50	44.88

Table 1. -- Percent of 1972 high school graduates attaining postsecondary degrees, by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected characteristics--continued

	Immed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans
High school grades									
A	54.62	32.95	Low-N	74.13	26.08	8.35	80.17	63.33	43.36
A to B	63.36	39.95	18.26	55.03	22.24	13.39	74.52	52.07	43.16
B	68.17	31.98	17.78	52.84	29.47	14.94	61.57	42.38	30.95
B to C	62.08	40.00	16.79	45.87	24.51	14.46	53.27	39.03	27.05
C	37.00	35.22	Low-N	33.00	28.36	14.81	38.93	28.09	18.71
D	Low-N	43.42	Low-N	32.44	16.43	13.10	31.92	20.96	10.56
High school grades (recoded)									
Mostly A	61.15	38.19	20.60	61.59	23.29	12.29	76.81	56.11	43.23
Mostly B	64.28	36.88	17.21	48.73	26.67	14.64	57.99	40.64	29.19
Mostly C	37.00	35.22	Low-N	33.00	28.36	14.81	38.93	28.09	18.71
Less than C	Low-N	43.42	Low-N	32.44	16.43	13.10	31.92	20.96	10.56
High school program									
General	52.84	39.06	8.09	40.31	26.03	14.01	50.98	38.51	23.85
Academic	69.65	40.58	22.55	60.30	27.59	15.39	71.96	54.72	38.67
Vocational / technical	52.07	31.28	17.99	38.55	21.36	12.31	51.04	19.07	20.14
Handicap status									
Not handicapped	59.88	37.46	16.12	50.04	25.37	15.16	68.31	43.71	34.98
Handicapped	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	43.72	Low-N
PSE plans									
No plans for PSE	Low-N	43.11	Low-N	28.45	20.69	14.18	Low-N	22.86	11.45
Vocational / technical	56.97	29.97	14.78	32.80	18.75	10.26	20.60	24.34	29.97
2 year college	71.47	56.21	Low-N	53.42	24.36	18.36	41.96	42.37	11.81
4 year college	59.12	37.26	13.82	60.52	25.38	13.78	67.89	53.44	36.51
Advanced degree	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N

Table 1. -- Percent of 1972 high school graduates attaining postsecondary degrees, by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected characteristics--continued

	Immed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans
PSE plans (recoded)									
No plans for PSE	Low-N	43.11	Low-N	28.45	20.69	14.18	Low-N	22.86	11.45
Voc / tech or 2 yr college	59.44	37.50	13.12	54.03	23.26	14.44	65.99	44.21	33.64
4 yr college / adv degree	Low-N	42.36	Low-N	56.25	20.97	13.19	82.27	61.17	56.57
SES quartile									
Lower 25%	51.04	34.89	17.08	45.35	25.85	12.09	60.46	31.78	29.78
Middle 50%	62.90	37.08	9.70	50.29	26.86	16.57	62.15	41.02	27.55
Upper 25%	57.53	43.00	30.69	54.44	23.53	11.60	73.39	56.77	42.73
Parents' highest education									
Less than high school	62.29	31.01	Low-N	40.27	28.98	11.36	58.45	32.38	33.44
High school only	58.43	34.37	10.97	51.43	23.51	16.34	63.57	38.32	28.55
Some college	58.36	43.07	21.63	50.58	30.04	18.47	62.22	44.31	26.49
4 years college	61.11	41.56	Low-N	43.52	21.72	11.64	72.38	49.91	36.58
Family income in 1972									
Less than \$6,000	45.78	32.76	Low-N	52.62	23.95	16.75	52.64	32.28	23.92
\$6,000-\$8,999	58.99	28.60	Low-N	41.98	24.57	10.78	66.56	35.02	29.06
\$9,000-\$11,999	62.86	36.96	Lpw-N	48.62	25.35	14.41	66.34	43.32	29.02
\$12,000-\$17,999	55.83	43.14	14.57	49.06	27.72	13.45	67.12	47.97	42.60
\$18,000 or more	Low-N	38.86	Low-N	54.04	22.31	11.16	71.95	52.59	34.36
Family size									
1-3	Low-N	39.26	Low-N	45.43	29.86	13.60	71.71	36.41	29.75
Four	70.82	45.40	Low-N	57.46	18.44	11.39	71.26	50.68	35.77
Five	51.51	37.76	13.48	48.05	22.91	10.86	69.08	44.53	33.48
Six	49.24	35.50	11.37	57.92	36.06	16.41	63.20	56.83	32.95
7 or 8	64.23	36.31	21.06	56.83	25.27	18.58	69.67	40.93	33.75
9 or more	44.65	36.94	Low-N	36.15	30.71	14.11	62.51	37.98	46.86

Table 1. -- Percent of 1972 high school graduates attaining postsecondary degrees, by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected characteristics--continued

	Immed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans
Home language English									
No	Low-N	47.02	Low-N	48.48	25.01	10.72	68.75	29.28	36.79
Yes	59.48	36.86	15.77	50.78	25.11	14.04	67.25	44.75	33.69
High school type									
Public	61.11	39.88	17.57	49.51	26.13	14.45	67.25	43.92	34.22
Catholic	Low-N	29.53	Low-N	76.65	18.36	12.27	70.26	50.05	31.22
Private	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	62.17	Low-N	Low-N
Area vocational	Low-N	11.11	Low-N	37.26	28.36	10.85	56.48	34.12	30.36
High school region									
North east	76.46	47.12	Low-N	62.66	27.64	18.56	74.65	45.06	44.36
North central	51.29	33.01	8.61	52.29	29.45	13.01	63.85	43.68	32.69
South	48.73	37.49	26.97	47.31	24.77	12.80	64.19	41.08	27.03
West	62.43	37.55	Low-N	45.28	21.50	14.12	66.87	47.80	31.14
High school urbanicity									
Rural	56.34	44.58	24.46	62.43	31.16	14.76	62.03	37.57	27.40
Small city	62.57	39.56	20.94	50.32	23.00	12.19	69.73	45.25	36.59
Medium city	63.90	39.97	Low-N	33.13	19.47	13.55	65.72	51.54	31.46
Suburb of med city	Low-N	39.14	Low-N	49.43	22.37	16.72	64.89	31.22	43.97
Large city	46.52	26.40	Low-N	51.63	27.27	18.32	63.30	43.15	30.59
Suburb of lge city	61.51	45.69	Low-N	41.69	22.91	9.99	70.38	44.34	38.32
Very large city	Low-N	25.62	Low-N	66.69	21.33	15.16	70.03	44.19	27.08
Suburb of very lge city	Low-N	32.88	Low-N	50.25	35.91	16.79	67.33	50.29	29.92
High school urbanicity (recoded)									
Rural	56.34	44.58	24.46	62.43	31.16	14.76	62.03	37.57	27.40
Suburban	67.08	40.59	16.96	46.87	28.68	14.54	67.91	44.12	36.74
Urban	59.52	35.27	14.22	50.14	22.78	13.85	67.96	45.49	33.04

Source: NLS-72 1986

Table 2. -- Percent of 1972 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans
TOTAL	42.90	45.55	34.79	33.65	30.58	20.41	58.21	54.34	28.49
Sex									
Male	37.01	Low-N	40.06	39.11	29.98	22.24	58.01	56.93	32.37
Female	50.17	52.06	29.65	28.42	31.17	19.15	58.42	50.89	25.29
Race / ethnicity									
Hispanic	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	35.74	Low-N	17.40	47.12	Low-N	12.97
Asian	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
American Indian	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
Black	Low-N	Low-N	33.52	30.20	Low-N	18.43	25.05	Low-N	41.53
White	46.65	48.00	34.32	33.47	27.68	21.35	62.00	53.90	28.11
Hispanic subgroup									
Mexican	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	35.53	Low-N	4.72	Low-N	Low-N	26.69
Cuban	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
Puerto Rican	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
Other Hispanic	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
Ability quartile									
Lower 25%	52.37	Low-N	34.67	19.52	42.37	15.22	46.82	44.66	7.73
Middle 50%	42.76	Low-N	38.69	36.54	31.75	19.55	50.55	56.30	29.95
Upper 25%	57.49	Low-N	29.32	29.71	25.33	17.44	66.91	67.00	40.06

Table 2. -- Percent of 1972 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics--continued

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans
High school grades									
A	Low-N	Low-N	29.10	28.05	Low-N	22.37	78.69	Low-N	38.22
A to B	58.42	Low-N	29.33	30.29	Low-N	17.60	67.79	Low-N	29.97
B	52.49	Low-N	24.06	44.09	35.43	18.00	51.56	49.20	32.02
B to C	35.49	Low-N	39.57	30.25	30.15	20.10	48.02	48.95	29.50
C	Low-N	Low-N	34.99	34.23	27.46	25.23	41.89	Low-N	16.29
D	Low-N	Low-N	47.70	25.76	Low-N	12.34	29.14	Low-N	13.87
High school grades (recoded)									
Mostly A	56.78	Low-N	29.27	29.66	36.97	18.93	72.10	67.75	32.79
Mostly B	42.89	43.76	33.47	36.54	32.45	19.21	49.84	49.06	30.67
Mostly C	Low-N	Low-N	34.99	34.23	27.46	25.23	41.89	Low-N	16.29
Less than C	Low-N	Low-N	47.70	25.76	Low-N	12.34	29.14	Low-N	13.87
High school program									
General	50.15	Low-N	35.81	31.91	36.38	21.43	51.18	48.59	24.69
Academic	47.23	51.52	36.26	37.44	29.75	20.49	64.05	63.30	40.28
Vocational / technical	26.48	Low-N	30.07	26.16	24.03	18.98	36.21	37.33	10.99
Handicap status									
Not handicapped	43.25	42.64	34.31	31.52	31.00	21.03	56.96	56.16	28.65
Handicapped	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
PSE plans									
No plans for PSE	Low-N	Low-N	32.17	30.80	Low-N	15.41	31.54	Low-N	18.01
Vocational / technical	34.95	Low-N	27.52	28.28	Low-N	14.71	33.63	44.58	16.96
2 year college	Low-N	Low-N	46.86	31.13	Low-N	19.01	62.27	56.13	23.37
4 year college	59.57	Low-N	28.86	32.73	34.30	19.10	61.48	74.73	38.32
Advanced degree	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N

Table 2. -- Percent of 1972 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics--continued

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans
PSE plans (recoded)									
No plans for PSE	Low-N	Low-N	32.17	30.80	Low-N	15.41	31.54	Low-N	18.01
Voc / tech or 2 yr coll	47.44	Low-N	31.63	31.60	30.79	17.56	58.21	60.96	28.00
4 yr college / adv degree	Low-N	Low-N	30.82	27.39	Low-N	15.90	65.45	Low-N	55.86
SES quartile									
Lower 25%	35.35	Low-N	32.84	25.05	38.75	23.55	44.54	53.52	20.62
Middle 50%	42.33	39.43	34.01	40.54	20.56	19.87	54.43	53.79	27.10
Upper 25%	50.00	Low-N	38.59	27.42	37.18	18.68	67.72	55.90	39.59
Parents' highest education									
Less than high school	31.13	Low-N	33.60	43.32	31.62	22.98	43.02	57.72	21.82
High school only	41.22	Low-N	29.98	32.07	29.37	19.11	53.39	49.68	26.57
Some college	42.10	Low-N	40.19	35.26	33.11	25.41	53.13	58.69	29.97
4 years college	Low-N	Low-N	40.41	29.39	Low-N	13.92	59.78	61.10	33.33
Family income in 1972									
Less than \$6,000	Low-N	Low-N	27.81	30.40	Low-N	19.19	42.71	59.09	19.62
\$6,000-\$8,999	38.93	Low-N	26.23	30.17	37.19	21.07	43.10	40.52	25.07
\$9,000-\$11,999	34.55	Low-N	38.37	37.90	Low-N	16.92	62.98	60.67	26.53
\$12,000-\$17,999	50.47	Low-N	37.91	42.70	25.10	18.45	60.18	58.89	30.86
\$18,000 or more	Low-N	Low-N	35.65	22.35	Low-N	22.11	67.88	39.27	34.02

Table 2. -- Percent of 1972 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics--continued

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans
Family size									
1-3	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	43.58	Low-N	19.47	55.29	Low-N	29.35
Four	52.15	Low-N	43.62	22.78	Low-N	15.42	65.69	54.04	30.85
Five	52.57	Low-N	29.49	27.26	Low-N	19.84	54.43	67.77	24.80
Six	Low-N	Low-N	45.36	48.73	19.76	29.09	71.62	50.99	37.69
7 or 8	54.18	Low-N	28.69	32.45	45.92	20.11	43.40	50.10	37.11
9 or more	Low-N	Low-N	35.07	42.63	Low-N	23.00	44.78	Low-N	30.45
Home language English									
No	Low-N	Low-N	42.27	36.67	Low-N	14.19	45.35	Low-N	14.86
Yes	42.23	48.07	33.17	33.58	28.80	19.80	57.99	54.92	29.52
High school type									
Public	45.65	45.13	36.48	34.01	30.40	21.00	59.03	53.83	28.05
Catholic	Low-N	Low-N	27.82	22.00	Low-N	15.11	55.71	Low-N	32.84
Private	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
Area vocational	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	39.64	Low-N	17.97	Low-N	Low-N	26.13
High school region									
North east	48.57	Low-N	44.56	38.48	28.98	22.37	66.20	47.43	28.12
North central	42.64	Low-N	27.20	39.28	33.48	20.25	56.06	49.88	25.94
South	45.71	Low-N	34.50	33.14	30.45	20.12	54.88	54.31	24.96
West	30.39	Low-N	43.63	23.99	28.19	18.86	56.31	65.33	36.50

Table 2. -- Percent of 1972 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics--continued

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans
High school urbanicity									
Rural	64.46	Low-N	33.50	27.67	Low-N	31.33	50.12	45.56	25.30
Small city	45.44	Low-N	38.59	26.96	30.91	19.71	58.98	58.35	25.55
Medium city	Low-N	Low-N	41.29	34.38	Low-N	11.41	63.26	Low-N	40.02
Suburb of med city	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	28.28	Low-N	22.28	52.80	Low-N	12.68
Large city	Low-N	Low-N	25.73	30.48	Low-N	22.36	59.97	36.88	25.42
Suburb of lge city	46.47	Low-N	46.43	32.49	Low-N	18.49	53.54	Low-N	31.04
Very large city	Low-N	Low-N	20.52	34.02	Low-N	10.95	53.65	59.07	36.02
Suburb of very lge city	Low-N	Low-N	29.22	51.74	Low-N	23.01	60.59	Low-N	36.66
High school urbanicity (recoded)									
Rural	64.46	Low-N	33.50	27.67	Low-N	31.33	50.12	45.56	25.30
Suburban	44.13	Low-N	38.45	42.47	13.85	21.00	57.03	59.59	28.15
Urban	34.84	47.96	33.83	30.01	37.99	16.89	58.93	54.61	30.15

Source: NLS-72 1986

Table 3. -- Percent of 1980 high school graduates attaining postsecondary degrees, by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected characteristics

	Immed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans
TOTAL	58.98	49.72	10.36	53.18	22.09	14.22	49.30	24.98	21.30
Sex									
Male	49.21	47.10	2.45	51.10	24.34	14.10	48.12	26.74	20.02
Female	65.23	51.68	15.64	54.95	20.21	14.32	50.31	22.94	22.57
Race / ethnicity									
Hispanic	41.72	48.97	Low-N	51.49	25.80	13.65	28.72	14.04	12.31
American Indian	Low-N	61.80	Low-N	58.32	35.26	Low-N	47.04	11.11	Low-N
Asian	Low-N	46.51	Low-N	61.84	13.46	25.59	44.05	40.13	15.93
Black	46.81	38.25	28.10	42.43	21.23	13.55	28.96	14.81	11.57
White	61.73	52.53	5.02	53.85	21.98	13.99	52.57	26.83	23.56
Hispanic subgroup									
Mexican	39.86	57.38	Low-N	45.35	23.24	11.80	29.22	14.87	12.33
Cuban	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	66.11	29.96	Low-N	30.63	16.41	3.71
Puerto Rican	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	16.56	18.68	Low-N
Other Hispanic	Low-N	35.72	Low-N	58.07	16.51	23.09	27.54	9.79	16.92
Ability quartile									
Lower 25%	46.29	41.88	5.92	41.13	22.37	19.16	23.95	11.00	11.63
Middle 50%	66.26	51.98	11.60	53.19	19.66	13.05	41.40	25.23	18.61
Upper 25%	59.39	55.73	Low-N	57.32	25.78	14.90	57.18	33.96	25.80
High school grades									
A	71.45	56.74	Low-N	61.16	25.02	14.82	63.60	34.81	27.12
A to B	61.25	55.48	Low-N	58.97	26.26	7.60	50.86	36.20	27.49
B	54.26	48.46	10.87	56.14	23.83	19.89	45.12	22.02	22.83
B to C	68.15	41.74	10.52	48.74	20.96	12.56	30.39	21.46	16.40
C	55.11	50.90	Low-N	36.77	16.53	22.87	14.15	13.63	6.32
D	Low-N	45.41	Low-N	33.06	20.01	Low-N	13.56	7.62	Low-N

Table 3. -- Percent of 1980 high school graduates attaining postsecondary degrees,
by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected characteristics--continued

	Immed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans
High school grades (recoded)									
Mostly A	64.17	57.64	Low-N	59.53	25.88	9.42	56.94	35.79	27.35
Mostly B	62.23	44.51	10.67	52.18	22.22	15.58	38.75	21.73	19.64
Mostly C	55.11	50.90	Low-N	36.77	16.53	22.87	14.15	13.63	6.32
Less than C	13.23	45.70	Low-N	48.35	18.82	6.43	13.25	6.16	0.00
High school program									
General	66.74	49.44	16.66	50.16	21.33	13.61	39.13	18.63	19.39
Academic	61.55	50.98	3.64	60.32	25.11	21.54	53.18	35.76	24.98
Vocational / technical	56.63	48.43	5.78	43.92	20.44	9.99	25.30	12.70	9.14
Handicap status									
Handicapped	51.60	47.10	Low-N	45.77	24.60	8.93	44.82	26.22	13.92
Not handicapped	61.48	50.43	10.97	54.56	21.39	15.74	49.88	24.62	22.63
PSE plans									
No plans for PSE	35.21	52.84	Low-N	42.98	23.03	2.01	0.35	3.61	0.00
Vocational / technical	60.40	43.27	14.13	41.65	18.55	13.40	15.83	8.91	4.85
2 year college	66.73	54.93	Low-N	49.32	21.75	13.11	18.40	20.68	13.14
4 year college	56.12	50.48	Low-N	58.89	25.91	15.94	49.48	33.78	23.46
Advanced degree	77.04	46.61	Low-N	59.43	21.75	19.92	54.31	32.29	25.41
PSE plans (recoded)									
No plans for PSE	35.21	52.84	Low-N	42.98	23.03	2.01	0.35	3.61	0.00
Voc / tech or 2 yr college	62.33	47.71	9.94	46.86	20.03	13.23	17.75	15.82	10.46
4 yr college / adv degree	64.05	49.01	6.10	59.11	24.07	17.65	51.87	33.20	24.45
SES quartile									
Lower 25%	53.35	37.70	5.18	43.91	21.00	14.42	34.61	13.74	14.91
Middle 50%	62.78	55.51	10.03	52.68	21.23	11.45	41.77	24.62	17.87
Upper 25%	65.40	49.31	Low-N	60.41	25.76	20.65	58.64	33.49	28.65

Table 3. -- Percent of 1980 high school graduates attaining postsecondary degrees, by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected characteristics--continued

	Immed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans
Parents' highest education									
Less than high school	54.88	36.76	Low-N	46.32	16.23	27.03	37.98	16.61	12.95
High school only	61.19	50.53	10.16	47.72	23.81	4.51	39.95	20.55	10.68
Less than 2 yrs vocational	46.36	57.94	Low-N	57.24	23.27	11.55	39.57	17.75	19.28
More than 2 yrs vocational	58.88	60.42	Low-N	50.31	21.85	17.22	38.48	20.85	13.77
Less than 2 yrs college	57.88	57.58	Low-N	51.45	21.56	5.29	51.83	24.54	22.79
2 to 4 yrs college	55.59	45.20	Low-N	49.05	17.46	6.86	45.92	18.57	19.30
4 to 5 yrs college	77.13	47.01	Low-N	56.06	26.21	31.24	56.07	25.74	26.24
MA/MS	52.26	55.71	Low-N	67.10	20.65	18.70	50.34	41.32	21.66
PhD/MD	Low-N	44.31	Low-N	59.31	26.48	21.33	63.57	29.83	35.51
Parents' highest education (recoded)									
Less than high school	54.88	36.76	Low-N	46.32	16.23	27.03	37.98	16.61	12.95
High school only	61.19	50.53	10.16	47.72	23.81	4.51	39.95	20.55	10.68
Any PSE plans	55.31	54.32	15.76	51.10	20.46	9.85	45.40	20.83	19.31
BA/BS / advanced degree	63.56	48.82	Low-N	60.25	24.31	24.01	56.15	31.89	26.88
Family income in 1980									
Less than \$7,000	42.63	42.96	Low-N	40.00	24.95	3.38	34.61	21.80	22.20
\$7,000-\$11,999	47.33	45.84	Low-N	54.06	27.04	19.86	39.34	15.27	22.19
\$12,000-\$15,999	57.49	45.74	Low-N	43.96	27.34	15.33	40.94	13.17	14.50
\$16,000-\$19,999	62.91	52.53	Low-N	50.08	15.26	11.64	39.64	29.06	14.05
\$20,000-\$24,999	53.02	47.21	Low-N	51.93	18.32	14.37	47.51	32.60	22.75
\$25,000-\$37,999	76.22	59.93	Low-N	58.76	24.48	15.96	51.64	24.97	22.19
\$38,000 or more	69.34	44.31	Low-N	60.37	27.86	17.64	60.29	36.64	35.32
Family income in 1980 (recoded)									
Less than \$12,000	45.65	44.72	4.87	50.64	26.26	13.93	37.79	17.02	22.19
\$12,000-\$19,999	59.85	49.92	4.87	47.68	20.44	13.02	40.21	21.64	14.24
\$20,000-\$37,999	63.06	53.82	Low-N	55.69	21.83	15.36	49.64	27.92	22.43
\$38,000 or more	69.84	44.31	Low-N	60.37	27.86	17.64	60.29	36.64	35.32

Table 3. -- Percent of 1980 high school graduates attaining postsecondary degrees,
by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected characteristics--continued

	Immed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans
Family size									
1-3	58.19	42.40	Low-N	49.93	30.84	25.17	42.92	18.15	17.29
Four	62.06	48.94	Low-N	53.65	16.86	12.70	51.31	30.89	29.84
Five	56.99	50.63	2.12	54.73	22.13	14.11	52.40	25.64	22.60
Six	72.77	48.01	Low-N	52.55	26.49	16.44	49.23	28.21	23.87
Seven	47.95	55.65	Low-N	52.64	25.52	6.37	42.65	28.02	17.25
8 or 9	61.78	58.06	Low-N	48.44	21.74	17.33	41.85	20.70	19.96
10 plus	65.07	35.24	Low-N	61.81	16.83	7.49	32.96	18.53	3.46
Home language English									
No	27.14	51.27	Low-N	62.42	19.79	37.21	45.03	20.76	13.26
Yes	61.08	49.04	7.53	52.22	22.33	13.33	48.05	25.70	22.63
High school type									
Public	58.65	49.02	11.24	52.54	22.70	13.76	48.76	22.21	19.36
Catholic	61.47	51.68	Low-N	59.87	13.43	32.68	51.79	41.94	31.05
Private	Low-N	63.14	Low-N	Low-N	20.10	Low-N	51.98	46.02	28.65
High school region									
North east	57.82	55.57	Low-N	51.43	15.95	12.33	53.11	29.99	25.35
North central	64.90	46.09	6.18	53.31	26.42	12.76	50.21	25.80	19.57
South	51.01	46.89	26.44	54.83	21.43	9.55	44.44	24.78	20.48
West	60.20	51.58	Low-N	52.80	22.91	19.35	49.65	19.44	18.78
High school urbanicity									
Urban	52.38	41.73	1.43	50.74	23.94	13.12	42.23	23.80	15.00
Suburban	58.63	50.85	9.11	52.96	19.98	13.14	53.03	24.01	25.01
Rural	63.18	55.36	Low-N	55.40	26.16	18.86	47.20	27.38	19.34

Source: High School & Beyond 1986

Table 4. -- Percent of 1980 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay ≥2 yrs at 4-yr school: % with degree
TOTAL	52.44	52.43	44.96	27.42	14.86	12.55	33.42	12.81
Sex								
Male	47.07	50.74	45.53	31.69	10.49	13.75	37.85	11.27
Female	56.74	53.68	44.57	23.85	18.74	11.58	28.43	14.69
Race / ethnicity								
Hispanic	47.11	49.91	51.71	25.92	5.67	31.68	21.48	6.05
American Indian	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
Asian	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	17.78	Low-N	Low-N	55.62	30.13
Black	36.64	45.53	37.28	22.58	22.98	16.92	17.67	8.19
White	57.65	54.61	45.22	28.30	13.62	10.05	36.10	13.41
Hispanic subgroup								
Mexican	56.87	Low-N	60.15	26.46	4.71	23.58	22.71	7.24
Cuban	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	29.63	Low-N	Low-N	46.79	5.25
Puerto Rican	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
Other Hispanic	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	23.00	Low-N	Low-N	13.13	4.64
Ability quartile								
Lower 25%	44.89	41.59	36.86	26.95	24.75	8.58	16.66	3.40
Middle 50%	51.45	56.60	50.03	25.07	8.08	11.97	32.57	15.41
Upper 25%	66.76	76.42	38.86	33.37	22.67	7.25	46.70	14.61

Table 4. -- Percent of 1980 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics--continued

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay ≥2 yrs at 4-yr school: % with degree
High school grades								
A	66.81	Low-N	Low-N	29.25	26.35	16.13	51.50	5.79
A to B	65.46	58.21	41.95	34.20	16.07	12.86	42.19	26.83
B	55.11	50.54	37.58	28.17	17.07	10.20	33.55	9.31
B to C	47.19	39.90	34.06	26.56	12.89	6.20	27.87	13.23
C	40.54	55.54	56.76	20.60	12.90	9.37	19.39	5.97
D	34.69	Low-N	51.18	18.08	Low-N	15.93	11.26	Low-N
High school grades (recoded)								
Mostly A	65.74	62.66	42.98	32.75	19.36	13.98	45.02	20.90
Mostly B	50.35	44.67	35.51	27.29	14.48	7.94	30.43	11.31
Mostly C	40.54	55.54	56.76	20.60	12.90	9.37	19.39	5.97
Less than C	34.93	Low-N	51.18	17.69	Low-N	15.93	9.88	Low-N
High school program								
General	51.98	52.35	44.52	27.34	18.32	7.38	25.22	10.54
Academic	60.80	64.84	33.20	29.41	17.91	14.65	46.11	18.15
Vocational / technical	48.73	34.73	53.53	25.82	12.41	11.65	15.26	10.24
Handicap status								
Handicapped	51.99	43.52	42.84	28.47	24.18	12.87	31.93	18.60
Not handicapped	52.55	5.45	45.63	27.10	12.72	12.47	33.21	11.56
PSE plans								
No plans for PSE	54.39	Low-N	49.38	25.99	Low-N	15.75	1.03	6.08
Vocational / technical	44.91	33.01	44.02	23.23	17.48	7.38	12.36	4.43
2 year college	58.97	64.76	46.60	28.07	4.95	14.75	22.75	18.11
4 year college	62.18	45.51	40.39	32.74	18.14	7.23	43.13	17.99
Advanced degree	52.38	66.36	28.41	25.61	17.53	12.24	45.94	13.80

Table 4. -- Percent of 1980 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics--continued

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay ≥2 yrs at 4-yr school: % with degree
PSE plans (recoded)								
No plans for PSE	54.39	Low-N	49.38	25.99	Low-N	15.75	1.03	6.08
Voc / tech or 2 yr college	49.01	48.77	45.23	25.54	11.83	10.52	18.78	12.29
4 yr college / adv degree	58.19	52.77	36.00	29.69	17.82	9.35	44.16	16.22
SES quartile								
Lower 25%	43.18	32.76	33.90	25.20	17.02	14.78	13.93	13.40
Middle 50%	58.28	64.33	48.19	25.92	16.79	8.16	34.87	12.56
Upper 25%	53.32	53.96	39.28	33.16	16.42	12.08	44.53	16.04
Parents' highest education								
Less than high school	39.73	23.15	41.37	22.76	13.60	6.18	13.00	23.69
High school only	50.54	59.54	47.24	29.92	14.90	17.39	26.82	10.59
Less than 2 yrs vocational	64.15	Low-N	Low-N	21.18	Low-N	Low-N	23.28	14.57
More than 2 yrs vocational	55.32	Low-N	49.28	17.37	Low-N	Low-N	27.14	7.64
Less than 2 yrs college	61.27	Low-N	Low-N	30.16	Low-N	11.08	34.70	12.95
2 to 4 yrs college	48.83	Low-N	39.75	18.32	Low-N	18.16	30.82	8.01
4 to 5 yrs college	34.88	Low-N	42.78	40.30	16.93	5.09	35.45	13.71
MA/MS	65.17	Low-N	Low-N	25.06	Low-N	Low-N	51.15	23.00
PhD/MD	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	45.37	Low-N	Low-N	41.38	6.17
Parents' highest education (recoded)								
Less than high school	39.73	23.15	41.37	22.76	13.60	6.18	13.00	23.69
High school diploma only	50.54	59.54	47.24	29.92	14.90	17.39	26.82	10.59
any PSE plans	56.23	75.10	45.14	21.71	17.39	18.26	30.17	10.37
BA/BS / advanced degree	56.38	38.47	45.87	34.24	13.53	3.72	42.51	15.09

Table 4. -- Percent of 1980 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics--continued

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay ≥2 yrs at 4-yr school: % with degree
Family income in 1980								
Less than \$7,000	51.61	Low-N	38.38	28.04	Low-N	12.83	30.86	4.65
\$7,000-\$11,999	47.46	44.40	44.56	32.67	Low-N	6.77	17.96	11.35
\$12,000-\$15,999	41.45	61.73	44.37	32.94	26.66	12.15	16.88	8.68
\$16,000-\$19,999	54.32	Low-N	42.61	21.82	1.52	8.25	34.72	22.19
\$20,000-\$24,999	62.92	26.51	28.25	23.19	19.57	1.90	43.64	16.74
\$25,000-\$37,999	56.86	Low-N	57.84	28.67	15.52	16.28	30.48	16.10
\$38,000 or more	52.29	35.26	35.72	32.80	18.13	18.81	53.69	9.13
Family income in 1980 (recoded)								
Less than \$12,000	48.94	41.37	41.64	31.11	30.84	9.34	21.73	9.92
\$12,000-\$19,999	50.18	74.74	43.35	26.61	11.59	9.99	26.18	16.45
\$20,000-\$37,999	59.82	50.70	44.36	26.49	17.94	10.54	35.54	16.84
\$38,000 or more	52.29	35.26	35.72	32.80	18.13	18.81	53.69	9.93
Family size								
1-3	54.53	Low-N	44.83	33.46	48.14	5.39	25.75	8.07
Four	56.26	42.18	41.05	20.11	17.18	7.61	42.32	11.77
Five	48.91	62.48	48.38	27.53	8.01	12.21	42.30	6.02
Six	41.61	86.18	38.30	34.07	21.49	8.88	34.01	22.61
Seven	62.47	Low-N	41.07	34.68	1.30	19.13	29.30	25.78
8 or 9	72.07	51.83	38.18	24.11	18.26	15.64	26.48	11.35
10 plus	31.84	18.38	47.50	26.17	Low-N	7.86	24.42	6.14
Home language English								
No	51.79	33.97	57.90	24.63	21.97	7.72	22.36	18.44
Yes	53.14	53.19	41.47	27.63	16.04	11.13	34.75	13.53

Table 4. -- Percent of 1980 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics--continued

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 4-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay ≥2 yrs at 4-yr school: % with degree
High school type								
Public	51.19	54.71	43.90	27.61	15.91	12.93	29.60	12.12
Catholic	69.66	Low-N	Low-N	15.54	3.80	14.53	54.34	17.47
Private	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
High school region								
North east	58.85	60.50	49.52	19.71	7.11	11.21	39.82	11.19
North central	48.64	44.21	42.21	34.70	19.60	5.02	31.39	15.31
South	49.45	58.59	39.83	25.09	11.89	19.97	30.68	15.50
West	55.51	43.95	49.78	27.41	21.74	11.31	31.76	10.06
High school urbanicity								
Urban	40.63	40.49	44.00	50.77	10.82	16.10	32.28	12.76
Suburban	56.90	52.31	43.28	23.90	12.69	13.16	31.82	12.44
Rural	56.05	62.70	50.60	34.94	21.97	7.14	36.84	13.48

Source: High School & Beyond 1986

Table 5. -- Percent of 1982 high school graduates attaining postsecondary degrees, by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected characteristics

	Immed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans
TOTAL	62.67	44.94	15.45	41.47	17.40	8.21
Sex						
Male	64.72	41.09	13.61	42.77	20.10	10.48
Female	61.32	47.58	16.47	40.55	15.21	6.50
Race / ethnicity						
Hispanic	62.61	37.41	Low-N	34.70	23.49	15.61
American Indian	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	28.00	19.76	Low-N
Asian	Low-N	58.59	Low-N	31.91	3.35	7.70
Black	50.85	42.07	Low-N	34.43	11.83	8.94
White	64.74	47.17	11.51	43.31	18.43	7.16
Hispanic subgroup						
Mexican	63.27	46.73	Low-N	31.94	23.01	18.63
Cuban	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	43.38	39.10	Low-N
Puerto Rican	Low-N	17.89	Low-N	15.85	11.49	Low-N
Other Hispanic	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	39.91	25.41	13.77
Ability quartile						
Lower 25%	65.97	39.27	Low-N	23.27	23.94	8.97
Middle 50%	59.52	48.55	14.54	41.27	16.05	7.48
Upper 25%	71.33	39.43	Low-N	52.48	16.08	6.98
High school grades						
A	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	80.05	7.55	Low-N
A-B	54.85	59.21	Low-N	58.08	13.38	9.15
B	69.28	50.99	Low-N	44.35	18.69	9.30
B-C	59.33	40.79	17.07	38.81	19.06	6.44
C	59.87	44.79	13.97	26.56	19.20	9.52
D	74.38	38.08	Low-N	23.54	8.51	3.63

Table 5. -- Percent of 1982 high school graduates attaining postsecondary degrees, by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected characteristics--continued

	Immed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans
High school grades (recorded)						
Mostly A	58.45	54.66	Low-N	61.75	12.44	9.95
Mostly B	63.56	44.80	16.95	41.40	18.89	7.67
Mostly C	59.87	44.79	13.97	26.56	19.20	9.52
Less than C	74.38	35.36	Low-N	23.29	8.41	3.62
High school program						
General	68.34	42.18	Low-N	33.36	20.77	6.29
Academic	60.22	44.40	15.49	50.58	14.19	8.79
Vocational / technical	61.47	49.10	22.24	29.13	20.42	9.81
Handicap status						
Handicapped	63.17	47.55	32.50	35.66	20.32	13.00
Not handicapped	62.47	44.05	8.44	43.65	16.54	6.87
PSE plans						
No PSE plans	40.57	40.41	Low-N	12.11	19.21	1.83
Vocational / technical	65.90	43.72	9.85	27.81	23.30	1.82
Less than 4 yrs college	66.54	46.60	Low-N	39.98	19.35	9.41
BA/BS	57.08	48.44	Low-N	46.54	14.43	11.63
Advanced degree	62.30	17.69	Low-N	53.92	13.11	6.72
PSE plans (recorded)						
No PSE plans	40.57	40.41	Low-N	12.11	19.21	1.83
Voc / tech or 2 yr college	66.09	44.94	10.45	36.75	21.04	6.91
4 yr college / adv degree	58.99	48.19	30.95	49.34	13.85	9.96
SES quartile						
Lower 25%	59.65	55.65	28.44	32.80	19.59	4.21
Middle 50%	63.61	38.96	11.77	40.62	17.73	6.22
Upper 25%	64.34	54.66	Low-N	47.47	15.42	13.16

Table 5. -- Percent of 1982 high school graduates attaining postsecondary degrees,
by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected characteristics--continued

	Immed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans
Parents' highest education						
Less than high school	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
High school diploma only	69.48	48.60	Low-N	29.00	14.41	4.02
Less than 2 yrs vocational	59.88	48.20	12.46	31.47	16.27	6.93
More than 2 yrs vocational	62.45	49.47	Low-N	47.00	18.78	3.07
Less than 2 yrs college	61.67	39.23	Low-N	45.52	19.22	8.21
2-4 yrs college	79.52	46.22	Low-N	42.04	20.16	8.86
4-5 yrs college	69.29	32.41	Low-N	44.31	17.95	8.94
MA or MS	50.62	50.06	Low-N	49.11	16.50	6.32
PhD or MD	81.19	43.73	Low-N	54.85	15.45	15.34
Parents' highest education (recoded)						
Less than high school	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
High school diploma only	69.48	48.60	Low-N	29.00	14.41	4.02
Less than 2 yrs vocational	62.92	46.16	18.92	37.21	17.72	7.27
More than 2 yrs vocational	63.11	42.61	5.56	49.15	16.59	9.63
Family income in 1980						
Less than \$8,000	40.40	51.28	Low-N	29.90	14.43	2.81
\$8,000-\$14,999	60.97	52.18	Low-N	39.54	22.71	4.76
\$15,000-\$19,999	58.74	49.87	Low-N	36.50	15.97	4.50
\$20,000-\$24,999	66.56	39.10	Low-N	44.99	19.72	15.17
\$25,000-\$29,999	64.12	42.59	Low-N	44.29	16.02	8.47
\$30,000-\$39,999	62.93	41.27	Low-N	46.19	14.27	8.09
\$40,000-\$49,999	44.64	48.03	Low-N	39.82	14.28	14.28
\$50,000 or more	63.17	28.93	Low-N	49.17	15.70	12.99

Table 5. -- Percent of 1982 high school graduates attaining postsecondary degrees, by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected characteristics--continued

	Immed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans
Family income in 1980 (recoded)						
Less than \$15,000	55.39	51.92	22.42	37.44	20.59	4.09
\$15,000-\$24,999	62.78	43.86	Low-N	40.78	17.89	9.00
\$25,000-\$39,999	63.44	41.83	10.88	45.36	15.02	8.23
\$40,000 or more	52.42	37.78	Low-N	44.64	15.07	13.53
Family size						
1 to 3	57.15	48.53	Low-N	31.70	15.11	1.10
Four	62.46	51.45	Low-N	47.47	16.48	10.21
Five	72.35	38.68	Low-N	41.83	16.79	12.80
Six	52.30	42.04	Low-N	40.08	20.75	6.18
Seven	57.43	40.89	Low-N	39.09	25.19	11.63
8 to 9	67.89	44.54	Low-N	40.71	14.33	5.36
Home language English						
No	75.08	59.57	Low-N	35.29	21.68	8.21
Yes	62.58	47.73	17.84	42.44	17.11	7.85
High school type						
Public	63.27	44.51	16.36	40.88	17.27	8.67
Catholic	57.94	49.03	Low-N	46.07	18.03	5.52
Other private	Low-N	49.72	Low-N	Low-N	20.33	Low-N
High school region						
East	76.97	52.57	Low-N	44.60	21.59	10.09
North	61.21	41.25	13.43	44.19	23.94	4.13
South	53.19	43.13	8.99	47.08	10.55	5.38
West	67.02	46.28	Low-N	31.41	14.58	11.37

Table 5. -- Percent of 1982 high school graduates attaining postsecondary degrees,
by pattern of enrollment, type of institution, and selected characteristics--continued

	Immed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Immed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delayed entry 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Stopout from 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans
High school urbanicity						
Urban	50.45	39.97	19.76	36.33	19.76	8.20
Suburb	65.92	43.04	15.18	39.80	14.75	9.21
Rural	66.13	51.53	Low-N	48.49	20.88	5.35

Source: High School & Beyond 1986

Table 6. -- Percent of 1982 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans
TOTAL	46.34	44.36	20.34	20.55	8.54	6.38
Sex						
Male	41.10	42.28	Low-N	22.70	13.54	5.12
Female	50.34	45.41	Low-N	18.70	5.53	7.88
Race / ethnicity						
Hispanic	34.61	44.50	Low-N	17.15	43.86	Low-N
American Indian	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	21.6	Low-N	Low-N
Asian	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	4	Low-N	Low-N
Black	39.36	51.27	Low-N	12	0.84	Low-N
White	50.00	43.68	Low-N	23.32	4.95	7.99
Hispanic subgroup						
Mexican	43.11	Low-N	Low-N	18.43	36.48	Low-N
Cuban	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	41.67	Low-N	Low-N
Puerto Rican	20.42	Low-N	Low-N	12.73	Low-N	Low-N
Other Hispanic	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	8.24	Low-N	Low-N
Ability quartile						
Lower 25%	36.60	54.27	Low-N	2.42	20.51	Low-N
Middle 50%	50.72	45.26	Low-N	19.67	5.13	4.82
Upper 25%	43.01	33.67	Low-N	19.96	3.37	Low-N

Table 6. -- Percent of 1982 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics--continued

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans
High school grades						
A	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	9.29	Low-N	Low-N
A-B	63.36	Low-N	Low-N	17.43	0.00	Low-N
B	52.34	51.18	Low-N	22.29	7.95	11.82
B-C	39.72	45.16	Low-N	23.08	7.41	0.00
C	49.92	35.19	Low-N	20.13	21.21	Low-N
D	38.24	Low-N	Low-N	10.71	Low-N	Low-N
High school grades (recoded)						
Mostly A	56.59	51.17	Low-N	16.06	0.14	Low-N
Mostly B	44.44	47.79	32.76	22.72	7.67	6.42
Mostly C	49.92	35.19	Low-N	20.13	21.21	Low-N
Less than C	36.12	Low-N	Low-N	10.50	Low-N	Low-N
High school program						
General	45.56	35.89	Low-N	27.28	1.78	Low-N
Academic	45.89	42.28	Low-N	17.52	3.81	0.00
Vocational / technical	48.65	53.38	Low-N	20.38	23.29	Low-N
Handicap status						
Handicapped	48.95	49.39	Low-N	24.08	7.16	Low-N
Not handicapped	45.31	43.07	Low-N	19.55	9.00	4.54
PSE plans						
No PSE plans	41.01	47.00	Low-N	15.44	25.19	Low-N
Vocational / technical	41.02	56.58	Low-N	31.02	4.76	Low-N
Less than 4 yrs college	53.61	29.35	Low-N	23.65	7.61	Low-N
BA/BS	50.42	42.33	Low-N	18.25	0.20	Low-N
Advanced degree	47.32	57.21	Low-N	14.76	9.68	Low-N

Table 6. -- Percent of 1982 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics--continued

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans
PSE plans (recoded)						
No PSE plans	41.01	47.00	Low-N	15.44	25.19	Low-N
Voc / tech or 2 yr college	46.01	43.29	Low-N	26.75	6.52	0.00
4 yr college / adv degree	49.46	48.16	Low-N	16.76	4.80	0.15
SES quartile						
Lower 25%	55.43	61.44	Low-N	18.59	22.41	Low-N
Middle 50%	40.58	35.51	Low-N	22.42	4.79	0.11
Upper 25%	56.70	58.25	Low-N	18.80	2.81	Low-N
Parents' highest education						
Less than high school	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
High school only	50.60	Low-N	Low-N	17.37	Low-N	Low-N
Less than 2 yrs vocational	47.46	50.42	Low-N	18.83	10.16	9.86
More than 2 yrs vocational	58.09	Low-N	Low-N	30.59	Low-N	Low-N
Less than 2 yrs college	38.91	Low-N	Low-N	26.51	0.00	Low-N
2-4 yrs college	50.52	48.02	Low-N	23.06	13.43	Low-N
4-5 yrs college	35.55	Low-N	Low-N	21.23	8.13	Low-N
MA or MS	52.95	Low-N	Low-N	19.24	2.31	Low-N
PHD or MD	47.42	Low-N	Low-N	17.69	Low-N	Low-N
Parents' highest education (recoded)						
Less than high school	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
High school diploma only	50.60	Low-N	Low-N	17.37	Low-N	Low-N
Less than 2 yrs vocational	46.79	48.11	Low-N	21.97	7.64	6.47
More than 2 yrs vocational	45.83	35.56	Low-N	19.31	6.33	7.53

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Table 6. -- Percent of 1982 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics--continued

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans
Family income in 1980						
Less than \$8,000	46.51	Low-N	Low-N	15.59	Low-N	Low-N
\$8,000-\$14,999	53.41	51.88	Low-N	22.24	27.84	Low-N
\$15,000-\$19,999	57.30	Low-N	Low-N	14.46	18.50	Low-N
\$20,000-\$24,999	38.42	46.83	Low-N	24.10	7.40	Low-N
\$25,000-\$29,999	44.33	32.63	Low-N	22.66	0.00	Low-N
\$30,000-\$39,999	45.35	31.38	Low-N	18.73	0.00	Low-N
\$40,000-\$49,999	49.60	Low-N	Low-N	19.45	Low-N	Low-N
\$50,000 or more	29.40	Low-N	Low-N	18.96	3.36	Low-N
Family income in 1980 (recoded)						
Less than \$15,000	51.47	56.17	Low-N	20.13	25.91	Low-N
\$15,000-\$24,999	46.44	42.21	Low-N	19.70	12.19	Low-N
\$25,000-\$39,999	44.89	31.82	Low-N	20.35	0.00	0.20
\$40,000 or more	39.67	Low-N	Low-N	19.17	1.94	Low-N
Family size						
1 to 3	57.98	Low-N	Low-N	12.09	24.88	Low-N
Four	48.12	68.02	Low-N	21.00	3.77	Low-N
Five	35.81	48.65	Low-N	19.84	0.22	Low-N
Six	41.05	49.61	Low-N	25.15	5.06	Low-N
Seven	53.13	13.63	Low-N	26.89	Low-N	Low-N
8 to 9	48.11	36.14	Low-N	19.83	0.55	Low-N
Home language English						
No	64.94	Low-N	Low-N	26.11	Low-N	Low-N
Yes	49.09	46.50	26.33	21.25	4.90	6.90

Table 6. -- Percent of 1982 high school graduates who delayed entry into postsecondary education with degrees from different types of institutions, by length of delay, type of institution, and selected student characteristics--continued

	Delay <2 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at <2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay <2 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay 2-3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans	Delay >3 yrs at 2-yr school: % w/deg or trans
High school type						
Public	45.59	44.44	22.85	20.36	8.87	7.07
Catholic	52.89	39.86	Low-N	20.84	5.89	Low-N
Other private	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N	Low-N
High school region						
East	55.19	45.75	Low-N	28.38	3.15	Low-N
North	42.92	39.45	Low-N	26.35	17.16	Low-N
South	47.60	38.00	Low-N	13.28	3.19	Low-N
West	38.93	60.12	Low-N	16.66	9.55	Low-N
High school urbanicity						
Urban	40.31	40.63	Low-N	20.15	21.47	Low-N
Suburb	44.68	40.90	Low-N	18.09	4.39	9.80
Rural	53.96	50.52	Low-N	25.49	5.63	Low-N

Source: High School & Beyond 1986

Selected standard errors

The following table displays the location of a few key statistics and their standard errors.

Table	Column	Subgroup	Estimate	Standard Error
1	7	Total	67.30	1.251
1	8	Total	44.12	1.930
1	1	Total	59.33	3.372
1	2	Total	37.97	2.462
3	1	Total	58.98	3.187
3	2	Total	49.72	2.524
3	1	SEX/Male	49.21	5.169
3	1	SEX/Female	64.23	3.895
3	9	Total	21.30	1.738
3	9	SES/Upper 25%	28.65	3.183
3	9	SES/Middle 50%	17.87	2.329

Technical Notes and Methodology

Columns in all tables describe degree attainment for students with three different patterns of enrollment in 4-year, 2-year, and less than 2-year institutions. The enrollment patterns for which attainment is shown are immediate entry, delayed entry, and stopping out. Immediate entrants are defined as those who enrolled in that type of institution by October of the year in which they graduated from high school. Delayed entrants entered after that time, whether or not they had enrolled in some other type of institution earlier. All enrollees are either delayed or immediate entrants. For more information on delayed entry into postsecondary education, see the ED Special Tabulation Patterns and Trends of Delayed Entry into Postsecondary Education. Both delayed and immediate entrants may (or may not) exhibit the third pattern of enrollment, stopping out. Stopping out (Stopout) is defined as enrolling in a particular type of institution, leaving for a time without enrolling in another institution of the same type, and returning later to enroll in that type of institution. This pattern of enrolling, leaving, and returning does not take into account changes between schools of the same type; a student who enrolls in a 4-year school, transfers to another 4-year school, and returns to the first school, all without any break in enrollment, is not considered a stopout in this tabulation. For more about stopping out, see the ED Special Tabulation Patterns and Trends of Stopping Out from Postsecondary Education.

All columns in these tables show the proportion of students who attained degrees. For students enrolling at 4-year institutions, degree attainment refers to attainment of a B.A. or B.S. degree. For students in 2-year and less than 2-year institutions, the percentages shown in these tables describe the proportion enrolled at each type of institution who received a vocational certificate, a 2-year degree, or who transferred to a 4-year institution without first receiving one of these degrees.

The columns in Tables 1, 3, and 5 show the proportion of high school graduates who entered immediately, entered late, or stopped out and who attained degrees or transferred. Data are shown for all members of the 1972 senior, 1980 senior, or 1980 sophomore cohort who graduated with their class. For example, Table 1 shows that 50.89 percent of the 1972 seniors who graduated in 1972 and had enrolled in a 2-year institution immediately after high school had received a 2-year, or had at least transferred to a 4-year institution, by February of 1986. (See column 4 of Table 1.)

Tables 2, 4, and 6 show the proportion of students who delayed entering each type of institution who attained degrees or transferred. The proportion attaining degrees or transferring is shown for students who delayed less than two years, two to three years, and more than three years. (The column for students delaying less than two years includes only delayed entrants, not immediate entrants.) Thus the three columns showing delayed entrants in Tables 2, 4, and 6 include only those students classified as delayed entrants in Tables 1, 3, and 5.

All of the percentages in these tables show attainment rates. For all of these percentages, the denominator consists of students who enrolled in the type of institution and who exhibited the enrollment pattern named in the column heading. The

numerator consists of those who attained degrees, given that they had that enrollment pattern in that type of institution. For example, in Column 1 of Table 1 shows, for 1972 graduates who entered immediately into less-than-2-year institutions, the proportion who attained degrees or who transferred to 4-year institutions is 59.33 percent. Column 2 shows that 37.97 of those who delayed their entry into less-than-2-year institutions attained degrees or transferred to 4-year institutions.

All estimates for HS&B samples were calculated using FU3WT, restricting the analysis to those students who participated in the Third Follow-up Survey. All estimates for NLS-72 samples were calculated using FU5WT, restricting the analysis to those students who participated in the Fifth Follow-up Survey.

Row variables were selected from the standard set of classification variables included in the data files. Categories were collapsed for some variables to maximize comparability of categories across data sets. Some row variables were repeated with the number of categories reduced. These instances have been noted with the term (recoded) after the variable name.

Since the 1980 sophomores were interviewed before they had been out of high school for four full years, this tabulation does not show the percent of 1980 sophomores who received 4-year degrees. None of the attainment rates shown in this tabulation have been adjusted for the fact that different amounts of time had passed between the time each cohort graduated from high school and the time of the last follow-up survey. Since nearly fourteen years had passed for the 1972 senior cohort, nearly six for the 1980 senior cohort, and nearly four for the 1980 sophomore cohort, attainment rates are always higher for comparable groups from an earlier group than from a later group. As a result, attainment rates should not be compared across cohorts, but comparisons of student subgroups within one cohort can be contrasted with comparisons of students subgroups within another cohort.

Since a student may enroll in more than one type of institution, it is possible for the same student to be represented in more than one column in these tables. For example, a student who entered a 2-year institution immediately after high school and received a vocational certificate or A. A. degree there will count as an immediately entering degree recipient from a 2-year institution. If that student also transferred to a 4-year institution and later attained a B.A. degree from there, the student will also count as having received a degree from the 4-year institution as a delayed entrant. Thus this student will be included in the numerator of both column 4 and column 8 of Table 1, if a 1972 senior. Students who enrolled in more than one type of postsecondary institution will always be represented in the denominator for columns pertaining both types of institutions.

Similarly, a student may count in more than one column for the same type of institution. Students are either immediate or delayed entrants, but a student in either of these two entrance categories may also be a stopout. Therefore in Table 1, for example, a 1972 high school graduate may be shown as an immediate entrant at a less-than-2-year institution in Column 1 and also as a stopout in Column 3. It is also

possible for students to be included in columns for more than one type of institution. For example, a 1972 high school senior who entered a 2-year institution directly out of high school, left after one year, and then returned to a 2-year institution, will be part of the total sample for Columns 4 and 6 of Table 1. If that student received a degree or transferred to a 4-year institution, the student will be included in both of those columns as having done so.

High School and Beyond and NLS samples, while representative and statistically accurate, are not simple random samples. Students were initially selected within high schools grouped within strata. Sampling rates for schools within different strata varied, resulting in better data for policy purposes, but at a cost to statistical efficiency. Hence, simple random techniques for the estimation of standard errors frequently underestimate the true standard errors for some estimates. To overcome this problem, standard errors for all estimates in this tabulation were calculated using Taylor residual techniques. All estimates, standard errors, unweighted n's and weighted n's are available from the Longitudinal Studies Branch in comma separated form for use with all major spreadsheet software and micro computers.

To compare estimates for separate subgroups, or to understand the quality of the estimates, standard errors are needed. This tabulation presents thousands of estimates, and each estimate has an associated standard error. The standard errors vary in size as a function of sample size and the sample design. Hence, the standard errors of the estimates for some small groups (e.g. Cubans, Puerto Ricans, students who earned D's in high school, students with parents who did not attain high school diplomas) may be so large that the estimates should not be used. (While the estimates based on 19 or fewer cases were suppressed, the computer automatically produced estimates for subgroups with 20 or more cases. Rather than manually identify the poor estimates and remove them, users will be provided with estimates and standard errors upon request.)

For more information or to obtain standard errors, contact Carl M. Schmitt, National Center for Education Statistics, Longitudinal Studies Branch, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20208-5652 (phone 202 356-6772).

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