

# Educational Attainment in the United States (Update)

*Population Characteristics*

March 2000

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## DATA HIGHLIGHTS

Detailed tabulations are now available which provide statistics on educational attainment of the noninstitutional population of the United States, based on the March 2000 Current Population Survey (CPS). These tables provide information such as:

- Eighty-four percent of all adults ages 25 and over had completed high school and 26 percent had completed a bachelor's degree or more.
- The high school completion level of young adults (ages 25 to 29) was 88 percent, while the college completion level was 29 percent.
- Among women ages 25 and over, 84 percent had earned a high school diploma, and 24 percent had completed a bachelor's degree or more.
- College completion rates for young women (ages 25 to 29) exceeded those for young men, 30 percent and 28 percent, respectively.
- For White non-Hispanics ages 25 and over, 88 percent had completed high school and 28 percent had a bachelor's degree or more.
- Annual average earnings in 1999 for those ages 18 and over who had completed high school only was \$24,572; for those with a bachelor's degree it was \$45,678.
- Ninety percent of the employed civilian labor force ages 25 and over had a high school diploma.
- High school completion levels for those ages 25 and over were highest for the Midwest (87 percent) and lowest for the South (82 percent).

## DETAILED TABULATIONS

The set of newly revised detailed tabulations consists of 16 tables from the March 2000 CPS and 3 historical tables. The electronic version of these tables is available on the Internet at the Census Bureau's World Wide Web site ([www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)). Once on the site, go to "Subjects A-Z," then click on "E," and then on "Educational Attainment."

An abbreviated paper version of these tables is available as PPL-140 for \$34.00. To receive a paper copy, send a request for "PPL-140, Educational Attainment in the United States: March 2000," along with a check or money order in the amount of \$34.00 payable to "Commerce-Census-88-00-9010," to:

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Census Bureau  
P.O. Box 277943  
Atlanta, GA 30384-7943

Or call the Statistical Information Office on 301-457-2422. A copy of these tabulations will be made available to any existing CPS P20 subscriber without charge, provided that the request is made within 3 months of the issue date of this update. Contact the Statistical Information Office on 301-457-2422.

For additional information on these topics, contact Eric C. Newburger or Andrea E. Curry, Education and Social Stratification Branch, on 301-457-2464 or via Internet e-mail ([eric.charles.newburger@census.gov](mailto:eric.charles.newburger@census.gov) or [acurry@census.gov](mailto:acurry@census.gov)).

The data in the detailed tables are estimates based on a sample survey and are subject to sampling variability since they

## Current Population Reports

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Demographic Programs

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are not based on a complete enumeration of the population. For information on the source of the data, the accuracy of the estimates, the use of standard errors, and the computation of standard errors, contact John M. Finamore of the Demographic Statistical Methods Division (301-457-4183) or via Internet e-mail, at **dsmd\_s&a@census.gov**.

### **NOTICE TO USERS**

Short updates of major findings from the Current Population Survey

will be made available in both printed and electronic forms for years when full reports are not produced. Additionally, the detailed tabulations that have been part of the printed reports will be updated annually in electronic form on the Internet. To obtain the new tabulations for March 2000, updating *Educational Attainment in the United States: March 1999* (Current Population Reports, P20-528), please see the "Detailed Tabulations" section.

Comments about this report or the P20 series in general may be made by contacting the Census Bureau on the Internet at: **pop@census.gov** or writing to:

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