

Participation in Adult Education

Table 10-2. Percentage of population age 16 or older who participated in adult education activities, by type of activity and selected characteristics: 2005

| Characteristic | Overall participation | Type of adult education activity | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | Part-time degree or diploma programs | Work-related courses | Personal interest courses | Other activities ¹ |
| Total | 44.4 | 5.0 | 26.9 | 21.4 | 3.2 |
| Sex | | | | | |
| Male | 41.1 | 5.0 | 24.5 | 18.4 | 3.9 |
| Female | 47.5 | 5.1 | 29.2 | 24.3 | 2.6 |
| Race/ethnicity ² | | | | | |
| White | 45.6 | 4.9 | 29.1 | 22.2 | 2.1 |
| Black | 46.4 | 5.4 | 27.0 | 23.7 | 3.4 |
| Hispanic | 37.6 | 4.9 | 16.8 | 15.3 | 9.8 |
| Asian | 48.3 | 7.9! | 27.2 | 26.5 | 3.7! |
| Education | | | | | |
| Less than high school | 22.1 | 1.0! | 4.2 | 11.1 | 9.2 |
| High school diploma or equivalent | 32.6 | 2.6 | 16.5 | 16.1 | 2.9 |
| Some college, including vocational/technical | 51.4 | 7.7 | 31.4 | 24.9 | 2.5 |
| Bachelor's degree or higher | 62.5 | 7.3 | 46.2 | 29.5 | 1.1 |
| Age | | | | | |
| 16–24 | 52.9 | 11.4 | 21.2 | 26.6 | 9.7 |
| 25–34 | 52.2 | 8.7 | 31.7 | 22.1 | 6.7 |
| 35–44 | 48.7 | 5.3 | 33.7 | 22.1 | 2.1 |
| 45–54 | 47.9 | 3.8 | 36.5 | 19.7 | 1.4 |
| 55–64 | 40.3 | 1.5 | 27.0 | 20.7 | 0.9 |
| 65 or older | 22.9 | 0.3! | 5.2 | 18.8 | 0.2! |
| Household income | | | | | |
| \$15,000 or less | 29.0 | 2.8 | 10.9 | 17.9 | 4.8 |
| \$15,001–30,000 | 30.7 | 4.9 | 14.6 | 15.1 | 3.9 |
| \$30,001–50,000 | 42.1 | 3.3 | 22.6 | 21.8 | 4.3 |
| \$50,001–75,000 | 47.7 | 5.8 | 33.0 | 20.5 | 1.6 |
| More than \$75,000 | 57.6 | 6.7 | 39.0 | 27.0 | 2.7 |
| Employment/occupation | | | | | |
| Employed in past 12 months | 51.7 | 6.4 | 35.9 | 22.0 | 3.5 |
| Professional or managerial | 70.2 | 8.8 | 56.3 | 29.2 | 1.2 |
| Services, sales, or support | 48.3 | 6.3 | 30.6 | 22.0 | 3.6 |
| Trades | 34.0 | 3.3 | 18.7 | 12.9 | 6.3 |
| Not employed in past 12 months | 25.5 | 1.6 | 4.0 | 20.0 | 2.6 |

! Interpret data with caution (estimates are unstable).

¹ Includes basic skills training, apprenticeships, and English as a Second Language (ESL) courses.

² Race categories exclude persons of Hispanic ethnicity.

NOTE: Estimates exclude persons who were attending elementary or secondary school, on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, or institutionalized. Estimates include part-time participation in college or university degree programs and vocational or technical diploma programs. Full-time participation for all or part of the year in a degree or diploma program was not counted as an adult education activity. Individuals may participate in more than one adult education activity. Therefore, totals for each activity may not sum to overall participation totals.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Adult Education Survey of the 2005 National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES).