

above as sophomores) increased from 17 percent in 1982 to 31 percent in 1992, while the percentage that was younger (15 years old or less) as sophomores declined from 37 percent of all dropouts in 1982 to 23 percent in 1992 (the 1992 versus 2004 comparisons of these percentages were not statistically significant).

Table 14. Percentage distribution of dropouts, by demographic and family characteristics: 1982, 1992, and 2004

Demographic/family characteristic in sophomore year	1982	1992	2004
Sex			
Male	49.9	45.1	56.2
Female	50.1	54.9	43.8
Race/ethnicity¹			
American Indian	3.7	3.1 !	0.7 !
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2 !	2.7 !	2.0
Black	15.8	15.9	21.2
Hispanic	13.1	20.9	27.2
White	67.2	57.4	44.0
More than one race	—	—	4.9
Age²			
15 and below	37.1	22.7	18.2
16	46.3	46.8	52.0
17 and above	16.6	30.5	29.8
Family composition			
Mother and father	50.6	48.1	39.0
Mother or father and guardian	14.5	20.4	25.3
Single parent	24.4	26.0	31.1
Other ³	10.5	5.6	4.6
Parents' highest education level			
High school or less	57.0	56.9	47.4
Some college or more	43.0	43.1	52.6

— Not available.

! Interpret data with caution. Standard error is more than one third as large as estimate.

¹ Asian/Pacific Islander includes Native Hawaiian, Black includes African American, and Hispanic includes Latino. All race categories exclude Hispanic or Latino origin.

² Age as of March 1 of 1980, 1990, or 2002.

³ Includes two guardians, single guardian, and respondent to parent survey who lives with student less than half the time.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics. High School and Beyond Longitudinal Study of 1980 Sophomores (HS&B:80), "Base Year and First Follow-up, 1980–82"; National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988 (NELS:88), "First and Second Follow-up, 1990–92"; and Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 (ELS:2002), "Base Year and First Follow-up, 2002–04."