

Table 9. Percent distribution of the civilian labor force 25 to 64 years of age by educational attainment and sex, 1970–2010

Year	Civilian labor force (thousands)	Percent distribution				
		Total	High school		College	
			Less than 4 years	4 years, no college	1 to 3 years	4 years or more
Total, both sexes						
1970 ¹	61,765	100.0	36.1	38.1	11.8	14.1
1971.....	62,344	100.0	34.5	38.4	12.3	14.8
1972.....	63,704	100.0	33.3	38.8	12.4	15.5
1973.....	64,775	100.0	30.9	39.7	13.0	16.4
1974.....	66,527	100.0	29.3	39.5	13.7	17.5
1975.....	67,774	100.0	27.5	39.7	14.4	18.3
1976.....	69,243	100.0	25.8	39.6	15.2	19.4
1977.....	71,324	100.0	24.9	39.2	15.7	20.2
1978.....	73,504	100.0	23.7	39.2	16.5	20.6
1979.....	75,781	100.0	21.8	39.5	17.3	21.3
1980.....	78,010	100.0	20.6	39.8	17.6	22.0
1981.....	80,273	100.0	19.7	40.6	17.7	22.0
1982.....	81,516	100.0	18.8	40.8	17.3	23.1
1983.....	83,615	100.0	17.8	39.9	18.1	24.2
1984.....	86,001	100.0	16.7	40.2	18.4	24.7
1985.....	88,424	100.0	15.9	40.2	19.0	24.9
1986.....	90,500	100.0	15.5	40.2	19.5	24.8
1987.....	92,966	100.0	14.9	40.2	19.7	25.3
1988.....	94,870	100.0	14.7	39.9	19.7	25.7
1989.....	97,318	100.0	14.0	39.6	20.0	26.4
1990.....	99,175	100.0	13.4	39.5	20.7	26.4
1991.....	100,480	100.0	13.0	39.4	21.1	26.5

Year	Civilian labor force (thousands)	Percent distribution				
		Total	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college	Some college, no degree, or associate's degree	College graduates
Total, both sexes						
1992 ²	103,018	100.0	12.1	35.7	25.6	26.6
1993.....	104,237	100.0	11.3	35.1	26.6	27.0
1994.....	105,610	100.0	10.8	33.9	27.7	27.6
1995.....	107,032	100.0	10.4	33.2	28.1	28.3
1996.....	108,932	100.0	10.6	32.9	27.8	28.7
1997.....	110,945	100.0	10.6	32.9	27.5	29.0
1998.....	111,932	100.0	10.5	32.4	27.4	29.8
1999.....	113,095	100.0	10.0	31.8	27.6	30.5
2000.....	115,750	100.0	10.1	31.4	27.8	30.7
2001.....	116,893	100.0	10.1	30.9	28.0	31.0
2002.....	118,028	100.0	10.0	30.7	27.7	31.6
2003.....	119,621	100.0	9.9	30.3	27.6	32.1
2004.....	120,135	100.0	9.7	30.1	27.7	32.4
2005.....	121,752	100.0	9.8	29.9	27.8	32.5
2006.....	123,550	100.0	9.7	29.6	27.7	33.0
2007.....	125,104	100.0	9.3	29.2	27.7	33.8
2008.....	126,011	100.0	9.0	28.8	28.0	34.2
2009.....	126,247	100.0	9.0	28.6	28.0	34.4
2010.....	126,237	100.0	8.9	28.6	27.9	34.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 9. Percent distribution of the civilian labor force 25 to 64 years of age by educational attainment and sex, 1970–2010—Continued

Year	Civilian labor force (thousands)	Percent distribution				
		Total	High school		College	
			Less than 4 years	4 years, no college	1 to 3 years	4 years or more
Women						
1970 ¹	22,462	100.0	33.5	44.3	10.9	11.2
1971	22,804	100.0	32.2	44.2	11.9	11.8
1972	23,606	100.0	30.7	45.1	11.8	12.4
1973	24,158	100.0	28.4	45.9	12.4	13.3
1974	25,203	100.0	26.7	45.3	13.4	14.6
1975	26,146	100.0	26.5	45.5	13.9	14.1
1976	27,166	100.0	24.0	45.1	14.7	16.2
1977	28,369	100.0	22.8	45.1	15.2	16.9
1978	29,738	100.0	22.0	44.9	16.1	17.0
1979	31,151	100.0	20.1	45.0	17.1	17.8
1980	32,593	100.0	18.4	45.4	17.4	18.7
1981	33,910	100.0	17.4	46.1	17.9	18.6
1982	34,870	100.0	16.6	45.6	18.3	19.5
1983	35,712	100.0	15.6	44.8	18.8	20.9
1984	37,234	100.0	14.5	44.9	18.9	21.7
1985	38,779	100.0	13.7	44.4	19.9	22.0
1986	39,767	100.0	13.2	44.3	20.3	22.2
1987	41,105	100.0	12.5	44.0	20.7	22.8
1988	42,254	100.0	12.4	43.3	21.2	23.1
1989	43,650	100.0	11.9	42.9	20.9	24.3
1990	44,699	100.0	11.3	42.4	21.9	24.5
1991	45,315	100.0	10.9	41.6	22.2	25.2

Year	Civilian labor force (thousands)	Percent distribution				
		Total	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college	Some college, no degree, or associate's degree	College graduates
Women						
1992 ²	46,589	100.0	10.3	37.4	27.3	25.0
1993	47,245	100.0	9.3	36.6	28.4	25.7
1994	48,405	100.0	9.0	35.0	29.8	26.2
1995	49,247	100.0	8.8	34.1	30.2	26.9
1996	50,240	100.0	8.8	33.6	29.9	27.8
1997	51,261	100.0	8.7	33.5	29.4	28.4
1998	51,678	100.0	8.8	32.7	29.4	29.2
1999	52,525	100.0	8.5	32.1	29.5	29.9
2000	53,749	100.0	8.5	31.6	29.8	30.1
2001	54,229	100.0	8.4	31.0	30.2	30.4
2002	54,710	100.0	8.1	30.6	29.9	31.3
2003	55,596	100.0	7.9	30.0	29.9	32.2
2004	55,616	100.0	7.7	29.4	30.2	32.6
2005	56,322	100.0	7.7	28.7	30.2	33.3
2006	57,201	100.0	7.6	28.3	30.2	33.9
2007	57,791	100.0	7.1	27.9	30.1	34.9
2008	58,465	100.0	6.9	27.2	30.4	35.6
2009	58,787	100.0	7.0	26.7	30.3	36.0
2010	58,808	100.0	6.8	26.4	30.3	36.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 9. Percent distribution of the civilian labor force 25 to 64 years of age by educational attainment and sex, 1970–2010—Continued

Year	Civilian labor force (thousands)	Percent distribution				
		Total	High school		College	
			Less than 4 years	4 years, no college	1 to 3 years	4 years or more
Men						
1970 ¹	39,303	100.0	37.5	34.5	12.2	15.7
1971.....	39,539	100.0	35.9	35.1	12.5	16.5
1972.....	40,098	100.0	34.8	35.1	12.8	17.3
1973.....	40,617	100.0	32.4	36.0	13.4	18.2
1974.....	41,344	100.0	30.8	36.0	13.9	19.3
1975.....	41,628	100.0	28.9	36.1	14.8	20.2
1976.....	42,077	100.0	27.0	36.0	15.5	21.5
1977.....	42,954	100.0	26.3	35.3	16.1	22.3
1978.....	43,766	100.0	24.8	35.3	16.9	23.0
1979.....	44,630	100.0	23.0	35.7	17.5	23.8
1980.....	45,417	100.0	22.2	35.7	17.7	24.3
1981.....	46,363	100.0	21.5	36.5	17.4	24.6
1982.....	47,144	100.0	20.3	36.8	17.5	25.5
1983.....	47,903	100.0	19.4	36.3	17.7	26.6
1984.....	48,767	100.0	18.4	36.7	18.0	26.9
1985.....	49,647	100.0	17.7	36.9	18.3	27.1
1986.....	50,733	100.0	17.2	37.0	18.9	26.9
1987.....	51,860	100.0	16.8	37.1	18.9	27.2
1988.....	52,616	100.0	16.5	37.3	18.5	27.8
1989.....	53,668	100.0	15.7	36.9	19.2	28.2
1990.....	54,476	100.0	15.1	37.2	19.7	28.0
1991.....	55,165	100.0	14.7	37.5	20.2	27.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 9. Percent distribution of the civilian labor force 25 to 64 years of age by educational attainment and sex, 1970–2010—Continued

Year	Civilian labor force (thousands)	Percent distribution				
		Total	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college	Some college, no degree, or associate's degree	College graduates
Men						
1992 ²	56,428	100.0	13.7	34.2	24.3	27.8
1993.....	56,992	100.0	12.9	33.9	25.1	28.1
1994.....	57,205	100.0	12.4	33.0	25.9	28.8
1995.....	57,784	100.0	11.8	32.4	26.3	29.4
1996.....	58,692	100.0	12.2	32.3	26.1	29.4
1997.....	59,684	100.0	12.2	32.4	25.9	29.6
1998.....	60,255	100.0	12.0	32.1	25.6	30.3
1999.....	60,570	100.0	11.4	31.6	26.0	31.0
2000.....	62,001	100.0	11.5	31.2	26.1	31.2
2001.....	62,664	100.0	11.5	30.9	26.2	31.4
2002.....	63,318	100.0	11.6	30.8	25.8	31.8
2003.....	64,025	100.0	11.7	30.6	25.6	32.1
2004.....	64,519	100.0	11.5	30.7	25.6	32.3
2005.....	65,430	100.0	11.5	30.9	25.7	31.9
2006.....	66,350	100.0	11.5	30.6	25.5	32.3
2007.....	67,313	100.0	11.2	30.4	25.6	32.9
2008.....	67,546	100.0	10.9	30.2	25.9	33.0
2009.....	67,460	100.0	10.8	30.3	25.9	33.0
2010.....	67,429	100.0	10.6	30.6	25.8	33.0

¹ Data from 1970-1991 are from the March Current Population Survey. The educational attainment categories for these years were based on the number of years of school completed.

² Data beginning in 1992 are annual averages, and the educational attainment categories are based on the highest diploma or degree received.

SOURCE: Current Population Survey, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics