

National Goals

None

Definition

This indicator reports the highest level of educational attainment among parents living in the home of the child at the time of the interview.⁶

Data Source

U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, The Condition of Education 2001, Table 4-1, NCES 2001–072, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2001.

<http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/2001/section1/indicator04.asp>

Raw Data Source

Current Population Surveys, March Supplement.

<http://www.bls.census.gov/cps/ads/adsmain.htm>

Approximate Date of Next Update

Unknown

¹ Chandler, K., Nord, C. W., Lennon, J., & Liu, B. (1999, November). Statistics in Brief: Home Literacy Activities & Signs of Children's Emerging Literacy, 1993 and 1999. Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics. Based on National Household Education Survey, 1993 and 1999 analyses. (Table 2) <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2000026>

² The Nation's Report Card, 2000 Science Assessments. National Center for Education Statistics. National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Online. Available: <http://www.nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/science/results/>

³ See Child Trends DataBank, Daily Cigarette Use indicator, located at <http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/3Smoking.cfm>, and Binge Drinking, located at <http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/2BingeDrinking.cfm>

National Center for Health Statistics. Health, United States, 1998 with Socioeconomic Status and Health Chartbook Hyattsville, MD: 1998.

⁴ See Child Trends DataBank, Volunteering indicator, located at <http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/20Volunteering.cfm>

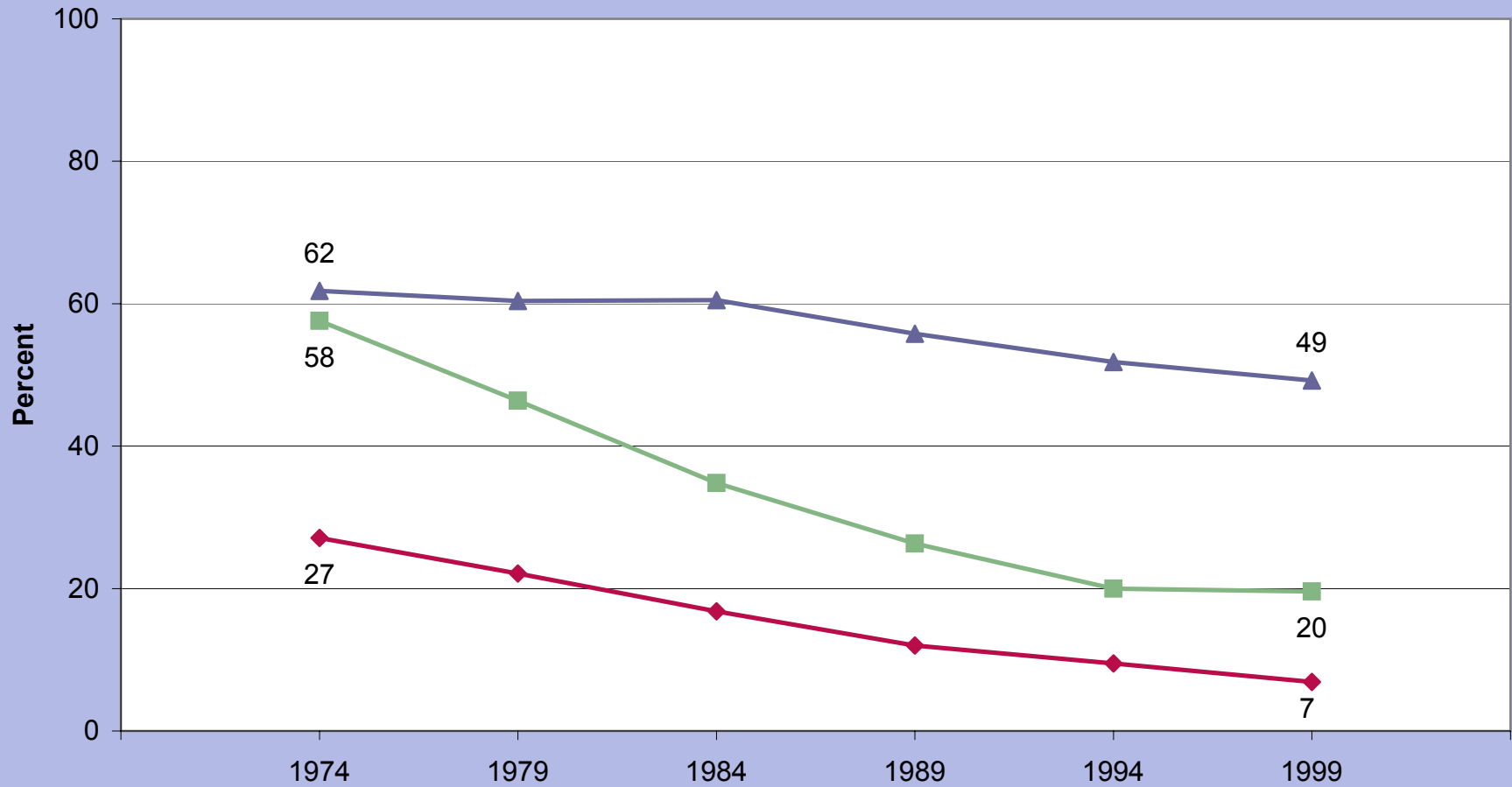
⁵ Nord, C.W. and J. West. Fathers' and Mothers' Involvement in Their Children's Schools by Family Type and Resident Status. U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2001. See Tables in Appendix B. <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2001/2001032.pdf>

Coleman, J.S. 1988. Social capital in the creation of human capital. American Journal of Sociology 94. 995-5120.

⁶ U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, The Condition of Education 2001, Table 4-1, NCES 2001–072, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2001.

Figure 1

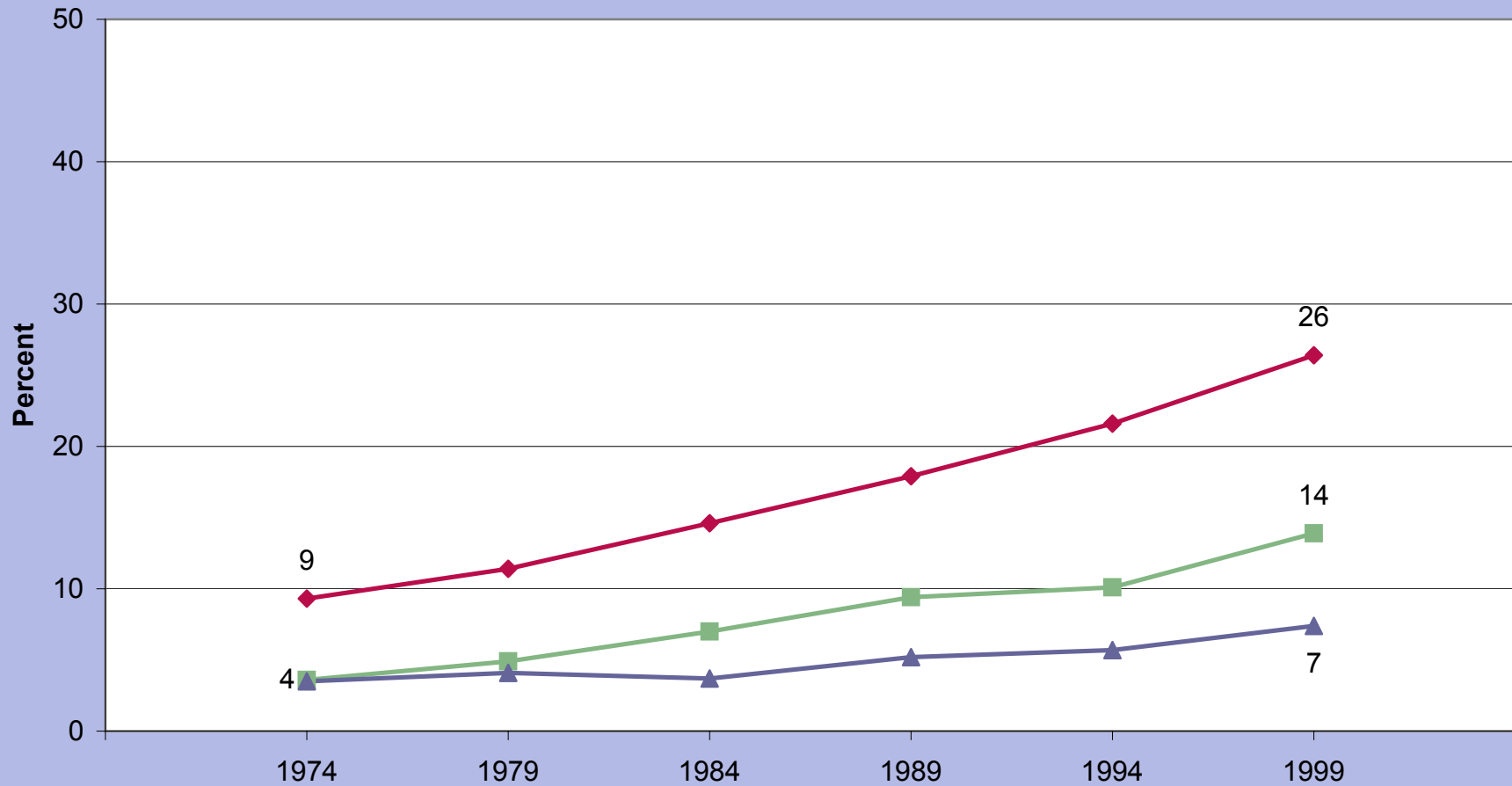
Percentage of Children Ages 6-18 Whose Mothers Did Not Complete High School, by Race and Hispanic Origin of Child, Selected Years 1974-1999



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *The Condition of Education 2001*, Table 4-1, NCES 2001-072, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2001.

Figure 2

Percentage of Children Ages 6-18 Whose Mothers Had Completed a Bachelor's Degree or Higher, by Race and Hispanic Origin of Child, Selected Years 1974-1999

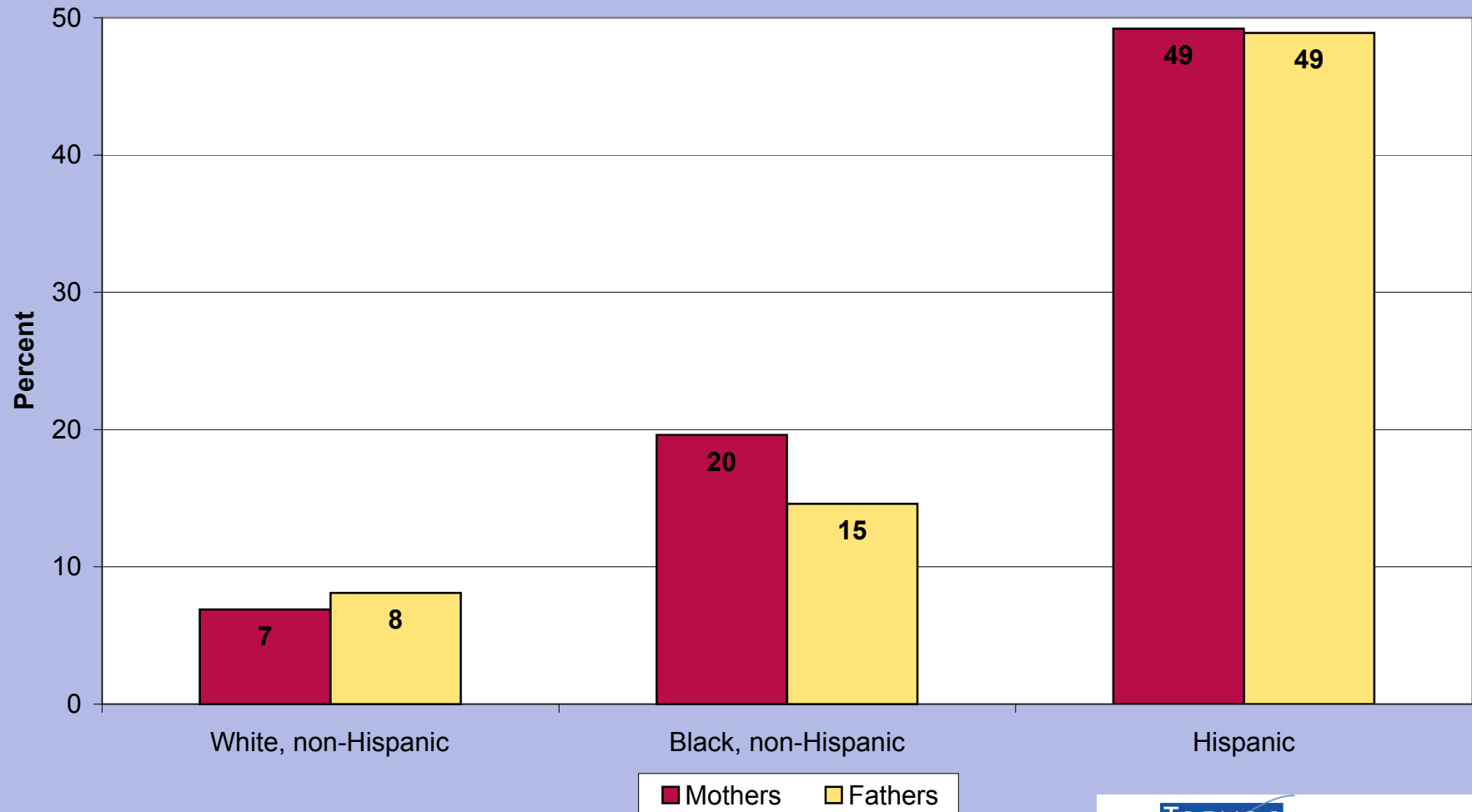


Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *The Condition of Education 2001*, Table 4-1, NCES 2001-072, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2001.



Figure 3

Percentage of Children Whose Parents Had not Completed High School, by Race and Hispanic Origin, 1999



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *The Condition of Education 2001*, Table 4-1, NCES 2001-072, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2001.



Table 1

The Percentage Distribution of Children Ages 6-18, by Parents' Educational Attainment, by Child's Race and Hispanic Origin, Selected Years 1974-99 (in percents)

| | 1974 | 1979 | 1984 | 1989 | 1994 | 1999 |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| White, non-Hispanic | | | | | | |
| Mother's highest education level | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Less than high school | 27.1 | 22.1 | 16.8 | 12.0 | 9.5 | 6.9 |
| High school diploma or equivalent | 51.4 | 50.4 | 50.3 | 48.8 | 37.9 | 35.2 |
| Some college, including vocational/technical | 12.2 | 16.1 | 18.3 | 21.3 | 31.0 | 31.4 |
| Bachelor's degree or higher | 9.3 | 11.4 | 14.6 | 17.9 | 21.6 | 26.4 |
| Father's highest education level | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Less than high school | 28.6 | 22.4 | 16.2 | 12.2 | 9.1 | 8.1 |
| High school diploma or equivalent | 38.3 | 38.7 | 39.0 | 38.4 | 32.2 | 31.5 |
| Some college, including vocational/technical | 13.2 | 15.5 | 18.3 | 20.1 | 27.4 | 26.8 |
| Bachelor's degree or higher | 19.9 | 23.4 | 26.5 | 29.3 | 31.3 | 33.6 |
| Black, non-Hispanic | | | | | | |
| Mother's highest education level | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Less than high school | 57.6 | 46.4 | 34.8 | 26.3 | 20.0 | 19.6 |
| High school diploma or equivalent | 32.1 | 36.1 | 42.6 | 44.4 | 40.0 | 37.1 |
| Some college, including vocational/technical | 6.8 | 12.5 | 15.6 | 19.8 | 30.0 | 29.5 |
| Bachelor's degree or higher | 3.6 | 4.9 | 7.0 | 9.4 | 10.1 | 13.9 |
| Father's highest education level | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Less than high school | 61.3 | 44.3 | 33.1 | 25.4 | 18.2 | 14.6 |
| High school diploma or equivalent | 27.1 | 35.7 | 38.4 | 40.4 | 42.2 | 39.3 |
| Some college, including vocational/technical | 7.6 | 12.7 | 16.3 | 20.6 | 23.5 | 29.7 |
| Bachelor's degree or higher | 4.0 | 7.3 | 12.2 | 13.7 | 16.1 | 16.5 |
| Hispanic | | | | | | |
| Mother's highest education level | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Less than high school | 61.8 | 60.4 | 60.5 | 55.8 | 51.8 | 49.2 |
| High school diploma or equivalent | 28.9 | 28.3 | 28.2 | 28.7 | 26.9 | 25.2 |
| Some college, including vocational/technical | 5.7 | 7.2 | 7.7 | 10.2 | 15.6 | 18.2 |
| Bachelor's degree or higher | 3.5 | 4.1 | 3.7 | 5.2 | 5.7 | 7.4 |
| Father's highest education level | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Less than high school | 58.3 | 57.2 | 56.3 | 51.6 | 51.1 | 48.9 |
| High school diploma or equivalent | 24.9 | 25.0 | 25.0 | 27.2 | 23.2 | 26.2 |
| Some college, including vocational/technical | 8.4 | 9.5 | 10.5 | 13.4 | 17.5 | 14.7 |
| Bachelor's degree or higher | 8.4 | 8.3 | 8.2 | 7.7 | 8.3 | 10.1 |

Note: Information on parents' highest education level is available only for those parents who live in the same household with their child. The Current Population Survey (CPS) questions used to obtain educational attainment were changed in 1994 and weights were adjusted. Percentages may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: Reproduced from U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *The Condition of Education 2001*, Table 4-1, NCES 2001-072, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2001. Based on March Current Population Surveys analysis.