

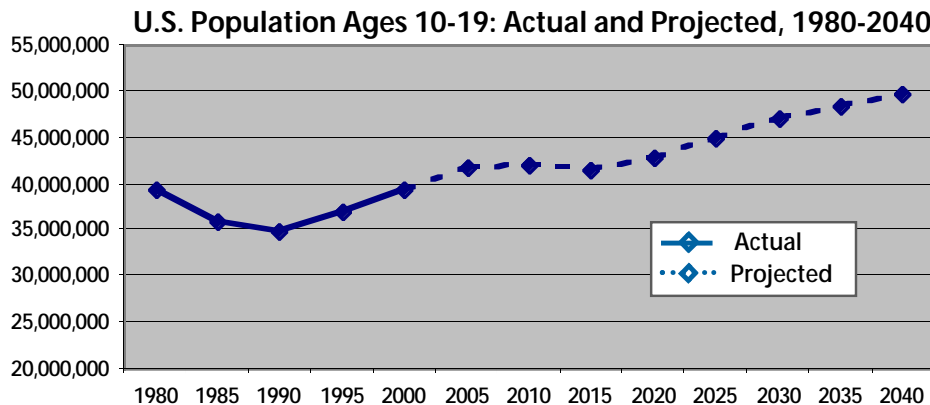


Fact Sheet on Demographics: Children & Adolescents

Highlights:

- ▶ The U.S. adolescent population is growing, but is declining as a percentage of the total population.
- ▶ Whites comprise 64% of the adolescent population, but most minority populations are growing at a faster rate.
- ▶ Nearly one in five children/adolescents lives in poverty, but this varies widely by race/ethnicity.
- ▶ The percentage of children and adolescents living in two-parent households has decreased.

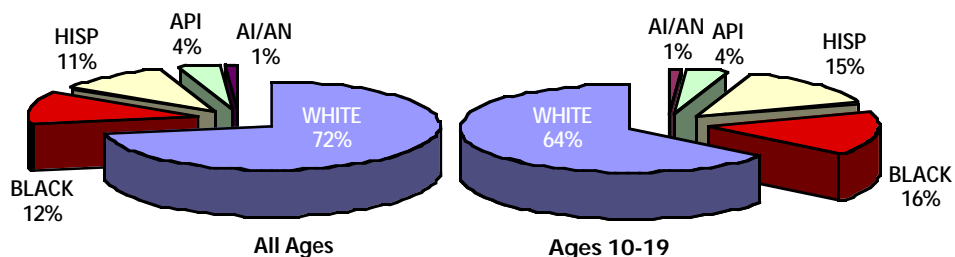
- ▶ The U.S. adolescent population is growing, but is declining as a percentage of the total population.



As of 1998, the population of adolescents ages 10-19 was 38.8 million. This population is expected to grow to nearly 50 million by the year 2040. However, as a proportion of the total population, adolescents are projected to comprise only 13.0% of the U.S. population by the year 2020, down from 14.5% in 2000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1999).

- ▶ The adolescent population is more racially/ethnically diverse than the general population.

U.S. Population by Race/Ethnicity, 1998



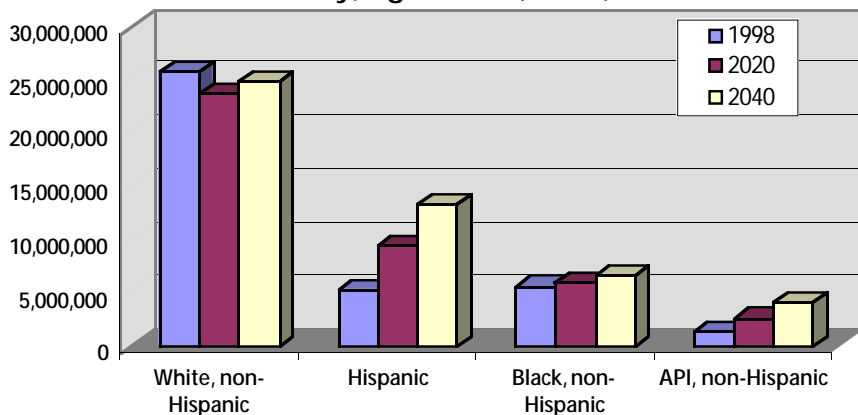
Whites comprise 72% of the general population, but only 64% of the adolescent population. Over the next several decades, the proportion of racial and ethnic minority adolescents ages 10-19 is expected to grow (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000).

HISP = Hispanic; API = Asian/Pacific Islander; AI/AN = American Indian/Alaska Native
HISP is the only category which includes those of Hispanic ethnicity.

- ▶ Most adolescent minority populations are growing at a faster rate than White populations.

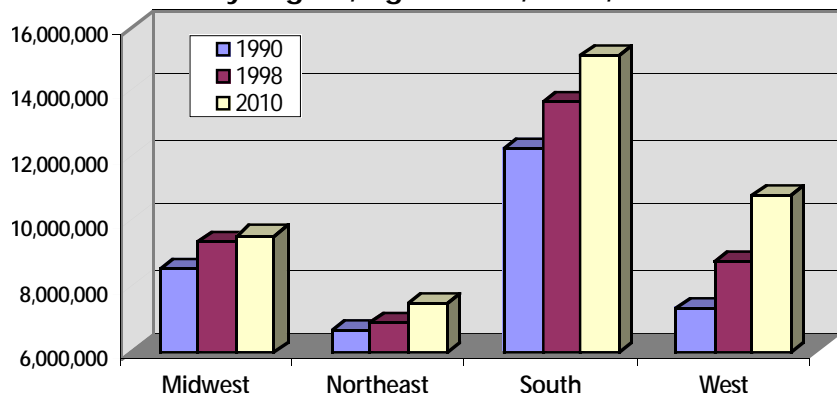
It is projected that by 2040 the percentage of non-Hispanic Whites in the adolescent population will drop below 50%. Hispanics are becoming the second most populous racial/ethnic group. Asian/Pacific Islanders, though small in number, have the fastest growth rate. The American Indian/Alaska Native population will remain largely unchanged (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000).

Actual and Projected Population by Race/Ethnicity, Ages 10-19, 1998, 2020 & 2040



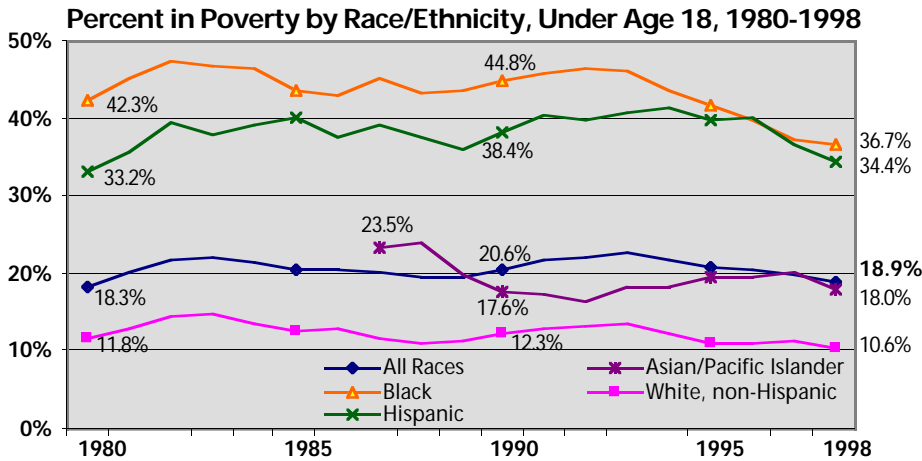
- ▶ Most of the adolescent population growth is taking place in the South and West.*

Actual and Projected Population Growth by Region, Ages 10-19, 1990, 1998 & 2010



The West is expected to experience the greatest growth in adolescent population, increasing 23.5% from 1998-2010, while the adolescent population in the South is expected to grow by 10.6%. In the Northeast and Midwest, the adolescent populations are expected to grow by 8.8% and 2.3%, respectively. In the year 2000, adolescents will constitute 31% of the West's population, compared to 29% in both the South and Midwest, and 27% in the Northeast. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000).

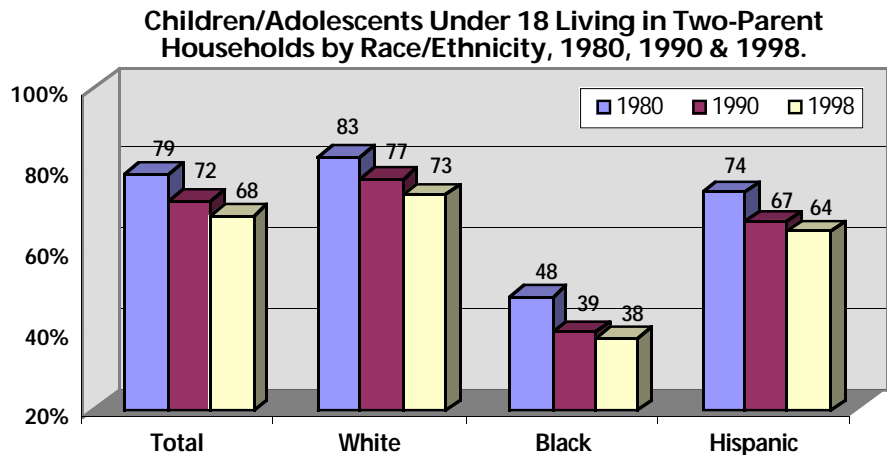
► Poverty among children and adolescents varies widely by race/ethnicity.



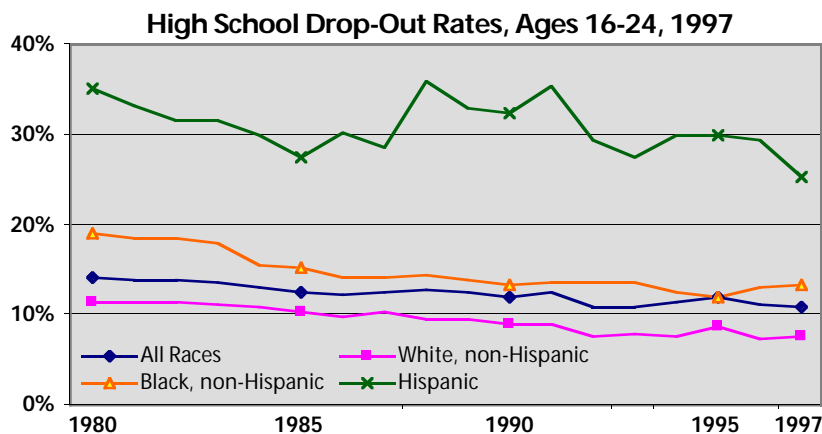
In 1998, 18.9% of all those under age 18 lived below the Federal Poverty Line (FPL)**. For Blacks and Hispanics, the figure was nearly twice as high. This racial/ethnic disparity held true among the near poor (income less than 200% FPL), and the very poor (income less than 50% FPL) (U.S. Census Bureau, 1998).

► The percentage of children and adolescents living in two-parent households has decreased.

From 1980 to 1998 there was a dramatic decrease in the percentage of children and adolescents living in two-parent households. This decrease was even across racial and ethnic groups. Children and adolescents ages 6-17 living in households with only their mother present were 5 times as likely (42.2% vs. 8.5%) to be living in poverty than those living in two-parent households (U.S. Census Bureau, 1999).



► While high school drop-out rates have fallen, racial/ethnic disparities remain.



Educational attainment is a strong predictor of future economic status. Although Hispanic high school students have seen the greatest decline in drop-outs, they still have the highest drop out rates, more than four times that of Whites. Overall high school drop out rates have been falling consistently, and stood at 11.0% in 1997, down from 12.1% in 1990 and 14.1% in 1980. This overall decline is seen across all racial/ethnic groups (NCES, 1999).

Data Sources:

Dalaker, Joseph. U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Reports, Series P60-207, *Poverty in the U.S.: 1998*, U.S. Government Printing Office: Washington, DC, 1999.

U.S. Census Bureau Current Housing Reports, Series H150/97, *American Housing Survey for the United States: 1997*, U.S. Government Printing Office: Washington, DC, 1999.

U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Reports, Series P60-206, *Money Income in the U.S.: 1998*, U.S. Government Printing Office: Washington, DC, 1999.

U.S. Census Bureau, Population Divisions, Populations Divisions Branch, *Population Estimates*, online data set: [www.census.gov].

U.S. Census Bureau, Population Divisions, Populations Divisions Branch, *Population Projections*, online data set: [www.census.gov].

U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, (1998). *Digest of Education Statistics 1998*. [http://nces.ed.gov/pubs99/digest98]

* Regional Definitions are as follows:

Northeast: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont.

Midwest: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin.

South: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia.

West: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

** The Federal Poverty Line (FPL) was \$16,660 for a family of four in 1998.

In all cases, the most recent available data were used. Some data are released 1-3 years after collection. For questions regarding data sources or availability, please contact NAHIC. For racial/ethnic data, the category names presented are those of the data sources used.

2000 NAHIC Adolescent Fact Sheets

Fact Sheet on Adolescent Demographics

Fact Sheet on Adolescent Mortality

Fact Sheet on Adolescent Homicide

Fact Sheet on Adolescent Suicide

Fact Sheet on Adolescent Injury

Fact Sheet on Preventive Health Services for Adolescents

Fact Sheet on Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention

Fact Sheet on Adolescent Substance Use

Fact Sheet on Adolescent Sexuality

Fact Sheet on Adolescent Health Care Utilization

Fact Sheet on Out-of-Home Youth

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Background on NAHIC

The National Adolescent Health Information Center (NAHIC) was established with funding from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau in 1993 (4H06 MC00002) to serve as a national resource for adolescent health research and information to assure the integration, synthesis, coordination and dissemination of adolescent health-related information.

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Copies of any of the listed Adolescent Fact Sheets can be downloaded on the World Wide Web at <http://youth.ucsf.edu/nahic>. Hard copies can be requested at (415) 502-4856, or by email at: nahic@itsa.ucsf.edu.



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