

**Table 285. Students Reported Disability Status by Selected Characteristic: 2007 to 2008**

[20,928 represents 20,928,000. Disabled students reported that they had one or more of the following conditions: a specific learning disability, a visual handicap, hard of hearing, deafness, a speech disability, an orthopedic handicap, or a health impairment. Based on the 2007–2008 National Postsecondary Student-Aid Study; see source for details. Includes Puerto Rico. See also Appendix III]

Student characteristic	Undergraduate			Graduate and first-professional		
	All students	Disabled students	Nondisabled students	All students	Disabled students	Nondisabled students
<b>Total students (1,000)</b> . . . . .	<b>20,928</b>	<b>2,266</b>	<b>18,662</b>	<b>3,456</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>3,195</b>
<b>PERCENT DISTRIBUTION</b>						
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>89.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>92.4</b>
Age:						
15 to 23 years old . . . . .	59.7	54.0	60.4	11.4	7.8	11.7
24 to 29 years old . . . . .	17.3	20.1	17.0	39.9	36.2	40.2
30 years or older . . . . .	23.0	25.9	22.7	48.7	56.0	48.1
Sex:						
Male . . . . .	43.1	42.7	43.1	40.1	39.2	40.2
Female . . . . .	56.9	57.3	56.9	59.9	60.8	59.8
Race/ethnicity of student:						
White, non-Hispanic . . . . .	61.8	66.3	61.2	66.6	63.6	66.9
Black, non-Hispanic . . . . .	14.0	12.7	14.1	11.7	19.0	11.1
Hispanic . . . . .	14.1	12.3	14.4	8.0	7.4	8.0
Asian/Pacific Islander . . . . .	6.6	4.8	6.8	11.1	7.3	11.4
American Indian/Alaska Native . . . . .	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.3	0.5	0.3
Other . . . . .	2.7	3.2	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.3
Attendance status:						
Full-time, full-year . . . . .	39.3	34.7	39.8	34.1	32.4	34.2
Part-time or part-year . . . . .	60.7	65.3	60.2	65.9	67.6	65.8
Student housing status:						
On-campus . . . . .	14.2	11.1	14.5	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Off-campus . . . . .	54.0	56.3	53.7	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
With parents or relatives . . . . .	31.9	32.6	31.8	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Dependency status:						
Dependent . . . . .	53.0	46.8	53.7	(S)	(S)	(S)
Independent, unmarried . . . . .	15.3	19.5	14.7	50.0	52.7	49.8
Independent, married . . . . .	6.4	6.9	6.3	16.9	12.9	17.2
Independent with dependents . . . . .	25.4	26.7	25.2	33.1	34.4	33.0

NA Not available. S Figure does not meet publication standards.

Source: U.S. National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics*, annual.

**Table 286. College Freshmen—Summary Characteristics: 1980 to 2010**

[In percent, except as indicated (24.5 represents \$24,500). As of fall for first-time full-time freshmen in 4-year colleges and universities. Based on sample survey and subject to sampling error; see source]

Characteristic	1980	1990	1995	2000	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010
Sex:									
Male . . . . .	48.8	46.9	45.6	45.2	45.0	45.2	45.4	45.9	44.3
Female . . . . .	51.2	53.1	54.4	54.8	55.0	54.8	54.6	54.1	55.7
Applied to more than three colleges . . . . .	31.5	42.9	44.4	50.5	55.4	56.5	60.1	61.9	64.1
Average grade in high school:									
A– to A+ . . . . .	26.6	29.4	36.1	42.9	46.6	45.9	47.2	48.1	48.4
B– to B+ . . . . .	58.2	57.0	54.2	50.5	48.0	49.0	48.0	47.5	47.5
C to C+ . . . . .	14.9	13.4	9.6	6.5	5.4	5.0	4.7	4.4	4.1
D . . . . .	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Political orientation:									
Liberal . . . . .	21.0	24.6	22.9	24.8	27.1	29.3	31.0	29.0	27.3
Middle of the road . . . . .	57.0	51.7	51.3	51.9	45.0	43.4	43.3	44.4	46.4
Conservative . . . . .	19.0	20.6	21.8	18.9	22.6	23.1	20.7	21.8	21.7
Probable field of study:									
Biological sciences . . . . .	4.5	4.9	8.3	6.6	7.6	8.6	9.3	9.7	10.8
Business . . . . .	21.2	21.1	15.4	16.7	17.4	17.7	16.8	14.3	13.7
Education . . . . .	8.4	10.3	10.1	11.0	9.9	9.2	8.2	8.1	7.2
Engineering . . . . .	11.2	9.7	8.1	8.7	8.3	7.5	9.4	9.7	10.3
Physical science . . . . .	3.2	2.8	3.1	2.6	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.4	2.7
Social science . . . . .	8.2	11.0	9.9	10.0	10.7	11.1	11.5	11.7	8.9
Data processing/computer programming . . . . .	1.7	0.7	0.8	1.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5
Other <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	41.6	39.5	44.3	42.9	42.5	42.1	41.1	42.5	45.9
Communications . . . . .	2.4	2.9	1.8	2.7	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8
Computer science . . . . .	2.6	1.7	2.2	3.7	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0
Personal objectives—very important or essential:									
Being very well off financially . . . . .	62.5	72.3	72.8	73.4	74.5	74.4	76.8	78.1	77.4
Developing a meaningful philosophy of life . . . . .	62.5	45.9	45.4	42.4	45.0	49.2	51.4	48.0	46.9
Keeping up to date with political affairs . . . . .	45.2	46.6	32.3	28.1	36.4	37.2	39.5	36.0	33.2
Median family income (\$1,000) . . . . .	24.5	46.6	54.8	64.4	73.2	77.9	77.5	76.6	76.1

<sup>1</sup> Includes other fields not shown separately.

Source: The Higher Education Research Institute, University of California, Los Angeles, CA, *The American Freshman: National Norms*, annual.