

1.2 million students drop out of high school every year

Education Week. (2008, June 5). *Diplomas Count 2008: School to College, Can State P-16 Councils Ease the Transition?*. Bethesda, MD: Editorial Projects in Education Research Center. Per day figure derived by dividing 1.23 million by 180 school days per year.

1/4 high school students don't graduate on time

Education Week. (2008, June 5). *Diplomas Count 2008: School to College, Can State P-16 Councils Ease the Transition?*. Bethesda, MD: Editorial Projects in Education Research Center.

2/3 jobs require college education

The NCHEMS Information Center. (2007). *Six Year College Graduation Rate of Bachelor's Students*. National Center for Higher Education Management Systems. Accessed at www.higheredinfo.org.

More than 3 in 10 college freshmen repeat high school classes

Strong American Schools analysis of the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (2003-2004) and the Beginning Postsecondary Students Survey (2003-2004).

Education reduces crime

McKinsey & Company. (2007, May). *Education: The Global Challenge 2007*. London: Author.

70% of 8th graders can't read at grade level

U.S. Department of Education, the National Assessment of Educational Progress, 2007. Accessed at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/>.

High school graduates don't have skills needed

Achieve, Inc. (2005). *Rising to the Challenge: Are High School Graduates Prepared for College and Work?* Conducted by Peter D. Hart Research Associates/Public Opinion Strategies. Washington, DC: Author.

Jobs demand the same level of preparation as college

ACT, Inc. (2006). *Ready for College or Ready for Work: Same or Different?* Iowa City, IA: Author.

Math teachers lack math-related degrees

Jerald, C. (2002, August). *All Talk and No Action; Putting and end to out of field teaching*. Washington, DC: The Education Trust.

No increase in bachelor's degree attainment

Postsecondary Education Opportunity. (2007, November). *Upper Secondary and Tertiary Graduation and Attainment in OECD and Partner Countries: 1996 to 2005*. Oskaloosa, IA: Author.

States set low standards

Strong American Schools analysis of data from the National Center for Education Statistics. (2007, June). *Mapping 2005 State Proficiency Standards onto the NAEP Scales*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education.

US ranked 21st in graduation rate

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. (2007, December). *PISA 2006: Science Competencies for Tomorrow's World, Briefing Note for the United States*. Paris, France: Author.

Out of 30 industrialized countries, America's 15-year-olds rank 25th in math and 21st in science

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. (2007). *PISA 2006: Science Competencies for Tomorrow's World, Executive Summary*. Table 2 and 5. Paris, France: OECD Publications. Retrieved from <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/15/13/39725224.pdf>

93% of American science teachers have little or no training in science

National Academy of Sciences. (2007). *Rising Above the Gathering Storm: Energizing and Employing America for a Brighter Economic Future*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. (p. 114).

Ingersoll, R. (2002). *Out-of-Field Teaching, Educational Inequality, and the Organization of Schools*. Seattle, WA: University of Washington, Center for the Study of Teaching and Policy.