

Lit Scan

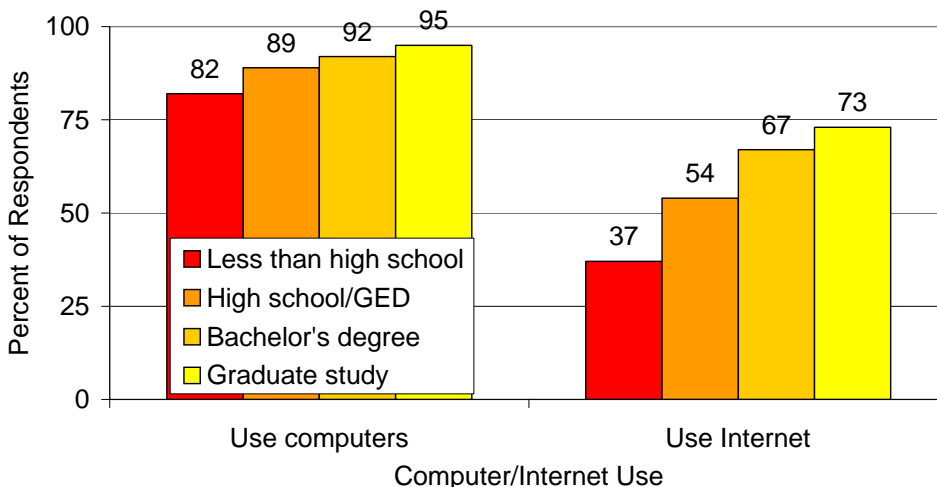
Facts & Figures from the Colorado Literacy Research Initiative

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Students' Use of Computers & the Internet Climbs with Parental Educational Attainment

Percentages of Students Who Use Computers and the Internet by Parental Educational Attainment, 2003



According to a June 2005 report from the National Center for Education Statistics, parental educational attainment is a strong predictor of whether or not their school-age children (i.e., nursery through 12th grade) use computers and the Internet.

Large majorities of students use computers regardless of their parents' educational attainment. But, there is a 13 percentage-point gap between students whose parents did not complete high school (82 percent) and their counterparts with parents who did some graduate study (95 percent).

Differences in use of the Internet based on parental educational attainment are of greater concern. Internet use was reported for almost three out of four students whose parents did some graduate study (73%), two-thirds of those whose parents earned bachelor's degrees (67 percent), more than half of those whose parents earned high school credentials (54 percent), and just over a third of those whose parents did not complete high school (37 percent).



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As computer and Internet use become more and more of a necessity to succeed in school, these findings identify one more way in which a parent's low educational attainment can contribute to a child's chances of doing poorly in school.

SOURCE

Matthew DeBell, **Rates of Computer and Internet Use by Children in Nursery School and Students in Kindergarten Through Twelfth Grade: 2003**, National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, June 2005. Available at: <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2005111>.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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