

ENOUGH IS KNOWN FOR ACTION[©]

READY TO EMPLOY, EDUCATE, AND SUPPORT YOUTH[©]

Brandeis University

THE CENTER FOR YOUTH AND COMMUNITIES — *Making Knowledge Productive for 30+ Years*

U.S. Department of Labor

Employment and Training Administration, Division of Youth Services

Waiting on the World to Change

The number of children 0-17 (73.7M)
living in poverty **continues to rise**
(16.1M or 1 in 4)

In 2007, the % of children whose parents had secure employment was **lowest since 1996** & % living in poverty was **highest since 1998**

-America's Children in Brief: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2010

The % of children in food-insecure households was the highest since monitoring began and the housing foreclosure crisis has threatened ...
fundamental safety and health of so
many

-America's Children in Brief: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2010

Nearly **1 in 7** 18-19 year olds are disconnected from school and work and **6.7 million** 16-24 year olds are disconnected from both education and work

For the **first time in more than 30 years**, mental health conditions have displaced physical illnesses as the top five disabilities in US children

1 out of every 4 children in the US will experience a traumatic event before age sixteen, and many of these children will develop traumatic stress

An epidemic of anti-gay harassment
& violence in schools and cyberspace
has made traditional education a
**risky business for lesbian and gay
youth (LGBTQ)**

In 2008-2009, **7.7% of US children younger than 18 years** had a disability that limited usual activity, which is a **4-fold increase** in the prevalence of childhood activity limitations since **1960**

Among those with disabilities who are employed, **few are working full-time or nearly full-time**, acquiring company-paid benefits and/or earning a living wage

30% of high school freshmen do not
graduate in four years

For African American and Hispanic students, on time graduation is even worse – a **50:50 proposition**

One in four high school graduates attend college and **only about half** of those who start will finish

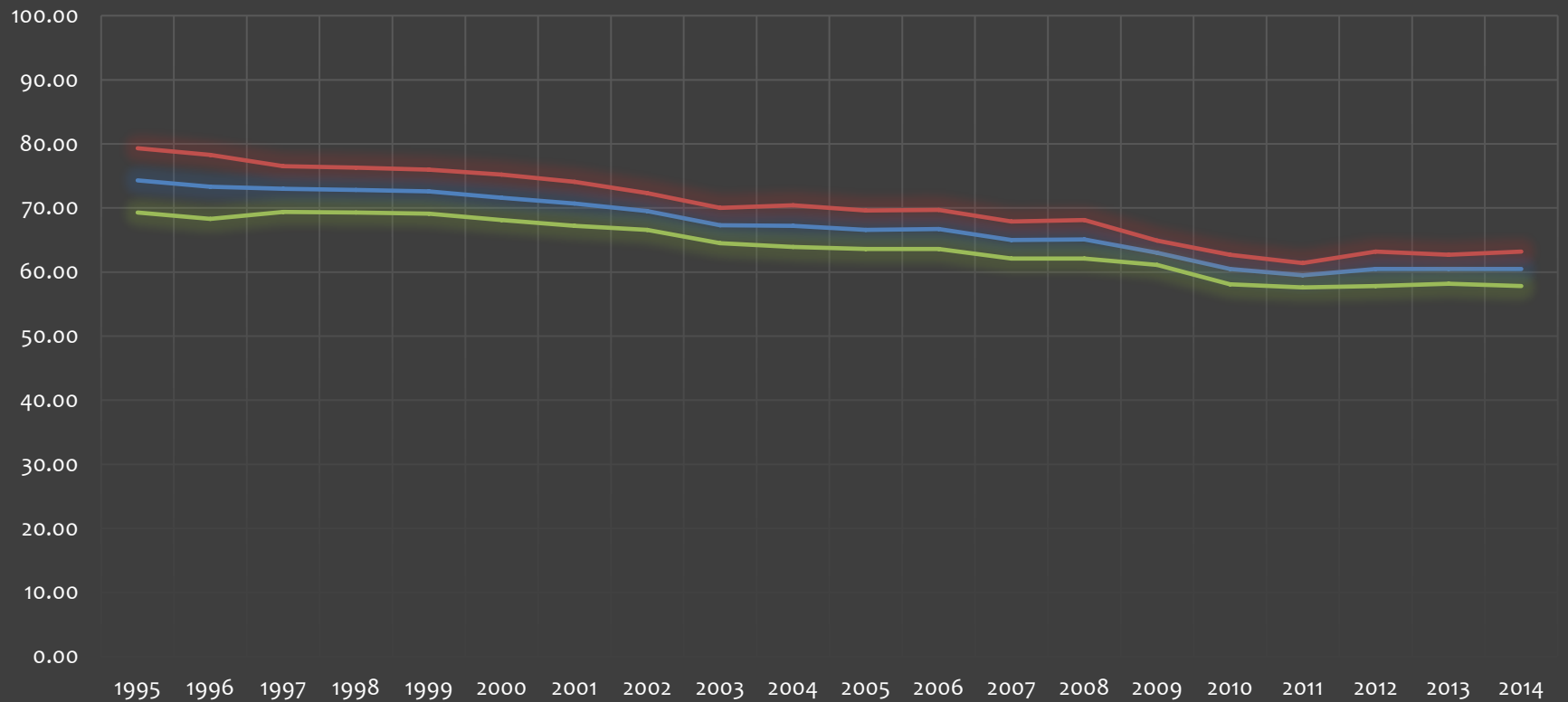
Your odds of staying in school and
later getting a good job **improve
greatly if you have a job as a student**


-Drawn from "The Anti-Economist: The Real Lost Generation," Harper's Magazine, December 2013

Teen employment rates **plummeted**
to lowest levels in 60 years (~33%)

Summer Labor Force Participation: 1995 to 2014, Age 16-24

— Both sexes — Men — Women





45% of U.S. employers say a lack of skills is the main reason for entry-level vacancies and caused “significant problems in terms of costs, quality and time”

Reducing the youth unemployment
rate by 1% **adds \$75B** to the global
economy

- Muhtar Kent, CEO Coca Cola Company

The European Union plans to expand its youth employment initiatives, **setting aside about \$8B** over the next 7 years to finance work programs

Persistent achievement gaps facing our country impose “the economic equivalent of a **permanent national recession**”

(The Economic Impact of the Achievement Gap in America's Schools , McKinsey and Company)

This is a **prescription for economic decline**

-President Barack Obama

In the long run, the only solution to the economic crisis is to **educate our way out of it**

-Secretary of Education Arne Duncan

ACTION

REQUIRED

NOW!