

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 442 476

JC 000 381

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TITLE Follow-Up of Graduates Outputs and Outcomes. Data Trend 12.
INSTITUTION Florida State Board of Community Colleges, Tallahassee.
PUB DATE 1999-03-09
NOTE 33p.
PUB TYPE Numerical/Quantitative Data (110) -- Reports - Descriptive (141) -- Speeches/Meeting Papers (150)
EDRS PRICE MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Cohort Analysis; *College Graduates; *Community Colleges; *Degrees (Academic); *Educational Status Comparison; *Outcomes of Education; Two Year Colleges
IDENTIFIERS *Florida

ABSTRACT

The number of community college degrees and certificates awarded has increased steadily during the time of Performance Based Budgeting in Florida. The vast majority of Community College System awards are one of the following four types: Associate in Arts (AA), Associate in Science (AS), postsecondary vocational certificate (PSVC), and postsecondary adult vocational certificate (PSAV). AA degrees have increased 23.8% from 1993-94 to 1997-98. AS degrees increased by 1.7% during this same time period. Certificates also increased during this time period. PSVC increased by 20.6%, and PSAV increased by 3.9%. The initial quarterly earnings for community college graduates ranged from \$6,013 for AA graduates to \$7,739 for AS graduates. Seventy-five percent of AA graduates transferred to the State University System. A comparison of initial outcomes for the 1995-96 versus the 1996-97 graduates shows that Florida is employing more and supporting less. There were increases across the board in the percent of graduates found employed in Florida for 1996-97 compared to 1995-96. The percent of students receiving public assistance has declined for all groups. Florida Education & Training Placement Information Program also has been tracking the 1990-91 graduates over the past six years. All groups experienced an increase in their average quarterly earnings. The largest increases were for the highest degrees. Eleven tables are appended, which use data from the Florida Education & Training Placement Information Program. (VWC)

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FLORIDA STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

FOLLOW-UP OF GRADUATES OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

DATA TREND H 12

MARCH 9, 1999

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FOLLOW-UP OF GRADUATES OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Introduction

Florida is one of several states moving away from an FTE driven funding formula to one at least partially based upon performance. As the Community College System (CCS) has moved into the Performance Based Budgeting (PB2) arena, the need for additional information on outputs and outcomes has become more apparent. The State is fortunate to have one of the premiere student tracking systems in the nation. Florida Education & Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP) provides information on transfers to other sectors of postsecondary education, employment, military enlistment, welfare and correctional supervision. This information is available for the fall immediately following graduation, as well as for cohort tracking over time.

Outputs

While the percent of the budget based upon PB2 has been small, the institutions have taken the heightened emphasis on outputs seriously. The number of awards has increased steadily during the time of PB2. The vast majority of CCS awards are one of the following four types – the Associate in Arts (AA), the Associate in Science (AS), the postsecondary vocational certificate (PSVC), and the postsecondary adult vocational certificate (PSAV). AA degrees have increased from 22,909 in 1993-94 to 28,368 in 1997-98 for a change of 23.8%. AS degrees increased by 1.7% during this same time, from 9,183 in 1993-94 to 9,339 in 1997-98. Certificates were also increasing during this time. PSVC increased by 20.6% from 2,244 to 2,706. PSAV increased by 3.9% from 8,510 to 8,841.

Outcomes

The economic benefits of an education are well documented. Studies have consistently shown that as the educational attainment of the household increases, so do the average annual earnings. The need for some type of postsecondary education is shown by the relationship between the poverty threshold and initial quarterly earnings for various program graduates. The initial earnings for a high school graduate, at \$3,784, were less than the poverty threshold for a family of four - \$4,112.

The initial quarterly earnings for community college graduates ranged from \$6,013 for AA graduates to \$7,739 for AS graduates. That AA graduates have the lowest initial quarterly earnings of any CCS award group is not surprising in light of the fact that the AA is designed for students wishing to transfer to the SUS. That is exactly what 75% of AA graduates did and thus most of the initial employment of AA graduates is in jobs that can be designed around a class schedule rather than the start of a career path.

A comparison of initial outcomes for the 1995-96 versus the 1996-97 graduates shows that Florida is employing more and supporting less. There were increases across the board in the percent of graduates found employed in Florida for 1996-97 compared to 1995-96. The highest average percent employed was for CCS graduates with the largest change for PSA V graduates, from 70% in 1995-96 to 81% in 1996-97. The percent of students receiving public assistance has declined for all groups. In contrast to these changes, the percentage of the various groups under the supervision of the Department of Corrections has remained small, but stable.

In addition to information on initial outcomes, FETPIP has been tracking the 1990-91 graduates over the past six years. This has provided information on the changes in employment, education and income as these students move along their career paths. All

groups experienced an increase in their average quarterly earnings. The largest increases were for the highest degrees. Changes in the AA and AS degrees yielded increases of \$2,700, while changes in the PSVC and PSAV certificates averaged \$2,500. In contrast to increased earnings, most groups experienced a decline in the percent employed compared to 1990, but an increase compared to the previous year. A higher percentage of community college graduates were found employed in Florida than were found for either the university system or public schools.

Conclusion

The Florida Community College System has taken the challenge of performance based funding seriously. The number of graduates has risen for each type of award granted. The System continues to lead the different sources of graduates in terms of percentage of graduates employed in the State. Having FETPIP in the State will allow the CCS to continue to use information on outputs and outcomes to strengthen the System.

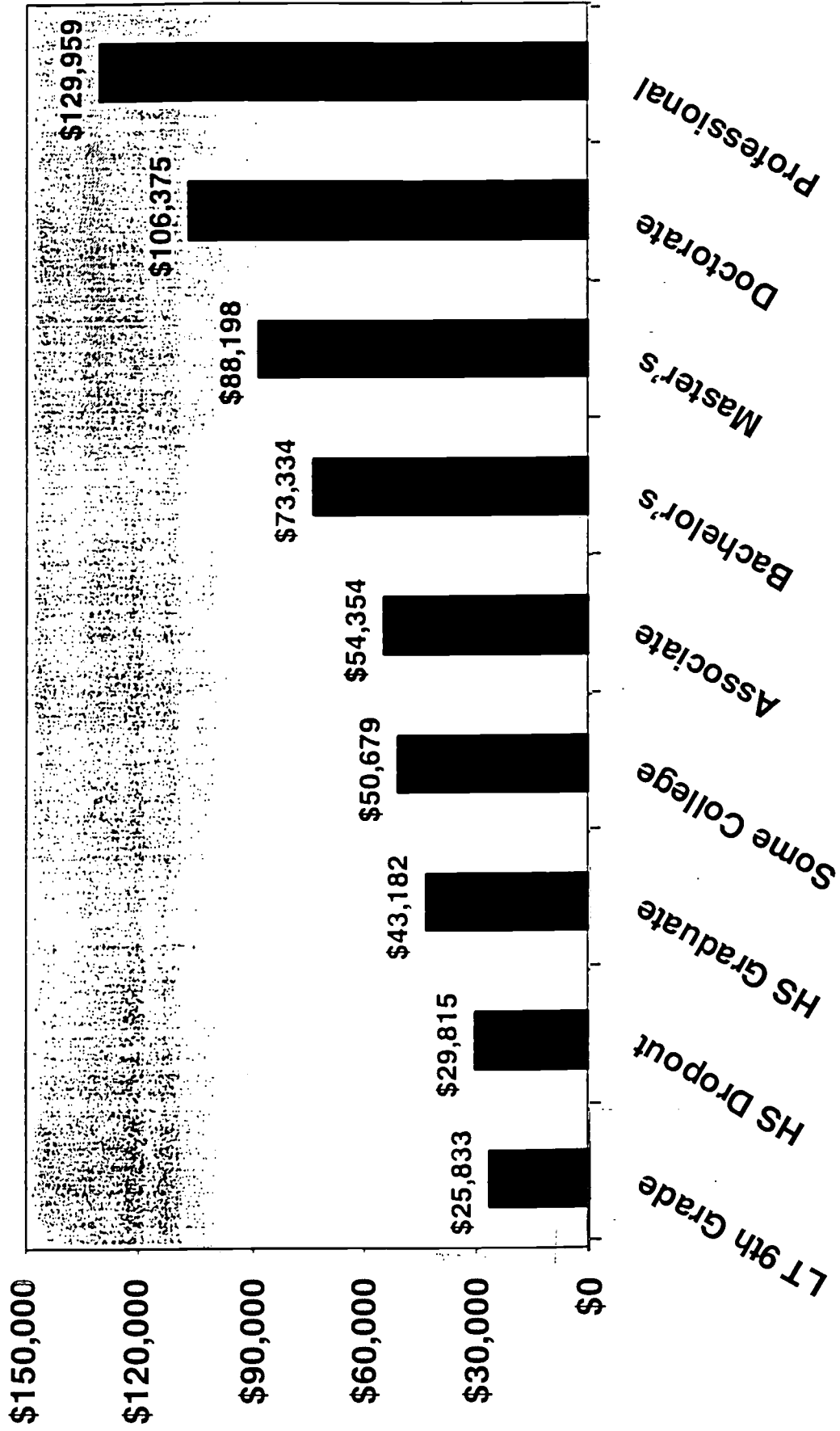
Produced by the Office of Educational Services and Research, Division of Community Colleges
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For additional information, contact Patricia Windham, Ph.D. at (850) 488-0555 or SC 278-0555, ext. 172

Follow-up of Florida's Graduates

Division of Community Colleges

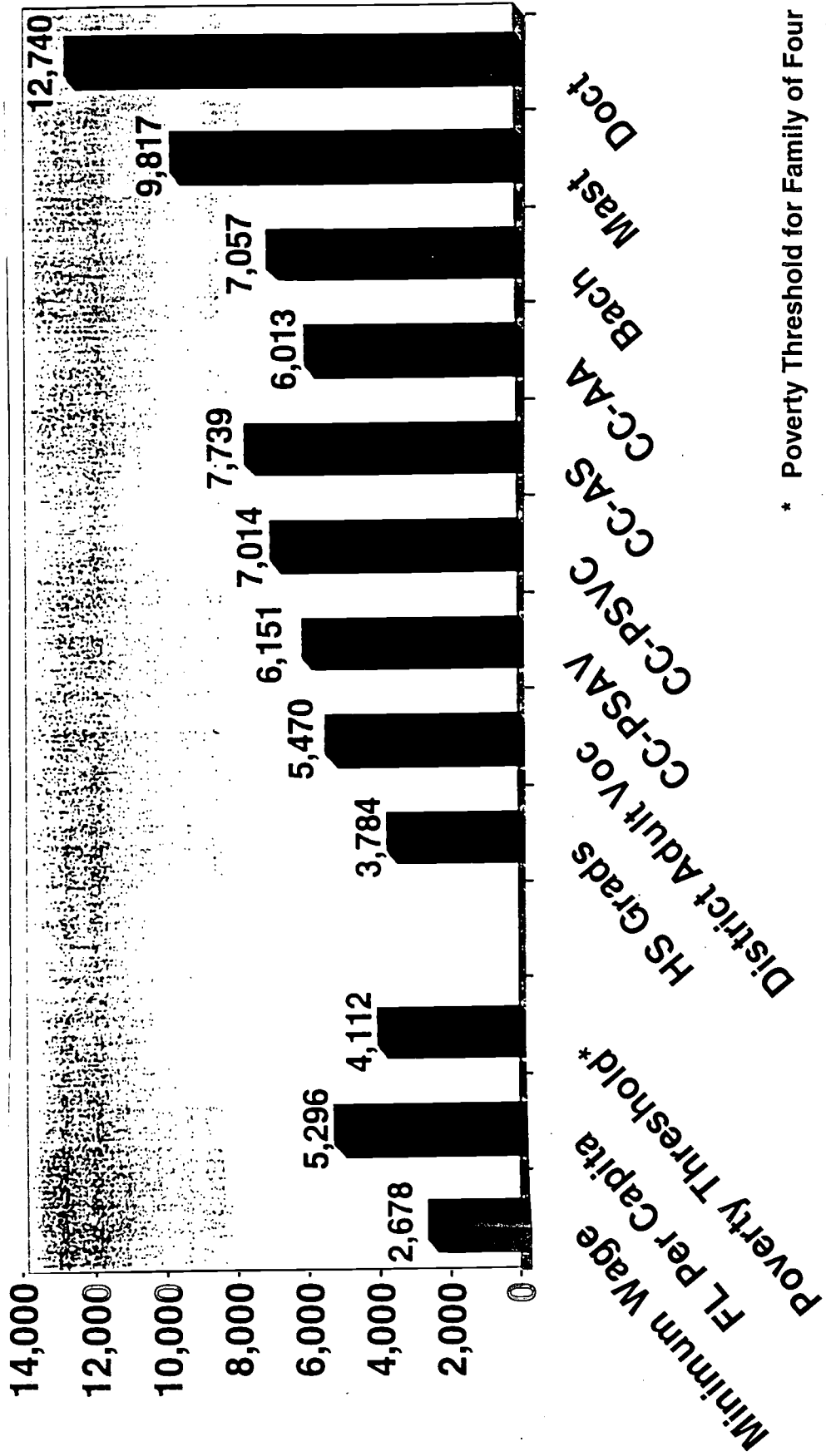
Based upon FETPIP data

Average Family Income by Educational Attainment of Householder, 1995



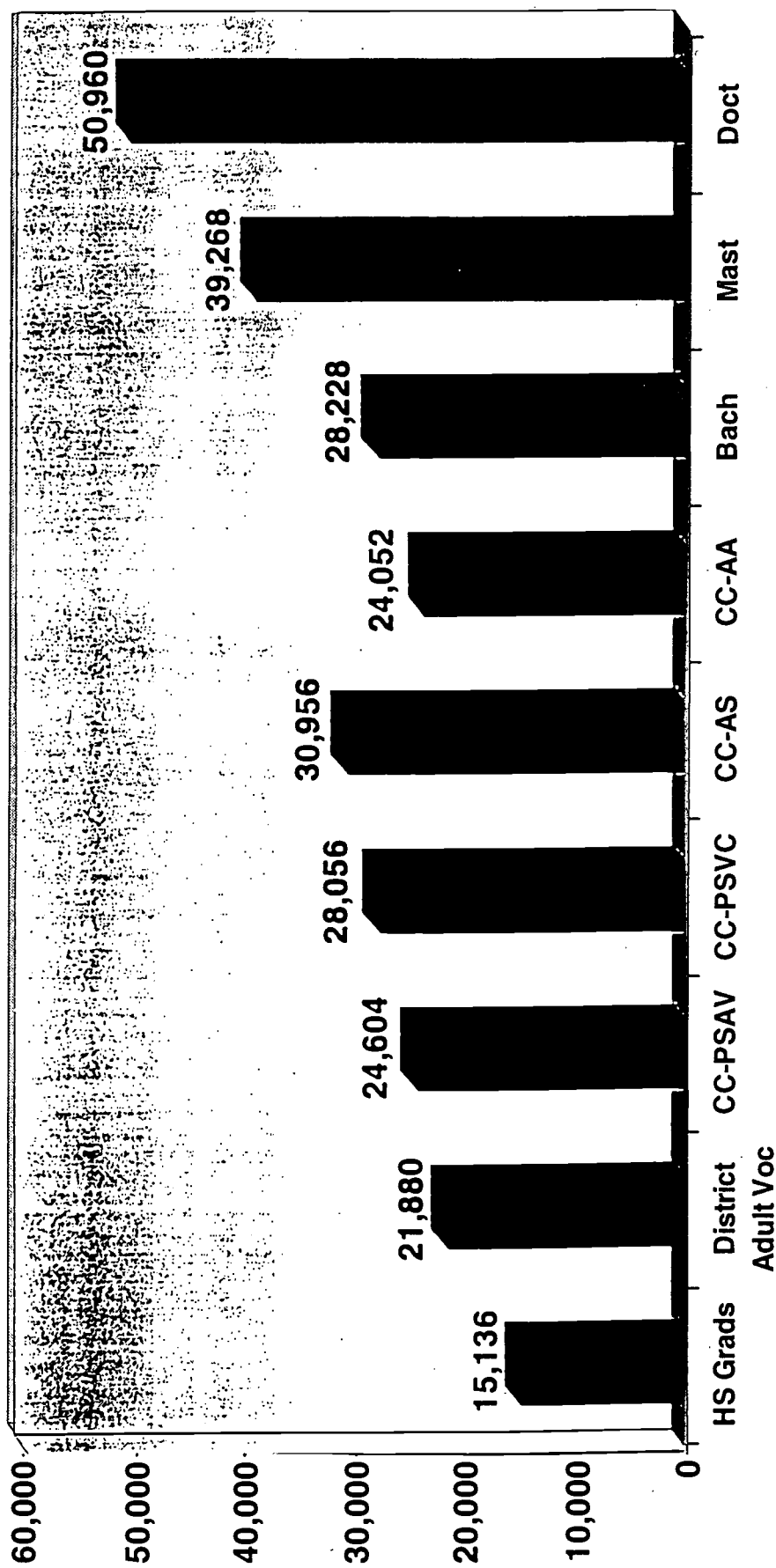
Published by Postsecondary Education Opportunity

Initial Quarterly Earnings Upon Completion 1996-97 Graduates and Completers Working Full-time in October-December 1997



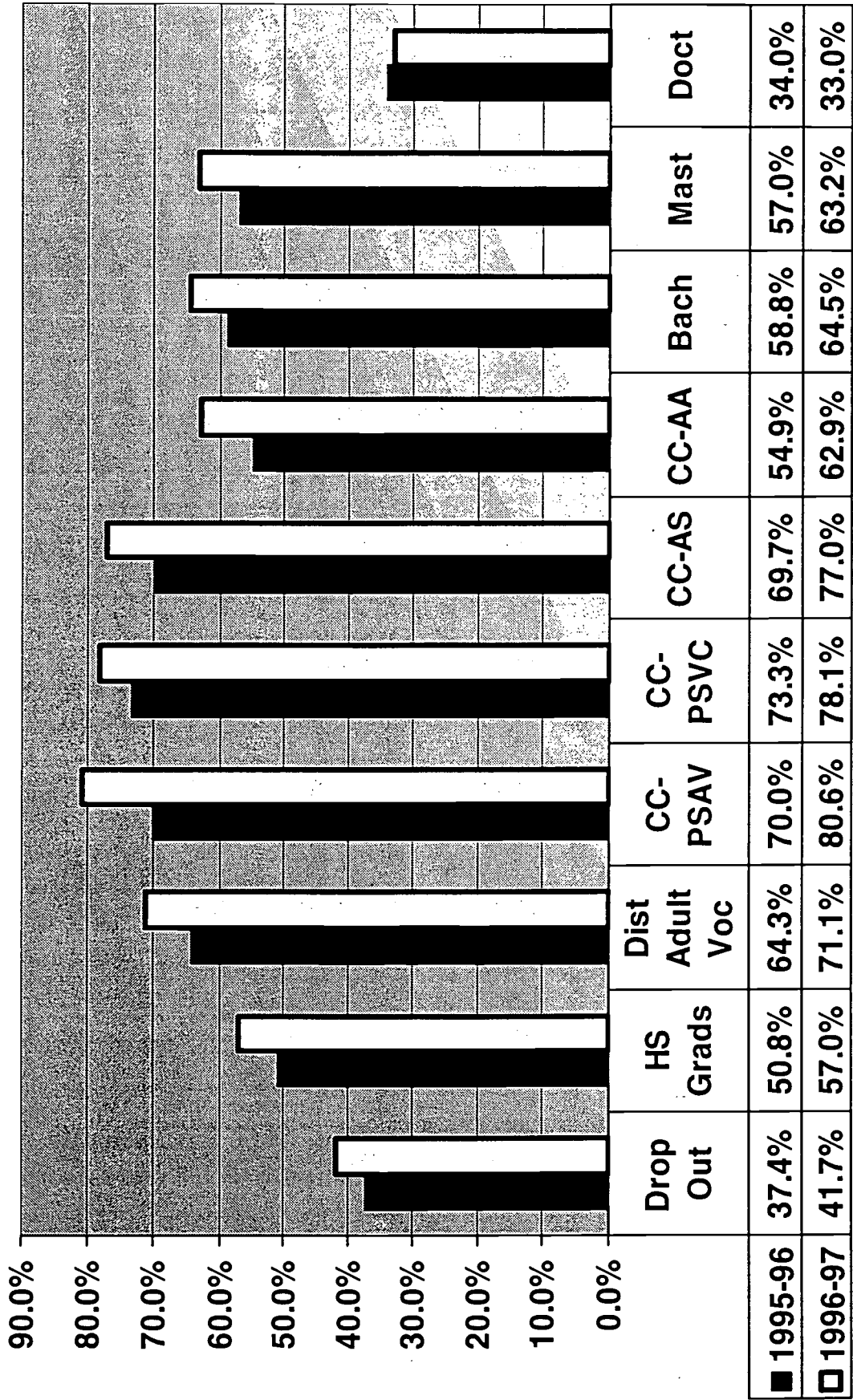
* Poverty Threshold for Family of Four

Initial Annual Earnings Upon Completion 1996-97 Graduates and Completers Working Full-time

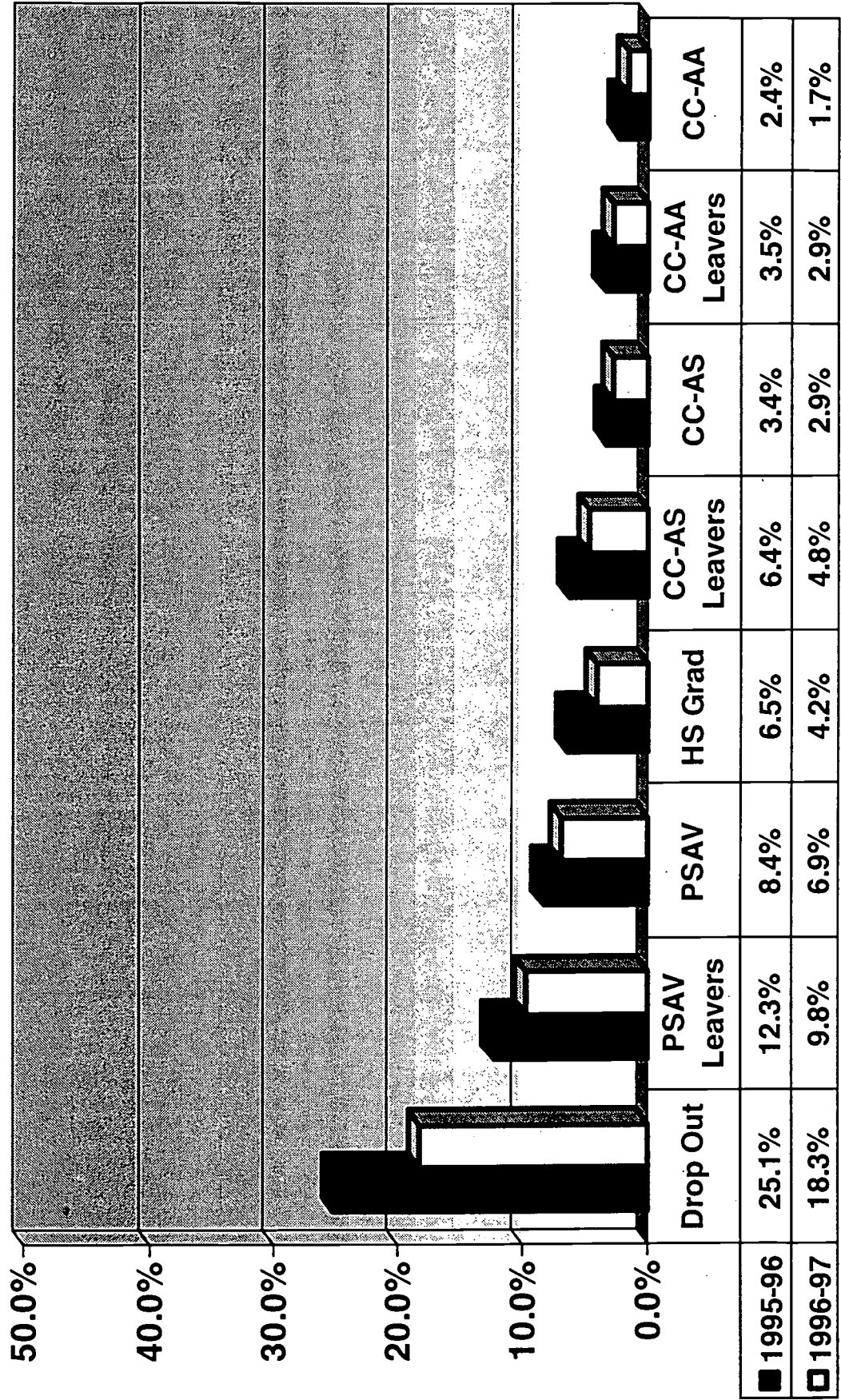


Based upon the annual earnings reported in the FETPIP follow-up process.

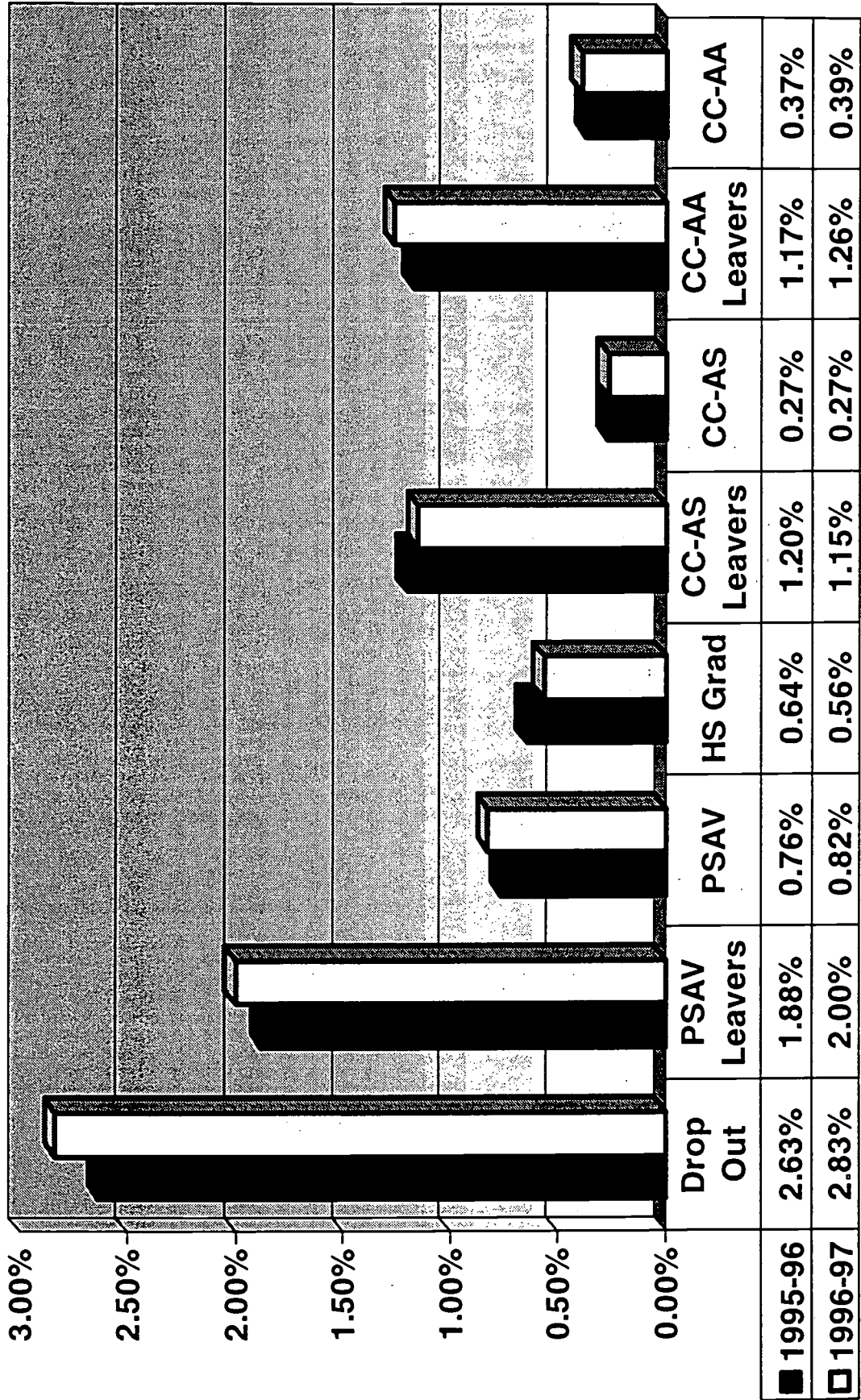
Percent of Florida Graduates Found Employed in Florida



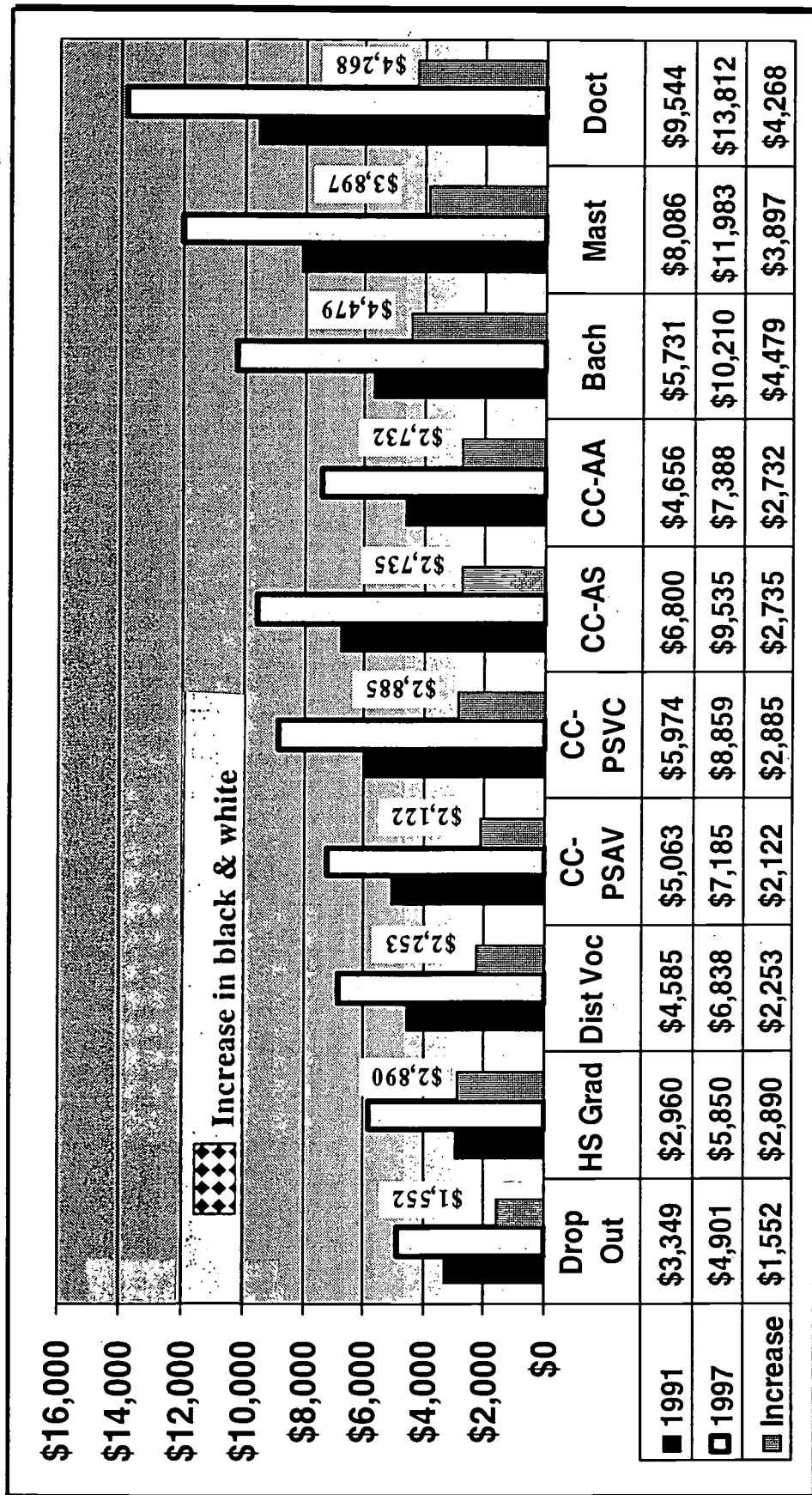
Percent of Florida Students Receiving Public Assistance in Florida



Percent of Florida Students Under DOC Supervision

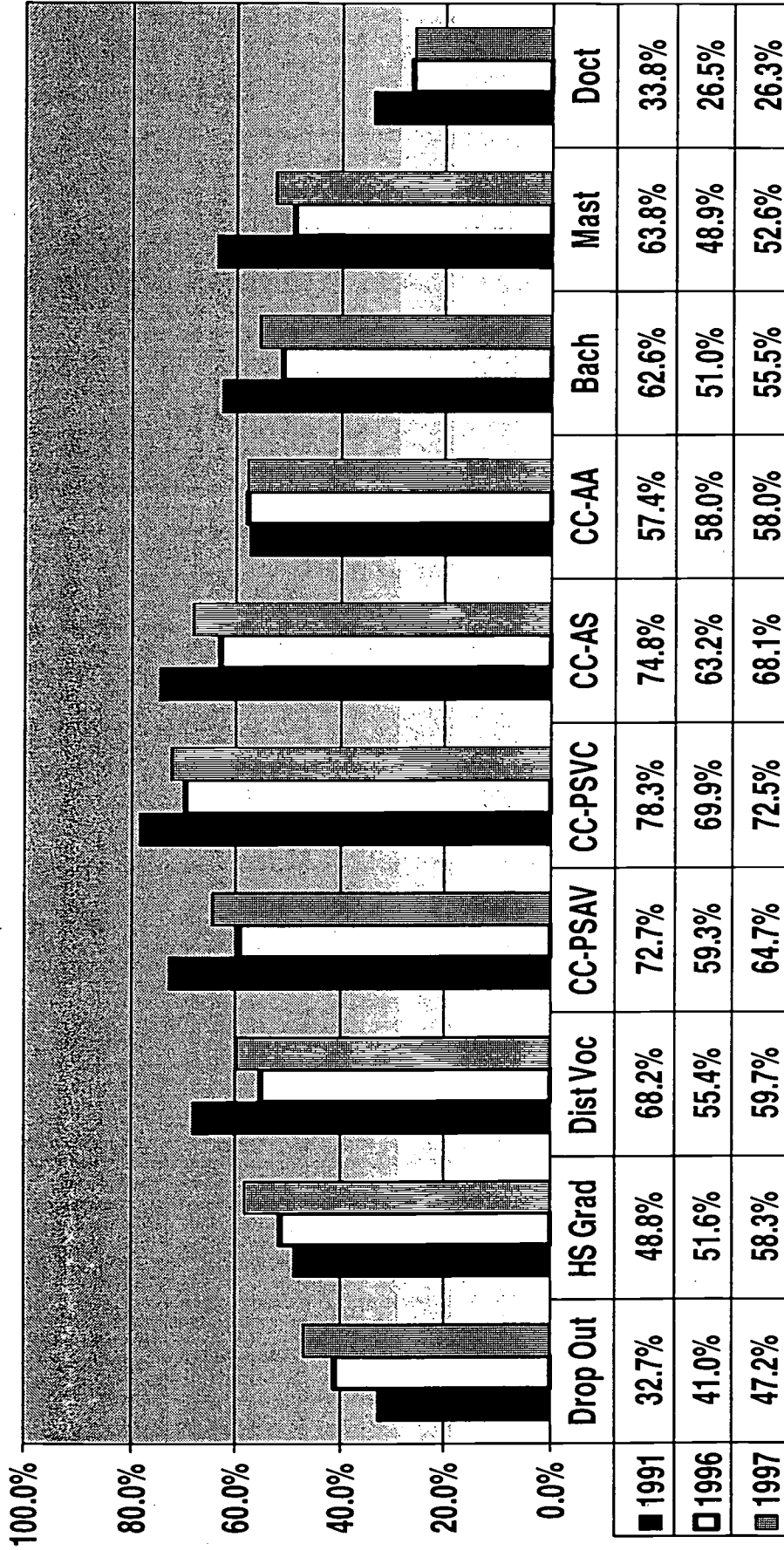


Average Full Quarter Earnings for Florida Graduates Found Working in Florida by Level of Education (1990-91 Cohort)



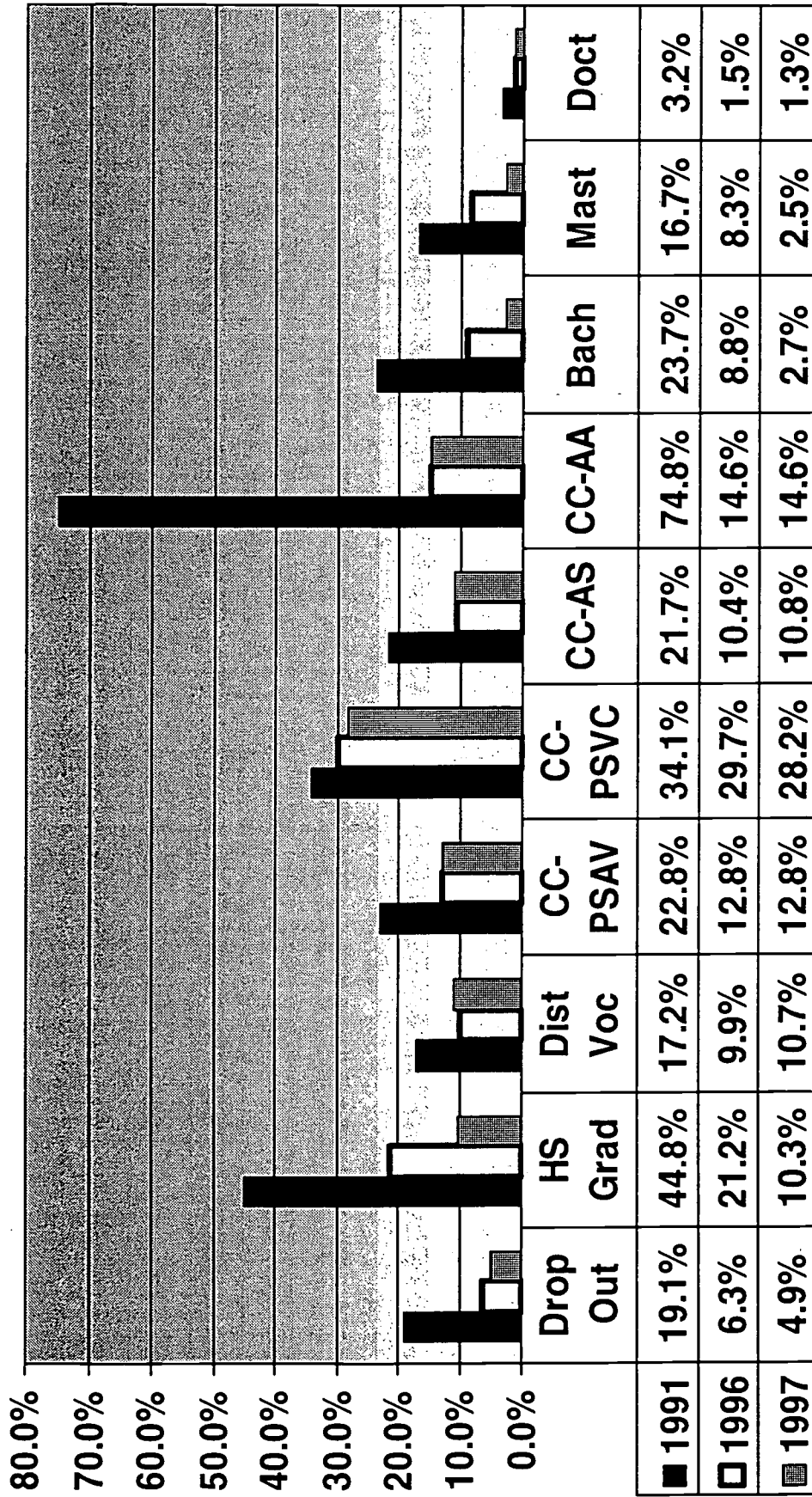
At the end of 4th quarters for 1991 and 1997

Percent of Florida Graduates Found Employed in Florida by Level of Education (1990-91 Cohort)

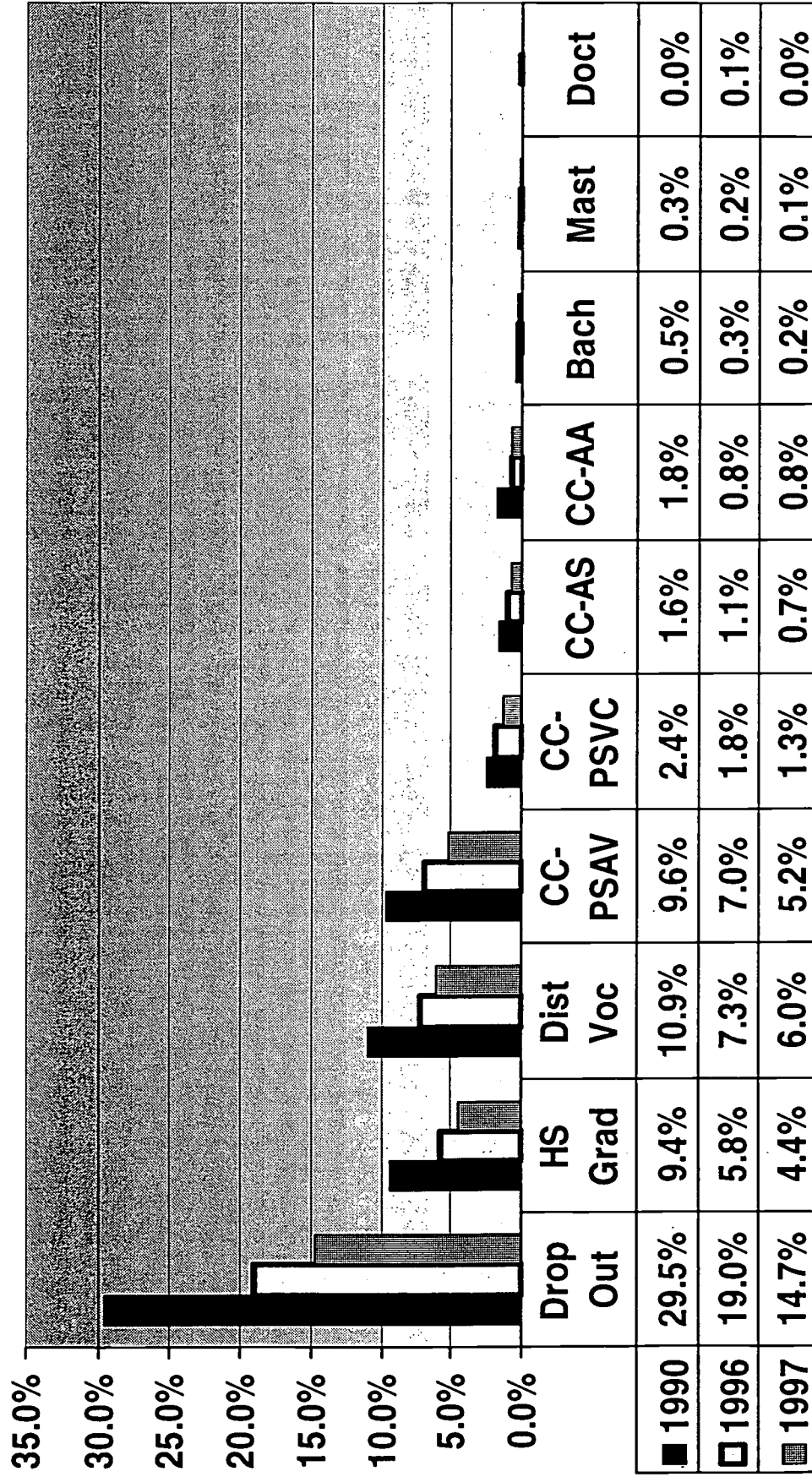


At the end of 4th quarters for 1991, 1996, and 1997

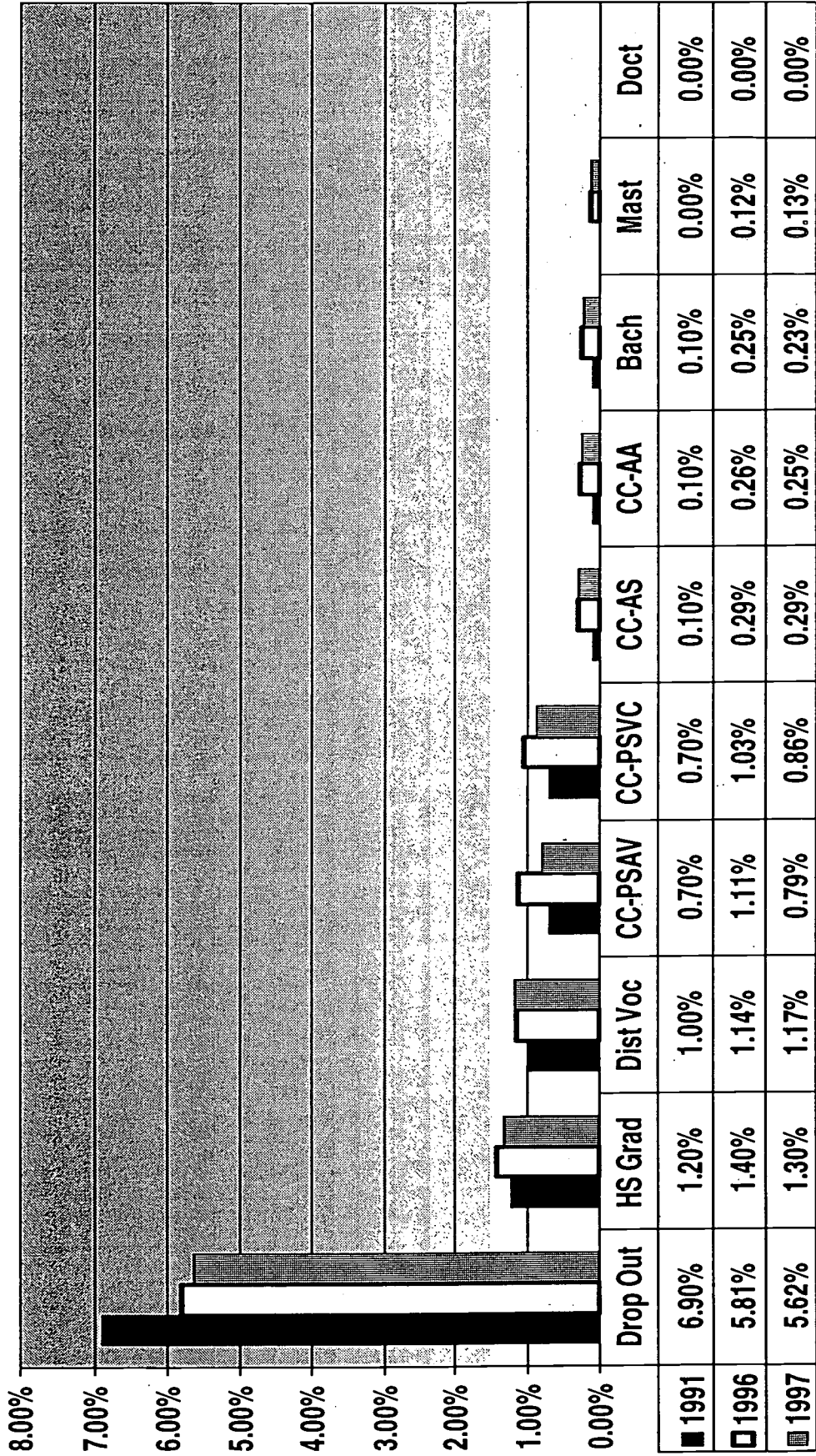
Percent of Florida Graduates Found Continuing Education in Florida by Level of Education (1990-91 Cohort)



Percent of Florida Graduates Receiving Public Assistance in Florida by Level of Education (1990-91 Cohort)



Percent of Florida Graduates Under DOC Supervision by Level of Education (1990-91 Cohort)





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Author(s): Patricia Windham, Phd	
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