Session Eight Uses and Misuses of Statistics

Curriculum in Mathematics Problem

In your small groups, examine the tables below and choose any way you want to summarize the information (graph, words). If you were going to make recommendations to the local school board about curriculum in mathematics, what might you say? How would you justify your recommendations? Prepare a report to share with the class.

Percentage of High School Class of 1982 Attending College by Algebra Courses

Algebra	Students In <i>G</i> roup	Attended College by 6/86	Attending College by 10/82	Attended 4-yr College by 6/86	Attending 4-yr College by 10/82
Less than 1 yr	44%	34%	21%	18%	12%
1 yr or more	56%	72%	58%	51%	38%
All Students	100%	55%	42%	37%	27%

Percentage of High School Class of 1982 Attending College by Geometry Courses

Geometry	Students In Group	Attended College by 6/86	Attending College by 10/82	Attended 4-yr College by 6/86	Attending 4-yr College by 10/82
Less than 1 yr	65%	41%	27%	22%	14%
1 yr or more	35%	83%	70%	66%	51%
All Students	100%	55%	42%	37%	27%

Percentage of High School Class of 1982 Taking Geometry - by Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Students in Group	Students Taking Geometry	
European American	75%	40%	
African American	13%	19%	
Latino/a	8%	17%	
Other	4%	29%	