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Quick Facts About Learning Disabilities and Literacy

- Two-thirds of secondary students with learning disabilities are reading three or more grade levels behind. Twenty percent are reading five or more grade levels behind. (Wagner, M., Marder, C., Blackorby, J., Cameto, R., Newman, L., Levine, P., & Davies-Mercier, E. (2003). *The achievements of youth with disabilities during secondary school. A report from the National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2)*. Menlo Park, CA: SRI International.)
- The majority of all individuals with learning disabilities have difficulties in the area of reading. (U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services. (2002). *A new era: Revitalizing special education for children and their families*. Washington, DC: author.)
- More than 27% of children with learning disabilities drop out of high school, compared to 11% of the general student population. (U.S. Department of Education. (2001). *24th annual report to Congress on the implementation of the individuals with disabilities*. Washington, DC: Author.)
- 44% of parents who noticed their child exhibiting signs of difficulty with learning waited a year or more before acknowledging their child might have a serious problem. (Roper Starch International. (2000). *Measuring progress in public and parental understanding of learning disabilities*. Mamaronock, NY: Author.)
- Only 14% of students with learning disabilities (compared to 53% of students in general population) have attended a postsecondary school program within two years of leaving high school. (Wagner, M., Marder, C., Blackorby, J., Cameto, R., Newman, L., Levine, P., & Davies-Mercier, E. (2003). *The achievements of youth with disabilities during secondary school. A report from the National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2)*. Menlo Park, CA: SRI International.)

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