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In additive number theory, one often studies additive representations of a particular type by means of bounds for the number of integers that are not thus representable. One such problem that has attracted a great deal of attention deals with the number of exceptional integers in a short interval. In this talk, I will review several such results concerning exceptional sets in additive problems with prime variables. Then I will discuss possible improvements related to recent progress in applications of the Hardy-Littlewood circle method to the Waring-Goldbach and related problems. (Received February 14, 2006)