Race to the Top Goals

As part of last year's $4 billion Race to the Top competition, states had to set goals for how much student achievement would improve if they won a four-year grant. They did so in the areas of: test scores, including on the National Assessment of Educational Progress; achievement gap; graduation rates; and college-going and college-attainment rates. Examples of the goals set by the 12 winners include:

State	NAEP 8th Grade Math (Percentage Proficient)		Graduation Rate		College-Going Rate	
	Baseline	Goal	Baseline	Goal	Baseline	Goal
Delaware	32%	55%	82%	90%	59%	70%
District of Columbia	11	16*	72	84	39	59
Florida	29	40	66	75	60	64
Georgia	26	31	79	85	64	72
Hawaii	25	Meet/exceed national median	80	90	50	55
Maryland	40	50	80	NA**	65	75
Massachusetts	51	64*	81	85	72	75
New York	34	42	71	76	80	88
North Carolina	35	45*	72	82	66	72
Ohio	36	42	86	88	51	59***
Rhode Island	28	55	74	85	55	77
Tennessee	25	37	83	90	71	80

*Figures are estimates. Raw scores were converted into percentage "proficient" to allow for comparisons.

**Maryland is changing how it calculates its graduation rate so the state will set a goal at a later time.

***Figures are estimates. Ohio provided actual numbers of students as its goal.

Note: The baseline year varied slightly depending on the state, but was usually the 2009-10 school year. Likewise, the year the goals are to be reached varied slightly, but in most states is 2014.

SOURCES: U.S. Department of Education; *Education Week*