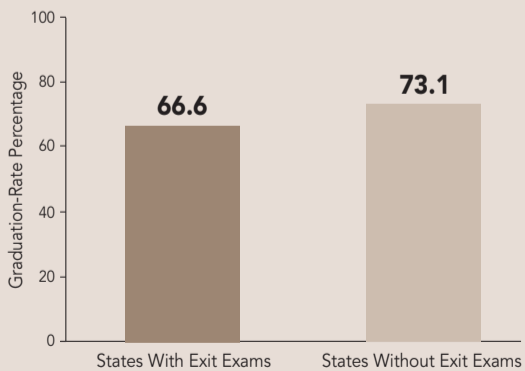




assessments required to earn a standard diploma			HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION CREDENTIALS			MINIMUM-AGE POLICIES		
Exam type	Exam based on standards for 10th grade or higher	Appeals or alternative route to diploma	State has multiple standard diploma options	Advanced recognition for exceeding standard requirements	Alternative credential for not meeting all standard requirements	Compulsory age for public school attendance	Minimum age at which students can take the GED test	
SB	✓		✓	✓	✓	16 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Alabama
MC	✓	✓			✓	16	18 <sup>†</sup>	Alaska
SB	✓	✓				16 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Arizona
						17	18 <sup>†</sup>	Arkansas
SB	✓	✓		✓	✓	18	18 <sup>†</sup>	California
						16 <sup>†</sup>	17 <sup>†</sup>	Colorado
				✓	✓	18 <sup>†</sup>	17	Connecticut
					✓	16	18 <sup>†</sup>	Delaware
					✓	18	18 <sup>†</sup>	District of Columbia
SB	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	17 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Florida
SB	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	16	18 <sup>†</sup>	Georgia
				✓	✓	18 <sup>†</sup>	17 <sup>†</sup>	Hawaii
SB	✓	✓				16	18 <sup>†</sup>	Idaho
						17	18 <sup>†</sup>	Illinois
SB		✓		✓	✓	18 <sup>†</sup>	17	Indiana
						16	17 <sup>†</sup>	Iowa
						18 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Kansas
			✓	✓	✓	16	19 <sup>†</sup>	Kentucky
SB	✓			✓	✓	18 <sup>†</sup>	17 <sup>†</sup>	Louisiana
						17 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Maine
EOC	Class of 2009	Class of 2009			✓	16	16	Maryland
SB	✓	✓				16 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Massachusetts
						16	18 <sup>†</sup>	Michigan
MC						16	19 <sup>†</sup>	Minnesota
EOC	✓	✓			✓	17	18 <sup>†</sup>	Mississippi
				✓		16 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Missouri
						16	17 <sup>†</sup>	Montana
						18 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Nebraska
SB	✓		✓	✓	✓	17 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Nevada
				✓	✓	16	18 <sup>†</sup>	New Hampshire
SB	✓	✓				16	18 <sup>†</sup>	New Jersey
MC		✓			✓	17	18 <sup>†</sup>	New Mexico
EOC	✓	✓		✓	✓	17 <sup>†</sup>	19 <sup>†</sup>	New York
SB		✓			✓	16	18 <sup>†</sup>	North Carolina
						16 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	North Dakota
SB	Class of 2007	Class of 2007		✓		18 <sup>†</sup>	19 <sup>†</sup>	Ohio
				✓		18 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Oklahoma
				✓	✓	18 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Oregon
				✓		17 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Pennsylvania
						18 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Rhode Island
SB	✓			✓	✓	17 <sup>†</sup>	17 <sup>†</sup>	South Carolina
				✓		16 <sup>†</sup>	19 <sup>†</sup>	South Dakota
EOC	✓			✓	✓	18 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Tennessee
SB	✓		✓			18	18 <sup>†</sup>	Texas
MC	✓	✓			✓	18 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Utah
						16 <sup>†</sup>	16	Vermont
EOC	✓	✓		✓	✓	18 <sup>†</sup>	18 <sup>†</sup>	Virginia
SB	Class of 2008	Class of 2008		✓	✓	18 <sup>†</sup>	19 <sup>†</sup>	Washington
				✓	✓	16	19 <sup>†</sup>	West Virginia
					✓	18	18.5 <sup>†</sup>	Wisconsin
				✓		16	18 <sup>†</sup>	Wyoming
—	18	15	6	24	26	17	18	U.S.



SOURCE: For information on indicator definitions and sources, see Page 30.

Notes: A dash (—) indicates data were not available or, in U.S. row, that a total was not appropriate. A (†) indicates state has an exemption or waiver allowing students to leave school or take the GED test prior to reaching the standard minimum age.

Exit exam subjects tested: E=English (including writing), M=Mathematics, S=Science, H=History/Social Studies, and T=Technology

Exit exam type: EOC=End-of-Course, MC=Minimum Competency, and SB=Standards-Based

<sup>1</sup> Georgia's total credit requirements are based on the college-preparatory program.

<sup>2</sup> North Carolina's credit requirements are based on the college/university preparation program.

<sup>3</sup> South Dakota has a five-unit requirement for math and laboratory science, of which at least two units must be mathematics.

<sup>4</sup> Texas' credit requirements are based on the minimum program required for graduation.

<sup>5</sup> Nebraska requires 80 percent of the 200 required credit hours to be in core-curriculum courses as defined by the state education board. Credit hours are not expressed in Carnegie units.

<sup>6</sup> Subject-specific credits for states that do not have total course-credit requirements are not included in the total credits column and are not reflected in the national average for total credit requirements.

<sup>7</sup> Louisiana requires students to pass an exit exam in either science or history in addition to English and math.

<sup>8</sup> Virginia requires students in the graduating class of 2005-06 to pass two end-of-course English tests and four tests in student-selected subjects to earn a standard diploma.