

Graduation in the United States >> RATE APPROACHING 75 PERCENT

Nearly 75 percent of all U.S. public school students graduated from high school with a regular diploma in the class of 2010, marking a third straight year of gains. The national graduation rate rose by 1.9 percentage points in the past year, with rates also increasing in seven out of 10 states. This upward trend continues to be driven by particularly strong improvements among Latino students, as well as solid gains for black and Asian students. Graduation rates for Native American students declined somewhat between 2009 and 2010.

In the past decade, graduation rates rose by 7.9 percentage points on average, with all racial and ethnic groups experiencing notable progress. The largest increases are found among Latino students, whose graduation rates have risen by more than 16 points since 2000; gains for black students top 13 percentage points. This accelerated improvement has produced a significant closing of the graduation gaps for those two groups. The white-Latino gap, for example, has effectively been cut in half since 2000.

10-YEAR TREND (ALL STUDENTS)

RATES FOR STUDENT SUBGROUPS, CLASS OF 2010

	CLASS OF 2010	CLASS OF 2000	CHANGE 2000 TO 2010 (PERCENTAGE POINT)	MALE	FEMALE	AMERICAN INDIAN	ASIAN	LATINO	BLACK	WHITE
ALABAMA	69.4%	61.4%	+8.0%	66.3%	73.7%	67.2%	73.3%	57.6%	61.7%	75.6%
ALASKA	68.7	59.3	+9.4	63.0	70.6	42.5	72.0	65.8	61.2	73.6
ARIZONA	67.2	62.2	+5.1	64.0	69.3	52.6	76.2	64.6	58.9	67.7
ARKANSAS	72.3	69.6	+2.8	69.5	75.6	56.6	65.4	68.9	63.0	75.9
CALIFORNIA	73.7	68.5	+5.2	70.3	77.1	51.0	83.6	66.0	56.8	80.2
COLORADO	75.6	70.2	+5.5	72.3	78.1	38.2	69.8	61.2	50.8	77.1
CONNECTICUT	82.2	76.3	+5.9	78.2	83.6	†	80.6	73.2	61.0	85.4
DELAWARE	73.9	67.0	+6.8	69.5	76.1	†	72.1	69.1	67.8	76.5
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	57.0	53.5	+3.5	51.1	65.4	†	64.7	63.2	61.9	99.3
FLORIDA	72.9	49.9	+23.0	72.9	81.9	68.7	85.3	77.1	70.1	76.4
GEORGIA	64.0	53.4	+10.5	59.2	69.0	38.0	78.5	55.8	56.5	71.1
HAWAII	67.2	62.3	+4.9	63.7	70.3	63.6	69.6	31.5	97.7	59.4
IDAHO	80.0	74.6	+5.4	76.7	82.2	29.3	54.0	69.2	61.3	80.1
ILLINOIS	77.8	73.6	+4.2	77.4	82.6	†	83.5	75.4	67.6	82.0
INDIANA	78.0	70.8	+7.2	77.7	83.9	†	69.5	67.7	68.9	80.9
IOWA	83.2	78.3	+5.0	82.3	84.6	28.9	78.0	66.9	59.4	84.9
KANSAS	80.0	73.5	+6.6	77.5	82.3	64.0	84.0	65.3	62.7	84.6
KENTUCKY	77.2	63.7	+13.5	76.6	82.9	†	89.3	76.4	73.7	79.3
LOUISIANA	67.0	59.5	+7.4	60.3	72.9	54.2	85.4	40.4	59.8	71.8
MAINE	80.5	71.9	+8.6	76.1	81.6	†	47.2	†	26.4	80.9
MARYLAND	78.6	72.7	+5.9	74.4	82.5	56.4	90.9	76.7	66.9	82.9
MASSACHUSETTS	79.9	75.2	+4.7	76.4	82.6	64.9	88.6	56.4	68.9	85.0
MICHIGAN	70.9	72.9	-2.0	68.1	74.6	50.5	77.2	59.1	50.1	76.2
MINNESOTA	80.4	78.6	+1.7	77.8	82.1	36.1	72.8	49.2	53.9	84.5
MISSISSIPPI	64.4	59.2	+5.3	58.4	70.7	30.2	73.5	59.2	59.7	69.5
MISSOURI	80.7	71.3	+9.5	78.0	82.3	†	77.9	68.5	64.9	83.2
MONTANA	79.1	76.6	+2.5	76.4	78.0	45.7	72.8	63.7	41.6	80.9
NEBRASKA	78.8	78.2	+0.6	74.7	81.0	37.0	59.8	72.9	43.5	81.1
NEVADA	62.7	55.3	+7.4	59.4	65.8	37.9	76.0	54.9	45.0	69.1
NEW HAMPSHIRE	78.3	73.5	+4.7	74.5	81.3	†	82.6	37.6	62.5	78.3
NEW JERSEY	83.1	82.2	+0.9	80.8	83.5	†	89.1	69.4	66.0	87.3
NEW MEXICO	59.4	60.7	-1.3	56.8	63.3	53.3	71.4	54.6	55.8	62.2
NEW YORK	73.3	60.5	+12.8	69.8	76.1	52.6	81.8	74.8	72.7	83.8
NORTH CAROLINA	71.7	60.3	+11.3	65.9	74.4	53.4	87.9	63.5	48.4	81.2
NORTH DAKOTA	84.0	79.8	+4.2	79.6	86.2	49.4	81.5	73.7	81.0	88.5
OHIO	74.1	70.7	+3.4	74.7	78.3	†	86.9	54.1	54.3	80.4
OKLAHOMA	73.9	67.6	+6.3	69.8	76.3	63.0	81.3	67.3	53.6	75.5
OREGON	75.6	63.0	+12.6	74.3	81.4	41.4	75.5	67.1	69.8	78.0
PENNSYLVANIA	83.0	75.3	+7.7	81.3	85.2	†	87.7	65.5	68.1	86.4
RHODE ISLAND	71.9	72.6	-0.7	67.3	75.3	29.8	56.6	58.2	55.0	74.7
SOUTH CAROLINA	61.5	48.5	+13.1	56.6	67.6	24.4	58.4	58.7	54.3	67.4
SOUTH DAKOTA	76.3	78.2	-1.8	72.4	76.5	32.3	64.8	65.3	57.3	81.3
TENNESSEE	80.3	48.8	+31.5	76.8	83.1	76.7	75.5	67.4	74.6	81.6
TEXAS	74.8	62.9	+11.9	71.5	77.4	44.8	80.9	73.3	61.1	74.0
UTAH	71.3	79.4	-8.0	73.7	80.8	45.0	66.1	56.7	60.0	80.2
VERMONT	85.0	73.7	+11.3	82.3	84.9	†	84.9	†	85.2	84.2
VIRGINIA	77.5	77.4	+0.1	76.4	84.5	42.2	89.9	77.0	65.4	82.4
WASHINGTON	72.1	62.2	+9.9	66.9	75.3	30.9	69.4	55.1	50.8	72.9
WEST VIRGINIA	74.7	70.2	+4.5	71.4	77.5	†	65.9	61.5	69.2	74.6
WISCONSIN	83.7	76.6	+7.1	80.9	84.5	53.0	78.9	63.0	52.3	87.4
WYOMING	77.6	74.8	+2.8	76.8	80.3	39.0	77.6	64.9	55.7	80.6
U.S.	74.7%	66.8%	+7.9%	71.9%	78.4%	51.1%	81.1%	68.1%	61.7%	79.6%

† Value not reported because of insufficient data for reliable estimate.

SOURCE: EPE Research Center, 2013. See Page 28 for more information about the methodology used to calculate graduation rates for this report.