

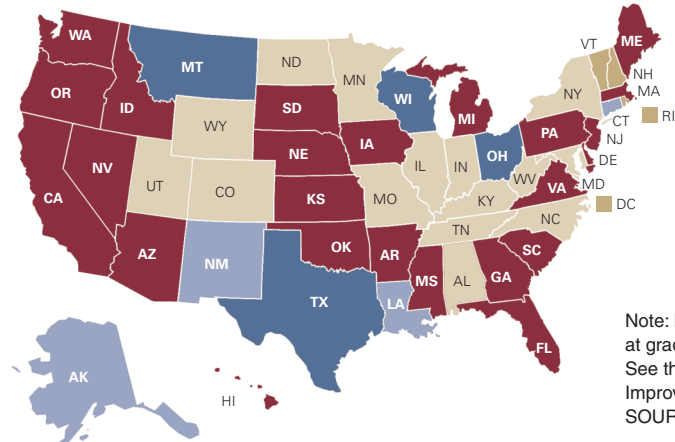
# High School Achievement

Percent of high school students taking upper-level (2004):		Percent of 9th to 12th graders who dropped out of school during 2001-02	Graduation rates <sup>3</sup>		
Mathematics courses	Science courses		2001-02	1992-93	Improvement <sup>5</sup>
—	—	3.7	60	59	0
—	—	8.1	64	67	-4
—	—	10.5	66	64	+3
50	28	5.3	71	73	-1
48	20	—	71	64	+7
—	—	—	70	71	-1
—	—	2.6	78	77	+2
—	—	6.2	62	67	-6
34	30	—	61	54	+7
42	27	3.7	57	61	-3
—	—	6.5	58	59	-2
—	—	5.1	66	90	-24
43	24	3.9	77	75	+2
—	—	6.2	75	75	0
47	30	2.3	73	76	-4
57	43	2.4	79	83	-4
—	—	3.2	75	78	-4
—	—	4.0	72	69	+3
45	23	7.0	64	57	+8
—	—	2.9	74	79	-5
—	—	3.9	77	77	-1
—	—	—	70	76	-6
35	23	—	73	73	0
46	29	3.8	79	86	-8
50	39	4.0	61	59	+2
54	35	3.7	77	71	+6
—	—	3.9	76	81	-6
61	37	4.2	78	81	-2
49	31	6.4	55	70	-14
—	—	4.0	77	76	+1
—	—	2.6	84	80	+4
35	21	5.2	61	60	+2
—	—	7.4	61	64	-3
72	25	5.7	65	64	+1
53	34	2.0	80	81	-1
60	28	3.2	75	70	+5
51	29	4.4	70	73	-2
—	—	4.9	71	70	+1
61	40	3.3	77	77	0
—	—	4.3	74	72	+1
49	34	3.3	52	60	-8
54	38	2.8	78	78 <sup>4</sup>	0
53	21	3.9	59	61	-1
64	31	3.7	67	57	+10
74	32	3.7	79	84	-5
—	—	4.0	80	80	0
—	—	2.9	74	75	-1
—	—	7.1	66	70 <sup>4</sup>	-4
33	44	3.7	72	78	-6
61	38	1.9	79	79	0
42	23	5.8	72	78	-6
53	31	—	69	69	+1

## Mixed Messages

Between 2003 and 2005, the percentage of 8th graders scoring proficient or higher on state-required math exams increased in 39 out of 47 states with data available. In 4th grade reading, the percentage of students scoring at the proficient level or higher increased in 38 out of 47 states with data available. But states did not always see consistent improvement on both the state-required exams and on the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

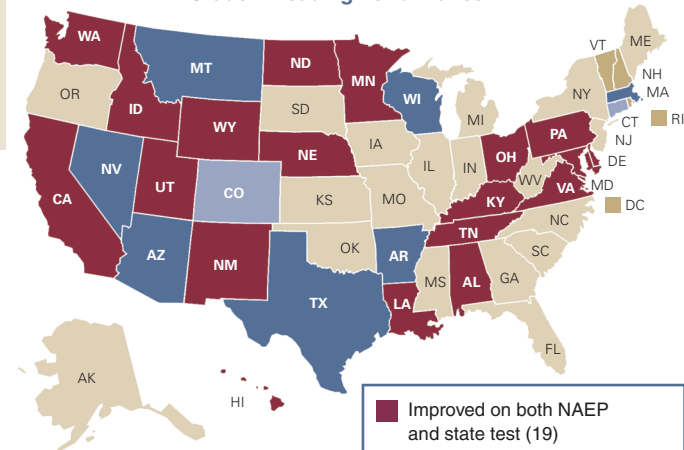
### Grade 8 Math Performance



- Improved on both NAEP and state test (24)
- Improved only on state test (15)
- Improved only on NAEP (4)
- Improved on neither NAEP nor state test (4)
- Data not available (4)

Note: Differences between 2003 and 2005 may not be statistically significant. If a state did not offer tests at grades 4 or 8, the EPE Research Center accepted test results from the next-closest grade level. See the Sources and Notes on Page 101 for more information on the grade levels assessed in each state. Improvement on NAEP was calculated to one decimal place.  
SOURCE: Editorial Projects in Education Research Center, 2006

### Grade 4 Reading Performance



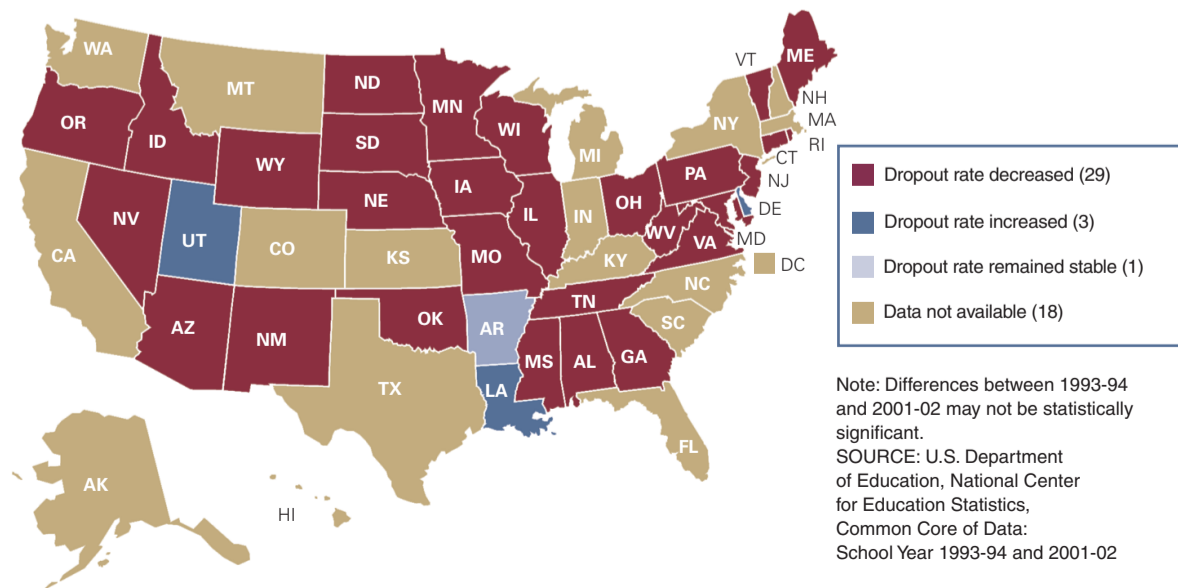
- Improved on both NAEP and state test (19)
- Improved only on state test (19)
- Improved only on NAEP (7)
- Improved on neither NAEP nor state test (2)
- Data not available (4)

Shaded columns indicate data that were used to grade the states.

	Reading: 4th Grade			Reading: 8th Grade			Math: 4th Grade			Math: 8th Grade		
	Percent of 4th graders scoring at or above proficient			Percent of 8th graders scoring at or above proficient			Percent of 4th graders scoring at or above proficient			Percent of 8th graders scoring at or above proficient		
	State test 2005 <sup>6</sup>	Improvement on state test since 2003 <sup>6</sup>	Improvement on NAEP between 2003 and 2005	State test 2005 <sup>6</sup>	Improvement on state test since 2003 <sup>6</sup>	Improvement on NAEP between 2003 and 2005	State test 2005 <sup>6</sup>	Improvement on state test since 2003 <sup>6</sup>	Improvement on NAEP between 2003 and 2005	State test 2005 <sup>6</sup>	Improvement on state test since 2003 <sup>6</sup>	Improvement on NAEP between 2003 and 2005
Alabama	83	+6 <sup>10</sup>	0	69	+11 <sup>10</sup>	0	73	+1 <sup>10</sup>	+2	63 <sup>7</sup>	+38 <sup>7,10</sup>	-1
Alaska	79 <sup>7</sup>	+5 <sup>7</sup>	-1	80 <sup>7</sup>	+12 <sup>7</sup>	0	76 <sup>7</sup>	+4 <sup>7</sup>	+4	62 <sup>7</sup>	-2 <sup>7</sup>	-1
Arizona	72 <sup>8</sup>	-5 <sup>8</sup>	0	67 <sup>8</sup>	+12 <sup>8</sup>	-2	76 <sup>8</sup>	+10 <sup>8</sup>	+2	63 <sup>8</sup>	+42 <sup>8</sup>	+5
Arkansas	52 <sup>8</sup>	-10 <sup>8</sup>	+2	57 <sup>8</sup>	+15 <sup>8</sup>	-1	50 <sup>8</sup>	-11 <sup>8</sup>	+8	33 <sup>8</sup>	+11 <sup>8</sup>	+3
California	47	+8	0	39	+9	-2	50	+5	+3	37	+7	0
Colorado	86	-1	0	86	0	-4	90	+4	+5	75	+7	-2
Connecticut	67	-2	-4	75	-2	-3	79	-1	+1	76	-1	-1
Delaware	84	+5	+1	78	+9	-1	79	+5	+5	53	+6	+4
District of Columbia	—	—	+1	—	—	+1	—	—	+2	—	—	+1
Florida	71	+11	-1	44	-5	-2	64	+10	+6	59	+3	+2
Georgia	87	+7	0	83	+2	-1	75	+1	+3	69	+3	+2
Hawaii	52	+10	+2	38	-1	-3	29	+5	+3	21	+4	+1
Idaho	87	+12	+3	82	+9	0	90	+14	+10	69	+17	+2
Illinois	67	+5	-1	73	+9	-3	79	+4	0	54	+1	-1
Indiana	75	+3	-2	67	+3	-4	73	+6	+3	71	+5	0
Iowa	79 <sup>9</sup>	+3 <sup>9</sup>	-2	72 <sup>9</sup>	+3 <sup>9</sup>	-2	81 <sup>9</sup>	+6 <sup>9</sup>	+2	75 <sup>9</sup>	+3 <sup>9</sup>	0
Kansas	78	+9	0	77	+6	0	85	+11	+6	68	+8	0
Kentucky	68	+6	0	62	+5	-3	45	+7	+4	36	+5	-1
Louisiana	64	+3	+1	50	-3	-2	61	+2	+3	51	0	-1
Maine	53	+4	0	44	-1	+1	39	+11	+5	29	+12	0
Maryland	81	+23	0	66	+7	-1	76	+11	+7	52	+12	0
Massachusetts	50	-6	+3	66	+1	+1	40	0	+8	39	+2	+5
Michigan	82	+7	0	73	+12	-4	73	+8	+4	62	+10	+1
Minnesota	78	+2	+1	74	+5 <sup>10</sup>	0	78	+3	+5	76	+9 <sup>10</sup>	-1
Mississippi	89	+2	0	57	0	-2	79	+5	+2	53	+5	+1
Missouri	35	+1	-2	33	0	-4	43	+6	+1	16	+2	-2
Montana	75	-1	+1	64	-6	-1	57	-17	+7	63	-6	+1
Nebraska	85	+6	+1	86	+9	0	88	+3 <sup>10</sup>	+2	82	+5 <sup>10</sup>	+3
Nevada	45	-4	0	51	+1 <sup>10</sup>	+2	51	+1	+3	49	+1 <sup>10</sup>	+1
New Hampshire	—	—	-1	—	—	-3	—	—	+4	—	—	0
New Jersey	82	+4	-1	72	-2	+1	80	+12	+7	62	+6	+3
New Mexico	52 <sup>7</sup>	+7 <sup>7</sup>	+2	51 <sup>7</sup>	0 <sup>7</sup>	-1	39 <sup>7</sup>	-14 <sup>7</sup>	+2	24 <sup>7</sup>	-22 <sup>7</sup>	-1
New York	70	+6	-1	48	+3	-2	85	+7	+3	56	+5	-1
North Carolina	82	+1	-3	88	+2	-2	92	0	-1	84	+2	0
North Dakota	75	+1	+4	72	+4	-2	79	+21	+6	65	+22	-2
Ohio	77 <sup>7</sup>	+10 <sup>7</sup>	0	79 <sup>7</sup>	-8 <sup>7</sup>	+2	66	+7	+7	60 <sup>7</sup>	-11 <sup>7</sup>	+3
Oklahoma	79	+5	-1	81	+2	-4	84	+12	+6	76	+3	0
Oregon	86	+3	-1	63	+3	-1	86	+8	+4	64	+5	+2
Pennsylvania	64	+6	+3	64	+1	+4	69	+13	+6	63	+12	+1
Rhode Island	—	—	+1	—	—	0	—	—	+2	—	—	0
South Carolina	36	+5	0	30	+10	+1	41	+7	+4	23	+4	+4
South Dakota	87	+2	-1	79	+1	-4	82	+9	+7	69	+13	+2
Tennessee	87	+7	+1	87	+7	0	87	+8	+4	87	+8	0
Texas	79	-6	+2	83	-5	0	81	-6	+7	61	-11	+6
Utah	78	0	+2	77	+9	-3	75	+3	+5	73	+12	-1
Vermont	—	—	+2	—	—	-1	—	—	+2	—	—	+3
Virginia	77	+5	+2	76	+6	0	88	+5	+3	81	+6	+2
Washington	80 <sup>8</sup>	+13 <sup>8</sup>	+2	69 <sup>8</sup>	+21 <sup>8</sup>	+1	61 <sup>8</sup>	+6 <sup>8</sup>	+5	51 <sup>8</sup>	+14 <sup>8</sup>	+4
West Virginia	81	+8 <sup>10</sup>	-3	80	0 <sup>10</sup>	-3	75	+6 <sup>10</sup>	+1	70	+1 <sup>10</sup>	-2
Wisconsin	81	-1	+1	84	0	-2	71	-1	+5	72	-4	+1
Wyoming	47	+3	+1	39	0	+2	39	+2	+4	38	+3	-3
U.S.	—	—	0	—	—	-1	—	—	+4	—	—	+1

### High School Dropouts

In the majority of states, fewer students dropped out of high school during the 2001-02 school year compared with the 1993-94 school year. The dropout rate increased in just three states.



Note: Differences between 1993-94 and 2001-02 may not be statistically significant.  
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data: School Year 1993-94 and 2001-02

### FOOTNOTES:

- Note:** A dash (—) indicates data were not available, not provided to the EPE Research Center prior to deadline, or, in U.S. row, that a total was not appropriate.
- 1** Because the District of Columbia does not have a state revenue source, it did not receive a grade for equity. The District of Columbia is a single-district jurisdiction.
- 2** Because Hawaii is a single-district state, it is not appropriate to measure district-level equity. It did not receive a grade for equity.
- 3** Changes in graduation rates over time may reflect changes in state information systems and/or requirements for diploma recipients.
- 4** Graduation rates from 1992-93 were not available. Data from the closest available year were used: South Dakota (1993-94) and Washington state (1994-95).
- 5** Improvement was calculated using decimals.
- 6** If states did not offer tests at grades 4 or 8, the EPE Research Center accepted test results from the next-closest grade level. Please see the Sources and Notes on Page 101 for more information on the grade levels assessed by states included in this table.
- 7** State implemented a new assessment in 2005; results prior to 2005 may not be comparable.
- 8** In Arizona and Arkansas, 2005 results represent the beginning of a new trend line; results prior to 2005 may not be comparable. In Washington state, 2004 results represent the beginning of a new trend line; results prior to 2004 may not be comparable.
- 9** Iowa 2003 state test results represent the average between scores from the 2001-02 and 2002-03 school years. The 2005 state test results are based on the 2004-05 school year only.
- 10** Results from 2004 were used because 2003 state test results were not available.