GOAL 7: Safe, Disciplined, and Alcohol- and Drug-free Schools

State Indicator 29. Carrying a Weapon

Have states\(^1\) reduced the percentages of public high school students reporting that they carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property at least once during the past 30 days?

\[
\begin{align*}
\uparrow & \quad \text{Better} \quad 4 \text{ states} \\
\leftrightarrow & \quad \text{No Change} \quad 20 \text{ states} \\
\downarrow & \quad \text{Worse} \quad 0 \text{ states}
\end{align*}
\]

Improvement over time

Between 1993 and 1997, 4 states (out of 24) significantly reduced the percentages of public high school students reporting that they carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property at least once during the past 30 days:

1. North Carolina\(^*\)  
2. South Carolina  
3. Wisconsin  
4. American Samoa

\(\ast\) Data for North Carolina were collected in 1993 and 1995.

Highest-performing states\(^*\)

States with the lowest percentages of public high school students reporting that they carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property at least once during the past 30 days:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(1997)} & \\
\text{Wisconsin} & 5\% \\
\text{Hawaii} & 6\% \\
\text{Guam} & 6\% \\
\text{Connecticut} & 7\% \\
\text{Louisiana} & 7\%
\end{align*}
\]

Indicators are not the same at the national and state levels.

\(\ast\) Top 5 states (out of 24).

Most-improved states

States that made the greatest reductions in the percentages of public high school students reporting that they carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property at least once during the past 30 days:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(1993)} & \quad \text{(1997)} & \quad \text{Change}\(^*\) \\
\text{North Carolina}\^{**} & 14\% & 9\% & -5 \\
\text{American Samoa} & 14\% & 9\% & -5 \\
\text{South Carolina} & 14\% & 10\% & -4 \\
\text{Wisconsin} & 9\% & 5\% & -4
\end{align*}
\]

\(\ast\) Differences between the first two columns may differ slightly from the figures reported in the “change” column due to rounding.

\(\^{**}\) Data for North Carolina were collected in 1993 and 1995.

\(\text{\textsuperscript{\textdagger}}\) The term “state” is used to refer to the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the outlying areas.

See Appendix B for definitions, sources, and technical notes.