



NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS PANEL

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MORE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ENROLLING IN COLLEGE

39 States Increase College Enrollments, Racial Gap in Matriculation Goes From 14 to 9 Percent

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) – The percentage of high school graduates who immediately enroll in two-year or four-year colleges has increased significantly, according to the National Education Goals Panel (NEGP). Thirty-nine states and territories showed significant increase in their college enrollment figures since the benchmark was first established in 1992.

Nationally, the gap in college enrollment between white and black high school students went from 14 percent to 9 percent. Enrollment in institutions of higher education is one indicator for the sixth National Education Goal: Adult Literacy and Lifelong Learning. Figures vary from state to state, ranging from 73 percent of high school graduates entering college in Massachusetts to 40 percent in Nevada.

“Post-secondary education is becoming increasingly important for young people entering the workforce,” says Emily Wurtz, acting executive director of the National Education Goals Panel. “These figures bode well for the future competitiveness of the nation.”

Of the thirty states and territories that showed increases, the five most improved were the **District of Columbia** (from 33 percent to 58 percent), **California** (from 50 percent to 66 percent), **South Carolina** (from 43 percent to 59 percent), **Massachusetts** (from 60 percent to 73 percent) and **Delaware** (from 57 percent to 67 percent). To find local enrollment figures, please visit www.negp.gov and go to the most recent National Education Goals Report.

About the National Education Goals Panel

Created in July 1990, the National Education Goals Panel is a bipartisan body consisting of an equal number of Republicans and Democrats from the federal and state levels of government. The Panel is made up of eight governors, four members of Congress, four state legislators and two members appointed by the President. The eight National Education Goals call for greater levels of: student achievement; high school completion; teacher education and professional development; parental participation in the schools; adult literacy and lifelong learning; and safe, disciplined, and alcohol-and-drug-free schools. The Goals also call for all children to be ready to learn by the time they start school and for US students to be first in the world in mathematics and science achievement.

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