

GOAL 5: Mathematics and Science

State Indicator 20c. Mathematics and Science Degrees — Female Students

Have states¹ increased the percentage of degrees earned by female students that were awarded in mathematics or science?

↑	Better	51 states and the U.S.
↔	No Change	1 state
↓	Worse	2 states

Update

Improvement over time

Between 1991 and 1996, the U.S. and 51 states (out of 54) significantly increased the percentage of degrees earned by female students that were awarded in mathematics or science:

1. Alabama	14. Iowa	27. Nevada	40. South Dakota
2. Alaska	15. Kansas	28. New Hampshire	41. Tennessee
3. Arizona	16. Kentucky	29. New Jersey	42. Texas
4. Arkansas	17. Louisiana	30. New Mexico	43. Utah
5. California	18. Maine	31. New York	44. Vermont
6. Colorado	19. Maryland	32. North Carolina	45. Virginia
7. Connecticut	20. Massachusetts	33. North Dakota	46. Washington
8. District of Columbia	21. Michigan	34. Ohio	47. West Virginia
9. Florida	22. Minnesota	35. Oklahoma	48. Wisconsin
10. Georgia	23. Mississippi	36. Oregon	49. Wyoming
11. Idaho	24. Missouri	37. Pennsylvania	50. Puerto Rico
12. Illinois	25. Montana	38. Rhode Island	51. Virgin Islands
13. Indiana	26. Nebraska	39. South Carolina	

Highest-performing states*

States with the highest percentages of degrees earned by female students that were awarded in mathematics or science:

	(1996)
District of Columbia	52%
Massachusetts	50%
Maine	49%
Colorado	48%
Virginia	48%
U.S.	41%

* Top 5 states (out of 54).

Most-improved states

States that made the greatest gains in the percentages of degrees earned by female students that were awarded in mathematics or science:

	(1991)	(1996)	Change*
Connecticut	37%	47%	+11
West Virginia	29%	39%	+10
Mississippi	30%	39%	+9
Montana	29%	38%	+9
Virginia	39%	48%	+9

* Differences between the first two columns may differ slightly from the figures reported in the "change" column due to rounding.

¹ The term "state" is used to refer to the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the outlying areas.