

## GOAL 2: School Completion

### State Indicator 6. High School Completion Rates

Have states<sup>1</sup> increased the percentages of 18- to 24-year-olds who have a high school credential?

↑	Better	5 states
↔	No Change	41 states and the U.S.
↓	Worse	5 states

Update

#### Achieved the Goal

Goal 2 states that by the year 2000, the high school graduation rate will increase to at least 90%. In 1997, 18- to 24-year-olds in 17 (out of 51) states had already achieved a 90% high school completion rate:

1. Connecticut	6. Massachusetts	11. Nebraska	16. Vermont
2. Hawaii	7. Michigan	12. New Jersey	17. Wisconsin
3. Kansas	8. Minnesota	13. North Dakota	
4. Maine	9. Missouri	14. South Dakota	
5. Maryland	10. Montana	15. Utah	

#### Improvement over time

Between 1990 and 1997, 5 states (out of 51) significantly increased the percentages of 18- to 24-year-olds who have a high school credential:

1. California	3. Michigan	5. Tennessee
2. Maryland	4. South Carolina	

#### Highest-performing states\*

States with the highest percentages of 18- to 24-year-olds with a high school credential:

	(1997)		(1997)
Maryland	95%	Nebraska	91%
North Dakota	95%	Utah	91%
Connecticut	92%	Wisconsin	91%
Hawaii	92%	Minnesota	90%
Kansas	92%	Missouri	90%
Maine	92%	Indiana	89%
New Jersey	92%	Ohio	89%
Massachusetts	91%	Pennsylvania	88%
Michigan	91%	<b>U.S.</b>	<b>85%</b>

\* States that had a significantly higher percentage than the U.S. average.

#### Most-improved states

States that made the greatest gains in the percentages of 18- to 24-year-olds with a high school credential:

	(1990)	(1997)	Change*
Tennessee	77%	87%	+10
Maryland	87%	95%	+7
Michigan	86%	91%	+5
South Carolina	83%	88%	+5
California	77%	81%	+4

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

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