

GOAL 2: School Completion

State Indicator 7. High School Dropout Rates

Have states¹ reduced the percentages of students in Grades 9-12 who leave school without completing a recognized secondary program?

↑	Better	12 states
↔	No Change	3 states
↓	Worse	11 states

Update

Improvement over time

Between 1992 and 1997, 12 states (out of 26) significantly reduced the percentages of students in Grades 9-12 who left school without completing a recognized secondary program:

1. Connecticut	5. Missouri	9. Rhode Island
2. District of Columbia	6. Montana	10. West Virginia
3. Georgia	7. New York	11. Wyoming
4. Iowa	8. Ohio	12. Puerto Rico

Highest-performing states*

States with the lowest percentages of students in Grades 9-12 who left school without completing a recognized secondary program:

	(1997)
Iowa	3%
Maine	3%
Massachusetts	3%
New York	3%
North Dakota	3%

No comparable national data available.

* Top 5 states (out of 26).

Most-improved states

States that made the greatest reductions in the percentages of students in Grades 9-12 who left school without completing a recognized secondary program:

	(1992)	(1997)	Change*
Connecticut**	5%	4%	-1
District of Columbia**	12%	11%	-1
Georgia**	9%	8%	-1
Montana**	6%	5%	-1
Puerto Rico**	2%	2%	-1
Wyoming**	7%	6%	-1

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

** Data for the District of Columbia were collected in 1992 and 1995.

Data for Connecticut were collected in 1993 and 1997.

Data for Georgia were collected in 1994 and 1997.

Data for Puerto Rico were collected in 1995 and 1996.

Data for Wyoming were collected in 1995 and 1997.

Data for Montana were collected in 1996 and 1997.

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