

## EDUCATION: The governments of the world agreed on...

"Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free... Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding [and] tolerance..."

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 26, 1948.

"To ensure that [by 2015] children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education."

Millennium Declaration, Paragraph 19, 2000.

### HUMAN RIGHTS

The right to universal education is enshrined in:

UDHR - Art. 26      CEDAW - Art. 5, 10 & 14  
CERD - Art. 5      CRC - Art. 28 & 29  
CESCR - Art. 13 & 14

### INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS





Education is considered in:

Millennium Development Goals - Goal 2  
World Summit for Social Development - Commitment 1  
Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action - Critical Areas of Concern






	CHILDREN REACHING 5TH GRADE			LITERACY (15-24 YEARS OLD)			PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATIO (NET)		
	1990 (%)	2000/2001 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2005 (%)	Progress or regression	1990/1991 (%)	2001/2002 (%)	Progress or regression
<b>Countries in better situation</b>									
Albania	82 <sup>I</sup>			94.8	98.6	→	95.1	97 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Algeria	94	96		77.3	92.0	→	93.3	90	
Argentina		93		98.2	98.7		93.8	100	→
Aruba		97						98	
Bahamas				96.5	97.5		96.0 <sup>F</sup>	86	←
Bahrain	89	99	→	95.6	99.0	→	99.0	91	←
Barbados		95		99.8	99.8		83.0 <sup>D</sup>	100	→
Belarus				99.8	99.8			94	
Belize	67	81 <sup>N-O</sup>	→	96.0	98.6		94.0 <sup>F</sup>	96 <sup>O-P</sup>	→
Bermuda		96						100 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Brazil	72 <sup>F</sup>			91.8	96.1	→	86.4	97	→
Brunei Darussalam	95 <sup>F</sup>	93	←	97.9	99.6		91.0 <sup>F</sup>		
Bulgaria	91			99.4	99.7		86.1	93 <sup>O-P</sup>	→
Cape Verde	60 <sup>C</sup>	93	→	81.5	90.7	→	99.0 <sup>D</sup>	99	
Chile	92 <sup>I</sup>	100 <sup>N-O</sup>	→	98.1	99.2		87.7	89 <sup>O-P</sup>	
China	86	98	→	95.3	98.6	→	97.4	93 <sup>O-P</sup>	←
Costa Rica	82	94	→	97.4	98.6		86.3	91	→
Croatia	100 <sup>G</sup>			99.6	99.8		78.8	88	→
Cuba	92	95 <sup>N-O</sup>	→	99.3	99.8		91.8	96	→
Cyprus	100	99 <sup>N-O</sup>		99.7	99.8		100.0 <sup>E</sup>	95 <sup>O-P</sup>	←
Czech Republic		97						88	
Denmark	94	100 <sup>N-O</sup>	→				98.3	99 <sup>N-O</sup>	
Ecuador	77 <sup>H</sup>	78		95.5	97.9		90.0 <sup>H</sup>	99	→
Estonia	93 <sup>G</sup>	99	→	99.8	99.7		100.0	98 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Fiji		88		97.8	99.5		100.0 <sup>F</sup>	100	
Finland	100	100					98.3	100 <sup>O-P</sup>	
France		98 <sup>M-N</sup>					100.0	100 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Greece	99			99.5	99.8		94.6	95 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Guyana	87	77 <sup>N-O</sup>	←	99.8	99.8		88.9	98 <sup>N-O</sup>	→
Hong Kong (China)	100			98.2	99.5			98	
Hungary	98 <sup>F</sup>			99.7	99.8		91.3	91	
Iceland	99 <sup>H</sup>	99					100.0	100 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Indonesia	84	89	→	95.0	98.5	→	96.8	92	←
Iran, Islamic Rep.	90	94	→	86.3	95.9	→	95.0 <sup>D</sup>	87	←
Ireland	100	99					90.4	94 <sup>O-P</sup>	→
Israel				98.7	99.7		91.9	100	→
Italy	100	96	←	99.8	99.8		100.0	100 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Jamaica	96 <sup>D</sup>	90	←	91.2	95.1	→	95.7	95	
Jordan	100	98 <sup>M-N</sup>	←	96.7	99.6		94.1	91	←

→ Significant progress  
→ Slight progress  
|| Stagnant  
← Slight regression  
← Significant regression

Notes: Data source year: A: 1986; B: 1987; C: 1988; D: 1989; E: 1990; F: 1991; G: 1992; H: 1993; I: 1994; J: 1995; K: 1996; L: 1997; M: 1998; N: 1999; O: 2000; P: 2001; Q: 2002.

	CHILDREN REACHING 5TH GRADE			LITERACY (15-24 YEARS OLD)			PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATIO (NET)		
	1990 (%)	2000/2001 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2005 (%)	Progress or regression	1990/1991 (%)	2001/2002 (%)	Progress or regression
Kazakhstan				99.8	99.8		86.7	90	→
Korea, Rep.	99	99 <sup>P-Q</sup>		99.8	99.8		100.0	100	
Latvia				99.8	99.8		90.4	91 <sup>D-P</sup>	
Lebanon		94		92.1	96.3	→		90	
Lithuania				99.8	99.8			97 <sup>D-P</sup>	
Luxembourg		99					81.6	96 <sup>D-P</sup>	→
Macao (China)		99 <sup>N-O</sup>		97.2	99.3		81.2	86	→
Malaysia	98			94.8	98.3	→	93.7	95	
Maldives				98.1	99.4			96	
Malta	100	100		97.5	98.9		97.0	98 <sup>D-P</sup>	
Mauritius	98	99		91.1	94.9	→	95.0	93	
Mexico	80	90	→	95.2	97.7		100.0	99	
Mongolia				98.9	99.2		90.1	87	←
Netherlands		100 <sup>N-O</sup>					95.3	99 <sup>D-P</sup>	→
Netherlands Antilles		83 <sup>M-N</sup>		97.5	98.5			88	
Oman	96	96		85.6	99.4	→	70.3	75	→
Palau		84 <sup>M-N</sup>						97 <sup>D-P</sup>	
Panama	82 <sup>C</sup>	89	→	95.3	97.4		91.4	99	→
Peru	92 <sup>C</sup>	86	←	94.5	97.6	→	87.5	100	→
Poland	98	99		99.8	99.8		96.7	98	
Romania				99.3	99.7		81.2	93 <sup>D-P</sup>	→
Samoa	86 <sup>J</sup>	94	→	99.0	99.5		100.0	95	←
Seychelles	93 <sup>F</sup>	91	←					100	
Slovenia				99.8	99.8		100.0	93 <sup>D-P</sup>	←
Spain				99.6	99.8		100.0	100	
Sri Lanka	94			95.1	97.4		87.3	100	→
St. Kitts and Nevis		90 <sup>N-O</sup>						96 <sup>D-P</sup>	
St. Lucia	95 <sup>F</sup>	97	→				95.3	99	→
Switzerland		99					83.7	99 <sup>D-P</sup>	→
Syrian Arab Republic	94	92		79.9	90.0	→	97.8	98	
Tajikistan				99.8	99.8		76.7	98	→
Thailand		94 <sup>M-N</sup>		98.1	99.2		75.9	86	→
Tonga	84	83						100	
Tunisia	87	95	→	84.1	95.7	→	93.5	97	→
Turkey	98			92.7	97.6	→	89.4	88	
Uruguay	94	89	←	98.7	99.2		91.9	90	
Vanuatu		95					70.7	93	→
Venezuela	86	96	→	96.0	98.6		88.1	92	→
<b>Countries above average</b>									
Armenia				99.5	99.8			85	
Bolivia		78		92.6	97.0	→	90.7	94	→
Botswana	97	89	←	83.3	90.4	→	94.1	81	←
Colombia	62	61		94.9	97.6		68.1	87	→
Dominica		85						91 <sup>D-P</sup>	
Dominican Republic		73		87.5	92.5	→		97	
Egypt		99		61.3	73.5	→	85.9	90	→
El Salvador	58 <sup>F</sup>	67	→	83.8	90.0	→	73.0 <sup>D</sup>	89	→
Moldova				99.8	99.8		88.8	78	←
Morocco		84		55.3	72.8	→	56.8	88	→
Namibia	63 <sup>F</sup>	94	→	87.4	93.2	→	86.3	78	←
Niue		76 <sup>M-N</sup>						97	
Paraguay	70	77	→	95.6	97.6		92.8	92	
Philippines	75 <sup>C</sup>	79	→	97.3	99.2		96.8	93	←
Qatar	64			90.3	96.1	→	89.6	94	→
Saudi Arabia	83	94	→	85.4	94.9	→	62.1	59	←
South Africa		65 <sup>N-O</sup>		88.5	92.5	→	89.4	90	
St. Vincent and the Grenadines		85 <sup>N-O</sup>						92	
Togo	50	84	→	63.5	80.4	→	74.9	92	→
<p>  <b>Significant progress</b>   <b>Slight progress</b>  <b>  </b> <b>Stagnant</b>   <b>Slight regression</b>   <b>Significant regression</b> </p> <p> <b>Notes:</b> Data source year: <b>A:</b> 1986; <b>B:</b> 1987; <b>C:</b> 1988; <b>D:</b> 1989; <b>E:</b> 1990; <b>F:</b> 1991; <b>G:</b> 1992; <b>H:</b> 1993; <b>I:</b> 1994; <b>J:</b> 1995; <b>K:</b> 1996; <b>L:</b> 1997; <b>M:</b> 1998; <b>N:</b> 1999; <b>O:</b> 2000; <b>P:</b> 2001; <b>Q:</b> 2002. </p>									

	CHILDREN REACHING 5TH GRADE			LITERACY (15-24 YEARS OLD)			PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATIO (NET)		
	1990 (%)	2000/2001 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2005 (%)	Progress or regression	1990/1991 (%)	2001/2002 (%)	Progress or regression
Trinidad and Tobago	96	77	←	99.6	99.8		91.0	94	→
Ukraine	59			99.8	99.9		80.2	82	
United Arab Emirates	80	97	→	84.7	92.6	→	92.4	81	←
Viet Nam		89		94.1	96.0		90.5	94	→
Zimbabwe	94			93.9	98.2	→	89.2	83	←
<b>Countries below average</b>									
Bangladesh		65		42.0	51.5	→	71.1	87	→
Benin	55	84 <sup>N-O</sup>	→	40.4	59.0	→	47.1	71 <sup>N-O</sup>	→
Cambodia	49 <sup>H</sup>	70	→	73.5	81.9	→	98.0 <sup>K</sup>	86	←
Cameroon	66 <sup>D</sup>	81 <sup>M-N</sup>	→	81.1	92.8	→	73.4		
Djibouti	87	88		73.2	87.9	→	33.3	34	
Equatorial Guinea		33 <sup>O-P</sup>		92.7	98.1	→		85	
Ghana		66 <sup>N-O</sup>		81.8	93.8	→	53.1	60	→
Guinea	59	84 <sup>N-O</sup>	→				27.0 <sup>C</sup>	61	→
Honduras				79.7	87.3	→	89.0 <sup>F</sup>	87	
Iraq	72 <sup>B</sup>	66 <sup>M-N</sup>	←	41.0	46.5	→	100.0	91 <sup>N-O</sup>	←
Kenya				89.8	96.7	→	74.1	70	←
Kuwait				87.5	94.0	→	49.0	85	→
Lesotho	71	67	←	87.2	92.0	→	75.8	84	→
Liberia				57.2	74.0	→		70 <sup>N-O</sup>	
Myanmar		60		88.2	92.0	→	99.5	82	←
São Tomé and Príncipe		61						97	
Sudan	94	84 <sup>M-N</sup>	←	65.0	81.9	→	43.6	46 <sup>N-O</sup>	→
Swaziland	76	74		85.1	92.5	→	89.2	77	←
Tanzania	79	78		83.1	93.1	→	49.4	54	→
Yemen		87 <sup>N-O</sup>		50.0	72.4	→		67 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Zambia		77		81.2	90.6	→		66	
<b>Countries in worse situation</b>									
Burkina Faso	70	64	←	24.9	40.3	→	25.7	35	→
Burundi	74 <sup>F</sup>	64	←	51.6	69.4	→	53.1	53	
Chad	53	45	←	48.0	74.4	→	42.0	58	→
Comoros	46 <sup>F</sup>			56.7	59.5		56.8	55 <sup>N-O</sup>	
Congo, Dem. Rep.	55			68.9	86.4	→	54.8	35 <sup>M-N</sup>	←
Côte d'Ivoire	73	69 <sup>M-N</sup>	←	52.6	66.3	→	44.5	63	→
Eritrea	83 <sup>G</sup>			60.9	74.5	→	16.9	43	→
Ethiopia	58 <sup>G</sup>	61	→	43.0	61.0	→	24.4	46	→
Gambia	87 <sup>F</sup>	70 <sup>M-N</sup>	←	42.2	64.4	→	52.0 <sup>D</sup>	73	→
Guatemala	50 <sup>J</sup>	56 <sup>O-P</sup>	→	73.4	81.6	→		85	
Guinea-Bissau		38 <sup>M-N</sup>		44.1	65.0	→	45.0 <sup>B</sup>	45 <sup>N-O</sup>	
India	59 <sup>H</sup>	59 <sup>N-O</sup>		64.3	76.3	→		83 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Lao PDR	53 <sup>F</sup>	62	→	70.1	81.4	→	62.6	83	→
Madagascar	22	34	→	72.2	83.4	→	64.8	69	→
Malawi	64	54	←	63.2	74.5	→	49.0	81	→
Mali	72	84	→	27.6	40.8	→	22.3	38 <sup>M-N</sup>	→
Mauritania	75	55	←	45.8	50.7	→	34.9	67	→
Mozambique	33	52	→	48.8	66.3	→	48.3	60	→
Nepal		78		46.6	66.0	→	87.8	70 <sup>O-P</sup>	←
Nicaragua	46	54	→	68.2	73.2	→	72.2	82	→
Niger	62	71	→	17.0	26.7	→	23.9	34	→
Pakistan				47.4	61.3	→	35.4	67 <sup>O-P</sup>	→
Papua New Guinea	59	51	←	68.6	78.8	→	68.5	77	→
Rwanda	60	40	←	72.7	87.2	→	66.9	84	→
Senegal	85	68	←	40.1	56.2	→	48.2	58	→
<b>Countries with insufficient data to summarize the area</b>									
Afghanistan							26.8		
Angola							55.6	30 <sup>N-O</sup>	←
Australia							99.2	96	←
Austria							87.7	91 <sup>O-P</sup>	→
Azerbaijan								80	

 **Significant progress**  
 **Slight progress**  
 **Stagnant**  
 **Slight regression**  
 **Significant regression**

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	CHILDREN REACHING 5TH GRADE			LITERACY (15-24 YEARS OLD)			PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATIO (NET)		
	1990 (%)	2000/2001 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2005 (%)	Progress or regression	1990/1991 (%)	2001/2002 (%)	Progress or regression
Belgium	81 <sup>A</sup>						96.2	100 <sup>O-P</sup>	→
Bhutan	82 <sup>H</sup>	91	→				13.9		
British Virgin Islands								94	
Canada							97.7	100 <sup>O-P</sup>	→
Central African Republic	24			52.1	74.0	→	52.5		
Congo, Rep.	62			92.5	98.5	→	90.1		
Cook Islands		51 <sup>M-N</sup>							
French Polynesia							100.0 <sup>D</sup>		
Gabon	66 <sup>B</sup>							78 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Georgia							97.1	91	←
Germany							84.3	83	
Grenada								84 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Haiti	47 <sup>D</sup>			54.8	68.8	→	22.1		
Japan	100						99.7	100	
Kiribati	98								
Kyrgyzstan							92.3	90	←
Libya				91.0	97.7	→	96.3		
Macedonia, FYR	95 <sup>G</sup>						94.4	93 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Marshall Islands								96 <sup>N-O</sup>	
Nauru								81 <sup>M-N</sup>	
New Caledonia	95 <sup>D</sup>						97.0 <sup>E</sup>		
New Zealand	90						100.0	98	
Nigeria				73.6	91.1	→		100 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Norway	100						100.0	100 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Portugal				99.5	99.8		100.0		
Puerto Rico				96.1	98.0				
Russian Federation				99.8	99.8		98.6		
San Marino	100								
Serbia and Montenegro								75 <sup>O-P</sup>	
Singapore				99.0	99.8		96.4		
Slovakia								87	
Solomon Islands	85						83.3		
Suriname	100 <sup>B</sup>						78.4	97	→
Sweden	100						99.8	100	
Turks and Caicos Islands								88	
Tuvalu	96 <sup>H</sup>							98 <sup>M-N</sup>	
Uganda				70.1	82.3	→			
United Kingdom							97.0	100 <sup>O-P</sup>	→
United States of America							95.8	93	←
Uzbekistan				99.6	99.7		78.0		
West Bank and Gaza	100 <sup>I</sup>							95	

**UDHR:** Universal Declaration of Human Rights  
**CERD:** International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination  
**CESCR:** International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights  
**CEDAW:** Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women  
**CRC:** Convention on the Rights of the Child

**Sources:**  
**Percentage of children reaching 5th grade:** UNESCO Website Database ([www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org)); World Development Indicators 2004 website ([www.worldbank.org/data/wdi2004/](http://www.worldbank.org/data/wdi2004/)).  
**Literacy (15-24 years):** UNESCO Website Database ([www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org)); World Development Indicators 2004 website ([www.worldbank.org/data/wdi2004/](http://www.worldbank.org/data/wdi2004/)).  
**Primary enrolment ratio (net):** UNESCO Website Database ([www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org)).

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 → Slight progress  
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**Notes:** Data source year: A: 1986; B: 1987; C: 1988; D: 1989; E: 1990; F: 1991; G: 1992; H: 1993; I: 1994; J: 1995; K: 1996; L: 1997; M: 1998; N: 1999; O: 2000; P: 2001; Q: 2002.