

Testimony of Steve White In Opposition of SB 13

Mr. Chairperson, members of the Senate Education Committee, my name is Steve White. I reside in Bozeman and am representing the Montana Coalition of Home Educators; a statewide organization composed of homeschooling families dedicated to the education of their children.

I am testifying today in opposition to SB 13.

Passage of this bill will raise the compulsory attendance age from 16 to 18.

Passage of SB13 Adversely Affects Parents of Non-Public Students

All children in Montana from the ages 7-16 are under the compulsory attendance laws. Homeschool and private school students are exempted from compulsory attendance in public schools per 20-5-109 MCA. Supreme court decisions support a parent's right to direct the education of their children, as guaranteed by the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (Pierce v. Society of Sisters and Wisconsin v. Yoder).

Presently all families that are home educating their children are required to notify the county superintendent annually until the child reaches 16 (20-5109(5) MCA). This law would increase the age to 18. This adds two more years to the exemption requirement.

A significant change in law with the passage of this bill is the new language in Section 1: "the date of completion of high school graduation requirements". This language, broadly interpreted, could require some type of achievement test to prove completion. This is in direct conflict with another section of Montana law; 20-5-111 MCA (the parent is solely responsible for the evaluation of the home school instruction).

The passage of SB13 will undermine a home or private school parent's right to direct their decision for the instruction of their children. This change affects thousands of families in Montana.

Raising the Compulsory Attendance Age Fails to Achieve Significant Results

Raising the compulsory attendance age will not reduce the dropout rate. In fact, the state with the highest high school graduation rate (Vermont, 89.3%) compels attendance only to age 16, but the state with the lowest completion rate (Nevada, 56.3%) compels attendance to age 18.

Many states (18) have compulsory attendance age laws similar to Montana's present one – age 16.

- **Among the 50 states and D.C., there is no consistent relationship between the maximum compulsory age and graduation and dropout rates.**
- **States with a compulsory attendance age of 16 have higher average and median graduation rates than states with compulsory attendance ages of 17 and 18. States with a compulsory attendance age of 16 have average and median dropout rates comparable to states with compulsory attendance ages of 17 and 18.**
- **There is no consistent relationship between compulsory attendance ages and graduation rates among industrialized nations. Students in countries with a maximum compulsory attendance that is lower than the United States often graduate at a higher rate than students in the United States do.**
- **School systems and law enforcement officials must begin earnestly enforcing existing truancy laws for public school students who have not reached 16 years of age but are chronically absent from school.**

Research agrees that increasing the compulsory attendance age does not guarantee an increase in the graduation rate or a decline in the dropout rate. Professor Rosemary J. Avery of Cornell University analyzed dropout and graduation rates before and after four states raised their compulsory attendance age. In her analysis, none of the states increased their graduation rate.

In examining 8 states that have modified their compulsory attendance age law since 1991, there has been no significant change to graduation rates. (Tables GR1, GR2, GR3)

Compulsory attendance age: an International Look

On average, schools in the United States require their children to stay in school one year longer than the international average. Students in the United States are required to stay in school two years longer than students in Japan. There is no observable relationship between compulsory attendance age and graduation rates among nations. But, students in countries with a maximum compulsory attendance age lower than that of the United States often graduate at a higher rate than students in the United States do. (Table 1)

The Value of Education

It is unfortunate that some students fail to appreciate the value of education. There are many teachers, both in the public and private sectors that are frustrated with students who drop out. Fortunately, some return later to complete their education. SB 13 does not solve the problem. By the age of 16 there are some young folks that are determined to leave. To require them to stay in an institution that they are not interested in becomes a hardship for both their fellow students, and their teachers.

For a student to stay in school, they must understand the value of it. Their parents must remain participants. To compel a student to remain, often ends up with disruption in both the classroom and school. Schools are for learning, and for those students that want to complete their education.

Presently Montana's statute requires compulsory attendance from the age of 7 years to 16 years of age, or 8th grade, whichever is the later date. This bill makes creates a significant change to Montana's statute. And this change creates a hardship on the homeschooling families in Montana.

In Montana, a student may end high school by taking the GED as early as 16. And many that do this, ultimately enter college or a vo-tech school.

And modification of 20-5-102 and 20-5-103 for compulsory exemption as proposed in SB 13; "(1)(b) the date of completion of high school graduation requirements", ultimately could conflict with present statute 20-5-111 MCA, that specifically states that the homeschooling parent is responsible for the evaluation of the homeschool student. 20-5-111 MCA was passed into law in 1991, with much discussion and debate regarding a parent's right to home educate their children. It ultimately received strong support from both parties (with over 50 co-signers), and passed overwhelmingly. SB 13, carried to the fullest letter of the law could require homeschooling parents to prove that their children's education is that of the completion of the 12th grade.

Conclusion

Montana's public school, private school and homeschooling families will not benefit from the passage of this bill. Raising of the compulsory attendance age undermines a student's opportunity to advance from secondary schooling, and the educating private schooling parent's legal decision when high school is completed.

Educational public policy should encourage excellence and responsibility in parenting so that children will develop emotionally, socially, and achieve academically, and will be better able to handle the challenges of adulthood when they mature.

The solution to increasing graduation rates is not to increase the compulsory attendance age. This is not much different than in the private

sector for a business to try and increase retail sales by locking customers in the store until they buy something. The solution is to improve the product to increase the demand for it – thus an increase in sales.

Public schools should examine their programs. Successful education programs should focus on new ways to demonstrate excellence. There are a number of opportunities to explore, such as charter schools, distant learning, rewarding successful teachers, etc.

We ask that you oppose SB13.

TABLE GR1: Graduation Rates by State w/ Compulsory Attendance Age Reference 1990-2011

Compulsory Attendance Age: 16 17 18

State or Jurisdiction	1990-91	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2010-11
United States	73.7	73.1	71.8	71.0	71.3	71.3	71.1	71.7	71.7	72.6	73.9	74.3	74.7	73.4	73.9	74.7
Alabama	69.9	64.3	64.8	62.7	62.4	64.4	61.3	64.1	63.7	62.1	64.7	65.0	65.9	66.2	67.1	69.0
Alaska	74.6	73.8	71.2	68.3	67.9	68.9	70.0	66.7	68.0	65.9	68.0	67.2	64.1	66.5	69.0	69.1
Arizona	76.7	71.7	65.1	60.8	65.3	65.6	62.3	63.6	74.2	74.7	75.9	66.8	84.7	70.5	69.6	70.7
Arkansas	76.6	76.1	72.7	74.2	70.6	73.9	73.7	74.6	73.9	74.8	76.6	76.8	75.7	80.4	74.4	76.4
California	69.6	68.6	66.8	67.6	68.8	69.6	71.1	71.7	71.6	72.7	74.1	73.9	74.6	69.2	70.7	71.2
Colorado	76.3	77.3	76.0	74.8	74.7	73.9	73.4	74.1	73.2	74.7	76.4	78.7	76.7	75.5	76.6	75.4
Connecticut	80.2	79.9	77.2	76.1	76.7	76.9	76.0	81.9	77.5	79.7	77.9	80.7	80.9	80.9	81.8	82.2
Delaware	72.5	70.8	68.7	70.4	71.7	74.1	70.4	66.8	71.0	69.5	73.0	72.9	73.0	76.3	71.9	72.1
District of Columbia	54.5	58.7	54.6	49.7	54.6	53.9	52.0	54.5	60.2	68.4	59.6	68.2	66.3	65.4	54.8	58.6
Florida	65.6	64.2	63.5	62.3	62.7	62.1	61.4	61.0	61.2	63.4	66.7	66.4	64.6	63.6	65.0	66.9
Georgia	70.3	66.3	63.5	61.9	62.0	58.2	57.5	59.7	58.7	61.1	60.8	61.2	61.7	62.4	64.1	65.4
Hawaii	75.9	75.7	74.8	74.5	69.1	68.8	67.5	70.9	68.3	72.1	71.3	72.6	75.1	75.5	75.4	76.0
Idaho	79.6	79.9	80.2	80.5	80.1	79.7	79.5	79.4	79.6	79.3	81.4	81.5	81.0	80.5	80.4	80.1
Illinois	76.6	76.3	74.8	75.2	76.1	76.8	76.0	76.3	75.6	77.1	75.9	80.3	79.4	79.7	79.5	80.4
Indiana	76.3	74.7	73.8	73.6	74.0	73.8	74.3	71.8	72.1	73.1	75.5	73.5	73.2	73.3	73.9	74.1
Iowa	84.4	86.1	84.5	84.3	84.6	83.9	83.3	83.1	82.8	84.1	85.3	85.8	86.6	86.9	86.5	86.4
Kansas	80.8	80.2	78.8	77.1	76.9	76.0	76.7	77.1	76.5	77.1	76.9	77.9	79.2	77.5	78.8	79.0
Kentucky	72.9	79.2	73.8	71.3	71.1	70.2	70.0	69.7	69.8	69.8	71.7	73.0	75.9	77.2	76.4	74.4
Louisiana	57.5	61.5	62.4	61.7	59.3	61.3	61.1	62.2	63.7	64.4	64.1	69.4	63.9	59.5	61.3	63.5
Maine	80.7	74.0	73.6	73.7	75.2	78.5	74.7	75.9	76.4	76.6	76.3	77.6	78.6	76.3	78.5	79.1
Maryland	77.5	78.9	78.2	78.3	76.6	76.2	76.6	77.6	78.7	79.2	79.5	79.3	79.3	79.9	80.0	80.4
Massachusetts	79.1	79.7	78.1	78.0	78.4	78.3	77.9	78.0	78.9	77.6	75.7	79.3	78.7	79.5	80.8	81.5
Michigan	72.1	72.4	71.3	71.4	73.5	74.6	73.9	75.3	75.4	72.9	74.0	72.5	73.0	72.2	77.0	76.3
Minnesota	90.8	88.8	87.7	86.1	86.6	85.0	86.0	84.9	83.6	83.9	84.8	84.7	85.9	86.2	86.5	86.4
Mississippi	63.3	63.8	62.0	59.7	59.6	59.8	59.2	59.4	59.7	61.2	62.7	62.7	63.3	63.5	63.5	63.9
Missouri	76.0	76.8	76.0	75.0	74.7	75.2	75.8	76.3	75.5	76.8	76.8	80.4	80.6	81.0	81.9	82.4
Montana	84.4	85.5	86.5	83.9	83.2	82.2	81.3	80.8	80.8	79.8	81.0	80.4	81.5	81.9	81.5	82.0
Nebraska	86.7	87.2	86.3	85.6	84.8	85.6	87.3	85.7	83.8	83.9	85.2	87.6	87.8	87.0	86.3	83.8
Nevada	77.0	68.2	65.8	65.8	73.2	70.6	71.0	69.7	70.0	71.9	72.3	57.4	55.8	55.8	52.0	56.3
New Hampshire	78.6	80.5	78.4	77.3	77.3	76.7	75.3	76.1	77.8	77.8	78.2	78.7	80.1	81.1	81.7	83.3
New Jersey	81.4	83.4	82.1	82.8	83.9	76.3	77.5	83.6	85.4	85.8	87.0	86.3	95.1	84.8	84.4	84.6
New Mexico	70.1	66.9	64.4	63.7	62.5	61.6	63.3	64.7	65.9	67.4	63.1	67.0	65.4	67.3	59.1	66.8
New York	66.1	66.2	63.7	63.6	65.3	63.4	62.5	61.8	61.5	60.5	60.9	60.9	65.3	67.4	68.9	70.9
North Carolina	71.3	69.7	69.1	66.5	65.5	65.6	65.4	65.8	66.5	68.2	70.1	71.4	72.6	71.8	68.6	72.8
North Dakota	87.6	88.4	87.5	89.5	87.8	86.7	85.6	86.0	85.4	85.0	86.4	86.1	86.3	82.2	83.1	83.8
Ohio	77.5	81.1	79.9	74.5	76.4	77.0	75.0	75.2	76.5	77.5	79.0	81.3	80.2	79.2	78.7	79.0
Oklahoma	76.5	77.6	77.4	75.6	74.8	75.1	76.4	75.8	75.8	76.0	76.0	77.0	76.9	77.8	77.8	78.0
Oregon	72.7	72.9	71.2	68.3	69.1	69.0	68.2	69.6	68.3	71.0	73.7	74.2	74.2	73.0	73.8	76.7
Pennsylvania	79.7	81.0	80.1	80.0	79.8	79.4	79.1	78.7	79.0	80.2	81.7	82.2	82.5	83.5	83.0	82.7
Rhode Island	75.0	73.9	74.3	72.7	72.9	72.5	72.2	72.8	73.5	75.7	77.7	75.9	78.4	77.8	78.4	76.4
South Carolina	66.6	64.3	61.6	60.9	59.6	59.3	59.1	58.6	56.5	57.9	59.7	60.6	60.1	61.0	58.9	62.2
South Dakota	83.8	80.8	86.9	84.5	84.2	77.7	74.2	77.6	77.4	79.0	83.0	83.7	82.3	84.5	82.5	84.4
Tennessee	69.8	65.7	66.7	66.6	61.6	58.4	58.5	59.5	59.0	59.6	63.4	66.1	68.5	70.7	72.6	74.9
Texas	72.2	66.2	66.8	66.1	67.0	69.4	69.2	71.0	70.8	73.5	75.5	76.7	74.0	72.5	71.3	73.1
Utah	77.5	78.7	77.7	76.9	81.1	80.7	81.6	82.5	81.6	80.5	80.5	83.0	84.4	78.6	76.6	74.3
Vermont	79.5	83.5	85.9	85.3	83.6	83.9	81.9	81.0	80.2	82.0	83.6	85.4	86.5	82.3	88.5	89.3
Virginia	76.2	75.7	75.0	76.2	76.6	76.6	76.3	76.9	77.5	76.7	80.6	79.3	79.6	74.5	75.5	77.0
Washington	75.7	79.5	76.4	75.5	74.0	73.3	73.2	73.7	69.2	72.2	74.2	74.6	75.0	72.9	74.8	71.9
West Virginia	76.6	77.7	75.7	77.0	76.7	77.4	77.9	76.7	75.9	74.2	75.7	76.9	77.3	76.9	78.2	77.3
Wisconsin	85.2	84.7	84.0	83.6	83.7	83.1	82.6	82.7	83.3	84.8	85.8	85.8	86.7	87.5	88.5	89.6
Wyoming	81.1	84.0	78.8	77.7	78.4	77.1	76.6	76.3	73.4	74.4	73.9	76.0	76.7	76.1	75.8	76.0

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data (CCD), "State Nonfiscal Survey of Public Elementary/Secondary Education," 1986-87 through 2007-08; The Averaged Freshman Graduation Rate for Public High Schools From the Common Core of Data: School Years 2002-03 and 2003-04, and http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/data/digest/009/tables/dt09_105.asp AND <http://www.americashealthrankings.org/all/graduation>

TABLE GRI: Graduation Rates by State w/ Compulsory Attendance Age Reference 1990-2011

Compulsory Attendance Age: 16

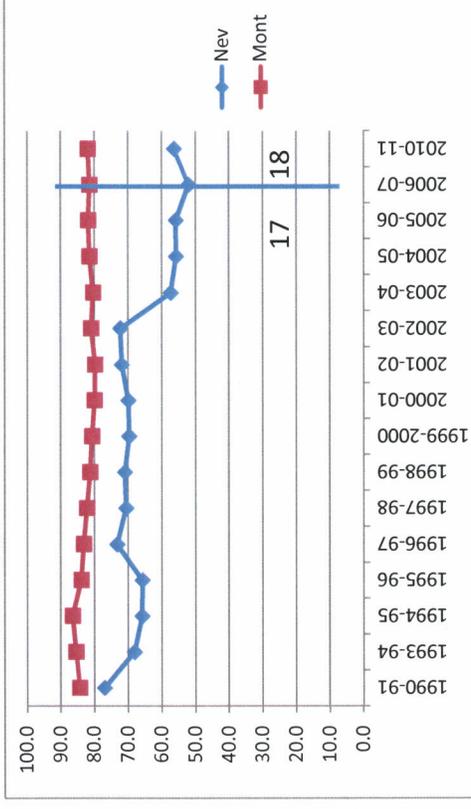
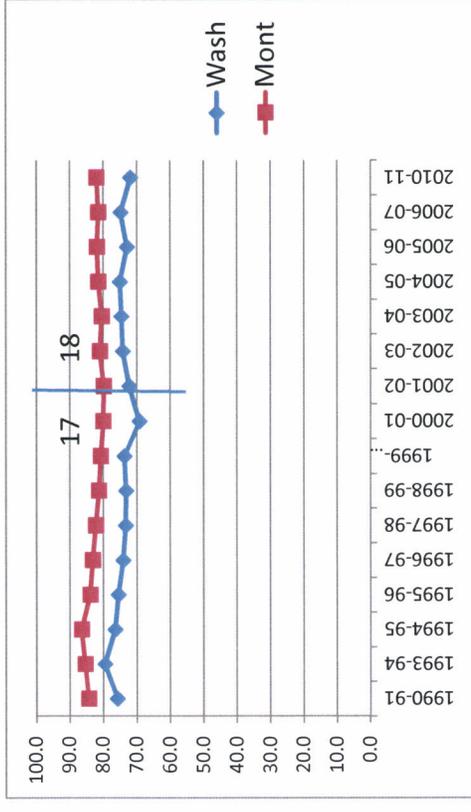
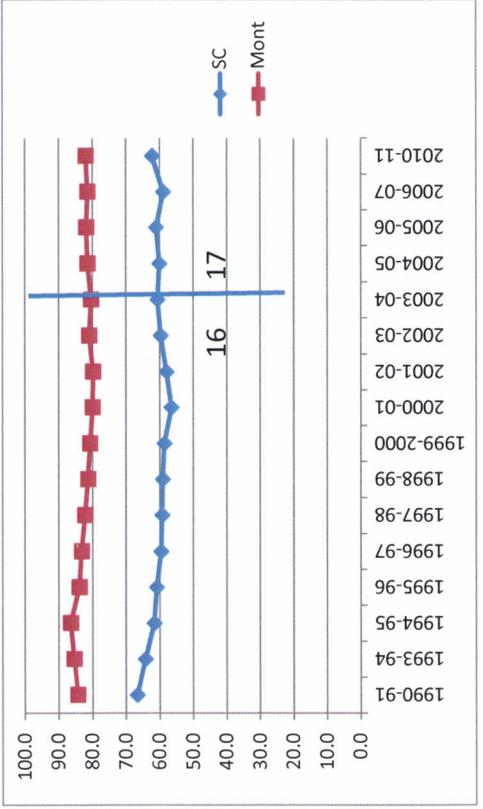
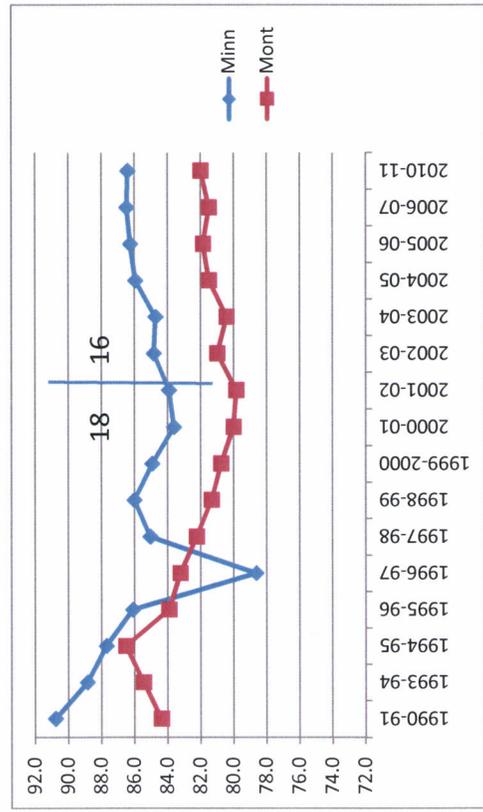
17

18

State or Jurisdiction	1990-91	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	03-04	2004-05	05-06	2006-07	2010-11
Alabama	73.7	73.1	71.0	71.0	71.3	71.3	71.1	71.7	71.7	72.6	73.9	74.3	74.7	73.4	73.9	74.7
Alaska	69.8	64.3	61.8	62.7	62.4	64.4	61.3	63.7	62.1	62.1	64.7	65.0	65.9	66.2	67.1	69.0
Arizona	74.6	73.8	71.2	68.3	67.9	68.9	70.0	68.0	65.9	68.0	67.2	64.1	66.5	66.2	69.0	69.1
Arkansas	76.7	71.7	65.1	60.8	65.3	65.6	62.3	63.6	63.6	74.7	75.9	66.8	84.7	70.5	69.6	70.7
California	76.6	76.1	72.7	70.6	70.6	74.2	73.7	74.6	73.9	74.8	76.6	76.8	75.7	80.4	74.4	76.4
Colorado	69.6	68.6	66.8	67.6	68.8	69.6	71.1	71.6	71.7	72.7	74.1	73.9	74.6	69.2	70.7	71.2
Connecticut	76.3	77.3	76.0	74.8	74.7	73.9	73.4	74.1	73.2	74.7	76.4	73.7	76.7	75.5	76.6	75.4
Delaware	80.2	79.8	77.2	76.1	76.7	76.9	76.0	77.5	77.5	79.7	80.9	80.7	80.9	80.9	81.8	82.2
District of Columbia	72.5	70.8	68.7	68.7	71.7	71.7	70.4	68.8	71.0	69.5	73.0	72.3	73.0	76.3	73.9	72.1
Florida	58.7	58.7	54.6	49.4	54.6	53.9	52.0	51.5	60.2	68.4	59.6	68.2	62.3	65.4	54.8	52.6
Georgia	65.6	64.2	63.5	62.3	62.7	62.1	61.4	61.0	61.2	65.4	66.7	66.4	64.6	63.6	65.0	66.9
Hawaii	70.3	66.3	63.5	61.9	62.0	58.2	57.5	59.7	58.7	61.1	60.8	61.2	61.7	62.4	64.1	65.4
Idaho	75.9	75.7	74.8	74.5	69.1	68.9	67.5	70.9	68.3	72.1	72.6	72.6	75.1	75.5	75.4	76.0
Illinois	79.6	79.9	80.2	80.5	80.1	79.7	79.5	79.4	79.6	79.3	81.4	81.5	81.0	80.5	80.4	80.1
Indiana	76.6	76.3	74.8	75.2	76.1	76.8	76.0	76.3	75.6	77.1	75.9	80.3	79.4	79.7	79.5	80.4
Iowa	76.9	74.7	73.8	73.6	74.0	73.8	74.3	71.8	72.1	73.1	75.5	73.5	73.2	73.3	73.9	74.1
Kansas	84.4	86.1	84.5	84.3	84.6	83.9	83.3	83.1	82.8	84.1	85.3	85.8	86.6	86.9	86.5	86.4
Kentucky	80.8	80.2	78.8	77.1	76.9	76.0	76.7	77.1	76.5	77.1	76.9	77.9	79.2	77.5	78.8	79.0
Louisiana	72.9	73.2	73.8	71.3	71.1	70.2	70.0	69.7	69.8	69.8	64.4	64.4	63.9	77.2	76.4	74.4
Maine	57.5	61.5	62.4	62.4	59.3	61.3	61.1	62.2	63.7	64.4	64.1	69.4	63.9	59.5	61.3	63.5
Maryland	80.7	74.0	73.6	72.7	75.2	78.5	74.7	75.9	76.4	75.6	76.3	77.6	78.6	76.3	78.5	79.1
Massachusetts	77.5	78.9	78.2	78.3	76.6	76.2	76.6	76.6	78.7	78.7	79.2	79.5	79.3	79.9	80.0	80.4
Michigan	79.1	79.7	78.1	78.0	78.4	78.2	77.9	78.0	78.9	77.6	75.7	79.3	78.7	79.5	80.8	81.5
Minnesota	72.1	72.4	71.3	71.4	73.5	73.9	73.9	73.3	75.4	72.3	74.0	72.5	73.0	72.2	77.0	76.3
Mississippi	90.8	88.8	87.0	86.1	78.6	86.0	86.0	84.9	83.6	84.8	84.7	82.7	85.9	86.2	86.5	86.4
Missouri	63.3	63.8	62.0	59.7	59.6	59.8	59.2	58.4	59.7	61.2	64.7	62.7	63.3	63.5	63.5	63.9
Montana	76.0	76.8	76.0	75.0	74.7	75.2	75.8	76.3	75.5	76.8	78.3	80.4	80.6	81.0	81.9	82.4
Nebraska	84.4	85.5	86.5	83.9	83.2	83.2	81.3	80.8	80.0	79.8	81.0	80.4	81.5	81.9	81.5	82.0
Nevada	86.7	87.2	86.9	85.6	84.8	83.6	87.3	83.8	83.8	83.9	85.2	87.6	87.8	87.0	86.3	83.8
New Hampshire	77.0	68.2	65.8	65.8	70.6	71.0	71.0	70.0	71.9	71.9	72.3	57.4	55.8	55.8	52.0	56.3
New Jersey	78.6	80.5	78.4	77.5	77.3	76.7	75.3	76.1	77.8	77.8	78.2	78.7	80.1	81.1	81.7	83.3
New Mexico	81.4	83.4	82.1	82.8	83.9	76.3	77.5	83.6	85.4	85.8	87.0	86.3	85.1	84.8	84.4	84.6
New York	70.1	66.9	64.4	63.7	62.5	61.6	62.3	64.7	61.5	67.4	63.1	67.0	65.4	67.4	69.1	66.8
North Carolina	66.1	66.2	63.7	63.6	65.3	63.4	62.5	61.8	61.5	60.5	60.9	60.9	65.3	67.4	68.9	70.9
North Dakota	71.3	69.7	69.1	66.5	65.5	66.6	65.4	66.8	66.5	68.2	70.1	71.4	72.6	71.8	68.6	67.8
Ohio	87.6	88.4	87.5	88.5	87.8	86.7	85.6	86.0	85.4	86.0	86.4	86.1	86.3	82.2	83.1	83.8
Oklahoma	77.5	81.1	79.9	74.5	76.4	77.0	75.0	75.2	76.5	77.5	79.0	81.3	80.2	79.2	78.7	79.0
Oregon	76.5	77.6	77.4	76.6	74.8	75.1	76.4	75.8	75.8	76.0	76.0	77.0	76.9	77.8	77.8	78.0
Pennsylvania	72.7	72.9	71.2	68.3	69.1	68.0	68.2	68.3	68.3	71.0	73.7	74.2	74.2	73.0	72.8	76.7
Rhode Island	79.7	81.0	80.1	80.0	79.8	79.4	79.1	78.7	79.0	80.2	81.7	82.2	82.5	83.5	83.0	82.7
South Carolina	75.0	73.9	74.3	72.7	72.9	72.5	72.2	72.8	73.5	75.7	77.7	75.9	78.4	77.8	78.4	76.4
South Dakota	66.6	64.3	61.6	60.9	59.6	59.3	59.1	58.6	56.5	57.9	59.7	60.6	60.1	61.0	58.9	62.2
Tennessee	83.8	90.8	86.9	84.2	84.2	77.7	74.2	77.4	77.4	79.0	83.0	83.7	82.3	84.5	82.5	84.4
Texas	69.8	65.7	66.6	66.6	61.6	58.4	58.5	59.0	59.0	59.6	63.4	66.1	68.5	70.7	72.6	74.9
Utah	72.2	66.2	66.8	66.1	67.0	69.4	69.2	71.0	73.5	73.5	75.5	76.7	74.0	72.5	71.9	73.1
Vermont	77.5	78.7	77.7	76.9	77.7	80.7	81.6	82.5	81.6	80.5	80.2	83.0	84.4	78.6	76.6	74.3
Virginia	79.5	83.5	88.9	85.3	83.6	83.6	81.9	81.0	82.0	83.6	85.4	85.4	86.5	82.3	88.5	89.3
Washington	76.2	75.7	75.0	76.2	76.6	76.6	76.3	76.9	76.9	76.9	80.6	79.3	79.6	74.5	78.5	77.0
West Virginia	75.7	79.5	76.4	75.5	74.0	73.3	73.2	73.2	69.2	73.2	74.2	74.6	75.0	72.9	74.8	71.9
Wisconsin	76.6	77.7	75.7	75.7	75.7	77.0	77.9	77.7	75.9	77.3	76.9	77.3	77.3	76.9	78.2	89.6
Wyoming	85.2	84.7	84.0	83.6	83.7	83.1	82.6	82.7	83.3	84.8	85.8	85.8	86.7	87.5	86.5	89.6
	81.2	84.0	78.8	77.7	78.4	77.1	76.6	76.3	73.4	74.4	73.9	72.0	76.7	76.1	75.8	76.0

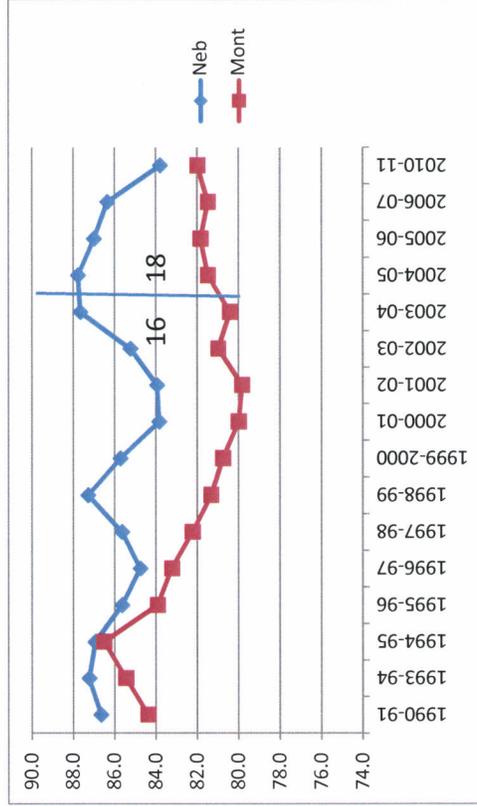
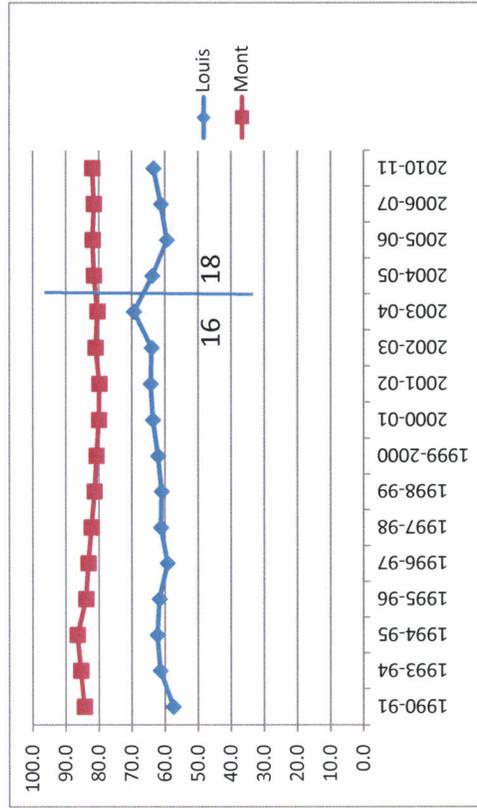
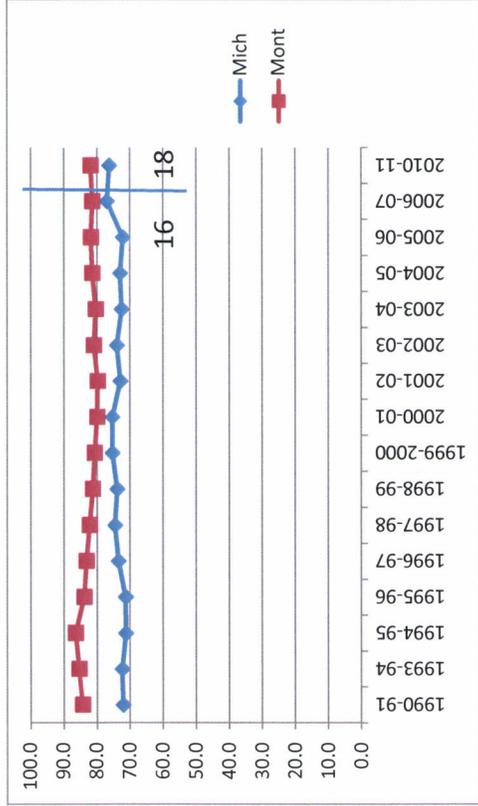
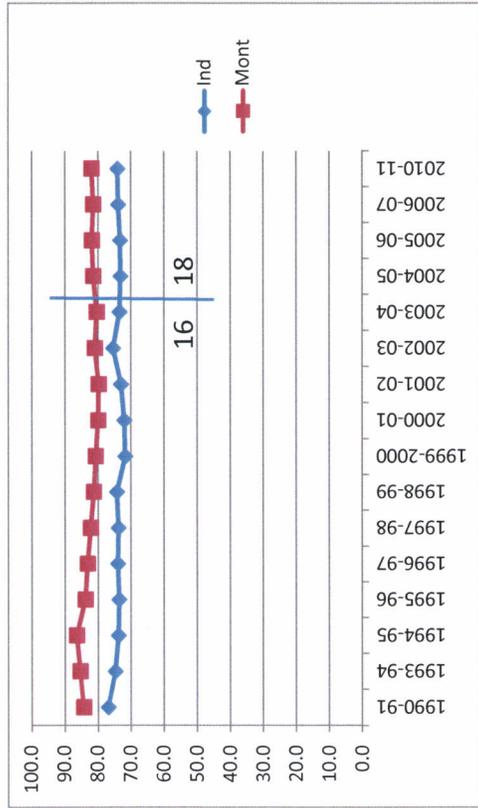
Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data (CCD), "State Nonfiscal Survey of Public Elementary/Secondary Education," 1986-87 through 2007-08; The Averaged Freshman Graduation Rate for Public High Schools From the Common Core of Data: School Years 2002-03 and 2003-04; and http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/data/digest/d09/tables/dt09_105.asp AND <http://www.america'shealthrankings.org/all/graduation>

Table GR2 - Graduation Rates by Year WITH Compulsory Attendance Age Reference



Source: Attached Table GR1

Table GR3 - Graduation Rates by Year WITH Compulsory Attendance Age Reference



Source: Attached Table GR1

TABLE 1 . Compulsory Attendance Age and Graduation Rates among OECD Nations

<i>Country¹⁵</i>	<i>Maximum Compulsory Attendance Age¹⁶</i>	<i>Graduation Rate (2004)¹⁷</i>
Norway	16	100
Germany	18	99
Korea	14	96
Ireland	15	92
Japan	15	91
Denmark	16	90
Finland	16	90
Switzerland	15	89
Czech Republic	15	87
Hungary	16	86
Iceland	16	84
Slovak Republic	16	83
France	16	81
Italy	15	81
Poland	16	79
Sweden	16	78
New Zealand	16	75
United States	17	75
Luxembourg	15	69
Spain	16	66
Turkey	14	53
Mexico	15	38
<i>OECD average¹⁸</i>	16	81

Montana Code Annotated 2011

[Previous Section](#) [MCA Contents](#) [Part Contents](#) [Search](#) [Help](#) [Next Section](#)

20-5-111. Responsibilities and rights of parent who provides home school. Subject to the provisions of [20-5-109](#), a parent has the authority to instruct the parent's child, stepchild, or ward in a home school and is solely responsible for:

- (1) the educational philosophy of the home school;
- (2) the selection of instructional materials, curriculum, and textbooks;
- (3) the time, place, and method of instruction; and
- (4) the evaluation of the home school instruction.

History: En. Sec. 1, Ch. 444, L. 1991; amd. Sec. 298, Ch. 56, L. 2009.

Provided by Montana Legislative Services