

# COMMITMENT 11: To reduce adult illiteracy to at least one half of the 1990 level

## Illiteracy rate

	1990 (%)	1999 (%)	PROGRESS OR REGRESSION	GOAL 2000 (%)		1990 (%)	1999 (%)	PROGRESS OR REGRESSION	GOAL 2000 (%)
Average	29.9	23.9			Average	29.9	23.9		
Afghanistan	73.1	64.4	→	36.5	Lesotho	22.1	17.1	→	11.1
Albania	22.6	16.0	→	11.3	Liberia	60.6	46.8	→	30.3
Algeria	45.7	33.4	→	22.9	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	31.8	20.9	→	15.9
Argentina	4.3	3.3	→	2.2	Lithuania	0.7	0.5	→	0.3
Armenia	2.6	1.7	→	1.3	Madagascar	42.0	34.3	→	21.0
Bahamas	5.3	4.3	→	2.7	Malawi	48.2	40.8	→	24.1
Bahrain	17.8	12.9	→	8.9	Malaysia	19.1	13.0	→	9.6
Bangladesh	65.0	59.2	→	32.5	Maldives	6.1	3.8	→	3.0
Belarus	0.7	0.5	→	0.3	Mali	74.4	60.2	→	37.2
Belize	10.9	6.9	→	5.4	Malta	11.5	8.2	→	5.8
Benin	71.9	61.0	→	36.0	Mauritania	63.6	58.4	→	31.8
Bolivia	21.6	15.0	→	10.8	Mauritius	20.1	15.8	→	10.1
Botswana	31.8	23.6	→	15.9	Mexico	12.2	8.9	→	6.1
Brazil	19.1	15.1	→	9.6	Moldova, Rep. of	2.6	1.3	→	1.3
Brunei Darussalam	14.4	9.0	→	7.2	Mongolia	47.1	37.7	→	23.5
Bulgaria	2.8	1.7	→	1.4	Morocco	61.3	52.0	→	30.6
Burkina Faso	83.6	77.0	→	41.8	Mozambique	66.5	56.8	→	33.3
Burundi	62.0	53.1	→	31.0	Myanmar	19.2	15.6	→	9.6
Cambodia	69.3	61.3	→	34.7	Namibia	25.1	18.6	→	12.6
Cameroon	37.4	25.2	→	18.7	Nepal	69.4	59.6	→	34.7
Cape Verde	36.2	26.4	→	18.1	Netherlands Antilles	4.4	3.6	→	2.2
Central African Rep.	66.7	54.6	→	33.3	Nicaragua	35.1	31.8	→	17.5
Chad	72.3	59.0	→	36.2	Niger	88.6	84.7	→	44.3
Chile	5.9	4.4	→	3.0	Nigeria	51.4	37.4	→	25.7
China	23.0	16.5	→	11.5	Oman	45.3	29.7	→	22.6
Colombia	11.4	8.5	→	5.7	Pakistan	63.9	55.0	→	32.0
Comoros	46.2	40.8	→	23.1	Panama	11.0	8.3	→	5.5
Congo	32.9	20.5	→	16.5	Papua New Guinea	42.4	36.1	→	21.2
Congo, Dem. Rep. of the	52.4	39.7	→	26.2	Paraguay	9.7	7.0	→	4.8
Costa Rica	6.1	4.5	→	3.0	Peru	14.4	10.4	→	7.2
Côte d'Ivoire	66.2	54.3	→	33.1	Philippines	7.5	4.9	→	3.8
Croatia	3.1	1.8	→	1.5	Poland	0.4	0.3	→	0.2
Cuba	4.8	3.4	→	2.4	Portugal	12.6	8.1	→	6.3
Cyprus	5.7	3.1	→	2.8	Puerto Rico	8.5	6.5	→	4.3
Djibouti	47.0	36.6	→	23.5	Qatar	23.0	19.2	→	11.5
Dominican Republic	20.6	16.8	→	10.3	Romania	3.0	2.0	→	1.5
Ecuador	12.6	9.0	→	6.3	Russian Federation	0.8	0.5	→	0.4
Egypt	52.9	45.4	→	26.5	Rwanda	46.7	34.2	→	23.4
El Salvador	27.5	21.7	→	13.8	Samoa (Western)	24.0	19.8	→	12.0
Equatorial Guinea	26.7	17.8	→	13.4	Saudi Arabia	32.8	23.9	→	16.4
Eritrea	57.0	47.3	→	28.5	Senegal	71.7	63.6	→	35.8
Ethiopia	71.9	62.6	→	36.0	Singapore	11.1	7.9	→	5.6
Fiji	11.4	7.4	→	5.7	Slovenia	0.4	0.4	→	0.2
Gambia	74.4	64.3	→	37.2	South Africa	18.7	15.1	→	9.4
Ghana	41.6	29.7	→	20.8	Spain	3.7	2.4	→	1.9
Greece	5.0	2.9	→	2.5	Sri Lanka	11.3	8.6	→	5.7
Guatemala	38.8	31.9	→	19.4	Sudan	53.7	43.1	→	26.9
Guinea-Bissau	71.8	62.3	→	35.9	Swaziland	28.4	21.1	→	14.2
Guyana	2.8	1.6	→	1.4	Syrian Arab Republic	35.1	26.4	→	17.5
Haiti	60.3	51.2	→	30.1	Tajikistan	1.8	0.9	→	0.9
Honduras	31.5	26.0	→	15.8	Tanzania, U. Rep. of	36.2	25.3	→	18.1
Hong Kong, China (SAR)	10.0	6.7	→	5.0	Thailand	7.6	4.7	→	3.8
Hungary	0.9	0.7	→	0.4	Togo	54.0	43.7	→	27.0
India	50.7	43.5	→	25.4	Trinidad and Tobago	8.6	6.5	→	4.3
Indonesia	20.3	13.7	→	10.1	Tunisia	40.9	30.1	→	20.5
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	36.0	24.3	→	18.0	Turkey	22.0	15.4	→	11.0
Iraq	54.7	45.2	→	27.4	Uganda	43.9	33.9	→	22.0
Israel	6.1	4.2	→	3.0	Ukraine	0.6	0.4	→	0.3
Italy	2.3	1.6	→	1.1	United Arab Emirates	29.5	24.9	→	14.8
Jamaica	18.0	13.6	→	9.0	Uruguay	3.4	2.3	→	1.7
Jordan	18.7	10.8	→	9.4	Uzbekistan	16.7	11.5	→	8.4
Kenya	29.2	18.5	→	14.6	Venezuela	11.0	7.7	→	5.5
Korea, Rep. of	4.1	2.4	→	2.0	Viet Nam	9.5	6.9	→	4.8
Kuwait	22.5	18.1	→	11.3	Yemen	67.3	54.8	→	33.7
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	63.8	52.7	→	31.9	Zambia	31.9	22.8	→	15.9
Latvia	0.2	0.2	→	0.1	Zimbabwe	19.3	12.0	→	9.6
Lebanon	19.7	14.4	→	9.9					

Source: World Development Indicators 2001, World Bank.

**COUNTRIES IN BLUE:** Countries with starting point above average  
**COUNTRIES IN GREY:** Countries with starting point below average  
 ☐ Goal already met at the starting point  
 ○ Countries with no starting point data. Met the goal by 2000  
 ➡ Countries with goal met before the starting point still progressing

⬅ Countries with goal met before the starting point but going backwards  
 ➡ Significant regression  
 ➡ Some regression  
 ➡ Stagnation  
 ➡ Some progress  
 ➡ Significant progress or goal already achieved