

Measures of Schools and Students in New Boston and Goffstown June 2023

Inequitable education funding in New Hampshire affects far more than the property taxpayer. Students' educational experiences can be drastically different all over the state. Below is some helpful information about the schools in Goffstown and how they compare to the rest of the state.

Students and Student Characteristics

The town of New Boston has an elementary school. After 6th grade, New Boston Students joined forces with Goffstown School District. Goffstown School District has grades from kindergarten through 12th grade between Goffstown Elementary School, Goffstown Middle School, and Goffstown High School.

Table 1 shows enrollment in October 2023 by grade

	Pre-School	Kindergarten	Readiness	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	*PG	Total
New Boston Central School	19	30	15	70	50	77	87	69	95	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	512
	Pre-School	Kindergarten	Readiness	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	*PG	Total
Bartlett Elementary School	0	0	0	50	51	49	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	196
Glen Lake School	64	120	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	184
Goffstown High School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	328	251	245	209	0	1033
Maple Avenue School	0	0	0	134	137	125	128	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	524
Mountain View Middle School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	177	182	231	239	0	0	0	0	0	829

Table 2

Category	American Indian/Alaskan Native	Asian or Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Black Non-Hispanic	White Non-Hispanic	Multi-Race	Total
Students	10	43	135	44	2,926	98	3,256

Table 2 displays counts of minority students at Goffstown and New Boston schools combined. 2,926 of the 3,256 students in 2021 were white non-Hispanic.

In the 2021-22 school year, there were 3,256 public school students in Goffstown and New Boston. Of these, 401 were eligible for free/reduced-price school meals, meaning their family's income was below 185% of the Federal Poverty Line. This was 12% of the students, considerably less than the statewide average of 23%.

Also in the 2021-22 school year, there were 596 students who were receiving special education services with an Individual Education Plan (IEP). This was 18% of the students, a little bit less than the statewide average of 19%.

There were 32 students who were English language learners, less than 1% of all students. Statewide, 3% of students were English language learners in the 2021-22 school year.

How Much Do Teachers Earn in Goffstown?

In 2007-08 there were 207 teachers. In 2021-22 there were 227 teachers.

In 2021-22 the average teacher salary in Goffstown was \$55,465. This was 11.5% below the state average of \$62,695. Since 2010, Goffstown's average teacher salary has been below the state average, and below near rivals Nashua and Manchester.

Goffstown's average teacher salary increased by 26% from 2007-08. At the same time, the Consumer Price Index increased by 36%.

Average teacher salary is affected by two things: the actual salary schedule of a district and the number of years of teaching experience among the teachers. Teacher salary schedules generally increase salaries as teachers gain experience through years on the job. It is therefore possible for two districts that have identical salary schedules to have different average salaries. The salary of a newly recruited teacher depends on the district's salary schedule, not on the average teacher's salary.

Starting salaries, on the other hand, show us what a recent college graduate (bachelor's degree) could earn as a first-time teacher in a district. This is important for hiring and retaining quality teachers over the long term.

The starting salaries for teachers in New Hampshire ranged from \$31,712 to \$59,752 in the 2021-22 school year.

Figure 1

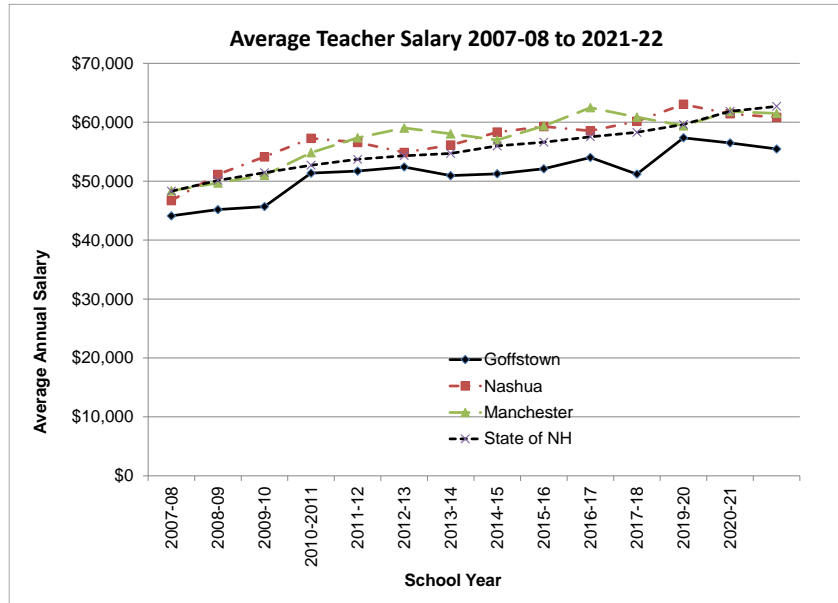
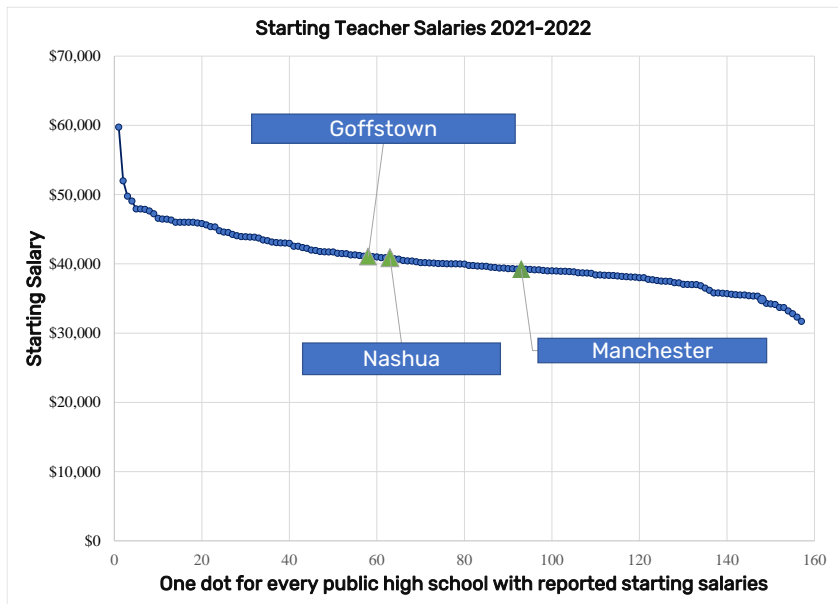


Figure 2



Goffstown has a starting salary for its teachers of \$41,055 for the 2021-2022 school year. Goffstown's starting salary for teachers is 1% more than the state average of \$40,478. In Figure 2 we can see that even though Goffstown has a lower average teacher salary, they offer a higher starting rate than Manchester and Nashua.

What Sports Are Available to Goffstown High School Students?

The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA) organizes high school sports competitions in New Hampshire. Of 34 NHIAA sports in 2019-20, Goffstown offered 26 athletic programs for its 1,033 enrolled high school students. Of the high schools with enrollment under 400 students, the average number of sports was under 20. The number of interscholastic sports available to Goffstown students at Goffstown was average for high schools of similar size.

The interscholastic sports offered at Goffstown were:

Bass fishing, Boys and Girls Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Boys and Girls Golf, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Spirit, Boys and Girls Volleyball, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Boys Ice Hockey, Indoor Track, Alpine Skiing, Swimming and diving, Gymnastics, Boys Wrestling, Ten-Pin Bowling, Baseball, Softball, Boys Lacrosse, Girls Lacrosse, Outdoor Track and Field, and Boys and Girls Tennis.

The sports available in any particular year will depend, of course, on the availability of coaches and whether enough students sign up.

What is the High School Graduation Rate?

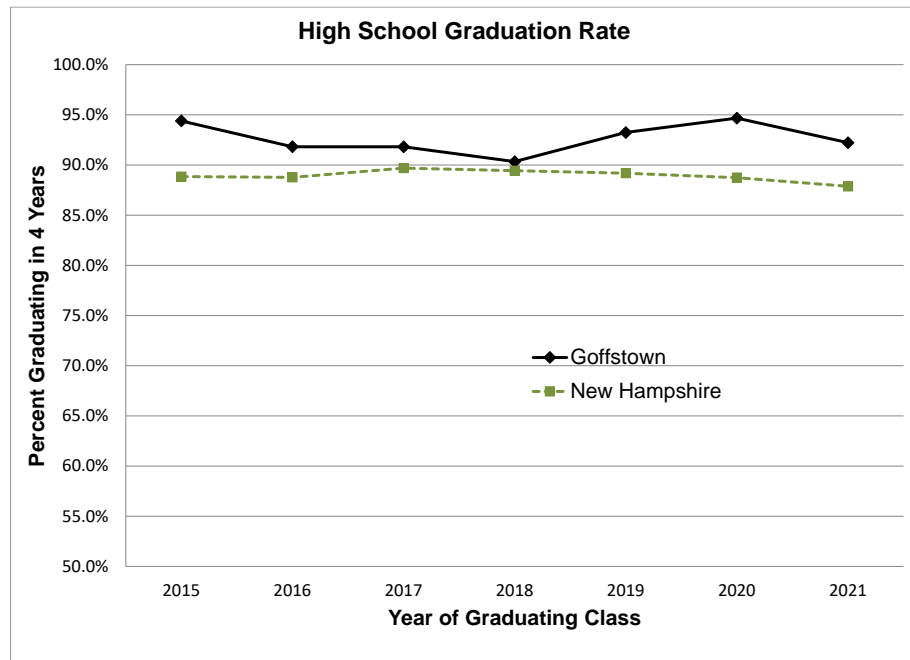
High schools that serve students from multiple elementary school districts or towns report graduates and graduation rates in total, not separately for each town. Goffstown's graduating classes include students from New Boston and Goffstown. The data that follows is for all students at Goffstown High School.

Goffstown graduated 1,788 students in graduating classes from 2015 through 2021. The graduation rate over those 7 years averaged 92.7%. This was slightly above the state average of 88.9% over the same years.

Of course, the rate varied somewhat from year to year as shown in Figure 3. As seen, Goffstown's graduation rate has gone down over the years.

Ranking the 81 New Hampshire public high schools' graduation rates over this period from highest rate (1) to lowest rate (81), Goffstown ranks 32nd.

Figure 3

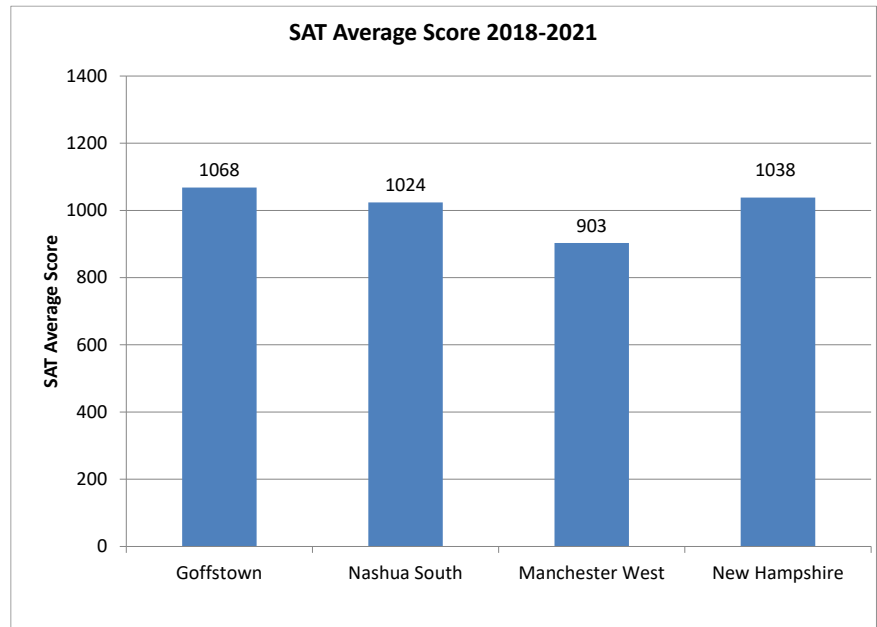


How Well Do High School Students Do on the Annual SAT Exam?

One of the standardized exams used by New Hampshire to measure student achievement in high school is the SAT of the College Board. There are two parts: Mathematics and Evidence-Based Reading and Writing. The possible range of combined scores is 400 to 1600.

Figure 4

Over the four years from 2018 through 2021, 901 students at Goffstown took the SAT exams in the spring of their junior year. The average score of those students was 1068 while the New Hampshire average was 1038. Of the 79 public high schools for which data was available, Goffstown ranked 15th (rank #1 being the highest average score and rank #79 being the lowest average score).¹ Goffstown was one of the highest scorers in the state.



The total October enrollment over 4 years of the junior year totaled 1,067. As a percentage of enrollment, 15.6% were not tested. The percentage of untested students statewide was 12.2%. Thus, Goffstown was unable to test the same percentage of its juniors as the state average.

What Courses are Available to Students in Goffstown?

Course availability is an important measure of a student’s educational opportunity. Based on Course of Studies collected from NH Public High Schools from the 2021-22 school year, course offerings were compiled, as well as the state average of nine-course categories ranging from Math to Arts. Table 4 shows that Goffstown falls below the state average in some categories, but excels in offering languages, computer technologies, and Advanced Placement courses.

The availability of courses is tied to several factors. The size of a school plays a large role in what a school can offer as well as staffing, transportation, and licensure. Goffstown High has roughly 1,100 students yearly, while the average high school size in NH is 692.

Table 4

School	World Language	AP	English Electives	Math	Social Study Electives	Computer Technologies	Career Tech	Arts & Performing Arts	Science Electives
Goffstown # of courses	17	15	6	15	9	12	22	27	12
State Average	14	9	11	17	10	6	26	23	13

¹ Scores are not available for Bud Carlson Academy in Rochester and Pittsburg High School because the number of test takers in any particular year was fewer than 5.

# of courses									
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Advanced Placement Results in Goffstown

In the four-year span from 2018 to 2021, there were 22,966 AP exam takers and 36,355 exams taken in New Hampshire. As a percentage of enrollment, 10.6% of students took AP exams. During that time, Goffstown had 706 test takers and 1,149 exams taken. 819 of those exams scored high enough to earn credit at some colleges.

Goffstown offered 15 AP courses for the 2021-2022 academic year. Table 5 compares Goffstown to the state's averages for test takers as a percentage of enrollment, the percentage of exams that scored a 3, 4, or 5, and the number of students who scored a 3 or higher out of 100 students. Goffstown fell above the state averages for all three categories.

Table 5

School	Test takers as a % of enrollment	% of Exams Scored 3,4,5	Successful AP Test per 100 enrolled
Goffstown	16.2%	71.3%	18.8
State Average	10.6%	69.1%	11.6

How Likely Are Students from Goffstown to Apply, Earn Admittance, and Enroll at The University of New Hampshire?

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) is one of New Hampshire's public higher education institutions. The school is often a popular choice for many NH students graduating from public high schools. Though not the only choice, analyzing the application, admission, and enrollment patterns among New Hampshire High Schools can tell us interesting things about the post-secondary paths of students.

Based on data collected by the University of New Hampshire, counts of applications, admissions, and enrollments over a 5-year time period between 2017-2021 were available for analysis. Using the senior enrollments over a 5-year period helps protect the identity of students at small schools and helps build a better sample.

On average, based on the years 2017-2021, 27% of New Hampshire's public school senior class applied to the UNH. Of those students who applied, 83.8% of them were admitted to the University of New Hampshire. Though, on average only 7.4% of all seniors ended up enrolling and attending UNH.

Goffstown was slightly above the state average in terms of UNH applications, admissions, and enrollments. Over the 5 years, Goffstown had 27.6% of their seniors apply to UNH. Of those applicants, 86.5% were admitted and 7.9% of their seniors enrolled and attended UNH.

As seen throughout this paper, educational experiences for New Hampshire students vary widely across the state. A school's finances can make a large impact on the student population in their post-secondary lives.

Note: Data used in this report are taken from reports and spreadsheets of the NH Department of Education, The University of New Hampshire, and the College Board (2022 Adequacy Summary, School Sports, Average Daily Membership Based Upon Attendance and Residence (ADM), Average Class Size by School, and DoE25 Extract for State Profile Data for various years, Teacher Salaries, SAT scores, and graduation rates). Such data are reported by New Hampshire school districts to the Department. The number of courses offered was hand collected from Programs of Study from 79 New Hampshire Public High Schools.