

## Measures of Schools and Students in Monadnock School District October 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 the Monadnock School District and how they compare to the rest of the state.

### Students and Student Characteristics

Monadnock Schools have grades from pre-school through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Table 1 shows enrollment in the October 2022- 2023 school year by grade, including postgraduate students, of which Monadnock had none.

Table 1

Monadnock Schools	Pre	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	PG	Totals
Cutler Elementary School	0	0	0	0	70	71	72	76	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	289
Dr. George S. Emerson Elementary School	19	22	24	19	17	22	22	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	163
Gilsum STEAM Academy	0	3	8	4	9	10	11	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52
Monadnock Regional High School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	120	107	107	117	0	451
Monadnock Regional Middle School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	126	128	0	0	0	0	0	254
Mt. Caesar Elementary School	35	78	82	79	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	274
Troy Elementary School	0	19	17	16	17	23	24	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	135
Totals	54	122	131	118	113	126	129	120	126	128	120	107	107	117	0	1618

Table 2

District	American Indian or Alaskan	Asian or Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Black Non-Hispanic	White Non-Hispanic	Multi-Race	Total
Number of Students							
Monadnock	2	24	41	10	1,491	38	1,606
State Total	360	5,271	13,557	3,494	138,647	5,949	167,278
Percent of Students							
Monadnock	0.62%	1.41%	2.55%	0.62%	93%	2.36%	100%
State Total	0.20%	3.20%	8.10%	2.10%	82.90%	3.60%	100%

Table 2 displays racial enrollments for all students in Monadnock Schools as of October 1, 2022.

White non-Hispanic students constituted 93%, a bit more than the average. Monadnock's population has similar diversity to most NH schools. Even a bit less diverse than most.

In the 2021-22 school year, there were 1,606 public school students who attended Monadnock Schools. Of these, 520 (32%) were eligible for free/reduced-price school meals, meaning their family's income was below 185% of the Federal Poverty Line. The state average was 23%, much less than Monadnock.

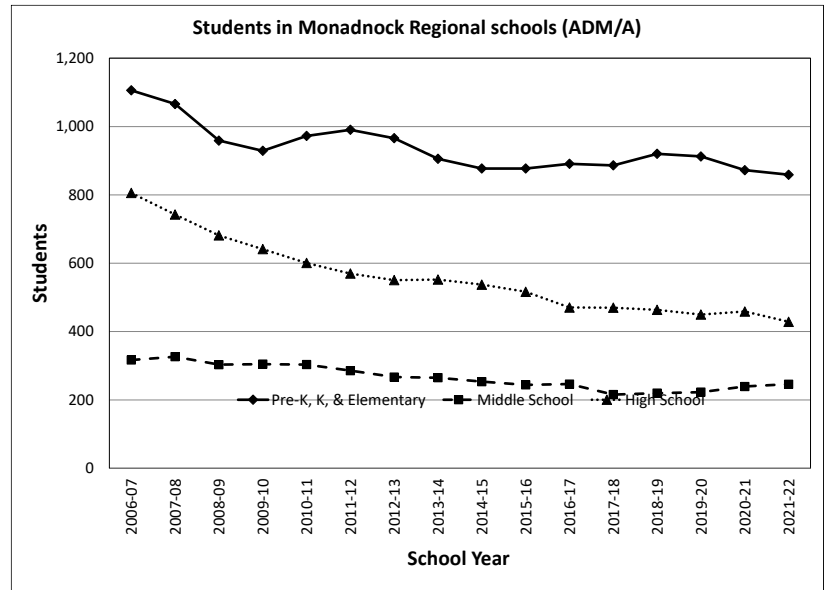
Also in the 2021-22 school year, 293 students were receiving special education services with an Individual Education Program (IEP). This was 18% of the students, a bit less than the statewide average of 19%.

10 students (.62%) were not native English speakers in 2022-23.

## How Has Enrollment Changed Over Time in Monadnock Schools?

Average Daily Membership in Attendance (ADM/A) is one way in which enrollment is measured. It measures the number of public school students attending a district's schools. ADM/A has been in slow decline in New Hampshire in recent years, attributable to declining birth rates. In Monadnock, there has been a decrease of 31 percent from 2006-07. Figure 1 displays ADM/A trends in Monadnock's elementary, middle, and high schools for the past sixteen years. During this period, the number of elementary students decreased by 22 percent, middle school students decreased by 22 percent, and high school students decreased by 42 percent.

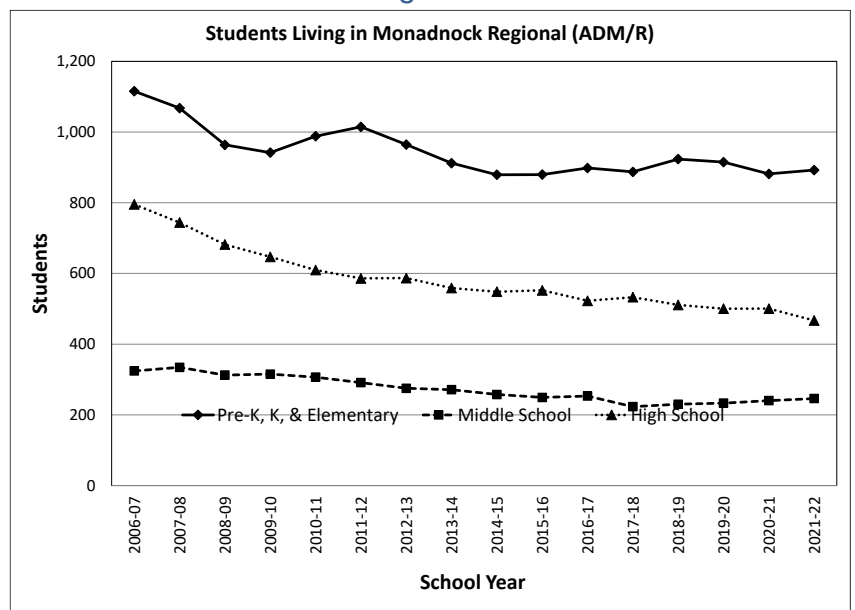
Figure 1



A decline in attendance at Monadnock public schools is based on the number of students in attendance daily. Figure 2 displays the number of students who were residents of Monadnock District only. As seen, in Monadnock, the ADM trends are very similar. Regional districts or those with tuition agreements sometimes see drastic changes in ADM-A.

The decline in Monadnock resident elementary students was 20 percent, and the decrease in Monadnock-resident middle school students was 24%. For high school students, it was a decline of 41%. A 28% decline in total.

Figure 2



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## What Sports Have Been Available to Monadnock High School Students?

Coed Unified Soccer  
Girls Volleyball  
Boys Volleyball  
Girls Ice Hockey  
Boys & Girls Nordic Skiing  
Ski Jumping  
Girls Gymnastics  
Boys Wrestling  
Ten-Pin Bowling  
Unified Track  
Boys Ice Hockey  
Bass Fishing  
Boys & Girls Cross Country  
Field Hockey  
Football  
Boys & Girls Golf  
Boys Soccer  
Girls Soccer  
Spirit  
Boys Basketball  
Girls Basketball  
Boys & Girls Indoor Track  
Boys & Girls Alpine Skiing  
Swimming & Diving  
Unified Basketball  
Baseball  
Softball  
Boys Lacrosse  
Girls Lacrosse  
Outdoor Track  
Girls Tennis  
Boys Tennis  
Unified Volleyball

The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA) organizes high school sports competitions in New Hampshire.

Of the 33 sports listed by NHIAA for the school year 2019-20, 22 were available to students at Monadnock High School. The sports not available to Monadnock students were Girl's Soccer, Co-ed Soccer, Girls' and Boys' Volleyball, Indoor Track, Alpine skiing, Nordic Skiing, Gymnastics, Ten Pin Bowling, and Unified Track.

On average, schools with enrollments below 500 have at least 13.5 sports available to students.

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

## How Many Credits are Required to Graduate from Monadnock High School?

The State of New Hampshire sets 20 credits as the minimum that each student must accumulate before they are allowed to graduate. In 2021 those credits were distributed across multiple subjects as shown in Table 5.

Most school districts in New Hampshire have higher graduation requirements than the 20-unit minimum set by the state. A few require as many as 28 units to graduate. Monadnock requires that students successfully complete 21 credits to obtain their diploma. On average, New Hampshire public high schools require 24 credits to graduate with a high school diploma.

## What Has Been the High School Graduation Rate?

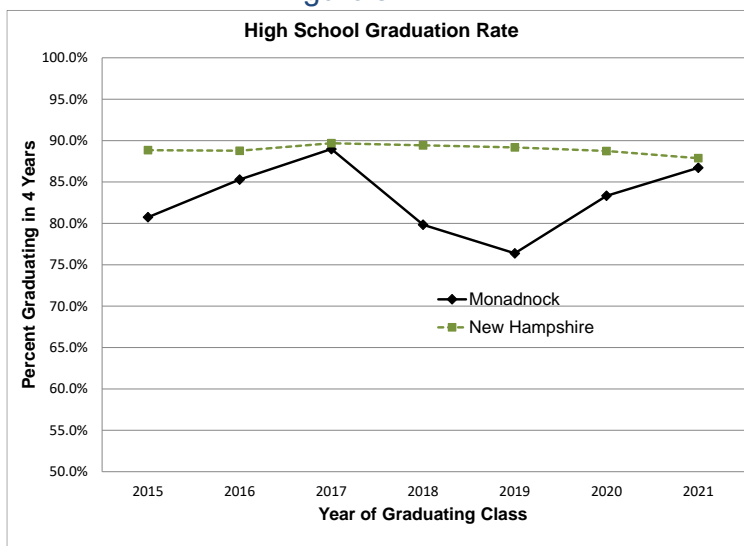
Monadnock graduated 725 students in graduating classes from 2015 through 2021. The graduation rate over those seven years averaged 83%. This was lower than the state average of 88.9%.

Ranking the 81 public high schools in New Hampshire with the highest graduation rate at (1) and the high school with the lowest graduation rate at (81), Monadnock ranked 68.

Table 5

State Requirement	Units
Arts	0.5
Information & Communications	0.5
English	4.0
Mathematics	3.0
Physical Science	1.0
Biological Science	1.0
Other Science	
US/NH History	1.0
US/NH Government & Civics	0.5
Other Social Studies	
Economics	0.5
World History, Global Studies, Geography	0.5
Health	0.5
Physical Education	1.0
Electives	6.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20.0</b>

Figure 3



## How Well Have High School Students Done on the Annual SAT Exam?

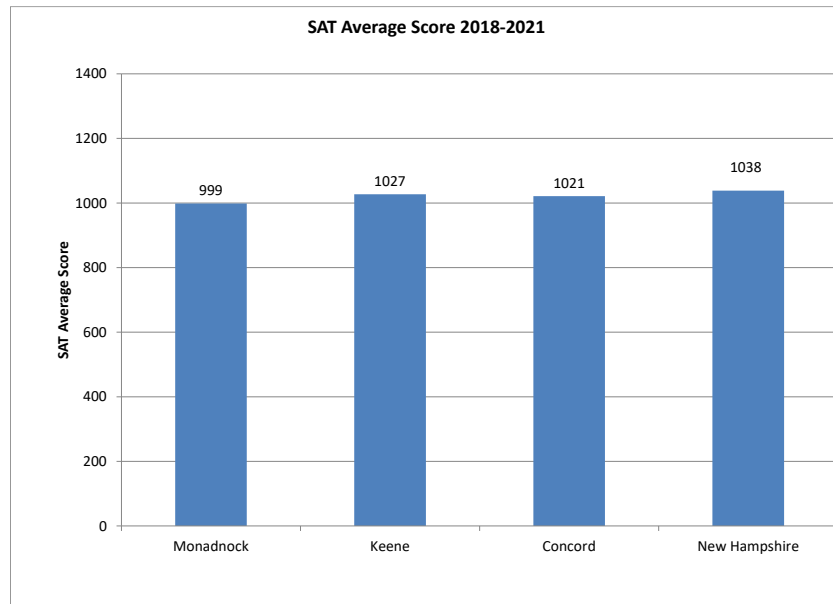
One of the standardized exams used by New Hampshire to measure student achievement in high school is the SAT of the College Board. There are two parts: Mathematics and Evidence-Based Reading and Writing. The possible range of combined scores is 400 to 1600.

Over the four years from 2018 through 2021, 379 Monadnock High School students took the SAT exams in the spring of their junior year. The average score of those students was 999 while the New Hampshire average was 1038.

Figure 5

Ranking the 79 public high schools for which data were available, the school with the highest average score was (1) and the lowest was (79), Monadnock ranked 53<sup>rd</sup>, Concord 38<sup>th</sup>, and Keene, 33<sup>rd</sup>.

The total October enrollment of juniors in Monadnock high schools over the 4 years totaled 471. As a percentage of enrollment, 20% of juniors were tested. The percentage of untested juniors statewide was only 12.2%. Monadnock was unable to test more students than the state average.



## What Courses are Available for High School Students in Monadnock?

Course availability is an important measure of a student's educational opportunity. The Course of Studies documents for 2021-22 were collected from our public high schools. Counts of courses available in each subject area were compiled. Table 6 shows that Monadnock High School offers near-average numbers in courses in all subject areas as compared to the state average. Monadnock offers less arts and career tech.

Table 6

	World Languages	Advanced Placement	English Electives	Math courses	Social Study Electives	Computer Technologies	Career Tech	Arts / Performing Arts	Science Elective
Monadnock High School	16.00	14.00	10.00	16.00	8.00	6.00	16.00	16.00	11.00
State Average	14.00	9.00	11.00	17.00	10.00	6.00	26.00	23.00	13.00

The availability of courses is tied to several factors. The size of a school plays a large role. Larger schools have economies of scale, more teachers, and a student population with more diverse interests. Other factors include transportation and teacher licensure.

## What Have Been Advanced Placement Results in Monadnock?

The College Board offers Advanced Placement (AP) exams in 38 subjects every May. The exams are the culmination of students' participation in Advanced Placement courses in their high school. Those courses follow a standard syllabus and use nationally standard materials. There is no requirement for New Hampshire high schools to offer any AP courses, for students to take an AP course, or for those who do to take the associated exam at the end of the year.

One purpose of the courses and the exams is to allow students to get college credit in advance of entering college, thus potentially skipping certain introductory college courses. Among students who desire to attend a four-year college after graduation, there is considerable incentive to take AP courses and their associated exams.

The College Board grades each test on a scale from 1 to 5. Most colleges grant advanced credit to students whose score is a 3, 4, or 5. A few highly selective colleges may not accept scores of 3 or 4.

Table 7 lists the results of AP tests over the four years 2018-2021.

Table 7

	3 Year Exam Takers	3 Year Exams	3 Year Scores of 3,4, or 5	Takers as % of Enrollment	Exams per Taker	Scored 3+ as % of Exams	Scored 3+ per 100 enrollment
Monadnock	198	301	143	13.9%	1.52	47.5%	10.0
State	22,966	36,355	25,108	10.62	1.58	69.06%	11.61

Participation in Advanced Placement tests by the College Board is average among Monadnock High School students as it compares to the state averages.

## How Likely Have Students from Monadnock 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 popular with many NH students graduating from public high schools.

The UNH Admissions Office provided counts of applications, admissions, and enrollments from each New Hampshire public high school for freshman years 2017 through 2021. By aggregating data over five years,

the need to suppress small numbers was greatly reduced, and year-to-year variations were smoothed, especially for smaller high schools. For comparisons among high schools of greatly varying sizes, senior year enrollments are used as the base for calculating what percentage of a school’s students have applied, been admitted, and finally enrolled at UNH.

Students who plan to attend college after graduating from high school often apply to as many as 8 to 10 colleges. Thus, even when accepted to UNH, a vast majority of students will choose to go elsewhere, and a much smaller number will enroll. Understanding this, UNH (and other colleges and universities) offer admission to many more applicants than they could accept.

On average, based on the years 2017-2021, 27% of New Hampshire’s public school senior class applied to UNH. From Monadnock High School, 15.7% applied. Statewide of the 18,455 who applied, UNH admitted 83.9%. Among the 97 Monadnock students who applied, 82.5% were admitted. Eventually enrolling for freshman year at UNH were 7.5% of all New Hampshire high school seniors and 4.4% of Monadnock seniors.

Table 8

	2017-2021 UNH Applications	2017-2021 UNH Admissions	2017-2021 UNH Enrollment	Applications as % of Enrollment	Admissions as % of Applications	Enrollment as % of 5 Year Senior Enrollment
Monadnock	97	80	27	15.7%	82.5%	4.4%
State	18,455	15,653	5,101	27.1%	83.9%	7.5%

As seen throughout this paper, educational experiences for New Hampshire students vary widely across the state. School funding can make a large impact on the student population both during their time in public schools and in their post-secondary lives.

*Note: Data used in this report are taken from reports, spreadsheets, and websites of the NH Department of Education, the University of New Hampshire, the College Board, and the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association. Graduation requirements and number of courses offered were collected from Programs of Study from 79 New Hampshire public high schools.*