

Measures of Schools and Students in Concord School District December 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 Concord School District and how they compare to the rest of the state.

Students and Student Characteristics

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

Table 1

Concord School District	Pre	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Totals
Abbot-Downing School	0	47	67	60	52	54	62	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	342
Beaver Meadow School	52	45	51	60	65	45	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	365
Broken Ground School	0	0	0	0	88	120	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	308
Christa McAuliffe School	0	54	74	64	59	56	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	363
Concord High School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	354	383	365	365	1467
Mill Brook School	43	94	117	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	354
Rundlett Middle School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	279	271	276	0	0	0	0	826
Totals	95	240	309	284	264	275	265	279	271	276	354	383	365	365	4025

Table 2

District	American Indian or Alaskan	Asian or Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Black Non-Hispanic	White Non-Hispanic	Multi-Race	Total
Number of Students							
Concord	28	257	116	411	3,267	0	4,079
State Total	360	5,271	13,557	3,494	138,647	5,949	167,278
Percent of Students							
Concord	0.68%	6.30%	10.00%	2.84%	80%	0.00%	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 Concord Schools as of October 1, 2022.

White non-Hispanic students constituted 80%, about the same as the average. Concord's population has similar diversity to the New Hampshire Average.

In the 2021-22 school year, 4,079 public school students attended Concord Schools. Of these, 1,703 (41%) 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 Concord.

Also in the 2021-22 school year, 909 students were receiving special education services with an Individual Education Plan (IEP). This was 22% of the students, a bit more than the statewide average of 19%. 204 students (5%) were not native English speakers in 2022-23.

- 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

What Sports Have Been Available to Concord High School Students?

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, only 5 were NOT available to students at Concord High School. Those sports were: Unified Volleyball, Ten-Pin Bowling, Boys Volleyball, Bass Fishing, and Girls Gymnastics.

On average, schools with enrollment above 1,000, have at least 26 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 Concord 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. Concord requires that students successfully complete 20 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?

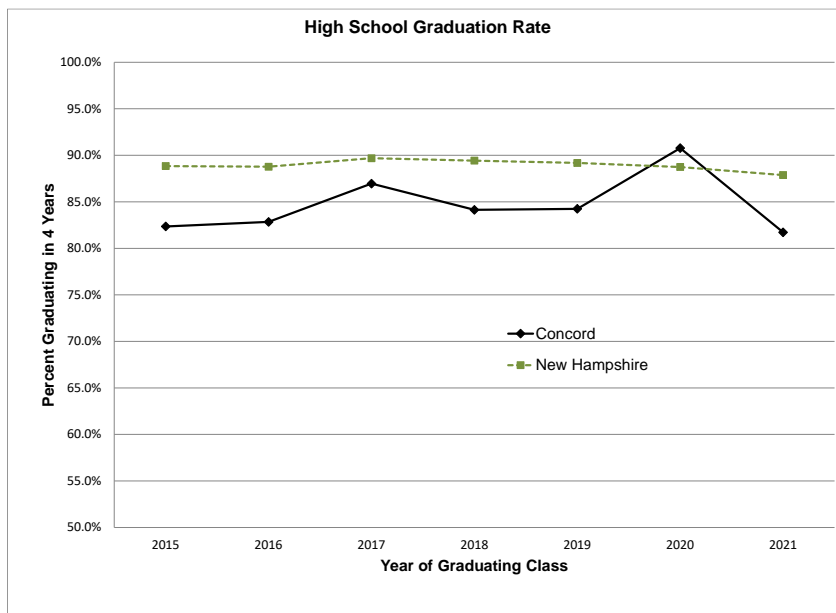
Concord graduated 2,349 students in graduating classes from 2015 through 2021. The graduation rate over those seven years averaged 84%. This was less than the state average of 88.9%.

Ranking of 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), Concord ranked 62.

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
TOTAL	20.0

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.

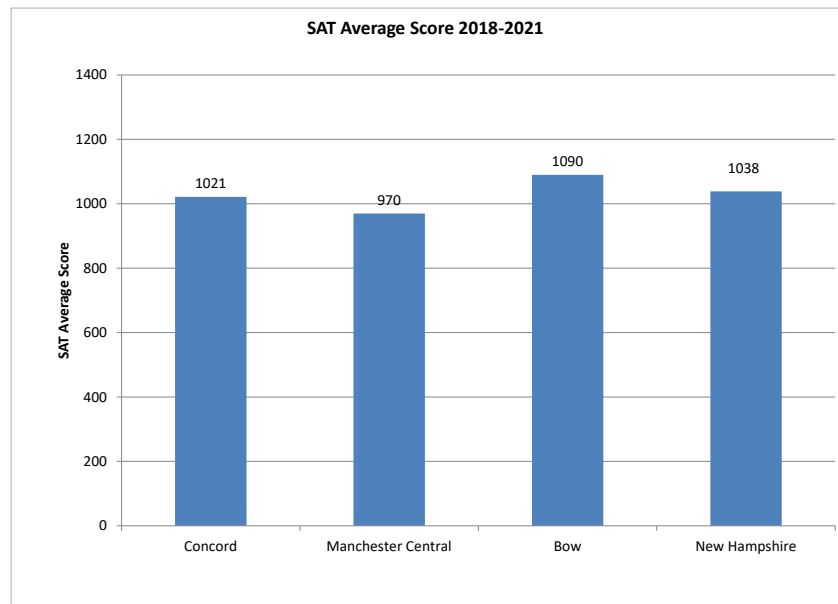
Over the four years from 2018 through 2021, 1,292 Concord High School students took the SAT exams in the spring of their junior year. The average score of those students was 1021 while the New Hampshire average was 1038.

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), Concord ranked 38th, Manchester Central ranked 62nd, and Bow ranked 13th.

The total October enrollment of juniors in Concord high schools over the 4 years totaled 1,530. As a percentage of enrollment, 15% of juniors were not tested. The percentage of untested juniors statewide was only 12.2%.

For unknown reasons, more Concord students were excused or absent from these standardized tests than elsewhere in the state.



What Courses are Available for High School Students in Concord?

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 Concord High School offers similar or more courses in all subject areas as compared to the state average, besides science and computer technologies.

Table 6

	World Languages	Advanced Placement	English Electives	Math courses	Social Study Electives	Computer Technologies	Career Tech	Arts / Performing Arts	Science Elective
Concord High School	21.00	11.00	19.00	15.00	17.00	3.00	20.00	23.00	23.00
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 Concord?

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
Concord	334	514	337	7.0%	1.54	65.7%	7.1
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 moderate, but a bit less compared to the state among Concord High School students.

How Likely Have Students from Concord 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. At Concord High School, 26% applied. Statewide, of the 18,455 who applied, UNH admitted 83.9%. Among the 526 Concord students who applied, 81% were admitted. Eventually enrolling for freshman year at UNH were 7.7% of all New Hampshire high school seniors and 7.5% of Concord 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
Concord	526	426	151	26.9%	81.0%	7.7%
State	18,455	15,653	5,101	27.1%	83.9%	7.5%

How do Concord Students Perform on State-Wide Assessments?

The State of New Hampshire requires students in public schools to take periodic assessments over their tenure as a student. These assessments take place in 3rd grade, 8th grade, and the 11th grade. Students’ ability to meet proficiency in Mathematics and Reading is measured as a percentage of students.

Table 9

	3rd Grade			
	Average Scores		% of Students Proficient or Better	
	Math	Reading	Math	Reading
New Hampshire	429	578	51.0%	45.0%
Manchester	402	546	22.0%	20.0%
Concord	424	575	43.0%	40.0%
Bow	441	585	66.0%	58.0%
Portsmouth	451	607	79.0%	74.0%
Londonderry	435	584	61.0%	47.0%

In Table 9, Concord’s 3rd-grade assessment scores are compared to the state average as well as some surrounding communities. As seen, While Concord’s 3rd graders perform better in Math and Reading than Manchester, their scores fall below the state average and those of surrounding communities.

In Table 10, Concord’s 8th-grade assessment scores are compared to the state average. In 8th grade, Concord students outperform Manchester but still fall below the state average.

Table 10

	8th Grade			
	Average Scores		% of Students Proficient or Better	
	Math	Reading	Math	Reading
New Hampshire	562	655	35.0%	35.0%
Manchester	502	620	14.0%	14.0%
Concord	548	641	29.0%	29.0%
Bow	568	661	34.0%	66.0%
Portsmouth	596	451	58.0%	79.0%
Londonderry	561	658	34.0%	61.0%

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.