

Measures of Schools and Students in SAU 23 and Woodsville School District

March 2024

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 Woodsville School District and how they compare to the rest of the state.

Students and Student Characteristics

Students in SAU 23 span across several districts but all attend Woodsville for High School. SAU 23 Schools have grades from pre-school through the 12th grade. Table 1 shows enrollment in the October 2022- 2023 school year by grade.

Table 1

SAU 23 Schools	Pre	K	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	PG	Totals
Bath Village School	0	4	0	7	9	12	8	8	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61
Haverhill Cooperative Middle School	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	47	47	54	46	0	0	0	0	0	226
Woodsville Elementary School	37	38	0	45	41	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	211
Woodsville High School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	62	53	52	0	216
Piermont Village School	2	5	0	5	9	8	4	5	6	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	53
SAU #23 French Pond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	10
SAU #23 King Street School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	4	3	3	0	15
Warren Village School	3	4	0	9	8	13	5	5	4	9	7	0	0	0	0	0	67
Totals	42	51	0	66	67	83	49	67	73	69	61	54	66	56	55	0	859

Table 2

	American Indian or Alaskan	Asian or Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Black Non-Hispanic	White Non-Hispanic	Multi Race	Total
Bath	0	0	0	0	47	0	47
Haverhill	1	11	16	3	627	7	665
Piermont	0	1	2	0	55	0	58
Warren	0	0	0	0	71	0	71
Totals	1	12	18	3	800	7	841
Percentage	0.1%	1.4%	2.1%	0.4%	95.1%	0.8%	100.0%
State Total	306	5,117	14,242	3,400	135,903	6,034	165,002
Percentage	0.2%	3.1%	8.6%	2.1%	82.4%	3.7%	100.0%

Table 2 displays racial enrollments for all students in SAU 23 Schools as of October 1, 2023.

White non-Hispanic students constituted 95.1%, a bit more than the average. SAU 23's population has less diversity than the New Hampshire State Average.

Table 3 lists the different communities in SAU 23 and their counts of Free and reduced-priced lunch-eligible students (meaning their family's income was below 185% of the Federal Poverty Line¹), students receiving Special Education Services, and students who are English language learners. As seen, SAU 23 has higher rates of students eligible for Free and Reduced Lunch than the state average.

Table 3

Town	ADM	FRL	% FRL	SPED	% SPED	ELL	% ELL
Bath	120	28	23.33%	23	19.17%	0	0.00%
Benton	20	11	55.00%	9	45.00%	0	0.00%
Haverhill	529	212	40.08%	117	22.12%	2	0.38%
Piermont	79	12	15.19%	16	20.25%	0	0.00%
Warren	90	43	47.78%	15	16.67%	0	0.00%
State	157,406	41,660	26.47%	30,965	19.67%	5,126	3.26%

¹ In 2023, 185% of the Federal Poverty Line for a family of four was \$50,500 annually.

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

List of NHIAA Sports 2021

What Sports Have Been Available to Woodsville 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 8 were available to students at Woodsville High School. Those sports were: Boys and Girls Golf, Boys Soccer, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Alpine Skiing, Baseball, Softball, and Track.

On average, schools with enrollments below 400 have at least 11 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 Woodsville 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. Woodsville requires that students successfully complete 27.5 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?

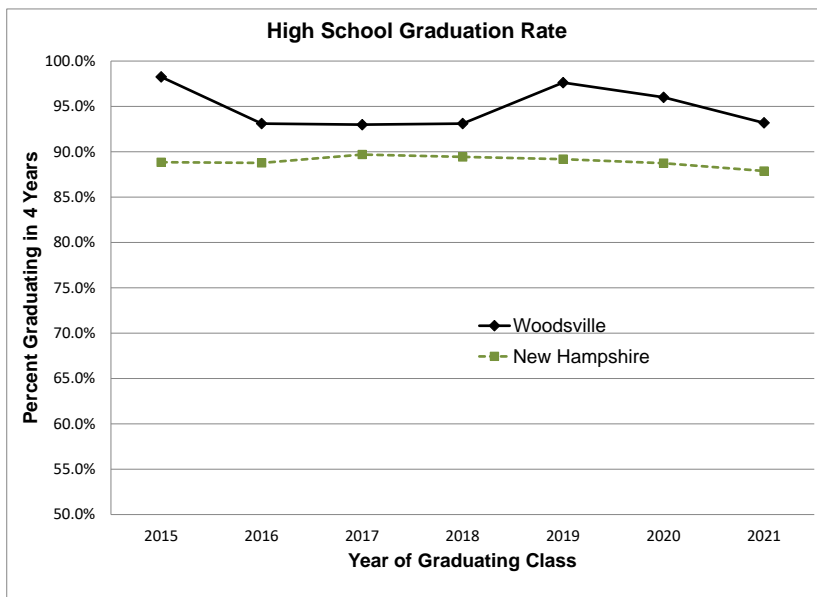
Woodsville graduated 347 students in graduating classes from 2015 through 2021. The graduation rate over those seven years averaged 94.8%. This was more than the state average of 88.9%.

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), Woodsville ranked 15.

Table 4

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 1



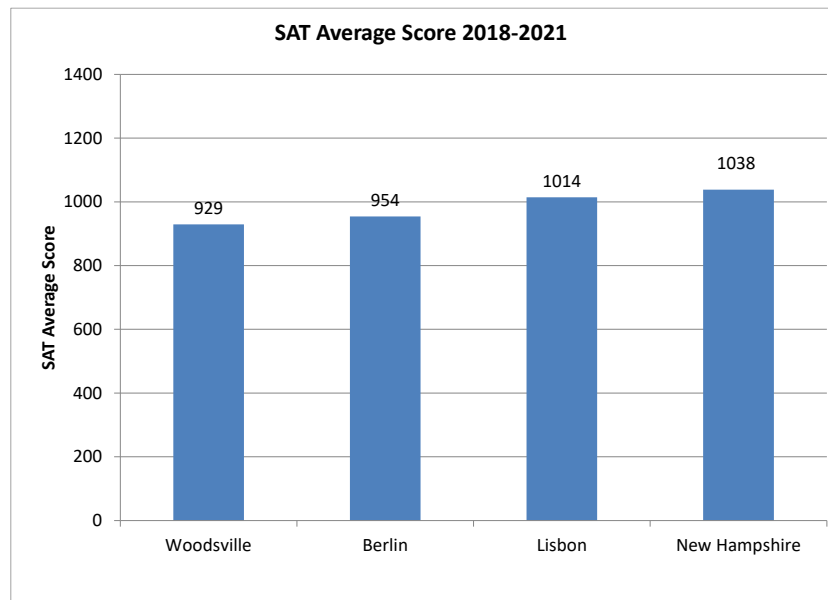
How Well Have High School Students Done on the Annual SAT Exam?

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, 177 Woodsville High School students took the SAT exams in the spring of their junior year. The average score of those students was 929 while the New Hampshire average was 1038.

Figure 2

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), Woodsville ranked 75th, Berlin ranked 69th, and Lisbon ranked 42nd.



The total October enrollment of juniors in Woodsville High School over the 4 years totaled 175. As a percentage of enrollment, -1.1% of juniors were not tested. Meaning, that students from other grades opted into taking the exam. The percentage of untested juniors statewide was also 12.2%.

What Courses are Available for High School Students in Woodsville?

Course availability is an important measure of a student's educational opportunity. The Course of Studies documents for 2021-22 were collected from NH's public high schools. Counts of courses available in each subject area were compiled. Table 4 shows that Woodsville High School offers fewer courses in all subject areas as compared to the state average.

Table 4

	World Languages	Advanced Placement	English Electives	Math courses	Social Study Electives	Computer Technologies	Career Tech	Arts / Performing Arts	Science Elective
Woodsville	8	3	6	12	2	6	10	18	7
State Average	14	9	11	17	10	6	26	23	13

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 Advanced Placement Results Been in Woodsville?

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 5 lists the results of AP tests over the three years 2018-2021.

Table 5

	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
Woodsville	53	55	21	8.6%	1.04	38.20%	3.40
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 higher among students at Woodsville than the state average.

How Likely Have Students from Woodsville Been 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 Woodsville High School, 14.7% applied. Statewide, of the 18,455 who applied, UNH admitted 83.9%. Among the 36 Woodsville students who applied, 86% were admitted. Eventually enrolling for freshman year at UNH were 7.5% of all New Hampshire high school seniors and 6.1% of Woodsville seniors.

Table 6

	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
Woodsville	36	31	15	14.7%	86.1%	6.1%
State	18,455	15,653	5,101	27.1%	83.9%	7.5%