

# Measures of Schools and Students in Governor Wentworth Regional School District

October 2024

Inequitable education funding in New Hampshire impacts reach beyond the taxpayer. Students' educational experiences can be drastically different all over the state. This paper presents information about the students in the Governor Wentworth Regional School District and how they compare to the rest of the state.

## Students and Student Characteristics

Governor Wentworth Regional School District directly operates schools in Brookfield, Effingham, New Durham, Ossipee, Tuftonboro and Wolfeboro. This district serves students from Preschool through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Table 1 shows enrollment in October of the 2023-24 school year by grade, including postgraduate students, of which Governor Wentworth Regional had none.

Table 1

Governor Wentworth Regional	Pre	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	PG	Totals
Carpenter School	0	47	49	41	55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	192
Crescent Lake School	0	0	0	0	0	42	75	57	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	174
Effingham Elementary School	0	18	14	18	18	10	15	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	108
Kingswood Regional High School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	216	184	179	154	0	733
Kingswood Regional Middle School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	182	180	0	0	0	0	0	362
New Durham Elementary School	14	21	14	26	25	24	14	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	158
Ossipee Central School	33	36	33	50	36	32	35	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	294
Tuftonboro Central School	0	7	14	11	13	20	16	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	95

Table 2

	American Indian or Alaskan	Asian or Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Black Non-Hispanic	White Non-Hispanic	Multi Race	Total
Governor Wentworth	8	19	50	26	1999	14	2116
Percentage	0.4%	0.9%	2.4%	1.2%	94.5%	0.7%	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 students at Governor Wentworth Regional as of October 2023.<sup>1</sup> There is less racial diversity among Governor Wentworth Regional students than there is statewide. Only 6% of Governor Wentworth Regional students are not white compared to 18% statewide.

Of the 2116 Governor Wentworth Regional students in the 2023-24 school year, 675 were eligible for free/reduced lunch based on their family income being below the Federal Poverty Level. While 24.1% of students statewide were eligible, 31% of the students at Governor Wentworth Regional were eligible.

Also in the 2023-24 school year, 337 students received special education services with an Individual Education Plan (IEP). This was 15% of the 2112 students, fewer than the statewide average of 19.7%.

Only 2 students were not native English speakers in 2023-24.

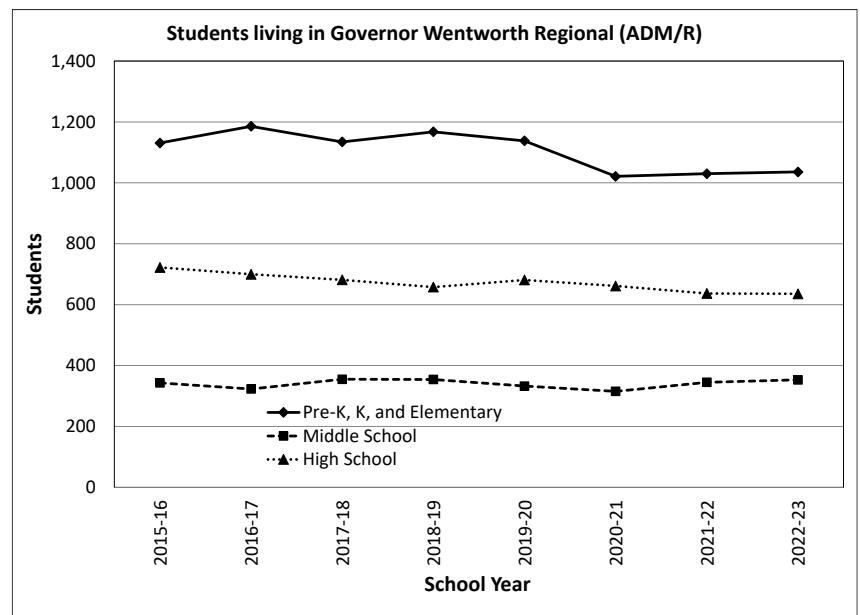
## How Have Student Numbers Changed Over Recent Years in Governor Wentworth Regional?

Average Daily Membership in Residence (ADM/R) is one way enrollment is measured. It measures the number of public school students living in the district over the school year.

ADM/R has been in slow decline in New Hampshire in recent years, attributable to declining birth rates.

Between 2014-15 and 2022-23 students at Governor Wentworth Regional declined from 2,196 in 2014 to 2,024 in 2023, an 8% decline.

Figure 1



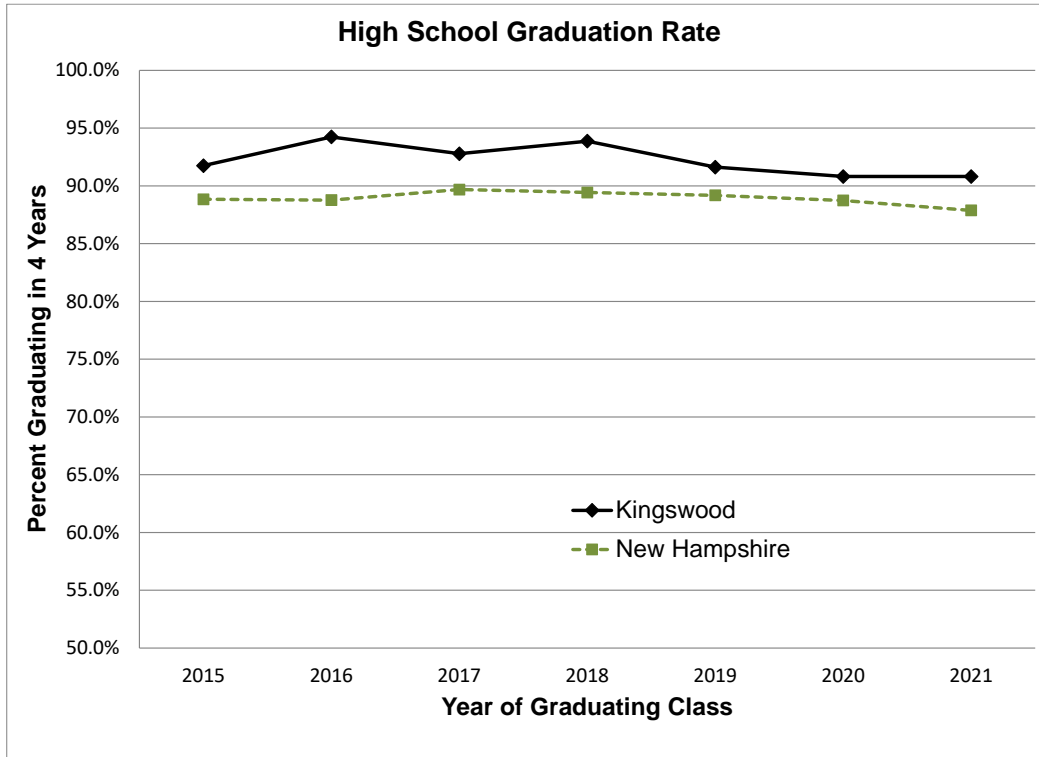
<sup>1</sup> The totals in tables 1 and 2 differ but are what were reported by the NH Department of Education.

## What Has Been the High School Graduation Rate?

Governor Wentworth Regional (Kingswood High School) graduated 1,233 students in graduating classes from 2015 through 2021. The graduation rate over those seven years averaged 92%. This was slightly above the state average of 88.9%.

Ranking the 81 public high schools in New Hampshire with the highest graduation rate as (1) and the high school with the lowest graduation rate as (81), Governor Wentworth Regional ranked 34.

Figure 2



## How Well Have Governor Wentworth Regional Students Done on the Annual SAT Exam?

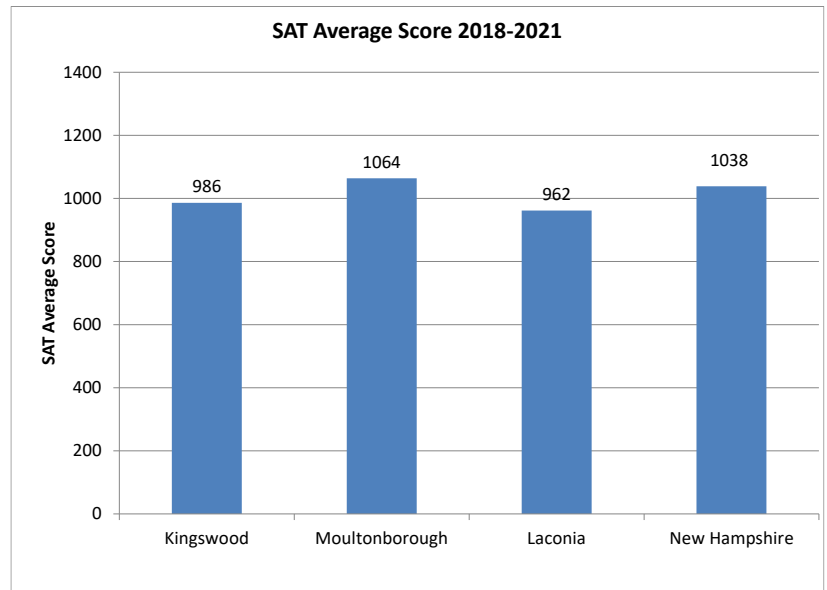
The standardized exam used by New Hampshire to measure student achievement in high school is the SAT of the College Board. There are two parts: Mathematics and Evidence-Based Reading and Writing. The possible range of combined scores is 400 to 1600.

Over the four years from 2018 through 2021, 636 Kingswood students took the SAT exams in the spring of their junior year. The average score of those students was 986 while the New Hampshire average was 1038.

Ranking the 79 public high schools for which data were available, the school with the highest average score as (1) and the lowest as (79), Kingswood Regional ranked 57.

There were 740 students enrolled as juniors at Governor Wentworth Regional over the four years. As a percentage of enrollment, 14% of juniors were not tested, more than the 12.2% statewide.

Figure 3



## What Courses are Available for Governor Wentworth Students?

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 3 shows that Governor Wentworth Regional (Kingswood High School) offers similar courses in all subject areas except for elective English classes as the average public high

Table 3

school in New Hampshire.

	World Languages	Advanced Placement	English Electives	Math courses	Social Study Electives	Computer Technologies	Career Tech	Arts / Performing Arts	Science Elective
<b>Kingswood</b>	15	8	0	18	7	5	22	23	6
<b>State Average</b>	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 at Governor Wentworth Regional?

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, or for students to take an AP course. Those who do take an AP course do not have to take the exam at the end of the year.

One purpose of the AP courses and their 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 4 lists the results of AP tests over the four years 2018-2021.

Table 4

	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
Kingswood	224	337	170	9.7%	1.50	50.40%	7.40
State	22,966	36,355	25,108	10.62%	1.58	69.06%	11.61

Governor Wentworth Regional students were less likely to take AP tests and were less likely to be successful in the exams than the statewide averages. During this period 9.7% of Governor Wentworth Regional students took at least one AP test, lower than the statewide average of 10.6%. Of the AP exams taken, 50,40% resulted in a score of 3-5, lower than the statewide average of 69.1%.

## How Likely Are Students from Governor Wentworth Regional to Apply, Earn Admittance, and Enroll at The University of New Hampshire?

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) is the flagship of New Hampshire's public higher education institutions. It is very common for seniors who are considering attending college to apply to UNH.

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 over the five years 2017-2021, 28.8% of senior-year students of New Hampshire’s public schools applied for admission to UNH. Of Governor Wentworth Regional’s 981 seniors, 251 (25.6%) applied to UNH. Statewide 24.4% of the high school seniors were admitted and 7.5% chose to enroll at UNH after high school. Among the 251 Governor Wentworth seniors 88.4% were admitted to UNH and 7.5% did enroll, slightly above the state average.

Table 5

	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
Kingswood	251	222	74	25.6%	88.4%	7.5%
State	18,455	15,653	5,101	27.1%	83.9%	7.5%

As seen, student opportunities and experiences are vastly different around the state.

*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 of the 81 New Hampshire public high schools.*