



New Hampshire

Overall Rank

#21

New Hampshire ranks #21 in overall education freedom and #9 in education choice.

Education Choice Rank

#9

New Hampshire ranks ninth for **education choice**. New Hampshire does well in empowering families to choose among private and charter schools, as well as other learning environments, but could do more to expand education choice. Additionally, New Hampshire offers K-12 education savings accounts (ESAs) that families can use to customize the education of eligible students. New Hampshire could improve its ranking by expanding eligibility for and boosting participation in its existing private education choice policies, making it easier for more charter schools to open and operate, removing excessive regulations on homeschooling families, and giving families more choices among traditional public schools beyond their assigned school.

Transparency Rank

#20

New Hampshire ranks 20th in **academic transparency**. New Hampshire lawmakers adopted a proposal¹ in 2021 that says that no teacher or student shall be compelled to believe a racially prejudicial idea as part of a job training program or instructional program. A federal court struck down the law in 2024, but state officials said they are considering² an appeal.

Teacher Freedom Rank

#37

New Hampshire ranks 37th for **teacher freedom**. Just 22 percent of teachers in the state make their way to the K-12 classroom through alternative teacher certification options and New Hampshire does not have full reciprocity of teacher licensure with other states. Educators in New Hampshire are required to pass the Praxis test, a teacher certification exam administered by the Educational Testing Service. New Hampshire does not have any school districts that enroll more than 15,000 students, so no “chief diversity officers” are reported. New Hampshire does not use Common Core-aligned assessments. The Granite State can improve its teacher freedom score by opening alternative pathways into the K-12 classroom so that more aspiring teachers can enter the profession or by eliminating teacher certification requirements altogether. Policymakers should also eliminate the Praxis test requirement and allow full reciprocity of teacher licensure.

Return on Investment Rank

#39

New Hampshire ranks 39th in **return on investment (ROI)** for education spending. New Hampshire spends the 12th-most per pupil among states, spending \$20,196 in cost-of-living-adjusted terms annually. New Hampshire ranks fifth in its combined fourth-grade and eighth-grade math and reading average NAEP score. The Granite State employs 2.24 teachers for every non-teacher in its public schools. New Hampshire’s unfunded teacher pension liability represents 5.4 percent of its state GDP. New Hampshire can improve its ROI ranking by reducing per-pupil spending, stopping growth in non-teaching staff, and addressing its unfunded teacher pension liabilities.

New Hampshire: One-Year Rank Changes (2023–2024)

OVERALL	EDUCATION CHOICE	TRANSPARENCY	TEACHER FREEDOM	RETURN ON INVESTMENT
▼ 2	0	▼ 2	▼ 28	▲ 4

NOTES:

- http://gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/legacy/bs2016/billText.aspx?sy=2021&id=1080&txtFormat=html
- <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/federal-judge-strikes-down-new-hampshire-banned-concepts-law/ar-BB1ndnr0>