

Excess Spending Threshold Analysis

Prepared by: Joint Fiscal Office

8/26/2021

Introduction: The excess spending threshold was established through Act 68 pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5401(12). School districts must pay additional tax if the education spending per equalized pupil (Less approved and preliminary approval construction costs, and other specific exclusions per 16 V.S.A. § 4001(6) exceeds the threshold amount. The value of the threshold is updated annually to reflect 121% of the statewide average education spending per pupil increased by inflation. There are some school districts that are exempt because all of their k-12 students pay tuition, which is exempt per 16 V.S.A. § 4001(6)VIII.

The amount of additional tax a school district must pay is determined by how much they choose to spend over the excess spending threshold. For example if a school district has a budget of \$19,789 per equalized pupil, they are \$1000 over the threshold meaning they would pay \$20,789 per equalized pupil.

In FY22, the excess spending threshold has a value of \$18,789 per equalized pupil and there are 16 districts that exceed the excess spending threshold. About 60% of the districts that are over the threshold, or within \$500 of the threshold, are underweighted. In FY22 the estimated tax revenue generated by this penalty is about \$1.8 million. However, there is a moratorium on this penalty for FY22 and FY23 per the enabling legislation for the Task for on the Implementation of the Pupil Weighting Factors Report, Act 59.

FY22 Excess Spending Threshold	\$ 18,789	Ed. Spending/ Equalized Pupil
FY22 Estimate of Tax Revenue	\$ 1,812,020	*moratorium per Act 59

	Total	Overweight	Underweight
Districts over the Threshold	16	7, 44%	9, 56%
Districts within \$500 of Threshold	36	14, 39%	22, 61%

This table shows the school districts that exceeded the excess spending threshold and the results of the weighting study. The education spending per equalized pupil data is from the Vermont Agency of Education for FY22. The school districts highlighted in blue exceed the excess spending threshold and are non-exempt. The school districts highlighted in green are within \$500 of the excess spending threshold.

County	District Name	Towns	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	Amount over Threshold	Weighting Study Results
Addison	Mt. Abraham Unified School District	Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton, New Haven, Starksboro	18,442	-	underweight
Addison	Addison NW USD	Addison, Ferrisburgh, Panton, Vergennes, Waltham	19,108	319	overweight
Addison	Addison Central USD	Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury ID, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Weybridge	18,725	-	overweight
Addison	Granville-Hancock Unified District	Granville, Hancock	19,579	Exempt	overweight
Bennington	Arlington	Arlington	17,877	-	overweight
Bennington	North Bennington ID	North Bennington ID	18,992	203	underweight
Bennington	Sandgate	Sandgate	15,952	Exempt	underweight
Bennington	Mt. Anthony UHSD	Mt. Anthony UHSD	15,221	-	overweight
Bennington	Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District	Bennington, Pownal, Shaftsbury, Woodford	16,322	-	overweight
Bennington	Winhall	Winhall	18,771	-	underweight
Bennington	Taconic and Green Regional School District	Danby, Dorset, Landgrove, Londonderry, Manchester, Mt. Tabor, Peru, Sunderland, Weston	17,682	-	overweight
Bennington	Searsburg	Searsburg	16,153	-	underweight
Bennington	Stamford	Stamford	15,434	-	underweight

County	District Name	Towns	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	Amount over Threshold	Weighting Study Results
Caledonia	Danville	Danville	17,555	-	underweight
Caledonia	Peacham	Peacham	20,215	1,426	underweight
Caledonia	Caledonia Cooperative Unified Union School District	Barnet, Walden, Waterford	19,392	603	overweight
Caledonia	St. Johnsbury	St. Johnsbury	15,725	-	overweight
Caledonia	Stannard	Stannard	17,823	-	underweight
Caledonia	Hazen UHSD	Hazen UHSD	18,990	201	underweight
Caledonia	Kingdom East Unified Union School District	Burke, Concord, Lunenburg, Lyndon, Newark, Sheffield, Sutton, Wheelock	16,348	-	underweight
Chittenden	Colchester	Colchester	15,559	-	underweight
Chittenden	Milton	Milton	15,797	-	overweight
Chittenden	Mt. Mansfield UUSD	Bolton, Jericho, Richmond, Underhill Town, Huntington	16,400	-	underweight
Chittenden	Champlain Valley USD	Charlotte, Hinesburg, St. George, Shelburne, Williston	15,918	-	overweight
Chittenden	Burlington	Burlington	17,338	-	overweight
Chittenden	South Burlington	South Burlington	16,584	-	overweight
Chittenden	Winooski ID	Winooski ID	17,122	-	overweight
Chittenden	Essex-Westford EC USD	Essex Town, Westford	16,870	-	overweight
Essex	Canaan	Canaan	18,709	-	underweight
Essex	Northeast Kingdom Choice School District	Bloomfield, Brunswick, East Haven, Granby, Guildhall, Kirby, Lemington, Maidstone, Norton, Victory	17,564	Exempt	underweight
Essex	Brighton	Brighton	18,659	-	underweight

County	District Name	Towns	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	Amount over Threshold	Weighting Study Results
Franklin	Northern Mountain Valley UUSD	Bakersfield, Berkshire	15,116	-	overweight
Franklin	Enosburgh-Richford Unified Union School District	Richford, Enosburgh	14,689	-	overweight
Franklin	Franklin Northwest Unified Union School District	Highgate, Franklin, Swanton	14,953	-	overweight
Franklin	Fairfax	Fairfax	14,628	-	underweight
Franklin	Fletcher	Fletcher	16,969	-	underweight
Franklin	Georgia	Georgia	15,814	-	underweight
Franklin	Maple Run USD	Fairfield, St. Ablans City, St. Albans Town	16,504	-	underweight
Grand Isle	Alburgh	Alburgh	16,933	-	overweight
Grand Isle	South Hero	South Hero	17,999	-	underweight
Grand Isle	Champlain Islands UUSD	Grand Isle, Isle La Motte, North Hero	18,495	-	underweight
Lamoille	Cambridge	Cambridge	15,889	-	overweight
Lamoille	Lamoille North MUSD	Belvidere, Eden, Hyde Park, Johnson, Waterville	17,505	-	underweight
Lamoille	Lamoille North MUSD	Lamoille North MUSD #058A	15,167	-	underweight
Lamoille	Lamoille South Unified Union School District	Elmore, Morrystown, Stowe	16,915	-	underweight
Lamoille	Wolcott	Wolcott	17,841	-	underweight

County	District Name	Towns	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	Amount over Threshold	Weighting Study Results
Orange	Thetford	Thetford	19,631	842	overweight
Orange	Blue Mountain USD	Groton, Ryegate, Wells River	16,852	-	underweight
Orange	Waits River Valley UESD	Corinth, Topsham	16,790	-	underweight
Orange	Oxbow Unified Union School District	Bradford, Newbury	17,686	-	underweight
Orange	Orange Southwest USD	Bakersfield, Berkshire, Montgomery, Sheldon	17,750	-	underweight
Orange	Strafford	Strafford	18,342	-	overweight
Orange	Rivendell Interstate USD	Fairlee, Vershire, West Fairlee	21,034	Exempt	underweight
Orange	Echo Valley Community School District	Orange, Washington	15,915	-	underweight
Orleans	Charleston	Charleston	16,037	-	underweight
Orleans	Coventry	Coventry	15,858	-	underweight
Orleans	Derby	Derby	13,626	-	underweight
Orleans	Holland	Holland	14,479	-	underweight
Orleans	Jay	Jay	18,747	-	underweight
Orleans	Lowell	Lowell	16,795	-	underweight
Orleans	Morgan	Morgan	12,873	-	underweight
Orleans	Newport City	Newport City	17,712	-	underweight
Orleans	Newport Town	Newport Town	18,495	-	underweight
Orleans	Troy	Troy	15,843	-	underweight
Orleans	Westfield	Westfield	15,113	-	underweight
Orleans	North Country Jr UHSD	North Country Jr UHSD	16,711	-	underweight
Orleans	North Country Sr UHSD	North Country Sr UHSD	16,590	-	underweight
Orleans	Lake Region UHSD	Lake Region UHSD	16,141	-	underweight
Orleans	Orleans Central Union Elementary School District	Albany, Barton, Brownington, Glover, Irasburg, Orleans	13,429	-	underweight
Orleans	Craftsbury	Craftsbury	16,541	-	underweight
Orleans	Orleans Southwest Union Elementary School District	Greensboro, Hardwick, Stannard, Woodbury	18,823	34	underweight

County	District Name	Towns	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	Amount over Threshold	Weighting Study Results
Rutland	Slate Valley Unified Union School District	Benson, Castelton, Fair Haven, Hubbardton, West Haven	16,365	-	overweight
Rutland	Mettawee School District	Pawlet, Rupert	16,182	-	overweight
Rutland	Mill River UUSD	Clarendon, Shrewsbury, Tinmouth, Wallingford	16,900	-	underweight
Rutland	Barstow USD	Chittenden, Mendon	16,930	-	overweight
Rutland	Otter Valley USD	Brandon, Goshen, Leicester, Pittsford, Sudbury, Whiting	15,032	-	overweight
Rutland	Rutland City	Rutland City	16,757	-	underweight
Rutland	Pittsfield	Pittsfield	14,830	Exempt	underweight
Rutland	Ira	Ira	16,277	Exempt	underweight
Rutland	Rutland Town	Rutland Town	16,538	-	underweight
Rutland	Wells Spring Unified Union School District	Middletown Springs, Wells	17,840	-	underweight
Rutland	Quarry Valley Unified Union School District	Poultney, Proctor, West Rutland	16,091	-	underweight

County	District Name	Towns	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	Amount over Threshold	Weighting Study Results
Washington	Cabot	Cabot	18,779	-	overweight
Washington	Twinfield USD	Marshfield, Plainfield	18,038	-	underweight
Washington	Washington Central Unified Union School District	Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, Worcester	18,529	-	overweight
Washington	Harwood USD	Duxbury, Fayston, Moretown, Waitsfield, Warren, Waterbury	18,560	-	overweight
Washington	Barre Unified Union School District	Barre City, Barre Town	15,316	-	underweight
Washington	Paine Mountain School District	Northfield, Williamstown	16,526	-	underweight
Washington	Montpelier-Roxbury Unified Union School District	Montpelier, Roxbury	16,920	-	overweight
Windham	Readsboro	Readsboro	15,758	-	underweight
Windham	Marlboro	Marlboro	19,642	853	overweight
Windham	Stratton	Stratton	16,087	-	underweight
Windham	Windham	Windham	16,959	-	underweight
Windham	West River MUED	Brookline, Jamaica, Newfane, Townshend	20,464	1,675	underweight
Windham	West River Union Education District	Brookline, Jamaica, Newfane, Townshend	20,222	1,433	overweight
Windham	River Valleys USD	Dover, Wardsboro	19,917	1,128	underweight
Windham	Rockingham	Rockingham	21,379	2,590	underweight
Windham	Bellows Falls UHSD	Bellows Falls UHSD	19,851	1,062	underweight
Windham	Windham Northeast Union Elementary School District	Athens, Grafton, Westminster	19,912	1,123	overweight
Windham	Vernon	Vernon	17,626	-	underweight
Windham	Windham Southeast Unified Union School District	Brattleboro, Dummerston, Guilford, Putney	18,599	-	underweight
Windham	Halifax	Halifax	17,054	-	underweight
Windham	Twin Valley Unified School District	Whitingham, Wilmington	18,562	-	underweight

County	District Name	Towns	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	Amount over Threshold	Weighting Study Results
Windsor	Rochester-Stockbridge Unified School District	Rochester, Stockbridge	18,731	-	underweight
Windsor	Sharon	Sharon	17,784	-	underweight
Windsor	White River Unified District	Bethel, Royalton	17,604	-	underweight
Windsor	First Branch Unified School District	Chelsea, Tunbridge	18,759	-	underweight
Windsor	Windsor Central UUSD	Bridgewater, Plymouth, Pomfret, Reading, Killington, Woodstock, Barnard	18,512	-	overweight
Windsor	Hartland	Hartland	19,324	535	overweight
Windsor	Weathersfield	Weathersfield	19,255	466	underweight
Windsor	Mount Ascutney School District	West Windsor, Windsor	15,735	-	overweight
Windsor	Hartford	Hartford	16,220	-	overweight
Windsor	Norwich	Norwich	17,537	-	underweight
Windsor	Springfield	Springfield	17,531	-	overweight
Windsor	Green Mountain Unified School District	Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish, Chester	17,124	-	overweight
Windsor	Ludlow-Mt. Holly Unified Union School District	Ludlow, Mt. Holly	18,571	-	underweight