Hartford Data Snapshot



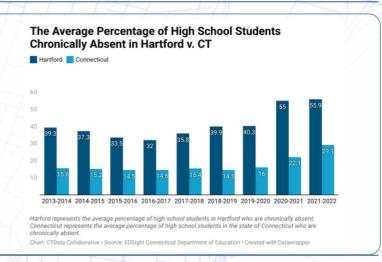


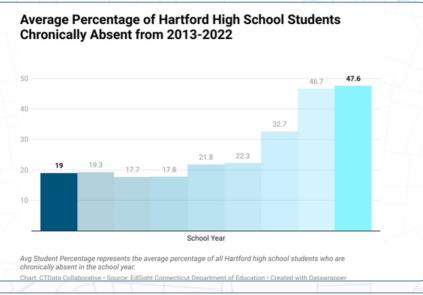
Nasere Lewin May 12, 2023

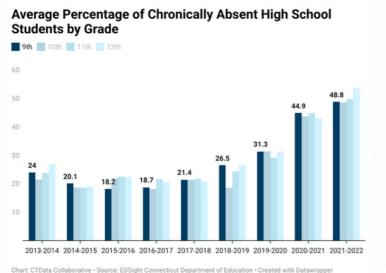
Chronic Absenteeism in High School

Chronic Absenteeism is when an individual misses 10% or more of the total number of school days for any reason during the academic year. Students who are chronically absent in the early years of their education may miss out on learning important skills for school preparedness and may lag behind their peers in social and emotional development. Its impact is particularly critical in high school, where the link between attendance and dropout rates has significant repercussions outside of the classroom.

As a school system, Hartford has a sizable portion of high school students who miss class frequently. In the 2021–2022 school year, Hartford's average rate of chronically absent high school students was 2.2 times higher than the Connecticut average.







Average Percent of Absenteeism of Hartford Schools

The average percentage of high school students in Hartford that were chronically absent from school has increased over the past nine years. Approximately 19% of high school students in Hartford were chronically absent in 2013. Nine years later, the percentage point of absentee students increased by 28.6%. In 2015-2017, the average percentage of chronically absent was the lowest in the past nine school years but increased dramatically with the pandemic.

Reviewing the average percentage of high school students in Hartford that were chronically absent from school over the past nine years by grade, each grade level has maintained similar numbers. I highlighted the freshmen data since attendance is an important life skill to help students persist in high school and graduate. As a freshman in high school, going to school every day will assist your future and instill excellent habits in you.

Hartford Data Snapshot

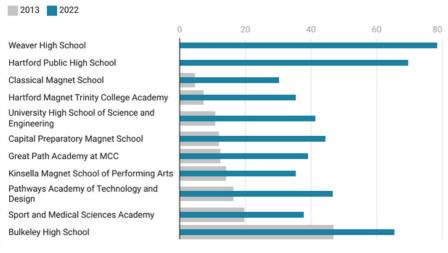




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Chronic Absenteeism in High School

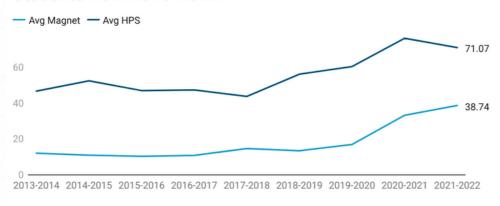
Percentage of Chronically Absent High School Students in Hartford



This chart shows the percentage of high school students in Hartford who were chronically absent in 2013 versus 2022 by the schools they attend. Unfortunately, the data were unavailable for Weaver and Hartford High Schools for 2013. In 2013 Classical Magnet had the lowest percentage of chronically absent students. In 2022, Weaver had the highest percentage of chronically absent students over the last nine years.

Chart: CTData Collaborative • Source: EDSight Connecticut Department of Education • Created with Datawrapper

Average Percentage Chronic Absentee High School Students from 2013-2022



HPS represents Hartford Public High Schools: Bulkeley High School, Hartford Public High School, and Weaver High School. Magnet represents the other eight schools Magnet High Schools: Classical Magnet School, Capital Prep, Great Path Academy, Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy, Kinsella Magnet School of Performing Arts, Pathways Academy of Technology and Design, Sport and Medical Sciences Academy and University High School of Science and Engineering.

Chart: CTData Collaborative • Source: EdSight Connecticut State Department of Education • Created with Datawrapper

Chronic absenteeism trends vary by school type. Using data from the Connecticut State Department of Education, I calculated the percentages of chronically absent high school students from the 11 high schools in Hartford. Then I took the average of those schools that were neighborhood public: Bulkeley High School, Hartford Public High School, and Weaver High School; and the average of those that were magnet high schools: Classical Magnet School, Capital Prep, Great Path Academy, Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy, Kinsella Magnet School of Performing Arts, Pathways Academy of Technology and Design, Sport and Medical Sciences Academy and University High School of Science and Engineering. The average percentage of high school students who were chronically absent has been drastically higher in public high schools than in magnet high schools over the past nine years. In 2022 the average percentage of public high students being chronically absent was 1.83 times greater than the average percent of magnet high school students. But why are public high schools having more problems with chronic absenteeism than magnet schools?