

# Westwood Public Schools

# **MCAS 2022 Results Update**

Westwood School Committee  
November 9, 2022



# Review Statewide Results

2022 compared with 2021

- Improvement in math
- Slight improvement in science
- Decline in English language arts

ELA focus areas: early literacy and writing

Not fully recovered from pandemic learning loss

Higher student absence rates a challenge (1.7 million days missed statewide in 2022 due to COVID-19)

# Review - Westwood Highlights

Strong overall performance compared with other districts statewide in grades 3 - 8 (n = 355 districts):

ELA = 9th statewide

Math = 17th statewide

Science = 8th statewide

Improvements in Math (Meeting + Exceeding) Scores:

Grade 4 - up 9%

Grade 5 - up 11%

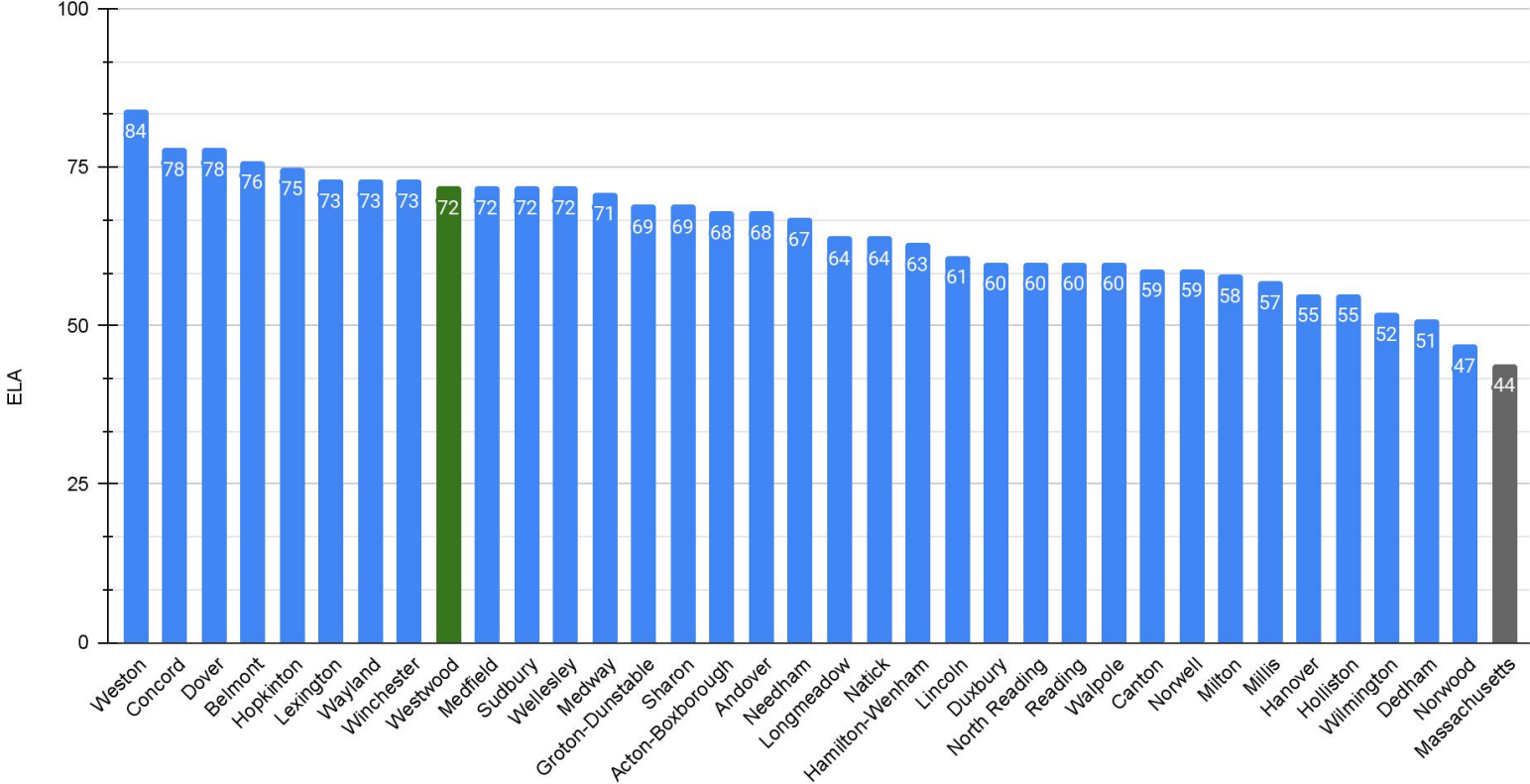
Grade 6 - up 20%

Grade 8 - up 20%

Particularly strong grade 4 & 5 performance

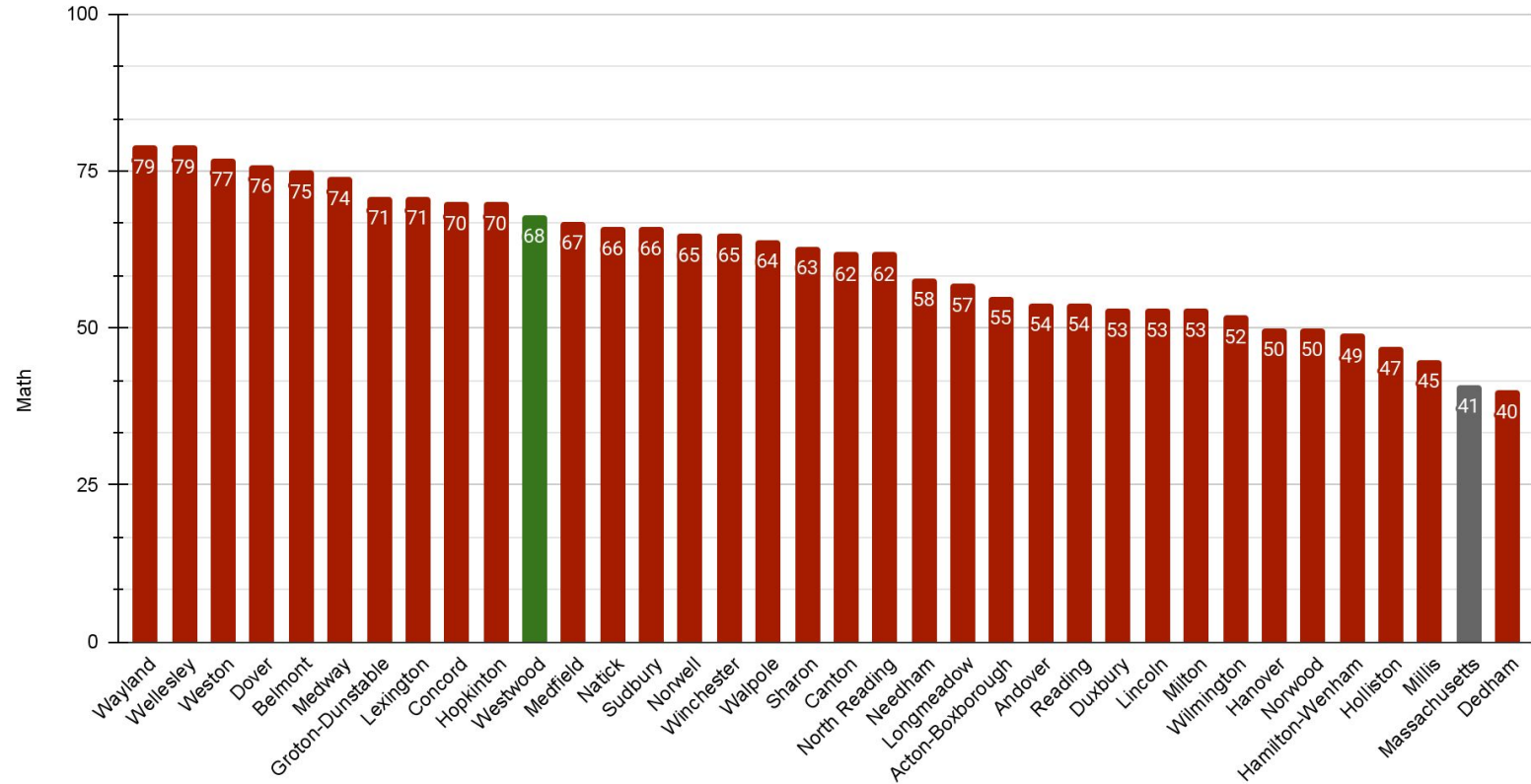
Grade 6 ELA, grade 8 science

# 2022 Gr. 3 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps



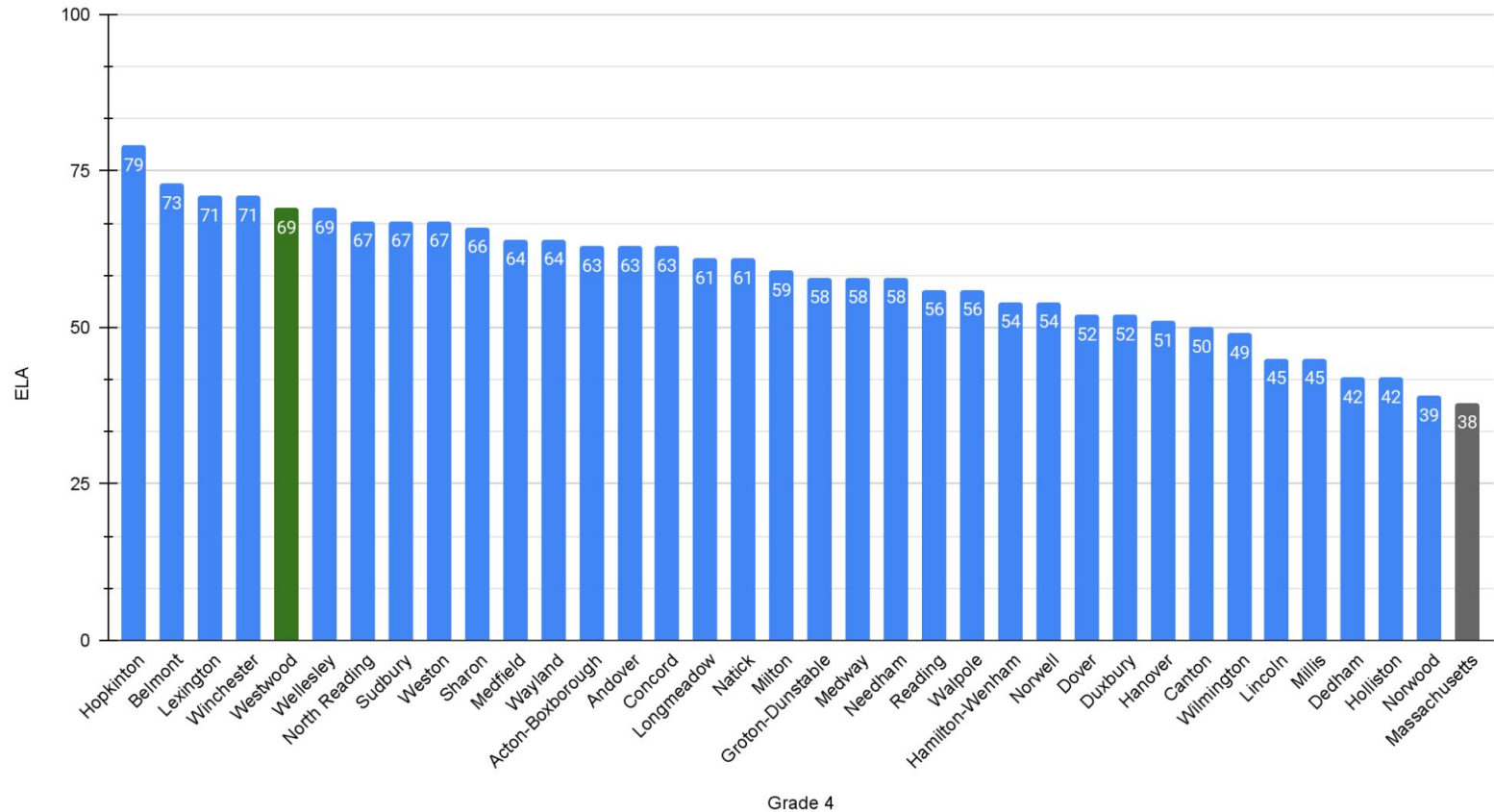
Grade 3

## 2022 Gr. 3 Math Meet + Exceed Comps

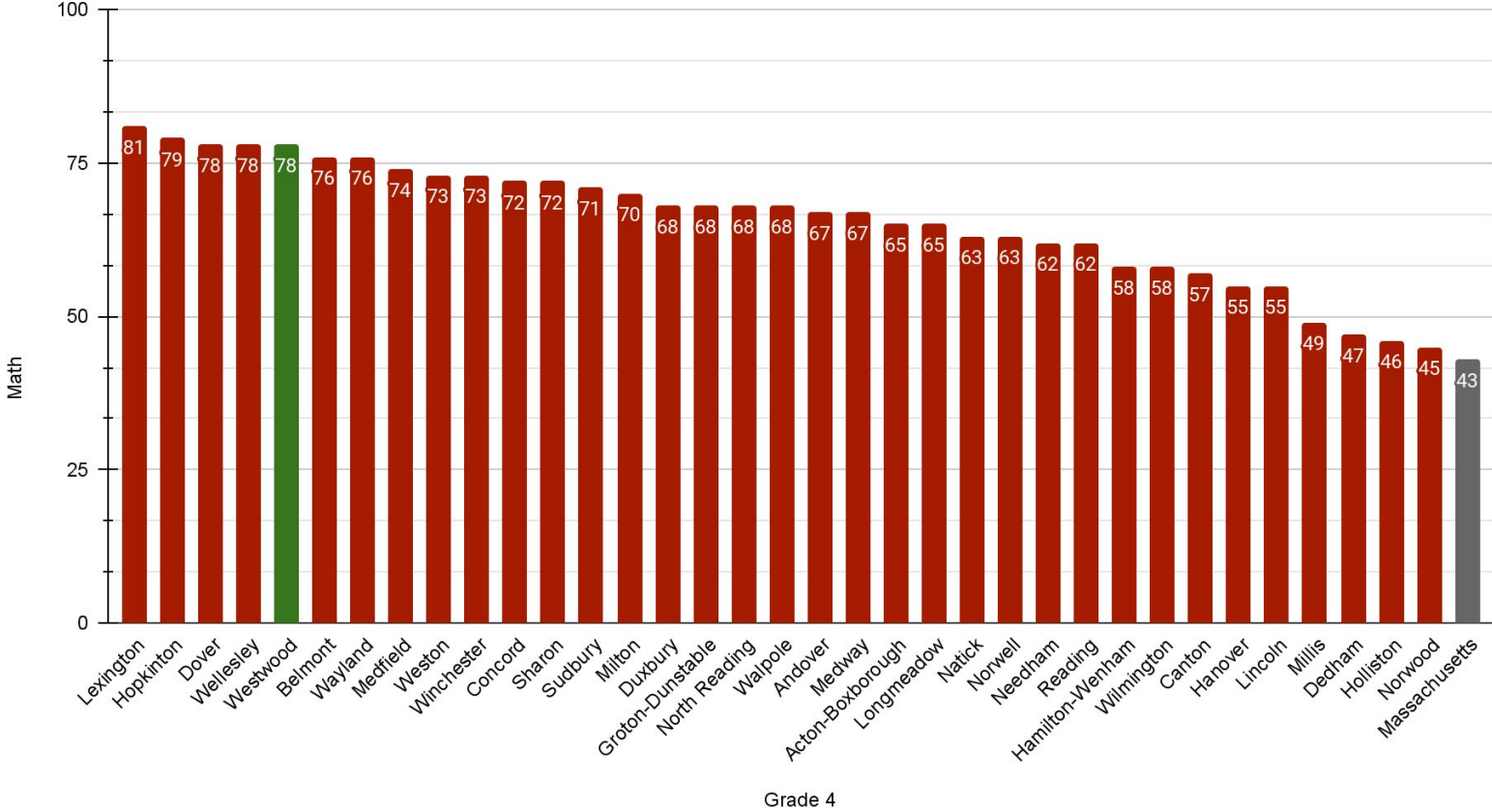


Grade 3

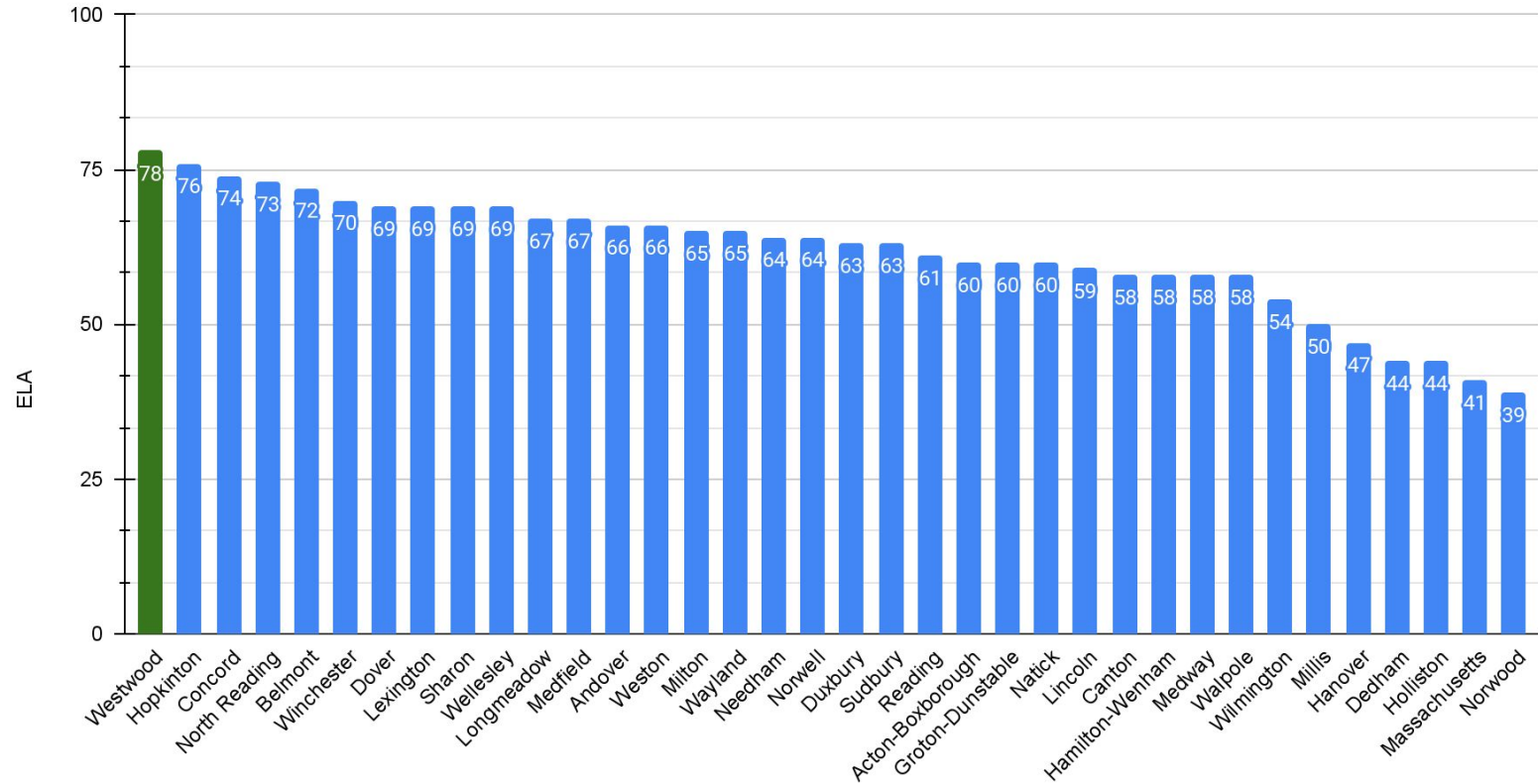
## 2022 Gr. 4 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps



# 2022 Gr. 4 Math Meet + Exceed Comps



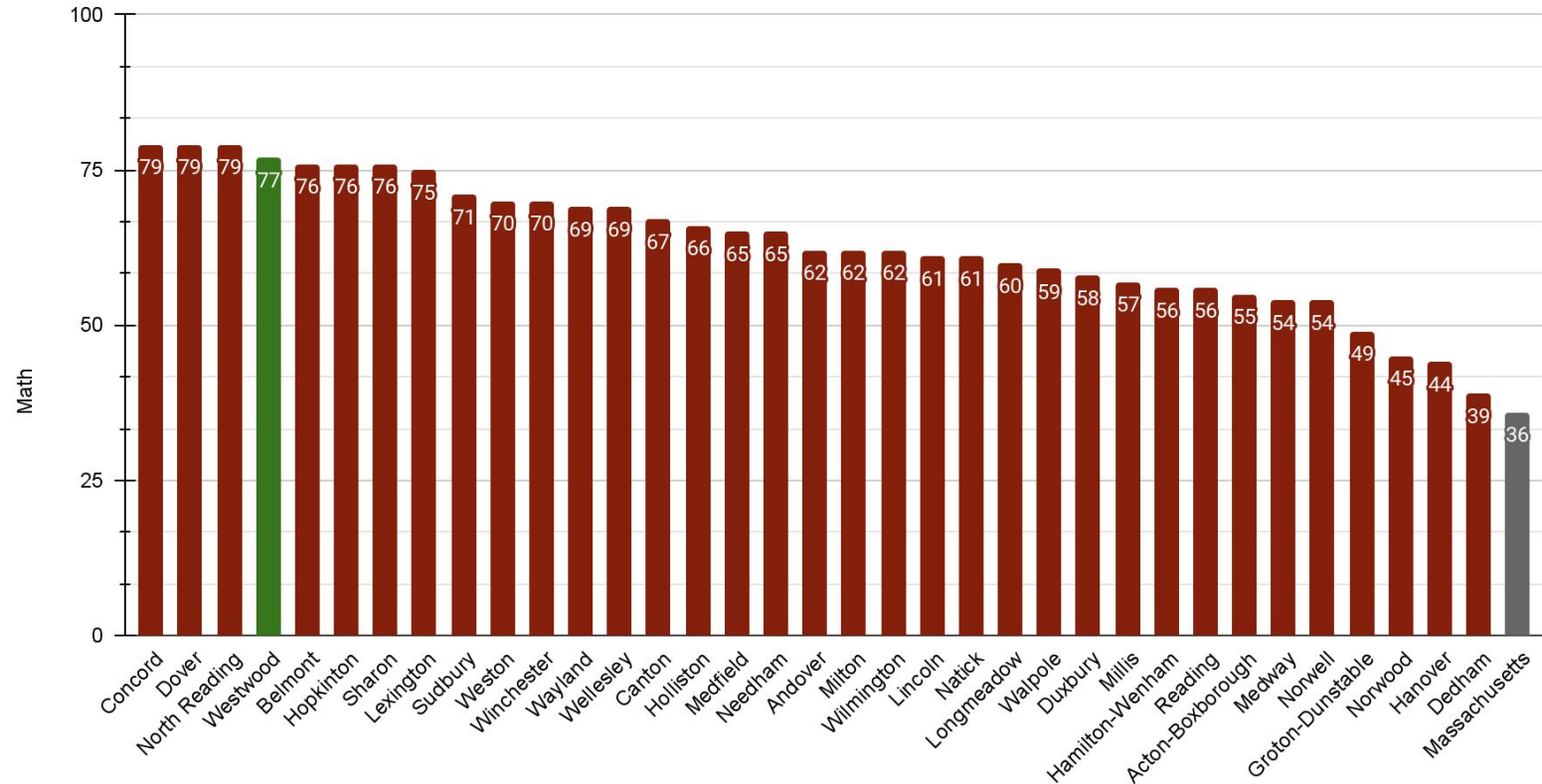
## 2022 Gr. 5 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps



Grade 5

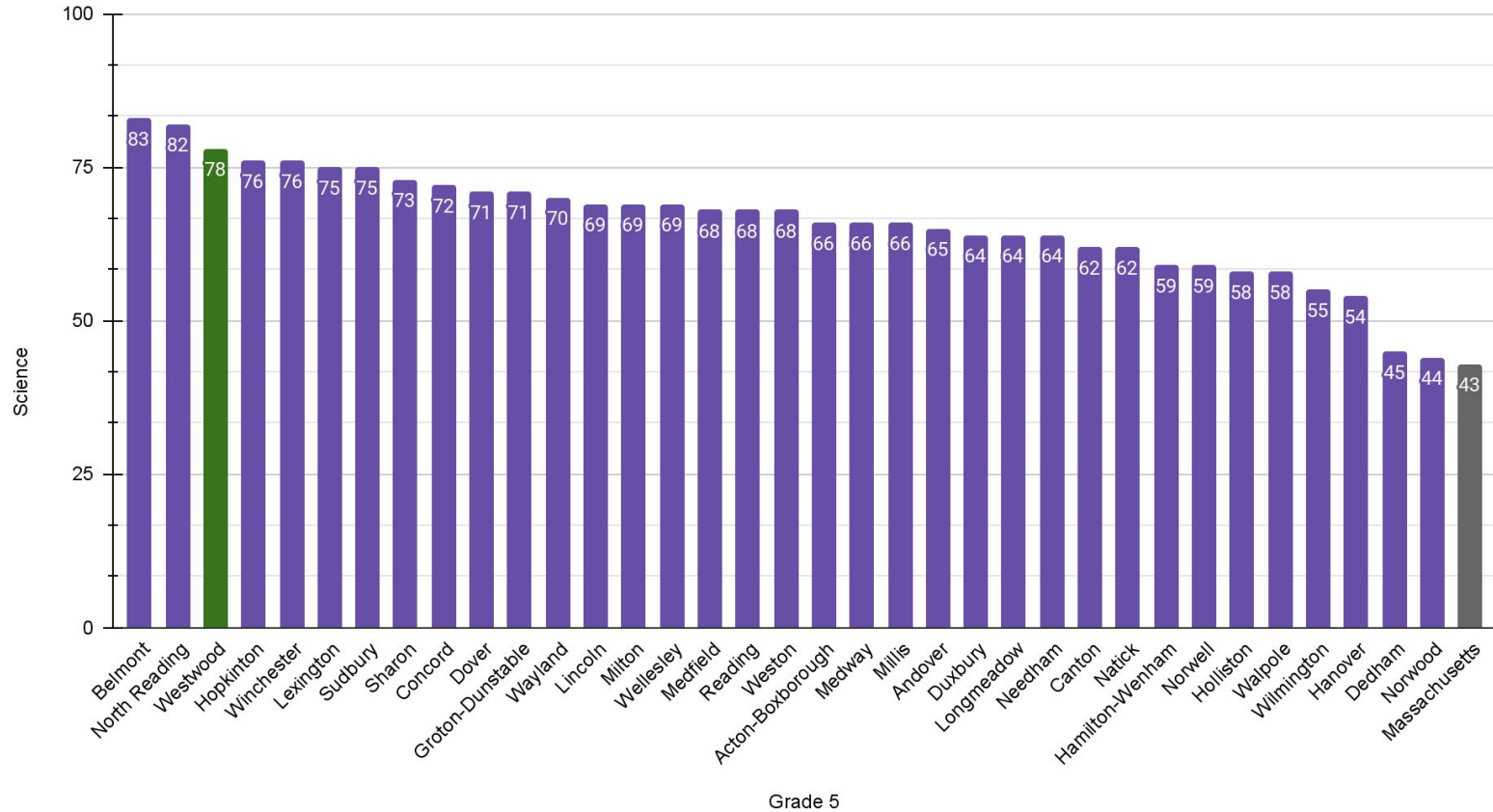


## 2022 Gr. 5 Math Meet + Exceed Comps



Grade 5

## 202 Gr. 5 STE Meet + Exceed Comps



# Grades 4 & 5 in state context

## Grade 4

ELA - 11th statewide

Math - 9th statewide

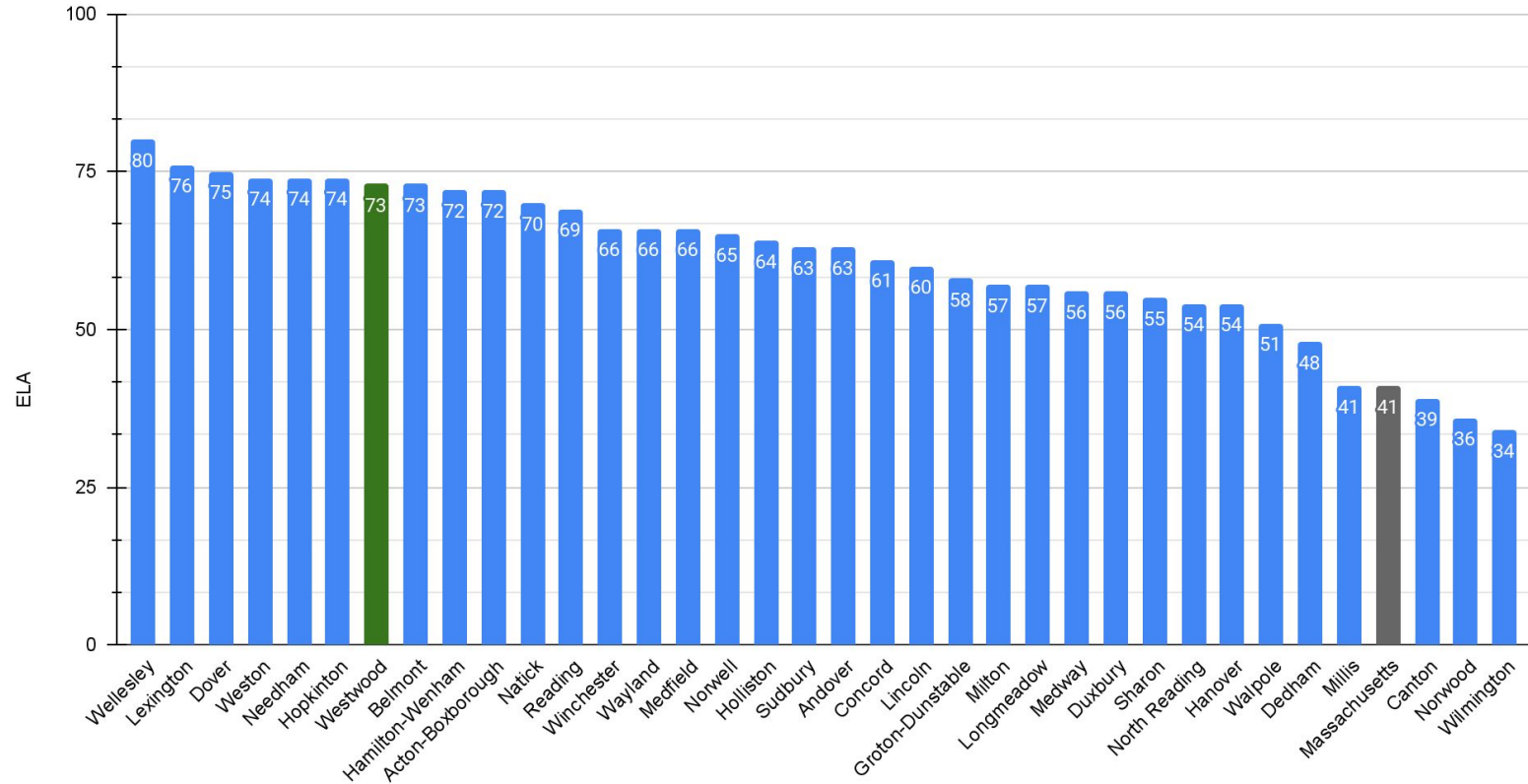
## Grade 5

ELA - 2nd statewide

Math - 3rd statewide

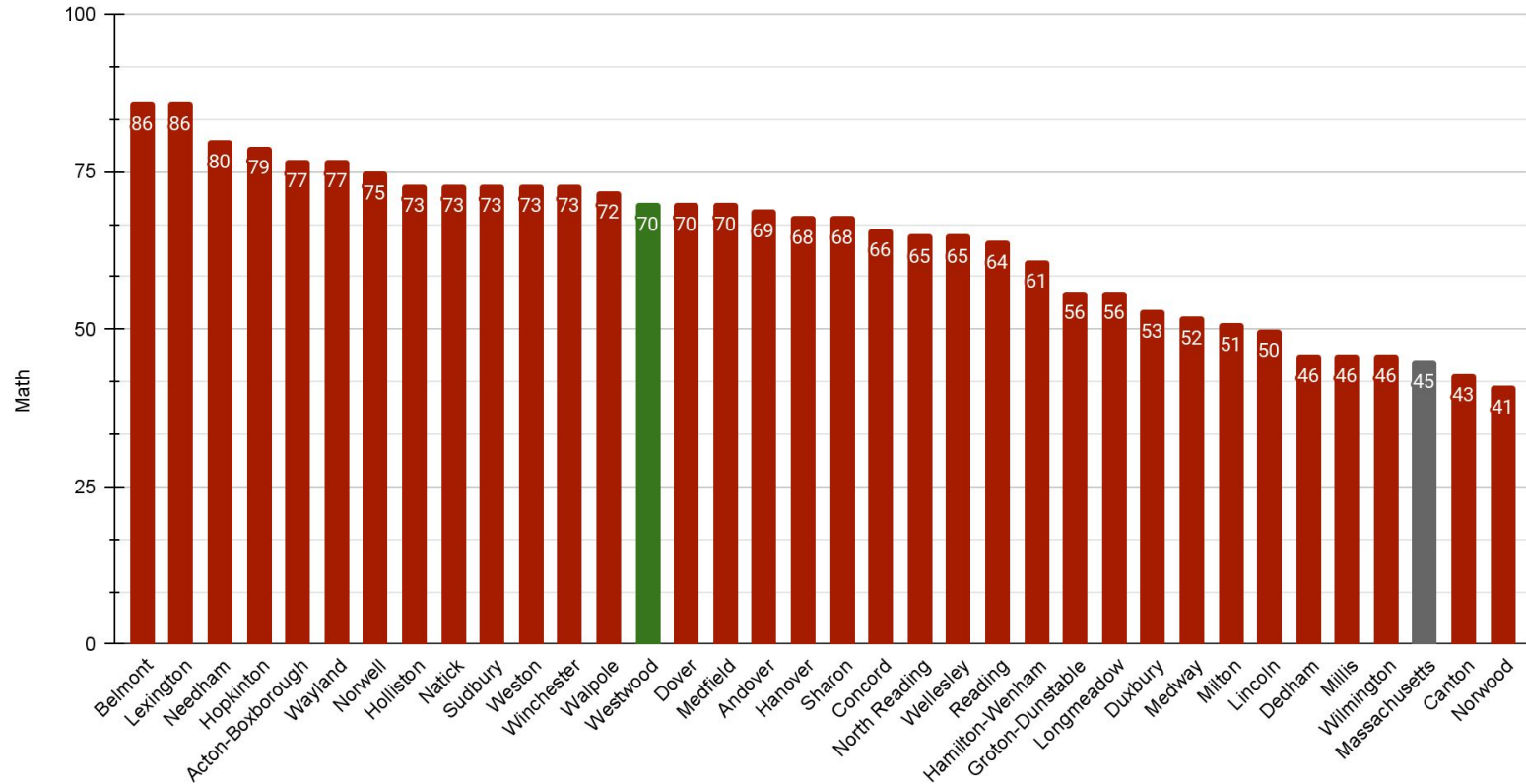
Science - 7th statewide

## 2022 Gr. 6 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps



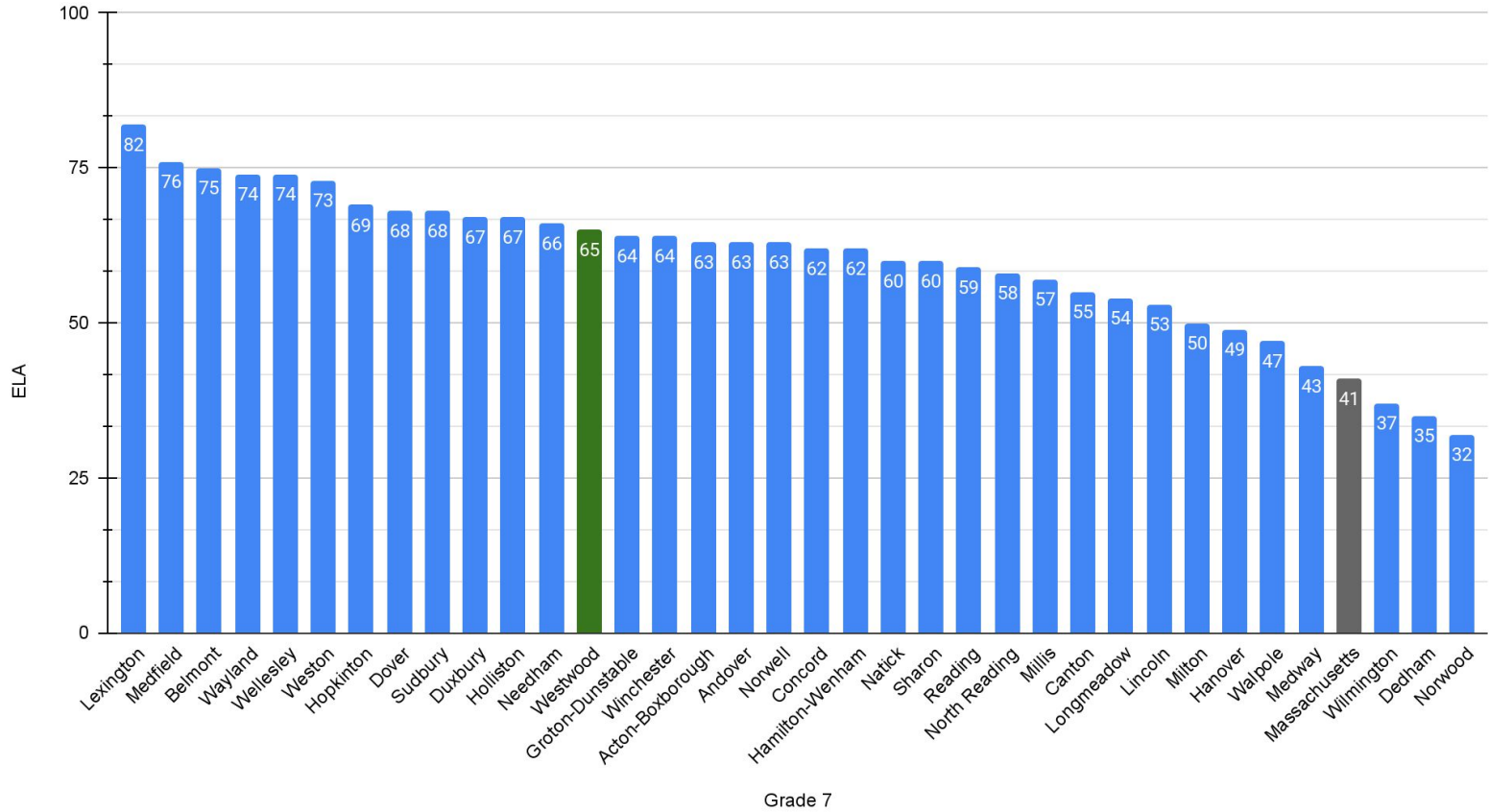
Grade 6

# 2022 Gr. 6 Math Meet + Exceed Comps

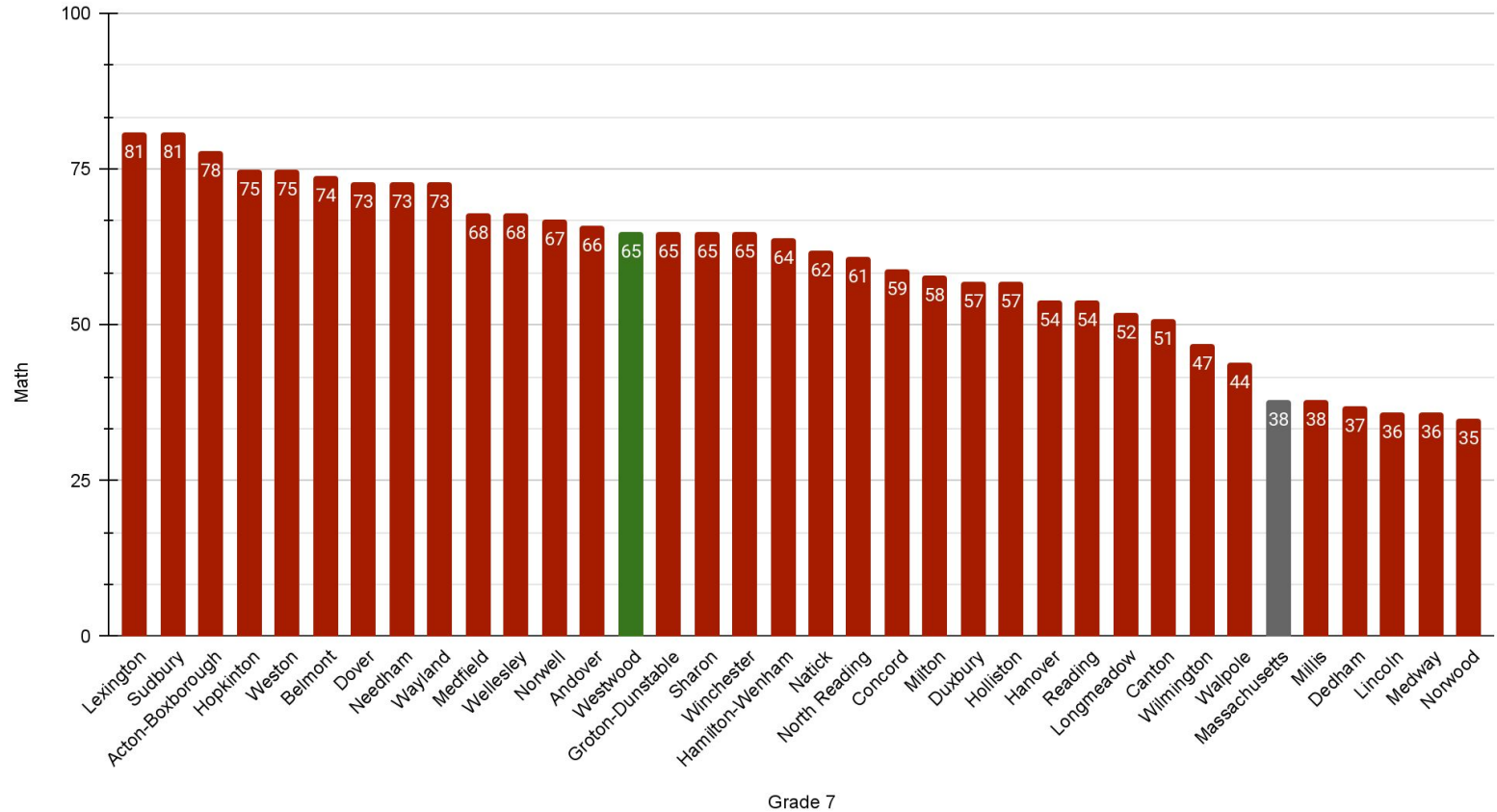


Grade 6

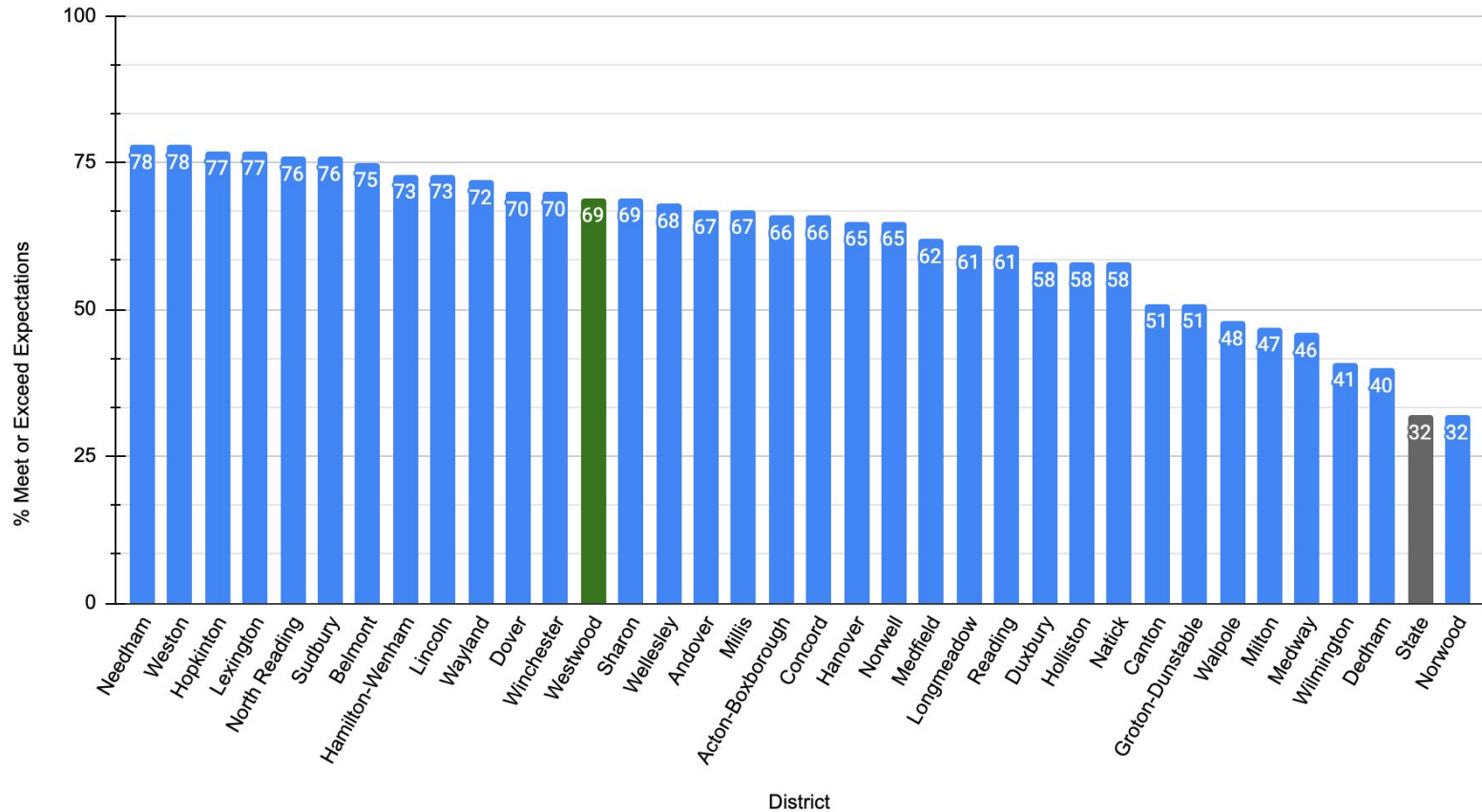
# 2022 Gr. 7 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps



## 2022 Gr. 7 Math Meet + Exceed Comps

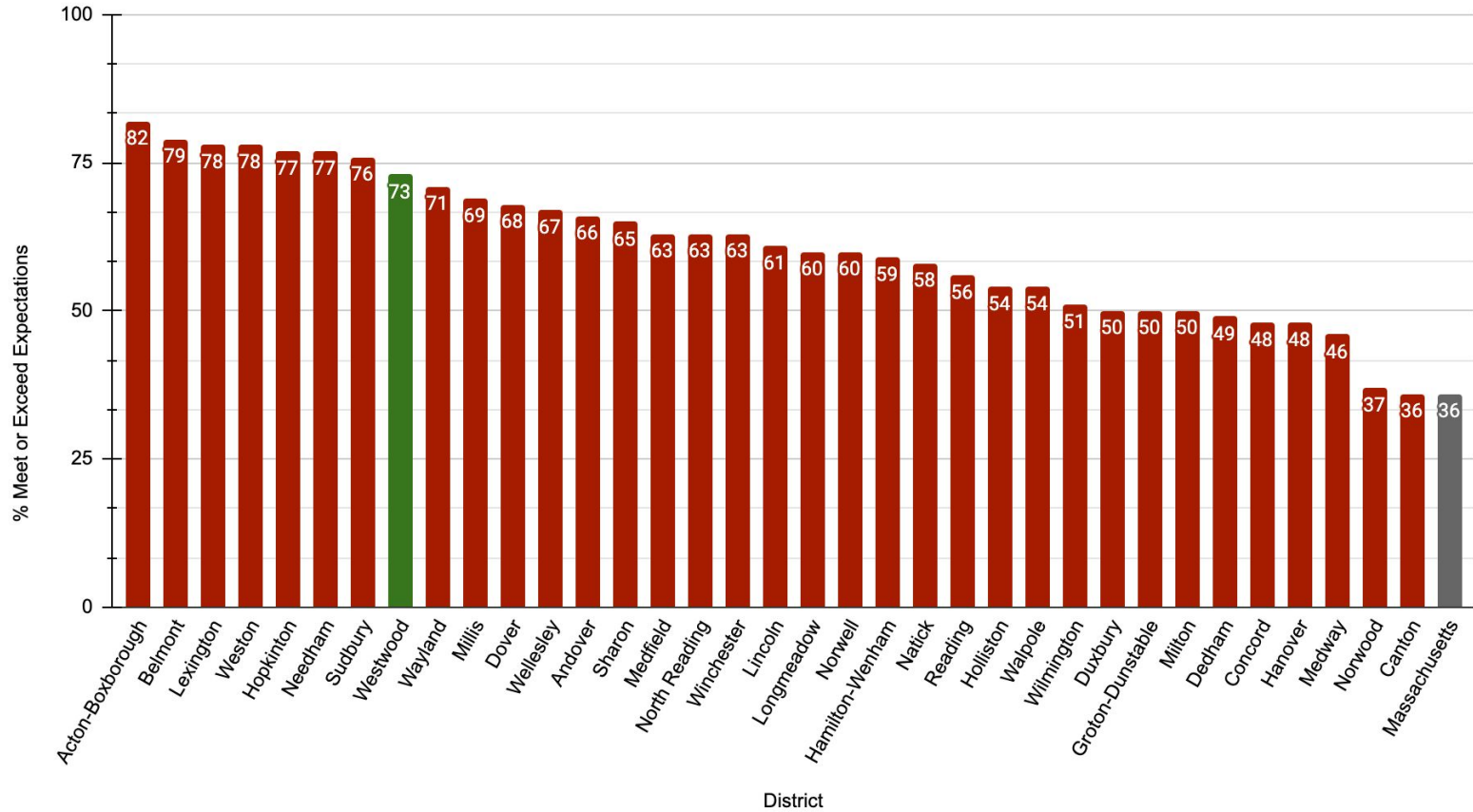


## 2022 Gr. 8 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

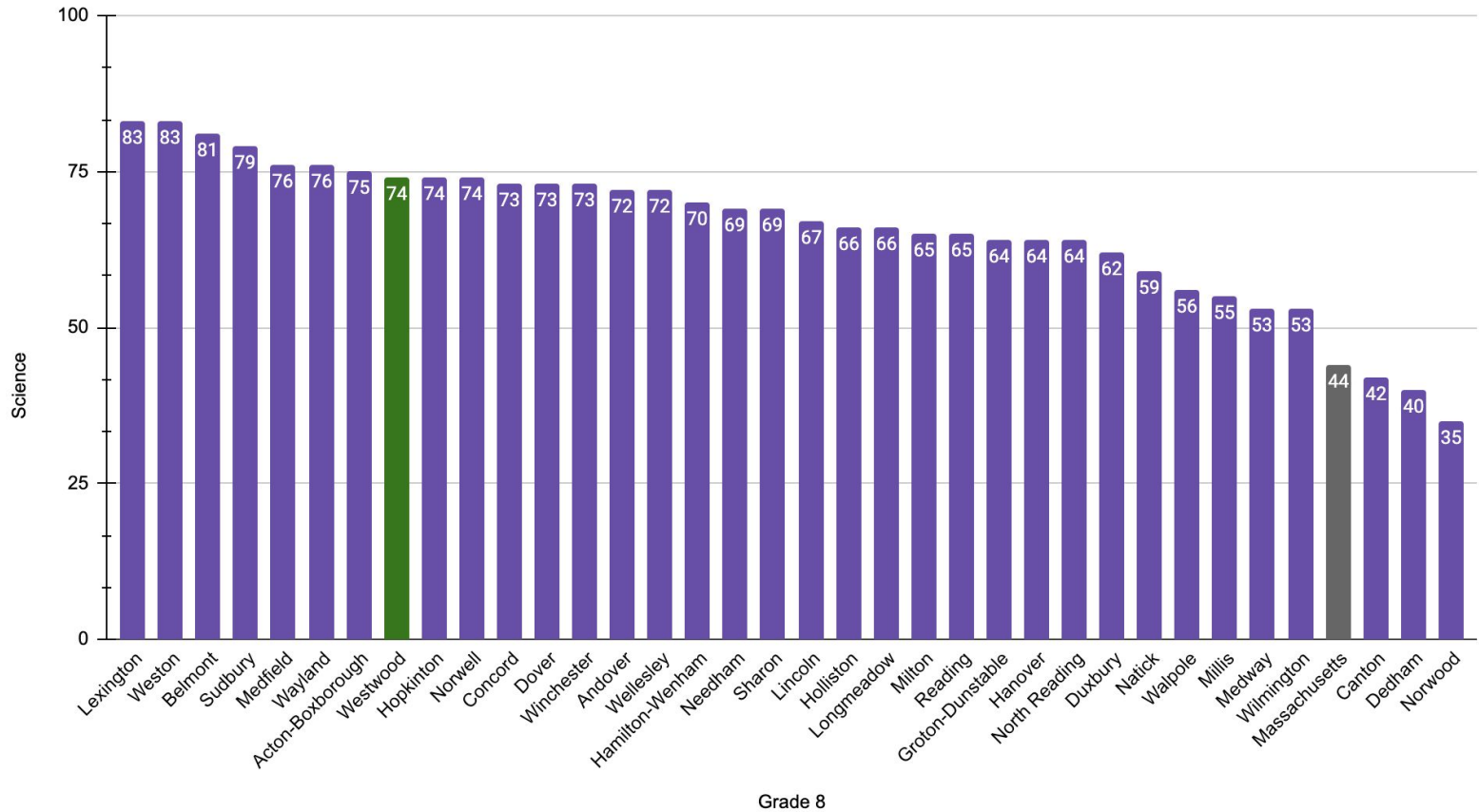




## 2022 Gr. 8 Math Meet + Exceed Comps



# 2022 Gr. 8 STE Meet + Exceed Comps

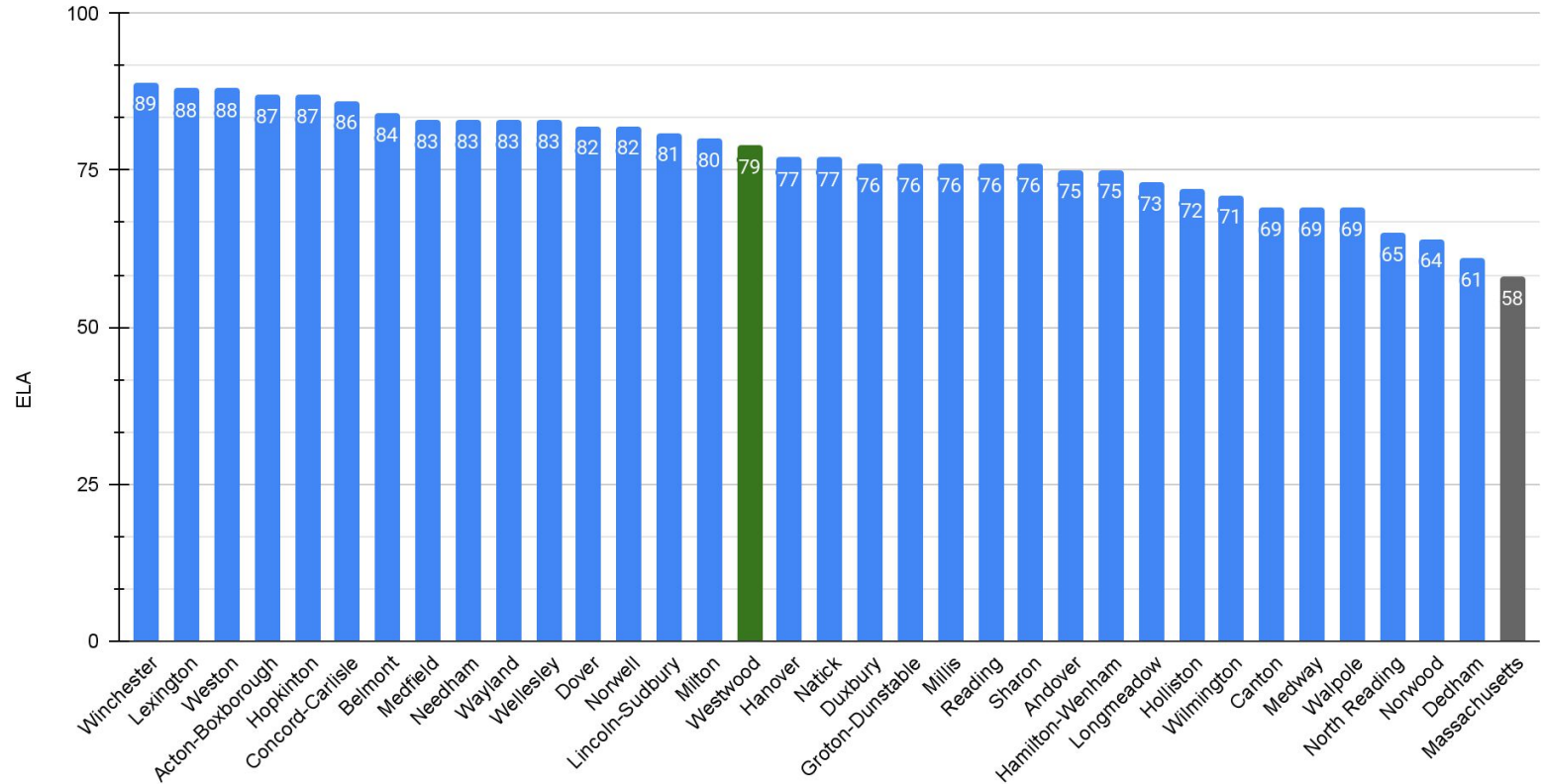


# Middle School Highlights

Grade 6 ELA - 11th statewide (n = 327)

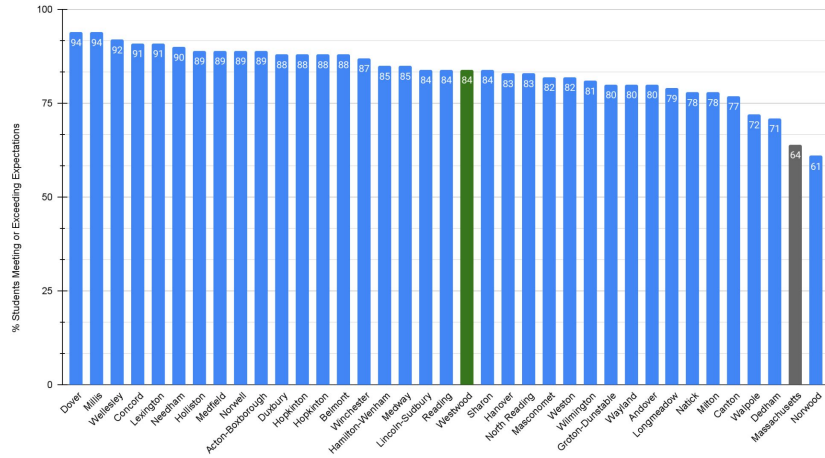
Grade 8 Science - 11th statewide

## 2022 Gr. 10 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

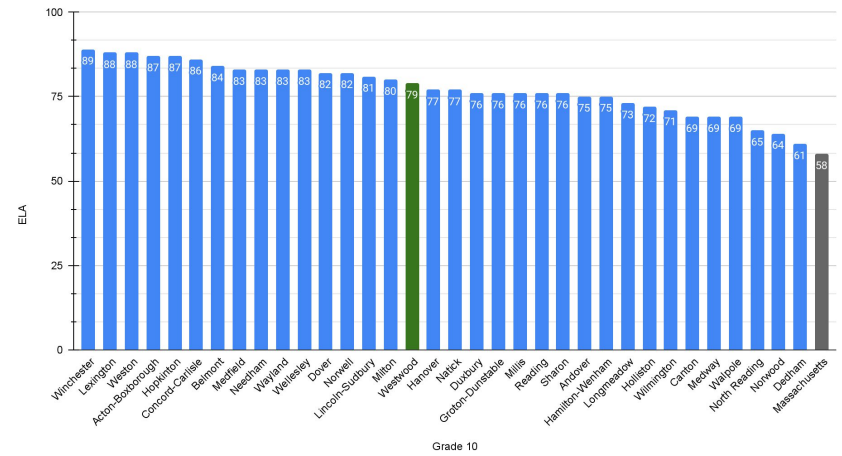


Grade 10

2021 Gr. 10 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

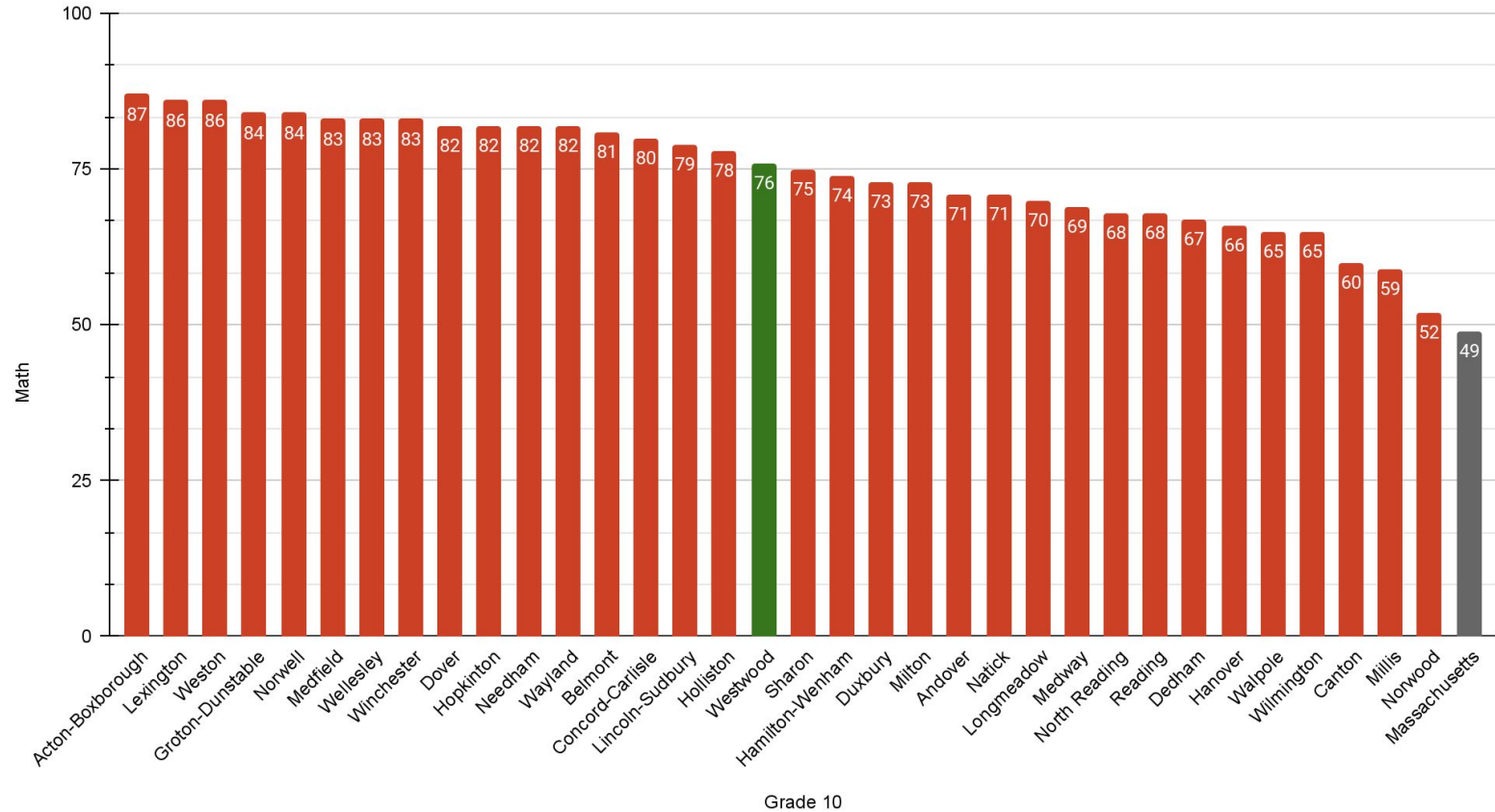


2022 Gr. 10 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

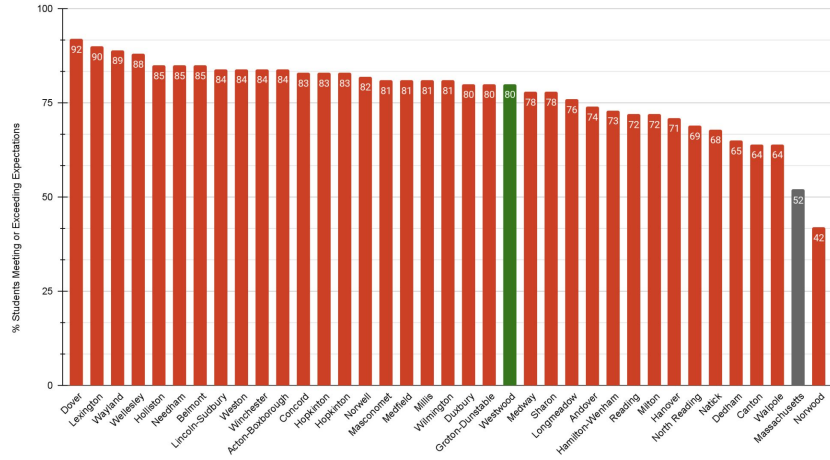


Grade 10

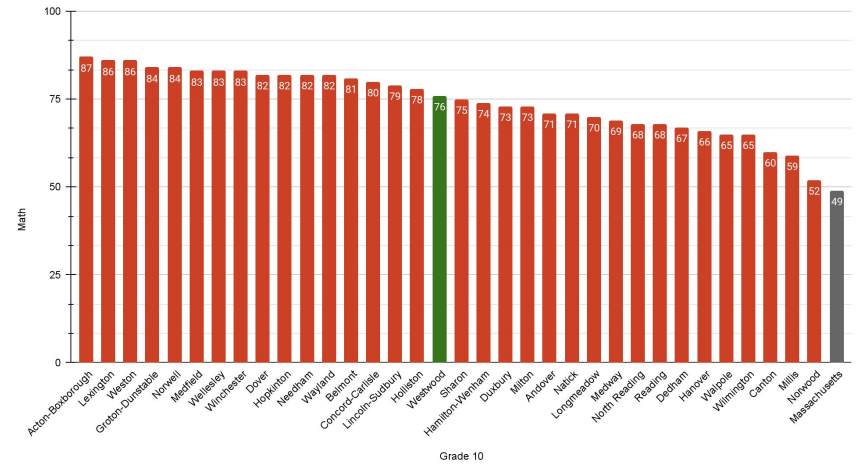
## 2022 Gr. 10 Math Meet + Exceed Comps



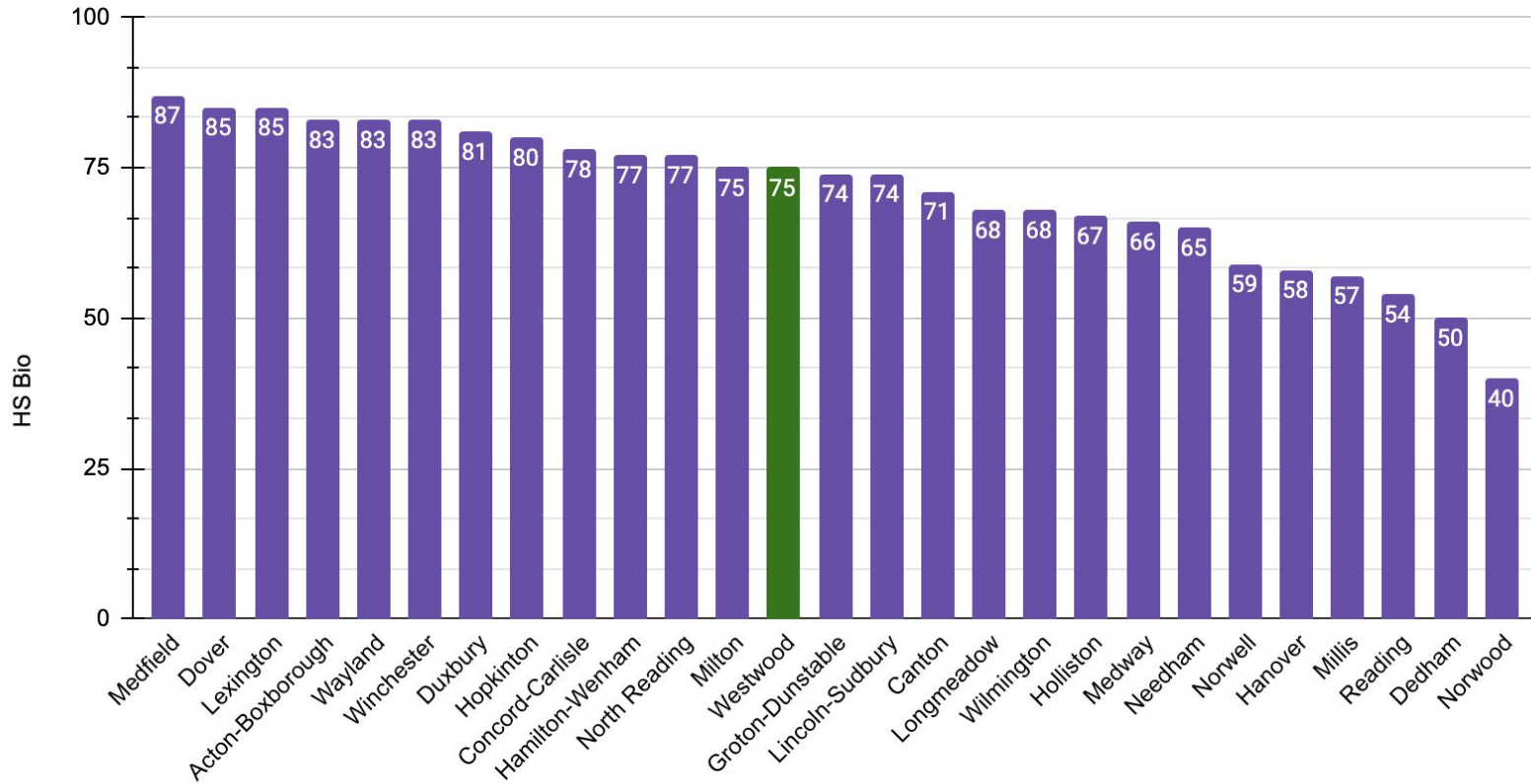
2021 Gr. 10 Math: Comp Districts Meeting or Exceeding



2022 Gr. 10 Math Meet + Exceed Comps



## 2022 HS Bio Meet + Exceed Comps



Grade 9 & 10



# MCAS Analysis to date

- **Curriculum & instruction implications at each grade level**
  - Areas of strength
  - Expected areas of lower performance
  - Unexpected areas of lower performance
- **Strategies for improvement**

# Elementary Mathematics - Overall

## Strengths:

- Numbers & Operations in Base-10
- Fractions

## Surprises (solid performance despite lack of emphasis 20-21):

- Geometry
- Measurement & Data

**Consistency across all five schools.**

# Math Grade Level Recommendations

## **Grade 3**

More practice with constructed response type questions.

Ensure all operations and algebraic thinking units taught

Continue including geometry and measurement & data

## **Grade 4**

Strong performance across all domains.

Continue including geometry and measurement & data

## **Grade 5**

Strong performance across all domains, esp when compared with state.

Address lower scores in constructed response.

# Elementary Literacy - Overall

## Strengths:

- Language usage (e.g., vocabulary acquisition)
- Reading

## Focus areas:

- Writing--specifically conventions of language

**Areas of relative weakness were still very strong when compared with the state.**

# Literacy Grade Level Recommendations

## **Grade 3**

More practice with reading and answering questions about multiple texts.

Support students with navigating test format (e.g., scrolling issue).

Expansion of Patterns of Power curriculum resource (language conventions).

## **Grade 4**

Expansion of Patterns of Power curriculum resource (language conventions).

Additional practice with test format.

## **Grade 5**

Address conventions of language in a more consistent and systematic way.

# Middle School Math Overview

## Strengths:

- Ratios and Proportional relationships
- Absolute value
- Linear equations

## Focus Area:

- Statistics and probability (expected)

**Geometry scores improving and student growth is high in this area.**

# TMS Math Recommendations

No big trends that come out of the standards data, except for expected relative weakness in stats/probability - “swiss cheese.”

Pilot new curriculum resources (Demos, Reveal) with stronger alignment to MA framework.

Analyze pre-and post assessment data to see impact.

# Middle School English Overview

## Strengths:

- Reading literature
- Conventions of language

## Focus areas:

- Reading Informational text
- Writing

Notable: variable performance in some standards areas--appear to be both strength and weaknesses. (e.g., students can identify a main idea in an article, but they are less easily able to point to evidence of where the author develops the main idea)



# Middle School - Focus on Informational Text

Cross-department professional development session focused on non-fiction

Educators explored data from grades 5 - 8, identified strengths and areas for growth

Course partners planned strategies to address relative weaknesses, e.g.:

- Found relevant nonfiction resources from online libraries (e.g., Newsela)
- Refined types of comprehension questions asked in lessons to better mirror standards
- Varied terms used in questions (e.g., defend, justify, prove)

# WHS English Strengths

## Essay Writing

- Grammar and conventions
- Idea development
- Argument writing
- Writing across more than one text.

## Reading

- Inferences
- Identifying and working with elements of argument
- Relationships across more than one text
- Purpose of grammar, syntax, and punctuation
- Central idea
- Tone

# WHS English Focus Areas in Writing

Idea development

Comparing two pieces (article, excerpt or poem) to:

- Comparing or finding central ideas
- Defining meaning across both
- Defining common tone
- Comparing two quotes

# WHS Math

Analysis still in progress

Focus on critical standards that 1) are important building blocks for next year and 2) are not taught after the test

*E.g., linear, quadratic and exponential models*

# 8th Grade & WHS Science (Bio)

## Grade 8 Science

- Improving relative to comps, state
- Focus area: waves (grade 6 standards, review this year in 8th)

## WHS Science (Bio)

- Highly consistent performance across all domains of test (Ecology, Evolution, Heredity, Molecules to Organisms)
- Weaker performance in constructed response

# Next time...

Update on WHS Math

Some subgroup data (with comps)

Thank you!