



## 2023 OVERRIDE

Voting by Newton  
for Newton on  
Three Questions







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## TWO DEBT EXCLUSION OVERRIDES

	Annual amount to service 30-year bonds	Total Project Cost	
Countryside Elementary	\$2,300,000	\$61,000,000	<i>MSBA funds ~30%</i>
Franklin Elementary	\$3,500,000	\$61,000,000	

- *Temporary tax increase for the life of the bonds*
- *Kicks in when we start bonding*



# FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRESENT / FUTURE





**COUNTRYSIDE  
ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL**

PRESENT / FUTURE



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# ONE OPERATING OVERRIDE

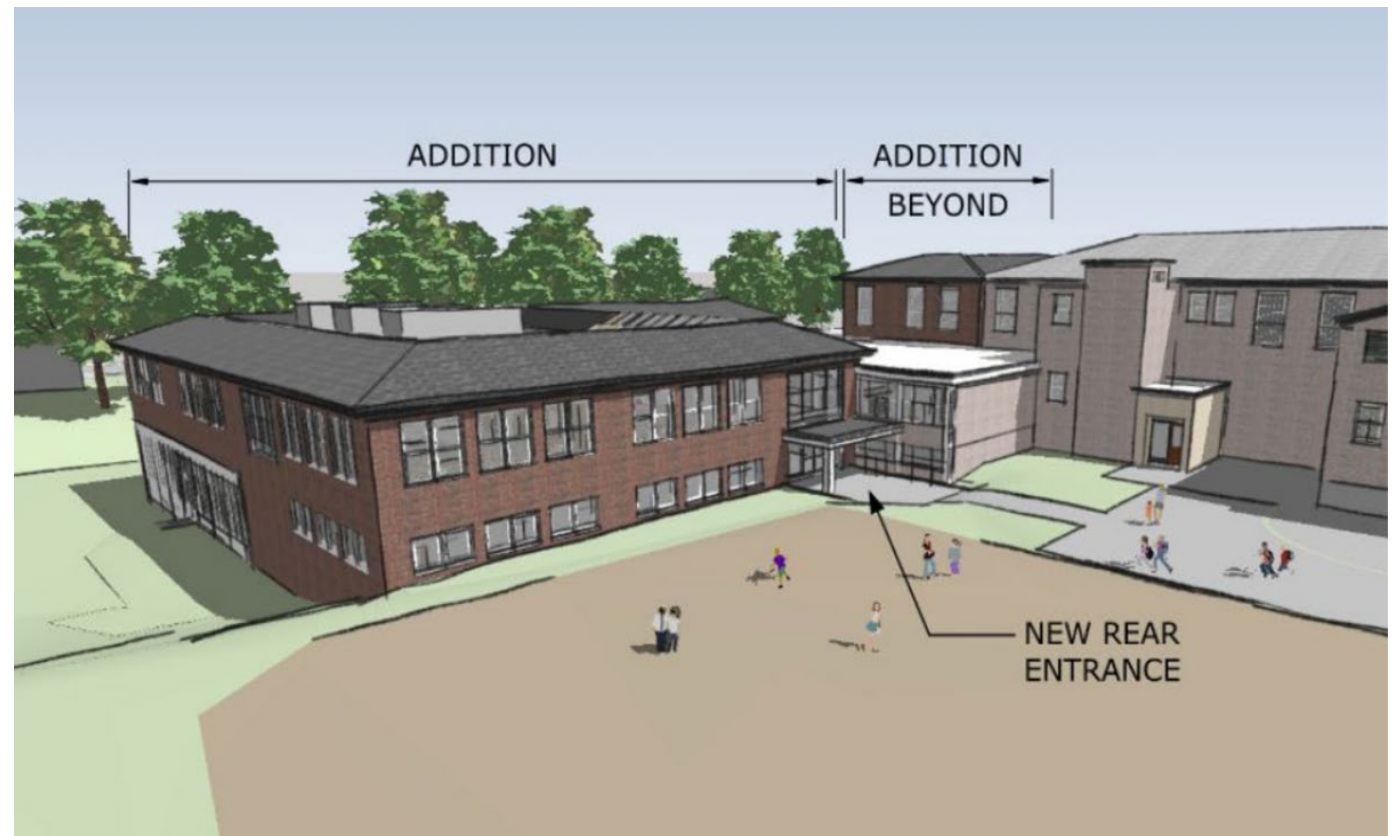
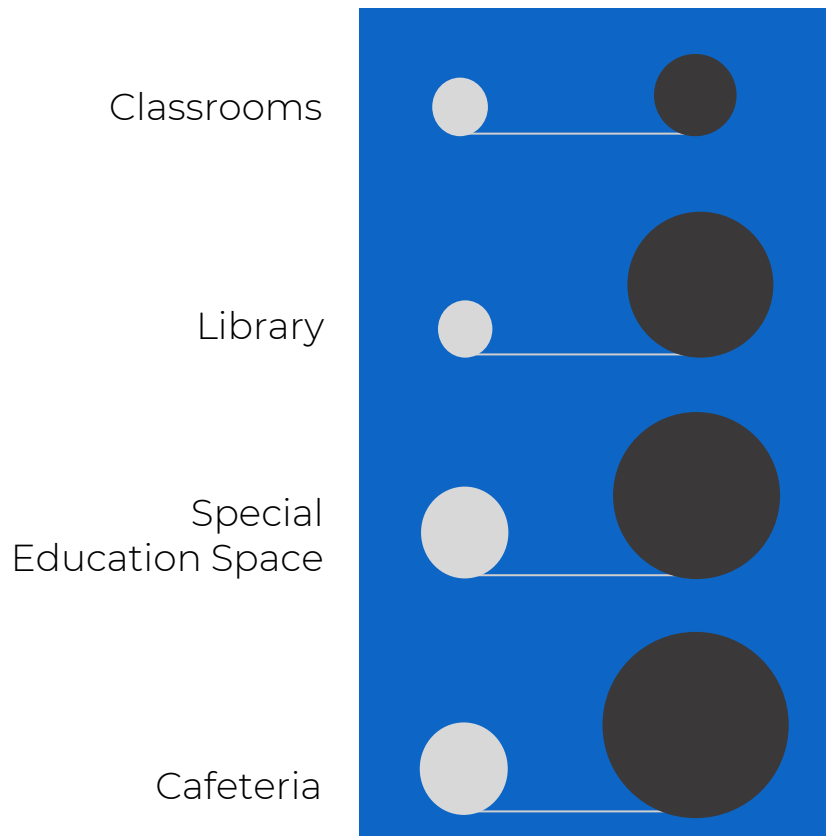
Horace Mann Elementary	\$775,000
Streets and Sidewalks	\$1,400,000
Parks, Fields, Courts and Playgrounds	\$1,000,000
Plant and Nurture Trees	\$500,000
Sustainability and Climate Resiliency	\$500,000
Senior Services and Programs	\$500,000
Supporting Student Needs	\$4,500,000
	\$9,175,000

- *Permanent tax increase*
- *Starts on July 1, 2023*

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# ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR HORACE MANN - \$775,000

Existing Recommended

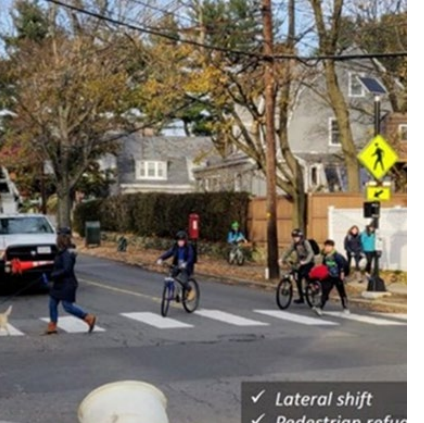
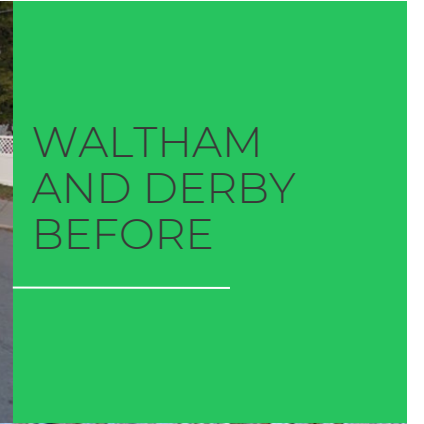
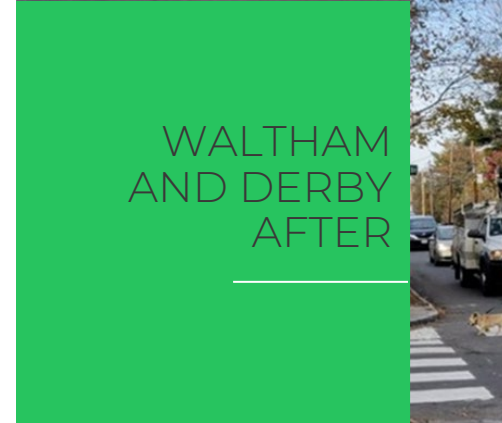




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# FIXING STREETS AND SIDEWALKS AND MAKING THEM SAFER – \$1.4M

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# PARKS, ATHLETIC FIELDS, COURTS AND PLAYGROUNDS – \$1M

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## Parks and Public Grounds

- Village centers
- Community spaces
- Gardens
- Plantings
- Arts & Cultural activities
- Trails
- Swim facilities



## Athletic Fields

- Mowing
- Field Prep
- Turf Maintenance
- Irrigation
- Aerification
- Topdressing



## Sports Court Improvements

- Sealcoating
- Line Painting
- Hoop/Backboard Maintenance
- Tennis and Pickleball
- Crack Repairs



## Playgrounds

- Updating out of date playground structures
- Accessible Surfacing
- Repairs



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# PLANTING AND NURTURING TREES - \$500,000

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## Tree Planting

Plant over 8,000  
new trees by 2030



## Young Tree Care

Care for improved  
longevity



## Tree Pruning

Prune every mature  
Street tree every 5 years



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# SUPPORTING OUR OLDER RESIDENTS- \$500,000

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Programs  
Services  
Transportation  
Operations



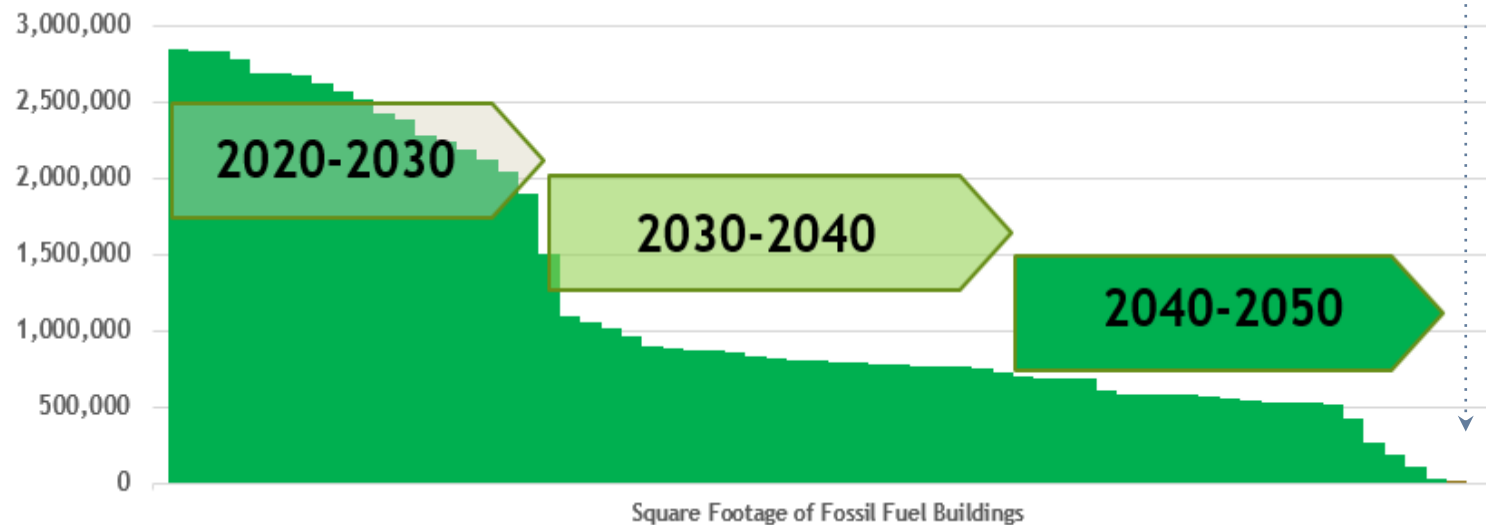
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# SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE RESILIENCY- \$500,000



Phase out Fossil Fuels in  
Newton Municipal &  
School Buildings

Carbon-neutrality  
by 2050.







**Newton Public  
Schools**  
*Building for Our Future*



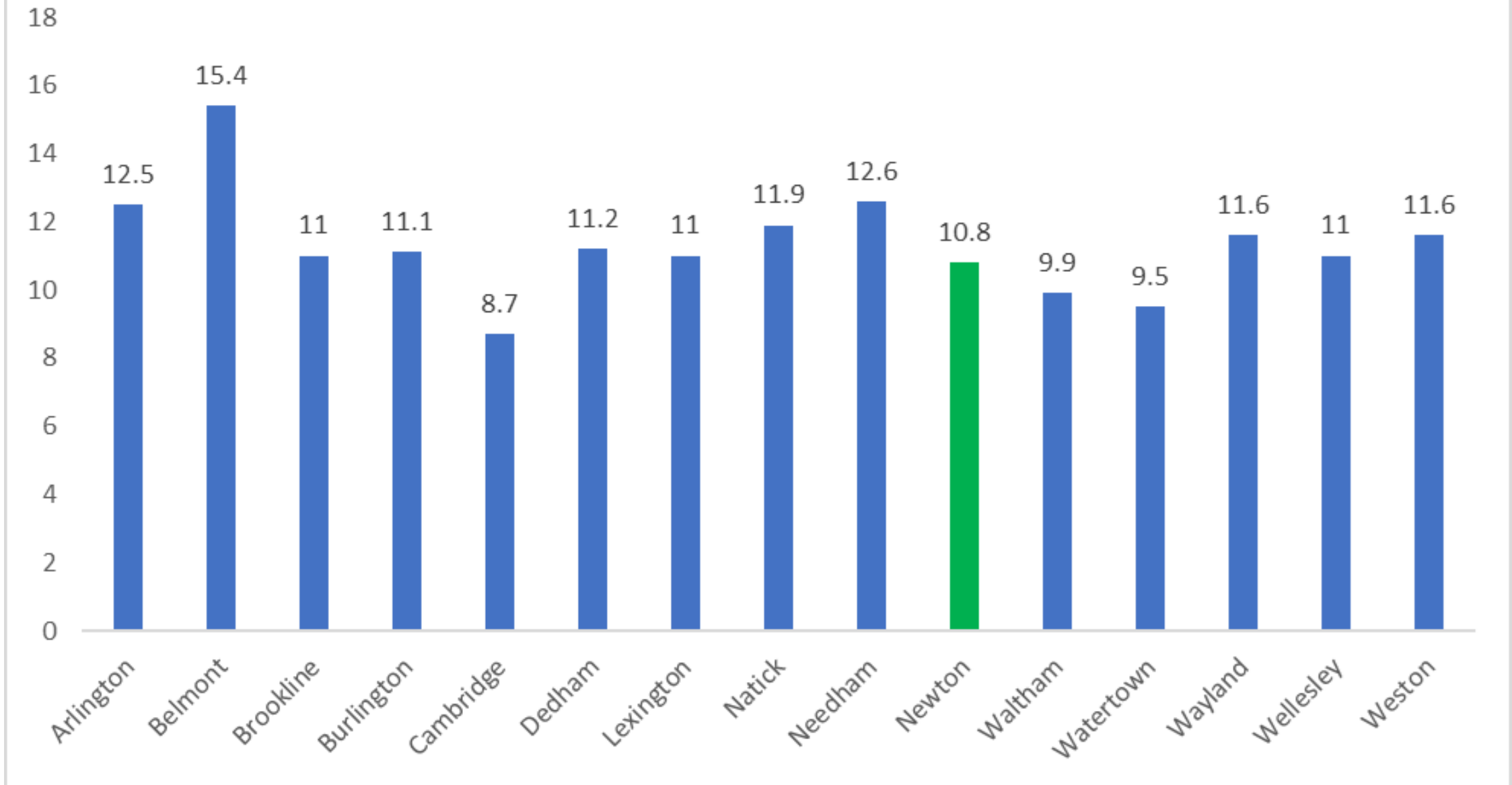
# A review of NPS since 2013, the last operating override...



[Milestones Video Link](#)

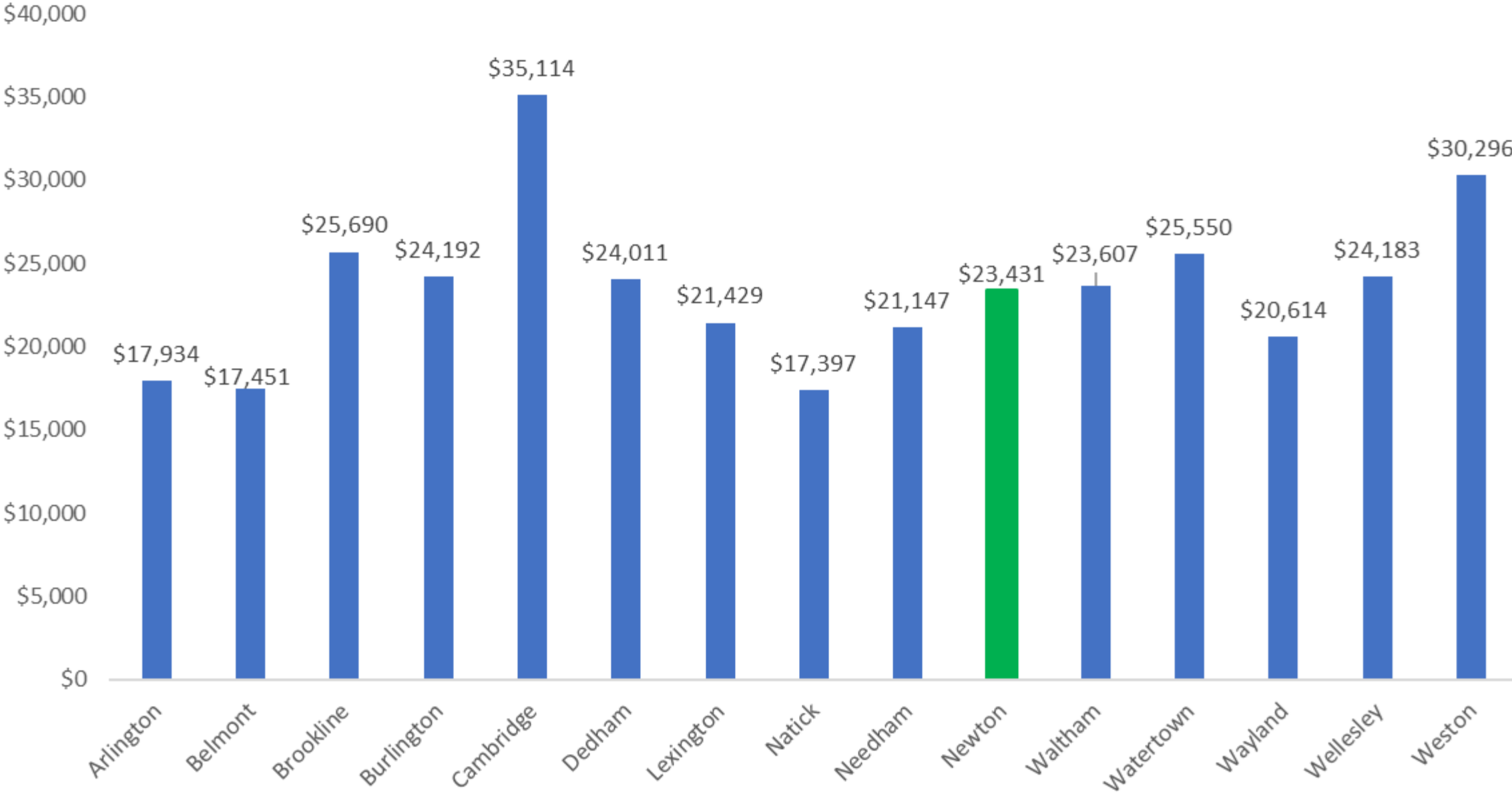


### Student:Teacher Ratio (FY22)



Source: DESE School and District Profiles

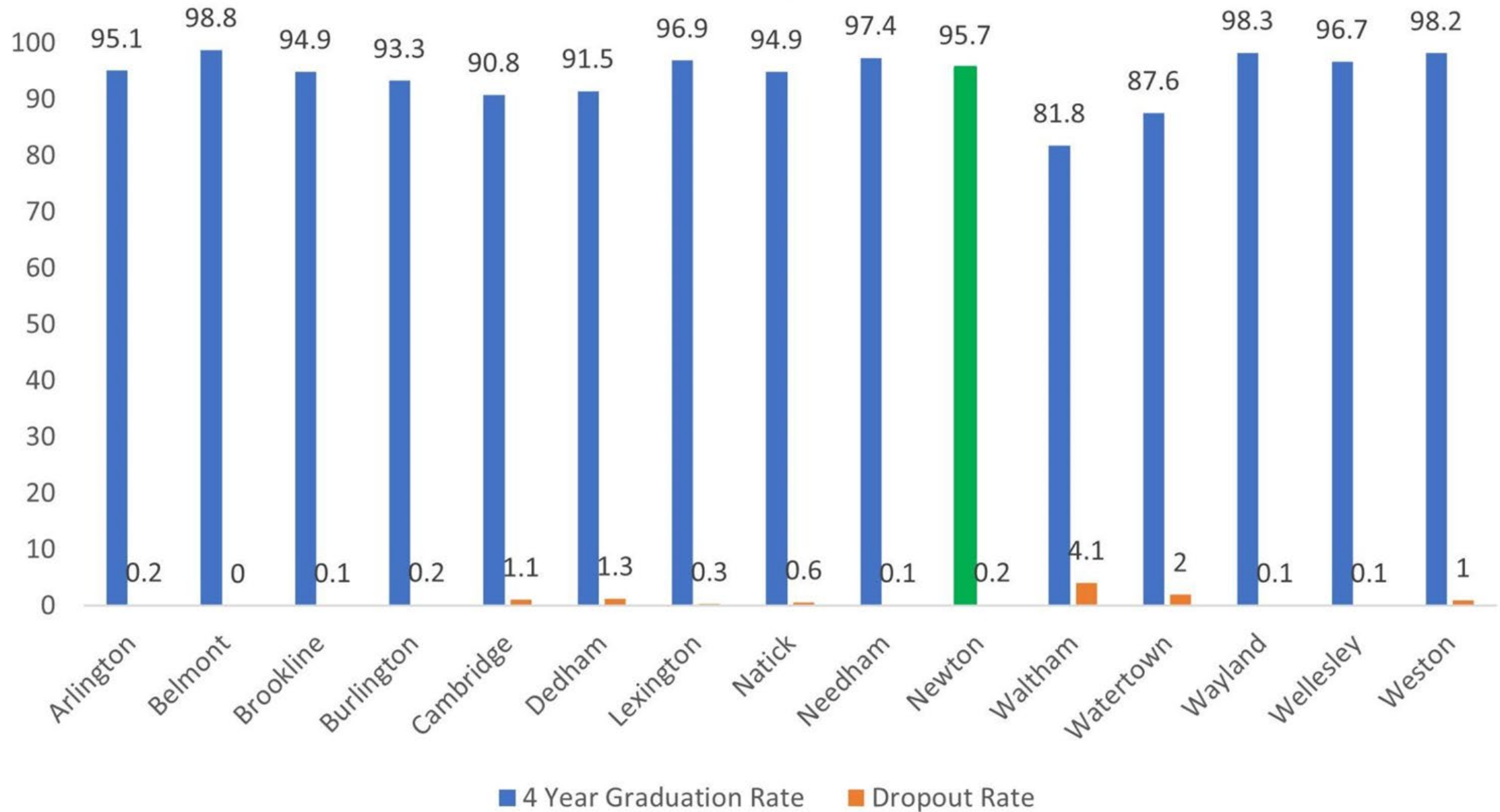
# Per Pupil Expenditure (FY21)



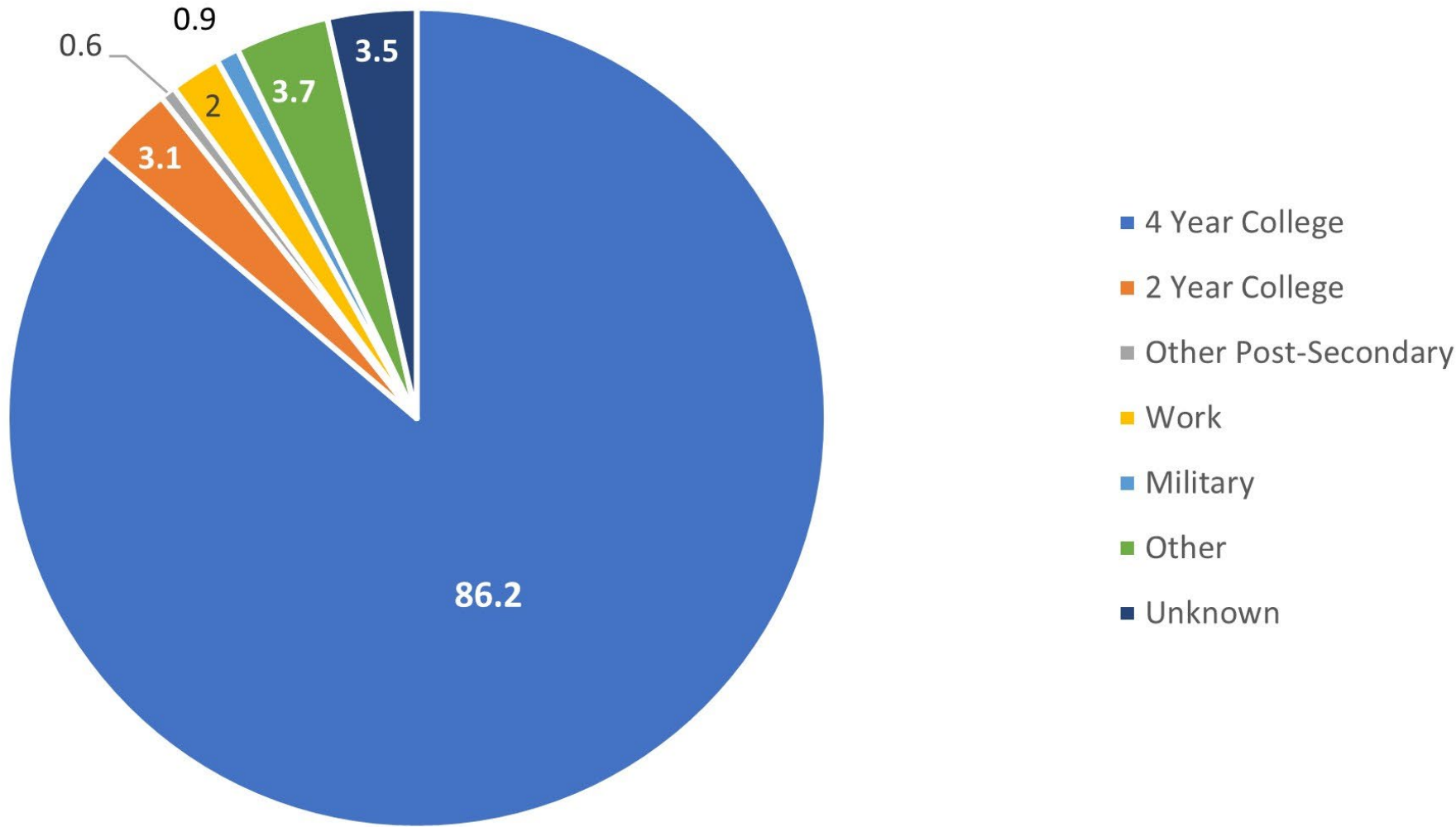
Source: <https://www.doe.mass.edu/finance/statistics/per-pupil->



## Graduation and dropout rates (FY21)



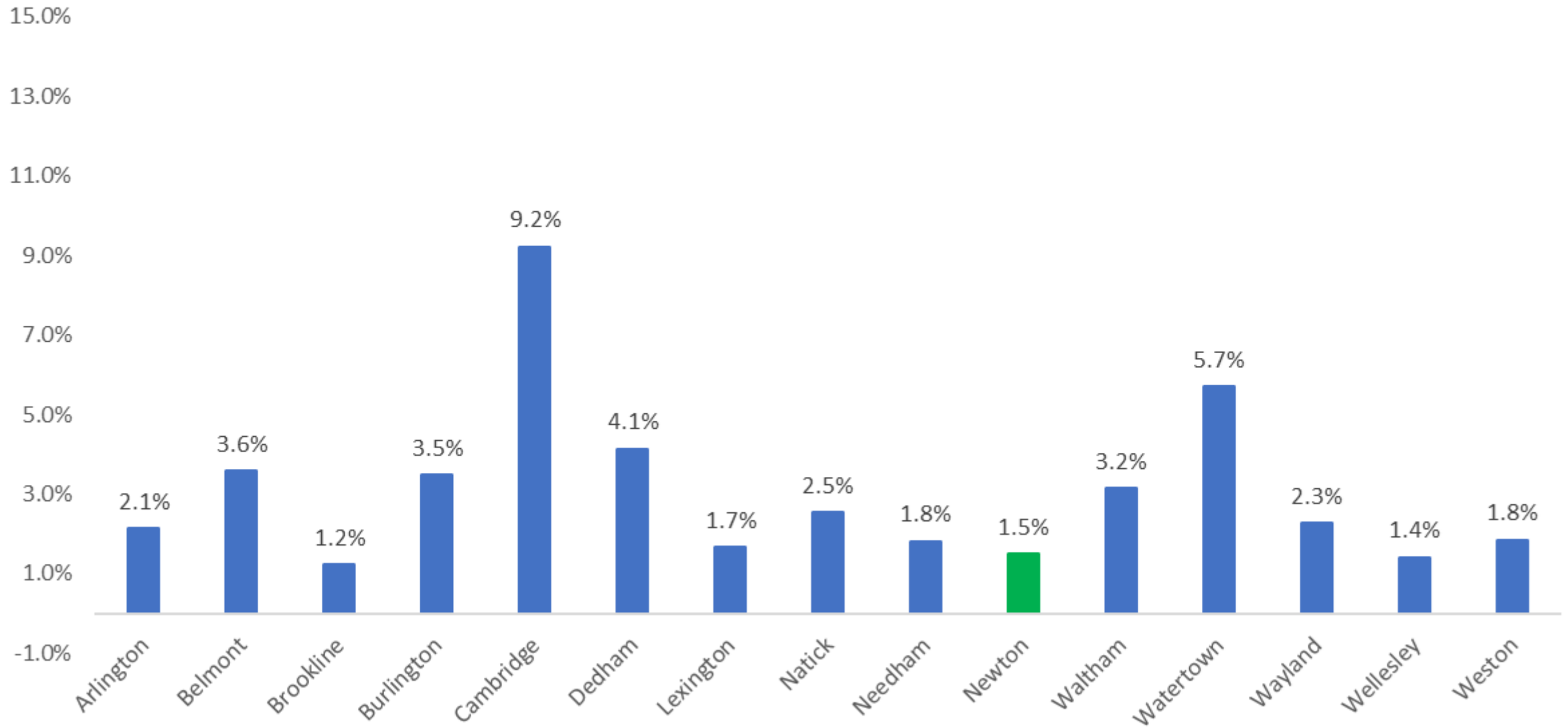
# Student post-graduation plans (FY21)



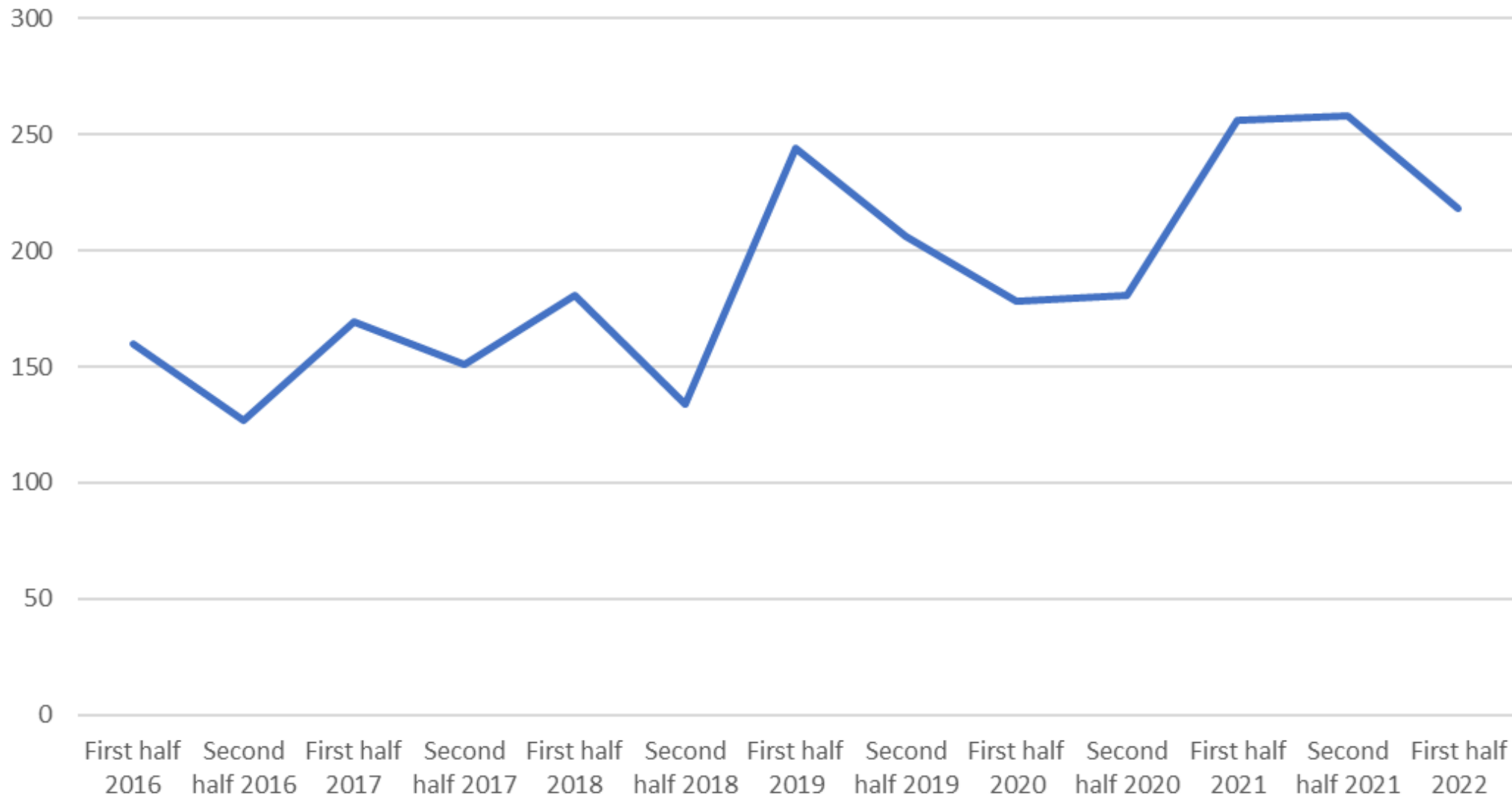
Source: DESE School and District Profiles



## Outplaced Students (FY21)



### Mental health referrals 2016-2022



**Referrals through William James INTERFACE Referral Service**



# OVERRIDE INVESTMENT FOR OPERATING BUDGET




**Annual additional funding: \$4,500,000**





## What does this override mean for our district?

### ○ **Maintain:**

- **Strong, challenging, and engaging academic program**
  - **Smaller elementary schools and school communities that are welcoming and inclusive**
  - **Robust and meaningful mental health supports**
  - **Modern, innovative, and readily accessible technology**
- 



## OUR COMMITMENT:

### STRONG, CHALLENGING AND ENGAGING ACADEMIC PROGRAM OF STUDY



- Small class sizes with personalized learning
- Specialist teachers to support classroom instruction
- Academic coordination across district
- Multiple pathways for diverse learners (AP classes, CTE, etc.)





## OUR COMMITMENT:

### INCLUSIVE & WELCOMING SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL COMMUNITIES



- Smaller elementary schools
- In-district programming to serve needs of diverse learners
- ELL programs - more than 50 languages
- Athletics, fine arts, clubs, and activities beyond academia



# OUR COMMITMENT:

## ROBUST AND MEANINGFUL MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS



- Staff Specialists
  - School guidance counselors
  - Social workers
  - Adjustment counselors
  - Psychologists
  - Social emotional interventionists
- Programming
  - Social & emotional learning programs
  - Partnerships with community mental health organizations







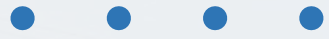
## OUR COMMITMENT:

### MODERN, INNOVATIVE, AND ACCESSIBLE TECHNOLOGY



- o Dedicated 1:1 device program
- o Interactive curricular material
- o Sophisticated assessment tools
- o Digital creation tools
- o Access to content by text, audio, & video

# Q: Why is \$4.5 million needed for the operating budget?



## **A: Rising costs have or will exceed average yearly budget increase (3.5%)**

- o Transportation
- o Health Insurance
- o Commitment to in-district programs and out-of-district tuition rates

## **A: Continued use of one-time funds (rollover, ESSER/ARPA) to fund recurring operating costs**

- o Technology
- o Building Maintenance
- o Mental health supports



**Q: What difference will \$4.5 million make for the district moving forward?**

• • • •

**A: The addition of \$4.5 million to the NPS operating budget will allow the district to maintain current programming and services and build a budget that is sustainable over time.**



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## **WHAT WILL THIS COST ME?**

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### **OVERRIDE CALCULATOR**

**City of Newton, Massachusetts**

**Estimated Property Tax Increase From March 2023 Property Tax  
Override**

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**Please enter an address below:**

House Number	<input type="text"/>
Street Name	<input type="text" value="ABBOTT ST"/>
Unit (if applicable)	<input type="text"/>
<input type="button" value="Search for this Property"/>	

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**[NEWTONMA.GOV/OVERRIDE](https://newtonma.gov/override)**

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## WHAT WILL THIS COST ME?

### MEDIAN SINGLE FAMILY HOME VALUE \$1.2 million IMPACT

Q1: OPERATING  
OVERRIDE  
First Year (FY24)  
\$290

Q2 & 3: DEBT EXCLUSION  
OVERRIDES  
Seventh Year (FY30)  
+\$183

### ~25<sup>th</sup> PERCENTILE SINGLE FAMILY HOME VALUE \$750,000 IMPACT

Q1: OPERATING  
OVERRIDE  
First Year (FY24)  
\$173

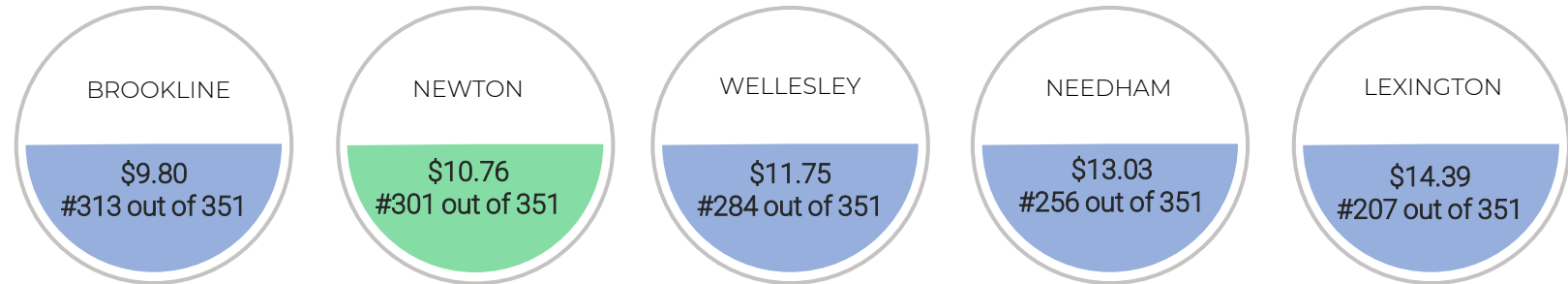
Q2 & 3: DEBT EXCLUSION  
OVERRIDES  
Seventh Year (FY30)  
+\$110

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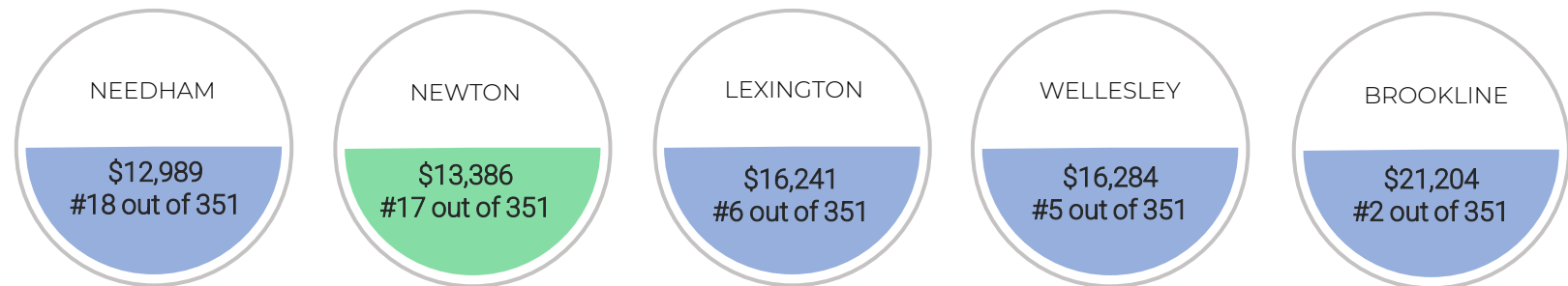
# PROPERTY TAXES IN NEWTON

Fiscal Year 2021

## PROPERTY TAX RATES



## AVERAGE TAX BILL



Source: Massachusetts Department of Revenue



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# TAX ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE OLDER, DISABLED OR VETERANS

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**DOUBLING 7 PROGRAMS**

**EXPANDING 2 PROGRAMS**

- Tax Relief
- Tax Deferral
- Tax Exemption
- Tax Work-Off (with Proxies)
- Water/Sewer Discount

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## OVERRIDE CONTEXT

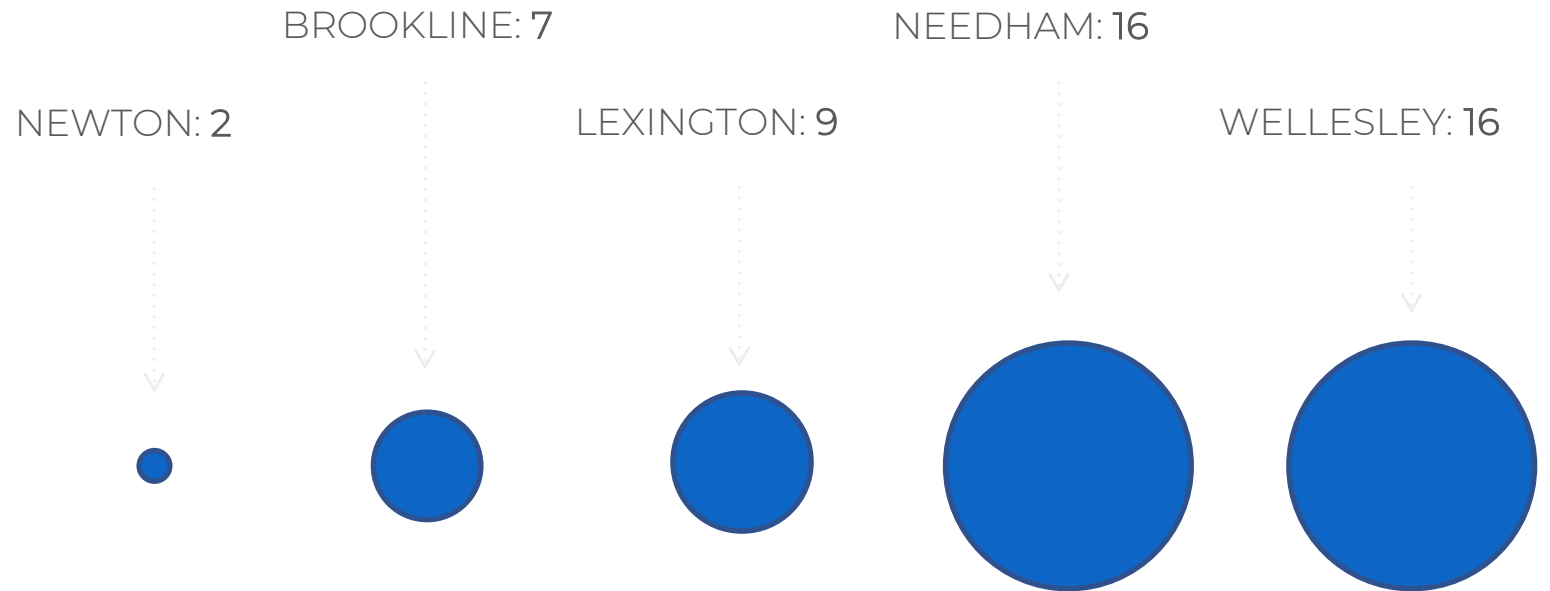
NEWTON  
OVERRIDES  
EVERY  
10 YEARS

**2002**

**2013**

**2023?**

## NUMBER OF OVERRIDES SINCE 2000



*UPDATE 1/3/2023: Further research has indicated that the numbers of overrides since 2000 for the above communities reflect mixing the number of years that overrides passed with the number of total ballot questions. For more specific data on these and additional communities, please see the chart on the following slide.*

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# OVERRIDE NEIGHBORING AND PEER COMMUNITY COMPARISON

Municipal Overrides with Comparable Communities

Debt Exclusion Override Passed ■  
 Operating Override Passed ■  
 Both Operating/Debt Passed ■

Municipality	YEAR																						# of Years with Overrides Passed	
	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		22
Watertown*																								0
Waltham*																								0
<b>Newton</b>			■											■										2
Brookline								■							■			■	■	■				5
Natick	■								■	■							■		■					5
Arlington	■	■				■					■					■		■	■					7
Milton	■	■	■			■	■			■								■						7
Belmont		■	■		■	■				■					■	■			■					8
Winchester			■					■				■		■		■		■	■		■			8
Lexington	■		■		■		■				■		■				■	■					■	9
Needham	■	■		■		■	■	■	■	■					■			■						11
Wayland			■	■			■	■	■	■	■	■							■	■			■	12
Wellesley	■	■	■	■			■	■	■							■		■				■	■	14
Weston	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	22

\* *Watertown and Waltham both have higher levels of new growth, which has helped obviate the need for an override. Between FY2019-FY2023, Watertown's new growth averaged 4.85% and Waltham's averaged 2.58%, compared to Newton's 1.65%.*





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