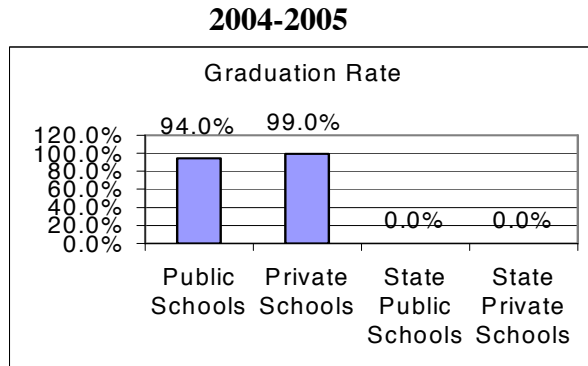


**Wood County
Graduation
Rate
Exceeds
State Average**



Note: Information was obtained from the individual schools in the County. Graduation rates at the State level are not available from the DPI yet for the 2004-2005 school year.

Key Facts

- When a student completes the course of study established by a local school district, he or she is considered a high school graduate.
- The State of Wisconsin requires by law that in order to graduate, public school students must complete 21.5 credits in English, math, science, social studies, physical education, health, and elective courses.
- Each school district has the option to exceed the minimum credits required for graduation.
- All schools in Wood County exceed the minimum number of credits required for graduation.

Why is this Information Important?

There are many opportunities available for high school graduates; the same cannot be said for those who fail to graduate. Those who earn a high school diploma can look forward to additional educational advancements, as well as higher than average lifetime incomes, which can in turn lead to a more satisfying quality of life.

Income Reflects Level of Education

Without a high school diploma, finding a job or furthering one's education can become problematic. All accredited colleges require a high school diploma or its equivalent. Additionally, a 1999 study by the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that full-time workers age 25 and above with less than a high school diploma had median weekly earnings of \$345 compared to a median of \$489 for those with a high school diploma. For those who decide to pursue post-secondary education, this figure almost doubles to \$851.

The graduation rate is computed by dividing the number of graduates by the sum of graduates plus dropouts over the previous four years.

Graduation rates for public and private schools in Wood County exceed the average State of Wisconsin graduation rate.

Sources: WI DPI; individual Wood County area school districts