

Cheshire County

County Offices

Cheshire County Administration
 12 Court Street, Keene, NH
 (603) 352-8215
<https://co.cheshire.nh.us/>

County Services: Departments of Facilities, Finance, Grants, and Human Resources; Alternative Sentencing Program and Mental Health Court; Maplewood Nursing Home; Sheriff's Office; Project Management Office; Registry of Deeds

UNH Cooperative Extension
<https://extension.unh.edu/facility/cheshire-county-office>



Cheshire County, one of the five original counties, occupies the southwest corner of the state. It is separated from Vermont by a 41-mile length of the Connecticut River, and borders Massachusetts along a 27-mile straight line to the south. Established in 1769, the county was named for Cheshire County in England. Cheshire is New Hampshire's median county, ranking sixth among the ten counties in total area, land area, water area, population, and population density. Cheshire County includes Mount Monadnock, one of the most-hiked peaks in the world.

Cheshire County contains 707.7 square miles of land area and 21.3 square miles of inland water area. As of the 2020 Census, the population density was 108.2 persons per square mile. Cheshire County includes one city, Keene, and 22 towns. The county seat is Keene.

COUNTY POPULATION

2021	2010	2000	1990	1980
77,329	76,458	77,117	73,825	70,121

Source: US Census Bureau, Decennial/Annual Population Estimates

DEMOGRAPHICS

By Gender:	Male	Female
Total	37,722	38,751
18 years and over	30,584	32,046
65 years and over	7,159	8,246
Median Age	42.2 years	44.2 years
By Age Group:	Under age 5	3,506
	Age 5 to 19	13,452
	Age 20 to 34	14,532
	Age 35 to 54	17,583
	Age 55 to 64	11,995
	Age 65 and over	15,405
	Median Age	43.1 years

Source: US Census Bureau, ACS 5-Year Estimates 2017-2021

Due to differing methodologies, Annual Population Estimates and 5-Year Average ACS Demographics data may not match.

LABOR FORCE

Annual Average	2011	2021
Civilian Labor Force	42,571	39,426
Employed	40,413	37,904
Unemployed	2,158	1,522
Unemployment Rate	5.1%	3.9%

2021 Annual Average Unemployment Rates by Town

Alstead	4.3%	Richmond	4.5%
Chesterfield	3.6%	Rindge	4.3%
Dublin	2.6%	Roxbury	2.4%
Fitzwilliam	4.3%	Stoddard	2.8%
Gilsum	3.7%	Sullivan	4.4%
Harrisville	2.4%	Surry	2.1%
Hinsdale	6.6%	Swanzey	3.5%
Jaffrey	3.6%	Troy	3.6%
Keene	3.8%	Walpole	3.0%
Marlborough	3.8%	Westmoreland	3.7%
Marlow	3.4%	Winchester	5.0%
Nelson	2.4%		

Source: NHES/ELMI

LARGEST BUSINESSES	COMMUNITY	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES
Cheshire Medical Center/Dartmouth-Hitchcock Clinic	Keene	Health care services	1,600
C & S Wholesale Grocers	Keene	Wholesale foods	1,200
Keene School District	Keene	Education	1,100
Millpore Corporation	Jaffrey	Industrial filters	972
Monadnock Regional School District	Swanzy	Education	746
Keene State College	Keene	Education	687
Imaje Corporation	Keene	Industrial marking equipment	400
Market Basket	Swanzy	Supermarket	355
Smith Industrial Medical Systems	Keene	Hospital supplies	350
National Grange Mutual Insurance	Keene	Insurance services	311
TFX Medical, Inc.	Jaffrey	Medical tubing	307
Franklin Pierce University (Rindge campus)	Rindge	Education	300
Market Basket	Rindge	Supermarket	275
Timken Super Precision	Keene	Mini & precision bearings	267
Jaffrey-Rindge School District	Jaffrey	Education	256
Wal-Mart	Hinsdale	Retail store	230
Wal-Mart	Rindge	Retail store	200
Maplewood Nursing Home	Westmoreland	Nursing Home	200
Fenton Family Dealerships	Swanzy	Automobile dealership	164
Bensonwood & Unity Homes	Walpole	Wood framed/energy efficient homes	120
Hannaford Brothers	Rindge	Supermarket	114
Mountain Corporation	Marlborough	Silk screen products	100
HCP Packaging USA Inc.	Hinsdale	Packaging containers	100
Plum Pak	Winchester	Packaging, manufacturing	100
Walpole Savings Bank	Walpole	Banking services	93
Good Shepherd Nursing Home	Jaffrey	Elder care services	91
First Student	Swanzy	Bus transportation	82
Len-Tex Corp.	Walpole	Wall coverings	81
DD Bean & Sons	Jaffrey	Paperbook matches	80
Belletetes	Jaffrey	Hardware store	77

Source: Employer data were provided by individual municipalities; not all municipalities provided data.

COVERED EMPLOYMENT & WAGES – ANNUAL AVERAGE			
	2011	2021	
Total, Private Industry plus Government			
Annual Average Employment	31,690	30,189	
Average Weekly Wage	\$768	\$1,014	
Total Private Industry			
Annual Average Employment	26,854	26,304	
Average Weekly Wage	\$769	\$1,025	
Private Goods-Producing Establishments			
Annual Average Employment	6,240	6,689	
Average Weekly Wage	\$936	\$1,194	
Private Service-Providing Establishments			
Annual Average Employment	20,614	19,615	
Average Weekly Wage	\$718	\$968	
Government (Federal, State, and Local)			
Annual Average Employment	4,836	3,884	
Average Weekly Wage	\$765	\$938	

Source: NHES/ELMI. 'n' = data do not meet disclosure standards.
Data represent workers covered by unemployment insurance.

INCOME AND POVERTY	
Per Capita Income	\$36,172
Median Family Income	\$69,360
Median Household Income	\$90,502
Median Earnings (Full-Time Year-Round)	
Male	\$56,065
Female	\$45,755
Percent of individuals below the poverty level	9.8%
Persons under 18 years of age	12.2%
Persons 65 years of age or older	7.2%

Source: US Census Bureau, ACS 5-Year Estimates 2017-2021

NEAREST HOSPITALS	STAFFED BEDS
Brattleboro Memorial, Brattleboro VT	61
Cheshire Medical Center, Keene	94
Heywood Hospital, Gardner MA	134
Monadnock Community, Peterborough	25
Valley Regional, Claremont	25

Source: NH Hospital Association

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Population, age 25 and over	53,960
Less than 9th grade	1,159
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	2,244
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	17,152
Some college, no degree	10,022
Associate's degree	5,542
Bachelor's degree	11,190
Graduate or professional degree	6,651

Percent of age 25 and over population:

High school graduate or higher	93.7%
With a Bachelor's degree or higher	33.1%

Source: US Census Bureau, ACS 5-Year 2017-2021

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

School Districts Serving Cheshire County Municipalities

- Chesterfield (grades K-8)
- Contoocook Valley Cooperative: Antrim, Bennington, Dublin, Frankestown, Greenfield, Hancock, Peterborough, Sharon, Temple (grades K-12)
- Fall Mountain Regional: Acworth, Alstead, Charlestown, Langdon, Walpole (grades K-12)
- Harrisville (grades K-6)
- Hinsdale (grades K-12)
- Jaffrey-Rindge Cooperative: Jaffrey, Rindge (grades K-12)
- Keene (grades K-12)
- Marlborough (grades K-8)
- Marlow (grades K-6)
- Monadnock Regional: Fitzwilliam, Gilsum, Richmond, Roxbury, Swanzey, Troy (grades K-12)
- Nelson (grades K-5)
- Stoddard (grades K-5)
- Surry (grades K-8)
- Westmoreland (grades K-8)
- Winchester (grades K-8)

Career Technology Centers

Fall Mountain Regional High School (Langdon)
Cheshire Career Center (Keene)
Region 14 Applied Technology Center (Peterborough)
Windham Regional Career Center (Brattleboro VT)

HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES

Nearest Community Colleges

River Valley Community College
Nashua Community College

Nearest Colleges and Universities

Antioch New England (Keene)
Franklin Pierce University (Rindge)
Keene State College (Keene)
New England College (Henniker/Manchester)
UNH School of Law (Concord)

Source: NH Department of Education

NH LICENSED CHILD CARE FACILITIES, 2021

Total Licensed Facilities	33
Total Capacity	1,677

Source: NH DHHS, Bureau of Child Care Licensing

COMMUTING TO WORK

Total Workers, 16 years and over	38,722
Car, truck or van: drove alone	29,722
Car, truck or van: carpooled	3,069
Public transportation (excluding taxi)	67
Walked	1,184
Other means	597
Worked at home	4,083
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	22.9

Percent of working residents who:

Work in county of residence	77.3%
Commute to some other NH county	9.2%
Commute out of the state or the country	13.5%

Source: US Census Bureau, ACS 5-Year Estimates 2017-2021

TRANSPORTATION

Road Access	US Routes	202
	State Routes	9, 9A, 10, 12, 12A, 32, 63, 78, 101, 119, 123, 123A, 124, 137
Nearest Interstate/Exits		
	I-91 Exits 1, 2, 3 (Brattleboro VT), Exit 5 (Westminster VT), Exit 6 (Rockingham VT), Exit 50A/50B (Bernardston MA)	
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service	Passenger Airlines	
	Manchester-Boston Regional	4
	Lebanon Municipal	1

Source: Local mapping data

HOUSING UNITS

<i>Total Housing Units</i>	35,591
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	25,589
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	3,506
Five or More Units in Structure	4,355
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	2,141

Source: US Census Bureau, ACS 5-Year 2017-2021

CURRENT HOUSING MARKET**New Hampshire Association of Realtors¹**

YTD Dec 2022 Median Sale Price, Residential	\$313,000
YTD Dec 2022 Average Days on Market Until Sale	26

NHHFA Residential Rental Cost Survey²

2022 Median Monthly Gross Rent, 2 Bedroom	\$1,233
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Source: see footnotes

2021 LOCAL ASSESSED VALUATION BY PROPERTY TYPE

<i>Property Type</i>	<i>Share of Total Valuation</i>
Residential Land and Buildings	77.3%
Commercial Land and Buildings	16.9%
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	5.8%

Source: NH Department of Revenue Administration

PROPERTY TAX RATES, 2021

Town	Total Tax Rate per \$1000	Equalization Ratio	Full Value Rate per \$1000
Alstead	\$23.25	88.3	\$20.46
Chesterfield	\$19.01	84.7	\$16.24
Dublin	\$23.42	85.8	\$19.94
Fitzwilliam	\$25.83	73.4	\$18.63
Gilsum	\$23.20	85.9	\$19.84
Harrisville	\$17.61	64.8	\$11.39
Hinsdale	\$32.65	69.4	\$22.05
Jaffrey	\$27.89	75.0	\$19.96
Keene	\$31.28	94.2	\$28.25
Marlborough	\$24.90	94.8	\$23.48
Marlow	\$24.71	85.3	\$21.01
Nelson	\$15.21	106.2	\$16.07
Richmond	\$23.45	77.9	\$18.13
Rindge	\$22.65	76.4	\$16.94
Roxbury	\$26.04	92.5	\$21.18
Stoddard	\$16.57	75.2	\$12.41
Sullivan	\$23.49	79.2	\$18.44
Surry	\$24.52	74.6	\$17.67
Swanzey	\$24.51	79.0	\$19.01
Troy	\$29.58	69.6	\$20.41
Walpole	\$25.43	74.5	\$17.94
Westmoreland	\$20.40	97.3	\$19.82
Winchester	\$31.79	81.4	\$25.42

¹ **Source:** *NH Monthly Indicators – December 2022*. Copyright 2022 New Hampshire Association of Realtors and Northern New England Real Estate Network, Inc. The reproduction of these statistics is done with the permission of NHAR and NNEREN. The statistics referenced herein are based solely upon listings submitted to the multiple listing service database of NNEREN and do not include all properties sold and marketed for sale. ALL INFORMATION DEEMED RELIABLE BUT NOT GUARANTEED. Any analysis or commentary related to these statistics is that of the commentator, and not that of NHAR or NNEREN. <www.nhar.org>

² **Source:** 2022 NH Residential Rental Cost Survey, New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority. Copyright NHHFA 2022. <www.nhhfa.org>

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Cheshire County Community Contacts

	Town of Alstead	Town of Chesterfield	Town of Dublin
<i>address</i>	15 Mechanic Street, PO Box 60 Alstead NH 03602-0060	PO Box 175 Chesterfield NH 03443	PO Box 277 Dublin NH 03444
<i>phone</i>	603-835-2986	603-363-4624	603-563-8544
<i>email</i>	alsteadadmin@alsteadnh.org	townadmin@nhchesterfield.com	townadministrator@townofdublin.org
<i>web site</i>	www.alsteadnh.org	www.nhchesterfield.com	www.townofdublin.org
<i>office hours</i>	Selectboard: M-Th 8-4, closed F; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: MTh 8-4, T 8-7, W 8-9, closed F	Selectmen/Town Hall/Assessors: M-Th 8-4, F 9-12; Town Clerk: TW 9-1 & 4-7, last Sat. by appt.; Tax Collector: M 2-6	Town Administrator: M-Th 9-4; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: check website
	Town of Fitzwilliam	Town of Gilsum	Town of Harrisville
<i>address</i>	PO Box 725 Fitzwilliam NH 03447	650 Route 10, PO Box 67 Gilsum NH 03448	705 Chesham Road Harrisville NH 03450
<i>phone</i>	603-585-7770; 603-585-7723	603-357-0320	603-827-3431 x1 or 603-827-5546
<i>email</i>	fitzwilliamnh@fitzwilliam-nh.gov	gilsum@gilsum-nh.gov	Selectboard@harrisvillenh.org
<i>web site</i>	http://fitzwilliam-nh.gov	https://gilsum-nh.gov	www.harrisvillenh.org
<i>office hours</i>	Selectmen: MF 8:30-12:30, TTh 1-5, W 6-7; Town Clerk: M 8:30-12:30, TTh 1-5, W 4-8; Tax Collector: M 9-12, TTh 1-4. W 6-8	Selectmen: M 2-6, Meet M 6 pm; Town Clerk: T 4-7, W 9-12; 2nd & last Th 4-7; Tax Collector: M 5-7	Admin. Asst.: M-Th 9-3, F 9-12; Town Clerk: T 2-6, W 10-2, Th 8-12, last Sat. 9-11; Tax Collector: T 11-1, Th 9-12, or by appointment
	Town of Hinsdale	Town of Jaffrey	City of Keene
<i>address</i>	11 Main Street, PO Box 13 Hinsdale NH 03451	10 Goodnow Street Jaffrey NH 03452	3 Washington Street Keene NH 03431-3191
<i>phone</i>	603-336-5710	603-532-7880	603-357-9804
<i>email</i>	hinsdale.nh@myfairpoint.net	jzola@townofjaffrey.com	hmattson@ckeenenh.gov
<i>web site</i>	http://hinsdale.govoffice.com	www.townofjaffrey.com	www.ci.keene.nh.us
<i>office hours</i>	Selectmen: M-Th 7:30-12 & 12:30-4; Town Clerk: MTh 7:30-6, T 7:30 -2:30, W 7:30-11:30; Tax Collector: M 9:30-6, T 7:30-1. Th 10-4	Town Manager: M-F 8-4; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: MTW 8-3:30, Th 11-6, F 8-12	City Hall, City Manager, City Clerk: M-F 8-4:30; Tax Collector: M-F 8-4
	Town of Marlborough	Town of Marlow	Town of Nelson
<i>address</i>	PO Box 487 Marlborough NH 03455-0487	167 NH Route 123, Town Office Marlow NH 03456-0184	7 Nelson Common Road Nelson NH 03457
<i>phone</i>	603-876-3751	603-446-2245 x1	603-847-0047
<i>email</i>	selectmen@marlboroughnh.org	marlowtownoffice@marlownh.gov	execadmin@nelsonnh.us
<i>web site</i>	www.marlboroughnh.org	www.marlownh.gov	www.townofnelson.org
<i>office hours</i>	Town Office, Selectmen's Office, Town Clerk, Tax Collector: M 10-6, TTh 10-4, W 9-1, closed F	Selectmen: M 7-10 pm; Town Office: TThF 10-1 & 2-3:30; Town Clerk: W 4:30-7, Th 10- 12:30; Tax Collector: T 5-7	Selectmen: every other W at 3; Admin. Assist., Town Clerk, Tax Collector: T 9-6, Th 9-12; Admin. Assist.: by appointment
	Town of Richmond	Town of Rindge	Town of Roxbury
<i>address</i>	105 Old Homestead Highway Richmond NH 03470	30 Payson Hill Road Rindge NH 03461	3 Middletown Road Roxbury NH 03431
<i>phone</i>	603-239-4232	603-899-5181 x101	603-352-4903
<i>email</i>	susan.harrington.richmond@gmail.com	sgravell@town.rindge.nh.us	townofroxburynh@myfairpoint.net
<i>web site</i>	www.richmond.nh.gov	www.rindgenh.org	http://roxburynh.org
<i>office hours</i>	Selectmen: M 9-12 & 3-8, W 9-1, Th 9-12; Town Clerk: M 9-12 & 1-4, W 9-12, 1-4, Th 8-12; Tax Collector: M 6-8, W 9-12	Selectmen: M-Th 9-1 & 2-4, meet every other W at 6 pm; Town Clerk: MW 8-1 & 1:30-4, T 12-6:30, Th 7-1 & 1:30-3:30; Tax Collector: M-Th 9-1 & 2-4	Selectboard: meet T at 5; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: T 5-7
	Town of Stoddard	Town of Sullivan	Town of Surry
<i>address</i>	1450 Route 123 North Stoddard NH 03464	PO Box 110 Sullivan NH 03445	1 Village Road, Town Hall Surry NH 03431
<i>phone</i>	603-446-3326 x103	603-847-3316	603-352-3075
<i>email</i>	townadministrator@stoddardnh.org	selectmen@townofsullivannh.com	selectmen@surry.nh.gov
<i>web site</i>	www.stoddardnh.org	https://townofsullivannh.com	surry.nh.gov
<i>office hours</i>	Selectmen: M 1-6, WTh 10:30-4; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: TF 11-6, Th 11-8, F closed 2:30-3	Town Hall: TWTh 10-2; Selectboard: Meet M at 6:30; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: TWTh 10-2, 2nd & last Th 6-8	Selectmen: M 7-9; Town Clerk: M 3-6, Th 5-7; Tax Collector: 1st & 3rd Th 5-7

Hours reviewed January 2023

Cheshire County Community Contacts

	Town of Swanzey	Town of Troy	Town of Walpole
<i>address</i>	Town Hall, PO Box 10009 Swanzey NH 03446-0009	PO Box 249 Troy NH 03465	PO Box 729 Walpole NH 03608
<i>phone</i>	603-352-7411	603-242-7722	603-756-3672
<i>email</i>	mbranley@swanzeynh.gov	selectmen@troy-nh.us	sdowning@walpolenh.us
<i>web site</i>	www.swanzeynh.gov	www.troy-nh.us	www.walpolenh.us
<i>office hours</i>	Town Hall, Town Clerk: M 9:30-6, T-Th 8:30-5, F 7:30-4; Tax Collector: until 2 daily	Selectmen: MW 8:30-5, TTh 8:30-3; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: MW 8-12:30 & 1:30-4:30, T 8-12:30 & 1:30-4:30, Th 12:30-7	Selectmen: M-W 8-5, Th 8-7; Town Clerk: W 8-5, Th 8-12 & 3-7; Tax Collector: T 12:15- 2:15
	Town of Westmoreland	Town of Winchester	
<i>address</i>	PO Box 55 Westmoreland NH 03467	1 Richmond Road Winchester NH 03470	
<i>phone</i>	603-399-4471	603-239-4951	
<i>email</i>	townofwestmoreland@myfairpoint.net	kminer@winchester.nh.gov	
<i>web site</i>	www.westmorelandnh.com	www.winchester-nh.gov	
<i>office hours</i>	Selectmen: M-W 8-5, Th 8-7; Town Clerk: T 8-5, Th 8-12 & 3-7; Tax Collector: Th 8-10	Town Hall/Selectmen: M-Th 7:30-4:30, F 7:30-1:30; Town Clerk: M 7-4, T-Th 7-5, F 7-1:30	

Hours reviewed January 2023