

# Charlestown, NH



## Community Contact

**Charlestown Selectboard**  
**Jeremy Wood, Chair**  
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## Municipal Office Hours

**Selectmen: Monday and Friday, 7-12, Tuesday and Thursday, 8-4, Wednesday, 7-4; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Monday and Wednesday, 7-4, Tuesday and Thursday, 8-4, Friday, 7-12, second and last Saturday each month, 9-12**

County  
 Labor Market Area  
 Tourism Region  
 Planning Commission  
 Regional Development

**Sullivan**  
**Charlestown, NH LMA**  
**Dartmouth-Lake Sunapee**  
**Upper Valley Lake Sunapee**  
**Capital Regional Development Council**

## Election Districts

US Congress  
 Executive Council  
 State Senate  
 State Representative

**District 2**  
**District 2**  
**District 8**  
**Sullivan County Districts 3, 7**

**Incorporated:** 1753

**Origin:** Charlestown was originally the site of Number Four, the fourth in a line of forts on the Connecticut River border established as trading posts by Massachusetts Governor Belcher in 1735. In 1753, Governor Benning Wentworth named the town in honor of his friend, Admiral Sir Charles Knowles of the British Navy, who was then governor of Jamaica. A reproduction of Old Fort Number Four is now a historical site and museum. A historical marker commemorating the fort was erected in 1958—the second marker in the NH Historical Marker Program.

**Villages and Place Names:** Hemlock Center, North Charlestown, Snumshire, South Charlestown, South Hemlock, Springfield Junction, Trapshire

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 1,093 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Charlestown totaled 1,550 over 50 years, from 3,274 in 1970 to 4,824 in 2020. The largest decennial percent change was a 35 percent increase from 1970 to 1980; percent change was in single digits for the next three decades. The town's population declined by six percent from 2010 to 2020. The 2022 Census estimate for Charlestown was 4,907 residents, which ranked 77th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

**Population Density and Land Area, 2022 (US Census Bureau):** 137.0 persons per square mile of land area. Charlestown contains 35.8 square miles of land area and 2.2 square miles of inland water area.



<b>MUNICIPAL SERVICES</b>	
Type of Government	<b>Selectmen</b>
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2023	<b>\$5,571,802</b>
Budget: School Appropriations, 2020-2021	<b>\$12,947,180</b>
Zoning Ordinance	<b>1951/17</b>
Master Plan	<b>2021</b>
Capital Improvement Plan	<b>No</b>
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	<b>Planning Board</b>

**Boards and Commissions**

Elected: **Selectboard; Planning; Finance; Library; Cemetery**  
 Appointed: **Zoning; Conservation; Heritage; Recreation**

Public Library **Silsby Free Public**

<b>EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>		
Police Department		<b>Full-time</b>
Fire Department		<b>On-Call</b>
Emergency Medical Service	<b>Golden Cross of Claremont</b>	
Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds
<b>Valley Regional, Claremont</b>	<b>13 miles</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Mt. Ascutney Hospital, Windsor VT</b>	<b>19 miles</b>	<b>25</b>

<b>UTILITIES</b>		
Electric Supplier	<b>Eversource Energy; Liberty Utilities; NH Electric Coop</b>	
Natural Gas Supplier	<b>None</b>	
Water Supplier	<b>Charlestown Municipal Water Department</b>	
Sanitation	<b>Municipal</b>	
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	<b>Yes</b>	
Solid Waste Disposal	<b>None</b>	
Curbside Trash Pickup	<b>None</b>	
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	<b>No</b>	
Recycling Program	<b>Mandatory: glass, cardboard only &amp; voluntary for other recyclables</b>	
Telephone Company	<b>Consolidated Communications</b>	
Cellular Telephone Access	<b>Yes</b>	
Cable Television Access	<b>Yes</b>	
Public Access Television Station	<b>No</b>	
High Speed Internet Service:	Business	<b>Yes</b>
	Residential	<b>Limited</b>

<b>PROPERTY TAXES</b> (NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)	
2022 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$32.27</b>
2022 Equalization Ratio	<b>71.3</b>
2022 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$22.86</b>
2022 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	<b>77.6%</b>
Commercial Land and Buildings	<b>15.7%</b>
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	<b>6.7%</b>

<b>HOUSING</b> (ACS 2017-2021)	
Total Housing Units	<b>2,220</b>
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	<b>1,202</b>
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	<b>195</b>
Five or More Units in Structure	<b>133</b>
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	<b>690</b>

<b>POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECENNIAL)</b>		(US Census Bureau)	
Total Population	Community	County	
2022	<b>4,907</b>	<b>43,958</b>	
2020	<b>4,806</b>	<b>43,063</b>	
2010	<b>5,114</b>	<b>43,742</b>	
2000	<b>4,761</b>	<b>40,560</b>	
1990	<b>4,637</b>	<b>38,652</b>	
1980	<b>4,417</b>	<b>36,063</b>	

<b>DEMOGRAPHICS</b> AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) 2017-2021			
Population by Gender			
Male	<b>2,443</b>	Female	<b>2,412</b>
Population by Age Group			
Under age 5			<b>233</b>
Age 5 to 19			<b>748</b>
Age 20 to 34			<b>587</b>
Age 35 to 54			<b>1,221</b>
Age 55 to 64			<b>944</b>
Age 65 and over			<b>1,122</b>
Median Age			<b>49.4 years</b>
Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over: <b>3,799</b>			
High school graduate or higher			<b>91.0%</b>
Bachelor's degree or higher			<b>18.0%</b>

<b>INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$</b>		(ACS 2017-2021)	
Per capita income			<b>\$26,854</b>
Median family income			<b>\$65,921</b>
Median household income			<b>\$47,854</b>
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers			
Male			<b>\$57,386</b>
Female			<b>\$42,865</b>
Individuals below the poverty level			<b>14.2%</b>

<b>LABOR FORCE</b> (NHES – ELMII)		
Annual Average	2012	2022
Civilian labor force	<b>2,939</b>	<b>2,795</b>
Employed	<b>2,796</b>	<b>2,723</b>
Unemployed	<b>143</b>	<b>72</b>
Unemployment rate	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>

<b>EMPLOYMENT &amp; WAGES</b> (NHES – ELMII)		
Annual Average Covered Employment	2012	2022
Goods Producing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>939</b>	<b>1,191</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 908</b>	<b>\$1,215</b>
Service Providing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>688</b>	<b>547</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 651</b>	<b>\$1,121</b>
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	<b>1,627</b>	<b>1,738</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 799</b>	<b>\$1,186</b>
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	<b>451</b>	<b>191</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 753</b>	<b>\$ 733</b>
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	<b>2,078</b>	<b>1,929</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 789</b>	<b>\$1,141</b>

If "n" appears, data do not meet disclosure standards.

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: **Grades K-12 are part of Fall Mountain Regional (Acworth, Alstead, Charlestown, Langdon, Walpole)** District: **SAU 60**

Career Technology Center(s): **Fall Mountain RHS - CTE; Cheshire Career Center (Keene)**

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>
Grade Levels	<b>P K 1-5</b>	<b>6-8</b>		<b>9-12</b>
Total Enrollment	<b>279</b>	<b>137</b>		<b>29</b>

Nearest Community College: **River Valley**

Nearest Colleges or Universities: **Keene State; Antioch New England**

2022 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: **2** Total Capacity: **31**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Whelen Engineering	Emergency lights	981	1952
Bomar, Inc.	Marine hardware	40	1974
Design Standards, Inc	Medical instruments	110	1979
G K N Aerospace	Aircraft engine parts	70	1979
Airgas, Inc	Welding equip., industrial & medical gases	60	1982
Town of Charlestown	Municipal services	75	1753
Student Conservation Association	Non-Profit youth conservation agency	84	1964
Fall Mountain Regional School District	Education	109	1964

Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

TRANSPORTATION (distances estimated from city/town hall)			
Road Access	US Routes		
	State Routes	<b>11, 12, 12A</b>	
Nearest Interstate, Exit		<b>I-91 (VT), Exit 7</b>	
	Distance	<b>2 miles</b>	
Railroad		<b>Boston &amp; Maine</b>	
Public Transportation		<b>Community Alliance</b>	
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation			
<b>Claremont Municipal</b>	Runway	<b>3,098 ft. asphalt</b>	
Lighted? <b>Yes</b>	Navigation Aids?	<b>Yes</b>	
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service			
<b>Lebanon Municipal</b>	Distance	<b>32 miles</b>	
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport		<b>1</b>	
Driving distance to select cities:			
Manchester, NH		<b>76 miles</b>	
Portland, Maine		<b>168 miles</b>	
Boston, Mass.		<b>126 miles</b>	
New York City, NY		<b>235 miles</b>	
Montreal, Quebec		<b>213 miles</b>	
COMMUTING TO WORK (ACS 2017-2021)			
Workers 16 years and over			
Drove alone, car/truck/van		<b>78.9%</b>	
Carpooled, car/truck/van		<b>17.6%</b>	
Public transportation		<b>0.0%</b>	
Walked		<b>2.8%</b>	
Other means		<b>0.2%</b>	
Worked at home		<b>0.5%</b>	
Mean Travel Time to Work		<b>26.3 minutes</b>	
Percent of Working Residents			
Working in community of residence		<b>23.8%</b>	
Commuting to another NH community		<b>58.0%</b>	
Commuting out-of-state		<b>18.2%</b>	

RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS	
<b>X</b>	Municipal Parks
	YMCA/YWCA
	Boys Club/Girls Club
	Golf Courses
	Swimming: Indoor Facility
<b>X</b>	Swimming: Outdoor Facility
<b>X</b>	Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
	Bowling Facilities
<b>X</b>	Museums
	Cinemas
<b>X</b>	Performing Arts Facilities
<b>X</b>	Tourist Attractions
<b>X</b>	Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)
<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Baseball
<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Soccer
<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Football
<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Basketball
	Youth Sports: Hockey
	Campgrounds
<b>X</b>	Fishing/Hunting
<b>X</b>	Boating/Marinas
<b>X</b>	Snowmobile Trails
<b>X</b>	Bicycle Trails
<b>X</b>	Cross Country Skiing
<b>X</b>	Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
<b>X</b>	Overnight or Day Camps
	Nearest Ski Area(s): <b>Mount Sunapee, Okemo (VT)</b>
	Other: <b>Fort at No. 4 Museum; Morningside Flight Park</b>