

# Peterborough, NH



## Community Contact

**Peterborough Office of Planning and Building**  
**Danica Melone, Director of Planning and Building**  
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Peterborough, NH 03458

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Web Site

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**Not Available**  
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**www.peterboroughnh.gov**

## Municipal Office Hours

**Town Offices: Monday to Friday, 8-4:30; Town Clerk: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 8:30-4, Thursday, 11-6:30; Tax Collector: Monday to Friday, 8-4:30**

County  
Labor Market Area  
Tourism Region  
Planning Commission  
Regional Development

**Hillsborough**  
**Peterborough, NH LMA**  
**Monadnock**  
**Southwest Region**  
**Monadnock Economic Development Corp.**

## Election Districts

US Congress  
Executive Council  
State Senate  
State Representative

**District 2**  
**District 2**  
**District 10**  
**Hillsborough County District 33**

**Incorporated:** 1760

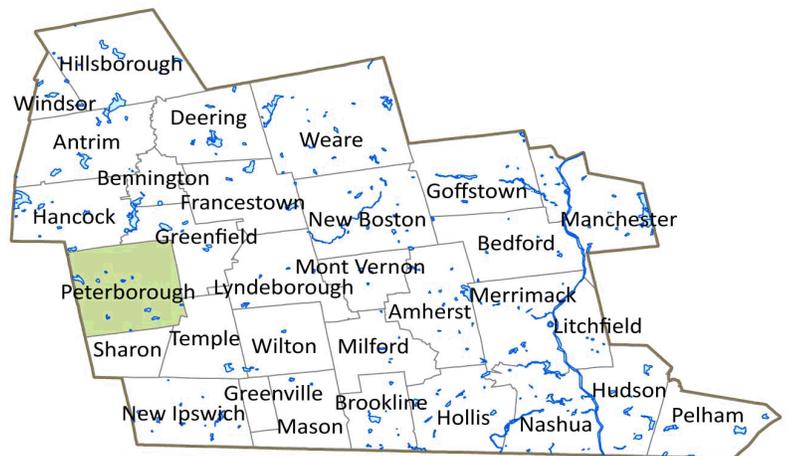
**Origin:** This territory was chartered in 1737 by the Massachusetts legislature, and the first settlers arrived in 1739. The township was probably named from Charles Mordaunt, third Earl of Peterborough. Peterborough was incorporated in 1760 by Governor Benning Wentworth, with "continuance for two years only." The incorporation was renewed in 1762, to continue until disallowed by the King. Peterborough had the first free public library supported by taxation, and the first mill in the state that wove cloth mechanically. It is home to the MacDowell Colony, a retreat for writers, artists, and composers. Guests have included Edward Arlington Robinson, Leonard Bernstein, and Thornton Wilder, whose play "Our Town" was inspired by Peterborough.

**Villages and Place Names:** Drury, Happy Valley, MacDowell Colony, Noone, North Village, West Peterborough

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 861 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Peterborough totaled 2,596 over 50 years, from 3,807 in 1970 to 6,403 in 2020. The largest decennial percent change was a 29 percent increase from 1970 to 1980. The town's population increased by two percent from 2010 to 2020. The 2022 Census estimate for Peterborough was 6,497 residents, which ranked 53rd among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

**Population Density and Land Area, 2022 (US Census Bureau):** 170.9 persons per square mile of land area. Peterborough contains 38.0 square miles of land area and 0.4 square miles of inland water area.



Hillsborough County

| <b>MUNICIPAL SERVICES</b>   |  |              |  |
|---|--|--------------|--|
| Type of Government  | <b>Selectmen</b>   |              |  |
| Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2022                            | <b>\$17,046,129</b>  |              |  |
| Budget: School Appropriations, 2020-2021                          | <b>\$20,290,014</b>  |              |  |
| Zoning Ordinance  | <b>1970/21</b>   |              |  |
| Master Plan   | <b>2021</b>  |              |  |
| Capital Improvement Plan  | <b>Yes</b>   |              |  |
| Industrial Plans Reviewed By                                      | <b>Planning Board</b>  |              |  |
| Boards and Commissions  |  |              |  |
| Elected:  | <b>Selectmen; Planning; Library; Zoning; Budget; Recreation; Cemetery</b>  |              |  |
| Appointed:  | <b>Please visit <a href="http://www.peterboroughnh.gov">www.peterboroughnh.gov</a> for a list of boards &amp; committees to which citizens may be appointed.</b> |              |  |
| Public Library  | <b>Peterborough Town</b>   |              |  |
| <b>EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>   |  |              |  |
| Police Department   | <b>Full-time</b>   |              |  |
| Fire Department   | <b>Full &amp; part-time</b>  |              |  |
| Emergency Medical Service   | <b>Per Diem</b>  |              |  |
| Nearest Hospital(s)   | Distance   | Staffed Beds |  |
| <b>Monadnock Community, Peterborough</b>                          | <b>Local</b>   | <b>25</b>    |  |
| <b>UTILITIES</b>  |  |              |  |
| Electric Supplier   | <b>Eversource Energy</b>   |              |  |
| Natural Gas Supplier  | <b>None</b>  |              |  |
| Water Supplier  | <b>Peterborough Water Works</b>  |              |  |
| Sanitation  | <b>Municipal</b>   |              |  |
| Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant                              | <b>Yes</b>   |              |  |
| Solid Waste Disposal  |  |              |  |
| Curbside Trash Pickup   | <b>None</b>  |              |  |
| Pay-As-You-Throw Program  | <b>Yes</b>   |              |  |
| Recycling Program   | <b>Mandatory</b>   |              |  |
| Telephone Company   | <b>Consolidated Communications; Comcast</b>  |              |  |
| Cellular Telephone Access   | <b>Yes</b>   |              |  |
| Cable Television Access   | <b>Yes</b>   |              |  |
| Public Access Television Station                                  | <b>Yes</b>   |              |  |
| High Speed Internet Service:                                      | Business   | <b>Yes</b>   |  |
|   | Residential  | <b>Yes</b>   |  |
| <b>PROPERTY TAXES</b> <i>(NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)</i> |  |              |  |
| 2022 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)                         | <b>\$25.86</b>   |              |  |
| 2022 Equalization Ratio   | <b>77.4</b>  |              |  |
| 2022 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)                    | <b>\$19.00</b>   |              |  |
| 2022 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type         |  |              |  |
| Residential Land and Buildings                                    | <b>76.6%</b>   |              |  |
| Commercial Land and Buildings                                     | <b>21.6%</b>   |              |  |
| Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other                          | <b>1.9%</b>  |              |  |
| <b>HOUSING</b> <i>(ACS 2017-2021)</i>                             |  |              |  |
| Total Housing Units   | <b>3,355</b>   |              |  |
| Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached                         |  |              |  |
| Units in Multiple-Family Structures:                              |  |              |  |
| Two to Four Units in Structure                                    | <b>355</b>   |              |  |
| Five or More Units in Structure                                   | <b>614</b>   |              |  |
| Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units                              | <b>0</b>   |              |  |

| <b>POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECENNIAL)</b>                       |                   |                | <i>(US Census Bureau)</i> |
|--|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Total Population   | Community         | County         |                           |
| 2022   | <b>6,497</b>      | <b>426,594</b> |                           |
| 2020   | <b>6,418</b>      | <b>422,937</b> |                           |
| 2010   | <b>6,284</b>      | <b>400,721</b> |                           |
| 2000   | <b>5,896</b>      | <b>382,384</b> |                           |
| 1990   | <b>5,257</b>      | <b>336,549</b> |                           |
| 1980   | <b>4,895</b>      | <b>276,608</b> |                           |
| <b>DEMOGRAPHICS</b> <i>AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) 2017-2021</i> |                   |                |                           |
| Population by Gender   |                   |                |                           |
| Male   | <b>3,218</b>      | Female         | <b>3,182</b>              |
| Population by Age Group  |                   |                |                           |
| Under age 5  | <b>131</b>        |                |                           |
| Age 5 to 19  | <b>974</b>        |                |                           |
| Age 20 to 34   | <b>759</b>        |                |                           |
| Age 35 to 54   | <b>1,731</b>      |                |                           |
| Age 55 to 64   | <b>1,083</b>      |                |                           |
| Age 65 and over  | <b>1,722</b>      |                |                           |
| Median Age   | <b>51.8 years</b> |                |                           |
| Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over: <b>5,107</b>   |                   |                |                           |
| High school graduate or higher                                       | <b>93.1%</b>      |                |                           |
| Bachelor's degree or higher  | <b>51.9%</b>      |                |                           |
| <b>INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$</b> <i>(ACS 2017-2021)</i>          |                   |                |                           |
| Per capita income  | <b>\$56,670</b>   |                |                           |
| Median family income   | <b>\$114,205</b>  |                |                           |
| Median household income  | <b>\$101,401</b>  |                |                           |
| Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers                       |                   |                |                           |
| Male   | <b>\$82,974</b>   |                |                           |
| Female   | <b>\$52,041</b>   |                |                           |
| Individuals below the poverty level                                  | <b>4.7%</b>       |                |                           |
| <b>LABOR FORCE</b> <i>(NHES – ELMII)</i>                             |                   |                |                           |
| Annual Average   | 2012              | 2022           |                           |
| Civilian labor force   | <b>3,724</b>      | <b>3,812</b>   |                           |
| Employed   | <b>3,570</b>      | <b>3,734</b>   |                           |
| Unemployed   | <b>154</b>        | <b>78</b>      |                           |
| Unemployment rate  | <b>4.1%</b>       | <b>2.0%</b>    |                           |
| <b>EMPLOYMENT &amp; WAGES</b> <i>(NHES – ELMII)</i>                  |                   |                |                           |
| Annual Average Covered Employment                                    | 2012              | 2022           |                           |
| Goods Producing Industries   |                   |                |                           |
| Average Employment   | <b>845</b>        | <b>785</b>     |                           |
| Average Weekly Wage  | <b>\$ 991</b>     | <b>\$1,409</b> |                           |
| Service Providing Industries   |                   |                |                           |
| Average Employment   | <b>3,171</b>      | <b>2,731</b>   |                           |
| Average Weekly Wage  | <b>\$ 810</b>     | <b>\$1,056</b> |                           |
| Total Private Industry   |                   |                |                           |
| Average Employment   | <b>4,016</b>      | <b>3,516</b>   |                           |
| Average Weekly Wage  | <b>\$ 848</b>     | <b>\$1,135</b> |                           |
| Government (Federal, State, and Local)                               |                   |                |                           |
| Average Employment   | <b>611</b>        | <b>589</b>     |                           |
| Average Weekly Wage  | <b>\$ 841</b>     | <b>\$1,128</b> |                           |
| Total, Private Industry plus Government                              |                   |                |                           |
| Average Employment   | <b>4,627</b>      | <b>4,105</b>   |                           |
| Average Weekly Wage  | <b>\$ 847</b>     | <b>\$1,134</b> |                           |
| If "n" appears, data do not meet disclosure standards.               |                   |                |                           |

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: **Grades K-12 are part of Contoocook Valley Cooperative (Antrim, Bennington, Dublin, Francestown, Greenfield, Hancock, Peterborough, Sharon, Temple)** District: **SAU 1**

Career Technology Center(s): **Region 14 Applied Technology Center**

| Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools) | Elementary     | Middle/Junior High | High School | Private/Parochial |
|---|----------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Number of Schools                                 | <b>1</b>       | <b>1</b>           | <b>1</b>    | <b>1</b>          |
| Grade Levels                                      | <b>P K 1-4</b> | <b>5-8</b>         | <b>9-12</b> | <b>P K 1-8</b>    |
| Total Enrollment                                  | <b>238</b>     | <b>921</b>         | <b>683</b>  | <b>136</b>        |

Nearest Community College: **Nashua**

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

2022 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: **5** Total Capacity: **194**

| LARGEST BUSINESSES           | PRODUCT/SERVICE          | EMPLOYEES | ESTABLISHED |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| NH Ball Bearings             | Precision bearings       |           | 1946        |
| Monadnock Community Hospital | Health care services     |           | 1919        |
| Conval SAU 01                | Education                |           |             |
| Pheasant Wood Health Care    | Nursing home             |           |             |
| Rivermead                    | Retirement community     |           | 1995        |
| Shaw's Supermarket           | Grocery store, deli, gas | - 149     |             |
| Data Axle                    | Marketing                |           |             |
| MicroSpec Corporation        | Medical Equipment        |           |             |
| Home Health Care Hospice     | Home care provider       |           |             |

## Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

**TRANSPORTATION** (*distances estimated from city/town hall*)

|  |  |                           |
|--|--|---------------------------|
| Road Access                                  | US Routes                                      | <b>202</b>                |
|  | State Routes                                   | <b>101, 123, 136</b>      |
| Nearest Interstate, Exit                     | <b>Everett Tpk., Exits 7 - 8; I-89, Exit 5</b> |                           |
| Distance                                     |  | <b>27 miles; 33 miles</b> |
| Railroad                                     |  | <b>No</b>                 |
| Public Transportation                        |  | <b>No</b>                 |
| Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation |  |                           |
| <b>Jaffrey - Silver Ranch</b>                | Runway   | <b>2,982 ft. asphalt</b>  |
| Lighted? <b>Yes</b>                          | Navigation Aids?                               | <b>Yes</b>                |
| Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service       |  |                           |
| <b>Manchester-Boston Regional</b>            | Distance                                       | <b>38 miles</b>           |
| Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport |  | <b>4</b>                  |
| Driving distance to select cities:           |  |                           |
| Manchester, NH                               |  | <b>38 miles</b>           |
| Portland, Maine                              |  | <b>132 miles</b>          |
| Boston, Mass.                                |  | <b>73 miles</b>           |
| New York City, NY                            |  | <b>233 miles</b>          |
| Montreal, Quebec                             |  | <b>258 miles</b>          |

**COMMUTING TO WORK** (*ACS 2017-2021*)

|                                   |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Workers 16 years and over         |                     |
| Drove alone, car/truck/van        | <b>68.1%</b>        |
| Carpooled, car/truck/van          | <b>5.7%</b>         |
| Public transportation             | <b>0.1%</b>         |
| Walked                            | <b>7.8%</b>         |
| Other means                       | <b>5.3%</b>         |
| Worked at home                    | <b>12.9%</b>        |
| Mean Travel Time to Work          | <b>23.3 minutes</b> |
| Percent of Working Residents      |                     |
| Working in community of residence | <b>51.2%</b>        |
| Commuting to another NH community | <b>46.0%</b>        |
| Commuting out-of-state            | <b>2.8%</b>         |

**RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS**

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>X</b> | Municipal Parks   |
|          | YMCA/YWCA   |
|          | Boys Club/Girls Club  |
| <b>X</b> | Golf Courses  |
|          | Swimming: Indoor Facility   |
| <b>X</b> | Swimming: Outdoor Facility  |
| <b>X</b> | Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility  |
| <b>X</b> | Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility   |
|          | Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility   |
| <b>X</b> | Bowling Facilities  |
| <b>X</b> | Museums   |
| <b>X</b> | 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  |
| <b>X</b> | Youth Sports: Hockey  |
|          | Campgrounds   |
| <b>X</b> | Fishing/Hunting   |
| <b>X</b> | Boating/Marinas   |
|          | 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, Crotched Mountain</b>                              |
|          | Other: <b>Miller State Park; MacDowell Colony; Shieling State Forest; Mount Monadnock</b> |