

# Durham, NH



## Community Contact

## Town of Durham

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## Municipal Office Hours

Town Hall, Town Administrator: Monday to Friday, 8-5; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Monday to Friday, 8-5, first Monday of the month, 8-6

County  
Labor Market Area  
Tourism Region  
Planning Commission  
Regional Development

**Strafford**  
**Dover-Durham, NH-ME Metropolitan NECTA**  
**Seacoast**  
**Strafford Regional**  
**Southeast Economic Development Corp.**

Election Districts  
US Congress  
Executive Council  
State Senate  
State Representative

**District 1**  
**District 1**  
**District 21**  
**Strafford County Districts 10, 20**

**Incorporated:** 1732

**Origin:** Durham started as a parish of Dover called Oyster River Plantation, first settled in 1669. Durham was incorporated in 1732, probably to honor the first Puritan bishop, Richard Barnes, Bishop of Durham. Durham included what is now Lee until 1766, when that town was incorporated. Benjamin Thompson, descendent of an early settler, bequeathed the family estate, the Warner Farm, to be used for establishment of an agricultural college. The state agricultural school, originally set up in Hanover in 1866, was moved to Durham in 1890, becoming the University of New Hampshire in 1923.

**Villages and Place Names:** Oyster River

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 1,247 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Durham, including resident students, totaled 6,536 over 50 years, from 8,869 in 1970 to 15,405 in 2020. The largest decennial percent change was a 20 percent increase from 1970 to 1980. The town's population increased by five percent from 2010 to 2020. The 2022 Census estimate for Durham was 14,473 residents, which ranked 22nd among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

**Population Density and Land Area, 2022 (US Census Bureau):** 646.1 persons per square mile of land area. Durham contains 22.4 square miles of land area and 2.4 square miles of inland water area.



MUNICIPAL SERVICES			
Type of Government		Administrator & Council	
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2022		\$29,218,000	
Budget: School Appropriations, 2021-2022		\$48,707,995	
Zoning Ordinance		1935/21	
Master Plan		2015	
Capital Improvement Plan		Yes	
Industrial Plans Reviewed By		Town Planner/Planning Board	
Boards and Commissions			
Elected:	Town Council; Library		
Appointed:	Planning; Zoning; Conservation; Cemetery; Historic; Energy; Agriculture		
Public Library	Durham Public; UNH Library		
EMERGENCY SERVICES			
Police Department		Full-time	
Fire Department		Full-time	
Emergency Medical Service		Private	
Nearest Hospital(s)		Distance	Staffed Beds
Wentworth-Douglass, Dover		6 miles	173
UTILITIES			
Electric Supplier		Eversource Energy; NH Electric Coop	
Natural Gas Supplier		Unitil	
Water Supplier		UNH/Durham Water System	
Sanitation		Municipal	
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant		Yes	
Solid Waste Disposal		Municipal	
Curbside Trash Pickup		No	
Pay-As-You-Throw Program		Mandatory	
Recycling Program		Mandatory	
Telephone Company		Consolidated Communications	
Cellular Telephone Access		Yes	
Cable Television Access		Yes	
Public Access Television Station		Yes	
High Speed Internet Service:		Business	Yes
		Residential	Yes
PROPERTY TAXES		(NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)	
2022 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)		\$29.04	
2022 Equalization Ratio		70.1	
2022 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)		\$20.09	
2022 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type			
Residential Land and Buildings		64.1%	
Commercial Land and Buildings		30.2%	
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other		5.7%	
HOUSING		(ACS 2017-2021)	
Total Housing Units		3,583	
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached		2,173	
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:			
Two to Four Units in Structure		407	
Five or More Units in Structure		1,003	
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units			

POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECENNIAL)		(US Census Bureau)	
Total Population		Community	County
2022	14,473		132,275
2020	15,490		130,889
2010	14,638		123,143
2000	12,684		112,676
1990	11,816		104,348
1980	10,652		85,324
DEMOGRAPHICS		AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) 2017-2021	
Population by Gender			
Male	7,304	Female	8,106
Population by Age Group			
Under age 5		250	
Age 5 to 19		6,232	
Age 20 to 34		5,558	
Age 35 to 54		1,469	
Age 55 to 64		675	
Age 65 and over		1,226	
Median Age		20.6 years	
Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over:		3,954	
High school graduate or higher		98.4%	
Bachelor's degree or higher		77.8%	
INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$		(ACS 2017-2021)	
Per capita income		\$26,526	
Median family income		\$144,886	
Median household income		\$87,396	
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers			
Male		\$94,643	
Female		\$56,656	
Individuals below the poverty level		24.1%	
LABOR FORCE		(NHES – ELMI)	
Annual Average		2012	2022
Civilian labor force		8,394	9,046
Employed		7,949	8,806
Unemployed		445	240
Unemployment rate		5.3%	2.7%
EMPLOYMENT & WAGES		(NHES – ELMI)	
Annual Average Covered Employment		2012	2022
Goods Producing Industries			
Average Employment		n	179
Average Weekly Wage		n	\$1,476
Service Providing Industries			
Average Employment		n	1,312
Average Weekly Wage		n	\$ 979
Total Private Industry			
Average Employment		1,812	1,491
Average Weekly Wage		\$ 867	\$1,039
Government (Federal, State, and Local)			
Average Employment		4,279	4,158
Average Weekly Wage		\$1,160	\$1,423
Total, Private Industry plus Government			
Average Employment		6,091	5,649
Average Weekly Wage		\$1,073	\$1,321
If “n” appears, data do not meet disclosure standards.			

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**Schools students attend: **Grades K-12 are part of Oyster River Cooperative (Durham, Lee, Madbury)**District: **SAU 5**Career Technology Center(s): **Dover Career Technical 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>	
Grade Levels	<b>P</b>	<b>5-8</b>	<b>9-12</b>	
Total Enrollment	<b>30</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>843</b>	

Nearest Community College: **Great Bay**Nearest Colleges or Universities: **University of NH**

2022 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing)

Total Facilities: **3** Total Capacity: **147**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
University of New Hampshire	Education	3,597	1893
Town of Durham	Municipal services	87	1732
Oyster River Cooperative School District	Education	273	1954
Riverwood Retirement Community	Retirement community	145	2018

## Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

TRANSPORTATION ( <i>distances estimated from city/town hall</i> )			
Road Access	US Routes		<b>4</b>
	State Routes		<b>108, 155, 155A</b>
Nearest Interstate, Exit			<b>I-95, Exit 5</b>
	Distance		<b>8 miles</b>
Railroad		<b>Amtrak Downeaster</b>	
Public Transportation		<b>COAST; Wildcat Transit</b>	
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation			
<b>Pease International</b>	Runway		<b>11,321 ft.</b>
<b>asphalt/concrete</b>			
Lighted?	<b>Yes</b>	Navigation Aids?	<b>Yes</b>
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service			
<b>Manchester-Boston Regional</b>	Distance		<b>39 miles</b>
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport			<b>4</b>
Driving distance to select cities:			
Manchester, NH			<b>39 miles</b>
Portland, Maine			<b>61 miles</b>
Boston, Mass.			<b>64 miles</b>
New York City, NY			<b>271 miles</b>
Montreal, Quebec			<b>283 miles</b>
COMMUTING TO WORK ( <i>ACS 2017-2021</i> )			
Workers 16 years and over			
Drove alone, car/truck/van			<b>51.9%</b>
Carpooled, car/truck/van			<b>3.1%</b>
Public transportation			<b>4.5%</b>
Walked			<b>25.7%</b>
Other means			<b>1.9%</b>
Worked at home			<b>12.8%</b>
Mean Travel Time to Work			<b>20.5 minutes</b>
Percent of Working Residents			
Working in community of residence			<b>52.2%</b>
Commuting to another NH community			<b>40.0%</b>
Commuting out-of-state			<b>7.8%</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
	Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
<b>X</b>	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
<b>X</b>	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
	Bowling Facilities
<b>X</b>	Museums
<b>X</b>	Cinemas
<b>X</b>	Performing Arts Facilities
	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
<b>X</b>	Snowmobile Trails
<b>X</b>	Bicycle Trails
<b>X</b>	Cross Country Skiing
	Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
	Overnight or Day Camps
	Nearest Ski Area(s): <b>Gunstock</b>