

# Somersworth, NH



## Community Contact

**Somersworth Dept of Development Services**  
**Shanna saunders, Director Plan & Community Dev**  
**One Government Way**  
**Somersworth, NH 03878**

Telephone  
 Fax  
 E-mail  
 Web Site

**(603) 692-9517**  
**(603) 692-9575**  
**ssaunders@somersworth.com**  
**www.somersworth.com**

## Municipal Office Hours

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm,**  
**Wednesday, 8 am - 6 pm**

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 (All Wards)**  
**District 2 (All Wards)**  
**District 4 (All Wards)**  
**Strafford County Districts 18, 21 (Wards 1, 3, 4, & 5) 17, 21 (Ward 2)**

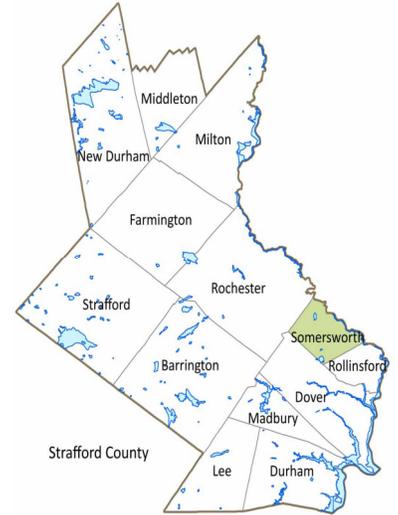
**Incorporated:** 1754

**Origin:** This territory was first settled about 1650 when it was part of Dover. It was made a separate parish in 1729, called Summersworth. In 1753, residents petitioned Governor Benning Wentworth for a separate township. The town was incorporated as Somersworth in 1754. In 1849, the town was divided nearly in half when the southern portion was incorporated as Rollinsford. Somersworth was incorporated as a city in 1893. Situated on the Salmon River, Somersworth has been home to many gristmills, sawmills, and cotton and woolen making establishments.

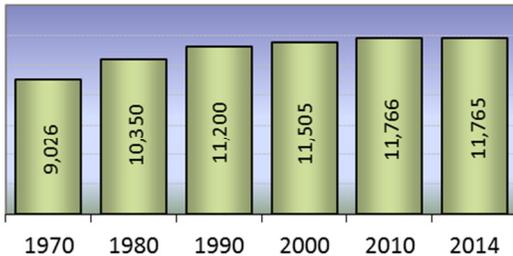
**Villages and Place Names:** unknown

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 943 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Somersworth totaled 3,236 over 54 years, from 8,529 in 1960 to 11,765 in 2014. The largest decennial percent change was a 15 percent increase between 1970 and 1980; the smallest, a two percent increase between 2000 and 2010.



The 2014 Census estimate for Somersworth was 11,765 residents, which ranked 25th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.



**Population Density and Land Area, 2014 (US Census Bureau):** 1,199.3 persons per square mile of land area, the fifth highest among the cities and towns. Somersworth contains 9.8 square miles of land area and 0.2 square miles of inland water area.

<b>MUNICIPAL SERVICES</b>	
Type of Government	<b>City Manager &amp; Council</b>
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2015-2016	<b>\$12,249,085</b>
Budget: School Appropriations, 2015-2016	<b>\$25,326,609</b>
Zoning Ordinance	<b>1953/13</b>
Master Plan	<b>2010</b>
Capital Improvement Plan	<b>Yes</b>
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	<b>Planning Board</b>
Boards and Commissions	
Elected:	<b>City Council</b>
Appointed:	<b>Planning; Zoning; Conservation; Library; Cemetery; HDC</b>
Public Library	<b>Somersworth Public</b>

<b>EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>			
Police Department			<b>Full-time</b>
Fire Department			<b>Municipal</b>
Emergency Medical Service			<b>Private</b>
Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds	
<b>Wentworth-Douglass, Dover</b>	<b>4 miles</b>	<b>114</b>	
<b>Frisbie Memorial, Rochester</b>	<b>6 miles</b>	<b>92</b>	

<b>UTILITIES</b>			
Electric Supplier			<b>Eversource Energy</b>
Natural Gas Supplier			<b>Unitil</b>
Water Supplier			<b>Municipal</b>
Sanitation			<b>Municipal</b>
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant			<b>Yes</b>
Solid Waste Disposal			
Curbside Trash Pickup			<b>Private</b>
Pay-As-You-Throw Program			<b>Yes</b>
Recycling Program			<b>Voluntary</b>
Telephone Company			<b>Fairpoint</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>	
2015 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)		<b>\$32.25</b>	
2015 Equalization Ratio		<b>99.1</b>	
2015 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)		<b>\$31.73</b>	
2015 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type			
Residential Land and Buildings		<b>70.3%</b>	
Commercial Land and Buildings		<b>27.8%</b>	
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other		<b>1.9%</b>	

<b>HOUSING</b>		<i>(ACS 2010-2014)</i>	
Total Housing Units		<b>4,886</b>	
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached		<b>2,353</b>	
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:			
Two to Four Units in Structure		<b>1,161</b>	
Five or More Units in Structure		<b>883</b>	
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units		<b>489</b>	

<b>DEMOGRAPHICS</b>			<i>(US Census Bureau)</i>
Total Population	Community		County
2014	<b>11,765</b>		<b>124,387</b>
2010	<b>11,766</b>		<b>123,143</b>
2000	<b>11,505</b>		<b>112,676</b>
1990	<b>11,200</b>		<b>104,348</b>
1980	<b>10,350</b>		<b>85,408</b>
1970	<b>9,026</b>		<b>70,431</b>

<b>Demographics, American Community Survey (ACS) 2010-2014</b>			
Population by Gender			
Male	<b>5,753</b>	Female	<b>6,012</b>
Population by Age Group			
Under age 5			<b>832</b>
Age 5 to 19			<b>1,972</b>
Age 20 to 34			<b>3,049</b>
Age 35 to 54			<b>3,112</b>
Age 55 to 64			<b>1,450</b>
Age 65 and over			<b>1,350</b>
Median Age			<b>35.2 years</b>
Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over			
High school graduate or higher			<b>91.8%</b>
Bachelor's degree or higher			<b>25.0%</b>

<b>INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$</b>		<i>(ACS 2010-2014)</i>	
Per capita income			<b>\$24,149</b>
Median family income			<b>\$64,382</b>
Median household income			<b>\$53,094</b>
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers			
Male			<b>\$46,616</b>
Female			<b>\$37,483</b>
Individuals below the poverty level			<b>15.1%</b>

<b>LABOR FORCE</b>				<i>(NHES – ELMI)</i>	
Annual Average		2005		2015	
Civilian labor force		<b>6,290</b>		<b>6,584</b>	
Employed		<b>6,070</b>		<b>6,307</b>	
Unemployed		<b>220</b>		<b>277</b>	
Unemployment rate		<b>3.5%</b>		<b>4.2%</b>	

<b>EMPLOYMENT &amp; WAGES</b>				<i>(NHES – ELMI)</i>	
Annual Average Covered Employment		2004		2014	
Goods Producing Industries					
Average Employment		<b>1,157</b>		<b>1,194</b>	
Average Weekly Wage		<b>\$ 835</b>		<b>\$1,072</b>	
Service Providing Industries					
Average Employment		<b>3,276</b>		<b>3,928</b>	
Average Weekly Wage		<b>\$ 582</b>		<b>\$ 735</b>	
Total Private Industry					
Average Employment		<b>4,433</b>		<b>5,122</b>	
Average Weekly Wage		<b>\$ 648</b>		<b>\$ 813</b>	
Government (Federal, State, and Local)					
Average Employment		<b>501</b>		<b>521</b>	
Average Weekly Wage		<b>\$ 632</b>		<b>\$ 767</b>	
Total, Private Industry plus Government					
Average Employment		<b>4,935</b>		<b>5,642</b>	
Average Weekly Wage		<b>\$ 646</b>		<b>\$ 809</b>	

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: **Somerset operates grades K-12** District: **SAU 56**  
 Career Technology Center(s): **Somerset Career Technical Center** Region: **12**

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>	<b>3</b>
Grade Levels	<b>P K 1-5</b>	<b>6-8</b>	<b>9-12</b>	<b>P K 1-12</b>
Total Enrollment	<b>778</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>317</b>

Nearest Community College: **Great Bay**

Nearest Colleges or Universities: **University of NH**

2016 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: **8** Total Capacity: **434**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Contitech	Manufacture of high performance silicone rubber hose	1,000	
General Electric Co.	Manufacturing, meter control division	400	
Wal-Mart	Retail store	380	
Somerset School Department	Education	291	
Market Basket	Supermarket	270	
The Works Athletic Club	Physical fitness, wellness center	240	
General Linen	Laundry facility	200	
Velcro	Hook & loop products	180	
City of Somerset	Municipal services	115	
J Pac	Medical contract packaging	100	

Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

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

Road Access	US Routes	
	State Routes	<b>16A, 16B, 108, 236</b>
Nearest Interstate, Exit	<b>Spaulding Tpk., Exit 9; I-95, Exit 5</b>	
	Distance	<b>4 miles; 17 miles</b>
Railroad	<b>Boston &amp; Maine</b>	
Public Transportation	<b>COAST</b>	
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation		
<b>Skyhaven, Rochester</b>	Runway	<b>4,200 ft. asphalt</b>
Lighted? <b>Yes</b>	Navigation Aids?	<b>Yes</b>
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service		
<b>Portland (ME) International</b>	Distance	<b>46 miles</b>
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport	<b>6</b>	
Driving distance to select cities:		
Manchester, NH	<b>44 miles</b>	
Portland, Maine	<b>47 miles</b>	
Boston, Mass.	<b>70 miles</b>	
New York City, NY	<b>281 miles</b>	
Montreal, Quebec	<b>279 miles</b>	

**COMMUTING TO WORK (ACS 2010-2014)**

Workers 16 years and over	
Drove alone, car/truck/van	<b>82.4%</b>
Carpooled, car/truck/van	<b>10.5%</b>
Public transportation	<b>2.1%</b>
Walked	<b>1.8%</b>
Other means	<b>0.9%</b>
Worked at home	<b>2.3%</b>
Mean Travel Time to Work	<b>25.6 minutes</b>

**Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2010-2014**

Working in community of residence	<b>17.2</b>
Commuting to another NH community	<b>72.5</b>
Commuting out-of-state	<b>10.3</b>

**RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS**

<b>X</b>	Municipal Parks
	YMCA/YWCA
	Boys Club/Girls Club
<b>X</b>	Golf Courses
	Swimming: Indoor Facility
	Swimming: Outdoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
<b>X</b>	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
	Bowling Facilities
<b>X</b>	Museums
	Cinemas
	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
	Fishing/Hunting
	Boating/Marinas
	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>
	Other: <b>Pumpkin Festival; Childrens Festival; Walking Trails; Baseball/Softball Fields; Basketball Courts; Childrens Playground</b>