

# Bedford, NH



## Community Contact

### Town of Bedford

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## Municipal Office Hours

**Town Offices: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 8-4, Tuesday, 7-4; Town Clerk: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 8-4:30, Tuesday, 7-3:30; Tax Collector: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8-4:30, Tuesday, 7-4:30**

County  
Labor Market Area  
Tourism Region  
Planning Commission  
Regional Development

Hillsborough  
Manchester, NH Metropolitan NECTA  
Merrimack Valley  
Southern NH  
Capital Regional Development Council

## Election Districts

US Congress  
Executive Council  
State Senate  
State Representative

District 1  
District 4  
District 9  
Hillsborough County District 2

**Incorporated:** 1750

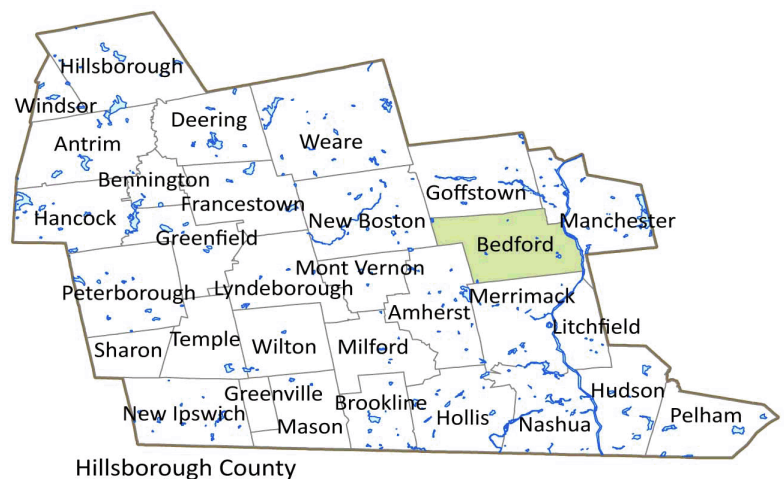
**Origin:** Bedford was established in 1730 as Narragansett Number 5 for the benefit of soldiers who fought against the Narragansett Indians in Rhode Island. Twenty years later little had been done to the land, and it was regranted first as Souhegan East, then as Bedford in 1750. The town was named for Lord John Russell, fourth Duke of Bedford, a close friend of Governor Benning Wentworth, whose first wife, Diana Spencer, was cousin to the Duke of Marlborough. The town's first moderator was Major John Goffe, son of Colonel John Goffe for whom Goffstown was named.

**Villages and Place Names:** unknown

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 898 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Bedford totaled 17,446 over 50 years, from 5,859 in 1970 to 23,305 in 2020. Bedford had the sixth-largest 50 year numeric change among the cities and towns. The largest decennial percent change was a 48 percent increase from 1990 to 2000. The town's population increased by ten percent from 2010 to 2020. The 2022 Census estimate for Bedford was 23,704 residents, which ranked 11th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

**Population Density and Land Area, 2022 (US Census Bureau):** 723.6 persons per square mile of land area. Bedford contains 32.8 square miles of land area and 0.3 square miles of inland water area.



MUNICIPAL SERVICES			
Type of Government		Manager & Council	
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2023		\$38,114,548	
Budget: School Appropriations, 2022-2023		\$85,250,832	
Zoning Ordinance		1953/23	
Master Plan		2021	
Capital Improvement Plan		Yes	
Industrial Plans Reviewed By		Planning Board	
Boards and Commissions			
Elected:	Town Council; Library		
Appointed:	Planning; Zoning; Conservation; Historic District; Recreation; Budget; Highway Safety; Sewer & Water Advisory		
Public Library	Bedford Public		
EMERGENCY SERVICES			
Police Department		Full-time	
Fire Department		Full & part-time	
Emergency Medical Service		Full & part-time	
Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds	
Elliot Hospital, Manchester	6 miles	292	
Catholic Medical Center, Manchester	4 miles	262	
UTILITIES			
Electric Supplier		Eversource Energy	
Natural Gas Supplier		Liberty Utilities	
Water Supplier		Manchester Water Works; Pennichuck Water Works	
Sanitation		Private septic & municipal	
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant		No	
Solid Waste Disposal			
Curbside Trash Pickup		Private	
Pay-As-You-Throw Program		No	
Recycling Program		Voluntary	
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)		\$17.60	
2022 Equalization Ratio		79.2	
2022 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)		\$13.73	
2022 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type			
Residential Land and Buildings		80.3%	
Commercial Land and Buildings		18.0%	
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other		1.7%	
HOUSING		(ACS 2017-2021)	
Total Housing Units		8,285	
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached		7,054	
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:			
Two to Four Units in Structure		87	
Five or More Units in Structure		1,144	
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units		0	

POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECENNIAL)		(US Census Bureau)	
Total Population		Community	County
2022	23,704		426,594
2020	23,322		422,937
2010	21,203		400,721
2000	18,492		382,384
1990	12,513		336,549
1980	9,481		276,608
DEMOGRAPHICS		AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) 2017-2021	
Population by Gender			
Male	11,169	Female	11,988
Population by Age Group			
Under age 5		1,167	
Age 5 to 19		4,961	
Age 20 to 34		2,873	
Age 35 to 54		6,480	
Age 55 to 64		3,770	
Age 65 and over		3,906	
Median Age		44.8 years	
Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over:		15,797	
High school graduate or higher		97.5%	
Bachelor's degree or higher		65.5%	
INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$		(ACS 2017-2021)	
Per capita income		\$62,501	
Median family income		\$166,413	
Median household income		\$143,119	
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers			
Male		\$110,533	
Female		\$75,345	
Individuals below the poverty level		3.0%	
LABOR FORCE		(NHES – ELMI)	
Annual Average		2012	2022
Civilian labor force		11,046	12,284
Employed		10,537	12,018
Unemployed		509	266
Unemployment rate		4.6%	2.2%
EMPLOYMENT & WAGES		(NHES – ELMI)	
Annual Average Covered Employment		2012	2022
Goods Producing Industries			
Average Employment		1,114	1,621
Average Weekly Wage		\$1,253	\$1,952
Service Providing Industries			
Average Employment		12,067	14,920
Average Weekly Wage		\$1,035	\$1,507
Total Private Industry			
Average Employment		13,181	16,541
Average Weekly Wage		\$1,053	\$1,551
Government (Federal, State, and Local)			
Average Employment		1,148	1,189
Average Weekly Wage		\$ 882	\$1,153
Total, Private Industry plus Government			
Average Employment		14,329	17,730
Average Weekly Wage		\$1,040	\$1,524
If “n” appears, data do not meet disclosure standards.			

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: **Bedford operates grades K-12**  
 Career Technology Center(s): **Manchester School of Technology**

District: **SAU 25**

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Grade Levels	<b>P K 1-4</b>	<b>5-8</b>	<b>9-12</b>	<b>P K 1-4</b>
Total Enrollment	<b>1,421</b>	<b>1,349</b>	<b>1,389</b>	<b>61</b>

Nearest Community College: **Manchester; Nashua**

Nearest Colleges or Universities: **St. Anselm; Southern NH University; UNH-Manchester; Franklin Pierce-Manchester; MCPHS; Thomas More; Rivier**

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

Total Facilities: **14** Total Capacity: **1,329**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
LSNE	Contract manufacturing	275	
Bedford School District	Education	732	
Whole Foods	Natural food supermarket	325	
Lowe's	Home improvement center	215	
Kelly Services	Temporary employment agency	200	
Town of Bedford	Municipal services	205	
Market Basket	Supermarket	462	2013
Target	Department store	175	
Hannaford Brothers	Supermarket	400	

## Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

TRANSPORTATION <i>(distances estimated from city/town hall)</i>				RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS	
Road Access	US Routes	<b>3</b>		<b>X</b>	Municipal Parks
	State Routes	<b>101, 114</b>			YMCA/YWCA
Nearest Interstate, Exit		<b>I-293, Exit 3</b>		<b>X</b>	Boys Club/Girls Club
	Distance	<b>Local access</b>		<b>X</b>	Golf Courses
					Swimming: Indoor Facility
Railroad		<b>Boston &amp; Maine</b>		<b>X</b>	Swimming: Outdoor Facility
Public Transportation		<b>MTA</b>			Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
				<b>X</b>	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation					Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
<b>Manchester-Boston Regional</b>	Runway	<b>9,250 ft. asphalt</b>			Bowling Facilities
Lighted?	<b>Yes</b>	Navigation Aids?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>X</b>	Museums
					Cinemas
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service				<b>X</b>	Performing Arts Facilities
<b>Manchester-Boston Regional</b>	Distance	<b>7 miles</b>			Tourist Attractions
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport		<b>4</b>		<b>X</b>	Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)
Driving distance to select cities:				<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Baseball
Manchester, NH		<b>7 miles</b>		<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Soccer
Portland, Maine		<b>101 miles</b>		<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Football
Boston, Mass.		<b>55 miles</b>		<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Basketball
New York City, NY		<b>248 miles</b>		<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Hockey
Montreal, Quebec		<b>265 miles</b>			Campgrounds
				<b>X</b>	Fishing/Hunting
				<b>X</b>	Boating/Marinas
					Snowmobile Trails
					Bicycle Trails
				<b>X</b>	Cross Country Skiing
					Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
				<b>X</b>	Overnight or Day Camps
					Nearest Ski Area(s): <b>McIntyre, Pat's Peak</b>
					Other: <b>Farmer's Market, Hiking Trails</b>
COMMUTING TO WORK <i>(ACS 2017-2021)</i>					
Workers 16 years and over					
Drove alone, car/truck/van		<b>71.5%</b>			
Carpooled, car/truck/van		<b>4.2%</b>			
Public transportation		<b>0.3%</b>			
Walked		<b>2.3%</b>			
Other means		<b>0.8%</b>			
Worked at home		<b>20.9%</b>			
Mean Travel Time to Work		<b>28.6 minutes</b>			
Percent of Working Residents					
Working in community of residence		<b>37.3%</b>			
Commuting to another NH community		<b>51.9%</b>			
Commuting out-of-state		<b>10.8%</b>			