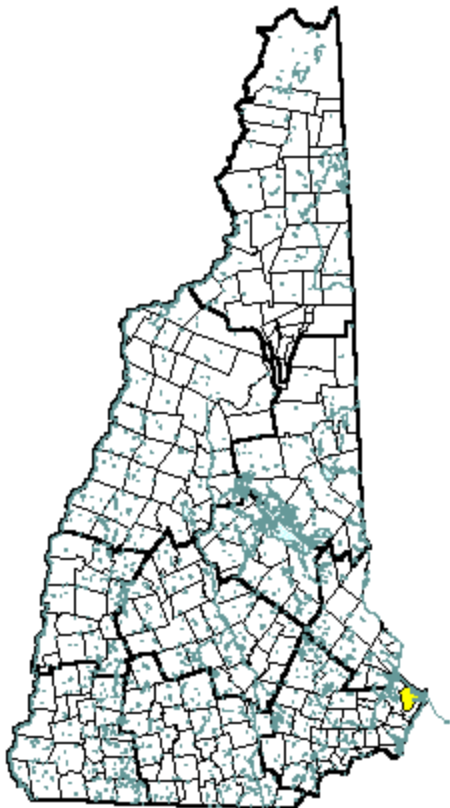


# Portsmouth, NH



## Community Contact

Portsmouth Economic Development Commission  
 Nancy Carmer, Economic Development Program Manager  
 1 Junkins Avenue  
 Portsmouth, NH 03801

Telephone  
 Fax  
 E-mail  
 Web Site

(603) 610-7220  
 (603) 427-1593  
 nmcarmer@ch.cityofportsmouth.com  
 www.cityofportsmouth.com

## Municipal Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm

County  
 Labor Market Area  
 Tourism Region  
 Planning Commission  
 Regional Development

Rockingham  
 Portsmouth NH-ME Metro-NECTA, NH Portion  
 Seacoast  
 Rockingham  
 Coastal Economic Development Corp.

## Election Districts

US Congress  
 Executive Council  
 State Senate  
 State Representative

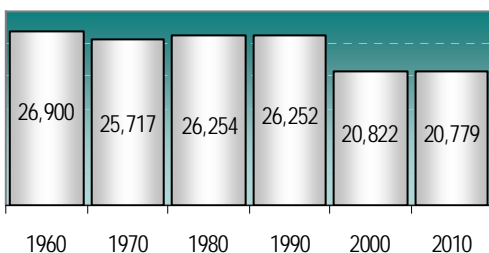
District 1 (All Wards)  
 District 3 (All Wards)  
 District 24 (All Wards)  
 Rockingham County District 16 (All Wards)

**Incorporated:** 1631

**Origin:** This territory was a part of the original land grant to John Mason and Francisco Gorges in 1622. A township grant was issued by the council of Plymouth (MA) in 1631 which covered what is now Portsmouth and the harbor, Greenland, Rye, New Castle, and Newington. First called Piscataqua, the settlement became known as Strawberry Banke because of the wild strawberries that were found there. The name Portsmouth was adopted in 1653 to honor John Mason, Captain of the Port in Portsmouth, England, and because it was a good harbor situated at the river's mouth. Already an important center of trade and shipping, Portsmouth became capitol of the province of New Hampshire in 1679, and was incorporated as a city in 1849.

**Villages and Place Names:** Atlantic Heights, Christian Shore, Creek Area, Elwyn Park, Meadowbrook, Pannaway Manor, Portsmouth Plains, Haymarket Square, Sagamore Hill, Strawberry Banke, the Woodlands

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 4,720 residents in 1790



**Population Trends:** Population change decreased for Portsmouth by 6,121 over 50 years, from 26,900 in 1960 to 20,779 in 2010. The largest decennial percent change was a 2 percent increase between 1970 and 1980; population declined by 21 percent between 1990 and 2000. The 2010 Census estimate for Portsmouth was 20,779 residents, which ranked 13th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

**Population Density and Land Area, 2010 (US Census Bureau):** 1,329.0 persons per square mile of land area, the third highest among the cities and towns. Portsmouth contains 15.6 square miles of land area and 1.2 square miles of inland water area.



**MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

Type of Government	<b>City Manager &amp; Council</b>
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2012	<b>\$49,700,220</b>
Budget: School Appropriations, 2012	<b>\$36,206,584</b>
Zoning Ordinance	<b>1927/05</b>
Master Plan	<b>2005</b>
Capital Improvement Plan	<b>Yes</b>
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	<b>Planning Department</b>

**Boards and Commissions**

Elected:	<b>City Council; School; Police</b>
Appointed:	<b>Planning; Conservation; Library; Economic Development; Historic District; Zoning</b>

Public Library **Portsmouth Athenaeum; Portsmouth Public**

**EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Police Department	<b>Full-time</b>
Fire Department	<b>Municipal</b>
Emergency Medical Service	<b>Municipal</b>

Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds
<b>Portsmouth Regional, Portsmouth</b>	<b>Local</b>	<b>165</b>

**UTILITIES**

Electric Supplier	<b>PSNH</b>
Natural Gas Supplier	<b>Northern Utilities</b>
Water Supplier	<b>Portsmouth Water Department</b>

Sanitation	<b>Municipal</b>
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	<b>Yes</b>
Solid Waste Disposal	
Curbside Trash Pickup	<b>Municipal</b>
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	<b>No</b>
Recycling Program	<b>Mandatory</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>

**PROPERTY TAXES** *(NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)*

2010 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$17.41</b>
2010 Equalization Ratio	<b>97.4</b>
2010 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$16.51</b>

2010 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	<b>57.1%</b>
Commercial Land and Buildings	<b>38.3%</b>
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	<b>4.6%</b>

**HOUSING** *(ACS 2006-2010)*

Total Housing Units	<b>10,647</b>
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	<b>5,250</b>
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	<b>1,791</b>
Five or More Units in Structure	<b>3,391</b>
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	<b>215</b>

**DEMOGRAPHICS***(US Census Bureau)*

Total Population	Community	County
2010	<b>20,779</b>	<b>295,223</b>
2000	<b>20,822</b>	<b>278,748</b>
1990	<b>26,252</b>	<b>246,744</b>
1980	<b>26,254</b>	<b>190,345</b>
1970	<b>25,717</b>	<b>138,951</b>

**Demographics, American Community Survey (ACS) 2006-2010**

Population by Gender			
Male	<b>10,252</b>	Female	<b>10,711</b>

Population by Age Group	
Under age 5	<b>990</b>
Age 5 to 19	<b>2,789</b>
Age 20 to 34	<b>5,747</b>
Age 35 to 54	<b>6,246</b>
Age 55 to 64	<b>2,226</b>
Age 65 and over	<b>2,965</b>
Median Age	<b>38.5 years</b>

Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over	
High school graduate or higher	<b>96.4%</b>
Bachelor's degree or higher	<b>48.7%</b>

**INCOME, 2010 INFLATION ADJUSTED \$** *(ACS 2006-2010)*

Per capita income	<b>\$36,823</b>
Median 4-person family income	<b>\$86,020</b>
Median household income	<b>\$62,191</b>

Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers	
Male	<b>\$52,709</b>
Female	<b>\$37,999</b>

Families below the poverty level	<b>3.9%</b>
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**LABOR FORCE** *(NHES - ELM)*

Annual Average	2000	2010
Civilian labor force	<b>12,697</b>	<b>13,574</b>
Employed	<b>12,368</b>	<b>12,905</b>
Unemployed	<b>329</b>	<b>669</b>
Unemployment rate	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>

**EMPLOYMENT & WAGES** *(NHES - ELM)*

Annual Average Covered Employment	2000	2010
Goods Producing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>2,417</b>	<b>2,289</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$716</b>	<b>\$1,224</b>
Service Providing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>24,018</b>	<b>23,587</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$720</b>	<b>\$1,030</b>
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	<b>26,435</b>	<b>25,876</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$719</b>	<b>\$1,047</b>
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	<b>1823</b>	<b>1,966</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$684</b>	<b>\$930</b>
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	<b>28,258</b>	<b>27,842</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$717</b>	<b>\$1,039</b>

n = indicates that data does not meet disclosure standards

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

(NH Dept. of Education)

Schools students attend: **Portsmouth operates grades K-12** District: **SAU 52**  
 Career Technology Center(s): **Portsmouth High School** Region: **19**

Educational Facilities	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools	4	1	1	1
Grade Levels	P K 1-5	6-8	9-12	K 1-8
Total Enrollment	1,052	485	1,119	182

2011 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS – Bureau of Child Care Licensing): Total Facilities: **19** Total Capacity: **1,339**

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

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
City of Portsmouth	Municipal services	1,339	
HCA Portsmouth Regional Hospital	Health care services	1,079	1987
Liberty Mutual Insurance	Insurance services	1,013	1969
US Dept of State, National Passport Center	Passport services	776	
US Dept of State, National Visa Center	Visa services	684	
Lonza Biologies	Biotechnology	660	
John Hancock	Financial services	400	
Thermo Fisher	Analytical instruments & laboratory equipment	280	
Alpha Flying PlaneSense	Fractional Aircraft ownership	250	
Direct Capital	Commercial leasing	180	

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

Road Access	US Routes	1, 4
	State Routes	1A, 1B, 16, 33, 1 Bypass
Nearest Interstate, Exit		I-95, Exits 3 - 7
	Distance	Local access
Railroad		Guilford Rail Service
Public Transportation		COAST; Wildcat Transit
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation		
<b>Pease International</b>	Runway	11,321 ft. asphalt/conc
Lighted? <b>Yes</b>	Navigation Aids?	<b>Yes</b>
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service		
<b>Manchester-Boston Regional</b>	Distance	47 miles
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport		6
Driving distance to select cities:		
Manchester, NH		45 miles
Portland, Maine		51 miles
Boston, Mass.		57 miles
New York City, NY		270 miles
Montreal, Quebec		301 miles

**RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS**

X	Municipal Parks
X	YMCA/YWCA
	Boys Club/Girls Club
X	Golf Courses
X	Swimming: Indoor Facility
X	Swimming: Outdoor Facility
X	Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
X	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
X	Bowling Facilities
X	Museums
X	Cinemas
X	Performing Arts Facilities
X	Tourist Attractions
X	Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)
X	Youth Sports: Baseball
X	Youth Sports: Soccer
X	Youth Sports: Football
X	Youth Sports: Basketball
X	Youth Sports: Hockey
	Campgrounds
X	Fishing/Hunting
X	Boating/Marinas
	Snowmobile Trails
X	Bicycle Trails
X	Cross Country Skiing
X	Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
X	Overnight or Day Camps
	Nearest Ski Area(s): <b>Gunstock</b>
	Other: <b>Strawbery Banke; Harbor &amp; Isles of Shoals Cruises; Historic Homes; Fish Pier; Trolley; Sailing; Kayaking; Music Festival; Shopping</b>

**COMMUTING TO WORK** (ACS 2006-2010)

Workers 16 years and over	
Drove alone, car/truck/van	82.4%
Carpooled, car/truck/van	3.8%
Public transportation	1.4%
Walked	5.1%
Other means	1.8%
Worked at home	5.4%
Mean Travel Time to Work	20.1 minutes
Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2006-2010	
Working in community of residence	51.0%
Commuting to another NH community	30.6%
Commuting out-of-state	18.4%