

# Swanzey, NH



## Community Contact

**Town of Swanzey**  
**Michael Branley, Town Administrator**  
 Town Hall, PO Box 10009  
 Swanzey, NH 03446-0009

Telephone  
 Fax  
 E-mail  
 Web Site

**(603) 352-7411**  
**(603) 352-6250**  
**mbranley@town.swanzey.nh.us**  
**www.town.swanzey.nh.us**

## Municipal Office Hours

**Monday through Friday, 8:30 am - 5 pm**

County  
 Labor Market Area  
 Tourism Region  
 Planning Commission  
 Regional Development

**Cheshire**  
**Keene, NH Micropolitan NECTA**  
**Monadnock**  
**Southwest Region**  
**Monadnock Economic Development Corp.**

## Election Districts

US Congress  
 Executive Council  
 State Senate  
 State Representative

**District 2**  
**District 5**  
**District 10**  
**Cheshire County Districts 12, 15**

**Incorporated:** 1753

**Origin:** This town was one of the fort towns established by Governor Belcher of Massachusetts, and was first granted in 1734 as Lower Ashuelot to Captain Nathaniel Hammond and Ephraim Jones. In 1753, residents petitioned Governor Benning Wentworth for a grant under authority of the New Hampshire government, since they had settled and been making improvements for over 18 years. The town was chartered that year as Swanzey, the name being suggested by Governor Brenton of Rhode Island, who owned land at Brenton's Farm (Litchfield), and Swansea, Massachusetts. There are four covered bridges located in Swanzey: Carleton, Thompson, Slate, and Cresson.

**Villages and Place Names:** East Swanzey, West Swanzey, Westport, North Swanzey, Swanzey Center

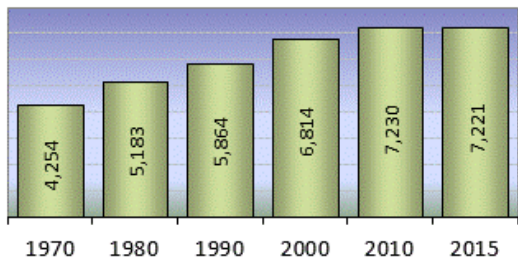
**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 1,157 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Swanzey totaled 3,595 over 55 years, from

3,626 in 1960 to 7,221 in 2015. The largest decennial percent change was an increase of 22 percent between 1970 and 1980; the smallest, a six percent increase between 2000 and 2010. The 2015 Census estimate for Swanzey was 7,221 residents, which ranked 43rd among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.



Cheshire County



**Population Density and Land Area, 2015 (US Census Bureau):** 160.7 persons per square mile of land area. Swanzey contains 45.0 square miles of land area and 0.4 square miles of inland water area.

<b>MUNICIPAL SERVICES</b>	
Type of Government	<b>Selectmen</b>
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2014-2015	<b>\$6,513,578</b>
Budget: School Appropriations, 2014-2015	<b>\$14,844,767</b>
Zoning Ordinance	<b>1947/13</b>
Master Plan	<b>2006</b>
Capital Improvement Plan	<b>Yes</b>
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	<b>Planning Board</b>

#### Boards and Commissions

Elected:	<b>Selectmen; Planning; Zoning; Sewer; Library</b>
Appointed:	<b>Conservation; Swanzey Revenue; Economic Dev; Open Space; Old Home Day; Recreation; Capital Improvement</b>

Public Library **Mt. Caesar Union; Stratton Free**

#### **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Police Department	<b>Full-time</b>
Fire Department	<b>Full-time &amp; On-Call</b>
Emergency Medical Service	<b>On-Call</b>

Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds
<b>Cheshire Medical Center, Keene</b>	<b>6 miles</b>	<b>116</b>

#### **UTILITIES**

Electric Supplier	<b>Eversource Energy</b>
Natural Gas Supplier	<b>None</b>
Water Supplier	<b>North Swanzey Fire Precinct; West Swanzey Water Co.</b>

Sanitation	<b>Private septic &amp; municipal</b>
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	<b>Yes</b>
Solid Waste Disposal	
Curbside Trash Pickup	<b>Private</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>Limited</b>

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

2015 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$26.58</b>
2015 Equalization Ratio	<b>100.1</b>
2015 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$26.56</b>
2015 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	<b>80.8%</b>
Commercial Land and Buildings	<b>14.7%</b>
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	<b>4.5%</b>

#### **HOUSING** *(ACS 2011-2015)*

Total Housing Units	<b>3,201</b>
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	<b>2,429</b>
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	<b>234</b>
Five or More Units in Structure	<b>325</b>
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	<b>216</b>

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

Total Population	Community	County
2015	<b>7,221</b>	<b>76,430</b>
2010	<b>7,230</b>	<b>77,117</b>
2000	<b>6,814</b>	<b>73,993</b>
1990	<b>5,864</b>	<b>70,223</b>
1980	<b>5,183</b>	<b>62,116</b>
1970	<b>4,254</b>	<b>52,364</b>

#### **Demographics, American Community Survey (ACS) 2011-2015**

Population by Gender	Male	Female
	<b>3,499</b>	<b>3,722</b>

Population by Age Group	
Under age 5	<b>434</b>
Age 5 to 19	<b>1,007</b>
Age 20 to 34	<b>1,291</b>
Age 35 to 54	<b>2,244</b>
Age 55 to 64	<b>1,110</b>
Age 65 and over	<b>1,135</b>
Median Age	<b>45.1 years</b>

Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over	
High school graduate or higher	<b>90.5%</b>
Bachelor's degree or higher	<b>25.4%</b>

#### **INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$** *(ACS 2011-2015)*

Per capita income	<b>\$33,749</b>
Median family income	<b>\$68,371</b>
Median household income	<b>\$57,632</b>

Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers, 16 years and over	
Male	<b>\$50,017</b>
Female	<b>\$42,778</b>

Individuals below the poverty level	<b>14.2%</b>
-------------------------------------	--------------

#### **LABOR FORCE** *(NHES – ELMI)*

Annual Average	2005	2015
Civilian labor force	<b>3,823</b>	<b>4,139</b>
Employed	<b>3,705</b>	<b>3,985</b>
Unemployed	<b>118</b>	<b>154</b>
Unemployment rate	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>

#### **EMPLOYMENT & WAGES** *(NHES – ELMI)*

Annual Average Covered Employment	2005	2015
Goods Producing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>323</b>	<b>358</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 674</b>	<b>\$1,036</b>
Service Providing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>959</b>	<b>1,193</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 550</b>	<b>\$ 653</b>
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	<b>1,282</b>	<b>1,551</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 581</b>	<b>\$ 742</b>
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	<b>701</b>	<b>718</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 592</b>	<b>\$ 712</b>
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	<b>1,983</b>	<b>2,269</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 585</b>	<b>\$ 733</b>

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend:	<b>Grades K-12 are part of Monadnock Regional (Fitzwilliam, Gilsum, Richmond, Roxbury, Swanzey, Troy)</b>			District: <b>SAU 93</b>
Career Technology Center(s):	<b>Cheshire Career Center (Keene); Fall Mountain RHS - CTE; Windham RCC (VT)</b>			Region: <b>13</b>
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>	
Grade Levels	<b>P K 1-6</b>	<b>7-8</b>	<b>9-12</b>	
Total Enrollment	<b>570</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>528</b>	

Nearest Community College: **River Valley**  
 Nearest Colleges or Universities: **Keene State; Franklin Pierce University; Antioch New England**

2016 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: **4** Total Capacity: **197**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Nanotech	Ultra-precision machining systems	55	1997
Mold Pro	Thermoplastic injection molding	40	2003
Powers Generator Service, LLC	Generator sales, service, installation	22	1995
Port-O-Lite	Millwork	15	1952
Fenton Family Dealerships	Automobile dealership		1985
First Student	Bus transportation		2000
Keene Gas/Titan Propane	Propane sales, service		1860
Market Basket	Supermarket		2010
Monadnock Regional School District	Education		1962
Town of Swanzey	Municipal services		1753
Employer Information Supplied by Municipality			

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

Road Access	US Routes	
	State Routes	<b>10, 12, 32</b>
Nearest Interstate, Exit		<b>I-91 (VT), Exit 3</b>
	Distance	<b>20 miles</b>
Railroad		<b>No</b>
Public Transportation		<b>No</b>
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation		
<b>Dillant-Hopkins, Swanzey</b>	Runway	<b>6,201 ft. asphalt</b>
Lighted? <b>Yes</b>	Navigation Aids?	<b>Yes</b>
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service		
<b>Manchester-Boston Regional</b>	Distance	<b>60 miles</b>
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport		<b>4</b>
Driving distance to select cities:		
Manchester, NH		<b>70 miles</b>
Portland, Maine		<b>162 miles</b>
Boston, Mass.		<b>98 miles</b>
New York City, NY		<b>210 miles</b>
Montreal, Quebec		<b>247 miles</b>

**COMMUTING TO WORK** (ACS 2011-2015)

Workers 16 years and over	
Drove alone, car/truck/van	<b>82.0%</b>
Carpooled, car/truck/van	<b>6.6%</b>
Public transportation	<b>1.9%</b>
Walked	<b>0.7%</b>
Other means	<b>1.7%</b>
Worked at home	<b>7.1%</b>
Mean Travel Time to Work	<b>19.0 minutes</b>
<b>Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2011-2015</b>	
Working in community of residence	<b>19.6</b>
Commuting to another NH community	<b>75.0</b>
Commuting out-of-state	<b>5.4</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
<b>X</b>	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
	Bowling Facilities
<b>X</b>	Museums
	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
<b>X</b>	Campgrounds
<b>X</b>	Fishing/Hunting
<b>X</b>	Boating/Marinas
<b>X</b>	Snowmobile Trails
<b>X</b>	Bicycle Trails
	Cross Country Skiing
<b>X</b>	Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
	Overnight or Day Camps
	Nearest Ski Area(s): <b>Granite Gorge</b>
	Other: <b>Cheshire Fair; Covered Bridges; Old Home Day; Hiking trails; Summer Theatre; Band Concert Series</b>