

# What do Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers do?

Maintain order and protect life and property by enforcing local, tribal, State, or Federal laws and ordinances. Patrol a specific area; direct traffic; issue traffic summonses; investigate accidents; apprehend and arrest suspects, or serve legal processes of courts.

## Work Content

Respond to emergency and nonemergency calls.

Patrol assigned areas, observing people and activities.

Conduct traffic stops and issue citations. Render aid to accident victims and other persons requiring first aid for physical injuries.

Enforce motor vehicle and criminal laws and promote good community relations.

Collect and secure evidence from crime scenes and observe the activities of suspects.

Investigate illegal or suspicious activities.

Record facts to prepare reports that document incidents and activities.

Testify in court to present evidence or act as witness in traffic and criminal cases.

Most carry law enforcement equipment such as radios, handcuffs, and guns.

## Places to work

Government, Local

Government, State

Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools

Government, Federal



Median annual wage \*

\$62,129

Projected employment \*\*

3,011

Annual openings (Jobs)

242

## Career Cluster



**law, public safety,  
corrections,  
and security**

\* Wage estimates based on surveys conducted from November 2019 to May 2021

\*\* Projected Occupational Employment in 2030

## How do you become a Police Officer?

In New Hampshire, a police officer must have a high school diploma or a GED to attend the Academy. The police officer must attend a 16-week residency program after being hired by a law enforcement agency.

Candidates must be U.S. citizens, and able to meet rigorous physical and personal qualifications. A serious criminal or motor vehicle record will disqualify a candidate.

## Interests (Holland Codes)



**Enterprising** — Enterprising occupations frequently involve starting up and carrying out projects. These occupations can involve leading people and making many decisions. Sometimes they require risk taking and often deal with business.

**Realistic** — Realistic occupations frequently involve work activities that include practical, hands-on problems and solutions. They often deal with plants, animals, and real-world materials like wood, tools, and machinery. Many of the occupations require working outside, and do not involve a lot of paperwork or working closely with others.

## Work environment

Police and detective work can be physically demanding, stressful, and dangerous. Officers must be alert and ready to react throughout their entire shift. Officers regularly work at crime and accident scenes and encounter suffering and the results of violence. Although a career in law enforcement may be stressful, many officers find it rewarding to help members of their communities.

## Explore more: \*\*\*

New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council, <https://www.pstc.nh.gov/>

\*\*\* Inclusion of this information is intended to provide a convenient resource for exploration, but does not constitute an endorsement for any organization, nor is the list all-inclusive.

### Source:

New Hampshire Employment Projections, base year 2020 to projected year 2030  
New Hampshire Occupational Employment and Wages, May 2021  
Occupational Outlook Handbook, Bureau of Labor Statistics

