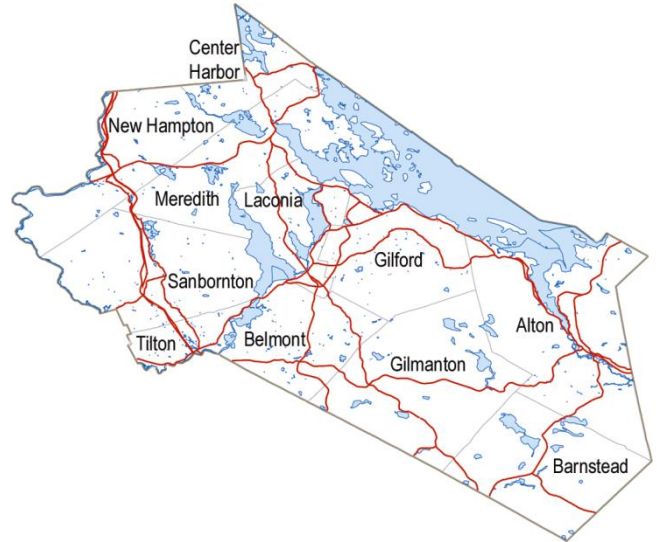
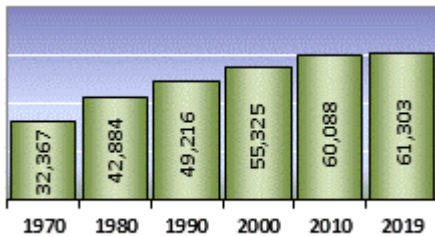


Belknap County

Located just southeast of the geographic center of the state in New Hampshire's Lakes Region, Belknap County was established in 1840 from portions of Strafford County. The county was named for Dr. Jeremy Belknap, Dover Congregational Church minister and author of *The History of New Hampshire*, which chronicled the early history of the state. Belknap is one of two counties in the state without an interstate border; Merrimack is the other. A large part of Lake Winnepesaukee, all of Lake Winnisquam, and many smaller lakes cover nearly one-sixth of the county, the largest amount of inland water among New Hampshire's counties.



Belknap County contains 400.2 square miles of land area and 68.4 square miles of inland water area. Based on the 2010 Census population, the population density is 150.1 persons per square mile. Belknap County includes one city, Laconia, and ten towns. The county seat is Laconia.



Population Trends: Belknap County experienced its highest rate of growth from 1970 to 1980, when the population grew by 32.5 percent, adding 10,500 residents. Belknap ranked in the bottom third among all counties every census from 1790 to 1970, then rose to seventh, holding that rank ever since. Population increase in both 1990 and 2000 was just over 6,000 residents. Between 2000 and 2010, the rate of growth slowed a little more, increasing by 8.6 percent, adding 4,700 residents. Belknap County residents are generally older as well, having the third-highest median age in New Hampshire. The median age of women is higher than that of men, by one and a quarter years.

Population (1-Year Population Estimates, US Census Bureau)				
2019	2010	2000	1990	1980
61,303	60,088	55,325	49,216	42,884

Demographics (2015-2019 5-Year Average, ACS)		
By Gender:		
	Male	Female
Total	30,002	30,885
18 years and over	24,215	25,273
65 years and over	6,183	6,854
Median Age (years)	46.8	48.2
By Age Group:		
	Under age 5	2,668
	Age 5 to 19	9,982
	Age 20 to 34	9,446
	Age 35 to 54	15,185
	Age 55 to 64	10,569
	Age 65 and over	13,037
	Median Age (years)	47.4

Labor Force (NHES-ELMI)		
	2009	2019
Annual Average		
Civilian Labor Force	32,540	31,590
Employed	30,370	30,790
Unemployed	2,170	800
Unemployment Rate	6.7%	2.5%

2019 Annual Average Unemployment Rates by Town

Alton	2.2%	Laconia	2.8%
Barnstead	2.2%	Meredith	2.3%
Belmont	2.6%	New Hampton	2.2%
Center Harbor	2.1%	Sanbornton	2.4%
Gilford	2.7%	Tilton	2.7%
Gilmanton	2.8%		

Due to differing methodologies, 1-Year Population Estimates and 5-Year Average ACS Demographics data may not match.

Largest Businesses	Community	Product/Service	Employees
Aavid Engineering Corp.	Laconia	Semiconductor heat sinks	620
Gunstock Recreation Area	Gilford	Ski, recreation area	550
NH Ball Bearings, Inc.	Laconia	Spherical bearings	478
j.jill	Tilton	Contact & distribution center of women's apparel	325
Gilford School District	Gilford	Education	260
Interlakes School System	Meredith	Education	228
Meredith Village Savings Bank	Meredith	Banking services	210
Hannaford Brothers	Gilford	Supermarket	200
Wal-Mart	Gilford	Retail store	200
Tanger Outlet Stores	Tilton	Retail outlet stores	200
New Hampton School	New Hampton	Secondary education	174
Home Depot	Tilton	Home improvement center	150
Town of Alton	Alton	Municipal services	140
Taylor Community	Laconia	Nonprofit continuing care retirement community	140
Hannaford Brothers	Alton	Supermarket	132
Golden View	Meredith	Nursing home	130
Lewis & Sanders, Inc.	Laconia	Metal tubular assemblies	130
Alton School Department	Alton	Education	116
Hampshire Hospitality Holdings	Meredith	Inn, spa, marketplace	115
Bank of New Hampshire	Gilford	Banking services	115
Winnisquam Regional School District	Tilton	Education	114
Shaws Supermarket	Gilford	Supermarket	113
Wal-Mart	Tilton	Retail store	110
Autoserv	Tilton	Car dealership	110
Barnstead Elementary School/SAU 86	Barnstead	Education/administrative	106
Town of Gilford	Gilford	Municipal services	101
The Tilton School	Tilton	Education	99
Town of Barnstead	Barnstead	Municipal services	96
Shaw's Supermarket	Belmont	Supermarket	95
Lowe's	Tilton	Home improvement center	94

Note: All employer information, including number of employees, was provided by the individual communities.

Covered Employment & Wages	(NHES-ELMI)	
Annual Average Covered Employment	2009	2019
Goods Producing Industries		
Average Employment	3,944	3,799
Average Weekly Wage	\$935	\$1,177
Service Providing Industries		
Average Employment	17,337	18,209
Average Weekly Wage	\$623	\$782
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	21,280	22,008
Average Weekly Wage	\$681	\$850
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	4,289	4,072
Average Weekly Wage	\$753	\$877
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	25,570	26,080
Average Weekly Wage	\$693	\$854

Income	(2015-2019 5-Year Average, ACS)	
Per Capita Income		\$37,430
Median Family Income		\$85,589
Median Household Income		\$69,447
Median Earnings (Full-Time Year-Round)	Male	\$53,611
	Female	\$42,007
Individuals below poverty level		8.6%

Commuting to Work	(2015-2019 5-Year Average, ACS)
Workers, 16 years and over	30,807
Car, truck or van: drove alone	24,690
Car, truck or van: carpooled	2,918
Public transportation (excluding taxi)	49
Walked	754
Other means	577
Worked at home	1,819
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	25.8
Percent of working residents:	
Working in county of residence	62.1%
Commuting to some other NH county	34.8%
Commuting out-of-state/country	3.0%

Transportation		
Road Access	US Routes	3
	State Routes	25, 25B, 28, 28A, 104, 106, 107, 126, 127, 129, 132, 140
Nearest Interstates	I-93, Exit 15E (Concord); Exit 20 (Tilton); Exit 22 (Sanbornton); or Exit 23 (New Hampton)	
Nearest Airport(s) with Scheduled Service	Manchester-Boston Regional	Passenger Airlines 4

Educational Attainment (2015-2019 5-Year Average, ACS)

Population, Age 25 and Over	45,114
Less than 9th grade	689
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	2,385
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	13,299
Some college, no degree	9,435
Associate's degree	4,619
Bachelor's degree	8,810
Graduate or professional degree	5,877
Percent high school graduates or higher	93.2%
Percent bachelor's degree or higher	32.6%

Educational and Child Care Facilities*School Districts in Belknap County municipalities:*

- Alton (Grades K-8)
- Barnstead (Grades K-8)
- Prospect Mountain JMA—
Alton, Barnstead (Grades 9-12)
- Gilford (Grades K-12)
- Gilmanton (Grades K-8)
- Center-Lakes Cooperative —
Center Harbor, Meredith (Grades K-12)
- Laconia (Grades K-12)
- Newfound Area —
New Hampton (Grades K-12)
- Shaker Regional — Belmont (Grades K-12)
- Winnisquam Regional —
Sanbornton, Tilton (Grades K-12)

Career Technology Centers:

- J. Oliva Huot Technical Center (Laconia)
- Winnisquam Agricultural Programs (Tilton)
- Lakes Region Technology Center (Wolfeboro)
- Plymouth Applied Technology Center

Nearest Community College:

- Lakes Region, Laconia
- NH Technical Institute, Concord

Nearest Colleges/Universities:

- Plymouth State University
- Franklin Pierce University
- Colby-Sawyer College (New London)
- University of New Hampshire School of Law (Concord)
- University of New Hampshire (Durham)
- Southern NH University (Manchester)

NH Licensed Child Care Facilities, 2020*(NH Bureau of Child Care Licensing)*

Total Facilities: 39 Total Capacity: 2,172

Nearest Hospitals (NH Hospital Assoc.)

	Staffed Beds
Concord Hospital, Concord	245
Franklin Regional, Franklin	31
Frisbie Memorial, Rochester	96
Huggins Hospital, Wolfeboro	25
Lakes Region General, Laconia	96
Speare Memorial, Plymouth	25

Housing (2015-2019 5-Year Average, ACS)

Total Housing Units	38,607
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	29,553
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	2,879
Five or More Units in Structure	3,186
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	2,989

New Hampshire Association of Realtors*

YTD 2020 Median Sale Price, Residential \$309,500

NHHFA Residential Rental Cost Survey**

2020 Median Monthly Gross Rent, 2 Bedroom \$1,145

Property Tax Rates, 2019 (NH Dept. of Revenue Admin.)

Town	Total Tax Rate/\$1000	Equalization Ratio	Full Value Rate/\$1000
Alton	\$12.51	88.4	\$11.03
Barnstead	\$22.83	95.5	\$21.72
Belmont	\$25.01	89.6	\$22.17
Center Harbor	\$15.22	84.7	\$12.87
Gilford	\$15.86	95.7	\$15.14
Gilmanton	\$22.79	99.0	\$22.43
Laconia	\$20.59	90.2	\$18.06
Meredith	\$15.89	84.3	\$13.30
New Hampton	\$19.24	92.7	\$17.52
Sanbornton	\$19.22	97.2	\$18.59
Tilton	\$19.61	99.3	\$19.31

2019 Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type, County Totals

Residential Land and Buildings	87.7%
Commercial Land and Buildings	10.7%
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	1.6%

* **Source:** NH Monthly Indicators – October 2020. Copyright 2020 New Hampshire Association of Realtors and Northern New England Real Estate Network, Inc. The reproduction of these statistics is done with the permission of NHAR and NNEREN. The statistics referenced herein are based solely upon listings submitted to the multiple listing service database of NNEREN and do not include all properties sold and marketed for sale. ALL INFORMATION DEEMED RELIABLE BUT NOT GUARANTEED. Any analysis or commentary related to these statistics is that of the commentator, and not that of NHAR or NNEREN. <www.nhar.org>

** **Source:** 2020 NH Residential Rental Cost Survey, New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority. Copyright NHHFA 2020. <www.nhhfa.org>

Contacts	Address	ZIP	Phone/Fax*	E-Mail/Web	Office Hours
Town of Alton	PO Box 659 Alton NH	03809	P: 875-2161 F: 875-0207	administrator@alton.nh.gov www.alton.nh.gov	M-F 8-4:30, 1st, last Th until 7pm
Barnstead Board of Selectmen	PO Box 11 Center Barnstead NH	03225	P: 269-4071 F: 269-4072	barntownhall@metrocast.net www.barnstead.org	Town Hall: MWThF 8:30-4:30, T 8:30-7; Selectmen: T 5-7; TC/TC: MWThF 8:30-4:30, T 11:30-7
Town of Belmont	143 Main Street, PO Box 310 Belmont NH	03220	P: 267-8300 F: 267-8327	townadministrator@belmontnh.org http://belmontnh.org	M-F 7:30-4
Center Harbor Board of Selectmen	PO Box 140 Center Harbor NH	03226	P: 253-4561 F: 253-8420	chselectmen@metrocast.net www.centerharbornh.org	MTThF 9-3, W 9-12, 6-8
Town of Gilford	47 Cherry Valley Road Gilford NH	03249	P: 527-4700 F: 527-4711	selectmen@gilfordnh.org www.gilfordnh.org	M-F 8-5; TC/TC: MTWF 8-4:30, Th 8-6
Town of Gilmanton	PO Box 550 Gilmanton NH	03237	P: 267-6700 F: 267-6701	TownAdministrator@gilmantonnh.org www.gilmantonnh.org	Selectmen: MWThF 9-4:30; Town Clerk: MWThF 8-4
City of Laconia	45 Beacon Street East Laconia NH	03246	P: 527-1270 F: 527-1292	citymanager@laconianh.gov www.laconianh.gov	M-F 8:30-4:30
Town of Meredith	41 Main Street Meredith NH	03253	P: 677-4205 Not Available	pwarren@meredithnh.org www.meredithnh.org	M-F 8-5
Town of New Hampton	6 Pinnacle Hill Road New Hampton NH	03256	P: 744-3559 F: 744-5106	nirvine@new-hampton.nh.us www.new-hampton.nh.us	Selectmen: MTWF 8:30-4, Th 10-4; TC/TC: MTWF 7:30-4:30, Th 10-7; Closed Daily 12-1
Town of Sanbornton	PO Box 124 Sanbornton NH	03269	P: 286-8303 F: 286-9544	townadministrator@sanborntonnh.org www.sanborntonnh.org	Selectmen: M-F 8-4; Town Clerk: W 8-6:30, TThF 8-4, closed Mon
Town of Tilton	257 Main Street Tilton NH	03276	P: 286-4521 x101 F: 286-3519	jforrester@tiltonnh.org http://tiltonnh.org	MTWF 8:30-4:15, Th 8:30-5:30

*all area codes are (603)