

Cheshire County

County Offices

Cheshire County Administration
 12 Court Street, Keene, NH
 (603) 352-8215
<https://co.cheshire.nh.us/>

County Services: Departments of Facilities, Finance, Grants, and Human Resources; Alternative Sentencing Program and Mental Health Court; Maplewood Nursing Home; Sheriff's Office; Project Management Office; Registry of Deeds

UNH Cooperative Extension
<https://extension.unh.edu/facility/cheshire-county-office>



Cheshire County, one of the five original counties, occupies the southwest corner of the state. It is separated from Vermont by a 41-mile length of the Connecticut River, and borders Massachusetts along a 27-mile straight line to the south. Established in 1769, the county was named for Cheshire County in England. Cheshire is New Hampshire's median county, ranking sixth among the ten counties in total area, land area, water area, population, and population density. Cheshire County includes Mount Monadnock, one of the most-hiked peaks in the world.

Cheshire County contains 706.7 square miles of land area and 22.2 square miles of inland water area. As of the 2023 Census, the population density was 110.0 persons per square mile. Cheshire County includes one city, Keene, and 22 towns. The county seat is Keene.

COUNTY POPULATION

2023	2020	2010	2000	1990
77,703	76,547	77,117	73,825	70,121

Source: US Census Bureau, Decennial/Annual Population Estimates

DEMOGRAPHICS

By Gender:		Male	Female
Total		37,894	39,051
18 years and over		30,823	32,312
65 years and over		7,695	8,947
Median Age (years)		42.4	44.7
By Age Group:			
Under age 5			3,460
Age 5 to 19			13,042
Age 20 to 34			14,244
Age 35 to 54			17,754
Age 55 to 64			11,803
Age 65 and over			16,642
Median Age (years)			43.5

Source: US Census Bureau, ACS 5-Year Estimates 2019-2023

LABOR FORCE

Annual Average	2013	2023
Civilian Labor Force	42,041	38,817
Employed	39,986	37,915
Unemployed	2,055	902
Unemployment Rate	4.9%	2.3%

2023 Annual Average Unemployment Rates by Town

Alstead	2.2%	Richmond	2.5%
Chesterfield	2.3%	Rindge	3.4%
Dublin	2.4%	Roxbury	1.6%
Fitzwilliam	2.3%	Stoddard	1.7%
Gilsum	1.7%	Sullivan	2.4%
Harrisville	1.6%	Surry	1.3%
Hinsdale	2.9%	Swanzey	2.0%
Jaffrey	2.3%	Troy	2.4%
Keene	2.4%	Walpole	1.7%
Marlborough	2.1%	Westmoreland	1.8%
Marlow	2.6%	Winchester	2.7%
Nelson	1.9%		

Source: NHES/ELMIB

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

LARGEST BUSINESSES	COMMUNITY	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES
Cheshire Medical Center/Dartmouth-Hitchcock Clinic	Keene	Health care services	1,600
C & S Wholesale Grocers	Keene	Wholesale foods	1,200
Keene School District	Keene	Education	1,100
Millpore Corporation	Jaffrey	Industrial filters	972
Monadnock Regional School District	Swanzy	Education	746
Keene State College	Keene	Education	687
Imaje Corporation	Keene	Industrial marking equipment	400
Market Basket	Swanzy	Supermarket	355
Smith Industrial Medical Systems	Keene	Hospital supplies	350
National Grange Mutual Insurance	Keene	Insurance services	311
TFX Medical, Inc.	Jaffrey	Medical tubing	307
Franklin Pierce University (Rindge campus)	Rindge	Education	300
Market Basket	Rindge	Supermarket	275
Timken Super Precision	Keene	Mini & precision bearings	267
Jaffrey-Rindge School District	Jaffrey	Education	256
Wal-Mart	Hinsdale	Retail store	230
Wal-Mart	Rindge	Retail store	200
Maplewood Nursing Home	Westmoreland	Nursing Home	200
Fenton Family Dealerships	Swanzy	Automobile dealership	164
Bensonwood & Unity Homes	Walpole	Wood framed/energy efficient homes	120
Hannaford Brothers	Rindge	Supermarket	114
Mountain Corporation	Marlborough	Silk screen products	100
HCP Packaging USA Inc.	Hinsdale	Packaging containers	100
Plum Pak	Winchester	Packaging, manufacturing	100
Walpole Savings Bank	Walpole	Banking services	93
Good Shepherd Nursing Home	Jaffrey	Elder care services	91
First Student	Swanzy	Bus transportation	82
Len-Tex Corp.	Walpole	Wall coverings	81
DD Bean & Sons	Jaffrey	Paperbook matches	80
Belletetes	Jaffrey	Hardware store	77

Source: Employer data were provided by individual municipalities; not all municipalities provided data.

COVERED EMPLOYMENT & WAGES – ANNUAL AVERAGES		
	2013	2023
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	31,923	31,442
Average Weekly Wage	\$797	\$1,103
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	27,008	27,033
Average Weekly Wage	\$798	\$1,122
Private Goods-Producing Establishments		
Average Employment	6,032	7,275
Average Weekly Wage	\$965	\$1,330
Private Service-Providing Establishments		
Average Employment	20,975	19,758
Average Weekly Wage	\$749	\$1,045
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	4,915	4,409
Average Weekly Wage	\$791	\$986

Source: NHES/ELMIB. 'n' = data do not meet disclosures standards.
Data represent workers covered by unemployment insurance.

INCOME AND POVERTY	
Per Capita Income	\$41,683
Median Family Income	\$99,241
Median Household Income	\$81,001
Median Earnings (Full-Time Year-Round)	
Male	\$61,966
Female	\$52,236
Percent of individuals below the poverty level	8.9%
Persons under 18 years of age	10.2%
Persons 65 years of age or older	8.2%

Source: US Census Bureau, ACS 5-year Estimates 2019-2023

NEAREST HOSPITALS	STAFFED BEDS
Brattleboro Memorial, Brattleboro, VT	61
Cheshire Medical Center, Keene	94
Heywood Hospital, Gardner, MA	134
Monadnock Community, Peterborough	25
Valley Regional, Claremont	25

Source: NH Hospital Association

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Population, age 25 and over	55,245
Less than 9th grade	928
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	2,393
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	17,325
Some college, no degree	9,996
Associate's degree	5,093
Bachelor's degree	11,867
Graduate or professional degree	7,643

Percent of age 25 and over population:

High school graduate or higher	94.0%
With a Bachelor's degree or higher	35.3%

Source: US Census Bureau, ACS 5-Year Estimates 2019-2023

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

School Districts Serving Cheshire County Municipalities

- Chesterfield (grades K-8)
- Contoocook Valley Cooperative: Antrim, Bennington, Dublin, Francestown, Greenfield, Hancock, Peterborough, Sharon, Temple (grades K-12)
- Fall Mountain Regional: Acworth, Alstead, Charlestown, Langdon, Walpole (grades K-12)
- Harrisville (grades K-6) ☒ Hinsdale (grades K-12)
- Jaffrey-Rindge Cooperative: Jaffrey, Rindge (grades K-12)
- Keene (grades K-12)
- Marlborough (grades K-8) ☒ Marlow (grades K-6)
- Monadnock Regional: Fitzwilliam, Gilsum, Richmond, Roxbury, Swanzey, Troy (grades K-12)
- Nelson (grades K-5)
- Stoddard (grades K-5)
- Surry (grades K-8)
- Westmoreland (grades K-8)
- Winchester (grades K-8)

Career Technology Centers

Fall Mountain Regional High School (Langdon)
Cheshire Career Center (Keene)
Region 14 Applied Technology Center (Peterborough)
Windham Regional Career Center (Brattleboro VT)

HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES

Nearest Community College

River Valley Community College
Nashua Community College

Nearest Colleges and Universities

Antioch New England (Keene)
Franklin Pierce University (Rindge)
Keene State College (Keene)
New England College (Henniker/Manchester)
UNH School of Law (Concord)

Source: NH Department of Education

NH LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTERS, 2023

Total Licensed Facilities	33
Total Capacity	1,677

Source: NH DHHS, Bureau of Child Care Licensing

COMMUTING TO WORK

Total Workers, 16 years and over	38,585
Car, truck or van: drove alone	29,773
Car, truck or van: carpooled	2,886
Public transportation (excluding taxi)	48
Walked	1,043
Other means	458
Worked at home	4,377
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	23.7

Percent of working residents who:

Work in county of residence	75.7%
Commute to some other NH county	9.7%
Commute out of the state or the country	14.6%

Source: US Census Bureau, ACS 5-Year Estimates 2019-2023

TRANSPORTATION

Road Access	US Routes	202
	State Routes	9, 9A, 10, 12, 12A, 32, 78, 101, 119, 123, 123A, 124, 137

Nearest Interstate/Exits

I-91 Exits 1, 2, 3 (Brattleboro VT), Exit 5 (Westminster VT), Exit 6 (Rockingham VT), Exit 50A/50B (Bernardston MA)

Nearest Airport(s) with Scheduled Service	Passenger Airlines
Manchester-Boston Regional	7
Lebanon Municipal	1

Source: Local mapping data

HOUSING UNITS

Total Housing Units	35,777
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	25,709
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	3,632
Five or More Units in Structure	4,438
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	1,998

Source: US Census Bureau, ACS 5-Year Estimates 2019-2023

CURRENT HOUSING MARKET

New Hampshire Association of Realtors¹

YTD Dec 2023 Median Sale Price, Residential	\$340,500
YTD Dec 2023 Average Days on Market Until Sale	28

NHHFA Residential Rental Cost Survey²

2023 Median Monthly Gross Rent, 2 Bedroom	\$1,441
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Source: see footnotes

2023 LOCAL ASSESSED VALUATION BY PROPERTY TYPE

Property Type	Share of Total Valuation
Residential Land and Buildings	77.6%
Commercial Land and Buildings	16.6%
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	5.8%

Source: NH Department of Revenue Administration

PROPERTY TAX RATES, 2023

Town	Total Tax Rate per \$1000	Equalization Ratio	Full Value Rate per \$1000
Alstead	\$25.43	65.9	\$16.69
Chesterfield	\$19.82	71.0	\$14.01
Dublin	\$27.67	59.9	\$16.48
Fitzwilliam	\$16.92	87.4	\$14.60
Gilsum	\$26.03	66.2	\$16.92
Harrisville	\$12.56	102.3	\$12.84
Hinsdale	\$28.06	82.8	\$22.78
Jaffrey	\$33.35	57.1	\$18.15
Keene	\$31.89	73.4	\$22.87
Marlborough	\$24.58	75.8	\$18.57
Marlow	\$28.82	59.9	\$17.20
Nelson	\$14.92	93.0	\$13.81
Richmond	\$14.69	84.9	\$12.39
Rindge	\$25.04	58.8	\$14.45
Roxbury	\$27.52	69.5	\$19.07
Stoddard	\$16.98	60.4	\$10.19
Sullivan	\$32.80	70.3	\$22.85
Surry	\$16.02	100.2	\$16.00
Swanzey	\$26.87	58.0	\$15.32
Troy	\$18.08	92.5	\$16.61
Walpole	\$16.24	97.3	\$15.71
Westmoreland	\$21.29	72.5	\$15.36
Winchester	\$31.68	60.5	\$18.93

Source: NH Department of Revenue Administration

¹ Source: NH Monthly Indicators – December 2023. Copyright 2023 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>

² Source: 2023 NH Residential Rental Cost Survey, New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority. Copyright NHHFA 2023. <www.nhfa.org>

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Cheshire County Community Contacts

Town of Alstead
address 15 Mechanic Street, PO Box 60
 Alstead NH 032602-0060
phone 603-835-2986
email alsteadadmin@alsteadnh.org
web site www.alsteadnh.org
office hours Selectboard: M-Th 8-4, closed F; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: MTh 8-1, T 8-7, W 8-9, closed Friday

Town of Chesterfield
 PO Box 175
 Chesterfield NH 03443
 603-363-4624
 townadmin@nhchesterfield.com
 www.nhchesterfield.com
 Selectmen, Town Hall, Assessors: M-Th 8-4, F 9-12; Town Clerk: TW 9-1 & 4-7, last Sat. by appt.; Tax Collector: M 2-6

Town of Dublin
 PO Box 277
 Dublin NH 03444
 603-563-8544
 townadministrator@townofdublin.org
 www.townofdublin.org
 Town Administrator: M-Th 9-4; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: check website

Town of Fitzwilliam
address PO Box 725
 Fitzwilliam NH 03447
phone 603-585-7770; 603-585-7723
email fitzwilliamnh@fitzwilliam-nh.gov
web site http://fitzwilliam-nh.gov
office hours Selectmen: MF 8:30-12:30, TTh 1-5, W 6-7; Town Clerk: M 8:30-12:30, TTh 1-5, W 4-8; Tax Collector: M 9-12, TTh 1-4, W 6-8

Town of Gilsum
 650 Route 10, PO Box 67
 Gilsum NH 03448
 603-357-0320
 gilsum@gilsum-nh.gov
 https://gilsum-nh.gov
 Selectmen: M 2-6, meet M 6 pm; Town Clerk: T 4-7, W 9-12, 2nd & last Th 4-7; Tax Collector: M 5-7

Town of Harrisville
 705 Chesham Road
 Harrisville NH 03450
 603-827-3431 x1 or 603-827-5546
 Selectboard@harrisvillenh.org
 www.harrisvillenh.org
 Admin.Asst.: M-Th 9-3, F 9-12; Town Clerk: T 2-6, W 10-2, Th 8-12, last Sat. 9-11; Tax Collector: T 11-1, Th 9-12, or by appt.

Town of Hinsdale
address 11 Main Street, PO Box 13
 Hinsdale NH 03451
phone 603-336-5710
email hinsdale.nh@myfairpoint.net
web site http://hinsdale.govoffice.com
office hours Selectmen: M-Th 7:30-12 & 12:30-4; Town Clerk: MTh 7:30-6, T 7:30-2:30, W 7:30-11:30; Tax Collector: M 9:30-6, T 7:30-1, Th 10-4

Town of Jaffrey
 10 Goodnow Street
 Jaffrey NH 03452
 603-532-7880
 jzola@townofjaffrey.com
 www.townofjaffrey.com
 Town Manager: M-F 8-4; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: MTW 8-3:30, Th 11-6, F 8-12

City of Keene
 3 Washington Street
 Keene NH 03431-3191
 603-357-9804
 hmattson@keenenh.gov
 https://keenenh.gov
 City Hall, City Manager, City Clerk: M-F 8-4:30; Tax Collector: M-F 8-4

Town of Marlborough
address PO Box 487
 Marlborough NH 03455-0487
phone 603-876-3751
email selectmen@marlboroughnh.org
web site www.marlboroughnh.org
office hours Town Office, Selectmen's Office, Town Clerk, Tax Collector: M 10-6, TTh 10-4, W 9-1, closed Friday

Town of Marlow
 167 NH Route 123, Town Office
 Marlow NH 03456-0184
 603-446-2245 x1
 marlowtownoffice@marlownh.gov
 www.marlownh.gov
 Selectmen: M 7-10 pm; Town Office: TThF 10-1 & 2-3:30; Town Clerk: W 4:30-7, Th 10-12:30; Tax Collector: T 5-7

Town of Nelson
 7 Nelson Common Road
 Nelson NH 03457
 603-847-0047
 execadmin@nelsonnh.us
 www.townofnelson.org
 Selectmen: every other W at 3; Admin. Assist., Town Clerk, Tax Collector: T 9-6, Th 9-12; Admin. Assist.: or by appointment

Town of Richmond
address 105 Old homestead Highway
 Richmond NH 03470
phone 603-239-4232
email susan.harrington.richmond@gmail.com
web site www.richmond.nh.gov
office hours Selectmen: M 9-12 & 3-8, W 9-1, Th 9-12; Town Clerk: M 9-12 & 1-4, W 9-12 & 1-4, Th 8-12; Tax Collector: M 6-8, W 9-12

Town of Rindge
 30 Payson Hill Road
 Rindge NH 03461
 603-899-5181 x101
 sgravell@town.rindge.nh.us
 www.rindgenh.org
 Selectmen: M-Th 9-1 & 2-4, meet every other W at 6 pm; Town Clerk: MW 8-1 & 1:30-4, T 12-6:30, Th 7-1 & 1:30-3:30; Tax Collector: M-Th 9-1 & 2-4

Town of Roxbury
 3 Middletown Road
 Roxbury NH 03431
 603-352-4903
 townofroxburynh@myfairpoint.net
 http://roxburynh.org
 Selectboard: meet T at 5; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: T 5-7

Town of Stoddard
address 1450 Route 123 North
 Stoddard NH 03464
phone 603-446-3326 x103
email townadministrator@stoddardnh.org
web site www.stoddardnh.org
office hours Selectmen: M 1-6, WTh 10:30-4; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: TF 11-6, Th 11-8, F closed 2:30-3

Town of Sullivan
 PO Box 110
 Sullivan NH 03445
 603-847-3316
 selectmen@townofsullivannh.com
 https://townofsullivannh.com
 Town Hall: TWTh 10-2; Selectboard: Meet M at 6:30; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: TWTh 10-2, 2nd & last Th 6-8

Town of Surry
 1 Village Road, Town Hall
 Surry NH 03431
 603-352-3075
 selectmen@surry.nh.gov
 https://surry.nh.gov
 Selectmen: M 7-9; Town Clerk: M 3-6, Th 5-7; Tax Collector: 1st & 3rd Th 5-7

Hours reviewed January 2024

Cheshire County Community Contacts, continued

Town of Swanzey
address Town Hall, PO Box 10009
Swanzey NH 03446-0009
phone 603-352-7411
email mbranley@swanzeynh.gov
web site www.swanzeynh.gov
office hours Town Hall, Town Clerk: M 9:30-6,
T-Th 8:30-5, F 7:30-4; Tax Collector: Th 8-10

Town of Troy
PO Box 249
Troy NH 03465
603-242-7722
selectmen@troy-nh.us
www.troy-nh.us
Selectment: MW 8:30-5, TTh 8:30-3; Town
Clerk/Tax Collector: MTW 8-12:30 &
1:30-4:30, Th 12:30-7

Town of Walpole
PO Box 729
Walpole NH 03608
603-756-3672
sdowning@walpolenh.us
www.walpolenh.us
Selectmen: M-W 8-5, Th 8-7; Town Clerk:
W 8-5, Th 8-12 & 3-7; Tax Collector:
T 12:15-2:15

Town of Westmoreland
address PO Box 55
Westmoreland NH 03467
phone 603-399-4471
email townofwestmoreland@myfairpoint.net
web site www.westmorelandnh.com
office hours Selectmen: M-W 8-5, Th 8-7; Town
Clerk: T 8-5, Th 8-12 & 3-7; Tax Collector:
Th 8-10

Town of Winchester
1 Richmond Road
Winchester NH 03470
603-239-4951
kminer@winchester.nh.gov
www.winchester-nh.gov
Town Hall/Selectmen: M-Th 7:30-4:30,
F 7:30-1:30; Town Clerk: M 7-1, T-Th 7-5,
F 7-1:30

Hours reviewed January 2024