

# Alton, NH



Community Contact	<b>Town of Alton Board of Selectmen PO Box 659 Alton, NH 03809</b>
Telephone	<b>(603) 875-2161</b>
Fax	<b>(603) 875-0207</b>
E-mail	<b>administrator@alton.nh.gov</b>
Web Site	<b>www.alton.nh.gov</b>
Municipal Office Hours	<b>Monday through Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm, first and last Thursday, until 7 pm</b>
County	<b>Belknap</b>
Labor Market Area	<b>Belmont, NH LMA</b>
Tourism Region	<b>Lakes</b>
Planning Commission	<b>Lakes Region</b>
Regional Development	<b>Belknap County Economic Development Council</b>
Election Districts	
US Congress	<b>District 1</b>
Executive Council	<b>District 1</b>
State Senate	<b>District 6</b>
State Representative	<b>Belknap County Districts 5, 8</b>

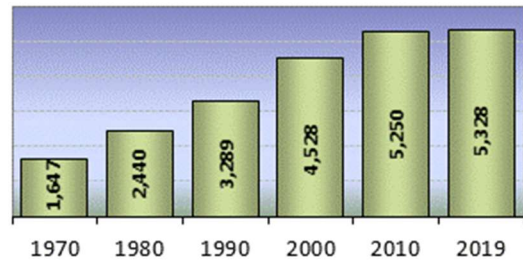
**Incorporated:** 1796

**Origin:** Originally called New Durham Gore, the town was settled by a group from Roxbury, Massachusetts. There were already two towns named Roxbury in New England, so the town was incorporated as Alton in honor of a prominent family from Roxbury. The town's boundary envelopes the five-mile long Alton Bay, southeastern point of Lake Winnepesaukee, and includes the southern side of Wolfboro Harbor and all of the largest islands in the southeast end of the lake. Alton's 19.3 square miles of inland water area is the highest among the cities and towns in New Hampshire.

**Villages and Place Names:** Alton Bay, East Alton, Mount Major, South Alton, West Alton

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 445 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Alton totaled 3,681 over 49 years, from 1,647 in 1970 to 5,328 in 2019. The largest decennial percent change



was a 48 percent increase between 1970 and 1980, followed by 35 percent and 38 percent increases over the next two decades. The 2019 Census estimate for Alton was 5,328 residents, which ranked 66th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

**Population Density and Land Area, 2019 (US Census Bureau):** 83.4 persons per square mile of land area. Alton contains 63.9 square miles of land area and 19.3 square miles of inland water area.

<b>MUNICIPAL SERVICES</b>	
Type of Government	<b>Selectmen</b>
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2019	<b>\$9,728,675</b>
Budget: School Appropriations, 2019-2020	<b>\$15,200,881</b>
Zoning Ordinance	<b>1970/15</b>
Master Plan	<b>2007</b>
Capital Improvement Plan	<b>Yes</b>
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	<b>Planning Board</b>

Boards and Commissions  
 Elected: **Selectmen; Planning; Library; Cemetery; Budget; Checklist; Trust Funds; Water; Zoning**  
 Appointed: **Conservation; Parks & Recreation; Levey Park; Milfoil; Energy**

Public Library **Gilman**

<b>EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>	
Police Department	<b>Full &amp; part-time</b>
Fire Department	<b>Municipal</b>
Emergency Medical Service	<b>Municipal</b>

Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds
<b>Huggins Hospital, Wolfeboro</b>	<b>11 miles</b>	<b>25</b>

<b>UTILITIES</b>	
Electric Supplier	<b>Eversource Energy; NH Electric Coop; Wolfeboro Electric</b>
Natural Gas Supplier	<b>None</b>
Water Supplier	<b>Alton Water Works</b>
Sanitation	<b>Private septic</b>
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	<b>No</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; TDS</b>
Cellular Telephone Access	<b>Yes</b>
Cable Television Access	<b>Yes</b>
Public Access Television Station	<b>No</b>
High Speed Internet Service:	
Business	<b>Yes</b>
Residential	<b>Yes</b>

<b>PROPERTY TAXES</b> (NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)	
2019 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$12.51</b>
2019 Equalization Ratio	<b>88.4</b>
2019 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$11.03</b>
2019 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	<b>95.3%</b>
Commercial Land and Buildings	<b>4.1%</b>
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	<b>0.6%</b>

<b>HOUSING</b> (ACS 2015-2019)	
Total Housing Units	<b>4,424</b>
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	<b>4,046</b>
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	<b>44</b>
Five or More Units in Structure	<b>112</b>
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	<b>222</b>

<b>POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECENNIAL)</b>		(US Census Bureau)
Total Population	Community	County
2019	<b>5,328</b>	<b>61,303</b>
2010	<b>5,250</b>	<b>60,088</b>
2000	<b>4,528</b>	<b>56,576</b>
1990	<b>3,289</b>	<b>49,294</b>
1980	<b>2,440</b>	<b>42,884</b>
1970	<b>1,647</b>	<b>32,367</b>

<b>DEMOGRAPHICS</b> AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) 2015-2019		
Population by Gender		
Male	<b>2,569</b>	Female <b>2,734</b>
Population by Age Group		
Under age 5		<b>139</b>
Age 5 to 19		<b>1,133</b>
Age 20 to 34		<b>374</b>
Age 35 to 54		<b>1,292</b>
Age 55 to 64		<b>883</b>
Age 65 and over		<b>1,482</b>
Median Age		<b>49.6 years</b>

Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over	
High school graduate or higher	<b>92.9%</b>
Bachelor's degree or higher	<b>34.1%</b>

<b>INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$</b> (ACS 2015-2019)	
Per capita income	<b>\$41,431</b>
Median family income	<b>\$97,380</b>
Median household income	<b>\$86,266</b>
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers	
Male	<b>\$56,250</b>
Female	<b>\$72,660</b>
Individuals below the poverty level	<b>2.3%</b>

<b>LABOR FORCE</b> (NHES – ELMII)		
Annual Average	2009	2019
Civilian labor force	<b>2,818</b>	<b>3,083</b>
Employed	<b>2,666</b>	<b>3,014</b>
Unemployed	<b>152</b>	<b>69</b>
Unemployment rate	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>

<b>EMPLOYMENT &amp; WAGES</b> (NHES – ELMII)		
Annual Average Covered Employment	2009	2019
Goods Producing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>87</b>	<b>74</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 635</b>	<b>\$ 844</b>
Service Providing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>610</b>	<b>780</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 497</b>	<b>\$ 615</b>
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	<b>697</b>	<b>855</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 514</b>	<b>\$ 635</b>
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	<b>324</b>	<b>320</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 654</b>	<b>\$ 862</b>
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	<b>1,021</b>	<b>1,174</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 559</b>	<b>\$ 697</b>

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: **Alton operates grades K-8; grades 9-12 are jointly managed with Barnstead (JMA)** District: **SAU 72**  
 Career Technology Center(s): **Lakes Region Technology Center (Wolfeboro)** Region: **9**

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>	
Grade Levels	<b>P K 1-8</b>		<b>9-12</b>	
Total Enrollment	<b>427</b>		<b>463</b>	

Nearest Community College: **Lakes Region**  
 Nearest Colleges or Universities: **University of NH**

2020 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: **3** Total Capacity: **141**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Town of Alton	Municipal services	140	1796
Hannaford Brothers	Supermarket	132	2006
Alton School Department	Education	116	1797
McDonald's	Fast food restaurant	50	1995
Dunkin' Donuts	Donut shop	20	1996
Water Industries	Commercial pumping systems	20	1963
Aubuchon	Hardware store	11	2004
Alton Home & Lumber	Hardware & lumber sales	10	1994
Christian Conference Center	Recreational, campground	8	1863

Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

TRANSPORTATION (distances estimated from city/town hall)			
Road Access	US Routes		
	State Routes	<b>11, 11D, 28, 28A, 140</b>	
Nearest Interstate, Exit		<b>I-93, Exit 20</b>	
	Distance	<b>28 miles</b>	
Railroad		<b>No</b>	
Public Transportation		<b>No</b>	
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation			
<b>Laconia Municipal</b>	Runway	<b>5,286 ft. asphalt</b>	
Lighted? <b>Yes</b>	Navigation Aids?	<b>Yes</b>	
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service			
<b>Manchester-Boston Regional</b>	Distance	<b>46 miles</b>	
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport		<b>4</b>	
Driving distance to select cities:			
Manchester, NH		<b>46 miles</b>	
Portland, Maine		<b>66 miles</b>	
Boston, Mass.		<b>91 miles</b>	
New York City, NY		<b>293 miles</b>	
Montreal, Quebec		<b>256 miles</b>	
COMMUTING TO WORK (ACS 2015-2019)			
Workers 16 years and over			
Drove alone, car/truck/van		<b>75.3%</b>	
Carpooled, car/truck/van		<b>11.5%</b>	
Public transportation		<b>0.0%</b>	
Walked		<b>1.0%</b>	
Other means		<b>12.2%</b>	
Worked at home		<b>8.5%</b>	
Mean Travel Time to Work		<b>30.9 minutes</b>	
<b>Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2015-2019</b>			
Working in community of residence		<b>28.5</b>	
Commuting to another NH community		<b>63.0</b>	
Commuting out-of-state		<b>8.5</b>	

RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS	
<b>X</b>	Municipal Parks
<b>X</b>	YMCA/YWCA
	Boys Club/Girls Club
	Golf Courses
	Swimming: Indoor Facility
	Swimming: Outdoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
<b>X</b>	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
	Bowling Facilities
<b>X</b>	Museums
	Cinemas
	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
	Youth Sports: Football
<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Basketball
	Youth Sports: Hockey
<b>X</b>	Campgrounds
<b>X</b>	Fishing/Hunting
<b>X</b>	Boating/Marinas
<b>X</b>	Snowmobile Trails
	Bicycle Trails
<b>X</b>	Cross Country Skiing
<b>X</b>	Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
<b>X</b>	Overnight or Day Camps
	Nearest Ski Area(s): <b>Gunstock</b>
	Other: <b>Boat Launch; Town Docks; Swim Dock; Public Beach in Picnic Area; B&amp;M RR; Old Home Days; Mt. Washington Dock</b>