Alton, NH

Community Contact
Town of Alton
Board of Selectmen
PO Box 659
Alton, NH 03809

Telephone
(603) 875-2161
Fax
(603) 875-0207
E-mail
administrator@alton.nh.gov
Web Site
www.alton.nh.gov

Municipal Office Hours
Monday through Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm, first and last Thursday, until 7 pm

County
Belknap
Labor Market Area
Belmont, NH LMA
Tourism Region
Lakes
Planning Commission
Lakes Region
Regional Development
Belknap County Economic Development Council

Election Districts
US Congress
District 1
Executive Council
District 1
State Senate
District 6
State Representative
Belknap County Districts 5, 8

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 Winnipesaukee, and includes the southern side of Wolfeboro 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.

Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, NH Employment Security, January 2021. Community Response Received 8/06/2020

All information regarding the communities is from sources deemed reliable and is submitted subject to errors, omissions, modifications, and withdrawals without notice. No warranty or representation is made as to the accuracy of the information contained herein. Specific questions regarding individual cities and towns should be directed to the community contact.
MUNICIPAL SERVICES
Type of Government
Selectmen
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2019
$9,728,675
Budget: School Appropriations, 2019-2020
$15,200,881
Zoning Ordinance
1970/15
Master Plan
2007
Capital Improvement Plan
Yes
Industrial Plans Reviewed By
Planning Board

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

EMERGENCY SERVICES
Police Department
Full & part-time
Fire Department
Municipal
Emergency Medical Service
Municipal

Nearest Hospital(s)
Huggins Hospital, Wolfeboro
Distance 11 miles
Staffed Beds 25

UTILITIES
Electric Supplier
Eversource Energy; NH Electric Coop; Wolfeboro Electric
Natural Gas Supplier
None
Water Supplier
Alton Water Works
Sanitation
Private septic
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant
No
Solid Waste Disposal
Curbside Trash Pickup
Private
Pay-As-You-Throw Program
No
Recycling Program
Mandatory

Telephone Company
Fairpoint; TDS
Cellular Telephone Access
Yes
Cable Television Access
Yes
Public Access Television Station
No
High Speed Internet Service:
Business Yes
Residential Yes

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

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

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

DEMOGRAPHICS
AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) 2015-2019
Population by Gender
Male 2,569 Female 2,734

Population by Age Group
Under age 5 139
Age 5 to 19 1,133
Age 20 to 34 374
Age 35 to 54 1,292
Age 55 to 64 883
Age 65 and over 1,482
Median Age 49.6 years

Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over
High school graduate or higher 92.9%
Bachelor’s degree or higher 34.1%

INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED $
(ACS 2015-2019)
Per capita income $41,431
Median family income $97,380
Median household income $86,266

Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers
Male $56,250
Female $72,660

Individuals below the poverty level 2.3%

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

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

Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, NH Employment Security, January 2021. Community Response Received 8/06/2020
**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: Alton operates grades K-8; grades 9-12 are jointly managed with Barnstead (JMA)

Career Technology Center(s): Lakes Region Technology Center (Wolfeboro)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Schools</th>
<th>Elementary</th>
<th>Middle/Junior High</th>
<th>High School</th>
<th>Private/Parochial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>P K 1-8</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollment</td>
<td>427</td>
<td></td>
<td>463</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nearest Community College: Lakes Region

Nearest Colleges or Universities: University of NH

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**LARGEST BUSINESSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Name</th>
<th>Product/Service</th>
<th>Employees</th>
<th>Established</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Town of Alton</td>
<td>Municipal services</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>1796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hannaford Brothers</td>
<td>Supermarket</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alton School Department</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>1797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McDonald’s</td>
<td>Fast food restaurant</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunkin’ Donuts</td>
<td>Donut shop</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Industries</td>
<td>Commercial pumping systems</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aubuchon</td>
<td>Hardware store</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alton Home &amp; Lumber</td>
<td>Hardware &amp; lumber sales</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Conference Center</td>
<td>Recreational, campground</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1863</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- Road Access: US Routes 11, 11D, 28, 28A, 140
- State Routes 11, 11D, 28, 28A, 140
- Highway Interchange: I-93, Exit 20
- Distance: 28 miles
- Railroad: No
- Public Transportation: No

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**COMMUTING TO WORK**

(ACS 2015-2019)

- Workers 16 years and over:
  - Drove alone, car/truck/van: 75.3%
  - Carpool, car/truck/van: 11.5%
  - Public transportation: 0.0%
  - Walked: 1.0%
  - Other means: 12.2%
  - Worked at home: 8.5%
- Mean Travel Time to Work: 30.9 minutes

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**RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS**

- Municipal Parks
- YMCA/YWCA
- Boys Club/Girls Club
- Golf Courses
- Swimming: Indoor Facility
- Swimming: Outdoor Facility
- Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
- Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
- Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
- Bowling Facilities
- Museums
- Cinemas
- Performing Arts Facilities
- Tourist Attractions
- Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)
- Youth Sports: Baseball
- Youth Sports: Soccer
- Youth Sports: Football
- Youth Sports: Basketball
- Youth Sports: Hockey
- Campgrounds
- Fishing/Hunting
- Boating/Marinas
- Snowmobile Trails
- Bicycle Trails
- Cross Country Skiing
- Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
- Overnight or Day Camps

Nearest Ski Area(s): Gunstock

**Other:** Boat Launch; Town Docks; Swim Dock; Public Beach in Picnic Area; B&M RR; Old Home Days; Mt. Washington Dock