Incorporated: 1764

Origin: This community was first granted in 1764 as Coventry after the Connecticut home of many settlers, holding the name for over 75 years. In 1839, Governor Isaac Hill proposed renaming the town Benton in honor of Thomas Hart Benton, senator from Missouri. The town was incorporated as such in 1840. Senator Benton was known for championing Western expansion through establishment of express, railroad, navigation and telegraph interests. A prominent natural feature in Benton is Mount Moosilauke, a popular site for hikers.

Villages and Place Names: Boutin Corner, Coventry

Population, Year of the First Census Taken: 88 residents in 1790

Population Trends: Population change for Benton totaled 177 over 49 years, from 194 in 1970 to 371 in 2019. The largest decennial percent change was 72 percent between 1970 and 1980, a numeric increase of 139. The 2019 Census estimate for Benton was 371 residents, which ranked 219th among New Hampshire’s incorporated cities and towns.

Population Density and Land Area, 2019 (US Census Bureau): 7.6 persons per square mile of land area. Benton contains 48.5 square miles of land area and 0.2 square miles of inland water area.
### Municipal Services

- **Type of Government**: Selectmen
- **Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2016**: $175,000
- **Budget: School Appropriations, 2017-2018**: $683,154
- **Zoning Ordinance**: 1976/86
- **Master Plan**: Update in Progress
- **Capital Improvement Plan**: No
- **Industrial Plans Reviewed By**: Appointed:
- **Property**: Elected: Selectmen; Planning

### Emergency Services

- **Police Department**: State Police
- **Fire Department**: Contracted out
- **Emergency Medical Service**: Private
- **Nearest Hospital(s)**: Distance: Staffed Beds
- Cottage Hospital, Woodsville: 12 miles 35

### Utilities

- **Electric Supplier**: Eversource Energy; NH Electric Coop
- **Natural Gas Supplier**: None
- **Water Supplier**: Private wells
- **Sanitation**: Private septic
- **Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant**: No
- **Solid Waste Disposal**: Curbside Trash Pickup
- **Recycling Program**: Private
- **Phone Company**: Fairpoint
- **Cellular Telephone Access**: Limited
- **Cable Television Access**: Satellite only
- **Public Access Television Station**: No
- **High Speed Internet Service**: Business: Residential: Yes

### Property Taxes

- **2019 Total Tax Rate (per $1000 of value)**: $17.67
- **2019 Equalization Ratio**: 94.0
- **2019 Full Value Tax Rate (per $1000 of value)**: $16.10
- **2019 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type**
  - Residential Land and Buildings: 94.3%
  - Commercial Land and Buildings: 0.2%
  - Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other: 5.5%

### Housing

- **Total Housing Units (ACS 2015-2019)**: 170
- **Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached**: 150
- **Units in Multiple-Family Structures**:
  - Two to Four Units in Structure: 0
  - Five or More Units in Structure: 0
  - Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units: 20

### Population (1-Year Estimates/Decennial)

- **(US Census Bureau)**
- **Total Population**
  - 2019: 371
  - 2010: 364
  - 2000: 314
  - 1990: 330
  - 1980: 333
  - 1970: 194
  - County: 89,886
  - 89,118
  - 81,826
  - 74,998
  - 65,806
  - 54,914

### Demographics (ACS 2015-2019)

- **Population by Gender**
  - Male: 232
  - Female: 225

- **Population by Age Group**
  - Under age 5: 3
  - Age 5 to 19: 44
  - Age 20 to 34: 52
  - Age 35 to 54: 66
  - Age 55 to 64: 113
  - Age 65 and over: 179
  - Median Age: 60.7 years

- **Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over**
  - High school graduate or higher: 76.1%
  - Bachelor’s degree or higher: 19.1%

### Income, Inflation Adjusted $ (ACS 2015-2019)

- **Per capita income**: $24,759
- **Median family income**: $65,000
- **Median household income**: $52,500
- **Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers**
  - Male: $31,471
  - Female: $27,143

- **Individuals below the poverty level**: 3.5%

### Labor Force (NHES – ELM)

- **Annual Average**
  - 2009: 125
  - 2019: 143
- **Civilian labor force**: 115
- **Employed**: 10
- **Unemployed**: 4
- **Unemployment rate**: 8.0% 2.7%

### Employment & Wages (NHES – ELM)

- **Annual Average Covered Employment**
  - 2009: 2009
  - 2019: 2019
- **Goods Producing Industries**
  - Average Employment: n
  - Average Weekly Wage: n
- **Service Providing Industries**
  - Average Employment: 0
  - Average Weekly Wage: 50
- **Total Private Industry**
  - Average Employment: n
  - Average Weekly Wage: n

- **Government (Federal, State, and Local)**
  - Average Employment: 185
  - Average Weekly Wage: 792
  - $ 964

- **Total, Private Industry plus Government**
  - Average Employment: n
  - Average Weekly Wage: n

If “n” appears, data do not meet disclosure standards.

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Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, NH Employment Security, January 2021. Community Response Received 6/01/2017
EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE

Schools students attend: Grades K-12 are tuitioned to Haverhill Cooperative (Bath, Benton, Haverhill, Piermont, Warren)  
District: SAU 23
Career Technology Center(s): River Bend Career & Technical Center (VT)  
Region: 4

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)  
Number of Schools:  
Grade Levels:  
Total Enrollment:  

Nearest Community College: Lakes Region; White Mountains  
Nearest Colleges or Universities: Granite State College-Littleton; Plymouth State University

LARGEST BUSINESSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Name</th>
<th>Product/Service</th>
<th>Employees</th>
<th>Established</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glenncliff Home for the Elderly</td>
<td>Nursing home</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Boutin, Jr &amp; Son</td>
<td>Logging &amp; excavation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coventry Garage</td>
<td>Garage</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elliott Construction</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

TRANSPORTATION (distances estimated from city/town hall)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Road Access</th>
<th>US Routes</th>
<th>State Routes</th>
<th>Nearest Interstate, Exit</th>
<th>Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>112, 116</td>
<td>I-91 (VT), Exit 17</td>
<td>13 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railroad</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transportation</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation  
Dean Memorial, Haverhill  
Runway: 2,500 ft. asphalt  
Lighted: Yes  
Navigation Aids: No

Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service  
Lebanon Municipal  
Distance: 47 miles  
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport: 1

Driving distance to select cities:  
Manchester, NH: 95 miles  
Portland, Maine: 112 miles  
Boston, Mass.: 145 miles  
New York City, NY: 307 miles  
Montreal, Quebec: 179 miles

COMMUTING TO WORK (ACS 2015-2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workers 16 years and over</th>
<th>83.2%</th>
<th>6.6%</th>
<th>0.0%</th>
<th>4.2%</th>
<th>6.0%</th>
<th>9.6%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drove alone, car/truck/van</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Carpooled, car/truck/van</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walked</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other means</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worked at home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mean Travel Time to Work</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2015-2019  
Working in community of residence: 13.2%  
Commuting to another NH community: 77.2%  
Commuting out-of-state: 9.6%

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): Loon & Cannon Mountains  
Other: Hiking; White Mountain National Forest: Long Pond and Mount Moosilauke

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