

Benton, NH



Community Contact

Benton Board of Selectmen

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Web Site

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Municipal Office Hours

By appointment only

County
Labor Market Area
Tourism Region
Planning Commission
Regional Development

Grafton
Haverhill, NH LMA
White Mountains
North Country Council
Grafton County Economic Development Council

Election Districts

US Congress
Executive Council
State Senate
State Representative

District 2
District 2
District 1
Grafton County District 5

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 171 over 50 years, from 194 in 1970 to 365 in 2020. The largest decennial percent change was a 72 percent increase from 1970 to 1980; the town lost population over the next two decades. The town's population was unchanged from 2010 to 2020. The 2021 Census estimate for Benton was 375 residents, which ranked 220th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

Population Density and Land Area, 2021 (US Census Bureau): 7.7 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.



Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, NH Employment Security, April 2023. Community Response Received **5/24/2022**

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MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Type of Government	Selectmen
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2016	\$175,000
Budget: School Appropriations, 2020-2021	\$786,428
Zoning Ordinance	1976/86
Master Plan	0
Capital Improvement Plan	No
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	

Boards and Commissions

Elected:	Selectmen; Planning
Appointed	

Public Library **No Library****EMERGENCY SERVICES**

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

UTILITIES

Electric Supplier	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	Private
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	No
Recycling Program	None

Telephone Company	Consolidated Communications
Cellular Telephone Access	Limited
Cable Television Access	Satellite only
Public Access Television Station	No
High Speed Internet:	
Business	Yes
Residential	Yes

PROPERTY TAXES (NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)

2021 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	\$17.26
2021 Equalization Ratio	77.5
2021 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	\$12.99
2021 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	93.6%
Commercial Land and Buildings	.3%
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	6.1%

HOUSING (ACS 2017-2021)

Total Housing Units	151
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	139
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	
Five or More Units in Structure	0
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	12

POPULATION (Decennial Census/ACS 2017-2021)

Total Population	Community	County
2021	373	91,025
2020	374	91,118
2010	364	89,118
2000	314	81,826
1990	330	74,998

DEMOGRAPHICS (ACS 2017-2021)

Population by Gender			
Male	187	Female	186
Population by Age Group			
Under age 5			1
Age 5 to 19			24
Age 20 to 34			30
Age 35 to 54			47
Age 55 to 64			132
Age 65 and over			139
Median Age			62.3 years
Educational Attainment			
Population age 25 or older			340
High school graduate or higher			78.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher			16.8%

INCOME, INFLATION-ADJUSTED (ACS 2017-2021)

Per capita income	\$25,895
Median family income	\$75,625
Median household income	\$59,000
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers	
Male	\$33,125
Female	\$31,250
Percent of individuals below poverty level	12.0%

LABOR FORCE (NHES – ELMI)

Annual Average	2011	2021
Civilian labor force	141	146
Employed	136	138
Unemployed	5	8
Unemployment rate	3.5%	5.5%

EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES (NHES – ELMI)

Annual Average Covered Employment	2011	2021
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	n	n
Average Weekly Wage	n	n
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	n	n
Average Weekly Wage	n	n
Goods-Producing Industries		
Average Employment	n	n
Average Weekly Wage	n	n
Service-Providing Industries		
Average Employment		n
Average Weekly Wage	\$	n
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	176	148
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 797	\$ 959

n = data do not meet disclosure standards

EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE*(NH Department of Education)*Schools students attend: **Grades K-12 are tuitioned to Haverhill Cooperative (Bath, Benton, Haverhill, District: SAU 23
Piermont, Warren)**Career Technology Center(s): **River Bend Career & Technical Center (VT)**Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools) Elementary Middle/Junior High High School Private/Parochial
Number of Schools
Grade Levels
Total EnrollmentNearest NH Community College: **Lakes Region; White Mountains**Nearest Colleges or Universities (*with a physical campus*): **Plymouth State**NH Licensed Child Care Facilities, 2021 (*DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing*) Total Facilities: Capacity:

BUSINESSES (<i>provided by municipality</i>)	PRODUCT OR SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Glenncliff Home for the Elderly	Nursing home	200	1971
Joe Boutin, Jr & Son	Logging & excavation	2	
Coventry Garage	Garage	1	1989
Elliott Construction	Construction	1	

TRANSPORTATION (*distance estimated from city/town hall*)Road Access US Routes
State Routes **112, 116**
Nearest Interstate/Exit **I-91 (VT), Exit 17**
Distance **13 miles**
Railroad **No**
Public Transportation **No**
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation
Dean Memorial, Haverhill Runway **2,500 ft. asphalt**
Lighted? **Yes** Navigation Aids? **No**
Nearest Commercial Airport with Scheduled Service
Lebanon Municipal Distance **47 miles**
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport **1**
Driving distance to select cities:
Manchester, New Hampshire **95 miles**
Portland, Maine **112 miles**
Boston, Massachusetts **145 miles**
New York City, New York **307 miles**
Montreal, Quebec, Canada **179 miles****COMMUTING TO WORK** (*ACS 2017-2021*)Workers 16 years of age and over: **120**
Drove alone, car/truck/van **75.0%**
Carpooled, car/truck/van **14.2%**
Used public transportation **0.0%**
Walked **0.0%**
Traveled by other means **7.5%**
Worked at home **3.3%**
Mean Travel Time to Work **27.4 minutes**
Percent of Working Residents Who:
Work in community of residence **32.5%**
Commute to other NH community **61.7%**
Commute out-of-state **5.8%****RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, 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
X Fishing/Hunting
X Boating/Marinas
X Snowmobile Trails
X Bicycle Trails
X Cross Country Skiing
X Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
Overnight or Day Camps
Nearest Ski Area(s): **Loon & Cannon Mountains**
Other: **Hiking; White Mountain National Forest;
Long Pond; Mount Moosilauke; Black Mountain**