

# Canaan, NH



## Community Contact

**Town of Canaan**  
**Mike Samson, Town Administrator**  
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## Municipal Office Hours

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 8 am - 4 pm, Tuesday, Thursday, 8 am - 1 pm, Saturday, 8 am - 12 noon**

County  
 Labor Market Area  
 Tourism Region  
 Planning Commission  
 Regional Development

**Grafton**  
**Lebanon, NH-VT Micropolitan NECTA, NH part**  
**Dartmouth-Lake Sunapee**  
**Upper Valley Lake Sunapee**  
**Grafton County Economic Development Council**

Election Districts  
 US Congress  
 Executive Council  
 State Senate  
 State Representative

**District 2**  
**District 1**  
**District 5**  
**Grafton County Districts 11, 16**

**Incorporated:** 1761

**Origin:** First chartered in 1761, the town probably took its name from the hometown of early settlers from Canaan, Connecticut. Not all the grantees became permanent settlers, and a new charter was issued in 1769. According to the Canaan Historical Society, the first train passed through in November 1847 with Daniel Webster on board, and the railroad operations sparked rapid business growth in Canaan Village. In September 1907, Canaan was the site of a tragic train accident, the collision of a passenger train and a freight, resulting in 25 dead and an equal number injured.

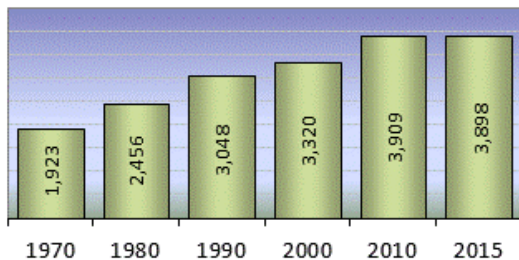
**Villages and Place Names:** Canaan Center, Canaan Street, West Canaan

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 504 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Canaan totaled 2,391 over 55 years, from 1,507 in 1960 to 3,898 in 2015. The largest decennial percent change was a 28 percent increase, which occurred between 1960 and 1970, and also between 1970 and 1980. The 2015 Census estimate for Canaan was 3,898 residents, ranking 97th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.



Grafton County



**Population Density and Land Area, 2015 (US Census Bureau):** 73.1 persons per square mile of land area. Canaan contains 53.3 square miles of land area and 1.8 square miles of inland water area.

<b>MUNICIPAL SERVICES</b>	
Type of Government	<b>Selectmen</b>
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2017	<b>\$4,203,196</b>
Budget: School Appropriations, 2016-2017	<b>\$993,743</b>
Zoning Ordinance	<b>None</b>
Master Plan	<b>2006</b>
Capital Improvement Plan	<b>Yes</b>
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	<b>Planning Board</b>

Boards and Commissions  
 Elected: **Selectmen; Planning; Budget; Library; Cemetery; Trust Funds; Checklist**  
 Appointed: **Conservation; Recreation; Historic District; Capital Improvement; Meeting House Preservation; Museum Curators**

Public Library **Canaan Town**

<b>EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>	
Police Department	<b>Full-time</b>
Fire Department	<b>Volunteer</b>
Emergency Medical Service	<b>Volunteer</b>

Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds
<b>Dartmouth-Hitchcock Med Ctr, Lebanon</b>	<b>17 miles</b>	<b>409</b>
<b>Alice Peck Day Memorial, Lebanon</b>	<b>15 miles</b>	<b>25</b>

<b>UTILITIES</b>	
Electric Supplier	<b>NH Electric Coop; Liberty Utilities</b>
Natural Gas Supplier	<b>None</b>
Water Supplier	<b>Canaan Water Department</b>
Sanitation	<b>Canaan Sewer Dept</b>
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	<b>Yes</b>
Solid Waste Disposal	<b>None</b>
Curbside Trash Pickup	<b>No</b>
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	<b>Voluntary</b>
Recycling Program	<b>Voluntary</b>
Telephone Company	<b>Fairpoint</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>Limited</b>
Residential	<b>Limited</b>

<b>PROPERTY TAXES</b> (NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)	
2016 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$31.47</b>
2016 Equalization Ratio	<b>97.8</b>
2016 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$30.60</b>
2016 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	<b>83.8%</b>
Commercial Land and Buildings	<b>13.4%</b>
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	<b>2.7%</b>

<b>HOUSING</b> (ACS 2011-2015)	
Total Housing Units	<b>1,830</b>
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	<b>1,301</b>
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	<b>42</b>
Five or More Units in Structure	<b>62</b>
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	<b>425</b>

<b>DEMOGRAPHICS</b> (US Census Bureau)		
Total Population	Community	County
2015	<b>3,898</b>	<b>89,341</b>
2010	<b>3,909</b>	<b>89,118</b>
2000	<b>3,320</b>	<b>81,826</b>
1990	<b>3,048</b>	<b>74,998</b>
1980	<b>2,456</b>	<b>65,806</b>
1970	<b>1,923</b>	<b>54,914</b>

**Demographics, American Community Survey (ACS) 2011-2015**

Population by Gender			
Male	<b>1,846</b>	Female	<b>2,052</b>

Population by Age Group	
Under age 5	<b>200</b>
Age 5 to 19	<b>612</b>
Age 20 to 34	<b>597</b>
Age 35 to 54	<b>1,169</b>
Age 55 to 64	<b>714</b>
Age 65 and over	<b>606</b>
Median Age	<b>44.9 years</b>

Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over	
High school graduate or higher	<b>88.5%</b>
Bachelor's degree or higher	<b>25.2%</b>

<b>INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$</b> (ACS 2011-2015)	
Per capita income	<b>\$27,128</b>
Median family income	<b>\$62,917</b>
Median household income	<b>\$59,375</b>

Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers, 16 years and over	
Male	<b>\$50,405</b>
Female	<b>\$40,781</b>

Individuals below the poverty level	
	<b>13.3%</b>

<b>LABOR FORCE</b> (NHES – ELMII)			
Annual Average	2006	2016	
Civilian labor force	<b>2,113</b>	<b>2,010</b>	
Employed	<b>2,061</b>	<b>1,962</b>	
Unemployed	<b>52</b>	<b>48</b>	
Unemployment rate	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	

<b>EMPLOYMENT &amp; WAGES</b> (NHES – ELMII)			
Annual Average Covered Employment	2006	2016	
Goods Producing Industries			
Average Employment	<b>121</b>	<b>60</b>	
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 820</b>	<b>\$ 927</b>	
Service Providing Industries			
Average Employment	<b>258</b>	<b>336</b>	
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 602</b>	<b>\$ 651</b>	
Total Private Industry			
Average Employment	<b>379</b>	<b>396</b>	
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 672</b>	<b>\$ 693</b>	
Government (Federal, State, and Local)			
Average Employment	<b>346</b>	<b>283</b>	
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 463</b>	<b>\$ 699</b>	
Total, Private Industry plus Government			
Average Employment	<b>724</b>	<b>679</b>	
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$ 572</b>	<b>\$ 695</b>	

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: **Grades K-12 are part of Mascoma Valley Regional (Canaan, Dorchester, Enfield, Grafton, Orange)** District: **SAU 62**  
 Career Technology Center(s): **Hartford Area Career & Technology Center (VT)** Region: **7**

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Grade Levels	<b>P K 1-4</b>	<b>5-8</b>	<b>9-12</b>	<b>6-9</b>
Total Enrollment	<b>296</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>204</b>

Nearest Community College: **River Valley**  
 Nearest Colleges or Universities: **Dartmouth; Colby-Sawyer**

2017 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: **0** Total Capacity: **0**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Mascoma Valley Regional School District	Education	172	
Cardigan School	Private school	135	
Harris Rebar	Steel fabrication	40	1999
Town of Canaan	Municipal services	20	1761
Halo	Education systems	10	
MTD	Property maintenance	10	
Papa Z's	Convenience store	10	
Canaan Hardware	Hardware store	6	
Mitchell Paddles, Inc.	Canoe paddles	5	1980
Mascoma Savings Bank	Banking services	5	

Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

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

Road Access	US Routes	<b>4</b>
	State Routes	<b>118</b>
Nearest Interstate, Exit	<b>I-89, Exit 17</b>	
	Distance	<b>10 miles</b>
Railroad		<b>No</b>
Public Transportation		<b>Advance Transit</b>
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation		
<b>Lebanon Municipal</b>	Runway	<b>5,496 ft. asphalt</b>
Lighted? <b>Yes</b>	Navigation Aids?	<b>Yes</b>
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service		
<b>Lebanon Municipal</b>	Distance	<b>18 miles</b>
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport		<b>1</b>
Driving distance to select cities:		
Manchester, NH		<b>63 miles</b>
Portland, Maine		<b>156 miles</b>
Boston, Mass.		<b>114 miles</b>
New York City, NY		<b>280 miles</b>
Montreal, Quebec		<b>201 miles</b>

**COMMUTING TO WORK (ACS 2011-2015)**

Workers 16 years and over	
Drove alone, car/truck/van	<b>80.1%</b>
Carpooled, car/truck/van	<b>11.4%</b>
Public transportation	<b>1.6%</b>
Walked	<b>1.6%</b>
Other means	<b>2.4%</b>
Worked at home	<b>3.0%</b>
Mean Travel Time to Work	<b>28.5 minutes</b>
<b>Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2011-2015</b>	
Working in community of residence	<b>14.9</b>
Commuting to another NH community	<b>75.1</b>
Commuting out-of-state	<b>10.0</b>

**RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS**

<b>X</b>	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
<b>X</b>	Museums
	Cinemas
	Performing Arts Facilities
	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
<b>X</b>	Bicycle Trails
<b>X</b>	Cross Country Skiing
<b>X</b>	Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
	Overnight or Day Camps
	Nearest Ski Area(s): <b>Dartmouth Skiway</b>
	Other: