

Charlestown, NH



Community Contact

Charlestown Selectboard

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Web Site

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Municipal Office Hours

Selectmen: Monday and Friday, 7-12, Tuesday and Thursday, 8-4, Wednesday, 7-4; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Monday and Wednesday, 7-4, Tuesday and Thursday, 8-4, Friday, 7-12, second and last Saturday each month, 9-12

County

Sullivan

Labor Market Area

Charlestown, NH LMA

Tourism Region

Dartmouth-Lake Sunapee

Planning Commission

Upper Valley Lake Sunapee

Regional Development

Capital Regional Development Council

Election Districts

US Congress

District 2

Executive Council

District 2

State Senate

District 8

State Representative

Sullivan County Districts 3, 7

Incorporated: 1753

Origin: Charlestown was originally the site of Number Four, the fourth in a line of forts on the Connecticut River border established as trading posts by Massachusetts Governor Belcher in 1735. In 1753, Governor Benning Wentworth named the town in honor of his friend, Admiral Sir Charles Knowles of the British Navy, who was then governor of Jamaica. A reproduction of Old Fort Number Four is now a historical site and museum. A historical marker commemorating the fort was erected in 1958—the second marker in the NH Historical Marker Program.

Villages and Place Names: Hemlock Center, North Charlestown, Snumshire, South Charlestown, South Hemlock, Springfield Junction, Trapshire

Population, Year of the First Census Taken: 1,093 residents in 1790

Population Trends: Population change for Charlestown totaled 1,550 over 50 years, from 3,274 in 1970 to 4,824 in 2020. The largest decennial percent change was a 35 percent increase from 1970 to 1980; percent change was in single digits for the next three decades. The town's population declined by six percent from 2010 to 2020. The 2022 Census estimate for Charlestown was 4,907 residents, which ranked 77th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

Population Density and Land Area, 2022 (US Census Bureau): 137.0 persons per square mile of land area. Charlestown contains 35.8 square miles of land area and 2.2 square miles of inland water area.



MUNICIPAL SERVICES			
Type of Government		Selectmen	
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2023		\$5,571,802	
Budget: School Appropriations, 2020-2021		\$12,947,180	
Zoning Ordinance		1951/17	
Master Plan		2021	
Capital Improvement Plan		No	
Industrial Plans Reviewed By		Planning Board	
Boards and Commissions			
Elected:	Selectboard; Planning; Finance; Library; Cemetery		
Appointed:	Zoning; Conservation; Heritage; Recreation		
Public Library	Silsby Free Public		
EMERGENCY SERVICES			
Police Department		Full-time	
Fire Department		On-Call	
Emergency Medical Service		Golden Cross of Claremont	
Nearest Hospital(s)		Distance	Staffed Beds
Valley Regional, Claremont		13 miles	25
Mt. Ascutney Hospital, Windsor VT		19 miles	25
UTILITIES			
Electric Supplier	Eversource Energy; Liberty Utilities; NH Electric Coop		
Natural Gas Supplier	None		
Water Supplier	Charlestown Municipal Water Department		
Sanitation		Municipal	
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant		Yes	
Solid Waste Disposal		None	
Curbside Trash Pickup		None	
Pay-As-You-Throw Program		No	
Recycling Program		Mandatory: glass, cardboard only & voluntary for other recyclables	
Telephone Company		Consolidated Communications	
Cellular Telephone Access		Yes	
Cable Television Access		Yes	
Public Access Television Station		No	
High Speed Internet Service:		Business	Yes
		Residential	Limited
PROPERTY TAXES		(NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)	
2022 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)		\$32.27	
2022 Equalization Ratio		71.3	
2022 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)		\$22.86	
2022 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type			
Residential Land and Buildings		77.6%	
Commercial Land and Buildings		15.7%	
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other		6.7%	
HOUSING		(ACS 2017-2021)	
Total Housing Units		2,220	
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached		1,202	
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:			
Two to Four Units in Structure		195	
Five or More Units in Structure		133	
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units		690	

POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECENNIAL)		(US Census Bureau)	
Total Population		Community	County
2022	4,907		43,958
2020	4,806		43,063
2010	5,114		43,742
2000	4,761		40,560
1990	4,637		38,652
1980	4,417		36,063
DEMOGRAPHICS		AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) 2017-2021	
Population by Gender			
Male	2,443	Female	2,412
Population by Age Group			
Under age 5		233	
Age 5 to 19		748	
Age 20 to 34		587	
Age 35 to 54		1,221	
Age 55 to 64		944	
Age 65 and over		1,122	
Median Age		49.4 years	
Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over:		3,799	
High school graduate or higher		91.0%	
Bachelor's degree or higher		18.0%	
INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$		(ACS 2017-2021)	
Per capita income		\$26,854	
Median family income		\$65,921	
Median household income		\$47,854	
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers			
Male		\$57,386	
Female		\$42,865	
Individuals below the poverty level		14.2%	
LABOR FORCE		(NHES – ELMI)	
Annual Average		2012	2022
Civilian labor force		2,939	2,795
Employed		2,796	2,723
Unemployed		143	72
Unemployment rate		4.9%	2.6%
EMPLOYMENT & WAGES		(NHES – ELMI)	
Annual Average Covered Employment		2012	2022
Goods Producing Industries			
Average Employment		939	1,191
Average Weekly Wage		\$ 908	\$1,215
Service Providing Industries			
Average Employment		688	547
Average Weekly Wage		\$ 651	\$1,121
Total Private Industry			
Average Employment		1,627	1,738
Average Weekly Wage		\$ 799	\$1,186
Government (Federal, State, and Local)			
Average Employment		451	191
Average Weekly Wage		\$ 753	\$ 733
Total, Private Industry plus Government			
Average Employment		2,078	1,929
Average Weekly Wage		\$ 789	\$1,141
If “n” appears, data do not meet disclosure standards.			

EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE

Schools students attend: **Grades K-12 are part of Fall Mountain Regional (Acworth, Alstead, Charlestown, Langdon, Walpole)** District: **SAU 60**

Career Technology Center(s): **Fall Mountain RHS - CTE; Cheshire Career Center (Keene)**

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools	2	1		1
Grade Levels	P K 1-5	6-8		9-12
Total Enrollment	279	137		29

Nearest Community College: **River Valley**

Nearest Colleges or Universities: **Keene State; Antioch New England**

2022 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing)

Total Facilities: **2** Total Capacity: **31**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Whelen Engineering	Emergency lights	981	1952
Bomar, Inc.	Marine hardware	40	1974
Design Standards, Inc	Medical instruments	110	1979
G K N Aerospace	Aircraft engine parts	70	1979
Airgas, Inc	Welding equip., industrial & medical gases	60	1982
Town of Charlestown	Municipal services	75	1753
Student Conservation Association	Non-Profit youth conservation agency	84	1964
Fall Mountain Regional School District	Education	109	1964

Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

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

Road Access	US Routes	
	State Routes	11, 12, 12A
Nearest Interstate, Exit		I-91 (VT), Exit 7
	Distance	2 miles
Railroad		Boston & Maine
Public Transportation		Community Alliance
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation		
Claremont Municipal	Runway	3,098 ft. asphalt
Lighted? Yes	Navigation Aids?	Yes
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service		
Lebanon Municipal	Distance	32 miles
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport		1
Driving distance to select cities:		
Manchester, NH		76 miles
Portland, Maine		168 miles
Boston, Mass.		126 miles
New York City, NY		235 miles
Montreal, Quebec		213 miles

COMMUTING TO WORK (*ACS 2017-2021*)

Workers 16 years and over	
Drove alone, car/truck/van	78.9%
Carpooled, car/truck/van	17.6%
Public transportation	0.0%
Walked	2.8%
Other means	0.2%
Worked at home	0.5%
Mean Travel Time to Work	26.3 minutes
Percent of Working Residents	
Working in community of residence	23.8%
Commuting to another NH community	58.0%
Commuting out-of-state	18.2%

RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS

X	Municipal Parks
	YMCA/YWCA
	Boys Club/Girls Club
	Golf Courses
	Swimming: Indoor Facility
X	Swimming: Outdoor Facility
X	Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
	Bowling Facilities
X	Museums
	Cinemas
X	Performing Arts Facilities
X	Tourist Attractions
X	Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)
X	Youth Sports: Baseball
X	Youth Sports: Soccer
X	Youth Sports: Football
X	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
X	Overnight or Day Camps

Nearest Ski Area(s): **Mount Sunapee, Okemo (VT)**

Other: **Fort at No. 4 Museum; Morningside Flight Park**