Charlestown, NH

Community Contact
Charlestown Selectboard
Albert St. Pierre, Chair
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Charlestown, NH 03603

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Web Site www.charlestown-nh.gov

Municipal Office Hours
Selectmen, Town Clerk, Tax Collector: Monday, Wednesday, 8 am - 6 pm, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 8 am - 4 pm, last Saturday, 9 am - 12 noon

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 5
State Representative Sullivan County Districts 8, 11

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, Sunshire, 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 1,747 over 49 years, from 3,274 in 1970 to 5,021 in 2019. The largest decennial percent change was a 35 percent increase between 1970 and 1980; after that, decennial percent change was seven percent or less. The 2019 Census estimate for Charlestown was 5,021 residents, which ranked 71st among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

Population Density and Land Area, 2019 (US Census Bureau): 140.2 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.


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, 2020: $8,913,656
Budget: School Appropriations, 2020-2021: $6,407,380
Zoning Ordinance: 1951/17
Master Plan: 2007
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: On-Call

Nearest Hospital(s):
- Valley Regional, Claremont: 13 miles, 25 Staffed Beds
- Mt. Ascutney Hospital, Windsor VT: 19 miles, 35 Staffed Beds

**UTILITIES**

- Electric Supplier: Eversource; 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:
  - Curbside Trash Pickup: None
  - Pay-As-You-Throw Program: No
  - Recycling Program: Mandatory: glass, cardboard only & voluntary for other recyclables

- Telephone Company: Fairpoint
- Cellular Telephone Access: Yes
- Cable Television Access: Yes
- Public Access Television Station: No
- High Speed Internet Service: Business: Yes, Residential: Limited

**PROPERTY TAXES**

(ACS 2015-2019)

- 2019 Total Tax Rate (per $1000 of value): $39.11
- 2019 Equalization Ratio: 85.2
- 2019 Full Tax Rate (per $1000 of value): $32.98

- 2019 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type
  - Residential Land and Buildings: 76.8%
  - Commercial Land and Buildings: 14.6%
  - Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other: 8.5%

**HOUSING**

(ACS 2015-2019)

- Total Housing Units: 2,354
- Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached: 1,246
- Units in Multiple-Family Structures:
  - Two to Four Units in Structure: 261
  - Five or More Units in Structure: 109
  - Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units: 738

**POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECENNIAL)**

(US Census Bureau)

- Total Population
  - 2019: 5,021 Community: 43,146 County: 43,146
  - 2010: 5,114 Community: 43,742 County: 43,742
  - 2000: 4,761 Community: 40,560 County: 40,560
  - 1990: 4,637 Community: 38,652 County: 38,652
  - 1980: 4,417 Community: 36,063 County: 36,063
  - 1970: 3,274 Community: 30,949 County: 30,949

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

(ACS 2015-2019)

Population by Gender
- Male: 2,515 Female: 2,504

Population by Age Group
- Under age 5: 310
- Age 5 to 19: 710
- Age 20 to 34: 807
- Age 35 to 54: 1,099
- Age 55 to 64: 1,016
- Age 65 and over: 1,077
- Median Age: 47.9 years

Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over
- High school graduate or higher: 91.4%
- Bachelor’s degree or higher: 16.5%

**INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED $**

(ACS 2015-2019)

- Per capita income: $26,697
- Median family income: $56,853
- Median household income: $47,302

- Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers
  - Male: $45,319
  - Female: $39,986

- Individuals below the poverty level: 15.0%

**LABOR FORCE**

(NHES – ELM)

- Annual Average 2009: 2019
  - Civilian labor force: 2,654 2,852
  - Employed: 2,465 2,786
  - Unemployed: 189 66
  - Unemployment rate: 7.1% 2.3%

**EMPLOYMENT & WAGES**

(NHES – ELM)

- Annual Average Covered Employment 2009: 2019
  - Goods Producing Industries
    - Average Employment: 886 1,272
    - Average Weekly Wage: $ 797 $1,089
  - Service Providing Industries
    - Average Employment: 580 579
    - Average Weekly Wage: $ 674 $ 854

- Total Private Industry
  - Average Employment: 1,466 1,851
  - Average Weekly Wage: $ 748 $1,016

- Government (Federal, State, and Local)
  - Average Employment: 488 229
  - Average Weekly Wage: $ 669 $ 617

- Total, Private Industry plus Government
  - Average Employment: 1,954 2,080
  - Average Weekly Wage: $ 728 $ 972

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: Grades K-12 are part of Fall Mountain Regional (Acworth, Alstead, Charlestown, Langdon, Walpole)  
Career Technology Center(s): Fall Mountain RHS - CTE; Cheshire Career Center (Keene)  
Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)  
Number of Schools: 2  
Grade Levels: PK 1-5  
Total Enrollment: 322  

Nearest Community College: River Valley  
Nearest Colleges or Universities: Keene State; Antioch New England  
2020 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing)  
Total Facilities: 5  
Total Capacity: 124  

**LARGEST BUSINESSES**  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Employees</th>
<th>Established</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whelen Engineering</td>
<td>Emergency lights</td>
<td>981</td>
<td>1952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design Standards, Inc</td>
<td>Medical instruments</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Mountain Regional School District</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>1964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Conservation Association</td>
<td>Non-Profit youth conservation agency</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>1964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Charlestown</td>
<td>Municipal services</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>1753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G K N Aerospace</td>
<td>Aircraft engine parts</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airgas, Inc.</td>
<td>Welding equip., industrial &amp; medical gases</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bomar, Inc.</td>
<td>Marine hardware</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1974</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS**  
X Municipal Parks  
X YMCA/YWCA  
X Boys Club/Girls Club  
X Golf Courses  
X Swimming: Indoor Facility  
X Swimming: Outdoor Facility  
X Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility  
X Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility  
X Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility  
X Bowling Facilities  
X Museums  
X 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  
X Youth Sports: Hockey  
X 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  

**COMING TO WORK** (ACS 2015-2019)  
Workers 16 years and over  
Drove alone, car/truck/van 79.5%  
Carpooled, car/truck/van 16.8%  
Public transportation 0.0%  
Walked 3.4%  
Other means 0.1%  
Worked at home 23.9%  
Mean Travel Time to Work 22.5 minutes  
Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2015-2019  
Working in community of residence 24.4  
Commuting to another NH community 51.7  
Commuting out-of-state 23.9  

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