

Dorchester, NH



Community Contact

Town of Dorchester

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Web Site

www.townofdorchester.org

Municipal Office Hours

Administrative Assistant: Monday, Tuesday, Friday, 9 am - 11 am, Wednesday, 3 pm - 6 pm, Thursday 9-1; Town Clerk, Tax Collector: Monday, 9 am - 11 am, Wednesday, 3 pm - 6 pm, last Saturday, 9 am - 11 am

County

Grafton

Labor Market Area

Lebanon, NH-VT Micropolitan NECTA, NH part

Tourism Region

Dartmouth-Lake Sunapee

Planning Commission

Upper Valley Lake Sunapee

Regional Development

Grafton County Economic Development Council

Election Districts

US Congress

District 2

Executive Council

District 2

State Senate

District 5

State Representative

Grafton County Districts 9, 18

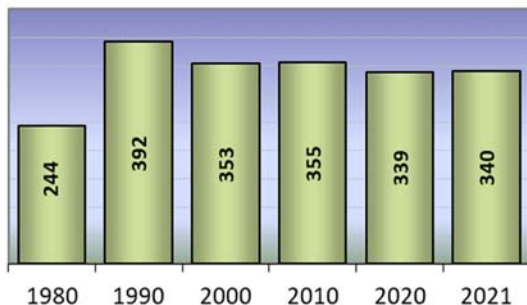
Incorporated: 1761

Origin: First chartered in 1761, Dorchester was probably given its name in honor of ancestors of Governor Benning Wentworth, who held the titles Marquis of Dorchester and Earl of Kingston. Due to the inability of grantees to meet prescribed terms of settlement, the territory was granted twice more, once in 1766 and again in 1772, retaining the name Dorchester throughout. The town's first moderator, Captain John Thompson, was a descendant of David Thompson, who was one of the first settlers in the colony, at Rye's Odiorne Point in 1623.

Villages and Place Names: Bucks Corner, Cheever, North Dorchester

Population, Year of the First Census Taken: 175 residents in 1790

Population Trends: Population change for Dorchester totaled 96 over 41 years, from 244 in 1980 to 340 in 2021. The largest decennial percent change was 61 percent between 1980 and 1990. The 2021 Census



estimate for Dorchester was 340 residents, which ranked 224th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.



Grafton County

Population Density and Land Area, 2021 (US Census Bureau): 7.6 persons per square mile of land area, the tenth lowest among the cities and towns Dorchester contains 44.6 square miles of land area and 0.6 square miles of inland water area.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES	
Type of Government	Selectmen
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2021	\$531,567
Budget: School Appropriations, 2020-2021	\$791,746
Zoning Ordinance	2017
Master Plan	2017
Capital Improvement Plan	No
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	Planning Board

Boards and Commissions
 Elected: **Selectmen; Planning; Cemetery**
 Appointed: **Zoning; Conservation; Historic District**

Public Library **No Library**

EMERGENCY SERVICES		
Police Department		No
Fire Department	Canaan, Rumney, Lyme - Volunteer	
Emergency Medical Service	Canaan, Warren, Wentworth - Volunteer	
Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds
Speare Memorial, Plymouth	18 miles	25
Alice Peck Day Memorial, Lebanon	23 miles	23

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	None	
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	No	
Recycling Program	Mandatory	
Telephone Company	Consolidated Communications	
Cellular Telephone Access	Limited	
Cable Television Access	Limited	
Public Access Television Station	No	
High Speed Internet Service:		
Business	Yes	
Residential	Yes	

PROPERTY TAXES (NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)	
2021 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	\$22.16
2021 Equalization Ratio	73.4
2021 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	\$16.28
2021 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	94.8%
Commercial Land and Buildings	.2%
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	5.0%

HOUSING (ACS 2016-2020)	
Total Housing Units	269
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	215
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	
Five or More Units in Structure	3
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	51

POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECENNIAL)		(US Census Bureau)	
Total Population	Community	County	
2021	340	92,201	
2020	338	91,123	
2010	355	89,118	
2000	353	81,826	
1990	392	74,998	
1980	244	65,806	

DEMOGRAPHICS			AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) 2016-2020	
Population by Gender				
Male	242	Female	230	
Population by Age Group				
Under age 5	15			
Age 5 to 19	53			
Age 20 to 34	37			
Age 35 to 54	120			
Age 55 to 64	75			
Age 65 and over	172			
Median Age	55.4 years			
Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over				
High school graduate or higher	86.0%			
Bachelor's degree or higher	31.3%			

INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$		(ACS 2016-2020)	
Per capita income	\$30,013		
Median family income	\$65,208		
Median household income	\$52,188		
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers			
Male	\$53,750		
Female	\$		
Individuals below the poverty level	14.8%		

LABOR FORCE			(NHES – ELMII)	
Annual Average	2011	2021		
Civilian labor force	202	193		
Employed	191	186		
Unemployed	11	7		
Unemployment rate	5.4%	3.6%		

EMPLOYMENT & WAGES			(NHES – ELMII)	
Annual Average Covered Employment	2011	2021		
Goods Producing Industries				
Average Employment	n	n		
Average Weekly Wage	n	n		
Service Providing Industries				
Average Employment	n	n		
Average Weekly Wage	n	n		
Total Private Industry				
Average Employment	n	n		
Average Weekly Wage	n	n		
Government (Federal, State, and Local)				
Average Employment	6	7		
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 210	\$ 374		
Total, Private Industry plus Government				
Average Employment	n	n		
Average Weekly Wage	n	n		

If "n" appears, data do not meet disclosure standards.

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)**

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools) Elementary Middle/Junior High High School Private/Parochial

Number of Schools

Grade Levels

Total Enrollment

Nearest Community College: **Lakes Region; River Valley**

Nearest Colleges or Universities: **Plymouth State University; Dartmouth**

2021 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: Total Capacity:

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Town of Dorchester	Municipal services	4	1772

Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

TRANSPORTATION (distances estimated from city/town hall)

Road Access US Routes

 State Routes **118**

Nearest Interstate, Exit **I-93, Exit 26**

 Distance **19 miles**

Railroad **No**

Public Transportation **No**

Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation

Newfound Valley, Bristol Runway **1,900 ft. asphalt**

 Lighted? **No** Navigation Aids? **No**

Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service

Lebanon Municipal Distance **27 miles**

 Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport **1**

Driving distance to select cities:

 Manchester, NH **74 miles**

 Portland, Maine **106 miles**

 Boston, Mass. **124 miles**

 New York City, NY **293 miles**

 Montreal, Quebec **205 miles**

COMMUTING TO WORK (ACS 2016-2020)

Workers 16 years and over

 Drove alone, car/truck/van **69.3%**

 Carpooled, car/truck/van **22.1%**

 Public transportation **1.2%**

 Walked **1.8%**

 Other means **0.6%**

 Worked at home **4.9%**

Mean Travel Time to Work **44.1 minutes**

Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2016-2020

 Working in community of residence **71.2%**

 Commuting to another NH community **12.9%**

 Commuting out-of-state **16.0%**

RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS

X 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

X 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

 Boating/Marinas

X Snowmobile Trails

X Bicycle Trails

X Cross Country Skiing

 Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area

 Overnight or Day Camps

Nearest Ski Area(s): **Tenney Mtn**

Other: **Dorchester "Going Places" Mountain Bike-a-Thon; D'Acres**