Gilford, NH

Community Contact
Town of Gilford
Scott Dunn, Town Administrator
47 Cherry Valley Road
Gilford, NH 03249

Telephone
Fax
E-mail
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(603) 527-4700
(603) 527-4711
selectmen@gilfordnh.org
www.gilfordnh.org

Municipal Office Hours
Town Hall: Monday to Friday 8-4:30; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 8-4:30, Thursdays, 8-6

County
Labor Market Area
Tourism Region
Planning Commission
Regional Development
Belknap
Laconia, NH Micropolitan NECTA
Lakes
Lakes Region
Belknap County Economic Development Council

Election Districts
US Congress
Executive Council
State Senate
State Representative
District 1
District 1
Belknap County District 6

Incorporated: 1812

Origin: Once a part of Gilmanton called Gunstock Parish, this town was named for a key battle at the end of the revolution, the Battle of Guilford Court House, North Carolina. The American forces managed to deplete Cornwallis’s army so they were forced to retreat, leading to the surrender at Yorktown. Sargent Lemuel B. Mason, who fought in that battle, had retired to Gunstock Parish. As the town’s oldest citizen when it was incorporated in 1812, Sargent Mason had the honor of selecting a name, and he chose Gilford. North Carolina’s Guilford Court House has long since been renamed Martinsville.

Villages and Place Names: Ames, Dockham Shore, Glendale, Lake Shore Park, Belknap Point

Population, Year of the First Census Taken: 1,816 residents in 1820

Population Trends: Population change for Gilford totaled 4,474 over 50 years, from 3,219 in 1970 to 7,693 in 2020. The largest decennial percent change was a 50 percent increase from 1970 to 1980. The town’s population increased by eight percent from 2010 to 2020. The 2021 Census estimate for Gilford was 7,804 residents, which ranked 41st among New Hampshire’s incorporated cities and towns.

Population Density and Land Area, 2021 (US Census Bureau): 201.0 persons per square mile of land area. Gilford contains 38.8 square miles of land area and 14.7 square miles of inland water area.
### MUNICIPAL SERVICES
- **Type of Government**: Selectmen
- **Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2022**: $16,735,975
- **Budget: School Appropriations, 2022-2023**: $27,080,583
- **Zoning Ordinance**: 1962/20
- **Master Plan**: 2017
- **Capital Improvement Plan**: Yes
- **Industrial Plans Reviewed By**: Planning Board
- **Boards and Commissions**
  - **Elected**: Selectmen; Fire Engineers; School; Library; Budget; Cemetery; Checklist; Trust Funds
  - **Appointed**: Planning; Conservation; Zoning; Historic; Recreation
- **Public Library**: Gilford Public

### EMERGENCY SERVICES
- **Police Department**: Full-time
- **Fire Department**: Full-time
- **Emergency Medical Service**: Municipal
- **Nearest Hospital(s)**
  - **Concord Hospital - Laconia**: Distance 4 miles, Staffed Beds 45

### UTILITIES
- **Electric Supplier**: Eversource Energy; NH Electric Coop
- **Natural Gas Supplier**: Liberty Utilities
- **Water Supplier**: Gilford Village District; Gunstock Acres Village District
- **Sanitation**: Municipal
- **Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant**: No
- **Solid Waste Disposal**: Curbside Trash Pickup - Private, Pay-As-You-Throw Program - No, Recycling Program - Mandatory
- **Telephone Company**: Consolidated Communications
- **Cellular Telephone Access**: Yes
- **Cable Television Access**: Yes
- **Public Access Television Station**: Yes
- **High Speed Internet**: Business - Yes, Residential - Yes

### PROPERTY TAXES
- **(NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)**
  - 2021 Total Tax Rate (per $1000 of value): $12.28
  - 2021 Equalization Ratio: 88.8
  - 2021 Full Value Tax Rate (per $1000 of value): $10.88
  - 2021 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type
    - Residential Land and Buildings: 90.1%
    - Commercial Land and Buildings: 9.0%
    - Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other: .8%

### HOUSING
- **(ACS 2017-2021)**
  - Total Housing Units: 5,247
  - Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached: 4,329
  - Units in Multiple-Family Structures:
    - Two to Four Units in Structure: 115
    - Five or More Units in Structure: 332
  - Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units: 471
  - Total Population
    - Community: 7,642
    - County: 63,395
  - Total, Private Industry plus Government
    - Average Employment: 3,080
    - Average Weekly Wage: $657
    - Average Weekly Wage (NHES – ELM): $911
  - Total Private Industry
    - Average Employment: 2,427
    - Average Weekly Wage: $656
    - Average Weekly Wage (NHES – ELM): $947
  - Goods-Producing Industries
    - Average Employment: 279
    - Average Weekly Wage: $863
    - Average Weekly Wage (NHES – ELM): $1,504
  - Service-Providing Industries
    - Average Employment: 1,504
    - Average Weekly Wage (NHES – ELM): $1,504
  - Government (Federal, State, and Local)
    - Average Employment: 654
    - Average Weekly Wage: $662
    - Average Weekly Wage (NHES – ELM): $760

**n = data do not meet disclosure standards**
**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: **Gilford operates grades K-12**

Career Technology Center(s): **J. Oliva Huot Technical Center (Laconia); Winnisquam Agricultural Programs**

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Schools</th>
<th>Elementary</th>
<th>Middle/Junior High</th>
<th>High School</th>
<th>Private/Parochial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade Levels  
- Elementary: K-4
- Middle/Junior High: 5-8
- High School: 9-12

Total Enrollment  
- 304
- 333
- 493

Nearest NH Community College: **Lakes Region; NHTI-Concord**

Nearest Colleges or Universities (with a physical campus): **Plymouth State; Granite State; UNH School of Law**

NH Licensed Child Care Facilities, 2021 (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing)  
- Total Facilities: 4  
- Capacity: 246

**BUSINESSES (provided by municipality)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Name</th>
<th>Product or Service</th>
<th>Employees</th>
<th>Established</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gunstock Recreation Area</td>
<td>Ski, recreation area</td>
<td>550</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilford School District</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>260</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hannaford Brothers</td>
<td>Supermarket</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wal-Mart</td>
<td>Retail store</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of New Hampshire</td>
<td>Banking services</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shaws Supermarket</td>
<td>Supermarket</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Gilford</td>
<td>Municipal services</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>1812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthopedic Professional Association</td>
<td>Medical services</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WLNH/WLKZ/WEMJ</td>
<td>Radio stations</td>
<td>33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Road Access</th>
<th>US Routes</th>
<th>State Routes</th>
<th>Nearest Interstate/Exit</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Railroad</th>
<th>Public Transportation</th>
<th>Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11, 11A, 11B, 11C</td>
<td>I-93, Exit 20</td>
<td>12 miles</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>WTS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Laconia Municipal  
- Runway: 5,286 ft. asphalt  
- Lighted: Yes  
- Navigation Aids: Yes

Nearest Commercial Airport with Scheduled Service  
- Manchester-Boston Regional  
  - Distance: 54 miles  
  - Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport: 4

Driving distance to select cities:  
- Manchester, New Hampshire: 48 miles  
- Portland, Maine: 81 miles  
- Boston, Massachusetts: 99 miles  
- New York City, New York: 298 miles  
- Montreal, Quebec, Canada: 239 miles

**COMMUTING TO WORK** (ACS 2017-2021)

| Workers 16 years of age and over: | 3,766 |
| Drove alone, car/truck/van:        | 86.6% |
| Carpooled, car/truck/van:          | 3.7%  |
| Used public transportation:        | 0.0%  |
| Walked:                            | 0.7%  |
| Traveled by other means:           | 0.0%  |
| Worked at home:                    | 9.0%  |
| Mean Travel Time to Work:          | 23.0 minutes |

Percent of Working Residents Who:  
- Work in community of residence: 27.5%  
- Commute to other NH community: 70.0%  
- Commute out-of-state: 2.5%

**RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, EVENTS**

- X Municipal Parks
- YMCA/YWCA
- 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
- Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
- 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

Nearest Ski Area(s): **Gunstock**

Other: **Meadowbrook Musical Arts Center; Ellacoya State Beach; Outdoor skating rink**

Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, NH Employment Security, April 2023. Community Response Received 5/06/2022