Gilford, NH

Community Contact  
Town of Gilford  
Scott Dunn, Town Administrator  
47 Cherry Valley Road  
Gilford, NH 03249  
(603) 527-4700  
(603) 527-4711  
selectmen@gilfordnh.org  
www.gilfordnh.org

Municipal Office Hours  
Monday through Friday, 8 am - 5 pm; Town Clerk, Tax Collector: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm, Thursday, 8 am - 6 pm

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

Election Districts  
US Congress  District 1  
Executive Council  District 1  
State Senate  District 7  
State Representative  Belknap County District 2

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 had 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 4,014 over 49 years, from 3,219 in 1970 to 7,233 in 2019. The largest decennial percent change was a 50 percent increase between 1970 and 1980, followed by a 24 percent increase over the next decade. The 2019 Census estimate for Gilford was 7,233 residents, which ranked 43rd among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

Population Density and Land Area, 2019 (US Census Bureau): 186.5 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, 2020** $15,294,727

**Budget: School Appropriations, 2019-2020** $26,937,971

**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; Recreation; Historic

**Public Library** Gilford Public

**Emergency Services**

**Police Department** Full-time

**Fire Department** Full-time

**Emergency Medical Service** Municipal

**Nearest Hospital(s)**
- Lakes Region General, Laconia
  - Distance: 4 miles
  - Staffed Beds: 96

**Utilities**

**Electric Supplier** Eversource Energy; NH Electric Coop

**Natural Gas Supplier** Liberty Utilities

**Water Supplier** Gilford Village District; Gunstock Acres

**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 Service:**
- Business: Yes
- Residential: Yes

**Property Taxes**

**2019 Total Tax Rate (per $1000 of value)** $15.86

**2019 Equalization Ratio** 95.7

**2019 Full Value Tax Rate (per $1000 of value)** $15.14

**2019 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type**
- Residential Land and Buildings: 88.8%
- Commercial Land and Buildings: 10.6%
- Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other: 0.6%

**Housing**

**Total Housing Units** 5,178

**Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached** 4,220

**Units in Multiple-Family Structures:**
- Two to Four Units in Structure: 88
- Five or More Units in Structure: 355
- Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units: 515

**Population (1-Year Estimates/Decennial)**

**Total Population**

- Community: 7,233
- County: 61,303

**Education Attainment, population 25 years and over**

- Bachelor’s degree or higher: 3,449
- High school graduate or higher: 5,178

**Income, Inflation Adjusted $**

- Per capita income: $50,245
- Median family income: $110,650
- Median household income: $84,192

**Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers**

- Male: $71,487
- Female: $39,442

**Individuals below the poverty level**

- 97.8%

**Labor Force**

**Employment & Wages**

**Total Private Industry**

- Average Employment: 2,471
- Average Weekly Wage: $643

**Government (Federal, State, and Local)**

- Average Employment: 569
- Average Weekly Wage: $683

**Service Providing Industries**

- Average Employment: 2,176
- Average Weekly Wage: $613

**Goods Producing Industries**

- Average Employment: 2,355
- Average Weekly Wage: $769

**Total, Private Industry plus Government**

- Average Employment: 3,040
- Average Weekly Wage: $651

**Demographics**

**American Community Survey (ACS) 2015-2019**

**Population by Gender**

- Male: 3,449
- Female: 3,704

**Population by Age Group**

- Under age 5: 304
- Age 5 to 19: 1,250
- Age 20 to 34: 1,072
- Age 35 to 54: 1,738
- Age 55 to 64: 1,135
- Age 65 and over: 1,654
- Median Age: 47.8 years

**Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over**

- Male: 3,449
- Female: 5,178
- Bachelor’s degree or higher: 42.0%

**Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, NH Employment Security, January 2021. Community Response Received 8/05/2020**
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
District: SAU 73 Region: 8
Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools) Elementary Middle/Junior High High School Private/Parochial
Number of Schools 1 1 1
Grade Levels K 1-4 5-8 9-12
Total Enrollment 343 311 475

Nearest Community College: Lakes Region
Nearest Colleges or Universities: Plymouth State University

2020 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: 5 Total Capacity: 194

LARGEST BUSINESSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRODUCT/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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilford School District</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hannaford Brothers</td>
<td>Supermarket</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wal-Mart</td>
<td>Retail store</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of New Hampshire</td>
<td>Banking services</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shaws Supermarket</td>
<td>Supermarket</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Gilford</td>
<td>Municipal services</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthopedic Professional Association</td>
<td>Medical services</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WLNH/WL/KZ/WEMJ</td>
<td>Radio stations</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

TRANSPORTATION (distances 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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11, 11A, 11B, 11C</td>
<td>I-93, Exit 20</td>
<td>12 miles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Railroad</th>
<th>Public Transportation</th>
<th>Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>WTS</td>
<td>Laconia Municipal Runway 5,286 ft. asphalt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lighted? Yes Navigation Aids? Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manchester-Boston Regional</td>
<td>54 miles</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Driving distance to select cities:      |        |                                             |
| Manchester, NH                         | 48 miles|
| Portland, Maine                        | 81 miles|
| Boston, Mass.                          | 99 miles|
| New York City, NY                      | 298 miles|
| Montreal, Quebec                       | 239 miles|

COMMUTING TO WORK (ACS 2015-2019)

Workers 16 years and over
- Drove alone, car/truck/van: 90.0%
- Carpooled, car/truck/van: 5.4%
- Public transportation: 0.0%
- Walked: 0.5%
- Other means: 4.2%
- Worked at home: 2.9%
- Mean Travel Time to Work: 26.9 minutes

Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2015-2019
- Working in community of residence: 18.5%
- Commuting to another NH community: 78.6%
- Commuting out-of-state: 2.9%

RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS
- 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
- 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
- Fishing/Hunting
- Boating/Marinas
- Snowmobile Trails
- Bicycle Trails
- Cross Country Skiing
- Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
- Overnight or Day Camps

Nearest Ski Area(s): Gunstock
Other: Meadowbrook Musical Arts Center; Ellacoya State Beach; Outdoor skating rink