Incorporated: 1778

Origin: This town was named for Augustus Henry Fitzroy, Duke of Grafton, Earl of Arlington and Euston, Viscount Thetford, and Baron Sudbury. The Duke was a pro-American member of English government prior to the Revolution, and related to Governor Benning Wentworth. Grafton County and Thetford, Vermont, were also named in honor of the Duke. Grantees of the initial 1761 charter voted to surrender their grant in 1762. The land was regranted in 1769 to new colonists, including John Hancock and James Otis, well-known Boston patriots.

Villages and Place Names: East Grafton, Grafton Center, Robinson Corner, Cardigan Station

Population, Year of the First Census Taken: 403 residents in 1790

Population Trends: Population change for Grafton totaled 959 over 49 years, from 370 in 1970 to 1,329 in 2019. The largest decennial percent change was a 100 percent between 1970 and 1980, nearly doubling the population over those ten years. The 2019 Census estimate for Grafton was 1,329 residents, which ranked 172nd among New Hampshire’s incorporated cities and towns.

Population Density and Land Area, 2019 (US Census Bureau): 31.9 persons per square mile of land area. Grafton contains 41.6 square miles of land area and 0.8 square miles of inland water area.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Type of Government: Selectmen
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2020: $1,361,046
Budget: School Appropriations, 2018-2019: $2,458,398
Zoning Ordinance: No Board
Master Plan: 1987
Capital Improvement Plan: No
Industrial Plans Reviewed By: Planning Board

Boards and Commissions
Elected: Selectmen; Planning; Trust Funds; Library; Budget; Treasurer; Tax Collector; Town Clerk; Police Chief; Checklist; Road Agent; Cemetery; Moderator
Appointed: Recreation

Public Library: Grafton Public

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police Department: Full-time
Fire Department: Volunteer
Emergency Medical Service: Volunteer

Nearest Hospital(s)
New London Hospital, New London: 22 miles, 25 Staffed Beds
Alice Peck Day Memorial, Lebanon: 23 miles, 25 Staffed Beds
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Med Ctr, Lebanon: 25 miles, 406 Staffed Beds

UTILITIES

Electric Supplier: Eversource Energy; 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: Fairpoint
Cellular Telephone Access: Limited
Cable Television Access: Limited
Public Access Television Station: No
High Speed Internet Service: Business Limited, Residential Limited

PROPERTY TAXES

(NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)
2019 Total Tax Rate (per $1000 of value): $31.77
2019 Equalization Ratio: 85.0
2019 Full Value Tax Rate (per $1000 of value): $26.93
2019 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type
   Residential Land and Buildings: 94.4%
   Commercial Land and Buildings: 1.4%
   Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other: 4.2%

HOUSING

(ACS 2015-2019)
Total Housing Units: 846
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached: 699
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:
   Two to Four Units in Structure: 18
   Five or More Units in Structure: 0
   Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units: 129

POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECCNiUAL) (US Census Bureau)
Total Population
   Community: 2019: 1,329, 2010: 1,340
   County: 2019: 89,886, 2010: 89,118

Demographics

(American Community Survey (ACS) 2015-2019)

Population by Gender
   Male: 706, Female: 656

Population by Age Group
   Under age 5: 101
   Age 5 to 19: 192
   Age 20 to 34: 249
   Age 35 to 54: 288
   Age 55 to 64: 263
   Age 65 and over: 269
   Median Age: 46.7 years

Education Attainment, population 25 years and over
   High school graduate or higher: 91.3%
   Bachelor’s degree or higher: 27.4%

INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED $ (ACS 2015-2019)
   Per capita income: $31,373
   Median family income: $68,333
   Median household income: $61,429

   Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers
     Male: $48,438
     Female: $39,063

   Individuals below the poverty level: 9.5%

LABOR FORCE (NHES – ELMi)
Annual Average
   2009: 712, 2019: 913
   Civilian labor force: 2009: 671, 2019: 659
   Employed: 2009: 41, 2019: 17
   Unemployment rate: 5.8% 2.5%

EMPLOYMENT & WAGES (NHES – ELMi)
Annual Average Covered Employment
   2009: 34, 2019: 24
   Average Employment: $353, $603
   Average Weekly Wage: $531, $574

   Government (Federal, State, and Local)
     Average Employment: 14, 13
     Average Weekly Wage: $531, $574

   Total, Private Industry plus Government
     Average Employment: 48, 37
     Average Weekly Wage: $405, $593

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)  
Region: 7

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)  
Number of Schools  
Grade Levels  
Total Enrollment

Nearest Community College: Lakes Region; River Valley  
Nearest Colleges or Universities: Dartmouth; Colby-Sawyer; Plymouth State University

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**LARGEST BUSINESSES**

| Town of Grafton | Municipal services | 12 | 1778 |

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

| Road Access | US Routes | 4 |
| State Routes | 4A |
| Nearest Interstate, Exit | I-89, Exit 17; I-93, Exit 23 |
| Distance | 19 miles; 21 miles |
| Railroad | No |
| Public Transportation | No |

**Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation**

| Greenland Municipal, Bangor | Runway | 1,900 ft. asphalt |
| Lighted? | No |
| Navigation Aids? | No |

**Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service**

| Lebanon Municipal | Distance | 26 miles |

Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport  
1

Driving distance to select cities:

| Manchester, NH | 55 miles |
| Portland, Maine | 148 miles |
| Boston, Mass. | 106 miles |
| New York City, NY | 291 miles |
| Montreal, Quebec | 209 miles |

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**RECOMMUTING TO WORK (ACS 2015-2019)**

| Workers 16 years and over  
Drove alone, car/truck/van | 89.0% |
| Carpoole, car/truck/van | 7.7% |
| Public transportation | 0.0% |
| Walked | 0.8% |
| Other means | 2.5% |
| Worked at home | 10.9% |
| Mean Travel Time to Work | 41.6 minutes |

**Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2015-2019**

| Working in community of residence | 11.9 |
| Commuting to another NH community | 77.2 |
| Commuting out-of-state | 10.9 |

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**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 |
| | 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): Ragged Mountain |

Other: