Incorporated: 1779

Origin: Hancock started as an unidentified settlement on the Contoocook River, in territory known as "Society Land" or Cumberland, which had been reserved for the Proprietors. Cumberland included what is now Antrim, Bennington, Franestown, Deering, Greenfield, and Hancock. First settled in 1764, the town was incorporated as Hancock in 1779 in honor of John Hancock, first governor of Massachusetts, president of the Continental Congress, and signer of the Declaration of Independence. Mr. Hancock was a landowner in this region, but there is no record of his ever having been in the town named for him.

Villages and Place Names: Elmwood

Population, Year of the First Census Taken: 634 residents in 1790

Population Trends: Population change for Hancock totaled 747 over 49 years, from 909 in 1970 to 1,656 in 2019. The largest decennial percent change was a 36 percent increase between 1980 and 1990, which followed a 31 percent increase over the previous decade. The 2019 Census estimate for Hancock was 1,656 residents, which ranked 154th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

Population Density and Land Area, 2019 (US Census Bureau): 55.2 persons per square mile of land area. Hancock contains 30.0 square miles of land area and 1.3 square miles of inland water area.
### Municipal Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Government</th>
<th>Selectmen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2020</td>
<td>$2,751,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget: School Appropriations, 2017-2018</td>
<td>$3,747,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoning Ordinance</td>
<td>1962/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Plan</td>
<td>1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Improvement Plan</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Plans Reviewed By</td>
<td>Planning Board</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Boards and Commissions

- **Elected:** Selectmen; Library; Trust Funds; Common; Water; Cemetery; Checklist
- **Appointed:** Planning; Zoning; Conservation; Historic District

### Emergency Services

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

### Utilities

- Electric Supplier: Eversource Energy
- Natural Gas Supplier: None
- Water Supplier: Hancock Water Works

### Sanitation

- Private septic
- Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant: No
- Solid Waste Disposal: No
- Curbside Trash Pickup: None
- Pay-As-You-Throw Program: No
- Recycling Program: Mandatory

### Telecommunication

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

### Property Taxes

- **2019 Total Tax Rate (per $1000 of value):** $24.60
- **2019 Equalization Ratio:** 89.1%
- **2019 Full Value Tax Rate (per $1000 of value):** $21.69

### Housing

- **Total Housing Units:** 932
- Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached: 886
- Units in Multiple-Family Structures:
  - Two to Four Units in Structure: 20
  - Five or More Units in Structure: 7
  - Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units: 19

### Populations (1-Year Estimates/Decennial) (US Census Bureau)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Community Population</th>
<th>County Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1,656</td>
<td>417,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1,654</td>
<td>400,721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>1,744</td>
<td>382,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>1,623</td>
<td>336,549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>1,193</td>
<td>276,608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>909</td>
<td>223,941</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Demographics

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

- **Population by Gender**
  - Male: 818, Female: 929

- **Population by Age Group**
  - Under age 5: 40
  - Age 5 to 9: 260
  - Age 10 to 19: 112
  - Age 20 to 24: 430
  - Age 25 to 29: 353
  - Age 30 to 34: 552
  - Median Age: 56.5 years

- **Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over**
  - High school graduate or higher: 97.9%
  - Bachelor’s degree or higher: 56.7%

- **Income, Inflation Adjusted $** (ACS 2015-2019)
  - Per capita income: $51,542
  - Median family income: $96,071
  - Median household income: $69,609

- **Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers**
  - Male: $53,828
  - Female: $42,273

- **Individuals below the poverty level**
  - 2.1%

### Labor Force (NHES – ELMI)

- **Annual Average**
  - Civilian labor force: 873, 930
  - Employed: 835, 910
  - Unemployed: 38, 20
  - Unemployment rate: 4.4%, 2.2%

### Employment & Wages (NHES – ELMI)

- **Annual Average Covered Employment**
  - Goods Producing Industries
    - Average Employment: 40, 32
    - Average Weekly Wage: $616, $941
  - Service Providing Industries
    - Average Employment: 184, 145
    - Average Weekly Wage: $663, $1,081
  - Total Private Industry
    - Average Employment: 224, 177
    - Average Weekly Wage: $654, $1,055
  - Government (Federal, State, and Local)
    - Average Employment: 48, 34
    - Average Weekly Wage: $453, $697
  - Total, Private Industry plus Government
    - Average Employment: 272, 211
    - Average Weekly Wage: $619, $998

---

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: Grades K-12 are part of Contoocook Valley Cooperative (Antrim, Bennington, Dublin, Francestown, Greenfield, Hancock, Peterborough, Sharon, Temple)

Career Technology Center(s): Region 14 Applied Technology Center

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)  
- Number of Schools: 1  
- Grade Levels: K-1 to 4

Total Enrollment: 49

Nearest Community College: Manchester; Nashua; NHTI-Concord

Nearest Colleges or Universities: Keene State; New England; Franklin Pierce University; Antioch New England

2020 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing)  
- Total Facilities: 1  
- Total Capacity: 16

**LARGEST BUSINESSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Product/Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Hancock Inn</td>
<td>Restaurant, inn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hancock Market</td>
<td>Convenience store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiddleheads Café</td>
<td>Restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harris Center for Conservation Education</td>
<td>Conservation education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature's classroom at Sargent Center</td>
<td>Outdoor education and camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Town Landscaping, Inc.</td>
<td>Landscaping services and materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathewson Co., Inc.</td>
<td>Septic svcs., dam, road construction, excavation, land clearing, helical piles, winter maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah's Hat Boxes</td>
<td>Custom handmade fabric boxes</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>202</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State Routes</td>
<td>123, 137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nearest Interstate, Exit</td>
<td>I-89, Exit 6</td>
<td>27 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railroad</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transportation</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation | Runway | 3,260 ft. asphalt |
|                                              | Lighted? | Yes |
|                                              | Navigation Aids? | No |

| Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service | Manchester-Boston Regional | Distance | 34 miles |
|                                        | Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport | 4 |

| Driving distance to select cities: | Manchester, NH | 34 miles |
|                                    | Portland, Maine | 130 miles |
|                                    | Boston, Mass. | 77 miles |
|                                    | New York City, NY | 243 miles |
|                                    | Montreal, Quebec | 253 miles |

**COMmuting TO WORK**

(ACS 2015-2019)

| Workers 16 years and over | Drove alone, car/truck/van | 73.1% |
|                          | Carpoole, car/truck/van | 1.6% |
|                          | Public transportation | 0.0% |
|                          | Walked | 3.7% |
|                          | Other means | 21.2% |
|                          | Worked at home | 2.0% |
| Mean Travel Time to Work | 24.3 minutes |

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

| Working in community of residence | 35.5 |
| Commuting to another NH community | 62.5 |
| Commuting out-of-state | 2.0 |

**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): Pat's Peak, Crotched Mtn

Other: Harris Center for Conservation Education; Nature's Classroom