Keene, NH

City of Keene
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Municipal Office Hours Monday through Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm

County Cheshire
Labor Market Area Keene, NH Micropolitan NECTA
Tourism Region Monadnock
Planning Commission Southwest Region
Regional Development Monadnock Economic Development Corp.

Incorporated: 1753

Origin: This territory was first granted in 1735 as Upper Ashuelot to soldiers in the wars against Canada, and intended to be a fort town. Establishment of the Massachusetts-New Hampshire boundary in 1753 made it one of the largest towns in New England. Under grant by the New Hampshire governor, the town was named in honor of Sir Benjamin Keene of England, an associate of Governor Wentworth in the Spanish West Indies trade. Keene was incorporated as a city in 1873. The Keene Normal School, now Keene State College, was founded here in 1909. The annual Keene Pumpkin Festival has set eight world records for the largest number of lit jack-o’-lanterns, reaching 30,581 in 2013.

Villages and Place Names: North Swanzey, South Keene, Marlborough

Population, Year of the First Census Taken: 1,314 residents in 1790

Population Trends: Population change for Keene, including resident students, totaled 2,319 over 49 years, from 20,467 in 1970 to 22,786 in 2019. The largest decennial percent change was an eight percent increase between 1980 and 1990; the city decreased in population between 1990 and 2000. The 2019 Census estimate for Keene was 22,786 residents, which ranked 11th among New Hampshire’s incorporated cities and towns.

Population Density and Land Area, 2019 (US Census Bureau): 615.0 persons per square mile of land area. Keene contains 37.0 square miles of land area and 0.2 square miles of inland water area.
### MUNICIPAL SERVICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Government</th>
<th>Mayor, Council, &amp; Manager</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2020-2021</td>
<td>$65,171,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget: School Appropriations, 2020-2021</td>
<td>$31,204,874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoning Ordinance</td>
<td>1927/07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Plan</td>
<td>2010</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: City Council
- Appointed: Planning; Zoning; Library; Conservation; Cemetery

### EMERGENCY SERVICES

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

#### Nearest Hospital(s)

- Cheshire Medical Center, Keene
  - Distance: Local
  - Staffed Beds: 98

### UTILITIES

- Electric Supplier: Eversource Energy
- Natural Gas Supplier: Keene Gas Corp
- Water Supplier: Keene Water Department
- Sanitation: Municipal
- Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant: Yes
- Solid Waste Disposal: Yes
- Curbside Trash Pickup: No
- Pay-As-You-Throw Program: No
- Recycling Program: Mandatory
- Telephone Company: Fairpoint
- Cellular Telephone Access: Yes
- Cable Television Access: Yes
- Public Access Television Station: Yes
- High Speed Internet Service: Business
  - Residential: Yes

### PROPERTY TAXES

- 2019 Total Tax Rate (per $1000 of value): $37.60
- 2019 Equalization Ratio: 95.0
- 2019 Full Value Tax Rate (per $1000 of value): $34.17

- 2019 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type
  - Residential Land and Buildings: 58.3%
  - Commercial Land and Buildings: 37.7%
  - Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other: 4.0%

### HOUSING

- Total Housing Units: 9,980
- Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached: 5,322
- Units in Multiple-Family Structures:
  - Two to Four Units in Structure: 1,871
  - Five or More Units in Structure: 2,438
  - Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units: 349

### POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECENNIAL)

(US Census Bureau)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Community</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>22,786</td>
<td>76,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>23,409</td>
<td>77,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>22,589</td>
<td>73,993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>23,081</td>
<td>70,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>21,449</td>
<td>62,116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>20,467</td>
<td>52,364</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### DEMOGRAPHICS

#### AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) 2015-2019

- Population by Gender
  - Male: 10,758
  - Female: 12,195

- Population by Age Group
  - Under age 5: 878
  - Age 5 to 19: 4,730
  - Age 20 to 34: 5,649
  - Age 35 to 54: 4,957
  - Age 55 to 64: 2,557
  - Age 65 and over: 4,182
  - Median Age: 36.4 years

- Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over
  - Bachelor's degree or higher: 92.7%
  - High school graduate or higher: 41.8%

- INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED $ (ACS 2015-2019)
  - Per capita income: $30,993
  - Median family income: $79,268
  - Median household income: $56,971

- Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers
  - Male: $60,793
  - Female: $42,492

- Individuals below the poverty level: 12.6%

### LABOR FORCE

(NHES – ELM)

- Annual Average
  - 2009: 9,209
  - 2019: 11,815
- Civilian labor force
  - 2009: 11,533
  - 2019: 11,492
- Employed
  - 2009: 12,170
  - 2019: 12,323
- Unemployed
  - 2009: 637
  - 2019: 59
- Unemployment rate
  - 2009: 5.2%
  - 2019: 2.7%

### EMPLOYMENT & WAGES

(NHES – ELM)

- Annual Average Covered Employment
  - 2009: 16,468
  - 2019: 15,063
- Goods Producing Industries
  - Average Employment: 3,037
  - Average Weekly Wage: $958
- Service Providing Industries
  - Average Employment: 13,431
  - Average Weekly Wage: $768
- Total Private Industry
  - Average Employment: 16,468
  - Average Weekly Wage: $803
- Government (Federal, State, and Local)
  - Average Employment: 2,444
  - Average Weekly Wage: $826
- Total, Private Industry plus Government
  - Average Employment: 18,912
  - Average Weekly Wage: $806

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**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: Keene operates grades K-12  
Career Technology Center(s): Cheshire Career Center (Keene); Fall Mountain RHS - CTE  
District: SAU 29  
Region: 13  

<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>5</td>
<td>P K 1-5</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>P K 1-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollment</td>
<td>1,226</td>
<td>714</td>
<td>1,457</td>
<td>383</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nearest Community College: River Valley  
Nearest Colleges or Universities: Keene State; Antioch New England; Franklin Pierce University

2020 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing)  
Total Facilities: 13  
Total Capacity: 949

**LARGEST BUSINESSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product/Service</th>
<th>Employees</th>
<th>Established</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cheshire Medical Center/Dartmouth Hitchcock Clinic-Keene</td>
<td>Health care services</td>
<td>1,561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C &amp; S Wholesale Grocers</td>
<td>Wholesale foods</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keene School District</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>1,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Image Corporation</td>
<td>Industrial marking equipment</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith Industrial Medical Systems</td>
<td>Hospital supplies</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Grange Mutual Insurance</td>
<td>Insurance services</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TimKen Super Precision</td>
<td>Mini &amp; precision bearings</td>
<td>267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janos Technologies</td>
<td>Precision infrared optics</td>
<td>75</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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9, 10, 12, 12A, 32, 101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nearest Interstate, Exit</td>
<td>I-91 (VT), Exit 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distance</td>
<td>17 miles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Railroad | No |
| Public Transportation | City Express |

Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation  
**Dillant-Hopkins, Swanzey**  
Runway | 6,201 ft. asphalt  
Lighted? | Yes  
Navigation Aids? | Yes

Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service  
**Manchester-Boston Regional**  
Distance | 57 miles  
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport | 4

Driving distance to select cities:  
Manchester, NH | 65 miles  
Portland, Maine | 157 miles  
Boston, Mass. | 98 miles  
New York City, NY | 223 miles  
Montreal, Quebec | 243 miles

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

Workers 16 years and over  
Drove alone, car/truck/van | 72.2%  
Carpooled, car/truck/van | 8.6%  
Public transportation | 0.2%  
Walked | 5.7%  
Other means | 11.4%  
Worked at home | 7.2%

Mean Travel Time to Work | 16.6 minutes

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

Working in community of residence | 75.0  
Commuting to another NH community | 17.8  
Commuting out-of-state | 7.2

**RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X Municipal Parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X YMCA/YWCA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys Club/Girls Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Golf Courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Swimming: Indoor Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Swimming: Outdoor Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Bowling Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Museums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Cinemas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Performing Arts Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Tourist Attractions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Youth Sports: Baseball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Youth Sports: Soccer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Youth Sports: Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Sports: Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Youth Sports: Hockey Campgrounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Fishing/Hunting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boating/Marinas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Snowmobile Trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Bicycle Trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Cross Country Skiing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overnight or Day Camps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nearest Ski Area(s): Mount Ascutney (VT)

Other: Hiking