

# Nelson, NH



## Community Contact

**Nelson Board of Selectmen**  
**Eddie Drinkwater, Administrative Assistant**  
**7 Nelson Common Road**  
**Nelson, NH 03457**

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 Web Site

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**www.townofnelson.org**

## Municipal Office Hours

**Selectmen: Every other Wednesday, 3 pm; Administrative Assistant, Town Clerk, Tax Collector: Tuesday, 9 am - 12 noon, 4 pm - 7 pm, Thursday, 9 am - 12 noon; Administrative Assistant: other times by appointment**

County  
 Labor Market Area  
 Tourism Region  
 Planning Commission  
 Regional Development

**Cheshire**  
**Keene, NH Micropolitan NECTA**  
**Monadnock**  
**Southwest Region**  
**Monadnock Economic Development Corp.**

## Election Districts

US Congress  
 Executive Council  
 State Senate  
 State Representative

**District 2**  
**District 2**  
**District 10**  
**Cheshire County District 3**

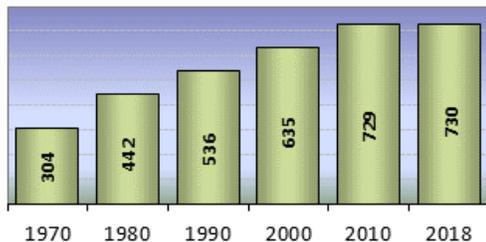
**Incorporated: 1774**

**Origin:** One of the original border towns, this territory was first granted in 1752 as Monadnock No. 6. In 1774, it was renamed Packersfield after Thomas Packer, high sheriff of Portsmouth, who was one of the Masonian Proprietors. In 1777, some residents petitioned to rename the town Sullivan. The petition failed, but in 1786, a portion of the town was combined with part of Gilsum and Keene to form the town of Sullivan. Packersfield kept that name until 1814, when it was renamed in honor of Lord Horatio Nelson, who died on board the British ship Victory in the war against Napoleon.

**Villages and Place Names:** Munsonville

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 721 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Nelson totaled 508 over 58 years, from 222 in 1960 to 730 in 2018. The largest decennial percent change was a 45 percent increase between 1970 and 1980, accounting for just over one-fourth of the total numeric change. The 2018 Census estimate for Nelson was 730 residents, which ranked 205th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.



Cheshire County

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**Population Density and Land Area, 2018 (US Census Bureau):** 33.3 persons per square mile of land area. Nelson contains 22.0 square miles of land area and 1.4 square miles of inland water area.

| <b>MUNICIPAL SERVICES</b>                |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Type of Government                       | <b>Selectmen</b>      |
| Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2019   | <b>\$1,509,071</b>    |
| Budget: School Appropriations, 2019-2020 | <b>\$2,171,305</b>    |
| Zoning Ordinance                         | <b>1970/17</b>        |
| Master Plan                              | <b>2009</b>           |
| Capital Improvement Plan                 | <b>Yes</b>            |
| Industrial Plans Reviewed By             | <b>Planning Board</b> |

Boards and Commissions  
 Elected: **Selectmen; Planning; Zoning; Library; Cemetery; Highway Equip.; Fire & Rescue Equip.**  
 Appointed: **Conservation; Agricultural**

Public Library **Olivia Rodham Memorial**

| <b>EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>                |                 |                                  |
|--|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Police Department                        |                 | <b>Part-time</b>                 |
| Fire Department                          |                 | <b>Part-time &amp; volunteer</b> |
| Emergency Medical Service                |                 | <b>Volunteer</b>                 |
| Nearest Hospital(s)                      | Distance        | Staffed Beds                     |
| <b>Cheshire Medical Center, Keene</b>    | <b>11 miles</b> | <b>98</b>                        |
| <b>Monadnock Community, Peterborough</b> | <b>20 miles</b> | <b>25</b>                        |

| <b>UTILITIES</b>                     |             |                          |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Electric Supplier                    |             | <b>Eversource Energy</b> |
| Natural Gas Supplier                 |             | <b>None</b>              |
| Water Supplier                       |             | <b>Private wells</b>     |
| Sanitation                           |             | <b>Private septic</b>    |
| Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant |             | <b>No</b>                |
| Solid Waste Disposal                 |             |                          |
| Curbside Trash Pickup                |             | <b>Private</b>           |
| Pay-As-You-Throw Program             |             | <b>Yes</b>               |
| Recycling Program                    |             | <b>None</b>              |
| Telephone Company                    |             | <b>Fairpoint</b>         |
| Cellular Telephone Access            |             | <b>Limited</b>           |
| Cable Television Access              |             | <b>Yes</b>               |
| Public Access Television Station     |             | <b>No</b>                |
| High Speed Internet Service:         | Business    | <b>Yes</b>               |
|                                      | Residential | <b>Yes</b>               |

| <b>PROPERTY TAXES</b> (NH Dept. of Revenue Administration) |                |
|--|----------------|
| 2018 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)                  | <b>\$18.50</b> |
| 2018 Equalization Ratio                                    | <b>100.2</b>   |
| 2018 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)             | <b>\$18.62</b> |
| 2018 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type  |                |
| Residential Land and Buildings                             | <b>95.1%</b>   |
| Commercial Land and Buildings                              | <b>2.5%</b>    |
| Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other                   | <b>2.7%</b>    |

| <b>HOUSING</b> (ACS 2014-2018)            |            |
|---|------------|
| Total Housing Units                       | <b>459</b> |
| Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached | <b>409</b> |
| Units in Multiple-Family Structures:      |            |
| Two to Four Units in Structure            | <b>37</b>  |
| Five or More Units in Structure           | <b>0</b>   |
| Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units      | <b>13</b>  |

| <b>POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECENNIAL)</b> |            | (US Census Bureau) |  |
|--|------------|--------------------|--|
| Total Population                               | Community  | County             |  |
| 2018   | <b>730</b> | <b>76,493</b>      |  |
| 2010   | <b>729</b> | <b>77,117</b>      |  |
| 2000   | <b>635</b> | <b>73,993</b>      |  |
| 1990   | <b>536</b> | <b>70,223</b>      |  |
| 1980   | <b>442</b> | <b>62,116</b>      |  |
| 1970   | <b>304</b> | <b>52,364</b>      |  |

| <b>DEMOGRAPHICS</b> AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) 2014-2018 |            |        |                   |
|---|------------|--------|-------------------|
| Population by Gender  |            |        |                   |
| Male  | <b>328</b> | Female | <b>293</b>        |
| Population by Age Group                                       |            |        |                   |
| Under age 5   |            |        | <b>41</b>         |
| Age 5 to 19   |            |        | <b>83</b>         |
| Age 20 to 34  |            |        | <b>106</b>        |
| Age 35 to 54  |            |        | <b>114</b>        |
| Age 55 to 64  |            |        | <b>138</b>        |
| Age 65 and over   |            |        | <b>139</b>        |
| Median Age  |            |        | <b>50.2 years</b> |
| Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over          |            |        |                   |
| High school graduate or higher                                |            |        | <b>98.3%</b>      |
| Bachelor's degree or higher                                   |            |        | <b>52.5%</b>      |

| <b>INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$</b>           |  | (ACS 2014-2018) |                 |
|--|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Per capita income                              |  |                 | <b>\$42,271</b> |
| Median family income                           |  |                 | <b>\$92,500</b> |
| Median household income                        |  |                 | <b>\$78,000</b> |
| Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers |  |                 |                 |
| Male   |  |                 | <b>\$49,375</b> |
| Female   |  |                 | <b>\$51,042</b> |
| Individuals below the poverty level            |  |                 | <b>13.0%</b>    |

| <b>LABOR FORCE</b> (NHES – ELMII) |             |             |  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| Annual Average                    | 2008        | 2018        |  |
| Civilian labor force              | <b>389</b>  | <b>432</b>  |  |
| Employed                          | <b>378</b>  | <b>425</b>  |  |
| Unemployed                        | <b>11</b>   | <b>7</b>    |  |
| Unemployment rate                 | <b>2.8%</b> | <b>1.6%</b> |  |

| <b>EMPLOYMENT &amp; WAGES</b> (NHES – ELMII)           |               |               |  |
|--|---------------|---------------|--|
| Annual Average Covered Employment                      | 2008          | 2018          |  |
| Goods Producing Industries                             |               |               |  |
| Average Employment                                     | n             | <b>8</b>      |  |
| Average Weekly Wage                                    | n             | <b>\$ 687</b> |  |
| Service Providing Industries                           |               |               |  |
| Average Employment                                     | n             | <b>17</b>     |  |
| Average Weekly Wage                                    | n             | <b>\$ 837</b> |  |
| Total Private Industry                                 |               |               |  |
| Average Employment                                     | <b>14</b>     | <b>25</b>     |  |
| Average Weekly Wage                                    | <b>\$ 684</b> | <b>\$ 786</b> |  |
| Government (Federal, State, and Local)                 |               |               |  |
| Average Employment                                     | <b>33</b>     | <b>20</b>     |  |
| Average Weekly Wage                                    | <b>\$ 380</b> | <b>\$ 525</b> |  |
| Total, Private Industry plus Government                |               |               |  |
| Average Employment                                     | <b>47</b>     | <b>45</b>     |  |
| Average Weekly Wage                                    | <b>\$ 471</b> | <b>\$ 672</b> |  |
| If "n" appears, data do not meet disclosure standards. |               |               |  |

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: **Nelson operates grades K-6; grades 7-12 are tuitioned to Keene** District: **SAU 29**  
 Career Technology Center(s): **Cheshire Career Center (Keene); Fall Mountain RHS - CTE** Region: **13**

| Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools) | Elementary | Middle/Junior High | High School | Private/Parochial |
|---|------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Number of Schools                                 | 1          |                    |             |                   |
| Grade Levels                                      | K 1-5      |                    |             |                   |
| Total Enrollment                                  | 74         |                    |             |                   |

Nearest Community College: **River Valley; Nashua**

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

2020 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: **0** Total Capacity: **0**

| LARGEST BUSINESSES | PRODUCT/SERVICE | EMPLOYEES | ESTABLISHED |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------|
| Not Available      |                 |           |             |

## Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

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

|  |  |                          |                          |
|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Road Access                                  | US Routes                                    |                          |                          |
|  | State Routes                                 |                          | <b>9, 123</b>            |
| Nearest Interstate, Exit                     |  | <b>I-91 (VT), Exit 3</b> |                          |
|  | Distance                                     |                          | <b>28 miles</b>          |
| Railroad                                     |  |                          | <b>No</b>                |
| Public Transportation                        |  |                          | <b>No</b>                |
| Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation |  |                          |                          |
|  | <b>Dillant-Hopkins, Swanzey</b>              | Runway                   | <b>6,201 ft. asphalt</b> |
|  | Lighted?                                     | Navigation Aids?         | <b>Yes</b>               |
| Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service       |  |                          |                          |
|  | <b>Manchester-Boston Regional</b>            | Distance                 | <b>48 miles</b>          |
|  | Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport |                          | <b>4</b>                 |
| Driving distance to select cities:           |  |                          |                          |
|  | Manchester, NH                               |                          | <b>58 miles</b>          |
|  | Portland, Maine                              |                          | <b>150 miles</b>         |
|  | Boston, Mass.                                |                          | <b>87 miles</b>          |
|  | New York City, NY                            |                          | <b>233 miles</b>         |
|  | Montreal, Quebec                             |                          | <b>252 miles</b>         |

**COMMUTING TO WORK** (*ACS 2014-2018*)

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Workers 16 years and over                          |                     |
| Drove alone, car/truck/van                         | <b>84.4%</b>        |
| Carpooled, car/truck/van                           | <b>5.7%</b>         |
| Public transportation                              | <b>0.0%</b>         |
| Walked   | <b>1.9%</b>         |
| Other means  | <b>7.9%</b>         |
| Worked at home                                     | <b>7.9%</b>         |
| Mean Travel Time to Work                           | <b>33.3 minutes</b> |
| <b>Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2014-2018</b> |                     |
| Working in community of residence                  | <b>12.7</b>         |
| Commuting to another NH community                  | <b>77.1</b>         |
| Commuting out-of-state                             | <b>10.2</b>         |

**RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS**

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>X</b> | 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   |
| <b>X</b> | Performing Arts Facilities  |
|          | Tourist Attractions   |
| <b>X</b> | Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)   |
| <b>X</b> | Youth Sports: Baseball  |
| <b>X</b> | Youth Sports: Soccer  |
|          | Youth Sports: Football  |
|          | Youth Sports: Basketball  |
|          | Youth Sports: Hockey  |
|          | Campgrounds   |
| <b>X</b> | Fishing/Hunting   |
| <b>X</b> | Boating/Marinas   |
| <b>X</b> | Snowmobile Trails   |
|          | Bicycle Trails  |
|          | Cross Country Skiing  |
| <b>X</b> | Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area   |
|          | Overnight or Day Camps  |
|          | Nearest Ski Area(s): <b>Pat's Peak, Granite Gorge</b>   |
|          | Other: <b>Boat Landing; Monadnock Sunapee Trail; Local Artisans Art Gallery; Sucker Brook Cove Wildlife Sanctuary</b> |