# Portsmouth, NH

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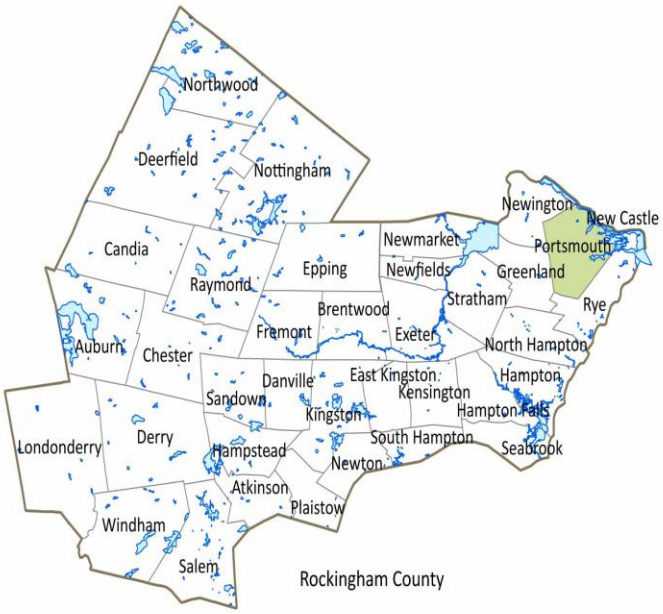
|---|---|
| Community Contact | **Portsmouth Economic Development Commission**<br>**Nancy Carmer, Economic Development Program Manager**<br>**1 Junkins Avenue**<br>**Portsmouth, NH 03801** |
| Telephone | **(603) 610-7220** |
| Fax | **(603) 427-1593** |
| E-mail | **nmcarmer@cityofportsmouth.com** |
| Web Site | **http://cityofportsmouth.com** |
| Municipal Office Hours | **Monday, 8 am - 6 pm, Tuesday through Thursday, 8 am - 4:30 pm, Friday, 8 am - 1 pm** |
| County | **Rockingham** |
| Labor Market Area | **Portsmouth, NH-ME Metropolitan NECTA** |
| Tourism Region | **Seacoast** |
| Planning Commission | **Rockingham** |
| Regional Development | **Coastal Economic Development Corp.** |
| Election Districts | |
| US Congress | **District 1 (All Wards)** |
| Executive Council | **District 3 (All Wards)** |
| State Senate | **District 21 (All Wards)** |
| State Representative | **Rockingham County Districts 25, 30 (Ward 1) 26, 30 (Ward 2) 27, 31 (Ward 3) 28, 30 (Ward 4) 29,30 (Ward 5)** |

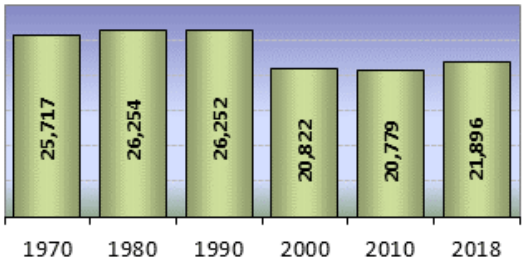
**Incorporated:** 1631

**Origin:** This territory was a part of the original land grant to John Mason and Francisco Gorges in 1622. A township grant was issued by the council of Plymouth (MA) in 1631 which covered what is now Portsmouth and the harbor, Greenland, Rye, New Castle, and Newington. First called Piscataqua, the settlement became known as Strawberry Banke because of the wild strawberries that were found there. The name Portsmouth was adopted in 1653 to honor John Mason, Captain of the Port in Portsmouth, England, and because it was a good harbor situated at the river's mouth. Already an important center of trade and shipping, Portsmouth became capitol of the province of New Hampshire in 1679, and was incorporated as a city in 1849.

**Villages and Place Names:** Atlantic Heights, Christian Shore, Creek Area, Elwyn Park, Meadowbrook, Pannaway Manor, Portsmouth Plains, Haymarket Square, Sagamore Hill, Strawbery Banke, the Woodlands

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 4,720 residents in 1790




**Population Trends:** Population change decreased for Portsmouth by 5,004 over 58 years, from 26,900 in 1960 down to 21,896 in 2018. The largest decennial percent change was a 2 percent increase between 1970 and 1980; population declined by 21 percent between 1990 and 2000. The 2018 Census estimate for Portsmouth was 21,896 residents, which ranked 13th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

**Population Density and Land Area, 2018** *(US Census Bureau)***:** 1,396.4 persons per square mile of land area, the third highest among the cities and towns. Portsmouth contains 15.7 square miles of land area and 1.1 square miles of inland water area.



All information regarding the communities is from sources deemed reliable and is submitted subject to errors, omissions, modifications, and withdrawals without notice. No warranty or representation is made as to the accuracy of the information contained herein. Specific questions regarding individual cities and towns should be directed to the community contact.

## Municipal Services

| | |
|---|---|
| Type of Government | **City Manager & Council** |
| Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 19 | **$64,922,957** |
| Budget: School Appropriations, 2018-2019 | **$48,036,136** |
| Zoning Ordinance | **1927/05** |
| Master Plan | **2017** |
| Capital Improvement Plan | **Yes** |
| Industrial Plans Reviewed By | **Planning Department** |

Boards and Commissions

Elected: **City Council; School; Police; Fire**

Appointed: **Please visit http://cityofportsmouth.com, for a list of boards & committees to which citizens may be appointed.**

Public Library **Portsmouth Athenaeum; Portsmouth Public**

## Emergency Services

| | |
|---|---|
| Police Department | **Full-time** |
| Fire Department | **Municipal** |
| Emergency Medical Service | **Full & part-time** |

| Nearest Hospital(s) | Distance | Staffed Beds |
|---|---|---|
| **Portsmouth Regional, Portsmouth** | **Local** | **209** |

## Utilities

| | |
|---|---|
| Electric Supplier | **Eversource Energy** |
| Natural Gas Supplier | **Unitil** |
| Water Supplier | **Portsmouth Water Department** |
| Sanitation | **Municipal** |
| Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant | **Yes** |
| Solid Waste Disposal | |
| Curbside Trash Pickup | **Municipal** |
| 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 | **Yes** |
| Residential | **Yes** |

## Property Taxes *(NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)*

| | |
|---|---|
| 2018 Total Tax Rate (per $1000 of value) | **$15.38** |
| 2018 Equalization Ratio | **96.0** |
| 2018 Full Value Tax Rate (per $1000 of value) | **$14.42** |

2018 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type

| | |
|---|---|
| Residential Land and Buildings | **56.9%** |
| Commercial Land and Buildings | **39.4%** |
| Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other | **4.6%** |

## Housing *(ACS 2014-2018)*

| | |
|---|---|
| Total Housing Units | **10,359** |
| Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached | **5,145** |
| Units in Multiple-Family Structures: | |
| Two to Four Units in Structure | **1,958** |
| Five or More Units in Structure | **2,982** |
| Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units | **274** |

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

| Total Population | Community | County |
|---|---|---|
| 2018 | **21,896** | **309,176** |
| 2010 | **20,779** | **295,223** |
| 2000 | **20,822** | **278,748** |
| 1990 | **26,252** | **246,744** |
| 1980 | **26,254** | **190,345** |
| 1970 | **25,717** | **138,951** |

## Demographics — American Community Survey *(ACS) 2014-2018*

Population by Gender

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Male | **10,758** | Female | **11,020** |

Population by Age Group

| | |
|---|---|
| Under age 5 | **864** |
| Age 5 to 19 | **2,970** |
| Age 20 to 34 | **5,631** |
| Age 35 to 54 | **5,864** |
| Age 55 to 64 | **2,497** |
| Age 65 and over | **3,952** |
| Median Age | **40.3 years** |

Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over

| | |
|---|---|
| High school graduate or higher | **95.3%** |
| Bachelor's degree or higher | **56.4%** |

## Income, Inflation Adjusted $ *(ACS 2014-2018)*

| | |
|---|---|
| Per capita income | **$50,351** |
| Median family income | **$105,821** |
| Median household income | **$78,027** |

Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers

| | |
|---|---|
| Male | **$66,932** |
| Female | **$52,977** |

| | |
|---|---|
| Individuals below the poverty level | **6.1%** |

## Labor Force *(NHES – ELMI)*

| Annual Average | 2008 | 2018 |
|---|---|---|
| Civilian labor force | **13,334** | **14,061** |
| Employed | **12,892** | **13,783** |
| Unemployed | **442** | **278** |
| Unemployment rate | **3.3%** | **2.0%** |

## Employment & Wages *(NHES – ELMI)*

| Annual Average Covered Employment | 2008 | 2018 |
|---|---|---|
| Goods Producing Industries | | |
| Average Employment | **2,789** | **2,869** |
| Average Weekly Wage | **$1,192** | **$1,538** |
| Service Providing Industries | | |
| Average Employment | **23,611** | **28,313** |
| Average Weekly Wage | **$ 986** | **$1,304** |
| Total Private Industry | | |
| Average Employment | **26,400** | **31,182** |
| Average Weekly Wage | **$1,008** | **$1,326** |
| Government (Federal, State, and Local) | | |
| Average Employment | **1,855** | **1,922** |
| Average Weekly Wage | **$ 951** | **$1,090** |
| Total, Private Industry plus Government | | |
| Average Employment | **28,254** | **33,104** |
| Average Weekly Wage | **$1,004** | **$1,312** |

## Education and Child Care

Schools students attend: **Portsmouth operates grades K-12** District: **SAU 52**
Career Technology Center(s): **Portsmouth Career Technical Center #19** Region: **19**

| Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools) | Elementary | Middle/Junior High | High School | Private/Parochial |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number of Schools | **4** | **1** | **1** | **1** |
| Grade Levels | **P K 1-5** | **6-8** | **9-12** | **P K 1-8** |
| Total Enrollment | **1,013** | **531** | **1,128** | **169** |

Nearest Community College: **Great Bay**
Nearest Colleges or Universities: **University of NH**

2020 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: **18** Total Capacity: **1,274**

| Largest Businesses | Product/Service | Employees | Established |
|---|---|---|---|
| Portsmouth Consular Center, US Dept of State | Passport, visa services | 1,601 | |
| HCA Portsmouth Regional Hospital | Health care services | 1,000 | 1987 |
| Liberty Mutual Insurance | Insurance services | 1,000 | 1969 |
| Lonza Biologies | Biopharma | 950 | |
| City of Portsmouth | Municipal services | 712 | |
| Bottomline Technologies | Finance software | 450 | |
| Amadeus | Hospitality/Event software | 420 | |
| John Hancock | Financial services | 400 | |
| High Liner Foods | Seafood production | 394 | |
| Service Credit Union | Banking services | 317 | |

Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

## Transportation *(distances estimated from city/town hall)*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Road Access | US Routes | **1, 4** |
| | State Routes | **1A, 1B, 16, 33, 1 Bypass** |
| Nearest Interstate, Exit | | **I-95, Exits 3 - 7** |
| | Distance | **Local access** |
| Railroad | | **Guilford Rail Service** |
| Public Transportation | | **COAST; Wildcat Transit** |

Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation
**Pease International** Runway **11,321 ft. asphalt/concrete**
Lighted? **Yes** Navigation Aids? **Yes**

Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service
**Manchester-Boston Regional** Distance **48 miles**
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport **4**

Driving distance to select cities:

| | |
|---|---|
| Manchester, NH | **46 miles** |
| Portland, Maine | **52 miles** |
| Boston, Mass. | **57 miles** |
| New York City, NY | **268 miles** |
| Montreal, Quebec | **302 miles** |

## Commuting to Work *(ACS 2014-2018)*

| | |
|---|---|
| Workers 16 years and over | |
| Drove alone, car/truck/van | **74.7%** |
| Carpooled, car/truck/van | **7.0%** |
| Public transportation | **1.6%** |
| Walked | **7.0%** |
| Other means | **9.7%** |
| Worked at home | **8.2%** |
| Mean Travel Time to Work | **21.6 minutes** |

**Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2014-2018**

| | |
|---|---|
| Working in community of residence | **51.3** |
| Commuting to another NH community | **34.9** |
| Commuting out-of-state | **13.8** |

## Recreation, Attractions, and Events

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

Nearest Ski Area(s): **Gunstock**

Other: **Outdoor Ice Skating Rink; Strawbery Banke; Harbor & Isles of Shoals Cruises; Historic Homes; Fish Pier; Trolley; Sailing; Kayaking; Music Festival; Shopping; History Tours; Market Square Day; First Night; Seafood, Chili, and NH Film Festivals**