Portsmouth, NH

Community Contact
Portsmouth Economic Development Commission
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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 capita 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, Strawberry 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.
### 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

### Emergency Services

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

### Nearest Hospital(s)

- **Portsmouth Regional, Portsmouth**

### 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
- **Fairpoint**: Telephone Company
- **Yes**: Cellular Telephone Access
- **Yes**: Cable Television Access
- **Yes**: Public Access Television Station
- **Business**: High Speed Internet Service
- **Residential**: Yes

### Property Taxes

- **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

### Property Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential Land and Buildings</td>
<td>56.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Land and Buildings</td>
<td>39.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Housing

- **2018 Total Housing Units**: 10,359
- **Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached**: 5,145
- **Units in Multiple-Family Structures**: 2,982
  - **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)

- **Total Population**: 21,896
- **Community**: 309,176
- **County**: 190,345

### Demographics

- **Population by Gender**
  - Male: 10,758
  - Female: 11,020

### Income, Inflation Adjusted $

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per capita income</td>
<td>$50,351</td>
<td>$52,977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median family income</td>
<td>$105,821</td>
<td>$108,503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median household income</td>
<td>$78,027</td>
<td>$80,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers</td>
<td>$66,932</td>
<td>$67,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>$66,932</td>
<td>$67,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>$52,977</td>
<td>$54,977</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over

- **High school graduate or higher**: 95.3%
- **Bachelor’s degree or higher**: 56.4%

### Labor Force

- **Annual Average**
  - 2008: 12,892
  - 2018: 13,783

- **Civilian labor force**
  - 2008: 13,334
  - 2018: 14,061

- **Employed**
  - 2008: 12,892
  - 2018: 13,783

- **Unemployed**
  - 2008: 442
  - 2018: 278

- **Unemployment rate**
  - 2008: 3.3%
  - 2018: 2.0%

### Employment & Wages

- **Annual Average Covered Employment**
  - 2008: 26,400
  - 2018: 27,898

- **Goods Producing Industries**
  - Average Employment: 2,789
  - Average Weekly Wage: $1,192

- **Service Providing Industries**
  - Average Employment: 23,611
  - Average Weekly Wage: $1,320

- **Total Private Industry**
  - Average Employment: 26,400
  - Average Weekly Wage: $1,008

- **Government (Federal, State, and Local)**
  - Average Employment: 1,855
  - Average Weekly Wage: $951

- **Total, Private Industry plus Government**
  - Average Employment: 28,254
  - Average Weekly Wage: $1,004

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Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, NH Employment Security, March 2020. Community Response Received 6/14/2018
EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE

Schools students attend: Portsmouth operates grades K-12
Career Technology Center(s): Portsmouth Career Technical Center #19

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)

<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>4</td>
<td>PK-1-5</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>PK 1-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollment</td>
<td>1,013</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>1,128</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRODUCT/SERVICE</th>
<th>EMPLOYEES</th>
<th>ESTABLISHED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Portsmouth Consular Center, US Dept of State</td>
<td>1,601</td>
<td>1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCA Portsmouth Regional Hospital</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Mutual Insurance</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lonza Biologies</td>
<td>950</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Portsmouth</td>
<td>712</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottomline Technologies</td>
<td>450</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amadeus</td>
<td>420</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hancock</td>
<td>400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Liner Foods</td>
<td>394</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Credit Union</td>
<td>317</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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; Strawberry 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