Swanzey, NH

Community Contact
Town of Swanzey
Michael Branley, Town Administrator
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Swanzey, NH 03446-0009

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Web Site www.swanzeynh.gov

Municipal Office Hours
Monday, 9:30 am - 6 pm, Tuesday through Thursday, 8:30 am - 5 pm, Friday, 7:30 am - 4 pm

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

Election Districts
District 2
District 5
District 10
Cheshire County Districts 12, 15

Incorporated: 1753

Origin: This town was one of the fort towns established by Governor Belcher of Massachusetts, and was first granted in 1734 as Lower Ashuelot to Captain Nathaniel Hammond and Ephraim Jones. In 1753, residents petitioned Governor Benning Wentworth for a grant under authority of the New Hampshire government, since they had settled and been making improvements for over 18 years. The town was chartered that year as Swanzey, the name being suggested by Governor Brenton of Rhode Island, who owned land at Brenton's Farm (Litchfield), and Swansea, Massachusetts. There are four covered bridges located in Swanzey: Carleton, Thompson, Slate, and Cresson.

Villages and Place Names: East Swanzey, West Swanzey, Westport, North Swanzey, Swanzey Center

Population, Year of the First Census Taken: 1,157 residents in 1790

Population Trends: Population change for Swanzey totaled 2,966 over 49 years, from 4,254 in 1970 to 7,220 in 2019. The largest decennial percent change was an increase of 22 percent between 1970 and 1980; the smallest, a six percent increase between 2000 and 2010. The 2019 Census estimate for Swanzey was 7,220 residents, which ranked 44th among New Hampshire’s incorporated cities and towns.

Population Density and Land Area, 2019 (US Census Bureau): 160.7 persons per square mile of land area. Swanzey contains 44.9 square miles of land area and 0.4 square miles of inland water area.
### Municipal Services

**Type of Government**
Selectmen

**Budget:**
- Municipal Appropriations, 2019: $6,452,432
- School Appropriations, 2019-2020: $15,710,758

**Zoning Ordinance**
1947/13

**Master Plan**
2006

**Capital Improvement Plan**
Yes

**Industrial Plans Reviewed By**
Planning Board

**Boards and Commissions**
- Elected: Selectmen; Planning; Zoning; Sewer; Library
- Appointed: Conservation; Swanzey Revenue; Economic Development; Open Space; Old Home Day; Recreation; Capital Improvement

**Public Library**
Mt. Caesar Union; Stratton Free

### Emergency Services

**Police Department**
Full-time

**Fire Department**
Full-time & On-Call

**Emergency Medical Service**
On-Call

**Nearest Hospital(s)**
- Distance: 6 miles
- Staffed Beds: 98
- Cheshire Medical Center, Keene

### Utilities

**Electric Supplier**
Eversource Energy

**Natural Gas Supplier**
None

**Water Supplier**
North Swanzey Fire Precinct; West Swanzey Water Co.

**Sanitation**
Private septic & municipal

**Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant**
Yes

**Solid Waste Disposal**
- Curbside Trash Pickup: Private
- 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: Limited
- Residential: Yes

### Property Taxes

*(NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)*
- 2019 Total Tax Rate (per $1000 of value): $25.76
- 2019 Equalization Ratio: 98.3
- 2019 Full Value Tax Rate (per $1000 of value): $24.85

**2019 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type**
- Residential Land and Buildings: 81.9%
- Commercial Land and Buildings: 14.1%
- Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other: 4.0%

### Housing

*(ACS 2015-2019)*
- Total Housing Units: 3,304
- Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached: 2,252
- Units in Multiple-Family Structures:
  - Two to Four Units in Structure: 276
  - Five or More Units in Structure: 446
- Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units: 330

### Population (1-Year Estimates/Decennial)

*(US Census Bureau)*
- Total Population:
  - Community: 7,220
  - County: 76,085
- Population by Gender:
  - Male: 3,584
  - Female: 3,615
- Population by Age Group:
  - Under age 5: 931
  - Age 5 to 19: 1,353
  - Age 20 to 34: 1,574
  - Age 35 to 54: 1,532
  - Age 55 to 64: 1,570
  - Age 65 and over: 50.0 years

### Demographics

*(American Community Survey (ACS) 2015-2019)*
- High school graduate or higher: 94.5%
- Bachelor’s degree or higher: 27.3%
- Per capita income:
  - 2019: $32,618
  - 2018: $32,822
- Median household income:
  - 2019: $65,019
  - 2018: $63,301
- Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers:
  - Male: $46,107
  - Female: $39,347
- Individuals below the poverty level: 4.6%

### Labor Force

*(NHES – ELM)*
- Annual Average:
  - Civilian labor force: 4,066
  - Employed: 3,832
  - Unemployed: 234
  - Unemployment rate: 5.8%

### Employment & Wages

*(NHES – ELM)*
- Annual Average Covered Employment:
  - 2019: 2,043
  - 2009: 1,673
- Goods Producing Industries:
  - Average Employment: 334
  - Average Weekly Wage: $690
- Service Providing Industries:
  - Average Employment: 946
  - Average Weekly Wage: $612
- Total Private Industry:
  - Average Employment: 1,280
  - Average Weekly Wage: $633

### Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, NH Employment Security, January 2021. Community Response Received 7/03/2019
EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE

Schools students attend: Grades K-12 are part of Monadnock Regional (Fitzwilliam, Gilsum, Richmond, Roxbury, Swanzey, Troy) District: SAU 93

Career Technology Center(s): Cheshire Career Center (Keene); Fall Mountain RHS - CTE Region: 13

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)  
Number of Schools 2  
Grade Levels PK 1-6  
Total Enrollment 545

Nearest Community College: River Valley
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: 3  Total Capacity: 61

LARGEST BUSINESSES  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRODUCT/SERVICE</th>
<th>EMPLOYEES</th>
<th>ESTABLISHED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monadnock Regional School District Education</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>1962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Basket Supermarket</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Swanzey Municipal services</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>1753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fenton Family Dealerships Automobile dealership</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Student Bus transportation</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nanotech Ultra-precision machining systems</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mold Pro Thermoplastic injection molding</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powers Generator Service, LLC Generator sales, service, installation</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keene Gas/Titan Propane Propane sales, service</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port-O-Lite Millwork</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1952</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

TRANSPORTATION (distances estimated from city/town hall)

Road Access  
US Routes  
State Routes 10, 12, 32

Nearest Interstate, Exit I-91 (VT), Exit 3  
Distance 20 miles

Railroad No  
Public Transportation No

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 60 miles  
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport 4

Driving distance to select cities:  
Manchester, NH 70 miles  
Portland, Maine 162 miles  
Boston, Mass. 98 miles  
New York City, NY 210 miles  
Montreal, Quebec 247 miles

COMMUTING TO WORK (ACS 2015-2019)

Workers 16 years and over  
Drove alone, car/truck/van 82.6%  
Carpooled, car/truck/van 7.2%  
Public transportation 0.0%  
Walked 2.0%  
Other means 7.8%  
Worked at home 5.6%  
Mean Travel Time to Work 19.4 minutes

Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2015-2019  
Working in community of residence 22.4  
Commuting to another NH community 72.0  
Commuting out-of-state 5.6

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

Nearest Ski Area(s): Granite Gorge

Other: Cheshire Fair; Covered Bridges; Old Home Day; Hiking trails; Summer Theatre; Band Concert Series