

Chester, NH



Community Contact

Town of Chester Planning Department
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Municipal Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 8 am - 4 pm: TClerk, TCollector:
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 8 am - 12:30 pm,
Tuesday, 8 am - 3:30 pm

County
 Labor Market Area
 Tourism Region
 Planning Commission
 Regional Development

Rockingham
Nashua, NH-MA NECTA Division
Merrimack Valley
Southern NH
Regional Economic Development Corp.

Election Districts

US Congress
 Executive Council
 State Senate
 State Representative

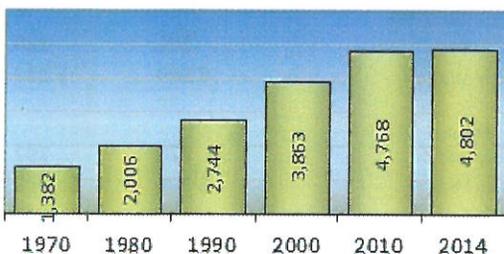
District 1
District 3
District 23
Rockingham County District 4

Incorporated: 1722

Origin: Chester was first known as the chestnut country, and may have been the first of the settlement grants by the Governor of Massachusetts in 1722 for expansion of New Hampshire's seacoast settlements. Many new settlers were from Hampton, Newbury, Kingston, and Portsmouth, which were considered overcrowded. Settlers were required to plant, build houses, lay out roads, and construct a church and schoolhouse, or they would forfeit the land. The name Chester apparently came from Cheshire County in England, whose county seat is Chester, and Earl of Chester is a title held by the Prince of Wales. The towns of Auburn, Candia, Derryfield (renamed Manchester), Hooksett, and Raymond were later formed from Chester's original 100 square mile grant.

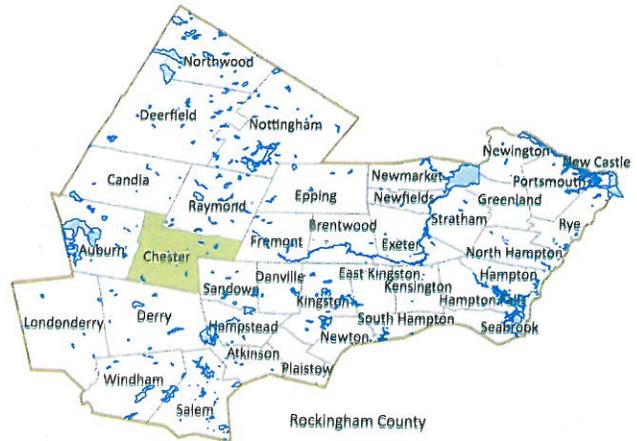
Villages and Place Names: North Chester

Population, Year of the First Census Taken: 1,902 residents in 1790



Population Trends: Population change for Chester totaled 3,749 over 54 years, from 1,053 in 1960 to 4,802 in 2014. The largest decennial percent change was a 45 percent increase between 1970 and 1980; the smallest, a 23 percent increase between 2000 and 2010. The 2014 Census estimate for Chester was 4,802 residents, which ranked 73rd among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

Population Density and Land Area, 2014 (US Census Bureau): 184.5 persons per square mile of land area. Chester contains 26.0 square miles of land area and 0.09 square miles of inland water area.



MUNICIPAL SERVICES	
Type of Government	Selectmen
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2016	\$5,563,315
Budget: School Appropriations, 2016	\$12,384,438
Zoning Ordinance	1960/16
Master Plan	2015
Capital Improvement Plan	Yes
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	Planning Board

Boards and Commissions	
Elected:	Selectmen; Library; Budget; Cemetary
Appointed:	Planning; Zoning; Conservation; Recreation; Agriculture

Public Library **Chester Public**

EMERGENCY SERVICES	
Police Department	Full-time
Fire Department	Full & part-time
Emergency Medical Service	Municipal
Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance Staffed Beds
Parkland Medical Center, Derry	7 miles 82
Elliot Hospital, Manchester	11 miles 266

UTILITIES	
Electric Supplier	Eversource Energy; NH Electric Coop
Natural Gas Supplier	None
Water Supplier	Private wells

Sanitation	
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	No
Solid Waste Disposal	
Curbside Trash Pickup	Private
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	No
Recycling Program	Mandatory

Telephone Company	Granite State; 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)	
2015 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	\$24.64
2015 Equalization Ratio	89.3
2015 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	\$22.17

2015 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	91.7%
Commercial Land and Buildings	2.1%
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	6.2%

HOUSING (ACS 2010-2014)	
Total Housing Units	1,635
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	1,564
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	22
Five or More Units in Structure	11
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	38

DEMOGRAPHICS		(US Census Bureau)
Total Population	Community	County
2014	4,802	297,702
2010	4,768	295,223
2000	3,863	278,748
1990	2,744	246,744
1980	2,006	190,345
1970	1,382	138,951

Demographics, American Community Survey (ACS) 2010-2014

Population by Gender			
Male	2,377	Female	2,425

Population by Age Group	
Under age 5	274
Age 5 to 19	1,072
Age 20 to 34	646
Age 35 to 54	1,651
Age 55 to 64	691
Age 65 and over	468
Median Age	42.8 years

Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over	
High school graduate or higher	95.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher	32.2%

INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$ (ACS 2010-2014)	
Per capita income	\$40,338
Median family income	\$114,359
Median household income	\$107,833

Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers	
Male	\$88,988
Female	\$50,938

Individuals below the poverty level	4.5%
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LABOR FORCE (NHES - ELMI)	
Annual Average	2005 2015
Civilian labor force	2,609 2,808
Employed	2,506 2,686
Unemployed	103 122
Unemployment rate	3.9% 4.3%

EMPLOYMENT & WAGES (NHES - ELMI)	
Annual Average Covered Employment	2004 2014
Goods Producing Industries	
Average Employment	77 72
Average Weekly Wage	\$1,036 \$1,010
Service Providing Industries	
Average Employment	201 125
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 580 \$ 999
Total Private Industry	
Average Employment	278 197
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 706 \$1,003
Government (Federal, State, and Local)	
Average Employment	159 150
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 472 \$ 642
Total, Private Industry plus Government	
Average Employment	437 347
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 621 \$ 847

EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE

Schools students attend: **Chester operates grades K-8; grades 9-12 are tuitioned to Pinkerton Academy (Derry)**
 Career Technology Center(s): **Pinkerton Academy Center for CTE**

District: **SAU 82**
 Region: **17**

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools	1			
Grade Levels	P K 1-8			
Total Enrollment	533			

Nearest Community College: **Manchester; Nashua**

Nearest Colleges or Universities: **New England; Mount Washington College; Southern NH University; UNH-Manchester**

2016 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: **4** Total Capacity: **81**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Busche Academy	Education	20	2016
G & P Pizzeria	Restaurant	20	1990
Stone Machine Co., Inc.	Machine shop	15	1980
Chster General Store	Convenience store	12	2014
MLM Construction	Residential construction	10	
Your Variety	Convenience store	10	
Bittersweet Blessings	Antique store	6	

Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

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

Road Access US Routes
 State Routes **102, 121, 121A**
 Nearest Interstate, Exit **I-93, Exit 4**
 Distance **8 miles**

Railroad **No**
 Public Transportation **CART**

Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation
Manchester-Boston Regional Runway **9,250 ft. asphalt**
 Lighted? **Yes** Navigation Aids? **Yes**

Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service
Manchester-Boston Regional Distance **15 miles**
 Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport **4**

Driving distance to select cities:
 Manchester, NH **14 miles**
 Portland, Maine **86 miles**
 Boston, Mass. **49 miles**
 New York City, NY **248 miles**
 Montreal, Quebec **268 miles**

COMMUTING TO WORK (*ACS 2010-2014*)

Workers 16 years and over
 Drove alone, car/truck/van **83.6%**
 Carpooled, car/truck/van **7.0%**
 Public transportation **0.3%**
 Walked **1.1%**
 Other means **1.8%**
 Worked at home **6.1%**
 Mean Travel Time to Work **36.2 minutes**

Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2010-2014

Working in community of residence **13.3**
 Commuting to another NH community **61.7**
 Commuting out-of-state **25.0**

RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS

- X** 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
- Performing Arts Facilities
- 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
- Campgrounds
- X** Fishing/Hunting
- X** Boating/Marinas
- Snowmobile Trails
- Bicycle Trails
- Cross Country Skiing
- X** Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
- X** Overnight or Day Camps

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

Other: