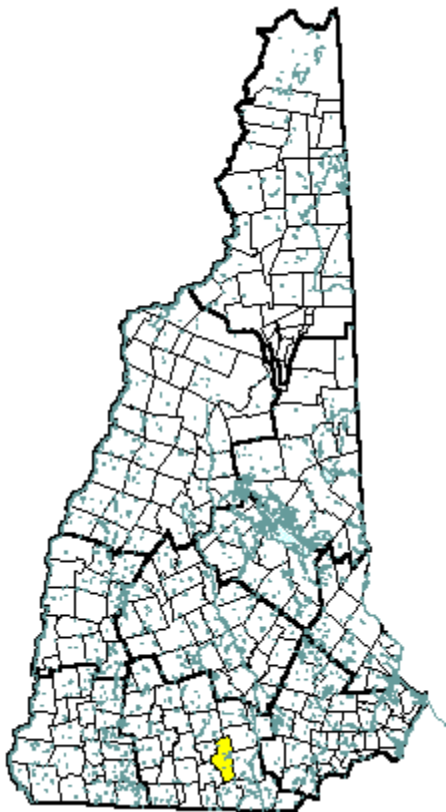


# Amherst, NH



## Community Contact

Amherst Board of Selectmen  
Bruce Bowler, Chairman  
PO Box 960  
Amherst, NH 03031

Telephone  
Fax  
E-mail  
Web Site

(603) 673-6041  
(603) 673-6794  
sfrydlo@amherstnh.gov  
www.amherstnh.gov

## Municipal Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 8 am - 4 pm; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 9 am - 3 pm, Tuesday, 9 am - 3 pm and 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

## County

Hillsborough

## Labor Market Area

Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion

## Tourism Region

Merrimack Valley

## Planning Commission

Nashua Regional

## Regional Development

Capital Regional Development Council

## Election Districts

US Congress  
Executive Council  
State Senate  
State Representative

District 2  
District 5  
District 11  
Hillsborough County District 6

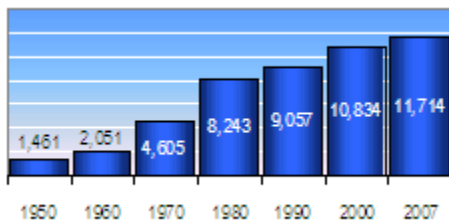
Incorporated: 1760

**Origin:** This area was first granted in 1728 as Narragansett Number 3, settled by the families of soldiers who had fought at Narragansett, Rhode Island. In 1760, the town was named Amherst in honor of Lord Jeffrey Amherst (1717-1797), commander-in-chief of the colonial forces in the French and Indian War. Amherst was the birthplace of Horace Greeley (1811-1872), founder of the New York Tribune, a founder of the Republican Party, and 1872 Presidential candidate. For a brief time, Amherst was the county seat for Hillsborough County.

**Villages and Place Names:** Cricket Corner, Ponemah, Baboosic Lake

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 2,369 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Amherst totaled 9,373 over 50 years, from 1,461 in 1950 to 10,834 in 2000. The largest decennial percent change was a 125 percent increase between 1960 and 1970, this was followed by a 79 percent increase between 1970 and 1980. The 2007 Census estimate for Amherst was 11,714 residents, which ranked 26th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.



**Population Density and Land Area** (NH Office of Energy & Planning): 341.1 persons per square mile of land area. Amherst contains 33.9 square miles of land area and 0.5 square miles of inland water area.

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Type of Government                        | Selectmen          |
| Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2008-09 | \$9,543,986        |
| Budget: School Appropriations,            | not available      |
| Zoning Ordinance                          | 1946/07            |
| Master Plan                               | Update in progress |
| Capital Improvement Plan                  | Yes                |
| Industrial Plans Reviewed By              | Planning Board     |

**Boards and Commissions**

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Elected:   | Selectmen; Cemetery; Library; Trust Funds; Zoning   |
| Appointed: | Planning; Communications Infrastructure; Conservation; Heritage; Historic District; Recreation; Road; Capital Improvement; Stormwater II; Solid Waste |

Public Library **Amherst Town****EMERGENCY SERVICES**

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Police Department                          | Full-time             |
| Fire Department                            | Full-time & volunteer |
| Town Fire Insurance Rating                 | 4/9                   |
| Emergency Medical Service                  | Volunteer             |
| Nearest Hospital(s)                        | Distance Staffed Beds |
| <b>Southern NH Medical Center, Nashua</b>  | <b>12 miles 188</b>   |
| <b>St. Joseph Hospital, Nashua</b>         | <b>13 miles 208</b>   |
| <b>Catholic Medical Center, Manchester</b> | <b>13 miles 330</b>   |

**UTILITIES**

|                                      |                        |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Electric Supplier                    | PSNH                   |
| Natural Gas Supplier                 | KeySpan                |
| Water Supplier                       | Pennichuck Water Works |
| Sanitation                           | Private septic         |
| Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant | No                     |
| Solid Waste Disposal                 |                        |
| Curbside Trash Pickup                | none                   |
| Pay-As-You-Throw Program             | No                     |
| Recycling Program                    | Voluntary              |
| Telephone Company                    | Fairpoint              |
| Cellular Telephone Access            | Yes                    |
| Cable Television Access              | Yes                    |
| Public Access Television Station     | Yes                    |
| High Speed Internet Service:         | Business Residential   |
|                                      | Yes Yes                |

**PROPERTY TAXES** *(NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)*

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| 2007 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)                 | \$19.47 |
| 2007 Equalization Ratio                                   | 98.5    |
| 2007 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)            | \$19.06 |
| 2007 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type |         |
| Residential Land and Buildings                            | 87.2%   |
| Commercial Land and Buildings                             | 11.5%   |
| Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other                  | 1.3%    |

**HOUSING SUPPLY** *(NH Office of Energy and Planning)*

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| 2007 Total Housing Units                 | 4,213 |
| 2007 Single-Family Units                 | 3,812 |
| Residential Permits, Net Change of Units | 25    |
| 2007 Multi-Family Units                  | 326   |
| Residential Permits, Net Change of Units | 16    |
| 2007 Manufactured Housing Units          | 75    |

**DEMOGRAPHICS***(US Census Bureau)*

|                  |           |         |
|------------------|-----------|---------|
| Total Population | Community | County  |
| 2007             | 11,714    | 402,302 |
| 2000             | 10,834    | 382,384 |
| 1990             | 9,057     | 336,549 |
| 1980             | 8,243     | 276,608 |
| 1970             | 4,605     | 223,941 |

**Census 2000 Demographics**

|                         |       |        |            |
|-------------------------|-------|--------|------------|
| Population by Gender    |       |        |            |
| Male                    | 5,418 | Female | 5,351      |
| Population by Age Group |       |        |            |
| Under age 5             |       |        | 664        |
| Age 5 to 19             |       |        | 2,996      |
| Age 20 to 34            |       |        | 1,057      |
| Age 35 to 54            |       |        | 4,150      |
| Age 55 to 64            |       |        | 1,118      |
| Age 65 and over         |       |        | 784        |
| Median Age              |       |        | 38.7 years |

**Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over**

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| High school graduate or higher | 96.2% |
| Bachelor's degree or higher    | 55.6% |

**ANNUAL INCOME, 1999***(US Census Bureau)*

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Per capita income                              | \$35,531 |
| Median 4-person family income                  | \$97,913 |
| Median household income                        | \$89,384 |
| Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers |          |
| Male   | \$73,432 |
| Female   | \$35,250 |
| Families below the poverty level               | 1.0%     |

**LABOR FORCE***(NHES - ELMI)*

|                      |       |       |
|----------------------|-------|-------|
| Annual Average       | 1997  | 2007  |
| Civilian labor force | 5,572 | 6,299 |
| Employed             | 5,437 | 6,109 |
| Unemployed           | 135   | 190   |
| Unemployment rate    | 2.4%  | 3.0%  |

**EMPLOYMENT & WAGES***(NHES - ELMI)*

|   |       |         |
|---|-------|---------|
| Annual Average Covered Employment       | 1997  | 2007    |
| Goods Producing Industries              |       |         |
| Average Employment                      | 972   | 992     |
| Average Weekly Wage                     | \$722 | \$1,002 |
| Service Providing Industries            |       |         |
| Average Employment                      | 2,339 | 3,122   |
| Average Weekly Wage                     | \$597 | \$771   |
| Total Private Industry                  |       |         |
| Average Employment                      | 3,311 | 4,113   |
| Average Weekly Wage                     | \$634 | \$827   |
| Government (Federal, State, and Local)  |       |         |
| Average Employment                      | 406   | 610     |
| Average Weekly Wage                     | \$628 | \$853   |
| Total, Private Industry plus Government |       |         |
| Average Employment                      | 3,717 | 4,723   |
| Average Weekly Wage                     | \$633 | \$830   |

n = indicates that data does not meet disclosure standards

## EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE

|  |   |                            |             |                   |
|--|---|----------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Schools students attend:                 | <b>Amherst operates grades K-8; grades 9-12 are part of Souhegan Cooperative (Amherst, Mont Vernon)</b> | District: <b>SAU 39</b>    |             |                   |
| Career Technology Center(s):             | <b>Wilbur Palmer Voc. Tech. Center, Hudson; Milford HS; Nashua HS North</b>                             | Region: <b>16</b>          |             |                   |
| Educational Facilities                   | Elementary  | Middle/Junior High         | High School | Private/Parochial |
| Number of Schools                        | <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b>                   | <b>1</b>    | <b>4</b>          |
| Grade Levels                             | <b>K 1-4</b>  | <b>5-8</b>                 | <b>9-12</b> | <b>K 1-12</b>     |
| Total Enrollment                         | <b>762</b>  | <b>814</b>                 | <b>960</b>  | <b>303</b>        |
| NH Licensed Child Care Facilities, 2008: | Total Facilities: <b>8</b>  | Total Capacity: <b>558</b> |             |                   |
| Nearest Community College:               | <b>Manchester; Nashua</b>   |                            |             |                   |
| Nearest Colleges or Universities:        | <b>St. Anselm; Rivier; Daniel Webster</b>   |                            |             |                   |

| LARGEST BUSINESSES       | PRODUCT/SERVICE                       | EMPLOYEES | ESTABLISHED |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Wal-Mart                 | Retail store                          | 200       | 1992        |
| H & M Metals, Inc.       | Steel metal fabrication               | 130       | 1970        |
| Diacom Corporation       | Fabric-elastomer diaphragms           | 93        | 1983        |
| Resin System Corporation | Custom cast thermoset plastic         | 52        | 1972        |
| Nashua Redimix           | Ready mixed concrete                  | 25        |             |
| Rontex America, Inc.     | Nonwoven fabrics                      | 23        | 1976        |
| Vibrac Corporation       | Torque test instruments               | 15        | 1971        |
| F W Webb                 | Plumbing & heating supply distributor |           |             |
| Lowe's                   | Home improvement center               |           |             |

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

|  |   |                           |
|--|---|---------------------------|
| Road Access                                  | US Routes                                   |                           |
|  | State Routes                                | <b>13, 101, 101A, 122</b> |
| Nearest Interstate, Exit                     | <b>Everett Tpk., Exit 11; I-293, Exit 4</b> |                           |
|  | Distance                                    | <b>9 miles; 12 miles</b>  |
| Railroad                                     | <b>Boston &amp; Maine</b>                   |                           |
| Public Transportation                        | <b>No</b>                                   |                           |
| Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation |   |                           |
| <b>Boire Field, Nashua</b>                   | Runway                                      | <b>5,501 ft. asphalt</b>  |
| Lighted? <b>Yes</b>                          | Navigation Aids?                            | <b>Yes</b>                |
| Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service       |   |                           |
| <b>Manchester-Boston Regional</b>            | Distance                                    | <b>15 miles</b>           |
| Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport |   | <b>8</b>                  |
| Driving distance to select cities:           |   |                           |
| Manchester, NH                               |   | <b>14 miles</b>           |
| Portland, Maine                              |   | <b>110 miles</b>          |
| Boston, Mass.                                |   | <b>55 miles</b>           |
| New York City, NY                            |   | <b>226 miles</b>          |
| Montreal, Quebec                             |   | <b>274 miles</b>          |

## COMMUTING TO WORK *(US Census Bureau)*

|                                   |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Workers 16 years and over         |                     |
| Drove alone, car/truck/van        | <b>82.5%</b>        |
| Carpooled, car/truck/van          | <b>7.1%</b>         |
| Public transportation             | <b>0.5%</b>         |
| Walked                            | <b>0.3%</b>         |
| Other means                       | <b>1.1%</b>         |
| Worked at home                    | <b>8.6%</b>         |
| Mean Travel Time to Work          | <b>29.3 minutes</b> |
| Percent of Working Residents:     |                     |
| Working in community of residence | <b>23%</b>          |
| Commuting to another NH community | <b>60%</b>          |
| Commuting out-of-state            | <b>17%</b>          |

## 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  |
|   | Museums   |
|   | Cinemas   |
|   | Performing Arts Facilities  |
|   | 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  |
|   | Youth Sports: Hockey  |
|   | Campgrounds   |
|   | Fishing/Hunting   |
|   | Boating/Marinas   |
|   | Snowmobile Trails   |
|   | Bicycle Trails  |
|   | Cross Country Skiing  |
| X | Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area   |
| X | Overnight or Day Camps  |
|   | Nearest Ski Area(s): <b>Pat's Peak</b>  |
|   | Other: <b>Swimming Lake; Youth Lacrosse; Ponemah Bog Sanctuary; Peabody Mill Environmental Center; Joe English Reservation; Hiking Trails</b> |