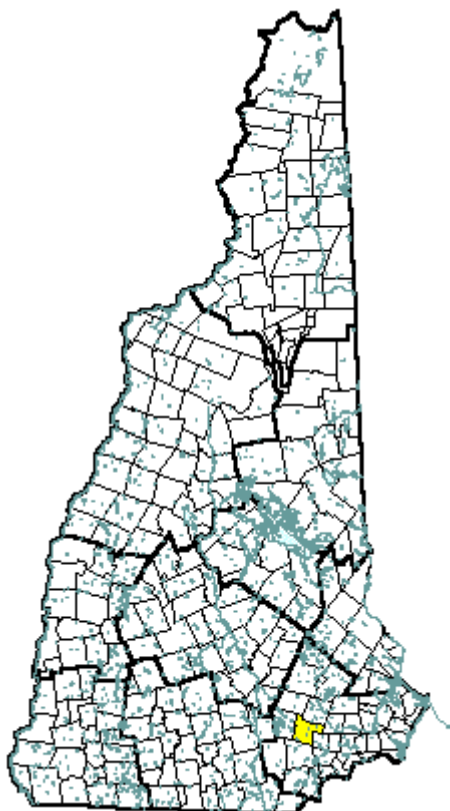


Chester, NH



Community Contact

Town of Chester Planning Department
 Cynthia Robinson, Planning Coordinator
 84 Chester St, Municipal Office Building
 Chester, NH 03036

Telephone
 Fax
 E-mail
 Web Site

(603) 887-5629
 (603) 887-4404
 chstrpl@gsinet.net
 www.chesternh.org

Municipal Office Hours

Monday through Friday 8 am - 4 pm: Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 8 am - 12:30 pm, and Tuesday, 8 am - 3:30 pm

County

Rockingham

Labor Market Area

Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion

Tourism Region

Merrimack Valley

Planning Commission

Southern NH

Regional Development

Rockingham Economic Development Corp.

Election Districts

US Congress
 Executive Council
 State Senate
 State Representative

District 1
 District 3
 District 17
 Rockingham County District 7

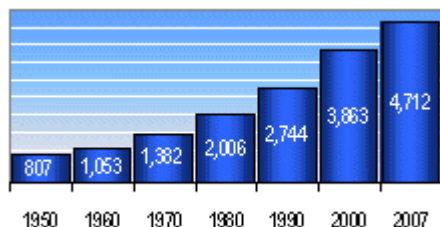
Incorporated: 1722

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 3,056 over 50 years, from 807 in 1950 to 3,863 in 2000. The largest decennial percent change was a 45 percent increase between 1970 and 1980; the smallest, a 30 percent increase between 1950 and 1960. The 2007 Census estimate for Chester was 4,712 residents, which ranked 75th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.



Population Density and Land Area (NH Office of Energy & Planning): 177.6 persons per square mile of land area. Chester contains 26.0 square miles of land area and 0.1 square miles of inland water area.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Type of Government	Selectmen
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2007	\$3,310,470
Budget: School Appropriations, 2007	\$10,527,464
Zoning Ordinance	1960/08
Master Plan	2006
Capital Improvement Plan	Yes
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	Planning Board

Boards and Commissions

Elected:	Selectmen; Library; Budget
Appointed:	Planning; Zoning; Conservation; Recreation

Public Library **Chester Public****EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Police Department	Full-time
Fire Department	Full & part-time
Town Fire Insurance Rating	9/10
Emergency Medical Service	Municipal
Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance Staffed Beds
Parkland Medical Center, Derry	7 miles 86
Elliot Hospital, Manchester	11 miles 296

UTILITIES

Electric Supplier	PSNH; NH Electric Coop
Natural Gas Supplier	None
Water Supplier	Private wells
Sanitation	Private septic
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)

2007 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	\$17.64
2007 Equalization Ratio	103.2
2007 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	\$18.06
2007 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	94.8%
Commercial Land and Buildings	2.0%
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	3.2%

HOUSING SUPPLY (NH Office of Energy and Planning)

2007 Total Housing Units	1,563
2007 Single-Family Units	1,408
Residential Permits, Net Change of Units	8
2007 Multi-Family Units	124
Residential Permits, Net Change of Units	0
2007 Manufactured Housing Units	31

DEMOGRAPHICS

(US Census Bureau)

Total Population	Community	County
2007	4,712	296,543
2000	3,863	278,748
1990	2,744	246,744
1980	2,006	190,345
1970	1,382	138,951

Census 2000 Demographics

Population by Gender		
Male	1,875	Female 1,917

Population by Age Group

Under age 5	315
Age 5 to 19	961
Age 20 to 34	564
Age 35 to 54	1,422
Age 55 to 64	300
Age 65 and over	230
Median Age	35.7 years

Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over

High school graduate or higher	92.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher	31.1%

ANNUAL INCOME, 1999

(US Census Bureau)

Per capita income	\$23,842
Median 4-person family income	\$75,092
Median household income	\$68,571
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers	
Male	\$44,056
Female	\$35,382
Families below the poverty level	3.4%

LABOR FORCE

(NHES - ELMI)

Annual Average	1997	2007
Civilian labor force	1,937	2,703
Employed	1,870	2,612
Unemployed	67	91
Unemployment rate	3.5%	3.4%

EMPLOYMENT & WAGES

(NHES - ELMI)

Annual Average Covered Employment	1997	2007
Goods Producing Industries		
Average Employment	78	95
Average Weekly Wage	\$529	\$991
Service Providing Industries		
Average Employment	155	170
Average Weekly Wage	\$493	\$729
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	234	266
Average Weekly Wage	\$505	\$823
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	87	187
Average Weekly Wage	\$365	\$518
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	320	452
Average Weekly Wage	\$467	\$697

n = indicates that data does not meet disclosure standards

EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE

Schools students attend: **Chester operates grades 1-8; grades 9-12 are tuitioned to Pinkerton Academy (Derry)** District: **SAU 14**

Career Technology Center(s): **Pinkerton Academy, Derry; Salem High School Vocational Center** Region: **17**

Educational Facilities	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools	1			
Grade Levels	P 1-8			
Total Enrollment	650			

NH Licensed Child Care Facilities, 2008: Total Facilities: 5 Total Capacity: **83**

Nearest Community College: **Manchester; Nashua**

Nearest Colleges or Universities: **Chester College of New England; Hesser; Southern NH University; UNH-Manchester**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Chester College of New England	Education	61	1967
Stone Machine Co., Inc.	Machine shop	15	1980

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		No
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		8
Driving distance to select cities:		
Manchester, NH		14 miles
Portland, Maine		86 miles
Boston, Mass.		49 miles
New York City, NY		253 miles
Montreal, Quebec		269 miles

COMMUTING TO WORK (*US Census Bureau*)

Workers 16 years and over	
Drove alone, car/truck/van	84.2%
Carpooled, car/truck/van	6.8%
Public transportation	1.2%
Walked	0.6%
Other means	0.0%
Worked at home	7.2%
Mean Travel Time to Work	32.2 minutes
Percent of Working Residents:	
Working in community of residence	16%
Commuting to another NH community	63%
Commuting out-of-state	21%

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: