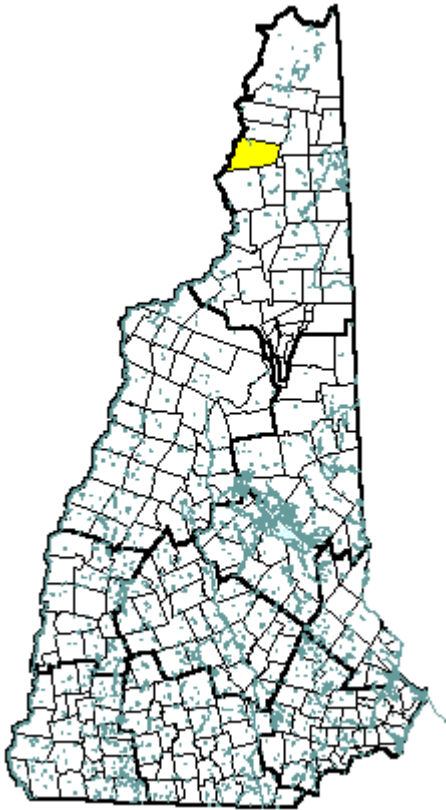


# Columbia, NH



## Community Contact

**Columbia Board of Selectmen**  
**Marcia Parkhurst, Secretary**  
 PO Box 157  
 Colebrook, NH 03576

Telephone  
 Fax  
 E-mail  
 Web Site

(603) 237-5255  
 (603) 237-8270  
 towncolumbia@verizon.net  
 not available

## Municipal Office Hours

**Monday and Wednesday, 10 am - 5 pm, Tuesday and Friday  
 8 am - 3 pm, closed Thursday**

## County

**Coos**

Labor Market Area  
 Tourism Region  
 Planning Commission  
 Regional Development

**Colebrook NH-VT LMA, NH Portion  
 Great North Woods  
 North Country Council  
 Coos Economic Development Corp.**

## Election Districts

US Congress  
 Executive Council  
 State Senate  
 State Representative

**District 2  
 District 1  
 District 1  
 Coos County District 1**

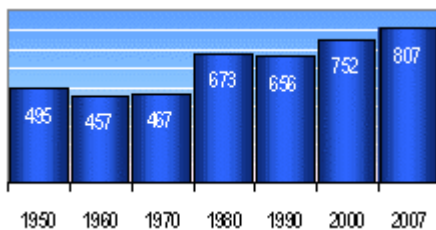
**Incorporated:** 1797

**Origin:** Columbia was first chartered in 1762, and named Preston for Richard Graham, Viscount Preston of Scotland. The original grantees were a group of members of the Society of Friends from Long Island. The town was regranted in 1770 due to grantees failing to meet the prescribed terms, and renamed Cockburntown, after Sir James Cockburn of Scotland, as was so incorporated in 1797. It kept that name until 1811, when Governor John Langdon renamed the town Columbia in the spirit of patriotism preceding the War of 1812.

**Villages and Place Names:** Bungy, Cones, Georges, Meriden Hill, Tinkerville

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 34 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Columbia totaled 257 over 50 years, from 495 in 1950 to 752 in 2000. The largest decennial percent change was a 44 percent increase between 1970 and 1980, a numeric increase of 206. The 2007 Census estimate for Columbia was 807 residents, which ranked 199th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.



**Population Density and Land Area** (NH Office of Energy & Planning): 13.8 persons per square mile of land area. Columbia contains 61.2 square miles of land area and 0.1 square miles of inland water area.



Coos County

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

Type of Government	<b>Selectmen</b>
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2006	<b>\$398,608</b>
Budget: School Appropriations, 2006	<b>\$1,374,228</b>
Zoning Ordinance	<b>1971/07</b>
Master Plan	<b>2007</b>
Capital Improvement Plan	<b>No</b>
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	<b>Planning Board</b>

## Boards and Commissions

Elected:	<b>Selectmen; Planning; School</b>
Appointed:	<b>Conservation</b>

Public Library **No Library****EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Police Department	<b>Part-time</b>	
Fire Department	<b>No</b>	
Town Fire Insurance Rating	<b>9/10</b>	
Emergency Medical Service	<b>Volunteer</b>	
Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds
<b>Upper Connecticut Valley, Colebrook</b>	<b>5 miles</b>	<b>16</b>

**UTILITIES**

Electric Supplier	<b>PSNH; NH Electric Coop</b>	
Natural Gas Supplier	<b>None</b>	
Water Supplier	<b>Private wells</b>	
Sanitation	<b>Private septic</b>	
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	<b>No</b>	
Solid Waste Disposal		
Curbside Trash Pickup	<b>Private</b>	
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	<b>No</b>	
Recycling Program	<b>Voluntary</b>	
Telephone Company	<b>Fairpoint</b>	
Cellular Telephone Access	<b>Limited</b>	
Cable Television Access	<b>Limited</b>	
Public Access Television Station	<b>No</b>	
High Speed Internet Service:	Business	<b>Limited</b>
	Residential	<b>Limited</b>

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

2007 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$15.25</b>
2007 Equalization Ratio	<b>109.4</b>
2007 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$16.28</b>
2007 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	<b>72.6%</b>
Commercial Land and Buildings	<b>4.1%</b>
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	<b>23.2%</b>

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

2007 Total Housing Units	<b>525</b>
2007 Single-Family Units	<b>402</b>
Residential Permits, Net Change of Units	<b>7</b>
2007 Multi-Family Units	<b>21</b>
Residential Permits, Net Change of Units	<b>0</b>
2007 Manufactured Housing Units	<b>102</b>

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

(US Census Bureau)

Total Population	Community	County
2007	<b>807</b>	<b>32,772</b>
2000	<b>752</b>	<b>33,156</b>
1990	<b>656</b>	<b>34,879</b>
1980	<b>673</b>	<b>35,014</b>
1970	<b>467</b>	<b>34,189</b>

**Census 2000 Demographics**

Population by Gender			
Male	<b>399</b>	Female	<b>351</b>
Population by Age Group			
Under age 5			<b>35</b>
Age 5 to 19			<b>158</b>
Age 20 to 34			<b>113</b>
Age 35 to 54			<b>242</b>
Age 55 to 64			<b>88</b>
Age 65 and over			<b>114</b>
Median Age			<b>42 years</b>

## Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over

High school graduate or higher	<b>72.8%</b>
Bachelor's degree or higher	<b>7.4%</b>

**ANNUAL INCOME, 1999**

(US Census Bureau)

Per capita income	<b>\$16,859</b>
Median 4-person family income	<b>\$42,143</b>
Median household income	<b>\$36,964</b>
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers	
Male	<b>\$27,604</b>
Female	<b>\$19,732</b>
Families below the poverty level	<b>4.0%</b>

**LABOR FORCE**

(NHES - ELMI)

Annual Average	1997	2007
Civilian labor force	<b>339</b>	<b>402</b>
Employed	<b>329</b>	<b>389</b>
Unemployed	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>
Unemployment rate	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>

**EMPLOYMENT & WAGES**

(NHES - ELMI)

Annual Average Covered Employment	1997	2007
Goods Producing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>8</b>	<b>47</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$486</b>	<b>\$770</b>
Service Providing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$239</b>
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	<b>8</b>	<b>56</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$486</b>	<b>\$686</b>
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$156</b>	<b>\$342</b>
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	<b>9</b>	<b>58</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$447</b>	<b>\$672</b>

n = indicates that data does not meet disclosure standards

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: **Grades K-12 are tuitioned to Colebrook** District: **SAU 7**  
 Career Technology Center(s): **None in Region 01** Region: **01**

Educational Facilities	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools				
Grade Levels				
Total Enrollment				

NH Licensed Child Care Facilities, 2008: Total Facilities: **0** Total Capacity: **0**

Nearest Community College: **White Mountains**  
 Nearest Colleges or Universities: **Granite State College-Berlin**

<b>LARGEST BUSINESSES</b>	<b>PRODUCT/SERVICE</b>	<b>EMPLOYEES</b>	<b>ESTABLISHED</b>
Bringston Tool & Die Co.	Machine shop		1966
Columbia Sand & Gravel, Inc.	Aggregate		
Blue Mountain Variety	Convenience store		
Columbia Home & Building Supply Inc	Retail sales of building supplies		

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

Road Access US Routes **3**  
 State Routes

Nearest Interstate, Exit **I-91 (VT), Exit 28; Aut-55 (QC), Exit 21**  
 Distance **45 miles; 46 miles**

Railroad **State owned line**  
 Public Transportation **No**

Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation  
**Gifford Field, Colebrook** Runway **2,440 ft. turf**  
 Lighted? **No** Navigation Aids? **No**

Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service  
**Portland (ME) International Jetport** Distance **139 miles**  
 Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport **7**

Driving distance to select cities:  
 Manchester, NH **145 miles**  
 Portland, Maine **138 miles**  
 Boston, Mass. **195 miles**  
 New York City, NY **374 miles**  
 Montreal, Quebec **141 miles**

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

Workers 16 years and over

Drove alone, car/truck/van	<b>69.9%</b>
Carpooled, car/truck/van	<b>15.7%</b>
Public transportation	<b>0.0%</b>
Walked	<b>3.5%</b>
Other means	<b>6.2%</b>
Worked at home	<b>4.6%</b>

Mean Travel Time to Work **23.4 minutes**

Percent of Working Residents:  
 Working in community of residence **23%**  
 Commuting to another NH community **59%**  
 Commuting out-of-state **18%**

**RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS**

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  
 Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)  
 Youth Sports: Baseball  
 Youth Sports: Soccer  
 Youth Sports: Football  
 Youth Sports: Basketball  
 Youth Sports: Hockey  
 Campgrounds  
 X Fishing/Hunting  
 Boating/Marinas  
 X Snowmobile Trails  
 Bicycle Trails  
 Cross Country Skiing  
 Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area  
 Overnight or Day Camps  
 Nearest Ski Area(s): **Balsams Wilderness**  
 Other: **Camps**