

# Rye, NH

## Community Contact

**Town of Rye**  
**Alan Gould, Town Administrator**  
 10 Central Road  
 Rye, NH 03870

Telephone  
 Fax  
 E-mail  
 Web Site

(603) 964-5523  
 (603) 964-1516  
 nancyw@town.rye.nh.us  
 www.town.rye.nh.us/

## Municipal Office Hours

**Monday through Thursday, 8 am - 4:30 pm, and Friday,  
 8 am - 12 noon**

County  
 Labor Market Area  
 Tourism Region  
 Planning Commission  
 Regional Development

**Rockingham**  
**Portsmouth NH-ME Metro-NECTA, NH Portion**  
**Seacoast**  
**Rockingham**  
**Coastal Economic Development Corp.**

## Election Districts

US Congress  
 Executive Council  
 State Senate  
 State Representative

**District 1**  
**District 3**  
**District 24**  
**Rockingham County District 18**

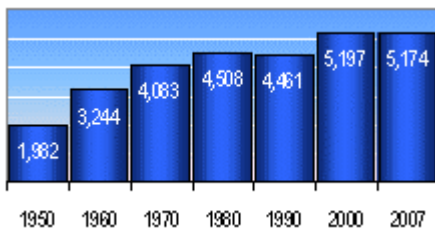
**Incorporated:** 1726

**Origin:** Rye was the site of the first settlement in New Hampshire, established by David Thompson in 1623 at Odiorne's Point, which he called Pannaway. This township was originally part of Portsmouth called Sandy Beach, and it was incorporated as a parish of New Castle in 1693 when that town separated from Portsmouth. In 1726 it was separated from New Castle, and incorporated as Rye, after the borough of Rye, a flourishing English Channel town. Rye's eight-mile length of coastline is dotted with old names such as Wallis Sands, Jenness Beach, Locke's Neck, Ragged Neck, Rye Harbor, and Odiorne Point. In 1876, the thriving village of Gosport on Star Island in the Isles of Shoals was annexed to the town. Rye is the only New Hampshire town with Atlantic islands, having annexed four of the Isles of Shoals; the remaining five islands belong to Maine.

**Villages and Place Names:** Jenness Beach, Odiorne Point, Foyes Corner, Langs Corner, Rye Beach, Rye Harbor, Rye North Beach, Wallis Sands, West Rye, Foss Beach



**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 958 residents in 1790



**Population Trends:** Population change for Rye totaled 3,215 over 50 years, from 1,982 in 1950 to 5,197 in 2000. The largest decennial percent change was 64 percent increase between 1950 and 1960; the smallest, a decline of one percent between 1980 and 1990. The 2007 Census estimate for Rye was 5,174 residents, which ranked 62nd among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

**Population Density and Land Area (NH Office of Energy & Planning):** 410.4 persons per square mile of land area. Rye contains 12.6 square miles of land area and 0.5 square miles of inland water area.

Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, NH Employment Security, 2008. Community Response Received **08/18/08**

All information regarding the communities is from sources deemed reliable and is submitted subject to errors, omissions, modifications, and withdrawals without notice. No warranty or representation is made as to the accuracy of the information contained herein. Specific questions regarding individual cities and towns should be directed to the community contact.

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

Type of Government	<b>Selectmen</b>
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2007	<b>\$7,321,369</b>
Budget: School Appropriations,	<b>not available</b>
Zoning Ordinance	<b>1953/07</b>
Master Plan	<b>2006</b>
Capital Improvement Plan	<b>Yes</b>
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	<b>Planning Board</b>

## Boards and Commissions

Elected:	<b>Selectmen; Planning; Budget</b>
Appointed:	<b>Zoning; Conservation; Historic District; Mosquito</b>

Public Library **Rye Public****EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Police Department	<b>Full &amp; part-time</b>
Fire Department	<b>Full &amp; part-time</b>
Town Fire Insurance Rating	<b>5</b>
Emergency Medical Service	<b>Municipal</b>
Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance Staffed Beds
<b>Portsmouth Regional, Portsmouth</b>	<b>6 miles 209</b>

**UTILITIES**

Electric Supplier	<b>PSNH</b>
Natural Gas Supplier	<b>None</b>
Water Supplier	<b>Rye Water District; Acquarion Water</b>
Sanitation	<b>Rye Sewer Commission &amp; private septic</b>
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	<b>No</b>
Solid Waste Disposal	
Curbside Trash Pickup	<b>none</b>
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	<b>No</b>
Recycling Program	<b>Mandatory</b>
Telephone Company	<b>Bay Ring; Fairpoint</b>
Cellular Telephone Access	<b>Yes</b>
Cable Television Access	<b>Yes</b>
Public Access Television Station	<b>No</b>
High Speed Internet Service:	Business Residential
	<b>Yes Yes</b>

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

2007 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$8.91</b>
2007 Equalization Ratio	<b>90.7</b>
2007 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	<b>\$8.04</b>
2007 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	<b>95.0%</b>
Commercial Land and Buildings	<b>4.6%</b>
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	<b>0.4%</b>

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

2007 Total Housing Units	<b>2,713</b>
2007 Single-Family Units	<b>2,281</b>
Residential Permits, Net Change of Units	<b>-2</b>
2007 Multi-Family Units	<b>357</b>
Residential Permits, Net Change of Units	<b>0</b>
2007 Manufactured Housing Units	<b>75</b>

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

(US Census Bureau)

Total Population	Community	County
2007	<b>5,174</b>	<b>296,543</b>
2000	<b>5,197</b>	<b>278,748</b>
1990	<b>4,461</b>	<b>246,744</b>
1980	<b>4,508</b>	<b>190,345</b>
1970	<b>4,083</b>	<b>138,951</b>

**Census 2000 Demographics**

Population by Gender		
Male	<b>2,466</b>	Female <b>2,716</b>
Population by Age Group		
Under age 5		<b>247</b>
Age 5 to 19		<b>971</b>
Age 20 to 34		<b>535</b>
Age 35 to 54		<b>1,812</b>
Age 55 to 64		<b>631</b>
Age 65 and over		<b>986</b>
Median Age		<b>44.4 years</b>

## Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over

High school graduate or higher	<b>94.5%</b>
Bachelor's degree or higher	<b>53.3%</b>

**ANNUAL INCOME, 1999**

(US Census Bureau)

Per capita income	<b>\$36,746</b>
Median 4-person family income	<b>\$74,956</b>
Median household income	<b>\$63,152</b>
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers	
Male	<b>\$51,131</b>
Female	<b>\$34,327</b>
Families below the poverty level	<b>1.6%</b>

**LABOR FORCE**

(NHES - ELMI)

Annual Average	1997	2007
Civilian labor force	<b>2,752</b>	<b>2,724</b>
Employed	<b>2,691</b>	<b>2,639</b>
Unemployed	<b>61</b>	<b>85</b>
Unemployment rate	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>

**EMPLOYMENT & WAGES**

(NHES - ELMI)

Annual Average Covered Employment	1997	2007
Goods Producing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>59</b>	<b>n</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$628</b>	<b>n</b>
Service Providing Industries		
Average Employment	<b>823</b>	<b>n</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$465</b>	<b>n</b>
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	<b>882</b>	<b>969</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$476</b>	<b>\$595</b>
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	<b>282</b>	<b>269</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$453</b>	<b>\$628</b>
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	<b>1,164</b>	<b>1,239</b>
Average Weekly Wage	<b>\$471</b>	<b>\$602</b>

n = indicates that data does not meet disclosure standards

## EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE

Schools students attend: **Rye operates grades K-8; grades 9-12 are tuitioned to Portsmouth** District: **SAU 50**  
 Career Technology Center(s): **Portsmouth High School** Region: **19**

Educational Facilities	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools	1	1		1
Grade Levels	K 1-5	6-8		4-12
Total Enrollment	321	192		20

NH Licensed Child Care Facilities, 2008: Total Facilities: **2** Total Capacity: **159**

Nearest Community College: **Great Bay**

Nearest Colleges or Universities: **McIntosh; University of NH**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Town of Rye	Municipal services	61	1726
Petey's Restaurant (seasonal)	Restaurant		
Rye Airfield	Skate park & BMX bikes		
Wentworth by the Sea Country Club	Golf course		
Ice House (seasonal)	Restaurant		
TD Banknorth	Banking services		
Rye Public Schools	Education		
Sagamore Veterinary Clinic	Animal health care services		
Saunders Restaurant	Restaurant		
Abeniqui Country Club	Golf course		

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

Road Access	US Routes	1
	State Routes	1A
Nearest Interstate, Exit		<b>I-95, Exit 3</b>
	Distance	<b>5 miles</b>
Railroad		<b>No</b>
Public Transportation		<b>No</b>
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation		
<b>Hampton Airfield</b>	Runway	<b>2,100 ft. turf</b>
Lighted? <b>Yes</b>	Navigation Aids?	<b>No</b>
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service		
<b>Manchester-Boston Regional</b>	Distance	<b>44 miles</b>
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport		<b>8</b>
Driving distance to select cities:		
Manchester, NH		<b>42 miles</b>
Portland, Maine		<b>58 miles</b>
Boston, Mass.		<b>54 miles</b>
New York City, NY		<b>265 miles</b>
Montreal, Quebec		<b>296 miles</b>

## COMMUTING TO WORK

*(US Census Bureau)*

Workers 16 years and over	
Drove alone, car/truck/van	<b>81.6%</b>
Carpooled, car/truck/van	<b>3.7%</b>
Public transportation	<b>0.4%</b>
Walked	<b>2.2%</b>
Other means	<b>1.8%</b>
Worked at home	<b>10.3%</b>
Mean Travel Time to Work	<b>30.2 minutes</b>
Percent of Working Residents:	
Working in community of residence	<b>25%</b>
Commuting to another NH community	<b>55%</b>
Commuting out-of-state	<b>20%</b>

## RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS

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

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

Other: **Whale Watches, Odiorne Point; Wallis Sands; Jenness & Rye State Parks; State Harbor**