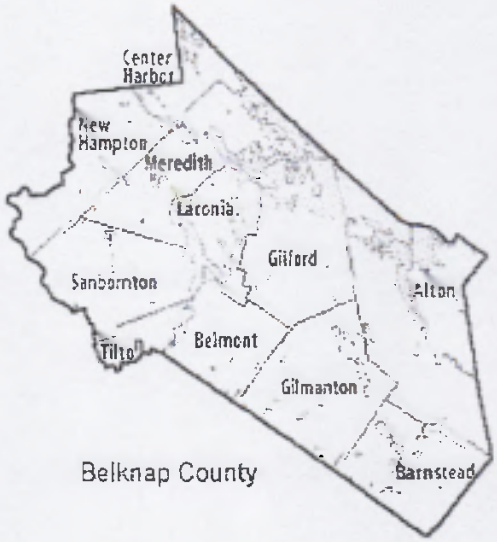
COMMUNITY PROFILE

Alton, NH

Community Contact	Town of Alton Board of Selectmen PO Box 659 Alton, NH 03809
Telephone	(603) 875-2161
Fax	(603) 875-0207
E-mail	administrator@alton.nh.gov
Web Site	www.alton.nh.gov
Municipal Office Hours	Monday through Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
County	Belknap
Labor Market Area	Wolfeboro NH LMA
Tourism Region	Lakes
Planning Commission	Lakes Region
Regional Development	Belknap County Economic Development Council
Election Districts	
US Congress	District 1
Executive Council	District 1
State Senate	District 4
State Representative	Belknap County District 5

Incorporated: 1796

Origin: Originally called New Durham Gore, the town was settled by a group from Roxbury, Massachusetts. There were already two towns named Roxbury in New England, so the town was incorporated as Alton in honor of a prominent family from Roxbury. The town's boundary envelopes the five-mile long Alton Bay, southeastern point of Lake Winnipesaukee, and includes the southern side of Wolfeboro Harbor and all of the largest islands in the southeast end of the lake. Alton's 19.3 square miles of inland water area is the highest among the cities and towns in New Hampshire.



Belknap County

Villages and Place Names: Alton Bay, East Alton, Mount Major, South Alton, West Alton

Population, Year of the First Census Taken: 445 residents in 1790

Population Trends: Population change for Alton totaled 3,339 over 50 years, from 1,189 in 1950 to 4,528 in 2000. The largest decennial percent change was a 48 percent increase between 1970 and 1980, followed by 35 percent and 38 percent increases over the next two decades. The 2007 Census estimate for Alton was 5,070 residents, which ranked 66th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

Population Density and Land Area *(NH Office of Energy & Planning)*: 79.1 persons per square mile of land area. Alton contains 63.9 square miles of land area and 19.3 square miles of inland water area.

Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, NH Employment Security, 2008. Community Response Received 09/17/08
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COMMUNITY PROFILE ALTON NH

EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE

Schools students attend: **Alton operates grades K-8; grades 9-12 are jointly managed with Barnstead.** District: **SAU 72/JMA**

Career Technology Center(s): **Region 9 Vocational Technical Center, Wolfeboro** Region: **09**

Educational Facilities	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools	1		1	
Grade Levels	P K 1-8		9-12	
Total Enrollment	598		567	

NH Licensed Child Care Facilities, 2008: Total Facilities: **4** Total Capacity: **104**

Nearest Community College: **Lakes Region**
Nearest Colleges or Universities: **University of NH; McIntosh**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Alton School Department	Education	116	1797
Town of Alton	Municipal services	110	1796
McDonald's	Fast food restaurant	50	1995
Hannaford Brothers	Supermarket	38FT & 94 PT	2006
Dunkin' Donuts	Donut shop	20	1996
Water Industries	Commercial pumping systems	20	1963
Alton Home & Lumber	Hardware & lumber sales	10	1994
Hillsgrove Machine	Custom machine shop	9	1979
Christian Conference Center	Recreational, campground	8	1863
Blake Equipment	Water pumps	5	1998

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

Road Access US Routes
State Routes **11, 11D, 28, 28A, 140**
Nearest Interstate, Exit **I-93, Exit 20**
Distance **28 miles**

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

Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation
Laconia Municipal Runway **5,286 ft. asphalt**
Lighted? **Yes** Navigation Aids? **Yes**
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service
Manchester-Boston Regional Distance **45 miles**
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport **2**

Driving distance to select cities:

Manchester, NH	**40 miles**
Portland, Maine	**68 miles**
Boston, Mass.	**91 miles**
New York City, NY	**302 miles**
Montreal, Quebec	**254 miles**

COMMUTING TO WORK *(US Census Bureau)*

Workers 16 years and over

Drove alone, car/truck/van	80.2%
Carpooled, car/truck/van	14.4%
Public transportation	0.0%
Walked	1.2%
Other means	0.3%
Worked at home	3.9%
Mean Travel Time to Work	31.1 minutes

Percent of Working Residents:

Working in community of residence	24%
Commuting to another NH community	68%
Commuting out-of-state	9%

RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS

X	Municipal Parks
X	YMCA/YWCA
	Boys Club/Girls Club
	Golf Courses
	Swimming: Indoor Facility
	Swimming: Outdoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
X	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
	Bowling Facilities
X	Museums
	Cinemas
	Performing Arts Facilities
X	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
X	Campgrounds
X	Fishing/Hunting
X	Boating/Marinas
X	Snowmobile Trails
	Bicycle Trails
X	Cross Country Skiing
X	Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
	Overnight or Day Camps

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

Other: **Boat Launch; Town Docks; Swim Dock; Public Beach in Picnic Area; B&M RR; Old Home Days**

TOWN OF ALTON COMMUNITY PROFILE

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Type of Government	Selectmen
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2006	$6,728,000
Budget: School Appropriations, 2006	$10,806,326
Zoning Ordinance	1970/07
Master Plan	2002
Capital Improvement Plan	Yes
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	Planning Board

Boards and Commissions

Elected: Selectmen; Planning; Library; Cemetery; Budget; Checklist; Trust Funds; Water; Zoning

Appointed: Conservation; Parks & Recreation

Public Library Gilman

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police Department	Full & part-time
Fire Department	Full & part-time
Town Fire Insurance Rating	6/9
Emergency Medical Service	Part-time

Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds
Huggins Hospital, Wolfeboro	11 miles	25

UTILITIES

Electric Supplier	PSNH; NH Electric Coop; Wolfeboro Electric
Natural Gas Supplier	None
Water Supplier	Alton Water Works
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	Fairpoint; Union
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)	$10.57
2007 Equalization Ratio	98.2
2007 Full Value Tax Rate (per $1000 of value)	10.36

2007 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type

Residential Land and Buildings	96.0%
Commercial Land and Buildings	3.6%
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	0.4%

HOUSING SUPPLY (NH Office of Energy and Planning)

2007 Total Housing Units	4,146
2007 Single-Family Units	3,705
Residential Permits, Net Change of Units	42
2007 Multi-Family Units	241
Residential Permits, Net Change of Units	0
2007 Manufactured Housing Units	200

DEMOGRAPHICS (US Census Bureau)

Total Population	Community	County
2007	5,070	61,048
2000	4,528	56,576
1990	3,289	49,294
1980	2,440	42,884
1970	1,647	32,367

Census 2000 Demographics

Population by Gender

Male	2,238	Female	2,264

Population by Age Group

Under age 5	273
Age 5 to 19	887
Age 20 to 34	630
Age 35 to 54	1,472
Age 55 to 64	545
Age 65 and over	695
Median Age	41.4 years

Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over

High school graduate or higher	87.9%
Bachelor's degree or higher	21.5%

ANNUAL INCOME, 1999 (US Census Bureau)

Per capita income	$25,940
Median 4-person family income	$46,467
Median household income	$43,451

Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers

Male	$37,585
Female	$29,375

Families below the poverty level	5.4%

LABOR FORCE (NHES – ELMI)

Annual Average	1997	2007
Civilian labor force	1,863	2,784
Employed	1,806	2,696
Unemployed	57	88
Unemployment rate	3.1%	3.2%

EMPLOYMENT & WAGES (NHES – ELMI)

Annual Average Covered Employment	1997	2007
Goods Producing Industries		
Average Employment	31	79
Average Weekly Wage	$421.37	$692.01
Service Providing Industries		
Average Employment	516	620
Average Weekly Wage	$285.97	$515.80
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	546	699
Average Weekly Wage	$293.59	$535.66
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	162	296
Average Weekly Wage	$425.51	$623.67
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	709	995
Average Weekly Wage	$323.80	$561.87

n = indicates that data does not meet disclosure standards