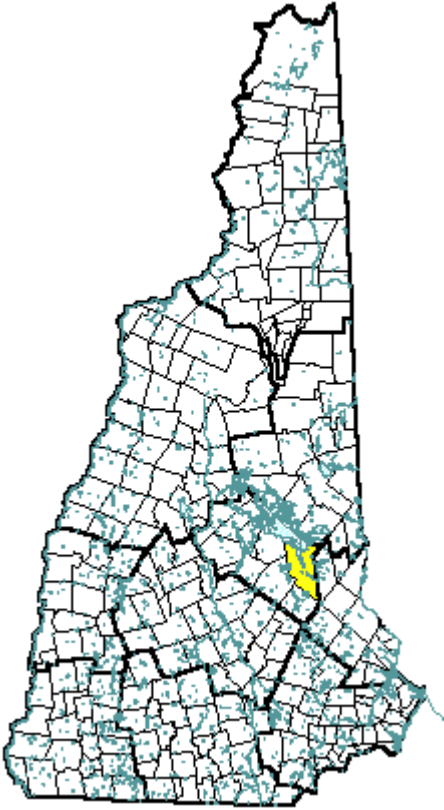


# Alton, NH



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	not available
Municipal Office Hours	Monday through Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
County	Belknap
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	District 31

Incorporated: 1796

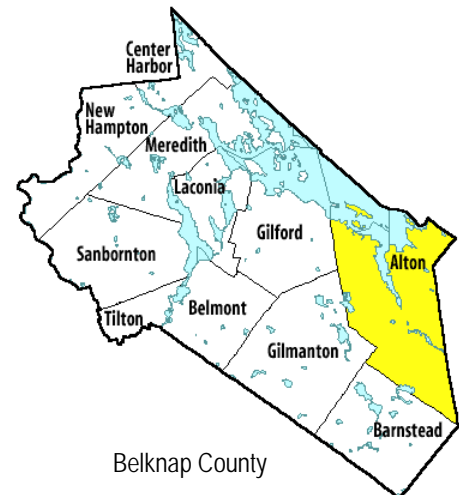
**Origin:** Originally called New Durham Gore, the town was settled by a group from Roxbury, Massachusetts. The name Roxbury had already been used, so the town was named for the Alton family. The town's boundary envelops the five-mile long Alton Bay, the southeastern point of Lake Winnepesaukee, and 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 largest of any town in New Hampshire.

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

**Population Trends:** Alton has grown well above the statewide average rate for four of the last five decades. After only a four percent between 1950-1960, decennial growth rates have been above thirty percent, peaking at a 48 percent increase between 1970-1980. Alton's population increased by 3,313 residents, going from 1,189 in 1950 to 4,502 residents in 2000. The 2003 Census estimate for Alton was 4,852 residents, which ranked 68th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

**Population Density, 2003:** 72.3 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.

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



**MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

Type of Government	Selectmen
2003 Annual Budget	\$4,297,509
Zoning Ordinance	1970/04
Master Plan	2002
Capital Improvement Plan	Yes
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	Planning Board

**Boards and Commissions**

Elected:	<b>Board of Selectmen; Planning Board; Library Trustees</b>
Appointed:	<b>Conservation Commission; Zoning Board</b>

Public Library **Gilman****EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Police Department	Full-time
Fire Department	Volunteer
Town Fire Insurance Rating	6/9
Emergency Medical Service	Commercial & volunteer

**Nearest Hospital(s):****Huggins Hospital, Wolfeboro**Distance: **13 miles** Staffed Beds: **42****UTILITIES**

Electric Supplier	PSNH; NH Elec.; Wolfeboro Elec.
Natural Gas Supplier	None
Water Supplier	Alton Water Works

Sanitation	Private septic
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	No
Solid Waste Disposal	Private
Curbside Trash Pickup	Private
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	No
Recycling Program	Mandatory

Telephone Company	Verizon; Union
Cellular Telephone Access	Yes
Cable Television Access	Yes
High Speed Internet Service:	Business Yes
Residential	unknown

**PROPERTY TAXES**

2003 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000)	\$16.84
2003 Equalization Ratio	67.0
2003 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000)	\$11.29

**2003 Percent of Property Valuation by Type**

Residential Land and Buildings	93.7%
Commercial Land and Buildings	5.5%
Other Property including Utilities	0.8%

**HOUSING**

2002 Total Housing Units	3,658
2002 Single-Family Units	3,257
Building Permits Issued	57
2002 Multi-Family Units	206
Building Permits Issued	0
2002 Manufactured Housing Units	195

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

Total Population	Community	County
2003	4,852	60,356
2000	4,502	56,325
1990	3,286	49,216
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**

(Census 2000)

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**

Annual Average	1993	2003
Civilian labor force	1,714	2,262
Employed	1,588	2,181
Unemployed	126	81
Unemployment rate	7.4%	3.6%

**EMPLOYMENT & WAGES**

1993 2003

Goods Producing Industries		
Average Employment	23	65
Average Weekly Wage	\$323	\$552

**Service Providing Industries**

Average Employment	390	497
Average Weekly Wage	\$239	\$438

**Total Private Industry**

Average Employment	413	562
Average Weekly Wage	\$244	\$451

**Government (Federal, State, and Local)**

Average Employment	57	202
Average Weekly Wage	\$283	\$546

**Total, Private Industry plus Government**

Average Employment	470	764
Average Weekly Wage	\$249	\$476

n = indicates that data does not meet disclosure standards

## EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE

Schools students attend: **Alton operates grades K-12** District: **SAU 72**  
 Career Technology Center(s): **Kingswood Regional High School** 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	557		201	

NH Licensed Child Care Facilities, 2003: Total Facilities: 3 Total Capacity: 114

Nearest Community/Technical College: **Laconia**  
 Nearest Colleges or Universities: **University of NH; McIntosh**

LARGEST EMPLOYERS	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Alton School Department	Education	116	
Town of Alton	Municipal services	110	
McDonald's	Fast food restaurant	50	1995
Dunkin' Donuts	Donut shop	20	1996
Water Industries	Commercial pumping systems	20	1963
Hillsgrove Machine	Custom machine shop	9	1979
Christian Conference Center	Recreational/campground	8	1863
Alton Service Center	Car repairs	4	1996
RF Plante Company	Custom tooling, machinery	3	1982

## TRANSPORTATION

Road Access	Federal Routes	
	State Routes	11, 28
Nearest Interstate, Exit		I-93, Exit 20
	Distance	21 miles
Railroad		No
Public Transportation		No
Nearest Airport		Laconia
	Runway	5,286 feet
	Lighted? Yes	Navigational Aids? Yes
Nearest Commercial Airport		Manchester
	Distance	48 miles
Driving distance to select cities:		
	Manchester, NH	41 miles
	Portland, Maine	88 miles
	Boston, Mass.	91 miles
	New York City, NY	299 miles
	Montreal, Quebec	255 miles

## COMMUTING TO WORK

(Census 2000)

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
	Nearest Ski Area(s): <b>Gunstock</b>
	Other: <b>Boat launch; town docks</b>