

BELKNAP COUNTY ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

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ECONOMIC STRENGTH (RANK AMONG MICROPOLITANS)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Laconia (Belknap County)	5 th	36 th	51 st	17 th	21 st
Concord (Merrimack County)	1 st	1 st	1 st	1 st	3 rd
Lebanon (Grafton County)	6 th	3 rd	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
Keene (Cheshire County)	23 rd	12 th	26 th	12 th	11 th
TOTAL NUMBER OF MICROPOLITANS	573	575	576	576	577

Belknap County consistently ranked in the top 10th percentile.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

	2001	2004	2005	2006
Belknap County	\$31,262	\$33,351	\$34,996	\$37,059
Merrimack County	\$33,118	\$33,639	\$34,819	\$36,842
Grafton County	\$32,180	\$37,109	\$38,760	\$41,978
Cheshire County	\$28,563	\$32,306	\$33,118	\$35,682
State of New Hampshire	\$33,928	\$36,616	\$37,768	\$39,753

POPULATION

	2001	2004	2005	2006	2007
Belknap County	58,384	60,859	61,547	61,562	61,048
Merrimack County	139,324	145,542	146,881	148,085	148,274
Grafton County	82,254	84,169	84,708	85,336	85,514
Cheshire County	74,243	76,872	77,287	77,393	77,725
State of New Hampshire	1,287,687	1,299,500	1,309,940	1,314,895	1,315,828

UNEMPLOYMENT

	2001	2004	2005	2006	2007
Belknap County	3.0%	3.4%	3.3%	3.8%	3.6%
Merrimack County	2.7%	3.1%	3.2%	3.1%	3.3%
Grafton County	2.1%	2.7%	2.8%	2.9%	3.0%
Cheshire County	3.2%	3.3%	3.2%	3.2%	3.6%
State of New Hampshire	3.5%	3.8%	3.3%	3.4%	3.6%

BELKNAP COUNTY

	1990	1999	2005	2006	2007	2008
Average MLS Sale Price	\$93,053	\$124,937	\$258,011	\$256,198	\$286,538	\$264,375
Total number of sales		1,555	1,716	1,426	1,213	908
Mean Annual Wage	\$18,928	\$27,352	\$32,968	\$34,840	\$36,005	\$37,066
NH Annual Livable Wage		\$23,192	\$22,620		\$24,232	
NH Minimum Wage	\$7,904	\$10,712	\$10,712	\$10,712	\$13,520	\$15,080
Average Cost, Gal. of Gas	\$1.13	\$1.66	\$2.10	\$2.81	\$2.81	\$3.24
Average WSJ Rate	10.00%	8.25%	6.50%	8.00%	7.50%	5.00%

Two Parents, Two Children, Both Parents Working

Estimated Livable Weekly Wage	\$446	\$435	\$466
Average Weekly Cost of Childcare	\$180	\$175	\$175
Average Weekly Cost of Groceries	\$140	\$150	\$175
Average Weekly Phone Bill	\$20	\$30	\$40
Weekly Rent and Utilities	\$135	\$185	\$225

INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED FROM:
New Hampshire Employment Security
New Hampshire Occupational Employment and Wages • www.nhes.state.nh.us
Coldwell Banker Real Estate (Alton office)
Policom Corporation • www.policom.com
Public Service of New Hampshire Annual New Hampshire Economic Review

The NH Housing Forum *Wages and Housing in New Hampshire*
UNH Office of Economic Initiatives (North Country Council, Inc.)
Basic Needs and Livable Wage June, 2000
Basic Needs and Livable Wage 2006

www.mortgage-x.com
www.eia.doe.gov
U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics