

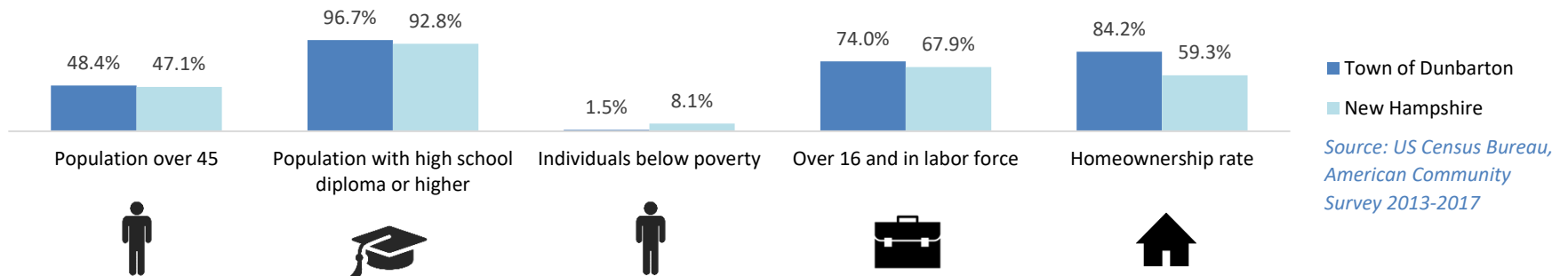
1. DUNBARTON TODAY

Understanding how your community has developed requires a step back to assess or inventory what we know is happening – what the demographic trends and patterns of development are and what residents perceive as positive influences or challenges going forward. By analyzing data in combination with public outreach efforts such as the survey and visioning session, the story of Dunbarton today emerges and sets the framework for identifying what needs to be addressed now and in the future. There are two main parts to telling the story: where we are today and where we want to be going forward. Once we have an understanding of the present, including data and trend analysis and what we heard from the public outreach efforts, we can look to the future with an understanding of our vision and what we want to accomplish.

Building the data profile for Dunbarton required the use of data from a variety of sources. Census 2010 and American Community Survey (ACS) are the main sources of data for much of the demographic information. Census data is collected every ten years by the US

Census Bureau, gathering official counts of population at a variety of geographic levels, such as census tracts, blocks, and designated places. The Census now only asks ten questions and a new data source, ACS, supplements Census data by asking questions used to measure social and economic characteristics of the population. The ACS is an ongoing survey that gathers trends from a smaller population sample annually, producing estimates on data originally only available in the decennial census. Smaller geographical areas are collected in three- or five-year samples, with ACS 2013-2017 being the most recent data available. When available, statewide data from the Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) was used for the estimated 2017 population, population projections, and building permit information. Data collected through Dunbarton’s Community Survey and the visioning session is also shown throughout the master plan, representing the views of residents. Survey results tallied 175 responses, focusing on a wide range of topics from local infrastructure to rural character.

KEY COMPARISON AND OVERVIEW



POPULATION

RECENT TRENDS

New Hampshire

New Hampshire experienced consistent, steady growth from the 1960s through the 1990s, increasing the number of residents statewide 50% by 2000. As seen by the beginning of the 1980s, New Hampshire was still growing, but increasingly at a slower rate. Population estimates for 2017 show NH only increasing 26,142 residents since 2010, a small percentage compared to the 80,000 residents gained between 2000 and 2010. Projected populations continue to show a slower rate of growth, with only an additional 7,296 residents expected between the 2017 estimates and the 2020 projected population. It should be noted that these population projections were published in 2016 and will need to be adjusted once the 2020 Census population data is released.

Merrimack County

Merrimack County's population trends follow a similar path to the state's growth. The County began experiencing smaller increases in percent growth during the 1990s, and only gained 2,351 residents between 2010 and 2017. Projected populations also show a slower rate of growth, with only 1,638 additional residents between the 2017 estimates and the 2020 projected population.

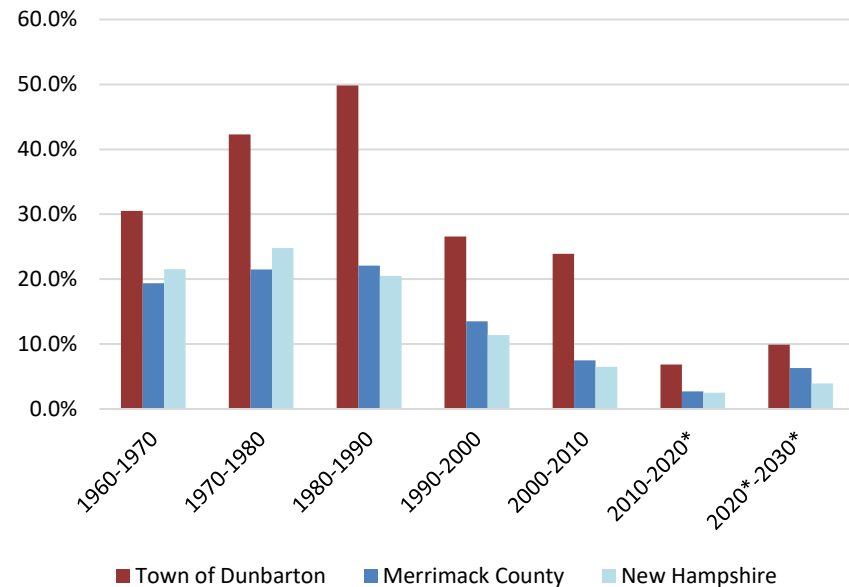
Town of Dunbarton

Similar to county and statewide trends, Dunbarton experienced consistent, steady growth from 1960 to 1990. Due to its initial small population, Dunbarton showed dramatic gains, increasing the population by nearly 180% over the thirty year period. During the 1990s, Dunbarton's rate of growth dropped significantly, only increasing 26.5%. Population projections show a slowed rate of growth over the next two decades, and, according to the Office of Strategic Initiative's estimates, a small population increase was experienced in 2017. Dunbarton is projected to gain 124 residents between 2017 and 2020, a total growth of 4.4%.

Table 1.1: Historic and Projected Population Trends

	Town of Dunbarton		Merrimack County		New Hampshire	
	Population	% Change	Population	% Change	Population	% Change
1960	632	18.6%	67,785	7.6%	606,921	13.8%
1970	825	30.5%	80,925	19.4%	737,681	21.5%
1980	1,174	42.3%	98,302	21.5%	920,610	24.8%
1990	1,759	49.8%	120,005	22.1%	1,109,252	20.5%
2000	2,226	26.5%	136,225	13.5%	1,235,786	11.4%
2010	2,758	23.9%	146,445	7.5%	1,316,256	6.5%
2017*	2,823	2.4%	148,796	1.6%	1,342,612	2.0%
2020*	2,947	4.4%	150,434	1.1%	1,349,908	0.5%
2025*	3,129	6.2%	154,459	2.7%	1,374,702	1.8%
2030*	3,239	3.5%	159,899	3.5%	1,402,878	2.0%

Figure 1.1: Percent Change in Population, 1970-2030*



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; NH Office of Strategic Initiatives

* NH Office of Strategic Initiatives Population Estimates 2017

* NH Office of Strategic Initiatives Population Projections September 2016

DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS

NATURAL INCREASE

Natural Increase, the difference between births and deaths per year, has slightly varied in Dunbarton over the past ten years. Following trends experienced throughout New Hampshire, it can be seen that natural increase has decreased in recent years, as the annual number of births declines and the annual number of deaths continues to climb.

RELATIVE SHARE OF POPULATION (MERRIMACK COUNTY)

Dunbarton's relative share has grown since 1970, nearly doubling by 2010. With a relative share 1.0% in 1970, the Town's largest share increases occurred from 1980 to 1990 and from 2000 to 2010, with 0.3%.

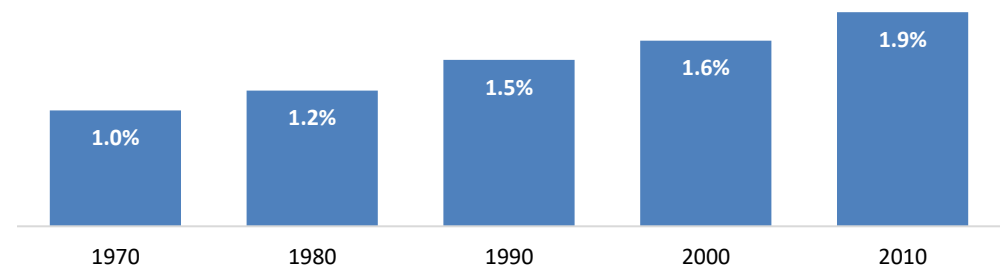
Dunbarton's relative share of New Hampshire's population increased from 1980 to 1990 from 0.1% to 0.2%. The Town's relative share of 0.2% remained steady through the most current decade of 2010.

Table 1.2: Births and Deaths in Dunbarton, 2008-2017

Statistic	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Births	16	24	17	20	12	17	15	13	9	13
Deaths	17	13	14	15	17	13	14	17	18	17
Natural Increase	-1	11	3	5	-5	4	1	-4	-9	-4

Source: Dunbarton Annual Reports

Figure 1.2: Dunbarton's Relative Share of Population, Merrimack County



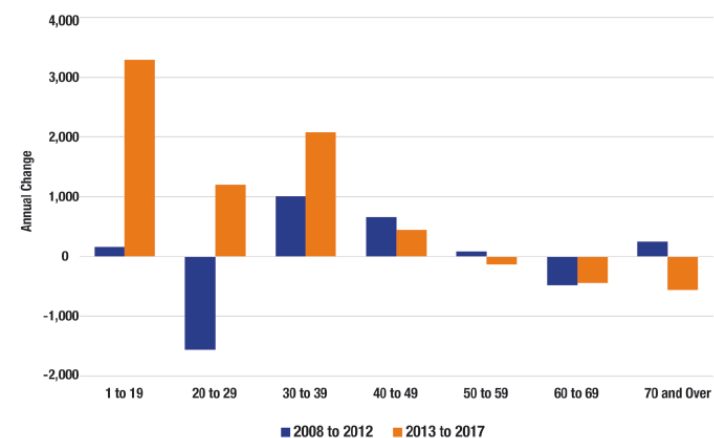
Source: U.S. Census Bureau and CNHRPC calculations

MIGRATION

Migration, the difference of people moving in and out of an area, has historically accounted for the large increase in statewide population during the 1970s and 1980s. Many moved from Massachusetts, which added to the attainment level of education in the workforce, stimulated the economy, and provided employment opportunities. During the 2000s, the net migration into New Hampshire began to noticeably decrease, affecting the overall population growth in state. More recent data from the U.S. Census Bureau show an increase in net migration, specifically of those under the age of 40. According to Dr. Johnson, "these recent domestic and immigrant migration gains are considered modest, but they provide additional human and social capital to a state challenged by an aging workforce and population."

Source: *More Young Adult Migrants Moving to New Hampshire from Other U.S. Locations. Published by the New Hampshire Center for Public Policy Studies, written by Kenneth Johnson, December 6, 2018.*

NEW HAMPSHIRE YOUNG ADULT NET MIGRATION FROM OTHER STATES IS INCREASING



Analysis: K.M. Johnson, Carsey School, University of New Hampshire. Source: U.S. Census ACS, 2008–2012, 2013–2017

DUNBARTON AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

PAST AND PROJECTED POPULATIONS

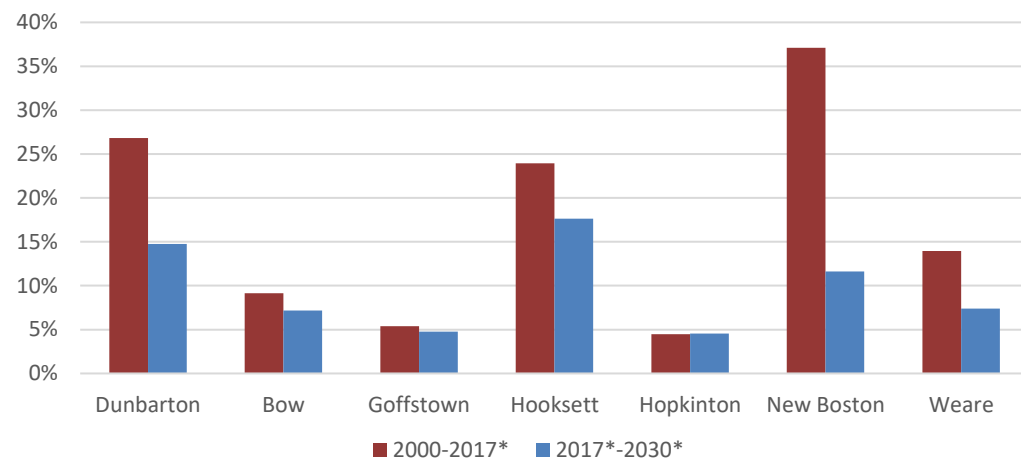
Compared to its neighbors, Dunbarton's overall increase in population from 2000 to 2017 was lower than most with 597 new residents, as shown in Table 1.3. However, this increase was one of the higher percent changes in population of the abutting communities between 2000 and 2017, with 26.8%, as demonstrated in Figure 1.3. Hooksett had the most similar percent increase in population, with 23.9%, while New Boston had the highest with 37.1% between 2000 and 2017.

Examining the population projections shown in Table 1.3, Dunbarton is expected to gain approximately 416 new residents between 2017 and 2030, which is above the average of the abutting communities (9.7%) with 14.7%. In addition, Bow, Goffstown, Hopkinton, and Weare are expected to experience the smallest percent growth of the abutting communities between 2017 and 2030, with 9.1%, 5.4%, 4.6% and 7.4%. Hooksett is projected to see the highest percent increase in population with 17.6%. It should be noted here that these most recent population projections were published in 2016 and it is expected that updated projections will be released once the 2020 Census is completed.

Table 1.3: Past and Projected Populations for Dunbarton and Abutting Communities

Community	2000	2010	2017*	2020*	2025*	2030*
Dunbarton	2,226	2,758	2,823	2,947	3,129	3,239
Bow	7,138	8,720	7,790	7,842	8,065	8,349
Goffstown	16,929	19,230	17,838	18,051	18,335	18,689
Hooksett	11,721	14,270	14,528	15,403	16,508	17,089
Hopkinton	5,399	6,080	5,640	5,624	5,697	5,897
New Boston	4,138	5,020	5,674	5,818	6,214	6,334
Weare	7,776	9,200	8,860	9,051	9,334	9,514

Figure 1.3: Percent Change in Population, 2000-2030*



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; NH Office of Strategic Initiatives

*NH Office of Strategic Initiatives Population Estimates 2017

*NH Office of Strategic Initiatives Population Projections September 2016

WHAT THE COMMUNITY SURVEY SAID...

"How long have you lived in Dunbarton?"

4.6%

Less than 1 year.

13.9%

1-5 years.

19.1%

6-10 years.

19.7%

11-20 years.

15.0%

21-30 years.

25.4%

Over 31 years.

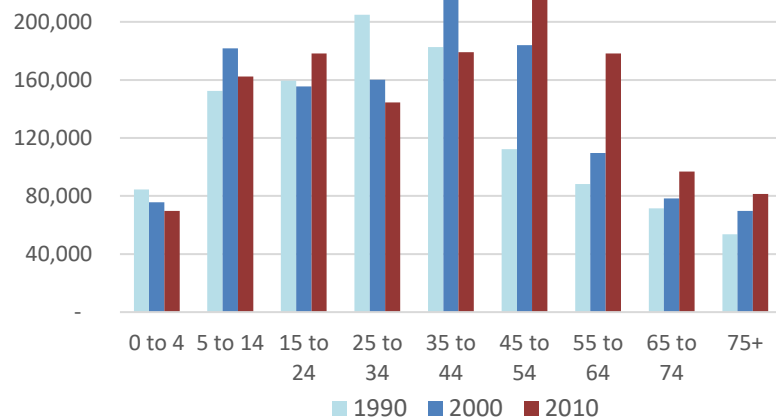
25.4%

Do not live in Town but own property.

AN AGING POPULATION

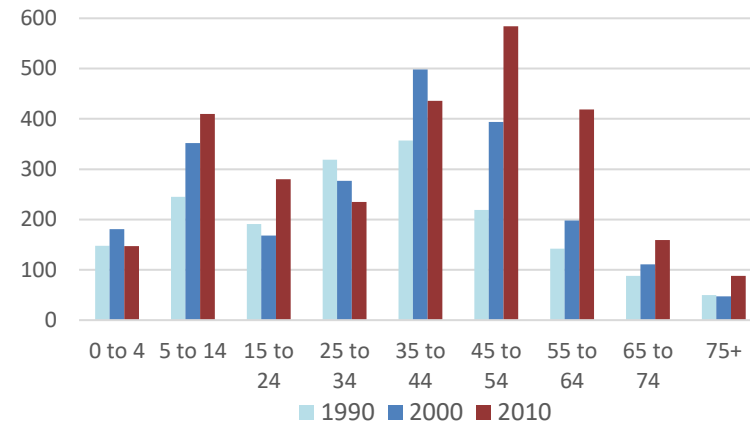
New Hampshire's population is growing older, and Dunbarton is no exception. In the past decade, the number of residents forty-five and over has seen a steady increase, compared to the modest changes in the younger population. New Hampshire, along with much of the U.S., experienced a large increase in births due to the baby boom post-World War II. The baby boom now contributes to a larger adult population as baby boomers start to reach their fifties and sixties. This large age group is also expected to continue to increase as the over sixty-five population grows with aging baby boomers in the next two decades.

Figure 1.4: New Hampshire's Population by Age



Source: US Census Bureau

Figure 1.5: Dunbarton's Population by Age



Source: US Census Bureau

CHALLENGES DUE TO CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS

Day-to-day living for an aging population is becoming more of a concern as many retirees are remaining in rural areas to be close to family or to enjoy the scenic and recreation amenities available in the Central New Hampshire Region. Recreational, housing and transportation needs change as the population ages. Providing accessible year-round outdoor and indoor recreation opportunities to older residents as they age in place is important, especially as the pattern of retiring to the South fades.¹ The demand for smaller houses for downsizing families will likely continue to increase as the average household size continues to decrease statewide. Transportation, and the need for public transportation as the population ages, could be especially problematic for those who must utilize different sources of transportation for everyday needs.

¹ New Hampshire Demographic Trends in the Twenty-First Century, written by Kenneth M. Johnson. Published by the Carsey Institute at the University of New Hampshire, 2012.

THE WORKFORCE

One of the advantages of having a strong middle aged population is a strong working population, with many in the peak of their careers and earning potential. This also means a large portion of New Hampshire's workforce will be retiring soon, potentially causing a shortfall of qualified workers available to fill their positions.

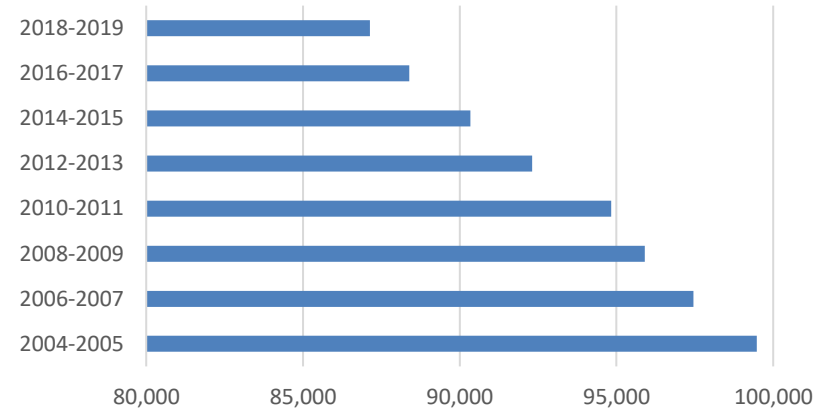
SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

ENROLLMENT TRENDS

In addition to a growing senior population, the trends also show a decrease in elementary school aged children. Statewide, elementary school enrollments have decreased greatly over the past fourteen years (Figure 1.6), with an enrollment decrease of over 12,350 students. This trend is expected to continue, especially as the percent change in population growth slows and the percent of population above sixty-five rises.

This statewide decrease can be seen in Figure 1.6 to the right.

Figure 1.6: State Elementary School Enrollments

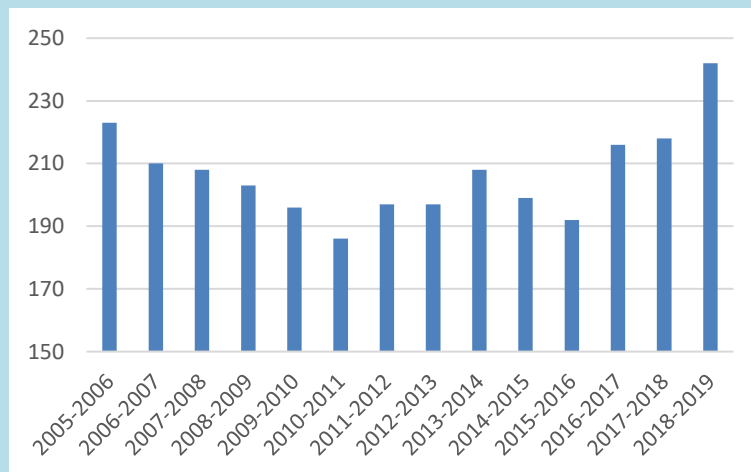


Source: NH Department of Education

DUNBARTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Dunbarton Elementary School has experienced an increase in enrollment in recent years, opposite of what has been experienced statewide, as shown in Figure 1.7.

Figure 1.7: Dunbarton Elementary School Enrollment



Source: NH Department of Education

DUNBARTON MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS

In 2013, Dunbarton voted to begin sending its middle and high school students to the Bow Middle School and High School, moving from the Goffstown School District beginning in Fall 2014. The revised Authorized Regional Enrollment Area (AREA) agreement permitted students to remain in Goffstown schools if they were nearing graduation. Table 1.4 summarizes middle and high school enrollments as tabulated in October since 2013.

Table 1.4: Middle/ High School Enrollment

Middle School			
Enrollment Year (Oct.)	Bow MS	Mountain View MS	Total
2013	0	51	51
2014	60	3	63
2015	66	0	66
2016	62	0	62
2017	63	0	63
High School			
Enrollment Year (Oct.)	Bow High School	Goffstown High School	Total
2013	0	120	120
2014	29	92	121
2015	61	54	115
2016	100	28	128
2017	128	5	133

Source: Dunbarton Annual Report

EDUCATION ATTAINMENT, INCOME, AND POVERTY LEVEL

EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

According to US Census data, 96.7% of residents in Dunbarton have a high school diploma or higher post-secondary education.

Nationally, New Hampshire is well known for having a high percentage of educated residents. Though many New Hampshire natives choose to stay in state, a large percent of the state's education attainment is gained through migrants moving to New Hampshire. In 2010, 36% of state residents with a college degree were migrants from out of state while only 24% were born in New Hampshire.

Table 1.5: Education Attainment for Dunbarton and Surrounding Communities

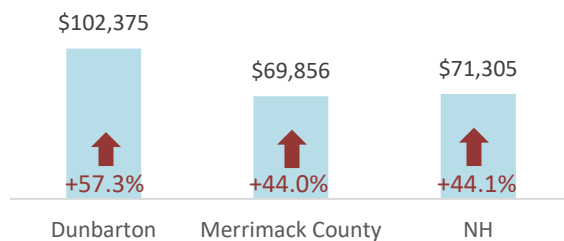
Community	Population Aged 25+	Less than 9th Grade	9th to 12th (no diploma)	HS Diploma or GED	Some College (no degree)	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Graduate Degree
Dunbarton	1,932	1.2%	2.1%	25.4%	20.0%	13.7%	20.5%	17.1%
Bow	5,296	0.9%	2.4%	19.4%	14.6%	11.2%	28.9%	22.6%
Goffstown	11,865	3.9%	4.1%	29.5%	20.7%	12.5%	20.1%	9.2%
Hooksett	9,331	1.4%	3.3%	24.5%	19.8%	12.0%	25.2%	13.8%
Hopkinton	3,963	0.9%	0.1%	20.6%	10.2%	11.0%	27.6%	29.6%
New Boston	3,756	1.4%	3.0%	23.5%	17.7%	13.7%	28.4%	12.4%
Weare	5,881	1.3%	2.8%	29.6%	20.8%	13.3%	20.6%	11.6%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2013-2017

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Nationally, New Hampshire ranks among one of the highest in the nation for a State's median income.² According to American Community Survey 2013-2017 data, New Hampshire had an estimated median household income of \$71,305, 44.1% more than the median household income reported in 2010. Within the State, trends point towards higher median household

Figure 1.8: ACS 2013-2017 Median Household Income and Percent Change Since 2000



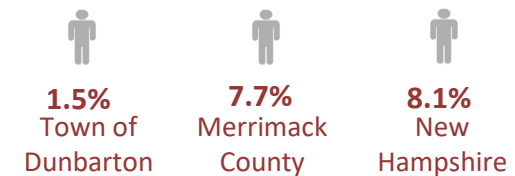
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2013-2017

income in the southern portion of the state, similar to trends of education attainment and poverty. Dunbarton has a median household income of \$102,375, which was a 57.3% increase from the median household income reported in 2000. Dunbarton's median is much higher than Merrimack County, which was reported as the third highest median household income in the State.

POVERTY

Statewide, poverty levels are highest for children, predominantly in the North Country and along the border with Maine. This is most likely caused by lower education and income levels in these areas.

Figure 1.9: Percent Below Poverty



Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2013-2017

²Granite State Future The Statewide Snapshot, Nashua Regional Planning Commission, June 2015.

HOUSING

A PLACE TO CALL HOME

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE

The need for housing statewide and throughout Central New Hampshire can be attributed to a modest population growth and decreasing household size. Dunbarton's average household size has decreased, dropping to 2.7 in 2010 from 3.0 in 1970.

POPULATION DENSITY

Dunbarton's persons per square mile increased 24.4% between 2000 and 2010, which is significantly higher than surrounding communities. Bow, which has the closest land area to Dunbarton, experienced a 5.4% increase between 2000 and 2010; 19% less than Dunbarton.

BUILDING PERMITS

Current building trends continue to point toward slower construction gains. In a comparison of local communities, Dunbarton saw a lower number of residential building permits between 2013 and 2017, with 50 permits over the five year period. It should be noted that values represent the net change of dwelling units and includes any demolitions that year. Thus, any negative values represent a net loss of dwelling units.

HOUSING NEEDS OF THE AGING POPULATION

Much of the aging population is choosing to age in place, instead of retiring South.³ This growing trend is creating a demand for smaller housing units as families downsize and choose to remain in rural and suburban areas. As the number of older adults is predicted to increase over the next two decades, concern of accessibility for the older demographic increases as access to day to day needs becomes a challenge. These challenges include mobility issues for needs such as transportation to grocery stores, doctors' offices and recreational resources. Additionally, growing concern for the high cost of living, including housing and taxes in rural and suburban areas, can be challenging for the older population living on a fixed income.

³New Hampshire Demographic Trends in the Twenty-First Century, written by Kenneth M. Johnson. Published by the Carsey Institute at the University of New Hampshire, 2012

Table 1.6: Average Household Size

Year	Average Persons per Household
1970	3.0
1980	3.0
1990	2.7
2000	2.7
2010	2.7

Source: 2005 Dunbarton Master Plan, US Census

Table 1.7: Persons Per Square Mile

Community	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Dunbarton	26	37	56	72	90
Bow	87	141	193	253	267
Goffstown	247	301	389	456	476
Hooksett	150	197	243	324	372
Hopkinton	67	86	107	125	129
New Boston	32	45	74	96	124
Weare	31	54	103	132	149

Source: NH Employment Security

Table 1.8: Residential Building Permits

Community	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Dunbarton	6	10	4	8	22
Bow	16	25	16	27	24
Goffstown	63	18	16	22	32
Hooksett	35	4	25	21	31
Hopkinton	13	4	10	11	10
New Boston	18	17	38	36	33
Weare	10	0	10	15	12

Source: NH Office of Strategic Initiatives

EMPLOYMENT

LABOR FORCE

According to New Hampshire Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau (ELMI), the number of civilians in the New Hampshire labor force has grown between 2010 and 2017 by 1.1%, with an overall increase in the labor force of over 8,290 residents. However, the number of civilians in the labor force has not increased consistently every year, as a decrease of nearly 840 residents occurred between 2013 and 2014. Similar to state trends, Dunbarton has seen an increase in the number of civilians in the labor force. Between 2010 and 2017 Dunbarton gained 4.3% of its labor force, increasing nearly 70 people. The Town's number of employed civilians in the labor force also increased, rising 6.9% to over 1,640 people in 2017.

OCCUPATION AND EMPLOYERS

Within Dunbarton's civilian labor force, American Community Survey 2013-2017 data indicates that 70.6% are employed. Of these residents, the majority (46.7%) work within the management, business, science and arts fields. Other common occupations include sales and office occupations, natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations, and service occupations with 23.8%, 12.2%, and 10.2%, as shown in Table 1.9. It should be noted that the numbers below do not necessarily represent the types of occupations available in the Town of Dunbarton, but those occupations of Dunbarton residents.

Table 1.9: Occupations of Employed Dunbarton Residents

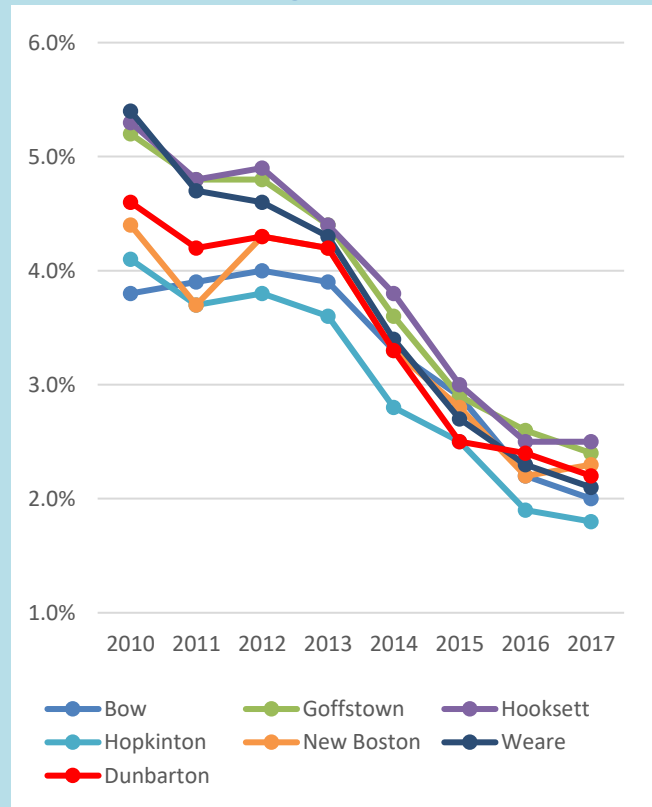
Occupation Type	Number Employed	Percent Employed
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	731	46.7%
Sales and office occupations	373	23.8%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	191	12.2%
Service occupations	160	10.2%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	109	7.0%
Total employed persons over 16 years of age	1,564	100.0%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2013-2017

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Compared to its neighbors, Dunbarton has a similar unemployment rate in 2017 at 2.2%. Similarly, Dunbarton's historic unemployment rate over recent years has been similar to abutting communities, as shown in Figure 1.10.

Figure 1.10: Unemployment Rates for Dunbarton and Abutting Communities



Source: New Hampshire Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau

The largest employers in Dunbarton are shown in Table 1.10 as provided by New Hampshire Employment Security. Presented in Table 1.10 are all employers that employ over 10 employees, however, there are numerous employers located in Dunbarton that employ less than 10 employees. As shown, Dunbarton Elementary School employs the highest amount of employees of all other businesses in Town, falling into the category of 50 to 99 employees.

WAGE COMPARISONS

To gain a better understanding of the types and quality of the jobs located in Dunbarton, wages paid by employers in Dunbarton can be compared to those in the surrounding communities. Although Table 1.11 shows average annual weekly wages for people who work within the Town of Dunbarton, they do not represent the average weekly wage of a Dunbarton resident (Dunbarton resident income levels can be seen previously in this Chapter). As can be seen in Table 1.11, Dunbarton has the highest average weekly wage for Private Industry, but the smallest for Government weekly wages, when compared to abutting communities.

Table 1.10: Largest Employers in Dunbarton

Company	Number of Employees	Location
Dunbarton Elementary School	50 to 99	Robert Rogers Road
Capital Well Co Inc	20 to 49	Concord Stage Road
Age at Home	20 to 49	Stark Highway North
Pages Country Store & Deli	10 to 19	Concord Stage Road
Countryside Golf Club	10 to 19	Country Club Lane
G&B Foundations	10 to 19	County Road

Source: New Hampshire's Economic and Labor Market Information Data System, New Hampshire Employment Security

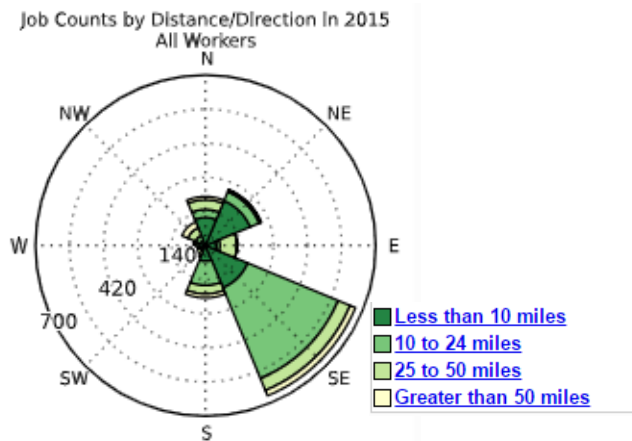
Table 1.11: Average Annual Weekly Wage Private Industries and Government, 2017

Community	Private Industries		Government	
	Annual Average Employment	Avg. Weekly Wage	Annual Average Employment	Avg. Weekly Wage
Dunbarton	257	\$1,173.96	84	\$565.95
Bow	3,560	\$1,062.32	460	\$931.48
Goffstown	2,160	\$718.15	1,233	\$838.72
Hooksett	9,291	\$1,071.45	618	\$823.47
Hopkinton	1,397	\$931.80	277	\$968.25
New Boston	617	\$833.26	195	\$879.63
Weare	1,475	\$921.11	395	\$793.44

Source: Covered Employment and Wages, NH Department of Employment Security

COMMUTING PATTERNS

Figure 1.11: Job Counts by Distance and Direction, 2015

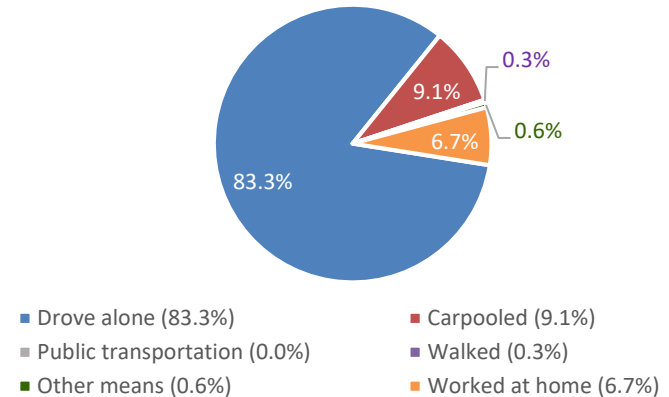


Source: US Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies

PLACE OF WORK

As shown in Figure 1.11 above, residents of Dunbarton work in various locations across the state. Most residents work in Manchester, Concord and Goffstown. Residents of Dunbarton had a mean travel time to work of 27.7 minutes according to the American Community Survey 2013-2017, which is higher than New Hampshire's mean travel time of 27.2 minutes.

Figure 1.12: Means of Transportation to Work



Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2013-2017

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK

According to the American Community Survey 2013-2017, the majority (83.3%) of residents drive alone to work. While some carooled, worked at home, walked, or used other means, none used public transportation. Please refer to the Transportation Chapter for additional information.

WHERE DO WORKERS OF DUNBARTON LIVE?

According to the U.S. Census Bureau Center for Economic Studies, in 2015 approximately 187 people were employed in Dunbarton. Of this, approximately 24.6% were Dunbarton residents while the remaining 75.4% lived in another community. Of those commuting into Dunbarton, the majority commuted from Concord, Goffstown, Weare, Bow, Boscawen, and Loudon.

TOWN TAX RATES

Table 1.12: Dunbarton's Tax Rates, 2010-2018

Year	Municipal Rate per \$1000	County Rate per \$1000	Local Education Rate per \$1000	State Education Rate per \$1000	Total Rate per \$1000
2010	\$3.62	\$2.67	\$11.74	\$2.47	\$20.50
2011	\$3.70	\$2.63	\$12.66	\$2.45	\$21.44
2012	\$3.82	\$2.70	\$12.46	\$2.39	\$21.37
2013	\$3.82	\$2.46	\$12.31	\$2.42	\$21.01
2014	\$3.82	\$2.68	\$12.42	\$2.68	\$21.14
2015	\$4.43	\$2.82	\$13.96	\$2.38	\$23.59
2016	\$4.69	\$2.80	\$14.10	\$2.39	\$23.98
2017	\$4.63	\$3.04	\$15.59	\$2.35	\$25.61
2018	\$4.60	\$3.11	\$12.44	\$2.38	\$22.53

Source: NH Department of Revenue Administration

Table 1.13: Equalized Tax Rates of Dunbarton and Abutting Communities, 2017

Community	Total Equalized Valuation Incl. Utilities and Railroad	Tax Rate per \$1000	Full Value Tax Rate per \$1000	2017 EQ Ratio
Dunbarton	\$357,090,737	\$25.61	\$21.66	81.9
Bow	\$1,273,941,164	\$27.77	\$24.99	95.3
Goffstown	\$1,679,729,905	\$27.42	\$23.73	86.4
Hooksett	\$2,099,079,668	\$26.74	\$20.52	77.4
Hopkinton	\$701,859,811	\$34.29	\$30.10	88.1
New Boston	\$674,587,132	\$24.35	\$23.25	95.3
Weare	\$893,934,396	\$23.05	\$22.01	95.2

Source: NH Department of Revenue Administration

A review of Dunbarton's total tax rates between 2010 and 2018 show that the rate increased from \$20.50 in 2010 to \$22.53 in 2018. That said, the total tax rate decreased from \$21.37 in 2012 to \$21.01 in 2013, and again in 2018 to \$22.53 from \$25.61 in 2017. The, county, local education and state education rates also saw various fluctuations in their values over the time period, while the municipal rate consistently increased, with the exception of 2017 and 2018 which saw decreases. Compared to tax rates reported for years previous to 2010, the total tax rate is higher than what was seen in the previous decade, with the exception of 2002 and 2004 which had a total tax rate of \$24.78 and \$26.53.

Equalized valuation, or equalization, is an adjustment of the town's local assessed values, either upward or downward, in order to approximate the full value of the Town's property. This process is due to an imbalance caused by varying local assessment levels. That being said, the full value tax rate is the equalized tax rate for a town.

Compared to its surrounding communities, Dunbarton has the lowest net valuation of the Towns abutting communities, with a net valuation of \$357,090,737 in 2017. Dunbarton's equalized tax rate is also lower than most of the abutting communities (all except Hooksett), with a tax rate of \$21.66. Dunbarton's tax rate falls in the middle of the abutting communities, with \$25.61.

WHAT DO RESIDENTS THINK?

Results of the Community Survey demonstrated residents' appreciation of the small town rural atmosphere of the community and would like to see this feeling remain in the years to come. When asked which enterprises or services residents would like in Dunbarton, the highest percentage stated country convenience store, agricultural-related businesses (orchards, dairy farms, etc.), bed and breakfast, and small retail shops. The majority (48.5%) also stated they would not like to see any light commercial or industrial uses, while 39.3% stated they would.