

Town of New Hampton, NH 2019 Community Survey

Results:

(Circle one)

1. **How long have you lived in New Hampton?**

0-5 years	21
6-10 years	18
11-19 years	31
20+ years	52

2. **How far do you travel to work (one way)?**

10 miles or less	23
11 to 30 miles	22
31 or more	24
Not Applicable	52

3. **What is your age?**

18-25	0
26-35	10
36-45	8
46-55	18
56-64	32
65+	45

4. **I am a :**

Year round resident	107
Seasonal resident	10
Business owner	8

QUALITY OF LIFE

5. **How important are the following factors to the quality of life in New Hampton?** (Check one box that applies to each factor)

	Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not at All Important	Comment
Safe place to live	113	6	1	0	
Clean and attractive	92	26	3	1	Matter of perspective
Small town atmosphere	72	27	20	6	
Education system	53	25	20	18	Currently a negative, concerned about edu. system
Employment opportunities	13	30	36	28	Not many except New Hampton School
Selection of housing	19	37	29	27	Not much choice
Effective Town government	80	33	4	1	Needs change
Shopping opportunities	13	26	39	34	Bristol, need major grocery store
Environmental quality of water and open space	92	19	7	2	Water is dirty
Walkability	30	23	35	29	
Place to raise family	55	31	15	15	
Parks/recreation	35	44	28	5	Need more community activities
Police	72	39	5	3	Not responsive now
Fire, Ambulance	75	38	7	1	

Town Office	44	55	19	1	Could be better
Highway Department	63	44	9	1	Needs improvement (2)
Transfer Station	53	53	6	4	Best I've ever seen
Transportation access to New Hampshire cities	29	34	29	23	Need mass transit
Proximity to employment	14	27	37	31	
Preserving Historical Resources	45	28	35	10	Stop letting NHS bulldoze old houses

6. How satisfied are you with living in New Hampton? (Circle one)

Very Satisfied 49
Satisfied 66
Dissatisfied 5
Very Dissatisfied 0
No Opinion 0

7. What do you like most about living in New Hampton?

Small town atmosphere (8)
Rural character (10)
People are courteous
Friendly neighbors
Quiet (8)
Fresh air (2)
Convenient location, central to state (9)
Intimate, good community (2)
It's not Tilton
Close to lakes (2)
Close to other towns (2)
Quality of life
Great people
NHS nearby (2)
Sporting events
Nice area for families
Wildlife
No light pollution
Community
My house/property (2)
My neighbors
Small government
Location
Environment
Beauty
School system

8. What do you like least about living in New Hampton?

Cold winter
Bad roads (5)
High taxes (4)
Ticks
Far away from family
Not close to shopping
Turning into Tilton
Through traffic
Noise of excavation
Ridiculous zoning rules

- Rt 104 traffic (2)
- Invasive neighbors
- Anti-business attitude
- Speeding traffic
- Motorcycle noise
- Lack of public announcements
- Methods of taxing
- Commuter to Concord
- Hearing new residents complain about how others' property looks
- Tax/service ratio
- Distance to transfer station
- Water (2)
- Education system
- Summer congestion
- Lack of town center
- New Hampton School expansive presence
- Roads in winter, use salt
- Odor from obnoxious industry
- School District
- Subdivision of land for housing

9. Where should New Hampton focus its resources for conservation efforts?

- Hiking trails
- Keep lakes and river water clean
- Open space
- Pemigewasset River (2)
- Limit land development
- Town beach
- Let nature do its thing
- Parks and recreation
- On lots already owned
- Preserve natural resources
- Preserve forests and walking paths
- Retain forests, fields, farmland, large parcels and wetlands
- Hard to get to Kelly/Drake
- Should not have conservation focus (2)
- Road maintenance (2)
- public event awareness
- Clean properties
- clean water (2)
- Buy forests as Meredith does
- Keep forests looking like forests, not strip mines
- Stop Northern Pass
- Studies to identify areas of concern
- Focus on currently owned properties (Kelly/Drake, Bald Ledge)
- Encourage property owners to put land into Conservation trusts
- Lake Waukewan
- Preserve farmland
- Climate change
- Keep town rural where possible
- Control expansion (2)
- Continue with current use policies
- Forests and wetlands
- Conserve large plots via town purchasing easements
- Lake Pemigewasset

10. **Over the past five years, do you believe New Hampton's quality of life has improved, stayed about the same, or declined?** (Circle one)

Improved - 8
Stayed about the same – 92
Declined – 13

If improved, why do you believe the community has improved?

Better firehouse
New post office is great
No Northeast Pass

If stayed the same:

Public water (2)

If declined, why do you believe the community has declined?

Increase in traffic
Drugs and trashy properties

11. **Would you recommend New Hampton to your family or friends as a good place to live?**

Yes 104
No 12

Please explain your response:

If Yes

Clean air
Low/reasonable taxes (4)
Nice people (3)
Great place to raise children (2)
Low crime (2)
Good schools
Good community, close to I 93 (2)
Small town atmosphere, rural character (4)
Nice place to live
Convenient, central location (6)
Love the area
Safe and clean (3)
Friendly, helpful community and local town employees
We encourage friends to move here
Quiet (2)
Lots to do
Quaint Village
Places for recreation (2)
Only if no need for educational services
Reasonable service levels
Quality of life
Town receptive to our problems
Great place for old folks

If No

Nothing here for most people

Becoming like other towns where someone dictates property care

Suburban crawl

Zoning too restrictive for modest growth

12. Does New Hampton offer the housing and services to allow you to age in place (continue to live in New Hampton) if you choose to do so?

Yes 53

No 45

If yes

No plans to move

If no

Need emergency care for older people

GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

13. What do you think about the current growth rate in New Hampton?

Too Fast 8

Realistic in relation to nearby towns 19

About Right 44

Too Slow 18

Not an Issue 20

14. Are you in favor of New Hampton trying to encourage commercial growth?

Yes 61

No 52

15. Are you in favor of New Hampton trying to encourage industrial growth?

Yes 44

No 60

IF Yes

Commercial and industrial growth will help stabilize property tax (5)

Industrial growth will add tax revenue without drawing from resources

We do not need storage facilities

New Hampton has messed up opportunities for large stores

Only on Rt 132 (2)

Rt 104 & Rt 132 should be developed to help tax base and job opportunities

More jobs

Don't touch Village area

Any commercial growth is good

Growth good if there is a plan for conservation

Commerce and industry provide jobs and keep taxes low

Commercial growth along Rt 104 would be nice

More retail at Exit 23

Light industry will lower tax burden

New Hampton needs stronger tax base

If No

Beautiful as is, managed well, roads in good shape
 Commercial growth will draw more from resources than add to tax base
 Keep town small (2)
 Keep us bucolic
 Enough in nearby towns
 Industrial growth may damage environment (2)
 Not conducive to small town atmosphere
 New Hampton's attraction is not with more growth
 Industrial growth does not seem feasible
 keep it low key
 Important to keep rural/Agricultural environment
 Growth will lead to light and noise pollution and traffic
 Growth will impact quality of life
 Commercial growth may impact tax burden
 Not enough people living here
 Don't want New Hampton to become like Plymouth or Tilton
 No need for growth if town budgets within our means

16. **How strongly would you support or oppose policies regarding growth in New Hampton?** (Check one box for each policy)

	Strongly Support	Support	Oppose	Strongly Oppose	No Opinion
Policies that restrict growth	26	36	30	13	10
Policies that pace growth in targeted areas	36	51	13	12	6
No policies; unlimited growth	1	10	26	61	8

17. **Which of the following types of developments would you like to see more of in New Hampton?** (Check one for each development type)

	Like	Dislike	No Opinion
Professional Offices	74	19	21
Small Retail business	90	15	10
Large retail	27	64	9
Light industry	59	44	12
Restaurants	83	18	15
Entertainment/attractions	45	43	27
Grocery stores	63	37	15
Hotels/motels	36	55	21
Service businesses	74	18	16
Home businesses	76	16	15
Mixed Use Developments (live/work)	52	34	20
Apartments	31	60	20
Condominiums	32	61	19
Starter Homes	68	24	17
Moderate Homes	76	16	21
Luxury Homes	48	38	30
Retirement/Assisted Living Housing	68	22	23
Manufactured Housing	32	51	28
Low-Income/Public Housing	23	71	18
Agri Business	76	18	22
Agri Tourism	65	26	20
Other _____	4	3	3

18. **Thinking about future new commercial development, how important or unimportant are the following issues?**
 (Check one box for each issue)

	Very Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Not at All Important	No Opinion
That the facility generates pride in the community	70	37	4	4	3
That it be attractive	70	38	7	1	2
That it include significant amounts of landscaping	57	22	29	5	4
That it be sustainable	60	33	7	4	5

PLANNING

19. **Are you satisfied with the availability of business services in New Hampton?**

Yes 64
 No 41

Comment

If yes

If no

Wish there was more businesses
 More welcome
 Would be nice to have grocery store, pizza store
 Need Market Basket

20. **Are you satisfied with the overall appearance of your neighborhood?**

Yes 93
 No 25

Comment

If yes

Some areas need to be cleaned up

If no

Bad roads
 Unsafe buildings should be addressed
 Too many buildings in disrepair
 Junkyards
 People need to be forced to clean up yards (2)
 Trees hanging over roads need trimming
 Do something about properties that look like junk yards.

21. **Are you satisfied with the appearance of commercial buildings in New Hampton?**

Yes 82
 No 25

Comment

If yes

Mostly

Some can be improved by landscaping

If no

Lousy corner (rt. 104/rt. 132)

Some buildings look dumpy (2)

Looks bland along Rt. 104

22. Are you satisfied with the distribution of commercial and residential land use throughout New Hampton?

Yes 85

No 19

Comment

If yes

Like gas stations and liquor store

Keep commercial land on 104/132 only

If no

Not happy with car dealer next to Rossi

Need more commercial

Concerned about subdivisions of large open fields

23. Are you satisfied with the level of safety in the community?

Yes 106

No 8

Comment

If YES

Excellent Fire, EMS & Police

Glad to have 24 hr police on duty

Some concerns about locks being picked

Concerned that neighboring town's issues will affect New Hampton

If no

Rt. 104 a nightmare

Never see police in neighborhoods, they're always on Rt. 104

PD lacks positive attitude

24. Are you satisfied with the recreational opportunities in New Hampton?

Yes 86

No 24

Comment

If Yes

If NO

Wish there were more

Need park or community center

Need children's sport teams

25. Are you satisfied with Code Enforcement in New Hampton?

Yes 53
No 30

Comment

If YES

Some properties are hazardous and unsightly

IF NO

Too many old cars and junk in yards
Permits seem unequally distributed
Enforcement doesn't exist

26. Are you satisfied with the quality of roads and infrastructure in New Hampton?

Yes 51
No 61

Comment

If YES

Could be more improvement in winter upkeep (2)
Mowing and ditch cleaning should be done regularly

If NO

Roads need repairing (7)
Plowing in winter needs to be better (2)
Our road in very bad shape (2)
Our road was once paved, now is dirt
Spend more money on roads (including dirt roads)
Old Bristol Road getting worse
My road floods
Village water
Room for improvement (2)
We have poorest roads in region
Straights Rd. is deplorable
Current repairs not being done correctly

27. Are you satisfied with the cellular phone reception in New Hampton?

Yes 64
No 40
No Opinion 8

Who is your cell phone provider?

If YES

Republic wireless
Verizon (20)
ATT

If NO

Verizon (4)
Straight talk

Consumer cellular
US Cellular

28. **Are you satisfied with the Internet service in New Hampton?**

Yes 69
No 32
No Opinion 10

Who is your Internet provider?

If YES

Metrocast (6)

Trac phone

Atlantic broadband (16)

Verizon

Consolidated Communications

Phone company

If NO

Verizon wireless

Consolidated communications (2)

Metrocast

Atlantic Broadband (2)

Fairpoint

29. **What are the most pressing transportation issues facing New Hampton? (circle all that apply)**

Traffic volume	51
Bicycle lanes	14
Sidewalks	11
Speeding vehicles	44
Road Quality	64
Other _____	6

Enforce speed limits

Traffic on Rt 93

Traffic volume on 104 (2)

Traffic and speeding bad on weekends

Been passed on Rt. 104 near Post Office three times

Speeding on Rt. 104

Proper drainage on roads

Lack of sidewalks

My road like Indy 500

Pedestrians in dark clothes in middle of rural roads

30. **What impacts from outside of New Hampton concern you the most?**

Climate change (2)

Donald Trump

Drugs (6)

Traffic from tourist season

Socialism

Car dealers look bad

Increased liberal lean of state government

Tourists/traffic

Utility R.O.W.

Low income housing

Flat Landers
Influx of outsiders will erode New Hampton core values
We do not need to become like Exit 20
AirBnB
Non-residential property in residential areas
Crime
Massachussets implosion
Unplanned growth, control aggressive developers
Convenient location will result in runaway growth

31. **What would you say is the most critical issue facing New Hampton today?**

Lack of transportation
Keeping historic small town feel (4)
Tax rate (3)
Technology
Lack of pride w/ property owners
Village water supply (2)
Anti growth attitude
Developing Exit 23 area to benefit tourists and residents
Funding sources to support town budget
Keep commercial development localized with zoning
How to stay rural and unique (2)
Growth should be focused on contribution to taxes, jobs created and impact on traffic
Uncontrolled development
Need business tax base to keep property tax in check
Control education spending
Winona Road is not cared for
Crime
Drugs
Mud season
Need more road maintenance done during good weather
Maintain small town feel while encouraging growth
New Hampton as an attractive place for young people to live, work and raise family
Climate change
Limit development, don't want New Hampton to be like MA
Keeping the rural/agricultural environment
Issues from nearby towns
Lack of tax base, need village with shops and foot traffic

Additional comments:

Town Government (Selectmen, Administrator, Police and Fire) are doing a great job, concentrate on roads
No one cares about Winona end of Town
Roads need tree removal