

NH SMALL TOWN LIBRARY DATA (pop. <2,500)

7/20/2026

TOWN	POPULATION	AGE <20***	LIBRARY ADDRESS	SQ. FT.**	VOLUMES*	ANNUAL CIRCULATION*	2022 Gov't Rev.****	Other Revenue	Total	Proposed Sq. Ft.**	Pro Forma Total Sq. Ft.**
Kensington	2,100	418	126 Amesbury Rd.	4,485	17,951	14,512	\$131,847	\$6,853	\$138,700	5,101	9,586
Colebrook	2,084	288	126 Main St.	10,984	32,816	21,112	\$214,385	\$20,725	\$235,110		
Dublin	1,532	419	1114 Main St.	6,000	20,100	4,652	\$139,906	\$1,916	\$141,822		
Hampton Falls	2,403	484	7 Drinkwater Rd.	5,600	20,082	21,772	\$171,681	\$70,246	\$241,927		
Troy	2,130	442	10 South Main St.	5,000	20,000	19,800	\$101,182	\$9,234	\$110,416		
Bradford	1,662	340	78 West Main St.	5,000	13,112	15,019	\$95,479	\$7,145	\$102,624		
East Kingston (2007)	2,441	432	47 Maplevale Rd.	4,480	22,804	26,628	\$173,518	\$19,276	\$192,794		
Plainfield (1920)	2,459	600	1088 Rt. 12A	4,393	26,947	13,041	\$96,506	\$4,695	\$101,201		
Freedom	1,689	263	38 Old Portland Rd.	4,000	14,726	15,915	\$120,000	\$22,975	\$142,975		
Tuftsboro (1970)	2,467	389	221 Middle Rd.	3,980	32,035	39,649	\$196,670	\$20,191	\$216,861		
Lyme	1,745	349	38 Union St.	3,886	38,510	36,103	\$227,981	\$22,457	\$250,438		
Marlborough	2,096	542	28 Jaffrey Rd.,	3,582	12,764	16,876	\$32,767	\$60,104	\$92,871		
Franconia	1,083	177	439 Main St.	3,500	21,003	9,706	\$95,000	\$22,000	\$117,000		
Lincoln	1,631	303	22 Church St.	3,300	16,795	19,363	\$184,517	\$500	\$185,017		
Hancock	1,731	295	25 Main St.	3,160	18,406	23,699	\$107,482	\$54,717	\$162,199		
Whitefield	2,490	391	8 Lancaster Rd.	2,937	14,304	8,972	\$49,625	\$25,000	\$74,625		
Fitzwilliam	2,351	367	11 Templeton Tpke	2,921	17,853	25,801	\$162,211	\$16,005	\$178,216		
Newbury	2,172	379	933 Rt. 103	2,800	17,600	17,352	\$254,516	\$20,228	\$274,744		
Westmoreland	1,706	333	33 South Village Rd.	2,382	10,188	4,841	\$41,539	\$200	\$41,739		
Northumberland	2,126	327	22 State St., Groveton, NH	2,240	24,525	11,778	\$57,962	\$6,710	\$64,672		
Cornish	1,616	275	School St.	2,206	10,198	2,856	\$42,717	\$2,697	\$45,414		
Springfield	1,259	183	2748 Main St.	2,200	18,420	3,161	\$65,024	\$0	\$65,024		
Wilmot	1,407	274	11 North Wilmot Rd.	2,000	9,100	5,914	\$60,140	\$4,100	\$64,240		
Holderness	2,004	294	866 US Rt. 3	1,862	12,961	9,404	\$215,000	\$0	\$215,000		
Greenville	1,974	425	46 Main St.	1,600	19,650	16,480	\$165,420	\$600	\$166,020		
Center Harbor	1,040	120	35 Plymouth St.	1,600	12,898	12,985	\$104,877	\$9,473	\$114,350		
Bethlehem (2013)	2,484	460	2245 Main St.	1,550	13,825	17,038	\$175,560	\$14,255	\$189,815		
Webster	1,913	532	947 Battle St.	1,435	10,884	7,006	\$57,547	\$5,040	\$62,587		
Ashland	1,938	475	41 Main St.	1,425	14,541	13,842	\$104,046	\$0	\$104,046		
Greenfield	1,716	332	761 Forest Rd.	1,400	9,969	10,781	\$155,611	\$0	\$155,611		
Andover	2,406	306	11 School St.	1,375	12,218	8,699	\$27,945	\$99	\$28,044		
Hill	1,017	154	30 Crescent St.	1,364	11,611	3,626	\$35,900	\$0	\$35,900		
Canterbury	2,389	426	9 Center Rd.	1,350	13,360	20,503	\$219,046	\$17,950	\$236,996		
Salisbury	1,422	337	641 Old Turnpike Rd.	1,253	8,292	9,883	\$58,891	\$1,928	\$60,819		

Madbury	1,918	651	9 Town Hall Rd.	1,200	14,641	12,397	\$107,746	\$5,186	\$112,932
Orford	1,237	168	2539 Rt. 25A	1,183	9,243	5,427	\$13,187	\$2,685	\$15,872
Newfields	1,769	394	76 Main St.	1,160	11,108	9,458	\$73,134	\$30,518	\$103,652
Rumney	1,498	294	10 Buffalo Rd.	1,100	16,921	6,310	\$57,880	\$2,500	\$60,380
Washington	1,192	182	46 North Main St.	1,076	8,208	1,800	\$11,195	\$6,511	\$17,706
Temple	1,382	222	5 Main St.	1,060	10,000	7,830	\$77,542	\$2,492	\$80,034
Jefferson	1,043	137	737 Presidential Hywy	1,027	9,143	2,422	\$43,967	\$12,177	\$56,144
Francetown	1,610	328	52 Main St.	1,020	20,807	10,570	\$112,950	\$6,751	\$119,701
Alexandria	1,776	307	33 Washburn Rd.	1,020	7,113	645			
Bennington	1,501	440	2 Main St.	1,000	53,726	19,010	\$160,227	\$3,584	\$163,811
Harrisville	984	149	7 Canal St.	988	5,000	5,686	\$50,640	\$0	\$50,640
Mason	1,448	430	16 Darling Hill Rd.	915	11,621	10,498	\$72,926	\$0	\$72,926
Jackson	1,028	37	125 Main St.	800	8,532	15,427	\$110,768	\$24,055	\$134,823
Stoddard	1,374	192	1391 Rt. 123 North	622	6,563	3,216	\$53,210	\$12,000	\$65,210
Lyndeborough	1,702	260	136 Forest Rd.	600	9,210	5,229	\$73,534	\$792	\$74,326
Bridgewater	1,160	130	955 River Rd.	500	9,865	7,921			
Milan	1,358	282	20 Bridge St.	400	5,200	2,360	\$23,402	\$0	\$23,402
Middleton	1,823	333	No Public Library						
Sandwich	1,466	178	35 Main St.	?	12,781	23,030	\$106,283	\$75,947	\$182,230
Alstead	1,864	255	2 Main St.	?	18,295	19,181	\$50,451	\$43,774	\$94,225
New Castle	1,000	107	301 Wentworth Rd.	?	13,023	10,318	\$117,400	\$16,719	\$134,119
Bath	1,077	238	4 West Bath Rd.	?	9,046	8,895	\$63,368	\$1,795	\$65,163
Effingham	1,691	426	30 Town House Rd.	?	12,530	8,747	\$66,213	\$17,618	\$83,831
Richmond	1,197	261	19 Winchester Rd.	?	9,749	6,840	\$45,319	\$2,659	\$47,978
Lisbon	1,621	374	45 School St.	?	9,944	6,659	\$68,247	\$8,622	\$76,869
Grafton	1,385	307	26 Library Rd.	?	5,008	6,221	\$16,983	\$2,604	\$19,587
Sutton	1,978	477	75 Main St.	?	10,000	4,200	\$109,536	\$69	\$109,605
Woodstock	1,434	187	165 Lost River Rd.	?	10,733	3,779	\$85,027	\$900	\$85,927
Lempster	1,118	142	3 2nd NH Tnpke	?	6,226	2,947	\$19,000	\$0	\$19,000
Unity	1,518	180	13 Center Rd., Unit 4	?	2,405	764	\$64,256	\$7,197	\$71,453
Danbury	1,250	267	Rt. 104	?	19,080	680	\$16,685	\$7,064	\$23,749
Deering	1,904	389	762 Deering Center Rd.	?	1,008	177	\$2,857	\$1,298	\$4,155

\\NH Kensington Library small town data 072026.xlsx

*Libraries.org; IMLS.gov;

**Avitarassociates.com; Axisgis.com; new-hampshire.educationbug.org; Kensington sq. ft. from Library FAQ

***American Community Survey 2020-2024

****Librarytechnology.org; KSL in 2025=\$143,142

Sheet1

TOWN PAYMENTS TO WEEKS PUBLIC LIBRARY-GREENLAND, NH

2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	Since 2021	Since 2019
\$296,751	3%	\$305,577	4%	\$316,527	2%	\$321,352	1%	\$325,934	5%	\$343,828	5%	\$359,550	17%	\$421,700	2%	\$431,788	13%	\$486,170	41%	51%
										Avg. \$ increase < new building	3.3%					Avg. \$ increase > new building	10.8%			

286,284

60% no

849 337 YES
512 NO

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 03 \$1 MILLION BOND FOR LIBRARY ADDITION

To see if the Town of Kensington will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$5,500,000) for the purpose of renovating the Library to provide an increase in space for children's programs and ADA accessibility for all residents; with One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) of such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1 et seq., as amended; Four Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$4,500,000) to come from the Kensington Social Trustees donations and fundraising campaign; to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, obtain, accept and expend federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and to authorize the Selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto.

And to vote to raise and appropriate an additional sum of Eighty-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$87,700.00) for the first year's payment on the bond.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommend this article.

The tax impact of this article will be \$0.13 (thirteen cents) per \$1,000 of valuation.
Three-Fifths Ballot Vote required for passage.

Article 04 OPERATING BUDGET

Shall the Town of Kensington raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the ~~warrant~~ as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totalling \$2,803,594.00 (two million eight hundred three thousand five hundred and ninety-four dollars). Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,702,112 (two million seven hundred two thousand one hundred and twelve dollars). The governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X, and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority Vote Required.)

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommend this article.

The proposed operating budget is an increase of \$99,951 from the budget adopted in 2025 of \$2,703,643.
The net estimated impact is \$0.14 (fourteen cents) per \$1,000 of valuation.

850 348 YES
492 NO

Article 05 AMEND DISABLED VET CREDIT

To see if the Town of Kensington will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:35 and increase the Veterans Disability Property Tax Credit for a service-connected total disability to the sum of \$2,150.00 (two thousand one hundred fifty dollars). (Majority vote required).

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommend this article.

This change replaces the previous ability for the veteran to stack 2 credits; this was a recent legislative change in 2025. The tax impact is unknown for this warrant article for 2026.

835 635 YES
200 NO

Article 06 PURCHASE 3,000gal TANKER FOR KFD

To see if the voters of Kensington will raise an appropriate \$ 589,109.00 (five hundred and ninety-nine thousand one hundred and nine dollars and zero cents) for the purchase of a new tanker truck. \$150,000.00 (one hundred and fifty thousand dollars) from the FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES CAPITAL RESERVE FUND will be used to purchase this vehicle. The remaining funds of \$449,109 (four hundred and forty-nine thousand one hundred and nine dollars) will come from the unassigned fund balance.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommend this article.

There is no impact on this tax rate for this article in 2026.

854 448 YES
396 NO

Article 07 ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200,000 (two hundred thousand dollars) for road reconstruction and maintenance of town roads. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation as per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until December 31, 2027. This is in addition to the operating budget article. (Majority Vote Required.)

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommend this article.

The tax impact of this article will be \$0.28 (twenty-nine cents) per \$1,000 of valuation.

854 447 YES
397 NO

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING

4

Library Trustees: The Other Board in Town

RSA 202-A:2 defines a board of Library Trustees as “the governing body of the library.” Trustees are vested with the entire custody and management of the library. They hire the library director, adopt policies to govern the library’s operation and advocate for adequate financial support of the library. Trustees have the power to expend all funds provided to the library, and to determine how they will be spent.

NH public libraries are not town departments, subject to jurisdiction and review by the town manager and/or select board. The NH Supreme Court affirmed in *Town of Littleton v. Kathryn Taylor* (April 1994) that **the library is a separate and distinct entity from the town. The court ruled that the board of trustees is the sole governing body of the library and that library employees are not town employees.** A copy of this court decision is available on the NHLTA website.

TRUSTEE SELECTION

There are several methods for the selection of library trustees in New Hampshire. In towns, trustees are elected unless a library deed provides for another method of election or appointment. In cities, trustees are elected or appointed as set forth in the city charter.

Although any resident may be a candidate, trustees should have a strong interest in the library and its welfare. Every potential trustee must understand that being a library trustee is an ongoing job; he or she should be willing to commit more than just a few hours a month at a meeting. **A trustee must be willing to learn about library service and fully participate in fulfilling the responsibilities of the position.** A board should represent the diversity of the community with members chosen for their professional and personal skills.

GOVERNING AND ADVISORY BOARDS

Knowledge of the authority under which the board operates is essential for an effective, functioning board. Check your city or town charter. All city charters, as well as trust instruments and other documents establishing certain libraries, must be consulted for specific power and duties, and election vs appointment of the board of library trustees (RSA 202-A:8).

If the board is a **governing board**, it is responsible for the entire custody and management of the library. If the board is an **advisory board**, its main function is to represent the thinking of the community regarding the use and policies of the library.

Governing Boards

RSA 202-A:6 states that a town having a public library shall, at a duly warned town meeting, elect a board of library trustees consisting of any odd number of persons. Such trustees shall serve staggered three-year terms or until their successors are elected and qualified. Vacancies on the board are filled by appointment by the town’s governing body until the next election (RSA 202-A:10). The board may and should recommend no more than three candidates to fill the vacancy. Once appointed, the new trustee may also run for the position in the next election.