

## FACT SHEET - ROCHESTER, NH

Compiled as a service of the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce.

**LOCATION** Southeastern New Hampshire in Strafford County

**POPULATION** - Rochester: 29,991 County: 125,604 (2014 US Census Bureau)

**GEOGRAPHY** - Average elevation is 232 feet above sea level. Surrounding terrain is hilly. Topographical features include: Cocheco River and Salmon Falls River. Beaches within 30 minutes. Many small lakes surround Rochester. 30 minutes to Lakes Region of New Hampshire, Lake Winnepesaukee. An hour to the White Mountains. 74 miles to Boston.

**CLIMATE** - The average annual temperature is 47.05 F. The total annual precipitation is 46.34 inches. There is an average of 52.9 inches of snow per year. On average, there are 202 days of cloudless weather.

**GOVERNMENT** - City Manager/Council. 13 member Council who each serve a two year term. Council represents two members from each ward and two at large members.

### TAXES

Property Tax: Rate is \$28.15 per thousand. Local property taxes assessed as of April 1st and payable July 1st and December 1st. New Hampshire has no sales or income tax.

City Motor Vehicle Tax is paid at the Tax Collector's Office (determined by weight for the State and original list price and year of vehicle for the City). This tax can be paid online for existing registrations using the "e-reg" process at <https://www.eb2gov.com/scripts/eb2gov.dll/ereg/main?towncode=920>. Please note there is an added cost for this service. Customers registering a vehicle for the first time or changing plates still need to visit the City Tax Collector's office in person.

### LICENSES

State Driver's and Motor Vehicle: May be obtained in the following manner. Register car at Tax Collector's office, (car must be registered before an out of state driver's license will be transferred). Then write to: Motor Vehicle Department, 23 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03305 or call 271-2251 for an application for driver's license test. This usually takes about three weeks. Driver's test by appointment given in Dover Point at Dept. of Motor Vehicles, 50 Boston Harbor Road, Dover. Test generally consists of eye examination when individual has valid license from another state.

Bicycle Registration: Bicycles may be registered at the police station (not required).

Dog License: May be purchased at City Clerk's office. Rabies inoculation required for all dogs new to city. Rochester has a law requiring dogs to be under the control of the owner at all times. Female/Male (spayed or neutered) \$10.00 without; \$7.50 with.

Marriage License: The charge is \$50.00. The license is good for 90 days from the date of the application and can be used anywhere in New Hampshire. If this is not your first marriage, a certified copy with a raised seal of a death certificate or a divorce decree must be presented at time of the application. A blood test is not required for a marriage license in New Hampshire.

**VOTER REGISTRATION** - You may register to vote at the City Clerk's office prior to Election Day, or with the Checklist Supervisors at your designated polling location on Election Day. You must fill out a voter registration card and must have proof of your citizenship, age, and residency. Please note that there is a 10-day period before all elections during which you cannot register to vote. To determine your designated polling location call the City Clerk at 332-2130.

**LABOR MARKET** - The unemployment rate for Rochester is low compared to national figures.

(OVER)

**EDUCATION** - Rochester offers public kindergarten, 8 public elementary, middle and senior high schools. There is also a parochial school serving grades 1-8. Bus transportation is available to students living over a specific number of miles from the school. For specific information: Public: Superintendents Office, 332-3678; Parochial: St. Elizabeth Seton School, 332-4803.

**COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES** - University of New Hampshire, Durham; Granite State College, Rochester; Great Bay Community College, Portsmouth and Rochester.

**HOUSING** - Median housing costs - \$168,900. Several apartment complexes with a median gross rental price of \$915.00 per month.

**MEDICAL FACILITIES** - Frisbie Memorial Hospital, 11 Whitehall Road, Rochester, 332-5211. Acute care hospital representing most branches of medicine and surgery.

**RECREATION** - The Department of Recreation, Arena & Youth Services is committed to providing recreational and community programming aimed at enriching the quality of life in Rochester. They strive to maintain meaningful connections with the community by providing programs, services and facilities that foster a healthy community. Department of Recreation, Arena & Youth Services, 332-4120; YMCA of Strafford County, 332-7334; Rochester Country Club, 332-0985; Rochester Ice Arena, 335-6749; Senior Citizen Center, 332-7845; and Skyhaven Airport, 332-0005.

**SHOPPING** - Attractive downtown with a variety of retail establishments. In addition, Cardinal's Plaza, Route 11; Gonic Plaza, Route 125; Lilac Mall, Route 125; Lilac Plaza North, Route 125; Market Basket Plaza, Route 125; Rochester Crossing, Route 202 West; Shoreyville Plaza, Route 202 East Rochester; and Wal\*Mart, Route 11. Coming Spring 2016: The Ridge Marketplace, Route 11.

**TRANSPORTATION** - Major routes include the Spaulding Turnpike, Routes 11, 16, 108, 125 and 202. Rochester is serviced by the COAST Bus System which connects cities throughout the Seacoast.

#### **UTILITIES -**

Water: Municipal, Rochester Water Works Department, 332-4096.

Gas: D.F. Richard, 742-2020; Dead River Company, 692-3113; and Eastern Propane & Oil, Inc., 332-2080

Natural Gas: Unifit, 1-800-552-8464

Oil: D.F. Richard Energy, 742-2020; Dead River Company, 692-3113; Eastern Propane & Oil 332-2080, Local Pride, 330-0800; Downeast Energy, 742-1565

Electricity: Eversource, 1-800-662-7764

Telephone: BayRing, 766-1000; MetroCast, 800-952-1001; and FairPoint Communications, 656-1668

Cellular Phone: Amcomm Wireless, 335-9200

Cable: MetroCast, 332-5466

**INTERNET ACCESS** - Excellent internet access is available in the area. BayRing, 766-1000; FairPoint Communications, 656-1668; and MetroCast, 332-5466.

**GARBAGE & REFUSE** - Collected once a week by Waste Management. Trash is to be placed in totes and brought to curbside. Voluntary curbside recycling is conducted in Rochester. Bins should be placed curbside on normal garbage collection day. Call 1-800-847-5303 or Public Works at 332-4096.