



POLITICAL RESOURCE GUIDE

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Overview of Concord, NH



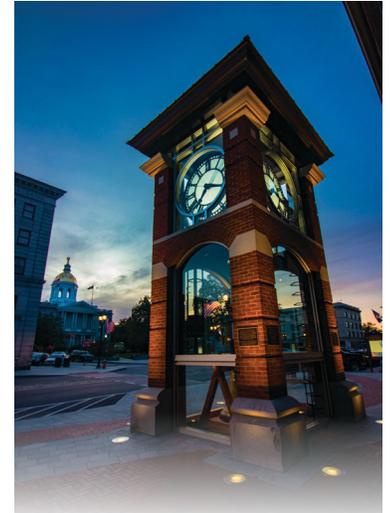
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The **City of Concord** is New Hampshire's state capital with a population of 43,019 and is New Hampshire's third highest populated city. The City covers a wide land space of 67.49 square miles and includes the Village of Penacook.

With the City's central location in the northeast business corridor, coupled with high-quality business support services, Concord has been consistently touted as one of the most desirable communities in New Hampshire in which to live and work.

As the state's capital with no personal income tax, no sales tax, low professional business taxes, and no impact fees on non-residential construction, Concord offers businesses a unique advantage benefiting their bottom line. The City government is committed to working closely with new and expanding businesses by offering a variety of economic development incentives.



Concord is also viewed as a very livable community with seven City parks, a revitalized downtown, abundant amenities, reliable city services, low crime rate, and minimal traffic. Residents also enjoy relative proximity to Boston, the White Mountains and the ocean, which are all one hour away in various directions. There is also a wealth of local trails that may be used for hiking and cross-country skiing, giving residents the opportunity to delve into nature within the City limits.

The climate fluctuates with very distinct seasons. The warmest month is July with an average temperature of 70 degrees. The coldest month is January with an average temperature of 21.1 degrees. The median household income in Concord is \$57,566, the median age is 39.3 and median property value is \$204,600.

Several notable figures hail from Concord as well including the 14th U.S. President Franklin Pierce, Supreme Court Justice David Souter, Founder of the Christian Science Church Mary Baker Eddy, Teacher/Astronaut Christa McAuliffe, Stonyfield CEO Gary Hirschberg, and two-time NBA Championship winning basketball player Matt Bonner.





History of Politics in Concord, NH



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Concord becomes the capital in 1808: Concord was named the capital in 1808 and the state house was completed in 1819. The state house is the oldest state house in the country where legislators still meet in the original chambers. It currently acts as the office location for the governor, executive council and general court.

Lincoln visit of 1860: One of the most famous visits to Concord by a political figure was the 1860 stop by Abraham Lincoln. Although the visit was brief, it proved to be an important one for Lincoln in the lead-up to his election as the 16th president. Lincoln was encouraged to speak in Exeter where he was visiting his son Robert at Phillips Exeter Academy. Lincoln would make a quick stop in Concord on March 1, speaking at Phenix Hall. Though the exact words are lost to time, the speech itself was reportedly on the evils of slavery. That speech in New Hampshire is often cited as helping grow Lincoln's support that eventually led him to the presidency.

Roosevelt returns, 1912: The original Phenix Hall burned down in 1893 and a new building was built. Theodore Roosevelt gave a speech at the new Phenix Hall in 1912. Roosevelt had already made a famous visit to Concord in 1902, giving a speech at the state fair in August of that year. Photographs of that speech still exist today.



New Hampshire's own President: Though presidential visits dot the Concord historical landscape, New Hampshire's own president Franklin Pierce called the city home. Pierce was born in Hillsboro, NH in 1804 and would go on to set up his law practice in Concord. He would follow his brother Benjamin into politics and was elected as a legislator in 1829. Pierce would soon be appointed chairman of the house education committee and then speaker of the house in 1831. In 1832, Pierce was nominated to the House of Representatives. Pierce would serve in the Senate, though he eventually resigned and served as a general in the Mexican-American war. Later, he returned to Concord to practice law before the call of political office pulled him back, leading to his election as President in 1852.



First in the nation: Thanks to the New Hampshire primary, Concord remains a major political hot spot as most candidates are expected to make a visit to the area in an effort to garner early support and gain momentum. The first primary in New Hampshire was held in 1916. In recent years, other states have moved up their own primary elections in an effort to take the "first-in-the-nation" status from the Granite State, but New Hampshire has managed to stay ahead by moving its own date up.



Directory of Campaign Stops



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Outdoor Venues (Seasonal)

White Park

These 25 acres are ideal for outdoor campaign events and television interviews with picturesque pond and beautiful stone foot bridge. The Merrimack Lodge also provides a holding area for candidates and patio with outdoor seating for sit-down interviews. Contact: [Concord Parks and Recreation](#) at (603) 225-8690.



Rollins Park

Located in the south end, this is one of Concord's finest parks. It is ideal for outdoor campaign events with a beautiful gazebo and an abundance of open space. Contact: [Concord Parks and Recreation](#) at (603) 225-8690.

Statehouse Lawn

This is Concord's most historic outdoor location. Presidents Reagan, Clinton, Obama, and Trump have all held events here in the last 35 years. Presidential candidates all come to the State House to file for the New Hampshire Primary. Statues of Daniel Webster and John Stark provide a backdrop at the location. Contact: [NH General Court Visitor's Center](#) at (603) 271-2154.



Retail Drop-In Locations



Carter Hill Orchard (Seasonal)

When campaigning in the fall, a stop at Carter Hill is necessary. Hillary Clinton has held two events in the country store and 2016 Vice President Nominee Tim Kaine picked apples here. The orchard is located five minutes from downtown Concord.

Contact: Rob Larocque at (603) 225-2625 or visit <http://www.carterhillapples.com>.

Mapletree Farm (Seasonal)

Mapletree is Concord's only maple sugarhouse in a beautiful location with maple trees as the backdrop, with tin cans for the traditional gathering of syrup. The sugarhouse is located five minutes from downtown Concord. Contact: Dean Wilbur at (603) 224-0820 or visit <https://mapletreefarmnh.com>.



Concord Craft Brewing Company

This company is a significant part of the burgeoning craft brewery industry in New Hampshire. It is good for a drop-in or event with a capacity of approximately 50-75 people. Contact: (603) 856-7625 or visit <http://www.concordcraftbrewing.com>.

Revelstoke Coffee

This is Concord's newest coffee shop with chic décor, located directly across from the State House. It is ideal for a drop-in, one-on-one meetings, or small group events. Contact: Lindsay Cole at (603) 715-5821 or visit <https://www.revelstokecoffee.com>



Popular Downtown Event Venues



The Common Man

This popular New Hampshire restaurant is located right off exit 13 of I-93 with a folksy décor. There is a private room for a moderate sized event or panel with a capacity of approximately 50-75 people. There is a bar and dining area for drop-ins, too. John McCain and Bill Richardson both visited this location while campaigning. Contact (603) 228-3463 or visit

<https://www.thecman.com>.

The Barley House

"The Road to the White House Begins at The Barley House." No Concord entity has embraced the primary more than this restaurant and bar. The downstairs space is ideal for candidate events for approximately 75-100 people. Contact Brian Shea at (603) 228-6363 or visit <https://concord.thebarleyhouse.com>.



Gibson's Bookstore



This independent bookstore has played a key role in the 2020 Democratic Primary as Merrimack County Democrats have held events for 50-300 people here. It also includes a children's toy store for a nice retail stop. Contact: Michael Hermann at (603) 224-0562 or visit <https://www.gibsonsbookstore.com>.

Live Juice

Nice place for one-on-one meetings, interviews, a small group meeting, or a retail drop-in. Smoothies and salads are on the menu. Call 226-3024 or visit <http://livejuicenh.com>



The Works Cafe

This is also a noted stop for one-on-one meetings or media interviews, small group meetings, or retail drop-ins. The primary menu items are bagels, coffee, and sandwiches. Contact: Don Brueggemann at (603) 226-1827 or visit <https://workscafe.com>.

True Brew Barista at Bicentennial Square

A coffee shop/bar with event space for 50-75 people. Also ideal for one-on-one meetings, interviews, small group meetings, or retail drop ins. Really nice trendy décor. Contact: (603) 225-2776 or visit <http://www.truebrewbarista.com>



Large Indoor Event Venues



City Wide Community Center

The Center is located on 'The Heights' in Concord, adjacent to Keach Park, and easily accessible from I-393. It can accommodate small or large events with built-in holding areas. There are five programming rooms, an auditorium, catering kitchen, and an 8,000 square foot gymnasium. Contact: Concord Parks and Rec at (603) 225-8690 or visit

<http://concordparksandrec.com>.



Concord Audi

This local venue is located in downtown Concord and was built in 1904. 'The Audi' seats between 835 and 841. The lobby's capacity is 65 seated guests and 140 standing guests. Contact: Concord Parks and Rec at (603) 225-8690 or visit <http://www.concordnh.gov/722/The-Audi>.

Grappone Conference Center

The conference center is located at the intersection of I-93 and I-393. It can accommodate up to 500 guests, has a holding area, breakout rooms, catering staff, and complimentary wireless Internet. Contact: (603) 225-0303 or visit <https://grapponeconferencecenter.com>.



NHTI Crocker Wellness Center

Located off Exit 1 of I-393 on the campus of New Hampshire Technical Institute, this is an ideal place to host a campaign rally for larger events of 500+ people. Contact: Debra Smith at (603) 271-6484 x4314 or visit <https://www.nhti.edu/student-life/fitness-and-recreation>.

Concord High School Gymnasium and Cafeteria

Probably the most storied large indoor spot in the city: Barack Obama rallied here leading up to the 2008 primary and Bernie Sanders had his campaign night celebration at this venue in 2016. Hillary Clinton also utilized this space. Located on Pleasant Street less than five minutes from Main Street, this venue is ideal for crowds of 500+ people. Contact: Matt Cashman at (603) 225-0811 or visit <http://chs.sau8.org>.

