Lebanon, New Hampshire, is situated at the confluence of the Connecticut River and the Mascoma River. In 1778, following a dispute with the New Hampshire legislature, Lebanon seceded from New Hampshire and became part of Vermont. After the disagreement was settled in 1782, Lebanon returned to New Hampshire.

Cultural institutions in Lebanon include the A V A (Alliance for the Visual Art) Gallery and Art Center, which promotes visual arts through exhibitions and educational programs, and the historic Lebanon Opera House, which presents theater, music, dance, educational programming, and family entertainment. Local performing companies include the North Country Community Theater, which stages a summer musical and a spring musical production for teenagers; NorthEast Shakespeare Ensemble, which produces one Shakespeare play and a non-Shakespeare classical play annually; Opera North, which presents two fully staged operatic productions annually; the City Center Ballet Company; Creative Movement School of Dance; and Upper Valley Music Center.

NEIGHBORHOODS

The municipality of Lebanon consists of two core areas—Lebanon and West Lebanon. Housing in Lebanon’s downtown area consists primarily of single-family houses, some of which date from the 1790s, and includes a mix of architectural styles. Some houses have been converted into two-, three-, or four-apartment units and others into offices. Newly constructed apartment complexes also are available. In addition to single-family houses in various architectural styles, West Lebanon also has some condominiums and apartments in its downtown area.

Outside of the core areas, neighborhoods such as Blueberry Hill, which was built in the 1970s and 1980s, consist of houses built on lots of at least two acres. Prospect Hill and Rock Ridge are cluster-type subdivisions that currently are under construction. These communities are surrounded by preserved open space and consist of single-family houses situated on smaller lots. In addition, several townhouse developments recently have been constructed or currently are under construction.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Lebanon has 14 parks, a public swimming pool, a nine-hole golf course, and an indoor ice rink. Amenities vary by park but include baseball, soccer, lacrosse fields, cross-country skiing, fishing, hiking, hunting, and ice skating. Storrs Hill Ski Area provides affordable and accessible skiing, snowboarding, and ski jumping.

Witherell Recreation Center, which is operated by a nonprofit community recreation association, maintains an enclosed swimming pool, whirlpool area and saunas, free-weight room, cardiovascular center, circuit-training room, indoor racquetball courts, outdoor tennis courts, indoor and outdoor basketball courts, and a gymnasium.

The Appalachian Trail crosses through the region. The Northern Rail Trail, which follows a former railroad line, begins in Lebanon and ends in Boscawen and is a favorite path for snowmobiles, bikes, and foot traffic.

EDUCATION

Lebanon School District serves 1,728 students from Lebanon and West Lebanon in grades kindergarten through 12, Grantham students from grades 7 through 12, and Plainfield students from grades 9 through 12. The district operates three elementary schools, a junior high school, and a high school.

Lebanon College is located in the center of downtown Lebanon and offers associate’s degree programs and certificate programs.

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center is the clinical education site for third- and fourth-year medical students from Dartmouth Medical School.

Upper Valley Educators Institute is a competency-based, alternative certification program that prepares adults for careers as teachers and school leaders.

HEALTH CARE

Two hospitals serve the residents of Lebanon with a total of 421 beds. Lebanon is home to New Hampshire’s only children’s hospital, as well as a National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center. White River Junction Veteran’s Affairs Medical Center in Vermont also serves Lebanon.

CITY STATS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Population</td>
<td>12,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grafton County</td>
<td>86,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita Personal Income, Grafton County</td>
<td>$44,795</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>