Though located between Stratton and Mount Snow ski areas, Wardsboro remains a predominantly rural town. Wardsboro is known as the first place the Gilfeather turnip was grown and harvested. The town now celebrates its heritage with an annual Gilfeather Turnip Festival.

Road classifications (miles) VTrans 2017:
- Class I: 0.00
- Class 2: 6.36
- Class 3: 40.29
- Class 4: 6.51

The population of Wardsboro rose from 854 to 900 people between 2000 and 2010, a 5% increase.

In 2010, the median age of the town was 45, up four years from 2000. Windham County’s median age was nearly the same, at 44.9 years. See Reference 1 on page 4 for population distribution by age group.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wardsboro</td>
<td>654</td>
<td>854</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>754</td>
<td>946</td>
<td>1035</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Townshend</td>
<td>1019</td>
<td>1149</td>
<td>1232</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newfane</td>
<td>1555</td>
<td>1680</td>
<td>1726</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dover</td>
<td>994</td>
<td>1410</td>
<td>1124</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>-20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stratton</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Between 1990 and 2000, Wardsboro seasonal housing decreased by approximately %10, but has remained at or above 50% of the total amount of housing units available since 1990.

Between 1990 and 2000, the number of housing units in Wardsboro rose from 755 to 849, a 12% increase, while total households rose from 358 to 374, a 5% increase.

The median gross monthly rent for the period 2012-2016 was $788. In comparison, Windham County’s median gross monthly rent was $849.

What is a household?

“A household includes all the persons who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence. A housing unit is a house, an apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms, or a single room that is occupied (or if vacant, is intended for occupancy) as separate living quarters”. (U.S. Census Bureau)
Understanding the American Community Survey

Data published in 2016 are 5 year **estimates** and do not reflect actual counts like population, age, or sex. These estimates are useful when analyzing trends in small populations, but should be used cautiously when making direct comparisons; they are estimates over a period from 2012 to 2016 and have a relatively large margin of error. The American Community Survey is conducted year round to gather “period” data, unlike the decennial census which is only conducted every ten years and collects “point-in-time” data.

An estimated 17.5% of the town’s population was below the poverty level for the period 2012-2016, an increase from the 2008-2012 period where it was 12.9%. In comparison, 14.0% of individuals were below the poverty level in Windham County for the period 2012-2016.

**Median Household Income (adjusted to 2016)**

The median estimated household income for the period 2012-2016 increased from 2012 to $42,188. To compare Wardsboro’s median income with neighboring towns, see Reference 2 on page 4.

The arts and entertainment industry experienced the largest increase in Wardsboro residents employed in the field from the 2008-2012 period to the 2012-2016 period. The manufacturing and professional and scientific fields saw the largest decrease.

During the period 2012-2016, 28.2% of Wardsboro residents worked in Wardsboro, including the 15.5% of residents that worked at home. See Reference 3 on page 4 for details on travel, and Reference 4 for details on Wardsboro’s household vehicle ownership.
References:

MAPS: Windham Regional Commission GIS Service Center


INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey

Sources