

## Section 5.1 Socio-Demographic Profile of Barnstable County, MA

### **Latest Updates To Census 2000 Statistics:**

Since the last official Census in early 2000, the Cape's population has grown some, peaked, and then decreased some. How much, we don't exactly know. However, the U.S. Census Bureau has ventured a few "official" estimates based upon their new American Community Survey - 2006 sample.

#### **Latest Barnstable County Total Population Estimate:** (per U.S. Census Bureau)

2006 Barnstable County Total Population Estimate: 225,000 living in an estimated 98,000 households.

If true, this would mean nearly a one percent decrease in total population from the 2004 Census Bureau "peak" estimate of 226,959. Although TOTAL population is estimated to have peaked in 2004, the size of the Cape's senior/elder (age 55+) population continues to grow rapidly, and is set to really take off in the next 1-2 years.

*Note 1: These are just estimates based upon a fairly small (approx. 40%) sample by the US Census Bureau of Barnstable County's permanent, year-round residents.*

#### **Latest Barnstable County Poverty Rate Estimates:** (per U.S. Census Bureau)

2006 Barnstable County Poverty Rate Estimates:

Persons age 65+ in poverty	4%
Related children ages 0-17 in poverty	3%
Families in poverty	2%
Female Head of Household Families	12%

#### **Latest Barnstable County Median Household Income Estimate:** (per U.S. Census Bureau)

2006 Barnstable County Median Household Income Estimate: \$56,974

If true, this would represent a 4.7% increase in median household income (\$) in the past ONE year. See Note 1 above.

#### **Latest Barnstable County Total Housing Unit Estimate:** (per U.S. Census Bureau)

2006 Barnstable County Total Housing Unit Estimate: 155,000

If true, this would mean about a 1 percent increase in the total (occupied and vacant/seasonal) number of housing units in the past year. See Note 1 above.

#### *Editor's Note:*

*Housing Unit (Building) Permit data from the US Census Bureau, historically incomplete for Barnstable County, have been revised and are no longer comparable with data shown in prior year Monitoring The Human Condition on Cape Cod Study Reports (e.g., MTHC-2007). Thus, no building permit data are shown in this year's Report.*



## Official Census 2000 - 2006 Statistics:

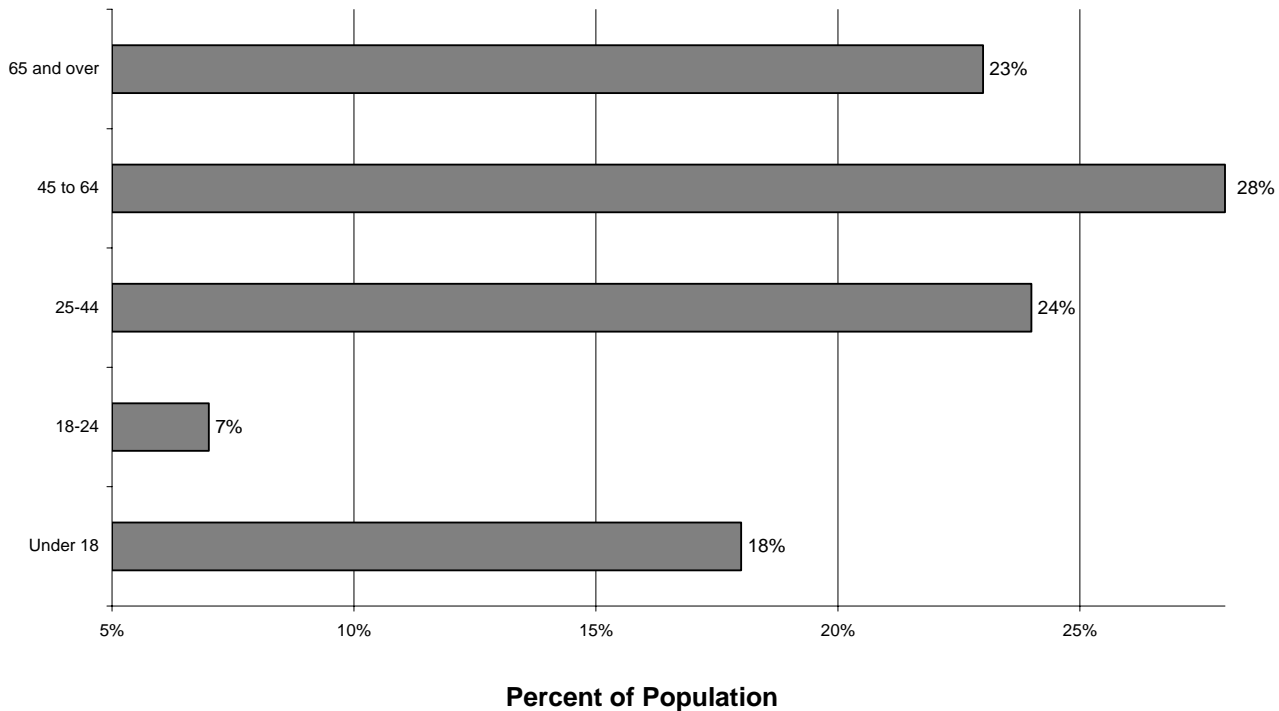
### Population and Housing Profile: Barnstable County, Massachusetts

See U.S. Census Bureau notes at the end of this Section.

POPULATION OF Barnstable County: Estimate for Year 2006 is 225,000 Persons

In 2006, Barnstable County had a household population of 225,000—an estimated 18,000 (52 percent) females and 107,000 (48 percent) males. The median age was 45.7 years, representing a minor (0.2%) increase in median age in the past one year. Eighteen percent of the population was under 18 years and 23 percent were 65 years and older.

**Table 5.1.1.a**  
**Year 2006 Age Distribution:**  
**All Persons in Barnstable County, MA in 2006**



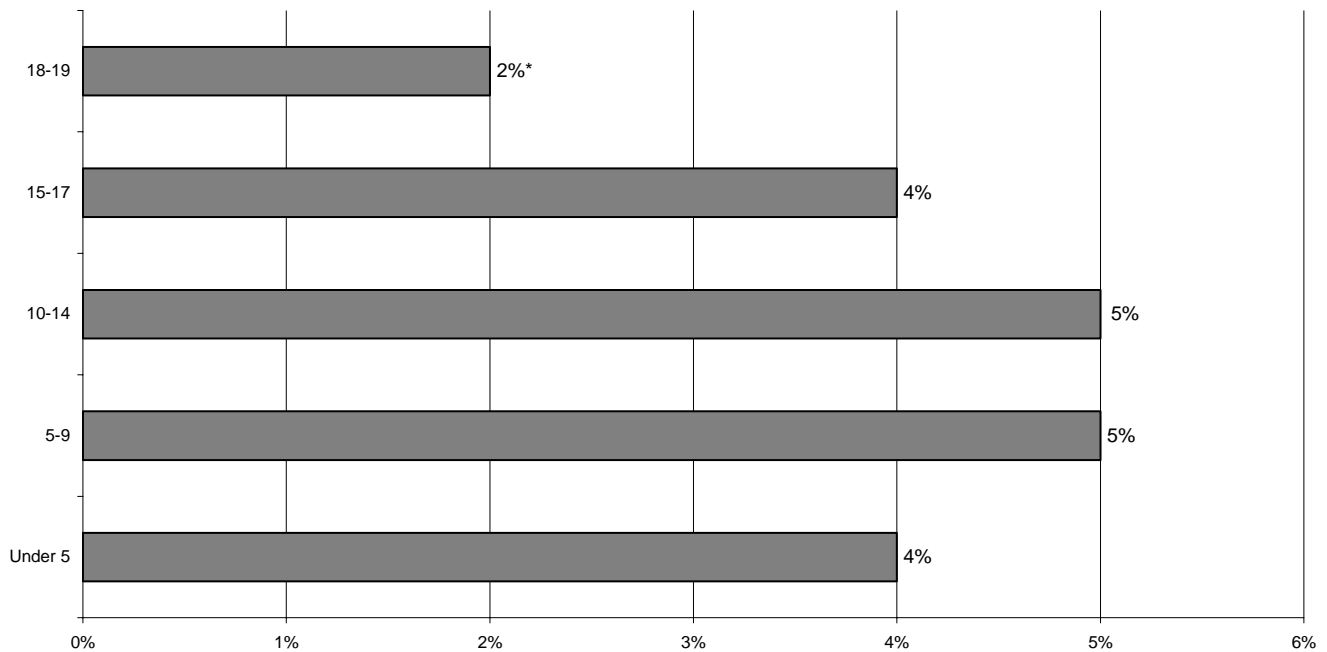
For people reporting one race alone, 96 percent were White; 2 percent were Black or African American; 1 percent were American Indian and Alaska Native; 1 percent were Asian; less than 0.5 percent were Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and less than 0.5 percent were Some Other Race. One percent reported Two Or More Races. Two percent of the people in Barnstable County reported being Hispanic. Ninety-three percent of the people in Barnstable County were White Non-Hispanic. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

## POPULATION GROUPS:

The year 2006 population estimate for Barnstable County (225,000) can be divided into three segments; young people (ages 0-17 years), young and middle-age adults (ages 18-54 years), and seniors/elders (age 55 and over).

**Population of Young People:** In 2006, it is estimated that 40,050 persons (18 percent) age 17 or younger (“young people”) lived in Barnstable County. Of these, 9,225 were infants or very young children (ages 0-4 years), 10,350 were ages 5-9 years, and 20,475 were pre-teens or younger teenagers (ages 10-17).

**Table 5.1.1.b  
Year 2006 Age Distribution:  
Younger Age Population of Barnstable County, MA**

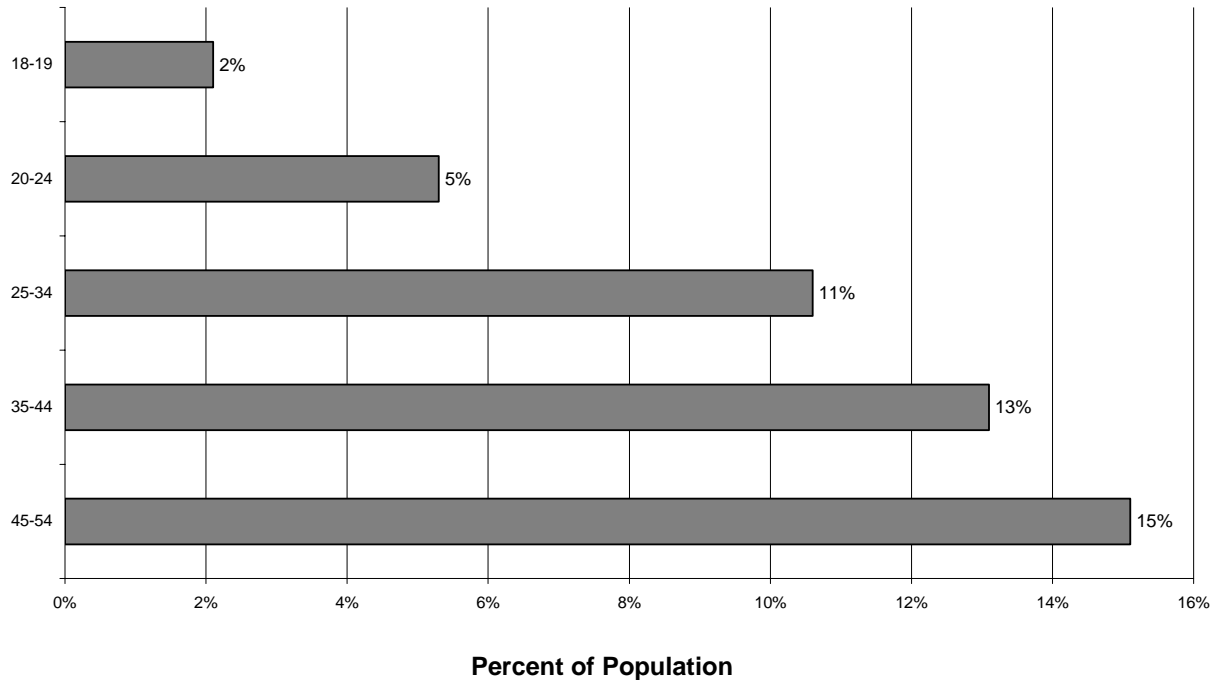


\* Barnstable County Dept. of Human Services  
estimate based upon US Census Bureau statistics.

**Percent of Population**

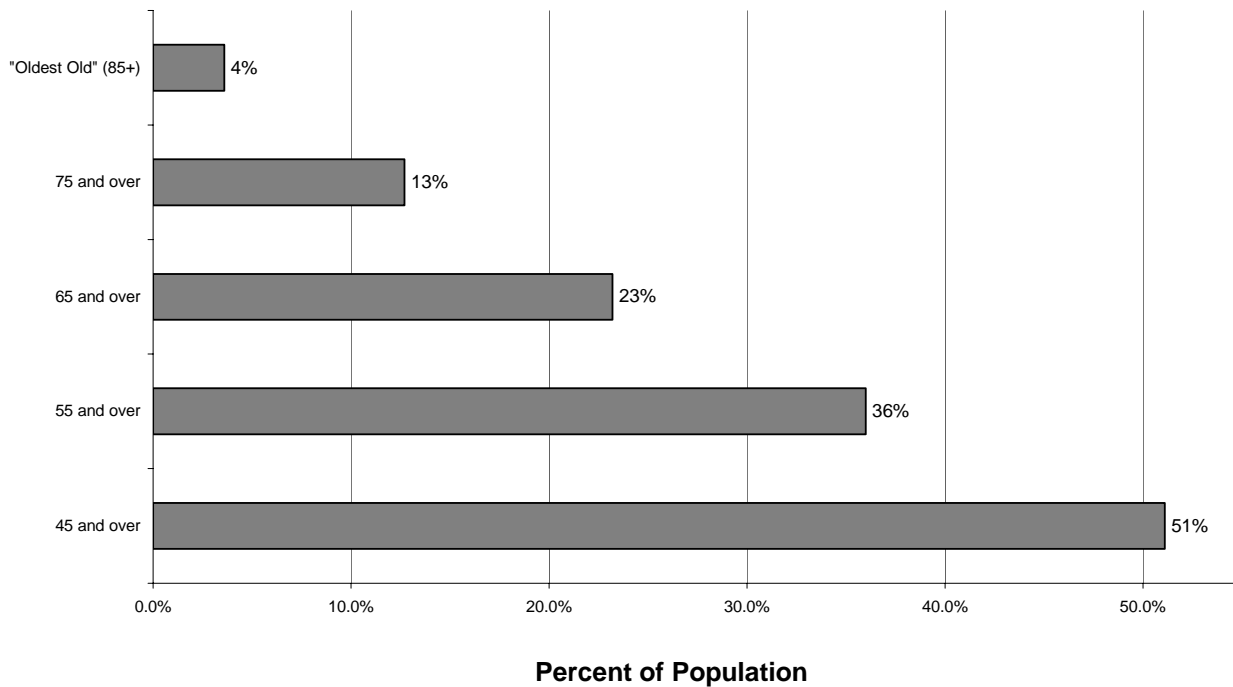
**Young Adult & Middle-Age Population:** In 2006, an estimated 103,725 persons (46 percent) ages 18-54 years (young adult and middle-age) lived in Barnstable County. Of these, 2 percent were 18-19 years of age; sixteen percent were ages 20-34 years, and twenty-eight percent were ages 35-54.

**Table 5.1.1.c**  
**Year 2006 Age Distribution:**  
**Young Adult & Middle-Age Population in Barnstable County**



**Population of Seniors and Elders:** In 2006, an estimated 81,000 persons (36 percent) age 55 and over lived in Barnstable County. Of these, 28,800 were ages 55-64, 51,750 were age 65 or over, 29,250 were age 75 or over, and 9,000 were considered the “oldest old” (age 85+).

**Table 5.1.1.d  
Year 2005 Age Distribution:  
Senior/Elder Population of Barnstable County, MA**

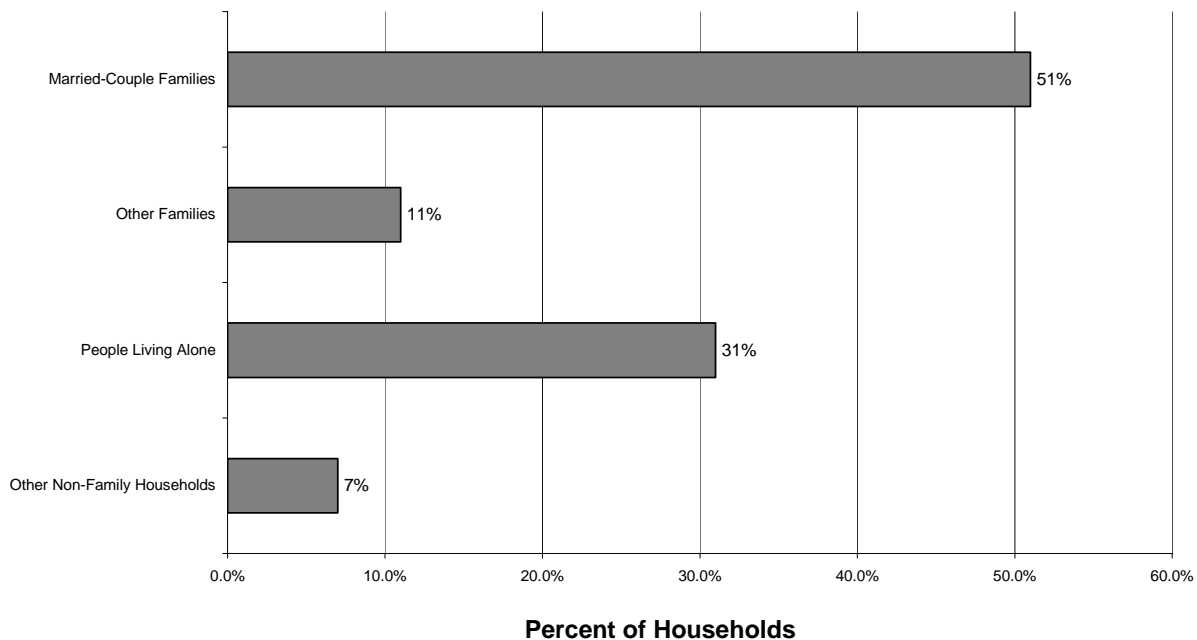


**HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES:** Latest US Census Bureau Estimate for Year 2006 is 98,000 Households

In 2006 there were an estimated 98,000 households in Barnstable County. The average household size was 2.2 people.

Families made up 62 percent of the households in Barnstable County in 2006. This figure includes both Married-Couple Families (51 percent) and Other Families (11 percent). Nonfamily Households made up 38 percent of all households in Barnstable County. Most of the Nonfamily Households were people living alone, but some were comprised of people living in households in which no one was related to the householder.

**Table 5.1.2  
The Types of Households in  
Barnstable County, MA in Year 2006**



**NATIVITY AND LANGUAGE:** Note: Only historic Census 2000 statistics are available.

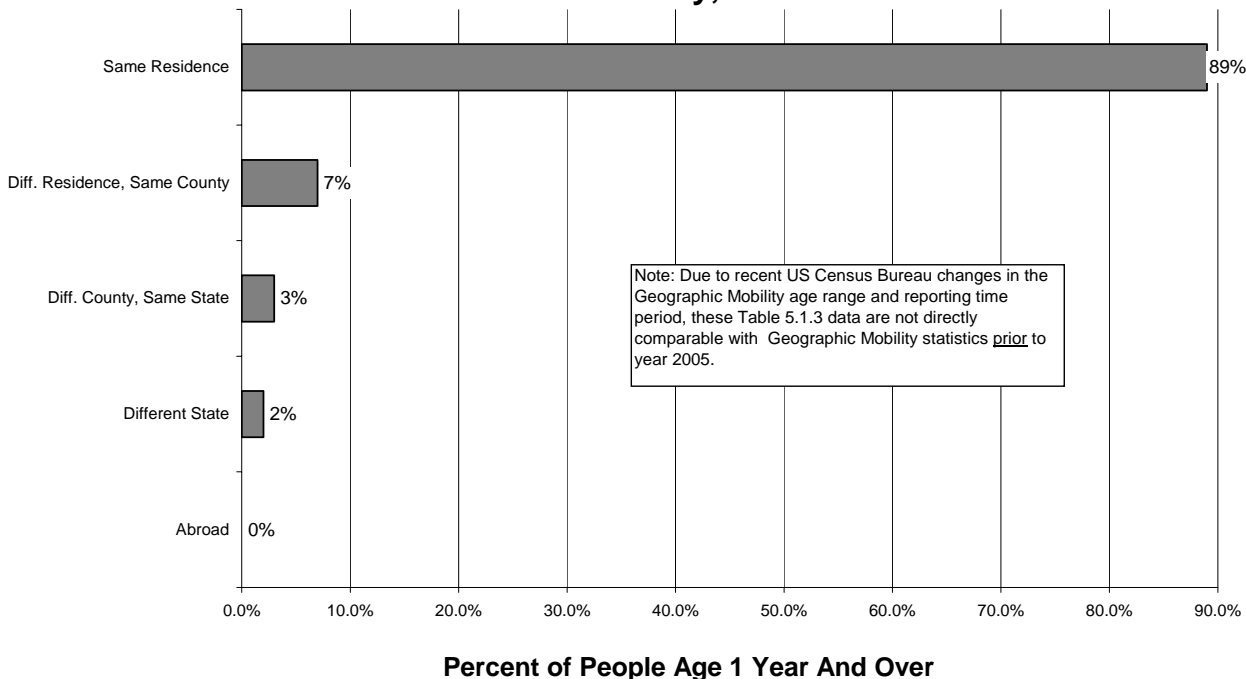
Five percent of the people living in Barnstable County in 2000 were foreign born. Ninety-four percent were native, including 65 percent who were born in Massachusetts.

Among people at least five years old living in Barnstable County in 2000, 7 percent spoke a language other than English at home. Of those speaking a language other than English at home, 20 percent spoke Spanish and 80 percent spoke some other language; 31 percent reported that they did not speak English "very well."

**GEOGRAPHIC MOBILITY:** Note: Recently, the US Census Bureau has changed the Geographic Mobility age range from "at least five years old" to "at least one year old" and the reporting period from 5 years to 1 year (see below).

In 2006, 89 percent of the people at least one year old living in Barnstable County were living in the same residence one year earlier; 7 percent had moved during the past year from another residence in the same county, 3 percent from another county in the same state, 2 percent from another state, and less than 0.5 percent from abroad.

**Table 5.1.3  
Geographic Mobility Within Past Year of  
Residents of Barnstable County, MA at Year 2006**





**EDUCATION:**

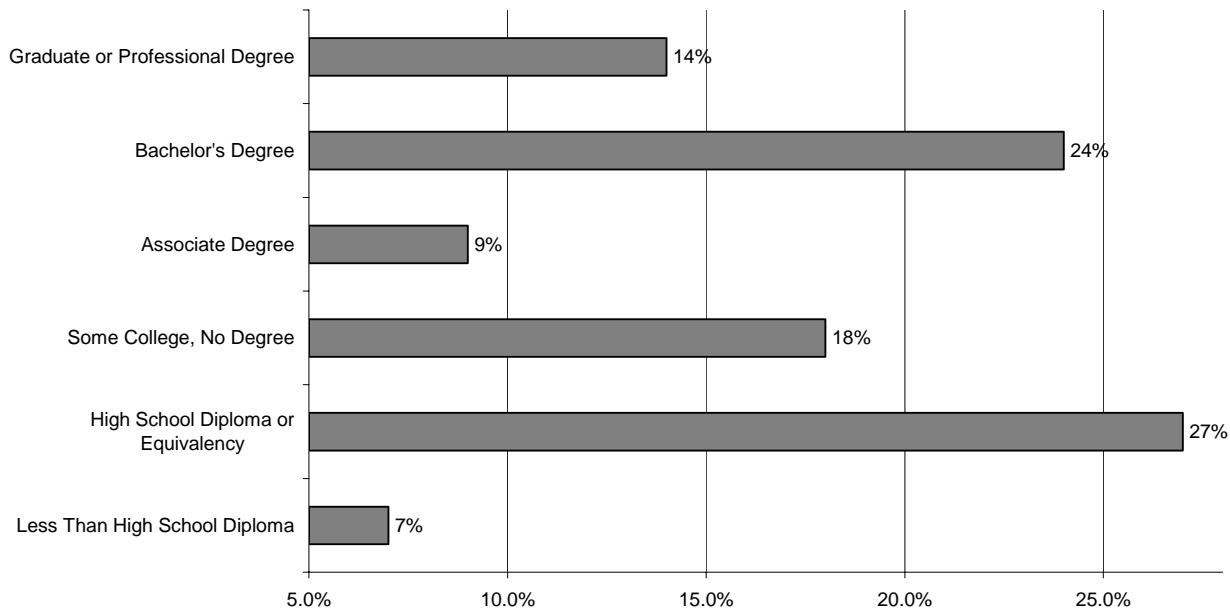
School Enrollment: The 2007/2008 Academic Year Barnstable County total school enrollment (public, charter, and vocational combined) is 28,444 [1,896 charter students, 1,377 vocational technical school students, 25,171 in the Cape's public school districts]. This represents a 2.5 percent decrease from 2006/2007 total enrollments. Total vocational school enrollment increased nearly 5%, while both public and charter school enrollments declined (-3% and -1.3%, respectively) over the past year. [Data Source: Mass. Dept. of Education web site].

**Education Statistics:**

In 2006, 93 percent of people 25 years and over had at least graduated from high school and 39 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher. Seven percent were drop-outs; they were not enrolled in school and had not graduated from high school.

According to the US Census Bureau the total school enrollment (all students) in Barnstable County was 45,000 in 2006. Nursery school and kindergarten enrollment was 4,900 and Elementary or High School Enrollment was 28,000 children. College or graduate school enrollment was 12,000.

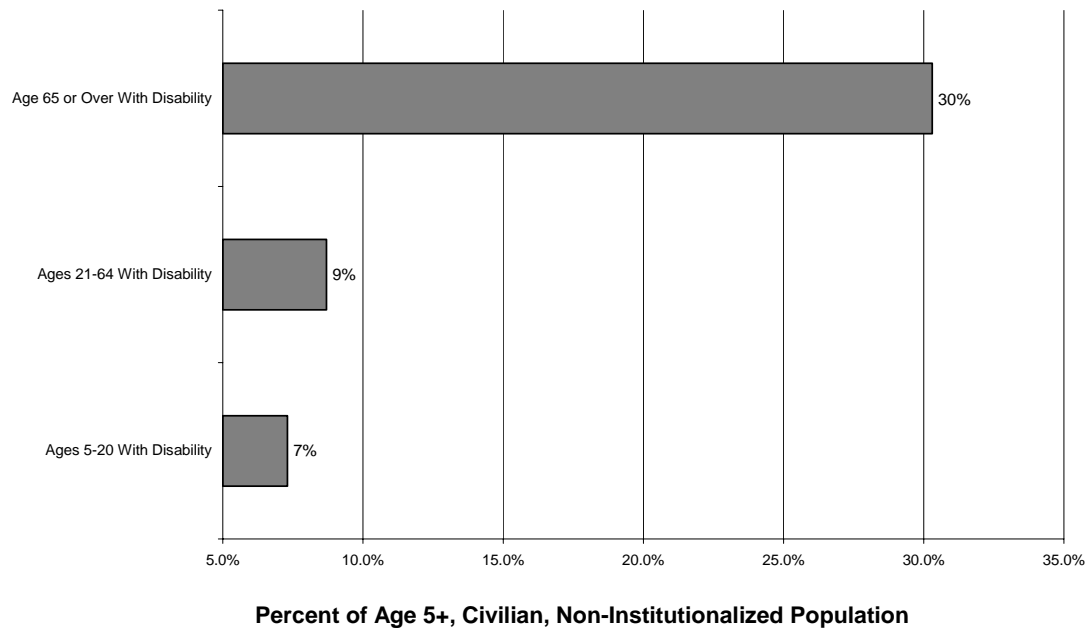
**Table 5.1.4**  
**The Educational Attainment of People in**  
**Barnstable County, MA in Year 2006** (highest educ. level earned)



**Percent of People 25 Years And Over**

**DISABILITY:** In Barnstable County, among people at least five years old in 2006, 15 percent reported a disability. The likelihood of having a disability varied by age – from 6 percent of people 5 to 15 years old, to 11 percent of people 16 to 64 years old, and to 30 percent of those 65 and older.

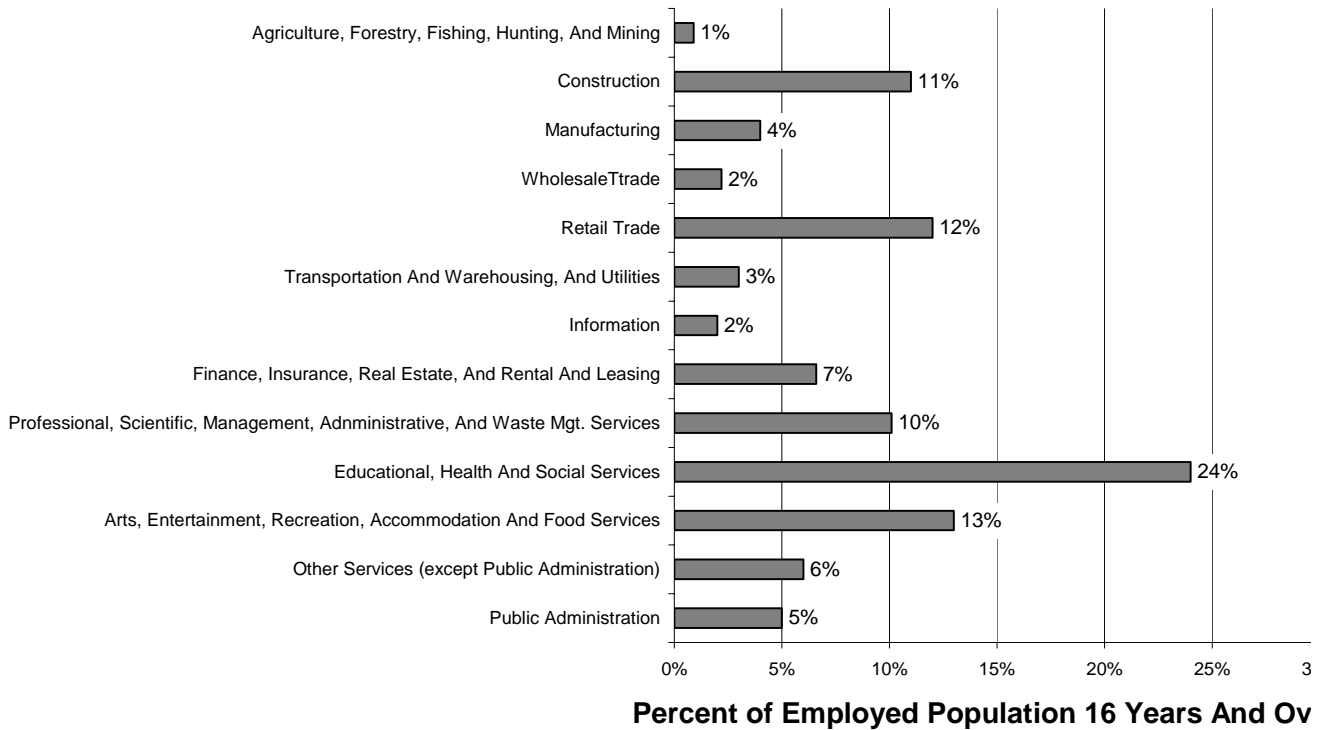
**Table 5.1.5**  
**The Disability Status of Persons Age 5 and Older**  
**in Barnstable County, MA in 2006**



**INDUSTRIES:**

In 2006, for the employed population 16 years and older, the leading industries in Barnstable County were educational services, health care, and social assistance, 24 percent; arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation, and food services, 13 percent; retail trade, 12 percent; construction, 11 percent; professional, scientific, and management, and administration, and waste management services, 10 percent.

**Table 5.1.6  
Employment By Industry  
in Barnstable County, MA in 2006**



**OCCUPATIONS AND TYPE OF EMPLOYER:** Among the most common occupations in 2005 were: management, professional, and related Occupations, 36 percent; sales and office occupations, 24 percent; service Occupations, 20 percent; production, transportation, and material moving occupations, 6 percent. Seventy-four percent of the people employed were Private Wage And Salary workers; 14 percent were Federal, State, Or Local Government workers; and 11 percent were Self-Employed In Own Not Incorporated Business workers.

**TRAVEL TO WORK:**

Eighty percent of Barnstable County workers drove to work alone in 2006, 9 percent carpooled, 1 percent took public transportation, and 5 percent used other means. The remaining 5 percent worked at home. Among those who commuted to work, it took them on average 22.2 minutes to get to work.

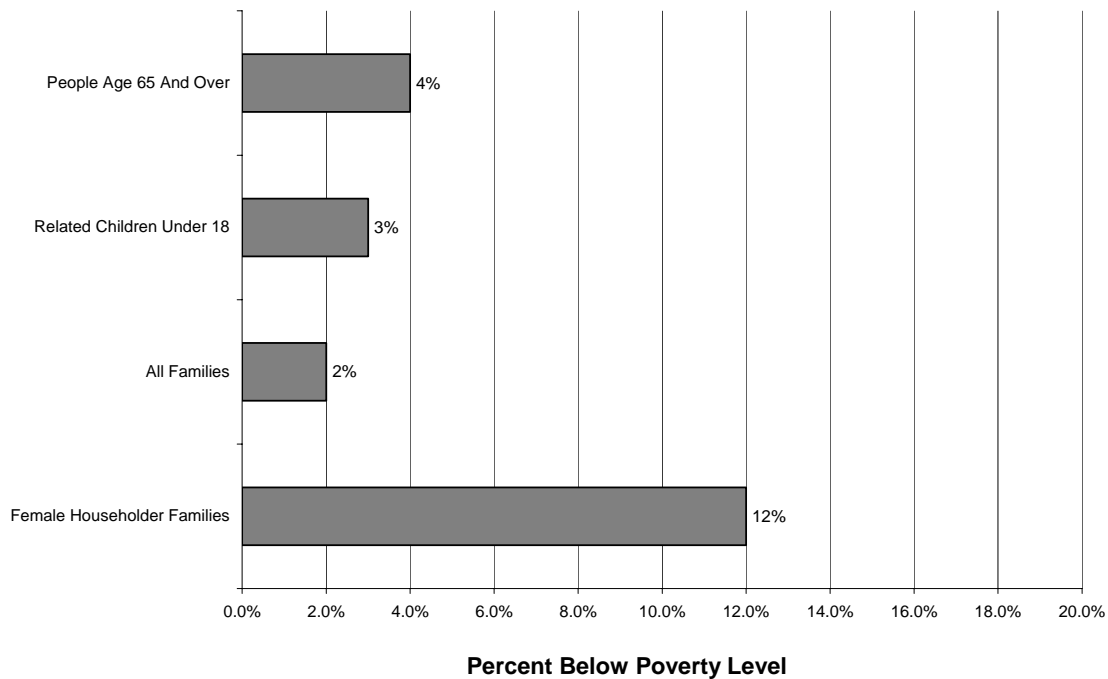
**INCOME:** Latest Median Household Income Estimate For Year 2006 is \$56,974.

In 2006, the median income of households in Barnstable County was estimated to be \$56,974. Seventy-two percent of the households received Earnings and 25 percent received Retirement Income other than Social Security. Thirty-seven percent of the households received Social Security. The average income from Social Security was \$15,289. These income sources are not mutually exclusive; that is, some households received income from more than one source.

**POVERTY AND PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS:**

In 2006, 5 percent of people were in poverty. Three percent of Related Children Under 18 were below the poverty level, compared with 4 percent of People 65 Years Old And Over. Two percent of all Families and 12 percent of Families With A Female Householder And No Husband Present had incomes below the poverty level.

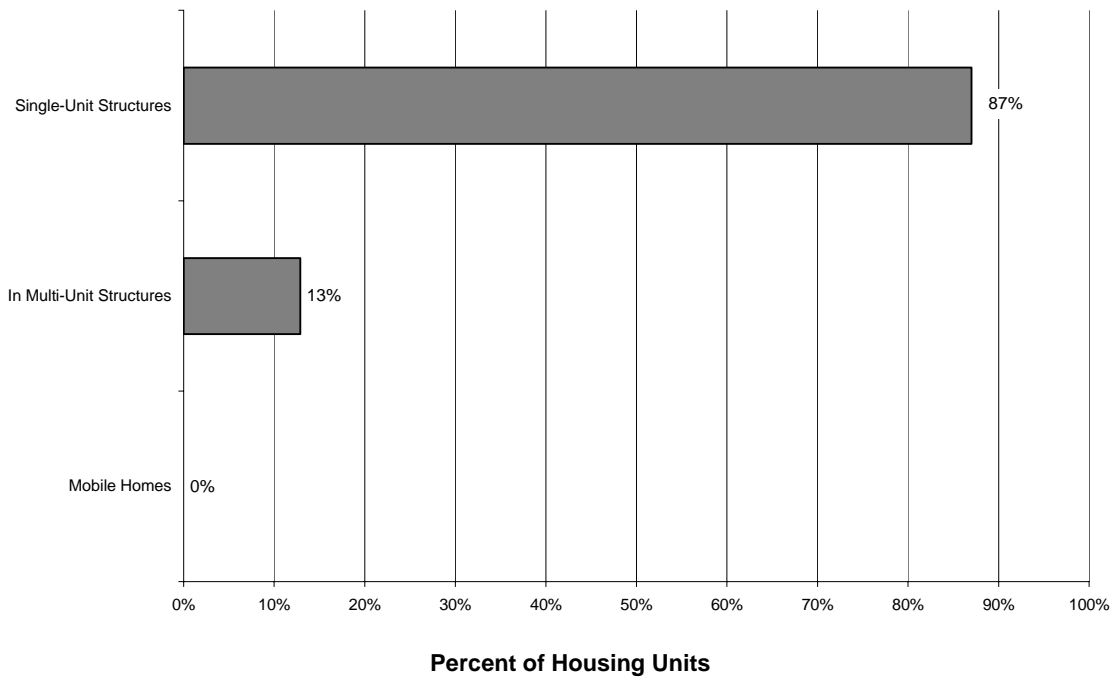
**Table 5.1.7  
Year 2006 Poverty Rates in Barnstable County, MA**



**HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS:**

In 2006, Barnstable County had an estimated total of 155,000 housing units, 36 percent of which were Vacant. Of the total housing units, 87 percent were in Single-Unit Structures, 13 percent were in Multi-Unit Structures, and less than 0.5 percent was Mobile Homes. Seventeen percent of the housing units were built since 1990.

**Table 5.1.8  
Year 2006 Types of Housing Units in  
Barnstable County, MA**



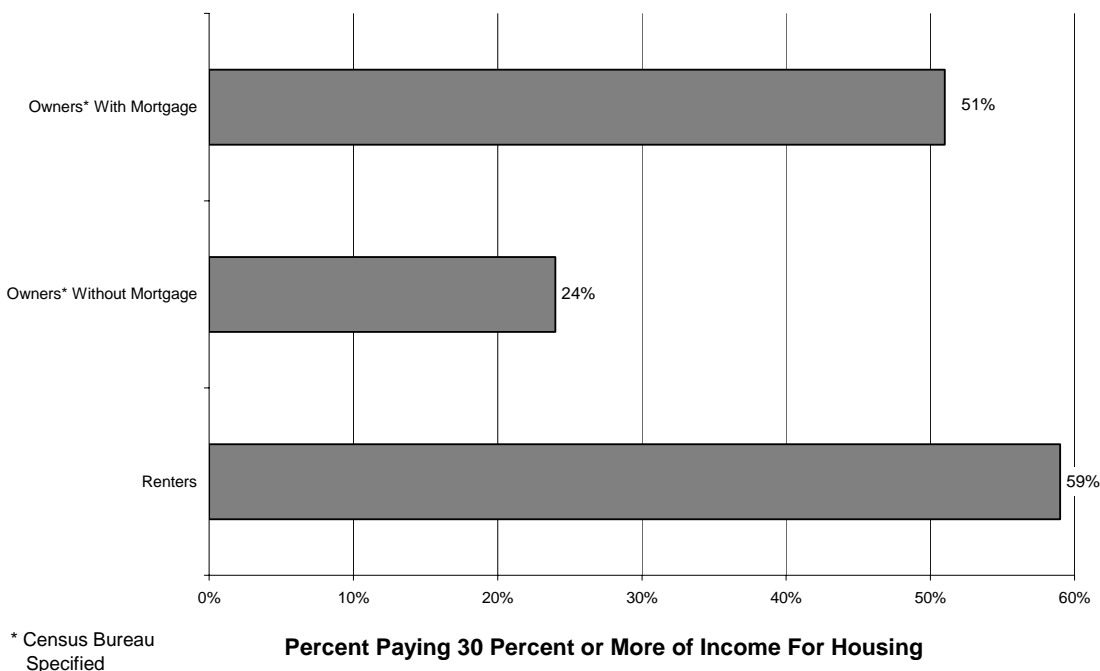
**OCCUPIED HOUSING UNIT CHARACTERISTICS:**

In 2006, Barnstable County had an estimated 98,000 Occupied Housing Units – 78,000 (79 percent) Owner Occupied and 21,000 (21 percent) Renter Occupied. Three percent of the households did not have telephone service and 4 percent of the households did not have access to a car, truck, or van for private use. Multi-Vehicle Households were not rare. Forty-two percent had two vehicles and another 18 percent had three or more.

**HOUSING COSTS:** The Median Monthly Housing Costs for (Specified)\* Mortgaged Owners was \$1,777, (Specified) Non-Mortgaged Owners \$574, and (Specified) Renters \$1,064. Fifty-one percent of Owners With Mortgages, 24 percent of Owners Without Mortgages, and 59 percent of Renters in Barnstable County spent 30 percent or more of household income on housing.

\* “Specified” is a certain Census Bureau category of homeowners.

**Table 5.1.9  
Occupants With a Housing Cost Burden  
in Barnstable County, MA in Year 2006**



**2006 Data Source:**

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey

The U.S. Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program produces the official population estimates for the nation, states, counties and places, and the official estimates of housing units for states and counties. The population and housing characteristics included above are derived from the American Community Survey.

**Notes:**

- Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.
- Percentages are based on unrounded numbers.

## **U. S. CENSUS BUREAU, CENSUS 2000 NOTES:**

The population estimates in this profile are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters.

The U.S. Census Bureau notes that in a narrative profile such as this, if one sample estimate is larger than another, it does not necessarily mean that the same holds for their true values for the entire population. These estimates are derived from a sample of housing units and measure the true values with a degree of uncertainty. In the tabular profiles this uncertainty is represented by the 90 percent confidence interval given for each estimate. For further information on confidence intervals see the U.S. Census Bureau Accuracy of the Data document.

Further, the Bureau urges caution when comparing data by race for years before 1999 with those for 2000 and beyond due to the Census Bureau's implementation of the October 1997 revised standards for data on race and ethnicity. These data allow respondents to report one or more races and there are seven (American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, White, Some other race, and Two or more races) instead of five racial tabulation categories. The Two or more races category includes all respondents who reported more than one race. See the [U.S. Census Bureau] methodology section for more details regarding these changes.

Finally, the U.S. Census Bureau notes that caution should be used when comparing population numbers by age, race, and sex for 2000 with all earlier years. The numbers for 2000 have been weighted to be generally consistent with Census 2000 counts.

Detail may not add to totals due to rounding. Percentages are based on unrounded numbers

For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions relating to Census 2000 statistics and other U.S. Census Bureau data, go to the American Community Survey web site [www.census.gov/acs/www/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/) and click on Advanced Methodology.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000  
and American Community Survey - 2006

Formatted by Barnstable County, MA  
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Note: A glossary of Census 2000 Terminology is provided in Appendix 4 of this Report.

