



The **REPORTER** provides periodic updates for demographic and economic data as Cape Trends. Data files are on the Web site www.capecodcommission.org/data. Questions may be addressed to Research Analyst Marilyn Fifield at the Cape Cod Commission; call (508) 362-3828 or send e-mail to mfifield@capecodcommission.org.

Population – Latest Estimates

Growth Rates in Five Cape Towns are Among State's Top 35

Cape population reached 229,545 in 2003, according to the latest estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau, and Cape Cod Commission staff analysis finds that growth levels in five Cape towns ranked in the state's top 35 of its 351 cities and towns.

The new estimate indicates Capewide growth of 7,315 or 3.3 percent since the U.S. Census counted 222,230 Cape Codders in 2000. The four Upper Cape towns of Bourne, Falmouth, Mashpee, and Sandwich, plus neighboring Barnstable, together accounted for 5,129 or 70 percent of the new Cape residents since 2000. Mashpee's estimated gain of 1,254 residents in three years led the Cape and ranked 10th of the 351 Massachusetts communities, followed by neighboring Falmouth's 1,163 (14th), Barnstable's 1,086 (16th), Sandwich's 824 (27th), and Bourne's 802 (32nd). Population throughout Massachusetts was estimated at 6,433,422 in 2003, up 84,325 or 1.3 percent from the U.S. Census 2000 count of 6,349,097.

Town	U.S. Census Bureau – Resident Population Estimates				U.S. Census Count April 2000
	July 2003	July 2002	July 2001	July 2000	
Barnstable	48,907	48,701	48,300	47,995	47,821
Bourne	19,523	19,313	19,066	18,820	18,721
Brewster	10,401	10,331	10,239	10,139	10,094
Chatham	6,849	6,786	6,732	6,657	6,625
Dennis	16,226	16,143	16,072	16,020	15,973
Eastham	5,632	5,600	5,556	5,483	5,453
Falmouth	33,823	33,522	33,166	32,815	32,660
Harwich	12,859	12,761	12,556	12,440	12,386
Mashpee	14,200	13,939	13,500	13,078	12,946
Orleans	6,491	6,450	6,407	6,365	6,341
Provincetown	3,472	3,474	3,472	3,444	3,431
Sandwich	20,960	20,726	20,487	20,240	20,136
Truro	2,169	2,145	2,120	2,097	2,087
Wellfleet	2,841	2,815	2,786	2,761	2,749
Yarmouth	25,192	25,156	25,006	24,888	24,807
Barnstable County:	229,545	227,862	225,465	223,242	222,230
Massachusetts:	6,433,422	6,421,800	6,399,869	6,362,076	6,349,097

Data source:
U.S. Census 2000; U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates, 2000–2003, issued June 24, 2004.

Population in every Cape town grew since 2000, although the new estimates indicate a loss of two residents (-0.1 percent) in Provincetown from 2002 to 2003, still leaving the town at an estimated 3,472 in 2003, with a net gain of 41 or 1.2 percent since the U.S. Census

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counted 3,431 residents in 2000. Population in the town of Barnstable reached an estimated 48,907 in 2003, up 1,086 or 2.3 percent from the U.S. Census count of 47,821 in 2000. Falmouth, the Cape's second most populous town, followed at an estimated 33,823 in 2003, a gain of 1,163 or 3.6 percent from 32,660 in 2000. Yarmouth's population remained third highest of the 15 Cape towns, at an estimated 25,194 in 2003, up 385 or 1.6 percent from 24,807 in 2000. In fourth place, Sandwich grew by 824 or 4.1 percent to reach an estimated 20,960 in 2003, from 20,136 in 2000. Neighboring Bourne added 802 residents to the 18,721 counted in 2000 to reach an estimated 19,523 in 2003, up 4.3 percent.

Population growth rates of Cape towns over the three-year span ranged from 9.7 percent in Mashpee (ranking 11th of the state's 351 cities and towns), 4.3 percent in Bourne (73rd), and 4.1 percent in neighboring Sandwich (78th) to Provincetown's 1.2 percent (238th).

Same Five Towns Led Cape Growth in 2002-2003

From 2002 to 2003, Cape population grew an estimated 1,683 or 0.7 percent. The same five towns led Cape population growth in that most recent year alone and also ranked in the state's top 35, accounting for an increasing share of Cape growth at 1,212 or 72 percent of all new Cape residents, but Falmouth led Cape towns then with an estimated 301 new residents from 2002 to 2003 to rank 9th of all 351 Massachusetts cities and towns. Mashpee added an estimated 261 that year to rank 21st, while the estimated addition of 234 new residents ranked Sandwich 27th. An estimated 210 new residents in Bourne ranked 32nd, while Barnstable's 206 ranked 34th.

Top Cape population growth rates from 2002 to 2003 represented the two geographic extremes of the Cape from the Upper Cape's 1.9 percent in Mashpee (ranking 36th in the state) and 1.13 percent in Sandwich (ranked 80th) and 1.09 percent in neighboring Bourne (ranked 87th), to the Outer Cape's 1.12 percent in Truro (ranked 81st), in contrast to neighbor Provincetown's estimated 0.1 percent loss (ranking 283rd) of 41 residents over the year. State population grew by an estimated 11,622 or 0.2 percent from 2002 to 2003.

U.S. Census Bureau – Resident Population Estimates July 2002 to July 2003 Comparison				
Town	# Change	MA Rank	% Change	MA Rank
Barnstable	206	34	0.4%	188
Bourne	210	32	1.1%	87
Brewster	70	119	0.7%	156
Chatham	63	127	0.9%	115
Dennis	83	107	0.5%	178
Eastham	32	171	0.6%	170
Falmouth	301	9	0.9%	121
Harwich	98	94	0.8%	142
Mashpee	261	21	1.9%	36
Orleans	41	161	0.6%	164
Provincetown	-2	282	-0.1%	283
Sandwich	234	27	1.1%	80
Truro	24	190	1.1%	81
Wellfleet	26	185	0.9%	116
Yarmouth	36	165	0.1%	240
Barnstable County:	1,683	5	0.7%	5
Massachusetts:	11,622	—	0.2%	—

MA Rank indicates town rank in descending order (lower rank equals higher growth) among all 351 Massachusetts cities and towns, and county's rank among the 14 Massachusetts counties.

Data source: U.S. Census 2000; U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates, 2000-2003, issued June 24, 2004.

