

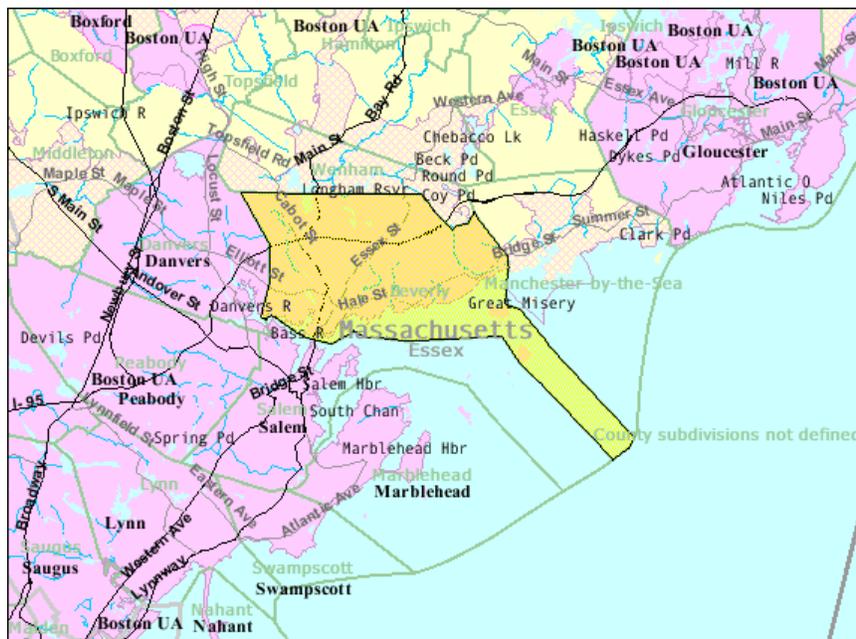
BEVERLY, MA¹

Community Profile²

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Regional orientation

Beverly (42.55°N, 70.88°W) is located in Essex County, in the Boston-Cambridge-Quincy metro area in the state of Massachusetts (USGS 2008). Beverly is on the Massachusetts Bay and Atlantic Ocean and is drained by the Danvers River. The city has a total area of 22.7 mi², of which 6.1 mi² (27%) of it is water (State of Massachusetts 2007) and is located about 20 miles from the city of Boston.



Map 1. Location of Beverly, MA (US Census Bureau 2000)

Historical/Background

Beverly was settled in 1626 by Roger Conant and was originally part of the town of Salem. The city was originally a fishing, farming, and trading community (Harbormasters.org nd) and was officially incorporated as the town of Beverly in 1688. Beverly's fishing heritage is notable; in the mid-1800s, 43 schooners from Beverly caught over 7,800 metric tons of cod on the Scotian Shelf (Dybas 2006). Beverly is also proudly noted by its residents to be the birthplace of the U.S. Navy due to the fact to the first U.S. military commissioned ship, the armed schooner *Hannah*, sailed from Beverly Harbor on September 2, 1775 (City of Beverly 2007). After the Civil War, an

¹ These community profiles have been created to serve as port descriptions in Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) for fisheries management actions. They also provide baseline information from which to begin research for Social Impact Assessments (SIAs). Further, they provide information relevant to general community impacts for National Standard 8 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and information on minorities and low income populations for Executive Order (E.O.) 12898 on Environmental Justice.

² For purposes of citation please use the following template: "Community Profile of *Town, ST*. Prepared under the auspices of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center. For further information contact Lisa.L.Colburn@noaa.gov."

increased reliance on industry developed causing a decline in maritime activity in Beverly (National Park Service nd). More recently, industrialization has decreased and the town has placed more focus on academic and cultural endeavors (State of Massachusetts 2007). Beverly is also home to one of the oldest common landings in the United States, the Olde Public Ferryway (Harbormaster.org nd).

Demographics³

According to Census 2000 data (US Census Bureau 2000), the city of Beverly has a total population of 39,862, up 4.36% from a reported population of 38,195 in 1990 (US Census Bureau 1990). Of this 2000 total, 47.3% were males and 52.7% were females. The median age was 38.3 years and 73.9% of the population was 21 years or older while 15.6% was 62 or older.

The population structure of Beverly (see Figure 1) shows the greatest number of people between the ages of 30 and 49 years old. The number of females exceeds the number of males in all age groups except 0-9 years old where males represent slightly more of the population. Beverly demonstrates the trend seen in many fishing communities with a decline in the 20-29 age bracket, a potential indicator of people moving out of the community in search of employment or education.

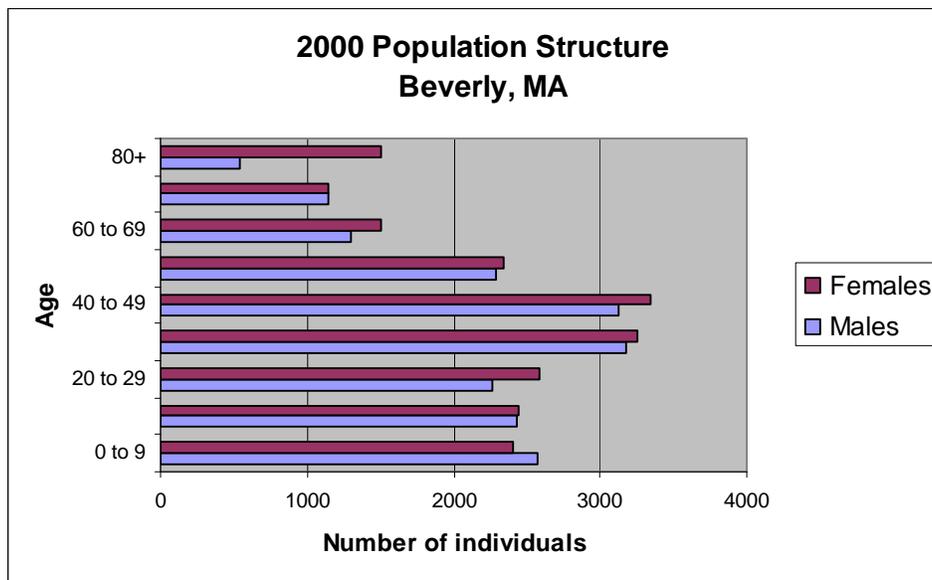


Figure 1. Beverly's Population Structure by sex in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

The majority of the population was white (96.9%), with 1.0% of residents black or African American, 1.3% Asian, 0.2% Native American, and 0.03% Pacific Islander or Hawaiian (see Figure 2). Only 1.8% of the population identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino (Figure 3). Residents linked their backgrounds to a number of different ancestries including: Irish (27.4%), English (18.6%), Italian (16.8%), French (8.5%) and German (4.6%). With regard to region of birth, 76.0% were born in Massachusetts, 18.0% were born in a different state and 5.3% were born outside of the U.S. (including 2.5% who were not United States citizens).

³ While mid-term estimates are available for some larger communities, data from the 2000 Census are the only data universally available for the communities being profiled in the Northeast. Thus for cross-comparability we have used 2000 data even though these data may have changed significantly since 2000 for at least some communities.

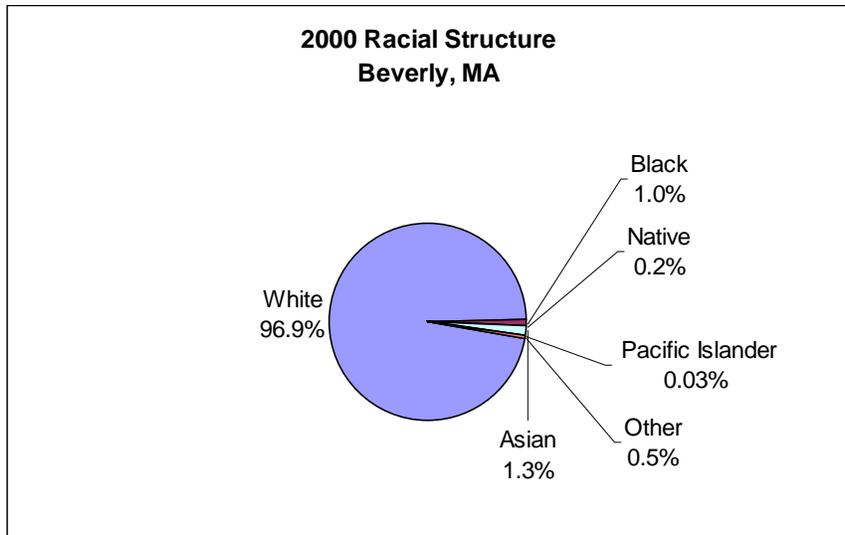


Figure 2. Beverly's Racial Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

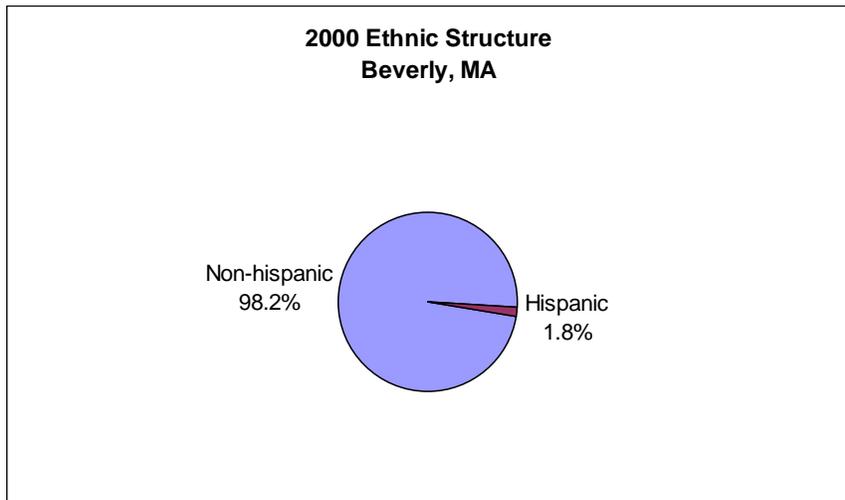


Figure 3. Beverly's Ethnic Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

For 91.7% of the population, only English is spoken in the home, leaving 8.3% in homes where a language other than English is spoken, including 2.3% of the population who speak English less than 'very well' according to the 2000 Census.

Of the population 25 years and over, 90.8% were high school graduates or higher, and 36.5% had a bachelor's degree or higher. Again of the population 25 years and over, 2.6% did not reach ninth grade, 6.7% attended some high school but did not graduate, 27.8% completed high school, 18.1% had some college with no degree, 8.3% received their associate's degree, 23.3% earned their bachelor's degree, and 13.2% received either their graduate or professional degree.

Although the religion percentages are not available through U.S. Census data, according to the Association of Religion Data Archives (ARDA) in 2000, the religion with the highest number of congregations and adherents in Essex County was Catholic with 70 congregations and 362,900 adherents. Other prominent congregations in the county were United Church of Christ (49 with 15,358 adherents), United Methodist (31 with 8,713 adherents), Jewish (29 with 21,700

adherents), Episcopal (28 with 14,064 adherents) and American Baptist (24 with 5,291 adherents). The total number of adherents to any religion was up 4.1% from 1990 (ARDA 2000).

Issues/Processes

The town of Beverly is cognizant of being only slightly above sea level and the associated possibility of flooding and other storm damage. The town website lists information on what to do in the event of a flooding emergency (City of Beverly 2007).

Construction of the world's second deepwater liquefied natural gas (LNG) port was started in June 2007 in Salem Harbor (about 3 miles from Beverly). While the structure is largely underwater with only a small buoy exposed on the surface, the project is opposed by many fishermen in the area. Opponents argue the LNG port is situated in critical fishing grounds and will impact their ability to make a living. In an attempt to mediate concerns, the LNG Company (Excelerate) has installed buoys in the construction area that can detect approaching whales. The LNG site is expected to produce about 18 percent of New England's natural gas supply once completed in the Fall of 2007 (Dalton 2007).

Cultural attributes

Beverly is known as the "birthplace of the American Navy" and has a strong sense of history supported by the Beverly Historical Society and Museum (State of Massachusetts 2007). The annual Beverly Homecoming is a city-wide festival held in early August featuring lobster boat races, a lobster festival, fireworks, and more (Harbormasters.org nd). In addition, the town has an art district located in downtown featuring galleries and shops. The town also has an annual [Arts Fest](#) in June featuring artist and free performances.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Current Economy

Beverly has a diverse economy. Fishing and farming were important to the town up through the late 19th century, although, fishing was not always a large part of Beverly's economy. A fleet of ships used during the Revolutionary War to attack and pillage the British Fleet was later used for fishing primarily cod. The early 20th century brought industrialization to Beverly in the form of the United Shoe Machine Company. Presently Beverly's economy is based largely on tourism (Lamontagne 2004).

According to the U.S. Census 2000⁴, 69.2% (22,219 individuals) of the total population 16 years of age and over were in the labor force (see Figure 4), of which 4.7% were unemployed, 0.3% were in the Armed Forces, and 64.2% were employed.

⁴ Again, Census data from 2000 are used because they are universally available and offer cross-comparability among communities. Some statistics, particularly median home price, are likely to have changed significantly since 2000.

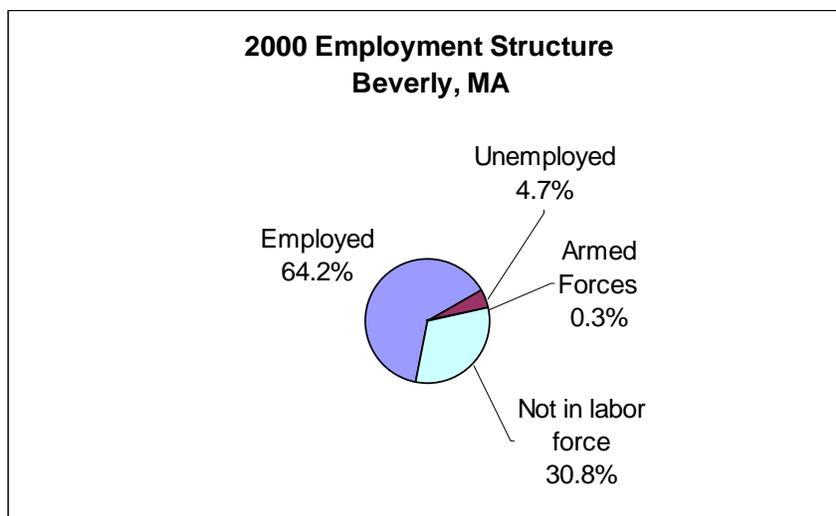


Figure 4. Beverly's Employment Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

According to Census 2000 data, jobs in the census grouping which includes agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining accounted for 45 positions or 0.2% of all jobs. Self employed workers, a category where fishermen might be found, accounted for 1,519 positions or 7.4% of jobs. Educational, health and social services (23.8%), manufacturing (13.3%), retail trade (12.2%), professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services (12.0%), and finance, insurance, real estate and rental and leasing (8.8%) were the primary industries.

Median household income in Beverly was \$53,984 (up 36.3% from \$39,603 in 1990 (US Census Bureau 1990) and median per capita income was \$28,626. For full-time year round workers, males made approximately 21.4% more per year than females.

The average family in Beverly consists of 3.02 persons. With respect to poverty, 4.0% of families (up from 1.4% in 1990 (US Census Bureau 1990) and 5.7% of individuals earn below the official U.S. Census poverty threshold. This threshold is \$8,794 for individuals and ranges from \$11,239 through \$35,060 for families, depending on number of persons (2-9) (US Census Bureau 2000a). In 2000, 18.1% of all families (of any size) earned less than \$35,000 per year.

In 2000, Beverly had a total of 16,275 housing units of which 96.8% were occupied and 51.9% were detached one unit homes. Only 40.7% of these homes were built before 1940. Mobile homes, boats, RVs and vans accounted for 0.2% of housing units; 87.8% of detached units had between 2 and 9 rooms. In 2000, the median cost for a home in this area is \$224,800. Of vacant housing units, 0.8% were used for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use. Of occupied units, 40.0% were renter occupied.

Government

Beverly operates under a Mayor-Council form of government (State of Massachusetts 2007). There are also a variety of committees and boards that help regulate various issues and processes for the town (City of Beverly 2007).

Fishery involvement in government

Beverly has a Harbormaster and several Assistant Harbormasters. "The Beverly Harbormaster's Department oversees 12.5 miles of coastline, including waters in the Danvers and Bass Rivers, as well as the water surrounding Misery, Little Misery, and Bakers Islands. The

Harbormaster handles all permits for vessels moored in City waters, tied at slips or seasonally rack stored on waterfront property with launching capacity” (Harbormaster.com nd).

Institutional

Fishing associations

The Massachusetts Fisherman’s Partnership focuses on issues relating to fishermen for different ports in Massachusetts. A significant accomplishment was the Partnership’s response to health care needs for fishermen and their families. The Fishing Partnership Health Plan was developed with federal and state aid and assistance from the Roman Catholic health organization. Fishermen and their families who receive the health plan get care at Tufts Medical in Boston (Hall-Arber et al 2001).

The [Massachusetts Lobsterman’s Association](#) was founded in 1963 and works to protect the lobster resource and the lobstermen’s way of life. In nearby Gloucester, the [Gloucester Fishermen’s Wives Association](#) (founded in 1969) focuses on the interests of the fishing industry and encourages innovation in the industry. Also located in Gloucester are the Gloucester Fishermen’s Association and the Gloucester Inshore Fishermen’s Association.

Fishing assistance centers

The Gloucester Fishermen and Families Assistance Center, located in nearby Gloucester, directs fishing families to the variety of services available including retraining programs, English as a second language classes, and GED tutoring. The Assistance Center began in 1994, when emergency funds were given to help fishermen affected by the regulations on groundfish. Also located in Gloucester is the Gloucester Fishing Families Assistance Center, now located at the Gloucester Fishermen’s Wives Association, which helps family members of fishermen obtain training in other types of employment (Commonwealth Corporation 2006)

The Massachusetts Fisherman’s Partnership focuses on issues for fishermen in different ports in Massachusetts. The Partnership responded to the need of health care for fishermen and their families by developing the Fishing Partnership Health Insurance Plan with federal and state aid. This plan has been in place since 1997 and reduces the amount of money that fishermen’s families have to pay to be covered by health insurance (Hall-Arber et al. 2001).

Other fishing related organizations

The [Northeast Seafood Coalition](#) is located in nearby Gloucester. The organization represents over 300 fishermen from Maine to New York involved in predominantly groundfishing activities. Membership dues are based on per pound landed or paid according to a percentage of ones fish catch.

Beverly also has an Economic and Community Development Council with ten members and a Harbor Management Authority with four members (City of Beverly 2007).

Physical

Beverly is located in eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Peabody and Salem to the southwest, Danvers on the west, Wenham to the north and the Atlantic Ocean to the east (Google 2007). Beverly is located 7 miles north of Lynn; 18 miles north of Boston; 88 miles south of Portland, Maine; and 238 miles from New York City (State of Massachusetts 2007). Beverly is a member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), which provides bus transportation to North Beverly and Salem. The major highways are Routes 128, State Routes 22 and 127. There is also rail service to Boston and Gloucester from Beverly Farms, Prides Crossing,

Montserrat, North Beverly and Beverly Depot. [Beverly Municipal Airport](#) is a small airport with only three runways. The nearest International Airport is Logan International located about 23 miles away in Boston.

There are several marinas listed for Beverly, including the [Glover Wharf Municipal Marina](#), Beverly Port Marina (the largest marina on the North Shore), and Tuck Point Marina. Al's Bait and Tackle and River's Edge Trading Co. are both bait and tackle shops in Beverly (Salem Mass Fishing Directory nd). There are close to 1,000 recreational boats in Beverly Harbor, and a variety of marine services can be found there, including pump-out facilities, transient moorings, rental slips, fuel, and haul out services (Harbormaster.com nd). There is public, paved boat ramp access from both River and Water Street in town (State of Massachusetts 2007).

INVOLVEMENT IN NORTHEAST FISHERIES⁵

Commercial

Rowand Fisheries is a seafood retailer located in Beverly. "Beverly Harbor is used for both recreational and commercial fishing and had the third highest lobster catch in Massachusetts in 1992" (State of Massachusetts 2007).

Lobster is by far the most valuable species landed, and brought in far more in landings value in 2006 than the average value for 1997-2006 (Table 1). Beverly reported no landings in 1997 through 1999, and significant landings every year afterward, peaking in 2000. From 1997 to 2006, the number of vessels home ported in Beverly varied, but declined overall from 37 vessels in 1997 to 19 vessels in 2006 (Table 2). The number of vessels with owners living in Beverly showed a similar declining trend. The level of fishing for home ported vessels was at its highest in 2005, having increased dramatically from 2004 levels.

⁵ In reviewing the commercial landings data several factors need to be kept in mind. 1) While both federal and state landings are included, some states provide more detailed data to NMFS than others. For example, shellfish may not be included or data may be reported only by county and not by port. 2) Some communities did not have individual port codes until more recently. Before individual port codes were assigned, landings from those ports were coded at the county level or as an aggregate of two geographically close small ports. Where landings were coded at the county level they cannot be sorted to individual ports for those earlier years, e.g., prior to 2000. 3) Where aggregated codes were used, those aggregate codes may still exist and be in use alongside the new individual codes. Here the landings which are still assigned to the aggregate port code cannot be sorted into the individual ports, so port level data are only those which used the individual port code. 4) Even when individual port codes exist, especially for small ports, landings may be coded at the county level. Here again it is impossible to disaggregate these to a port level, making the port level landings incomplete. 5) In all these cases, the per port data in this profile may under report the total level of landings to the port, though all landings are accounted for in the overall NMFS database.

Landings by Species

Table 1. Rank Value of Landings for Federally Managed Groups

Species	Rank Value of Average Landings from 1997-2006
Lobster	1
Other ⁶	2
Largemouth Groundfish ⁷	3
Monkfish	4
Dogfish	5
Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass	6
Bluefish	7

(Note: Only rank value is provided because value information is confidential in ports with fewer than three vessels or fewer than three dealers, or where one dealer predominates in a particular species and would therefore be identifiable.)

Vessels by Year⁸

Table 2. Federal Vessel Permits Between 1997-2006

Year	# Vessels (home ported)	# Vessels (owner's city)
1997	37	34
1998	30	29
1999	34	28
2000	35	29
2001	36	31
2002	33	34
2003	28	28
2004	26	27
2005	24	26
2006	19	23

(Note: # Vessels home ported = No. of permitted vessels with location as homeport
Vessels (owner's city) = No. of permitted vessels with location as owner residence⁹)

Recreational

[North Shore Charters](#) offers charter fishing trips for cod, haddock, shark, and tuna, and specialize in striped bass. In addition, they offer whale/seal watches as well as specialty tours. [CJ's Charters](#) is another charter company out of Beverly, offering both inshore and offshore trips

⁶ "Other" species includes any species not accounted for in a federally managed group

⁷ Largemouth Groundfish: cod, winter flounder, yellowtail flounder, American plaice, sand-dab flounder, haddock, white hake, redfish, and pollock

⁸ Numbers of vessels by owner's city and homeport are as reported by the permit holder on permit application forms. These may not correspond to the port where a vessel lands or even spends the majority of its time when docked.

⁹ The Owner-City from the permit files is technically the address at which the owner receives mail concerning their permitted vessels, which could reflect the actual location of residence, the mailing address as distinct from residence, owner business location, or the address at which a subsidiary receives mail about the permits.

for bluefish, stripers, cod, and haddock. The Capozza Pier is a favorite spot for anglers (Harbormasters.org nd).

Subsistence

Information on subsistence fishing in Beverly is either unavailable through secondary data collection or the practice does not exist.

FUTURE

Currently a traditional and a green Feasibility Study for the Construction on the High School are available on the town website (City of Beverly 2007).

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