

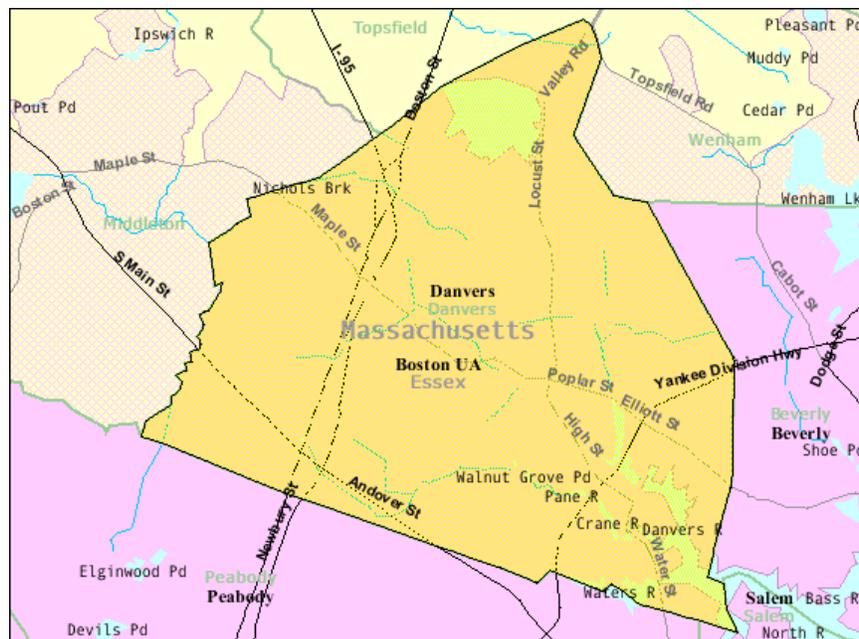
DANVERS, MA¹

Community Profile²

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Regional orientation

The Town of Danvers (42.57° N, 70.93° W) is in Essex County, in the Boston-Cambridge-Quincy metro area on the Danvers River (MapQuest nd). Danvers is situated in the northeastern part of the state, about halfway between Boston and Gloucester. It is bordered by Salem to the southeast, Wenham and Beverly to the east, Topsfield to the north, Middleton to the west, and Peabody to the south. Danvers has a total area of 14.09 square miles, of which 13.28 square miles are land (State of Massachusetts 2007). This community was included in the profiling process because of its role in the seafood processing industry, rather than the importance of harvesting activities to the community.



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

Historical/Background

The area now known as Danvers was originally inhabited by the Pawtucket group, referred to locally as the Naumkeags. They subsisted largely on hunting and fishing; the three rivers in Danvers probably contained seasonal runs of a number of different fish species. Danvers was home to one of the earliest European settlements north of Boston. Colonists had

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."

moved here as early as 1630; a village in what is now Danvers was authorized by a land grant from Salem in 1636 (DPC 2005). Danvers was known as Salem Village in the 17th century and became independent from Salem in 1752. Salem Village was most famously known for the 1692 Salem witch trials (DPC 2005), where nearly two dozen men and women were convicted of witchcraft and killed (Linder 2007). At the time of the Revolution, Danversport was a shipping and shipbuilding center where tidal mills prospered. At this time, local bricks became nationally famous. The later leather tanning industry brought a mixture of new immigrant labor to the area (DPC 2005). The town's location, proximity to Salem, and easy access to roads heading north and south transformed Danvers from a small colonial farming community into a vigorous suburban municipality which is proud of its municipal services and school system³.

Demographics⁴

According to Census 2000 data (US Census Bureau 2000a), Danvers had a total population of 25,212, up 4.1% from the reported population of 24,174 in 1990 (US Census Bureau 1990). Of this total in 2000, 53.5% were female and 46.5% were male. The median age was 40.4 years and 73.8% of the population was 21 years or older while 19.7% were 62 or older.

The largest age class (see Figure 1) was between 40-49 years old, with slightly more females than males across all age categories. There is a dip in the population between 20-29 years old, a possible indication of movement out of Danvers for employment and education.

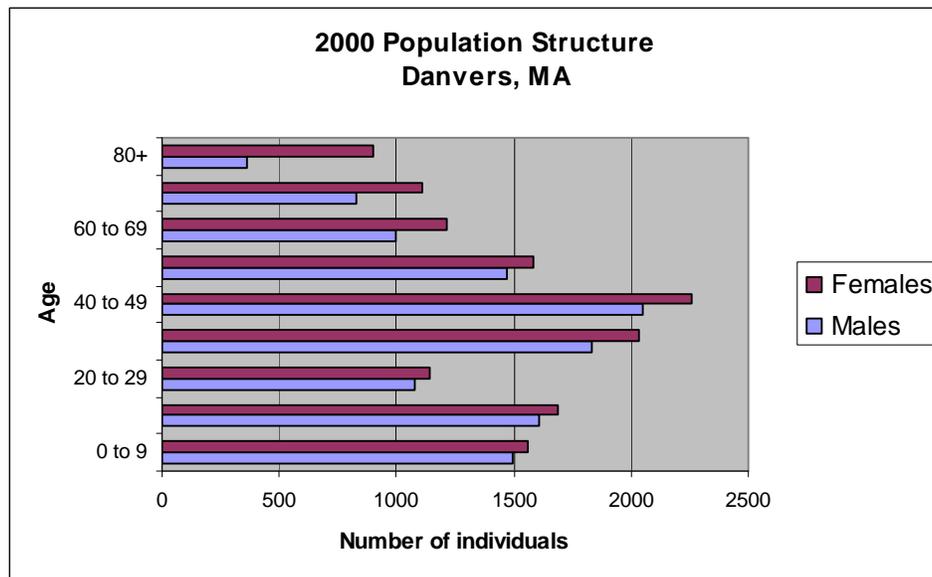


Figure 1. Danvers' population structure by sex in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

The majority of the population of Danvers was white (98.3%), with 0.3% of residents black or African American, 0.1% Native American, 1.1% Asian, and 0.03% Pacific Islander or Hawaiian (Figure 2). Only 0.8% of the residents identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino

³ Profile review comment, Christopher Sanborn, Harbormaster, Pope's Landing, 8 Harbor St., Danvers, MA 01923, September 23, 2007

⁴ 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 3). Residents linked their heritage to a number of different ancestries including: Irish (28.4%), Italian (18.4%), English (14.8%), and Polish (6.9%). With regard to region of birth, 82.6% were born in Massachusetts, 12.6% were born in a different state and 4.4% were born outside of the U.S. (including 1.9% who were not United States citizens).

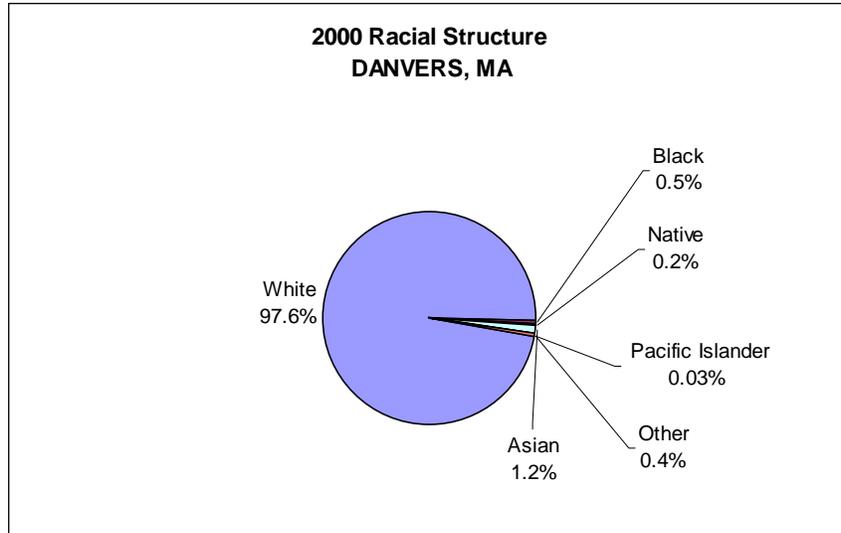


Figure 2. Racial Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

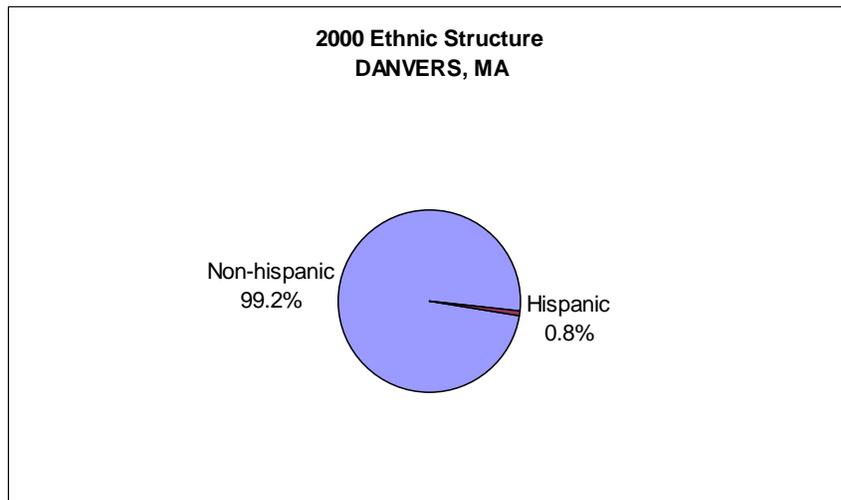


Figure 3. Ethnic Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

For 92.9% of the population 5 years old and higher, only English was spoken in the home, leaving 7.1% in homes where a language other than English was spoken, and including 2.2% of the population who spoke English less than 'very well'.

Of the population 25 years and over, 90.3% were high school graduates or higher and 33.0% had a bachelor's degree or higher. Again of the population 25 years and over, 3.0% did not reach ninth grade, 6.8% attended some high school but did not graduate, 29.3% completed high school, 18.3% had some college with no degree, 9.7% received their associate's degree, 22.2% earned their bachelor's degree, and 10.8% received either a graduate or professional degree.

Although religious percentages are not available through the U.S. Census, 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: Jewish (29 with 21,700 adherents), United Church of Christ (49 with 15,358 adherents) and Episcopal Church (28 with 14,064 adherents). The total number of adherents to any religion was up 4.1% from 1990 (ARDA 2000).

Issues/Processes

Information on issues/processes in Danvers is unavailable through secondary data collection.

Cultural attributes

Danvers erected a Witchcraft Victims' Memorial on Hobart Street to commemorate those who were killed in the Salem Witch Trial in the 1600s (DPC 2005). [Endicott Park](#) in Danvers encompasses 165 acres offering hiking, fishing, picnicking in the warmer months, and sledding, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing in the winter.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Current Economy

According to the U.S. Census 2000⁵, 66.9% (13,405 individuals) of the total population 16 years of age and over were in the labor force (Figure 4), of which 2.2% were unemployed, none were in the Armed Forces, and 64.7% were employed.

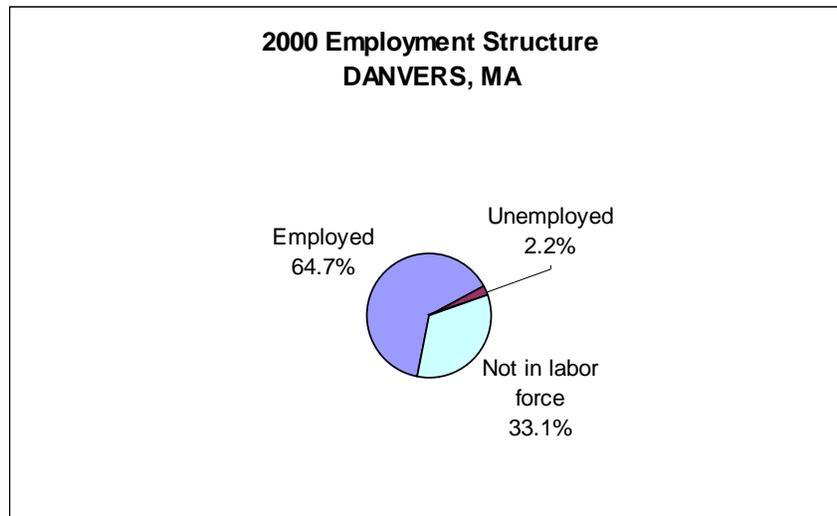


Figure 4. Employment Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

[Fishery Products International](#) (FPI) in Danvers, with headquarters in St. John's Newfoundland, manufactures prepared frozen fish and wholesales unpackaged frozen fish. The company has a fleet of vessels which harvest finfish and shellfish, supplying to foodservice,

⁵ 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.

retail and warehouse club markets. In the second quarter of 2006, FPI reported a net income of \$2.8 million, up \$1.7 million from the same period in 2005. Also in 2005, the company experienced record high sales of \$833.7 million in spite of various challenges ranging from currency exchange to fishery issues (FPI 2007).

According to Census 2000 data, jobs in the census grouping which includes agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining accounted for 45 positions or 0.3% of all jobs. Self employed workers, a category where fishermen might be found, accounted for 766 positions or 5.9% of jobs. Educational, health and social services (24.7%), manufacturing (12.3%), retail trade (10.9%), and professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services (10.5%) were the primary industries.

Median household income in Danvers was \$58,779 (up 25.5% from \$43,759 in 1990 [US Census Bureau 1990]) and per capita income was \$26,852. For full-time year round workers, males made approximately 29.6% more per year than females.

The average family in Danvers consisted of 3.11 persons. With respect to poverty, 1.7% of families (down from 2.7% in 1990) and 2.9% of individuals were below the 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 2000b). In 2000, 7.1% of all families (of any size) earned less than \$35,000 per year.

In 2000, Danvers had a total of 9,762 housing units of which 97.9% were occupied and 64.5% were detached one unit homes. Close to one third (30.8%) of these homes were built before 1940. Mobile homes, boats, RVs and vans accounted for 2.0% of the total housing units; 20.0% of detached units had between 2 and 9 rooms. In 2000, the median cost for a home in this area was \$231,100. Of vacant housing units, 24.2% were used for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use. Of occupied units 22.9% were renter occupied.

Government

Danvers is run by various offices including a Town Clerk, Town Manager, Board of Selectmen and others. It was incorporated as a town in 1757, and has a representative town meeting form of government (Town of Danvers 2007). The members of the Board of Selectmen (five members) are elected at large for staggered three-year terms by the registered voters of the Town. Other boards include the Zoning Board of Appeals, and Planning Board, as well as the Preservation and Conservation Commission exist in Danvers (Town of Danvers 2007).

Fishery involvement in government

The Danvers Harbormaster is appointed by the Town Manager and is responsible for harbor planning and management, mooring and dockage management, educating the public regarding safe and legal boating, law enforcement, and fisheries and shellfish enforcement. Such a wide range of duties requires that the harbormaster work closely with other departments in the community as well as the Massachusetts Environmental Police and the United States Coast Guard⁶ (Town of Danvers 2007a). The Danvers Harbormaster office oversees the placement and permitting of 125 moorings Town of Danvers 2007a). The Harbor Master gives preference in assignment of mooring space to vessels of town residents engaged exclusively in commercial fishing and lobstering. Resident and non-resident mooring fees differ and all monies received go entirely towards dredging the harbor (Town of Danvers 2007 a).

⁶ Profile review comment, Christopher Sanborn, Harbormaster, Pope's Landing, 8 Harbor St., Danvers, MA 01923, September 23, 2007

The Conservation Commission consists of seven volunteer residents appointed by the Town Manager to three year terms. The Commission deals with environmental issues facing Danvers (Town of Danvers 2007).

Frequently, the [New England Fishery Management Council](#) (NEFMC) holds its meetings in Danvers at the Sheraton Ferncroft hotel, due to its proximity to various ports and the NEFMC headquarters in nearby Newburyport, MA.

Institutional

Fishing associations

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 2001).

Fishing assistance centers

Information on fishery assistance centers is unavailable through secondary data collection.

Other fishing related organizations

Information on other fishing related organizations is unavailable through secondary data collection.

Physical

Danvers is located at the intersections of Interstate 95, US 1, and Route 128, roughly midway between Boston and New Hampshire. Access to the Atlantic is via the Danvers River, a tidal river that flows into Beverly Harbor (State of Massachusetts 2007). The closest international airport is General Edward Lawrence Logan International in Boston (about 16 miles). Beverly Municipal Airport is about 4 miles away in Beverly, MA. The nearest major cities are Lynn (6.7 miles) and Boston (19.9 miles) (State of Massachusetts 2007). The [Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority](#) (MBTA) has service between Danvers Square and various locations in Boston and the surrounding area.

Nearly 1,100 boaters have their homeport in Danvers which provides a ride less than 30 minutes to the ocean. Danvers has the Danversport Yacht Club, offering fuel and a service station. There are four private marinas. The town owns and operates the Crane River Marina which provides dockage for 58 vessels up to 25' in length. There is also a boat launch operated by the town located on the Porter River (Town of Danvers 2007b).

INVOLVEMENT IN NORTHEAST FISHERIES⁷

Commercial

[Fishery Products International](#) (FPI) provides seafood products worldwide. FPI Limited is a Newfoundland and Labrador-based seafood company engaged in harvesting, processing, global sourcing, and marketing a wide selection of seafood products. FPI's core business holds substantial rights to access a variety of quotas in Eastern Canada and operates its own fleet and processing plants. These plants are supplied by FPI's own vessels and from other harvesters. Ocean Cuisine International, an operating division of FPI Limited, is headquartered in Danvers, and provides to foodservice, retail, and industrial customers throughout North America. In 2000, FPI was recognized by the National Fisheries Institute for their responsible fishing practices. FPI has affiliates in the U.S., Canada, China, England and Germany.

As far as landings trends, lobster accounted for the most landings by a very large margin (Table 1). The number of vessels home ported in Danvers steadily increased between 1997 and 2003, then fluctuated until 2006. The number of vessels whose owner's city is Danvers fluctuated slightly over the same time period (Table 2). While level of fishing home ported decreased over time, level of fishing landed port increased significantly from 2000 to 2003. The dramatic increase could be a signal of a new industry or fishery made available to Danvers during those years.

Landings by Species

Table 1. Rank Value of Landings for Federally Managed Groups

	Rank Value of Average Landings from 1997-2006
Lobster	1
Other⁸	2
Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish	3

(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.)

⁷ 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.

⁸ "Other" species includes any species not accounted for in a federally managed group

Vessels by Year⁹

Table 2. Federal Vessel Permits between 1997-2006

Year	# Vessels (home ported)	# Vessels (owner's city)
1997	6	10
1998	6	9
1999	8	10
2000	8	10
2001	9	12
2002	9	11
2003	10	11
2004	7	9
2005	9	9
2006	8	9

(Note: # Vessels home ported = No. of permitted vessels with location as homeport,
Vessels (owner's city) = No. of permitted vessels with location as owner residence¹⁰)

Recreational

Magnum Sporting Goods supplies bait and tackle to the recreational fishing community. Popes Landing offers a ramp and paved access on all tides. Danvers has several charter vessels over 25 feet in length for nearshore fishing trips (State of Massachusetts 2007). The Leon Almeida Memorial North Shore Striped Bass Tournament is held out of Danversport each Labor Day weekend, and raises money for local food pantries (Danvers Herald 2007). The Danvers River has been highly productive for striped bass fishing in recent years (Petesbait.com 2007).

Subsistence

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

FUTURE

Information on the future in Danvers was unavailable through secondary data collection.

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⁹ 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.

¹⁰ 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.

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