

DEMOGRAPHICS

This section briefly overviews Franklin County's current population, housing, and labor force trends, both on the county level and for the individual towns. The section focuses on demographic and economic changes that could influence current and future transportation demand in the region.

Population

An examination of the region's population trends is important for determining if the area's current transportation needs are being met, and for predicting future transportation demand.

Table 1: Total Population, 1970-2000

Town	1970 Population	1980 Population	1990 Population	2000 Population	Percent Change 1990-2000	Total Change 1970-2000	Percent Change 1970-2000
Ashfield	1,274	1,458	1,715	1,800	5.0%	526	41.3%
Bernardston	1,659	1,750	2,048	2,155	5.2%	496	29.9%
Buckland	1,892	1,864	1,928	1,991	3.3%	99	5.2%
Charlemont	897	1,149	1,249	1,358	8.7%	461	51.4%
Colrain	1,420	1,552	1,757	1,813	3.2%	393	27.7%
Conway	998	1,213	1,529	1,809	18.3%	811	81.3%
Deerfield	3,873	4,517	5,018	4,750	-5.3%	877	22.6%
Erving	1,260	1,326	1,372	1,467	6.9%	207	16.4%
Gill	1,100	1,259	1,583	1,363	-13.9%	263	23.9%
Greenfield	18,116	18,436	18,666	18,168	-2.7%	52	0.3%
Hawley	224	280	317	336	6.0%	112	50.0%
Heath	383	482	716	805	12.4%	422	110.2%
Leverett	1,005	1,471	1,785	1,663	-6.8%	658	65.5%
Leyden	376	498	662	772	16.6%	396	105.3%
Monroe	216	179	115	93	-19.1%	-123	-56.9%
Montague	8,451	8,011	8,316	8,489	2.1%	38	0.4%
New Salem	474	688	802	929	15.8%	455	96.0%
Northfield	2,631	2,386	2,838	2,951	4.0%	320	12.2%
Orange	6,104	6,844	7,312	7,518	2.8%	1,414	23.2%
Rowe	277	336	378	351	-7.1%	74	26.7%
Shelburne	1,836	2,002	2,012	2,058	2.3%	222	12.1%
Shutesbury	489	1,049	1,561	1,810	16.0%	1,321	270.1%
Sunderland	2,236	2,929	3,399	3,777	11.1%	1,541	68.9%
Warwick	492	603	740	750	1.4%	258	52.4%
Wendell	405	694	899	986	9.7%	581	143.5%
Whately	1,145	1,341	1,375	1,573	14.4%	428	37.4%
Franklin County	59,233	64,317	70,092	71,535	2.1%	12,302	20.8%
Massachusetts	5,689,377	5,737,037	6,016,425	6,349,097	5.5%	659,720	11.6%

Source: US Census Bureau, 1970, 1980, 1990, & 2000 Census of Population and Housing.

Over the last three decades, Franklin County grew faster than Massachusetts overall. According to the preliminary 2000 US Census data¹, whereas the State experienced 12 percent population growth from 1970 to 2000, during the same period, Franklin County's population expanded by more than

¹ Currently, only "Summary File 1" data for the 2000 US Census of Population and Housing has been released at the town level (release date May 2001 for Massachusetts). This data is preliminary and the current figures may be revised as the US Census Bureau reviews the data before releasing final numbers over the next few years.

one-fifth (21%), growing from 59,233 in 1970 to 71,535 in 2000. As the population increases, demand for transportation increases as well.

As Table 1 indicates, Franklin County's population growth over the past 30 years was not distributed evenly across the county. Between 1970 and 2000, the towns in the county increased by 473 people on average. However, three towns experienced population growth of more than 1,000 people; these towns are Sunderland (1,541 increase), Orange (1,414 increase), and Shutesbury (1,321 increase). Four others, Buckland, Greenfield, Montague, and Rowe, grew by 100 people or less, and one, Monroe, had a decline in population, of 123 people.

The largest percentage increase in population over the last thirty years occurred in Shutesbury, which more than tripled in size (270% growth). Wendell, Heath, and Leyden also grew by more than 100 percent (144%, 110% and 105% increases respectively).

Most of the county's population growth in the last thirty years occurred prior to 1990. From 1990 to 2000, the population of the county increased by only 2 percent (1,443 people). In addition, over the last decade, the population in six of the towns decreased. These towns are Monroe (down 19%), Gill (down 14%), Rowe (down 7%), Leverett (down 7%), Deerfield (down 5%), and Greenfield (down 3%). Some of these towns, such as Rowe (2000 population of 378) and Monroe (2000 population of 93), are small in size and therefore, their population declines represent only a small number of people.

The Massachusetts Institute of Social and Economic Research (MISER), located at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, is the US Census Bureau's principal State Data Center for Massachusetts. As such, MISER develops population estimates and projections for towns within the state. MISER's most recent population projections, released in 1999, run through the year 2010. These projections are based on the most current population, birth, death, and migration data available at the time. Table 2 displays MISER population projections through 2010 for Franklin County and the towns. MISER will be revising these projections over the next year to incorporate data from the 2000 US Census, and extending them to 2020.

In its most recent projections, MISER anticipated that between 2000 and 2010, Franklin County's population overall will grow by 8 percent, and that the populations of five towns in the county will expand by more than one-quarter. These high-growth towns are Rowe (population up 64%), Shutesbury (up 42%), Wendell (up 42%), Heath (up 41%), and Northfield (up 27%). As was mentioned before, some of these towns are small, so a large percentage change for them actually represents a small number of people. In terms of total population change, Sunderland, Northfield, Shutesbury are expected to have the most growth through 2010, with increases of 888, 806, and 758 people respectively.

According to MISER, over the next decade, only three towns are expected to have population declines; they are Whately (down 8%), Montague (down 4%), and Charlemont (down 1%). Greenfield, the county's largest city, is projected to have almost no change in size, with a population increase of only one-tenth of one percent (0.1%).

Table 2: MISER Population Projections, 2000-2010

Town	2000 Population Forecast	2010 Population Forecast	2000 Population Count	Forecasted Change 2000-2010	Forecasted % Change 2000-2010	2000 Count Higher or Lower than 2000 Forecast	% Difference Between 2000 Forecast and Count
Ashfield	1,910	2,138	1,800	228	12.7%	Lower	-5.8%
Bernardston	2,254	2,414	2,155	160	7.4%	Lower	-4.4%
Buckland	1,990	2,058	1,991	68	3.4%	Higher	0.1%
Charlemont	1,168	1,152	1,358	-16	-1.2%	Higher	16.3%
Colrain	1,948	2,125	1,813	177	9.8%	Lower	-6.9%
Conway	1,760	1,981	1,809	221	12.2%	Higher	2.8%
Deerfield	5,430	5,719	4,750	289	6.1%	Lower	-12.5%
Erving	1,463	1,573	1,467	110	7.5%	Higher	0.3%
Gill	1,642	1,820	1,363	178	13.1%	Lower	-17.0%
Greenfield	18,666	18,684	18,168	18	0.1%	Lower	-2.7%
Hawley	329	365	336	36	10.7%	Higher	2.1%
Heath	939	1,267	805	328	40.7%	Lower	-14.3%
Leverett	2,083	2,289	1,663	206	12.4%	Lower	-20.2%
Leyden	789	877	772	88	11.4%	Lower	-2.2%
Monroe	171	192	93	21	22.6%	Lower	-45.6%
Montague	7,390	7,098	8,489	-292	-3.4%	Higher	14.9%
New Salem	920	982	929	62	6.7%	Higher	1.0%
Northfield	3,644	4,450	2,951	806	27.3%	Lower	-19.0%
Orange	7,615	8,129	7,518	514	6.8%	Lower	-1.3%
Rowe	421	647	351	226	64.4%	Lower	-16.6%
Shelburne	1,980	2,059	2,058	79	3.8%	Higher	3.9%
Shutesbury	2,179	2,937	1,810	758	41.9%	Lower	-16.9%
Sunderland	3,614	4,502	3,777	888	23.5%	Higher	4.5%
Warwick	788	896	750	108	14.4%	Lower	-4.8%
Wendell	1,239	1,653	986	414	42.0%	Lower	-20.4%
Whately	1,224	1,099	1,573	-125	-7.9%	Higher	28.5%
Franklin County	73,556	79,106	71,535	5,550	7.8%	Lower	-2.7%
Massachusetts	6,340,843	6,690,740	6,349,097	349,897	5.5%	Higher	0.1%

Sources: Population forecasts, MISER, 1999; 2000 Population counts, US Census Bureau, 2000 Census of Population & Housing.

According to the preliminary 2000 US Census numbers, from 1990 to 2000, Franklin County experienced slightly less population growth than MISER had expected. The 2000 Census shows the county's population to be 2,021 (3%) less than MISER's 2000 projection. At the town level, 16 towns grew less than anticipated, and 10 towns grew more. Towns with 2000 populations at least 15 percent below MISER's projections include Leverett, Shelburne, Monroe, Gill, Wendell, Northfield, and Shutesbury. As was discussed above, the last three towns on this list, had been expected to be among the county's highest growth towns over the past decade, and much of this anticipated growth was never realized. Towns with 2000 populations at least 15 percent above MISER's projections include only Montague and Whately. Whately's 2000 population according to the Census numbers is almost 30 percent over MISER's forecast.

To plan for future transportation needs, it is important to know not only the future size of the population, but also the distribution of that population by age group. Knowing age distribution is essential for estimating the number of workers and commuters. Traffic volumes peak during morning and evening commuting hours and these peak volumes need to be adequately accommodated on area roadways. Further, work-related trips account for roughly half of all trips on an average weekday. An understanding of the population's age distribution is also important for

estimating the size of populations such as the elderly and children that may have greater transportation service needs than the general population.

Table 3: 1990 Distribution of Population by Age Group

Town	Total Population	Percentage of total population in each age group					
		Under 5 Years	5-19 Years	20-44 Years	45-64 Years	65-84 Years	85 Years & Over
Ashfield	1,715	8.1%	20.0%	44.0%	15.9%	11.1%	0.9%
Bernardston	2,048	6.5%	21.9%	37.9%	19.0%	13.3%	1.3%
Buckland	1,928	7.6%	21.3%	38.5%	19.8%	11.7%	1.1%
Charlemont	1,249	7.4%	23.2%	36.6%	21.2%	11.0%	0.6%
Colrain	1,757	7.9%	24.2%	38.0%	18.8%	9.9%	1.2%
Conway	1,529	8.4%	20.4%	43.7%	17.9%	8.9%	0.7%
Deerfield	5,018	5.7%	18.2%	41.3%	20.8%	12.7%	1.3%
Erving	1,372	6.0%	21.6%	38.5%	18.4%	14.4%	1.1%
Gill	1,583	6.8%	20.8%	39.7%	21.4%	10.5%	0.8%
Greenfield	18,666	7.3%	18.9%	39.3%	16.0%	15.8%	2.7%
Hawley	317	7.6%	20.5%	34.4%	21.1%	15.8%	0.6%
Heath	716	7.5%	27.0%	36.6%	19.1%	8.9%	0.8%
Leverett	1,785	6.2%	19.2%	45.3%	20.3%	8.6%	0.4%
Leyden	662	9.4%	23.0%	40.3%	18.3%	8.6%	0.5%
Monroe	115	7.0%	14.8%	35.7%	24.3%	18.3%	0.0%
Montague	8,316	7.7%	18.8%	39.2%	17.8%	15.0%	1.5%
New Salem	802	8.2%	19.3%	40.0%	21.2%	10.2%	1.0%
Northfield	2,838	6.8%	21.6%	37.9%	19.7%	12.4%	1.6%
Orange	7,312	8.5%	22.3%	38.4%	17.1%	12.4%	1.4%
Rowe	378	5.8%	17.5%	35.7%	24.3%	15.6%	1.1%
Shelburne	2,012	6.8%	18.8%	38.1%	17.7%	14.9%	3.8%
Shutesbury	1,561	9.0%	20.8%	49.3%	14.5%	5.9%	0.5%
Sunderland	3,399	7.6%	14.2%	60.0%	10.6%	6.4%	1.3%
Warwick	740	5.9%	19.3%	46.2%	15.9%	11.5%	1.1%
Wendell	899	6.2%	25.3%	47.6%	16.2%	4.2%	0.4%
Whately	1,375	6.7%	18.0%	41.2%	20.8%	12.6%	0.7%
Franklin County	70,092	7.3%	19.8%	40.9%	17.5%	12.8%	1.6%
Massachusetts	6,016,425	7.0%	18.9%	42.1%	18.4%	12.0%	1.5%

Source: US Census Bureau, 1990 Census of Population & Housing.

Table 3 shows population age distributions for Franklin County and its towns for 1990 and Table 4 shows the same information for 2000. The data in both tables come from the decennial US Census for those years. The tables suggest that many of the towns in Franklin County had (1990) and continue to have (2000) similar age distributions for their populations. In 1990, in Franklin County, 27 percent of the population was under age 20 and 14 percent was 65 years or over, with the rest of the population falling in between these points. Similarly, in 2000, 26 percent of the population was under age 20 and 14 percent was 65 and over. The tables also indicate that for the listed age groups, the relative population sizes for Franklin County are comparable to those for Massachusetts overall. In 2000, for example, 26 percent of the state population was under age 20 and 14 percent was 65 and over.

A few of the towns have figures that deviate from the general trends. For example, more than half of Sunderland's population is between ages 20 and 44, whereas in most other communities, that age segment accounts for 35-40 percent (2000). Similarly, a few places have much smaller or larger than average proportions of elderly. In most of the towns, the elderly (people 65 years old and

above) account for 10-15 percent of the population, and the older elderly (age 85 and over) comprise less than 2 percent. As Table 4 indicates, Wendell and Shutesbury currently have much lower proportions of elderly (5% and 6% of their population respectively) than the average, and Shelburne (21% elderly) Rowe (19% elderly), Greenfield (18% elderly), and Montague (17% elderly) have higher proportions.

Table 4: 2000 Distribution of Population by Age Group

Town	Total Population	Percentage of total population in each age group					
		Under 5 Years	5-19 Years	20-44 Years	45-64 Years	65-84 Years	85 Years & Over
Ashfield	1,800	5.3%	20.9%	29.1%	33.2%	10.2%	1.4%
Bernardston	2,155	4.1%	21.1%	30.5%	28.1%	14.1%	2.1%
Buckland	1,991	4.9%	23.3%	31.0%	27.6%	11.4%	1.9%
Charlemont	1,358	5.0%	23.0%	34.1%	26.3%	10.3%	1.3%
Colrain	1,813	6.4%	23.4%	34.5%	23.5%	11.2%	1.0%
Conway	1,809	4.6%	22.5%	32.2%	31.2%	8.6%	0.9%
Deerfield	4,750	5.0%	19.3%	32.6%	29.3%	12.3%	1.5%
Erving	1,467	5.4%	19.9%	34.6%	26.3%	12.3%	1.4%
Gill	1,363	4.5%	22.3%	30.2%	30.2%	10.7%	2.1%
Greenfield	18,168	5.3%	19.2%	34.5%	23.5%	14.3%	3.2%
Hawley	336	4.5%	19.9%	28.6%	32.1%	12.8%	2.1%
Heath	805	5.2%	25.7%	29.2%	29.6%	9.8%	0.5%
Leverett	1,663	4.2%	21.0%	27.9%	35.7%	10.0%	1.2%
Leyden	772	5.1%	24.4%	32.1%	30.7%	6.7%	1.0%
Monroe	93	5.4%	23.7%	28.0%	25.8%	16.1%	1.1%
Montague	8,489	6.0%	19.4%	34.7%	23.4%	14.9%	1.7%
New Salem	929	5.2%	20.5%	31.6%	32.8%	8.4%	1.5%
Northfield	2,951	5.6%	23.5%	31.0%	26.4%	11.9%	1.6%
Orange	7,518	5.5%	23.6%	33.2%	23.4%	12.9%	1.5%
Rowe	351	5.4%	16.0%	23.6%	36.2%	16.5%	2.3%
Shelburne	2,058	3.6%	19.9%	26.8%	29.3%	17.0%	3.5%
Shutesbury	1,810	5.2%	25.2%	33.0%	30.8%	5.2%	0.5%
Sunderland	3,777	5.0%	15.4%	53.1%	18.1%	7.3%	1.1%
Warwick	750	6.1%	19.9%	34.5%	28.4%	10.5%	0.5%
Wendell	986	4.3%	24.1%	35.2%	31.8%	3.3%	1.2%
Whately	1,573	4.5%	20.0%	33.7%	29.6%	10.8%	1.5%
Franklin County	71,535	5.2%	20.7%	34.0%	25.9%	12.3%	1.9%
Massachusetts	6,349,097	6.3%	20.1%	37.7%	22.4%	11.7%	1.8%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census of Population & Housing.

Additionally, in both Greenfield and Shelburne, people aged 85 and above account for more than 3 percent of the population. Adults in this age group are the least likely to drive or be able to drive and the most likely to need transportation services such as transit and paratransit. Further, based on MISER projections and the general trend of the aging of the baby boomers (those born between 1946 and 1964), the number of older adults is expected to grow significantly in the coming decades. In its most recent projections, MISER forecasts that between 2000 and 2010, the number of people age 85 and over in Franklin County will grow by 17 percent. Moreover, in a few towns, including Ashfield, Charlemont, Gill, and Leyden, this population group is expected to expand by over 50 percent during this time period.

Housing

The number of housing units in a community generally correlates with population size. Housing units, particularly occupied housing units, though, provide additional information relevant to transportation planning that is not found with population figures alone. A housing unit is defined as a house, apartment, mobile home/trailer, group of rooms, or single room that is used as distinct, independent living quarters. Each non-vacant housing unit is occupied by a household, defined as a group of individuals who live together and can be either related or unrelated. Many transportation-related decisions are made at the household (occupied housing unit) level. For example, the US Census records the number of vehicles available per household (occupied housing unit).

Table 5: Housing Units and Occupancy, 1990 and 2000

Town	1990			2000			1990-2000	
	Total Units	Occupied Units	Occupancy Rate (%)	Total Units	Occupied Units	Occupancy Rate (%)	Change in Occupied Units	% Change Occupied Units
Ashfield	768	666	86.7%	821	741	90.3%	75	11.3%
Bernardston	819	776	94.7%	879	848	96.5%	72	9.3%
Buckland	786	744	94.7%	839	772	92.0%	28	3.8%
Charlemont	601	483	80.4%	628	524	83.4%	41	8.5%
Colrain	730	623	85.3%	776	686	88.4%	63	10.1%
Conway	615	554	90.1%	749	692	92.4%	138	24.9%
Deerfield	2,083	1,995	95.8%	2,060	1,965	95.4%	-30	-1.5%
Erving	584	526	90.1%	630	600	95.2%	74	14.1%
Gill	670	642	95.8%	560	537	95.9%	-105	-16.4%
Greenfield	8,067	7,681	95.2%	8,301	7,939	95.6%	258	3.4%
Hawley	185	123	66.5%	192	137	71.4%	14	11.4%
Heath	506	240	47.4%	648	292	45.1%	52	21.7%
Leverett	699	646	92.4%	648	632	97.5%	-14	-2.2%
Leyden	236	204	86.4%	306	277	90.5%	73	35.8%
Monroe	79	48	60.8%	67	43	64.2%	-5	-10.4%
Montague	3,695	3,479	94.2%	3,844	3,616	94.1%	137	3.9%
New Salem	328	293	89.3%	422	379	89.8%	86	29.4%
Northfield	1,289	1,130	87.7%	1,262	1,158	91.8%	28	2.5%
Orange	3,106	2,808	90.4%	3,303	3,045	92.2%	237	8.4%
Rowe	208	147	70.7%	209	154	73.7%	7	4.8%
Shelburne	855	794	92.9%	886	834	94.1%	40	5.0%
Shutesbury	716	575	80.3%	807	662	82.0%	87	15.1%
Sunderland	1,534	1,363	88.9%	1,668	1,633	97.9%	270	19.8%
Warwick	305	246	80.7%	343	293	85.4%	47	19.1%
Wendell	400	346	86.5%	439	378	86.1%	32	9.2%
Whately	530	508	95.8%	652	629	96.5%	121	23.8%
Franklin Co	30,394	27,640	90.9%	31,939	29,466	92.3%	1,826	6.6%
Massachusetts	2,472,711	2,247,110	90.9%	2,621,989	2,443,580	93.2%	196,470	8.7%

Sources: US Census Bureau, 1990 & 2000 Census of Population and Housing.

Trends related to the number of households can differ from population trends as household size changes. For example, according to US Census data, average household size in Franklin County declined from 2.5 to 2.4 (4% change) over the last decade. As a result, while Franklin County's population grew only 2 percent from 1990 to 2000, its number of households increased 7 percent.

Knowledge about the number of households (occupied housing units) and household characteristics is essential to assess transportation demand accurately.

Table 5 displays housing unit counts and occupancy rates for 1990 and 2000, based on decennial US Census data. Over the past decade, the number of housing units in Franklin County increased 5 percent from 30,394 to 31,939, and the housing occupancy rate rose from 91 percent to 92 percent. During the same time period, the number of occupied housing units expanded in 22 of the county's towns. The average increase in these towns was 90 units, with three towns – Sunderland, Greenfield, and Orange -- having increases of more than 200 units (270, 258, and 237 units respectively). Of the towns with a decrease in occupied units – Gill, Deerfield, Leverett, and Monroe – only Gill's decline was significant. By 2000, the number of occupied units in Gill had dropped by 105, or 16 percent, from the 1990 level.

Labor Force and Employment

The size and characteristics of a region's labor force relate to its transportation needs. Many trips within a region are work-related, and total trips correlate to the labor force size and types of businesses. Additionally, most commuting travel occurs during a few hours during weekday mornings and evenings and it is important that transportation facilities be able to accommodate traffic volumes during these peak periods. Good public transportation options can help reduce the peak travel demand and congestion on area roadways. Public transportation can also help workers, especially lower-income workers without easy access to a car, access better employment opportunities.

The Massachusetts Division of Employment and Training (DET) maintains employment and labor force data for each community in the state. Table 6 summarizes DET's data on each town's labor force size and unemployment rate for 1990, 1995, and 2000. By definition, the labor force consists of all people 16 years of age and older who are working at a paid job or who are looking for paid work. People who are full-time students, residing in an institution, or doing only volunteer or unpaid work are not considered a part of the labor force. The unemployment rate is the percentage of people in the labor force who are without paid jobs and are looking for work.

Table 6 indicates that from 1990 to 2000, Franklin County's labor force grew slightly, increasing 0.5 percent from 37,242 workers to 37,400. During the economic downturn of the early 1990s, the region experienced a slight decline in the number of workers and then rebounded over the last few years. (Although the data are not yet available, the current economic downturn with layoffs at Yankee Candle Company and other area employers has probably shrunk the labor force slightly again.) During the last decade, 18 towns in the county had labor forces that increased or stayed steady. On average, the number of workers in these towns increased by 50 people. The largest growth was in Deerfield, which had 138 new workers (5% of the workforce), Montague, with 114 new workers (3%), and Shutesbury, with 108 new workers (12%). The biggest decline in was in Orange, which lost 521 workers, 15 percent of the labor force.

Over the last 10 years, Franklin County's unemployment rate changed more significantly than the labor force. Unemployment countywide fell from a high of 8 percent in 1991 to just 3 percent in 2000. Moreover, no town experienced a net increase in its unemployment rate during this period. In 1990, more than half the towns had 5 percent unemployment or more. By 2000, only two towns, Warwick and Rowe, still did. The drop in the unemployment rate coupled with the slight expansion

of the labor force, suggests that the number of commuters in and to the region may be increasing over time.

Table 6: Labor Force and Unemployment, 1990-2000

Geography	1990		1995		2000		1990-2000	
	Labor Force	Percent Unemployed	Labor Force	Percent Unemployed	Labor Force	Percent Unemployed	Change in Labor Force	Percent Change
Ashfield	1,015	2.6%	1,001	3.3%	1,034	1.9%	19	1.9%
Bernardston	1,093	2.2%	1,090	4.8%	1,133	2.8%	40	3.7%
Buckland	1,053	6.8%	1,051	1.6%	1,094	1.0%	41	3.9%
Charlemont	656	4.3%	644	5.1%	659	3.3%	3	0.5%
Colrain	866	4.7%	896	5.0%	926	2.6%	60	6.9%
Conway	883	5.1%	917	3.8%	964	1.9%	81	9.2%
Deerfield	2,985	5.2%	2,938	4.2%	3,123	2.0%	138	4.6%
Erving	729	8.9%	725	3.6%	750	2.7%	21	2.9%
Gill	950	10.0%	936	3.1%	956	1.5%	6	0.6%
Greenfield	9,240	8.7%	9,159	5.0%	9,178	2.7%	-62	-0.7%
Hawley	153	2.5%	164	6.7%	162	2.5%	9	5.9%
Heath	345	3.9%	360	3.3%	374	1.9%	29	8.4%
Leverett	1,062	5.1%	1,082	2.0%	1,145	1.4%	83	7.8%
Leyden	382	5.8%	381	3.7%	412	3.2%	30	7.9%
Monroe	70	3.4%	70	4.3%	72	4.2%	2	2.9%
Montague	4,229	5.0%	4,301	6.4%	4,343	2.9%	114	2.7%
New Salem	450	6.0%	436	7.6%	393	3.6%	-57	-12.7%
Northfield	1,586	5.2%	1,565	3.2%	1,677	2.0%	91	5.7%
Orange	3,551	8.9%	3,253	6.8%	3,030	4.1%	-521	-14.7%
Rowe	170	10.0%	164	6.7%	168	5.4%	-2	-1.2%
Shelburne	1,095	8.7%	1,088	8.4%	1,090	4.4%	-5	-0.5%
Shutesbury	902	2.5%	966	2.7%	1,010	1.8%	108	12.0%
Sunderland	2,076	3.9%	2,047	3.4%	2,065	1.5%	-11	-0.5%
Warwick	352	5.1%	335	5.4%	309	5.2%	-43	-12.2%
Wendell	521	5.8%	535	3.7%	558	2.0%	37	7.1%
Whately	828	3.4%	853	2.2%	815	1.5%	-13	-1.6%
Franklin Co	37,242	5.0%	36,957	4.7%	37,440	2.6%	198	0.5%
Massachusetts	3,227,600	6.0%	3,176,300	5.4%	3,236,600	2.6%	9,000	0.3%

Source: Massachusetts Division of Employment and Training.

The major employment locations for Franklin County residents include Greenfield in Franklin County and Amherst, Northampton, Hadley, and Belchertown in Hampshire County. The largest single employer for the Franklin County workers is the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, which has over five thousand employees, close to one thousand of whom reside in Franklin County. Table 7 lists the largest non-government employers in the Franklin and Hampshire County area according to most recent data (1997) from the State Division of Employment and Training's (DET). DET monitors all private sector employers within the State and compiles and disseminates information regarding each company's annual payroll and number of employees. Table 7 shows that the greater Franklin and Hampshire County area has three private-sector employers with at least a thousand workers: the Franklin Medical Center in Greenfield, Smith College in Northampton, and Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley. Although specific figures are not available, it is assumed that a number of Franklin County residents work at each of these establishments. The Franklin and

Hampshire County area also has six private-sector employers with 500-999 workers and 12 employers with 250-500 workers, some or all of whom likely employ Franklin County residents.

DET does not track employment statistics for public-sector agencies and institutions and little firm data are available for these types of employers. It is important to note a substantial number of Franklin County residents work for employers in the public sector, including the University of Massachusetts and state and local governments, and that these employers and workers are not included in Table 7.

Table 7: Large Private-Sector Employers in the Franklin & Hampshire County Area

Employee Range	Location	Business Description	Employer Name
250-499 Employees	Amherst	Colleges & Universities	Hampshire College
	Athol	Hospitals	Athol Memorial Hospital
	Deerfield	Books	Channing L Bete Co
	Deerfield	Cutlery, Hand Tools & Hardware	Greenfield Industries/Disston
	Deerfield	Elementary & Secondary Schools	Deerfield Academy
	Greenfield	Life Insurance	Phoenix Home Life Insurance
	Hatfield	Groceries & Related Products	C&S Wholesale Grocers
	Hatfield	Personnel Supply Services	Produce Leasing Inc
	Orange	Grocery Stores	Shop & Save
	Ware	Misc. Converted Paper Products	Kanzaki Specialty Papers Inc
	Ware	Hospitals	Mary Lane Hospital Corp
	Whately	Misc. Manufactures	Yankee Candle Company
500-999 Employees	Amherst	Colleges & Universities	Amherst College
	Easthampton	Misc. Plastics Products NEC	Tubed Products Inc
	Hatfield	Groceries & Related Products	C&S Wholesale Grocers
	Northampton	Hospitals	Cooley Dickinson Hospital
	Northfield	Elementary & Secondary Schools	Northfield Mount Herman School
	South Hadley	Misc. Converted Paper Products	Rexam Graphics Inc
1000+ Employees	Greenfield	Hospitals	Franklin Medical Center
	Northampton	Colleges & Universities	Smith College
	South Hadley	Colleges & Universities	Mount Holyoke College

Source: Massachusetts Division of Employment & Training, 1997.