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# Socio Economic Profile A Comparative Report Holliston, Massachusetts

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**SOCIO ECONOMIC PROFILE  
A COMPARATIVE REPORT  
HOLLISTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

**Fall 1993**

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# **SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE**

## **HOLLISTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

(Source: 1990 Census Tract Information)

### **Population Profile**

- \* Holliston has experienced very little increase in population over the past decade (less than 1%). According to 1990 census information Holliston has a population of 12,922 as compared to that of 12,622 in 1980. The nearby towns of Hollistons have experienced variable growth in the same decade. Hopkinton has experienced 30% increase, Millis - 12% increase, Ashland - 37% increase, Medway - 17% increase, Milford - 8% increase and Sherborn has experienced 1.4% decrease in population.
- \* Over 95% of the population is white.
- \* The average age of Holliston is 33.3 which is less than the statewide average of 35.9. The average age in the surrounding towns is similar except for Sherborn and Milford where it is 35.9 and 35.1 respectively.
- \* The density of the town is 691 person/sq.mile which is quite less than the statewide density of 767.6 person/square mile. This shows that there is still a room for growth in the town. The density in the surrounding towns varies widely. The densities in the different towns in persons/sq.mile are: Hopkinton - 346 person/square mile, Milford - 1736.7 person/square mile, Sherborn - 250 person/square mile, Ashland - 969.5 person/square mile, Medway - 867 person/square mile and Millis - 626 person/square mile.
- \* Average household size is 3.0 which is more than state average of 2.6. Average household size in neighboring towns is similar except for Milford and Ashland where it is 2.7 and 2.6 respectively.
- \* The percentage of people, 25 years and over with educational attainment of high school graduate or higher is 93.7 which is quite higher than the statewide level of 80%. Also the percentage of college graduate is much higher in Holliston ie 41.1% than that of state which is 27.2%. Percentage of high school graduates and college graduates is similar in neighboring towns of Holliston except for Sherborn and Milford. In Sherborn percentage of High school graduates and college graduates is 97.8 and 65.5 and in Milford the same is 76.7 and 23.7 respectively.

## **Housing Profile.**

- \* According to 1990 census, there are 4413 housing units in town out of which 84% are owner occupied and 13% are rentor occupied. The rest of the houses are vacant. In Sherborn, Hopkinton and Medway similar percentages of houses are occupied by owners but in Ashland and Millis 71% are occupied by owners while in Milford only 60% are occupied are owners.
- \* Only 20% housing was built prior to 1940 and more than 60% has been built after 1960 out of which 33% was built in the decade of 1960-1969 which shows that there was a major development in the housing in that decade.
- \* The median rent is \$613 which is quite higher than the median rent for the state which is \$506. The median rent value varies quite significantly in the neighboring towns. Sherborn, Ashland and Millis have higher rental medians of \$725, \$624, \$679 respectively while Hopkinton, Milford and Medway have lower rental medians of \$507, \$493, \$464 respectively.

## **Income Profile**

- \* The median household income is \$58,018 and average household income is \$64,029 which means that there are more people below average income mark. This income is quite higher than statewide median income of \$36,952. This income is similar to median household income of neighboring towns except for Sherborn and Milford which have higher and lower median incomes of \$93,925 and \$38,180 respectively.
- \* The per capita income of Holliston is \$21,225 which is also higher than the per capita income of state which is \$17,224. This follows the same comparative trend as the median household income for the neighboring towns. The Per capita income of Sherborn is \$41,614 and of Milford is \$15,980.

## **Labor Force Profile**

- \* In Holliston, the civilian labor force accounts for 77% of all the persons 16 years and over as compared to statewide average of 67%. This is similar to the percentage of labor force in the surrounding towns except in Sherborn and Milford where it is 70%.



- \* The unemployment rate in Holliston was 5.3% according to 1990 census. as compared to the statewide average of 6.7%. The unemployment rate in nearby towns is similar except for Sherborn where it is 3.3%.

## **Occupational Profile**

- \* This town has maximum number of people in professional and technical jobs whose percentage is 26.3% closely followed by people in managerial and executive jobs at 22.7%. There are 14.2% people in sales jobs and 14.8% people in clerical jobs. There are 22% people in blue collar jobs. So a major part of the population is involved in the white collar jobs. This pattern is closely followed by the neighboring towns except in Milford. In Milford, 19% population is in professional and technical jobs, 13% is in managerial and executive jobs, 12% in sales jobs and 18% of population is in clerical jobs. The percentage of people in blue collar jobs is quite similar in the nearby towns.

## **Industrial Profile**

- \* About 27% of the jobs in the town of Holliston are in professional services, about 22% in whole or retail trade and about 20% in the manufacturing sector, which is quite similar to the percentages of these jobs in Massachusetts which are 28%, 20.3% and 18.1% respectively. The towns of Medway, Millis and Ashland follow similar pattern. Hopkinton and Milford have maximum jobs in manufacturing sector (23.6% & 27.2% respectively). Sherborn has quite high percentage of jobs in professional services which is 32.6%.

## **Commuting Profile**

- \* Percent of total workers of or above 16 years of age who drove alone to work is 84% which is much higher than state average of 72%. In the surrounding towns nearly the same percentage of people drove alone to work.
- \* 7% of the population of Holliston drove to work in carpool which is less than state average of 11%. The commuting profile of nearby towns is quite similar except in Sherborn where only 3% people use carpool to reach their workplace.

Category	Holliston	Hopkinton	Millis	Ashland	Medway	Milford	Sherborn	Massachusetts
<b>Total Population</b>	12926	9191	7613	12066	9931	25335	3989	6016425
Average Age	33.3	32.5	32.8	34.4	33.3	35.1	35.9	35.9
% White Population	96.8	97.1	98	94	97.5	93.5	97.5	87.8
Pop. Density, #/sq. mile	691	346	626.2	969.5	867.2	1736.7	249.9	767.6
Av. Household Size	3	2.9	2.8	2.6	3	2.7	3	2.6
<b>Housing</b>								
Total units	4413	3305	2832	4821	3390	9819	1374	2472711
Av. rooms/unit	6.9	6.8	6.2	5.9	6.6	5.8	8	5.5
Median Rent	613	507	679	624	464	493	725	506
<b>Income</b>								
Median hshld Income	58018	54356	50090	5173	54857	38180	93925	36952
Per Capita income	21225	22497	20241	21912	18982	15980	41614	17224
<b>Educational Attainment</b>								
Percentage school grad or more	93.7	91	91.8	89.4	88.3	76.7	97.8	80
Percentage college grad or more	41.1	43.3	34.3	36.2	34.9	23.4	65.5	27.2
<b>Employment</b>								
Pop 16 years and over	9801	6289	5814	9693	7480	19949	3082	4809772
Civilian Labor force	7564	5157	4562	7595	5561	13916	2144	3245950
Employed	7166	4950	4301	7198	5212	12969	2073	3027950
Unemployed	398	207	261	397	349	947	71	218000
Percentage Unemploy	5.3	4	5.7	5.2	6.3	6.8	3.3	6.7



Category	Holliston	Hopkinton	Millis	Ashland	Medway	Milford	Sherborn	Massachusetts
<b>Occupation</b>								
White Collar	5590	3543	2994	5267	3708	8020	1815	1964263
Manager/Executive	1628	1111	699	1413	956	1698	574	442912
Prof./Technician	1882	1229	986	1859	1288	2461	612	654155
Sales	1018	615	608	944	594	1498	392	344100
Clerical/Admin.	1062	588	701	1051	870	2363	237	523096
<b>Blue collar</b>	1576	1407	1307	1931	1504	4949	258	1063687
Service	589	416	451	648	574	1618	77	388275
Farming	5	85	38	80	20	85	37	28098
Production	585	519	468	576	437	1186	64	301981
Laborers	397	387	350	627	473	2060	80	345333
<b>Industry</b>								
Agriculture	88	111	35	63	59	118	52	32576
Mining/Construction	433	346	438	424	293	576	84	168222
Manufacturing	1409	1169	706	1350	1010	3522	321	547924
T.C.P.U.	310	317	175	533	428	767	63	187291
Whl/ret. Trade	1556	934	933	1463	1024	1656	379	615606
F.I.R.E.	634	321	349	593	453	808	289	242828
Business service	392	315	277	496	242	691	116	141679
Profess Service	1910	1160	1077	1738	1348	2941	676	848922
Other service	223	172	157	289	196	464	38	112994
Public Admin	211	105	154	249	159	426	55	129908
<b>Commuting</b>								
Total workers age 16+	7044	4866	4299	7058	5121	12764	2040	1979594
Those drove alone	5933	4085	3667	5902	4321	10342	1750	2148065
Those drove in carpool	613	402	309	563	460	1527	58	318026
Those worked at home	238	218	99	236	68	300	69	74855