

Martha's Vineyard Statistical Profile

February 2019



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POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Population counts tend to differ from source to source. Aquinnah's population in 2010, for example, ranges from 311 (Aquinnah Town Report) to 404 (American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates). Here we rely largely on the ACS 5-year estimates, which provide consistency over time, among towns and counties, and among other data sets available through the US Census Bureau website. The historic population counts on this page are considered the most accurate tally of year-round residents.

Population estimates: Towns, county, Island, 2010–2016

Source: US Census Bureau, Population Division

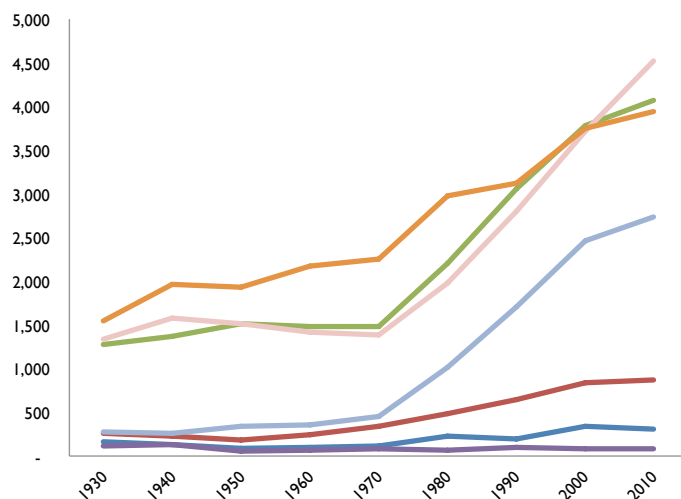
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	% change
Aquinnah	404	466	385	397	363	460	596	47.5
Wampanoag-Aquinnah Land Trust	190	237	143	155	99	136	211	11.1
Chilmark	1,014	801	855	886	905	1,051	1,216	19.9
Edgartown	3,984	4,034	4,086	4,135	4,186	4,217	4,247	6.6
Gosnold	198	183	169	135	99	75	53	-73.2
Oak Bluffs	4,364	4,449	4,513	4,563	4,599	4,626	4,647	6.5
Tisbury	3,886	3,914	3,967	3,995	4,036	4,055	4,072	4.8
West Tisbury	2,305	2,506	2,606	2,628	2,727	2,564	2,306	0
Dukes County	16,155	16,353	16,581	16,739	16,915	17,048	17,137	6.1
Martha's Vineyard	15,957	16,170	16,412	16,604	16,816	16,973	17,084	7.1

Historic population counts: Towns, county, Island, 1930–2010

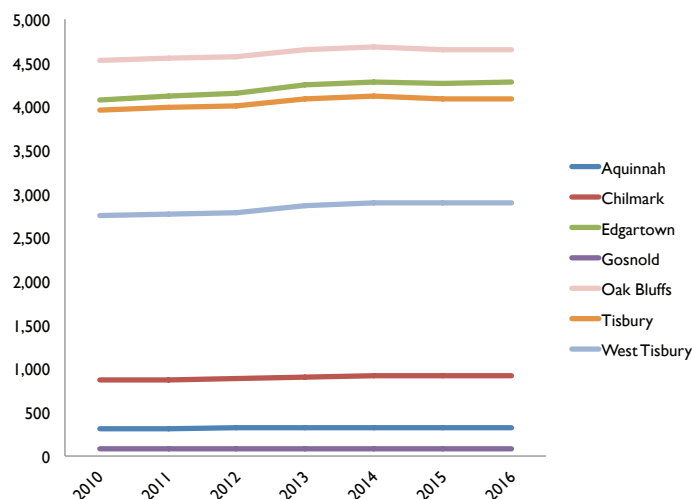
Source: US Census Bureau, Population Division (Decennial Census Count)

	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Aquinnah	161	127	88	103	118	220	201	344	311
Chilmark	252	226	183	238	340	489	650	843	864
Edgartown	1,276	1,370	1,508	1,474	1,481	2,204	3,062	3,779	4,067
Gosnold	120	136	56	66	83	63	98	86	75
Oak Bluffs	1,333	1,584	1,521	1,419	1,385	1,984	2,804	3,713	4,524
Tisbury	1,541	1,966	1,930	2,169	2,257	2,972	3,120	3,755	3,952
West Tisbury	270	260	347	360	453	1,010	1,704	2,467	2,742
Dukes County	4,953	5,669	5,633	5,829	6,117	8,942	11,639	14,987	16,535
Martha's Vineyard	4,833	5,533	5,577	5,763	6,034	8,897	11,541	14,901	16,460

Decennial Counts



Estimates 2010–2016



Peak summer population estimate: Island, 2016

Based on 2010 MVC methodology and American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

As with year-round population, estimates for peak summer population on the Vineyard vary widely. The Martha's Vineyard Commission began estimating the peak summer population every ten years beginning in 2000. The 2016 estimate here provides a temporary update until the MVC calculates its next official estimate in 2020.

Year-round residents	17,084
Guests of year-round residents	4,272
Seasonal residents and vacationers	53,529
Transients	
Rooms	2,476
Airbnb	612
Boats	1,512
Camping	432
Day trippers	8,314
Cruises	1,000
TOTAL	89,231

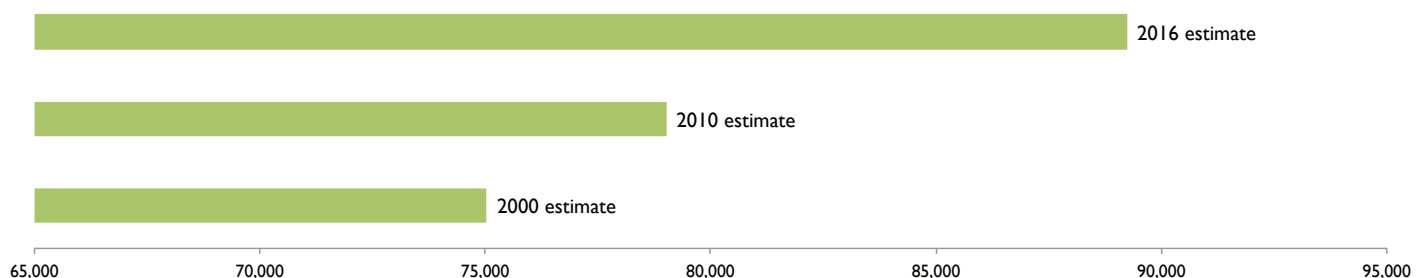
ASSUMPTIONS:

<i>Year-round residents</i>	<i>Total estimate by American Community Survey*</i>
<i>Guests of year-round residents</i>	<i>0.7 per year-round household</i>
<i>Seasonal/vacationers</i>	<i>4.77 people per seasonal housing unit</i>
<i>Transients</i>	<i>2 people per room, 100% occupancy in all lodging</i>
	<i>3-4 people per boat, occupancy between 80-100% for 468 boats that can be accommodated</i>
	<i>3 people per tent and 80% summer occupancy for 180 campsites in Martha's Vineyard Family Campground</i>
<i>Day trippers</i>	<i>2/3 of peak passenger ferry ridership on summer days</i>

CALCULATIONS:

<i>Households in 2016</i>	<i>6,103 x 0.7 = 4,272*</i>
<i>Seasonal units in 2016</i>	<i>11,222 x 4.77 = 53,529*</i>
<i>Lodging</i>	<i>1,238 rooms x 2 = 2476 (assuming same total as 2010)</i>
	<i>Airbnb arrived in 2013, listed 306 properties in 2017; 306 x 2 = 612</i>
	<i>(weneedavacation.com likely has more listings now; not included in estimate)</i>
	<i>468 boats (assuming same harbor capacities; using same figure as 2010)</i>
	<i>180 campsites; 180 x 0.8 x 3 = 432</i>
<i>Peak SSA ridership in 2016</i>	<i>390,485 to or from Martha's Vineyard in August / 31 = 12,596</i>
	<i>12,596 x 0.66 = 8,314 day trippers</i>

* Does not include Gosnold.



Population density by town (year-round residents per square mile): 2010–2017

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, MVC (land area)

Oak Bluffs and Tisbury, with their relatively small area, vibrant business districts, dense neighborhoods and proximity to the mainland, top the list of most densely populated towns in the county. Each occupies less than eight percent of the Island's total land area, but accounts for nearly a quarter of the total county population.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Aquinnah	57.6	58.3	58.7	60.4	60.7	60.6	60.6	60.6
Chilmark	45.2	45.8	46.3	47.5	47.9	47.9	48	33.9
Edgartown	150.6	152.5	153.9	157.2	158.7	158	224.4	160
Gosnold	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7
Oak Bluffs	611.4	614.5	617.3	628.1	631.9	628.9	629.1	632.2
Tisbury	627.3	603.6	607.4	619.2	623	619.8	619.8	622.6
West Tisbury	109.7	110.6	111.4	114.3	115.6	115.6	115.8	115.9
<i>Island</i>	<i>181.9</i>	<i>183.5</i>	<i>184.7</i>	<i>188.6</i>	<i>190.1</i>	<i>189.4</i>	<i>189.7</i>	<i>190.6</i>
<i>County</i>	<i>159.3</i>	<i>160.7</i>	<i>161.8</i>	<i>165.2</i>	<i>165.8</i>	<i>165.9</i>	<i>166.1</i>	<i>166.9</i>

Population density: Town comparison, 2017

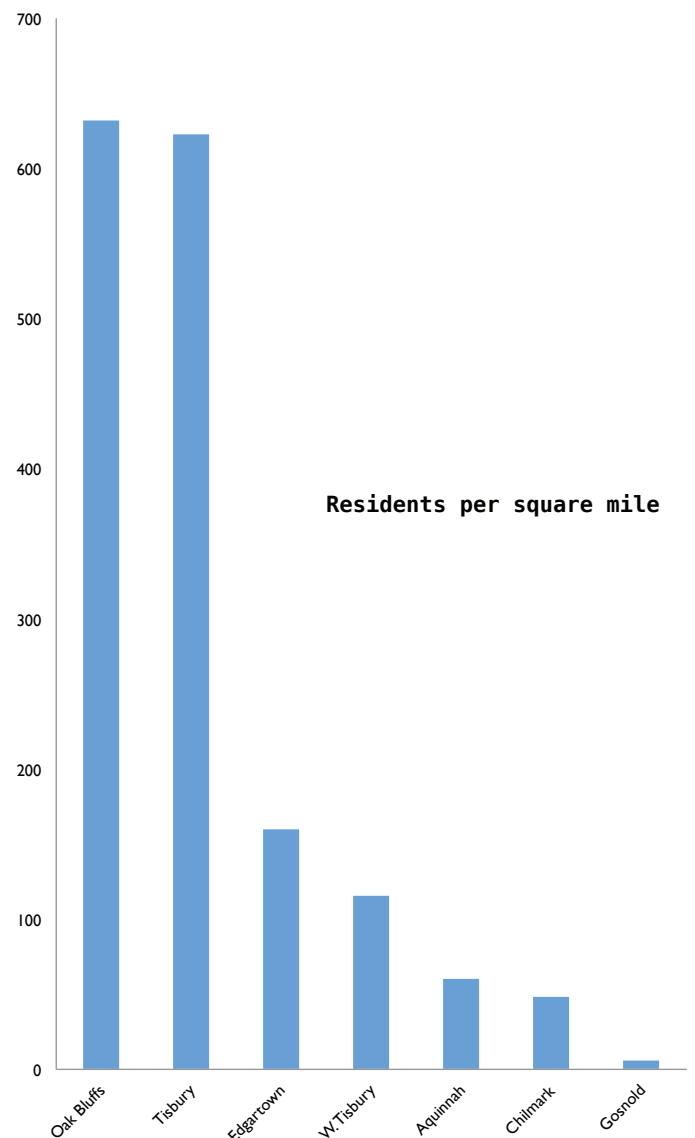
Source: US Census Bureau, Population Division; MVC (land area)

632.2	Oak Bluffs
622.6	Tisbury
160	Edgartown
115.9	W.Tisbury
60.6	Aquinnah
48	Chilmark
5.7	Gosnold

Population: County comparison, 2017

Source: US Census Bureau, Population Division

11,229	Nantucket County
17,325	Dukes County
70,702	Franklin County
126,313	Berkshire County
161,834	Hampshire County
213,444	Barnstable County
469,818	Hampden County
515,142	Plymouth County
561,483	Bristol County
700,322	Norfolk County
785,205	Essex County
797,939	Suffolk County
826,116	Worcester County
1,602,947	Middlesex County



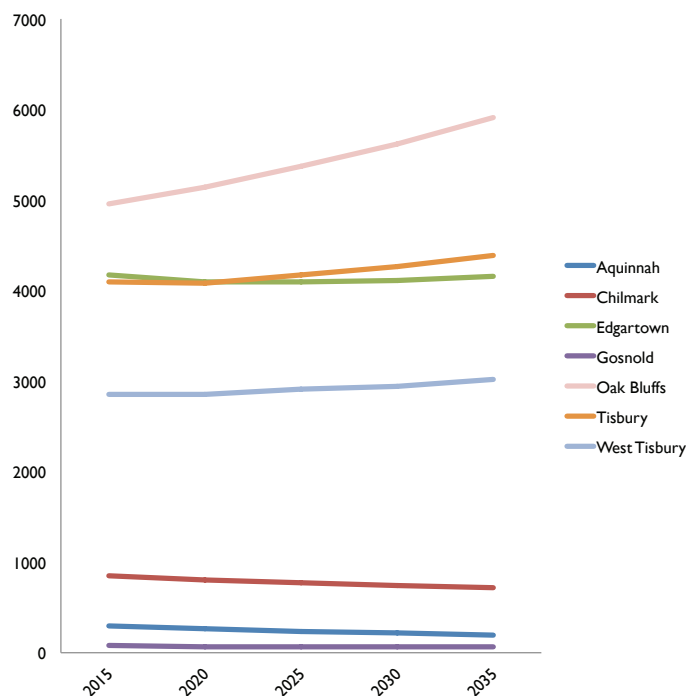
Population projections by town, 2015–2035

Source: UMass Donahue Institute Vintage 2015 Population Projections, March 2015; US Census Bureau Population Division

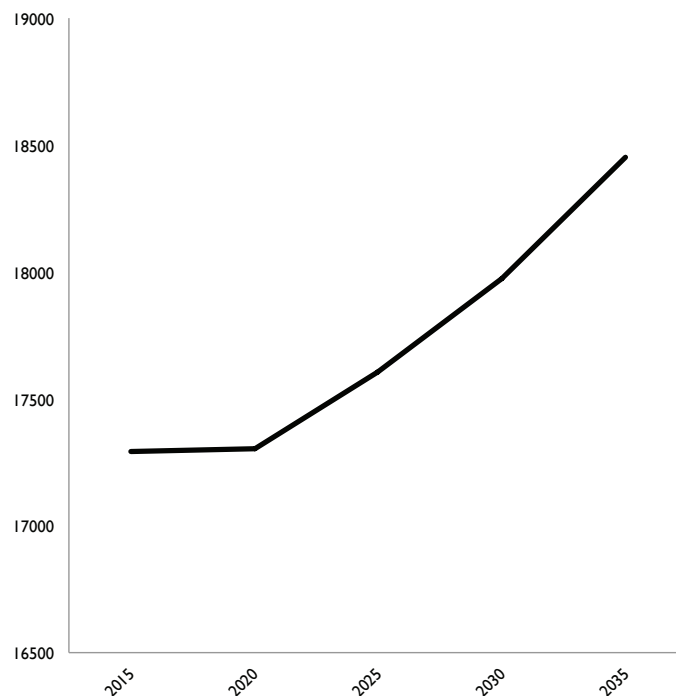
The UMass Donahue Institute population projections indicate some trends to expect in the coming decades. Note that even while the county population as a whole is expected to increase, Aquinnah and Chilmark can anticipate a downward trend. See pages 9 and 10 for a closer look at how the Island's elder population will likely change by 2035 and 2060.

	Census 2010	Projection 2020	Projection 2025	Projection 2030	Projection 2035
Aquinnah	311	264	233	215	194
Chilmark	866	799	773	745	718
Edgartown	4,067	4,101	4,092	4,111	4,164
Gosnold	75	67	62	72	70
Oak Bluffs	4,527	5,140	5,369	5,625	5,904
Tisbury	3,949	4,081	4,171	4,258	4,385
West Tisbury	2,740	2,853	2,904	2,946	3,018
Dukes County	16,535	17,305	17,604	17,972	18,453

Population Projections by Town



Population Projection: Dukes County



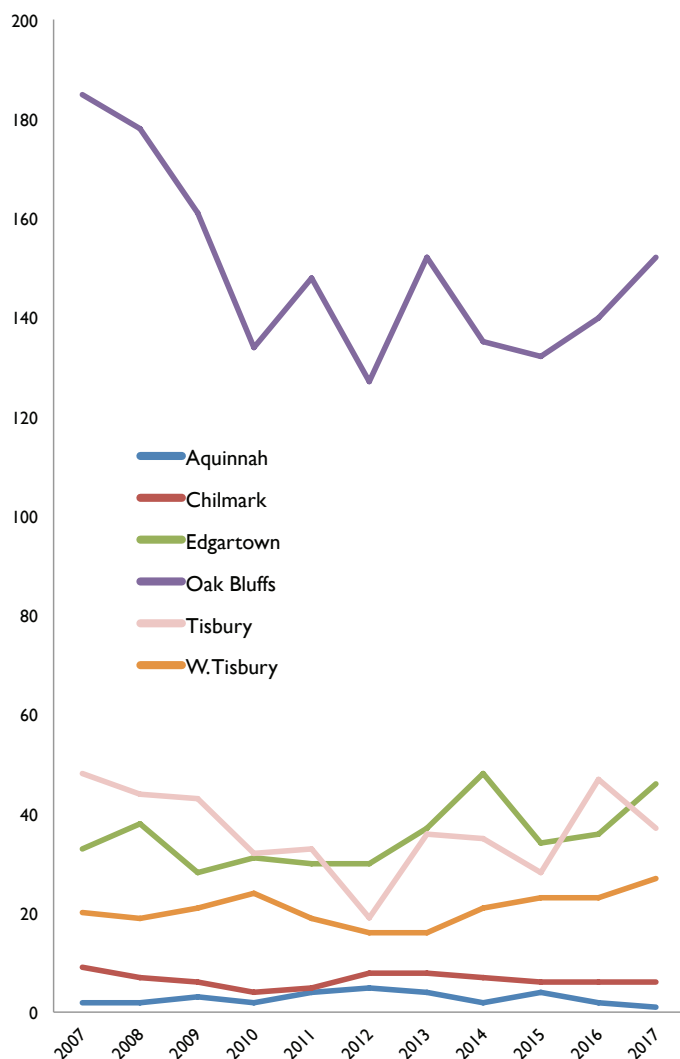
Births per town, 2007–2017

Source: Town reports and town clerks

	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017
Aquinnah	2	3	4	4	4	1
Chilmark	9	6	5	8	6	6
Edgartown	33	28	30	37	34	46
Oak Bluffs	185	161	148	152	132	152
Tisbury	48	43	33	36	28	37
West Tisbury	20	21	19	16	23	27
Total	297	262	239	253	227	269

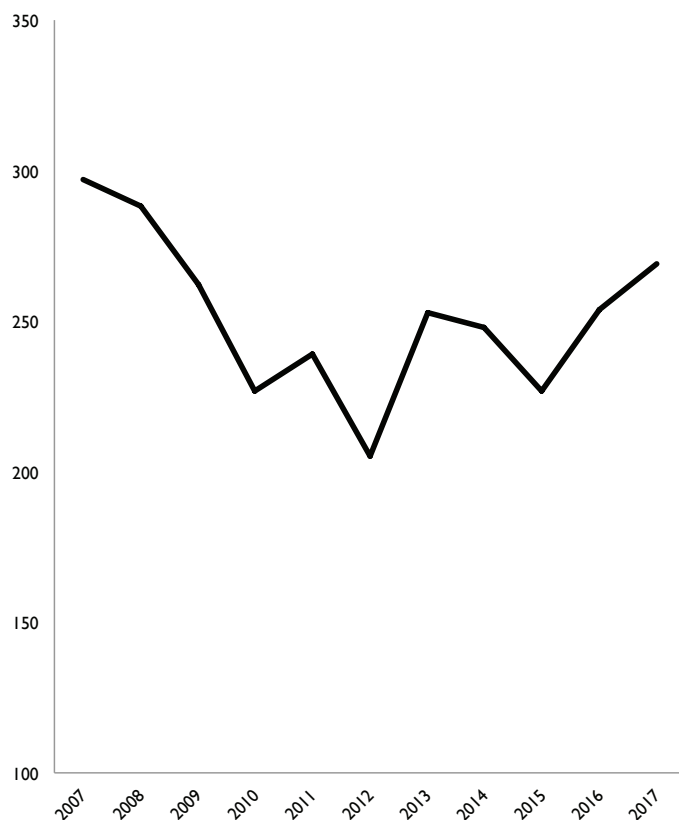
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Births Per Town



Babies born at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital are automatically registered in Oak Bluffs, which may partly account for the higher number of births per year as recorded in that town. A small number of home births occur on the Island each year.

Total Births in Dukes County

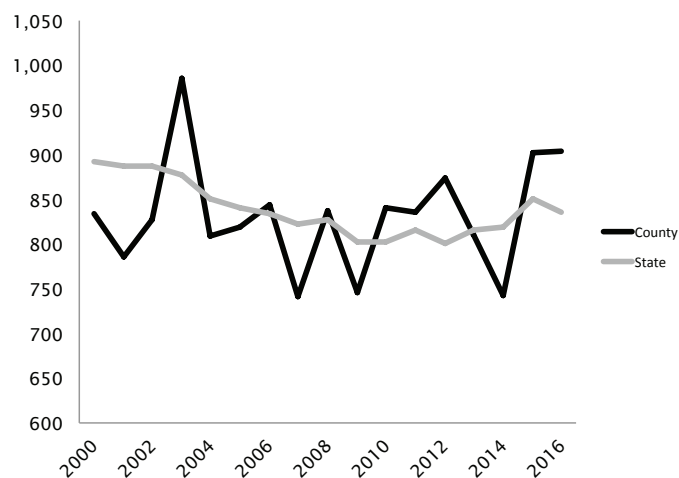


Crude death rate and deaths per year: County, 2000–2016

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Year	Deaths	Rate	Year	Deaths	Rate
2001	120	786.3	2009	122	745.1
2002	128	826.8	2010	139	840.6
2003	154	985.3	2011	140	835
2004	127	808.7	2012	149	874.4
2005	129	819.4	2013	140	811.3
2006	133	843.5	2014	129	743.3
2007	118	741.3	2015	156	901.8
2008	135	836.8	2016	156	904.6

Death rate: Dukes County and Mass.



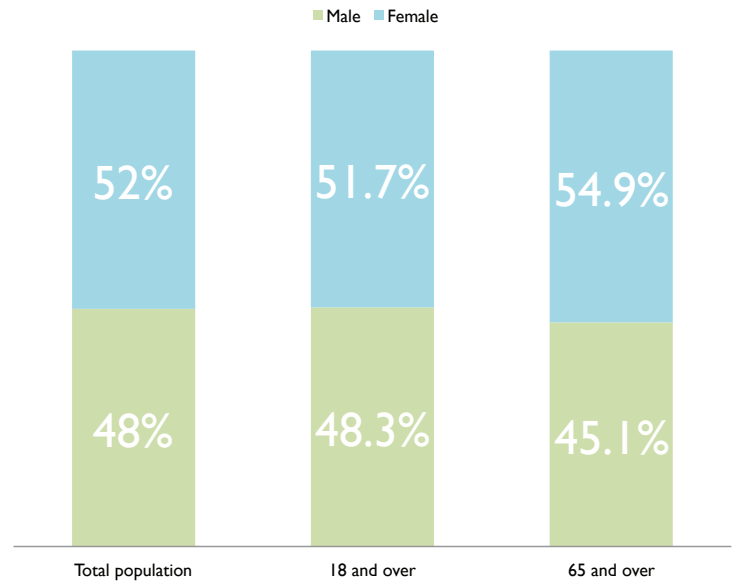
Gender by age group: County, 2010–2016

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Dukes County maintained about an even balance among males and females from 2010 to 2016, with a slight dip in the number of males in 2016. The dip is likely the result of a growing population over 65, which leans female as a result of higher female longevity.

	2010	2012	2014	2016
Population	16,155	16,581	16,915	17,137
Male	7,982	8,209	8,381	8,231
Female	8,173	8,372	8,534	8,906
18 and over	13,005	13,422	13,726	14,023
Male	6,363	6,594	6,738	6,779
Female	6,642	6,828	6,988	7,244
65 and over	2,508	2,753	3,055	3,497
Male	1,083	1,594	1,382	1,577
Female	1,425	1,159	1,673	1,920

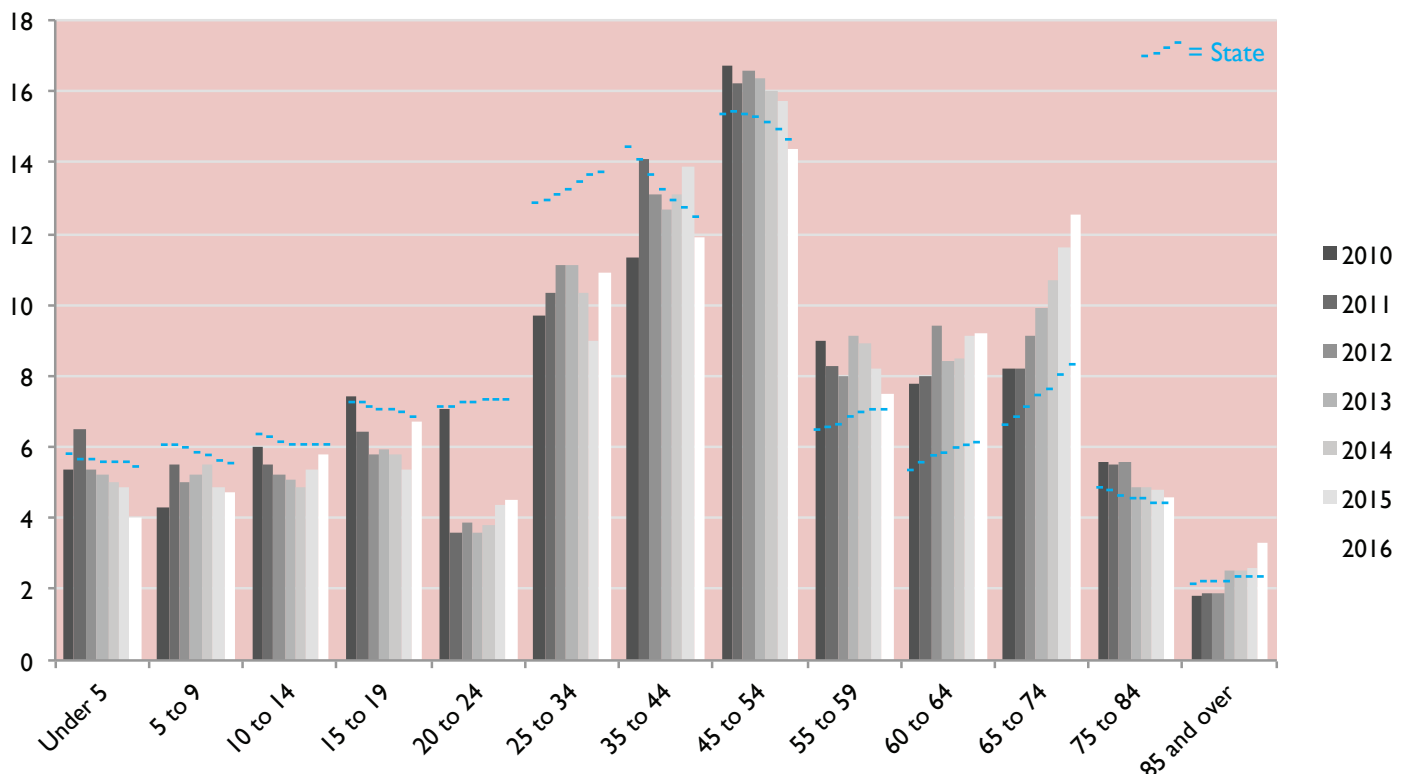
Distribution by Gender, 2016



Population by age group (percent of total): County, 2010–2016

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

In 2016, the median age in Dukes County (46.5) was seven years higher than in the state (39.4), according to the American Community Survey. The difference reflects the county's larger elder population, but also its smaller number of residents ages 0–34, and especially ages 20–34. People ages 65–74 (including the upper third or so of the Baby Boomer generation) is the fastest growing age group in both the state and the county.

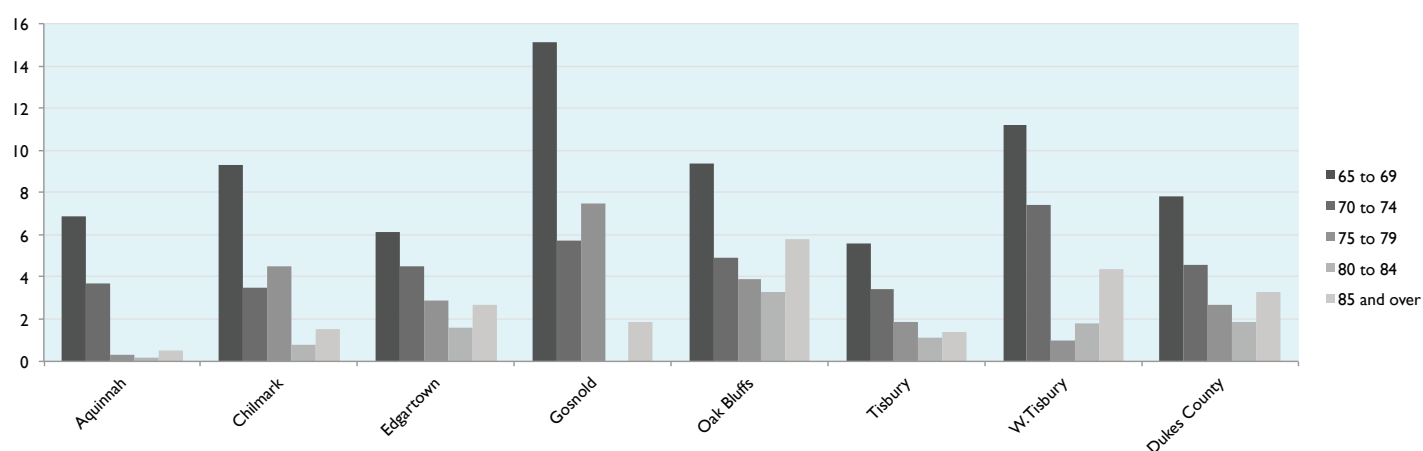


Elder age distribution by town (percent of population), 2016

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

In keeping with the overall pattern in Dukes County, every town in 2016 had a higher percentage of people ages 65–74. Oak Bluffs and West Tisbury by comparison had a higher percentage of people in the upper range (85 and over), while Edgartown and Tisbury generally followed the countywide pattern. The higher percentage of people over 80 living down-Island and in West Tisbury may reflect the broader range of elder services in those towns.

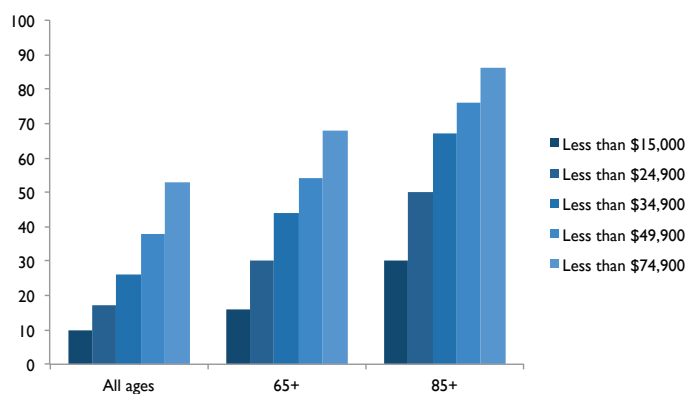
	Aquinnah	Chilmark	Edgartown	Gosnold	Oak Bluffs	Tisbury	W.Tisbury	Dukes County
65 to 69	6.9	9.3	6.1	15.1	9.4	5.6	11.2	7.8
70 to 74	3.7	3.5	4.5	5.7	4.9	3.4	7.4	4.6
75 to 79	0.3	4.5	2.9	7.5	3.9	1.9	1	2.7
80 to 84	0.2	0.8	1.6	0	3.3	1.1	1.8	1.9
85 and over	0.5	1.5	2.7	1.9	5.8	1.4	4.4	3.3



Elder income by age group (percent): County, 2015

Source: Nielson, 2015

Income	All ages	65+	85+
Less than \$15,000	10	16	30
Less than \$24,900	17	30	50
Less than \$34,900	26	44	67
Less than \$49,900	38	54	76
Less than \$74,900	53	68	86



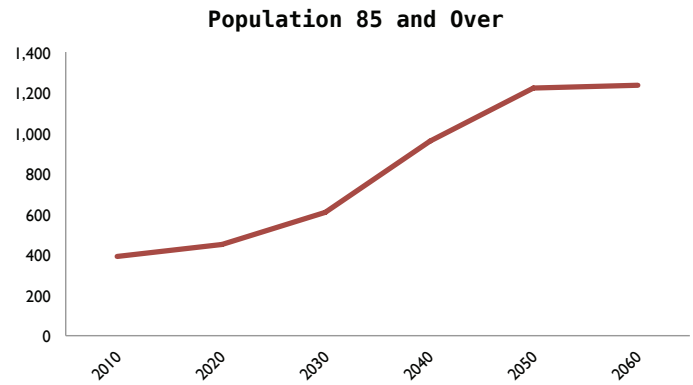
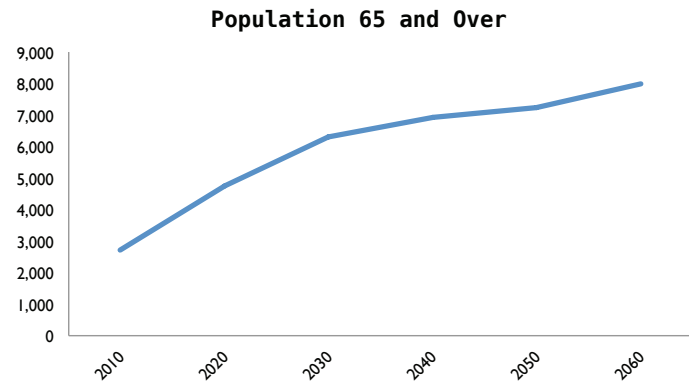
Elder population projections: County, 2010–2060

Source: UMass Donahue Institute

The county will see a significant rise in its elder population over the coming decades—including in Chilmark and Aquinnah, whose overall populations are projected to decline. The county's population over 85 is expected to triple by 2060, with the steepest rise between 2030 and 2050 as Baby Boomers enter the fold. A similar increase is forecast for the population over 65, although at a slower rate.

	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060
65 and over	2,699	4,773	6,308	6,909	7,258	7,980
Percent change	25	77	32	10	5	10
85 and over	391	451	607	959	1,221	1,236
Percent change	64	15	35	58	27	1

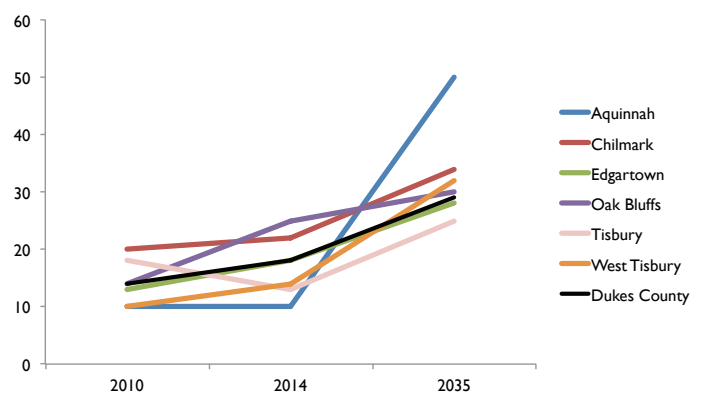
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Percent of population 65 and older: 2035 projection by town

Source: US Census 2010; 2010–2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

	2014	2035
Aquinnah	10	50
Chilmark	22	34
Edgartown	18	28
Oak Bluffs	25	30
Tisbury	13	25
W.Tisbury	14	32
County	18	29



Racial and ethnic diversity (percent of total population): County, 2010–2016

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

The U.S. Census Bureau defines race as “a person’s self-identification with one or more social groups.” (Hispanics and Latinos may identify as any race in the Census.) The year-round population in Dukes County appears less diverse than in the state, but also shows regional variation—from Gosnold, where 100 percent of residents are white; to Aquinnah where 40 percent identify as American Indian; and Tisbury, where 7.4 percent identify as African American. (Both latter cases exceed the state average.)

Blue = race alone or in combination with one or more other races

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total Population	16,155	16,353	16,581	16,739	16,915	17,048	17,137
White	87.6 (88.7)	89.6 (92.4)	91.6 (92.5)	92.2 (93.3)	94.4 (95.7)	92.6 (93.9)	88.1 (92.3)
Black or African-American	3.5 (4.1)	4.2 (4.6)	4 (4.7)	3 (3.8)	1.8 (2.7)	3.3 (4.2)	3.7 (7.7)
American Indian and Alaska Native	1.8 (3)	1.6 (3.7)	1.1 (1.4)	1.1 (1.4)	0.7 (1.1)	0.8 (1.4)	0.3 (2.7)
Asian	0.3 (0.6)	0.7 (1.3)	0.8 (1.1)	1.3 (1.6)	0.9 (1.2)	0.8 (1.1)	0 (1)
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0.9)
Another race	5.2 (5.3)	1 (1)	1.5 (1.5)	1.2 (1.2)	0.8 (0.8)	1 (1)	1.6 (1.6)
Two or more races	1.6	2.9	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.5	4.8
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.8	1.7

Racial and ethnic diversity by town (percent of total population): County, 2016

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

	Aquinnah	Chilmark	Edg.	Gosnold	O.B.	Tisbury	W.Tis.	County	State
White	40.1	90.4	90.2	100	88	86.9	97.2	88.1	79.3
Black or African-American	0.5	2.9	2.4	0	3.3	7.4	1.6	3.7	7.3
American Indian and Alaska Native	39.9	0	0	0	0.7	0	0	1.6	0.2
Asian	0.8	0.2	0.3	0	0	0	0.5	0.3	6.1
Native Hawaiian, other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Another race	2	0	1.4	0	3	1.2	0.3	1.6	4.1
Two or more races	16.6	6.6	5.7	0	4.9	3.9	0.4	4.8	3
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	0	4.4	2.2	0	2.2	0.3	1.1	1.7	10.9

Citizenship status: County, 2010–2016

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

In terms of nativity, Dukes County tracks more closely to the state average, although foreign-born residents in the county are five times more likely to be naturalized U.S. citizens.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total population 5 years and over	15,285	15,288	15,692	15,866	16,062	16,207	16,449
Native	88.6	92	96.8	91.8	92.2	89.8	90.3
Foreign-born	11.4	8	8.9	8.2	7.8	10.2	9.7
Naturalized U.S. citizen	4.2	5	5.3	4.6	4	4.7	4.7
Not a U.S. citizen	7.2	3	3.6	3.6	3.8	5.5	5

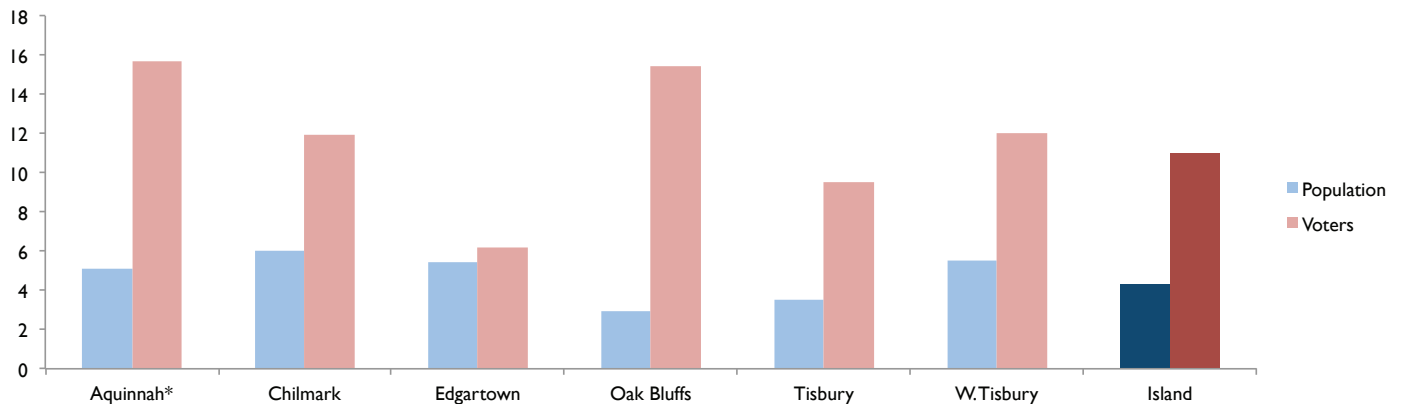
Registered voters per town: Island, 2007–2017

Source: Town reports, town clerks

A large increase in the number of registered voters in every Island town suggests a growing degree of political participation since 2010. The Island electorate grew at nearly three times the rate of the populace between 2010 and 2016.

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Aquinnah	UA	UA	UA	UA	UA	UA	UA	281	297	325	344
Chilmark	828	858	866	874	869	908	910	920	925	978	998
Edgartown	UA	UA	3,094	3,128	3,107	3,162	3,194	3,290	3,128	3,321	3,597
Oak Bluffs	2,949	3,019	3,195	3,319	3,359	3,245	3,531	3,672	3,679	3,831	3,767
Tisbury	2,906	2,962	3,067	3,182	3,183	3,385	3,291	3,333	3,363	3,485	3,508
West Tisbury	2,087	2,296	2,224	2,325	2,325	2,404	2,506	2,510	2,499	2,605	2,553

Percent Change, 2010–2016



Geographic mobility by town (percent of population that lived in same house a year ago), 2010–2016

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Dukes County residents appear well rooted, with about 92 percent in 2016 living in the same house as they did the previous year, exceeding the state average by 5.5 percent. The low mobility is likely influenced by the Island's limited rental housing.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Aquinnah	94.1	94.4	96.1	97.5	99.2	98.7	96.6
Chilmark	89.9	86.9	88.8	93.3	92.8	96.1	96.5
Edgartown	94.4	90.4	92.6	91.2	96.2	95.8	95.2
Gosnold	97	91.3	93.5	94.1	91.9	89.3	100
Oak Bluffs	92.4	96.6	96.6	97.3	95.6	95.7	92.4
Tisbury	92.2	92.4	89.7	91.1	90.7	89	88.6
W.Tisbury	93.7	91.2	91.9	88.2	88.2	86.2	88.7
Dukes County	93	92.6	92.8	92.6	93.3	92.8	92.2
Massachusetts	86.1	86.5	86.7	86.7	86.8	87.1	87.1



Crowds gather for the 347th Tisbury Street Fair in 2018
Ray Ewing/Vineyard Gazette