

Housing Profile: Sandwich

Key Demographic and Economic Information

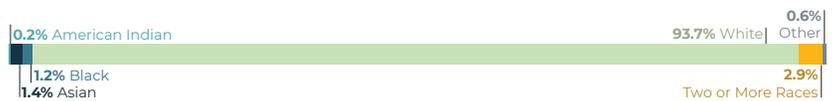
POPULATION	HOUSEHOLDS	HOUSEHOLD SIZE	HOUSING UNITS	MEDIAN HOME SALES PRICE (2022)	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME (2022)	RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX RATE
20,419	7,977	2.54	9,625	\$602,500	\$121,038	\$10.80 (FY24)

The Town of Sandwich has an estimated population of just over 20,400 year-round residents. It is the town with the highest median income in the region, and the lowest percentage of seasonal homes in the region (only 13% of housing units are seasonal in town compared with 36% for the region). It is also one of the youngest towns in the region, with a median age of 51.9 years, lower than the region's median age of 54.5. Joint Base Cape Cod lies partially within the town's borders. The town contains one Community Activity Center within its boundaries.

Sandwich by Age



Sandwich by Race



(American Community Survey (ACS) 2022 5-year Estimates; Cape Cod and Islands Association of Realtors; Massachusetts Department of Revenue)

Current Housing Stock

The Cape Cod Commission conducted a housing typology study using local assessors' data and state class property codes. The graph below shows the distribution of various types of residences using this data, which differs slightly from American Community Survey counts. In Sandwich, over 90% of residential properties are single family homes; about 7% are multifamily properties. Less than 2% are other types of properties. Other properties may be a single home or may be multifamily homes such as compounds, which may include multiple houses on one parcel occupied by different households or a single family home with a guest house. Mix of uses are properties that have at least one residence on them but also have some sort of other use such as agricultural or commercial. For more information on the housing typology and categories visit: cccom.link/ht



Housing Stock by Year Built

Like the region, the vast majority of housing units in the town were built between 1950 and 1999; over half between 1975 and 1999 alone. Just over 11% of Sandwich's housing stock was built in the 2000s.

(Assessors' data and CCC housing typology analysis)



Owners and Renters

There are roughly 8,000 year-round occupied housing units in Sandwich; of these, 89% are owner-occupied and 11% are renter-occupied. (ACS 2022 5-year Estimates)



Seasonality

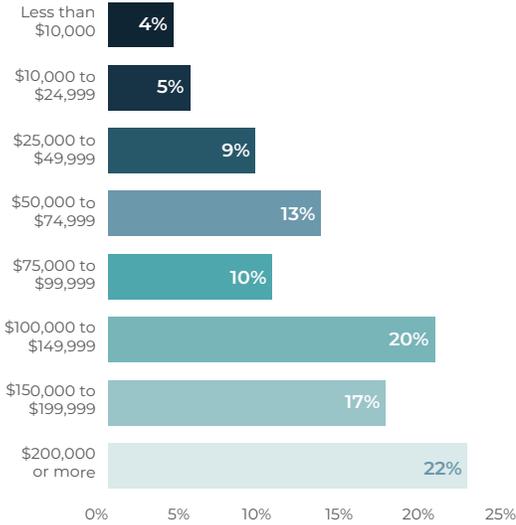
Sandwich is the least seasonal town in the region, with only an estimated 13% of housing units used seasonally. (ACS 2022 5-year Estimates)



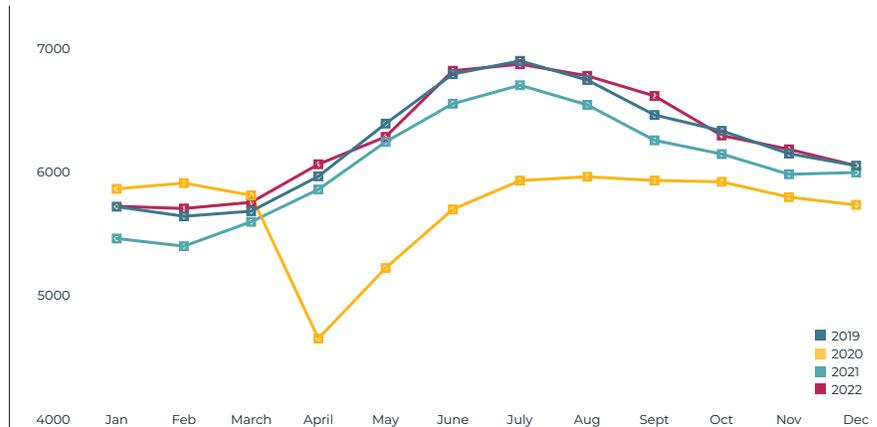
Wages, Employment, and Housing Affordability

Households per Income Bracket

(ACS 2022 5-year Estimates)

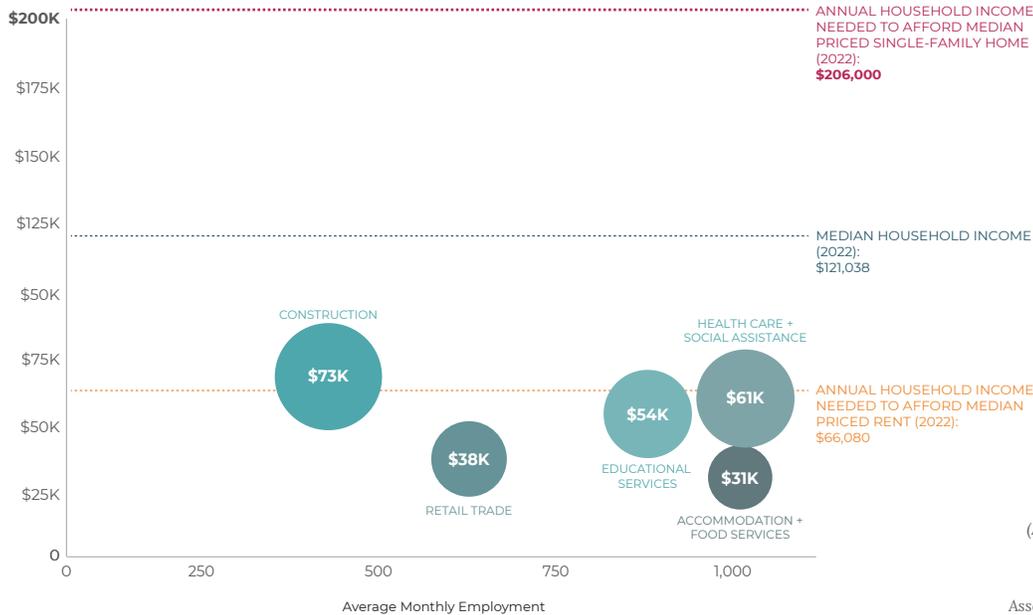


Employment by Month



Even though Sandwich is one of the least seasonal communities in the region, its employment still fluctuates throughout the year. In 2019 employment peaked in July at 23% more than the low in February. Due to the pandemic, 2020 patterns were significantly different, but in 2021 started to return to pre-pandemic levels and trends which continued into 2022. (MA Labor Market Information, ES-202 data)

Housing Affordability



In 2021 the median price for a home for sale in Sandwich was \$560,000. In 2022, prices increased to a median home sales price of \$602,500, a 8% increase. Average wages in the town's largest industries by employment fall well below what is needed to affordably purchase a home at median sales prices (affordably purchase means a household spends 30% or less on housing costs). While the median gross rent, according to the American Community Survey, is more affordable, availability of year-round rental housing is very limited.

(Annual income refers to a household's earnings, while annual wage refers to an individual's earnings. Data: Cape Cod and Islands Association of Realtors; 2022 ACS 5-Yr Estimates; 2022 Cape Cod Housing Needs Assessment; MA Labor Market Information, ES-202 data)

Affordable Housing Units

The Massachusetts Subsidized Housing Inventory is used to measure a community's stock of low- or moderate-income housing for the purposes of M.G.L. Chapter 40B, the Comprehensive Permit Law, which encourages communities to have 10% of their housing stock be affordable for low- to moderate-income households. While housing developed under Chapter 40B is eligible for inclusion on the inventory, other types of housing also qualify to count toward a community's affordable housing stock.

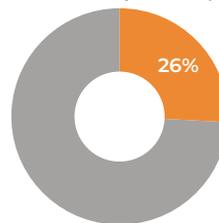
SUBSIDIZED HOUSING INVENTORY UNITS



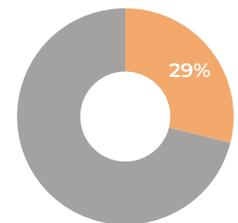
4.3% of housing units
(Numbers are from EOHLIC as of June 29, 2023 and subject to change)

Housing Cost Burdened

A household is considered cost burdened when housing costs exceed more than 30% of monthly income. (ACS 2022 5-year Estimates)



... of **owner** households in Sandwich spend 30% or more of income on housing costs



... of **renter** households in Sandwich spend 30% or more of income on housing costs

Community Activity Centers

Community Activity Centers are areas with a concentration of business activity, community activity, and a compact built environment that may be suitable for additional housing and a mix of uses at a scale that fits in with the community's character. The vision for these areas is to accommodate these uses in a walkable, vibrant area, preserve historic buildings, and to provide diverse services, shopping, recreation, civic spaces, housing, and job opportunities, with adequate infrastructure and pedestrian amenities to support development. The Cape Cod Commission identified seventeen Community Activity Centers across the region. Sandwich has one identified Community Activity Center in downtown Sandwich.



Zoning



Accessory Dwelling Unit by Right

An accessory dwelling unit (ADU) is a secondary housing unit on a single-family residential lot. ADUs can include over-garage units, carriage houses, or in-house apartments, and may provide more affordable housing options.

✓ ALLOWED



Multifamily Housing by Right

Multifamily zoning by right makes the ability to develop multifamily units in certain districts of a town easier, supporting an expanded and diversified housing stock.

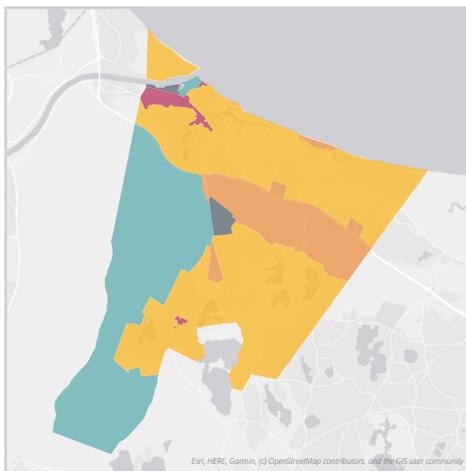
✗ NOT ALLOWED



Inclusionary Zoning Policy

Inclusionary zoning requires developers to designate a percentage of the units in certain projects as available to lower to moderate income households.

✓ ADOPTED



Zoning Districts

As with most Cape towns, the majority of the town is zoned for residential uses, as can be seen in the map and the graph. In Sandwich, most of the zoning that is "other" is related to Joint Base Cape Cod. These zoning categories are broad and do not capture the many nuances of the specific zoning regulations for each district, nor do they include overlay districts, but help to provide a summary of the distribution of land available for certain types of uses throughout town.



- Residential **55%**
- Commercial **1%**
- Industrial **1%**
- Mixed Use **12%**
- Other **30%**

Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding