

How does Cape Cod rate as a “Best Place” to live?

Economics

	TOWN OF BARNSTABLE	NATIONAL AVERAGE
Median family income (per year)	\$60,979	\$76,893
Family purchasing power (annual, cost-of-living adjusted)	\$39,830	\$68,109
Sales tax	5.00%	6.55%
State income tax rate (highest bracket)	5.30%*	6.46%
State income tax rate (lowest bracket)	5.30%*	2.74%
Auto insurance premiums (average for the state)	n/a	\$2,207
Job growth % (2000-2005)	6.18%	10.97%

* COUNTY DATA
 INCOME TAX NOTES: 15 STATES HAVE STATUTORY PROVISION FOR AUTOMATIC ADJUSTMENT OF TAX BRACKETS, PERSONAL EXEMPTION OR STANDARD DEDUCTIONS TO THE RATE OF INFLATION. MASSACHUSETTS, MICHIGAN, NEBRASKA AND OHIO INDEXES THE PERSONAL EXEMPTION AMOUNTS ONLY.

Weather

	TOWN OF BARNSTABLE	BEST PLACES AVERAGE
Annual precipitation (inches)	43.03	36.00
Clear days	98	107
High temp in July ° F	77.8°	87.7°
Low temp in Jan ° F	21.2°	23.5°

Health

	TOWN OF BARNSTABLE	BEST PLACES AVERAGE
Has health plan (% of residents)	91.1%	88.2%
Body mass index (avg. for residents)	26	27
Cancer mortality (per 100,000, age-adjusted)	220.8	191.3
Cardiac mortality (per 100,000)	319.0	202.0

Demographics

	TOWN OF BARNSTABLE	BEST PLACES AVERAGE
Median age	41.8	34.5
Completed at least some college (% of residents)	63.1%	63.9%
Married	53.4%	54.3%
Divorced	11.3%	9.3%
Amount spent on vacations (domestic and foreign, household avg. per year)	\$7,091	\$7,549

Housing

	TOWN OF BARNSTABLE	BEST PLACES AVERAGE
Median home price	\$347,000	\$259,566
Home price gain (2004-2005)	5.20%	9.26%

Quality of life

	TOWN OF BARNSTABLE	BEST PLACES AVERAGE
Air quality index (% of days AQI ranked as good)	85.9%	71.9%
Personal crime risk (100 is national average; lower is better)	135	45
Property crime risk (100 is national average; lower is better)	80	74
Personal crime incidents (per 100,000)	364	228
Property crime incidents (per 100,000)	2,392	3,105
Median commute time (in minutes)	17.4	20.8
% population with commute 45 minutes or longer	11.8%	13.4%

Leisure and Culture

	TOWN OF BARNSTABLE	BEST PLACES AVERAGE
Movie theaters (within 15 miles)	7	22
Restaurants (within 15 miles)	696	2,268
Bars (within 15 miles)	17	127
Public golf courses (within 30 miles)	45	74
Libraries (within 15 miles)	27	43
Museums (accredited by AAM, within 30 miles)	4	7
Ski resorts (within 100 miles)	8	10