



ISLAND INDICATORS

A Report by the Island Institute

Prepared by Sarah Curran & Jeremy Gabrielson



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ISLAND INSTITUTE MISSION STATEMENT

The Island Institute is a non-profit organization that serves as a voice for the balanced future of the islands and waters of the Gulf of Maine.

We are guided by an island ethic that recognizes the strength and fragility of Maine's island communities and the finite nature of the Gulf of Maine ecosystems. Along the Maine coast, the Island Institute seeks to:

- Support the islands' year-round communities
- Conserve Maine's island and marine biodiversity
- Develop model solutions for the coast's cultural and natural communities
- Provide forums for discussion of wise use of finite resources

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Sarah Curran and Jeremy Gabrielson are Island Institute Fellows.

INTRODUCTION

The 2006 Island Indicators Report is a compilation of demographic, economic, and social data available for Maine's 15 year-round island communities. Its immediate purpose is twofold: to highlight the opportunities and challenges facing these island communities, and to provide them and the Island Institute with information to support community initiatives and advocacy efforts.

The indicators described in the following report are intended to convey a glimpse into the realities of Maine's year-round island communities; to take a snapshot, if you will, of what they look like today. Over time, the data will change; thus, the Island Indicators Report is also intended to serve as a baseline against which to measure change in the future. In this way, this and future Island Indicators Reports will become more meaningful over time as further data are collected and trends become visible.

Indicators

An indicator is a gauge that says something about a community's condition, much as a thermometer tells us the temperature outside. Indicators are often used to help a community understand where it is, where it is going, and how far it is from where it wants to be. There are many different kinds of indicators. Median income, for example, is often used as an economic indicator, while voter turnout might be used as a social indicator. Just as a thermometer cannot tell you whether it's raining, each indicator tells only part of a community's story. Taken together, though, a picture begins to emerge.

Developing criteria for selection of indicators helps prioritize among the many possibilities. The basic criteria by which indicators were selected for the Island Indicators Report were that data be relevant, meaningful, reliable and accessible. The indicators selected for this report are by no means

an exhaustive list of possible indicators. We anticipate that additional indicators will be added to subsequent versions of this report.

Indicators can be informative and thought-provoking, and they can provide a guide for community decision making. They are limited, however, in that they cannot present a complete understanding of a community. The reader should remember that each indicator speaks to only a piece of the picture, and that even taken together, this set of indicators presents a simplified version of a complex reality.

The Data

The data sought for this report were remarkably difficult to come by. In many cases, data were not available for all of Maine's year-round islands. Census data is often the best demographic data available. However, for very small communities such as those looked at in this report, the small sample size used for economic and social data in the Census can result in distortions. Also, Census data were not available at all for Great Diamond Island.

State of Maine data, often collected at the municipal level, excludes Cliff Island, Peaks Island, Great Diamond Island, and Chebeague, as each is (or was until very recently in the case of Chebeague) part of a larger mainland municipality. At this level, data for Great Cranberry and Islesford – both part of the town of Cranberry Isles – are combined as well.

Finally, there were some data sought that were simply not available. Data about environmental conditions were particularly difficult to find. Reflecting upon the areas in which we found an absence of data, several topics for further research are suggested.

Social Capital — Social capital is often defined as the level of reciprocity and trust that exist within a community, and its importance to a community's overall success is widely agreed upon. Community organizations and associations can be an integral aspect of a community's social capital, promoting civic engagement and social connectedness. Anecdotal evidence suggests both high numbers of community organizations in Maine's year-round island communities and exceptionally high levels of volunteerism. Further research about social capital in Maine's year-round island communities is recommended.

Conserved Acres — Open space is important for many reasons. It provide wildlife habitat and protects water resources. The percentage of land protected from development could be understood as an indicator of a community's environmental health. The Land Trust Alliance recently conducted a national survey of land trusts to establish the extent of land conservation in each state. Conserved land on Maine's year-round island communities should be quantified using a similar approach.

Groundwater Quality — For Maine's year-round islands, many of which rely on a sole-source aquifer, groundwater quality is critical to long-term sustainability. Groundwater quality is an important indicator of environmental health, and has serious implications for human health as well. Several of the islands have already tested wells. Compiling this data would allow a more comprehensive look at island aquifers, and the results could provide an important indicator of island environmental health.

Health Care — Access to health care is critical for Maine's year-round island residents. Six of Maine's 15 year-round island communities have a health clinic on-island; four additional islands are served by the Maine Sea Coast Mission through Sunbeam Island Health Services. In addition, most islands have resident EMTs, who provide emergency health care.

Additional research is suggested to learn more about islanders' access to these resources, including how health care delivery for island residents affects the sustainability of year-round island communities.

The Informal Economy — The informal economy is unregulated, includes both services and products, and can be based on either cash or barter. It might include, for example, housekeeping services or small engine repair. In many rural communities, the informal economy is a critical aspect of economic life. Anecdotal evidence gathered over the course of this study suggests that the informal economy is very important in island communities, and further study is recommended.

Key Conclusions

- *Economics:* The heavy reliance of island economies on lobster fishing and tourism threatens their ability to weather downturns in either sector.
- *Income:* In contrast to popular perception, the median household income of most island communities falls below the state average.
- *Demographics:* While island populations are growing, the residents' median age is older than the state average, reflecting an influx of more retirees and fewer young people.
- *Education:* Island schools are highly valued and critically important to their communities' ability to attract and retain young families.
- *Affordability:* The rapid rise in residential property values and taxes is placing enormous pressure on year-round islanders to move off-island.

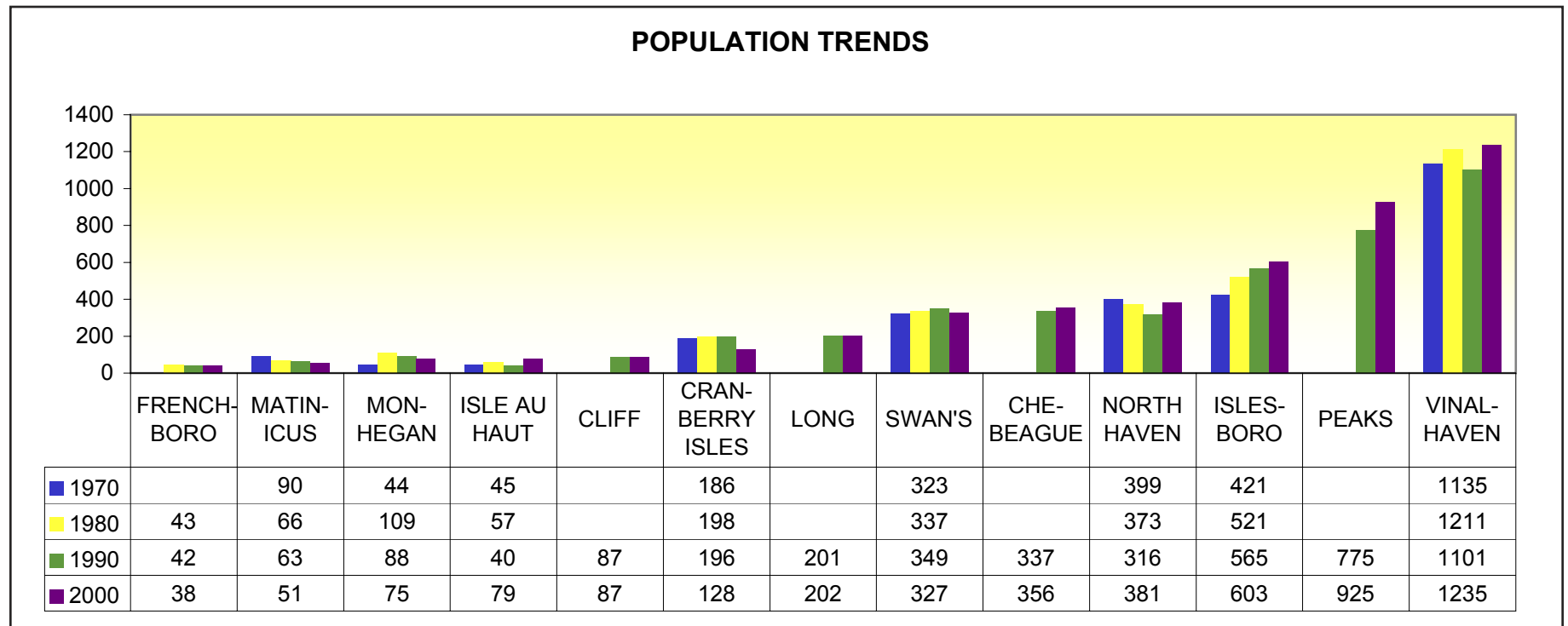
INDICATOR: POPULATION TRENDS

Census data show a small (less than 9%) overall increase in population between 1970 and 2000 among Maine's year-round island communities.

Maintaining a critical mass of people is essential to an island community's survival. Accurate population numbers are difficult to find for Maine's island communities due to seasonal fluctuations. At the same time, U.S. Census population statistics are not always consistent with communities'

own estimates. In addition, long-term Census population data are only available for eight of Maine's 15 year-round island communities. Nonetheless, the Census provides the most consistent measure over time.

While several communities have experienced a significant gain in population between 1970 and 2000, including Monhegan, Isle au Haut and Islesboro, others, such as Matinicus and the Cranberry Isles, have seen their population decrease slightly.



Source: U.S. Census 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000

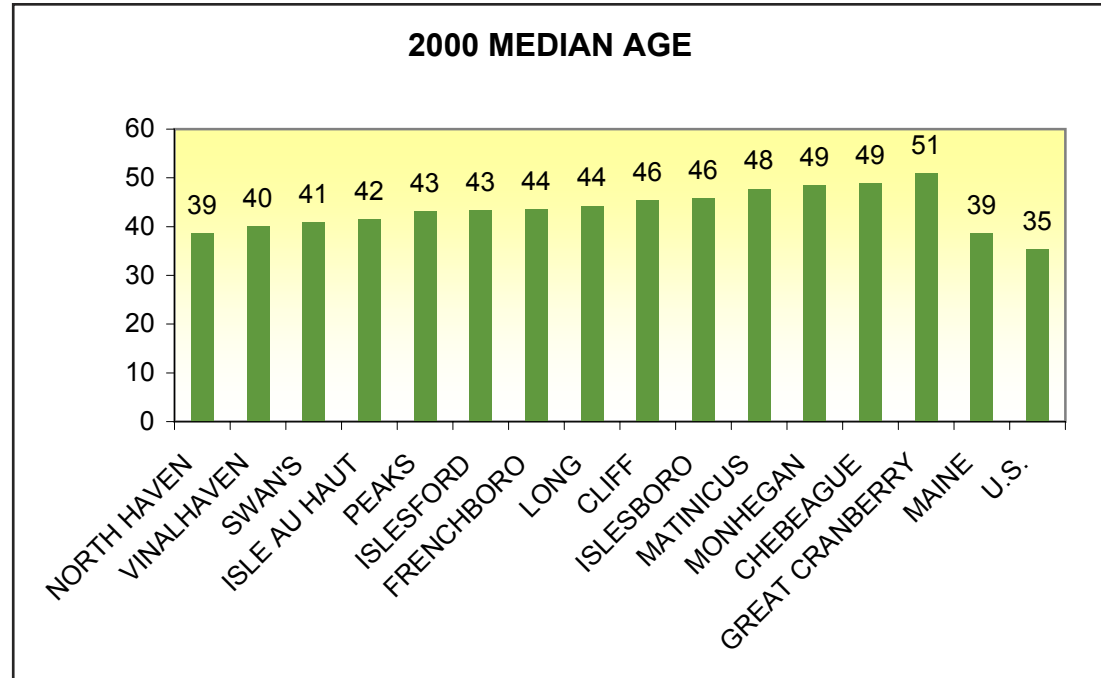
INDICATOR: MEDIAN AGE

The median age of Maine's year-round island communities is higher than the median age of the State of Maine.

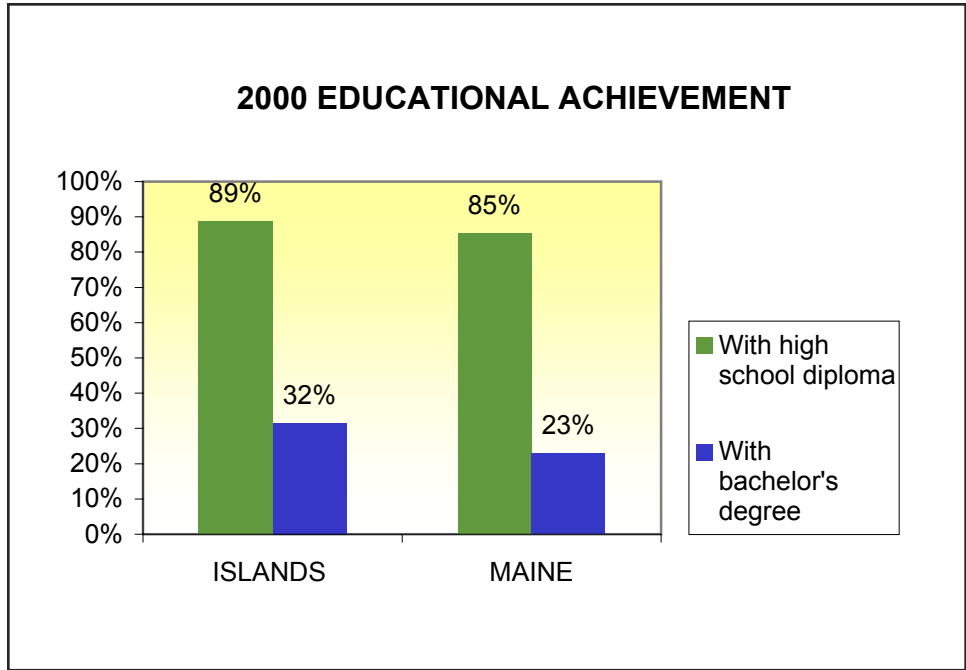
The median age of a community is the age of the person in the middle: half of the people in the community are older than that person and half are younger. According to the U.S. Census, the median age of each of the islands in 2000 was higher than the median age of the state as a whole, with the exception of North Haven.

Median age is an important demographic measure of community vitality. In communities with higher median ages there are fewer children and a greater percent of the population is older. It is not uncommon for communities with high median ages to experience population decline, as community elders pass on without being succeeded by a younger generation.

The data for 2000 are generally consistent with available historical data: the median age of each of the islands was higher than that of the state in 1970, 1980 and 1990, with the exception of Frenchboro in 1990.



Source: U.S. Census 2000



Source: U.S. Census 2000

INDICATOR: EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

In Maine's year-round island communities, the percentage of adults with a high school diploma is slightly higher than in the state; the percentage of adults with bachelor's degrees significantly exceeds both the state and national level.

Educational attainment examines how many people in a community over the age of 25 have a high school diploma or higher and how many have a bachelor's degree or higher. Educational attainment is often related to the changing demand for skills and knowledge within a local or regional workforce. The level of educational attainment also speaks to the value placed on education.

Overall, Maine's island communities exhibit a level of educational attainment that slightly exceeds the level of educational attainment in the state as a whole. Significantly, while Maine's overall level of post-secondary attainment (22.9%) is lower than the national average (24.4%), Maine's island communities (31.6%) exceed the national average by nearly 30 percent.

INDICATOR: MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

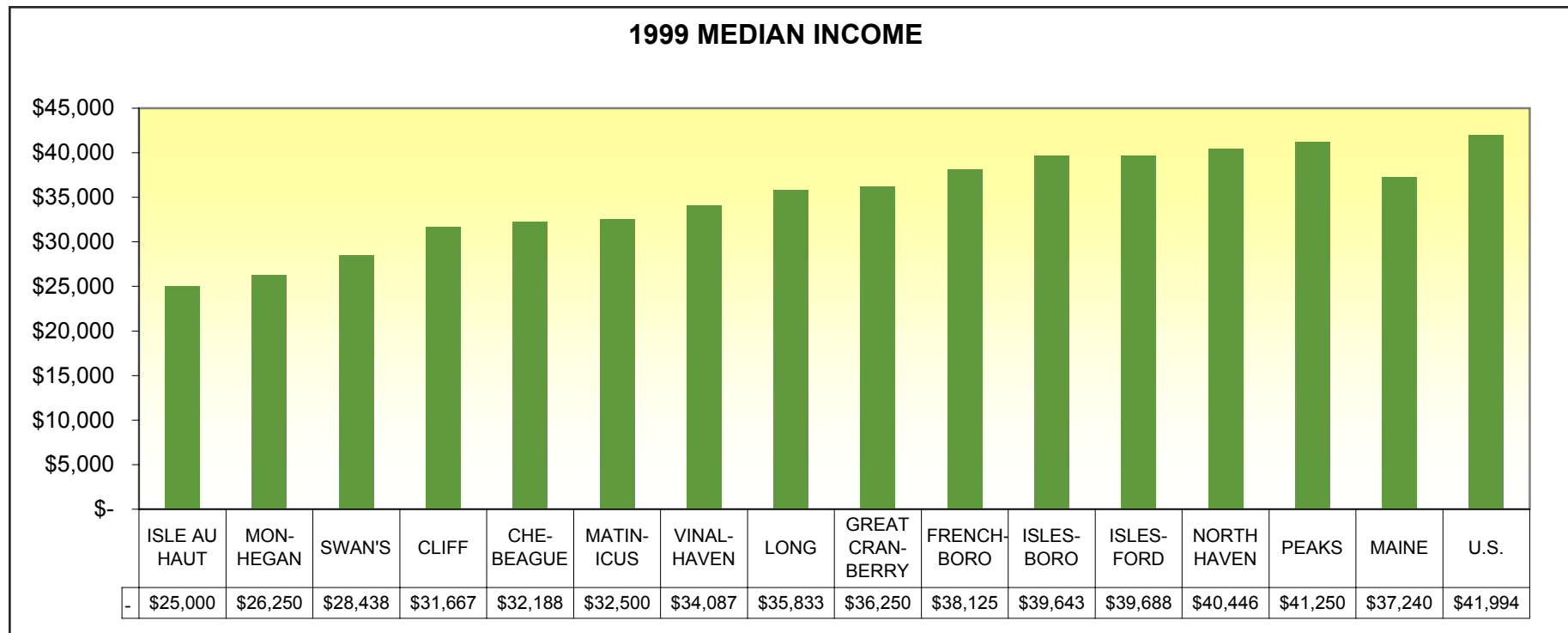
While island communities are often characterized as wealthy, the median income on eight out of 14 of the islands is below the state median.

Median household income is a standard measure of community economic well-being. A community's median household income represents the income of the family in the economic middle: 50% of the households have a higher income than the community median, and 50% a lower income.

Median income data are available from the 2000 Census for 14 of Maine's year-round island communities. On nine of the islands, the median income is below the state median income of \$37,240.

It is notable that Maine as a whole is a relatively poor state, ranking 37th nationally in median household income. Statewide, Maine's median income is only 89% of the national median of \$41,994. None of the island communities have median income levels that exceed the national median.

Moreover, there are additional costs associated with living on an island that increase the cost of living relative to mainland communities. Professor Sam McReynolds of the University of New England is currently conducting a study to evaluate these costs; his study, which was conducted in cooperation with the Island Institute and the Maine Islands Coalition, will be released later this year.



Source: U.S. Census 2000

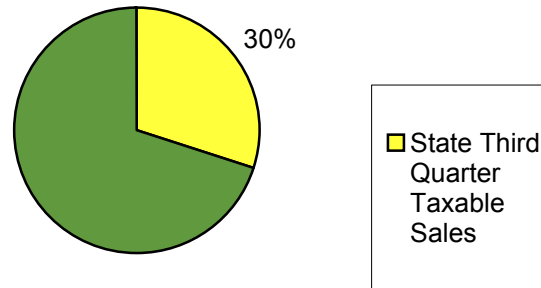
INDICATOR: TAXABLE SALES

Summer tourism is exceptionally important to island economies.

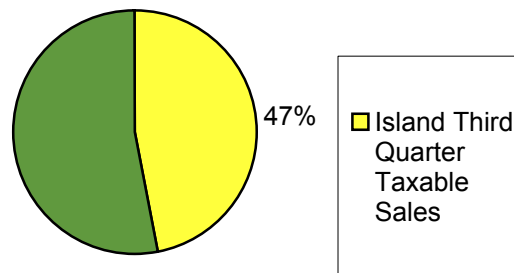
In Maine, sales tax is collected on a variety of retail items. Those “taxable sales” are reported to the State of Maine Department of Revenue on a quarterly basis. This indicator examines the percentage of an island community’s yearly taxable sales that occur during the third quarter (July, August, and September). In many coastal communities, taxable sales are stronger in the third quarter than during the other three quarters. This is largely a result of the summer tourist season. The extent to which annual taxable sales are weighted toward the third quarter speaks to the degree of dependence on tourism (summer residents as well as tourists) in the local economy.

The 2005 taxable sales data demonstrate that while the state as a whole shows some dependence on third quarter taxable sales, all of Maine’s island communities are even more heavily dependent on third-quarter taxable sales. This suggests vibrant summer economies. Some islands, notably Monhegan, Isle au Haut and the Cranberry Isles, had an exceptionally high percentage of their taxable sales in the third quarter (with 73%, 70% and 76%, respectively).

**2005 STATE OF MAINE
TAXABLE SALES**



**2005 ISLAND TAXABLE
SALES**



Source: Maine Revenue Services

Taxable sales are also reported by category, including business operating sales, food store, other retail and restaurant and lodging. Restaurant and lodging sales are heavily weighted toward the tourism industry; short-term visitors (who spend money on both lodging and eating out) contribute more significantly to sales in this category than seasonal residents (who often stay and eat at home). While the percentage of taxable sales that occur in the third quarter speaks to the significance of tourism to the local economy, looking at restaurant and lodging taxable sales goes one step further, suggesting whether an island sees more summer residents or tourists. An exceptionally high percentage of total taxable sales are attributable to restaurant and lodging sales in both Monhegan (81%) and Isle au Haut (70%).

	2005 TOTAL TAXABLE SALES	% THIRD QUARTER	% RESTAURANT AND LODGING
CRANBERRY ISLES	\$945,600	76%	43%
ISLE AU HAUT	\$461,800	70%	70%
ISLESBORO	\$3,360,000	36%	13%
MATINICUS	\$50,500	16%	55%
MONHEGAN	\$3,371,800	73%	81%
NORTH HAVEN	\$1,878,700	42%	13%
SWAN'S	\$743,100	34%	33%
VINALHAVEN	\$7,611,700	37%	22%

Source: Maine Revenue Services

INDICATOR: FERRY RIDERSHIP

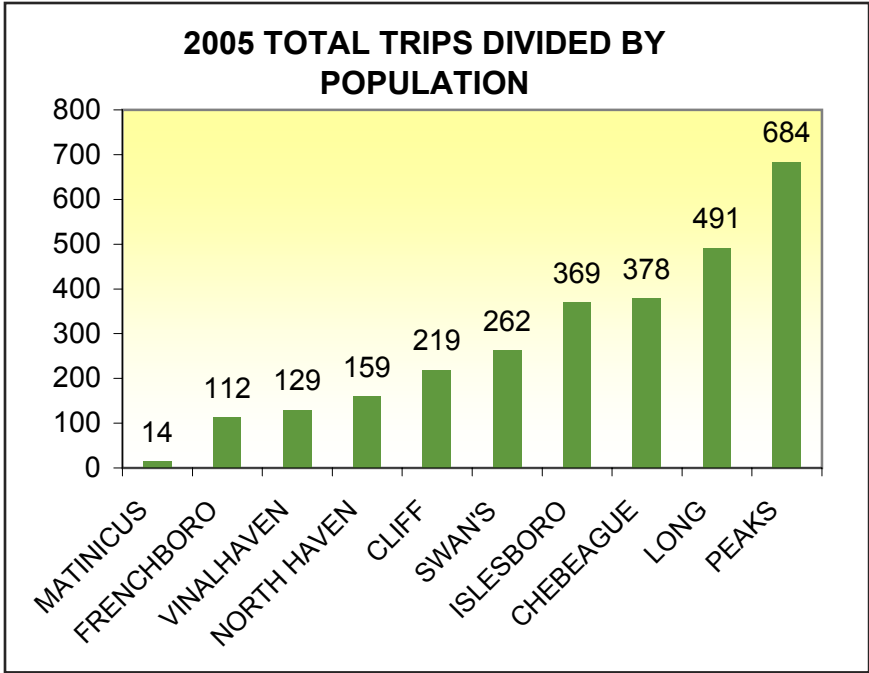
Ferry ridership to Maine's island communities is more than 3.5 times higher in the summer than in the winter.

The ferries are a lifeline to Maine's island communities. They bring residents and visitors, groceries and other goods, to and from the Maine's year-round island communities. The ferries are the least expensive means to move people and freight, and are often the easiest mode of transportation for visitors to an island.

It is important to remember, though, that ferries are not the only means of travel to Maine's islands. Lobster boats and other private boats frequently transport residents back and forth, and Penobscot Island Air offers daily (weather permitting) service to Matinicus on the mail run.

Nonetheless, ferry ridership says something important about the connections between Maine's year-round island communities and the mainland. Ferry ridership is a particularly important means of connectivity to island communities among tourists, summer visitors and casual visitors for whom other forms of transportation are less available. A useful way to examine ferry ridership data is trips per person. By dividing the number of ferry trips by population, the inter-island comparisons of the data become more meaningful.

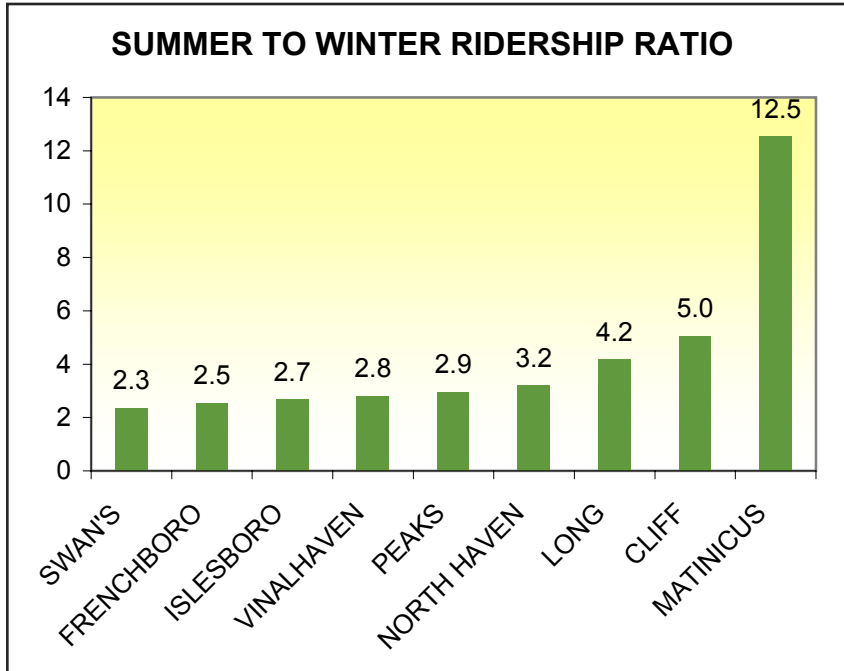
The total number of trips per resident, for example, suggests something about an island's connectivity to the mainland. The islands located closer to the mainland tend to have a higher number of annual trips per resident. On one end of the spectrum, Peaks had 684 trips per resident in 2005. At the other end, Matinicus had only 14. (Matinicus has, at most, three ferry boats a month in the summer, and only one in the winter.)



Source: Maine State Ferry, Casco Bay Island Transit District, Chebeague Transportation Co.

Examining ferry ridership seasonally reveals that ridership to Maine's year-round islands is almost 3.5 times higher in the summer as it is in the winter. This speaks to the seasonal nature of tourism in Maine's island communities, and suggests a much higher number of people on the islands in the summer than in the winter.

Community estimates also suggest a significant increase in island population during the summer. Maine's island communities may see anywhere from two times to 13 times as many people during the summer as during the winter, which has significant implications for island infrastructure as well as community dynamics.



Source: Maine State Ferry, Casco Bay Island Transit District, Chebeague Transportation Co.

2005	YEAR-ROUND ESTIMATE	SUMMER ESTIMATE
CHEBEAGUE	343	1200-1700
CLIFF	60	200
FRENCHBORO	75	105
GREAT CRANBERRY	45	300
GREAT DIAMOND	61	500-600
ISLE AU HAUT	45-50	375
ISLESBORO	603	2500
ISLESFORD	80	400
LONG	202	1000+
MATINICUS	75	200
MONHEGAN	60	<800
NORTH HAVEN	350	1150
PEAKS	880	3000-5000
SWAN'S	350	1200
VINALHAVEN	1235	3500-4000

Source: Island Institute Fellows

INDICATOR: LOBSTER LICENSES

Lobstering is critically important to island economies.

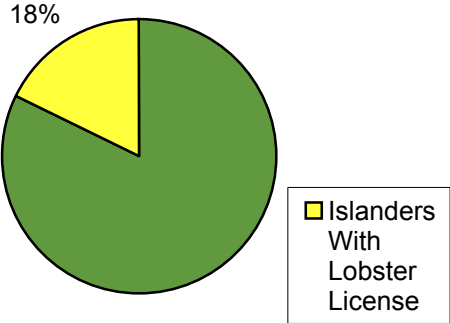
The number of lobster license holders speaks to the vitality of the fishery. Maintaining a healthy sized cluster of harvesters is important to local fishing communities' ability to remain economically competitive in their dealings with purchasers and distributors, as well as their ability to maintain access to traditional island fishing grounds or "lobster bottom."

The large number of lobster license holders relative to the island populations also speaks to the important role lobster fishing plays in the vitality of Maine's island communities. On average, about 20% of Maine's island population hold lobster licenses. Across communities, however, the proportion of lobster license holders relative to the population varies significantly. In 2005, the percentage of the population with lobstering licenses was considerably higher on both Matinicus (almost 60%) and Frenchboro (almost 70%); it was considerably lower on Peaks (2%) and Islesboro (6%).

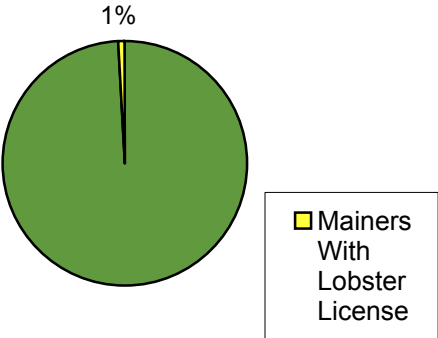
Lobstering is the most economically significant fishery in the State of Maine, but Maine fishermen commercially harvest a wide variety of other species, including herring, clams, mussels, shrimp, urchins and a number of groundfish species. The percentage of commercial fishing licenses for lobstering as opposed to other species speaks to the dependence of the local fishing industry on lobstering. It also suggests something about the ability of the local fishing community to weather any downturn in the lobster harvest by turning to other species.

The number of licenses issued to lobstermen accounts for more half of the total fishing licenses issued by Maine Department of Marine Resources. In Maine's island communities, that percentage is even higher.

PERCENTAGE OF ISLANDERS WITH LOBSTER LICENSE



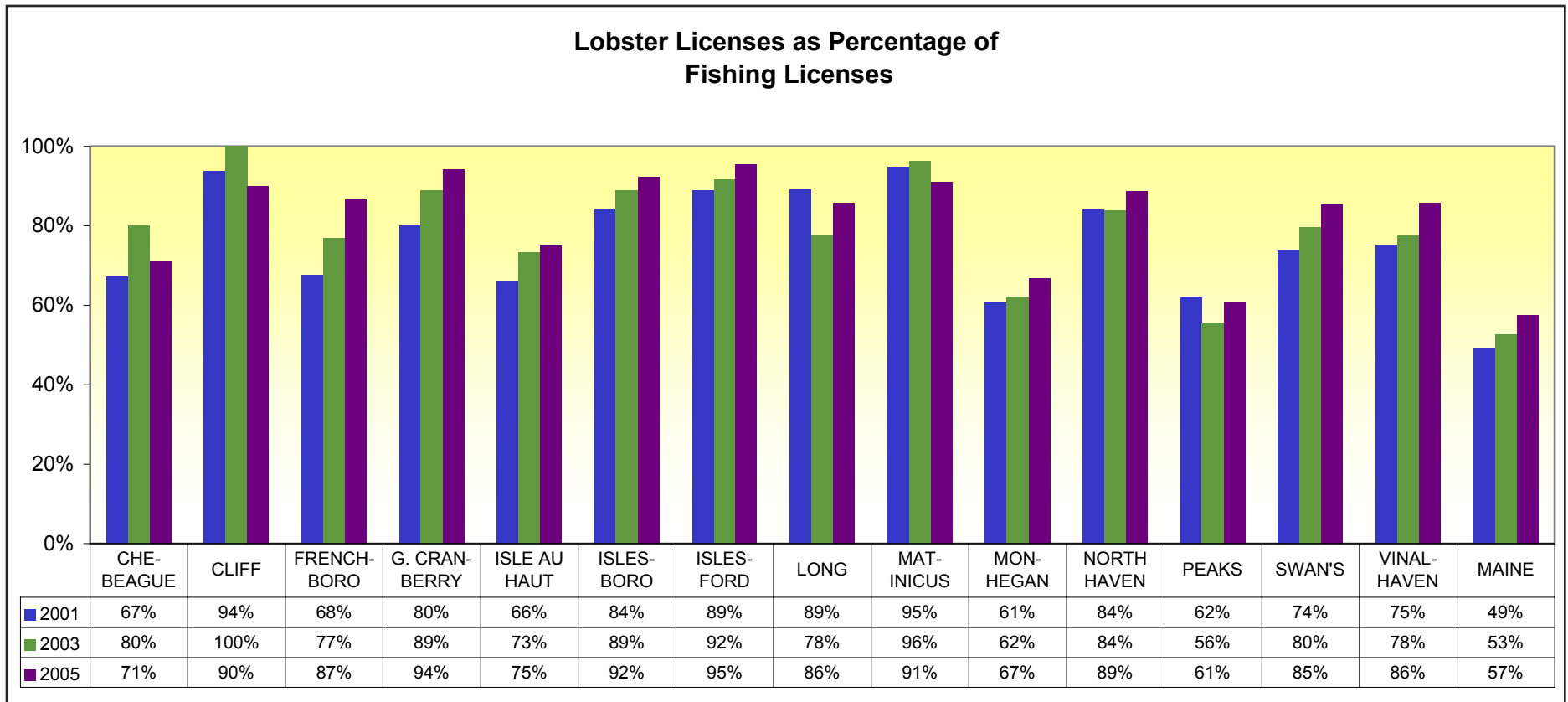
PERCENTAGE OF MAINERS WITH LOBSTER LICENSE



Source: U.S. Census 2000 and Maine Department of Marine Resources

With the single exception of Peaks Island in 2003, lobster licenses accounted for more than 60% of the total number of fishing licenses issued on Maine's islands in 2001, 2003 and 2005. On Cliff, Matinicus, Islesboro, Great Cranberry and Islesford, lobster licenses accounted for more than 90% of all fishing licenses in at least one of those years. Moreover, in most of the island communities, the percentage of lobster licenses increased between 2001 and 2005.

The data suggest a strong and increasing reliance on lobstering in the fishing industry of Maine's island communities. The lobster industry has traditionally exhibited a boom-and-bust cycle. New regulations in other fisheries, which limit entry, will make it more and more difficult for fisherman to switch to these other species in the future.



Source: Maine Department of Marine Resources

INDICATOR: WORKING WATERFRONT ACCESS

Because fishing is so important to island economies, maintaining working waterfront access is critical.

This indicator looks at how many working waterfront access points, both private and public, exist in each island community. Working waterfront access is critical to Maine’s island communities. Yet changing ownership patterns have significantly reduced access to the shore for fisherman, shellfish harvesters, boatbuilders and others who rely upon access to the sea for their livelihood. Over the past several years, the Island Institute — in conjunction with a number of partners — has conducted an inventory of working waterfront access in the State of Maine. The full report can be accessed on the Island Institute’s website, at www.islandinstitute.org.

The number of working waterfront access points varies widely among island communities. This is the first time that these data have been collected, and it provides a useful baseline against which to measure subsequent changes in access.

	TOTAL # OF ACCESS POINTS	# AT WHICH COMMERCIAL USES ARE ALLOWED
CHEBEAGUE	18	14
CLIFF	15	12
FRENCHBORO	14	14
G. CRANBERRY	10	2
G. DIAMOND	8	1
ISLE AU HAUT	1	1
ISLESBORO	17	12
ISLESFORD	11	3
LONG	30	25
MATINICUS	1	1
MONHEGAN	3	3
NORTH HAVEN	11	4
PEAKS	35	11
SWAN’S	46	32
VINALHAVEN	20	15

Source: Island Institute

INDICATOR: ISLAND SCHOOLS

Thirteen of Maine's year-round island communities have island schools currently serving students; a 14th — Great Cranberry Island — has an open school without enrollment.

Island elementary schools are critical to an island community's survival. Without a school, it is nearly impossible to retain or attract young families. The history of Maine island communities demonstrates that when an island school closes, the year-round community's survival is at stake. This indicator looks at the profiles of island schools.

Student numbers often fluctuate seasonally, particularly in island schools. For that reason both October 2004 and April 2005 numbers are provided here.

2004/2005 SCHOOL YEAR	ON-ISLAND	# STUDENTS K-5		# STUDENTS 6-8		# STUDENTS 9-12		TOTAL	
		OCT	APR	OCT	APR	OCT	APR	OCT	APR
CHEBEAGUE	K – 5	19						52	
CLIFF	K – 5	6	5						
FRENCHBORO	K – 8	10	5	0	0	1	1	11	6
GREAT CRANBERRY	K – 8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ISLE AU HAUT	K – 8	5	3	7	6	2	2	14	11
ISLESBORO	K – 12	33	32	21	22	26	21	80	75
ISLESFORD	K – 8	10	2	7	6	6	7	23	15
LONG	K – 5	10	11	8	8	6	12	24	31
MATINICUS	K – 8	4	3	4	0	2	1	10	4
MONHEGAN	K – 8	5	4	2	1	2	2	9	7
NORTH HAVEN	K – 12	25	22	15	18	23	18	63	58
PEAKS	K – 5	54	50						
SWAN'S	K – 8	18	20	15	13	17	17	50	50
VINALHAVEN	K – 12	104	91	40	51	70	59	214	201

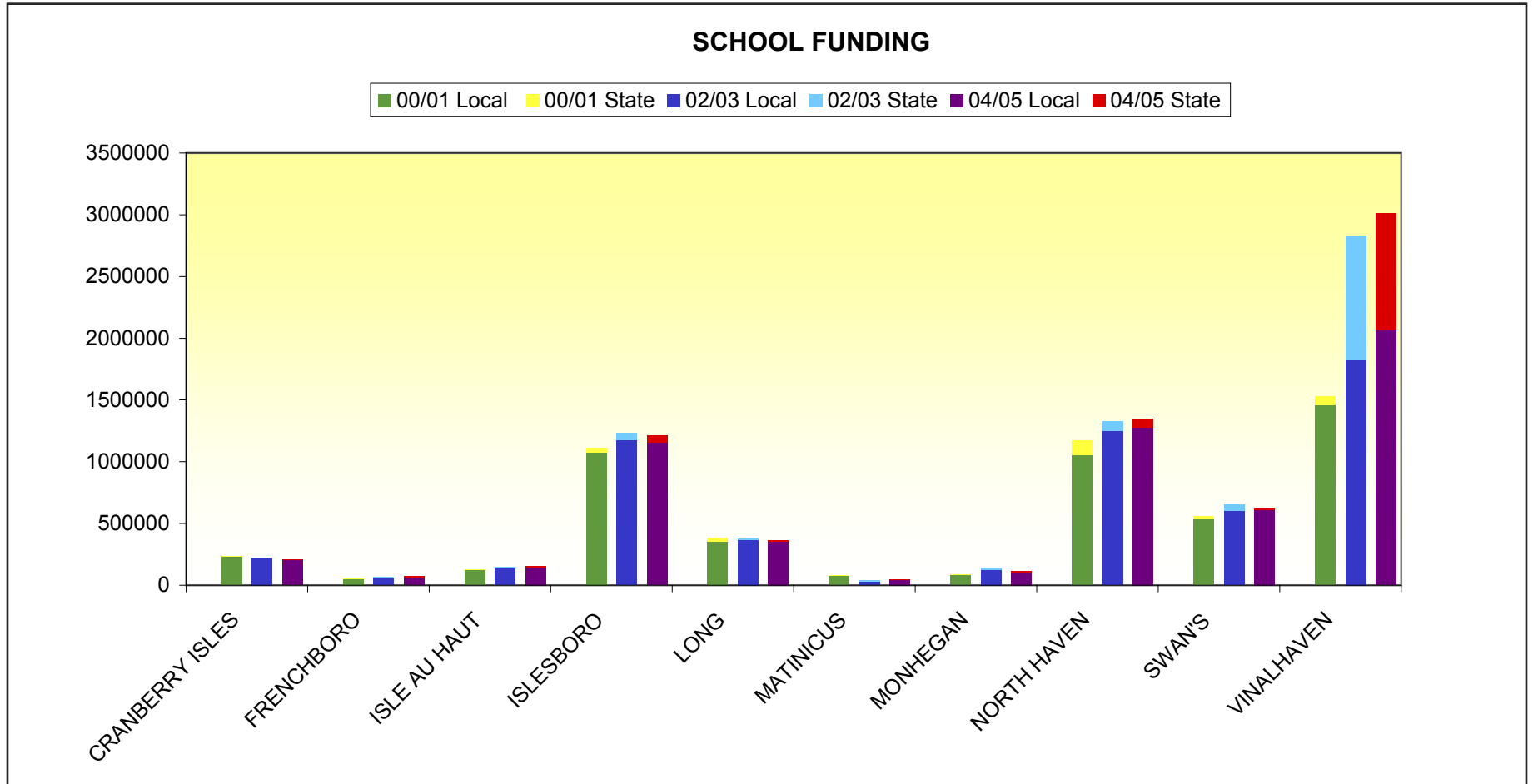
Source: Maine Department of Education, except Chebeague, Cliff and Peaks, which were unavailable from the state and were collected directly from the school departments.

INDICATOR: ISLAND SCHOOL FUNDING

Island communities have demonstrated a commitment to keeping their schools open, evidenced by significant financial support in the face of relatively low levels of state aid for education.

This indicator looks at how much state aid for education an island school receives compared to expenditures by the local community.

The school funding data demonstrates that with the exception of Vinalhaven, levels of state aid for education are very low for Maine's island communities.



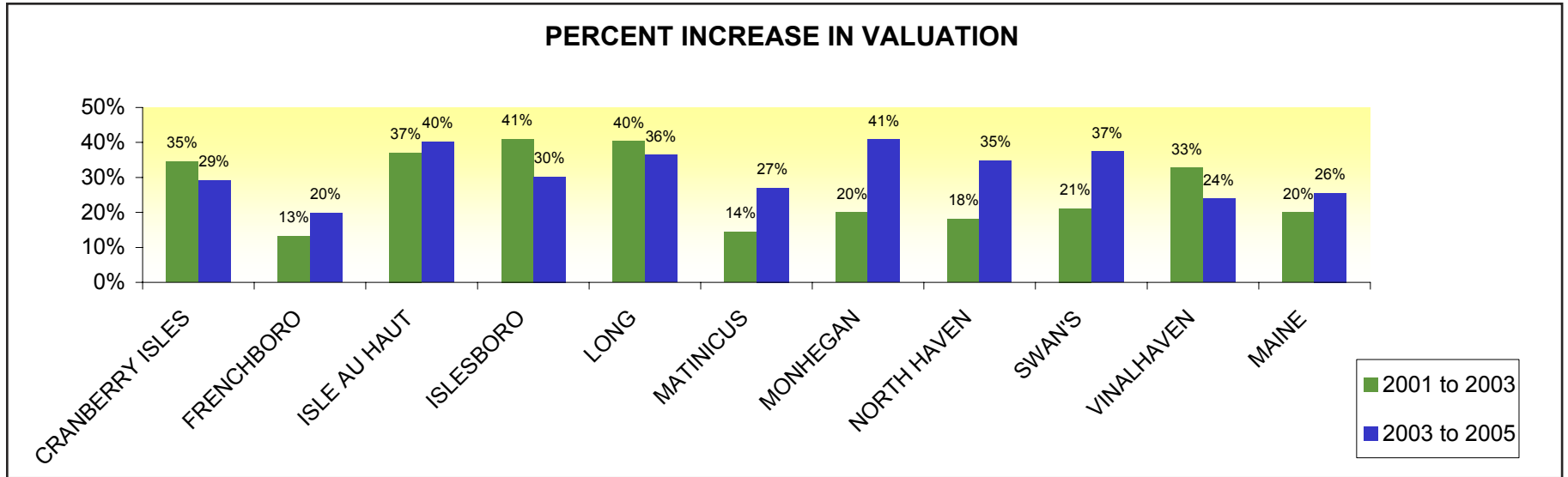
Source: Maine Department of Education

	2000/2001		2002/2003		2004/2005	
FUNDING	LOCAL	STATE	LOCAL	STATE	LOCAL	STATE
CRANBERRY ISLES	\$228,657	\$7,473	\$216,906	\$5,646	\$200,609	\$5,799
FRENCHBORO	\$46,371	\$5,141	\$58,596	\$9,476	\$67,210	\$8,009
ISLE AU HAUT	\$124,976	\$2,483	\$137,293	\$9,869	\$141,505	\$11,698
ISLESBORO	\$1,072,564	\$38,942	\$1,176,503	\$60,980	\$1,156,682	\$59,307
LONG	\$350,523	\$32,533	\$366,782	\$10,138	\$352,233	\$10,467
MATINICUS	\$77,304	\$4,857	\$26,305	\$12,012	\$41,334	\$5,970
MONHEGAN	\$84,742	\$4,950	\$123,373	\$13,647	\$103,901	\$9,370
NORTH HAVEN	\$1,049,559	\$121,521	\$1,250,634	\$78,788	\$1,273,670	\$73,434
SWAN'S	\$538,757	\$21,180	\$605,448	\$49,239	\$608,760	\$14,569
VINALHAVEN	\$1,456,468	\$70,146	\$1,827,822	\$1,002,349	\$2,065,989	\$945,339

Source: Maine Department of Education

State aid for education is intended to ensure that adequate resources are available to provide a standard level of education for students across the state. However, the formula for distributing state aid for education does not fully take into account differences in the cost of delivering comparable

levels of education on island communities versus mainland communities. In addition, it is based on the state's municipal valuations, which have been increasing rapidly along the coast and in island communities.



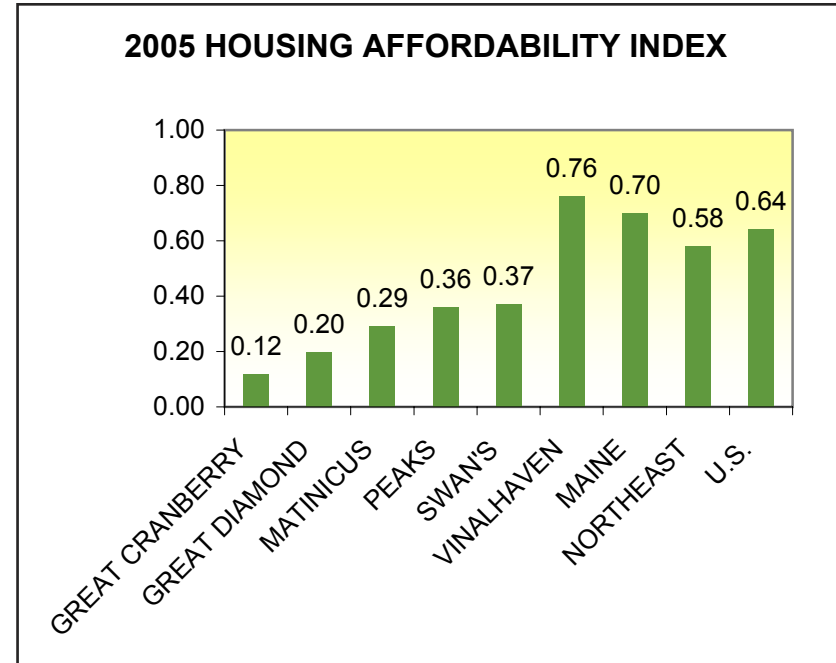
Source: Maine Department of Revenue

INDICATOR: AFFORDABILITY OF HOUSING

According to the Maine State Housing Authority, islanders earning the median income cannot afford the median island home.

The availability of affordable housing options is becoming very important to the survival of island communities. The Maine State Housing Authority collects data on housing sales and income; with these data they are able to calculate the ratio of the home price affordable at the median income to the median home price. This ratio is called an affordability index.

An affordability index of less than one means that the area is generally unaffordable: a household earning the median income could not afford the median home price. An index of one means that a household earning the median income can afford exactly the median home price, while an index of less than one means that the cost of the median home price exceeds what that same household can afford. The 2005 data demonstrate that with an overall index off less than 1, housing in Maine is generally not affordable. Their lower indices indicate that housing is markedly less affordable on most of the islands for which an affordability index could be calculated.



Source: Maine State Housing Authority

The affordability of island homes is complicated by two additional considerations: property taxes and the cost of homeowner's insurance.

Property Taxes

Property taxes impose an increasing financial burden on middle- and working-class families throughout the state, and are an important aspect of housing affordability. Unfortunately, available data make it difficult to quantify the tax burden at the community level for island communities; however, rapidly increasing property valuations all along the coast suggest that the property taxes are rising significantly on the islands.

The Cost of Homeowner's Insurance

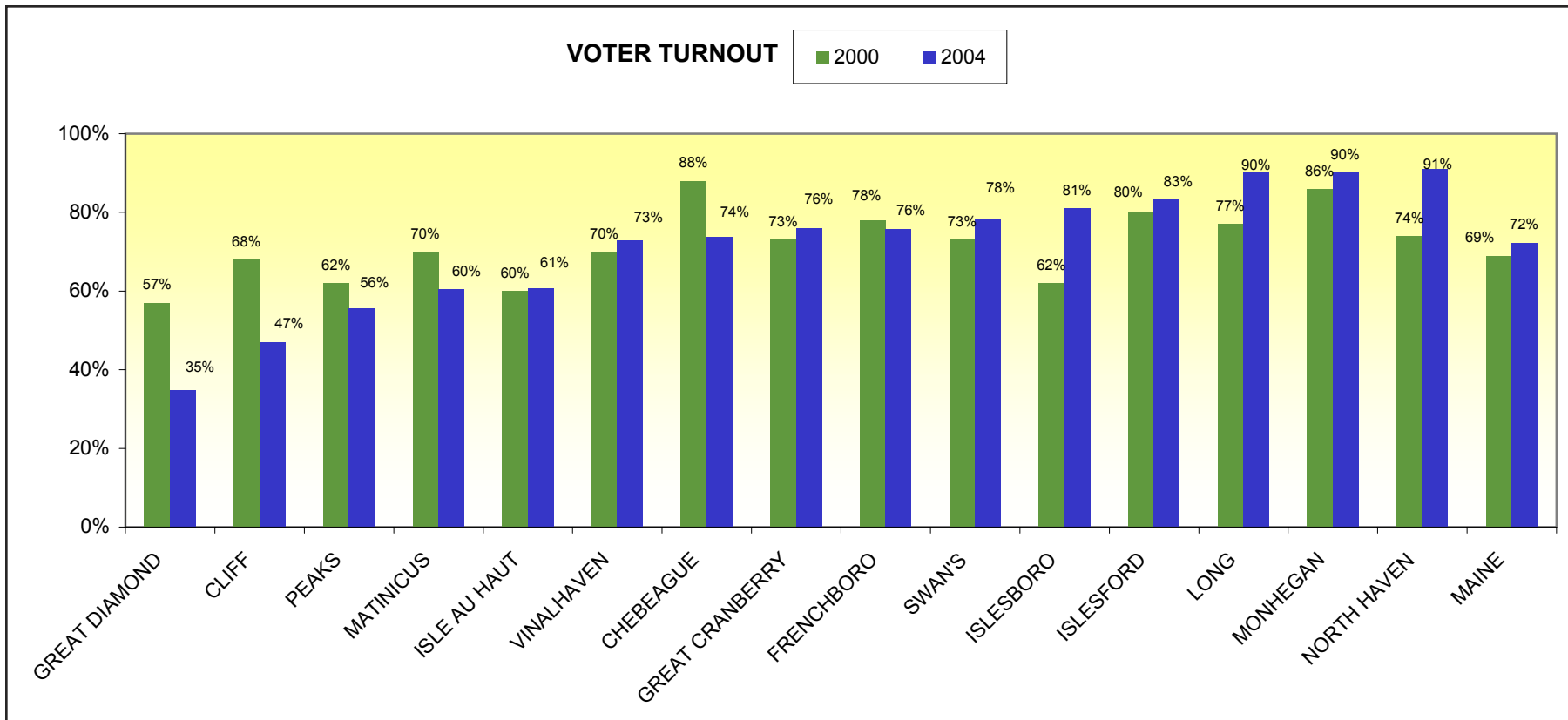
Fire Protection Class ratings are determined by the Insurance Services Organization, and are standard information that all insurance companies use. On a scale of 1-10, the lower the protection class, the lower the perceived risk, and the better the insurance rates.

All of Maine's islands are perceived as being at high risk by the homeowner's insurance industry. Six out of Maine's 15 year-round island communities have a Fire Protection Code (PC) Rating of 10, the highest rating possible, which directly increases premium costs and makes acquiring homeowner's insurance very difficult. Portions or all of six other islands are rated a 9. None of the islands has a rating lower than 6. These high ratings translate directly into increased costs for homeowner's insurance.

INDICATOR: VOTER TURNOUT

Voter turnout in most of Maine's island communities was higher than the state average in 2000 and 2004. This speaks highly of the level of civic engagement in these communities.

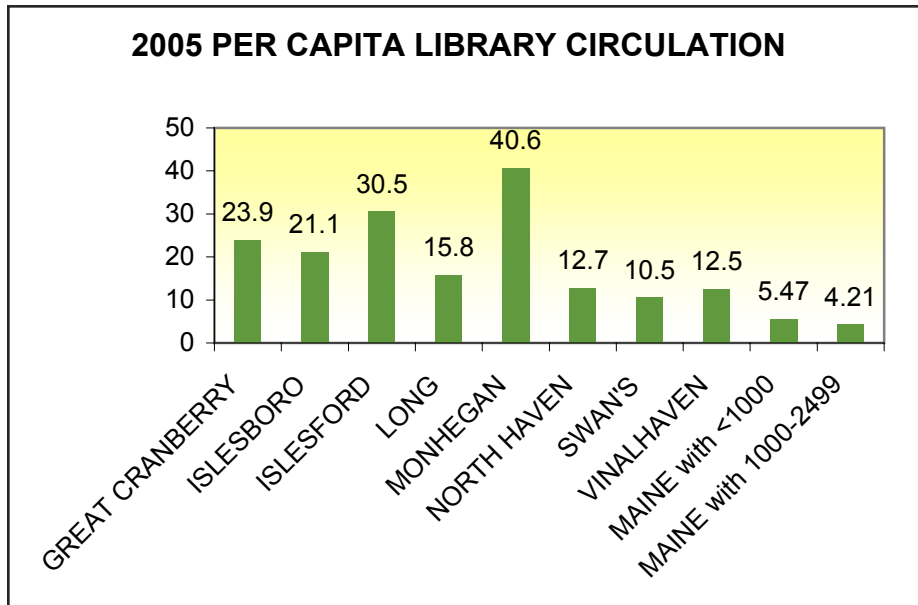
Social scientists often use voter turnout as a measure of civic engagement. Voting speaks to the level of engagement people feel in their local and broader community, and is highly correlated with other aspects of community well-being. Voting records for the 2000 and 2004 Presidential elections demonstrate that most of Maine's year-round island communities have higher voter turnout than the state as a whole.



Source: State of Maine Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions

INDICATOR: ISLAND LIBRARIES

High levels of per capita library circulation suggest that libraries are an important island community institution.



Source: Maine State Library

Per capita library circulation is extraordinarily high in Maine's year-round island communities. The average per capita circulation for Maine towns with populations of less than 1,000 people is 5.47 books per person; for towns with populations between 1,000 and 2,499, it is 4.21. All of the islands for which data are available have per capita circulation rates well above these. Their high circulation rates are in part due to significant summer populations, but they also suggests that the libraries are very important institutions in Maine's year-round island communities.

APPENDIX

Indicator: Population Trends

Population Data

Source: U.S. Census 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000
<http://factfinder.census.gov>

Long-term population data were not available for all of Maine's year-round island communities. The aggregate population trend was calculated using only those islands for which Census population data was available for 1970 through 2000: Matinicus, Monhegan, Isle au Haut, Cranberry Isles, Swan's, North Haven, Islesboro and Vinalhaven. 1970 and 1980 Census data were not available for Chebeague, Cliff, Peaks and Long. 1970, 1980 and 1990 Census data were only available for Great Cranberry and Islesford combined, as Cranberry Isles. For comparison purposes, Cranberry Isles' 2000 population was calculated as the sum of 2000 Census population numbers for those two islands (Great Cranberry, 54 people; Islesford, 74 people). No Census population data were available for Great Diamond.

Indicator: Median Age

Median Age Data

Source: U.S. Census 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000
<http://factfinder.census.gov>

1970, 1980 and 1990 Census median age data were not available for Chebeague, Cliff, Peaks and Long. 1970, 1980 and 1990 Census median age data were only available for Great Cranberry and Islesford combined, as Cranberry Isles; for comparison purposes, then, Cranberry Isles' 2000 population was calculated as the sum of 2000 Census population numbers for those two islands. No Census median age data were available for Great Diamond.

2000 CENSUS MEDIAN AGE	1970	1980	1990	2000
CHEBEAGUE				49.0
CLIFF				45.5
CRANBERRY ISLES		40.8	36.0	35.6
FRENCHBORO		38	32.5	43.5
GREAT CRANBERRY				51.0
ISLE AU HAUT	43.1	31.3	35.0	41.5
ISLESBORO	41.9	37.6	41.1	45.9
ISLESFORD				43.3
LONG				44.3
MATINICUS	38.3	41.7	39.8	47.8
MONHEGAN	35.0	31.7	42.1	48.5
NORTH HAVEN	36.6	35.6	39.8	38.7
PEAKS				43.2
SWAN'S	37.0	37.9	37.2	40.9
VINALHAVEN	39.4	35.5	38.8	40.2
MAINE	28.6	30.4	33.9	38.9

Indicator: Educational Attainment

Educational Attainment Data

Source: U.S. Census 2000

<http://factfinder.census.gov>

Census educational attainment data were not available for Great Diamond.

U.S CENSUS 2000	POPULATION OVER AGE 25	HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA		BACHELOR'S DEGREE	
		#	%	#	%
CHEBEAGUE	280	280	100%	76	27%
CLIFF	71	60	85%	39	55%
FRENCHBORO	21	19	90%	4	19%
GREAT CRANBERRY	48	38	79%	13	27%
ISLE AU HAUT	57	54	95%	15	26%
ISLESBORO	458	415	91%	158	34%
ISLESFORD	60	51	85%	19	32%
LONG	136	127	93%	30	22%
MATINICUS	42	36	86%	13	31%
MONHEGAN	59	59	100%	13	22%
NORTH HAVEN	263	252	96%	56	21%
PEAKS	633	593	94%	363	57%
SWAN'S	232	186	80%	43	19%
VINALHAVEN	858	688	80%	175	20%
ISLAND AVERAGE			89%		32%
MAINE			85%		23%

Indicator: Median Household Income

Median Household Income Data

Source: U.S. Census 2000

<http://factfinder.census.gov>

Census median income data were not available for Great Diamond.

Indicator: Taxable Sales

Taxable Sales Data

Source: Maine Revenue Services

www.maine.gov/revenue/

Taxable sales data are collected at the town level. Data for Peaks, Cliff, Chebeague and Great Diamond cannot be separated out from the municipalities of which they are (or were, in Chebeague's case) a part. Data for Frenchboro and Long were also unavailable.

	2005 TOTAL TAXABLE SALES	3RD QUARTER	RESTAURANT AND LODGING
CRANBERRY ISLES	\$945,600	\$714,600	\$403,500
ISLE AU HAUT	\$461,800	\$322,300	\$324,100
ISLESBORO	\$3,360,000	\$1,198,500	\$438,600
MATINICUS	\$50,500	\$8,000	\$27,600
MONHEGAN	\$3,371,800	\$2,470,100	\$2,719,000
NORTH HAVEN	\$1,878,700	\$791,800	\$250,300
SWAN'S	\$743,100	\$250,000	\$241,700
VINALHAVEN	\$7,611,700	\$2,838,900	\$1,639,000

Indicator: Ferry Ridership

Population Data

Source: U.S. Census 2000
<http://factfinder.census.gov>

2000 U.S. Census population data were not available for Great Diamond.

Ferry Data

Source: Maine State Ferry Service, Casco Bay Island Transit District, Chebeague Transit Co.
<http://www.state.me.us/mdot/opt/ferry/maine-ferry-service.php>
<http://www.cascobaylines.com/>
<http://www.chebeaguetrans.com/>

Ferry data are for fiscal year 2005. Ferry ridership data were not available for all islands. Monhegan, Isle au Haut and the Cranberry Isles are served by private ferry companies whose data are proprietary. Chebeague ferry ridership numbers include both data from both Casco Bay Island Transit District and Chebeague Transit Co.

Average winter ridership was calculated by averaging January and February ridership numbers; average summer ridership was calculated by averaging July and August ridership numbers. All per resident numbers were calculated using population numbers from the 2000 U.S. Census.

2005 Year-round and Summer Population Estimates

Source: Island residents, through interviews with Island Institute fellows.

	POPULATION(2000 CENSUS)	2005 TOTAL FERRY RIDER-SHIP	2005 PER PERSON RIDER-SHIP	WINTER 2005 AVERAGE FERRY RIDERSHIP	WINTER 2005PER PERSON FERRY RIDERSHIP	SUMMER 2005 AVERAGE FERRY RIDERSHIP	WINTER 2005 AVERAGE FERRY RIDERSHIP
CHEBEAGUE	356	134,662	378				
CLIFF	87	19,041	219	711	8	3,585	41
CRANBERRY ISLES	128	25,100	196				
FRENCH-BORO	38	4,253	112	269	7	685	18
GREAT DIAMOND		35,891					
ISLESBORO	603	222,306	369	11,525	19	30,685	51
LONG	202	99,257	491	4,285	21	17,862	88
MATINICUS	51	695	14	11	.21	132	3
NORTH HAVEN	381	60,726	159	3033	8	9662	25
PEAKS	925	632,418	684	33,891	37	99,814	108
SWAN'S	327	85,669	262	4846	15	11,324	35
VINALHAVEN	1235	159,589	129	8345	7	23,280	19

Indicator: Lobster Licenses

Population Data

Source: U.S. Census 2000

<http://factfinder.census.gov>

2000 U.S. Census population data are not available for Great Diamond Island.

Fishing License Data

Maine Department of Marine Resources

www.maine.gov/dmr/

DMR fishing license data were not available for Great Diamond Island.

	POPULATION (CENSUS 2000)	2001 # DMRLICENSE HOLDERS	2001 LOBSTER LICENSE HOLDERS	2003 # DMRLICENSE HOLDERS	2003 LOBSTER LICENSE HOLDERS	2005 # DMRLICENSE HOLDERS	2005 LOBSTER LICENSE HOLDERS
CHEBEAGUE	356	82	55	70	56	72	51
CLIFF	87	16	15	16	16	20	18
FRENCHBORO	38	34	23	26	20	30	26
GREAT CRANBERRY	54	10	8	18	16	17	16
ISLE AU HAUT	79	41	27	30	22	28	21
ISLESBORO	603	57	48	54	48	39	36
ISLESFORD	74	27	24	24	22	22	21
LONG	202	46	41	54	42	49	42
MATINICUS	51	39	37	27	26	33	30
MONHEGAN	75	33	20	29	18	30	20
NORTH HAVEN	381	75	63	68	57	71	63
PEAKS	925	42	26	36	20	28	17
SWAN'S	327	148	109	147	117	136	116
VINALHAVEN	1235	423	318	415	322	397	340
MAINE	1,274,923	18,560	9089	17,909	9421	16,094	9244

Indicator: Working Waterfront Access

Working Waterfront Access Data

Source: Island Institute's Working Waterfront Access Report, at www.islandinstitute.org

Indicator: School Profiles

Enrollment Data

Source: Maine Department of Education
<http://www.maine.gov/education/enroll/aproct/octaprcomp.htm>

Public School Resident Enrollment is reported by public school systems schools twice a year, on October 1 and April 1. These are "snapshot" counts of the student population on these dates, and are used to determine state subsidy amounts. Enrollment data for Peaks, Chebeague and Cliff were not available from the state and were collected directly from the school departments. For both Peaks and Cliff, only total elementary enrollment data were available.

Indicator: Island School Funding

2005 School Budget and State Aid for Education Data

Source: Maine Department of Education
<http://www.maine.gov/education/data/budget/budget.htm>

2001, 2003 and 2005 Valuation Data

Maine Department of Revenue
<http://www.state.me.us/revenue>

The state valuation process takes about 18 months, which means that there is a lag time of about two years. For example, analysis for the 2005 state valuation began in the fall of 2003 using sales data from July 2002 to June 2003.

State valuations are done at the municipal level, so data for Peaks, Cliff, Chebeague and Great Diamond were not available.

	2001 STATE VALUATION	2003 STATE VALUATION	2005 STATE VALUATION
CRANBERRY ISLES	\$89,750,000	\$120,750,000	\$155,900,000
FRENCH-BORO	\$6,450,000	\$7,300,000	\$8,750,000
ISLE AU HAUT	\$22,250,000	\$30,500,000	\$42,750,000
ISLESBORO	\$214,950,000	\$303,100,000	\$394,800,000
LONG	\$40,400,000	\$56,700,000	\$77,350,000
MATINICUS	\$12,450,000	\$14,250,000	\$18,100,000
MONHEGAN	\$32,050,000	\$38,450,000	\$54,150,000
NORTH HAVEN	\$164,300,000	\$194,150,000	\$261,700,000
SWAN'S	\$61,400,000	\$74,350,000	\$102,150,000
VINALHAVEN	\$215,050,000	\$285,450,000	\$353,600,000
MAINE	\$78,389,400,000	\$94,034,050,000	\$118,038,020,000

Indicator: Affordability of Housing

Maine Housing Data

Source: Maine State Housing Authority
www.mainehousing.org/

According to Maine State Housing Authority, the affordability index is "the ratio of Home Price Affordable at Median Income to Median Home Price. An index of less than 1 means the area is generally unaffordable – i.e., a household earning area median income could not cover the pay-

ment on a median priced home (30 year mortgage, taxes and insurance) using no more than 28% of gross income.”

An affordability index was not calculated for those islands with fewer than four home sales in 2005: Chebeague, Cliff, Frenchboro, Isle au Haut, Islesboro, Islesford, Long, Monhegan and North Haven.

The Northeast affordability index includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and Virginia.

2005	HOME PRICE MEDIAN INCOME CAN AFFORD	MEDIAN HOME PRICE	AFFORD-ABILITY INDEX	NUMBER OF HOME SALES ON WHICH MEDIAN IS BASED
CRANBERRY ISLES	\$137,513	\$1,150,837	.12	5
GREAT DIAMOND	\$118,609	\$604,656	.20	9
MATINICUS	\$162,385	\$563,565	.29	5
PEAKS	\$136,662	\$374,434	.36	19
SWAN'S	\$106,059	\$286,137	.37	8
VINALHAVEN	\$175,250	\$231,500	.76	4
MAINE	\$129,445	\$184,000	.7	
NORTHEAST			.58	
U.S.			.64	

Fire Protection Class Rating Data

Source: J. Edward Knight and Company
<http://www.jedwardknight.com/>

	FIRE PROTECTION CODE RATING
CHEBEAGUE	PC 7
CLIFF	PC 9
FRENCHBORO	PC 9
GREAT CRANBERRY	PC 10
GREAT DIAMOND	PC 7
ISLE AU HAUT	PC 10
ISLESBORO	PC 9
ISLESFORD	PC 10
LONG	PC 6 / PC 9
MATINICUS	PC 10
MONHEGAN	PC 10
NORTH HAVEN	PC 8 / PC 9
PEAKS	PC 6 / PC9
SWAN'S	PC 10
VINALHAVEN	PC 7 / PC 9

Indicator: Voter Turnout

Voter Registration and Voter Turnout Data

Source: State of Maine Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions. <http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/index.html>

	2000 VOTER TURNOUT	2004 VOTER TURNOUT
CHEBEAGUE	88%	74%
CLIFF	68%	47%
FRENCHBORO	78%	76%
GREAT CRANBERRY	73%	76%
GREAT DIAMOND	57%	35%
ISLE AU HAUT	60%	61%
ISLESBORO	62%	81%
ISLESFORD	80%	83%
LONG	77%	90%
MATINICUS	70%	60%
MONHEGAN	86%	90%
NORTH HAVEN	74%	91%
PEAKS	62%	56%
SWAN'S	73%	78%
VINALHAVEN	70%	73%
MAINE	69%	72%

Indicator: Island Libraries

Library Circulation Data

Source: Maine State Library
<http://www.maine.gov/msl/libs/statistics/index.htm>

2005 library circulation data were not available for Cliff, Chebeague, Frenchboro, Great Diamond, Isle au Haut, Matinicus or Peaks.

	2005 PER CAPITA LIBRARY CIRCULATION
GREAT CRANBERRY	23.0
ISLESBORO	21.1
ISLESFORD	30.5
LONG	15.8
MONHEGAN	40.6
NORTH HAVEN	12.7
SWAN'S	10.5
VINALHAVEN	12.5
MAINE TOWNS WITH POPULATION LESS THAN 1000	5.47
MAINE TOWNS WITH POPULATION 1000-2499	4.21

FEEDBACK FORM *The Island Institute welcomes your comments and suggestions.*

Please fill out this form and send it to: Island Indicators Report, Island Institute, P.O. Box 648, Rockland, Maine 04841.

General comments about the Island Indicators Report:

Please comment on how well you feel the indicators selected speak to the realities of Maine's year-round island communities:

Do you have specific comments about any of the indicators in this report?

Are there additional indicators you think should be considered for the next Island Indicators Report?

Thank you!



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