



# Community Profile

PREPARED BY THE PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION

# SOUTHWICK

Southwick is a residential and agricultural community bordered to the south by the Connecticut towns of Granby and Suffield. Proximity to the major highway system and the cities of Springfield and Hartford, makes Southwick an increasingly popular place to live. Since 1990 the population in Southwick has increased by 25.3 percent to 9,603 in 2006. Over three-quarters of the homes in Southwick are owner-occupied.

The town was traditionally a recreational and farming community and these uses continue today. While the large majority of residents commute out

of Town for work, while retail sales, small manufacturers and an increasing number of service jobs form the majority of the employment base in Town.

The most outstanding physical feature of Southwick is the Congamond Lakes, which consist of three connected bodies of water that together encompass 460 acres of surface water. Congamond Lakes offer year-round recreational activities including swimming, fishing, boating and ice skating. In addition, a six mile bicycle rail trail is estimated to be completed for use by 2010.

### Type of government:

Open Town Meeting,  
3 Selectmen, Chief Administrative Officer.

### Transit System:

**Public Carrier** None  
**Private Carrier** None  
**Para-Transit Carrier** Franklin Regional Transit Authority

## MUNICIPAL OFFICE

Town Hall  
454 College Highway  
Southwick, MA 01077  
Phone: (413) 569-5995  
FAX: (413) 569-5001

## LAND AREA and TAX BASE

Acres	20,267
Square Miles	31.7
2006 Vehicle Registration <i>(autos and light trucks)</i>	11,395
2006 Property Taxes	
Residential	\$11.84
Commercial/Industrial	\$11.84

## POPULATION TRENDS

1970	6,330
1980	7,382
1990	7,667
2000	8,835
2006	9,603

### 2007 Race and Latino Population

White	96.4%
Black	0.9%
Asian	0.5%
Other	1.7%
Latino (of any race)	4.7%

*Note: Race %s can be greater than 100% because of multiple race persons.*

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Profiles covering all forty-three communities in the Pioneer Valley Region and a range of other topics are available. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Regional Information Center provides demographic, economic, and geographic data and services including mapping, research, and analysis to its constituent communities and to the public. Contact the Information Center for additional information.

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### Percent of Population by Age 1990, 2000 and 2007\*

Age	1990	2000	2007
0 - 4	7.0	6.3	6.0
5 - 9	8.0	7.4	6.3
10 - 14	7.7	7.9	7.2
15 - 19	7.3	7.1	7.1
20 - 24	6.3	4.2	5.1
25 - 34	17.8	11.4	11.9
35 - 44	18.0	20.8	18.1
45 - 54	10.3	14.7	15.9
55 - 59	4.0	5.1	6.4
60 - 64	4.1	3.5	4.7
65 - 74	6.0	6.1	5.6
75 & over	3.6	5.6	5.8

### LAND USE - 1999

Total Square Miles	31.7
Total Road Miles (2006)	85.0

Land Use	Acres
Residential	3,159.3
Commercial	198.3
Industrial	244.1
Urban Open/Public	279.2
Transportation	14.9
Outdoor Recreational	378.7
Agricultural Land	4,041.7
Undeveloped Land	11,439.3
Water	498.2

### RECREATION AREAS

**PARKS:** Goose Pond, Loupinski Wildlife Area, Granville Gorge, Prifti Park, Southwick Town Beach, Sofinowski Preserve.

**GOLF COURSES:** Edgewood Country Club, Golf Acres, Southwick Golf Club, The Ranch Golf Club.

**OTHER:** Agawam Bowman's Club, Sodom Mountain Campground, Southwick Acres Campground, Motocross 338.

#### Data Sources:

Massachusetts Department of Revenue  
 Massachusetts Exec. Office of Labor & Workforce Dev.  
 Massachusetts Department of Education  
 United States Census Bureau  
 The Warren Group  
 Resource Mapping: University of Massachusetts  
 Applied Geographic Solutions  
 Local Municipal Office

## EMPLOYERS and EMPLOYMENT - 2006

	Number	Percent of Community Total
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries	123	4.1%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	502	16.8%
Construction	157	5.3%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	72	2.4%
Health Care and Social Assistance	73	2.4%
Information	16	0.5%
Manufacturing	1,218	40.8%
Services	341	11.4%
Trans, Comm., Utilities	65	2.2%
Wholesale and Retail Trade	420	14.1%
Total Employment	2,987	100.0%

Average Annual Wage **\$31,599**

### WHERE RESIDENTS WORK - 2000

22.0% work in Southwick  
 78.0% commute out of Southwick

### HOUSING PRICES

Year	Number of Sales	Median Sale Price
2002	251	\$135,000
2003	209	\$149,000
2004	223	\$175,400
2005	244	\$230,450
2006	201	\$222,500

### EDUCATION

2007 Educational Attainment of Persons  
25 Years and Older \*

Less than 12 years	12.6%
4 years High School	37.2%
Less than 4 years College	24.5%
4 or more years College	25.8%

\* Expressed as the highest level attained.

**School Structure:** Southwick/  
Tolland Regional School System

**Integrated Per Pupil Cost  
(2006):** **\$8,552**

### RESIDENTS IN THE LABOR FORCE

Year	Labor Force	Percent Unemployed
1996	4,503	5.0%
1997	4,510	4.3%
1998	4,492	4.0%
1999	4,652	3.1%
2000	4,619	3.1%
2001	4,681	3.7%
2002	5,065	5.1%
2003	5,114	5.2%
2004	5,161	5.0%
2005	5,216	4.7%
2006	5,239	4.8%

### HOUSEHOLD INCOME - 2007\*

\$0 - \$9,999	7.3%
\$10,000 - \$14,999	3.5%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	6.2%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	8.4%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	11.7%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	21.7%
\$75,000 & over	41.2%

**2007 Median Household  
Income:** **\$65,297**

**2000 Persons Below Poverty  
Level:** **6.1%**

\* 2007 values are estimates provided  
by Applied Geographic Solutions