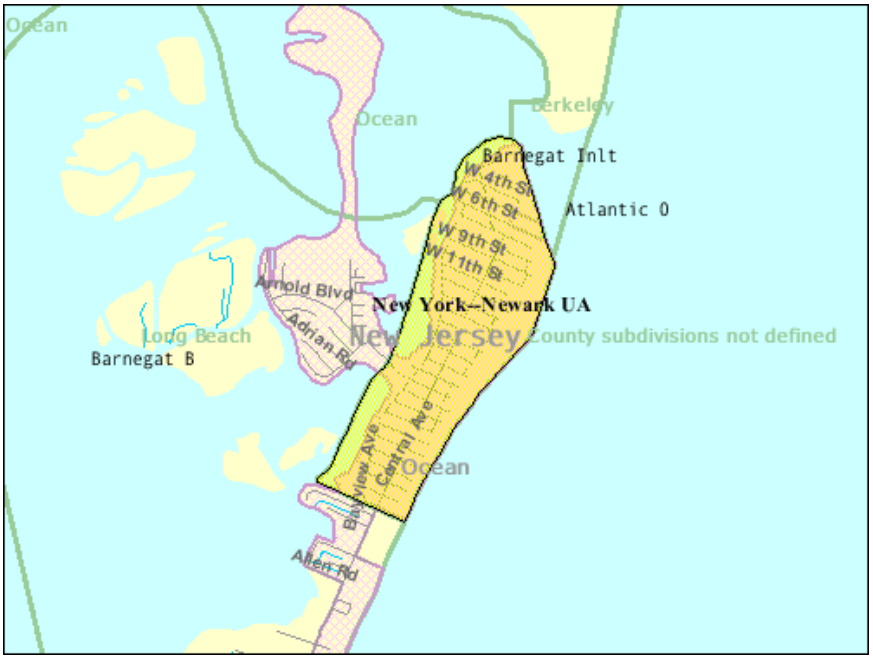
LONG BEACH ISLAND/BARNEGAT LIGHT, NJ[1]

Community Profile[2]

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Regional orientation

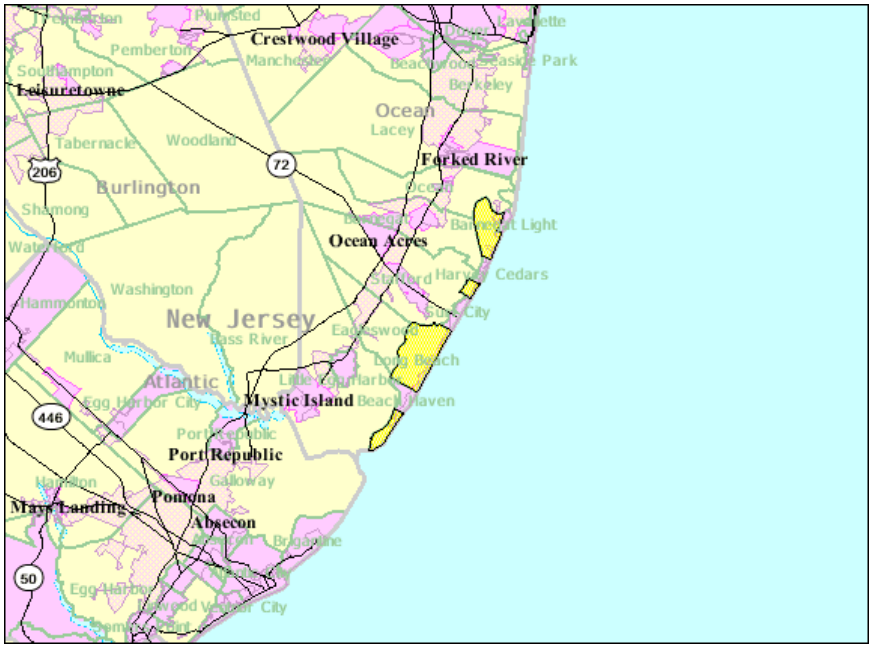
Long Beach Island is an 18-mile barrier beach on New Jersey's eastern shore, about 4 to 6 miles from mainland New Jersey (LBInet 2008), within Ocean County. It is made up of the Township of Long Beach (39.69° N, 74.14° W), along with five independent boroughs: Barnegat Light, Beach Haven, Harvey Cedars, Ship Bottom, and Surf City. Long Beach Island includes the ports of Barnegat Light and Beach Haven and ports in the surrounding area on the mainland which include Tuckerton, Barnegat, Waretown, and Forked River. The city of Barnegat Light (39.75° N, 74.11° W) is a major commercial port (USGS 2008), while much of the rest of the island specializes in recreational fishing.



Map 1. Location of Barnegat Light, NJ (US Census Bureau 2000)

[1] These community profiles have been created to serve as port descriptions in Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) for fisheries management actions. They also provide baseline information from which to begin research for Social Impact Assessments (SIAs). Further, they provide information relevant to general community impacts for National Standard 8 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and information on minorities and low income populations for Executive Order (E.O.) 12898 on Environmental Justice.

[2] For purposes of citation please use the following template: "Community Profile of *Town, ST*. Prepared under the auspices of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center. For further information contact Lisa.L.Colburn@noaa.gov."



Map 2. Location of Long Beach, NJ (US Census Bureau 2000)

Historical/Background

The Dutch explorer Captain Cornelius Jacobsen May landed on Long Beach Island in the early 1600s. The island was long known for its many shipwrecks from the strong tides here, so a number of lifesaving stations were constructed along its length, including the Barnegat Light lighthouse. Long Beach Island was at one time an important fishing and whaling center, although it was accessible only by boat. Later it became a hunting and fishing playground for wealthy gentlemen. The island became more accessible in 1886 when a railroad trestle was built connecting it with the mainland. Long Beach Island consists of a number of communities. In 1899 several of these communities were combined into the township of Long Beach; the rest remained as independent boroughs (LBInet 2008).

Barnegat Light is one of the 11 municipalities on Long Beach Island. A small town of less than one square mile in area, it is found at the northern tip of the barrier island. The town is named after the lighthouse located here, which has guided ships along the New Jersey coast for generations.

Until the 1995 construction of a jetty by the Army Corps of Engineers, boats on the other side of the island had to pass through one of several narrow and often dangerous inlets. This difficulty limited the growth of maritime industries along this part of the New Jersey shore, in contrast with the tourism industry, which has taken advantage of the area's numerous sandy beaches. Along with the jetty, the Corps project also produced a three-quarter-mile beach and a fishing pier, further developing the tourist appeal of Barnegat Light. Commercial and recreational fishing have a long tradition in this area, and both industries are still strong today (McCay and Cieri 2000).

Demographics[3]

Long Beach Township

According to Census 2000 data[4], Long Beach township (which encompasses all of Long Beach Island with the exception of the five independent boroughs) had a total population of 3,329, down 3.6% from 3,452 in 1990 (US Census Bureau 1990). Of this total in 2000, 52.6% were female and 47.4% were male. The median age was 57.3 years and 86.6% of the population was 21 years or older while 42.7% were 62 or older. The population here can swell to more than 100,000 on a hot summer day (Tutelian 2006).

Long Beach's age structure in 2000 showed an aging population, with a preponderance of residents in the 60 to 69 years age group, followed by the 70-79 years age group, indicating a large retirement population. There were few residents here under the age of 30, and more women over the age of 80 than in any category from age 0-40 (see Figure 1).

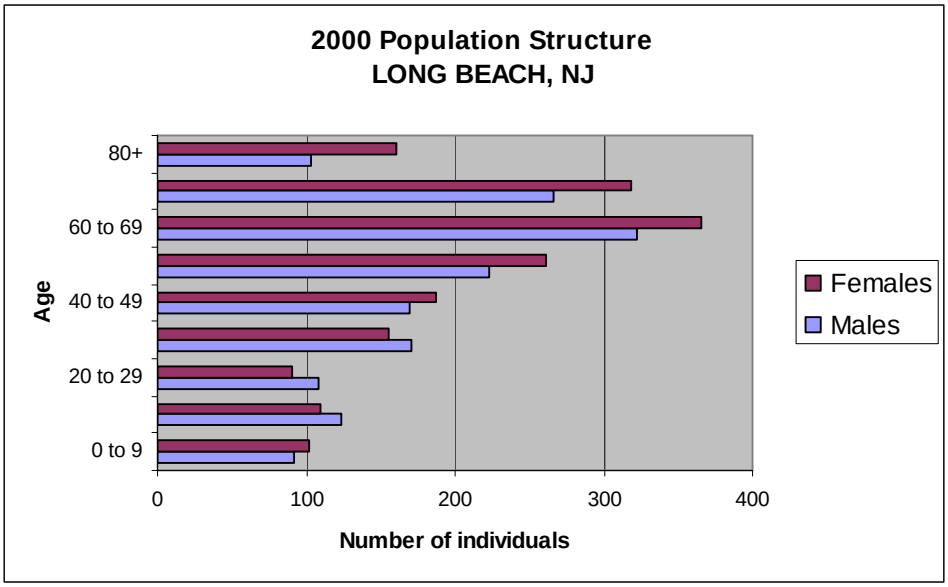


Figure 1. Long Beach's population structure by sex in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

The majority of the population of Long Beach in 2000 was white (98.5%), with 0.4% of residents black or African American, 0.1% Native American, 0.4% Asian, and 0.1% Pacific Islander or Hawaiian (Figure 2). Only 2.1% of the population identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino (Figure 3). Residents linked their heritage to a number of different ancestries including: Irish (25.0%), German (24.5%), English (16.5%), Italian (14.7%), and Polish (10.3%). With regard to region of birth, 56.8% were born in New Jersey, 39.2% were born in a different state and 3.7% were born outside of the U.S. (including 1.4% who were not United States citizens).

[3] While mid-term estimates are available for some larger communities, data from the 2000 Census are the only data universally available for the communities being profiled in the Northeast. Thus for cross-comparability we have used 2000 data even though these data may have changed significantly since 2000 for at least some communities.

[4] These and all census data, unless otherwise referenced, can be found at http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html; census data used are for Long Beach township

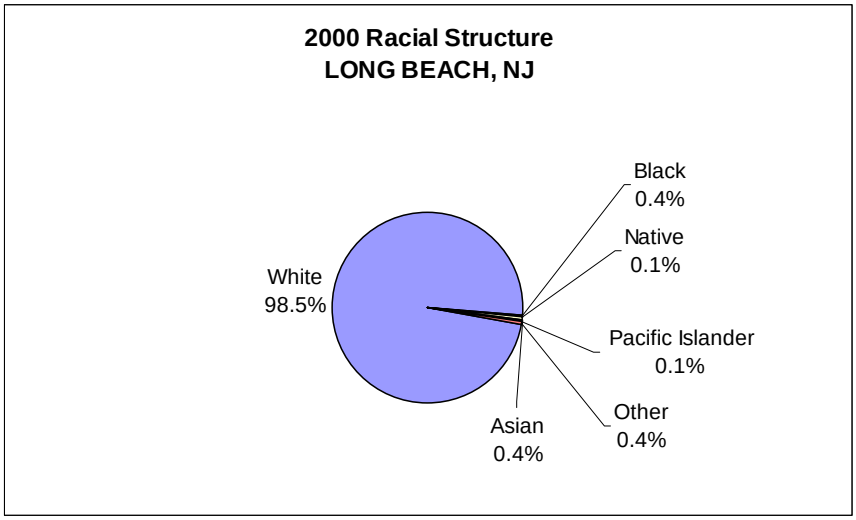


Figure 2. Racial Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

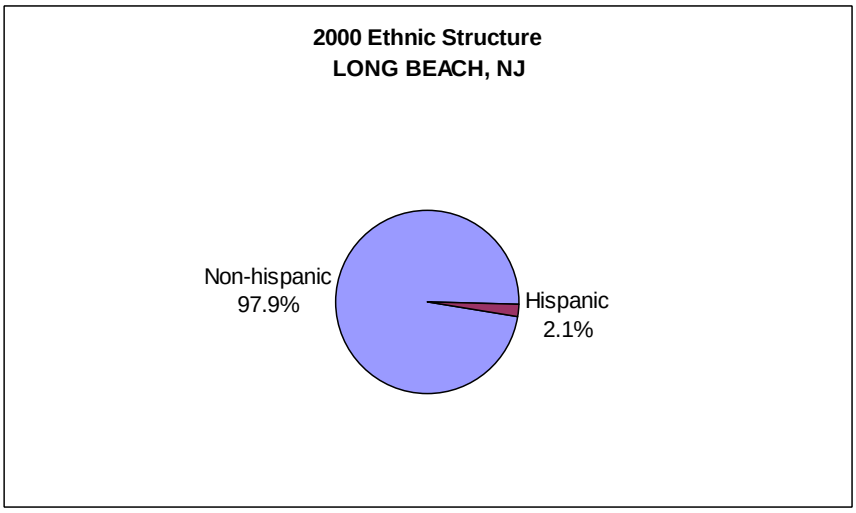


Figure 3. Ethnic Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

For 92.4% of the population 5 years old and higher in 2000 only English was spoken in the home, leaving 7.6% in homes where a language other than English was spoken, including 1.8% of the population who spoke English less than "very well."

Of the population 25 years and over, 92.0% were high school graduates or higher and 36.7% had a bachelor's degree or higher. Again of the population 25 years and over, 2.0% did not reach ninth grade, 5.9% attended some high school but did not graduate, 28.8% completed high school, 21.8% had some college with no degree, 4.7% received their associate's degree, 23.9% earned their bachelor's degree, and 12.8% received either a graduate or professional degree.

Barnegat Light

According to Census 2000 data[5], Barnegat Light (an independent borough on Long Beach Island) had a total population of 764, up 13.2% from 1990 (US Census Bureau 1990). Of this total in 2000, 49.1% were female and 50.9% were male. The median age was 54.9 years and 83.9% of the population was 21 years or older while 39.5% were 62 or older.

[5] These and all census data, unless otherwise referenced, can be found at http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html; census data used are for Barnegat Light borough

Barnegat Light's age structure showed a preponderance of 60 to 69 years age group, indicating a large retirement population. In a perhaps related phenomenon, the age group of 20-29 is very small, with almost no females (Figure 4). Among the already small numbers of children and young people, young females are apparently almost uniformly leaving the community after high school.

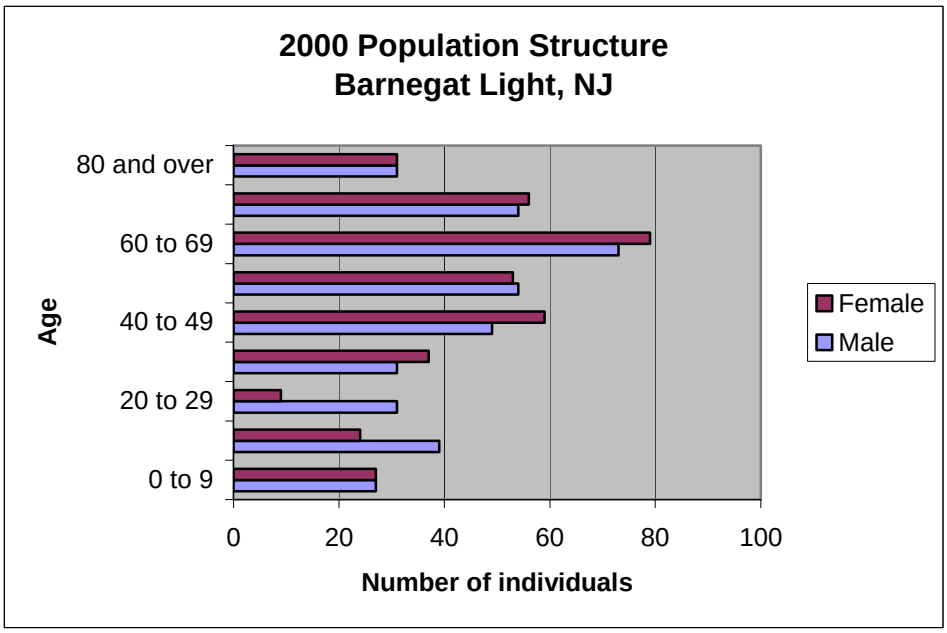


Figure 4. Barnegat Light's population structure by sex in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

The majority of the population of Barnegat Light in 2000 was white (98.3%), with 0.5% of residents black or African American, no Native Americans, 0.3% Asian, and 0.3% Pacific Islander or Hawaiian (Figure 5). Only 0.8% of the total population was Hispanic/Latino (Figure 6). Residents linked their heritage to a number of ancestries including: Irish (28.0%), German (23.2%), English (17.4%), and Italian (14.6%). With regard to region of birth, 55.7% were born in New Jersey, 39.8% were born in a different state and 3.2% were born outside of the U.S. (including 0.4% who were not United States citizens).

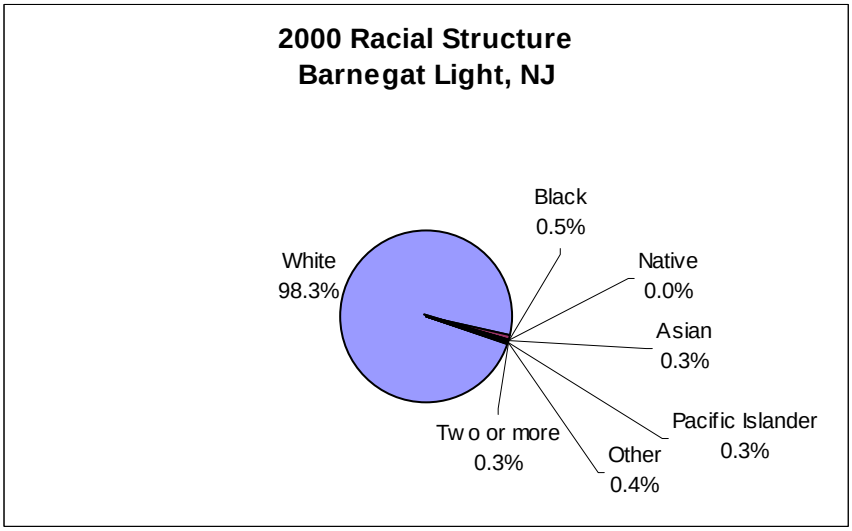


Figure 5. Racial Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

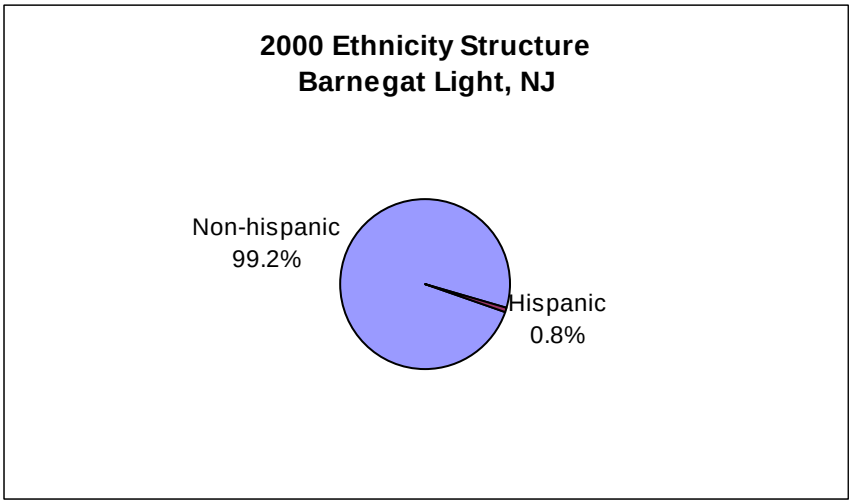


Figure 6. Ethnic Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

For 92.7% of the population, only English was spoken in the home, leaving 7.3% in homes where a language other than English was spoken, including 1.5% of the population who spoke English less than "very well."

Of the population 25 years and over, 92.1% were high school graduates or higher and 38.9% had a bachelor's degree or higher. Again of the population 25 years and over, 2% did not reach ninth grade, 5.9% attended some high school but did not graduate, 29.3% completed high school, 17% had some college with no degree, 6.9% received their associate's degree, 21.5% earned their bachelor's degree, and 17.4% received either a graduate or professional degree.

Although religious percentages are not available through the U.S. Census, according to the Association of Religion Data Archive (ARDA) in 2000 the religion with the highest number of congregations and adherents in Ocean County was Catholic with 33 congregations and 212,482 adherents. Other prominent congregations in the county were Jewish (35 with 11,500 adherents), The United Methodist Church (28 with 9,534 adherents), Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (11 with 6,731 adherents), and Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) (11 with 6,489 adherents). The total number of adherents to any religion was up 21.9% from 1990 (ARDA 2000).

There are seventeen houses of worship listed on Long Beach Island, including six in Long Island Township, of which four are Catholic and one is Jewish, and the rest are Protestant (LBInet 2008).

Issues/Processes

As of 2006 the Army Corps of Engineers wishes to begin a beach nourishment project on Long Beach Island to restore the eroding beaches here, but is meeting with resistance from homeowners, who are concerned that the planned dunes will obstruct their water view, and that more beach space will mean more beach goers in front of their homes. The government would require easements from property owners to access the shore for construction, and the home owners are reluctant to provide them. If the beach nourishment project does not take place, the beach and the waterfront homes may soon be lost (Anon 2006).

One emerging trend (as of 2006) on Long Beach Island and in other similar summer resort areas is that as real estate prices soar, many year-round residents are selling their homes for bigger homes on the mainland, tempted by the large price they can get. These homes are bought up by those using them as summer homes. The results are dwindling year-

round populations on places like Long Beach Island, and a resulting loss in year-round businesses and students in local schools (AP 2005).

Like many other coastal communities, Barnegat Light must deal with the forces of rapidly increasing home prices and the resulting gentrification. Because the community is physically so small, there is very little land area for development, and the development of condominiums or other properties generally involves land in existing use. The high housing costs are encouraging many families to move to the mainland, and many of those employed in the commercial fishing industry now do not reside in Barnegat Light (Stoffle 2003).

Some beach areas on Long Beach are closed during the summers for piping plover nesting; local anglers complain this restricts them from prime beach area from which to cast (Patberg 2006).

Cultural attributes

There are a number of events throughout the summer held all over Long Beach Island. Long Beach Island Surf Fishing Tournament is an annual competition that has been held for over fifty years. It takes place throughout most of October and November, with cash prizes and trophies being awarded in angling competitions for bluefish and striped bass, and includes a popular surfcasting seminar.

Chowderfest is an annual event that is held in Beach Haven in early October and features a competition between all the restaurants on Long Beach Island as they vie for the honor of creating the tastiest chowder. The Alliance for a Living Ocean hosts beach seining events and the annual FantaSea Festival to educate the public about the coastal resources surrounding Long Beach Island. Barnegat Light holds an annual Blessing of the Fleet in the Barnegat Light Yacht Basin each June to pray for the community's commercial fishermen (LBInet 2008). Viking Village has a very popular Dock Tour that has won several awards and in September 2007, hosted the New Jersey Mayors Conference.[6]

INFRASTRUCTURE

Current Economy

Long Beach Township

Tourism and real estate are the two major industries in Long Beach (Tutelian 2006). Total property values on the island exceed $11 billion (Zedalis 2005). According to the U.S. Census 2000[7], 44.7% (1,351 individuals) of the total population 16 years of age and over were in the labor force, of which 2.3% were unemployed, no residents were in the Armed Forces, and 42.5% were employed. It should be noted that 55.3% of the population 16 and over were not in the labor force at all (Figure 7). This high percentage relative to other locations further reinforces the nature of Long Beach as a retirement community.

[6] Community Review Comments, Greg DiDomenico, Garden State Seafood Association, 212 West State Street, Trenton, NJ, 08608, August 24, 2007

[7] Again, Census data from 2000 are used because they are universally available and offer cross-comparability among communities. Some statistics, particularly median home price, are likely to have changed significantly since 2000.

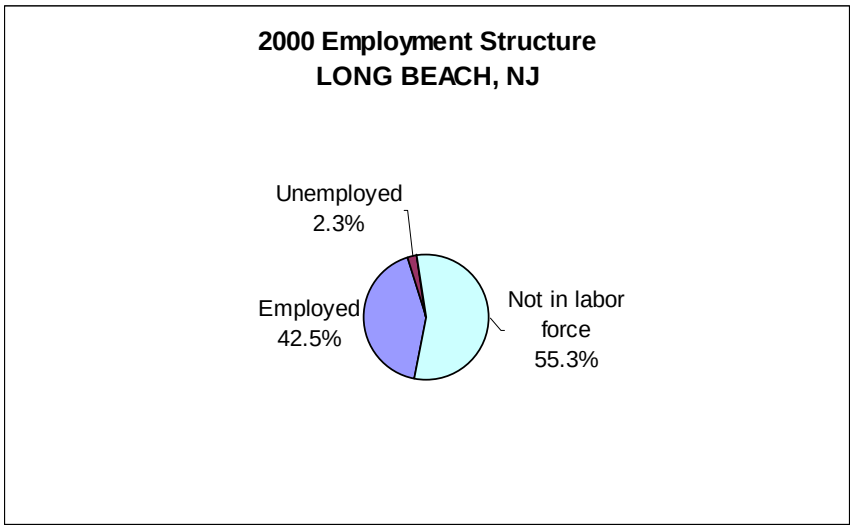


Figure 7. Employment Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

According to Census 2000 data, jobs in the census grouping which includes agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining accounted for 10 positions or 0.8% of all jobs. Self employed workers, a category where fishermen might be found, accounted for 141 positions or 11.0% of jobs. Educational health and social services (18.2%), arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services (17.1%), construction (14.6%), and retail trade (11.5%) were the primary industries.

Median household income in Long Beach was $48,697 (up 53.3% from $31,775 in 1990 [US Census Bureau 1990]) and median per capita income was $33,404. For full-time year round workers, men made approximately 33.2% more per year than women.

The average family in Long Beach consisted of 2.50 persons. With respect to poverty, 3.8% of families (down from 4.2% in 1990 [US Census Bureau 1990]) and 5.1% of individuals were below the U.S. Census poverty threshold. This threshold is $8,794 for individuals and ranges from $11,239 through $35,060 for families, depending on number of persons (2-9) (US Census Bureau 2000b). In 2000, 18.4% of all families (of any size) earned less than $35,000 per year (the poverty threshold for a family of nine).

In 2000, Long Beach had a total of 9,023 housing units of which 18.4% were occupied and 74.1% were detached one unit homes. Only 5.0% of these homes were built before 1940. Mobile homes/vans/boats accounted for 4.3% of the total housing units; 88.6% of detached units had between 2 and 9 rooms. In 2000, the median cost for a home in this area was $334,400. Of vacant housing units, 83.3% were used for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use. Of occupied units, 13.9% were renter occupied.

Barnegat Light

The small businesses of Barnegat Light are very reliant on the summer tourist economy and the year round fishing industry. The town relies heavily on its commercial fishing industry year round, but in winter it becomes the economic mainstay for the town – employing as many as 150 local people to work at the marinas (McCay and Cieri 2000). The most significant sources of employment in the town are the fishing industry and real estate.[8]

According to the U.S. Census 2000, 46.9% (305 individuals) of the total population 16 years of age and over were in the labor force, of which 1.2% were unemployed, 0.8% were in the Armed Forces, and 44.9% were employed. It should be noted that 53.1% of the

[8] Personal Communication, Borough of Barnegat Light, Municipal Office, 3 W 10th St., Barnegat Light, NJ 08006, June 21, 2005

population 16 and over are not in the labor force at all (Figure 8). This high percentage relative to other locations further reinforces the nature of Barnegat Light as a retirement community.

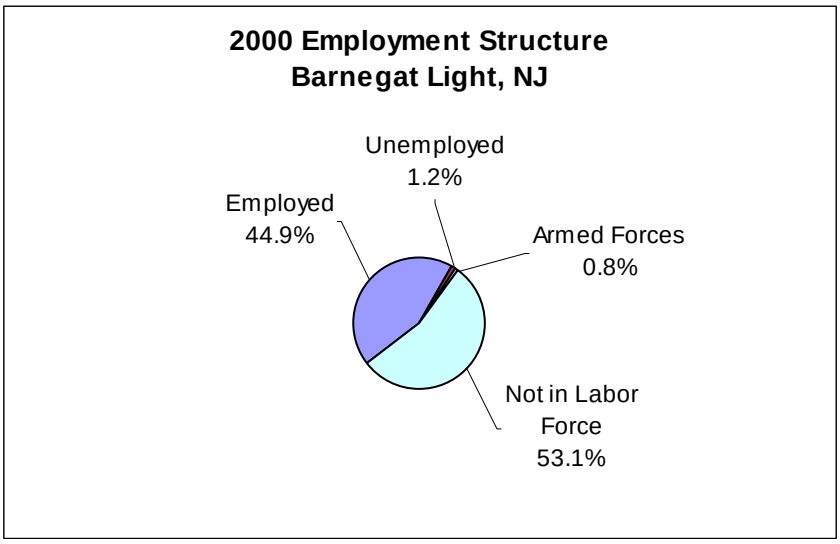


Figure 8. Employment Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

According to Census 2000 data, jobs in the census grouping which includes agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining accounted for 24 positions or 8.2% of all jobs. Self employed workers, a category where fishermen might be found, accounted for 55 positions or 18.8% of the labor force. Educational health and social services (16.8%), arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services (11%), construction (10.3%), finance, insurance, real estate and rental and leasing (10.3%), and professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services (9.2%) were the primary industries.

Median household income in Barnegat Light was $52,361 (up 17.3% from $37,955 in 1990 [US Census Bureau 1990]) and median per capita income was $34,599. For full-time year round workers, males made approximately 17.6% more per year than females.

The average family in Barnegat Light consisted of 2.6 persons. With respect to poverty, 2.6% of families (down from 4.2% in 1990 [US Census Bureau 1990]) and 4.7% of individuals were below the U.S. Census poverty threshold. This threshold is $8,794 for individuals and ranges from $11,239 through $35,060 for families, depending on number of persons (2-9) (US Census Bureau 2000b). In 2000, 33.7% of all families of any size earned less than $35,000 per year (the poverty threshold for a family of nine).

In 2000, Barnegat Light had a total of 1,207 housing units of which 30.7% were occupied and 88.4% were detached one unit homes. Only 3.6% of these homes were built before 1940. Mobile homes/vans/boats accounted for 0.2% of the total housing units; 86.4% of detached units had between 2 and 9 rooms. In 2000, the median cost for a home in this area was $299,400. Of vacant housing units, 93.4% were used for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use. Of occupied units, 12.1% were renter occupied.

Governmen*t*

The township of Long Beach is located in Ocean County and is governed by a board of three commissioners, one of whom is the mayor (Township of Long Beach nd). An elected mayor and a six-person borough council run Barnegat Light's local governance (Barnegat Light nd).

Fishery involvement in government

The local government is not directly involved in the fishing industry in Barnegat Light. However, the mayor himself owns several scallop boats.[9] The Barnegat Bay National Estuary Program is one of 28 estuaries of "national significance" designated and federally funded by the US Environmental Protection Agency. It is a partnership of federal, state, and municipal agencies as well as non-profit organizations and businesses working together to protect this estuary.

Institutional

Fishing associations

The Beach Haven Charter Fishing Association represents charter boats in the borough of Beach Haven and around Long Beach Island. Blue Water Fishermen's Association is located in Barnegat Light. This association is made up of tuna and swordfishermen as well as others involved in the commercial fishery of highly migratory species. Every vessel at Viking Village is a member of the Garden State Seafood Association and the Monkfish Defense Fund. In addition, the scallop fleet are members of the Fisheries Survival Fund.[10]

Garden State Seafood Association in Trenton is a statewide organization of commercial fishermen and fishing companies, related businesses and individuals working in common cause to promote the interests of the commercial fishing industry and seafood consumers in New Jersey.

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA) is an association of over 75 saltwater fishing clubs throughout the state. Founded in 1981, the purpose of the organization is to unite and represent marine sport anglers to work towards common goals. The JCAA website (www.jcaa.org) also provides links for many NJ anglers associations.

Fishery assistance centers

No fishing assistance centers were identified through secondary sources in this research.

Other fishing related organizations

The Alliance for a Living Ocean on Long Beach Island is focused on promoting and maintaining clean water and a healthy coastal environment. They host a number of educational events including eco tours, beach walks, and seining, and also hold an annual festival. The Recreational Fishing Alliance, a national lobbying group, is headquartered near Barnegat Light.

Physical

Long Beach Island is a barrier island with the Atlantic Ocean on one side, and Barnegat Bay and Little Egg Harbor on the other. Ocean County has three general aviation airports – Eagles Nest Airport at West Creek, Lakewood Airport at Lakewood, and Robert J. Miller Airpark in Berkeley Township – but none of these has regularly scheduled service (Ocean County Library nd). Barnegat Light is at 52 miles from Atlantic City International Airport, 72 miles from Trenton Mercer Airport, 78 miles from the Philadelphia International Airport and 98 miles from the Newark Liberty International Airport. Toms River is 29 miles from Long Beach and Atlantic City is 47 miles away. New York City is about 102 miles by

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[9] Personal Communication, Borough of Barnegat Light, Municipal Office, 3 W 10th St., Barnegat Light, NJ 08006, June 21, 2005

[10] Community Review Comments, Greg DiDomenico, Garden State Seafood Association, 212 West State Street, Trenton, NJ, 08608, August 24, 2007

car. Route 72 is the only road connecting Long Beach Island with the New Jersey mainland; it connects Ship Bottom with Beach Haven West and Manahawkin.

Long Beach Island has a number of bait and tackle shops including Jingles Bait and Tackle, Surf City Bait and Tackle, and Fisherman's Headquarters. There is also a number of marinas located along the island (LBIWC nd). Sportsman's Marina bills itself as a fishing and crabbing marina, and also offers boat rentals. Ocean County lists seven marinas in Long Beach Township and at least 30 more along the island (OCDP 2007). Hagler's Marina is one in Brant's Beach with 66 slips offering gas, bait, tackle, ice, and supplies; another is Escape Harbor Marina. There are also four boat ramps listed for Long Beach Island (LBIWC nd).

Barnegat Light is one of the most important fishing ports in Ocean County. Barnegat Light is 16.2 miles from Toms River, NJ, 67.2 miles from Jersey City, NJ, and 67.2 miles from New York, NY. Docking is available through five marinas in Barnegat Light. The two largest docks have 36 full-time resident commercial boats, working year round, as well as recreational vessels and transient vessels. One of these two largest docks is completely occupied by commercial boats; the owners are also commercial fishermen. These commercial boats include seven scallopers, ten longliners that fish for tuna, swordfish, and tilefish, and about nine inshore-fishing net boats. The dock also has three offloading stations. The second of the largest docks accommodates ten commercial boats, fifteen charter boats, and twenty-five recreational vessels. The three remaining docks can each accommodate approximately 30- 35 boats, most of which are recreational boats and charter boats. Most of the recreational and sport fishing boats that utilize this port are here for part of the year, usually from May or June through early October (Wilson et al. 1998).

Involvement in Northeast Fisheries[11]

Commercial

Barnegat Light, on the north end of Long Beach Island, is one of New Jersey's largest commercial fishing ports. Barnegat Light port has a significant offshore longline fishery, targeting tuna species (especially yellow fin and big eye) for most of the year, and swordfish part of the year. However, to avoid confidentiality issues due to a small number of dealers, all Barnegat Light/Long Beach landings are combined.

Located adjacent to the formerly infamous Barnegat Inlet, Barnegat Light's two commercial docks host a range of vessels from small, local day boats to globe-spanning longliners. Several fishermen in Barnegat Light pioneered the deep water tilefish fishery in the 1970s, successfully marketing this fish as the "poor man's lobster." Barnegat Light is the home port of many members of the East Coast's longline fleet. Barnegat Light longliners routinely fish in the high seas, targeting several species of tuna as well as swordfish on trips that last one to several weeks.

Barnegat Light is also home to several state-of-the-art scallop vessels and a fleet of smaller, inshore gillnetters (NJ Fishing nd). The scallop fleet is made up both of larger

[11] In reviewing the commercial landings data several factors need to be kept in mind. 1) While both federal and state landings are included, some states provide more detailed data to NMFS than others. For example, shellfish may not be included or data may be reported only by county and not by port. 2) Some communities did not have individual port codes until more recently. Before individual port codes were assigned, landings from those ports were coded at the county level or as an aggregate of two geographically close small ports. Where landings were coded at the county level they cannot be sorted to individual ports for those earlier years, e.g., prior to 2000. 3) Where aggregated codes were used, those aggregate codes may still exist and be in use alongside the new individual codes. Here the landings which are still assigned to the aggregate port code cannot be sorted into the individual ports, so port level data are only those which used the individual port code. 4) Even when individual port codes exist, especially for small ports, landings may be coded at the county level. Here again it is impossible to disaggregate these to a port level, making the port level landings incomplete. 5) In all these cases, the per port data in this profile may under report the total level of landings to the port, though all landings are accounted for in the overall NMFS database.

vessels which may spend several days at sea at a time, fishing for scallops throughout the Mid-Atlantic, and several vessels which engage in "day trip" scalloping closer to the coast. The day trips can also be an important means for full-time scallopers and some other fishermen to subsidize their catch, as scallop vessels do not need to use their days at sea to fish for scallops inshore (Stoffle 2003).

Viking Village, one of Barnegat Light's two commercial docks, is one of the largest suppliers of fish and seafood on the Eastern Seaboard. Each year over 4 million pounds of seafood are packed out over the commercial dock of Viking Village and shipped locally and internationally. Viking Village is homeport to seven scallopers, ten longliners and about nine inshore-fishing net boats, which fish blues, weakfish, monkfish, dogfish and shad. Each boat is independently owned and uses Viking Village for pack-out, marketing and sale of the catch. Some local restaurants and seafood dealers purchase products from Viking Village directly, including Wida's, Surf City Fishery, Beach Haven Fishery and Cassidy's Fish Market. Viking Village and the boats docked there employ about 200 people (NJ Fishing nd). There are also a number of bait and tackle retailers located in town, such as Barnegat Light Bait and Tackle and Eric's Bait and Boat (LBIWC nd). Viking Village is home to some of the last remaining larger gillnet vessels. While monkfish landings are quite high for this area, croaker and bluefish are also significant when compared to other areas. Due to management measures, dogfish, shad, and striped bass are no longer species fishermen can harvest out of this port.[12]

Landings and vessel data combine Barnegat Light with Long Beach Island data. The most valuable fisheries in Barnegat Light/Long Beach in 2006 were sea scallops (over $18 million), monkfish (nearly $3 million), and swordfish (listed in the "Other" category), according to NMFS landings data (see Table 1). Scallop landings were above the 10-year average in 2006. Tilefish was also an important species in 2006, with a significant increase in value from the 1997-2006 average. Overall, the value of the catch, both that of vessels with their homeport in Barnegat Light and those landing their catch here, increased over the 10-yr period (1997-2006; see Table 2). The number of vessels both home ported in Barnegat Light and whose owner's city was Barnegat Light also increased over the same period.

Landings by Species

Table 1. Dollar value of Federally Managed Groups of landings in Barnegat Light/Long Beach

	Average from 1997-2006	2006 only
Scallop	9,531,153	18,867,447
Monkfish	3,343,334	2,861,690
Other[13]	2,534,483	2,167,254
Tilefish	448,777	CONFIDENTIAL
Bluefish	268,275	211,161
Dogfish	157,643	0
Skate	107,722	60,980
Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass	79,292	202,918
Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish	53,644	5,501
Largemesh Groundfish[14]	3,820	1,206
Smallmesh Groundfish[15]	1,514	44
Lobster	861	0
Herring	620	4,365

[12] Community Review Comments, Greg DiDomenico, Garden State Seafood Association, 212 West State Street, Trenton, NJ, 08608, August 24, 2007

[13] "Other" species includes any species not accounted for in a federally managed group

[14] Largemesh groundfish: cod, winter flounder, yellowtail flounder, American plaice, sand-dab flounder, haddock, white hake, redfish, and pollock

[15] Smallmesh multi-species: red hake, ocean pout, mixed hake, black whiting, silver hake (whiting)

Vessels by Year[16]

Table 2. All columns represent vessel permits or landings value combined between 1997-2006

Barnegat Light (Year)	# Vessels (home ported)	# Vessels (owner's city)	Level of fishing home port ($)	Level of fishing landed port ($)
1997	43	28	6,144,679	10,303,886
1998	38	27	6,054,709	10,171,814
1999	54	32	11,127,349	12,119,138
2000	65	38	14,417,637	14,594,799
2001	71	39	14,709,246	14,387,998
2002	72	38	14,657,863	14,568,116
2003	81	39	16,623,969	16,381,772
2004	79	38	20,657,786	20,560,559
2005	80	42	26,601,829	26,725,708
2006	78	42	24,203,962	25,497,592

 # Vessels home ported = No. of permitted vessels with location as homeport
 # Vessels (owner's city) = No. of permitted vessels with location as owner residence[17]
Level of fishing home port ($) = Landed value of fisheries associated with home ported vessels
Level of fishing landed port ($) = Landed value of fisheries landed in location

Recreational

In New Jersey the charter/party fleet is the largest on east coast. Many vessels are over 120ft long and carry over 150 people.[18] Just a glance at the large number of marinas, charter operations, bait and tackle shops, and boat ramps on Long Beach Island makes it clear that recreational fishing is important here (see above). Between 2001- 2005, there were 40 charter and party vessels making 7,189 total trips registered in logbook data by charter and party vessels in Long Beach carrying a total of 172,212 anglers (NMFS VTR data). To further highlight the importance of the recreational fishing sector, at the request of the Ocean County government, the Beach Haven Charter Fishing Association estimated the total economic impact of the Associations member vessels. Values were estimated to exceed $3 million per year for the community.[19]

Hot Tuna Charters is one charter boat in Long Beach that specifically targets tuna, and offers both inshore and canyon fishing. Jersey Girl Sport Fishing is another charter company with both inshore trolling and wreck fishing for tuna, skipjack, mahi mahi, seabass, croaker, fluke, porgies, and more. The Beach Haven Charter Fishing Association represents several different boats in Beach Haven and Long Beach. Many recreational and charter fishing boats can be found in Barnegat Light, along with marinas, boat rental facilities, and bait and tackle shops (Barnegat Light nd).

Subsistence

Information on subsistence fishing in Barnegat Light/Long Beach is either unavailable through secondary data collection or the practice does not exist.

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[16] Numbers of vessels by owner's city and homeport are as reported by the permit holder on permit application forms. These may not correspond to the port where a vessel lands or even spends the majority of its time when docked.

[17] The Owner-City from the permit files is technically the address at which the owner receives mail concerning their permitted vessels, which could reflect the actual location of residence, the mailing address as distinct from residence, owner business location, or the address at which a subsidiary receives mail about the permits.

[18] Community Review Comments, Bruce Freeman, NJ Coast Anglers Association, 1201 Route 37 East, Suite 9, Toms River, NJ 08753, October 2, 2007

[19] Community Review Comments, Capt. Lindsay Fuller, Treasurer, Beach Haven Charter Fishing Association, September 25, 2007

FUTURE

As of 2005 the New Jersey State Department of Transportation had plans to build a second bridge alongside the existing one to Long Beach Island, to address the poor structural conditions of the existing bridge. This would not affect the amount of traffic able to travel to the island (Larsen 2005). Also as of 2005, if the necessary easements are signed by property owners on the island, the Army Corps of Engineering will soon begin a $75 million beach renourishment project expected to last 50 years (Zedalis 2005). Information has not yet been obtained regarding people's perception of the future in Long Beach.

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