

Swanton, Vermont Community Data Profile



**Prepared for the Vermont Council on Rural Development's Swanton Community Visit
January 2015**

What follows is a collection of indicators and information about the Swanton community and its residents. These data are meant to inform the Vermont Council on Rural Development community visit, but certainly have many other uses.

The data profile relies upon the following data sources:

- the US Census Bureau's American FactFinder – <http://factfinder2.census.gov>
- the Vermont Dept. of Labor's Labor Force & Unemployment site – www.vtlmi.info/labforce.cfm
- the Local Employment Dynamics site – <http://lehd.ces.census.gov/led/>

About the Center for Rural Studies

The Center for Rural Studies at the University of Vermont is a nonprofit, fee-for-service research and resource center that works with people and communities to address social, economic, and resource-based challenges. A part of the University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences since 1978, CRS supports the research and teaching missions of the university through its work in applied research, community outreach, program evaluation, and consulting services. CRS is also the US Census Bureau's State Data Center for Vermont.

Prepared by Mike Fife & Michael Moser

Introduction

Civics

Year Town Incorporated or Chartered	1763
Type of Entity	Municipality -Town
County	Franklin County
Regional Planning Commission	Northwest Regional Planning Commission
Incorporated Villages	Swanton Village
Municipal Plan	Yes
Zoning Bylaws	Yes
Subdivision Bylaws	Yes

Source: Vermont Indicators Online: Civics & Planning

Population Demographics

Population

	Swanton Town	Swanton as % of Franklin County	Franklin County	Vermont
2000 Census	6,203	13.7%	45,417	608,827
2009-2013 ACS	6,423	13.4%	48,019	625,904

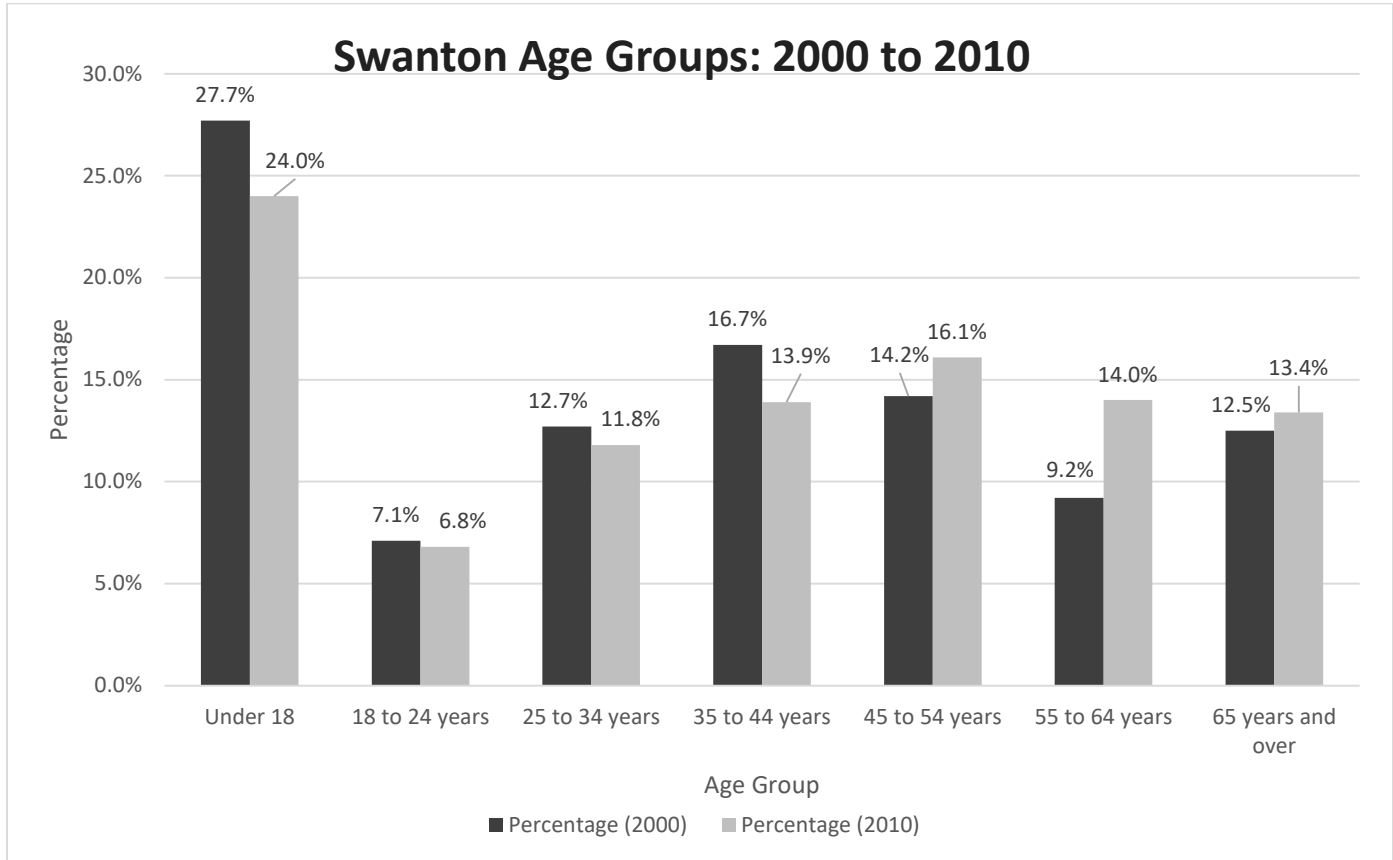
Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census and 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Median Age

	Swanton Town	Franklin County	Vermont
2000 Census	36.5	35.7	37.7
2009-2013 ACS	40.2	39.7	42

Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census and 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Age Categories: 2000 & 2010



Source: 2000 Census & 2010 Census

Nativity

Of Swanton residents, 75.6% are native to Vermont. This compares to 72.5% in Franklin County and 51.2% across the state.

Source: US Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Disabled Populations

	Swanton	Franklin County	Vermont
Disability Status of Total Non-Institutionalized Population	14.7%	13.7%	13.3%
Population Under 5	0.0%	0.1%	1.3%
Population 5-17 Years of Age	8.9%	6.8%	7.1%
Population 18-65 Years of Age	12.0%	12.4%	11.1%
Population 65+	40.1%	37.2%	33.7%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Veteran Populations

	Swanton	Franklin County	Vermont
Total Veterans	10.3%	10.9%	9.7%
PERIOD OF SERVICE (as a percentage of total veterans)			
Gulf War (9/2001 or later) veterans	12.9%	10.3%	7.4%
Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001) veterans	18.3%	16.5%	10.9%
Vietnam era veterans	49.9%	40.9%	37.0%
Korean War veterans	7.6%	8.9%	11.5%
World War II veterans	8.0%	5.0%	8.8%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Housing

Housing Characteristics

	Swanton		Franklin County		Vermont	
	2000	2009-2013 ACS	2000	2009-2013 ACS	2000	2009-2013 ACS
Total Housing Units	2,689	2,934	19,191	21,687	294,382	322,915
Owner occupied percent of all occupied housing	75.1%	71%	75%	76.1%	70.6%	70.9%
Renter occupied percent of all occupied housing	24.9%	29%	25%	23.9%	29.4%	29.1%
Vacant percent of all housing	13.4%	12.2 %	12.6%	14.2%	18.3%	20.4%
Rental Vacancy Rate	3.9%	4.1 %	5.5%	5.5%	5.7%	5.6%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census and 2009-2013 American Community Survey Estimates

Home Values

	Swanton	Franklin County	Vermont
Median HH Value: Owner Occupied Units	\$179,690 to \$200,510	\$199,878 to \$208,922	\$215,264 to \$218,336

Source: US Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Housing Costs

	Swanton	Franklin County	Vermont
Households with a mortgage... percent with housing costs above 35% of income	15%	25%	27.3%
Renter Households... percent with housing costs at or above 35% of household income	35.3%	44.6%	41.5%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey Estimates

Transportation

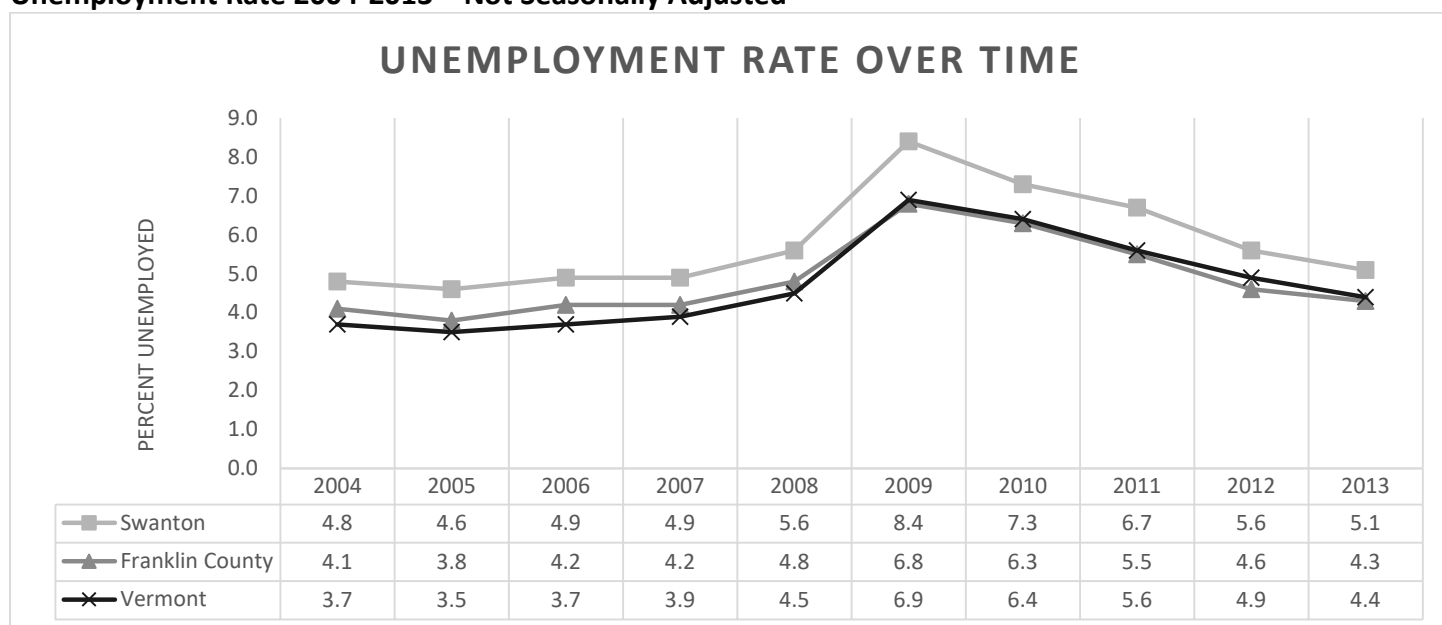
Transportation to Work (Workers 16 years and over)

	Swanton		Franklin County		Vermont	
	2000	2009-2013 ACS	2000	2009-2013 ACS	2000	2009-2013 ACS
Percent Using Public Transportation	0%	.2%	.2%	.4%	.7%	1.2%
Percent Carpooling	21.1%	16.1%	16.5%	12.7%	11.9%	10%
Percent Commuting Alone	67.9%	76.4%	73.3%	77.6%	75.2%	74.5%
Percent Working From Home	5.5%	5.4%	5.6%	5.0%	5.7%	7.1%
Average Travel Time to Work	24.5 Min	29.5 Min	25.6 Min	27.1 Min	21.6 Min	22.2 Min
Workers with Travel Time of 60 Minutes or More	5.5%	5.3%	6.7%	8.2%	4.7%	8.7%

Source: US Census Bureau, 200 Census and 2009-2013 American Community Survey

The Swanton Labor Force

Unemployment Rate 2004-2013 – Not Seasonally Adjusted



Source: Vermont Department of Labor

Swanton Labor Force, Inflow/Outflow Chart (Primary Jobs):



Source: US Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies - onthemap.ces.census.gov

2011 Inflow/Outflow Job Counts (Primary Jobs)

	2002		2011	
	Count	Share	Count	Share
Employed in Swanton	594	100%	570	100%
Employed in Swanton but Living Outside	490	82.5%	487	85.4%
Employed and Living in Swanton	104	17.5%	83	14.6%
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Living in Swanton	1,140	100%	903	100%
Living in Swanton but Employed Outside	1,036	90.9%	820	90.8%
Living and Employed in Swanton	104	9.1%	83	9.2%

Source: US Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies - onthemap.ces.census.gov

**Where Swanton Residents Work
2011: Primary Jobs**

**Where Swanton Workers Come From
2011: Primary Jobs**

	Count	Percent			Count	Percent
St. Albans	276	30.5%		Swanton	205	36.0%
Swanton	157	17.4%		Highgate	35	6.1%
South Burlington	61	6.8%		St. Albans	56	9.8%
Burlington	60	6.6%		Sheldon	31	5.4%
Essex	51	5.6%		Franklin	18	3.2%
Colchester	47	5.2%		Georgia	16	2.8%
Williston	45	5.0%		Alburgh	14	2.5%
Milton	39	4.3%		Colchester	13	2.3%
Highgate	24	2.7%		Richford	13	2.3%
All Other Locations	143	15.8%		All Other Locations	169	29.6%
Total	903	100%		Total	570	100%

Source: US Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies

Total Population Over 16 in the Labor Force

	Swanton	Franklin County	Vermont
2000	3,418	24,000	331,892
2009-2013	3,546	26,890	348,495
Change	-4%	-12%	-5%

Source: US Census Bureau, 200 Census and 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Jobs in Swanton by Industry Sector, 2002 & 2011 – All Jobs

Jobs by NAICS Industry Sector	2002		2011		VT 2011
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Percent
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.8%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.2%
Utilities	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.7%
Construction	18	2.8%	12	1.7%	4.5%
Manufacturing	85	13.1%	42	5.9%	10.7%
Wholesale Trade	4	0.6%	13	1.8%	3.3%
Retail Trade	145	22.3%	111	15.7%	12.5%
Transportation and Warehousing	23	3.5%	21	3.0%	2.6%
Information	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1.9%
Finance and Insurance	27	4.2%	27	3.8%	3.1%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	11	1.7%	0	0.0%	1.0%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	12	1.8%	6	0.8%	5.0%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	0	0.0%	2	0.3%	0.5%
Admin & Support, Waste Mngmt and Remediation	8	1.2%	13	1.8%	3.2%
Educational Services	187	28.8%	330	46.7%	13.5%
Health Care and Social Assistance	28	4.3%	51	7.2%	17.2%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1.3%
Accommodation and Food Services	38	5.8%	35	5.0%	9.7%
Other Services (excluding Public Administration)	45	6.9%	28	4.0%	2.9%
Public Administration	19	2.9%	16	2.3%	5.4%

Source: US Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies

Industry Sectors in Which Swanton Residents Work, 2002 & 2011 – All Jobs

Jobs by NAICS Industry Sector	2002		2011		VT 2011
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Percent
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	5	0.4%	17	1.7%	0.8%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	1	0.1%	2	0.2%	0.2%
Utilities	7	0.6%	7	0.7%	0.6%
Construction	58	4.9%	58	5.9%	4.4%
Manufacturing	305	25.9%	171	17.4%	10.5%
Wholesale Trade	41	3.5%	44	4.5%	3.3%
Retail Trade	169	14.3%	115	11.7%	12.7%
Transportation and Warehousing	51	4.3%	38	3.9%	2.5%
Information	30	2.5%	27	2.7%	1.9%
Finance and Insurance	22	1.9%	15	1.5%	3.1%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	5	0.4%	9	0.9%	1.0%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	35	3.0%	34	3.5%	5.0%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	1	0.1%	3	0.3%	0.5%
Admin & Support, Waste Mngmt & Remediation	16	1.4%	45	4.6%	3.2%
Educational Services	119	10.1%	111	11.3%	13.9%
Health Care and Social Assistance	127	10.8%	123	12.5%	17.3%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	11	0.9%	5	0.5%	1.3%
Accommodation and Food Services	86	7.3%	71	7.2%	9.2%
Other Services (excluding Public Administration)	41	3.5%	18	1.8%	2.9%
Public Administration	48	4.1%	70	7.1%	5.4%

Source: US Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies

Income & Poverty

Median Household Income

	Swanton	Franklin County	Vermont
2000	\$41,081	\$41,659	\$40,856
2009-2013	\$54,551	\$56,240	\$54,267

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census & 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Poverty Status (Individuals)

Percent of Individuals Below the Poverty Level	Swanton	Franklin County	Vermont
2000	9.2%	9.0%	9.4%
2009-2013	14.4%	10.2%	11.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census & 2009-2013 American Community Survey

SNAP Benefits (Food Stamps)

Percentage of Households receiving food stamps in the last 12 Months	Swanton	Franklin County	Vermont
2005-2009	9.6%	10.6%	9.1%
2009-2013	18.9%	15.7%	13.4%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2009-2013 and 2005-2009 American Community Survey Estimates

Note: These data come from two five year estimates with one overlapping year.

Education

School Enrollment

	Swanton Elementary	Missisquoi Valley Union High School
2009-10	567	977
2013-14	581	856
Change	+14	-121

Source: Vermont Agency of Education

Educational Attainment

	Swanton		Franklin County		Vermont	
	2000	2009-2013	2000	2009-2013	2000	2009-2013
Population 25 years and over	4,033	4,383	29,485	32,851	404,223	433,401
Less than 9th grade	1.1%	3.5%	0.8%	4.4%	0.5%	3.0%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	7.6%	9.8%	7.4%	6.8%	4.6%	5.6%
High school graduate or equivalent	9.7%	38.7%	9.2%	37.6%	8.4%	30.8%
Some college, no degree	46.0%	16.1%	41.1%	18.1%	32.3%	17.3%
Associate's degree	7.0%	10.4%	6.9%	9.4%	5.5%	8.5%
Bachelor's degree	5.9%	11.9%	9.8%	15.3%	11.4%	21.0%
Graduate or professional degree	8.7%	9.5%	8.2%	8.3%	7.7%	13.8%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey

2013 Swanton Community Survey Results

Please choose 3 of Swanton's most important cultural assets.		
	Frequency	Percent
New farmers	15	11.20%
The Franklin County Image	44	33.00%
Its Rich History	80	60.10%
Its Abenaki Heritage	43	32.30%
The Population Size	28	21.00%
Citizens With Deep Roots in the Community	65	48.80%
Service Organizations (i.e. The Chamber)	34	25.50%
Swanton's Distinctive Character	59	44.30%
Other	11	8.20%
Totals	133	100%
Please choose 3 of Swanton's most important natural/physical assets.		
	Frequency	Percent
Recreational Facilities	26	19.50%
Access to Local Food	17	12.70%
Accessible and Walkable	53	39.80%
Lakefront	50	37.50%
River/Bridge/Dam	67	50.30%
Village Green/Swans	94	70.60%
Agriculture	13	9.70%
Wildlife Ref. - Hunting/Fishing	85	63.90%
Other	1	<1%
Totals	133	100%
Please choose Swanton's 3 most important economic assets.		
	Frequency	Percent
Location Along the NY to Canada Border	115	86.40%
Good Employers	31	23.30%
Village Center Designation	60	45.10%
New Farms	12	9.00%
Historic and Architectural Character	50	37.50%
Expansion Potential	89	66.90%
Other	11	8.20%
Totals	133	100%

Please choose 2 significant challenges of Swanton's cultural identity.		
	Frequency	Percent
Lack of Connections Among Citizens	84	65.10%
Negative Energy in Some Parts of Town	91	70.50%
Swanton Has a Poor Self Image	55	42.60%
Lack of Daycare	15	11.60%
Other	16	12.40%
Totals	129	100%
Please choose Swanton's 3 most significant natural/physical challenges.		
	Frequency	Percent
Truck Bottlenecks	88	65.60%
Some Historic Buildings, Barns in Disrepair	70	52.20%
Water Quality of Portions of the Lake	57	42.50%
Recreation and Other Community Facilities Are Physically Disconnected	63	47.00%
Loss of Family Farms	31	23.10%
Parking Layout	42	31.30%
No Overnight Facilities for Camping	19	14.10%
Other	14	10.40%
Totals	134	100%
Please choose 3 of Swanton's most significant economic challenges.		
	Frequency	Percent
Income Divide	89	67.40%
Lack of Financial Resources to Initiate Improvements	108	81.80%
Swanton Has a Poor Self-Image	58	43.90%
St. Alban's Walmart	13	9.80%
Lack of Daycare	10	7.50%
Town-Village Structure	64	48.40%
Other	19	14.30%
Totals	132	100%
Choose 2 cultural assets that would be part of the ideal Swanton community.		
	Frequency	Percent
It Would Be Authentic and Inclusive	33	24.80%
The Citizenry Would Be Involved	72	54.10%
There Would Be an Emphasis on Tradition, History	43	32.30%
A Community Full of Events, Activities, Art, Music, Food	110	82.70%
Other	5	3.70%
Totals	133	100%

Choose 3 natural - physical assets that should be part of the ideal Swanton community.		
	Frequency	Percent
It Would Have Places for People to Gather	79	58.90%
It Would Have Places for People to be Active	72	53.70%
The Bridge and River Would Be Focal Points	51	38.00%
It Would be Safe, Walkable, Bikeable	91	67.90%
Parks Would Be Developed and Utilized	79	58.90%
There Would Be Flowers Everywhere	21	15.60%
Other	4	2.90%
Totals	134	100%
Choose 2 economic assets that would be part of the ideal Swanton community.		
	Frequency	Percent
There Would be Places for Business and Professional Meetings	26	19.40%
The Community Would Be Full of Events, Activities, Art, Music, Food	82	61.10%
There Would Be Vibrant Shops and Cafes	74	55.20%
The Town-Village Would Become One Swanton	50	37.30%
There Would Be Vibrant Businesses On Both Sides of the Bridge	50	37.30%
There Would Be Businesses With Entrances Facing the River	17	12.60%
Other	7	5.20%
Totals	134	100%
Which category describes your age?		
	Frequency	Percent
Younger than 18	1	<1%
18 - 24	3	2.10%
25 - 34	20	14.40%
35 - 44	35	25.30%
45 - 54	24	17.30%
55 - 64	37	26.80%
65 or older	10	7.20%
No Responses	8	5.70%
Totals	138	100%
Where do you live?		
	Frequency	Percent
Swanton	111	80.40%
Franklin County	10	7.20%
Seasonal Swanton Resident	1	<1%
Other	11	7.90%
No Responses	5	3.60%
Totals	138	100%