**Population Basics**

- Population Change since 2000: 4.1%
- Population Density (people per sq. mile): 4.7
- Population Density: 3,059

**Population & Demographics Analysis**

Beacon’s population has grown slowly since 2000, with an average annual increase of far less than 1%. Over the last 16 years, the percent of the city’s population identifying as White has dropped by 5% while the percent identifying as Hispanic or Latino has increased by 3%. Only a small number of Beacon residents were not born in the U.S.

**Data Notes**

Population by Race & Ethnicity – The “Other” category includes Native Americans, Pacific Islanders, those who checked “Other” on the Census, and individuals with two or more races.

Place of Birth – The category of individuals who were born abroad and are not U.S. citizens includes both legal immigrants (with green cards, student visas, etc.) and undocumented immigrants. The U.S. Census does not ask individuals about their immigration status.

**Share of Population by Age and Sex**

- % Of Male Population
- % Of Female Population

**Place of Birth**

- Born in the United States: 71%
- Born Abroad: 16%
- Not US Citizen: 7%
- Naturalized Citizen: 6%
  
  Source: 2015 American Community Survey

**Community Snapshot**

- Population under age 20: 21%
- Population ages 20-64: 66%
- Population 65 and older: 13%
- Median household income: $65,305
- Residents with a bachelor’s degree or higher: 30%
- Owner-occupied housing: 49%
- Renter-occupied housing: 44%

Source: 2015 American Community Survey
Housing Analysis
Beacon’s housing stock is divided relatively evenly between owner-occupied and renter-occupied units. While only 34% of Beacon homeowners are “cost burdened” (paying more than 30% of their income towards housing), 50% of renters are cost burdened including 25% who are severely cost burdened (paying more than 50% of their income towards rent). Inflation-adjusted home values in Beacon have risen by 44% since 2000, compared to just 30% in Dutchess County. A majority of homes (57%) are worth between $200,000 - $299,999 while about a quarter (24%) are valued under $200,000. A majority of Beacon homes are at least 50 years old.

Data Notes

Age of Housing Stock

| Built 2010 or Later | 0.2% |
| Built 2000 to 2009 | 8% |
| Built 1990 to 1999 | 6% |
| Built 1980 to 1989 | 10% |
| Built 1970 to 1979 | 12% |
| Built 1960 to 1969 | 8% |
| Built 1950 to 1959 | 11% |
| Built 1940 to 1949 | 6% |
| Built 1939 or Earlier | 39% |

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

Home Values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Home Value Range</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,000,000 or more</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$750,000 - $999,999</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500,000 - $749,999</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$400,000 - $499,999</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$300,000 - $399,999</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200,000 - $299,999</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 - $199,999</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 - $99,999</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

Median Home Value

- Beacon: $166K
- Dutchess County: $240K

Source: 2015 American Community Survey; 2000 Decennial Census

Affordability (% of Income Towards Housing Costs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affordability Level</th>
<th>Owners</th>
<th>Renters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affordable (&lt;30%)</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaffordable (30-50%)</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severely Unaffordable (&gt;50%)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Housing Occupancy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Status</th>
<th>Beacon 2015</th>
<th>Dutchess County 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>73,727 / 64%</td>
<td>33,044 / 29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rented</td>
<td>2,462 / 44%</td>
<td>8,371 / 7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owned</td>
<td>2,782 Units</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 American Community Survey
**Income & Poverty Analysis**
Since 2000, Beacon’s median household income has risen 5% when accounting for inflation, while the poverty rate has risen from 11% to 13% and the share of households receiving SNAP benefits has risen from 13% to 18%. 30% of households earn more than $100,000 while 43% of households earn less than $50,000.

**Data Notes**
- Households Below the Poverty Line – The federal poverty line is adjusted on a yearly basis and varies by household size. As of 2015, the poverty line for a family of four was $24,250.
- Households Receiving SNAP – SNAP is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly Food Stamps). To qualify for SNAP, a household must have an income below 130% of the poverty line.
Economy Analysis
The unemployment rate in Beacon has risen since 2000, although much of the change has come from people who were formerly not in the labor force. Only 20% of Beacon residents work in Beacon, and only 51% work in Dutchess County. More than 80% of residents commute by car, while just 8% take public transportation. Relative to 2010, there are fewer residents working in the “educational services, health care and social assistance” and “public administration” sectors and more working in the “arts, entertainment, and accommodation and food services” sector.

Data Notes
Employment – Data on unemployment comes from American Community Survey, which reports data by municipality. The Bureau of Labor Statistics is a common source for national unemployment rate data but does not report data at the municipal level.

Means of Travel to Work
- Drove Alone: 72%
- Carpool: 11%
- Public Transit: 8%
- Walked: 3%
- Other: 1%

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

Place of Work & Commute Time
- % of residents who work in Beacon: 20%
- % of residents who work in Dutchess County: 51%
- Average Commute Time: 34 Minutes

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

Employment by Industry Among Beacon Residents

Agriculture, forestry, fishing & hunting, and mining
- 2010: 72
- 2015: 425

Construction
- 2010: 387
- 2015: 621

Manufacturing
- 2010: 111
- 2015: 861

Wholesale trade
- 2010: 109
- 2015: 799

Retail Trade
- 2010: 395
- 2015: 240

Transportation & warehousing
- 2010: 829
- 2015: 912

Information
- 2010: 167
- 2015: 363

Finance & insurance, and real estate & rental & leasing
- 2010: 361
- 2015: 316

Professional, scientific, & management, & administrative & waste mgmt. services
- 2010: 912
- 2015: 1,450

Educational services, health care & social assistance
- 2010: 1,950
- 2015: 825

Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services
- 2010: 598
- 2015: 361

Other services, except public administration
- 2010: 196
- 2015: 781

Public administration
- 2010: 407
- 2015: 781

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

Employment (Age 16 and Older)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, forestry, fishing &amp; hunting</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>425</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>621</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>861</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>240</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
<td>829</td>
<td>912</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation &amp; warehousing &amp; utilities</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>363</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>1,450</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional, scientific, &amp; management &amp;</td>
<td>1,950</td>
<td>825</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>administrative &amp; waste mgmt. services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational services, health care &amp; social</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>assistance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, entertainment &amp; recreation &amp;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accommodation &amp; food services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services, except public administration</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>316</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public administration</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>781</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: American Community Survey, US Decennial Census
### Taxes on Median Home

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Median Home Value</td>
<td>$240,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School District</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Taxes - $6,798**

Source: Dutchess County (2015)

### Municipal Finances

**Did City Budget Stay Under NY State Tax Cap?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bond Rating (Moody's)**

Aa2 (High Grade)

**Rating Date:** May 9, 2016

Sources: Moody’s; Office of the New York State Comptroller

### Municipal Employees

- **Full Time:**
  - General Employees: 47
  - Police/Fire Employees: 2

- **Part Time:**
  - 6

**General Employees Median FT Salary:** $65,071

**Police/Fire Employees Median FT Salary:** $92,578

Source: Office of the New York State Comptroller (2016)

### Dollars and Cents Analysis

Beacon has kept its municipal budget under the Tax Cap in all but one year since 2012 and its bond rating is strong. City property taxes are 31% of the average tax bill. The city has 98 full time and 8 part time employees. Transportation is the city’s largest expense.

### Data Notes

**Municipal Finances** – The NY Tax Cap law restricts schools and local governments from raising the property tax levy by more than 2% without a supermajority vote of the local governing body.

**Municipal Employees** – Employees were counted as part time if they earned less than $30,000 in 2016 and full time if they earned over $30,000. “General” employees are non-police/fire employees.

**Municipal Revenues and Expenditures** – Categories are determined by the Comptroller’s Office. “Proceeds of Debt” revenue comes from sale of bonds and is not a recurring yearly source of revenue.

### Municipal Revenues and Expenditures

- **2016 Expenditures:** $36,152,256

**Expenses:**

- **Transportation:** 33%
- **Debt Service:** 10%
- **Employee Benefits:** 17%
- **Public Safety:** 16%
- **Sanitation:** 10%
- **Utilities:** 4%
- **Culture and Rec.:** 2%

**2016 Revenues:** $44,200,668

**Revenues:**

- **Proceeds of Debt:** 36%
- **Sales and Use Tax:** 10%
- **Real Property Taxes and Assessments:** 23%
- **Charges for Services:** 16%
- **Other Revenues:** 6%
- **Charge to Other Govts.:** 5%
- **Other Local Revenues:** 2%
- **Other Non-Prop. Taxes:** 1%

Source: Office of the New York State Comptroller
Education Analysis
Beacon City School District serves 2,923 students in the city, and parts of two nearby towns. Over the past 10 years the graduation rate and CCR rate (see below) has steadily increased. Total enrollment is down 23% since the 04-05 school year. The number of students receiving free or reduced lunch (a measure of poverty) has increased significantly since the 2009-10 school year. Among all residents of Beacon, 38% have an associate’s degree or higher, while only 11% lack a high school diploma.

Data Notes
Expenditures per Pupil – Adjusted for inflation using CPI inflation tables from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Graduation Rate & College/Career Readiness – College/Career Readiness (CCR), also known as Aspirational Performance Measure, is a statistic created by NY State to track high school graduates’ ability to succeed in college or the workforce. CCR is based on a student’s Regents scores and was introduced in the 09-10 school year. 2015-16 data is not yet available.
Student Characteristics – Students are eligible for free school lunch if their family’s income is below 130% of the poverty line and reduced price lunch if their family’s income is below 185% of the poverty line. English Language Learners are students who have been classified as not proficient in English and require additional instruction.

Average SAT Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Score (800 max)</th>
<th>Rank Among 23 UAA districts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>469</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: New York State Department of Education (2015-16)

Education Level of City Residents

- Graduate or Professional Degree: 13%
- Bachelor’s Degree: 17%
- Associate’s Degree: 8%
- Some College, No Degree: 22%
- High School Diploma or GED: 29%
- Less than High School Graduate: 11%

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

Expenditures Per Pupil

Source: New York State Department of Education (Infl. Adjusted)
**Post-Graduation Plans of Graduating High School Seniors**

- 4-Year College: 38%
- 2-Year College: 10%
- Military: 7%
- Employment: 40%
- Other: 5%

Source: New York State Department of Education (2015-16)

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**Beacon City School District Enrollment**

- 2005-06: 3074
- 2006-07: 3708
- 2007-08: 2923
- 2008-09: 2375
- 2009-10: 2121
- 2010-11: 2015
- 2011-12: 1935
- 2012-13: 1917
- 2013-14: 1941
- 2014-15: 1966
- 2015-16: 1903
- 2016-17: 2923

Source: New York State Department of Education

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**Student to Teacher Ratio**

13 : 1

Source: New York State Department of Education (2015-16)

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**Race & Ethnicity of Students**

- White: 46%
- Black: 17%
- Hispanic: 28%
- Asian: 3%
- Other: 6%

Source: New York State Department of Education (2015-16)

---

**Graduation Rate & College/Career Readiness**

- 2005-06: 68%
- 2006-07: 64%
- 2007-08: 73%
- 2008-09: 73%
- 2009-10: 71%
- 2010-11: 70%
- 2011-12: 69%
- 2012-13: 69%
- 2013-14: 77%
- 2014-15: 76%
- 2015-16: 84%

Source: New York State Department of Education

---

**Student Characteristics**

- Eligible for Free & Reduced Lunch
- English Language Learner

Source: New York State Department of Education
Health Analysis

The number of births in Beacon has declined since 2002. 26% of students in the public schools were overweight or obese, lowest of any UAA community. 11% of residents lack health insurance.

Data Notes

County Health Ranking – Each year, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation releases a health ranking for every county in the U.S. These rankings are based on dozens of key health metrics.

Access to Quality Food – The US Dept. of Agriculture defines census tracts as food deserts if the tracts have high poverty and low access to food. Pattern analyzed GIS data to find supermarket walktimes.

Childhood Obesity – These categories are mutually exclusive. Obese individuals are not also counted as overweight.

Number of Births

Source: New York State Department of Health

County Health Ranking

Dutchess County

Rank out of 62 New York Counties

2015 2016 2017

Source: Robert Wood Johnson County Health Rankings

Access to Quality Food

Source: USDA Food Access Research Atlas (2015); Pattern GIS analysis

Childhood Obesity

Source: New York State Department of Health (2014-16 average)

Health Insurance Rate

Source: 2015 American Community Survey
About this Project

The Urban Action Agenda (UAA) is a major initiative led by Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress to promote growth and revitalization in urban centers throughout the nine-county Hudson Valley Region. The Valley contains a wide variety of urban centers, large and small, located along the Hudson River and other historic transportation corridors. These cities and villages are where population, social, cultural, civic, and economic activity traditionally clustered. With their existing infrastructure, access to transit, and traditions of denser development, these communities are well positioned to accommodate the region’s growth in the 21st Century.

Pattern began working on the UAA profiles in 2014 thanks to a multi-year grant from the Ford Foundation. To keep the project’s scale manageable, the UAA focuses on a group of 25 higher-need urban areas in the region, selected for reasons including changing demographics and poverty. An initial set of profiles were issued in early 2016 in partnership with the Regional Plan Association. Now, this set of updated and expanded community profiles represent the next step in the UAA’s efforts to provide useful data to policymakers, residents, and business and community groups in the Valley’s urban areas. Current funding for these profiles comes from Empire State Development and the NYS Department of State through the Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council.

About Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress

Pattern is a half-century old not-for-profit policy, planning, advocacy, and research organization whose mission is to promote regional, balanced, and sustainable solutions that enhance the growth and vitality of the Hudson Valley. To learn more about Pattern and the UAA, visit our website: www.pattern-for-progress.org.