Alan LeBovidge
Commissioner

Robert G. Nunes, Deputy
Commissioner & Director
of Municipal Affairs

City and Town

A Publication of the Department of Revenue's Division of Local Services

Volume 20, No. 4 May 2007

Equalized Valuations and Measuring Ability to Pay for Chapter 70

Rick Kingsley

Created by the Education Reform Act of 1993, the Chapter 70 education aid formula was intended to achieve both adequate and equitable funding for all state school districts. Through a combination of increased local funding and state aid, all districts had reached their foundation budgets by fiscal year 2000. The foundation budget measures the minimum spending level necessary to provide an adequate education in each district based on enrollment, pupil characteristics and the regional labor market. While there is still legitimate debate about the adequacy of the foundation budget, bringing all districts to foundation spending was a significant achievement.

Efforts to achieve equitable funding were designed around a community's ability to pay. The notion that poorer communities would receive proportionately more aid and be asked to contribute less from the local tax base appeared to be sound. However, in practice, the original statutory formula relied on a relatively static measure of ability to pay based on 1992 property wealth (as measured by the 1992 equalized valuations calculated by DOR, see *2006 Equalized Valuations* article on page 4) and 1989 per capita incomes from the U.S. Census Bureau. Additional Chapter 70 aid, as well as a lower local contribution, were provided for those communities that were spending in excess of their ability to pay. The formula proved to be less effective in requiring low effort communities to increase their contributions.

While the equity component of the formula was used with positive effect in the early years, its use diminished over time. Later attempts to bring about more equity occurred in FY02 and FY03 when more current property and income measures were used, but these changes were dropped in subsequent years. After the significant cuts to Chapter 70 that occurred in FY04, there was a growing frustration level among local officials as to the wide range of required contributions and aid for communities with similar wealth levels. The fundamental issue of fairness to local taxpayers became one of the primary motivations for the most recent formula amendments that address the issue of equity in the Chapter 70 formula.

The new method of measuring ability to pay is called the "aggregate wealth model." This change was implemented during the FY07 state budget process and has been used again in FY08 to calculate the Chapter 70 aid amounts that were part of the joint local aid resolution approved by the House of Representatives and the Senate. The model calls for a five-year phase-in to provide additional aid and reduced local contributions to those that are above the level of effort required by their wealth levels. The purpose of this article is to discuss the aggregate wealth method and to explain how it is being used to impact the distribution of Chapter 70 aid.

The new methodology uses updated property values and personal income data to address issues of inter-municipal equity so that communities with similar ability to pay eventually receive similar levels of state aid and pay similar local contributions. The "aggregate wealth model" provides for equal weighting of property wealth and personal income in the formula. The formula first establishes a statewide portion of the foundation budget to be funded through local contributions. This amount has been set at 59 percent of foundation (or $4.960 billion) with state aid covering the remaining 41 percent.

Once the statewide local contribution percentage is determined, percentages are calculated for both property wealth and income such that in the aggregate each contributes exactly half of the required 59 percent statewide contribution. These percentages are then applied to each community's actual 2006 equalized property valuation and 2004 aggregate personal income from Department of Revenue income tax data to determine the expected contribution or "target local share," with the maximum local share set at 82.5 percent. The "target aid share" represents the remaining share of the foundation budget

continued on page ten

Inside This Issue

Best Practices
Search Task Force — Director of Technology . . 2

Legal
The Skating Club of Boston 3

Focus
2006 Equalized Valuations 4

DLS Notices
Municipal Budgeted Revenues 11
2007 Corporations Book Available 11
Mark Your Calendars 11

DLS Profile 12

Municipal Fiscal Calendar 12

DLS Commentary

I am pleased to announce that *City & Town* is inaugurating a new feature section called "Best Practices." In each edition DLS will publish a column written by municipal officials describing outstanding local practices that should be shared with other communities. Last month I requested communities submit an article describing one of their successful initiatives. These initiatives do not necessarily have to be newly invented; they can be tried and true practices that you would like to convey to others.

This month Somerville Mayor Joseph Curtatone describes how SomerStat (their performance management group) and the personnel department searched for and found a new director of technology. The idea of using a task force to attract and evaluate candidates is not new, what is new is Somerville's approach. They successfully recruited high level experts in the field for the search committee. These individuals were not necessarily residents of the city, but people who had an interest in the community. This auspicious group did not stop at recruiting and interviewing candidates they also are interested in helping the city with its technology future. Please send your Best Practices to me at dlswebcontacts@dor.state.ma.us.

Robert G. Nunes

Robert G. Nunes
Deputy Commissioner &
Director of Municipal Affairs

Best Practices

Somerville

Search Task Force — Director of Technology

Michael Lambert, Administrative Aide to Mayor Curtatone

This winter, the City of Somerville set out to hire a director of technology. The new director oversees an annual budget of approximately $2 million, including all city hardware, software, phones and networking. Mayor Joseph Curtatone was hoping to find an innovative and talented manager who could develop and implement an ambitious technology agenda. The mayor believes technology will help the city revolutionize management and service delivery strategies.

At the request of the mayor, SomerStat (the performance management arm of the mayor's office) worked in conjunction with the personnel department to recruit a group of technology experts with ties to Somerville. The resulting Technology Task Force included five owners of software companies located in Somerville, the VP of Communications of IBM, two programmers, a high-level administrator from MIT's Information Technology (IT) department, and a member of the Board of Aldermen. The task force met to review and discuss current technology needs of the city. With support from SomerStat, they prepared recommendations for the mayor on how to recruit, what to look for in a candidate, and what the city and new IT director should consider as it develops its IT plans. The task force met a second time to review resumes and finalize recommendations. Finally, the task force participated in structured interviews for nine candidates.

The process yielded 85 applicants, with three very strong finalists. Without enough expertise internally in the city to recruit and select a candidate, involving a task force filled a gap in the city's capacity. Additionally, the process encouraged involvement from a sector of the community that is less engaged in civic activities, but who reported that they found the experience very interesting. Most of the task force members have suggested how they might contribute further in the future. The city conducted a similar resident-supported process in its selection of an environmental/energy manager, with similar success.

We estimate that using the Technology Task Force saved the city between $30,000 and $80,000 depending on the alternate options of using a consultant or executive search firm.

Overview of Recruitment and Hiring Process

The personnel and SomerStat departments drove the process by convening a technology task force made up of internal partners and external advisors. Members of the task force reviewed current IT projects, shaped the job description, reviewed resumes and helped select finalists. We received 85 applications and conducted three rounds of interviews before offering the position to a top candidate.

Step 1: Initial task force meetings. Over the course of two meetings, the task force developed specific recommendations for the job description, provided suggested avenues of recruitment, reviewed resumes and created a system for assessing candidates.

Step 2: Phone interviews. SomerStat and personnel interviewed 20 semi-finalists using a standard framework recommended by the task force.

Step 3: In-person interviews. A panel of employees and task force members interviewed nine finalists. The mayor

continued on page eleven

Legal

in Our Opinion

The Skating Club of Boston

James Crowley, Esq.

Is a nonprofit figure-skating club with §501 (c) (3) status from the Internal Revenue Service and a sales tax exemption certificate (Form ST-2) from the Massachusetts Department of Revenue exempt from local property tax? The Appellate Tax Board (ATB) denied the charitable exemption in the decision of *The Skating Club of Boston v. Board of Assessors of Boston*, docket ## F276938 and F277905, March 7, 2007.

The Skating Club of Boston, Inc. (club) throughout its 95-year history has played a significant role in promoting figure skating in the Commonwealth. Over the years many famous skaters have been affiliated with the club. The corporation was formed in 1912 under M.G.L. Ch. 125, the predecessor to M.G.L. Ch. 180. In 2002, the club filed Articles of Amendment pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 180 §7 to provide that (1) the organization was formed exclusively for charitable purposes under §501 (c) (3) status of the Internal Revenue Code; (2) no part of the club's earnings may inure to the benefit of any individual or member; and (3) upon dissolution, the club's net assets were to be distributed for charitable purposes. In 1938 the club moved to its own building at 351 Western Avenue in the Brighton section of Boston. The Boston assessing department described the property as an 83,843 square foot parcel improved by a building containing 29,398 square feet. The structure contains a skating rink, a lounge, locker rooms as well two commercial spaces for a snack bar and a skate shop. The club's skating facility had an assessed value of $1.8 million for fiscal years 2004 and 2005 with taxes of about $59,000 for each of the fiscal years.

Seeking to obtain a property tax exemption as a charitable organization, the club adhered to the procedural requirements of M.G.L. Chapter 59 §5 Clause 3 by filing forms of list (Form 3ABC) and exemption applications in a timely manner for fiscal years 2004 and 2005. The club paid the real estate taxes without incurring interest. The city assessing department, however, denied the exemption applications and the club appealed to the ATB, which found it had jurisdiction over the appeals. In reviewing the club's corporate charter, constitution and related documents, the ATB determined the club's primary corporate purpose was to develop amateur figure skaters for competition in events throughout the United States as well as in international and Olympic events. The club offered several types of memberships with annual membership fees ranging from $125 to $395. A prospective member had to be sponsored by two club members and, upon acceptance, pay an entrance fee, and agree to purchase meals at the facility and buy "Ice Chips" tickets. The "Ice Chips" is a popular event that takes place each year to introduce leading figure skaters to the public and raise money for the Make-a-Wish Foundation and Children's Hospital Boston. The "Ice Chips" was not the club's only charitable activity. The club also offered its facility free of charge to the Genesis Program, which teaches handicapped children how to skate.

According to the facts presented, the club operated year-round and was open to members and non-members. The club, however, did not advertise that the ice rink was available to the general public. Although there were weekly "public skate" sessions, the ATB found the club operated primarily for the benefit of the members through its skating schools, private lessons, competitions and dinner meetings, which included figure-skating exhibitions. Membership did not include ice time, which cost between $7 and $13 for each 50-minute session. Nor did membership cover the cost of private lessons. Although full utilization of the facility was expensive, the ATB noted that the club offered very limited financial assistance to offset these costs.

Where, as here, an entity claims to be eligible for a charitable exemption, the ATB ruled that the organization must satisfy the substantive tests for exemption set forth in Clause 3. As stated in numerous judicial decisions interpreting Clause 3, the taxpayer must demonstrate that it benefits a sufficiently large or indefinite class of the public and thereby lessens the burden of government. An organization's §501 (c) (3) status and exemption from state sales tax does not automatically guarantee exemption from local property tax. *H-C Health Services v. Board of Assessors of South Hadley*, 42 Mass. App. Ct. 596, rev. denied, 425 Mass. 1104 (1997). According to case law, the organization must show that it conducts its activities as a public charity. In support of its eligibility for a charitable exemption, the club claimed it promoted figure skating, both recreationally and competitively, on behalf of the general public as well as the its membership. The ATB rejected the club's argument for a charitable exemption. According to the ATB, the club's constitution portrayed the organization as restrictive and exclusionary since public use of the skating facility was permitted only to ensure the financial position of the club. The ATB also distinguished this situation from that presented in *Healthtrax Int'l v. Board of Assessors of Hanover and South Shore YMCA*, 56 Mass. App. Ct. 1116 (2002). Unlike the South Shore YMCA, which the ATB had ruled was

continued on page eleven

Focus

on Municipal Finance

2006 Equalized Valuations

Marilyn H. Browne and Donna Demirai

Equalized Valuation has been defined by the Legislature as the aggregate property in a city or town subject to local taxation as most recently reported by the Commissioner of Revenue to the General Court under provisions of M.G.L. c.58 § 10C. In the past two years EQVs have become more prominent as a result of the new Chapter 70 school aid formula enacted for FY2007. Changes were made to the local contribution portion of the formula to progress toward more equitable funding. (See *Equalized Valuation and Measuring Ability to Pay for Chapter 70* article on page 1.)

As in years past EQVs are still used for certain Cherry Sheet receipts and charges. On the positive side of the Cherry Sheets EQVs are incorporated in the lottery, public libraries municipal equalization grants and Chapter 70 local aid formulas. The opposite side of the EQV equation is taken into account when calculating deductions taken for municipal charges for the Boston Metropolitan Transit District, county tax, mosquito control projects and air pollution control districts. The other major use of EQVs is in determining municipal debt limits. Both cities and towns have an upper debt limit of 5 percent of the most recent EQV. The new 2006 EQVs will be used in the aforementioned programs for 2008 and 2009.

Because communities' property values are only certified by the Bureau of Local Assessment once every three years there is never one point in time when all municipalities have certified values at full and fair cash market value. As a result, equalized valuation studies are required by statute every two years in even-numbered year so that any associated local aid or charges, etc. can be fairly and equitably distributed. Determining EQVs is an intensive project conducted by the Bureau of Local Assessment (BLA) office statistical and field appraisal staff. Overseen in Boston by Donna Demirai, the work is split between the residential analyses, done by Boston's statistical staff and the commercial and industrial appraisals prepared by BLA appraisers from the Boston, Worcester and Springfield offices. Individual community's residential arms-length sales are analyzed and a composite assessment sales ratio is developed for the entire class. The total residential value is then divided by community ratio, thereby yielding the fair cash value for all residential property. Commercial and industrial sales are often unique in nature and few in number so that they do not lend themselves to the same type of analysis as the residential class. Therefore, market appraisals are done by our appraisal staff who takes into account several approaches to value including income capitalization, sales, cost and economic data to determine the total value as of January 1, 2006. Once these calculations are complete and totaled, BLA adds an estimate of new growth and 121A values resulting in a total equalized value. These totals are then reported to the Legislature.

continued on page five

2002–2004 and 2004–2006 EQV Percent Change

Region	Counties	Residential		Commercial & Industrial		Personal Property		Overall EQV	
		02–04	04–06	02–04	04–06	02–04	04–06	02–04	04–06
Cape	Barnstable, Dukes, Nantucket	37.2%	31.4%	20.4%	22.8%	10.3%	9.3%	35.3%	29.9%
Central	Worcester	37.6%	28.3%	15.4%	17.3%	28.4%	2.0%	33.8%	25.9%
Northeast	Essex, Middlesex, Suffolk	29.4%	18.5%	4.2%	10.3%	18.0%	2.6%	23.5%	16.4%
Southeast	Bristol, Norfolk, Plymouth	34.5%	27.0%	15.9%	17.1%	24.9%	6.3%	31.5%	25.2%
West	Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire	23.1%	28.1%	11.3%	10.2%	12.5%	0.1%	20.6%	24.2%
Totals		31.8%	23.8%	8.7%	13.0%	19.4%	3.7%	27.3%	21.5%

Table 1

 continued from page four

EQV Percent Change

In the October 2005 issue of *City & Town* we presented our analysis of the 2004 EQV. This article will offer you a chance to compare developing trends and isolated changes over the past two EQV cycles (see Table 1). Residential percent decreases have occurred in all regions of the state except western Massachusetts where it has increased by five percentage points. Commercial and industrial properties are showing generally the same increases as they did between 2002 and 2004 except in the northeast where they have increased six points overall. Personal property has an interesting twist when you take a closer look. The percentage increase of this class of property has declined in all regions of the state rather considerably. In fiscal year 2004 personal property increased a great deal and a contributing factor was the increase in centrally valued telephone personalty. That was the same year the Appellate Tax Board, in the case of *RCN-BecoCom, LLC v. Commissioner of Revenue*, ATB Docket Nos. F253495 and F257397, issued its August 1, 2002 Order and January 29, 2003 Decision. As a result, limited liability telephone companies no longer qualified for corporate utility exemptions. Consequently, the total personal property value in 2002 of $16.78 billion (which includes both utility and other business personalty) jumped to $20.05 billion in 2004, an increase of $3.27 billion. In 2004 centrally valued telephone new growth alone was $1.31 billion, representing 40 percent of the overall increase in personal property. In 2006 the total of personal property statewide increased a modest amount to $20.80 billion from 2004. Overall, the total EQV percent change between 2002 and 2004 as compared with 2004 and 2006 has decreased in total and in every region of the state except western Massachusetts where it has gone up from 20.6 percent to 24.2 percent.

State EQV in Current & Constant Dollars

The current 2006 EQV of $991 billion dollars is the highest it has ever been in history (see Table 2). This is a 132 percent increase in current dollars from 1990 ($428 billion) which was the result of the booming real estate market of the 1980s. Although this seems quite dramatic, when the 2006 EQV is adjusted for inflation it represents only a 40 percent increase, while the inflation index went up 65 percent. The actual EQV values in current and constant dollars has been climbing since 1996, with the first increase in current dollars statewide since 1990 occurring in 2000 and constant dollars occurring in 2002.

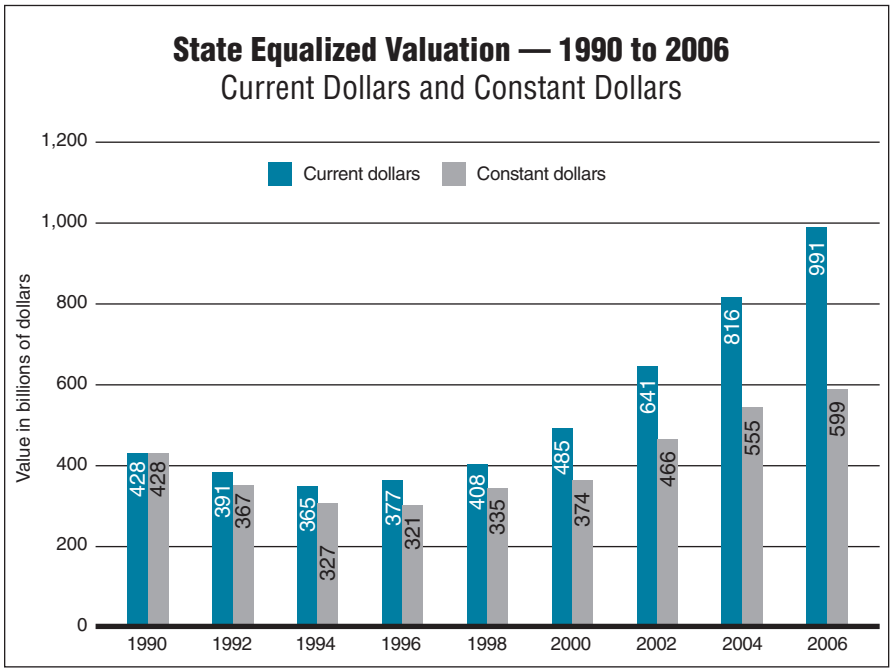


Table 2

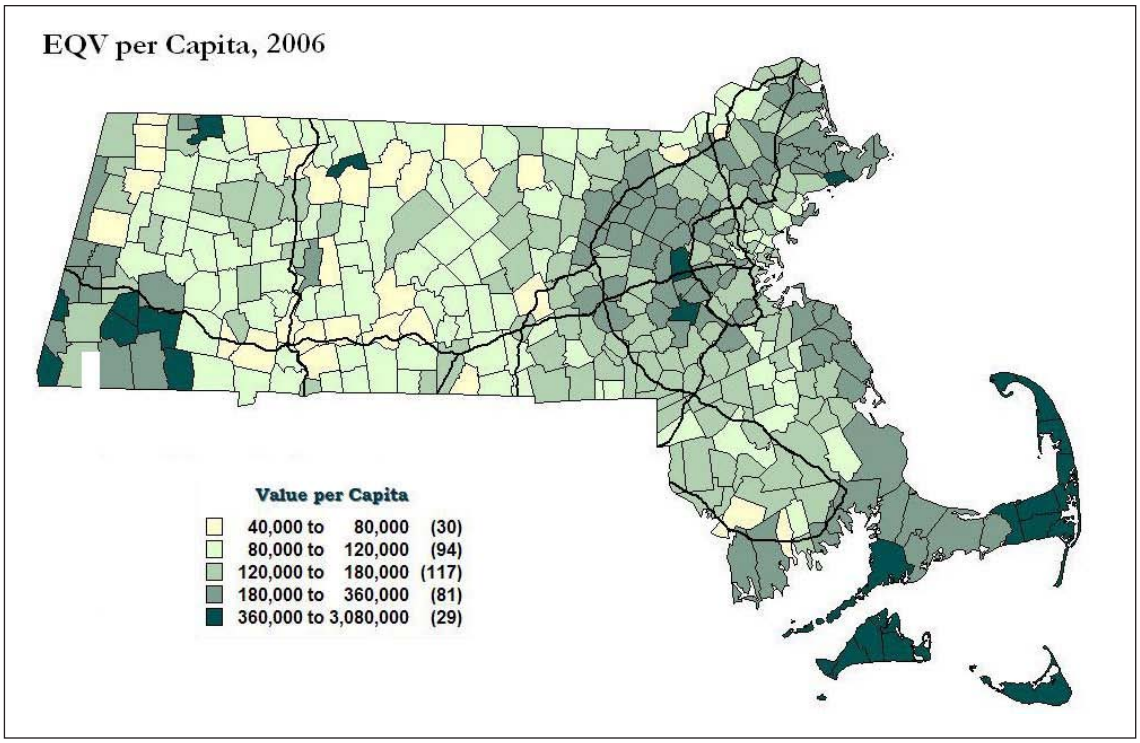
EQV Per Capita and Percent Change

When examining the EQV per capita map (see Map 1 on page 6) as compared to EQV percent change map (see Map 2 on page 6) from 2004 to 2006 you see reverse images in some instances. Values per capita are relatively high between the Route 495 and I-95 belt while the percent changes in value are the lower than average. On the other hand, per capita values are generally low in Worcester County and western Massachusetts except along the New York border and southwestern corner of the state. But the percent change in value is growing, particularly in certain pockets such as eastern Franklin County. The Cape and Islands have high per capita values but one should take into account the fact that the area has fewer year-round residents. Bristol County continues to be one of the fastest growing areas of the state with an increase of its EQV value over 2004 of 34.1 percent.

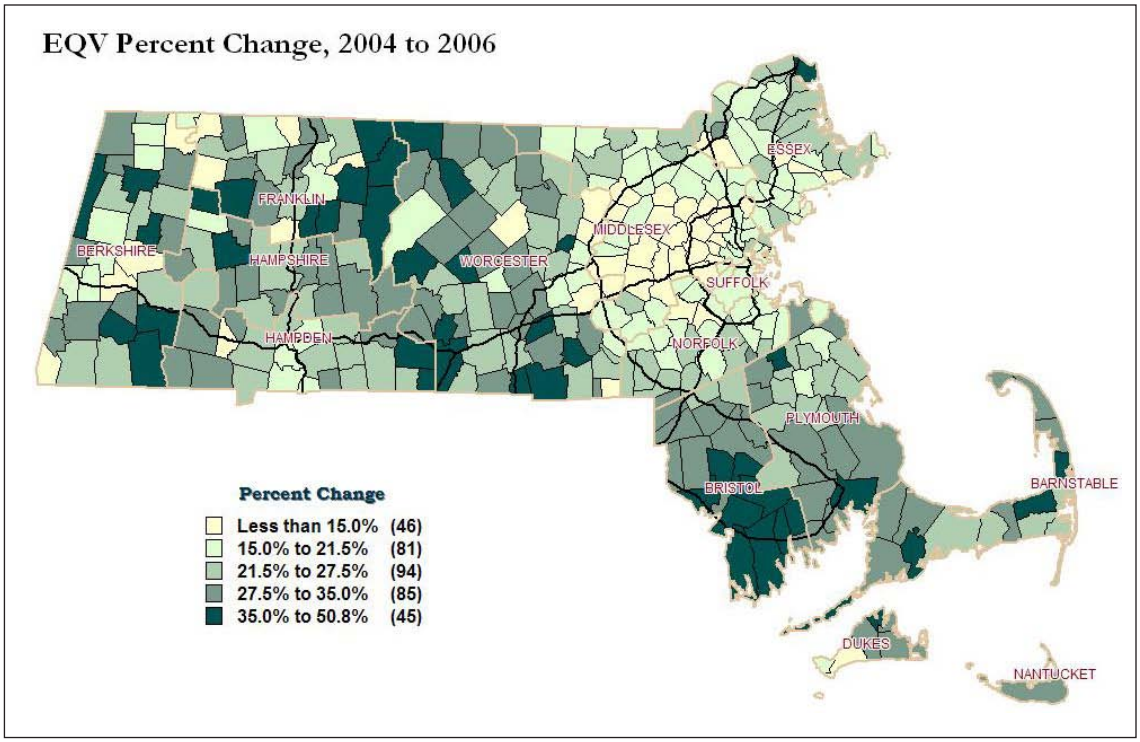
Only two communities saw a negative percent change in value from the 2004, Erving down .64 percent and Rowe at a negative 28.07 percent. In both instances, the declines occurred predominately in their industrial classes of property due to a plunge in the value of their electric generating plants. The top five communities with percent increases in EQV are Ashfield (50.77), Fall River (48.07), Gosnold (46.44), Berkley (46.33) and Monterey (45.91) (see Table 3).

In conclusion, the numbers are showing some interesting shifts. Eastern Massachusetts, between and around Routes 495 and I 95 is not growing in value as much as in the past and western Massachusetts, that had previously been lag-

continued on page ten


EQV per Capita, 2006
Value per Capita
40,000 to 80,000 (30)
80,000 to 120,000 (94)
120,000 to 180,000 (117)
180,000 to 360,000 (81)
360,000 to 3,080,000 (29)

Map 1


EQV Percent Change, 2004 to 2006
ESSEX
FRANKLIN
MIDDLESEX
BERKSHIRE
HAMPSHIRE
WORCESTER
SUFFOLK
HAMPDEN
NORFOLK
PLYMOUTH
BRISTOL
BARNSTABLE
DUKES
NANTUCKET
Percent Change
Less than 15.0% (46)
15.0% to 21.5% (81)
21.5% to 27.5% (94)
27.5% to 35.0% (85)
35.0% to 50.8% (45)

Map 2

2006 Equalized Valuation

	2004 EQV	2006 EQV	EQV rank	EQV pct. change	2006 EQV per capita	Per capita rank
Abington	1,540,413,700	2,079,940,800	154	35.0	127,206	212
Acton	3,398,232,500	3,909,226,500	82	15.0	190,119	98
Acushnet	884,206,600	1,213,915,400	205	37.3	115,129	246
Adams	392,993,300	465,809,900	272	18.5	55,093	347
Agawam	2,304,769,100	2,756,586,100	113	19.6	96,387	289
Alford	162,952,100	204,053,400	310	25.2	510,134	16
Amesbury	1,731,430,400	2,174,220,500	142	25.6	130,639	201
Amherst	1,633,901,900	2,151,338,800	144	31.7	63,187	344
Andover	6,525,840,900	7,353,584,000	19	12.7	222,553	73
Aquinnah	512,635,000	597,379,100	259	16.5	1,678,031	4
Arlington	6,361,931,000	7,189,083,600	23	13.0	174,391	120
Ashburnham	511,410,000	665,392,600	255	30.1	111,251	255
Ashby	277,104,800	361,633,100	288	30.5	123,424	221
Ashfield	152,332,600	229,678,700	303	50.8	125,851	215
Ashland	2,031,905,000	2,510,645,400	127	23.6	161,446	137
Athol	600,103,300	796,832,300	243	32.8	68,123	338
Attleboro	3,456,878,000	4,421,432,500	67	27.9	101,919	275
Auburn	1,640,670,300	2,116,549,800	149	29.0	129,058	208
Avon	685,750,900	878,733,500	236	28.1	202,473	87
Ayer	875,497,200	1,007,870,000	222	15.1	139,440	185
Barnstable	11,747,239,700	14,974,792,700	5	27.5	313,110	37
Barre	348,024,200	462,168,100	274	32.8	85,905	308
Becket	329,853,400	420,461,700	279	27.5	235,421	69
Bedford	2,632,511,200	2,946,953,200	107	11.9	236,475	68
Belchertown	969,245,200	1,305,703,400	198	34.7	93,545	292
Bellingham	2,047,232,900	2,509,075,900	128	22.6	158,963	142
Belmont	4,981,907,000	5,538,582,800	45	11.2	236,985	67
Berkley	579,235,700	847,587,000	239	46.3	132,955	196
Berlin	482,276,300	560,592,600	264	16.2	208,476	80
Bernardston	153,499,800	196,062,600	312	27.7	87,606	303
Beverly	4,952,333,200	6,008,449,300	37	21.3	150,678	158
Billerica	5,063,214,900	5,928,601,700	38	17.1	148,352	162
Blackstone	937,873,000	1,032,838,100	217	10.1	114,038	252
Blandford	114,768,100	150,500,300	321	31.1	118,785	233
Bolton	893,878,600	1,021,068,500	219	14.2	230,230	71
Boston	76,281,082,200	87,749,317,700	1	15.0	156,966	144
Bourne	3,561,152,100	4,613,395,800	62	29.5	238,344	64
Boxborough	969,081,400	1,097,618,200	216	13.3	216,835	77
Boxford	1,636,855,500	1,940,716,100	160	18.6	237,338	65
Boylston	574,353,400	725,741,900	251	26.4	170,402	125
Braintree	4,894,372,100	5,878,650,200	39	20.1	174,539	119
Brewster	2,841,364,300	3,892,839,600	84	37.0	380,086	27
Bridgewater	2,220,679,700	2,806,627,600	110	26.4	109,122	260
Brimfield	297,311,800	406,340,900	283	36.7	111,663	254
Brockton	6,003,792,100	7,787,790,000	16	29.7	82,296	316
Brookfield	202,269,200	284,546,000	295	40.7	91,908	295
Brookline	12,676,293,400	14,826,752,900	6	17.0	266,716	45
Buckland	143,094,600	192,847,900	313	34.8	96,666	288
Burlington	4,277,601,800	4,563,513,000	65	6.7	195,867	93
Cambridge	21,282,513,300	24,529,458,900	2	15.3	244,964	61
Canton	3,542,563,900	4,384,334,700	68	23.8	203,251	84
Carlisle	1,348,826,100	1,530,775,600	180	13.5	316,996	36
Carver	956,458,200	1,265,850,400	201	32.3	109,484	259
Charlemont	95,080,700	116,542,000	330	22.6	83,964	313
Charlton	1,165,195,100	1,460,055,600	183	25.3	117,039	239
Chatham	4,834,829,300	6,134,869,700	34	26.9	897,961	8
Chelmsford	4,580,884,200	5,364,392,300	48	17.1	158,903	143
Chelsea	2,206,598,800	2,642,115,600	119	19.7	81,251	319
Cheshire	189,485,800	256,759,200	298	35.5	76,485	325
Chester	85,037,300	106,812,800	335	25.6	80,858	320
Chesterfield	97,489,700	136,454,700	326	40.0	107,276	263
Chicopee	2,671,988,900	3,211,970,500	99	20.2	58,741	346
Chilmark	2,710,295,100	2,908,274,200	108	7.3	3,077,539	1
Clarksburg	84,837,300	104,791,800	336	23.5	63,014	345
Clinton	927,026,600	1,263,960,900	202	36.3	90,315	299
Cohasset	1,981,590,400	2,383,014,300	136	20.3	329,966	34
Colrain	116,828,900	139,447,300	324	19.4	75,012	328
Concord	4,835,693,600	5,385,831,800	47	11.4	319,957	35
Conway	175,957,400	229,121,400	304	30.2	120,274	227
Cummington	95,726,200	115,280,800	331	20.4	116,681	242
Dalton	456,743,100	574,903,800	261	25.9	85,807	309
Danvers	3,824,080,500	4,539,809,100	66	18.7	174,306	121
Dartmouth	4,308,944,400	5,817,992,000	41	35.0	185,351	102
Dedham	3,556,144,100	4,262,714,700	72	19.9	179,589	112
Deerfield	531,290,300	670,816,100	254	26.3	140,162	181
Dennis	5,126,003,400	6,772,776,000	26	32.1	426,202	22
Dighton	671,250,300	935,463,800	231	39.4	140,355	180
Douglas	759,473,100	1,025,634,100	218	35.0	130,074	206
Dover	2,180,032,100	2,449,715,000	132	12.4	434,270	20
Dracut	2,638,346,500	3,312,174,400	97	25.5	114,640	247
Dudley	764,609,400	991,246,100	224	29.6	91,680	296
Dunstable	419,121,800	521,055,700	269	24.3	165,205	133
Duxbury	3,133,657,800	3,837,215,500	85	22.5	261,747	50
E. Bridgewater	1,335,302,000	1,643,271,400	172	23.1	118,571	235
E. Brookfield	189,543,400	251,721,400	299	32.8	119,243	230
E. Longmeadow	1,390,794,900	1,777,927,500	163	27.8	119,436	228
Eastham	2,266,716,100	3,075,239,600	103	35.7	553,997	15
Easthampton	979,170,400	1,317,657,500	195	34.6	82,333	315
Easton	2,564,928,700	3,201,540,800	100	24.8	139,028	187
Edgartown	4,632,409,900	6,168,978,200	32	33.2	1,567,720	5
Egremont	326,070,200	417,822,500	280	28.1	308,129	38
Erving	595,031,100	591,196,500	260	-0.6	382,899	26
Essex	682,582,400	830,348,600	242	21.6	248,162	58
Everett	3,874,131,200	4,750,510,800	60	22.6	128,960	209
Fairhaven	1,650,028,900	2,111,714,300	150	28.0	130,176	204
Fall River	4,343,771,700	6,431,873,600	29	48.1	70,062	337
Falmouth	9,104,210,400	12,247,802,400	9	34.5	364,041	29
Fitchburg	2,038,991,700	2,671,139,000	118	31.0	66,703	341
Florida	102,940,000	118,317,100	329	14.9	177,387	114
Foxborough	2,211,270,900	2,713,282,400	116	22.7	166,326	130
Framingham	8,228,519,700	9,322,116,000	12	13.3	143,285	173
Franklin	3,986,325,800	4,926,241,100	56	23.6	159,461	140
Freetown	960,151,200	1,327,532,800	191	38.3	147,849	165
Gardner	1,080,097,100	1,336,573,900	189	23.7	63,926	343
Georgetown	1,053,506,500	1,327,520,800	192	26.0	165,094	134
Gill	98,600,500	114,396,700	332	16.0	82,123	317
Gloucester	4,931,806,400	6,093,216,100	35	23.5	198,392	90
Goshen	93,993,000	121,102,800	327	28.8	126,544	213
Gosnold	167,731,500	245,632,600	301	46.4	2,856,193	2
Grafton	1,836,634,800	2,322,452,700	138	26.5	137,505	189
Granby	436,466,600	572,715,800	262	31.2	90,277	300
Granville	133,677,600	172,376,400	316	28.9	104,661	271
Grt. Barrington	854,459,500	1,114,779,400	215	30.5	149,816	160
Greenfield	1,015,351,700	1,320,633,600	194	30.1	74,051	331
Groton	1,334,456,900	1,659,991,200	170	24.4	159,049	141
Groveland	767,252,100	960,334,300	227	25.2	145,329	172
Hadley	659,637,600	882,322,800	235	33.8	182,979	105
Halifax	747,034,800	951,195,500	228	27.3	121,808	225
Hamilton	1,291,305,100	1,558,527,600	175	20.7	186,672	100
Hampden	433,561,400	533,914,600	268	23.1	100,398	282

	2004 EQV	2006 EQV	EQV rank	EQV pct. change	2006 EQV per capita	Per capita rank
Hancock	200,448,400	280,678,100	296	40.0	273,565	43
Hanover	2,091,954,600	2,591,082,200	120	23.9	183,752	104
Hanson	1,101,331,200	1,317,650,700	196	19.6	132,747	197
Hardwick	174,604,100	247,779,200	300	41.9	93,325	293
Harvard	1,085,365,000	1,233,188,100	204	13.6	203,027	85
Harwich	4,187,777,900	5,328,884,400	49	27.2	420,425	23
Hatfield	376,931,900	458,292,000	276	21.6	139,638	183
Haverhill	5,131,267,100	6,199,044,100	31	20.8	102,902	274
Hawley	29,713,700	31,588,900	350	6.3	91,562	297
Heath	61,819,700	81,165,600	340	31.3	100,827	279
Hingham	4,273,602,000	5,479,432,500	46	28.2	254,774	55
Hinsdale	161,107,000	230,908,400	302	43.3	127,503	211
Holbrook	1,037,843,800	1,286,287,100	200	23.9	119,377	229
Holden	1,639,556,300	2,097,480,800	151	27.9	126,415	214
Holland	255,176,300	356,609,800	289	39.8	140,619	178
Holliston	1,859,961,500	2,169,504,300	143	16.6	156,677	145
Holyoke	1,688,257,400	2,080,918,800	153	23.3	52,078	349
Hopedale	643,831,400	785,450,200	245	22.0	125,813	216
Hopkinton	2,693,118,800	3,164,450,000	101	17.5	224,238	72
Hubbardston	358,086,700	464,249,000	273	29.6	106,675	265
Hudson	2,148,427,000	2,553,716,500	124	18.9	134,811	192
Hull	1,845,182,100	2,205,241,600	141	19.5	195,500	94
Huntington	136,833,000	179,939,500	315	31.5	82,465	314
Ipswich	2,219,128,000	2,760,858,300	112	24.4	207,552	81
Kingston	1,589,416,100	2,097,410,500	152	32.0	168,372	127
Lakeville	1,288,036,200	1,635,605,700	173	27.0	153,737	151
Lancaster	709,573,300	890,380,200	234	25.5	130,077	205
Lanesborough	303,722,900	386,939,200	285	27.4	131,033	200
Lawrence	2,879,962,100	3,829,403,900	87	33.0	53,698	348
Lee	716,496,000	767,793,700	248	7.2	130,466	202
Leicester	744,688,700	991,520,700	223	33.1	90,409	298
Lenox	949,393,300	1,119,519,500	214	17.9	217,129	76
Leominster	3,064,606,000	3,983,376,300	77	30.0	95,287	291
Leverett	182,919,200	263,280,300	297	43.9	148,578	161
Lexington	7,407,812,900	8,232,742,600	15	11.1	272,013	44
Leyden	67,021,100	71,633,100	344	6.9	87,786	302
Lincoln	1,885,730,600	2,038,197,800	157	8.1	256,991	53
Littleton	1,378,398,300	1,551,204,600	176	12.5	180,604	110
Longmeadow	1,795,522,000	2,124,260,600	148	18.3	136,442	191
Lowell	5,834,289,000	7,315,142,600	20	25.4	70,944	334
Ludlow	1,394,955,900	1,743,035,500	164	25.0	79,424	323
Lunenburg	1,077,373,000	1,344,943,200	188	24.8	134,172	194
Lynn	5,892,730,000	7,258,700,200	22	23.2	81,749	318
Lynnfield	2,155,386,200	2,540,054,900	126	17.8	219,994	75
Malden	4,893,239,700	5,859,714,900	40	19.8	104,879	269
Manchester	1,900,487,800	2,124,611,400	147	11.8	398,240	24
Mansfield	2,841,377,300	3,531,110,900	92	24.3	153,680	152
Marblehead	4,841,734,800	5,582,874,900	44	15.3	275,059	42
Marion	1,382,301,400	1,805,295,700	162	30.6	339,405	33
Marlborough	4,643,243,000	5,242,985,800	50	12.9	140,022	182
Marshfield	3,790,610,200	4,787,007,000	59	26.3	192,327	97
Mashpee	3,726,675,900	5,067,905,000	53	36.0	354,895	30
Mattapoisett	1,277,229,500	1,716,520,800	166	34.4	264,936	48
Maynard	1,200,802,800	1,353,069,300	187	12.7	132,265	198
Medfield	2,100,827,000	2,435,253,400	133	15.9	197,298	91
Medford	6,314,747,400	7,470,569,800	18	18.3	139,577	184
Medway	1,562,357,000	1,890,417,000	161	21.0	147,550	168
Melrose	3,242,046,500	3,901,802,300	83	20.3	147,992	164
Mendon	763,384,400	945,006,700	229	23.8	164,235	135
Merrimac	641,456,000	794,658,100	244	23.9	124,946	218

	2004 EQV	2006 EQV	EQV rank	EQV pct. change	2006 EQV per capita	Per capita rank
Methuen	4,088,755,700	5,163,292,000	52	26.3	115,746	244
Middleborough	1,965,218,300	2,588,300,800	121	31.7	122,101	224
Middlefield	41,676,400	55,137,500	347	32.3	100,433	281
Middleton	1,350,234,600	1,682,938,300	168	24.6	181,488	108
Milford	2,897,353,600	3,428,861,900	94	18.3	124,600	220
Millbury	1,105,282,700	1,540,735,800	178	39.4	114,476	249
Millis	957,825,200	1,125,903,700	212	17.5	141,374	176
Millville	240,555,200	312,077,700	292	29.7	106,041	267
Milton	4,066,814,900	4,918,860,200	58	21.0	188,940	99
Monroe	15,112,000	18,280,300	351	21.0	182,803	107
Monson	559,386,600	707,435,400	252	26.5	80,730	321
Montague	556,402,100	671,465,900	253	20.7	79,860	322
Monterey	315,683,400	460,616,800	275	45.9	479,310	18
Montgomery	71,999,500	97,156,900	337	34.9	130,412	203
Mt. Washington	59,584,700	66,748,400	345	12.0	494,433	17
Nahant	672,466,800	841,133,900	240	25.1	234,234	70
Nantucket	13,575,803,900	17,562,057,600	4	29.4	1,727,189	3
Natick	5,807,362,400	6,522,435,400	28	12.3	204,190	82
Needham	6,285,224,900	7,307,708,400	21	16.3	257,151	52
New Ashford	24,652,800	31,707,400	349	28.6	128,370	210
New Bedford	4,687,147,600	6,341,749,200	30	35.3	68,116	339
New Braintree	88,255,900	110,160,700	333	24.8	100,880	278
New Marlborough	375,468,100	456,833,200	277	21.7	299,563	39
New Salem	80,456,700	108,627,100	334	35.0	109,946	257
Newbury	1,147,457,200	1,405,083,400	185	22.5	200,669	88
Newburyport	2,887,446,900	3,549,054,100	91	22.9	203,805	83
Newton	19,131,654,600	21,604,607,900	3	12.9	259,802	51
Norfolk	1,276,134,200	1,546,041,200	177	21.2	147,382	169
N. Adams	530,503,400	642,933,300	258	21.2	45,891	351
N. Andover	4,010,449,200	4,648,968,500	61	15.9	171,201	123
N. Attleborough	3,088,677,900	4,014,219,100	76	30.0	142,687	175
N. Brookfield	332,760,600	415,242,900	281	24.8	86,257	306
N. Reading	2,334,445,800	2,687,227,900	117	15.1	192,647	95
Northampton	2,401,455,900	2,974,992,300	106	23.9	103,604	273
Northborough	2,049,852,800	2,465,591,800	130	20.3	168,013	128
Northbridge	1,212,173,700	1,694,975,200	167	39.8	119,230	231
Northfield	300,407,400	368,576,600	286	22.7	114,110	251
Norton	1,874,212,600	2,390,733,000	134	27.6	124,719	219
Norwell	2,100,057,200	2,465,833,200	129	17.4	237,191	66
Norwood	3,971,917,100	4,596,113,300	63	15.7	161,392	138
Oak Bluffs	2,157,846,200	2,799,162,000	111	29.7	739,150	12
Oakham	152,061,300	212,968,400	308	40.1	112,266	253
Orange	377,327,100	512,435,100	271	35.8	66,836	340
Orleans	3,170,624,000	3,981,793,400	78	25.6	616,568	14
Otis	388,310,400	553,194,700	265	42.5	397,125	25
Oxford	1,081,951,200	1,371,153,400	186	26.7	99,953	283
Palmer	758,820,400	979,571,100	225	29.1	75,789	326
Paxton	457,103,600	548,885,800	267	20.1	120,423	226
Peabody	6,554,296,700	7,758,307,400	17	18.4	151,414	157
Pelham	120,894,400	149,533,800	322	23.7	105,603	268
Pembroke	2,032,853,800	2,586,794,800	122	27.2	142,956	174
Pepperell	1,094,802,600	1,322,448,300	193	20.8	115,923	243
Peru	55,689,500	74,226,100	343	33.3	88,681	301
Petersham	132,977,600	157,899,400	319	18.7	122,879	222
Phillipston	150,033,700	200,845,300	311	33.9	114,442	250
Pittsfield	2,551,381,300	3,088,729,400	102	21.1	70,422	335
Plainfield	58,877,100	84,222,700	339	43.0	140,371	179
Plainville	887,996,600	1,169,940,400	207	31.8	145,841	171
Plymouth	7,531,137,000	9,961,552,300	10	32.3	181,373	109
Plympton	352,159,600	431,134,200	278	22.4	155,028	150

	2004 EQV	2006 EQV	EQV rank	EQV pct. change	2006 EQV per capita	Per capita rank
Princeton	458,549,100	517,610,900	270	12.9	146,923	170
Provincetown	1,903,987,400	2,556,302,100	123	34.3	746,148	11
Quincy	10,355,818,700	12,486,829,000	8	20.6	138,358	188
Randolph	2,902,727,300	3,524,469,100	93	21.4	115,678	245
Raynham	1,537,544,500	2,049,468,900	155	33.3	151,835	156
Reading	3,409,324,100	3,952,521,900	80	15.9	170,632	124
Rehoboth	1,343,589,600	1,724,446,400	165	28.3	153,202	153
Revere	4,085,723,600	5,049,492,600	54	23.6	110,234	256
Richmond	304,131,400	401,965,000	284	32.2	248,127	59
Rochester	641,246,900	830,394,500	241	29.5	156,383	147
Rockland	1,648,259,300	2,043,639,700	156	24.0	114,560	248
Rockport	1,652,765,700	1,952,233,400	158	18.1	251,479	56
Rowe	425,727,800	306,234,700	293	-28.1	874,956	9
Rowley	795,313,200	966,675,800	226	21.5	165,385	132
Royalston	95,514,000	139,348,400	325	45.9	101,863	276
Russell	107,705,200	121,031,700	328	12.4	70,082	336
Rutland	584,782,800	778,214,100	247	33.1	104,514	272
Salem	4,223,735,800	4,923,330,400	57	16.6	117,907	238
Salisbury	1,069,166,200	1,489,163,300	182	39.3	179,764	111
Sandisfield	156,925,900	213,062,000	307	35.8	256,392	54
Sandwich	3,535,920,600	4,579,731,300	64	29.5	220,966	74
Saugus	3,715,984,100	4,328,919,200	70	16.5	160,837	139
Savoy	46,950,900	61,620,700	346	31.2	84,994	311
Scituate	3,388,379,600	4,327,989,400	71	27.7	238,852	63
Seekonk	1,618,380,300	2,140,093,300	146	32.2	156,577	146
Sharon	2,553,637,200	3,028,491,900	104	18.6	176,003	116
Sheffield	454,767,900	552,811,500	266	21.6	164,234	136
Shelburne	175,575,200	219,518,000	305	25.0	106,873	264
Sherborn	1,062,601,100	1,255,862,000	203	18.2	297,386	40
Shirley	517,704,600	658,521,800	256	27.2	86,511	305
Shrewsbury	4,240,111,400	5,041,995,700	55	18.9	151,986	155
Shutesbury	164,514,400	215,721,500	306	31.1	116,859	241
Somerset	2,124,420,700	2,822,879,500	109	32.9	152,013	154
Somerville	7,316,371,300	8,760,328,000	14	19.7	116,862	240
S. Hadley	1,166,625,300	1,434,251,600	184	22.9	84,056	312
Southampton	449,485,000	566,148,000	263	26.0	96,927	286
Southborough	2,094,098,400	2,347,541,900	137	12.1	245,584	60
Southbridge	901,458,500	1,135,254,100	211	25.9	65,873	342
Southwick	747,966,000	929,952,200	232	24.3	97,398	285
Spencer	912,387,500	1,156,116,200	208	26.7	95,610	290
Springfield	5,778,583,600	7,118,922,700	24	23.2	46,918	350
Sterling	933,598,600	1,146,763,400	209	22.8	147,589	167
Stockbridge	675,752,500	782,590,600	246	15.8	346,893	32
Stoneham	2,866,503,900	3,346,362,100	96	16.7	155,053	149
Stoughton	3,008,543,100	3,756,611,000	88	24.9	140,739	177
Stow	1,030,019,300	1,213,054,900	206	17.8	196,319	92
Sturbridge	961,222,300	1,308,345,900	197	36.1	147,669	166
Sudbury	3,753,910,600	4,260,907,900	73	13.5	249,672	57
Sunderland	259,356,700	351,537,100	290	35.5	92,437	294
Sutton	1,035,311,200	1,332,159,300	190	28.7	148,199	163
Swampscott	2,319,769,600	2,749,936,100	114	18.5	192,465	96
Swansea	1,564,489,700	2,261,619,900	139	44.6	139,177	186
Taunton	4,540,568,000	6,075,770,600	36	33.8	108,012	261
Templeton	474,821,500	645,466,800	257	35.9	86,166	307
Tewksbury	3,772,192,300	4,365,175,800	69	15.7	150,300	159
Tisbury	1,950,346,400	2,733,958,400	115	40.2	717,198	13
Tolland	127,564,500	163,462,000	317	28.1	365,687	28
Topsfield	1,131,668,700	1,300,988,600	199	15.0	210,414	79
Townsend	796,650,900	944,901,900	230	18.6	101,766	277
Truro	1,714,704,000	2,252,978,600	140	31.4	1,041,118	6
Tyngsborough	1,287,374,400	1,520,433,700	181	18.1	134,101	195
Tyringham	117,633,900	151,057,400	320	28.4	429,140	21
Upton	874,640,500	1,125,061,800	213	28.6	175,873	117
Uxbridge	1,275,737,900	1,601,610,600	174	25.5	129,068	207
Wakefield	3,630,754,000	4,161,973,600	74	14.6	169,358	126
Wales	129,106,600	158,282,700	318	22.6	86,921	304
Walpole	3,306,185,500	4,073,260,100	75	23.2	176,240	115
Waltham	8,289,720,700	9,264,421,800	13	11.8	155,558	148
Ware	580,226,300	750,424,300	250	29.3	75,005	329
Wareham	2,847,668,900	3,960,579,500	79	39.1	185,978	101
Warren	274,879,000	363,603,500	287	32.3	72,072	332
Warwick	54,822,900	76,837,400	342	40.2	100,704	280
Washington	50,351,400	52,822,700	348	4.9	96,745	287
Watertown	5,184,911,600	5,753,056,200	42	11.0	178,097	113
Wayland	3,022,665,800	3,403,746,100	95	12.6	261,786	49
Webster	1,229,850,600	1,666,435,300	169	35.5	98,892	284
Wellesley	8,211,971,900	9,523,566,700	11	16.0	353,012	31
Wellfleet	1,832,154,600	2,450,080,800	131	33.7	868,207	10
Wendell	58,194,500	80,664,000	341	38.6	77,861	324
Wenham	759,879,500	861,420,000	238	13.4	185,252	103
W. Boylston	721,286,500	911,302,100	233	26.3	118,366	236
W. Bridgewater	890,140,200	1,142,947,200	210	28.4	167,563	129
W. Brookfield	310,230,000	408,111,600	282	31.6	104,778	270
W. Newbury	759,475,800	874,052,600	237	15.1	202,985	86
W. Springfield	1,990,099,700	2,386,702,300	135	19.9	85,273	310
W. Stockbridge	292,249,800	350,888,600	291	20.1	241,659	62
W. Tisbury	1,980,075,700	2,552,816,600	125	28.9	955,753	7
Westborough	3,296,502,900	3,740,264,300	89	13.5	199,672	89
Westfield	2,437,331,800	3,007,078,800	105	23.4	74,203	330
Westford	3,392,535,800	3,924,006,800	81	15.7	182,844	106
Westhampton	160,306,300	210,960,300	309	31.6	134,541	193
Westminster	820,698,700	1,012,483,900	220	23.4	137,379	190
Weston	4,657,064,600	5,204,205,700	51	11.7	449,374	19
Westport	2,248,684,500	3,223,579,800	98	43.4	213,893	78
Westwood	3,415,448,600	3,834,008,100	86	12.3	275,828	41
Weymouth	6,006,779,000	7,110,692,600	25	18.4	132,198	199
Whately	169,346,500	187,900,800	314	11.0	118,624	234
Whitman	1,234,860,800	1,538,148,000	179	24.6	106,527	266
Wilbraham	1,330,176,400	1,652,062,600	171	24.2	117,979	237
Williamsburg	231,432,700	289,732,400	294	25.2	119,035	232
Williamstown	791,662,900	1,010,908,600	221	27.7	122,713	223
Wilmington	3,199,922,900	3,733,924,100	90	16.7	173,897	122
Winchendon	581,898,000	758,563,100	249	30.4	75,076	327
Winchester	4,929,810,000	5,616,058,000	43	13.9	265,146	47
Windsor	73,310,500	92,575,400	338	26.3	107,897	262
Winthrop	1,785,075,300	2,141,570,000	145	20.0	125,465	217
Woburn	5,479,323,300	6,160,376,600	33	12.4	165,838	131
Worcester	9,694,617,900	12,654,571,600	7	30.5	71,943	333
Worthington	112,846,600	141,877,100	323	25.7	109,812	258
Wrentham	1,590,469,400	1,941,456,400	159	22.1	175,016	118
Yarmouth	5,141,693,000	6,541,352,300	27	27.2	265,682	46
Total	**816,023,318,200**	**991,189,369,000**		**21.5**		
State EQV per capita					**154,904**	

Table 3

Equalized Valuations and Measuring Ability to Pay for Chapter 70 **continued from page one**

to be covered by the state. For FY08, the property value percentage was set at 0.2943 percent and the income percentage was set at 1.5779 percent.

Local ability to pay then is a function of both current property wealth as measured by equalized valuation and the community's aggregate personal income as reported to DOR for state income tax purposes. Equalized values are prepared by the Department of Revenue (DOR) every two years, and are estimates of property values that control for differences in local assessing practices and revaluation schedules.

A municipality's growth in foundation budget and its ability to pay determine the amount of additional Chapter 70 aid that the community will receive. The aggregate wealth model calculations described above are used to award new aid to communities receiving less aid than their relative wealth or ability to pay indicates they should. Additional budget language provides for aid to communities and districts with growing foundation budgets and establishes a minimum increase of $50 per pupil above prior year aid levels.

The formula used for the FY08 joint resolution first increases the prior year or FY07 required local contributions by the FY08 municipal revenue growth factor to yield a preliminary FY08 local contribution. The growth factor estimates growth in local revenues that may be used to support school spending. The preliminary contribution figure is then compared to the target local contribution and if the preliminary contribution exceeds the target local contribution, this difference is referred to as "excess local effort." In FY08, 218 of the 351 cities and towns were making a combined excess effort of $494 million. In these instances, the preliminary contribution is reduced by 25 percent of the excess local effort to yield the required FY08 local contribution.

If the preliminary contribution is less than the target local contribution, then the community is expected to increase its contribution by the municipal revenue growth factor so that the preliminary contribution is the required contribution. For those communities that are significantly below their target contribution (more than 10 percent), the joint resolution calls for an additional 2 percent increase to the preliminary contribution. For those that are between 5 and 10 percent below their target contribution an additional 1 percent increase is applied. This represents a modest, though significant, initiative to bring up low contributors by more than their growth factor.

The difference between the required local contribution and the foundation budget is provided by the state in the form of "foundation aid." If this amount exceeds the FY07 Chapter 70 aid, the excess is called the foundation aid increase.

In FY08, "down-payment" aid was applied to those districts that were receiving less state aid than indicated by their target aid share. To determine if a community receives this down-payment aid, the target aid percentage was multiplied by the foundation budget. The result was then multiplied by 30 percent to reflect the phase-in and compared with any foundation aid increase. If the 30 percent share exceeded the foundation aid increase, then the difference is referred to as down-payment aid.

Another aid component called "growth aid" is intended to provide aid to districts with growing foundation budgets. To determine if a community qualifies for this aid, the FY07 to FY08 increase in the foundation budget is multiplied by the target aid share. If the result exceeds the amount of the foundation aid increase and down-payment aid together, the difference is awarded as growth aid.

Finally, if the increases from the three aid components above do not yield an aid increase of at least $50 per pupil over the prior year, then minimum aid is awarded to bring the district to this aid level. Chapter 70 aid reflects the prior year amount of Chapter 70 plus the sum of any foundation aid increase, down-payment aid, growth aid and the $50 per pupil minimum increase.

Detailed Chapter 70 formula spreadsheets are available on the Department of Education's website that show these calculations in detail for all communities and school districts (see http://finance1.doe.mass.edu/chapter70/chapter_08.xls). ■

2006 Equalized Valuations **continued from page five**

ging behind, is now seeing its value growing. The seemingly good news for eastern Massachusetts is that the commercial and industrial values appear to be on the rise, how far and fast remains to be seen. ■

DLS Notices

Municipal Budgeted Revenues

The Municipal Databank collects data submitted to the Division of Local Services as part of the annual tax rate setting process. Municipal Budgeted Revenues by Source combines revenue data from the Tax Rate Recapitulation into four categories: tax levy, state aid, local receipts and other (free cash and other available funds). This data is available from FY81 to FY07, and can be used to develop a multi-year trend analysis of municipal revenue sources. This data can be found on the DLS website at www.mass.gov/dls.

For assistance in using the data on the DLS website please contact: Donnette Benvenuto at 617-626-2360 or Jared Curtis at 617-626-2320 or by e-mail at databank@dor.state.ma.us.

2007 Corporations Book Available

On April 23, 2007, the Department of Revenue released its 2007 Massachusetts Domestic and Foreign Corporations Subject to an Excise to our website at http://dorapps.dor.state.ma.us/corpbook/home/home.asp. The Corporations Book list all corporations registered to do business in Massachusetts as of January 1, 2007, including corporations that were granted "manufacturing" status or whose manufacturing status was revoked. Insurance companies and financial institutions are also included but are under their own section headings because they are taxed differently from other corporations. This data is only available on the Internet. It has an online search program and is downloadable.

Mark Your Calendars

Department of Revenue summer Course 101, Assessment Administration will be held in conjunction with the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers, Inc. at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, MA from August 6–10, 2007. For further information please go to www.maao.org.

New Officials Finance Forum, for recently elected or appointed officials, will be held on June 7, 2007, at the Henry M. Hogan Campus Center at the College of the Holy Cross, One College Street, Worcester, MA. Registration is due by May 25, 2007.

The fall 2007 Department of Revenue Assessment Administration Course101 for new assessors will be offered in the Hampden/Hampshire County area. This course will be in the evening and dates and the location will be announced as soon as they are established.

The Division of Local Services' legal staff will offer the seminar "What's New in Municipal Law" on Friday, September 28, 2007, at the Best Western Hotel in West Springfield, and on Friday, October 12, 2007, at The Lantana in Randolph. Presentations will include new legislation and recent court decisions pertaining to local government.

Contact Donna Quinn, training coordinator, at 617-626-3838 for additional information. ■

Search **continued from page two**

and chief of staff then interviewed three highly recommended candidates.

Step 4: Reference checks. Seven references for top candidate were checked. The results of these interviews were extremely positive.

For more information contact SomerStat Director Stephanie Hirsch, shirsch@ci.somerville.ma.us.

To learn more about SomerStat go to www.ci.somerville.ma.us/Division.cfm?orgunit=SOMSTAT. ■

Skating Club **continued from page three**

exempt on its athletic facilities since it reached out to the community through wide ranging programs and activities, the club in the case at hand merely promoted the sport of figure skating with a strong emphasis on competition from the beginner level to the Olympics. In its operation, the club emphasized "the narrow pursuit of competitive figure skating" rather than seeking to benefit an indefinite class of the public. On the issue of the significant fees imposed by the club, the ATB held this "speaks to the club's exclusivity and not its work for the public good."

Consequently, the ATB upheld the city's denial of a charitable exemption. ■

DLS Profile

Stephen Sullivan, Boston-Area Certification Advisor

Stephen Sullivan

In April 2006, Stephen Sullivan joined the Division of Local Services staff in the Bureau of Local Assessment as a certification advisor. In this position, Stephen oversees local cities and towns during their triennial certification process. Stephen works out of the Boston office where he has 34 communities, mostly in and around the Norfolk County area.

Before arriving at the Bureau of Local Assessment, Stephen had worked for Fidelity Investments, Fleet Bank, and most recently as an Auditor at StateStreet Bank. Stephen always had an interest in real estate and took some real estate appraisal courses. He received his appraisal license and was working for an appraisal company in Boston before joining BLA. "I had always wanted to do something in real estate full-time. This was a great opportunity."

Stephen really enjoys working with local officials and the statistical aspects of the job. "The job is never boring, there is always something different that comes up, and it is a constant learning process. You can be in three or four different towns in one week working on totally different things in each community," he said.

Stephen received his bachelor degree in Political Science from UMass-Boston. Originally from South Boston, Stephen currently lives in Milton with his wife Keri and their two young children, four-year-old Lucy and two-year-old Michael. ■

Municipal Fiscal Calendar

June 1

Clerk: Certification of Appropriations

Assessors: Determine Valuation of Other Municipal or District Land

June 15

DOR: Commissioner Determines and Certifies Pipeline Valuations

Assessors: Deadline for Appealing Commissioner's Telephone & Telegraph Valuations

Assessors: Make Annual Preliminary Tax Commitment

June 20

Assessors: Final Date to Make Omitted or Revised Assessments

June 30

State Treasurer: Notification of Quarterly Local Aid Payments Before June 30

Assessors: Overlay Surplus Closes to Surplus Revenue

Assessors: Physical Inventory of all Parcels for Communities that Accepted M.G.L. Ch. 59, Sec. 2A(a)

Assessors: Submit Annual Report of Omitted or Revised Assessments

Assessors: Last Day to Submit Requests for Current Fiscal Year Reimbursements of Exemptions Granted Under the Various Clauses of Ch. 59, Sec. 5

July 1

Collector: Mail Annual Preliminary Tax Bills

July 15

Accountant: Certification Date for Free Cash: Anytime after Books are Closed

Accountant: Report Community Preservation Fund Balance: Anytime after Books are Closed

School Business Officials: Certification Date for Excess and Deficiency (E&D) Fund

Assessors: Deadline for Appealing Commissioner's Pipeline Valuations to ATB

July 31

Treasurer: File IRS Form 5500 (Report of Employee Benefit Plan)

More information is available in the Municipal Calendar, available on the DLS website.

City & Town
City & Town is published by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue's Division of Local Services (DLS) and is designed to address matters of interest to local officials.

Marilyn Browne, *Editor*

To obtain information or publications, contact the Division of Local Services via:
- website: www.mass.gov/dls
- telephone: 617-626-2300
- mail: PO Box 9569, Boston, MA 02114-9569