

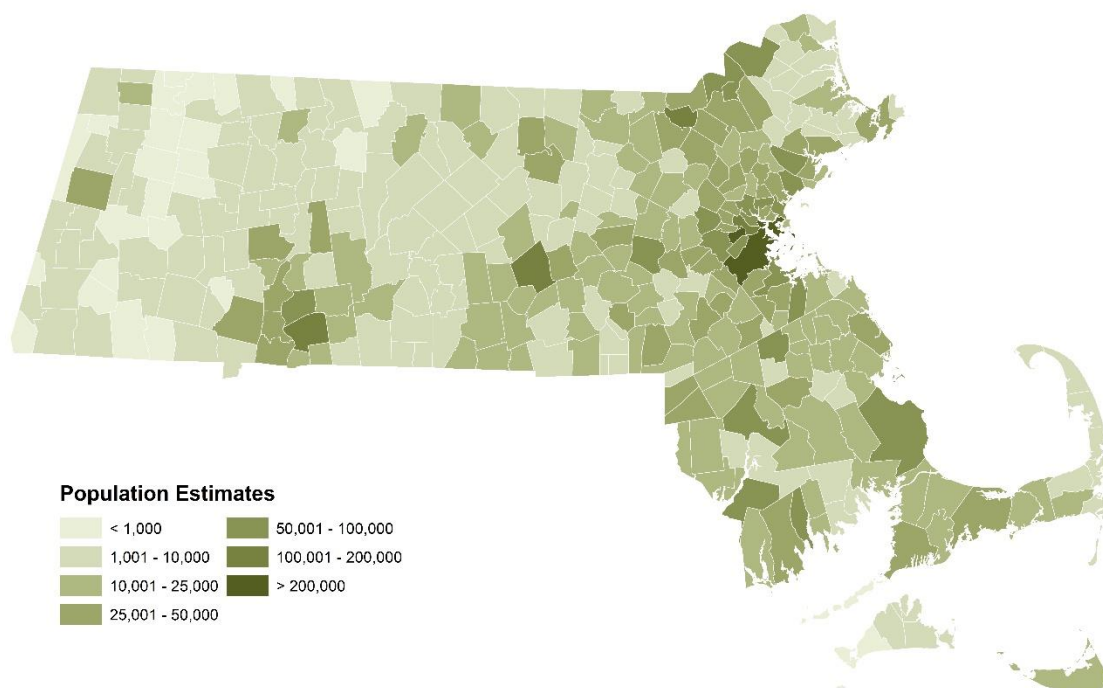
Summary of U.S. Census Bureau's 2017 Population Estimates for Massachusetts Cities and Towns

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For Release May 24, 2018

Map 1. Massachusetts Sub-County Population Estimates, July 1, 2017



UMass Donahue Institute. Source data: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017. U.S. Census Bureau Population Division. May 24, 2018.

On May 24, 2018, the U.S. Census Bureau released updated population estimates for Massachusetts cities and towns (also called “minor civil divisions” or “MCDs”) for July 1, 2017. This new vintage of estimates is derived from the allocation of the Census Bureau’s 2017 county-level population estimates, released in March 2018, to individual municipalities.

While county-level estimates are produced by accounting for “components of change,” including births, deaths, and migration, sub-county estimates are produced by distributing the county-level household population to each city and town, based on a housing unit formula, and then adding the group quarters

population. The Bureau's housing unit formula considers each town's share of the county housing unit totals along with its specific persons-per-household and occupancy rates.

For more information on state and county estimates for Massachusetts, please see our detailed reports at: <http://www.donahue.umassp.edu/business-groups/economic-public-policy-research/massachusetts-population-estimates-program/population-estimates-by-massachusetts-geography>.

Cities and Towns with Populations >50,000

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2017 Sub-County Population Estimates, 17 out of Massachusetts' 25 cities or towns with populations of 50,000 or more increased in population from July 1, 2016 to July 1, 2017. Boston led the group in terms of total gained with an estimated 6,664 person increase over the year, while Weymouth was the fastest-growing large place in terms of percentage growth, with a 1.4% population increase. Table 1 shows the estimated numerical change and percent change from July 1, 2016 to July 1, 2017 for cities and towns in Massachusetts with populations over 50,000 and how they rank in terms of percent change among the national group of places with populations over 50,000.

In the United States overall, 75% of the 758 incorporated places over 50,000 persons increased in population from 2016 to 2017, with an average 1.2% increase among growing places, an average -0.4% change in places with decreasing populations, and an average 0.8% increase for all 758 places. The most significant growth was seen in parts of the South and West, particularly in Texas which counted eleven places in the Top-25 fastest growing places by annual percent-change.

Table 1: Estimated Population and Population Change for Massachusetts Cities and Towns > 50,000, Including National Percent Change Rankings for Cities >50,000 in 2016					
Geography	July 1 Population Estimate		Change 2016 to 2017		National Rank out of 758 cities >50,000 in 2016
	2016	2017	Number	Percent	
Weymouth	55,865	56,664	799	1.4%	186
Cambridge	112,183	113,630	1,447	1.3%	212
Boston	678,430	685,094	6,664	1.0%	278
Lynn	93,420	94,063	643	0.7%	344
Haverhill	63,252	63,639	387	0.6%	367
Peabody	52,804	52,987	183	0.3%	452
Brockton	95,373	95,672	299	0.3%	461
Somerville	81,106	81,360	254	0.3%	462
Worcester	185,119	185,677	558	0.3%	465
Lawrence	79,922	80,162	240	0.3%	466
Newton	88,742	88,994	252	0.3%	468
Taunton	57,002	57,139	137	0.2%	487
Chicopee	55,434	55,515	81	0.1%	516
Springfield	154,565	154,758	193	0.1%	528
Quincy	94,053	94,166	113	0.1%	532

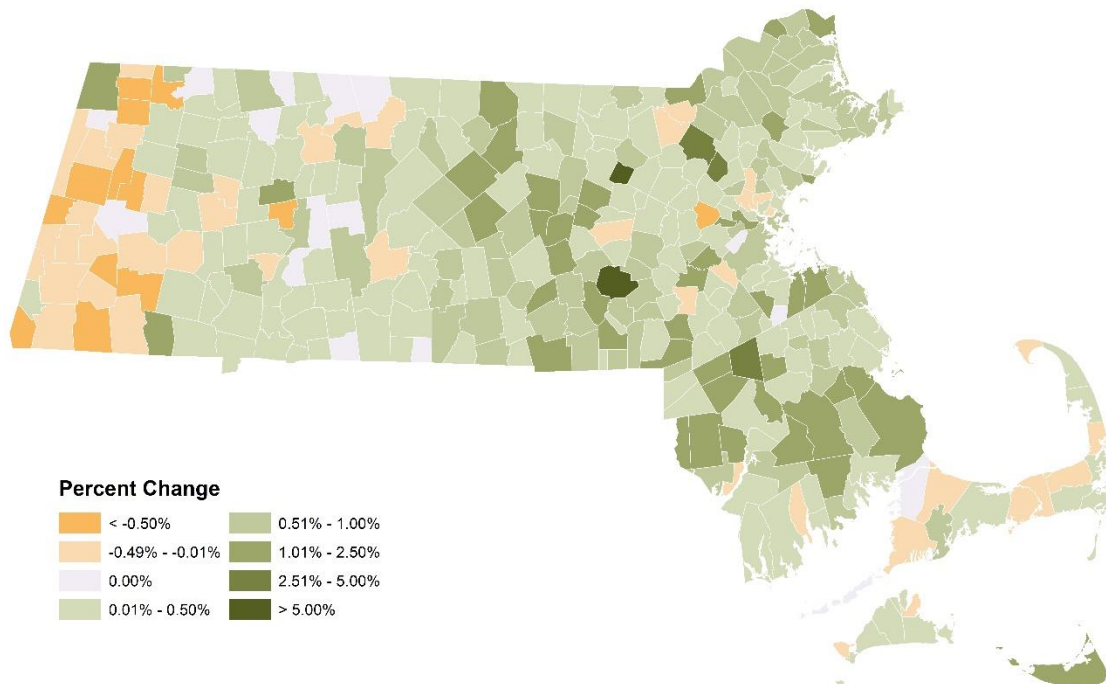
Fall River	89,355	89,420	65	0.1%	549
Revere	53,958	53,993	35	0.1%	552
New Bedford	95,143	95,120	(23)	0.0%	579
Lowell	111,472	111,346	(126)	-0.1%	605
Medford	57,876	57,797	(79)	-0.1%	610
Malden	61,336	61,246	(90)	-0.1%	614
Waltham	63,052	62,442	(610)	-1.0%	749
Framingham	71,622	72,032	410	0.6%	*
Plymouth	59,170	59,885	715	1.2%	*
Brookline	59,157	59,157	-	0.0%	*

* Plymouth, Framingham, and Brookline are not included in the Census Bureau's national rankings because they are towns, not cities.

UMass Donahue Institute. Source: Annual Estimates of Resident Population Change for Incorporated Places of 50,000 or More in 2017, Ranked by Percent Change: July 1, 2016 to July 1, 2017 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Release Date: May 24, 2018

All Cities and Towns: *Single-Year Change*

Map 2. Estimated Annual Percent Change in Population, July 1, 2016 to July 1, 2017 by Massachusetts Municipality



UMass Donahue Institute. Source data: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017. U.S. Census Bureau Population Division. May 24, 2018.

Among the 351 individual cities and towns in Massachusetts, the U.S. Census Bureau estimates that 279 municipalities, 79% of all, increased in population between July 1, 2016 and July 1, 2017. The largest population gains from 2016 to 2017 were estimated in Boston (6,664), Cambridge (1,447), and Hopkinton (1,115). Percentage-wise, the fastest growers of the year were mostly small- to mid-sized towns and cities, including many in Middlesex, Bristol, Worcester and other counties close to Boston. The table below shows the top 25 fastest growing municipalities in the state in terms of percentage change from 2016 to 2017.

Table 2: Top 25 Massachusetts Cities and Towns by Percent Population Change 2016 to 2017

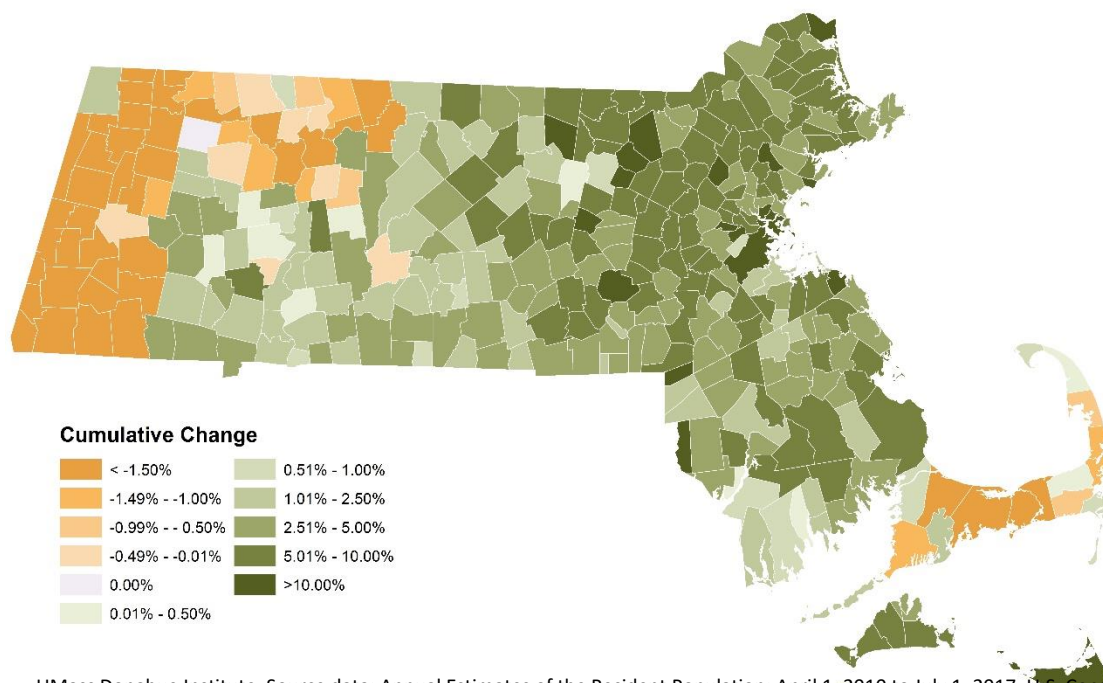
City or Town	County	July 1 Estimate		Change 2016-2017	Percent change 2016-2017
		2016	2017		
Boxborough	Middlesex	5,808	6,401	593	10.2%
Hopkinton	Middlesex	16,920	18,035	1,115	6.6%
Easton	Bristol	24,017	24,984	967	4.0%
Burlington	Middlesex	26,378	27,176	798	3.0%
Billerica	Middlesex	42,861	43,962	1,101	2.6%
West Boylston	Worcester	7,865	8,056	191	2.4%
Dighton	Bristol	7,545	7,715	170	2.3%
Seekonk	Bristol	15,231	15,548	317	2.1%
Randolph	Norfolk	33,604	34,272	668	2.0%
Rutland	Worcester	8,533	8,700	167	2.0%
Shrewsbury	Worcester	36,701	37,387	686	1.9%
Upton	Worcester	7,785	7,926	141	1.8%
Swampscott	Essex	14,911	15,177	266	1.8%
Watertown	Middlesex	35,157	35,756	599	1.7%
Hubbardston	Worcester	4,637	4,715	78	1.7%
Williamstown	Berkshire	7,712	7,835	123	1.6%
Westminster	Worcester	7,647	7,766	119	1.6%
Plympton	Plymouth	2,926	2,971	45	1.5%
Raynham	Bristol	14,000	14,203	203	1.5%
Weymouth	Norfolk	55,865	56,664	799	1.4%
Lakeville	Plymouth	11,268	11,424	156	1.4%
Douglas	Worcester	8,750	8,869	119	1.4%
Boylston	Worcester	4,572	4,634	62	1.4%
Hingham	Plymouth	23,104	23,415	311	1.3%
Berlin	Worcester	3,134	3,176	42	1.3%

UMass Donahue Institute Population Estimates Program. Source: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017. U.S. Census Bureau Population Division. May 24, 2018.

The municipalities showing the greatest estimated population loss during the year were Waltham (-610), Pittsfield (-295), and Lowell¹ (-126), while the largest percentage decreases were estimated in Waltham (-1.0%), Hatfield (-0.7%), and Hinsdale (-0.7%). In general, towns in Berkshire and other Western Massachusetts counties showed the greatest percent decreases along with some of the towns in Barnstable County on Cape Cod.

Cumulative Change Since 2010

Map 3. Estimated Cumulative Percent Change in Population, April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017 by Massachusetts Municipality



UMass Donahue Institute. Source data: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017. U.S. Census Bureau Population Division. May 24, 2018.

Since the last census in 2010, the largest cumulative population gains have occurred within the already dense Suffolk, Middlesex, and Essex counties, while most population loss was experienced in Berkshire, Franklin, and Barnstable counties. The municipalities with the largest cumulative population gains since the 2010 Census include Boston (67,369), Cambridge (8,429), Somerville (5,683), Chelsea (5,050), and Lowell (4,827). By percent change, the largest gains from 2010 to 2017 were estimated in Boxborough (28.1%), Hopkinton (20.8%), Chelsea (14.4%), Salisbury (13.4%), and Littleton (13.3%).

Table 3 lists the 25 fastest growing MCDs in Massachusetts since April 1, 2010 by population growth and is followed by a table of the 25 fastest growing MCDs by percentage growth (Table 4).

¹ Note that while Lowell lost population between 2016 and 2017 according to Census estimates, it is still ranked as the fifth fastest grower in Massachusetts *cumulatively* since the last Census in 2010. Between April 1, 2010 and July 1, 2017, Lowell is estimated to have *increased* population by a net 4,827 persons.

**Table 3: Massachusetts 25 Fastest Growing Cities and Towns by Cumulative Population Change,
April 1, 2010 Base to July 1, 2017**

City or Town	County	April 1, 2010 Base	July 1, 2017	Population Change	Rank Change
Boston	Suffolk	617,725	685,094	67,369	1
Cambridge	Middlesex	105,201	113,630	8,429	2
Somerville	Middlesex	75,677	81,360	5,683	3
Chelsea	Suffolk	35,177	40,227	5,050	4
Lowell	Middlesex	106,519	111,346	4,827	5
Worcester	Worcester	180,983	185,677	4,694	6
Everett	Middlesex	41,664	46,324	4,660	7
Newton	Middlesex	85,079	88,994	3,915	8
Watertown	Middlesex	31,914	35,756	3,842	9
Lawrence	Essex	76,381	80,162	3,781	10
Lynn	Essex	90,329	94,063	3,734	11
Billerica	Middlesex	40,243	43,962	3,719	12
Framingham	Middlesex	68,326	72,032	3,706	13
Plymouth	Plymouth	56,473	59,885	3,412	14
Natick	Middlesex	32,997	36,246	3,249	15
Hopkinton	Middlesex	14,925	18,035	3,110	16
Methuen	Essex	47,252	50,259	3,007	17
Weymouth	Norfolk	53,762	56,664	2,902	18
Haverhill	Essex	60,879	63,639	2,760	19
Andover	Essex	33,208	35,937	2,729	20
Burlington	Middlesex	24,498	27,176	2,678	21
Arlington	Middlesex	42,844	45,510	2,666	22
North Andover	Essex	28,352	31,013	2,661	23
Westford	Middlesex	21,951	24,310	2,359	24
Lexington	Middlesex	31,394	33,727	2,333	25

UMass Donahue Institute. Source data: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017. U.S. Census Bureau Population Division. May 24, 2018

Table 4: Massachusetts 25 Fastest Growing Cities and Towns by Cumulative Percent Population Change,**April 1, 2010 Base to July 1, 2017**

City or Town	County	April 1, 2010 Base	July 1, 2017	Population Change	Percent Change	Rank Change
Boxborough	Middlesex	4,996	6,401	1,405	28.1%	1
Hopkinton	Middlesex	14,925	18,035	3,110	20.8%	2
Chelsea	Suffolk	35,177	40,227	5,050	14.4%	3
Salisbury	Essex	8,289	9,400	1,111	13.4%	4
Littleton	Middlesex	8,924	10,115	1,191	13.3%	5
Seekonk	Bristol	13,722	15,548	1,826	13.3%	6
Cohasset	Norfolk	7,540	8,516	976	12.9%	7
Lunenburg	Worcester	10,086	11,312	1,226	12.2%	8
Watertown	Middlesex	31,914	35,756	3,842	12.0%	9
Lynnfield	Essex	11,595	12,942	1,347	11.6%	10
Everett	Middlesex	41,664	46,324	4,660	11.2%	11
Burlington	Middlesex	24,498	27,176	2,678	10.9%	12
Boston	Suffolk	617,725	685,094	67,369	10.9%	13
Berlin	Worcester	2,866	3,176	310	10.8%	14
Westford	Middlesex	21,951	24,310	2,359	10.7%	15
Plainville	Norfolk	8,273	9,154	881	10.6%	16
Nantucket	Nantucket	10,172	11,229	1,057	10.4%	17
Swampscott	Essex	13,787	15,177	1,390	10.1%	18
Natick	Middlesex	32,997	36,246	3,249	9.8%	19
Westwood	Norfolk	14,623	16,056	1,433	9.8%	20
Middleton	Essex	8,987	9,861	874	9.7%	21
Ayer	Middlesex	7,427	8,145	718	9.7%	22
West Newbury	Essex	4,235	4,637	402	9.5%	23
Tyngsborough	Middlesex	11,292	12,357	1,065	9.4%	24
North Andover	Essex	28,352	31,013	2,661	9.4%	25

UMass Donahue Institute. Source data: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017. U.S. Census Bureau Population Division. May 24, 2018

For additional detailed tables and maps related to this summary report refer to the appendices of our May 24, 2018 release at: <http://www.donahue.umassp.edu/business-groups/economic-public-policy-research/massachusetts-population-estimates-program/population-estimates-by-massachusetts-geography/by-city-and-town>.

For more information on the U.S. Census Bureau's Vintage 2017 Population Estimates Release and to see data for the rest of the U.S., visit the U.S. Census Bureau's estimates page at: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/data/data-sets.html>

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