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Boston



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Coordinates: 42°21′28″N 71°03′42″W﻿ / ﻿42.35778°N 71.06167°W﻿ / 42.35778; -71.06167﻿ ()

*This article is about the capital of Massachusetts. For other uses, see *Boston (disambiguation)*.*

Boston (pronounced /ˈbɒstən/ (help·info)) is the capital and largest city of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and is one of the oldest cities in the United States. The largest city in New England, Boston is considered the economic and cultural center of the region and is sometimes regarded as the unofficial "Capital of New England".^[11] Boston city proper had a 2008 estimated population of 620,535, making it the twenty-first largest in the country.^[6] Boston is also the anchor of a substantially larger metropolitan area called Greater Boston, home to 4.5 million people and the tenth-largest metropolitan area in the country.^[8] Greater Boston as a commuting region includes six Massachusetts counties, Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk, Suffolk, Plymouth, and Worcester,^[12] all of Rhode Island and parts of New Hampshire; it is home to 7.5 million people, making it the fifth-largest Combined Statistical Area in the United States.^{[9][13]}

In 1630, Puritan colonists from England founded the city on the Shawmut Peninsula.^[14] During the late 18th century, Boston was the location of several major events during the American Revolution, including the Boston Massacre and the Boston Tea Party. Several early battles of the American Revolution, such as the Battle of Bunker Hill and the Siege of Boston, occurred within the city and surrounding areas. Through land reclamation and municipal annexation, Boston has expanded beyond the peninsula. After American independence was attained Boston became a major shipping port and manufacturing center,^[14] and its rich history now helps attract 16.3 million visitors annually.^[15] The city was the site of several firsts, including America's first public school, Boston Latin School (1635),^[16] and the first subway system in the United States.^[17]

With many colleges and universities within the city and surrounding area, Boston is a center of higher education and a center for medicine.^[18] The city's economy is also based on research, electronics, engineering, finance, and technology—principally biotechnology.^[19] Boston ranks first in the country in jobs per square mile ahead of New York City and Washington, D.C.^[20] The city has been experiencing gentrification and has one of the highest costs of living in the United States,^[21] and it remains high on world livability rankings.^[22]

City of Boston

— City —

Skyline of Back Bay, seen from the Charles River, featuring Boston's two tallest buildings, the John Hancock Tower (left) and the Prudential Tower (right)

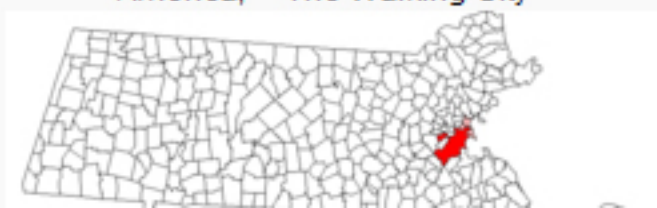


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Nickname(s): Beantown,^[1] The Hub (of the Universe),^[1] The Cradle of Liberty,^[2] The Cradle of Modern America,^[1] The Athens of America,^[2] The Walking City^[1]



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'''Boston''' (pronounced /ˈbɒstən/) is the [[List of capitals in the United States|capital]] and largest city of the [[Commonwealth (U.S. state)|Commonwealth]] of [[Massachusetts]], and is one of the oldest cities in the [[United States]]. The largest city in [[New England]], Boston is considered the economic and cultural center of the region and is sometimes regarded as the unofficial "Capital of New England".

<ref> [cite book](#) </ref> Boston [[City limits|city proper]] had a 2008 estimated population of 620,535, making it the [[List of United States cities by population|twenty-first largest in the country]].<ref name="City population" /> Boston is also the anchor of a substantially larger metropolitan area called [[Greater Boston]], home to 4.5 million people and the [[Table of United States Metropolitan Statistical Areas|tenth-largest metropolitan area]] in the country.<ref name="Metro population"> [cite web](#) </ref>

<!-- The following sentence concerns the Boston-Worcester-Manchester, MA-RI-NH Combined Statistical Area which is cited in the article and DOES NOT INCLUDE parts of Connecticut or Maine. --> Greater Boston as a commuting region includes six [[List of counties in Massachusetts|Massachusetts counties]], Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk, Suffolk, Plymouth, and Worcester,<ref>[www.fta.dot.gov/documents/Boston_Worchester_Manchester_DemographicProfile19.doc](#)</ref> all of [[Rhode Island]] and parts of [[New Hampshire]]; it is home to 7.5 million people, making it the [[Table of United States Combined Statistical Areas|fifth-largest Combined Statistical Area]] in the United States.<ref name="CSA">

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Infobox settlement

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'''Boston''' (pronounced {{Audio-IPA|en-us-Boston.ogg|`bɒstən/}}) is the [[List of capitals in the United States|capital]] and largest city of the [[Commonwealth (U.S. state)|Commonwealth]] of [[Massachusetts]], and is one of

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Boston

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This article is a

Boston (pronounced /bɒstɒn/ of Massachusetts, United Kingdom and Ireland, Boston is sometimes regarded as the largest city in the Northeastern United States. In 2008, the city's estimated population was 645,649. Boston is also the largest city in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with a metropolitan area home to 4.5 million people. Boston is a major center for Boston as a community, with a population of 7.5 million in the Greater Boston area. It is home to 7.5 million people in the United States.^{[9][13]}

In 1630, Puritan colonists founded the city, which became the late 18th century center of the American Revolution, including the American Revolutionary War. Boston has expanded its area over time, and Boston became a major shipping port. The city helps attract 16.3 million visitors annually.^[15] The city was the site of several firsts, including America's first public school, Boston Latin School (1635),^[16] and the first subway system in the United States.^[17]

With many colleges and universities within the city and surrounding area, Boston is a center of higher education and a center for medicine.^[18] The city's economy is also based on research, electronics, engineering, finance, and technology—principally biotechnology.^[19] Boston ranks first in the country in jobs per square mile ahead of New York City and Washington, D.C.^[20] The city has been experiencing gentrification and has one of the highest costs of living in the United States,^[21] and it remains high on world livability rankings.^[22]

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City of Boston

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View of Back Bay, seen from the Charles River, featuring Boston's two tallest buildings, the John Hancock Tower (left) and the Prudential Tower (right)



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