



Report 15-01
February 2015

Worcester Almanac: 2015

Worcester Regional Research Bureau, Inc.
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From The Research Bureau

Data matter. Since its founding, The Research Bureau has worked to identify, compile, analyze, and present data about municipal issues and solutions for the benefit of the public and policymakers alike. Through a combination of primary and secondary data, The Research Bureau has looked into diverse topics ranging from public finance, education, administration, safety, economic development, and public works. Only through reliable and comprehensive data can issues be accurately identified and addressed thoroughly and without unintended consequence. This *Almanac* is the first in what we expect to make an annual compendium of data about Greater Worcester. While our inaugural issue focuses primarily on the City of Worcester, over the coming years we look to expand our coverage to include the surrounding communities that make up the social and economic environment of southern Central Massachusetts. Ongoing, regular compilation of data sets will allow us the opportunity to explore both point-in-time and longitudinal change occurring throughout this dynamic area. We invite you to explore all of the activities of The Research Bureau on our website at www.wrrb.org and check us out on Facebook and Twitter.

From MassDevelopment

The dynamic people, companies, and institutions of Worcester demand an aggressive, adaptable, and forward-thinking economic development agency that can serve the City's changing and evolving needs. With an office and staff located in downtown Worcester, MassDevelopment provides a wide array of programs and resources to help Worcester develop and grow.

An overview of the projects financed by MassDevelopment in 2014 illustrates the variety of our programs that help to stimulate capital investment and new growth in the City of Worcester. In a single calendar year, MassDevelopment provided funding support to: the rehabilitation and conversion of the *T&G* headquarters on Franklin Street; Dennison Lubricants, Inc., and Oilzum, LLC to expand operations and jobs; KMRN Investments to construct the Oasis at Dodge Park nursing facility specializing in patients with memory loss and dementia; WPI campus expansion and renovations; and such cultural institutions as the EcoTarium, Massachusetts Symphony Orchestra/Tuckerman Hall, and the Worcester Art Museum through the Cultural Facilities Fund. Worcester's Theatre District was also recognized as one of ten Gateway City Districts in the Commonwealth through our Transformative Development Initiative. For the third year in a row, the Central Massachusetts Workforce Investment Board (in partnership with the Worcester Public Schools, Blackstone Valley Education Foundation, and Quinsigamond Community College) received funding through MassDevelopment's "*AMP it up!*" program to target teachers, school counselors, college faculty, families, and parents who influence career exploration and decision-making for students in grades 7 through 12 to urge them to pursue manufacturing careers.

In order to develop Massachusetts' Gateway Cities like Worcester, MassDevelopment believes strongly in the importance of understanding the nuances of the community and its economy. The *Worcester Almanac* represents an effort to understand and monitor changes in the growing Greater Worcester region. MassDevelopment has a long history and partnership with the Worcester Regional Research Bureau. We look forward to strengthening our relationship through projects like the *Worcester Almanac*. Together, we can make Worcester an even more dynamic place for commerce, education, and culture.

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Government

City of Worcester Government

The City of Worcester, as established by the City Charter, is known as a modified Plan E form of government which is a Council-Manager form of government with a popularly elected Mayor. The Worcester Public Schools is a quasi-independent department of the City.

The City Council is the City's legislative body while the City Manager serves as chief executive officer. The City Council is composed of 11 members - six elected city-wide (or at-large) and five elected from districts. The Mayor is a member of the City Council who receives the most votes in the mayoral election and wins an at-large City Council seat. In addition to his or her role as City Councilor, the Mayor serves as the ceremonial head of the government and chairs both the City Council and School Committee. The City Council hires the City Manager and can remove him or her by majority vote. The City Manager hires all City employees (except Worcester Public Schools employees), oversees City operations, and presents the City Council with an annual budget that must be approved by June 30th of each year. The City Council has the authority to reduce the City Manager's proposed budget, but not increase it. The approved budget must be balanced.

The Worcester School Committee is the Worcester Public Schools' legislative body while the Superintendent of Schools serves as chief executive officer. The School Committee consists of the Mayor and six elected city-wide members. The School Committee sets district-wide school policies, votes on the district budget, and hires and removes the Superintendent.

City Council and School Committee elections are held in odd numbered years.



City of Worcester Seal



Mayor

Joseph M. Petty

City Council

Anthony J. Economou, District 1
Philip P. Palmieri, District 2
George J. Russell, District 3
Sarai Rivera, District 4
Gary Rosen, District 5
Morris Bergman, At-Large
Michael T. Gaffney, At-Large
Konstantina B. Lukes, At-Large
Frederick C. Rushton, At-Large
Kathleen M. Toomey, At-Large

City Manager

Edward M. Augustus, Jr.

School Committee

Dianna L. Biancheria
John L. Foley
John F. Monfredo
Tracy A. O'Connell Novick
Brian A. O'Connell
Hilda Ramirez

Superintendent

Melinda J. Boone, Ed.D.

City Clerk

David J. Rushford

City Auditor

Robert V. Stearns

City Manager's Cabinet

Kathleen G. Johnson, Acting Assistant City Manager for Operations
Gerard A. Dio, Fire Chief
Richard H. Fiske, III, Emergency Communications & Emergency Management Director
Gary J. Gemme, Police Chief
John R. Kelly, Inspectional Services Commissioner
David M. Moore, City Solicitor
Paul J. Moosey, Public Works & Parks Commissioner
Michael E. Traynor, Chief Development Officer
Thomas F. Zidelis, Chief Financial Officer

United States Senators

Elizabeth Warren
Edward J. Markey

United States Representative

James P. McGovern

Governor

Charles D. Baker, Jr.

Lieutenant Governor

Karyn Polito

Governor's Council

Jennie L. Caissie

State Senators

Harriette L. Chandler—1st Worcester
Michael O. Moore—2nd Worcester

State Representatives

John J. Mahoney—13th Worcester
James J. O'Day—14th Worcester
Mary S. Keefe—15th Worcester
Daniel M. Donahue—16th Worcester
Kate D. Campanale—17th Worcester

District Attorney

Joseph D. Early, Jr.

Clerk of Courts

Dennis P. McManus

Register of Deeds

Anthony J. Vigliotti

Register of Probate

Stephanie K. Fattman

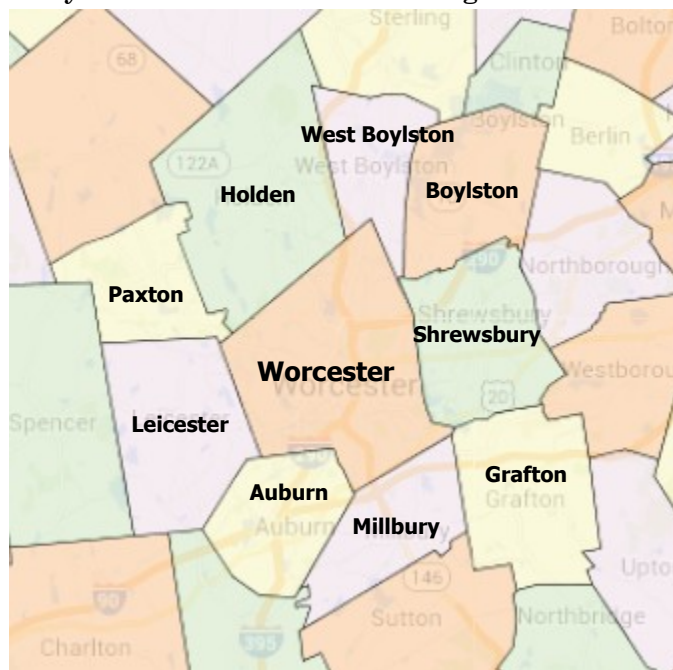
County Sheriff

Lewis G. Evangelidis

Greater Worcester Executive/Administrative Leadership

Auburn—Julie A. Jacobson—Town Manager
 Boylston—Martin McNamara—Town Administrator
 Grafton—Timothy P. McInerney—Town Administrator
 Holden—Jacquelyn Kelly—Town Manager
 Leicester—Kevin J. Mizikar—Town Administrator
 Millbury—Bob Spain—Town Manager
 Paxton—Carol Riches—Town Administrator
 Shrewsbury—Daniel J. Morgado—Town Manager
 West Boylston—Leon A. Gaumond, Jr.—Town Administrator

City of Worcester & Surrounding Communities



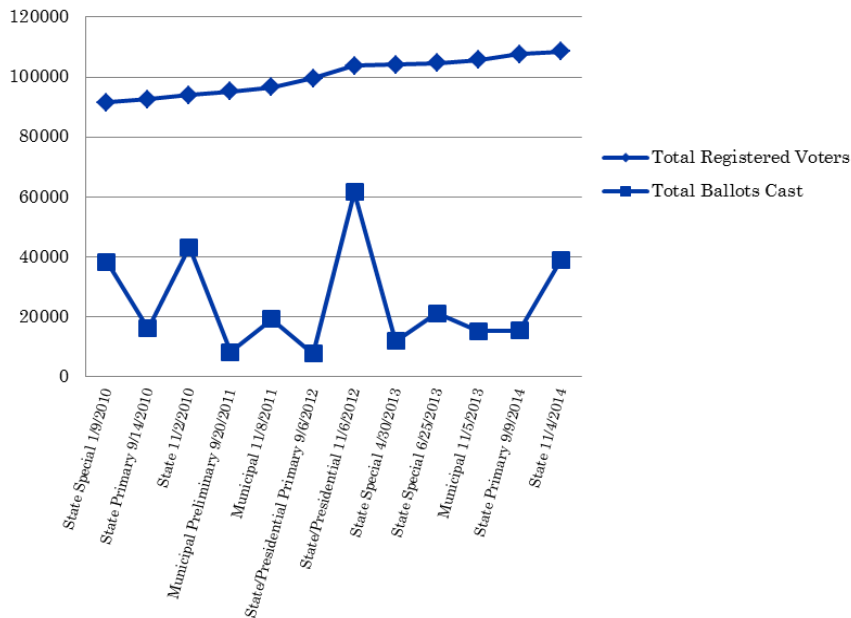
City of Worcester:

Area: 37.37 square miles (96.79 square kilometers)
 Population: 181,901 (2013)
 Population Density: 4,844.5 persons per square mile

Worcester County:

Area: 1,579 square miles (4,090 square kilometers)
 Population: 809,106 (2013)
 Population Density: 528.6 persons per square mile
 59 cities and towns

City of Worcester Registered Voters & Ballots Cast



Voter turnout in the City of Worcester varies depending on the type of election. Municipal elections, which are held in odd numbered years, experience the lowest turnout. Only 14.4% of registered voters turned out in November 2013 to vote for the Mayor, City Council, and School Committee. State elections, which occur in even-numbered years, and especially elections including the election for President, experience the highest turnout.

Source: Massachusetts Secretary of State and City of Worcester Elections Division.

As of January 2015, 47% of Worcester's registered voters were not enrolled in a political party. 44% of voters were Democrats while 9% of voters were Republicans.

Party Affiliation, 2015	# of Registered Voters
Unenrolled	41,982
Democrat	39,877
Republican	7,669
Libertarian	230
Green Rainbow	159
Interdependent Third Party	45
Green Party USA	13
Conservative	10
MA Independent Party	10
United Independent Party	9
Reform	6
Socialist	6
Working Families	5
American Independent	4
Pirate	4
We the People	4
Rainbow Coalition	3
Constitution Party	2
Natural Law Party	2
Twelve Visions Party	2
New World Council	1
Veteran Party America	1

Source: City of Worcester Elections Division.



Worcester Almanac: Government

City of Worcester Property Tax Rates	
Type	Fiscal Year 2015
Residential	\$20.07
Commercial/Industrial/ Personal Property (CIP)	\$31.73

Source: City of Worcester. Rates are per \$1,000.

Tax Shift

The City of Worcester has a dual tax rate, assessing residential and commercial/industrial/personal (CIP) property at different rates. Under Massachusetts law, communities are limited in their ability to shift the tax burden among classes to ensure that the burden is not shifted solely onto non-voting taxpayers. A single tax rate is represented by a factor of “1.”

City of Worcester Tax Shift, FY15			
Lowest Residential Factor Allowed	Residential Factor Selected	Maximum CIP Shift Allowed	CIP Shift
.7966	.8562	1.5	1.3535

Source: Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

Tax Value of Property in Worcester, FY15		
Tax Status	Estimated Value	Percent of Total
Total Taxable and Tax-Exempt Property Value	\$16,116,428,628	100.00%
<i>Taxable Property Values</i>	<i>\$11,171,271,238</i>	<i>69.32%</i>
<i>Tax-Exempt Property Values</i>	<i>\$4,945,157,390</i>	<i>30.68%</i>
Class	Estimated Value	Percent of Total
Residential	\$7,940,488,559	71.08%
Commercial/Industrial/Personal Property	\$3,230,782,679	28.92%

Source: City of Worcester Assessor's Office & Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

Other Worcester Taxes, 2014		
	Tax Rate	FY14
Meals		
State	6.25%	\$17,993,602*
Local	0.75%	\$2,367,579
DCU Center Special District (To City)	7%	\$448,067
Hotel		
State	5.7%	\$708,868.91*
Convention Center Fund (To State)	2.75%	\$341,998.16*
Local	6%	\$746,177.80
DCU Center Special District (To City)	11.7%	\$1,259,279.49
Motor Vehicle Excise	\$25 per \$1000	\$13,300,714

Source: City of Worcester Administration & Finance. *Estimated.

Greater Worcester Property Tax Rates, FY15		
	Residential	Commercial/Industrial/ Personal Property
Auburn	\$17.26	\$23.26
Boylston	\$17.41	\$17.41
Grafton	\$16.50	\$16.50
Holden	\$18.12	\$18.12
Leicester	\$14.54	\$14.54
Millbury	\$16.46	\$16.46
Paxton	\$20.79	\$20.79
Shrewsbury	\$13.20	\$13.20
West Boylston	\$18.34	\$18.34
Worcester	\$20.07	\$31.73

Source: Massachusetts Department of Revenue. Rates are per \$1,000.

Bond Rating

In order to borrow money, municipalities issue bonds that are purchased by investors for a guaranteed return over time. Bond ratings serve as third-party evaluations of a bond issuer's ability to repay the bond according to the terms. Three primary rating agencies—Fitch Ratings, Moody's Investors Service, and Standard & Poor's Rating Service—evaluate most municipal bonds. Bonds are given ratings ranging from a high of "AAA" or "Aaa" to a low of "C" or "D". Worcester's ratings indicate attractive, high grade bonds that are considered at low risk of default.

City of Worcester Bond Ratings, 2014	
Rating Agency	Rating
Fitch Ratings	AA-
Moody's Investors Service	Aa3
Standard & Poor's Rating Service	AA-

Source: City of Worcester.

City of Worcester Debt, 2014	
Total Outstanding Long-Term Indebtedness as of 12/15/14	\$632,876,824
<i>Self-Supporting Debt*</i>	<i>\$209,437,188</i>
Bond Anticipation Notes as of 12/15/14	\$33,244,001
Bonded Debt per Capita	\$3,401
Bonded Debt as a % of Assessed Valuation	5.63%
Bonded Debt as a % of Personal Income per Capita	13.9%

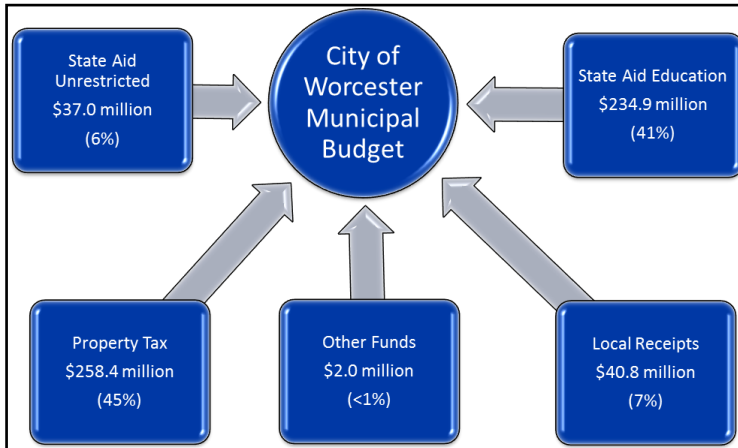
Source: City of Worcester. *Self-Supporting Debt includes water, sewer, City Square, garage, the DCU Special District, and other enterprise accounts.

City of Worcester Fund Balance	
Fund Balance—FY14	\$34,890,173
Change in Fund Balance—FY13 to FY14	\$4,368,979
Fund Balance as a % of FY15 Budget	6.07%

Source: City of Worcester Administration & Finance.

Public Finance

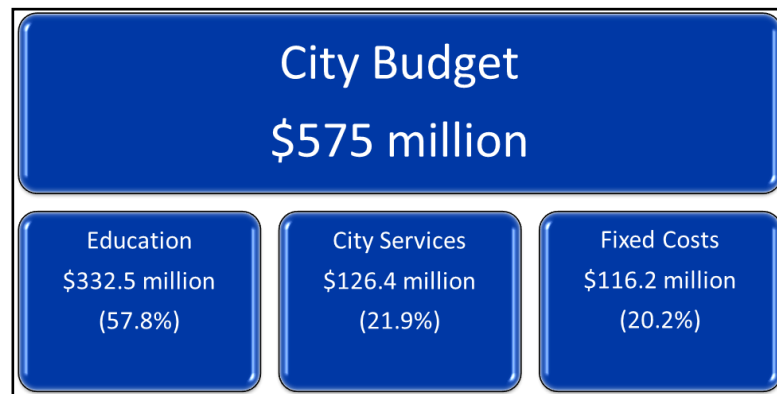
City of Worcester FY15 Budgeted Revenues



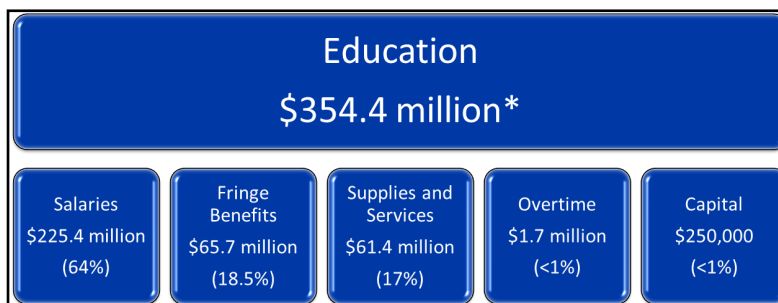
The City of Worcester is heavily dependent on local property tax revenues and state aid for education. State education funding is established by the Commonwealth's Chapter 70 formula which provides education subsidies to all cities and towns.

City leadership has discretion over only a small part of the City's expenditures. A significant portion of the City's annual budget is fixed obligations to education, pensions, and debt service.

City of Worcester FY15 Budgeted Expenditures



Worcester Public Schools FY15 Budgeted Expenditures



*The Worcester Public Schools allocation within the City budget is augmented by available Federal, State, and other grants.

Source: City of Worcester Fiscal 2015 Budget

City of Worcester Budgeted Employee Counts, FY15	
Positions	# of Budgeted Employees
Legislative Offices	
City Council	11
Mayor's Office	2
City Clerk	10
Election Commission	9
City Auditor	9
Retirement	0
City Manager's Office	
City Manager's Office	15
Elder Affairs	8
Public Library	97
Dept. of Economic Development	
Economic Development	36
Workforce Investment Board	9
Workforce Central Career Center	37
Cable Services	3
License Commission	3
Public Health	24
Human Resources	16
Law Department	15
Police Department	497
Fire Department	419
Emergency Communications	78
Dept. of Inspectional Services	61
Worcester Public Schools	3,840
Public Works and Parks	
Golf	2
Public Works	194
Parks, Recreation, and Hope Cemetery	53
Enterprise: Sewer Division	68
Enterprise: Water Division	132
Administration & Finance	
Finance	43
Assessing	10
Technical Services	26
City Energy and Asset Management	14
TOTAL	5,741

Source: City of Worcester.

Each year, as part of the annual budget process, the City Council approves staff positions within City departments. Authorized positions are filled at the discretion of the City Administration and can be full-time or part-time. While City Council budgeted for 5,741 positions, it is possible that not all of these positions were filled during the fiscal year or that some of these positions were filled with part-time employees.

WPS Budgeted Employee Counts, FY15	
Positions	# of Budgeted Employees
District Administrators	23
School Administrators	79
Teachers	2,092
Instructional Assistants	591
Bus Monitors	39
Crossing Guards	106
Educational Support	98
Custodial Services	150
Maintenance	33
Full Year Clerical	63
School Year Clerical	68
School Nurses	54
District Support	48
Bus Drivers	42
Child Nutrition	228
Head Start	126
TOTAL	3,840

Other City of Worcester Data

Other Worcester Data

Building Permits, 2014	
Number of Total Permits	2,569
Estimated Cost of Construction	\$144.4M

Source: City of Worcester Executive Office of Economic Development.

Trash and Recycling	
	FY13
Trash Collected	20,361 tons
Recycling Collected	9,554 tons

Source: City of Worcester Department of Public Works & Parks.

Worcester Public Library System	
	FY13
Number of Independent Branches	3
Number of School-Based Branches	3
Print Holdings	670,401
Total Circulation	898,735
Total Number of Visits	531,590

Source: Worcester Public Library.

Worcester Water and Sewer Rates*		
	FY14	FY15
Water Rates	\$3.51	\$3.54
Sewer Rates	\$5.94	\$6.29
*Rates are per 100 cubic feet of usage		

Source: City of Worcester Department of Public Works & Parks.

Parks and Recreation in Worcester	
Number of Parks	60
Number of Playgrounds	34
Number of Fields for Sports	124
Swimming Beach or Pool	15
Total Park Acreage	1316.05
% of Total Acreage in City	6.3%

Source: City of Worcester Department of Public Works & Parks.

Demographics & Economy

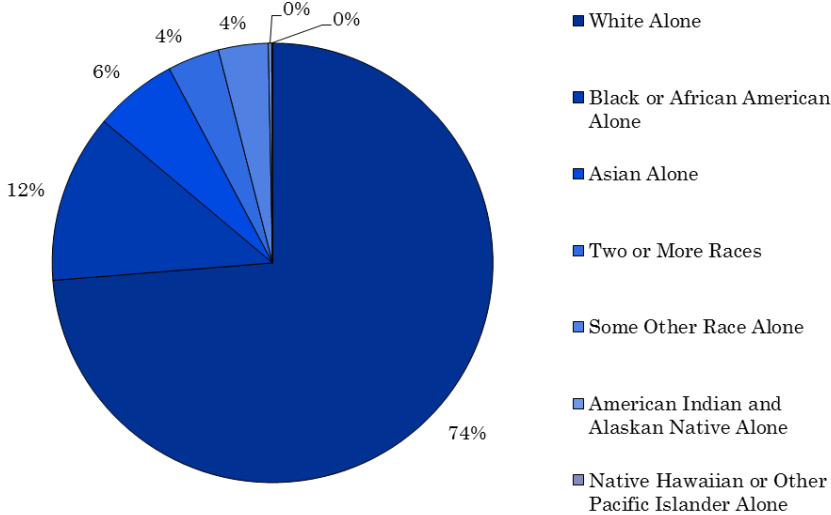
City of Worcester Population: 181,901

129th Largest City in the United States

2nd Largest City in New England

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester Population by Race, 2013

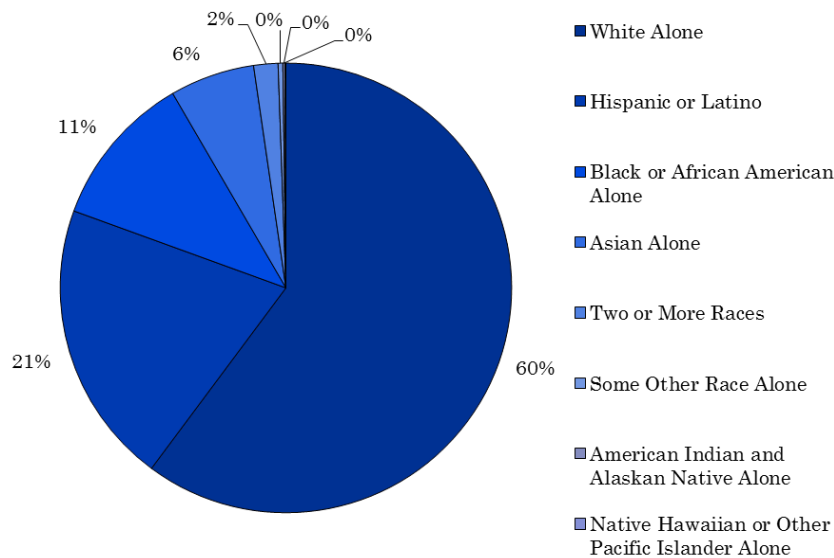


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

The U.S. Census Bureau tallies five categories of race: “American Indian or Alaska Native,” “Asian,” “Black or African American,” “Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander,” and “White.” Hispanic origin is defined as ethnicity, rather than race, and persons defined as Hispanic or Latino can be of any race.

“**Worcester Population by Race, 2013**” illustrates Worcester’s racial composition according to the Census Bureau’s five racial categories. People of Hispanic origin fall into any one of the five categories.

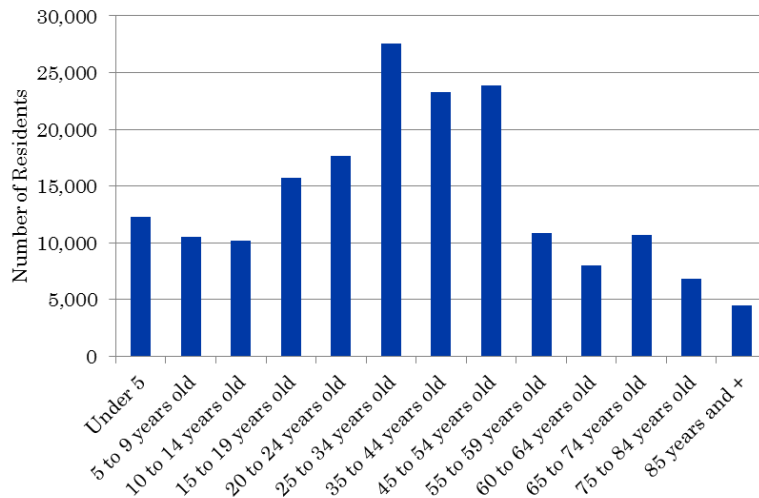
Worcester Population by Race & Ethnicity, 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

“**Worcester Population by Race & Ethnicity**” illustrates Worcester’s population by both race and ethnicity. It indicates that people who identify as Hispanic or Latino make up approximately 21% of Worcester’s population, however it does not account for their racial composition and therefore may undercount certain racial categories.

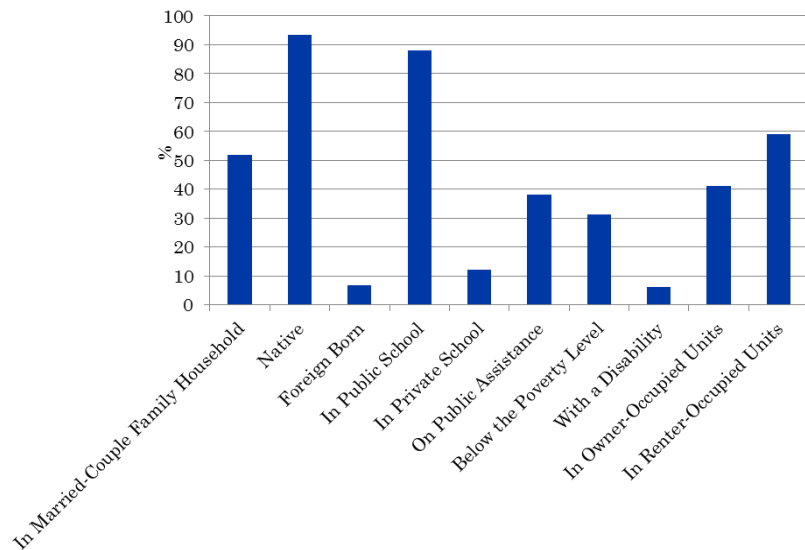
Worcester Population by Age, 2013



According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the median age of Worcester residents is 33.6 years old. The median age of Massachusetts is 39.2 and the median age of the United States is 37.3.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester Children Under 18 Years of Age, 2013

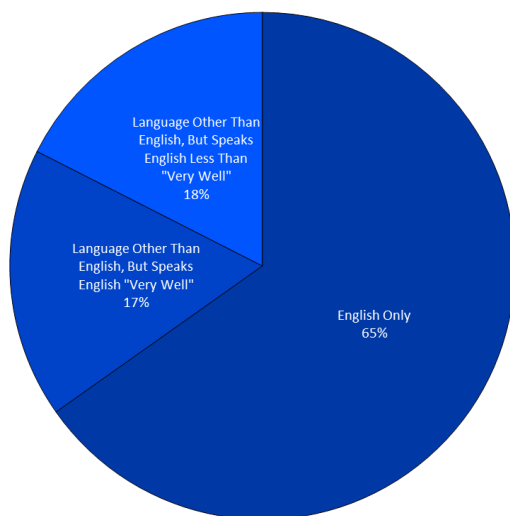


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester Veterans	
Number	9,561
Veterans as % of Population 18+	6.7%
Male	92.9%
Female	7.1%
Disabled	24.2%
Below the Poverty Line	8.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Language Spoken At Home in Worcester and English Fluency, 2013



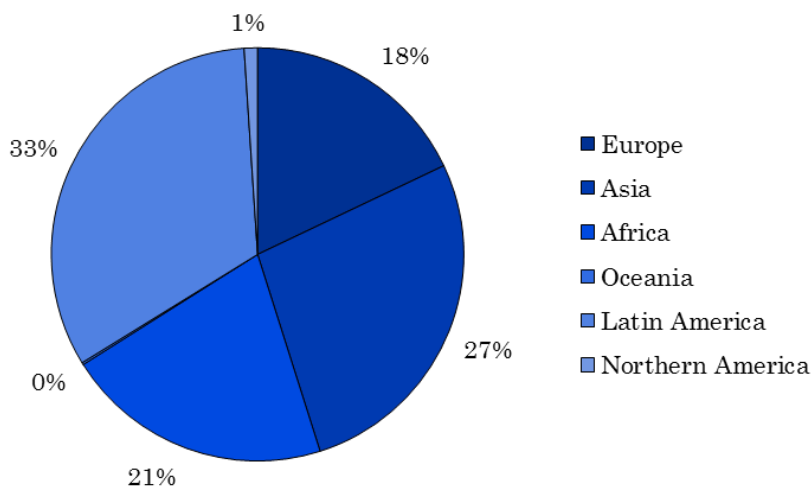
In 2013, 71% of the Worcester population spoke English. 13% spoke Spanish. 16% spoke some other language. According to the Worcester Public Schools, 92 languages are spoken by children in the public school system.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Foreign Born Residents — Worcester, Massachusetts		
Total Foreign Born	Foreign Born Naturalized Citizen	Foreign Born Not US Citizen
37,970	18,696	19,274

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Region of Origin of Foreign Born Residents, 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

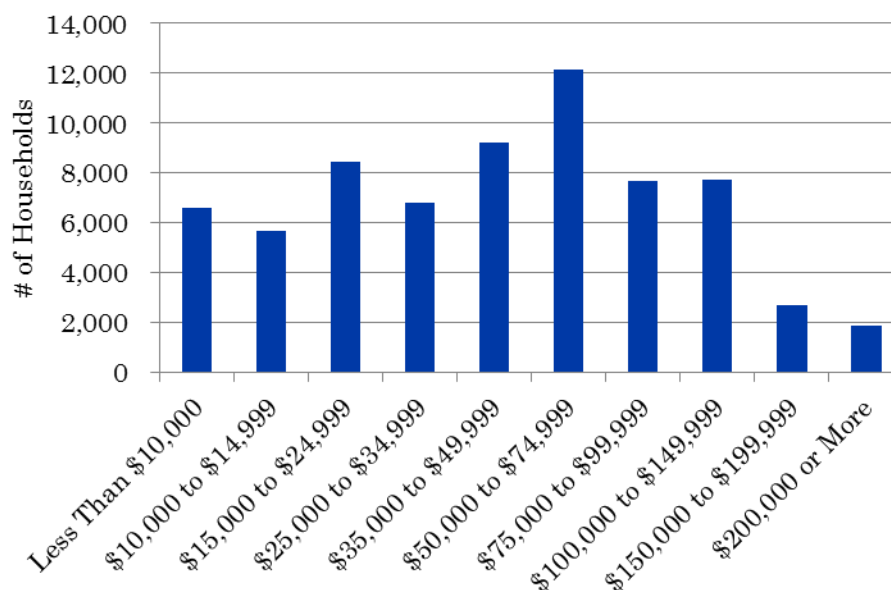
Worcester, Massachusetts	
Total # of Households (2013)	68,850
<i>Family Households</i>	<i>57.8%</i>
<i>Non-Family Households</i>	<i>42.2%</i>
<i>Households with Children under 18</i>	<i>30.7%</i>
Median Household Income (2013)	\$45,932
Average Household Size (2010)*	2.46
Average Family Size (2010)*	3.14

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey. *U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

City of Worcester Household Income, 2013

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the median household income in Worcester is \$45,932. The median household income of Massachusetts is \$66,866 and the median household income of the United States is \$53,046.

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Worcester Area Median Family Income (which includes Worcester and surrounding towns) is \$79,600.

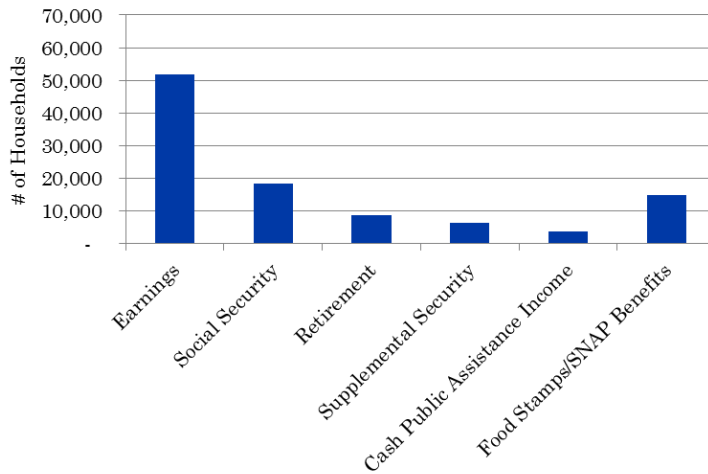


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.



Worcester Almanac: Demographics & Economy

Sources of Income by Worcester Household, 2013



In 2013, a large majority of Worcester's 68,850 households derived income through earnings, followed by Social Security and Food Stamps/ SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) Benefits. Mean earnings were \$67,219.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Employment in Worcester		
Industry, Population Over 16 Employed	2013	Median Earnings
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, and Mining	167	\$26,023
Construction	3,413	\$41,421
Manufacturing	9,359	\$41,979
Wholesale Trade	2,140	\$31,561
Retail Trade	9,978	\$22,506
Transportation and Warehousing and Utilities	3,483	\$34,271
Information	1,602	\$44,789
Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	4,119	\$42,239
Professional, Scientific, and Management, and Administrative and Waste Management Service	7,356	\$40,734
Educational Services, Health Care, Social Assistance	27,380	\$32,839
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation Services	6,828	\$16,504
Public Administration	3,403	\$52,085
Other Services	4,283	\$20,183

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester Economic Indicators, 2014	
Month	Worcester Economic Index
January	102.6
February	102.9
March	103.3
April	103.6
May	104.1
June	104.6
July	105.2
August	105.5
September	105.6
October	105.7
November	105.8
December	106.1

The quarterly Worcester Economic Indicators Report, developed by Thomas White, Chair of the Economics and Global Studies department at Assumption College, measures the health of the City of Worcester's economy using three variables: nonfarm payroll data, total household employment, and the unemployment rate. The base year is January 2001 (January 2001 = 100).

Worcester Office and R&D Space*				
	1Q 2014	2Q 2014	3Q 2014	4Q 2014
Square Feet (SF) Supply	2,015,134	2,017,183	2,017,183	2,017,183
Direct SF Available	342,928	339,699	359,763	336,506
Sublease SF Available	32,004	32,004	28,604	19,947
Vacancy Rate (%)	18.6	18.4	19.3	17.7

Source: Colliers International. *Based on a survey of select properties.

Hotels in Worcester	
	Rooms
Beechwood Hotel	73
Courtyard Worcester	134
Hilton Garden Inn Worcester	199
Holiday Inn Express Worcester Downtown	96
Quality Inn & Suites Worcester	49
Residence Inn Worcester	129
Surburban Extended Stay Worcester	65
Total Hotel Rooms	745

Source: Destination Worcester.

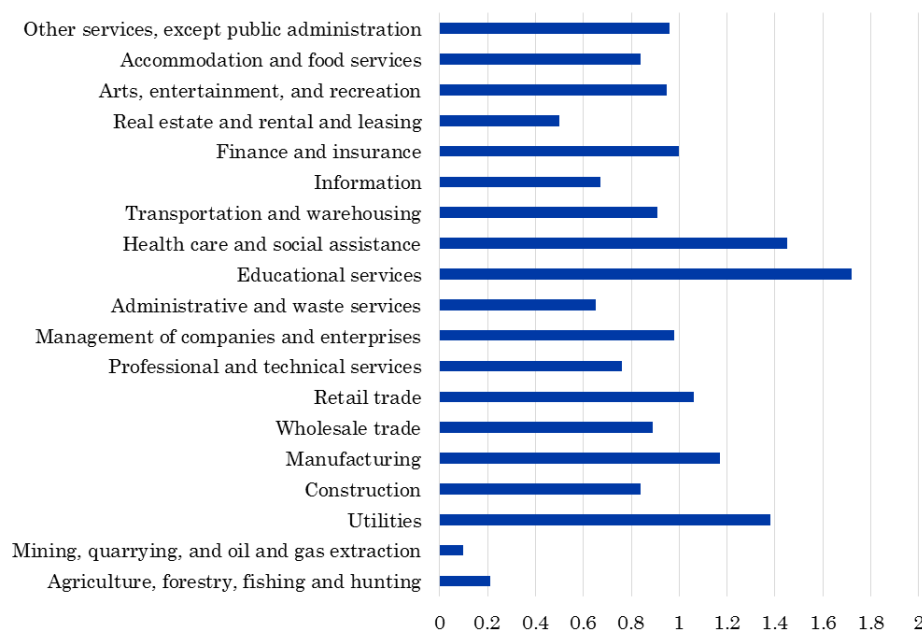
Hotel Market, 2013	
Occupancy	75.7
Supply	246,012
Demand	186,349
Average Daily Rate	\$121.56
Revenue per Available Room	\$92.08

Source: Destination Worcester.



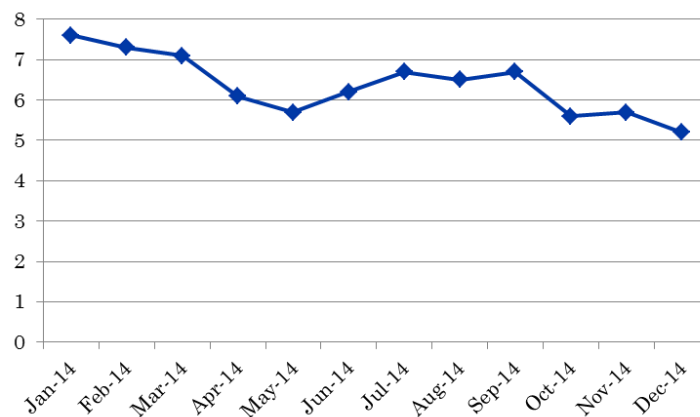
The location quotient (LQ) shows the distribution of employees in a particular industry and geographic region compared to the distribution of employees in that same industry in the entire United States. The national average of employees for each industry is represented by the number one. If Worcester County has more employment in a certain industry than the national average, the County number is greater than one. For example, the County's LQ of 1.76 in Educational Services means that Worcester County has 1.76 times the per capita number of employees in that field compared with the national average.

Location Quotients of Worcester County, Calculated from Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Data, 2013



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

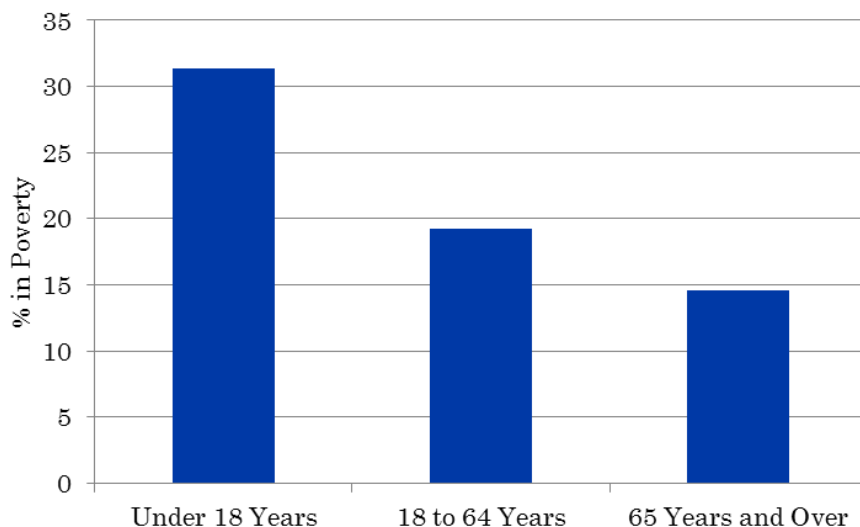
Worcester Metropolitan Statistical Area
Unemployment Rate, 2014



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. December numbers are preliminary.

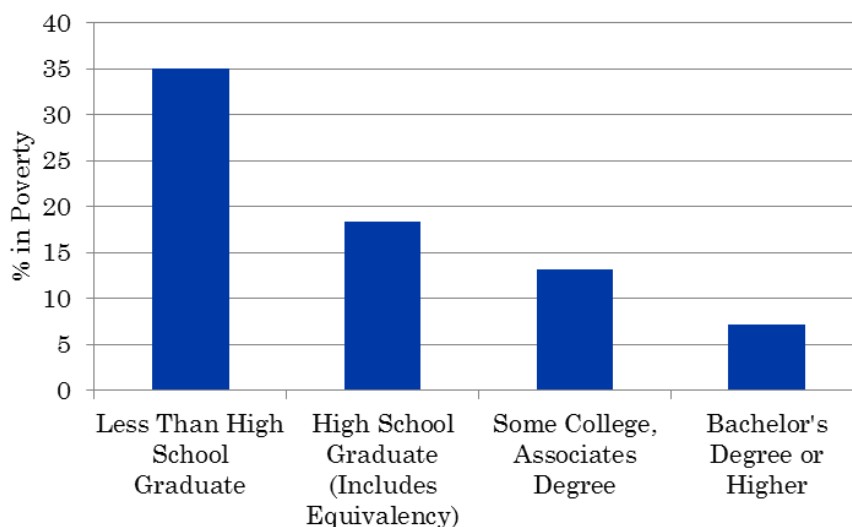
According to the U.S. Census Bureau, [21.4% of Worcester's population is below the poverty level](#). 11.4% of the Massachusetts population is below the poverty level while 15.4% of the United States population is below the poverty level. The weighted average poverty threshold for a family of four is \$23,834. Poverty is defined using pre-tax income.

Percent in Poverty by Age in Worcester, 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

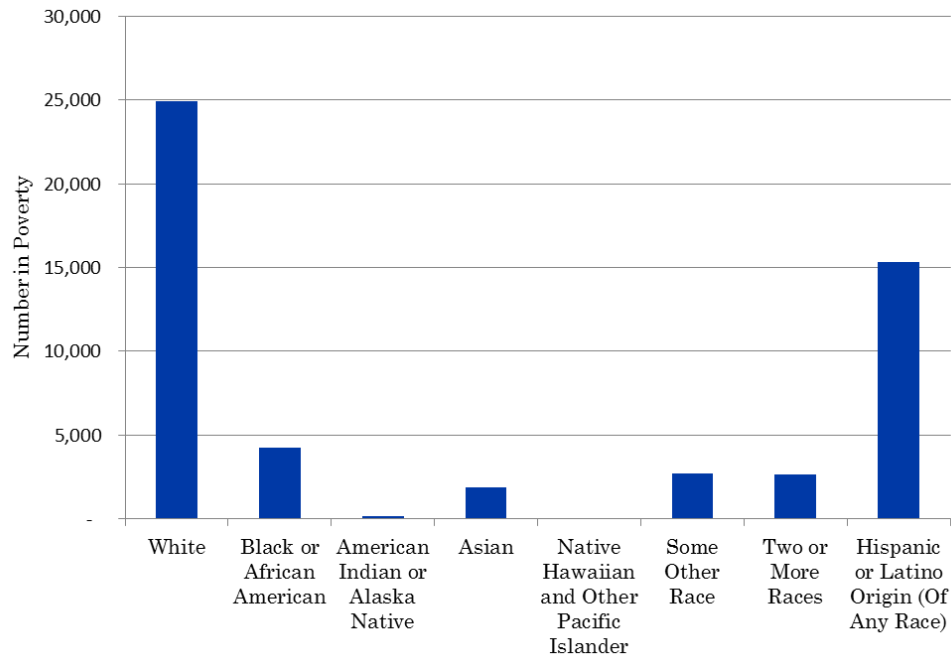
Percent in Poverty by Educational Attainment in Worcester, 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

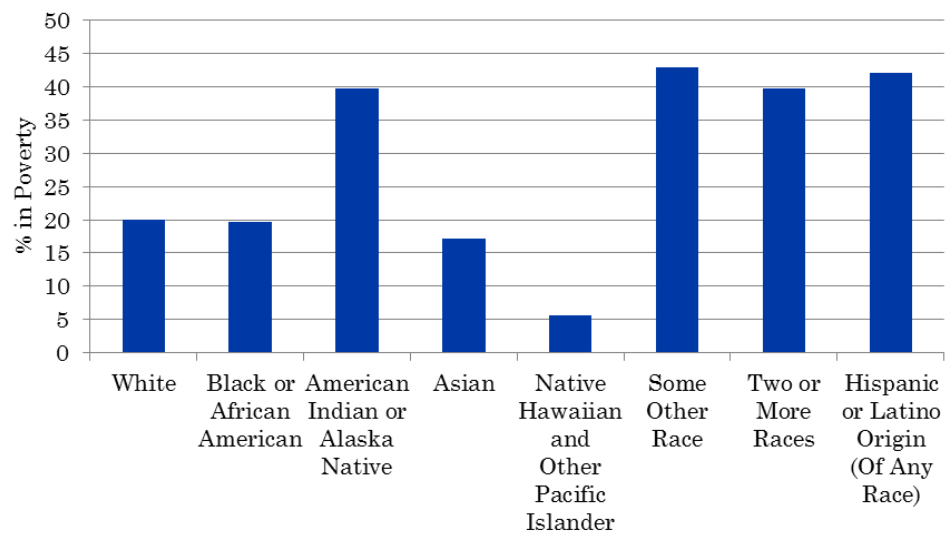
Poverty

Number in Poverty by Race in Worcester, 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Percent in Poverty by Race in Worcester, 2013

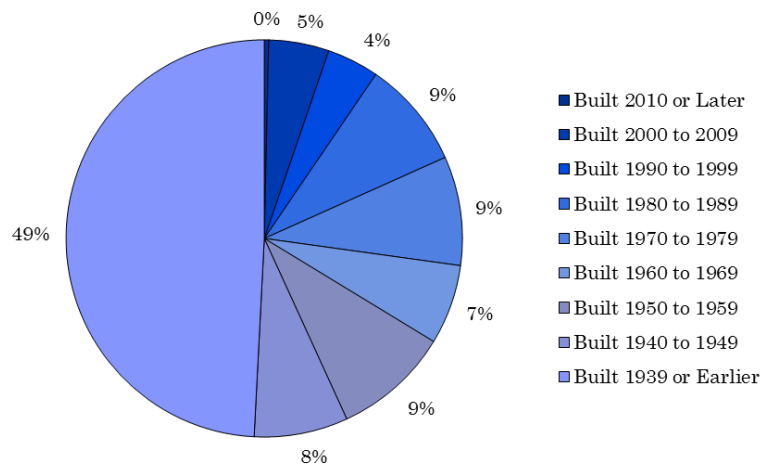


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Housing in the City of Worcester, 2013	
Total Housing Units	76,723
Occupied Housing Units	68,850
Vacant Housing Units	7,873
Housing Units in Multi-Unit Structures	46,949

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Age of Housing Stock in the City of Worcester, 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

% of Worcester Households Spending 30% or More of Income on Housing	
Homeownership	21.7%
Rental	51.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Housing

Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Chapter 40B Subsidized Housing Inventory—Worcester

	Units
2010 Census Year-Round Housing Units	74,383
Subsidized Housing Units	9,971
Percent Subsidized Units	13.4%

Source: Massachusetts Department of Housing & Community Development. As of December 2014.

Annual Worcester County Point-in-Time Homeless Count - January 29, 2014

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing		
# under age 18	705	96	1	802
# ages 18-24	106	33	2	141
# age 24+	349	36	0	385
Total Homeless	1,160	165	3	1,328

Source: Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance.

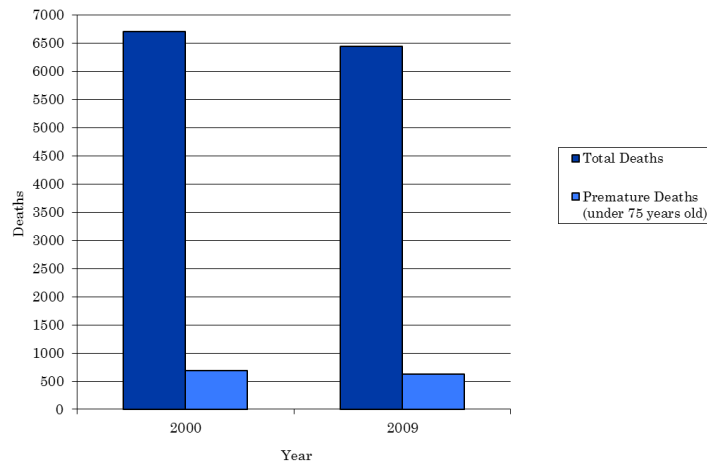
Health

Births & Deaths

Vital Statistics for Worcester, 2014	
Births	6,050
Deaths	3,140
Marriages	1,174

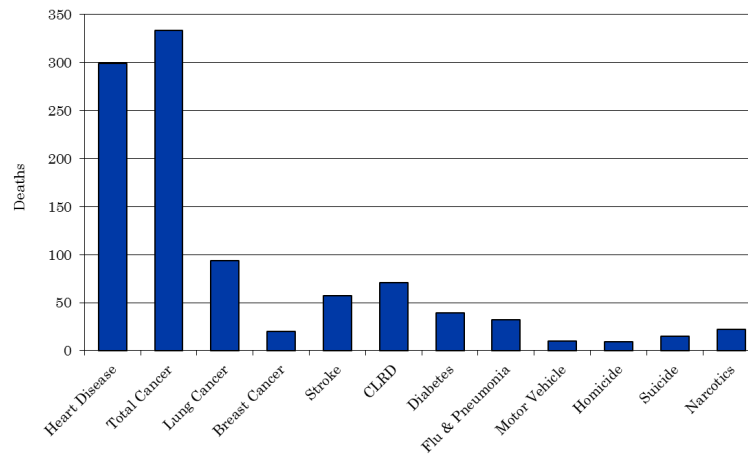
Source: City of Worcester Clerk's Office.

Total Deaths & Premature Deaths
in Worcester, 2000 & 2009



Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Causes of Death in Worcester, 2011

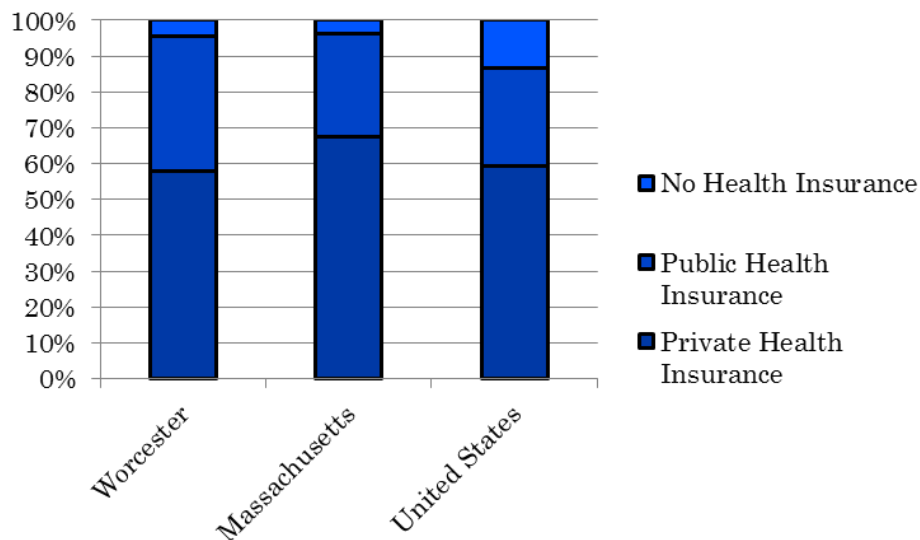


Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Massachusetts Community Health Information Profile Data		
	Worcester	Massachusetts
Fertility Rate (2010)*	58.0	53.8
Infant Mortality Rate (2010)*	5.7	4.4
Motor Vehicle Injury-Related Deaths (2010)**	7.2	5.8
Suicide (2010)**	6.1	9.0
Homicide (2010)**	3.9	3.1
Cancer Deaths (Age Adjusted) (2010)**	198.6	170.3
Cardiovascular Disease (Age Adjusted) (2010)**	195.8	192.0
Admission to DPH-Funded Treatment (2011)**	2,387.7	1,532.4
Current Smokers (2002-2007)	23.4%	18.1%
Binge Drinkers (2002-2007)	18.4%	17.4%
Overweight (2002-2007)	58.8%	55.4%
Obese (2002-2007)	22.9%	19.4%
Regular Physical Activity (2002-2007)	46.5%	52.1%
Diabetes (2005-2007)	8.6%	7.5%

Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health. *Per 1,000, **Per 100,000. Except for Infant Mortality, all numbers relate to individuals 18 years old or above. Updated information is scheduled to be released in spring 2015.

Health Insurance Coverage, 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.



# of Beds—Licensed or Certified Health Care Facilities in Worcester, 2014	
Acute Hospitals	1,017
Non-Acute Hospitals	390
Renal Dialysis	47
Nursing Homes	2,315
Rest Homes	278

Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Education

Worcester Public Schools

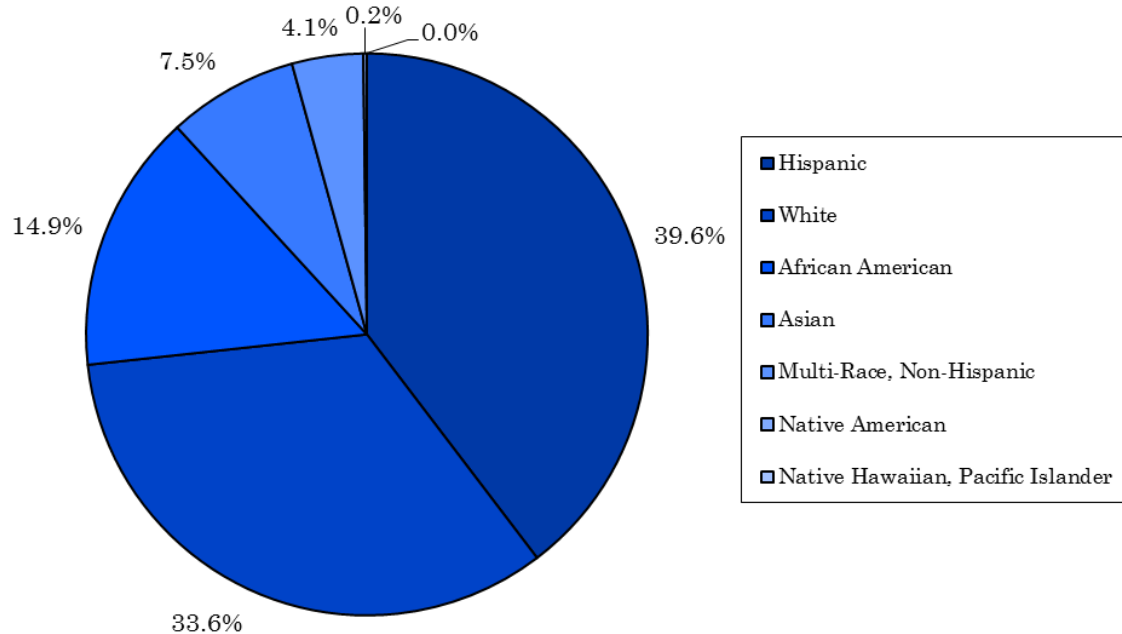
A Snapshot of the Worcester Public Schools, FY15	
	# of Schools
Elementary Schools	33
Middle Schools	4
Grade 7-12 Schools	2
High Schools	5
<i>Total</i>	<i>44</i>
	# of Students
Elementary Schools	14,834
Middle Schools	3,149
Grade 7-12 Schools	741
High Schools	6,530
<i>Total</i>	<i>25,254</i>
	# of Employees
Administration	102
Teachers and Educators	2,781
Other	957
<i>Total</i>	<i>3,840</i>

Source: Worcester Public Schools & Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools Enrollment by Gender 2014-2015		
Gender	Worcester	Massachusetts
Male	51.4%	51.2%
Female	48.6%	48.8%

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

**Worcester Public Schools Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity
2014/2015**



Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity Worcester & Massachusetts, 2014-2015		
Race	Worcester	State
Hispanic	39.6%	17.9%
White	33.6%	63.7%
African American	14.9%	8.7%
Asian	7.5%	6.3%
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic	4.1%	3.1%
Native American	0.2%	0.2%
Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Enrollment

Worcester Public Schools Enrollment

	# of Students		# of Students
Belmont Street Community	548	Burncoat Senior High	1,000
Burncoat Middle School	582	Claremont Academy	497
Burncoat Street	218	Doherty Memorial High	1,442
Canterbury	377	North High	1,361
Chandler Elementary Community	457	South High Community	1,323
Chandler Magnet	473	University Park Campus School	244
City View	521	Worcester Technical High	1,404
Clark Street Community	289		
Columbus Park	459		
Elm Park Community	488		
Flagg Street	413		
Forest Grove Middle	931		
Francis J. McGrath Elementary	291		
Gates Lane	681		
Goddard School/Science Technical	484		
Grafton Street	384		
Head Start	606		
Heard Street	285		
Jacob Hiatt Magnet	457		
Lake View	289		
Lincoln Street	276		
May Street	329		
Midland Street	244		
Nelson Place	486		
Norrback Avenue	584		
Quinsigamond	795		
Rice Square	428		
Roosevelt	675		
Sullivan Middle	848		
Tatnuck	413		
Thorndyke Road	362		
Union Hill School	449		
Vernon Hill School	549		
Wawecus Road School	152		
West Tatnuck	355		
Woodland Academy	613		
Worcester Arts Magnet School	404		
Worcester East Middle	788		

Worcester Public Schools by Level, 2013-2014	
Level 1	8
Level 2	12
Level 3	22
Level 4	2

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education

Private Schools
Alhuda Academy (Pre-K-8)
Bancroft School (Pre-K-12)
Holy Name Junior/Senior High School (7-12)
Nativity School of Worcester (5-8)
Notre Dame Academy (9-12)
Our Lady of the Angels School (Pre-K-8)
Saint Mary's Schools of Worcester (Pre-K-12)
Saint Peter Central Catholic School (Pre-K-8)
Saint Peter Marian Junior-Senior High School (7-12)
Saint Stephen School (Pre-K-8)
Venerini Academy Elementary School (K-8)
Worcester Academy (6-12+)

Charter Schools
Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School (K-12)
Seven Hills Charter Public School (K-8)

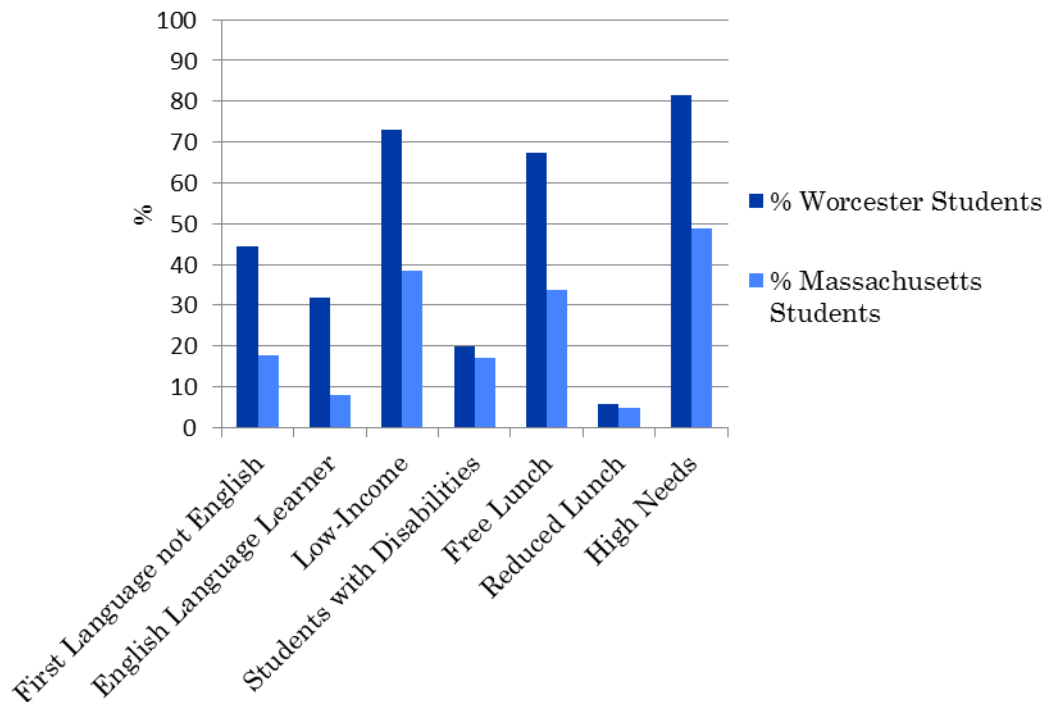
Independent Public Schools
Massachusetts Academy of Math and Science (11-12)

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education and Worcester Regional Research Bureau

Indicators, Worcester Public Schools, 2013-2014		
	Worcester	Massachusetts
Grade 9-12 Drop Out Rate	2.4	2.0
Attendance Rate	94.5	94.9
Average Number of Days Absent	9.3	8.7
Retention Rate	2.2	1.6
Unexcused Absences > 9	29.8	10.5

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools Selected Populations, 2013-2014



Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education

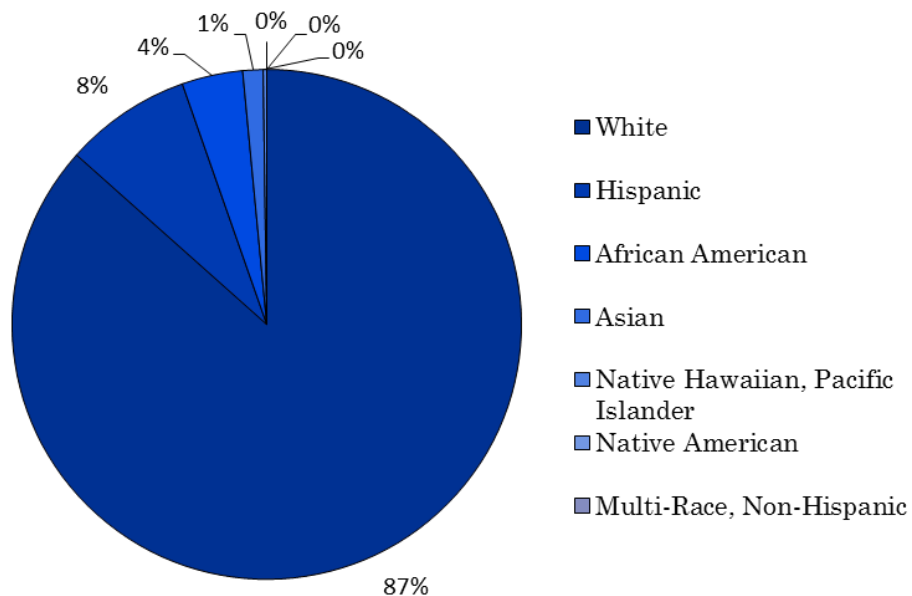
Worcester Public Schools 4-Year Graduation Rates, 2014			
	% Graduated	% Still in School	% GED
English Language Learners	75.8	11.7	0.2
Students w/Disabilities	63.1	17.8	2.6
Low Income	77.1	8.8	1.9
High Needs	77.2	8.9	1.9
African American/Black	83.5	7.5	0.8
Asian	92.9	3.2	0.6
Hispanic/Latino	72.1	10.0	2.4
American Indian or Alaska Native*	100	0	0
White	81.6	6.8	2.4
Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander**	NA	NA	NA
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic/Latino	76	12	8

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education. *Sample size was small (6 students). **Sample size was too small (1 student) for reporting.

Teacher Data, 2013-2014		
	Worcester	State
Total Number of Teachers	1,413	70,489.3
Student-Teacher Ratio	17.4 to 1	13.6 to 1
% of Teachers Licensed in Teaching Assignment	97.3	97.6
% of Core Academic Classes Taught by Teachers Who are Highly Qualified	98.6	95.5

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools Staffing by Race, 2013-2014



Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

MCAS Test Results Spring 2014: % of Students at Each Achievement Level								
Grade and Subject	Advanced		Proficient		Needs Improvement		Warning/Failing	
	Worc	MA	Worc	MA	Worc	MA	Worc	MA
Grade 03 - Reading	6	12	31	46	41	33	22	10
Grade 03 - Mathematics	15	31	31	38	28	21	26	11
Grade 04 - Eng. Language Arts	8	13	27	41	40	33	25	13
Grade 04 - Mathematics	8	20	22	32	45	36	25	12
Grade 05 - Eng. Language Arts	10	18	36	46	37	26	18	10
Grade 05 - Mathematics	15	30	23	30	31	24	31	15
Grade 05 - Science & Tech/Eng	10	20	24	33	43	34	23	13
Grade 06 - Eng. Language Arts	12	16	45	52	28	23	15	9
Grade 06 - Mathematics	18	29	27	31	31	25	24	15
Grade 07 - Eng. Language Arts	5	11	50	61	31	21	14	7
Grade 07 - Mathematics	8	17	21	33	25	26	46	24
Grade 08 - Eng. Language Arts	6	14	55	65	23	14	16	8
Grade 08 - Mathematics	9	19	21	33	31	29	39	19
Grade 08 - Science & Tech/Eng	2	4	21	38	41	41	36	18
Grade 10 - Eng. Language Arts	22	41	55	48	16	8	8	3
Grade 10 - Mathematics	32	53	26	25	24	15	17	7
Grade 10 - Science & Tech/Eng	12	29	34	42	43	24	11	5
All Grades - Eng. Language Arts	10	18	42	51	31	22	17	8
All Grades - Mathematics	15	28	25	32	31	25	30	15
All Grades - Science & Tech/Eng	8	17	26	38	42	33	24	12

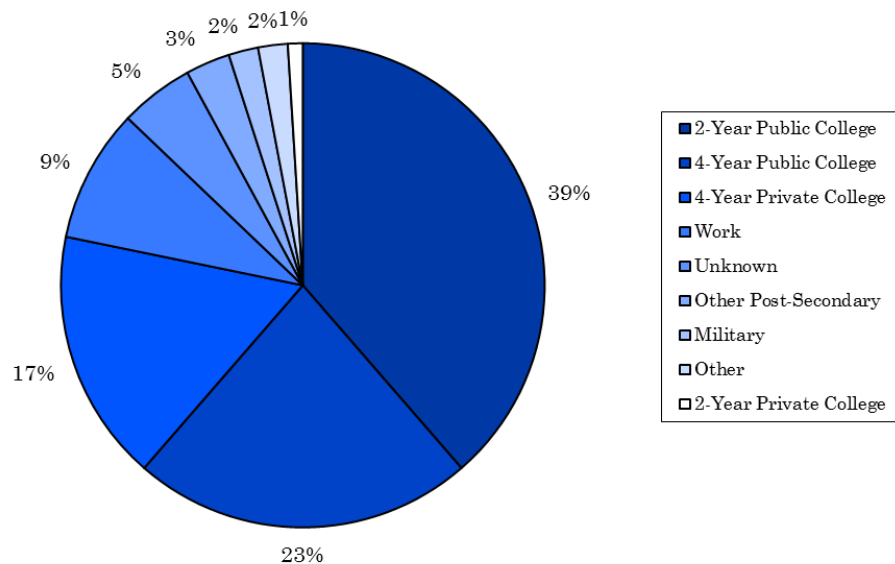
Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Test Results

2013-2014 SAT Performance Report				
Student Group	# of Test Takers	Average Reading Score	Average Writing Score	Average Math Score
All Students	862	439	431	460
Limited English Proficiency	109	340	340	383
Low Income	551	415	410	439
Special Education	60	340	343	332
High Needs	603	415	408	437
Female	483	436	435	448
Male	379	444	425	475
American Indian or Alaska Native	4	NA	NA	NA
Asian	118	433	427	499
Black or African American	142	401	405	409
Hispanic	255	410	397	416
Multi-race, Non-Hispanic	10	500	488	514
White	333	478	467	499

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Plans of High School Graduates, Worcester Public Schools, 2012-2013

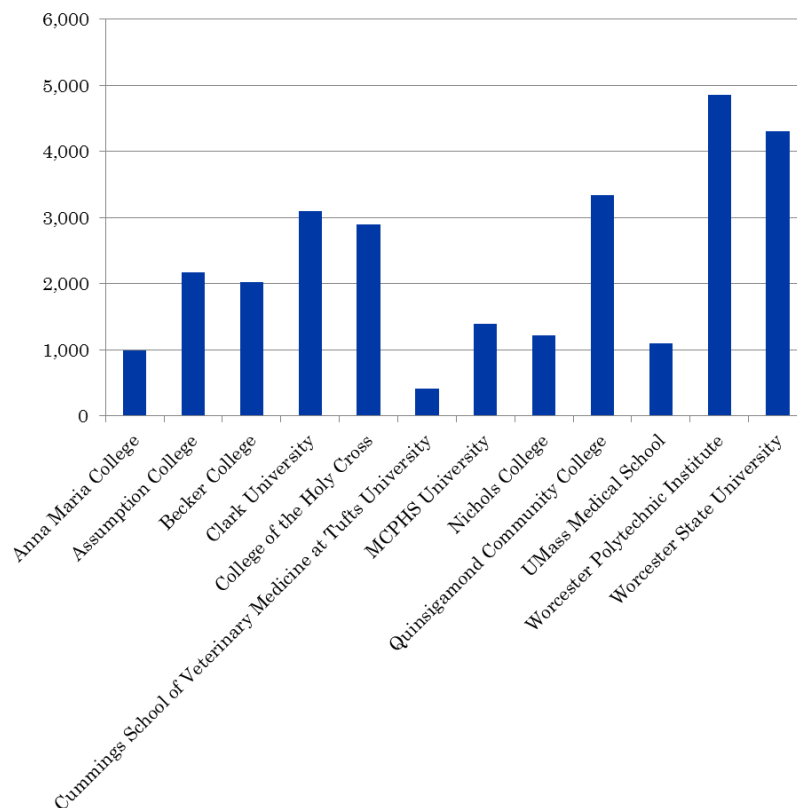


Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Greater Worcester Colleges, 2014
Anna Maria College (Paxton)
Assumption College (Worcester)
Becker College (Worcester & Leicester)
Clark University (Worcester)
College of the Holy Cross (Worcester)
MCPHS University (Worcester & Boston)
Nichols College (Dudley)
Quinsigamond Community College (Worcester)
Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine (North Grafton)
University of Massachusetts Medical School (Worcester)
Worcester Polytechnic Institute (Worcester)
Worcester State University (Worcester)

Source: Worcester Regional Research Bureau, Inc.

Full-Time Enrollment at
Greater Worcester Colleges & Universities, 2014



Source: Worcester Business Journal.

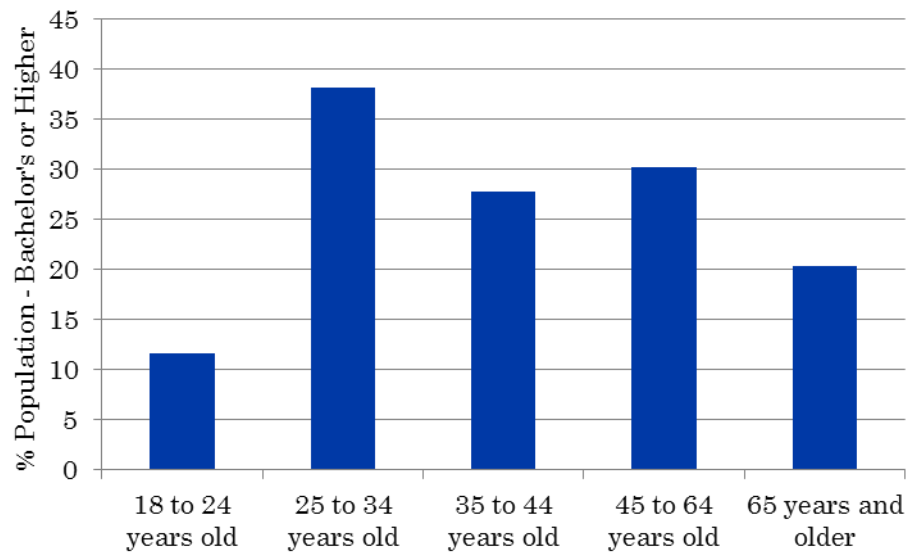


Worcester Almanac: Education

Educational Attainment in Worcester, 2013	
Population 25 Years and Over	115,608
Less than 9th Grade	9,215
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	7,556
High School Graduate, Includes Equivalency	36,427
Some College, No Degree	18,439
Associate's Degree	9,410
Bachelor's Degree	21,149
Graduate or Professional Degree	13,412

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

City of Worcester Population
with Bachelor's Degree or Higher by Age, 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Public Safety

Worcester Almanac: Public Safety

Crime in the City of Worcester, 2014	
Incidents	134,617
Arrests	8,124
Traffic Accidents	8,770
Murder	7
Felony Assault	768
Non-Fatal Shootings	33
Stabbings/Slashings	125
Robberies	458
Breaking & Entering	1,648
Motor Vehicle Theft	458
Larceny from Motor Vehicle	1,461
Vandalism	1,776

Source: Worcester Police Department.

Firearm Licenses in the City of Worcester, 2014	
Firearm Identification Cards (FIDs)	1,517
Licenses to Carry (LTCs)	8,865

Source: Worcester Police Department.

Fire Department Activity in the City of Worcester, 2014	
Fire Calls	1,291
<i>Building Fires</i>	<i>121</i>
Emergency Medical Calls	21,276
False Calls	3,839
# of Companies	21
<i>Engines</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Ladders</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Rescue</i>	<i>1</i>

Source: Worcester Fire Department.

Worcester Fire Stations	
Station	Address
Grove Street - Headquarters	141 Grove Street
Southeast Station	745 Grafton Street
South Division	180 Southbridge Street
Burncoat Street	19 Burncoat Street
Park Avenue	424 Park Avenue
Tatnuck Square	1067 Pleasant Street
Webster Square	40 Webster Street
Greendale	438 Boylston Street
Franklin Street	266 Franklin Street
McKeon Road	80 McKeon Road

Source: Worcester Fire Department.

Staffing for Worcester Police and Fire Departments, FY2015 Budget	
FIRE	Number
<i>Fire Chief</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Deputy Fire Chief</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>District Fire Chief</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Captain</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>Lieutenant</i>	<i>70</i>
<i>Firefighter</i>	<i>301</i>
<i>Recruits</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Other</i>	<i>10</i>
Total	419
POLICE	
<i>Chief of Police</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Deputy Police Chief</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Police Captain</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Police Lieutenant</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>Police Sergeant</i>	<i>53</i>
<i>Police Officers</i>	<i>357</i>
<i>Recruits</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Other</i>	<i>52</i>
Total	497

Source: City of Worcester.

Transportation

Worcester Work Commute Patterns (16 Years and Older), 2013				
	# of Worcester Residents	% of Worcester Residents	# of MA Residents	% of MA Residents
Car, Truck, or Van—Drove Alone	60,457	74.00%	2,336,009	72.10%
Car, Truck, or Van—Carpooled	8,760	10.70%	256,291	7.90%
Public Transportation (Excluding Taxicab)	3,020	3.70%	302,359	9.30%
Walked	5,166	6.30%	153,847	4.70%
Other Means	1,233	1.50%	50,861	1.60%
Worked at Home	3,096	3.80%	140,256	4.30%
Total	81,732	100%	3,239,623	99.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester Commute Times, 2013	
Mean Travel Time to Work	23.5 Minutes

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

City of Worcester Street Infrastructure, 2014	
Streets (Miles)	515
<i>Public Streets (Miles)</i>	431
<i>Private Streets (Miles)</i>	84
Sidewalks (Miles) (approx.)	700
Street Lights (approx.)	13,800
Traffic Signals (approx.)	200
Parking Meters	1,400
Parking Lots with Multi-Space Pay Stations	4
Electric Car Charging Stations	12

Source: City of Worcester Department of Public Works & Parks.

City of Worcester Vehicles, 2012	
Automobiles	64,955
Trailers	2,816
Light Trucks	36,253
Heavy Trucks	1,937
Motorcycles	1,718
Luxury Vehicles	8,924
Other	5,265
TOTAL	121,868
<i>Average Age of Motor Vehicles</i>	<i>10.08</i>
<i>Vehicles per capita</i>	<i>.6731</i>

Source: Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

Worcester Regional Transit Authority, 2014	
Service Area	
Square Miles	304
Population	486,514
Key Data	
Annual Passenger Miles%	11,974,056
Annual Unlinked Trips**	3,885,290
Average Weekday Unlinked Trips*	12,861
Average Saturday Unlinked Trips*	5,641
Average Sunday Unlinked Trips*	1,790
Annual Vehicle Revenue Miles%	2,831,939
Annual Vehicle Revenue Hours%	220,500
Vehicles Operated in Maximum Service%	88
Vehicles Available for Maximum Service%	119
# of Electric Buses%	5

Source: Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission and Worcester Regional Transit Authority. % = FY14 numbers; all other numbers are 2013. *Passengers are counted each time they board a vehicle no matter how many vehicles used to arrive at destination.

MBTA Commuter Rail, December 2014	
Inbound Trains (Weekday)	20
Outbound Trains (Weekday)	20
Inbound Trains (Weekend & Holiday)	9
Outbound Trains (Weekend & Holiday)	9
Typical Weekday Inbound Boardings: Union Station	1,475*

Source: Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority. *2013 Data.

Worcester Regional Airport/ORH, 2014	
Aircraft Operations	89 Daily Average
<i>Transient General Aviation</i>	<i>58%</i>
<i>Local General Aviation</i>	<i>31%</i>
<i>Air Taxi</i>	<i>4%</i>
<i>Commercial</i>	<i>3%</i>
<i>Military</i>	<i>3%</i>
Daily Commercial Flights	2
Jet Blue	Orlando & Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Aircraft Based at Field	67
<i>Single Engine Planes</i>	<i>61</i>
<i>Multi-Engine Planes</i>	<i>6</i>

*Source: Massachusetts Port Authority.

Taxi and Livery Service in Worcester, 2014

Taxi Medallions	110
Taxi Drivers	363
Livery Owners	111
Livery Drivers	244

Source: Worcester Police Department.

Select Worcester Traffic Counts, 2013

Location	Average Annual Daily Traffic Count
I-290 above Washington Square	114,258
I-290 above College Square	84,826
I-190 at I-290	72,326
I-90 & I-290 Interchange (All Directions)	33,679
Belmont Street at Lake Avenue (2014 Count)	33,639
I-290 Exit 13 (Kelley Square) (All Directions)	29,265
Lincoln Street at Lincoln Square	27,866
Belmont Street at Lincoln Square	27,521
I-90 & Rt. 146 Interchange (All Directions)	24,215
Park Avenue at Chandler Street	19,332
Pleasant Street at South Flagg Street	17,171
Grafton Street at Sunderland Road	14,912
I-90 & Rt. 122 Interchange (All Directions)	14,864
Plantation Street at Boylston Street	14,449
Salisbury Street at Park Avenue	12,537
West Boylston Street at West Mountain Street	10,449
Mill Street at Chandler Street	9,084
Main Street at Cambridge Street	8,688
Green Street at Winter Street	8,174
Airport Drive at Mill Street	4,543

Source: Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

Arts, Culture, & Sports

Worcester Bravehearts, 2014				
Wins	Losses	Percentage	Awards	
32	22	0.593	2014 Futures Collegiate Baseball League Champions	

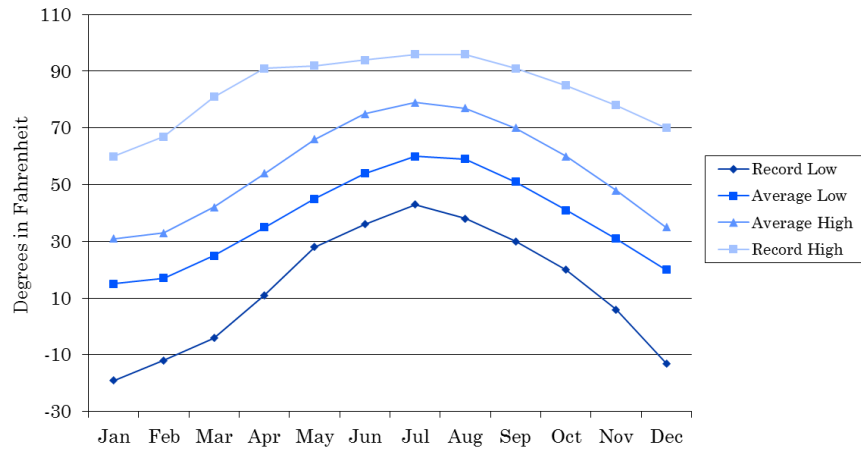
Worcester Sharks, 2013-2014				
Wins	Losses	Overtime Losses	Shoot Out Losses	Points
36	34	4	2	78

Worcester Cultural Coalition—In 2014, the Worcester Cultural Coalition consisted of the City of Worcester and 72 cultural organizations in Greater Worcester. The Coalition maintains the [WOO Card](#), which boasted 12,777 active users in 2014, 5,197 of whom were college students. Coalition partners drew over 2.7 million visitors to the region in 2013. In 2014, Coalition members were:

- 4th Wall Stage Company
- A Worcester Schubertiad
- All Saints Church
- American Antiquarian Society
- Art in the Park, Worcester
- Artist Group of the Sprinkler Factory
- Arts on the Green
- Arts Transcending Borders
- Arts Worcester
- Assumption College – Dept. of Art, Music & Theatre
- Assumption College – HumanArts
- Audio Journal
- Calliope Productions
- Canal District Alliance, Inc.
- Centro Las Americas
- Clark Arts
- College of the Holy Cross
- EcoTarium
- First Night Worcester
- Friends of Hope Cemetery
- Gallery of African Art
- Hillside Restoration Project
- International Center of Worcester
- Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Art Gallery, Holy Cross
- Joy of Music
- Mass Audubon Broad Meadow Brook
- Massachusetts Symphony/Tuckerman Hall
- Master Singers of Worcester
- Mechanics Hall
- Museum of Russian Icons
- Music at Trinity Lutheran Church
- Music Worcester
- Old Sturbridge Village
- Opera Worcester, Inc.
- Pakachoag Music School
- Park Spirit
- Preservation Worcester
- Regional Environmental Council
- Salisbury Singers, Inc.
- Seven Hills Symphony
- Southeast Asian Coalition
- stART on the Street
- St. Mary's Assumption Albanian Orthodox Church
- St. Spyridon Grecian Festival
- The Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden
- ValleyCAST
- Veterans, Inc.
- VSA Massachusetts
- WCCA TV 13
- WCUW
- West Boylston Arts Foundation
- WICN Public Radio
- Worcester Art Museum
- Worcester Artist Group
- Worcester Arts Council
- Worcester Caribbean American Carnival Association
- Worcester Center for Crafts
- Worcester Chamber Music Society
- Worcester Chapter American Guild of Organists
- Worcester Children's Chorus
- Worcester County Light Opera Company
- Worcester County Poetry Association
- Worcester Historical Museum
- Worcester Inter-Tribal Indian Center
- Worcester Jewish Community Center
- Worcester Public Library
- Worcester Shakespeare Company
- Worcester State University
- Worcester Women's History Project
- Worcester Youth Orchestra
- WPI Humanities and Arts

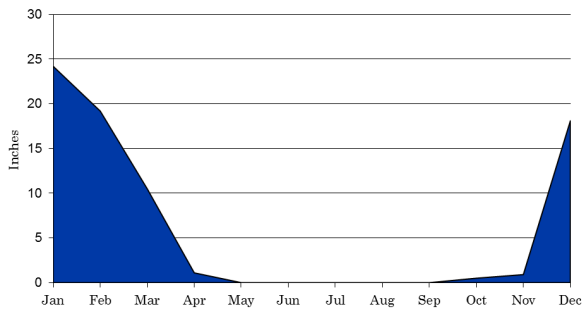
Weather

Worcester Temperature by Month, 2014



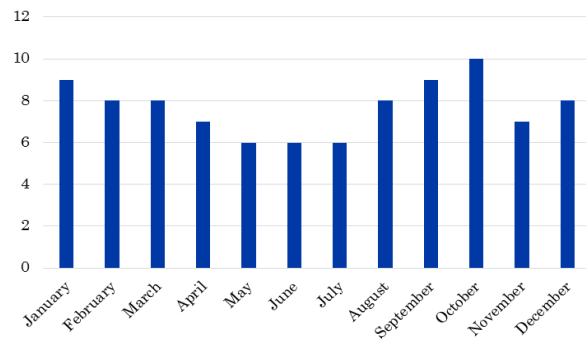
Source: National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

Average Monthly Snowfall in Worcester, 2014



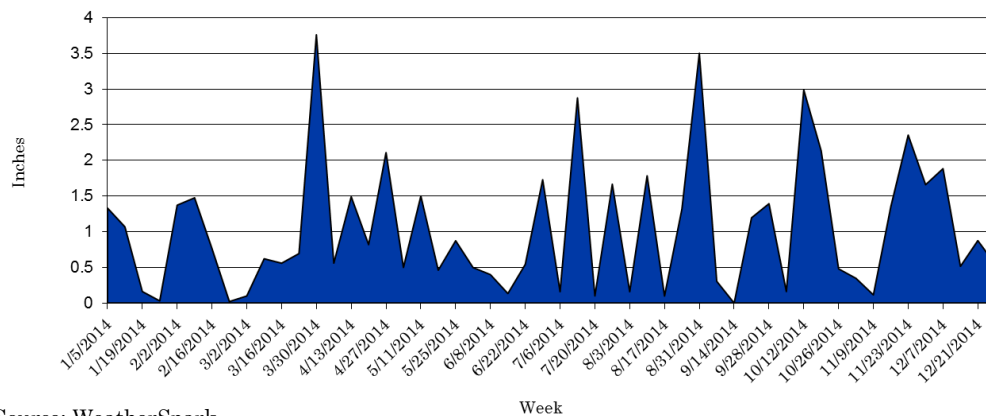
Source: National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

Number of Clear Days by Month in Worcester, 2014



Source: National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

Average Precipitation in Worcester by Week, 2014



Source: WeatherSpark.

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