



The Research Bureau

Worcester
ALMANAC

2020



The Worcester Regional Research Bureau is pleased to present the sixth annual *Worcester Almanac*—our compendium of information of all things Greater Worcester. A local, not-for-profit organization, The Research Bureau’s mission is to serve the public interest of Greater Worcester by conducting independent, non-partisan research and analysis of public policy issues to promote informed public debate and decision-making. We undertake the *Worcester Almanac* each year to provide government officials, residents, businesses, and institutions an easy-to-use source for current and trend data on a range of civic concerns.

We would like to thank all those who provide data for this project. If there is any fact or figure about Greater Worcester that you would like to see included in the *Worcester Almanac*, please contact us at wrrb@wrrb.org. To learn more about our activities or to read our reports, you can visit our website at www.wrrb.org, follow us on Twitter (@WRRBureau), or like us on Facebook (The Research Bureau).

If you believe in the importance of informed local governance and would like to sponsor our efforts, please send a contribution to:

Worcester Regional Research Bureau, Inc.
390 Main Street, Suite 208
Worcester, MA 01608



Image Courtesy of PENTA Communications.



The Research Bureau

The Worcester Regional Research Bureau offers its thanks to the generous sponsors of its work, including the *Worcester Almanac*. Now in its 6th edition, the *Worcester Almanac* has become a critical resource for municipalities, businesses, institutions of higher education, non-profit and civic organizations, and the general public. We could not continue our efforts without the civic-minded dedication of our many partners in Greater Worcester. Their continued support of The Research Bureau is a clear measure of the vitality and character of our community and its commitment to good governance.

UNIBANK

Member FDIC/Member DIF



AdCare Hospital of Worcester
 Anna Maria College
 Assumption College
 Atlas Distributing, Inc.
 Bay State Savings Bank
 Becker College
 Bowditch & Dewey Attorneys
 Coghlin Electrical Contractors
 Consigli Construction Co., Inc.
 Cornerstone Bank
 DCU Center
 Eversource
 F.W. Madigan Company, Inc.
 Fidelity Bank
 First American Realty, Inc.
 Fletcher Tilton, PC Attorneys at law
 FLEXcon
 Grasseschi Plumbing
 Grimes & Company, Inc.
 Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
 Imperial Distributors

Interstate Specialty Products
 Kelleher & Sadowsky Associates, Inc.
 Kinefac Corporation
 Lamoureux Pagano Associates
 Lauring Construction, Inc.
 Lutco, Inc.
 MassDevelopment
 MCPHS University
 Millbury Savings Bank
 Mirick O'Connell Attorneys at Law
 National Grid
 North Pointe Wealth Management
 O'Connell Development Group, Inc.
 Pagano Media
 People's United Bank
 Quaker Special Risk
 Quinsigamond Community College
 Rand-Whitney
 Reliant Medical Group
 Risk Strategies Company
 Rockland Trust

Saint-Gobain
 Santander N.A.
 Seder & Chandler, LLP
 Spectrum Health Systems, Inc.
 Spillane & Spillane, LLP
 Table Talk Pies, Inc.
 TD Bank
 The Health Foundation of Central MA
 U.S. Trust, Bank of America
 UniBank
 United Bank
 Unum
 Verizon
 Webster Five
 Worcester Academy
 Worcester Business Journal
 Worcester Credit Union
 Worcester Restaurant Group
 Worcester State University
 Worcester Telegram & Gazette
 WorkCentral

Foundations

George I. Alden Trust
 Fred Harris Daniels Foundation
 Ruth H. & Warren A. Ellsworth Foundation
 The Fletcher Foundation
 George F. & Sybil H. Fuller Foundation

Greater Worcester Community Foundation
 Hoche-Scofield Foundation
 Mildred H. McEvoy Foundation
 The Stoddard Charitable Trust
 Wyman-Gordon Foundation



UNIBANK

Member FDIC/Member DIF

The year 2020 is an important year for us at UniBank. It marks 150 years of service. Service to the community, service to our customers, and service to our employees. When you turn 150 years old, you cannot help but look back at a storied history.

While we celebrate and recognize the work and accomplishments of our past – it is those quintessential elements of who we are that we draw inspiration for our own efforts and mission ahead – elements of hard work, ethics, values, commitment and service to others, a resiliency in the face of adversity, humility in our success, and vision of what we are called to do and be, so that our community (Greater Worcester, MetroWest, Blackstone Valley), not only survives and sustains itself, but continues to flourish and thrive for the betterment of all.

While the global pandemic we face today presents its own challenges, it is not the first storm we have weathered as a bank and community. The Civil War was a recent memory to our founders, having ended in 1865. We withstood the 1918 influenza epidemic, The Great Depression, both World War I and World War II, the Cold War, and 9/11. We have seen economic ups and downs, and still, we are here.

Worcester is uniquely positioned for economic prosperity!

Manufacturing, Healthcare, Education, Technology. We are the home to some of the most respected businesses and global thought leaders in these industries and with good reason. Success builds success. As a mutual community bank who has been serving Central Massachusetts for 150 years, we at UniBank are uniquely positioned to help. The strong relationships we have forged over those years gives us great pride. We know that those relationships, us leaning on each other, are what will carry us all into a brighter future.

UniBank is a proud supporter of Worcester and the Worcester Regional Research Bureau who publishes the *Worcester Almanac*—their compendium of information of all things Greater Worcester.

Onward and Upward for greater prosperity for our home, the Central Massachusetts Community.

Yours,

Michael Welch
CEO, UniBank



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Government.....	6
Demographics & Economy.....	26
Health.....	50
Education.....	54
Public Safety.....	70
Transportation & Infrastructure.....	74
Arts, Culture, & Sports.....	79
Weather, Geography, & Environment.....	84
Appendix I : A Focus on Children.....	93
Appendix II: A Focus on Greater Worcester....	102



Government

City of Worcester Government

The City of Worcester operates under a Council-Manager form of government with a popularly elected Mayor, known as a modified Plan E form of government. The Worcester Public Schools (WPS) system 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 made up of 11 members—six elected citywide (or at-large) and five elected from districts. The Mayor is the candidate who receives the most votes in the mayoral election and wins an at-large City Council seat. All at-large candidates are automatically entered into the mayoral race, and have the option of withdrawing their name from consideration for Mayor. 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 the City Clerk, City Auditor, and WPS employees), oversees City operations, and presents the City Council with an annual budget that must be approved by June 30 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 WPS's legislative body while the Superintendent of Schools serves as chief executive officer. The School Committee consists of the Mayor and six elected at-large members. The School Committee sets districtwide school policies, votes on the district budget, and hires and removes WPS personnel.

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



City of Worcester Seal

City of Worcester Population: 185,877

136th Largest City in the United States

2nd Largest City in New England

Area: 37.37 square miles (96.79 square kilometers)

Population Density: 4,974 persons per square mile

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Mayor

Joseph M. Petty

City Council

Sean M. Rose, District 1
 Candy F. Mero-Carlson, District 2
 George J. Russell, District 3
 Sarai Rivera, District 4
 Matthew E. Wally, District 5
 Morris A. Bergman, At-Large
 Donna M. Colorio, At-Large
 Khrystian A. King, At-Large
 Gary Rosen, At-Large
 Kathleen M. Toomey, At-Large

City Clerk

Nikolin Vangjeli

City Auditor

Robert V. Stearns

City Manager

Edward M. Augustus, Jr.

City Manager's Cabinet

Kathleen Johnson, Assistant City Manager for Operations
 Nicole Valentine, Deputy Assistant City Manager
 Dr. Matilde Castiel, M.D., Commissioner of Health and Human Services
 Eileen M. Cazaropoul, Chief Information Officer
 Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer
 Michael J. Lavoie, Fire Chief
 Timothy J. McGourthy, Chief Financial Officer
 Paul J. Moosey, P.E., Public Works and Parks Commissioner
 Steven M. Sargent, Police Chief
 Michael E. Shanley, Emergency Communications & Emergency Management Acting Director
 Michael E. Traynor, City Solicitor
 Dori A. Vecchio, Director of Human Resources
 Erin Williams, Cultural Development Officer

School Committee

Dianna L. Biancheria
 Laura Clancey
 John L. Foley
 Molly O. McCullough
 John F. Monfredo
 Tracy O'Connell Novick

Superintendent of Schools

Maureen F. Binienda

Clerk of the School Committee

Dr. Helen A. Friel

United State Senators

Elizabeth Warren
Edward J. Markey

United State Representative

James P. McGovern

Governor

Charles D. Baker

Lieutenant Governor

Karyn Polito

Governor's Council

Vacant

State Senators

Harriette L. Chandler - 1st Worcester
Michael O. Moore - 2nd Worcester
Anne Gobi - Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, and Middlesex

State Representatives

Kimberly Ferguson - 1st Worcester
Paul Frost - 7th Worcester
David Muradian, Jr. - 9th Worcester
Hannah Kane - 11th Worcester
Harold Naughton, Jr. - 12th Worcester
John J. Mahoney - 13th Worcester
James J. O'Day - 14th Worcester
Mary S. Keefe - 15th Worcester
Daniel M. Donahue - 16th Worcester
David LeBoeuf - 17th Worcester

District Attorney

Joseph D. Early Jr.

Clerk of Courts

Dennis P. McManus

Register of Deeds

Kathryn A. Toomey

Register of Probate

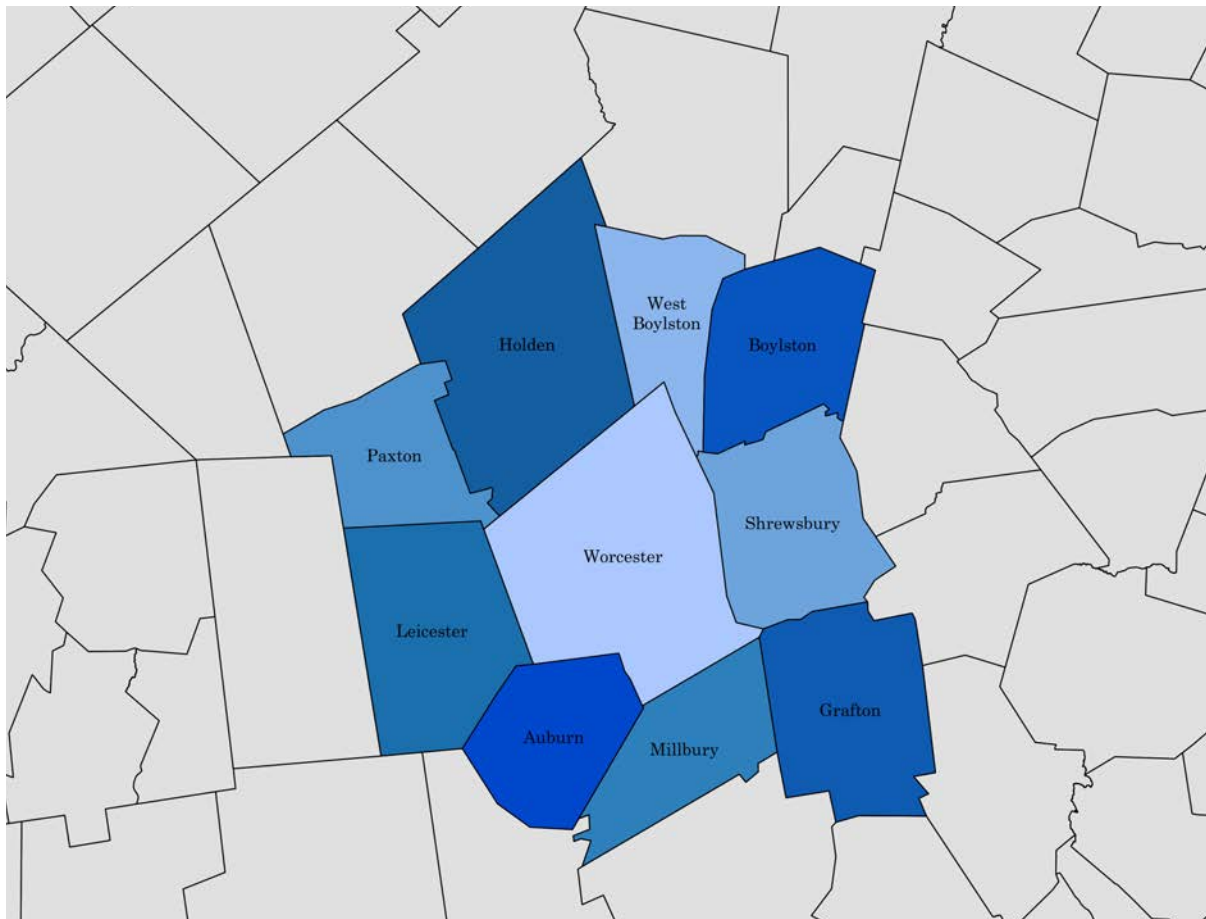
Stephanie K. Fattman

County Sheriff

Lewis G. Evangelidis

Greater Worcester Executive/Administrative Leadership

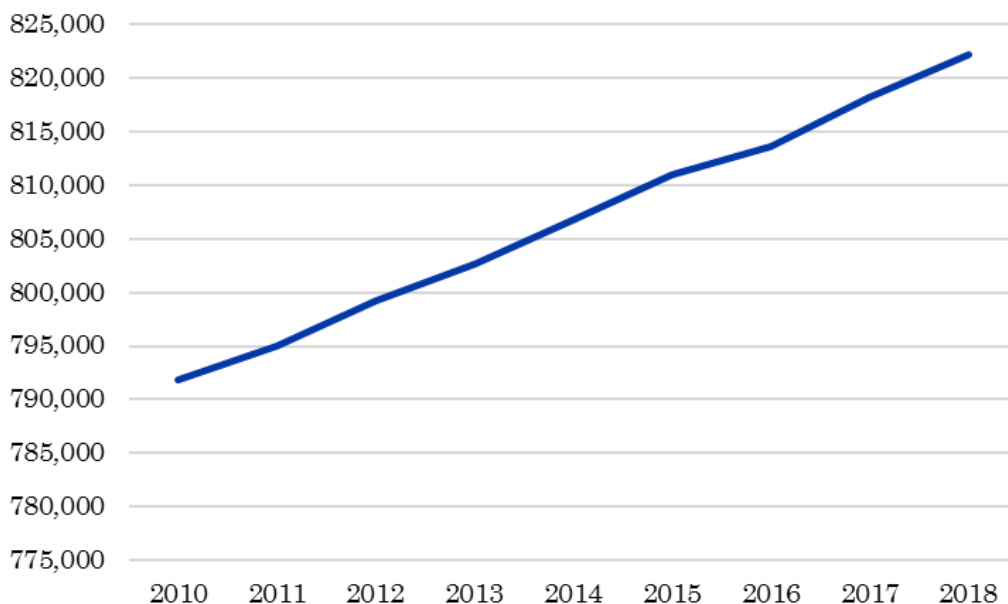
Auburn — Julie A. Jacobson — Town Manager
Boylston — April Steward — Town Administrator
Grafton — Rebecca Meekins — Acting Town Administrator
Holden — Peter M. Lukes — Town Manager
Leicester — David A. Genreux — Town Administrator
Millbury — James Kelley — Acting Town Manager
Paxton — Carol L. Riches — Town Administrator
Shrewsbury — Kevin J. Mizikar — Town Manager
West Boylston — Nancy Lucier — Town Administrator



Incorporation Dates for Greater Worcester	
Leicester	1714
Worcester	1722 as a Town 1848 as a City
Shrewsbury	1727
Grafton	1735
Holden	1741
Paxton	1765
Auburn	1778
Boylston	1786
West Boylston	1808
Millbury	1813

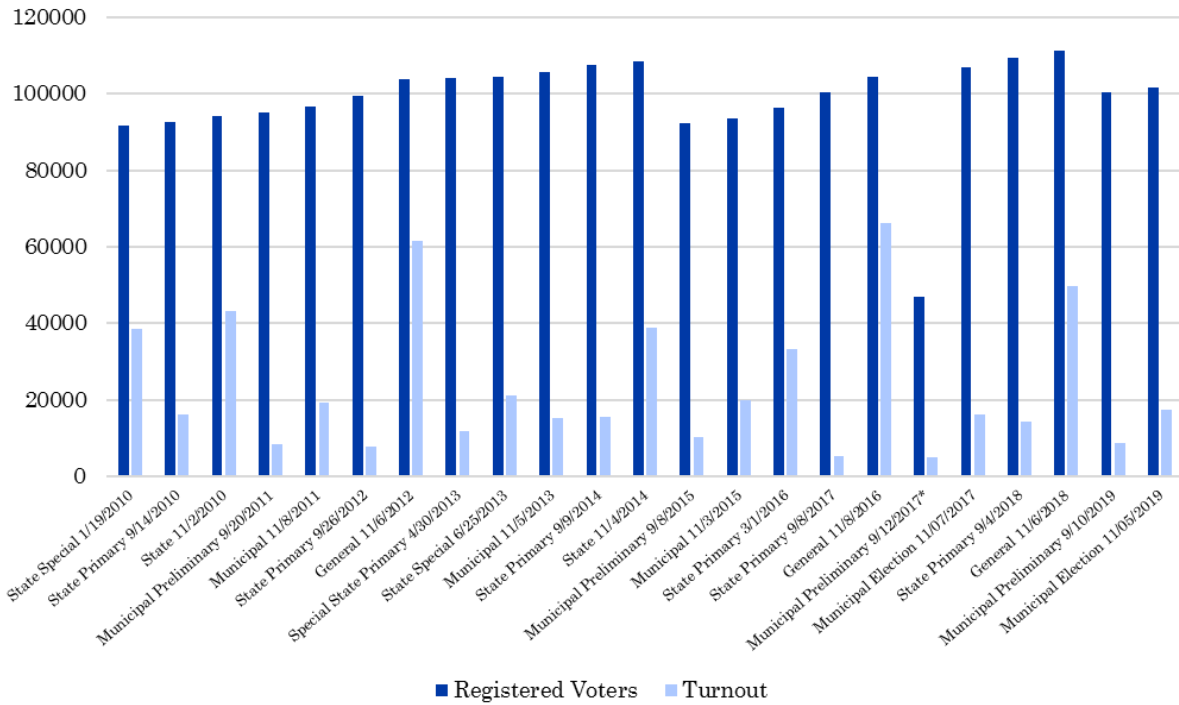
Worcester County:
 Area: 1,510 square miles
 Population: 822,280 (2018)
 Population Density: 544 persons per square mile
 60 cities and towns (including Worcester)

Worcester County: Population 2010 — 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Registered Voters & Ballots Cast, 2010-2019



*Number of registered voters in Districts 1 and 5 where preliminary race held.
Source: City of Worcester Elections Division.

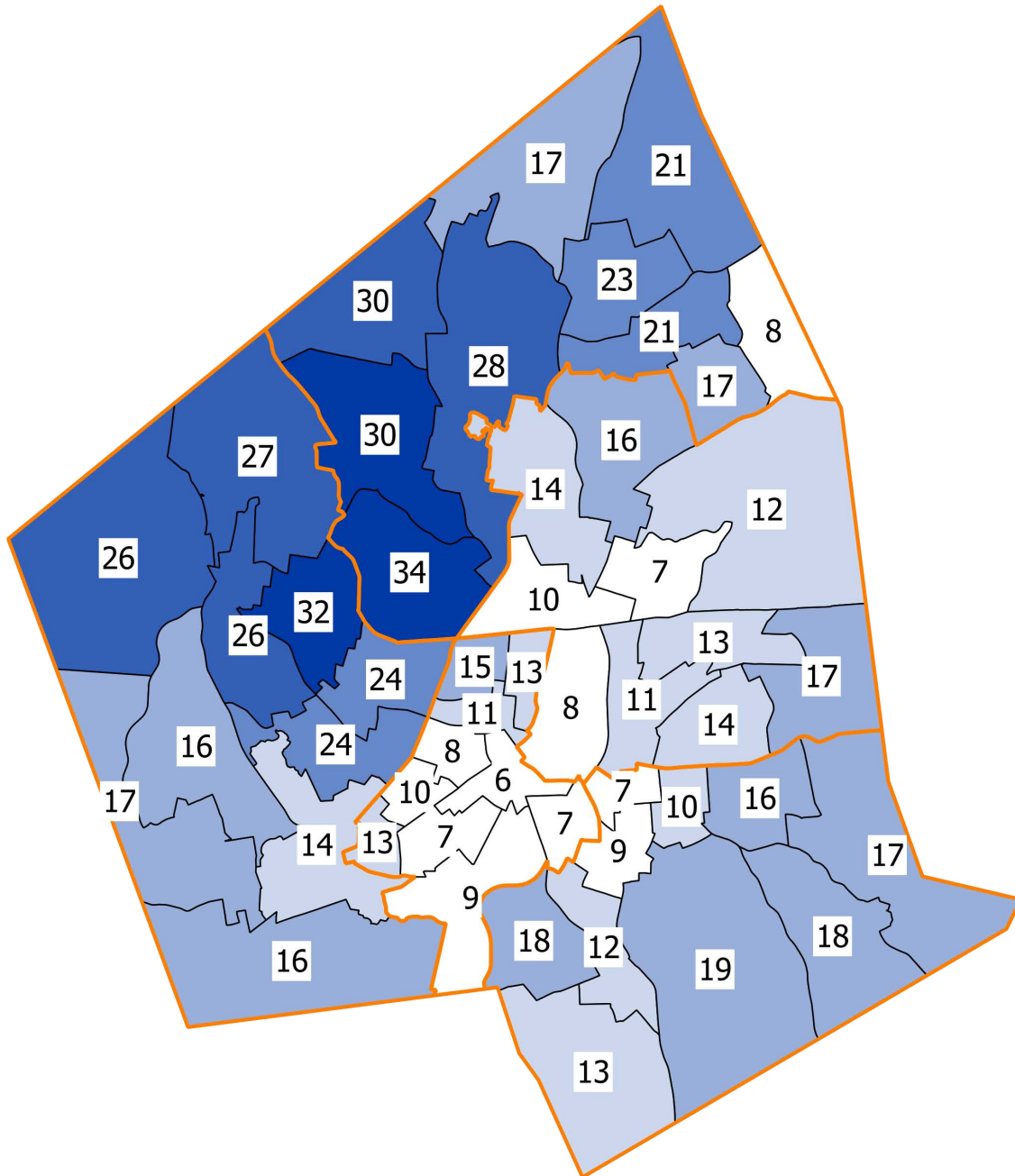
Voter turnout in the City of Worcester varies depending on the type of election. Municipal elections, which are held in odd-numbered years, experience the lowest turnout. Only 17.2% of registered voters turned out in November 2019 to vote for the Mayor, City Council, and School Committee. State elections, which occur in even-numbered years, and especially elections including the election for President, experience the highest turnout. 63.5% of Worcester’s electorate voted in the November 2016 general election and 44.7% of registered voters turned out for the 2018 election.

Worcester: Party Affiliation & Registration	
Party Affiliation	Registered Voters
Unenrolled	54,227
Democrat	41,132
Republican	8,004
United Independent Party	741
Libertarian	514
Green-Rainbow	109
Conservative Party	79
Interdependent 3rd Party	74
American Independent Party	67
MA Independent Party	49
Socialist	38
Working Families	26
Pizza Party	23
We The People	20
Other	20
Green Party USA	17
Pirate	14
America First Party	11
Constitution Party	7
Reform Party	6
Veterans Party America	4
Twelve Visions Party	4
Rainbow Coalition	3
Natural Law Party	1
New Alliance Party	1
Prohibition Party	1
World Citizens Party	1
American Term Limits	1
New World Council	0
Timesizing Not Downsizing	0

As of March 30, 2020. Source: City of Worcester Elections Division.

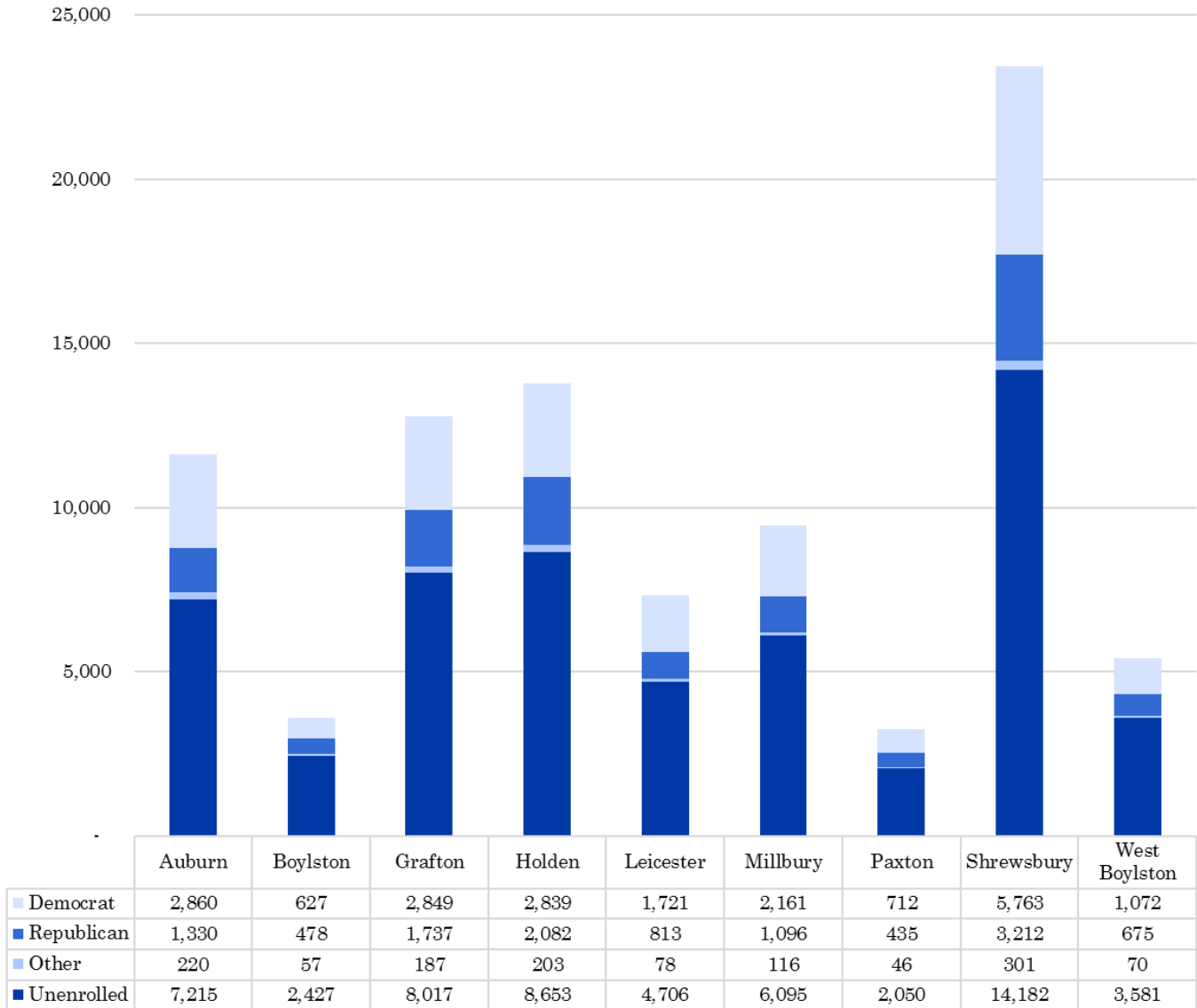
As of January 2019, there were 105,194 registered voters in the City of Worcester. 51.5% of voters were not enrolled in a political party, 39.1% of voters registered as Democrats, and 7.6% of voters registered as Republicans. Since 2015, the number of unenrolled voters has increased by 29%, the number of Democratic voters has increased by 3%, and the number of Republicans has increased by 4%.

Worcester: Voter Turnout Percentage by Precinct, November 5, 2019 Election



Source: Worcester Election Commission

Greater Worcester: Party Affiliation & Registration, as of February 2019



Source: Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Tax Classification

The City of Worcester taxes property based on the following classifications: residential, commercial, industrial, and personal. Property that is owned by nonprofit institutions, as determined by Massachusetts General Law 156B, are exempt from paying property taxes as long as the property is fulfilling the non-profit mission of the organization.

Residential property is property used for human habitation and includes accessory land or buildings that are exclusively used by the residents of the property or their guests. **Commercial** property is used for business purposes including but not limited to commercial, retail, trade, service, recreational, agricultural, artistic, sporting, fraternal, governmental, educational, medical or religious purposes. **Industrial** property includes property used for manufacturing, milling, converting, producing, processing, extracting, or fabricating materials to create commercial products or materials. **Personal** property is trade stock, machinery used for business, and all furnishings and effects not kept at an individual's residence.

Worcester: Property Tax Rates, FY20*	
Type	Fiscal Year 2020
Residential	\$17
Commercial/Industrial/Personal Property (CIP)	\$35.16

* Rates are per \$1,000 of value.

Source: City of Worcester.

Tax Shift

The City of Worcester has a dual tax rate, which assesses 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 one side. A single tax rate is represented by a factor of 1.

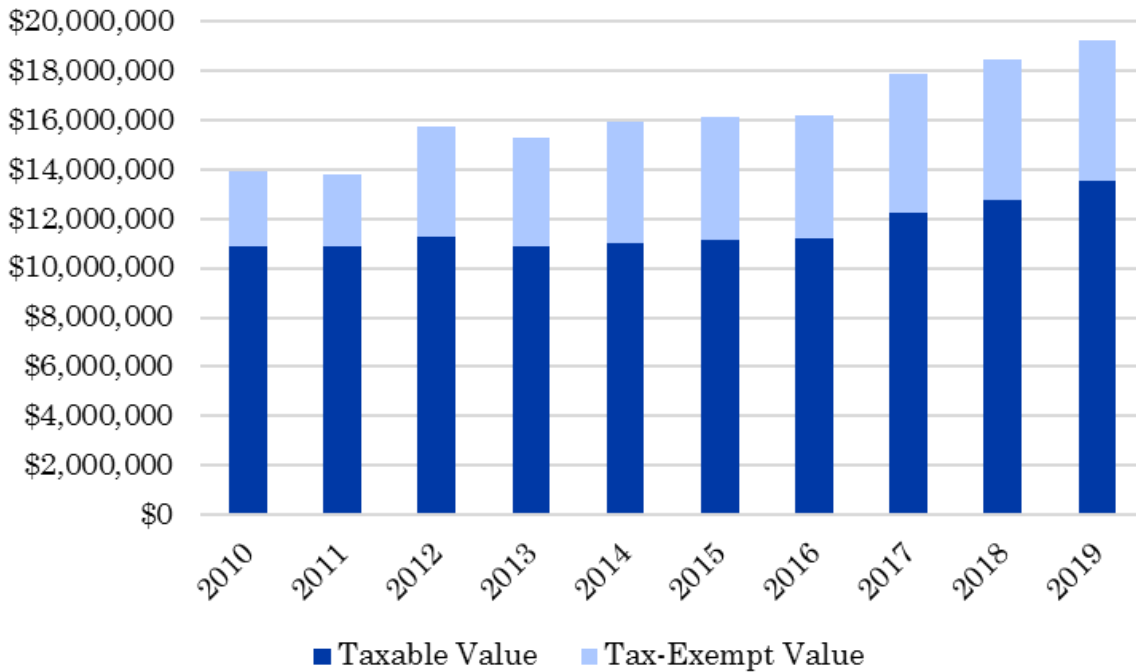
Worcester: Tax Shift, FY20			
Lowest Residential Factor Allowed	Residential Factor Selected	Maximum CIP Shift Allowed	CIP Shift
0.747	0.788	1.75	1.63

Source: City of Worcester Assessor's Office.

Worcester: Tax Value of Property, FY20		
Tax Status	Estimated Value	Percent of Total
Total Taxable and Tax-Exempt Property Value	\$19,230,328	100.0%
<i>Taxable Property Values</i>	<i>\$13,525,815</i>	<i>70.3%</i>
<i>Tax-Exempt Property Values</i>	<i>\$5,704,513</i>	<i>29.7%</i>
Class		
Residential	\$9,999,308	52.0%
Commercial/Industrial/Personal Property	\$3,526,507	18.3%

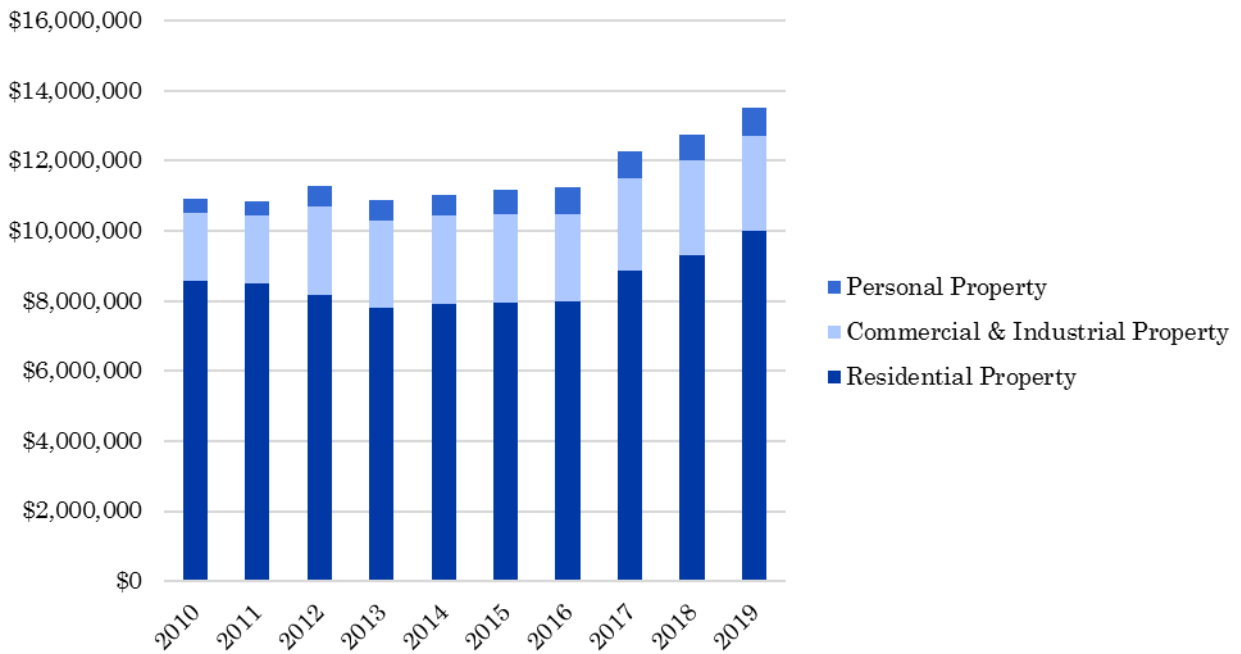
Source: City of Worcester Assessor's Office.

Worcester: Assessed Value of Taxable & Tax-Exempt Property, 2010-2019



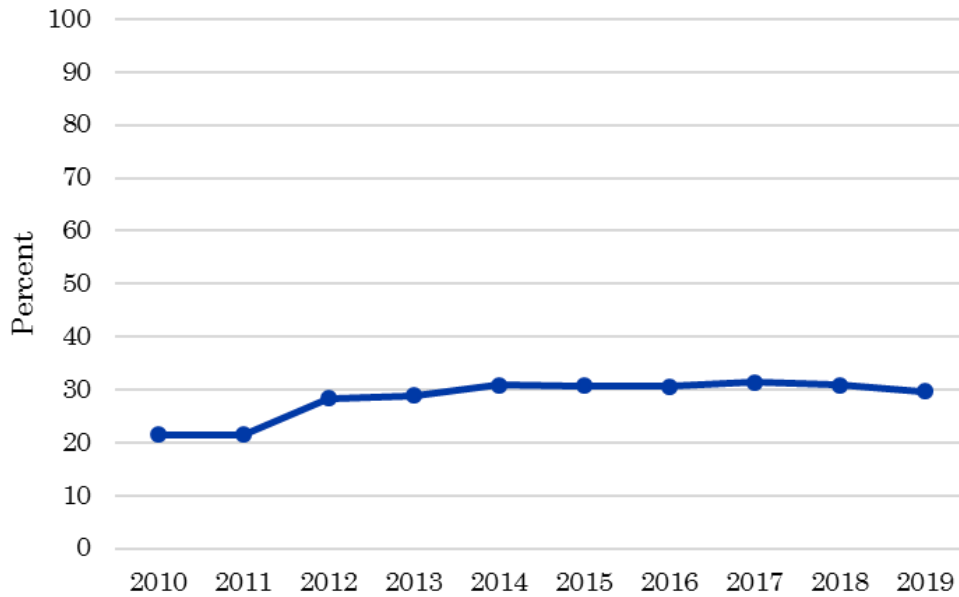
Source: City of Worcester Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, 2019.

Worcester: Assessed Value of Taxable Property by Classification, 2010-2019



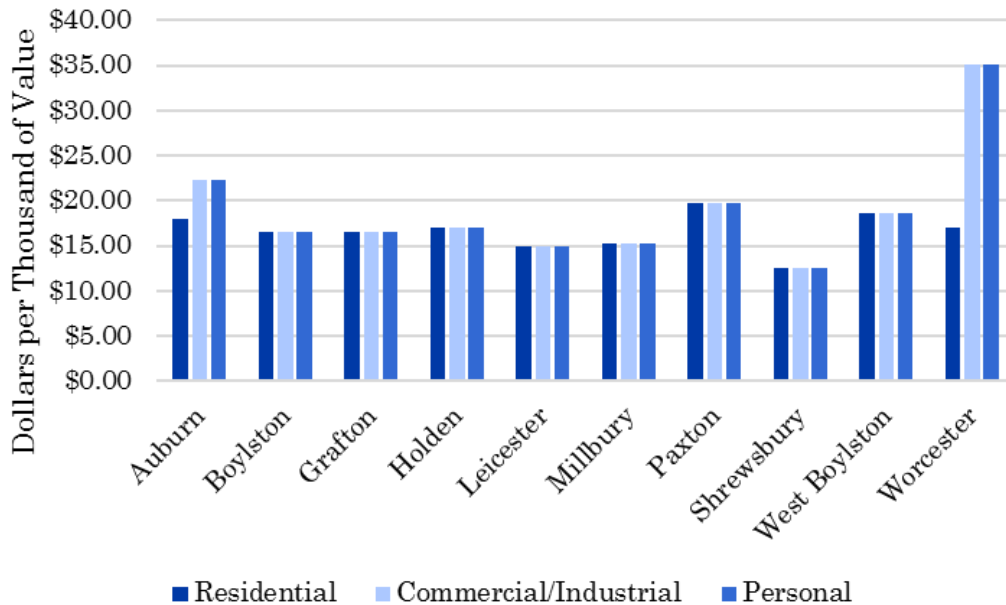
Source: City of Worcester Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, 2019.

Worcester: Tax-Exempt Value as Percent of Total Property Values, 2010-2019



Source: City of Worcester Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, 2019.

Greater Worcester: Property Tax Rates, FY20



Source: Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

In Greater Worcester, only the City of Worcester and the Town of Auburn tax commercial and industrial properties at a higher rate than residential properties. Auburn has voted to decrease the gap between the two rates over the last few years. Additionally, Auburn is the only municipality in Greater Worcester that taxes Personal Property and Commercial/Industrial Property at different rates.

Worcester: Principal Taxpayers, FY19				
<u>Taxpayer</u>	<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>Fiscal 2019 Tax Bill</u>	<u>% of Tax Levy</u>
Massachusetts Electric Co.	Electric Utility	\$435,824	\$15,188	5.0%
NSTAR Gas Co.	Gas Utility	\$195,625	\$6,827	2.3%
VHS Acquisition Subsidiary (St Vincent Hospital)	Medical Care	\$147,930	\$5,163	1.7%
V3B SA LLC (Lincoln Plaza)	Shopping Plaza	\$65,505	\$2,286	0.8%
Worcester TC LLC (AbbVie)	Biotechnology Park	\$61,324	\$2,140	0.7%
Hanover Insurance Group	Insurance	\$60,434	\$2,109	0.7%
Front Street Associates LLC	Real Estate	\$44,308	\$1,546	0.5%
RK Worcester Crossing LLC	Real Estate	\$43,136	\$1,506	0.5%
Verizon New England	Communications	\$41,345	\$1,442	0.5%
HCRI Massachusetts Properties Trust	Real Estate	\$48,500	\$1,171	0.4%

**Amounts expressed in thousands.*

Source: City of Worcester Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, June 30, 2019.

Unfunded Liabilities

Upon retirement, Massachusetts state and municipal employees are eligible for pension and other post-employment benefits (OPEB), such as health care. Each year, Massachusetts governmental entities must determine current costs (pension and benefits provided to existing retirees) and future costs (pension and benefits owed upon retirement to current employees, as determined by actuaries) to determine total liability.

The City of Worcester, like most municipalities, has struggled with outstanding pension and OPEB liability. In 1992, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts offered grant funding to cities and towns that committed to a schedule to eliminate unfunded pension liability. The City of Worcester accepted the offer, committing itself to full pension funding by 2028. In light of the financial downturn, in 2010 the Commonwealth offered cities and towns a waiver on the original plans, which allowed Worcester to extend its schedule to June 30, 2032.

Worcester: Pension Liability	
Total Pension Liability	\$1,506,336,758
Funded Portion of Pension Liability	\$904,465,777
Funded Pension Obligation	60.0%

Source: City of Worcester Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, June 30, 2019

While pension liabilities must be forward-funded, Massachusetts does not mandate that municipalities address OPEB liabilities. Under the City's Seven-Point Plan, Worcester contributes 30% of "free cash"—the surplus remaining after the end of the fiscal year—to be deposited into the OPEB Trust. If "free cash" is not available, no funds are deposited. As a result, Worcester's outstanding liability increases annually and is projected to exceed \$2.5 billion within the next 30 years.

Worcester: Other Post-Employment Benefit Liability	
Total OPEB Liability	\$918,642,242
Funded Portion of OPEB Liability	\$17,430,104
Funded OPEB Obligation	1.9%

Source: City of Worcester Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, June 30, 2019

Worcester: Fund Balance, FY19*	
Fund Balance - FY19	\$65,401,244
Change in Fund Balance - FY18-FY19	\$8,015,405
Fund Balance as a % of FY19 Budget	9.5%

**The City's fund balance is the difference between assets and liabilities in the general fund.
Source: City of Worcester Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, 2019.*

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.

Worcester: Bond Ratings, 2019	
Rating Agency	Rating
Fitch Ratings	AA
Moody's Investors Service	Aa3
Standard & Poor's Rating Service	AA-

Source: City of Worcester Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, 2019.

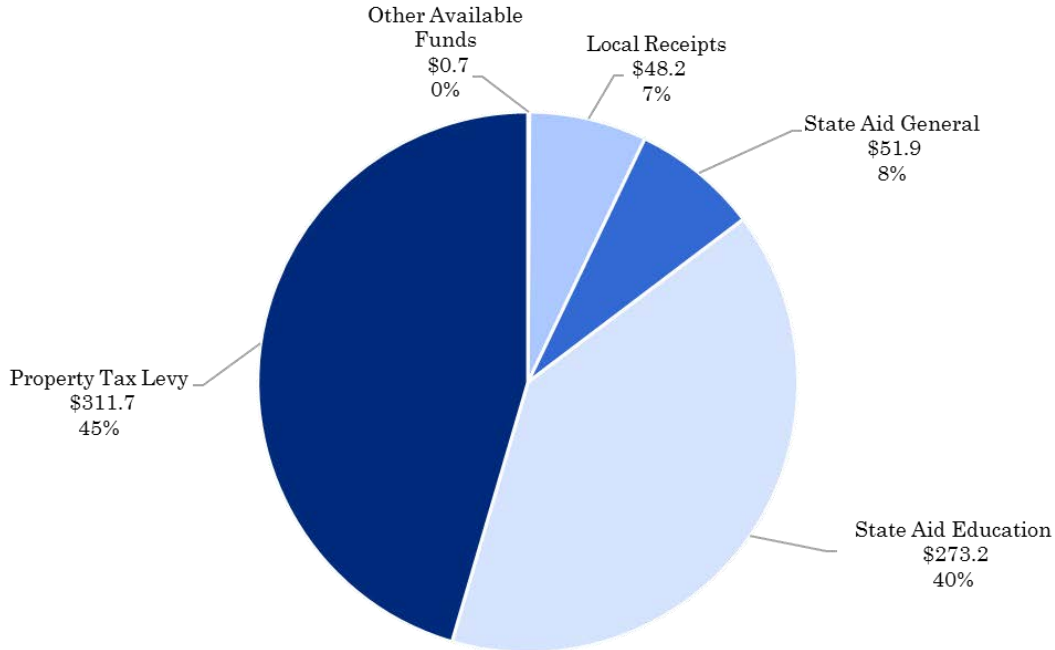
Worcester: Public Debt, 2019	
Total Outstanding Long-Term Debt*	\$696,482,344
<i>Self-Supporting Debt</i>	<i>\$310,954,179</i>
Bond Anticipation Notes as of 6/30/19	\$38,491,000
Bonded Debt per Capita	\$3,813
Bonded Debt as a % of Assessed Valuation	5.24%

*A portion of the long-term debt is supported by fees from water and sewer usage, public parking garages, and DCU Center operating revenue. Debt related to district improvement financing (DIF) capital projects for CitySquare and the DCU Center

Greater Worcester: FY20 Budgets						
	<u>Total City Budget (includes Education)</u>	<u>Education Budget</u>	<u>Education % of Total Budget</u>	<u>Police Budget</u>	<u>Fire Budget</u>	<u>Police & Fire % of Total Budget</u>
Auburn	\$70,974,423	\$29,095,319	40.99%	\$4,930,189	\$3,569,047	11.98%
Boylston	\$16,267,488	\$9,789,648	60.18%	\$1,217,614	\$409,833	10.00%
Grafton	\$61,996,457	\$36,582,273	59.01%	\$2,324,378	\$699,470	4.88%
Holden	\$52,656,065	\$30,774,812	58.44%	\$2,495,853	\$2,275,423	9.06%
Leicester	\$30,425,010	\$16,881,790	55.49%	\$1,964,796	\$305,307	7.46%
Millbury	\$45,169,977	\$23,865,373	52.83%	\$2,541,098	\$749,309	7.28%
Paxton	\$15,468,762	\$6,842,203	44.23%	\$1,192,129	\$480,776	10.81%
Shrewsbury	\$132,281,954	\$66,302,041	50.12%	\$5,523,926	\$3,625,371	6.92%
West Boylston	\$25,427,143	\$12,403,969	48.78%	\$1,705,934	\$912,442	10.30%
Worcester	\$685,744,411	\$395,404,360	57.66%	\$52,512,294	\$40,531,070	13.57%

Sources: Individual Town Budgets.

Worcester: Budgeted Revenues in Millions of Dollars, FY20



Source: City of Worcester.

Worcester: Budgeted Expenditures, FY20

City Budget
\$685.7 million

The City’s final FY20 budget was \$685.7 million. 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.

Education
\$395.3 million
(58%)

City Services
\$166 million
(24%)

Fixed Costs
\$124.3 million
(18%)

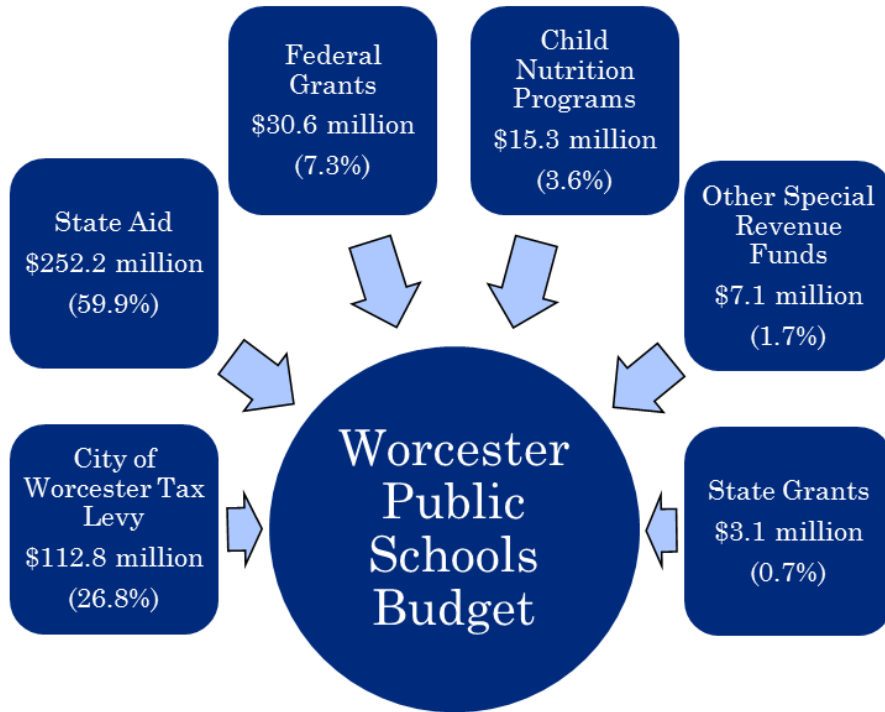
The City of Worcester is heavily dependent on local property tax revenues and state aid for education. State education funding is established by the Commonwealth’s Chapter 70 formula, which provides education subsidies to cities and towns using standardized criteria including the characteristics of local school-age populations and municipal finances. In 2015, the Commonwealth’s Foundation Budget Review Commission called for changes to the formula.

In 2019, the Massachusetts Legislature passed the Student Opportunity Act which provided the first substantial update to the education formula since 1993. Many districts, particularly Gateway Cities, would be receiving a substantial funding increase for public schools. For example, the Worcester Public Schools should receive an estimated \$97.9 million over the next seven fiscal years.

Source: City of Worcester.

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

Worcester Public Schools: Budgeted Revenues, FY20



Sources: City of Worcester & Worcester Public Schools Fiscal 2019 Budgets.

Worcester Public Schools: Budgeted Expenditures, FY20



Sources: City of Worcester & Worcester Public Schools Fiscal 2020 Budgets.

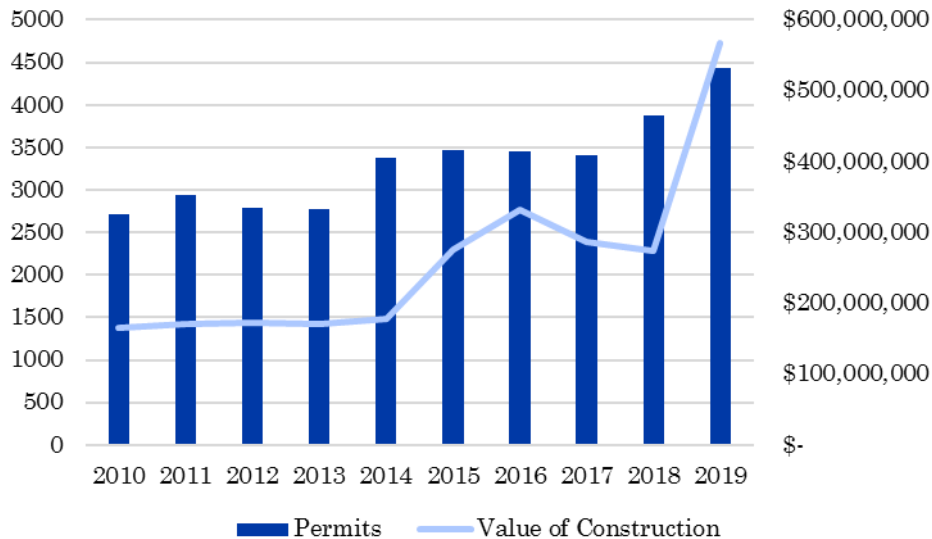
Worcester: Budgeted Employee Counts, FY20	
Positions	# of Budgeted Employees
Legislative Offices	
City Council	12
Mayor's Office	2
City Clerk	10
Election Commission	9
City Auditor	8
City Manager's Office	
City Manager's Office	14
Elder Affairs	9
Public Library	101
Dept. of Economic Development	
Economic Development	37
MassHire Central Region Workforce Board	10
MassHire Central Career Center	35
Cable Services	4
Health and Human Services	
Public Health	25
Human Resources	17
Law Department	15
Police Department	525
Fire Department	421
Emergency Communications	68
Dept. of Inspectional Services	63
Worcester Public Schools	4479
Public Works and Parks	
Golf	2
Public Works	199
Parks, Recreation, and Hope Cemetery	58
Enterprise: Sewer Division	70
Enterprise: Water Division	140
Finance	41
Assessing	10
Technical Services	34
City Energy and Asset Management	17
TOTAL: CITY ONLY	1,975
TOTAL: CITY & WPS	6,454

Source: City of Worcester.

Each year, as part of the annual budget process, the City Council (and the School Committee in the case of the Worcester Public Schools) approves staff positions within City departments. Authorized positions are filled at the discretion of the City or WPS Administration and can be full-time or part-time. While 6,454 positions are budgeted, it is possible that not all of these positions will be filled during the fiscal year or that some of these positions are filled with part-time employees.

Worcester Public Schools: Budgeted Employee Counts, FY20	
Positions	# of Budgeted Employees
District Administrators	26
School Administrators	88
Teachers	2366
Instructional Assistants	613
Teacher Substitutes	105
Crossing Guards	109
Educational Support	120
Custodial Services	154
Maintenance Services	30
Full Year Clerical	65
School Year Clerical	72
School Nurses	94
District Support	55
Student Transportation	103
Child Nutrition	319
Head Start	160
TOTAL: WPS ONLY	4,479

Worcester: Real Estate Investment, 2010-2019



Source: City of Worcester Executive Office of Economic Development.

Worcester: Water and Sewer Rates, 2020							
	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Water Rates	\$3.51	\$3.54	\$3.60	\$3.60	\$3.67	\$3.67	\$3.67
Sewer Rates	\$5.94	\$6.29	\$6.62	\$6.92	\$7.08	\$7.43	\$7.80

Source: City of Worcester Department of Public Works & Parks. *Rates are per 100 cubic feet of usage. Sewerage use is based on 80% of water usage.

Worcester: Public Library System, 2019	
# of Independent Branches	3
# of School-Based Branches	4
# of Mobile Libraries	2
Print Holdings (including periodicals)	576,196
Total Circulation	817,931
Total Number of Visits During Public Hours	539,370
Total Number of Students at School based branches during class time	53,438

Source: Worcester Public Library.

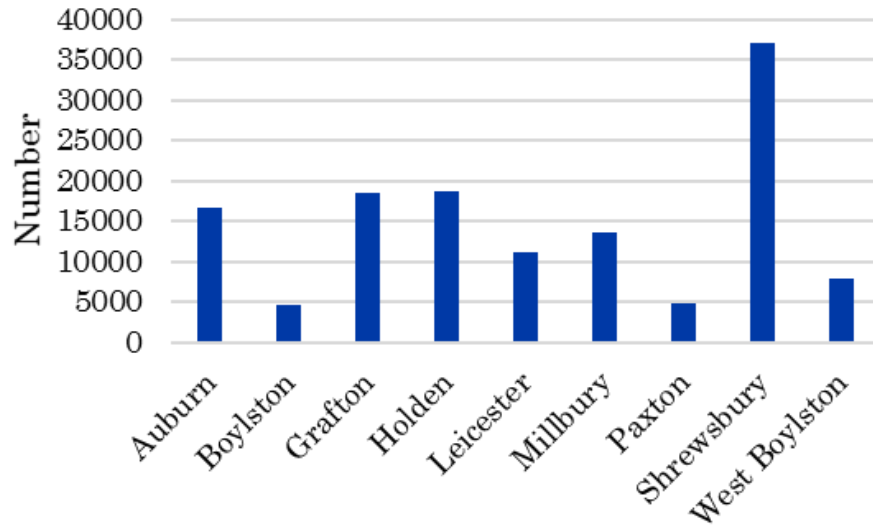
Worcester: Parks and Recreation, 2019	
Parks	61
Dog Parks	3
Playgrounds	35
Fields for Sports	75
Swimming Beach, Pool, Spray Parks	7
Total Park Acreage	1391.21
% of Total Acreage in City	5.82%
State Parks	2
State Pools and Beaches	4

Sources: City of Worcester Department of Public Works & Parks;



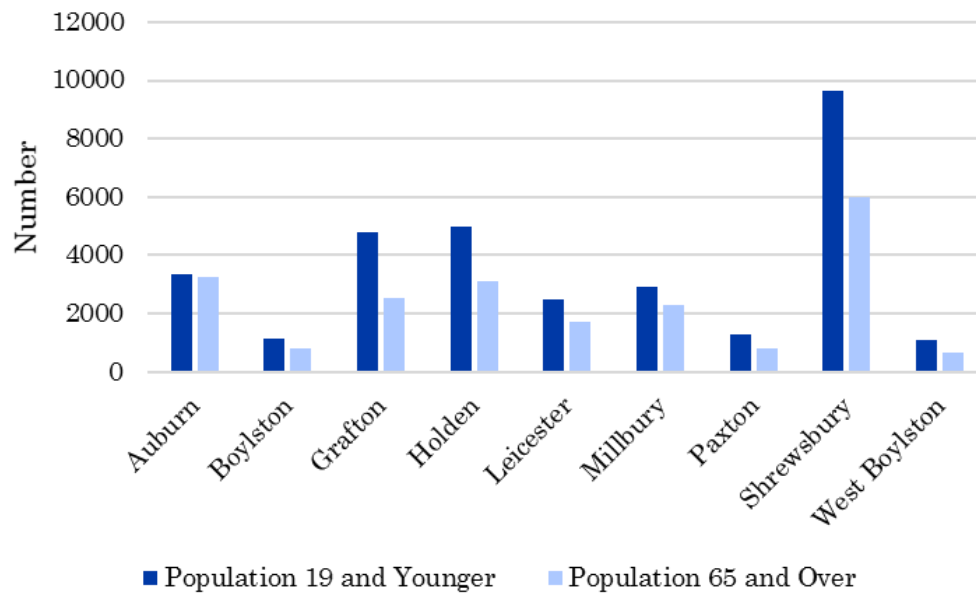
Demographics & Economy

Greater Worcester: Population, 2018



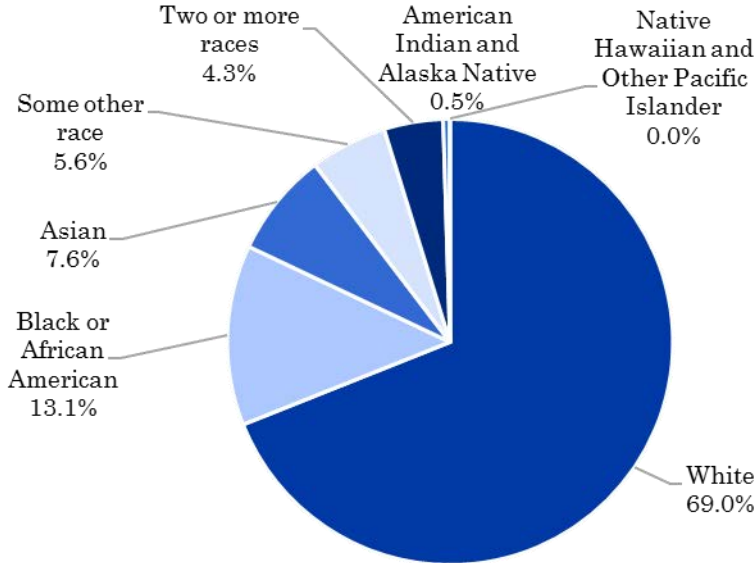
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Greater Worcester: Population 19 Years of Age or Under and Population 65 Years of Age or Over, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Population by Race, 2018

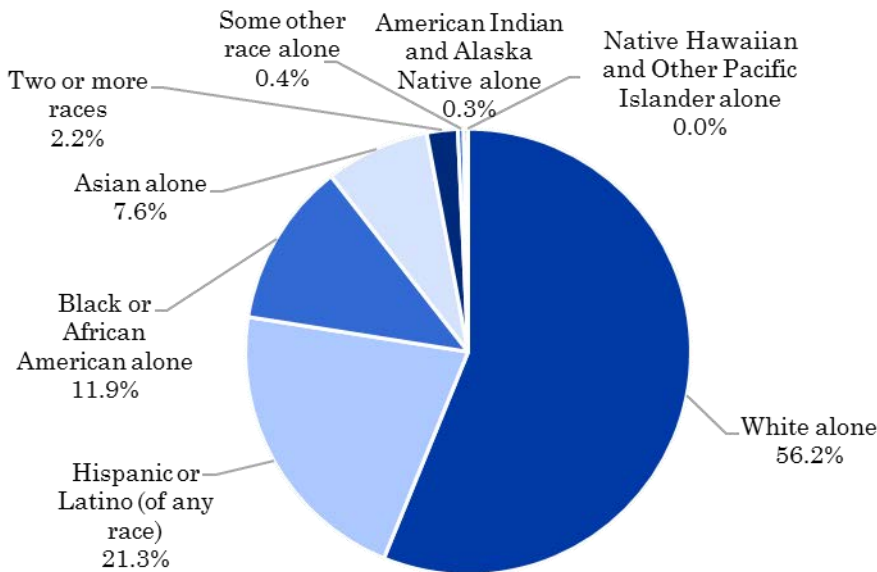


The U.S. Census Bureau tallies five categories of race: “American Indian or Alaska Native,” “Asian,” “Black or African American,” “Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander,” and “White.” Hispanic origin is defined as ethnicity, rather than race, and persons defined as Hispanic or Latino can be of any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

“Worcester Population by Race, 2018” 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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

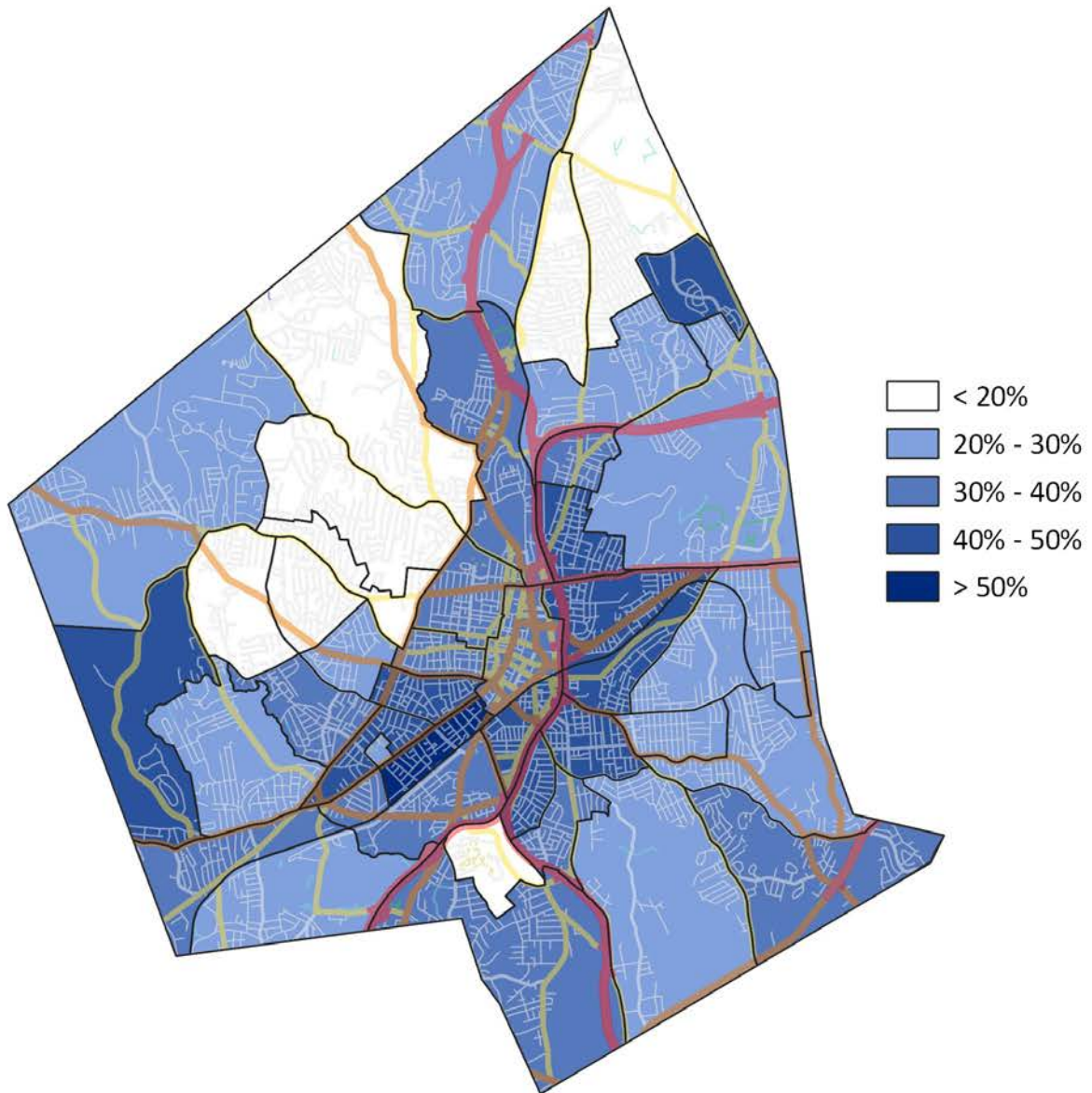
Worcester: Population by Race & Ethnicity, 2018



“Worcester Population by Race & Ethnicity, 2018” 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.

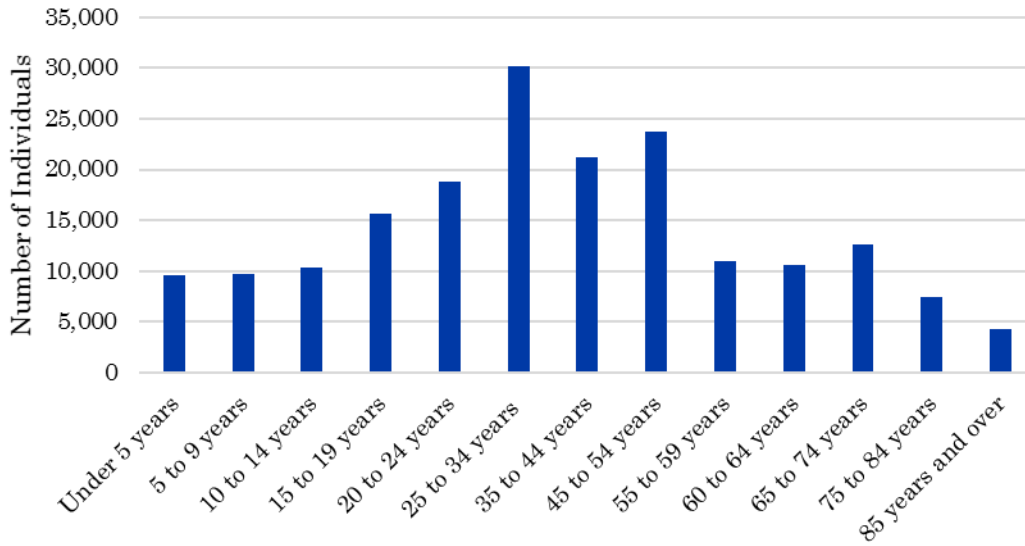
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Percent Non-White Population, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

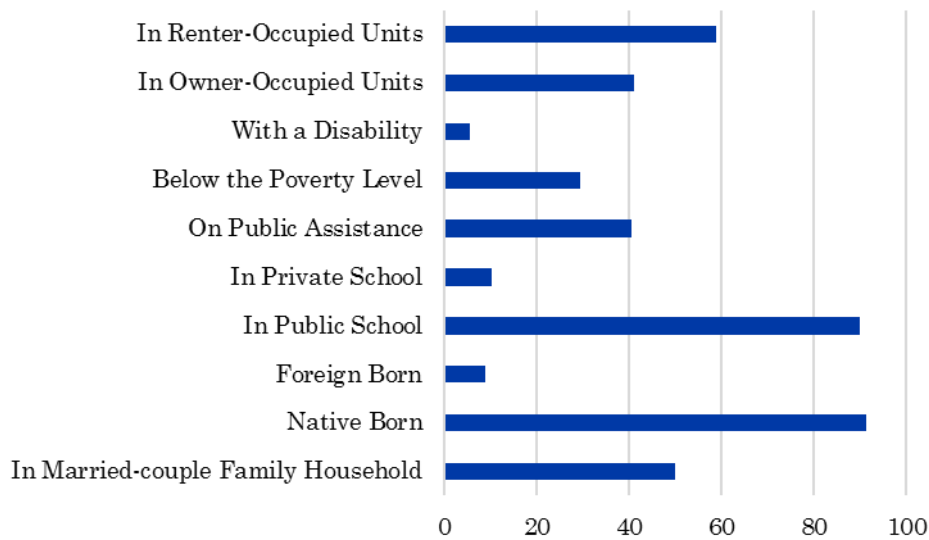
Worcester: Population by Age, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the median age of Worcester residents is 34.4 years old. The median age of Massachusetts is 39.4 and the median age of the United States is 37.9 years old.

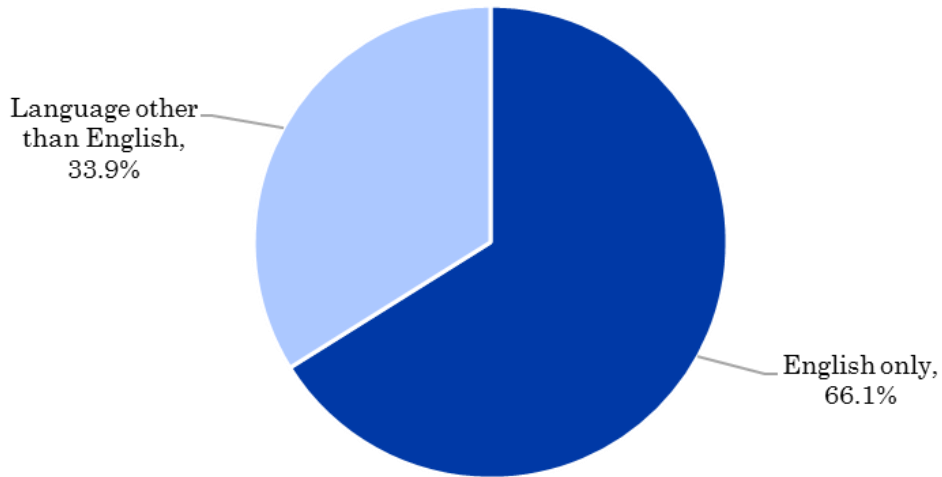
Worcester: Characteristics of the Under-18 Population by Percent, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

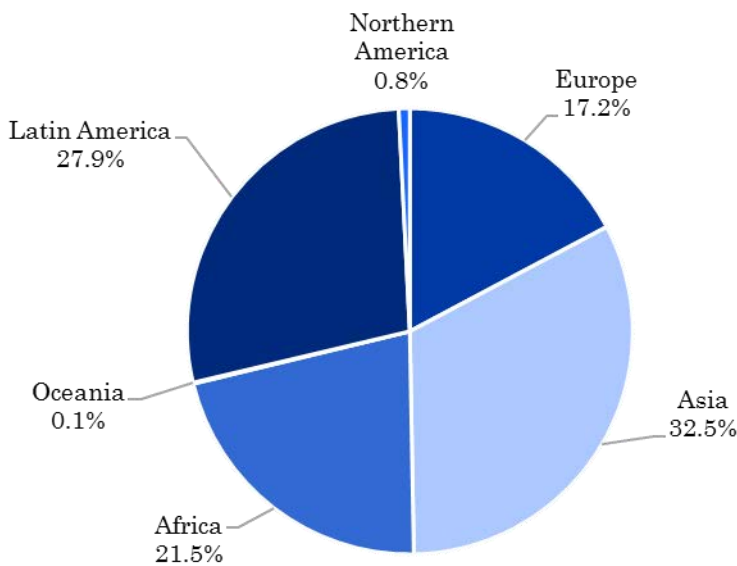
Worcester: Language Spoken At Home, 2018*

In 2018, 66% of the Worcester population spoke only English. Of the other languages spoken by Worcester residents, 15% spoke Spanish, and 18% spoke another language. According to the Worcester Public Schools, more than 74 languages are spoken by children in the school system.



*For population 5 years and older.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Region of Origin of Foreign Born Residents, 2018



Approximately one in five residents of Worcester was born outside the United States, with 33% of those residents originating in Asia, followed closely by Latin America with 28%.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Foreign Born Residents, 2018		
Total Foreign Born	Foreign Born Naturalized Citizen	Foreign Born Not US Citizen
39,416	19,393	20,023

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

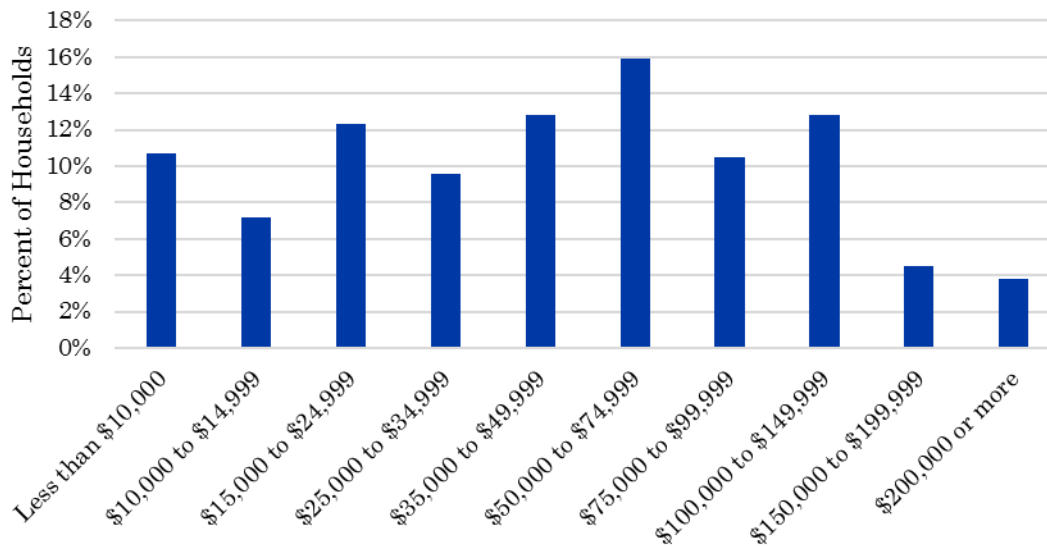
Worcester: Number of Residents from the Top 10 Countries of Origin, 2011 and 2018			
	2011		2018
Vietnam	3,506	Vietnam	4,215
Brazil	3,461	Ghana	3,398
Ghana	3,358	Dominican Republic	2,890
Dominican Republic	2,705	Albania	2,498
Albania	2,115	Brazil	2,079
El Salvador	1,724	China, excluding Hong Kong and Taiwan	1,733
China, excluding Taiwan and Hong Kong	1,341	Iraq	1,388
Poland	1,137	India	1,287
Kenya	905	Kenya	1,264
India	694	El Salvador	1,200
Total	20,946	Total	21,952

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Households, 2018	
Total # of Households	71,745
<i>Family Households</i>	<i>53.3%</i>
<i>Non-Family Households</i>	<i>46.7%</i>
<i>Households with Children under 18</i>	<i>23.6%</i>
<i>Average Family Size</i>	<i>3.23</i>
Average Household Size	2.41
<i>Owner-occupied</i>	<i>41.9%</i>
<i>Housing Renter-occupied</i>	<i>58.1%</i>
Median Household Income	\$46,407

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Household Income, 2018

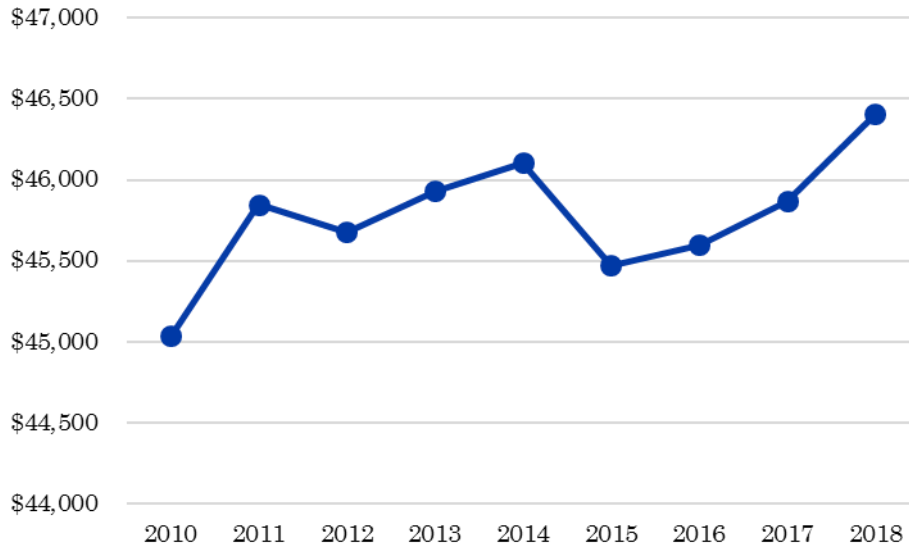


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

“Median Household Income” is the income that has an equal number of households above and below that income level. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the median household income in Worcester is \$46,407, the median household income of Massachusetts is \$77,378, and the median household income of the United States is \$60,293. According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Worcester Area Median Family Income (which includes Worcester and surrounding towns) is \$97,700.

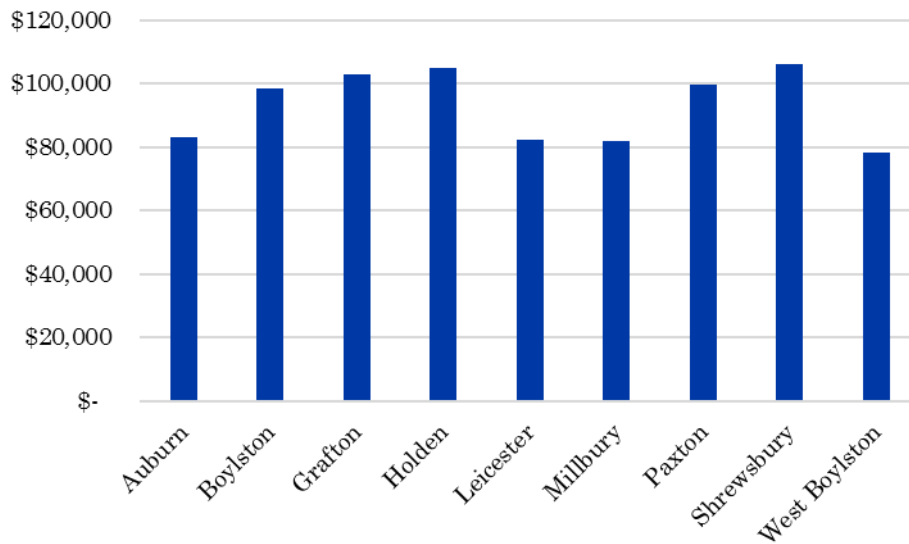
Income

Worcester: Median Household Income, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Greater Worcester: Median Household Income, 2018



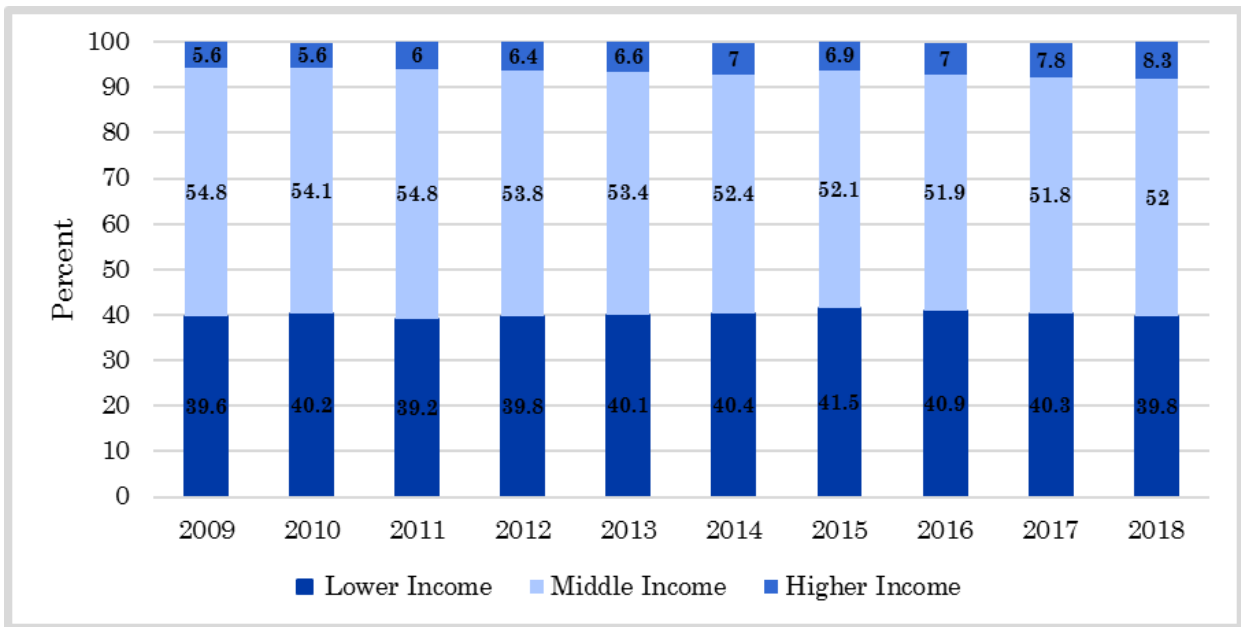
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester’s Middle Income*

The Pew Research Center defines middle income, or middle class, as households between 67% to 200% of the state median income. In Massachusetts, with a median household income of \$77,138, a middle class household income would range from \$51,843 to \$154,334. The Census Bureau does not divide income groups into lower, middle, and upper income categories and its household income categories do not allow for exact determinations. However, the chart below uses the closest categories to approximate The Pew Research Center’s definition of middle income for Worcester. In 2018, approximately 52% of Worcester households were in the middle income range, 39.8% of Worcester households were in the lower income range, and 8.3% of Worcester households were in the upper income range.

<i>Income Ranges</i>		
Lower Income: \$0—\$34,999	Middle Income: \$35,000—\$149,999	Higher Income: \$150,000+

Worcester: % of Households by Income Level, 2009 - 2018



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Surveys.

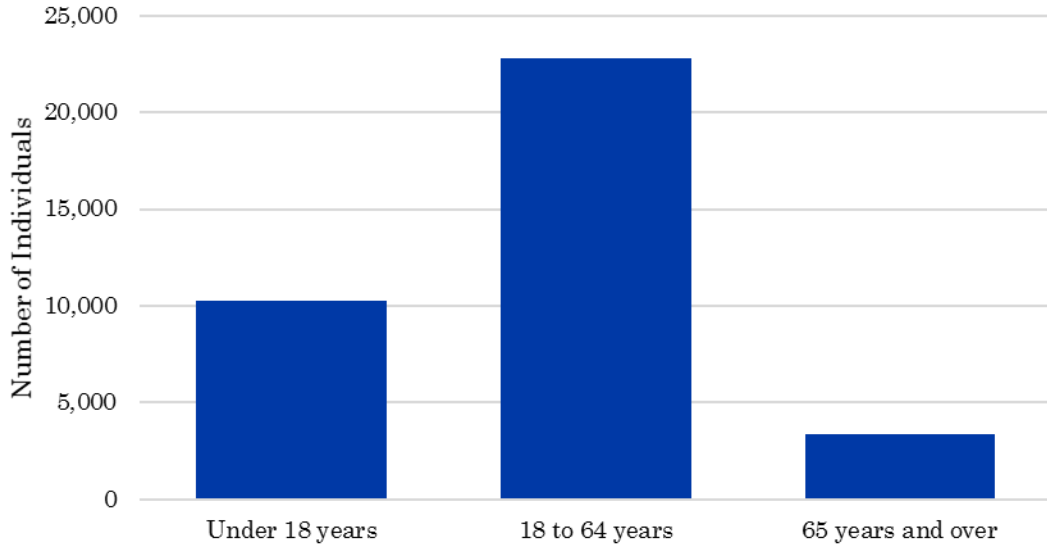
***According to Pew Research Center:**

“**Middle income or middle class?** The terms “middle income” and “middle class” are often used interchangeably. This is especially true among economists who typically define the middle class in terms of income or consumption. But being middle class can connote more than income, be it a college education, white-collar work, economic security, owning a home, or having certain social and political values. Class could also be a state of mind, that is, it could be a matter of self-identification (Pew Research Center, 2008, 2012). The interplay among these many factors is examined in studies by Hout (2007) and Savage et al. (2013), among others.”

Source: Pew Research Center, *Social and Demographic Trends*, <http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2015/12/09/the-american-middle-class-is-losing-ground/>, Accessed March 2016.

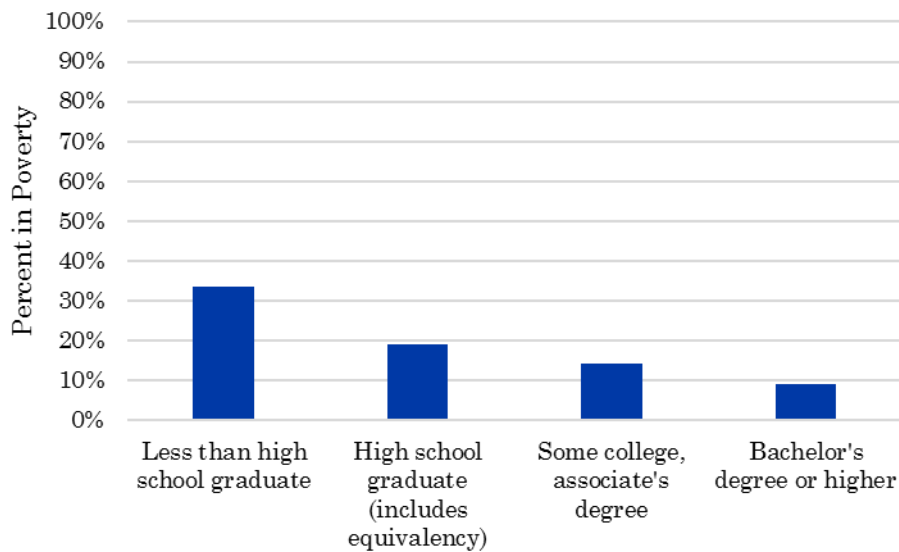
According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 21.1% of Worcester’s population is below the poverty level, while 10.8% of the Massachusetts population and 14.1% of the United States population is below the poverty level. The weighted average poverty threshold for a family of four in 2018 is \$26,370. Poverty is defined using pre-tax income.

Worcester: Poverty by Age for Population Below Poverty Level, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

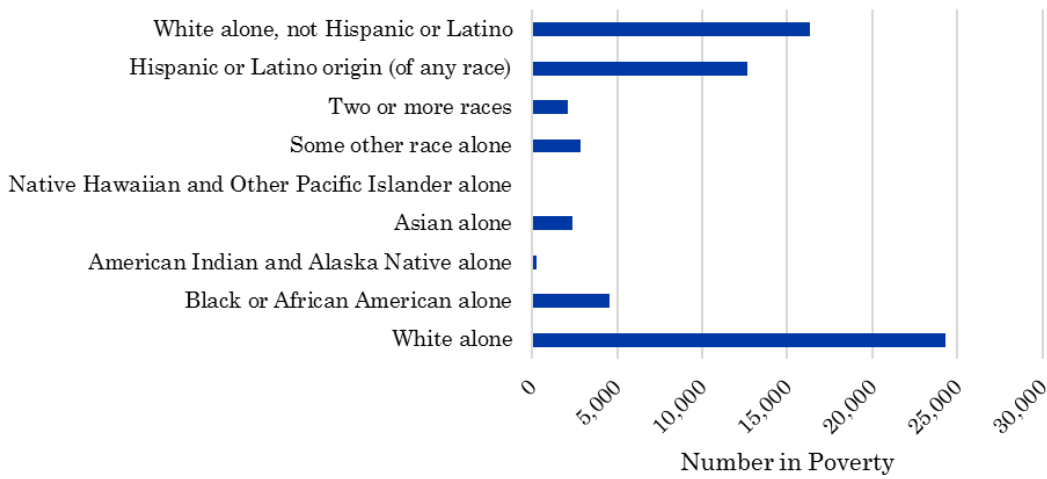
Worcester: Percent in Poverty by Educational Attainment, 2018*



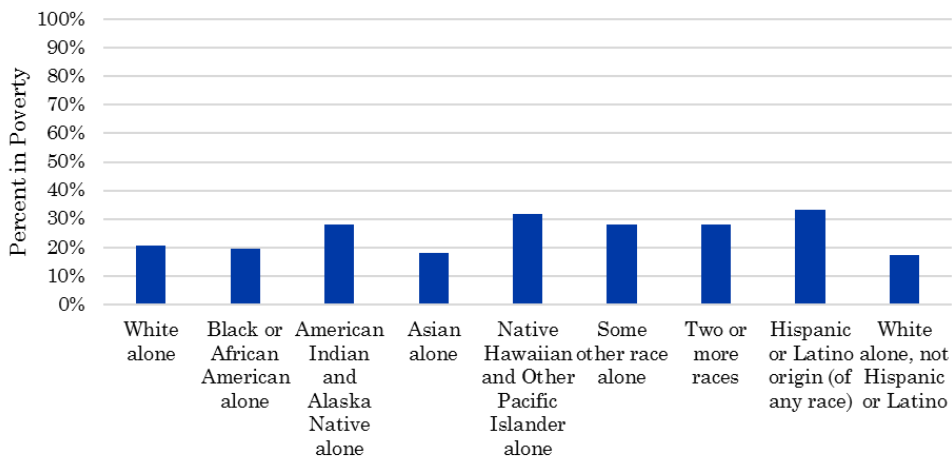
*For population 25 years old and over.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Number in Poverty by Race, 2018

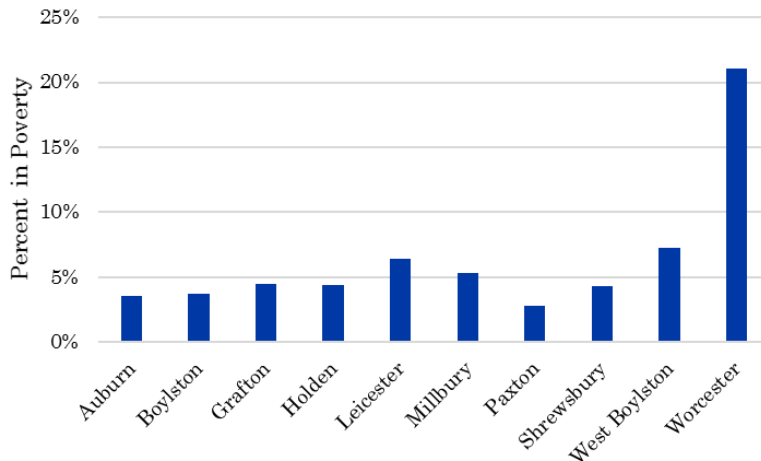


Worcester: Percent in Poverty, 2018



While the highest number of Worcester residents in poverty are White, people of Hispanic or Latino origin are more likely to live in poverty than all other racial and ethnic categories.

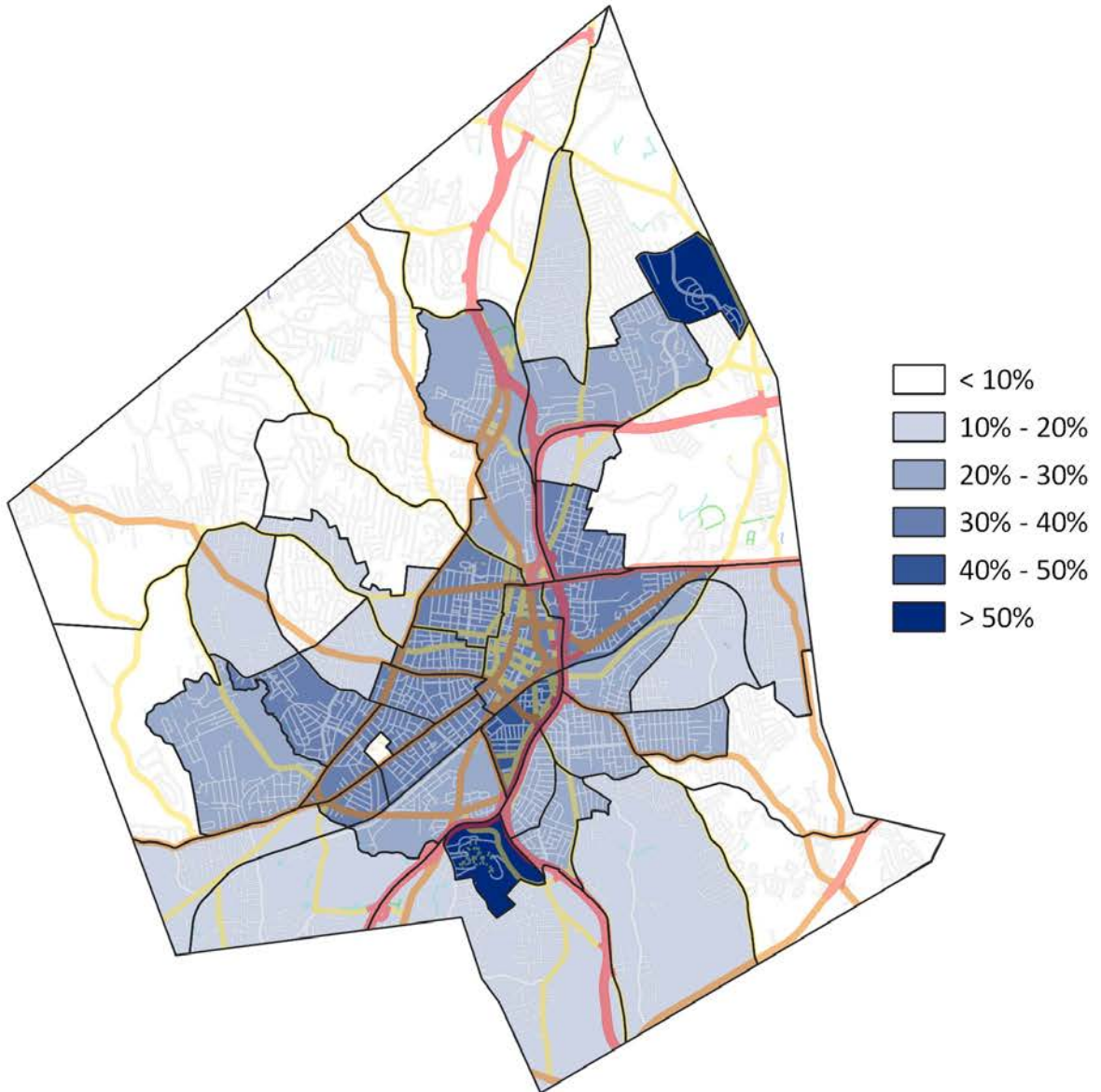
Greater Worcester: Percent in Poverty, 2018



Source for all charts on this page: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

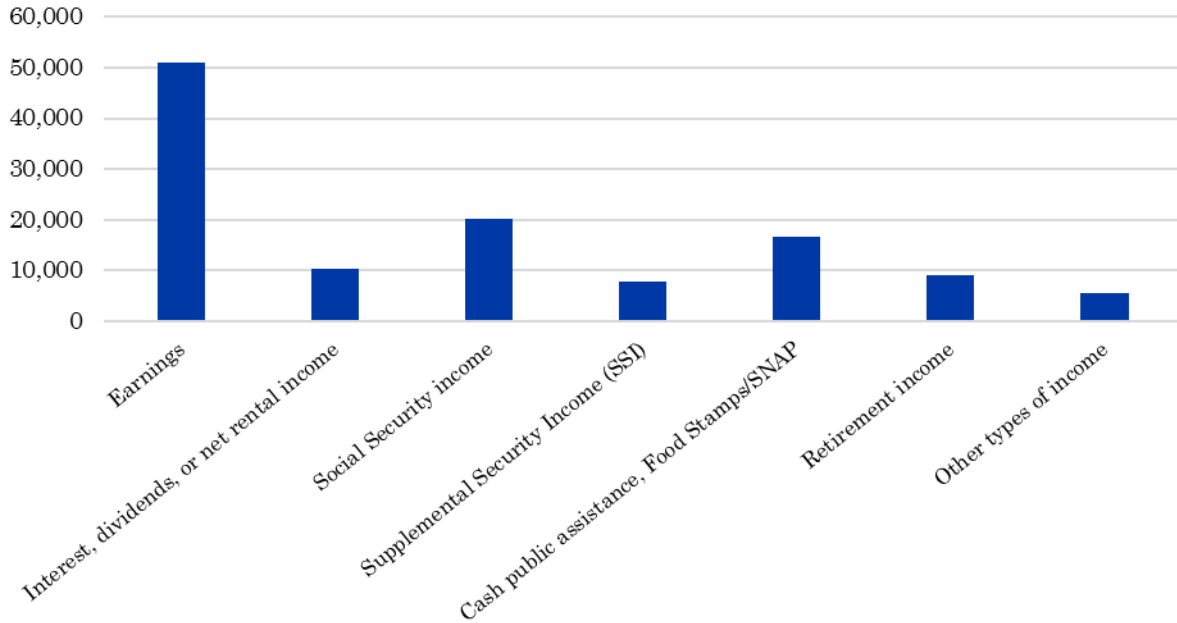
Poverty

Worcester: Percent of Residents Below Poverty Level, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Sources of Household Income, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

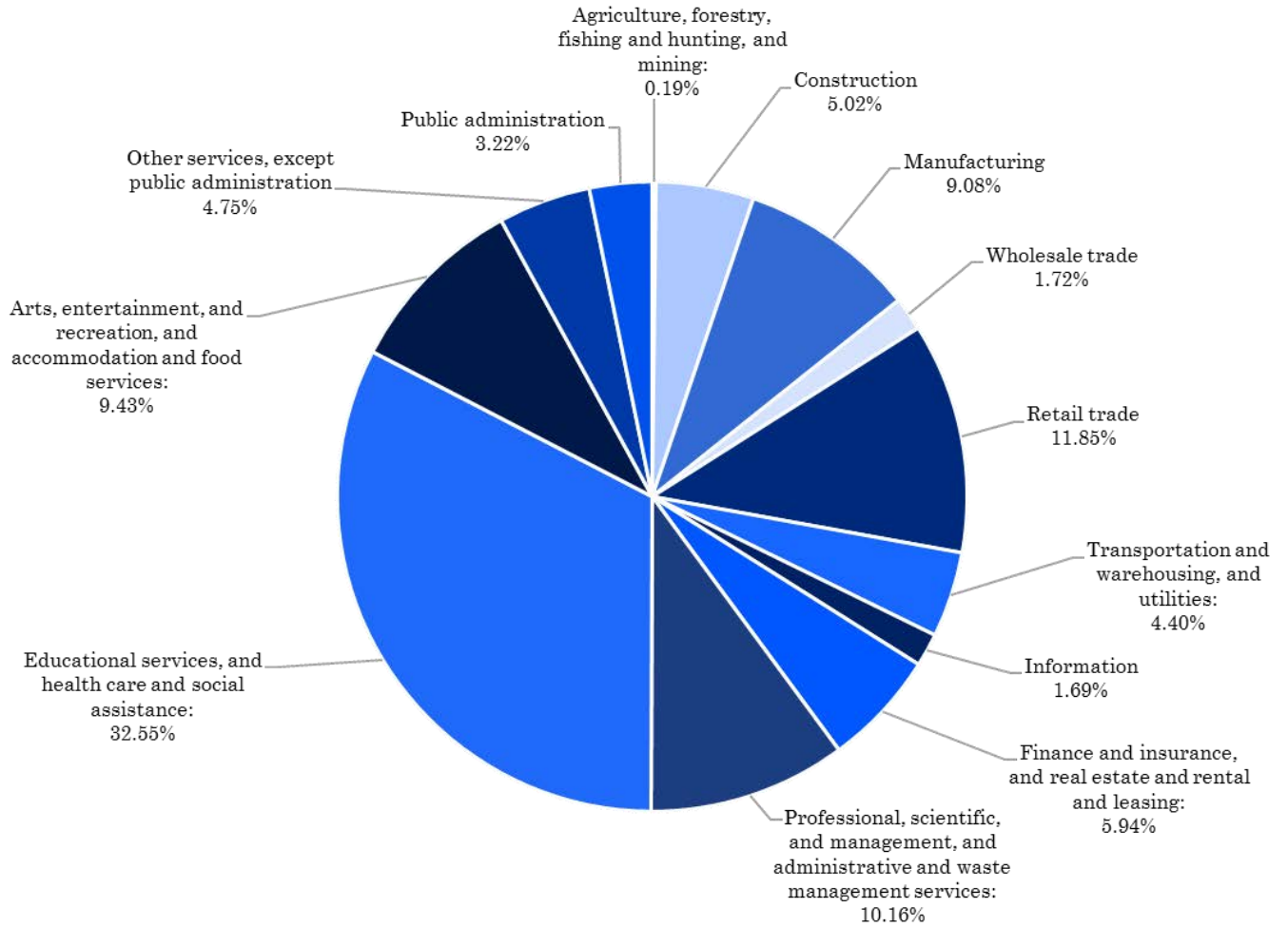
In 2018, the majority of Worcester’s households derive some part of their income through earnings. Other income sources included Social Security and Cash public Assistance, Food Stamps/SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits.

Worcester Economic Index, 2019	
Month	Worcester Economic Index
January	117.8
February	117.8
March	117.7
April	117.5
May	117.4
June	117.4
July	117.5
August	117.6
September	117.6
October	117.8
November	118
December	118.2

Source: Thomas White, Assumption University.

The quarterly Worcester Economic Indicators Report, developed by Thomas White, Professor in the Economics and Global Studies department at Assumption University, 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: Employment by Industry, 2018

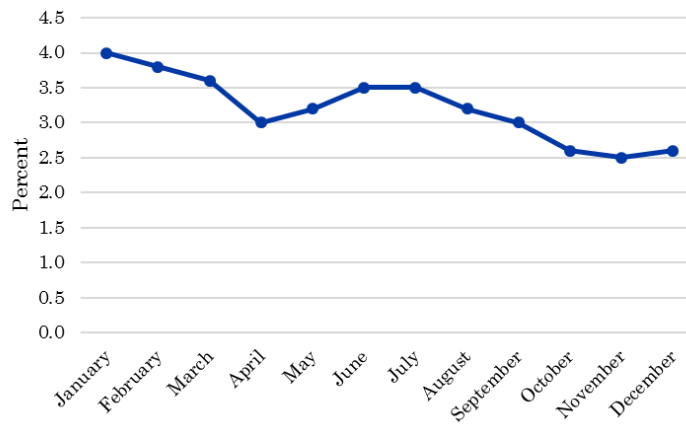


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Employment & Earnings by Industry, 2018							
Industry	Number of Employees	Median Earnings	Employment-Percent Male	Employment-Percent Female	Median Earnings-Male	Median Earnings-Female	Female Earnings as Percent of Male
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining:	162	\$12,692	51.2%	48.8%	30,855	2,500	-
Construction	4,297	\$46,497	90.9%	9.1%	47,247	37,868	80.10%
Manufacturing	7,769	\$42,383	69.6%	30.4%	47,536	35,528	74.70%
Wholesale trade	1,472	\$45,233	63.6%	36.4%	50,156	41,071	81.90%
Retail trade	10,145	\$24,252	54.3%	45.7%	26,150	21,225	81.20%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities:	3,763	\$34,563	79.0%	21.0%	40,045	18,587	46.40%
Information	1,450	\$41,129	54.3%	45.7%	53,646	32,454	60.50%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing:	5,088	\$48,450	45.6%	54.4%	50,710	46,395	91.50%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services:	8,696	\$41,991	60.2%	39.8%	45,238	39,235	86.70%
Educational services, and health care and social assistance:	27,859	\$36,054	32.7%	67.3%	40,950	34,050	83.20%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services:	8,070	\$16,668	47.3%	52.7%	21,722	15,275	70.30%
Other services, except public administration	4,063	\$24,451	39.8%	60.2%	33,152	21,340	64.40%
Public administration	2,752	\$57,897	57.9%	42.1%	61,969	51,985	83.90%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester Metropolitan Area: Unemployment Rate, 2019



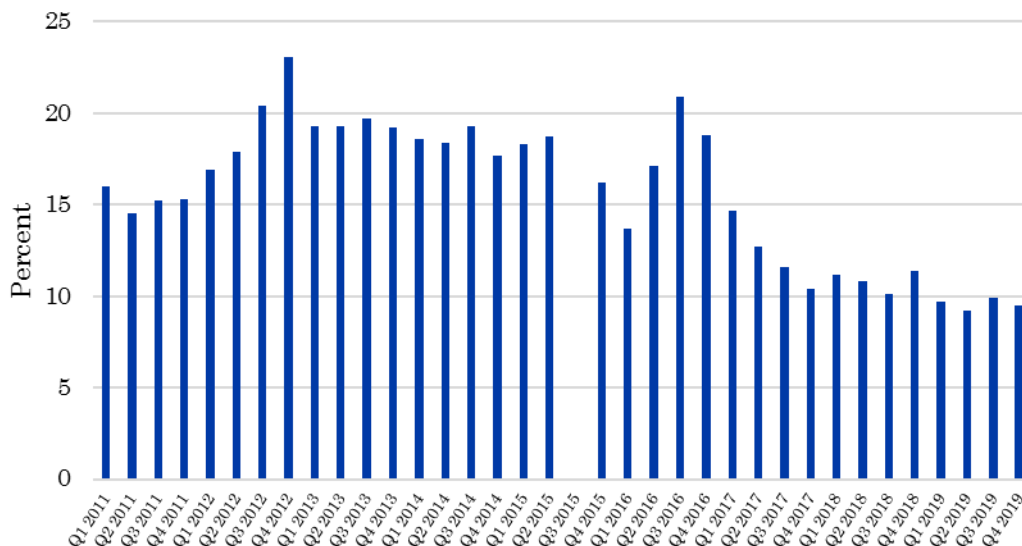
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Worcester: Office and R&D Space, 2019

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
Square Feet (SF) Supply	2,891,924	2,891,924	2,891,924	2,891,924
Direct SF Available	245,631	233,171	232,880	220,525
Sublease SF Available	33,865	33,865	52,971	52,971
Vacancy Rate %	9.70%	9.20%	9.90%	9.50%
Absorption	49,252	12,460	-18,815	12,355
Year to Date Absorption	49,252	61,712	42,897	55,252

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

Worcester: Quarterly Office & R&D Vacancy Rate, 2011-2019



Colliers International completes a survey of office vacancies for Greater Boston that includes select buildings in Worcester. Colliers did not complete a market survey in the 3rd Quarter of 2015.

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

Worcester: Hotels, 2019	
	Number of Rooms
AC Hotel by Marriott	170
Beechwood Hotel	73
Courtyard by Marriott Worcester	134
Hampton Inn & Suites Worcester	100
Hilton Garden Inn Worcester	199
Holiday Inn Express Worcester	96
Homewood Suites	118
Quality Inn & Suites	112
Residence Inn by Marriott	129
Total Hotel Rooms	1,131

Source: Discover Central Massachusetts.

Worcester: Hotel Market, 2019	
Occupancy	72.20%
Average Daily Rate (ADR)	\$139.60
Revenue per Available Room	\$100.79

Source: Discover Central Massachusetts.

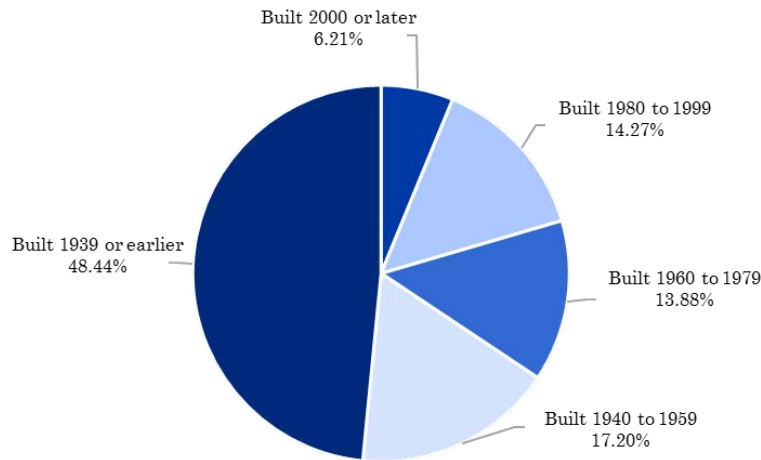
Worcester County: Hotel Market, 2019	
Occupancy	65.40%
Supply	2,299,875 Room Nights
Demand	1,503,485 Room Nights
Average Daily Rate (ADR)	\$121.21
Revenue per Available Room	\$79.24

Source: Discover Central Massachusetts.

Worcester: Housing Units, 2018	
Total Housing Units	77,920
Occupied Housing Units	71,145
Vacant Housing Units	6,775
Housing Units in Multi-Unit Structures	48,343
Homeowner Vacancy Rate	1.6%
Rental Vacancy Rate	4.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

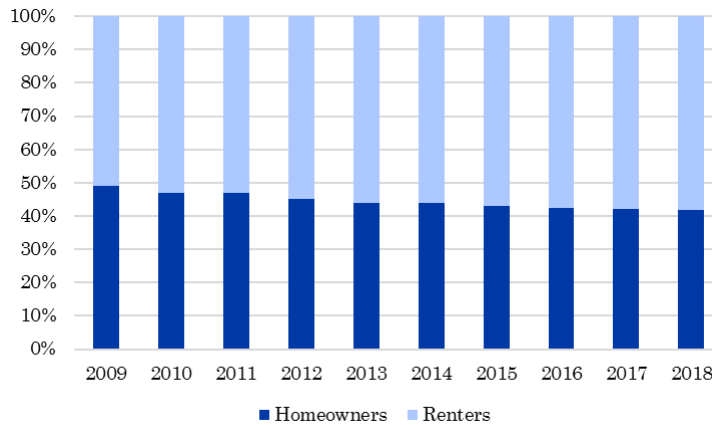
Worcester: Age of Housing Stock, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

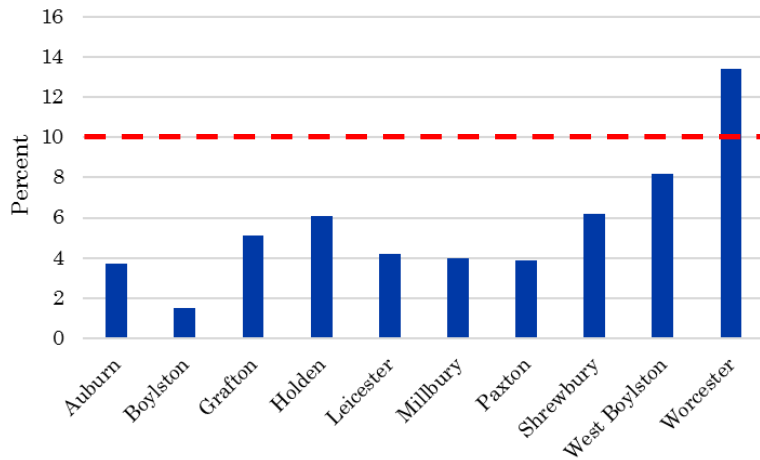
Worcester: Owner-Occupied, and Renter-Occupied as a Percent of Total Households, 2009-2018

In 2018 there were 71,145 occupied housing units in Worcester. Of those households 29,807 (41.9%) were owner-occupied and 41,338 (58.1%) were renter-occupied.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

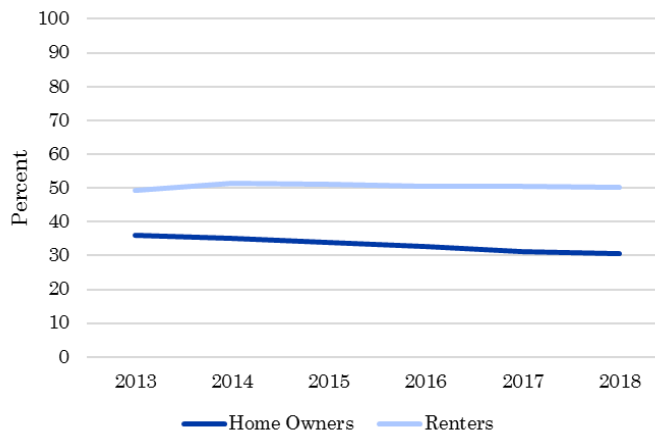
Greater Worcester: Chapter 40B Subsidized Housing Inventory*



Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40B was adopted in 1969 as part of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Permit Act to encourage and facilitate the building of affordable, long-term housing for low-income individuals and families across the Commonwealth and to ensure that low-income residents can remain in their localities if housing costs increase. The law calls on every Massachusetts community to ensure that 10% of all housing units meet certain affordability requirements.

*As of September 2017. Red line indicates 10% threshold called for under Chapter 40B. Source: Massachusetts Department of Housing & Community Development.

Worcester: Percent of Households Spending 30% or More of Income on Housing, 2010-2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Homelessness

Annual City of Worcester Point-In-Time Count, January 30, 2019					
	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency Shelter	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Total Homeless	967	444	13	169	1593
Chronically Homeless	42	0	12	30	84
<i>Age</i>					
# under age 18	462	111	0	6	579
# ages 18-24	70	74	0	24	168
# over age 24	435	259	13	139	846
<i>Gender</i>					
Female	517	176	3	64	760
Male	450	266	10	101	827
Transgender	0	2	0	2	4
Gender Non-Conforming (i.e. not exclusively male or female)	0	0	0	2	2
<i>Race</i>					
White	704	306	7	148	1165
Black or African American	234	121	4	14	373
Asian	14	6	2	1	23
American Indian or Alaska Native	5	1	0	0	6
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	2	0	0	4
Multiple Races	8	8	0	6	22
<i>Ethnicity</i>					
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	566	264	11	129	970
Hispanic/Latino	401	180	2	40	623

Source: Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance.

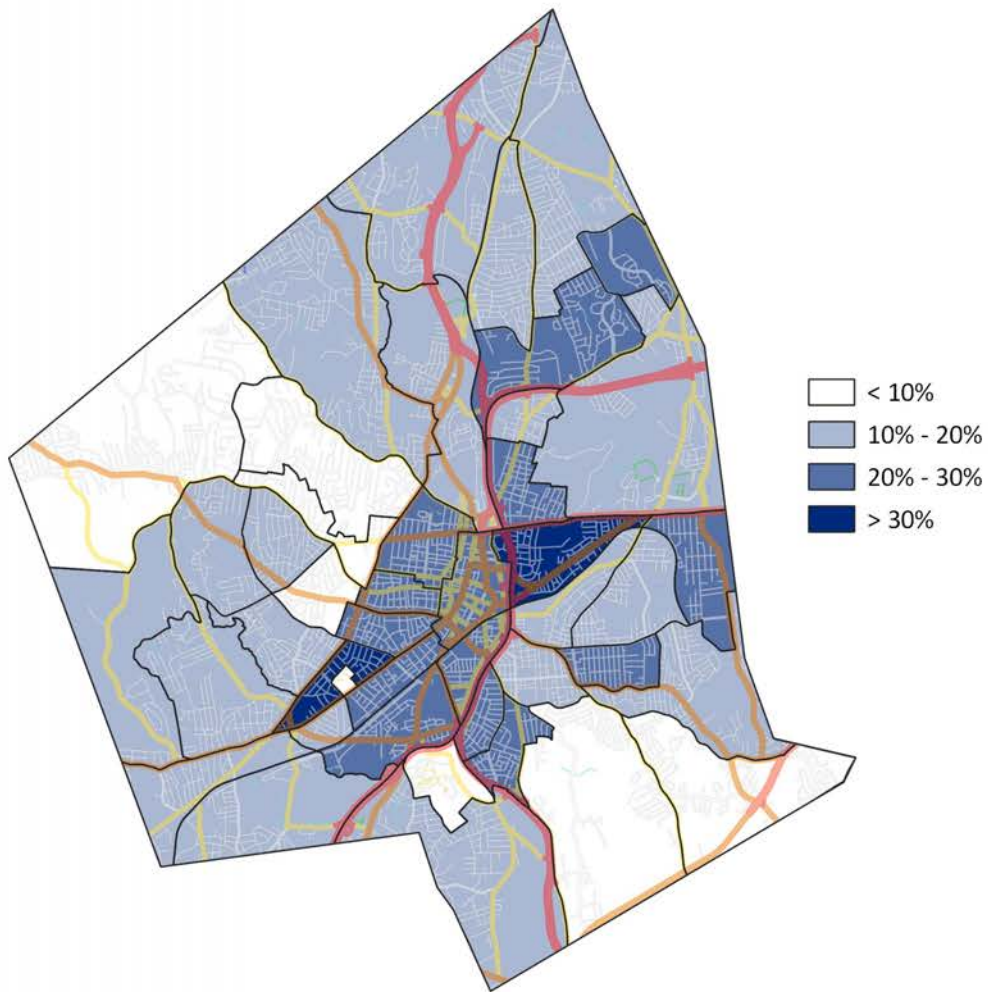
Worcester: Veterans, 2018	
Number of Veterans	7,445
Veterans as % of Population 18 and Older	5.0%
% of Veterans - Male	93.7%
% of Veterans - Female	6.3%
% of Veterans - Disabled	34.4%
% of Veterans - Below the Poverty Line	10.0%
Period of Service	
Gulf War (September 2001 or later)	1,079
Gulf War (August 1990 to August 2001)	976
Vietnam era	2,389
Korean War	750
World War II	693

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Household Internet Access Metrics	
With an Internet Subscription	78.4%
Broadband such as cable, fiber optic or DSL	67.0%
Cellular Data Plan	55.7%
Satellite Internet Service	2.8%
Dial-up with no other subscription	0.5%
No Internet Access	21.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Percent of Households with No Internet Access



Worcester: Internet Accessibility by Race & Ethnicity, 2018			
	Has Broadband Access	Does Not Have Broadband Access	N/A (Group quarters/vacant/no paid internet access)
Total	67.9%	10.4%	21.7%
White alone	66.6%	9.4%	23.9%
Black or African American alone	74.8%	9.7%	15.6%
American Indian alone	67.3%	2.3%	30.4%
Alaska Native alone	-	-	-
American Indian and Alaska Native tribes specified; or American Indian or Alaska native, not specified and no other race	50.9%	11.6%	37.5%
Asian alone	74.0%	12.5%	13.6%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	29.3%	39.7%	31.0%
Some other race alone	62.6%	17.8%	19.6%
Two or More Races	63.1%	15.8%	21.1%
Total	67.9%	10.4%	21.7%
Not Spanish/Hispanic/Latino	70.2%	8.8%	21.1%
Spanish/Hispanic/Latino	59.3%	16.6%	24.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.



Health

Worcester: Vital Statistics, 2019	
Births*	6,373
Deaths	3,240
Marriages	1,235

**All births in Worcester, regardless of Mother's residency.
Source: City of Worcester Clerk's Office.*

Number of Resident Births, Worcester 2016*	
Number of Births	2,372
Low Birth Weight**	179
Pre-term (<37 weeks gestation)	206
Adequate Prenatal Care	74.2%
Public Payment for Prenatal Care	54.2%

**Births to mothers who report Worcester as their place of residence.
**Babies weighing less than 5 pounds, 3 ounces.
Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health.*

Resident Teen Births, Worcester 2016*		
	2006	2016
Number of Teen Births	242	102
Teen Birth Rate**	34.4	13.2

**Births to mothers who report Worcester as their place of residence.
**Birth rates represent the number of births per 1,000 females ages 15-19.
Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health.*

Worcester: Age-Adjusted Rates* for Select Causes of Death, 2017	
Mortality (All Causes)	853.7
Cancer	325
Heart Disease	361
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	82
Stroke	52
Diabetes	42
Pneumonia/Influenza	48
Opioid-Related Fatal Overdose	81
Suicide	17
Motor Vehicle	12
Homicide	5

**Per 100,000 population age-adjusted to 2000 US Standard Population calculated using MDPH population estimates for 2010.*

Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Number of Confirmed Opioid Related Overdose Deaths, 2014-2018					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Auburn	0	4	2	3	6
Boylston	0	2	0	1	1
Grafton	2	2	1	0	3
Holden	5	4	5	1	3
Leicester	1	2	2	4	6
Millbury	4	4	4	7	7
Paxton	1	1	0	0	1
Shrewsbury	1	2	7	8	7
West Boylston	3	0	1	3	4
Worcester	56	84	74	83	97
Boston	108	154	195	199	181

Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Worcester: Uninsured, 2018*				
	Worcester		Massachusetts	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Uninsured	5,486	3.0%	189,470	2.8%

*Non-institutionalized population.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Number of Beds - Licensed or Certified Health Care Facilities, April 2020	
Acute Hospitals	1,013
Non-Acute Hospitals	390
Renal Dialysis	86
Nursing Homes	2260
Rest Homes	325
Satellite Inpatient Unit	26
Hospice Inpatient Satellite	10

Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Worcester: National Institutes of Health Funding, 2019		
CG Scientific	1 Award	\$749,990
Clark University	1 Award	\$123,093
College of the Holy Cross	3 Awards	\$1,084,931
Enrich Therapeutics, Inc.	1 Award	\$187,500
Microbiotix, Inc.	9 Awards	\$5,566,186
Nirogyone Therapeutics, LLC	1 Award	\$292,210
Signablok, Inc.	2 Awards	\$801,644
University of Massachusetts Medical School	345 Awards	\$155,485,455
Worcester Polytechnic Institute	10 Awards	\$3,408,721
Zata Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	1 Award	\$780,492
Total	374 Awards	\$168,480,222

Source: National Institutes of Health.



Education

A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR EDUCATION IN WORCESTER

AN OVERVIEW

2018-2023



Culture of Innovation

All students will have access to high quality learning experiences which leverage effective approaches



Academic Excellence

All students will have access to rigorous and personalized learning supported by technology



Welcoming Schools

All students will gain a holistic set of skills and be supported by a network—inclusive of their families and the community—to realize their personal, academic, and professional goals



Investing in Educators

All students will be supported by effective educators who demonstrate leadership and commitment to enhancing student learning and development



Technology & Operations

All students will learn in an efficient and fiscally sound district

Where We're Headed

WPS STUDENTS WILL

Current 2023

31% → 47%

MEET/EXCEED EXPECTATIONS ON 3RD GRADE ELA MCAS

65% → 76%

ENROLL IN POSTSECONDARY OPPORTUNITIES^B

17% → 14%

REDUCE CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

1:4 → 1:1

ACCESS TECHNOLOGY (STUDENT TO DEVICE RATIO)

WPS WILL

INCREASE PER PUPIL EXPENDITURE BY

↑ 8%

INCREASE NUMBER OF HIGH PERFORMING SCHOOLS BY

↑ 20%

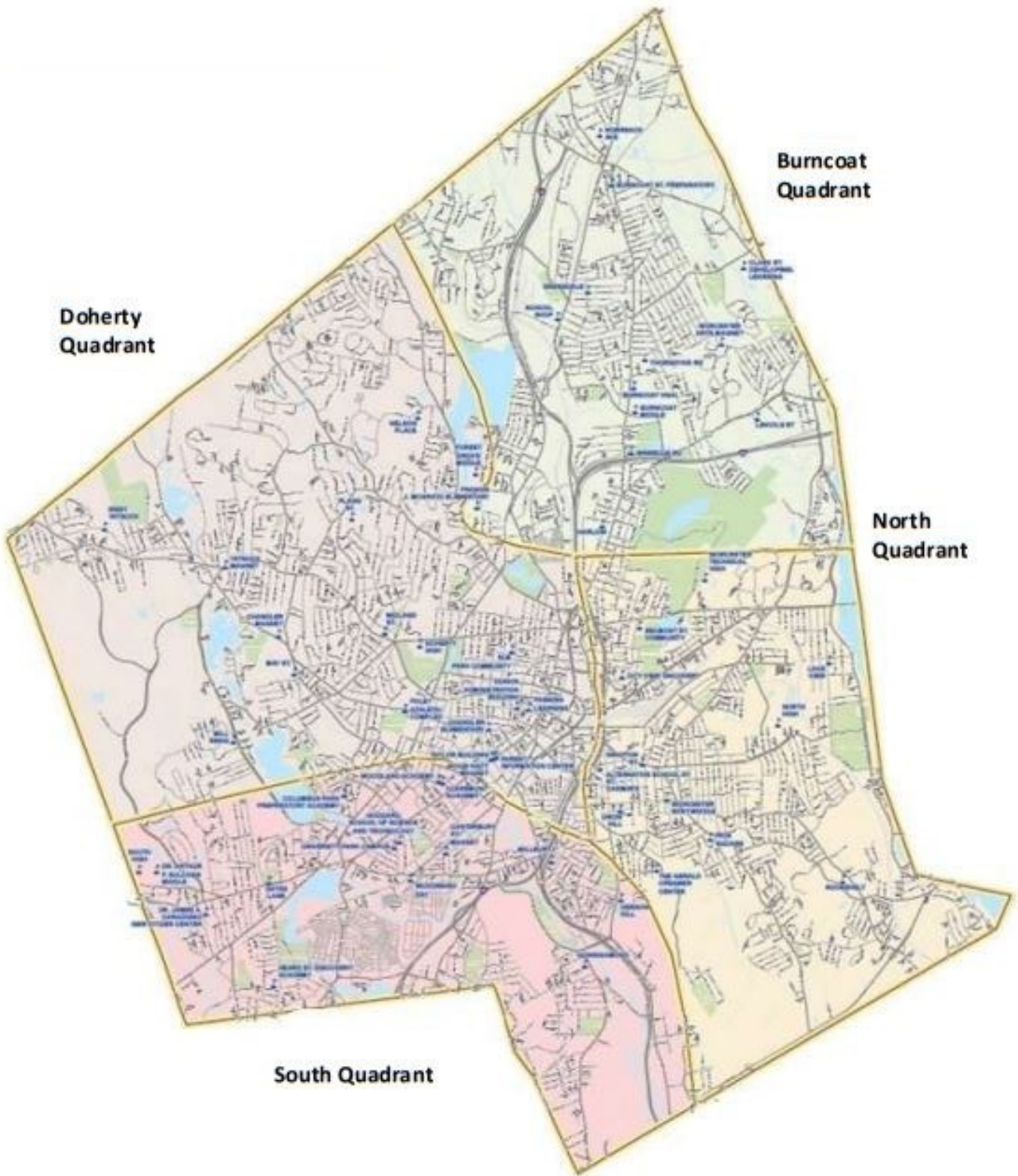
INCREASE DIVERSITY OF NEW HIRES BY

↑ 25%

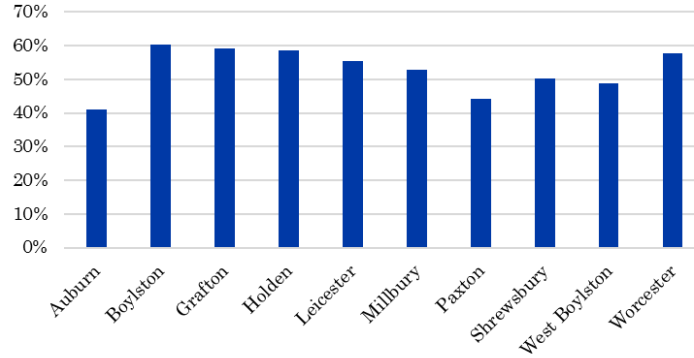
For more information and a full copy of the strategic plan visit: worcesterschoolsstrategicplan.wrrb.org

Worcester Public School District: Quadrants

Worcester Public Schools - Quadrants

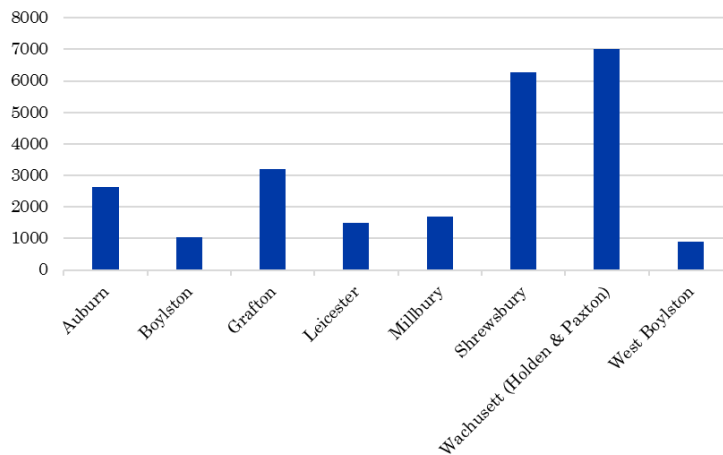


Greater Worcester: Education as Percent of FY20 Municipal Budget



Sources: Individual Town Budgets.

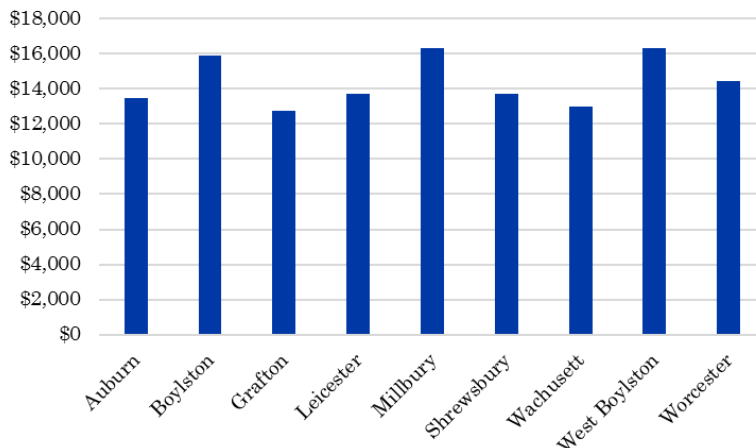
Greater Worcester: Number of Students, 2019-2020



The towns of Holden and Paxton are part of the Wachusett Regional School District, the largest regional district in the Commonwealth.

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Greater Worcester: Per Pupil Spending, FY19



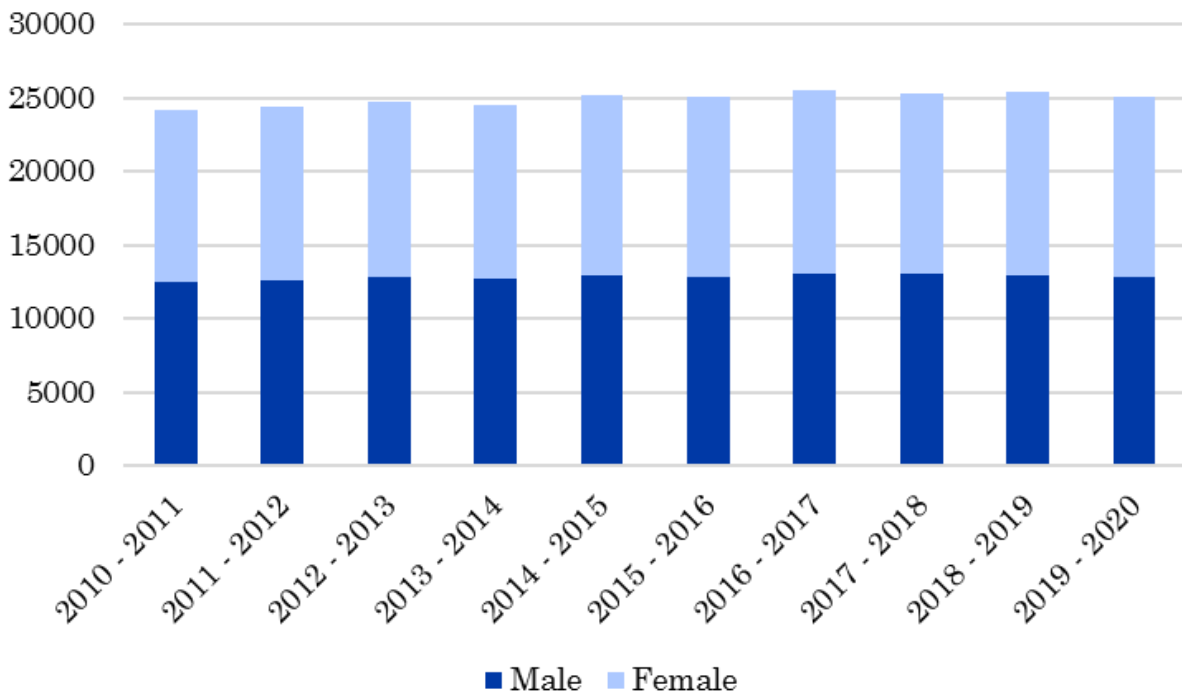
The town of Boylston oversees a K-5 elementary school and is part of the Berlin-Boylston Regional School District for Grades 6-12.

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools: 2019-2020		
	# of Schools	# of Students
Elementary Schools	33	13,819
Middle Schools 6-8	1	912
Middle Schools 7-8	3	2,386
Grade 7-12 Schools	2	826
High Schools	5	6,708
Head Start Program	1	393
<i>Total</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>25,044</i>

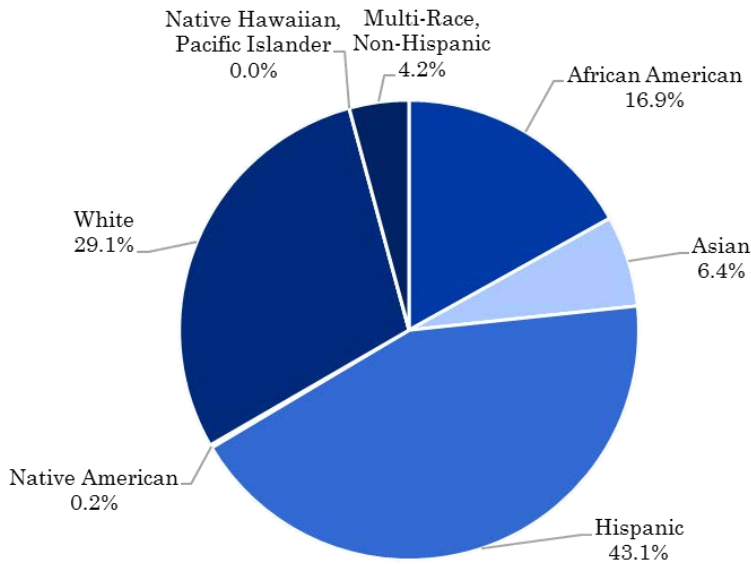
Source: Worcester Public Schools & Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools: Enrollment by Gender, 2010-2020



Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

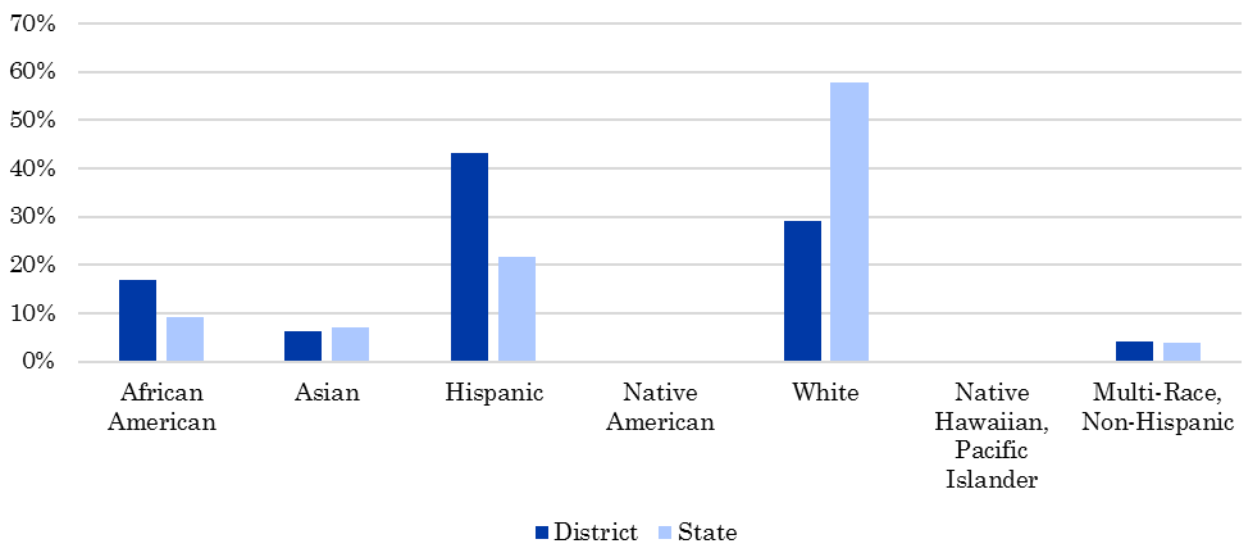
Worcester Public Schools: Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, 2019-2020



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.

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools: Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity Compared to State, 2019-2020



Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools: Enrollment 2019-2020

	Number of Students		Number of Students
Head Start	393	Middle Schools	
Elementary Schools		Burncoat Middle School	720
Belmont Street Community	621	Forest Grove Middle	938
Burncoat Street	282	Sullivan Middle	912
Canterbury	359	Worcester East Middle	728
Chandler Elementary Community	493	<i>Total Middle School Students</i>	<i>3,298</i>
Chandler Magnet	513	Grades 7-12 Schools	
City View	477	Claremont Academy	581
Clark St Community	265	University Park Campus School	245
Columbus Park	427	<i>Total Grades 7-12 Schools Students</i>	<i>826</i>
Elm Park Community	426	High Schools	
Flagg Street	385	Burncoat Senior High	1,111
Francis J McGrath Elementary	237	Doherty Memorial High	1,499
Gates Lane	561	North High	1,253
Goddard School/Science Technical	374	South High Community	1,379
Grafton Street	369	Worcester Technical High	1,466
Heard Street	263	<i>Total High School Students</i>	<i>6,708</i>
Jacob Hiatt Magnet	412	Total Number of Students in WPS	25,044
Lake View	326		
Lincoln Street	229		
May Street	313		
Midland Street	222		
Nelson Place	571		
Norrback Avenue	563		
Quinsigamond	744		
Rice Square	477		
Roosevelt	697		
Tatnuck	425		
Thorndyke Road	354		
Union Hill School	385		
Vernon Hill School	532		
Wawecus Road School	154		
West Tatnuck	352		
Woodland Academy	601		
Worcester Arts Magnet School	410		
<i>Total Elementary School Students</i>	<i>13,819</i>		

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester: Private Schools, 2019
Alhuda Academy (PK-8)
Bancroft School (PK-12)
Happy Day Child Care Center (PK-3)
Holy Name Junior/Senior High School* (7-12)
Notre Dame Academy (7-12)
Our Lady of the Angels School (PK-8)
Saint Mary's Schools of Worcester (PK-12)**
Saint Peter Central Catholic School (PK-8)
Saint Peter Marian Junior-Senior High School* (7-12)
Saint Stephen School (PK-8)
The Nativity School of Worcester (5-8)
Venerini Academy Elementary School (PK-8)
Worcester Academy (6-12+)
Worcester Seventh Day Adventist School (1-8)

*For the School Term starting in fall of 2020, Holy Name Junior/Senior High School and Saint Peter Marian Junior-Senior High School will be combined and renamed St. Paul Diocesan Junior-Senior High School.

**Saint Mary's Schools closed at the end of the 2019-2020 School Year.

Worcester: Charter Schools, 2019
Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School (K-12)
Seven Hills Charter Public School (K-8)

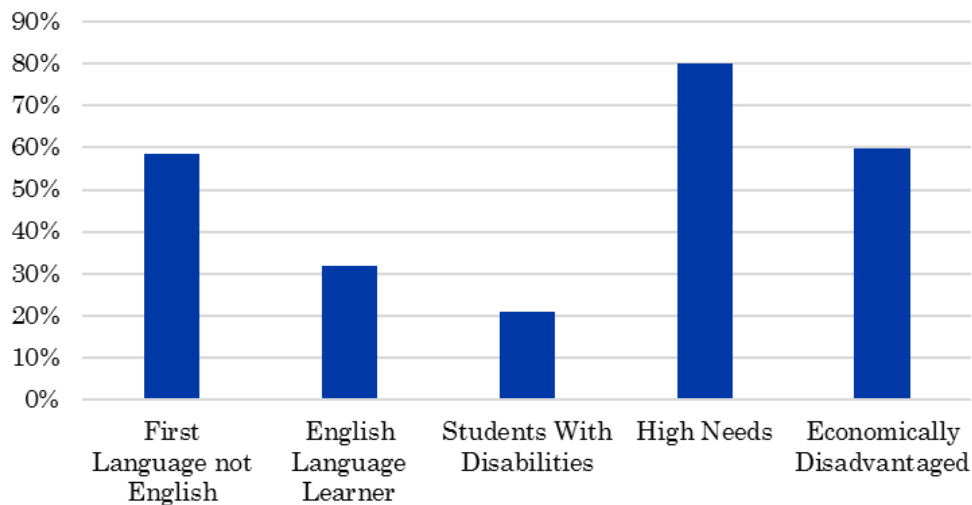
Worcester: Independent Public Schools, 2019
Massachusetts Academy of Math and Science (11-12)

Sources: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education and media reports.

Worcester Public Schools: Indicators, 2018-2019	
Grade 9-12 Drop Out Rate	2.6%
Retention Rate	2.0%
Attendance Rate	94.4%
Average Number of Days Absent	9.5
Percent of Students with Unexcused Absences Greater than 9 Days	32.7%

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

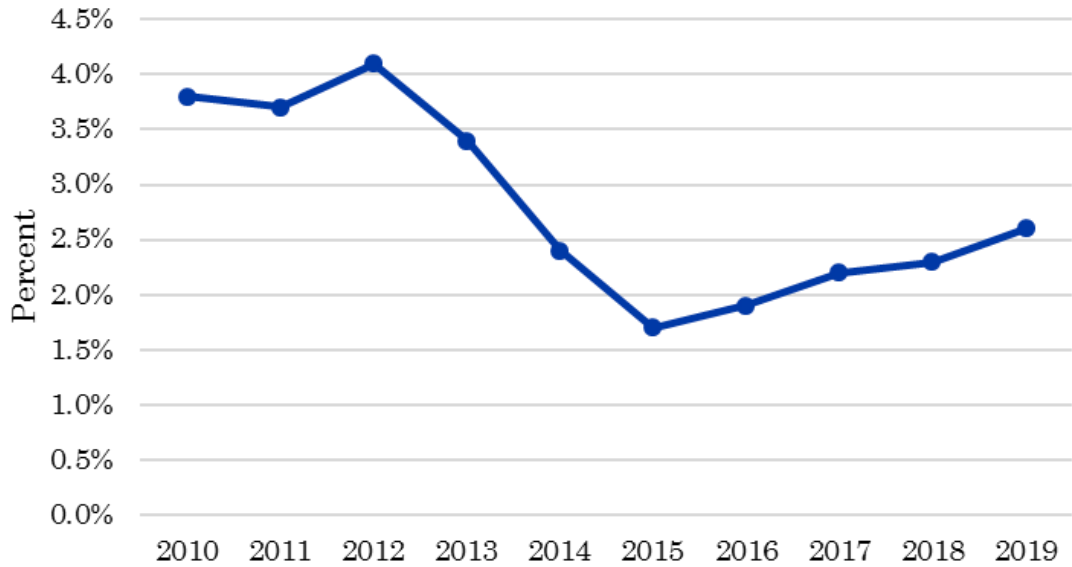
Worcester Public Schools: Selected Populations, 2019-2020



Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

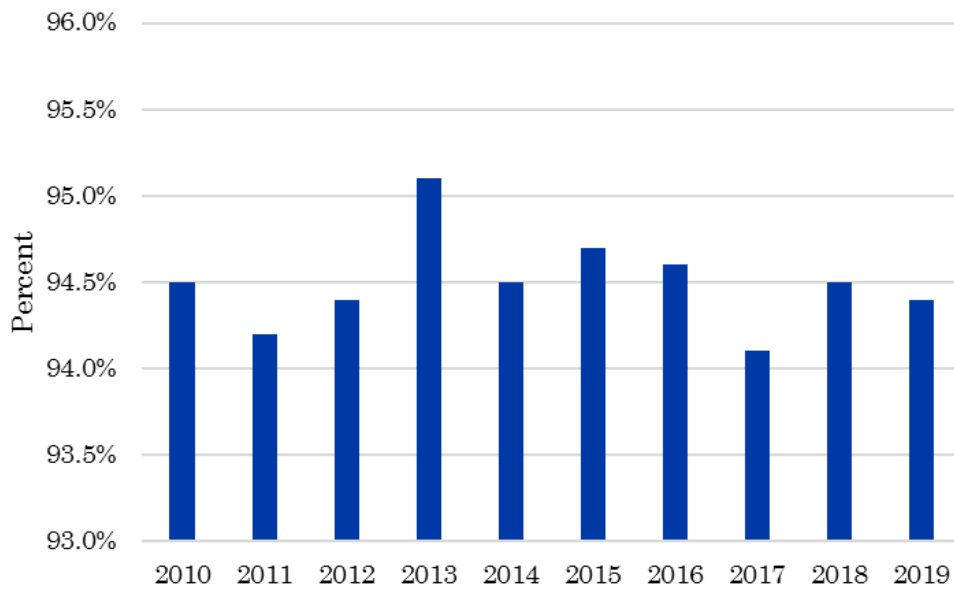
The “First Language Not English” category includes individuals who learned English after learning another language and does not address the individual’s proficiency with English itself. “English Language Learner” identifies individuals who struggle to complete normal classwork in English.

Worcester Public Schools: Grades 9-12 Drop-Out Rates, 2010-2019



Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools: Attendance Rates, 2010-2019



Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

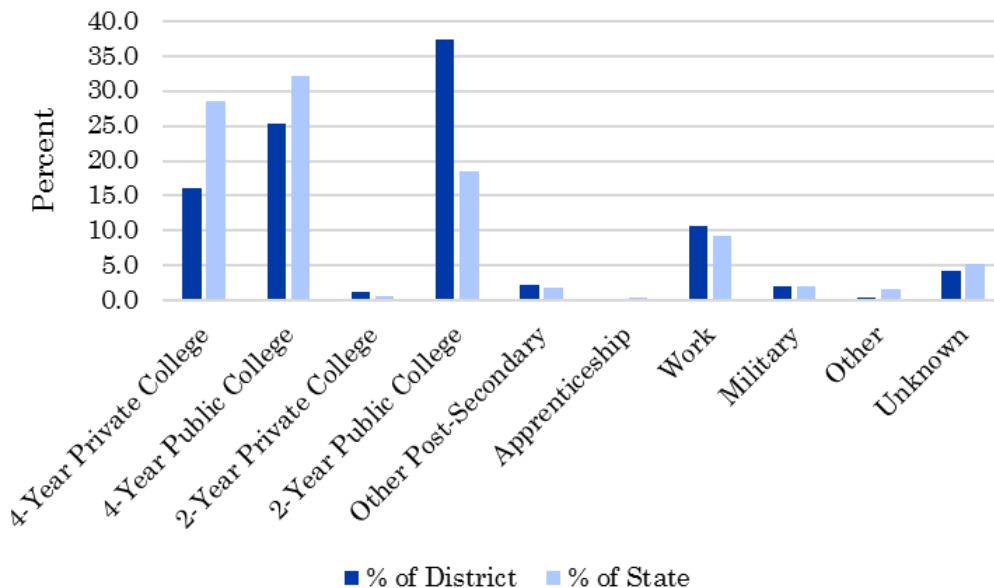
Worcester Public Schools: 4-Year Graduation Rates, Class of 2019					
	% Graduated**	% Still in School	% Non-Grad Completers	% H.S. Equiv.	% Dropped Out
All Student	83.6	6.4	2	0.5	7.6
Male	81.1	7.5	2.6	0.7	8
Female	86.1	5.3	1.3	0.2	7.1
EL	75.1	8.3	4.3	0.4	11.9
Students with disabilities	72.3	13.9	3	0.5	10.4
Low Income	80	7.7	2.4	0.7	9.2
High Needs	80	8	2.4	0.6	9
African American/Black	86.8	5.4	2.1	0.6	5.1
Asian	92.3	3.8	0	0	3.8
Hispanic or Latino	78.5	7.7	3.6	0.3	10
American Indian or Alaskan Native	100	0	0	0	0
White	85.3	6.5	0.4	1	6.9
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander*	-	-	-	-	-
Multi-Race, Non Hispanic or Latino	90.5	2.7	0	0	6.8

*Graduation rates are not publicly reported for cohort counts fewer than 6.

**Indicates the percentage of students who graduate with a regular high school diploma within 4 years.

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools: Plans of High School Graduates, 2018-2019

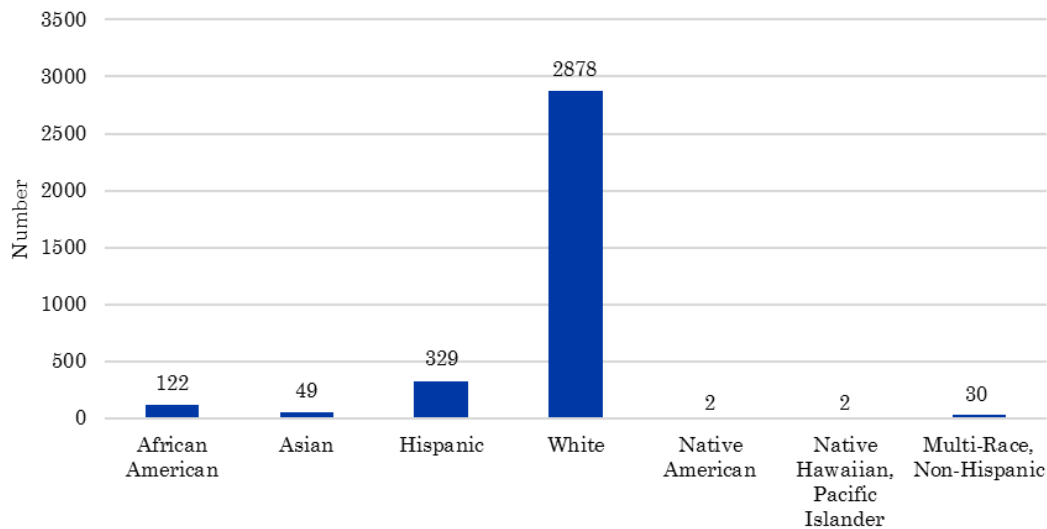


Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools: Teacher Data, 2018-2019

	Worcester	State
Total Number of Teachers - Full Time Equivalent	1860.7	73,878
Student-Teacher Ratio	13.7 to 1	12.9 to 1
% of Teachers Licensed	96.5	97.3

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools: Staffing by Race, 2018-2019

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools: Teacher by Program Area, 2018-2019

	Worcester	State
General Education	1,794.5	61,681.1
Special Education	0.0	8,460.7
Career Vocational Technical	66.2	1,995.6
English Language Learner	0.0	1,740.6
Totals	1,860.7	73,878.0

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools: Staffing by Gender, 2018-2019

	Worcester		State	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Males	688	20.2%	27,148	20.2%
Females	2,725	79.8%	107,108	79.8%

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

In 2017, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education began administering the Next-Generation Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) tests. The charts below explain the levels of achievement and compare Worcester student results with those of the rest of the Commonwealth. However, students in grades 5, 8, and 10 took the previous version of the science, technology, and engineering tests (using the previous achievement levels of advanced, proficient, needs improvement, and warning/failing) and grade 10 also took the older version of the MCAS test for English and Math.

General Achievement Level Definitions—Next-Generation Tests (Starting 2017)		
Achievement Level	Scaled Score	Definition
Exceeding Expectations	530-560	A student who performed at this level exceeded grade-level expectations by demonstrating mastery of the subject matter.
Meeting Expectations	500-529	A student who performed at this level met grade-level expectations and is academically on track to succeed in the current grade in this subject.
Partially Meeting Expectations	470-499	A student who performed at this level partially met grade-level expectations in this subject. The school, in consultation with the student's parent/guardian, should consider whether the student needs additional academic assistance to succeed in this subject.
Not Meeting Expectations	440-469	A student who performed at this level did not meet grade-level expectations in this subject. The school, in consultation with the student's parent/guardian, should determine the coordinated academic assistance and/or additional instruction the student needs to succeed in this subject.

Worcester Public Schools: Generation MCAS Tests 2019, by Percent

	Exceeding Expectations		Meeting Expectations		Partially Meeting Expectations		Not Meeting Expectations	
	WPS	MA	WPS	MA	WPS	MA	WPS	MA
GRADE 03 - English Language Arts	5	10	33	46	47	36	16	8
GRADE 03 - Mathematics	3	9	27	40	43	38	27	13
GRADE 04 - English Language Arts	4	9	33	43	45	39	18	9
GRADE 04 - Mathematics	3	8	29	41	45	39	23	12
GRADE 05 - English Language Arts	5	7	34	45	45	39	16	9
GRADE 05 - Mathematics	2	6	31	43	48	42	18	10
GRADE 05 - Science	3	8	28	40	47	39	22	12
GRADE 06 - English Language Arts	10	13	35	41	37	33	19	13
GRADE 06 - Mathematics	8	10	35	41	41	38	16	10
GRADE 07 - English Language Arts	4	8	27	40	44	38	25	13
GRADE 07 - Mathematics	4	11	21	37	49	39	27	13
GRADE 08 - English Language Arts	5	11	29	40	40	35	26	14
GRADE 08 - Mathematics	3	10	20	37	50	41	28	12
GRADE 08 - Science	2	8	20	38	51	41	27	13
GRADE 10 - English Language Arts	7	13	35	48	41	31	17	8
GRADE 10 - Mathematics	6	13	30	45	45	33	18	9
GRADE 10 - Science & Tech/Engineering*	15	30	43	44	34	20	8	5

*Grade 10 STE results are reported based on students' best performance on any STE test taken in grade 9 or grade 10; only students continuously enrolled in the state, district, or school from fall of grade 9 through spring of grade 10 are included in state, district, or school results. Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools: SAT Performance Report, 2019-2020			
	Number of Test Takers	Average Reading Score	Average Math Score
All Students	1967	468	469
English Learner	301	372	371
Economically Disadvantaged	1022	445	444
Students with Disabilities	196	383	376
High Needs	1300	440	441
Female	1077	475	465
Male	889	459	473
Asian	194	495	530
African American/Black	440	448	444
Hispanic/Latino	705	434	430
Multi-race, Non-Hispanic/Latino	66	510	493
White	562	512	513

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester Public Schools: Advanced Placement Performance, 2018-2019			
Subject	Tests Taken	% Score 1-2	% Score 3-5
All Subjects	2,593	62.7%	37.3%
Arts	78	46.2%	53.8%
English Language Arts	410	68.8%	31.2%
Foreign Languages	93	19.4%	80.6%
History and Social Science	778	65.0%	35.0%
Math and Computer Science	506	58.3%	41.7%
Science and Technology	660	68.9%	31.1%
Capstone	68	48.5%	51.5%

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Worcester: Educational Attainment, 2018		
	Number	Percent
Population 25 Years and Over	121,036	
Less than 9th Grade	7,078	5.8%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	11,615	9.6%
High School Graduate, Includes Equivalency	35,851	29.6%
Some College, No Degree	20,329	16.8%
Associate's Degree	9,725	8.0%
Bachelor's Degree	22,310	18.4%
Graduate or Professional Degree	14,128	11.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Greater Worcester: % Population 25 and Over with Bachelor's Degree or Higher, 2018

Auburn	39.2%
Boylston	52.1%
Grafton	48.2%
Holden	57.0%
Leicester	28.3%
Millbury	33.2%
Paxton	54.6%
Shrewsbury	58.4%
West Boylston	29.6%
Worcester	30.1%

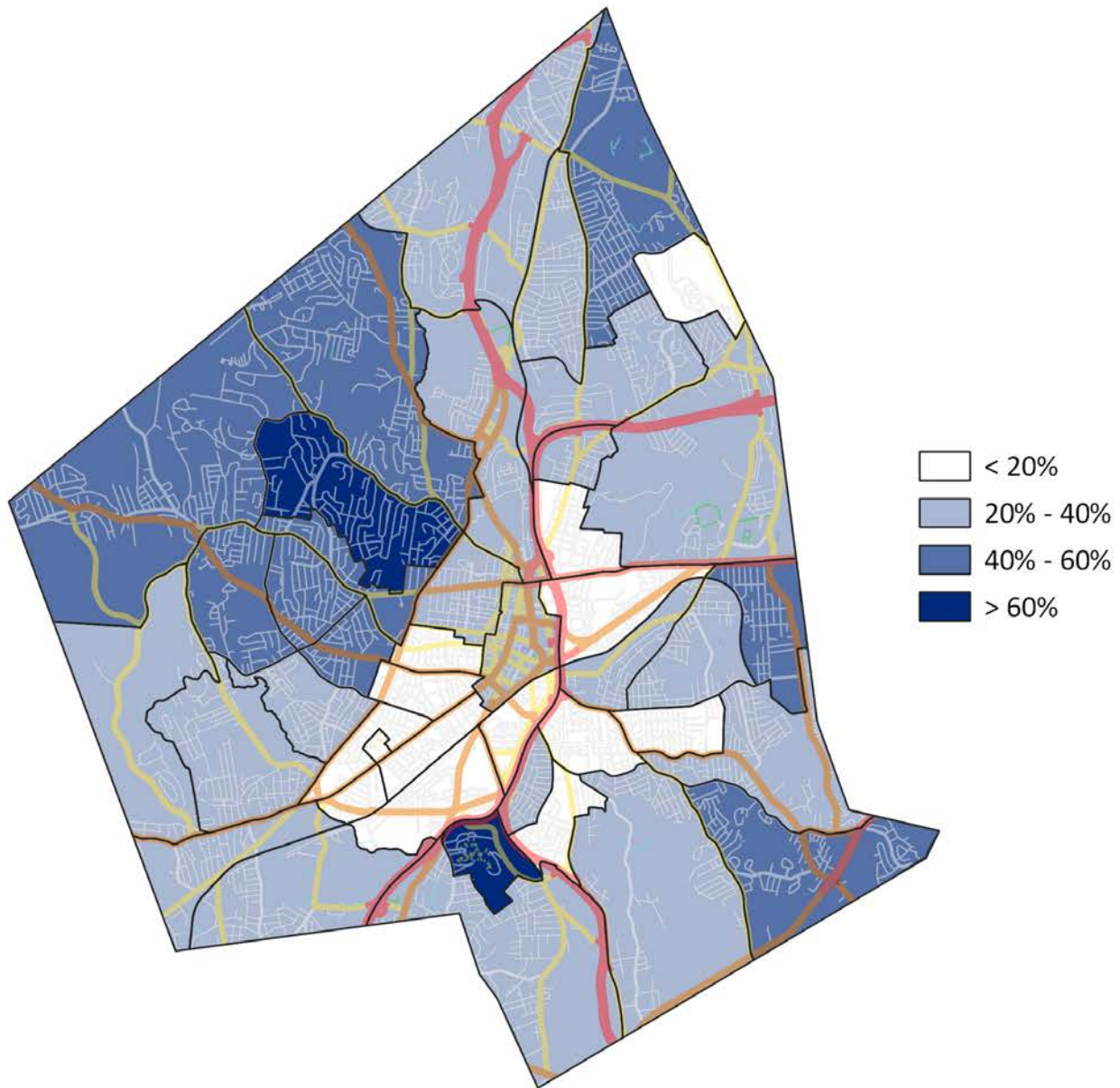
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Greater Worcester: Colleges & Universities, 2020

Anna Maria College (Paxton)
Assumption University (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 (Grafton)
University of Massachusetts Medical School (Worcester)
Worcester Polytechnic Institute (Worcester)
Worcester State University (Worcester)

Source: Worcester Regional Research Bureau, Inc.

Worcester: Percent of Residents 25 Years of Age and Older with Bachelor's Degree



Educational Attainment

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey



Public Safety

Worcester: Crime Statistics, 2019	
Incidents	141,883
Disorderly Conduct	19,536
Traffic Accidents	9,045
Arrests	4,910
Noise Disturbances	4,817
Vandalism	1,296
Larceny from Motor Vehicle	892
Breaking & Entering	751
Aggravated Assault	571
Motor Vehicle Theft	434
Robberies	248
Stabbings/Slashings	93
Non-Fatal Shooting Victims	17
Non-Fatal Shootings	17
Murder	12 (+1 suspicious death, pending ruling on cause of death)

Source: Worcester Police Department.

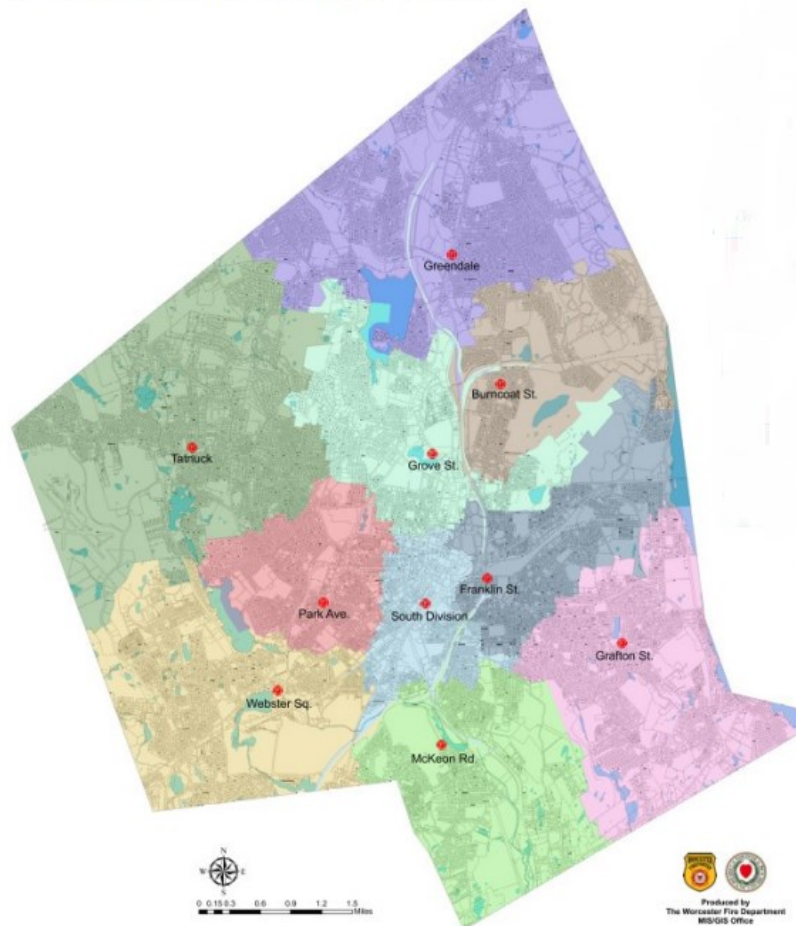
Worcester: Fire Department Activity, 2019	
Total Calls	31,811
<i>Building Fires</i>	117
<i>All Fires Within a Building</i>	889
<i>Emergency Medical Calls</i>	21,265
<i>False Alarms</i>	3,499
Number of Companies	
<i>Engines</i>	13
<i>Ladders</i>	7
<i>Rescue</i>	1
<i>Boats</i>	2
<i>Scuba Truck</i>	1

Source: Worcester Fire Department.

Worcester: Fire Stations, 2018	
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 West Boylston Street
Franklin Street	266 Franklin Street
McKeon Road	80 McKeon Road

Source: Worcester Fire Department.

Chart 12: WFD Station and Firefighter Distribution



Worcester: Staffing for Police & Fire, FY20 Budget	
FIRE	Number
Fire Chief	1
Deputy Fire Chief	2
District Fire Chief	12
Captain	27
Lieutenant	70
Firefighter	299
Recruits	19
Other	12
TOTAL	442
POLICE	Number
Chief of Police	1
Deputy Police Chief	4
Police Captain	8
Police Lieutenant	24
Police Sergeant	55
Police Officers	376
Recruits	10
Other	57
TOTAL	535

Source: City of Worcester.

Worcester: Firearm Licenses, January 2020	
Firearm Identification Cards (FIDs)	50
Licenses to Carry (LTCs)	1,579

Source: Worcester Police Department.

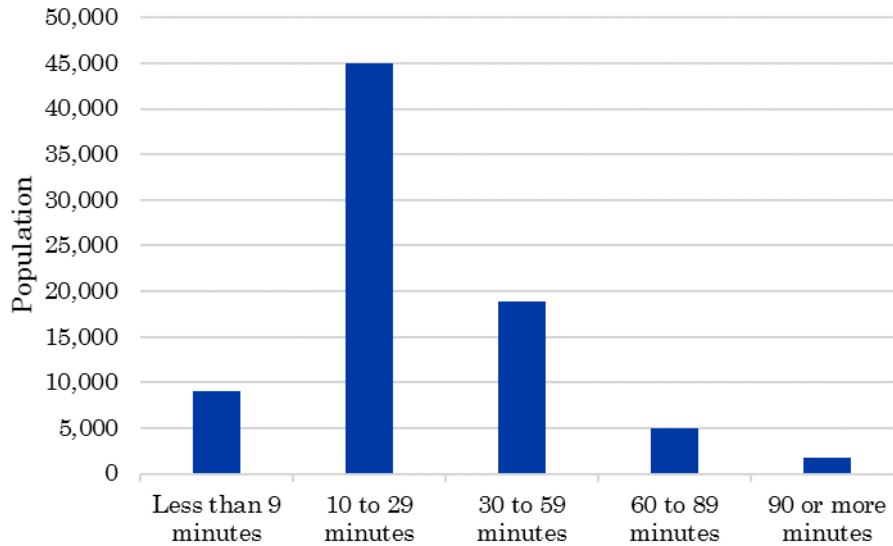
Worcester: Municipal Licenses, January 2020	
Second-Hand Motor Vehicle Licenses	255
Second-Hand Article Licenses & Pawn Brokers	56
Common Victualer Background Checks	62
Hawkers and Peddlers Licenses	24
Solicit and Canvas	48
Ice Cream Vendor Permits	9

Source: Worcester Police Department.



Transportation & Infrastructure

Worcester: Commute Times, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester Work Commute Patterns (Workers 16 Years & Older), 2018				
	Number Worcester Residents	Percent Worcester Residents	Number MA Residents	Percent MA Residents
Car, Truck, or Van - Drove Alone	60,696	72.6%	2,458,064	70.2%
Car, Truck, or Van - Carpooled	8,852	10.6%	262,975	7.5%
Public Transportation (Excluding Taxicab)	2,576	3.1%	358,143	10.2%
Walked	5,516	6.6%	171,603	4.9%
Other Means (Taxicab, Motorcycle, Bicycle, or Other Means)	2,178	2.6%	73,404	2.1%
Worked at Home	3,822	4.6%	176,034	5.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester Street Infrastructure, 2019	
Streets (Miles)	
<i>Public Streets</i>	437.6
<i>Private Streets</i>	79.6
Sidewalks (Miles)	
<i>Asphalt</i>	306
<i>Concrete</i>	182
Street Lights	13,650
Gas Street Lights	27
Parking Meters -- On-Street	Approximately 1,200
Electric Car Charging Plugs	101

Source: City of Worcester Department of Public Works & Parks, ChargeHub

Worcester Municipal Parking Garages Capacity, 2019	
Pearl Elm	819
Federal Plaza	511
Major Taylor Boulevard	983
Union Station	500
Worcester Common	500

Source: City of Worcester Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, June 30, 2019

Worcester: Taxi and Livery Service, January 2020	
Taxi Medallions	110
Taxi Drivers	229
Registered Livery Vehicles	96
Livery Drivers	247

Source: Worcester Police Department.

Worcester: Trash and Recycling, 2019	
Trash Disposal Tonnage	21,899
Single Stream Recyclables Tonnage	10,289
Yard Waste Tonnage	2,268

Source: Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Worcester: Water and Sewer Infrastructure, 2019	
Miles of Water Main Pipe	631
Reservoirs	10
Dams	30
Stormwater Discharge Outfalls	349
Public Fire Hydrants	5,365
Total Miles of Sewer Pipes	
<i>Sanitary Sewers</i>	400
<i>Surface Sewers</i>	61
<i>Combined Sewers</i>	373
Number of Manholes	Approximately 28,000
Number of Catch Basins	Approximately 15,200

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

Worcester Regional Transit Authority, 2019	
Service Area	
Number of Towns Served	37
Population Served	547,192
Key Data	
Annual Passenger Miles	14,111,090
Annual Unlinked Passenger Trips	3,193,864
Average Weekday Unlinked Passenger Trips	11,229
Average Saturday Unlinked Passenger Trips	5,101
Average Sunday Unlinked Passenger Trips	2,082
Annual Vehicle Revenue Miles	3,045,919
Annual Vehicle Revenue Hours	238,876
Vehicles Operated	99
Vehicles Available	138
Number of Electrics	6
Number of Clean Diesel Buses	29
Number of Hybrid Diesel-Electric Buses	17

The Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA) was established in September 1974 to contract for the operation of mass transportation facilities and services in the Worcester region. It is the second largest regional transit authority in Massachusetts, serving 37 communities. While the WRTA owns the facilities and rolling stock, the organization contracts with Central Mass Transit Management, Inc., and Paratransit Brokerage Services, Transit Management Inc. for the provision of services.

Source: Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission.

MBTA Commuter Rail, June	
Inbound Trains (Weekday)	19
Outbound Trains (Weekday)	19
Inbound Trains (Weekend & Holiday)	9
Outbound Trains (Weekend & Holiday)	9

Source: Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority.

MBTA Commuter Rail: Worcester Line - Daily Average Ridership, 2019	
2012	12,207
2018	18,578
Percent Increase	47.92%

Source: Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority.

Worcester Regional Airport, ORH, 2019	
Aircraft Operations - Number of Flights	
Transient General Aviation	9,962
Local General Aviation	5,659
Air Taxi	2,063
Commercial	3,325
Military	701
Number of Commercial Passengers	194,625
Aircraft Based at Field	
Single Engine Planes	61
Multi-Engine Planes	5

Source: Worcester Regional Airport

Arts, Culture, & Sports

Worcester Cultural Coalition — The Worcester Cultural Coalition is a public-private partnership established in 1999 between the City of Worcester and 12 cultural organizations. Its mission is to draw on Worcester’s rich and diverse cultural assets to foster economic revitalization, support active, creative engagement for all and promote a strong cultural identity for Greater Worcester.

Source: Worcester Cultural Coalition.

- 4th Wall Stage Company
- 90.5 WICN
- All Saints Music Series
- American Antiquarian Society
- American for the Arts
- Apple Tree Arts
- Art in the Park, Worcester
- ArtReach
- Arts on the Green
- Arts Transcending Borders at The College of the Holy Cross
- ArtsWorcester
- AVATAR Computing, Inc.
- Calliope Productions, Inc.
- CENTRO Inc.
- Clark Arts
- Crocodile River Music
- EcoTarium
- Hellenic Arts Society
- Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Art Gallery, College of the Holy Cross
- Joy of Music
- Main IDEA
- Mass Audubon Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary & Conservation Center
- Mass Audubon Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary
- Mass Cultural Council
- Massachusetts Symphony Orchestra
- MASSCreative
- Master Singers of Worcester
- Mechanics Hall
- Museum of Russian Icons
- Music Worcester, Inc.
- New England Foundation for the Arts
- New England Jazz Enrichment Foundation
- New England Symphony Orchestra
- No Evil Project
- Old Sturbridge Village
- Pakachoag Music School of Grtr. Worcester
- Preservation Worcester
- Regional Environmental Council (REC)
- Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Cathedral
- Salisbury Singers
- Sprinkler Factory
- stART on the Street
- Technocopia
- The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden
- ValleyCAST
- VOX New England
- WCCA TV
- WCLOC Theater Company
- WCUW
- Worcester Art Museum
- Worcester Arts Council
- Worcester Caribbean American Carnival Association
- Worcester Center for Crafts
- Worcester Chamber Music Society
- Worcester Children’s Chorus
- Worcester County Poetry Association
- Worcester Historical Museum
- Worcester Music Academy
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute
- Worcester Public Library
- Worcester State University Visual and Performing Arts
- Worcester Women’s History Project
- Worcester Youth Orchestras, Inc.

Source: Worcester Cultural Coalition.

Worcester: Bravehearts Baseball, 2019				
Attendance		Record		
<i>Total</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Wins</i>	<i>Losses</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
72,069	2,574	30	26	0.536
The Bravehearts were the FCBL League Champion as well as ranked first in the FCBL in terms of attendance and sixth, by average, in the Summer Collegiate League.				

Sources: Futures Collegiate Baseball League of New England (FCBL), Pointstreak, Ballpark Digest.

Worcester: Railers Hockey, 2019				
Record				
<i>Wins</i>	<i>Losses</i>	<i>Overtime Losses</i>	<i>Shootout Losses</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
21	36	4	3	0.377
Attendance				
The Worcester Railers ranked 14th in the ECHL in attendance averaging 4,074 attendees per game.				

Sources: East Coast Hockey League (ECHL), HockeyDB.

Greater Worcester: Other Notable Sport Achievements and Milestones, 2019

The City of Worcester, the Boston Red Sox Triple-A affiliate, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts announced that the Pawtucket Red Sox will relocate to Worcester in 2021 to a new publicly owned baseball stadium known as Polar Park. Construction on the park was halted on April 1, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. After 7 weeks, construction resumed and the Worcester Redevelopment Authority Board was informed that the project is still on schedule for its original opening day in April of 2021. In February of 2020, the Council approved a revised financing plan that includes a Community Benefits Agreement signed by the City of Worcester, Worcester Red Sox, and Worcester Community-Labor Coalition, the first-ever agreement for a development project in Worcester, outlines commitments to local hiring, sourcing, environmental protections, accessibility, and more.

Construction of Polar Park was originally estimated to cost approximately \$101 million however, increased costs left a gap of roughly \$30 million. It is estimated that \$9.4 million will be covered by the Worcester Red Sox and the remaining will be the responsibility of the City of Worcester. The Worcester City Council approved an additional \$31.99 million loan order to address this gap. The City of Worcester expects that no existing tax-levy money will finance the project because the private development, spurred by additional tax relief plans, will be larger than originally slated and will phased in more quickly.

Source for information on this page: Worcester Telegram & Gazette at <https://www.telegram.com/news/20200225/city-council-approves-additional-3199m-loan-order-for-polar-park-financing> & <https://www.telegram.com/news/20200717/opening-day-still-on-schedule-polar-park-faces-cost-overruns>

Greater Worcester: College League Athletic Achievements, 2019
Holy Cross Football: Patriot League Championship
Assumption Men's Soccer: Northeast 10 League Championship
WPI Football: NEWMAC League Co-championship
Worcester State Women's Soccer: MASCAC League Championship
Worcester State Field Hockey: MASCAC League Championship
Nichols Women's Tennis: Commonwealth Coast Conference Championship
Nichols Men's Basketball: Commonwealth Coast Conference Championship
Nichols Men's Tennis: Commonwealth Coast Conference Championship

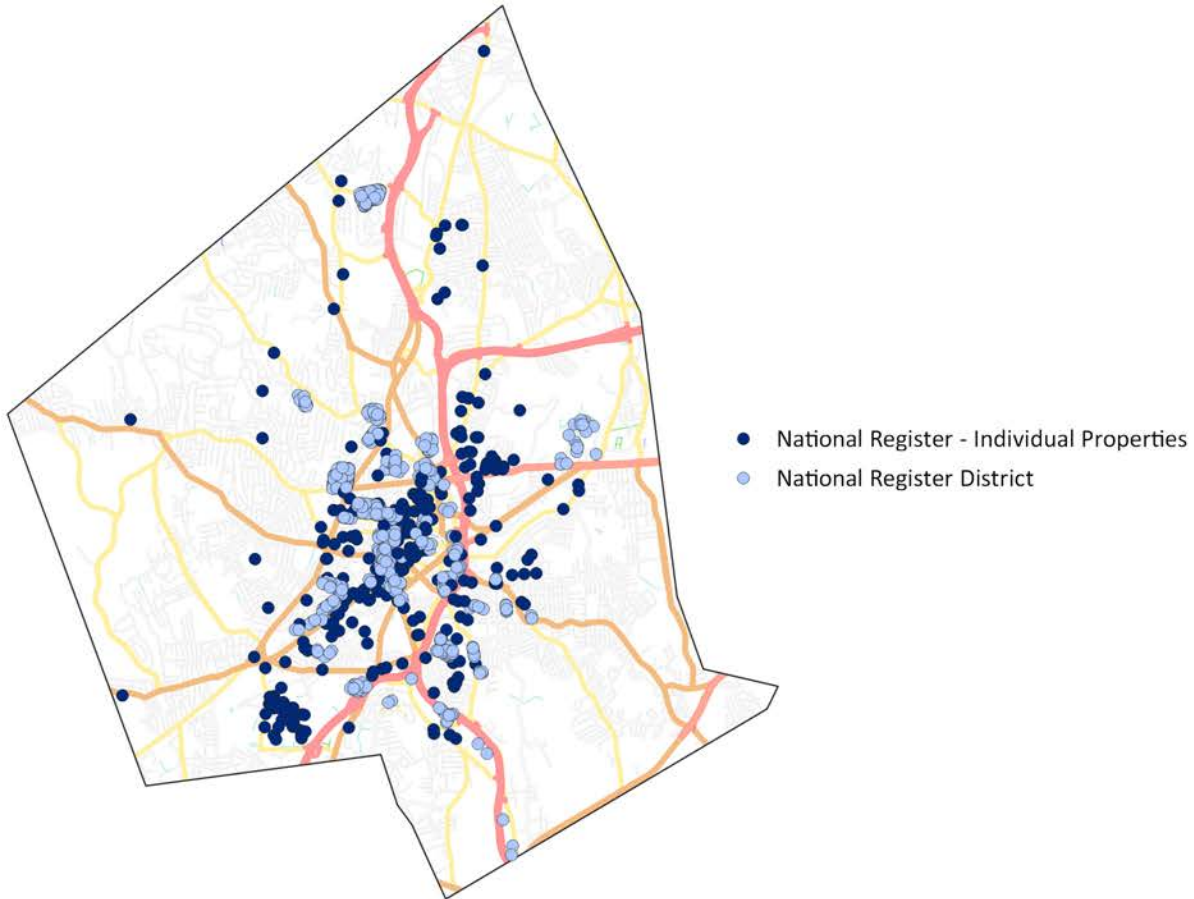
Source: NCAA Conference Websites

Greater Worcester: High School Sports Highlights, 2019
Wachusett Softball: D-1 State Championship
Notre Dame Girls Lacrosse: D-1 State Championship
Wachusett Boys Ice Hockey: D-3 State Championship
Worcester Tech Boys Basketball: D-4 State Championship
Millbury Girls Soccer: D-4 State Championship
Shrewsbury Baseball: D-1 District Title
St. John's Boys Lacrosse: D-2 District Title
St. John's Football: D-3 District Title
Holy Name Girls Soccer: D-3 District Title
Grafton Boys Lacrosse: D-3 District Title
Millbury Girls Soccer: D-4 District Title
Millbury Football: D-6 District Title
Leicester Football: D-7 District Title

Source: Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 established the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places, a list of the nation's historic sites to facilitate public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect historic and archeological buildings and properties. According to the National Park Service, listing on the National Register of Historic Places imposes no restrictions on what a non-federal owner may do with the property up to and including destruction, unless the property is involved in a project that receives federal assistance through funding or licensing/permitting.

Worcester: Properties on the National Register of Historic Places, 2018

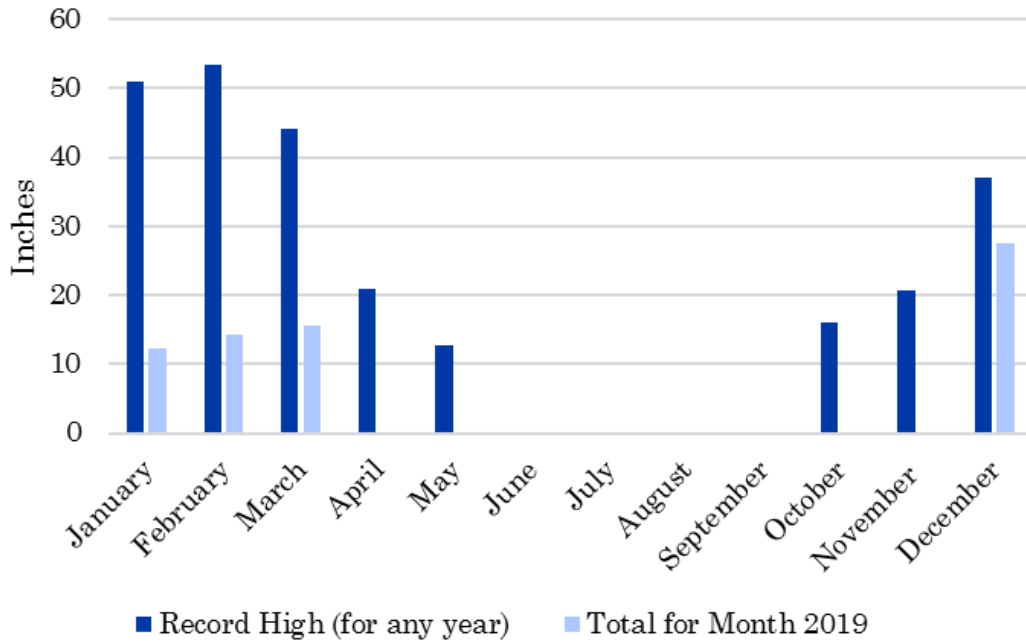


Source: Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System.



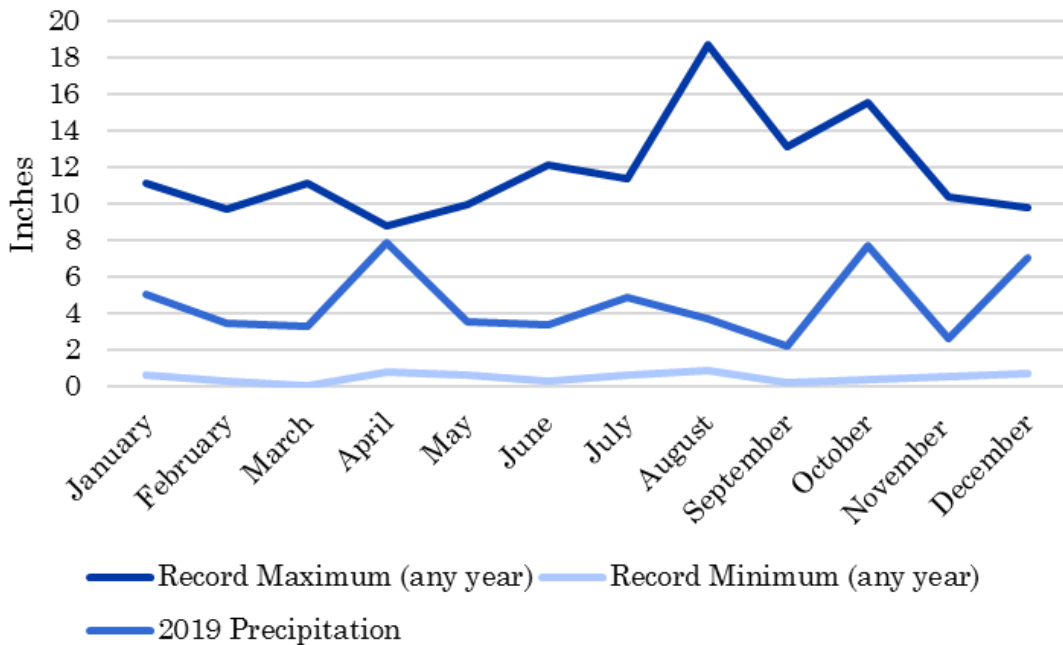
Weather, Geography, & Environment

Worcester: Snowfall & Record High by Month, 2019



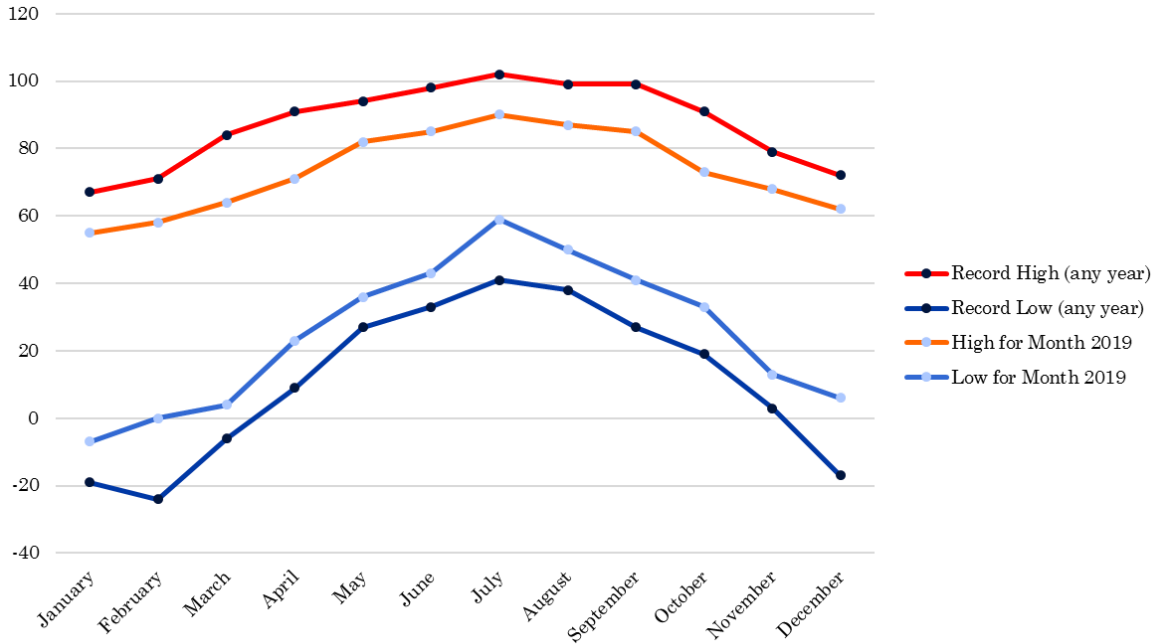
Source: National Weather Service, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

Worcester: Precipitation by Month, 2019



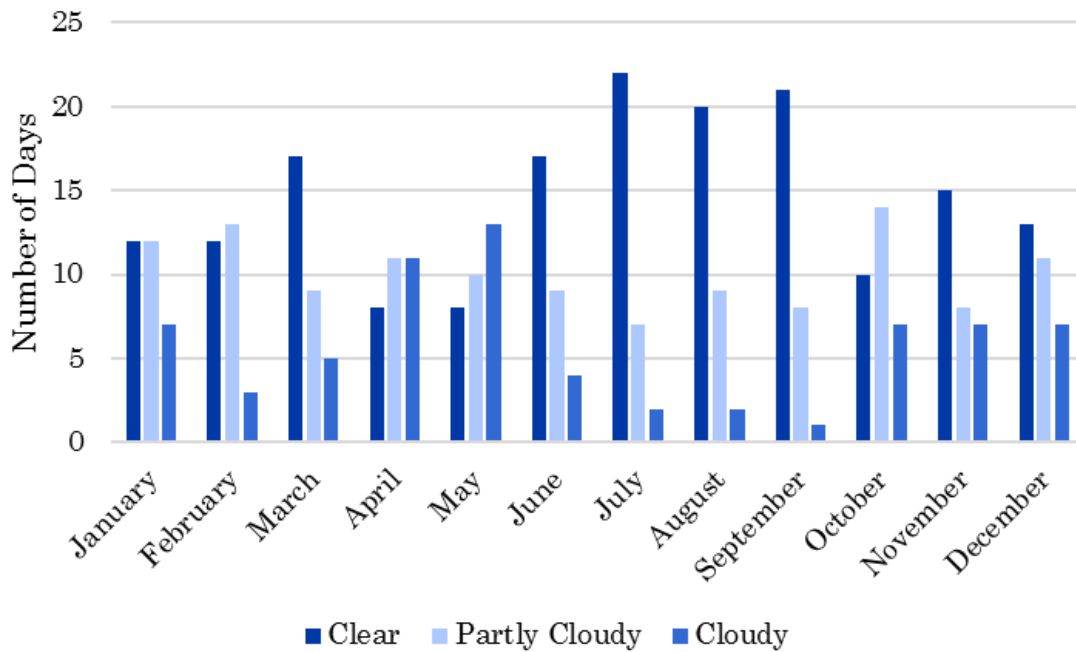
Source: National Weather Service, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

Worcester: Average High and Low Temperatures Compared to Record, 2019



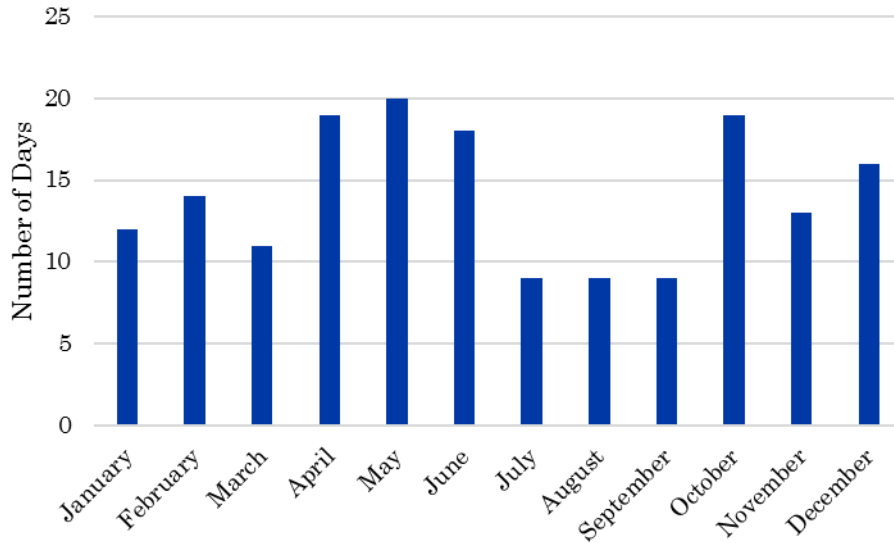
Source: National Weather Service, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

Worcester: Clear, Cloudy, & Partly Cloudy Days, 2019



Source: National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

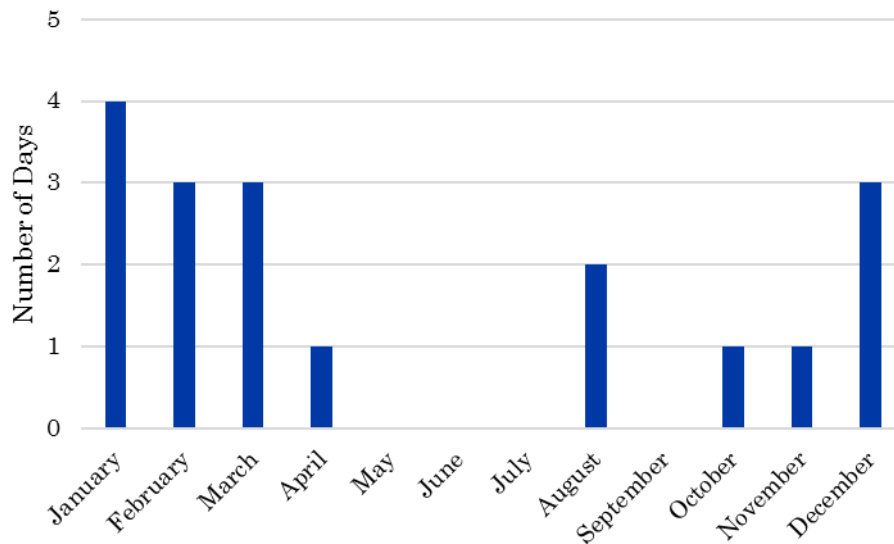
Worcester: Fog, Ice Fog, or Freezing Fog, 2019



Source: National Weather Service, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

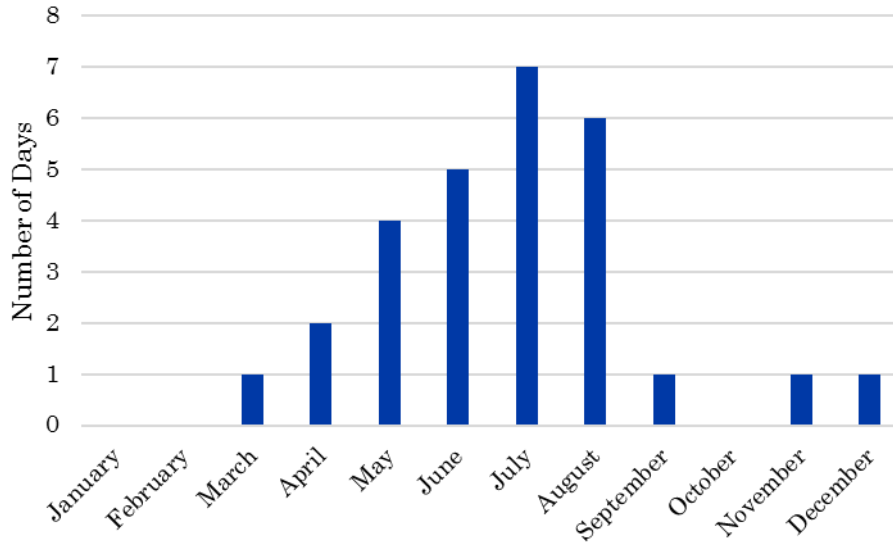
Fog is a dense cloud layer at or near the earth’s surface that restricts visibility, adversely affecting travel. Haze is a reflection of sunlight off fine solid or liquid particles that are dispersed in the air. Haze is a type of air pollution and can adversely affect people’s health, triggering asthma and allergies.

Worcester: Smoke or Haze, 2019



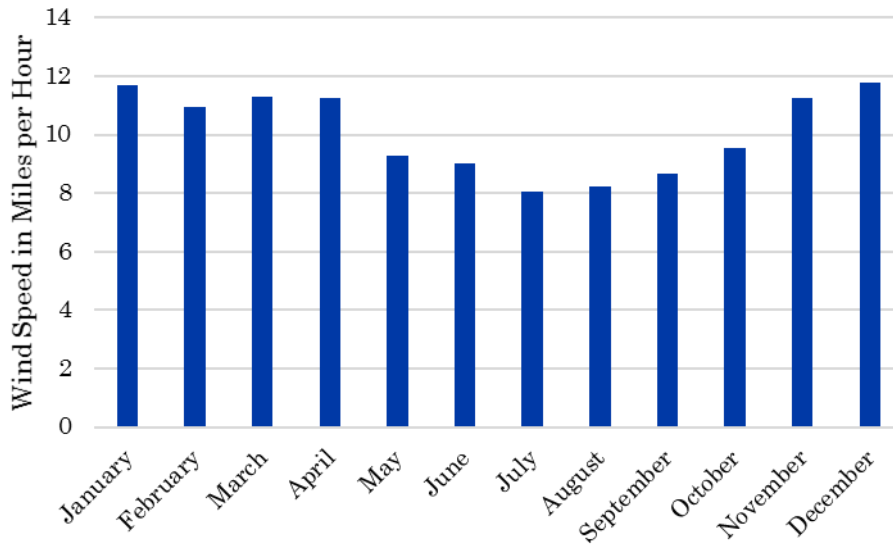
Source: National Weather Service, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

Worcester: Number of Days with Thunder, 2019



Source: National Weather Service, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

Worcester: Average Wind Speed Per Month, 2019



Source: National Weather Service, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

Worcester is located at the headwaters of the Blackstone River and is part of the Blackstone River Watershed. The watershed includes a 640 square mile basin, receiving water from 29 towns in Central Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Worcester: Lakes, Rivers, Ponds, Brooks, and Waterfalls	
Lakes	
	Indian Lake
	Quinsigamond Lake
Rivers	
	Blackstone River
	McKeon River
	Middle River
Ponds	
	Bell Pond
	Burncoat Pond
	Cider Mill Pond
	City Farm Pond
	Coes Pond
	Cook Pond
	Curtis Pond
	Elm Park Pond
	Flint Pond
	Green Hill Pond
	Leesville Pond
	Patch Pond
	Poor Farm Pond
	Salisbury Pond
	Smith Pond
	Williams Mill Pond
Streams and Brooks	
	Beaver Brook
	Broad Meadow Brook
	Coal Mine Brook
	Kettle Brook
	Tatnuck Brook
	Weasel Brook
Waterfalls	
	The Cascade

Source: City of Worcester Open Space and Recreation Plan, 2013.

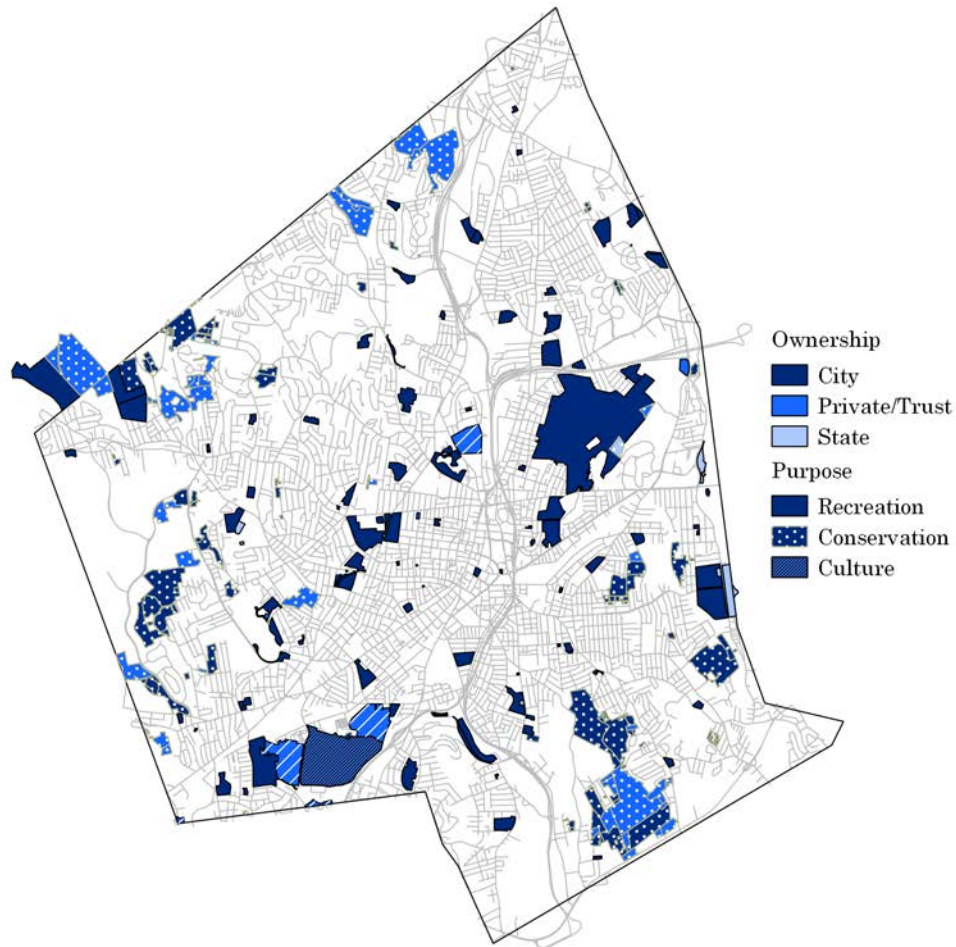
The City of Worcester is updating its Open Space and Recreation Plan in 2020, with more at <https://www.worcesteropenspace.com/>. The Department of Public Works and Parks issued a public survey and hosted a series of public meetings, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, to solicit community feedback as the Plan is developed.

Worcester's Hills
Airport Hill
Bancroft Hill (Bell Hill)
Grafton Hill
Green Hill
Pakachoag Hill
Vernon Hill
Indian Hill
Newton Hill
Poet's Hill
Wigwam Hill
Union Hill
Prospect Hill

Worcester is famous for its hills, and by popular myth, the city is said to have seven hills like Ancient Rome. In reality, Worcester has 12 named hills.

Source: City of Worcester Open Space and Recreation Plan, 2013

Worcester: Open Space by Ownership and Purpose

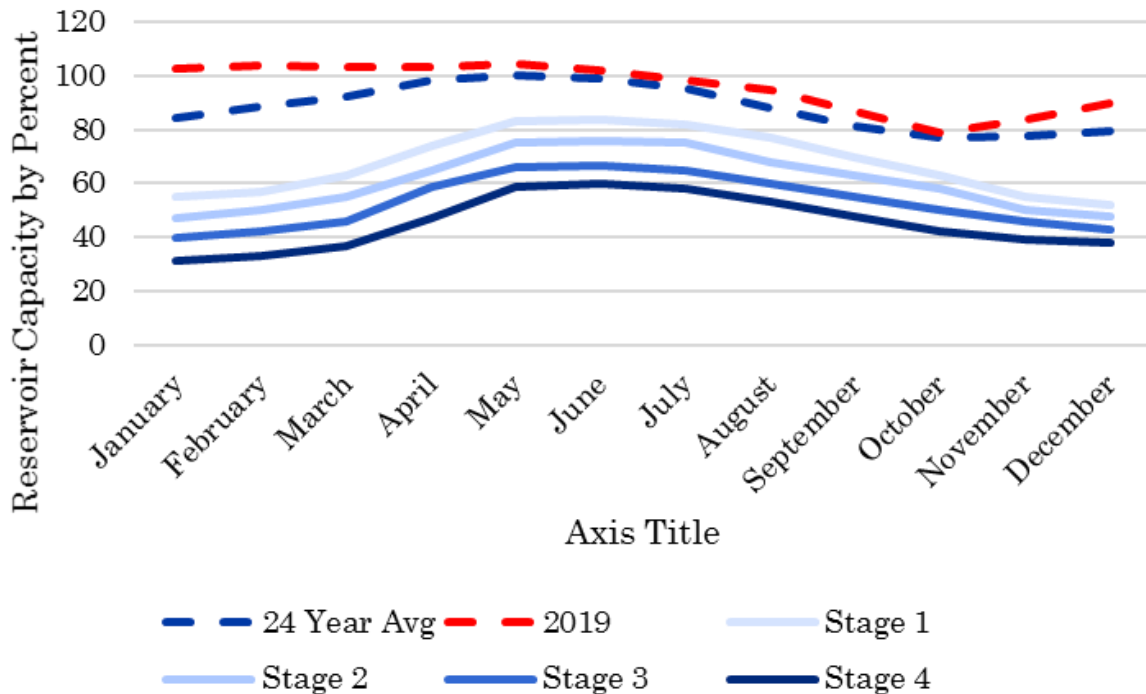


Source: MassGIS.

Worcester: Reservoirs - Acres & Capacity			
	acres	Elevation above city hall	gallons
Holden, No. 1	130	269.85	729,319,000
Holden, No. 2	52.63	237.8	257,398,000
Kendall	175	333	792,163,000
Kettle Brook, No. 1	11.5	364.35	19,307,000
Kettle Brook, No. 2	30.76	507.5	127,310,000
Kettle Brook, No. 3	37.41	559	152,306,000
Kettle Brook, No. 4	118.61	604.73	513,746,000
Lynde Brook	132	342.75	717,422,000
Pine Hill	345	429	2,970,967,000
Quinapoxet	278	250	1,100,000,000

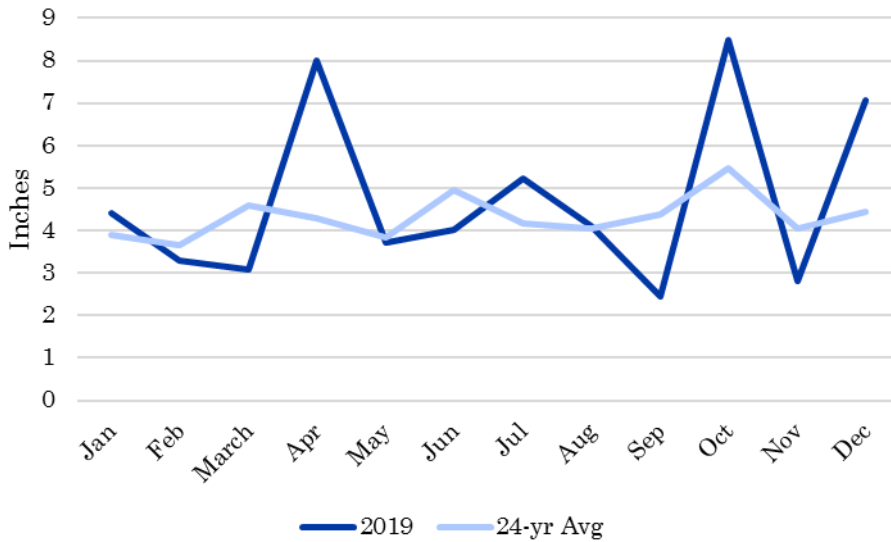
Source: City of Worcester, Department of Public Works and Parks.

Worcester: Reservoir Capacity versus Drought Stages, 2019



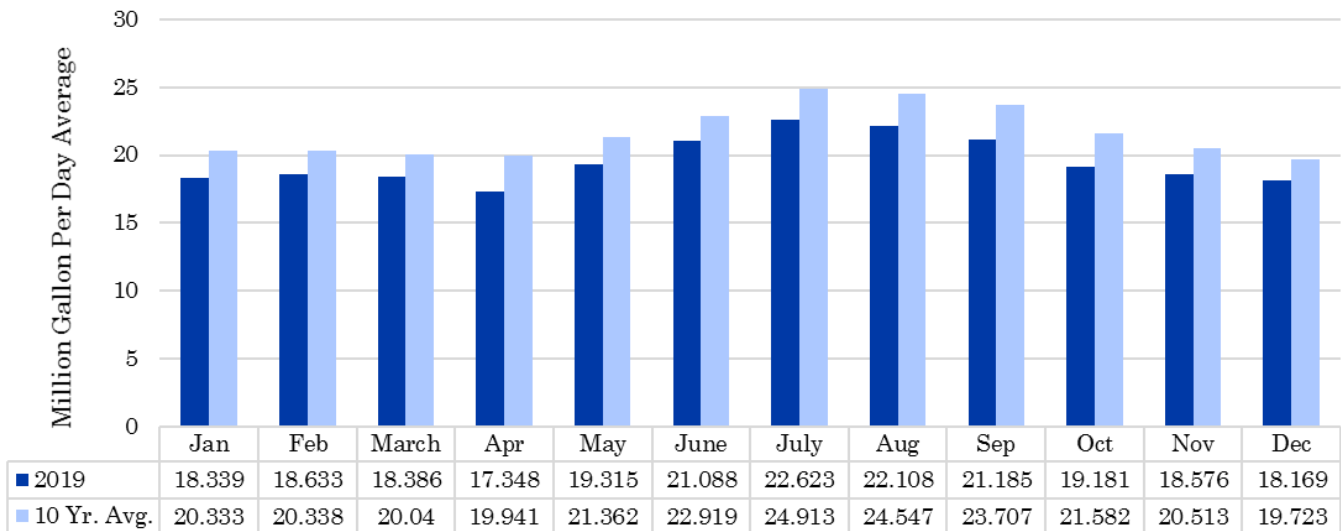
Source: City of Worcester, Department of Public Works and Parks.

Worcester: Monthly Average Rainfall versus 24 Year Average, 2019



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

Worcester: Monthly Average Water Consumption versus 10 Year Average, 2019



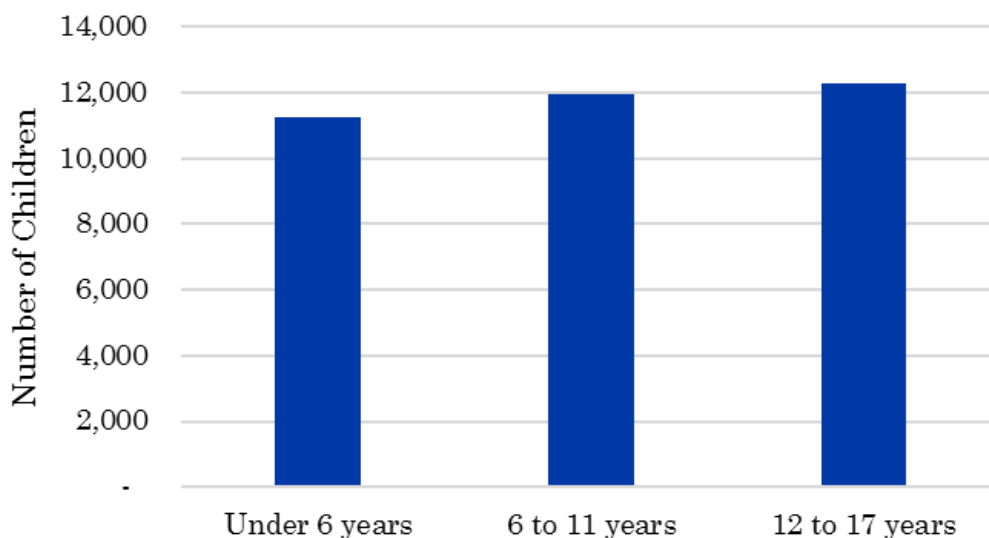
Source: City of Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks.

Appendix I

A Focus on Children

A Focus on Children is an addition to *The Worcester Almanac* derived from conversations with youth-serving organizations as well as the Greater Worcester Community Foundation. The goal of this section is to highlight those factors affecting young people, so that policymakers and practitioners can address the challenges impacting our future civic leaders. This section will grow and change over time as new issues and opportunities are identified and new connections are made between data and public policy.

Worcester: Children by Age, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

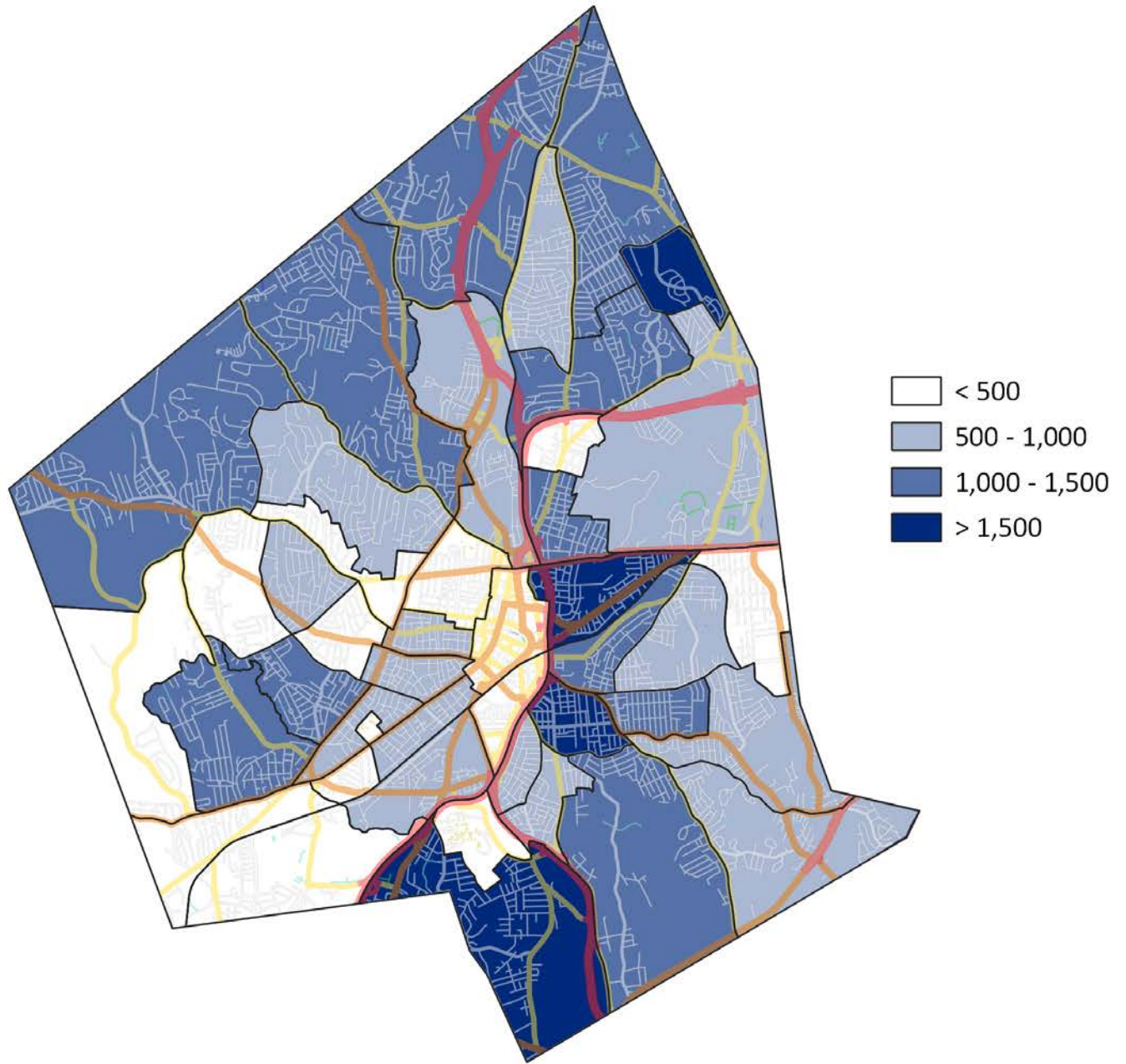
Number of Resident Births, Worcester 2016*	
Number of Births	2,372
Low Birth Weight**	179
Pre-term (<37 weeks gestation)	206
Adequate Prenatal Care	74.2%
Public Payment for Prenatal Care	54.2%

*Births to mothers who report Worcester as their place of residence.

**Babies weighing less than 5 pounds, 3 ounces.

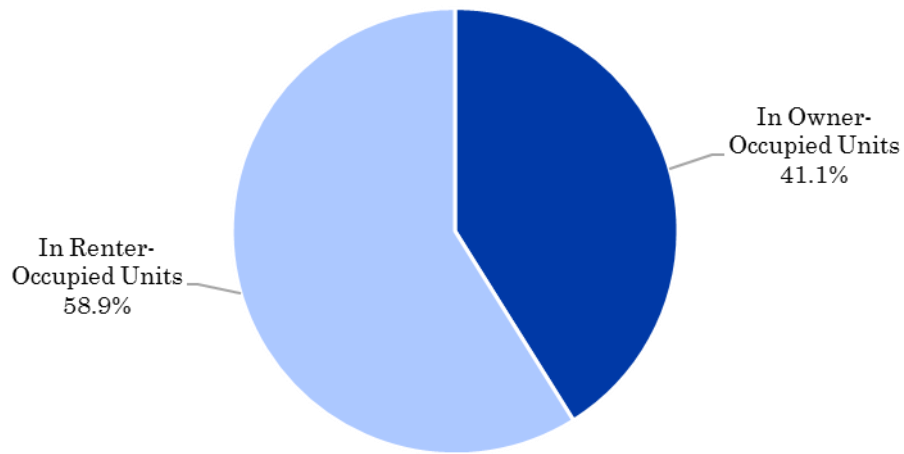
Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Worcester: Children under 18 Years of Age by Census Tract, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Children under 18 Years of Age—Housing, 2018

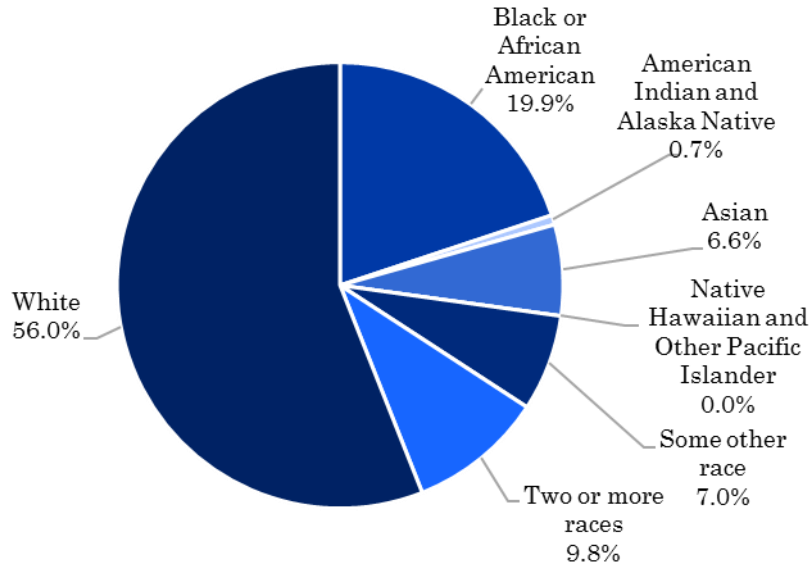


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Annual City of Worcester Point-In-Time, January 31, 2019					
	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Safe Haven		
Number Homeless Under Age 18	462	110	0	4	576

Source: Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance.

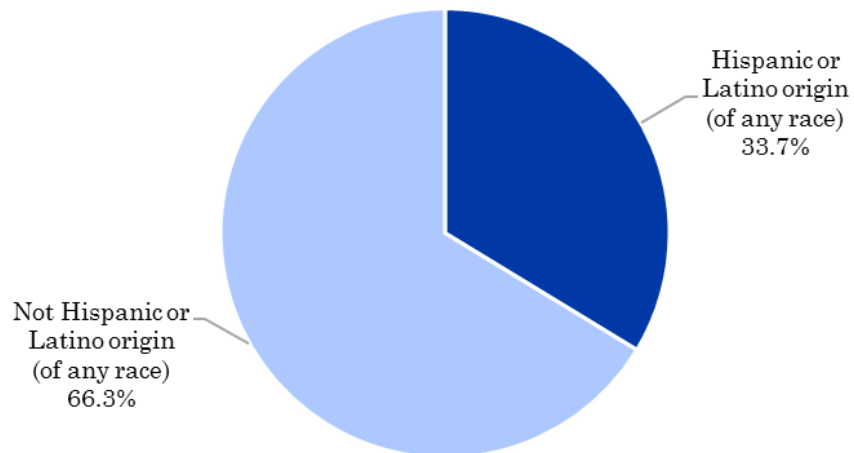
Worcester: Children Under 18 by Race, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

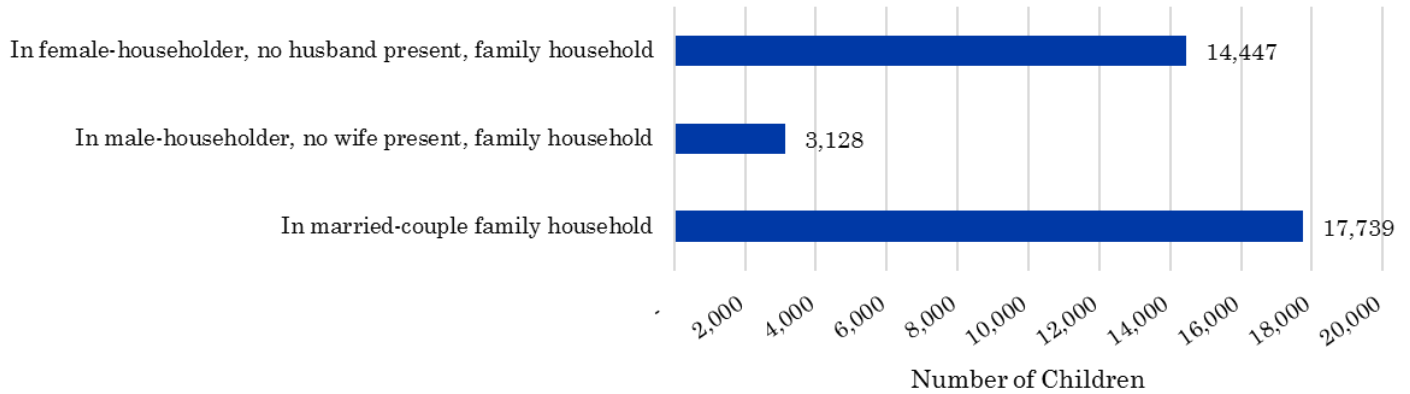
The U.S. Census Bureau tallies five categories of race: “American Indian or Alaska Native,” “Asian,” “Black or African American,” “Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander,” and “White.” Hispanic origin is defined as ethnicity, rather than race, and persons defined as Hispanic or Latino can be of any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

Worcester: Hispanic or Latino Origin for Children Under 18, 2018



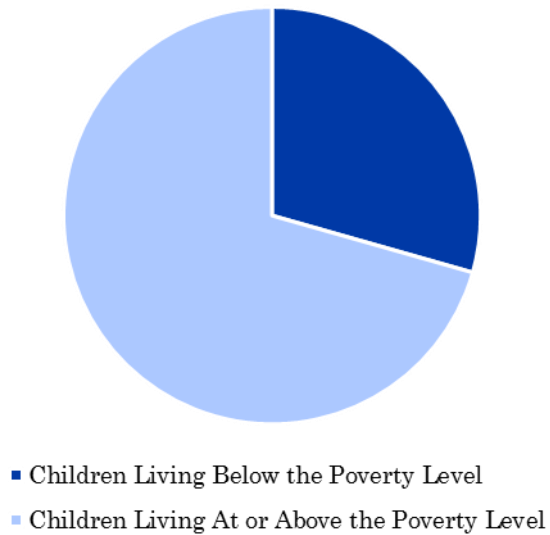
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Children Under 18, Family Situation, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Poverty Status for Children under 18, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Mobility refers to students transferring in or out of public schools during the school year for reasons other than grade promotion. A large number of students moving in and out of a school can be very disruptive to the fulfillment of academic goals for the individual student and for all students as teachers work to make sure everyone is in the same place in the curriculum. To measure mobility, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education uses these three measurements:

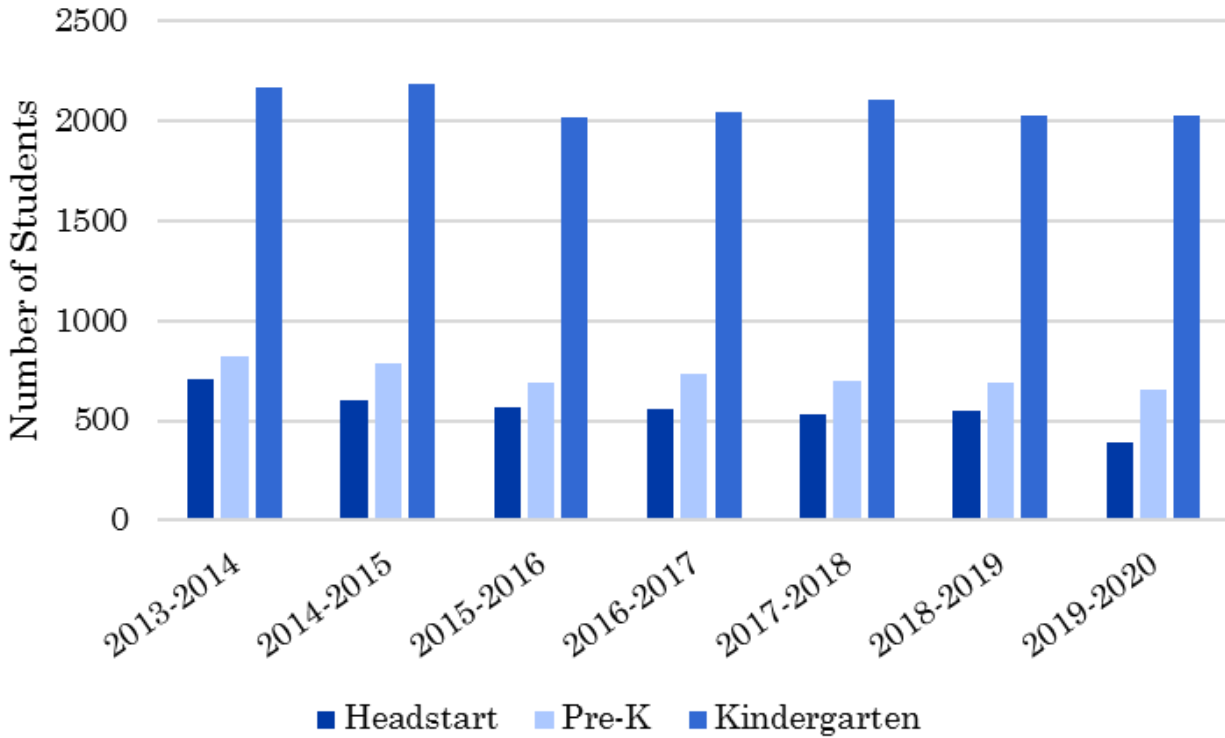
- Intake (Transfer-in) Rate: Number of students who enroll in district after start of school year
- Churn Rate: Number of students transferring in or out during school year
- Stability Rate: Number of students who stay in the district throughout the school year.

Worcester: Mobility Rates, 2019					
	Churn/Intake Enroll	Percent Churn	Percent Intake	Stability Enroll	Percent Stability
All Students	27,250	15.8	8.4	25,740	91.4
Economically Disadvantaged	17,883	18.5	9.7	16,786	89.8
High Needs	22,390	17.8	9.6	20,983	90.5
LEP English Language Learner	9,485	23.6	14.3	8,557	88.3
Students with Disabilities	5,470	18.6	9.5	5,121	90.6
<i>Mobility by Race</i>					
African American/Black	4,546	17.7	10.0	4,211	91.8
American Indian or Alaskan Native	50	28.0	10.0	47	83.0
Asian	1,765	9.4	5.1	1,712	95.0
Hispanic or Latino	11,828	18.5	9.7	11,085	89.8
Multi-race, non-Hispanic or Latino	1,140	14.4	5.8	1,093	92.0
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander*	-	-	-	-	-
White	7,915	12.4	6.5	7,587	92.8

*Data for populations less than 6 not reported.

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Worcester: Participation in Early Childhood Education, 2013-2019



Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Under the Head Start Act, children from birth to age five from families with incomes below the poverty line are eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start services. Children from homeless families, and families receiving public assistance such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) are also eligible.

Worcester: School Enrollment, 2018	
Total Children 3 to 17 years in Households	29,674
Enrolled in school	26,934
Public	89.9%
Private	10.1%
Not enrolled in school	2,740

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester: Student Discipline Report, 2018-2019

Student Group	Students	Students Disciplined	Percent In-School Suspension	Percent Out-of-School Suspension	Percent Emergency Removal
All Students	27,160	1,765	2.4	4	1.4
English Learner	9,452	565	2.3	3.6	1.5
Economically disadvantaged	17,821	1,447	3	5.1	1.8
Students w/disabilities	5,465	677	4.5	7.7	3.3
High needs	22,317	1,620	2.7	4.6	1.6
Gender					
Female	13,229	581	1.6	2.9	0.7
Male	13,929	1,184	3.2	5.1	2
Race					
Amer. Ind. or Alaska Nat.	50	5	-	-	-
Asian	1,762	24	0.5	0.8	0.3
Afr. Amer./Black	4,524	304	2.4	4.4	1.4
Hispanic/Latino	11,790	1,002	3.1	5.3	1.8
Multi-race, Non-Hisp./Lat.	1,136	94	3	5.6	1.7
Nat. Haw. or Pacif. Isl.	6	0	-	-	-
White	7,892	336	1.7	2.4	0.9

**Data for populations less than 6 not reported.*

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Explanation of Terms

In-school suspension: a disciplinary action that removes a student from participation in school activities for 1 day or more. Students suspended remain in school but are removed from academic classes and placed in a separate environment during their suspension.

Out-of-school suspension: a disciplinary action that removes a student from participation in all school activities, including after school activities, for at least one day, not to exceed 90 days in a school year. Students are not allowed on school grounds during their suspensions.

Emergency Removal: removing a student from school temporarily when a student is charged with a disciplinary offense and in the principal's judgement, the continued presence of the student poses a danger to persons or property, and substantially disrupts the order of the school, and, in the principal's judgment, there is no alternative available to alleviate the danger or disruption. An emergency removal shall not exceed two day past the student's removal from school.

Expulsion: a disciplinary action imposed by school officials to permanently remove a student from participation in all school activities. Student is ineligible to return to school. There were no expulsions listed for Worcester on the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education website for 2017-2018 as of 3/21/2019.

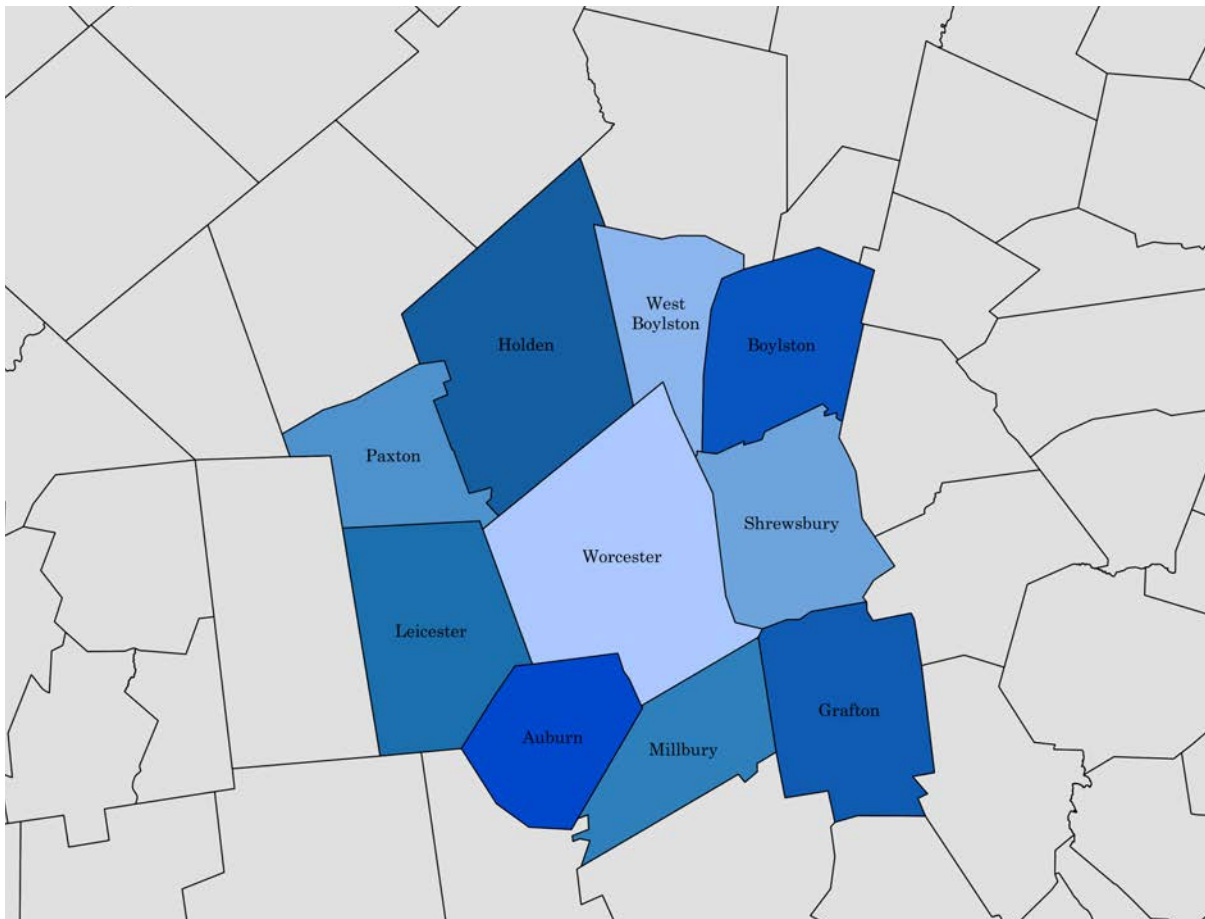


Appendix II

A Focus on Greater Worcester

Greater Worcester Executive/Administrative Leadership

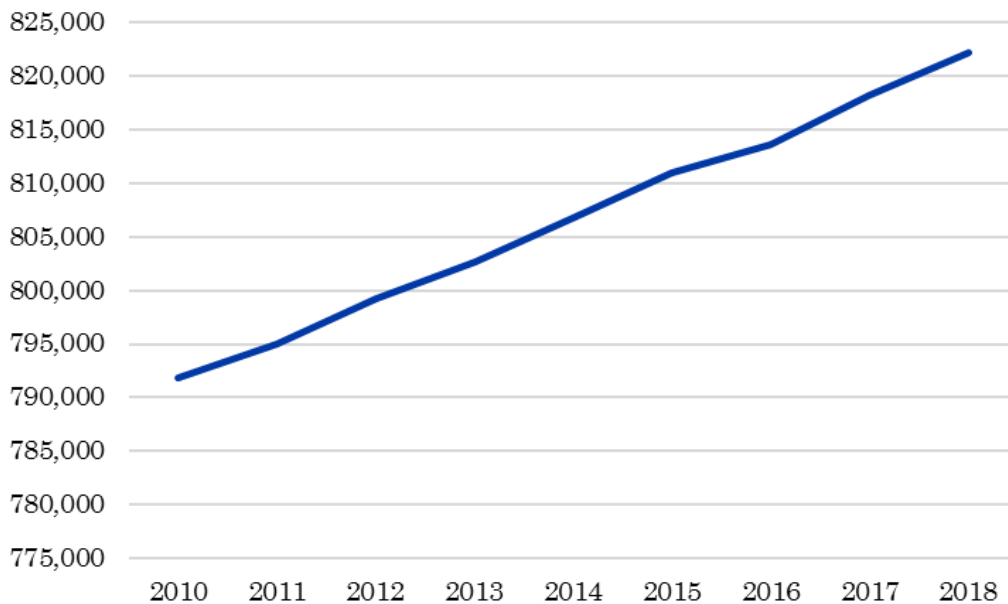
Auburn — Julie A. Jacobson — Town Manager
Boylston — April Steward — Town Administrator
Grafton — Rebecca Meekins — Acting Town Administrator
Holden — Peter M. Lukes — Town Manager
Leicester — David A. Genreux — Town Administrator
Millbury — James Kelley — Acting Town Manager
Paxton — Carol L. Riches — Town Administrator
Shrewsbury — Kevin J. Mizikar — Town Manager
West Boylston — Nancy Lucier — Town Administrator



Incorporation Dates for Greater Worcester		
Leicester	1714	
Worcester	1722 as a Town	1848 as a City
Shrewsbury	1727	
Grafton	1735	
Holden	1741	
Paxton	1765	
Auburn	1778	
Boylston	1786	
West Boylston	1808	
Millbury	1813	

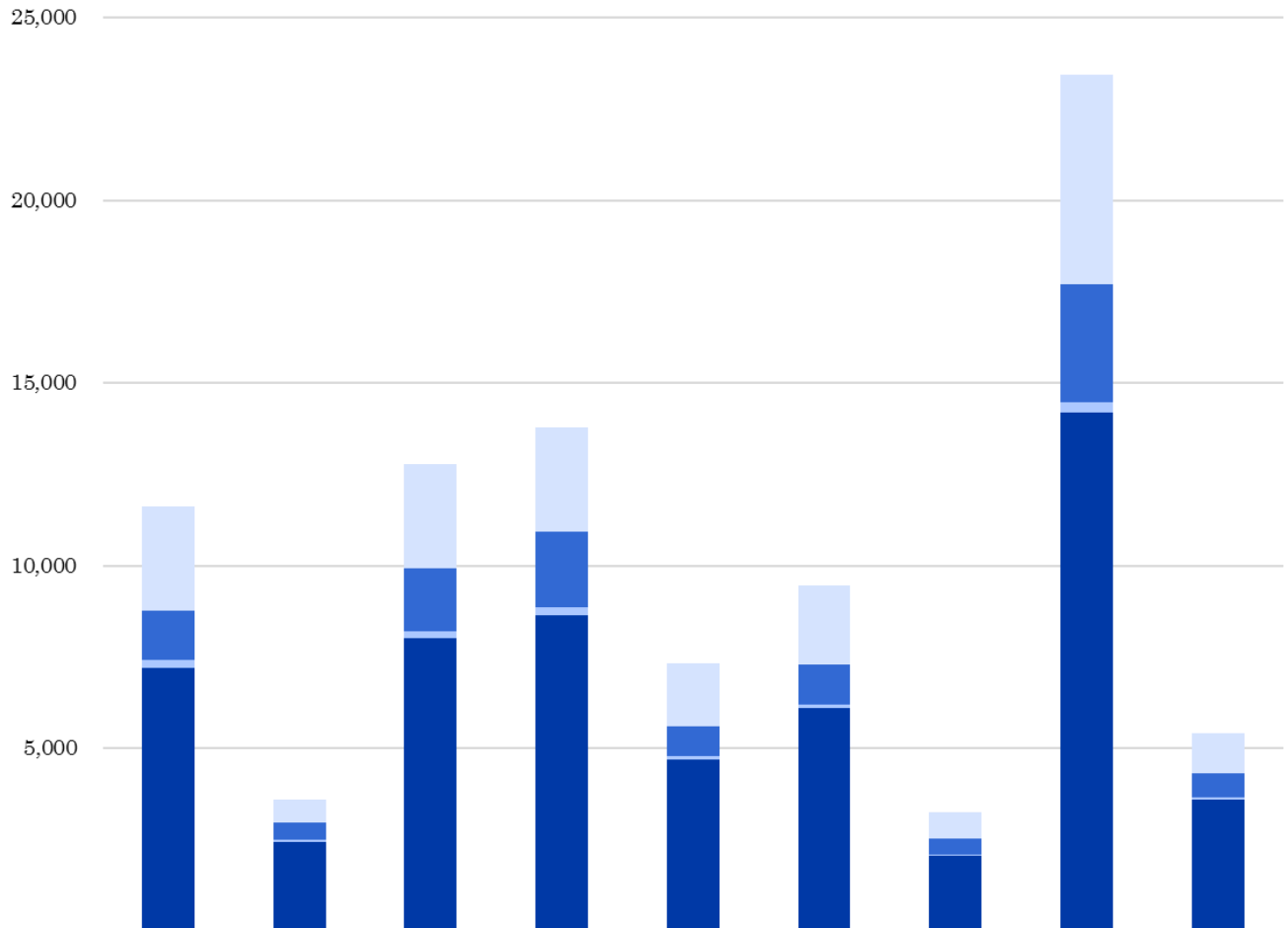
Worcester County:
 Area: 1,510 square miles
 Population: 822,280 (2018)
 Population Density: 544 persons per square mile
 60 cities and towns (including Worcester)

Worcester County: Population 2010 — 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

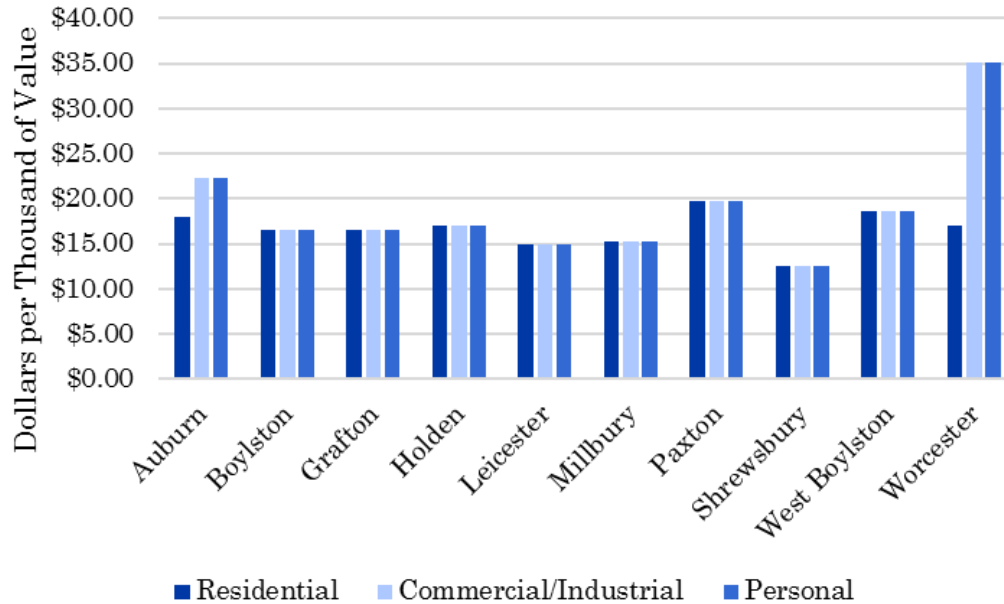
Greater Worcester: Party Affiliation & Registration, as of February 2019



	Auburn	Boylston	Grafton	Holden	Leicester	Millbury	Paxton	Shrewsbury	West Boylston
Democrat	2,860	627	2,849	2,839	1,721	2,161	712	5,763	1,072
Republican	1,330	478	1,737	2,082	813	1,096	435	3,212	675
Other	220	57	187	203	78	116	46	301	70
Unenrolled	7,215	2,427	8,017	8,653	4,706	6,095	2,050	14,182	3,581

Source: Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Greater Worcester: Property Tax Rates, FY20

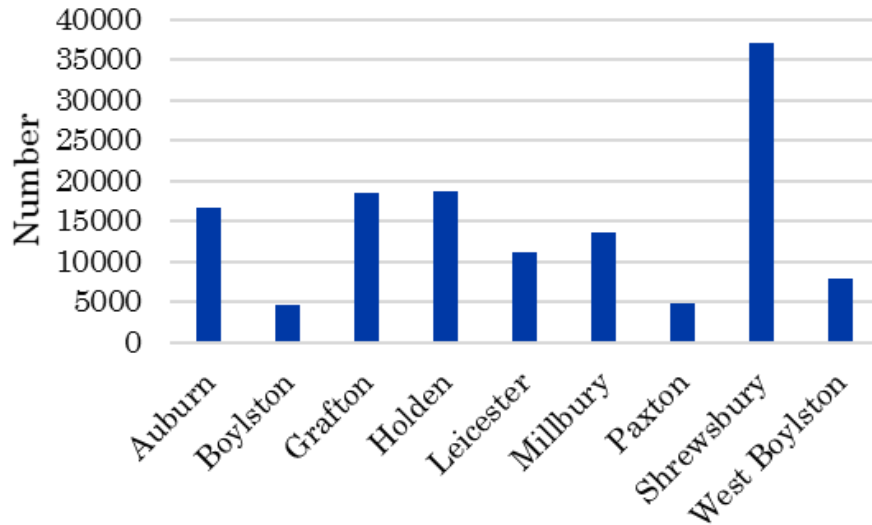


Source: Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

Greater Worcester: FY20 Budgets						
	<u>Total City Budget (includes Education)</u>	<u>Education Budget</u>	<u>Education % of Total Budget</u>	<u>Police Budget</u>	<u>Fire Budget</u>	<u>Police & Fire % of Total Budget</u>
Auburn	\$70,974,423	\$29,095,319	40.99%	\$4,930,189	\$3,569,047	11.98%
Boylston	\$16,267,488	\$9,789,648	60.18%	\$1,217,614	\$409,833	10.00%
Grafton	\$61,996,457	\$36,582,273	59.01%	\$2,324,378	\$699,470	4.88%
Holden	\$52,656,065	\$30,774,812	58.44%	\$2,495,853	\$2,275,423	9.06%
Leicester	\$30,425,010	\$16,881,790	55.49%	\$1,964,796	\$305,307	7.46%
Millbury	\$45,169,977	\$23,865,373	52.83%	\$2,541,098	\$749,309	7.28%
Paxton	\$15,468,762	\$6,842,203	44.23%	\$1,192,129	\$480,776	10.81%
Shrewsbury	\$132,281,954	\$66,302,041	50.12%	\$5,523,926	\$3,625,371	6.92%
West Boylston	\$25,427,143	\$12,403,969	48.78%	\$1,705,934	\$912,442	10.30%
Worcester	\$685,744,411	\$395,404,360	57.66%	\$52,512,294	\$40,531,070	13.57%

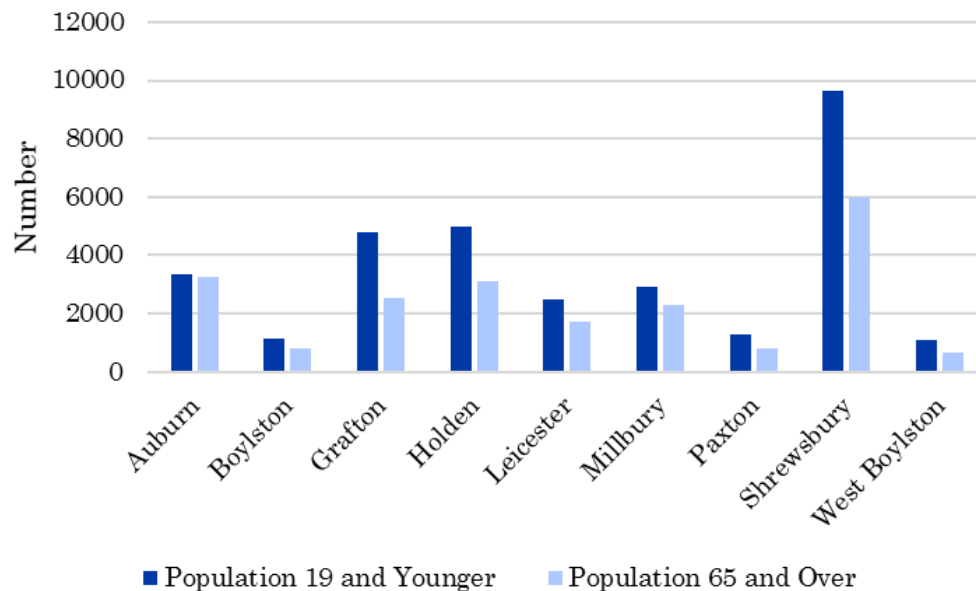
Sources: Individual Town Budgets.

Greater Worcester: Population, 2018



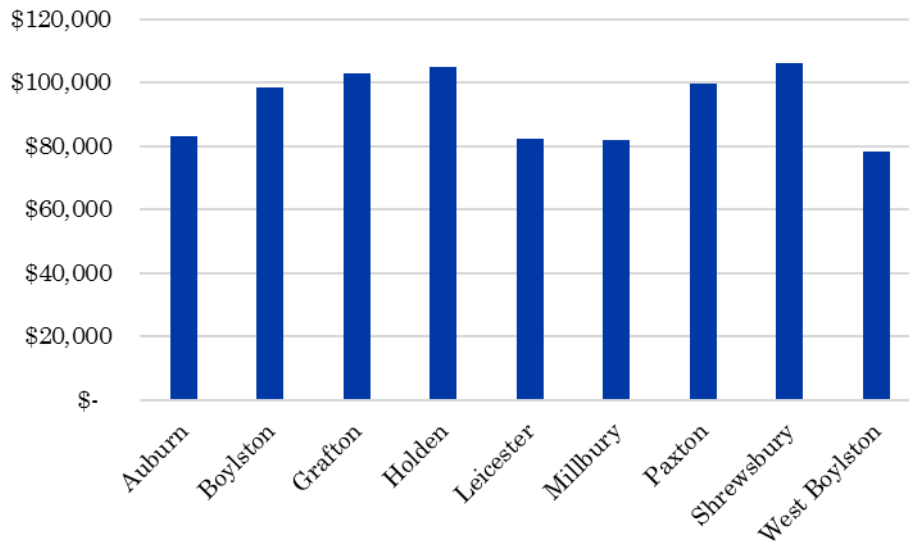
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Greater Worcester: Population 19 Years of Age or Under and Population 65 Years of Age or Over, 2018



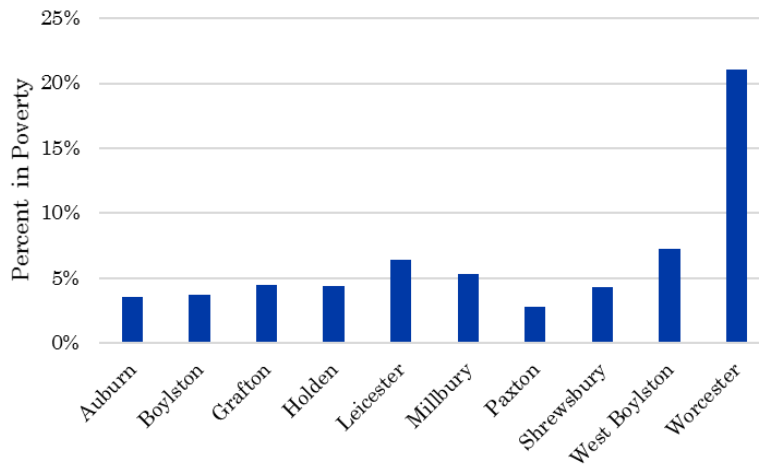
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Greater Worcester: Median Household Income, 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Greater Worcester: Percent in Poverty, 2018

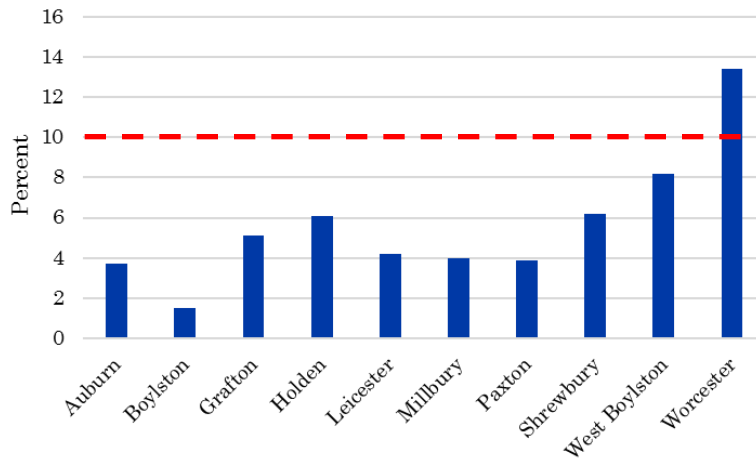


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Worcester County: Hotel Market, 2019	
Occupancy	65.40%
Supply	2,299,875 Room Nights
Demand	1,503,485 Room Nights
Average Daily Rate (ADR)	\$121.21
Revenue per Available Room	\$79.24

Source: Discover Central Massachusetts.

Greater Worcester: Chapter 40B Subsidized Housing Inventory*



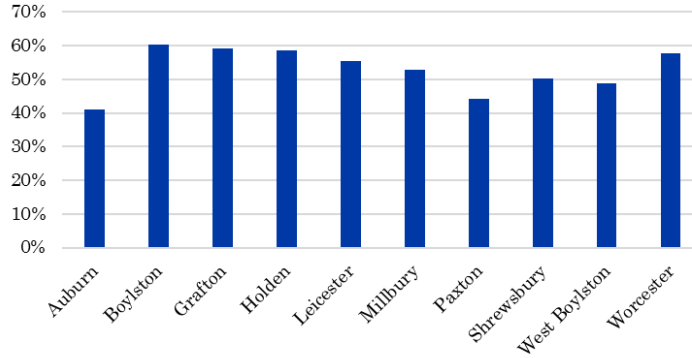
Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40B was adopted in 1969 as part of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Permit Act to encourage and facilitate the building of affordable, long-term housing for low-income individuals and families across the Commonwealth and to ensure that low-income residents can remain in their localities if housing costs increase. The law calls on every Massachusetts community to ensure that 10% of all housing units meet certain affordability requirements.

*As of September 2017. Red line indicates 10% threshold called for under Chapter 40B. Source: Massachusetts Department of Housing & Community Development.

Number of Confirmed Opioid Related Overdose Deaths, 2014-2018					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Auburn	0	4	2	3	6
Boylston	0	2	0	1	1
Grafton	2	2	1	0	3
Holden	5	4	5	1	3
Leicester	1	2	2	4	6
Millbury	4	4	4	7	7
Paxton	1	1	0	0	1
Shrewsbury	1	2	7	8	7
West Boylston	3	0	1	3	4
Worcester	56	84	74	83	97
Boston	108	154	195	199	181

Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

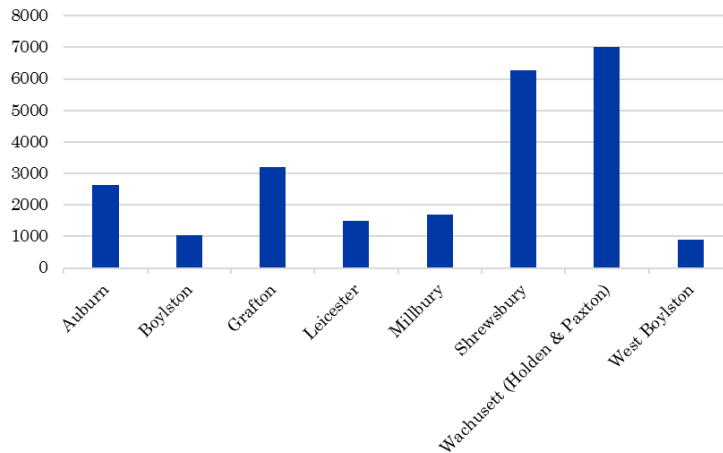
Greater Worcester: Education as Percent of FY20 Municipal Budget



Sources: Individual Town Budgets.

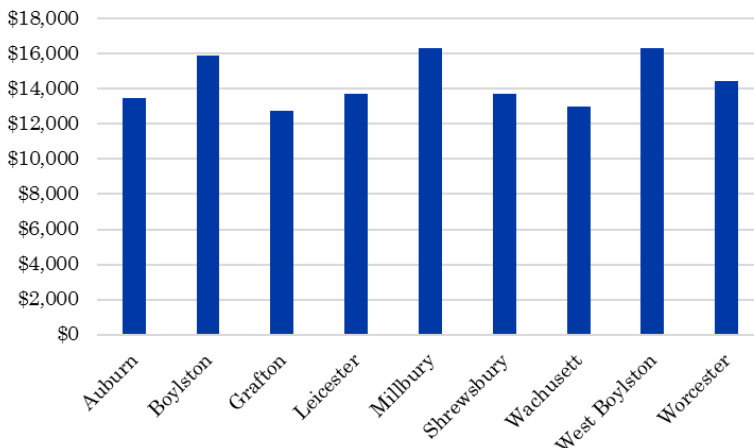
Greater Worcester: Number of Students, 2019-2020

The towns of Holden and Paxton are part of the Wachusett Regional School District, the largest regional district in the Commonwealth.



Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Greater Worcester: Per Pupil Spending, 2018



The town of Boylston oversees a K-5 elementary school and is part of the Berlin-Boylston Regional School District for Grades 6-12.

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Greater Worcester: % Population 25 and Over with Bachelor's Degree or Higher, 2018

Auburn	39.2%
Boylston	52.1%
Grafton	48.2%
Holden	57.0%
Leicester	28.3%
Millbury	33.2%
Paxton	54.6%
Shrewsbury	58.4%
West Boylston	29.6%
Worcester	30.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 5-Year American Community Survey.

Greater Worcester: Colleges & Universities, 2020

Anna Maria College (Paxton)
Assumption University (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 (Grafton)
University of Massachusetts Medical School (Worcester)
Worcester Polytechnic Institute (Worcester)
Worcester State University (Worcester)

Source: Worcester Regional Research Bureau, Inc.

Worcester Regional Research Bureau, Inc.

Officers & Executive Committee

Chair of the Board:

Deborah Penta

Vice Chair:

Francis Madigan, III

Treasurer:

George W. Tetler III, Esq.

Clerk:

Demitrios M. Moschos, Esq.

Vice President for Finance:

Richard F. Powell, CPA

Assistant Clerk:

Michael Mulrain

Executive Committee Members:

Abraham W. Haddad, D.M.D.

Paul Kelly

Susan Mailman

Todd Rodman, Esq.

John J. Spillane, Esq.

Eric K. Torkornoo

Janice B. Yost, Ed.D.

Board of Directors

Kola Akindele, JD

Peter Alden

Michael P. Angelini, Esq.,

Paul Belsito

Janet Birbara

Edward S. Borden

Philip L. Boroughs, S.J.

Roberta Brien

Brian J. Buckley, Esq.

Francesco C. Cesareo, Ph.D.

J. Christopher Collins, Esq.

Michael Crawford

Nancy P. Crimmin, Ed.D.

Kathryn Crockett

David Crouch

Ellen Cummings

James Curran

Jill Dagilis

Andrew Davis

Christine Dominick

Donald Doyle

Ellen S. Dunlap

Sandra L. Dunn

Susan West Engelkemeyer, Ph.D.

Aleta Fazzone

Mitchell Feldman

Allen W. Fletcher

David Fort

Michael J. Garand

Tim Garvin

Joel N. Greenberg

J. Michael Grenon

Kurt Isaacson

Will Kelleher

Richard B. Kennedy

Stephen Knox

Geoff Kramer

Cheryl Lapriore

Laurie A. Leshin, Ph.D.

Karen E. Ludington, Esq.

Barry Maloney

Edward F. Manzi, Jr.

Mary Jo Marión

Samantha McDonald, Esq.

Neil D. McDonough

Kate McEvoy

Thomas McGregor

Joseph McManus

Martin D. McNamara

Satya Mitra, Ph.D.

Robert J. Morton

Timothy P. Murray, Esq.

James D. O'Brien, Jr., Esq.

Michael V. O'Brien

Andrew B. O'Donnell, Esq.

JoAnne O'Leary

Lisa Olson, Ph.D.

Deborah Packard

Anthony Pasquale

Luis Pedraja, Ph.D.

Sam S. Pepper, Jr.

Lisa Perrin

Sherri Pitcher

Christopher M. Powers

John Prankevicius

Paul Provost

David Przesiek

Marcy Reed

Mary Lou Retelle

Mary Craig Ritter

K. Michael Robbins

Joseph Salois

Anthony J. Salvidio, II

J. Robert Seder, Esq.

Kate Sharry

Philip O. Shwachman

Troy Siebels

Michael Sleeper

Peter R. Stanton

John C. Stowe

Joseph Sullivan, Esq.

Peter Sullivan

Polly A. Tatum, Esq.

Ann K. Tripp

Jon Weaver

Gayle Flanders Weiss, Esq.

Staff

Executive Director & CEO:

Paul F. Matthews

Director of Programs & Operations:

Eric R. Kneeland

Research Associate:

Thomas J. Quinn

Research Intern:

Katherine Hamilton

Emma O'Connor

THE RESEARCH BUREAU

serves the public interest of Greater Worcester by conducting independent, non-partisan research and analysis of public policy issues to promote informed public debate and decision-making.



The Research Bureau

Worcester Regional Research Bureau, Inc.
390 Main Street, Suite 208
Worcester, MA 01608
508.799.7169 / www.wrrb.org

