



THE BEST TOWNS // Where to Live Now

CITY OR TOWN	POPULATION	MEDIAN HOME PRICE	MEDIAN HOME PRICE LAST YEAR	MEDIAN HOME PRICE FIVE YEARS AGO	ONE-YEAR INCREASE/DECREASE	FIVE-YEAR INCREASE/DECREASE	PROPERTY TAX RATE PER \$1,000	AVERAGE SINGLE-FAMILY TAX BILL	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME	MEDIAN AGE	AREA IN SQUARE MILES	POPULATION DENSITY PER SQUARE MILE	PERCENTAGE PROTECTED OPEN SPACE	MILES FROM BOSTON	RAIL TIME TO BOSTON IN MINUTES	PER-PUPIL SPENDING	GRADE 10 MCAS ENGLISH/MATH	SAT VERBAL/MATH	PERCENT COLLEGE BOUND	VIOLENT CRIMES (2004)	PROPERTY CRIMES (2004)
ABINGTON	16,264	\$339,900	\$313,450	\$184,950	8%	84%	10.24	3,666	\$57,100	36.7	10.17	1,599	13.46	20.6	0:32	\$6,035	82/72	504/513	80.1	53	271
ACTON	20,660	\$525,000	\$532,750	\$374,900	-1%	40%	14.58	7,724	\$91,624	37.9	20.29	1,018	18.26	26.2	0:54	\$8,722	88/89	613/634	94	4	263
AMESBURY	16,737	\$335,000	\$320,000	\$212,000	5%	58%	13.59	4,810	\$51,906	36.7	13.65	1,226	4.88	41.8	n/a	\$7,776	75/67	545/529	76	57	206
ANDOVER	32,141	\$576,000	\$525,000	\$395,450	10%	46%	11.4	6,400	\$87,683	39.5	32.13	1,000	20.43	25.7	0:48	\$8,901	84/84	568/585	93.7	9	374
ARLINGTON	41,546	\$493,000	\$467,000	\$340,000	6%	45%	11.34	5,041	\$64,344	39.5	5.51	7,540	4.56	6.7	n/a	\$7,823	78/77	541/553	89.8	51	491
ASHLAND	15,528	\$403,900	\$385,000	\$256,000	5%	58%	12.66	5,067	\$68,392	37.4	12.93	1,201	26.03	26.2	0:45	\$7,475	86/83	552/570	85.9	23	57
ATTLEBORO	43,506	\$317,000	\$305,000	\$168,565	4%	88%	9.74	2,910	\$50,807	36.1	28.29	1,538	11.65	38.4	0:55	\$7,454	58/58	501/502	65.8	134	951
AVON	4,385	\$319,000	\$289,000	\$174,900	10%	82%	9.44	2,949	\$50,305	40.2	4.57	960	11.23	20.3	n/a	\$9,218	58/36	490/510	82.1	11	161
BEDFORD	12,519	\$503,250	\$509,000	\$363,750	-1%	38%	11.47	5,861	\$87,962	42.1	13.87	903	18.57	22.8	n/a	\$10,748	83/85	565/566	82.7	1	58
BELMONT	23,604	\$699,500	\$673,500	\$489,000	4%	43%	10.41	7,992	\$80,295	40.4	4.71	5,011	20.68	7.7	0:17	\$7,816	88/87	575/594	92	28	198
BEVERLY	40,166	\$381,950	\$375,000	\$243,000	2%	57%	9.88	4,439	\$53,984	38.3	22.75	1,766	12.78	24.8	0:37	\$8,020	70/72	516/518	85.8	63	626
BILLERICA	39,951	\$369,900	\$345,000	\$222,950	7%	66%	10.61	3,696	\$67,799	35.9	26.39	1,514	7.9	29.2	0:39	\$7,433	81/80	510/543	81.6	31	469
BOLTON	4,389	\$557,000	\$505,000	\$397,000	10%	40%	13.56	6,911	\$102,798	38.3	20	219	14.59	41.6	n/a	\$8,895	83/89	534/552	90.2	4	51
BOSTON	569,165	\$385,000	\$370,000	\$215,000	4%	79%	11.12	2,753	\$39,629	31.1	89.63	6,350	17.42	0	0	\$11,795	38/39	436/459	52.4	6,917	27,616
BOXBOROUGH	5,044	\$67,500	\$530,000	\$460,000	7%	23%	13.24	7,307	\$87,618	36.7	10.42	484	17.01	30.3	n/a	\$8,722	88/89	613/634	94	11	46
BOXFORD	8,221	\$650,000	\$635,750	\$469,000	2%	39%	10.17	6,874	\$113,212	39.4	24.56	335	17.05	26.7	n/a	\$8,904	88/84	569/572	92.5	0	59
BOYLSTON	4,181	\$363,800	\$369,900	\$213,500	-2%	70%	11.69	4,504	\$67,703	39.8	19.67	213	35.39	44.3	n/a	\$9,437	88/77	533/520	88.8	2	91
BRAintree	33,873	\$375,000	\$365,000	\$219,000	3%	71%	7.65	3,054	\$61,790	40	14.52	2,333	21.51	11.2	0:20	\$7,895	78/72	519/531	83.4	54	1,056
BRIDGEWATER	25,723	\$375,000	\$350,500	\$212,000	7%	77%	9.11	3,550	\$65,318	33.6	28.23	911	12.29	31.5	0:45	\$6,705	61/70	519/530	86	24	277
BROCKTON	95,009	\$274,450	\$250,000	\$139,900	10%	96%	9.54	2,631	\$39,507	34	21.6	4,399	12.08	23.7	0:34	\$8,892	54/36	456/458	77	217	3,915
BROOKLINE	56,188	\$1,090,000	\$975,000	\$700,000	12%	56%	9.55	8,137	\$66,711	34.5	6.82	8,239	11.54	2.7	n/a	\$11,107	76/78	598/620	85.7	163	1,047
BURLINGTON	23,223	\$410,000	\$394,000	\$269,950	4%	52%	9	3,663	\$75,240	38.3	11.88	1,955	7.19	18.5	n/a	\$9,763	83/82	511/542	91.5	28	649
CAMBRIDGE	100,771	\$717,500	\$615,000	\$475,000	17%	51%	7.38	3,261	\$47,979	30.4	7.13	14,133	11.54	2.8	0:11	\$16,116	44/41	490/506	85.8	503	3,816
CANTON	21,505	\$490,000	\$446,500	\$299,900	10%	63%	9.33	4,445	\$66,260	39.8	19.58	1,098	25.86	19.2	0:28	\$8,689	79/78	531/563	91.4	35	233
CARLISLE	4,830	\$828,444	\$730,000	\$599,900	13%	38%	12.99	9,588	\$129,811	41.9	15.53	311	27.55	27.7	n/a	\$11,059	92/89	611/639	89.7	4	35
CARVER	11,492	\$319,000	\$308,000	\$169,075	4%	89%	11.34	3,586	\$53,506	37.4	39.81	289	11.28	45.5	n/a	\$7,850	69/70	532/566	73.8	12	97
CHELMSFORD	33,769	\$370,000	\$350,000	\$243,000	6%	52%	13.12	4,688	\$70,207	39.9	23.18	1,457	6.83	35.8	n/a	\$7,196	80/75	542/547	92.1	42	541
CHELSEA	33,227	\$317,000	\$302,500	\$154,000	5%	106%	9.62	2,237	\$30,161	31.3	2.48	13,398	6.7	5.7	0:13	\$8,958	36/37	445/474	59	531	1,194
CLINTON	13,890	\$266,500	\$234,500	\$147,900	14%	80%	10.63	2,722	\$44,740	37.1	7.29	1,905	18.03	46.1	n/a	\$7,496	70/64	496/484	85.9	7	60
COHASSET	7,274	\$751,250	\$682,500	\$424,900	10%	77%	10.84	8,422	\$84,156	40.9	31.47	2,311	25.49	19.9	n/a	\$8,769	90/89	535/565	92.3	6	133
CONCORD	16,919	\$712,000	\$709,563	\$536,500	1%	33%	10.23	9,271	\$95,897	42.2	25.89	653	31.08	17.3	0:45	\$11,059	92/89	611/639	89.7	16	135
DANVERS	25,659	\$390,500	\$371,000	\$250,000	5%	56%	9.9	3,883	\$58,779	40.4	14.09	1,821	10.25	23.1	n/a	\$8,020	76/70	516/520	93.2	51	963
DEDHAM	23,225	\$392,250	\$375,000	\$244,000	5%	61%	11.15	4,486	\$61,699	39.6	10.64	2,183	19.69	10.5	0:28	\$9,488	63/65	518/532	87.3	35	604
DOVER	5,657	\$1,057,500	\$872,000	\$680,000	21%	56%	9.1	10,004	\$141,818	40.2	15.41	367	25.41	19.6	n/a	\$11,893	94/95	620/630	97	n/a	n/a
DRACUT	28,881	\$307,600	\$289,900	\$186,500	6%	65%	9.38	2,990	\$57,676	36.1	21.36	1,343	7.13	34.4	n/a	\$6,829	73/62	521/509	88	23	311
DUXBURY	14,691	\$610,000	\$595,250	\$381,500	2%	60%	9.84	6,290	\$97,124	40.3	37.63	390	18.67	33.8	n/a	\$8,017	90/86	551/563	92.1	10	50
E. BRIDGEWATER	13,692	\$343,500	\$297,000	\$186,600	16%	84%	10.81	3,515	\$60,311	35.9	17.51	782	6.39	25.6	n/a	\$6,849	73/66	504/480	80.4	9	106
EASTON	23,061	\$415,125	\$387,342	\$265,000	7%	57%	10.68	4,336	\$69,144	35.5	29.18	790	23.65	27.7	n/a	\$6,886	84/84	521/536	87.9	7	142
ESSEX	3,355	\$425,000	\$490,000	\$271,600	-13%	56%	10.15	4,899	\$59,554	40.2	15.94	210	20.45	33.7	n/a	\$10,649	88/80	589/574	100	3	40
EVERETT	37,195	\$349,900	\$331,000	\$200,000	6%	75%	9.01	2,916	\$40,661	35.6	3.66	10,163	5.5	5.6	n/a	\$6,976	47/42	466/472	67.7	171	1,248
FOXBORO	16,354	\$395,000	\$389,900	\$244,700	1%	61%	10.32	4,230	\$64,323	38.1	20.89	783	23.02	31.1	n/a	\$7,858	78/79	534/546	88.6	55	152
FRAMINGHAM	65,598	\$380,000	\$361,900	\$244,250	5%	56%	11.34	4,306	\$54,288	36.2	26.44	2.81	21.54	20.1	0:49	\$10,518	70/75	524/541	72.9	159	1,602
FRANKLIN	30,192	\$422,500	\$399,900	\$269,950	6%	57%	9.02	3,742	\$71,174	34.8	27.01	1,118	12.24	44.2	0:58	\$7,093	84/79	541/535	92.3	19	164
GEORGETOWN	7,961	\$400,000	\$413,500	\$272,750	-3%	47%	9.18	3,847	\$76,260	37.4	13.17	604	21.55	31.8	n/a	\$6,247	83/79	531/542	89.4	1	32
GLOUCESTER	30,817	\$380,000	\$365,000	\$217,000	4%	75%	8.68	4,368	\$47,722	40.2	41.5	743	31.7	37	1:03	\$7,877	60/68	517/497	69.4	48	673
GROTON	10,369	\$470,000	\$447,500	\$324,500	5%	45%	14.17	5,859	\$82,869	36.5	33.72	308	24.4	37	n/a	\$7,346	88/86	545/554	90.3	7	65
GROVELAND	6,472	\$375,000	\$355,000	\$225,000	6%	67%	9.59	3,709	\$69,167	37.6	9.41	688	31	35.3	n/a	\$6,880	89/79	541/546	73.4	0	50
HALIFAX	7,781	\$314,000	\$317,000	\$175,000	-1%	79%	12.02	3,852	\$57,015	37.5	17.33	449	12.39	37.2	0:45	\$8,087	67/64	517/516	70.8	16	52
HAMILTON	8,426	\$510,000	\$479,500	\$380,000	6%	34%	11.93	6,437	\$72,000	36.5	14.94	564	37.22	29.3	0:46	\$8,450	87/85	575/574	89.3	8	75
HANOVER	13,853	\$429,450	\$393,750	\$290,000	9%	48%	10.89	5,009	\$73,838	37.5	15.72	881	12.89	24.1	n/a	\$7,332	89/81	525/528	90	18	222
HANSON	9,898	\$356,250	\$322,250	\$203,000	11%	75%	9.9	3,392	\$62,687	36.1	15.68	631	13.62	25.6	0:40	\$7,225	66/65	510/517	82.8	70	103
HARVARD	6,083	\$596,000	\$585,000	\$418,000	2%	43%	10.89	6,862	\$107,934	40.6	26.97	226	21.31	33	n/a	\$7,532	99/95	595/600	97.9	10	41
HAVERHILL	60,482	\$314,000	\$298,500	\$184,900	5%	70%	10.54	3,141	\$49,833	35.5	35.64	1,697	3.72	37.3	1:04	\$7,393	57/41	498/494	79.2	299	1,499
HINGHAM	21,198	\$655,000	\$610,500	\$368,250	7%	78%	9.2	5,993	\$83,018	40.4	25.04	847	28.94	15.1	n/a	\$7,546	88/86	573/585	88.1	14	386
HOLBROOK	10,832	\$317,750	\$298,000	\$166,000	7%	91%	11.48	3,488	\$54,419	38.4	7.4	1,464	8.78	16.1	0:32	\$7,198	51/47	495/482	66.1	24	224
HOLLISTON	13,919	\$435,000	\$408,400	\$269,900	7%	61%	14.16	5,548	\$78,092	38.2	19.04	731	18.2	26.8	n/a	\$7,938	84/91	547/571	90.9	19	46
HOPKINTON	14,031	\$549,000	\$501,531	\$348,000	9%	58%	12.47	6,440	\$89,281	36.2	28.17	498									