



CHICOPEE

Chicopee is among the first planned industrial communities in the United States. A group of wealthy merchants established the Chicopee Mills, which were so profitable that the investors built an elaborate complex of mills, housing and canals. These factory complexes evolved into the City of Holyoke. While many of the historic mills and industries are now gone, many 19th century churches, as well as the home of Edward Bellamy, the famous visionary who wrote the influential novel Looking Backward, have been maintained.

Today, Chicopee is a thriving commercial, residential and industrial center. It is located at the “Crossroads of New England,” the intersection of Interstate 91 and the Massachusetts Turnpike.

It is home to the Westover Industrial Airparks, developed through a partnership with the Department of Defense following the deactivation of Westover Air Force Base. The Westover Metropolitan Airport, adjacent to the industrial parks, offers private passenger and cargo service, including full customs clearance. Westover is also home to an active Air Force Reserve Base. It is estimated that the Air Reserve Base, now one of the home bases for the Galaxy C-5A cargo planes, contributed \$179 million in FY05 to the region’s economy. The base is home to the 439th Airlift Wing unit, which carries out airlifts in support of humanitarian and military missions. Chicopee is also headquarters for Spalding Sports Worldwide and home to one of the largest printing plants of Wall Street Journal (Dow Jones & Co.) publisher.

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Profiles covering all forty-three communities in the Pioneer Valley Region and a range of other topics are available. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Regional Information Center provides demographic, economic, and geographic data and services including mapping, research, and analysis to its constituent communities and to the public. Contact the Information Center for additional information.

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Type of Government:
 Mayor, Board of Alderman

Transit System:

Public Carrier Pioneer Valley Transit Authority

Private Carrier Peter Pan Bus Lines (at Exit 6, Burnett Road)

Para-Transit Carrier Sunshine Village, Vally Opportunity Council, Council on Aging, PVTa

MUNICIPAL OFFICE

City Hall
 17 Springfield Street
 Chicopee, MA 01013
 Phone: (413) 594-4711
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LAND AREA and TAX BASE

Acres	15,260
Square Miles	24
2012	
Vehicle Registrations <i>(autos and light trucks)</i>	48,045
2015	
Property Tax Rates	
Residential	\$17.54
Commercial/Industrial	\$31.67

POPULATION TRENDS

1970	66,676
2014	55,112
1990	56,650
2000	54,735
2010	55,298
2014	55,603

2014	Race and Latino Population	
White		86.0%
Black		3.2%
Asian		1.4%
Other		9.4%
Latino (of any race)		16.7%

Note: Race %s can be greater than 100% because of multiple race persons.

Percent of Population by Age

Age	1990	2000	2010
0 - 4	6.3	5.5	5.6
5 - 9	6.4	6.5	5.4
10 - 14	5.9	6.4	5.7
15 - 19	6.5	6.8	7.0
20 - 24	7.5	5.9	6.9
25 - 34	17.2	13.2	13.4
35 - 44	13.6	15.6	12.2
45 - 54	9.4	13.3	14.8
55 - 59	4.6	5.1	6.9
60 - 64	5.5	4.1	6.0
65 - 74	10.7	8.5	7.7
75 & over	6.6	9.1	8.3

LAND USE 2005

Total Square Miles	24
Total Road Miles	2009 260

Land Use	Acres
Residential	4,849
Commercial	716
Industrial	535
Urban Open/Public	1,113
Transportation	2,446
Outdoor Recreational	368
Agricultural Land	149
Undeveloped Land	4,384
Water	684

RECREATION AREAS

PARKS: Ash Park, Chicopee State Park, Fairview Park, Garrity Grove Park, Lincoln Grove Park, Nash Park, Szot Park.

GOLF COURSES: Chicopee Country Club, Oxford Country Club.

OTHER: Orecon Sportsmen Club, Chicopee Sports Club.

SPECIAL: Bellamy Homestead

Data Sources: Massachusetts Department of Revenue; Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor & Workforce Development; Massachusetts Department of Education; United States Census Bureau; The Warren Group; Resource Mapping; University of Massachusetts; Applied Geographic Solutions; Local Municipal Offices

EMPLOYERS and EMPLOYMENT

2014

Industry	Number	Percent of Community Total
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries	0	0.0%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	2,113	11.2%
Construction	1,281	6.8%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	576	3.1%
Health Care and Social Assistance	2,273	12.0%
Information	403	2.1%
Manufacturing	2,778	14.7%
Services	4,652	24.7%
Transportation, Comm. & Utilities	1,084	5.7%
Wholesale and Retail Trade	3,685	19.5%
<i>Note: Above does not include self-employed, where many work in the agriculture, construction and service industries.</i>		
Average Weekly Wage	\$821	
Self-employed (includes all business types)	1427	

WHERE RESIDENTS WORK 2014

29.1%	work in Chicopee
70.9%	commute out of Chicopee

HOUSING PRICES

Year	Number of Sales	Median Sales Price
2010	558	\$155,000
2011	460	\$140,000
2012	541	\$137,000
2013	482	\$154,000
2014	529	\$157,000

EDUCATION

*Educational Attainment of Persons 25 Years and Older **

2013

Less than 12 years	17.0%
4 years High School	37.7%
Less than 4 years College	27.7%
4 or more years College	17.6%

**Expressed as the highest level attained.*

District	Grades	Integrated Per Pupil Cost 2013
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Chicopee PK-12 \$13,193

Colleges: College of Our Lady of the Elms

RESIDENTS IN THE LABOR FORCE

Year	Labor Force	Percent Unemployed
2004	27,828	6.3%
2005	27,708	5.8%
2006	27,802	5.9%
2007	27,561	5.7%
2008	28,088	6.4%
2009	28,284	9.8%
2010	28,295	10.2%
2011	27,138	9.3%
2012	27,136	8.5%
2013	27,207	8.6%
2014	27,521	7.5%

HOUSEHOLD INCOME 2010-2014

\$0 - \$9,999	6.2%
\$10,000 - \$14,999	6.8%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	12.2%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	11.4%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	16.0%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	18.7%
\$75,000 & over	28.7%

Median Household Income: 2010-14 \$47,276

Persons Below Poverty Level: 2010-2014 12.9%