



Pioneer Valley Region

The Pioneer Valley Region is comprised of Hampden and Hampshire Counties and is located in the Midwestern section of Massachusetts. In 2014, it was home to 626,775 residents and the fourth largest metropolitan area in New England. The region covers approximately 1,200 square miles, roughly equal to the size of the State of Rhode Island. There are 8 cities with a mayoral form of government and 35 towns, governed by Town Meeting.

The area is unique within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Pioneer Valley Region offers a diverse economic base, internationally known educational institutions, and unparalleled scenic beauty. The Connecticut River, its fertile agricultural valley, and the foothills of the Berkshire Mountains are but some of the region's premier natural resources. Choices in lifestyles range from contemporary downtown living to stately historic homes, characteristic suburban neighborhoods, and rural living in very small communities.

Springfield, the third largest city in Massachusetts, is the region's cultural and economic center. The city of Holyoke was the first planned industrial community in the nation. The region has the headquarters or major plants of international companies including Hasbro, Solutia, Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, Smith & Wesson, and Callaway Golf. Often referred to as the "Crossroads of New England," the Pioneer Valley region is located at the interchange of the Massachusetts Turnpike and Interstate 91. Air travel is provided by Bradley International Airport in Connecticut, a 30 minute, non-congested drive from Springfield.

Significant tourist attractions include the Basketball Hall of Fame, the Volleyball Hall of Fame, Mt. Tom State Park, the Eastern States Exposition, the largest agricultural fair in New England, and the picturesque college communities of Northampton and Amherst.

REGIONAL OFFICE

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
 60 Congress Street - Floor 1
 Springfield, Massachusetts 01104-3419
 Telephone: (413) 781-6045

LAND AREA and TAX BASE

Acres	754,378
Square Miles	1,179

Hampden County, Hampshire County, 43 Municipalities

Transit System

Public Carrier: Pioneer Valley Transit Authority

Private Carrier: Bonanza Bus Lines, Greyhound, Peter Pan Bus Lines and Vermont Bus Lines

Para-Transit Carrier Community Council on Aging and Private Agencies, PVTa, Franklin Regional Transit Authority

POPULATION TRENDS

1970	583,031
1980	581,831
1990	602,878
2000	608,479
2010	621,570
2014	626,775

2014 Race and Latino Population	
White	81.0%
Black	7.1%
Asian	2.8%
Other	9.0%
Latino (of any race)	17.7%

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

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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Percent of Population by Age

Age	1990	2000	2010
0 - 4	6.9	6.0	5.5
5 - 9	6.8	6.9	5.9
10 - 14	6.2	7.2	6.4
15 - 19	8.1	8.2	8.7
20 - 24	9.4	7.7	8.9
25 - 34	16.4	12.4	11.3
35 - 44	14.5	15.5	12.2
45 - 54	9.3	13.7	14.9
55 - 59	4.0	4.7	6.8
60 - 64	4.3	3.5	5.7
65 - 74	8.1	6.7	6.8
75 & over	5.9	7.2	7.0

LAND USE 2005

Total Square Miles	1,179
Total Road Miles	2009 4,365

Land Use	Acres
Residential	80,056
Commercial	7,127
Industrial	6,655
Urban Open/Public	9,762
Transportation	7,205
Outdoor Recreational	8,039
Agricultural Land	52,406
Undeveloped Land	513,633
Water	22,343

RECREATION AREAS

AIRPORTS: Westfield-Barnes Airport; Northampton Airport; Palmer Airport, Palmer; Westover Metropolitan and Westover Air Reserve Base, Chicopee

RAIL SERVICE: Amtrak Stations: Springfield and Amherst; Short Line Freight: Class One, CSX; Regional; Guilford Rail System; New England Central.

PRIMARY INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS: Massachusetts Turnpike / I-90 (east-west); and Interstate 91 (north-south)

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; Appl

EMPLOYERS and EMPLOYMENT

2014

Industry	Number	Percent of Community Total
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries	665	0.3%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	18,718	7.4%
Construction	9,924	3.9%
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	12,490	4.9%
Health Care and Social Assistance	58,888	23.2%
Information	3,709	1.5%
Manufacturing	21,618	8.5%
Services	79,621	31.4%
Transportation, Comm. & Utilities	11,319	4.5%
Wholesale and Retail Trade	37,693	14.8%

Note: Above does not include self-employed, where many work in the agriculture, construction and service industries.

Average Weekly Wage \$880

Self-employed (includes all business types) 22,709

WHERE RESIDENTS WORK 2014

75.1%	work in Pioneer Valley Region
24.9%	commute out of Pioneer Valley Region

RESIDENTS IN THE LABOR FORCE

Year	Labor Force	Percent Unemployed
2005	311,904	5.3%
2006	313,767	5.3%
2007	312,690	5.0%
2008	314,511	5.8%
2009	314,920	8.7%
2010	315,964	9.3%
2011	303,990	8.5%
2012	304,338	7.9%
2013	305,451	8.2%

HOUSING PRICES

Year	Number of Sales	Median Sales Price
2010	6,623	\$185,060
2011	5,985	\$166,669
2012	6,576	\$168,673
2013	6,372	\$169,892
2014	6,496	\$184,162

HOUSEHOLD INCOME 2010-2014

\$0 - \$9,999	7.9%
\$10,000 - \$14,999	7.1%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	11.2%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	9.7%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	12.1%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	16.6%
\$75,000 & over	35.5%

Median Household Income: 2014 \$52,108

Persons Below Poverty Level: 2010-2014 16.6%

EDUCATION

*Educational Attainment of Persons 25 Years and Older **

2013	
Less than 12 years	12.3%
4 years High School	28.9%
Less than 4 years College	26.9%
4 or more years College	32.0%

**Expressed as the highest level attained.*

American International College, Amherst College, Bay Path College, Elms College, Hampshire College, Holyoke Community College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College, Springfield College, Springfield Technical Community College, University of Massachusetts, Western New England College, Westfield State University.