

AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

DEMOGRAPHICS

PROVIDED BY THE AMHERST PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The Town of Amherst, located in the Pioneer Valley of Western Massachusetts, is a diverse community offering numerous educational and cultural opportunities. Host to Amherst College, Hampshire College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, the Town enjoys a tradition of open professional government, a high level of government services, quality education, support for open space and agriculture and respect for its history.

Founded: 1759 County: Hampshire Land Area: 27.7 sq.mi. Elevation: 312 feet Miles of Road: 132.8

POPULATION

TOTAL POPULATION*		
Year	Total	% Change
1960	13,718	26.36
1970	26,331	91.94
1980	33,229	26.20
1990	35,228	6.02
2000	34,874	-1.00

ETHNICITY OF AMHERST (2000)*

Race	Percent
White	79.3
Black	5.1
Am.Ind./Alaskan Native	0.2
Asian & Pacific Islander	9.1
Other	2.9
Two or More Races	3.3
Subtotal minority pop	20.7
Total	100.0

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX (2000)*

Years	Female	Male	Total	Percent
0-9	1,078	1,123	2,201	6.31
10-19	4,759	4,177	8,936	25.62
20-29	6,117	6,539	12,656	36.29
30-39	1,366	1,241	2,607	7.47
40-49	1,729	1,389	3,118	8.94
50-59	1,276	1,098	2,374	6.80
60-69	674	584	1,258	3.61
70-79	626	397	1,023	2.93
80+	485	216	701	2.01
Total	18,110	16,764	34,874	100.00

COLLEGE POPULATION

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
UMass	6,495	20,462	24,737	24,474	23,570
Amherst College	1,015	1,233	1,577	1,541	1,694
Hampshire College	N/A	N/A	1,211	1,250	1,139

Source: Amherst College, Public Affairs Office; Hampshire College, Student Affairs Office; UMass, Office of Institutional Research and Planning

*Source: US Census

HOUSING & INCOME

MEAN ASSESSED HOME VALUE

Year	Amherst	County*
2000	\$180,600	\$143,370
2004	\$236,000	NA

Source: Amherst Assessors Office

PER CAPITA INCOME*

Year	Amherst	County
1960	N/A	N/A
1970	\$3,513	\$3,003
1980	\$5,188	\$6,411
1990	\$11,144	\$15,652
2000	\$17,427	\$21,685

MEDIAN RENT (2000)*

Amherst	County
\$687	\$631

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS BY PERSON PER HOUSEHOLD (2000)*

1 person	2,620
2 persons	2,875
3 persons	1,596
4 persons	1,439
5 persons or more	644

PERSONS IN OCCUPIED UNITS (2000)*

Owner Occupied	10,819
Renter Occupied	11,632
Group Housing	12,423
Total Persons	34,874

MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME*

Year	Amherst	County
1960	\$6,198	\$5,969
1970	\$11,608	\$10,511
1980	\$20,975	\$20,230
1990	\$40,131	\$41,890
2000	\$61,237	\$57,480

*Source: US Census

EDUCATION

AMHERST PUBLIC SCHOOLS AGGREGATED ENROLLMENT (2000)

K-6	1,526
Middle school, grades 7-8	688
High school, grades 9-12	1,356
Total Enrollment	3,570

Source: Amherst Public Schools

ADULT EDUCATION LEVEL (2000)*

	Percent
Less than 9 th grade	1.8
High school, no diploma	3.1
High school graduates (includes GED)	9.4
Some college, no degree	11.4
Associate degree	5.5
Bachelor's degree	27.0
Graduate or Professional Degree	41.7
Population 25 years+	100.0

*Source: US Census

ECONOMY

LARGEST EMPLOYERS (2004)

University of Massachusetts	>7,000
Amherst School District	814
Amherst College	750
Town of Amherst	560
Hampshire College	450
Valley Medical	222
Center for Extended Care	170
Atkins Country Farm Market	150
Big Y Supermarket	140
Amherst Post Offices	75
Judie's	60

Source: Planning Department Survey

EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY (2000)*

Sector	Percent
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, mining	0.4
Construction	1.1
Manufacturing	3.6
Transportation, warehousing, utilities	1.6
Information	3.6
Wholesale Trade	0.9
Retail Trade	8.0
Finance, insurance, real estate	3.1
Professional, scientific, management, administrative	7.2
Educational, health, social services	51.9
Arts, entertainment, rec., accommodation, food service	12.0
Other services (except public administration)	4.5
Public administration	2.2
Total	100.0

*Source: US Census

WEATHER & SUCH

WEATHER SNAPSHOT*

	Amherst Avg.	National Avg.
Days of Sunshine	188	216
Days of Precipitation	133	107
Annual snowfall (inches)	63.0	22.4
Relative Humidity	57.0%	52.8%
High temp. in July (F°)	83	87
Low temp. in January (F°)	13	27

AMHERST OPEN SPACE

	# of Areas	Acres
Conservation Land (1990)	41	1,271
Conservation Restrictions (1990)	10	138
Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APR) (2000)	32	1,841
Total	83	3,250

Source: Amherst Conservation Commission

AVERAGE MONTHLY TEMPERATURE 1989-2001 (F°)

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
26.5	28.7	37.2	48.1	59.3	68.6	72.4	71.0	62.6	51.6	40.4	30.1

Records kept by Virginia White, Amherst College

*Source: US Census

TOWN OF AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN MANAGER

4 Boltwood Avenue
Amherst, MA 01002
413-256-4004
townmanager@amherstma.gov

TOWN CLERK

4 Boltwood Avenue
Amherst, MA 01002
413-256-4035
townclerk@amherstma.gov

AMHERST REGIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

170 Chestnut Street
Amherst, MA 01002
413-362-1810
hochmanj@arps.org

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

4 Boltwood Avenue
Amherst, MA 01002
413-256-4040
planning@amherstma.gov