BOSTON BY THE NUMBERS
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Enrollment, Employment and Economic Impact

- Boston is the location for 35 colleges, universities, and community colleges.¹
- There are about 152,000 students at Boston’s institutions of higher learning.
  - While Boston comprises 10% of the state’s total population, it has 34% of the state’s total college enrollment.
- Student enrollment has grown from about 127,000 in 1990 to about 152,000 in 2010 although some of this is due to more part-time and non-degree students.

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Student Enrollment in Boston, 1989 - 2010

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- Boston’s colleges, universities, and community colleges employ over 42,600 people.
  - This is a 6.5% share of the city’s jobs, up from 5.4% in 2000.
- Employment in Boston’s institutions of higher learning grew over 12.1% since 2001.
- Boston’s colleges and universities support a total of 68,400 jobs in the city when also including the indirect and induced effects totaling 82,360 jobs state-wide. The total contribution to the Gross City Product is $4.9 billion and the effect is even larger, $6.2 billion, for the Gross State Product.
  - Student and student visitors spend approximately $1.7 billion annually in Boston.

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¹. A college or university in Boston for this report is a place of higher education for students who are pursuing an associate’s degree or higher. Such institutions have to be an accredited, degree-granting, profit, non-profit, or public entity that has academic facilities either wholly or partly located in Boston. As a result, trade, vocational and technical schools are excluded from the list.
Boston University is the largest university with close to 33,000 students in 2010.

**Ten Top Colleges by Student Enrollment, Fall 2010**

1. Boston University .................................................. 32,727
2. Northeastern University ........................................ 21,475
3. University of Massachusetts at Boston* .................. 15,454
4. Boston College .......................................................... 14,015
5. Bunker Hill Community College* ............................... 11,009
6. Suffolk University ....................................................... 9,397
7. Simmons College ...................................................... 4,839
8. Emerson College ....................................................... 4,207
9. Berklee College of Music ........................................... 4,286
10. Wentworth Institute of Technology ........................... 3,846

Source: University Accountability Ordinance, Fall 2010.

*UMass Boston and Bunker Hill Community College for Fall 2009 from Massachusetts Department of Higher Education.

Campus Buildings and Dormitories

— During 2007-2010 eleven large non-residential higher-education projects were completed with a total of 655,400 square feet of building space.
— Currently three projects with 721,200 square feet of building area are in construction.
— Four projects with 153,000 square feet of building are approved.
— Since 2000 Boston has added 29 dormitories and nearly 11,000 dormitory beds, an increase of 39%.
— Since 2009, six dormitories were built in Boston with over 3,100 beds.
— There are currently plans for another 2,200 beds in four dormitories within the city.
— Boston’s colleges and universities house over 37,000 students in on-campus housing facilities.