# ${f B}$ OSTON Still #1 College City in U.S.

# **Enrollment in Boston's Colleges and Universities** from 1990-2000



THOMAS M. MENINO, MAYOR CITY OF BOSTON

Boston Redevelopment Authority Mark Maloney, *Director* 

Clarence J. Jones, Chairman Consuelo G. Thornell, Treasurer Joseph W. Nigro, Jr., Co-Vice Chairman Michael Taylor, Co-Vice Chairman Christopher J. Supple, Member Harry R. Collings, Secretary

Report prepared by Herbert H. Butler Dominic Modicamore Policy Development and Research Robert W. Consalvo, Director

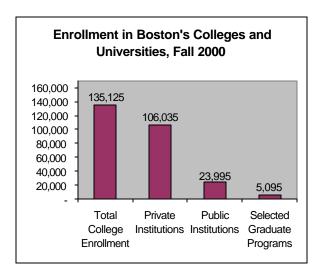
Report #560 October 2002

## **Boston Still #1 College City in U.S.**

### **Enrollment in Boston's Colleges and Universities from 1990-2000**

#### Boston a college capital.

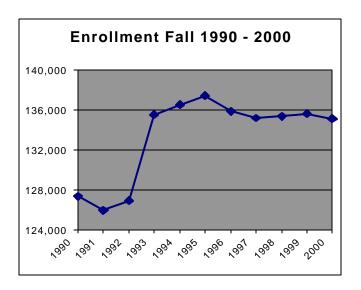
Boston has long held the reputation of being one of the world's leading intellectual centers. There are 36 colleges and universities within the city of Boston - 4 public and 32 private, (2 of which are specific graduate programs of private universities whose campuses are primarily located in neighboring communities.) There were a total of 135,125 students enrolled in the fall of 2000 (the latest date for which complete data are available,) with 106,035 students in the private colleges and universities, 23,995 in the public institutions, and 5,095 in the selected graduate schools of Harvard and Tufts Universities.



Boston's concentration of college students ranks among the top in the nation and the world. When compared with other major metropolitan areas, Boston's per capita student enrollment places the city 1<sup>st</sup> in the U.S. according to a 1999 study by the Atlanta regional consortium of higher education and 2<sup>nd</sup> in North America to Montreal according to research done by Montreal's McGill University in 2000.

#### Recent enrollment history.

Total enrollment in the city's colleges and universities has remained fairly stable at more than 135,000 students in the 5 years between 1996 and 2000. In 2000, however, there was a slight decline of 493 students from 1999 because Massachusetts Communications College, with its 579 students, and Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine, with its 80 first year students, moved out of the city.



Overall, in the decade of the 90s, college student enrollment in Boston increased substantially, following a decline at the beginning of the decade. As of the fall of 2000, there were 7,714 more students attending Boston's colleges and universities than in 1990. The city saw its greatest influx of students in 1993, when enrollment jumped by 8,571 (from 126,939 to 135,510) over the previous year. Enrollment continued to increase until it peaked in 1995 at 137,418. Since then, it has dropped by 2,293 to its 2000 level of 135,125.

#### Public higher education enrollment.

The 4 public institutions in Boston gained 2,996 students from 1990 to 2000. Massachusetts College of Art is mostly responsible for this growth, nearly doubling its enrollment. University of Massachusetts at Boston was the only public institution not to see an increase over this period. Total enrollment of the four public institutions in Boston reached 23,995 students in 2000, a gain of 1,453 students since 1996, but down from its peak of 25,210 in 1999. These four schools, which accounted for 17.7% of the city's total enrollment in 2000, all saw an decrease in students over 1999 with the exception of Bunker Hill Community College which remained the same. Roxbury Community College recorded the largest numerical decrease between 1999 and 2000 among both public and private institutions, losing 731 students. During that same period, The University of Massachusetts at Boston experienced the second largest decrease in enrollment, losing 441 students, a 3.4% decrease.

#### Private higher education enrollment.

The city's private colleges and universities (excluding the two graduate programs of universities located outside of the city) made up 78% of the total enrollment in 2000. From 1996-2000 private institution enrollment decreased by over 2000 students. Boston's private colleges and universities had a total of 106,035 students in the fall of 2000. These private institutions gained 735 students from 1999 to 2000, despite the loss of Massachusetts Communications College Brookline and Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine's first year students to North Grafton. The increase of student enrollment in 2000 was the first gain for private institutions since 1995.

Between 1999 and 2000, 16 of the 30 private institutions experienced an increase in students; 12

decreased their enrollment. However, these decreases, with the exception of New England College of Finance's decrease of 292 students, were minimal. Suffolk University recorded the largest numerical increase in 2000, leaving the university with a student population of 6,958, up 501 from the previous year. Berklee School of Music was second with 409 students gained in 2000. Boston University still maintains the city's largest student population with 28.318 students enrolled. Northeastern University has the second largest enrollment with 26,105 followed by Boston College in a distant third with 14,419 students. Of these three universities, Northeastern was the only college or university that gained students from 1999, with 165 more students enrolled. Boston University and Boston College lost 439 students combined during this period.

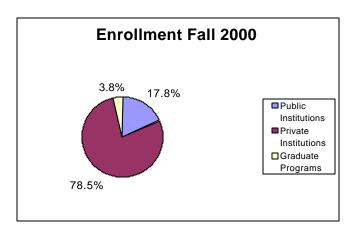
Over the previous decade, the city's private colleges and universities generally led the way in expansion of enrollment growing by 4,123 students from 1990 to 2000. Enrollment for private institutions decreased from 1998 to 1999 by 1,704 and then rose 735 in 2000. Only once in the past decade, in 1993, did enrollment shift significantly upward. The dramatic rise in enrollment from 1992 to 1993 (6,977 students) was largely the result of increases made by these private institutions. From 1990 to 2000, Boston University had the largest rise in enrollment with 3,589 more students. During that same period, Emerson College increased its enrollment by 1,723 students (73%), Suffolk University increased its student body by 1,225 students (21%), and The School of the Museum of Fine Arts added 1.012 students, an increase of 136%. University, which has deliberately made the effort to downsize, lost 4,410 students from 1990 to 2000, a 14% decrease. Wentworth Institute of Technology experienced the next largest decrease with 728 students (19%) lost.

-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Boston Bible College East's enrollment figure of 106 students was first made available in the year 2000 despite its presence in Boston since 1981.

#### Other graduate school enrollment.

Selected graduate schools of Tufts and Harvard Universities are located in Boston, and they accounted for about 4% of the city's students in 2000. Enrollment increased by 317 from 1996-2000 for these graduate schools, which include Harvard's Schools of Business, Medicine, Dentistry, and Public Health along with Tufts' Sackler School of Biomedical Sciences, Medical. Dental, and Veterinary Schools. From 1998-1999 enrollment at these graduate schools rose by 292 students to a grand total of 5,108, their highest enrollment ever. There were 5,095 students at these graduate schools in 2000. Harvard University's graduate schools accounted for almost all of the growth, gaining 590 of the 595 students added to all these graduate schools between 1990 and 2000.2



The schools combined had an operating budget of \$3.1 billion, making higher education one of the city's leading industries. Higher education is also one of the city's top employers, with over 24,000 total payroll employees in 2000 earning over \$1.32 billion in salary and wages.<sup>3</sup>

#### Impact on quality of life.

Boston's renowned academic institutions attract thousands of students each year. But the numberswhether student enrollment or the economic impacts these students generate while in schoolwhile impressive, don't begin to capture the total impact and long-term effects on the city. addition to the flow of ideas, the lectures, concerts, plays and collegiate sporting events that are generated by these colleges and universities, there are the people who are attracted by them. As Fortune magazine reported recently, in citing Boston as one of the top ten cities in the United States for business, "Bright people from all over the world show up and go to school. Then they like the area so much, they never leave." That phenomenon – more than any quantitative measure - produces the extremely high quality of life that people who live in Boston are so fortunate to enjoy.

#### Economic impact of higher education.

These higher education institutions and their students have a profound effect upon the Boston economy. Together they produced a \$4.8 billion economic impact - \$3.8 billion in direct and \$951 million in indirect spending. Student spending alone contributed \$773 million to the economy.

.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine moved permanently to North Grafton, MA in the Spring of 2000. Therefore, the first year students who attended the Boston campus were no longer counted in the 2000 enrollment for Tufts University Graduate Programs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Source: Massachusetts Division of Employment and Training. The numbers pertain only to payroll employees.

A Decade of Enrollmo	ent in Bos	ton's 36	Colleges	and Unive	ersities: F	all 1990 -	Fall 2000	)				
College/University	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
Public Conege/Oniversity	1990	1991	1992	1993	1334	1995	1990	1991	1990	1333	2000	
Bunker Hill Community College	5,609	5,546	6,120	6,002	6,250	6,304	5,695	5,886	6,417	6,386	6,386	
Massachusetts College of Art	1,224	1,244	1,227	1,895	2.145	2.129	2,222	2,290	2,312	2,371	2.328	
Roxbury Community College	1,688	1.808	2.040	2.641	3.191	2,794	2.889	2,265	2,334	3,530	2,799	
University of Massachusetts at Boston	12,478	11,606	11,775	12,136	13,340	12,680	11,736	11,843	12,499	12,923	12,482	
Total Public	20,999	20,204	21,162	22,674	24,926	23,907	22,542	22,284	23,562	25,210	23,995	
Private	20,000	_0,_0 :	,,	,	,0_0	20,00.	,0	,			20,000	
The Art Institute of Boston	473	366	440	548	388	653	451	473	477	500	514	
Baptist Bible College East	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	^106	
Bay State College	849	826	718	676	674	708	752	762	678	613	607	
Berklee College of Music	2,734	2,663	2,555	2,553	2,686	2,757	2,868	2,933	2,953	2,953	3,362	
Boston Architectural Center	900	835	770	782	713	751	786	1,167	911	673	674	
Boston College	14.515	14,557	14,455	14.440	14.698	14.695	14,830	14,652	14.701	14.689	14.419	
The Boston Conservatory	326	322	387	434	414	482	482	486	499	499	492	
Boston University	24,729	24,831	25,320	29,472	29,828	30,431	30,035	29,387	29,131	28,487	28,318	
Emerson College	2,351	2,612	2,776	3,256	3,406	3,772	3,930	3,885	3,865	3,865	4,074	
Emmanuel College	1,205	1,170	1,370	1,471	1,528	1,599	1,564	1,596	1,570	1,580	1,524	
Fisher College	2,084	2,252	2,810	3,011	3,151	3,030	2,941	2,538	2,336	1,577	1,513	
Forsyth School for Dental Hygenists	119	100	119	115	94	107	121	138	174	126	125	
Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology	413	359	363	266	313	282	270	274	276	335	327	
Katherine Gibbs	439	739	600	350	415	415	416	451	451	551	896	
Laboure College	444	596	624	657	549	509	403	420	330	290	286	
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Allied Health	1,056	1,080	1,321	1,436	1,467	1,485	1,513	1,666	1,662	1,783	1,886	
Massachusetts Communications College*	-	-	-	-	-	-,1.00	-	440	540	579	-	
Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology	166	157	158	161	173	152	157	155	171	167	175	
MGH Institute of Health Professions	345	306	327	422	534	535	510	530	530	410	525	
The New England College of Finance**	1,373	1,466	1,520	1,566	1,748	1,744	1,722	1,544	1,285	1,036	744	
New England College of Optometry	396	396	406	400	410	423	416	414	414	430	416	
New England Conservatory of Music	742	744	753	745	769	761	799	814	792	768	794	
New England School of Law	1,190	1,154	1,121	1,120	1,100	1,097	968	998	998	961	966	
Northeastern University	30,515	28,882	27,619	29,712	28,154	27,539	26,999	26,869	26,290	25,940	26,105	
Saint John's Seminary	140	145	140	140	141	134	125	140	114	116	152	
School of the Museum of Fine Arts	744	858	685	680	702	771	1,105	1,133	1,633	1,633	1,756	
Simmons College	2,819	2,946	3,079	3,334	3,188	3,614	3,740	3,480	3,401	3,193	3,341	
Suffolk University	5,733	5,857	6,063	6,078	5,509	6,171	6,401	6,401	6,445	6,457	6,958	
Urban College of Boston	-		-		-	-			389	504	586	
Wentworth Institute of Technology	3,904	3,617	3,299	2,961	2,799	2,783	2,859	3,094	3,076	3,225		
Wheelock College	1,208	1,278	1,323	1,312	1,288	1,497	1,369	1,308	1,301	1,360	1,218	
Total Private	101,912	101,114	101,121	108,098	106,839	108,897	108,532	108,148	107,004	105,300	106,035	
Other Private Graduate Programs												
Harvard University Graduate Programs***	3,000	3,183	3,139	3,219	3,275	3,087	3,197	3,188	3,240	3,511	3,590	
Tufts University Graduate Programs****	1,500	1,485	1,517	1,519	1,472	1,527	1,581	1,569	1,576	1,597		
Total Other Private Graduate	4,500	4,668	4,656	4,738	4,747	4,614	4,778	4,757	4,816	5,108	5,095	
Total College Enrollment in Boston	127,411	125,986	126,939	135,510	136,512	137,418	135,852	135,189	135,382	135,618	135,125	
*Manual de Danaldina in 2000 and Channal Name de Name E. J. 11. 12. 1. 1.	d d O	:4: 4b /	45 - 1- 0000		a ta ali i da d							
*Moved to Brookline in 2000 and Changed Name to New England Institute of A	n and Commun	ications, theref	ore theif 2000 6	enronment is no	n mciuaea.							
**Name changed from New England Banking Institute in 1996	Hoolth provide	l by Hongord I I	ivoroity (ov	t 1000 - ootin t-	ad by the DDA\							
***Information for Harvard Schools of Business, Dentistry, Medicine, and Public ****Information for Tufts Veterinary, Dental, Medical schools and the Sackler Sc	nealth provided	uy marvard Ur te Biomedical S	iiversity (except	เ าฮฮบ, estimate ed by Tufts Univ	versity (excent	1990. estimated	I by the BRA\					
^First Year Available												
^2000 enrollment for Tufts University Graduate Programs does not include en	rollment for Tuff	s School of Ve	terinary Medicir	ne due to its pe	rmanent move	to the North Gra	fton, MA camp	us following the	1999-2000 aca	ademic year.		
SOURCE: "Connection: Facts 2002," by The New England Board of Higher Ed		000 data unless	otherwise note	ed.								
The preceding editions were used for all previous year's data unless otherwise	noted.											
Enrollment figures are for all undertgraduate and graduate programs.												