

DRAFT FOR REVIEW

Designing Dedham



Town of Dedham Master Plan

Designing Dedham 2030

December 2021

Draft for Review



Designing Dedham



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Designing Dedham



Town of Dedham
Master Plan



Chapter Introduction

The Master Plan introduction provides a basic foundation of information for the document including defining the background and context of master planning in Dedham, summarizing the extensive community-based process to develop the Master Plan, providing data and characteristics that define Dedham today, summarizing themes of community feedback and input, and summarizing the context of recently completed planning documents that relate to the Master Plan. This introduction sets the stage for the Vision for Dedham's future articulated in the next chapter and the following chapters that provide specific goals and strategies to advance that vision in eight interconnected topics of the Master Plan.

Designing Dedham 2030

Introduction

What is a Master Plan?

A Master Plan is defined by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts General Laws (MGL) Chapter 41 Section 81D. It provides that the Town Planning Board shall make a Master Plan of the Town, and from time to time may extend or perfect that plan. The statute establishes the topics to be included in a Master Plan and provides that it should be “designed to provide a basis for decision-making regarding the long-term physical development of the municipality.”

The Town of Dedham has further defined Master Plan processes through its Town Bylaws. Chapter 65 “Master Plan” in the Bylaw states that the Planning Board shall review, revise and update the Master Plan on an interim basis at least once every five years and undertake a comprehensive review of the Master Plan and prepare revisions and updates at least once every 10 years.

Dedham has developed Master Plans in 1996 and 2009. After adoption of the 2009 Master Plan, a Master Plan Implementation Committee (MPIC) was formed and met regularly to monitor and support implementation of the plan. In 2017, the MPIC published a “Master Plan Update” to summarize Dedham’s progress in implementing the 2009 Master Plan and focus attention on outstanding and emerging issues.

The Master Plan is comprehensive in that it applies to the entirety of the Town of Dedham. The full town is seen on the map on the following page which depicts the neighborhood geography.

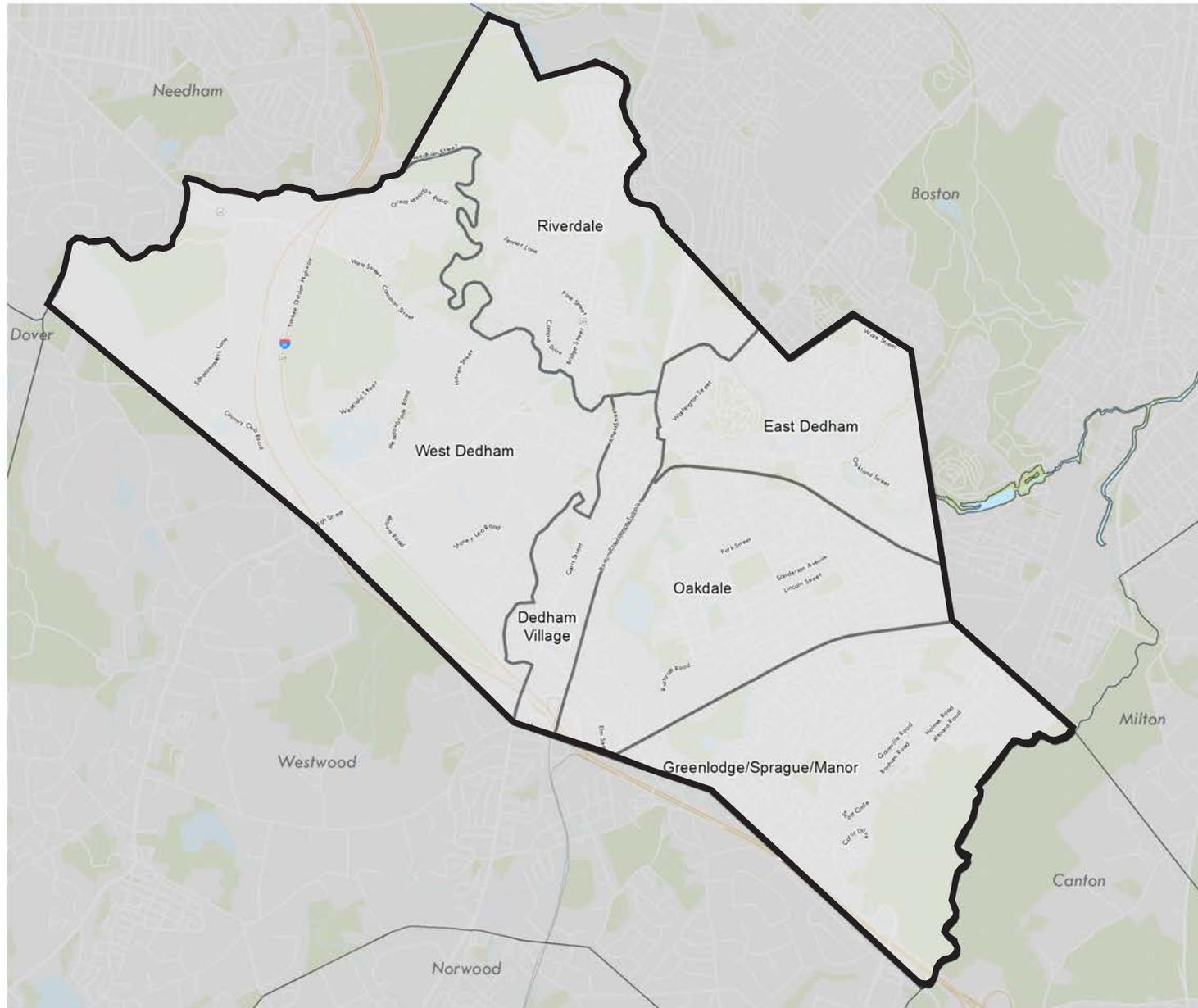
The Master Plan, including its goals and strategies, is broken into eight topics. In this document one topic is covered in each chapter. The eight topics include:

-  **Public Health and Livability**
-  **Land Use and Zoning**
-  **Economic Development**
-  **Housing**
-  **Natural, Cultural, Historic Resources**
-  **Transportation**
-  **Community Facilities and Services**
-  **Governance**

The Master Plan preparation process took about two years, and is summarized on the pages following the Town map. Overall characteristics of the Town and a summary of community feedback are also provided in this introduction.

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Introduction



Neighborhoods

- Neighborhoods
- Rivers and Streams
- Water
- Open Space
- Dedham

Note: It is difficult to define specifically where one neighborhood begins and another ends. The distinct neighborhood boundaries shown on the map were identified formally in the 1996 Master Plan and have been used in subsequent studies such as the 2019 Housing Study. The boundaries are based on US Census Block Groups derived from population density.

0 0.225 0.45 0.9 Miles

Data Sources:
 Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)
 Massachusetts Geographic Information System (MassGIS)
 Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)
 February 2020

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Master Plan Process

The community-centered Master Plan process occurred over about a 2-year period primarily in 2020 and 2021. The process involved several distinct phases of engagement in which the type of outreach varied in order to match with the specific needs to support the creation and refinement of Master Plan content. The engagement adapted near the beginning of the process to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic resulting in most meetings occurring virtually via Zoom.

Over 2,500 total participants

Master Plan Committee meetings

The Master Plan Committee met throughout the two-year process to guide the approach, discuss Master Plan topics, review feedback, and provide insights that shaped the Master Plan content. **The volunteer committee met 23 times in support of the Master Plan.**

Planning Board presentations

The Master Plan was discussed at Planning Board meetings throughout the process to provide progress updates on outreach and content. The Master Plan was also introduced at other board and committee meetings.

Visioning Workshop - April 2020

Over 300 Dedham residents joined a Saturday virtual visioning workshop to kick-off the Dedham Master Plan and to help define the foundation for a vision and goals.

Initial Community Survey

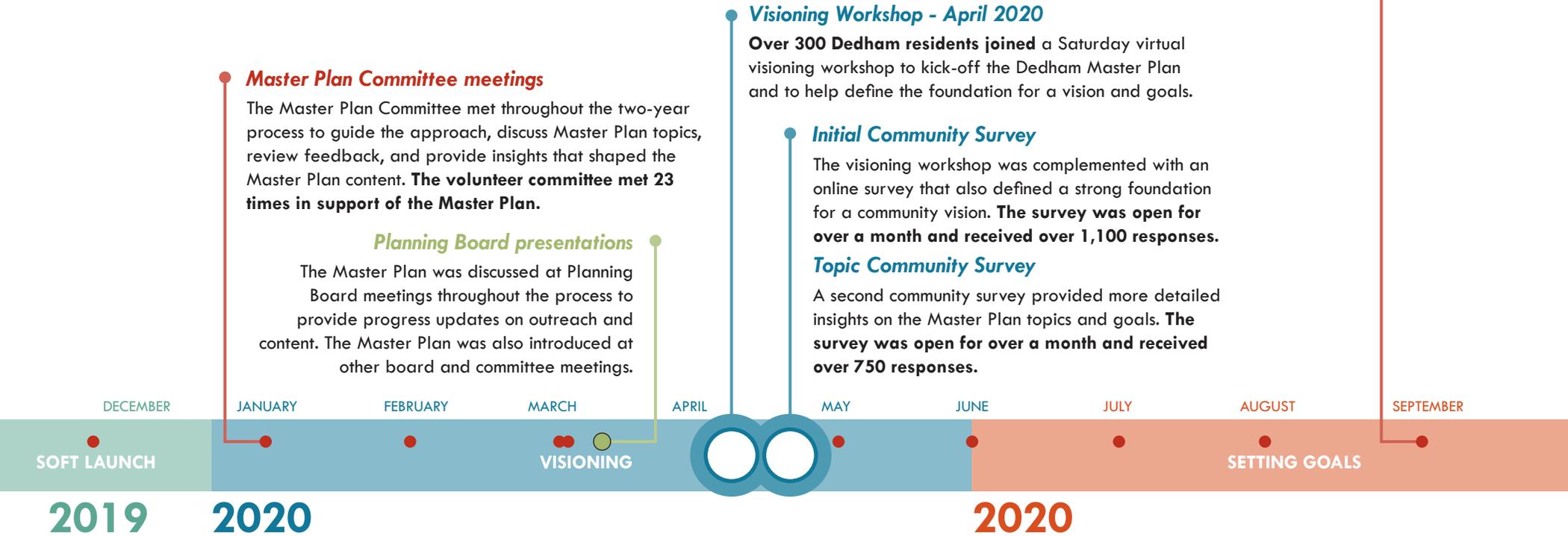
The visioning workshop was complemented with an online survey that also defined a strong foundation for a community vision. **The survey was open for over a month and received over 1,100 responses.**

Topic Community Survey

A second community survey provided more detailed insights on the Master Plan topics and goals. **The survey was open for over a month and received over 750 responses.**

Outreach Working Group meetings

In addition to the Master Plan Committee, an Outreach Working Group helped get the word out about the Master Plan process with physical posters, yard signs, and flyers, social media posts, email, and personal invitations to events and opportunities to engage.



2019 2020

2020

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DD2030 Poster Campaign

A series of posters placed strategically throughout Dedham invited residents to think about the future of Dedham and engage in the Master Plan process.



Email Newsletter

Email updates were sent to residents throughout the process to share information, invite feedback, and maintain communication. **The emails were sent to over 500 residents who opted-in to project emails.**

Designing Dedham 2030 website

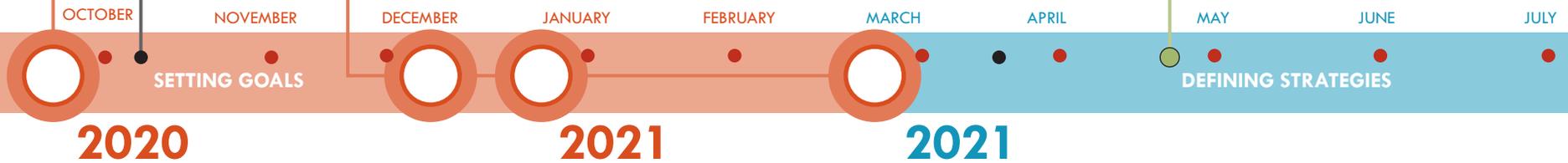
All meeting presentations, recordings, draft content, and progress has been shared and regularly updated on the project website:
<https://DesigningDedham2030.org>

Topic Open Houses

Three virtual open houses were hosted to share and discuss draft goals for each Master Plan topic. In December 2020, Economy and Transportation were discussed. In January 2021, Housing, Public Health, and Natural, Cultural, Historic Resources were discussed. In March 2021, Governance and Community Facilities and Services were discussed. **The three open houses were attended by over 300 residents.**

Planning Board presentations

The Master Plan's draft goals were presented to the Planning Board to provide a progress updates on the process and content. The draft goals were also shared at other board and committee meetings.



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Inclusive Interviews

Based on demographic surveys of participants in Master Plan events, the racial composition of participants did not reflect the racial composition of Dedham residents. A series of individual interviews with residents of color was performed to expand the inclusiveness of feedback. The feedback from these interviews was integrated with feedback on topic goals and strategies.

Topic Strategy Open House

In October 2021, a virtual open house was hosted to share and discuss draft topic strategies. Across three break-out sessions participants were able to choose the topics for which they gave feedback. **Over 50 residents attended.**

Master Plan Office Hours

In October 2021, two virtual office hours sessions were provided to the community to drop-in and ask questions or discuss Master Plan feedback with the project team.

Focus Group Meetings

(7) Focus Group Meetings with Town and stakeholder leadership were held to review draft goals and strategies to gather additional feedback.

Community Celebration

A hybrid event hosted at the Middle School and on Zoom celebrates the release of the draft Master Plan materials and opens a comment period on the draft plan materials.

Online Survey and Comment Period

A final online survey is open to the community during a 45-day comment period that invites comments and questions on the draft Master Plan content.



Dedham Day 2021

The Master Plan Committee shared draft content with attendees at Dedham Day and pleased to engage with residents in-person.

Master Plan Implementation

A transition will occur from the Master Plan Committee to the Planning Board where the plan will be finalized and adopted. A Master Plan Implementation Committee is recommended to carry forward recommendations of the plan.



2021

2021

2022

2022

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Introduction

Master Plan Committee

The Town of Dedham, under the direction of the Planning Board, selected a twelve member Master Plan Committee to provide input and guidance throughout the Master Plan process. The Committee consists of representatives from various stakeholders including boards, committees, public entities and the general public including the Planning Board, Select Board, School Committee, Conservation Commission, Parks and Recreation, and Active Transportation Committee. The Committee was structured to advise on the development of the Master Plan, and to facilitate and encourage public participation in the planning process.

Community Engagement by the Numbers

Overall, based on meeting attendance and survey responses, it is estimated that the Master Plan process had **over 2,500 participants** throughout the two-year process including all events and engagement opportunities. Based on survey questions at the meetings and a review of Survey Internet Protocol (IP) addresses it is estimated that over 1,800 of those participants were unique individuals. In other words, the same individual is not counted multiple times across events. Given that the two-year process was largely held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is reasonable to consider the 1,800+ unique participants as households. Often in meetings, multiple members of a household could be seen connecting through the same computer. If comparing to Dedham households, **about 18% of the 10,035 households** have participated in this process.

Community Priorities

The Initial Community Survey was the first major outreach platform for the 2-year long process for the Designing Dedham Master Plan. The survey consisted of 19 questions and was available online from March to May 2020. The survey was promoted widely through the Town website, Planning Department Facebook page, direct outreach and engagement by the Master Plan Committee and Outreach Working Group, and promoted at a Town-wide Virtual Visioning Workshop held online on April 4th, 2020. The survey received **1,138 responses** from community members. This represents the largest response to this type of planning survey in the history of the Town of Dedham and places it among the highest responses for similar surveys in the greater Boston region.

The survey was divided into eight main sections of questions – “Community Goals”, “Important for the Future”, “Town’s Assets”, “Town’s Challenges”, “Specific Place-based Challenges and Opportunities”, “Master Plan Topics”, “Shared Community Vision”, and “About You”. The Initial Community Survey Results were used to frame community member values and priorities for the Town. Highlights from the results are summarized below.

The survey asked, **what features are most important for the future of Dedham?** The top two most important responses were 1) quality schools and educational opportunities and 2) preserved open space, parks, and natural assets.

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The survey asked, **what originally attracted you to live in Dedham?** The two most frequent responses were 1) proximity to Boston and 2) being born and raised in Dedham. Proximity to Boston and convenient access to highways and commuter rail were selected as the **greatest assets** of the Town of Dedham.

Traffic congestion and an inability to get around along with rising cost of living and housing were selected as the **greatest challenges** for the Town of Dedham.

The survey asked, **what is most important to address in the Master Plan?** The top five topics included:

- 1) investing in the schools and education (57.9%),
- 2) addressing traffic congestion (46.3%),
- 3) managing Town finances and spending (46.0%),
- 4) improving safety for pedestrians and bicyclists (41.1%), and
- 5) strengthening diverse, walkable, and connected neighborhoods (35.5%).

Additional results from the Initial Community Survey and the Topic Area Survey are presented in the following chapters, particularly framing A Vision for Dedham with core priorities and the specific community priorities highlighted in each of the topic chapters.

Dedham Today

In preparing a plan for the future with a time horizon of ten years, it is important to understand the characteristics of the Town today. In each topic chapter, a detailed analysis is provided of Dedham's current characteristics in that topic. In this section, a general overview of Dedham is provided.

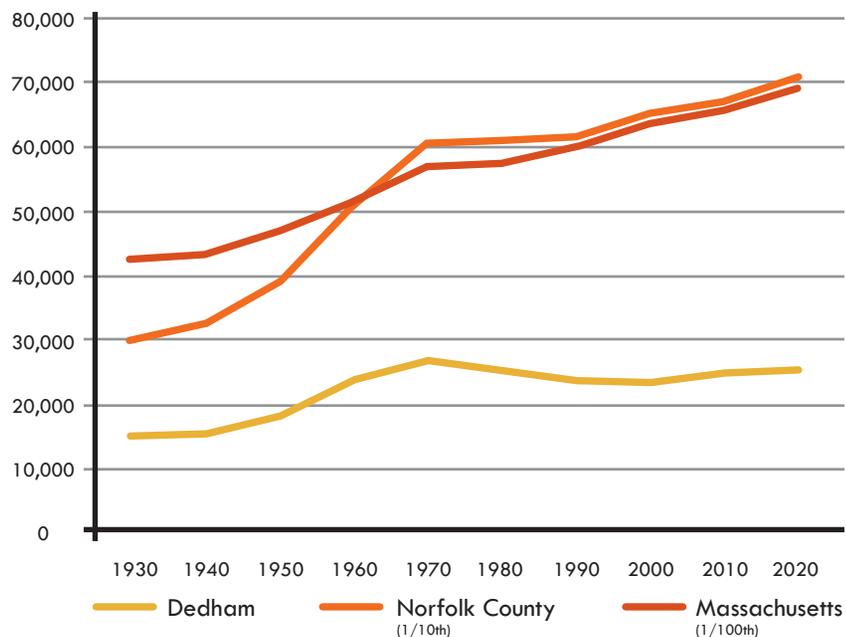
Dedham is a town in Norfolk County located immediately southwest of Boston. In addition to Boston, its immediate neighboring municipalities include Needham, Westwood, and Canton. It is the county seat of Norfolk County and includes several County buildings including court, prison, and other facilities. The Town is geographically divided into distinct neighborhoods including Dedham Village/Dedham Square, East Dedham, Greenlodge, Sprague and Manor, Oakdale, Riverdale, and West Dedham (Precinct One).

The population of Dedham has been growing but has not returned to its peak, reached in the 1970s. The US Census data for Dedham in 1970 showed a total population of 26,938. While the population has been growing for two decades, the household size has been steadily shrinking, leading to the need for more housing units to meet the demands of the current population. Similar to the Greater Boston region, housing costs have continued to increase in Dedham. The Town's attractive neighborhoods, quality schools, walkable amenities and local services, and convenient proximity to Boston are desirable features of the Town.

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Population Growth Comparison



The line chart above compares population growth in Dedham to Norfolk County and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Both the County and Commonwealth have been adjusted for scale to be more easily compared, the population counts in the County are higher by 10x and the Commonwealth higher by 100x. The insight of the comparison is in the slope of the lines. The Dedham line is much flatter, indicated slower growth than both the County and Commonwealth.

Demographic data

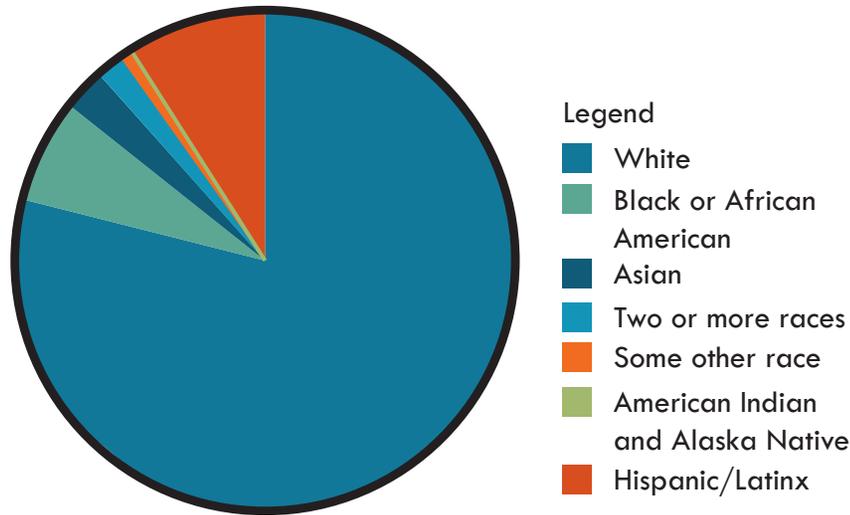
The total population of the Town of Dedham is 25,283 according to the 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. The total population has been growing, up 8% from the year 2000. The population is projected to continue growing with a population of 26,709 projected for 2030 based on the most recent population projections from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation’s (MassDOT) socio-economic projections for 2020 Regional Transportation Plans.

In terms of racial composition, the Town’s population is predominantly Non-Hispanic White with 19,935 residents or about 79%. The next largest racial category is Non-Hispanic Black or African American with 1,727 residents or about 7%. This is followed by Non-Hispanic Asian with 689 residents or about 3%, Non-Hispanic Two or More Races with 519 residents (2%), Non-Hispanic Some Other Race with 175 residents (0.01%), and Non-Hispanic American Indian and Alaska Native with 21 residents (0.01%). The ethnicity of the Town is predominantly Non-Hispanic with 23,074 residents or 91% and Hispanic or Latinx with 2,209 residents or about 9%. All of these statistics and categories are based on the 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. The Town is growing more diverse with the data showing about a 12% increase in racial diversity since the year 2000. The following page shows the race and ethnicity data combined in a pie chart.

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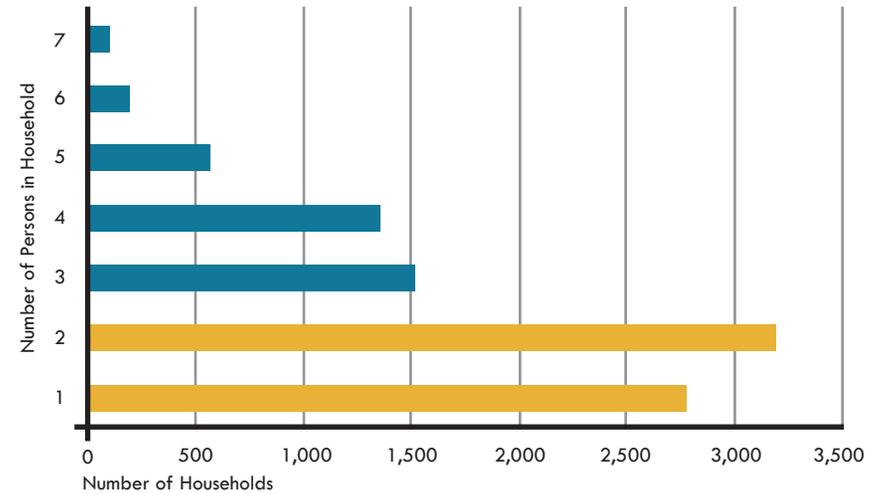
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Race and Ethnicity of Dedham residents



According to the 2015-2019 American Community Survey, the Town of Dedham has a current total of 10,035 households. Family households represent the majority with a total of 62.7% with Nonfamily households totaling 37.3%. One and two-person households are the largest share of the number of household members based on the 2010 US Census data of 9,651 Households showing 2,768 (28.7%) 1-person households, 3,182 (33.0%) 2-person households, 1,518 (15.7%) 3-person households, 1,350 (14.0%) 4-person households, 560 (5.8%) 5-person households, 183 (1.9%) 6-person households, 90 (0.9%) 7-person households.

Size of Dedham Households



Housing tenure shows a majority of ownership units in the Town with 69.1% owner-occupied housing units and 30.9% renter-occupied housing units. A disparity in the vacancy rate is evident when examined by tenure with the owner vacancy rate only at 0.7% and the renter vacancy rate at 5.9%.

The average household size in the Town of Dedham is smaller than average at 2.42, compared to 2.53 (Commonwealth of Massachusetts) or 2.58 (Norfolk County). Again, a disparity in average household size is evident when examined by tenure with average owner-occupied household size at 2.68 and average renter occupied household size much smaller at 1.98

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21% of Dedham's total population is between 0 and 19 years old

According to the 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, the Town has a considerable youth population with 21% of Dedham's total population being 0-19 years old and 44% of Dedham's family households having school-aged children (2019 Housing Study). Total Dedham school enrollment (2017-2018) was 2,658. Of that school population, 601 economically disadvantaged students were enrolled (2017-2018).

26% of Dedham's total population is 60 years or older

The Town also has a considerable senior population with 34.6% of the households including seniors with a population of 3,416 (13.46%). 44.45% of those households are seniors living alone, a population of 1,481 (5.84%). The proportion of older residents in Dedham is growing (2019 Housing Study). 26% of the residents are 60-years of age or older, this population has seen a 30% increase from 2000 to 2019 and is projected to continue to increase.

The 2019 Dedham Open Space and Recreation Plan identified two areas in Dedham that qualify as Environmental Justice (EJ) communities based demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the population. Environmental Justice is the idea that there should be equal protection from environmental and health hazards and equal access to decision-making processes regardless of race, national origin, or income. The two identified EJ communities include an area in the Oakdale neighborhood, Census Tract 4024, Block Group 6 that is along Elm Street and Rustcraft Road roughly bound by the Franklin Line MBTA track, Providence Highway, and East Street and an area in the East Dedham neighborhood, Census Tract 4021.02, Block Group 3, between a rail corridor, Milton, and Bussey Streets, running from the Boston border to Dedham High School.

According to the 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, in Dedham, 2,547 residents are identified as living with a disability. This represents about 10% of the total population that has a disability. The population with hearing difficulty is identified as 963 residents or 3.79%. The population with vision difficulty is identified as 405 residents or 1.60%. The population with ambulatory difficulty is identified as 1,353 residents or 5.33%.

According to the 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Dedham has a foreign-born population of 3,765 or 14.99%, which is a good indicator of the immigrant community. The largest foreign-born population (including naturalized U.S.

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citizen and not a U.S. Citizen) is from Latin America (1,455 people) and the second largest is European born (1,272). Followed by Asian born (759), African born (178), Canadian born (69), and Oceania born (9). The most recent ACS data shows 38 American Indian and Alaska Native alone residents. 0.15% of the population. Other information resources on Native populations, including current or historic activities within the borders of Dedham are not currently known. According to the Native Land and territories map, Dedham resides in Pauquunaukit (Wampanoag) ancestral territory.

78% of Dedham's residents are English-speaking at home

According to the 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, the population of English speaking only residents in Dedham is 19,636 residents or 77.7%. The population of people speaking another language that do not speak English well is 168 residents or less than 1%. The population of people speaking another language that do not speak English at all is 64 residents or less than 1%. People speaking European languages is 1,980 or 7.8%. People speaking Spanish is 705 or 2.8%. People speaking Asian languages is 506 or 2%. People speaking other languages is 641 or 3%.

2020 United States Census data

Mandated by the U.S. Constitution, the Census occurs every ten years and counts every person living in the United States, regardless of their citizenship or immigration status. Census data is used to define state legislative districts and determine state representation in the United States Congress, calculate how federal funding is allocated to states, and develop vital information to help understand local communities. Unfortunately, the data most useful for that third use is delayed. The first sub-state data from the 2020 decennial census was released on August 12, 2021. It includes Redistricting Data Summary Files, also known as PL-94. The release contains housing unit counts, occupancy status for housing units, population totals, population totals by race, population totals by race and Hispanic/Latinx origin, voting-age population by race and Hispanic/Latinx origin, and population totals in group quarters.

The data cannot be used to definitively update a municipality's Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI) percentage. The SHI is used to measure a municipality's stock of low or moderate housing pursuant to Massachusetts General Law (MGL) Chapter 40B. The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has acknowledged that the data currently released does not include data on vacant "seasonal, occasional, or recreational use" units used by DHCD to calculate "year-round housing units" for the SHI. The SHI will continue to reflect the 2010 Census Year-Round Housing Unit figures until such data is released. The Census Bureau has not published a release schedule for future data sets that will

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include this data, although it has indicated that releases may not occur until late in 2022.

Additionally, the US Census Bureau has stated that the release of the 2016-2020 American Community Survey (ACS), originally scheduled for December 9th, 2021 will be delayed until March of 2022 due to high levels of nonresponse to the ACS during 2020. To summarize, the best and most current data sources were used as they are available.

The data that is available from the 2020 Census does compare closely to the data used in the Master Plan. For example, the total population for Dedham according to the 2020 US Census data is 25,364 compared to 25,283 according to the 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. A difference of less than 1%. The Non-Hispanic White population is 19,775 (78%) in the 2020 US Census compared to 19,935 (79%). The Hispanic/Latinx population is 2,125 (8%) from the US Census data compared to 2,209 (9%). The Non-Hispanic Black or African American population is 1,501 (6%) compared to 1,727 (7%). The Non-Hispanic Asian population is 951 (4%) compared to 689 (3%).

Finally, the total population change for Dedham from the 2010 US Census to the 2020 US Census is an additional 635 residents, or +2.6%. The total housing unit change from the 2010 US Census to the 2020 US Census is an additional 268 units or +2.6%. The total housing units for the 2020 US Census is 10,459.

Socioeconomic data

The Town of Dedham has high levels of educational attainment with 94.4% of the population 25 years and older having attained high school graduate or higher (2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates). 54.2% of the population 25 years or older having attained an associate degree or higher. 47.5% of the population 25 years or older having attained a bachelor's degree or higher. 20.2% of the population 25 years or older having attained a master's degree or higher. According to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates the unemployment rate in Dedham was 5.0%. This figure was high compared to the broader unemployment rate in Massachusetts in 2017 which was about 3.8% depending on the month. The unemployment rate for age 16 to 19 years was estimated at 20.2%. The unemployment rate for ages 16 to 34 are all higher than 5%. The unemployment rate for ages 35 to 74 are all lower than 5%.

5% of Dedham's residents are considered persons in poverty

The percent of persons in poverty is 4.8% according to the 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Though if you look at poverty rate by Race and Ethnicity in Dedham, further disparities are present with the White population just

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lower at 4.5%, the Black population higher at 6.82%, and the Asian population much lower at 3.97%, while Latino at 9.9% and Other Race at 24.86% are substantially higher poverty rates. Individuals that identify as Other Race in Dedham have a poverty rate that is over 5 times higher than the White population.

In total, about 594 households in Dedham are in poverty. A disparity between family and non-family households is again evident with 456 (12.4%) non-family households in poverty and only 138 (2.23%) family households in poverty. Disparities are also evident geographically with significant economic disparity between residents in East Dedham and Riverdale neighborhoods with lower incomes compared to Oakdale residents earning higher incomes according to the 2019 Dedham Housing Study.

Beyond living in poverty, many households struggle to keep pace with monthly bills. The cost of living is heavily influenced by the cost of housing and housing costs often represent the largest portion of a households' monthly bills. According to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 3,429 (35.7%) of households in Dedham are cost burdened and 1,414 (14.72%) of households in Dedham are severely cost burdened. Again, a disparity between owner and renter households is evident with 1,827 (27.04%) owner households that are cost burdened and 703 (10.4%) that are severely cost burdened compared to 1,602 (56.23%) renter households that are cost burdened and 711 (24.96%) that are severely cost burdened. According to the 2011-2015 American Community

Survey, in Dedham, there are 2,268 households earning 80% of the Area Median Income or below (low to extremely low-income households) and are cost burdened or severely cost burdened.

Transportation data

The transportation access and assets of the Town provide connection to economic opportunities. According to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, there are 10,368 commuters (79.13%) in Dedham who drive to work. Of those commuters, 9,293 (89.63%) of the driving commuters drive alone to work.

79% of Dedham's commuters drive to work

There are 1,416 commuters (10.8%) in Dedham who take public transit to work; either commuter rail or bus transit. There are 22 commuters (0.17%) that bicycle to work. There are 470 commuters (3.6%) that walk to work. There are 760 residents (5.8%) that work from home. The remaining commuters take a taxi, motorcycle or other means of transportation to work. The mean travel time to work for workers age 16 years or older is 30.4 minutes (2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates). This is aligned with average mean travel times of neighboring communities.

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8%

of Dedham's households
have no vehicles

Given the number of commuters who drive, it is unsurprising that 91.8% of households in Dedham have at least 1 vehicle. Additionally, 38.4% of households in Dedham have 2 vehicles, 11.6% of households in Dedham have 3 vehicles. (2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates) Significantly, of the 19,024 people who work in Dedham, nearly 93% live outside of Dedham. The largest group of those outside commuters come from Boston (16.8%). No other municipality has a share of outside commuters of more than 5.8% that are part of the Dedham workforce according to Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) OnTheMap tool. 8,497 employees in Dedham travel less than 10 miles to their jobs, 6,871 travel 10 to 24 miles, 2,717 travel 25 to 50 miles and 939 travel greater than 50 miles according to LEHD OnTheMap.

The transportation infrastructure in Dedham is well-suited to supporting the vehicle-based commuter, but does not support the pedestrian or bicyclist with infrastructure that is nearly as comprehensive. Major roadways/streets in Dedham include Route 128/I-95 with three exits serving Dedham, Providence Highway, Route 1A, and Route 109. Key local streets include Common Street, High Street, Ames Street, East Street, Cedar Street and Minton Street. Vehicular traffic volumes on state-maintained

roadways range from over 160,000 vehicles per day on Route 128, 34,000 vehicles per day on Providence Highway, and 17,000 vehicles per day on Route 1A. Town-maintained streets have lower vehicular volumes (MassDOT). Another indication of the reliance on vehicular transportation is the number of commercial parking spaces in the economic centers of activity. In the areas adjacent to the Providence Highway (Dedham Mall, Dedham Square, Providence Highway South, Legacy Place, and Stergis Way), approximately 10,000 commercial parking spaces exist.

In addition to the roadway system, Dedham is also well-served by transit. Dedham is served by MBTA bus routes and two commuter rail stops on the Franklin Line including Dedham Corporate Center and Endicott. Dedham Corporate Center is one of the busier stations on the line, averaging over 1,400 weekday boardings and alightings in 2018. In comparison, Endicott averaged approximately 530 boardings/alightings in 2018. (CTPS Commuter Rail Counts).

The pedestrian and bicycle networks in Dedham provide some support for local travel with 58% of the Town's roadways with sidewalks on at least one side. However, the Town has very few bicycle facilities (MassDOT Municipal Dashboard). Providence Highway, which has over 34,000 vehicles per day, has few signalized pedestrian crossings and is a barrier to safe and convenient pedestrian access in the community. (MassDOT Municipal Dashboard).

Previous Planning Efforts

The Town of Dedham has undertaken recent planning studies that should be viewed as companion documents to the Town's Master Plan. The recent planning efforts have been reviewed as part of the Master Plan process. Relevant findings, data, and recommendations have been incorporated into the Master Plan. Generally, the companion planning documents go deeper into the topic upon which they are focused than the Master Plan. The list below highlights the most relevant previous planning efforts and companion documents in chronological order:

- School Facilities Master Plan (2020)
- Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2020)
- Parks and Fields Master Plan (2020)
- Mixed-Use Development Impact Study (2020)
- Climate Action & Resiliency Plan (2020)
- Providence Highway: Create a Better Corridor (2020)
- Housing Study (2019)
- Open Space and Recreation Plan (2019)
- Complete Streets Prioritization Plan (2018)
- Dedham Corporate Station: Creating a Connected Neighborhood (2017)
- East Dedham Village Charrette Strategic Action Plan (2017)
- Master Plan Implementation Update (2017)
- Enhancing Creative East Dedham (2014)
- Dedham Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan (2013)