

cambridge

founded/ incorporated	population	gross area	population density	housing units	median income	median age
1630/1846	101,355	6.43 sq.mi.	15,763 ppsm	43,610	\$47,979	30.4

Information from 2000 U.S. Census data

history

Cambridge has been the site of significant political, religious and social events for nearly 350 years. Harvard University, the first college in America, was founded here in 1636. Freedom of speech was declared at Cambridge Common in 1637 and freedom of religion in 1740. William Dawes rode out along Massachusetts Avenue on his way to Concord on April 18, 1775. And yes, George Washington really did sleep here from 1775-1776 while his troops were camped in Harvard Square. More American presidents and Nobel laureates have lived in Cambridge than in any other city.

The town was named in honor of the English university town of Cambridge, where its founding fathers had studied. In 1630, a fleet of 11 ships carrying 700 passengers set sail from England, bound for the Massachusetts Bay Colony. The newcomers settled several villages around Massachusetts Bay, but could not agree on a capital. John Winthrop and his assistants chose a small hill on the north bank of the Charles River, upstream from Boston. Newtowne, as Cambridge was known until 1638, was laid out in an orderly grid of streets, bounded today by Eliot Square and Linden Street, Massachusetts Avenue and the River. Newtowne seems to have differed from other communities founded by the Massachusetts Bay Company not only in its fortified character but in its well-ordered appearance, which probably reflected its early status as the capital, and was the earliest ordered urban plan in New England.

today

By the time of the American Revolution, Cambridge was a quiet New England farming village clustered near the Common and the College. Today, Cambridge receives over 2.5 million tourists each year, and the population ranges from Harvard professors to recent immigrants. More than one in five residents is foreign born, and students from 64 nations attend the public schools.

One-fourth of all its residents are college students, and one-sixth of all its jobs are in higher education. Almost one-third of the state's bio-medical employers reside in Cambridge. In addition, Cambridge has the highest percentage of million-dollar-plus homes in any city with a population over 100,000.

Cambridge has been called the City of Squares, because most of its major street intersections acts as a neighborhood center. These include:

The neighborhood of **Cambridgeport** (borders MIT to its east, the Charles River to its South), is largely residential and offers convenient access to both Cambridge's amenities as well as the rest of Boston via Memorial Drive, Storrow Drive, and the Mass Pike. Housing stock combines single- and multi-family homes as well as larger apartment buildings, and is popular with recent graduates, tech/biotech entrepreneurs, and the arts community.

Located between Harvard and MIT, **Central Square** (junction of Mass. Ave., Prospect St., and Western Ave.; Red Line subway to Central) is bohemian and gritty, packed with independent music stores, booksellers, coffee shops, and over forty restaurants including cheap ethnic cuisine as well as destination spots such as **Central Kitchen, Cuchi Cuchi, Tavern on the Square, and Wish**. Venues such as **The Middle East, Middlesex, Phoenix Landing, and T.T. the Bear's** offer a hipster alternative to Boston's Lansdowne Street.

The neighborhood of **East Cambridge** was the city's major industrial center until the 1880s, and many former factories are now the headquarters for start up companies. In addition to the independently-owned boutiques and restaurants, the area also boasts the **Cambridgeside Galleria** shopping complex. Public transportation is through the Lechmere Green Line station.

cambridge

Harvard Square (junction of Mass. Ave., Brattle St., and JFK St.; Red Line to Harvard) is the center of the historic neighborhood known as Old Cambridge, and is home to Harvard University. It has the highest concentration of bookstores in the country. Sidewalk performers provide a backdrop to outdoor shopping, where national chains and independent businesses both cater largely to students.

Inman Square (junction of Cambridge and Hampshire streets in central Cambridge) is a lively residential community fiercely defined by its independent businesses, which include **Zeitgeist Gallery**, **Bukowski's Tavern**, **1369 Coffeehouse**, and destination restaurants such as **Dali**, **Evoo**, and **Oleana**.

Kendall Square (junction of Broadway, Main St., and Third St. Served by the MBTA red line subway) is a triangular neighborhood running alongside the Charles River, just over the Longfellow Bridge from Boston. Kendall encompasses the majority of MIT's campus as well as a flourishing biotech industry.

Lechmere Square (junction of Cambridge and First St., adjacent to the CambridgeSide Galleria shopping mall) is perhaps best known as the eastern terminus of the MBTA Green Line subway.

Porter Square (about a mile north on Mass. Ave from Harvard Square, formed by the junction of Mass. Ave and Somerville Ave. Served by the MBTA Red Line) is defined by boutiques offering a range of antiques, rare books, clothing, and jewelry. Porter Square also boasts the region's largest concentration of Japanese restaurants and shops. Because the area is largely residential, the majority of Porter Square's specialty shops are located along Mass. Ave. Porter Square is within walking distance of Harvard Square in Cambridge and Davis Square in Somerville.

location

Cambridge is bordered by Boston on its south and east (across the Charles River), by Somerville and Arlington to its north, and by Watertown and Belmont to its west.

housing stock

Within Old Cambridge, the single family homes along Brattle Street behind the Square are among the town's most desirable. The stretch is known as Tory Row because the residents were loyal to King

George during the Revolution. Meanwhile, the Gold Coast of Harvard Square runs along Mass. Ave. and Mount Auburn St. between Dunster and Bow streets, along with Holyoke, Linden, and Plympton streets. The many private dormitories that were constructed in or near Harvard Square between 1876 and 1904 introduced a level of luxury that was unprecedented in Cambridge and rare even in Boston. Many of these have been converted into condominiums.

famous residents

Ben Affleck • Louis Agassiz • Julia Child • E. E. Cummings • Matt Damon • W.E.B. DuBois • Doc Edgerton • Charles Eliot • Charles William Eliot • Richard P. Feynman • John Kenneth Galbraith • William Lloyd Garrison • Bill Gates • Louise Glück • Oliver Wendell Holmes • Henry James • William James • Henry Kissinger • Henry Wadsworth Longfellow • James Russell Lowell • Yo-Yo Ma • John Malkovich • Anne McCaffrey • Tip O'Neill • Ted Rall • Frederick Hastings Rindge • Patrick Stewart • Sam Waterston • Norbert Wiener • Nathaniel Jarvis Wyeth

movies & books

A Few Good Men • *The Firm* • *Good Will Hunting* • *Harvard Man* • *Homeless to Harvard* • *Legally Blonde* • *Love Story* • *Quiz Show* • *Soul Man* • *Stealing Harvard* • *The Paper Chase* • *Two Weeks Notice*

shopping

Harvard Square: Abercrombie & Fitch • Andover Shop • Adidas • Cross • Eastern Mountain Sports • Harvard Bookstore • JasmineSola • J. Press • Newbury Comics • Origins • Urban Outfitters.
Cambridgeside Galleria: Abercrombie & Fitch • American Eagle • Apple Store • Banana Republic • bebe • The Body Shop • Borders Books & Music • Godiva • H&M • J.Crew • United Colors of Benetton • Victoria's Secret • Wet Seal

top employers

ABT Associates • Akamai Technologies • Biogen • Cambridge Public Health Commission • Camp, Dresser, & McKee • City of Cambridge • Commonwealth of Massachusetts • Draper Laboratory • EF International • Federal Government • Forrester Research • Genzyme Corporation • Grace Construction • Harvard University • Lesley University •

cambridge

Massachusetts Institute of Technology • Millennium Pharmaceuticals • Monitor Group • Mt. Auburn Hospital • Quest Diagnostics • Shaws Supermarkets/Star Market • Transkaryotic Therapies • Vertex Pharmaceuticals • Whitehead Institute • Whole Foods/Bread & Circus • Wyeth Genetics Institute

culture & amenities

Cambridge African-American Heritage Trail • Cooper-Frost-Austin House (1681) • Mount Auburn Cemetery • Harvard University Museums (Fogg Museum, Arthur M. Sackler Museum, Busch-Reisinger Museum) • Head of the Charles Regatta • Museum of Science • Longfellow National Historic Site • MIT Museum

recreation

Charles River • Community Boating • Danehy Park • Fresh Pond Golf Course • Fresh Pond Reservation • Gold Star Pool • War Memorial Pool

local news sources

Cambridge Chronicle

Copyright © 2006 The Hammersmith Group. All rights reserved. Individual trademarks are the property of their respective owners. Disclaimer: Homebuyers and investors should consider this Residential Report as only a single factor in their purchase, sale, or investment decision. All information furnished is from sources deemed reliable, but no warranty or representation is made as to the accuracy thereof and same is submitted subject to errors, omissions or change without notice. The act of creating, providing, or accepting this document does not create any agency relationship unless otherwise expressly set forth.