

New Bedford

Bristol County

Long known as the whaling capital of the world, New Bedford is still the largest and richest fishing port on the East Coast. The city's nautical flavor pervades all aspects of the community. The city's strong manufacturing base and renowned factory outlets draw residents and tourists from far and wide.

The quaint shops along the historic waterfront showcase extensive collections of scrimshaw, handmade candles and paintings by local artists. Restaurants serve authentic New England delicacies, and a 66-foot skeleton of Kobo, a young Blue Whale, is the focal point of the town's historic Whaling Museum.

Downtown New Bedford has become a bustling business district. It houses a satellite branch of the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, and plans for a new aquarium are moving forward. The recently opened New Bedford Global Learning Charter School is a publicly funded, privately run school with 250 students in grades 6 through 8.

As the largest city in its immediate area, New Bedford offers a wide range of amenities for its residents. The Buttonwood Park Zoo is a popular attraction as are the many parks and playgrounds, beaches, restaurants and shopping areas.

Many of the homes in New Bedford are historic estates built during the whaling era. But there are ample properties in more modest price ranges, including many multi-families offering investment potential.



Town Facts

INCORPORATED: As a city in 1847

POPULATION: 99,927

POPULATION DENSITY: 4,938 people per square mile.

RESIDENTIAL TAX RATE:

Residential - \$12.37
Commercial - \$27.84

FORM OF GOVERNMENT:

Mayor & City Council

MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME: \$35,708

NEAREST HOSPITAL:

St. Luke's Hospital

LIBRARIES: five

Main Library, 613 Pleasant St. 508.991.6275

SHOPPING FACILITIES:

Major shopping throughout the city.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES:

Majority of city is served by Municipal water, sewer, & trash pickup.

PUBLIC SCHOOL INFORMATION

Superintendent's Office:
455 County Street
New Bedford, MA 02740
508.997.4511

% of students planning to attend a 4-year college: 28%
2-year college: 46%

Teacher Average Salary: \$48,447

Total student enrollment: 14,609

New Bedford average SAT score: Math-470; Verbal-470

School District Organization

23 Elementary schools (PreK-6)
3 Middle/Junior High Schools (6-8)
Secondary School (7-12)
Greater New Bedford Regional Vocation Technical H.S.
Bristol County Agricultural School

Private Schools:

- Holy Family-Holy Name 508.993.3547 (PreK-8)
- Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School 508.997.9612 (PK-8)
- St. Anthony Elementary School 508.994.5121 (PK-8)
- St. James-St. John School 508.996.0534 (PK-8)
- St. Joseph - St. Therese School 508.995.2264 (PreK-8)
- St. Mary's School 508.995.3696 (PreK-8)

Integrated Cost Per Pupil: \$5,100

Children Attending Public Schools: 92%

New Bedford – MCAS Test Results

MCAS Tests of Spring 2003 Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level					
Grade and Subject	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning/ Failing	Students Included
GRADE 03 – READING	NA	46	45	9	1,266
GRADE 04 – ENG. LANGUAGE ARTS	2	32	51	15	1,180
GRADE 04 – MATHEMATICS	3	18	56	24	1,190
GRADE 05 - SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	8	26	44	21	1,242
GRADE 06 – MATHEMATICS	5	15	39	41	1,120
GRADE 07 – ENG. LANGUAGE ARTS	0	30	51	18	1,202
GRADE 08 - MATHEMATICS	1	9	28	62	1,189
GRADE 08 - SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	0	8	33	59	1,189
GRADE 10 - ENG. LANGUAGE ARTS	5	31	37	27	759
GRADE 10 - MATHEMATICS	8	19	32	42	759

The use of average scaled scores was discontinued by the Department of Education in 2003.

RECREATIONAL SERVICES:

- Buttonwood Park: West End
- Hazelwood Park: South End
- Brooklawn Park: North End
- Ashley Park: South End
- Clasky Common Park: North End
- Dr. O'Toole Playground: South End
- West Beach: South End
- East Beach: South End
- Municipal Golf Course: West End

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES:

50 miles to Boston, 30 miles to Providence;
Southeastern Regional Transit Authority - Public Bus
508.999.5211; New Bedford Regional Airport
508.991.6160; Mass. Steamship Authority - ferry to
Martha's Vineyard 508.997.1688.

Websites: www.ci.new-bedford.ma.us (official City Website)
www.newbedfordchamber.com
www.newbedford.com
www.newbedford.K12.ma.us (schools)
www.S-T.com (New Bedford Standard Time)