A recent forecast using 1990 U.S. Census figures puts the 1992 estimated population in the 12 New England Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) that account for approximately 80% of New England's total population (excluding Connecticut) as well as the majority of its retail spending and disposable income, as follows (see Appendix B for maps and definitions of New England MSAs):

National MSA Rank	Estimated Population for New England MSAs  MSA Area	MSA Population
7	Boston/Lawrence/Salem/Lowell/Brockton, MA	3,808,003
58	Providence/Pawtucket/Woonsocket, RI	928,427
70	Worcester, MA	722,376
83	Springfield, MA	607,087
96	New Bedford/Fall River/Attleboro, MA	512,662
127	Portsmouth/Dover/Rochester, NH	367,112
133	Manchester/Nashua, NH	350,056
169	Portland, ME	248,528
233	Bangor, ME	148,505
239	Burlington, VT	142,849
246	Pittsfield, MA	138,200
295	Lewiston/Auburn, ME	106,348
Total o	8,080,153	

Source: Editor and Publisher

1995 population estimates for New England states (excluding Connecticut), which represent an overall 3.9% increase over 1990 population estimates, are as follows:

Changes in N	lew England	Population:	1990 to 1995
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State	Population 1990	Population 1995	1990-95 % Change
Maine	1,236,000	1,297,800	4.8
New Hampshire	1,127,200	1,233,800	9.5
Vermont	568,000	598,600	5.4
Massachusetts	6,042,200	6,199,100	2.6
Rhode Island	1,007,890	1,040,800	3.2
Totals	9,984,000	10,370,100	3.9

Source: 1991 Survey of Buying Power