

In early 1993, the U.S. Census Bureau redefined a number of SMAs, including Boston. Metropolitan Boston, with its official boundaries extended into Maine, Connecticut and New Hampshire by the federal government, is now home to more than 5.4 million people, according to the Census Bureau. The expanded area, which increased metro Boston's population from 3.8 million, did not change the region's ranking as the seventh-largest metropolitan area in the country.

The new metro Boston region, which federal officials said better reflects the area's commuting patterns and population density, now stretches south to New Bedford, west to Barre and north to Berwick, Maine and Hooksett, New Hampshire. A number of large metropolitan areas previously listed separately, including Worcester, Lowell, Lawrence and Fitchburg, Massachusetts and Nashua and Manchester, New Hampshire, are now included in metro Boston under the new guidelines.

### 10 Largest US Metropolitan Areas

### Population

1.	New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island	19,383,615
2.	Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County	14,818,370
3.	Chicago-Gary-Kenosha	8,339,715
4.	Washington-Baltimore	6,830,296
5.	San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose	6,331,526
6.	Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City	5,924,591
7.	Boston-Brockton-Nashua	5,432,273
8.	Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint	5,214,837
9.	Dallas-Fort Worth	4,134,638
10.	Houston-Galveston-Brazoria	3,858,911
28	Chemicals	13,579
29	Petroleum	2,203
30	Rubber/Plastic	18,574
31	Leather	2,178
32	Stone/Glass/Clay	15,491
33	Primary Metals	9,051
34	Fabricated Metals	39,292
35	Industrial Machinery	68,088
36	Elect Equip	16,107
37	Transptn Equip	9,118
38	Instruments	7,725
39	Misc Mfg	36,563
	Totals	381,916
	% of US	100

\* Excludes Connecticut

Source: Dun & Bradstreet