MASSACHUSETTS STATE COLLEGE BUILDING AUTHORITY

COUNTIES OF RESIDENCE FOR FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

NINE MASSACHUSETTS STATE UNIVERSITIES

April 2019

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Demographic Perspectives

REPORT CONTENTS

- Summary Notes.....3
- Massachusetts Population Change..... 4
- Nine Massachusetts State Universities
  Full-Time Undergraduate Enrollment 2016 to 2018.....6
  - Bridgewater State University.....10
  - Fitchburg State University.....13
  - Framingham State University.....16
  - Massachusetts College of Art and Design.....19
  - Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts..... 22
  - Massachusetts Maritime Academy.....25
  - Salem State University..... 28
  - Westfield State University..... 31
  - Worcester State University..... 34
- University of Massachusetts System Geographic Distribution 2018..... 37

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SUMMARY NOTES

OVERALL POPULATION CHANGE FROM 2015 TO 2017

- The overall population of Massachusetts has remained stable (1% growth). Berkshire is the only county with a decline in population, but it is limited to -1%. From 2016 to 2017, Suffolk and Nantucket had the largest growth (2%).
- Data suggest a modest downward trend from 2015 to 2017 in the number of 15 to 19 year olds, and a modest upward trend of 20 to 24 year olds.

STUDENT POPULATION FALL 2018

- Over 60% of full-time undergraduate students at the nine State Universities live in Worcester, Middlesex, Plymouth and Essex counties.
- In Fall 2018, Boston and Worcester are the cities with the highest representation for the total nine State Universities system, each with approximately 1,300 students.

STUDENT POPULATION CHANGE FALL 2016 TO FALL 2018

- From Fall 2016 to Fall 2018, the population of full-time in-state undergraduate students at the nine State Universities declined by 1,309 students, a difference of -4.2%.
- Worcester county was the only substantial growth area (over 100 students) for student population at the nine State Universities.
- Each State University has a strong core of full-time undergraduate enrollment from its own county, and often, but not always, from adjacent counties.
- Boston and Worcester, the two top feeder cities in the state, are not always a top feeder for each school. Boston is included as a top-five feeder to five of the State Universities. Worcester is a top-ten feeder to five of the State Universities.
- Universities with counties of enrollment with *a growth of 50 students or more:* Bridgewater State (Bristol, Plymouth); Fitchburg State (Worcester); MMA (Norfolk); Worcester State (Worcester).
- Universities with counties of enrollment with *a decline of 50 students or more:* Bridgewater State (Essex, Middlesex); Fitchburg State (Middlesex, Worcester); Framingham State (Essex, Middlesex, Worcester); MCLA (Berkshire); Salem State (Essex, Middlesex, Suffolk); Westfield State (Berkshire, Hampden, Middlesex, Worcester).

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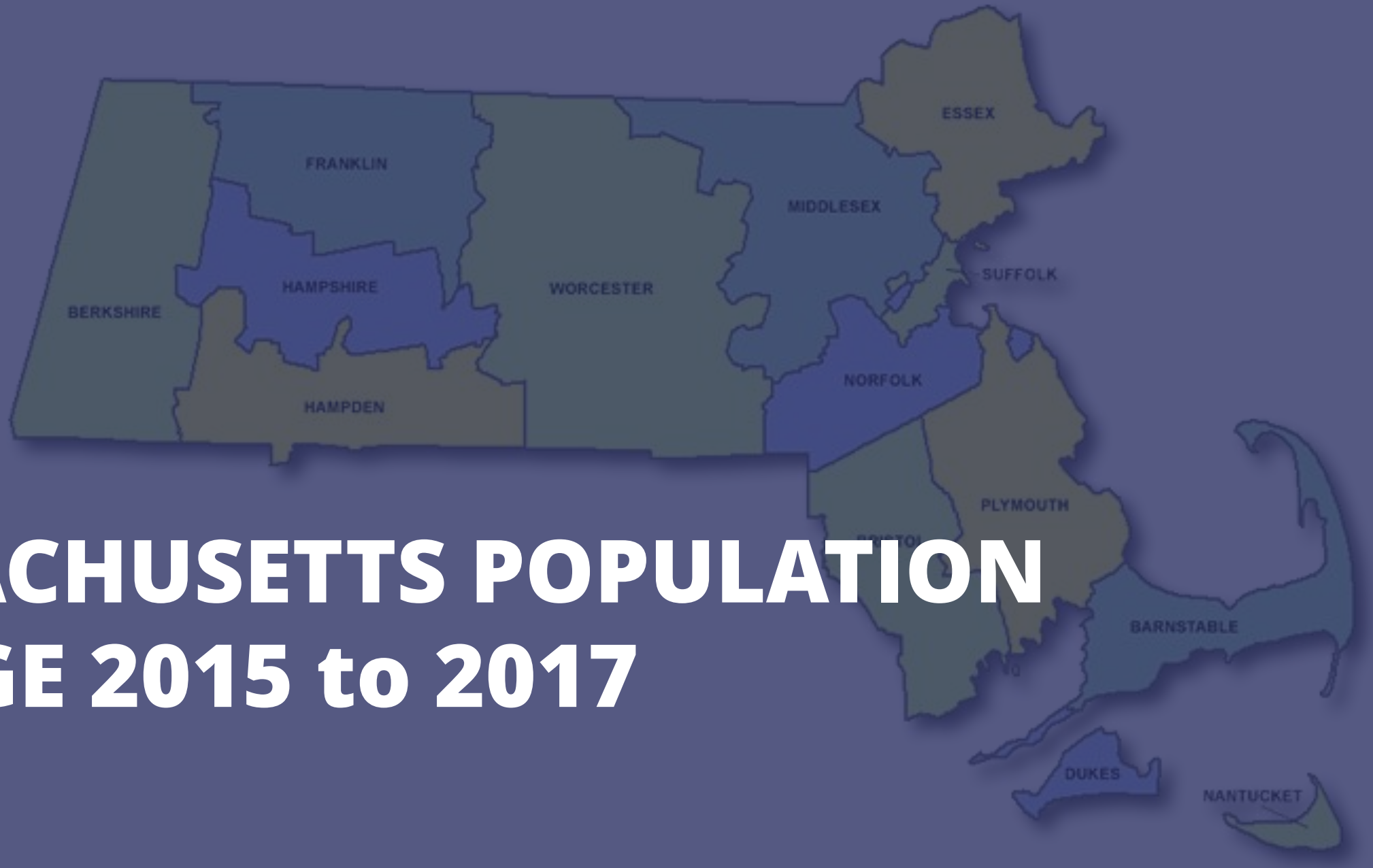


MASSACHUSETTS POPULATION CHANGE 2015 to 2017

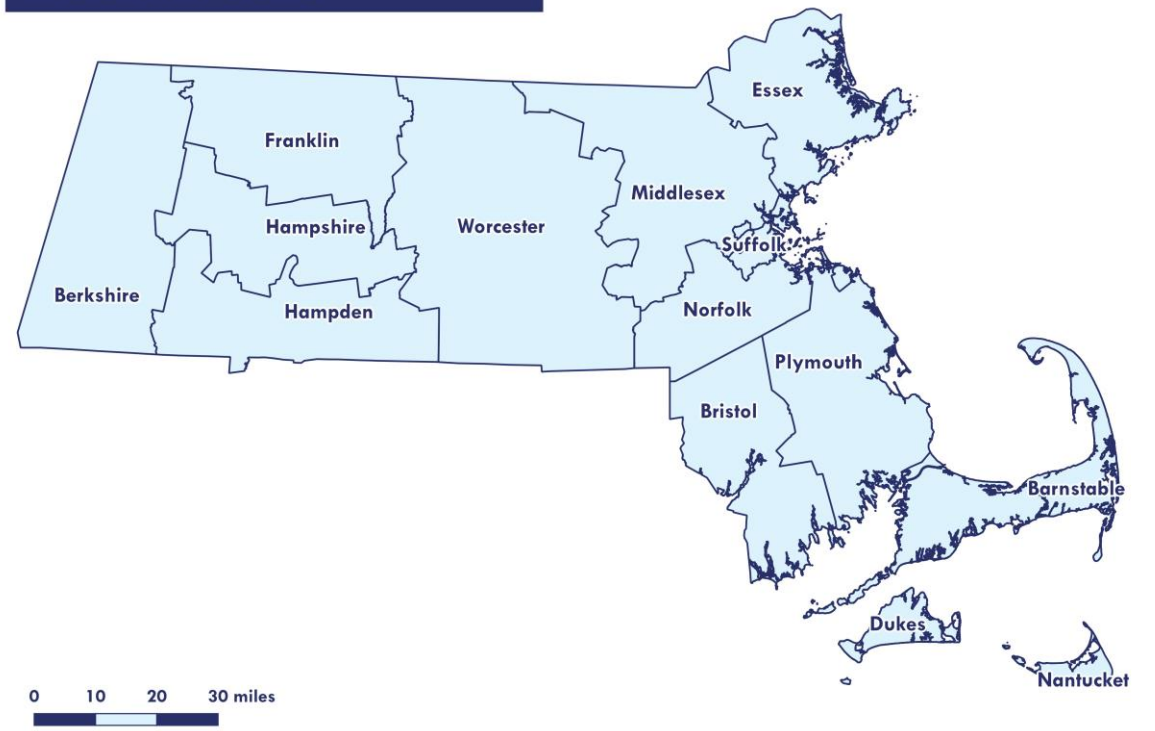
MASSACHUSETTS POPULATION CHANGE

Population Change from 2015 to 2017, Massachusetts Counties, All Ages

County	2015 Population	2016 Population	2017 Population	% change 2015 to 2016	%change 2016 to 2017
Barnstable	214,276	214,766	213,900	0%	0%
Berkshire	129,288	128,563	127,751	-1%	-1%
Bristol	552,763	554,868	557,016	0%	0%
Dukes	17,048	17,137	17,275	1%	1%
Essex	763,845	769,362	775,860	1%	1%
Franklin	71,144	70,916	70,926	0%	0%
Hampden	468,041	468,072	469,188	0%	0%
Hampshire	160,759	161,035	161,197	0%	0%
Middlesex	1,556,116	1,567,610	1,582,857	1%	1%
Nantucket	10,556	10,694	10,912	1%	2%
Norfolk	687,721	691,218	694,389	1%	0%
Plymouth	503,681	506,657	509,114	1%	0%
Suffolk	758,919	767,719	780,685	1%	2%
Worcester	810,935	813,589	818,249	0%	1%
Total	**6,705,586**	**6,742,143**	**6,789,319**	**1%**	**1%**

Data: https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml

Massachusetts Counties



Between 2015 and 2017, Massachusetts has grown 1% in overall population. Berkshire was the only county with a declining population for both years. Population remained relatively stable for both years and for all counties. From 2016 to 2017, Nantucket and Suffolk had the largest overall growth with a 2% increase.

Data not shown in table suggest a modest downward trend from 2015 to 2017 in the number of 15 to 19 year olds, and a modest upward trend of 20 to 24 year olds.

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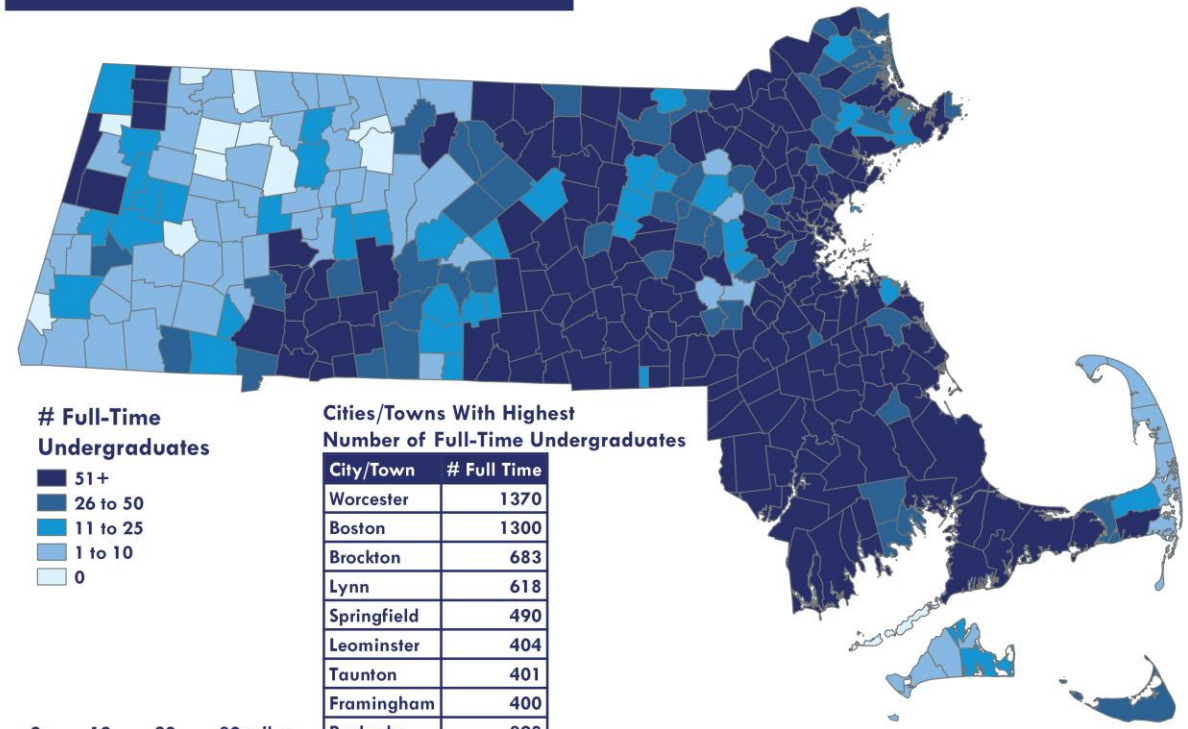
FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT NINE MASSACHUSETTS STATE UNIVERSITIES 2016 to 2018

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BY TOWN AND COUNTY 2018

Nine State Universities



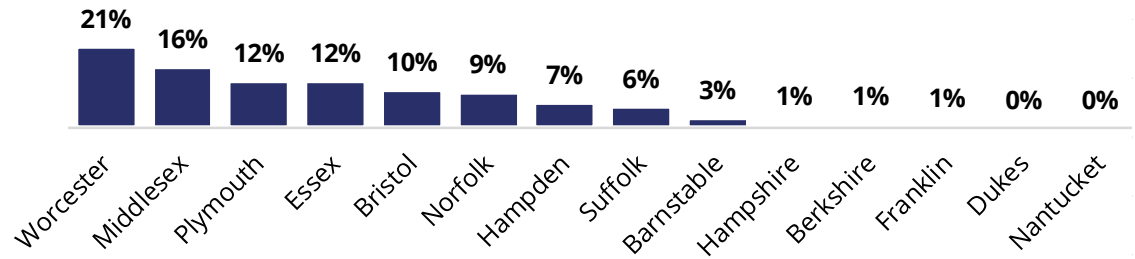
Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
Worcester	1370
Boston	1300
Brockton	683
Lynn	618
Springfield	490
Leominster	404
Taunton	401
Framingham	400
Peabody	398
Salem	388

Figure 1D

Percentage of Full-Time, In-State Undergraduate Students, Nine State Universities, Fall 2018

Source: Mass DHE Special Calculation, Fall 2018



Note: May not add to 100% due to rounding.

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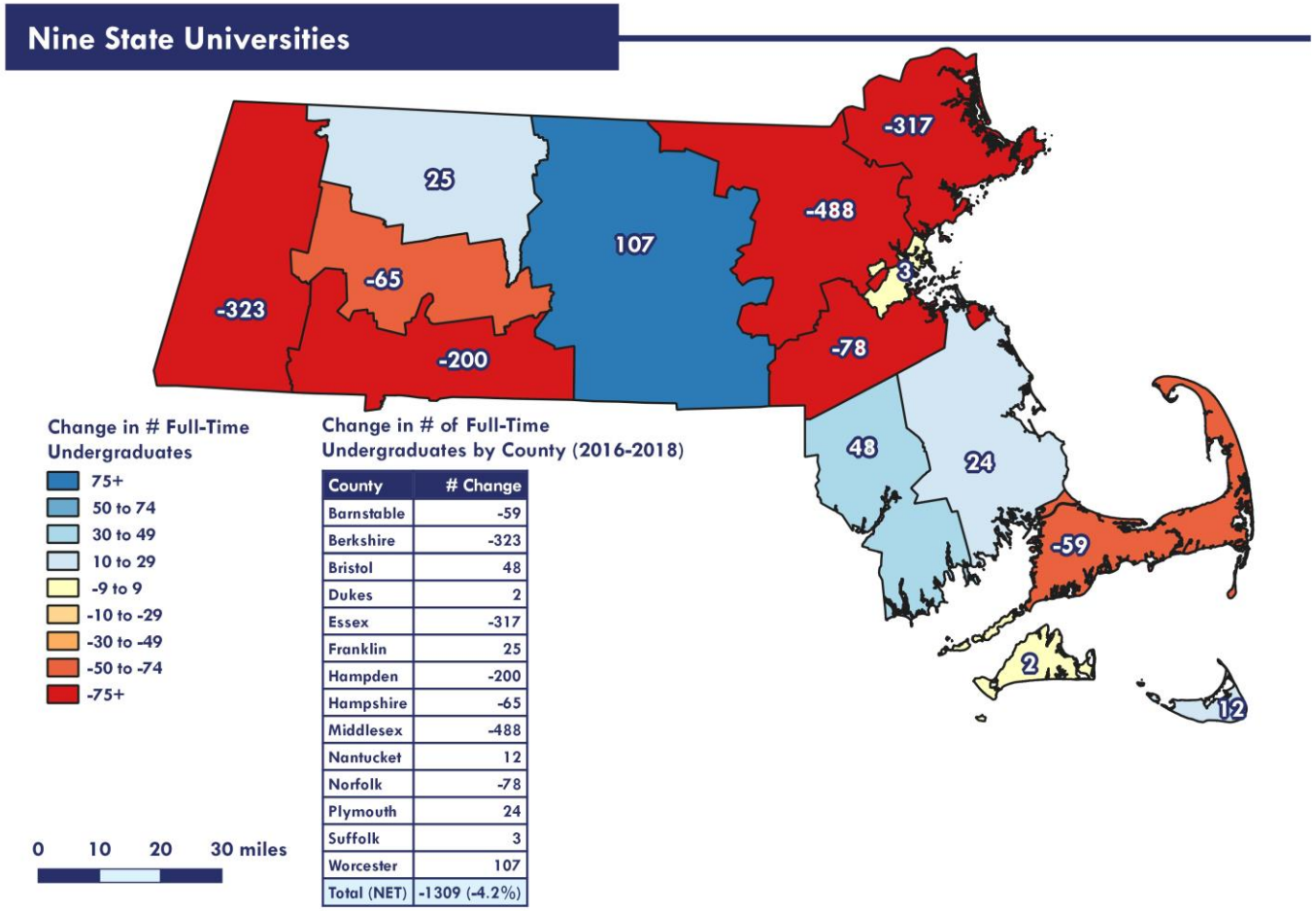
CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES, 2016 TO 2018



Change in # of Full-Time Undergraduates by County (2016-2018)

County	# Change
Barnstable	-59
Berkshire	-323
Bristol	48
Dukes	2
Essex	-317
Franklin	25
Hampden	-200
Hampshire	-65
Middlesex	-488
Nantucket	12
Norfolk	-78
Plymouth	24
Suffolk	3
Worcester	107
Total (NET)	-1309 (-4.2%)

Overall, the population of full-time in-state undergraduate students has declined by 1,309 (-4.2%) students, from Fall 2016 to Fall 2018.

The counties with the largest overall change in full-time undergraduate enrollment are Middlesex (-488), Berkshire (-323), Essex (-317) and Hampden (-200).

The only county with a substantial growth in number of students is Worcester, which increased by 107 students.

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CHANGE OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES, 2016 TO 2018

Percentage change can be misleading when a country has a small number of students. For example, Nantucket had a growth of 54.5% from Fall 2016 to Fall 2018, but only provides a small number of students to the nine State Universities.

By contrast, Berkshire (-48%), Essex (-7.9%), Hampden (-9.1%), and Middlesex (-9.2%) had a decline of over 100 students.

Worcester (1.7%) is the only county with a growth of over 100 students. It is also the county with the highest representation of students in the state. In addition, it is one of the counties with a low percentage change in student population between Fall 2016 and Fall 2018.

Change by County, Nine State Universities

County	2016	2018	Number Change	Percent Change
Barnstable	913	854	-59	-6.5%
Berkshire	673	350	-323	-48.0%
Bristol	2,932	2,980	48	1.6%
Dukes	47	49	2	4.3%
Essex	4,007	3,690	-317	-7.9%
Franklin	168	193	25	14.9%
Hampden	2,187	1,987	-200	-9.1%
Hampshire	449	384	-65	-14.5%
Middlesex	5,311	4,823	-488	-9.2%
Nantucket	22	34	12	54.5%
Norfolk	2,924	2,846	-78	-2.7%
Plymouth	3,724	3,748	24	0.6%
Suffolk	1,675	1,678	3	0.2%
Worcester	6,285	6,392	107	1.7%
Total	31,317	30,008	-1,309	-4.2%

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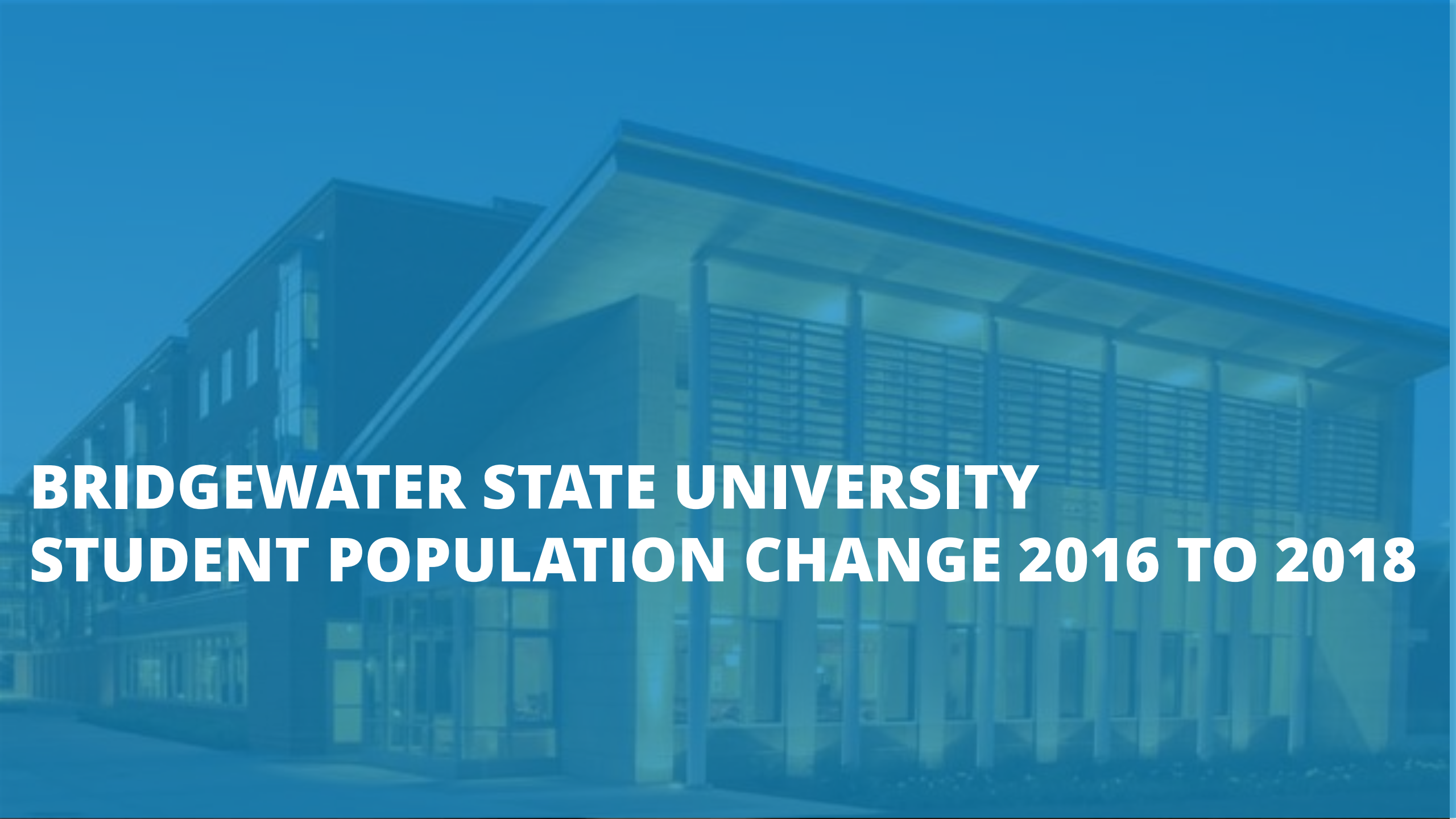
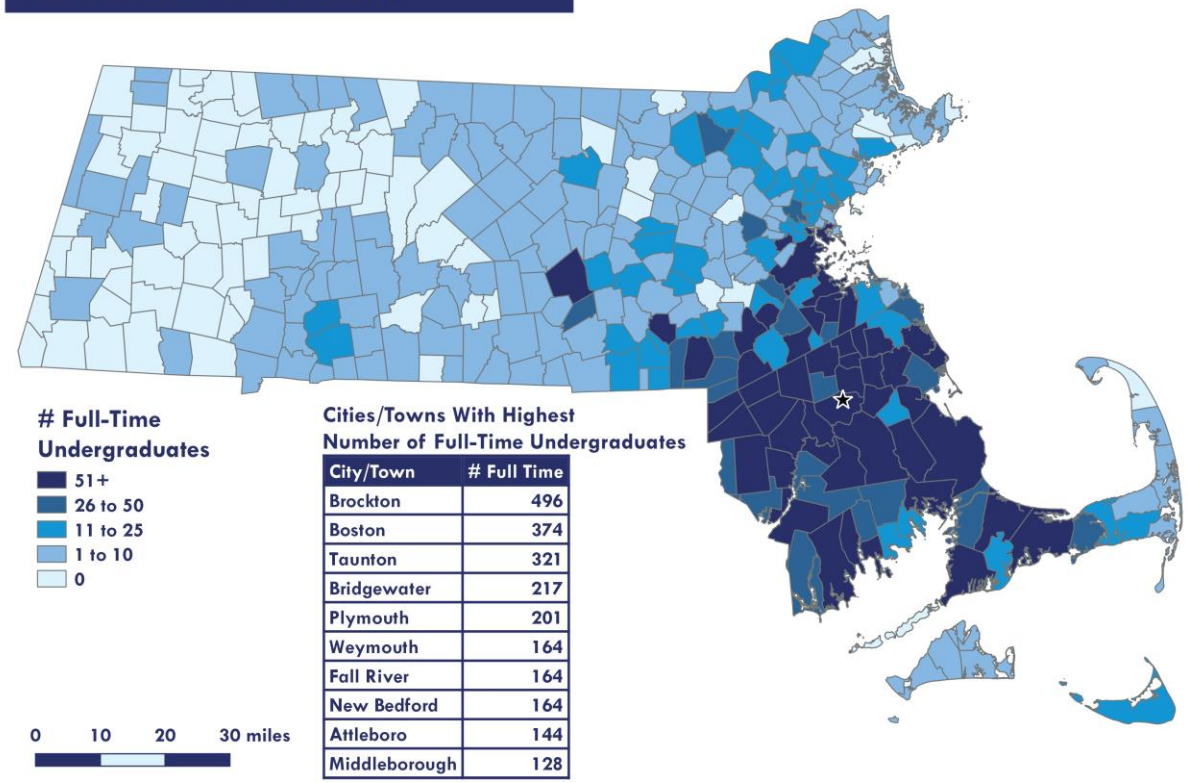


BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT POPULATION CHANGE 2016 TO 2018

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BY TOWN AND COUNTY 2018

Bridgewater State University



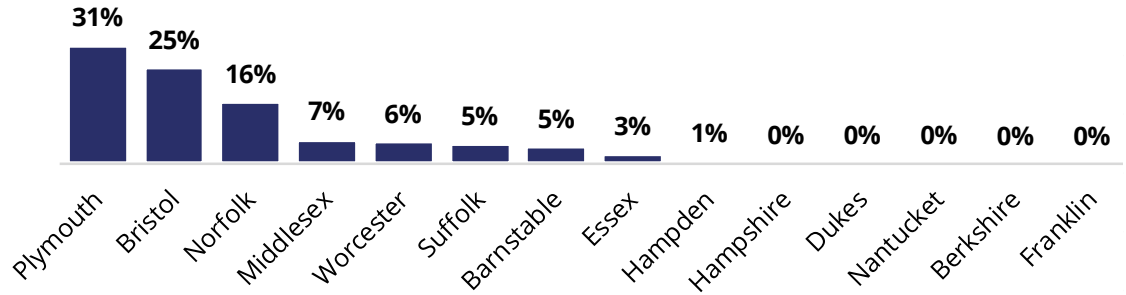
Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
Brockton	496
Boston	374
Taunton	321
Bridgewater	217
Plymouth	201
Weymouth	164
Fall River	164
New Bedford	164
Attleboro	144
Middleborough	128

Figure 2D

Percentage of Full-Time, In-State Undergraduate Students, Bridgewater State, Fall 2018

Source: Mass DHE Special Calculation, Fall 2018



Note: May not add to 100% due to rounding.

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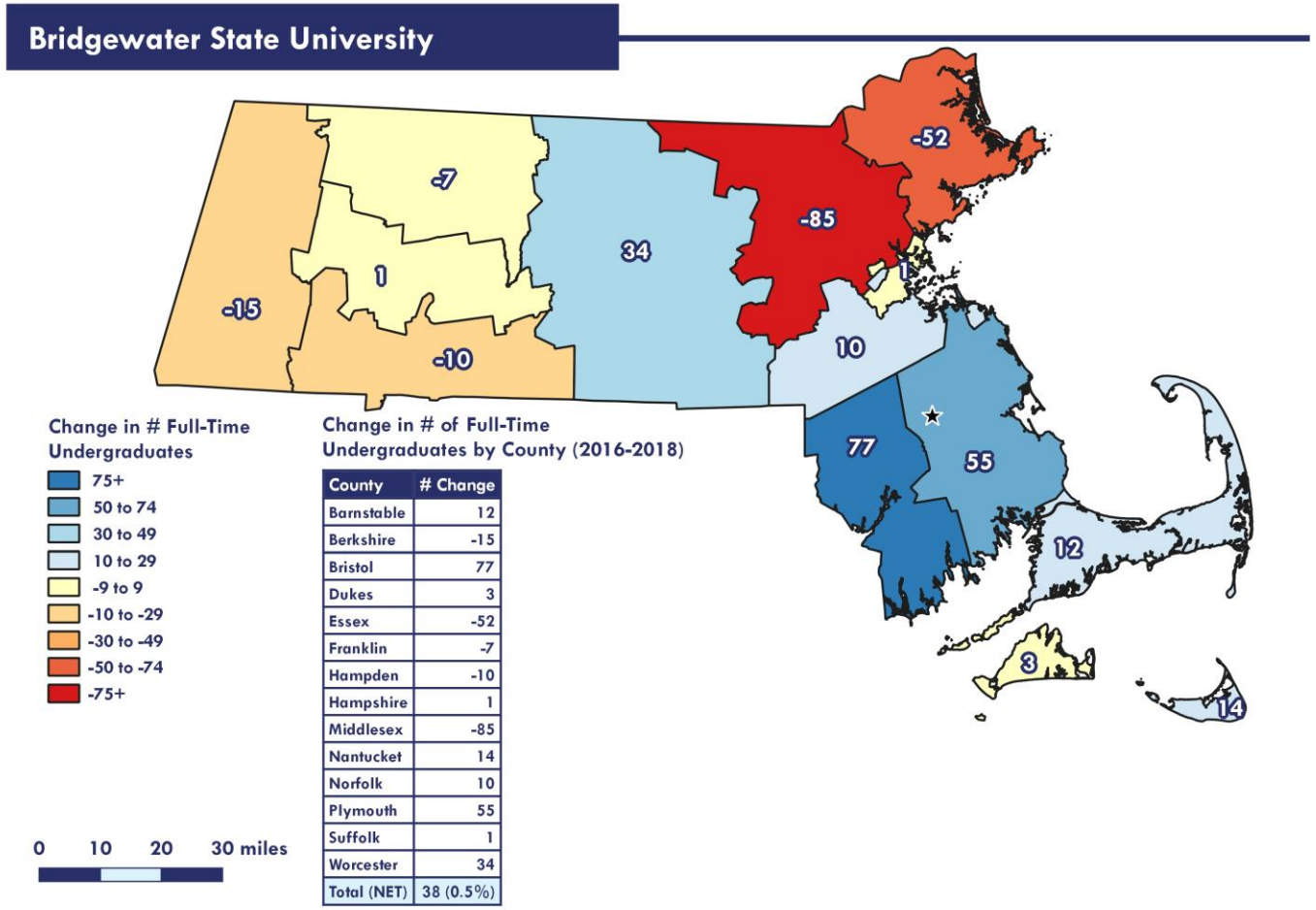
CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES, 2016 TO 2018



County	# Change
Barnstable	12
Berkshire	-15
Bristol	77
Dukes	3
Essex	-52
Franklin	-7
Hampden	-10
Hampshire	1
Middlesex	-85
Nantucket	14
Norfolk	10
Plymouth	55
Suffolk	1
Worcester	34
Total (NET)	38 (0.5%)

Overall, the BSU population of full-time in-state students has increased slightly by 38 students (0.5%), from Fall 2016 to Fall 2018.

Although most counties show small growth in BSU population, both Essex (-52) and Middlesex (-85) show a substantial decline in enrollment.

Plymouth and Bristol provide more than half of undergraduate students for BSU and are also the counties with the largest BSU population growth between 2016 and 2018.

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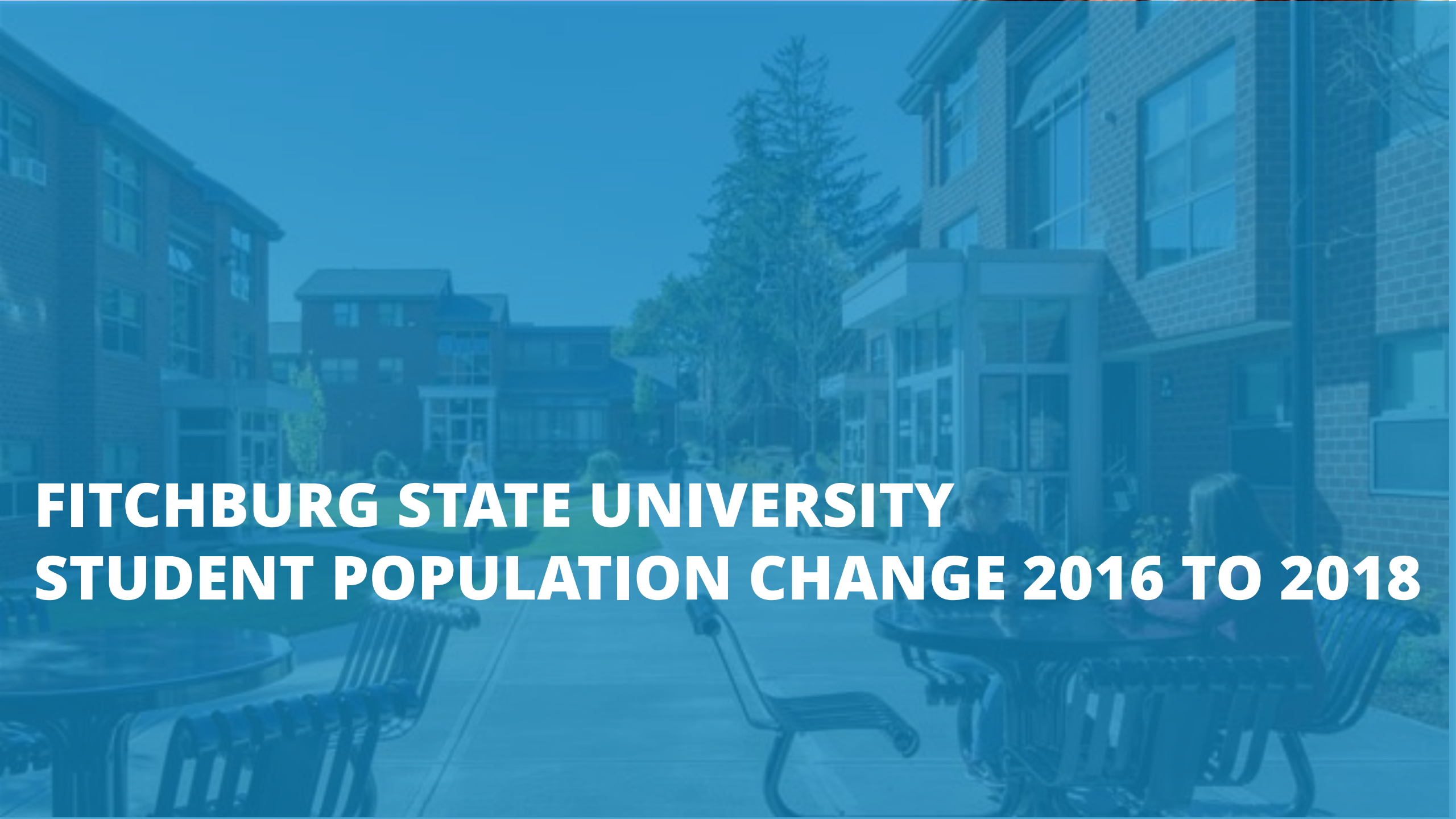
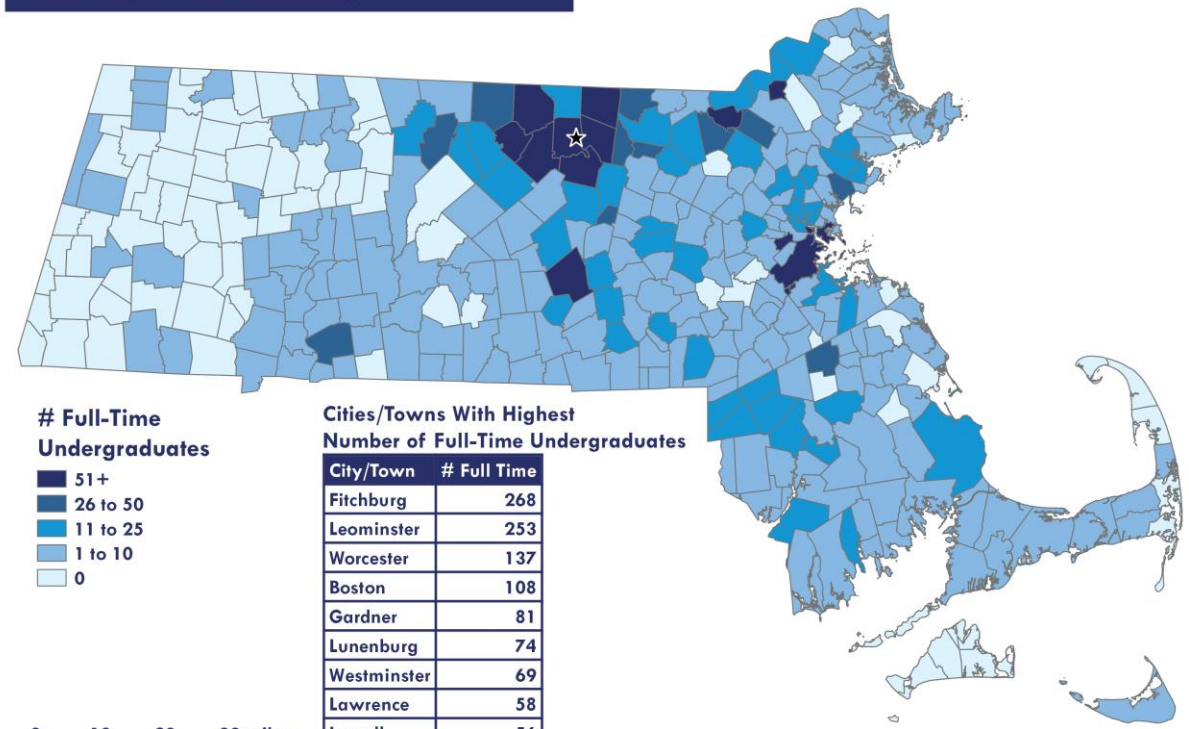


FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT POPULATION CHANGE 2016 TO 2018

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BY TOWN AND COUNTY 2018

Fitchburg State University



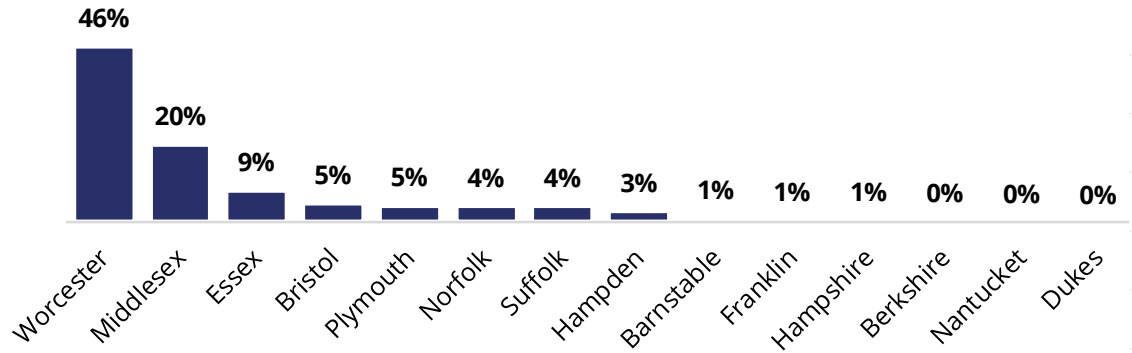
Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
Fitchburg	268
Leominster	253
Worcester	137
Boston	108
Gardner	81
Lunenburg	74
Westminster	69
Lawrence	58
Lowell	56
Townsend	56

Figure 3D

Percentage of Full-Time, In-State Undergraduate Students, Bridgewater State, Fall 2018

Source: Mass DHE Special Calculation, Fall 2018



Note: May not add to 100% due to rounding.

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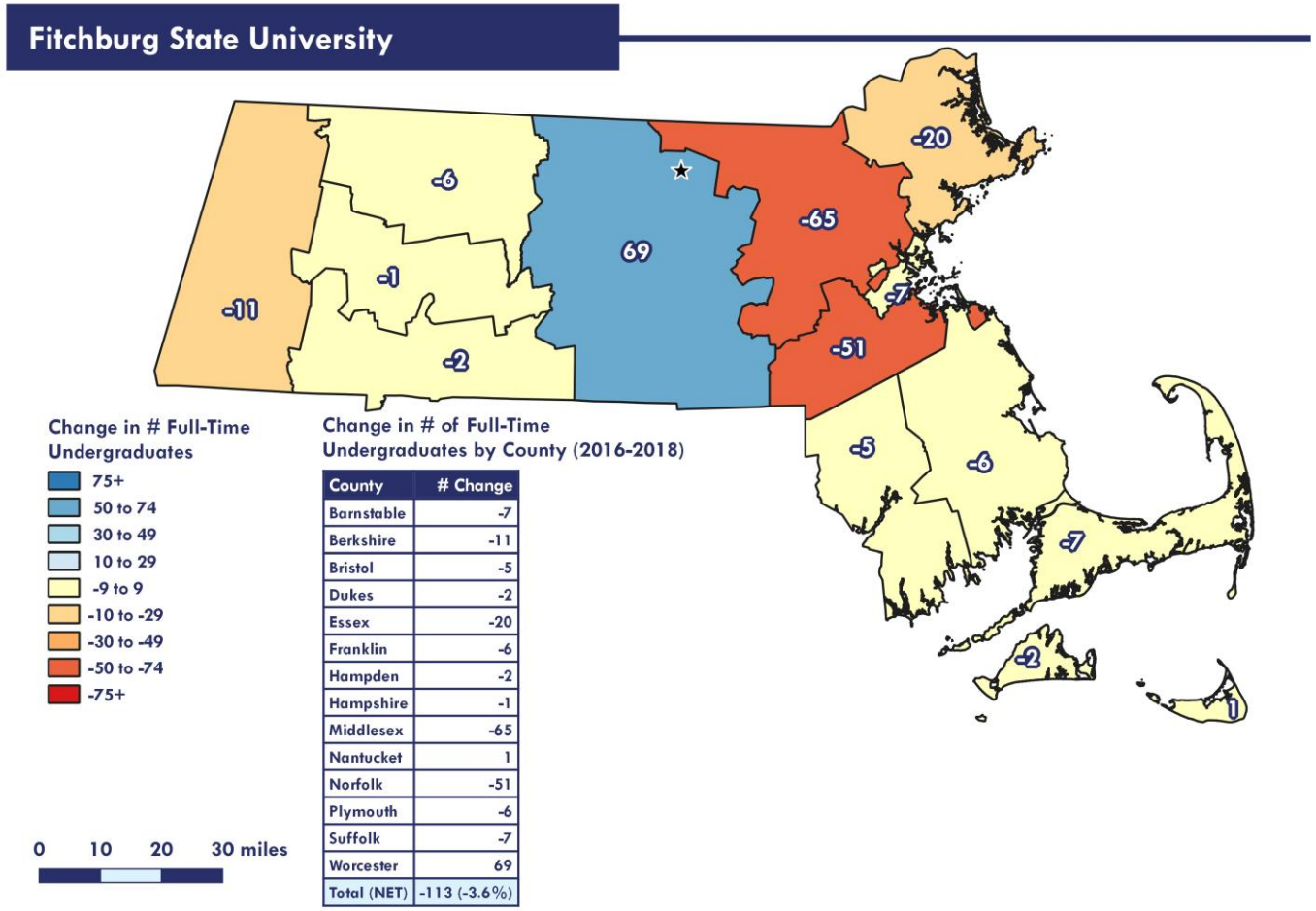
CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES, 2016 TO 2018



Change in # of Full-Time Undergraduates by County (2016-2018)

County	# Change
Barnstable	-7
Berkshire	-11
Bristol	-5
Dukes	-2
Essex	-20
Franklin	-6
Hampden	-2
Hampshire	-1
Middlesex	-65
Nantucket	1
Norfolk	-51
Plymouth	-6
Suffolk	-7
Worcester	69
Total (NET)	-113 (-3.6%)

Overall, the FSU population of full-time in-state students has declined by 113 (-3.6%) students, from Fall 2016 to Fall 2018.

Middlesex (-65) and Norfolk (-51) lost the most students, but almost all other counties had declining student populations as well.

Worcester county, provider of 46% of all FSU students, is the only growth area and increased by 69 students. Nantucket remained stable with 1 extra student.

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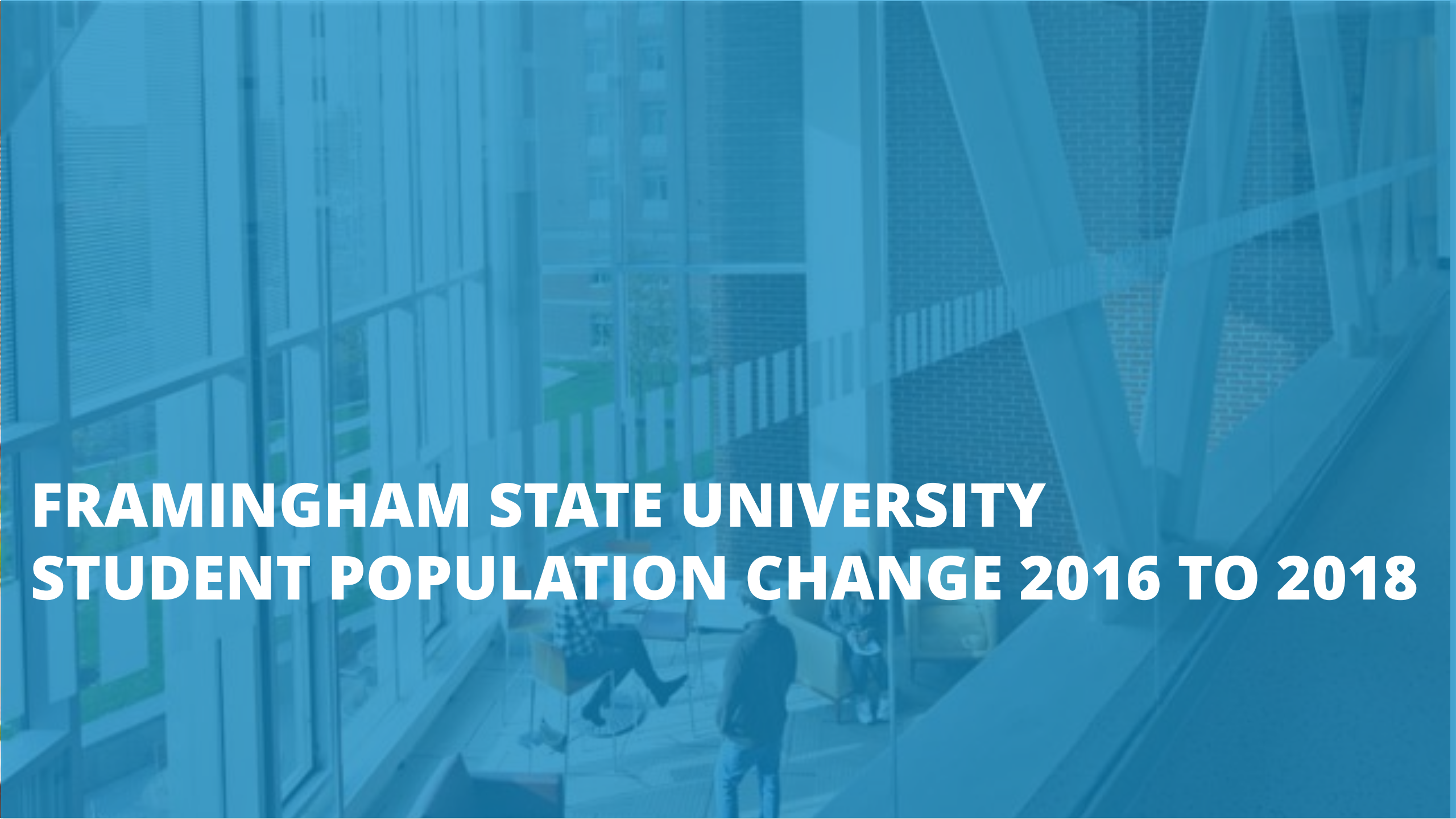
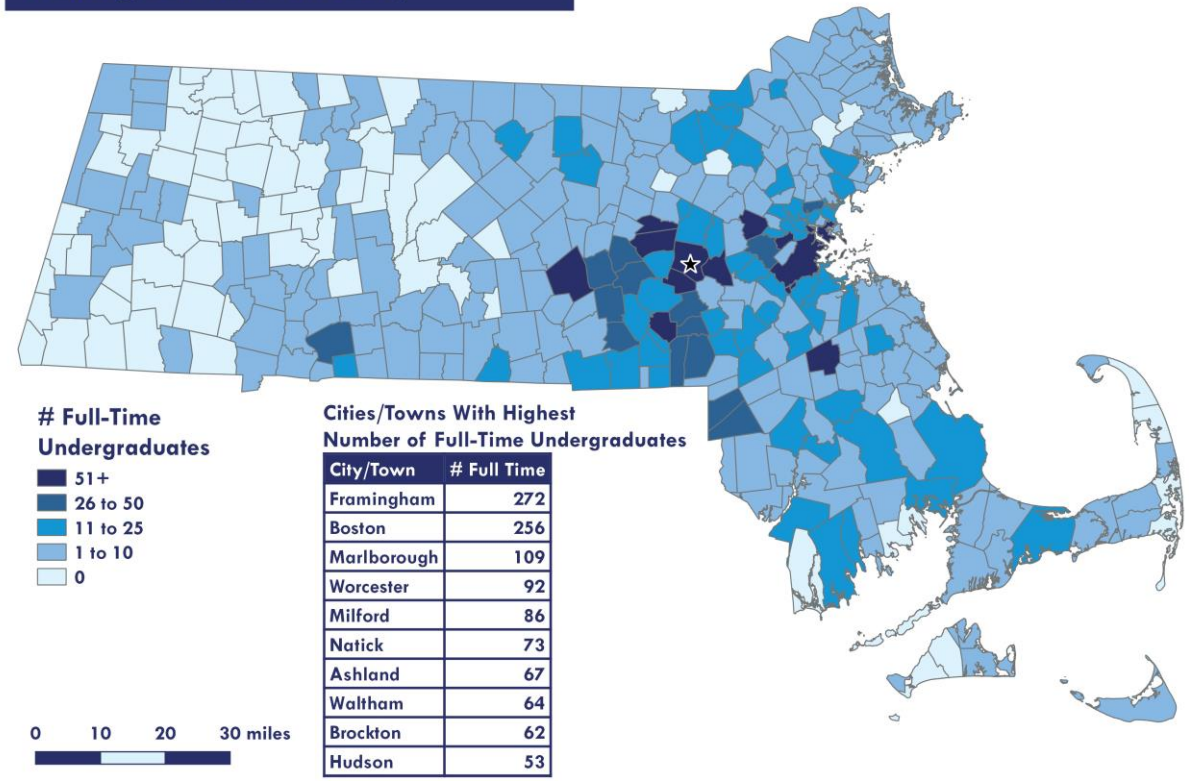


FRAMINGHAM STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT POPULATION CHANGE 2016 TO 2018

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BY TOWN AND COUNTY 2018

Framingham State University



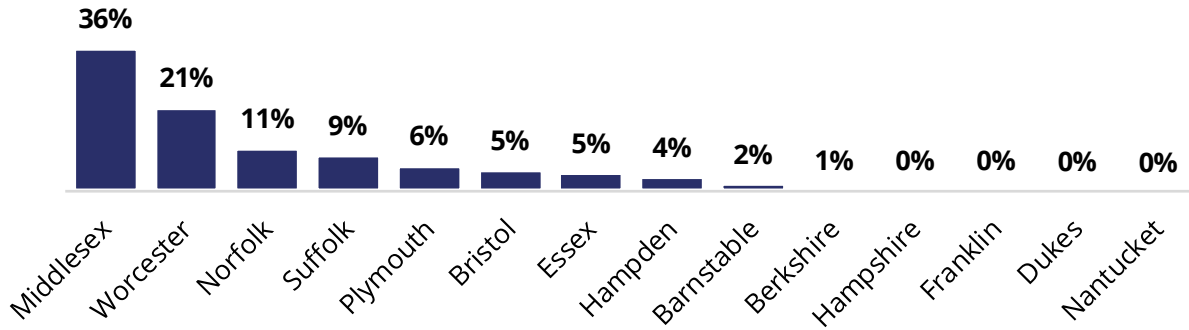
Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
Framingham	272
Boston	256
Marlborough	109
Worcester	92
Milford	86
Natick	73
Ashland	67
Waltham	64
Brockton	62
Hudson	53

Figure 4D

Percentage of Full-Time, In-State Undergraduate Students, Framingham State, Fall 2018

Source: Mass DHE Special Calculation, Fall 2018



Note: May not add to 100% due to rounding.

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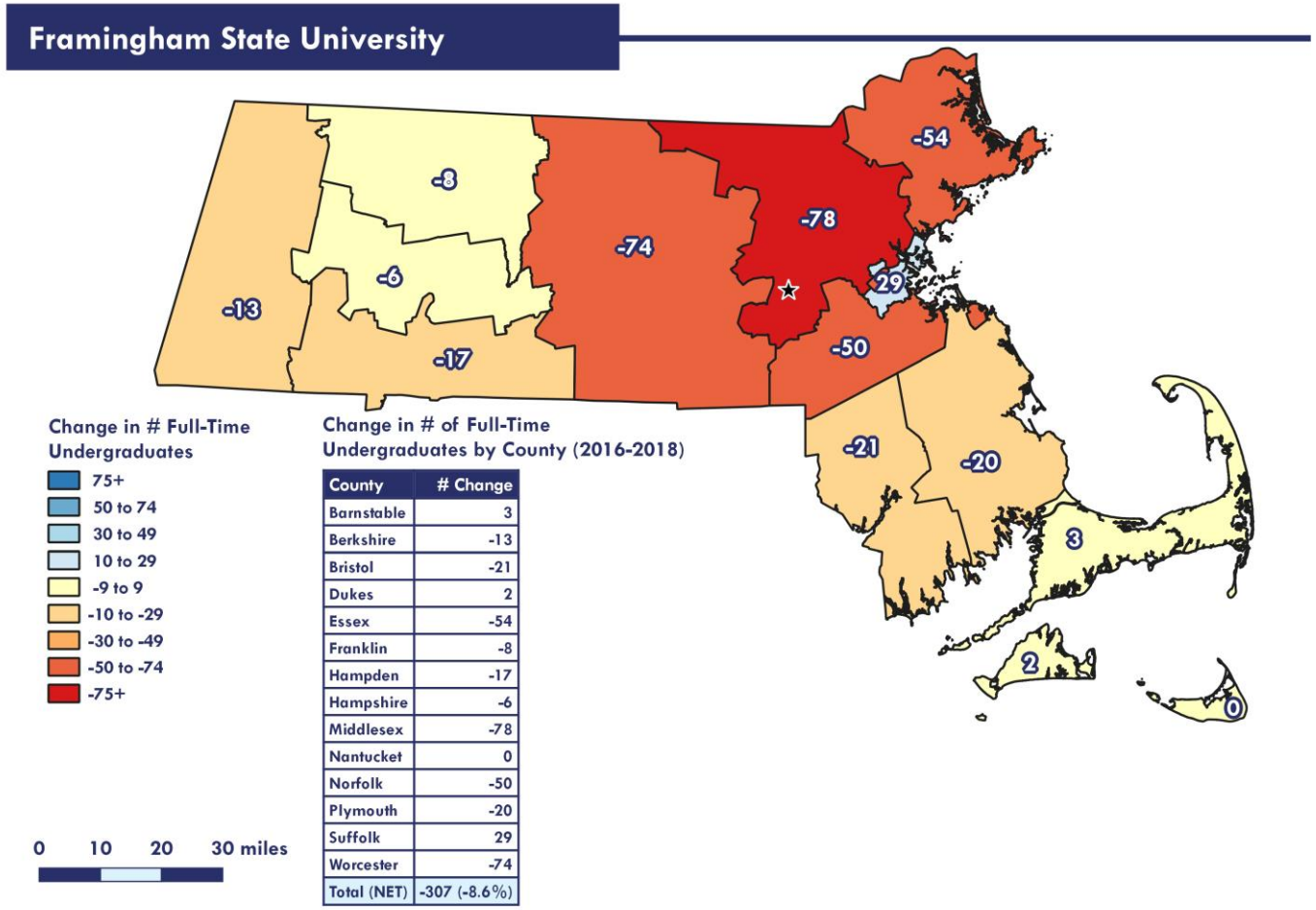
CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES, 2016 TO 2018



Change in # of Full-Time Undergraduates by County (2016-2018)

County	# Change
Barnstable	3
Berkshire	-13
Bristol	-21
Dukes	2
Essex	-54
Franklin	-8
Hampden	-17
Hampshire	-6
Middlesex	-78
Nantucket	0
Norfolk	-50
Plymouth	-20
Suffolk	29
Worcester	-74
Total (NET)	-307 (-8.6%)

Overall, the Framingham State population of full-time in-state students has declined by 307 (-8.6%) students, from Fall 2016 to Fall 2018.

Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket have remained stable, while Suffolk is the only growth area (29).

Middlesex (-78) and Worcester (-74) account together for 57% of the student population, but also declined the most between Fall 2016 and Fall 2018.

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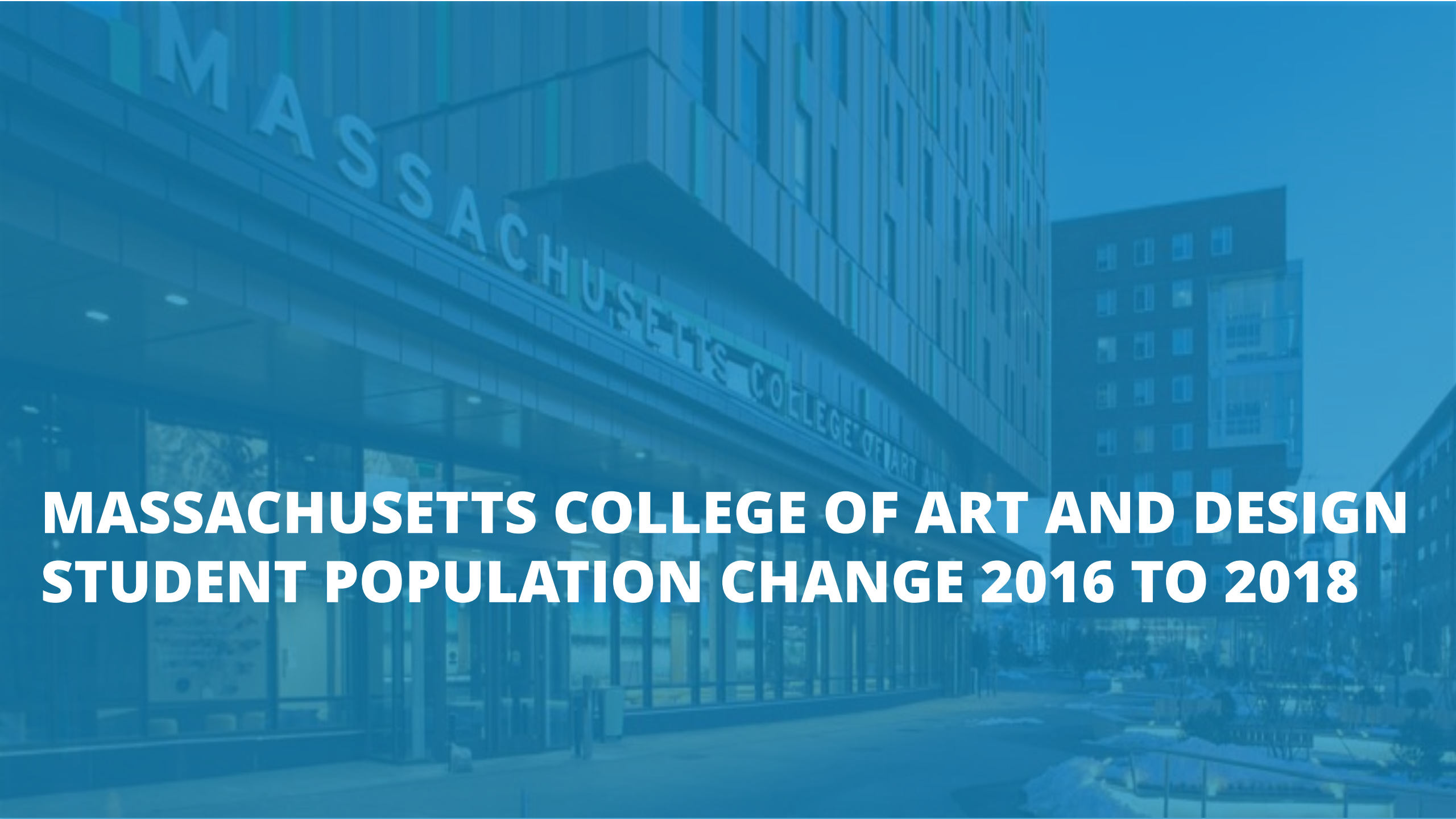
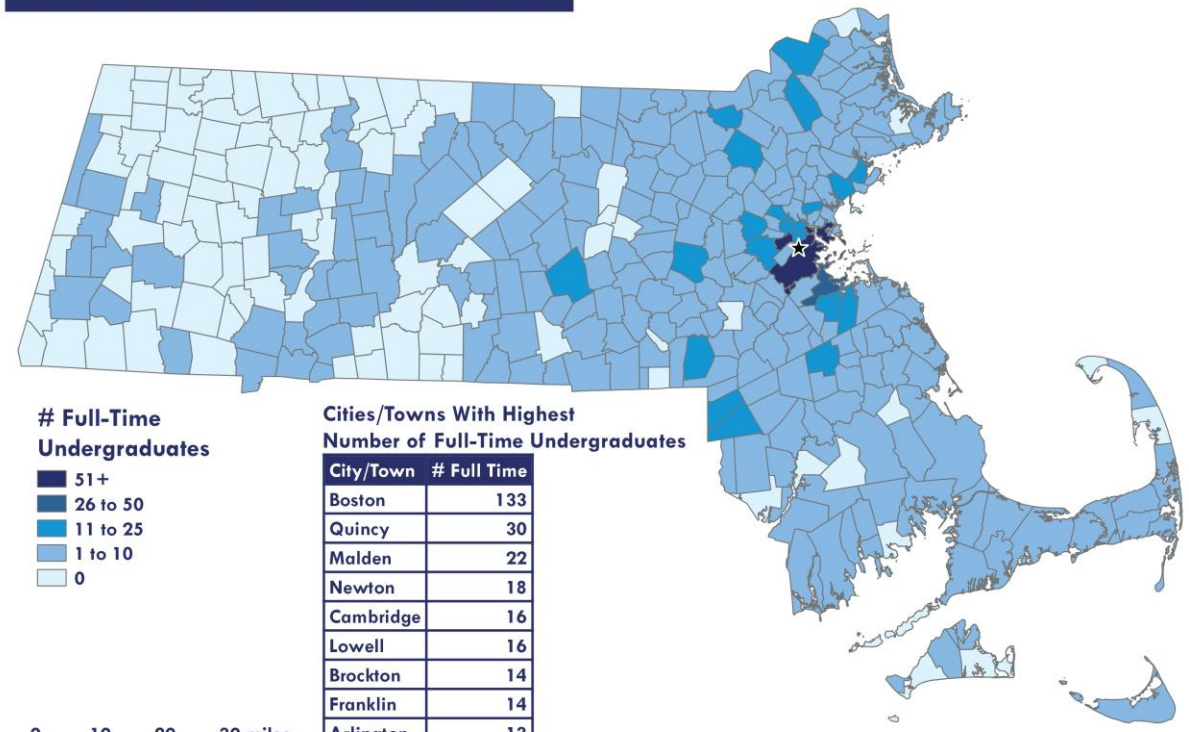


MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN STUDENT POPULATION CHANGE 2016 TO 2018

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BY TOWN AND COUNTY 2018

Massachusetts College of Art & Design



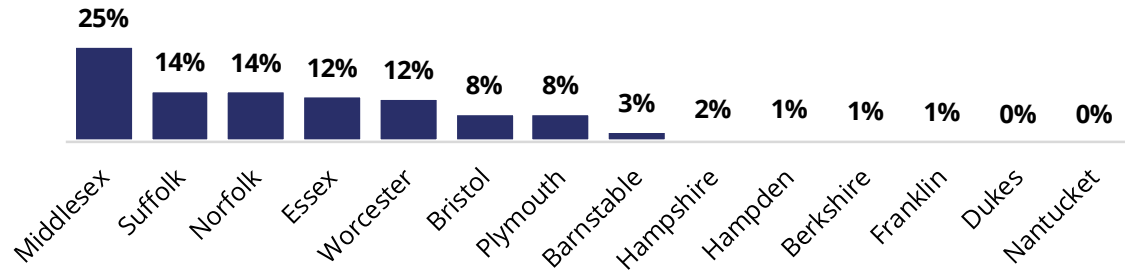
Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
Boston	133
Quincy	30
Malden	22
Newton	18
Cambridge	16
Lowell	16
Brockton	14
Franklin	14
Arlington	13
Worcester	13

Figure 5D

Percentage of Full-Time, In-State Undergraduate Students, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Fall 2018

Source: Mass DHE Special Calculation, Fall 2018



Note: May not add to 100% due to rounding.

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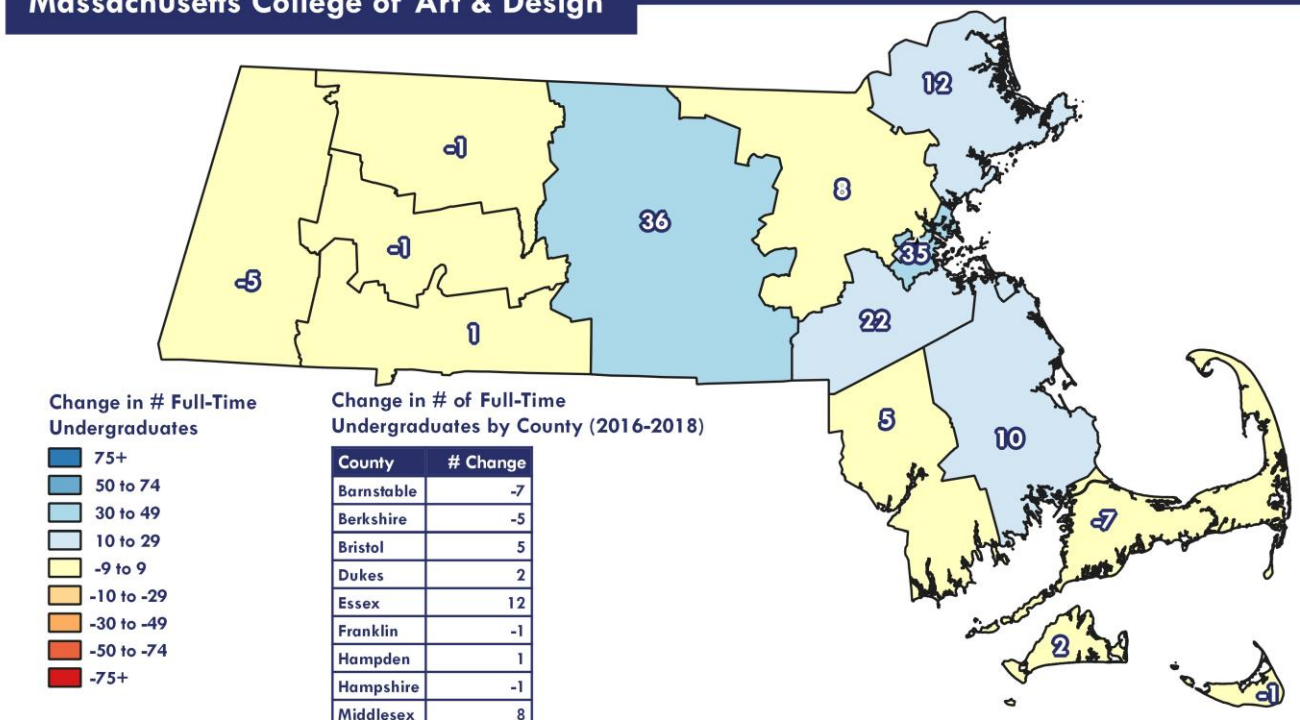
CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES, 2016 TO 2018

Massachusetts College of Art & Design



Change in # of Full-Time Undergraduates by County (2016-2018)

County	# Change
Barnstable	-7
Berkshire	-5
Bristol	5
Dukes	2
Essex	12
Franklin	-1
Hampden	1
Hampshire	-1
Middlesex	8
Nantucket	-1
Norfolk	22
Plymouth	10
Suffolk	35
Worcester	36
Total (NET)	116 (10.9%)

Overall, the MassArt population of full-time in-state undergraduate students has increased 116 students (10.9%), from Fall 2016 to Fall 2018.

Although Middlesex has the largest MassArt population, Suffolk (35) and Worcester (36) are the largest growth areas.

Norfolk, Essex, and Plymouth also had moderate growth, while most other counties stayed more or less stable (-1 to 9).

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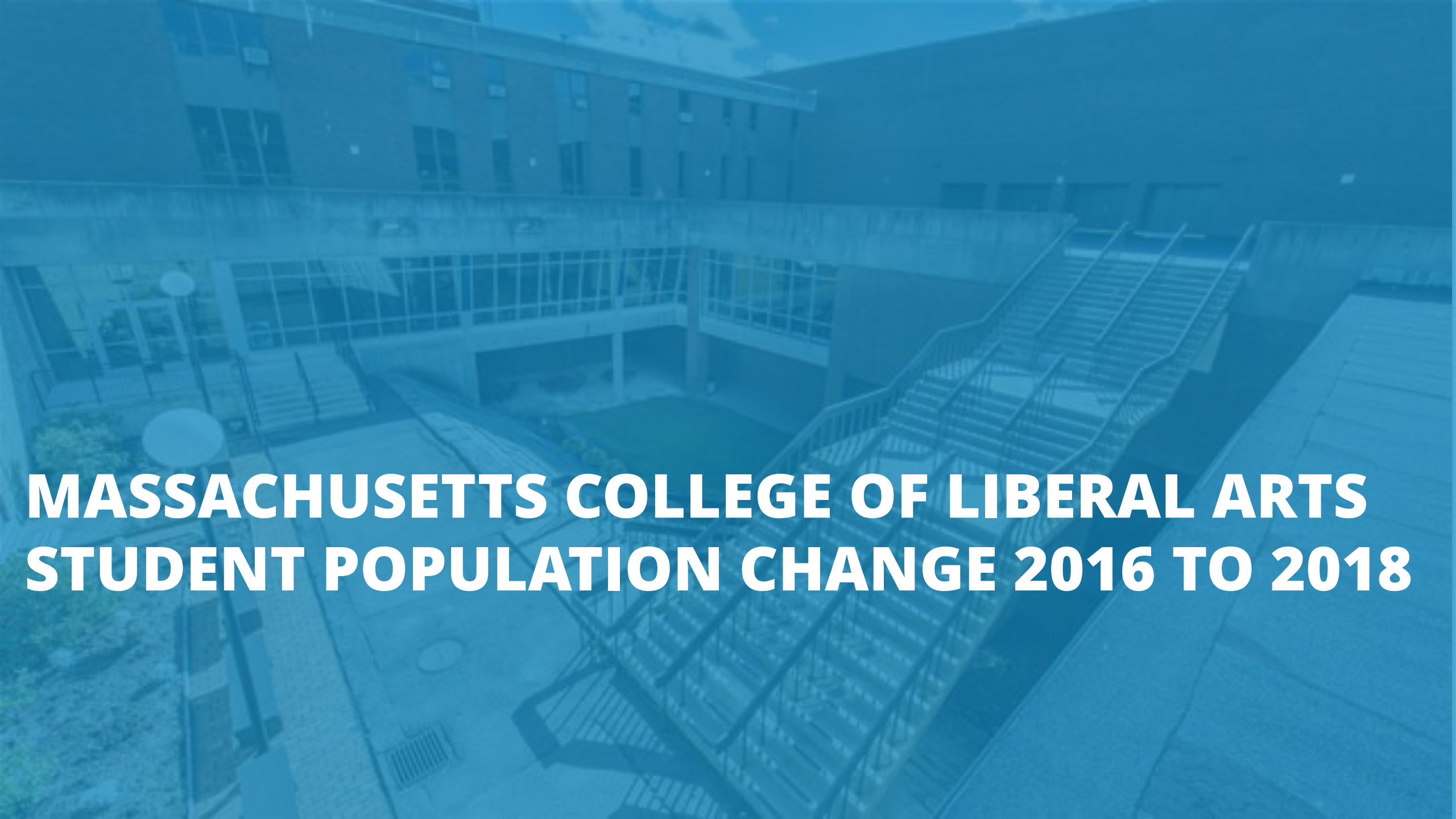
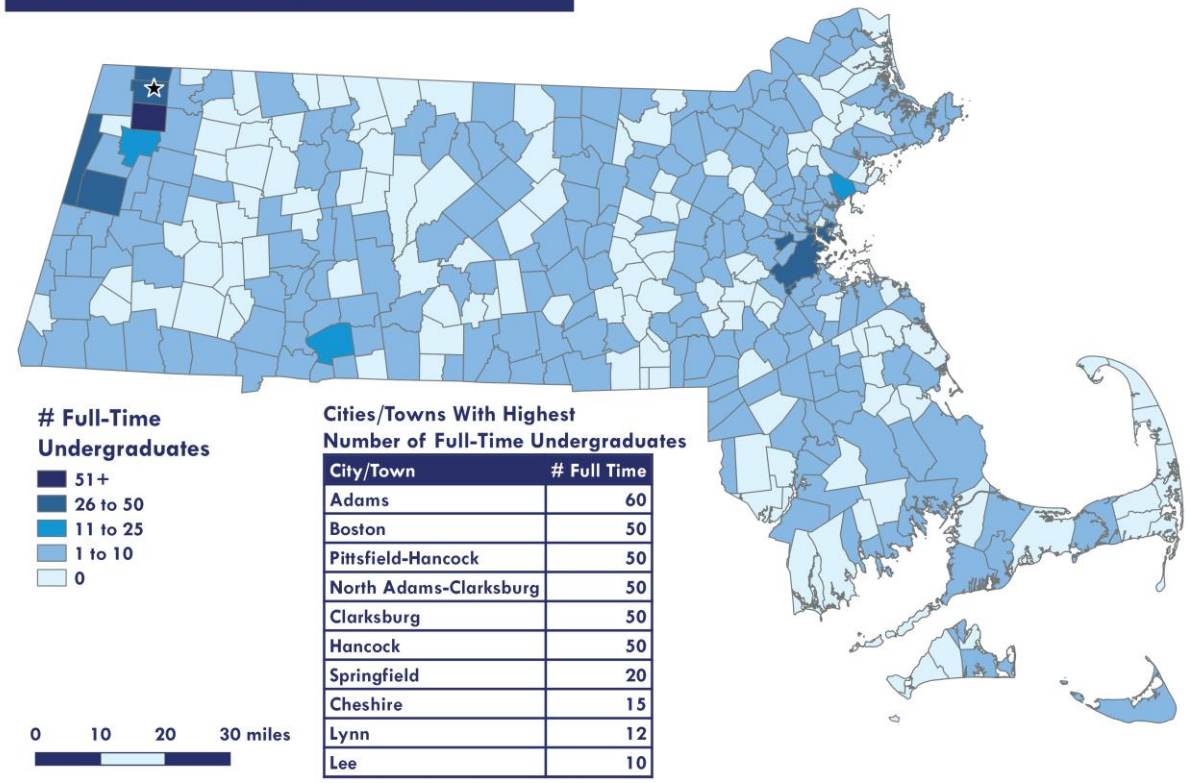


MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT POPULATION CHANGE 2016 TO 2018

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BY TOWN AND COUNTY 2018

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts



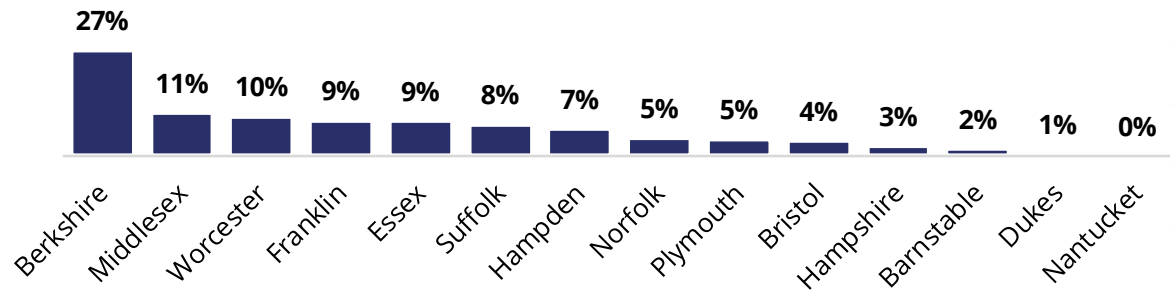
Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
Adams	60
Boston	50
Pittsfield-Hancock	50
North Adams-Clarksburg	50
Clarksburg	50
Hancock	50
Springfield	20
Cheshire	15
Lynn	12
Lee	10

Figure 6D

Percentage of Full-Time, In-State Undergraduate Students, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, Fall 2018

Source: Mass DHE Special Calculation, Fall 2018



Note: May not add to 100% due to rounding.

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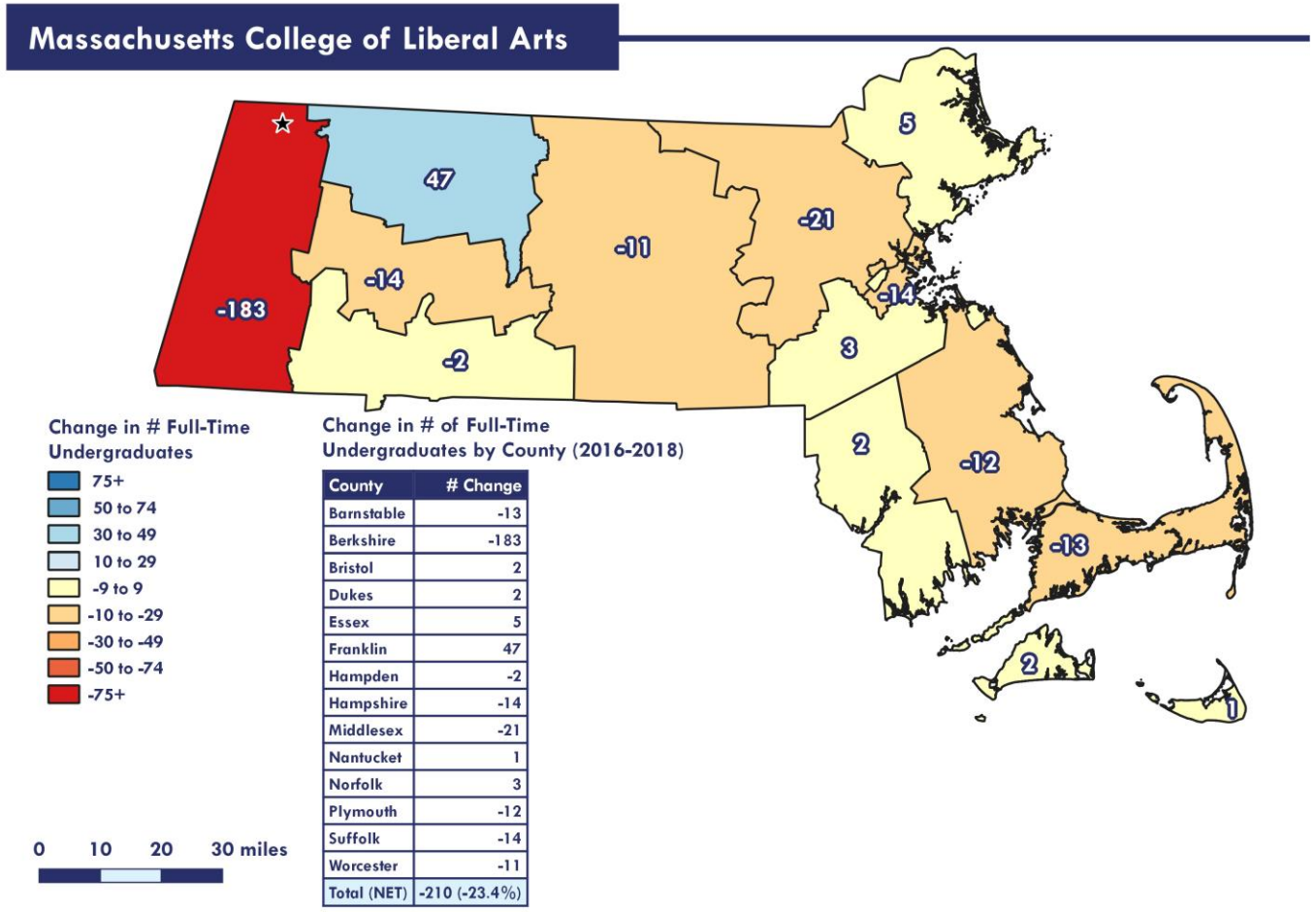
CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES, 2016 TO 2018



County	# Change
Barnstable	-13
Berkshire	-183
Bristol	2
Dukes	2
Essex	5
Franklin	47
Hampden	-2
Hampshire	-14
Middlesex	-21
Nantucket	1
Norfolk	3
Plymouth	-12
Suffolk	-14
Worcester	-11
Total (NET)	-210 (-23.4%)

Overall, the MCLA population of full-time in-state undergraduate students declined by 210 (-23.4%), from Fall 2016 to Fall 2018.

This decline in student population is mostly due to a large fall in population in Berkshire County (-183).

Franklin is the only county with a substantial growth of MCLA students.

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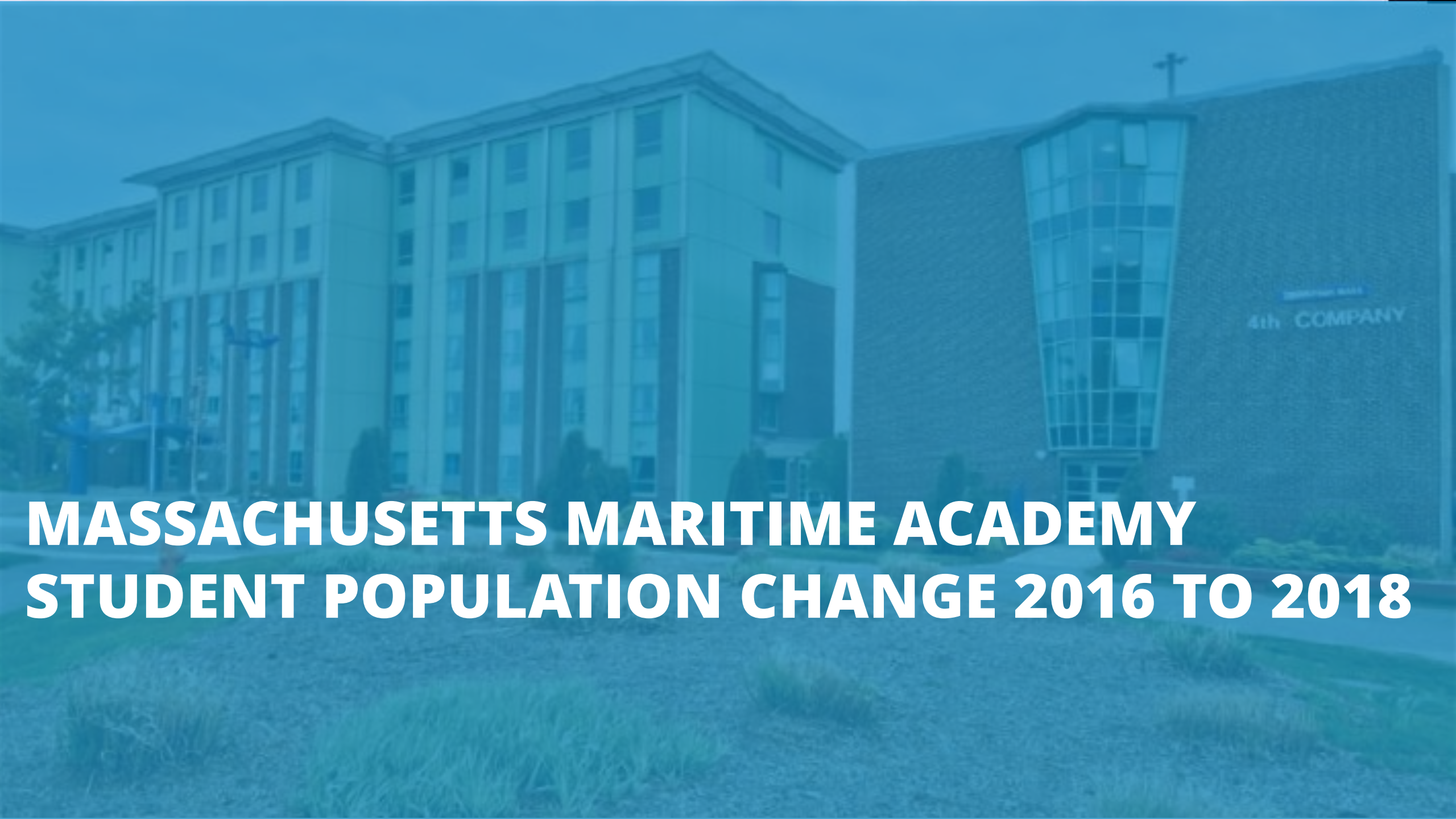
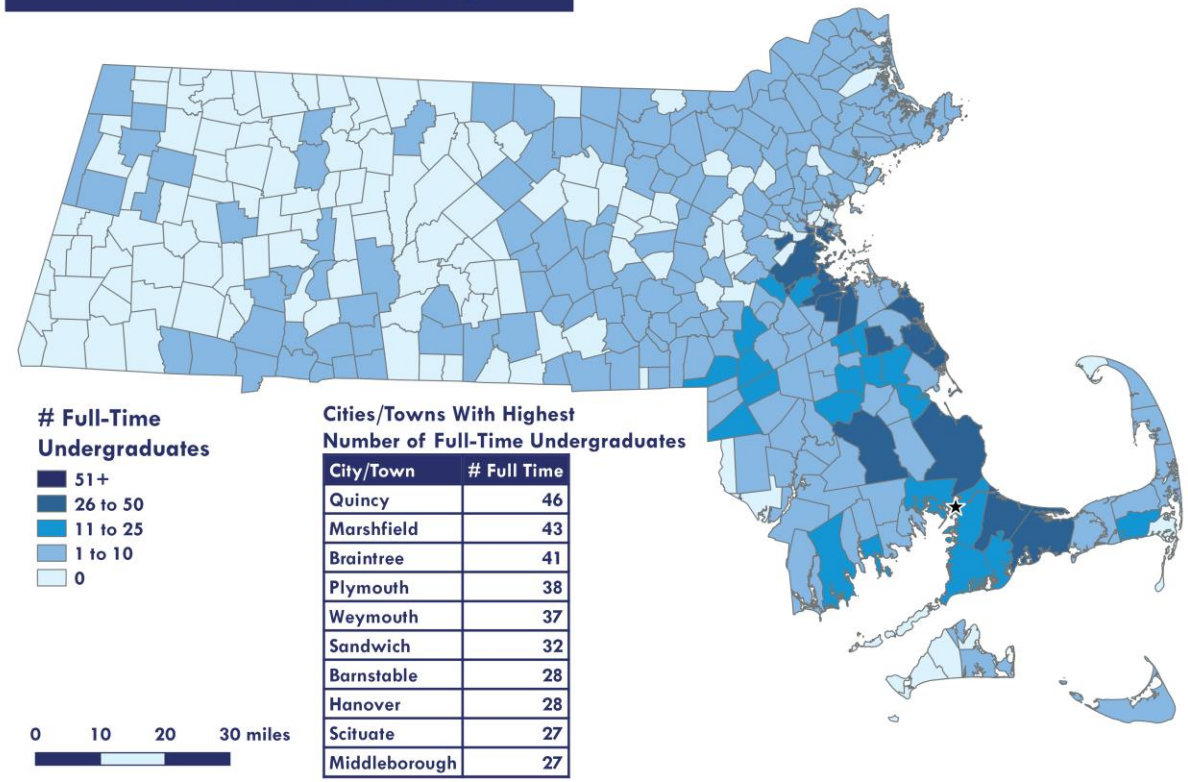


MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME ACADEMY STUDENT POPULATION CHANGE 2016 TO 2018

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BY TOWN AND COUNTY 2018

Massachusetts Maritime Academy



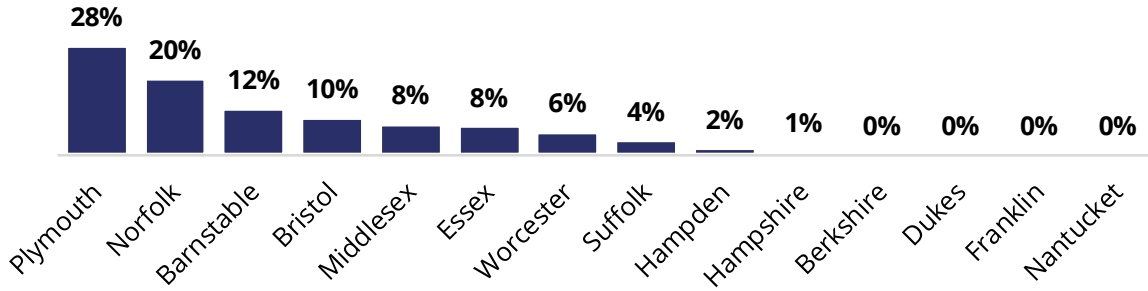
Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
Quincy	46
Marshfield	43
Braintree	41
Plymouth	38
Weymouth	37
Sandwich	32
Barnstable	28
Hanover	28
Scituate	27
Middleborough	27

Figure 7D

Percentage of Full-Time, In-State Undergraduate Students, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Fall 2018

Source: Mass DHE Special Calculation, Fall 2018



Note: May not add to 100% due to rounding.

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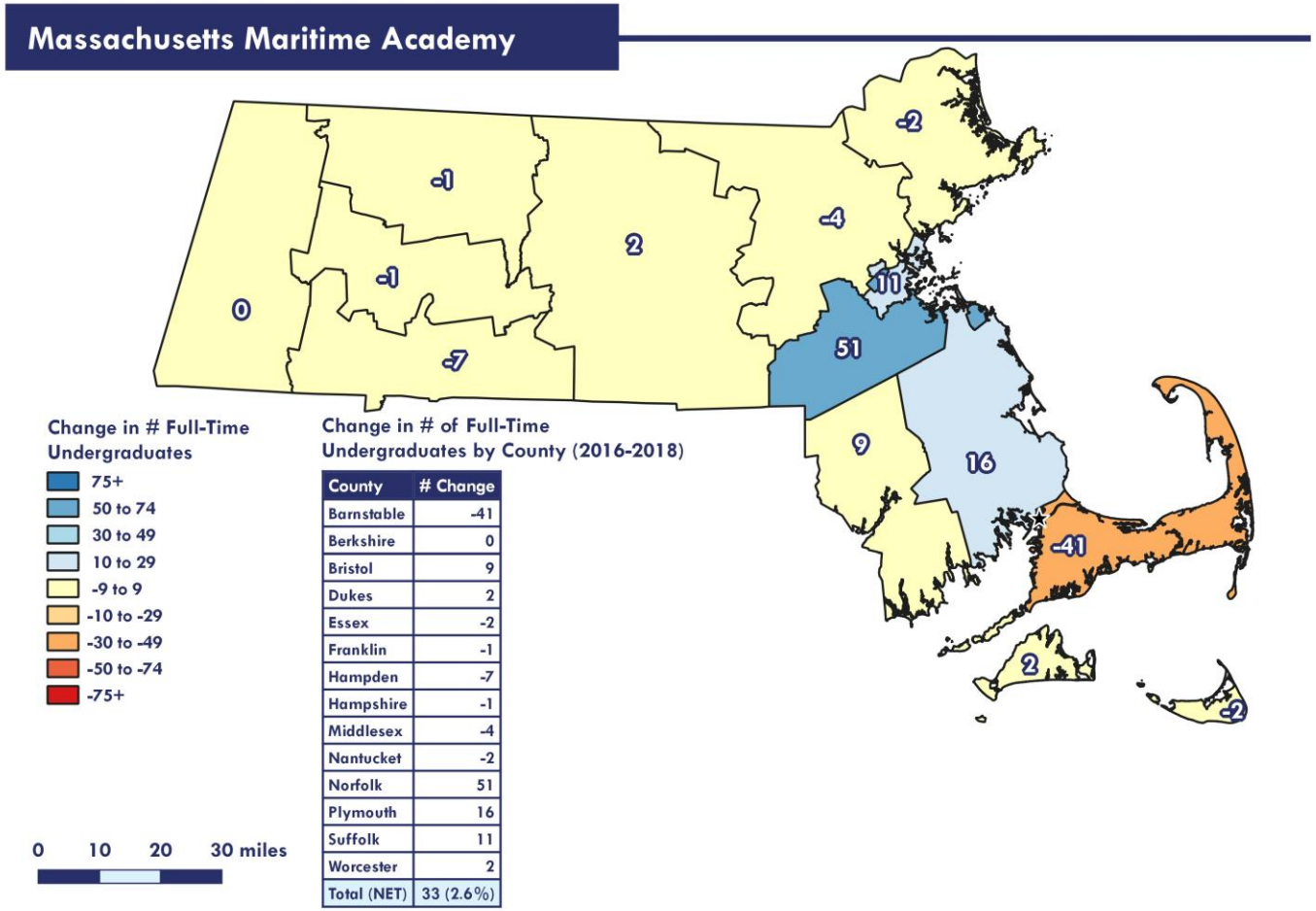
CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES, 2016 TO 2018



Change in # of Full-Time Undergraduates by County (2016-2018)

County	# Change
Barnstable	-41
Berkshire	0
Bristol	9
Dukes	2
Essex	-2
Franklin	-1
Hampden	-7
Hampshire	-1
Middlesex	-4
Nantucket	-2
Norfolk	51
Plymouth	16
Suffolk	11
Worcester	2
Total (NET)	33 (2.6%)

Overall, the MMA population of full-time in-state undergraduate students has increased by 33 (2.6%) students, from Fall 2016 to Fall 2018.

Most counties remained relatively stable. Suffolk (11) and Plymouth (16) had a moderate growth and Norfolk is the largest growth area, increasing by 51 students.

Barnstable had a substantial decline (-41) in undergraduate student population.

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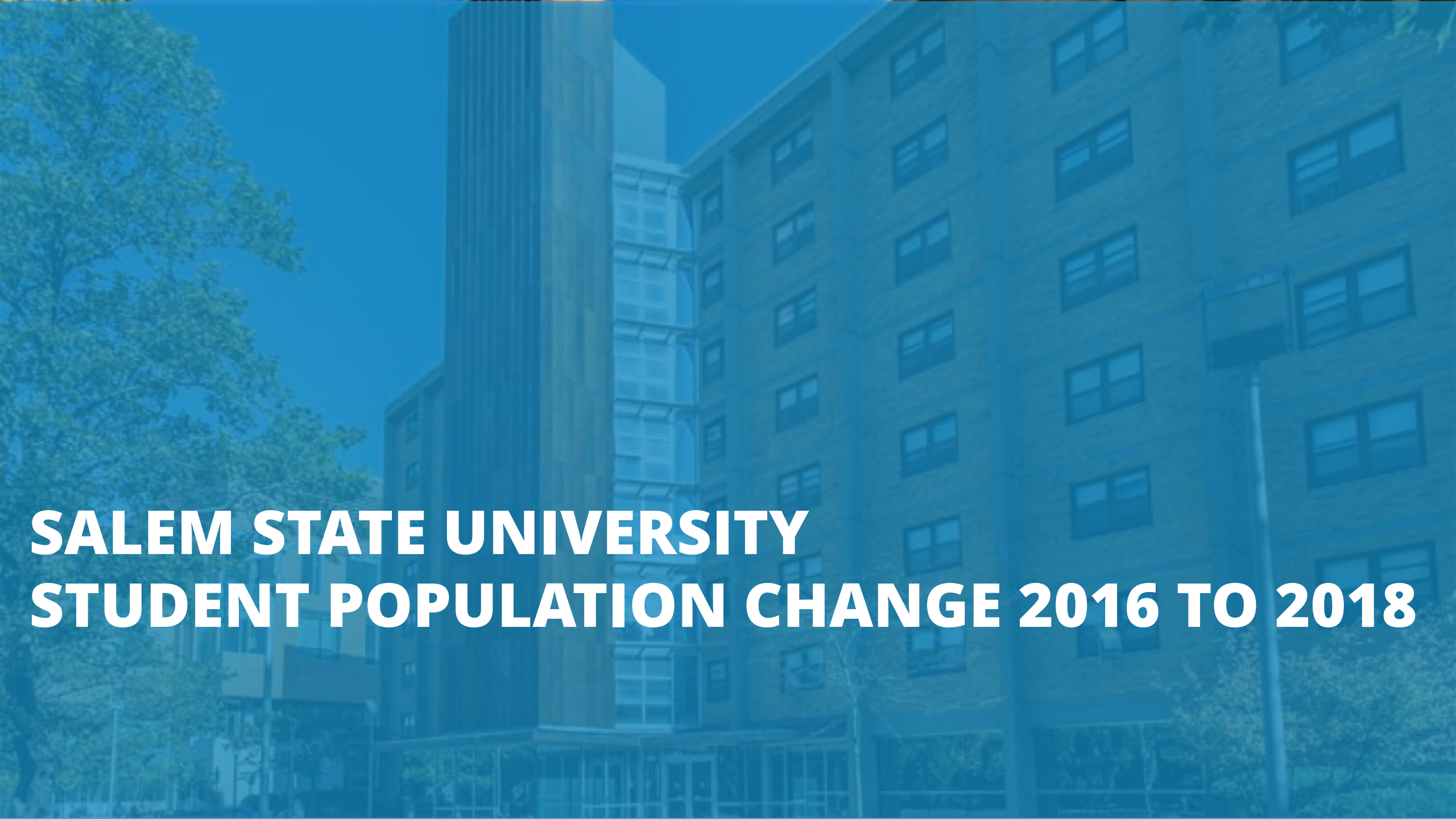
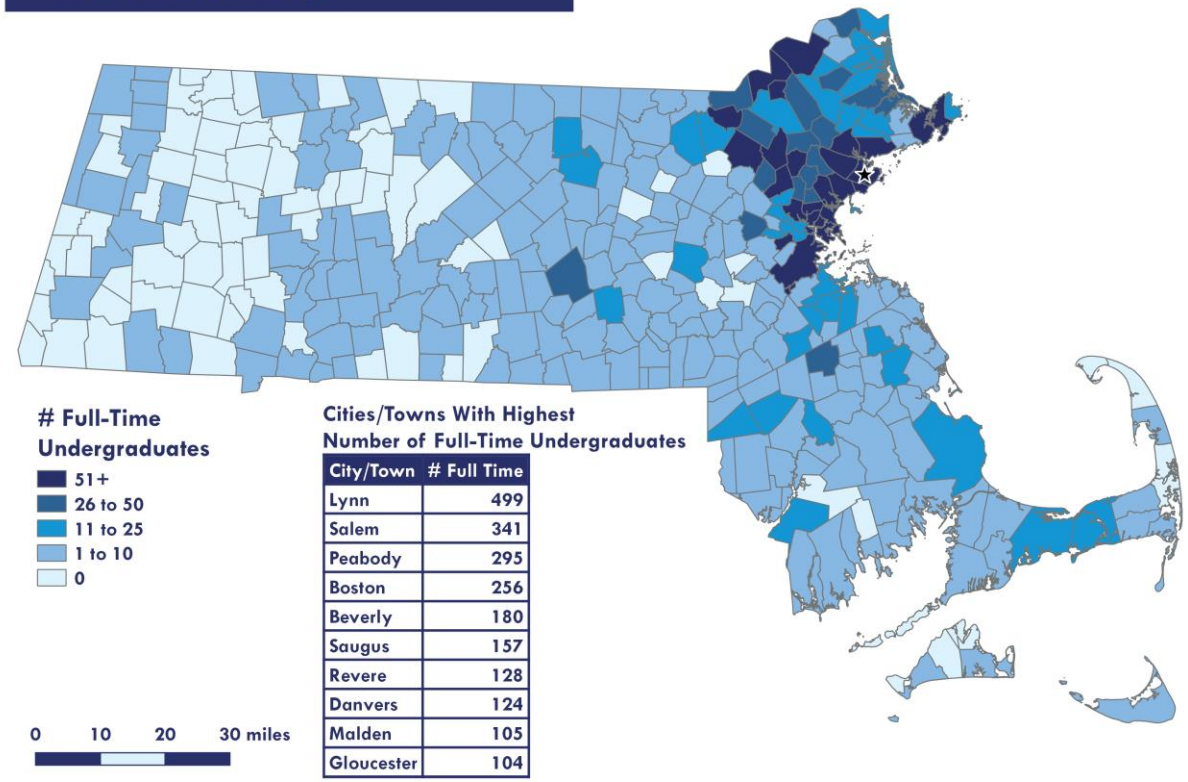


SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT POPULATION CHANGE 2016 TO 2018

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BY TOWN AND COUNTY 2018

Salem State University



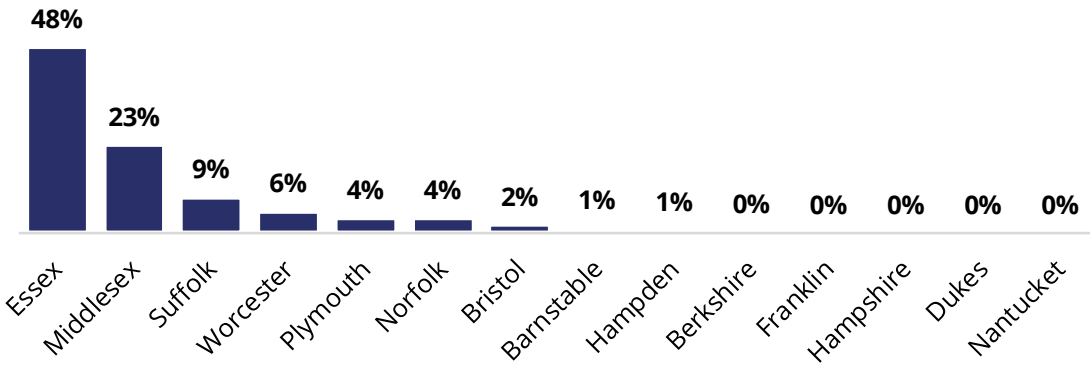
Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
Lynn	499
Salem	341
Peabody	295
Boston	256
Beverly	180
Saugus	157
Revere	128
Danvers	124
Malden	105
Gloucester	104

Figure 8D

Percentage of Full-Time, In-State Undergraduate Students, Salem State, Fall 2018

Source: Mass DHE Special Calculation, Fall 2018



Note: May not add to 100% due to rounding.

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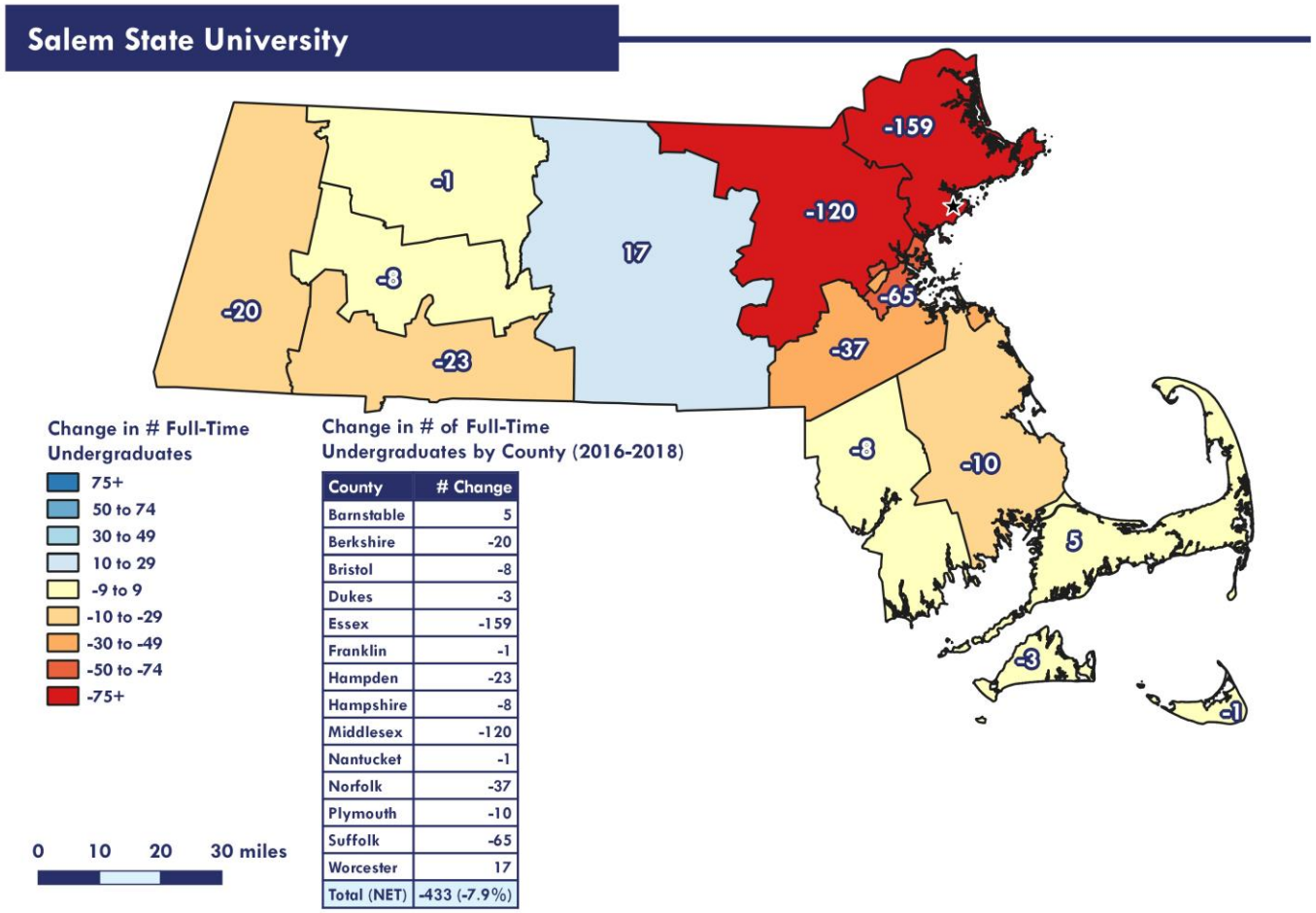
CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES, 2016 TO 2018



Change in # of Full-Time Undergraduates by County (2016-2018)

County	# Change
Barnstable	5
Berkshire	-20
Bristol	-8
Dukes	-3
Essex	-159
Franklin	-1
Hampden	-23
Hampshire	-8
Middlesex	-120
Nantucket	-1
Norfolk	-37
Plymouth	-10
Suffolk	-65
Worcester	17
Total (NET)	-433 (-7.9%)

Overall, the Salem State population of full-time in-state undergraduate students declined by 433 (-7.9%), from Fall 2016 to Fall 2018.

Most counties had a loss in undergraduate student population. Middlesex and Essex account together for 71% of Salem State population, and also experienced the most losses.

The only growth areas are Barnstable (5) and Worcester (17).

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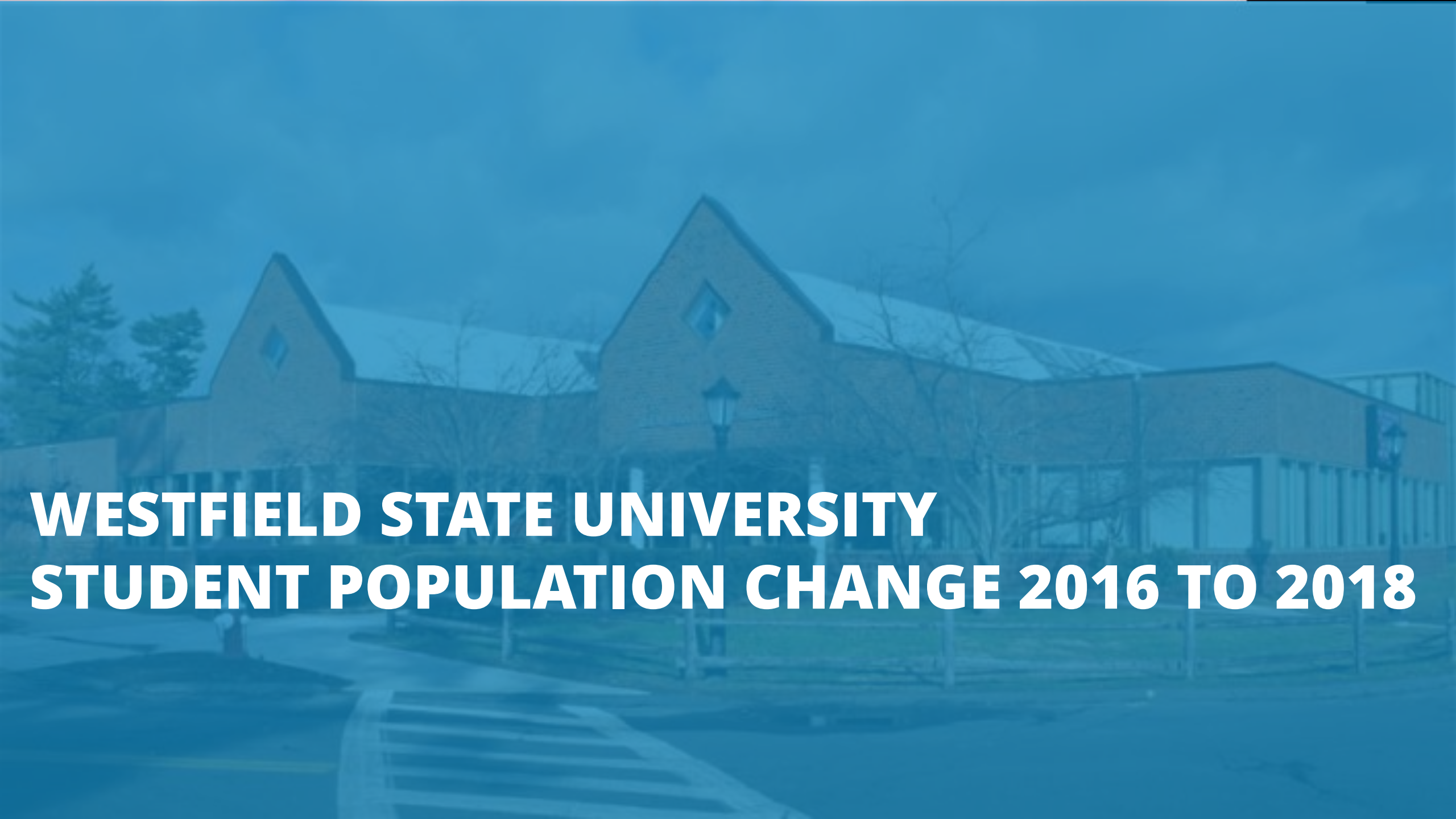
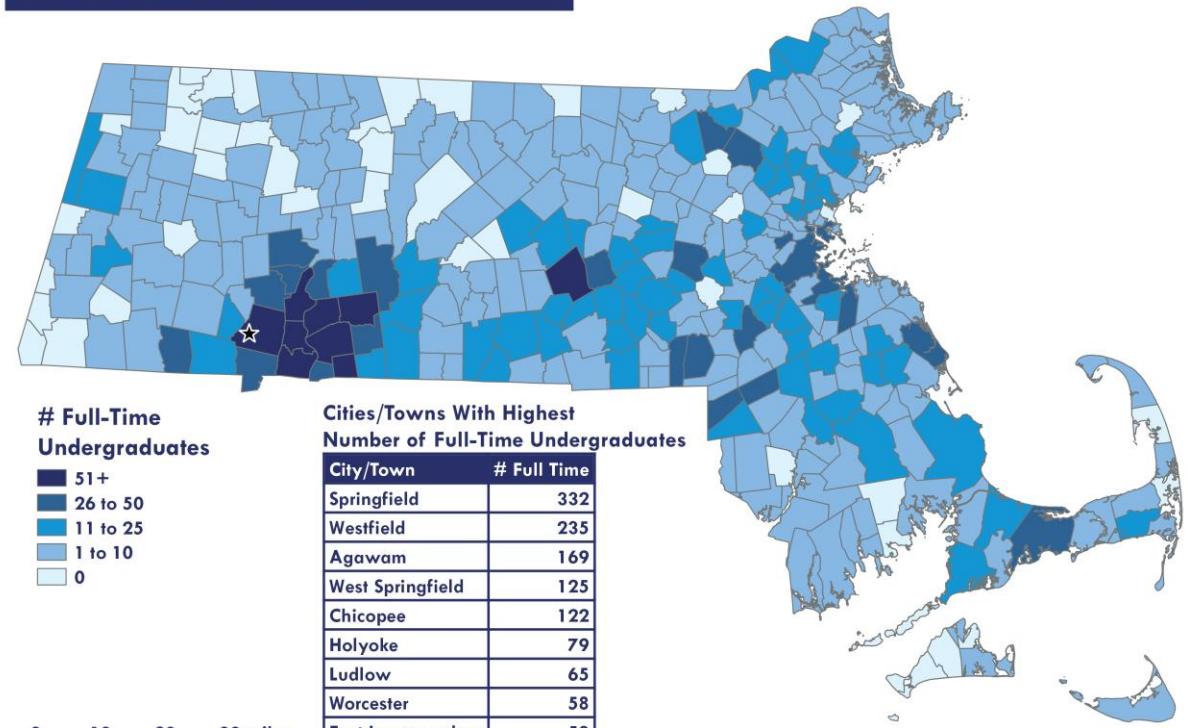


WESTFIELD STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT POPULATION CHANGE 2016 TO 2018

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BY TOWN AND COUNTY 2018

Westfield State University



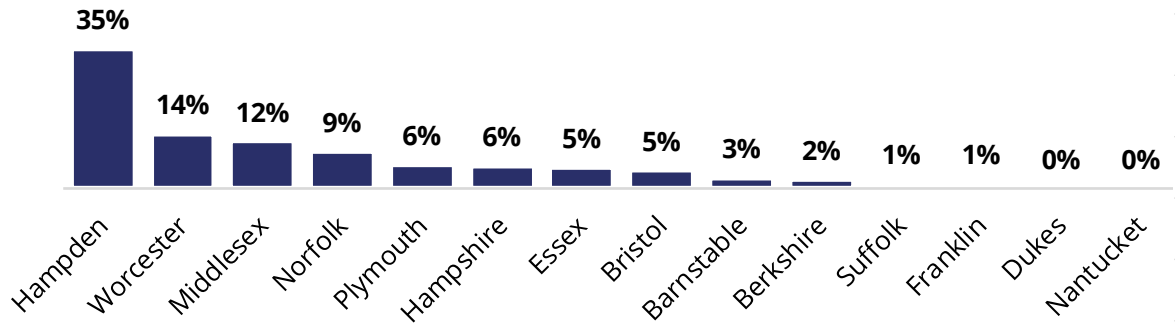
Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
Springfield	332
Westfield	235
Agawam	169
West Springfield	125
Chicopee	122
Holyoke	79
Ludlow	65
Worcester	58
East Longmeadow	53
Wilbraham	50

Figure 9D

Percentage of Full-Time, In-State Undergraduate Students, Westfield State, Fall 2018

Source: Mass DHE Special Calculation, Fall 2018



Note: May not add to 100% due to rounding.

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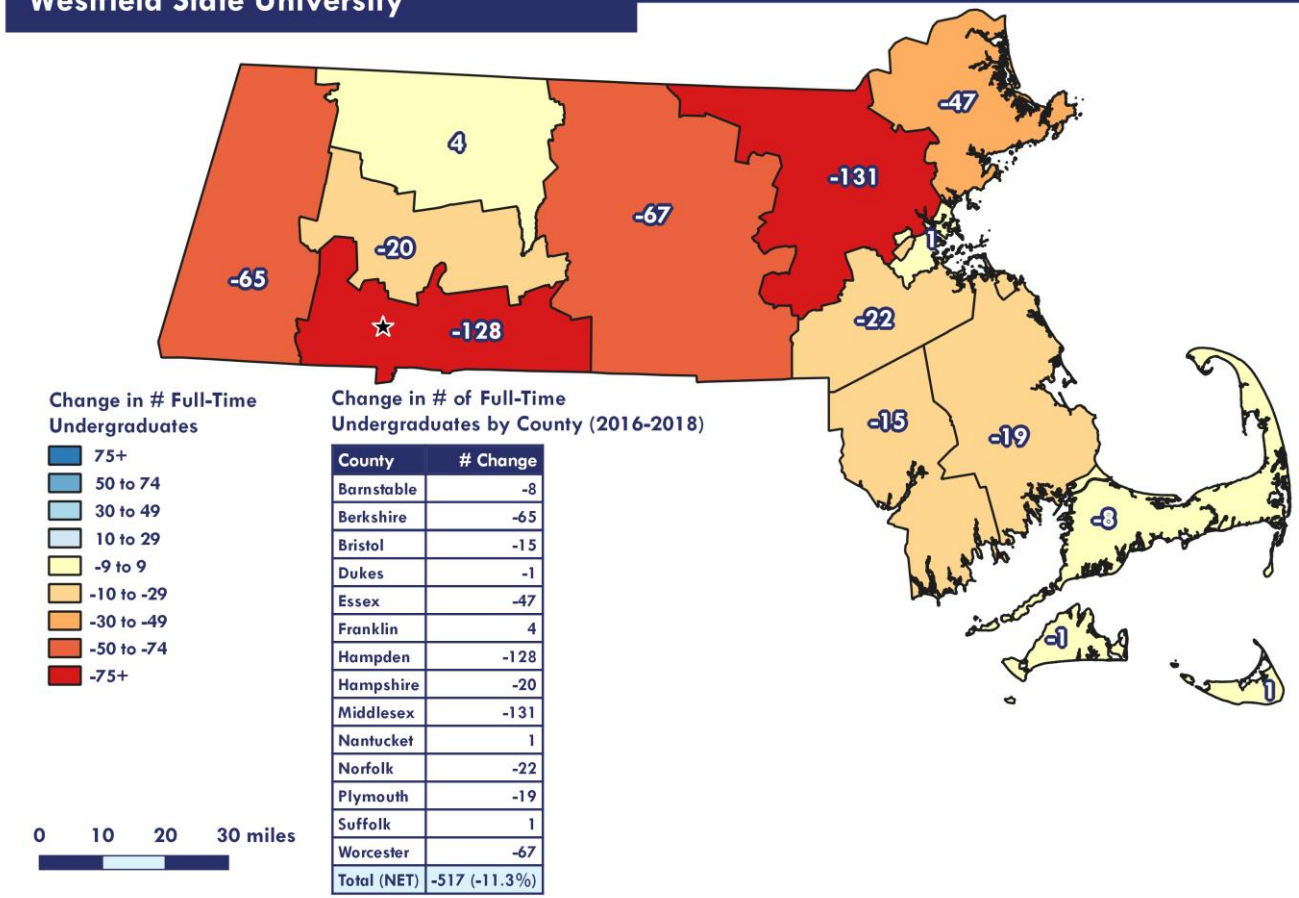
CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES, 2016 TO 2018

Westfield State University



Change in # of Full-Time Undergraduates by County (2016-2018)

County	# Change
Barnstable	-8
Berkshire	-65
Bristol	-15
Dukes	-1
Essex	-47
Franklin	4
Hampden	-128
Hampshire	-20
Middlesex	-131
Nantucket	1
Norfolk	-22
Plymouth	-19
Suffolk	1
Worcester	-67
Total (NET)	-517 (-11.3%)

Overall, the Westfield State population of full-time in-state undergraduate students has declined by 517 (-11.3%), from Fall 2016 to Fall 2018.

Both Hampden (-128) and Middlesex (-131) showed a serious decline in student population. There were no significant increases in population in any county.

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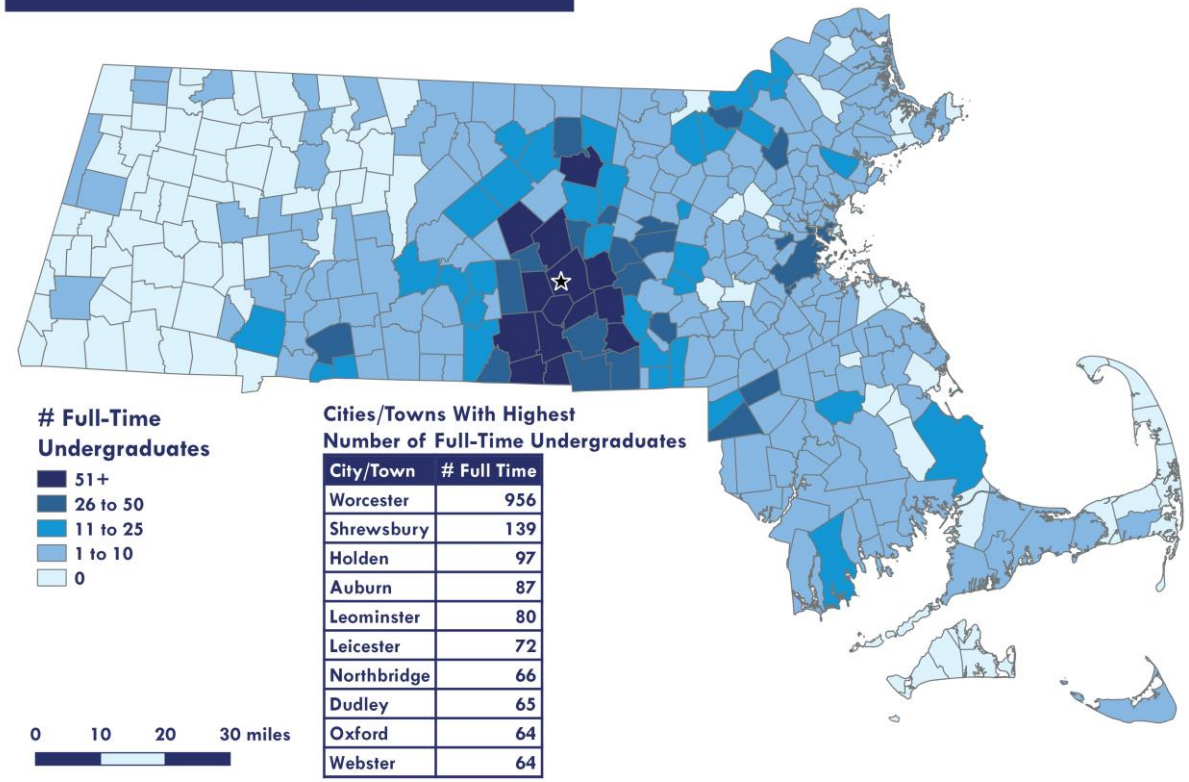
WORCESTER STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT POPULATION CHANGE 2016 TO 2018

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BY TOWN AND COUNTY 2018

Worcester State University



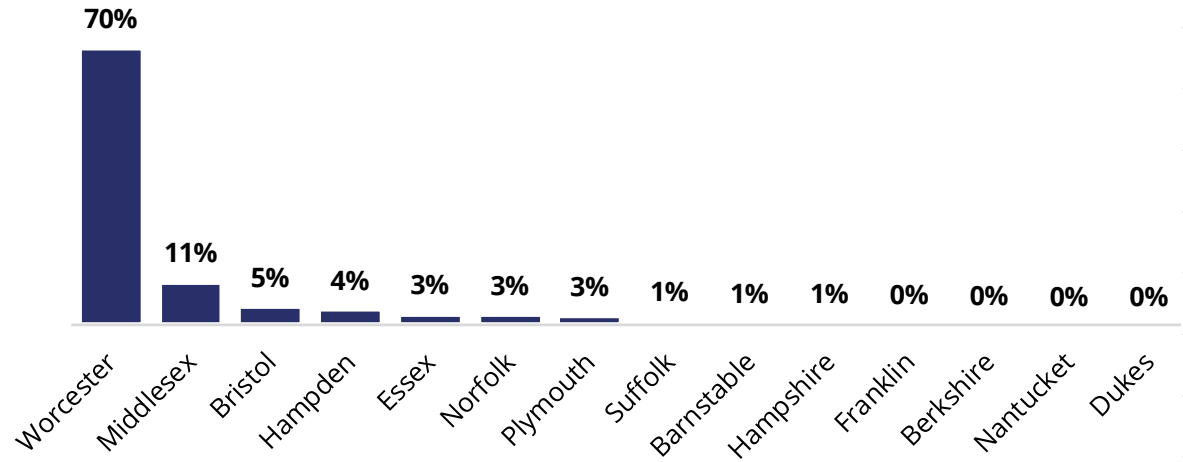
Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
Worcester	956
Shrewsbury	139
Holden	97
Auburn	87
Leominster	80
Leicester	72
Northbridge	66
Dudley	65
Oxford	64
Webster	64

Figure 10D

Percentage of Full-Time, In-State Undergraduate Students, Worcester State, Fall 2018

Source: Mass DHE Special Calculation, Fall 2018



Note: May not add to 100% due to rounding.

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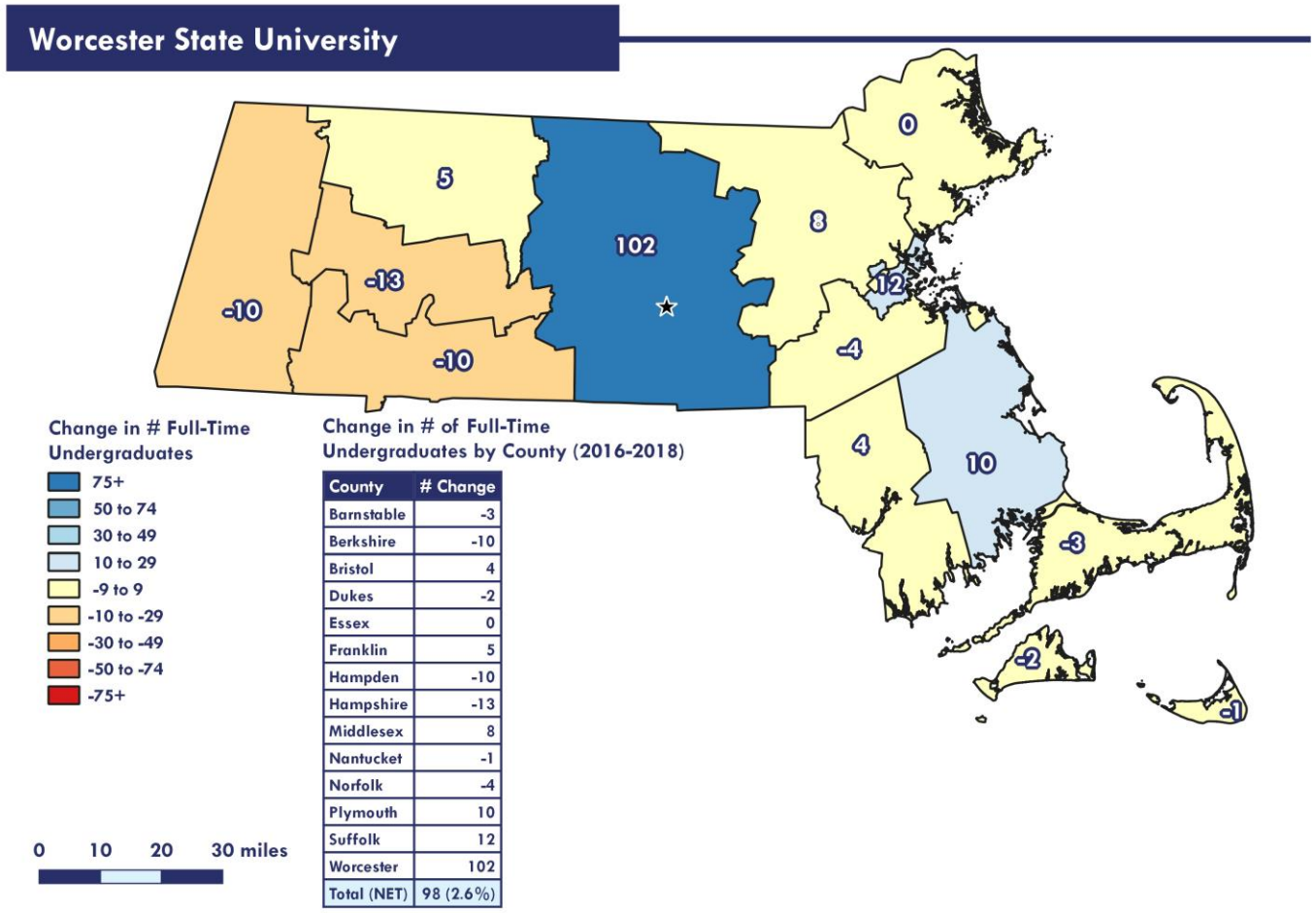
CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES, 2016 TO 2018



Change in # of Full-Time Undergraduates by County (2016-2018)

County	# Change
Barnstable	-3
Berkshire	-10
Bristol	4
Dukes	-2
Essex	0
Franklin	5
Hampden	-10
Hampshire	-13
Middlesex	8
Nantucket	-1
Norfolk	-4
Plymouth	10
Suffolk	12
Worcester	102
Total (NET)	98 (2.6%)

Overall, the Worcester State population of full-time in-state undergraduate students increased by 98 (2.6%), from Fall 2016 to Fall 2018.

Worcester is the largest provider of students for Worcester State University, and also shows the biggest increase, 102 students.

Most counties to the east of Worcester State show a moderate growth. On the contrary, most counties to the west show declines in student population.

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UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS SYSTEM GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION 2018

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

- The University of Massachusetts System data on the current geographic distribution of full-time undergraduate students were collected for the first time in Fall 2018

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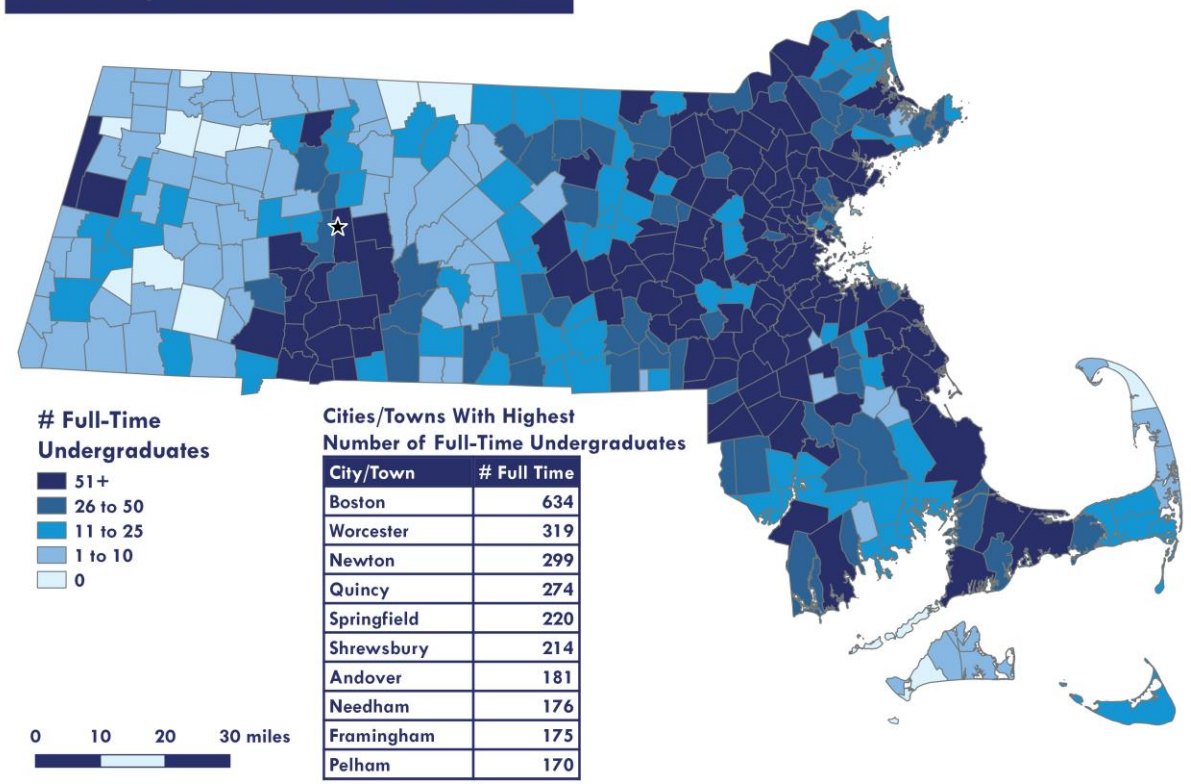
GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BY TOWN AND COUNTY 2018

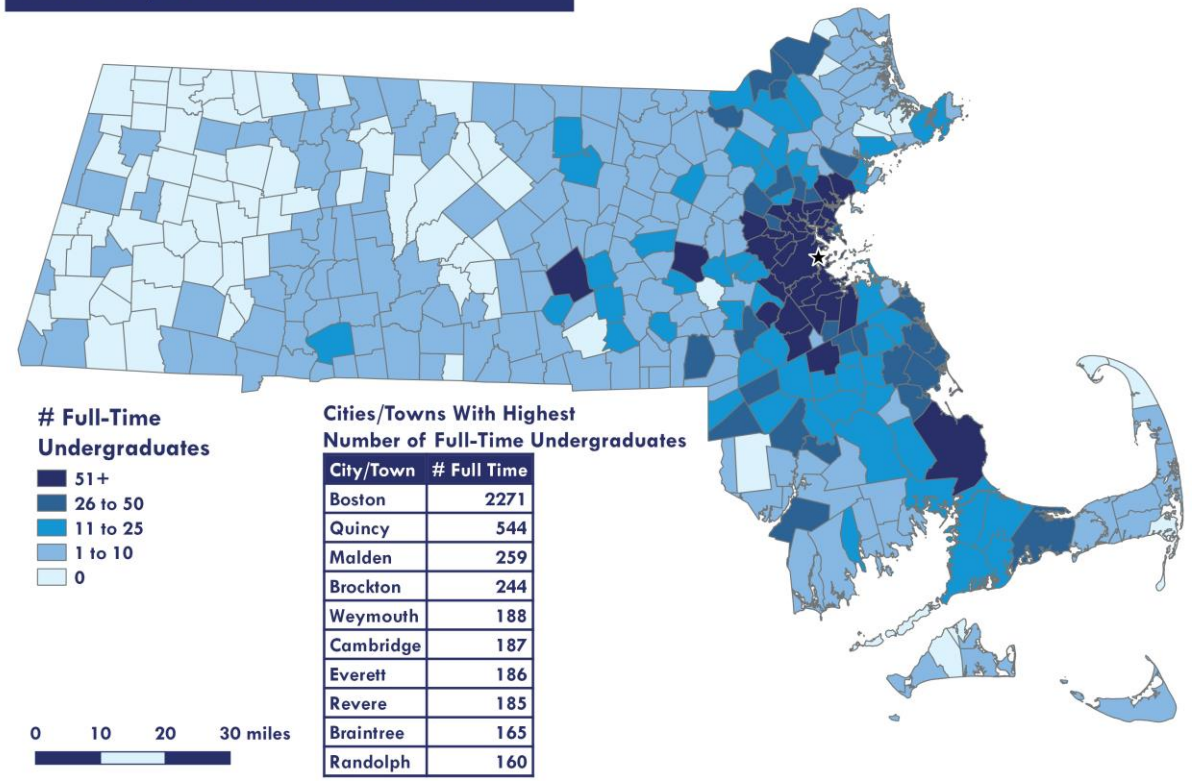
University of Massachusetts Amherst



Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
Boston	634
Worcester	319
Newton	299
Quincy	274
Springfield	220
Shrewsbury	214
Andover	181
Needham	176
Framingham	175
Pelham	170

University of Massachusetts Boston



Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
Boston	2271
Quincy	544
Malden	259
Brockton	244
Weymouth	188
Cambridge	187
Everett	186
Revere	185
Braintree	165
Randolph	160

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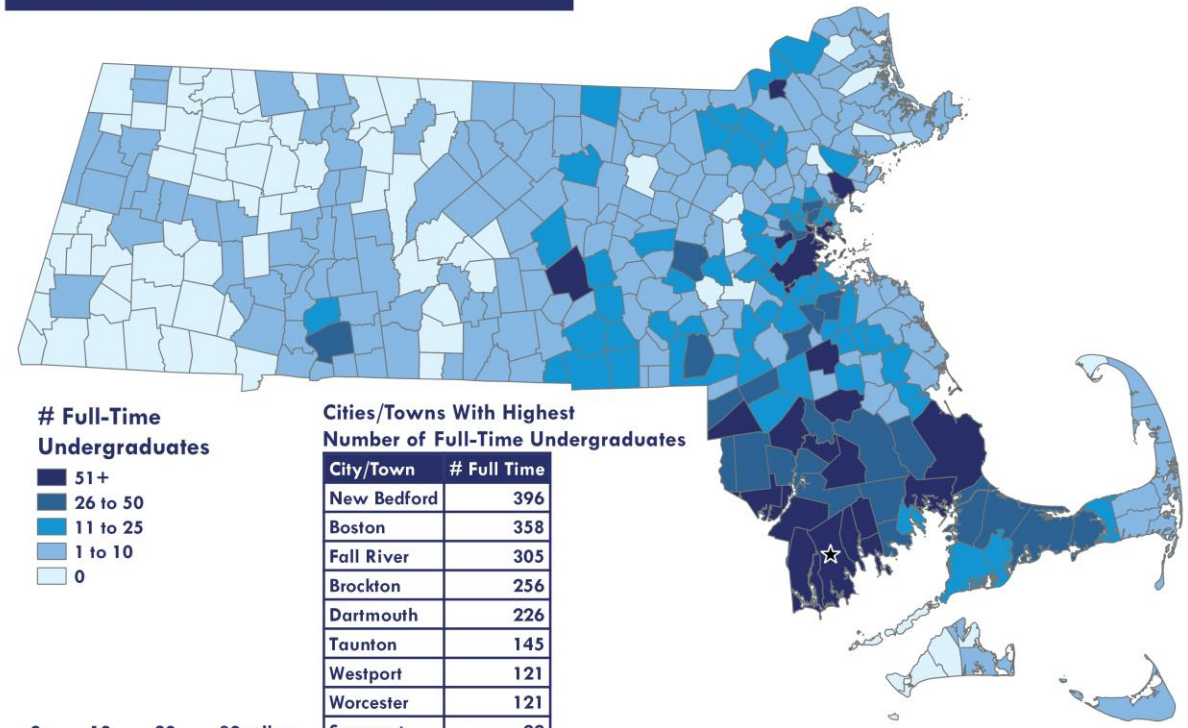
GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION BY TOWN AND COUNTY 2018

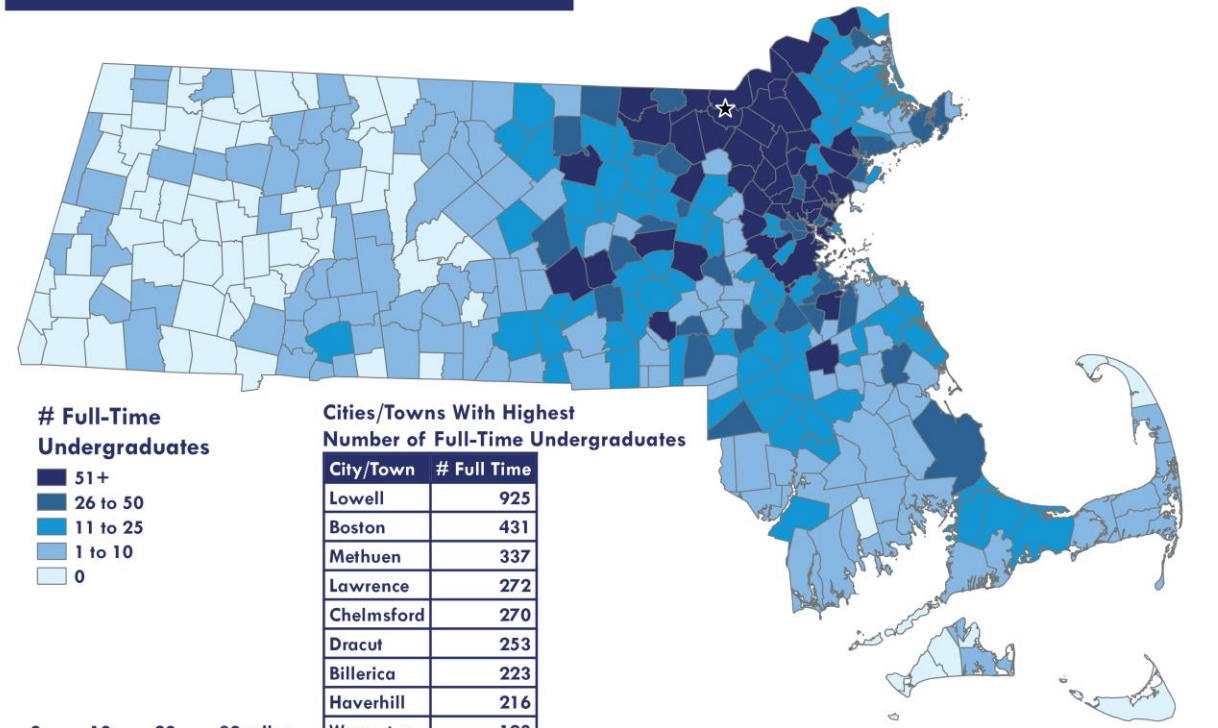
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth



Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
New Bedford	396
Boston	358
Fall River	305
Brockton	256
Dartmouth	226
Taunton	145
Westport	121
Worcester	121
Somerset	99
Fairhaven	92

University of Massachusetts Lowell



Cities/Towns With Highest Number of Full-Time Undergraduates

City/Town	# Full Time
Lowell	925
Boston	431
Methuen	337
Lawrence	272
Chelmsford	270
Dracut	253
Billerica	223
Haverhill	216
Worcester	198
Tewksbury	172

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