

Northbridge Demographics

The primary source of the following data is the US Census Bureau's American FactFinder website, which uses a variety of data sources to create profiles of communities in America. Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission's community profile for Northbridge was an additional source.

Northbridge is a Massachusetts town located in south central Worcester county and the Blackstone River Valley. It is roughly 17 square miles and includes several villages, including the village of Whitinsville, which is also the historic town center. Located 13 miles south of Worcester, 34 miles north of Providence RI and 43 miles southwest of Boston, Northbridge is bordered by the towns of Sutton, Grafton, Upton, Mendon and Uxbridge. The reported 2010 Census population of 15,707 is a 19% increase from the 2000 Census figure of 13,182.

Northbridge is a local center of commerce. It has more than 3,000 jobs and more than 1,000 businesses, which is similar to its local neighbors of Millbury and Grafton. The economy is mixed and includes health care, retail, manufacturing, government (including education), and services. Health care and manufacturing are dominate businesses.

Age & Gender & Fertility

Age	%	Change from 2000-2010
Less than 15	21.1%	-2.2%
16-24	11.8%	1.6%
24-44	26.2%	-4.9%
45-64	27.7%	6.3%
65+	13.2%	-3.2%

Northbridge's comparatively high fertility rate of 67 per 1,000 women, combined with the aging of the Baby Boom generation, predicts a future increase in both the youngest and oldest age groups, and a decrease in the 45-64 age group at the next Census.

The median age in 2010 was 39.5, a 2.6% increase from 2000. In 2010, female residents were 51.8% and males were 48.2% of the population.

42.9% of births in 2010 were to unmarried women, but only 7.1% were teenagers. This reflects the nationwide trend of increased unwed motherhood for women in their 20s. In comparison, Grafton's births to unmarried women are 19.9% and 6% in Millbury and 32.4% in Worcester.

Race & Language & Nationality

Northbridge is not a diverse community. For the 2010 Census report, 98.5% of the population reported one race, and 1.5% reported their background as two races. Among those reporting one race:

- White 96%
- Black or African American .7%
- American Indian/Alaskan Native .1%
- Asian 1%
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander 0.1%
- Some other race .7%

94.1% of residents reported that they spoke English exclusively at home. Of the 5.9 % of residents who also speak another language at home, only 2.2% reported that they speak English less than “very well.”

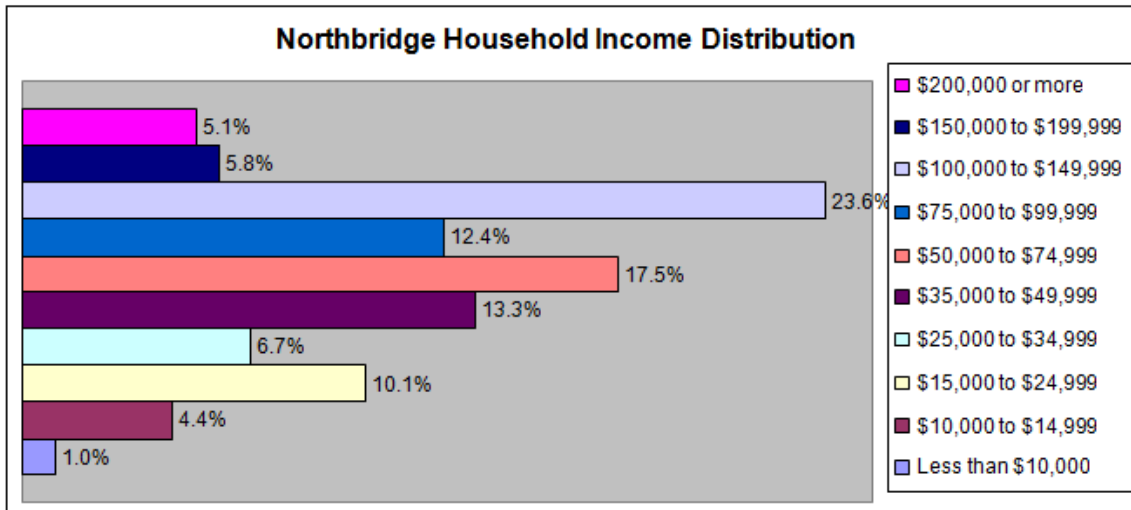
However, foreign-born residents numbered 394 in 2000 and 745 in 2010, which is 18% more than the general population increase of 19%.

Income

Northbridge is a community of 5,896 households. Family households number 4,096 (69.45%) while non-family households are reported at 1,799 (30.5%).

A family household is defined by the Census as a household which has at least two persons— the householder and at least one other person related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption.

The median income among the 5,896 Northbridge households was \$68,981, which put it above the median income (\$65,772) of all Worcester County households. However, it has both one of the lowest median household incomes in the immediate Blackstone Valley area, and also has one of the lowest poverty rates of 4.8%.



Housing

Due to its prior incarnation as a mill town, Northbridge has a high rate of multi-family housing (41%) as well as an older housing stock with 35.8% built prior to 1940. Because of the existence of this housing stock, Northbridge has almost the identical home ownership-to-rental ratio as the city Worcester at 68.3% to 31.7%. Housing cost burden for both owners and renters are within 5% of other Blackstone Valley towns.

Education

Northbridge is less educated in comparison to both Worcester County and Massachusetts. Northbridge residents ages 25 and over:

Less than HS	10.6%
High School Graduate (or equivalency)	32.2%
Some College, no degree	19.0%
Associates degree	9.7%
Bachelor's degree	18.2%
Graduate or Professional degree	10.3%

School Enrollment

4,189 (26.6%) of Northbridge residents over the age of 3 years are enrolled in school.

38.1% enrolled in grades 1-8

23.3% enrolled in grades 9-12

20.5% enrolled in college or graduate school