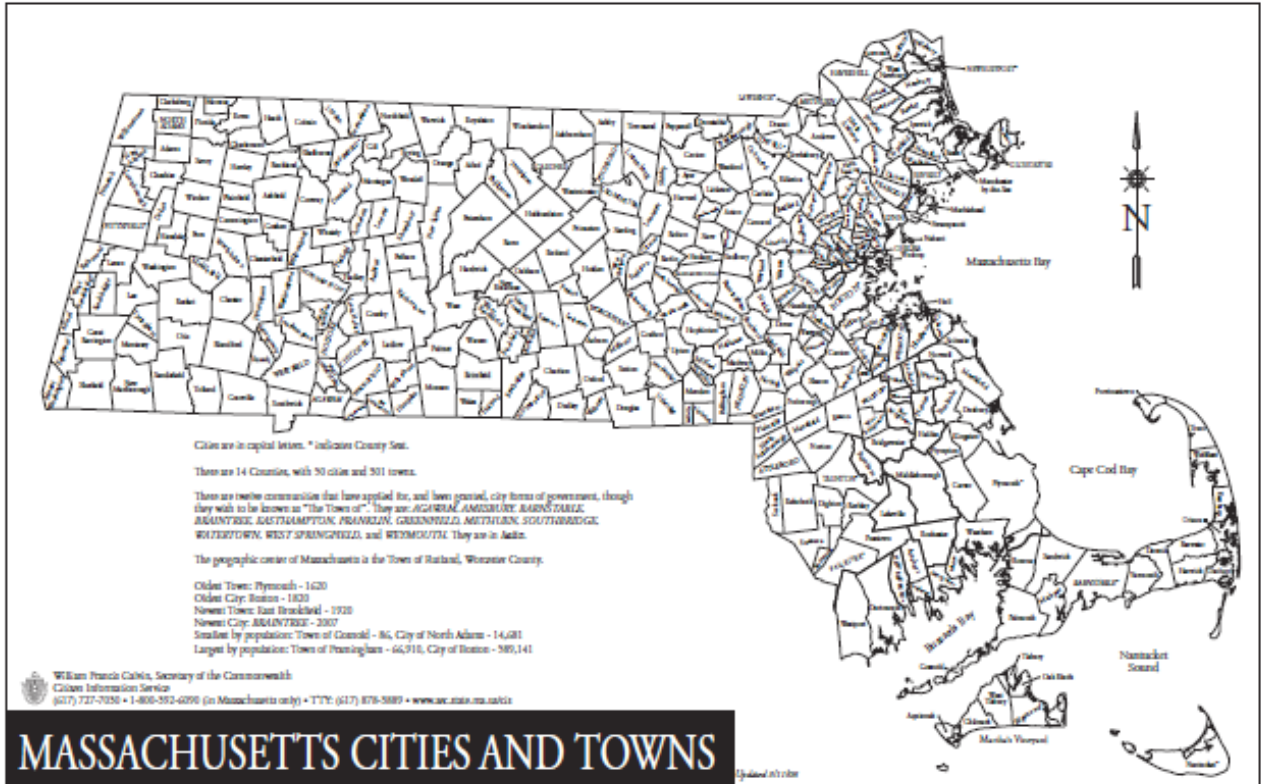


The Hometowns of Massachusetts' African American Soldiers, Marines and Patriots of the Revolutionary War



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Number of African American Patriots by Municipality

| Municipality | # | Municipality | # | Municipality | # | Municipality | # |
|--------------|----|------------------|----|-------------------|----|------------------|----|
| Abington | 5 | Dorchester | 7 | Marblehead | 15 | Sheffield | 5 |
| Acton | 3 | Douglas | 1 | Marlborough | 5 | Shelburne | 7 |
| Adams | 3 | Dracut | 6 | Marshfield | 4 | Shrewsbury | 2 |
| Amesbury | 8 | Dunstable | 5 | Martha's Vineyard | 5 | South Hadley | 3 |
| Amherst | 3 | East Bridgewater | 1 | Mashpee | 2 | Southampton | 5 |
| Andover | 23 | Eastham | 4 | Medfield | 6 | Spencer | 2 |
| Arlington | 1 | Easton | 3 | Medford | 15 | Springfield | 10 |
| Ashby | 1 | Edgartown | 2 | Medway | 5 | Stockbridge | 9 |
| Ashfield | 2 | Essex | 1 | Mendon | 2 | Stoneham | 11 |
| Attleborough | 3 | Falmouth | 12 | Methuen | 1 | Stoughton | 5 |
| Auburn | 1 | Fitchburg | 1 | Middleborough | 10 | Stow | 2 |
| Barnstable | 9 | Framingham | 14 | Middleton | 5 | Sturbridge | 2 |
| Barre | 4 | Franklin | 3 | Monson | 1 | Sudbury | 4 |
| Becket | 1 | Freetown | 17 | Montague | 1 | Sunderland | 1 |
| Bedford | 6 | Georgetown | 1 | Nantucket | 5 | Sutton | 3 |
| Belchertown | 3 | Gloucester | 3 | Natick | 11 | Swansea | 10 |
| Bellingham | 5 | Grafton | 9 | Needham | 3 | Taunton | 17 |
| Berkley | 4 | Granville | 5 | New Braintree | 1 | Templeton | 1 |
| Berkshire | 8 | Great Barrington | 6 | Newbury | 18 | Tewksbury | 4 |
| Beverly | 11 | Groton | 4 | Newburyport | 9 | Topsfield | 2 |
| Billerica | 4 | Hadley | 4 | Newton | 2 | Tyringham | 2 |
| Bolton | 3 | Halifax | 1 | Northampton | 10 | Upton | 3 |
| Boston | 93 | Hampshire | 6 | Northborough | 1 | Uxbridge | 1 |
| Boxford | 3 | Hanover | 8 | Northfield | 1 | Waltham | 5 |
| Braintree | 9 | Hardwick | 4 | Norton | 4 | Ware | 2 |
| Bridgewater | 40 | Harvard | 3 | Oakham | 1 | Wareham | 3 |
| Brookfield | 4 | Harwich | 6 | Oxford | 2 | Warren | 3 |
| Brookline | 4 | Hatfield | 4 | Palmer | 3 | Warwick | 1 |
| Cambridge | 13 | Haverhill | 2 | Paxton | 3 | Watertown | 6 |
| Cape Ann | 1 | Hingham | 7 | Pelham | 5 | Wellfleet | 1 |
| Carlisle | 1 | Holden | 2 | Pembroke | 5 | Wenham | 4 |
| Charlestown | 10 | Holliston | 6 | Pepperell | 2 | West Springfield | 7 |
| Charlton | 5 | Ipswich | 9 | Petersham | 2 | West Stockbridge | 2 |
| Chatham | 3 | Kingston | 4 | Pittsfield | 12 | Westborough | 1 |
| Chelmsford | 3 | Lancaster | 23 | Plymouth | 26 | Westfield | 6 |
| Chelsea | 2 | Lanesborough | 4 | Plympton | 5 | Westford | 2 |
| Cheshire | 3 | Lee | 1 | Raynham | 2 | Weston | 1 |
| Chester | 1 | Leicester | 13 | Reading | 10 | Westport | 1 |
| Chesterfield | 5 | Lenox | 1 | Rehoboth | 15 | Weymouth | 1 |
| Cohasset | 2 | Leominster | 1 | Richmond | 4 | Whately | 1 |
| Colrain | 4 | Lexington | 9 | Rochester | 6 | Wilbraham | 3 |
| Concord | 15 | Lincoln | 5 | Rowley | 3 | Williamstown | 1 |
| Conway | 3 | Littleton | 5 | Roxbury | 5 | Wilmington | 1 |
| Cummington | 1 | Ludlow | 1 | Salem | 25 | Woburn | 16 |
| Danvers | 13 | Lunenburg | 4 | Salisbury | 3 | Worcester | 21 |
| Dartmouth | 25 | Lynn | 5 | Sandisfield | 3 | Wrentham | 5 |
| Dedham | 5 | Malden | 7 | Sandwich | 17 | Yarmouth | 2 |
| Deerfield | 4 | Manchester | 2 | Scituate | 10 | | |
| Dighton | 16 | Mansfield | 4 | Sharon | 3 | | |

Facts about Massachusetts' African American Soldiers, Marines and Patriots of the Revolutionary War

- African Americans served in all of the major battles of the Revolutionary War (1775-1783), from Lexington and Concord to Yorktown.
- Revised estimates suggest that between 5,000 and 10,000 could have served as soldiers, marines and civilian workers (referred to interchangeably as soldiers and patriots).
- For generations, historians had estimated that at least 5,000 served; however, less than half were known until *Forgotten Patriots, African American and American Indian Patriots of the Revolutionary War* was published by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution in 2008.
- At least 1,570 patriots served in the Continental Army and state militia of Massachusetts.
- At least 1,174 patriots are connected by birth, enlistment or residence to a Massachusetts community ("resident soldiers.")
- 31 percent of the 5,000 known patriots resided in Massachusetts
- 48 percent of the 5,000 known patriots resided in Massachusetts and Connecticut.
- 194 of the 351 municipalities of Massachusetts are connected to one or more patriots. (234 municipalities existed during the Revolutionary War.)
- 336 patriots are not associated with a community.
- 51 patriots were residents of neighboring states and served in Massachusetts units.
- 9 patriots are associated with a county but not a town.
- Descriptive lists record them as Negro, black, mulatto, yellow, wool hair, colored, brown, dark, copper, Azorean, Iberian, African, part Indian, man of color and "former enslaved man."
- Most black patriots had typical European surnames; however, 20 used the town of "Boston" as a surname and 46 took the surname "Freeman" to express their aspirations. At least one "Freeman" also used the surname "Liberty."
- These are the names of a few wives -- Hannah Woods; Cate Green, Rhoda, Phoebe Rosier (described as Indian)
- The patriots served in many roles: soldier, sailor, marine, patriotic service, cook's mate, waiter, barber, landsman, drummer, fifer, carpenter, servant, and gentleman soldier. (The vast majority were fighting men. All were put in harm's way.)
- Sailors served on board the Frigate Boston, Schooner Resolution, Ship Essex, Privateer Thomas, Ship Pilgrim and Ship Deane, among others.
- Boys served on the Brigantines Hazard and Independence.
- At least 59 soldiers applied for a pension.
- At least seven soldiers died in service.
- 33 towns in Middlesex County were home to 193 soldiers, the highest of any county. Woburn (16) had the most. Counties ranking second and third are Essex (167) and Plymouth (136).
- The total for Middlesex County represents 16 percent of the state's total and 5 percent of the nation's total of resident soldiers.
- Boston (93) had the highest number of resident soldiers of any municipality by 1783, representing 79 percent of Suffolk County's total and 8 percent of the state's total.
- Current borders that include Charlestown (10), Dorchester (7), and Roxbury (5) bring Boston's count to 115. This number represents 10 percent of the state's 1,174 resident soldiers and 3 percent of the nation's.
- These towns sent between 21 and 40 patriots into battle: Bridgewater (40), Plymouth (26), Dartmouth (25), Salem (25), Andover (23), Lancaster (23) and Worcester (21).

| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | COUNTY | CITY/TOWN |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|
| TOWNSAND/TOWNSEND | JETHRO | SUFFOLK | Chelsea |
| TUTTLE | ADAM | SUFFOLK | Chelsea |