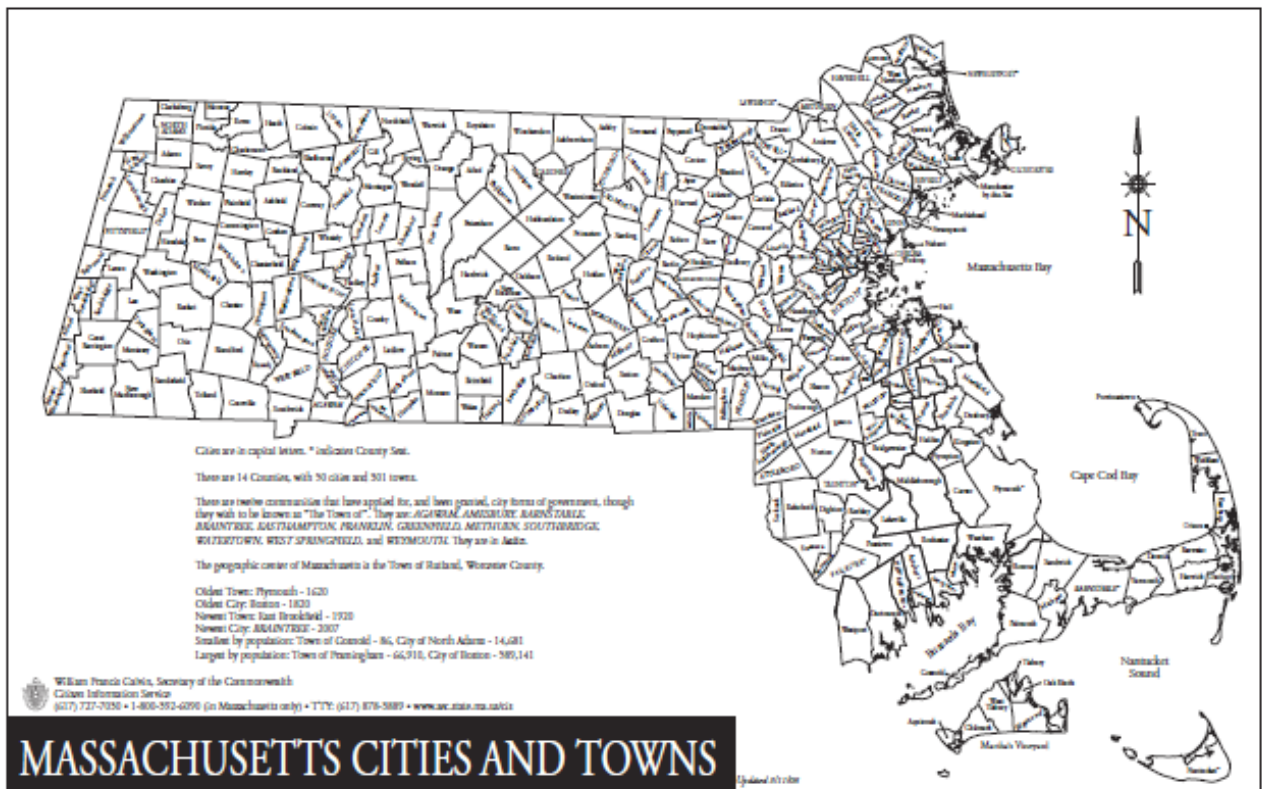


# The Hometowns of Massachusetts' African American Soldiers, Marines and Patriots of the Revolutionary War



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[www.libertyfunddc.org](http://www.libertyfunddc.org)  
 Maurice A. Barboza  
[mbarboza@libertyfunddc.org](mailto:mbarboza@libertyfunddc.org)  
 703-299-0408

## 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, representing 79 percent of Suffolk County's total and 8 percent of the state's total.
- The 117 resident soldiers of Suffolk County, including Boston, represent 10 percent of the state's 1,177 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).

<b>LAST NAME</b>	<b>FIRST NAME</b>	<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>CITY</b>
BACON	PRINCE	NANTUCKET	Nantucket
Boston	PETER	NANTUCKET	Nantucket
Boston	SILAS	NANTUCKET	Nantucket
MINGO	THOMAS	NANTUCKET	Nantucket
PEASE	MICHAEL	NANTUCKET	Nantucket