

City Council Composition: *Italics* – cities operate under Home Rule Charters (Article LXXXIX of state constitution)

ALL DISTRICT MEMBERS (1) ALL AT LARGE MEMBERS – all councils below except Medford have 9 members

Barnstable (Note 1)

Cambridge (a) Haverhill *Southbridge* (Note 2)
Fall River Lowell Springfield (Note 3)
Franklin (Note 2) Medford (b) Taunton
North Adams

(a) Cambridge is the only city to elect by proportional representation (b) Medford is the smallest council – 7 members

COMBINATION:

Majority District (32) *Agawam* Brockton *Greenfield* (Note 6) *Methuen* (Note 7) Salem
(see next page) *Amesbury* Chelsea Lawrence New Bedford Somerville
Attleboro Chicopee *Leominster* Newburyport Waltham
Beverly *Easthampton* *Lynn* Northampton *Weymouth*
Boston Everett (Note 5) Malden Peabody *Winthrop* (Note 1)
Braintree (Note 4) Fitchburg Marlborough Pittsfield Woburn
Melrose Quincy

COMBINATION:

Gardner *Newton* (Note 8) Randolph *West Springfield*
Majority At Large (9) *Gloucester* Palmer (Note 1) Watertown
Holyoke *Worcester*

(see next page)

Note 1: Councillors elected for 4 year terms; the **Barnstable** home rule charter limits councillors to three four-year terms (12 years total).

Note 2: Prior to its 1996 charter revision, the **Franklin** Council was composed of 15 members, 2 from each of five districts and 5 members at large. Prior to its 2003 charter revision, **Southbridge** elected 13 councillors, 2 from each of 5 districts, and 3 at large.

Note 3: Effective at the November 2009 municipal election, **Springfield** will elect 8 district councillors and 5 at-large councillors.

Note 4: **Braintree** is the newest "city," having adopted a mayor-council charter at its municipal spring election in 2006; the mayor and council were elected in 2007, taking office in January, 2008.

Note 5: **Everett** is the only city government in the United States with a bi-cameral (two chamber) legislative body -- a common council of 18 members and a Board of Aldermen of seven members. This is the largest city legislative body in Massachusetts (25 members).

Note 6: In **Greenfield**, both the mayor and councillors serve three-year terms, and municipal elections are held in June.

Note 7: In **Methuen**, both the mayor and councillors are limited to three consecutive or non-consecutive terms (six years total).

Note 8: Description of **Newton** Board of alderman (council) – from home rule charter: "There shall be a Board of Aldermen of twenty-four members which shall exercise the legislative powers of the City. Sixteen of these members, to be known as aldermen at large, shall be nominated and elected by the voters at large, two such aldermen at large to be elected from each of the eight wards of the City. The other eight members, to be known as ward aldermen, shall be nominated and elected by and from the voters of each ward, one ward alderman to be elected from each of the eight wards of the City. The Board of Aldermen shall be the judge of the election and qualification of its members."

COMBINATION:

Majority District (32)

	AT LARGE	DISTRICT	AT LARGE	DISTRICT
Agawam (15)	3	12	Marlborough (11)	4
Amesbury (9)	3	6	Melrose (11)	4
Attleboro (11)	5	6	Methuen (Note 7) (9)	3
Beverly (9)	3	6	New Bedford (11)	5
Boston (13)	4	9	Newburyport (11)	5
Braintree (9) (Note 4)	3	6	Northampton (9)	2
Brockton (11)	4	7	Peabody (11)	5
Chelsea (11)	3	8	Pittsfield (11)	7
Chicopee (13)	4	9	Quincy (9)	3
Easthampton (9)	4	5	Revere (11)	5
Everett (Note 5)	7	18	Salem (11)	4
Fitchburg (11)	5	6	Somerville (11)	4
Greenfield (13) (Note 6)	4	9	Waltham (15)	6
Lawrence (9)	3	6	Weymouth (11)	5
Leominster (9)	4	5	Winthrop (9)	2 + Council Pres.*
Lynn (11)	4	7	Woburn (9)	2
Malden (11)	3	8		7

* Council President is separate elected office

COMBINATION:

Majority At Large (10)

	AT LARGE	DISTRICT	Notes
Gardner (11)	6	5	
Gloucester (9)	5	4	
Holyoke (15)	8	7	
Newton (24)	16	8	see discussion prior page (Note 8)
Palmer (9)	5	4	
Randolph	5	4	
Watertown (9)	4 + council pres.	4	Council President is separate elected office
West Springfield (9)	5	4	
Westfield (11)	6	5	
Worcester (11)	6	5	At large council candidate receiving the most votes serves as Mayor

COUNCIL-MANAGER: Bamstable, Cambridge, Chelsea, Franklin, Lowell, Palmer, Randolph, Southbridge, Watertown, Winthrop, Worcester

All other cities are mayor-council.