

Australia's relationship with

MASSACHUSETTS

KEY FACTS

- **Population:** 6.9 million (2020 estimate) – most populous state in New England
- **Major Cities:** Boston, Worcester, Springfield, Cambridge, Lowell (2016)
- **Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** \$575.6 billion (2020), ranked 11th in the United States
- **GDP Growth:** 2.7% (2018)
- **Key Industries:** Finance (largest industry in 2016), insurance, real estate, rental and leasing.
- **Known for:**
 - Plymouth – the landing place of the Mayflower and the Pilgrims
 - The 'First Thanksgiving'
 - Being a hotbed of activity during the American Revolution
 - Large Irish-American population
 - Boston Cream Pie
 - Harvard University
 - Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
 - Boston Red Sox
- **National Rankings: (out of 50 states)**
 - Economy: 11th
 - Healthcare: 2nd
 - Infrastructure: 44th
 - Education: 1st
 - Tax burden: 12th
 - State size by area: 44th
 - State size by population: 15th
 - Density: 5th

ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP

Australia was the 18th largest destination for Massachusetts goods exports in 2017, valued at US \$328.5 million.

- **Two-Way Trade (goods & services):** \$410 million



- **Australia's Exports to Massachusetts (goods only):** \$81.8 Million
- **Australian goods & services exported to Massachusetts:** Wine, beef, medical equipment/parts
- **Massachusetts' Exports to Australia (goods only):** \$ 328.2 million
- **% of the Massachusetts' exports to Australia:** 1.2%
- **Massachusetts goods & services exported to Australia:** Medical/diagnostic equipment, aircraft parts, pet food, pleasure boats

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE LINKS

- **Sister Cities:**
 - Boston, Massachusetts — Melbourne, Australia.
 - Boston's city government is keen to revitalise this relationship.
- **Representation:** Australia's relationship with Massachusetts is managed by the [Australian Consulate in New York](#)
- **Consul General:** Mr Alastair Walton

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY

The New England chapter of the American Australian Association was established in Boston in 2004 when it merged with local organisation ANZACC. The New England chapter holds a range of programs, including speaker seminars and social events. Regional Director: Louisa Teo and Board member Charlie Grant.

- **Australian Sporting Club:**
 - Boston Demons
 - Boston Netball League
- **Australian Community:**

- **Meetup Group:** Australians and New Zealanders in Boston, 455 members
<https://www.meetup.com/en-AU/BostonAussies/>

- **Lendlease:** Multinational construction, property and infrastructure company. Office location in Boston, Massachusetts.

POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

- **Governor:** Charlie Baker (R), next election in 2022
- **2016 Presidential Outcome:** Clinton 60.8%
- **Senators:** Elizabeth Warren (D), Ed Markey (D)
- **Congressional Delegates:** 9 Democrats

AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS

Australian companies have more than 70 individual points of presence in Massachusetts, spanning over 25 different industries including air & space transport, engineering, and manufacturing.

Australian firms employ over 2,700 people in Massachusetts

- **Number of Australian companies operating in Massachusetts:** 18
- **Industries with Australian business:** Engineering, banking, property, insurance

Notable companies include:

- **Computer-share Limited:** Australian stock transfer company that provides corporate trust, stock transfer and employee share plan services. Office location in Canton, Massachusetts.
- **Flight Centre Limited:** One of the world's largest travel agency groups.
- **Macquarie Group Ltd.:** Australian multinational independent investment bank and financial services company. Office location in Boston, Massachusetts.
- **GHD:** Professional services company operating in the global market sectors of water, energy and resources, environment, property and buildings, and transportation. Office location in Hyannis, Massachusetts.

GLOBAL BUSINESS

Massachusetts exports to Australia have grown by over 32% since the AUSFTA entered into force.

The following Fortune 500 companies' global headquarters are located in Massachusetts:

- **General Electric:** An American multinational conglomerate.
- **Liberty Mutual Insurance Group:** An American diversified global insurer.
- **Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance:** An American mutual life insurance company.
- **TJX:** An American multinational off-price department store corporation.
- **Raytheon:** U.S. defense contractor and industrial corporation with core manufacturing concentrations in weapons and military and commercial electronics.

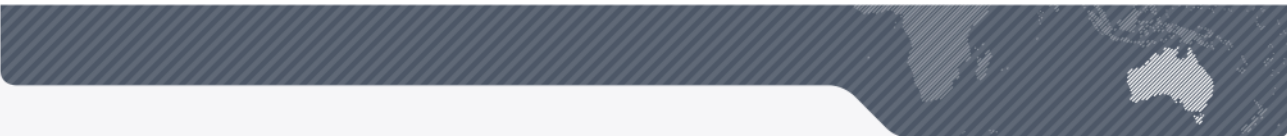
UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

Academic institutions and associations with Australian partnerships:

- A number of formal agreements exist between Australian institutions and universities located in Massachusetts. These include agreements governing student and faculty exchange, study abroad and research partnerships.

Notable Partnership with Harvard University:

- The Australian National University's largest US partner for research collaboration is Harvard University in Cambridge MA. Key areas of collaboration include Australian studies, astronomy, health, climate change, law and security studies.
- The University of Sydney and Harvard have entered into an agreement which will enable University of Sydney PhD students



and academic staff to visit and conduct research at Harvard.

- The Gough Whitlam & Malcolm Fraser Chair in Australian Studies at Harvard was established in 1976 with a gift from the Australian government, commemorating America's Bicentennial.
- The Harvard Club of Australia aims to promote fellowship among alumni of Harvard University in Australia.
- Notable Australians who attended Harvard include the Hon Julie Bishop MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Stephen Gageler AC, Justice of the High Court of Australia.

Nationally Ranked Universities

- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- Harvard University
- Boston College
- Northeastern University
- Berklee College of Music
- Babson College (No.1 undergraduate school for entrepreneurship)

MAJOR EVENTS

- **Boston Marathon:** The world's oldest annual marathon, begun in 1897. Held on Patriot's Day, the third Monday of April, the event attracts approximately 30,000 participants and 500,000 spectators each year. Australian Robert De Castella won the Boston Marathon in 1986 in a time of 2 hours, 7 minutes and 51 seconds, setting a course record (no longer current).
 - **Boston Tea Party Re-enactment:** Held annually on 16 December: the anniversary of the protest that sparked the American Revolution. Guests retrace the steps of American colonialists, culminating at the Boston Harbour where reenactors dump tea into the water.
 - **America's Hometown Thanksgiving:** Held the weekend before thanksgiving, this three day festival celebrates the history of Thanksgiving at the place it all started – Plymouth, Massachusetts.
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