

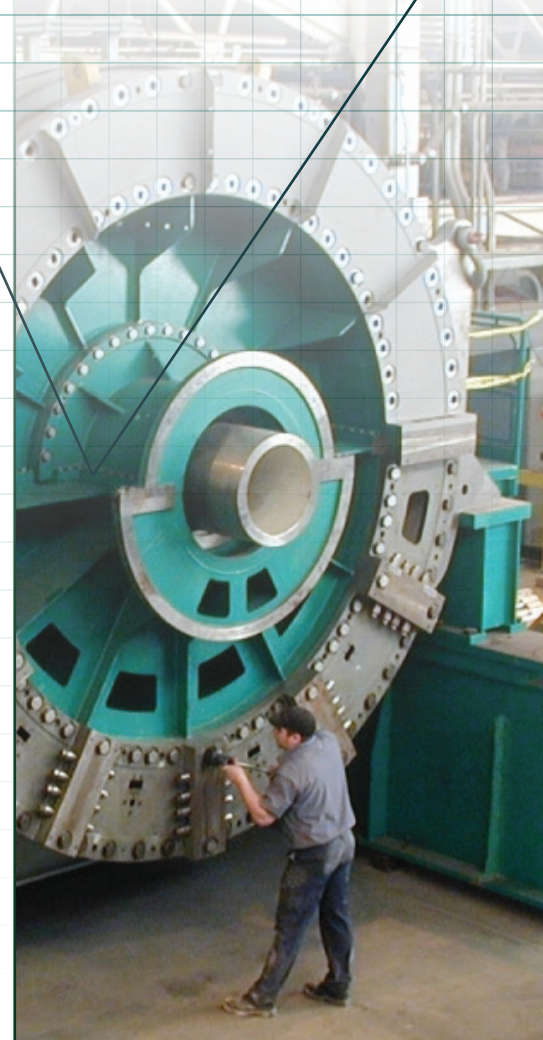
Spring 2020 Edition

# chamber

*north central massachusetts report*

Building Businesses. Building Communities.

## UNDERSTANDING THE REGION'S ECONOMY



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**MASSACHUSETTS**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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## North Central MASSACHUSETTS

### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chamber Report (USPS 773-650) is published quarterly by the North Central Mass. Chamber of Commerce, 860 South Street, Fitchburg, MA, for \$15 per year which is withheld from annual membership dues. Periodicals postage paid at Fitchburg, MA.

### For Editorial & Advertising

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### About the Cover:

This issue of the Chamber Report explores the dynamic economy of North Central Massachusetts. Our feature article on page 8 includes some of the highlights from a recent study commissioned by the Chamber. We commissioned this research to help us better understand the region as well as serve as a resource for members. This is another example of the Chamber serving as a catalyst for business growth, a convener of great business leaders and a champion for a strong North Central Massachusetts.

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## CHAMBER TO DEVELOP REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN



The Chamber and its economic development arm, the North Central Massachusetts Development Corp, have hired national economic development strategists RKG Associates, Inc. to assist in the creation of a new economic development plan for the region. RKG Associates is an economic planning and real estate consultancy with offices in Washington, Boston, Atlanta, Dallas, and Durham, NH. The RKG consulting team for the project will also include Hodges Economic Consulting and FXM Associates, a consulting firm that specializes in real estate and transportation.

The RKG led team was chosen after a thorough selection process that included a formal request for proposals from economic development firms, evaluation of the responses received, interviews with finalists, and

evaluation of past projects and experience. The process was led by a selection committee, comprised of twelve business and community leaders.

The purpose of this effort is to develop a multi-faceted and implementable plan to guide the Chamber's regional economic development efforts over the next 10 to 15 years, providing for sustainable growth. In the 1990s, the Chamber led a similar community and business-based planning effort that proved effective in driving economic development efforts over a twenty-year period and led to the creation of many of the region's economic assets. Recognizing that much has changed since that first plan was developed and the major impact it had in advancing the local economy, the Chamber felt that the time was right to undergo this process again and develop a new plan for the future.

"In order to gain a competitive edge, we believe that it is time to reflect on the assets we have in North Central Massachusetts and how we can build on them," said Roy M. Nascimento,

President & CEO of the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce. "We believe it's important to go through this process to develop a shared vision for the future of the region and a roadmap to ultimately achieve success."

*"...we believe that it is time to reflect on the assets we have in North Central Massachusetts and how we can build on them..."*

— Roy M. Nascimento

The scope of the project includes a data driven assessment of the region's competitiveness as a place to live, work, visit and do business; identification

and analysis of comparable regions locally or nationally for benchmarking purposes; review and analysis of economic development resources and capacity within North Central Massachusetts; outreach and engagement with community, businesses and other stakeholders to gather input to help shape the plan; and the preparation of an economic development strategy and implementation plan. The project is expected to take 6 to 12 months.

The development of this comprehensive regional economic development plan is part of the Chamber's continuing efforts to advance the economy of North Central Massachusetts.

*For more information on the project, please contact the Chamber at 978.353.7600. ♦*





*Save the Date*

# ANNUAL MEETING

AND BUSINESS EXPO

Join other business and community leaders and attend the Chamber's Annual Meeting which celebrates business people working together for the future of North Central Massachusetts. The Chamber's Annual Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 11, 2020 at Great Wolf Lodge. The program will include a luncheon, recognition awards and the commencement for the 2020 class of the Chamber's Community Leadership Institute.

New this year is the addition of a Business Expo to showcase local businesses that make up our dynamic region! The Business Expo will run before and after



our regular program giving exhibitors the chance to reach hundreds of business and community leaders from throughout North Central Massachusetts. The expo is a great opportunity to promote your business and make new connections with the more than 300 attendees that are

expected. The number of exhibitor spaces are limited, so we encourage you to reserve your space today.

The Business Expo portion of the Annual Meeting will start at 11:00 a.m., the Annual Meeting and Luncheon will run from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

and the expo will open back up and close at 2:00 p.m. A limited number of sponsor opportunities are also available.

*For more information or to register, please contact Kat Deal at 978.353.7600 ext. 235. ♦*



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# CHAMBER CONVENES EDUCATION COMPACT



Last Fall, the Chamber convened a meeting of the inaugural North Central Massachusetts Education Compact. The Education Compact is an outgrowth of the Chamber's report published last year called *Build North Central: Promoting the*

*Industrial Heart of Massachusetts*. Among the recommendations in the report was strengthening the relationship between employers and schools throughout the region through a group of this nature that could serve as an ongoing

channel of communication between stakeholders. This high-level leadership group is intended to help facilitate partnerships around the shared goals of improving college and career pathways for students. The group is comprised of leaders in education, business and workforce development.

During the meeting, the Chamber presented data on the region, economic trends and the current and future workforce challenges faced by employers and school leaders. The group also examined several successful initiatives that were developed from similar collaborative models in other parts of the country. The Education Compact plans to meet periodically to continue the dialogue and action needed to advance schools in the region.

Convening the Education Compact is part of the Chamber's continuing efforts to advance the economy of North Central Massachusetts. The Chamber has long been a champion of education and has been actively engaged in supporting schools and students. The Chamber recognizes that the quality and

accessibility of our educational institutions is critical to the health and prosperity of the state and regional economy.

*“In many ways, our schools are the best in the country- the world. Conversations between educators and business are vital to be sure we close any gaps between curriculum and needs of business so together we can help our region develop opportunities for our youth to succeed here in North Central Massachusetts and provide a strong workforce for global competitiveness.”*

*— Steve Rocheleau, President of Rocheleau Tool and Die*

*For more information on the North Central Massachusetts Education Compact or to inquire about joining the group, please contact the Chamber at 978.353.7600. ◇*

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# Understanding the NORTH CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS ECONOMY

The Chamber recently released a new report that provides an in-depth look at the twenty-seven communities that comprise North Central Massachusetts. The Economic Profile was compiled by a research team at the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute and combines detailed economic, labor market and socioeconomic data, as well as analysis on the economic conditions within the region. The Chamber commissioned the research to support economic development efforts and serve as a resource for local businesses. We have highlighted some of the findings in this edition of the Chamber Report. A full copy of the Economic Profile study can be found on the Chamber's website at [NorthCentralMass.com](http://NorthCentralMass.com).

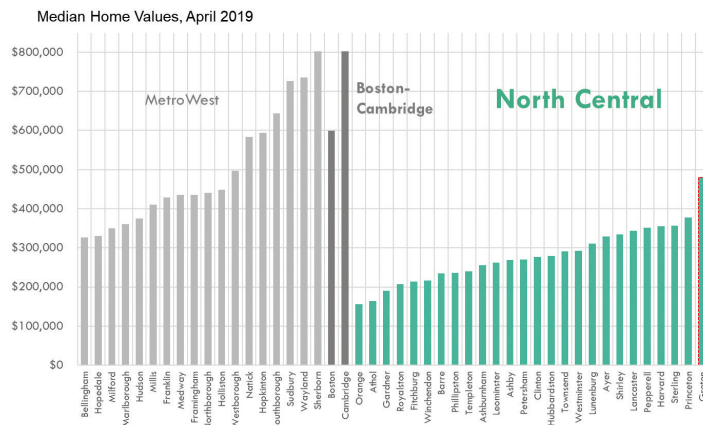
## SOME KEY HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

### REAL ESTATE

#### Home Prices in Region Are Competitive

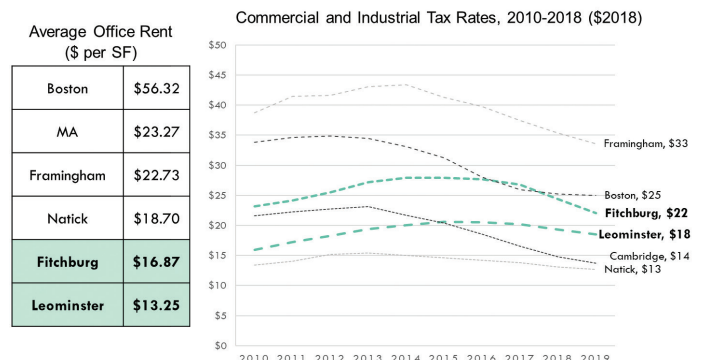
Source: Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, ES-202, UMDI analysis.

Quality homes in good school districts are a draw for North Central Massachusetts. The average home values in affluent towns like Groton, Harvard, and Princeton are well below those in comparable MetroWest towns like Natick and Sudbury.



#### Lower Commercial Real Estate Costs are a Business Climate Advantage for North Central Massachusetts

Source: Massachusetts Department of Revenue, Division of Local Services, CoStar (for Office Rent), UMDI analysis



Proximity to Boston, Worcester and Southern New Hampshire benefits North Central businesses in terms of labor and market access. Commercial leasing rates that are a fraction of Boston's and significantly lower than those found in the MetroWest area also boost the appeal of North Central Massachusetts.

The availability of large parcels of land with high capacity infrastructure in combination with proximity to highways, rail lines and airports also constitutes an advantage for the region. Large parcels with access to both transportation and infrastructure are becoming increasingly scarce and expensive in and around the fast-growing Boston-Cambridge area.

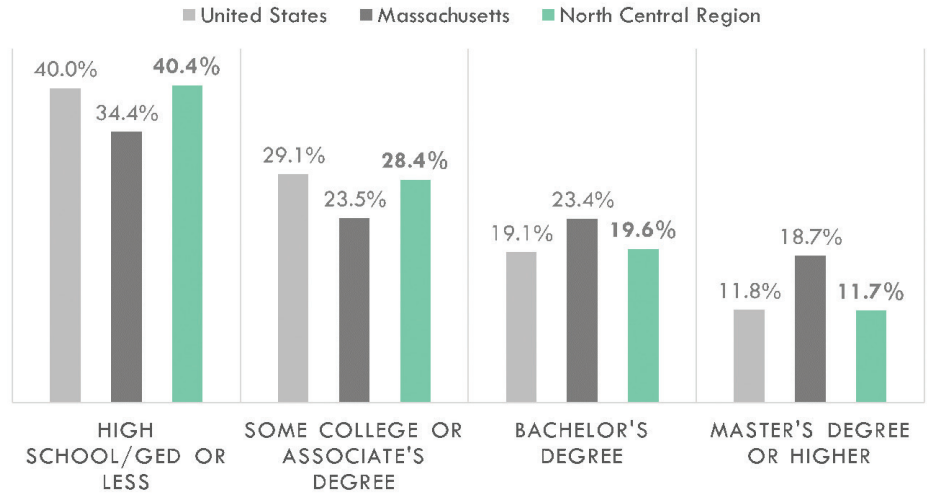


# EDUCATION

## Educational Attainment in North Central Tracks U.S. (For Population 25 and Older)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates.

Thirty-two percent of the residents in North Central Massachusetts have a bachelor's degree or higher and fully 61 percent of adults have some level of college or higher, indicating that the region possesses a varied and skilled workforce.

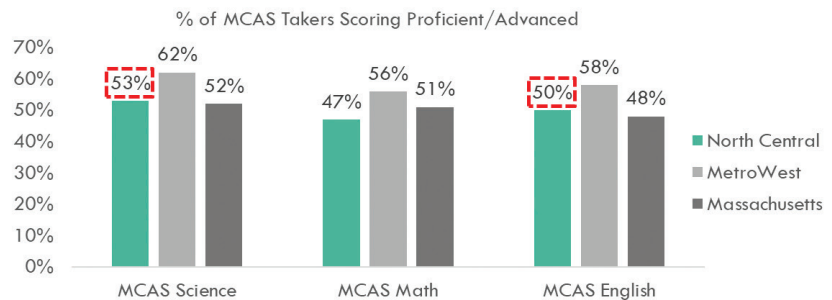


## School Performance is in Line with the State's (School and Standardized Test Indicators, 2018)

Source: MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

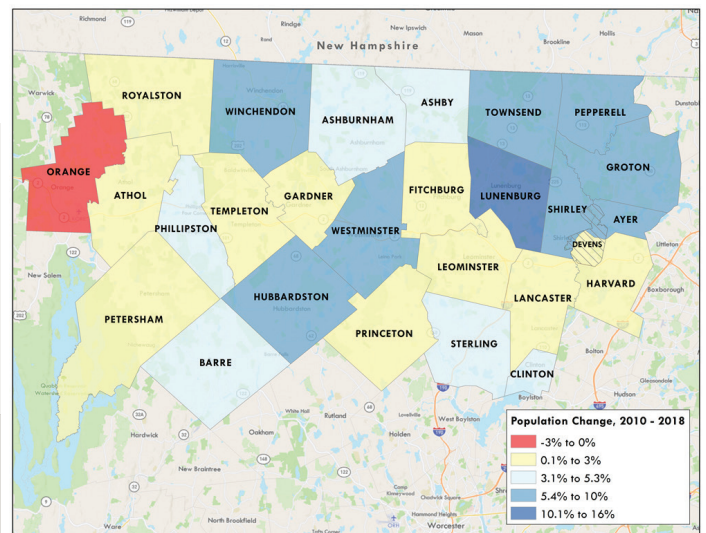
On standardized tests, students in North Central Massachusetts score higher than the state in science and English. SAT scores are on par or slightly higher than the state while the region's dropout rate is lower.

	SAT Math	SAT Reading	AP test takers scoring 4 or 5	Dropout Rate	Graduation Rate	Grads Attending College
North Central	558	559	38.9%	1.4%	88.8%	73.3%
MetroWest	594	584	56.0%	0.9%	92.6%	83.4%
Massachusetts	552	550	41.7%	1.9%	87.9%	73.6%



## North Central's Population Growth varies by Municipality with Higher Growth located towards the East

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; UMDI analysis





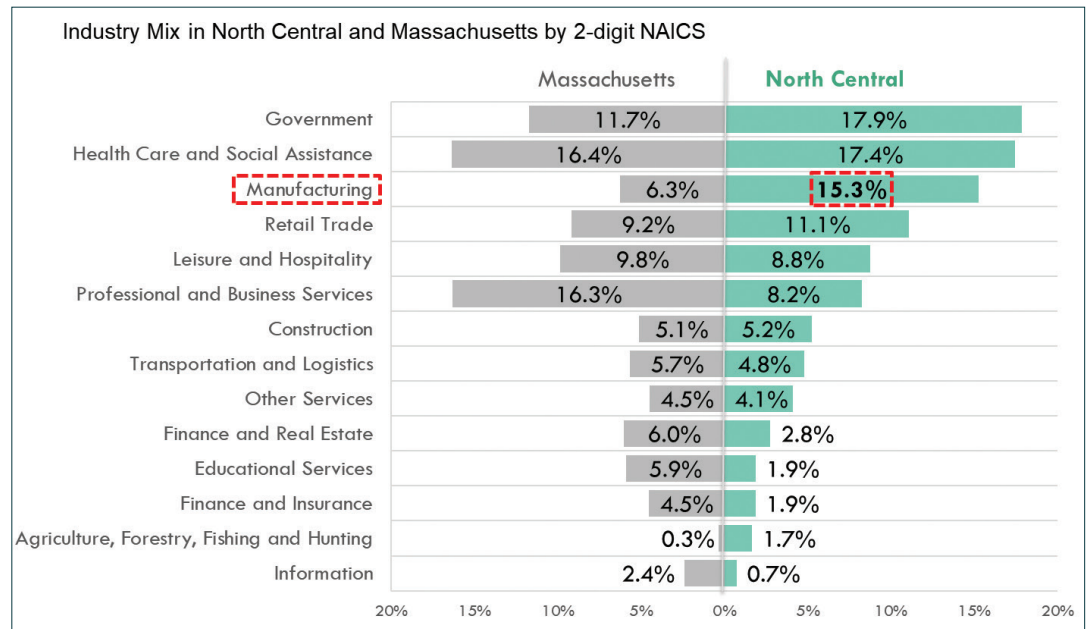
# KEY HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED:

## MANUFACTURING & INDUSTRY MIX

### Industry Mix – Manufacturing is a Standout

Source: Emsi, UMDI analysis

North Central Massachusetts has a diverse economy with notable strengths in healthcare and manufacturing (led by plastics products, pharmaceuticals, and electronics). Manufacturing is nearly twice as concentrated in North Central Massachusetts compared to national averages. Since 2010, most major sectors in the region have seen job growth.

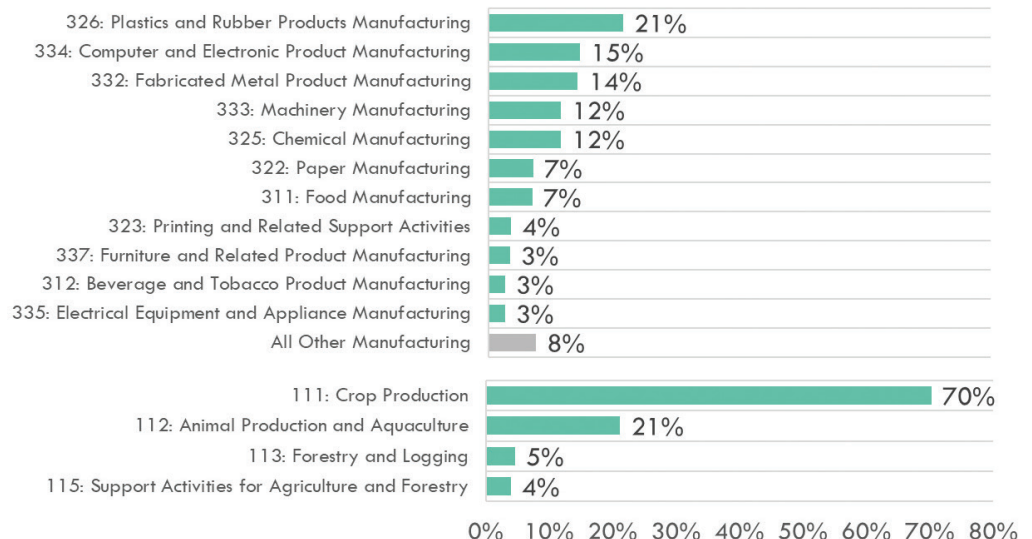


### Diving Deeper in North Central's Manufacturing and Agricultural Sectors

Source: Emsi, the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Agriculture and food and beverage manufacturing have seen growth in North Central Massachusetts and now employ about 3,500 people. Agriculture is more concentrated in the region than the national average.

### Manufacturing Subsectors (3-digit NAICS) as a Percent of Total 2018 Manufacturing Jobs



VISIT [WWW.NORTHCENTRALMASS.COM](http://WWW.NORTHCENTRALMASS.COM) FOR MORE INSIGHTS INTO THE ECONOMY IN NORTH CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS.



# JOBS

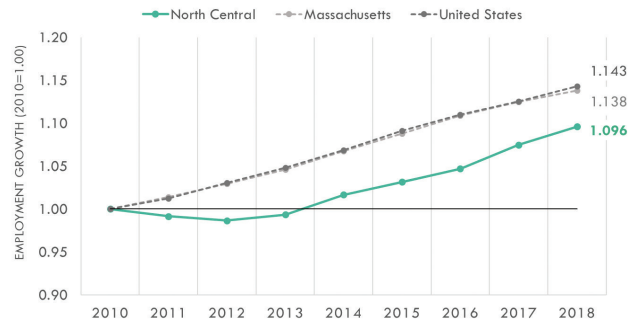


## Top 10 Work Destinations for North Central Residents

Municipality	Share of Workers
Leominster	8.6%
Fitchburg	6.4%
Worcester	6.1%
Boston	4.8%
Gardner	4.5%
Marlborough	2.2%
Ayer	2.2%
Athol	1.8%
Clinton	1.8%
Westminster	1.4%

## Inflow and Outflow of Jobs, c. 2017

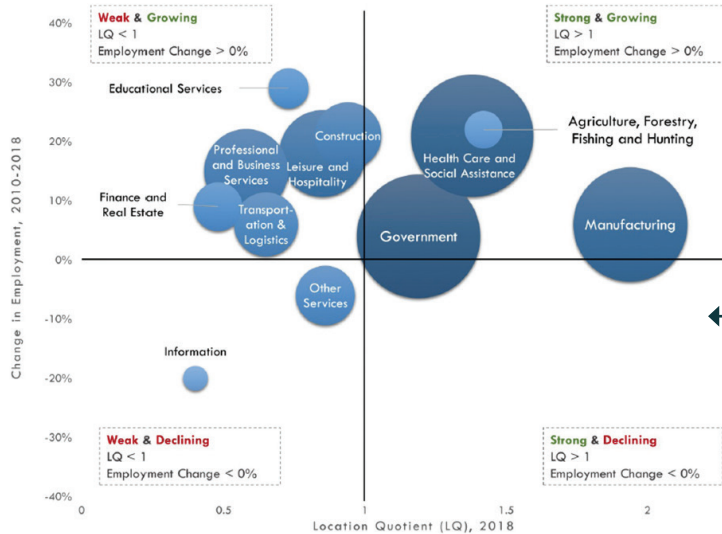
Jobs Growth Index, 2010-2018 (2010=1.00)



## After Sluggish Start Earlier in the Decade, North Central is Gaining Momentum in Jobs

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, UMDI analysis

## Relative Performance of North Central Industry Sectors



## Major Sectors in Region are Performing Well

Source: Emsi, UMDI analysis

*This research is part of the North Central Massachusetts Chamber's continuing efforts to help promote the region and advance the economy of North Central Massachusetts. ♦*



# TOURISMupdate

## Winter Season Wrap-Up

Here is an update on the work of our tourism arm – Visit North Central Massachusetts – over the Winter to promote and market North Central Massachusetts as a destination for visitors and groups.

We continued to utilize a diverse mix of digital and print advertising in target markets to promote the region, including geo-targeted digital ads, a paid YouTube advertising campaign and print advertisements in Bay State Parent. During the winter season we also partnered with the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism, Massachusetts Ski Resort Association, and the Berkshires and Franklin County Convention and Visitors Bureaus on a special #SkiMass campaign to promote the state to skiers and snowboarders. The campaign included a mix of paid digital media on Facebook and Instagram in the



target markets of Greater Boston, New Hampshire, New York and Connecticut.

Our Facebook following has grown 5.8% over the winter season and a whopping 290% compared to the same period last year! This is primarily due to our rebranding and our strategy of utilizing a combination of Facebook ads, compelling content and video. Our Instagram following grew by 6% and our Twitter grew by 11% during the Winter

season. We also released a new tourism video on our social media channels highlighting the dynamic region. A special thank you to Wilspro Entertainment and music artist Joshua Radin for his song “Going With You” which is featured in the new video.

Our tourism website – VisitNorthCentral.com – saw a 192% increase in traffic over the same period last year. Primary origins for the majority of visitors included

the New England states and Canada. Winter themed blog articles on the website included “Take The Ski Train,” “Sleigh Bells Ring,” and “Feathered Fun.”

Hotel occupancy was up 3% in the region compared to the month of January last year. The state saw a 4.3% increase compared to January of last year. Revenue per available room (RevPar) for January 2020 was up 5.5% for the region compared to January 2019 and

*Continued on page 13*

Continued from page 12



the state was up 4.5% compared to January 2019. All data is from the most recent STR report (occupancy data for February has not been released as of printing).

Visit North Central Massachusetts was also busy promoting the region at trade shows. We showcased the region at the Great Bridal Expo held in Boston, promoting our beautiful wedding venues to future brides and grooms from throughout New England. Plans are currently underway to participate in the Dreams and Destinations Travel

Show in Springfield, MA in May. We will be showcasing our region for the first time at this trade show that targets visitors from Western Massachusetts, New York and Connecticut. We will also be participating in the Discover New England Industry Show taking place in Maine.

The Spring/Summer 2020 Guide to North Central Massachusetts is now available. Due to higher demand, we have increased our printing by 15% and expanded distribution in Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode

Island, the South Shore, Boston and even Canada (our region's biggest international market). The Guide to North Central Massachusetts can now also be found across all terminals inside Boston's Logan Airport.

We are currently seeking partners for upcoming co-op opportunities in the Spring and Summer. Please contact David Ginisi, Marketing and Communications Manager, if you are interested and would like additional information. ♦



## The Spring / Summer 2020 Guide is out!

Contact us to request copies of The Guide for your office or business.

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# QUICK hits



## 2019 Winter Reception

The Chamber hosted its annual Winter Reception back in December at Wachusett Mountain Ski Area, Inc. Pictured are some of the Chamber's Ambassadors. Thank you to AIS for sponsoring!



## CEO Unplugged w/ John O'Brien of LCU

The Chamber hosted another CEO Unplugged for the month of January which featured John O'Brien, President of Leominster Credit Union.

## Chamber Ambassador John Ronan Meets with Gardner Ale House

Chamber Ambassador, John Ronan of the Arc of Opportunity, checks in with Rick Walton, Owner of the Gardner Ale House, during January's Good Morning North Central Breakfast.



## January's Good Morning North Central Breakfast

January's Good morning North Central Breakfast featured Dr. Mark Melnik of the UMass Donahue Institute and Francisco Torres of MassDevelopment / TDI. Thank you to our sponsor Resource Management, Inc.



## Chamber Meets with Telegram & Gazette

The Chamber was pleased to meet with Mark Conti, Editor for the Worcester Telegram & Gazette to discuss further collaborative efforts.





## Chamber Ambassador Kathleen Craigen Meets with Beacon of Hope

Chamber Ambassador, Kathleen Craigen of Fitchburg State University, volunteered some time with the Beacon of Hope for one of their Wednesday Night Gatherings.



## Chamber Meets with Becker College

The Chamber was pleased to meet with Mary Ellen Mahoney, Dean of Graduate & Professional Studies at Becker College. Becker College is offering members a 10% discount.

## NCMDC Staff & BOD Get Fingerprinted!

The North Central Massachusetts Development Corporation is applying for a new economic development designation from the federal government.

A huge thank you to the Fitchburg Police Department for coming out to assist the Development Corporation Board and staff with getting their fingerprints taken as part of the required background check!



## Chamber Orientation

The Chamber recently hosted a jam-packed orientation for new and future members. Thank you to Comeketo Brazilian Steakhouse for the delicious appetizers!



## Young Professionals Committee Strategizes with NEADS

The Chamber is excited to announce a future collaborative volunteer effort between the Young Professionals of North Central Massachusetts and NEADS World Class Service Dogs!

Pictured: The YP Committee, CEO of NEADS, Gerry DeRoche, and his good little pal, Emmitt.

Stay tuned for more details on the event and how you can volunteer!



## QUICK HITS CONTINUED...



### Grant Awarded to NCMDC

The Chamber's Economic Development arm, the North Central Massachusetts Development Corporation, received a grant to help support our micro-lending efforts.

Thank you to the Baker-Polito Administration for their continued support in advancing North Central Massachusetts!



### NCMDC Provides Financing to Smokestack Roasters

The North Central Massachusetts Development Corporation (NCMDC) recently approved a \$48,000 loan to Smokestack Roasters, a coffee roaster and retail coffee shop in Lunenburg MA. Pictured: Jaclynn and Barry Nicoll, owners; Brendan Hannen, Micro-Loan Manager, and Sandie Cataldo, Economic Development Manager.



### CLI Crisis Media Training

For the month of January, the Community Leadership Institute had crisis media training at Fitchburg Access Television with Mat Bruun, Director of Public Relations at Fitchburg State University and Mike Elfland, Web Editor for the Telegram & Gazette.



### Delegation Awards the Chamber \$100,000 Grant

Thank you to the North Central Massachusetts Delegation for helping secure a \$100,000 grant to help our efforts to develop a comprehensive economic development plan for the region.

Special thanks to Senator Dean Tran for his leadership in sponsoring the item in the budget.



### Mattress by Appointment Ribbon Cutting

The Chamber celebrated Mattress by Appointment's grand opening with a ribbon cutting in January. Pictured: Chris Urbine and Ryan Dupell, owners; Mayor DiNatale, of Fitchburg; AJ Tourigny and Michelle Haggstrom, Chamber Ambassadors, and David Ginisi and Timothy Hartigan of The Chamber.



### Chamber Holiday Outing at Cornerstone Ranch

This past December, the Chamber had a fun holiday retreat at the Cornerstone Ranch in Princeton. Thank you to Sue O'Connell and her staff for being such gracious hosts!



## QUICK HITS CONTINUED...

### Rollstone Bank & Trust Gifts Membership to St. Bernard's

Congratulations to St. Bernard's Central Catholic High School for receiving a gifted Chamber membership courtesy of Regional Leader level member, Rollstone Bank & Trust!

Photographed: Marty Connors, President of Rollstone Bank; Linda Anderson, Principal of St. Bernard's; and Roy Nascimento, President & CEO of the Chamber.



### Ribbon Cutting with Visiting Angels

Congratulations to Visiting Angels of Leominster for their recent grand opening. Mayor Mazzarella of the City of Leominster was on-hand to celebrate the occasion!



### NCMDC Provides Financing to Popcorn Castle

The North Central Massachusetts Development Corporation (NCMDC) recently approved a \$25,000 loan to Eric Machuca, owner; of Popcorn Castle, a start-up popcorn and snack food retailer in the Mall at Whitney Field in Leominster MA. Pictured: Eric Machuca, owner, Brendan Hannen, Micro-Loan Manager; and Sandie Cataldo, Economic Development Manager.



### Ribbon Cutting with Nurse Next Door

The Chamber celebrated with Nurse Next Door by holding a ribbon cutting ceremony for their Fitchburg office grand opening! Pictured: Joe Kiarie, owner; Mayor DiNatale of the City of Fitchburg; AJ Tourigny and Michelle Haggstrom, Chamber Ambassadors; David Ginisi of the Chamber, and several staff and family members.



### Young Professionals Holiday Event

The Young Professionals of North Central Massachusetts held a holiday event at Legends Grille & Sports Bar and featured an ugly sweater competition. Congratulations to Rollstone Bank & Trust, Melissa Tasca of the City of Leominster, and Susan Orsini of the Boys & Girls Club of Fitchburg & Leominster, who took home first, second and third place prizes respectfully.





# GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

## CHAMBER RELEASES TRANSPORTATION PLATFORM AHEAD OF STATE HOUSE DEBATE



With debate over transportation improvements and funding taking shape in the State House, the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce has released a platform outlining its position on this important matter. “North Central Massachusetts is poised to be the next area of growth in Massachusetts,” stated Roy Nascimento, the Chamber’s president and CEO. “However, without a strong and reliable transportation system, we will be unable to expand our residential,

commercial, and industrial tax bases.”

The platform itself is divided into three sections, covering the Chamber’s position on individual reforms, funding proposals, and priority regional infrastructure projects. “The platform’s goal is to ensure accountability and regional equity as the state explores prioritizing transportation infrastructure and ways to finance these projects” explained Christopher McDermott, the Chamber’s public affairs manager.

### Key highlights of the Chamber platform include:

- First and foremost, the Chamber believes that any new transportation funding initiatives should be accompanied by meaningful reforms, with increased focus on fiscal management, long-term planning, and sustainability. Moreover, any new funding measures passed for transportation infrastructure should be directly tied to those purposes;

- In regards to funding, the Chamber supports congestion pricing as a targeted method of addressing bottlenecks during peak periods along routes where public transit is readily available. It is also in favor of increasing ride sharing fees for transportation network companies;

- The Chamber is open to the Governor’s Transportation Climate Initiative (TCI), provided that New Hampshire and other states in the Northeast participate so as not to place Massachusetts at a competitive disadvantage. While we have some concerns with this proposal, we appreciate the regional focus and the underlying goals of improving transportation infrastructure, reducing carbon emissions, and creating economic development opportunities;

- At the same time, the Chamber opposes expanding tolling along open access state highways. The Chamber will also resist efforts to increase the gas tax or implement mileage fees, as these are regionally inequitable options which penalize drivers in rural areas that lack access to public transit;

- Lastly, once funds have been raised, the Chamber will advocate for the modernization of Route 2 and Interstate 190; expansion of alternative transit options; and improved Commuter Rail service, to include increased frequency of trips, subsidies to address unreasonably priced fares, and express trains from Fitchburg to Boston.

The Chamber’s position was developed after research and polling members. The Chamber’s Government Affairs Committee, comprised of members from diverse industries, also helped review and draft the position. A final draft was reviewed and approved by the Chamber’s Board of Directors at their meeting on January 16, 2020. It can be found on the Government Affairs Page under “Chamber Positions” at <https://www.northcentralmass.com/government-affairs/chamber-positions/>.

*Thank you to all the members who provided input on this issue. ♦*

## FITCHBURG MOVES TO SINGLE TAX RATE, CLINTON NARROWS SPLIT

In a major win for local business, Fitchburg councilors elected to move to a single rate at their annual tax hearing, eliminating what remained of a six point shift. A night later, Clinton's selectmen voted unanimously to move to a 1.52 tax shift, narrowing their split by two points and committing to moving towards a single rate over time. The Chamber testified at both tax hearings, advocating for a more favorable business tax climate.

Massachusetts allows two models for property taxes: single and dual rates. The single rate means that both residential and commercial/industrial properties are taxed at the same level. While a dual rate dictates that commercial and industrial property taxpayers pay a higher share of taxes based on a property's assessed value. A dual system increases costs for businesses, disincentivizes business investment and puts a community at a competitive disadvantage compared with neighboring communities that maintain a single rate. For these reasons, only a handful of communities within the region still maintain a tax split.

"Your decision to gradually move towards a single tax rate is the right decision long-term for the City" stated Roy Nascimento, President & CEO of the Chamber during the Fitchburg's City Council

tax hearing. "Making the commercial tax burden more competitive will position Fitchburg to attract new business investment, retain existing businesses, increase tax revenues and change outdated perceptions that the City is unfriendly to business."

These votes are significant as the tax shift is perhaps the most immediate and direct manner in which municipal officials can impact businesses within their communities. "We recognize that tax rates are only one factor in an economy – energy costs, workforce, health care costs, and many other things also play a role", Nascimento stated while speaking before Clinton's Selectmen. "But there is nothing you can do about health care costs, energy costs, and so on. Adopting a more competitive tax rate and working towards a single rate is something that you can do something about."

The Chamber applauds the actions of the Fitchburg City Council and the Clinton Board of Selectmen. The adoption of the single tax rate passed by an 8-2 margin at the Tuesday, December 3, 2019 Fitchburg City Council meeting with Councilors Marcus DiNatale; E. Thomas Donnelly; Marisa Fleming; Amy Green; Joel R. Kaddy; Michael Kushmerek; Elizabeth Walsh; and Anthony Zarrella voting in favor and Councilors Samantha Squailia and Paul Beauchemin voting

against. The reduction in the property tax shift from 154% to 152% passed unanimously at the Wednesday, December 4, 2019 Board of Selectmen meeting with select board members William F. Connolly, Jr.; Sean J. Kerrigan; Edward J. Devault; Michael J. Dziokonski; and John J. Boisoeneau all voting to adopt the reduction. ◇

**"Your decision to gradually move towards a single tax rate is the right decision long-term..."**

— testified Roy Nascimento, President & CEO of the Chamber

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# North Central Calendar **EVENTS**

A complete list of events with details can be found at web.  
northcentralmass.com/events.  
Please contact Kat Deal with any questions.

## March 5

**Women's Leadership Connection:  
Women in Government**

*DoubleTree by Hilton*  
11:45 AM - 1:30 PM

## March 12

**Good Morning North Central**

*DoubleTree by Hilton*  
6:45 AM - 8:30 AM

## March 17

**CEO Unplugged with Paul Sellow of  
Little Leaf Farms**

*Chamber Office*  
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

## March 17

**Small Business RoundTable:  
Roadmap to Your Success**

*Chamber Office*  
8:00 AM – 11:00 AM

## March 20

**Connect North Central**

*DoubleTree by Hilton*  
7:45 AM - 9:00 AM

## March 27

**Economic Forecast Breakfast**

*DoubleTree by Hilton*  
7:30 AM - 10:00 AM

## April 2

**Young Professionals of North  
Central Massachusetts: 110 Grill**

*110 Grill in Leominster*  
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

## April 8

**Tourism Update Breakfast**

*Great Wolf Lodge*  
7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

## April 9

**Business After Hours:  
Forge & Vine**

*Forge & Vine in Groton*  
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

## April 15

**OSD meeting: Connecting  
Your Business to  
the Commonwealth**

*Chamber Office*  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## April 21

**Economic Development  
Council Meeting**

*Chamber Office*  
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

## April 24

**Connect North Central**

*DoubleTree by Hilton*  
7:45 AM - 9:00 AM

## April 27 & 28

**QuickBooks 2 Day Seminar**

*Chamber Office*  
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

## April 29

**OSD meeting: Supplier  
Diversity Office (SDO)  
Pre-Certification**

*Chamber Office*  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## May 7

**CEO Unplugged with Cheryl Molebash Dixie Consumer Products**  
*Dixie Consumer Products*  
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

## May 19

**North Central Real Estate Summit**  
*Great Wolf Lodge*  
7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

## June 3

**Women's Leadership Connection**  
*Great Wolf Lodge*  
11:45 AM - 1:30 PM

## May 8

**Annual Scholars Breakfast**  
*DoubleTree by Hilton*  
6:45 AM - 8:45 AM

## May 27

**Viewing of 'No Small Matter'**  
*Chamber Office*  
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

## June 11

**Annual Meeting & Business Expo**  
*Great Wolf Lodge*  
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

## May 12

**Development Corporation Client Appreciation Reception**  
*Chamber Office*  
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

## May 29

**Connect North Central**  
*DoubleTree by Hilton*  
7:45 AM - 9:00 AM

## June 17

**Sponsor Reception**  
*Apple Hill Farm & Country Club*  
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

*Save the Date*



ANNUAL  
**SCHOLARS**  
BREAKFAST



**The Chamber's Annual Scholars Breakfast** is scheduled for Friday, May 8, 2020 from 6:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. at the Doubletree by Hilton, 99 Erdman Way, Leominster, MA.

The breakfast is a great opportunity for business and community leaders to come together to support educational opportunities for students in North Central Massachusetts. Over \$52,000 in scholarships will be awarded from the Chamber Foundation to graduating seniors in the region. This popular breakfast program is a celebration of student achievements and includes a strong turnout among students, parents, business and community leaders.

All proceeds from the breakfast program will benefit the Chamber Foundation and help support Chamber scholarships in future years. The scholarship breakfast



has been revamped this year to replace the Annual Golf Tournament as the primary fundraising event to support our scholarship program. We have introduced several new sponsorship levels and advertising opportunities for the breakfast.

The cost is just \$27 for Chamber members/\$42

non-members and includes a breakfast buffet. Pre-registration is required.

*To register or for more information on sponsorship and advertising opportunities, please contact Kat Deal at 978.353.7600 ext. 235 or visit [www.northcentralmass.com](http://www.northcentralmass.com).* ♦





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