

FRAMINGHAM EMPLOYMENT REPORT 2020

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY©

- Framingham, the largest community in the powerful innovation economy of Greater MetroWest (GMW) region, boasts a highly educated labor force, high wage employment, a very diversified industrial base, and strong growth following the 2009 Great Recession.
- In 2018 Framingham's record 2,570 establishments provided 49,220 jobs, a record total payroll of \$4.0 billion and a record average annual wage of \$81,400.
- Total employment in Framingham climbed by 20% from 40,950 jobs in 1980 to 49,220 jobs in 2018, growing at a slower annual rate than did the state or the nation. Total payroll from establishments located within Framingham climbed seven fold from \$579 million in 1980 to a record \$4.0 billion in 2018 at a rate similar to the state and the nation.
- In 2018 Framingham's average annual wage of \$81,400 exceeded the GMW average wage by 4%, the MA average wage by 12% and the U.S. average wage by 42%.
- The number of establishments, or separate places of work sited in Framingham, rose from 1,520 establishments in 1980 to a record 2,570 establishments in 2018, a gain of over 1,000 establishments or 69%.
- In 2018 five NAICS supersectors: Professional and Business Services (PBS), Education & Health, Trade, Transportation and Utilities (TTU), Public and Manufacturing combined generated 82% of Framingham employment. PBS led with 15,310 jobs, followed by Education & Health Services (8,310), TTU (7,020), Public (5,260) and Manufacturing (4,380). PBS had almost twice the concentration of PBS jobs located in Framingham than existed statewide.
- The same five supersectors combined produced 87% of total payroll in 2018. PBS led with a payroll of \$1.7 billion, 43% of Framingham's total payroll, followed by Manufacturing (\$571 million), Education & Health Services (\$420 million), Public (\$384 million) and TTU (\$381 million).
- Among all supersectors in 2018, Manufacturing offered the highest average annual wage, \$130,300, followed by PBS (\$113,400) and Information (\$100,400). While Manufacturing produced 9% of Framingham employment, it produced 14% of Framingham payroll due to its higher wage. Leisure & Hospitality, offered the lowest average wage, \$25,900, one-fifth of the Manufacturing average wage.
- Three supersectors, Education & Health Services (590 establishments) and PBS (580), and TTU (420), combined generated 62% of Framingham establishments in

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2018. Establishments in Framingham averaged 19 jobs per establishment, and were larger on average than those in the region, state and nation.

- Among the 19 NAICS sectors in 2018, Health Care & Social Assistance (7,690 jobs) and Management of Companies (7,650) produced the highest employment. Management of Companies generated the highest payroll, \$1.0 billion, one-quarter of the entire Framingham payroll.
- In 2018 six NAICS sectors produced average annual wages exceeding \$100,000: Management of Companies (\$133,700), Manufacturing (\$130,300), Professional/Scientific/Technical (\$126,300), Utilities (\$124,400), Wholesale Trade (\$109,500), Information (\$100,400). In 2018 Health Care & Social Assistance (550 establishments) and Professional/Scientific/Technical (380) provided one-third of Framingham establishments.
- After the 2009 Great Recession, Framingham recovered and expanded strongly with employment, payroll, average wage and establishments climbing 10%-32% in the next nine years.
- Between the 2009, the trough of the Great Recession, and 2018, Framingham added 4,590 jobs, a 10% increase in employment. PBS led job gains, up 2,450 jobs or 19%, followed by Public, Manufacturing, Education & Health Services.
- Over the nine-year period (2009-2018), Framingham increased total payroll by nearly \$1 billion, a 32% gain. PBS and Manufacturing combined generated two-thirds of the entire Framingham net gain in payroll.
- Between 2009-2018 the Framingham average wage climbed by \$13,500, a 20% increase. Manufacturing recorded the largest supersector gain, \$37,200 or 40%.
- From 2009-2018 the number of Framingham establishments rose sharply with a net gain of 380 establishments or 17%. Education and Health Services fueled the increase, adding 300 establishments and doubling its number of establishments. Construction followed, up 80 establishments or 51%.
- Among the 13 GMW communities in 2018, Framingham ranked first in employment, payroll, and establishments and fifth in average wage. In 2018 Framingham contributed over one-quarter of GMW employment and payroll and 22% of GMW establishments.

Source: Dunne, MacRitchie, Gomez, *Framingham Employment Report 2020*©, MERC, Framingham State University, June 2020 www.merc-online.org

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