

# Framingham Works



World-class companies choose world-class locations. Major corporations like Staples, Bose, Sanofi Genzyme, Philips Lifeline, and TJX have chosen Framingham. Framingham offers businesses an easy connection to I-90 (the MassPike) along the Boston/Worcester corridor and an unparalleled collection of amenities that are clustered here. The Massachusetts Biotechnology Council has rated Framingham as a “platinum” BioReady community.

## Economic Status

In 2013, Framingham's commercial and industrial sector included over 2,260 businesses generating over 46,000 jobs, with a \$3.5 billion payroll and an average annual wage of

\$74,700. Framingham provides 41% of the total employment and almost 45% of the total payroll in MetroWest.

Framingham's diverse commercial clusters have helped it weather the economic downturn and, though the city has lost jobs, as of May 2018, the unemployment rate at 3.3% is still below the state (3.5%) and national averages (3.9%) and the number of establishments and jobs had remained essentially the same.

## Clusters

Framingham's key clusters include:

### Biotechnology and Technology Cluster

- Sanofi Genzyme
- Bose
- MetroWest Medical Center
- Philips Lifeline
- Alira Health
- Ameresco, Inc.



### Retail Cluster

- TJX Companies
- Staples Corporation
- Shoppers World (DDR)
- Downtown Framingham/Route 9

### Higher Education Cluster

- Framingham State University
- MassBay Community College



Framingham also has extensive rail access to facilitate the transport of goods and people. Frequent commuter service between Boston and Worcester provides connections to Amtrak and Acela reaching the whole East Coast and beyond.

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## Workforce Diversity

Framingham has a culturally and economically diverse population, with a total population of about 70,743 and an employment base that draws from a regional workforce of 100,000. The MetroWest Economic Research Center (MERC) at Framingham State University describes the MetroWest workforce as:

“...exceptionally well-educated with career experience in those occupations and industries that promise growth in the 21st century. In addition, a combination of high labor-force participation rates, high-wage occupations, and low unemployment results in households with incomes substantially above state and national averages.”

## Workforce Development

Framingham is located approximately 20 miles from both Boston and Worcester conveniently located for access to the extensive variety of opportunity in this region. Both Framingham State University (FSU) and MassBay Community College are active partners with the business community

to make sure their programs are proactively meeting the workforce needs of both the present and the future.

FSU launched an innovative new MBA concentration in fall 2018 that capitalizes on the region’s position as one of the major biotechnology hubs in the world. A new state-of-the-art science wing opened in 2016.

MassBay offers a wide variety of degree and certificate programs including Liberal Arts and Communication; Health Sciences such as nursing; Science and Engineering including biotech and information technology; Social Science such as education; and Automotive Technology.



## Resources

The link below will give you access to a number of links with information about starting and operating a business in Framingham.

[www.chooseframingham.com/working-with-the-town](http://www.chooseframingham.com/working-with-the-town)

The Mayor of Framingham, City Councilors and city staff are committed to supporting the city’s business community and ensuring its continued growth and vitality.

If you are not sure where to begin, or you cannot find the answers you need on the web, please contact us and we will set you on the right path.

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