



Massachusetts is wicked Irish, in charts

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DAVID KAMERMAN/GLOBE STAFF/FILE

Massachusetts is a stronghold for people of Irish descent.

By [Matt Rocheleau](#)

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March is officially designated as Irish-American Heritage Month in the United States, and on the 17th of the month each year people across the US mark St. Patrick's Day, a holiday with Christian roots that has morphed into a broader celebration of Irish culture.

Irish is the second-most frequently cited ancestry among US residents, behind only German, according to data from the US Census Bureau.

More than 33.5 million people nationwide claim Irish ancestry, which is more than seven times as many as the current population of Ireland.

And Massachusetts is a stronghold for people of Irish descent.

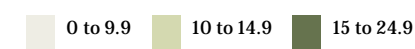
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New England is the most Irish area, and Mass. is the most Irish state, nationally

The percentage of people claiming Irish ancestry in Massachusetts is nearly 22 percent, the highest such percentage in the United States. Irish is also the most popular of any ancestry claimed by Massachusetts residents, with more than 1.4 million people statewide claiming Irish ancestry. The next most popular ancestry in the state is Italian, with just over 900,000 people claiming that ancestry.

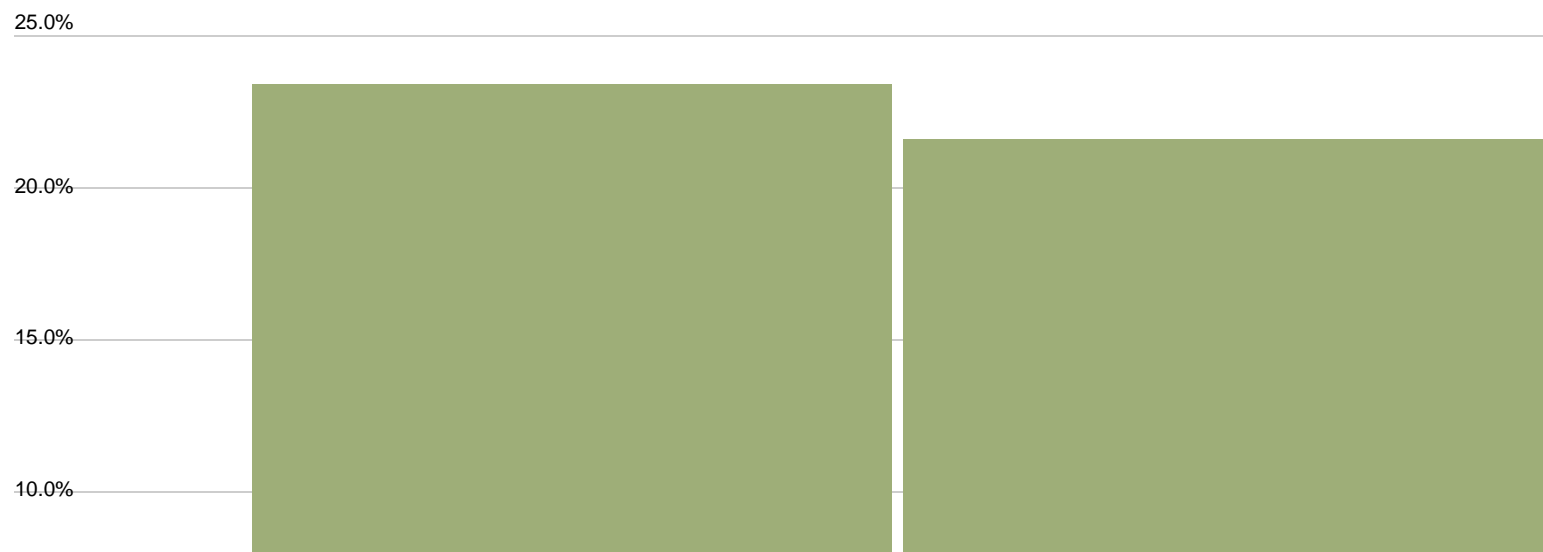


Marshfield is the most Irish municipality in Massachusetts

About 46 percent of the South Shore town's 25,000-plus residents claim Irish ancestry, and it is surrounded by several other communities with high concentrations of people who claim Irish ancestry.

0 to 19.9 20 to 39.9 40 to 50

Yet people of Irish ancestry represent a slightly smaller share of the state's population today than they did just several years ago





A similar trend is seen within the city of Boston



And, nationally



2006-10

2011-2015

SOURCES: United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey 2011-15, 2006-10
MATT ROCHELEAU/GLOBE STAFF

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Trump proposal relies on claims by religious researchers

A proposal by President Trump's administration would undo the Affordable Care Act's five-year-old mandate for birth control coverage. [MORE...](#)



Storms could bring hail and severe winds

Damaging winds, quarter-size hail, and even a tornado are possibilities in Massachusetts today. [MORE...](#)



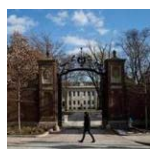
Dick Albert, former Channel 5 weatherman, dies

"It's a huge loss," said Harvey Leonard. "It's truly like losing a brother, that's what I considered him to be." [MORE...](#)

In Michelle Carter's hometown, opinions vary on justice of her sentence



Residents who spoke to the Globe were split on whether Carter, now 20, received an appropriate sentence for urging Conrad Roy III to kill himself. [MORE...](#)



The majority of Harvard's incoming class is nonwhite

Harvard's push to broaden diversity comes as the Trump administration turns its focus on affirmative action policies. [MORE...](#)



VA Secretary ousts third official at troubled N.H. hospital

VA Secretary David Shulkin said he was responding to allegations of dangerously substandard care made by medical staff in a Boston Globe report last month. [MORE...](#)



Mother of Conrad Roy III seeks \$4.2m in wrongful death suit against Michelle Carter

Lynn Roy says she is seeking damages "caused by the defendant's negligence and wanton and reckless conduct." [MORE...](#)



State agrees with Trump administration to delay long-awaited water pollution rules

A landmark plan to curb pollution in lakes, rivers, and streams throughout Massachusetts has been delayed for at least another year. [MORE...](#)



Teamster in Top Chef trial could get jail time for posting on Facebook during trial

Daniel Redmond, one of four Teamsters on trial, posted an article on the Facebook page, "Support the Teamster 4," violating a court order to not speak publicly about the case. [MORE...](#)



Thousands of cyclists are pedaling during the 38th Pan-Mass Challenge

More than 5,300 cyclists took off Saturday morning in the 2017 Pan-Mass Challenge, raising money for patient care and cancer research. [MORE...](#)



He thought he was dying, but highway chief paved his own road to salvation

Tom Tinlin needed a lot of things to go his way when a blood vessel in his brain burst in April. Fittingly, one of them was traffic. [MORE...](#)



Lawbreakers or just really lucky? Mass. has more repeat lottery winners than any other state

Some people redeem so many winning tickets that they raise questions about the integrity and oversight of the \$5 billion state lottery. [MORE...](#)

Police disperse hundreds of youths in the North End

State Police spokesman David Procopio said Boston police requested Massachusetts State Police assistance with dispersing between 500 and 1,000 youths. [MORE...](#)



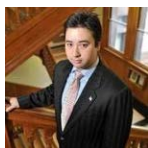
A cross-country bicycle trip of a lifetime — delayed 40 years

John Sweeney averaged 65 miles a day, mostly along Route 20, a 3,365-mile ribbon of asphalt that is the longest road in the United States. [MORE...](#)



State Police investigate video of youths fighting on pier in Quincy

A video of youths being punched and kicked is making the rounds on social media. [MORE...](#)



Cambridge city councilor to leave politics

Cambridge city councilor Leland Cheung, the first Asian-American on the council, announced this week that he intends to leave politics. [MORE...](#)



This weekend, bus shuttles replace rail service on five lines

You might want to just stay home this weekend. [MORE...](#)

Michelle Carter receives 15 months in jail; will remain free pending appeal

A judge sentenced Michelle Carter to two and a half years, with 15 months to serve and 15 months



probation, for goading her boyfriend to kill himself in a high-profile texting suicide case. However, he allowed Carter to remain free while awaiting appeal. [MORE...](#)



‘Dukes of Hazzard’ actor arrested in Waltham

Tom Wopat was arraigned on a charge of groping a woman who was to share the stage with him in a local production of “42nd Street.” [MORE...](#)

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