WELCOME

The 1st Congressional District—spanning Berkshire, Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, Worcester and Middlesex Counties—is the largest congressional district in Massachusetts. It is framed by Connecticut to the South, New York to the west, and Vermont and New Hampshire to the north. Primarily a rural district, the 1st District geographically constitutes close to 40% of the state, yet represents only one-tenth of Massachusetts' population.

The diverse 1st District includes everything from picturesque college towns to rural hamlets and mid-size industrial communities. Rich in history, the area was the frontier for the first colonists. Farming initially dominated the region's economy, but in the last century agriculture has given

way to mill towns and larger industries.

As a tourist destination, the 1st District provides many attractions. The Berkshires are a major draw for vacationers, offering charming mountain landscapes and cultural treasures such as the summer retreat of the
Boston Symphony at Tanglewood
,
Jacob's Pillow in Becket
, the
Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge
, the
Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art
and the
Clark Art Institute
in Williamstown. During the 19th Century, Edith Wharton, Herman Melville, Henry David Thoreau, and several other famous writers and artisans made their homes in these rolling hills.

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