The UMass Dartmouth main campus and the Law School are located in Dartmouth; the College of Visual and Performing Arts’ STAR Store campus and the School for Marine Science and Technology are located in New Bedford; and a University Extension instructional campus, the Advanced Technology & Manufacturing Center (ATMC) and the Massachusetts Accelerator for Biomanufacturing (MAB) are located in Fall River. Approximately 215,000 people reside in these three southeastern Massachusetts communities in Bristol County. The area’s primary industries have historically been fishing and textiles. Irish, French, Italian, German, Scandinavian, Portuguese, Polish, Lebanese, Cape Verdean and Cambodian immigrants settled in this region creating a true American “melting pot.” Unfortunately, the decline of the region’s leading industries, a low educational attainment level in New Bedford and Fall River, along with a lack of train service to Boston, has resulted in economic hardship for many area residents.

As of Fall 2014, there are 9,111 students enrolled at UMass Dartmouth, including 7,454 undergraduates, 1,445 graduate students, and 212 law students. There are 4,197 students living on the UMass Dartmouth campus; and 87% of our students are Massachusetts residents, with the remaining 13% being international or out-of-state students. The student population is 52% male, 48% female, and 27.7% students of color. For Fall 2013, 25% of new first-time, full-time freshmen were first-generation college students (neither parent attended postsecondary school).