SouthCoast Massachusetts

The Massachusetts SouthCoast is comprised of the cities of Fall River and New Bedford, and the towns of Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, Marion, Mattapoisett, Rochester, Somerset, Swansea, Wareham, and Westport (see Figure 1). The region occupies 361 square miles and has a population of (U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 estimates).

The SouthCoast region is geographically and economically diverse. The coastal areas are occupied by working ports, pristine beaches, historic districts, farmlands, and ethnic traditions, which all contribute to a distinct and culturally rich regional character. Numerous cultural attractions, restored historic districts, museums, live music and theater venues, a state university, a community college, and easy access to major cities enrich the region’s quality of life.

Figure 1

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