At UMass - Dartmouth

Chancellor Jean MacCormack created the Initiative

• As a continuation of the pro-active role UMD attempts to play in strengthening the region and improving the quality of life for its residents.

• As a recognition that the strength of a region is dependent on the health of the cities of the region.

• As a response to the challenge issued by MassInc. in its recently released “Gateway Cities” report, which states: “Sparking revitalization in the Gateway Cities [which includes New Bedford and Fall River] should be a core mission ... of the UMass System.”
The 11 Gateway Cities are defined by their common industrial past, their struggle to reinvent themselves, and their location outside of Greater Boston.

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<th>They include:</th>
<th>Fall River</th>
<th>New Bedford</th>
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• Between 1970 and 2005, while Greater Boston added 467,000 jobs to grow by 51 percent, the Gateway Cities as a group lost more than 11,000 jobs, or 3 percent of their job base.

• Greater Boston contains 40 percent of the state’s population and 50 percent of its private jobs but generates 60 percent of the state’s total payroll. Conversely, the Gateway Cities contain 15 percent of the state’s population and 13 percent of the state’s jobs but generate less than 10 percent of the state’s payroll.
KEY FINDINGS

• Greater Boston contains 52 percent of the state’s college graduates and about 70 percent of its knowledge-industry employment. As a result, these 75 towns enjoy per-capita incomes 74 percent higher than the Gateway Cities and a median household income 68 percent higher.

• While Greater Boston increased its share of the state’s 4,000-plus high-technology firms between 1991 and 2004 from 53 to 60 percent, the share in the Gateway Cities dropped from 8.1 to 6.3 percent, and the share in Gateway regions fell from 28.6 to 26.6 percent.
KEY FINDINGS

• Twenty-eight percent of Greater Boston’s jobs and 43 percent of its payroll falls within four high-value, high-pay “knowledge” clusters:

   1. Financial services
   2. Health care
   3. Information technology
   4. Knowledge creation

Meanwhile, only 20 percent of jobs in Gateway Cities lie in these knowledge clusters, generating only 27 percent of the cities’ payroll.

• The 11 Gateway Cities’ combined loss of 134,000 manufacturing jobs since 1960 accounts for more than one-third of the state’s total decline in such industries.
KEY FINDINGS

• Between 1980 and 2000, the gap in per-capita income between Greater Boston and the rest of the state increased from 18 percent to 28 percent.

• Just 16.5 percent of Gateway City residents and 24.6 percent of Gateway region residents now possess a four-year college degree, compared with the 42 percent Greater Boston mark.

  In the Southcoast region the rate is 16.4% with Fall River at 10.7 % and New Bedford at 13.8%.

• The 11 Gateway Cities are home to 30 percent of all state residents living below the poverty line, even though they account for only 15 percent of the state’s population.
The Role of the Urban Initiative

To have a **regional** and **statewide** impact on the quality of life in urban areas through:

- Research, analysis, and technical assistance in areas of policy review and implementation
- Development of a team of research associates and research assistants to develop projects
- Integration and utilization of the skills and expertise of UMD faculty
- Partnerships with municipalities, non-profit organizations, professional associations, and other research organizations