

# Weather Bureau/National Weather Service History in Massachusetts

Location	Type	Years	Details
<a href="#">Blue Hill</a>	WBMO WSMO	1959-present	Although the Blue Hill Observatory came under Weather Bureau oversight in 1959, its presence dates back to February 1, 1885. It has taken continuous, daily observations since then, the oldest climatological site to operate at only one location. It was the first site to conduct an upper air observation, on 8/4/1894 using a kite. The Observatory is considered a Weather Service Meteorological Observatory, but is generally operated under local command.
<a href="#">Boston</a>	SigSvc WBO WBAS DFO FAWS WSFO HC	1890-1994	The Weather Bureau assumed responsibility from the US Army for Boston weather observations in 1890. The old courthouse was the observing site through 1929, moving to the new courthouse after a temporary relocation. The city WB office moved to the Custom House in June 1950. Meanwhile, pilot balloon observations (pibals) began at Logan Airport 10/15/26, with observation elements gradually added. Official city observations were transferred from the city office 1/1/36. The WB airport office shared quarters with various US Army facilities initially. In 1940, the office was upgraded to an official forecast office, while continuing local observations. A Flight Advisory Weather Service was added in January 1944 at the area air traffic control center. Hurricane forecasting was established in 1955 for the region, and responsibility was transferred to the National Hurricane Center in 1966, although hurricane advisories and warnings were still issued by the Boston office until 1980. The forecast operations moved to Taunton late in 1993, with the observing functions automated in 1994(?).
<a href="#">Chatham</a>	WSMO WSCMO	1970-present	A Weather Service Meteorological Observatory opened in November 1970, taking upper-air observations. Radar observations began 8/9/1971 with the installation of the WSR-57; this was replaced with a WSR-74S on 5/6/1983.
<a href="#">Martha's Vineyard</a>	WBO	1899-1900	
<a href="#">Nantucket</a>	SigSvc WBO	1886-1970	A Signal Service office was established in October 1886, after a telegraph wire was laid to connect Nantucket Island with mainland Massachusetts. The Weather Bureau took over operations in September 1891, first in the Pacific Club Building, then at a new Weather Bureau Building in 1904. The office was moved to the airport in 1946 to support the aviation industry. Operations were turned over to the FAA in 1970.
<a href="#">Pittsfield</a>	WBO WBAS	1938-1968	The Weather Bureau opened an office at the Pittsfield Municipal Airport in June 1938, and took over weather observations from the CAA in November 1942. The station began part-time operations in February 1954, then was permanently closed 9/1/1968.
<a href="#">Taunton</a>	WFO RFC	1993-present	The forecast office moved from Logan Airport to this new facility 11/8/93. See the Boston entry for more information. Additionally, the Northeast River Forecast Center relocated here from Hartford, CT.
<a href="#">Westfield</a>	WBO	1944-1947	The Weather Bureau and CAA jointly operated an office at Barnes Airport from August 1944 to July 1947.
<a href="#">Woods Hole</a>	WBO	1893-1900	

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<b>Worcester</b>	WBAS WSO	1955-1995?	The Weather Bureau opened a station at the Worcester airport in November 1955, operating 16 hours a day. An Automated Meteorological Observing Station was activated about a year later. A WSR-1 radar was commissioned 3/16/1956. 24-hour operations began in October 1959, then reduced to 16 hours a day again in 1965. The radar was replaced by a WSR-74C model 7/2/1976. The office was closed in the mid 1990's, and replaced by an ASOS.
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