



Boston, MA

48.3 mi² | Pop: 667,137 | 23rd Most Populous U.S. City | Est. 1630

Blocks of older, smaller, mixed-age buildings play a critical role in fostering robust local economies, inclusive neighborhoods, and sustainable cities. The Preservation Green Lab report, *Older, Smaller, Better*, leveraged the ideas of **Jane Jacobs** to show why preservation and building reuse matter for successful communities. The *Atlas of ReUrbanism* expands this research to 50 U.S. cities, demonstrating that **Character Counts**.

In **Boston**, compared to areas with large, new structures, character-rich **blocks of older, smaller, mixed-age buildings** contain...



More than twice the population density



61% more jobs in small businesses and 54% more jobs in new businesses



62% more women and minority-owned businesses

The building blocks for an inclusive, diverse, economically vibrant city, Boston's older, smaller buildings are irreplaceable assets. For more information about Boston's high-character areas, **please see reverse**.

■ **The Atlas of ReUrbanism** | *A Tool for Discovery*

Developed by the **Preservation Green Lab**, the Atlas of ReUrbanism is part of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's **ReUrbanism** initiative. Explore the buildings and blocks of Boston and other American cities further by visiting:

www.atlasofreurbanism.com

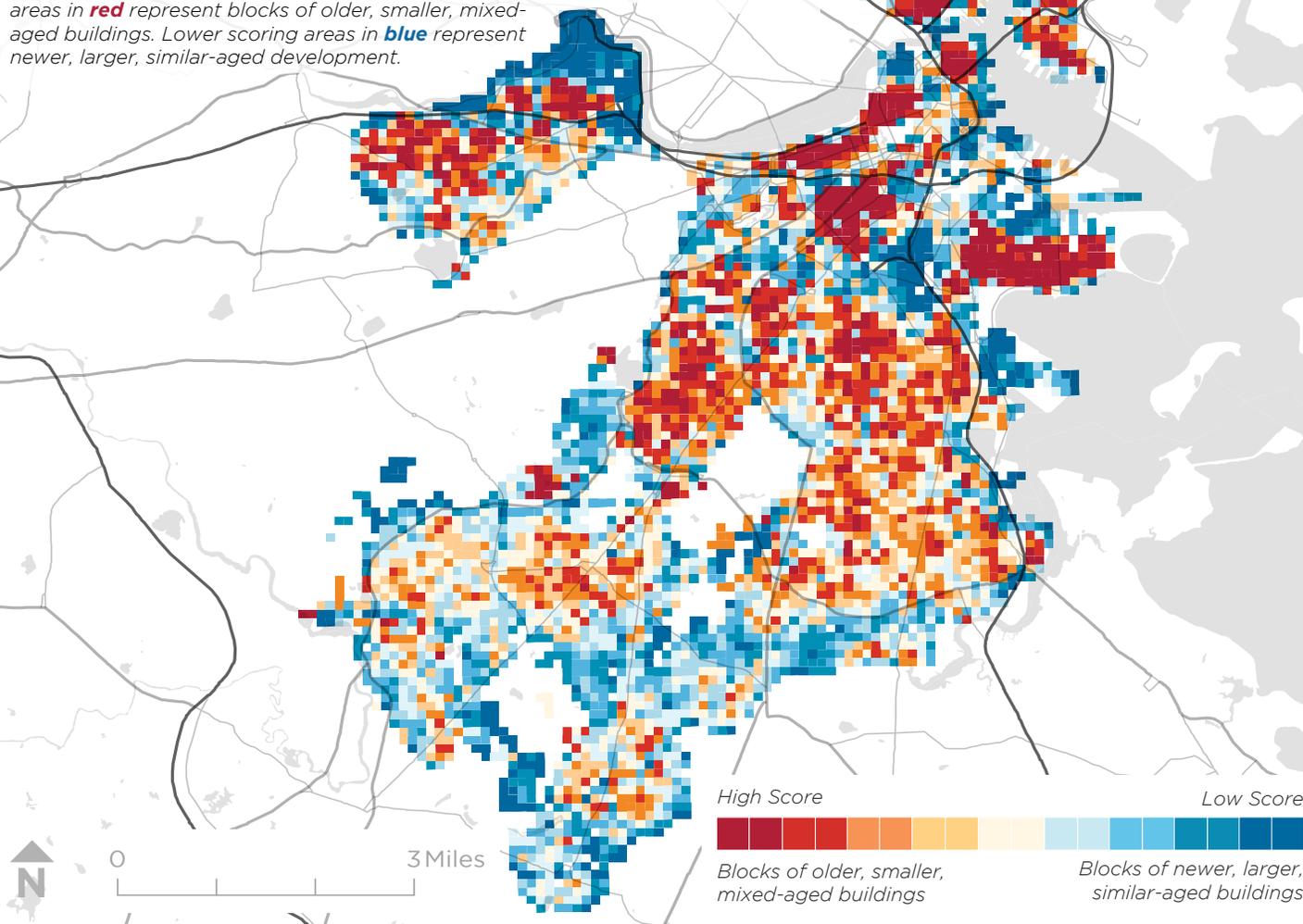


National Trust for Historic Preservation
Preservation Green Lab

Built Character in Boston

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The Atlas of ReUrbanism uses the Character Score to classify building stock by age and size. Higher scoring areas in **red** represent blocks of older, smaller, mixed-aged buildings. Lower scoring areas in **blue** represent newer, larger, similar-aged development.



High v. Low Character Score

Use the table below to compare high- and low-character score areas in terms of their density and diversity, inclusiveness, and economic vitality.

High Character Score Areas
Low Character Score Areas



Density & Diversity

	High Character Score Areas	Low Character Score Areas
Avg. Population/Grid Square [†]	179.4	82.9
Median Age (Years) [†]	35.1	37.7
Avg. Between Age 18-34 [†]	35.3%	30.6%
Avg. Foreign Born ^{††}	25.8%	26.2%
Avg. New to County ^{††}	7.1%	7.4%
Avg. People of Color [†]	50.8%	51.7%
Avg. Housing Units/Grid Square [†]	82.0	34.7
Avg. Vacant Homes [†]	7.5%	6.4%
Avg. Owned Homes [†]	40.8%	46.9%



Inclusiveness

	High Character Score Areas	Low Character Score Areas
Total Women and Minority-Owned Businesses ^{†††}	1,206	744
Avg. Affordable Rental Housing Units [†]	72.1%	71.7%



Economic Vitality

	High Character Score Areas	Low Character Score Areas
Total Jobs in Small Businesses ^{††††}	34,694	21,540
Total Jobs in New Businesses ^{††††}	6,868	4,456
Total Jobs in Creative Industries ^{††††}	40,542	54,367

[†]Data from the 2010 Census

^{††}Data from the 2010-2014 5-Year Estimates of the American Community Survey

^{†††}Data from Dun & Bradstreet, 2016.

^{††††}Data from LEHD LODES, 2014

Building and Preservation Facts

Parcels/Buildings	Boston	50-City Average
Total	89,910	204,038
Per Square Mile	1860	1,436
Median Year Built	1910	1952
On Nat'l Register of Historic Places	2.1%	6.8%
Locally Designated	7.2%	4.3%
Historic Tax Credit Projects	135	27.5

Year Built By Period, Boston | 50-City Average

