

Like many other parts of the country, Massachusetts's growth has resulted in significant housing affordability challenges. Combatting housing affordability issues in the state will require holistic solutions that address the needs of all Massachusetts residents.



Massachusetts has seen a sharp population increase, with 7.4% growth since 2010.



More than 893,000 Bay Staters call an apartment home, with demand on the rise.



59% of low-income renters spend more than half of their income on housing.



Between now and 2030, Massachusetts will need to add 6,587 new apartment homes each year to keep up with demand.



Legal Landscape

The state of Massachusetts preempts local municipalities from implementing rent control. According to Massachusetts law, "This policy is based on the belief that the public is best served by free market rental rates for residential properties and by unrestricted home ownership."

CONTINUE PREEMPTION

Rent control is an outdated concept. It benefits the very few—and not necessarily those in greatest need—at the expense of the larger society.

REJECT PRICE CONTROLS

It is important for lawmakers to pursue alternatives such as voucherbased rental assistance for those in greater need to better address housing affordability.