

# Boston vs Chicago

## (Primer the Seconde for the Unlearnèd)

It has come to mine attention that several incompetent boobs are incapable of pointing out the locations of our major burghs on maps and atlases. Let it be known forthwith that such ignorance shall be tolerated no longer. I have been contracted by the Committee for Understanding Maps (CUM) to create and distribute the following flyer in hopes of lifting ever upward the learning of, ye, the great unwashed masses.

Table the first:

	Boston	Chicago
Encyclo(Wiki)pedia Description <sup>1</sup>	Capital and largest city of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts	The third most populous US city
Population <sup>2</sup>	4	7
City's Most Famous Band	Boston	Chicago
Most Famous Invention by "Most Famous Band" Member	Rockman Amplifier Tom Scholz	\$1 Cassette Bin Peter Cetera <sup>3</sup>
Most Famous/Infamous Person/Beer	Samuel Adams	Steve Bartman
Longest Time Between World Series Championships	85 Years	Hey, look over there, it's Ernie Banks!
Most Famous "City Name" Song	The Boston Rag by Steely Dan	Sweet Home Chicago by <i>literally everybody</i>
Most Famous Race	Boston Marathon	Illinois Nazis
Average Snowfall	43.8 inches	37.1 inches
Eponymous Albums	XV <sup>4</sup>	1
Percentage of Obese Residents	21.0	24.8

- 1 – My descriptions: Boston = Beantown; Chicago = Cow Town
- 2 – Only counting their classic lineups (even though Boston's first album was performed almost exclusively by Tom Scholz and whomever else might have wandered into his home studio)
- 3 – Technically invented because of him rather than by him
- 4 – Yes, *Chicago Transit Authority* counts because that was the band name at the time. All the rest count because if you can't come up with something other than your band name plus a Roman numeral, you deserve to be called on it. Who do you think you are, Chicago? Led Zeppelin? Peter Gabriel?

Bonus Table (Midwest US Edition):

	Kansas	Toto
Named After	The 34 <sup>th</sup> US state, but more specifically after the native Kansa Indian tribe	Dorothy Gale's dog in <i>The Wizard of Oz</i> <sup>1</sup>
Studio Albums <sup>2</sup>	15	14
Most Popular Geographical Song	Song for America	Africa
Former Steely Dan <sup>3</sup> members	0	Toto co-founder Jeff Porcaro
NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament Championships	3	0 <sup>4</sup>

- 1 – And Dorothy lived in...poverty (sorry, Kansas)
- 2 – Yes, I agree; those numbers are freaking amazing. I had assumed that Toto stopped making albums after 1984, but they released one as recently as 2015. And I remember Kansas releasing *Power* in 1986, but they released something called *The Prelude Implicit* in 2016. Holy Dad Rock, Batman!
- 3 – All roads lead to Steely Dan (unless they come from Kansas)
- 4\* – In their only NCAA Tournament appearance in 1984, Toto qualified as a 12<sup>th</sup> seed in the Midwest bracket but lost their Preliminary Round game to Alcorn State 79-60. After the game, guitarist Steve Lukather famously quipped, “Yeah, they're a decent basketball team, but how many Top 5 singles have they had?”
- \* Okay, I made all that up, but Alcorn State beat Houston Baptist University in that game, so they may as well have played Toto.