

# δῆμος

See also: **Δῆμος**, **δημός** and **δήμος**

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## Ancient Greek

### Pronunciation

- (5<sup>th</sup> BCE Attic) IPA<sup>(key)</sup>: /dêː.mos/
- (1<sup>st</sup> CE Egyptian) IPA<sup>(key)</sup>: /ˈde.mos/
- (4<sup>th</sup> CE Koine) IPA<sup>(key)</sup>: /ˈði.mos/
- (10<sup>th</sup> CE Byzantine) IPA<sup>(key)</sup>: /ˈði.mos/
- (15<sup>th</sup> CE Constantinopolitan) IPA<sup>(key)</sup>: /ˈði.mos/

### Etymology 1

From Proto-Indo-European *\*deh₂mos* (“people”) (perhaps originally a feminine), from *\*deh₂-* (“to divide”), whence also **δαίωμα** (*daíomai*). The original meaning was thus "part". Cognate with **Mycenaean Greek** **𐀀𐀓** (*da-mo*), **Old Irish** *dám* (“followers, crowd”) and **Old Welsh** *dauu*.

### Alternative forms

- δᾶμος** (*dâmos*) – *Doric*

## Noun

**δῆμος** • (dêmos) *m* (genitive **δήμου**); second declension (*Epic, Attic, Ionic, Koine*)

### 1. district, country, land

- **800 BCE – 600 BCE**, Homer, *Iliad* 5.710:

παρ δέ οἱ ἄλλοι ναῖον Βοιωτοὶ μάλα πύονα **δῆμον** ἔχοντες

*par dé hoi álloi naîon Boiōtoî mála píona **dêmon** ékhontes*  
and hard by him dwelt other Boeotians having **a land** exceeding rich

### 1. the inhabitants of a district or land

- **800 BCE – 600 BCE**, Homer, *Iliad* 3.50:

πατρί τε σῶ μέγα πῆμα πόληί τε παντί τε **δήμῳ**

*patrí te sôî méga pêma pólēí te pantí te **dêmoi***  
great pain upon your father, your city, and **your people**

### 2. the common people

- **460 BCE – 420 BCE**, Herodotus, *Histories* 5.66:

ἔσσοῦμενος δὲ ὁ Κλεισθένης τὸν **δῆμον** προσεταιρίζεται

*hessoúmenos dè ho Kleisthénēs tòn **dêmon** prosetairízetai*  
Cleisthenes was getting the worst of it and took the **common people** into his party.

### 1. (*rare*) commoner

- **800 BCE – 600 BCE**, Homer, *Iliad* 12.213:

**δῆμον** ἐόντα

*dêmon eónta*  
being a **commoner**

### 3. free citizens, sovereign people

- **467 BCE**, Aeschylus, *Seven Against Thebes* 1011:

δοκοῦντα καὶ δόξαντ' ἀπαγγέλλειν με χρὴ **δήμου** προβούλοις τῆσδε  
Καδμείας πόλεως:

*dokoûnta kai dóxant' apangéllein me khrê **démou** probóulois têsde Kadmeías  
póleōs:*

It is my duty to announce the will and decrees of the council on behalf of **the people** of this our Cadmean city.

### 1. popular government, democracy

- **460 BCE – 420 BCE**, Herodotus, *Histories* 3.82:

πάντων τῷ λόγῳ ἀρίστων ἐόντων, **δήμου** τε ἀρίστου καὶ ὀλιγαρχίης καὶ  
μουναρχοῦ

*pántōn tōi lógōi arístōn eóntōn, **démou** te arístou kai oligarkhíēs kai  
mounárkhou*

all are at their best for the sake of argument, the best **democracy** and  
oligarchy and monarchy

### 2. popular assembly

- **380 BCE**, Plato, *The Republic* 565b:

ἀναγκάζονται δὴ οἶμαι ἀμύνεσθαι, λέγοντές τε ἐν τῷ **δήμῳ** καὶ  
πράττοντες ὅπη δύνανται

*anankázontai dè oîmai amúnesthai, légontés te en tōi **dēmōi** kai práttontes  
hórpei dúnantai*

[they] are compelled to defend themselves by speeches in the **assembly** and  
any action in their power

### 4. township, commune; deme

- **64 BCE – 24 CE**, Strabo, *Geography* 9.1.16:

Ἐλευσῖνά τε εἰπὼν ἓνα τῶν ἑκατὸν ἑβδομήκοντα **δήμων**

*Eleusîná te eipōn hēna tōn hekatōn hebdomékonta **dēmōn***

after speaking of Eleusis, one of the hundred and seventy **demes**

### 5. name for a prostitute

- **680 BCE – 645 BCE**, Archilochus, *Collected Works* 184

### 6. faction in a circus

## Declension

Second declension of <u>ὁ δῆμος</u> ; <u>τοῦ δήμου</u> (Attic)			
Case / #	Singular	Dual	Plural
Nominative	<u>ὁ δῆμος</u>	<u>τῷ δήμῳ</u>	<u>οἱ δῆμοι</u>

	ho dêmos	tò démō	hoi dêmoi
<b>Genitive</b>	<u>τοῦ δήμου</u> toû dêmou	<u>τοῖν δήμοιν</u> toîn dêmoîn	<u>τῶν δήμων</u> tôn dêmōn
<b>Dative</b>	<u>τῷ δήμῳ</u> tôi dêmōi	<u>τοῖν δήμοιν</u> toîn dêmoîn	<u>τοῖς δήμοις</u> toîs dêmois
<b>Accusative</b>	<u>τὸν δήμον</u> tòn dêmon	<u>τὸν δήμῳ</u> tò dêmō	<u>τοὺς δήμους</u> toùs dêmous
<b>Vocative</b>	<u>δήμε</u> dême	<u>δήμῳ</u> dêmō	<u>δήμοι</u> dêmoi
<b>Notes:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This table gives Attic inflectional endings. For declension in other dialects, see <i>Appendix: Ancient Greek dialectal declension</i>.</li> </ul>		

## Synonyms

- κᾶτᾶνάγκη (katanánkē)

## Derived terms

- |                                    |   |  |                                     |
|------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| ▪ <u>ἄδημος</u> (ádēmos)           | ▪ <u>δημοβόρος</u> (dēmobóros)          | ▪ <u>δημοκράτεομαι</u> (dēmokratéomai) | ▪ <u>δημοσσός</u> (dēmossós)        |
| ▪ <u>Αἰνεσίδημος</u> (Ainesídēmos) | ▪ <u>δημογέρων</u> (dēmogérōn)          | ▪ <u>Δημοκράτης</u> (Dēmokrátēs)       | ▪ <u>δημοστροφῆω</u> (dēmostrophēō) |
| ▪ <u>ἄλλοδημος</u> (allódēmos)     | ▪ <u>δημοεγερτής</u> (dēmoegetēs)       | ▪ <u>Δημόκριτος</u> (Dēmókritos)       | ▪ <u>δημοσώστης</u> (dēmosóstēs)    |
| ▪ <u>ἄποδημος</u> (aródēmos)       | ▪ <u>δημοειδής</u> (dēmoeidēs)          | ▪ <u>δημοἰάλητος</u> (dēmoiálētos)     | ▪ <u>δημοτελής</u> (dēmotelēs)      |
| ▪ <u>Ἀριστόδημος</u> (Aristódēmos) | ▪ <u>δημοθεός</u> (dēmotheós)           | ▪ <u>δημόλευστος</u> (dēmóleustos)     | ▪ <u>δημοτερπής</u> (dēmoterpēs)    |
| ▪ <u>Ἀρχέδημος</u> (Arkhédēmos)    | ▪ <u>δημοθoinέω</u> (dēmothoinéō)       | ▪ <u>Δημολέων</u> (Dēmoléōn)           | ▪ <u>δημοῦχος</u> (dēmouíkhos)      |
| ▪ <u>αὐξίδημος</u> (auxídēmos)     | ▪ <u>δημόθροος</u> (dēmóthroos)         | ▪ <u>δημολογέω</u> (dēmologéō)         | ▪ <u>δημοφᾶγος</u> (dēmophágos)     |
| ▪ <u>δημᾶγωγός</u> (dēmagōgós)     | ▪ <u>Δημοκήδης</u> (Dēmokédēs)          | ▪ <u>Δημονίκη</u> (Dēmoníkē)           | ▪ <u>δημοφᾶνης</u> (dēmophanēs)     |
| ▪ <u>Δημᾶρᾶτος</u> (Dēmárātos)     | ▪ <u>δημοκηδής</u> (dēmokēdēs)          | ▪ <u>δημοπίθηκος</u> (dēmopíthēkos)    | ▪ <u>Δημοφᾶνης</u> (Dēmophánēs)     |
| ▪ <u>δημᾶρατος</u> (dēmárātos)     | ▪ <u>Δημοκλείδης</u> (Dēmokleídēs)      | ▪ <u>δημοποίητος</u> (dēmopoíētos)     | ▪ <u>δημόφαντος</u> (dēmóphantos)   |
| ▪ <u>δήμαρχος</u> (dēmarkhos)      | ▪ <u>δημοκλίναρχος</u> (dēmoklínarkhos) | ▪ <u>δημόπρακτος</u> (dēmópraktos)     | ▪ <u>δημοφθόρος</u> (dēmophthóros)  |
| ▪ <u>δημεραστής</u> (dēmerastēs)   | ▪ <u>δημόκοινος</u> (dēmókoinos)        | ▪ <u>δημοπράτης</u> (dēmoprátēs)       | ▪ <u>δημοφιλής</u> (dēmophilēs)     |
| ▪ <u>δημεύω</u> (dēmeúō)           | ▪ <u>δημοκόλαξ</u> (dēmokólax)          | ▪ <u>δημορριφής</u> (dēmorrhiphēs)     | ▪ <u>Δημοφῶν</u> (Dēmophōn)         |
| ▪ <u>δημεχθής</u> (dēmekhthēs)     | ▪ <u>δημοκοπέω</u> (dēmokopéō)          | ▪ <u>Δημοσθένης</u> (Dēmosthénēs)      | ▪ <u>δημοχᾶρής</u> (dēmokharēs)     |
| ▪ <u>δημήγορος</u> (dēmégoros)     | ▪ <u>δημόκραντος</u> (dēmókrantos)      | ▪ <u>δημόσσοος</u> (dēmóssoos)         | ▪ <u>δημωφελής</u> (dēmōphelēs)     |
| ▪ <u>δημηλασίᾱ</u> (dēmēlasíā)     |   |  |                                     |

- ἔκδημος (ékdēmos)
- ἔνδημος (éndēmos)
- ἐπίδημος (epídēmos)
- Εὐδήμος (Eúdēmos)
- Εὐθύδημος (Euthúdēmos)
- ἔχεδημίᾱ (ekhedēmíā)
- Κλείδημος (Kleídēmos)
- κοινόδημος (koinódēmos)
- κρουσιδημέω (krousidēméō)
- Μενέδημος (Menédēmos)
- μῖσόδημος (mīsódēmos)
- Νικόδημος (Nikódēmos)
- ὁμόδημος (homódēmos)
- πάνδημος (pándēmos)
- πολύδημος (polúdēmos)
- Τιμόδημος (Timódēmos)
- Φιλόδημος (Philódēmos)
- φιλόδημος (philódēmos)
- Χαρίδημος (Kharídēmos)

## Related terms

- δημῖδιον (dēmídion)
- δημίζω (dēmízō)
- δήμιος (démios)
- δημόθεν (dēmóthen)
- δημόομαι (dēmóomai)
- δημόσιος (dēmósios)
- δημότερος (dēmóteros)
- δημοτεύομαι (dēmoteúomai)
- δημότης (dēmótēs)
- δημοικός (dēmoikós)
- δημώδης (dēmódēs)
- δημώλης (dēmólēs)
- δήμωμᾶ (démōma)

## Descendants

- English: deme
- Greek: δήμος (dímos)
- Latin: dēmos

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## Etymology 2

### Noun

**δῆμος** • (dêmos) *m* (genitive **δήμου**); *second declension*

1. yellow serradella, *Ornithopus compressus*

### Declension

**Second declension of ὁ δῆμος; τοῦ δήμου (Attic)**

Case / #	Singular	Dual	Plural
<b>Nominative</b>	ὁ δῆμος hō dēmos	τὼ δήμῳ tō dēmō	οἱ δῆμοι hoi dēmoi
<b>Genitive</b>	τοῦ δήμου toû dēmou	τοῖν δήμοιν toîn dēmoîn	τῶν δήμων tôn dēmōn
<b>Dative</b>	τῷ δήμῳ tôi dēmōi	τοῖν δήμοιν toîn dēmoîn	τοῖς δήμοις toîs dēmois
<b>Accusative</b>	τὸν δήμον tòn dêmon	τὼ δήμῳ tō dēmō	τοὺς δήμους toûs dēmous
<b>Vocative</b>	δῆμε dême	δήμῳ dēmō	δῆμοι dēmoi
<b>Notes:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This table gives Attic inflectional endings. For declension in other dialects, see <i>Appendix: Ancient Greek dialectal declension</i>.</li> </ul>		

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