



Puerto Ricans in Boston 2023

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Research Division

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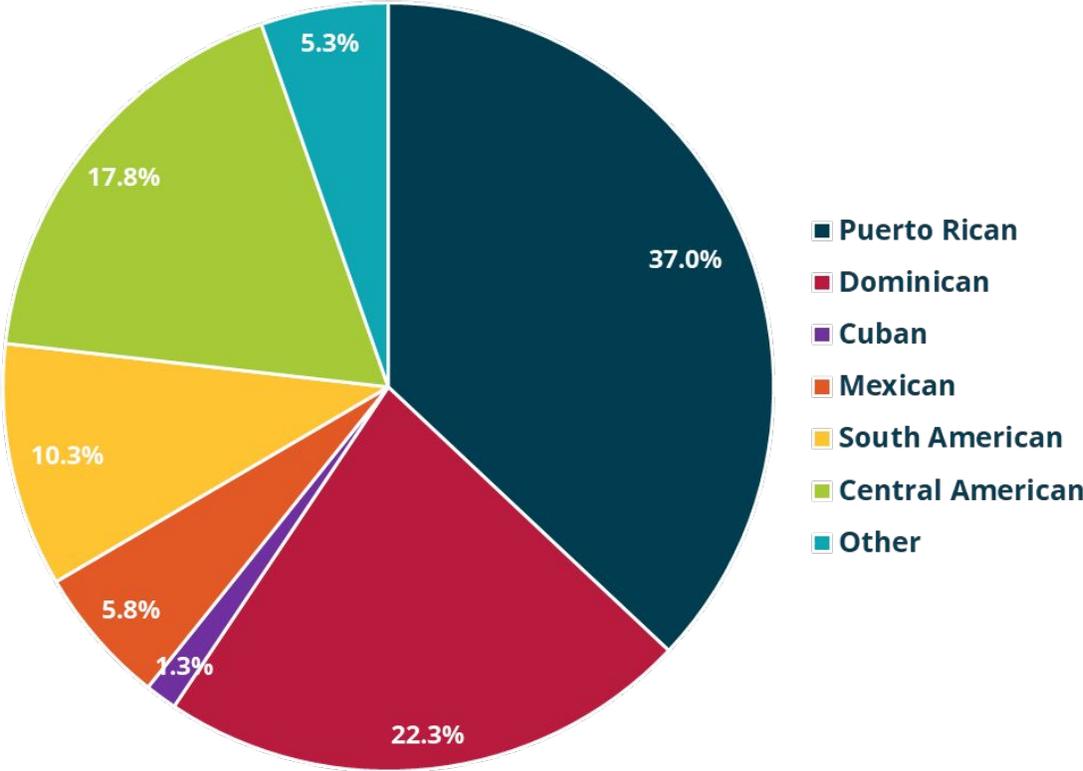
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1. Population

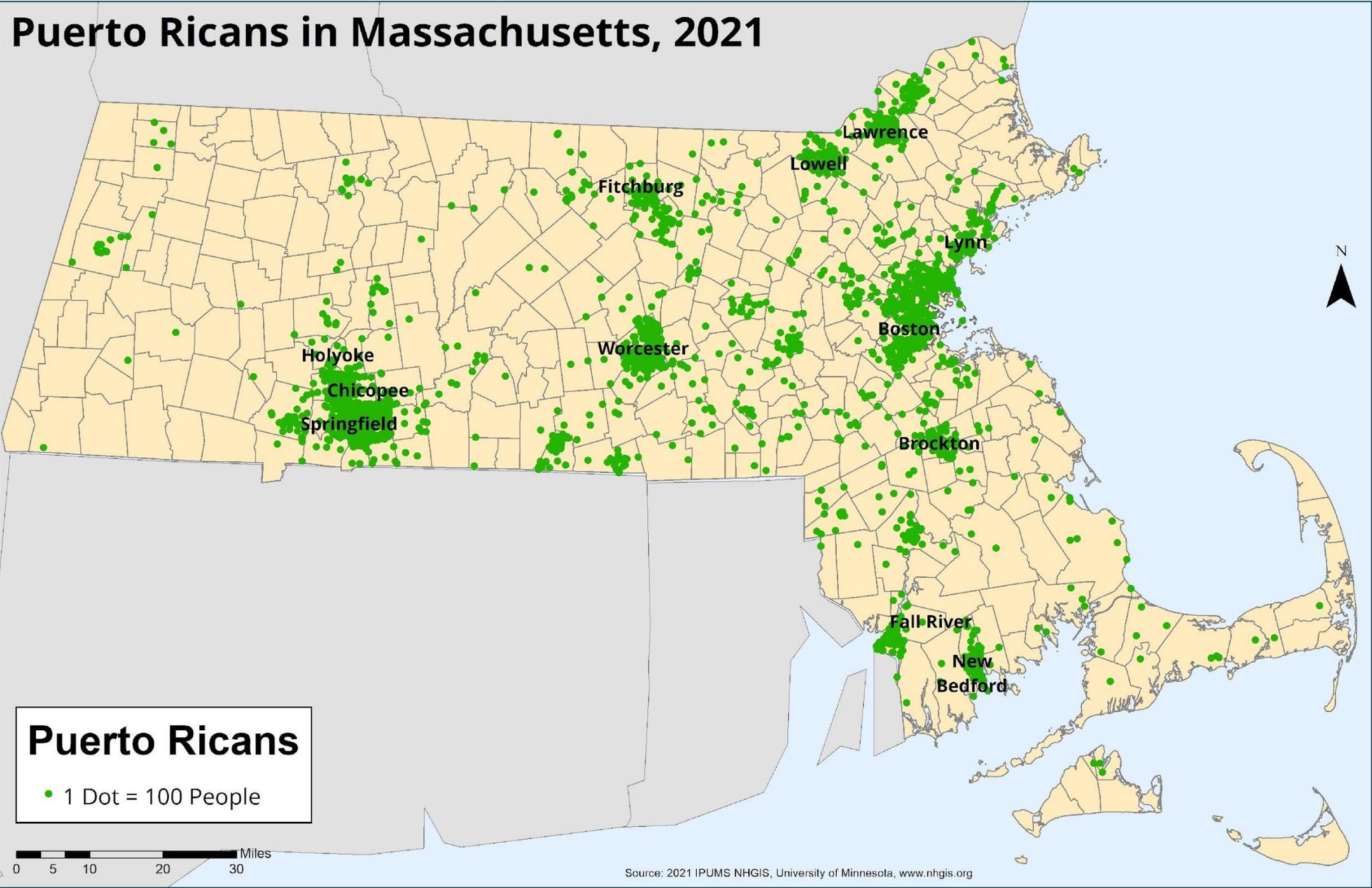
Puerto Ricans make up the largest share of Latinos in Massachusetts.

- In 2021 there were 5.8 million Puerto Ricans living in the United States and 3.26 million living in Puerto Rico.
- Of the Puerto Ricans living in the United States, 327,595 live in Massachusetts and 32,412 live in Boston.
- Massachusetts has the fifth largest Puerto Rican population after Florida, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.
- Puerto Ricans make up 37% of Massachusetts's Latino population while making up 9.4% of the United States' Latino population.

Latino Population in Massachusetts



Puerto Ricans in Massachusetts, 2021



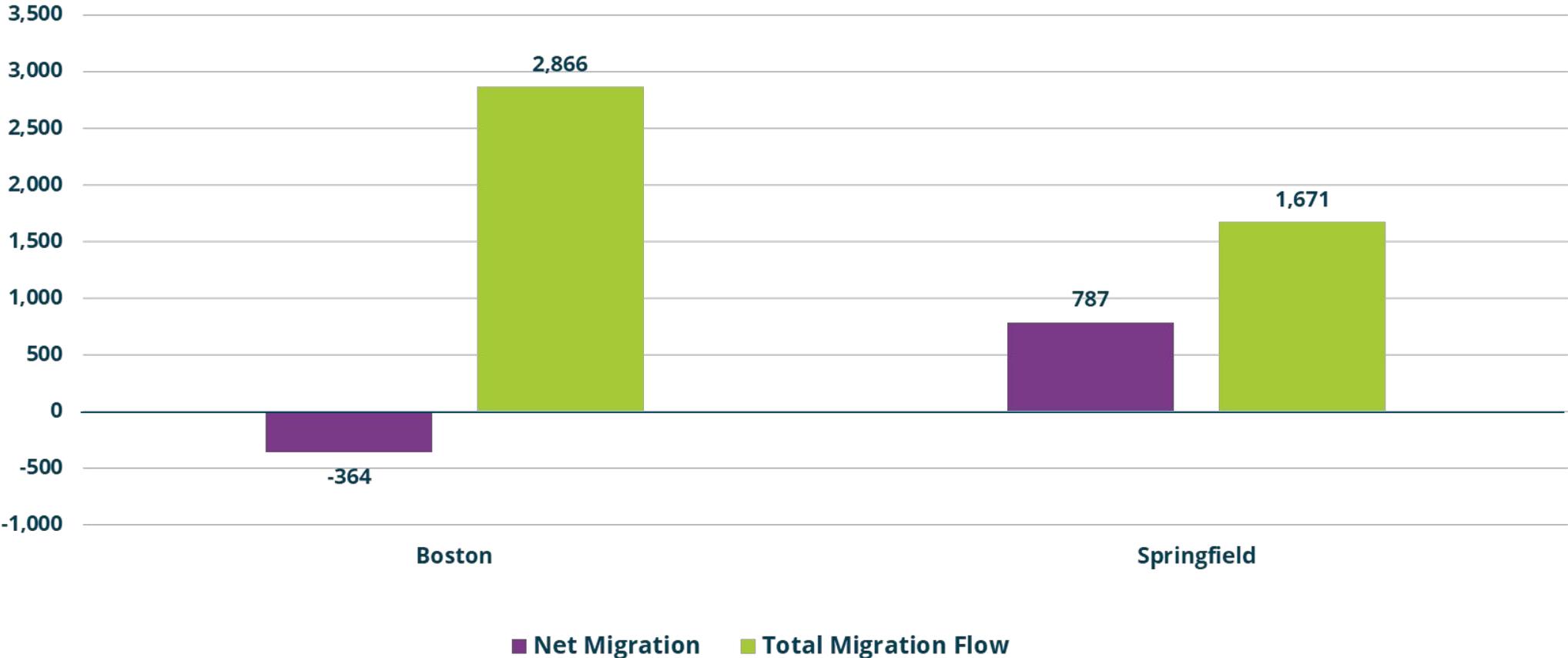
Puerto Ricans
• 1 Dot = 100 People

0 5 10 20 30 Miles

Source: 2021 IPUMS NHGIS, University of Minnesota, www.nhgis.org

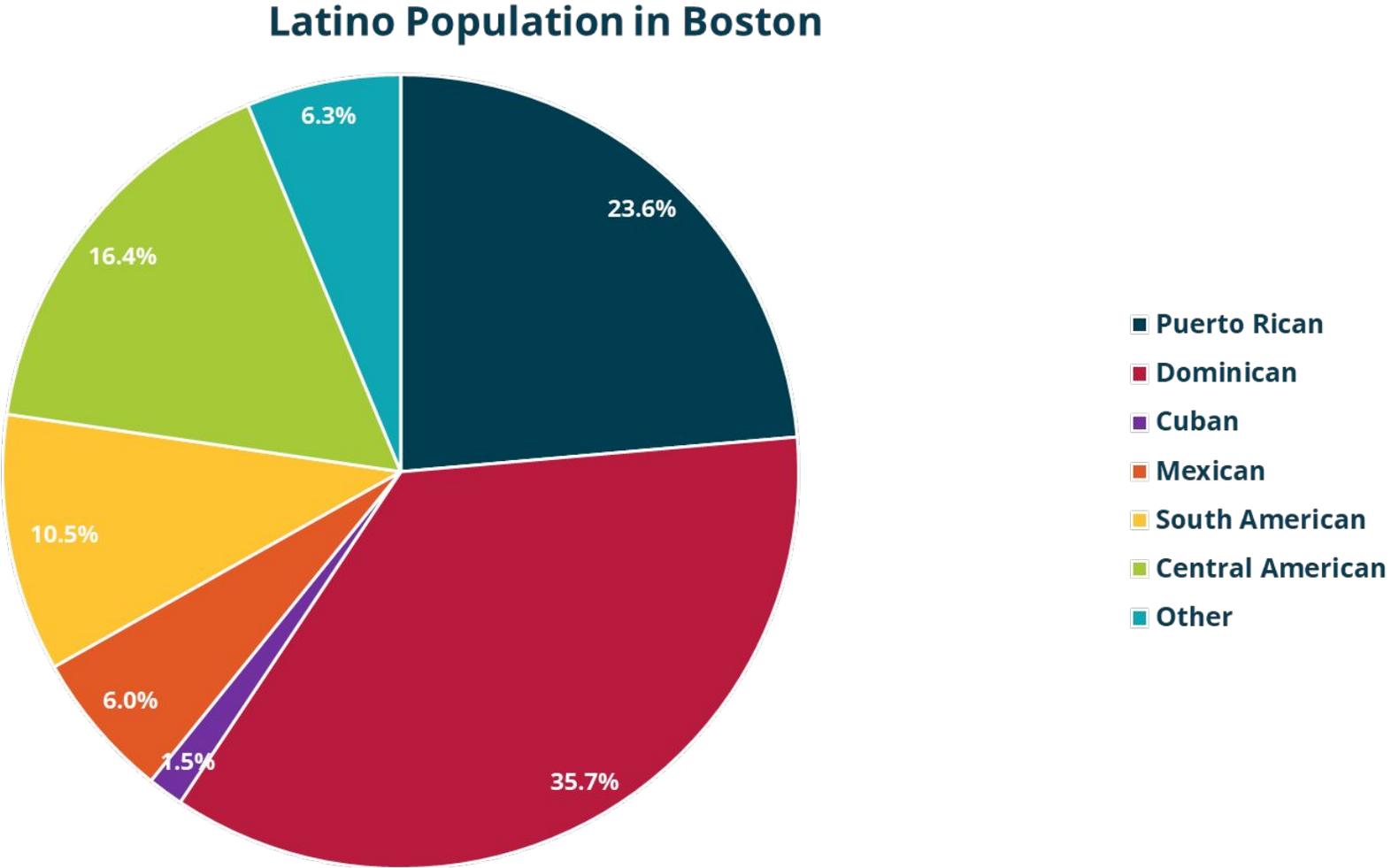
From 2010 to 2019, more people moved from Boston to Puerto than the reverse.

Migration to and from Puerto Rico



Source: 2010-2019 American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Puerto Ricans make up 24% of the Latino population in Boston, and 5% of Boston's population.



Puerto Rican Share of Neighborhood Population

Hyde Park - 13.1%

Mission Hill - 9.7%

Roxbury - 8.9%

Jamaica Plain - 6.1%

South End - 5.9%

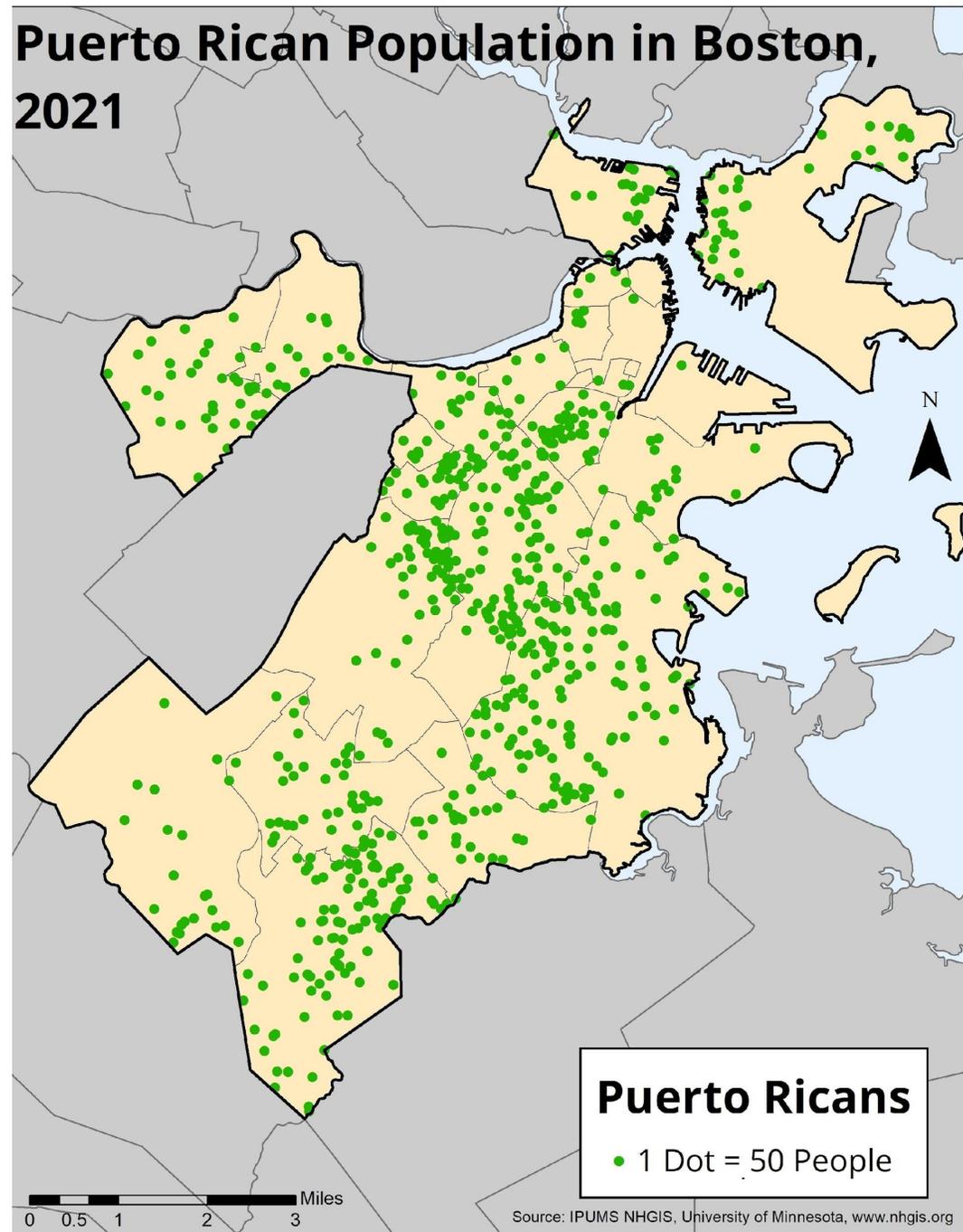
Roslindale - 5.8%

Dorchester - 5.6%

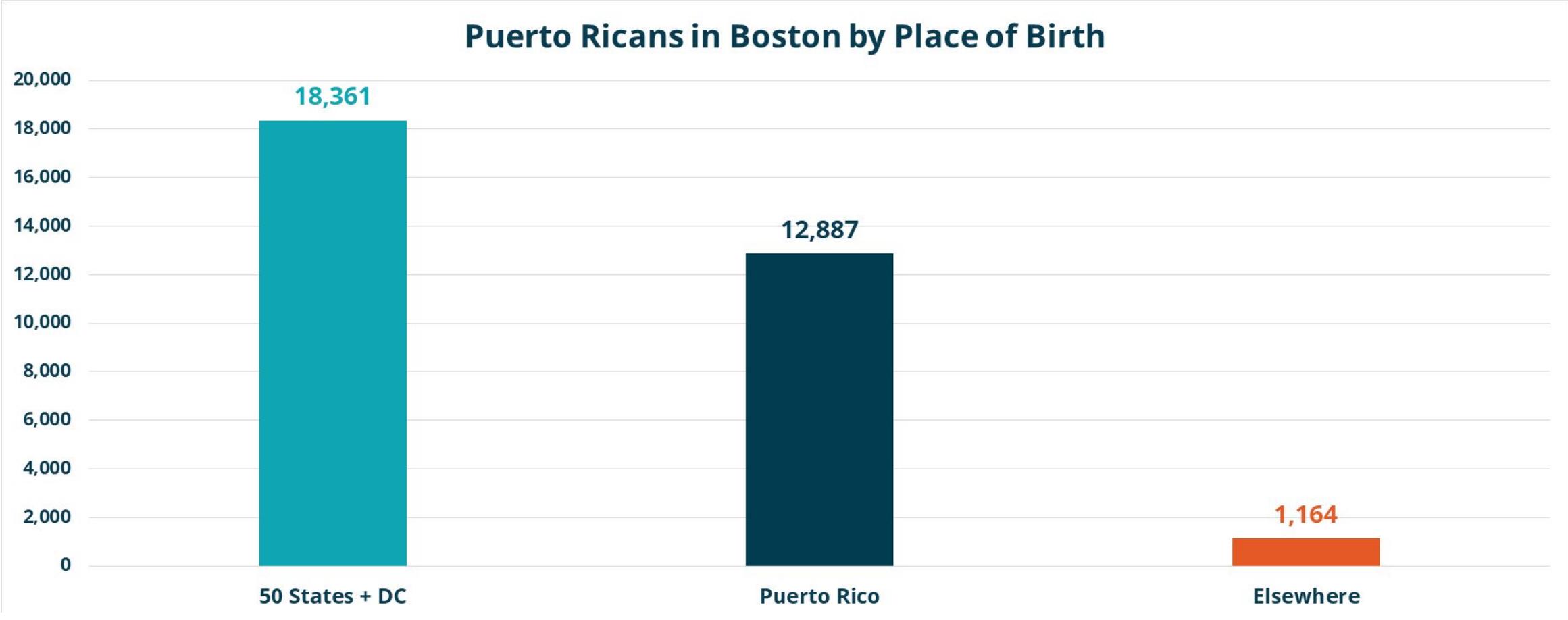
Charlestown - 5.0%



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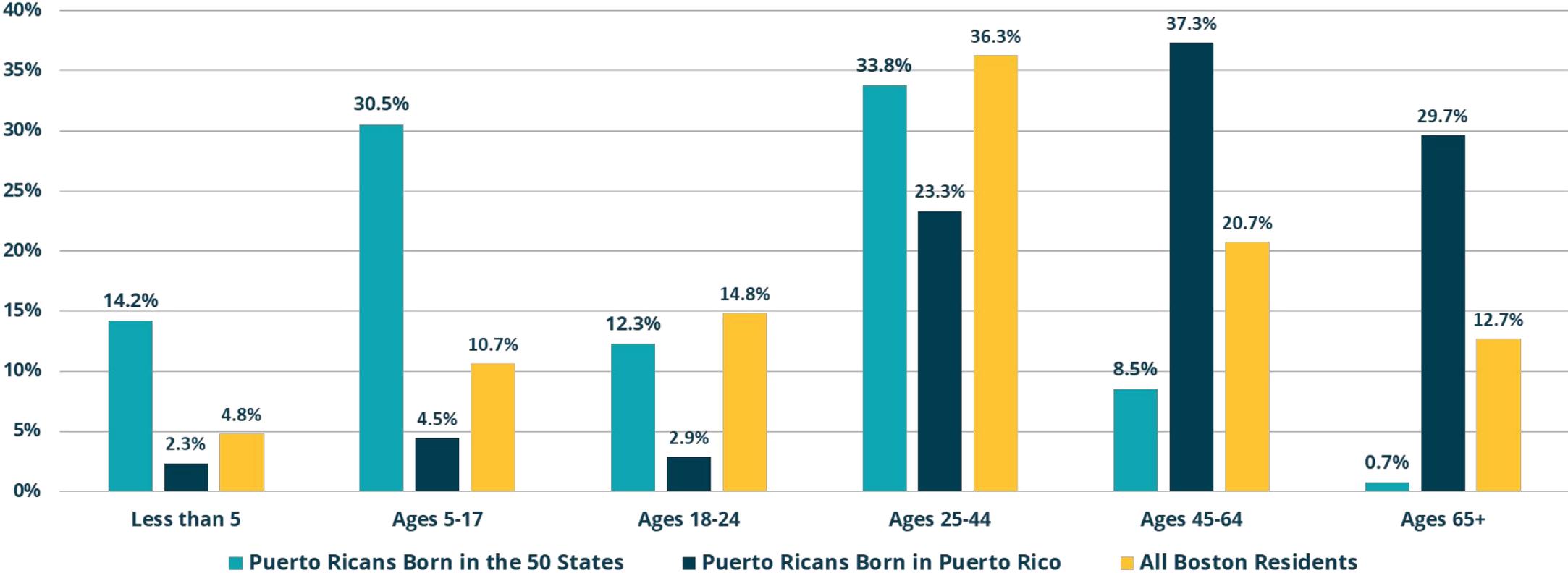


Most Puerto Ricans living in Boston were born in the 50 states or DC. A sizeable share, however, moved from Puerto Rico.

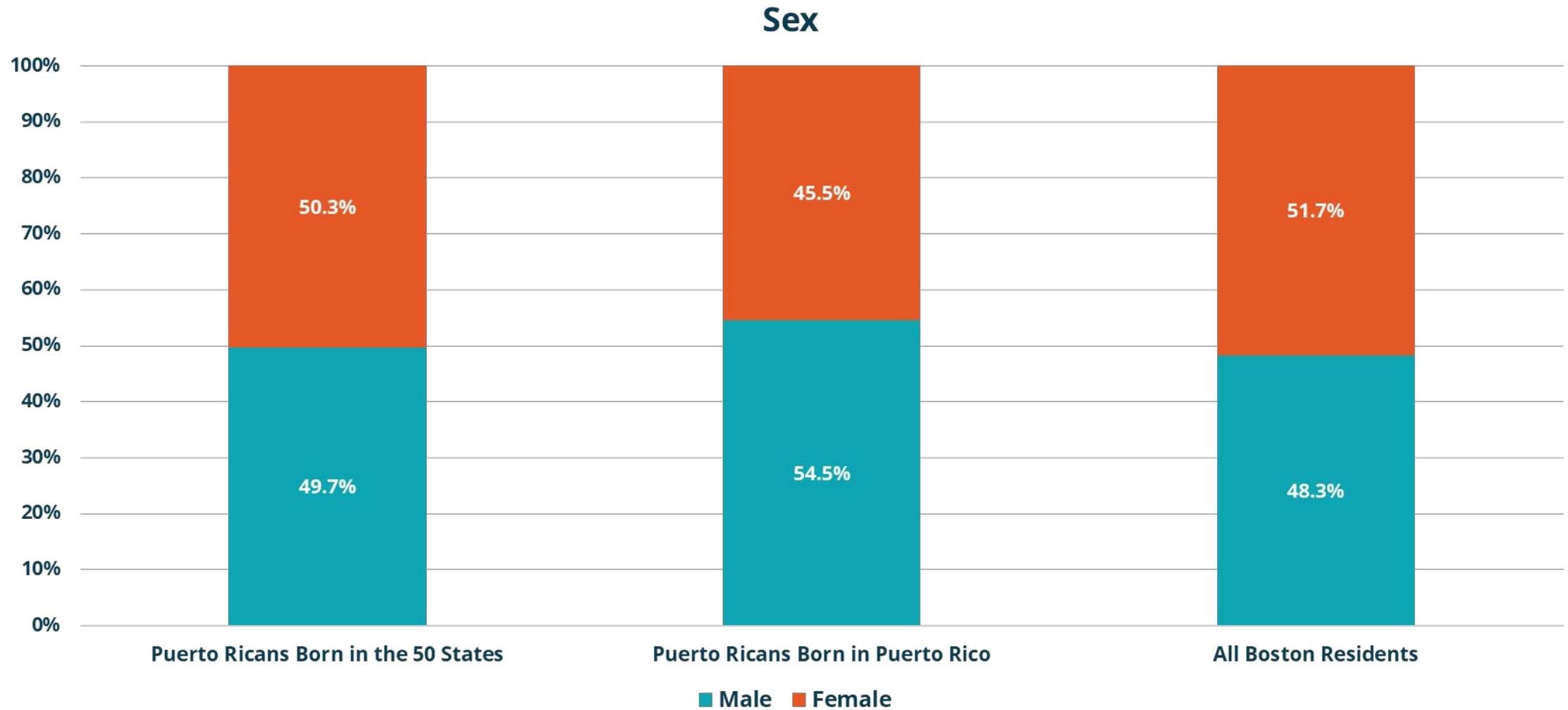


Nearly half of Boston's Puerto Ricans born in the 50 states are under 18. Most Puerto Ricans born in Puerto Rico are 45 and older.

Age Distribution



55% of Boston's Puerto Ricans born in Puerto Rico are male.



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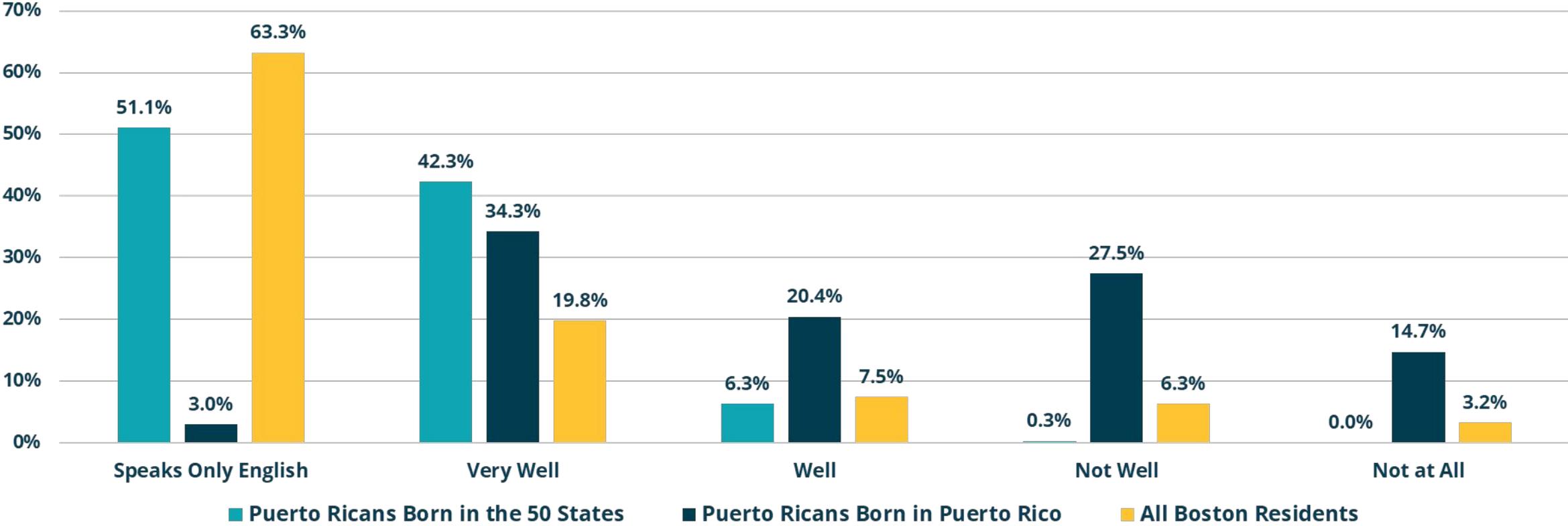
Education & Literacy



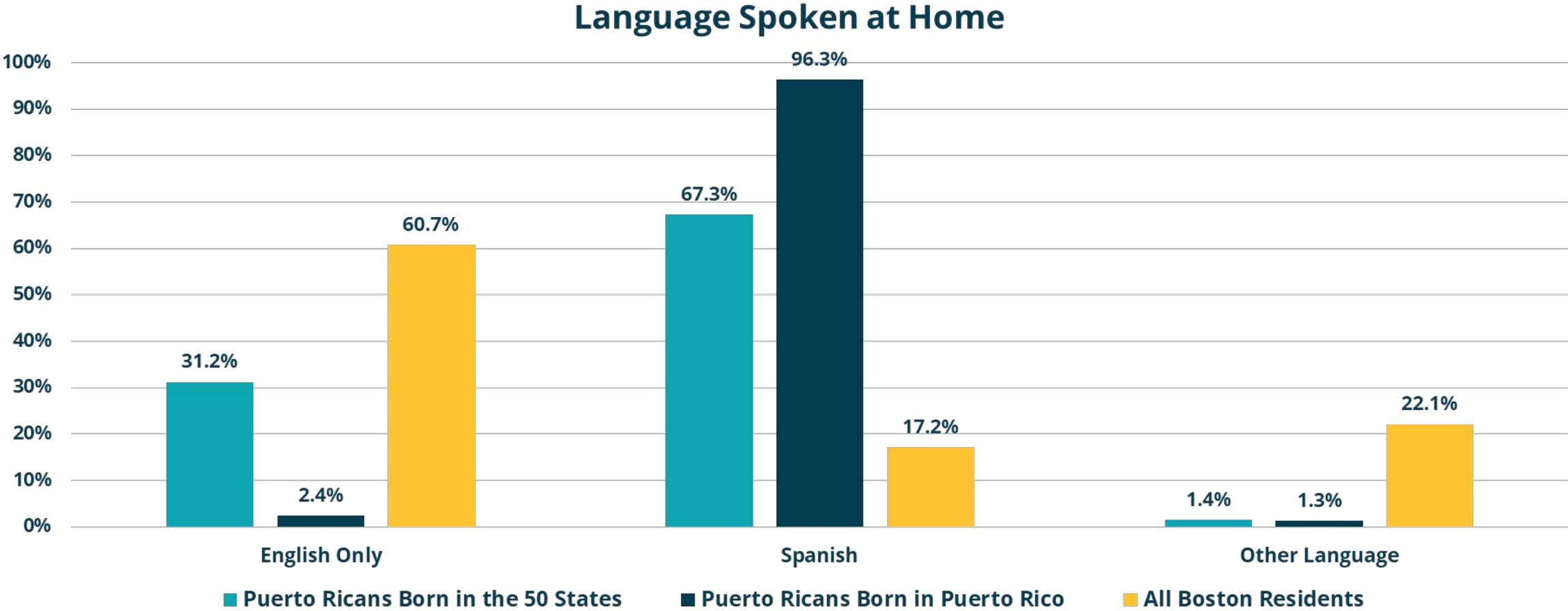
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More than half of Boston's Puerto Ricans born in the 50 states speak only English. More than a third of those born in Puerto Rico speak English very well.

English Proficiency (Age 5+)

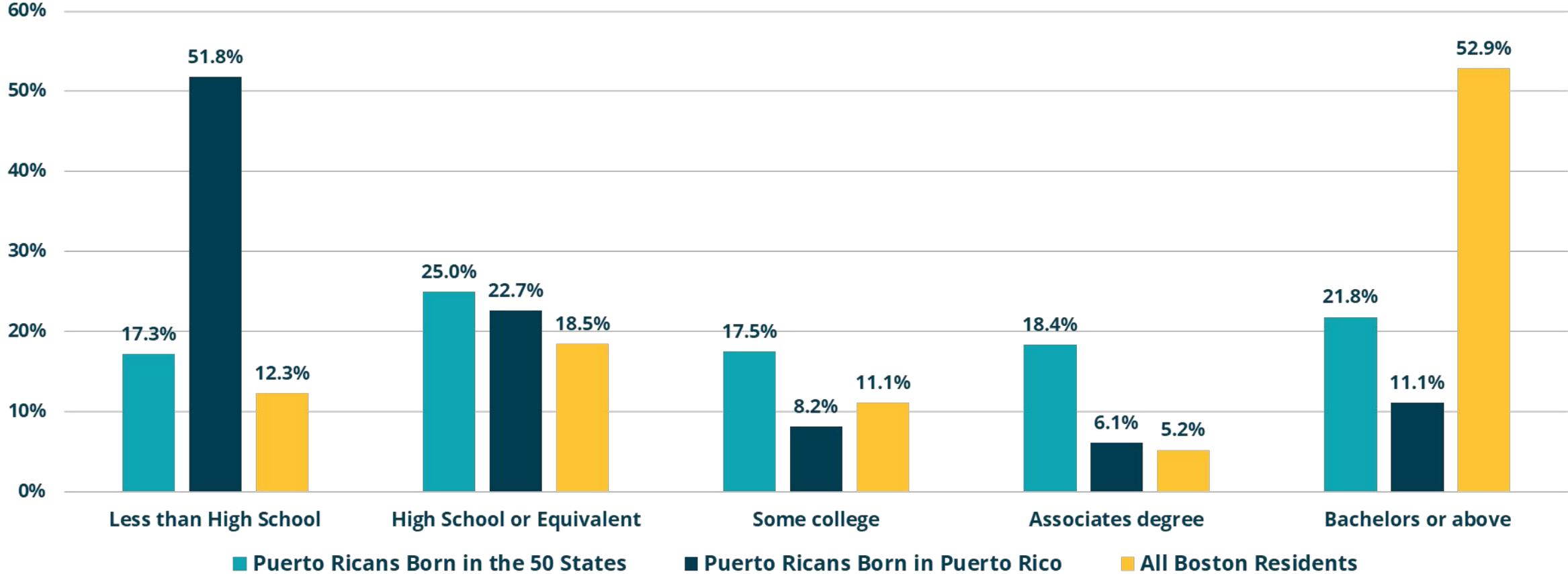


Nearly all households in Boston headed by Puerto Ricans born in Puerto Rico speak Spanish at home.



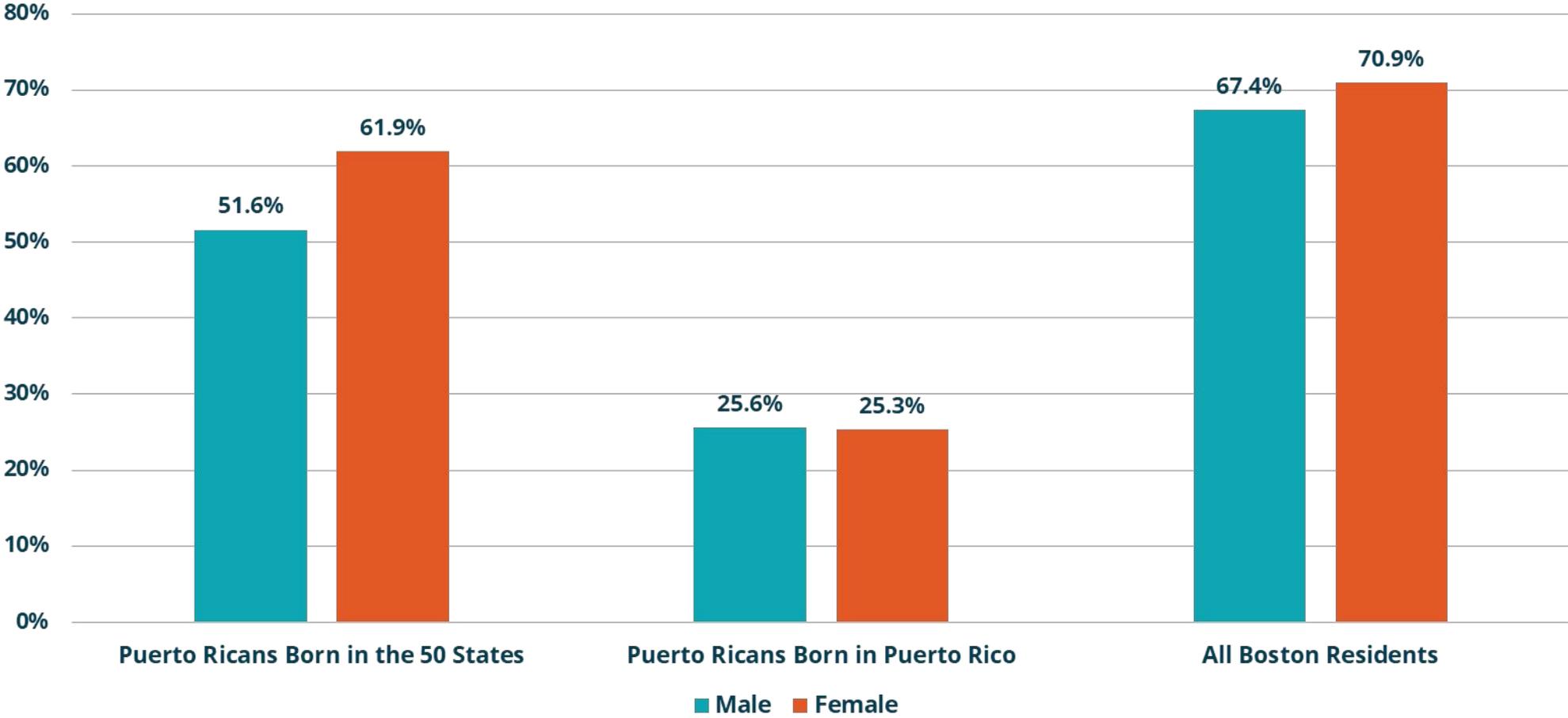
More than half of Boston's Puerto Ricans born in Puerto Rico do not have a high school diploma or equivalent.

Educational Attainment (25+)



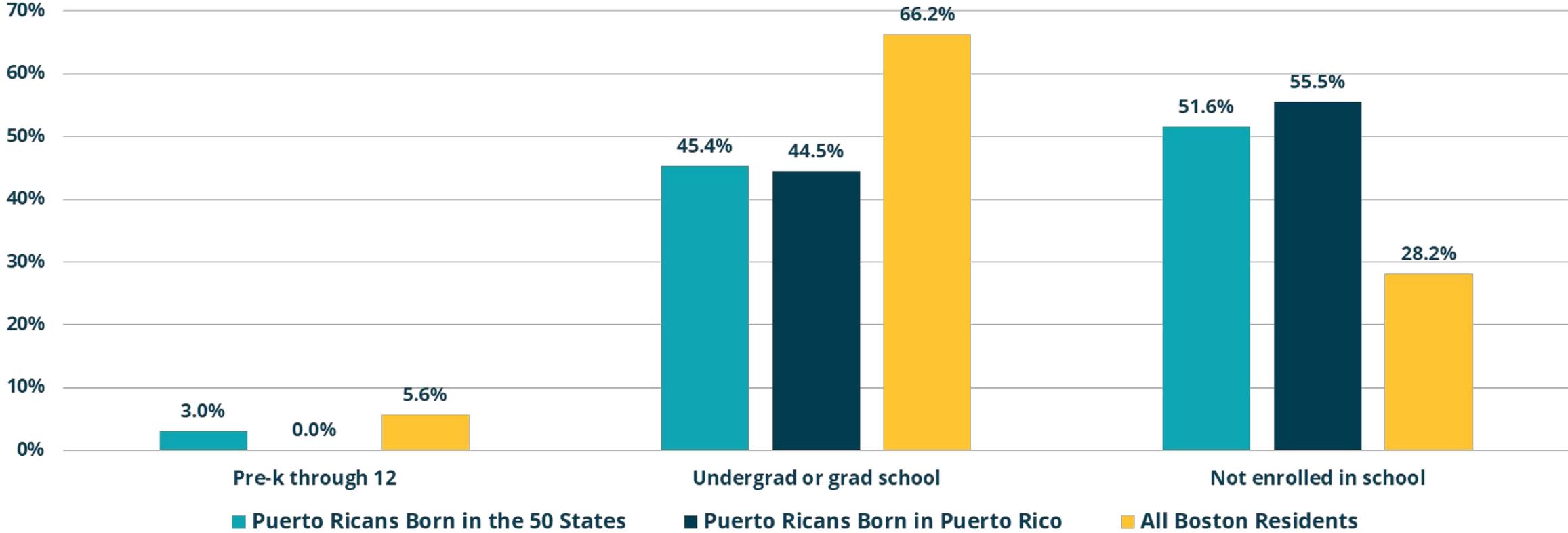
Boston's Puerto Rican women born in the 50 states are more likely than men to have some college experience or a higher degree.

Some College Education or Above by Sex (Age 25+)



Boston's Puerto Rican young adults are less likely to be enrolled in higher education compared to all Boston young adults.

School Enrollment (Age 18-24)



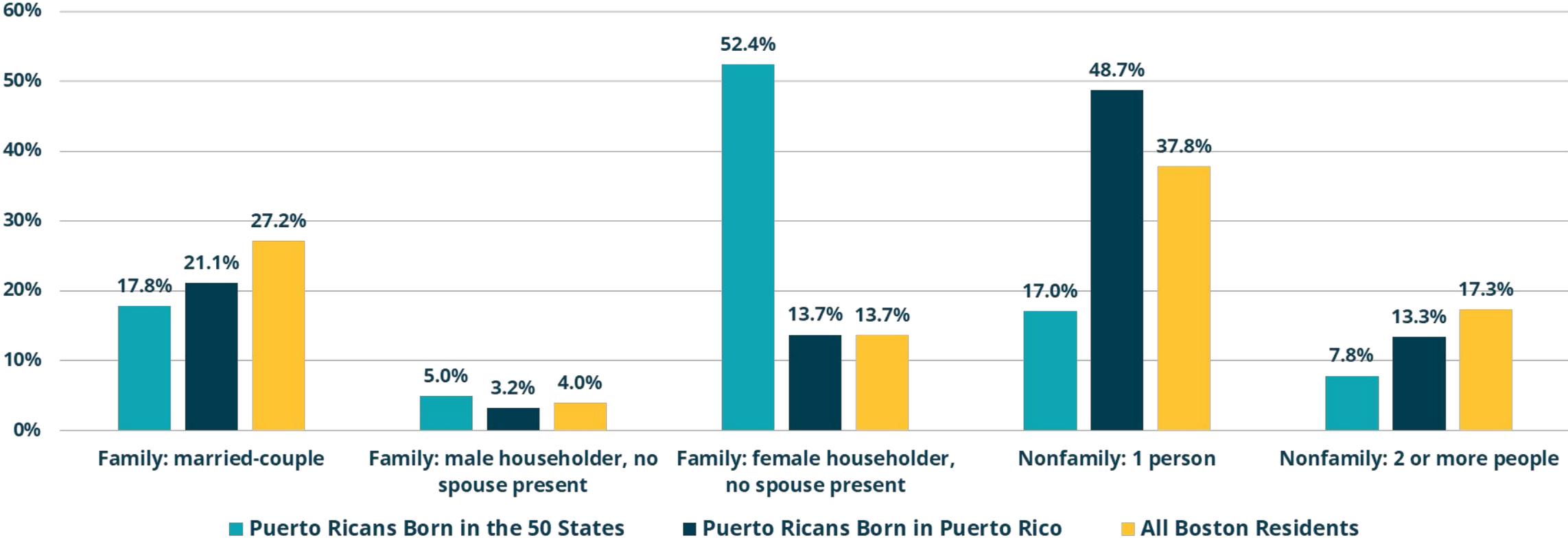
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Household Characteristics & Housing



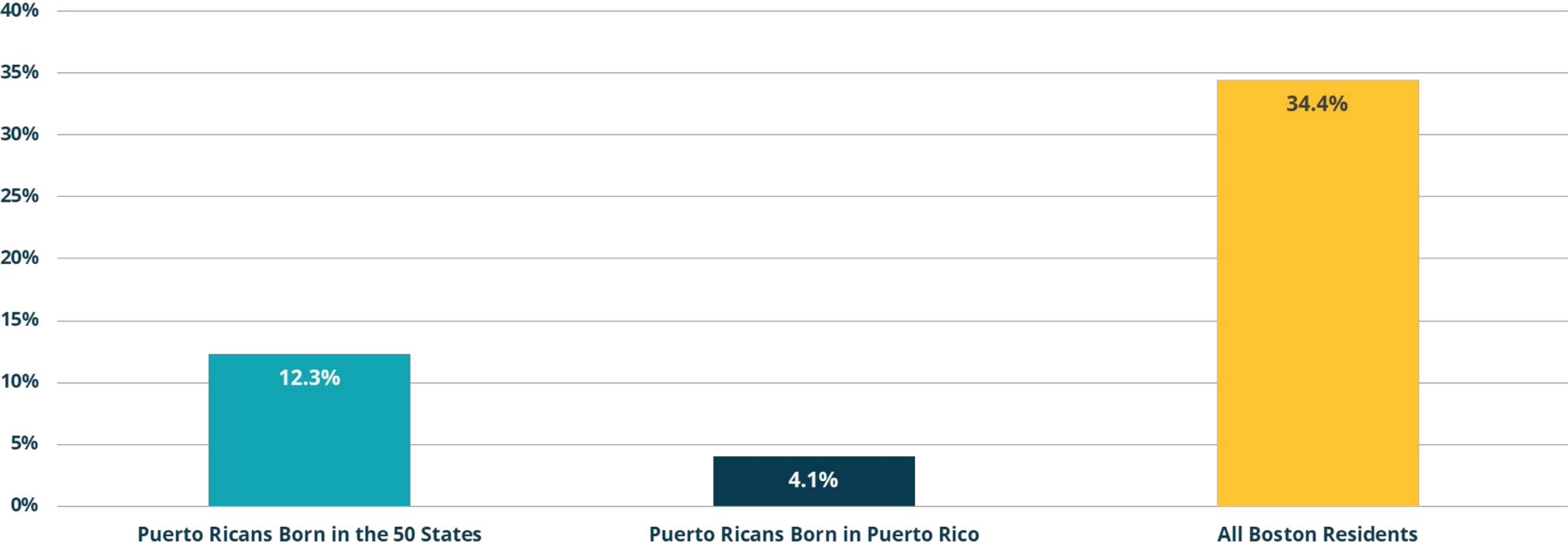
Over half of Boston's households headed by Puerto Ricans born in the 50 states are headed by female householders with no spouse present.

Household Type



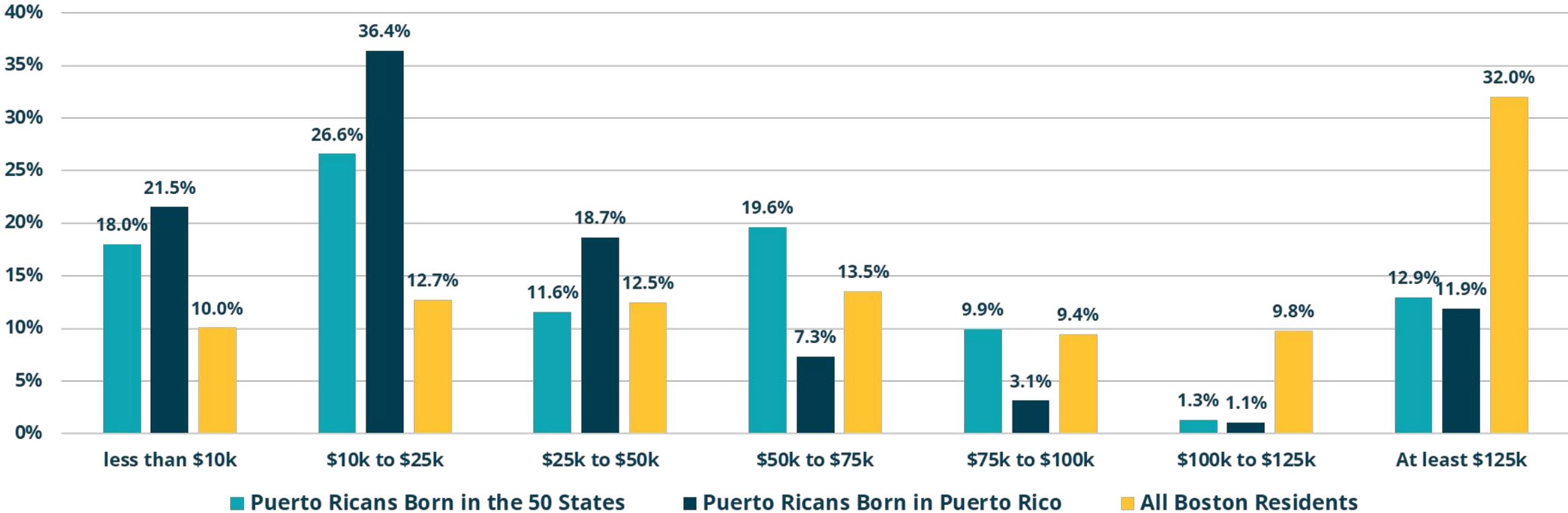
The citywide homeownership rate is five times the Puerto Rican homeownership rate. Boston's Puerto Ricans born on the island are even less likely to own their home.

Homeownership Rate



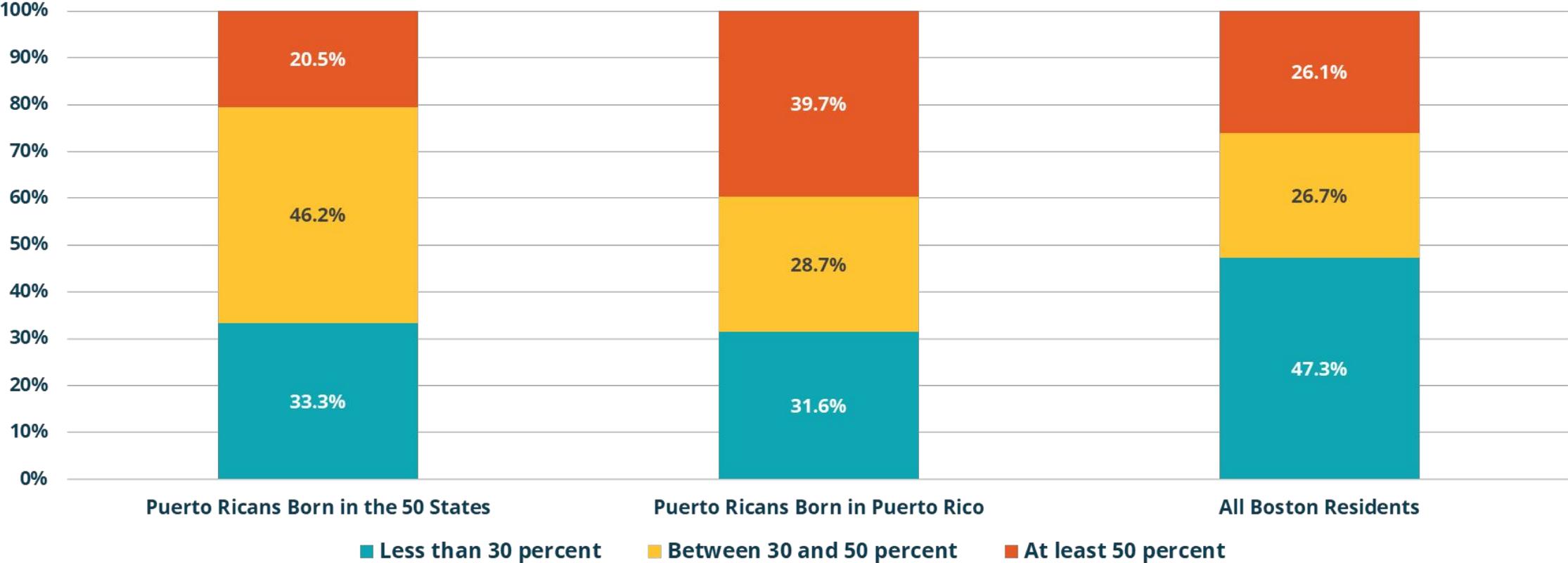
Most Puerto Ricans in Boston have a household income of less than \$50k per year, while nearly a third of all Boston households have a household income of at least \$125k per year.

Household Income Distribution



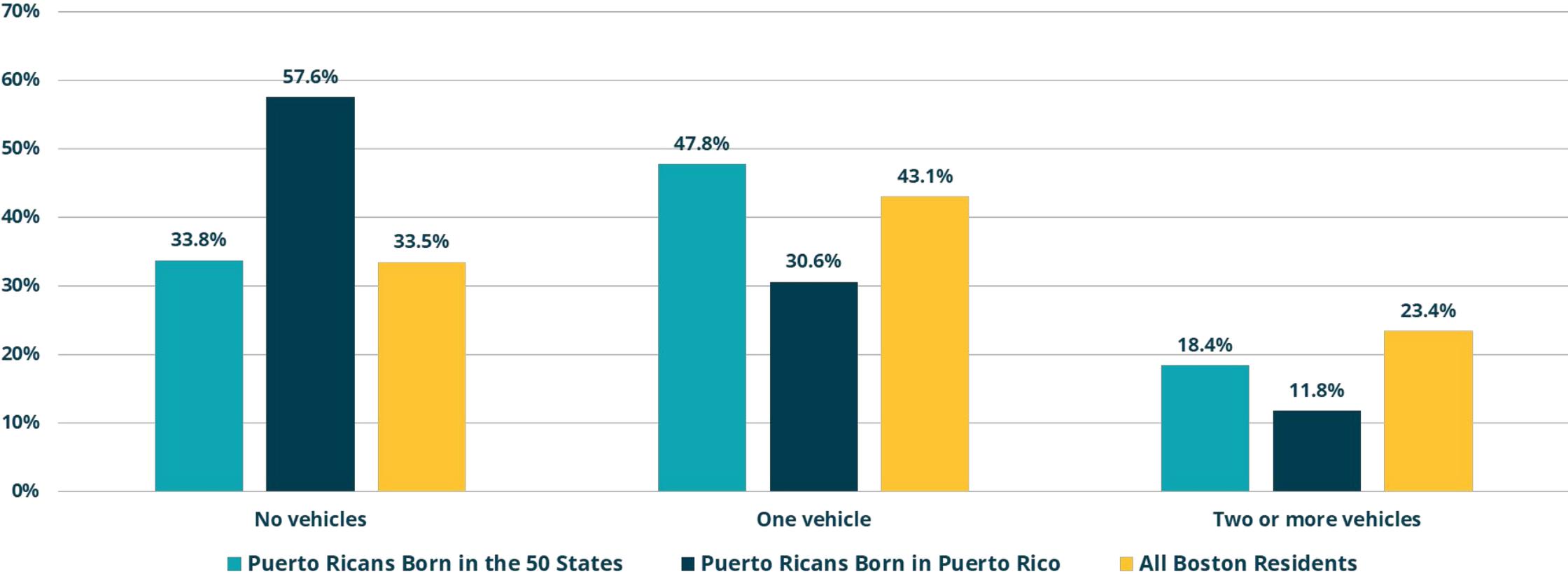
Two-thirds of Puerto Rican renting households in Boston spend more than 30% of their household income in rent, compared to about half of all Boston renting households.

Household Income Spent on Rent



Boston households headed by those born in Puerto Rico are least likely to have access to a car.

Households by Vehicles Available



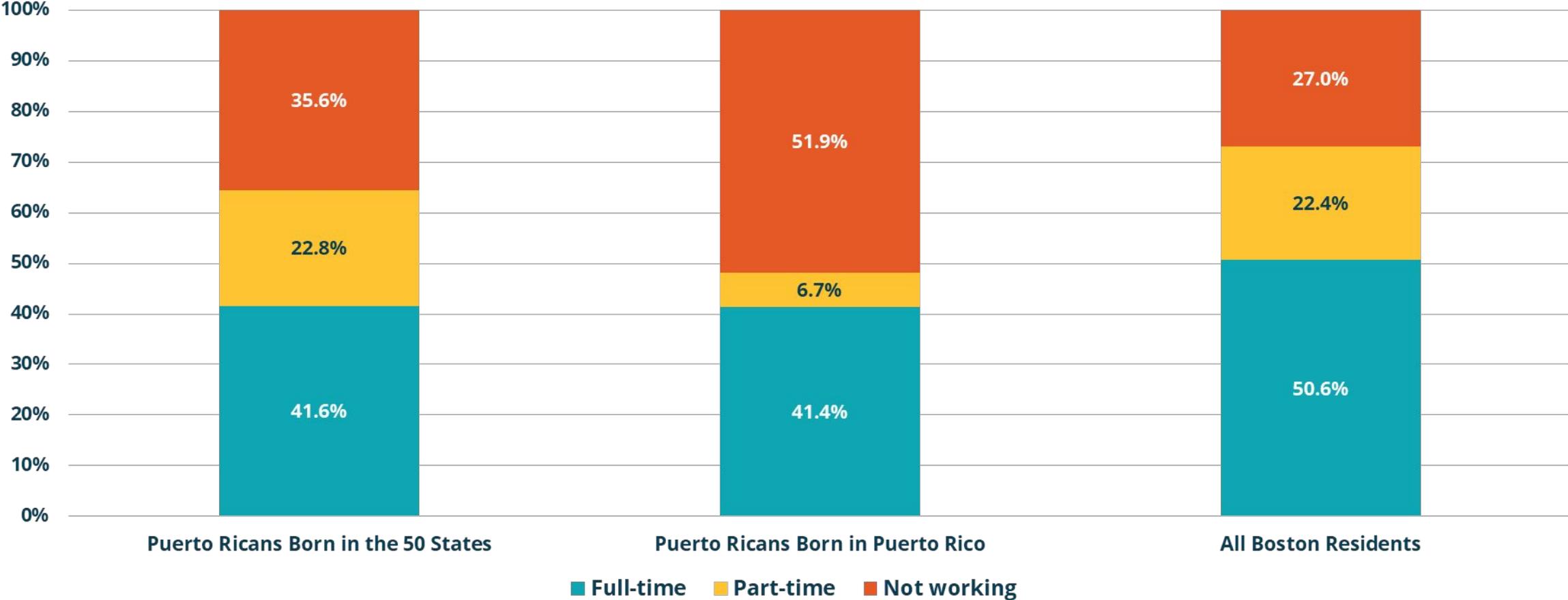
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Employment & Commuting



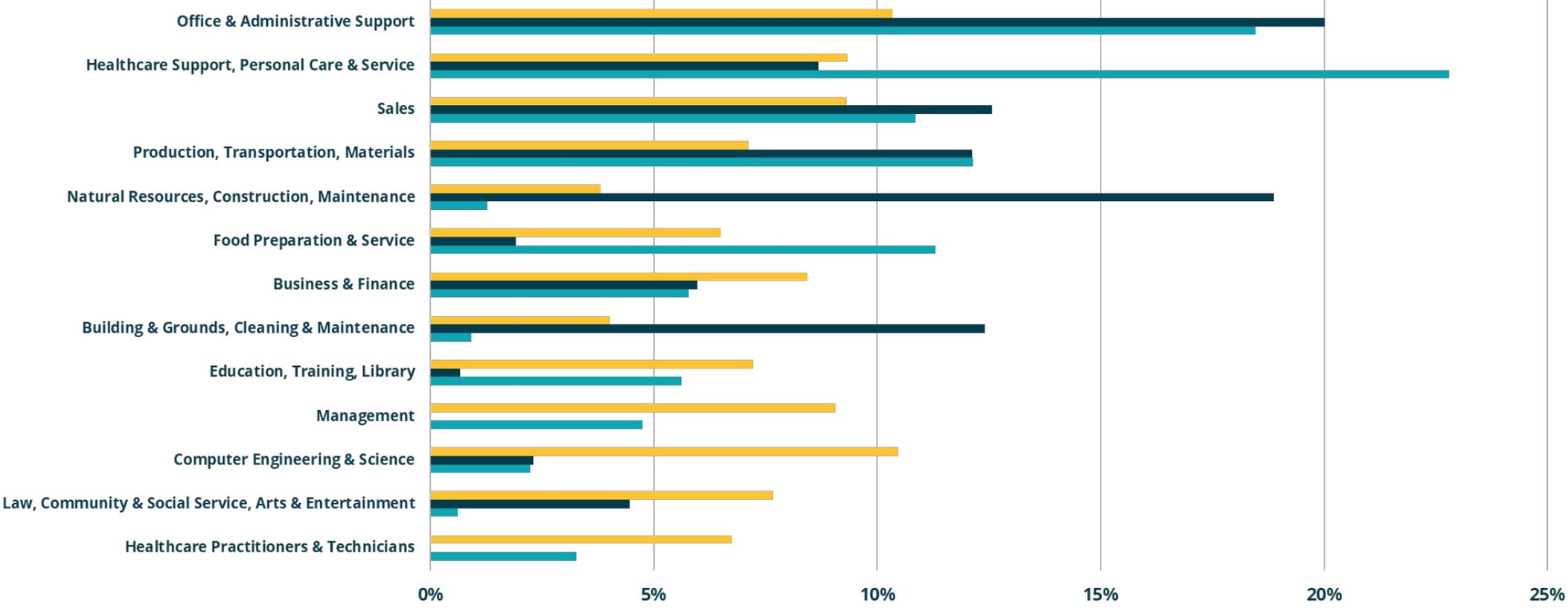
About 41% of Boston's Puerto Ricans work full time, compared to over half of all Boston residents.

Employment Type (Age 18-64)



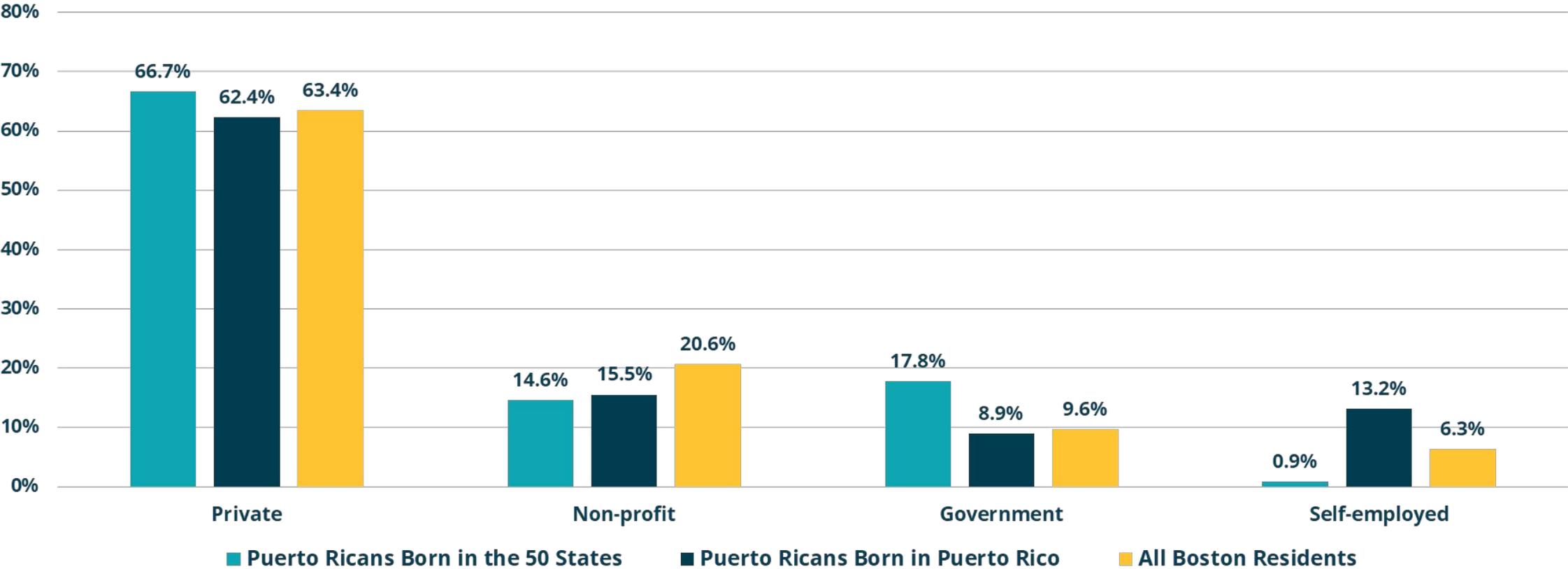
Boston's Puerto Ricans are more likely to work in office and healthcare support and service roles. Those born on the island are even more likely to work construction and maintenance jobs.

Workers by Occupation



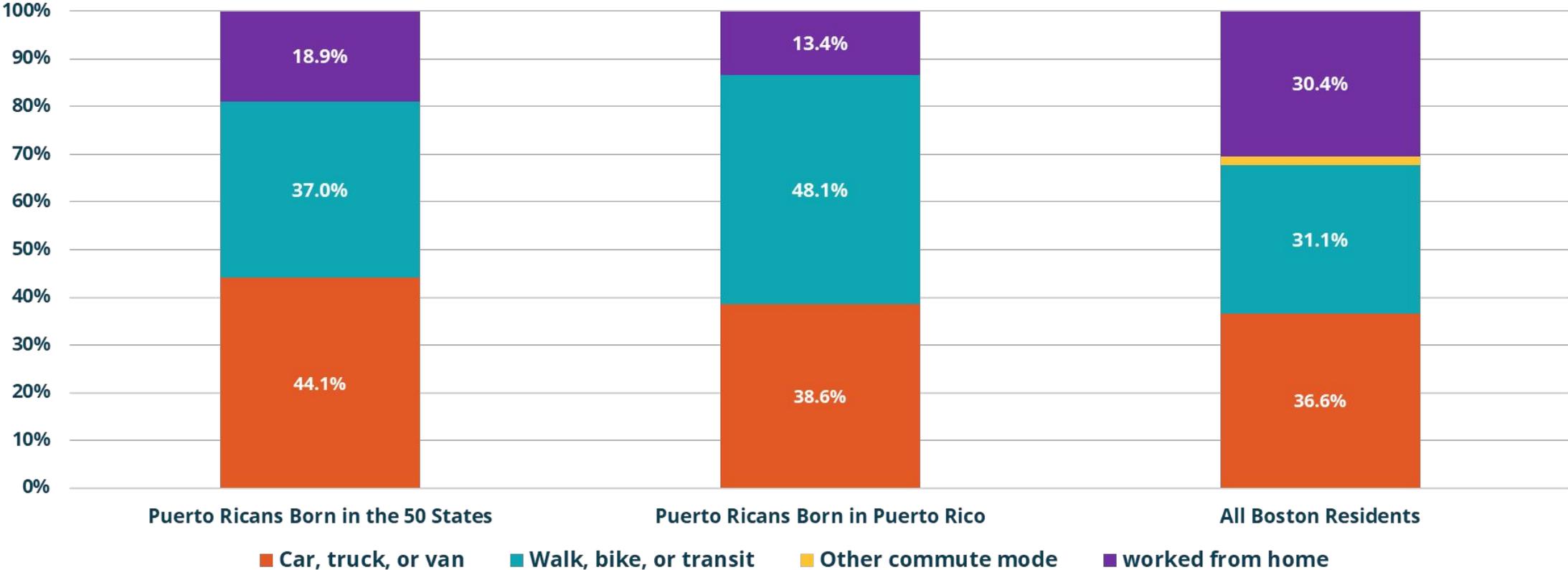
Boston's Puerto Ricans born in the 50 states are more likely to work in government, and those born in Puerto Rico are more likely to be self-employed.

Class of Work



Boston workers born in Puerto Rico are more likely to commute to work by walking, biking, or taking transit. Puerto Rican workers are half as likely to work from home compared to all Boston residents.

Commute Mode of People Who Work



4.

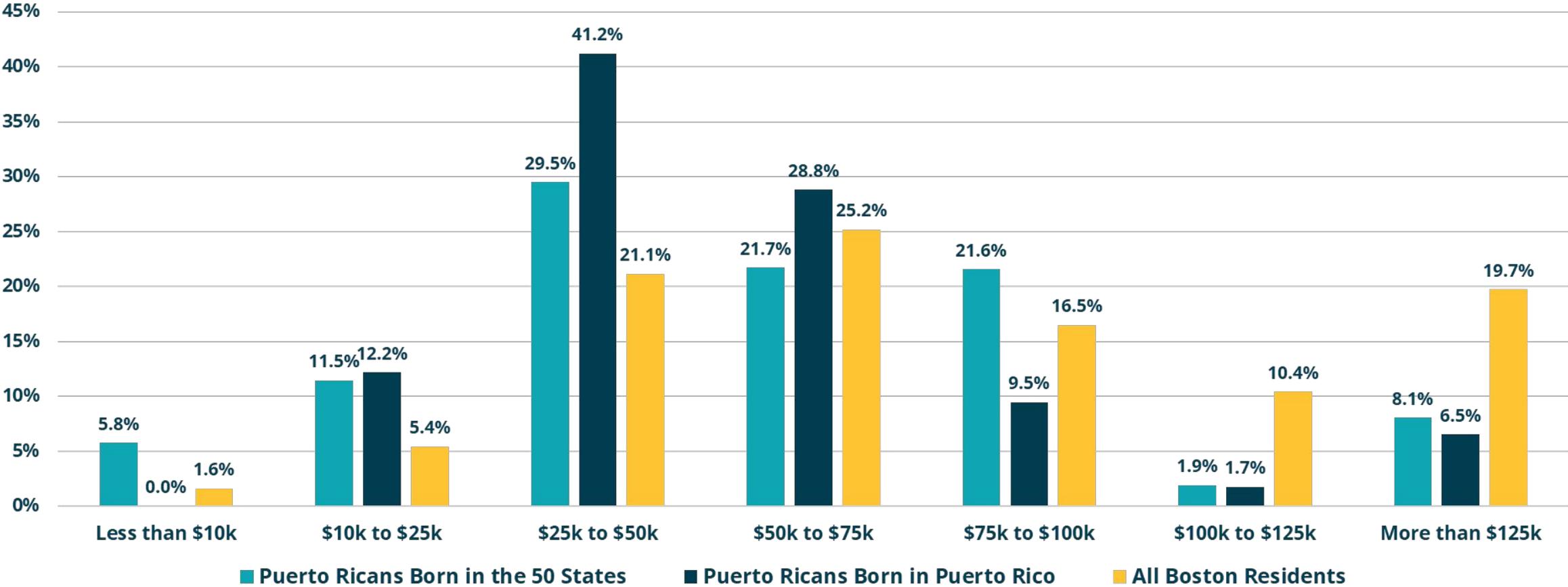
Economic Security



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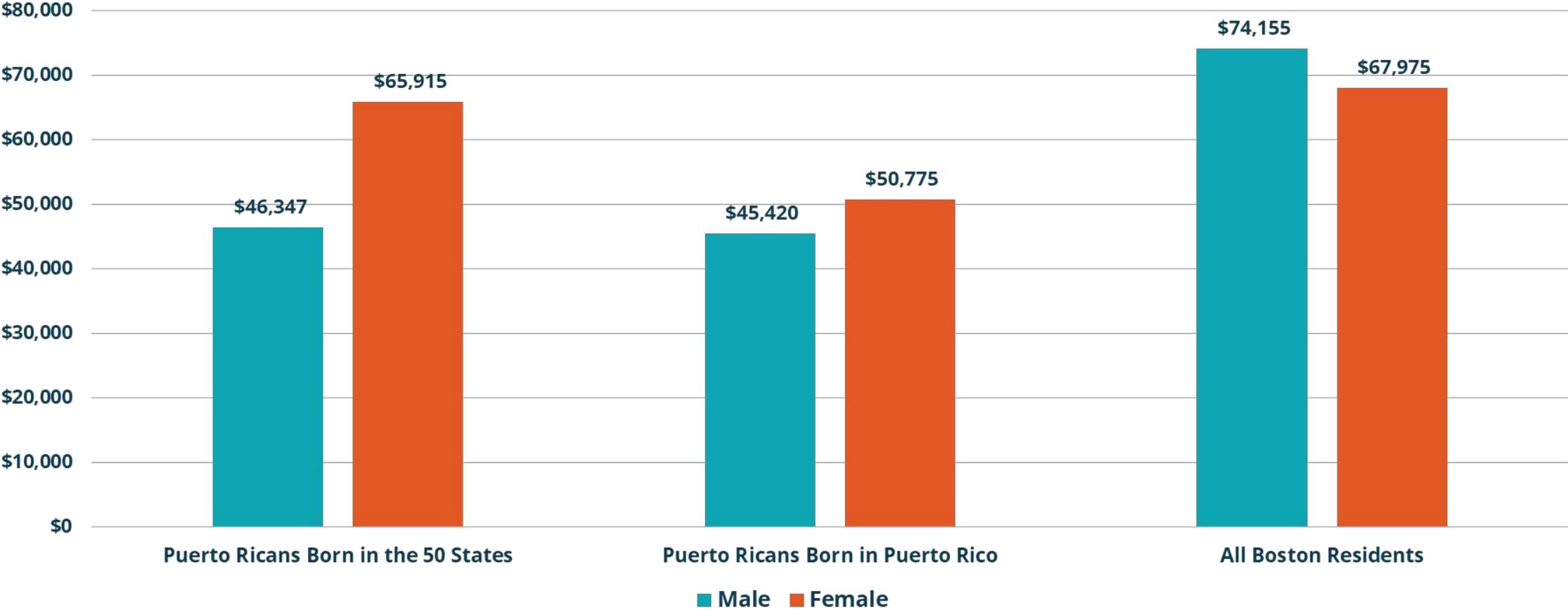
Full-time, year-round Puerto Rican workers in Boston generally earn less than non-Puerto Rican full-time, year-round workers.

Earnings of Full-Time, Year-Round Workers (Age 16+)



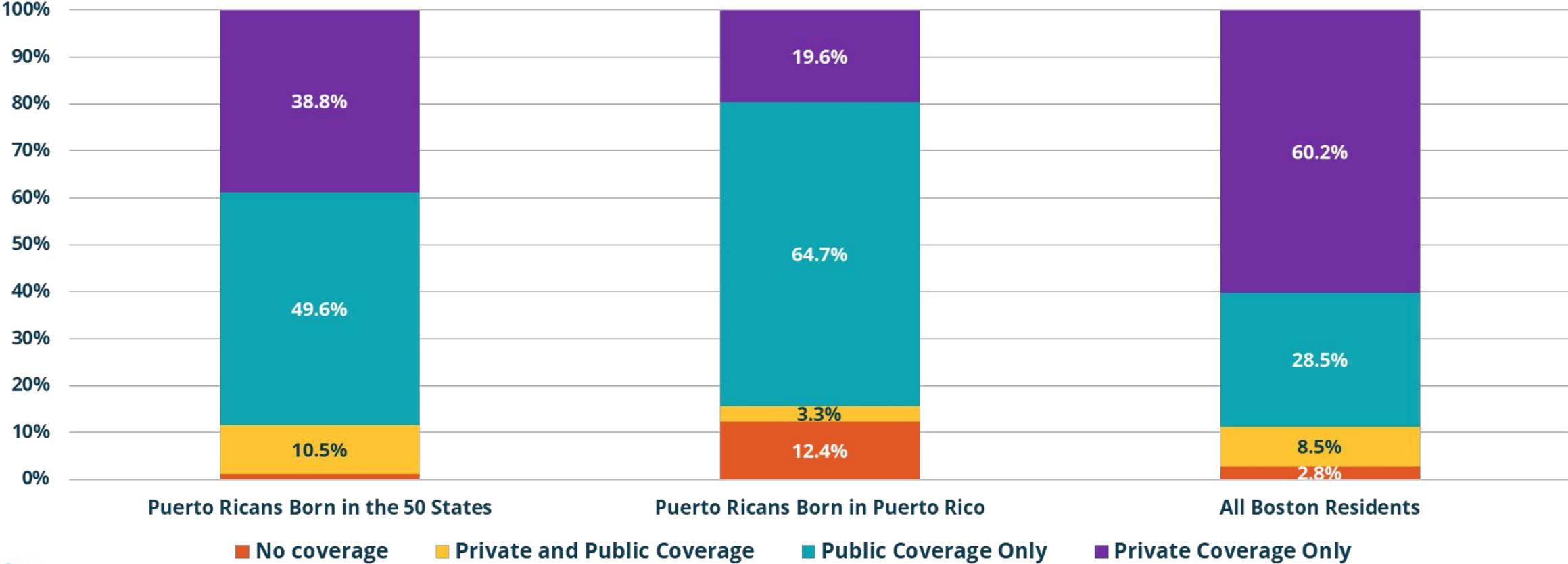
Boston's Puerto Ricans earn less than other city residents. Full-time, year-round Puerto Rican women earn more than men.

Median Earnings for Full-Time, Year-Round Workers (Age 16+)



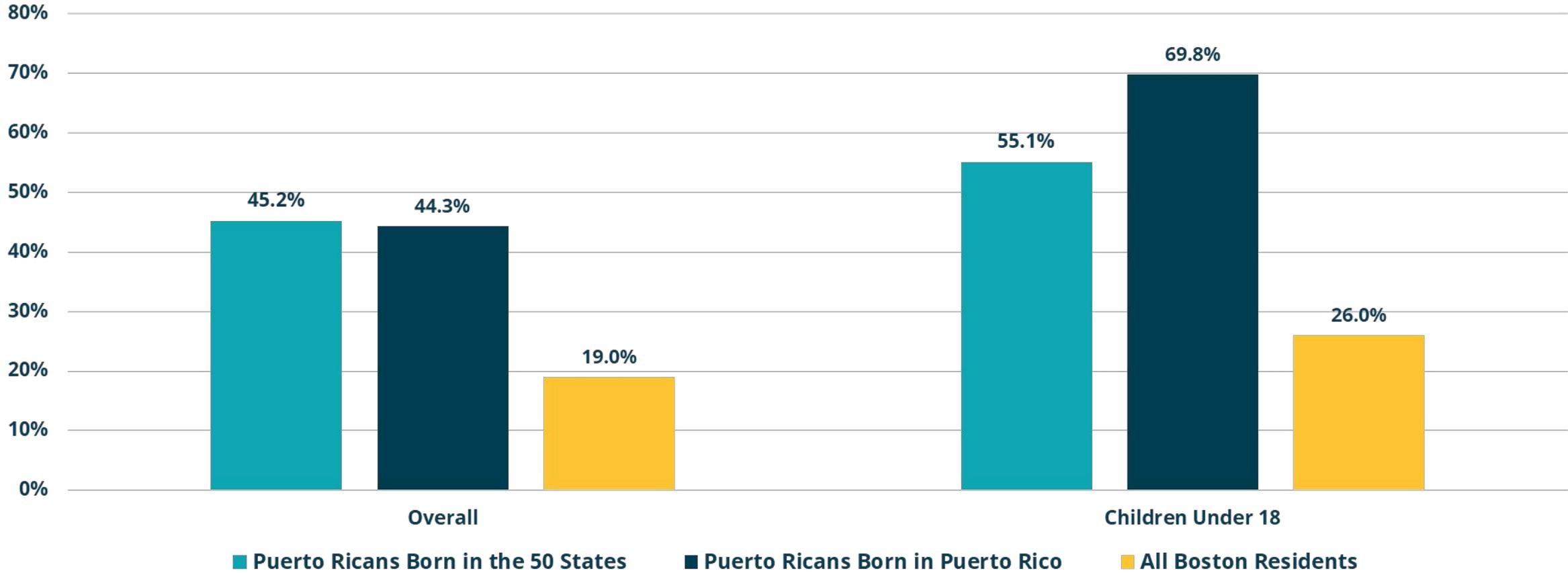
12% of Boston's Puerto Ricans born in Puerto Rico lack health insurance, more than four times the citywide rate. Puerto Ricans with coverage are more likely to have public insurance than other Boston residents.

Health Insurance Coverage



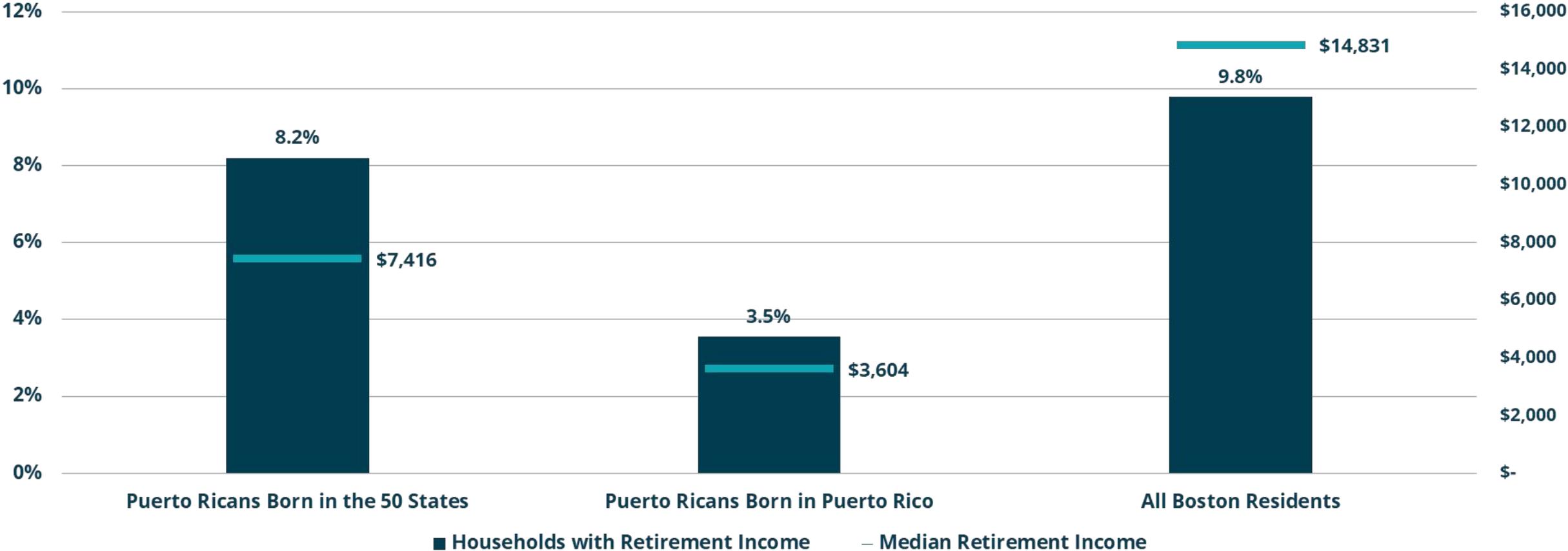
Boston's Puerto Ricans, especially children, are more than twice as likely to live in poverty than other Boston residents.

Poverty Rate



Boston's Puerto Rican households are less likely to have retirement income than non-Puerto Rican households in Boston.

Households with Retirement Income and Median Retirement Income



Summary

- Puerto Ricans make up 5% of Boston's population. However, Puerto Rican population growth has declined in recent years.
- Differences exist between Puerto Ricans born on the island and in the 50 states.
 - Those born on the island are older and have lower levels of educational attainment.
- Puerto Ricans have lower-levels of homeownership.
 - Puerto Ricans are more likely to be rent-cost burdened than other renters in Boston.