



Historical Trends in Boston Neighborhoods since 1950

BPDA Research Division

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Historical Trends in Boston Neighborhoods since 1950

- Population
- Housing
- Age Distribution
- Race/Ethnicity
- Nativity
- Educational Attainment
- Labor Force

- This report uses the 1950-2000 Decennial Censuses for historical data.
- In recent data, population and housing counts come from the 2010 Decennial Census while the distribution of demographic attributes come from the 2006-2010 and 2011-2015 5-year American Community Surveys.
- This report applies 2010 Census tract-approximations of neighborhood boundaries to Census data from 1950 to 2015 in order to compare consistent geographies over time.
- Note that some smaller neighborhoods are not distinguishable in tract-level data. Chinatown and the Leather District are included here with Downtown. Bay Village is included with the South End.
- The Harbor Islands are not included in the graphs, but are described in a table in the last section of the report.
- For a full description of the methodology, please see *Historical Boston in Context: Neighborhoods 1950-2015* available on the BPDA website.



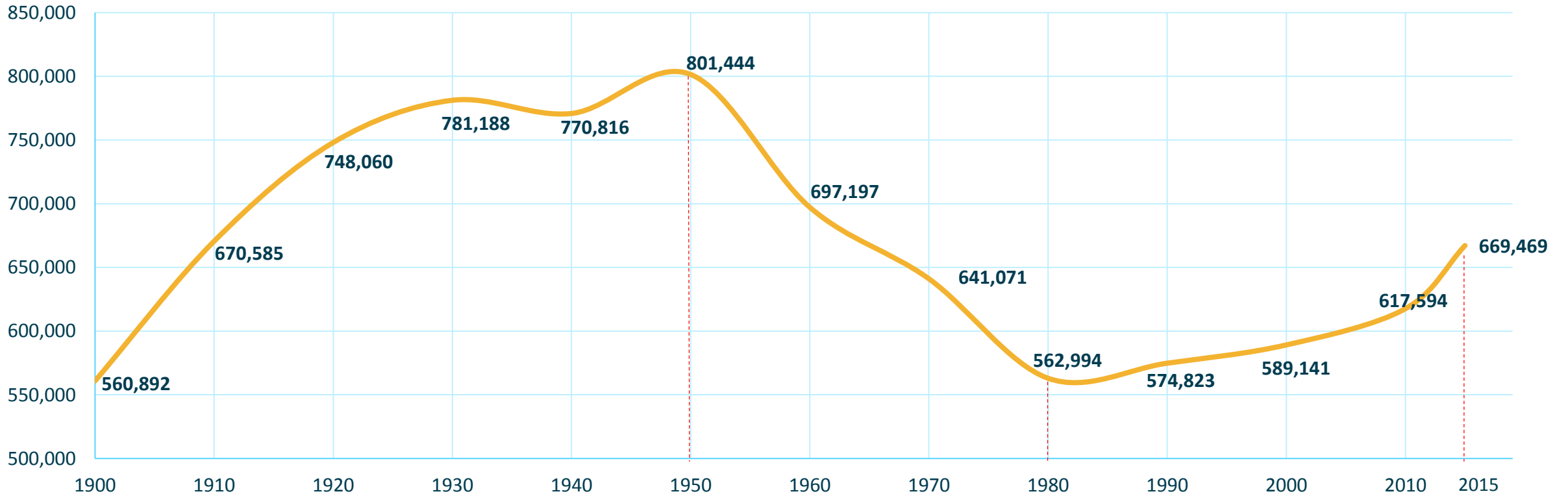
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POPULATION TRENDS



- Boston's population reached its peak in 1950, with just over 800,000 residents
- Like many major U.S. cities, Boston experienced significant decline in the post-World War II era. By 1980, Boston's population fell to under 563,000 residents
- Since 1980, Boston's population grew by 18%, with the 2010 Census marking the first time since 1970 that Boston's population exceeded 600,000 people

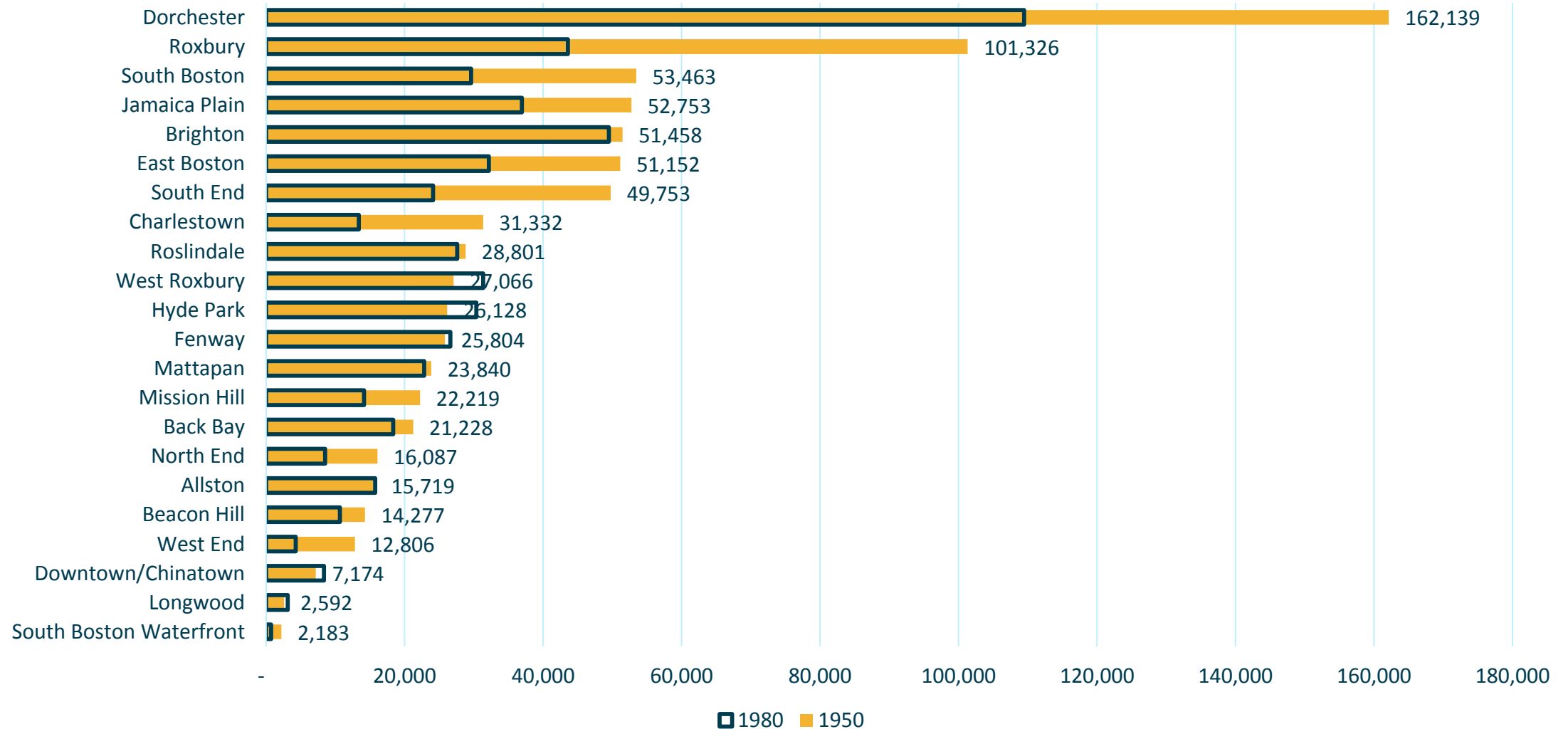
Boston's Population (1900-2015)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1900-2010 Decennial Census, 2015 American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- Boston's population declined by 238,450 people from 1950 to 1980.
- Roxbury, Dorchester, South End, South Boston, and East Boston accounted for 75% of the city's population loss.
- Dorchester remained the largest neighborhood, but Brighton became second largest after Roxbury's population loss.

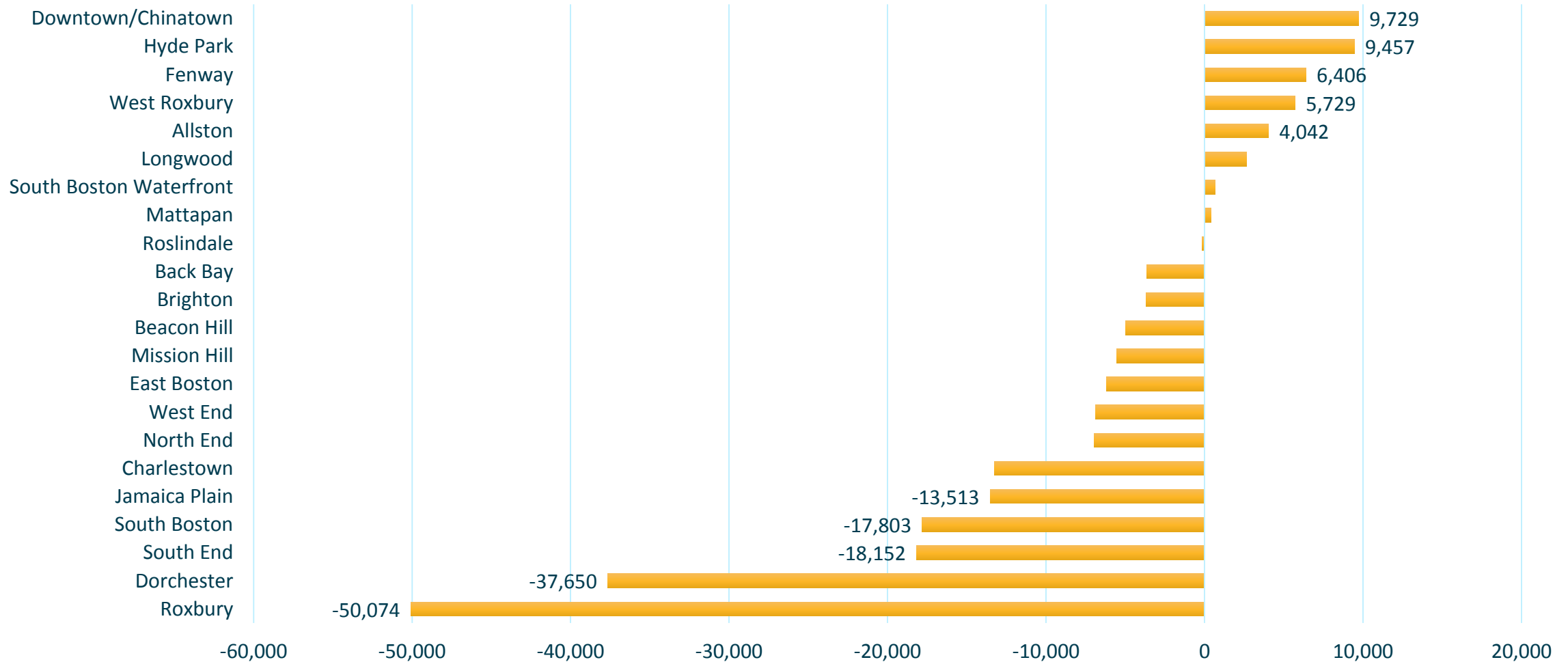
Boston Population by Neighborhood 1950 & 1980



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950 & 1980 Decennial Censuses, BPDA Research Division Analysis

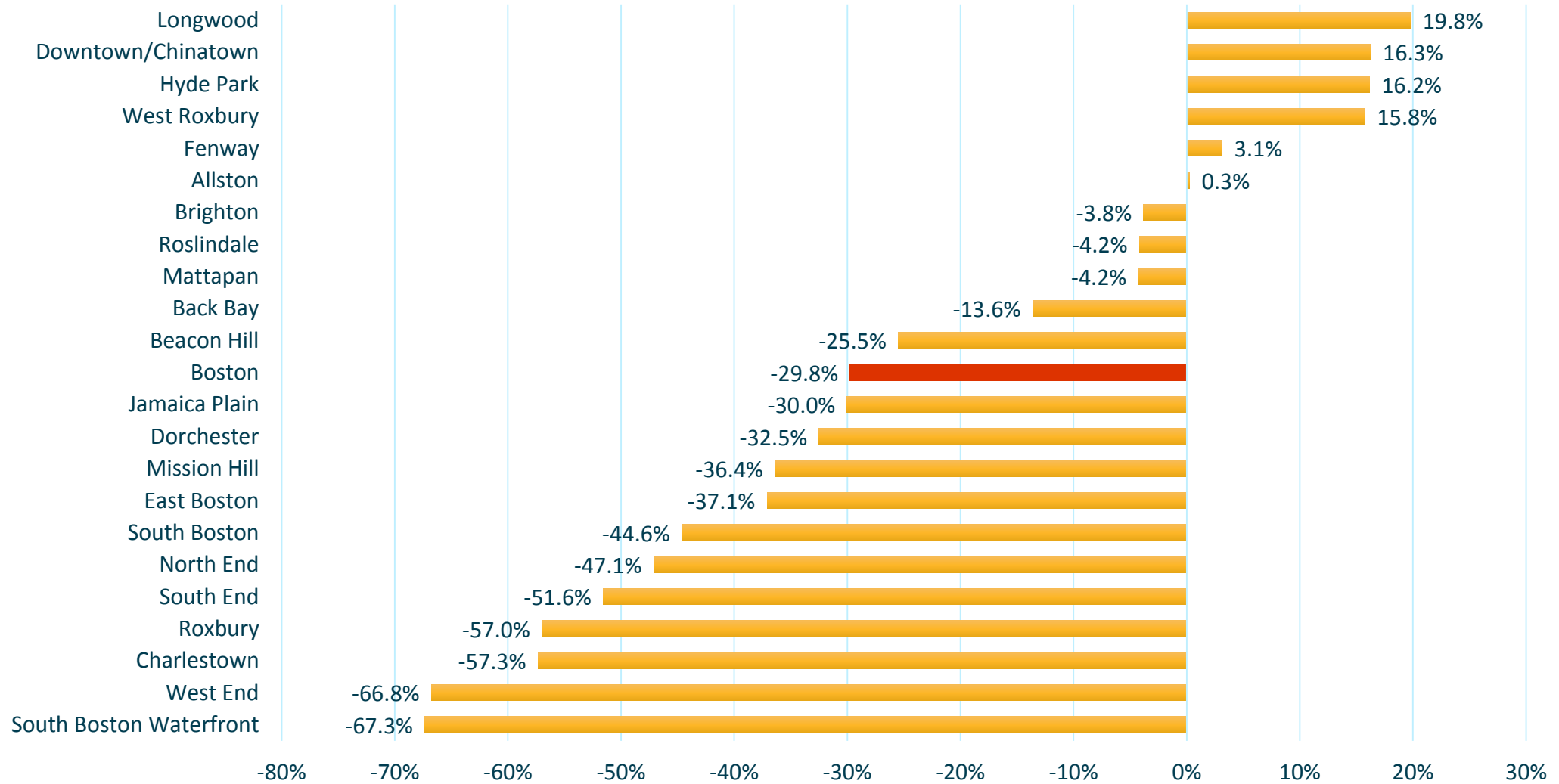
- Roxbury lost 50,000 people and Dorchester lost almost 38,000 people from 1950 to 1980.
- West Roxbury, Hyde Park, Downtown, Fenway, Longwood, and Allston gained population 1950 to 1980.

Change in Population 1950 to 1980



- The small neighborhoods of Longwood and Downtown/Chinatown had large percentage gains 1950 to 1980, while the West End and South Boston Waterfront had even larger percentage losses.
- The larger neighborhoods of Charlestown, Roxbury, and the South End also lost over 50% of their population.

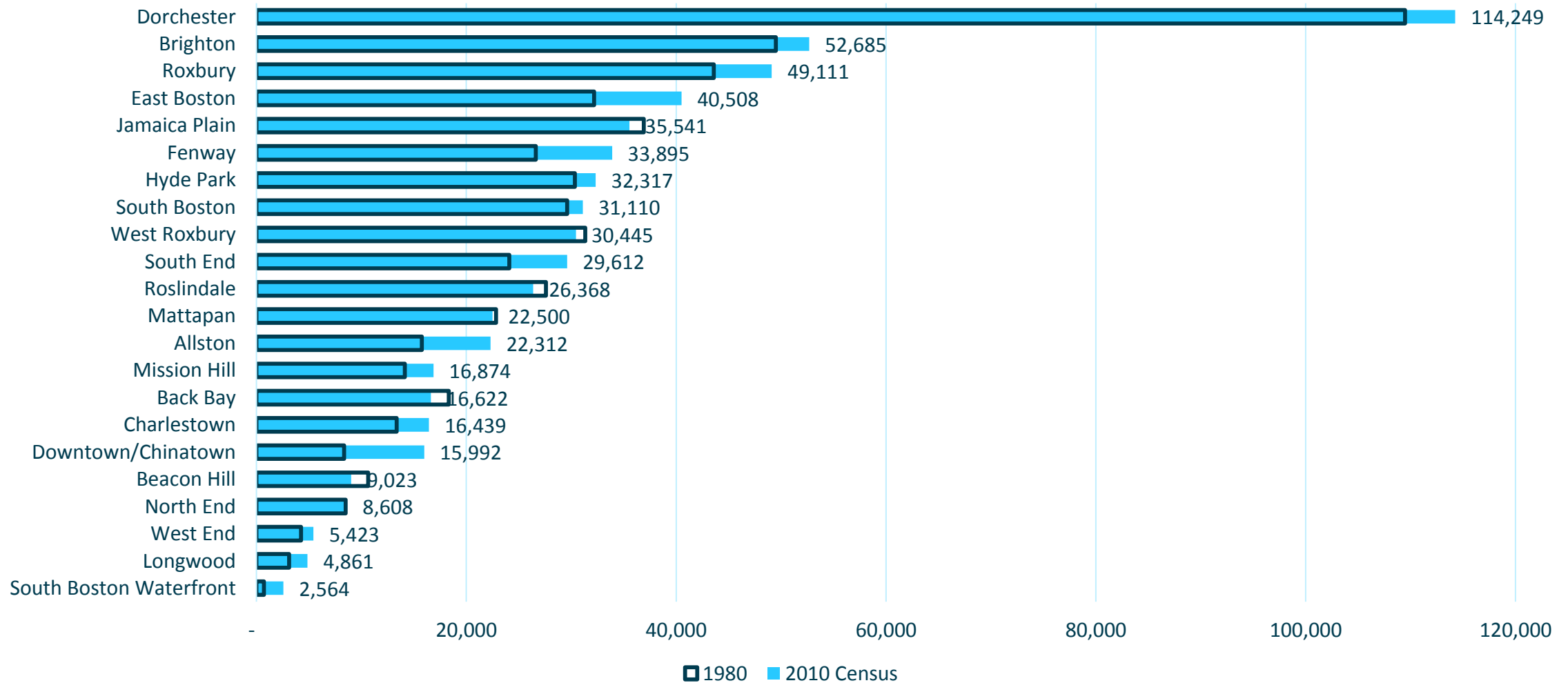
1950 to 1980 Percentage Changes in Population



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950 & 1980 Decennial Censuses, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- Boston's population began to grow again after 1980.
- Dorchester grew to 114,000 people by 2010, still below the 162,000 population of 1950.
- Roxbury grew to 51,000 people to resume its place as Boston's second largest neighborhood.

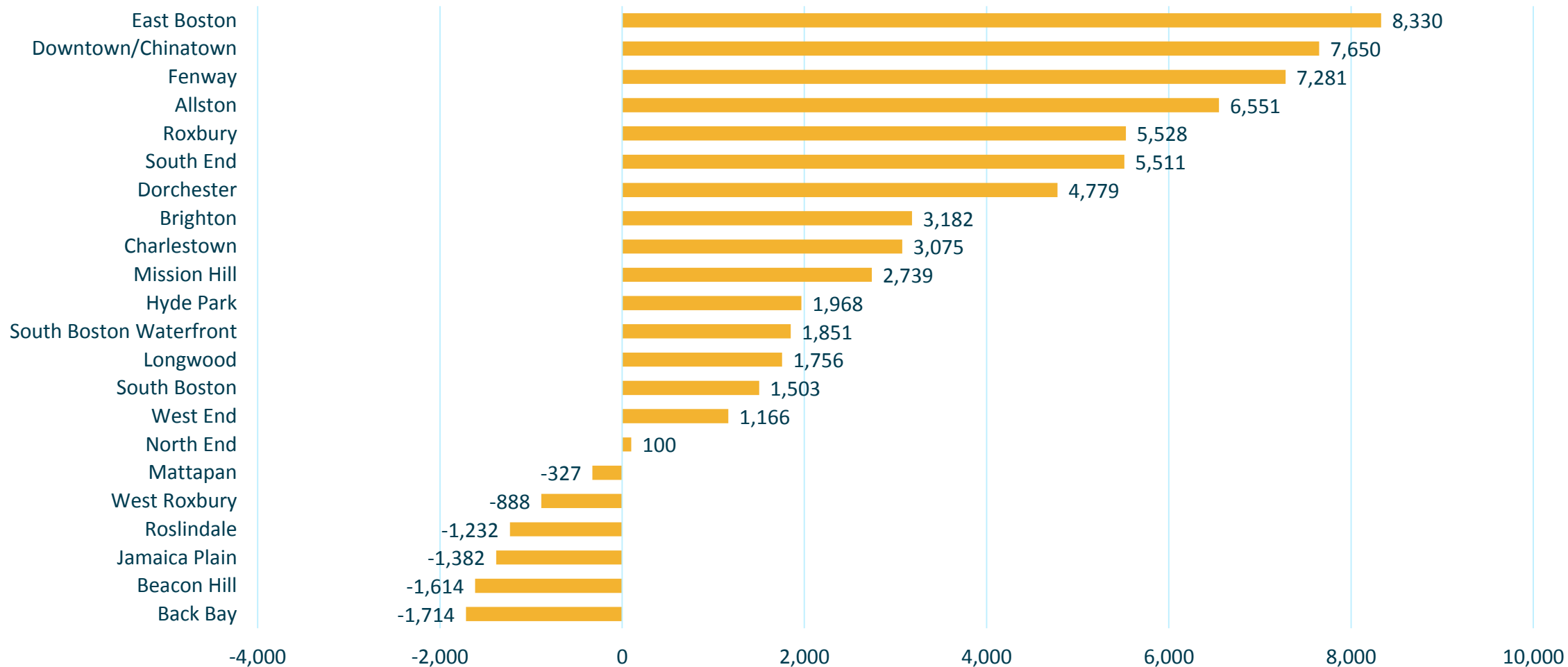
Boston Population by Neighborhood, 1980 & 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1980 & 2010 Decennial Censuses, BPDA Research Division Analysis

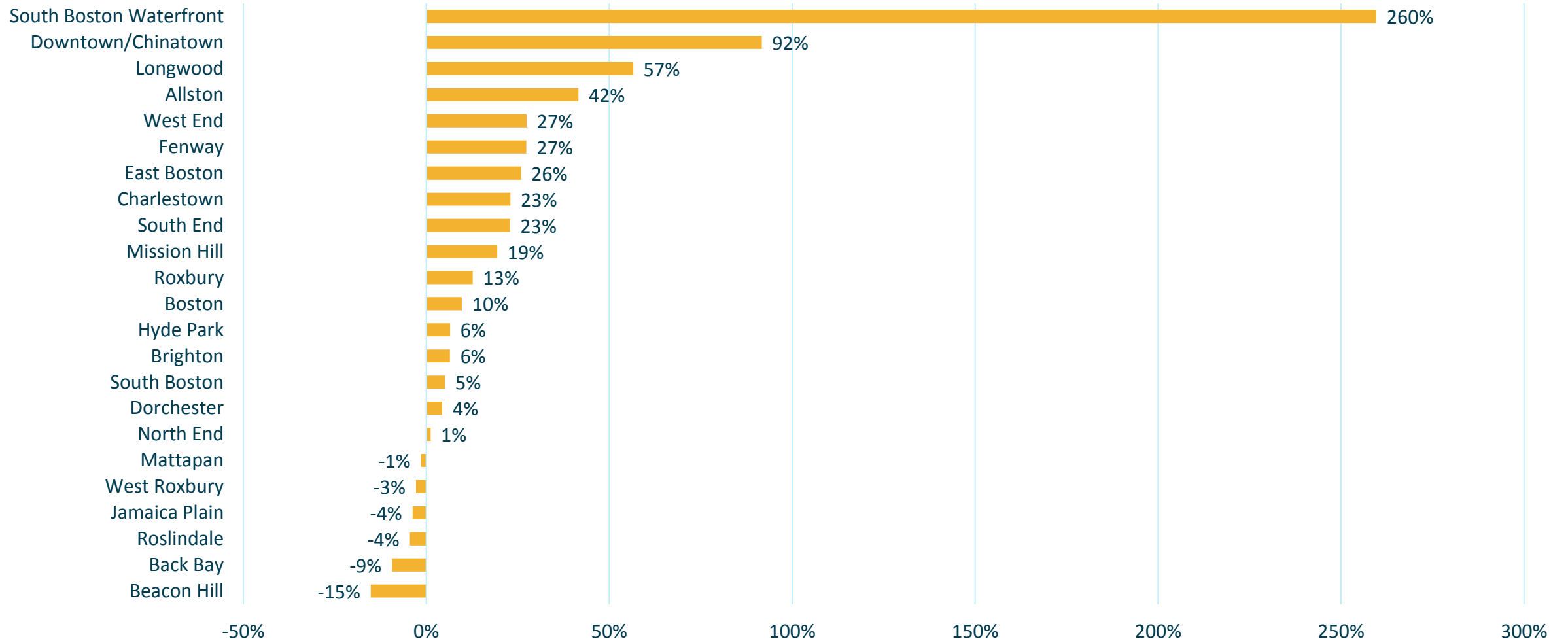
- East Boston, Downtown/Chinatown, and Fenway had the largest absolute gains in population from 1980 to 2010.
- Back Bay, Beacon Hill, and Jamaica Plain had the largest losses in population.

1980-2010 Population Change



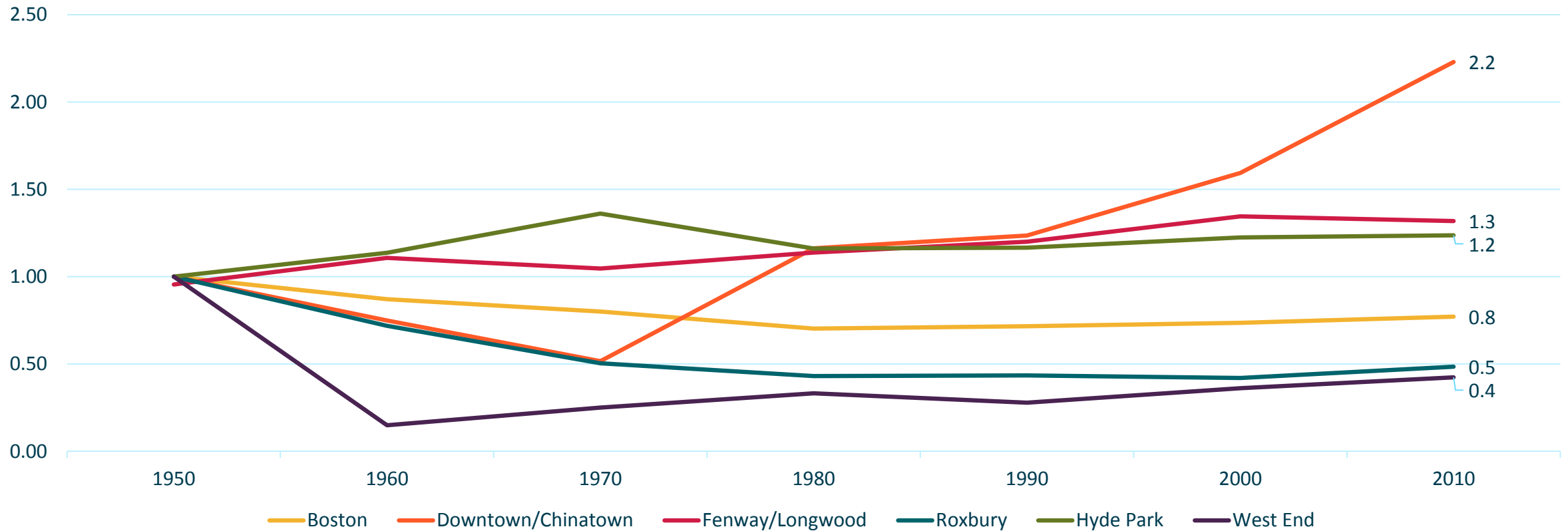
- The South Boston Waterfront and Downtown had small residential populations that have grown rapidly since 1980.
- Longwood, Allston, the West End, and Fenway also had large percentage gains in population.

1980 to 2010 Percentage Change in Population



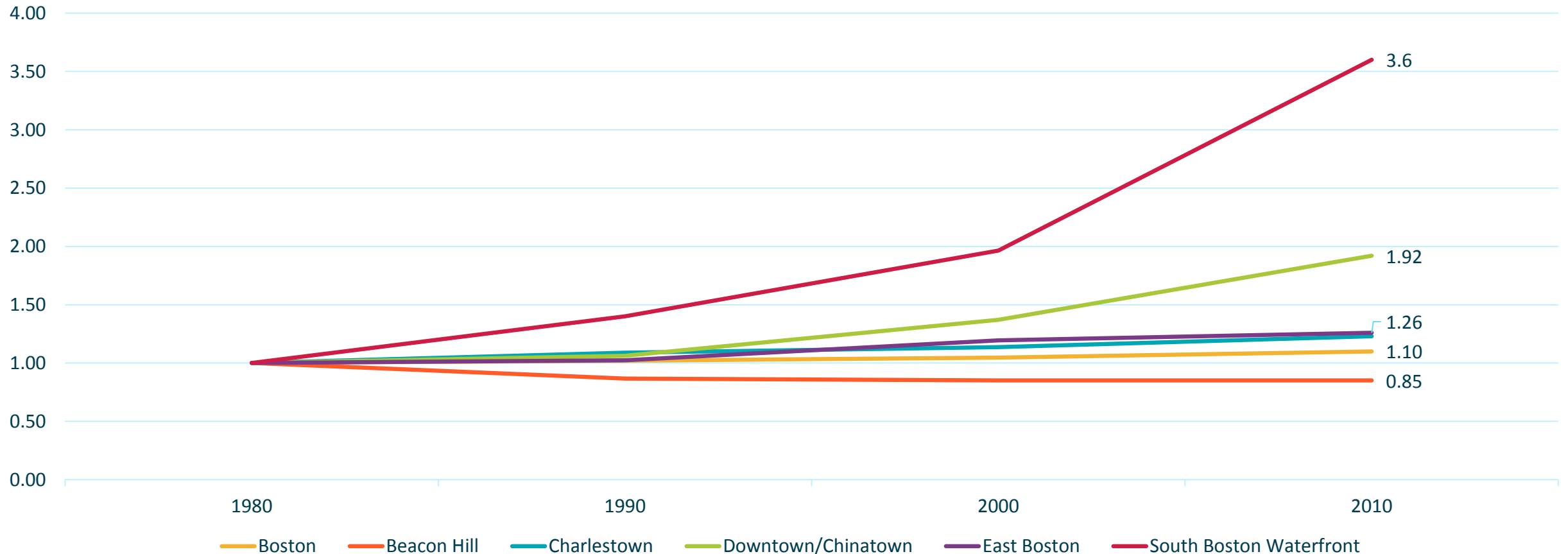
- In 2010, Boston as a whole was at 80% of its 1950 population.
- Downtown is at almost two and a half times its 1950 residential population.
- Roxbury and the West End are at about half of their 1950 populations.

2010 Neighborhood Population as Ratio of 1950 Population

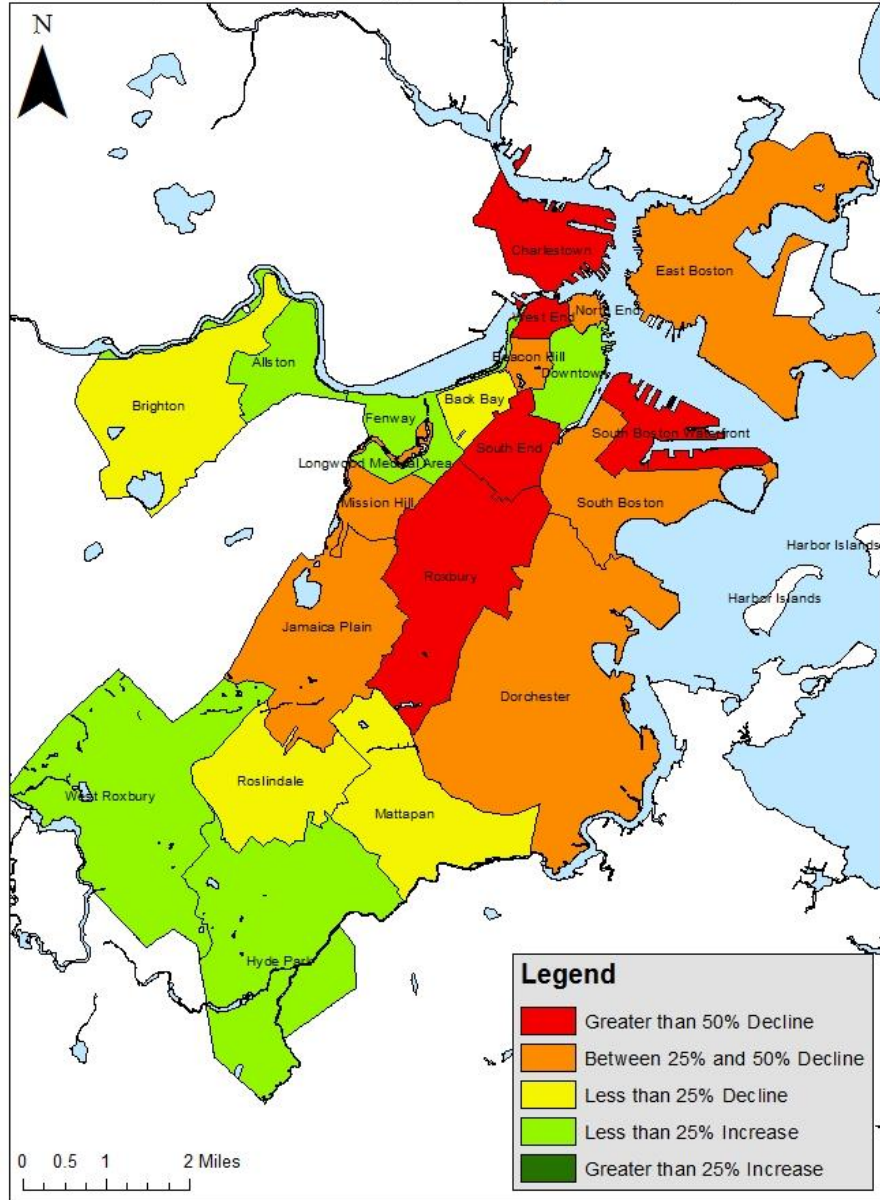


- By 2010, Boston had rebounded to 110% of its 1980 population.
- The South Boston Waterfront is almost four times as populous as in 1980, and Downtown/Chinatown is almost twice as populous.
- Beacon Hill has lost population and is only at 85% of its 1980 level.

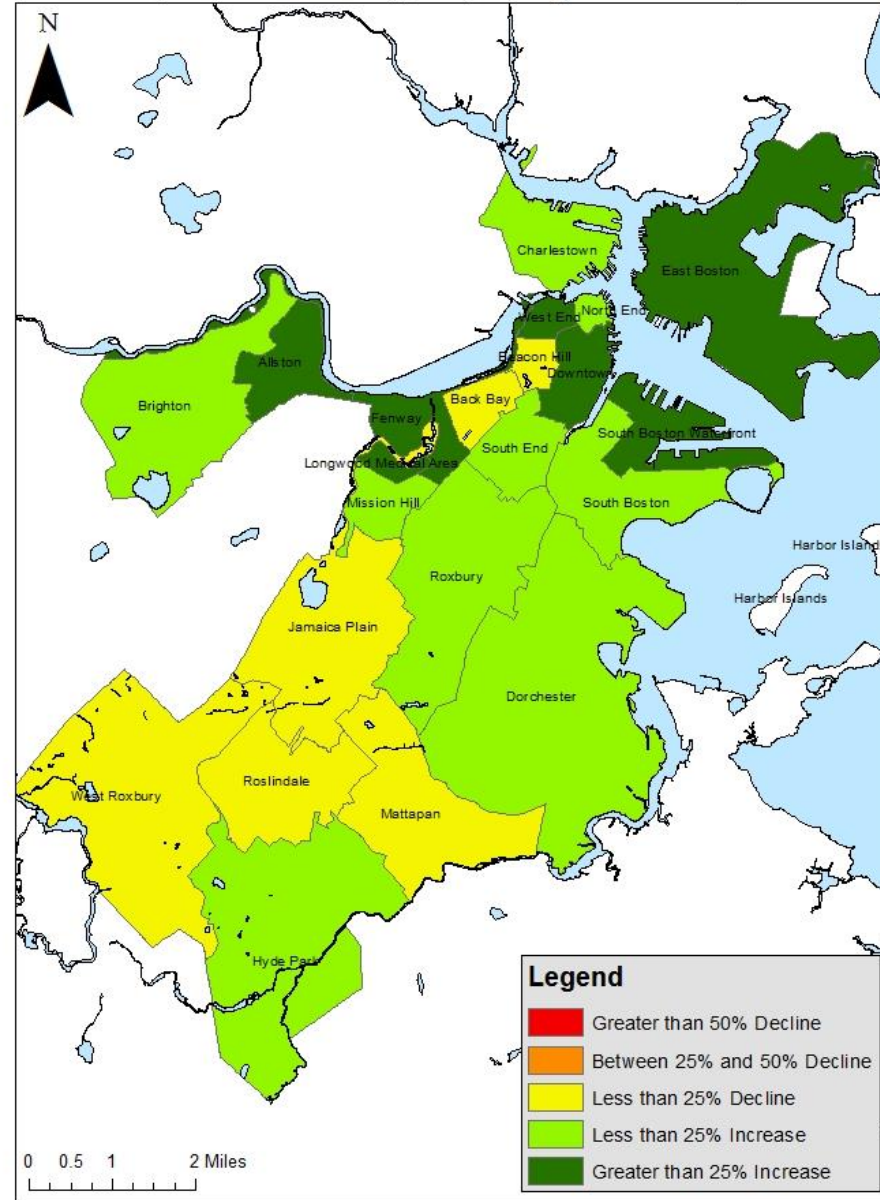
2010 Neighborhood Population as Ratio of 1980 Population



Percent Population Change by Neighborhood, 1950-1980



Percent Population Change by Neighborhood, 1980-2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950, 1980 & 2010 Decennial Census, BPDA Research Division Analysis

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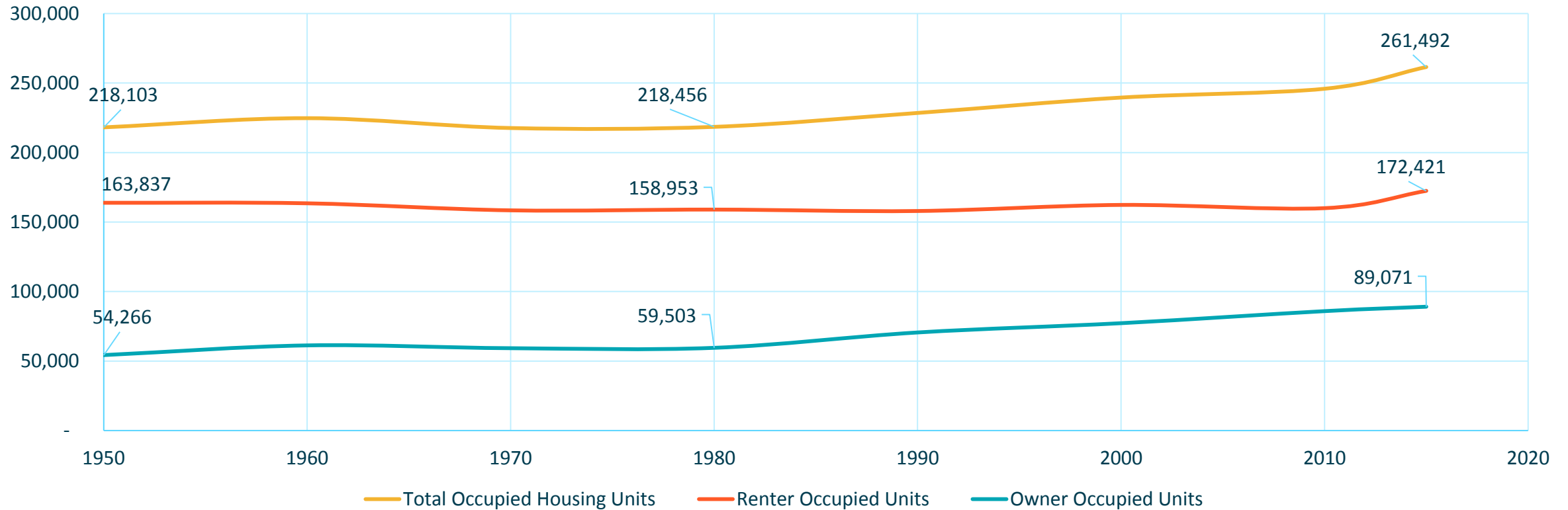
HOUSING TRENDS



**boston planning &
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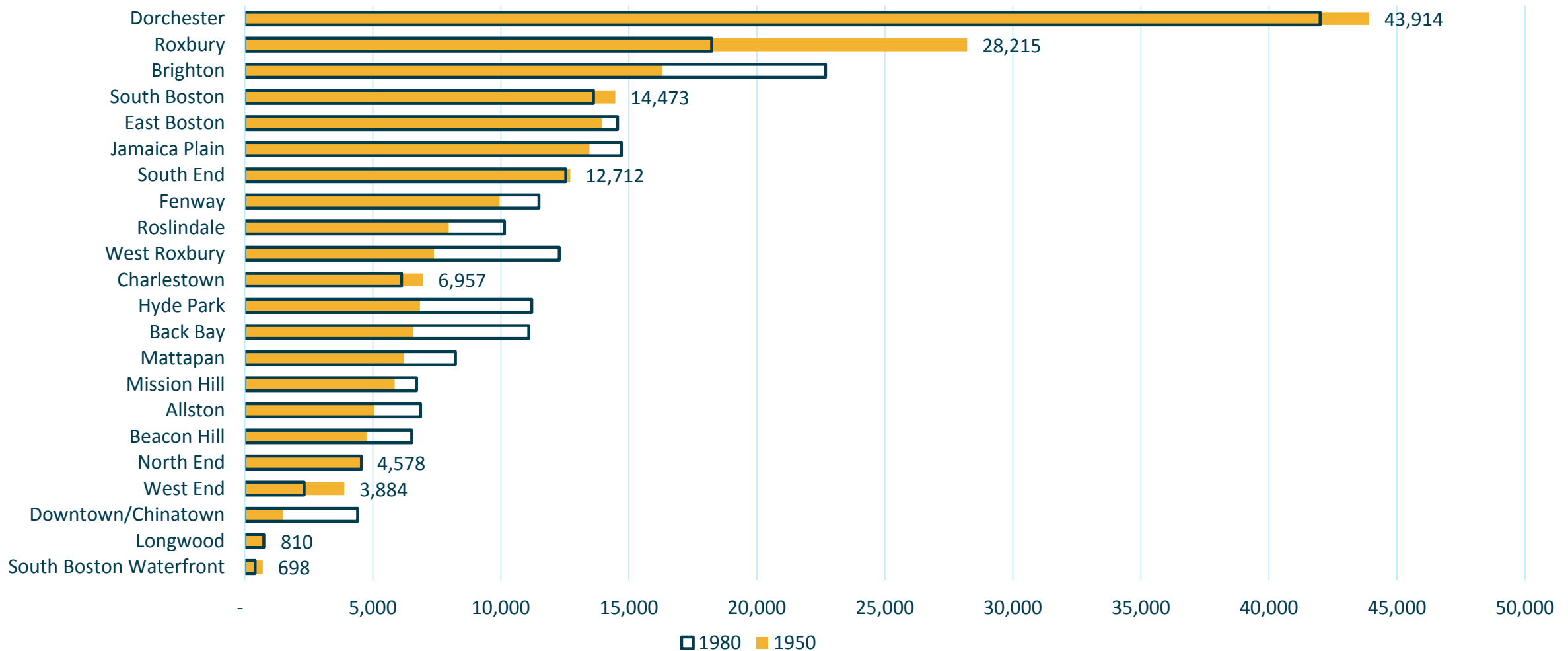
- From 1950 to 1980, the number of occupied housing units in Boston remained roughly the same, despite the decline in population.
- From 1980 to 2015, occupied housing units rose by 43,000 units, an increase of almost 20%.
- Most of the increase in housing has been in owner-occupied units which grew by almost 50% from 1980 to 2015.

Occupied Housing Units by Tenure, 1950 - 2015



- Boston's total number of housing units (including vacant units) grew from 1950 to 1980, from 222,079 in 1950 to 241,444 in 1980.
- The citywide increase occurred despite large declines in units in some neighborhoods, especially Roxbury. Roxbury's total housing units declined from 28,215 to 18,234.

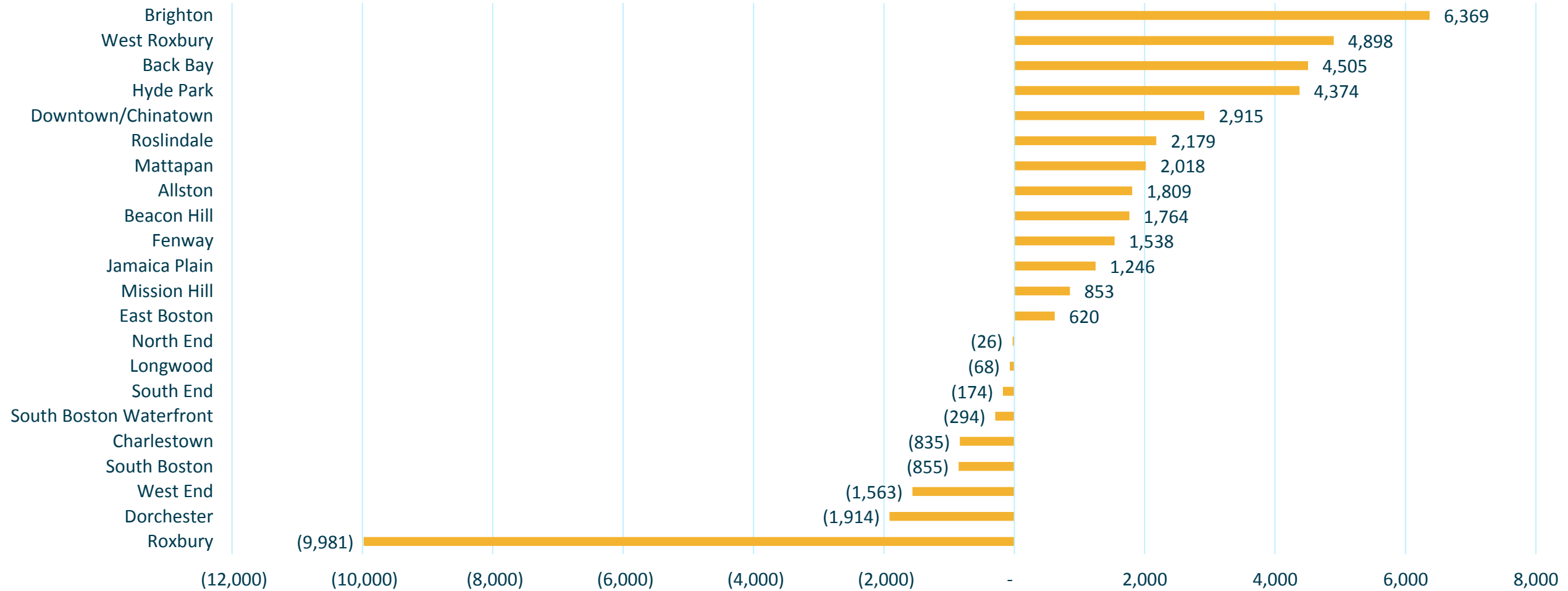
Total Housing Units by Neighborhood, 1950 & 1980



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-1980 Decennial Censuses, BPDA Research Division Analysis

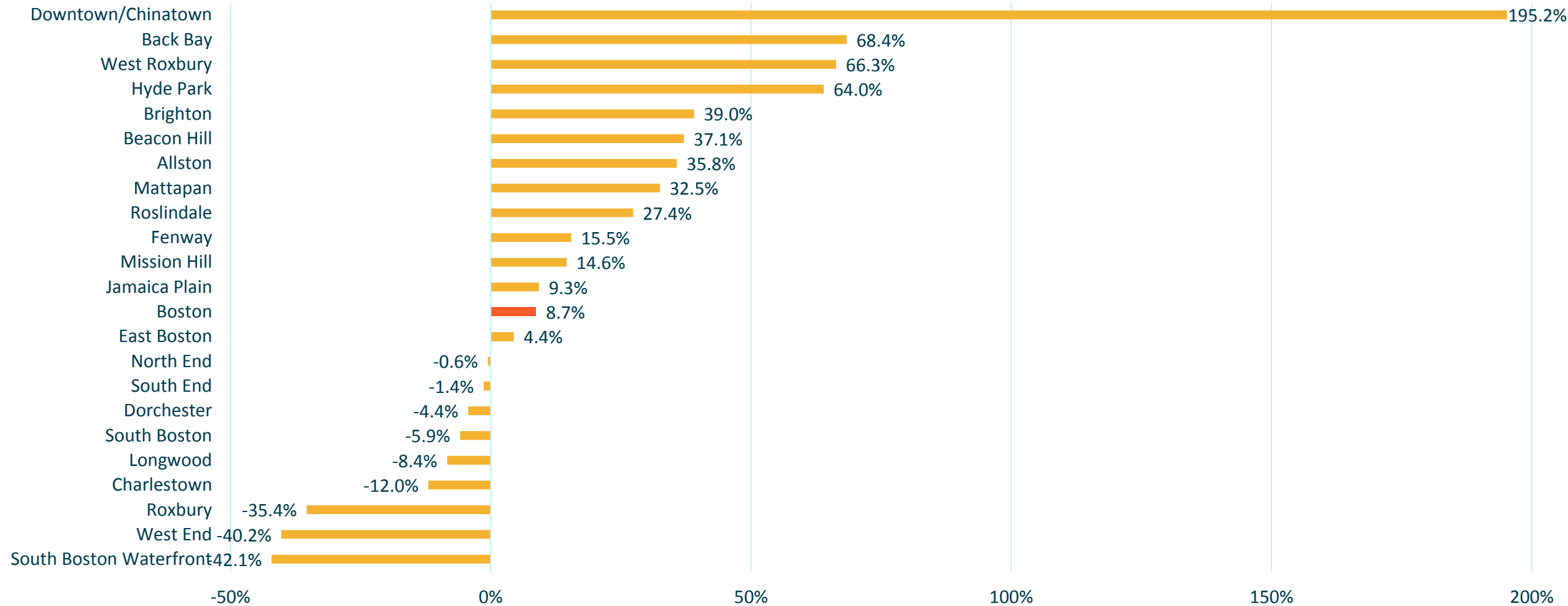
- From 1950 to 1980, Brighton, West Roxbury, Back Bay, Hyde Park, and Downtown/Chinatown gained the most housing units.
- Roxbury lost the most units (9,981), followed by Dorchester, West End, South Boston, and Charlestown.

1950 - 1980 Change in Total Housing Units



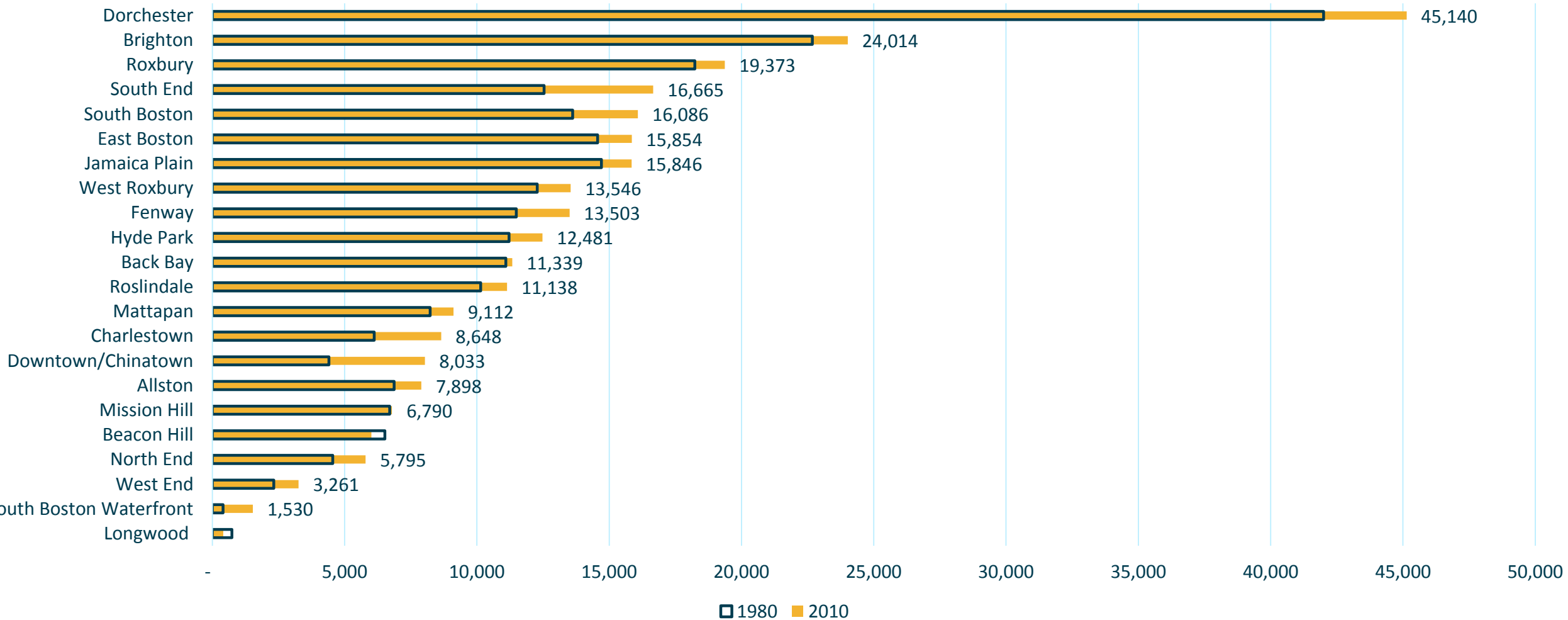
- In percentage terms, Downtown/Chinatown gained the most housing, increasing almost 200%.
- Back Bay, West Roxbury, and Hyde Park gained over 50% more housing from 1950 to 1980.
- The South Boston Waterfront lost nearly 50% of its housing, falling to just 400 units in 1980.

1950 - 1980 Change in Total Housing Units



- Boston's housing units increased from 241,444 in 1980 to 272,481 in 2010.
- Dorchester's housing increased to 45,140, back to 1950 levels.
- Roxbury reached 19,373 units, a significant increase over 1980, but still short of the 28,215 it had in 1950.

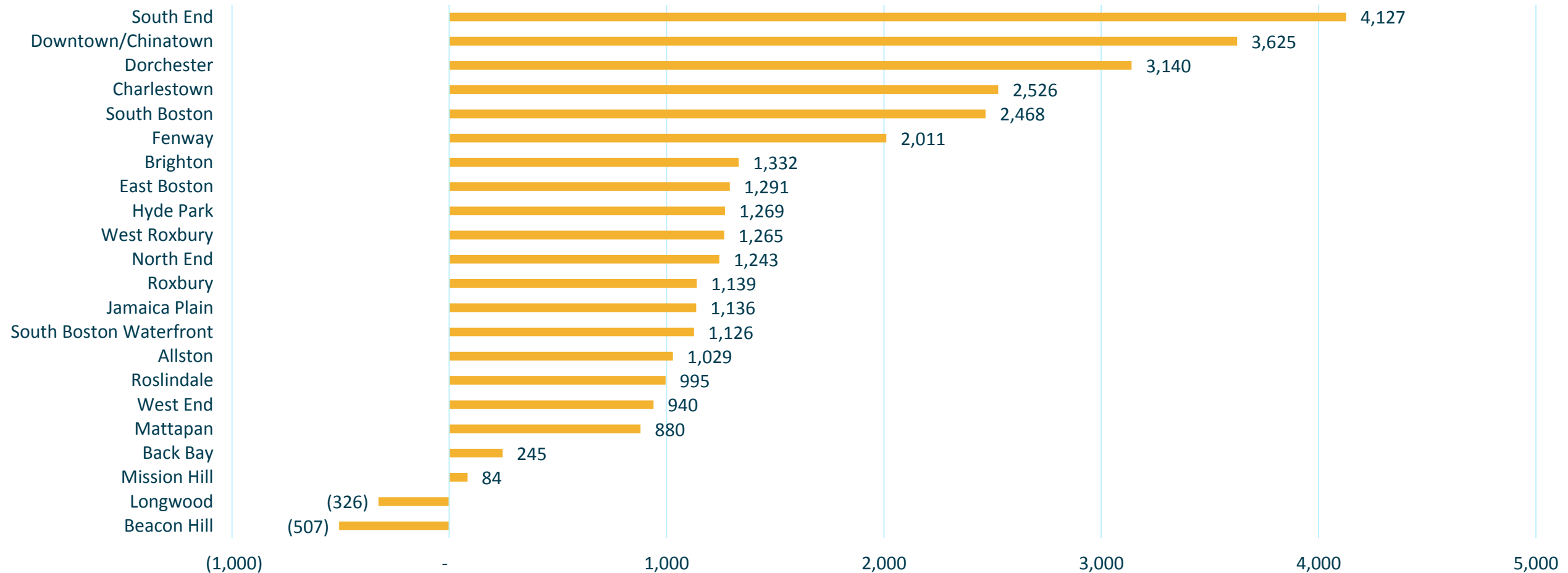
Total Housing Units by Neighborhood, 1980 & 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2010 Decennial Censuses, BPDA Research Division Analysis

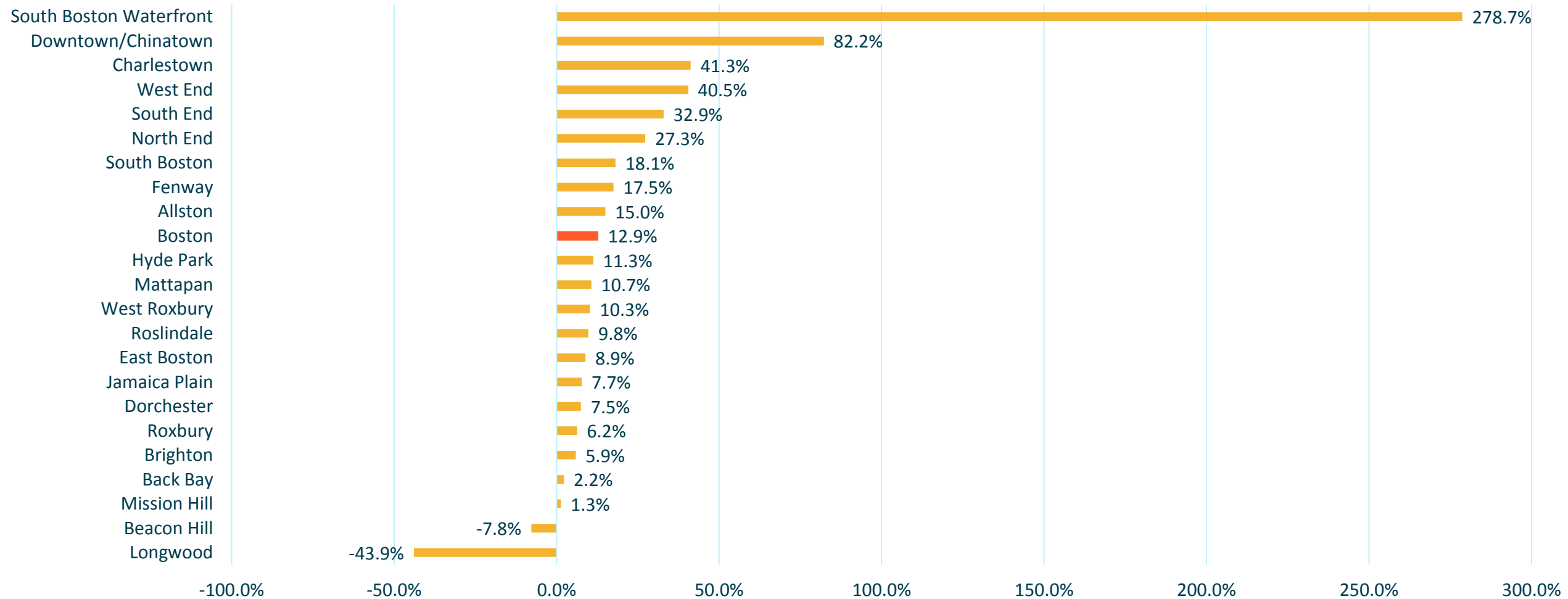
- Boston added 31,000 housing units from 1980 to 2010.
- The South End added the most housing since 1980, at 4,127, followed by the Downtown/Chinatown, Dorchester, Charlestown and South Boston.
- Longwood and Beacon Hill had a net loss in housing units.

1980 - 2010 Change in Total Housing Units



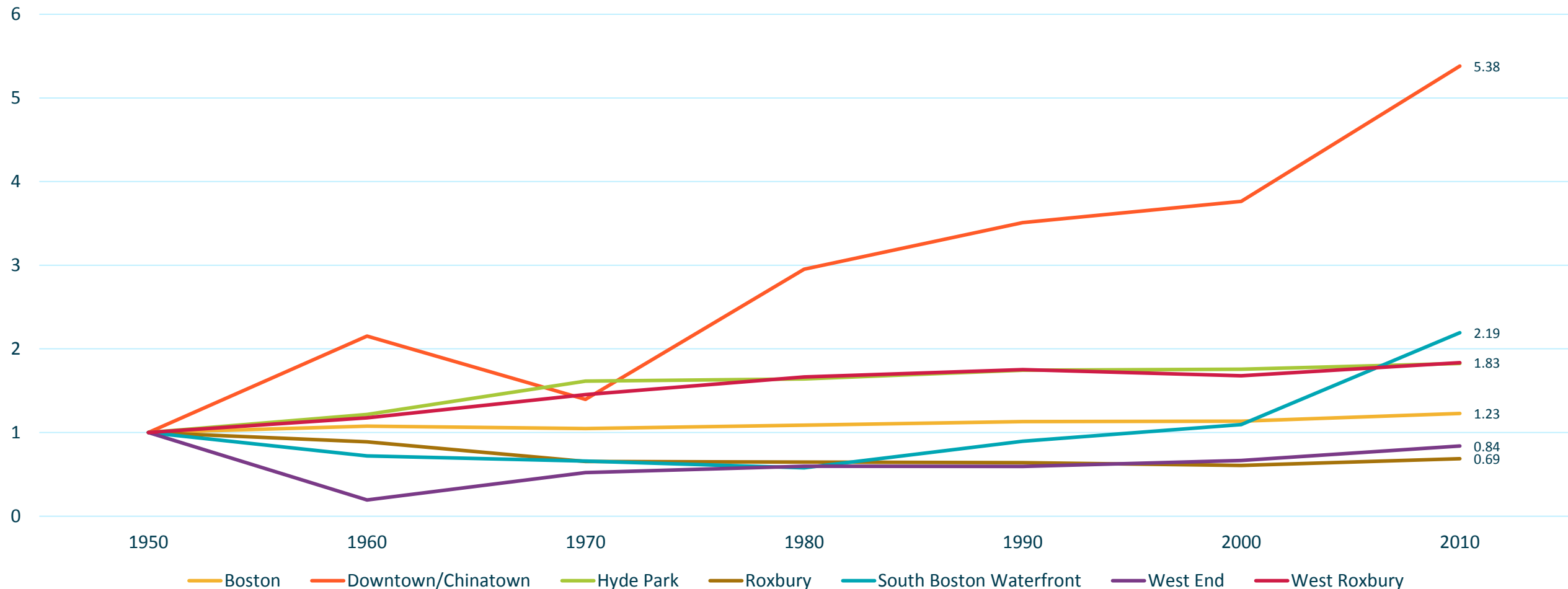
- After a 42% decrease in housing from 1950, the South Boston Waterfront had almost no housing in 1980.
- However, the South Boston Waterfront built 1,126 new units from 1980 to 2010, yielding a 279% increase in housing.
- After increasing almost 200% in the earlier time period, housing in Downtown/Chinatown rose another 82% from 1980 to 2015, with 3,625 additional units.

1980 - 2010 Change in Total Housing Units



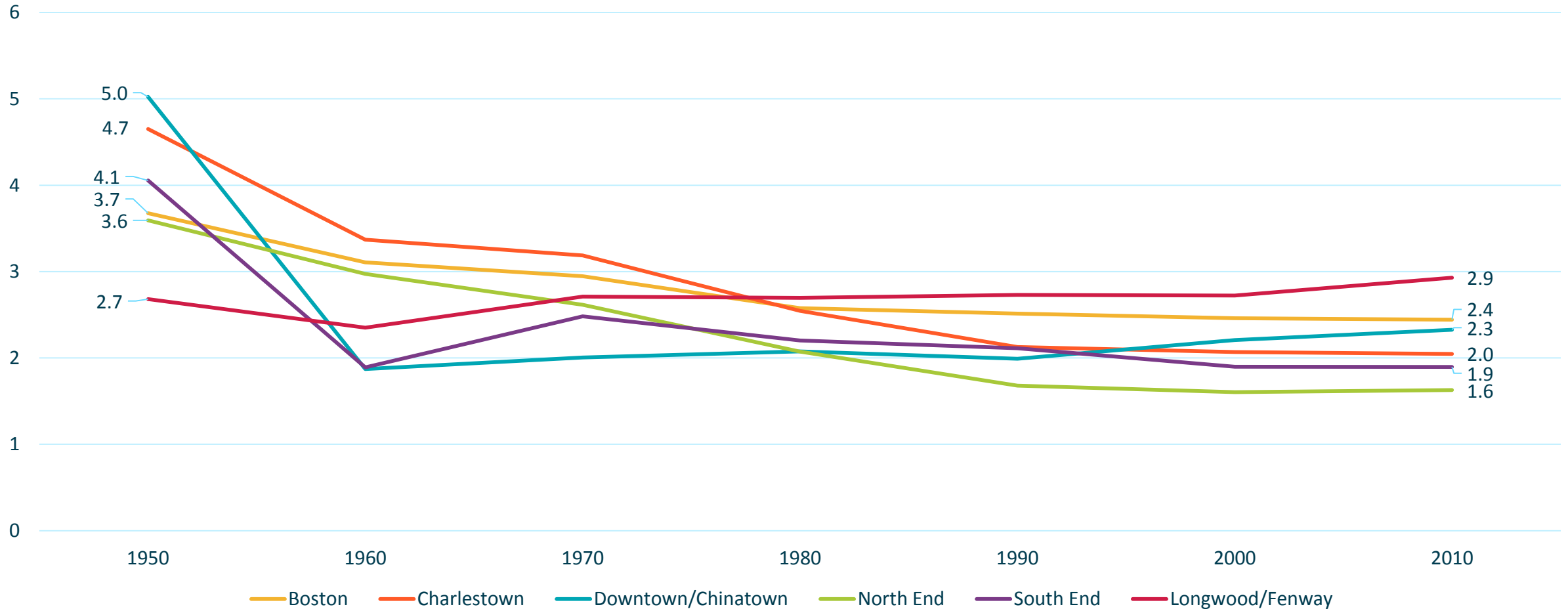
- In 2010, Downtown/Chinatown had five times as many housing units as in 1950 and the South Boston Waterfront has more than twice as many.
- In contrast, Roxbury and the West End had only 69 and 84 percent of the housing units that they had in 1950.

Ratio of 2010 Total Housing Units to 1950 Housing Units



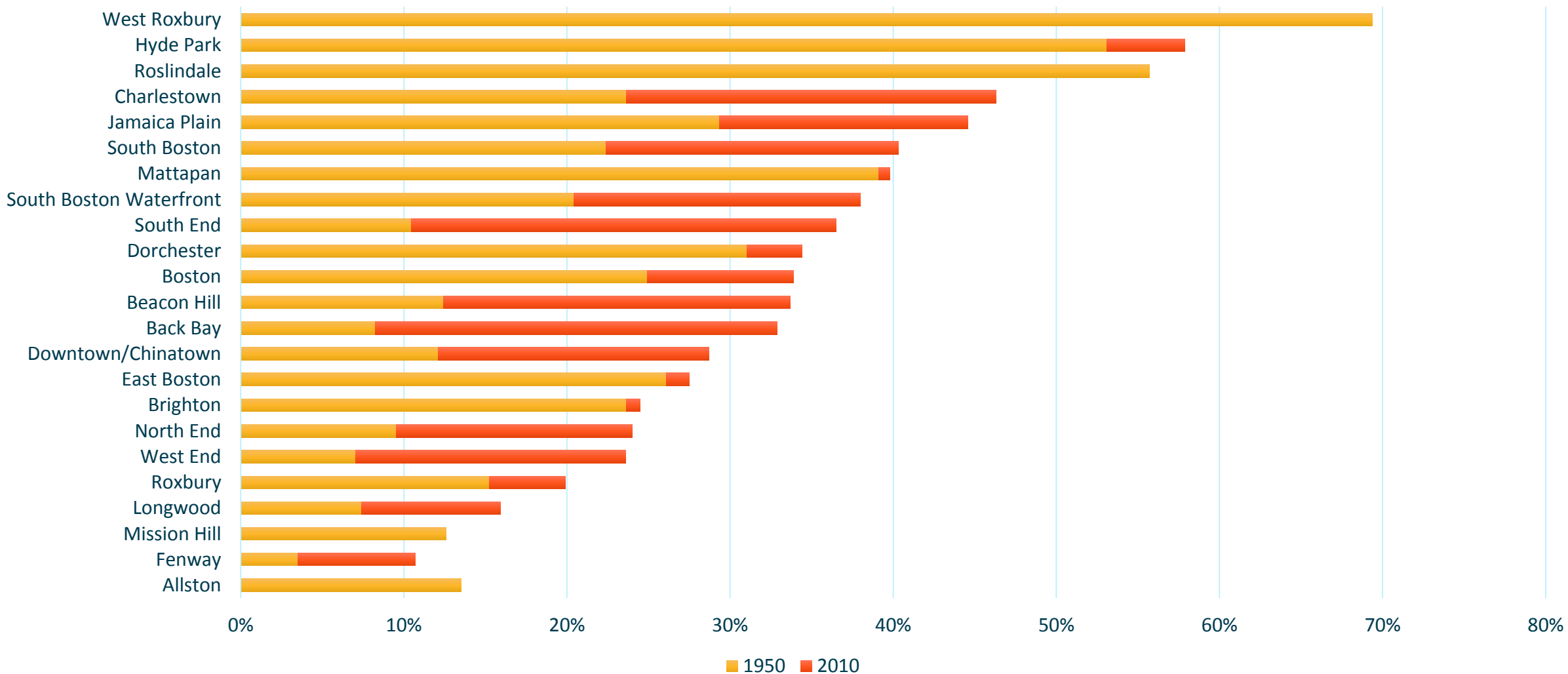
- The ratio of population to occupied housing units in Boston has fallen from 3.7 to 2.4 from 1950 to 2010.
- Downtown/Chinatown's ratio fell from 5.0 in 1950 to 2.3 in 1960 due to housing growth and population loss.
- Longwood/Fenway's ratio has risen due to the increasing share of population housed in dormitories.

Ratio of Population to Occupied Housing Units



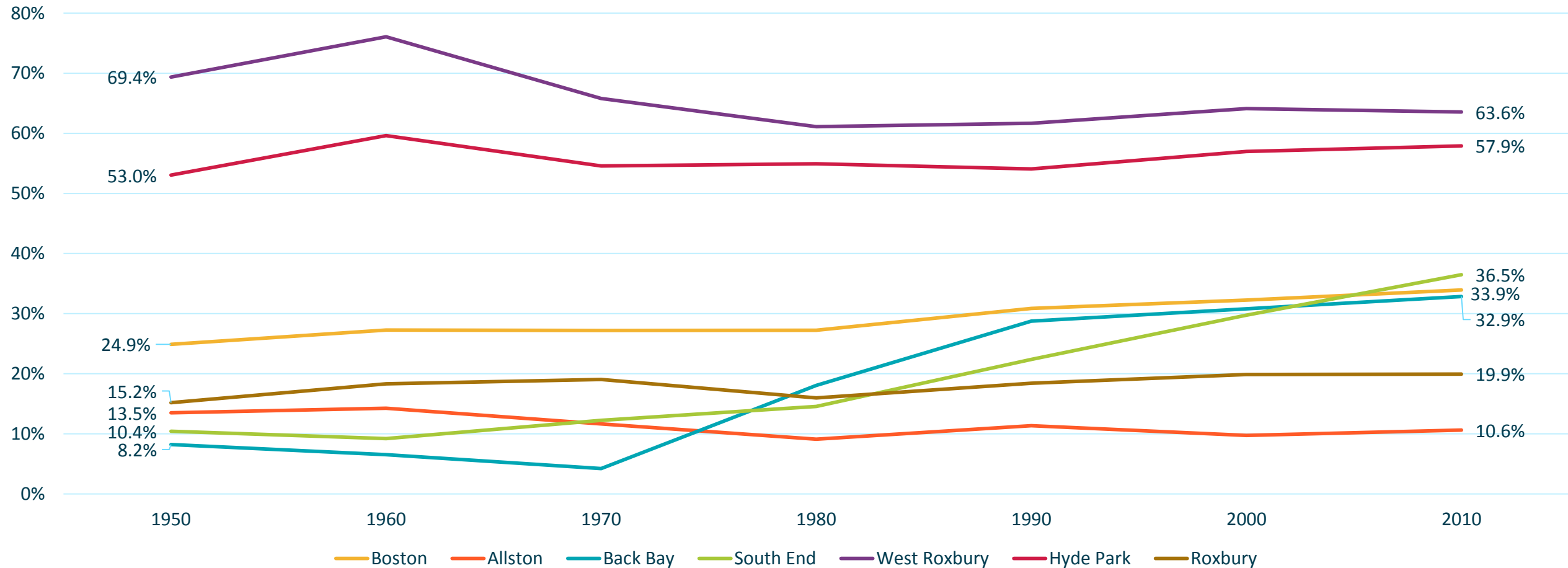
- Since 1950, Boston's owner occupancy rate increased from 25% to 34%, still much lower than the U.S. rate of 64%.
- Owner occupancy has increased dramatically in Charlestown, South Boston, South End, Beacon Hill, and Back Bay.
- Owner occupancy has fallen slightly in West Roxbury, Brighton, Mission Hill, and Allston.

Neighborhoods by Owner Occupancy Rate, 1950 and 2010

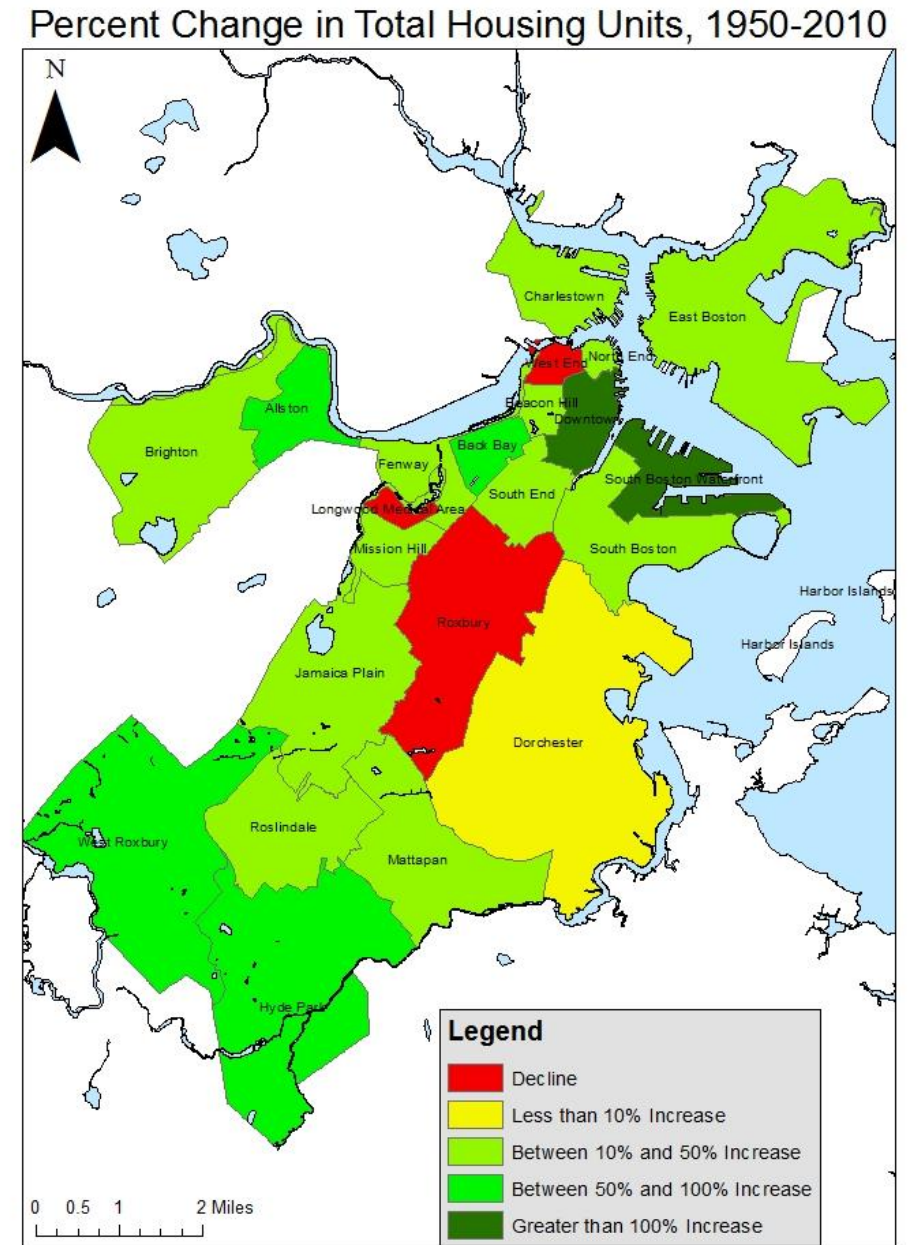


- Back Bay and South End saw large increases in owner occupancy rates.
- Owner occupancy in Allston fell from 14% to 11%.
- West Roxbury continues to have the highest owner occupancy rate, although it has fallen slightly from 69% to 64%.

Owner Occupancy Rate, 1950-2010

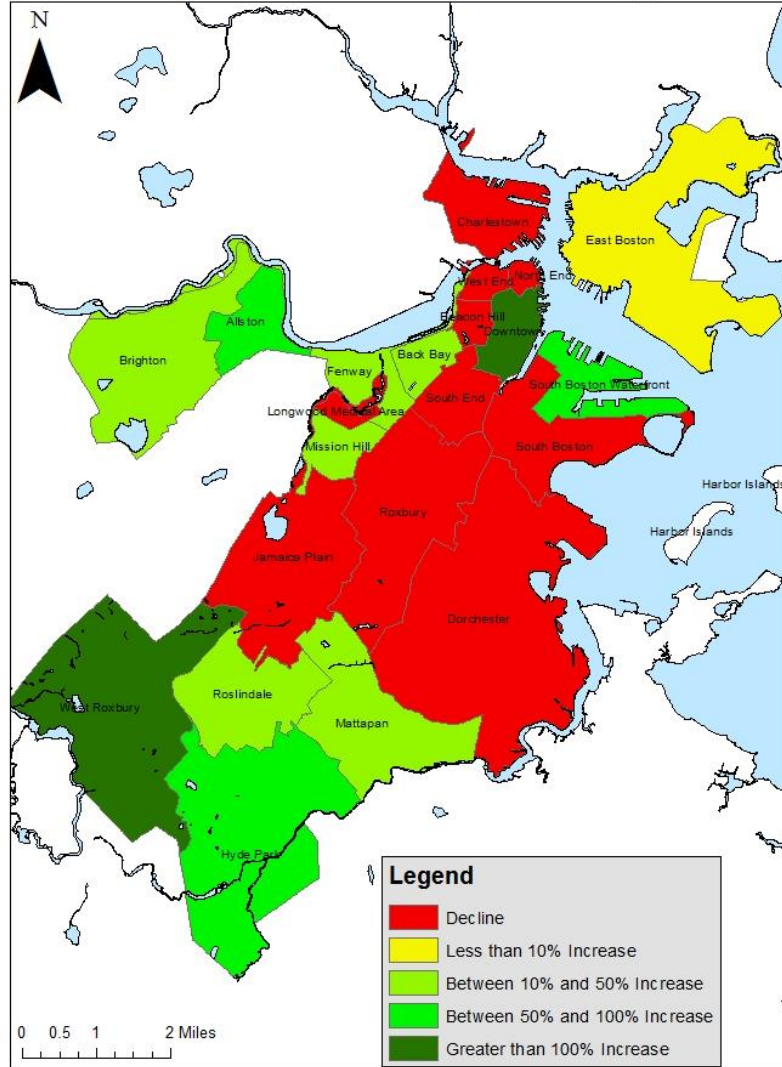


- Only three neighborhoods had fewer housing units in 2010 than in 1950: West End, Longwood, and Roxbury.
- Downtown/Chinatown and South Boston Waterfront more than doubled their units in the 60 year period. Both, however, had relatively few units in 1950.

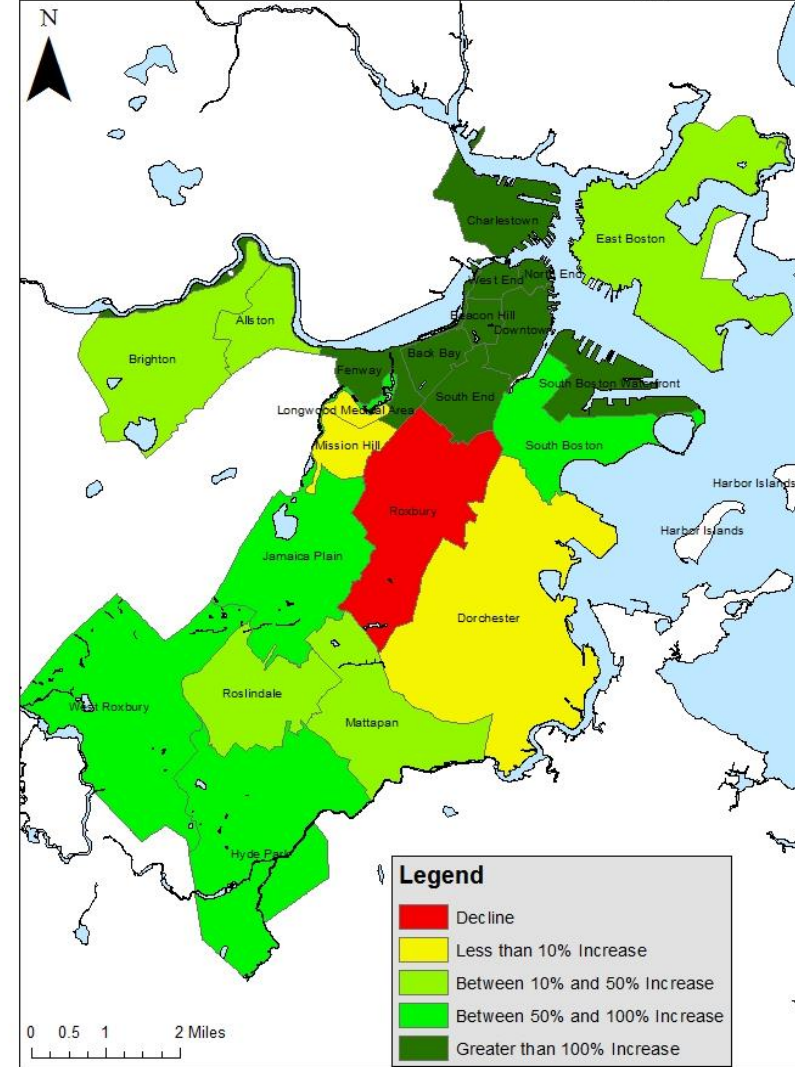


- From 1950 to 2010, owner-occupied housing grew rapidly in the neighborhoods surrounding Downtown.
- Several neighborhoods saw a decline in renter-occupied housing from 1950 to 2010.
- Roxbury also saw a decline in owner-occupied housing.

Percent Change in Renter-Occupied Housing, 1950-2010



Percent Change in Owner-Occupied Housing, 1950-2010



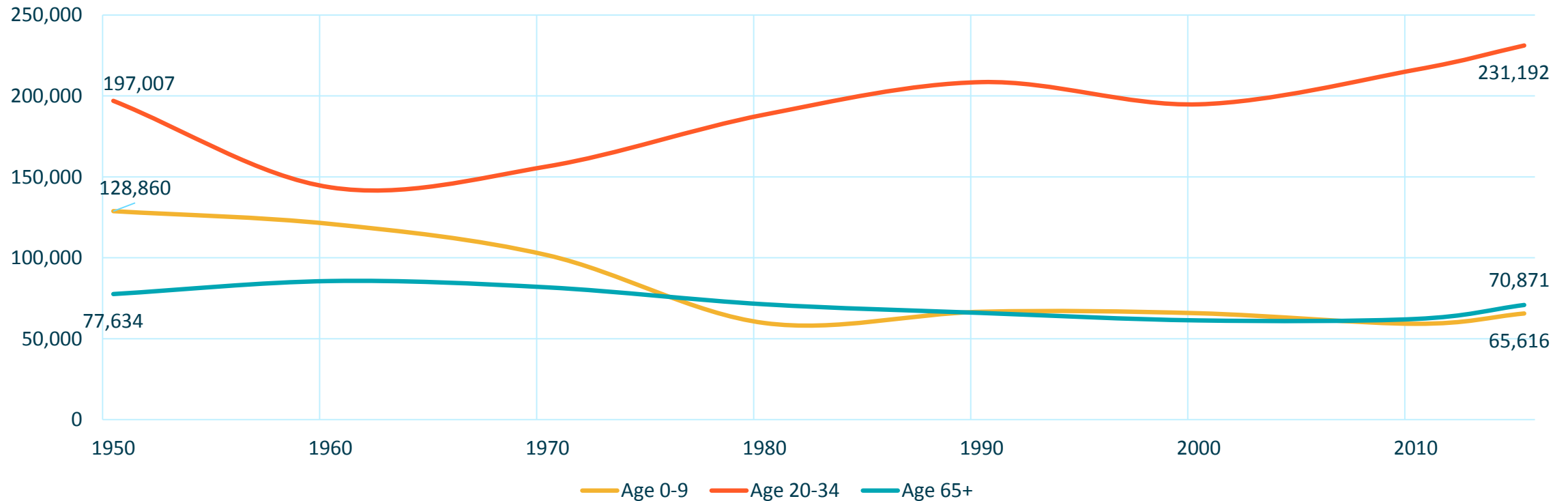
3.

AGE DISTRIBUTION TRENDS



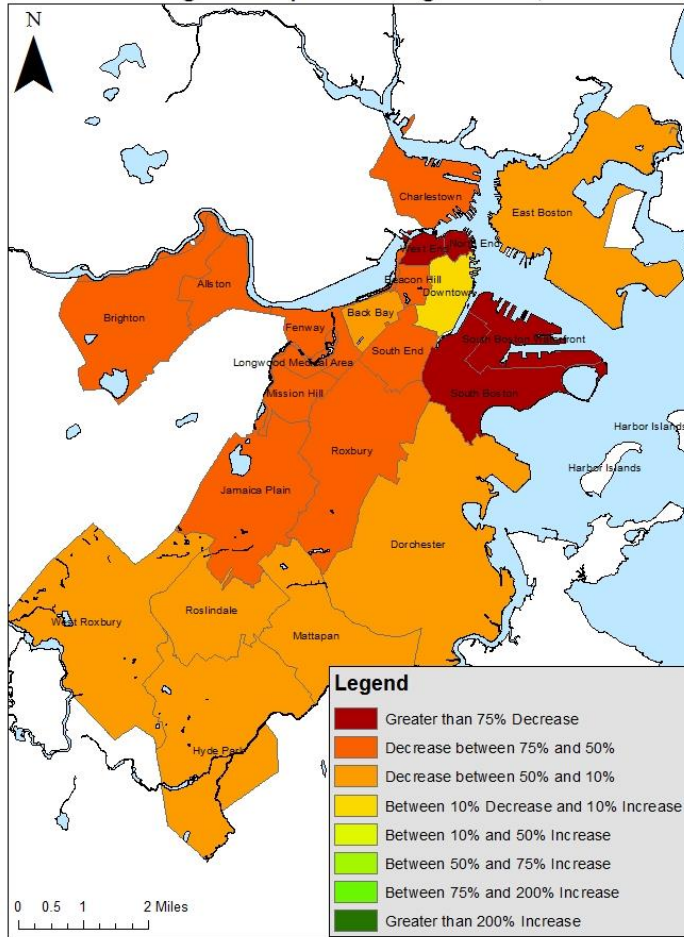
- The young adult (aged 20 to 34) population in Boston experienced decreases in 1960 and 2000, but has overall been on an upward trend.
- The aged 0-9 population has fallen, with the largest decrease happening between 1970 and 1980. The elderly population has also fallen since 1950, although at a slower rate.
- All three age groups shown here have seen an uptick in population from 2010 to 2015.

Boston Population by Selected Age Groups, 1950-2015

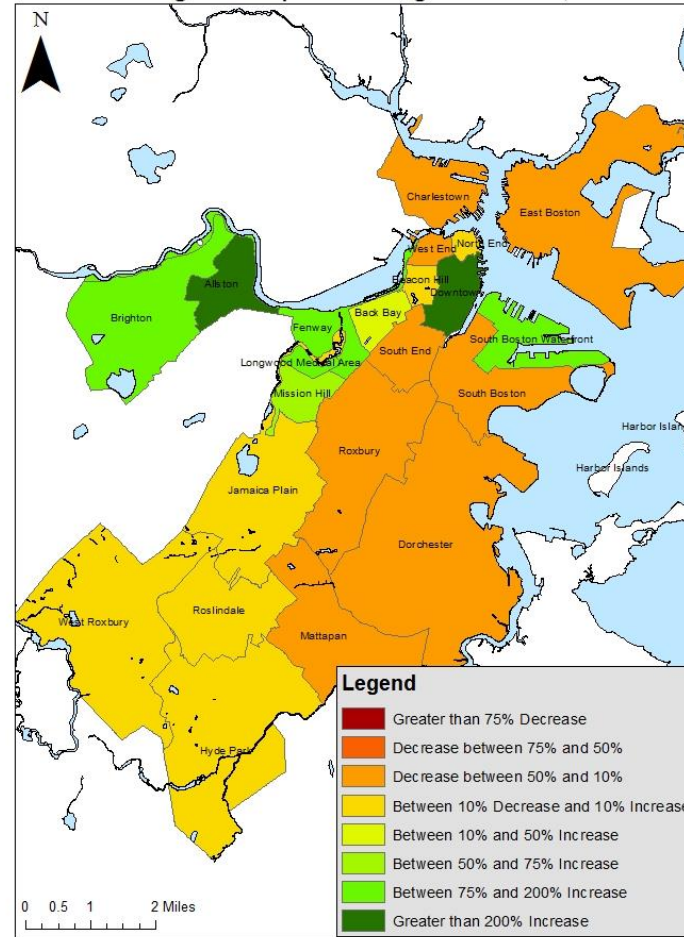


- The population aged 0 to 9 declined in all neighborhoods from 1950 to 2010, except in Downtown, where the child population grew by 4%.
- The young adult population (20 to 34) grew fastest in the college neighborhoods (Allston/Brighton, Fenway), and the urban core.
- Seniors grew fastest in the outer residential neighborhoods in the southern part of the City and in Downtown.

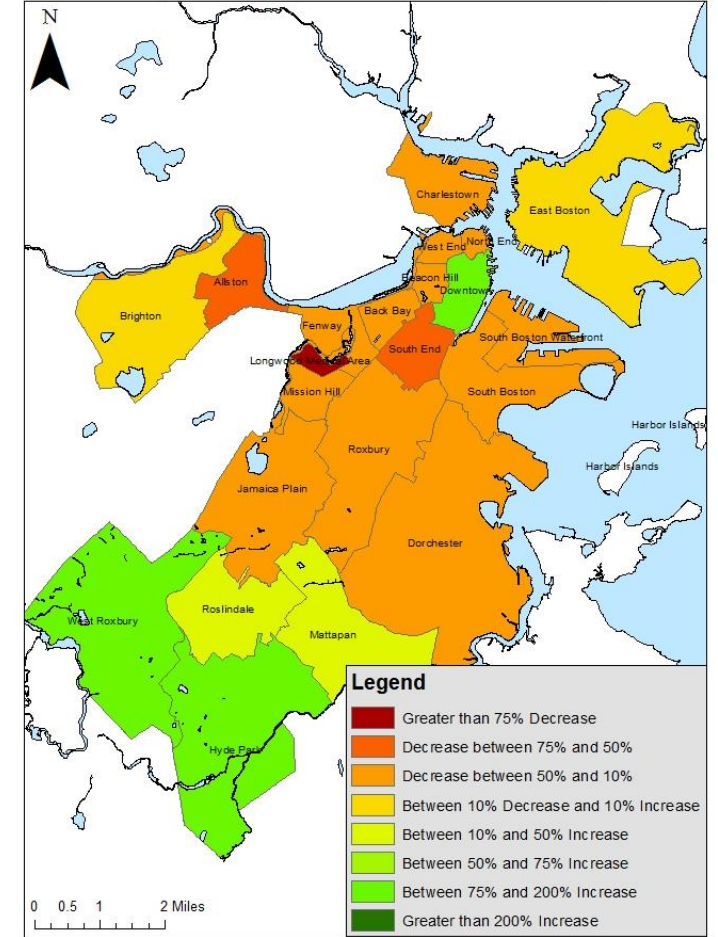
Percent Change in Population Age 0 to 9, 1950-2010



Percent Change in Population Age 20 to 34, 1950-2010

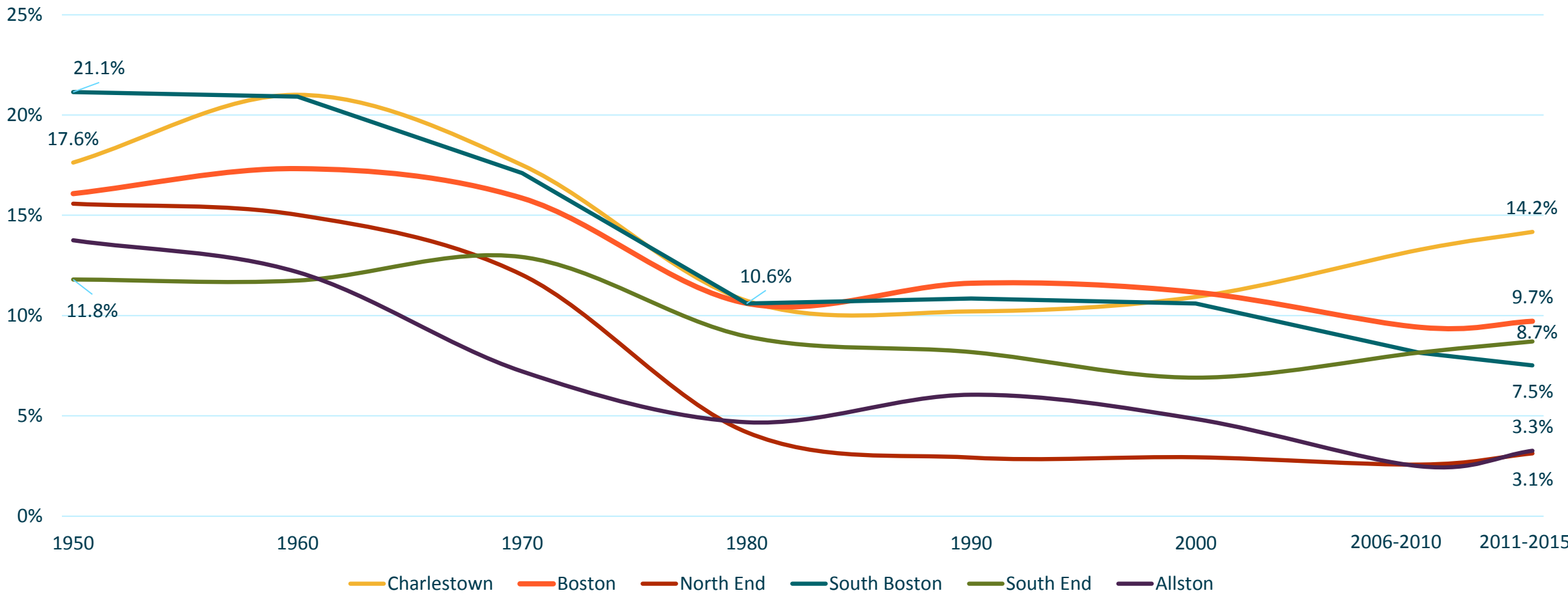


Percent Change in Population Age 65 and Over, 1950-2010



- Children, birth to age nine, fell from 15.6% to 9.7% of the city's population from 1950 to 2015.
- In South Boston, the population share of young children fell from 21% to 7.5%.
- Allston, Longwood, Fenway, North End, and South Boston Waterfront have almost no young children – 3% or lower share.

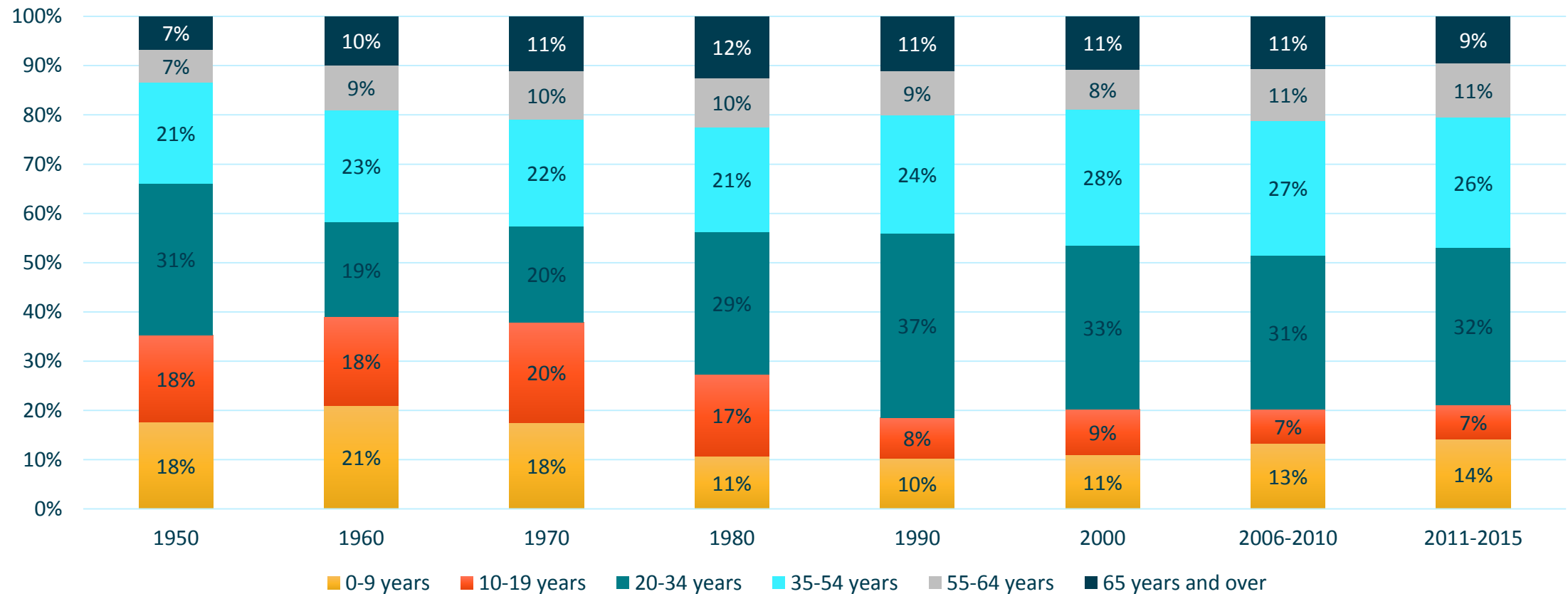
Population Share Age 0 to 9



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

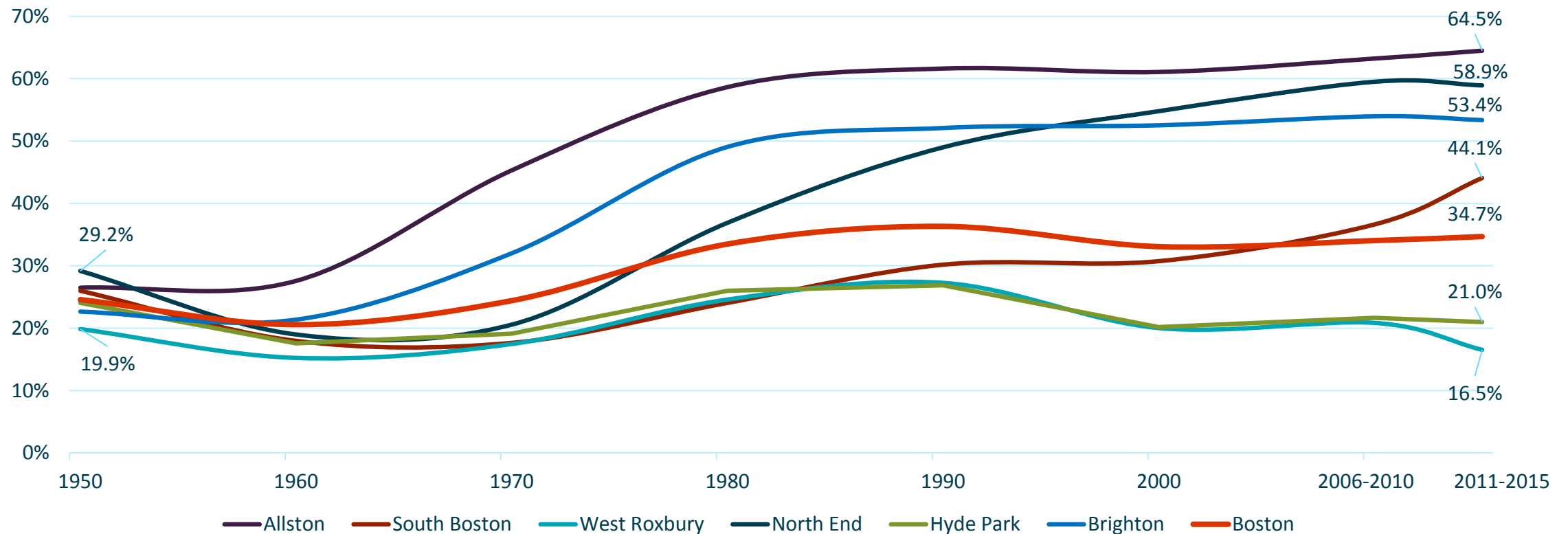
- Charlestown is currently the Boston neighborhood with the highest share of children birth to age nine at 14%.
- The share of young children in Charlestown declined from 1950 to 1990, but has been since rising.
- However, Charlestown has a small share of 10-19 year olds – only 7% compared to 18% in 1950.

Charlestown Population by Age



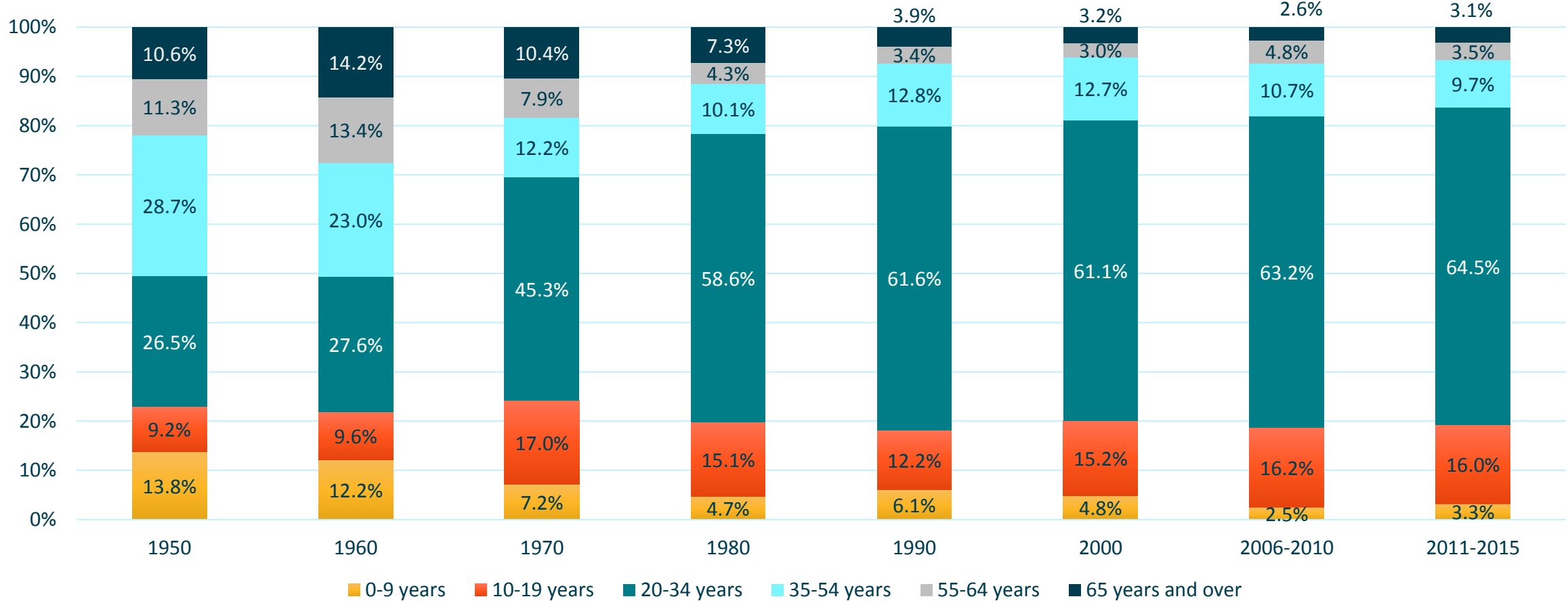
- The population share of young adults aged 20 to 34 in Boston has increased since 1950, from 25 percent to 35 percent of the city as a whole.
- In 1950, residents aged 20 to 34 made up between 20% and 30% of residents of almost all Boston neighborhoods.
- In 2015, over half of the populations of Allston, the North End, Fenway, Brighton, Beacon Hill, and Longwood were between the ages of 20 and 34.
- Meanwhile, the young adult share of West Roxbury's population has fallen to 16.5%.

20 to 34 Year Old Population Share



- Allston’s age distribution has changed dramatically from a balanced mix in 1950 to a large share of young adults in 2015.
- 74% of Allston’s population is between 18 and 34.
- Allston has very few young children or older adults – children under 10, adults 55-64, and seniors 65 and over each make up only about 3% of the Allston population.

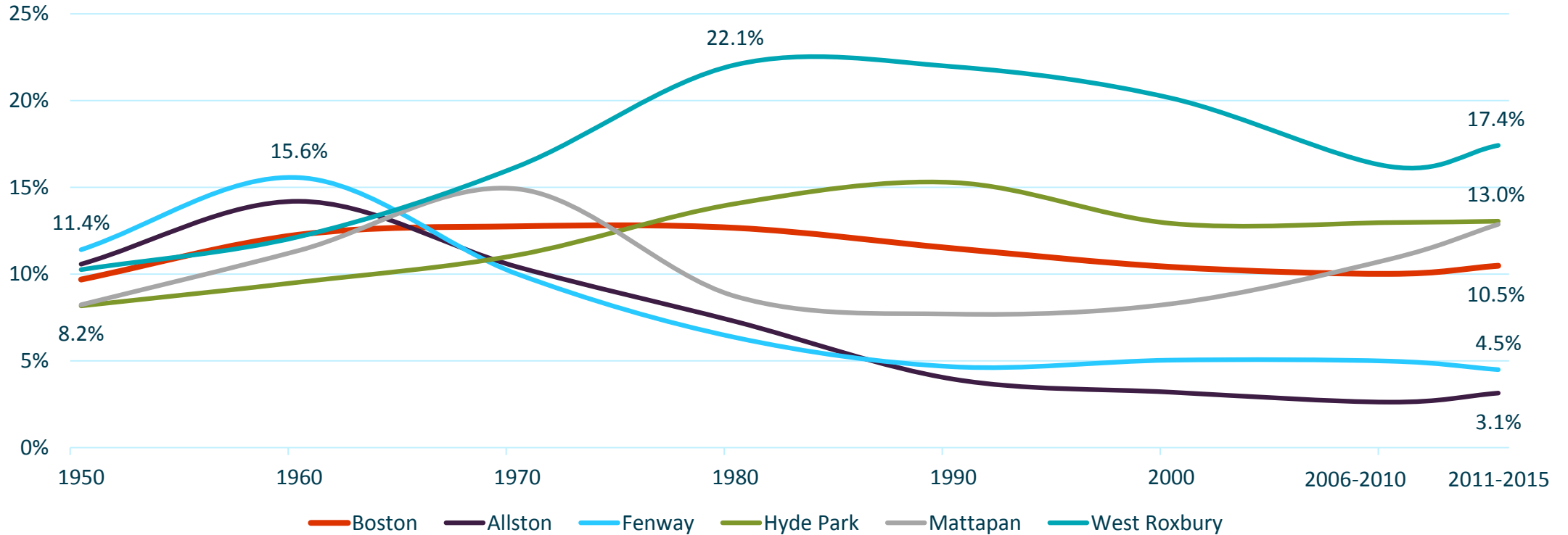
Allston Population by Age Group



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

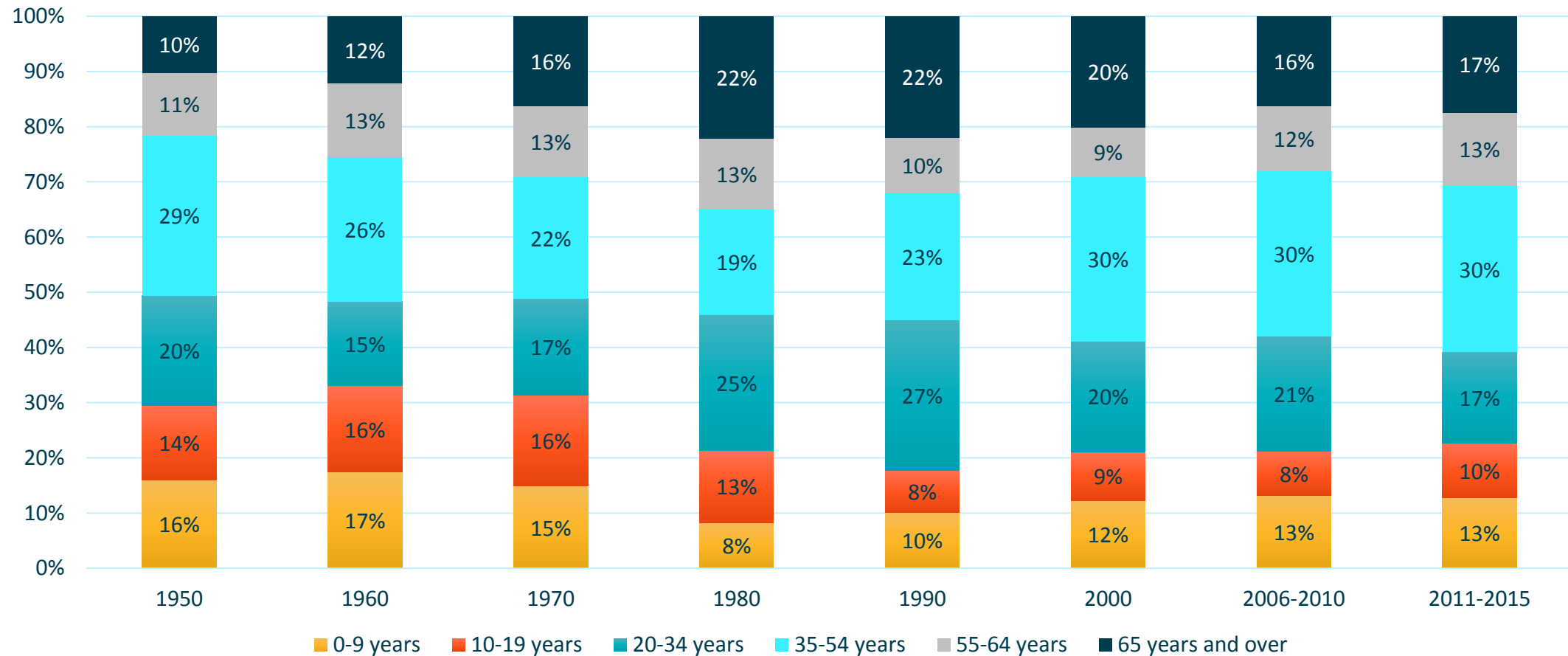
- The share of Boston’s population that is aged 65+ has stayed about the same since 1950, ranging from 10% to 13%.
- The elderly share in West Roxbury rose to a peak of 22% in 1980 before falling to 17%.
- The elderly share in Allston fell from a peak of 14% in 1960 to a low of 3% in 2010.

Age 65+ Population by Neighborhood



- In contrast to Allston, West Roxbury has maintained a more balanced age distribution.
- West Roxbury has the highest share of population over age 65 of any neighborhood – 17%.
- West Roxbury has the lowest share of population ages 20-34 of any neighborhood – also 17%.

West Roxbury Population by Age Group



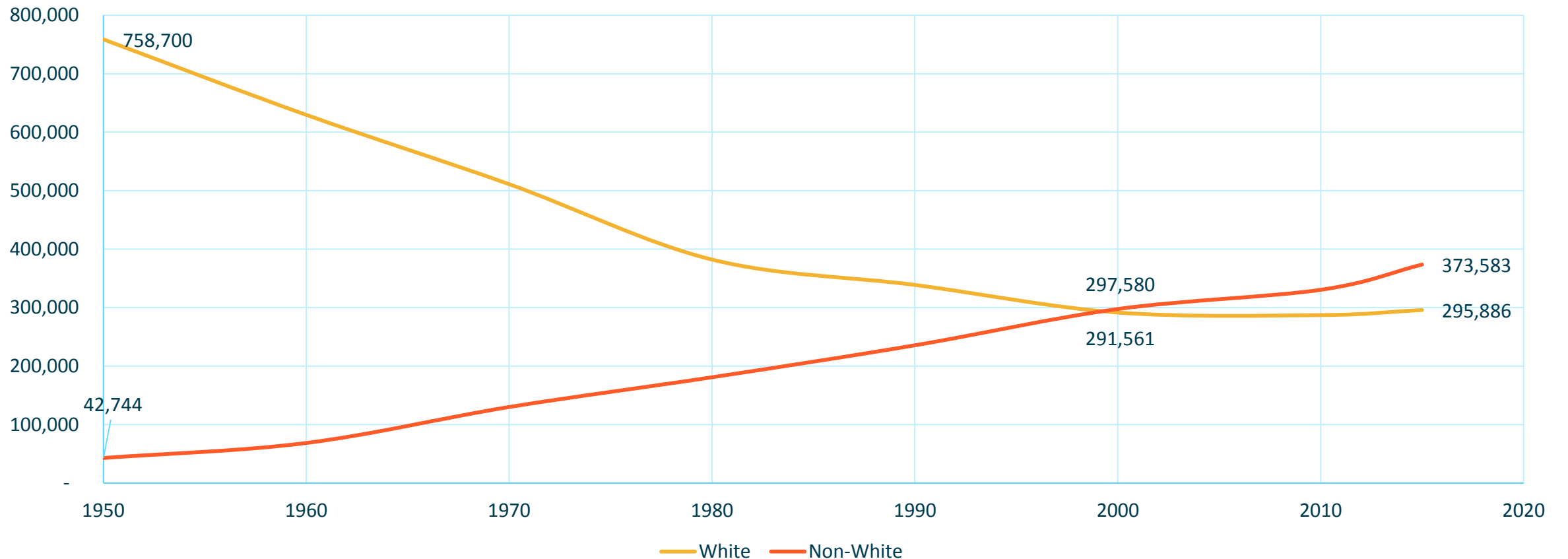
4.

TRENDS in RACE & ETHNICITY



- In 1950, Boston was only 5.3% non-White, but Boston’s Hispanic and non-White populations have grown consistently since then.
- Boston’s non-Hispanic White population fell from 1950 to 2010, before a small increase to 2015.
- Boston became a majority-minority city in 2000, and by 2015, Boston was 54.5% Hispanic or non-White.

Boston Population by Race, 1950 - 2015

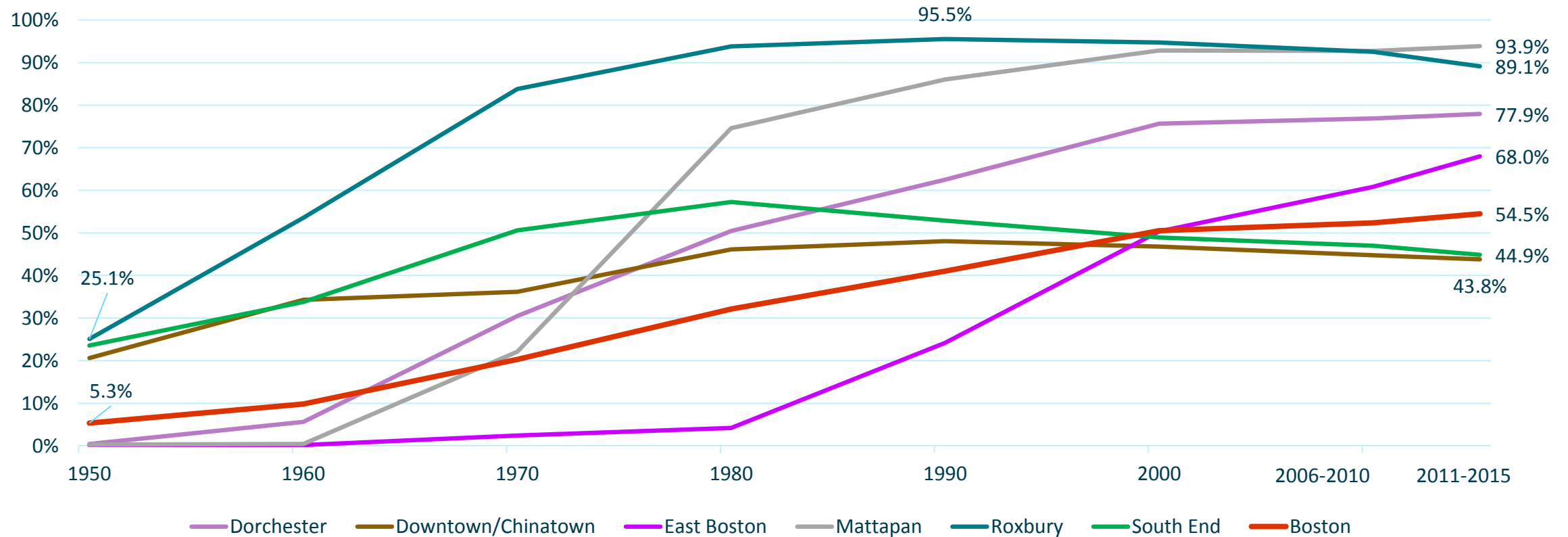


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2010 Decennial Censuses, 2015 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Note: For 1950 & 1960, “non-White” Census categories were Black/African American or “Other.” After 1970, “non-White” Census categories also include Asian and Hispanic.

- Roxbury, the South End, and Downtown/Chinatown were 20-25% Hispanic or non-White in 1950 while other neighborhoods had virtually no Hispanic or non-White population.
- By 2015, the large majority of residents of Mattapan, Roxbury, Dorchester, Hyde Park, and East Boston were Hispanic or non-White.

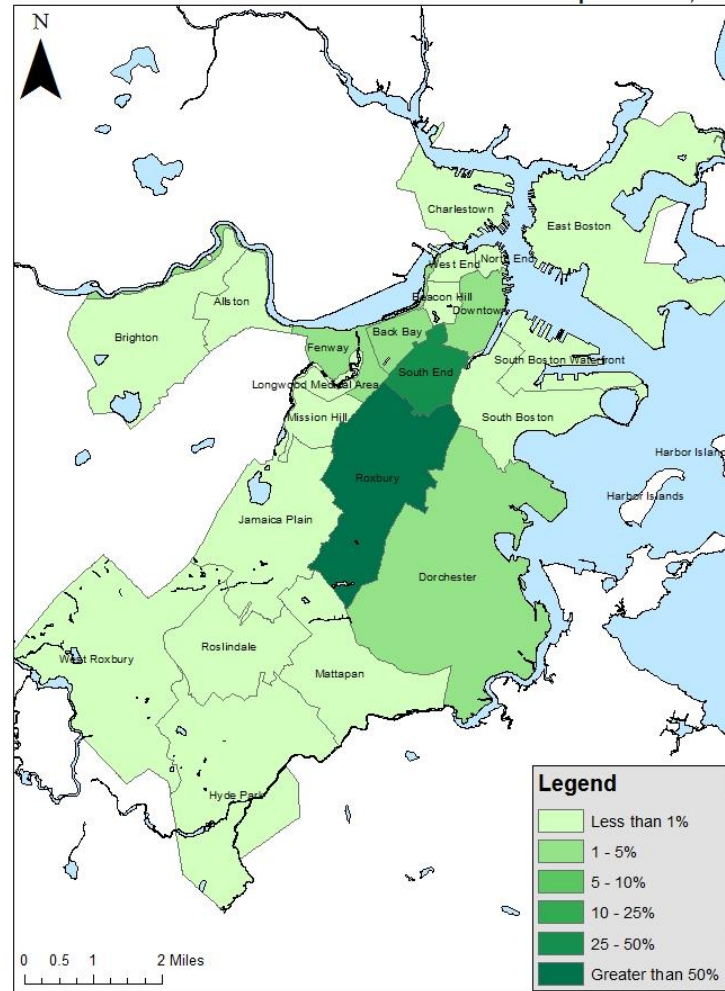
Boston's Hispanic & Non-White Population Share by Neighborhood, 1950-2015



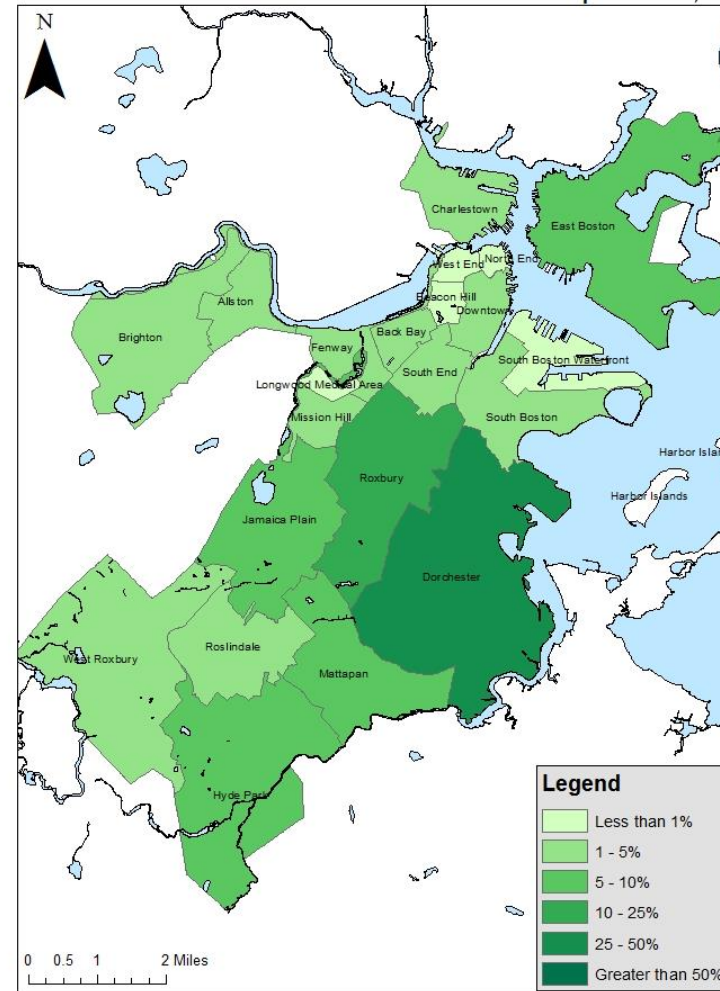
Note: For 1950 & 1960, "non-White" Census categories were Black/African American or "Other." After 1970, "non-White" Census categories also include Asian and Hispanic.

- While Boston's non-White population was smaller in 1950, it was also more concentrated. In 1950, 86% of Boston's small non-White population lived in Roxbury or the South End.
- By 2015, the non-White population had grown significantly and spread into other neighborhoods, notably Dorchester, East Boston, Hyde Park, and Mattapan.

Percent Share of Total Boston Nonwhite Population, 1950



Percent Share of Total Boston Nonwhite Population, 2015

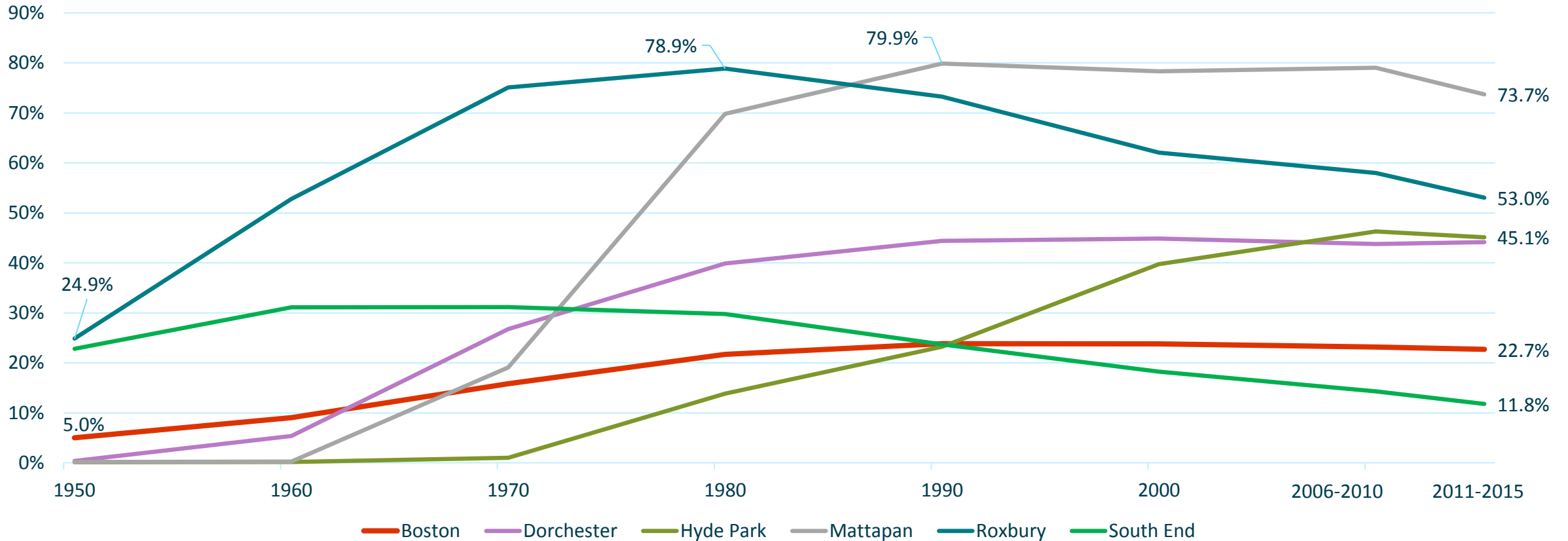


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950 Decennial Census, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Note: For 1950 & 1960, "non-White" Census categories were Black/African American or "Other". After 1970, "non-White" Census categories also include Asian and Hispanic.

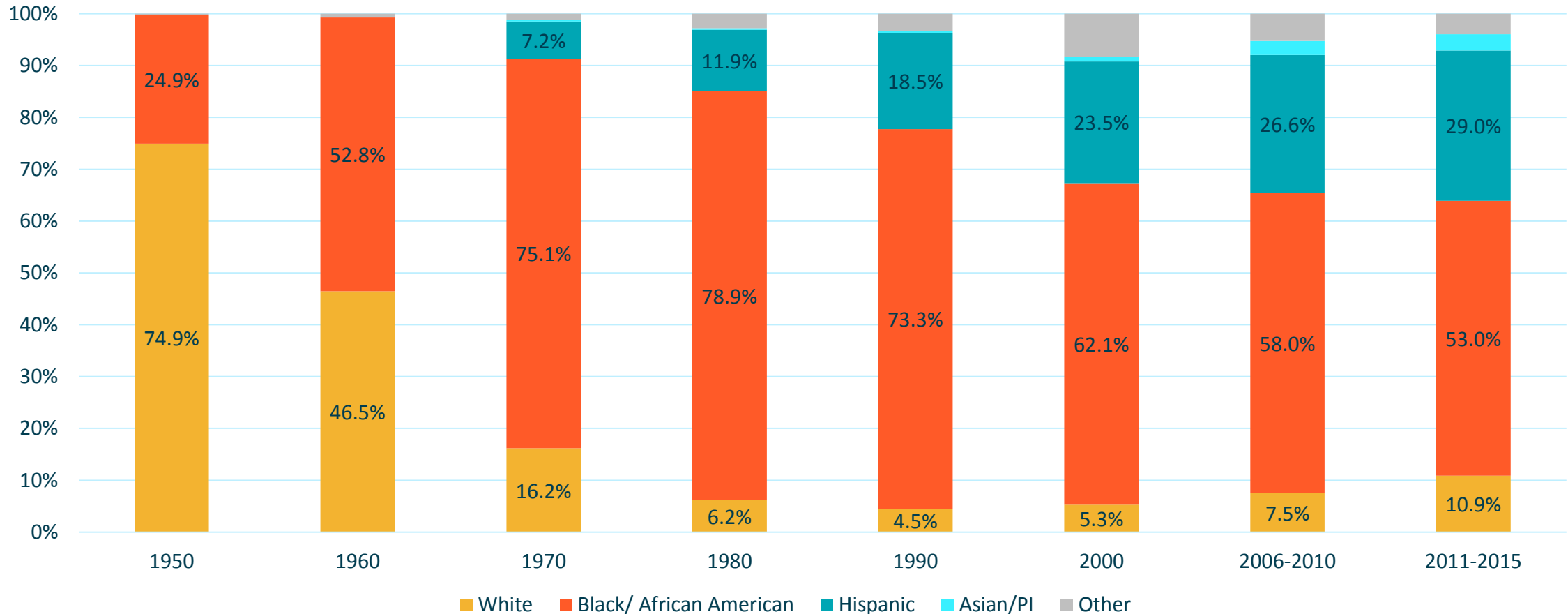
- The Black/African-American share of Boston’s population increased from 5% in 1950 to about 23% in 1990, and has remained steady since then.
- The Black/African-American share of Roxbury’s population rose from 25% in 1950 to a peak of 79% in 1980 before falling back to 53% in 2015.
- The Black/African-American share of Mattapan’s population rose from almost none in 1950 to 74% in 2015.

Black/African-American Share of Boston’s Population, 1950-2015



- Roxbury has maintained a substantial Black/African-American population throughout the time period.
- Roxbury's large population loss from 1950 to 1980 was largely due to a declining White population.
- Since 1980 Roxbury has grown, with a growing Hispanic population.

Roxbury's Population by Race/Ethnicity

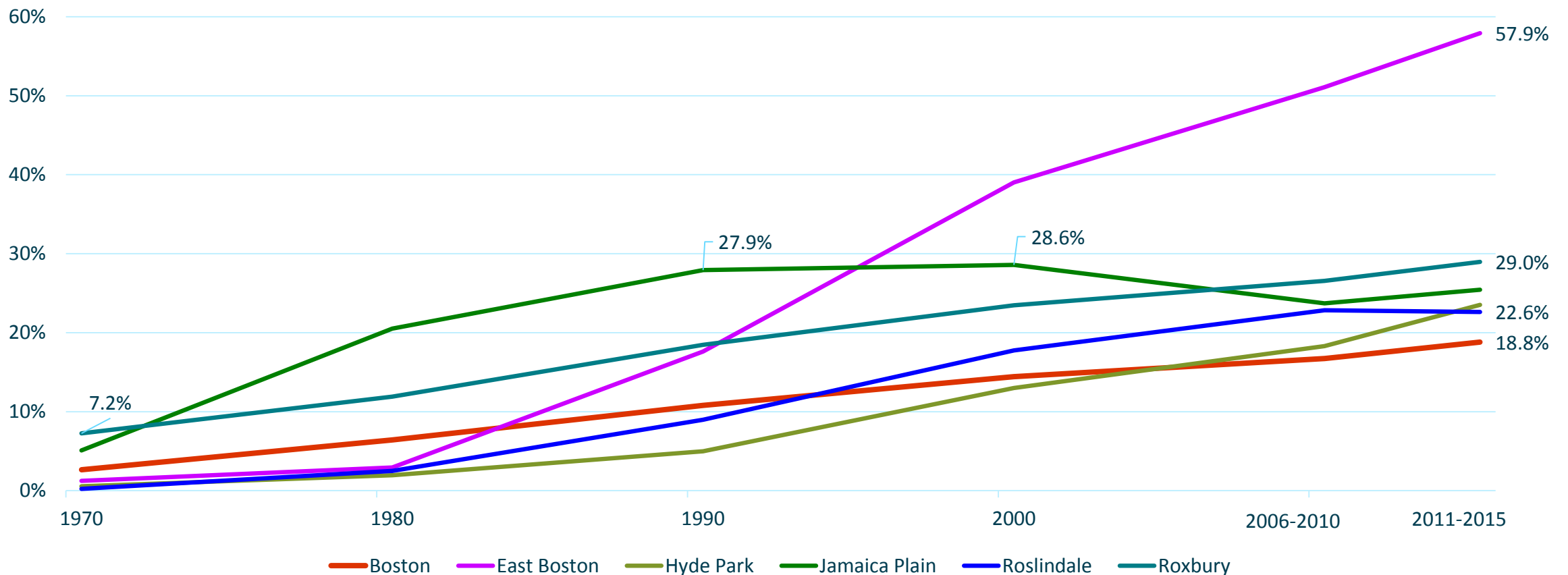


Note: Before 1970, Hispanics and Asians are not identified separately in the Census.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- The Hispanic share of Boston's population has grown from 3% in 1970 to 19% in 2015.
- The growth in the Hispanic population has been especially strong in East Boston where it has risen to 58% of the neighborhood population.
- Jamaica Plain's Hispanic population share peaked in 2000 at 29% and has since fallen slightly to 25%.

Hispanic Share of Boston's Population, 1950-2015

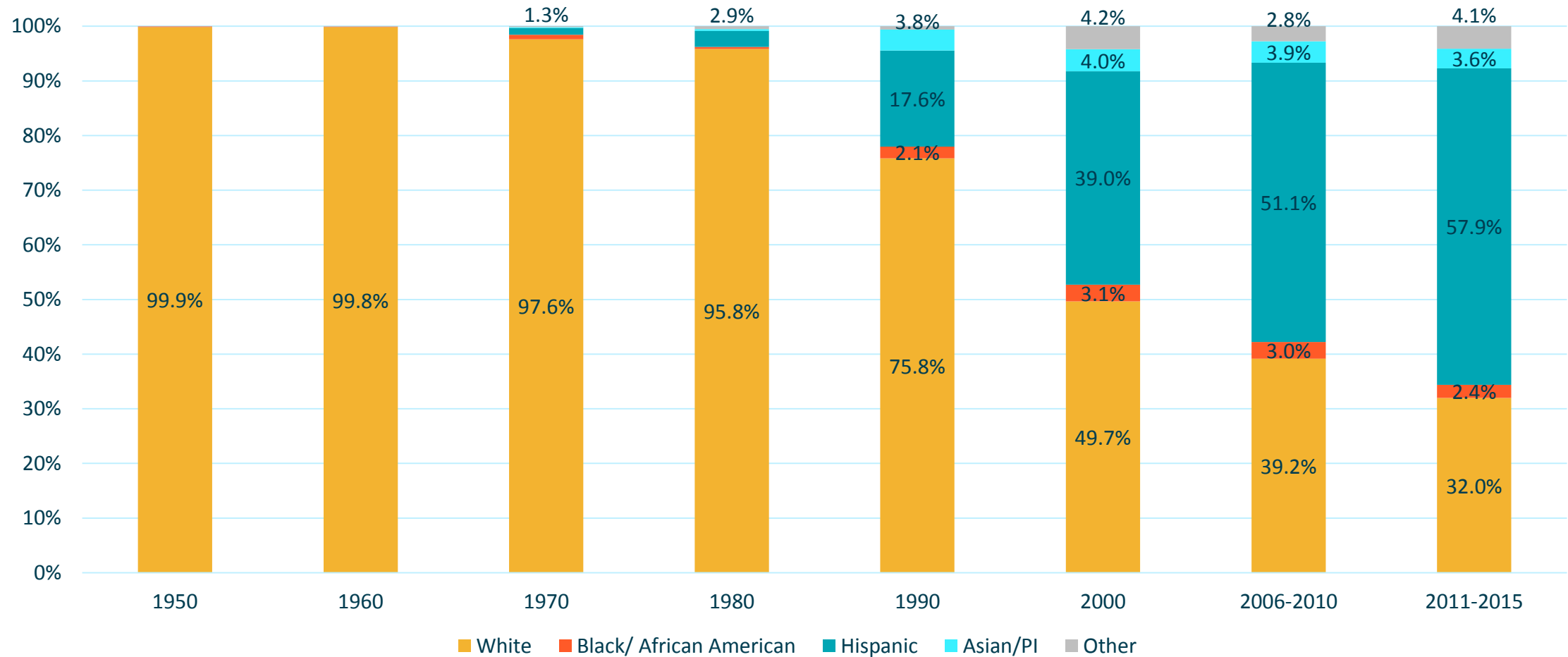


Note: Before 1970 Hispanics are not identified separately in the Census.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- East Boston’s non-Hispanic White population has been steadily declining since 1950.
- East Boston’s population growth since 1980 is predominantly due to the growing Hispanic population.

East Boston Population by Race/Ethnicity

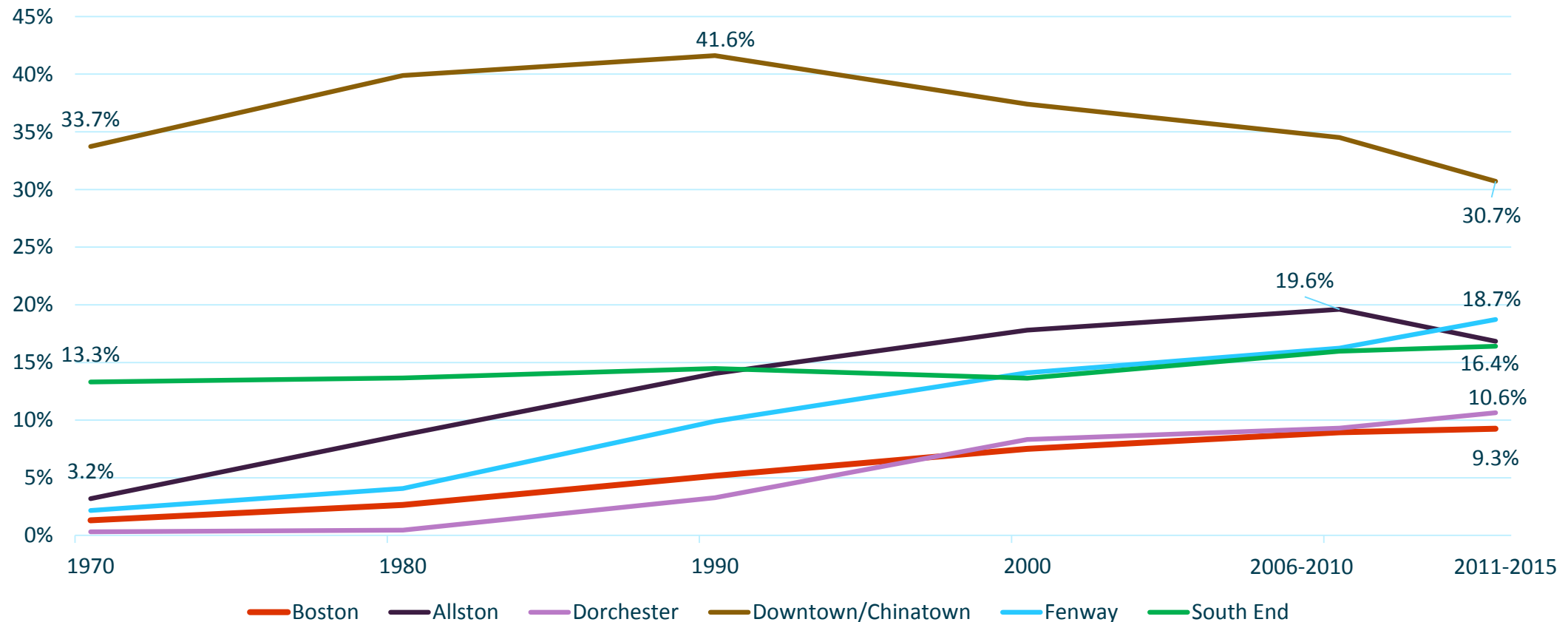


Note: Before 1970, Hispanics and Asians are not identified separately in the Census.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- Boston's Asian population has grown from 1% to 9% of the city population since 1970.
- The growth in the Asian population growth has been especially strong in Fenway where it has risen to 19% of the neighborhood population.
- Downtown/Chinatown's population share peaked in 1990 at 42% and has since fallen slightly to 31%.

Asian Share of Boston's Population, 1950-2015

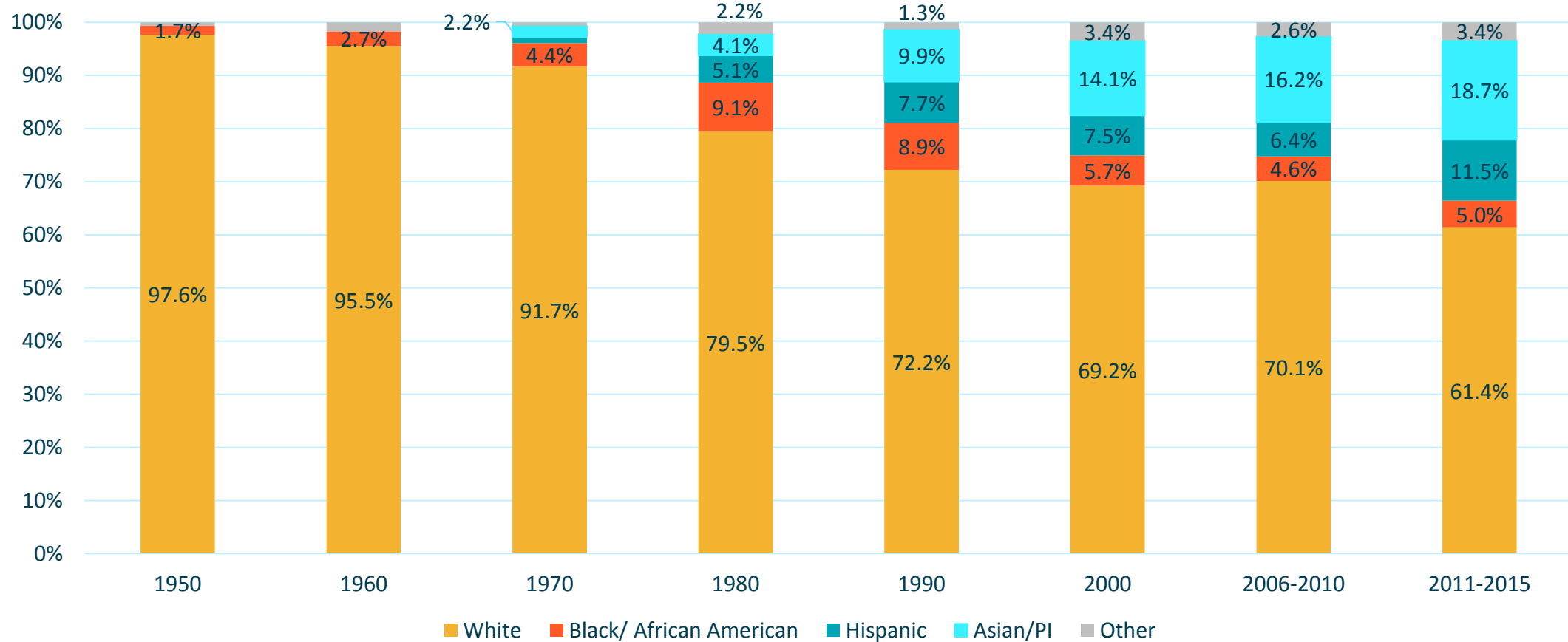


Note: Before 1970, Hispanics and Asians are not identified separately in the Census.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- The White population share in Fenway has fallen from 98% in 1950 to 61% in 2015.
- The Asian population share has increased from 2% in 1970 to 19% in 2015.

Fenway Population by Race/Ethnicity



Note: Before 1970, Hispanics and Asians are not identified separately in the Census.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

5.

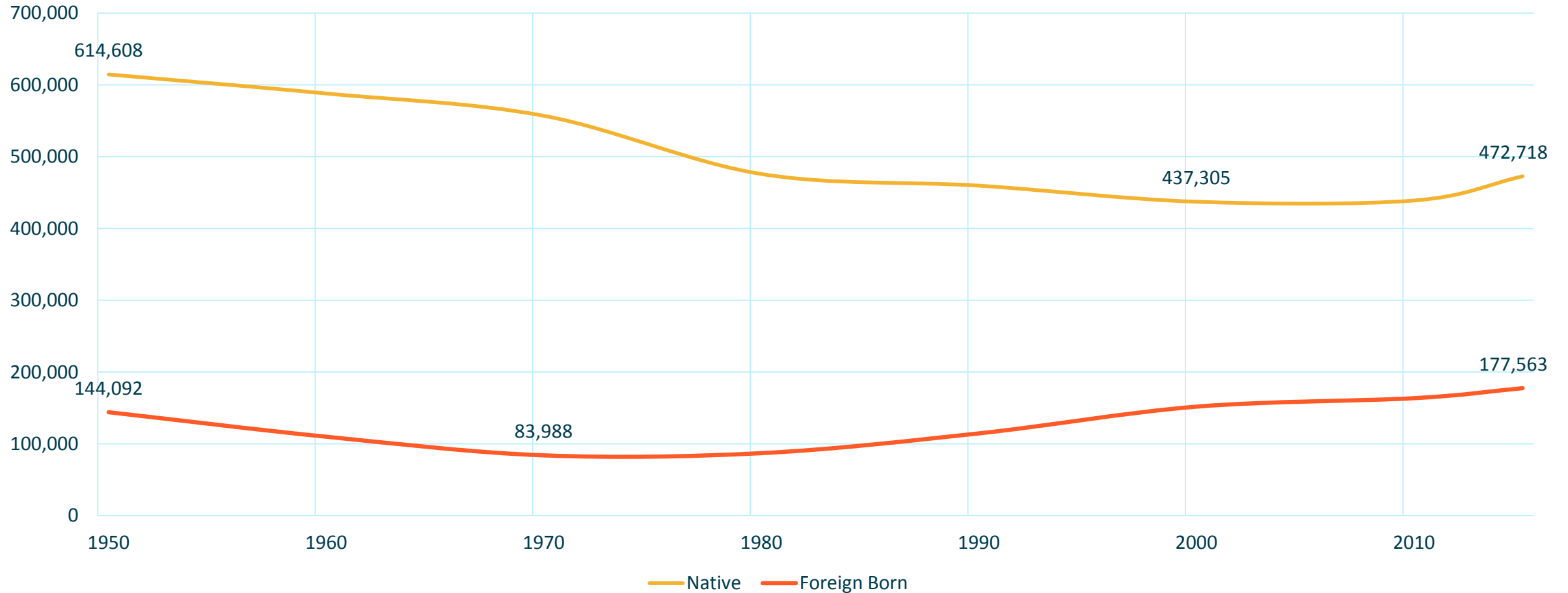
IMMIGRATION TRENDS



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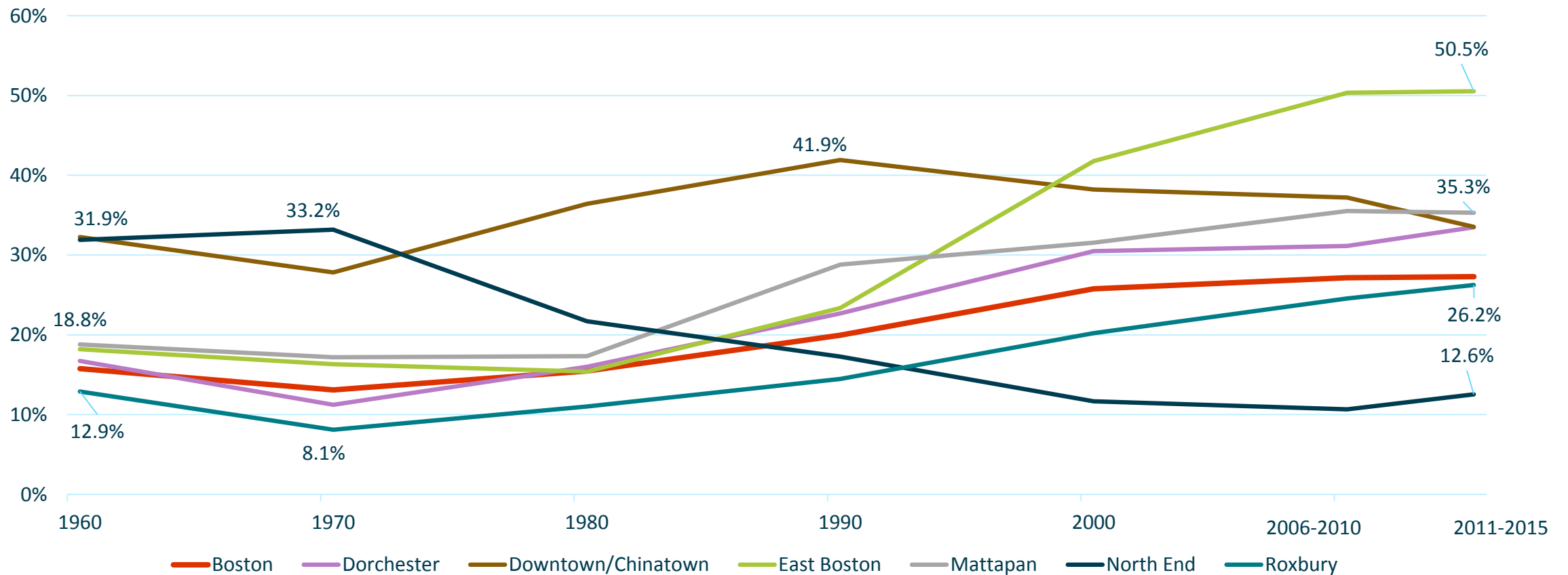
- Boston's native-born population was in continual decline from 1950 through 2000.
- The foreign-born population fell from 1950 to 1970, but has more than doubled since 1970.

Boston Population by Nativity, 1950-2015



- Boston's foreign born population share fell slightly to 13.1% from 1960 to 1970, then rose steadily to 27.3% in 2015.
- Downtown/Chinatown maintained a high foreign born share throughout the period - between 28% and 42%.
- East Boston, Mattapan, and Dorchester greatly increased their foreign born share since 1950.

Foreign Born Share of Population

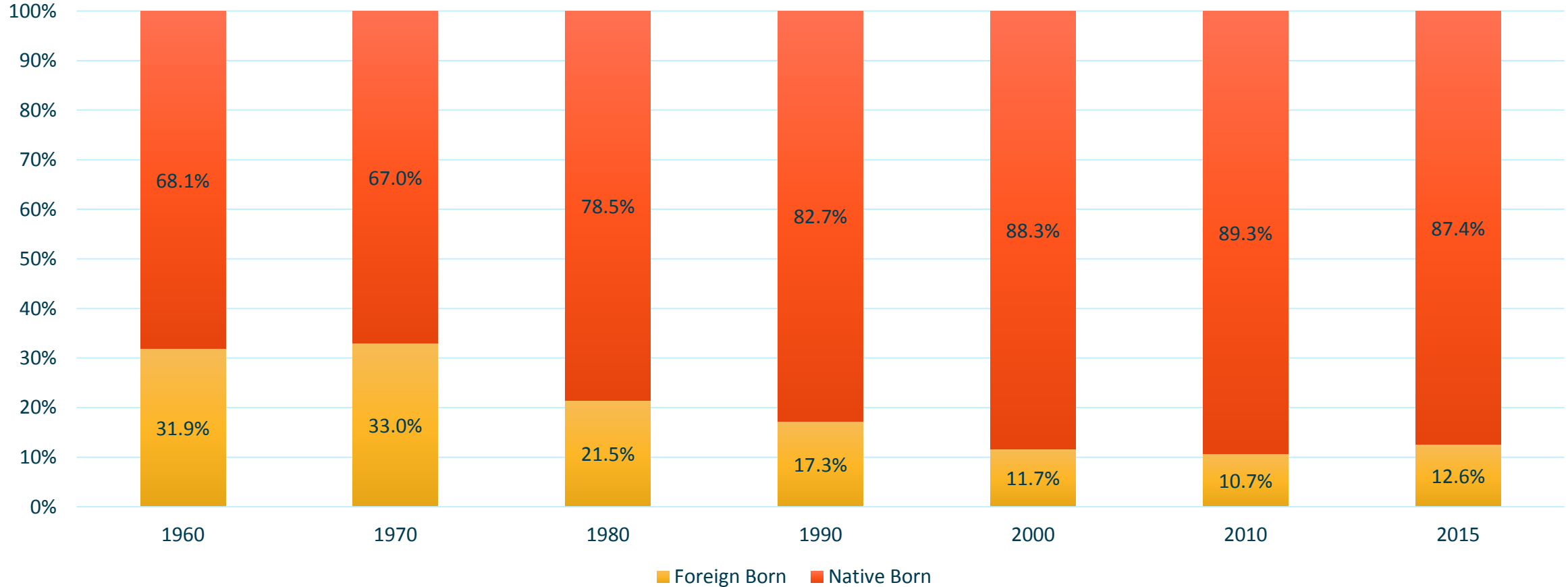


Note: Accurate nativity data are not available from the 1950 Census.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1960-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- In 1960, the North End’s population of 12,000 was 32% foreign born.
- In 2015, only 13% of the North End’s 9,000 residents were foreign born.
- However, in 2015, 35% of North End residents reported Italian ancestry, a legacy of earlier immigration.

North End Population by Nativity

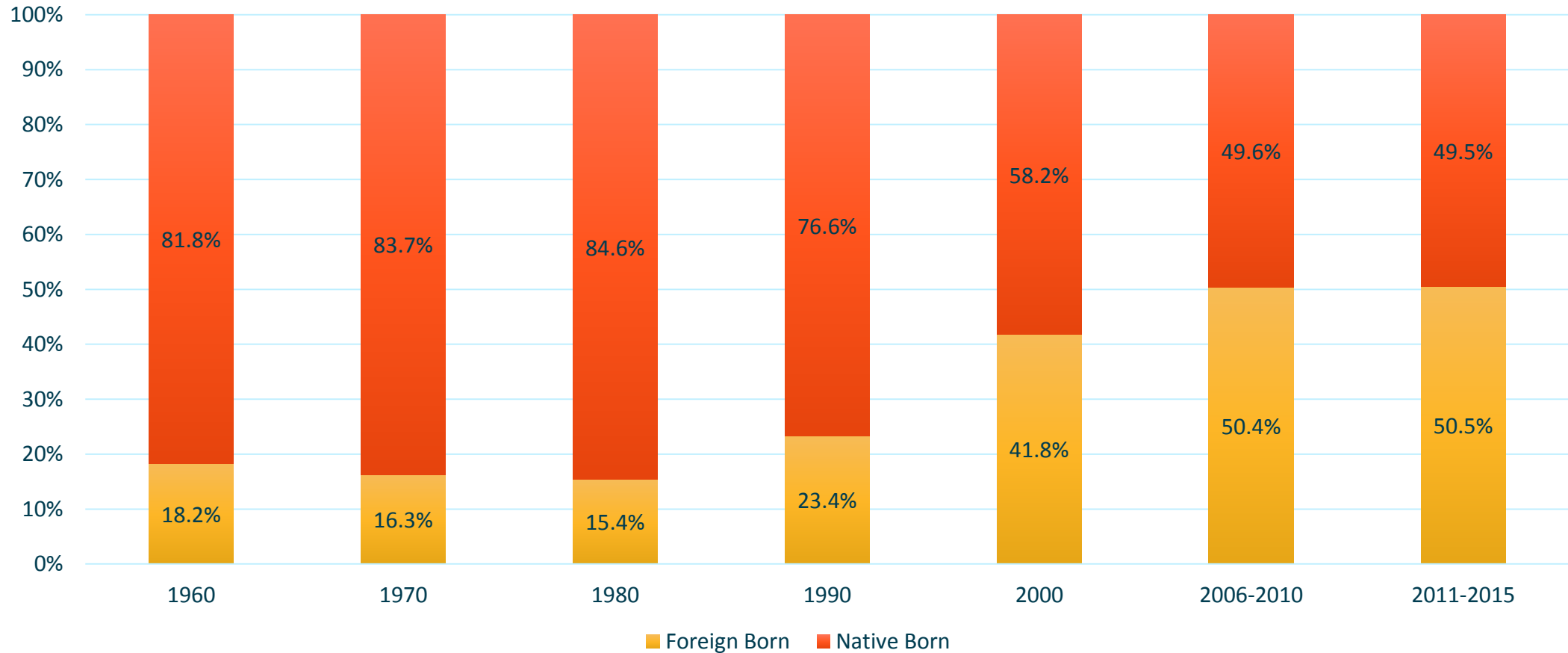


Note: Accurate nativity data are not available from the 1950 Census.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1960-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- East Boston's foreign-born share reached a low point of 15% in 1980.
- In 2015, over half of East Boston's population was foreign born and 54% spoke Spanish at home.

East Boston's Population by Nativity

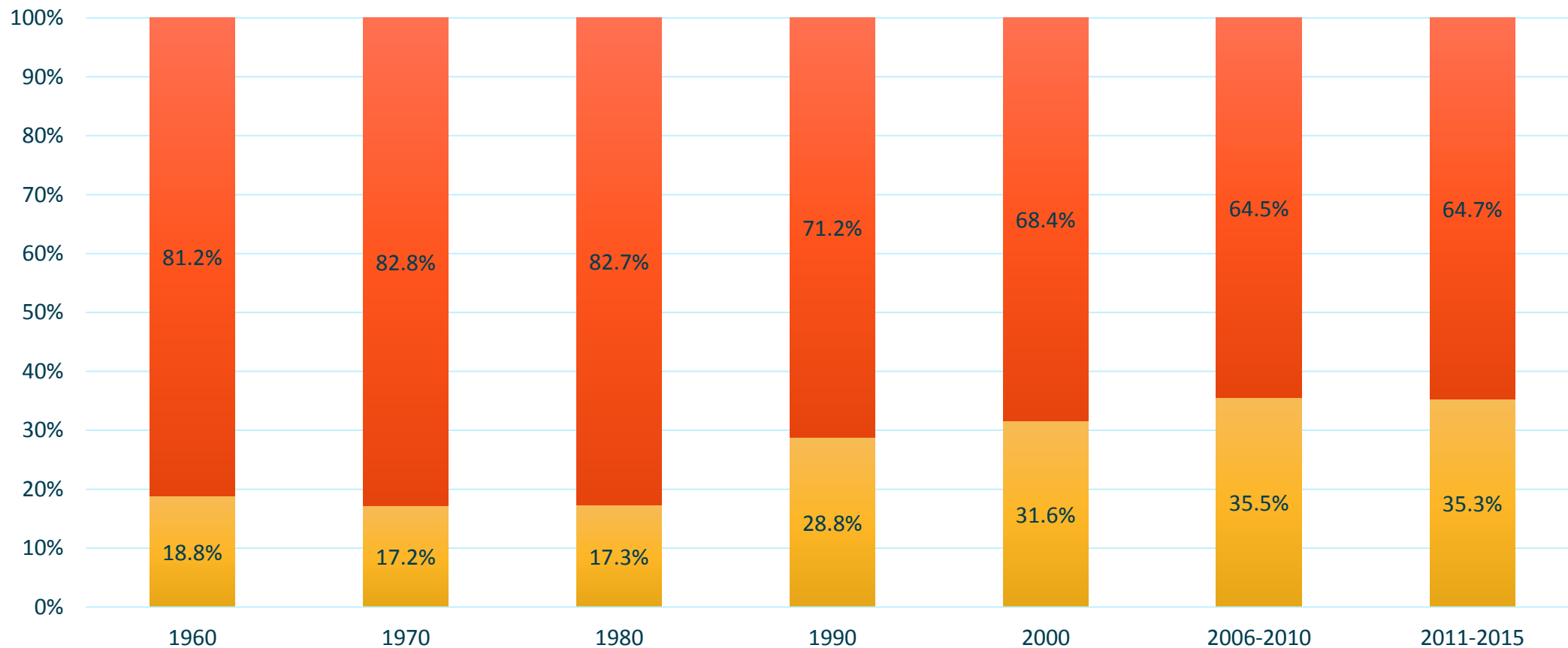


Note: Accurate nativity data are not available from the 1950 Census.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1960-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- The foreign-born share of Mattapan’s population has increased – partly due to an increasing number of Haitian immigrants beginning in the 1980s.
- More than 35% of Mattapan residents are foreign born.
- In 2015, 20% of the Mattapan population spoke French or Haitian Creole at home.

Mattapan Population by Nativity

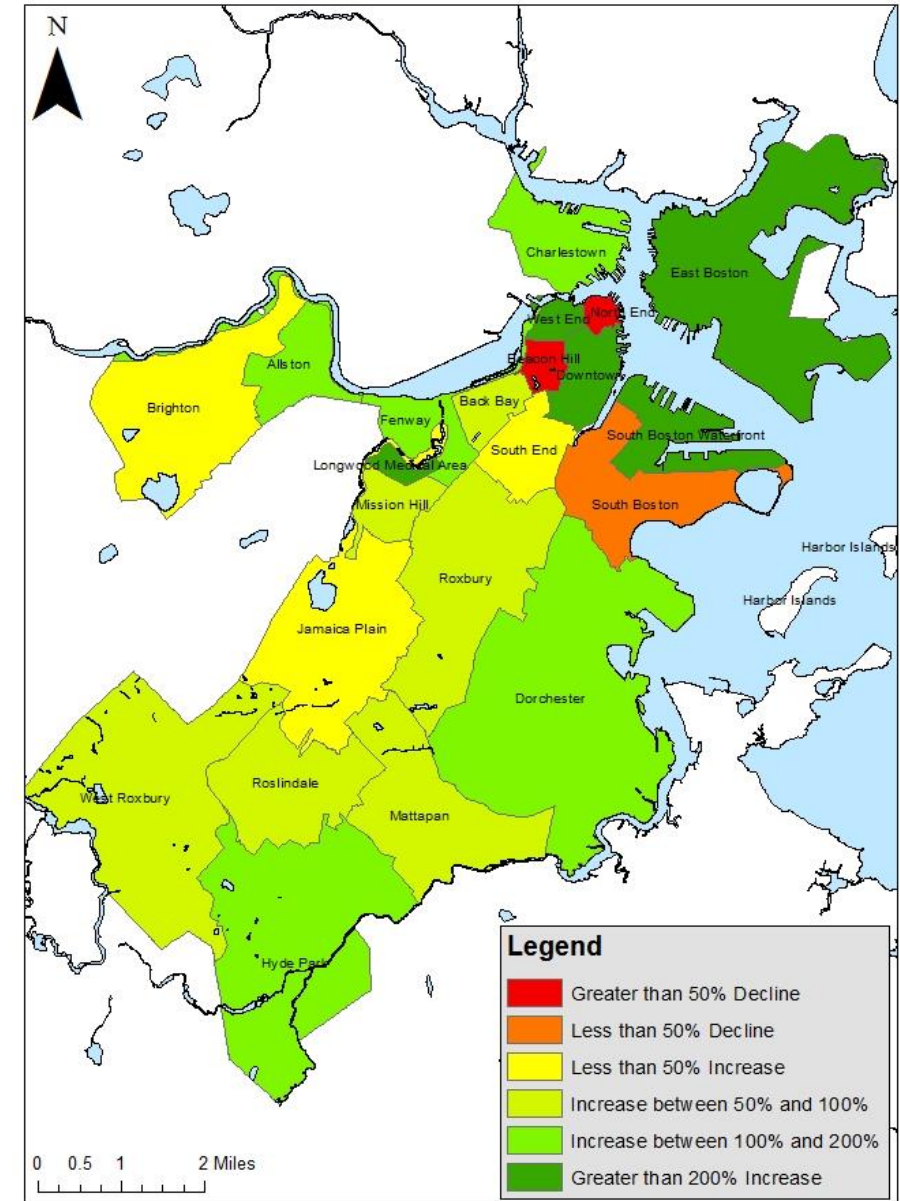


Note: Accurate nativity data are not available from the 1950 Census.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1960-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- The foreign-born population increased in most of the city from 1960 to 2015.
- It grew fastest in East Boston, the West End, Downtown, the South Boston Waterfront, and Longwood.
- The foreign-born population declined in the North End, Beacon Hill, and South Boston.

Percent Change in the Foreign Born Population
1960 - 2015



Note: Accurate nativity data are not available from the 1950 Census.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1960-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

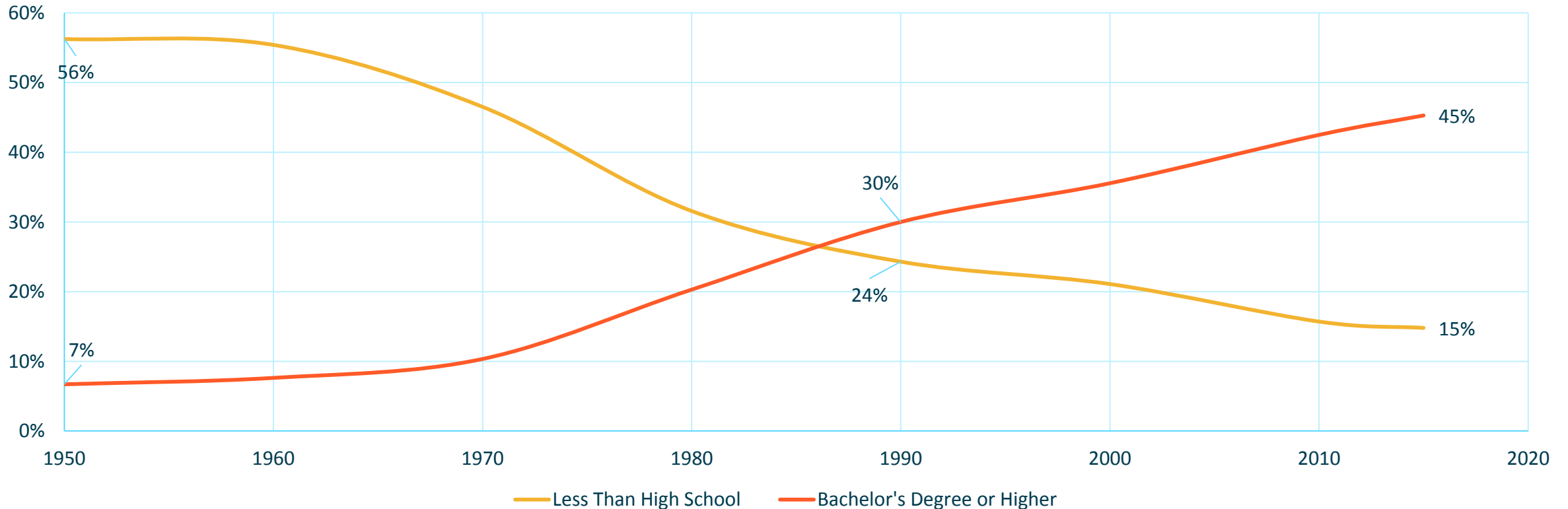
6.

TRENDS in EDUCATION



- The share of the Boston population age 25+ with a bachelor's degree or higher has grown at the same time that the share of the population with less than a high school diploma has declined.
- The share of the population with a BA or higher grew from 7% in 1950 to 45% in 2015.

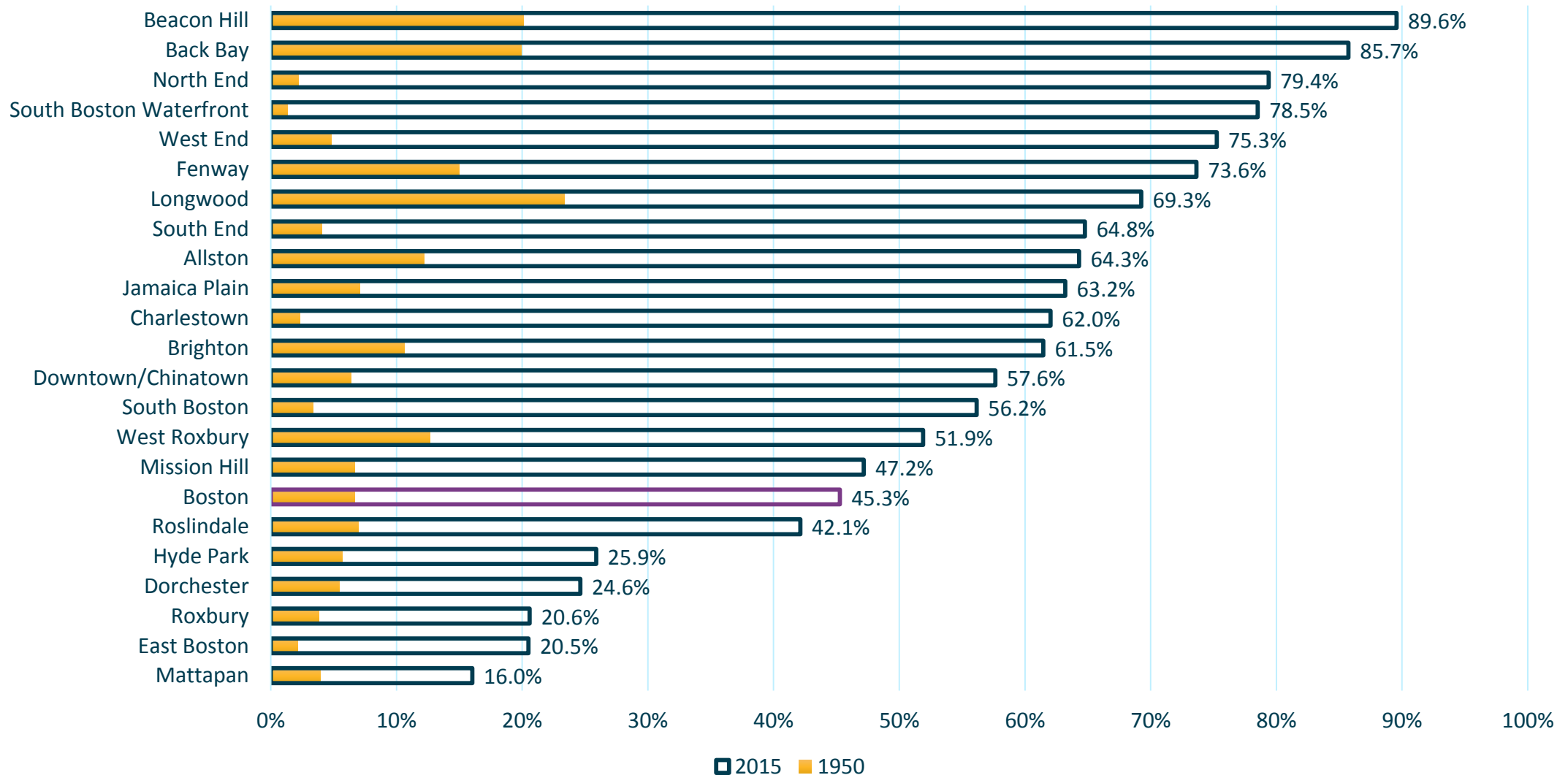
Educational Attainment of Boston Population Age 25+



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950—2010 Decennial Census Count 2; University of Minnesota, NHGIS, www.nhgis.org; 2011—2015 American Community Survey, American Fact Finder, BPDA Research Division Analysis

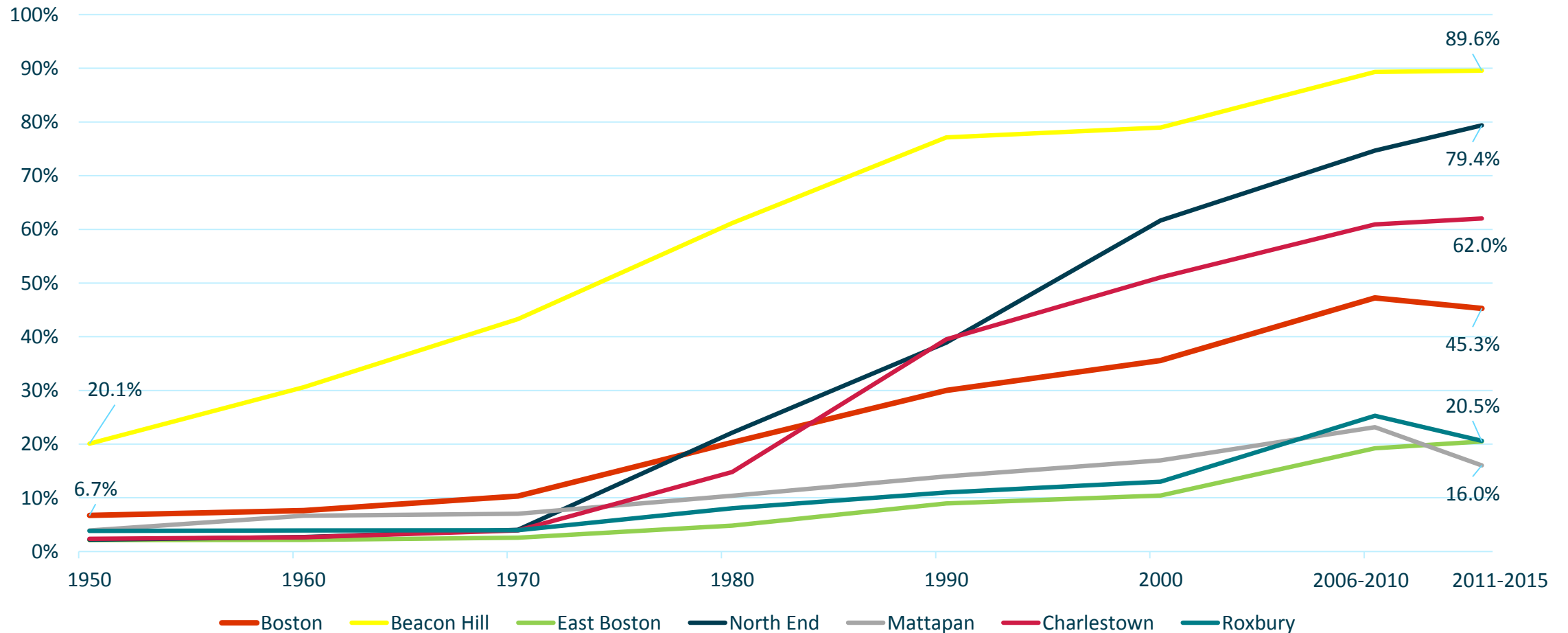
- Since 1950, all Boston neighborhoods have increased their share of the adult population with a Bachelor's degree.
- However, shares range from 90% in Beacon Hill to 16% in Mattapan.

Share of Population age 25+ with Bachelor's Degree or Higher



- The share of the adult population with a Bachelor’s degree or higher has risen steadily in Boston from 7% to 45%.
- Mattapan, East Boston, and Roxbury have low college-educated shares compared with the rest of the city.

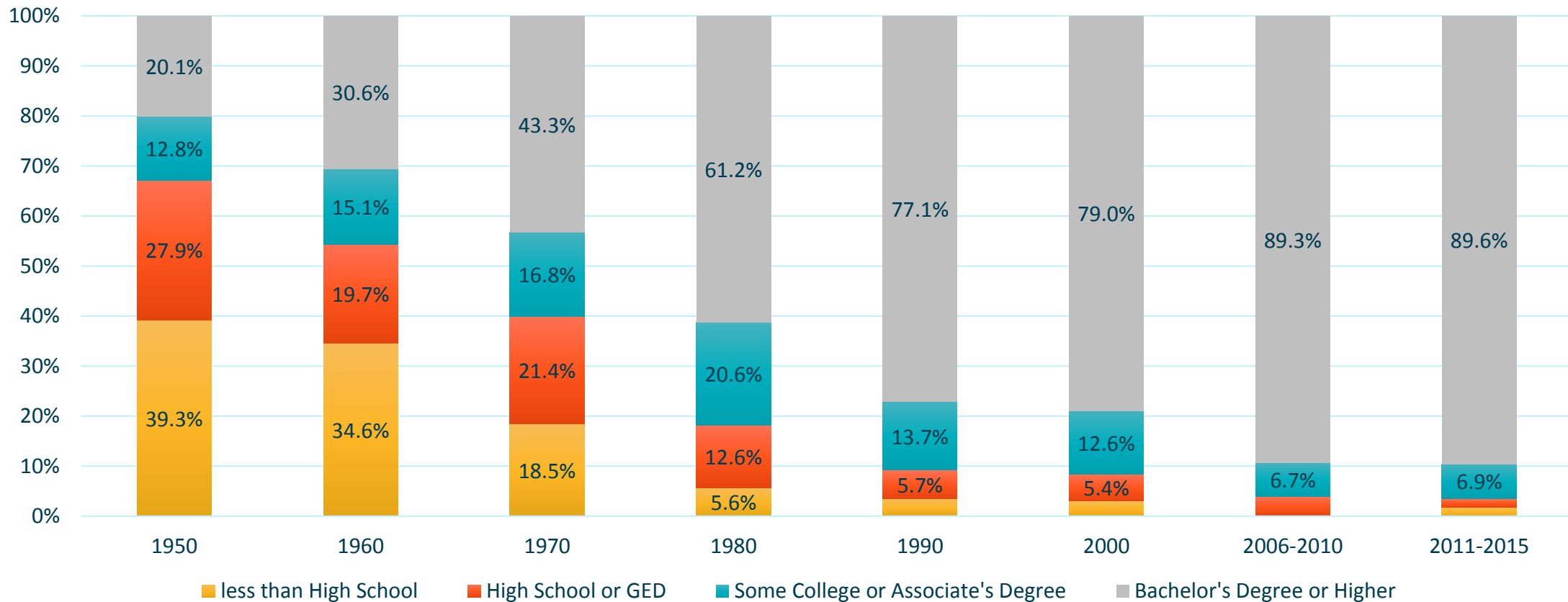
Share of Population age 25+ with BA+



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

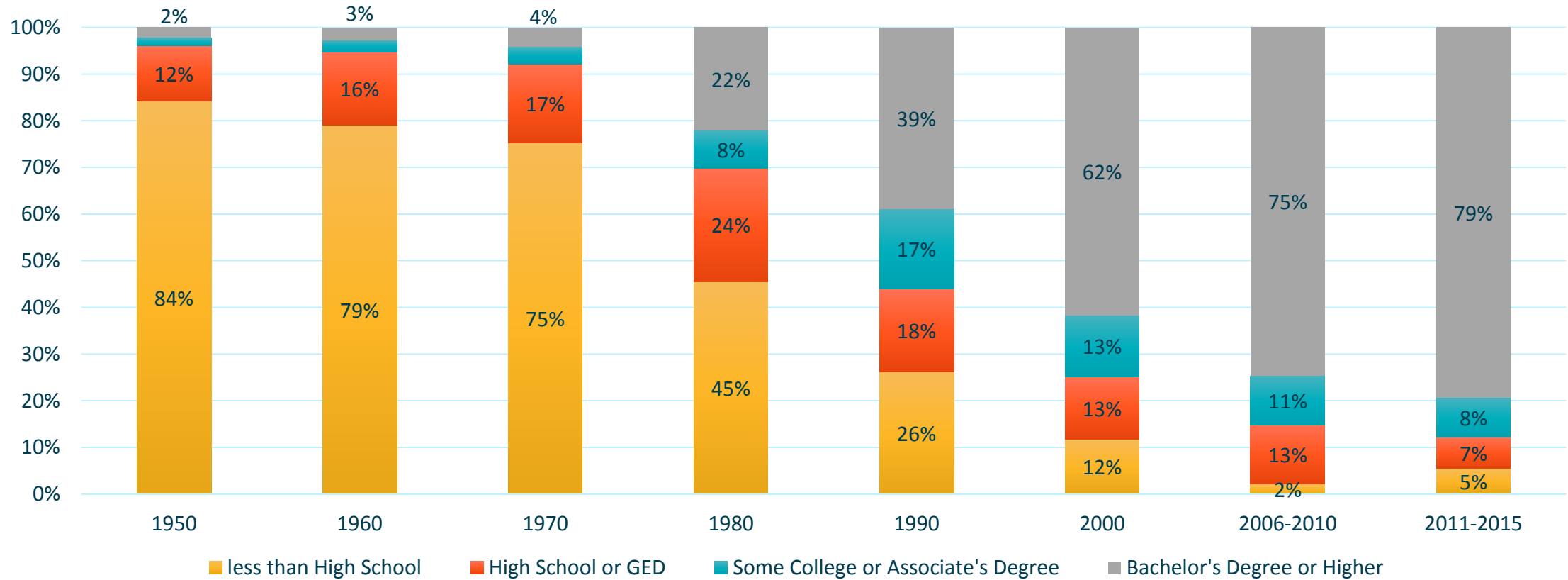
- The college-educated share has always been relatively high in Beacon Hill, and is now the highest in the city.
- Very few adult residents of Beacon Hill have no college education.
- The distribution of educational attainment in East Boston in 2015 is similar to that of Beacon Hill in 1950.

Beacon Hill Population age 25+ by Educational Attainment



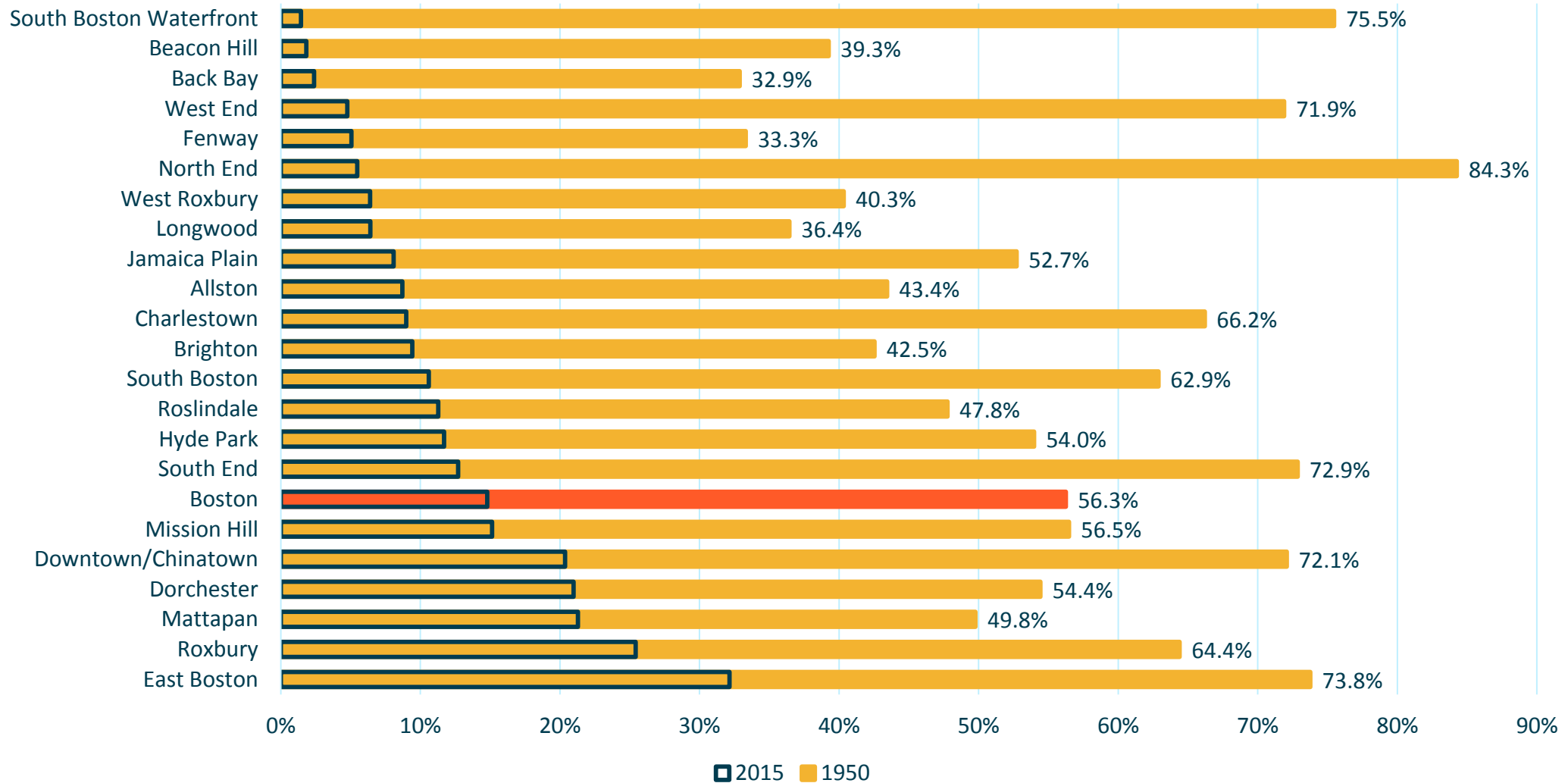
- The North End has changed dramatically since 1950 in terms of educational attainment.
- In 1950, 84% of adult residents had less than a high school diploma; now only 5% do.
- In 1950, only 2% of adult residents had a Bachelor's degree; now 79% do.

North End Population age 25+ by Educational Attainment



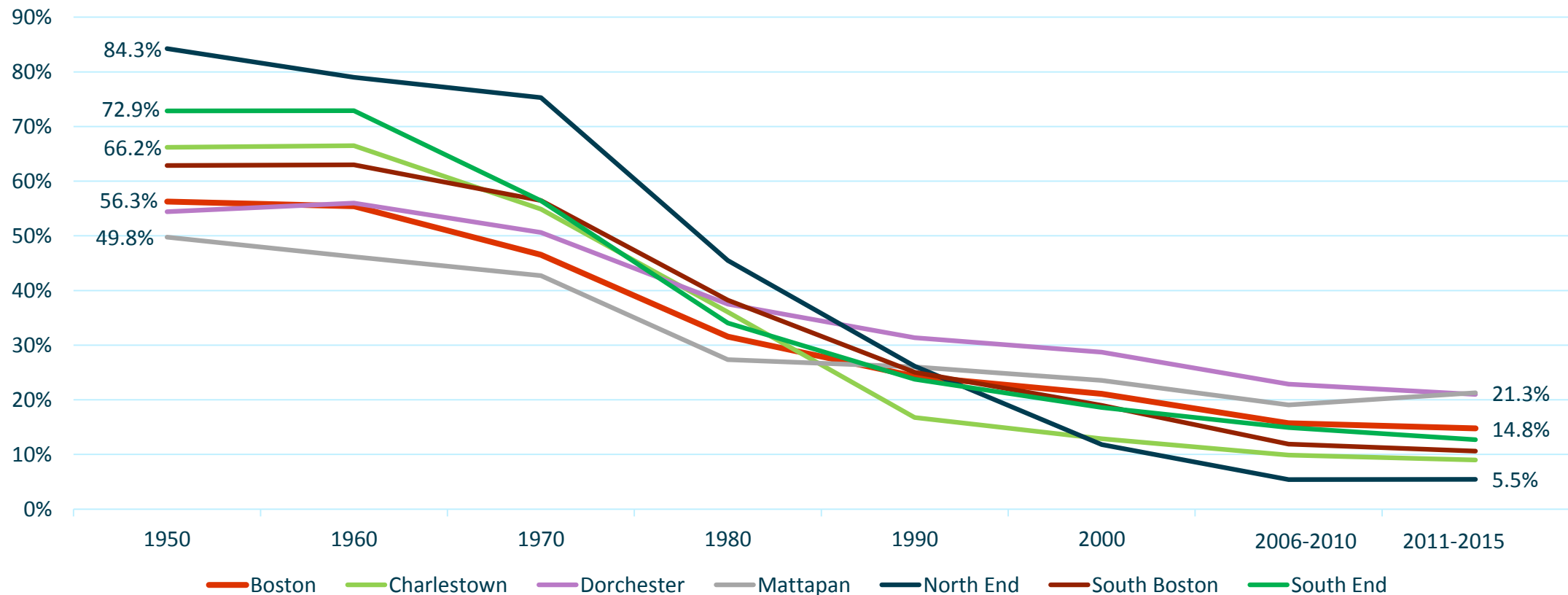
- Boston’s share of the adult population with less than high school education has fallen from 56% to 15% from 1950 to 2015.
- Every neighborhood improved high school graduation rates.

Share of Population 25+ with Less than High School Education



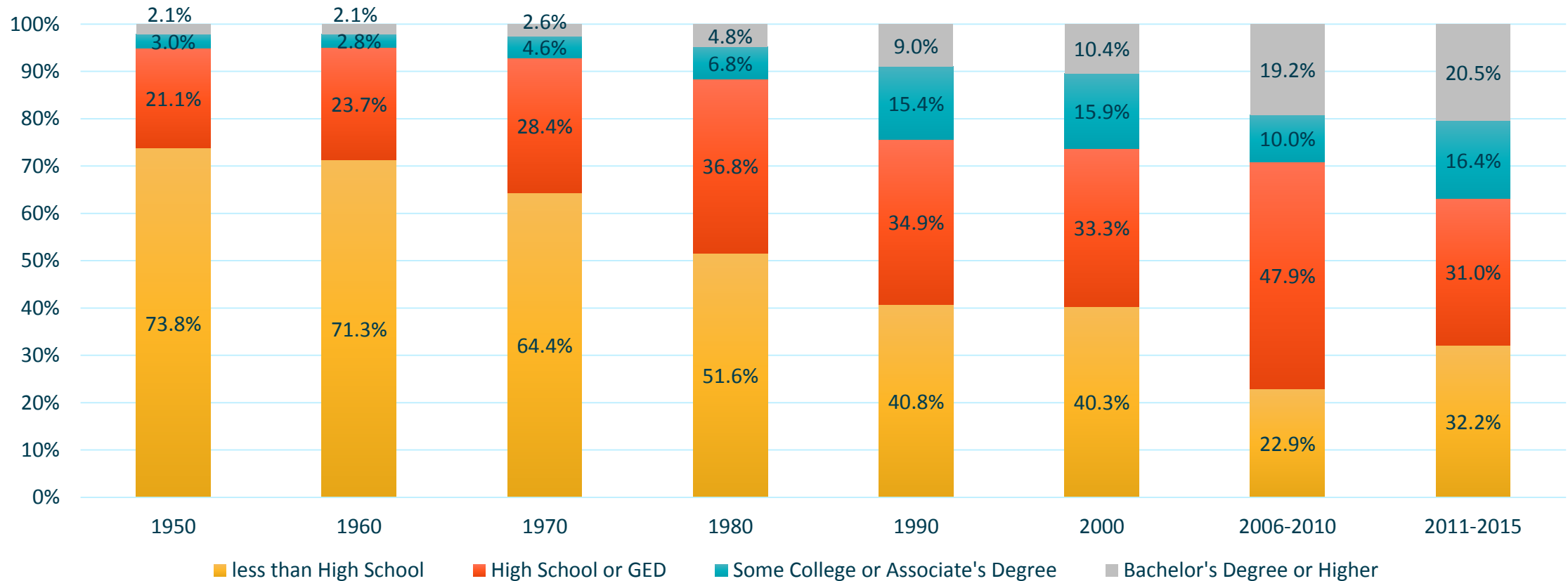
- Dramatic increases in high school education: South Boston Waterfront, West End, North End, Charlestown, South End.
- High school education rates remain below city average: East Boston, Roxbury, Mission Hill, Downtown/Chinatown.
- Fall in high school education rates relative to city: Mattapan & Dorchester.

Share of Population age 25+ with less than High School Education



- East Boston has the highest share of the adult population without a high school education, almost one-third of those age 25 and over.
- However, the share of the adult population with at least some college education has been increasing, from only 5% in 1950 to 37% in 2015.

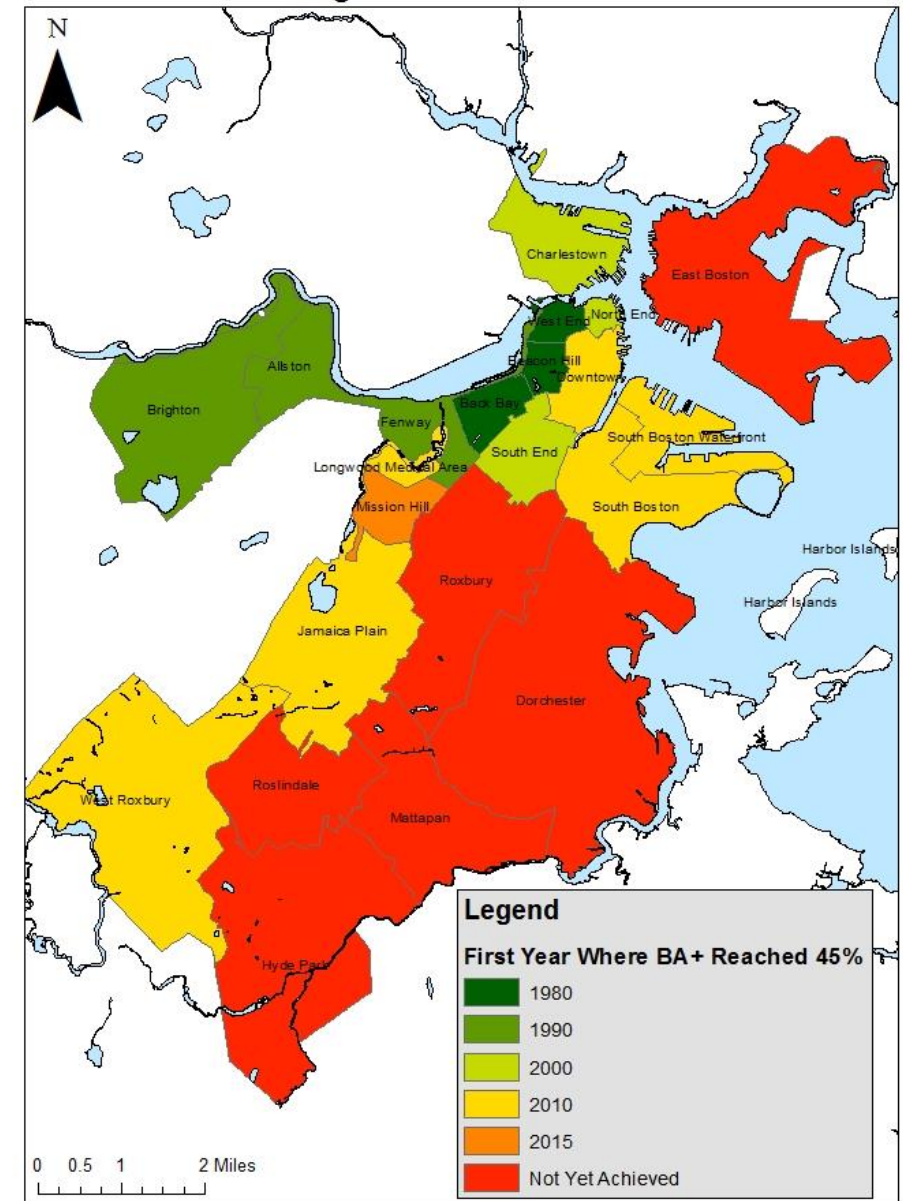
East Boston Population age 25+ by Educational Attainment



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2000 Decennial Censuses, NHGIS, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Year When Neighborhood First Reached 45% of Population Age 25+ with BA+

- About 45% of Boston residents age 25+ held a BA or higher in 2015.
- Some neighborhoods met this 45% citywide figure faster than others. As early as 1980, at least 45% of residents in Back Bay, Beacon Hill and the West End had a BA or higher.
- Other neighborhoods slowly caught up, reaching Boston's current 45% figure in different decades.
- Some neighborhoods are still below the citywide average and have not yet reached the 45% threshold. These include Hyde Park, Roslindale, Mattapan, Dorchester, Roxbury, and East Boston.



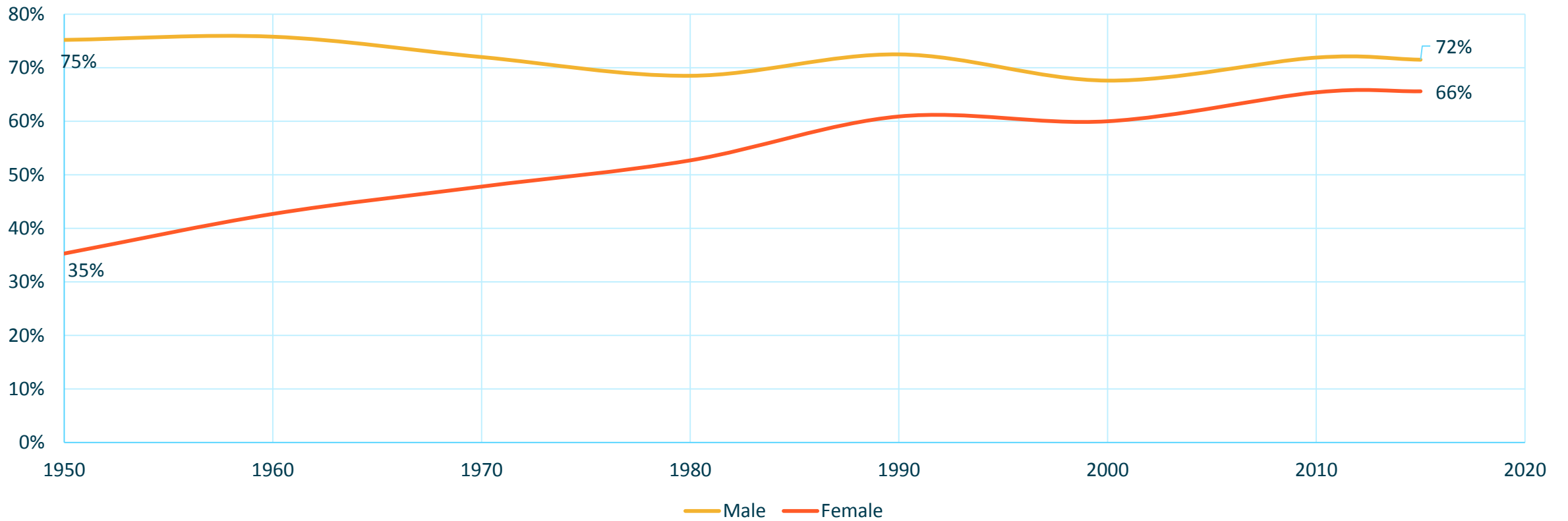
7.

LABOR FORCE TRENDS



- Women’s participation in the Boston labor force has increase between 1950 and 2015.
- In 2015, women and men were separated by only 6 percentage points in labor force participation rates. In 1950, women trailed men by 40 percentage points.
- Men’s labor force participation has declined slightly between 1950 and 2015.

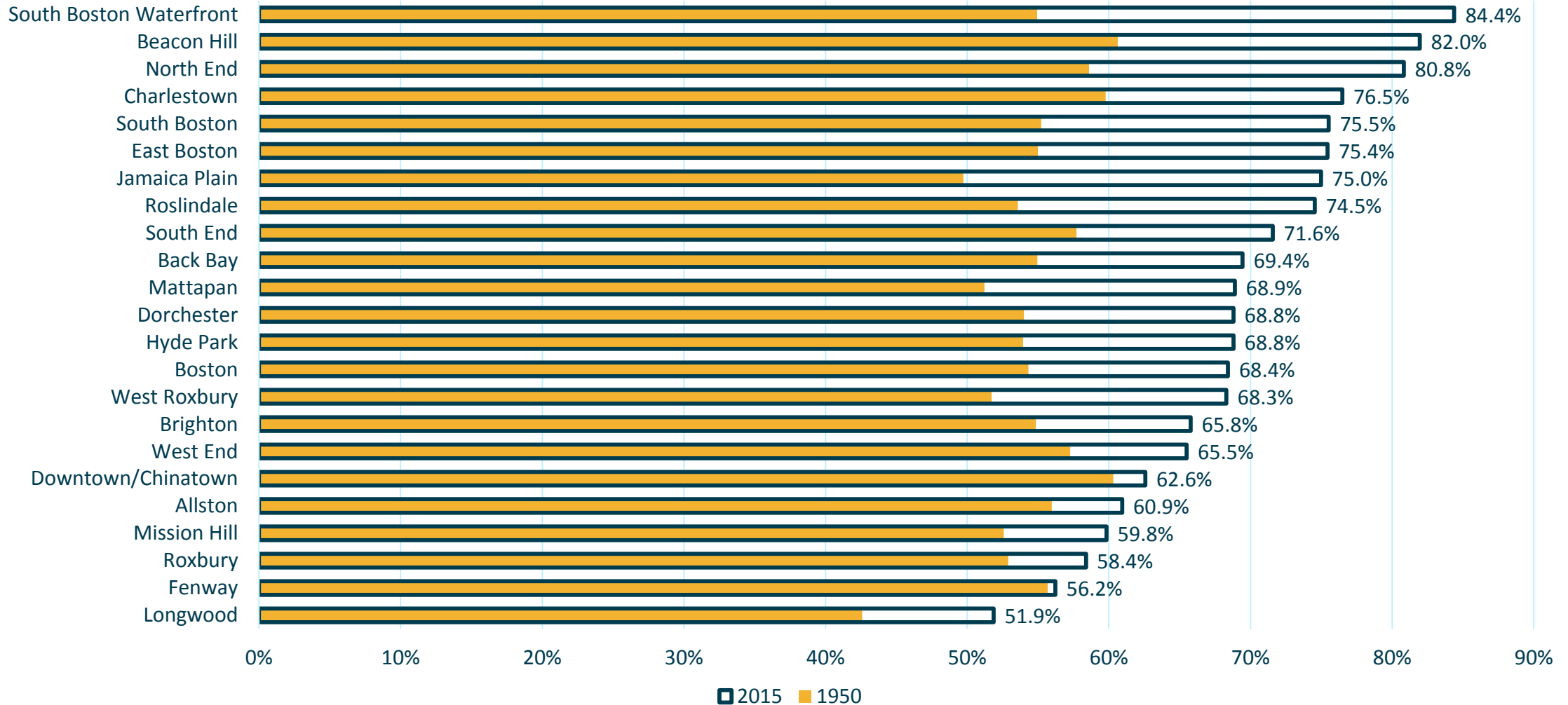
Boston Labor Force Participation Rate by Sex, 1950 - 2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950—2000 Decennial Census Count 2; University of Minnesota, NHGIS, www.nhgis.org; 2006—2010 & 2011—2015 American Community Survey, American Fact Finder, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- Every neighborhood saw increasing labor force participation rates from 1950 to 2015, primarily due to increasing participation by women.
- In 2015, the South Boston Waterfront had the highest labor force participation rate, at over 84%.
- The student-heavy neighborhoods of Longwood and Fenway had the lowest rates.

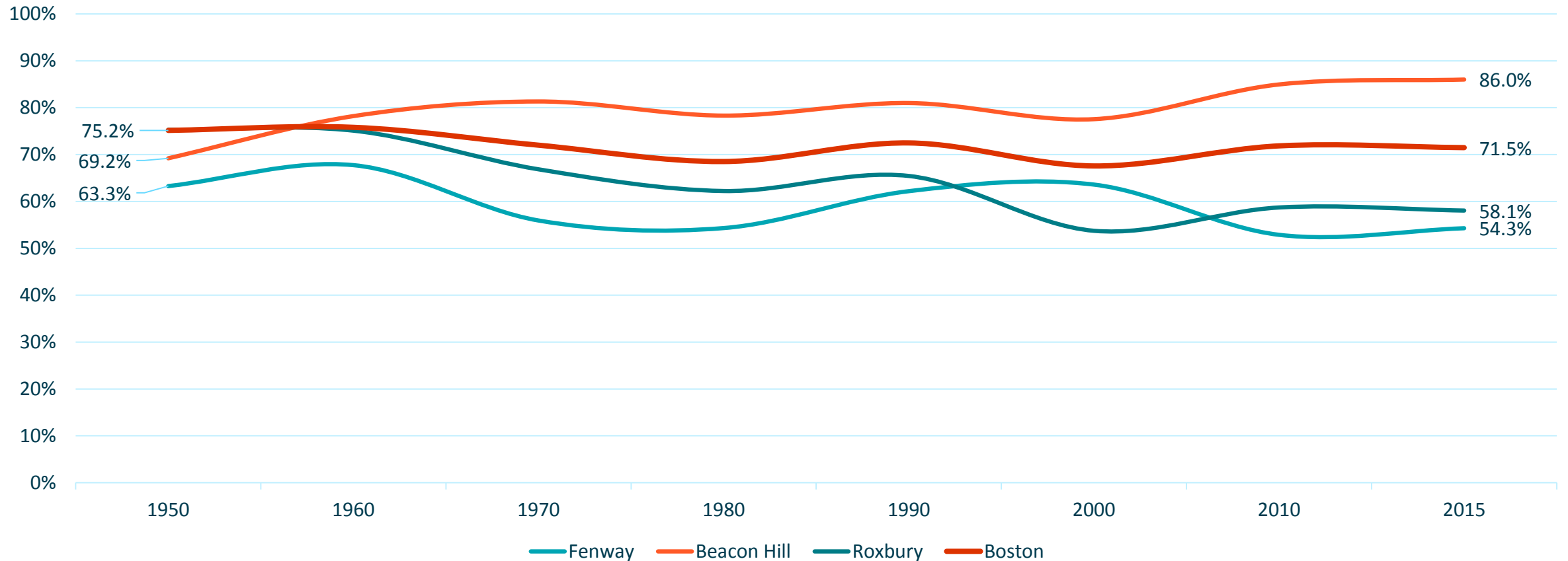
Labor Force Participation by Neighborhood, 1950 & 2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950 – 2000 U.S. Census, 2006-2010 and 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

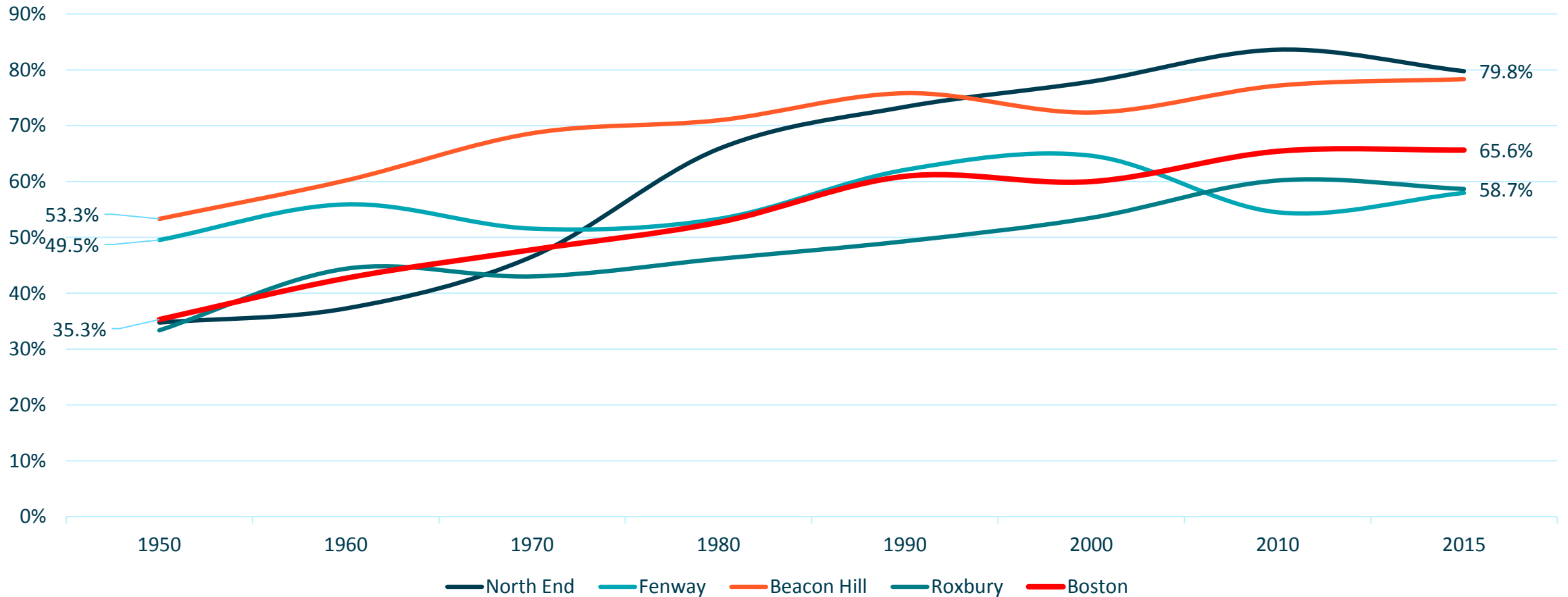
- From 1950 to 2015, the labor force participation rate for male Boston residents ages 16+ fell from 75% to 72%.
- Beacon Hill has seen an increase in male labor force participation from 69% to 86%.
- Roxbury's male labor force participation has fallen from 75% to 58%.
- Fenway's male labor force participation was relatively low in 1950, but fell further to 54% in 2015.

Male Labor Force Participation Rate



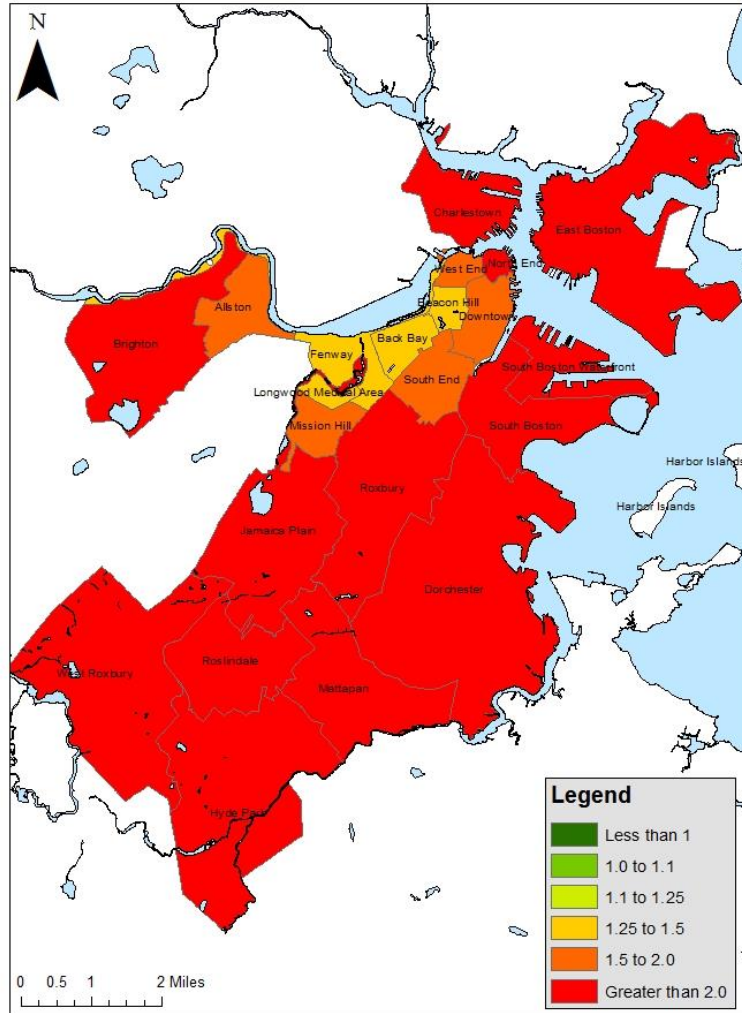
- The labor force participation rate for females ages 16+ has risen from 35% in 1950 to 66% in 2015.
- Female labor force participation rose particularly strongly in the North End, from 35% in 1950 to 80% in 2015.
- Beacon Hill has consistently had one of the highest female labor force participation rates in the city.

Female Labor Force Participation Rate

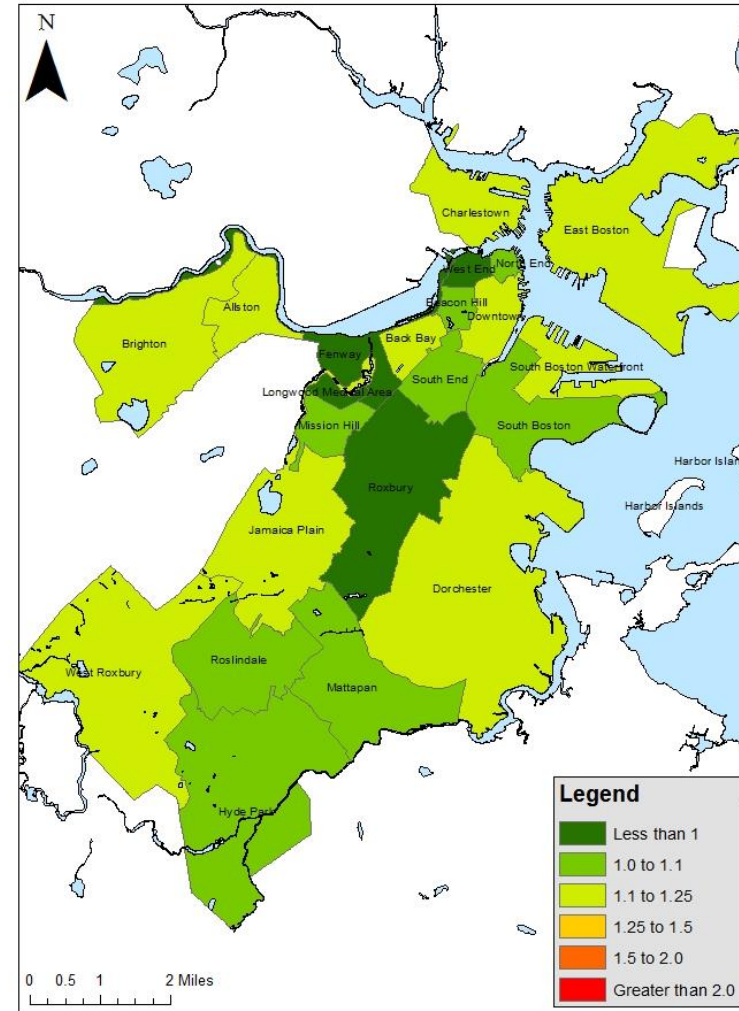


- In 1950 most neighborhoods had a male labor force participation rate that was more than 2 times greater than women's.
- In 2015, the labor force participation rate of women was only slightly less than men's. In a few neighborhoods (Roxbury, Longwood, Fenway and the West End), women's labor force participation rates are actually higher than men's.

Ratio of Male Labor Force Participation Rate to Women's
1950



Ratio of Male Labor Force Participation Rate to Women's
2015



8.

SUMMARY



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Common Trends in Boston Neighborhoods since 1950

- Most neighborhoods . . .
 - Lost population from 1950 to 1980 and grew from 1980 to 2010
 - Added owner-occupied housing units
 - Increased foreign-born population
 - Improved educational attainment
 - Increased labor force participation

Diversification of Boston Neighborhoods since 1950

- Increased diversity among neighborhoods in
 - Age distribution of population
 - Racial/Ethnic composition of population
 - Foreign-born population
 - Share of adult population with a Bachelor's degree