

YOUNG ADULTS IN BOSTON

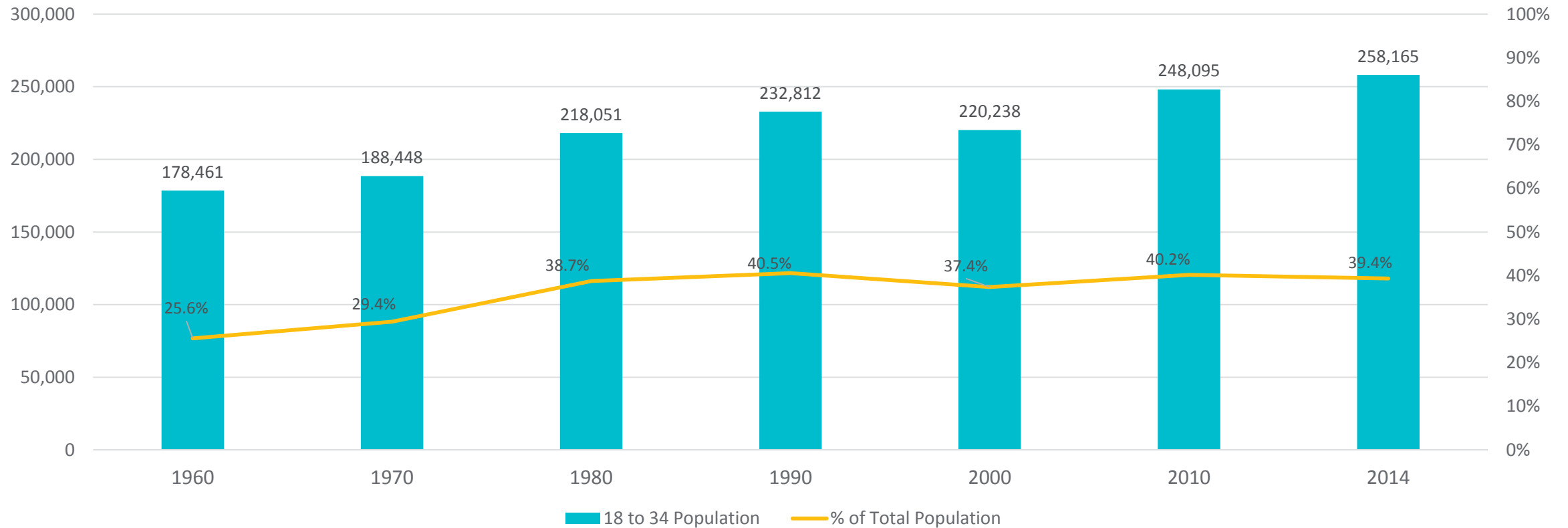
BRA Research Division
December 2015

Important Takeaways about Young Adults in Boston

- Young adults are a key demographic in Boston, making up about 40% of the population
- 39% are enrolled in school and 15% live in college dormitories
- 70% are employed, with a median income of \$35,000/year
- 85% are single and 89% have no children
- Young adults are more likely to be native born and more likely to be non-Hispanic Whites than the general Boston population
- 85% of young adult householders have lived in their current home less than five years
- Young adults come to Boston mostly from other parts of the United States, but many of those who leave Boston settle in Massachusetts

- In 2014, there were 258,165 young adults ages 18-34 in Boston, making up 39.4% of the population

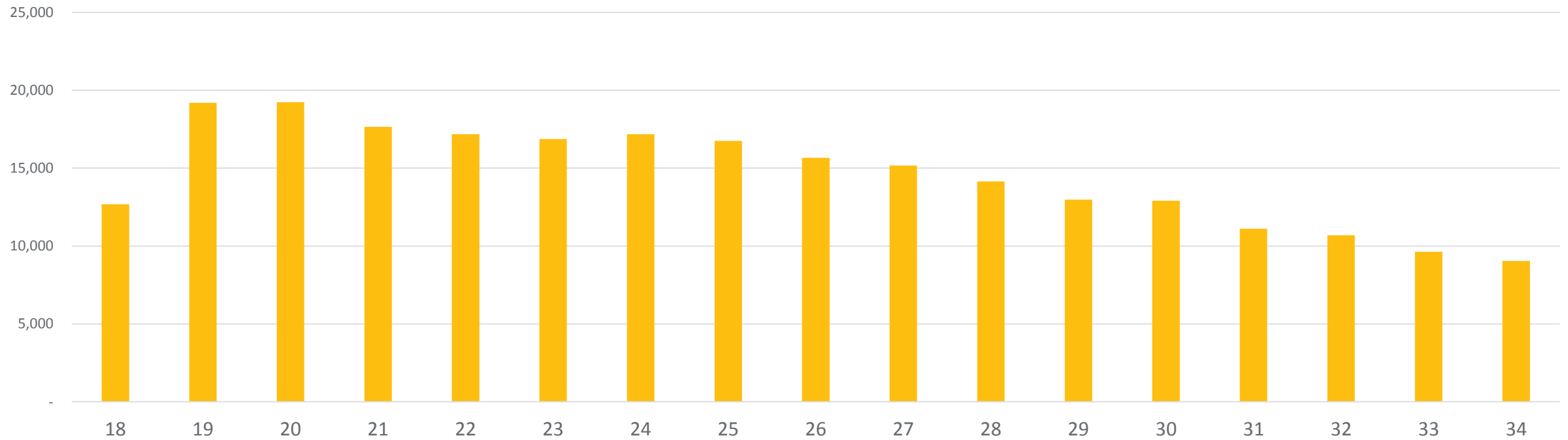
Boston Population Ages 18 to 34



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1960-2010 Decennial Census, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- The largest segment of the young adult population is 19 to 20 years old

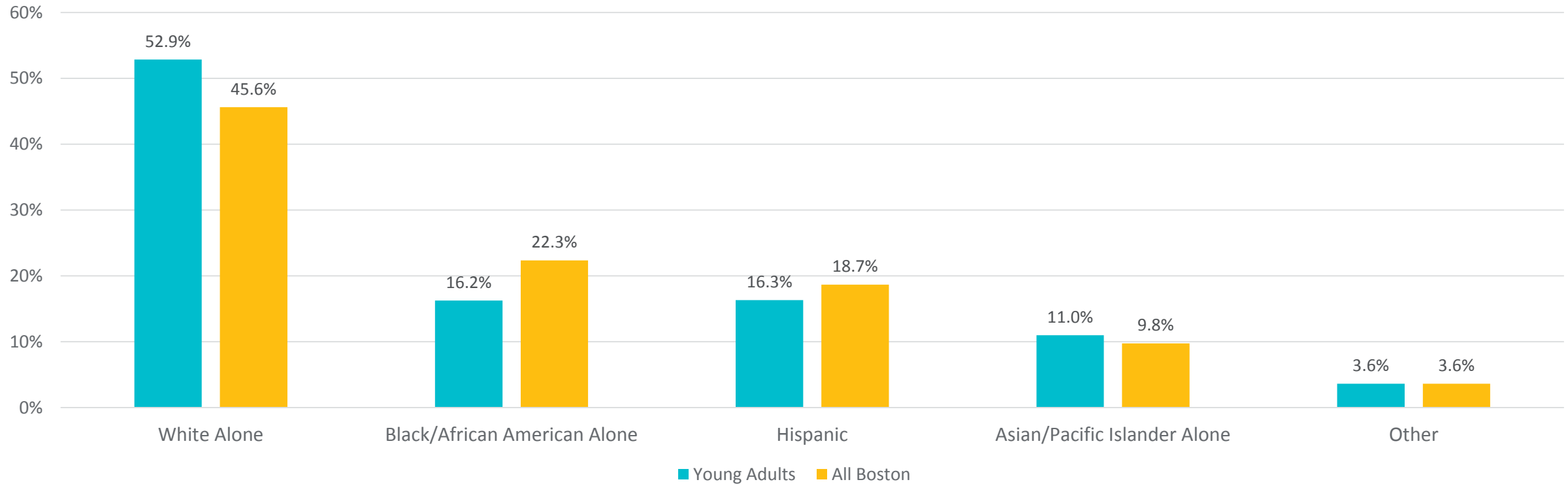
Boston's Young Adult Population by Age - 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census, BRA Research Division Analysis

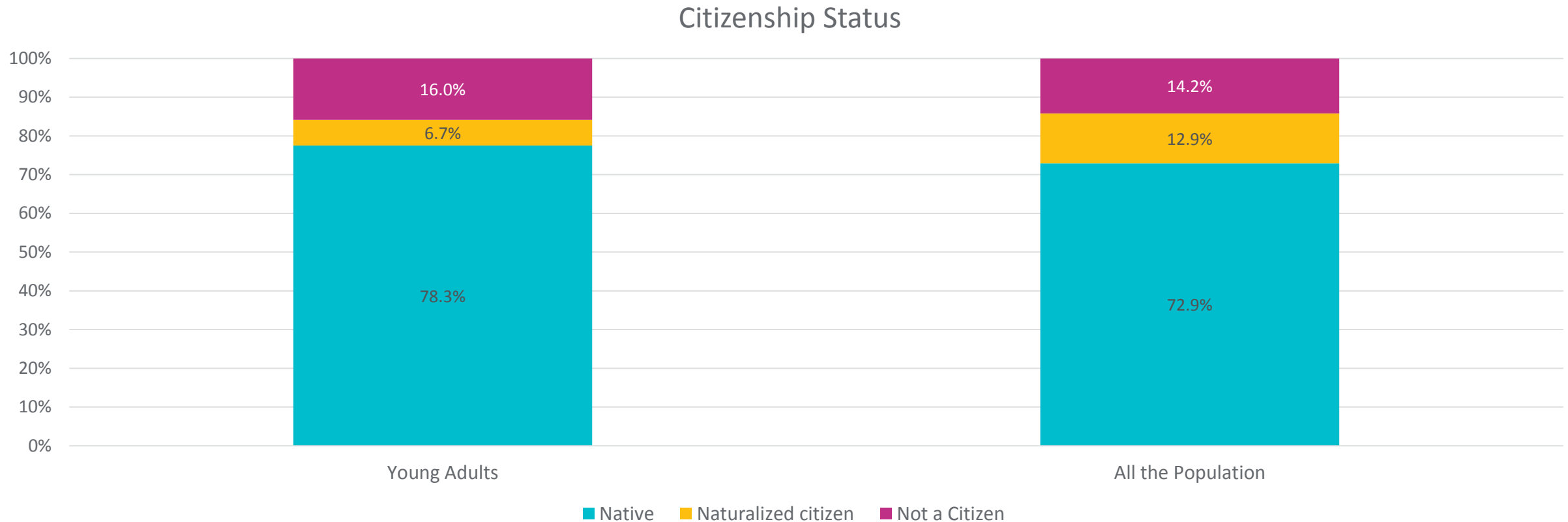
- Non-Hispanic Whites make up 53% of young adults compared to 46% of the total population

Race/Ethnicity of Young Adults - 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, IPUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

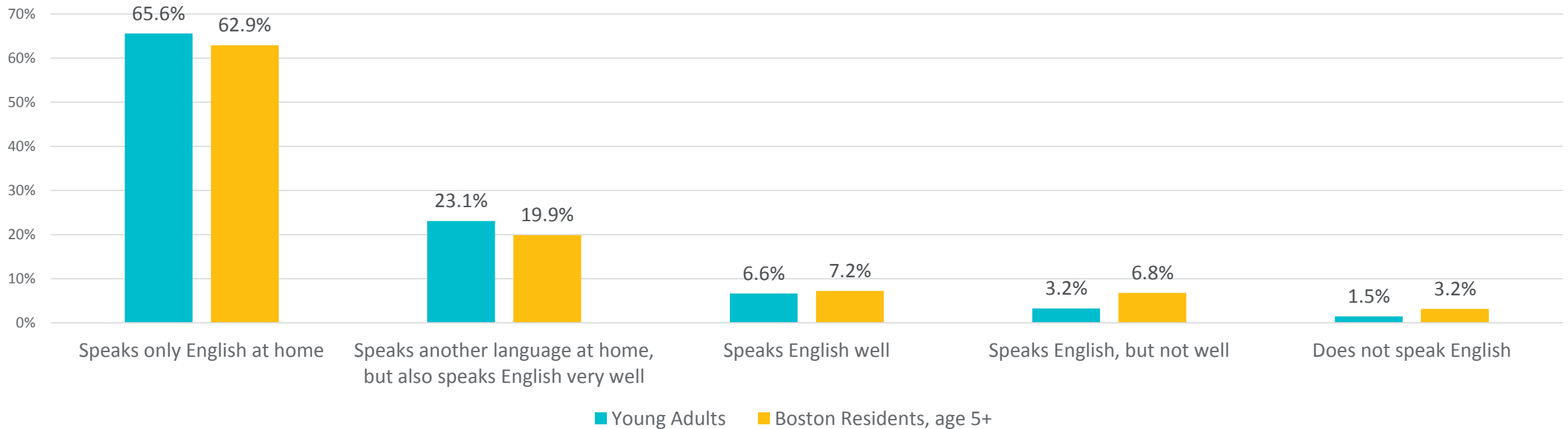
- Most young adults are native-born. However, 22.7% of young adults and 27.1% of the total population are foreign-born



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, PUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

- 88.7% of young adults can speak English very well compared to 82.8% of the total population over age five
- Only 4.7% of young adults, but 10% of all Bostonians over age five, fail to speak English well

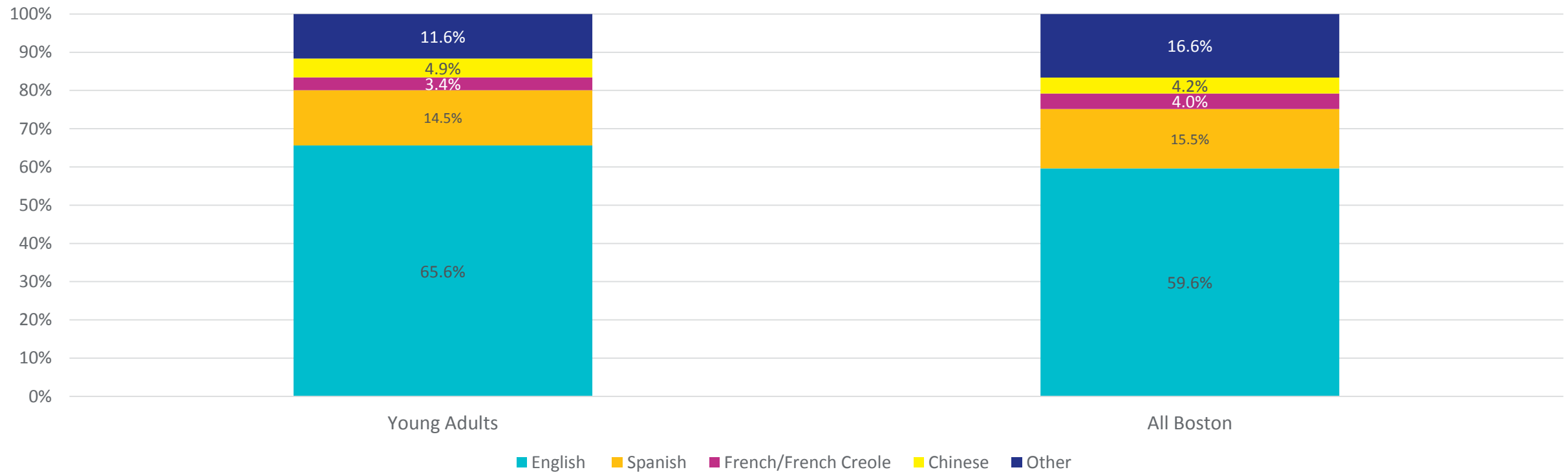
English Proficiency 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, IPUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

- 34.4% of young adults and 40.4% of the total Boston population speak a language other than English at home
- Spanish is the most commonly spoken language other than English

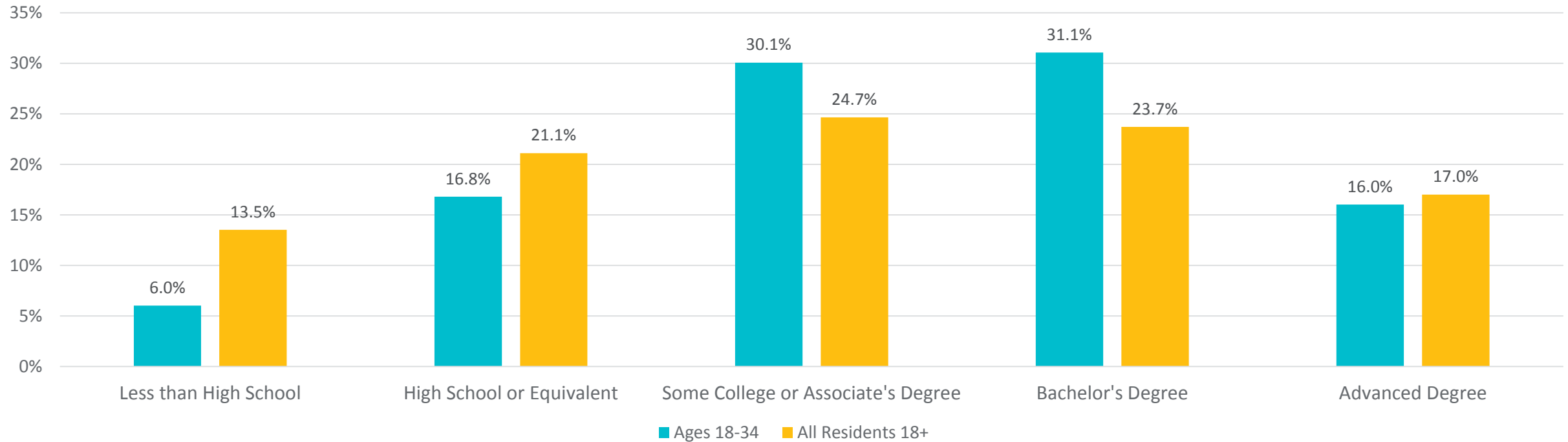
Language Spoken at Home



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, IPUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

- 38.5% of young adults in Boston are currently enrolled in school, compared to 29.6% of all Boston residents age 3 and over
- 47.1% of young adults in Boston have a Bachelor's degree or above, compared to 40.7% of all Boston residents age 18 and older

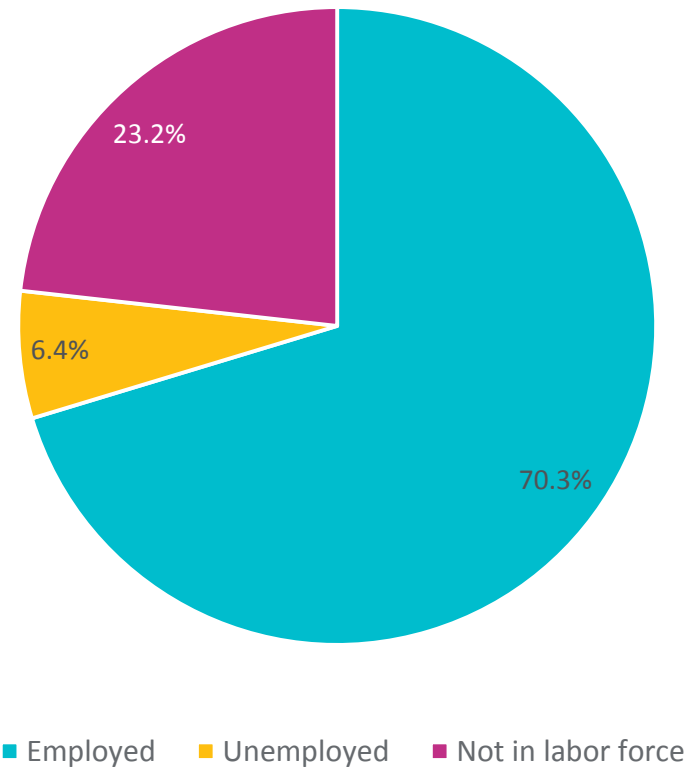
Educational Attainment - 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, PUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

- 76.7% of young adults are labor force participants, compared to 68.9% of the total Boston population ages 18 and over

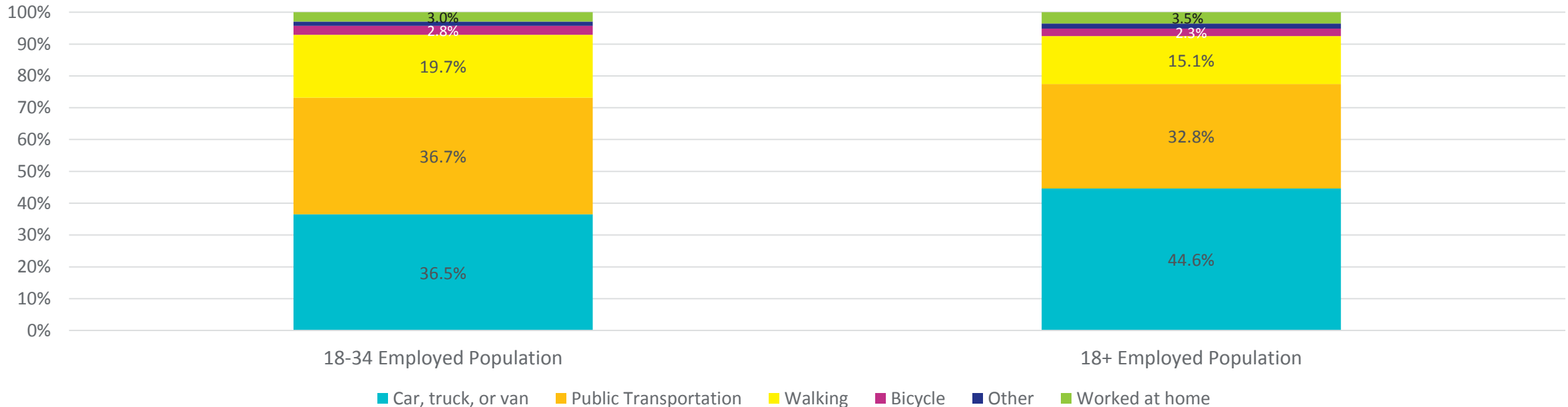
Employment Status of Young Adults



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, PUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Only 36.5% of young adults commute to work by car, compared to 44.6% of all employed residents over age 18, although 70% of young adults live in a household with at least one motor vehicle
- The share of young adult workers that commute by car, truck, or van has been falling for the past several decades – in 1980 it was 45%

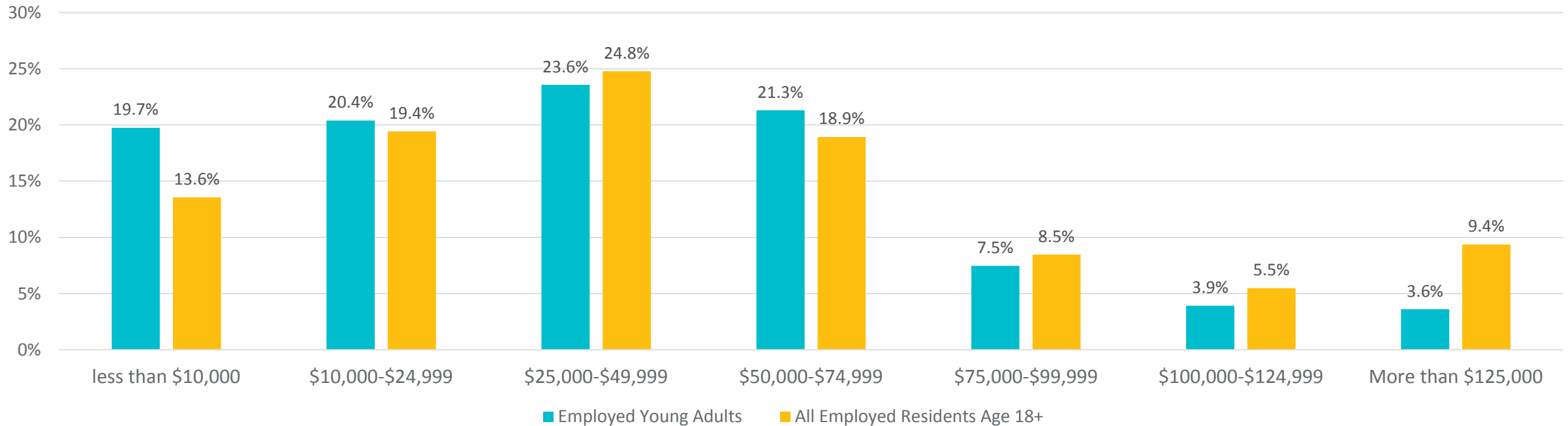
Commute Mode - 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, IPUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

- The median personal income of employed young adults is \$35,000 a year, compared to \$40,000 for all employed Boston residents
- School enrollment affects the income of young adults: the median personal income of employed young adults who are enrolled in school is only \$9,000 a year

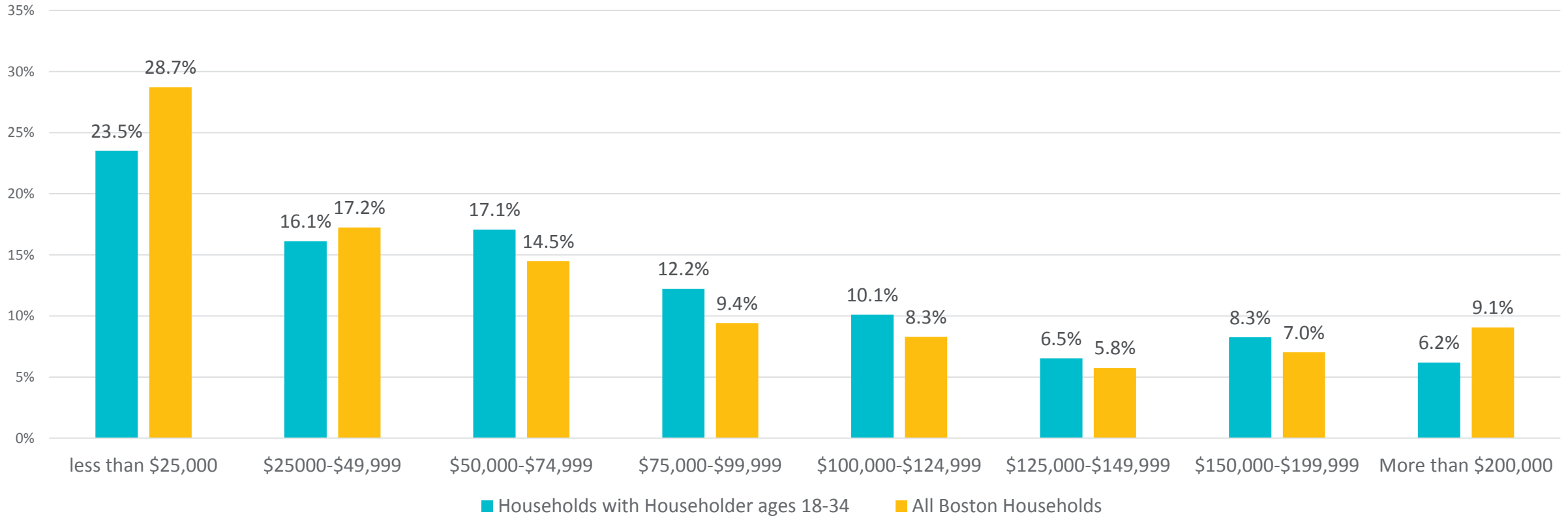
Personal Income of Employed Residents 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, PUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

- The median household income of households with a householder ages 18-34 is \$63,000 compared to \$55,800 for all Boston households

Household Income 2014

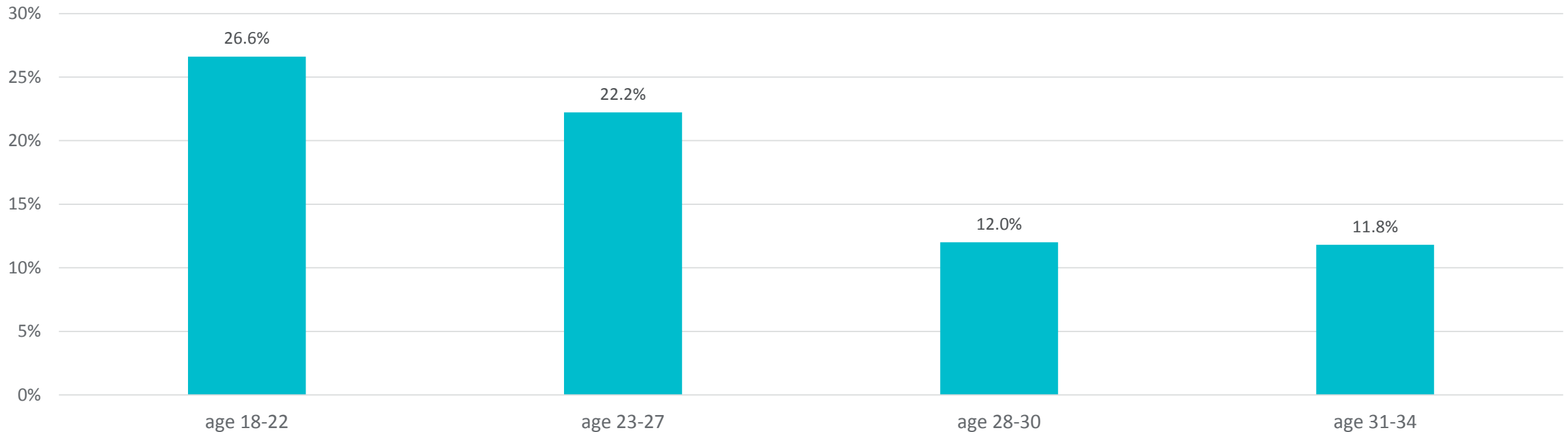


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, IPUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

Note: The Householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented. If it is owned or rented jointly, either person could be designated the householder. Household income includes the income of everyone in the household, including roommates and other non-family members

- College or university enrollment may temporarily cause young adults to live in poverty - the poverty rate for young adult students living off-campus is 62.6%
- However, young adults ages 28 to 34, most of whom have finished school and entered full-time employment, have low poverty rates

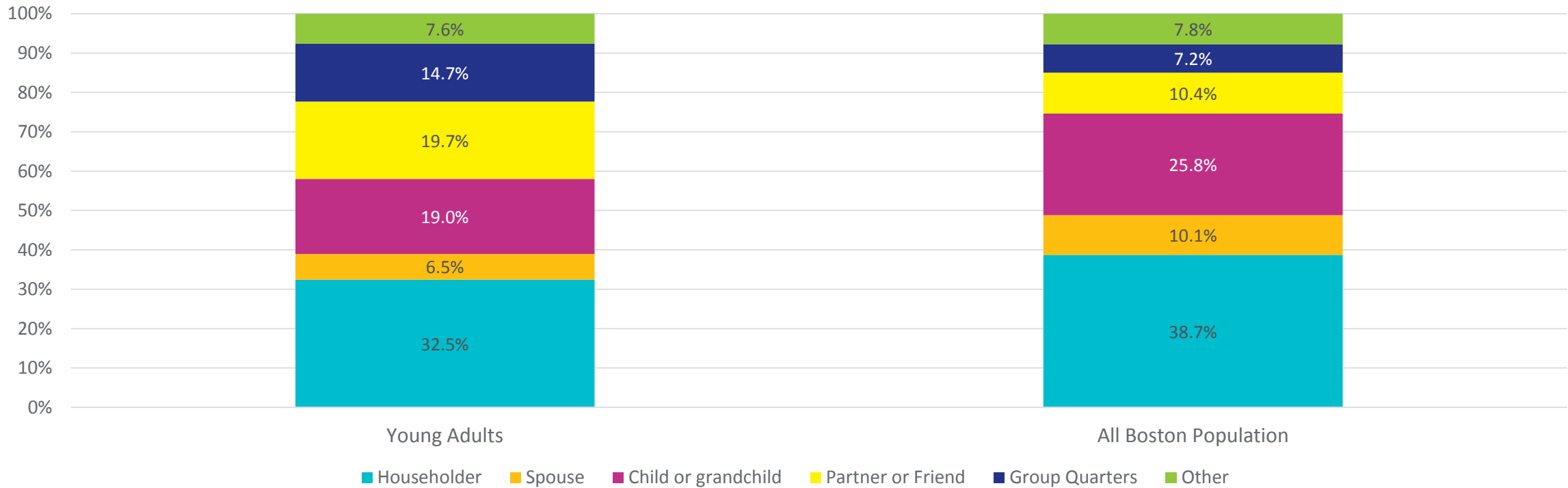
Poverty Rates by Age 2014



Note: Poverty rate calculations do not include the Group Quarters (dormitory) Population and are based on family income, size, and composition.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, PUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Young adults are most likely to be the householder or the partner or friend of the householder, although 19% live with a parent or grandparent
- 14.7% of young adults and 7.2% of the total population live in group quarters, mostly dormitories

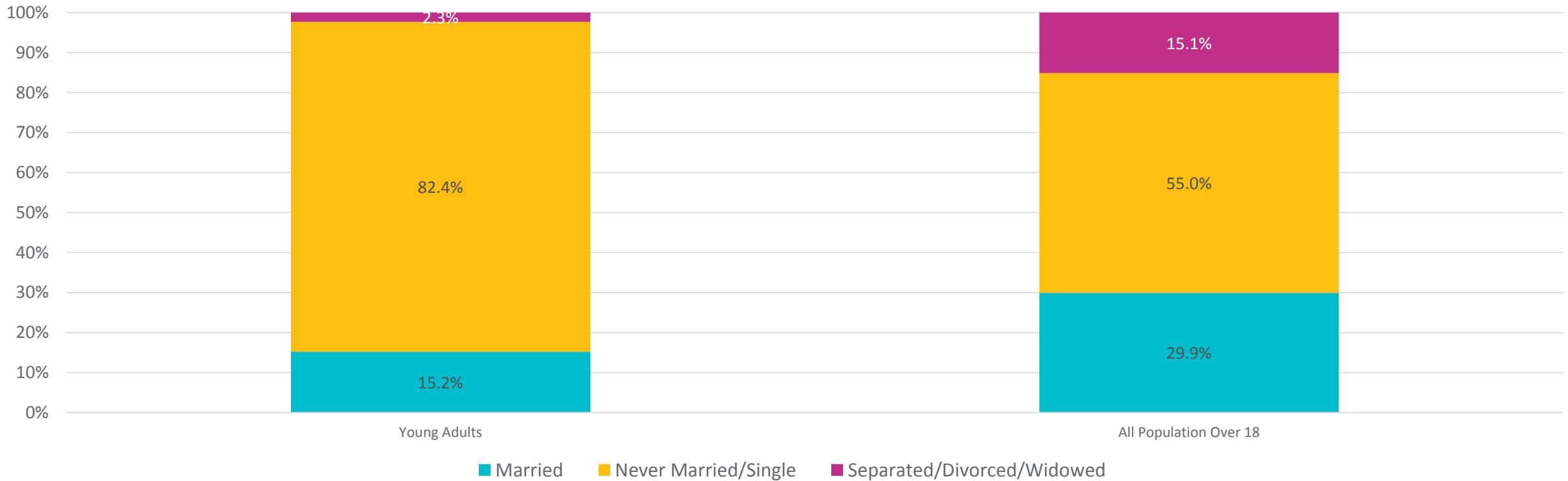
Relationship to Householder 2014



Note: The Householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented. If it is owned or rented jointly, either person could be designated the householder.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, IPUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Only 15.2% of young adults are currently married compared to 29.9% of total population over 18
- 82.4% of young adults in Boston have never been married

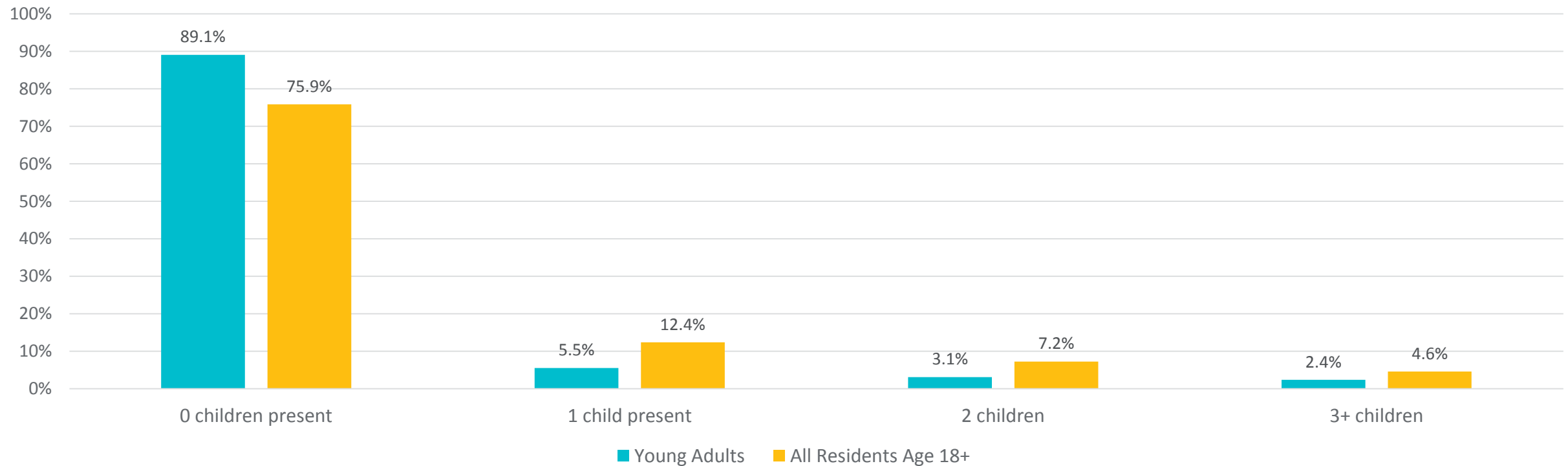
Marital Status 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, IPUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Only 11% of young adults live with any children of their own

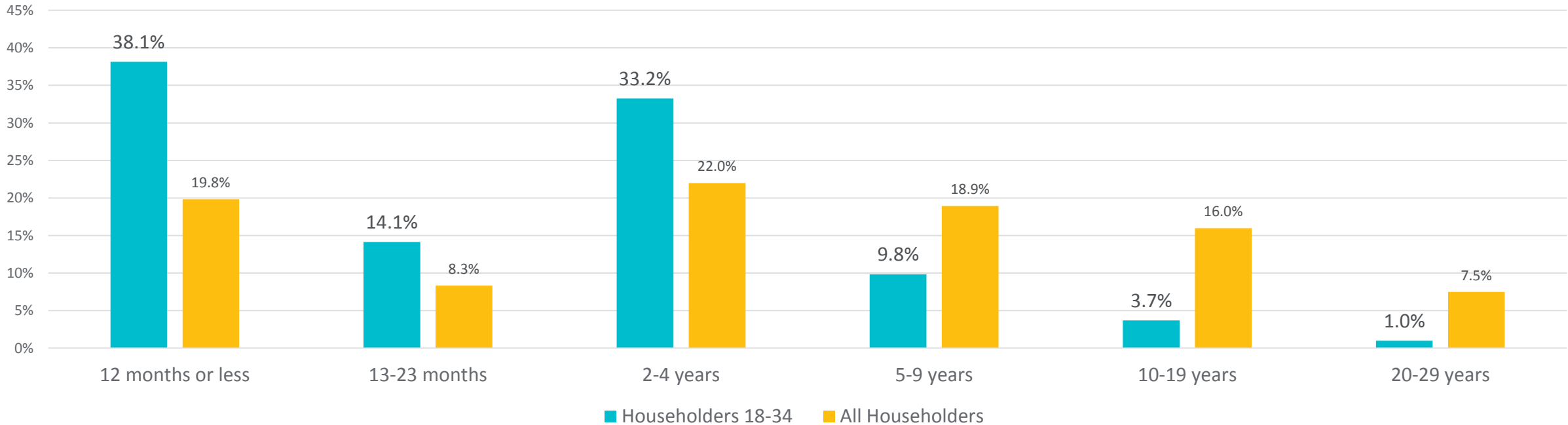
Number of Own Children in Household 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, IPUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Young adults are a transient population – 38.1% of young adult householders have lived at their current residence less than one year and only 14.5% have lived there five years or more
- However, many moves are local – 46% of Boston householders who moved between 2013 and 2014 moved within Suffolk County
- Only 14.9% of young adult householders own their residence

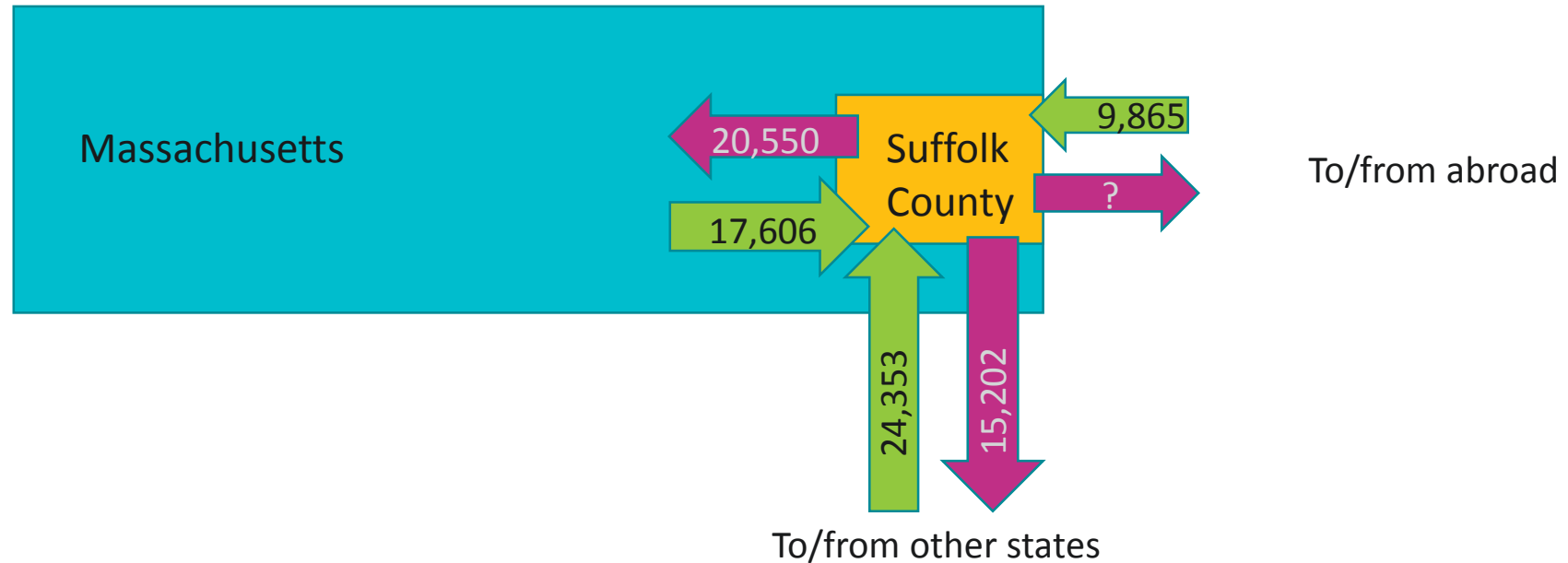
When householder moved into residence 2014



Note: The Householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented. If it is owned or rented jointly, either person could be designated the householder.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, PUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

- About 51,824 young adults moved to Suffolk County between 2013 and 2014: 34% from elsewhere in Massachusetts, 47% from other states, and 19% from abroad
- At least 35,752 young adults left Suffolk County between 2013 and 2014: 57.5% went elsewhere in Massachusetts and 42.5% went to other states. An unknown number of young adults left for other countries

Migration of Young Adults in and out of Suffolk County: 2013-2014

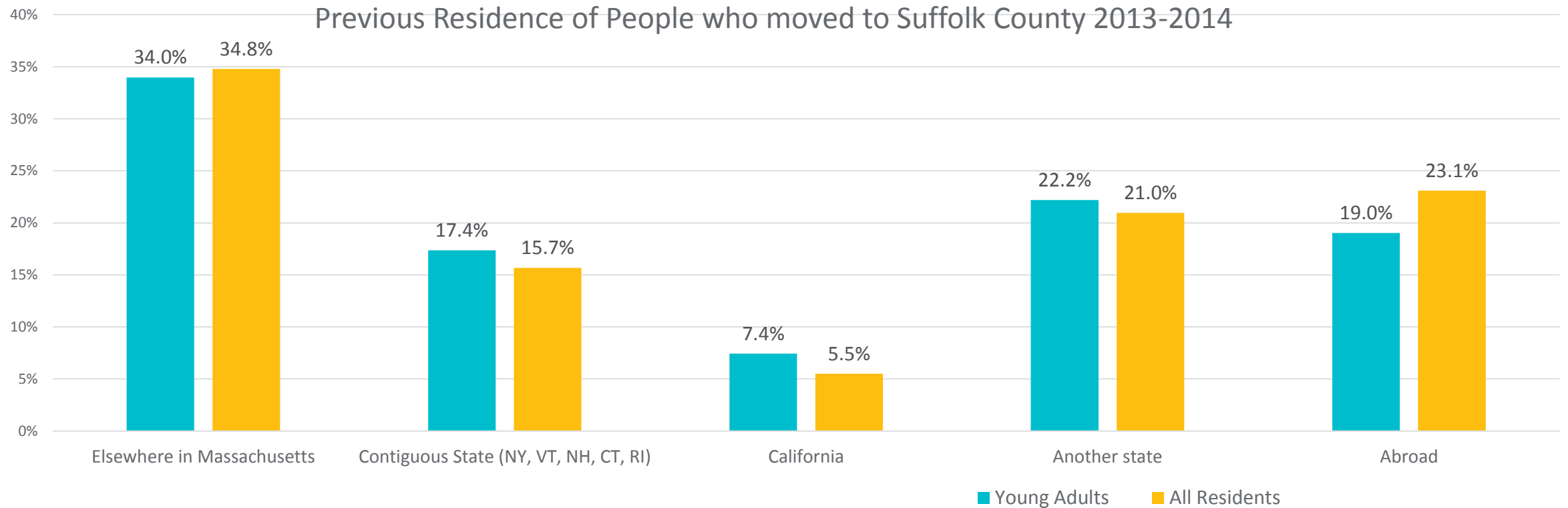


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey, IPUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

Note: Migration information is only available at the county level. Suffolk County includes Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop.

Information was not available for those who left the United States. Since they did not reside in the U.S. in 2014, they were not captured in the 2014 American Community Survey

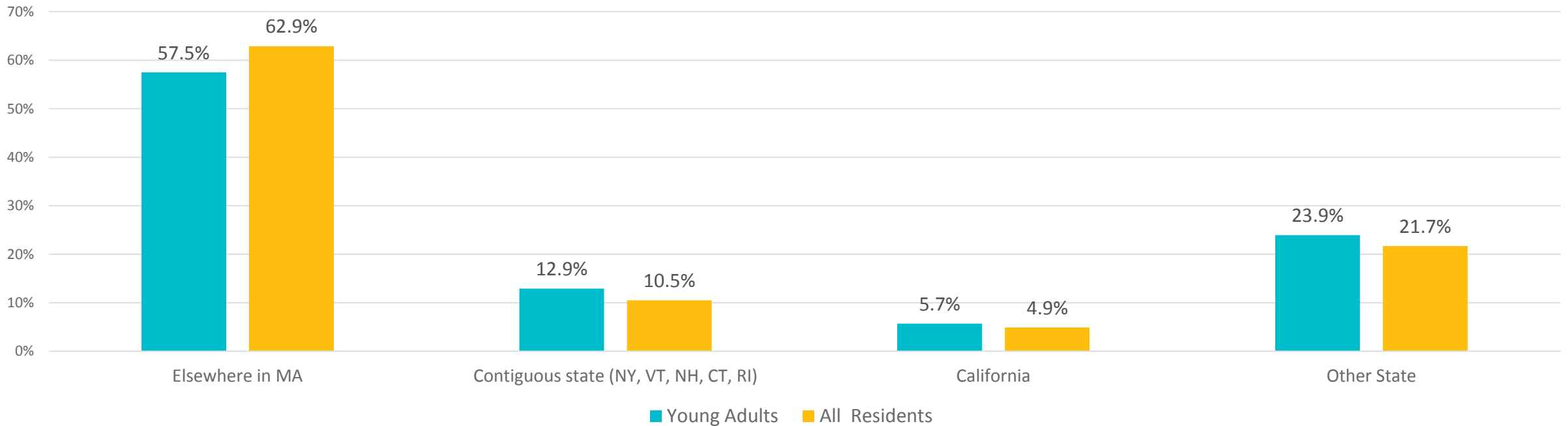
- Of young adults who moved to Suffolk County within the past year, 34% moved from elsewhere in Massachusetts
- 47% moved from elsewhere in the United States, and 19% moved from another country



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, IPUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Of young adults who left Suffolk County within the past year for a U.S. destination, 57.5% moved elsewhere in Massachusetts
- Other young adults moved to other states – notably nearby states and California
- Data are not available for those who left Suffolk County for other countries

Current Residence of People who Left Suffolk County for a U.S. Destination 2013-2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 1-year American Community Survey, IPUMS, BRA Research Division Analysis