

Boston by the Numbers 2017

This report by the Boston Planning and Development Agency Research Division is a short reference guide to the City of Boston. It breaks down the population by age group, gender, and nativity. It also looks at Boston's colleges and universities, housing, and land use.


The background of the page is a dark teal color with a faint, semi-transparent image of three people riding bicycles on a path. The person in the center is wearing a yellow shirt, and the person on the right is wearing a blue shirt and a red cap. The image is slightly out of focus, creating a sense of motion and activity.

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The Boston Planning & Development Agency

We strive to understand the current environment of the city to produce quality research and targeted information that will inform and benefit the residents and businesses of Boston. Our Division conducts research on Boston's economy, population, and commercial markets for all departments of the BPDA, the City of Boston, and related organizations.

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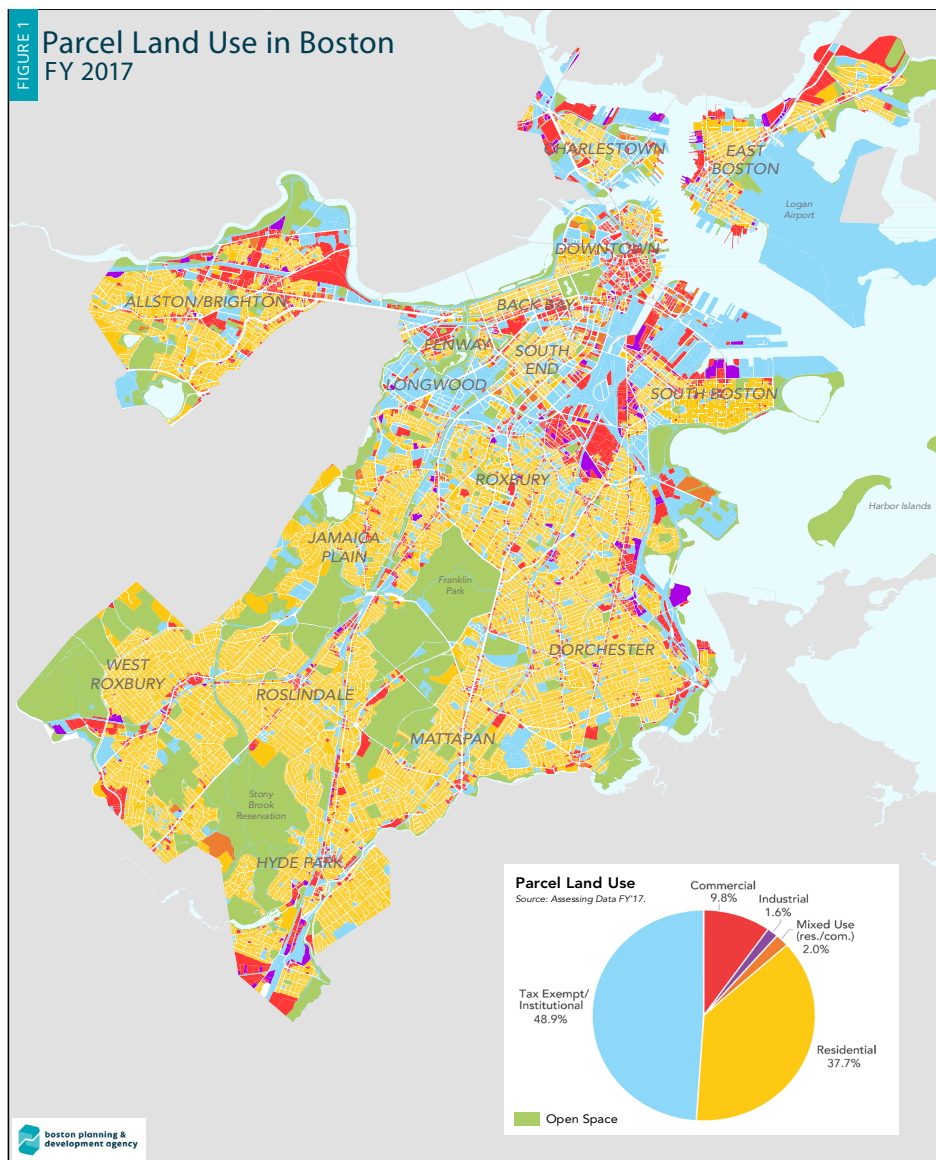
Chapter 1: Land Use and Housing

Land Area

- Boston has a land area of 48.28 square miles.
- Boston's land area is 0.6% of the 7,800 square miles in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- Boston is the second smallest major U.S. city in terms of land area after San Francisco.

Land Use

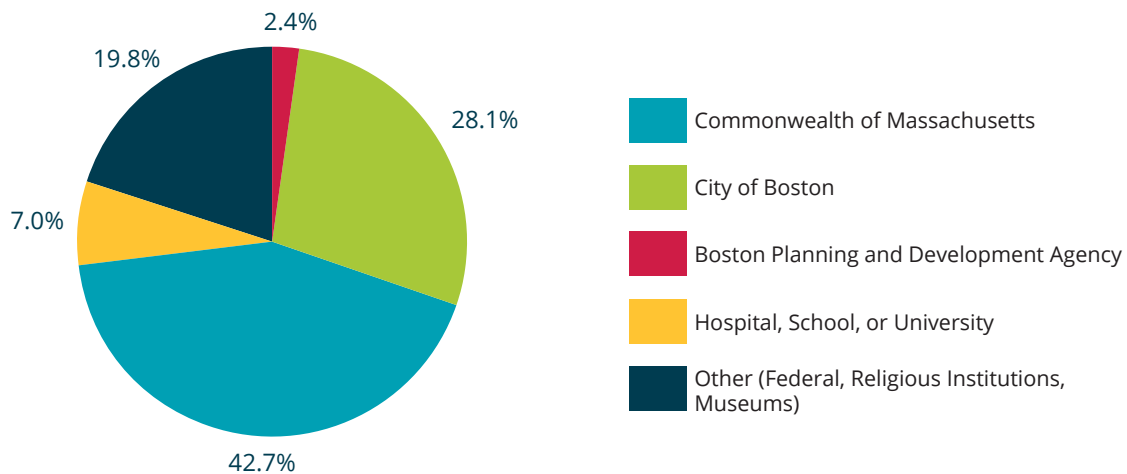
- Almost 50% of land parcels in Boston have tax-exempt public or institutional uses. Approximately 38% of land parcels are residential, and remaining parcels are commercial, industrial, or mixed-use.



Tax-Exempt Properties

- Much of the tax-exempt land in Boston is open space. Over 22.9% of the land in Boston is dedicated to public open space such as the Harbor Islands, the Boston Common and Garden, the Charles River Esplanade, the Emerald Necklace, Franklin Park, the Arnold Arboretum and Stony Brook Reservation.
- Another large category of tax-exempt land is land owned by universities and hospitals. Boston is home to 29 colleges and universities and 21 in-patient hospitals, including Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston University, and Children’s Hospital which are the city’s largest private employers.

FIGURE 2 Ownership of Tax-Exempt Land in Boston 2016



Source: City of Boston Assessing Data FY'16

Commercial Land Uses

- Boston has approximately 66.4 million square feet of office space, growing by almost a million square feet between 2015 and 2016.¹
- Boston has 21.5 million square feet of retail space for almost 4,500 retail and food service establishments.²
- Hotel room supply for the city increased from 19,056 units in 2015 to 19,817 units in 2016.³

¹Office Statistics: Boston Q4 2016, Jones Lang LaSalle IP, Inc.

²CoStar Property, “Total Market Statistics”, 4th Quarter 2015; U.S. Census Bureau 2012 Economic Census, Retail Indicators Branch, BPDA Research Division Analysis

³City of Boston Licensing Board, 2017

Residential Properties

- In 2015, Boston had a population density of 13,752 people per square mile of land.
- Boston had 286,120 housing units in 2015, up 8.9% from 251,935 in 2000.

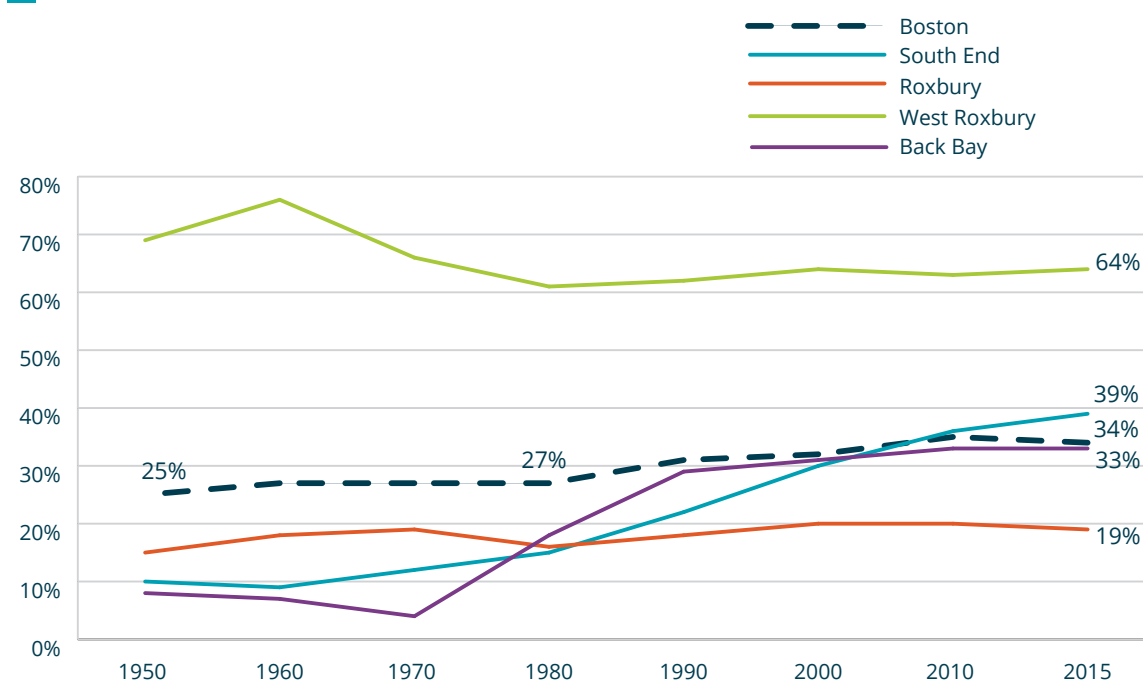
TABLE 3 Housing Units by Units in Structure
2015

UNITS IN STRUCTURE	HOUSING UNITS	% OF TOTAL
1, Attached or Detached	54,319	19.0%
2	40,493	14.2%
3 or 4	68,874	24.1%
5 to 9	28,731	10.0%
10 to 19	22,715	7.9%
20 to 49	26,513	9.3%
50 or more	44,034	15.4%
Mobile Home or Boat, etc.	441	0.2%
Total	286,120	100%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- In 2015, Boston had 261,492 occupied housing units of which 34.1% were owner-occupied.

FIGURE 4 Owner-Occupancy Rate in Boston and Selected Neighborhoods
1950-2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970-2010 Decennial Census, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis
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TABLE 5 Neighborhoods by Owner-Occupied Housing
2015

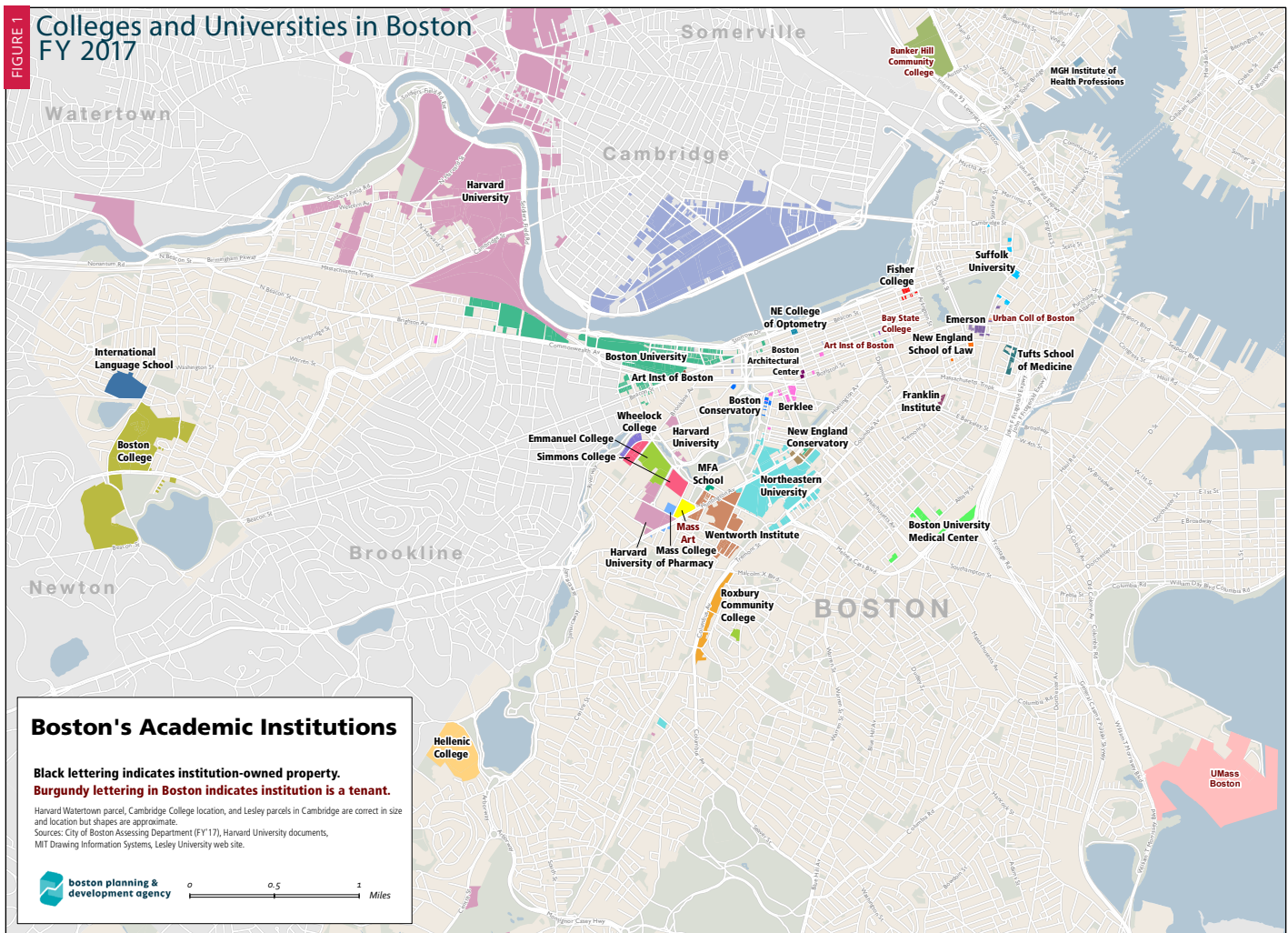
NEIGHBORHOOD	OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS	% OWNER-OCCUPIED
West Roxbury	32,119	67.7%
Hyde Park	35,227	64.3%
Roslindale	28,258	58.6%
South Boston Waterfront	2,663	51.0%
Jamaica Plain	38,190	44.5%
Charlestown	17,982	43.7%
South End	30,527	38.5%
Mattapan	23,868	37.4%
Back Bay	16,027	36.6%
Beacon Hill	9,305	36.5%
South Boston	35,245	35.8%
Dorchester	123,094	34.9%
North End	9,038	28.6%
Downtown	12,939	27.9%
East Boston	44,778	25.1%
Brighton	43,478	23.8%
Roxbury	46,811	20.7%
West End	5,271	19.8%
Longwood	448	17.4%
Allston	14,316	13.9%
Fenway	18,400	11.0%
Mission Hill	14,766	10.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Chapter 2: Colleges and Universities

World-Renowned Center for Education

- Boston is home to 29 colleges and universities¹, plus two community colleges.
- Boston's colleges and universities contribute to the education of its residents: 49.8% of residents aged 25 and over have a Bachelor's degree or higher.²



Sources: City of Boston Assessing Department (FY'17), Harvard University Documents, Back Streets Staff, MIT Drawing Information Systems, Lesley University website BPDA Office of Digital Cartography and GIS Analysis.

¹Department of Neighborhood Development, "City of Boston Student Housing Trends: 2016-2017 Academic Year", excluding MIT

²U.S. Census, 2015 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Enrollment

- In 2016, there were 138,180 students enrolled in colleges and universities (except community colleges) located in Boston.³
- Additionally Bunker Hill Community College and Roxbury Community College enroll about 16,000 students a year.⁴
- Northeastern University is the largest university with 32,817 students.

TABLE 2 Top Ten Colleges in Boston by Student Enrollment
2016

INSTITUTION NAME	TOTAL 2016 ENROLLMENT
Northeastern University	32,817
Boston University	27,890
Boston College	13,851
University of Massachusetts Boston	13,390
Suffolk University	7,378
Berklee College of Music	4,509
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences	4,467
Emerson College	4,450
Wentworth Institute of Technology	4,414
Simmons College	4,367

Source: Department of Neighborhood Development, "City of Boston Student Housing Trends: 2016-2017 Academic Year," excluding MIT

Employment

- Boston's colleges and universities employed 35,164 people in payroll jobs in 2015.⁵
- Payroll employment in Boston's colleges and universities grew 10.8% from 2010 to 2015.

³Department of Neighborhood Development, "City of Boston Student Housing Trends: 2016-2017 Academic Year", excluding MIT

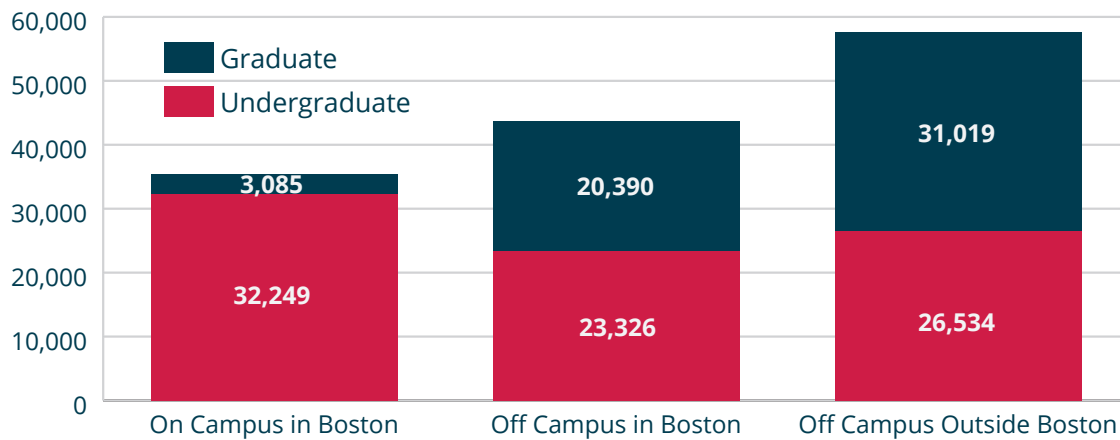
⁴Bunker Hill Community College "Fast Facts- Fall 2016" and Roxbury Community College "About Us."

⁵Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (EOLWD), ES-202 2015, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Student Housing

- Of students enrolled in Boston's institutions of higher education for Fall 2016, 27% lived on campus and 73% lived off-campus.
- Of the students living off-campus, 43% lived in Boston, while 57% lived in other communities.

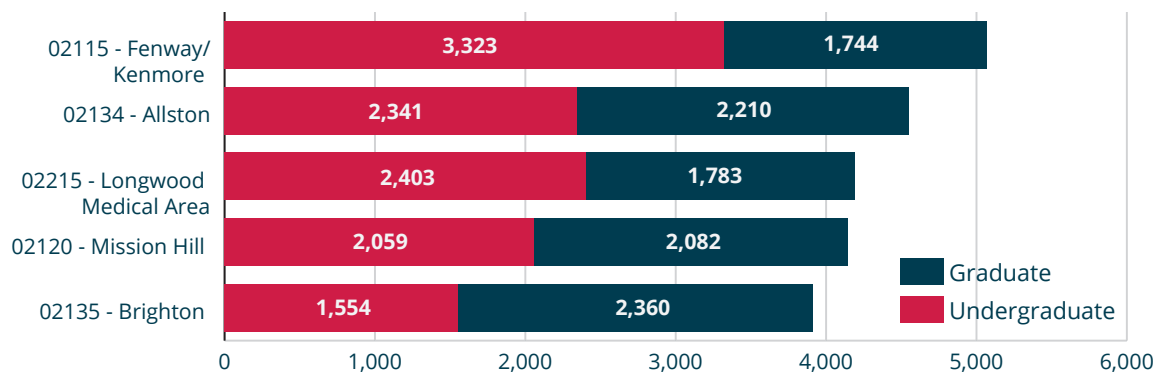
FIGURE 3 Students by Residence
2016



Source: Department of Neighborhood Development, "City of Boston Student Housing Trends: 2016-2017 Academic Year," BPDA Research Division Analysis. Note: includes all institutions reporting under the University Accountability Ordinance, including MIT. MIT and Boston College have on-campus housing outside of Boston which houses approximately 10,000 additional students.

- Of the 43,716 Boston college and university students who live off-campus in Boston, 15.4% live at home and commute, 3.1% live in university-managed housing, and 81.5% obtain housing in the private-housing market.
- Of students living off-campus in Boston, half live in the five neighborhoods in the following graph.

FIGURE 4 Top Zip Codes for Off-Campus Students in Boston
2016



Source: Department of Neighborhood Development, "City of Boston Student Housing Trends: 2016-2017 Academic Year," BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Chapter 3: Gender

Population

- In 2015, Boston's population of 669,469 included 322,149 males and 347,320 females.
- Females made up 51.9% of the Boston population overall, but 58.3% of the elderly (65+) population.

TABLE 1 Boston Population by Age and Gender
2015

AGE	WOMEN	TOTAL	% FEMALE
0-17	55,400	111,929	49.5%
18-24	51,898	99,915	51.9%
25-34	81,335	160,732	50.6%
35-44	43,835	85,081	51.5%
45-64	73,533	140,941	52.2%
65+	41,319	70,871	58.3%
Total	347,320	669,469	51.9%

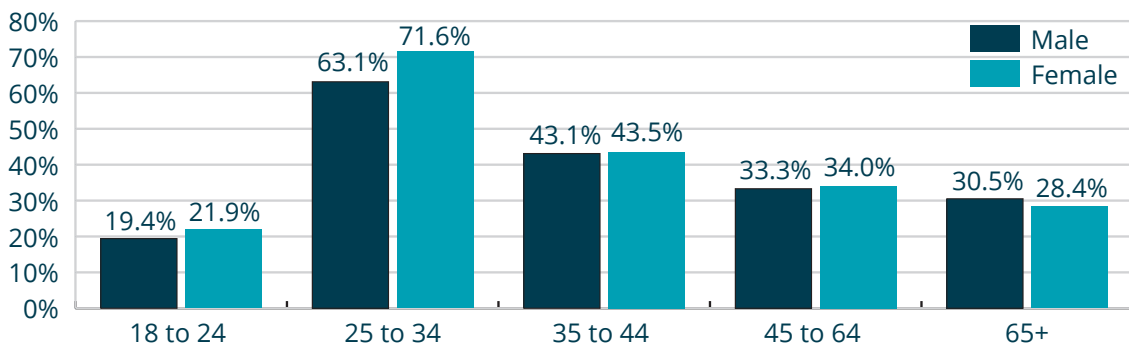
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- Males are slightly more likely to be non-Hispanic Whites (46% vs. 43%). Females are slightly more likely to be Black/African-American (24% vs. 22%).
- A similar share of males and females are foreign born- 29%.
- 35% of men speak a language other than English at home, as compared to 37% of women. Men and women have a similar English language ability- approximately 17% speak English less than "very well."

Education

- Overall, the educational attainment of males and females is similar, but women aged 18 to 34 have a higher educational attainment than men of the same age.
- However, men over age 65 are slightly more likely than women of the same age to have a Bachelor's degree or higher.

FIGURE 2 Bachelor's Degree or Higher by Age and Gender
2015



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

- More women than men aged 18 to 34 are enrolled in college or graduate school.

TABLE 3 Enrollment in College or Graduate School by Age and Gender
2015

AGE	% OF MALES ENROLLED	% OF FEMALES ENROLLED
18 to 24	61.7%	69.2%
25 to 34	15.7%	19.7%

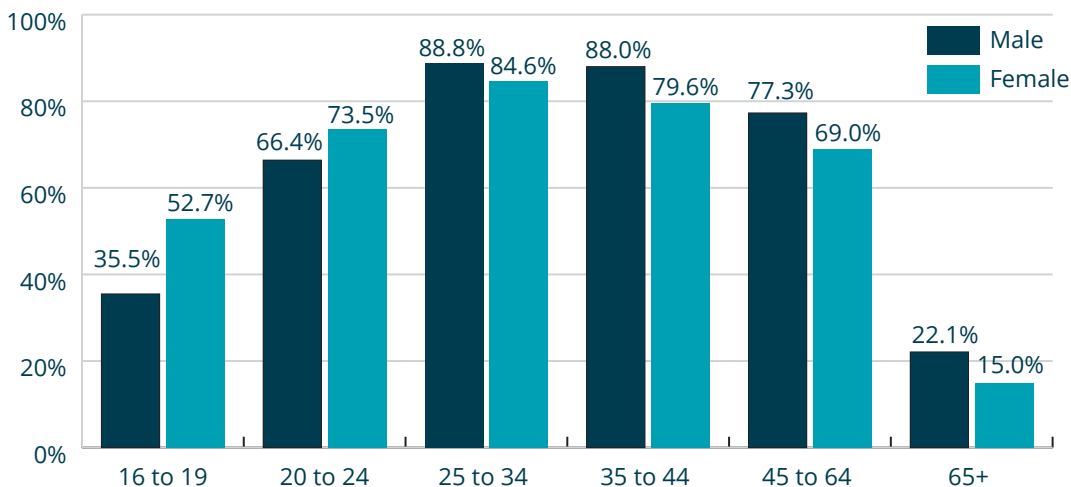
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- In the Boston Public Schools (BPS), 77% of female students and 68% of male students graduate from high school in four years.¹
- By 2015, 43% of female BPS graduates in the high school class of 2009 had completed an associate's or bachelor's degree, while only 29% of male BPS graduates had done the same.²

Employment

- Overall, women have a lower labor force participation rate than men, except from the ages of 16 to 24.
- In the 16 to 19 age group, women have a significantly higher labor force participation rate than men.

FIGURE 4 Labor Force Participation by Age and Gender
2015



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

¹Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, School and District Profiles 2016, BPDA Research Division Analysis

²National Student Clearinghouse StudentTracker, analyzed by Boston Private Industry Council (PIC)

- Of the population who is employed, 64.9% of men, and 55.3% of women, work full-time, year-round.
- Men are more likely than women to be employed in computer, engineering, science, and blue collar occupations. Women are more likely to be employed in education, legal, and community occupations, along with sales and office occupations.

TABLE 5 Occupations of Civilian Employed Boston Residents by Gender for Ages 16+ 2015

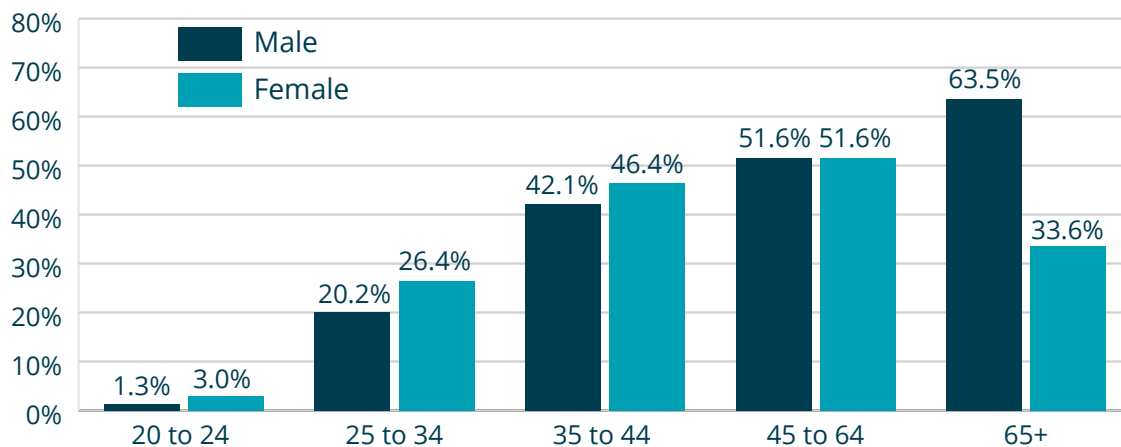
OCCUPATION	MEN	WOMEN
Sales and office occupations	17.2%	24.1%
Service occupations	19.5%	21.7%
Management, business, and financial occupations	18.2%	18.9%
Education, legal, and community occupations	11.6%	18.0%
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations	5.2%	8.3%
Computer, engineering, and science occupations	10.6%	5.1%
Blue collar occupations*	17.7%	3.9%

* includes natural resources, construction, maintenance, production, transportation, and material moving occupations
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Relationships

- 17.2% of the Boston population aged 20+ is married. 50% of women aged 65+ are widowed or divorced.

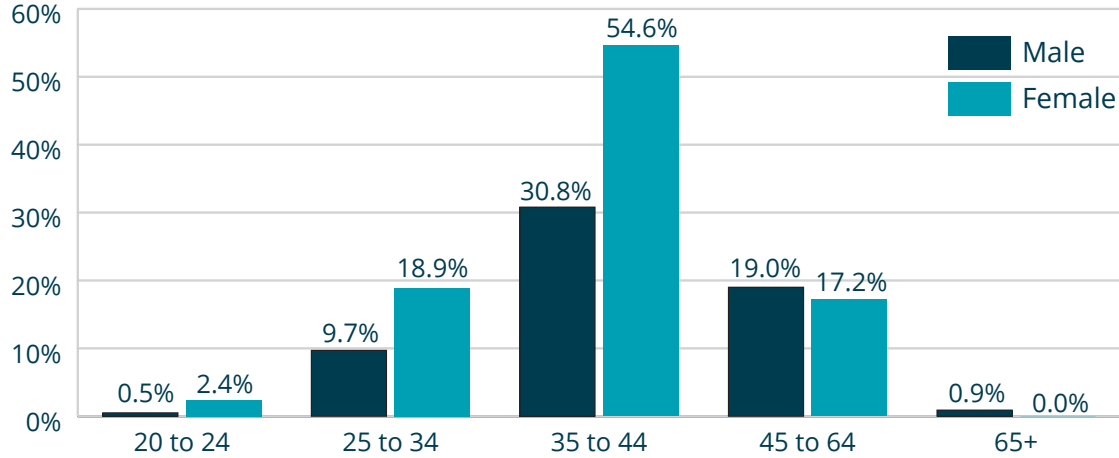
FIGURE 6 Married Population by Age and Gender 2015



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

- 15% of Boston men aged 20 to 64 live with their own children under 18, in comparison with 22.5% of women.
- Among residents aged 20 to 64 living with their own children under 18, 19.5% of men, and 45.4% of women are not married.

FIGURE 7 Population Living with Own Children Under 18 by Gender and Age
2015



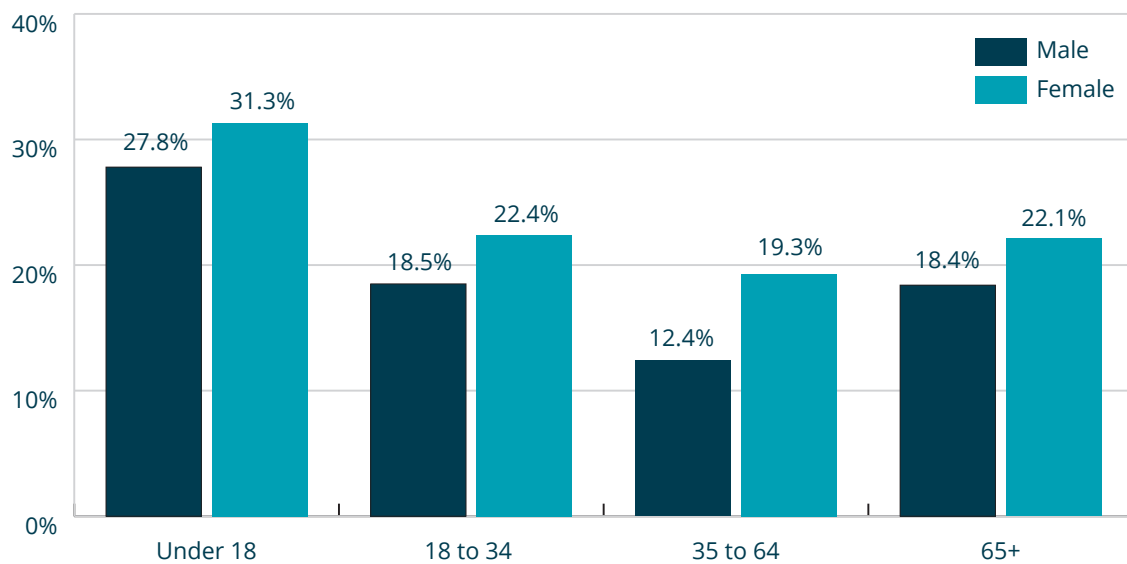
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey IPUMS, BPDA Research Division Analysis



Income and Poverty

- The median income for male residents aged 15 and over with income (including part-time workers) is \$35,246. For women it is only \$25,784.
- Among those who worked full-time, year-round, median income for males is \$60,169 and for females is \$51,981.
- The poverty rate is higher for females than for males in all age groups.

FIGURE 8 Poverty Rate by Age and Gender
2015



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

- Single mothers make a median earned income of \$17,201 a year, while single fathers make a median of \$23,608.

Neighborhoods

- The relatively higher female population in Longwood may be due to the large percentage of female students at Simmons and Emmanuel Colleges.

TABLE 9 Neighborhoods by Female Population Share
2015

NEIGHBORHOOD	FEMALES	% OF NEIGHBORHOOD POPULATION
Longwood	3,439	65.7%
Brighton	26,386	55.2%
Charlestown	9,935	55.0%
West Roxbury	17,935	54.7%
Roslindale	15,615	54.5%
Back Bay	9,519	54.2%
Jamaica Plain	21,100	53.8%
Fenway	16,980	52.7%
Roxbury	26,990	52.7%
Beacon Hill	4,857	52.2%
Hyde Park	18,557	52.1%
Dorchester	64,757	52.0%
Mattapan	12,562	51.8%
South Boston	18,366	51.5%
Allston	10,161	51.4%
North End	4,566	50.1%
Downtown	8,352	49.4%
South Boston Waterfront	1,394	48.7%
Mission Hill	8,132	48.7%
South End	15,372	48.6%
West End	2,748	46.2%
East Boston	20,541	45.7%

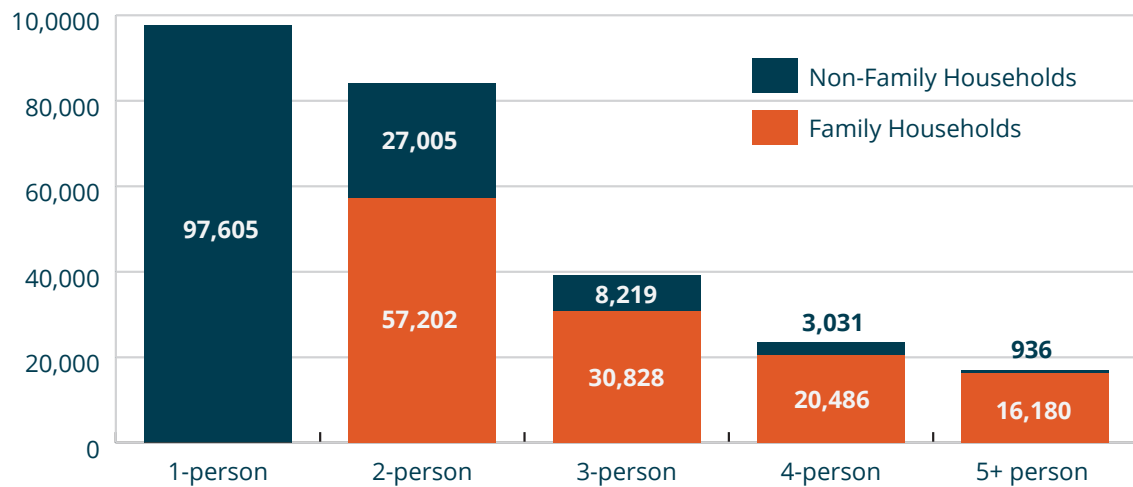
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Chapter 4: Children and Families

Households

- Boston is home to 261,492 households of which 124,696 (47.7%) are family households.¹
- 37.3% of all Boston households are one-person non-family households.
- Families of four make up only 7.8% of all Boston households.

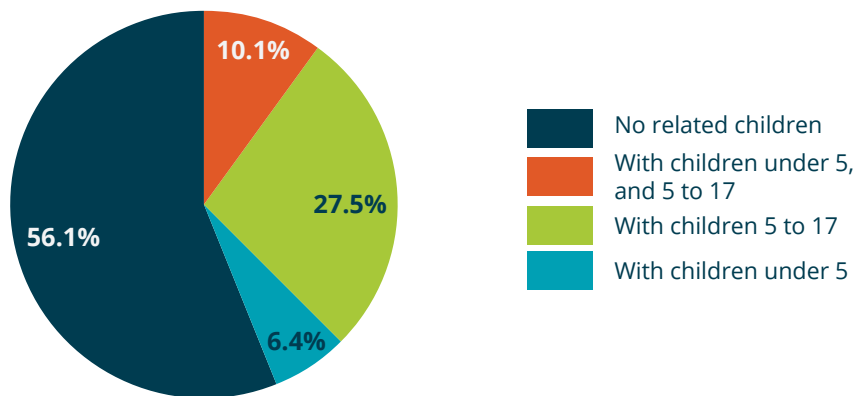
FIGURE 1 Boston's Households by Type and Size
2015



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

- 43.9% of family households in 2015 have children under the age of 18.

FIGURE 2 Families by Presence of Children
2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis

¹The U.S. Census Bureau defines a family as, "two or more people (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage, or adoption residing in the same housing unit." Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Family Types

- Married couple families make up 56.4% of all family households.
- Families that are headed by women with no spouse present make up 33.5% of all family households.
- About 49.4% of children in Boston live with only one parent.

TABLE 3 Families by Type
2010, 2015

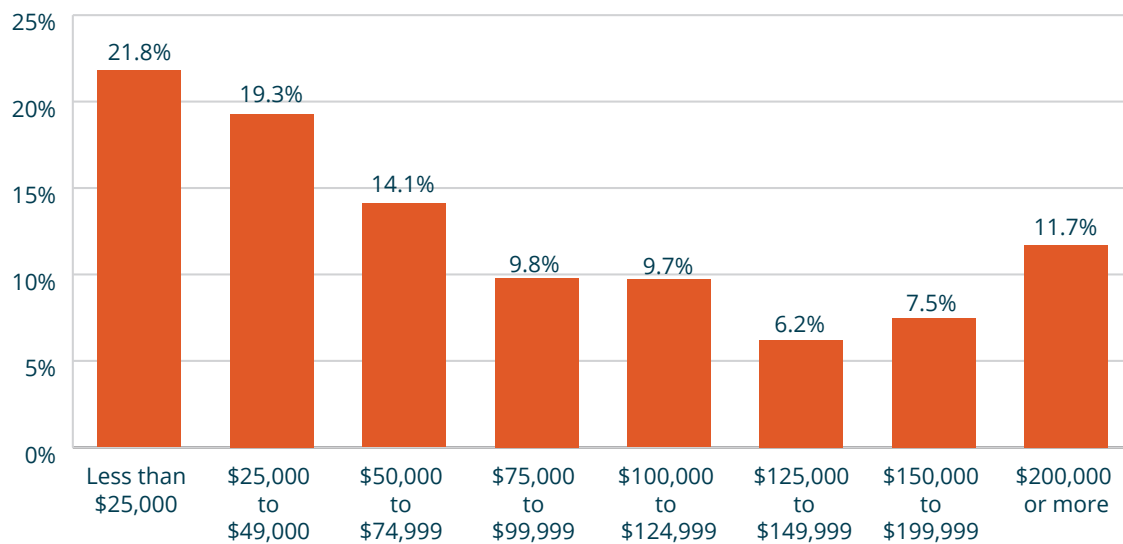
FAMILY TYPE	2010		2015		% CHANGE
Family Households	116,244		124,696		7.3%
Married-Couple Families	64,502	55.5%	70,370	56.4%	9.1%
Male Householder Families	10,441	9.0%	12,538	10.1%	20.1%
Female Householder Families	41,301	35.5%	41,788	33.5%	1.2%

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

Income and Poverty

- The median family income in Boston in 2015 was \$65,083 per year. The median family income in 2010 was slightly higher- \$65,959 in 2015 inflation-adjusted dollars.

FIGURE 4 Family Income in the Past 12 Months
2015



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

- Overall, 17% of Boston families live in poverty, similar to the family poverty rate in 2010.²
 - However, the poverty rate is only 6.2% for married-couple families.
 - Caring for children under the age of 18, especially as a single parent, increases a family's chance of living in poverty. Overall 29.6% of children in Boston live in poverty.
 - 51.2% of all families with related children under 18 are headed by a single female householder.
- The poverty rate for families with children headed by single mothers is 47.1%. For single fathers, the poverty rate is 30.4%.

TABLE 5 Families in Poverty by Family Type
2015

FAMILY TYPE	FAMILIES IN POVERTY	POVERTY RATE	% OF FAMILIES IN POVERTY
All Families	21,225	17.0%	100%
Married-Couple Families	4,360	3.2%	56.4%
<i>with related children under 18</i>	2,064	7.6%	
Female-Headed	14,350	34.3%	33.5%
<i>with related children under 18</i>	11,195	47.1%	
Male-Headed	2,515	20.1%	10.1%
<i>with related children under 18</i>	1,644	30.4%	

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

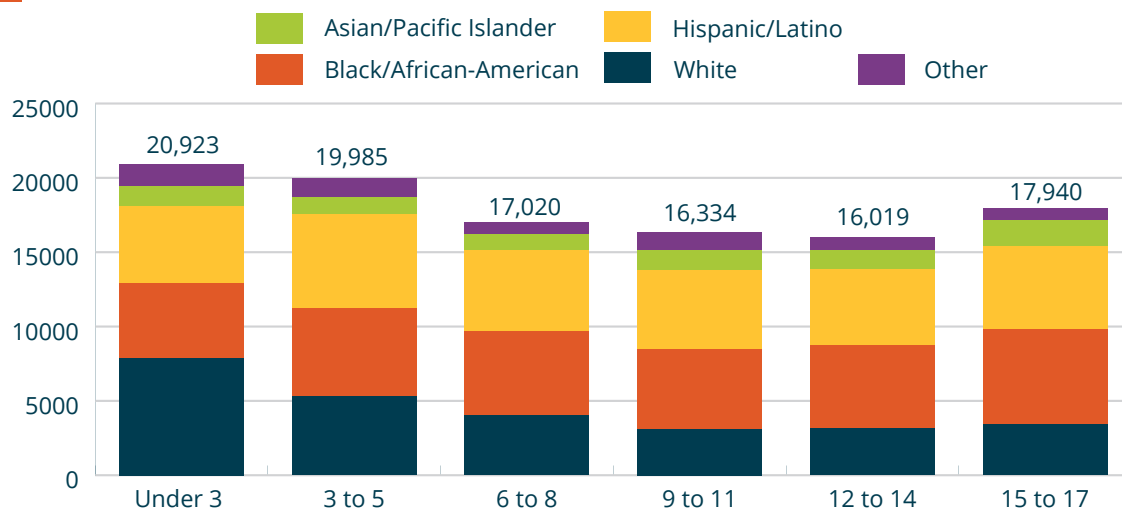


²Note: Poverty Rate is a percentage of families who have income below the poverty threshold set by the U.S. Census. The poverty threshold varies by household size and composition. In 2015, the poverty threshold for a family of 2 adults and 2 children was \$24,036.

Children

- There are 111,328 children living in Boston, 16.6% of the total population.
- Overall, children in Boston are 25% White, 30.8% Hispanic, 30% Black/African-American, 7.5% Asian /Pacific Islander, and 6.7% other.
- However, the composition varies by age group. Non-Hispanic White children make up 37.4% of the under 3 age group, but only 14% of the 12 to 14 year olds.

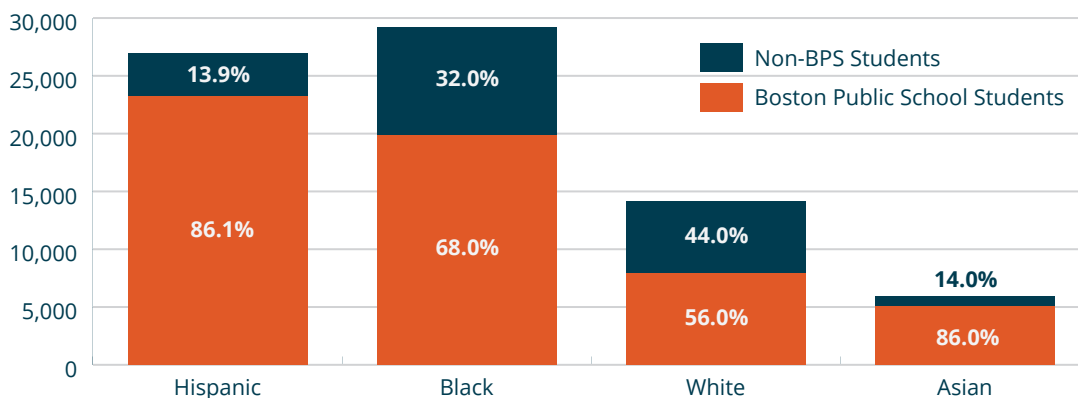
FIGURE 6 Children in Boston by Age and Race/Ethnicity
2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- About 73% of school-aged children in Boston attend Boston Public Schools
- Only 56% of white students attend Boston Public Schools, while 86% of Black and Asian students attend BPS.

FIGURE 7 Pre-Kindergarten to High School Students by Race & Ethnicity 2016



Source: Boston Public Schools at a Glance: 2016-2017, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- The Boston Public Schools 4-year graduation rate is 71%.¹
- 92.8% of children in Boston are native-born; however, almost half live with at least one foreign-born parent.
- 45.9% of children aged 5 to 17 speak a language other than English at home, compared to 53.3% in 2010.

TABLE 8 Top Languages Spoken at Home for Population Aged 5 to 17 2015

LANGUAGE	TOTAL	PERCENT
English Only	40,158	54.1%
Spanish	18,256	24.6%
Haitian Creole	4,054	5.5%
Chinese	3,065	4.1%
Arabic	1,649	2.2%
Portuguese or Cape Verdean Creole	1,582	1.8%
Cushite	1,369	1.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis
 Note: Chinese includes Mandarin and Cantonese. Cushite languages are spoken primarily in Somalia, Eritrea, Djibouti, and Ethiopia.

¹Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, School and District Profiles BPDA Research Division Analysis

- Children in Boston are concentrated in certain neighborhoods. Children make up over 21% of the populations of Roxbury, Dorchester, Hyde Park, Mattapan, and West Roxbury. By contrast, the South Boston Waterfront, North End, Fenway, and Longwood have almost no children.

TABLE 9 Neighborhoods by Children Under 18
2015

NEIGHBORHOOD	CHILDREN UNDER 18	% OF NEIGHBORHOOD POPULATION
Roxbury	11,833	23.1%
Dorchester	28,715	23.1%
Hyde Park	8,015	22.5%
Mattapan	5,344	22.0%
West Roxbury	7,115	21.7%
East Boston	9,265	20.6%
Roslindale	5,873	20.5%
Charlestown	3,681	20.4%
Jamaica Plain	6,719	17.1%
South Boston	4,987	14.0%
South End	4,187	13.2%
Mission Hill	1,972	11.8%
Beacon Hill	893	9.6%
Brighton	4,286	9.0%
West End	530	8.9%
Downtown	1,265	7.5%
Back Bay	1,058	6.0%
Allston	1,043	5.3%
South Boston Waterfront	128	4.5%
North End	392	4.3%
Fenway	760	2.4%
Longwood	67	1.3%

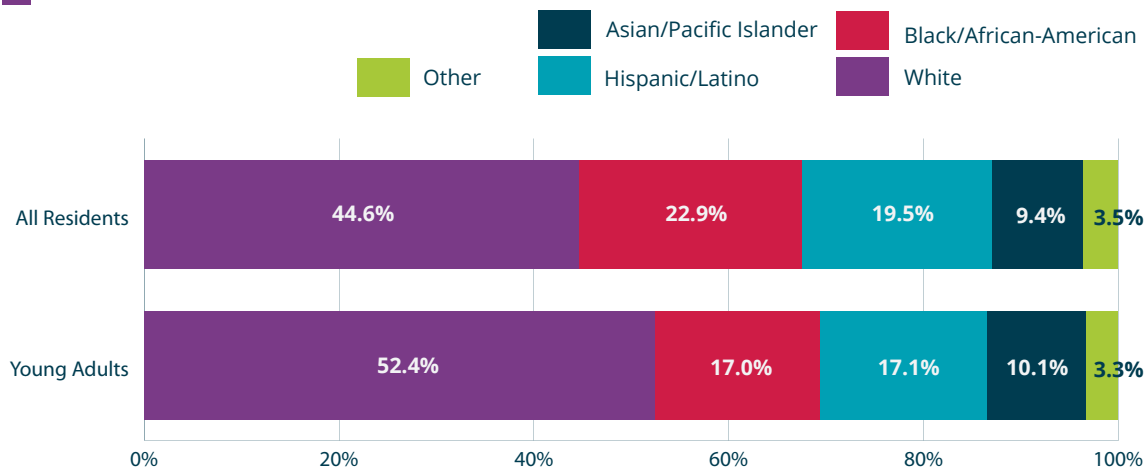
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Chapter 5: Young Adults

Population

- In 2015, there were 260,647 Boston residents between the ages of 18 and 34.¹ This was a 5.1% increase from the 248,095 young adults in Boston in 2010.²
- Residents aged 18 to 34 make up 38.9% of Boston's total population, a share that has been steady since 1980 and which is higher than Boston's peer cities.
- In 2015, the non-Hispanic White share of the young adult population was 52.4%, compared to 44.6% in the Boston population overall.

FIGURE 1 Race & Ethnicity in Boston 2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- 24.9% of the young adults in Boston are foreign born, compared to 28.4% of Boston's population.
- 34.3% speak a language other than English at home, and 13.9% of young adults specifically speak Spanish at home.
- 9.1% speak English less than "very well."

Mobility

- Young adults are highly mobile.
- 70% of new arrivals in Boston in a given year are between the ages of 18 and 34.³
- Approximately 63% of people leaving in a given year are young adults.

¹Note: Source is U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis unless otherwise noted.

²U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census, BPDA Research Division Analysis

³U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis

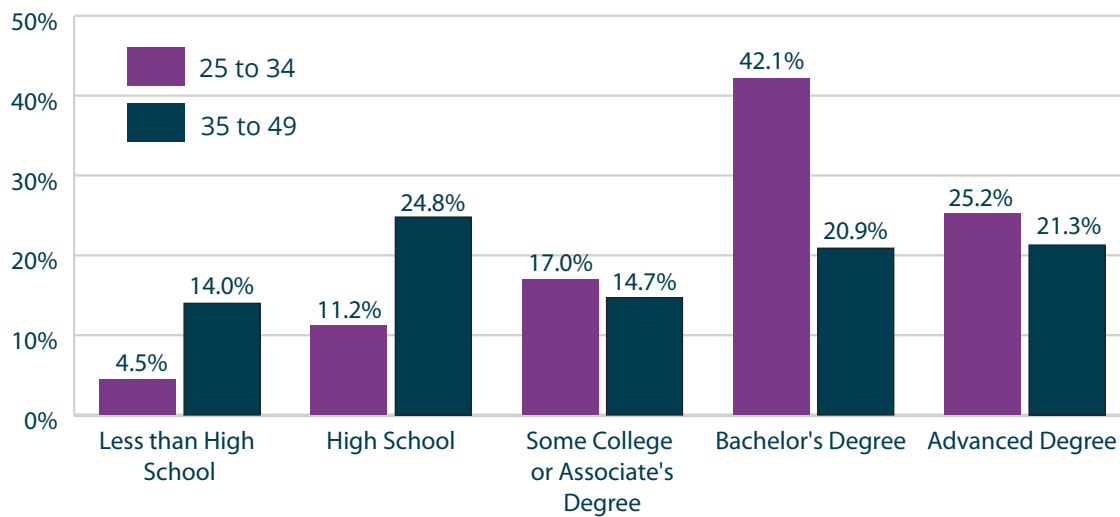
Households

- 84.9% of young adults live in households, including 17.6% of young adults who live with a parent or grandparent.
- 15.1% of all young adults reside in group quarters, such as a college dormitory – among 18 to 22 year olds this percentage rises to 35.3%.
- Only 17.3% of young adult householders own their residence.³
- Only 14.5% of young adults are currently married. 83.6% have never been married, and 1.9% are widowed, divorced, or separated.

Education

- Almost 70% of young adults aged 18 to 24 are currently enrolled in school, compared to only 18% of 25 to 34 year olds.
- Young adults aged 25 to 34 are well-educated- 67% have a bachelor's degree or higher.
- Boston residents aged 35 to 49 have lower levels of educational attainment.

FIGURE 2 Educational Attainment by Age
2015



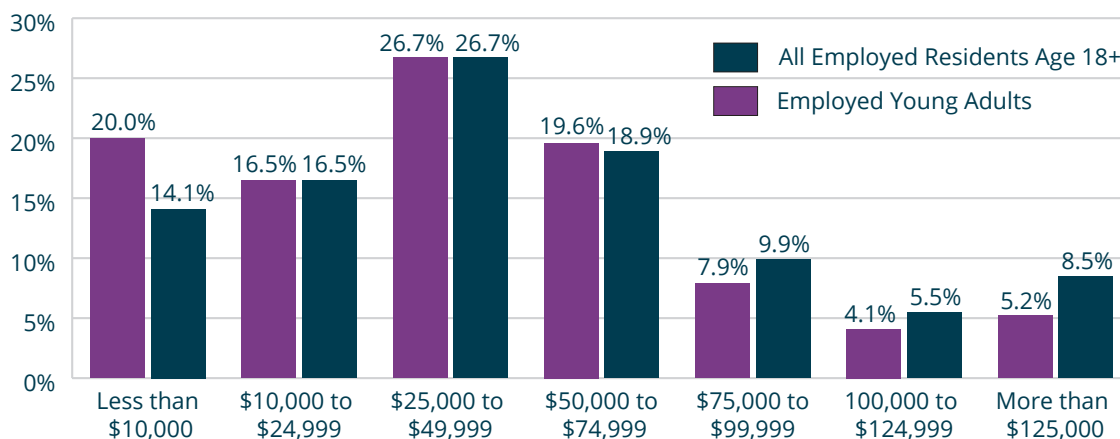
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis

³Note: 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.

Employment, Income, and Poverty

- The labor force participation rate for young adults in Boston is 78.4%.
- The median income of employed young adults is \$36,000 a year compared to \$41,000 a year for all employed workers aged 18 and over.
- School enrollment affects the income of young adults: the median personal income of employed young adults who are enrolled in school is only \$10,000 a year.

FIGURE 3 Personal Income for Employed Residents
2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis

- The poverty rate of young adults in households falls from 25.4% among 18 to 22 year olds to 8.4% among 31 to 34 year olds.
- Although students living in dormitories are not included in poverty calculations, the poverty rate for young adult students who live off-campus is 25.7%.
- The median household income of households with a householder aged 18 to 34 is \$70,000 compared to \$58,500 for all Boston households.⁴

⁴Note: Household income includes the income of everyone in the household, including roommates and other non-family members.

Neighborhoods

- The share of the neighborhood population that is between the ages of 18 to 34 varies dramatically, from 94.9% in Longwood to 17.5% in West Roxbury.

TABLE 4 Neighborhoods by Young Adult Population Share
2015

NEIGHBORHOOD	YOUNG ADULTS	% OF NEIGHBORHOOD POPULATION
Longwood	4,966	94.9%
Fenway	25,849	80.3%
Allston	15,494	78.4%
North End	5,386	59.1%
Brighton	27,067	56.7%
Mission Hill	9,167	54.9%
Beacon Hill	4,949	53.2%
Back Bay	8,751	49.8%
South Boston Waterfront	1,413	49.4%
Downtown	7,710	45.6%
South Boston	16,080	45.1%
West End	2,546	42.8%
South End	11,617	36.8%
Jamaica Plain	14,300	36.4%
Roxbury	17,198	33.6%
Charlestown	5,888	32.6%
East Boston	14,111	31.4%
Dorchester	36,896	29.6%
Mattapan	5,757	23.7%
Hyde Park	8,260	23.2%
Roslindale	6,569	22.9%
West Roxbury	5,725	17.5%

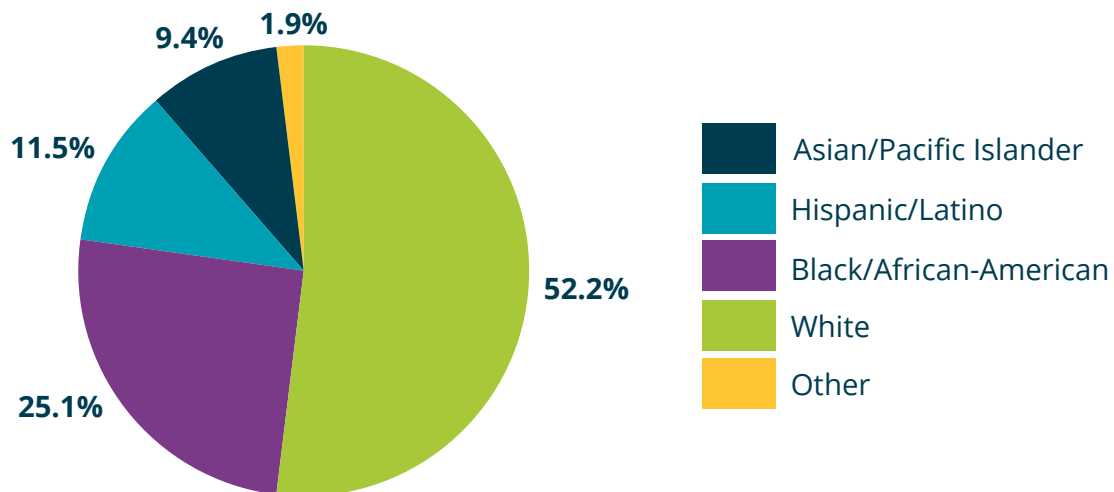
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Chapter 6: Elderly

Population

- In 2015, there were 70,871 Boston residents age 65 or over, up 13.8% from 2010.
- Residents age 65 and over make up 10.6% of Boston's total population, a share that has been steady since 2000.
- The over-65 population is 58.3% female.
- The non-Hispanic White share of the elderly population is 52.2% - down from 67.4% in 2000, but still higher than that of the Boston population overall (44.6%).
- 40.7% of the elderly are foreign born, compared to 28.4% of Boston's population.
- 35.6% speak a language other than English at home, and 29.6% speak English less than "very well."

FIGURE 1 Boston's Elderly Population by Race & Ethnicity 2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Households

- 52,692 Boston households, 20.2% of total households, include one or more people 65 years and over.
- 94.9% of the elderly live in households, while 5.1% live in group quarters, such as a nursing home.
- 45.9% of the elderly live in owner-occupied housing, compared to 33.9% of the general population.
- 43.5% of the elderly are currently married, 24.2% are widowed, 13.8% are divorced, and 14.6% were never married.
- 4.6% of the elderly live with their grandchild(ren), and 0.9% are responsible for their grandchild(ren).
- 56.6% of elderly householders live alone.

Economic Status

- Only 17.6% of the population over age 65 was in the labor force in 2015, and 43.1% were living with some sort of disability.
- Overall, 20.3% of the elderly population lives below the poverty line.
- The median personal income for the employed population age 65 and older is \$60,840.
- The share of the neighborhood population that is elderly ranges from 17.4% in West Roxbury to 0.8% in Longwood.

TABLE 2 Neighborhoods by Elderly Population Share
2015

NEIGHBORHOOD	ELDERLY POPULATION	% OF NEIGHBORHOOD POPULATION
West Roxbury	5,712	17.4%
Downtown	2,558	15.1%
Back Bay	2,556	14.6%
Hyde Park	4,643	13.0%
Mattapan	3,123	12.9%
North End	1,114	12.2%
West End	725	12.2%
Roslindale	3,436	12.0%
South End	3,740	11.8%
Brighton	5,600	11.7%
Beacon Hill	1,066	11.5%
Mission Hill	1,781	10.7%
Jamaica Plain	3,953	10.1%
Roxbury	5,065	9.9%
Dorchester	11,879	9.5%
Charlestown	1,709	9.5%
South Boston	3,160	8.9%
East Boston	3,951	8.8%
South Boston Waterfront	235	8.2%
Fenway	1,447	4.5%
Allston	621	3.1%
Longwood	40	0.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Chapter 7: Foreign Born

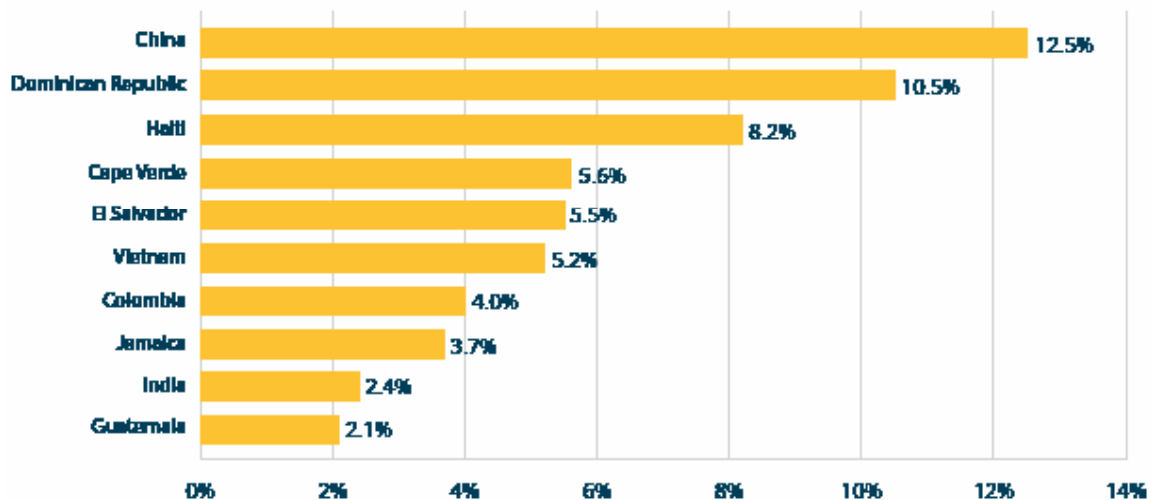
Population

- From 2000 to 2015, Boston's foreign-born population grew from 151,836 to 190,123. The foreign born account for 28.4% of the city's population, an increase of 25.2% over this time period.¹
- Boston has the 7th highest share of foreign-born residents among 25 peer U.S. cities.²
- Naturalized citizens make up 50.3% of Boston's foreign-born population.
- 47% of Boston's children under age 18 lived with at least one foreign-born parent in 2015.

Origins

- China, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti were the most common countries of origin for Boston's foreign-born population in 2015.

FIGURE 1 Top 10 Countries of Origin for the Foreign-Born Population 2015



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

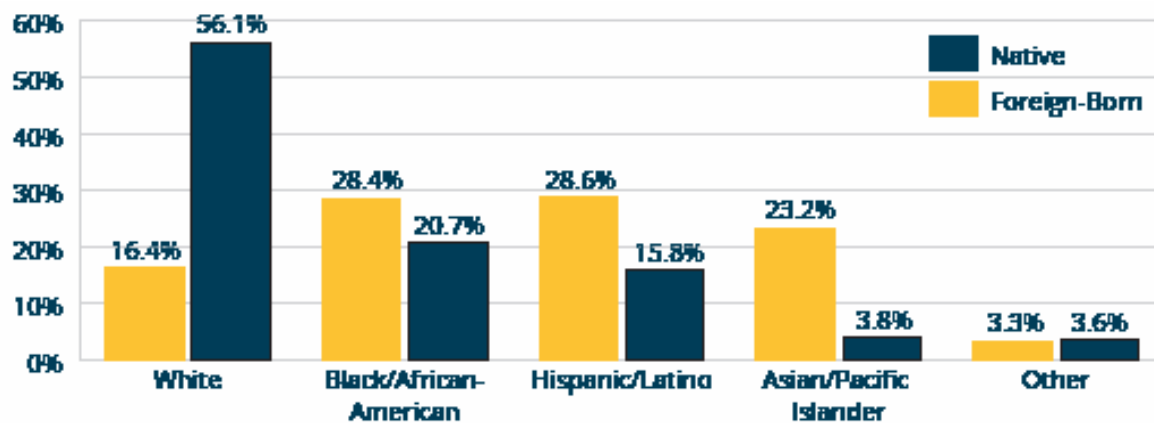
¹Source: 2000 Decennial Census SF 3, and 2015 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

²Note: Source is U.S. Census, 2015 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis unless otherwise noted. Peer cities are the principal cities in the nation's largest metropolitan areas, plus three cities whose highly educated metropolitan area populations make them good comparisons for Boston.

Race & Ethnicity

- The race and ethnicity of the foreign-born population reflect the predominance of countries of origin in the Caribbean, Latin America, and Asia.

FIGURE 2 Race and Ethnicity by Nativity
2015



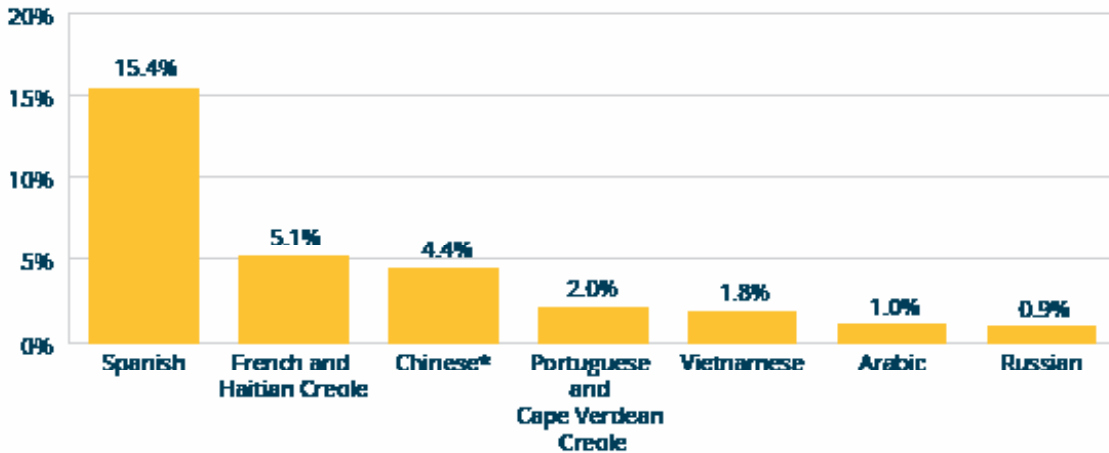
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Languages

- From 2000 to 2015, the percentage of residents 5 years or older speaking a non-English language at home increased from 33% to 36%.
- In 2015, 17.3% of all Boston residents 5 years or older had limited English proficiency, up from 16.3% in 2000.³
- Spanish was the most common non-English language spoken at home in Boston.

³Limited English language proficiency is self-identified as speaking English less than "very well."

FIGURE 3 Most Common Non-English Languages Spoken At Home
2015



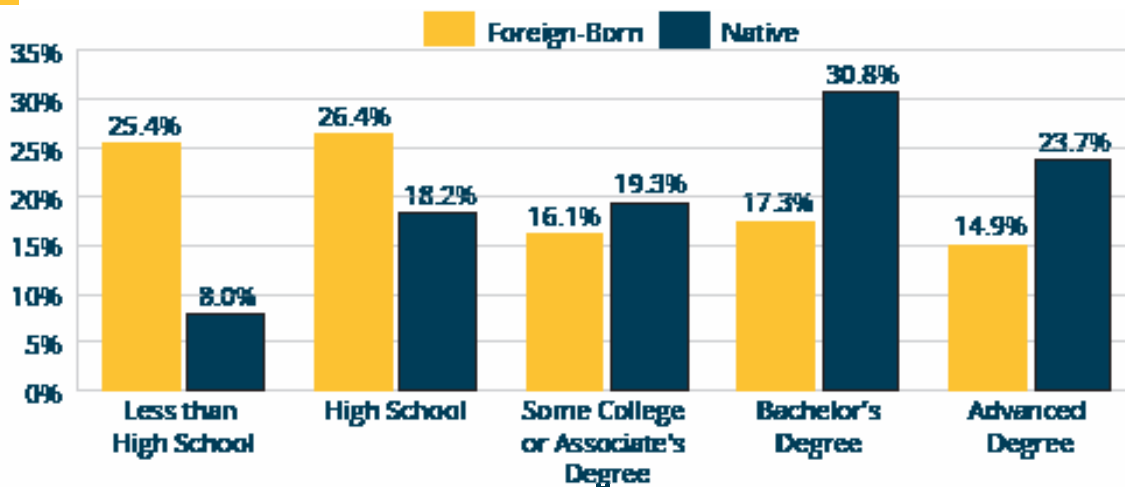
*Chinese includes Mandarin and Cantonese.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Educational Attainment

- In general, the foreign-born population has lower educational attainment than the native born.
- Among foreign-born residents 25 years or older in Boston, about one-third had a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to the city's share of 46.7%.
- 25.4% of the foreign born 25 years or older had not completed high school in 2015, compared to the citywide share of 14.1%.

FIGURE 4 Educational Attainment by Nativity for Ages 25+
2015

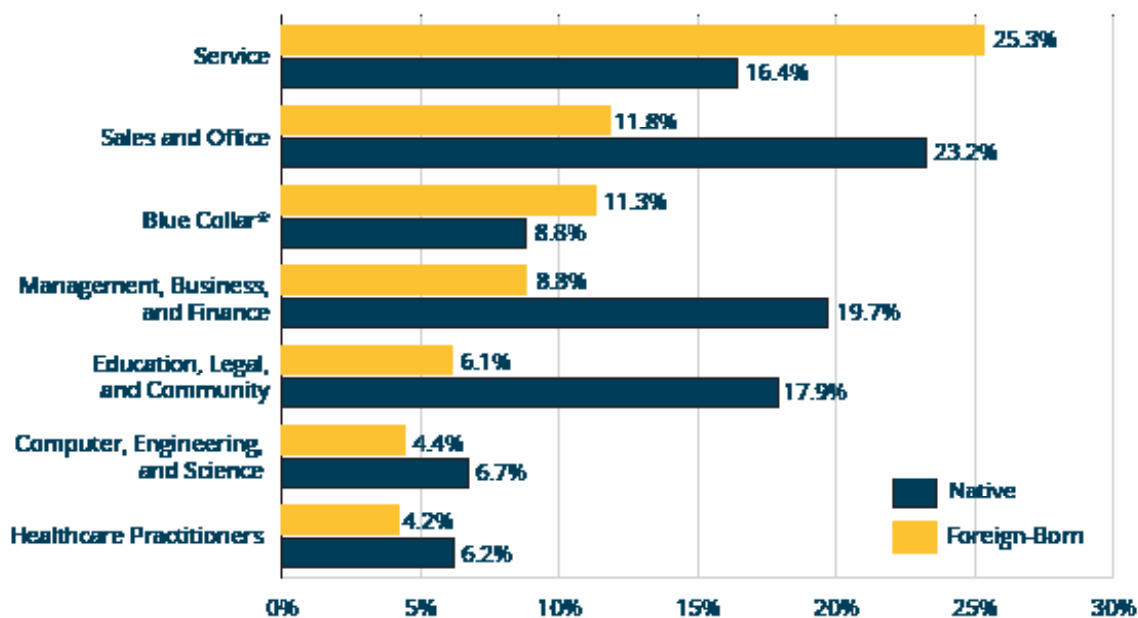


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Economic Contributions

- The foreign born hold 27% of jobs in Suffolk County.
- Foreign-born workers generated 24% of Suffolk Country’s economic output in 2015.⁴
- Boston’s foreign born are employed in a wide variety of sectors. The largest share of the foreign-born population worked in the service industry (25.3%), whereas the largest share of the native population worked in the broad umbrella of management, business, science, and arts occupations (50.5%).
- The poverty rate among the foreign born in Boston in 2015 was 21.6% compared to 20% for native-born residents. Naturalized citizens have a poverty rate of 18.3%, while non-citizens have a poverty rate of 25.1%.

FIGURE 5 Employment by Occupation and Nativity 2015



* includes natural resources, construction, maintenance, production, transportation, and material moving occupations
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 1-year American Community Survey PUMS data, BPDA Research Division Analysis

⁴Regional Economic Models, Inc. (REMI), BPDA Research Division Analysis

Neighborhoods

- Half of East Boston's residents were foreign born, the greatest share of any neighborhood in the city. Beacon Hill had the lowest share at 10.2%.

TABLE 6 Neighborhoods by Foreign Population Share
2015

NEIGHBORHOOD	FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION	% OF NEIGHBORHOOD POPULATION
East Boston	22,732	50.5%
Mattapan	8,566	35.3%
Downtown	5,669	33.5%
Dorchester	41,685	33.5%
Allston	5,646	28.6%
Hyde Park	10,093	28.4%
Mission Hill	4,534	27.1%
Roxbury	13,449	26.2%
Fenway	8,101	25.2%
Roslindale	7,128	24.9%
Brighton	11,496	24.1%
West End	1,378	23.2%
Jamaica Plain	8,879	22.6%
South End	7,076	22.4%
West Roxbury	6,784	20.7%
Back Bay	3,585	20.4%
South Boston Waterfront	502	17.5%
Charlestown	3,136	17.4%
Longwood	736	14.1%
North End	1,143	12.6%
South Boston	4,263	12.0%
Beacon Hill	948	10.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis