



Noncitizens Living in Boston

*BPDA Research Division
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**boston planning &
development agency**

Produced by the BPDA Research Division

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The BPDA Research Division strives 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. The 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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Noncitizens may be lawful permanent residents or have nonimmigrant status such as student or work visas

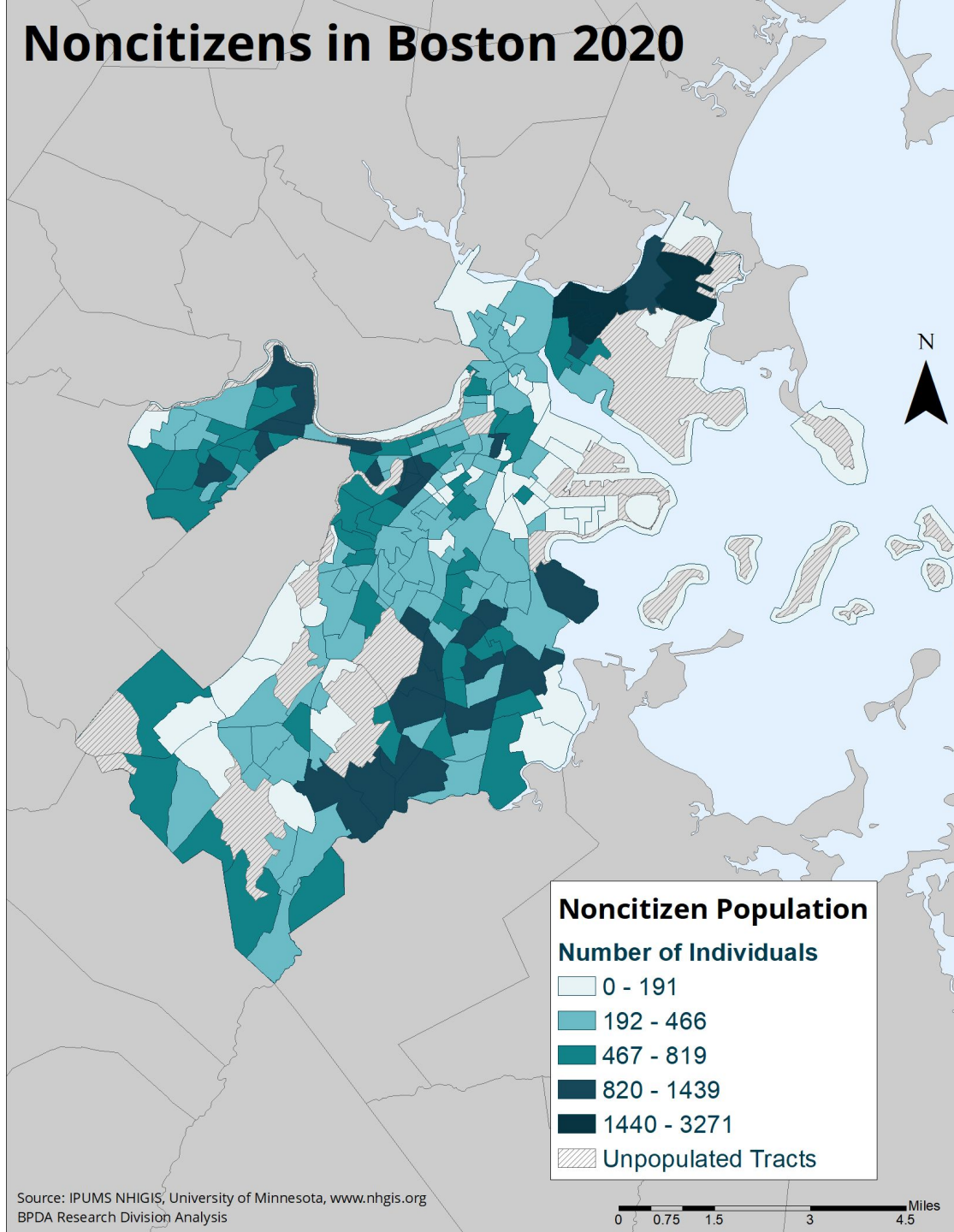
- Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR), commonly known as green card holders, are noncitizens who are lawfully authorized to permanently live and work in the United States. Eligibility differs depending on family status, work, refugee or asylee status.
 - BPDA Research Division estimates that approximately 40,000 Boston residents have lawful permanent resident status.
- Other noncitizens may have:
 - Nonimmigrant visas, such as time-limited student or work visas
 - Refugee or asylee status
 - Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
 - Some other status or pseudo-status, such as DACA
 - No immigration status



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Noncitizens in Boston

Noncitizens in Boston 2020



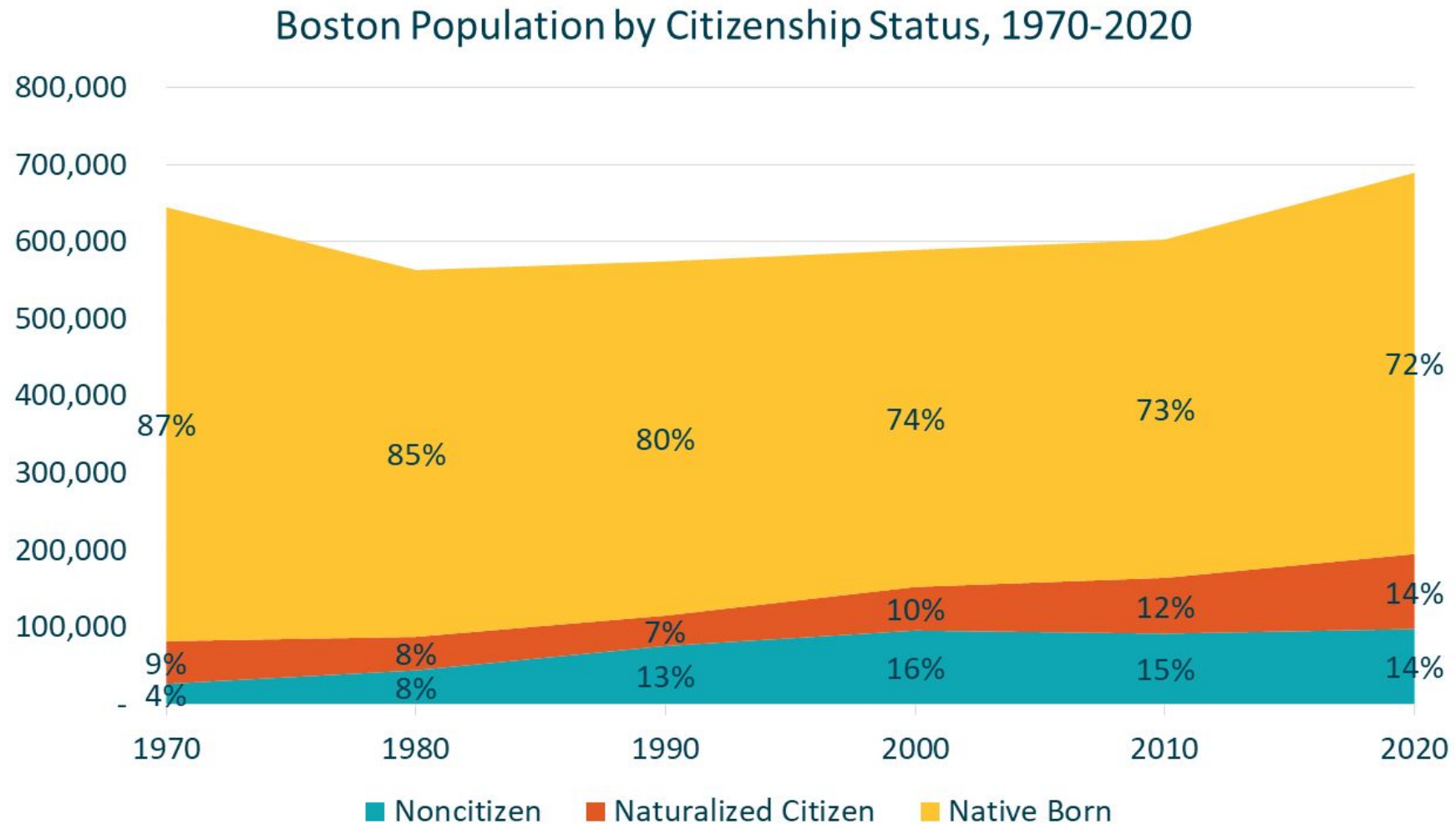
Source: IPUMS NHGIS, University of Minnesota, www.nhgis.org
 BPDA Research Division Analysis

Noncitizens by Boston Neighborhood

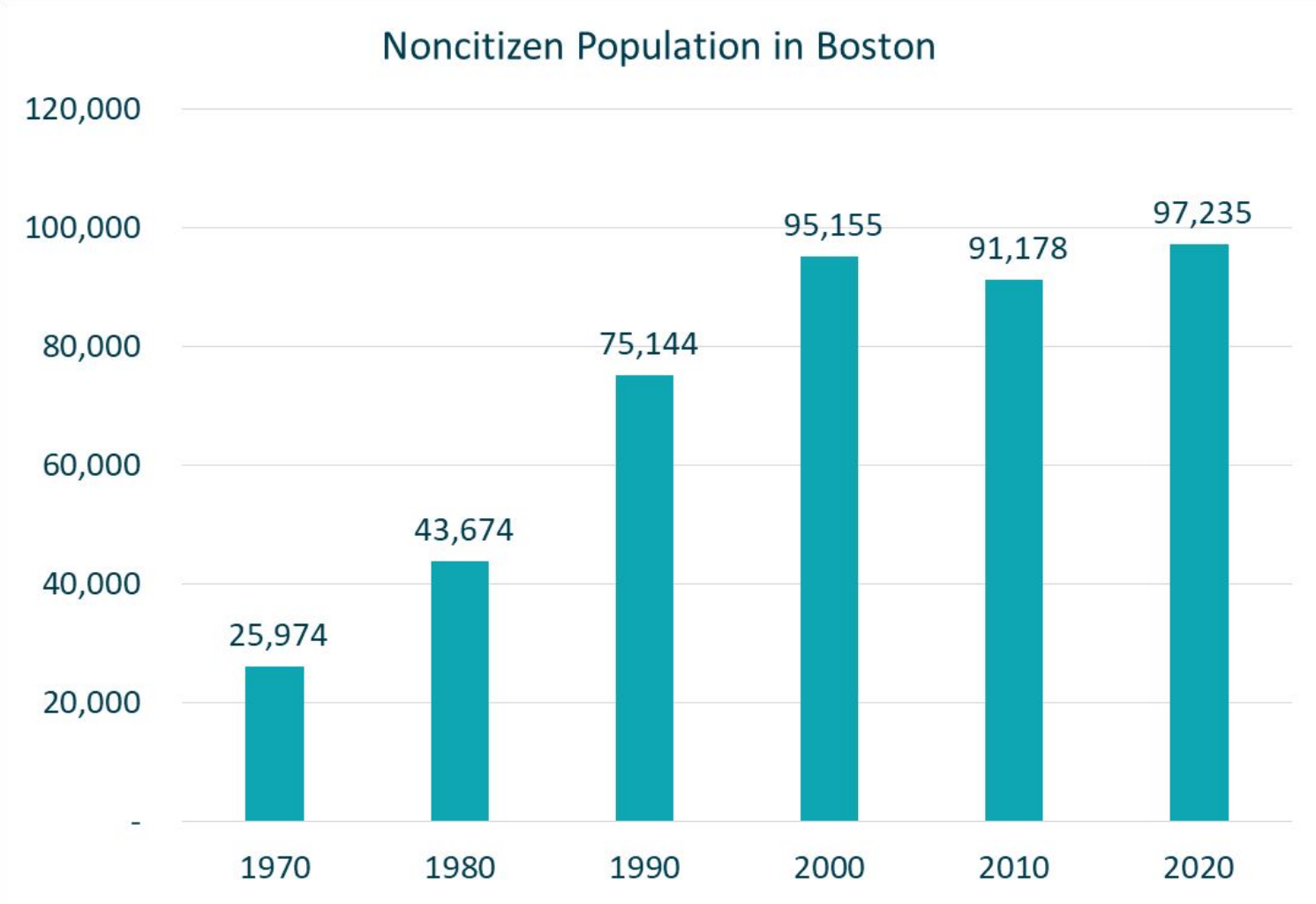
Neighborhood	Count	Share
East Boston	16,136	34%
Chinatown	1,247	29%
Allston	5,858	25%
Fenway	7,085	21%
West End	1,211	18%
Back Bay	2,957	16%
Mission Hill	2,577	16%
Downtown	1,908	15%
Dorchester	18,855	15%
Mattapan	3,750	14%
Brighton	6,913	14%
South Boston Waterfront	502	12%
Roxbury	6,130	12%
Longwood	573	10%
South End	3,179	10%
Hyde Park	3,848	10%
Roslindale	3,193	10%
Jamaica Plain	4,031	9%
Beacon Hill	752	8%
West Roxbury	2,561	8%
Charlestown	1,429	7%
North End	647	6%
South Boston	1,842	5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016-2020 American Community Survey,
 BPDA Research Division Analysis

28% of Boston residents are foreign born. Noncitizens have contributed to Boston's population growth since 1980



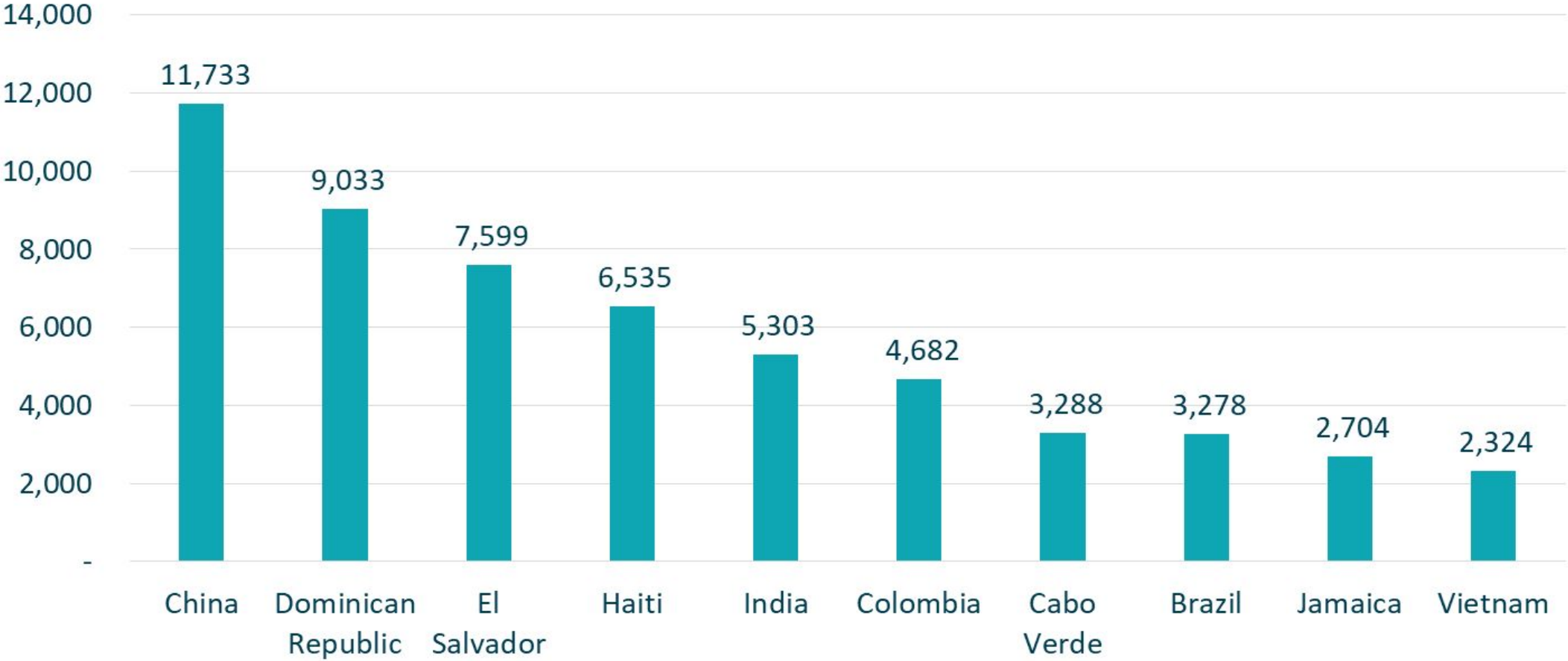
In 2020, there were approximately 97,000 noncitizens in Boston, making up 14% of city's total population



Source: 1970, 1980, 1990, & 2000 Decennial Census; 2006-2010 & 2016-2020 American Community Survey (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis

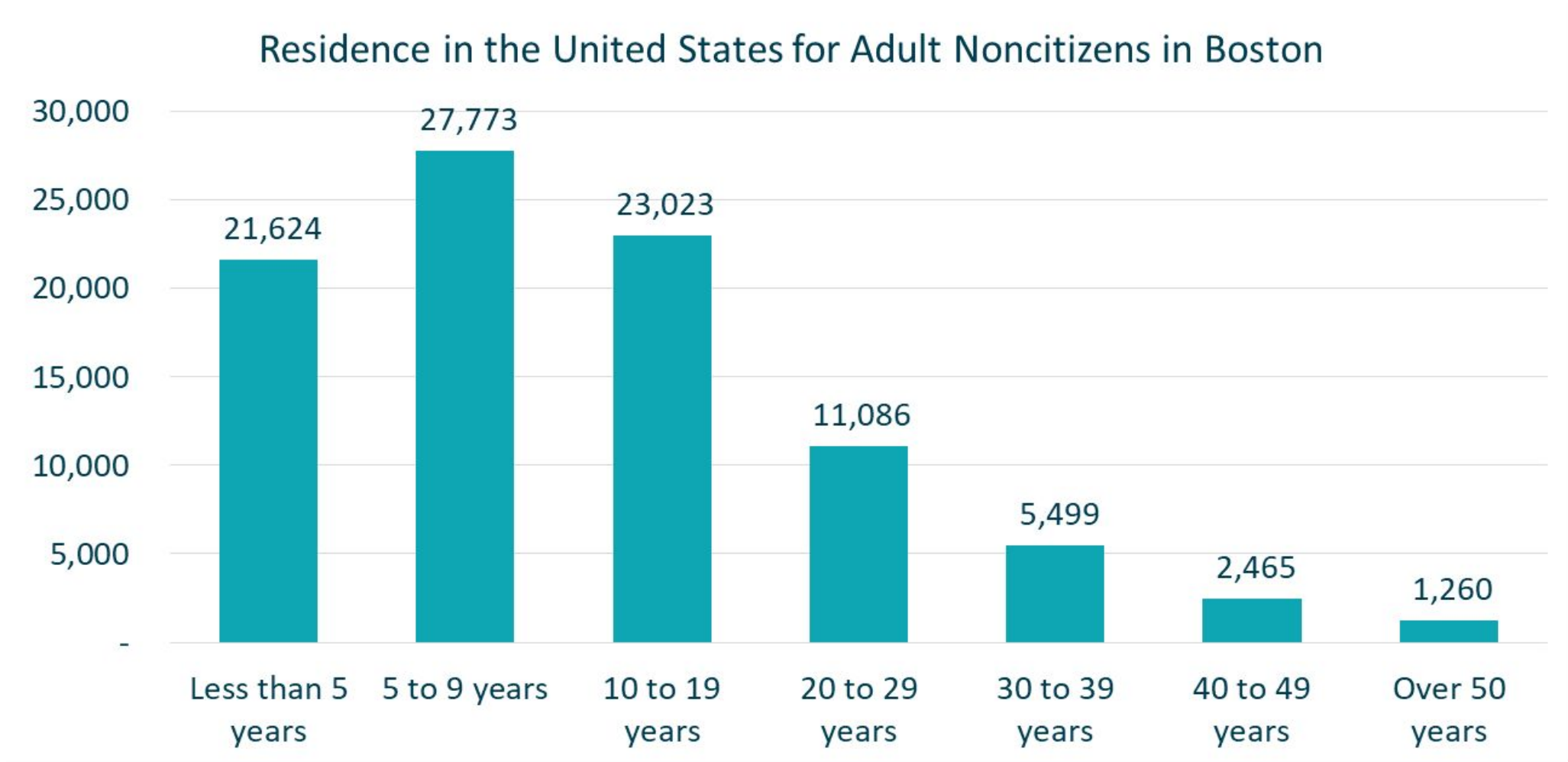
The top countries of origin for noncitizen adults in Boston are China, Dominican Republic, and El Salvador

Top Countries of Origin for Noncitizens in Boston

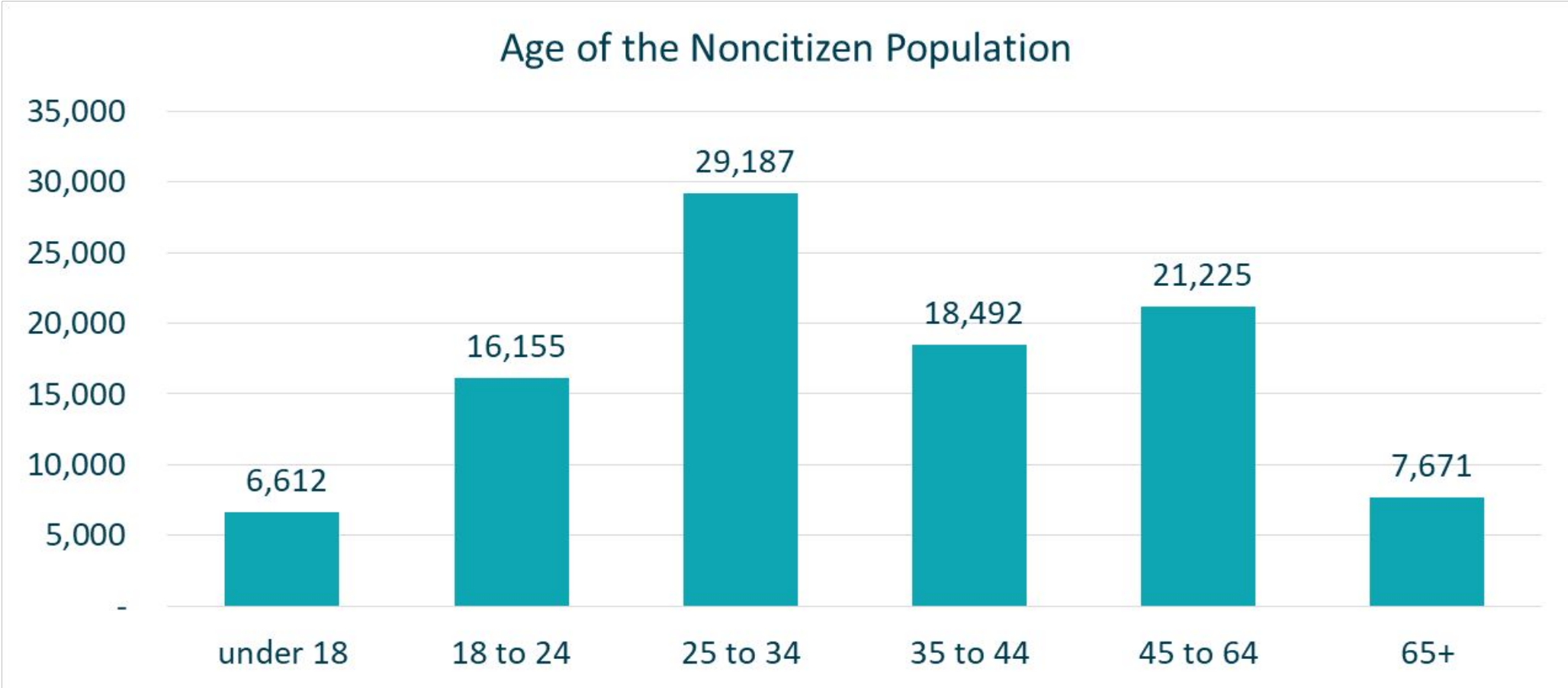


Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis

The naturalization process can take many years: 71,000 noncitizens living in Boston (77%) have been U.S. residents for 5+ years



Regardless of lawful permanent resident status or length of time living in the U.S., noncitizens lack the right to vote in federal, state, and local elections; almost 93,000 Boston residents are noncitizens aged 18+ who are currently disenfranchised



Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis

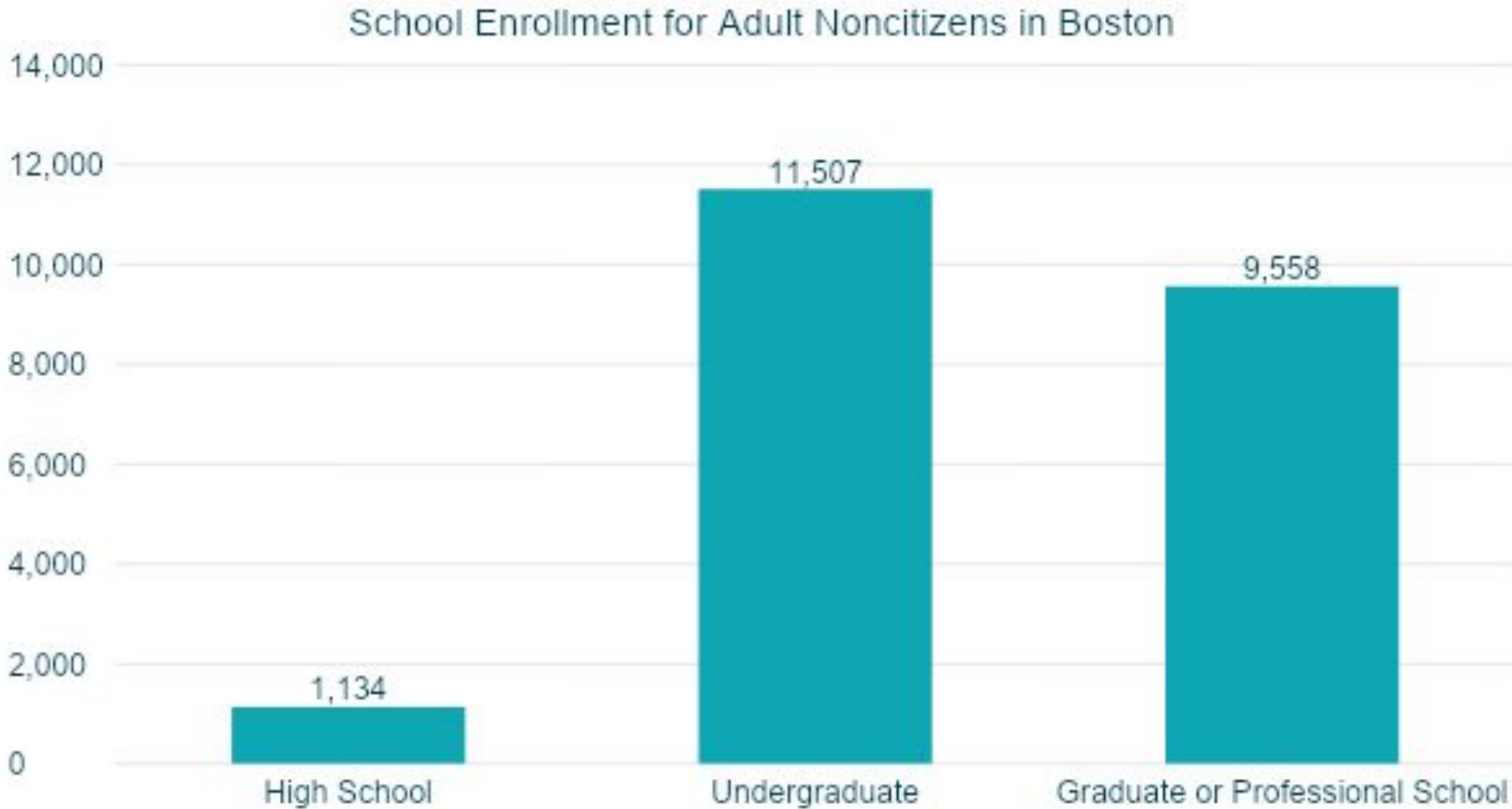
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Education and Employment

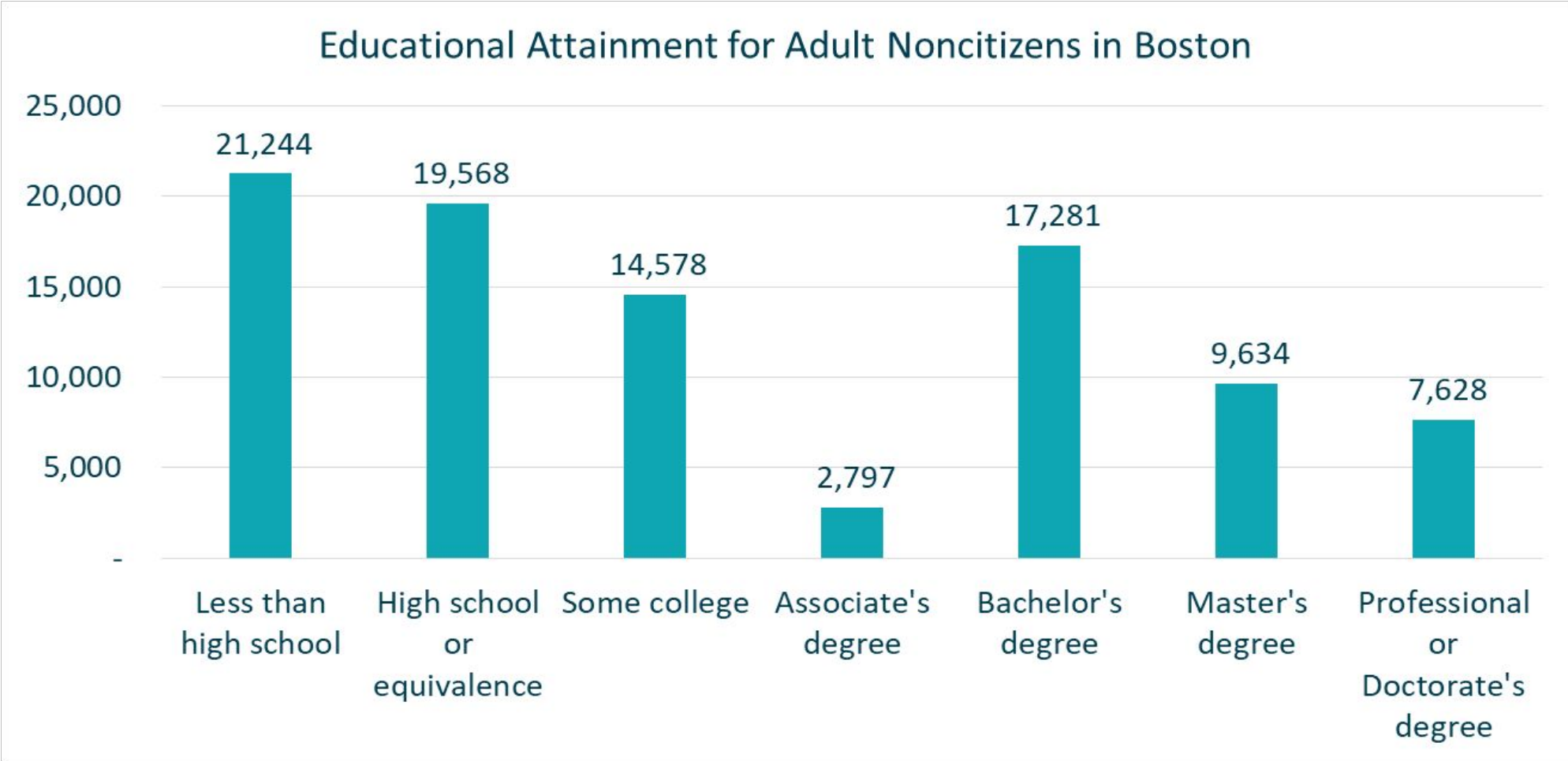


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Many noncitizens come to Boston to attend college or university: ~21,000 college/university students living in Boston are not U.S. citizens

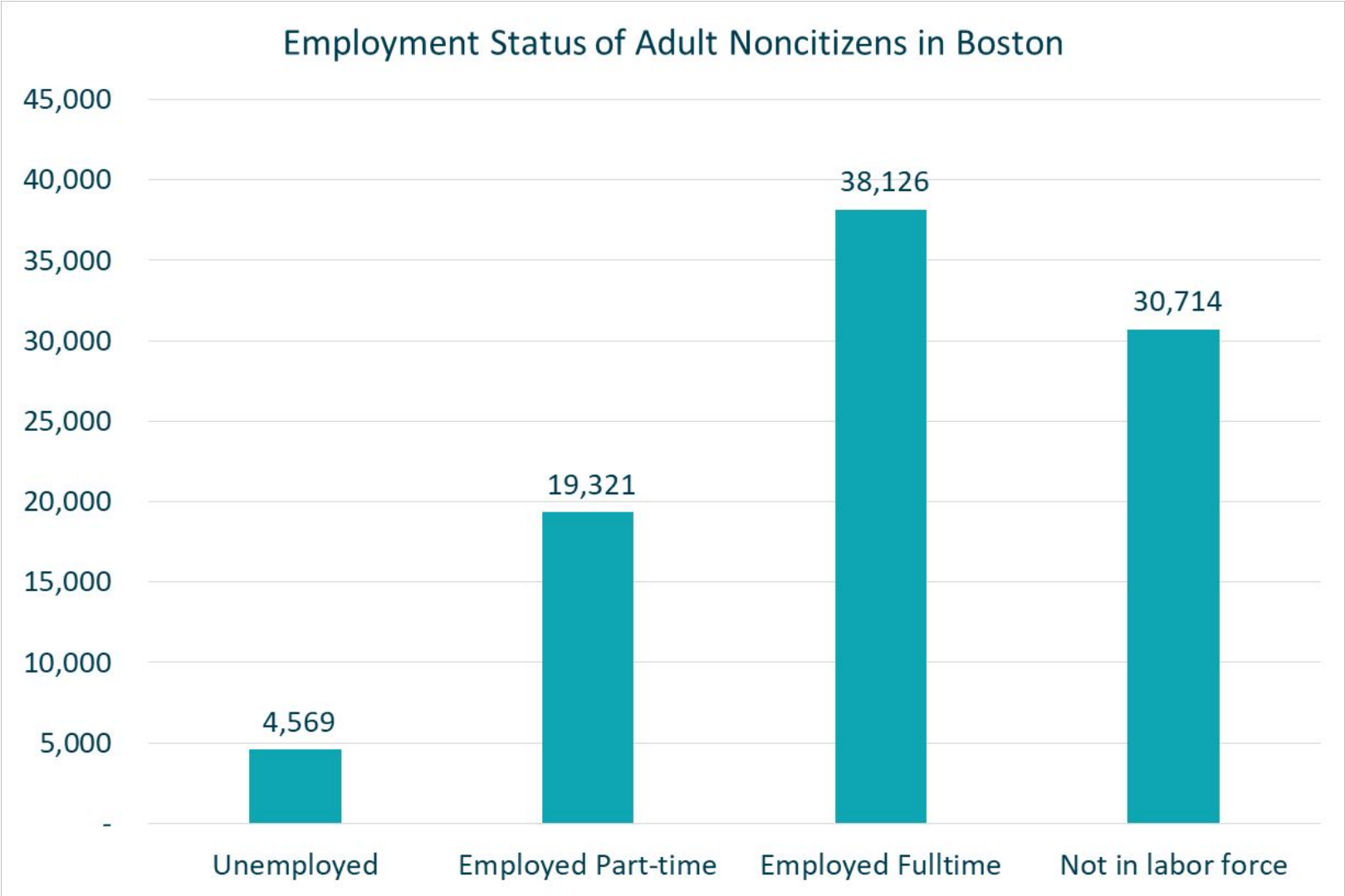


Many noncitizens in Boston already have higher levels of educational attainment: ~35,000 Boston residents with Bachelor's or graduate/professional degrees are not U.S. citizens



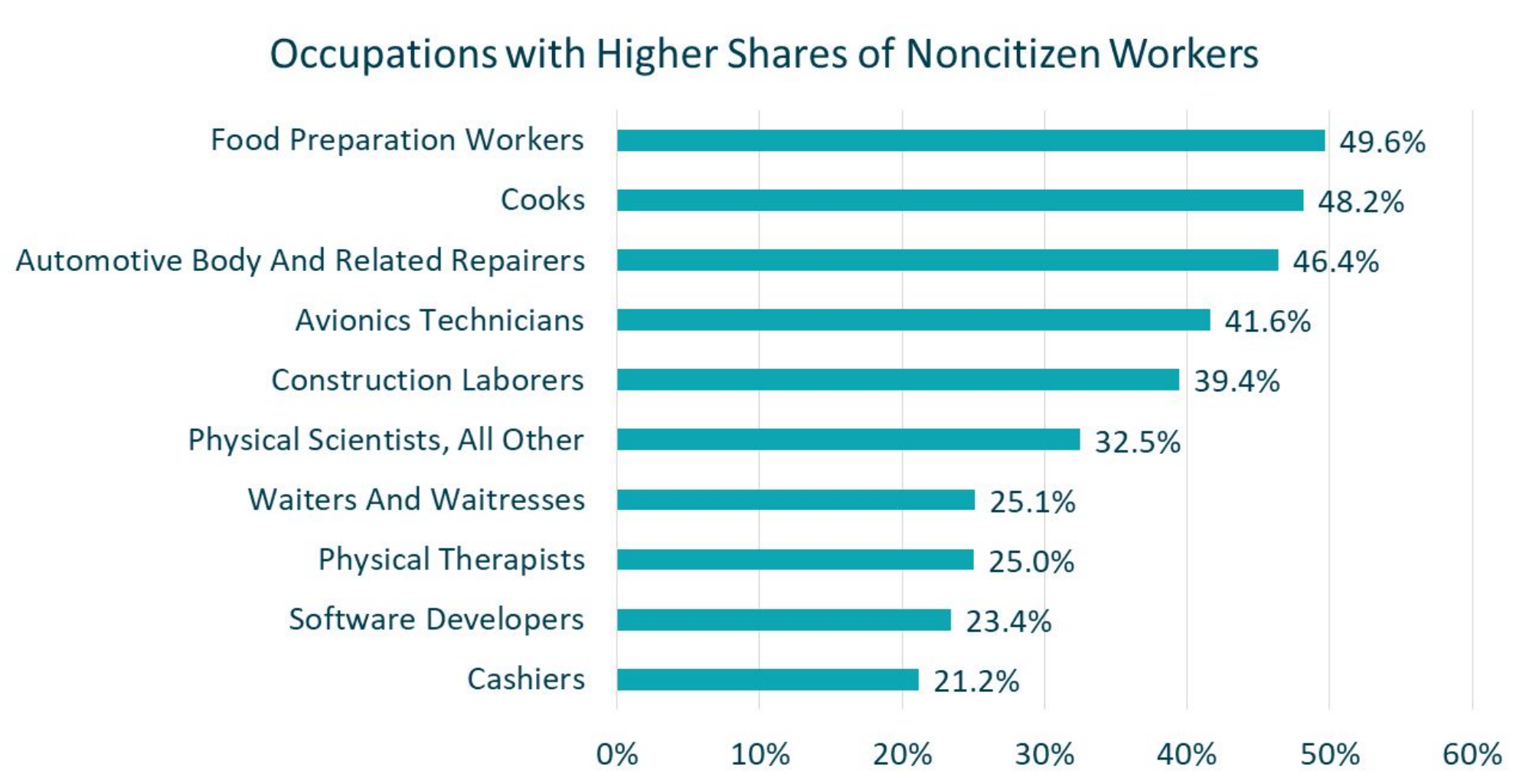
Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis

Noncitizens make up a significant portion of Boston's workforce: ~57,000 (9.7%) Boston resident workers are noncitizens



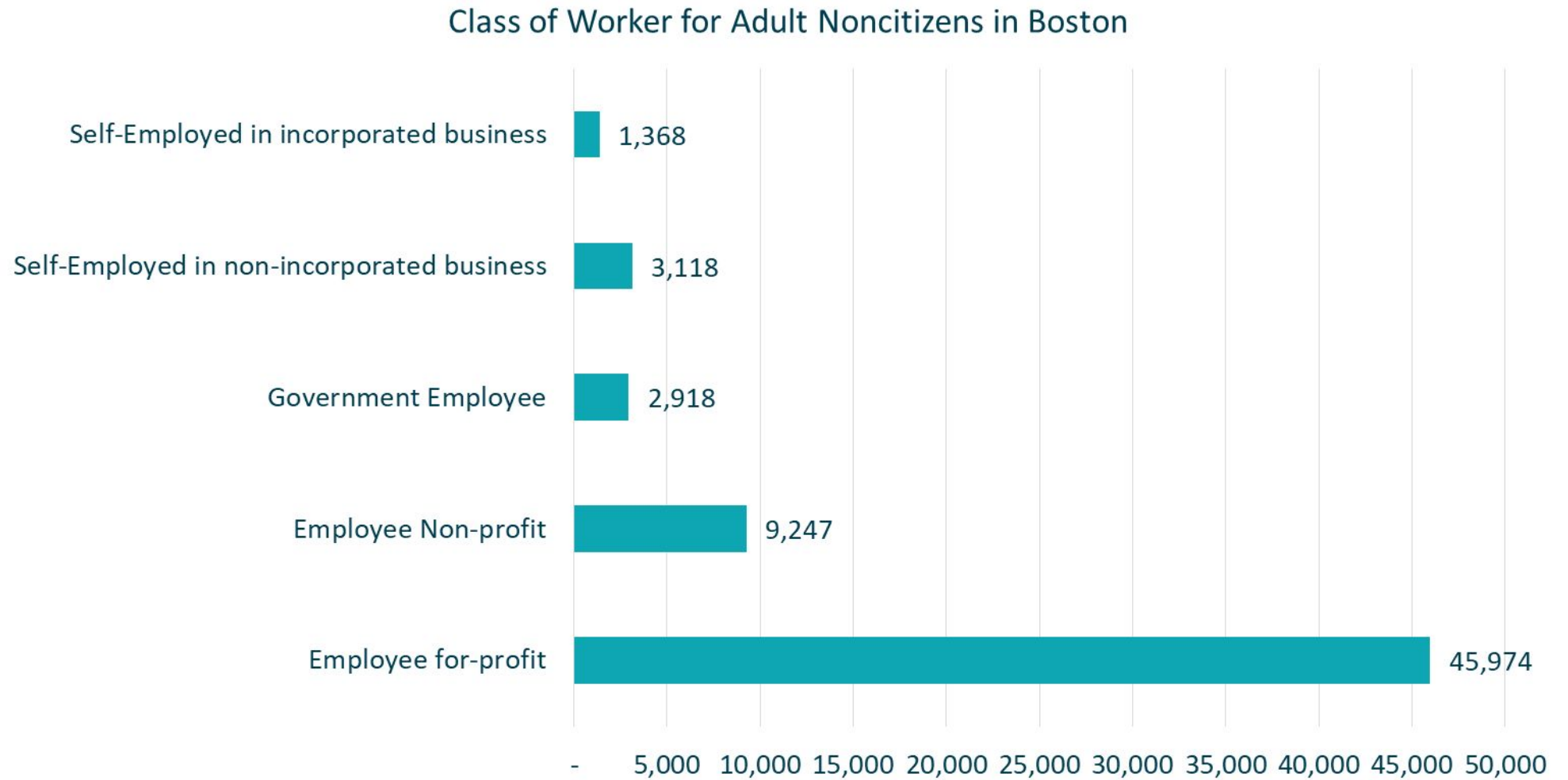
Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis

Noncitizen workers make up half of food preparation workers and a third of physical scientists living in Boston



Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis

Approximately 4,500 Boston businesses are owned by noncitizens



Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis

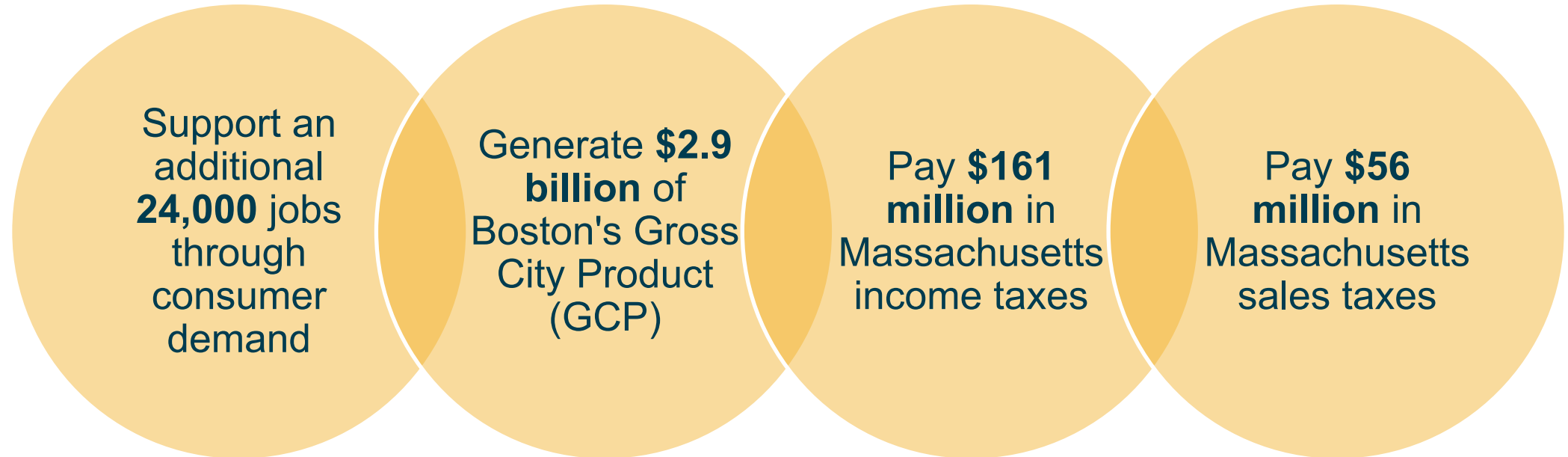
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Economic Contributions

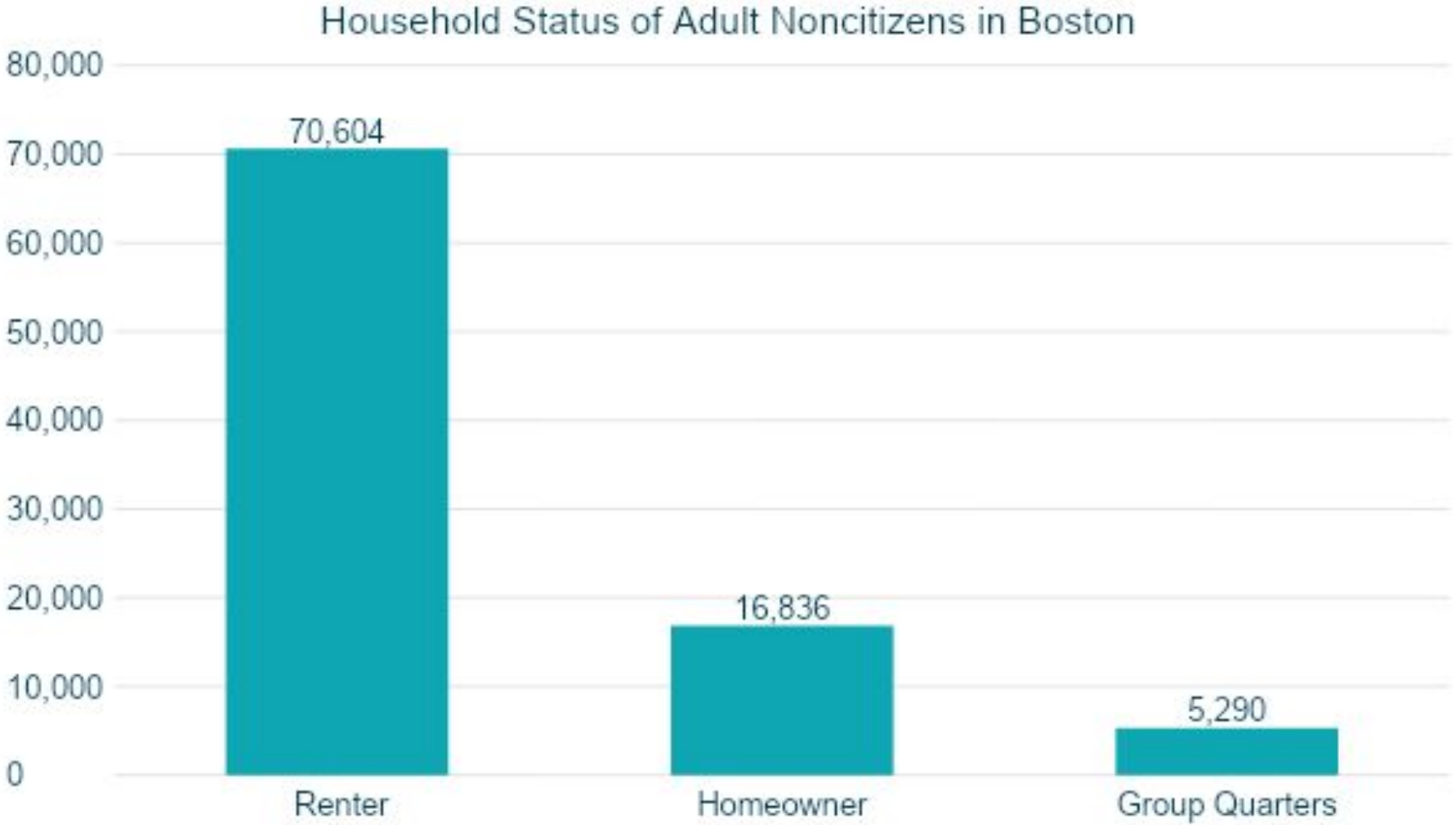


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Noncitizens have a significant impact on Boston's economy:

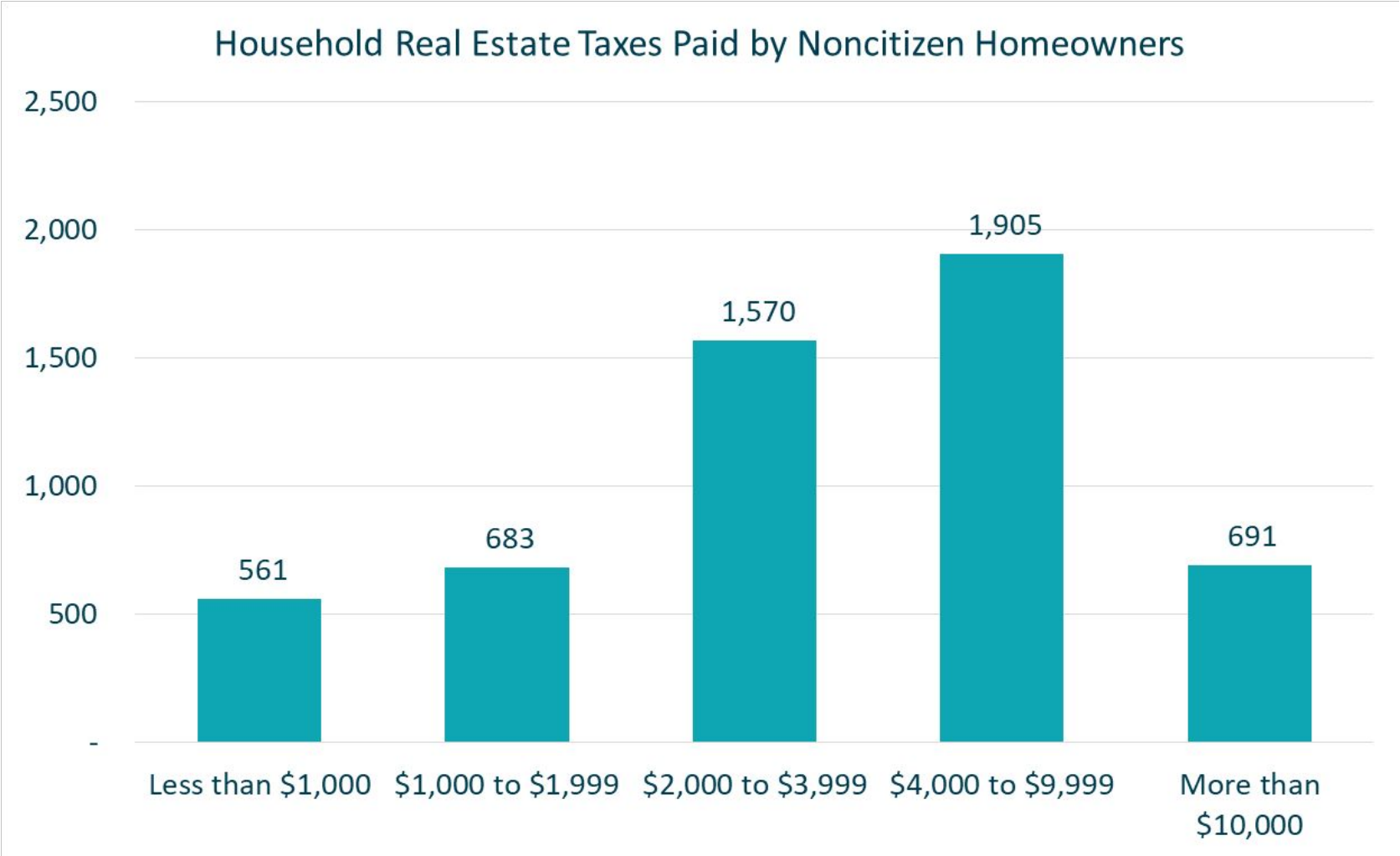


16,800 Boston homeowners are not U.S. citizens



Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis

Noncitizen homeowners in Boston pay an estimated \$27,876,000 in property taxes to the City annually, but have no representation in allocation of these funds



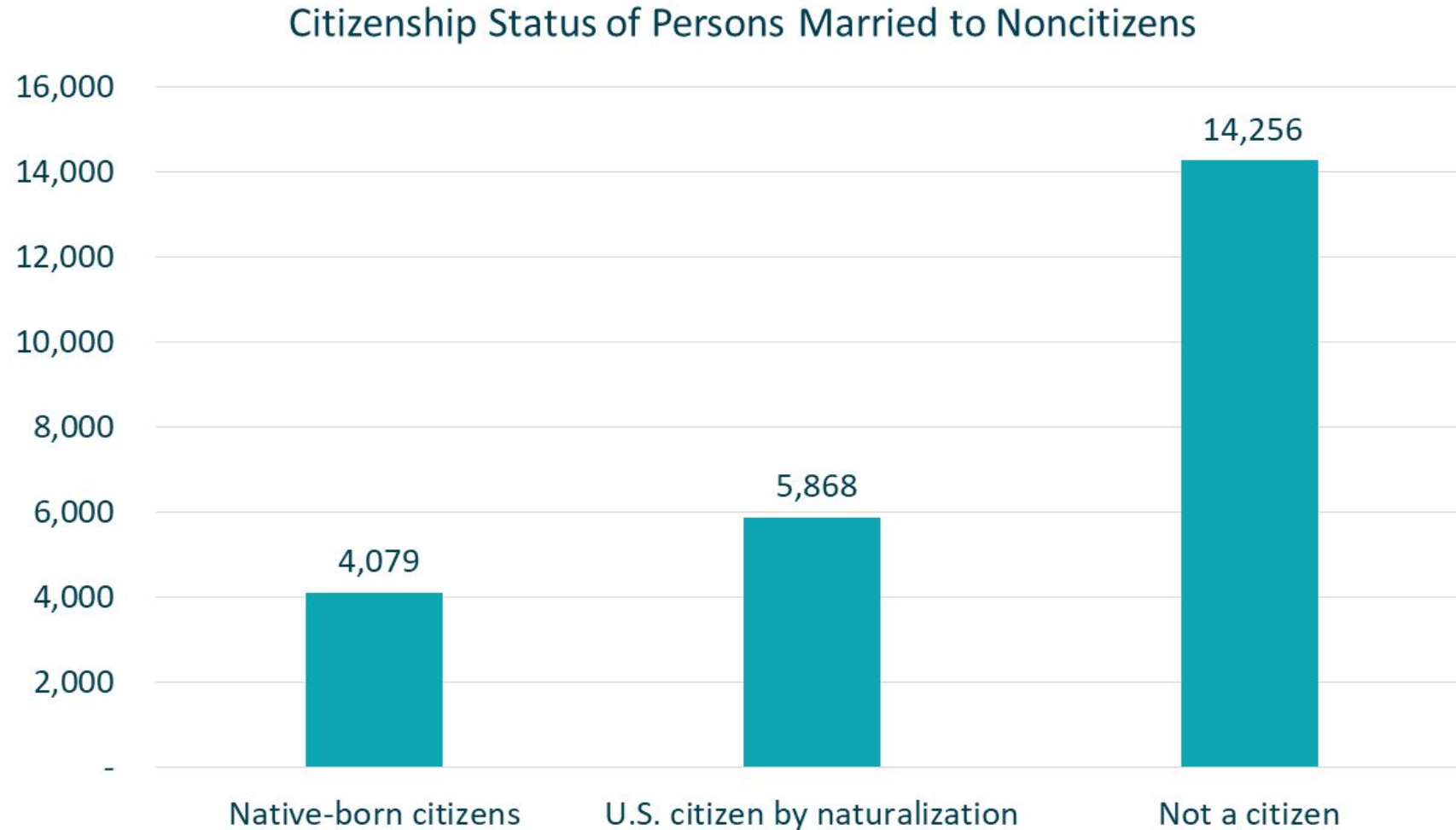
Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis

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Family Ties

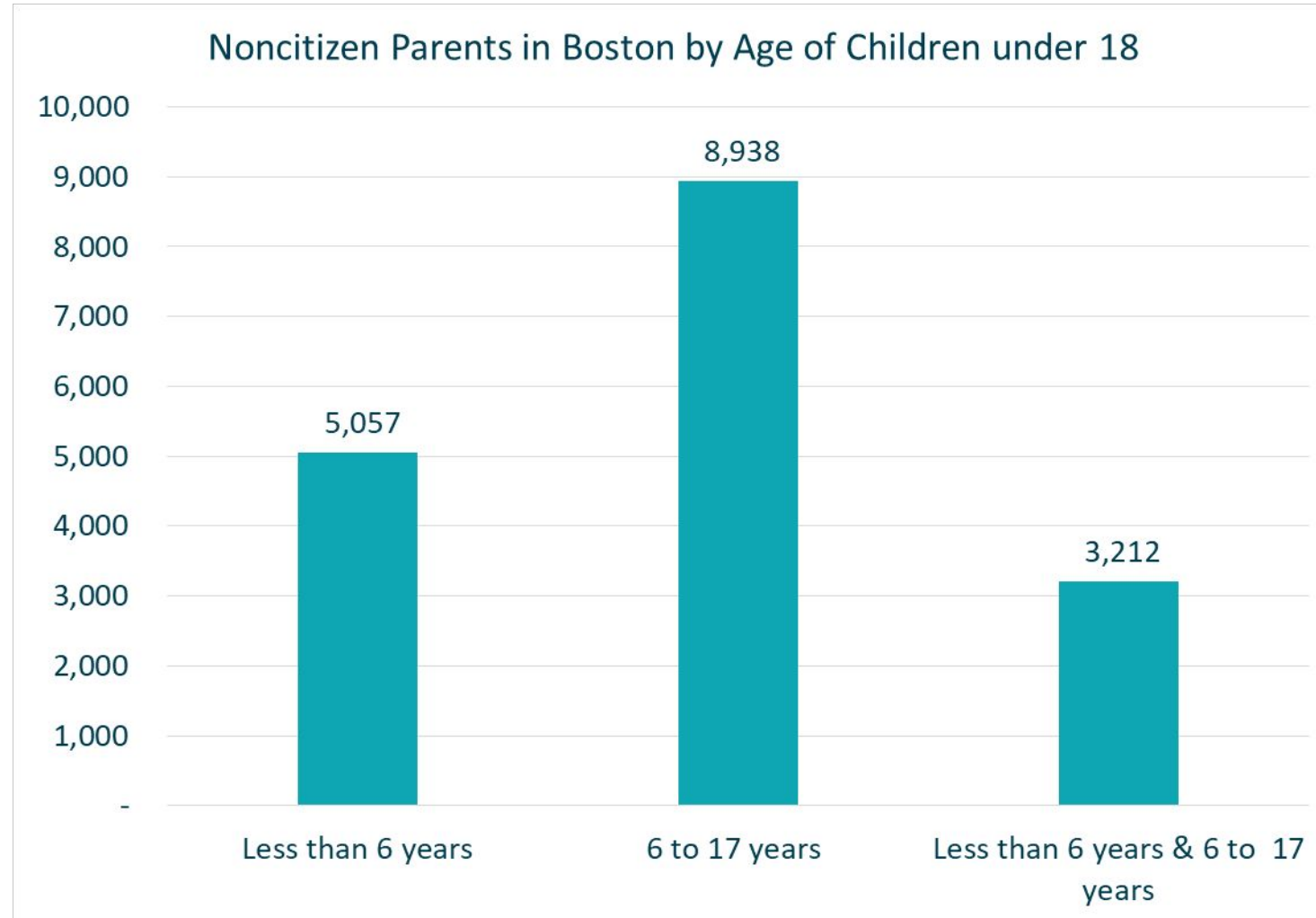


24,000 noncitizens living in Boston are married; 41% of married noncitizens are married to a U.S. citizen



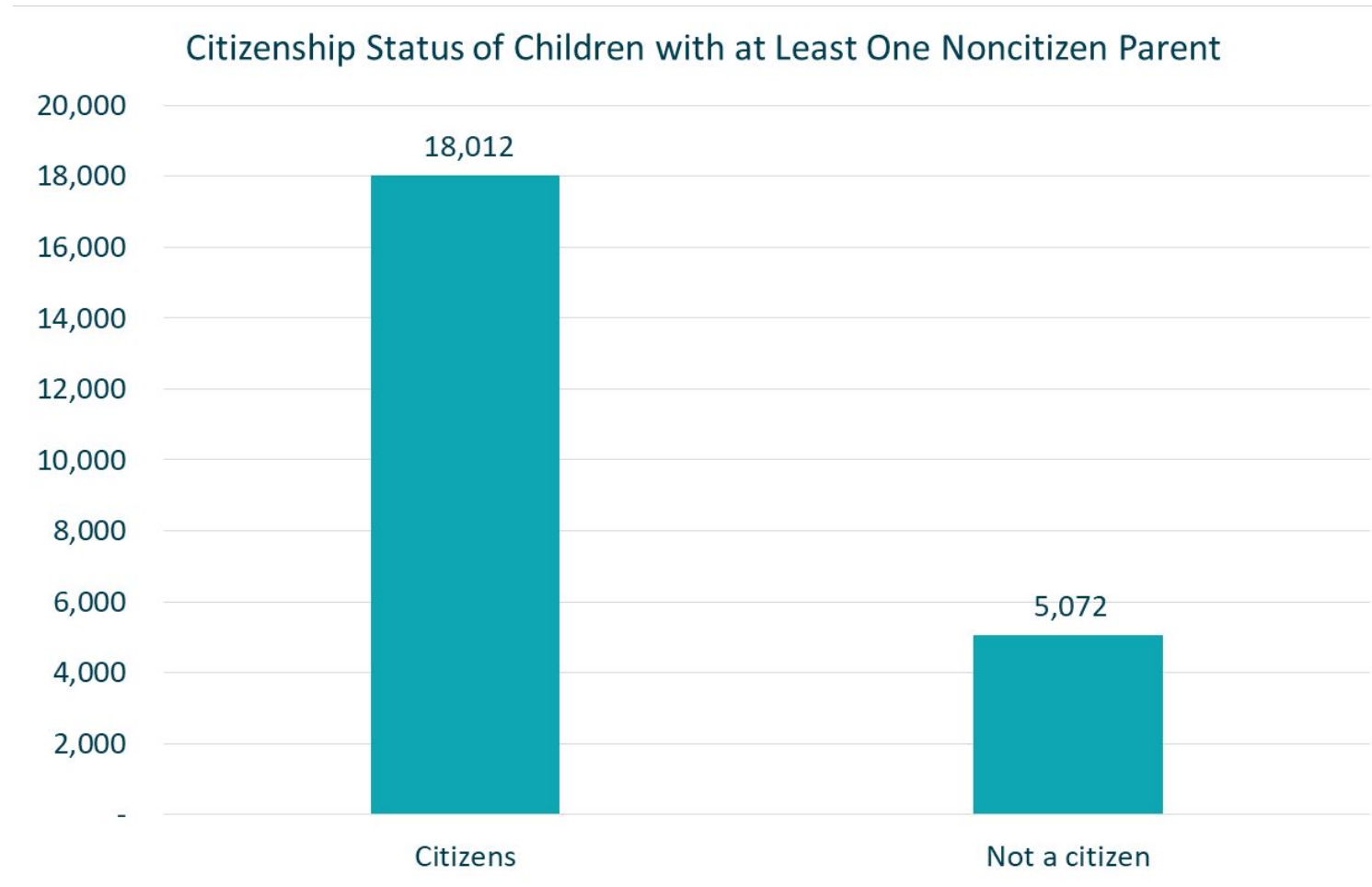
Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis

~17,000 adult noncitizens living in Boston have children under the age of 18 living with them



Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis

About 23,000 children in Boston have at least one noncitizen parent; 18,000 of these children are U.S. citizens themselves



Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis