



Boston by the Numbers 2020

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. This report uses data from the 2018 1-year American Community survey, which are the most recent available at the time of publication.

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

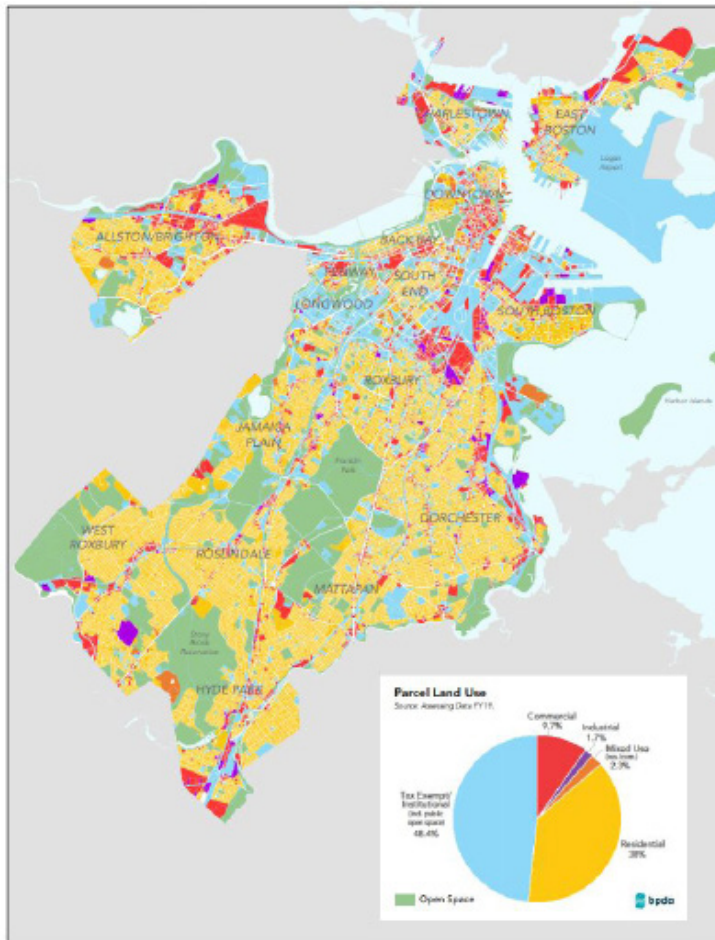
Land Area

- 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

- Over 48.0% of land parcels in Boston have tax-exempt public or institutional uses. Approximately 38.0% of land parcels are residential, and remaining parcels are commercial, industrial, or mixed-use.

MAP 1 Parcel Land Use in Boston
FY 2019

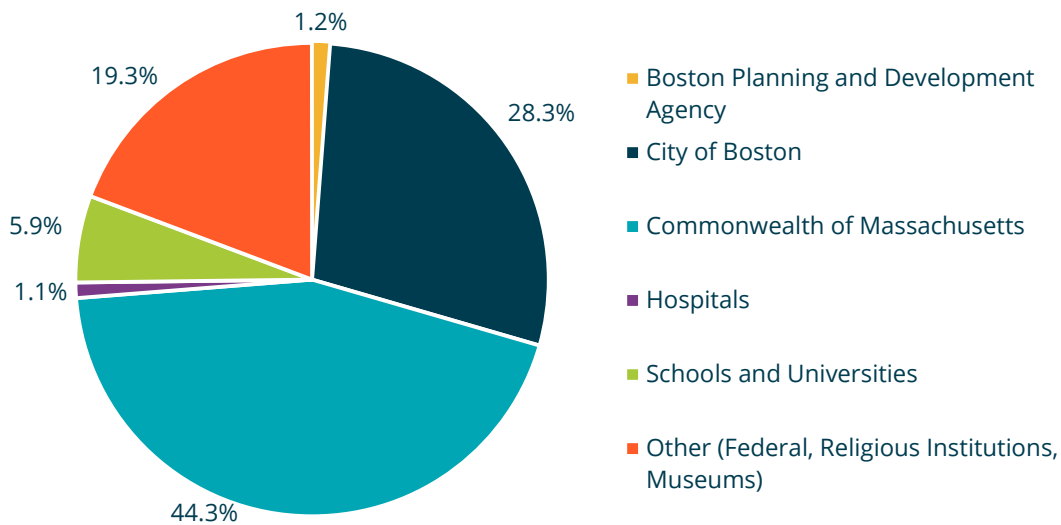


Source: City of Boston Assessing Data FY'19.

Tax-Exempt Properties

- Much of the tax-exempt land in Boston is open space. More than 20.0% of the land in Boston is dedicated to open space such as the Harbor Islands, the Boston Common and Public 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 hospitals and universities. Boston is home to 21 in-patient hospitals and 29 colleges and universities. Hospitals such as Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and Boston Children’s Hospital, and universities such as Boston University and Northeastern University are some of the city’s largest private employers.

FIGURE 1 Ownership of Tax-Exempt Land in Boston
2019



Source: City of Boston Assessing Data FY'19.

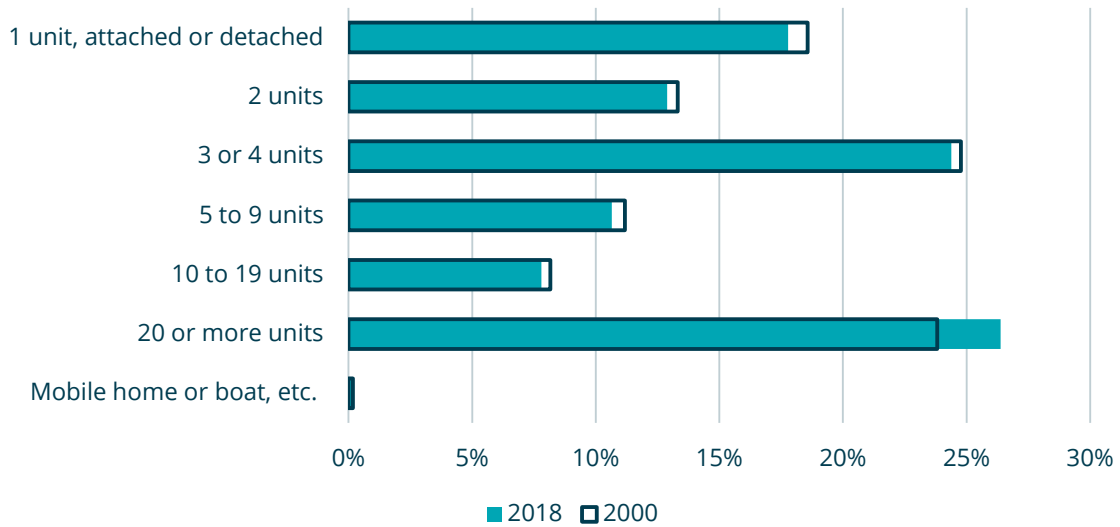
Commercial Land Uses

- Boston had approximately 67.8 million square feet of office space in 2019.¹
- Boston has 25.1 million square feet of retail space² for about 3,000 food establishments³ and 2,160 non-food retail establishments.⁴
- Hotel room supply for the city increased from 21,193 units in 2019 to 22,524 units in 2020.⁵

Residential Properties

- In 2018, Boston had a population density of 14,414 people per square mile of land. Greater Boston is the fourth most densely populated metro area in the U.S., behind the New York Metro Area, Greater Los Angeles, and the South Florida Metro Area.⁶
- Boston had 299,472 housing units in 2018, an increase of 18.9% from 251,935 in 2000.
- Units in large buildings of 20 or more units increased their share of total housing units from 2000 to 2018.

FIGURE 2 Boston Housing by Housing Units in Structure
2000-2018

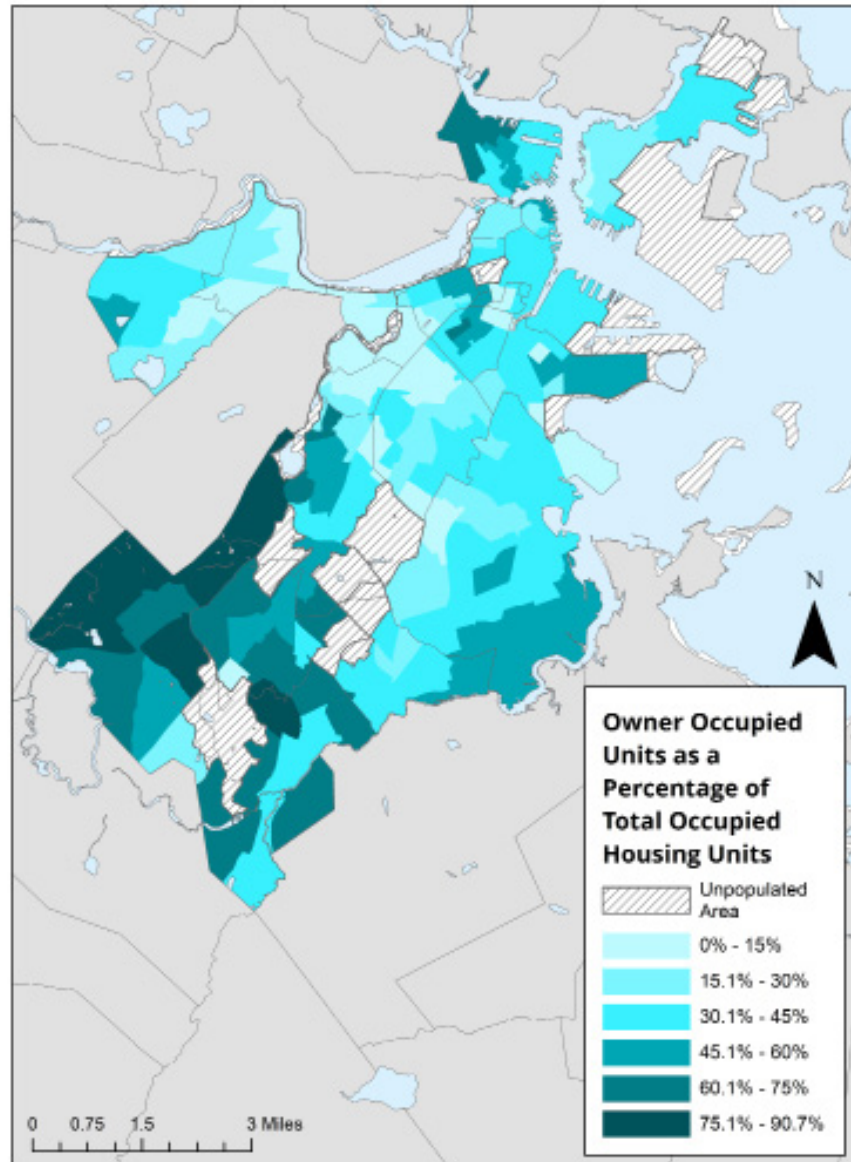


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Decennial Census, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division. Analysis.

Neighborhoods by Owner Occupied Housing

- In 2018, 35.2% of occupied housing units in Boston were owner occupied, up from 32.0% in 2000.
- Owner occupancy by neighborhood ranges from 63.7% in West Roxbury to 10.0% in Mission Hill.

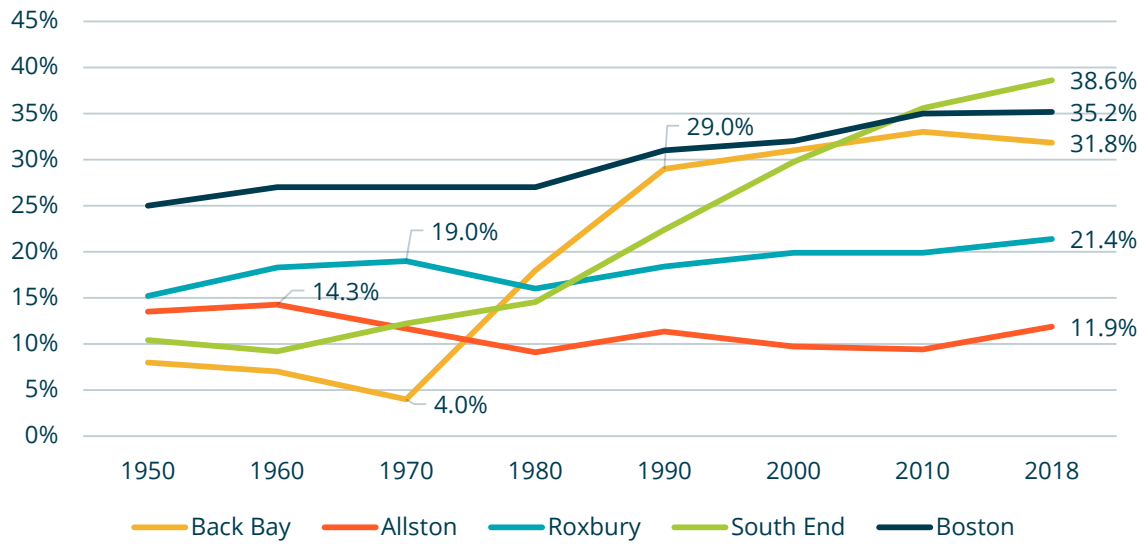
MAP 2 Owner Occupied Units as a Percentage of Total Occupied Housing Units by Census Tract 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

FIGURE 3

Owner Occupancy Rate in Selected Boston Neighborhoods Over Time 1950-2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2010 Decennial Census, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Analysis.

- Boston's owner occupancy rate has increased from 25.0% to 35.2% since 1950. Some neighborhoods such as Back Bay and South End have dramatically increased owner occupancy rates. Allston's owner occupancy rate has consistently been low, falling from 13.5% in 1950 to 11.9% in 2018.

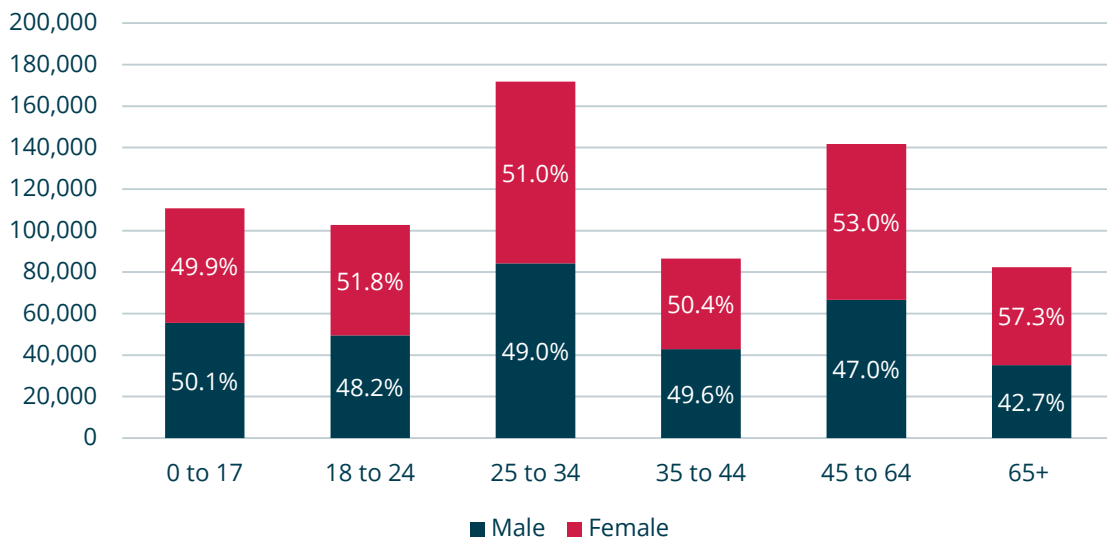


Chapter 2: Gender

Population

- In 2018, Boston's population of 695,925 included 333,815 males and 362,111 females.⁷
- Females made up 52.0% of the Boston population overall, but 57.3% of the elderly population.

FIGURE 4 Boston Population by Age and Gender
2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau , 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Race and Ethnicity

- The race and ethnicity of males and females in Boston is similar to the overall trend.
- Females are slightly more likely to be Black/African American (22.3% compared to 21.5% of males).
- Males are slightly more likely to be non-Hispanic White (45.7% compared to 43.6%).

TABLE 1 Race Distribution of Boston Population by Gender
2018

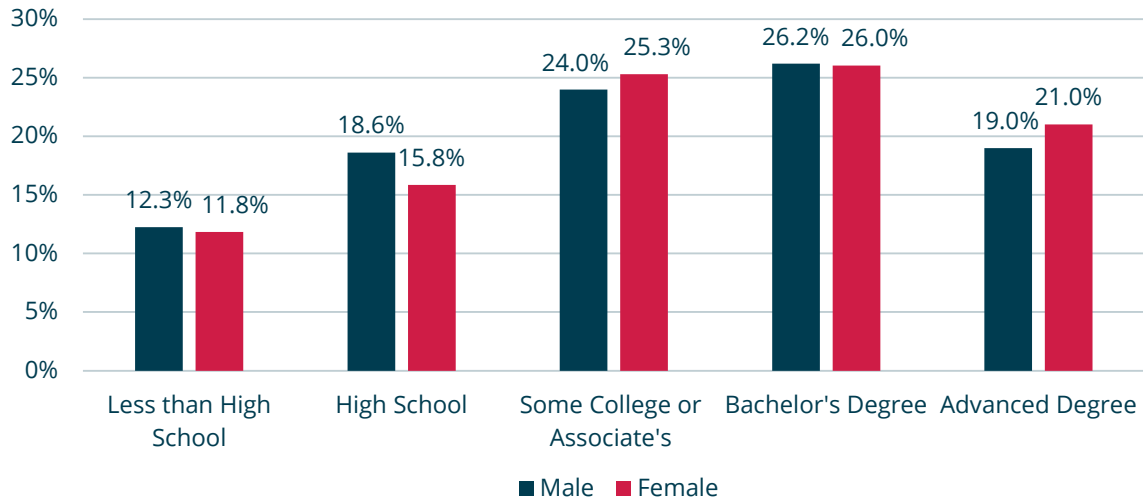
Gender	White	Black/African American	Hispanic	Asian/Pacific Islander	Other
Male	45.7%	21.5%	20.2%	8.9%	3.8%
Female	43.6%	23.3%	19.6%	9.7%	3.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau , 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Education

- Women are more likely than men to have an advanced degree, while men are more likely to just have a high school diploma.

FIGURE 5 Educational Attainment of Boston Residents by Gender (Age 18+) 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

- Women ages 18 to 64 are more likely to have a Bachelor's degree or higher than men of the same age group (47.6% of women 18 to 64 compared to 43.6% of men).
- Bachelor's degree attainment has increased since 2000 for both men and women in all age groups.

TABLE 2 Bachelor's Degree or Higher by Age and Gender 2018

Age	2000		2018	
	% of Males with BA+	% of Females with BA+	% of Males with BA+	% of Females with BA+
25-34	51.7%	52.4%	66.5%	73.1%
35-44	33.9%	32.4%	49.5%	53.4%
45-64	30.8%	28.1%	38.5%	41.3%
65 and over	21.1%	14.4%	37.1%	29.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Decennial Census, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

- 71.9% of women ages 18 to 24 are enrolled in college or graduate school versus 66.0% of men of the same age.

TABLE 3 Enrollment in College or Graduate School by Age and Gender 2018

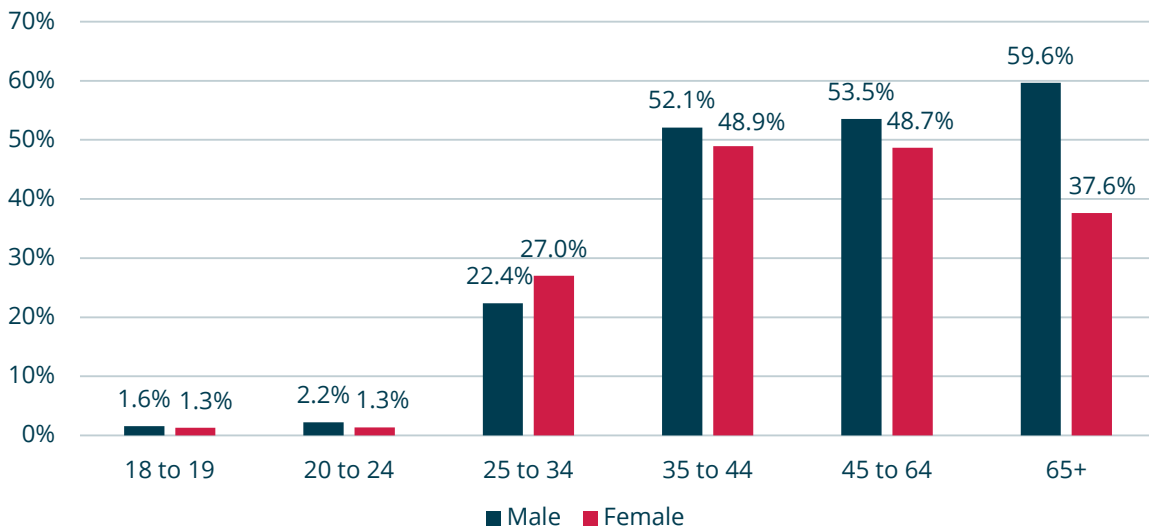
Age	2010		2018	
	% of Males Enrolled	% of Females Enrolled	% of Males Enrolled	% of Females Enrolled
18-24	55.9%	65.3%	66.0%	71.9%
25-34	16.6%	20.5%	19.7%	16.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 and 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Relationships

- 29.7% of the Boston population age 18+ is married.
- 27.5% of females 18+ and 31.9% of males 18+ are married.

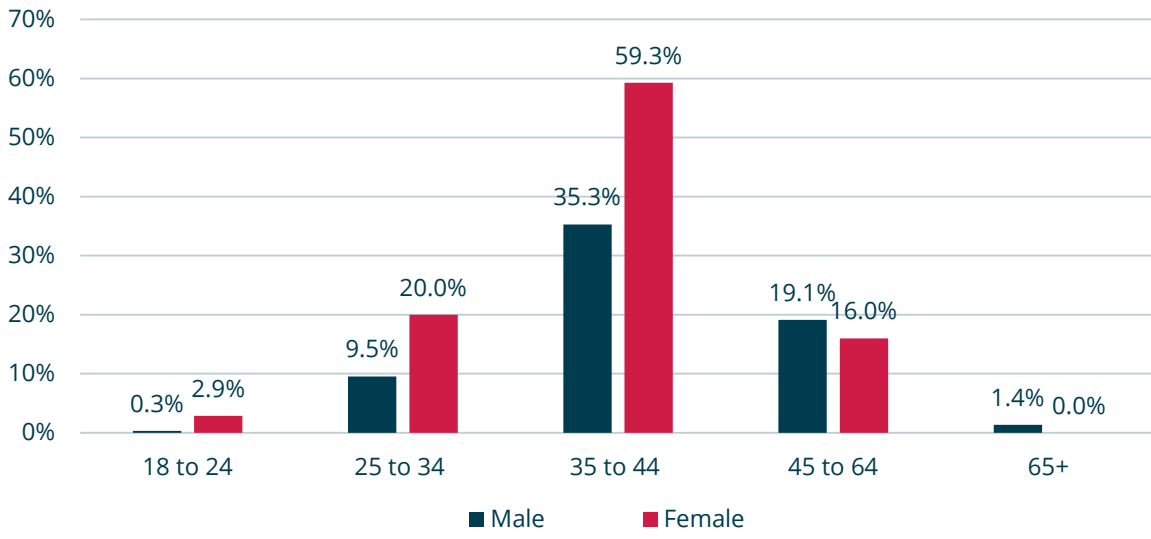
FIGURE 6 Married Population of Boston by Age and Gender 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

- 16.1% of Boston males ages 18 to 64 live with their own children under age 18, compared with 24.5% of females of the same age.

FIGURE 7 Population Living with Own Children Under 18 by Gender and Age
2018

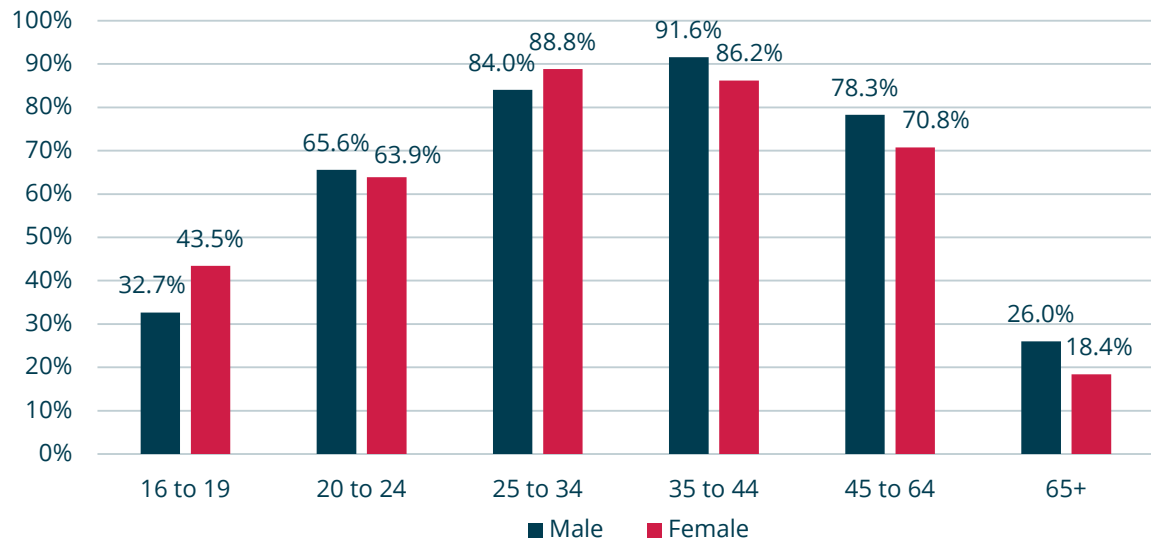


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Employment

- The labor force participation rate for women in Boston has been increasing since the 1950's, narrowing the gap between the male and female rates.

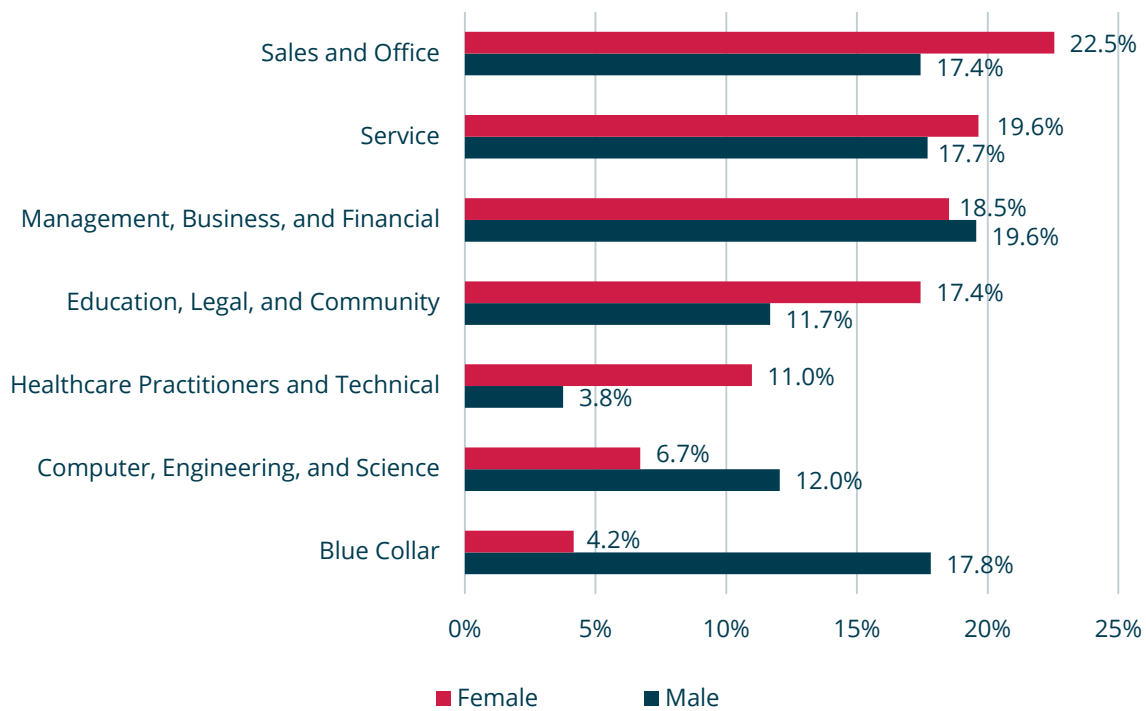
FIGURE 8 Labor Force Participation Rate by Gender and Age
2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

- Overall, women ages 16 to 34 have a higher labor force participation rate than men, but women ages 35 and over participate in the labor force at a lower rate than men.
- Female labor force participation peaks between ages 25 and 34, while male labor force participation peaks between ages 35 and 44.

FIGURE 9 Occupations of Civilian Employed Boston Residents by Gender, Age 16+
2018



Note: Blue Collar includes natural resources, construction, maintenance, production, and material moving occupations.

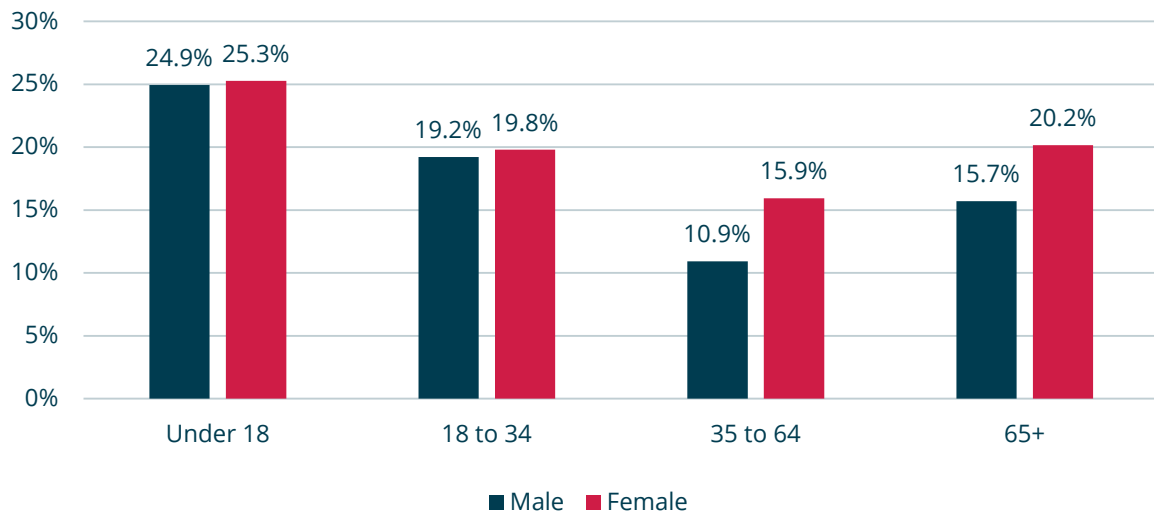
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

- Men are more likely than women to be employed in computer, engineering, science, and blue collar occupations.
- Women are more likely than men to be employed in healthcare, education, legal, and community occupations, as well as service and sales occupations.

Earnings and Poverty

- The median personal earnings for employed males age 16 and over is \$50,930, while it is only \$41,813 for females.
- Among those who work full-time and year-round, the median personal earnings for males is \$62,101 and for females is \$57,466.

FIGURE 10 Poverty Rate by Age and Gender
2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.



Neighborhoods

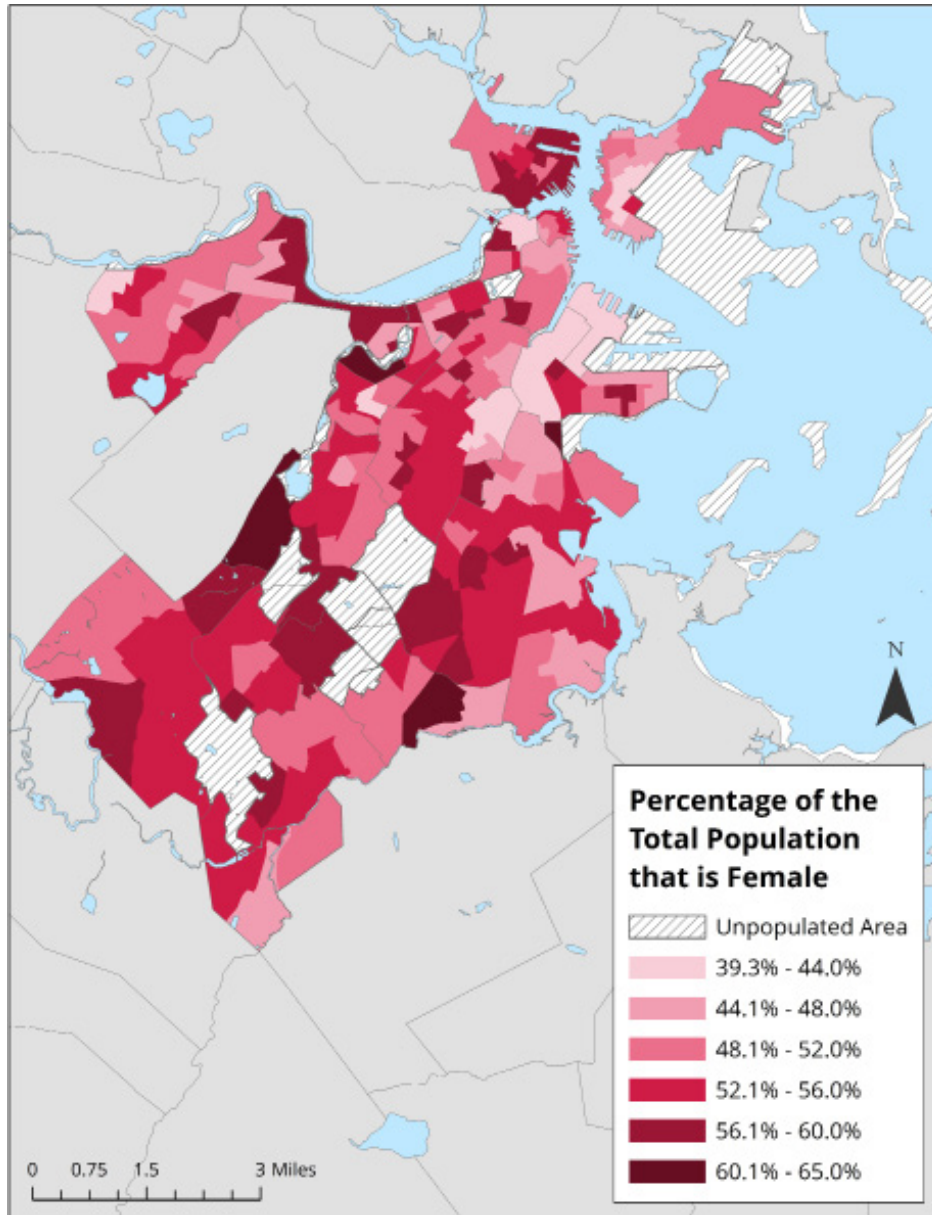
- Longwood's population is 64.7% female, perhaps due to the large percentage of female students at Simmons and Emmanuel Colleges.
- In contrast, South Boston Waterfront's population is only 41.7% female.

TABLE 4 Neighborhoods by Female Population Share
2018

Neighborhood	Females	% of Neighborhood Population
Longwood	3,560	64.7%
Charlestown	10,660	54.9%
Roslindale	16,164	54.6%
West Roxbury	18,363	53.6%
Jamaica Plain	21,715	53.5%
Fenway	17,547	53.0%
Dorchester	66,545	52.6%
Mattapan	13,744	52.5%
Roxbury	28,191	52.3%
Hyde Park	19,933	52.3%
Beacon Hill	4,881	51.8%
Back Bay	9,238	51.6%
Downtown	9,415	51.6%
South Boston	18,460	51.3%
Brighton	28,021	51.3%
Allston	10,050	51.2%
South End	16,454	50.9%
North End	4,645	49.7%
Mission Hill	8,376	49.0%
West End	3,066	47.4%
East Boston	21,937	46.7%
South Boston Waterfront	1,600	41.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Percentage of the Total Population that is Female by Census Tract 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Chapter 3: Colleges and Universities

World Renowned Center for Education

- Boston is home to 29 colleges and universities, along with two community colleges.⁸
- Boston's colleges and universities contribute to the education of its residents: 51.4% of residents ages 25 and over have a Bachelor's degree or higher.

Enrollment

- In 2018, there were 139,000 students enrolled in 4-year colleges and universities located in Boston.⁹
- Additionally, Bunker Hill Community College and Roxbury Community College enrolled about 13,500 students in 2018.¹⁰
- With 31,666 students, Northeastern University is the largest university in Boston.

TABLE 5 Top 10 Colleges in Boston by Student Enrollment
2018

Institution Name	Total 2018 Enrollment
Northeastern University	31,666
Boston University	30,118
University of Massachusetts, Boston	15,192
Boston College	14,107
Suffolk University	6,970
Berklee College of Music	5,402
Emerson College	4,560
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences	4,448
Wentworth Institute of Technology	4,396
Simmons College	3,440

Source: Department of Neighborhood Development, "City of Boston Student Housing Trends: 2018-2019 Academic Year", excluding MIT.

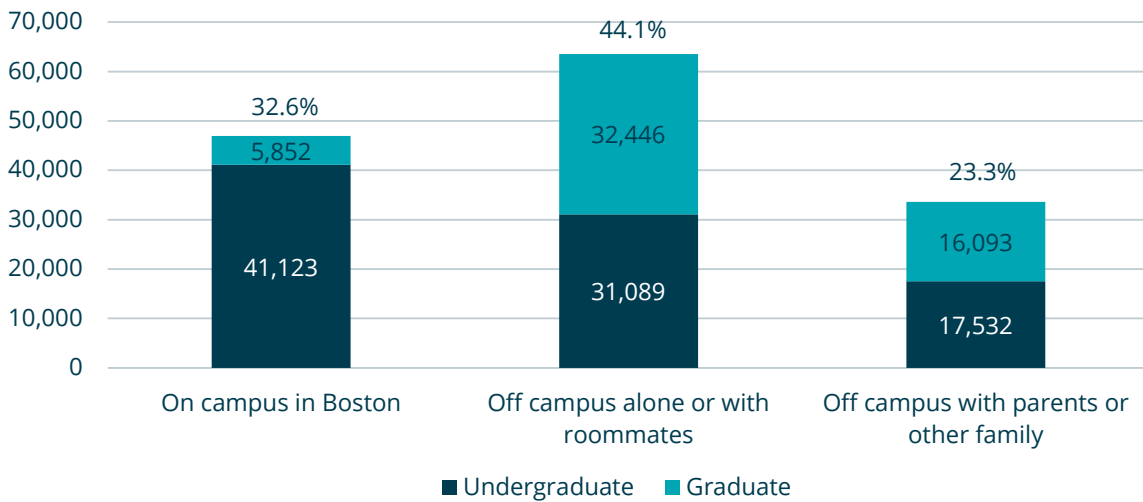
Employment

- Boston's colleges and universities employed 36,446 people in payroll jobs in 2018.¹¹
- Payroll employment in Boston's colleges and universities grew 12.6% from 2010 to 2018.

Student Housing

- Of students enrolled in Boston's institutions of higher education for Fall 2018, 32.6% lived on campus and 67.4% lived off-campus in Greater Boston.
- Of the students who lived off-campus in Greater Boston, 34.6% lived at home with parents or other family members, and 65.4% obtained housing in the private housing market.

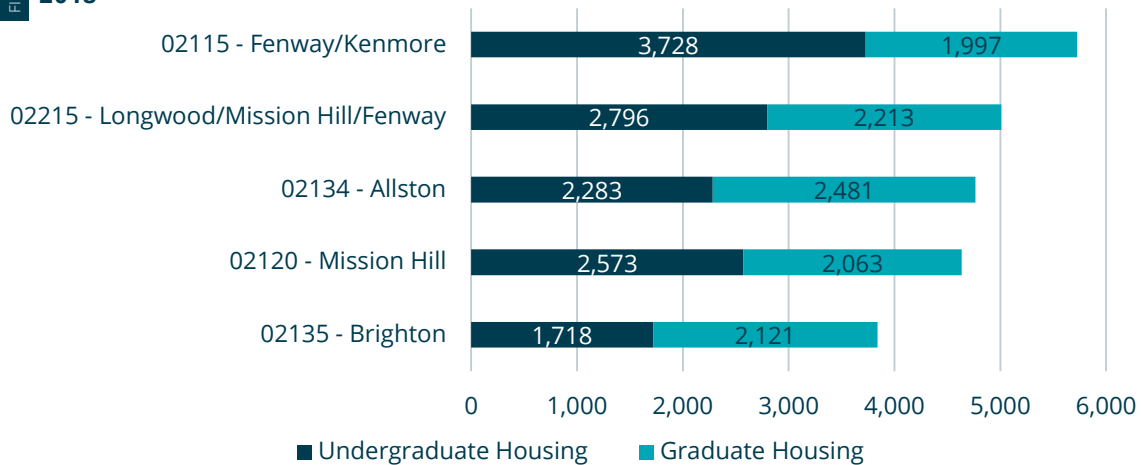
FIGURE 11 Students of Boston Universities by Residence
2018



Source: Department of Neighborhood Development, "City of Boston Student Housing Trends: 2018-2019 Academic Year", excluding MIT, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

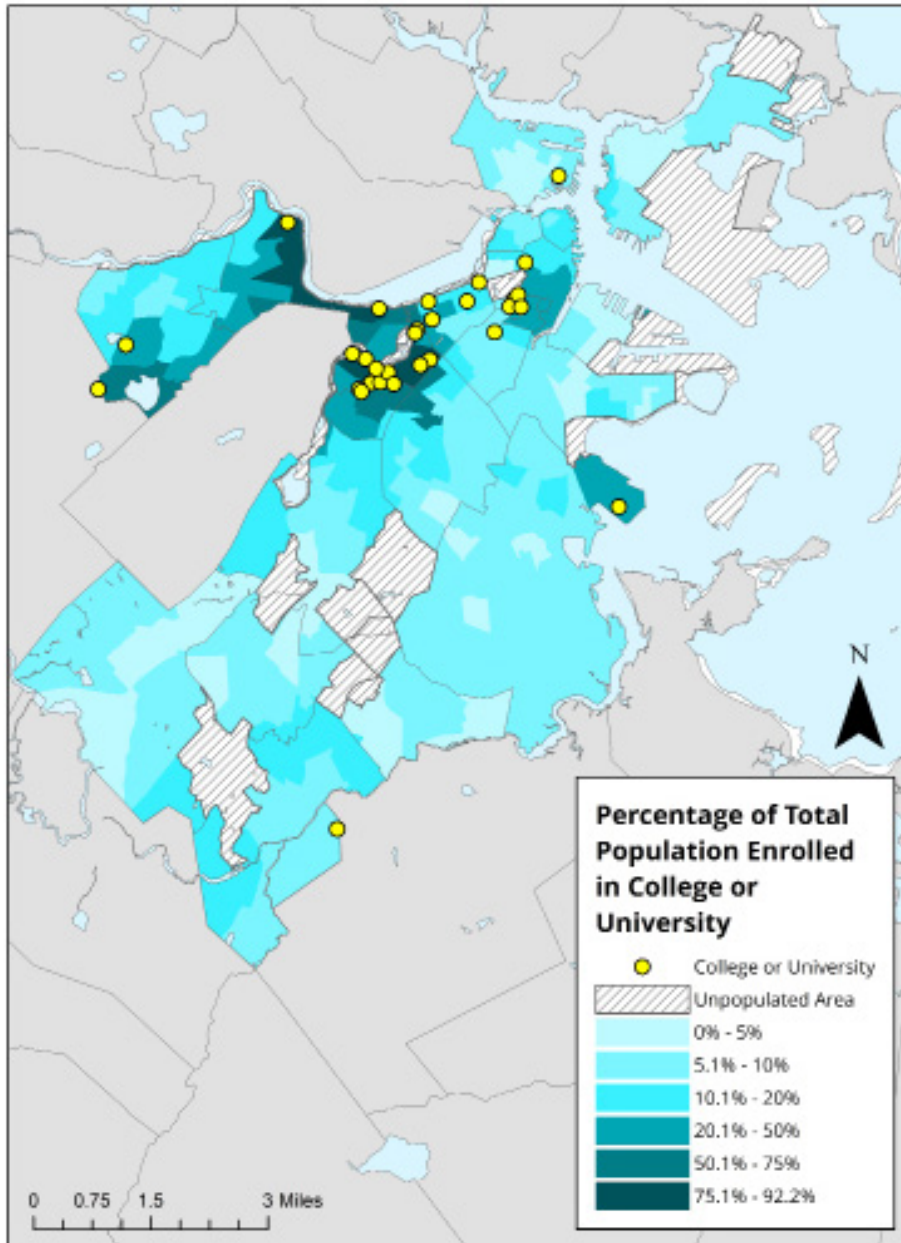
- Of the students who lived off-campus in Boston, half lived in Allston, Longwood, Mission Hill, Fenway, or Kenmore.

FIGURE 12 Top Zip Codes for Off-Campus Students in Boston
2018



Source: Department of Neighborhood Development, "City of Boston Student Housing Trends: 2018-2019 Academic Year", excluding MIT, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

MAP 4 Percentage of Total Population Enrolled in College or University by Census Tract
2018



Source : U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

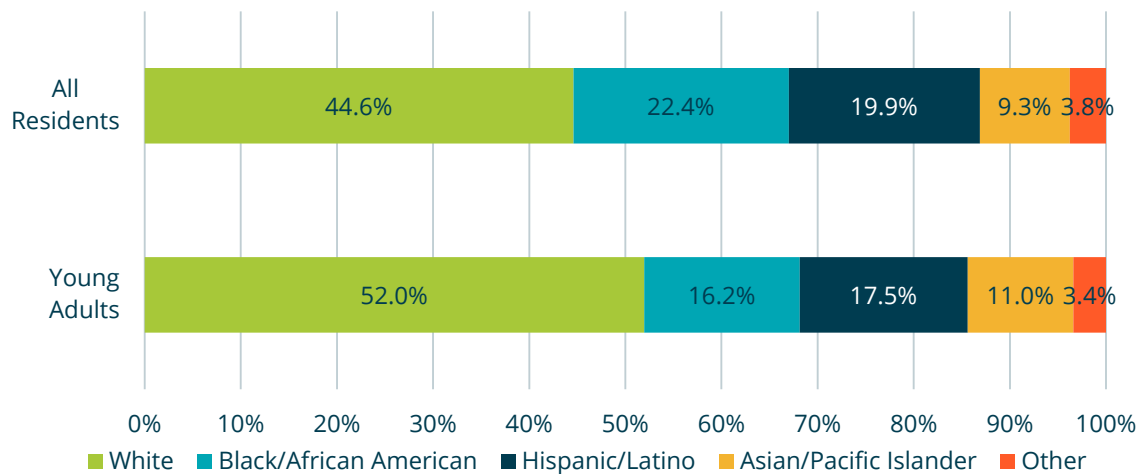
Chapter 4: Young Adults

Population

- In 2018, there were 271,851 Boston residents between the ages of 18 and 34, making up 39.1% of Boston's total population, a share that has been fairly steady since 1980.
- In 2018, the non-Hispanic White share of the young adult population was 52.0%, compared to 44.6% of the Boston population overall.
- 22.7% of young adults in Boston are foreign born, compared to 27.9% of Boston's population.
- 32.0% speak a language other than English at home, with 14.1% of young adults speaking Spanish.
- 3.4% of young adults speak English less than "well."

FIGURE 13

Race/Ethnicity in Boston 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

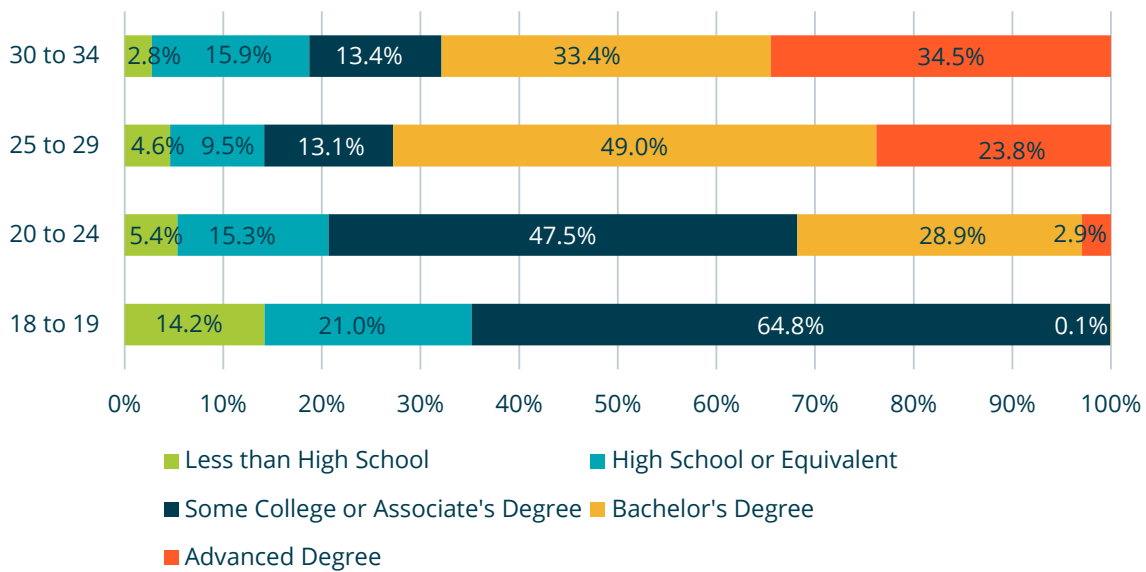
Households

- 13.9% of all young adults reside in group quarters, such as a college dormitory – among 18-22 year olds this percentage rises to 43.4%.
- Only 18.7% of young adult householders own their residence.¹²
- Only 14.8% of young adults are currently married. 83.3% have never been married, and 1.8% are widowed, divorced, or separated.

Education

- 39.3% of young adults in Boston are currently enrolled in school, including 93.3% of people ages 18 and 19, 65.7% of people ages 20 to 24, 24.0% of people ages 25 to 29, and 11.6% of people ages 30 to 34.
- 70.6% of young adults ages 25 to 34 have a Bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 41.8% of adults ages 35 and older.

FIGURE 14
Educational Attainment of Young Adults
2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Employment, Income, and Poverty

- The labor force participation rate for young adults in Boston is 75.4%.
- The median personal income of employed young adults is \$40,000 a year compared to \$45,000 a year for all employed workers age 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 \$12,000 a year.
- The poverty rate of young adults in households falls from 29.8% among 20-24 year olds to 11.0% among 30-34 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 26.1%.
- The median household income of households with a householder ages 18 to 34 is \$85,000 compared to Boston's households median of \$71,000.¹³

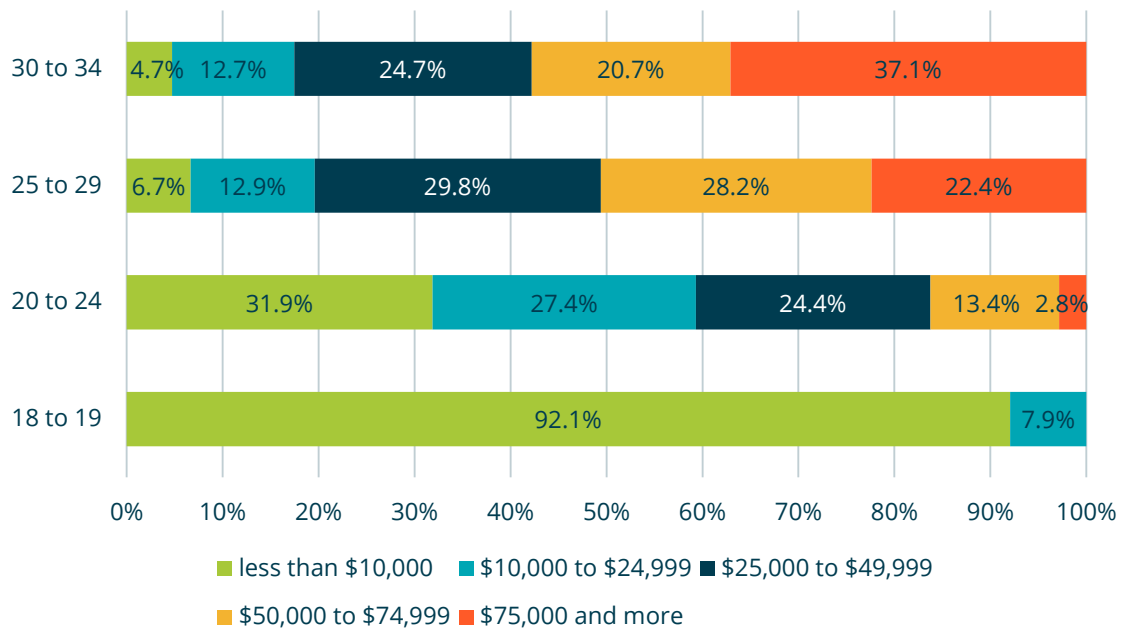
TABLE 6 Economic Characteristics of Young Adults by Age Group
2018

Age Group	Labor Force Participation Rate	Median Personal Income	Poverty Rate	Median Household Income
20 to 24	64.4%	\$18,000	29.8%	\$34,000
25 to 29	85.8%	\$50,000	14.0%	\$98,000
30 to 34	85.8%	\$58,000	11.0%	\$95,000

Note: Median Personal Income is of employed young adults.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

FIGURE 1.5 Personal Income of Employed Young Adult Residents
2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Neighborhoods

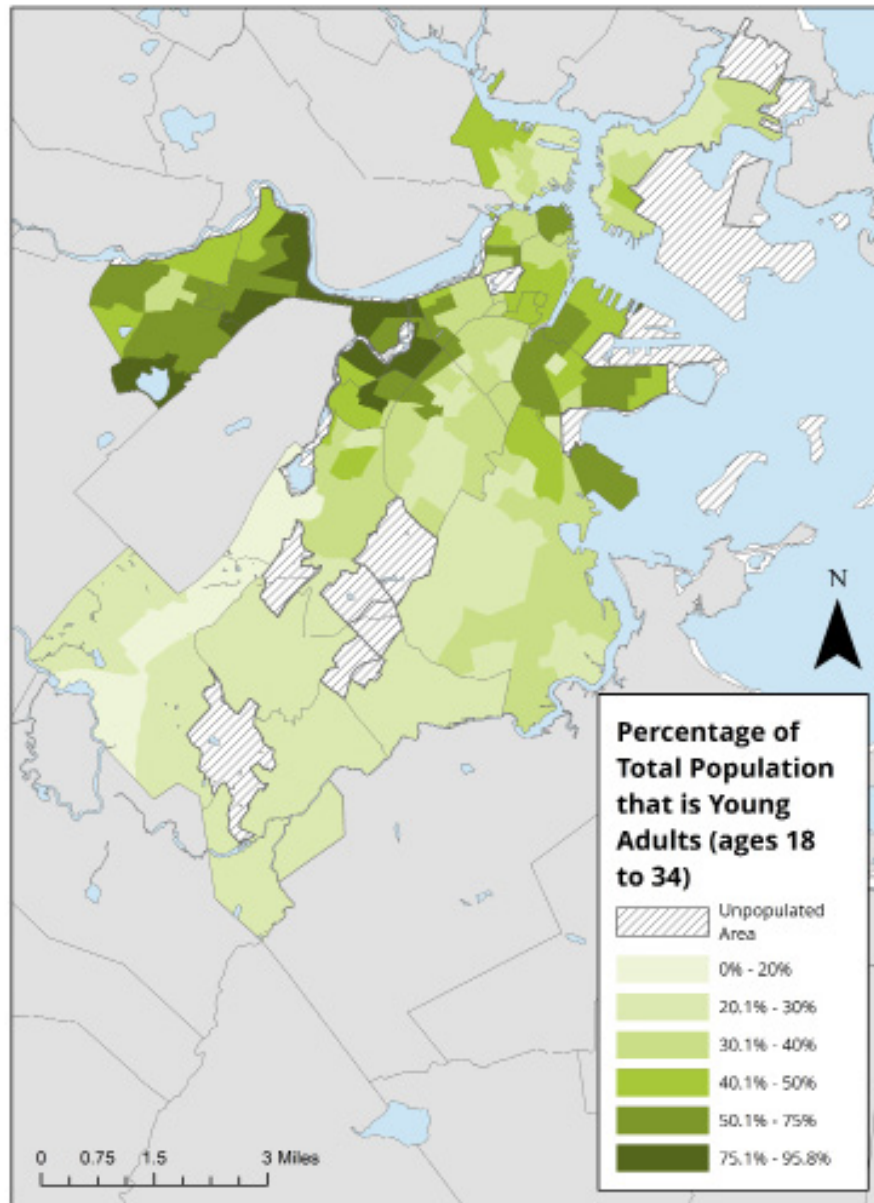
- The young adult share of neighborhood populations varies dramatically, from 93.5% in Longwood to 18.8% in West Roxbury.
- Neighborhoods in close proximity to colleges and universities, such as Longwood, Allston, Fenway, and Mission Hill, have a high population share of young adults.

TABLE 7 Neighborhoods by Young Adult Population Share
2018

Neighborhood	Young Adults	% of Neighborhood Population
Longwood	5,144	93.5%
Allston	15,853	80.8%
Fenway	26,193	79.1%
North End	5,464	58.4%
Mission Hill	9,806	57.3%
Brighton	30,673	56.1%
Beacon Hill	4,585	48.7%
South Boston Waterfront	1,807	47.1%
Back Bay	8,352	46.7%
South Boston	16,465	45.8%
Downtown	8,147	44.6%
West End	2,574	39.8%
South End	11,615	35.9%
Jamaica Plain	13,781	34.0%
Roxbury	17,706	32.9%
East Boston	15,150	32.3%
Dorchester	39,239	31.0%
Charlestown	5,875	30.3%
Roslindale	7,092	24.0%
Mattapan	6,231	23.8%
Hyde Park	8,845	23.2%
West Roxbury	6,432	18.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

**Percentage of the Population that is Young Adult by Census Tract
2018**



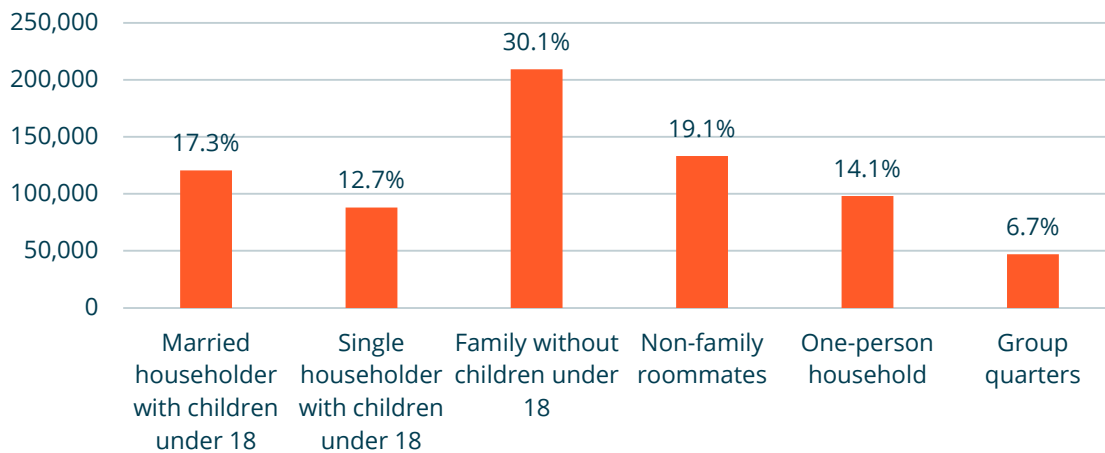
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Chapter 5: Children and Families

Households

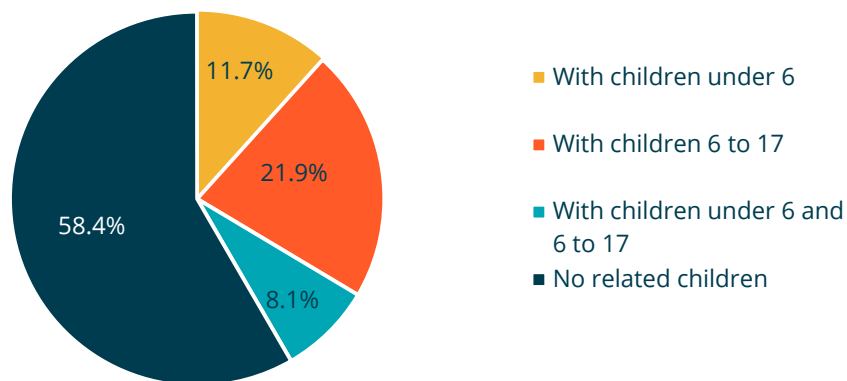
- Boston is home to 274,674 households, of which 128,894 (46.9%) are family households.¹⁴
- 35.9% of all Boston households are one-person non-family households.
- Families of four make up only 14.5% of all Boston households.
- In 2018, 41.6% of family households had children under the age of 18.

FIGURE 16 Boston's Population by Household Structure 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

FIGURE 17 Families by Presence of Children 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Family Types

- Married couple families make up 60.6% of all family households.
- Families that are headed by women with no spouse present make up 31.3% of all family households.
- About 40.3% of children in Boston live with only one parent.

TABLE 8
Families by Type
2010, 2018

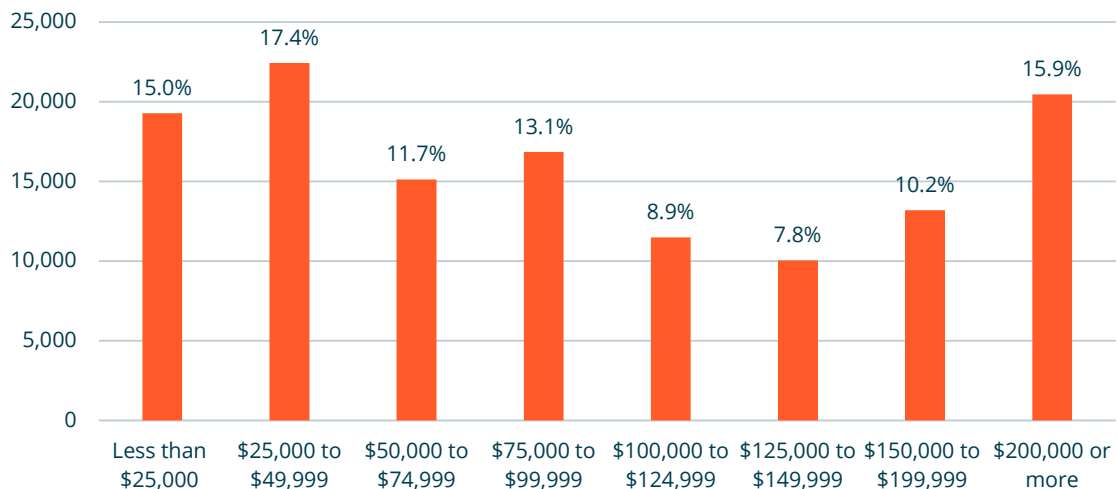
Family Types	2010		2018		% Change
Married couple family with children under 18	27,684	23.4%	29,669	23.0%	7.2%
Single male householder family with children under 18	6,552	5.5%	3,982	3.1%	-39.2%
Single female householder family with children under 18	25,561	21.6%	24,152	18.7%	-5.5%
Family without children under 18	58,343	49.4%	71,091	55.2%	21.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Income and Poverty

- The median family income in Boston in 2018 was \$85,934.
- Married-couple families had a median family income of \$117,224 in 2018. Families with a single male householder had a median family income of \$72,293 while families with a single female householder had a median family income of \$40,735.
- Married-couple families with children under 18 had a median family income of \$118,449 while single fathers had a median family income of \$60,582 and single mothers had a median family income of just \$27,543.
- For non-families, the median household income in 2018 was \$56,654.

FIGURE 18
Family Income in the Past 12 Months
2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

- Overall, 12.1% of Boston families live in poverty, similar to the family poverty rate in 2010.¹⁵
- However, the poverty rate is only 4.4% for married-couple families.
- Families with children under 18 have an increased chance of living in poverty. Overall, 25.1% of children in Boston live in poverty.
- 41.8% 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 38.3%. For single fathers, the poverty rate is 14.0%.

TABLE 9 Families in Poverty by Family Type 2018

Family Type	Families in Poverty	Poverty Rate	% of Families in Poverty
All families	15,613	12.1%	100.0%
Married couple family with children under 18	2,138	7.2%	13.7%
Single male householder family with children under 18	556	14.0%	3.6%
Single female householder family with children under 18	9,253	38.3%	59.3%
Family without children under 18	3,666	5.2%	23.5%

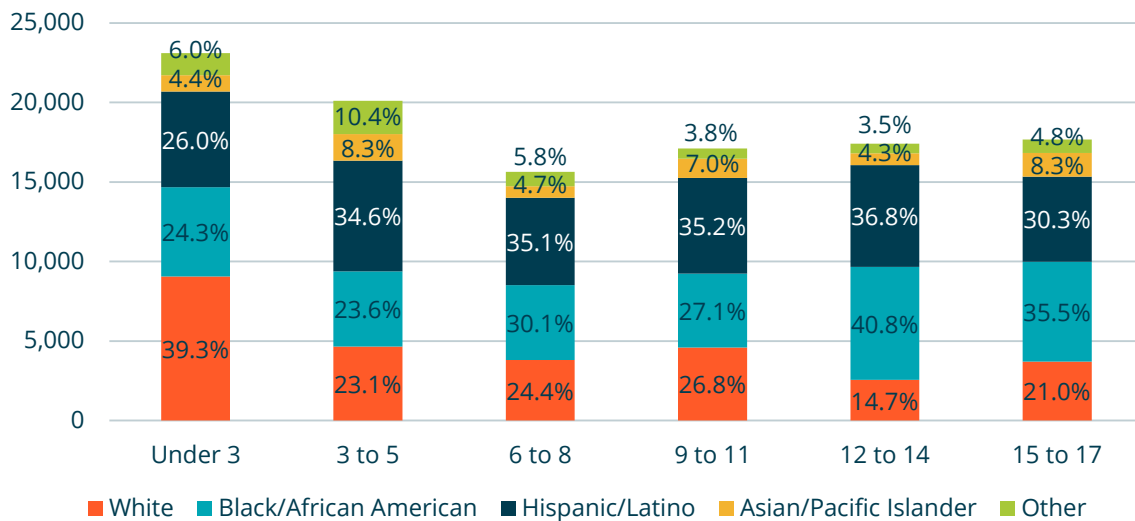
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.



Race and Ethnicity

- There are 111,053 children living in Boston, 16.0% of the total population.
- Overall, children in Boston are 32.6% Hispanic, 29.8% Black/African-American, 25.6% White, 6.2% Asian/Pacific Islander, and 5.8% other.

FIGURE 19 Children in Boston by Age and Race/Ethnicity
2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

- 90.8% of children in Boston are native-born, but over half live with at least one foreign-born parent.
- 42.3% of children ages 5 to 17 speak a language other than English at home, compared to 53.3% in 2010.

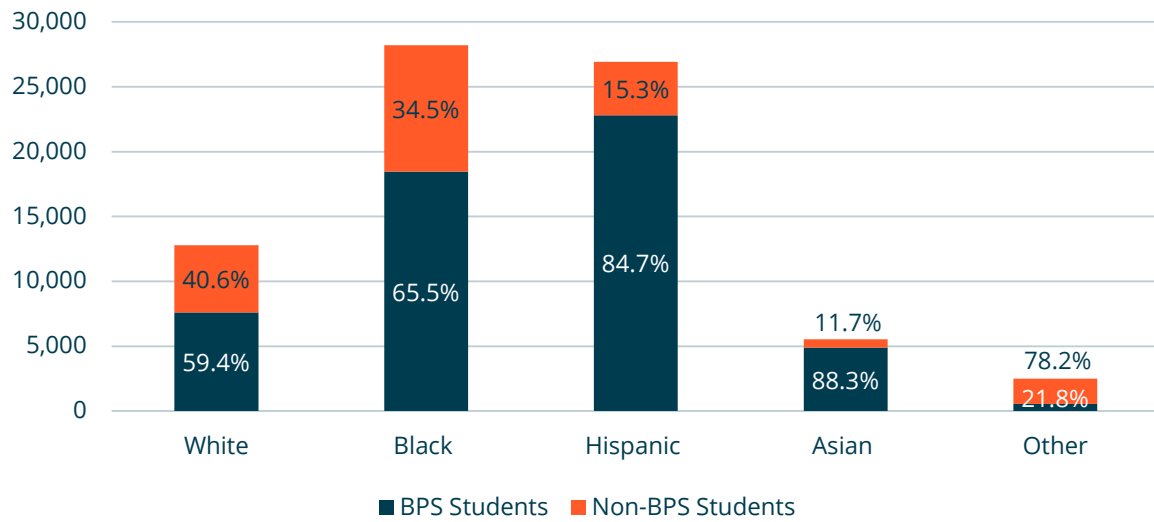
TABLE 10 Top Languages Spoken at Home for the Population ages 5 to 17
2018

Language	Total	% of Population ages 5 to 17
English Only	41,983	57.7%
Spanish	18,846	25.9%
Haitian Creole	3,536	4.9%
Mandarin	1,803	2.5%
Vietnamese	1,540	2.1%
Portuguese	1,437	2.0%
Somali	1,116	1.5%
Kabuverdianu	1,065	1.5%
Arabic	985	1.4%
Cantonese	480	0.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

- About 73.0% of school-age children in Boston attend Boston Public Schools (BPS).
- 88.3% of Asian students, 84.7% of Hispanic students, 65.5% of Black students, and 59.4% of White students attend BPS.¹⁶

FIGURE 20 Pre-Kindergarten to High School Students by Race & Ethnicity
2018



Source: Boston Public Schools at a Glance: 2018-2019, BPDA Research Division Analysis.



Neighborhoods

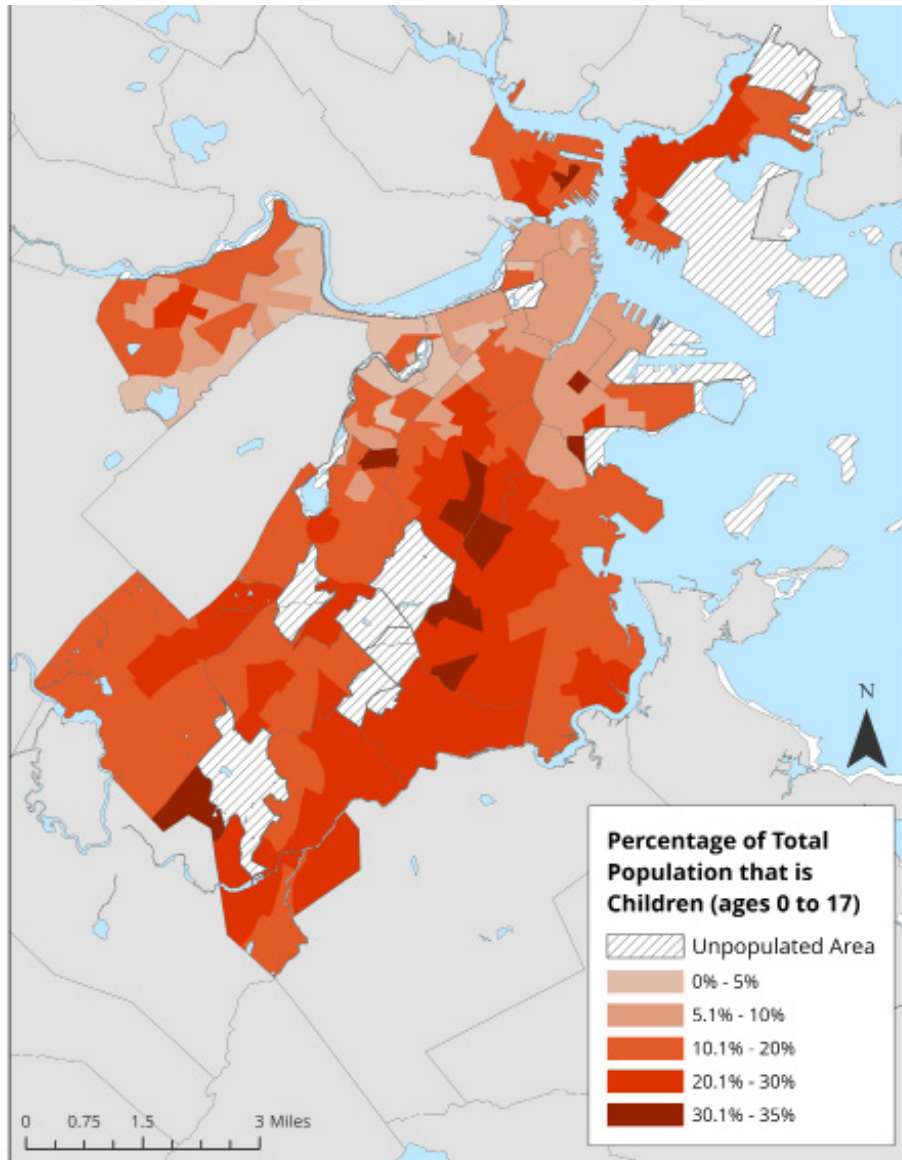
- Children in Boston are concentrated in certain neighborhoods. Children make up over 20.0% of the populations of Roxbury, Dorchester, Hyde Park, Mattapan, West Roxbury, and East Boston.
- In contrast, children make up fewer than 5.0% of the populations of Longwood, Fenway, and Allston.

TABLE 11 Neighborhoods by Children Under 18 Population Share
2018

Neighborhood	Children Under 18	% of Neighborhood Population
Mattapan	6,077	23.2%
Roxbury	12,191	22.6%
Dorchester	28,110	22.2%
Hyde Park	8,178	21.5%
West Roxbury	7,234	21.1%
East Boston	9,667	20.6%
Charlestown	3,790	19.5%
Roslindale	5,726	19.4%
Jamaica Plain	6,789	16.7%
South Boston	4,827	13.4%
South End	3,906	12.1%
Mission Hill	1,611	9.4%
Brighton	4,996	9.1%
Beacon Hill	855	9.1%
Downtown	1,489	8.2%
West End	511	7.9%
Back Bay	1,211	6.8%
South Boston Waterfront	200	5.2%
North End	469	5.0%
Allston	865	4.4%
Fenway	908	2.7%
Longwood	144	2.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

MAP 6 Percentage of the Population that is Children (ages 0 to 17) by Census Tract
2018



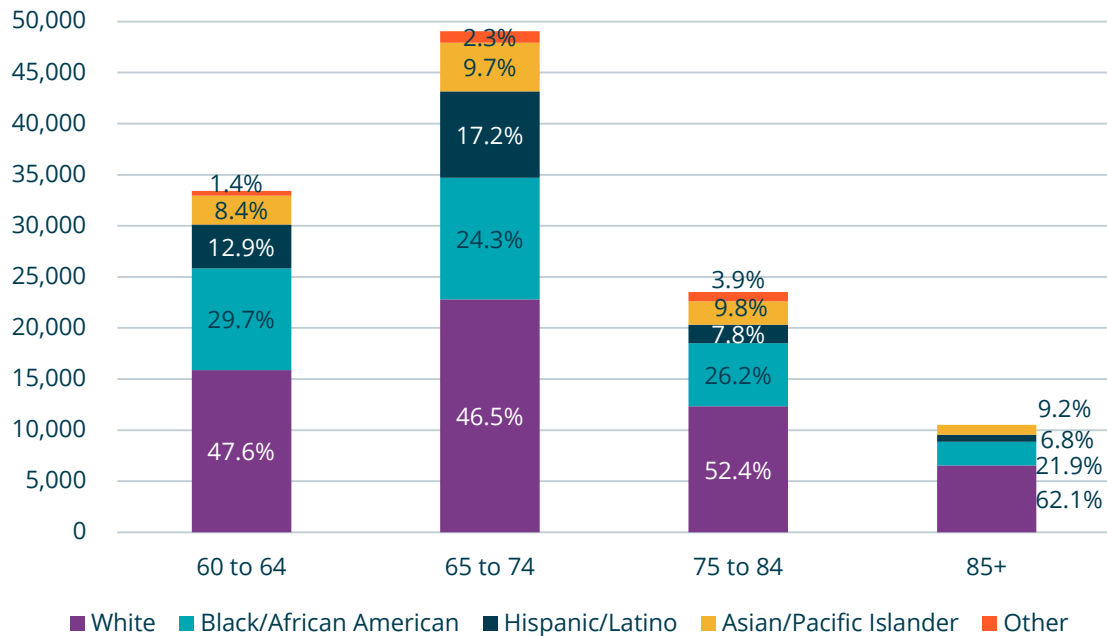
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Chapter 6: Older Bostonians

Population

- In 2018, there were 117,000 Boston residents age 60 and over, 56.4% of whom were female.
- Residents age 60 and over make up 16.7% of Boston's total population.
- The non-Hispanic White share of the older resident population is 49.4%, which is higher than that of the Boston population overall (44.6%).
- 37.7% of older residents are foreign born, compared to 27.9% of Boston's population.
- 35.5% of older residents speak a language other than English at home, and 77.0% of these residents speak English less than "very well."

FIGURE 21 Race & Ethnicity of Older Bostonians
2018

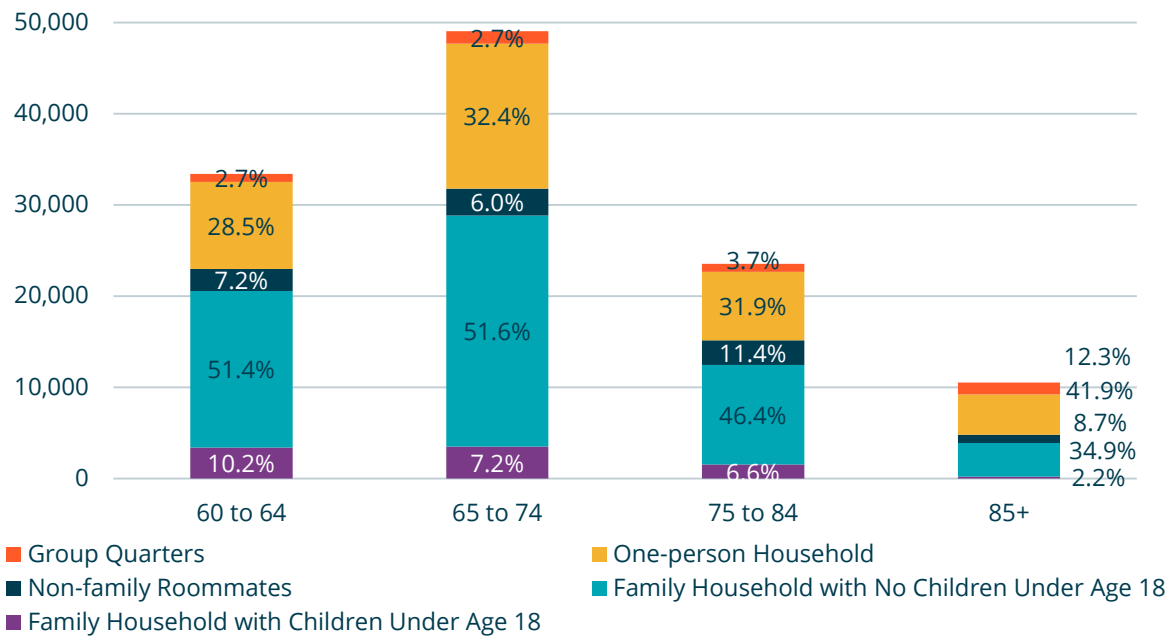


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Households

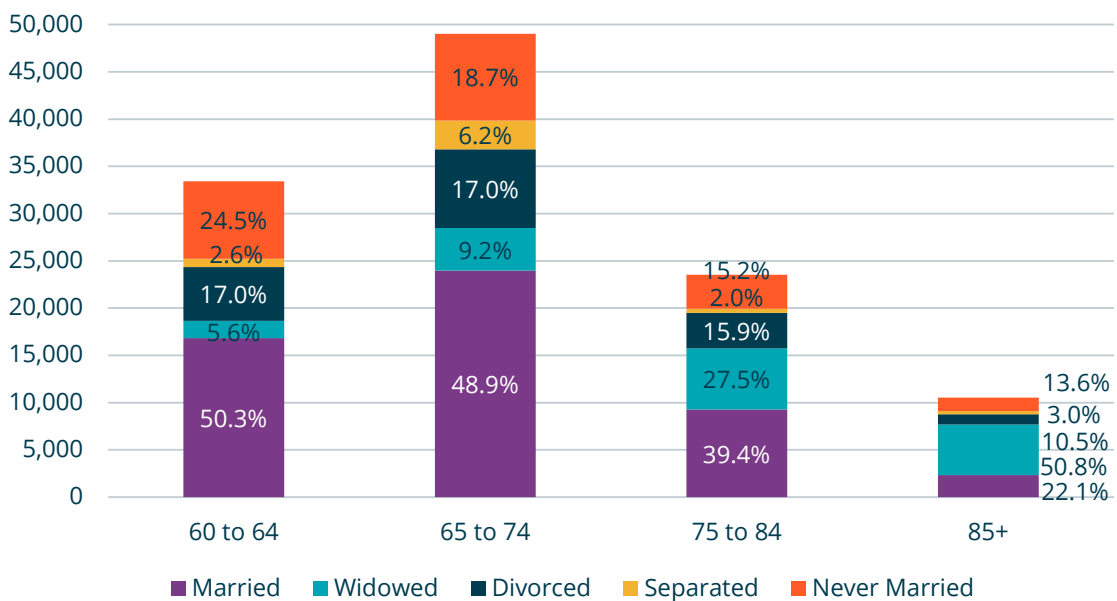
- 81,028 Boston households, 29.5% of total households, include one or more older residents age 60 and older.
- 47.8% of older residents live in owner-occupied housing, and 49.8% in renter-occupied housing.
- 5.4% of older residents live in group quarters.
- 5.5% of older residents are grandparents living with grandchildren, and 1.0% are grandparents responsible for grandchildren.

FIGURE 22 Household Structure of Older Bostonians
2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

FIGURE 23 Marital Status of Older Bostonians
2018

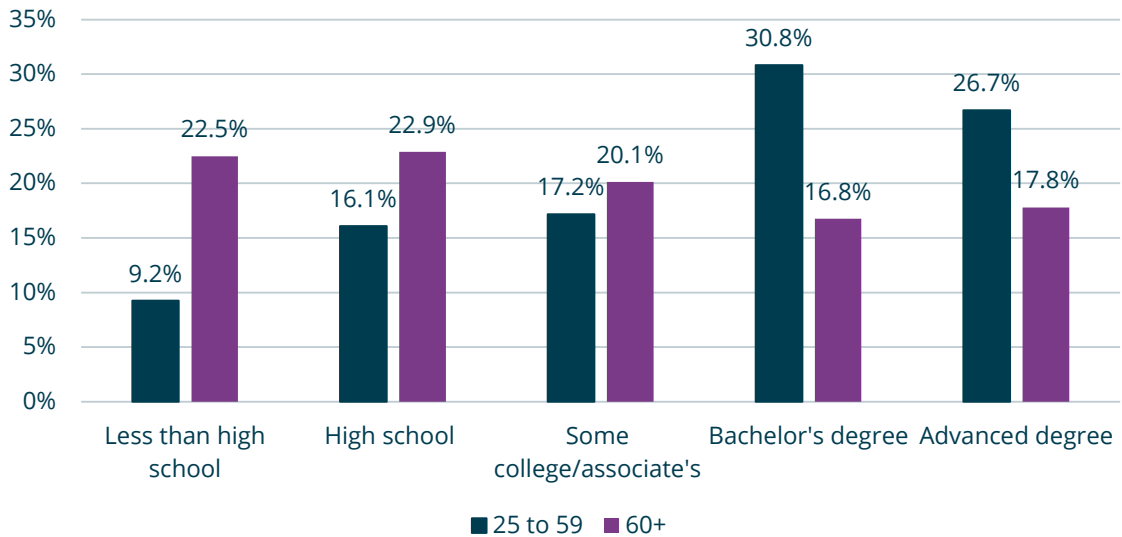


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Educational Attainment

- 45.4% of Boston residents age 60 and older have a high school degree or less.
- On average, older residents have fewer years of formal education than younger residents.

FIGURE 24 Educational Attainment of Older Bostonians
2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Economic Status

- Only 32.4% of older residents age 60 and older were in the labor force in 2018, a percentage which has been rising steadily since 2008, when 25.8% of older residents were employed.
- 36.7% of older residents were living with some sort of disability.
- The median income for households with one or more persons age 60 and older is \$59,785.
- Overall, 17.0% of the older resident population lives below the poverty line.

Neighborhoods

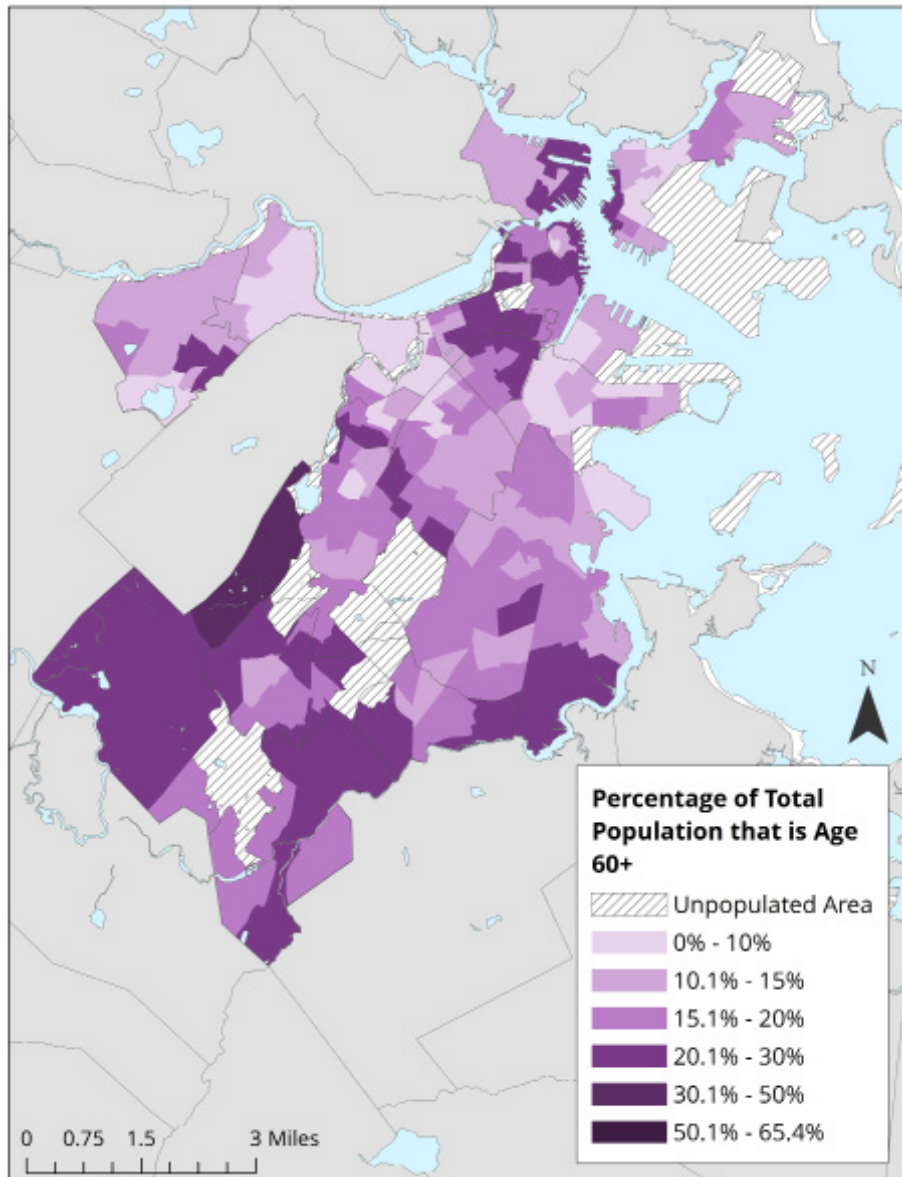
- West Roxbury has the highest share of older residents with people over the age of 60 making up 25.6% of the neighborhood population.
- In contrast, neighborhoods with high shares of young adults such as Longwood, Allston, and Fenway have the lowest shares of older residents, with 0.7%, 4.5%, and 6.2% of the neighborhood population respectively.

TABLE 12 Neighborhoods by Older Bostonian Population Share
2018

Neighborhood	60+ Population	% of Neighborhood Population
West Roxbury	8,789	25.6%
Hyde Park	7,802	20.5%
Downtown	3,608	19.8%
Roslindale	5,823	19.7%
West End	1,268	19.6%
South End	6,274	19.4%
Back Bay	3,388	18.9%
Mattapan	4,734	18.1%
Beacon Hill	1,589	16.9%
Jamaica Plain	6,782	16.7%
Dorchester	20,271	16.0%
Charlestown	3,055	15.7%
Mission Hill	2,663	15.6%
Roxbury	8,355	15.5%
North End	1,438	15.4%
Brighton	8,020	14.7%
South Boston	4,631	12.9%
East Boston	5,841	12.4%
South Boston Waterfront	456	11.9%
Fenway	2,058	6.2%
Allston	875	4.5%
Longwood	37	0.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

MAP 7 Percentage of Population Age 60+ by Census Tract
2018



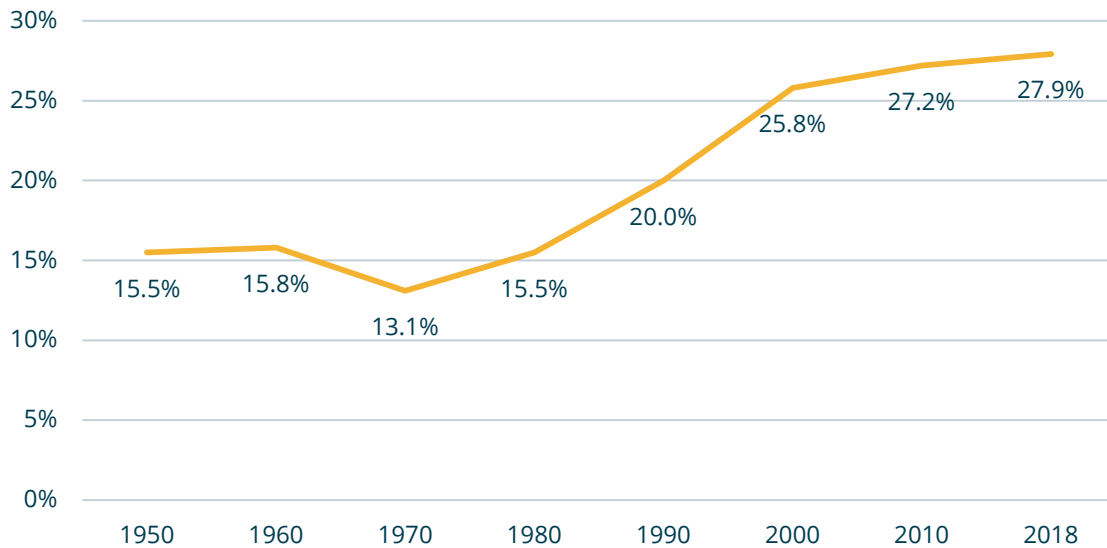
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Chapter 7: Foreign Born

Population

- Boston has approximately 194,000 foreign-born people, who account for 27.9% of the city's total population.
- Boston has the 7th highest share of foreign-born residents among 25 peer U.S. cities.¹⁷
- Naturalized citizens make up 51.3% of Boston's foreign-born population.

FIGURE 25
Foreign-Born Population
1950-2018

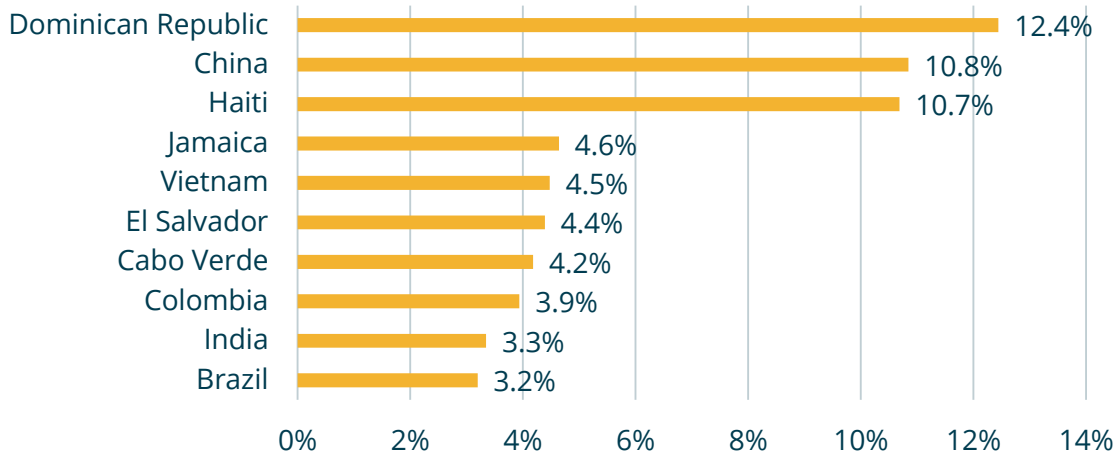


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2010 Decennial Census, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Origins

- The Dominican Republic, China, and Haiti were the most common countries of origin for Boston's foreign-born population in 2018.

FIGURE 26 Top 10 Countries of Origin for the Foreign-Born Population
2018

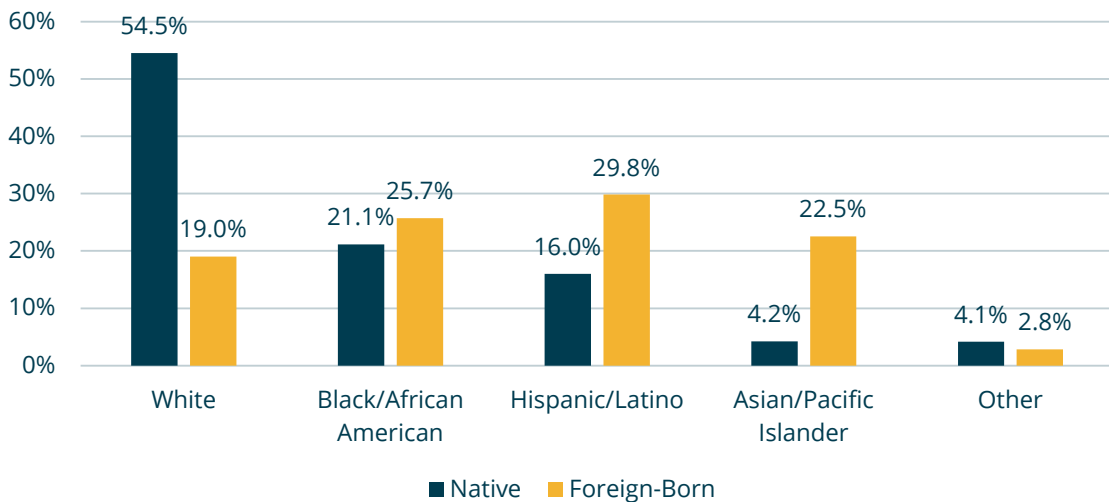


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

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 27 Race and Ethnicity by Nativity
2018



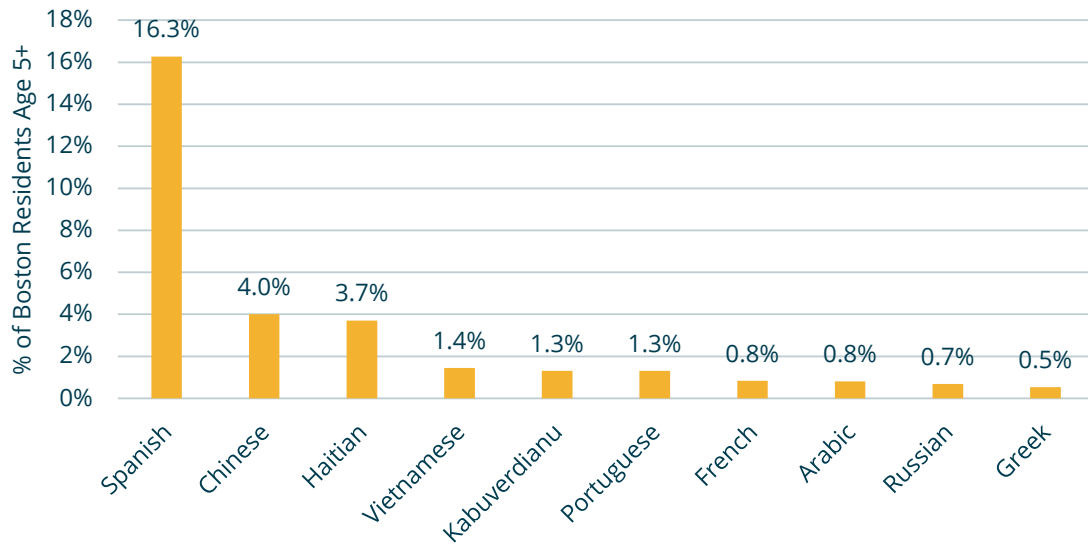
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Languages

- 37.0% of Boston residents speak a language other than English at home.
- Spanish is the most common non-English language spoken at home in Boston.
- In 2018, 16.9% of all Boston residents age 5 and older had limited English proficiency.

FIGURE 28

Most Common Non-English Languages Spoken At Home 2018



Note: Chinese includes Mandarin and Cantonese.

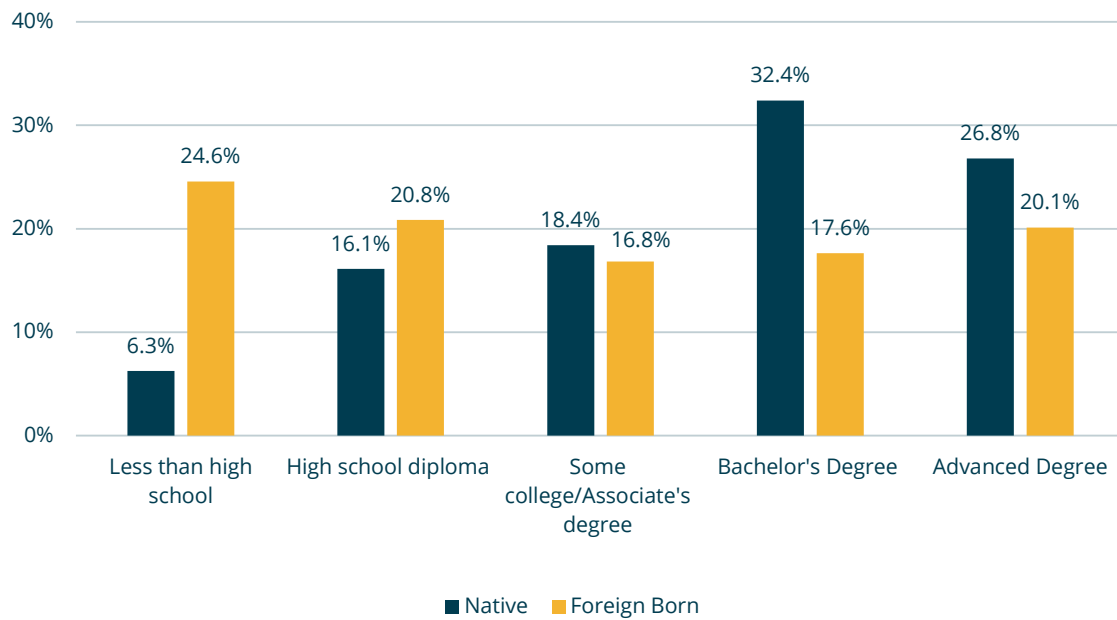
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.



Educational Attainment

- The foreign-born population in Boston generally has lower educational attainment than the native born.
- Among foreign-born residents age 25 years and older, about 37.7% have a Bachelor's degree or higher in contrast to 59.2% of native-born residents.
- Of the foreign-born population age 25 years and older, 24.6% have not completed high school, compared to 6.3% of the native-born population.

FIGURE 2.9 Educational Attainment by Nativity (Age 25+) 2018

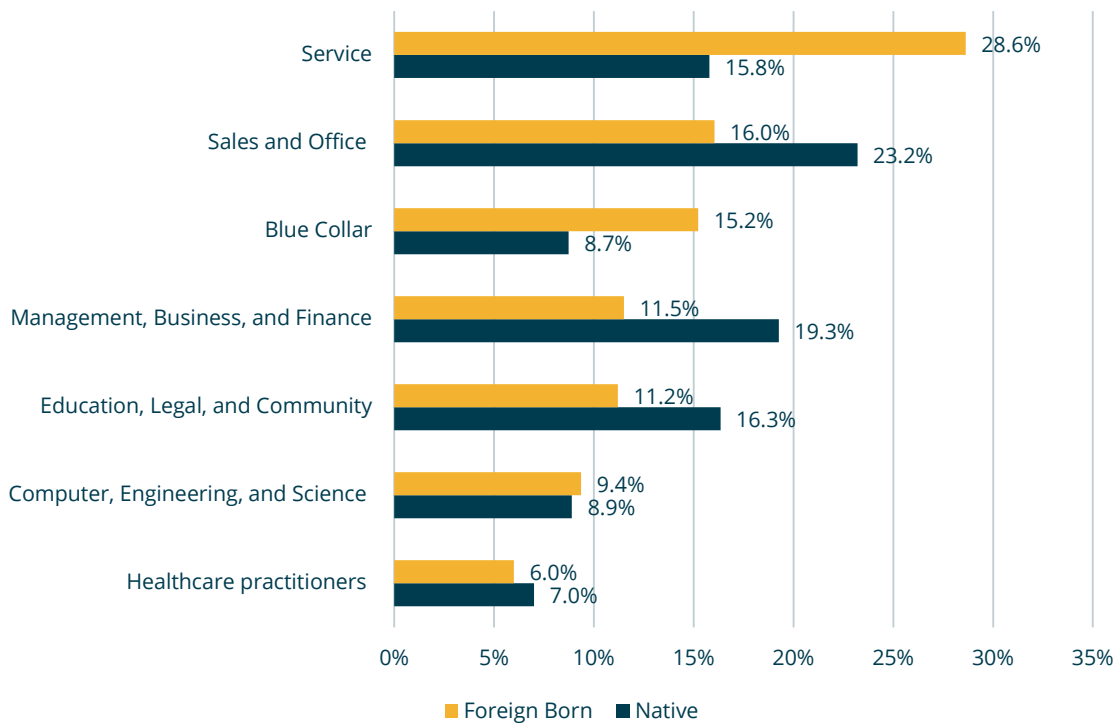


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Economic Contribution

- The largest share of the foreign-born population work in the service industry at 28.6%.
- Since 2010, the share of the foreign-born population working in the service and blue collar industries has decreased, while the share working in the sales and office; management, business, and finance; education, legal, and community; computer, engineering, and science; and healthcare industries has increased.

FIGURE 30 Employment by Occupation and Nativity
2018



Note: Blue Collar includes natural resources, construction, maintenance, production, and material moving occupations.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Neighborhoods

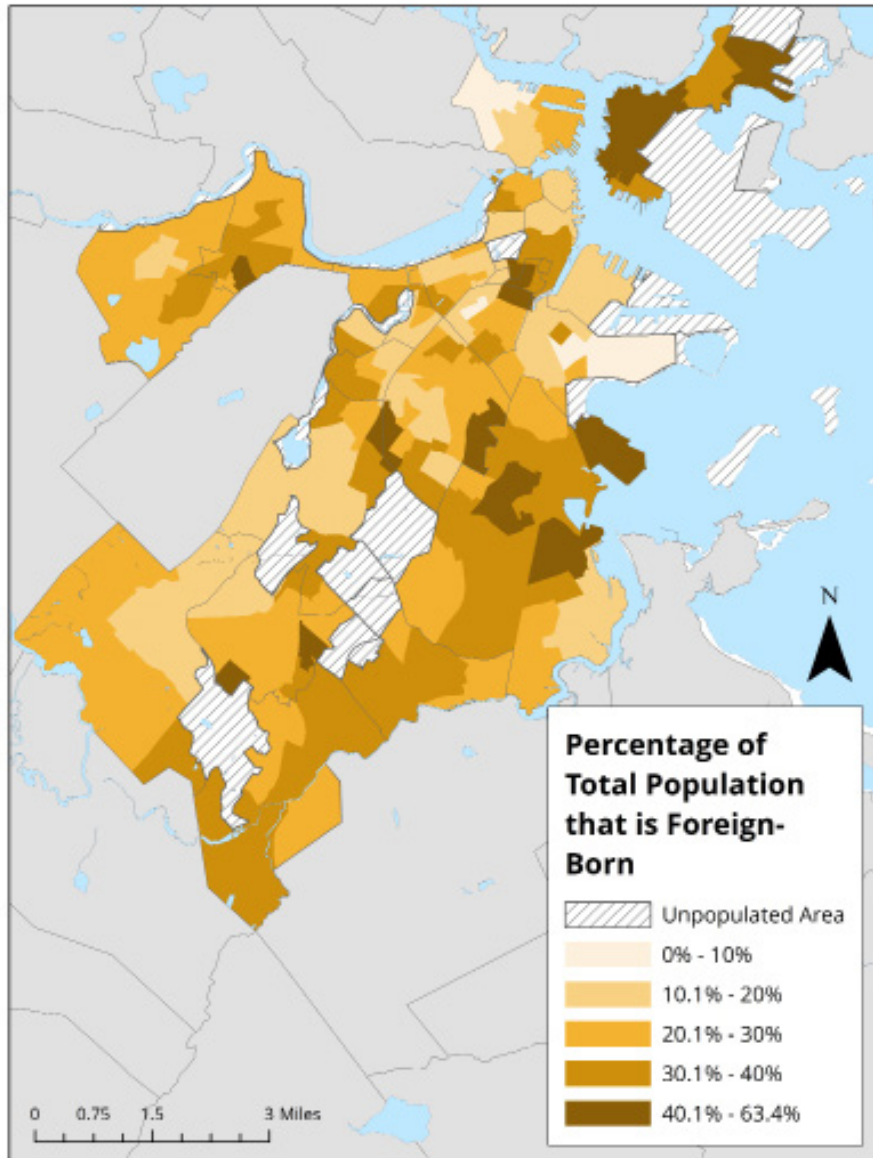
- Nearly half of East Boston's residents were foreign-born in 2018, the greatest share of any neighborhood in the city. South Boston had the lowest share at 11.9%.

TABLE 13 Neighborhoods by Foreign-Born Population Share
2018

Neighborhood	Foreign-Born Population	% of Neighborhood Population
East Boston	23,219	49.5%
Downtown	6,574	36.0%
Allston	7,007	35.7%
Dorchester	43,409	34.3%
Mattapan	8,294	31.7%
Hyde Park	11,687	30.7%
Roxbury	15,775	29.3%
Mission Hill	4,914	28.7%
Fenway	8,965	27.1%
Brighton	14,602	26.7%
West End	1,699	26.3%
Roslindale	7,498	25.3%
Jamaica Plain	9,854	24.3%
West Roxbury	7,766	22.7%
South End	7,245	22.4%
Back Bay	3,972	22.2%
Charlestown	3,051	15.7%
Longwood	859	15.6%
South Boston Waterfront	573	14.9%
Beacon Hill	1,395	14.8%
North End	1,211	13.0%
South Boston	4,278	11.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Percentage of Total Population that is Foreign-Born by Census Tract 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

Endnotes

- 1 Office Statistics: Boston Q3 2019, Jones Lang LaSalle IP, Inc.
- 2 CoStar Property, "Total Market Statistics", 3rd Quarter 2019.
- 3 Health Division Department of Inspectional Services, "Active Food Licenses", January 2020, <https://data.boston.gov/dataset/active-food-establishment-licenses>.
- 4 U.S. Census Bureau 2012 Economic Census, Retail Indicators Branch, BPDA Research Division Analysis.
- 5 City of Boston Licensing Board, March 2020.
- 6 U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 5-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis.
- 7 Source is U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis unless otherwise noted.
- 8 Department of Neighborhood Development, "City of Boston Student Housing Trends: 2018-2019 Academic Year", excluding MIT.
- 9 Department of Neighborhood Development, "City of Boston Student Housing Trends: 2018-2019 Academic Year", excluding MIT.
- 10 Bunker Hill Community College, "Fast Facts"; Community College Review, "Roxbury Community College."
- 11 Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (EOLWD), ES-202-2018, BPDA Research Division Analysis.
- 12 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.
- 13 Household income includes the income of everyone in the household, including roommates and other non-family members
- 14 The 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."
- 15 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 2018, the poverty threshold in the U.S. for a family of two adults and two children was \$25,465.
- 16 2018-2019 Boston Public Schools at a Glance Report, BPDA Research Division Analysis.
- 17 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.

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