# **Boston Household Characteristics: 1990-2000**

# trends2000

Boston Redevelopment Authority Policy Development and Research, June, 2002

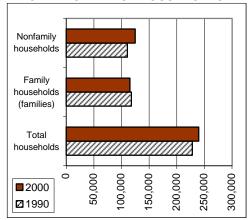


Technical Note #: 2002-10

### **Trends in Boston Households:**

- Non-family households (single persons and non-related roomates) now outnumber family households having surpassed them during the 1990's.
- The number of married couple families slightly fell over the decade while other families, mainly single-parent families, have increased.
- Single female-headed family households without their spouses present outnumber such single male-headed family households by a wide margin 4:1.
- Total households grew by 5.1% over the decade while the number of pewrsons in households grew by 2.4% due to a small decline in average household size from 2.37 to 2.31.
- The number of householders living alone continues to rise.
- Non-family households have increased due to both the growth of single-person households and non-related roommates living together.
- The number of children in married couple families as a percentage of all children in families fell to 52% from 56%.
- Children in single parent families as a percentage of all children in families rose to 42% from 39%.
- The group quarters living situation in Boston marked a rise in institutional and non-institutional residents between 1990 and 2000.

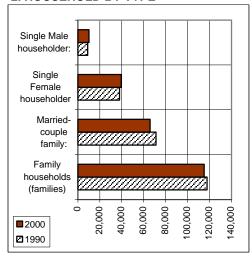
### 1. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS



Subject	1990	%	2000	%
	number	share	number	share
Total households	227,958	100	239,528	100
Family households (families)	117,656	51.6	115,096	48.1
Nonfamily households	110,302	48.4	124,432	51.9

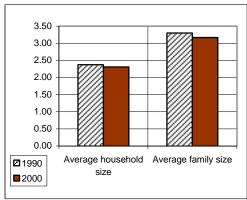
# **Boston Household Characteristics: 1990-2000**

# 2. HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE



Subject	1990	%	2000	%
	number	share	number	share
Total households	227,958	100	239,528	100
Family Households				_
Family households (families)	117,656	51.6	115,096	48.1
With own children under 18 yrs.	53,375	23.4	54,310	22.7
Married-couple family:	71,088	31.2	65,747	27.4
With own children under 18 yrs.	30,065	13.2	28,219	11.8
Single Female householder	37,788	16.6	39,366	16.4
(no husband present)				_
With own children under 18 yrs.	20,931	9.2	22,793	9.5
Single Male householder:	8,780	3.9	9,983	4.2
(no wife present)				
With own children under 18 yrs.	2,379	1.0	3,298	1.4
Nonfamily Households				
Nonfamily households	110,302	48.4	124,432	51.9
Householder living alone	80,308	35.2	88,944	37.1
Householder 65 yrs. and over			21,796	9.1
Households with individuals under 18 yrs.		61,428	25.6	
Households with individuals 65 yrs. and over		45,350	18.9	

# 3. AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE



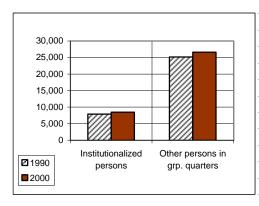
Average family size	3.30		3.17	
4. HOUSEHOLD RELATIONSH	ΗP			
Population In households	541,280	100	554,064	100
Householder	227,958	42.1	239,528	43.2
Spouse	70,643	13.1	65,747	11.9
Child	161,650	29.9	142,362	25.7
Own child under 18 yrs.	N. A.		100,177	18.1
Other relatives	26,014	4.8	41,110	7.4
Under 18 yrs.	N. A.		13,170	2.4
Nonrelatives	55,015	10.2	65,317	11.8
Unmarried partner	N. A.		14,719	2.7

2.37

2.31

Average household size

# 5. POPULATION IN GROUP QUARTERS



In group quarters:	33,003	100	35,077	100
Institutionalized persons	7,865	23.8	8,481	24.2
Other persons in grp. quarters	25,138	76.2	26,596	75.8