Trends

Historical Trends in South Boston

- The share of the Non-Hispanic White population decreased from 84% in 2000 to 77% in 2017.
- Between 2011 and 2015, payroll jobs increased by 57% throughout South Boston.
- Households with at least one vehicle increased from 68% in 2000 to 72% in 2017.
- The share of the adult population with at least a Bachelor’s degree increased from 28% in 2000 to 61% in 2017.
- The share of owner-occupied housing units increased from 32% in 2000 to 35% in 2017.

The Future for South Boston

- South Boston’s growth is poised to continue, with 2,255 housing units approved for construction between 2014 and 2018.
- 1,469 new housing units were built in South Boston between 2011 and 2018.

BPDA Board-Approved Development (In Thousands of Feet²)
2014-2018

BPDA Board-Approved Housing Units
2014-2018
People

Population

• According to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, South Boston had 36,212 residents, 5% of Boston’s population.\(^1\)

Age Distribution

• In 2017, 40% of South Boston’s residents were adults (25-34), compared to 24% of Boston’s residents.
• The share of young adults (18-24) only accounted for 6% of South Boston’s population, compared to 15% of Boston’s population.

Diversity

• In 2017, 13% of South Boston’s population were foreign-born, compared to 28% of Boston’s residents.
• 77% of South Boston’s residents identified as Non-Hispanic White, higher than 45% of Boston’s residents.

Economy

Jobs

• In 2015, South Boston had 19,273 payroll jobs, 17% of which were in Public Administration.\(^2\)
• South Boston had 0.78 payroll jobs for every resident worker, 3% of the city’s payroll jobs.

Labor Force

• In 2017, South Boston’s resident labor force had 24,830 workers, 6% of Boston’s resident labor force.
• 78% of South Boston’s residents participated in the labor force, compared to 69% of Boston’s residents.
• The top occupations among residents in 2017: Management, Business and Financial Operations, and Sales.

Education

• In 2017, 7% of South Boston’s residents were enrolled in college or university, lower than 16% of Boston’s residents.
• 61% of South Boston’s adult residents had at least a Bachelor’s degree, compared to 47% of Boston’s adult residents.

Income

• In 2017, the median household income in South Boston was $93,078, higher than $62,021 throughout Boston.

Place

Households

• In 2017, 40% of South Boston’s households were families, in comparison to 48% of Boston’s households.

Household Type 2017

- South Boston
  - 40% Family
  - 35% One-Person Household
  - 24% Household of Non-Relatives

- Boston
  - 48% Family
  - 37% One-Person Household
  - 15% Household of Non-Relatives

Renters and Owners

• In 2017, 61% of South Boston’s housing units were renter-occupied.
• In FY2018, 61% of South Boston’s 6,195 condominiums were owner-occupied.\(^3\)
• The median rent was $1,432 throughout South Boston, similar to $1,445 throughout Boston.

South Boston Occupied Housing Units 1950-2017

- South Boston
  - 75% Owner-Occupied
  - 74% Renter-Occupied

- Boston
  - 74% Owner-Occupied
  - 70% Renter-Occupied

Vehicles

• In 2017, 72% of South Boston’s households had at least one vehicle, compared to 65% of Boston’s households.
• The ratio of vehicles to households in South Boston was 1.05, higher than Boston’s ratio of 0.95.

Notes: Demographic data are for the Census-tract approximations of South Boston. Employment data are for the Census-block approximations of South Boston. Development data were calculated on March 5, 2019.