

BOSTON BY THE NUMBERS

FAMILIES



CITY OF BOSTON
MAYOR THOMAS M. MENINO



Boston
Redevelopment
Authority
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POPULATION

- Boston is home to over 116,000 families,¹ accounting for 46% of all households in Boston.

FAMILY TYPE BY AGE OF CHILDREN

	2000		2010		% Change
	Count	%	Count	%	
Total Households	239,528	-	252,699	-	5.5%
Family Households	115,096	100.0%	116,244	100.0%	1.0%
Husband-Wife families	65,747	57.1%	64,502	55.5%	-1.9%
With children under 6	8,227	12.5%	9,053	14.0%	10.0%
Children under 6 and 6 to 17	5,941	9.0%	4,598	7.1%	-22.6%
Children 6 to 17	14,051	21.4%	11,656	18.1%	-17.0%
No children under 18	37,528	57.1%	39,195	60.8%	4.4%
Female household families	39,366	34.2%	41,301	35.5%	4.9%
With children under 6	4,474	11.4%	4,587	11.1%	2.5%
Children under 6 and 6 to 17	4,855	12.3%	4,800	11.6%	-1.1%
Children 6 to 17	13,464	34.2%	13,354	32.3%	-0.8%
No children under 18	16,573	42.1%	18,560	44.9%	12.0%
Male Household families	9,983	8.7%	10,441	9.0%	4.6%
With children under 6	977	9.8%	1,037	9.9%	6.1%
Children under 6 and 6 to 17	466	4.7%	528	5.1%	13.3%
Children 6 to 17	1,855	18.6%	1,948	18.7%	5.0%
No children under 18	6,685	67.0%	6,928	66.4%	3.6%

Source: US Census Bureau, BRA Research Division Analysis

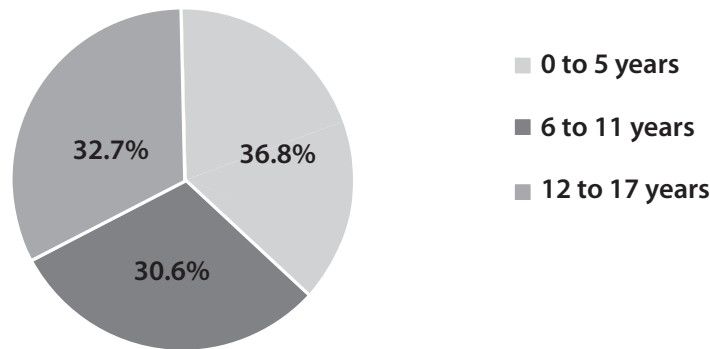
¹The US Census Bureau defines a family as, "two or more people (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage or adoption residing in the same housing unit."

- Between 2000 and 2010, the number of families increased slightly, up 1% from the previous decade.
- Married couple families make up the majority of family types. Over 55% of families consist of married couples and of those, 39.2% of married couples have children.
- Female headed families comprise over a third of all families.

CHILDREN IN FAMILIES

- There are over 100,000 children living in Boston families, or just over 16% of the total population of Boston.
- Most children live in either married couple families (47%) or with mothers with no husband present (46%). The rest of the children live with single fathers.
- The age distribution for children in Boston is as follows:

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CHILDREN IN BOSTON



Source: US Census Bureau, BRA Research Division Analysis

POVERTY AND INCOME

- Overall, 17.6% of families live in poverty in Boston, compared to 11.3% in the US.
- Husband and wife families comprise 18.3% of all families in poverty and male household families at just 8%.
- Nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of all the families in poverty are female-headed. Over 60% of those women have a high school diploma or less.



FAMILY TYPE DISTRIBUTION OF IMPOVERISHED FAMILIES

Family Type	% of Families in Poverty
Husband-Wife	18.3%
Female-headed, no Husband	73.6%
Male-headed, no Wife	8.1%

Source: American Community Survey 2010, BRA Research Division Analysis

FAMILY POVERTY RATE'S BY EDUCATION

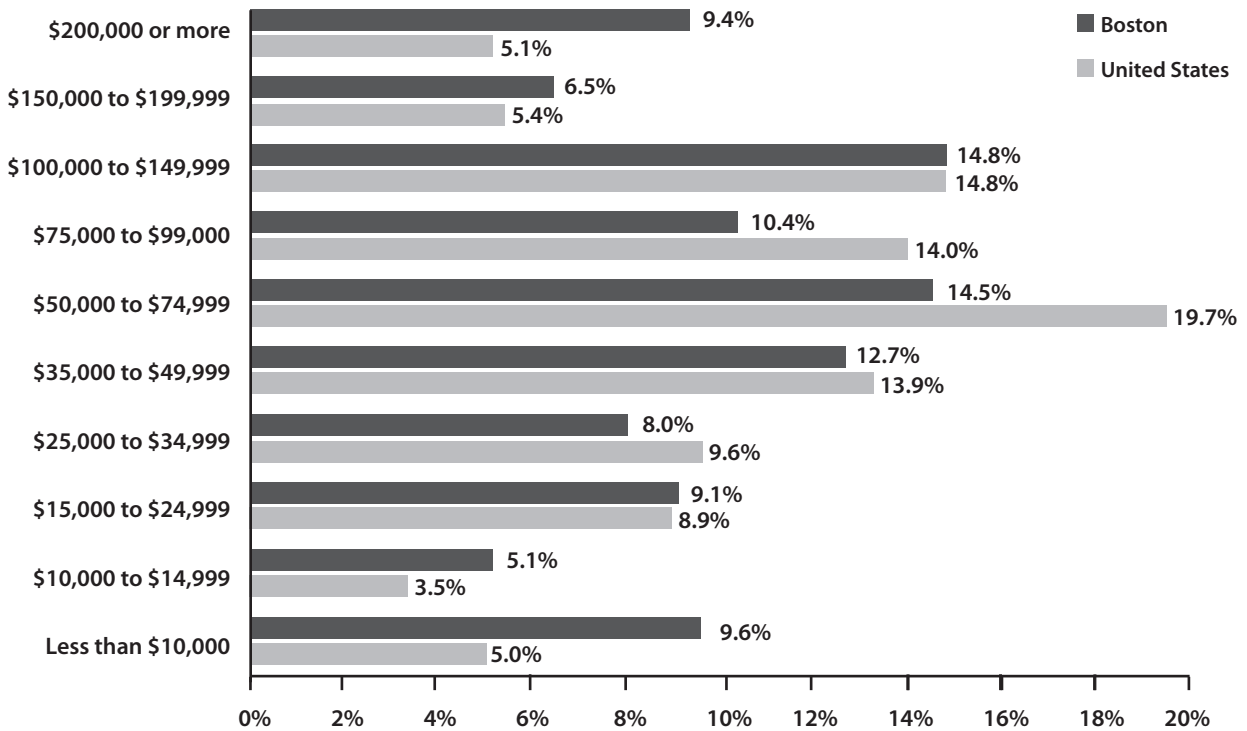
Educational Attainment	Poverty Rate
Husband-Wife	5.8%
Less than high school graduate	18.8%
High school graduate	9.1%
Some college, associate's degree	4.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher	1.7%
Male Householder, no Wife	13.3%
Less than high school graduate	16.7%
High school graduate	10.8%
Some college, associate's degree	29.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher	0.0%
Female Householder, no Husband	38.5%
Less than high school graduate	48.9%
High school graduate	47.4%
Some college, associate's degree	39.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher	14.8%

Source: American Community Survey 2010, BRA Research Division Analysis

- The median family income in Boston is \$60,360.
- Boston has a higher concentration of households making more than \$100,000 and less than \$25,000 than the US overall.



FAMILY INCOME



Source: American Community Survey 2010, BRA Research Division Analysis

NATIVITY

- Nearly 40% of all families in Boston are headed by a foreign-born resident.
- Close to 57% of all foreign-born families² are married couples.

FOREIGN BORN FAMILIES

Family Type	%
Total Families	100.0%
Native-Born Family Households	60.8%
Foreign-Born Family Households	39.2%
Married-Couple Family Households	56.9%
Male Housholder, no Wife Present	11.2%
Female Householder, no Husband Present	31.9%

Source: American Community Survey 2010, Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS), BRA Research Division Analysis

² Defined as a family in which the householder is foreign-born.

