

BOSTON BY THE NUMBERS

▶ YOUNG ADULTS

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OVERVIEW

- Boston has the highest concentration of young adults (age 20-34) among the 25 largest cities in the U.S.
 - 35% of Boston's population is between 20-34 years old.
- The population of 20-34 year olds in Boston has increased by 11% since 2000.
 - Comparatively, the city's population grew nearly 5% over the same time period.
 - The growth of the 20-34 population accounts for 75% of the city's total population growth over the last decade.
- Much of this increase was driven by the 20-24 year olds whose population grew by close to 26% between 2000 and 2010.

TOP TEN MAJOR CITIES: PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION BETWEEN 20-34 (2010)

City	Total Population	20-34 Year Olds	% of Total Population
Boston	617,594	216,213	35.0%
Austin	790,390	251,064	31.8%
Washington DC	601,723	188,855	31.4%
Seattle	608,660	181,501	29.8%
Columbus	787,033	233,163	29.6%
San Francisco	805,235	228,738	28.4%
San Diego	1,307,402	358,234	27.4%
Chicago	2,695,598	738,578	27.4%
Nashville	601,222	163,793	27.2%
Dallas	1,197,816	314,728	26.3%

Note: We define 'major cities' as being one of the top 25 cities population-wise in the U.S.

Source: 2010 U.S. Census, Boston Redevelopment Authority Research Division Analysis.

WHERE THEY LIVE

- Allston’s 20-34 year olds make up nearly 65% of the neighborhood and over 3% of Boston’s total population.
- Other neighborhoods with a large young adult population include Fenway, Brighton, and the North End.
- 60% of those between 20-34 years of age rent their homes, compared to 29.5% who own their homes.
- 9.4% of this age group live in group quarters, such as college dorms.

BOSTON’S YOUNG ADULT POPULATION BY NEIGHBORHOOD (2010)

Neighborhood	20-24	(20-24) % of Neighborhood	25-29	(25-29) % of Neighborhood	30-34	(30-34) % of Neighborhood	Total 20-34	Total Population	(20-34) % of Neighborhood	20-34 % of Boston
Allston	10,342	35.4%	6,228	21.3%	2,267	7.8%	18,837	29,196	64.5%	3.1%
Back Bay	2,898	16.0%	3,355	18.5%	2,154	11.9%	8,407	18,088	46.5%	1.4%
Bay Village	154	11.7%	261	19.9%	123	9.4%	538	1,312	41.0%	0.1%
Beacon Hill	1,369	15.2%	2,051	22.7%	1,170	13.0%	4,590	9,023	50.9%	0.7%
Brighton	11,573	25.3%	9,672	21.1%	4,262	9.3%	25,507	45,801	55.7%	4.1%
Charlestown	957	5.8%	2,341	14.2%	2,196	13.4%	5,494	16,439	33.4%	0.9%
Chinatown	560	12.6%	504	11.3%	332	7.5%	1,396	4,444	31.4%	0.2%
Dorchester	10,411	9.1%	9,455	8.3%	8,575	7.5%	28,441	114,235	24.9%	4.6%
Downtown	1,756	15.7%	1,143	10.2%	873	7.8%	3,772	11,215	33.6%	0.6%
East Boston	3,699	9.1%	4,607	11.4%	4,170	10.3%	12,476	40,508	30.8%	2.0%
Fenway	14,078	41.7%	4,024	11.9%	1,916	5.7%	20,018	33,796	59.2%	3.2%
Harbor Islands	29	5.4%	44	8.2%	27	5.0%	100	535	18.7%	0.0%
Hyde Park	2,163	7.1%	1,904	6.2%	1,796	5.9%	5,863	30,637	19.1%	0.9%
Jamaica Plain	3,228	8.6%	4,537	12.1%	4,171	11.1%	11,936	37,468	31.9%	1.9%
Leather District	25	3.9%	79	12.4%	122	19.1%	226	639	35.4%	0.0%
LMA	1,606	42.4%	232	6.1%	120	3.2%	1,958	3,785	51.7%	0.3%
Mattapan	1,636	7.2%	1,577	7.0%	1,464	6.5%	4,677	22,600	20.7%	0.8%
Mission Hill	5,406	33.2%	1,520	9.3%	906	5.6%	7,832	16,305	48.0%	1.3%
North End	1,843	18.2%	2,511	24.8%	1,200	11.8%	5,554	10,131	54.8%	0.9%
Roslindale	1,782	6.2%	2,119	7.4%	2,232	7.8%	6,133	28,680	21.4%	1.0%
Roxbury	5,649	11.7%	3,717	7.7%	3,102	6.4%	12,468	48,454	25.7%	2.0%
South Boston	3,199	9.6%	6,473	19.4%	4,134	12.4%	13,806	33,311	41.4%	2.2%
South Boston Waterfront	254	13.4%	375	19.9%	325	17.2%	954	1,889	50.5%	0.2%
South End	1,877	7.6%	3,409	13.9%	3,017	12.3%	8,303	24,577	33.8%	1.3%
West End	264	6.5%	695	17.0%	622	15.2%	1,581	4,080	38.8%	0.3%
West Roxbury	1,371	4.5%	1,858	6.1%	2,117	7.0%	5,346	30,446	17.6%	0.9%
TOTAL	88,129	14.3%	74,691	12.1%	53,393	8.6%	216,213	617,594	35.0%	35.0%

Source: 2010 U.S. Census, Boston Redevelopment Authority Research Division Analysis.



LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION

- Boston ranks 12th among the top 25 major cities in terms of labor force participation of the 20-34 age group.
 - This is, in part, related to the number of young adults in Boston currently enrolled in school.
- However, Boston ranks first in the percent of the labor force that is between 20-34 years old.
 - 20-34 year olds make up 35% of the city's population, yet they account for 48.2% of the city's resident labor force.
- There is a high concentration of young adults working in the Healthcare and Social Assistance, Educational Services, Accommodation and Food Services, and Professional and Scientific Services industries.

TOP TEN MAJOR CITIES BY PERCENTAGE OF LABOR FORCE BETWEEN 20-34 (2010)

Cities	Total Population	20-34 Year-olds	% of Total Population	Labor Force Participation Rate	% of Total Labor Force
Boston	617,594	216,213	35.0%	78.9%	48.2%
Austin	790,390	251,064	31.8%	80.2%	45.1%
Washington DC	601,723	188,855	31.4%	78.0%	45.1%
Columbus	787,033	233,163	29.6%	80.3%	43.4%
Chicago	2,695,598	738,578	27.4%	79.3%	42.9%
Dallas	1,197,816	314,728	26.3%	80.3%	42.6%
Philadelphia	1,526,006	392,779	25.7%	72.7%	41.7%
Nashville	601,222	163,793	27.2%	79.3%	41.2%
San Francisco	805,235	228,738	28.4%	84.9%	40.9%
Seattle	608,660	181,501	29.8%	82.9%	40.9%

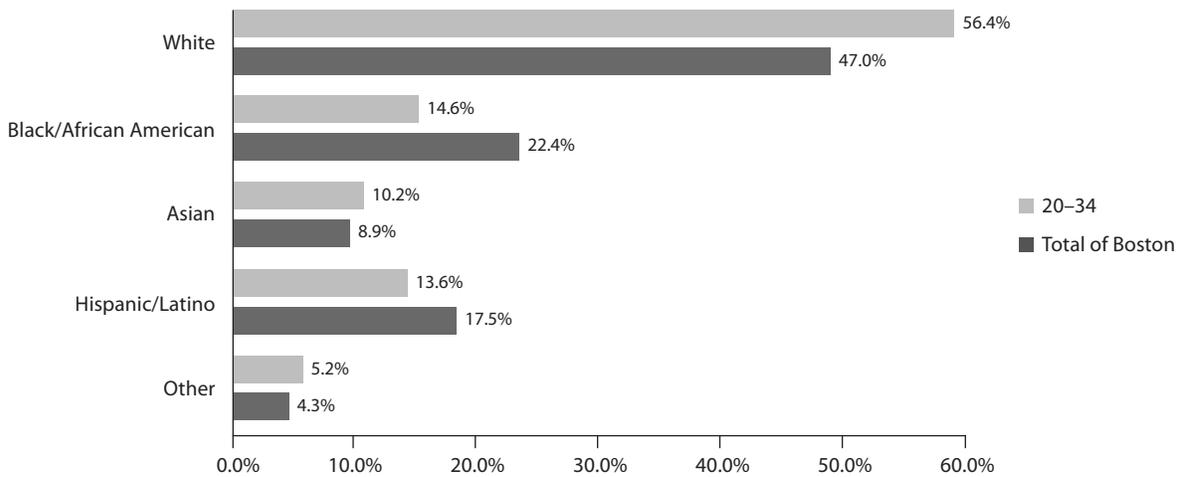
Note: We define 'major cities' as being one of the top 25 cities population-wise in the U.S.
 Source: 2010 American Community Survey (ACS), Boston Redevelopment Authority Research Division Analysis.

RACIAL DISTRIBUTION

- Overall, the young adult population in Boston is more White than the total population.
- While 47% of Boston is White, over 56% of 20-34 year olds in the city are White.
- Comparatively, over 22% of Boston is Black or African-American, while only 14.6% of 20-34 year olds are Black or African-American.



RACE DISTRIBUTION- BOSTON 2010

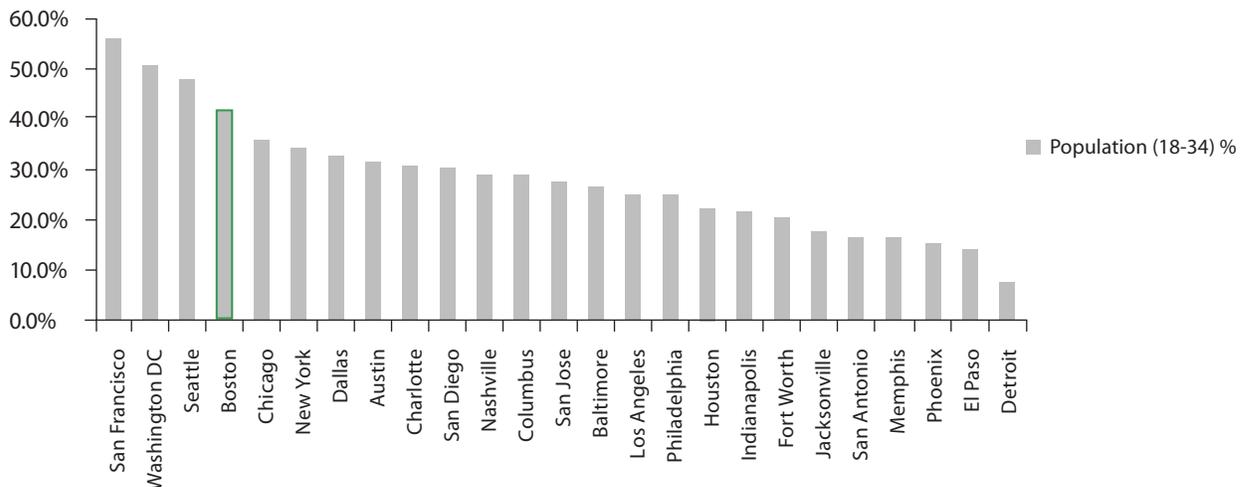


Source: 2010 U.S. Census, Boston Redevelopment Authority Research Division Analysis.

EDUCATIONAL DISTRIBUTION

- Boston ranks 4th among the 25 major cities in the percent of 18-34 year olds¹ with a bachelor's degree or higher.
- 42% of Bostonians between the ages of 18-34 have a college degree. The only cities with a higher percentage are San Francisco (56.5%), Washington DC (50.5%), and Seattle (47.9%).
- Greater Boston ranks 1st among the 25 largest metropolitan areas in 18-34 year olds with a college degree (39.2%). The next closest metropolitan areas are Washington DC (37.2%), San Francisco (35.6%), San Jose (35.2), and New York (33.1%).

BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER IN 25 MOST POPULOUS CITIES



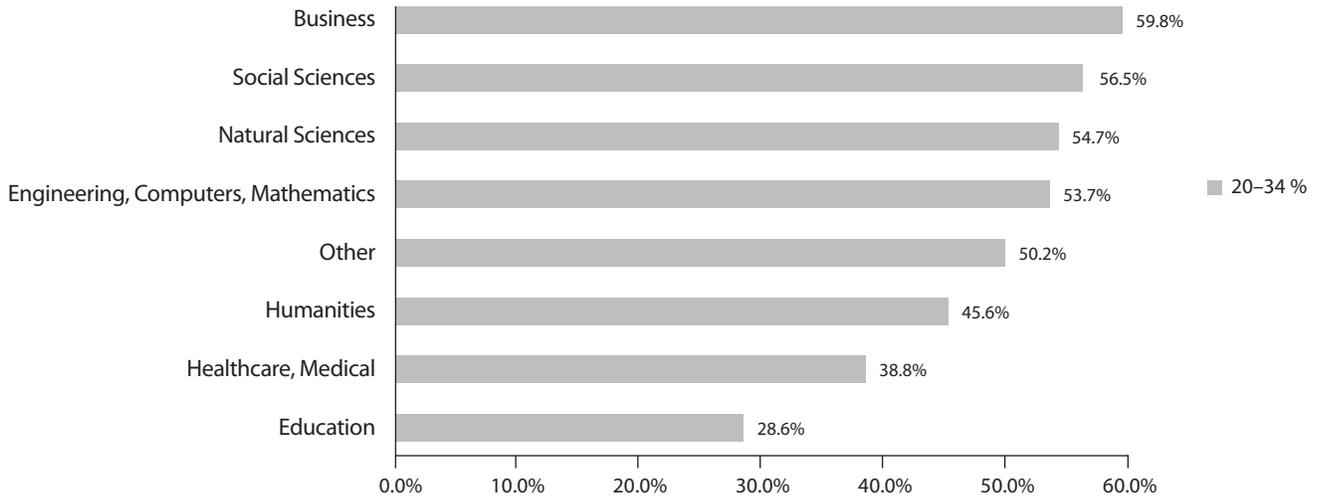
Source: 2010 American Community Survey (ACS), Boston Redevelopment Authority Research Division Analysis.



¹ Due to data limitations, we could not compare educational attainment of 20-34 year olds across major cities. As a result, this analysis focuses on 18-34 year olds.

- 52% of the college degrees held by Boston residents are held by someone between the ages of 20-34 year old.
- This is particularly the case for the business (59.8%), social science (56.5%), natural sciences (54.7%), engineering, computers and mathematics degrees (53.7%).

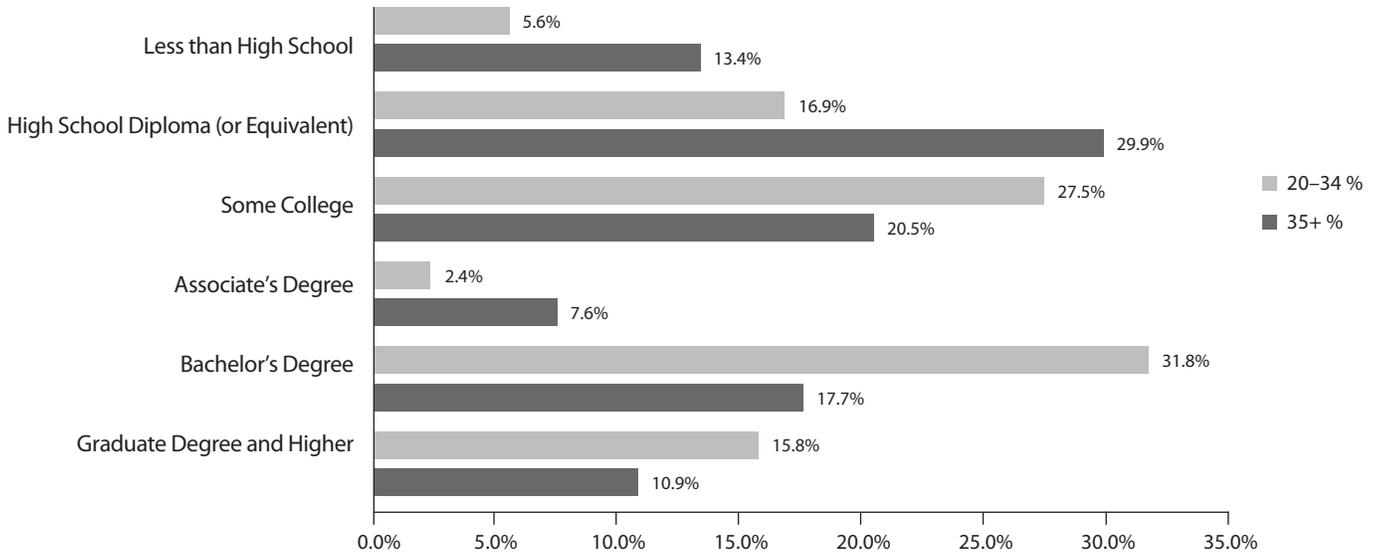
PERCENT OF 20-34 YEAR OLD BY DEGREE TYPE



Source: 2010 American Community Survey (ACS), Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS), Boston Redevelopment Authority Research Division Analysis.

- Nearly half of 20-34 year olds in Boston have a college degree compared to approximately 29% of the population 35 or older.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT COMPARISON BETWEEN 20-34 AND 35+



Source: 2010 American Community Survey (ACS), Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS), Boston Redevelopment Authority Research Division Analysis.

