



Mayor's Office of New Bostonians
Cheng Imm Tan, Director

New Bostonians 2009



Research Division
Alvaro Lima, Director



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This report was prepared for the Mayor's Office of New Bostonians by Mark Melnik, Nanette Dyer-Blake, and BRA Research Division staff, under the direction of Alvaro Lima, Director.

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The information provided within this report is the best available at the time of its publication.



City of Boston
Thomas M. Menino, *Mayor*

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Boston Redevelopment Authority
John F. Palmieri, Director
Alvaro Lima, *Director of Research*



New Bostonians 2009

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New Bostonians 2009

- Demographics





37.2 Million Immigrants Live in the U.S. (2007)

- Immigrants account for more than 1 in 8 residents (12.5%), the highest percentage since 1930 (12%).
- 88.4% more immigrants live in the United States now than in 1990.
- Between 1990 and 2007, immigrants accounted for 34.9% of the nation's population growth and 48% of the nation's labor force growth.

In 2007, the nation's largest immigrant groups were Latinos and Asians:

- 56% are from Latin America;
- 27% are from Asia;
- 13% are from Europe;
- 7% are from other regions in the world including Northern America and Oceania.



Massachusetts has the 8th Largest Immigrant Population

- As of 2007, the Massachusetts (MA) immigrant population totaled 913,382 or 14.2% of the state's population.
- Between 2000 and 2007, 253,531 new immigrants came to MA. If not for this influx, the population would have decreased.
- Between 2000 and 2007, 44.4% of MA immigrants were from Latin America and the Caribbean and 28.4% were from Asia.
- Brazil has become the largest source of immigrants in MA. From 2000 to 2007, nearly 1 out of 5 immigrants entering MA was Brazilian.



Boston's Immigrant Population is Growing

- Over the last two decades the share of Boston's foreign-born population has increased at a faster pace than Massachusetts and the U.S.
- In 1990, 114,597 immigrants accounted for 20% of the city's total population.
- In 2007, Boston had 608,352 residents, with the foreign born accounting for almost 28% of that population.*
- Boston's foreign-born population comes predominantly from the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Africa and represents more than 100 different countries.
 - Caribbean immigrants make up almost 53% of all immigrants from the Americas.
 - Chinese immigrants make up the largest share of Boston's immigrants.

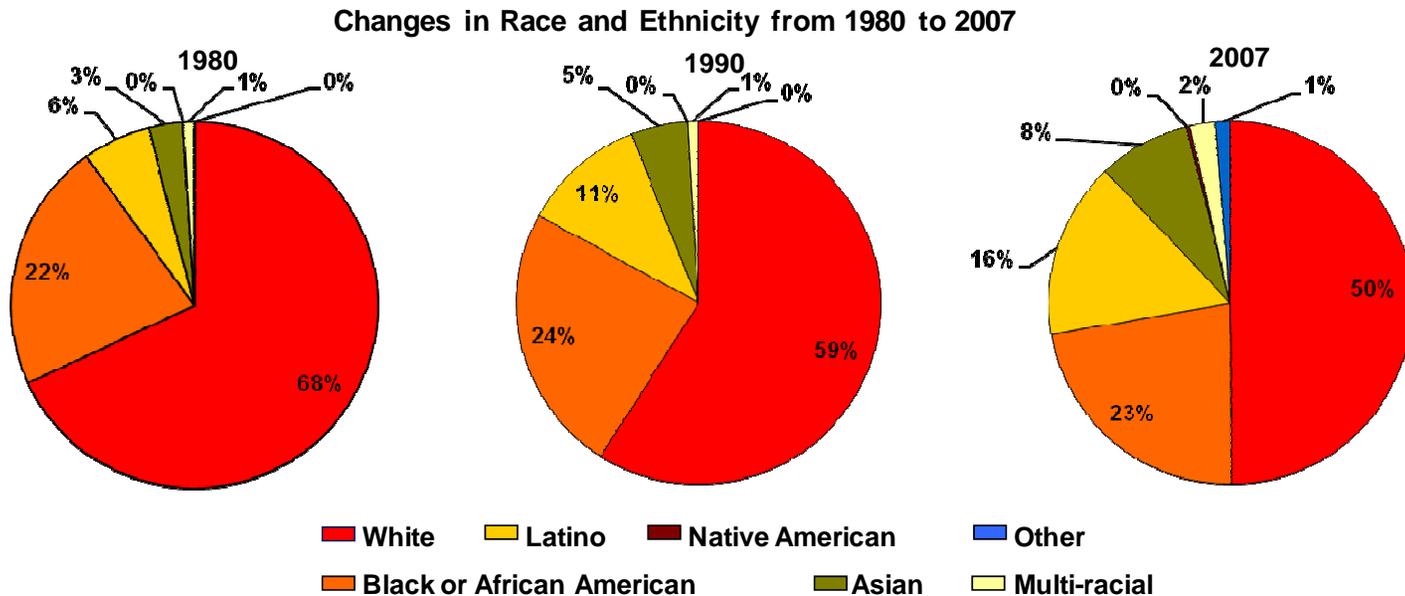
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, BRA Research Analysis.

American Community Survey, 2005-2007, Public Use Microdata Sample, BRA Research Analysis (2009)

*In 2008, Boston's population was estimated at 609,023. At the time of this publication detailed 2008 data were not available on Boston's immigrant population.

Boston's Minority Groups Have Become the City's New "Majority"

- Latinos (15.7%), Asians (8.2%), and Blacks or African Americans (22.3%) together with other minorities make up 50.1 percent of the city's total population.
- Since 1990, the Latino population has increased by 53.6% and the Asian population by 71.1%.

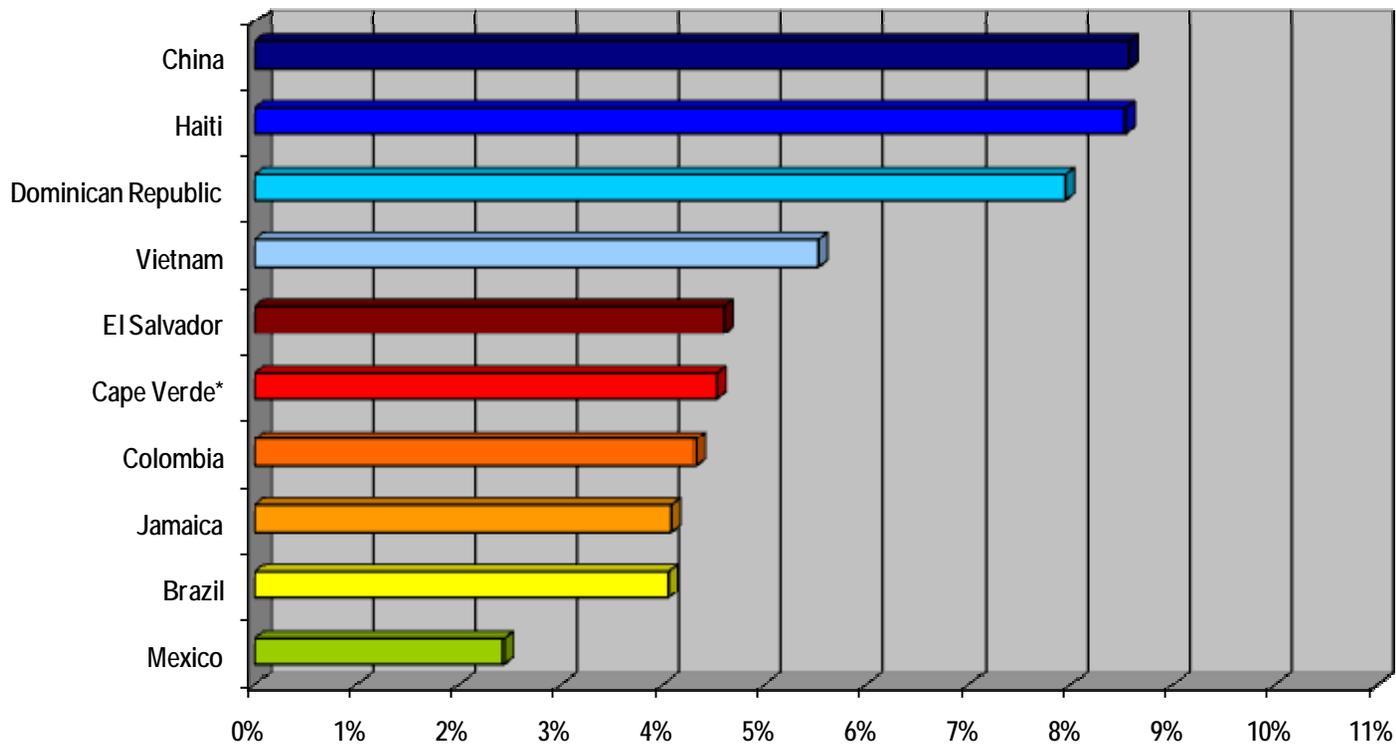


Source: Liming L., Perkins, G., Goetze, R., Vrabell, J., Lewis G., & Consalvo, R., (2001) Boston's Population – 2000, Changes in Population, Race, Ethnicity in Boston and Boston's Neighborhoods – 1980 to 2000. Boston: Boston Redevelopment Authority.

Source: American Fact Finder, American Community Survey, 2005-2007, BRA Research Division Analysis

New Bostonians Leading Countries of Origin

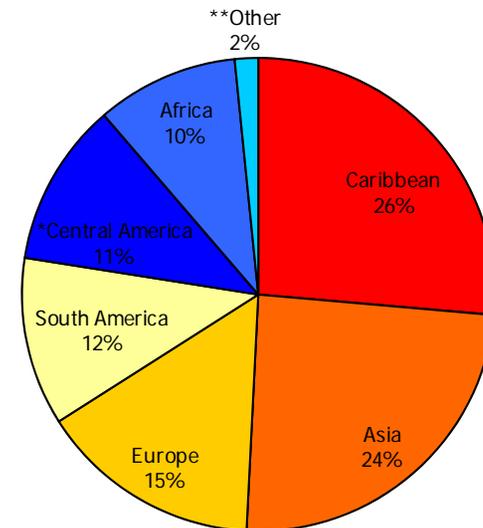
Top Countries of Origin for Boston's Foreign-Born Population, 2007



New Bostonians are a Growing Population

- Boston had the 5th highest proportion of foreign-born residents among the 25 largest U.S. cities in 2007.
- Half of New Bostonians come from the Americas (49%), followed by Asia (24%), Europe (15%), and Africa (10%).
- The three largest immigrant groups in Boston in 2007 were from China (8.6%), Haiti (8.5%), and the Dominican Republic (7.9%).

Top Regions of Boston's Foreign-Born, 2007

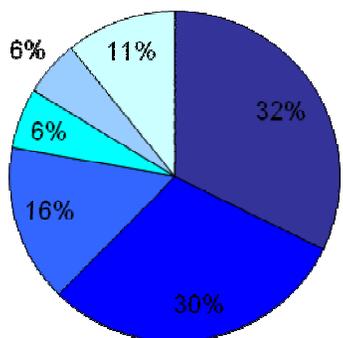


Note: *Central America includes Mexico. ** Other includes Northern America and Oceania

Source: American Fact Finder, American Community Survey, 2005-2007, Brookings Institution Living Cities, BRA Research Division Analysis.

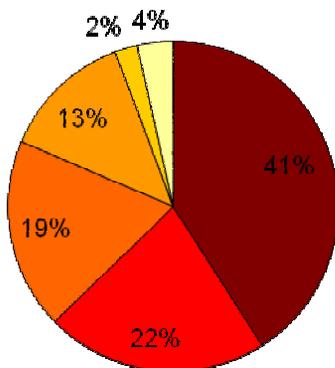
Boston's Caribbean, Central, and South American Leading Countries of Origin (2007)

Caribbean



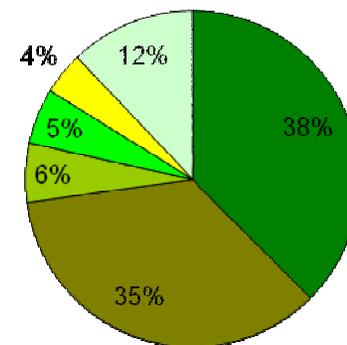
- Haiti
- Dominican Republic
- Jamaica
- Trinidad & Tobago
- Barbados
- Other

Central America



- El Salvador
- Mexico
- Guatemala
- Honduras
- Costa Rica
- Other

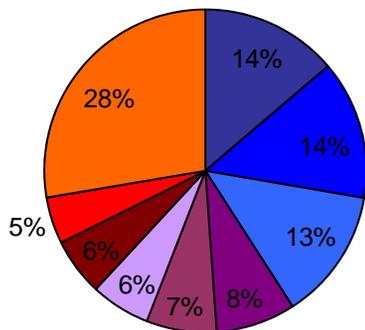
South America



- Colombia
- Brazil
- Peru
- Argentina
- Guyana
- Other

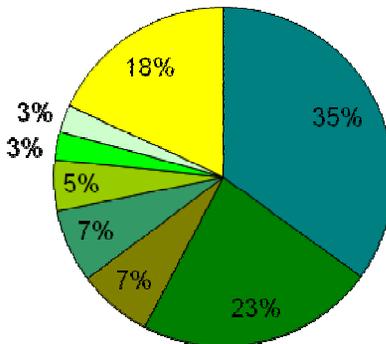
Boston's European, Asian, and African Leading Countries of Origin (2007)

Europe



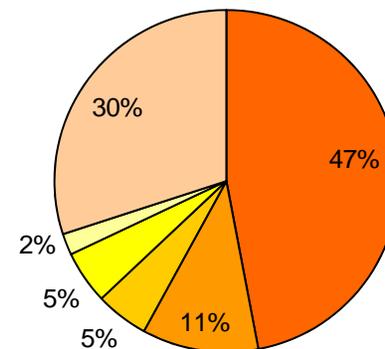
- Ireland
- Russia
- Italy
- United Kingdom
- Poland
- Ukraine
- Greece
- Germany
- Other

Asia



- China
- Vietnam
- India
- Japan
- Korea
- Thailand
- Philippines
- Other

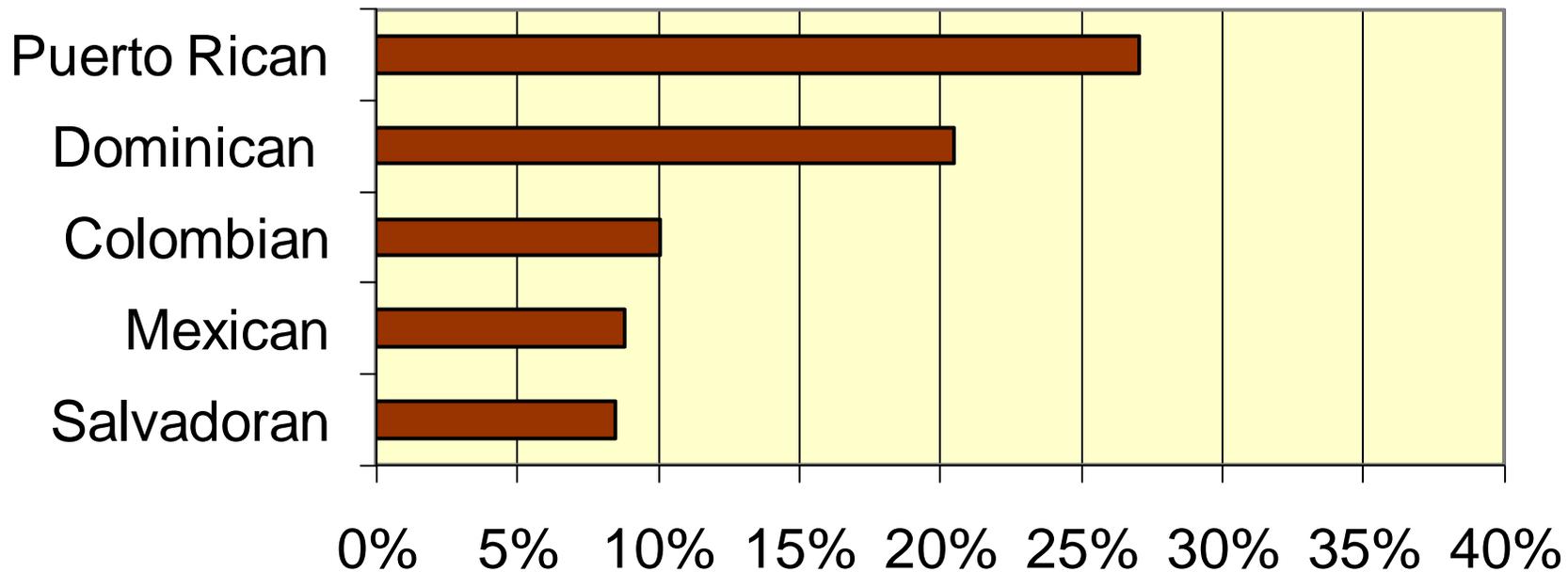
Africa



- Cape Verde
- Nigeria
- Ethiopia
- Liberia
- Ghana
- Other

Boston's Leading Latino Ethnic Groups (2007)

Top Latino Ethnic Groups



Note: The Census defines people hailing from US territories as "native-born". As a result, Puerto Ricans are considered native-born and are not included in our foreign-born figures.

Source: American Fact Finder, American Community Survey, 2005-2007, BRA Research Division Analysis

Boston's Most Common Ancestries

- Irish and Italian are the first and second leading ancestries. Their recorded number decreased between 1990 and 2007, by 33.4% and 30.7%, respectively.
- Puerto Ricans are the third leading ancestry. Their reported number increased by 12.7%, between 1990 and 2007.
- People claiming Salvadoran ancestry grew over 3 ½ times between 1990 and 2007.

Boston's Ancestry, 1990 and 2007

	Ancestry	1990	2007
1	Irish/Celtic	106,154	86,077
2	Italian	49,005	41,703
3	Puerto Rican	17,545	21,982
4	Chinese	14,056	21,135
5	English	23,246	20,338
6	Dominican	7,426	18,465
7	Haitian	11,994	18,064
8	German	24,416	15,130
9	American*	9,797	15,109
10	Cape Verdean	6,077	11,614
11	Salvadoran	2,405	11,142
12	Vietnamese	3,642	11,049
13	Polish	12,229	8,946
14	French	9,594	8,752
15	Russian	10,229	8,035
16	Brazilian	1,943	7,244
17	Jamaican	4,683	7,121
18	Colombian	1,912	7,027
19	Scottish	5,663	5,438
20	French Canadian/Acadian/Cajun	6,554	5,357

Note: *American refers to people who identified their ancestry as "American", "United States", as a region such as "Southerner", or as a U.S. state such as "Texan" (U.S. Census).

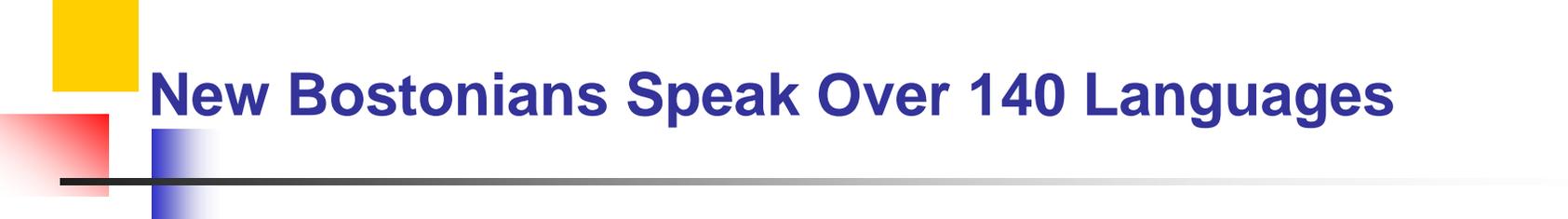
Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, BRA Research Division Analysis.

American Community Survey, 2005-2007, Public Use Microdata Sample, BRA Research Analysis .

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■ Languages





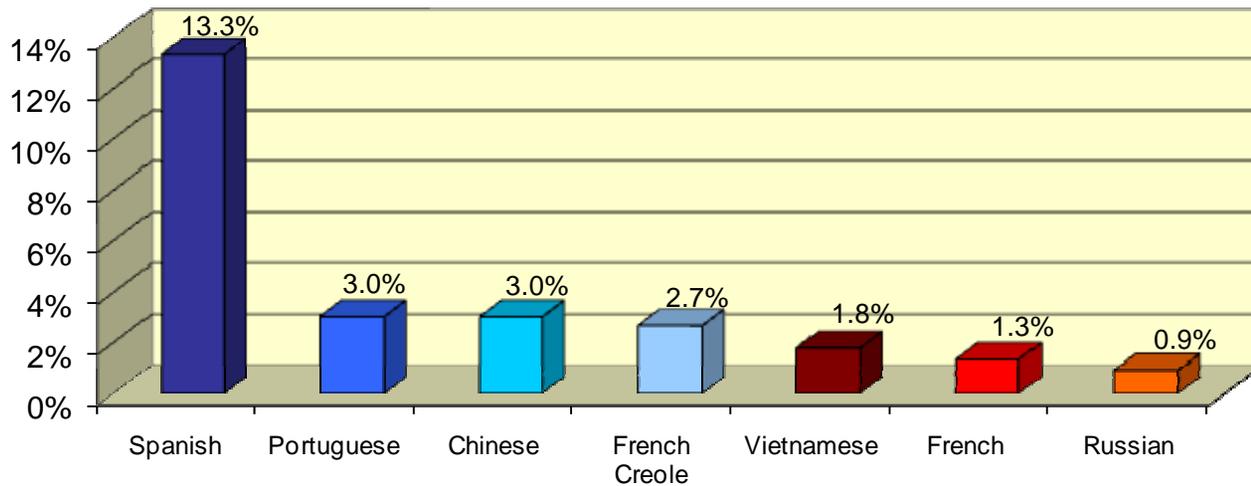
New Bostonians Speak Over 140 Languages

- In 2007, over 35% of residents spoke a language other than English at home, up from almost 26% in 1990.
- Over 14% of residents speak Spanish at home up from 9.5% in 1990.
- Over 6.5% speak an Asian language at home, up from 4% in 1990.

Leading Languages Spoken in Boston

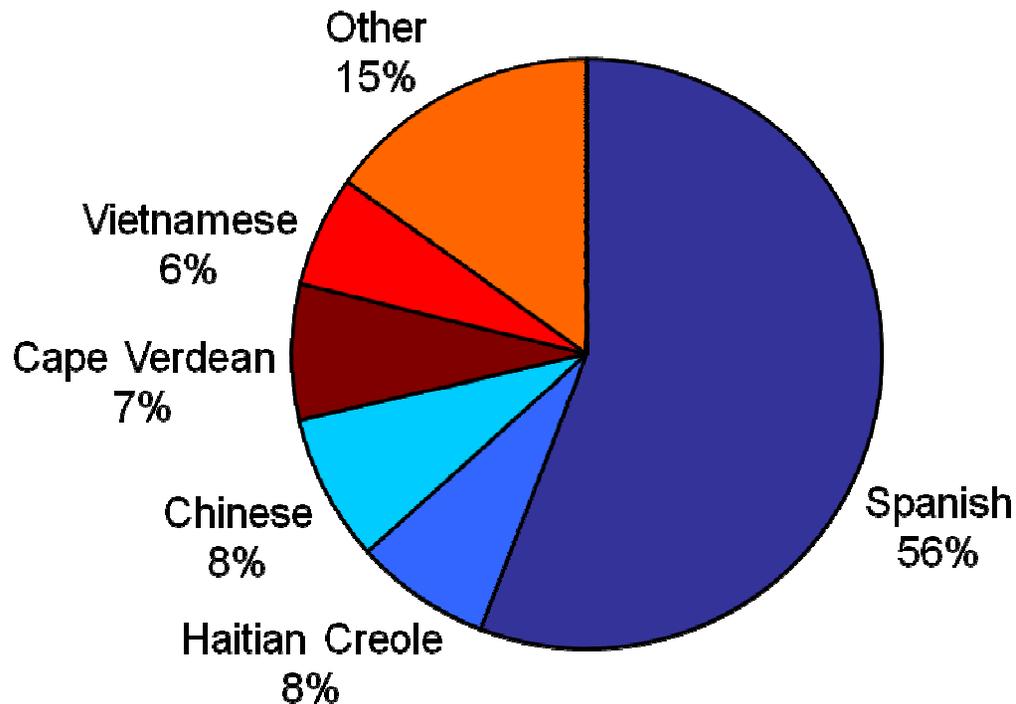
- The most common languages spoken (other than English) include: Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, French Creole, Vietnamese, and French.
- 65% of Boston residents speak only English, 35% speak a language other than English.

Share of Languages Other than English Spoken in Boston, 2007



New Bostonian Youth Speak Many Languages

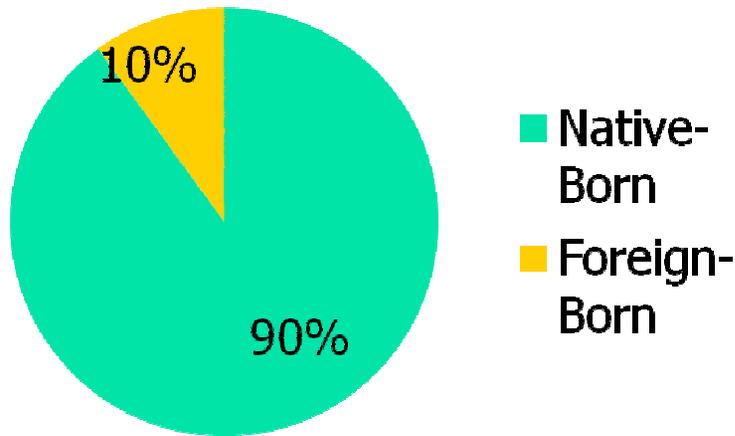
**Languages Spoken by English Language Learners
in Boston Public Schools, 2008-2009**



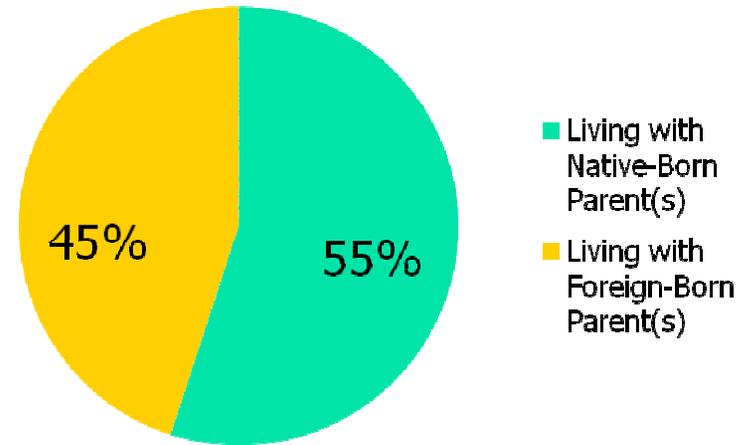
- 24,140 or 42.7% of BPS students speak a language other than English at home.
- 11,010 or 19.5% of BPS students are classified as Limited English Proficient or English Language Learners.
- 6,140 or 10.9% of BPS students are enrolled in a BPS English Language Learner program.
- Every year, approximately 200-300 high school age immigrants enter Boston Public Schools, usually in 11th or 12th grade.

Immigrant Youth are Critical to the State's Future

Nativity of Children 0-17 Years of Age in Boston



Nativity of Children 0-17 Years of Age in Boston



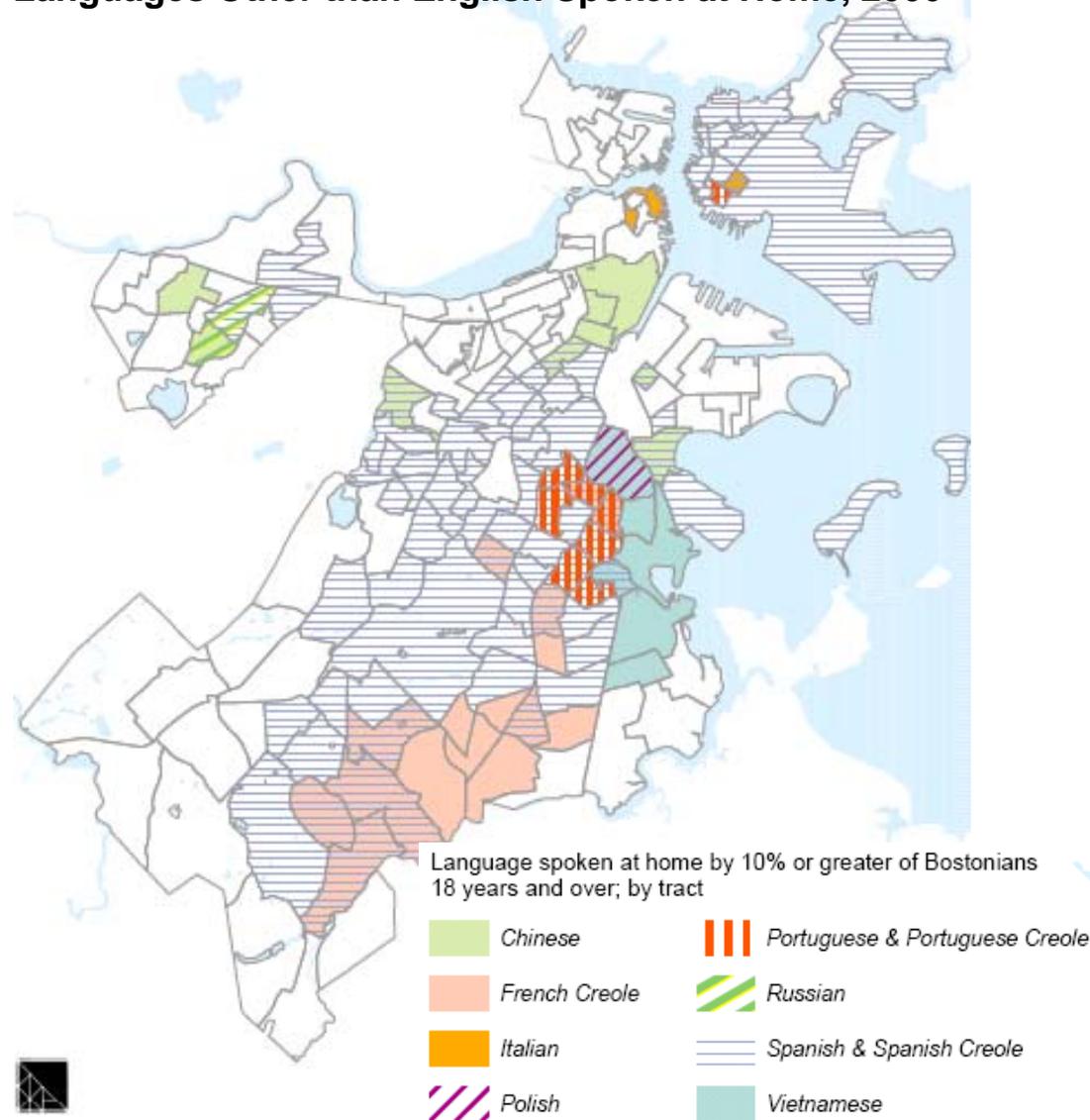
- While only 10% of Boston's children are foreign-born, more than 45% are the children of immigrants.
- This shows that immigration is a critical childhood education issue.

Note: Living with native-born parent(s) is defined as either living in a single parent home with a native-born parent or living in a home with two native-born parents. Living with foreign-born parent(s) is defined as either living in a single parent home with a foreign-born parent or living in a home with two foreign-born parents

Boston Has Multilingual Neighborhoods

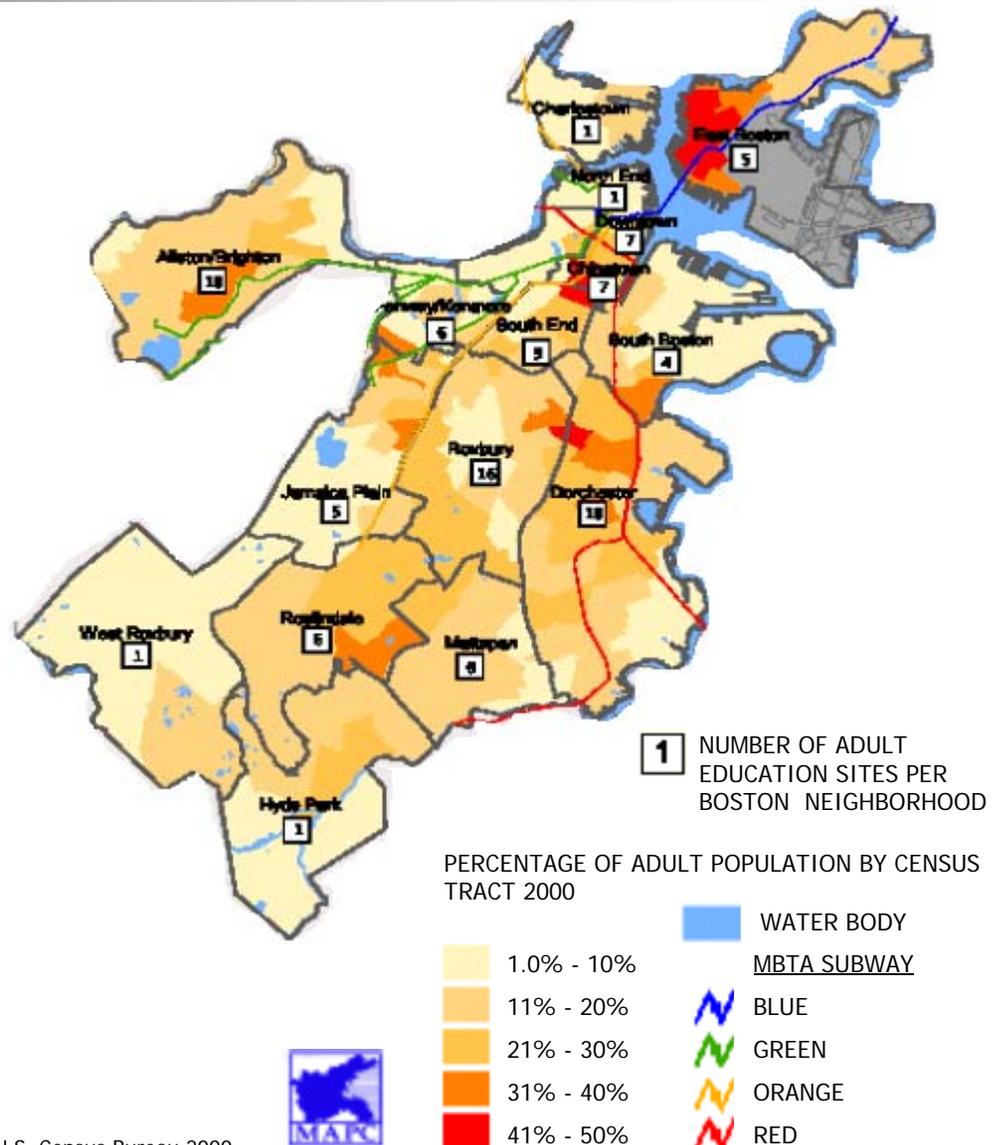
- In all Boston neighborhoods 35% of the total population speak a language other than English at home.
 - Neighborhoods with the highest share of people speaking a language other than English at home are East Boston (55%), North Dorchester (48%), Roslindale (40%), Roxbury (37%), Allston/Brighton (36%) and the South End (35%)
- Spanish is highly represented in East Boston, Roxbury, and Jamaica Plain with over 20% people speaking Spanish at home.

Languages Other than English Spoken at Home, 2000



Boston's Adults With English as a Second Language and Literacy Sites by Neighborhoods

- East Boston and Chinatown have the highest concentration of adults that speak English as a second language (41%-62%).
- The neighborhoods that follow are Roslindale, Dorchester, Roxbury, and Allston/Brighton.
- In 2007, there were at least 3,600 people waiting to enroll in English for Speakers of Other Language (ESOL) classes in the City of Boston.



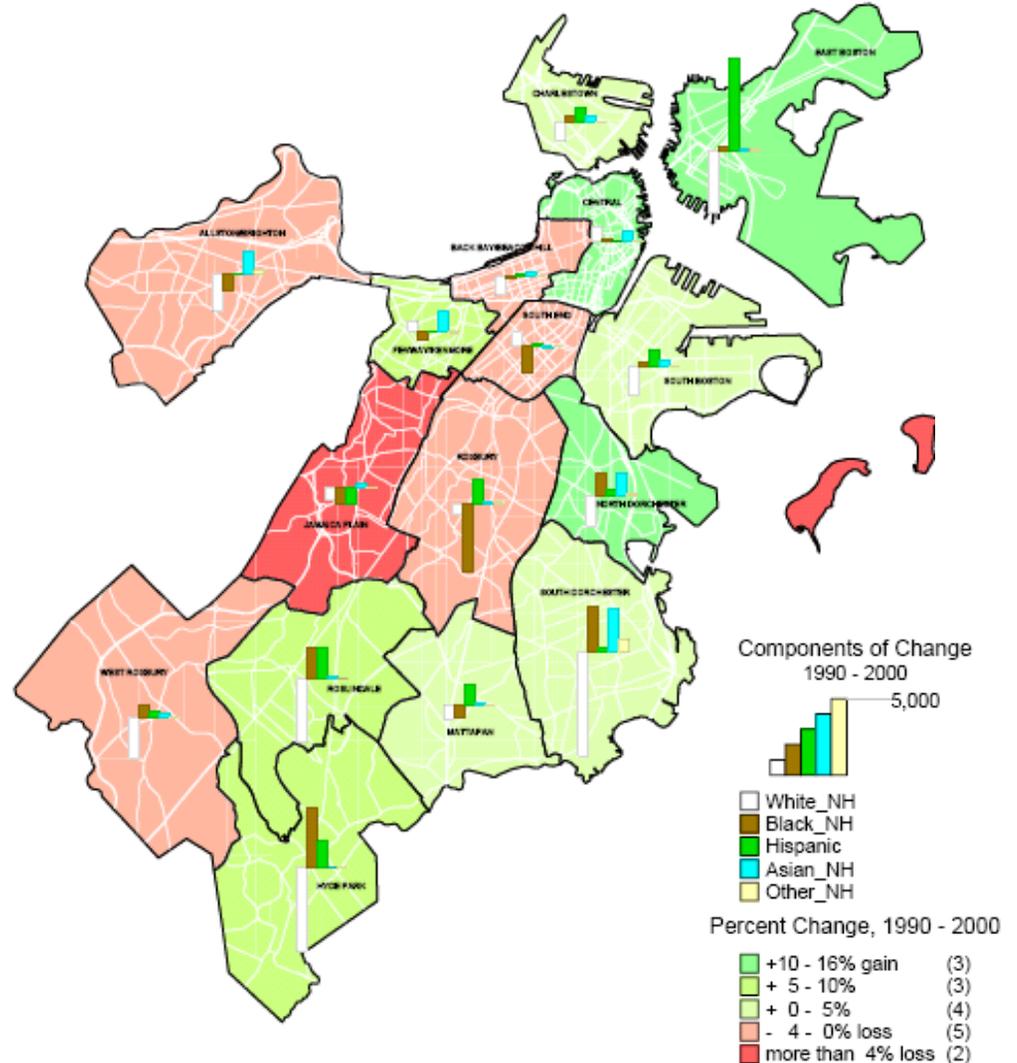
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■ Boston's Neighborhood Diversity



New Bostonians Mean Diverse Neighborhoods

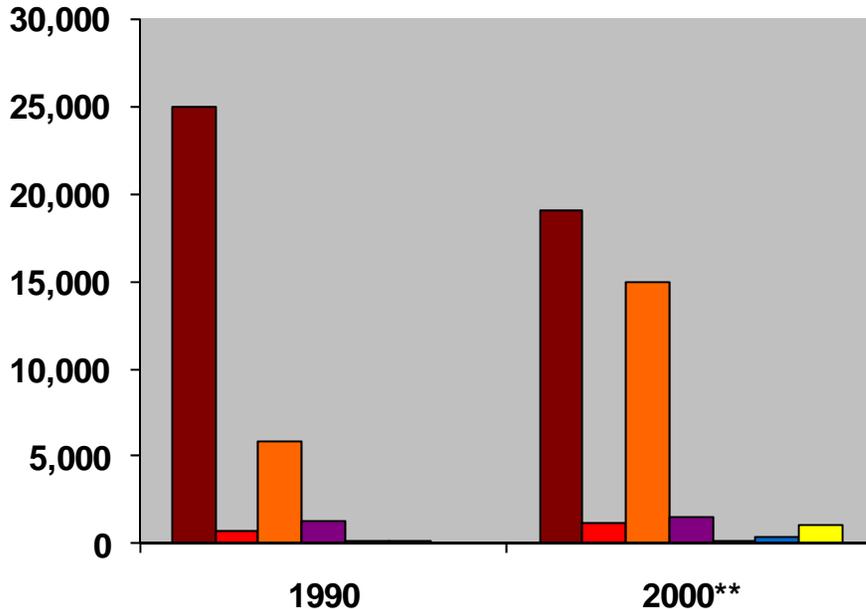
- All of Boston's neighborhoods have experienced an increase in diversity.
- The neighborhoods that have experienced the most dramatic change are:
 - East Boston;
 - Roslindale;
 - Allston/Brighton;
 - Hyde Park; and
 - Dorchester.



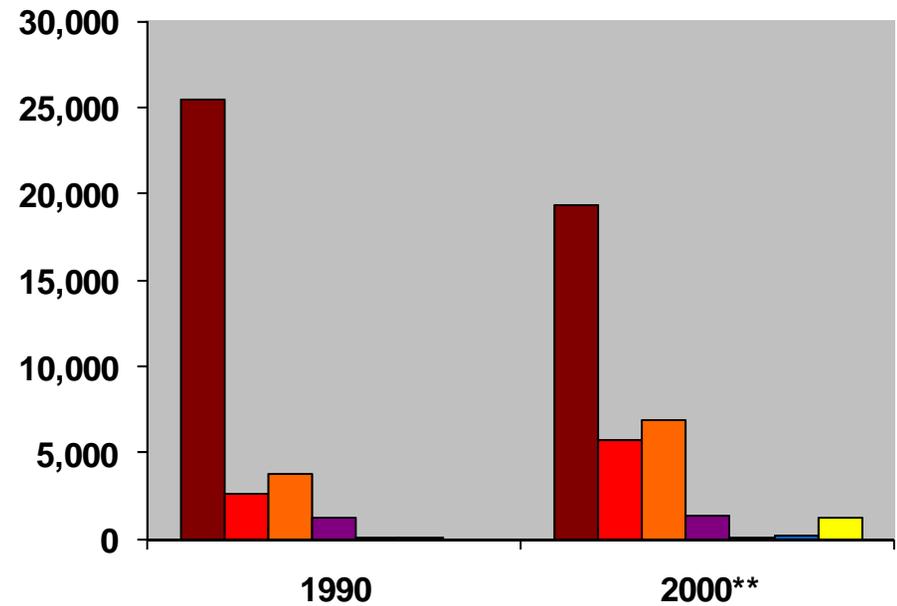
Neighborhoods: East Boston and Roslindale

- From 1990 to 2000, East Boston's non-White population grew from 24% to 50%.
- As of 2000, Latinos make up 39% of East Boston's population.
- From 1990 to 2000, Roslindale's non-White population grew from 23% to 44%.
- Roslindale's population is very mixed, with a large number of Latinos.

East Boston



Roslindale



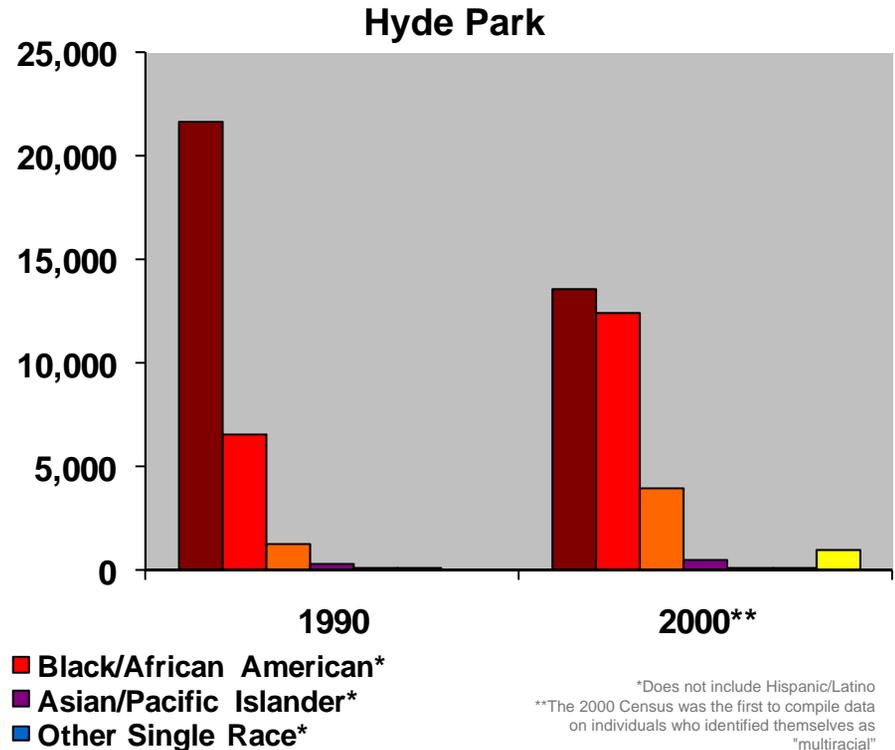
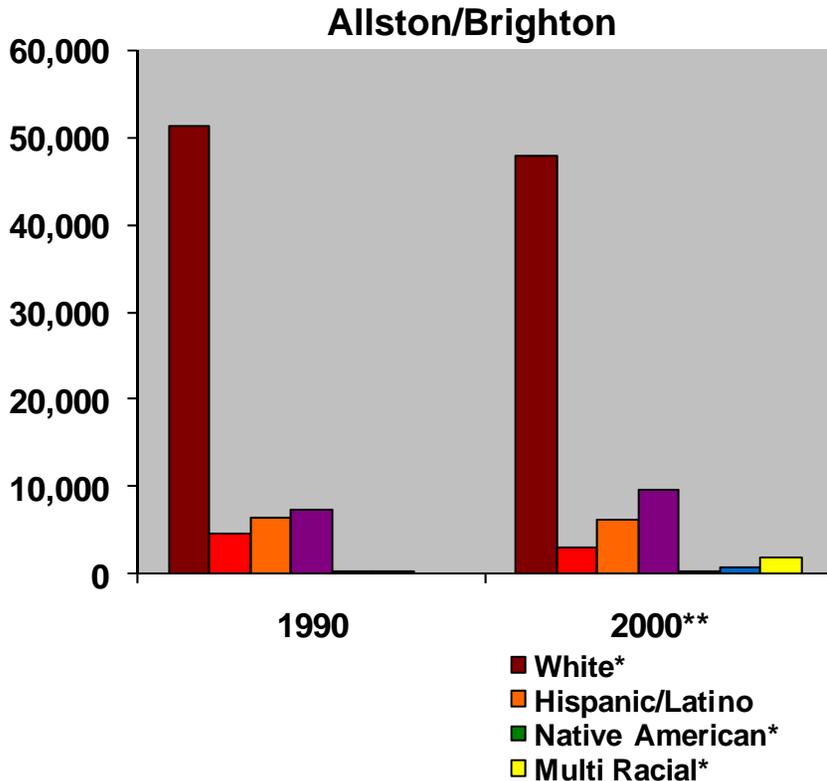
- White*
- Hispanic/Latino
- Native American*
- Multi Racial*

- Black/African American*
- Asian/Pacific Islander*
- Other Single Race*

*Does not include Hispanic/Latino
 **The 2000 Census was the first to compile data on individuals who identified themselves as "multiracial"

Neighborhoods: Allston/Brighton and Hyde Park

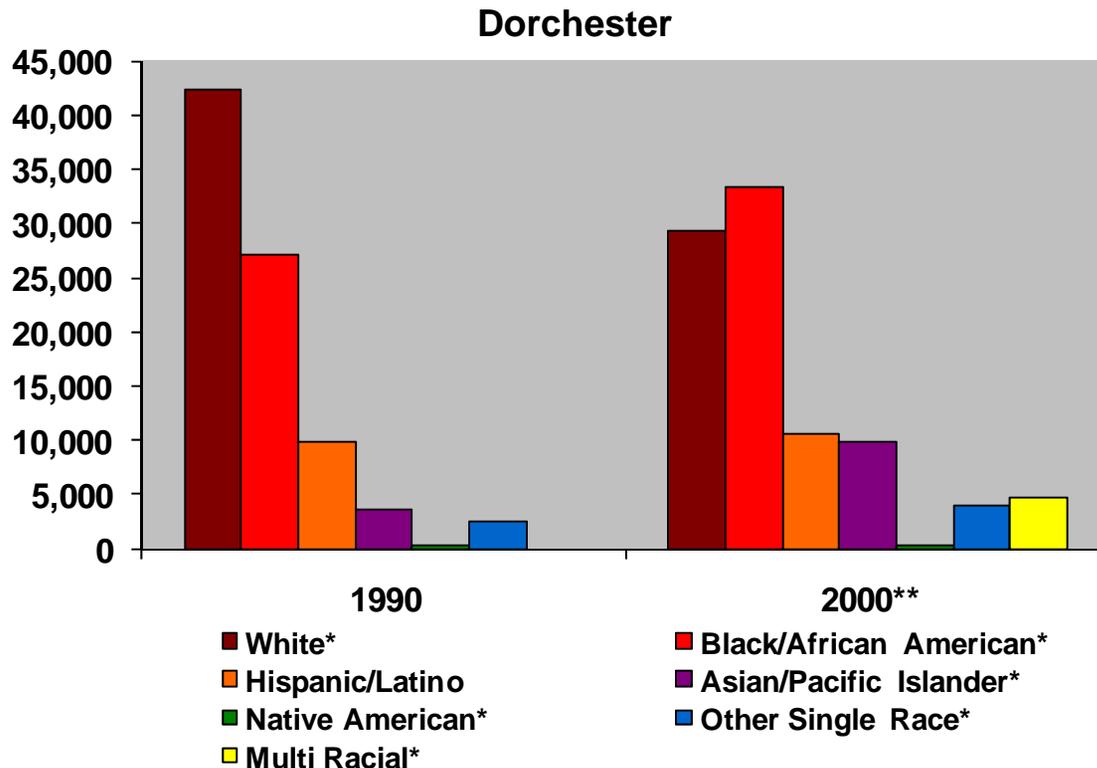
- As of 2000, minorities made up 31% of Allston/Brighton's population.
- Minorities make up more than half of Hyde Park's current population (57%), compared to 27% in 1990.
- Hyde Park is home to a large number of Black/African Americans and Latinos.



*Does not include Hispanic/Latino
 **The 2000 Census was the first to compile data on individuals who identified themselves as "multiracial"

Neighborhoods: Dorchester

- As of 2000, non-Whites made up more than two thirds of Dorchester's population (68%).
- The largest groups in this neighborhood are Black/African American and Asians.



*Does not include Hispanic/Latino
 **The 2000 Census was the first to compile data on individuals who identified themselves as "multiracial"

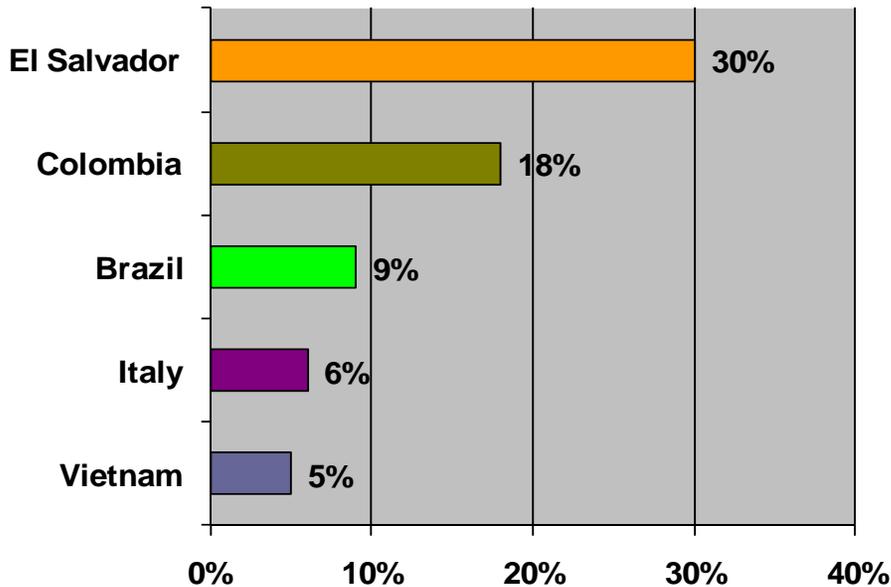
Between 1990 and 2000, All of Boston's Neighborhoods Experienced Changes in the Foreign-Born Population

Neighborhood	Foreign Born in 1990		Foreign Born in 2000		Changes	
	Foreign Born	Percent of Foreign Born in Neighborhood	Foreign Born	Percent of Foreign Born in Neighborhood	Absolute Change	Percentage Change
<i>Boston Total</i>	<i>114,597</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>151,836</i>	<i>26%</i>	<i>37,239</i>	<i>32%</i>
Allston/Brighton	20,396	29%	22,016	33%	1,620	8%
Fenway/Kenmore	5,674	17%	7,974	23%	2,300	41%
Back Bay/Beacon Hill	3,342	12%	3,155	12%	-187	-6%
Central	6,101	28%	6,480	26%	379	6%
Charlestown	733	5%	2,111	15%	1,378	188%
East Boston	7,695	23%	16,051	45%	8,356	109%
South Boston	2,133	7%	3,717	13%	1,584	74%
South End	5,196	18%	6,201	23%	1,005	19%
Roxbury	9,323	16%	12,501	24%	3,178	34%
Dorchester	20,372	24%	29,492	32%	9,120	45%
Mattapan	9,568	27%	10,706	31%	1,138	12%
Roslindale	6,050	18%	9,048	28%	2,998	50%
Jamaica Plain	9,123	22%	9,157	25%	34	0%
West Roxbury	3,714	13%	4,929	18%	1,215	33%
Hyde Park	5,097	17%	8,246	28%	3,149	62%

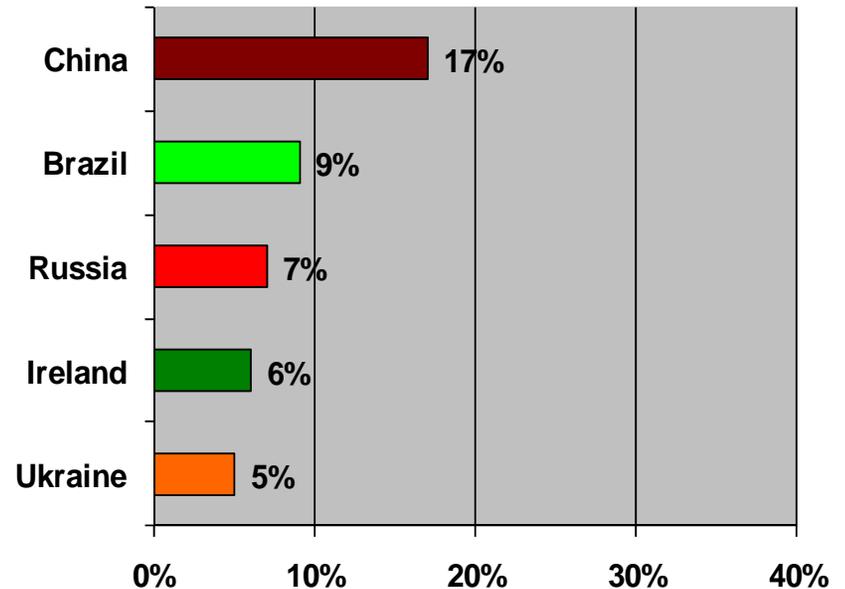
Neighborhoods with a Share of Foreign-Born Higher than the City Average

- East Boston has the highest share of the foreign-born population and also experienced the largest increase in the number of foreign-born residents between 1990 and 2000.
- Salvadorans make up the largest proportion of foreign-born residents in East Boston.
- Allston/Brighton is the neighborhood with the second largest share of foreign-born residents. Chinese make up the largest foreign-born group in this neighborhood.

**Top Countries of Origin
East Boston**



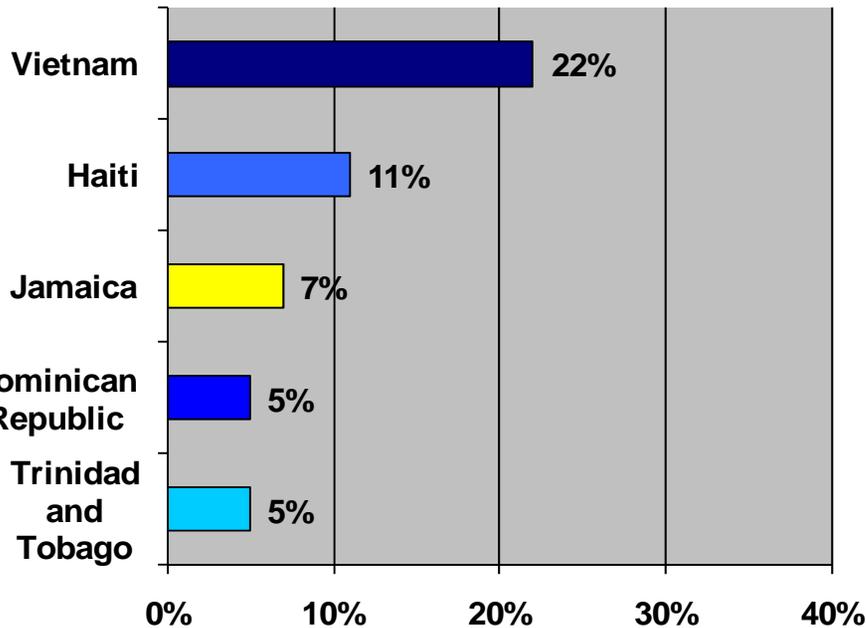
**Top Countries of Origin
Allston/Brighton**



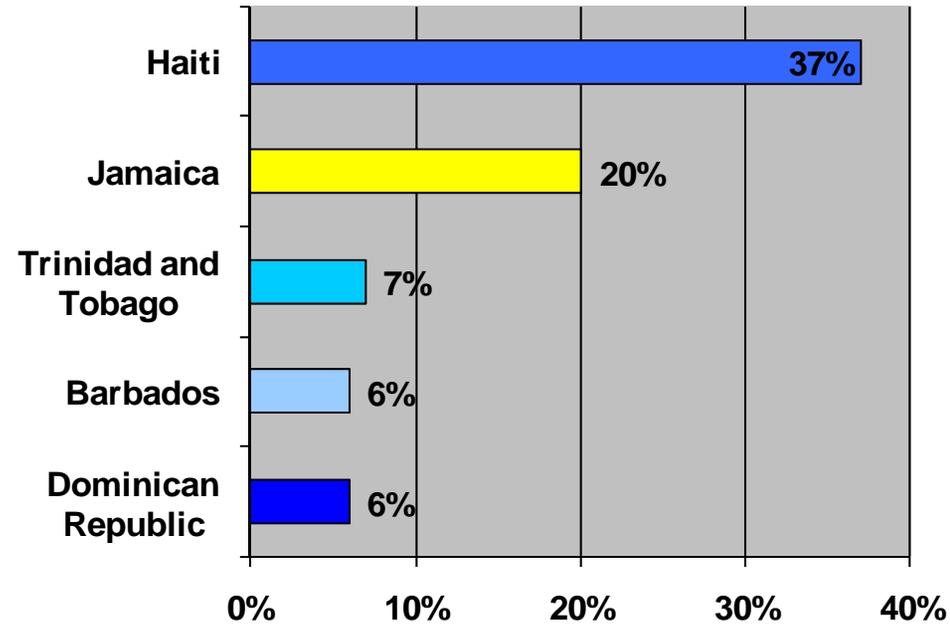
Neighborhoods with a Share of Foreign-Born Higher than the City Average

- Dorchester is home to the third largest share of foreign-born residents among the city's neighborhoods.
- Vietnamese make up the largest population of foreign-born residents in Dorchester.
- Mattapan has the fourth largest share of foreign-born residents. Haitians, who are Boston's largest foreign-born population are the largest in Mattapan as well.

**Top Countries of Origin
Dorchester**



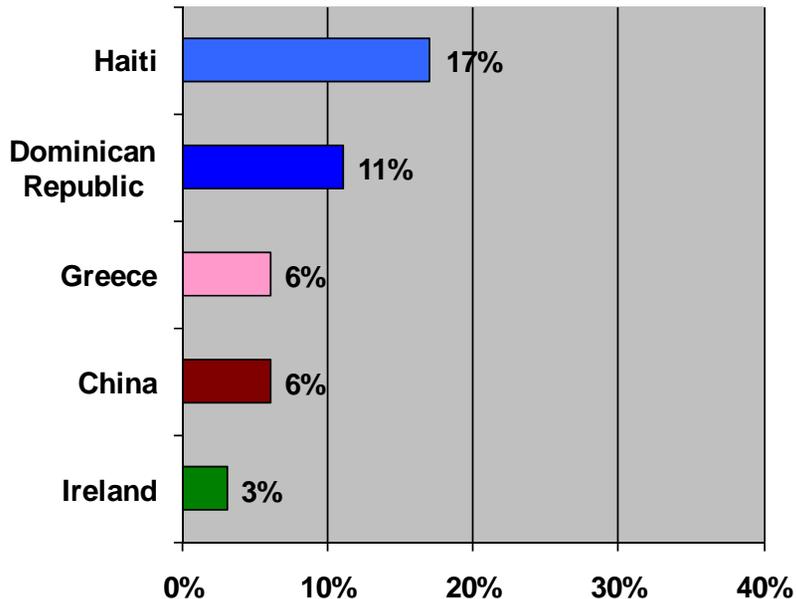
**Top Countries of Origin
Mattapan**



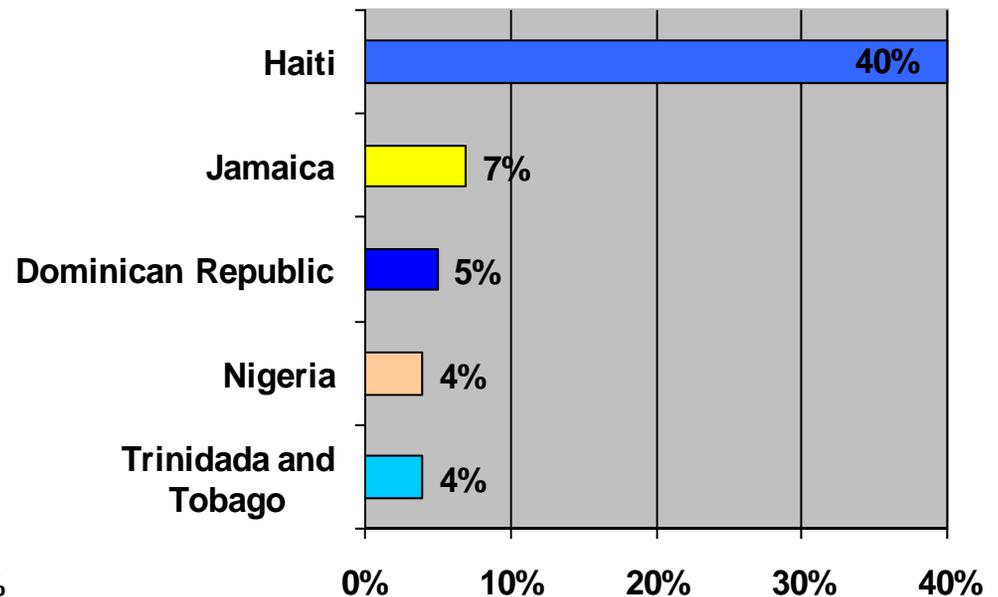
Neighborhoods with a Share of Foreign-Born Higher than the City Average

- Roslindale has the fifth largest share of the foreign-born population. Haitians make up the largest group in this neighborhood.
- 10% of both Hyde Park and Roslindale are foreign-born. Haitians make up the largest foreign-born population here as well. The proportion of the Haitian population in Hyde Park is double that of Roslindale.

**Top Countries of Origin
Roslindale**

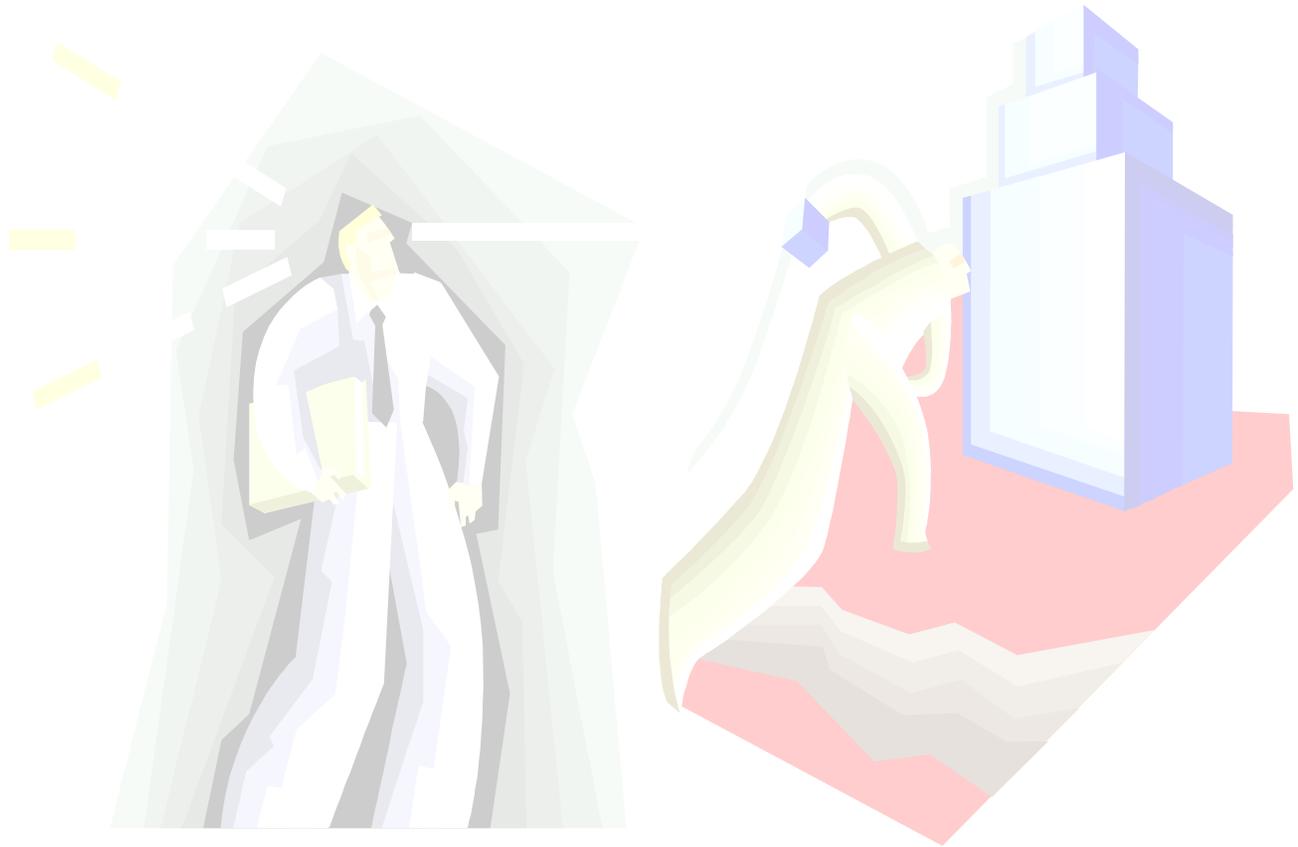


**Top Countries of Origin
Hyde Park**



New Bostonians 2009

■ Economic Contributions & Labor Force





Immigrants are Significant Economic Contributors

- Immigrants in Boston spend, from their after tax earnings, just over \$3.6 billion annually. These annual expenditures generate a regional product of \$3.6 billion and \$1.2 billion in state and federal taxes.
- Annual expenditures generate 29,430 additional jobs in the local economy.
- Immigrants further contribute to Boston's economy through entrepreneurship.
 - They own more than 5,700* small businesses in the greater Boston area in different industry sectors.
 - Combined, these businesses represent almost \$1.3 billion in annual sales and employ close to 13,500 people.
 - They contribute about \$1.8 billion to the regional product, \$114 million in state and federal taxes and they create an additional 13,000 jobs.

Immigrants are Critical Contributors to the Labor Force

- 68.1% of the nation's immigrants were a part of the labor force in 2008, compared to 65.6% of the native-born.
- Immigrants filled both the high-skill and low-skill jobs in the labor market statewide.
- From 2000 to 2007, without immigrants, the state's labor force would have shrunk. By 2007, immigrants accounted for 17% of the state's workforce, a sharp increase from 1980 when immigrants were only at 8.8%.
- Immigrants are much more likely to be between 25 and 44 years old than the natives. This group can potentially play a pivotal role in replacing the soon to retire baby boomers in the labor force.
- Immigrants will be critical to filling future labor gaps; 76 million baby boomers will retire by 2030, while only 46 million native-born workers will have entered the workforce

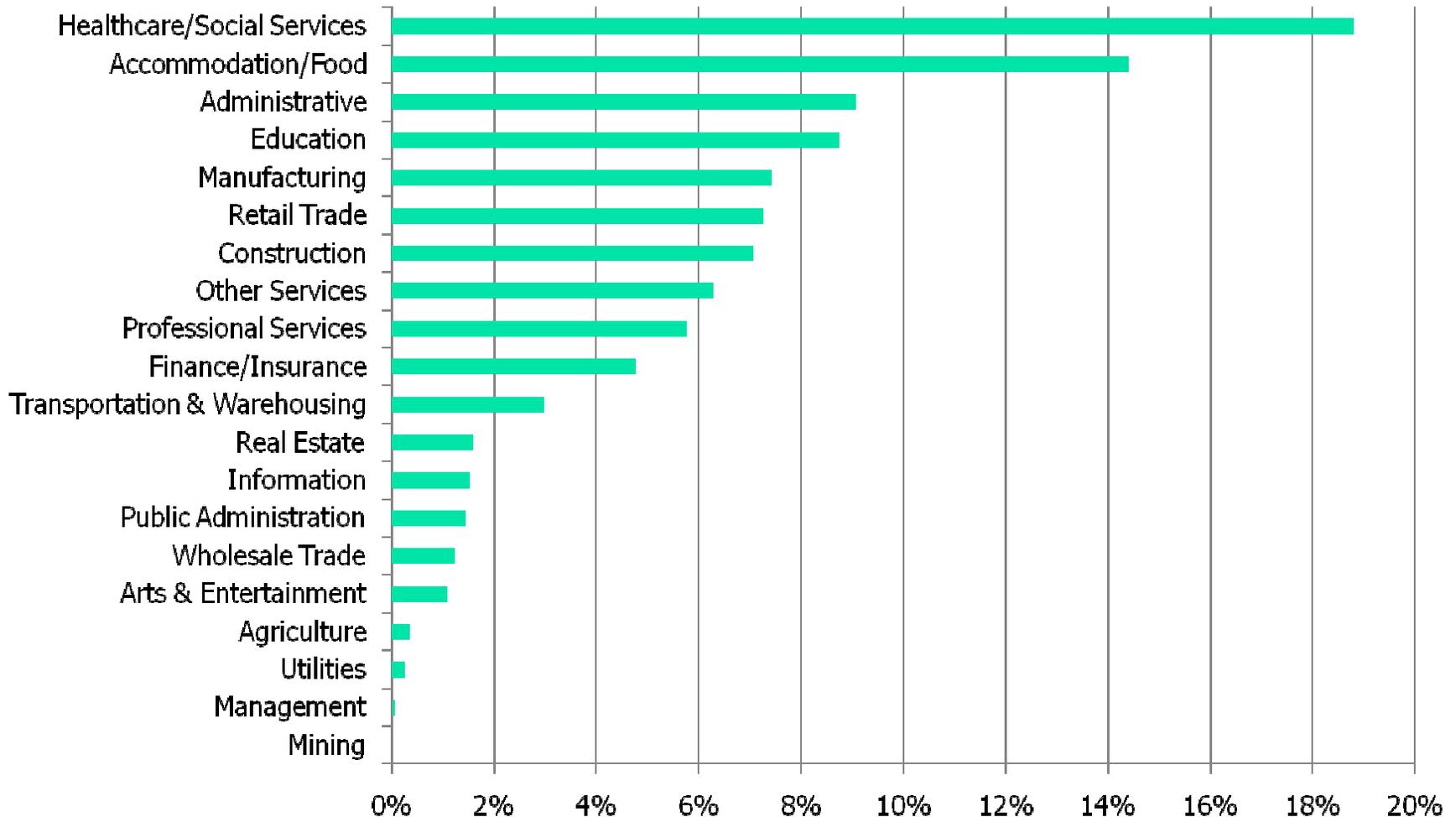


New Bostonians are Employed in Many Industries

- About 10% of both naturalized and non-naturalized immigrants work in blue collar industries including manufacturing, utilities, wholesale trade, and transportation.
- Almost 34% of naturalized immigrants, compared to just under 26% non-naturalized immigrants, work in "knowledge-based" industries including finance, professional services, health services, and education.
- 28% of non-naturalized immigrants work in retail, administration support, accommodation and food service industries compared to 18% of naturalized citizens.

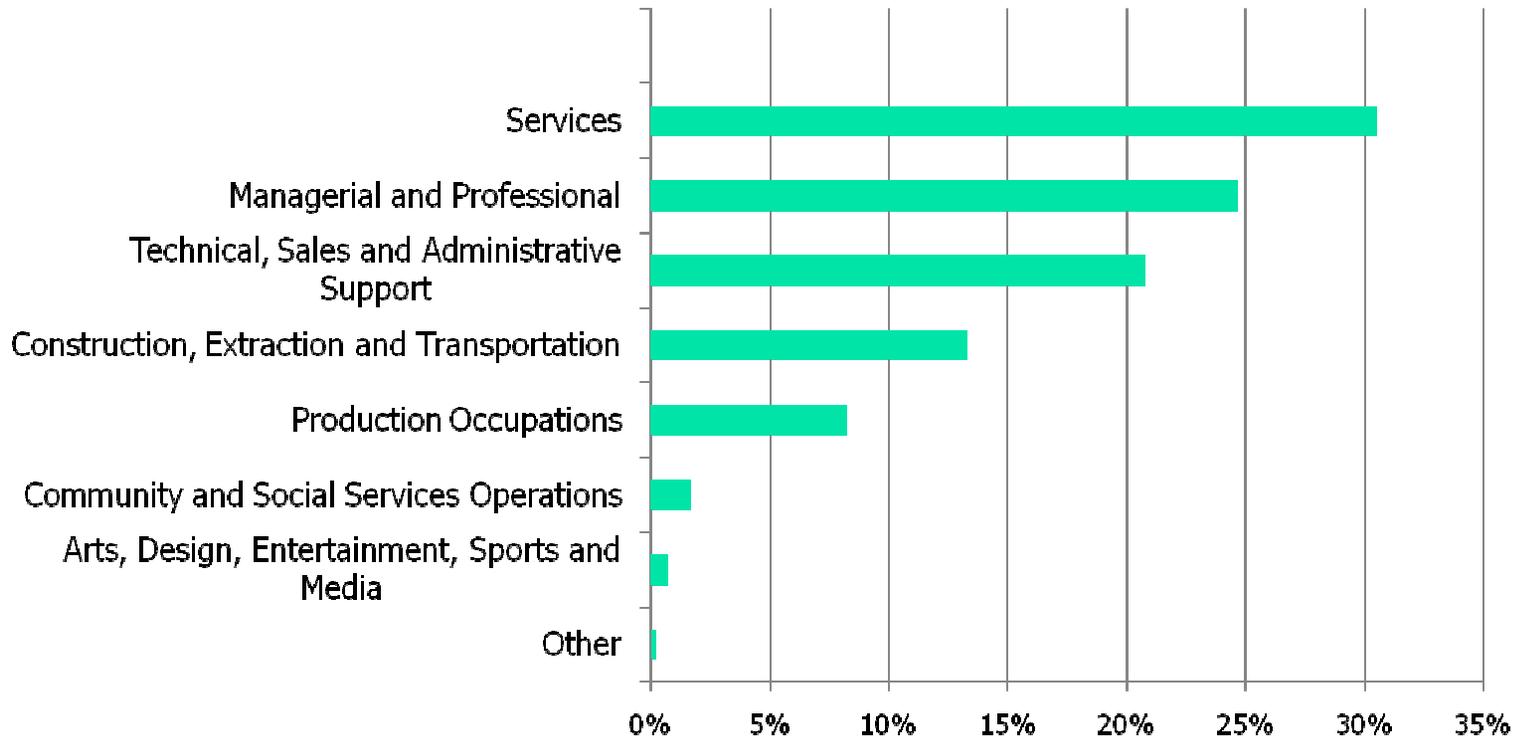
New Bostonian's Leading Industries

Foreign-Born by Industry , 2007



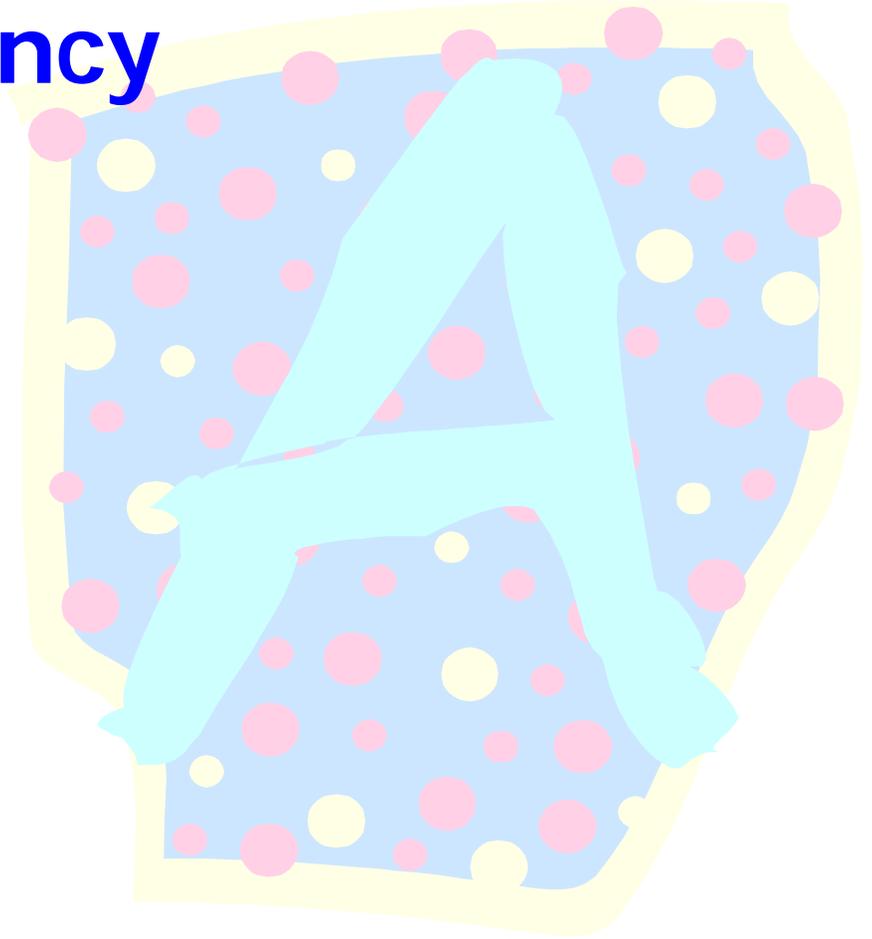
New Bostonian's Leading Occupations

Foreign-Born by Occupation, 2007



New Bostonians 2009

- English Proficiency





New Bostonians and English Proficiency

- Since 1980, the overall share of immigrants in MA who speak only English at home decreased from 35% to 29.9%, while the share with Limited English Proficiency increased from 17.5% to 23.8%.
- In 2007, 58,000* or 9.7% of all Boston residents lacked English proficiency compared to 6% in 1990.
 - Almost one-third of all Spanish speakers are Limited English Proficient.
 - Of all Asian language speakers**, just over one-third are Limited English Proficient.
- Just over 28,000 households in Boston are linguistically isolated, in which no person aged 14 years and over is English Proficient.
- In 2007, almost one half of all adult immigrants in Boston (46%) either lack a high school diploma or have Limited English Proficiency.

*Note: The Limited English Proficient includes immigrant adults who do not speak English at all or who do not speak it well. The English Proficient includes immigrant adults who speak only English, speak it very well or speak it well.

** Asian Languages include Hindi, Bengali, Panjabi, Marathi, Gujarathi, Urdu, Nepali, Chinese, Cantonese, Mandarin, Thai, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Cambodian, Vietnamese, Indonesian and others.

Consalvo, R. (2002). Demographic Changes 1990-2000. Boston: Boston Redevelopment Authority, presented at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston's Banking on the Community Conference, October 8, 2002.

U.S. Bureau of Census, Public Use Microdata Sample 2005-2007 (PUMS), BRA Research Division Analysis.

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- **Educational Attainment**

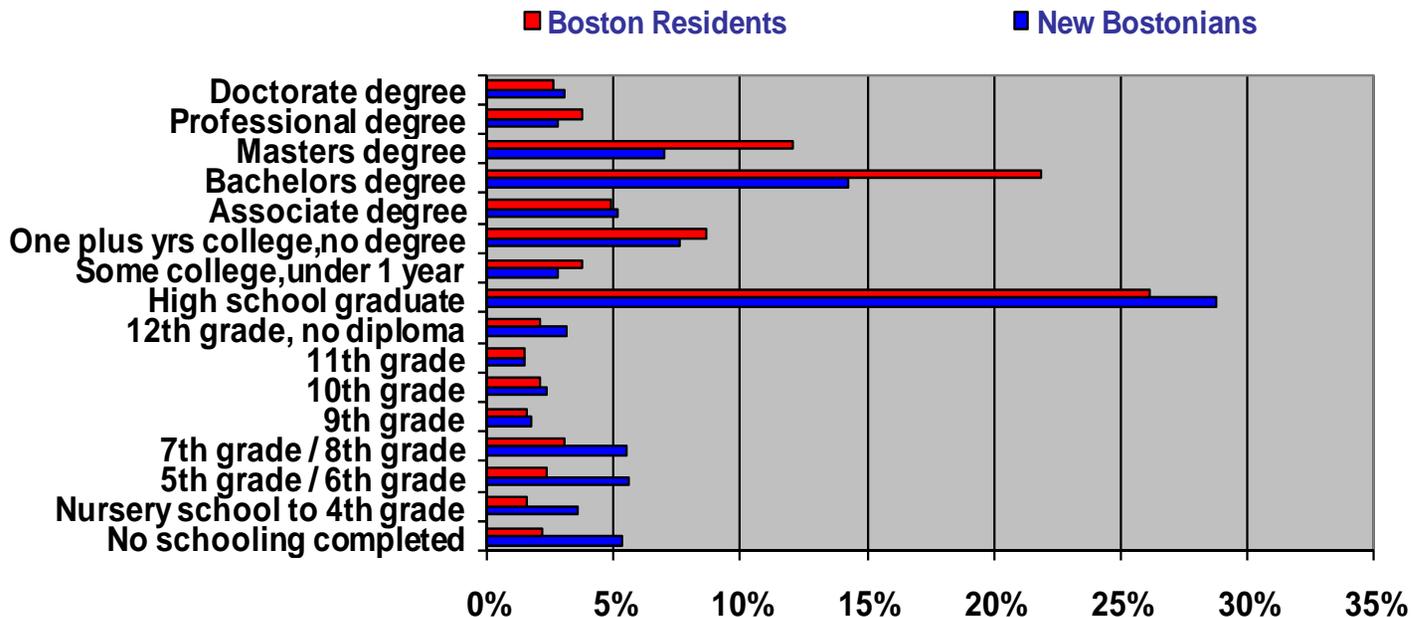


Educational Attainment

For immigrants 25 years and older, in Boston:

- Just over one in four (27.1%) has a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to the city average of 40.2%;
- 28.6% have not completed high school, compared to the city's 16.3%.

Educational Attainment, 2007



New Bostonians 2009

- Homeownership





One Third of New Bostonian Householders Own Their Home

- Approximately 58% of all Boston householders rent a home, compared to 67% of foreign-born householders.
- Just over one third of foreign-born householders own a home in Boston, compared to a citywide homeownership rate of 42%.
- In Massachusetts, the total value of immigrant owned homes was \$81.3 billion in 2005.

New Bostonians 2009

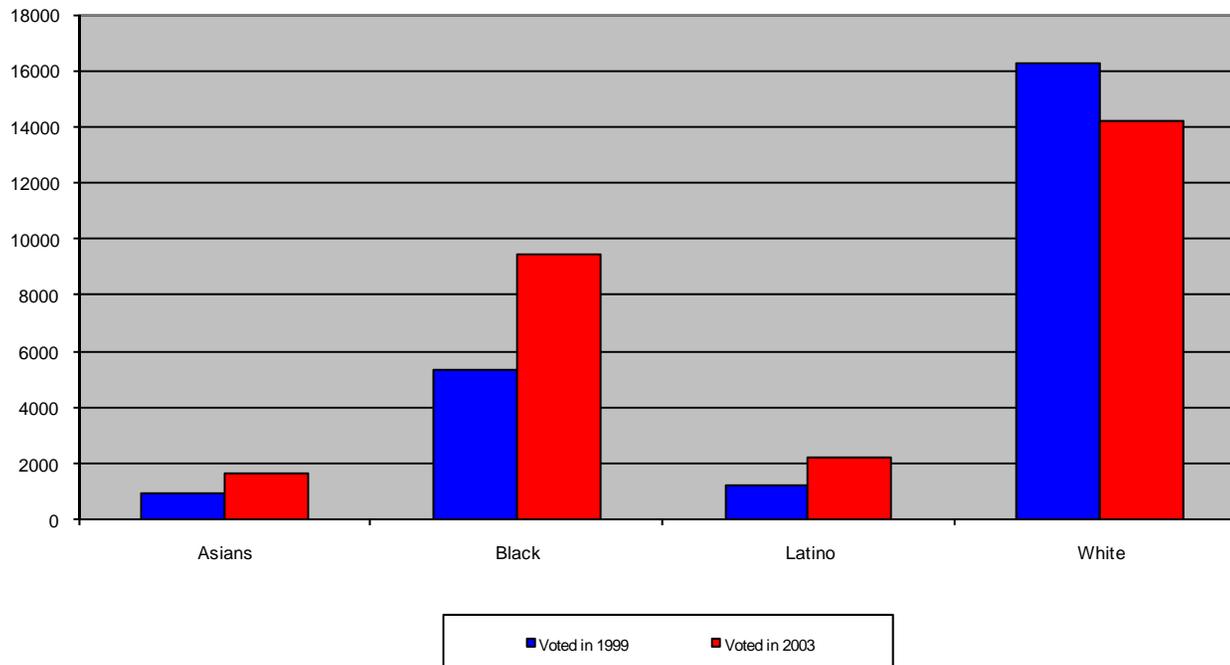
- **Citizenship**
- **Political Participation**



Boston's Voting Trends Demonstrate an Increase in Minorities at the Polls

- The turnout gap between minority and White voters narrowed between 1999 and 2003.
 - The number of minority voters increased while the number of White voters decreased.

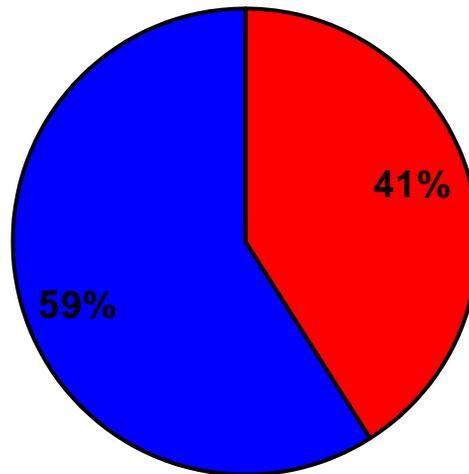
Change in Voter Turnout by Race and Ethnicity



Many New Bostonians are Becoming U.S. Citizens

- 1 in 9 Boston residents is a naturalized citizen, up from 1 in 14 in 1990.

Citizenship Status for Foreign-born Population in Boston, 2007



- Naturalized Citizen
- Non-naturalized Citizen



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