

BOSTON BY THE NUMBERS

CHILDREN



CITY OF BOSTON
MAYOR THOMAS M. MENINO

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POPULATION

- In 2010, there were 103,710 children between the ages of 0 and 17 living in Boston. This represented 16.8% of the total city population.
- Boston's child population has dropped 11% since 2000. During that year, children represented 19.8% of the city's total population.

AGE DISTRIBUTION (UNDER 18 POPULATION)

	Total	% Under 18	% Of Total Pop	% Change Since 2000
Under 6	38,089	36.7%	6.2%	-1.0%
6 to 11 Years	31,701	30.6%	5.1%	-22.4%
12-17 Years	33,920	32.7%	5.5%	-8.8%

Source: US Census Bureau, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Nearly 40% of Boston's children live in Dorchester or Roxbury.
- Dorchester has a significantly greater portion of the citywide population under 18 compared to its proportion of the citywide overall population.

TOP TEN NEIGHBORHOODS BY UNDER 18 POPULATION

Neighborhood	Under 18 Pop	% of Total Under 18 Pop	% of Total Boston Pop
Dorchester	28,827	27.8%	18.5%
Roxbury	12,042	11.6%	7.8%
East Boston	9,025	8.7%	6.6%
Hyde Park	7,186	6.9%	5.0%
Roslindale	6,326	6.1%	4.9%
Jamacia Plain	6,327	6.1%	6.1%
West Roxbury	6,410	6.2%	4.6%
Mattapan	5,552	5.4%	3.7%
South Boston	4,453	4.3%	5.4%
Brighton	3,848	3.7%	7.4%

Source: 2010 Census, BRA Research Division Analysis

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

- While only 8.1% of Boston’s children are foreign born, nearly half (49.3%) live in households with at least one foreign born parent.
- Over half (54.6%) of Boston’s children live in households headed by a single parent.
- Between 2000 and 2010, all racial and ethnic groups, with the exception of Hispanic, saw significant decreases in their under 18 population.
- African American and Hispanic children comprise 60% of Boston’s under 18 population

UNDER 18 POPULATION BY RACE/ETHNICITY

	2000		2010		Under 18 Pop Change %
	Total	Under 18 Pop %	Total	Under 18 Pop %	
White	29,644	25.4%	23,923	23.1%	-19.0%
Black of African American	43,408	37.2%	34,431	33.2%	-20.7%
Hispanic or Latino	27,831	23.9%	31,209	30.1%	12.1%
Asian	7,734	6.6%	7,113	6.9%	-8.0%
Two or more Races	4,907	4.2%	4,219	4.1%	-14.0%
Other	3,035	2.6%	2,815	2.7%	-7.2%

Source: US Census Bureau, BRA Research Division Analysis



LANGUAGE

- Nearly half of Boston’s children (47%) speak a language other than English while at home.¹
- A quarter of Boston’s children speak Spanish while at home.

TOP 5 LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY UNDER 18 POPULATION

	Total	Under 18%
English	38,170	53%
Spanish	17,733	25%
French	5,139	7%
Portuguese	2,154	3%
Chinese	1,701	2%

Source: American Community Survey 2010, BRA Research Division Analysis

POVERTY

- 30.5% of Boston’s children live in households with incomes below the poverty line. Comparatively, 21.2% of households in Boston are in poverty.

EDUCATION

- Close to 80% of Boston’s children enrolled in school (ages 3-17) are educated through the public school system.
- Half of Boston’s white children are enrolled in private school. 86% of Boston’s minority children are enrolled in public school.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT BY RACE (UNDER 18 POPULATION)

	White	%	Black	%	Asian	%	Other Race	%	2+ Races	%	Hispanic or Latino	%	Total	%
Public School	8,186	13.4%	26,921	43.9%	4,455	7.3%	1,619	2.6%	1,775	2.9%	18,326	29.9%	61,282	78.1%
Private School	8,469	49.4%	3,484	20.3%	1,163	6.8%	185	1.1%	925	5.4%	2,934	17.1%	17,160	21.9%

Source: American Community Survey 2010, BRA Research Division Analysis

¹Total includes children 5 years and older



UNDER 18 POPULATION BY NEIGHBORHOOD

	2000			2010			% Under 18 Population Change
	Population Total	Under 18 Population	%	Population Total	Under 18 Population	%	
Allston	25,623	2,045	8.0%	29,196	1,582	5.4%	-22.6%
Back Bay	17,952	745	4.1%	18,088	1,018	5.6%	36.6%
Bay Village	1,194	50	4.2%	1,312	60	4.6%	20.0%
Beacon Hill	9,052	563	6.2%	9,023	676	7.5%	20.1%
Brighton	44,025	4,440	10.1%	45,801	3,848	8.4%	-13.3%
Charlestown	15,195	2,824	18.6%	16,439	2,685	16.3%	-4.9%
Chinatown	3,559	606	17.0%	4,444	562	12.6%	-7.3%
Dorchester	118,848	35,626	30.0%	114,235	28,827	25.2%	-19.1%
Downtown	7,355	375	5.1%	11,215	462	4.1%	23.2%
East Boston	38,413	9,049	23.6%	40,508	9,025	22.3%	-0.3%
Fenway	29,316	686	2.3%	33,796	679	2.0%	-1.0%
Harbor Islands	640	9	1.4%	535	5	0.9%	-44.4%
Hyde Park	30,076	7,733	25.7%	30,637	7,186	23.5%	-7.1%
Jamaica Plain	38,176	7,495	19.6%	37,468	6,327	16.9%	-15.6%
Leather District	219	6	2.7%	639	48	7.5%	700.0%
Longwood Medical Area	3,969	53	1.3%	3,785	56	1.5%	5.7%
Mattapan	24,333	7,253	29.8%	22,600	5,552	24.6%	-23.5%
Mission Hill	13,935	2,345	16.8%	16,305	1,935	11.9%	-17.5%
North End	9,637	408	4.2%	10,131	464	4.6%	13.7%
Roslindale	30,351	7,490	24.7%	28,680	6,410	22.4%	-14.4%
Roxbury	41,484	12,612	30.4%	48,454	12,042	24.9%	-4.5%
South Boston	31,005	5,410	17.4%	33,311	4,453	13.4%	-17.7%
South Boston Waterfront	509	33	6.5%	1,889	72	3.8%	118.2%
South End	21,911	2,706	12.3%	24,577	3,105	12.6%	14.7%
West End	3,609	318	8.8%	4,080	305	7.5%	-4.1%
West Roxbury	28,755	5,679	19.7%	30,446	6,326	20.8%	11.4%

Source: US Census Bureau, BRA Research Division Analysis