New Bostylonians 2005
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New Bostonians 2005

- Demographics
33.5 Million Immigrants Live in the U.S. since 2000

- Immigrants account for more than 1 in 10 residents (11.7%), the highest percentage in 70 years, but still lower than that of the 1910.

- Since 1990, 43% more immigrants live in the United States.

- Between 1990 and 2000, immigrants accounted for 41% of the growth of the nation’s population and 48% of the growth of the nation’s labor force.

- The nation’s largest immigrant groups in the U.S. in 2000 were Latinos and Asians:
  - 53% are from Latin America;
  - 25% are from Asia;
  - 13.7% are from Europe;
  - 8% are from other regions around the world.

Massachusetts has the 7th Largest Immigrant Population

- As of 2004, Massachusetts (MA) immigrant population totaled 906,866, which is 14.3% of the state’s population.

- Between 2000 and 2004, 172,054 new immigrants came to MA. If not for this influx, the MA population would have decreased.

- Between 2000 and 2004, 47.3% of MA immigrants were from Latin America and the Caribbean and 23.1% from Asia.

- Brazil has become the largest source of immigrants in MA. From 2000 to 2003 nearly 1 out of 5 immigrants entering MA was Brazilian.

Over the last couple of 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 2000, the foreign-born population in Boston was 151,836 accounting for 26% of the city’s total population.

Boston’s foreign-born population come predominantly from the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Africa and represented more than 100 different countries.

- Caribbean immigrants make up 59% of all immigrants from the Americas
- Haitian immigrants make up the largest share of Boston’s immigrants.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, BRA Research Division Analysis
Boston’s Minority groups Have Become Boston’s New “Majority”

- Latinos (14.4%), Asians (7.5%), African Americans (23.8%) together with other minorities make up 50.5 percent of the city’s total population.

- Since 1990, the Latino population has increased by 37.3% and the Asian population by 46.7%.

Changes in Race and Ethnicity from 1980 to 2000

New Bostonians Leading Countries of Origin

Top Countries of Origin for Boston's Foreign-born Population, 2000

Haiti
Dominican Republic
China*
Vietnam
El Salvador
Jamaica
Cape Verde
Colombia
Ireland
Brazil

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, BRA Research Division Analysis
* Only China mainland; does not include Hong Kong and Taiwan
Boston had the 5th highest proportion of foreign-born residents among the 23 largest U.S. cities in 2000.

Half of New Bostonians come from the Americas (48%), followed by Asia (24%), Europe (17%), and Africa (9%).

The three largest immigrant group populations in Boston in 2000 were from Haiti (10%), Dominican Republic (8%), and China (7%).

Top Regions of Boston's Foreign-born, 2000

- Europe: 17%
- Asia: 24%
- Caribbean: 29%
- South America: 9%
- *Central America: 10%
- Africa: 9%
- Other: 2%

Note: *Central America includes Mexico

U.S. Bureau of the Census, BRA Research Division Analysis
Boston’s Caribbean, Central, and South American Leading Countries of Origin in 2000

**Caribbean**
- Haiti: 35%
- Dominican Republic: 29%
- Jamaica: 14%
- Trinidad and Tobago: 8%
- Barbados: 5%
- Other: 9%

**Central America**
- El Salvador: 43%
- Guatemala: 17%
- Honduras: 11%
- Mexico: 6%
- Panama: 3%
- Other: 17%

**South America**
- Colombia: 37%
- Brazil: 11%
- Peru: 6%
- Venezuela: 4%
- Guyana: 6%
- Other: 8%

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, BRA Research Division Analysis
Boston’s European, Asian, and African Leading Countries of Origin in 2000

**Europe**
- Ireland: 19%
- Italy: 13%
- Russia: 11%
- United Kingdom: 10%
- Ukraine: 6%
- Greece: 6%
- Germany: 6%
- Poland: 3%
- France: 2%
- Portugal: 19%
- Other: 11%

**Asia**
- China: 37%
- Vietnam: 12%
- Korea: 2%
- India: 2%
- Japan: 2%
- Philippines: 2%
- Lebanon: 2%
- Pakistan: 5%
- Turkey: 3%
- Other: 5%

**Africa**
- Ethiopia: 8%
- Other Eastern Africa: 4%
- Egypt: 10%
- Other Northern Africa: 2%
- Ghana: 2%
- Nigeria: 3%
- Sierra Leone: 11%
- Other Western Africa: 3%
- Other: 54%

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, BRA Research Division Analysis
Boston’s Leading Latino Ethnic Groups

Top Latino Ethnic Groups, 2000

- Puerto Rican
- Dominican
- Salvadoran
- Mexican
- Colombian

Boston’s Ancestry Listing

- Irish and Italian are the first and second leading ancestries and their recorded number decreased between 1990 and 2000, by 12.4% and 0.3%, respectively.

- Puerto Ricans are the third leading ancestry and their reported number increased by 9%, between 1990 and 2000.

- Between 1990 and 2000, one of the largest reported ancestry increases was Vietnamese.

### Boston’s Ancestry, 1990 and 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ancestry</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Irish/Celtic</td>
<td>128,682</td>
<td>93,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Italian</td>
<td>60,178</td>
<td>49,017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Puerto Rican</td>
<td>25,183</td>
<td>27,442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 English</td>
<td>38,385</td>
<td>26,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 German</td>
<td>34,054</td>
<td>24,426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Unspecified Latino</td>
<td>7,852</td>
<td>19,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Chinese</td>
<td>16,263</td>
<td>19,638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 &quot;American&quot;</td>
<td>10,624</td>
<td>19,387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Haitian</td>
<td>12,438</td>
<td>18,979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Polish</td>
<td>17,009</td>
<td>13,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Dominican</td>
<td>7,938</td>
<td>12,981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Cape Verdean</td>
<td>6,140</td>
<td>11,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 French (except Basque)</td>
<td>16,045</td>
<td>10,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Vietnamese</td>
<td>4,812</td>
<td>10,818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Russian</td>
<td>13,756</td>
<td>10,267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Jamaican</td>
<td>5,869</td>
<td>8,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Scottish</td>
<td>9,775</td>
<td>7,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 French Canadian/Acadian/Cajun</td>
<td>9,037</td>
<td>7,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 African</td>
<td>2,194</td>
<td>5,962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Salvadoran</td>
<td>3,178</td>
<td>5,333</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, BRA Research Division Analysis
New Bostonians 2005

- Languages
New Bostonians Speak Over 140 Languages*

- In 2000, over 33% of residents spoke a language other than English at home, up from 26% in 1990.

- Almost 14% of residents speak Spanish at home up from 10% in 1990.

- Over 6% speak an Asian language at home, up from 4% in 1990.

* See appendices

The most spoken languages include: Spanish, Haitian Creole, Chinese, Portuguese/Cape Verdean Creole, Vietnamese, and French.

66.6% of Boston residents speak only English, 33.4% speak a language other than English.

Note: *African Languages (0.7%), Greek (0.6%), Arabic (0.5%)
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census
54.5% of students in Boston Public Schools speak only English.

43.8% or 26,535 students speak another language.

20% of Boston’s schoolchildren speak a language other than English in their homes.

In 2004 there were 10,150 students in Boston Public Schools’ programs for English language learners.

Every year, approximately 200-300 high school age immigrants enter Boston Public Schools, usually in 11th or 12th grade.

* Languages other than English

Boston Has Multilingual Neighborhoods

In all Boston neighborhoods, 33% 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.

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

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3.
In every Boston neighborhood at least 1-10% of adults speak English as a second language.

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.

Source: Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), Boston Adult Literacy Initiative
U.S. Census Bureau 2000 Massachusetts Geographic Information System (MassGIS)
New Bostonians 2005

- Boston’s Neighborhood Diversity
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.

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.

Neighborhoods: Allston/Brighton and Hyde Park

- As of 2000, people of color and immigrants made up 31% of Allston/Brighton’s population, including Brazilians, Asians, and Russians.
- Minorities make up more than half of Hyde Park’s current population (57%), compared to 28% in 1990.
- Hyde Park is home to a large population of Black/African Americans (including Caribbeans) and Latinos.

As of 2000, non-Whites made up more than half of the population of Dorchester (67%).

The largest groups in this neighborhood are Black/African American (including Caribbean’s), and Asians (mostly Vietnamese).

Out of the 10,000 Vietnamese in Boston, nearly 6,500 live in Dorchester.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Foreign Born in 1990</th>
<th>Percent of Foreign Born in Neighborhood</th>
<th>Foreign Born in 2000</th>
<th>Percent of Foreign-Born in Neighborhood</th>
<th>Absolute Change</th>
<th>Percentage Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boston Total</td>
<td>114,597</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>151,836</td>
<td>27.0%</td>
<td>37,239</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allston/Brighton</td>
<td>20,396</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
<td>22,016</td>
<td>32.6%</td>
<td>1,620</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fenway/Kenmore</td>
<td>5,674</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>7,974</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
<td>2,300</td>
<td>40.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back Bay/Beacon Hill</td>
<td>3,342</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>3,155</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>-187</td>
<td>-5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>6,101</td>
<td>28.1%</td>
<td>6,480</td>
<td>26.4%</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlestown</td>
<td>733</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>2,111</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
<td>1,378</td>
<td>188.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Boston</td>
<td>7,695</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
<td>16,051</td>
<td>45.0%</td>
<td>8,356</td>
<td>108.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Boston</td>
<td>2,133</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>3,717</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>1,584</td>
<td>74.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South End</td>
<td>5,196</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>6,201</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
<td>1,005</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roxbury</td>
<td>9,323</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td>12,501</td>
<td>24.0%</td>
<td>3,178</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Dorchester</td>
<td>6,623</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
<td>9,936</td>
<td>36.8%</td>
<td>3,313</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dorchester</td>
<td>13,749</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
<td>19,556</td>
<td>33.2%</td>
<td>5,807</td>
<td>42.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mattapan</td>
<td>9,568</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>10,706</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>1,138</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roslindale</td>
<td>6,050</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
<td>9,048</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
<td>2,998</td>
<td>49.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica Plain</td>
<td>9,123</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>9,157</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Roxbury</td>
<td>3,714</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>4,929</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>32.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyde Park</td>
<td>5,097</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>8,246</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
<td>3,149</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbor Islands</td>
<td>80</td>
<td></td>
<td>52</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>-28</td>
<td>-35.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, BRA Research Division Analysis
Neighborhoods with a Share of Foreign-born Higher than the City Average

- Allston/Brighton remains the neighborhood with a largest number of foreign-born (22,016). Chinese make up the largest population of foreign-born.

- East Boston experienced the largest increase in the number of foreign-born between 1990 and 2000 (108.6%). Salvadorians make up the largest population of foreign-born.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, BRA Research Division Analysis
Neighborhoods with a Share of Foreign-born Higher than the City Average

- Dorchester is home to the second largest number of foreign-born among city’s neighborhoods (29,492). Vietnamese make up the largest population of foreign-born.

- Mattapan has the fifth largest number foreign-born population (10,706). Haitians, who are the largest Boston’s foreign-born population make up the largest one here as well.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, BRA Research Division Analysis
Neighborhoods with a Share of Foreign-born Higher than the City Average

- Roslindale has the seventh largest foreign-born population (9,048). Haitians make up the largest population in this neighborhood, even though smaller than in Mattapan.

- Hyde Park is home to the eighth largest foreign-born population in the city (8,246). Haitians make up the largest foreign-born population here as well, double the one in Roslindale.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, BRA Research Division Analysis
New Bostonians 2005

- Economic Contributions & Labor Force
Immigrants in Boston spend, from their after tax earnings, just over $3 billion annually. These annual expenditures generate a regional product of $2.8 billion in local expending and $823 million in State and Federal taxes.

Annual expenditures generate 25,350 additional jobs in the local economy.

Immigrants further contribute to Boston’s economy through entrepreneurship.

They own more than 8,000 small businesses in the greater Boston area in different industry sectors.

Combined, these businesses represent more than $5.5 billion in annual sales and employ nearly 37,000 people.

They contribute about $9.5 billion to the regional product, $304 million in State and Federal taxes and they create an additional 35,368 jobs.

Sources: Regional Economic Model, Inc., BRA Research Division Analysis, October 2005
Immigrants are Critical Contributors to the Labor Force

- Between 1990 and 2001, new immigrants made up more than half of the growth of the nation's entire civilian workforce.

- Immigrants filled both the high and low ends of the market statewide: high-skill jobs in engineering, information technology, and the sciences; and low-skill jobs in manufacturing and service.

- From 2000 to 2004, MA remained dependent on the immigrant labor force. Without immigrants, the state’s labor force would have shrunk. By 2004, immigrants accounted for 17% of the state’s workforce, a sharp increase from 1980 when immigrants were only at 8.8%.

- Immigrants will be critical to filling future labor gaps. It is the fact that 76 million baby boomers will retire by 2030, while only 46 million native-born workers will have entered the workforce.

About 16% of both naturalized and non-naturalized immigrants work in blue collar industries including manufacturing, utilities, wholesale trade, and transportation.

41% of naturalized immigrants, compared to 34% non-naturalized immigrants, work in "knowledge-based" industries including finance, professional services, health services, and education.

31% of non-naturalized immigrants work in retail, administration support, accommodation and food service industries compared to 22% of naturalized citizens.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, Public Use Microdata (PUM) 5% Sample 2000, BRA Research Division Analysis
New Bostonians Leading Occupations

Foreign-born by Occupations, 2000

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, Public Use Microdata (PUM) 5% Sample 2000, BRA Research Division Analysis
New Bostonians 2005

- English Proficiency
New Bostonians Need to Improve English Proficiency

- Since 1980, the overall share of immigrants in MA who speak only English at home decreased from 35% to 20.6%, while the share with limited English speaking skills increased from 17.5% to 21.5%.

- In 2000, 46,000 or 8% of all Boston residents lack English proficiency compared to 6% in 1990.

  - About one-quarter of all Spanish speakers do not speak English well.
  - Of all Asian language speakers about one-third do not speak English well.

- 26,000 households in Boston are linguistically isolated, in which no person aged 14 years and over speaks English “only” or “very well.”

- In 2000, more than one third of all adult immigrants in Boston (38%) either lack a High School diploma or have limited English speaking skills.

U.S. Bureau of Census, BRA Research Division Analysis
New Bostonians Need Improved Access to Acquire English Proficiency

- In 2004, there were at least 3,500 people waiting to enroll in English for Speakers of Other Language (ESOL) classes in the city of Boston.

- 6 months to 3 years is the average wait for an individual to start an ESOL class.
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- Educational Attainment
For immigrants 25 years and older, in Boston:

- One in four (25%) immigrants has a bachelor’s degree or higher, compared to the city average of 36%;
- 22.8% have a high school diploma, compared to the city’s 24%;
- 35.2% have not completed high school, compared to the city’s 21.1%.

Educational Attainment, 2000

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, Public Use Microdata (PUM) 5% Sample 2000, BRA Research Division Analysis
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- Homeownership
Over Half of New Bostonians are Renters

- Both 68% of Boston residents and 68% of immigrants rent a home in Boston.

- 30% of immigrants own a home in Boston, compared to the citywide 32% of homeownership.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, Public Use Microdata (PUM) 5% Sample 2000, BRA Research Division Analysis
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- Citizenship
- Political Participation
Political Affiliations of Leading Groups in Massachusetts and Boston

Massachusetts

Latinos

18-29 yrs.:
- 34% Democrat
- 21% Republican
- 26% Independent

55+ yrs.:
- 64% Democrat
- 17% Republican
- 12% Independent

Boston

Asians

- 33% Democrat
- 10% Republican
- 56% Independent

Haitians

- 73% Democrat
- 5% Republican
- 22% Independent

Source: Institute for Asian American Studies; Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration; Office of New Bostonians
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.
Boston’s General Elections

Percentage Increase in Voter Turnout
(by Neighborhood)
2003 vs. 1999 Election

Note: Percentage in number of voters casting ballots November, 2003 vs 1999s election;
Percentage Increase in Voter Turnout
(by Neighborhood)
2003 vs. 1999 Election

Note: Percentage in number of voters casting ballots November, 2003 vs 1999s election; Source: Boston Vote
Almost half of US immigrant residents (49%) entered the country in the past 10 years. 1 in 10 Boston residents is a naturalized citizen, up from 1 in 14 only ten years ago.

Many New Bostonians have Yet to Be Naturalized

Citizenship Status for Foreign-born Population in Boston, 2000

- Naturalized Citizen: 38%
- Non-naturalized Citizen: 62%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, Public Use Microdata (PUM) 5% Sample 2000, BRA Research Division Analysis
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- Future Trends
New Bostonians are Critical to the State and City Future

- Boston’s projected population for 2005 is 45% White and 55% non-White (many of whom are immigrants).

- “New immigrants will account for an increasing share of the state and region’s labor force growth.”

Nearly one-quarter of all Massachusetts children are either immigrants or the children of immigrants.

With their children, immigrants make up 20% of the U.S. population, a 43% increase since 1990.

Nearly half (47%) of all young immigrants in MA, between the ages of 16 and 24 who do not speak English well or at all, did not complete High School compared with only 8% of young immigrants who speak English well.

References


Harrington, P., Northeastern University’s Center for Labor Market Studies.
References

Institute for Asian American Studies; Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration; Office of New Bostonians.


References

Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC). **Boston Adult Literacy Initiative** U.S. Census Bureau 2000 Massachusetts Geographic Information System (MassGIS).


References


U.S. Bureau of the Census, Public Use Microdata 5% (PUM) Sample.