

# **Data & Race: How Data Can Help Advance Racial Justice**

**Peter Ciurczak, Research Analyst, Boston Indicators**



# Building AAPI Power

A Profile of AAPI Communities in Greater Boston

## CHANGING FACES of GREATER BOSTON

A REPORT FROM BOSTON INDICATORS, THE BOSTON FOUNDATION, UMASS BOSTON AND THE UMASS DONAHUE INSTITUTE

BOSTON INDICATORS The Boston Foundation tBf EMBRACE

## GREAT MIGRATION TO GLOBAL IMMIGRATION: A Profile of Black Boston

APRIL 2023

## MULTIRACIAL IN GREATER BOSTON

THE LEADING EDGE OF DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE

A special report from Boston Indicators

NOVEMBER 2021

MAY 2022

## ¡AVANCEMOS YA!

PERSISTENT ECONOMIC CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FACING LATINOS IN MASSACHUSETTS

BOSTON INDICATORS THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE FOR LATINO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY LATINO EQUITY FUND AT THE BOSTON FOUNDATION

# A Brief Overview

# Why use data?

- Inform decision making.

## Census-Guided Housing and Transportation Funding

Program	Description	Funding to Massachusetts	Where might an undercount affect future funding?	Source
<b>Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers</b>	Provides rental assistance to low-income individuals and families.	\$943,359,000 (FY15)	Some State Impact	GW
<b>Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program</b>	Provides rental assistance to low-income individuals and families.	\$664,456,535 (FY15)	Some State Impact	GW
<b>Highway Planning and Construction</b>	Helps states construct and repair National Highway System roads and bridges.	\$613,770,112 (FY15)	State Impact	GW
<b>Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)</b>	Helps low-income families pay for weatherization and heating or cooling services.	\$136,500,000 (FY19)	Some State Impact	MB
<b>Community</b>	Funds local community development		State Impact	MB

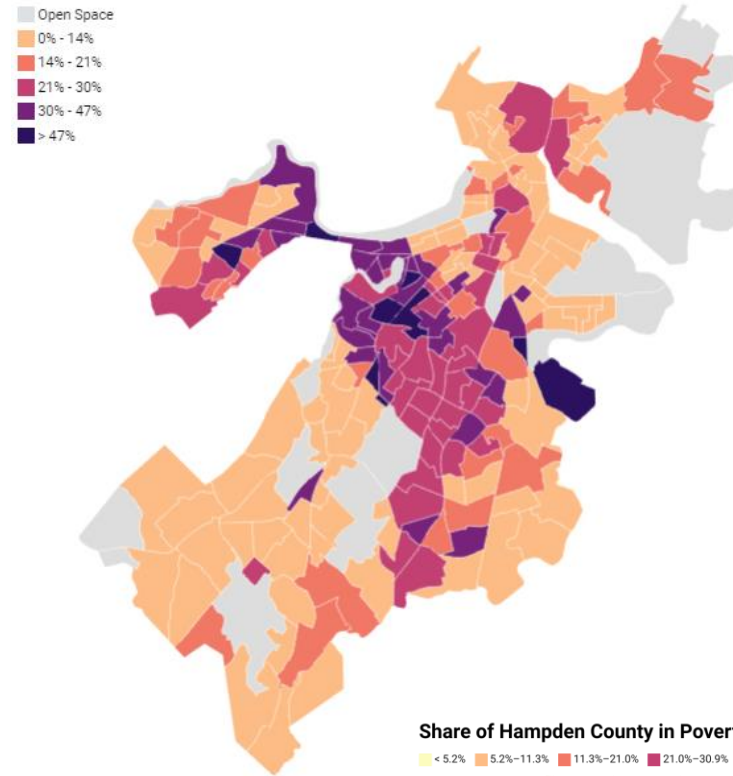
## Census-Guided Social Services Funding

Program	Description	Funding to Massachusetts	Where might an undercount affect future funding?	Source
<b>Child Care Development Block Grant – Discretionary</b>	Supports the state-level development of child care programs and policies, including a focus on expanding care for low-income children.	\$35,300,000 (FY19)	State Impact	MB
<b>Child Care Development Fund Mandatory and Matching Fund – Entitlement</b>		\$75,500,000 (FY19)	State Impact	MB
<b>Foster Care (Title IV-E)</b>	Supports state child welfare and protection programs, including Foster Care.	\$100,100,000 (FY19)	No Impact on MA (based on FMAP formula)	MB
<b>State Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program</b>	Supports assessment, counseling and services for persons with disabilities.	\$47,400,000 (FY19)	State Impact	MB
<b>Social Services Block Grant</b>	Provides resources to support families, prevent abuse and reduce unnecessary institutionalization.	\$33,200,000 (FY19)	State Impact	MB
<b>Adoption Assistance (Title IV-E)</b>	Supports state child welfare and protection programs, particularly adoption assistance for special needs children.	\$29,700,000 (FY19)	No Impact on MA (based on FMAP formula)	MB

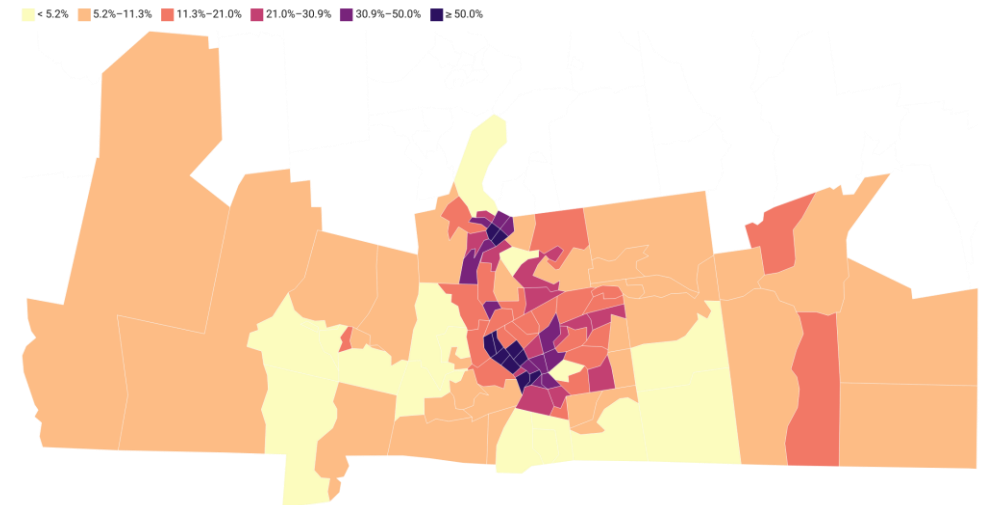
# Why use data?

- Inform decision making.
- Understand who we are and who we serve.

Share in Poverty. Boston Census Tracts. 2021.



Share of Hampden County in Poverty. Census Tracts. 2021.



# Why use data?

- Inform decision making.
- Understand who we are and who we serve.
- Communicate our work to the public.



## The Default Project: A Survey of the Reasons for Tenant Defaults in Housing Court Eviction Cases

### Findings and Policy Recommendations

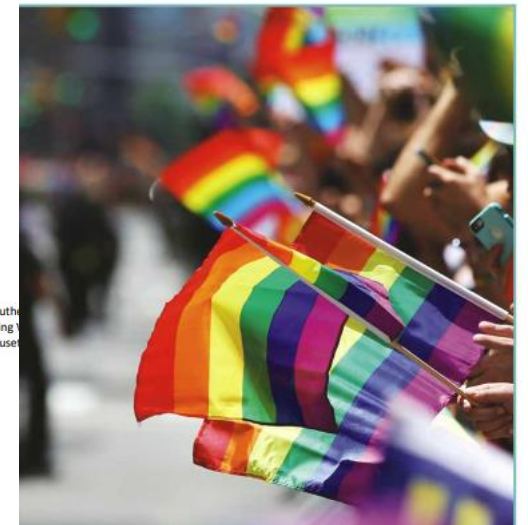


Prepared by the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute and the Justice Center for Southern Massachusetts upon request of the Massachusetts Access to Justice Commission Housing Y Group, based on research conducted by AmeriCorps Legal Advocates of Massachusetts

December 2022

## Equality and Equity Advancing the LGBT Community in Massachusetts

A Special Report of Boston Indicators and The Fenway Institute  
Supported by The Equality Fund at The Boston Foundation



# Why use data?

- Inform decision making.
- Understand who we are and who we serve.
- Communicate the work we do to the public.
- Report to funders or stakeholders.



# What are some common data sources?

- Decennial Census



Collects data on race, ethnicity, age and household composition.



# What are some common data sources?

- Decennial Census
- Surveys



Surveys collect demographic data to tell us about ourselves; or seek to understand how users feel about a service or product.

# What are some common data sources?

- Decennial Census
- Surveys
- Government

Administrative data that is collected from programs or entities and made available for public use.



# Race and Ethnicity Data



The Boston Globe

<https://www.bostonglobe.com> > 2021/08/13 > metro > b...

## Boston is losing Black population, new census data show ...

Aug 13, 2021 — Though the city's population has been increasing overall, the number of Black people has been dropping steadily, with **8809 fewer in 2020** ...



The Bay State Banner

<https://www.baystatebanner.com> > 2021/08/18 > censu...

## Census shows decline in Hub Blacks

Aug 18, 2021 — **Census shows decline in Hub Blacks.** Drop comes as Mass. towns see increase ... Boston's Black population declined by nearly 9,000.



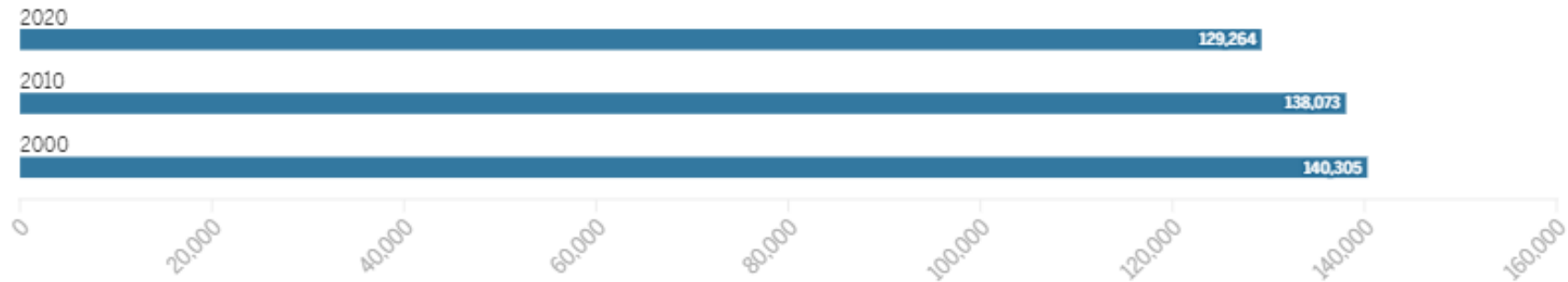
campaign-archive.com

<https://us11.campaign-archive.com> > ...

## As diversity in Boston booms, Black residents flee

Number of the week: **8,809**, the drop in the number of Black Bostonians living in the city since 2010, according to census data. Shrinking Black Boston. While the ...

### How the Black population has gone down in Boston



Source: [US Census Bureau](#)

A Flourish chart

→ NOTE: Please answer BOTH Question 8 about Hispanic origin and Question 9 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.

**8. Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?**

- No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
- Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano
- Yes, Puerto Rican
- Yes, Cuban
- Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin – *Print, for example, Salvadoran, Dominican, Colombian, Guatemalan, Spaniard, Ecuadorian, etc.*

**9. What is Person 1's race?**

Mark  one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

- White – *Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc.*

- Black or African Am. – *Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc.*

- American Indian or Alaska Native – *Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc.*

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|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese   | <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese   | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Filipino  | <input type="checkbox"/> Korean   | <input type="checkbox"/> Samoan          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian  | <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese   | <input type="checkbox"/> Chamorro        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian –<br><i>Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander –<br><i>Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc.</i> |  |

- Some other race – *Print race or origin.*

## White

Boston, 2020.



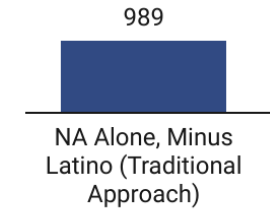
## Black

Boston, 2020.



## Native American

Boston, 2020.



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DOMINICAN

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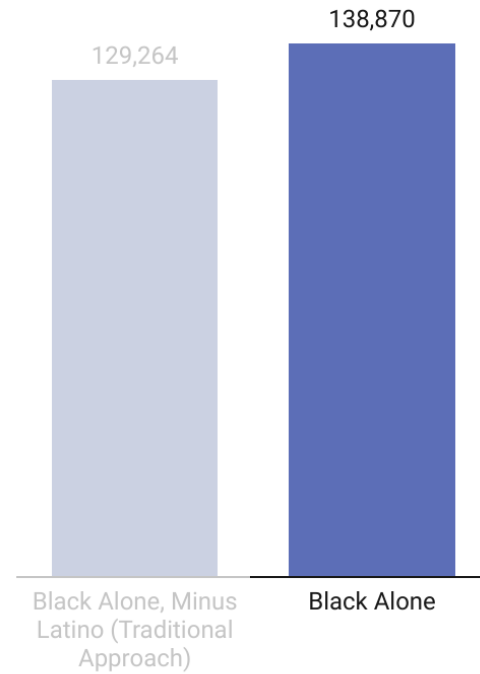
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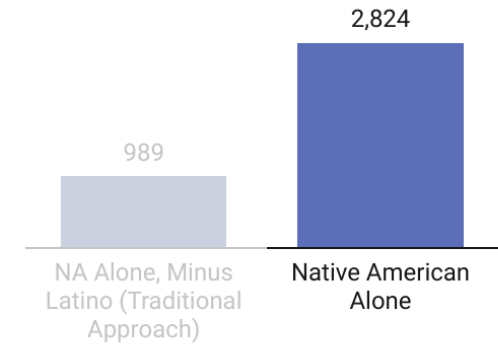
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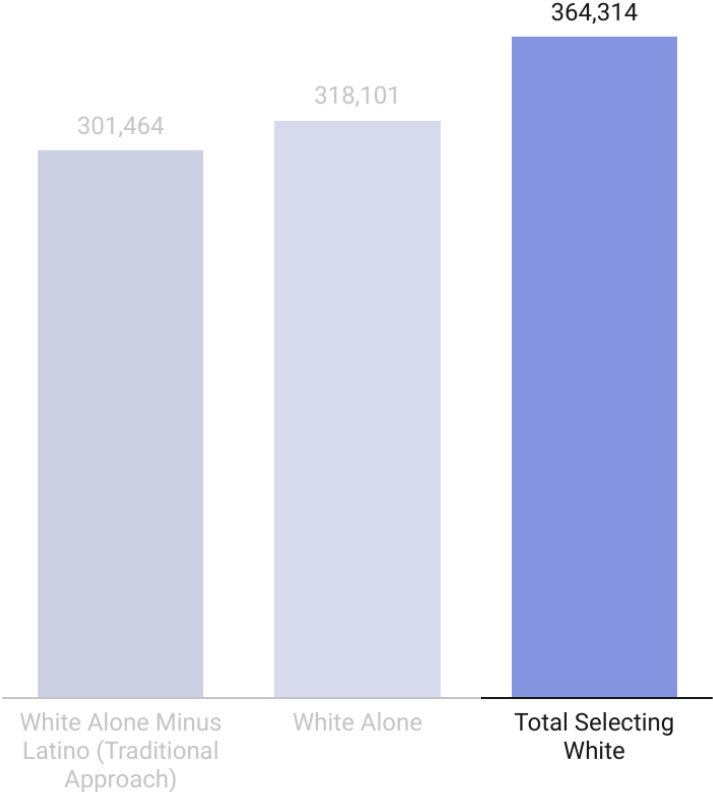
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# Race totals are higher including *all* respondents who have selected race alone or in combination with other groups or Latino ethnicity.

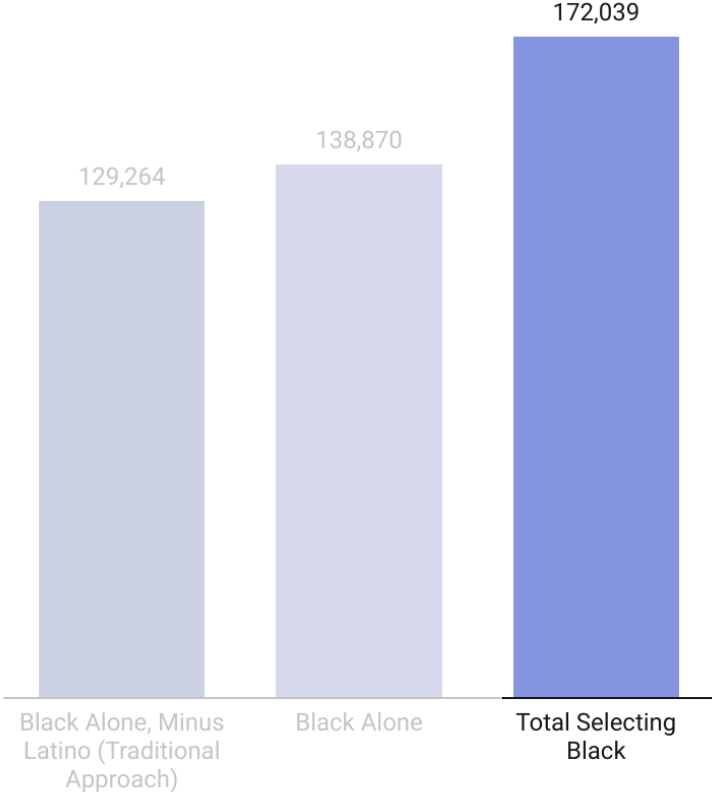
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Boston, 2020.



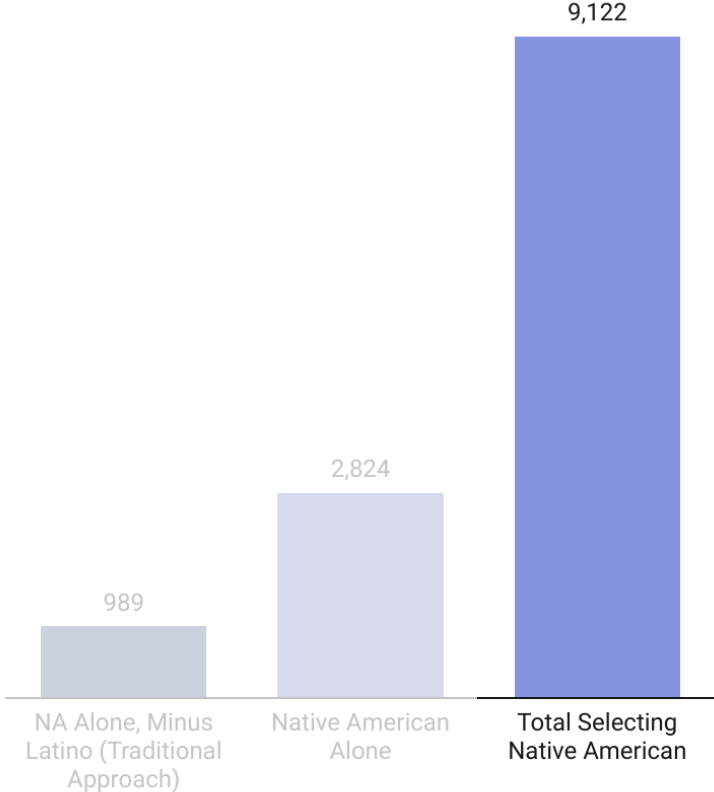
## Black

Boston, 2020.



## Native American

Boston, 2020.



# Proposed overhaul of Census race and ethnicity questions

**What is your race or ethnicity?**  
*Select all that apply AND enter additional details in the spaces below.  
Note, you may report more than one group.*

**WHITE** – Provide details below.

German       Irish       English  
 Italian       Polish       French  
*Enter, for example, Scottish, Norwegian, Dutch, etc.*

**HISPANIC OR LATINO** – Provide details below.

Mexican or  
Mexican American       Puerto Rican       Cuban  
 Salvadoran       Dominican       Colombian  
*Enter, for example, Guatemalan, Spaniard, Ecuadorian, etc.*

**BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN** – Provide details below.

African American       Jamaican       Haitian  
 Nigerian       Ethiopian       Somali  
*Enter, for example, Ghanaian, South African, Barbadian, etc.*

**ASIAN** – Provide details below.

Chinese       Filipino       Asian Indian  
 Vietnamese       Korean       Japanese  
*Enter, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc.*

**AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE** – Enter, for example,  
*Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of  
Barrow Inupiat Tribal Government, Tlingit, etc.*

**MIDDLE EASTERN OR NORTH AFRICAN** – Provide details below.

Lebanese       Iranian       Egyptian  
 Syrian       Moroccan       Israeli  
*Enter, for example, Algerian, Iraqi, Kurdish, etc.*

**NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER** – Provide details below.

Native Hawaiian       Samoan       Chamorro  
 Tongan       Fijian       Marshallese  
*Enter, for example, Palauan, Tahitian, Chuukese, etc.*

# Proposed overhaul of Census race and ethnicity questions

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Select all that apply **AND** enter additional details in the spaces below.

Note, you may report more than one group.

### **WHITE** – Provide details below.

German  Irish  English

Italian  Polish  French

Enter, for example, Scottish, Norwegian, Dutch, etc.

### **HISPANIC OR LATINO** – Provide details below.

Mexican or  
Mexican American  Puerto Rican  Cuban

Salvadoran  Dominican  Colombian

Enter, for example, Guatemalan, Spaniard, Ecuadorian, etc.

### **BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN** – Provide details below.

African American  Jamaican  Haitian

Nigerian  Ethiopian  Somali

Enter, for example, Ghanaian, South African, Barbadian, etc.

### **ASIAN** – Provide details below.

Chinese  Filipino  Asian Indian

Vietnamese  Korean  Japanese

Enter, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc.

### **AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE** – Enter, for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Tribal Government, Tlingit, etc.

### **MIDDLE EASTERN OR NORTH AFRICAN** – Provide details below.

Lebanese  Iranian  Egyptian

Syrian  Moroccan  Israeli

Enter, for example, Algerian, Iraqi, Kurdish, etc.

### **NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER** – Provide details below.

Native Hawaiian  Samoan  Chamorro

Tongan  Fijian  Marshallese

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# Key Takeaways:

- “Single-race, non-Latino” reporting approaches depress race totals.
- While the race question allows people to select multiple options, the Latino ethnicity question does not, forcing people of mixed ethnicity to pick one.
- Some people don’t fit well within either the race categories or the Latino ethnicity option.
- Concepts of race, country of origin, and language/ethnicity are merging together

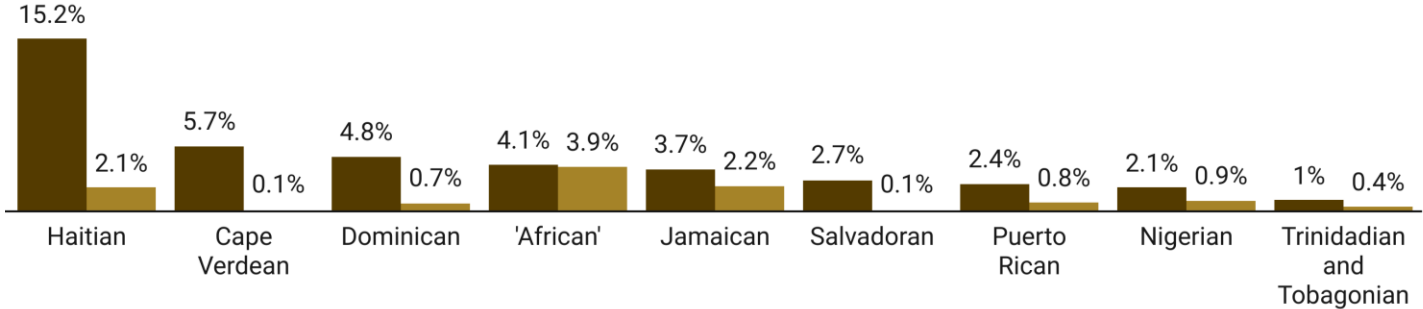
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# Data Analysis Examples

# Top 10 write-in origins for Black respondents by share of total Black population. 2020.

Greater Boston U.S.



Note: Black population here includes all respondents selecting 'Black,' whether alone or in combination with another race. 'African Ancestry' is a general choice that is presented alongside, and is mutually exclusive of, specific countries of ancestry like 'Nigeria.' This chart excludes respondents who did not fill in an ancestry.

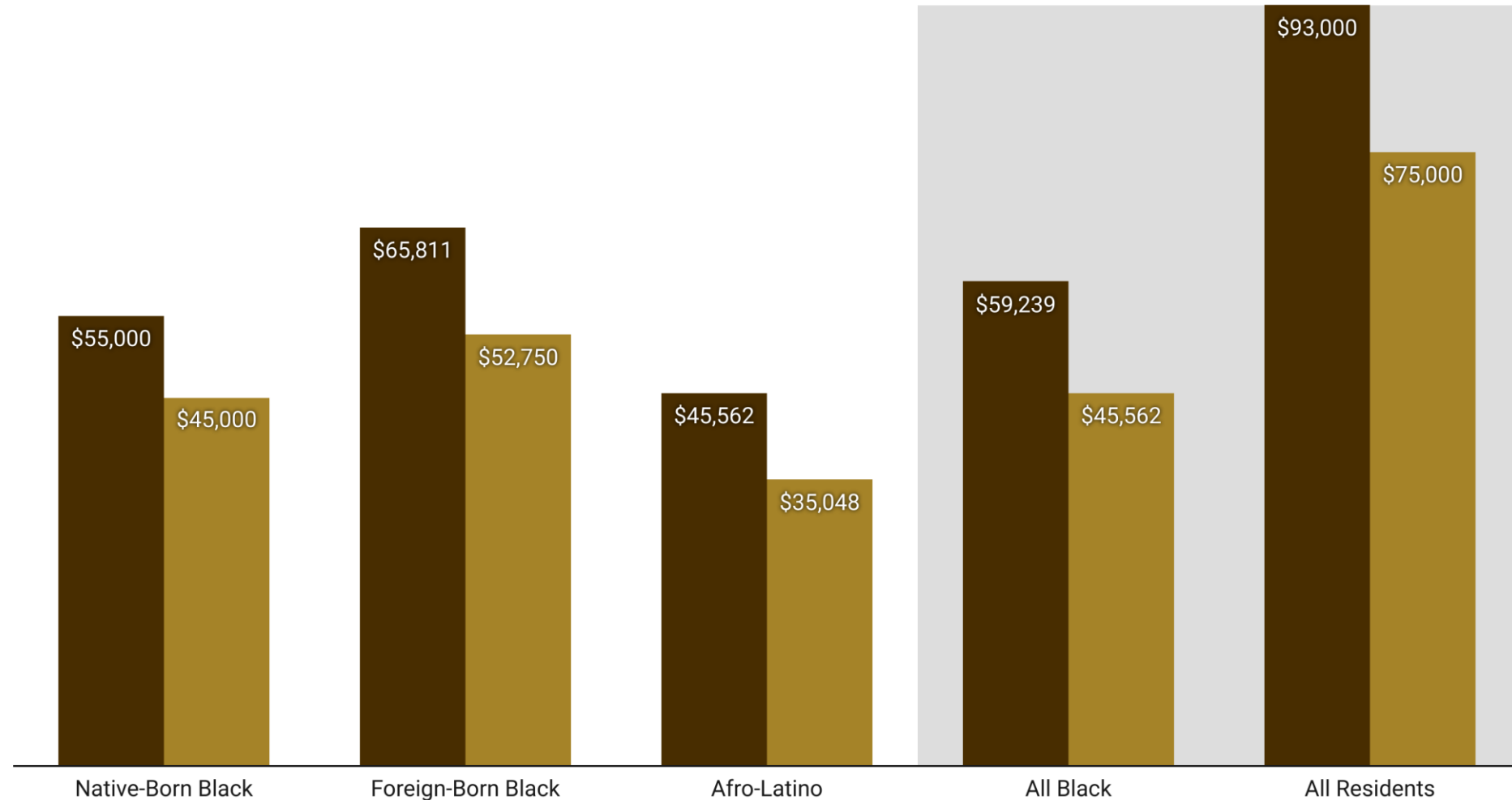
Chart: Boston Indicators • Source: 2016-2020 ACS, IPUMS USA, University of Minnesota, www.ipums.org. • Created with Datawrapper



# Foreign-born Black households have the highest median incomes among the region's Black residents.

Median household income by group. Greater Boston and Boston. 2020.

■ Greater Boston ■ Boston

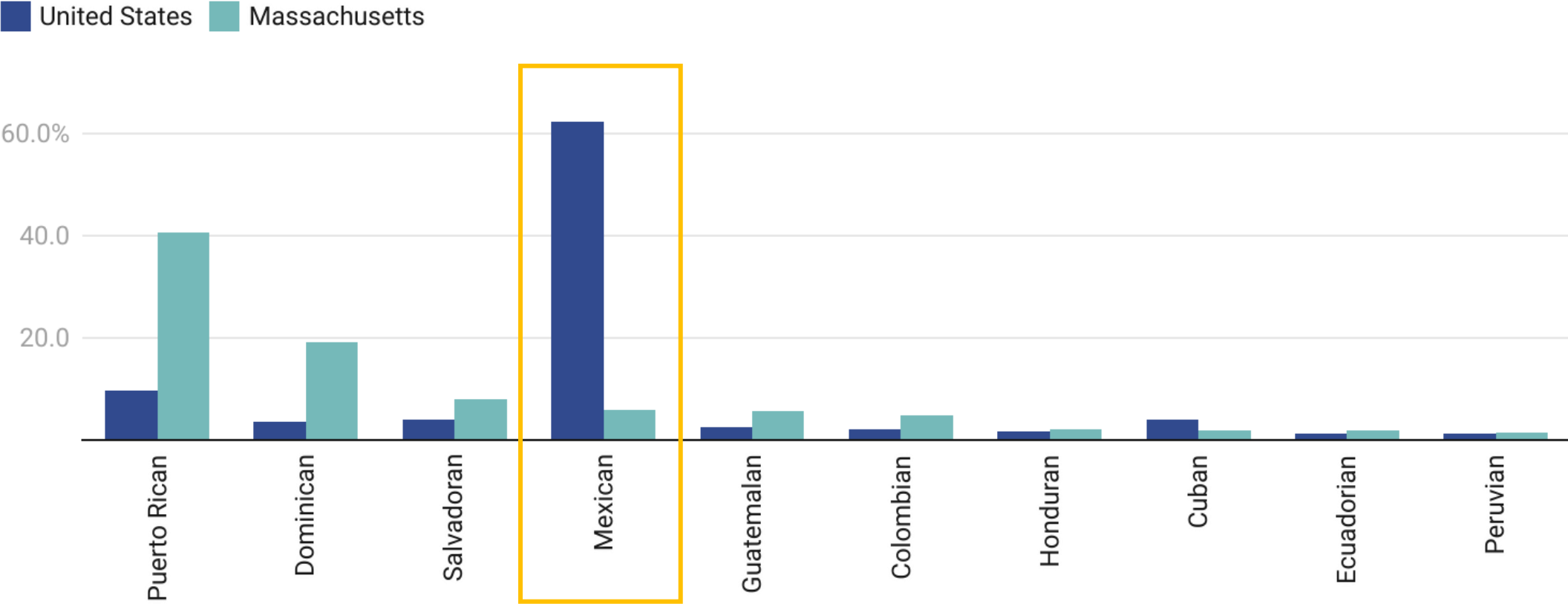


*Note: Includes all respondents who selected Black in combination with other racial groups. Afro-Latinos are those who also selected "Latino" ethnicity.*

Chart: Boston Indicators • Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey. IPUMS USA, University of Minnesota, [www.ipums.org](http://www.ipums.org) • Created with Datawrapper

# Latinos in Massachusetts are more likely to be Puerto Rican or Dominican; nationally, they are more likely to be Mexican.

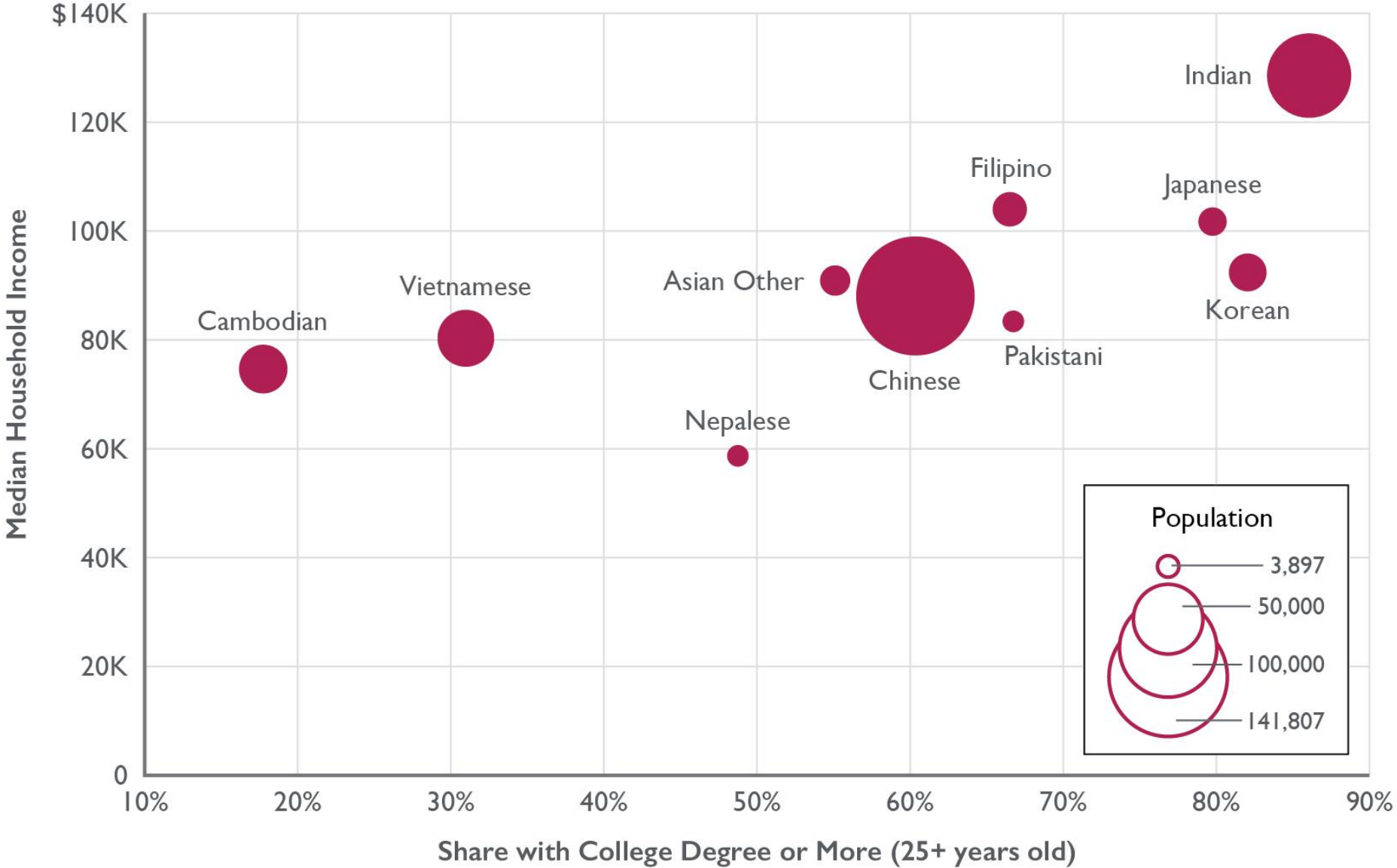
The origins of the Latino population for the United States and Massachusetts, 2019.



Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey • Created with Datawrapper

# Income and educational attainment vary greatly across AAPI communities.

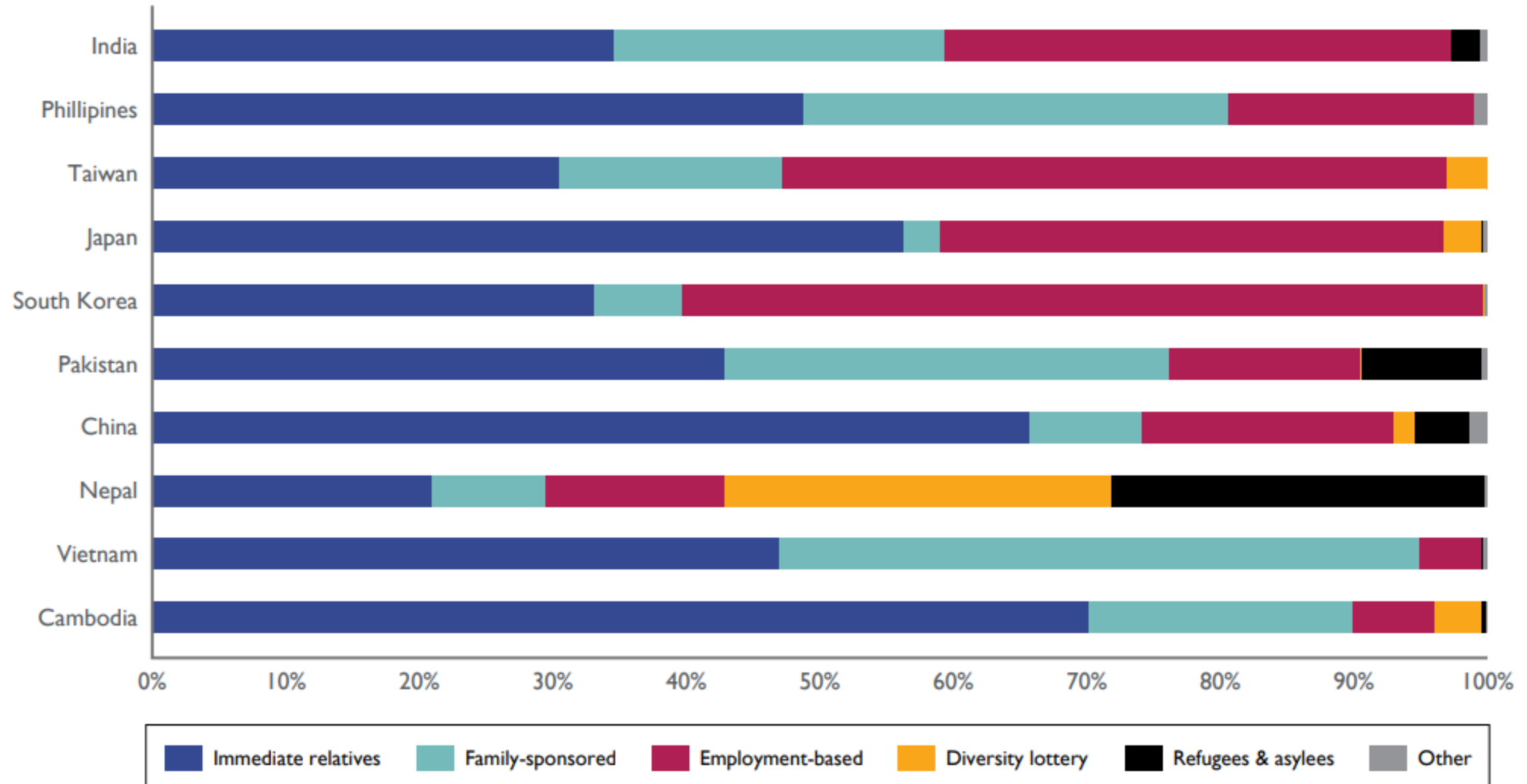
Top 10 countries of ancestry for Asian Americans in Greater Boston. 2018.



Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey

**Figure 5: Asian immigrants come to the U.S. through a wide range of channels.**

People obtaining lawful permanent resident. Sample Asian countries of origin, 2018.



Source: DHS 2018 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics.

# Need guidance on a project? Or trying to build or research something specific?

United States Census Bureau – [data.census.gov](https://data.census.gov)

## Explore Census Data

Learn about America's People, Places, and Economy

Find Tables, Maps, and more ...



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Try searching for [commute](#) in [all counties in Delaware](#) in [2017](#)

**find  
tables**

Massachusetts Regional Planning Agencies (RPAs) – [links](#)



**Thank You**

[www.bostonindicators.org](http://www.bostonindicators.org)

