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Poverty in Massachusetts by Age

Randy Albelda

University of Massachusetts Boston, randy.albelda@umb.edu

Ferry Cadet

Dinghong Mei

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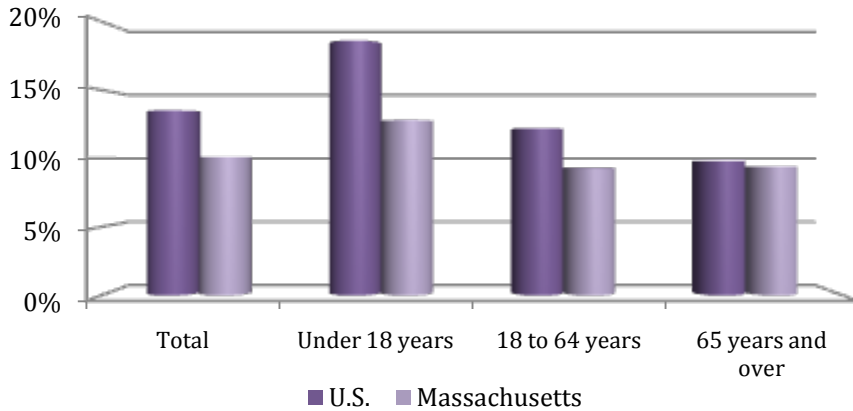
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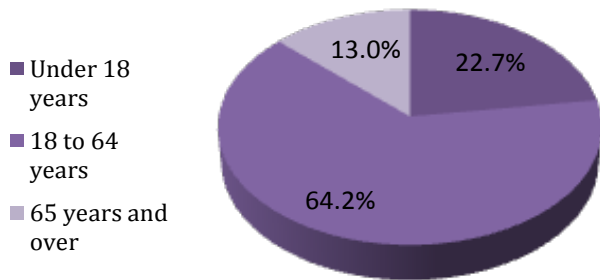
Poverty in Massachusetts by Age

US and Massachusetts

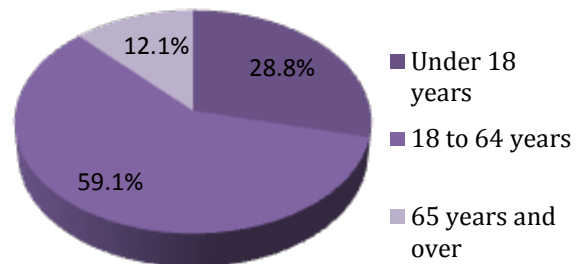


Massachusetts has lower poverty rates compared to the US average. But, like the US, child poverty rates far exceed those of working age adults (ages 18-64) and those 65 and older.

Massachusetts Distribution of Total Population by Age



Massachusetts Distribution of Total Poor Population by Age



Children are 22.7% of the total population, but are almost 30% of the poor. Conversely, those 65 and older are 64.2% of the population but 59.1% of all poor people in the Commonwealth.

Poverty rates by age in Massachusetts' 10 largest cities

	Massachusetts	Boston	Brockton	Cambridge	Fall River	Lowell	Lynn	New Bedford	Quincy	Springfield	Worcester
All Ages	10.1%	19.1%	14.0%	15.0%	19.0%	17.7%	20.0%	22.2%	9.1%	30.0%	19.0%
Under 18 years	12.8%	27.8%	16.1%	17.5%	28.9%	25.5%	23.9%	34.0%	11.1%	41.0%	25.4%
18 to 64 years	9.3%	16.6%	12.2%	15.0%	16.4%	15.1%	17.6%	19.2%	8.3%	22.9%	15.9%
65 years and over	9.4%	20.1%	11.0%	11.0%	15.0%	15.4%	19.7%	14.3%	10.5%	19.1%	14.7%

Child poverty rates differ considerably across Massachusetts' ten largest cities, ranging from 11.1% in Quincy to 41.0% in Springfield. Boston has the highest poverty rates for those who are 65 and older. Even though most over 65 and older are not employed, this group has lower poverty rates than "working-age" adults in six of the cities. In Boston, Lowell, Lynn, and Quincy, elder poverty rates are higher than those 18 to 64 years old.

NOTE: All data are 5-year estimates, 2005-2009.

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey Five Year Estimates, Subject Table S1701. Developed by Randy Albelda, Ferry Cadet and Dinghong Mei for the Center for Social Policy, 2011.