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Latinos in Massachusetts Selected Areas: Everett

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Latinos in Massachusetts Selected Areas Everett

by Phillip Granberry and Mayara Fontes

June, 2015

THE MAURICIO GASTON INSTITUTE
FOR LATINO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
AND PUBLIC POLICY

Everett

This report provides a descriptive snapshot of selected economic, social, educational, and demographic indicators pertaining to Latinos in Everett. It reflects a commitment by UMass Boston's Mauricio Gastón Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy to provide periodic updates on the growing Latino population in Massachusetts.

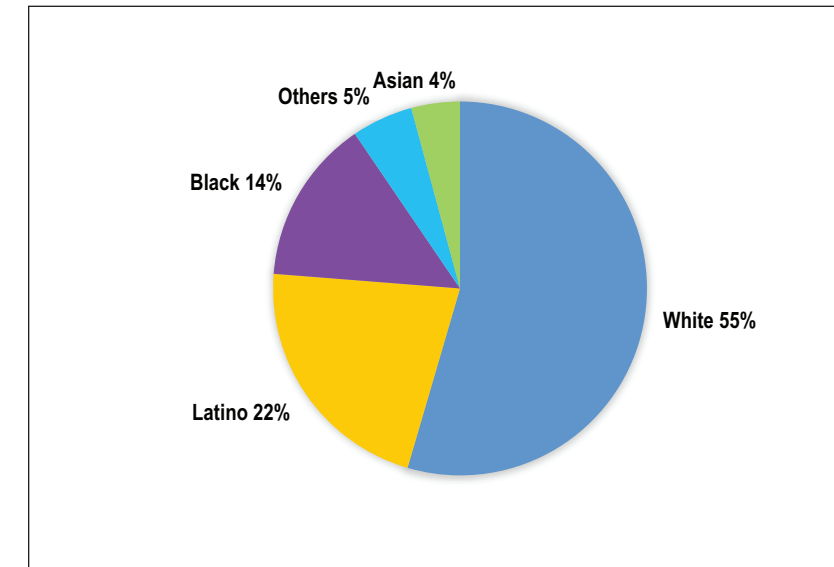
The report on Everett is part of a larger series that covers cities and towns with a population between 35,000 and 100,000 residents in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with a significant number of Latinos. Each report analyzes data from the American Community Survey (ACS) conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. We obtained the data from the American Factfinder website in tabular form, and we transformed these data into figures presented in this report.

In this report, Latinos are compared to non-Latino whites, blacks, and Asians for selected characteristics. This report uses the designation of Latino for the universe of people whom the Census identified as "Hispanic or Latino." (The US Census first identifies individuals with an ethnicity category of "Hispanic or Latino" or "Not Hispanic or Latino." Then, the US Census allows individuals to select a race.) The Census designation of "Black or African American Alone" is referenced in this report as black. Likewise, the Census category of "Asian Alone" is referenced as Asian. A smaller "Other" ethno-racial category is identified for the initial population estimate of Everett, consisting of those who identified with multiple race categories or some other race (including the category of "American Indian and Alaska Native Alone"). The number of ethno-racial groups included in a particular analysis may vary; each ethno-racial group is included in the analysis only when the observed sample size is large enough to produce reliable population estimates.

THE LATINO POPULATION

With a total population of 42,504, Everett is home to an estimated 9,232 Latinos. They represent about one-fifth (22%) of the city's population, a smaller share than for whites but greater than for blacks and Asians (Figure 1).

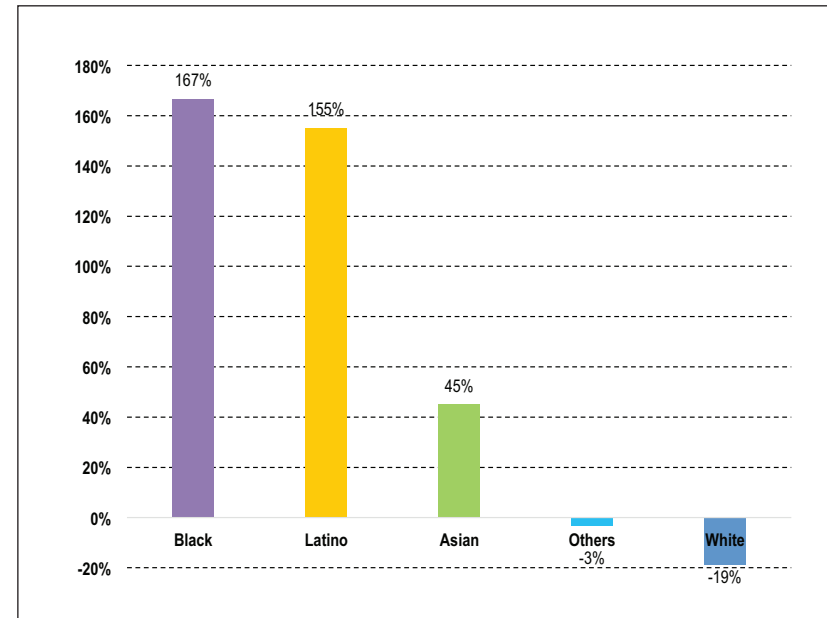
Figure 1: Population Percentages by Ethno-Racial Group in Everett



Source: 2013 5-Year ACS Data - DP05

A striking feature of Everett is its recent population growth among blacks and Latinos. From 2000 to 2013, blacks (167%) and Latinos (155%) experienced significant population growth in the city, while whites experienced a 19% population decline (Figure 2). The growth of the Latino population in Everett is greater than that of Latinos statewide, who experienced an increase of 53% during this time period. Everett has long been a destination for international migrants, and today it has a greater concentration of foreign-born (41%) than the Commonwealth as a whole (15%).

Figure 2: Population Change by Ethno-Racial Group from 2000 to 2013

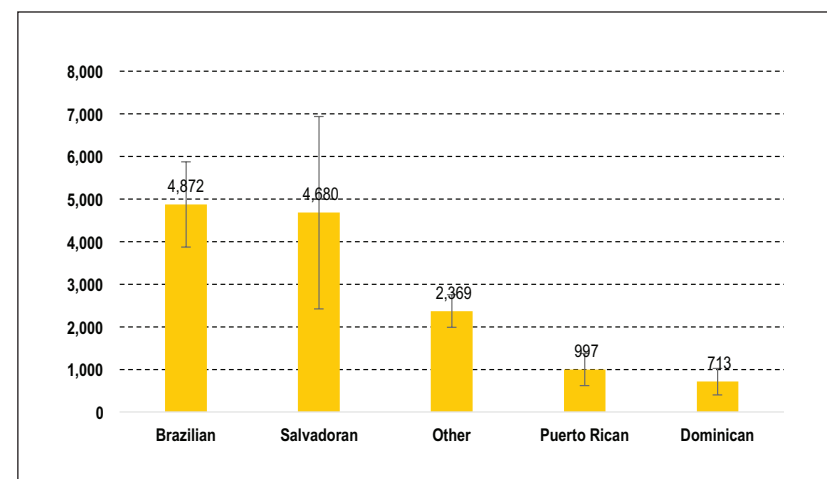


Source: 2013 3-Year ACS and 2000 Census Summary File 1 Data

When examining the ancestry of Latinos in the Everett, it is important to note that Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens; they are not included in foreign-born estimates in the preceding paragraph. In addition, not all Brazilians identify as Latino for the Census, and Figure 3 reports a larger number of Latinos than Figure 1. Brazilians, with a population of 4,872, constitute the largest Latino subpopulation in the city,¹ followed by Salvadorans (4,680), Puerto Ricans (997), and Dominicans (713).

¹ Because the U.S. Census Bureau does not classify Brazilians as Latinos, only those Brazilians who report their ethnicity as Latino are included in the figures that follow.

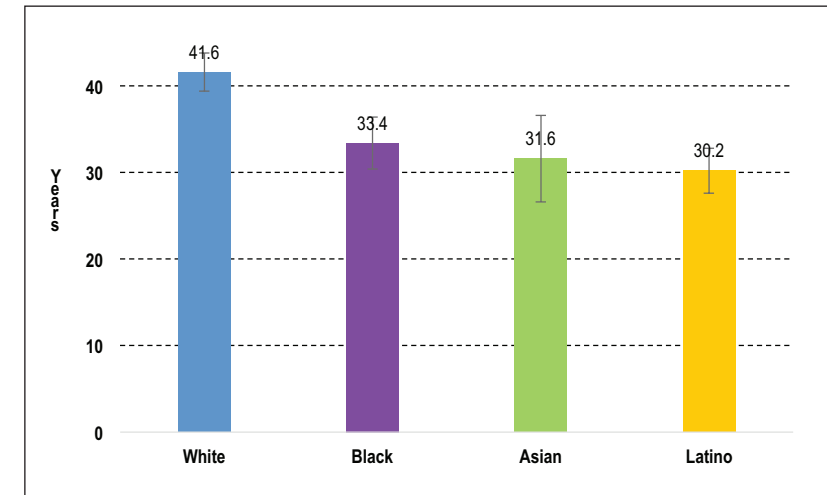
Figure 3: Ancestry of the Top Latino Subpopulations



Source: 2013 ACS 5-Year Data - B03001 and B04003

MEDIAN AGE AND MARITAL STATUS

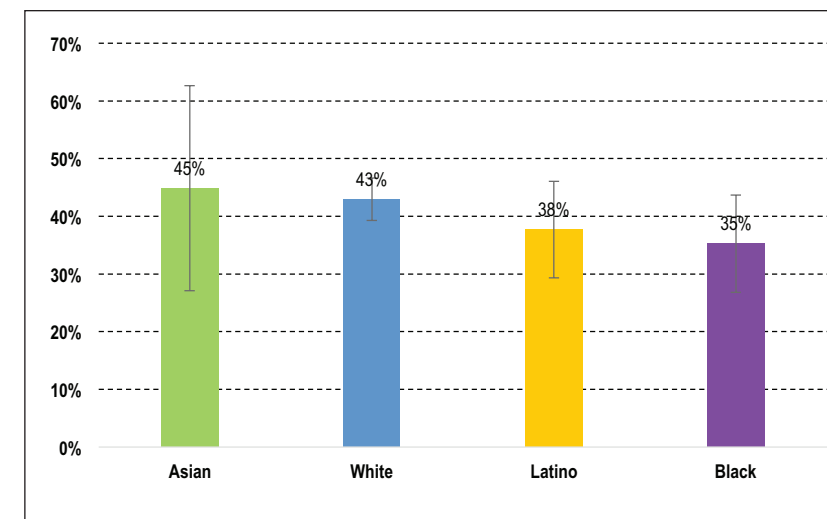
Figure 4: Median Age by Ethno-Racial Group



Source: 2013 ACS 3-Year Data - B01002

The median age of Everett's Latino population, 30.2 years, is older than the state-wide Latino median age of 26.9 years. As Figure 4 shows, however, Latinos in Everett are much younger than the city's larger white population (41.6 years). This suggests that Latinos have more families with young children and will require an investment in the education of their youth; however, these younger Latinos will contribute economically, socially, and politically in later years as an older white population ages and retires. Everett's older population will require younger residents to keep the city's neighborhoods vibrant and maintain a productive workforce, and Latinos are poised to make this contribution.

Figure 5: Marriage Rates by Ethno-Racial Group



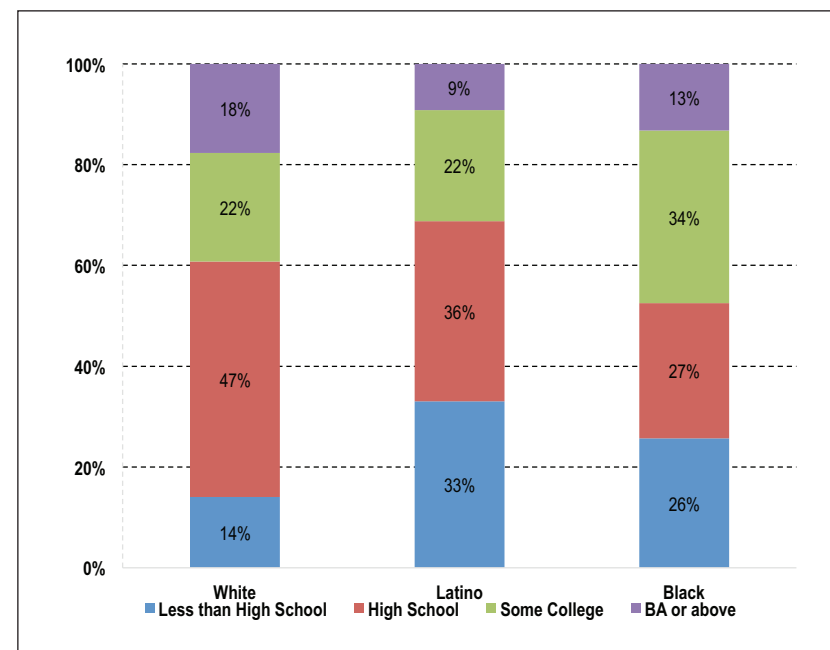
Source: 2013 ACS 5-Year Data - B12002

The marriage rate in Everett for persons 15 and over is 43%. As shown in Figure 5, the marriage rate among Latinos (38%) is higher than for blacks but lower than for whites and Asians. At the same time, the Latino marriage rate in Everett is higher than for Latinos statewide (32%).

EDUCATION

The average educational attainment in Everett is lower than in Massachusetts as a whole. Only 16% of the population age 25 and older in Everett have a bachelor's degree or higher compared to 40% statewide. As Figure 6 shows, Latinos have an especially low percentage of their population with at least a bachelor's degree: 9%, compared to 18% for whites. The statewide rate for Latinos is 17%. At the other end of the educational scale, Latinos in Everett have a higher percentage of their adult population lacking a high school diploma: 33%, compared to 14% for whites and 26% for blacks.

Figure 6: Educational Attainment by Ethno-Racial Group (Adults 25 Years and Older)

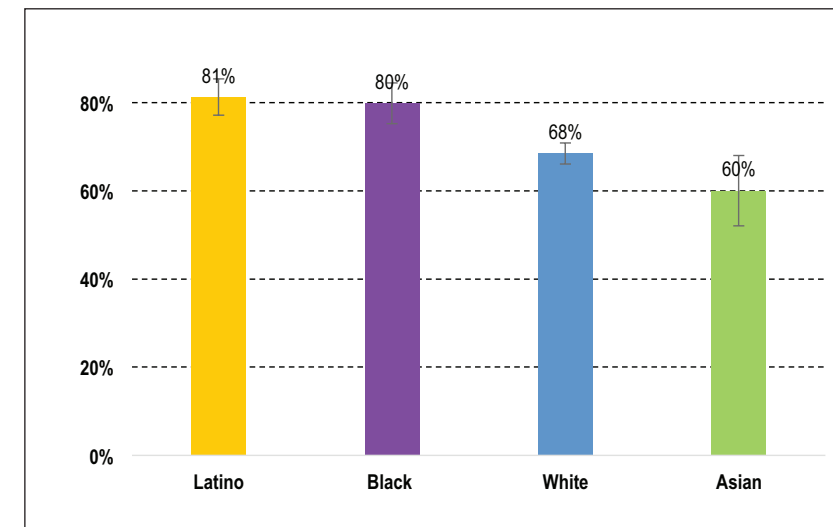


Source: 2013 3-Year ACS Data - B15002

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION

Latinos in Everett have a higher labor force participation rate (81%) than Latinos statewide (66%). Their rate in Everett is also higher than that of other ethno-racial groups in the city, as shown in Figure 7. This high Latino labor participation is somewhat surprising because of identified characteristics of a younger population (Figure 4) with lower levels of educational attainment (Figure 6).

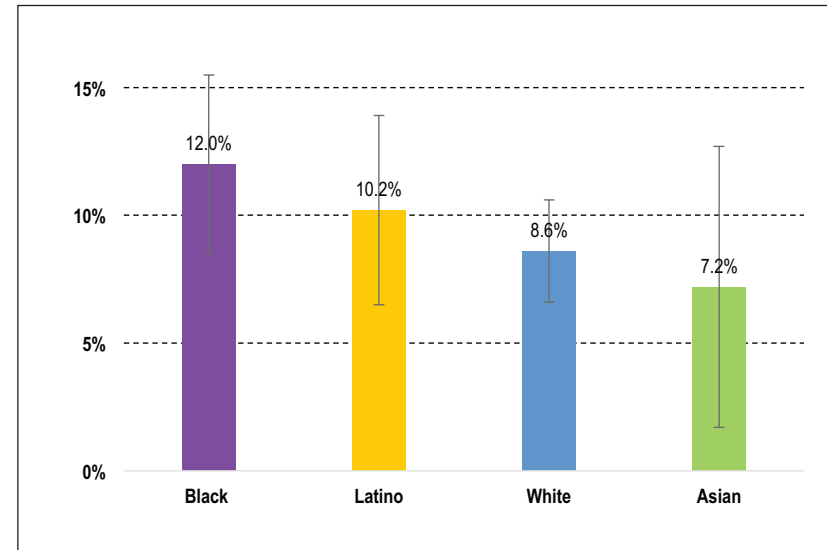
Figure 7: Labor Force Participation among Individuals 16 to 64 Years of Age by Ethno-Racial Group



Source: 2013 ACS 5-Year Data - C23002

The overall unemployment rate in Everett during this period was relatively high: 9.6% compared to the statewide unemployment rate of 7.8%. And as Figure 8 shows, the Latino unemployment rate in Everett of 10.2% is the second highest of any ethno-racial group in the city. However, Latinos in Everett who participate in the labor force fare slightly better than Latinos statewide, who during this period experienced a 13.9% unemployment rate.

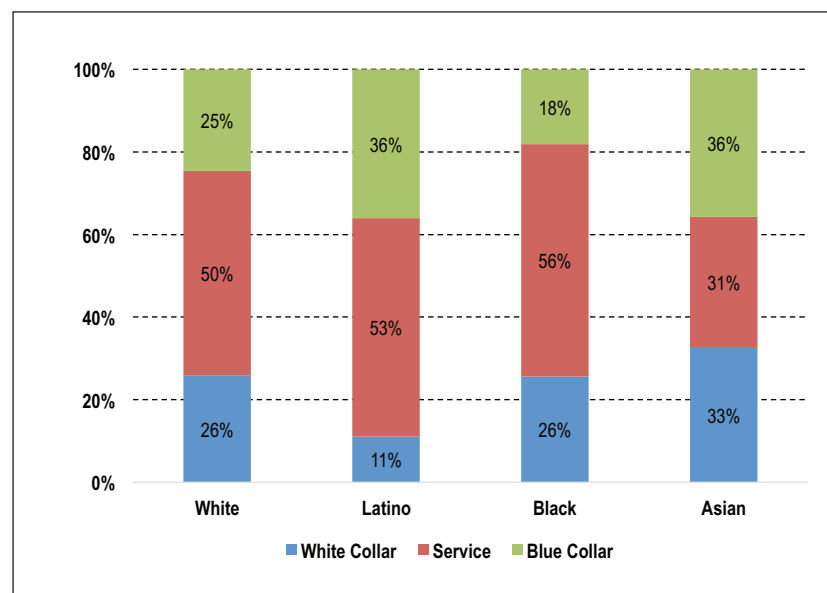
Figure 8: Unemployment Rates by Ethno-Racial Group



Source: 2013 ACS 5-Year Data - C23002

Figure 9 highlights that Latinos work in traditionally low-wage jobs. Latinos are underrepresented in what are traditionally considered white-collar jobs with only 11% working in these management, business, science, and arts occupations. Correspondingly, they are overrepresented in the service sector, with 53% working in services and sales occupations, and in what are traditionally considered blue-collar jobs, with 36% working in natural resources, construction, maintenance, production, transportation, and material moving occupations.

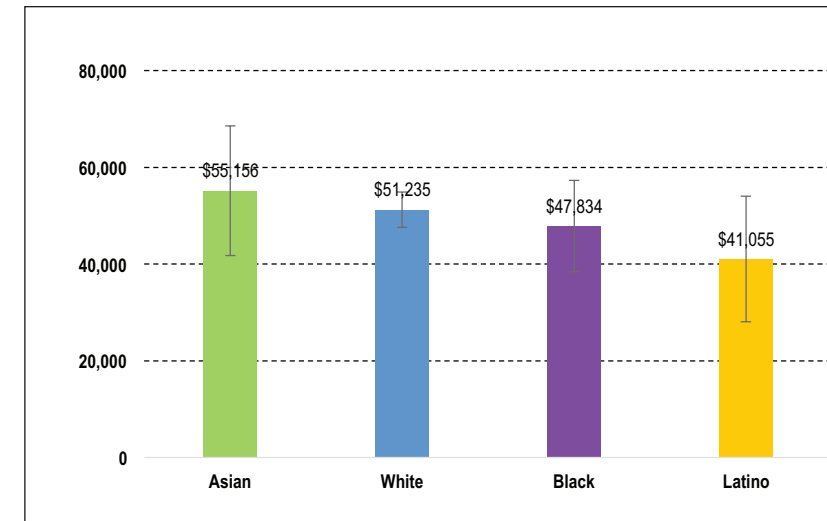
Figure 9: Population Employed by Occupational Category by Ethno-Racial Group



Source: 2013 ACS 5-Year Data - C24010

EARNINGS

Figure 10: Median Income by Ethno-Racial Group in 2013



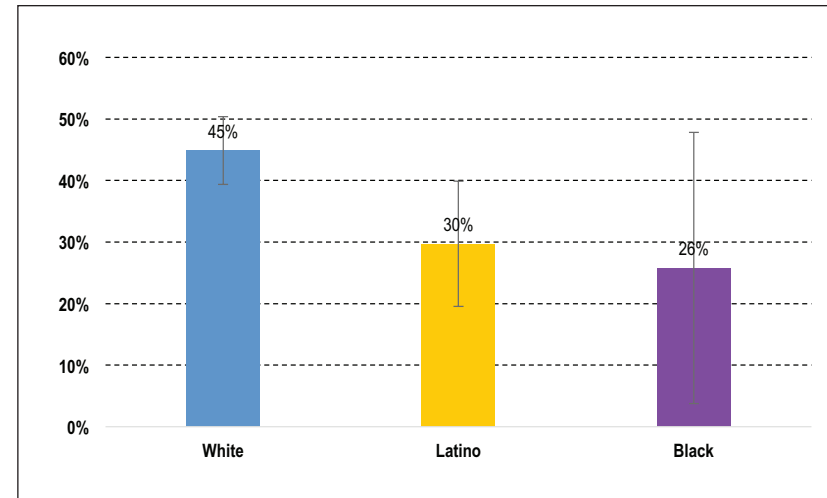
Source: 2013 ACS 5-Year Data - S1903 - B25003

Everett's median income of \$49,368 is lower than the statewide median income of \$66,135. Latinos in Figure 10 have the lowest median income \$41,055 of any ethno-racial group in the city. However, Latinos in Everett are more economically successful than Latinos in other parts of the Commonwealth, as the statewide Latino median income is \$34,726.

HOUSING STATUS AND MEDICAL UNINSURANCE

The final measures of Latino participation in Everett are intended to identify how well Latinos are being rewarded for their economic, social, and political participation. Everett has a lower homeownership rate (38%) than the statewide rate (66%) as measured by occupied housing units. Latinos in Figure 11 have the second lowest homeownership level of any ethno-racial group in the city at 28%, though this is higher than the 24% of Latinos statewide who are homeowners. As a complement to these percentages in Figure 11, it is evident that 72% of Latinos in Everett are renters.

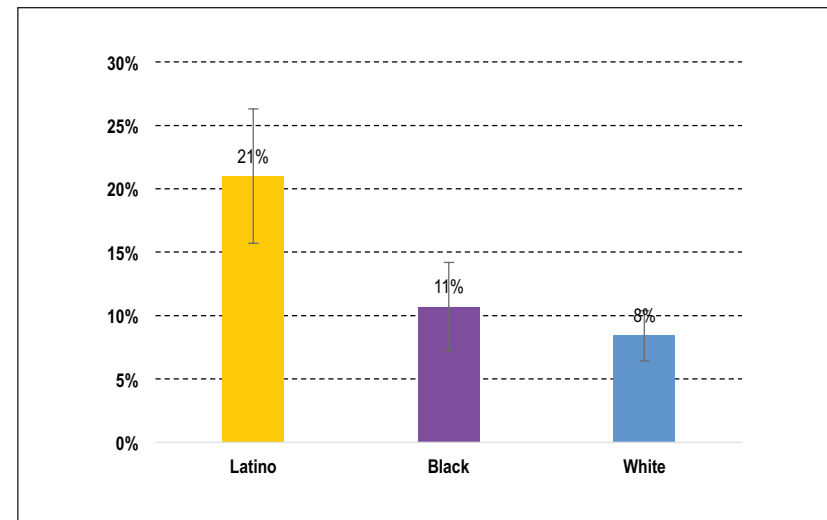
Figure 11: Homeownership Rates by Ethno-Racial Group



Source: 2013 ACS 3-Year Data - B25003

Everett has a higher rate of medical uninsurance (12%) than the statewide average of 4%. Some of this might be attributed to its high concentration of foreign-born residents, who have higher rates of uninsurance. No matter what the explanation, Figure 12 shows that Latinos have the highest rates of medical uninsurance in Everett at 21%, which is significantly higher than the statewide Latino average of 8%.

Figure 12: Medical Uninsurance by Ethno-Racial Group



Source: 2013 ACS 5-Year Data - 2701

The Mauricio Gastón Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy at the University of Massachusetts Boston conducts research on and for the Latino population in New England. Our goal is to generate the information and analysis necessary to develop more inclusive public policy and to improve Latino participation in the policy making process. In an effort to present vital information about Latinos to diverse audiences, the Gastón Institute has produced this series of demographic profiles for selected Massachusetts areas based on an analysis of American Community Survey (ACS) data.

Our descriptive analysis uses ACS data to estimate population size and characteristics in order to compare Latinos to other ethno-racial groups. Technically, these groups are designated as non-Latino whites, non-

Latino blacks, and non-Latino Asians though they are often referenced simply as “white,” “black,” and “Asian” in these profiles.

The Gastón Institute plans to update this series of demographic profiles for selected Massachusetts areas every five years upon release of American Community Survey data. A similar report series examining Latino populations at the city level is planned for the 2020 Gastón Institute public policy conference. In addition, demographic profiles highlighting Latino subgroups will be produced on an ongoing basis.

One of the goals of the Gastón Institute is to be responsive to the needs of the Latino and policy communities through the research we undertake. Please feel free to contact us with suggestions or requests for specific information.

About the Authors

Phillip Granberry is a social demographer who specializes in unauthorized immigration in the United States. He worked with various community-based organizations assisting recently arrived U.S. immigrants before earning a Ph.D. in Public Policy from the University of Massachusetts Boston. He has published several articles on the accumulation and use of social capital among Mexican migrants and the impact of welfare and immigration policy reform on Latinos in Massachusetts. In addition to teaching in the Economics Department, he is also an investigator for *Por Ahí Dicen*, a research project of the Center for Health Equity Intervention Research (CHEIR) that is evaluating the effectiveness of a Spanish language multi-media campaign in Springfield designed to increase Puerto Rican mother-child communication about sexuality and sexual health.

Mayara Fontes holds a M.A. in Applied Economics from University of Massachusetts Boston and is currently a Reporting Analyst at American Student Assistance. Her research interests include migration, health and human rights.