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Latinos in Massachusetts Selected Areas: Winthrop

by Phillip Granberry, PhD, and Trevor Mattos

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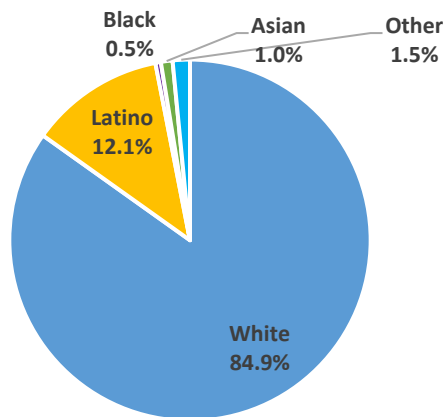
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Winthrop Overview

The Latino Population

The city of Winthrop, Massachusetts is home to 18,031 residents, of whom 2,177 are Latino, according to the 2012-2016 American Community Survey. The city is majority non-Latino white (85%), though Latinos make up the second largest ethno-racial group (12%). This share of Latinos is slightly larger than the statewide population, which is only 11%. The other ethno-racial groups make up approximately 3% of the population (Figure 1). Winthrop is geographically located in Suffolk County that is 22% Latino.

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

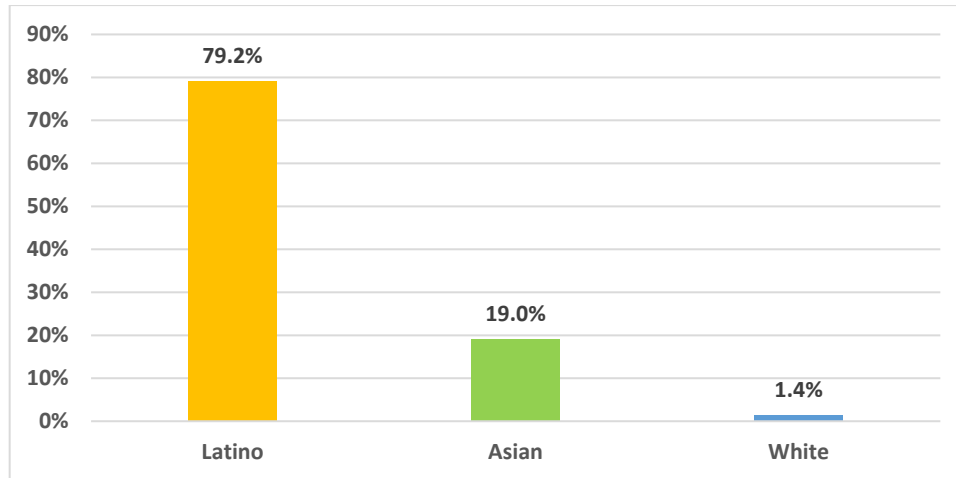


Source: 2012-2016, 5-Year American Community Survey Estimates - B03002

Between 2010 and 2016, Winthrop saw a significant increase in the size of its Latino population, from 1,215 to 2,177, representing a 79% increase (Figure 2). It appears that the larger Latino population in Suffolk County's other cities are now moving to Winthrop. Statewide, the Latino population grew by 25% during this same period. The Asian population of Winthrop grew by 19%, while the city's white population increased by 1%.

Winthrop has a larger share of its population that is foreign-born than does the Commonwealth. Winthrop is 16.6% foreign born, while Massachusetts is 15.7% foreign born. Figure 3, which breaks down the Latino population into national origins subgroups, however, includes both native-born and foreign-born Latino residents of Winthrop.

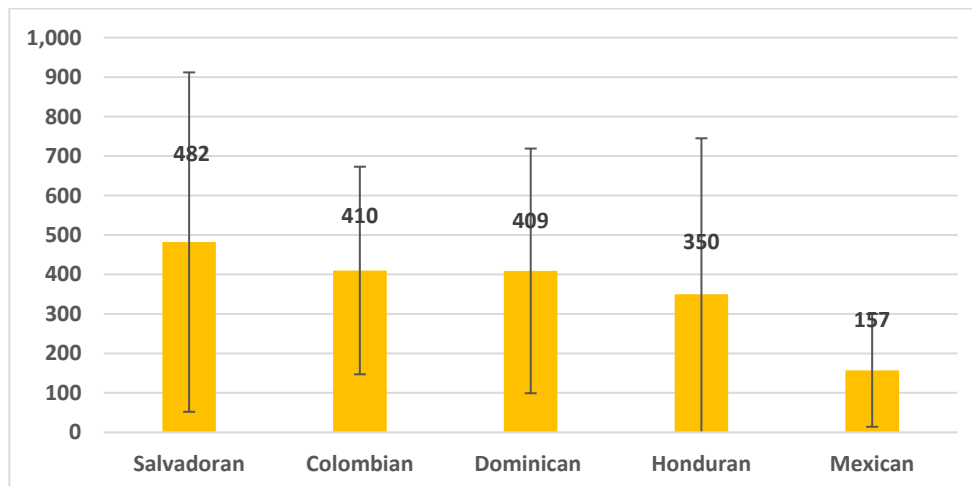
Figure 2: Population Change by Ethno-Racial Group from 2010 to 2016



Source: 2012-2016 & 2006-2010, 5-Year American Community Survey Estimates – B03002

Winthrop does not have a dominate Latino subpopulation. The largest Latino subpopulation is Salvadoran, with nearly 500 residents. Colombians, Dominicans, Hondurans, and Mexicans are the next largest Latino groups (Figure 3). Statewide, Puerto Ricans are the largest Latino group, followed by Dominicans, Salvadorans, Mexicans, and Guatemalans.

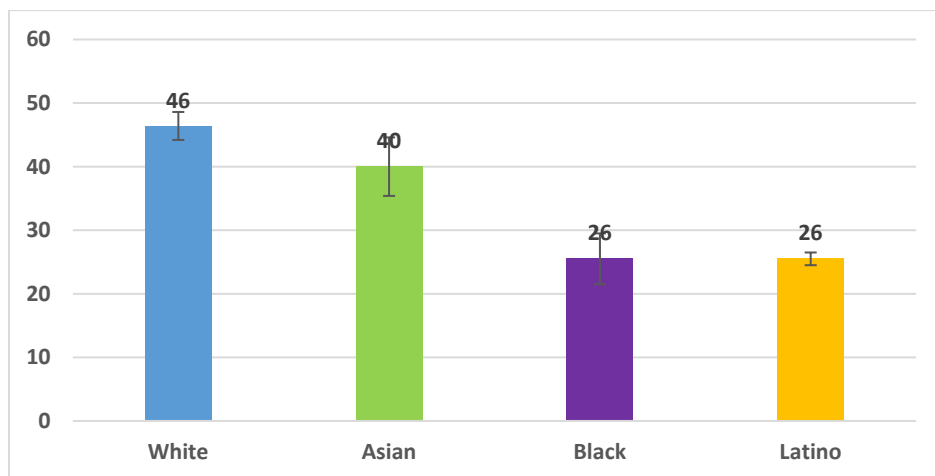
Figure 3: Origin of the Top Latino or Latino Subpopulations



Source: 2012-2016 5-Year ACS Estimates – B03001

Median Age and Marital Status

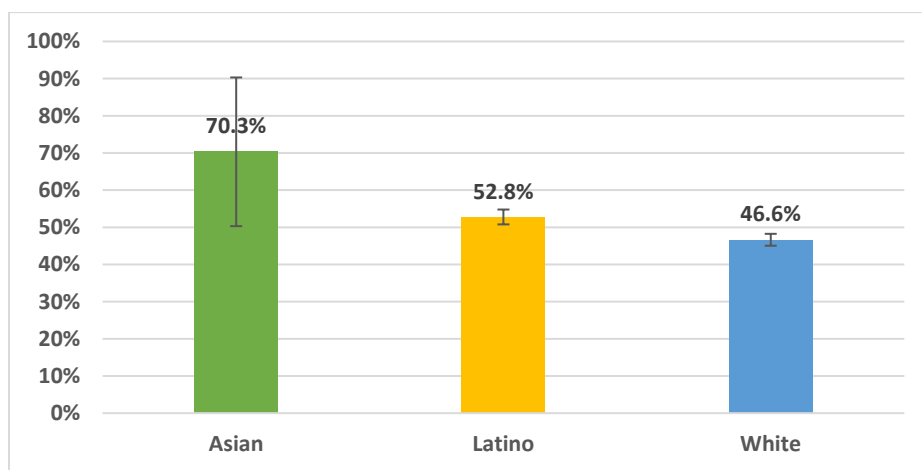
Figure 4: Median Age by Ethno-Racial Group



Source: 2012-2016, 5-Year American Community Survey Estimates – B01002

The age demographics vary significantly across the ethno-racial groups. Whites are the oldest population both statewide and in Winthrop. Their median age in Winthrop is 46 years, while that of Latinos and the smaller black population are the youngest populations, at 26 years. Across the state, the median age for Latinos is slightly older than Winthrop, at 27 years. Asians are more similar in age to whites than Latinos (Figure 4).

Figure 5: Marriage Rates by Ethno-Racial Group (Ages 15 and older)



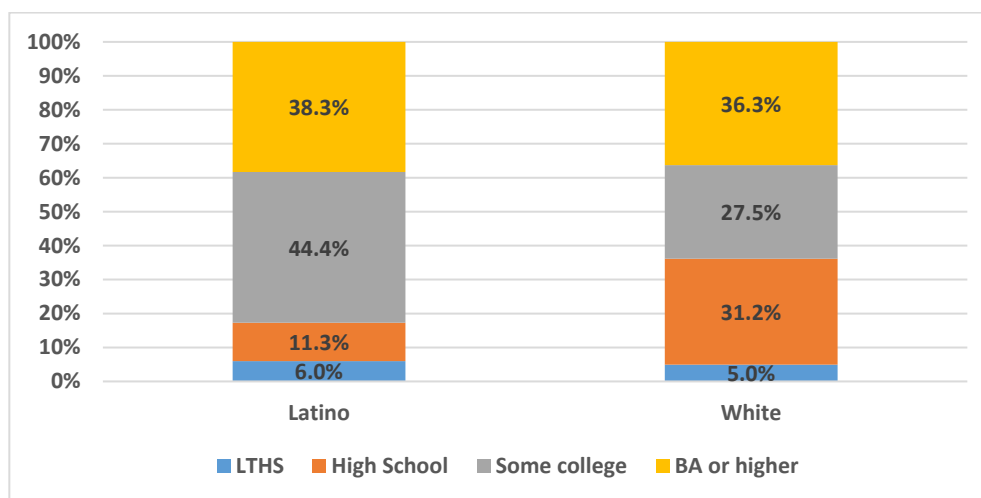
Source: 2012-2016, 5-Year American Community Survey Estimates – B12002

Marriage rates are highest among Asians and lowest among whites in Winthrop. The marriage rate for Latinos is 53%, which is significantly larger than their statewide rate of 32%. Considering their youthful population, Latino marriage rates are surprisingly high in Winthrop (Figure 5). The black marriage rate had a large margin of error and is not reported.

Education

Similar to whites, Latinos in Winthrop have increased levels of educational attainment. Only 6% of Latinos did not complete high school (LTHS), compared to 31% of Latinos statewide. On the opposite end of the spectrum, 38% of Latinos have a Bachelor's degree or higher compared to 18% of Latinos statewide. Whites have a similarly large share of their population with a Bachelor's degree or higher. Blacks and Asians are excluded because of their large margin of errors due to their small population.

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

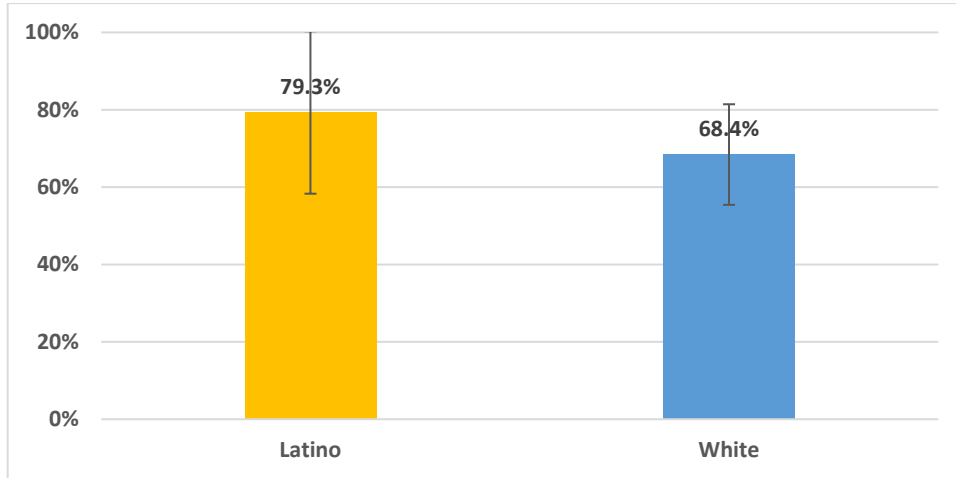


Source: 2012-2016, 5-Year American Community Survey Estimates – C15002

Labor Force Participation

Latino labor force participation (Figure 7) is much higher in Winthrop (79%) than for Latinos statewide (67%) and others in the city. Labor force participation in Winthrop is 68% among whites. The margin of errors for blacks and Asians are high, and their estimates are not reported.

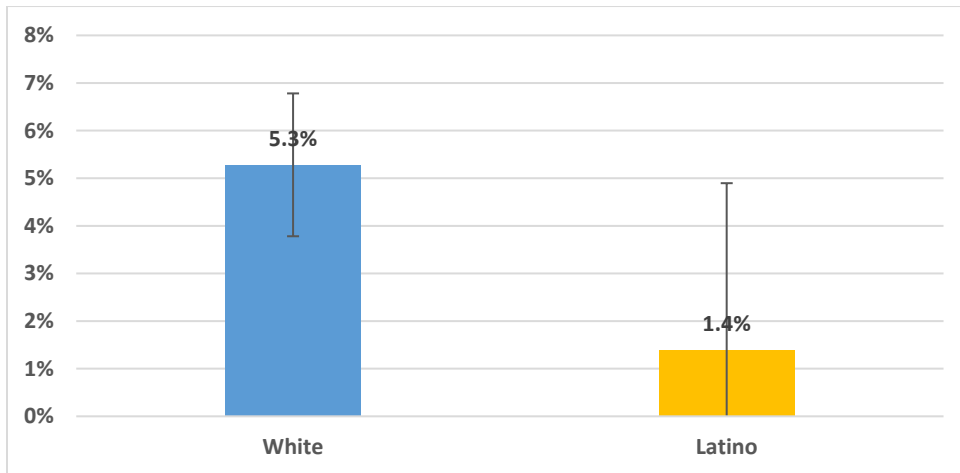
Figure 7: Labor Force Participation among Individuals 16 Years and Older by Ethno-Racial Group



Source: 2012-2016, 5-Year American Community Survey Estimates – C23002

The unemployment rate for Latinos in Winthrop, unlike in other parts of Massachusetts, is significantly lower among Latinos. This could be related to their increased levels of educational attainment. The Latino unemployment rate in Winthrop is 1.4% (Figure 8), compared to their statewide Latino rate of 11.5%. Statewide in Massachusetts during this period, unemployment was 6.8%.

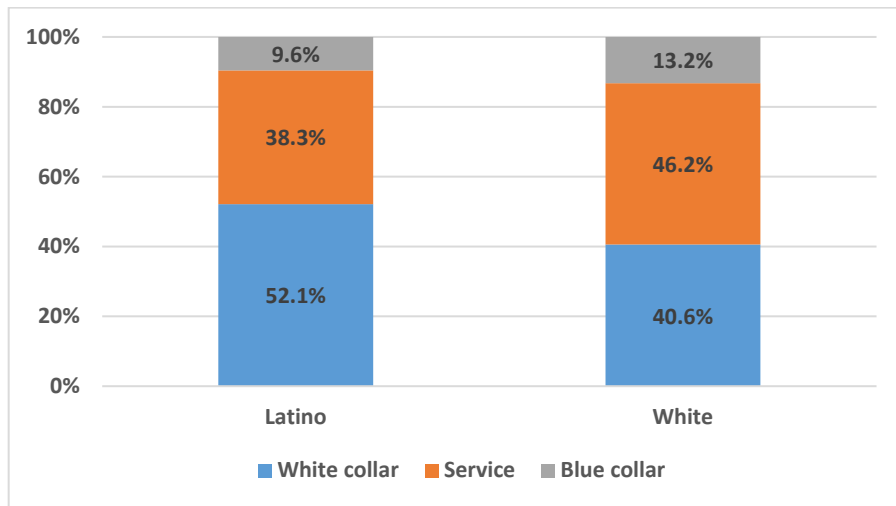
Figure 8: Unemployment Rates by Ethno-Racial Group (ages 16+)



Source: 2012-2016, 5-Year American Community Survey Estimates – C23002

Latino residents in Winthrop are more likely to work in white-collar, managerial and professional, occupations (52%). This share of the population differs significantly from the 24% of Latinos statewide who work in these white-collar positions. Again, this suggests that Latinos with increased educational attainment participate in the labor force similar to whites.

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

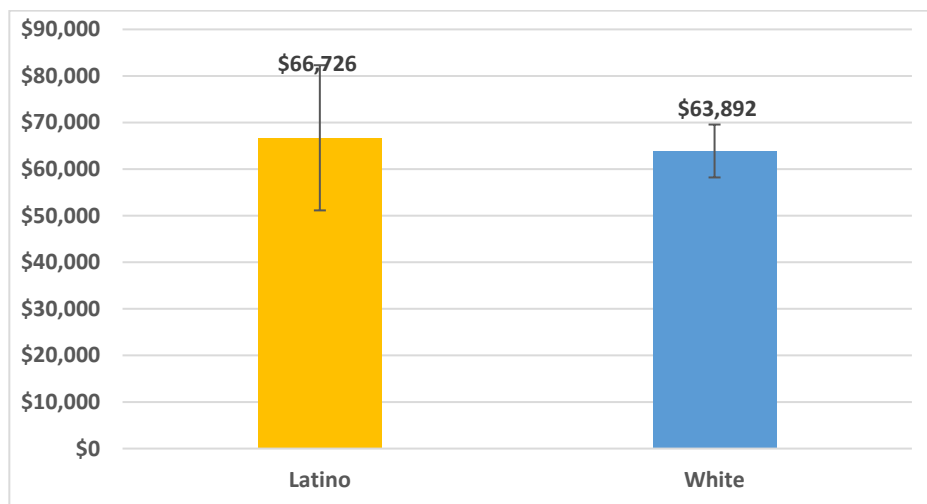


Source: 2012-2016, 5-Year American Community Survey Estimates – C24010

Income

The median household income in Winthrop is \$62,997, lower than the statewide median of \$70,945. Latino households earn \$66,726 (Figure 10). Latinos earn more in Winthrop than they do statewide. For Massachusetts, Latinos’ household income is \$37,100. Thus, the Latino population in Winthrop is having more economic success than Latinos in other regions of Massachusetts.

Figure 10: Median Household Income by Ethno-Racial Group

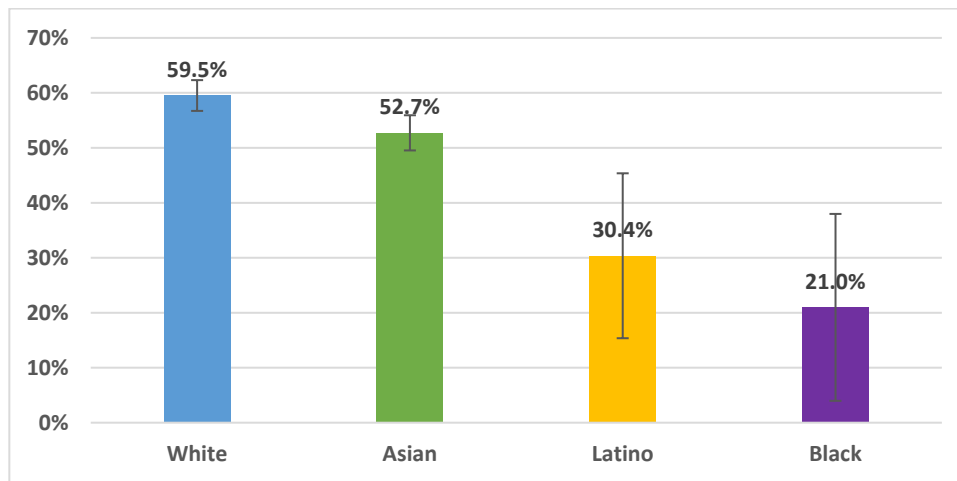


Source: 2012-2016 5-Year American Community Survey Estimates – S1903

Housing Status and Medical Uninsurance

Homeownership varies dramatically in Winthrop, where whites (60%) Asians (53%) have the highest shares of their population who are homeowners. Even with their increased median income, Latinos have a much lower share who are homeowners (30%). However, this Latino homeownership share is higher than their statewide share of 25%. Thus, if the Latino population continues to grow and experience economic success in Winthrop, homeownership could be an indicator of their ability to become more integrated into the city.

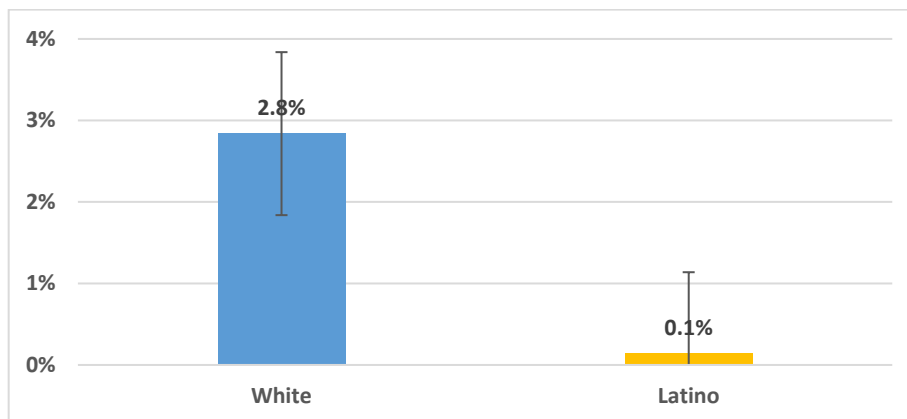
Figure 11: Homeownership Rates by Ethno-Racial Group



Source: 2012-2016, 5-Year American Community Survey Estimates - B25003

Residents in Winthrop appear to have access to medical insurance. The Latino uninsurance rate is a low .1%, much lower than the statewide Latino rate (6.3%). Lack of coverage is higher among whites, but only 2.8% do not have coverage. Blacks and Asians are excluded because of their large margin of errors due to their small population.

Figure 12: Medical Uninsurance by Ethno-Racial Group



Source: 2012-2016 5-Year American Community Survey Estimates – C27001

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 produces demographic profiles and analysis for Latino communities throughout the Commonwealth.

Our descriptive analysis uses ACS data to estimate population size and characteristics in order to compare Latinos to other ethnoracial groups. Technically, these categories are non-Latino white, Black or African American alone,

and Asian alone, though they are identified as “white,” “black”, and “Asian” in these profiles. Because these estimates contain a “margin of error,” they may vary from one year’s report to another but still fall within this “margin of error.” Only when another estimate is outside of this margin of error can we identify a population change over time. Even with the limitation of this “margin of error,” these reports use the best demographic data of Latinos in the city and towns of Massachusetts.

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. 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 Latinos and the sexual health communication of Puerto Rican mothers with their children. In addition to his research and teaching in the Gastón Institute and Economics Department at UMass Boston, he is Senior Researcher in demography for the Boston Planning and Development Agency.

Trevor Mattos holds a master of arts (M.A.) in applied economics from the University of Massachusetts Boston and a master of public policy (MPP) from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Trevor applies quantitative and qualitative research methodologies to a variety of economic and social policy issues. His current research focuses on the earnings of Latina immigrants in the United States, as well as other topics related to the economic conditions in Latinx communities.