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Latinos in Massachusetts Selected Areas: Everett

by Phillip Granberry, Ph.D., and
Vishakha Agarwal, Ph.D.

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THE MAURICIO GASTON INSTITUTE
FOR LATINO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
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Introduction

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 of at least 35,000 residents in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with a significant Latino population. Each report analyzes data from the American Community Survey (ACS) conducted annually by the U.S. Census Bureau. We obtained the data from the Census Bureau in tabular form, and we transformed these data into figures presented in this report.

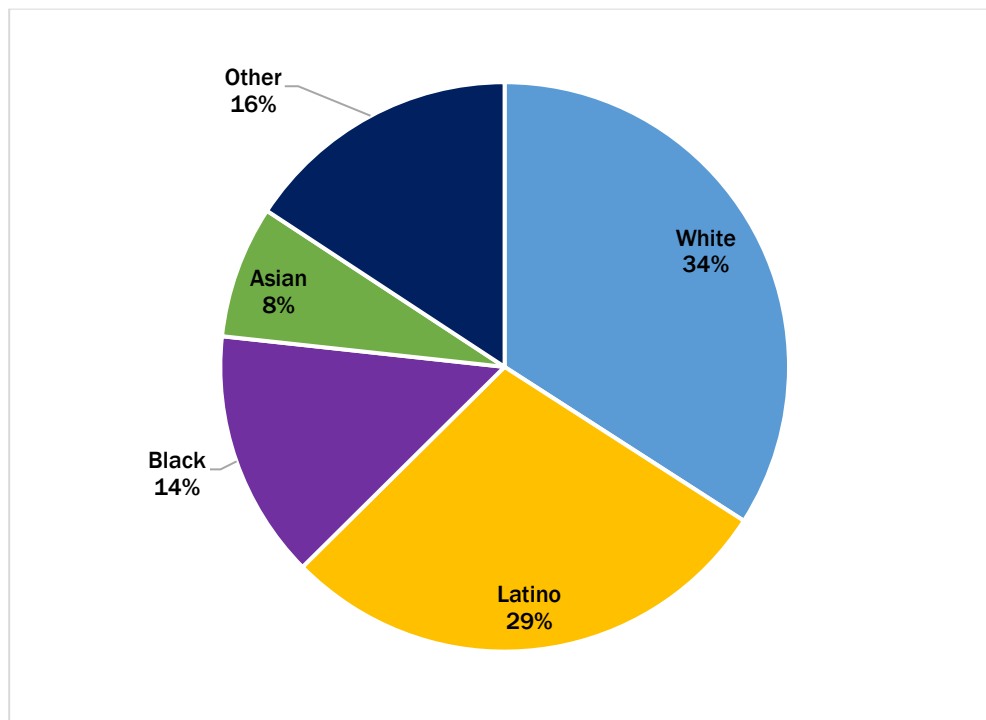
The Census Bureau identifies Latinos through a question that asks respondents to choose either “Hispanic or Latino” or “Not Hispanic or Latino.” Separately, it asks respondents to identify a race. This report uses the term “Latino” to include all those who selected “Hispanic or Latino” on the Census or ACS form, regardless of racial designation. The report compares Latinos, thus defined, to Non-Latino Whites, Blacks, and Asians, based on individuals’ racial identification. 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 Gastón Institute strives 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 Everett.

Everett Overview

With a total population of 49,075, Everett is home to an estimated 13,990 Latinos according to the 2020 Decennial Census. They represent slightly less than one-third (29%) of the city’s population, a smaller share than for Whites (34%) but greater than for Blacks (14%) and Asians (8%) (Figure 1). In addition, 4,661 foreign-born Brazilians live in Everett, and the Census classifies Brazilians in the “Other” category.

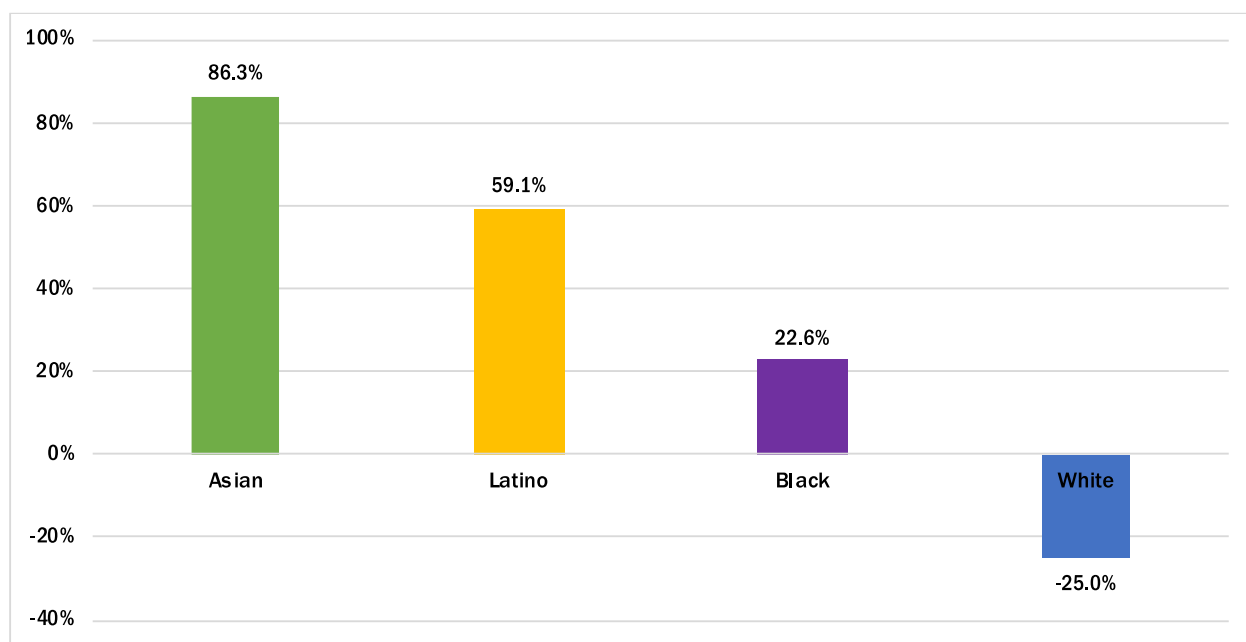
Figure 1: Population Shares by Ethno-Racial Group in Everett



Source: 2020 U.S. Census

A striking feature of Everett is its recent population growth among its non-White populations. From 2010 to 2020, Asians (86%), Latinos (59%), and Blacks (23%) experienced significant population growth in the city, while Whites experienced a 25% population decline (Figure 2). The growth of the Latino population in Everett is greater than that of Latinos statewide, who experienced an increase of 41% during this period.

Figure 2: Population Change from 2010 to 2020 by Ethno-Racial Group



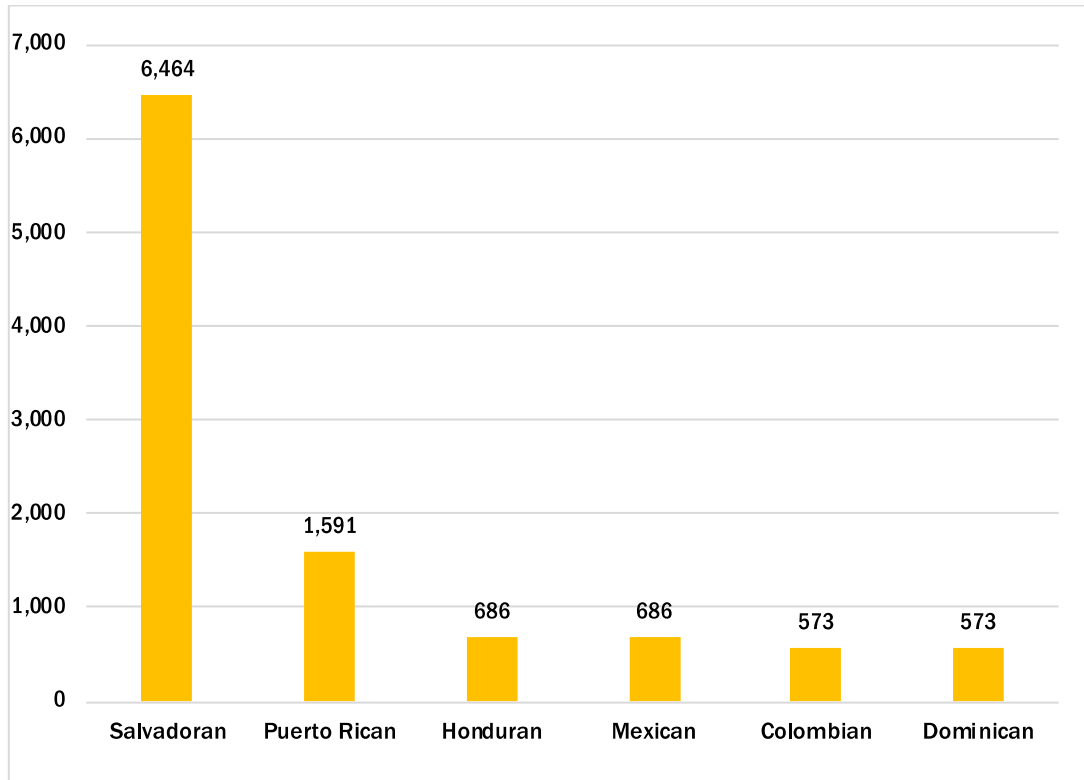
Source: 2010 & 2020 U. S. Censuses

The remainder of this profile uses 2016-2020 American Community Survey data in order to analyze the demographic and economic characteristics presented in this profile.

Everett has long been a destination for international migrants, and today it has a greater concentration of foreign-born (43%) than the Commonwealth as a whole (17%). This is especially the case among Latinos. In Everett, 53% of the Latino population is foreign-born, which is higher than the Latino statewide share (32%).

When examining the origin of Latinos in 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, Brazilians are not identified as Latino by the Census Bureau. Figure 3 reports the five largest Latino populations in Everett: Salvadorans (6,464), Puerto Ricans (1,591), Hondurans (686), Colombians (573), and Mexicans (517). The five largest Latino populations in Massachusetts statewide, in order of size, are Puerto Ricans, Dominicans, Salvadorans, Mexicans, and Guatemalans.

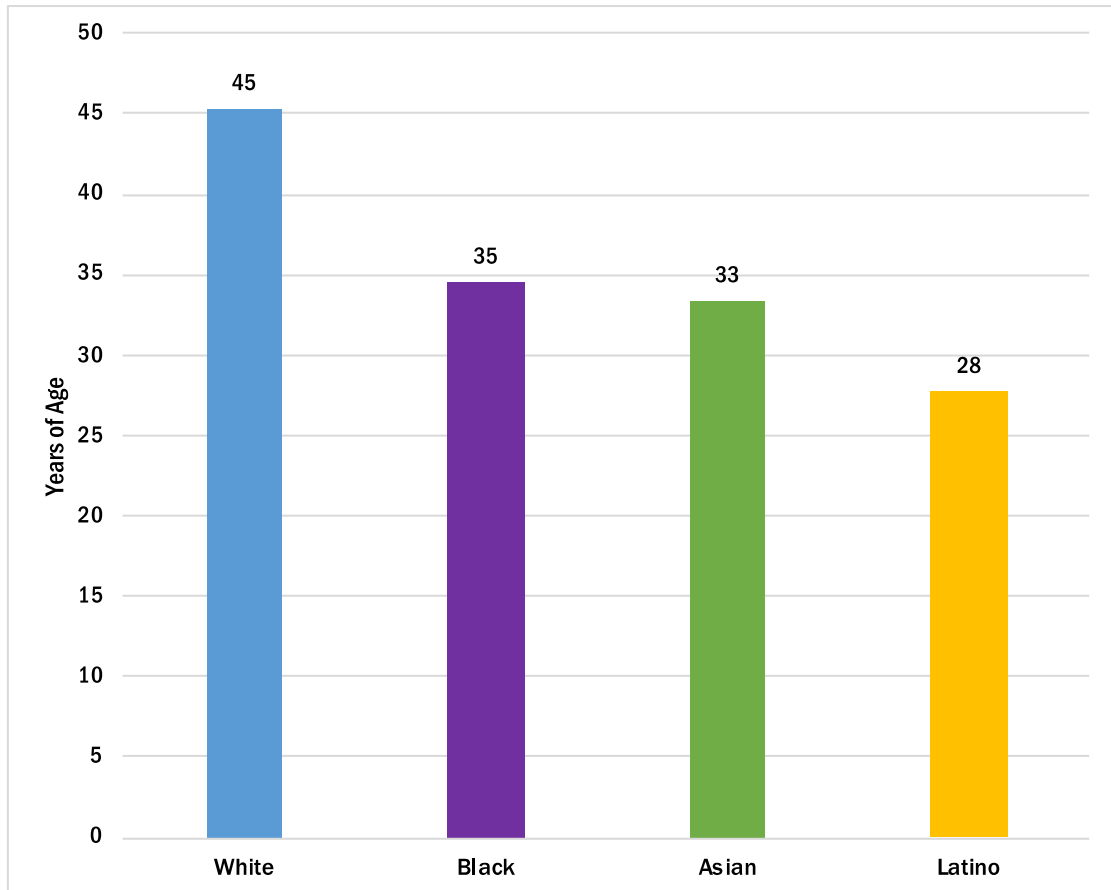
Figure 3: Origin of the Top Latino Populations



Source: 2016–2020 American Community Survey

MEDIAN AGE AND MARITAL STATUS

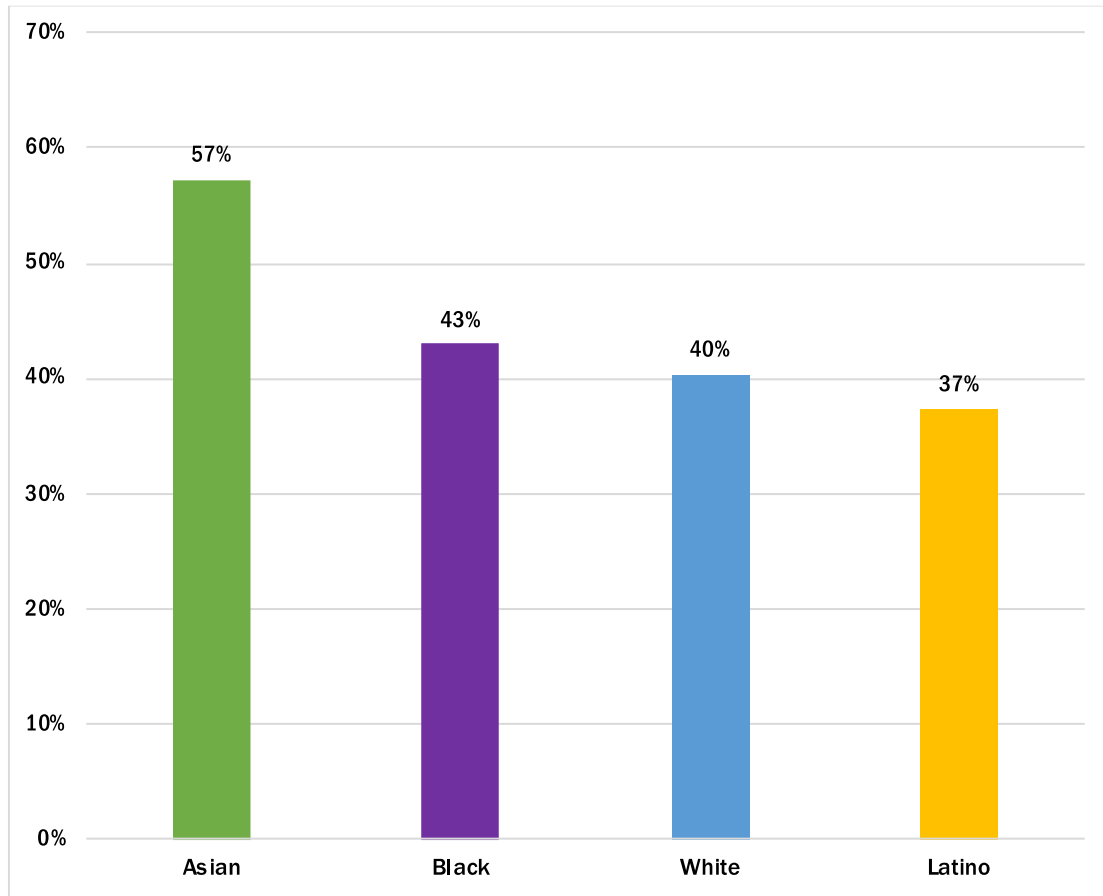
Figure 4: Median Age by Ethno-Racial Group



Source: 2016–2020 American Community Survey

The median age of Everett’s Latino population, 28 years, is slightly younger than their statewide Latino median age of 29 years. As Figure 4 shows, however, Latinos in Everett are much younger than the city’s larger White population (45 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.

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



Source: 2016–2020 American Community Survey

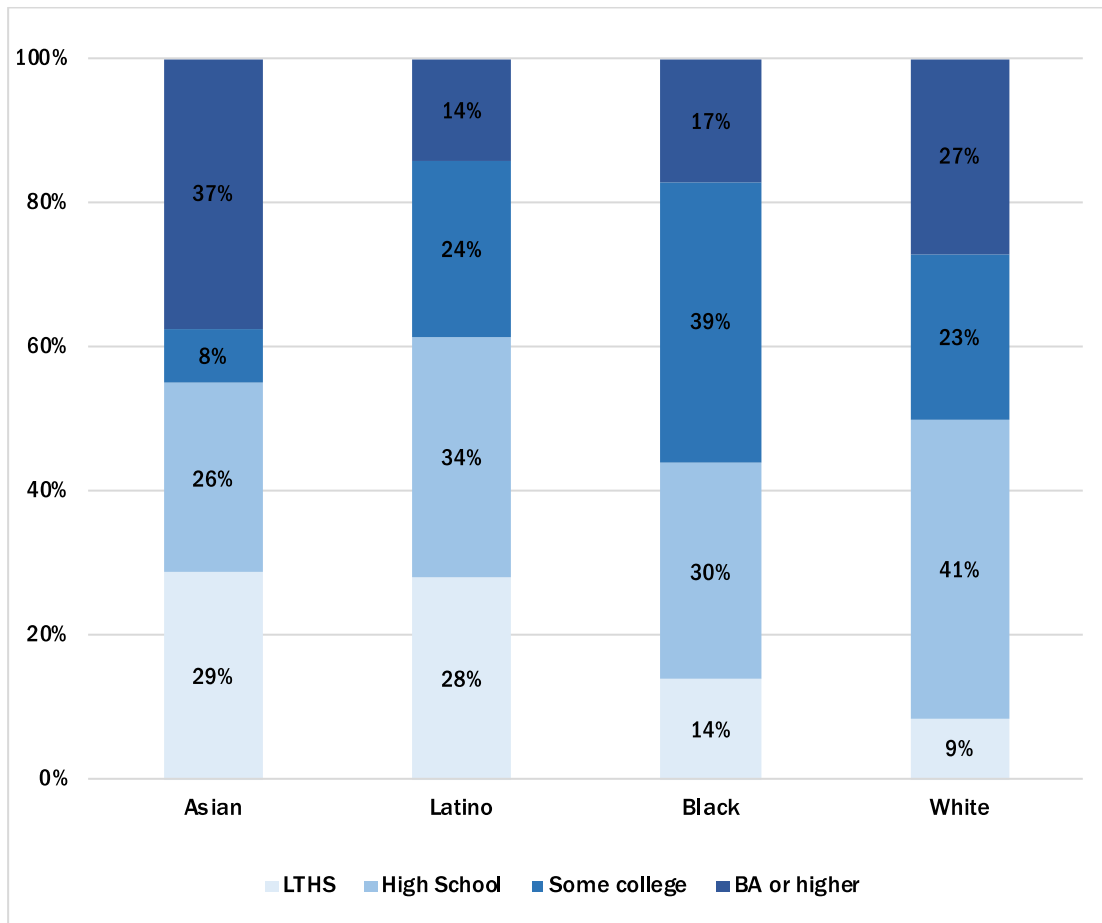
The marriage rate in Massachusetts for persons 15 and over is 48%, while the rate in Everett is 43%. As shown in Figure 5, the marriage rate among Latinos (37%) is lower than for any other ethno-racial group. At the same time, the Latino marriage rate in Everett is higher than for Latinos statewide (33%).

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

The average educational attainment in Everett is lower than in Massachusetts as a whole. Only 24% of the population age 25 and older in Everett have at least a Bachelor's degree compared to 45% statewide. As Figure 6 shows, Latinos have an especially low percentage of their population with at least a bachelor's degree: 14%, compared to 37% for Asians, 27% for Whites, and 17% for Blacks. The statewide rate for Latinos with at least a Bachelor's degree is 21%. At the other end of the educational

scale, Latinos in Everett have a higher percentage of their adult population lacking a high school diploma: 28%, compared to 9% for Whites, 14% for Blacks, and 29% for Asians.

Figure 6: Educational Attainment by Ethno-Racial Group (ages 25 and older)

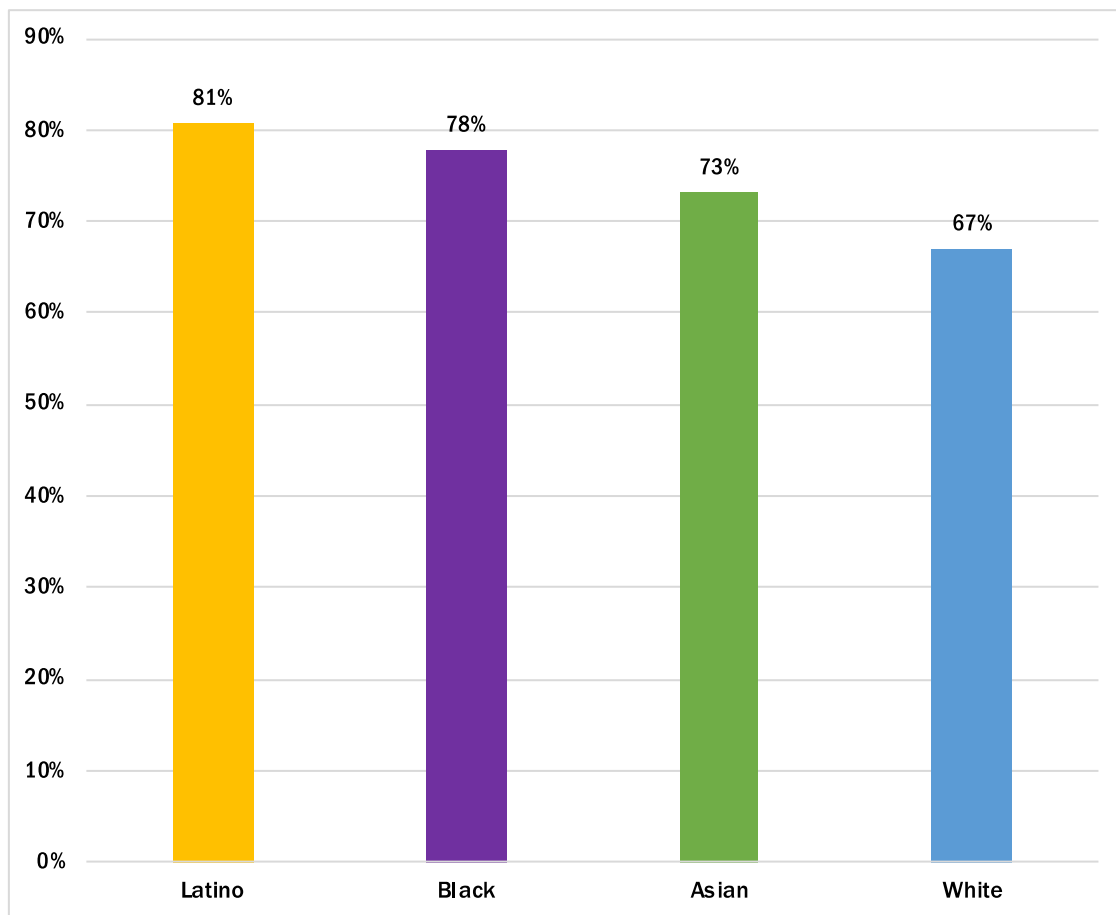


Source: 2016–2020 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION

The labor force participation rate in Everett is 73%, which is higher than in Massachusetts overall (67%). Likewise, Latinos in Everett have a higher labor force participation rate (81%) than Latinos statewide (69%). Their labor force participation rate in Everett is also higher than that of other ethno-racial groups in the city, as shown in Figure 7. Their lower educational attainment (Figure 6) does not appear to hinder their labor force participation.

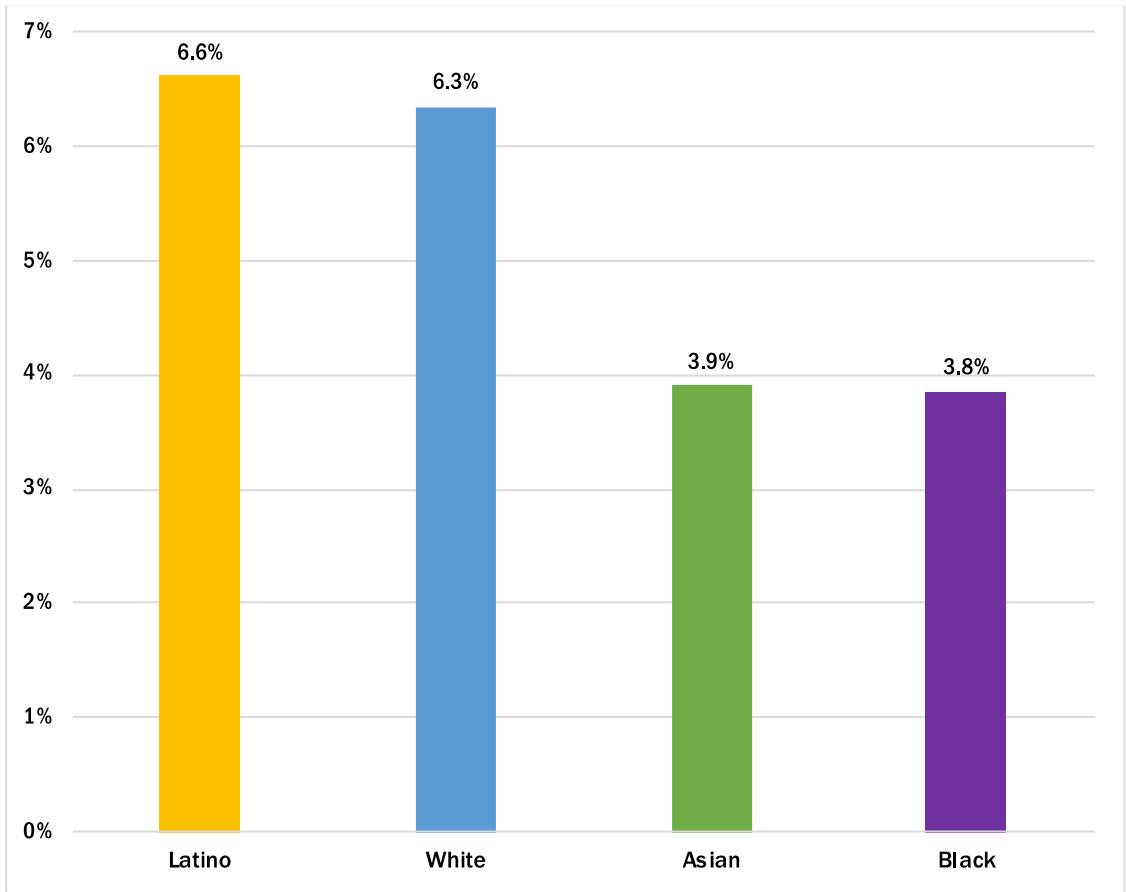
Figure 7: Labor Force Participation by Ethno-Racial Group (ages 16 and older)



Source: 2016–2020 American Community Survey

The overall unemployment rate in Everett during this period was 4.1% compared to the statewide unemployment rate of 3.4%. And as Figure 8 shows, the Latino unemployment rate in Everett of 6.6 % is the 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 an 8.3% unemployment rate.

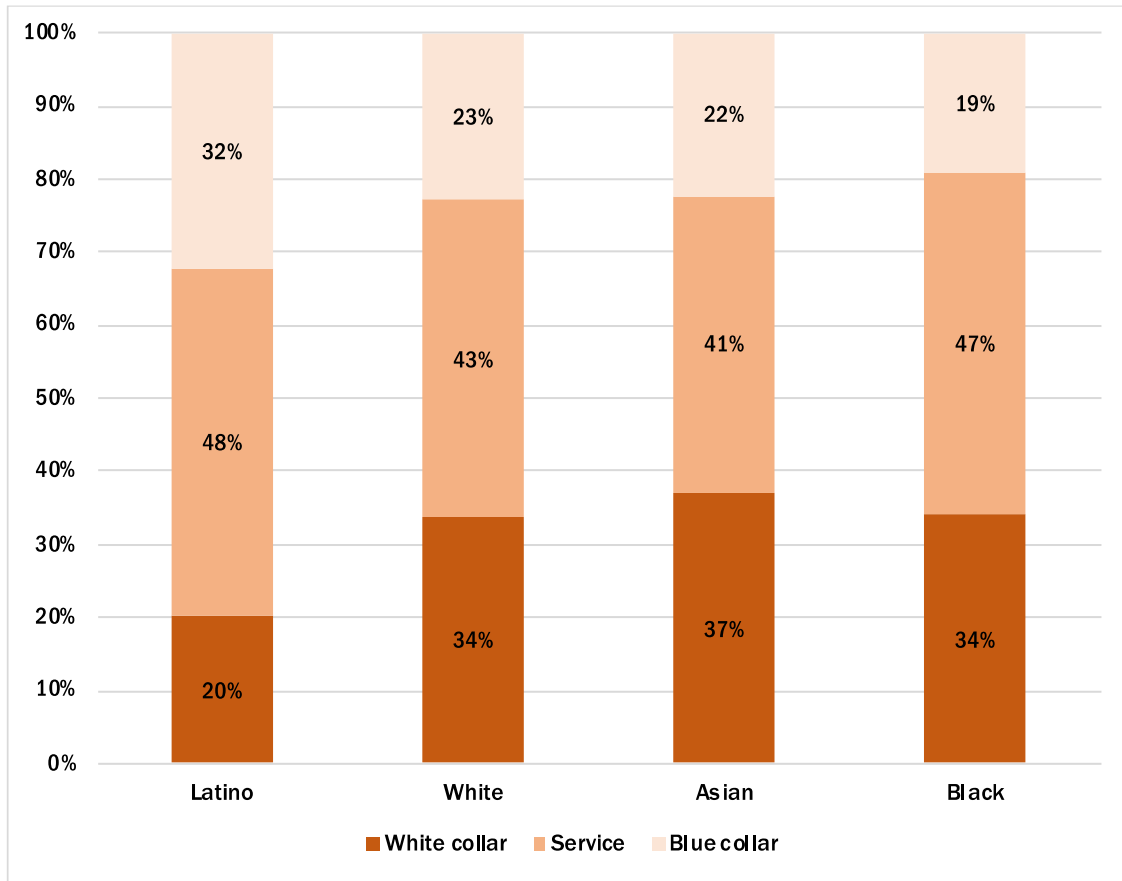
Figure 8: Unemployment Rates by Ethno-Racial Group (ages 16 and older)



Source: 2016–2020 American Community Survey

Figure 9 highlights that Latinos work disproportionately in the service sector. Latinos in Everett are underrepresented in what are traditionally considered white-collar jobs with only 20% working in these management, business, science, and arts occupations. Correspondingly, they are overrepresented in the service sector (48% work in services and sales occupations) and in what are traditionally considered blue-collar jobs (32% working in natural resources, construction, maintenance, production, transportation, and material moving occupations). For Latinos across the state, this distribution is 28% white-collar, 47% service, and 47% blue-collar.

Figure 9: Population Employed by Occupational Categories by Ethno-Racial Group (ages 16 and older)

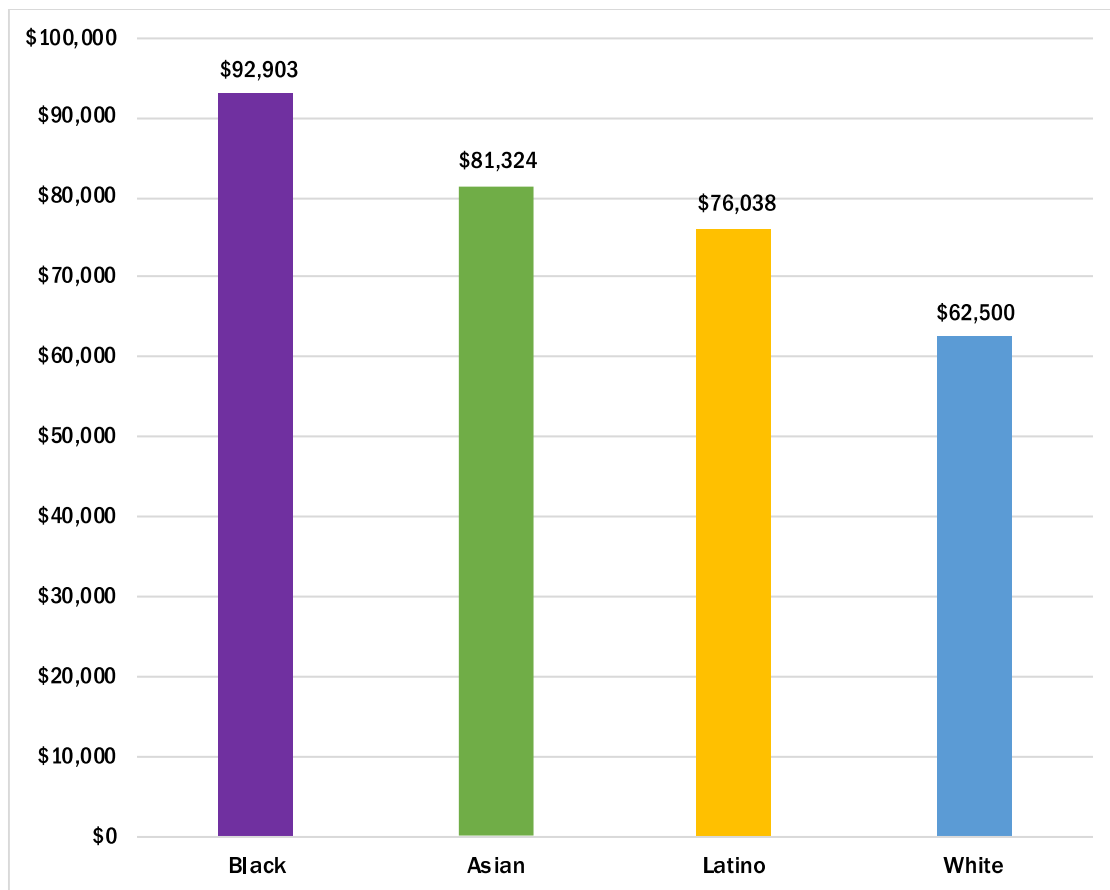


Source: 2016–2020 American Community Survey

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Everett’s median household income of \$70,627 is lower than the statewide median income of \$84,385. Everett has a highly unusual ethno-racial breakdown in this regard, as shown by Figure 10, with Blacks having the highest median household income and Whites the lowest. Latinos’ median (\$76,038) is in-between. However, Latinos in Everett are more economically successful than Latinos in other parts of the Commonwealth, as the statewide Latino median household income is \$48,450.

Figure 10: Median Household Income by Ethno-Racial Group in 2020

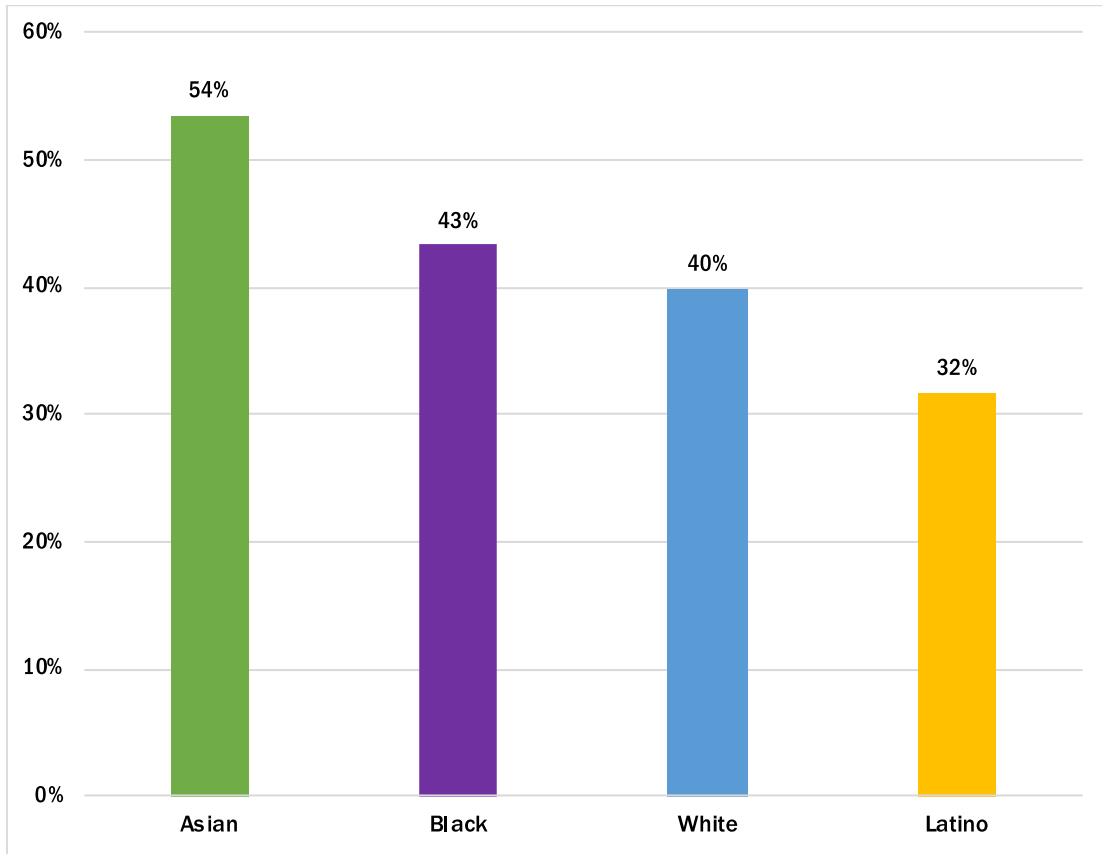


Source: 2016–2020 American Community Survey

HOUSING OCCUPANCY 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 (39%) than the statewide rate (63%) as measured by occupied housing units. Latinos have the lowest homeownership level of any ethno-racial group in the city at 32%, though this is higher than the 28% of Latinos statewide who are homeowners (Figure 11).

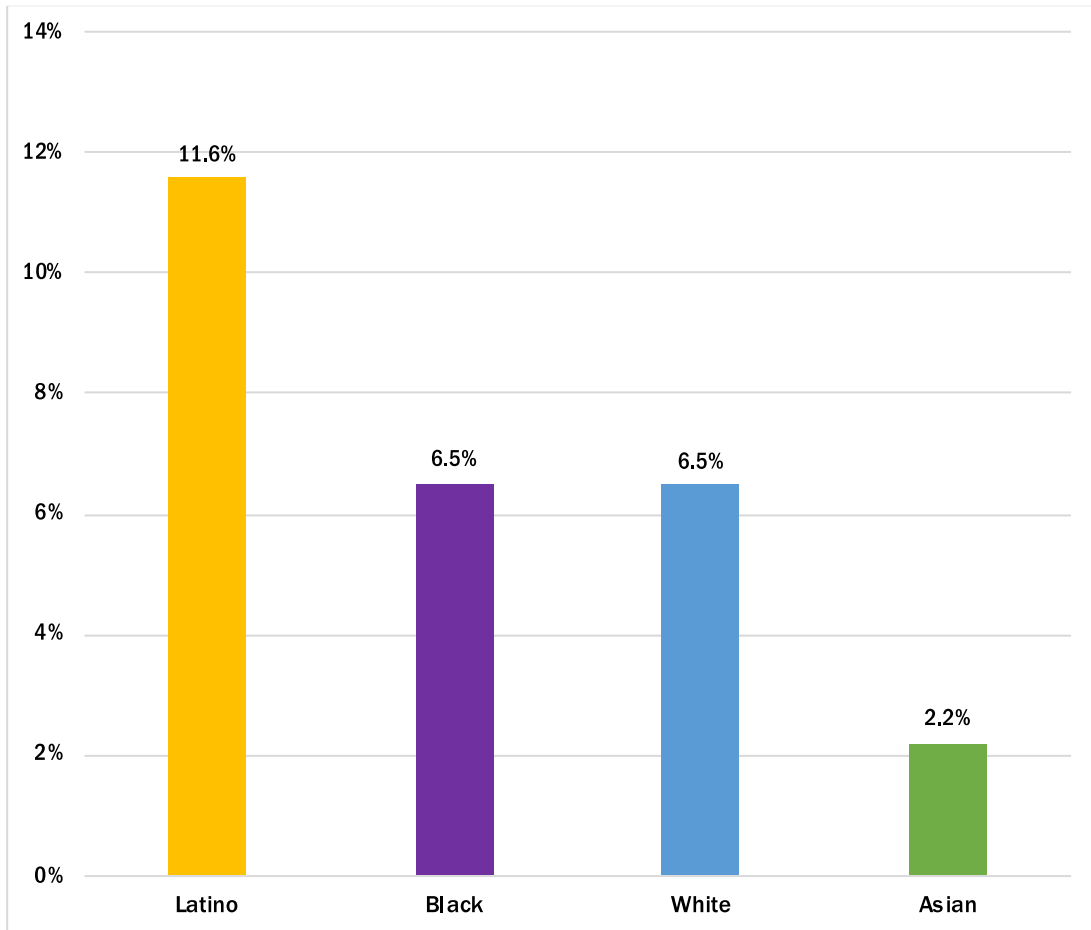
Figure 11: Homeownership Rates by Ethno-Racial Group



Source: 2016–2020 American Community Survey

Everett has a higher rate of medical uninsurance (7%) than the statewide average of 3%. Some of this might be attributed to its higher concentration of foreign-born residents, who have the highest rates of uninsurance. No matter what the explanation, Figure 12 shows that Latinos have the highest rate of medical uninsurance in Everett at 12%, which is higher than the rate for Latinos statewide (6%).

Figure 12: Medical Uninsurance by Ethno-Racial Group



Source: 2016–2020 American Community Survey

About the Gastón Institute

Established in 1989, the Mauricio Gastón Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy was created by the Massachusetts Legislature in response to a need for improved understanding about the Latino experience in the commonwealth. Now in its 30th year, the Gastón Institute continues its mission of informing the public and policymakers about issues vital to the state's growing Latino community and providing information and analysis necessary for effective Latino participation in public policy development. To learn more about the Gastón Institute, visit www.umb.edu/gastoninstitute.

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 worked with various community-based organizations assisting recently arrived U.S. immigrants before earning a Ph.D. in Public Policy from UMass 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.

Vishakha Agarwal recently earned a Ph.D. in Public Policy from the McCormack Graduate School at UMass Boston. Vishakha's research focuses on students' everyday classroom experiences, violent school discipline, and student engagement. Her dissertation takes an ethnographic approach and examines how interactions between teachers and students and among peers impacts students' learning outcomes and, shapes their perceptions of self and sense of school belonging.



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