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## Latinos in Massachusetts

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# Latinos in Massachusetts

## Poverty, Income, Education, Employment, and Housing

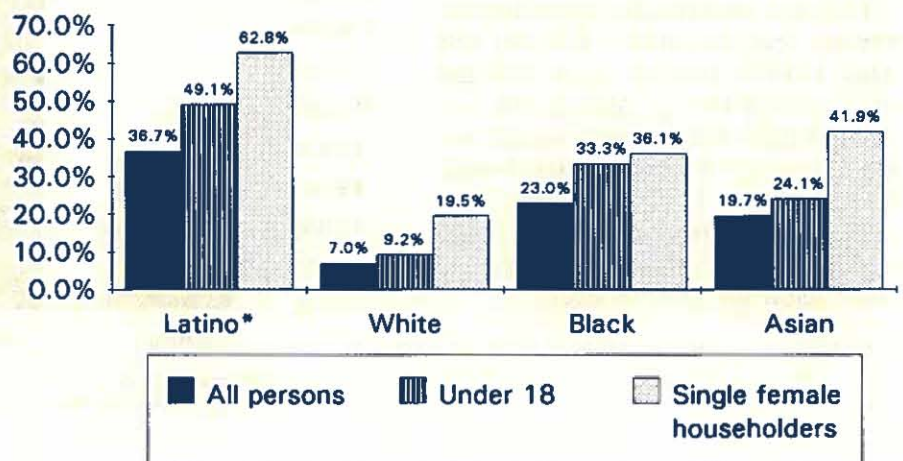
Part two of a series of profiles of Latinos in Massachusetts completed with support from The Boston Foundation

The Mauricio Gastón Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy was established at the University of Massachusetts Boston in December of 1989. The creation of the Gastón Institute responds to the need for better understanding of the experience and conditions of life of Latinos in the Commonwealth. Its purpose is to conduct research about the Latino population in Massachusetts and to develop the kind of information and analysis necessary for the development of sound public policy and for the effective participation of the Latino population in public policy development in the Commonwealth. In an effort to facilitate the access to vital information about Latinos to various audiences, and with support from the Boston Foundation, the Gastón Institute has produced a series of basic demographic profiles for selected cities in the Commonwealth based on the 1990 U.S. Census of Population and Housing (Massachusetts Summary Tape File 3A, produced by the U.S. Bureau of the Census). These profiles are but one part of a broader initiative to disseminate the 1990 U.S. Census and to address other relevant aspects of the social and economic situation of Latinos in the Commonwealth.



Latinos had the largest proportion of persons with income below the poverty level, 36.7%. The poverty rate for Latinos is five times that of whites (7.0%) and higher than the rate for blacks (23.0%) and Asians (19.7%). Of those Latinos under the age of 18, almost half had income below the poverty level. In particular, the rate of poverty was greatest among those Latino children under 11 years of age.

**Massachusetts: Select Poverty Rates by Race and Ethnicity in 1989**



Universe: Persons for whom poverty status is determined and families headed by single females  
\*Latino may be of any race

**Massachusetts: Poverty Status by Age and Race and Ethnicity in 1989**

Persons Below Poverty	Latino *	Poverty Rate	Total**	Poverty Rate	White	Poverty Rate	Black	Poverty Rate	Asian	Poverty Rate
Total below poverty level	97,337	36.7%	519,339	8.9%	365,668	7.0%	65,148	23.0%	25,903	19.7%
Under 5 years	16,942	52.0%	58,986	14.5%	34,525	10.0%	10,343	36.5%	2,978	25.9%
5 years	2,999	52.4%	11,649	14.8%	7,244	10.7%	1,748	35.2%	662	25.4%
6 to 11 years	16,745	50.4%	60,386	13.8%	36,490	9.8%	9,571	33.4%	3,461	25.2%
12 to 17 years	12,959	43.9%	45,200	11.0%	26,870	7.6%	7,885	29.6%	2,229	20.6%
18 to 64 years	45,889	29.3%	270,795	7.3%	193,963	5.8%	32,419	18.3%	15,358	17.6%
65 to 74 years	1,238	24.5%	33,139	7.3%	29,370	6.7%	2,052	17.1%	820	20.9%
75 years and over	565	21.3%	39,184	12.6%	37,206	12.3%	1,130	19.0%	395	22.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>265,417</b>		<b>5,812,415</b>		<b>5,236,579</b>		<b>283,267</b>		<b>131,685</b>	

Universe: Persons for whom poverty is determined  
\*Latino may be of any race  
\*\*Total includes Native Americans and Other Races

The Mauricio Gastón Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy, University of Massachusetts, 100 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125

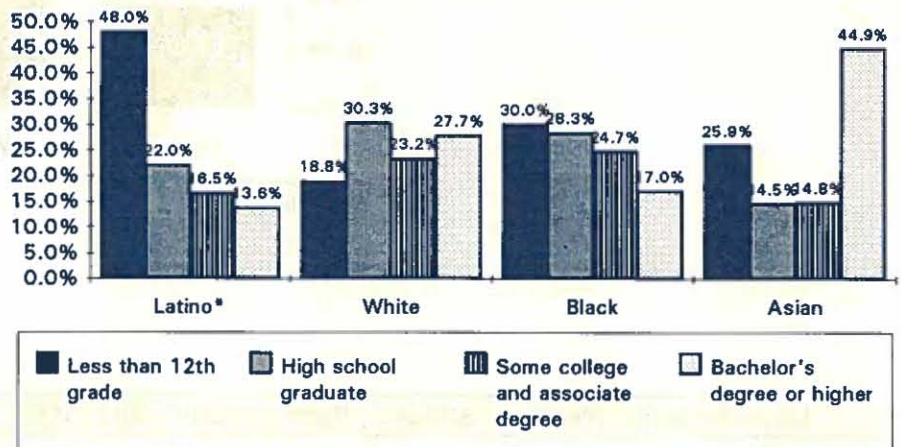


In 1990, 48.0% of the Latinos in the state of Massachusetts had not received a high school diploma. This proportion was higher than any other race or ethnic group. At higher levels of education, 16.5% of Latinos attended some college or received an associate degree. However, only 13.6% received a bachelor's or a professional or graduate degree. Overall, the educational attainment of the Latino population lagged the other race or ethnic groups.



### Massachusetts: Educational Attainment by Race and Ethnicity in 1990

Educational Attainment	Latino*	Total**	White	Black	Asian
Less than 9th grade	35,529	317,943	266,299	17,047	13,014
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	26,324	474,714	417,689	32,569	7,144
High school graduate	28,315	1,178,509	1,102,072	46,808	11,302
Some college, no degree	15,524	624,944	578,409	29,856	7,315
Associate degree	5,762	287,114	268,396	10,961	4,176
Bachelor's degree	10,017	657,161	619,656	17,304	16,210
Graduate or professional	7,505	421,838	389,814	10,781	18,728
<b>Total</b>	<b>128,976</b>	<b>3,962,223</b>	<b>3,642,335</b>	<b>165,326</b>	<b>77,889</b>



Universe: Persons 25 years old and over  
 \*Latino may be of any race  
 \*\*Total includes Native Americans and Other Races

### Massachusetts: Employment Status by Race and Ethnicity in 1990

Persons	Latino*	Total**	White	Black	Asian
<b>Male</b>	<b>87,789</b>	<b>2,268,095</b>	<b>2,062,750</b>	<b>101,643</b>	<b>51,870</b>
Employed	53,638	1,585,698	1,459,618	60,796	35,169
Unemployed	9,299	129,269	110,479	10,746	2,382
Armed forces	631	14,092	11,975	1,573	185
Not in labor force	24,221	539,036	480,678	28,528	14,134
Participation Rate	71.7%	75.6%	76.1%	70.4%	72.4%
Unemployment Rat	14.6%	7.5%	7.0%	14.7%	6.3%
<b>Female</b>	<b>94,401</b>	<b>2,541,677</b>	<b>2,318,146</b>	<b>113,530</b>	<b>53,215</b>
Employed	42,103	1,442,252	1,325,871	63,435	29,006
Unemployed	7,902	88,731	74,455	7,558	1,995
Armed forces	82	1,821	1,413	273	79
Not in labor force	44,314	1,008,873	916,407	42,264	22,135
Participation Rate	53.0%	60.2%	60.4%	62.5%	58.3%
Unemployment Rat	15.8%	5.8%	5.3%	10.6%	6.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>182,190</b>	<b>4,809,772</b>	<b>4,380,896</b>	<b>215,173</b>	<b>105,085</b>
Employed	95,741	3,027,950	2,785,489	124,231	64,175
Unemployed	17,201	218,000	184,934	18,304	4,377
Armed forces	713	15,913	13,388	1,846	264
Not in labor force	68,535	1,547,909	1,397,085	70,792	36,269
Participation Rate	62.0%	67.5%	67.8%	66.2%	65.2%
Unemployment Rat	15.1%	6.7%	6.2%	12.7%	6.4%

Universe: Persons 16 years and over  
 \*Latino may be of any race  
 \*\*Total includes Native Americans and Other Races



In 1990, Latinos constituted 3.5% of the Massachusetts labor force (employed plus unemployed). Of the 112,942 Latinos in the labor force, 50,005 were females and 62,937 were males. The labor force participation rate for Latino men in 1990 was 71.7%, slightly lower than any other group (except for blacks). However, their unemployment rate was 14.6%; this proportion is slightly lower than black men (14.7%) but higher than white men (7.0%) and Asian men (6.3%). Latinas, on the other hand, had the lowest participation rate, 53.0%, and the highest unemployment rate, 15.8%, of all women.



### Massachusetts: Poverty Status by Family Type, by Race and Ethnicity, with Presence and Age of Children, 1989

Families	Latino *	Poverty rate	Total**	Poverty rate	White	Poverty rate	Black	Poverty rate	Asian	Poverty rate
Income below poverty level	22,162	35.7%	102,748	6.7%	69,485	5.0%	14,034	20.6%	4,485	15.6%
Married-couple family:	4,322	14.1%	33,028	2.8%	25,455	2.3%	2,155	6.8%	2,646	11.4%
With related children under 18 years	3,583	16.9%	18,909	3.4%	12,865	2.5%	1,667	8.7%	2,058	13.4%
No related children under 18 years	739	7.8%	14,119	2.2%	12,590	2.1%	488	3.9%	588	7.5%
Male householder, no wife present:	1,192	24.5%	4,956	7.4%	3,119	5.4%	649	12.6%	335	18.1%
With related children under 18 years	834	30.7%	3,056	12.6%	1,827	9.5%	386	14.8%	260	34.1%
No related children under 18 years	358	16.6%	1,900	4.4%	1,292	3.4%	263	10.3%	75	6.9%
Female householder, no husband present:	16,648	62.8%	64,764	24.7%	40,911	19.5%	11,230	36.1%	1,504	41.9%
With related children under 18 years	16,001	68.5%	59,636	39.4%	37,133	33.9%	10,397	43.9%	1,334	53.9%
No related children under 18 years	647	20.5%	5,128	4.6%	3,778	3.8%	833	11.2%	170	15.2%
<b>Total Families</b>	<b>62,105</b>		<b>1,525,198</b>		<b>1,390,109</b>		<b>68,136</b>		<b>28,734</b>	

Universe: Families

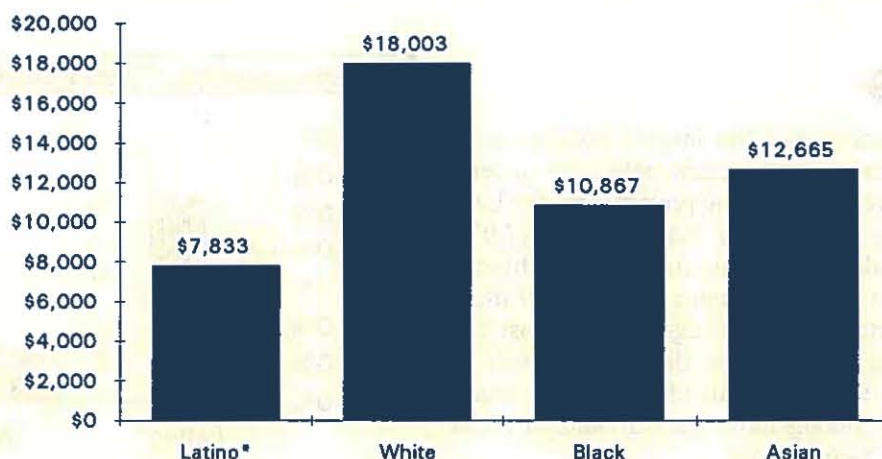
\*Latino may be of any race

\*\*Total includes Native Americans and Other Races



Among Latino families, 35.7% had incomes below the poverty level in 1989, seven times greater than white families (5.0%), and substantially higher than the poverty level for blacks (20.6%) and Asian (15.6%) families. In all race and ethnic groups (except Asians), the majority of those families with income below the poverty level were single female householders. For Latino families, 68.5% of single female households with related children under 18 years had income below the poverty level.

### Massachusetts: Per Capita Income by Race and Ethnicity in 1989



Universe: Persons

\*Latino may be of any race

### Massachusetts: Household Income by Race and Ethnicity in 1989

Household Income	Latino *	Total**	White	Black	Asian
Less than \$5,000	8,730	91,295	73,348	8,847	3,623
\$5,000 to \$9,999	15,540	209,406	181,760	14,112	3,034
\$10,000 to \$14,999	8,214	146,358	130,958	7,725	2,352
\$15,000 to \$24,999	14,062	299,804	268,189	18,078	4,938
\$25,000 to \$34,999	10,609	310,733	284,401	14,737	5,388
\$35,000 to \$49,999	10,866	417,050	388,899	15,874	6,157
\$50,000 to \$74,999	7,532	441,645	417,370	13,056	7,158
\$75,000 to \$99,999	1,896	178,806	170,584	4,242	3,147
\$100,000 and more	1,368	149,309	143,842	2,225	2,599
<b>Total</b>	<b>78,817</b>	<b>2,244,406</b>	<b>2,059,351</b>	<b>98,896</b>	<b>38,396</b>

Universe: Households

Median household income in Massachusetts: \$36,952

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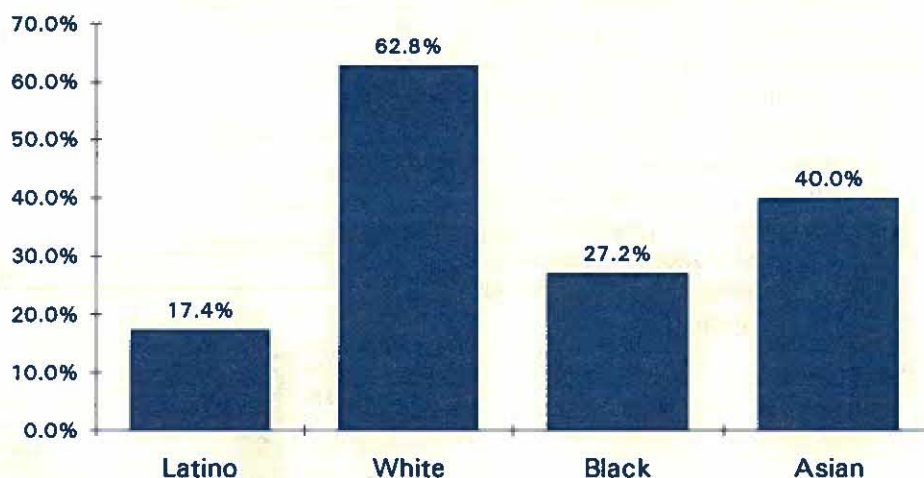
The Massachusetts median household income in 1989 was \$36,952. In 1989, the per capita income of Latinos was \$7,833, lower than any other race or ethnic group. Blacks and Asians had a slightly higher per capita income, \$10,867 and \$12,665 respectively. Whites had the highest per capita income, \$18,003.





In 1989, only 17.4% of Latino households were homeowners, compared to 62.8% of white, 27.2% of black, and 40.0% of Asian householders. The majority of Latino households, 82.6%, rented their dwelling.

**Massachusetts: Homeowners by Race and Ethnicity in 1989\***



Universe: Occupied housing

\*In this table, the racial groups do not include Latinos

**Massachusetts: Mortgage Status by Race and Ethnicity in 1989**

Mortgage Payments	Latino*	Total**	White	Black	Asian
Less than \$300	66	7,533	7,137	195	92
\$300 to \$499	511	80,143	77,847	1,390	463
\$500 to \$999	2,557	265,379	256,794	4,663	2,207
\$1,000 or more	3,809	338,053	323,442	5,972	6,809
Not mortgaged:	1,269	323,716	319,184	2,648	825
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,212</b>	<b>1,014,824</b>	<b>984,404</b>	<b>14,868</b>	<b>10,396</b>

Universe: Specified owner-occupied housing units include only one-family houses, on fewer than 10 acres, without a business or medical office on property

\*Latino may be of any race

\*\*Total includes Native Americans and Other Races



Of those households with a mortgage, approximately 46.4% of Latinos had a mortgage of over \$1,000; only 32.9% of whites, 40.2% of blacks, and 65.5% of Asians had a mortgage over \$1,000.



Of those renter-occupied housing units, 41.5% of the Latino population paid less than \$500 monthly compared to 36.7% of whites, 40.7% of blacks, and 26.2% of Asians. The majority of Latino renters (33,376) paid a gross rent of \$500 to \$999 a month; only 5.3% of Latinos paid a monthly rent of over \$1,000, while 8.2% of whites, 6.5% of blacks and 11.5% of Asians paid over \$1,000.

**Massachusetts: Amount of Gross Rent by Race and Ethnicity for 1989\***

Gross Rent per Month	Latino	Total*	White	Black	Asian
Less than \$300	14,658	156,578	128,708	15,597	2,293
\$300 to \$499	11,910	181,668	156,582	13,676	3,629
\$500 to \$999	33,376	473,391	403,912	36,864	13,824
\$1,000 or more	3,365	72,438	63,486	4,657	2,593
No cash rent	636	25,972	24,255	1,057	289
<b>Total</b>	<b>63,945</b>	<b>910,047</b>	<b>776,943</b>	<b>71,851</b>	<b>22,628</b>

Universe: Specified renter-occupied housing

\*Total includes Native Americans and Other Races