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### Latinos in Waltham

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# Latinos in Waltham

Part 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**

**T**he Mauricio Gastón Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy was established at the University of Massachusetts at 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 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 United States Census. These profiles are but one part of the Gastón Institute's broader initiative to disseminate the 1990 United States Census and to address other relevant aspects of the social and economic situation of Latinos in the Commonwealth.

General population changes in the city of Waltham reflected statewide trends, with the black, Latino, and in particular Asian populations growing faster than the non-Latino white population, and Latinos growing in absolute number more than any other racial/ethnic group. Between 1980 and 1990 the total population of Waltham decreased by 0.6%, and its composition changed substantially. The total Latino population of Waltham grew from 1,417 in 1980 to 3,239 in 1990, for an intercensal increase of 128.6%. While in 1980 Latinos represented 2.4% of the total population of Waltham, they represented 5.6% of the population in 1990. Waltham had the fifteenth largest absolute number of Latinos in Massachusetts in 1990, and its Latino population as a proportion of the total population of the city ranked fifteenth in the Commonwealth. (For more information about Latinos in Massachusetts see the back page.) The number of non-Latino whites decreased by 8.2% between 1980 and 1990, and the number of non-Latino blacks and Asians increased by 182.5% and 229.9% respectively.

**Waltham: Total Population  
by Race and Ethnicity for 1980 and 1990**

	1980		1990		1980-1990 % change
	Number of persons	% of total population	Number of persons	% of total population	
Non-Latino population*	56,783	97.6	54,639	94.4	-3.8
White	55,401	95.2	50,871	87.9	-8.2
Black	572	1.0	1,616	2.8	182.5
Asian**	623	1.1	2,055	3.6	229.9
Other	187	0.3	97	0.2	-48.1
Latino population	1,417	2.4	3,239	5.6	128.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,200</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>57,878</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-0.6</b>

\*Mutually exclusive categories

\*\*This count of Non-Latino Asians includes Latinos who are Asians.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 1980. Census of Population and Housing: Summary Population and Housing Characteristics: Massachusetts. Washington, D.C. U.S. Government Printing Office. U.S. Bureau of the Census 1990. Census of Population and Housing, Massachusetts. Massachusetts Summary Tape File 1A.

<sup>1</sup>Latino will be used throughout to refer to a person living in the United States of Puerto Rican, Cuban, Dominican, or Mexican ancestry as well as other Spanish-speaking people from Central or South American countries.



“Other” Latinos and Puerto Ricans were the largest Latino subgroups in the city, with “Other” Latinos replacing Puerto Ricans — traditionally the largest Latino group in most cities in the Commonwealth — as the largest subgroup in Waltham. Making up this “Other” category are Latinos from the Dominican Republic, Central and South America.<sup>2</sup> The share of “Other” Latinos increased from 29.9% of the total Latino population in 1980 to 47.1% in 1990, while the share of Puerto Ricans decreased from 59.4% to 43.9%.

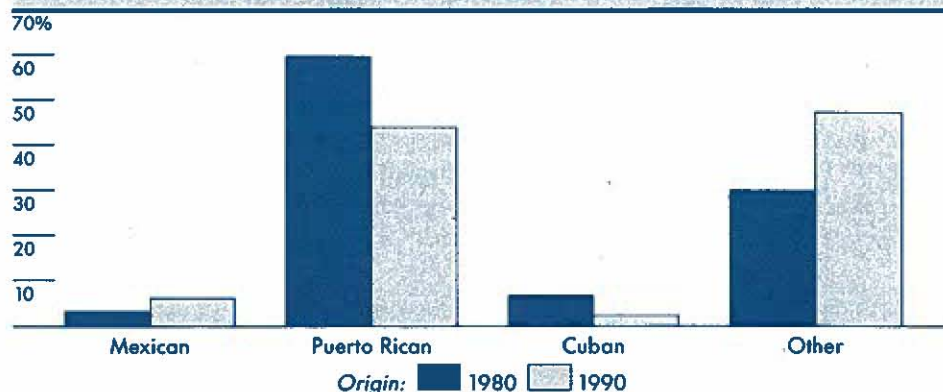
### Waltham: Composition of Latino Population by National Origin for 1980 and 1990

	1980		1990		1980-1990 % change
	Number	%	Number	%	
Mexican	50	3.5	204	6.3	308.0
Puerto Rican	842	59.4	1,423	43.9	69.0
Cuban	101	7.1	87	2.7	-13.9
Other	424	29.9	1,525	47.1	259.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,417</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,239</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>128.6</b>

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 1980 and 1990.

### Waltham: Latino Population by Origin

(Percent of total Latinos in 1980-1990)



### Waltham: Latino Population by Age for 1980 and 1990

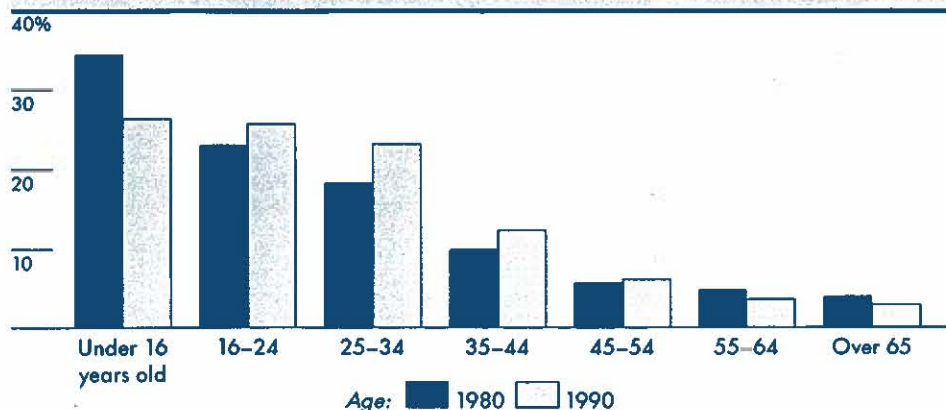
	1980		1990		1980-1990 % change
	Number	%	Number	%	
Under 16 years old	487	34.4	853	26.3	75.2
16-24	326	23.0	830	25.6	154.6
25-34	258	18.2	748	23.1	189.9
35-44	139	9.8	398	12.3	186.3
45-54	81	5.7	197	6.1	143.2
55-64	69	4.9	115	3.6	66.7
Over 65	57	4.0	98	3.0	71.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,417</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,239</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>128.6</b>

Median age 21.6 24.3

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 1980 and 1990.

### Waltham: Latino Population by Age

(Percent of total Latinos in 1980-1990)



The Latino population in the city of Waltham, while remaining relatively young, became older in general. Latino median age increased from 21.6 years in 1980 to 24.3 years in 1990. While in 1980, the share of Latinos 24 years of age or younger was 57.4% of the total Latino population, it decreased to 51.9% in 1990. Conversely for the same period, the share of Latinos between 25 and 54 years of age increased from 33.7% to 41.5%. The share of Latinos 55 years of age and older, however, also decreased from 8.9% to 6.6%.

<sup>2</sup>It is not possible to disaggregate the “Other” Latino category so as to differentiate the share of those individuals from the Dominican Republic, South and Central American countries. Still unpublished 1990 U.S. Census data by nativity would further permit some degree of differentiation.



### Waltham: Composition of Male Latino Population by Age for 1980 and 1990

	1980		1990		1980-1990 % change
	Number	%	Number	%	
Under 16 years old	238	34.1	427	25.7	79.4
16-24	184	26.4	422	25.4	129.3
25-34	121	17.4	418	25.2	245.5
35-44	62	8.9	204	12.3	229.0
45-54	40	5.7	92	5.5	130.0
55-64	29	4.2	57	3.4	96.6
Over 65	23	3.3	39	2.4	69.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>138.0</b>
<b>Median age</b>	<b>21.0</b>		<b>24.6</b>		

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 1980 and 1990.

### Waltham: Composition of Female Latino Population by Age for 1980 and 1990

	1980		1990		1980-1990 % change
	Number	%	Number	%	
Under 16 years old	249	34.6	426	27.0	71.1
16-24	142	19.7	408	25.8	187.3
25-34	137	19.0	330	20.9	140.9
35-44	77	10.7	194	12.3	151.9
45-54	41	5.7	105	6.6	156.1
55-64	40	5.6	58	3.7	45.0
Over 65	34	4.7	59	3.7	73.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,580</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>119.4</b>
<b>Median age</b>	<b>22.6</b>		<b>23.9</b>		

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 1980 and 1990.

Between 1980 and 1990 in Waltham, the composition of the Latino population by household type revealed some evident but undramatic changes. Among the most noteworthy changes were small increases in the share of married-couple households with and without related children and the share of male-headed households. The percentage of householders living alone decreased substantially, while the percentage of householders living with unrelated individuals increased. Contrary to commonly held views, the share of female-headed households with and without related children actually decreased between 1980 and 1990.

### Waltham: Latino Population by Household Type for 1980 and 1990

	1980		1990		1980-1990 % change
	Number	%	Number	%	
Married-couple family with related children	118	29.5	253	29.7	114.4
Married-couple family, no related children	60	15.0	129	15.2	115.0
Male householder, no wife present, with or without related children	21	5.3	72	8.5	242.9
Female householder, no husband present, with related children	82	20.5	156	18.3	90.2
Female householder, no husband present, no related children	16	4.0	30	3.5	87.5
Householder living alone	85	21.3	126	14.8	48.2
Householder not living alone	18	4.5	85	10.0	372.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>112.8</b>

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 1980 and 1990.

The median age of both Latino males and females increased in general, but Latino males — in contrast to most cities in Massachusetts with high concentration of Latinos — had a higher median age than Latino females in 1990. Median age for Latino males increased from 21 years in 1980 to 24.6 years in 1990, while Latino females' median age increased from 22.6 years to 23.9 years.



# Latinos in Massachusetts

The following charts correspond directly to those on the previous pages and offer a quick reference to the population, age and household status of Latinos in Massachusetts. In brief:

- The total population of Massachusetts increased from 5,737,037 in 1980 to 6,016,425, with Latinos growing in absolute number more than any other racial/ethnic group, becoming the largest minority group in the Commonwealth.
- Puerto Ricans and "Other" Latinos were the largest Latino subgroups in the state, accounting respectively for 2.5% and 1.9% of the total population. (Latinos in the "Other" category are from the Dominican Republic, Central and South America.)
- The Latino population, while remaining relatively young, became older in general, with the Latino median age increasing from 21.2 years in 1980 to 23.7 years in 1990.
- The median age of both Latino males and females increased between 1980 and 1990, with the median age for Latino males increasing from 20.3 years in 1980 to 23.1 years in 1990, and Latino females' median age increasing from 22.2 years to 24.3 years.

**Massachusetts: Composition of Total Population by Racial/Ethnic Group and Latino Population by National Origin for 1980 and 1990**

	1980		1990		1980-1990 % change
	Number	%	Number	%	
Non-Latino — white	5,305,963	92.5	5,280,292	87.8	-0.5
Non-Latino — black	212,608	3.7	274,464	4.6	29.1
Non-Latino — Asian	49,501	0.9	143,392	2.4 <sup>a</sup>	189.7
Latino origin	141,043	2.5	287,549	4.8	103.9
Mexican	7,385	0.1	12,703	0.2	72.0
Puerto Rican	76,450	1.3	151,193	2.5	97.8
Cuban	6,617	0.1	8,106	0.1	22.5
Other	50,591	0.9	115,547	1.9	128.4
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>5,737,037</b>	<b>100.0<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>6,016,425</b>	<b>100.0<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>4.9</b>

<sup>a</sup> This count of Non-Latino Asians includes Latinos who are Asians. In 1980, 892 Latinos (0.6% of all Latinos) identified their race as Asian in Massachusetts.

<sup>b</sup> The 1980 total population includes 27,922 persons who are of other races and not of Latino origin.

<sup>c</sup> The 1990 total population includes 30,728 persons who are of other races and not of Latino origin.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 1980. Census of Population and Housing: Summary Population and Housing Characteristics: Massachusetts. Washington, D.C. U.S. Government Printing Office. U.S. Bureau of the Census 1990. Census of Population and Housing, Massachusetts. Massachusetts Summary Tape File 1A.

**Massachusetts: Latino Population by Age for 1980 and 1990**

	1980		1990		1980-1990 % change
	Number	%	Number	%	
Under 16 years old	53,503	37.9	97,135	33.8	181.6
16-24	28,477	20.2	55,042	19.1	193.3
25-34	24,655	17.5	59,333	20.6	140.7
35-44	14,531	10.3	35,774	12.4	146.2
45-54	8,809	6.2	19,081	6.6	116.6
55-64	5,915	4.2	10,731	3.7	81.4
Over 65	5,153	3.7	10,453	3.6	102.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>141,043</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>287,549</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>103.9</b>
<b>Median age</b>	<b>21.2</b>		<b>23.7</b>		

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 1980 and 1990.

**Massachusetts: Composition of Male Latino Population by Age for 1980 and 1990**

	1980		1990		1980-1990 % change
	Number	%	Number	%	
Under 16 years old	27,378	40.0	49,663	34.9	81.4
16-24	13,801	20.2	27,685	19.4	100.6
25-34	11,610	17.0	29,633	20.8	155.2
35-44	6,687	9.8	17,460	12.3	161.1
45-54	4,117	6.0	9,000	6.3	118.6
55-64	2,660	3.9	4,885	3.4	83.6
Over 65	2,133	3.1	4,137	2.9	94.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>68,386</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>142,463</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>108.3</b>
<b>Median age</b>	<b>20.3</b>		<b>23.1</b>		

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 1980 and 1990.

**Massachusetts: Composition of Female Latino Population by Age for 1980 and 1990**

	1980		1990		1980-1990 % change
	Number	%	Number	%	
Under 16 years old	26,125	36.0	47,472	32.7	81.7
16-24	14,676	20.2	27,357	18.9	86.4
25-34	13,045	18.0	29,700	20.5	127.7
35-44	7,844	10.8	18,314	12.6	133.5
45-54	4,692	6.5	10,081	6.9	114.9
55-64	3,255	4.5	5,846	4.0	79.6
Over 65	3,020	4.2	6,316	4.4	109.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>72,657</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>145,086</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>99.7</b>
<b>Median age</b>	<b>22.2</b>		<b>24.3</b>		

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 1980 and 1990.

**Massachusetts: Latino Population by Household Type for 1980 and 1990**

	1980		1990		1980-1990 % change
	Number	%	Number	%	
Married-couple family with related children	12,648	31.5	20,371	24.9	70.2
Married-couple family, no related children	5,995	14.9	10,201	12.5	222.9
Male householder, no wife present, with or without related children	1,600	4.0	5,166	6.3	145.0
Female householder, no husband present, with related children	9,449	23.6	23,150	28.4	115.9
Female householder, no husband present, no related children	1,725	4.3	3,725	4.6	53.4
Householder living alone*	8,689	21.7	13,330	16.3	53.4
Householder not living alone			5,706	7.0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>40,106</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>81,649</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>103.6</b>

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 1980 and 1990.

\*In 1980, this category includes non-family householders (living alone or not)