Poverty in Massachusetts by Ethnicity

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Poverty in Massachusetts by Ethnicity

At just under 29%, the poverty rate for Hispanics is Massachusetts far exceed the poverty rate of 22% for Hispanics in the US. The poverty rate for non-Hispanics in Massachusetts is less than the US average.

Hispanics comprise 8% of the total population in Massachusetts, but are nearly one-quarter (24%) of the total poor population.

| Poverty Rates by Ethnicity in Massachusetts’ 10 largest cities |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                | Massachusetts | Boston | Brockton | Cambridge | Fall River | Lowell | Lynn | New Bedford | Quincy | Springfield | Worcester |
| Total                          | 10.1%          | 19.1%  | 13.1%   | 15.0%     | 19.0%      | 17.7%  | 19.4% | 22.2%       | 9.1%   | 27.4%       | 17.9%     |
| Hispanic                       | 28.8%          | 28.4%  | 18.7%   | 19.5%     | 53.1%      | 53.3%  | 26.4% | 44.7%       | 6.3%   | 44.3%       | 34.8%     |
| Not Hispanic                   | 8.4%           | 17.3%  | 12.6%   | 14.6%     | 16.8%      | 11.7%  | 16.7% | 18.6%       | 9.1%   | 18.1%       | 14.0%     |

Almost half of all Hispanics in Massachusetts reside in the 10 largest cities, compared to 25% of the total population (data no shown on table). Hispanic poverty rates differ considerably across Massachusetts’ ten largest cities, ranging from 6.3% in Quincy to 53.3% in Lowell.

NOTE: All data are 5-year estimates, 2005-2009. Hispanics and Non-Hispanics can be any race.

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey Five Year Estimates, Subject Table S1701. Developed by Randy Albelda, Ferry Cadet and Dinghong Mei for the Center for Social Policy, 2011.