

**Data Snapshot:  
Charlestown**

August 2008



US Census Bureau data by neighborhood is only available from the 2000 Census. For additional demographic data about Charlestown from the 2000 US Census access the Boston Redevelopment Authority's Charlestown Report ([www.cityofboston.gov/bra](http://www.cityofboston.gov/bra)).

The Boston Indicators web site is organized into ten sectors and five "Crosscuts" including Boston Neighborhoods. The following data is available at the Boston Neighborhoods Sector Crosscut at the Boston Indicators homepage ([www.bostonindicators.org](http://www.bostonindicators.org)).

**Civic Vitality**

- Trust in neighbors
- Registered voters and participation rates
- Reported Hate Crimes by Type
- People living at the same address by number of years
- Small business loans by race and gender
- Library books in circulation

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**Charlestown: Population**

	1990		2000		% change
	#	%	#	%	
<b>POPULATION</b>					
<b>Total Population</b>	14,718	100.0%	15,195	100.0%	3.2%
% of Boston Population		2.6%		2.6%	

RACE & ETHNICITY	1990		2000		% change
	#	%	#	%	
<b>Non-Latino</b>					
White	13,927	94.6%	11,885	78.2%	-14.7%
African American	106	0.7%	601	4.0%	467.0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	316	2.1%	798	5.3%	152.5%
Native American	49	0.3%	27	0.2%	-44.9%
Some other race	10	0.1%	18	0.1%	80.0%
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	123	0.8%	N/A
<b>Latino</b>	310	2.1%	1,743	11.5%	462.3%

AGE	1990		2000		% change
	#	%	#	%	
< 5	861	5.8%	859	5.7%	-0.2%
5 to 9	624	4.2%	760	5.0%	21.8%
10 to 14	559	3.8%	819	5.4%	46.5%
15 to 19	664	4.5%	517	3.4%	-22.1%
20 to 24	1,501	10.2%	846	5.6%	-43.6%
25 to 34	4,075	27.7%	4,249	28.0%	4.3%
35 to 44	2,156	14.6%	2,486	16.4%	15.3%
45 to 54	1,357	9.2%	1,798	11.8%	32.5%
55 to 64	1,311	8.9%	1,201	7.9%	-8.4%
65 to 79	1,304	8.9%	1,267	8.3%	-2.8%
80+	306	2.1%	393	2.6%	28.4%

INCOME & POVERTY	1990	2000	Change
Median Household Income *	\$47,846	\$56,111	17.3%
Per Capita Income *	\$29,180	\$38,963	33.5%
Individuals in Poverty (percent of total)	1,838 (12.7%)	2,658 (17.5%)	44.6%

\* represents income from the prior year. 1989 income adjusted to 1999 dollars

Source: Boston Redevelopment Authority, from 1990 and 2000 US Census.

## Charlestown: Population & Households

FAMILIES & PLACE OF BIRTH	Charlestown		Boston	
	#	%	#	%
<b>Total Population</b>	15,195	100.0%	589,141	100.0%
Population in family households	9,830	64.7%	382,668	65.0%
Foreign born (naturalized)	631	4.2%	56,681	9.6%
Foreign born (not a citizen)	1,480	9.7%	95,155	16.2%

### LANGUAGE

<b>Population 5 and older</b>	14,336	100.0%	557,376	100.0%
Speak Spanish	1,404	9.8%	75,711	13.6%
Speak other Indo-European languages	539	3.8%	67,706	12.1%
Speak Asian languages	613	4.3%	34,765	6.2%
Speak other language	169	1.2%	8,009	1.4%

### TRANSPORTATION

<b>Workers 16 years and over</b>	8,191	100.0%	278,463	100.0%
Took public transit to work	2,454	30.0%	89,906	32.3%
Walked to work	992	12.1%	36,323	13.0%

### HOUSEHOLDS

<b>Total Households</b>	7,341	100.0%	239,603	100.0%
Linguistically isolated household	441	6.0%	25,660	10.7%
<b>Family Households</b>	3,295	44.9%	116,657	48.7%
Married-couple family	2,161	29.4%	67,893	28.3%
Single-person headed household	1,134	15.4%	48,764	20.4%
<b>Nonfamily Households</b>	4,046	55.1%	122,946	51.3%
<b>Average household size</b>				
All households	2.05		2.31	
Family households	2.98		3.28	
Non-family households	1.29		1.39	
<b>Median household income</b>				
All households	\$56,110		\$39,629	
Family households	\$60,541		\$44,151	
Non-family households	\$51,117		\$33,332	

Source: Boston Redevelopment Authority, from 2000 US Census.

More data available at the Boston Neighborhoods Sector Crosscut at the Boston Indicators homepage ([www.bostonindicators.org](http://www.bostonindicators.org)):

### Cultural Life & the Arts

- Distribution of arts and cultural facilities in relationship to the concentration of children
- Artists and visitors participating in Open Studios
- Public festivals and celebrations
- Free and reduced price tickets at cultural institutions and venues
- Dedicated artists' housing units

### Economy

- Income by race, educational attainment

### Education

- Enrollment in early, accredited childhood education and full day kindergarten
- Schools with up-to-date technology and libraries, gyms, labs and renovated schoolyards
- Children and youth participation in after-school programs

### Environment & Energy

- Friends groups for parks and green spaces
- Public health stresses on children
- Green space distribution, acres per 1,000 children
- Tree cover and number of trees and bulbs/flowers planted
- Community gardens

### Health

- Asthma hospitalization rates by race/ethnicity and age
- Location of children and recreation areas vs. exposure to environmental hazards

See the Boston Health Commission's *Health of Boston 2008*, a compendium of Boston health statistics, with data by neighborhood, available at [www.bphc.org](http://www.bphc.org).

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## Charlestown: Housing

More data available at the Boston Neighborhoods Sector Crosscut at the Boston Indicators homepage ([www.bostonindicators.org](http://www.bostonindicators.org)):

### Housing

- Median home prices
- Distribution of affordable housing units
- Mortgage foreclosures
- Abandoned properties
- Reported cases of lead poisoning

### Public Safety

- Trends in reported Part One Crime (Serious) per 1000 population by Boston neighborhood
- Resident public perception of safety and quality of life ranking
- Residents who trust their neighbors
- Reported incidents of domestic violence
- Partnerships with law enforcement agencies by type

### Technology

- Public access to computers and the Internet
- Number of neighborhoods/communities with available broadband and wireless access

### Transportation

- Residents within a 10-minute walk from transit nodes by race, income, age group and transit dependency
- People walking and biking to work

HOUSING UNITS	1990		2000		% Change
	#	%	#	%	
<b>Total Housing Units</b>	7,752	100.0%	7,755	100.0%	0.0%
% of Boston Housing Stock		3.1%		3.1%	

OCUPIED HOUSING UNITS	#	%	#	%	% Change
Owner Occupied	2,259	33.0%	3,039	41.3%	34.5%
Renter Occupied	4,582	67.0%	4,311	58.7%	-5.9%
<b>Vacant Housing Units</b>	911	11.8%	405	5.2%	-55.5%

Source: Boston Redevelopment Authority, from 1990 and 2000 US Census.

RESIDENTIAL HOUSING BY TYPE (2005)	#	%
Single Family	1,016	44.0%
Two Family	417	18.1%
Three Family	296	12.8%
<b>Total 1, 2, 3 Family Properties</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>74.8%</b>
Four-Six Family	54	2.3%
Apartment Buildings	21	0.9%
Mixed Residential/Commercial	47	2.0%
Condominium Associations	459	19.9%
<b>Total Residential &amp; Mixed Properties</b>	<b>2,310</b>	<b>N/A</b>

Source: City of Boston Department of Neighborhood Development

MEDIAN RESIDENTIAL SALES PRICES	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Single Family	\$463,000	\$552,250	\$560,000	\$629,000	\$627,000
Two-Family	\$542,500	\$627,500	\$649,000	\$713,750	\$457,500
Three-Family	*	\$680,000	\$700,000	*	*
Condominium	\$377,400	\$404,850	\$442,000	\$429,000	\$435,000
All Residential Sales	\$415,000	\$422,000	\$468,750	\$439,950	\$449,950

\* Insufficient sales to determine median

FORECLOSURE DEEDS	0	0	1	3	4

MEDIAN MONTHLY ASKING RENT (2-bedroom apt)	\$1,700	\$1,650	\$1,550	\$1,650	\$1,750

Source: City of Boston Department of Neighborhood Development

Click on 

[www.bostonindicators.org](http://www.bostonindicators.org)

for an enhanced website about Boston and the region—with data, maps, charts and links

## Charlestown: Health & Open Space

<b>HEALTH</b>	<b>Charlestown</b>	<b>Boston</b>
Women who smoked during pregnancy as a % of births (2002)	3.9%	4.5%
Emergency department visits per 1,000 residents (2006)	99.4	113.1
Asthma hospitalizations per child under 5 (2004-2006)	4	9.7
Percent of children tested with elevated blood lead level (2007)	*	1.6%
Percent of adults who are overweight or obese (2003-2005 average)	48%	50%
Percent of adults who are smokers (1999-2003 average)	20%	21%
Percent of adults who report limited physical activity (2001-2003)	48%	55%
Percent of adults with high blood pressure (1999-2001 average)	33%	19%
Heart disease mortality per 100,000 residents (2001-2003)	215	188
Diabetes mortality per 100,000 residents (2004-2006)	37.4	20.6
Cancer mortality per 100,000 residents (2000-2002)	241	218
Substance abuse mortality per 100,000 residents (2006)	*	33.5

\* Insufficient data

Source: Boston Public Health Commission

### LAND & OPEN SPACE

Land area (sq miles)	1.37
Persons per sq mile	11,091
% open space	10.0%
Protected open space per 1,000 people, 2001 (acres)	4.5

Source: Boston Redevelopment Authority & Boston Parks Dept.

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