

**Data Snapshot:
South Boston**

August 2008



US Census Bureau data by neighborhood is only available from the 2000 Census. For additional demographic data about South Boston from the 2000 US Census access the Boston Redevelopment Authority's South Boston Report (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).

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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South Boston: Population

	1990		2000		% change
	#	%	#	%	
POPULATION					
Total Population	29,467	100.0%	29,938	100.0%	1.6%
% of Boston Population		5.1%		5.1%	

RACE & ETHNICITY	1990		2000		% change
	#	%	#	%	
Non-Latino					
White	28,127	95.5%	25,397	84.8%	-9.7%
African American	267	0.9%	683	2.3%	155.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	525	1.8%	1,192	4.0%	127.0%
Native American	91	0.3%	64	0.2%	-29.7%
Some other race	17	0.1%	14	0.0%	-17.6%
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	326	1.1%	N/A
Latino	441	1.5%	2,262	7.6%	412.9%

AGE	1990		2000		% change
	#	%	#	%	
< 5	1,699	5.8%	1,474	4.9%	-13.2%
5 to 9	1,491	5.1%	1,661	5.5%	11.4%
10 to 14	1,363	4.6%	1,528	5.1%	12.1%
15 to 19	1,460	5.0%	1,294	4.3%	-11.4%
20 to 24	2,535	8.6%	2,179	7.3%	-14.0%
25 to 34	6,528	22.2%	7,105	23.7%	8.8%
35 to 44	4,160	14.1%	4,902	16.4%	17.8%
45 to 54	2,767	9.4%	3,414	11.4%	23.4%
55 to 64	2,891	9.8%	2,384	8.0%	-17.5%
65 to 79	3,503	11.9%	2,951	9.9%	-15.8%
80+	1,070	3.6%	1,046	3.5%	-2.2%

INCOME & POVERTY	1990	2000	Change
Median Household Income *	\$34,222	\$40,312	17.8%
Per Capita Income *	\$19,882	\$24,220	21.8%
Individuals in Poverty (percent of total)	5,020 (17.3%)	5,077 (17.3%)	1.1%

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

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

South Boston: Population & Households

FAMILIES & PLACE OF BIRTH	South Boston		Boston	
	#	%	#	%
Total Population	29,938	100.0%	589,141	100.0%
Population in family households	19,422	64.9%	382,668	65.0%
Foreign born (naturalized)	1,169	3.9%	56,681	9.6%
Foreign born (not a citizen)	2,548	8.5%	95,155	16.2%

LANGUAGE

Population 5 and older	28,464	100.0%	557,376	100.0%
Speak Spanish	2,069	7.3%	75,711	13.6%
Speak other Indo-European languages	1,556	5.5%	67,706	12.1%
Speak Asian languages	1,065	3.7%	34,765	6.2%
Speak other language	81	0.3%	8,009	1.4%

TRANSPORTATION

Workers 16 years and over	14,857	100.0%	278,463	100.0%
Took public transit to work	4,960	33.4%	89,906	32.3%
Walked to work	1,281	8.6%	36,323	13.0%

HOUSEHOLDS

Total Households	14,036	100.0%	239,603	100.0%
Linguistically isolated household	979	8.6%	25,660	10.7%
Family Households	6,343	45.2%	116,657	48.7%
Married-couple family	3,653	26.0%	67,893	28.3%
Single-person headed household	2,690	19.2%	48,764	20.4%
Nonfamily Households	7,693	54.8%	122,946	51.3%
Average household size				
All households	2.10		2.31	
Family households	3.06		3.28	
Non-family households	1.30		1.39	
Median household income				
All households	\$40,311		\$39,629	
Family households	\$47,443		\$44,151	
Non-family households	\$34,660		\$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):

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.

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South Boston: Housing

More data available at the Boston Neighborhoods Sector Crosscut at the Boston Indicators homepage (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
	#	%	#	%	
Total Housing Units	14,784	100.0%	15,031	100.0%	1.7%
% of Boston Housing Stock		5.9%		6.0%	

OCUPIED HOUSING UNITS	#	%	#	%	% Change
Owner Occupied	3,958	30.3%	4,743	33.8%	19.8%
Renter Occupied	9,122	69.7%	9,295	66.2%	1.9%
Vacant Housing Units	1,704	11.5%	993	6.6%	-41.7%

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

RESIDENTIAL HOUSING BY TYPE (2005)	#	%
Single Family	1,486	29.8%
Two Family	1,047	21.0%
Three Family	1,404	28.1%
Total 1, 2, 3 Family Properties	3,937	78.9%
Four-Six Family	114	2.3%
Apartment Buildings	45	1.0%
Mixed Residential/Commercial	202	4.0%
Condominium Associations	695	13.9%
Total Residential & Mixed Properties	4,993	N/A

Source: City of Boston Department of Neighborhood Development

MEDIAN RESIDENTIAL SALES PRICES	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Single Family	\$325,000	\$380,000	\$406,500	\$378,000	\$388,500
Two-Family	\$422,500	\$445,000	\$496,250	\$510,000	\$475,000
Three-Family	\$432,500	\$554,000	\$577,000	\$605,000	\$660,000
Condominium	\$305,000	\$367,500	\$353,250	\$349,000	\$369,000
All Residential Sales	\$325,000	\$367,500	\$377,750	\$361,250	\$383,750

* Insufficient sales to determine median

FORECLOSURE DEEDS	7	8	2	11	25

MEDIAN MONTHLY ASKING RENT (2-bedroom apt)	\$1,400	\$1,400	\$1,400	\$1,338	\$1,200

Source: City of Boston Department of Neighborhood Development

Click on 

www.bostonindicators.org

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

South Boston: Health & Open Space

HEALTH	South Boston	Boston
Women who smoked during pregnancy as a % of births (2002)	8.0%	4.5%
Emergency department visits per 1,000 residents (2006)	128.1	113.1
Asthma hospitalizations per child under 5 (2004-2006)	8.0	9.7
Percent of children tested with elevated blood lead level (2007)	1.7%	1.6%
Percent of adults who are overweight or obese (2003-2005 average)	55%	50%
Percent of adults who are smokers (1999-2003 average)	29%	21%
Percent of adults who report limited physical activity (2001-2003)	53%	55%
Percent of adults with high blood pressure (1999-2001 average)	17%	19%
Heart disease mortality per 100,000 residents (2001-2003)	261	188
Diabetes mortality per 100,000 residents (2004-2006)	24.8	20.6
Cancer mortality per 100,000 residents (2000-2002)	303	218
Substance abuse mortality per 100,000 residents (2006)	24.8	33.5

* Insufficient data

Source: *Boston Public Health Commission*

LAND & OPEN SPACE

Land area (sq miles)	3.13
Persons per sq mile	9,573
% open space	8.6%
Protected open space per 1,000 people, 2001 (acres)	6.9

Source: *Boston Redevelopment Authority & Boston Parks Dept.*

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