

**Data Snapshot:  
South Dorchester**

August 2008



US Census Bureau data by neighborhood is only available from the 2000 Census. For additional demographic data about South Dorchester from the 2000 US Census access the Boston Redevelopment Authority's South Dorchester 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
- (continued on next page)

**South Dorchester: Population**

	1990		2000		% change
	#	%	#	%	
<b>POPULATION</b>					
<b>Total Population</b>	60,641	100.0%	63,647	100.0%	5.0%
% of Boston Population		10.6%		10.8%	

	1990		2000		% change
	#	%	#	%	
<b>RACE &amp; ETHNICITY</b>					
<b>Non-Latino</b>					
White	29,170	48.1%	18,870	29.6%	-35.3%
African American	22,087	36.4%	26,073	41.0%	18.0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2,010	3.3%	6,251	9.8%	211.0%
Native American	212	0.3%	121	0.2%	-42.9%
Some other race	947	1.6%	2,203	3.5%	132.6%
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	3,634	5.7%	N/A
<b>Latino</b>	6,218	10.3%	6,495	10.2%	4.5%

	1990		2000		% change
	#	%	#	%	
<b>AGE</b>					
< 5	5,182	8.5%	4,369	6.9%	-15.7%
5 to 9	4,457	7.3%	5,470	8.6%	22.7%
10 to 14	4,110	6.8%	5,158	8.1%	25.5%
15 to 19	4,203	6.9%	4,784	7.5%	13.8%
20 to 24	5,443	9.0%	4,784	7.5%	-12.1%
25 to 34	12,508	20.6%	11,109	17.5%	-11.2%
35 to 44	8,581	14.2%	9,996	15.7%	16.5%
45 to 54	5,344	8.8%	7,342	11.5%	37.4%
55 to 64	4,497	7.4%	4,712	7.4%	4.8%
65 to 79	4,709	7.8%	4,383	6.9%	-6.9%
80+	1,618	2.7%	1,540	2.4%	-4.8%

<b>INCOME &amp; POVERTY</b>	1990	2000	Change
Median Household Income *	\$42,406	\$39,657	-6.5%
Per Capita Income *	\$17,421	\$16,976	-2.6%
Individuals in Poverty (percent of total)	8,973 (15.3%)	10,875 (17.3%)	21.2%

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

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

## South Dorchester: Population & Households

FAMILIES & PLACE OF BIRTH	South Dorchester		Boston	
	#	%	#	%
<b>Total Population</b>	63,647	100.0%	589,141	100.0%
Population in family households	53,132	83.5%	382,668	65.0%
Foreign born (naturalized)	8,328	13.1%	56,681	9.6%
Foreign born (not a citizen)	11,529	18.1%	95,155	16.2%

### LANGUAGE

<b>Population 5 and older</b>	59,728	100.0%	557,376	100.0%
Speak Spanish	5,906	10.0%	75,711	13.6%
Speak other Indo-European languages	8,217	13.9%	67,706	12.1%
Speak Asian languages	5,068	8.5%	34,765	6.2%
Speak other language	427	0.7%	8,009	1.4%

### TRANSPORTATION

<b>Workers 16 years and over</b>	25,636	100.0%	278,463	100.0%
Took public transit to work	7,829	30.5%	89,906	32.3%
Walked to work	838	3.3%	36,323	13.0%

### HOUSEHOLDS

<b>Total Households</b>	21,582	100.0%	239,603	100.0%
Linguistically isolated household	1,948	9.0%	25,660	10.7%
<b>Family Households</b>	14,465	67.0%	116,657	48.7%
Married-couple family	7,512	34.8%	67,893	28.3%
Single-person headed household	6,953	32.2%	48,764	20.4%
<b>Nonfamily Households</b>	7,117	33.0%	122,946	51.3%
<b>Average household size</b>				
All households	2.91		2.31	
Family households	3.67		3.28	
Non-family households	1.36		1.39	
<b>Median household income</b>				
All households	\$39,587		\$39,629	
Family households	\$41,968		\$44,151	
Non-family households	\$29,557		\$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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## South Dorchester: 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>	22,364	100.0%	22,615	100.0%	1.1%
% of Boston Housing Stock		4.1%		4.1%	

HOUSING UNITS	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
<b>OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS</b>	20,583	92.0%	21,516	95.1%	4.5%
Owner Occupied	8,134	39.5%	8,567	39.8%	5.3%
Renter Occupied	12,449	60.5%	12,949	60.2%	4.0%
<b>Vacant Housing Units</b>	1,781	8.0%	1,099	4.9%	-38.3%

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

RESIDENTIAL HOUSING BY TYPE (2005)	#	%
Single Family	4,264	32.2%
Two Family	3,659	27.6%
Three Family	4,262	32.1%
<b>Total 1, 2, 3 Family Properties</b>	<b>12,123</b>	<b>91.9%</b>
Four-Six Family	257	1.9%
Apartment Buildings	181	1.4%
Mixed Residential/Commercial	204	1.5%
Condominium Associations	434	3.0%
<b>Total Residential &amp; Mixed Properties</b>	<b>13,261</b>	<b>N/A</b>

Source: City of Boston Department of Neighborhood Development. **Data is for North and South Dorchester combined.**

MEDIAN RESIDENTIAL SALES PRICES	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Single Family	\$315,000	\$350,000	\$374,950	\$350,000	\$329,999
Two-Family	\$382,000	\$440,000	\$470,000	\$460,000	\$407,750
Three-Family	\$449,000	\$510,000	\$535,000	\$512,000	\$440,000
Condominium	\$233,000	\$246,000	\$279,950	\$290,000	\$275,000
All Residential Sales	\$315,000	\$349,950	\$384,900	\$345,000	\$310,000

FORECLOSURE DEEDS	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	3	6	20	76	233

MEDIAN MONTHLY ASKING RENT (2-bedroom apt)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	\$1,250	\$1,300	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,150

Source: City of Boston Department of Neighborhood Development. All housing type, sales, foreclosure and rent data are for **North and South Dorchester combined.**

Click on 

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

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

## South Dorchester: Health & Open Space

<b>HEALTH</b>	<b>South Dorchester</b>	<b>Boston</b>
Women who smoked during pregnancy as a % of births (2002)	5.0%	4.5%
Emergency department visits per 1,000 residents (2006)	141.6	113.1
Asthma hospitalizations per child under 5 (2004-2006)	9.7	9.7
Percent of children tested with elevated blood lead level (2007)	1.8%	1.6%
Percent of adults who are overweight or obese (2003-2005 average)	58%	50%
Percent of adults who are smokers (1999-2003 average)	20%	21%
Percent of adults who report limited physical activity (2001-2003)	53%	55%
Percent of adults with high blood pressure (1999-2001 average)	25%	19%
Heart disease mortality per 100,000 residents (2001-2003)	185	188
Diabetes mortality per 100,000 residents (2004-2006)	33.4	20.6
Cancer mortality per 100,000 residents (2000-2002)	218	218
Substance abuse mortality per 100,000 residents (2006)	26	33.5

\* Insufficient data

Source: *Boston Public Health Commission*

### LAND & OPEN SPACE

Land area (sq miles)	4.0
Persons per sq mile	15,835
% open space	9.6%
Protected open space per 1,000 people, 2001 (acres)	3.9

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

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