



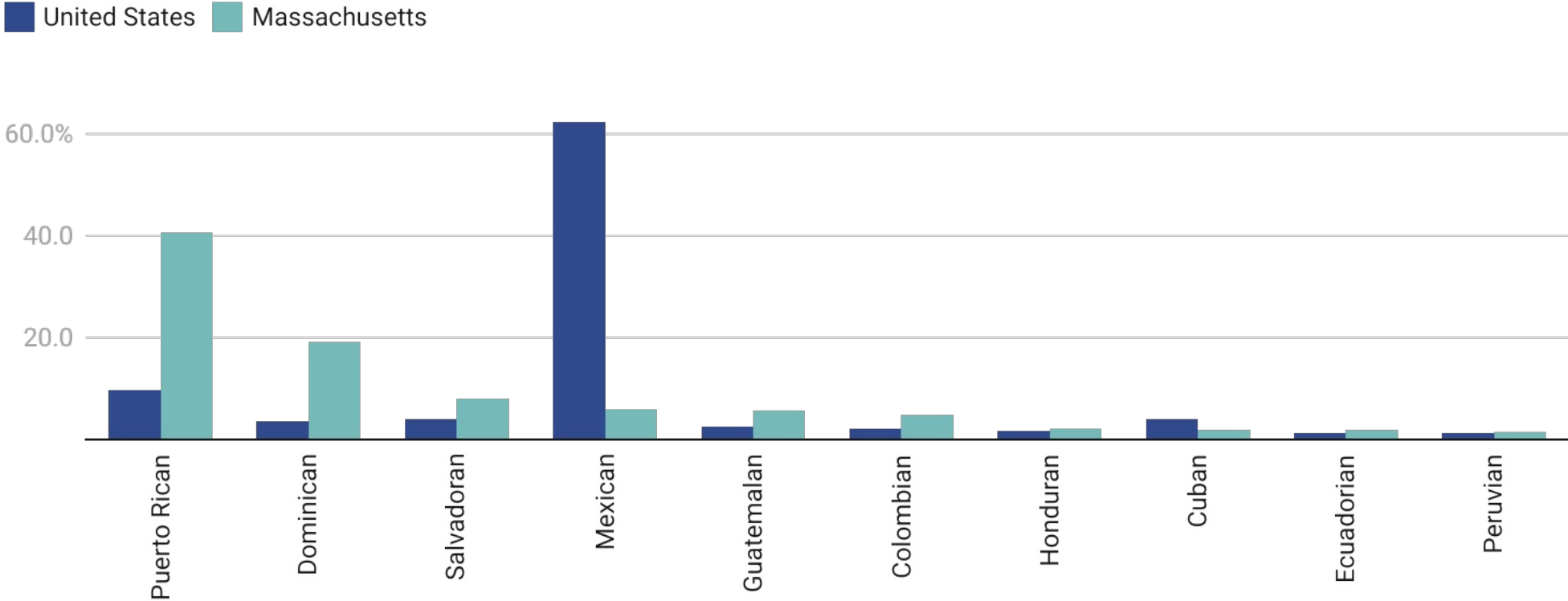
# ***¡Avancemos ya!***

**Persistent Economic Challenges**

**And Opportunities Facing Latinos in Massachusetts**

# Latinos in Massachusetts are more likely to be Puerto Rican or Dominican; nationally, they are more likely to be Mexican.

The origins of the Latino population for the United States and Massachusetts, 2019.



Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey • Created with Datawrapper

# About one in four Massachusetts Latinos lives in poverty.

Poverty rate by race and ethnicity for Massachusetts and the U.S., 2019.

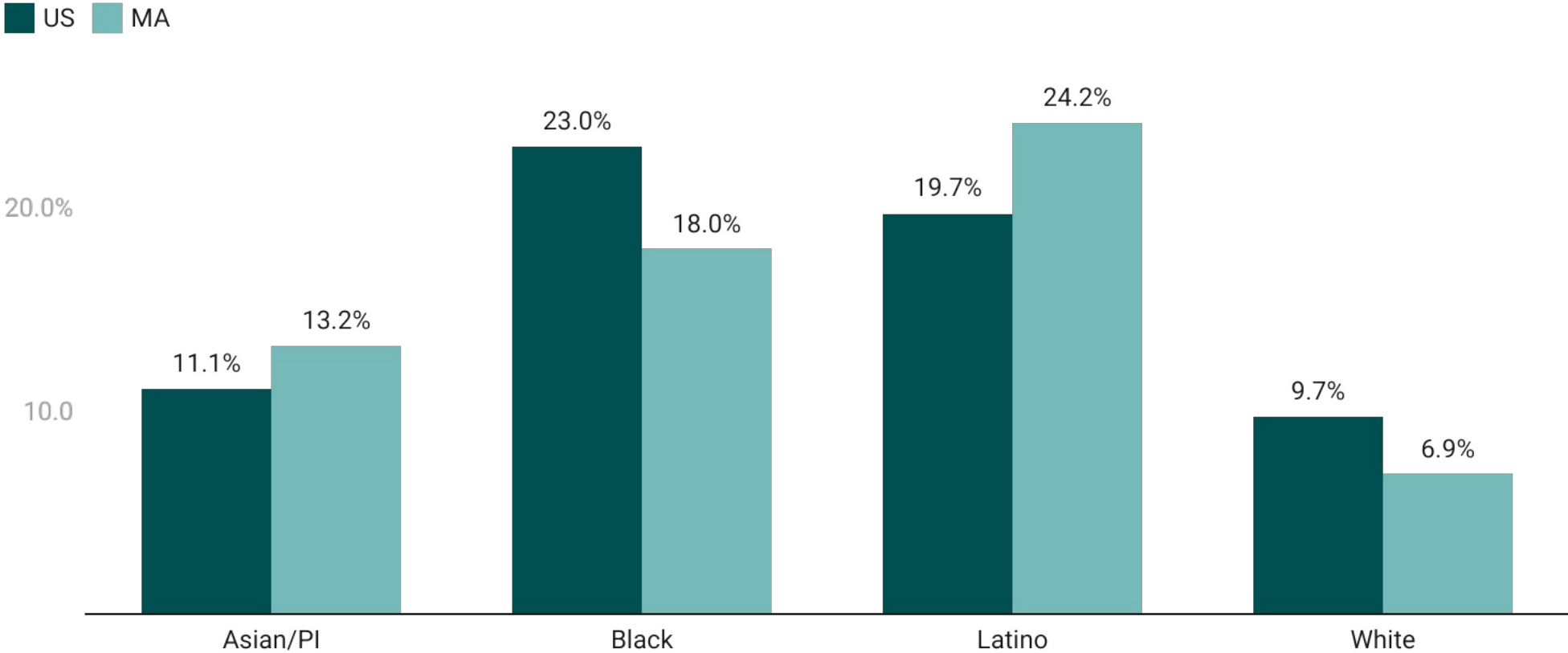


Chart: Boston Indicators • Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey • Created with Datawrapper

# Black and Latino unemployment rates are high in MA.

Unemployment rates by race and ethnicity for Massachusetts and the U.S., 2019.

■ US ■ MA

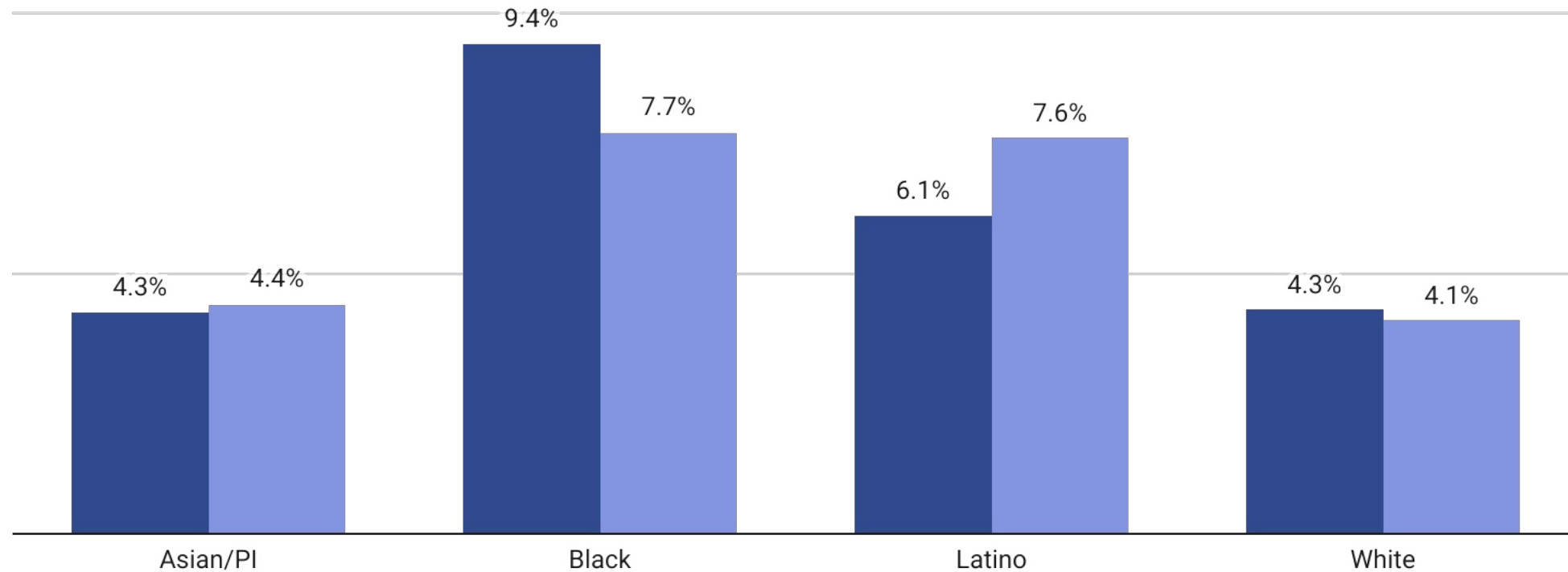


Chart: Boston Indicators • Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey • Created with Datawrapper

# Almost one in four Massachusetts Latinos is food insecure.

Food insecurity rates by race and ethnicity for Massachusetts and the U.S., 2019.

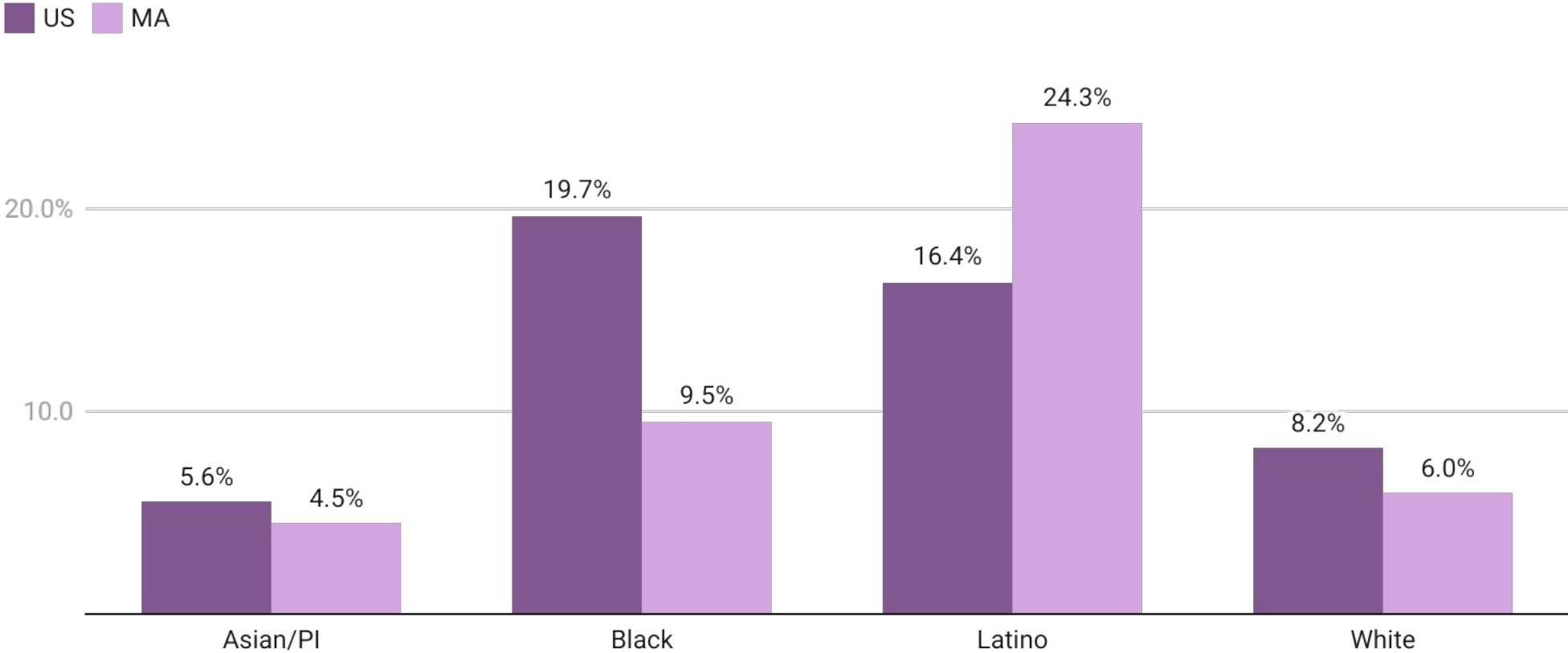


Chart: Boston Indicators • Source: Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement 2015-2019 • Created with Datawrapper

# Economic mobility rates are low for Black and Latino residents of Massachusetts.

Average income at age 35 for individuals (MA Latinos and other racial subgroups, U.S. Latinos), comparing those who grew up in low-income households (the lowest 1/4 of households) to all households together, 2015.

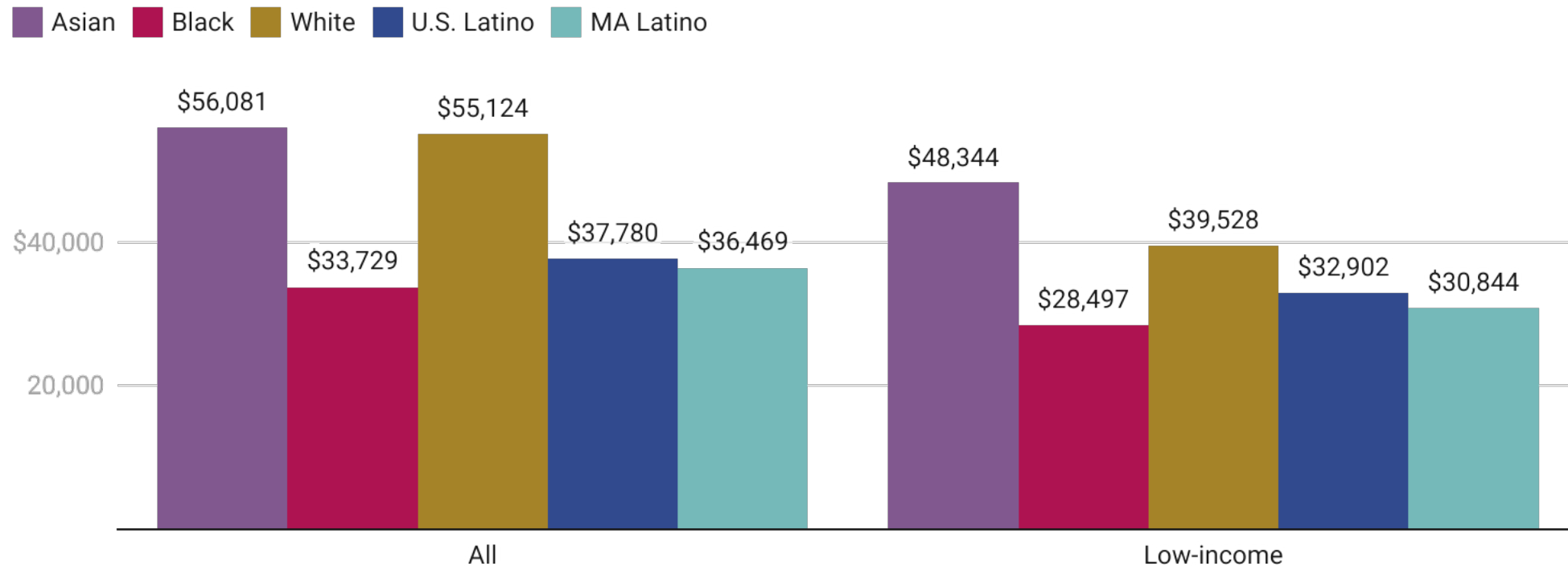
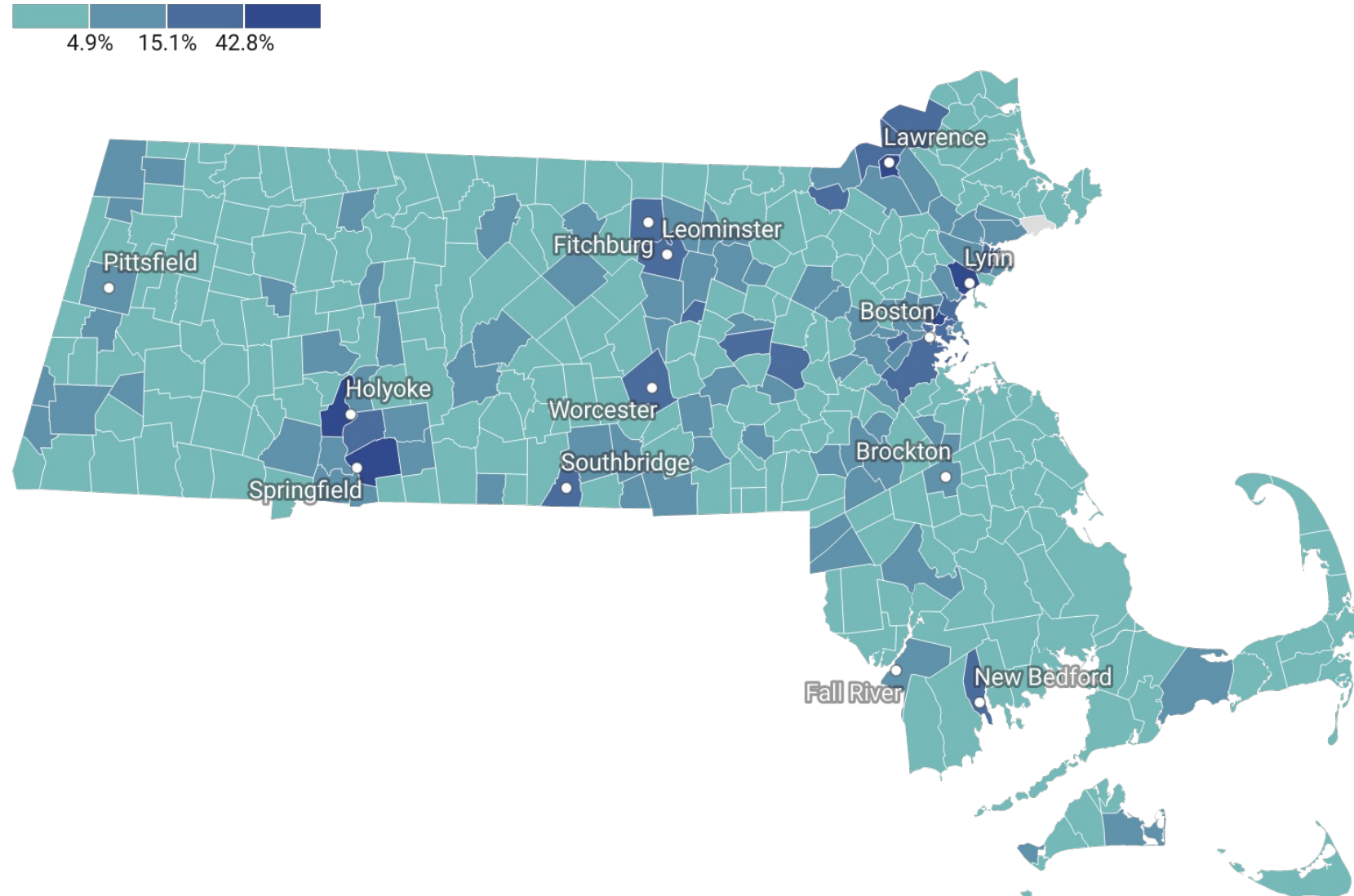


Chart: Boston Indicators • Source: Opportunity Insights • Created with Datawrapper

# The majority of Massachusetts Latinos live in lower-opportunity Gateway Cities, outside of the stronger Boston area labor market.

Share of city or town population that is Latino, 2019.



# Among the top 20 Latino cities in Massachusetts, Latino household incomes range widely.

Latino median household income for the top 20 Latino cities in Massachusetts by Latino share of city population, compared to the overall median household income statewide.

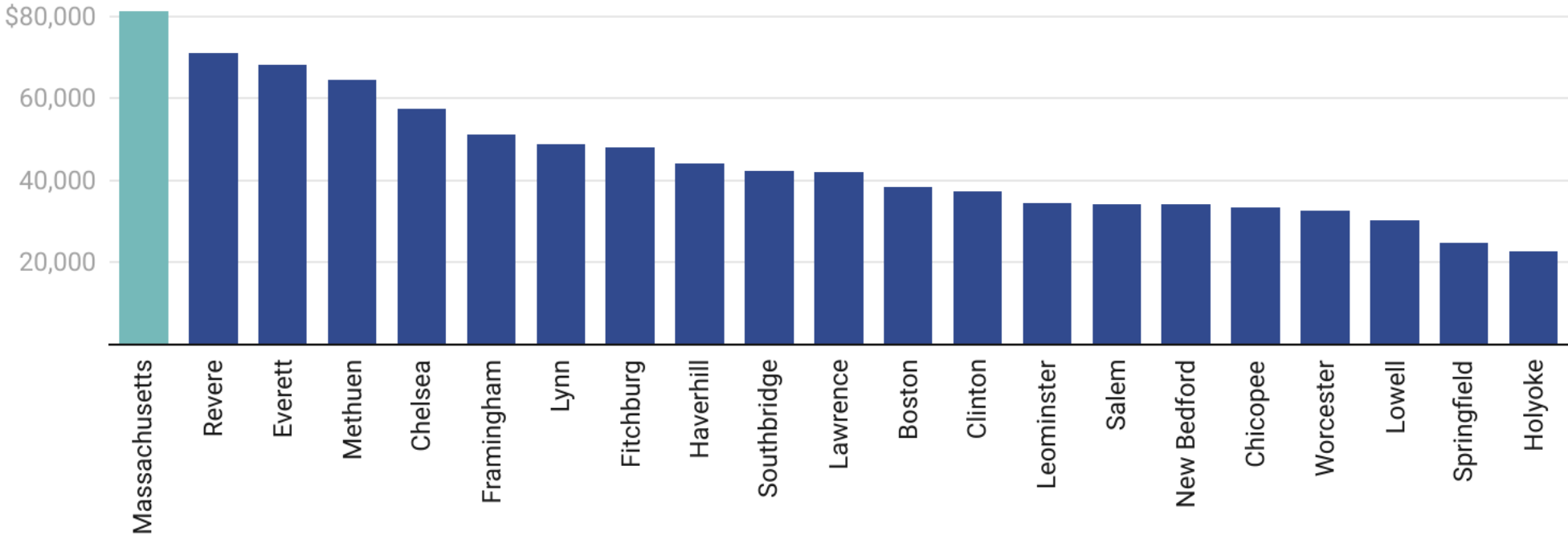


Chart: Boston Indicators • Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey • Created with Datawrapper



# While most Massachusetts students outperform their peers in other states, Latinos score lower than many other states.

Subgroup rankings among U.S. states (inc. D.C.) for the 8th grade NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) Math and Reading scores, by race and ethnicity, Massachusetts, 2019.

	8th Grade Math		8th Grade Reading	
	All Students	Low-Income	All Students	Low-Income
White	3 of 51	3 of 50	3 of 51	4 of 50
Black	3 of 42	2 of 38	1 of 41	2 of 39
Latino	21 of 48	35 of 45	28 of 48	39 of 46
Asian/Pacific Islander	1 of 31	1 of 12	3 of 31	1 of 13
Two or more races	1 of 38	n/a	2 of 35	n/a

*Rankings are among the 50 states plus D.C., but in most cases some states didn't have large enough samples to report outcomes for a given subgroup. For instance, only 45 states had large enough samples to report outcomes on 8th grade math for low-income Latino students.*

Table: Boston Indicators • Source: National Center for Education Statistics • Created with Datawrapper

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	8th Grade Math		8th Grade Reading	
	All Students	Low-Income	All Students	Low-Income
White	3 of 51	3 of 50	3 of 51	4 of 50
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# The largest Latino communities in Massachusetts have low levels of education and high poverty rates.

Circle size represents total subpopulation size (i.e., Puerto Rican=327k; Dominican=150k), x-axis shows share of adults ages 25+ with a bachelor's degree or more, y-axis shows subpopulation share in poverty, Massachusetts, 2019.

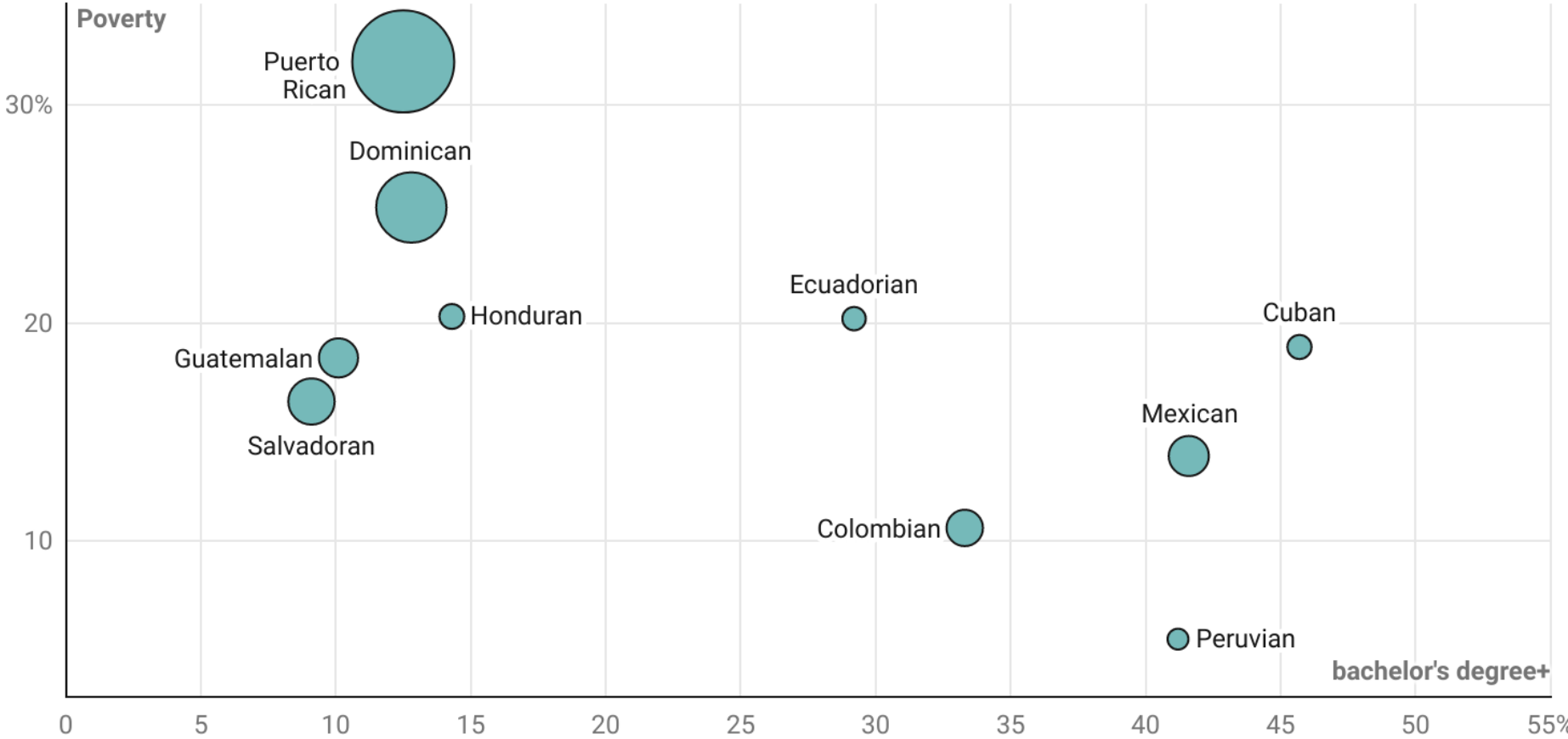


Chart: Boston Indicators • Source: American Community Survey 2015-2019 • Created with Datawrapper

# Labor force participation rates are relatively low for Massachusetts' largest Latino subgroups.

Share of population 16+ working or seeking work, for the 10 largest Latino subgroups in Massachusetts, 2019.

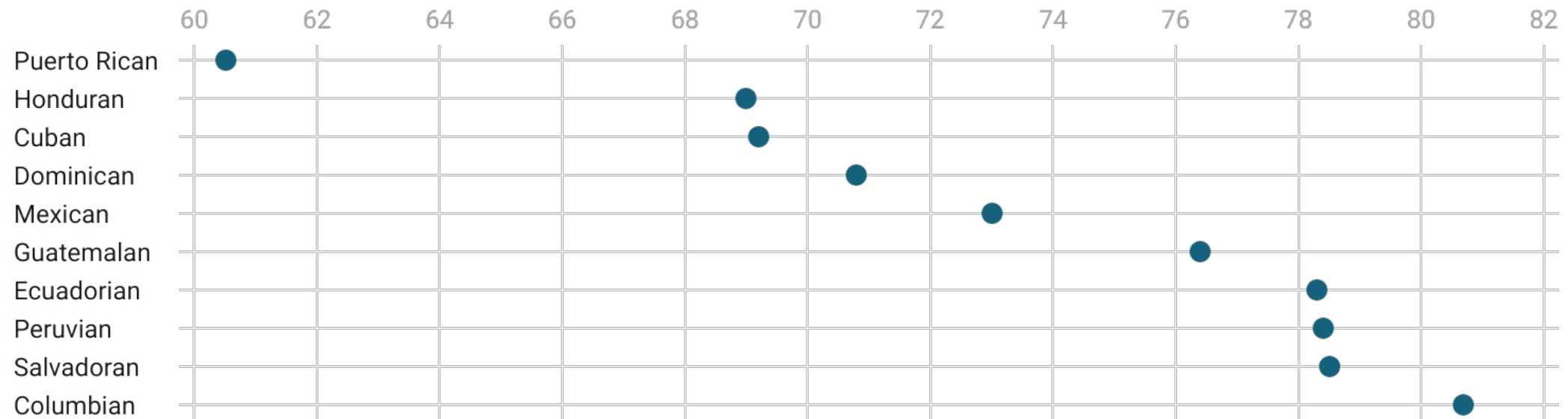
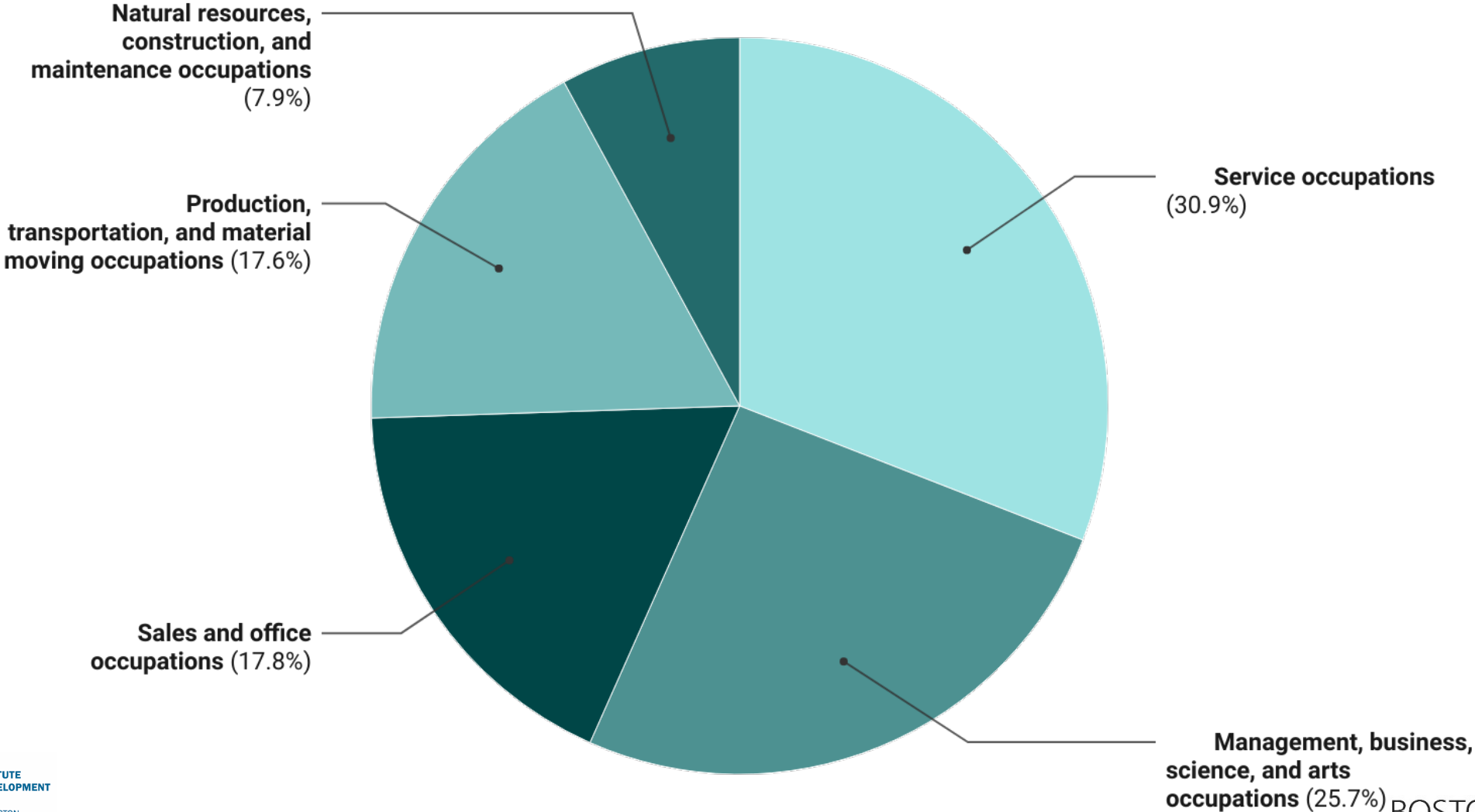


Chart: Boston Indicators • Source: American Community Survey 2015-2019 • Created with Datawrapper

# Massachusetts Latinos are concentrated in lower paying occupational sectors, such as services and blue collar jobs.

Occupations of Latino workers in Massachusetts, 2019.



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- Despite, education and jobs dynamics, have somewhat lower poverty
- Have high levels of labor force participation
- Provide critical labor supply to the MA economy

# Homeownership is lower among Massachusetts Latinos.

Homeownership rate for Massachusetts Latinos, other local racial subgroups, and U.S. Latinos. Massachusetts, 2019.

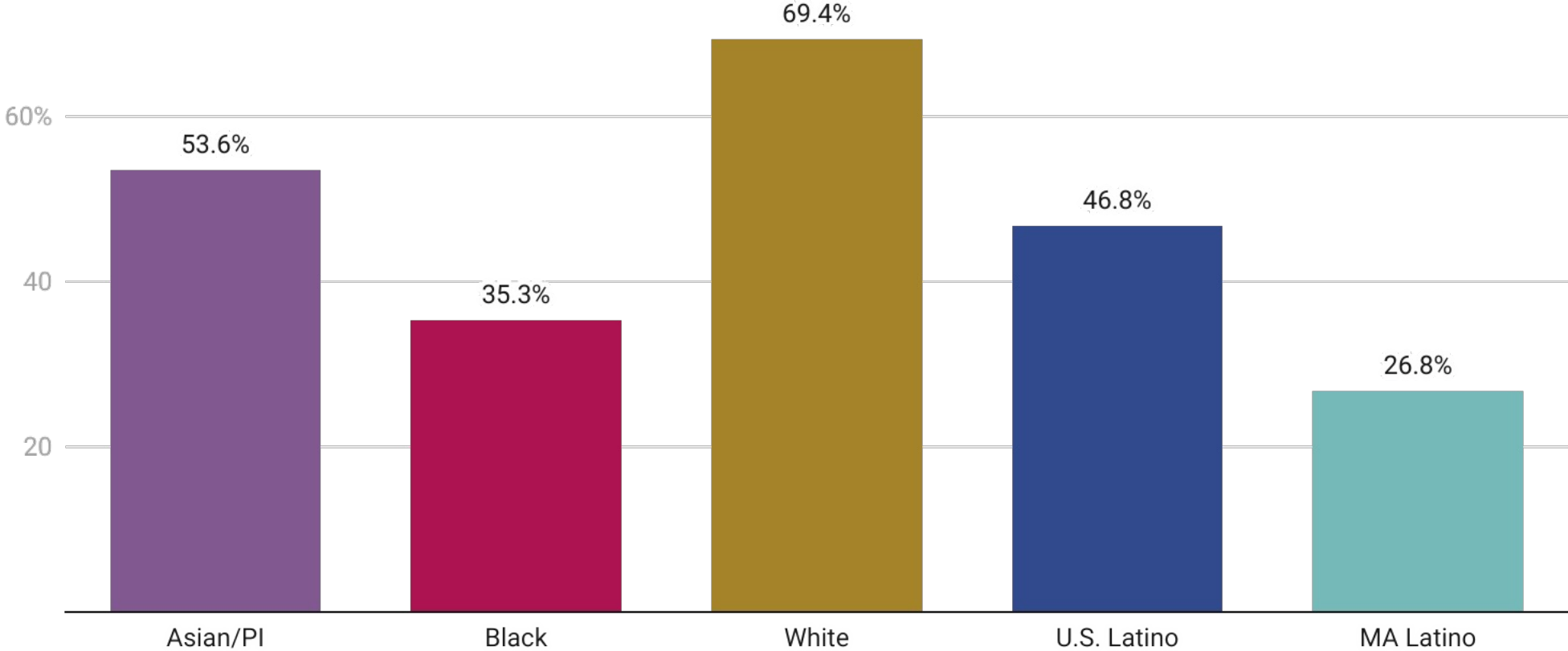
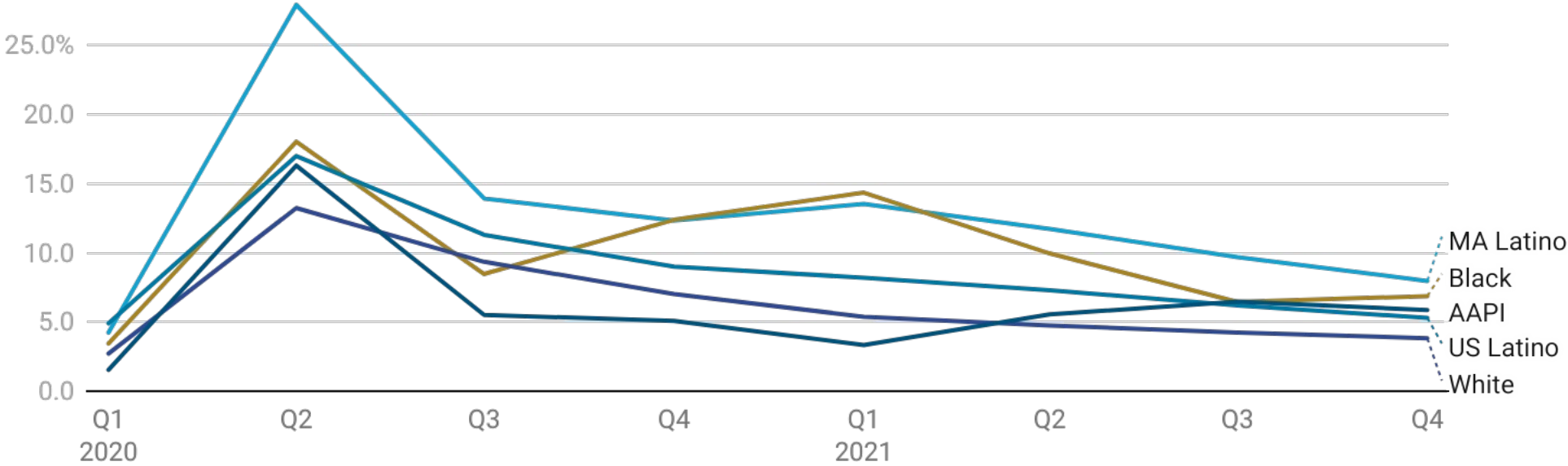


Chart: Boston Indicators • Source: American Community Survey 2015-2019 • Created with Datawrapper

# Unemployment has been especially high for Massachusetts Latinos during the pandemic.

Estimated unemployment rates for MA Latinos, U.S. Latinos, and other local racial groups, Massachusetts.



Estimates should be interpreted with caution due to small sample size. Unemployment rates for each group are developed by applying the ratio of unemployment rates between each group and the total population using 6 months of Basic Monthly Current Population Survey data to the official quarterly statewide unemployment rate published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This methodology comes from the Economic Policy Institute series on state unemployment by race/ethnicity.

Chart: Boston Indicators • Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics • Created with Datawrapper



# A majority of Latinos in Massachusetts lost employment income during the first year of the pandemic.

Share of individuals ages 18+ living in households that lost employment income anytime during pandemic Year 1 (04/23/20-03/29/21) or within the prior month during Year 2 (04/14/21-01/10/22), MA Latinos, U.S. Latinos, and other local racial subgroups.

■ Year 1 income loss ■ Year 2 income loss (in last month)

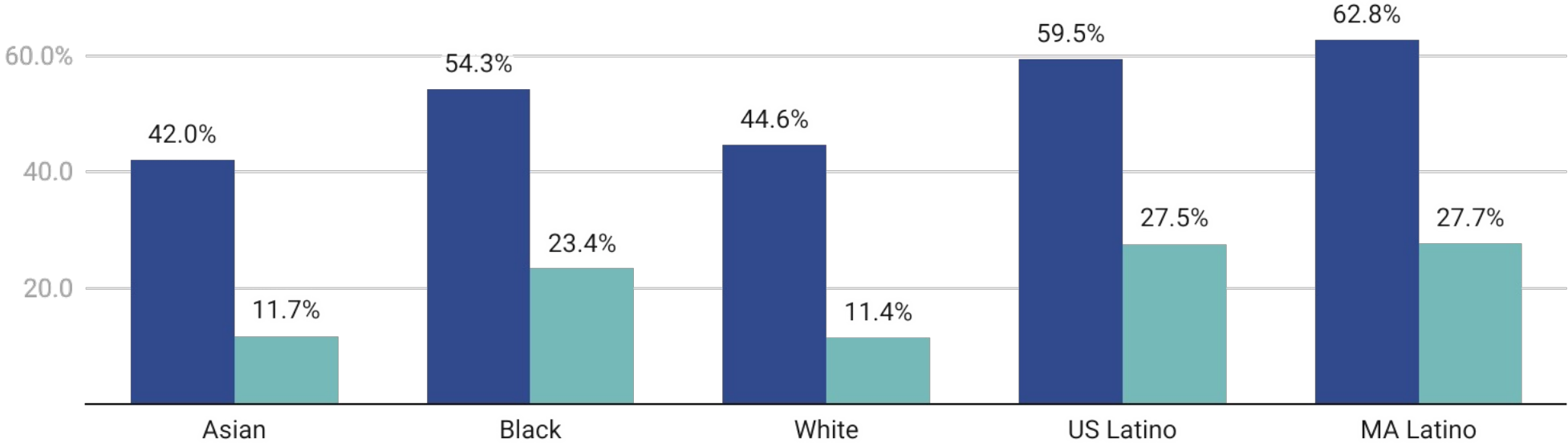


Chart: Boston Indicators • Source: Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey • Created with Datawrapper

# Strategies for progress

- Economic development strategies:
  - Robust jobs training programs
  - Improved job quality
  - Economic development in Gateway Cities
  - Support for Latino entrepreneurs
- Improved educational opportunities, k-12 and beyond
  - Early college high schools

# ***Las dificultades continúan:***

Economic challenges facing Massachusetts Latino

# *¿Cómo llegamos aquí?*

Some possible explanations for the socioeconomic challenges faced by Latino communities in Massachusetts

# *Oportunidades para avanzar:*

Economic empowerment strategies for Latinos in  
Massachusetts