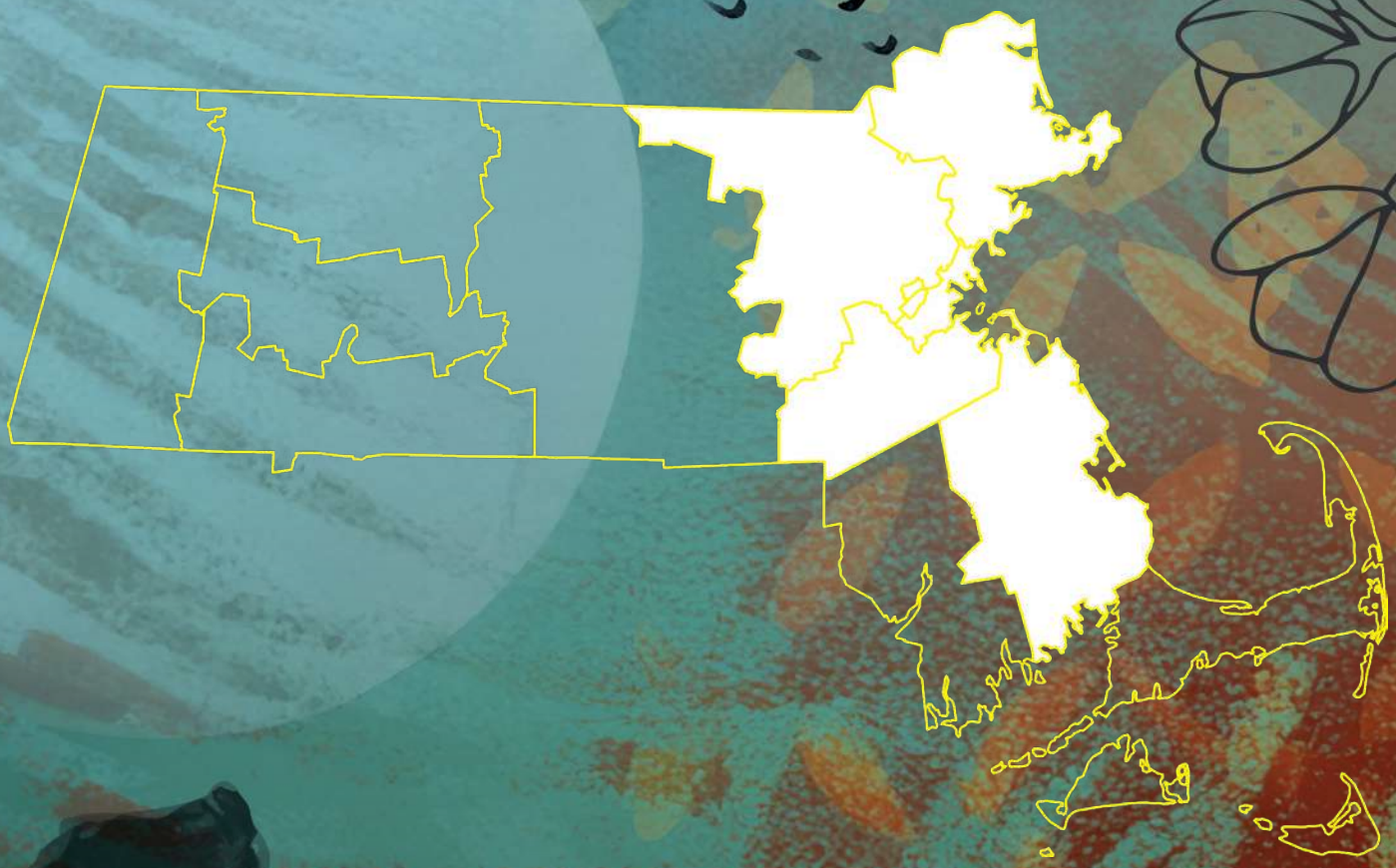
THE ASIAN COMMUNITY FUND
AT THE BOSTON FOUNDATION

AAPIP



## 2026 Boston Metro Area

AANHPI

# FUNDING SNAPSHOT

U.S. Institutional Giving for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Communities

# Introduction

Driven by a commitment to expanding and mobilizing philanthropic resources to improve the health and wellbeing of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) communities, Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy (AAPIP) and the Asian Community Fund (ACF) at the Boston Foundation are proud to present this report on institutional funding to Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities in the Boston Metro Area.

Today, AANHPIs are the fastest growing and most diverse racial group in Massachusetts, contributing billions of dollars to the local economy. Yet for far too long, our communities have been marginalized, under resourced, and overlooked.

This report is grounded in the belief that data is not just numbers—it is power. Data allows us to better understand the unique experiences of AANHPI residents across urban, suburban, and rural communities; identify disparities in health, economic mobility, education, and civic participation; and inform more equitable policies and philanthropic investments. By uplifting a clearer and more accurate picture of our communities, we aim to equip our community leaders with the evidence needed to drive systemic change.

AAPIP and ACF envision a future where AANHPI residents in Boston and across Massachusetts overcome systemic gaps in health and wealth. When we see our communities clearly, we can invest in them wisely. And when we invest intentionally, we move closer toward a future where every resident of our AANHPI communities has the opportunity to thrive.

# About AAPIP

Established in 1990, Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy (AAPIP) is a justice-minded national philanthropic affinity organization that provides unique community spaces for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AANHPIs), and allies in philanthropy. We are a membership-based organization that centers equity and justice in philanthropy to move money and build power of AANHPI communities for an inclusive democracy.

AAPIP serves as the progressive home to AANHPIs in philanthropy at all leadership levels across the sector. Anchored by national staff, AAPIP works across the country through a chapter network as sites of regional activism serving as a bridge between philanthropy and local non-profit organizations. These chapters are centers for place-based advocacy, information sharing, leadership development and network building around AANHPI issues and philanthropy.

# About Asian Community Fund

The Asian Community Fund (ACF) at the Boston Foundation is the first and only philanthropic fund in Massachusetts dedicated to activating, convening, and supporting the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. Launched in 2020, ACF is a permanent resource designed to galvanize and unite the diverse ethnicities within the AAPI community, incubate new partnerships, and build a stronger advocacy voice. Since the start of its grantmaking program in 2022, ACF has awarded more than $2 million to over 115 AANHPI-led and serving organizations throughout Massachusetts.

ACF anchors vital community coalitions and programs including the Asian Business Empowerment Council, the AAPI Arts and Culture Collaborative, and the AAPI Mental Health Collaborative, and advances AAPI visibility through research, advocacy, grantmaking, and convening. In 2022 and 2023 – ACF's first two years of grantmaking overlapped with the timespan of this research report 12 percent of all institutional giving directed to AANHPI communities in Massachusetts came from ACF.

# Methodology

The analyses presented in this Regional Funding Snapshot are drawn from Candid's transactions database, the same dataset as AAPIP's 2025 National Funding Snapshot. This dataset contains grants-level data from foundations and corporations, excluding individual and government giving, pledges, in-kind contributions, and social-impact bonds awarded between 2019 and 2023, using data accessed on August 2, 2024 (for data on grants awarded in calendar years 2019–2022) and May 19, 2025 (for data on grants awarded in calendar year 2023). Discretionary and donor-advised grants from U.S. community foundations are also included. AAPIP also accessed Candid's Foundation Maps database on February 1, 2026 for this region's funding data.

Candid classifies grants using its Philanthropy Classification System, which codes by issue area, population, strategy, and geography; most grants carry multiple codes. AAPIP conducted intensive quality control, specifically focused on population, to offer a more accurate representation of institutional funding designated to Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities. Due to limitations with the raw data provided, there may be an undercounting of the total grant awards (both in terms of total dollars awarded and total number of grants awarded). For a more detailed description of the methodology, please see the Methodology section of AAPIP's 2025 National Funding Snapshot.

This funding snapshot includes a focus on the Boston metro area, aligned with the U.S. Office of Management and Budget's Metropolitan Statistical Area within Massachusetts, which is comprised of five counties: Essex County, Middlesex County, Norfolk County, Plymouth County, and Suffolk County.

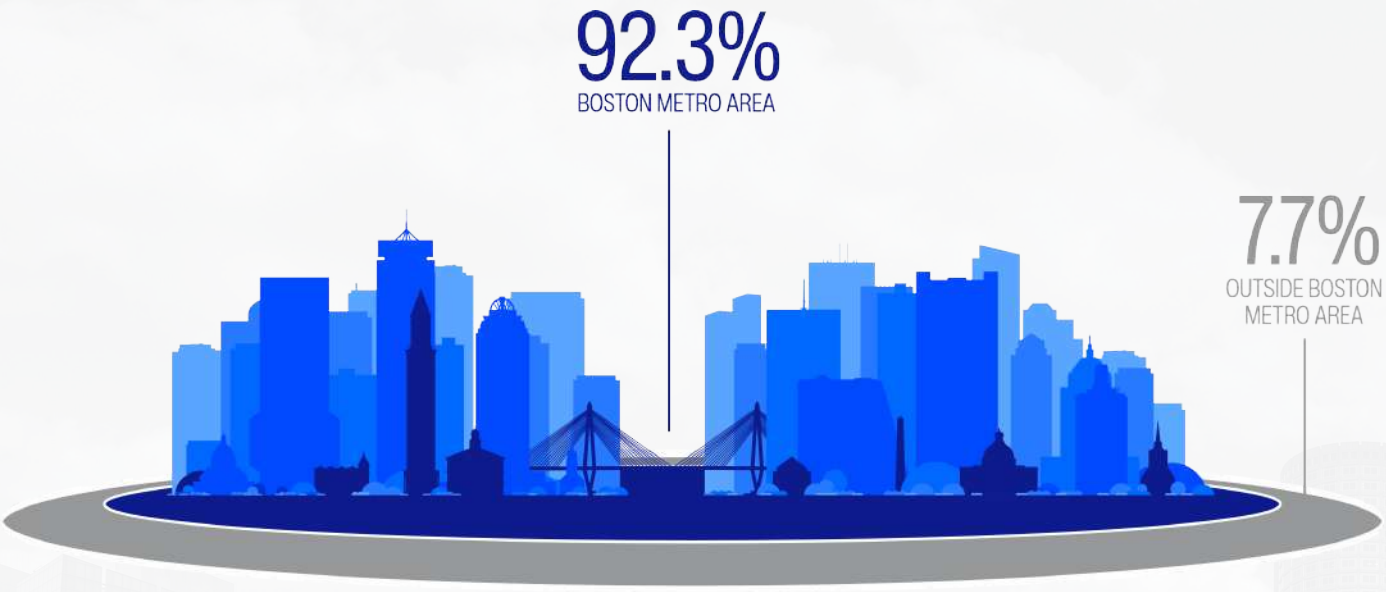


# Concentration of Massachusetts Funding in Boston Metro Area

Given that the vast majority of funding to AANHPI communities in Massachusetts is concentrated in the Boston Metro Area, this funding snapshot primarily focuses on the philanthropic landscape in the Boston Metro Area.

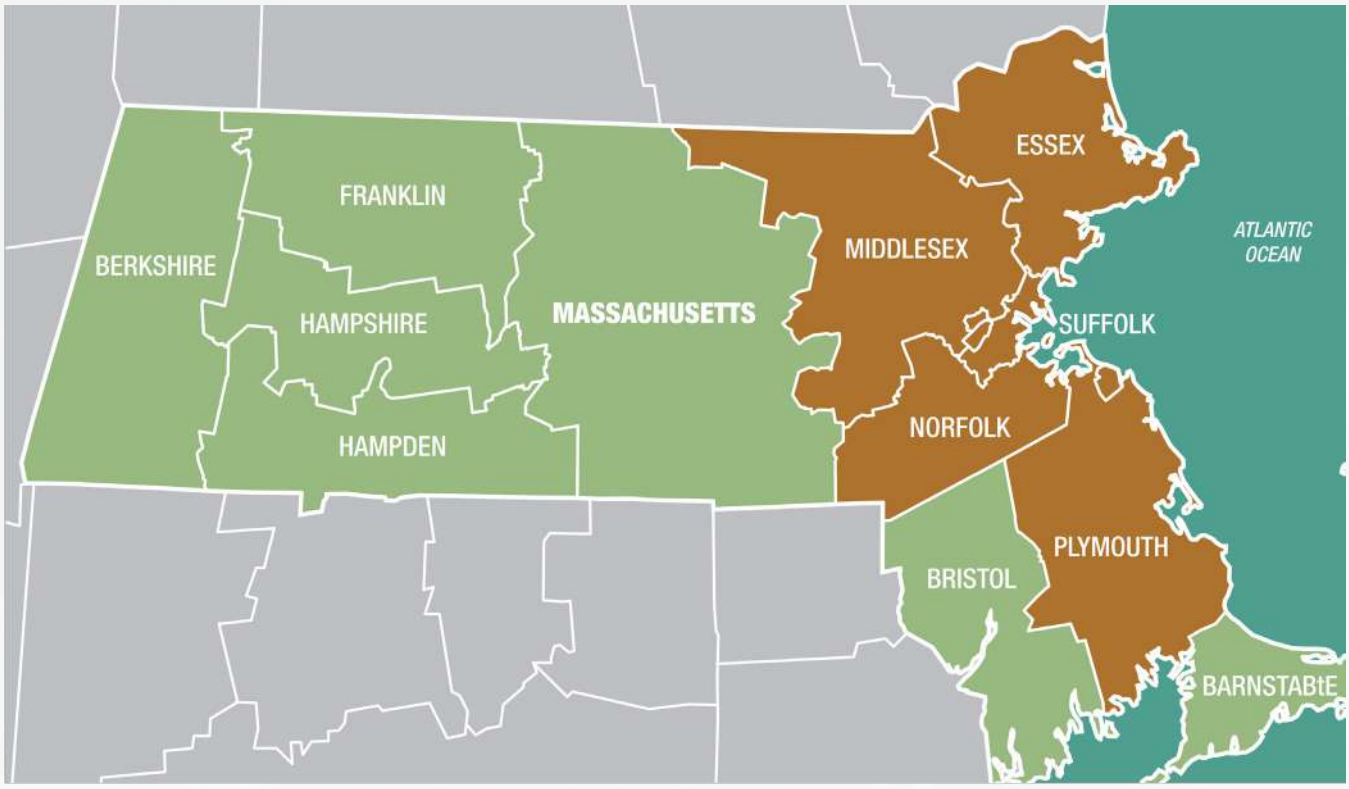
Of the $52.1 million awarded to AANHPI communities across Massachusetts between 2019 to 2023, $48.1 million, or 92.3% of the state's grant dollars designated to AANHPI communities was concentrated in Eastern Massachusetts, specifically the Boston Metro Area (Essex County, Middlesex County, Norfolk County, Suffolk County, and Plymouth County).

Specific analyses of Massachusetts data findings are included in the sidebar on pages 16 and 17.



# Boston AANHPI Population

The Boston Metro Area is home to nearly 465,000 Asian Americans, which make up 10.59% of the metro area's population—equivalent to 2% of all Asian Americans in the US. The region is also home to nearly 11,000 Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, which make up 0.2% of the metro area's population—equivalent to 0.66% of all NHPI residents in the US.




Boston Metro Area (Essex County, Middlesex County, Norfolk County, Suffolk County, and Plymouth County)

# Boston Metro Area AANHPI Population

| | REGIONAL POPULATION (TOTAL) | SHARE OF TOTAL REGIONAL POPULATION | SHARE OF NATIONAL POPULATION OF ETHNIC RACIAL GROUP |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Asian American** | 473,384 | 10.59% | 2.00% |
| **Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander** | 10,787 | 0.24% | 0.66% |

# Funding Landscape

Between 2019 and 2023, AANHPI communities received just $48.1 million of the $45.7 billion dollars granted to communities across the Boston Metro Area.

This equates to just 11 cents for every $100 in institutional funding, or 0.11% of all institutional funding to the Boston Metro Area as shown in the graphic below. Nationally, 34 cents for every $100 in institutional funding, or 0.34% of all institutional funding, was designated to AANHPI communities in the same time frame.

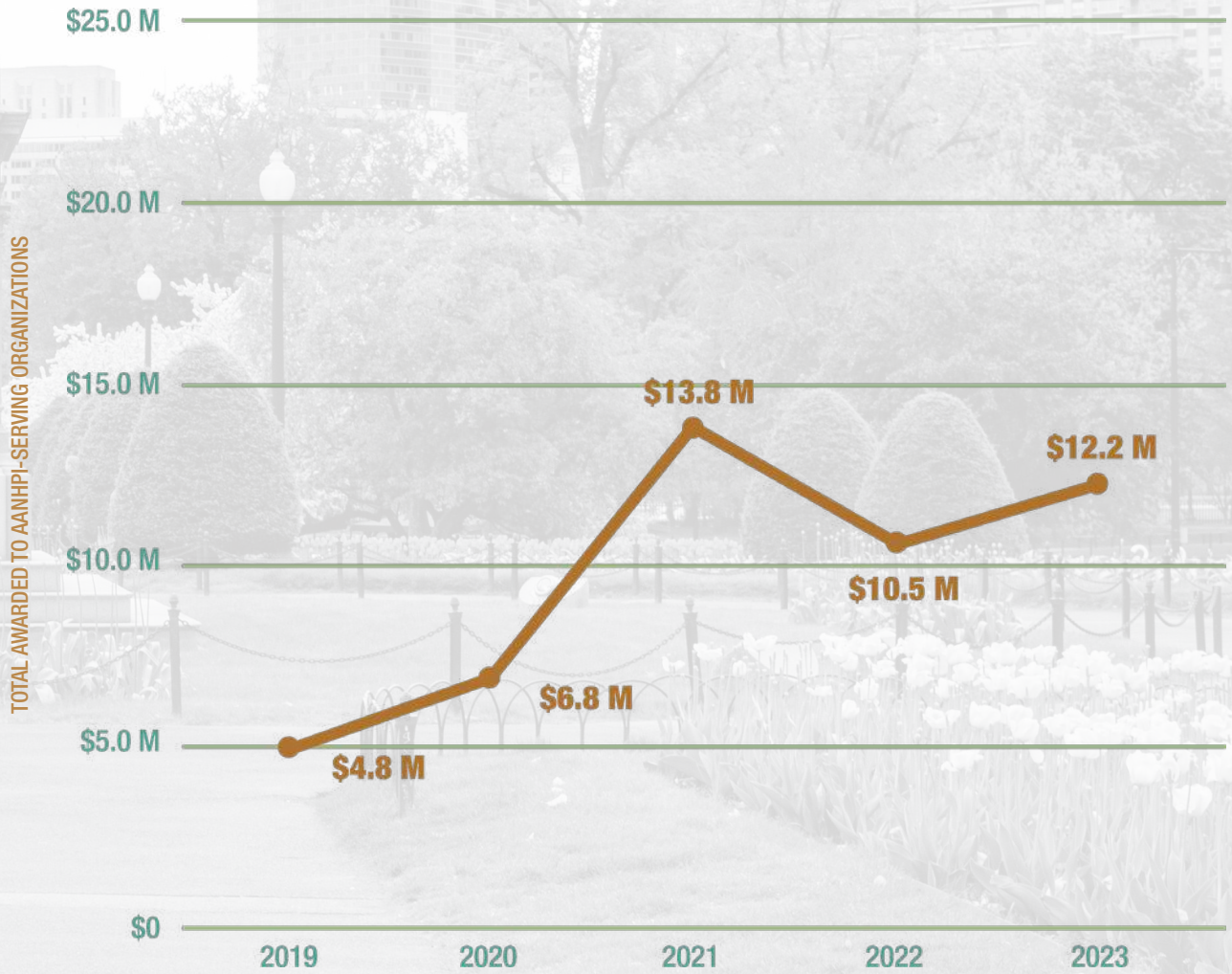


## For every $100 awarded by institutional funders, AANHPI communities received 11 ¢

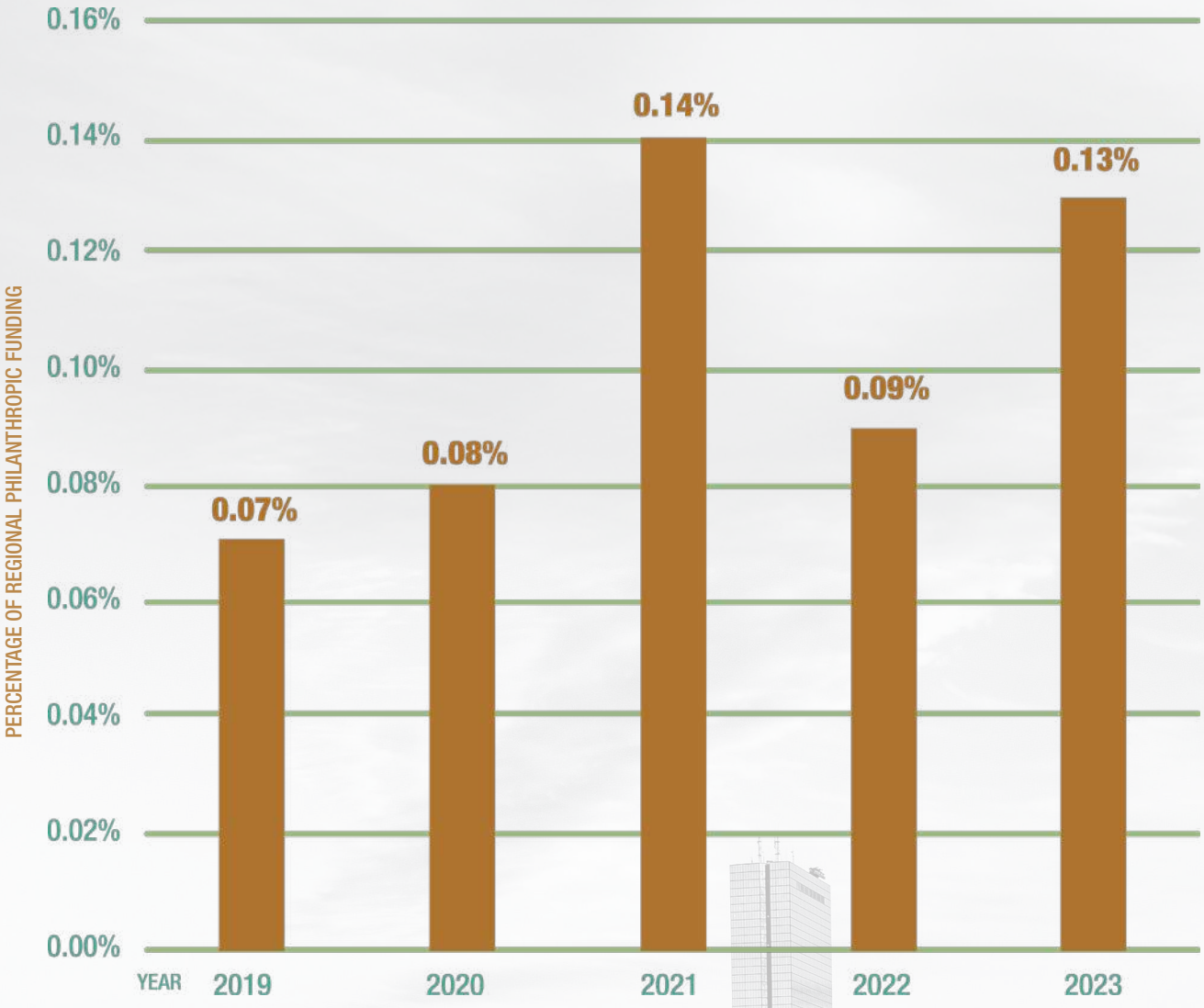
# Regional Versus National Grantmaking to AANHPI-Serving Organizations by Year (2019-2023)

| FUNDING YEAR | FUNDING TO AANHPI-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS IN BOSTON METRO AREA | NUMBER OF GRANTS TO AANHPI-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS IN BOSTON METRO AREA | INSTITUTIONAL FUNDING ACROSS BOSTON METRO AREA | PERCENTAGE OF REGIONAL FUNDING GRANTED TO AANHPI-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS | NATIONAL FUNDING GRANTED TO AANHPI-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS | PERCENTAGE OF NATIONAL FUNDING GRANTED TO AANHPI-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2019 | $4.8 M | 176 | $6.6 B | 0.07% | $195.3 M | 0.20% |
| 2020 | $6.8 M | 237 | $8.5 B | 0.08% | $288.8 M | 0.27% |
| 2021 | $13.8 M | 249 | $9.7 B | 0.14% | $494.9 M | 0.44% |
| 2022 | $10.5 M | 277 | $11.7 B | 0.09% | $393.4 M | 0.29% |
| 2023 | $12.2 M | 283 | $9.2 B | 0.13% | $481.1 M | 0.34% |
| **TOTAL** | **$48.1 M** | **1,222** | **$45.7 B** | **0.11%** | **$1.85 B** | **0.31%** |

# Institutional Grantmaking to AANHPI-Serving Organizations in Boston Metro Area by Year (2019-2023)



# Percentage of Regional Grantmaking to AANHPI-Serving Organizations in Boston Metro Area (2019-2023)

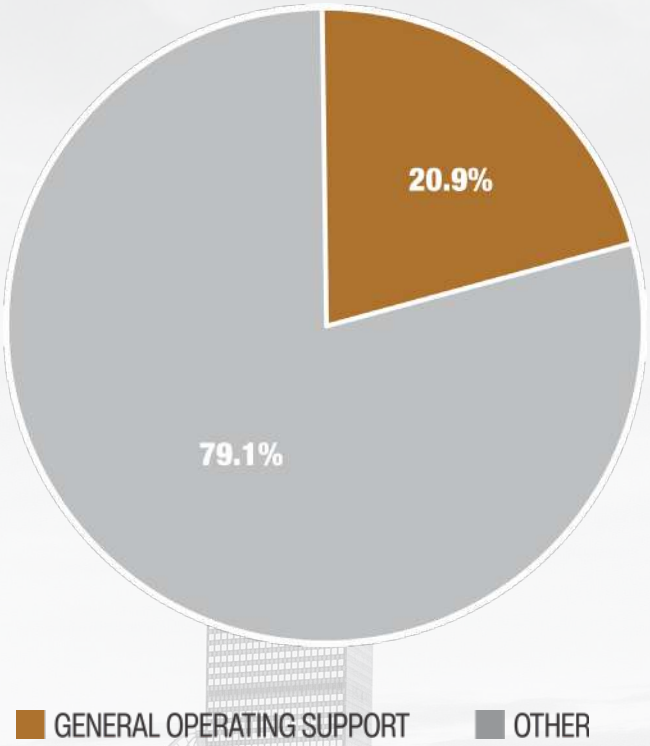



Between 2020 and 2021, national institutional funding to AANHPI communities surged, increasing by 71.4% in one year. This increase was likely attributable to the confluence of COVID-19 rapid response funding, heightened attention to the alarming rise in anti-Asian violence including the Atlanta spa shootings, and wider philanthropic support for DEI efforts connected to the national racial reckoning. In the Boston Metro Area, this surge in funding between 2020 and 2021 was even more pronounced, increasing by 102.8%. This suggests that calls to increase resources for AANHPI communities were somewhat effective, but this surge in philanthropic support has not been sustained.

## General Operating Support in Boston Metro Area

Of the $48.1 million awarded to support AANHPI communities in the Boston Metro Area, only 20.9% was awarded as general operating support. Nationally, 34.3% of funding for AANHPI communities was awarded as general operating support. General operating support is preferred by grantees and has been encouraged in challenges times to make funding more flexible and responsive to community needs.

## Percent of General Operating Support in Boston Metro Area

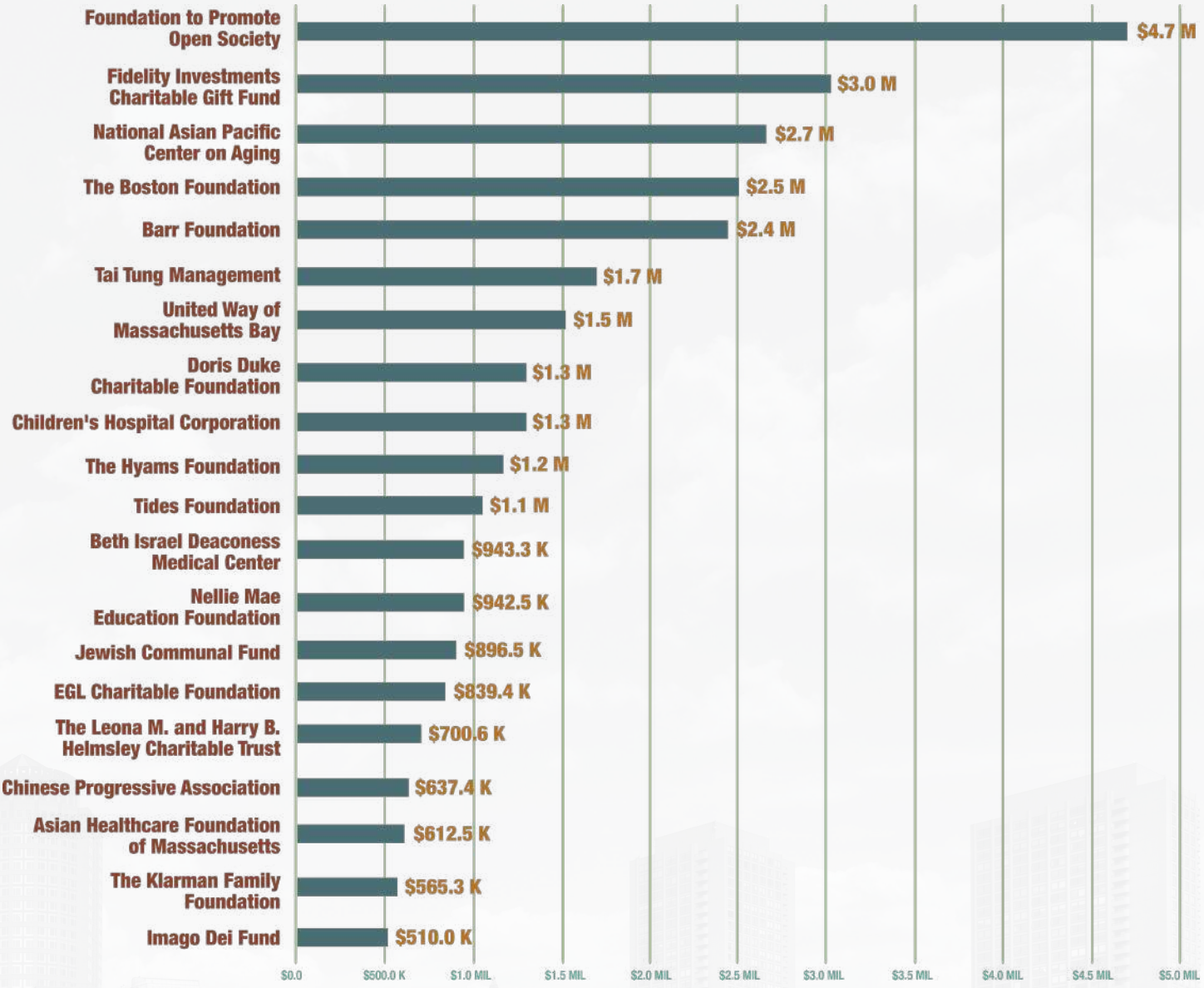


# Top 20 Funders of AANHPI-Serving Organizations in Boston Metro Area (2019-2023)

| ORGANIZATION | TOTAL FUNDING (DOLLARS) | NUMBER OF GRANTS |
|---|---|---|
| Foundation to Promote Open Society | $4.7 M | 2 |
| Fidelity Investments Charitable Gift Fund | $3.0 M | 52 |
| National Asian Pacific Center on Aging | $2.7 M | 4 |
| The Boston Foundation* *inclusive of the Asian Community Fund | $2.5 M | 100 |
| Barr Foundation | $2.4 M | 27 |
| Tai Tung Management | $1.7 M | 1 |
| United Way of Massachusetts Bay | $1.5 M | 27 |
| Doris Duke Charitable Foundation | $1.3 M | 5 |
| Children's Hospital Corporation | $1.3 M | 10 |
| The Hyams Foundation | $1.2 M | 18 |
| Tides Foundation | $1.1 M | 4 |
| Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center | $943.3 K | 8 |
| Nellie Mae Education Foundation | $942.5 K | 24 |
| Jewish Communal Fund | $896.5 K | 2 |
| EGL Charitable Foundation | $839.4 K | 2 |
| The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust | $700.6 K | 2 |
| Chinese Progressive Association | $637.4 K | 18 |
| Asian Healthcare Foundation of Massachusetts | $612.5 K | 12 |
| The Klarman Family Foundation | $565.3 K | 6 |
| Imago Dei Fund | $510.0 K | 3 |

# Top 20 Funders of AANHPI-Serving Organizations in Boston Metro Area (2019-2023)

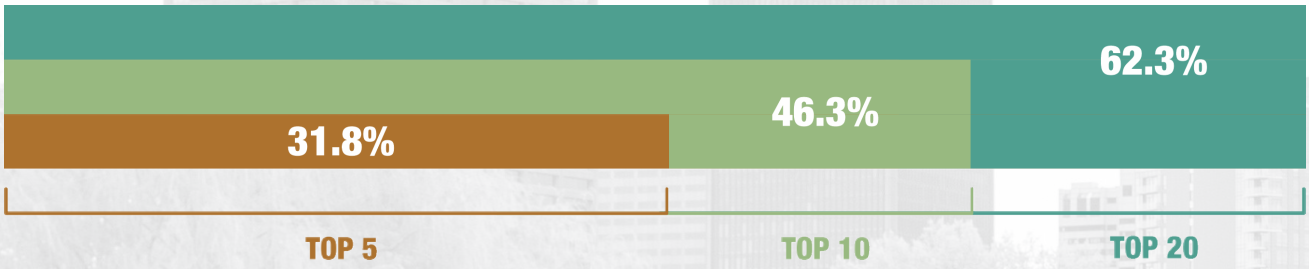
Of these Top 20 Funders, 12 (60%) are located within the Boston Metro Area, while 8 (40%) are located in other states.



# Distribution of Funding to AANHPI Communities in Boston Metro Area (2019 - 2023)

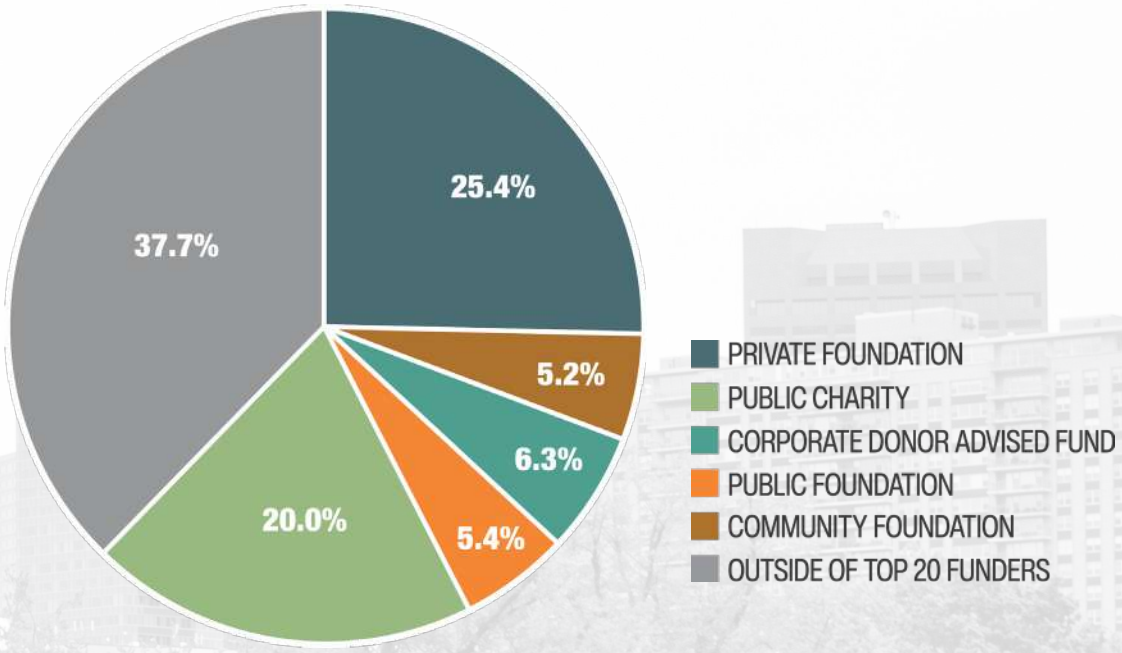
| FUNDER | TOTAL GRANTMAKING (DOLLARS) | PERCENTAGE OF REGIONAL FUNDING GRANTED TO AANHPI-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS | NATIONAL FUNDING GRANTED TO AANHPI-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS |
|---|---|---|---|
| TOP 5 | $15.3 M | 31.8% | 13.6% |
| TOP 10 | $22.3 M | 46.3% | 22.1% |
| TOP 20 | $30.0 M | 62.3% | 33.7% |

The top 5 funders of AANHPI-serving organizations in the Boston Metro Area were responsible for 31.8% – nearly one third – of all institutional funding to local AANHPI communities between 2019 and 2023. By contrast, nationally, the top 5 funders of AANHPI-serving organizations accounted for 13.6% of all funding to AANHPI communities—illustrating how the philanthropic landscape supporting AANHPI residents in the Boston Metro Area is more concentrated amongst top funders than the national benchmark.



# Types of Funding Institutions Among Top 20 Funders of AANHPI-Serving Organizations in the Boston Metro Area

Grant dollars awarded by Top 20 Funders of the Boston Metro Area totaled $30 million, or 62.3% of the region's funding between 2019 and 2023. Of these Top 20 Funders of AANHPI-Serving Organizations, private foundations accounted for 25.4% of the region's funding, public charities accounted for 20%, corporate donor advised funds accounted for 6.3%, public foundations accounted for 5.4%, and community foundations accounted for 5.2%. It is important to note that the Boston Foundation is the only community foundation within the Top 20 Funders of the Boston Metro Area. Funders outside of the Top 20 accounted for 37.7% of the region's funding, but were not categorized by funder type.



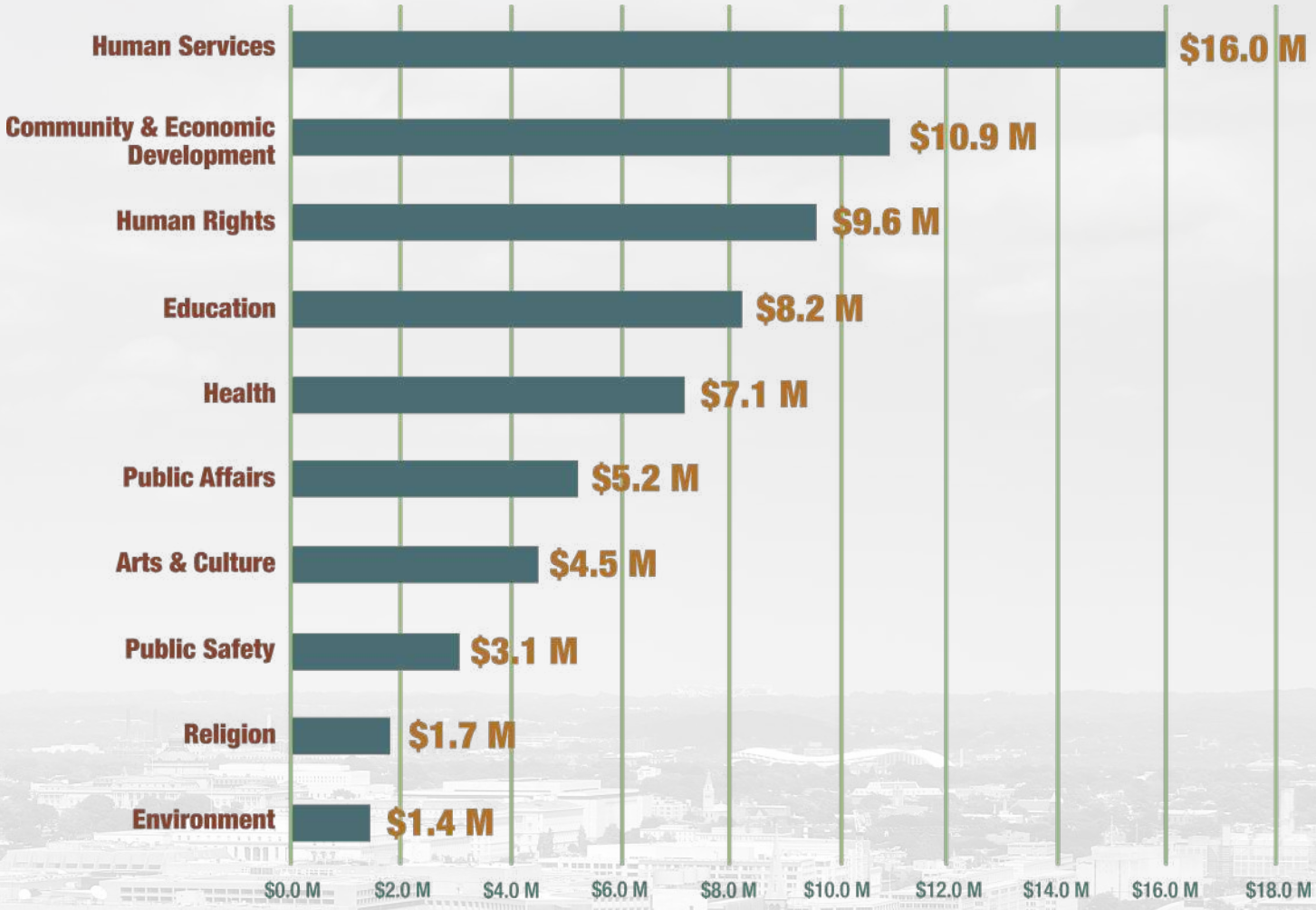

| Type of Institution | TOTAL GRANTMAKING | PERCENTAGE OF REGIONAL FUNDING |
|---|---|---|
| PRIVATE FOUNDATION | $12.2 M | 25.4% |
| PUBLIC CHARITY | $9.6 M | 20.0% |
| CORPORATE DONOR ADVISED FUND | $3.0 M | 6.3% |
| PUBLIC FOUNDATION | $2.6 M | 5.4% |
| COMMUNITY FOUNDATION | $2.5 M | 5.2% |
| OUTSIDE OF TOP 20 FUNDERS | $18.2 M | 37.7% |

# Funding by Issue Area in Boston Metro Area (2019-2023)

Nationally, philanthropic resources granted to AANHPI-serving organizations focused primarily on Human Rights, Human Services, and Community & Economic Development. In the Boston Metro Area, the top three funded issue areas were Human Services, Community & Economic Development, and Human Rights. Whereas institutional funding to AANHPI communities in the Boston Metro Area for Human Services, Community & Economic Development, and Education was higher than the national baseline, institutional funding for Human Rights, Arts & Culture, and Public Safety was below the national baseline.

| ISSUE AREA | Regional Funding Granted to AANHPI-serving Organizations | Percentage of Regional Funding Granted to AANHPI-Serving Organizations | National Funding Granted to AANHPI-serving Organizations | Percentage of National Funding Granted to AANHPI-Serving Organizations |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Human Services | $16.0 M | 33.2% | $471.1 M | 25.4% |
| Community & Economic Development | $10.9 M | 22.7% | $363.6 M | 19.6% |
| Human Rights | $9.6 M | 19.9% | $544.6 M | 29.4% |
| Education | $8.2 M | 17.0% | $191.7 M | 10.3% |
| Health | $7.1 M | 14.9% | $272.9 M | 14.7% |
| Public Affairs | $5.2 M | 10.8% | $225.8 M | 12.2% |
| Arts & Culture | $4.5 M | 9.3% | $279.1 M | 15.1% |
| Public Safety | $3.1 M | 6.3% | $202.8 M | 10.9% |
| Religion | $1.7 M | 3.6% | $61.0 M | 3.3% |
| Environment | $1.4 M | 2.9% | $40.3 M | 2.2% |

# Funding by Issue Area in Boston Metro Area (2019-2023)



## Comparing Institutional Funding across Boston and Massachusetts

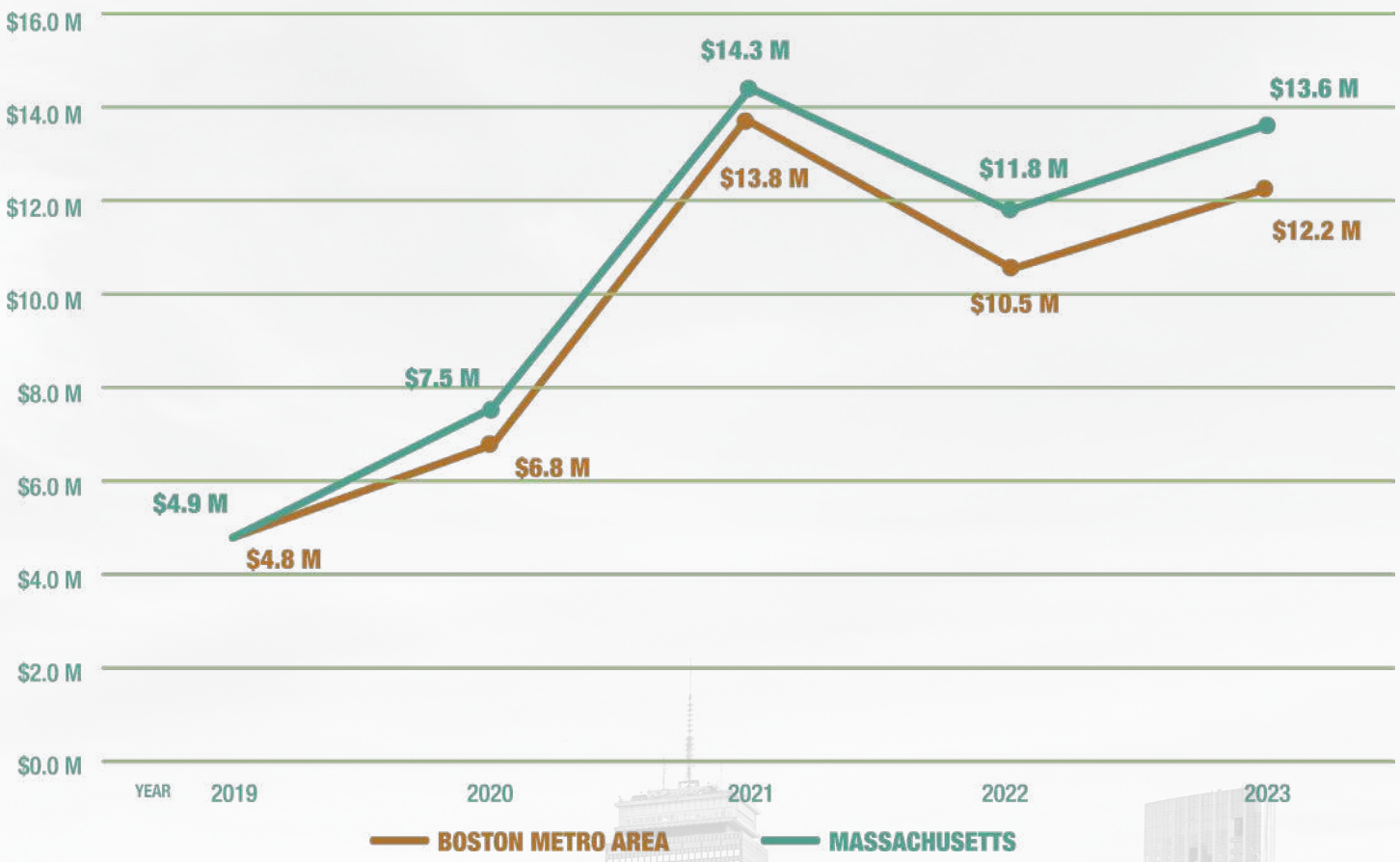
Massachusetts is home to nearly 580,000 Asian Americans and 18,000 Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders-making up 8.30% and 0.26% of the state's population, respectively. Despite the fact that just 7.7% of funding to AANHPI communities in Massachusetts is directed to organizations outside of the Boston Metro Area, 18% of AANHPIs in Massachusetts reside outside of the Boston Metro Area.

Between 2019 and 2023, institutional funding designated to AANHPI communities across the state totaled $52.1 million. During this same time period, overall institutional funding to communities across Massachusetts totaled $52 billion. Therefore, across Massachusetts, AANHPI communities received just 0.10% of all institutional funding, or 10 cents for every $100 awarded in the state.

## Institutional Grantmaking to AANHPI-Serving Organizations in Boston vs. Massachusetts (2019-2023)

| FUNDING YEAR | Funding to AANHPI-serving Organizations in Boston Metro Area | Percentage of Funding Granted to AANHPI-Serving Organizations in Boston Metro Area | Funding to AANHPI-serving Organizations in MA | Percentage of Funding Granted to AANHPI-Serving Organizations in MA |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2019 | $4.8 M | 0.07% | $4.9 M | 0.06% |
| 2020 | $6.8 M | 0.08% | $7.5 M | 0.08% |
| 2021 | $13.8 M | 0.14% | $14.3 M | 0.13% |
| 2022 | $10.5 M | 0.09% | $11.8 M | 0.09% |
| 2023 | $12.2 M | 0.13% | $13.6 M | 0.13% |
| Total | $48.1 M | 0.11% | $52.1 M | 0.10% |

# Institutional Grantmaking to AANHPI-Serving Organizations in Boston vs. Massachusetts, 2019-2023




## Top Funders in Massachusetts

Since the vast majority of institutional funding awarded to organizations in Massachusetts was concentrated in the Boston Metro Area, 19 of the Top 20 Funders in the Boston Metro Area were also the top funders of AANHPI-serving organizations throughout the state. When comparing the Top 20 Funders in Massachusetts to the Top 20 Funders in the Boston Metro Area, Health Resources in Action replaces the Imago Dei Fund.






A vibrant gathering of nonprofit and community leaders at the Asian Community Fund's 2025 Grantee Celebration.

Photo by: Brightside Media (formerly Nicole Chan Photography)

# Acknowledgments

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