

U N D E R S T A N D I N G B O S T O N

Our Shared Future:

Charting a Path for
Immigrant Advancement in a
New Political Landscape

Wednesday, April 19th, 2017
8:30 - 10:30 a.m.



#SharedFuture

The Importance of Immigrants to Boston's Continued Prosperity

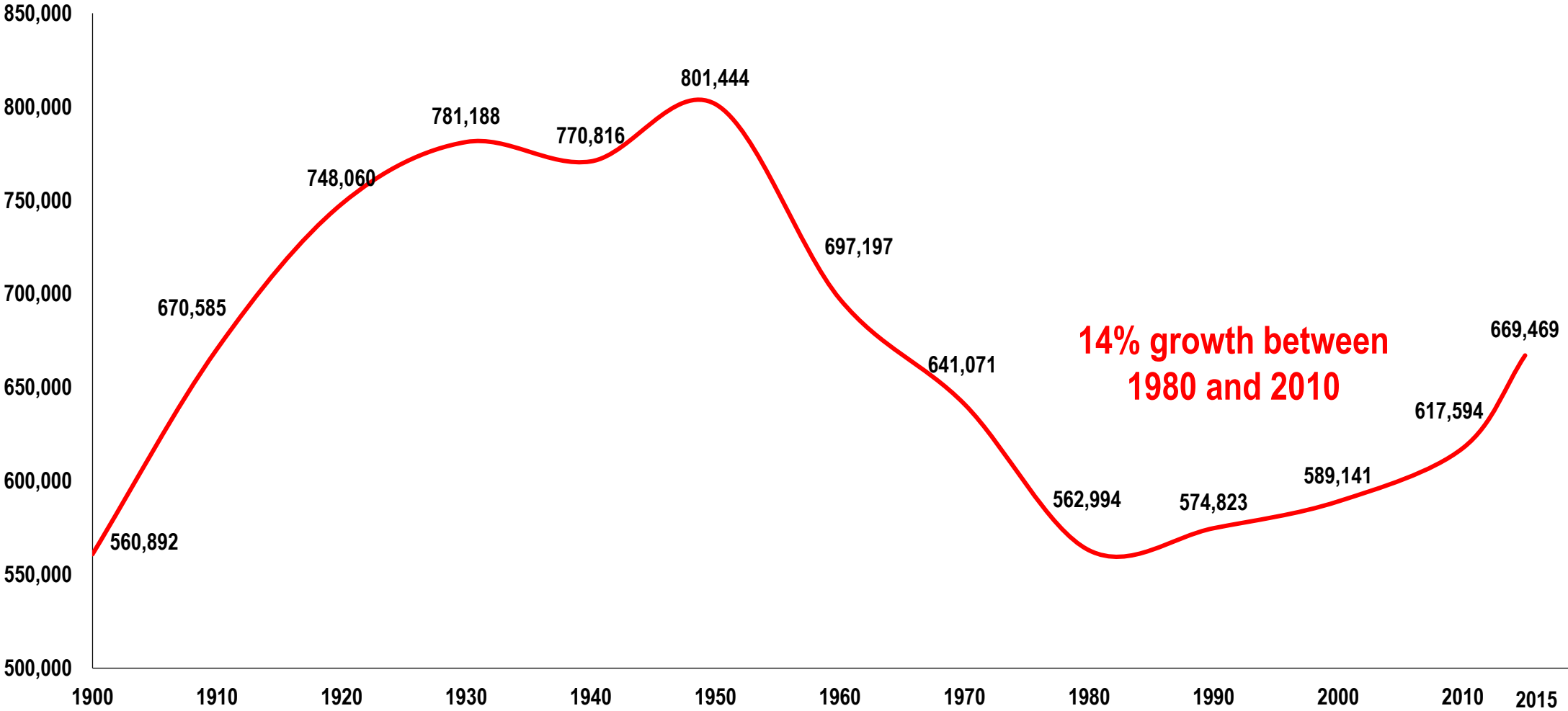
Alvaro Lima

**Director of Research – Boston Planning
& Development Agency**

April 19, 2017

**during the last
decades Boston's
population grew**

Boston's Population (1900-2015)

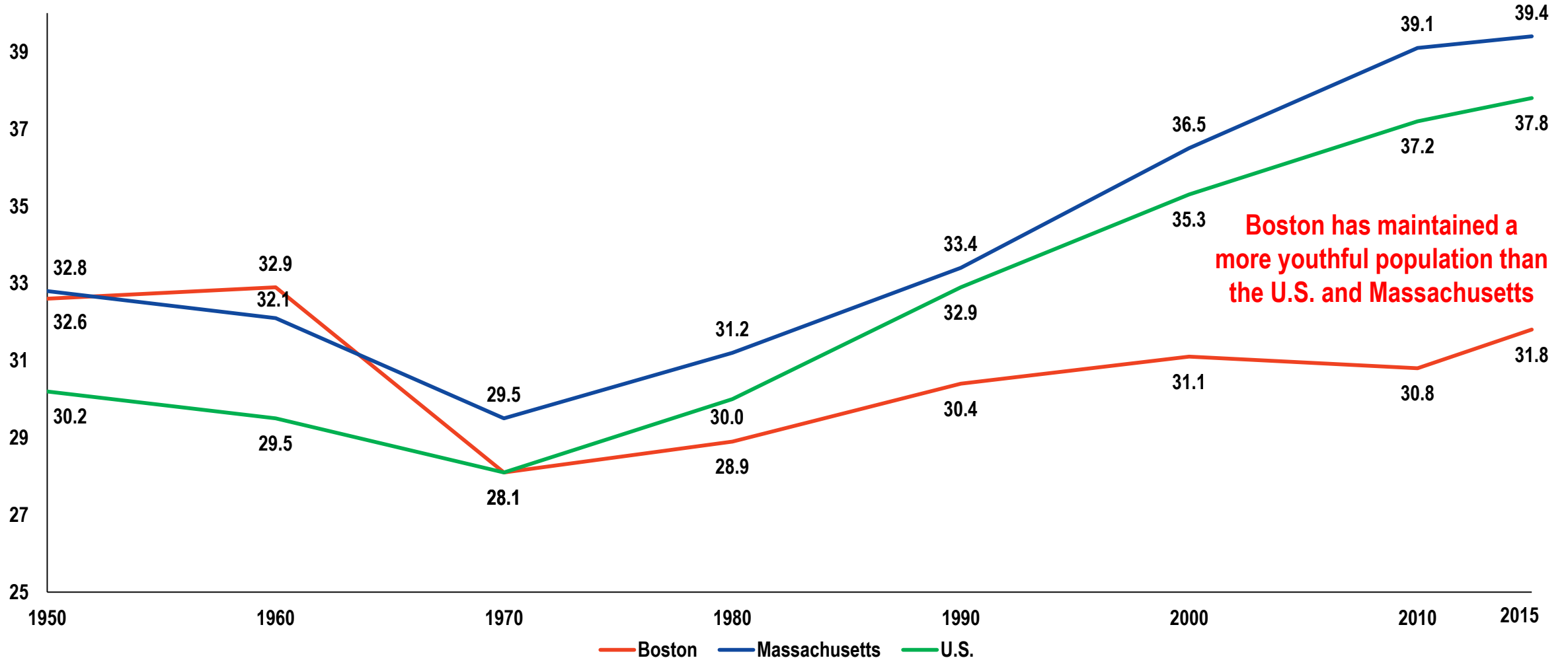


14% growth between 1980 and 2010

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1900-2010 Decennial Census, 2015 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

**it stayed
young**

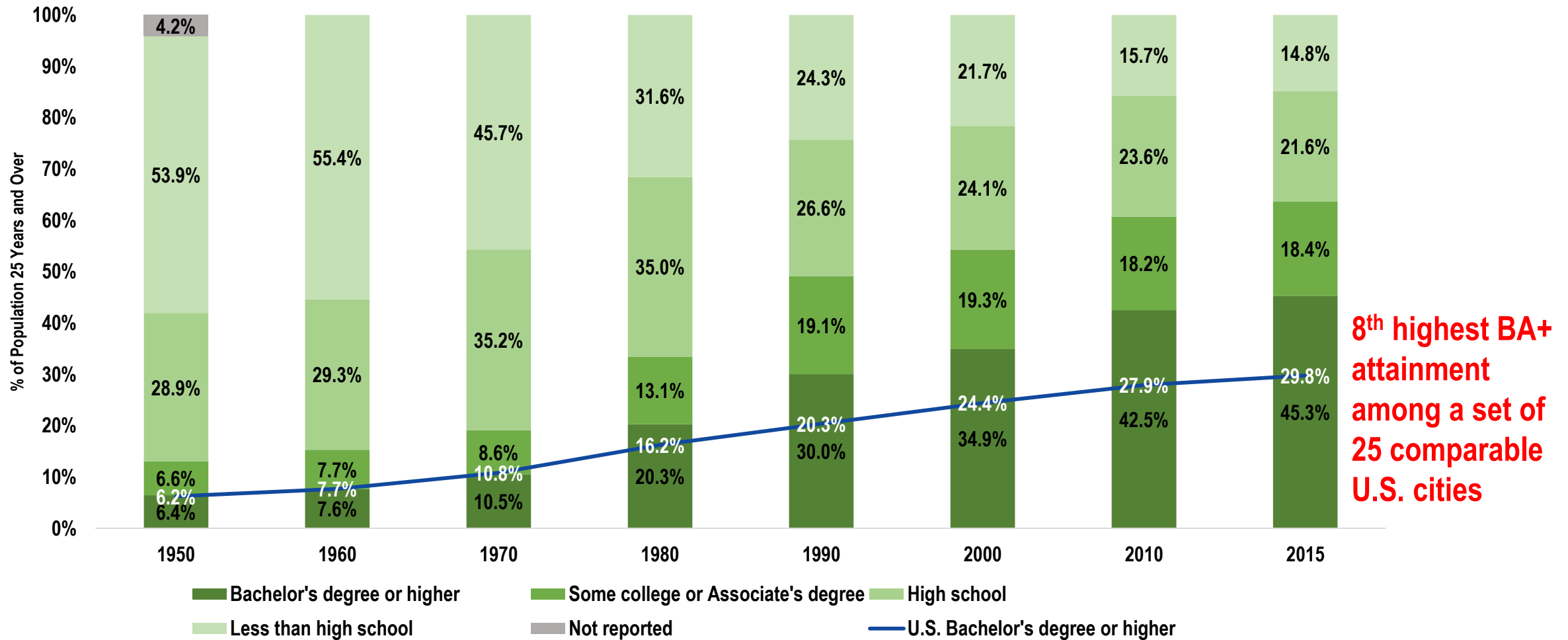
Median Age in Boston/MA/US (1950-2015)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2015 1-Year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

**became more
educated**

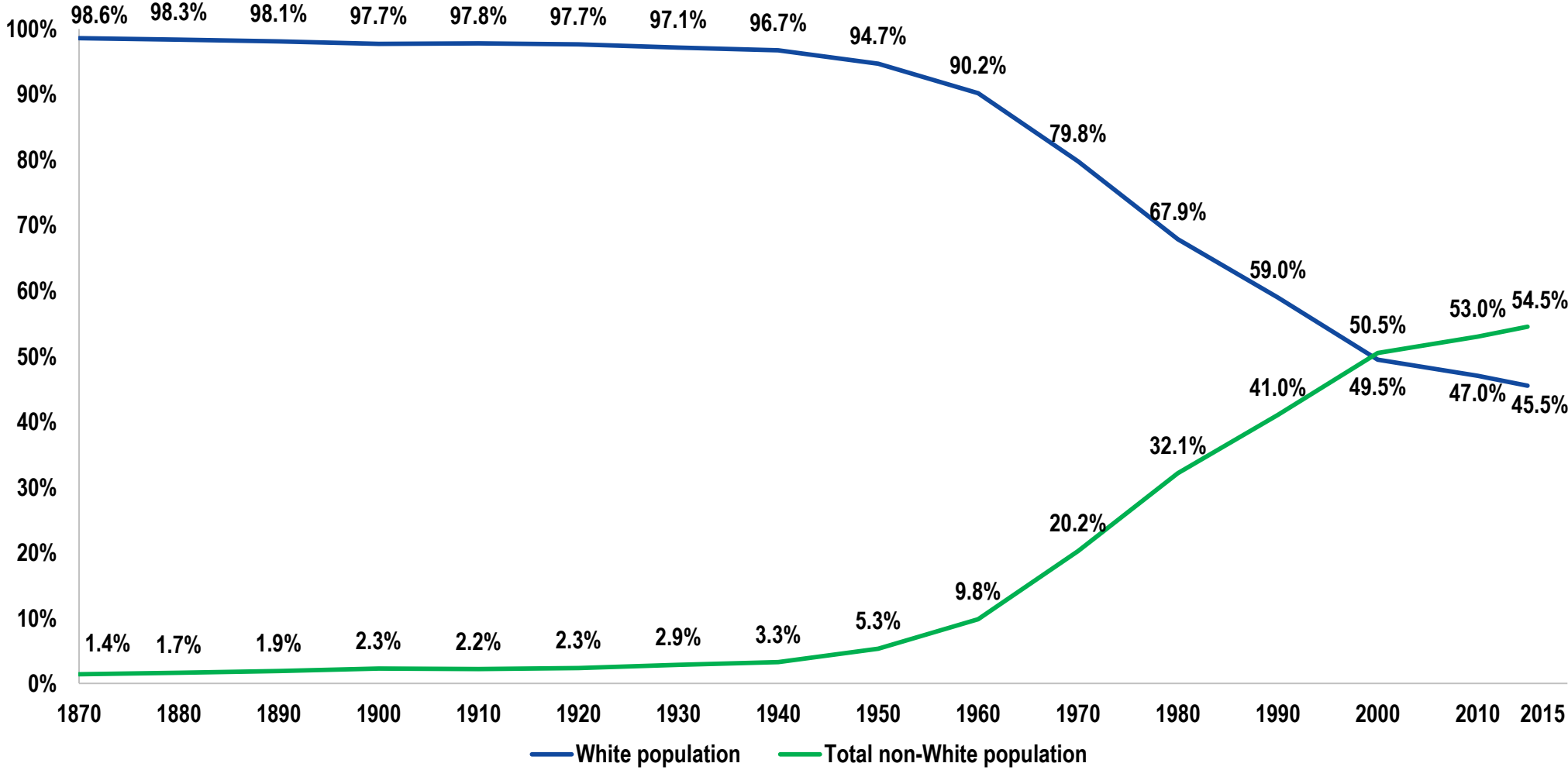
Educational Attainment of Boston vs U.S. (1950-2015)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950 – 2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2015 1-Year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

**and
became
more diverse**

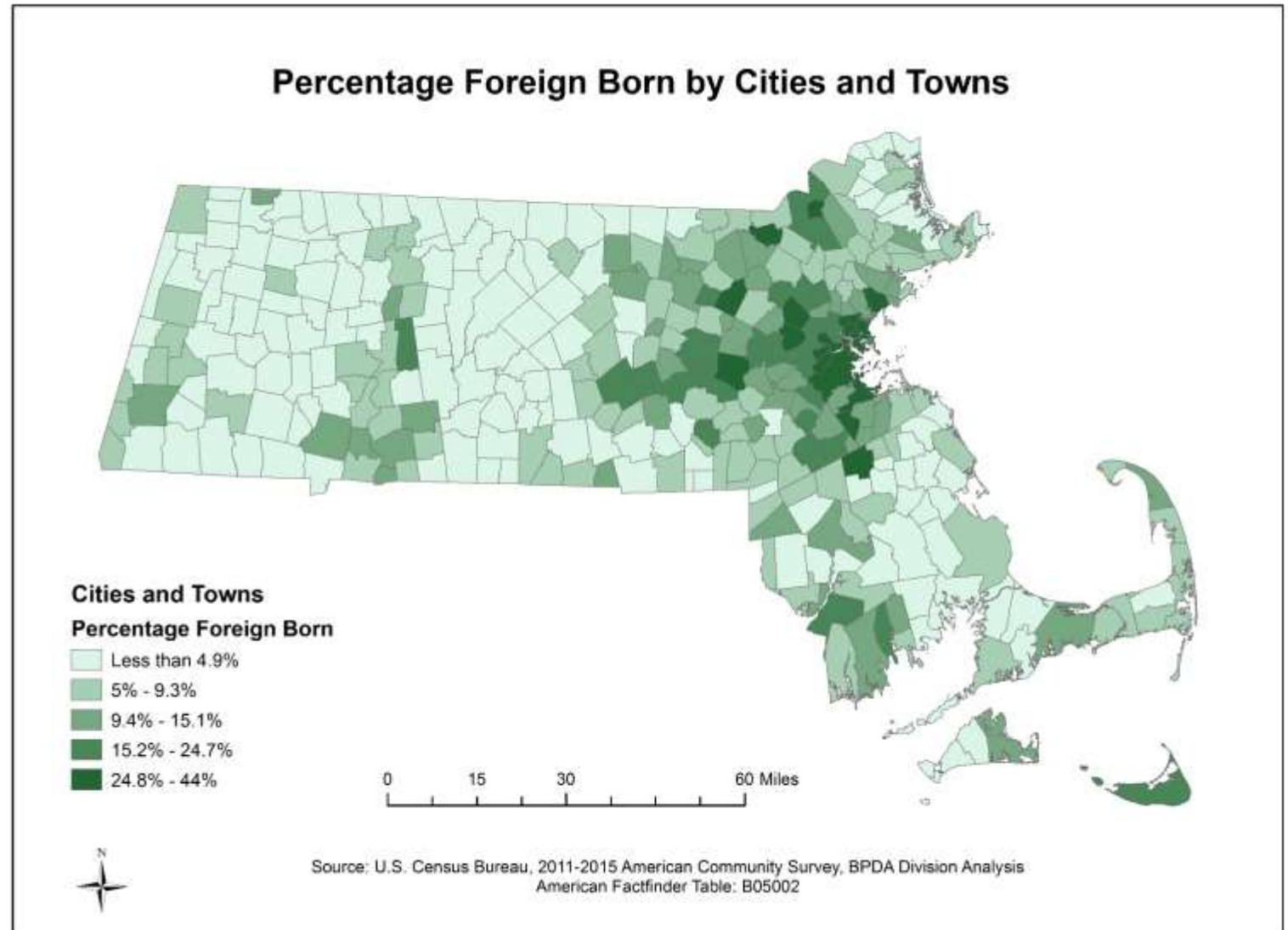
Boston's Minority Population 1870-2015



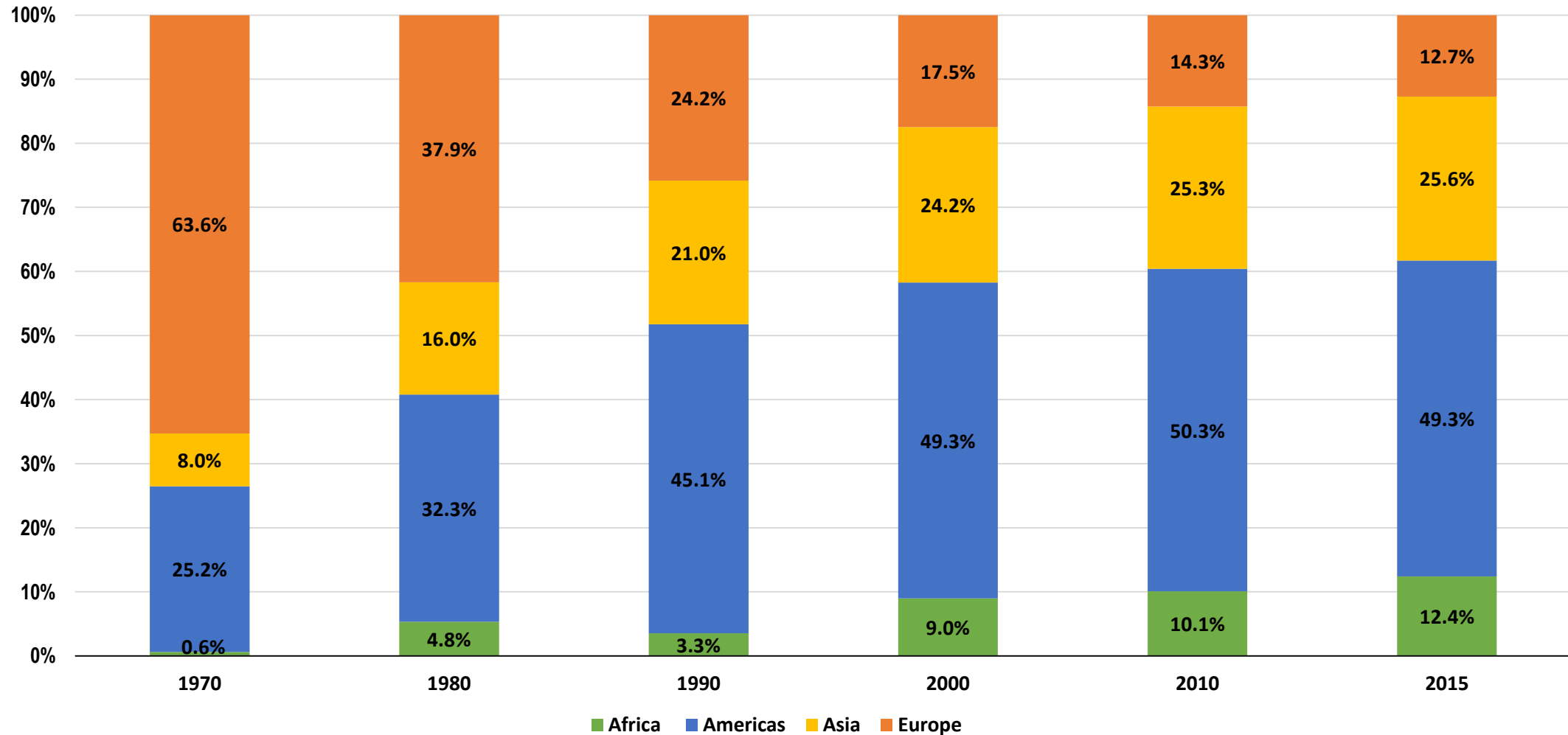
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1870-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2015 1-year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

**immigrants are a
big part of this
story...**

- There are 1,095,953 foreign born in Massachusetts, 16.1% of the state population
- Boston has 190,123 foreign-born residents, 28.4% of the city population
- Boston immigrants come from all continents and from 130 different countries
- Of foreign born in Boston, 28.6% are Hispanic/Latino and 23.8% are Asian

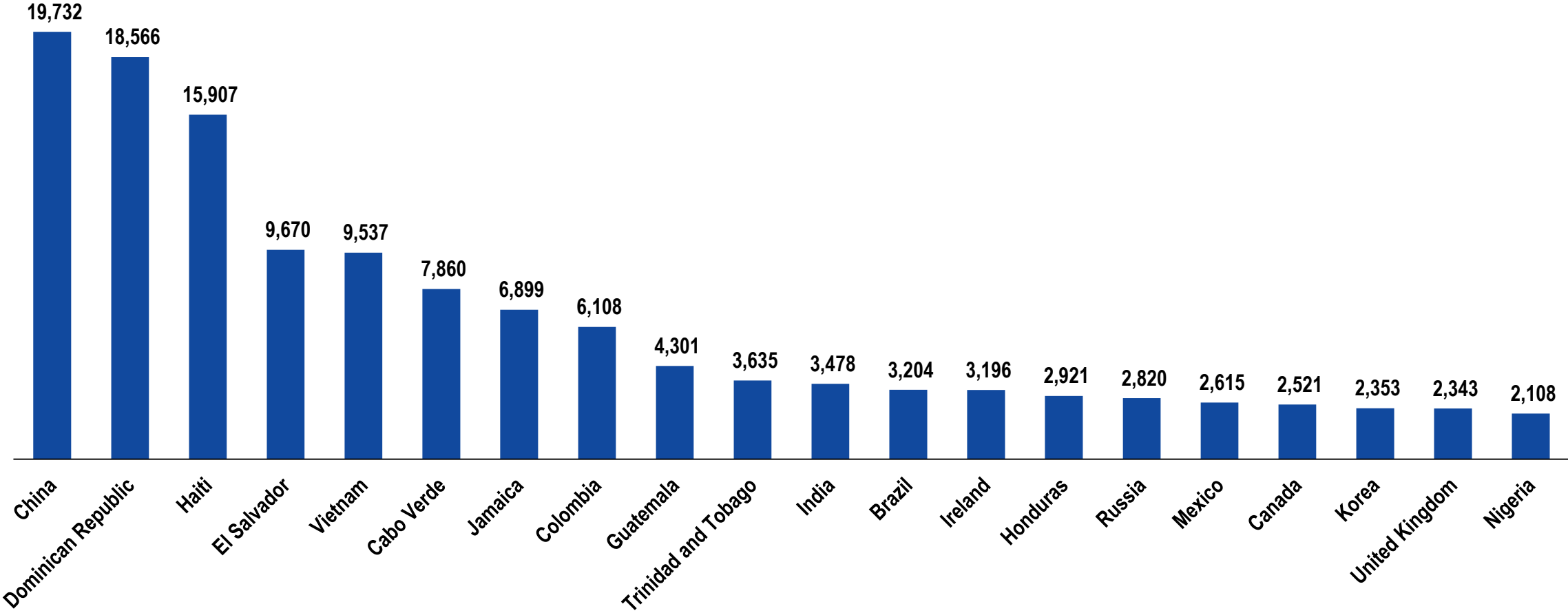


Region of Origin of Boston's Immigrants (2015)



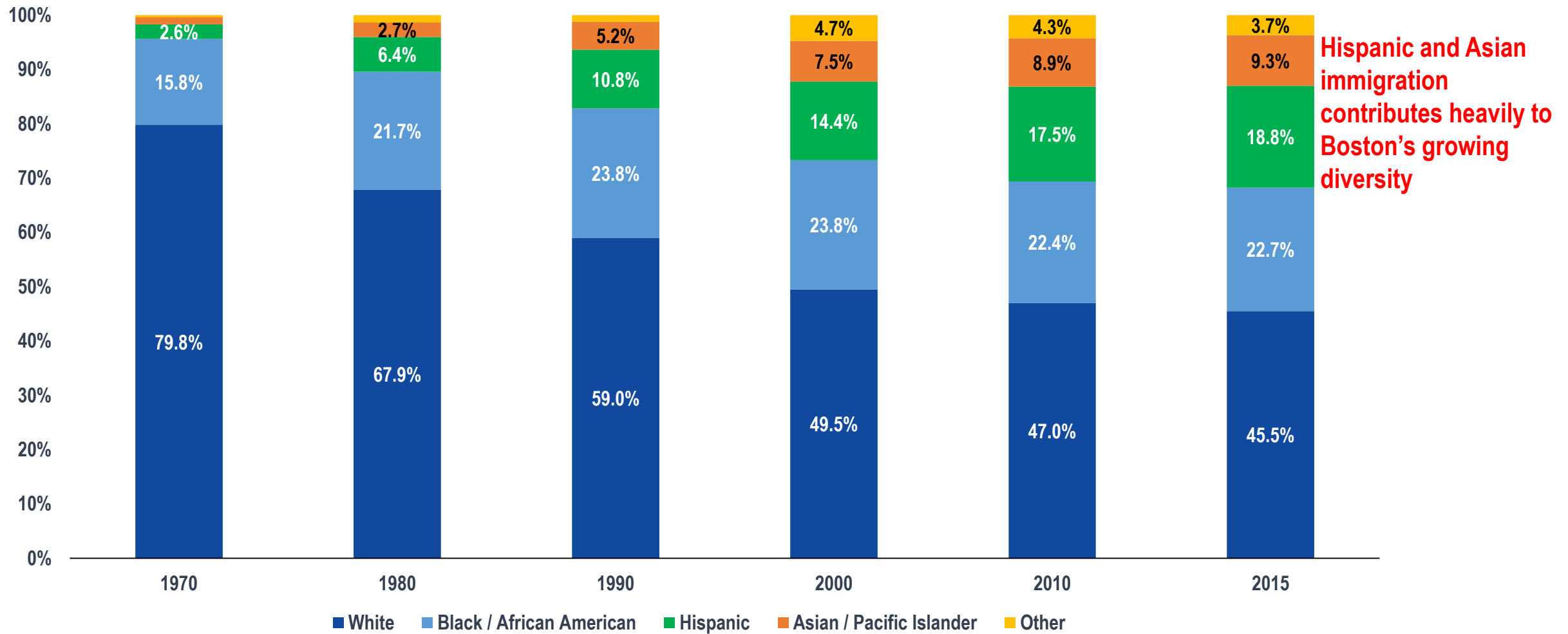
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 One-Year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Top 20 Countries of Origin for Foreign Born (2015)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

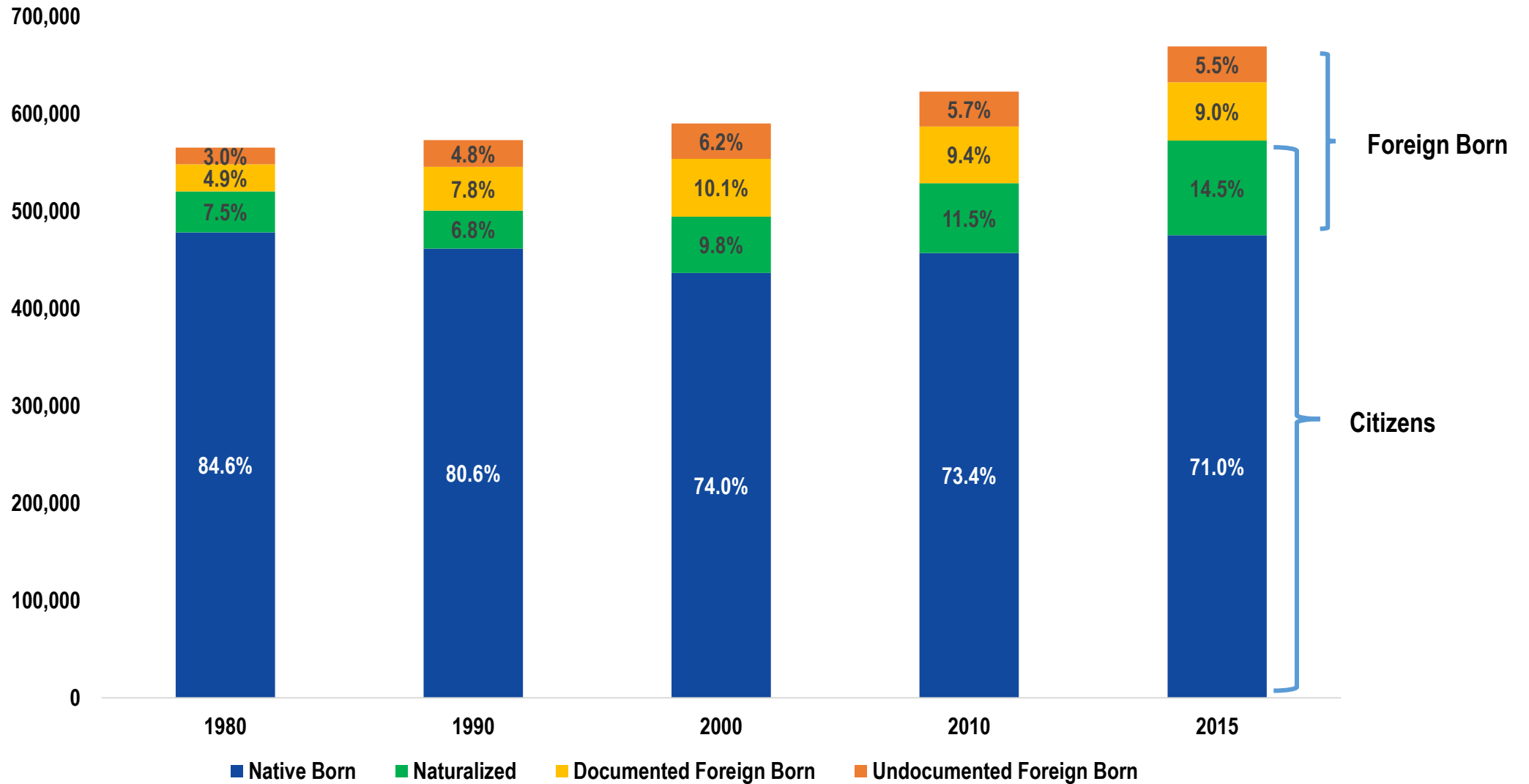
Boston's Diverse Population (1970-2015)



Source: 1970 -2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2015 1-Year American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Note: 2000 was the first year the Census compiled data on individuals who identified themselves as multiracial. Those who indicated "two or more races" are included in "Other" in 2000 and 2010 in this chart.

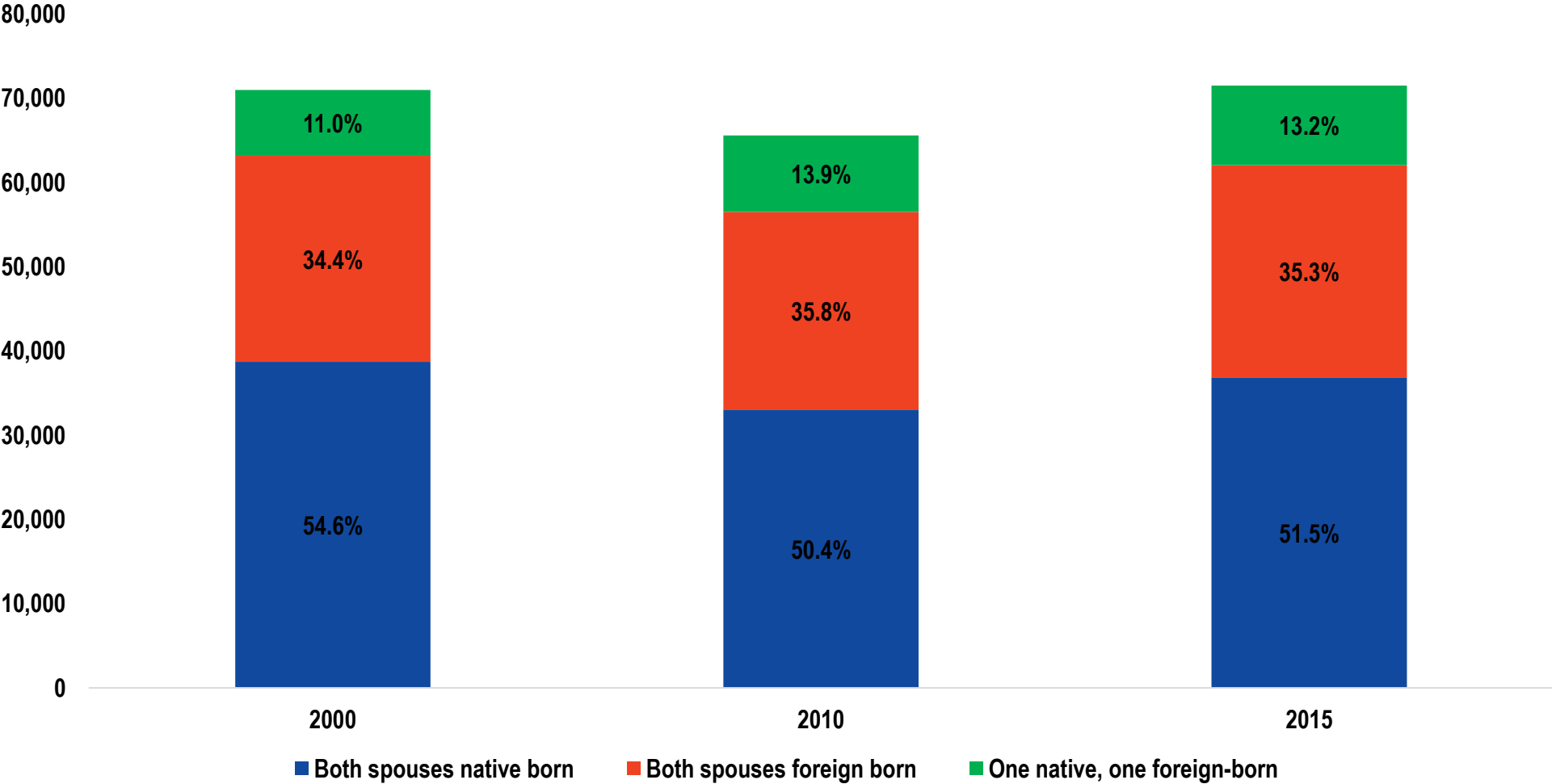
Boston Population by Citizenship Status (1980-2015)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1980-2000 Decennial Censuses, 2010 & 2015 1-year American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

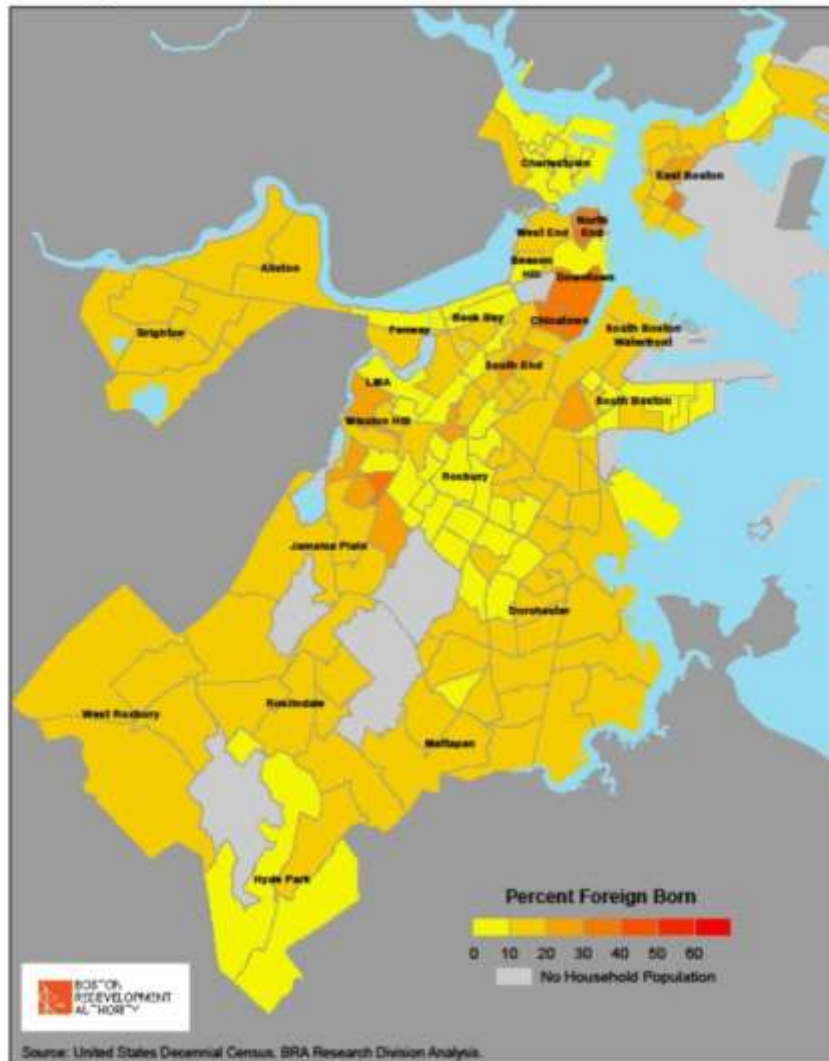
Note: Undocumented share of non-citizen foreign born is estimated to be 38% in Massachusetts by Migration Policy Institute, "Profile of the Unauthorized Population: Massachusetts," <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/data/unauthorized-immigrant-population/state/MA>

Marriages in Boston by Nativity of Spouses (2000-2015)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Decennial Census, and 2006-2010 & 2011-2015 American Community Survey, IPUMS, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Foreign Born Population Share by Census Tract, 1970

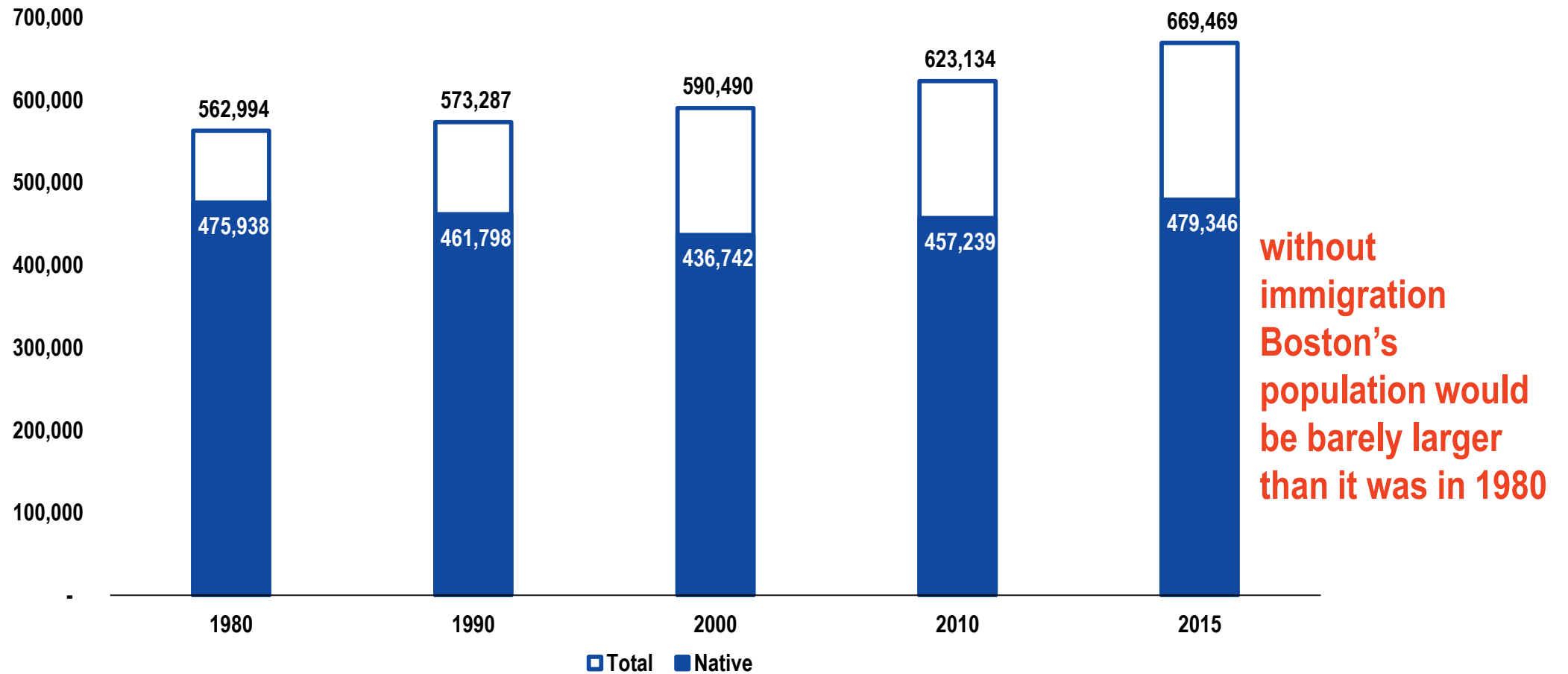


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, BPDA Research Division Analysis

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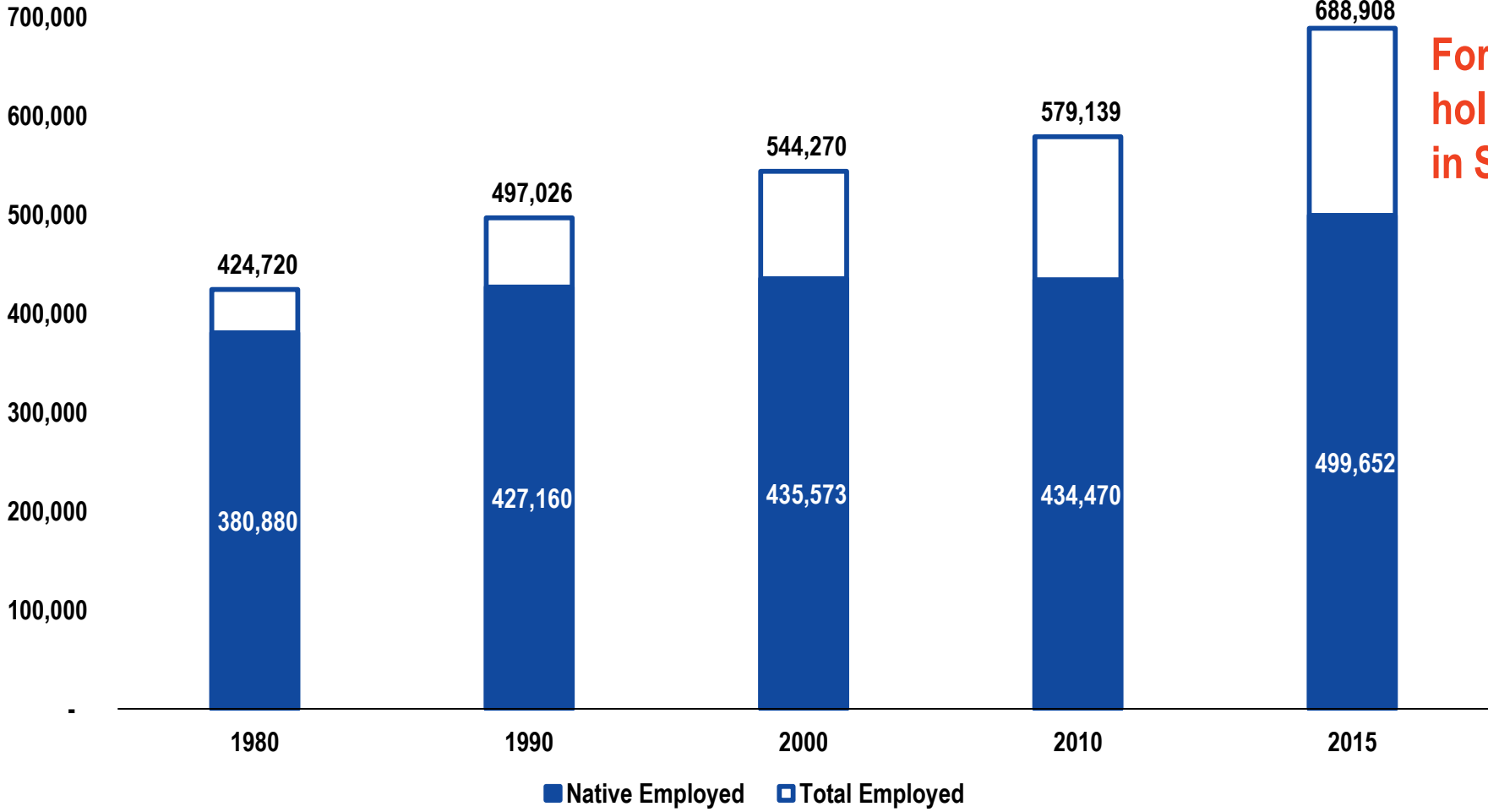
**and
more
importantly...**

Boston's Population without the Foreign Born (1980-2015)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1980-2000 Census and 2010 & 2015 1-year American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis.

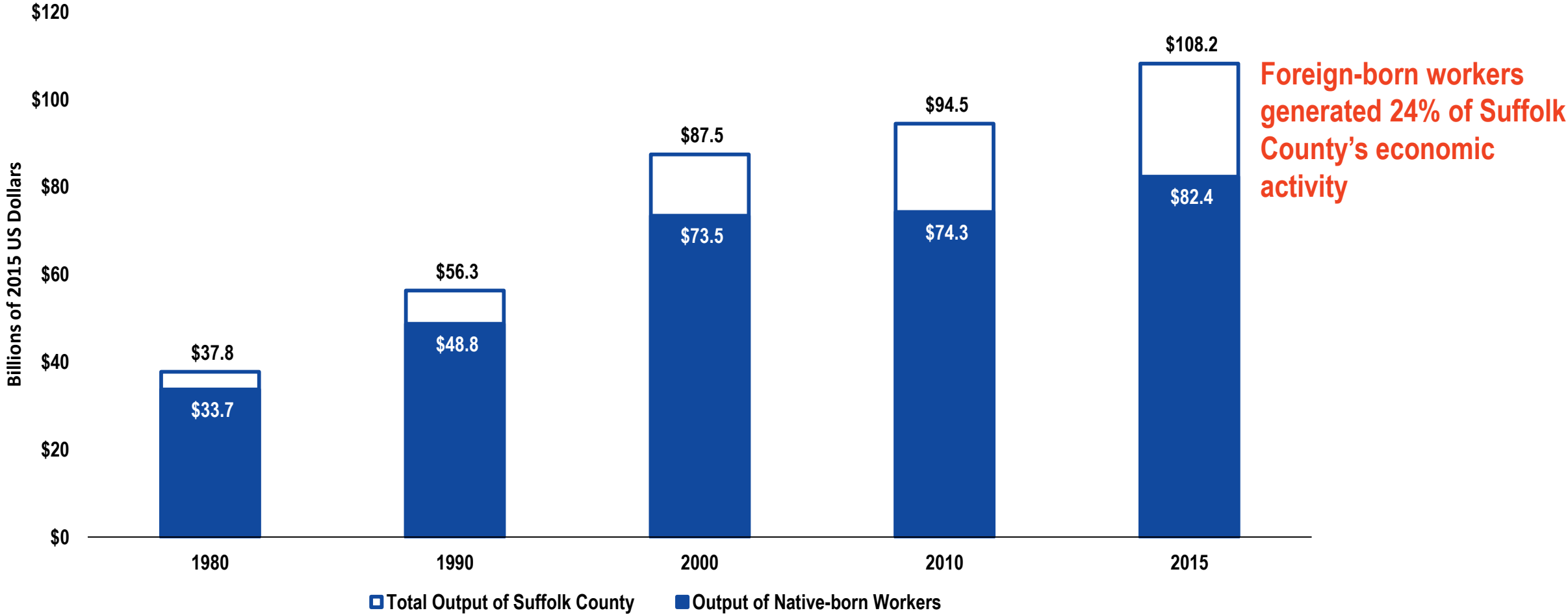
Employment in Suffolk County 1980-2015



Foreign-born workers hold 27% of jobs located in Suffolk County

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1980-2000 Census and 2010 & 2015 1-year American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis. Note: Boston data are not available.

Suffolk County Economic Output, 1980-2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1980-2000 Decennial Census, 2010 & 2015 American Community Survey, IPUMS, Regional Economic Models, Inc. (REMI), BPDA Research Division Analysis

Local Economic Impacts of Immigrants

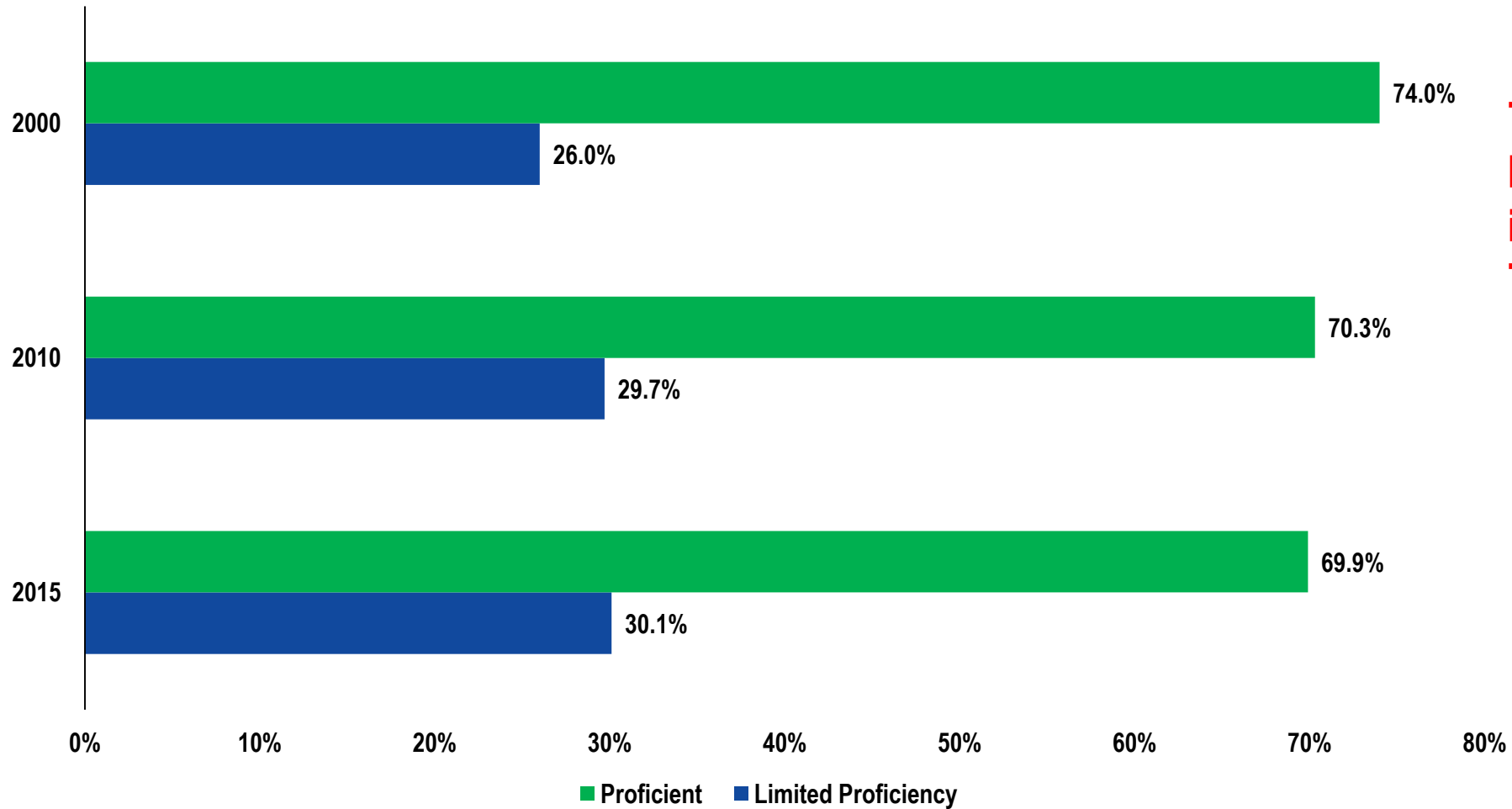
- 189,256 foreign-born **workers** hold jobs in Suffolk County
- 2,819 foreign-born **entrepreneurs** own businesses in Suffolk County that employ approximately 16,357 additional workers
- 30,758 indirect and induced **jobs** are generated by immigrant's consumption demand
- In 2015, these direct and indirect impacts accounted for \$25.9 billion in **Gross Domestic Product** and \$1.5 in **state and local taxes**

National Economic Impacts of Immigrants

- In 2011 the immigrants who had arrived in the U.S. since 2000 represented **\$1.5 trillion worth of education** – a subsidy of the U.S. workforce by the sending countries
- In 2014, according to the World Bank, immigrants contribute to their countries of origin via **remittances, which reached \$40 billion**

**progress has been
made but there are
still barriers
to integration**

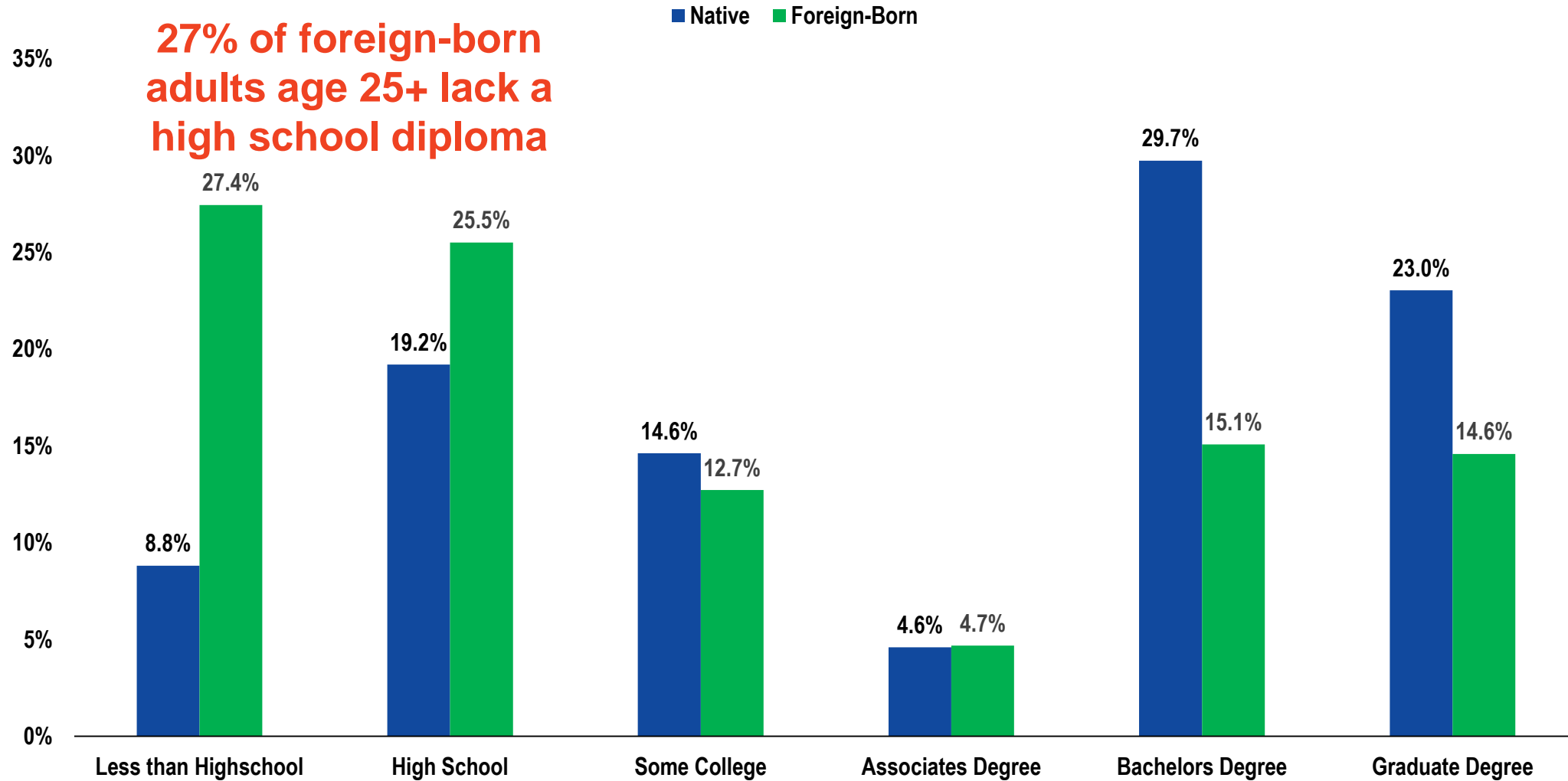
Foreign-Born English Proficiency (2015)



70% of foreign born in Boston are proficient in English, down from 74% in 2000.

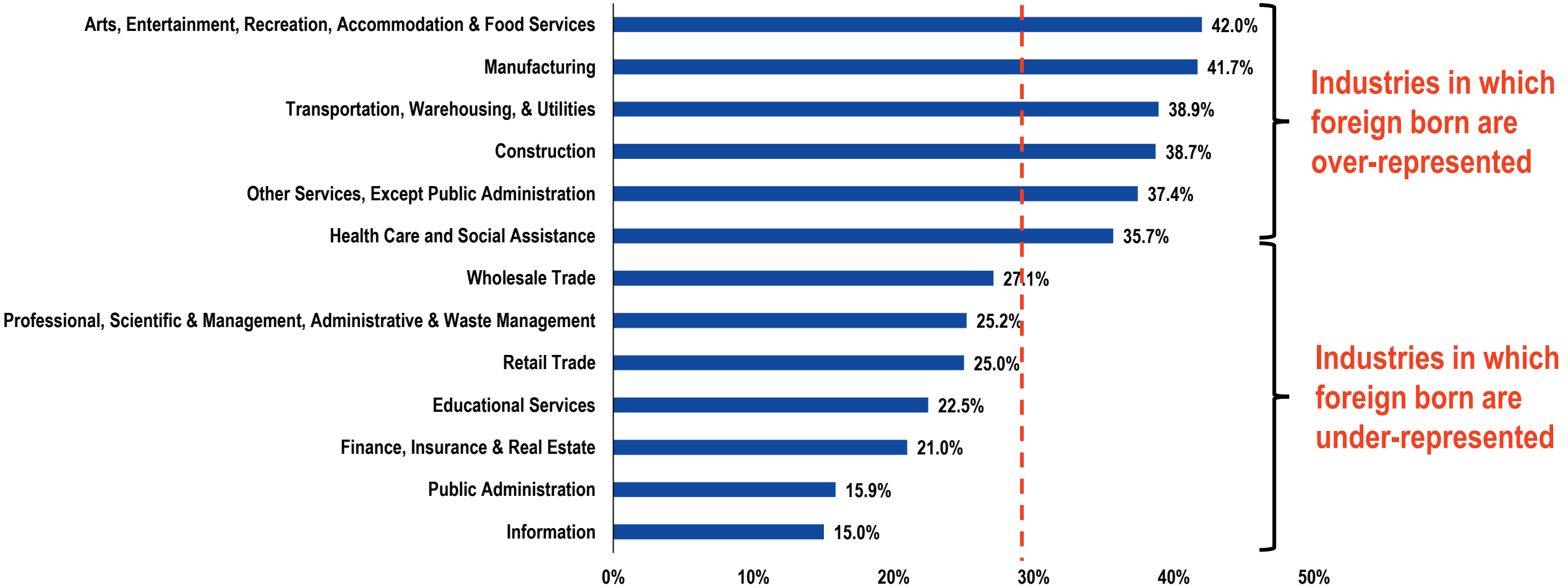
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Decennial Census, 2006-2010 and 2011-2015 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Educational Attainment by Nativity (2015)



Source: 2011-2015 American Community Survey, Public Use Micro-data Sample (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis

Foreign-born Percentage of Resident Employment by Industry (2015)



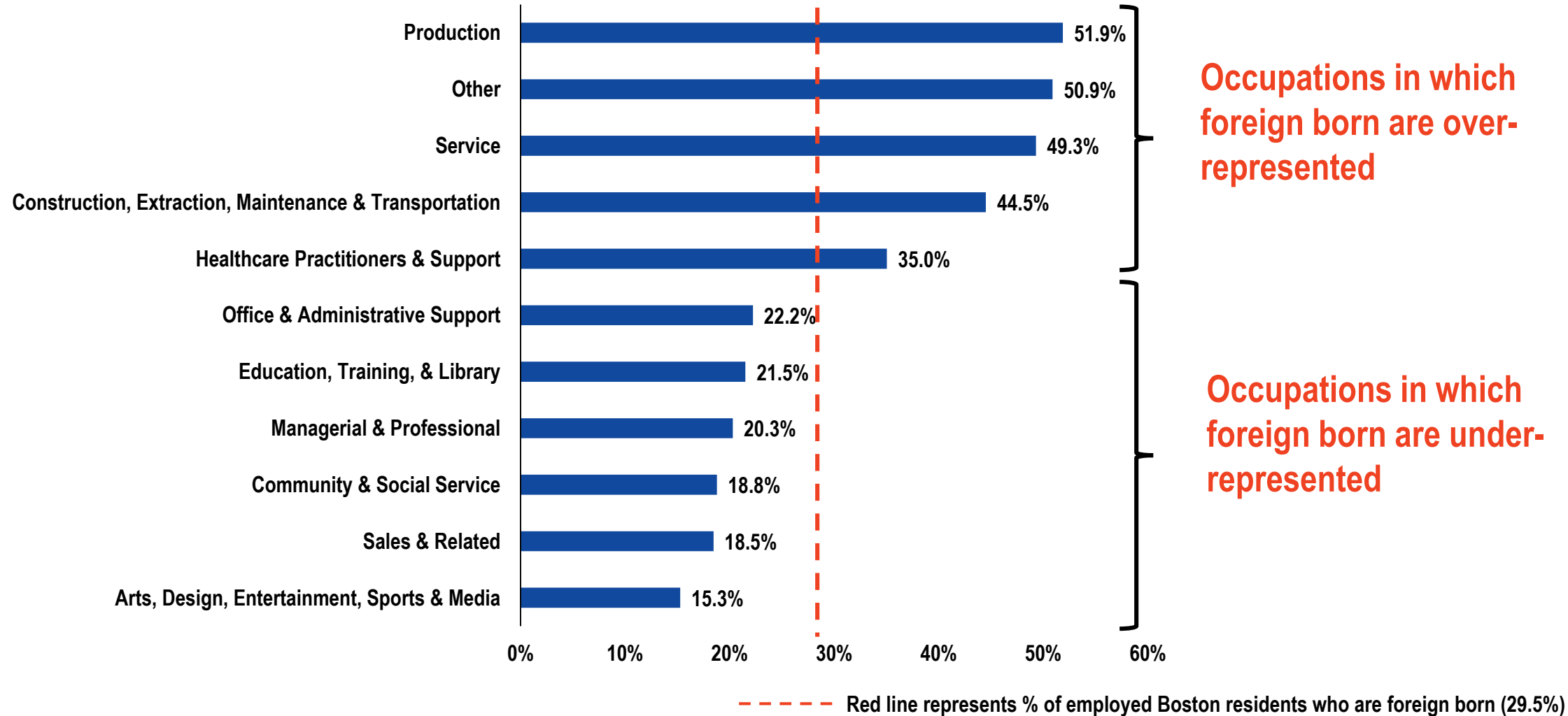
Industries in which foreign born are over-represented

Industries in which foreign born are under-represented

Red line represents % of employed Boston residents who are foreign-born (29.5%)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2015 American Community Survey, PUMS, BPDA Research Division Analysis

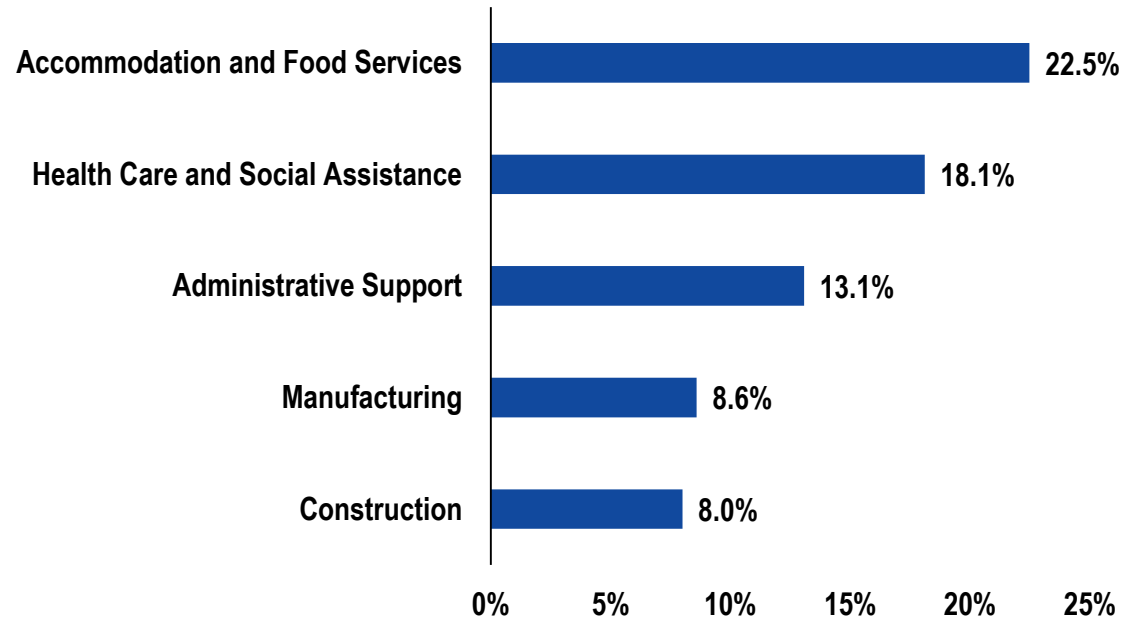
Foreign-born Percentage of Resident Employment by Occupation (2015)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2015 American Community Survey, PUMS, BPDA Research Division Analysis

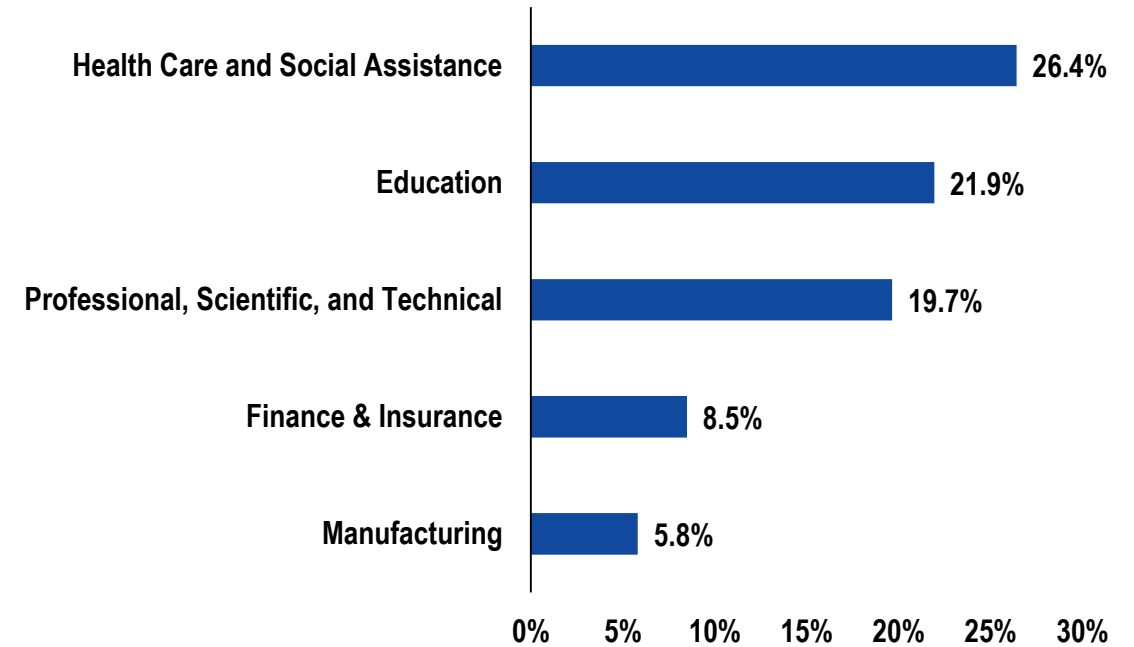
Top Five Industries of Employment of Foreign Born by Educational Attainment (2015)

Less than High School



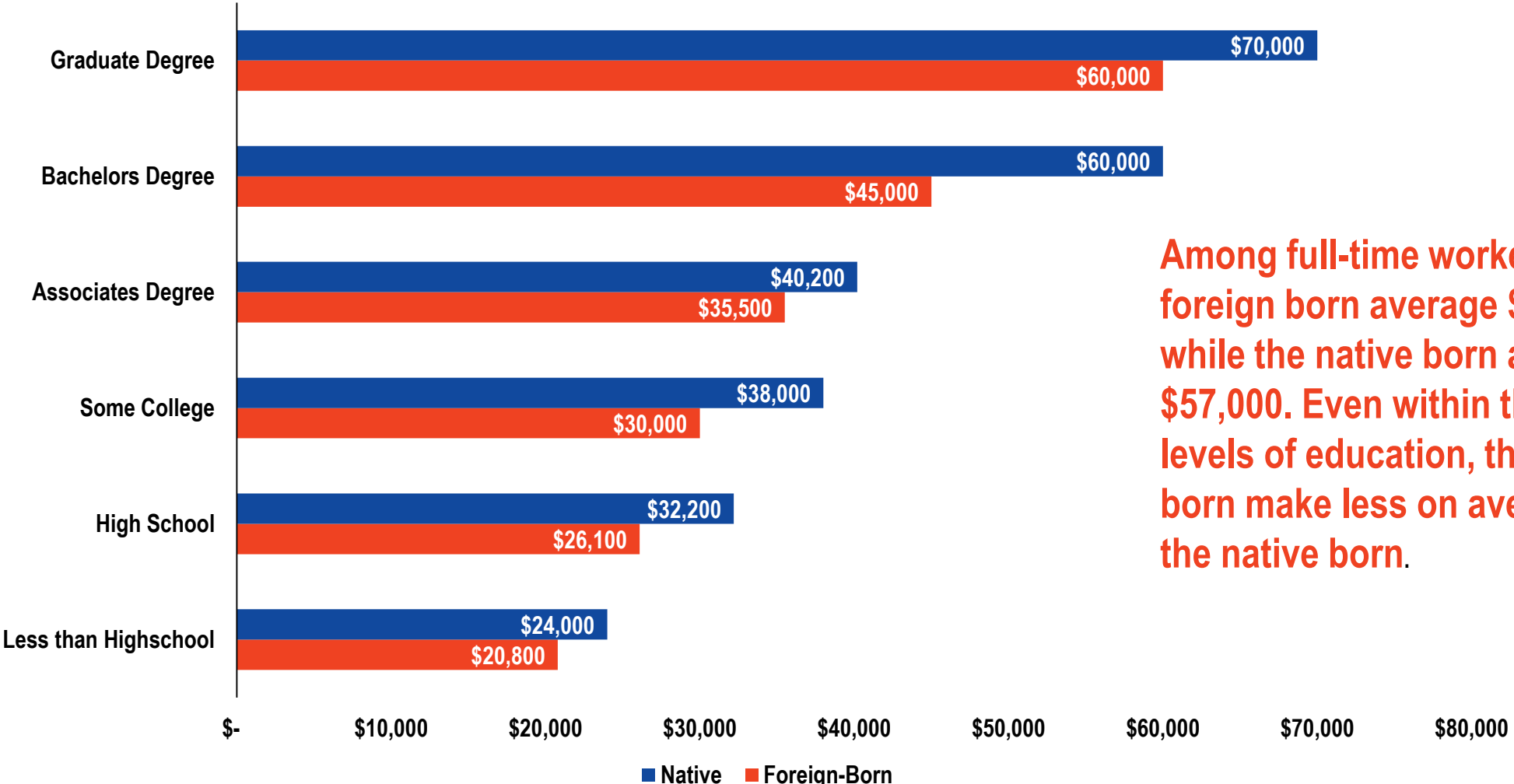
The 27% of Boston immigrants with less than a high school diploma are concentrated in low-paying jobs

Graduate Degree



The 15% of Boston immigrants with graduate degrees are concentrated in high-paying jobs.

Median Income by Educational Attainment (population aged 25+) – 2015



Among full-time workers, the foreign born average \$41,000 while the native born average \$57,000. Even within the same levels of education, the foreign born make less on average than the native born.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey, BPDA Research Division Analysis
 Universe: Boston residents who work full-time

Takeaways:

- The foreign born contribute to Boston's **population growth**
 - The foreign born accounted for all population growth in Boston 1980 to 2000
 - In 2015, 28% of Boston's population is foreign born – 190,123 residents
 - 40% of births in Boston are to foreign-born mothers
- The foreign born contribute to Boston's **diversity**
 - The foreign born have substantial Hispanic, Asian, Black, and White shares
 - Top countries of origin are China, Dominican Republic, and Haiti

Takeaways:

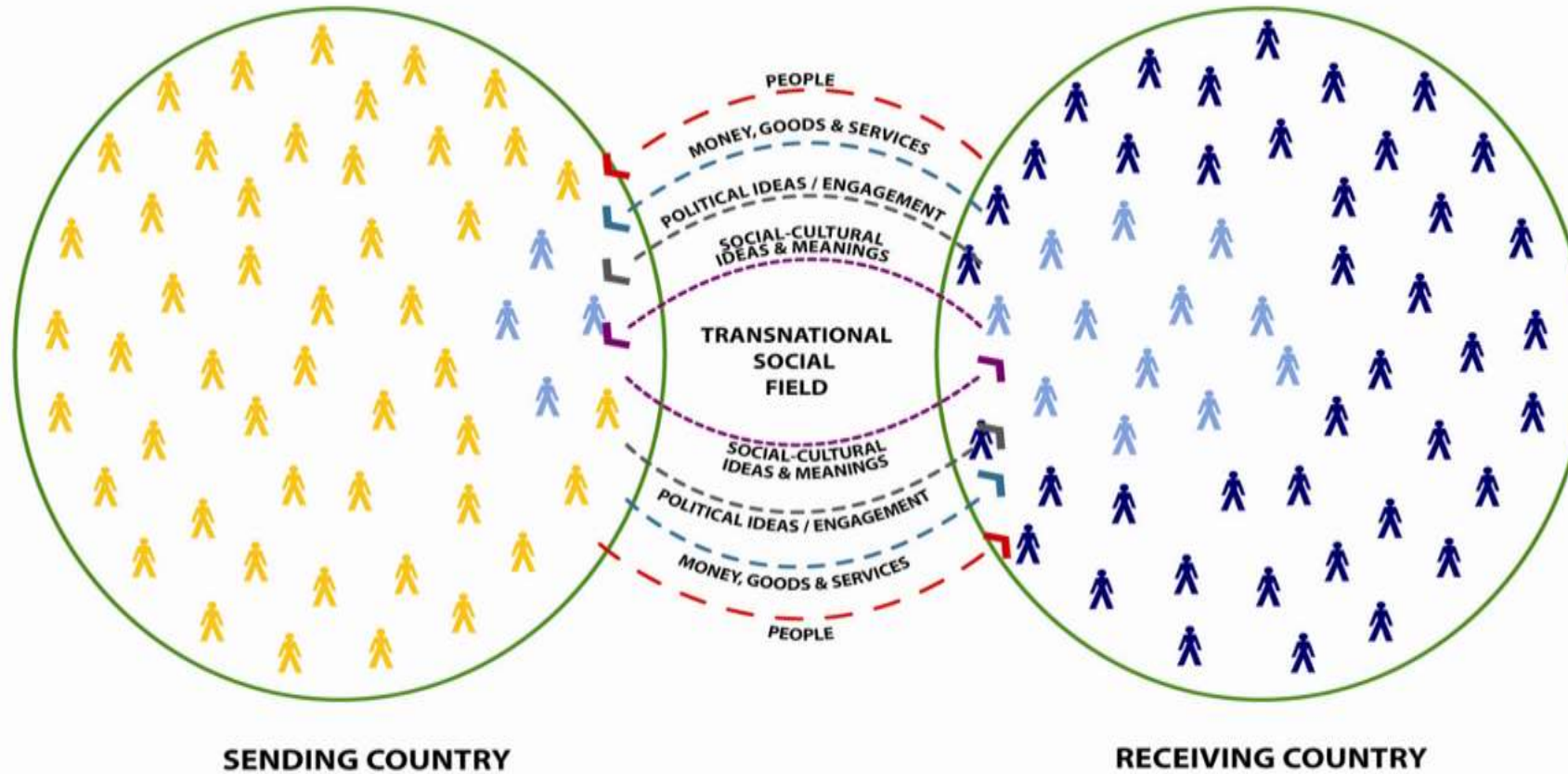
- The foreign born contribute to Boston's **economic growth**
 - The foreign born hold 27% of jobs in Suffolk County
 - Foreign-born workers generated 24% of Suffolk County's economic output in 2015
- **Successful integration** is crucial to fully realizing contributions of foreign born to Boston
 - 30% are not proficient in English and 27% of adults lack a high school diploma
 - Half of foreign born are not U.S. citizens, and 19% are estimated to be undocumented
 - Foreign born are concentrated in low-paying jobs and earn less than native born even within the same educational level

**... a final
thought about
integration**

Traditional Frame



Transnational Frame



thank you