



Further Insights from 2020 Census Redistricting Data

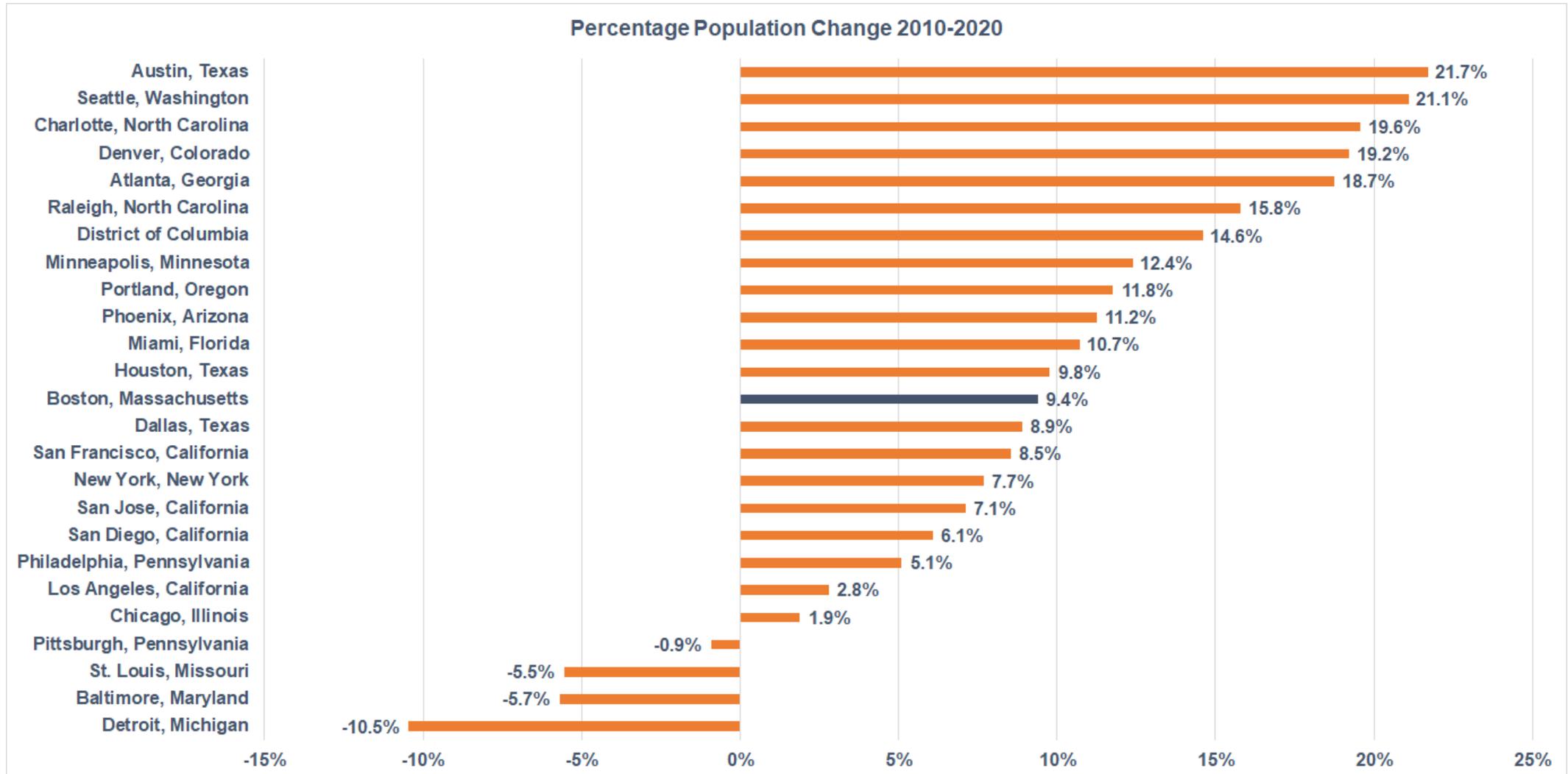
BPDA Research Division, August 20, 2021



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Boston Compared to Other Cities in the 2020 Census

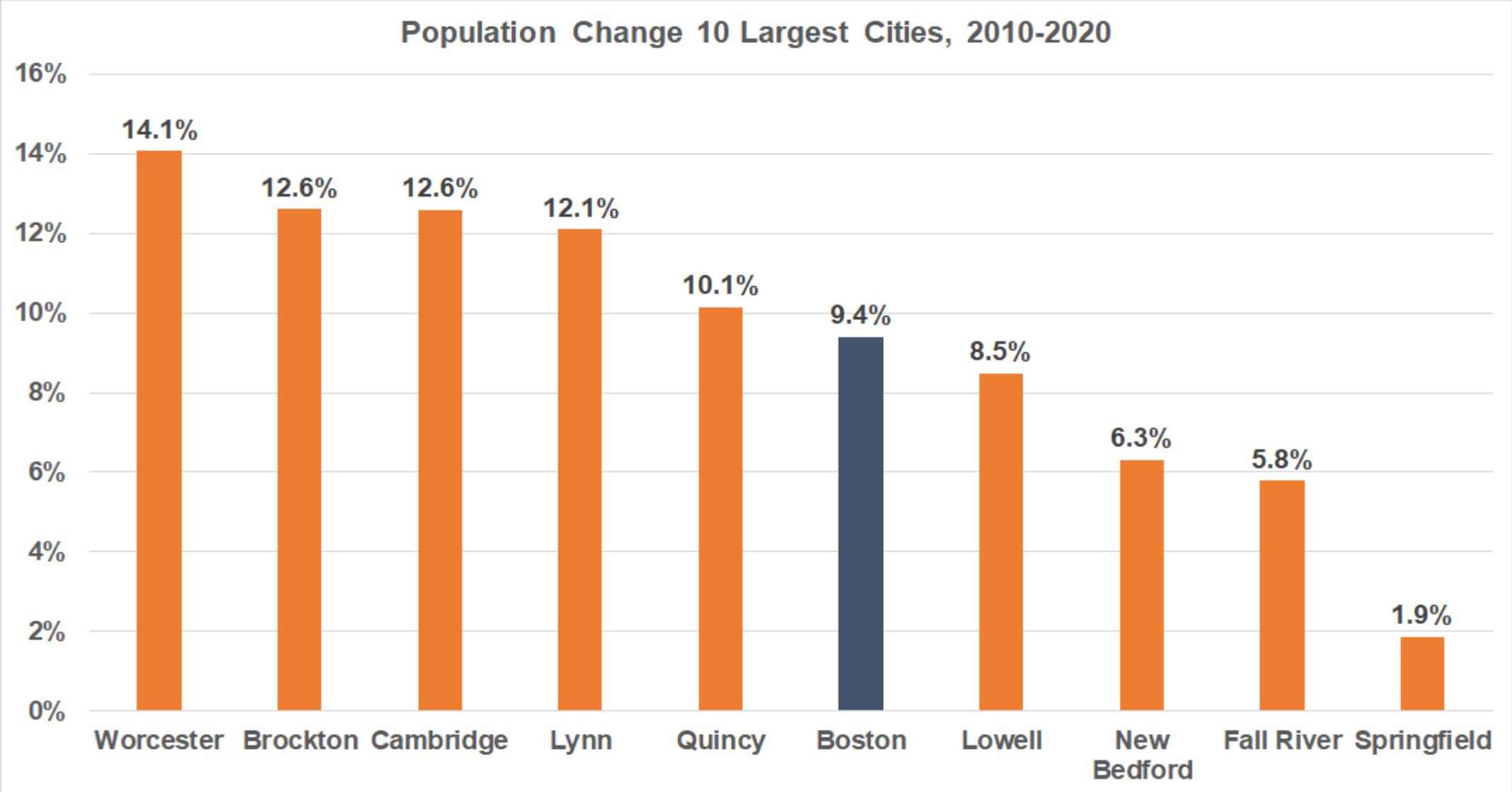
Boston's Population grew 9.4% from 2010 - moderate growth compared to other major U.S. Cities



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 & 2020 Decennial Censuses, BPDA Research Division Analysis

The principal cities in the nation's largest metropolitan areas, plus three cities whose highly educated metropolitan area populations make them good comparisons for Boston

Boston's population growth was also moderate among the largest cities in Massachusetts.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census, BPDA Research Division Analysis



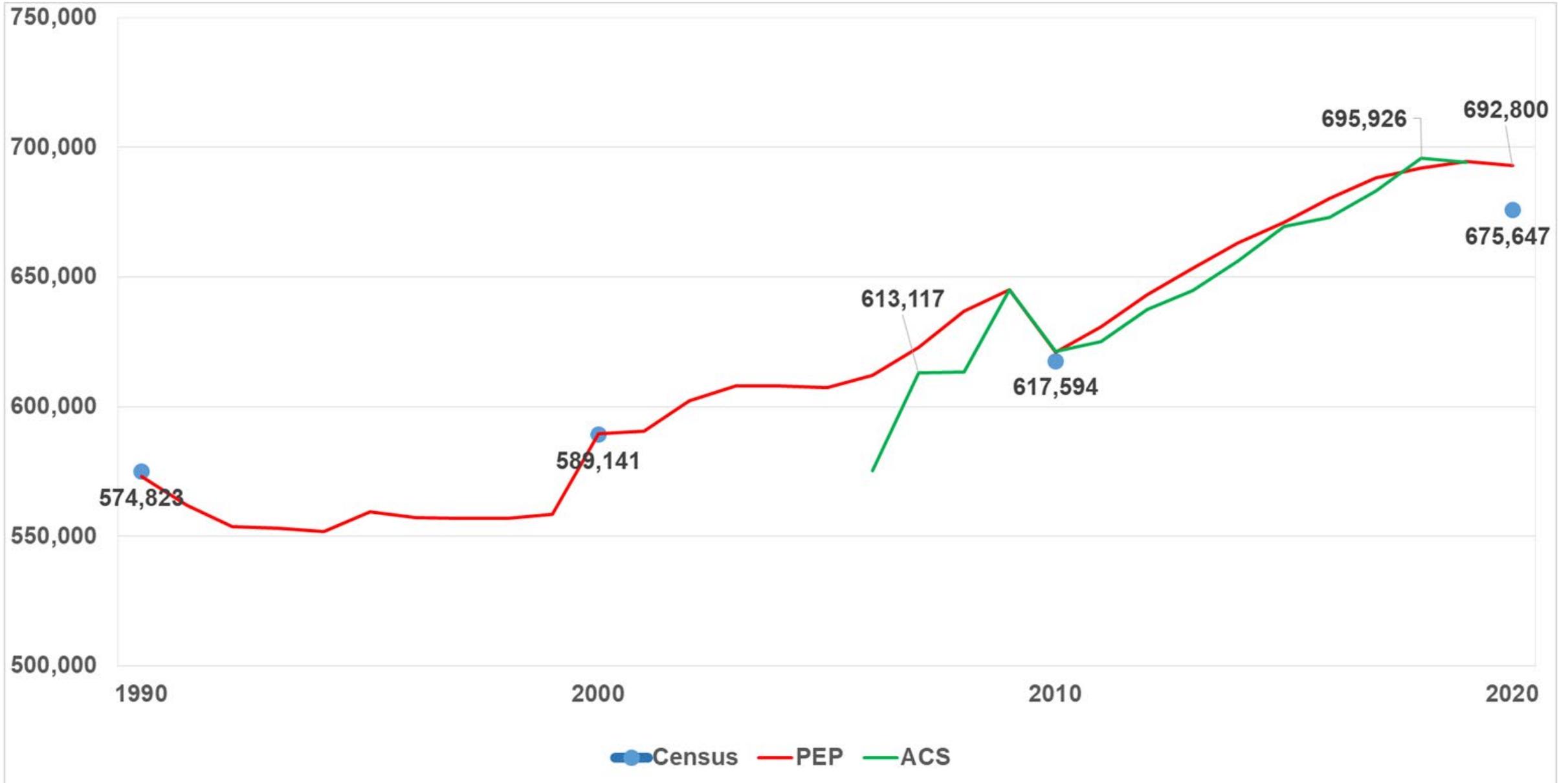
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Decennial Census compared to other U.S. Census Bureau programs

The U.S. Census Bureau produces different counts and estimates of population.

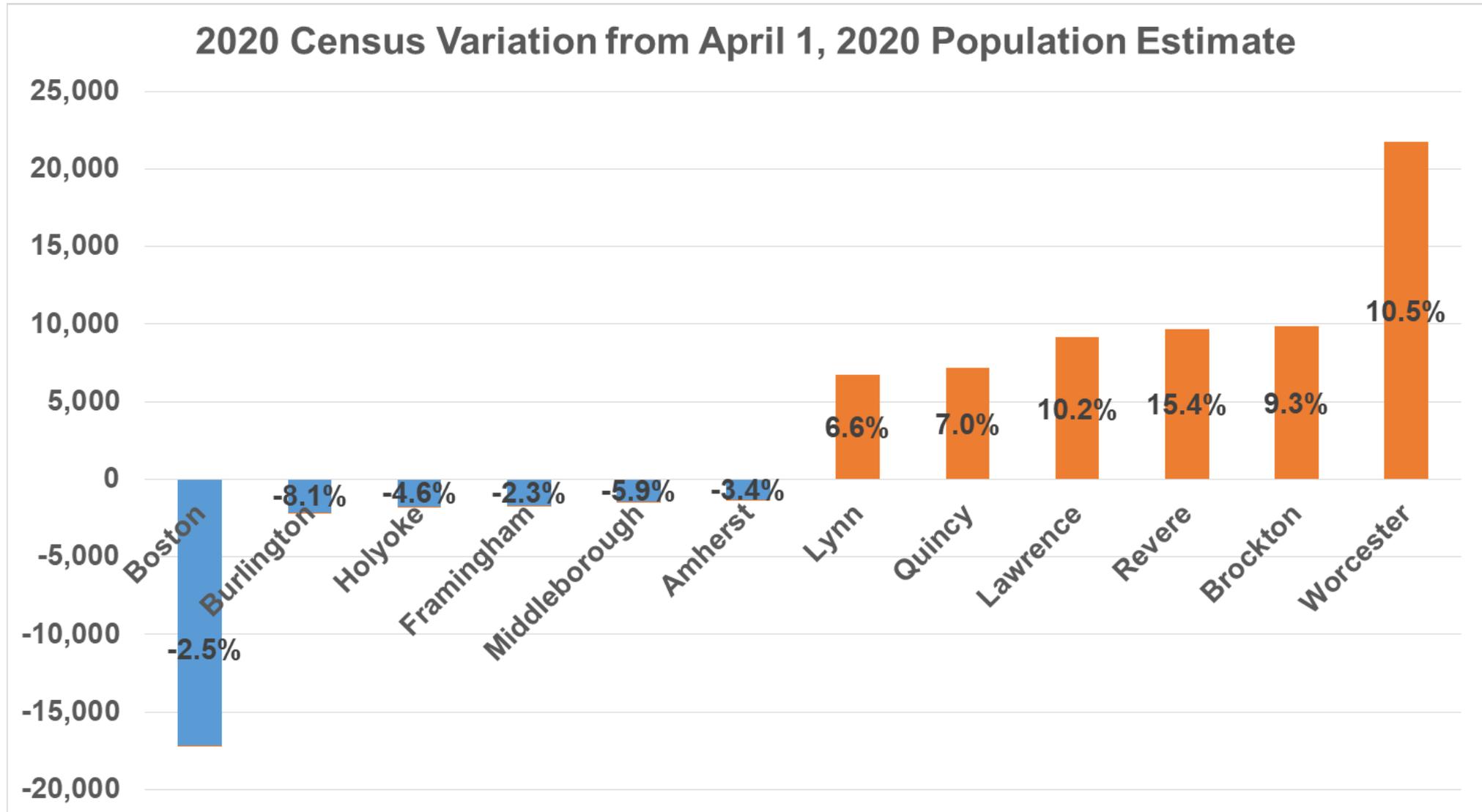
- Decennial Census: a count of the United States population every 10 years based on a person's usual place of residence.
- Population Estimates Program's Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: a population estimate using administrative records to show the changes to the total population and housing units during the decade.
- American Community Survey: an ongoing sample of the population linked to the Annual Estimates of the Resident Population based on the Decennial Census.

The Census, ACS, and Annual Population Estimates Can Vary



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990-2020 Decennial Censuses & Population Estimates & 2006-2019 ACS, BPDA Research Division Analysis

2020 Census counts for other Massachusetts cities and towns also varied from their population estimates.



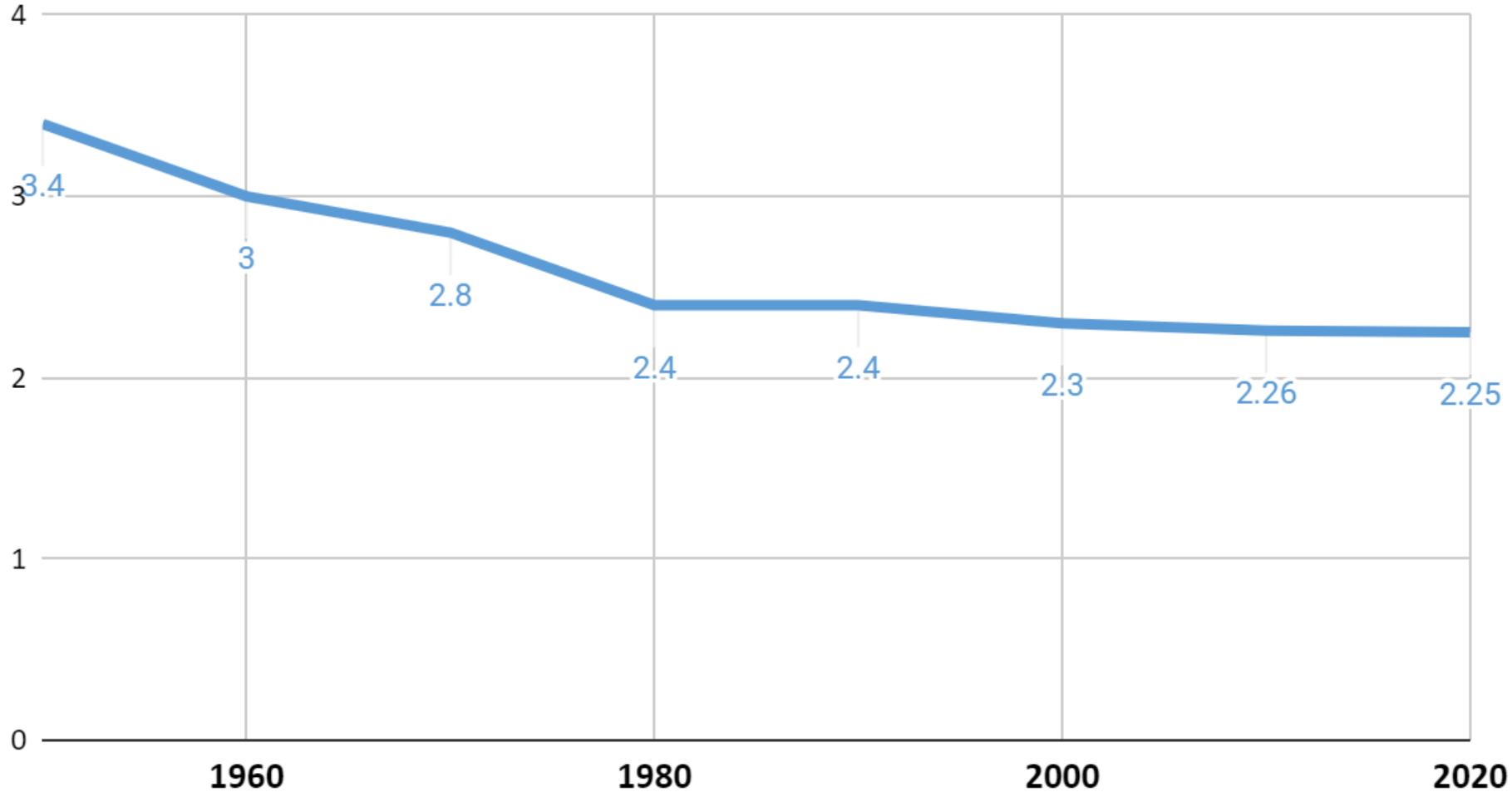
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census, BPDA Research Division Analysis



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Household Size

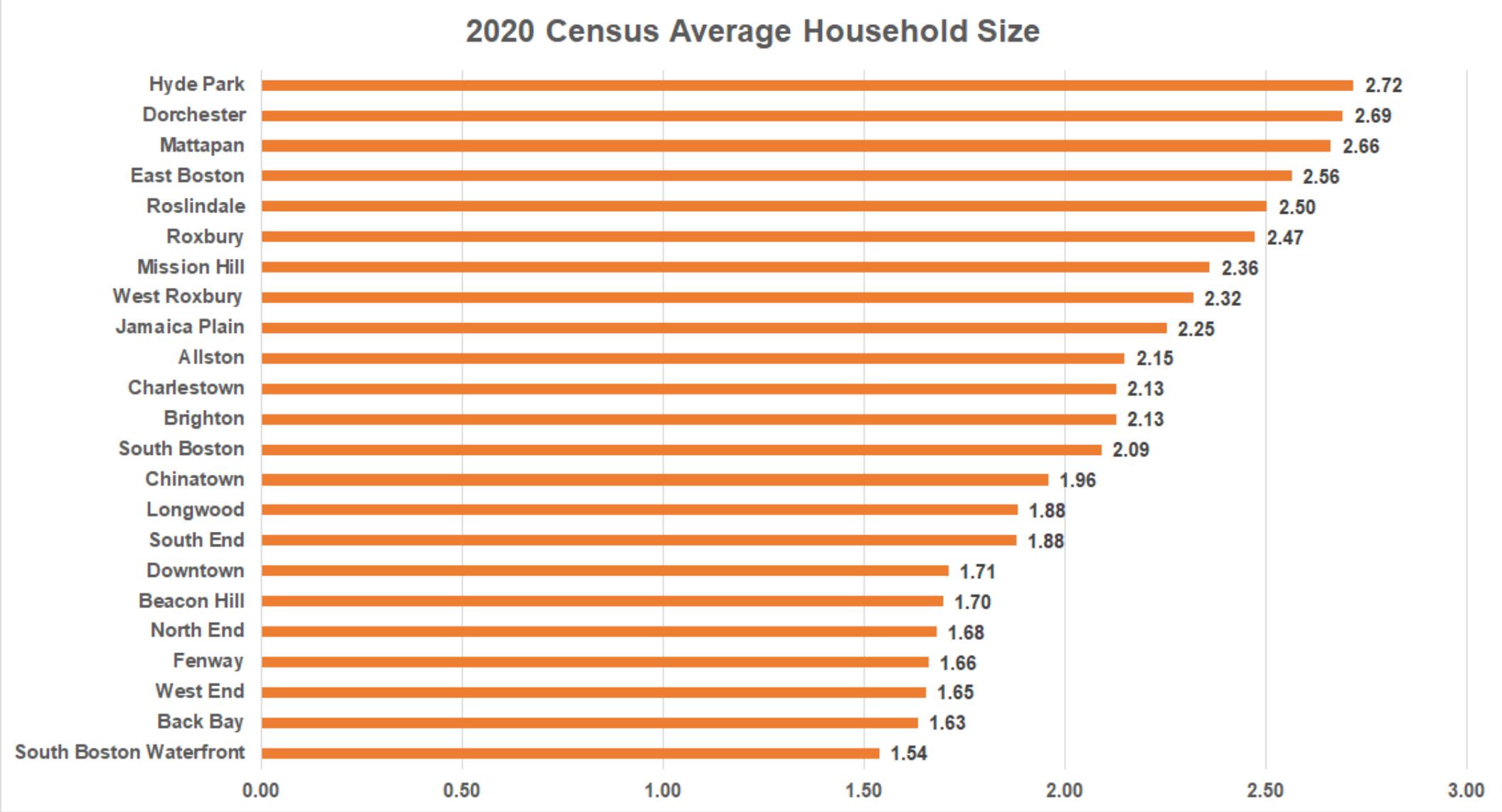
Average Household Size - Boston (1950-2020)



Boston's average household size fell slightly to 2.25.

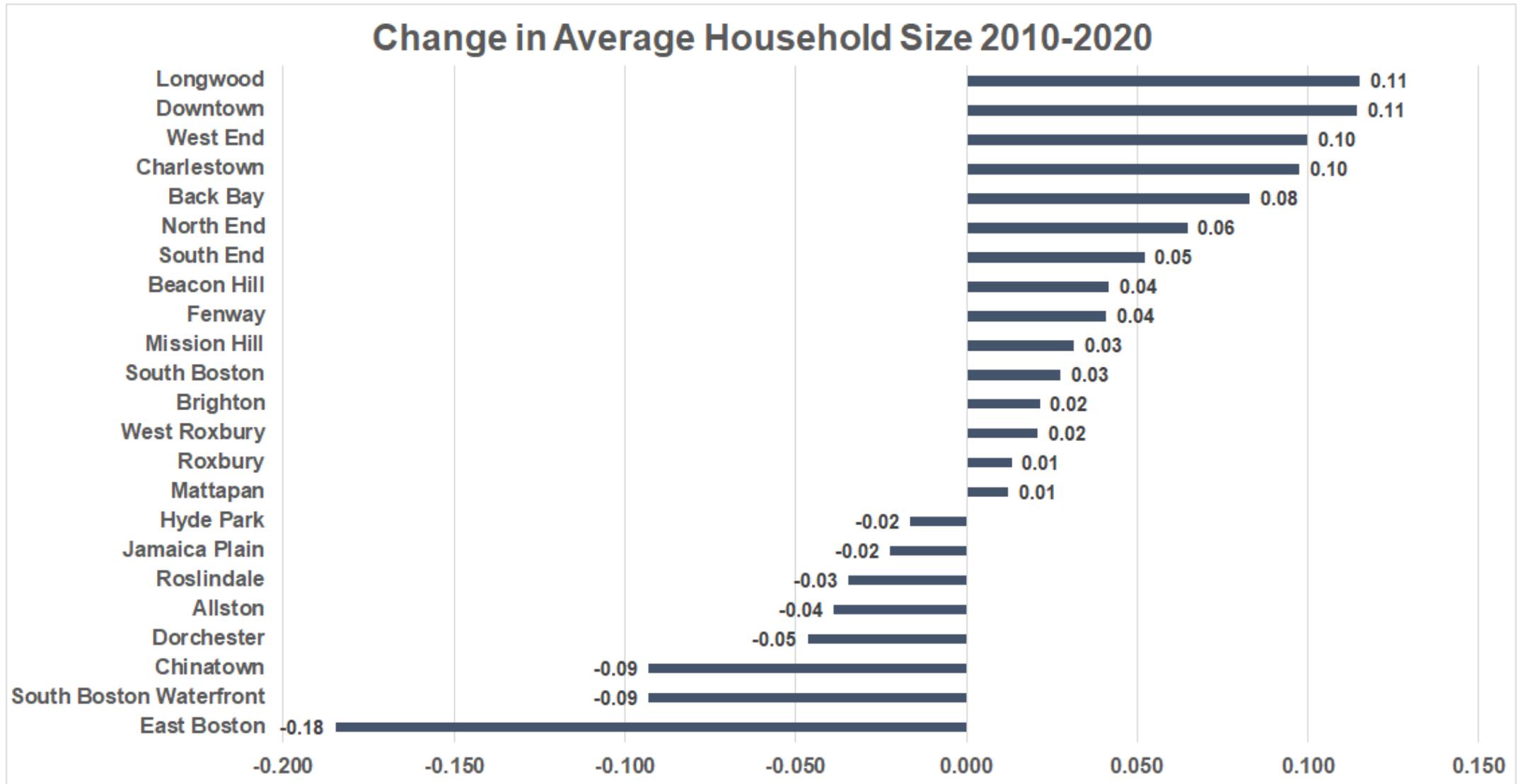
Boston's average household size is consistently below the national and Massachusetts average.

Hyde Park has the largest average household size, while South Boston Waterfront has the smallest.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Average household size grew most in Longwood and Downtown, and fell the most in East Boston.





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Changing Race and Ethnicity of Boston

Race and Ethnicity Questions

Tweaks to questions and tabulation methodology allowed for more multiracial responses.

Figure 1.
2020 Census Hispanic Origin Question

→ **NOTE: Please answer BOTH Question 6 about Hispanic origin and Question 7 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.**

6. Is this person of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

- No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
- Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano
- Yes, Puerto Rican
- Yes, Cuban
- Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin – *Print, for example, Salvadoran, Dominican, Colombian, Guatemalan, Spaniard, Ecuadorian, etc.* ↴

Figure 2.
2020 Census Race Question

7. What is this person's race?

Mark one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

- White – *Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc.* ↴

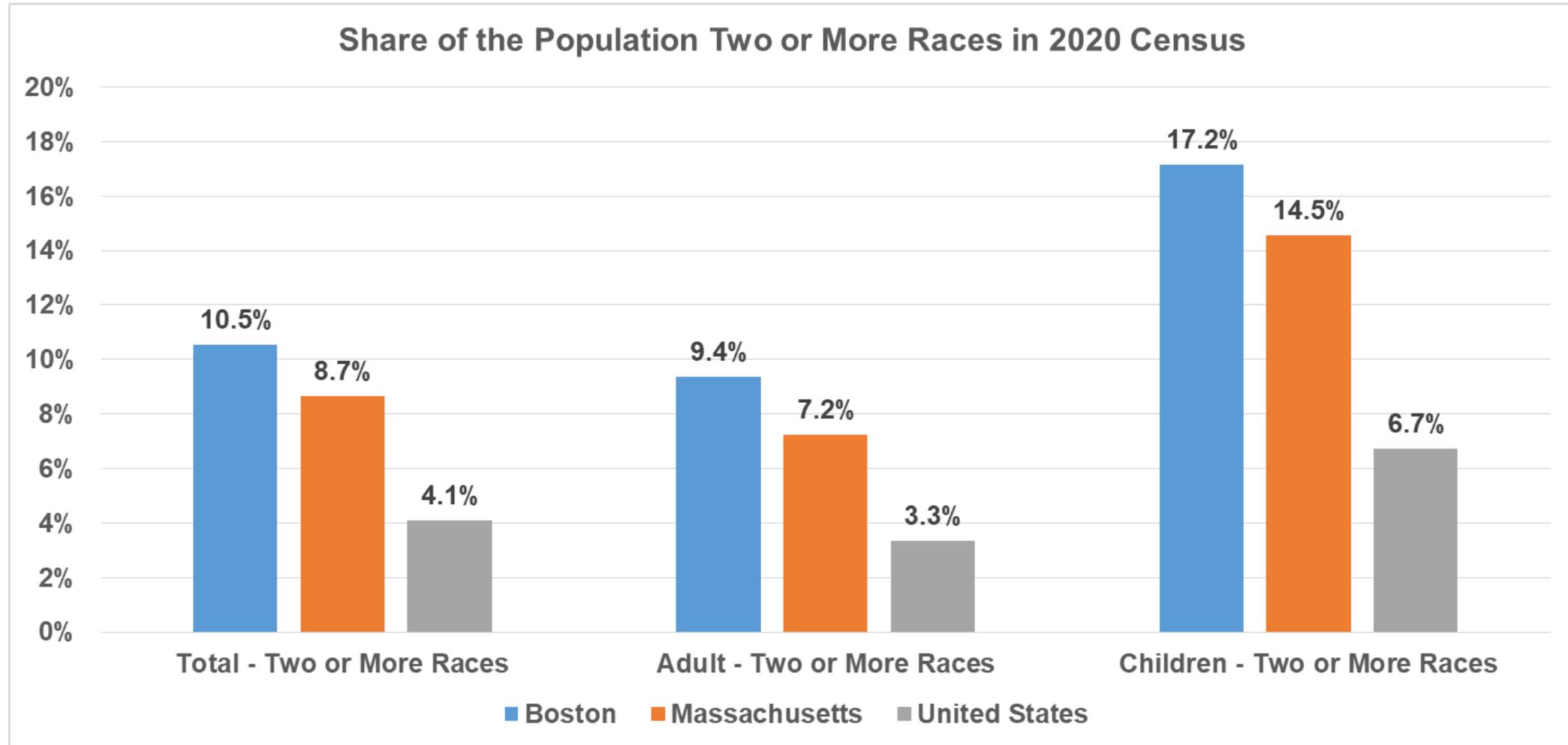
- Black or African Am. – *Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc.* ↴

- American Indian or Alaska Native – *Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc.* ↴

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Filipino | <input type="checkbox"/> Korean | <input type="checkbox"/> Samoan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian | <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese | <input type="checkbox"/> Chamorro |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian –
<i>Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc.</i> ↴ | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander –
<i>Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc.</i> ↴ |

- Some other race – *Print race or origin.* ↴

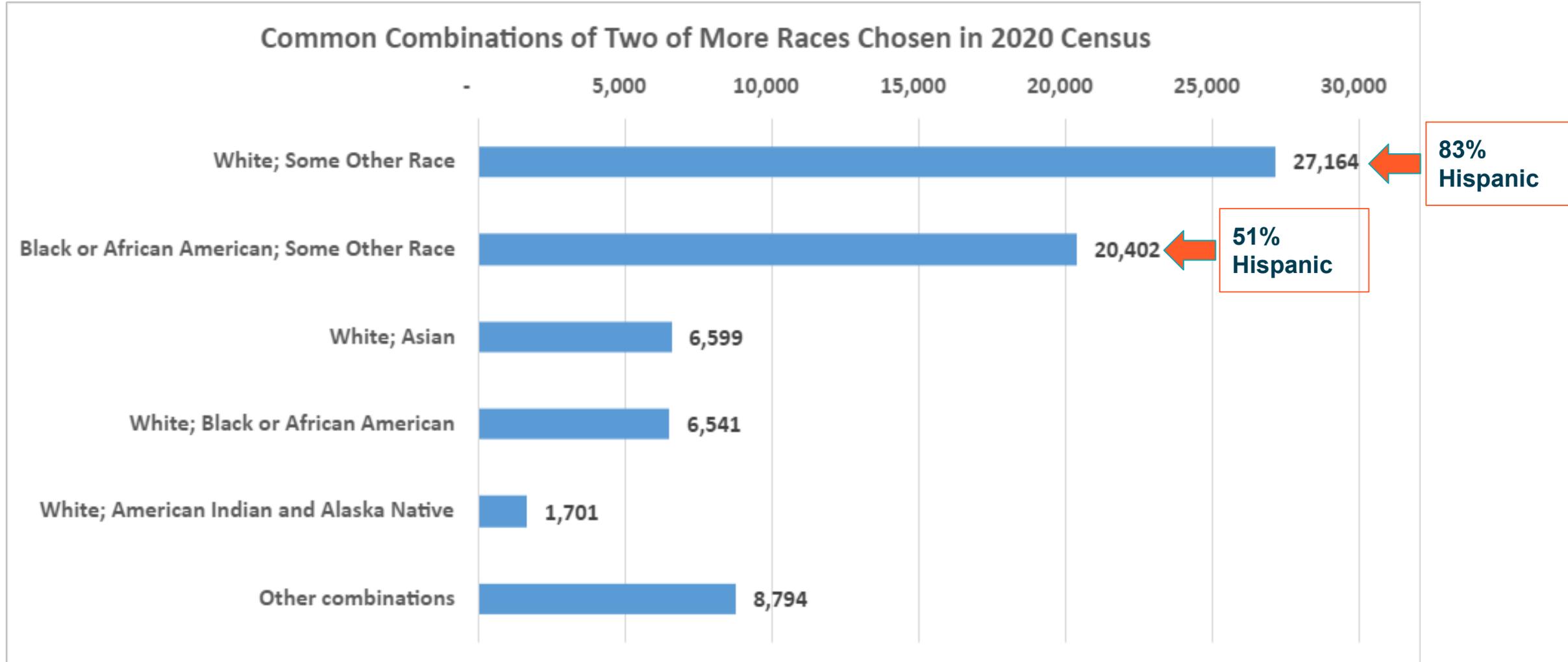
A generational shift: More children than adults identify with two or more races



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Note: Hispanics are included.

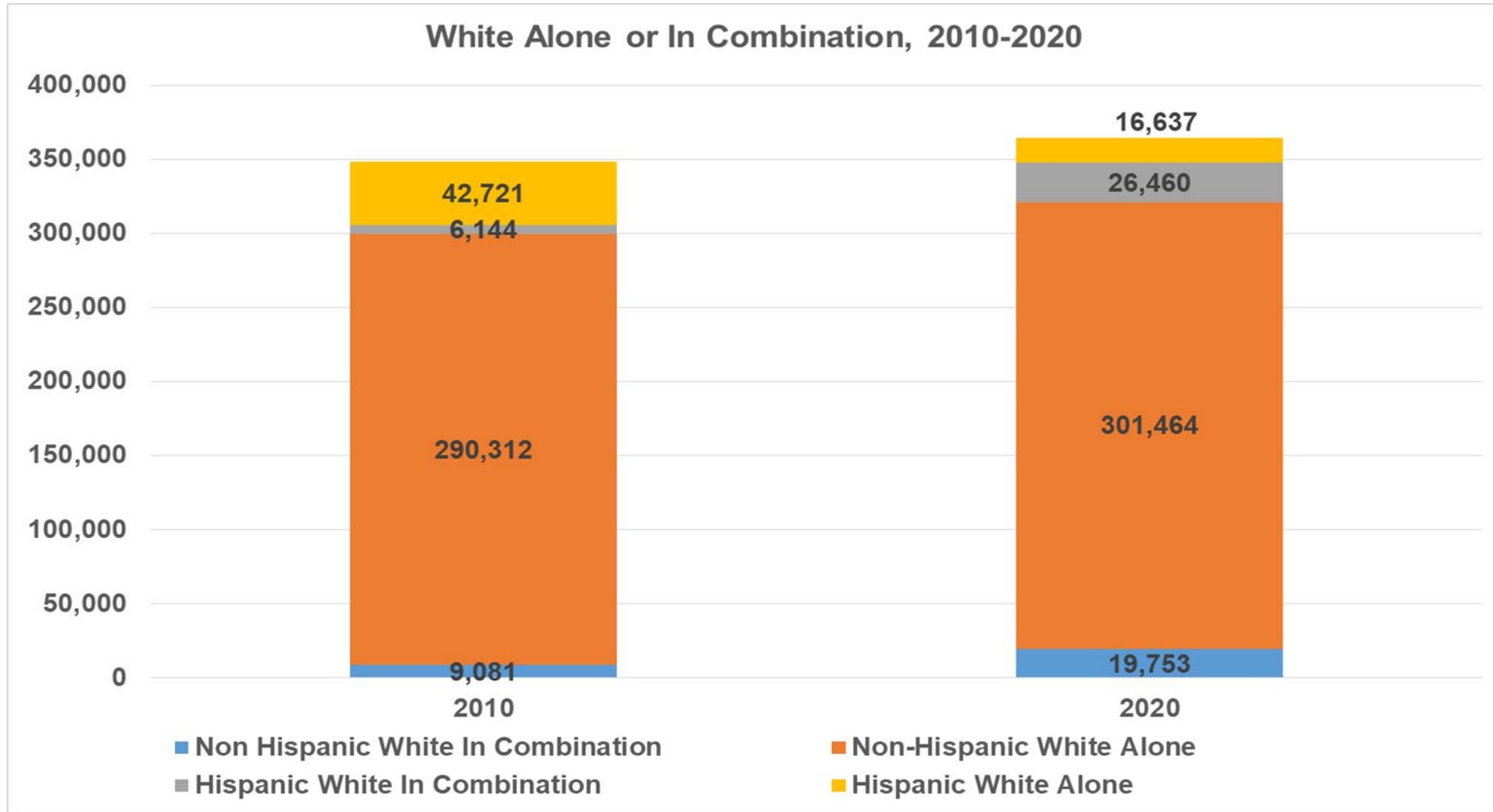
Whites or Blacks with “some other race” make up the majority of multiracial respondents, most of whom are Hispanic.



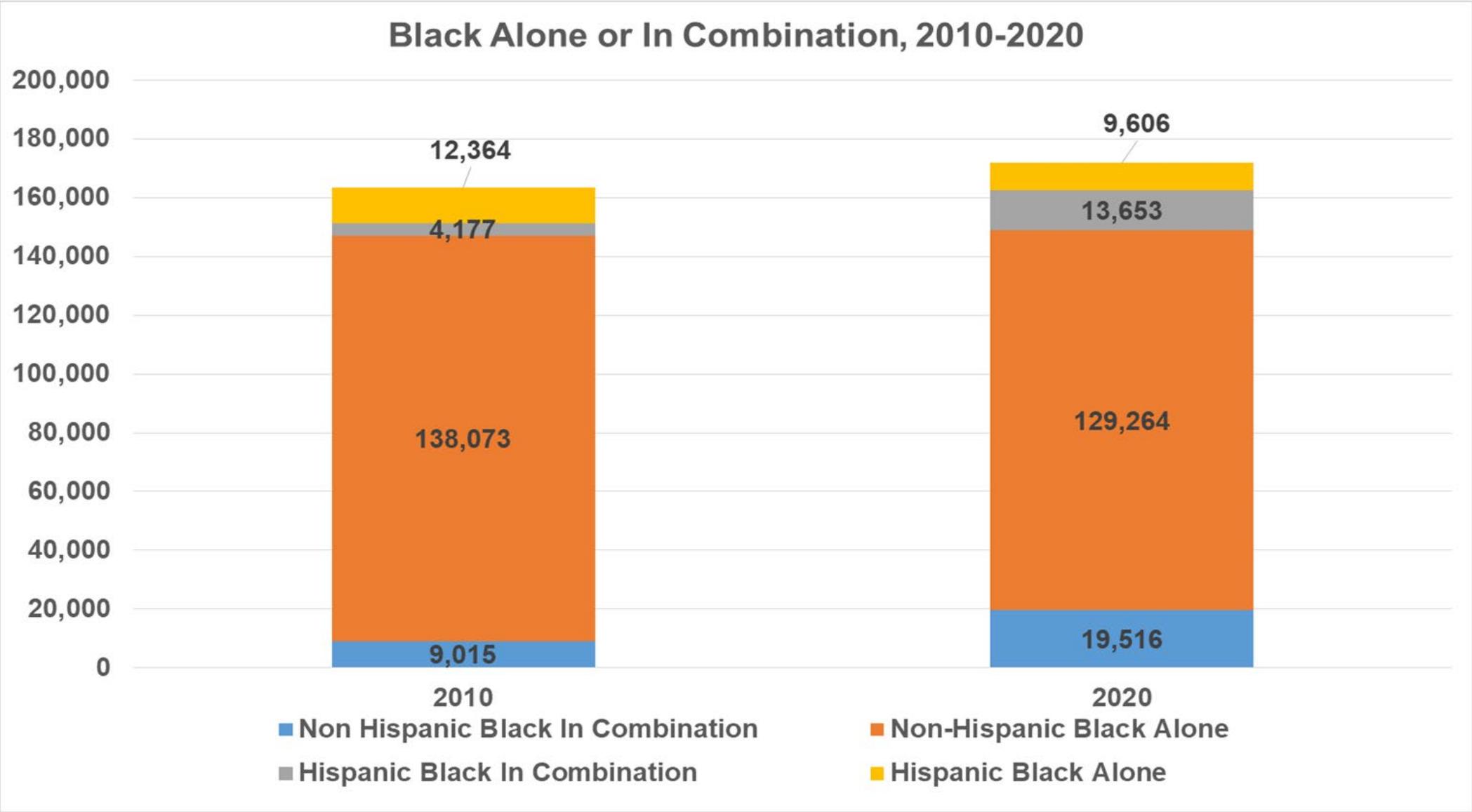
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Note: Hispanics are included.

In 2020, 12.5% of Boston residents identifying as White also identified as Hispanic, and 13.4% also identified with another race.

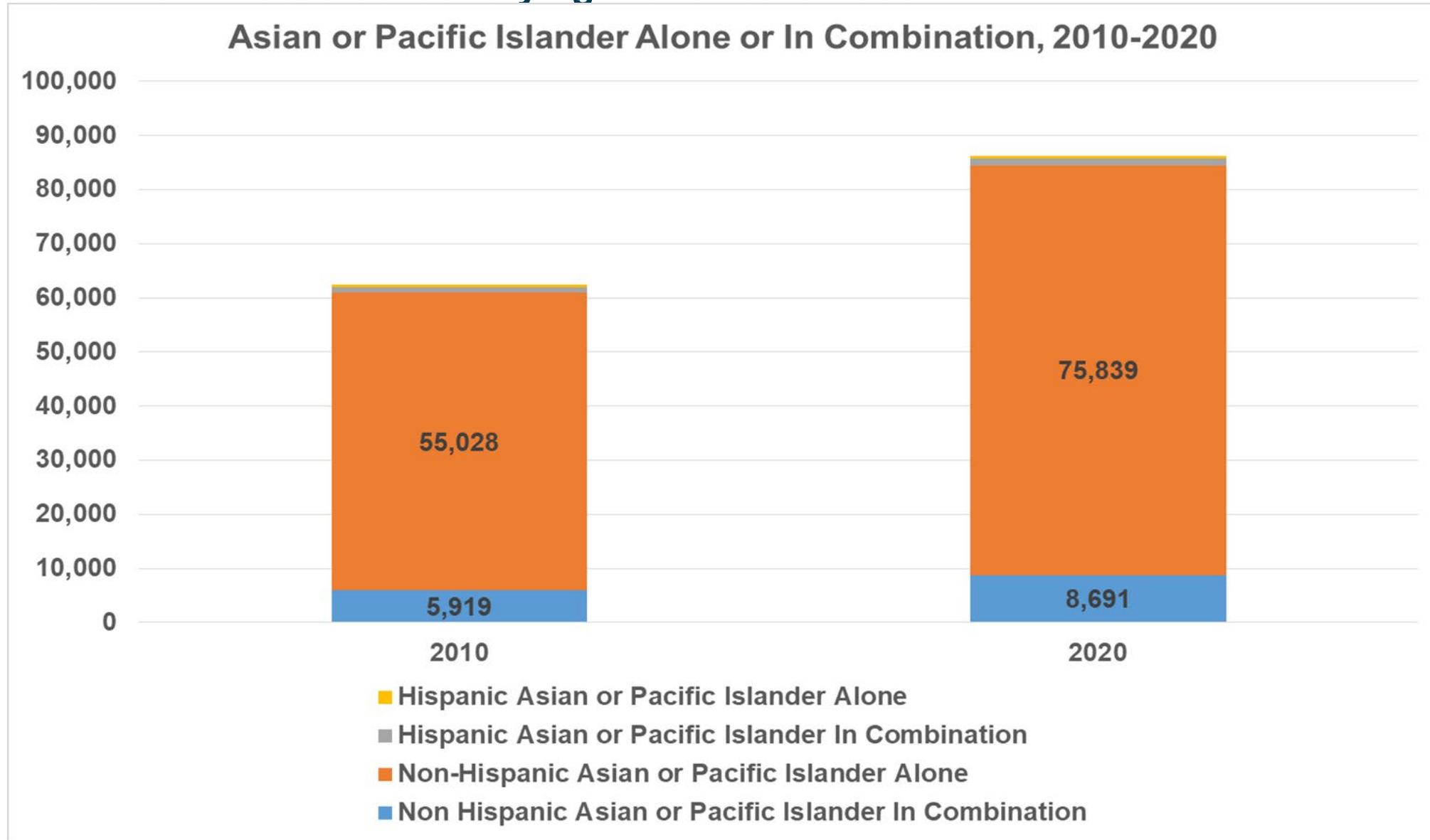


The number of Boston residents identifying as Black grew slightly from 2010 to 2020 - 13.5% also identified as Hispanic and 19.3% also identified with another race.

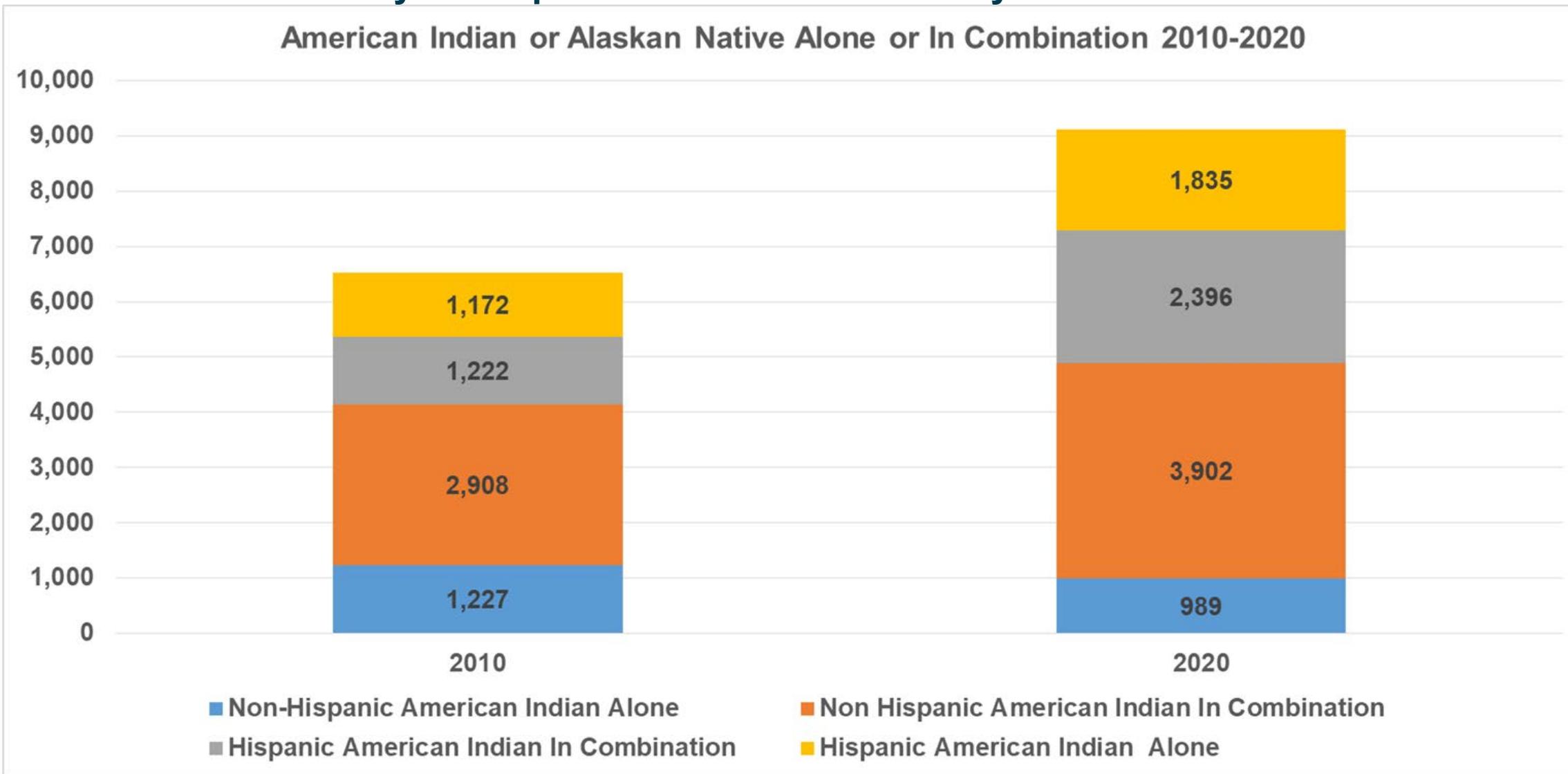


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 & 2020 Decennial Censuses, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Boston residents identifying as Asian or Pacific Islander grew significantly from 2010 with 11.5% also identifying with another race.

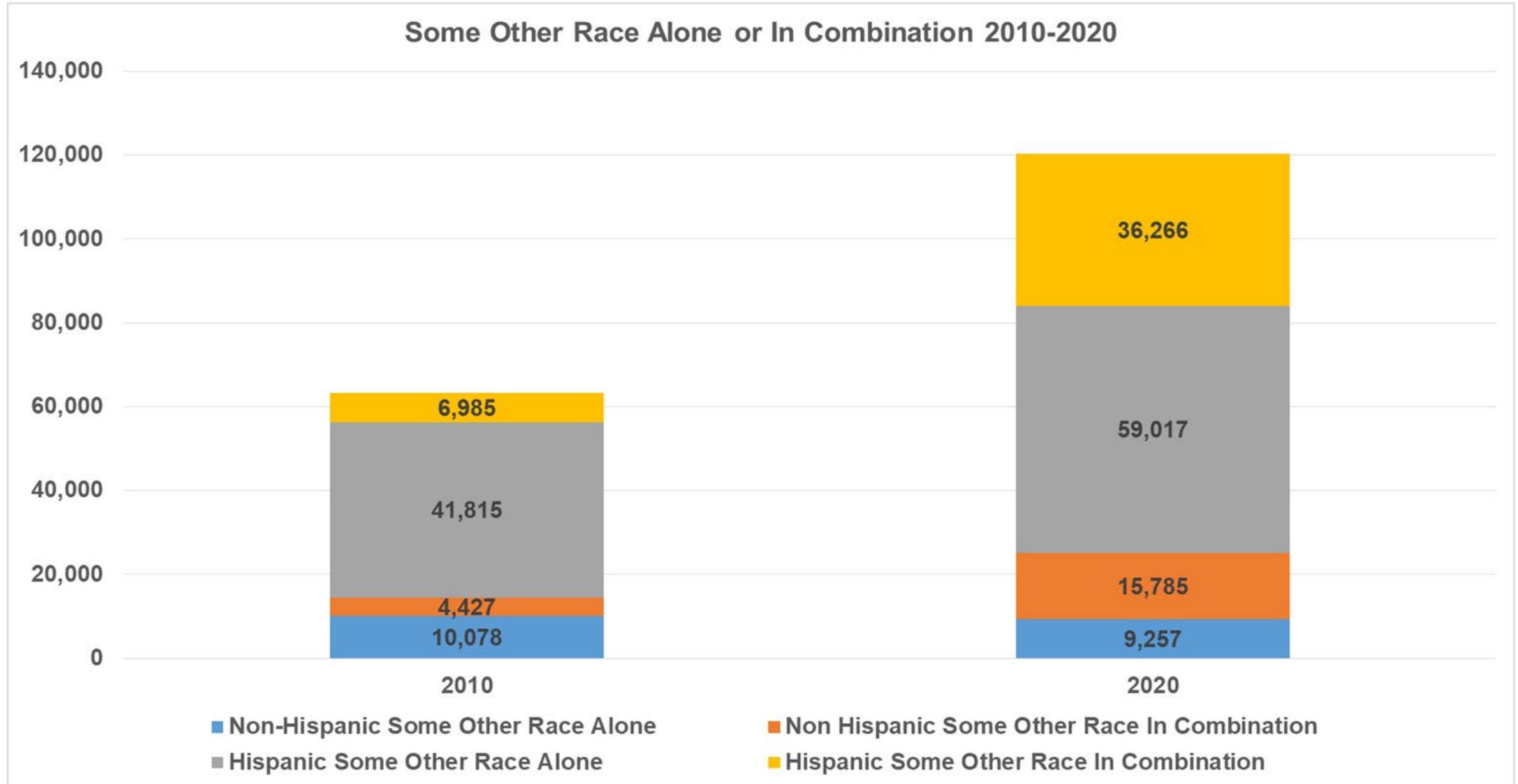


Boston residents identifying as American Indian increased significantly from 2010 - 46% also identify as Hispanic and 69% also identify with another race.



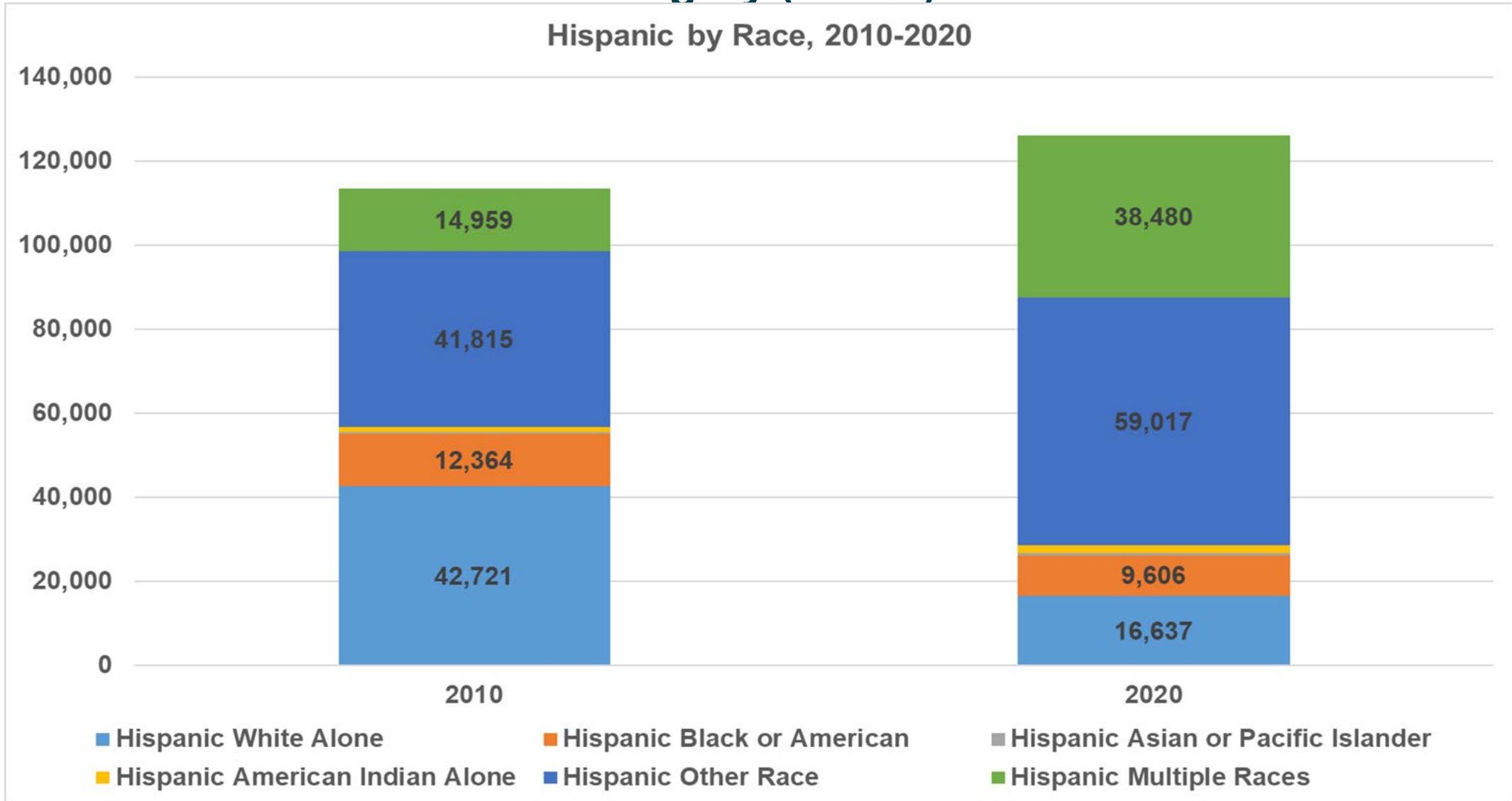
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 & 2020 Decennial Censuses, BPDA Research Division Analysis

An increasing number of Boston residents chose the “other” race write-in option - 79% also identified as Hispanic, and 43% also identified with another race listed.



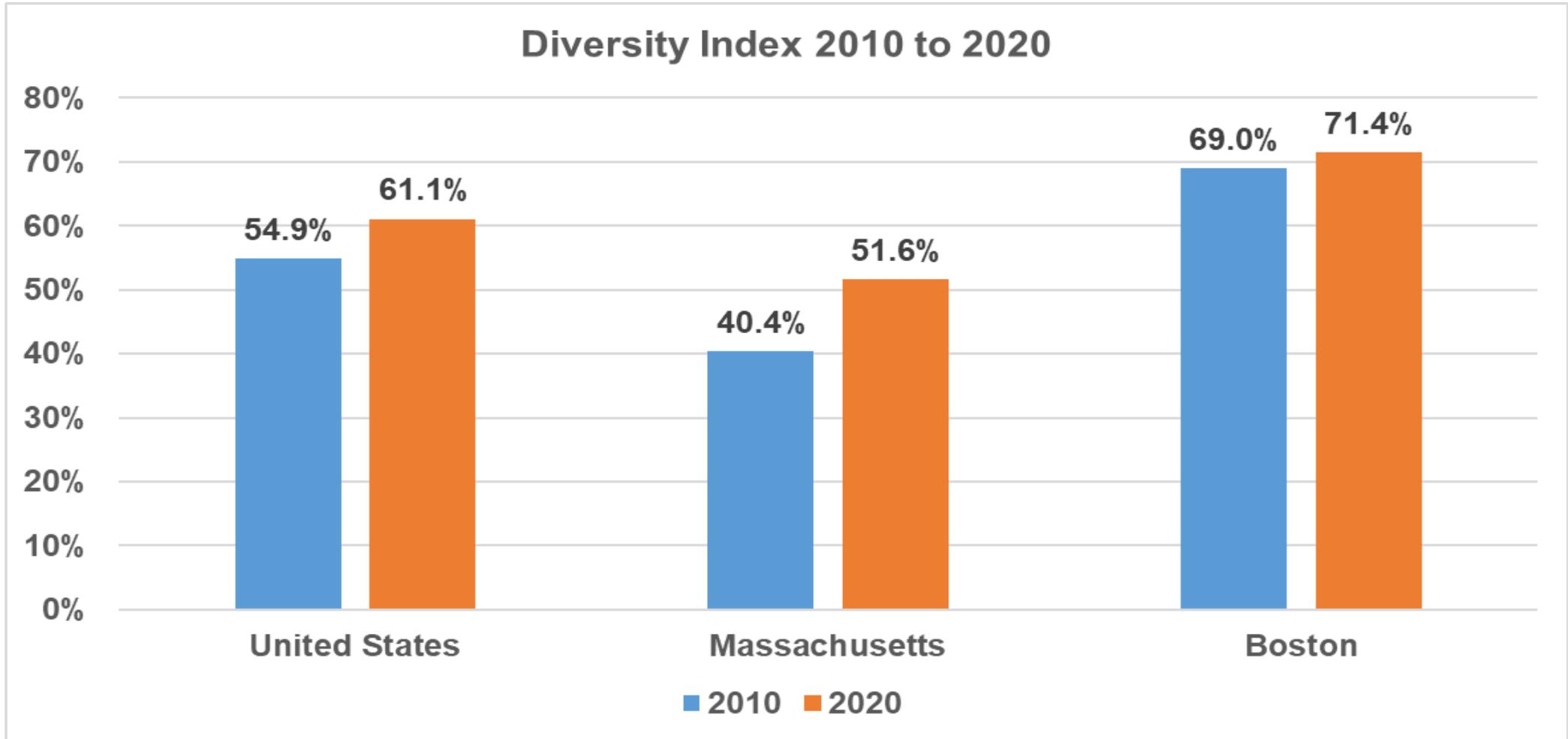
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 & 2020 Decennial Censuses, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Hispanics are more likely to identify with multiple races (30.5%) or to choose the “other race” category (46.8%).



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 & 2020 Decennial Censuses, BPDA Research Division Analysis

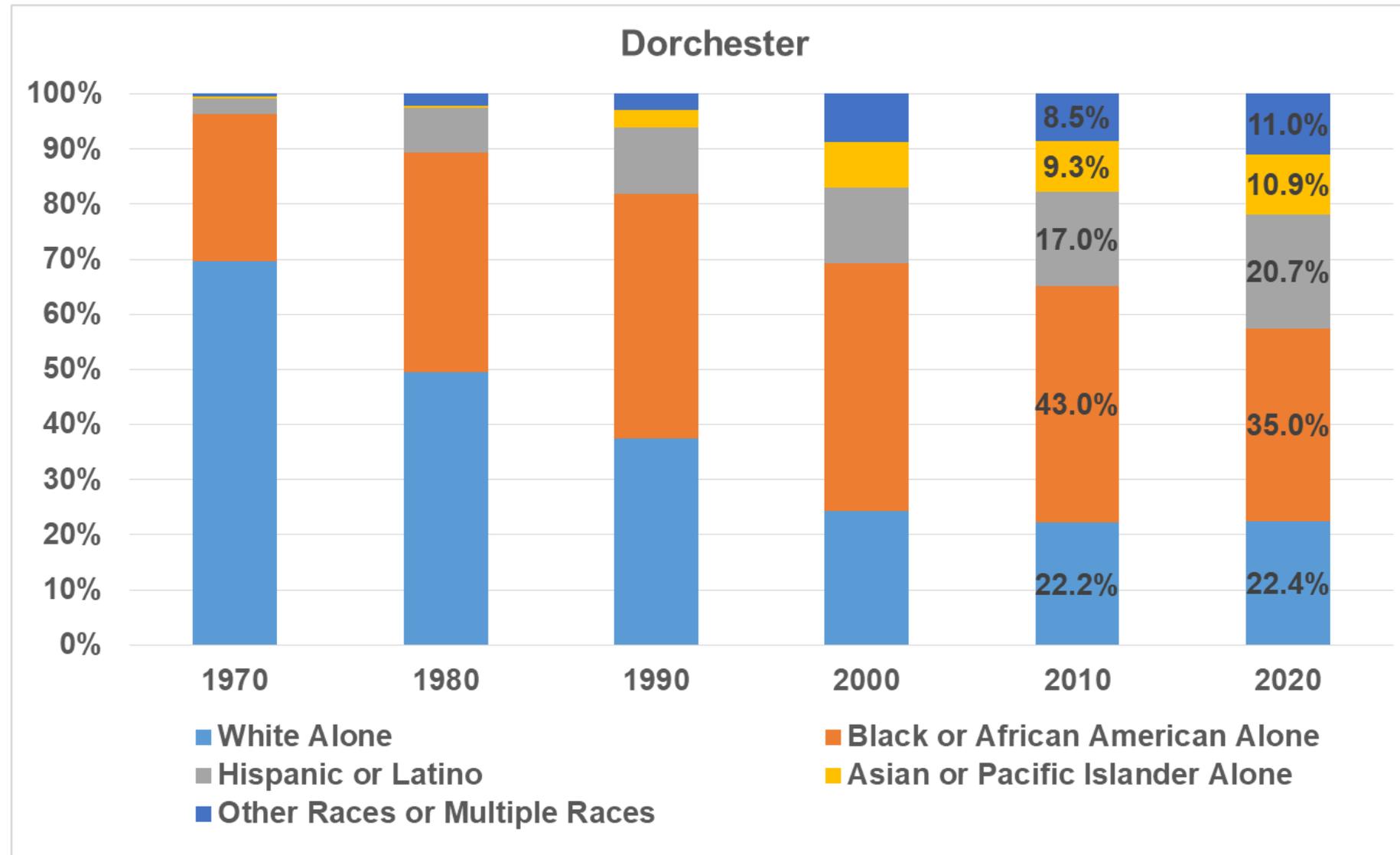
The Diversity Index* tells us the chance that two people chosen at random will be from a different racial or ethnic group.



*Diversity Index based on 8 race and ethnicity groups.

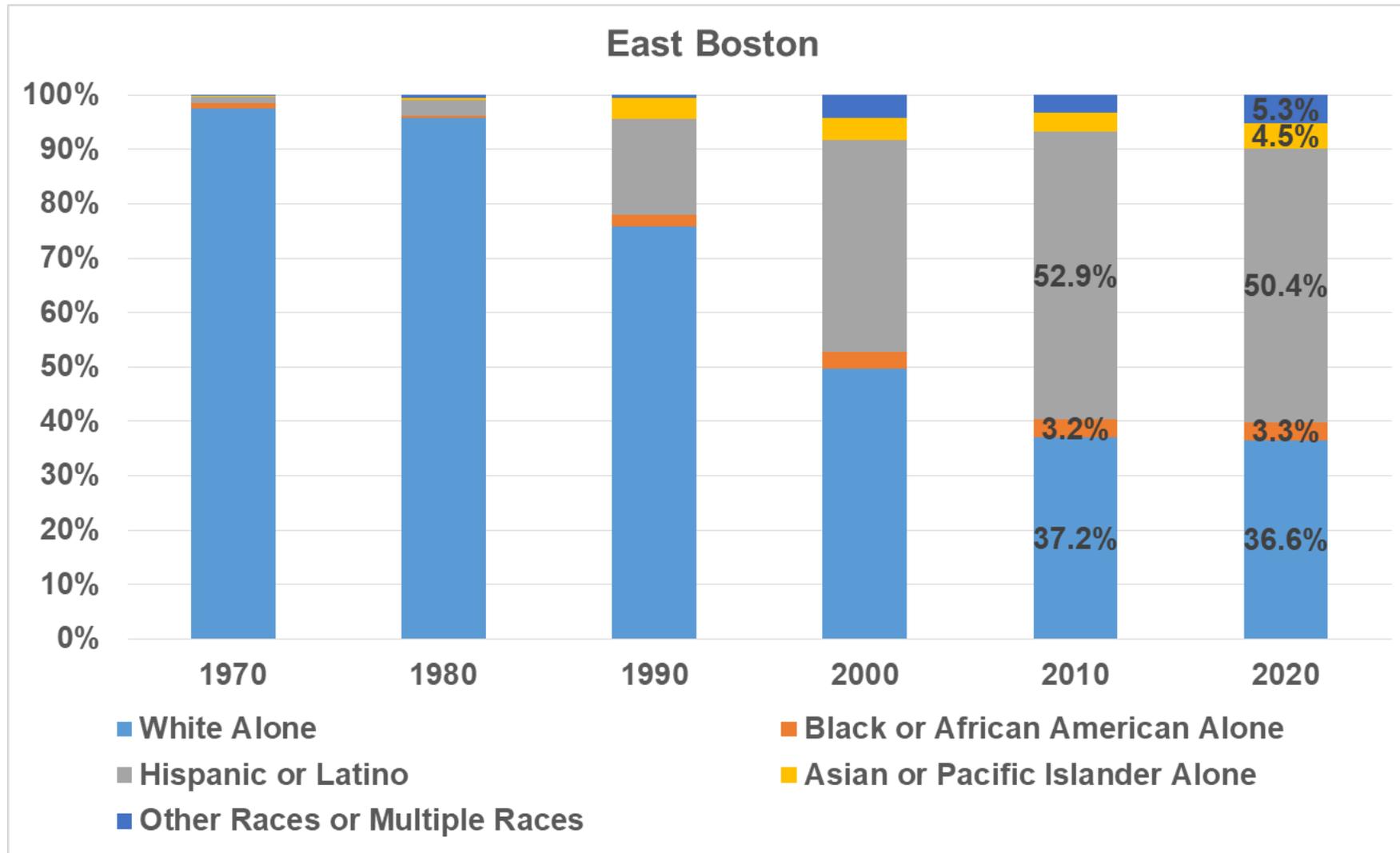
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2020 Decennial Censuses, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Dorchester's Hispanic population grew significantly.



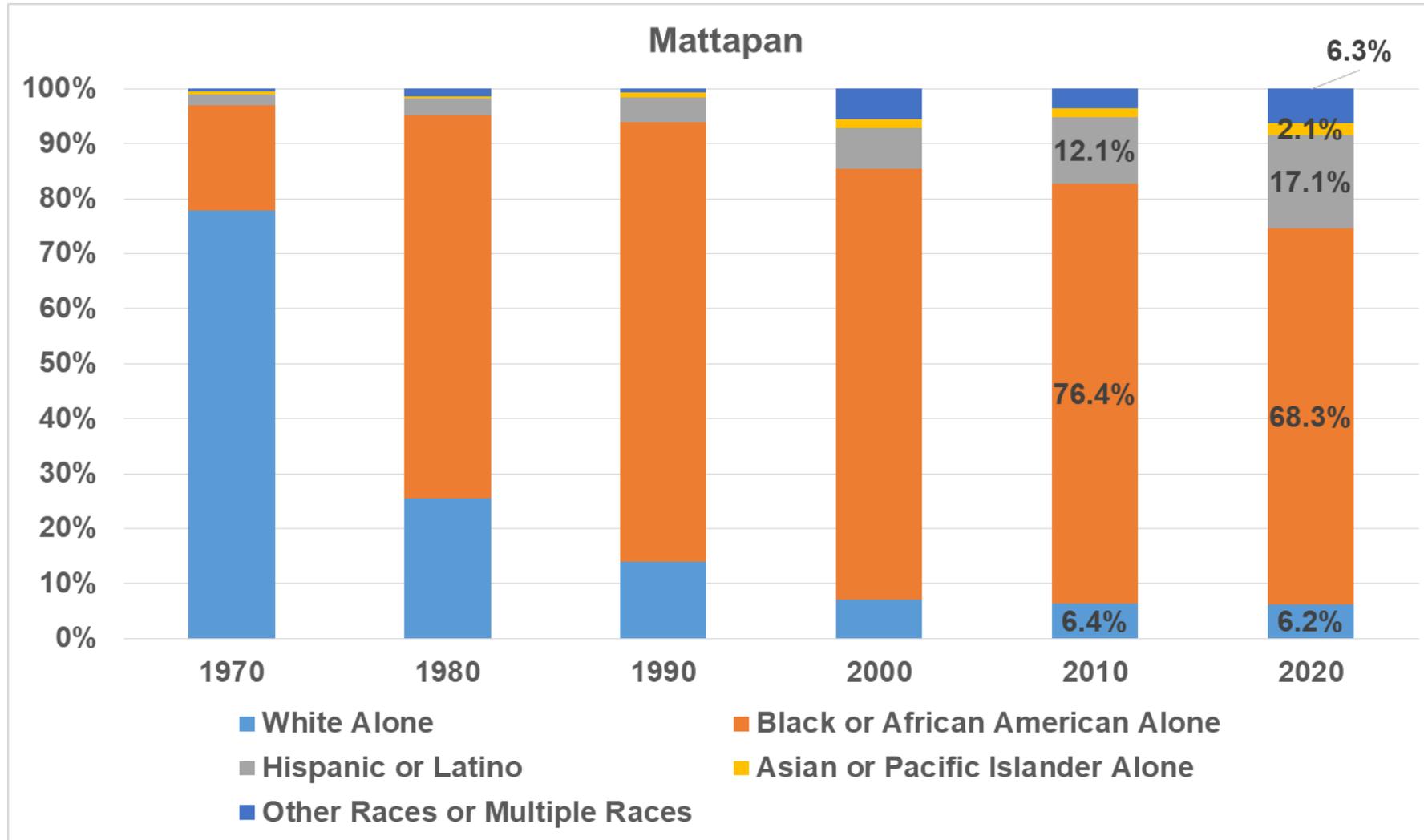
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census, BPDA Research Division Analysis

East Boston's population is half Hispanic or Latino.



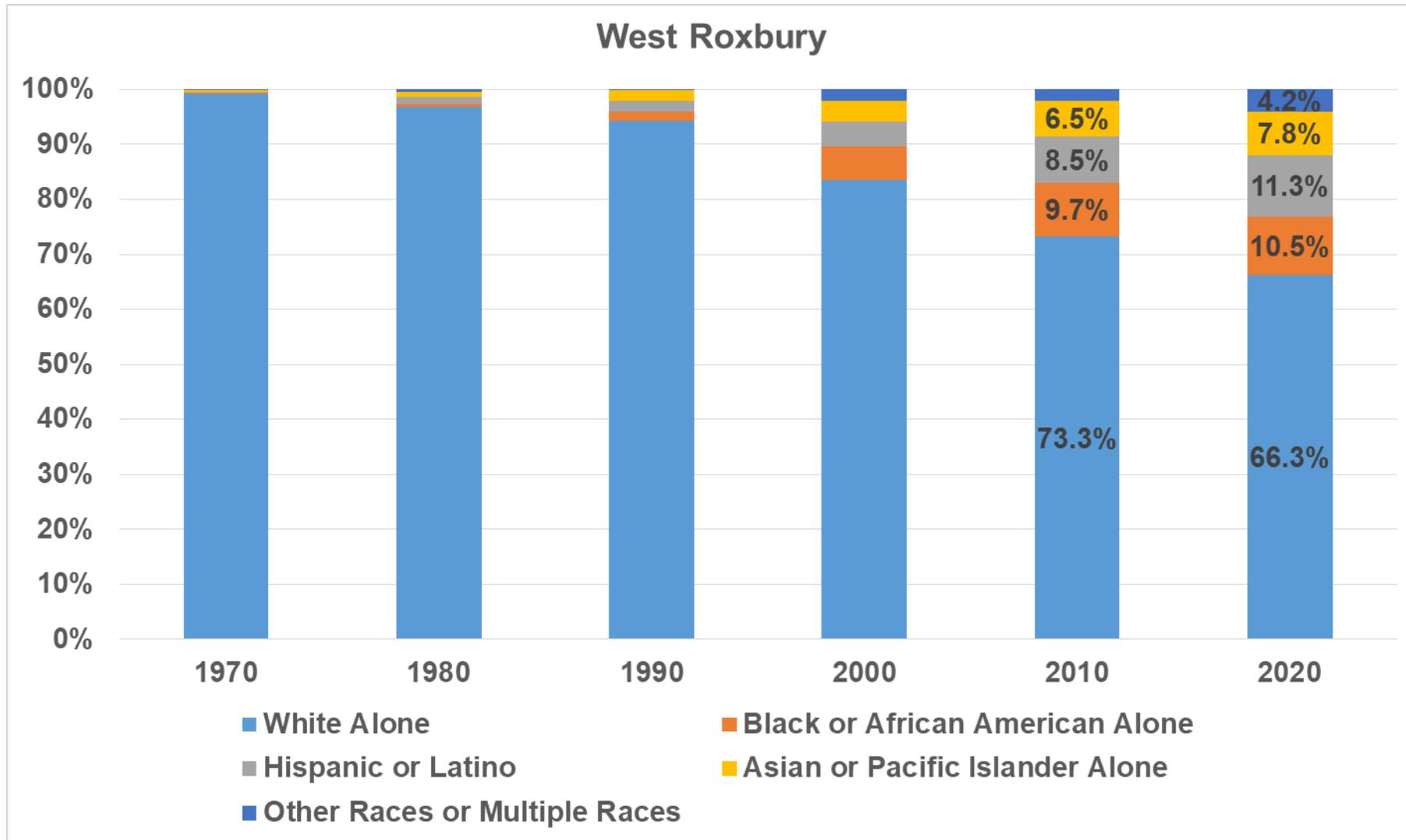
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census, BPDA Research Division Analysis

Mattapan's Hispanic population grew significantly, but non-Hispanic Black/African-Americans are still 68% of the population.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census, BPDA Research Division Analysis

West Roxbury became more diverse with growing Hispanic and Asian populations.



Research

[Division Overview](#)[Frequently Requested Information](#)[Research Publications](#)[2020 Census](#)[MyCensus Viewer](#)[COVID-19 Economic Impact Dashboard](#)[Research Inquiries](#)[Data Sets](#)

2020 Census

The U.S. Census conducts the decennial census every ten years to provide an official count of the entire U.S. population to Congress for apportionment of taxes and representation in the House of Representatives. The Census counted residents in the United States on April 1st, 2020 and asked a short set of additional questions, such as age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and owner/renter status. The first limited data release for the 2020 Census (the Redistricting Data Summary File) was August 12th, 2021. Full 2020 Census data are not scheduled to be released until 2022.

[Boston 2020 Census Analysis](#)

BPDA Research Division reports and presentations analyzing the 2020 Census data for Boston.

[Boston 2020 Census Data](#)

Boston 2020 Census data for city, neighborhood, wards, and precincts available for download.

[MyCensus Viewer](#)

Interactive map tool to visualize Census data. American Community Survey data available now and 2020 Census data coming October 2021.

More information available in the 2020 Census section of the BPDA Research webpage.