Community Youth Meetings 2007
Health Status of Youth: Roxbury
November 7, 2007

Presented by the Boston Public Health Commission
Roxbury

MAP PREPARATION:
Boston Public Health Commission
Research Office
Youth and Young Adult Population by Age, Roxbury, 2000

Ages 0-4: 16%
Ages 5-9: 19%
Ages 10-14: 19%
Ages 15-17: 10%
Ages 18-24: 37%
Ages 10-14: 19%

DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Racial and Ethnic Makeup: Boston and Roxbury, 2000

Boston
- White: 49%
- Black: 24%
- Latino: 14%
- Other Race: 2%
- 2 or More Races: 3%
- Asian: 8%

Roxbury
- White: 49%
- Black: 53%
- Latino: 22%
- Other Race: 4%
- 2 or More Races: 4%
- Asian: 5%

DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
# Selected Socioeconomic Indicators
## Boston and Roxbury, 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Boston</th>
<th>Roxbury</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of Population with Less Than High School Diploma or GED (Adults Ages 25 and Over)</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Population Below Poverty Level*</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Children (Under 18) Below Poverty Level*</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Adults 65 and Older Below Poverty Level*</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median household income (1999)*</td>
<td>$39,629</td>
<td>$26,515</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Based on 1999 income

DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Female-Headed Households* with Own Children Under Age 18, Roxbury, 2000

Percentage of households within Neighborhood

- **BOSTON**: 10%
- **Roxbury**: 18%

DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
EDUCATION
## Students Most at Risk of Dropping Out of School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Segments</th>
<th>% of Class of 2004 Dropouts</th>
<th>4-Year Graduation Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students with One or More 8(^{\text{th}}) Grade “Risk Factors”</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students with Multiple 9(^{\text{th}}) Grade Core Course Failures</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substantially Separate Special Education Students</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Entrant English Language Learner (ELL) Students</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DATA SOURCE: BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS Memorandum – “Graduation for All” – Update - September 25, 2007
GRAPHIC: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
### Grade Level 10 2007 MCAS Results: English Language by Race/Ethnicity, Boston

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Advanced/Above Proficient</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
<th>Needs Improvement</th>
<th>Warning/Failing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American/Black</td>
<td>1,730</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-race- Non-Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Students</strong></td>
<td>4,041</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DATA SOURCE:** Massachusetts Department of Education, 2007  
**GRAPHIC:** Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
## Grade Level 10 2007 MCAS Results for Mathematics in Boston

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Advanced/Above Proficient</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
<th>Needs Improvement</th>
<th>Warning/Failing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American/Black</td>
<td>1,688</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>1,185</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-race- Non-Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Students</strong></td>
<td>3,950</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DATA SOURCE:** Massachusetts Department of Education, 2007  
**GRAPHIC:** Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Annual Dropout Rates by Race/Ethnicity and Year, Boston: 1995-96 through 2005-06

Percentage of Students

DATA SOURCE: Q and A, Boston Public Schools 2005-2006: Student Dropout
GRAPHIC: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Annual Dropout Rates Sex: Grades 9-12, Boston, 2005-2006

DATA SOURCE: Q and A, Boston Public Schools 2005-2006: Student Dropout
GRAPHIC: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Annual Dropout Rates in Grades 9-12
Boston and Roxbury, 2005-2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Boston</th>
<th>Roxbury</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005-2006</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DATA SOURCE: Q and A, Boston Public Schools 2005-2006: Student Dropout
GRAPHIC: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
4-Year Graduation Rate: Grades 9-12
Boston, 2006

NOTES: Graduation rate Indicates the percentage of students who graduate with a regular high school diploma within 4 years.
# of students in cohort who graduate in 4 years or less/ [# of 1st time entering 9th graders 4 years earlier] – transfers out + transfers in
DATA SOURCE: Massachusetts Department of Education
GRAPHIC: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
VI OLENCE and TRAUMA
Emergency Department Intentional Injury Visits by Age and Type, Roxbury, 2005

DATA SOURCE: Hospital Emergency Department Visit Data Base, Massachusetts Division of Health Care Finance and Policy
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Nonfatal Assault-Related Gunshot Wound Victims by Age Group and Year Boston Residents, 1994-2006

Percentage of Total Victims

DATA SOURCE: Weapon-Related Injury Surveillance System (WRISS) Massachusetts Department of Public Health
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Victims of Assault-Related Nonfatal Shootings and Stabbings, Boston and Roxbury, 2006

Data Source: Weapon-Related Injury Surveillance System (WRISS) Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Data Analysis: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Homicide Mortality: Age-Specific Rates
Boston and Roxbury, 2003-2005

DATA SOURCE: Boston resident deaths, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Snitching:
“If you were witness to a crime, what would you do?”

- Call 911: 61%
- Call police tipline: 4%
- Call another tipline: 4%
- Tell an adult: 5%
- Nothing: 26%

DATA SOURCE: Boston Youth Survey, 2006; Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
DATA ANALYSIS and GRAPHIC: Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center
Reasons for not telling

- Don’t want to be a “snitch”
- Fear of getting hurt
- Belief that it is not his/her concern

DATA SOURCE: Boston Youth Survey, 2006; Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
DATA ANALYSIS and GRAPHIC: Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center
“How easy is it or would it be for you to get a gun?”

DATA SOURCE: Boston Youth Survey, 2004, 2006; Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
DATA ANALYSIS and GRAPHIC: Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center
### Reasons for Gun Carrying*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Felt unsafe in neighborhood</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone had threatened me</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends carried guns</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carried it for someone else</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felt unsafe at school</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self protection</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felt like it/gave me power</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Of those who provided a reason

DATA SOURCE: Boston Youth Survey, 2004, 2006; Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

DATA ANALYSIS and GRAPHIC: Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center
## Weapons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attacked with weapon (not gun, past year)</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shot/shot at (past year)</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carried gun (past year)</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DATA SOURCE: Boston Youth Survey, 2004, 2006; Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

DATA ANALYSIS and GRAPHIC: Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center
## Risky Behaviors: Gun Carriers vs. Non-Gun Carriers, High School Students Boston, 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behavior</th>
<th>Of Gun Carriers</th>
<th>Of Non-Gun Carriers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% Smoked Cigarettes – Past 30 Days</td>
<td>39.7</td>
<td>14.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Drank Alcohol – Past 30 Days</td>
<td>78.1</td>
<td>33.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Binged (5+ Drinks) – Past 30 Days</td>
<td>44.1</td>
<td>13.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Used Marijuana – Past 30 Days</td>
<td>76.0</td>
<td>18.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Poor Grades (Ds &amp; Fs) - Past Year</td>
<td>35.4</td>
<td>15.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Lacking Adult Social Supports at School</td>
<td>38.8</td>
<td>18.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Gang Member – Past Year</td>
<td>51.0</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DATA SOURCE: Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2005, Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
RISKY BEHAVIOR
### Risky Behaviors, High School Students, Boston, Massachusetts, and U.S., 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behavior</th>
<th>BOSTON</th>
<th>MA</th>
<th>U.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Smoked – past 30 Days</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol – past 30 Days</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Binged – past 30 Days</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana – Lifetime</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana - Past 30 Days</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex Before Age 13</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Condom Use* – past 3 mo.</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*of those having had sexual intercourse in past 3 mos.

**DATA SOURCE:** Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2005, Centers for Disease Control (CDC)

**DATA ANALYSIS:** Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
ENVIRONMENTAL LEAD

ASTHMA
Asthma Hospitalizations of Children Under Age 5 and Ages 5-17, Boston and Roxbury, 2004-2006

DATA SOURCE: Acute Care Hospital Case Mix Files, Massachusetts Division of Health Care Finance and Policy
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels
Boston and Roxbury, 2006

NOTE: The data shown in the chart do not include those children whose neighborhood of residence is unknown nor those children who are not Boston residents.

DATA SOURCE: Lead Screening Data, Boston Public Health Commission Office of Environmental Health
DATA ANALYSIS: Lead Screening Data, Boston Public Health Commission Office of Environmental Health
GRAPHIC: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
MENTAL HEALTH
Suicide Attempt Requiring Medical Care During Past Year, High School Students Boston, 2005

DATA SOURCE: Boston Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2005, Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Felt Sad/Hopeless for Two Weeks Straight During Past Year, High School Students
Boston, 2005

Percentage of High School Students

DATA SOURCE: Boston Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2005, Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
ROXBURY: SUMMARY of MAJOR FINDINGS

POSITIVE

- **Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels** – The elevated blood lead level for Roxbury children in 2006 was 1.7% and slightly lower than for Boston children overall.

CHALLENGES

- **Asthma Hospitalization** – Roxbury asthma hospitalization rates during 2004-2006 for children less than age 5 and those ages 5-17 were about 60% higher than for Boston children in each of those age groups.

- **Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)** – During 2001-2005, the IMR for Roxbury (10 infant deaths per 1,000 live births) was 67% higher than the IMR for Boston.

- **Homicide Rate** – The homicide rate for Roxbury young adults ages 18-24 (40 deaths per 100,000 pop.) during 2003-2005 was 82% higher than the Boston rate of 22 deaths per 100,000 population.

- **Assault-Related Nonfatal Shootings and Stabbings** – The Roxbury rate of nonfatal gunshot victims (10 per 10,000 pop.) in 2006 was more than 3 times the overall Boston rate and the Roxbury rate of nonfatal stabbing victims (8 per 10,000) 1.6 times the overall Boston rate.
BPHC YOUTH PROGRAMS

- Adolescent Wellness Program
- Boston Area Health Education Center (BAHEC)
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health
- Connecting Families to Schools
- School Based Health Programs
  - Parochial, Private & Charter School Program
  - Public School Program
- Youth Development Network
Slides Not Included in the Presentation
Population by Age Group: Boston and Roxbury, 2000

Boston
- 0-17 years: 25%
- 18-24 years: 18%
- 25-44 years: 36%
- 45-64 years: 18%
- 65+ years: 10%

Roxbury
- 0-17 years: 20%
- 18-24 years: 16%
- 25-44 years: 32%
- 45-64 years: 18%
- 65+ years: 10%

DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Youth and Young Adult Population by Sex, Roxbury, 2000

Ages 15-17
- Male: 51%
- Female: 49%

Ages 18-24
- Male: 53%
- Female: 47%

DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Language Spoken at Home by Students
Boston and Roxbury, 2005

Boston

- English: 56%
- Spanish: 19%
- Haitian: 3%
- Chinese: 3%
- Others: 12%

Roxbury

- English: 64%
- Spanish: 19%
- Haitian: 3%
- Cape Verdean: 2%
- Others: 12%

DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
MATERNAL AND CHILD
Low Birthweight
Boston and Roxbury, 2005

![Bar chart showing percentage of births below 20% for Boston and Roxbury.]

- Boston: 10%
- Roxbury: 13%

DATA SOURCE: Boston resident live births. Massachusetts Department of Public Health
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Infant Mortality: Boston and Roxbury
2001-2005

Deaths per 1,000 Live Births

BOSTON: 6

Roxbury: 10

DATA SOURCE: Boston resident deaths and live births, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Birth Rates Among Adolescents Ages 15-17
Roxbury, 2005

- BOSTON: 21 births per 1,000 females ages 15-17
- Roxbury: 26 births per 1,000 females ages 15-17

DATA SOURCE: Boston resident live births, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Leading Reasons for Hospitalization
Ages 1-24, Roxbury, 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ages 1-9</th>
<th>Ages 10-17</th>
<th>Ages 18-24</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Bronchitis/Asthma</td>
<td>Pregnancy</td>
<td>Pregnancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Simple Pneumonia*</td>
<td>Psychoses</td>
<td>Red Blood Cell Disorder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Nutritional &amp; Metabolic Disorder</td>
<td>Bronchitis/Asthma</td>
<td>Diabetes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Red Blood Cell Disorder</td>
<td>Injury</td>
<td>Injury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Gastroenteritis</td>
<td>Red Blood Cell Disorder</td>
<td>Psychoses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes Pleurisy

DATA SOURCE: Acute Care Hospital Case Mix Files, Massachusetts Division of Health Care Finance and Policy
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
OVERWEIGHT and OBESITY
At Risk for Overweight or Overweight/Obese, High School Students Boston, 2005

DATA SOURCE: Boston Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2005, Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Adequate Exercise/Physical Activity
High School Students, Boston, 2005

DATA SOURCE: Boston Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2005, Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
INFECTIOUS DISEASES
Chlamydia Incidence Rates, Ages 15-18 by Sex, Boston and Roxbury, 2006

New Cases per 100,000 Population

DATA SOURCE: Massachusetts Department of Public Health, STD Division
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
HIV Incidence Rates by Age and Year
Boston, 1999-2006

DATA SOURCE: Massachusetts Department of Public Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program
DATA ANALYSIS: Boston Public Health Commission Research Office
Feelings of Safety

DATA SOURCE: Boston Youth Survey, 2004, 2006; Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
DATA ANALYSIS and GRAPHIC: Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center