## **Boston City Income Characteristics: 1990-2000**

# trends2000

Boston Redevelopment Authority

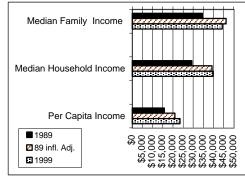
Technical Note #: 2002-2 Policy Development and Research, July, 2002



#### **Boston Income Trends:**

- Median family income increased from \$34,377 to \$44,151 a 28% increase but not enough to keep up with inflation which equaled 34% (Boston CPI-U) during the same period. Family incomes at the first and third quartiles (bottom 25% and top 25%) also did not keep up with inflation, though family incomes at the third quartile came close, growing by 31% from \$58,288 to \$76,364, while those in the first quartile gained only 27% from \$17,450 to \$22,105.
- Household income did keep up with inflation during the decade rising by \$10,449 or 36% from \$29,180 to \$39,629. Household incomes at the first and third quartiles (bottom 25% and top 25%) also kept pace with inflation, with first quartile incomes growing 35% from \$13,031 to \$17,544, and third quartile incomes gaining 41% from \$50.817 to \$71,676.
- The increase in per capita income far outpaced inflation rising by 50% or \$7,772 from \$15,581 to \$23,353.
- Full-time male workers earned \$37,435 compared to \$32,421 for full-time female workers a \$5000 or 15% difference.
- The percentage of households earning \$100,000 or more jumped from 4.7% in 1989 to 12.8% in 1999. The percentage of families earning \$100,000 or more jumped from 6% to 14.5%. Even after adjusting for inflation, the percentage of households and families earning over \$100,000 increased by 1.8% and 2.7% respectively.
- The percentage of persons earning Social Security dropped from 21.1% in 1989 to 18.7% in 1999. The mean Social Security income was \$9,243.
- The percentage of households with public assistance income dropped from 27,213 in 1989 to 9,766 in 1999, a drop from 11.9% of the households then to 4.1% now.
- The percentage of households with retirement income dropped slightly from 11.9% in 1989 to 10.9% in 1999. The mean retirement income in 1999 was \$15,498.

#### 1. INCOME IN 1989-1999



Subject	1989	Infl. Adj.	1999
		to 1999	
Median Family Income	\$34,377	\$46,065	\$44,151
Median Household Income	\$29,180	\$39,101	\$39,629
Per Capita Income	\$15,581	\$20,879	\$23,353
Inflation multiplier	1.00		1.34
(Note: \$1.00 earned in 1989 is equivale	ent to \$1.34 ear	ned in 1999.	
1989 income is adjusted to 1999 to refl	ect inflation.)		

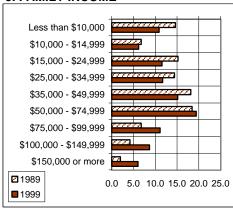
#### 2. HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Less than \$10,000	
\$15,000 - \$24,999	************
\$35,000 - \$49,999	***************************************
\$75,000 - \$99,999	****
\$150,000 or more	
1989	0.0 5.0 10.0 15.0 20.0 25.0

_	Number	%	Number	%
HOUSEHOLDS	227,958	100	239,603	100
Less than \$10,000	46,705	20.5	37,230	15.5
\$10,000 - \$14,999	16,829	7.4	15,764	6.6
\$15,000 - \$24,999	36,105	15.8	27,276	11.4
\$25,000 - \$34,999	33,184	14.6	27,496	11.5
\$35,000 - \$49,999	36,967	16.2	35,928	15
\$50,000 - \$74,999	34,920	15.3	41,496	17.3
\$75,000 - \$99,999	12,358	5.4	23,784	9.9
\$100,000 - \$149,999	7,370	3.2	18,496	7.7
\$150,000 or more	3,520	1.5	12,133	5.1
Median household income	\$29,180		\$39,629	

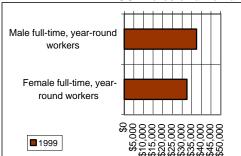
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## 3. FAMILY INCOME



Subject	1989	%	1999	%
FAMILIES	117,656	100	116,657	100
Less than \$10,000	17,126	14.6	12,602	10.8
\$10,000 - \$14,999	7,881	6.7	7,118	6.1
\$15,000 - \$24,999	17,862	15.2	13,348	11.4
\$25,000 - \$34,999	16,898	14.4	13,548	11.6
\$35,000 - \$49,999	21,244	18.1	17,595	15.1
\$50,000 - \$74,999	21,650	18.4	22,545	19.3
\$75,000 - \$99,999	7,911	6.7	12,909	11.1
\$100,000 - \$149,999	4,862	4.1	10,061	8.6
\$150,000 or more	2,222	1.9	6,931	5.9
Median Family Income	\$34,377		\$44,151	
Quartiles - Family income	1989	1989-A*	1999	
25%	\$17,450	\$23,383	\$22,105	
50%	\$34,444	\$46,156	\$45,000	
75%	\$58,288	\$78,106	\$76,364	
Quartiles - Household income				
25%	\$13,041	\$17,474	\$17,544	
50%	\$29,315	\$39,282	\$40,000	
75%	\$50,817	\$68,095	\$71,676	
		Note: 1989-	-A* - Inflation Ad	dj. to 1999

4. MEDIAN EARNINGS: Males and Female year-round workers - 1999



year-round workers - 1333		
Male full-time, year-round	\$37,435	
workers		
Female full-time, year-round	\$32,421	
workers		

## 5. INCOME TYPE

Year 1989	Number	Year 1999	Number
Households	227,958	Households	239,603
With wage and salary income	174,825	With earnings	189,454
With nonfarm self-employment	20,746	With nonfarm self-employment	
income		income	
With farm self-employment	998	With farm self-employment	
With Interest, Dividend, or Net	84,045	With Interest, Dividend, or Net	
Rental Income		Rental Income	
With Social Security income	48,204	With Social Security income	44,831
With public assistance income	27,213	With public assistance income	9,766
With retirement income	27,176	With retirement income	26,234
		With Supplemental Security	17,158
		Mean earnings	\$60,165
		Mean Social Security income	\$9,243
		Mean Supplemental Security	\$6,569
		Income	
		Mean public assistance income	\$3,917
		Mean retirement income	\$15,498