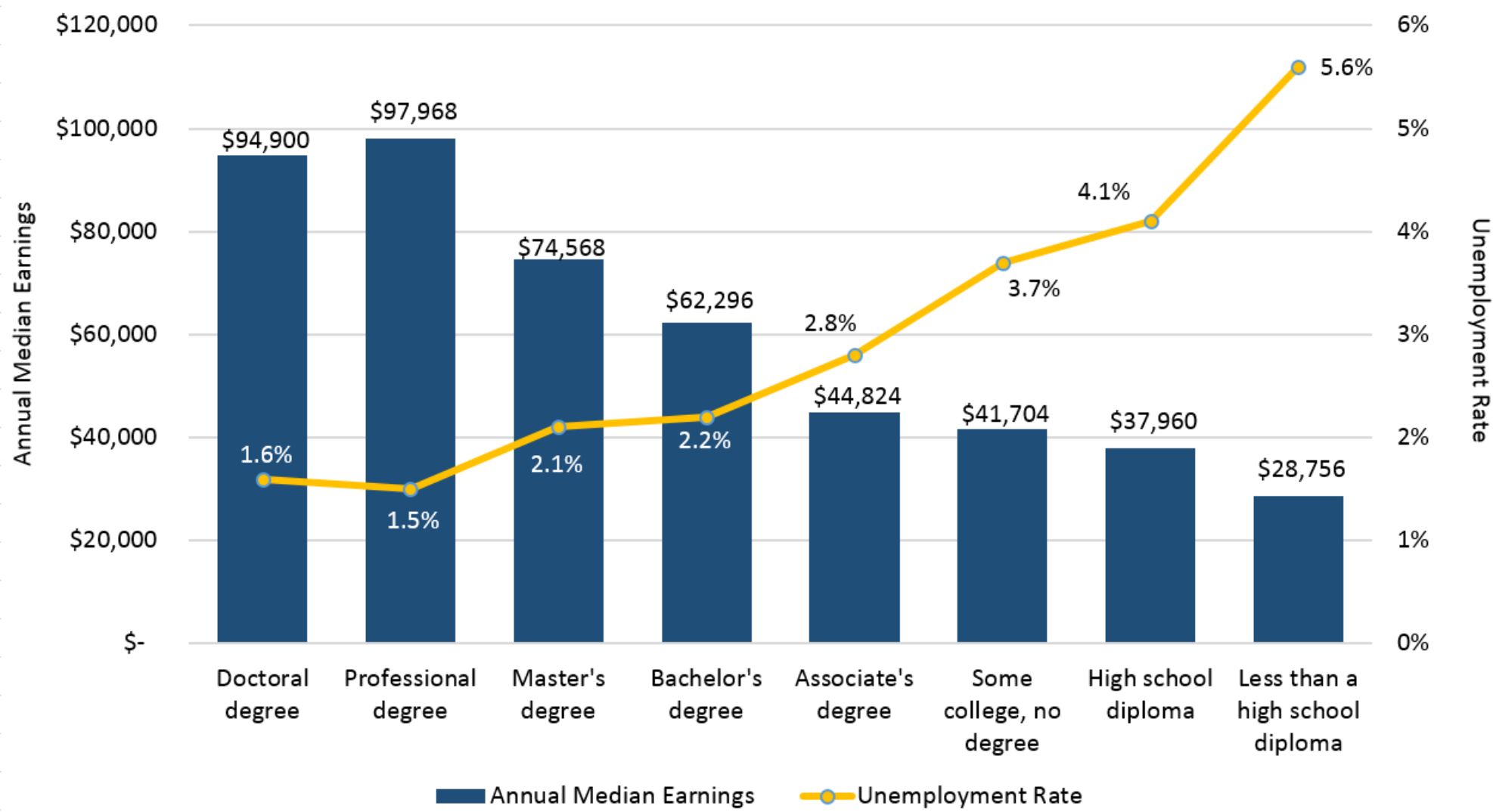


SouthCoast Education Indicators

The "College Payoff"

Unemployment Rates & Annual Earnings By Educational Attainment



A Bachelor's degree is worth \$2.8 million on average over a lifetime.

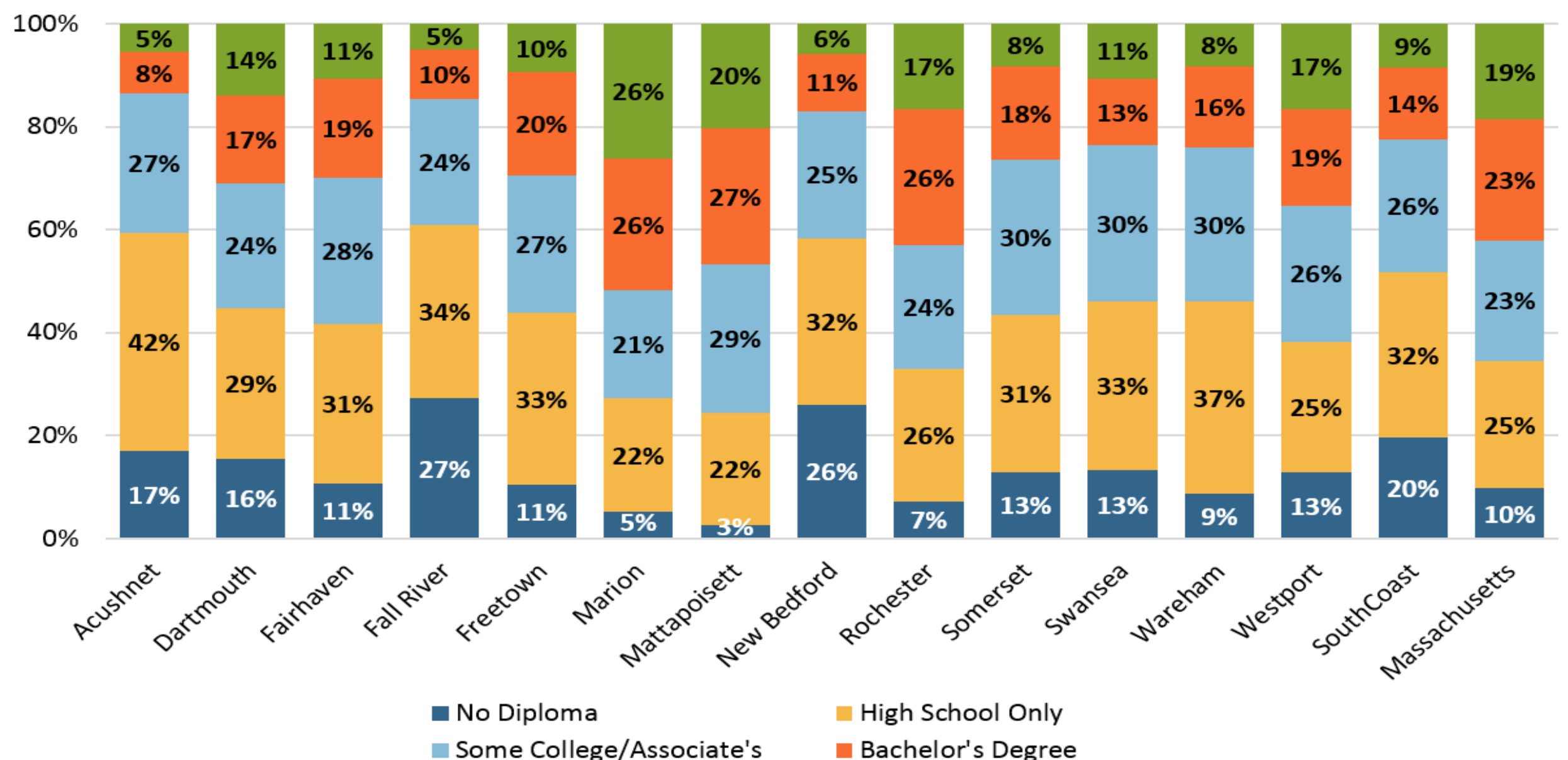
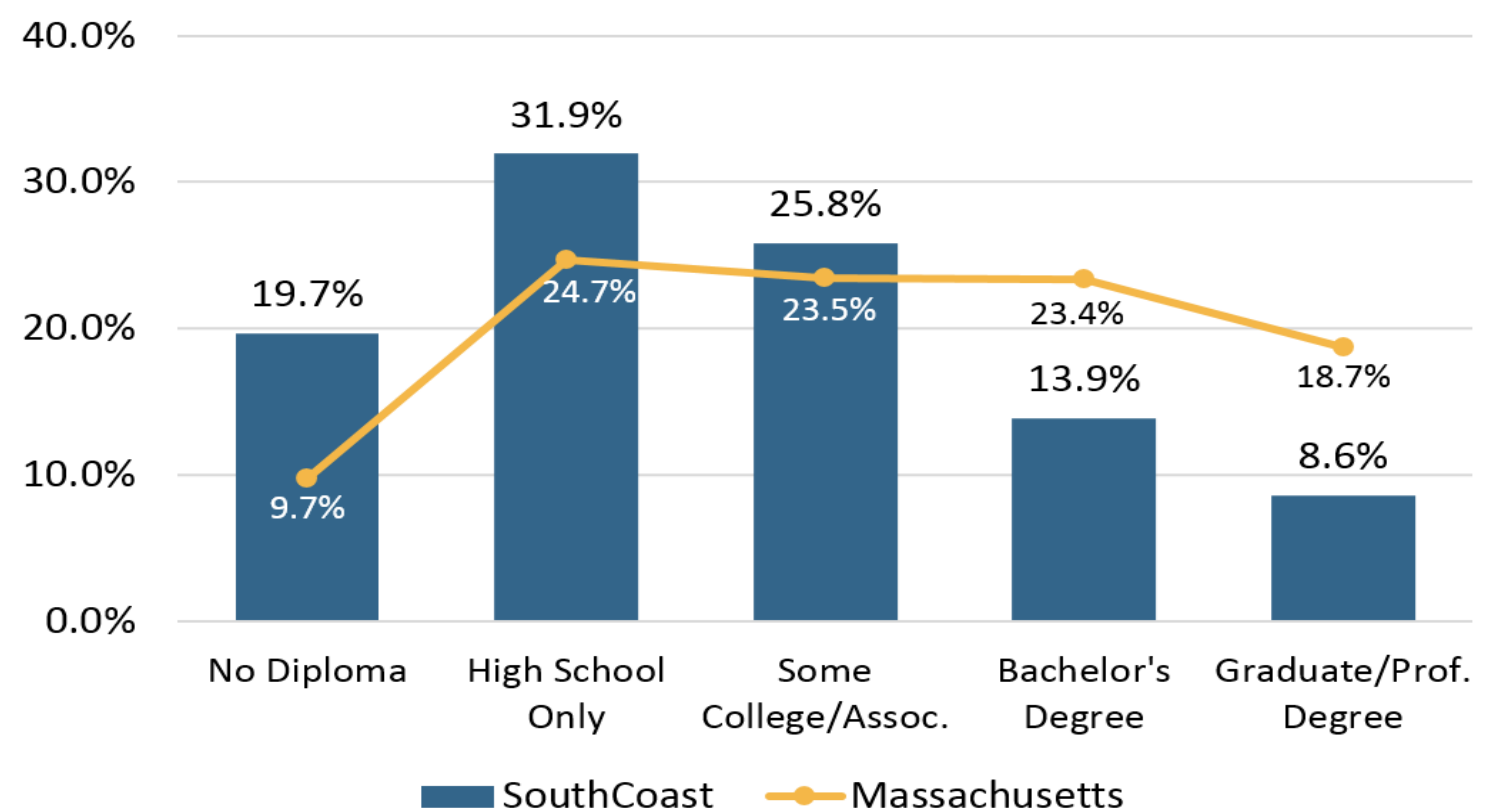
Bachelor's degree holders earn 31 percent more than those with an Associate's degree and 84 percent more than those with just a high school diploma.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, 2018.
Note: Data are for persons age 25 and older. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.

Educational Attainment in the SouthCoast

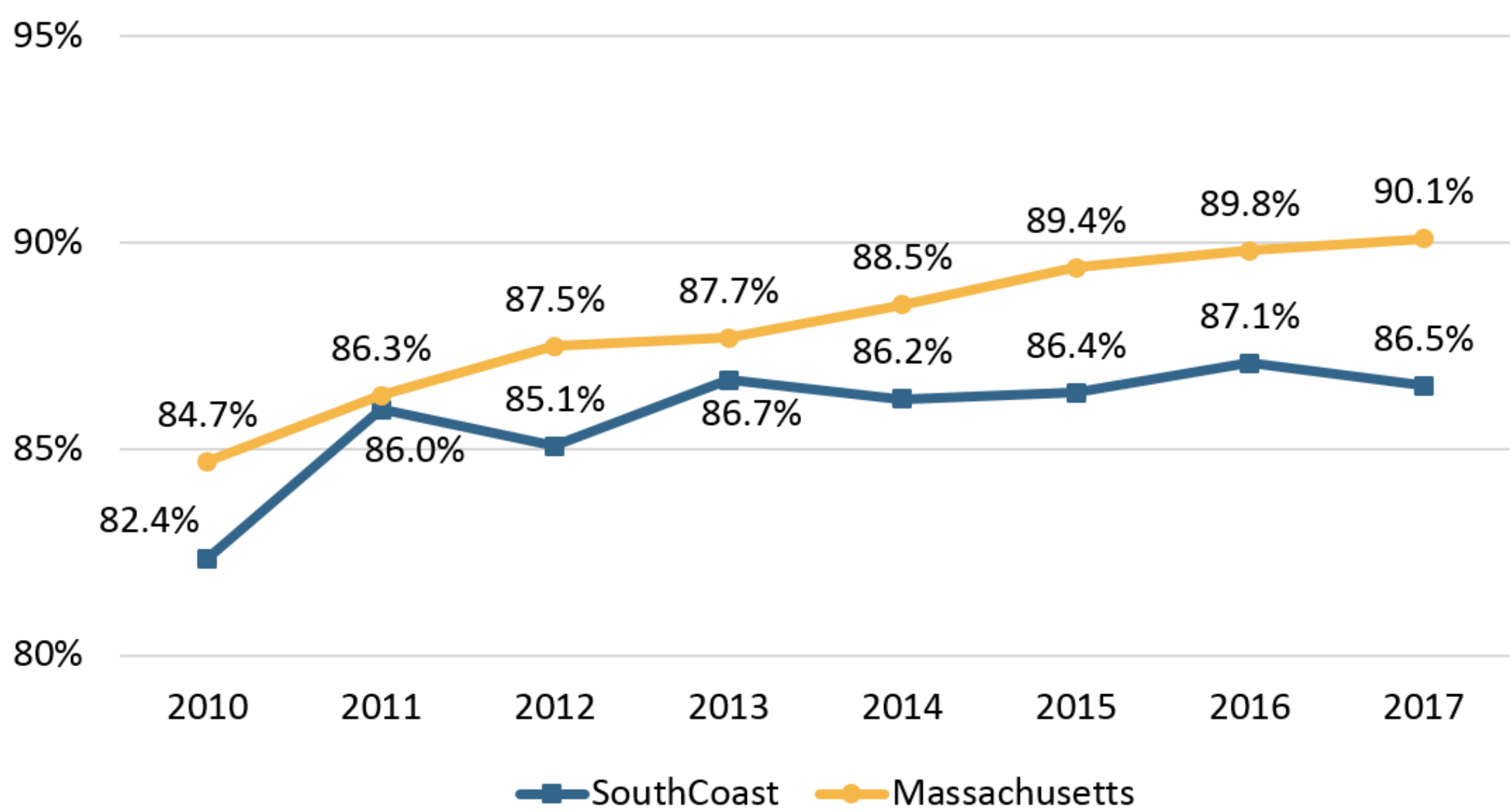
SouthCoast residents age 25 and older have lower educational attainment levels in comparison to the state.

Fall River and New Bedford residents age 25 and older have lower levels of education in comparison to the SouthCoast as a whole. However, many of the region's towns also have educational attainment levels below the state average.



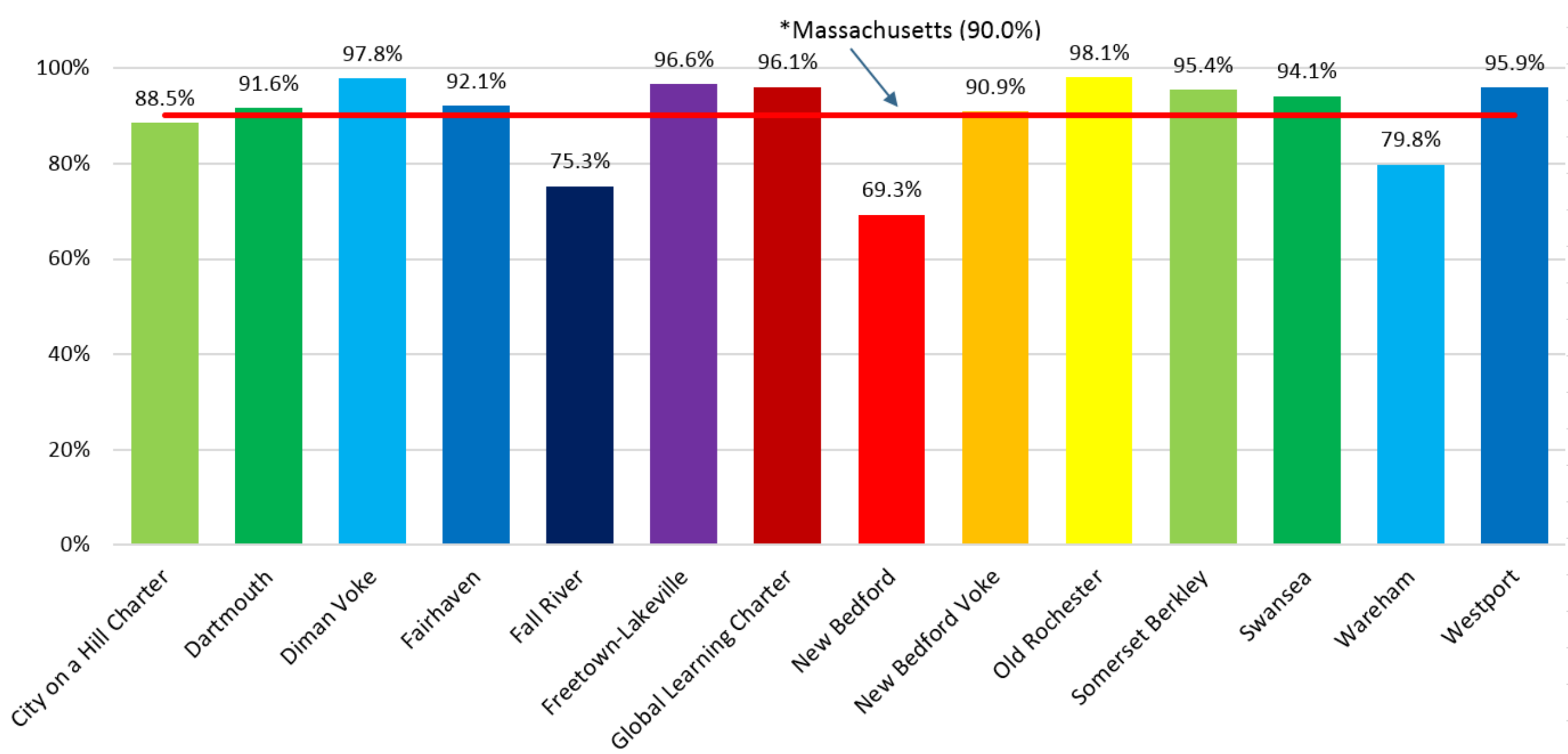
High School Completion

5-Year Adjusted Graduation Rate: SouthCoast vs. State



The 5-year adjusted graduation rate for the SouthCoast was consistently lower than the statewide rate from 2010 through 2017.

5-Year Adjusted Graduation Rate By District

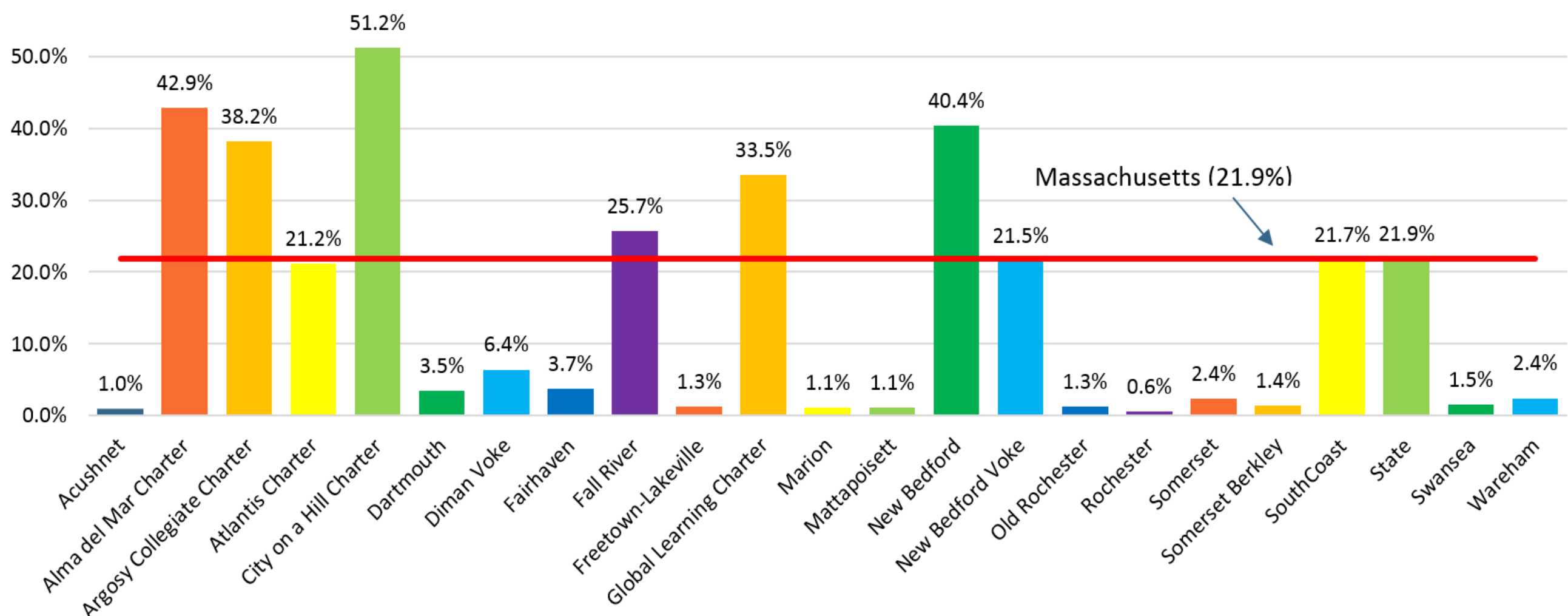


Most districts in the region have graduation rates above the state average.

5-Year Adjusted Graduation Rate indicates the percentage of students who graduate with a regular high school diploma within 5 years. The adjusted graduation rate does not include the transfers in.

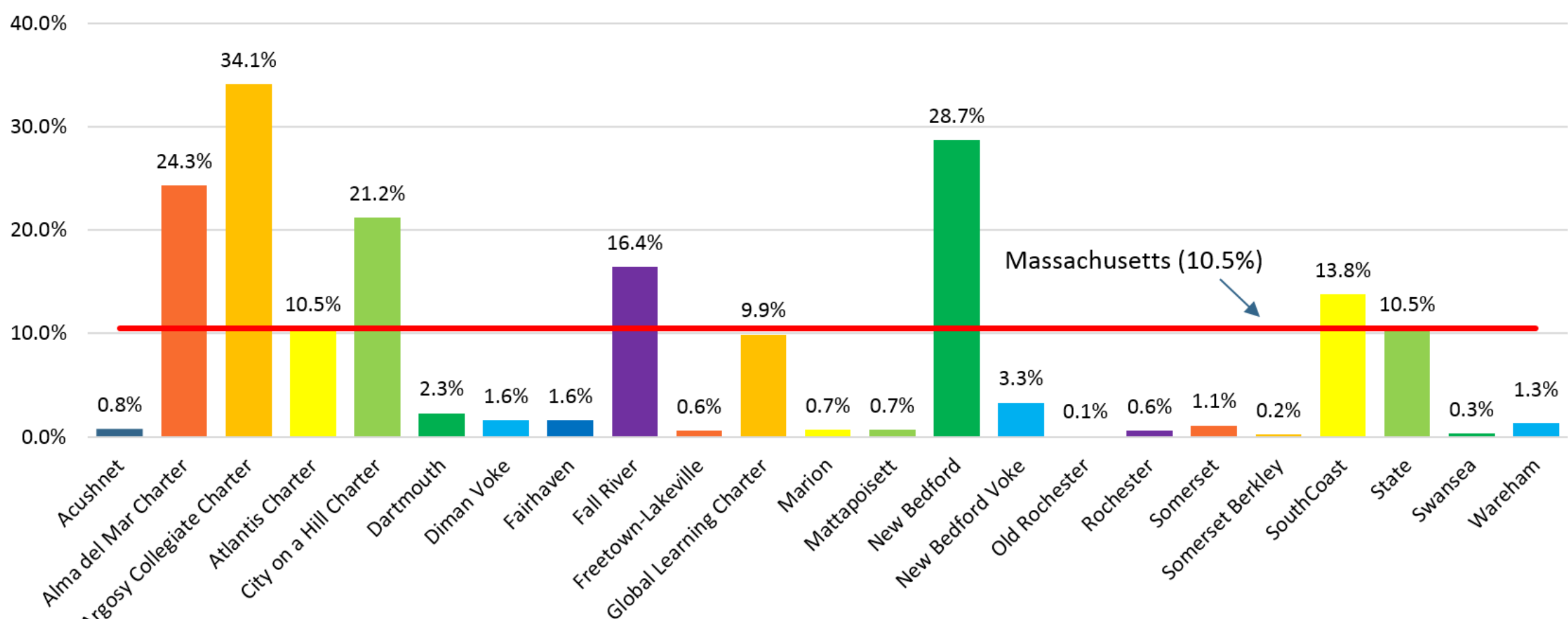
Student Profiles, 2017-2018 School Year

First Language Not English



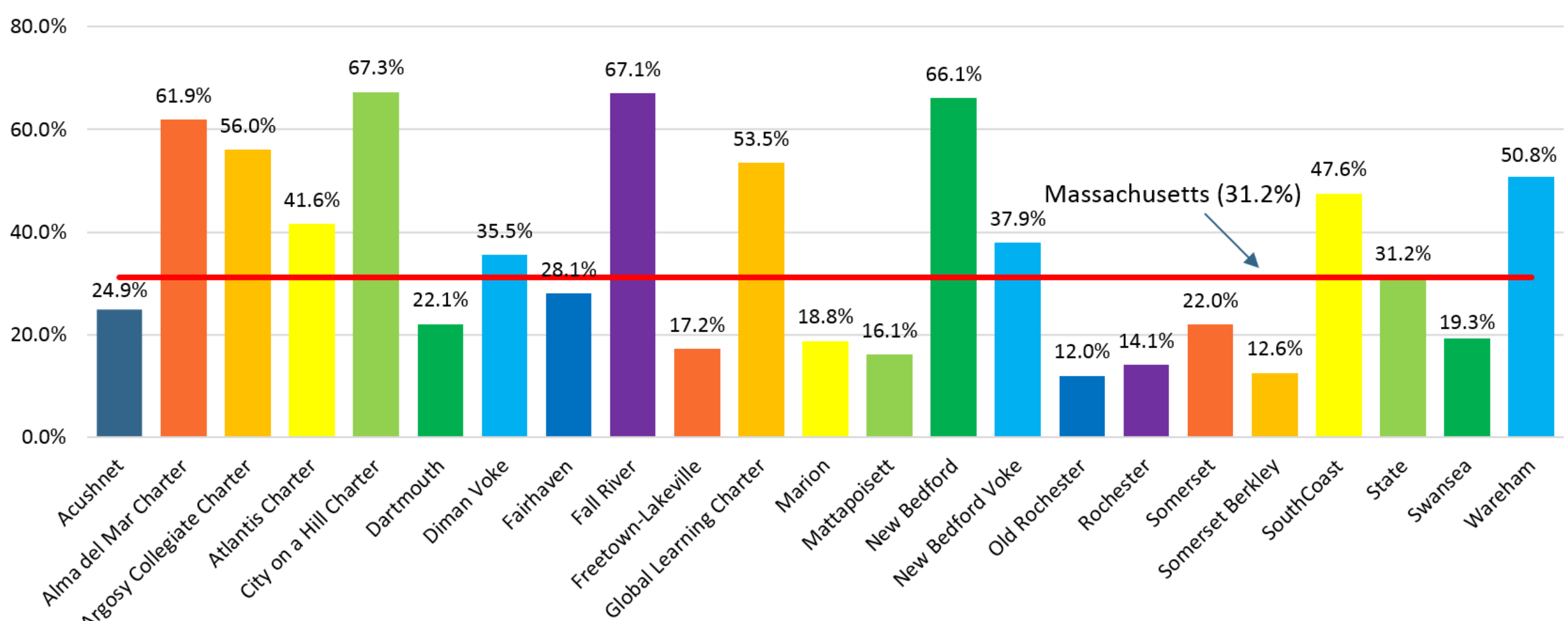
First Language Not English indicates the percentage of enrollment whose first language is a language other than English.

English Language Learner



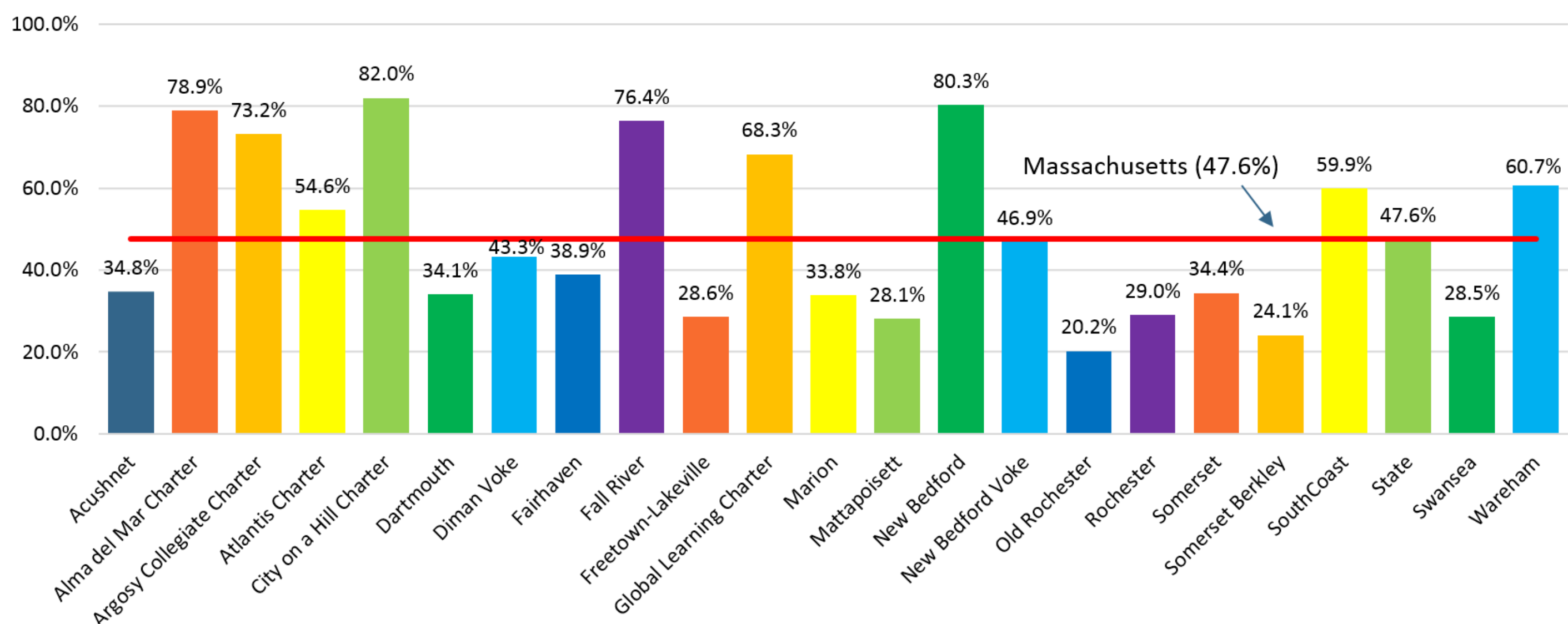
English Language Learners are defined as students whose first language is a language other than English who is unable to perform ordinary classroom work in English.

Economically Disadvantaged



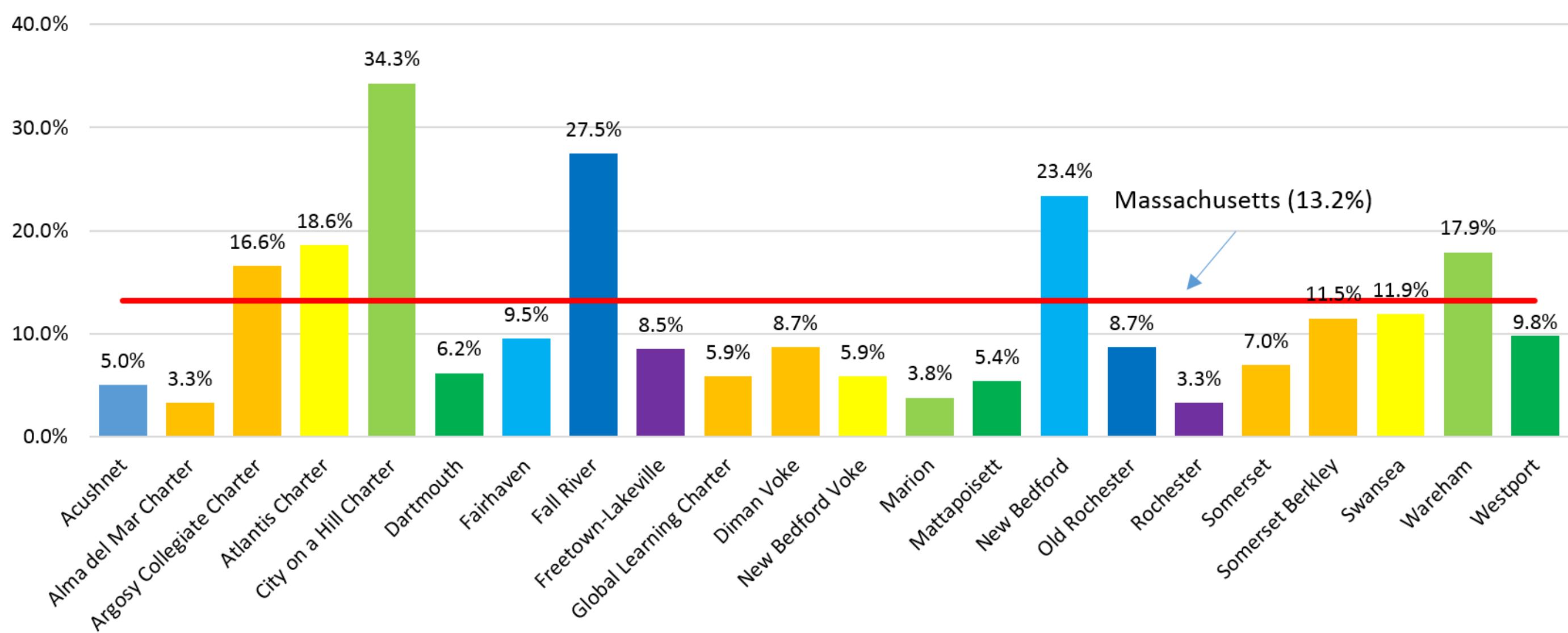
Economically Disadvantage is calculated based on a student's participation in one or more of the following state-administered programs: the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); the Transitional Assistance for Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC); the Department of Children and Families' (DCF) foster care program; and MassHealth (Medicaid).

High Needs



A student is high needs if he or she is designated as economically disadvantaged, or ELL, or former ELL, or a student with disabilities.

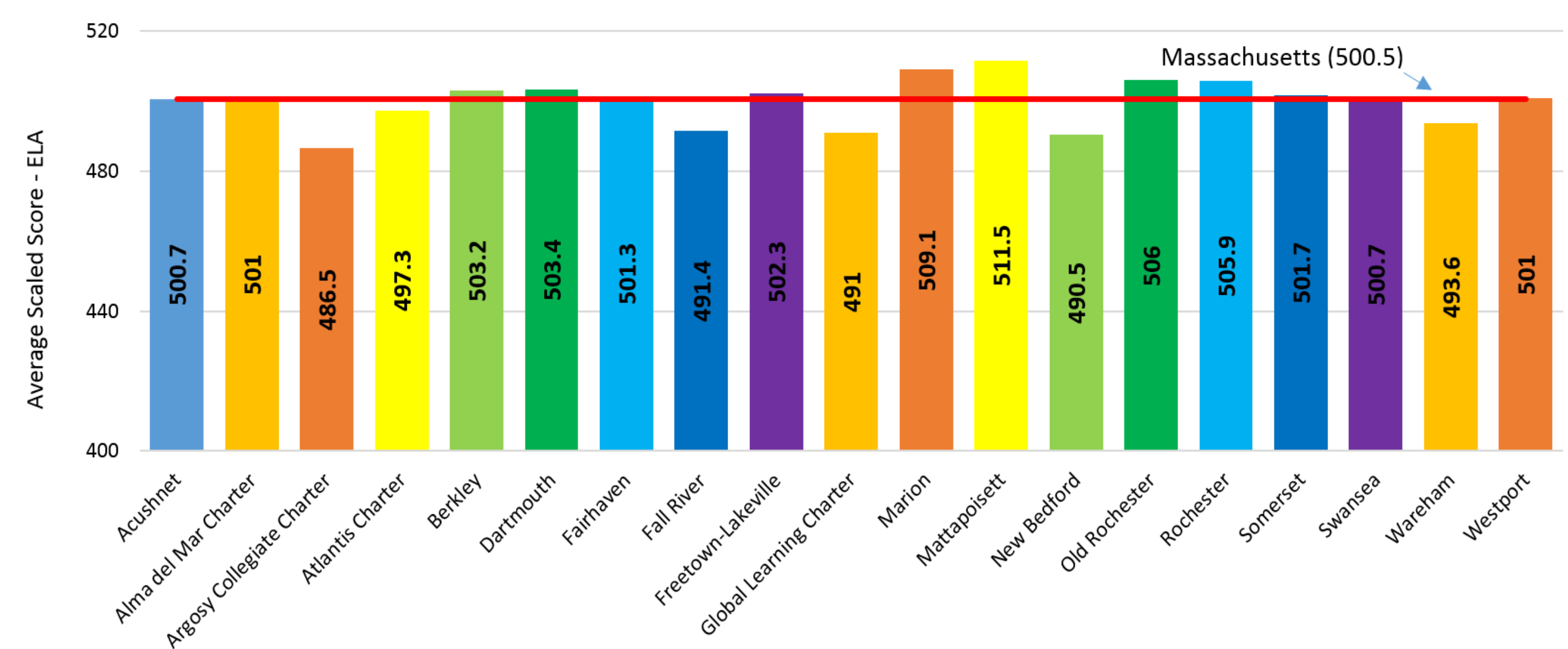
Chronically Absent



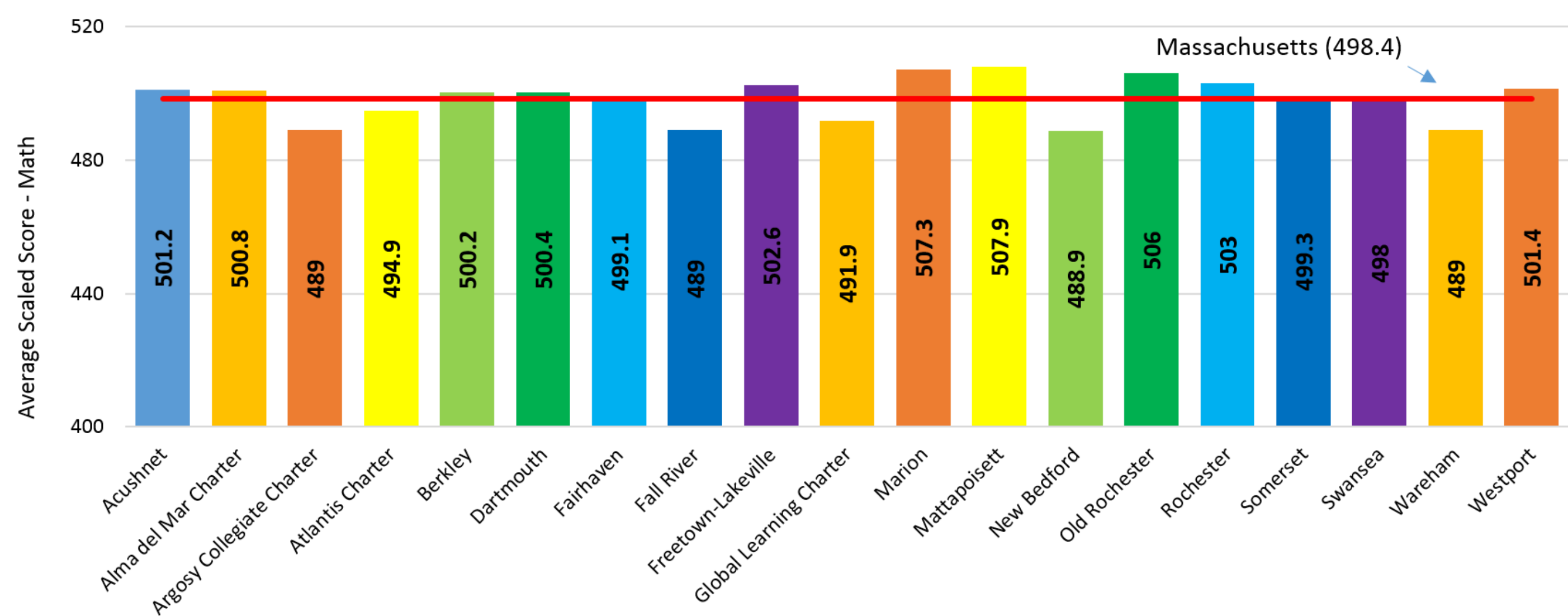
Chronically Absent (10% or more) is defined as the percentage of students who were absent 10% or more of their total number of student days of membership in a school.

MCAS Results, 2017-2018 School Year

MCAS Composite Score - ELA



MCAS Composite Score - Math



Composite scores presented above include results from Next-Gen MCAS test for all grades in which the tests are administered. The average composite scaled score for a school or subgroup includes data for each student who was enrolled in the school as of October 1 of the same school year, and who participated in the Next-Generation MCAS or MCAS-Alt assessments, with the exception of first-year English Language Learners.

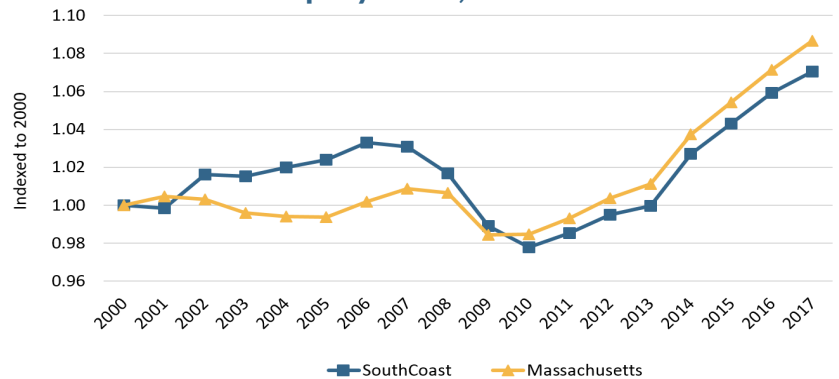
SouthCoast Economic Development Indicators

Fall River and New Bedford have poorer outcomes on most socioeconomic metrics in comparison to the SouthCoast as a whole, with lower levels of educational attainment, higher poverty levels, higher unemployment, and lower wages. However, many of the region's towns also struggle with these issues, particularly in comparison to state averages. Many of the region's economic development efforts are focused on policies that address these issues.

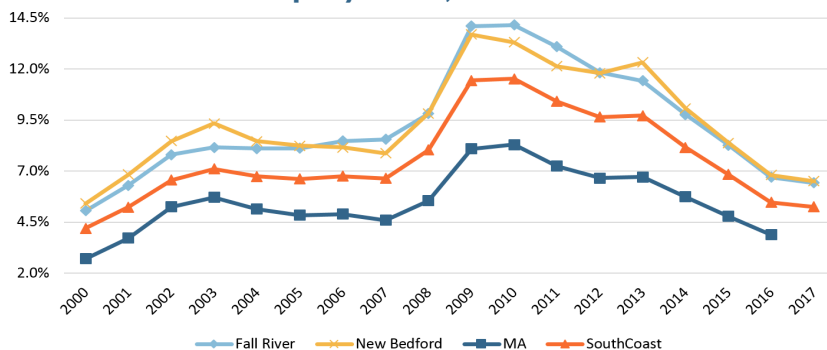
Employment & Wages

Total employment growth in the region mirrored statewide employment growth coming out of the Great Recession, although the state's employment level grew at a faster pace.

Total Employment, 2000–2017

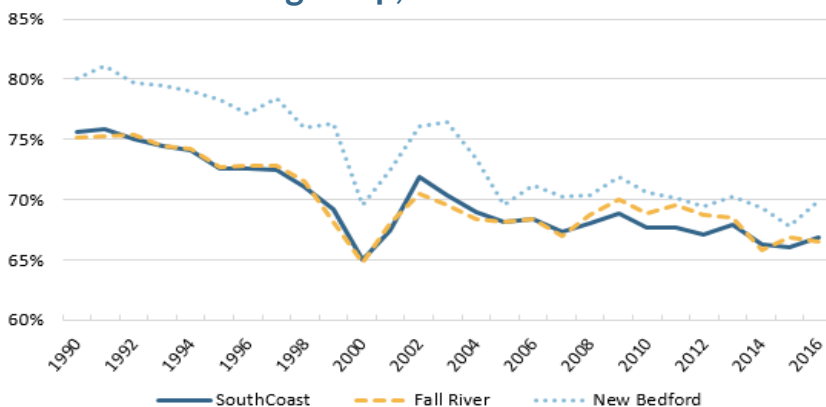


Unemployment, 2000–2017



Unemployment rates in Fall River & New Bedford are similar throughout the business cycle, while being significantly higher than the statewide average. The region's average unemployment rate is also consistently above the statewide average.

Wage Gap, 1990–2016



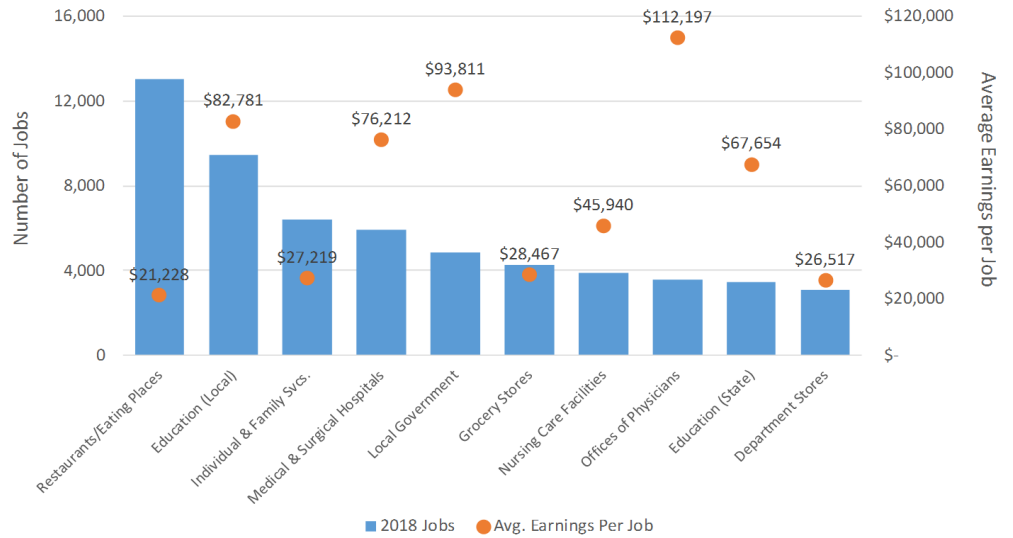
The gap between the state and SouthCoast average wage has been persistent for decades, and has only decreased by 8.8 percentage points in the past 25 years.

(Chart measures average annual wage as a percentage of the state annual average wage).

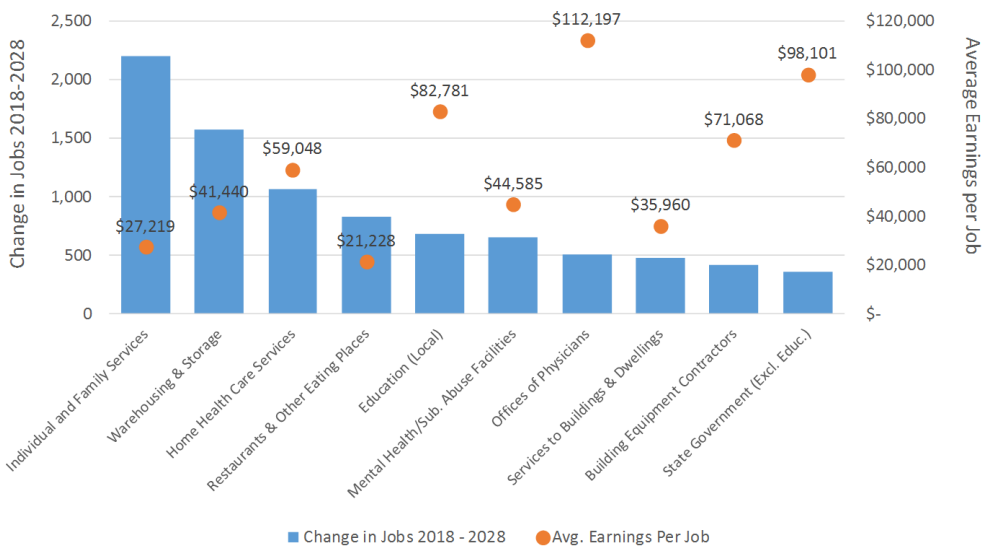
Top Industries

Top Industries and Corresponding Wages

Annual average wages for the top industries range considerably, with many of the smaller industries paying the highest wages.

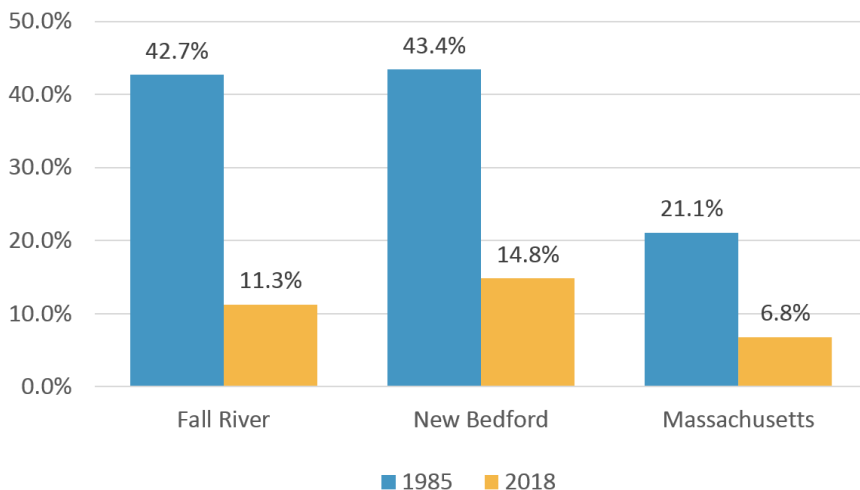


Top Projected Industry Growth, 2018-2028



Individual & Family Services, Warehousing & Storage, and Home Health Care Services are the industries projected to grow the fastest over the next ten years.

Manufacturing Employment

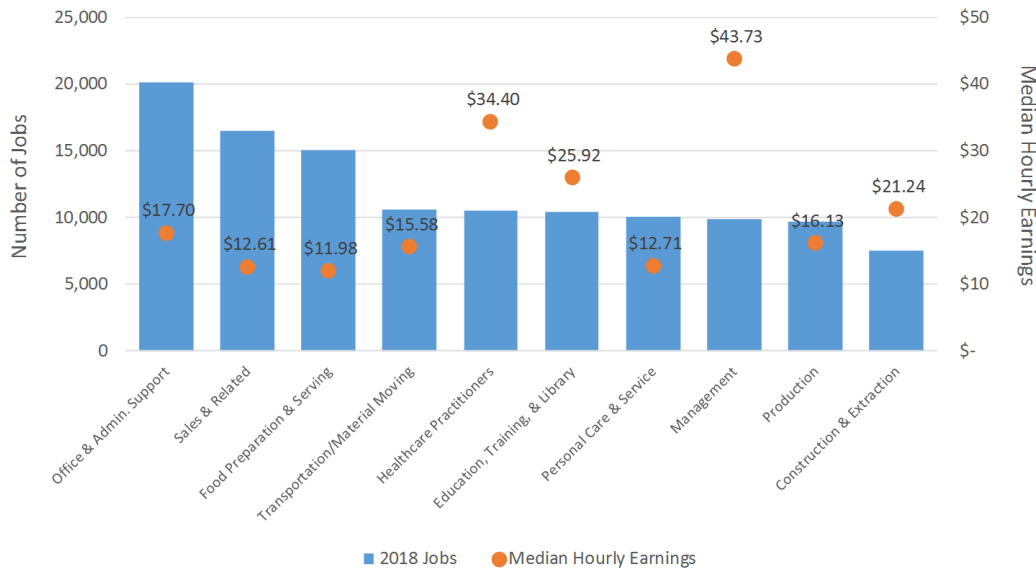


Like much of the country, the Southcoast's economic base has transitioned from manufacturing to service-related industries.

Manufacturing jobs now only account for 11.3% and 14.8% of the total jobs in FR & NB respectively, although the two cities are still more dependent on manufacturing jobs in comparison to the state as a whole

Top Occupations

Top Occupations and Corresponding Wages, 2018

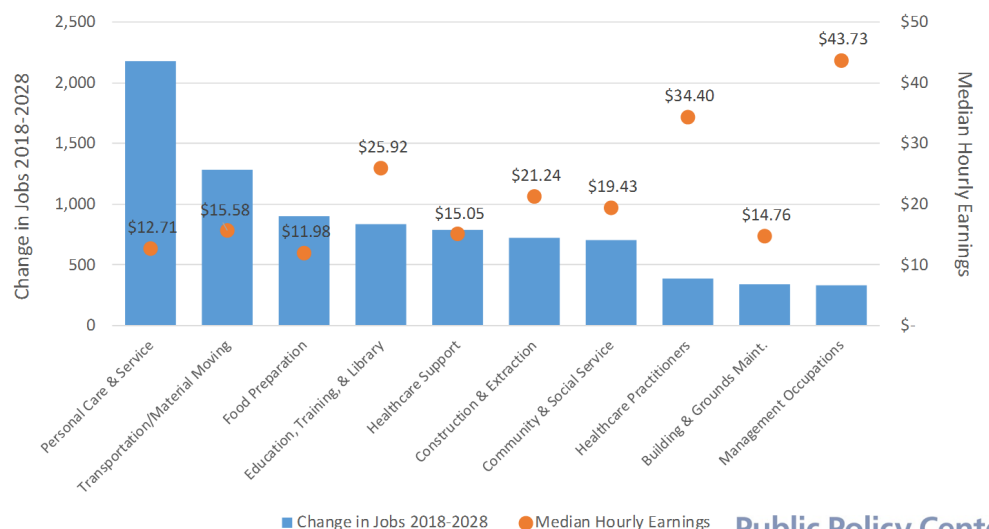


Many of the SouthCoast's top occupations require minimal levels of education and pay relatively low wages.

Fastest Growing Occupations, 2010-2018

Occupation	2010 Jobs	2018 Jobs	Change (10-18)	% Change (10-18)	2018 Earnings per Worker
Personal Care Aides	1,343	4,864	3,521	262%	\$12.75
General & Operations Mngrs.	2,148	2,809	661	31%	\$45.89
Food Prep & Serving Workers	3,114	3,768	654	21%	\$11.63
Laborers and Material Movers	1,718	2,138	420	24%	\$13.64
Customer Service Reps.	1,699	2,074	375	22%	\$17.31
Cooks	1,025	1,370	345	34%	\$13.43
Bus Drivers	684	1,008	324	47%	\$15.49
Truck Drivers	1,375	1,689	314	23%	\$21.70
Secretaries & Admin. Assistants	1,557	1,851	294	19%	\$19.68
Residential Advisors	209	501	292	140%	\$14.17

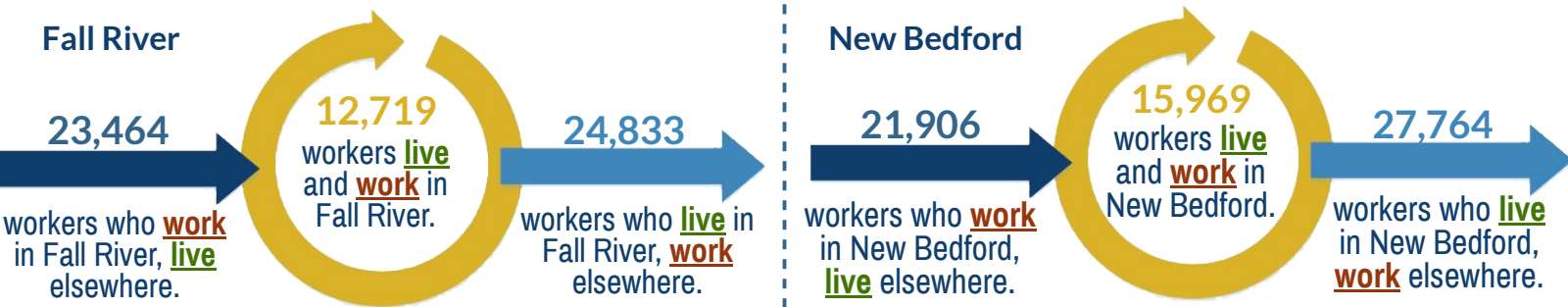
Top Projected Occupational Growth, 2018-2028



The fastest growing occupations are closely tied to the fastest growing industries in the area, with Personal Care occupations projected to grow the fastest.

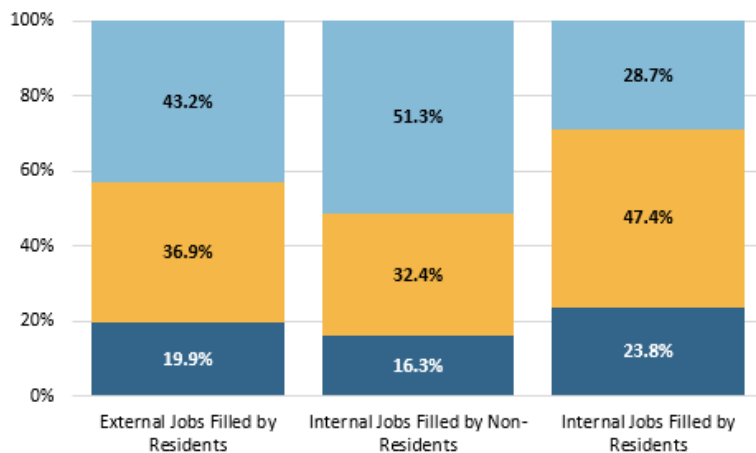
Commuting

There is a large volume of workers moving into and out of the region's cities for work on a daily basis. In fact, there are many more workers who commute into or out of Fall River and New Bedford than there are workers who live and work in each city.

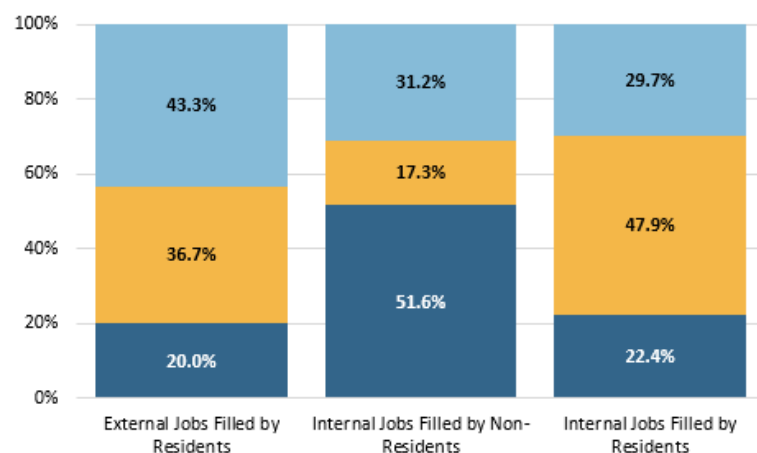


Fall River & New Bedford Export Their Most Skilled Workers, While Importing Lower-Skilled, Lower-Wage Workers

Fall River (2015)



New Bedford (2015)



Workers earning \$1,250 monthly or less Workers earning \$1,251 to \$1,333 monthly Workers earning greater than \$1,333 monthly

Significant Numbers of Fall River & New Bedford Residents Work in Their Sister City

Commuting to Fall River



2,232 New Bedford residents commute to Fall River for their primary job.

Commuting to New Bedford



1,854 Fall River residents commute to New Bedford for their primary job.

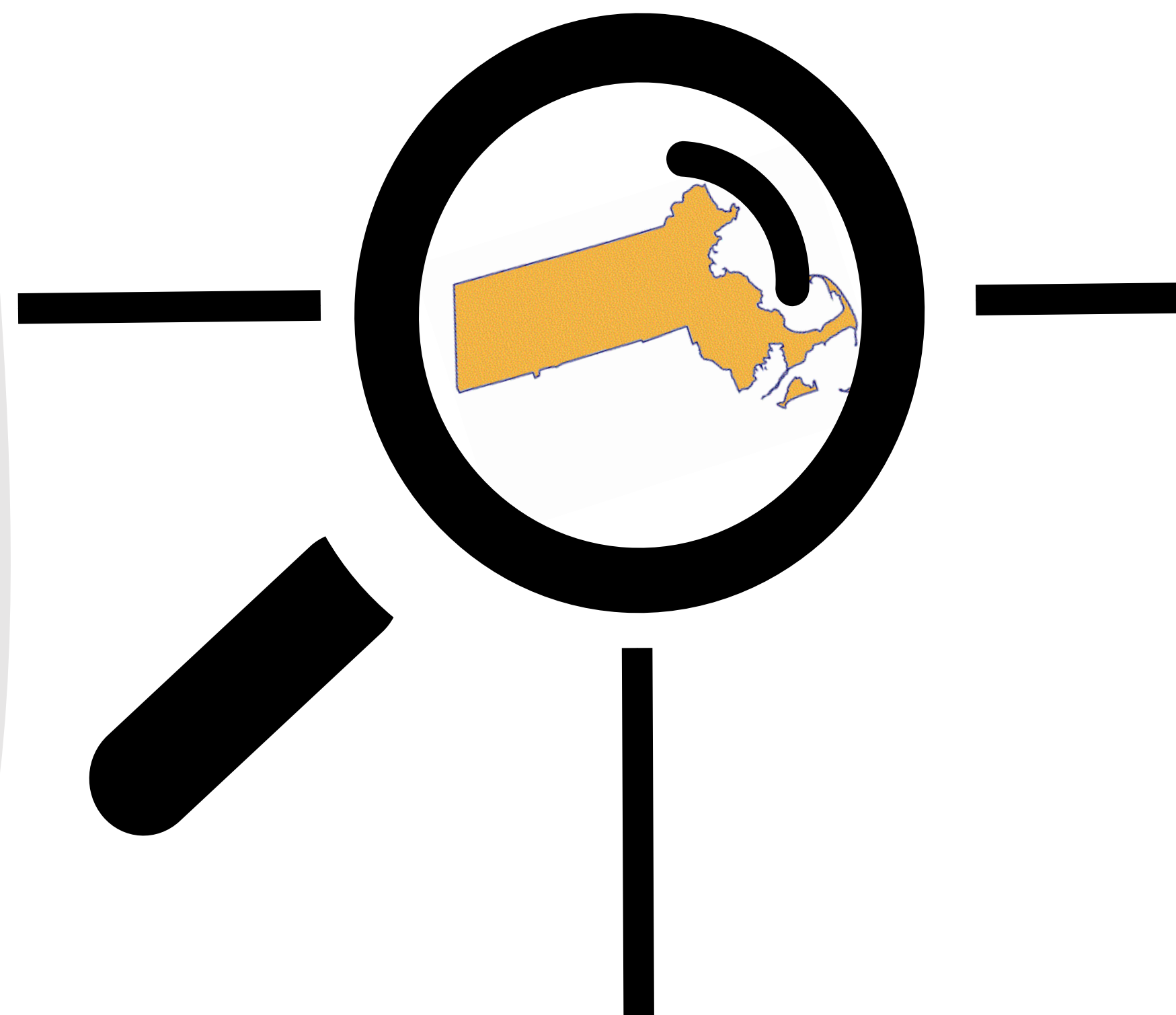


Massachusetts Government



State Government

Like the federal government, the Massachusetts state government is made up of three branches – legislative, executive, and judicial – that work together in a system of checks and balances.

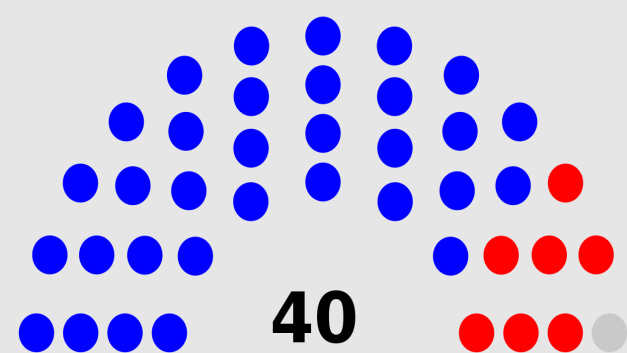


Legislative Branch

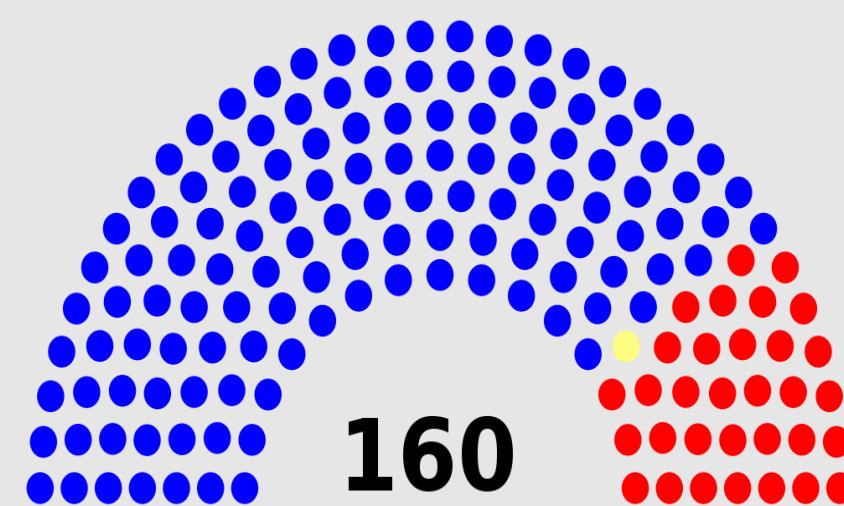


The legislative branch works to create state laws and make changes to the existing laws. Like the federal legislative branch, it is made up of two sub-branches: the state senate and the house of representatives. The 40 state senators represent districts of about 159,000 residents each, while each of the 160 house representatives are elected to represent districts of about 40,000 people.

State Senate

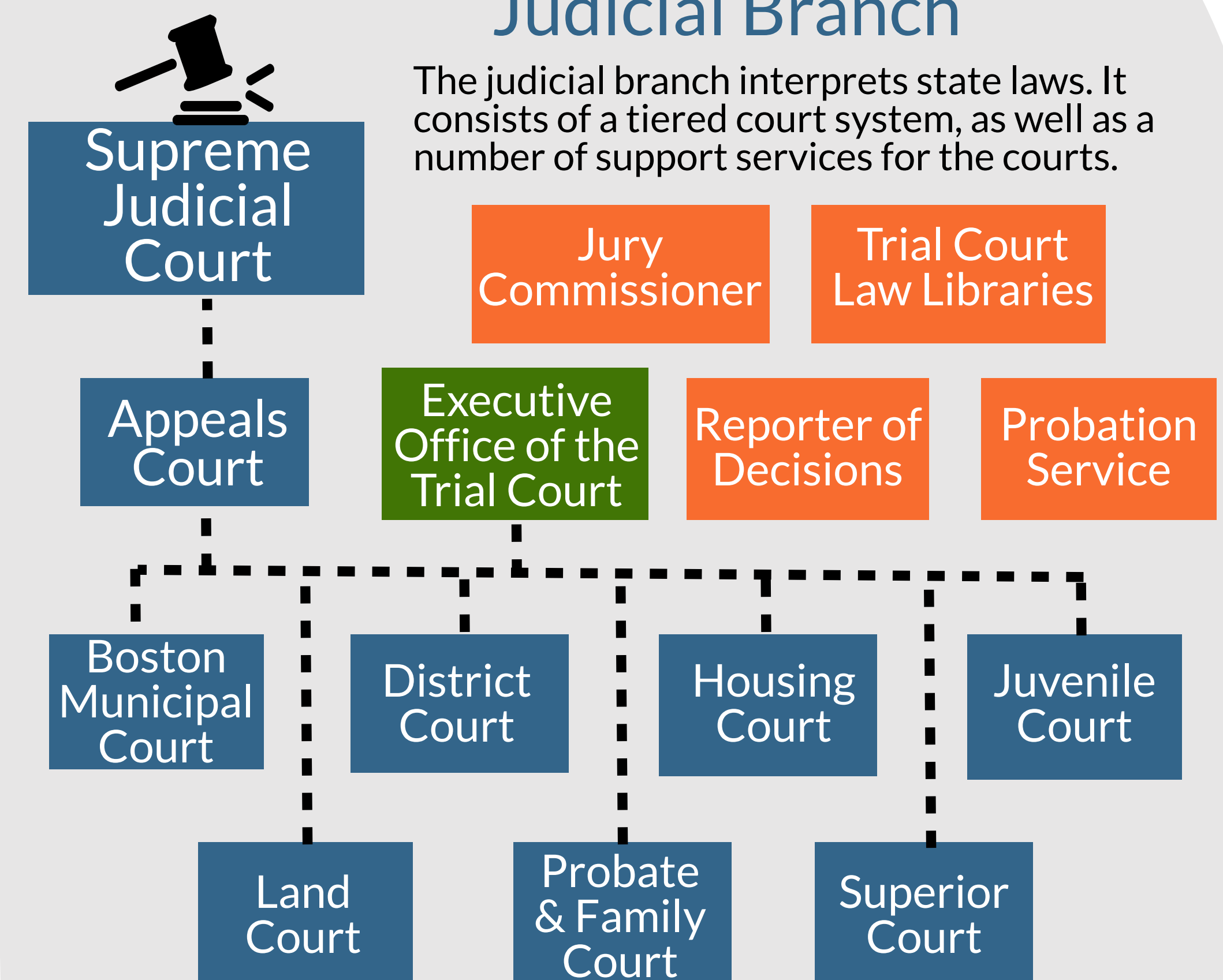


State House of Representatives



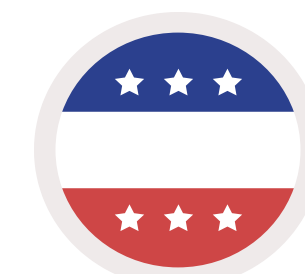
Judicial Branch

The judicial branch interprets state laws. It consists of a tiered court system, as well as a number of support services for the courts.



Executive Branch

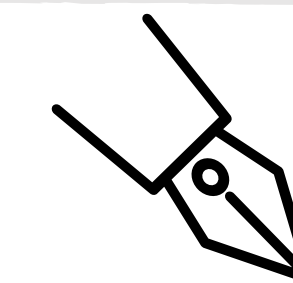
The executive branch oversees programs and services offered by the state. The governor acts as the chief executive officer and oversees the other offices, while the attorney general, secretary of state, treasurer, and auditor work to enforce laws, manage elections and records, collect and distribute funds, and investigate money usage, respectively. Departments also perform separate functions, shown below.



Constitutional Officers

Governor: Charlie Baker
Lieutenant Governor: Karyn Polito

Attorney General: Maura Healey
Treasurer: Deb Goldberg
Secretary of State: William Galvin
State Auditor: Suzanne Bump



Executive Departments

Administration & Finance



Oversees state finances such as taxes, revenues, capital assets, and insurance.

Education



Sets standards for public education and manages the University of Massachusetts system.

Energy & Environmental Affairs



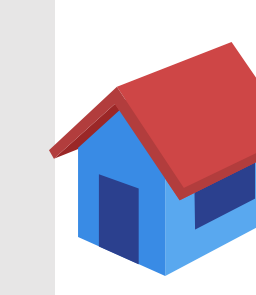
Preserves open spaces, enforces pollution laws and environmental protection, and promotes clean energy.

Health & Human Services



Oversees health programs, veteran's services, child protection, and disability services.

Housing & Economic Development



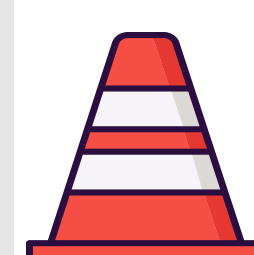
Supports affordable housing, business regulation, professional licensure, infrastructure safety, and job creation.

Labor & Workforce Development



Handles worker's compensation, unemployment, labor relations, and career services.

Public Safety & Security



Manages state prisons, criminal justice, and emergency services such as police, fire, and national guard.

Technology Services & Security



Offers services for IT infrastructure, school technology, and digital communication and networking.

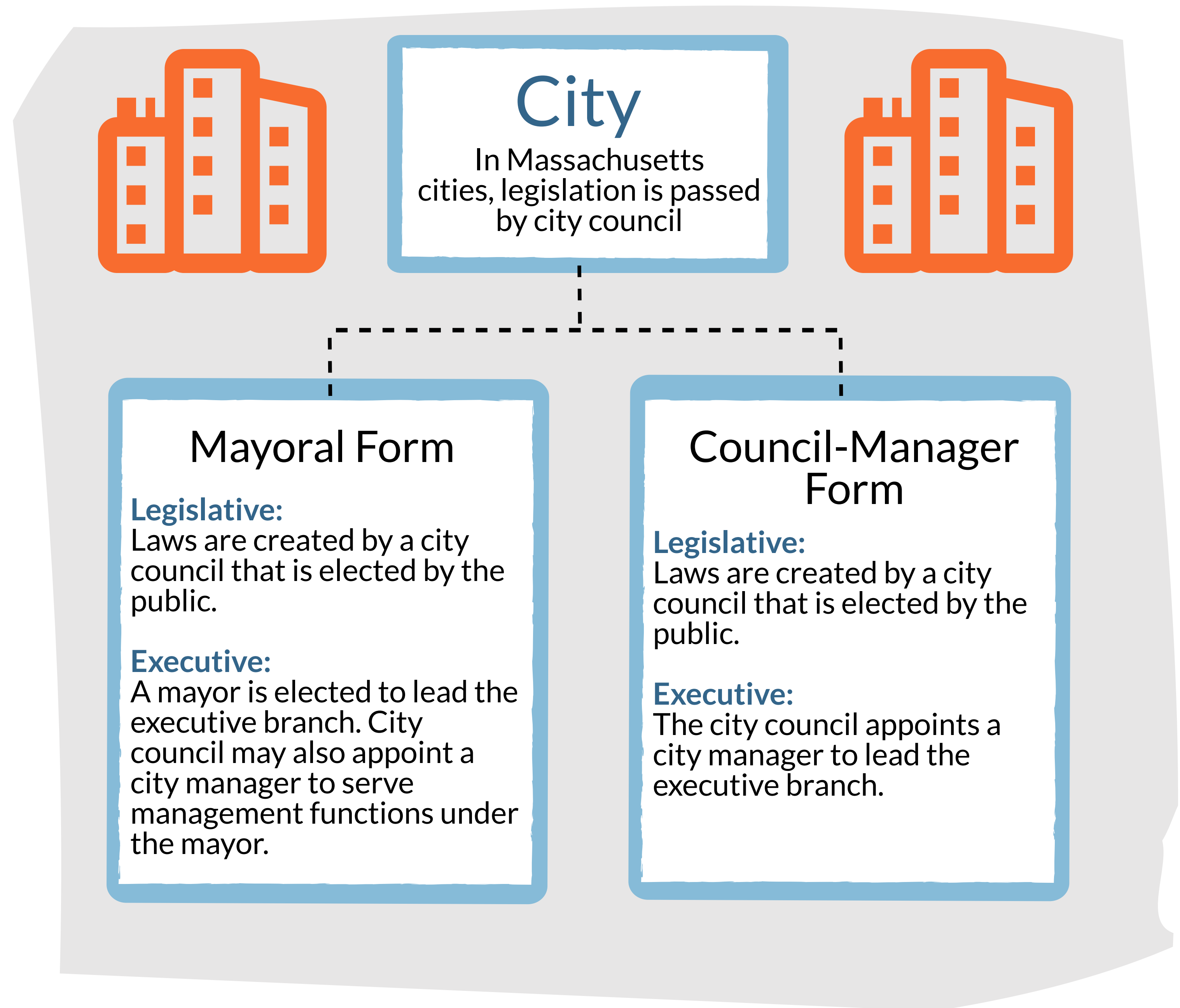
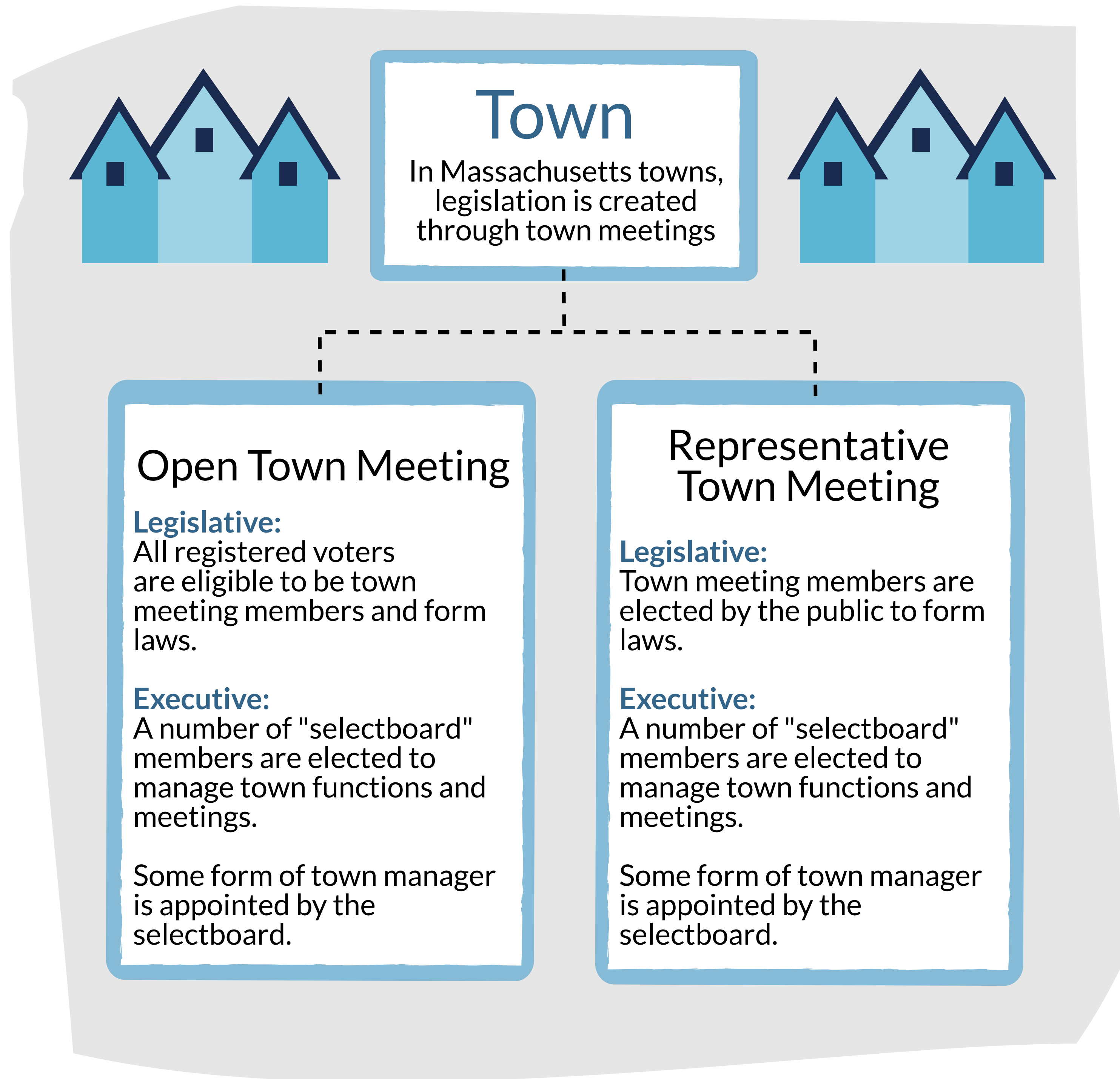
Transportation



Oversees registry of motor vehicles, rails, highways, aeronautics, and transportation authority.

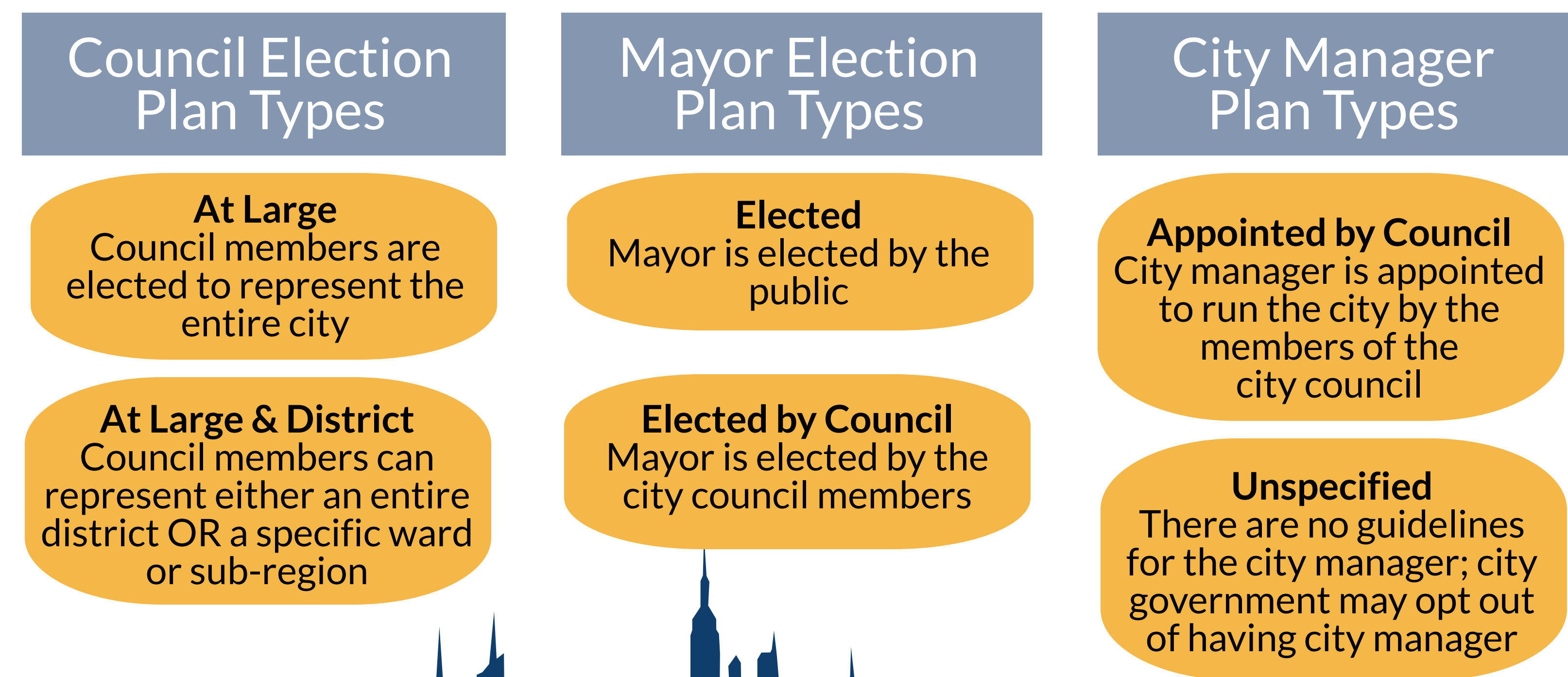
Municipal Government

In Massachusetts, there exist two types of municipalities: towns and cities, which are both governed differently. Within these municipality types, there are various plans which may be used to govern the city or town, as outlined below.



Plans for Mayoral Form Cities

Cities adopting a mayoral form of government may select different plans of governance for their municipality. These plans affect variables such as the number of councilors, how the council and mayor are elected, and the role of the city manager.



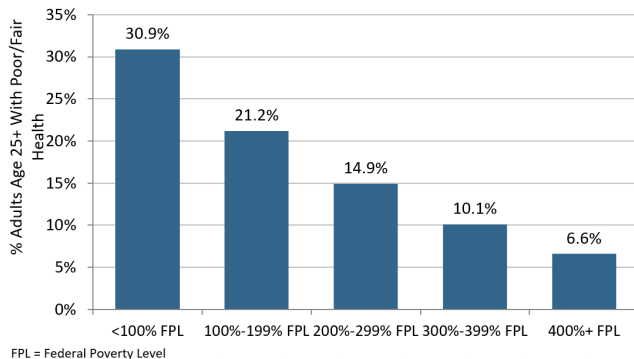
SouthCoast Health Indicators

Health Equity and Social Determinants of Health

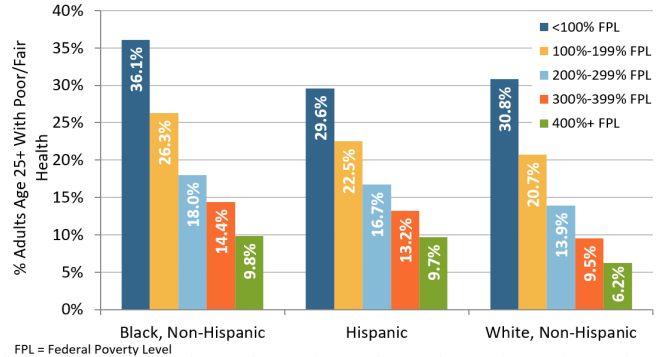
Health equity is the presence of equal opportunities to live healthier lives. Social determinants of health, which are described as “the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, age, and the wider set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of daily life,” are responsible for most health inequalities. [1]

On average, individuals who are poor, less educated, and a person of color have lower levels of health than those with higher incomes, higher levels of education, or who are White, non-Hispanic.

Income & Health Status



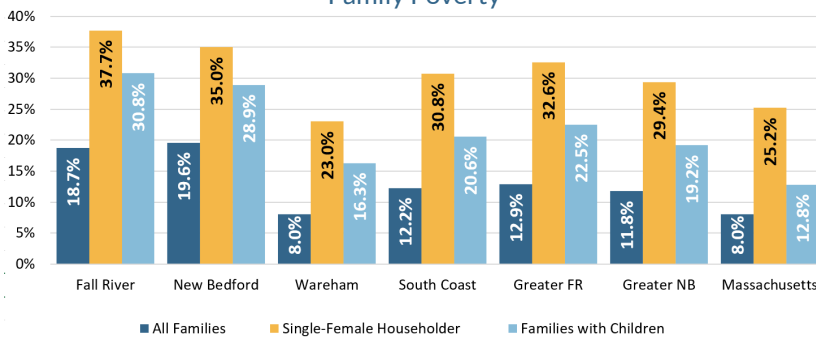
Income, Race, & Health Status



Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. (April 2009). *Issue brief 5: race and socioeconomic factors*. Commission to Build a Healthier America.

Income, Race, & Language

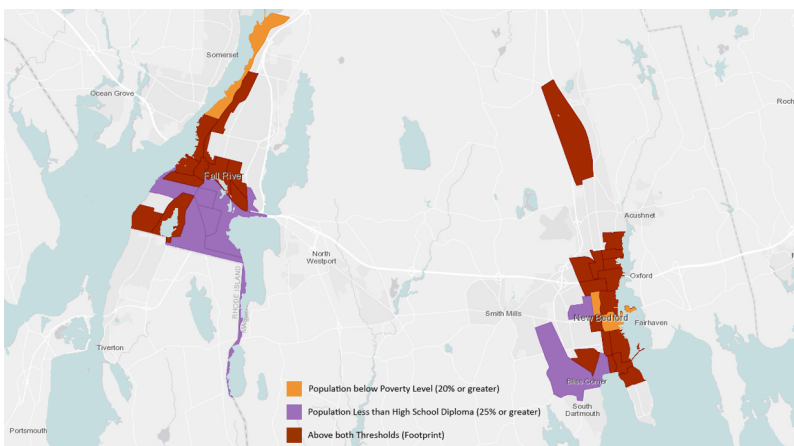
Family Poverty



Source: ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S1702, 2012–2016.

Higher rates of poverty contribute to negative health outcomes. The SouthCoast region has higher rates of poverty in all family categories. In Fall River and New Bedford, family poverty rates are higher than in the remainder of the region and the state.

Vulnerable Population Footprint

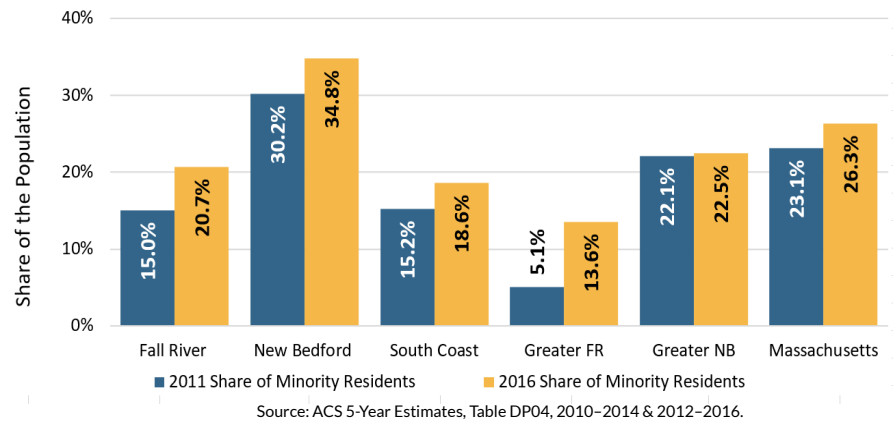


The Vulnerable Population Footprint identifies the region's census tracts with high rates of poverty (at least 20% below the poverty level) and low educational attainment (at least 25% have no high school diploma), which are the two indicators demonstrated to be the primary social determinants of population health. The census tracts with a high concentration of vulnerable populations are located exclusively in the cities of Fall River and New Bedford.

Source: United States Census American Community Survey, 2012–2016 Estimates. Mapped from Community Commons (see <https://assessment.communitycommons.org/Footprint/>).

[1] Source: World Health Organization. Social determinants of health. 2018. Accessed at www.who.int/social_determinants on November 9, 2018.

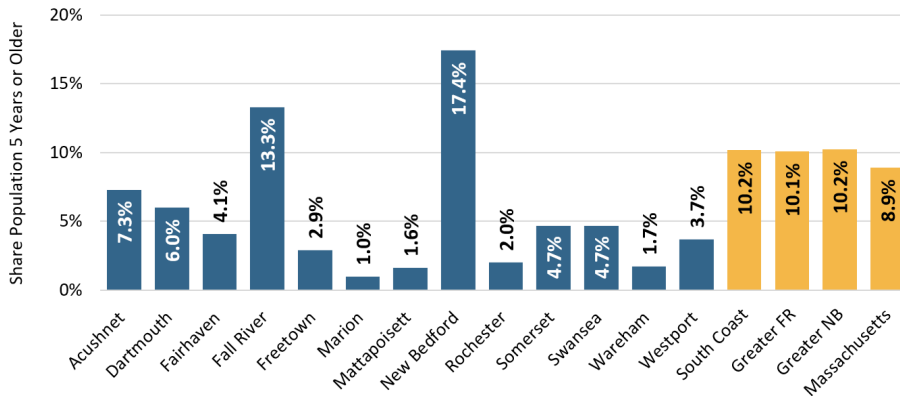
Change In Minority Population



People of color face significant disparities in terms of access to and utilization of care. Healthcare providers in the Southcoast will need to ensure that they are attuned to the needs of different racial groups as the region's population grows increasingly more diverse.

Since 2011, communities throughout the Southcoast have become more diverse. From 2011 to 2016, the minority population in the region increased by 3.5 percent (12,362 people).

Limited English Proficiency



A changing immigrant population can create challenges for service providers, with language barriers being one of the greatest obstacles.

As immigration in the region continues to shift from European to South American and Caribbean origins, healthcare providers will need to employ staff who can both engage with new arrivals in their native languages and understand cultural barriers to care.

Opioids

There were 1,928 confirmed cases of opioid-related deaths in Massachusetts in 2017 and the number of confirmed opioid-related overdose deaths increased by 246 percent from 2010 to 2017. Apart from the human toll, the economic consequences of opioid use are also dire. The Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation estimates that the opioid epidemic cost the Massachusetts economy \$15.2 billion in 2017. The Foundation reports that lost productivity alone cost the state and its employers more than \$2.5 billion, while excess health care costs related to opioid usage are estimated to exceed \$2.0 billion.

Number of Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths By Selected Communities, 2013-2017

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change '13-'17	# Change '13-'17	Population
Brockton	39	46	84	69	71	82%	+32	95,161
Fall River	29	38	40	64	55	90%	+26	89,258
Lowell	25	39	62	68	52	108%	27	110,964
Lynn	25	42	47	46	61	144%	36	93,069
New Bedford	29	28	53	57	45	55%	+16	95,125
Quincy	26	38	47	45	40	54%	14	93,824

Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Current Opioid Statistics.
Data represents deaths by city/town of residence for the decedent.

During the five-year span ranging from 2013 to 2017, most SouthCoast communities experienced an increase in the number of opioid-related overdose deaths (see Table 5). In total, 163 opioid-related deaths in the region's communities were confirmed in 2017, which is more than double the number in 2013.

The number of opioid deaths in Fall River and New Bedford in 2017 (n=100) is about proportionate to their related share of the region's population; the cities' share of the region's population is 54 percent, while the number of opioid deaths among residences of these cities is 61 percent.

Number of Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths, 2013-2017

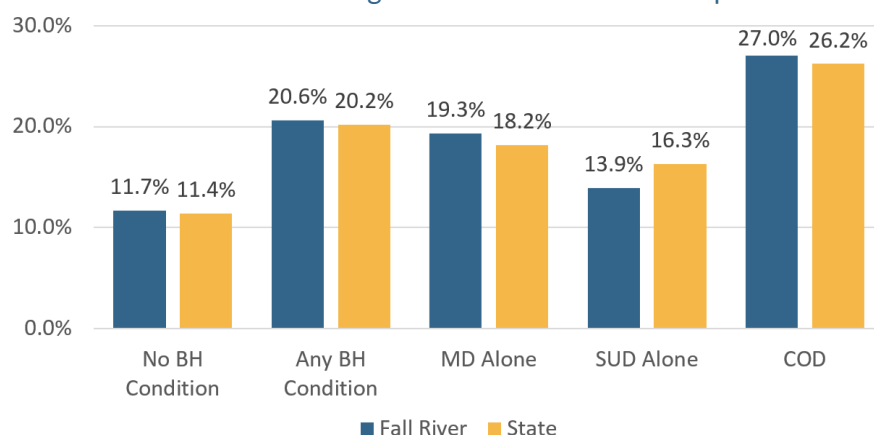
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change	# Change
*Acushnet	0	1	4	4	7	600%	+7
Dartmouth	2	7	2	9	6	200%	+4
Fairhaven	4	2	7	4	8	100%	+4
Fall River	29	38	40	64	55	90%	+26
*Freetown	0	2	3	3	6	200%	+6
*Marion	0	1	1	1	1	0%	+1
**Mattapoisett	0	0	2	2	1	-50%	+1
New Bedford	29	28	53	57	45	55%	+16
*Rochester	0	1	0	0	2	100%	+2
Somerset	1	2	4	5	5	400%	+4
Swansea	4	5	0	1	5	25%	+1
Wareham	9	10	7	15	16	78%	+7
Westport	2	4	2	4	6	200%	+4
Greater Fall River	36	49	46	74	71	97%	+35
Greater New Bedford	44	52	79	95	92	109%	+48
Massachusetts	961	1362	1704	2096	1938	102%	+977

Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Current Opioid Statistics. Data represents deaths by city/town of residence for the decedent. * % change calculated from 2014. ** % change calculated from 2015.

Substance Use Disorder & Behavioral Health

There is a growing population of patients with a dual diagnosis of a substance use disorder and a mental illness. This patient population presents a new set of challenges to health care systems, which are often not equipped to effectively care for these patients in terms of adequate staff training or the health care settings themselves. In fiscal year 2016, 52 percent of treatment admissions reported to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS) had a history of mental health treatment. As a whole, patients with comorbid behavioral health conditions also are at higher than average risk of readmission. For example, there is a high prevalence of behavioral health comorbidities among hospitalized adults in Massachusetts acute care hospitals and that readmission rates for patients with behavioral health comorbidities were substantially higher than for patients without any behavioral health comorbidity.

Statewide Prevalence of Behavioral Health Comorbidity and Readmission Rates among Patients in Acute Care Hospitals

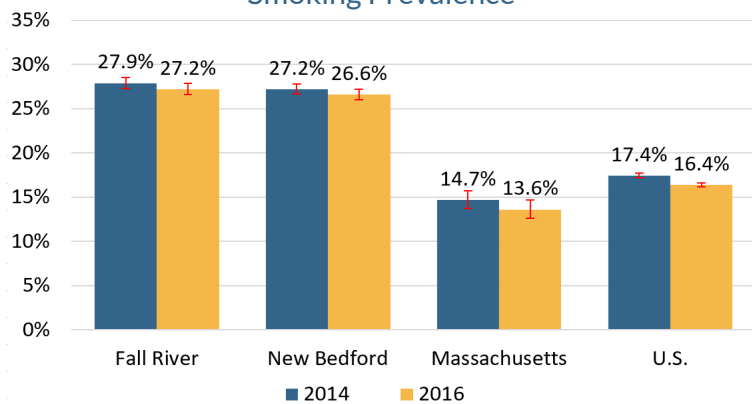


Source: Massachusetts Hospital Inpatient Discharge Database, July 2013 - June 2014. Analysis by Massachusetts CHIA. Analyses include discharges for adults with any payer, excluding discharges for obstetric. BH=Behavioral Health, MD=Mental disorders, SUD=Substance use disorders, COD=Co-occurring mental/substance use disorders.

Health Behaviors

Unhealthy behaviors lead to poor health outcomes. Many unhealthy behaviors that contribute to chronic disease are more prevalent among people of lower socioeconomic status. While poorer people are more likely to engage in risky behaviors such as binge drinking and smoking, research increasingly indicates that quality of care and access to care are equally important factors that affect health. Racial and ethnic minorities, the poor, and the less educated often face more barriers to care and receive poorer quality of care when accessible. In addition, a growing body of research indicates that living and working conditions, including housing quality, exposure to pollution, worksite safety, access to healthy and affordable foods, and proximity to safe places to exercise have a significant effect on health, more so than risky behaviors.

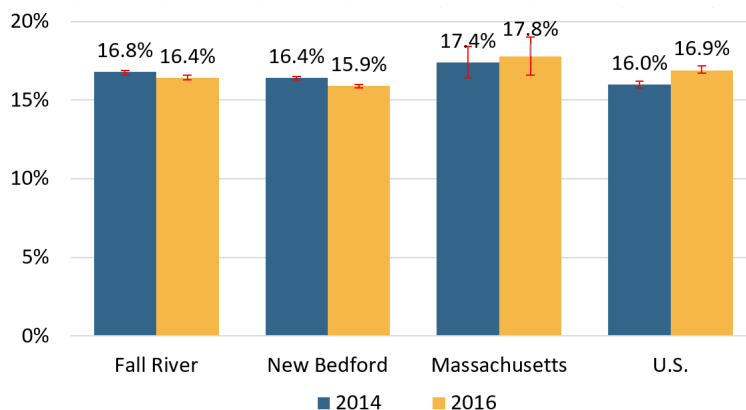
Smoking Prevalence



Source: CDC 500 Cities, crude rate

Smoking prevalence in Fall River and New Bedford remains higher than that of the state and country as a whole.

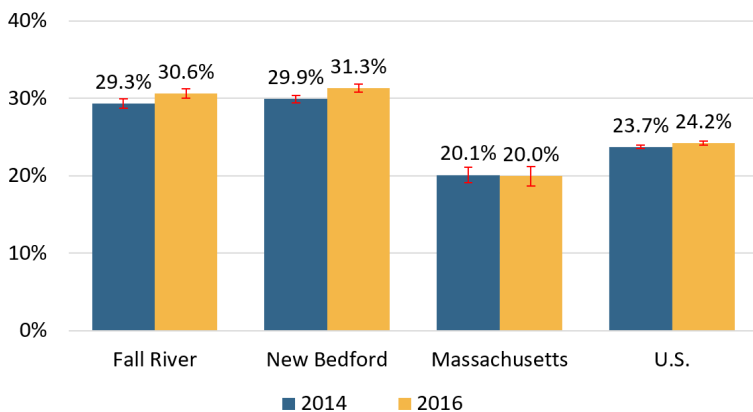
Binge Drinking



Source: CDC 500 Cities, crude rate

The percent of adults in Fall River and New Bedford who report binge drinking is lower than the state and national percentages.

No Leisure Time Physical Activity Among Adults Aged 18 and Older



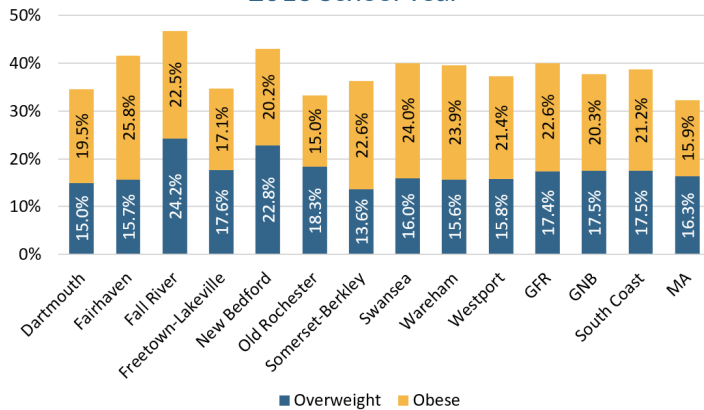
Source: CDC 500 Cities, crude rate

Relative to the state and nation, a comparatively large proportion of residents living in the SouthCoast's cities report they have not been physically active during their leisure time in the past month.

Health Outcomes

As noted, the region exhibits many health inequities as a result of the social determinants of health, including much higher poverty rates and lower levels of education in comparison to the state overall. Therefore, it is not surprising that many health outcomes related to chronic disease and wellness are generally poor when compared to state and national averages. Turning these health trends around will require more than just offering treatment and preventive care; it will also require addressing the social environment that contributes to health inequities.

Percent Overweight or Obese By School District, 2015-2016 School Year

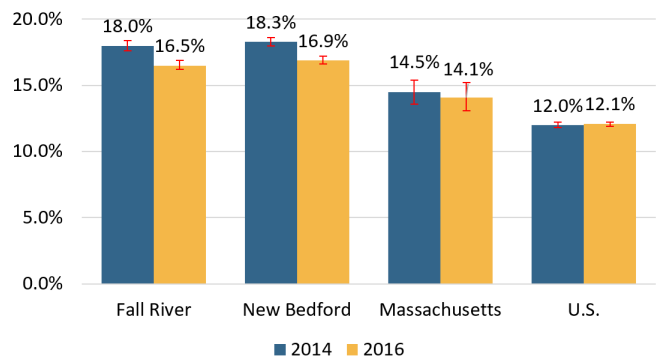


Nationally, instances of childhood obesity have more than tripled since the 1970s, with obesity being prevalent among 18.5 percent of school age children. Statewide, nearly one-third (32.2%) of all public school students are either overweight (16.3%) or obese (15.9%). The percentage of overweight or obese public school children in most Southcoast school districts is above the state average.

Source: BMI Data Tables, via Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

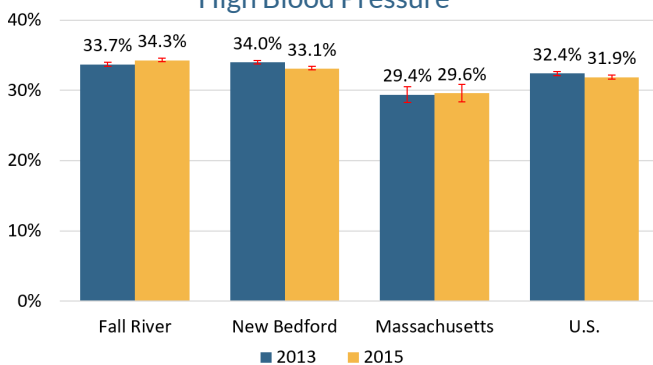
With a higher percentage of Fall River and New Bedford residents who smoke, are less physically active, and are obese in comparison to state averages, it is not surprising that a higher percentage of these residents report having more than 14 days per year with poor physical health in comparison to the national average.

Physical Health Not Good for >=14 Days (18 and Older)



Source: CDC 500 Cities Project

High Blood Pressure

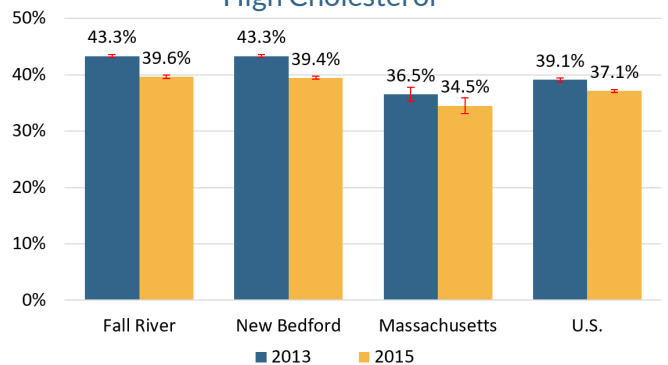


Source: CDC 500 Cities Project

High blood pressure and cholesterol are strongly linked to other negative health outcomes such as heart disease. The percent of adults reporting having high blood pressure is slightly higher in the SouthCoast's cities than the state and nation as a whole.

The percent of individuals with high cholesterol is somewhat higher in Fall River and New Bedford in comparison to the state and U.S. averages.

High Cholesterol

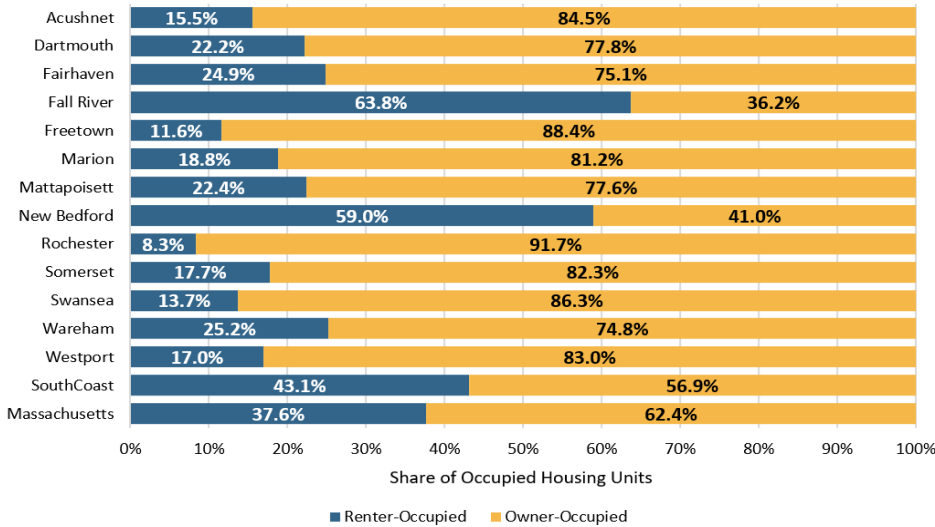


Source: CDC 500 Cities Project

Basic Needs Indicators

Housing

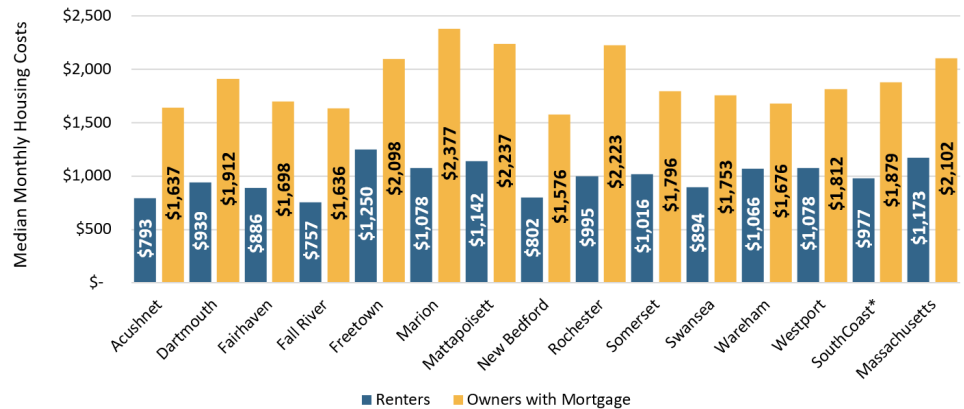
Occupancy Status



As the urban centers of the region, Fall River and New Bedford are the only communities where renters account for the majority of households.

Households in the SouthCoast's towns are much more likely to own their housing.

Median Housing Cost



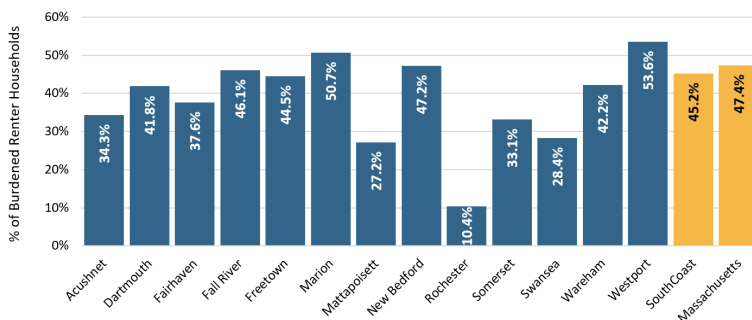
The median rent in the region's cities is considerably lower than it is in more rural communities, where high density rental housing is scarce.

On average, homeowners in the SouthCoast pay less than the statewide median monthly housing costs.

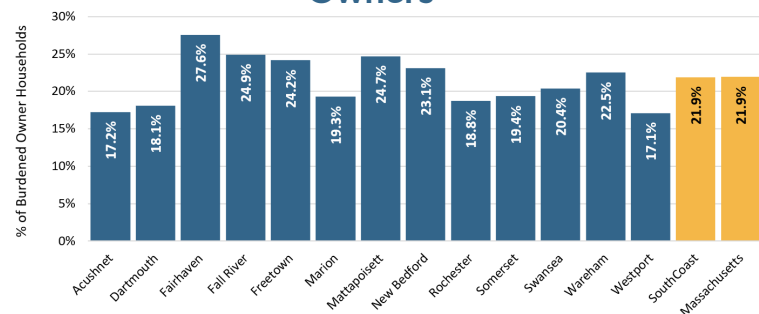
Housing Cost Burden

A household is "burdened" by housing costs if they spend 30 percent or more of their income on rent/mortgage and utility payments. In the SouthCoast, nearly half of all renter households (45.2%) are devoting 30 percent or more of their income to housing costs.

Renters

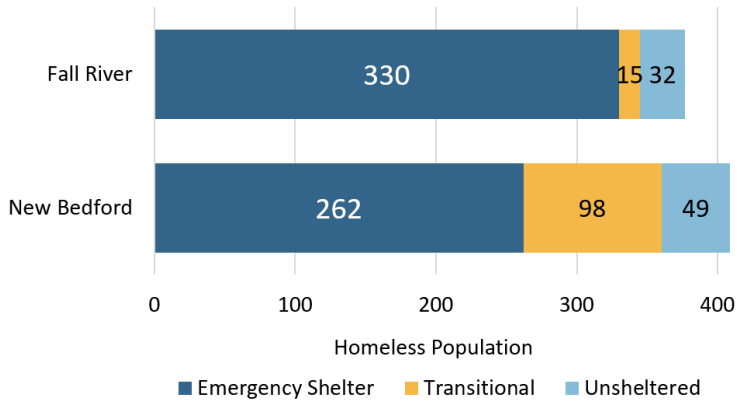


Owners



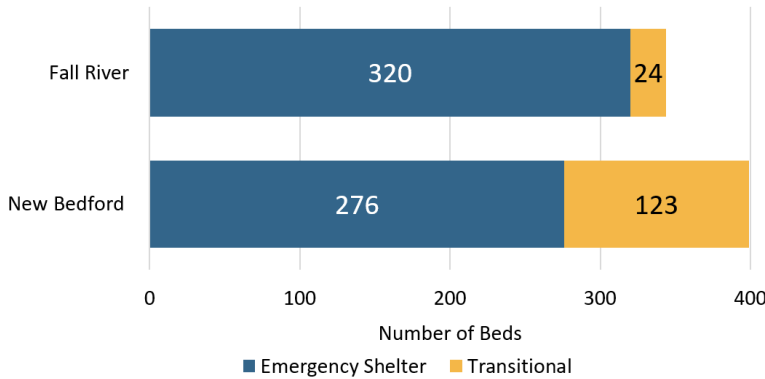
Homelessness

Homeless Population by Point-in-Time Shelter Type, 2018



There were a total of 337 homeless individuals in Fall River and 409 homeless individuals counted during the 2018 point-in-time count. The majority were in an emergency shelter during the count.

Year-Round Beds By Shelter Type, 2018

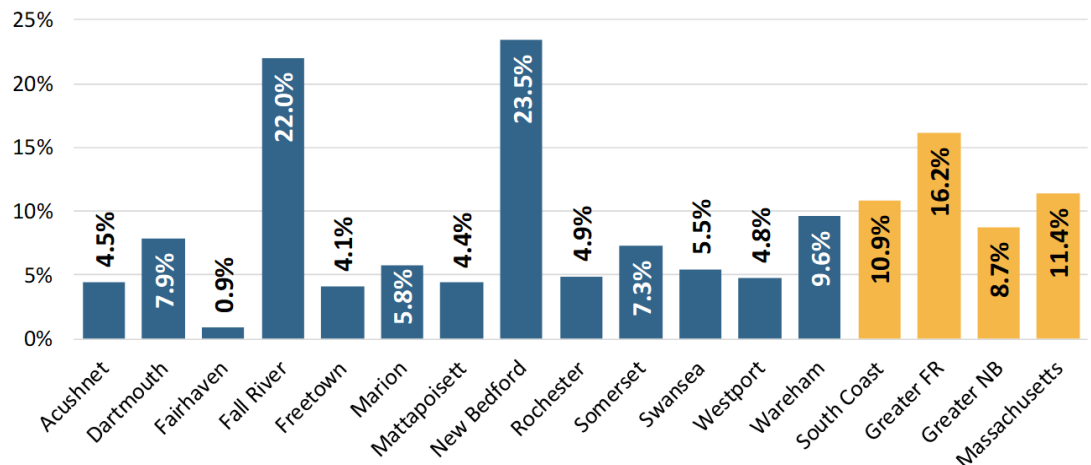


As of 2018, the majority of year-round beds available in New Bedford and Fall River were classified as "emergency shelter" beds. Compared to New Bedford, Fall River has considerably fewer beds in transitional housing, which provides temporary long-term housing to individuals and families transitioning from emergency shelter to permanent housing.

Source: HUD Annual Homeless Assessment Report, 2007 – 2018 Point-in-Time Estimates by CoC.

Poverty

Share of the Population in Selected Areas Living Below the Poverty Level



While the SouthCoast has a higher share of people living in poverty compared to the state, the region's cities are home to disproportionate shares of people in poverty.

Public Policy Center

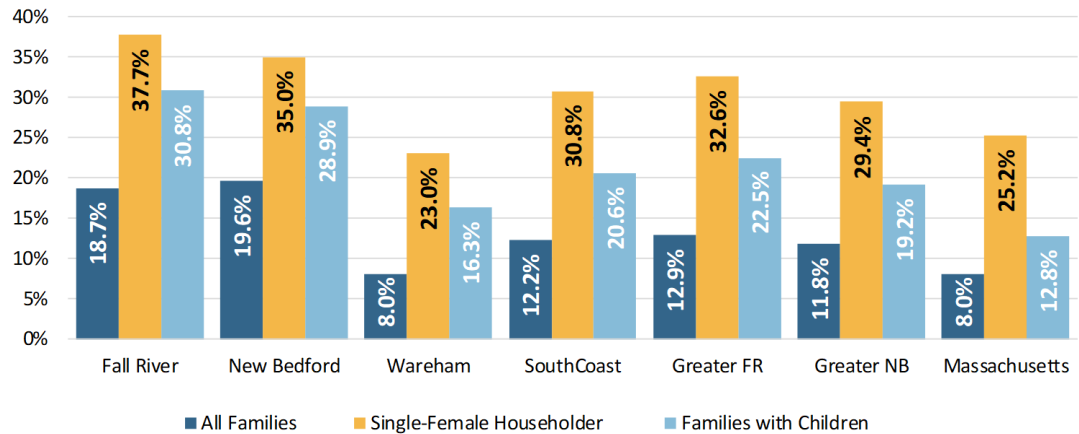
UMass Dartmouth

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates (Table S1701)

Family Poverty

Similar to the individual measure of poverty, the SouthCoast region has higher poverty rates for all categories in comparison to the state average.

Across all the areas examined, single-female led families are the most likely to be in poverty when compared to other families.

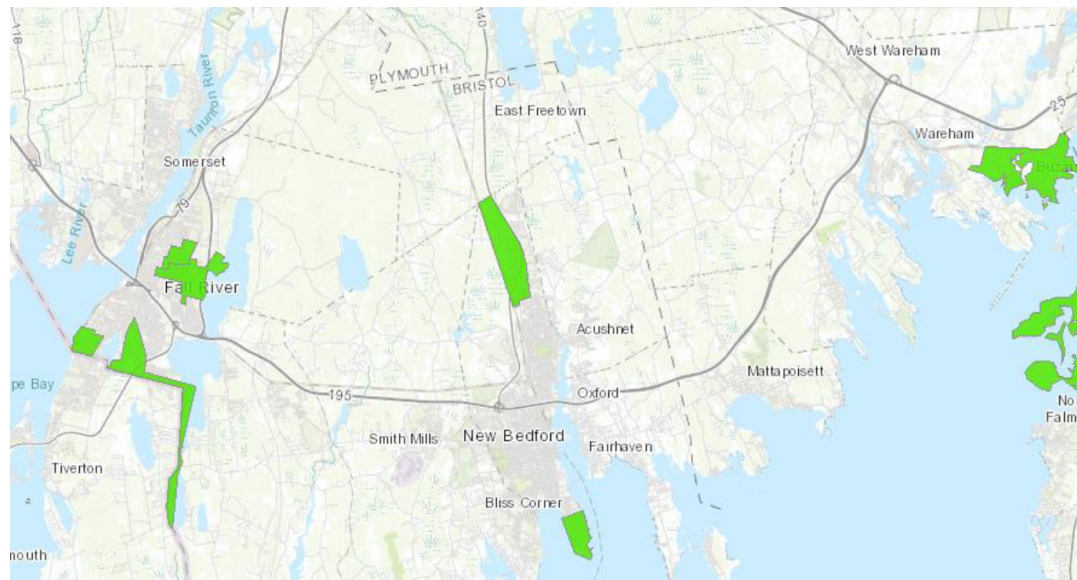


Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates (Table S1701)

Healthy Food

Food Deserts

A person's nutrition can affect many health outcomes such as oral health, obesity, cholesterol, and blood pressure. Generally, people who have less access to healthy food options have higher levels of negative health outcomes within these categories. Access is also exacerbated by a lack of education related to nutrition.



Source: United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, Low Income and Low Access, 2015

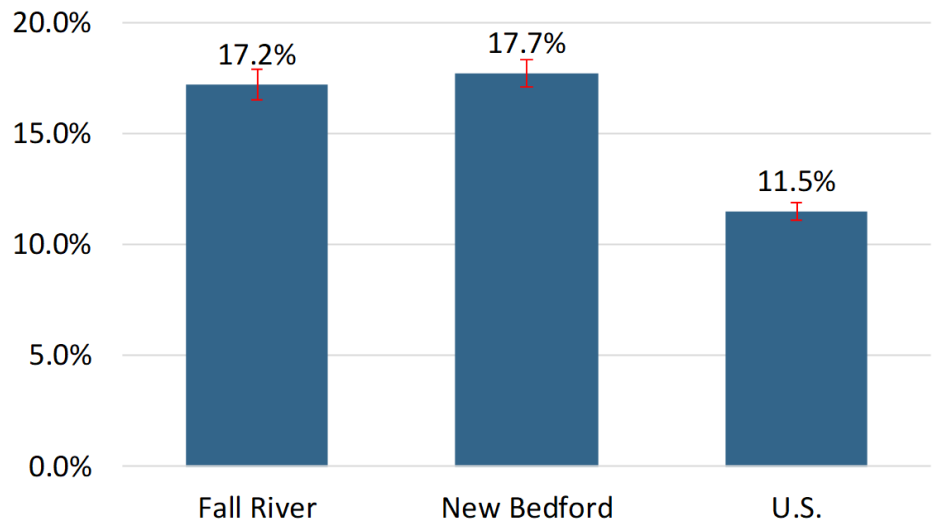
Food deserts, as defined by the American Nutrition Association, are areas that lack fresh fruits, vegetables, and other wholesome foods. More specifically, supermarkets and grocery stores are typically not located within food deserts. Instead, these areas tend to have only convenience stores, which generally offer more expensive and unhealthy food options. Areas highlighted in green display low-income census tracts where a significant number or share of residents is more than 1 mile (urban) or 10 miles (rural) from the nearest supermarket.

Physical Health & Obesity

A poor diet can lead to poor physical health.

With a higher percentage of Fall River and New Bedford residents who smoke, who are less physically active, who are obese, and who have less access to healthy foods, it is not surprising that a higher percentage of these residents report having more than 14 days per year with poor physical health in comparison to the national average (data for Massachusetts not available).

Adults Reporting Poor Physical Health

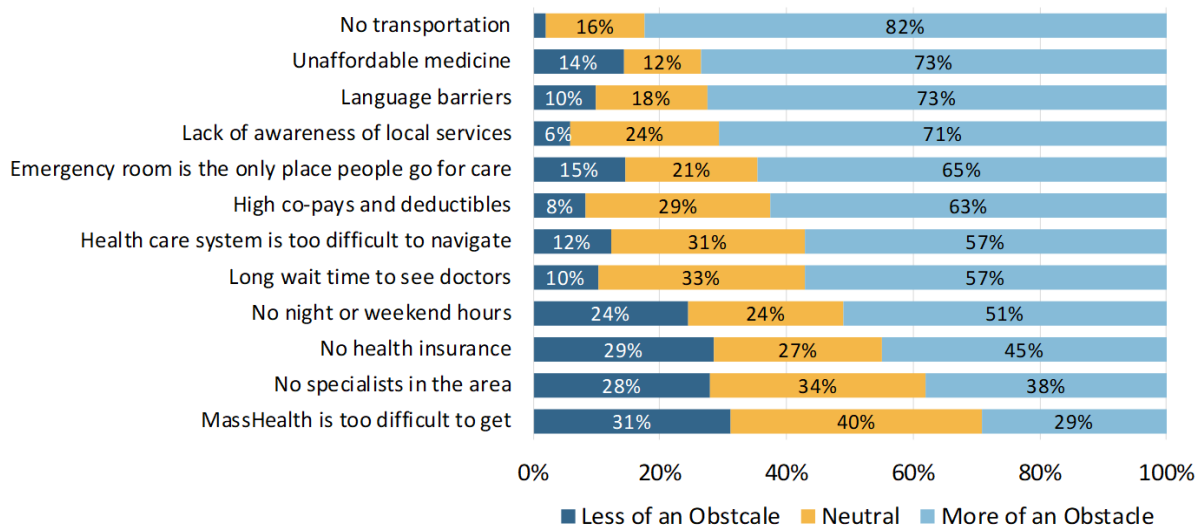


Source: CDC 500 Cities Project.

Transportation

Lack of transportation is an important social determinant of health in Fall River & New Bedford that contributes to poor health outcomes. A key community member survey conducted by the PPC on behalf of Saint Anne's Hospital shows that transportation is the top obstacle to patients receiving healthcare services, higher than issues of healthcare cost and language barriers.

Obstacles to Obtaining Healthcare Services



Source: Saint Anne's Hospital Key Community Member Survey, 2018.

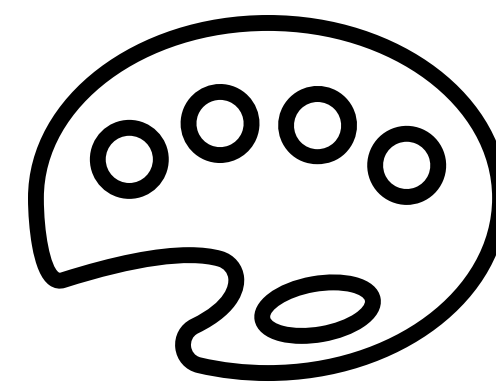
Public Transportation Planning

The Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) recently updated the region's Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan, which identifies the transportation needs of older adults, persons with disabilities, and low income individuals. As part of the update, SRPEDD and the South East Regional Coordinating Council on Transportation conducted an Unmet Transportation Needs Survey. The draft report identifies three service gaps that are consistently identified by stakeholders:

- 1) extended service hours (evenings and weekends)
- 2) better connections between transit areas, and
- 3) long distance medical transportation.

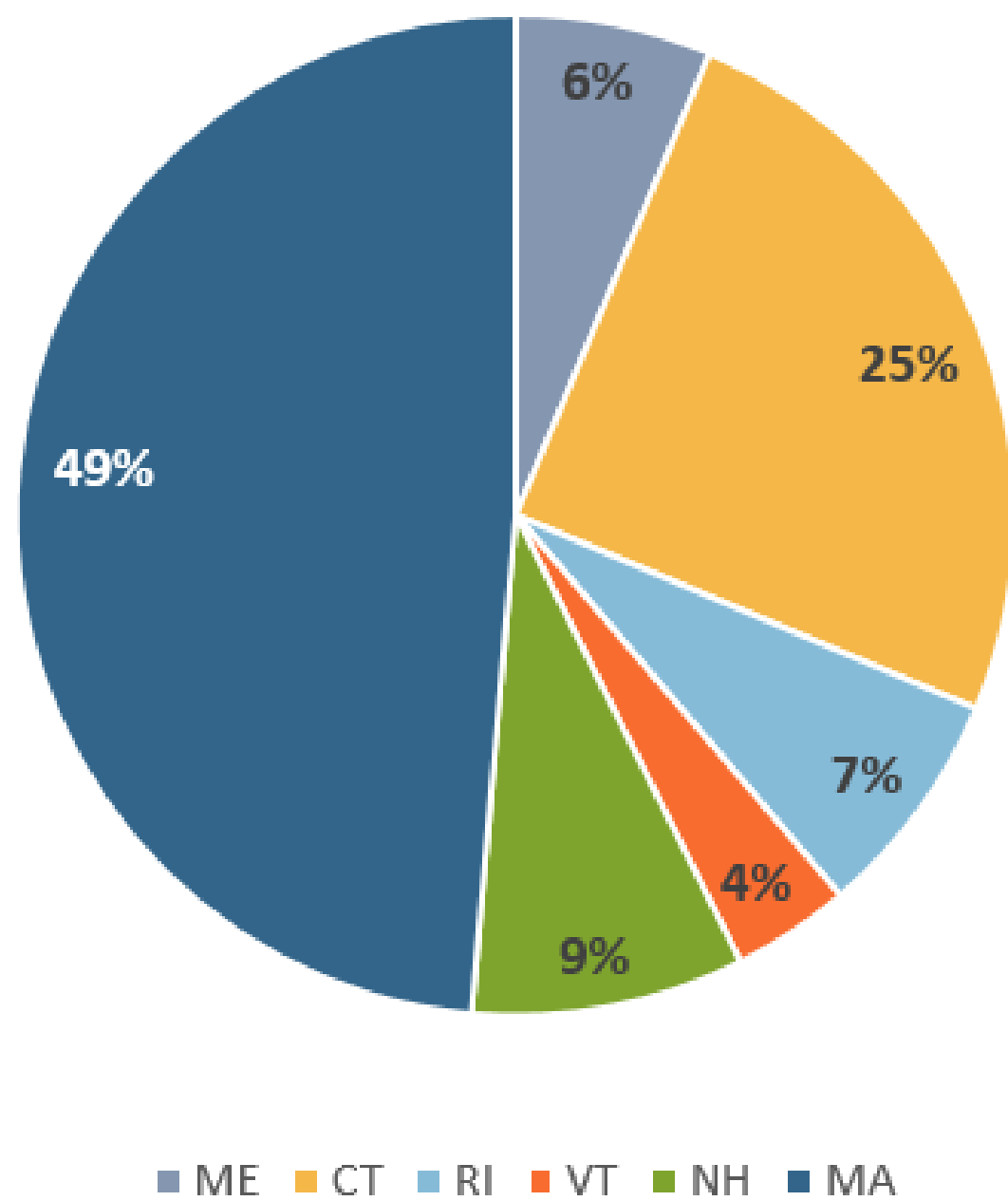


Arts & Culture

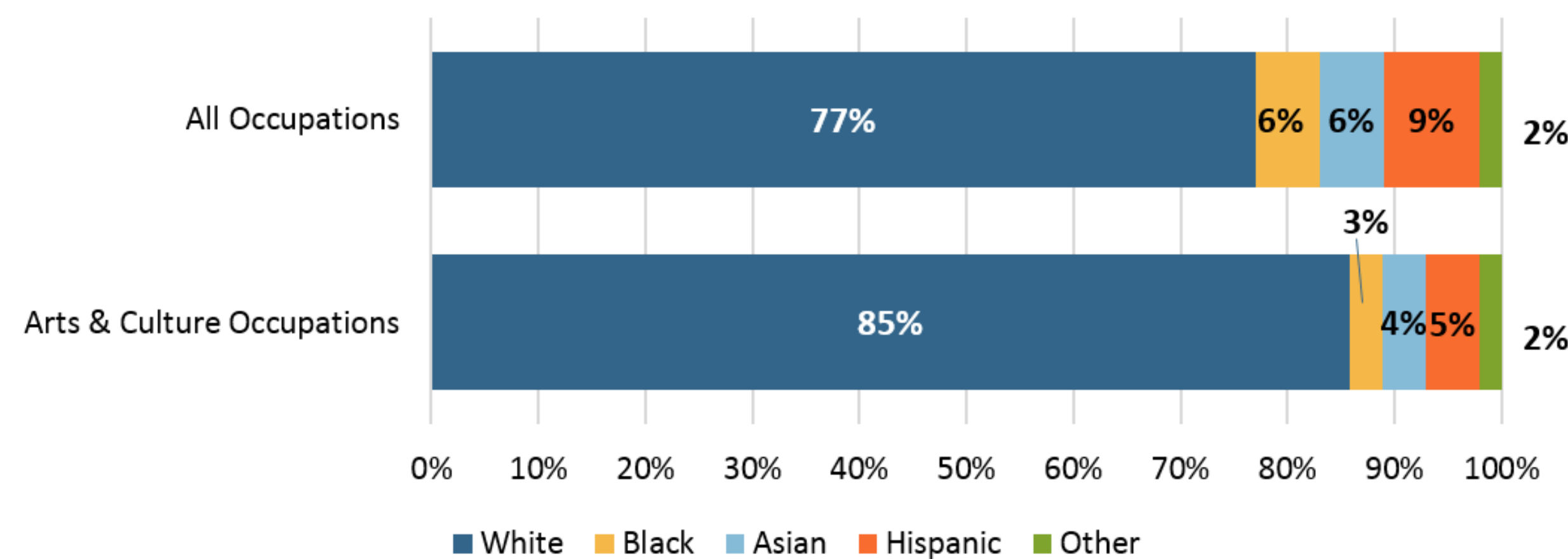


Beyond providing entertainment, the Arts & Culture sector plays a pivotal role in the economy. According to the National Endowment for the Arts, arts and cultural production contributed \$763.6 billion to the U.S. economy in 2015, or 4.2% of the GDP. In recent years, national arts and cultural production has increased in value, with the GDP of the entire sector increasing 2.6% from 2012 to 2015. Growth has been strongest in the subsector of online media, the value of which increased 21% from 2012 to 2015.

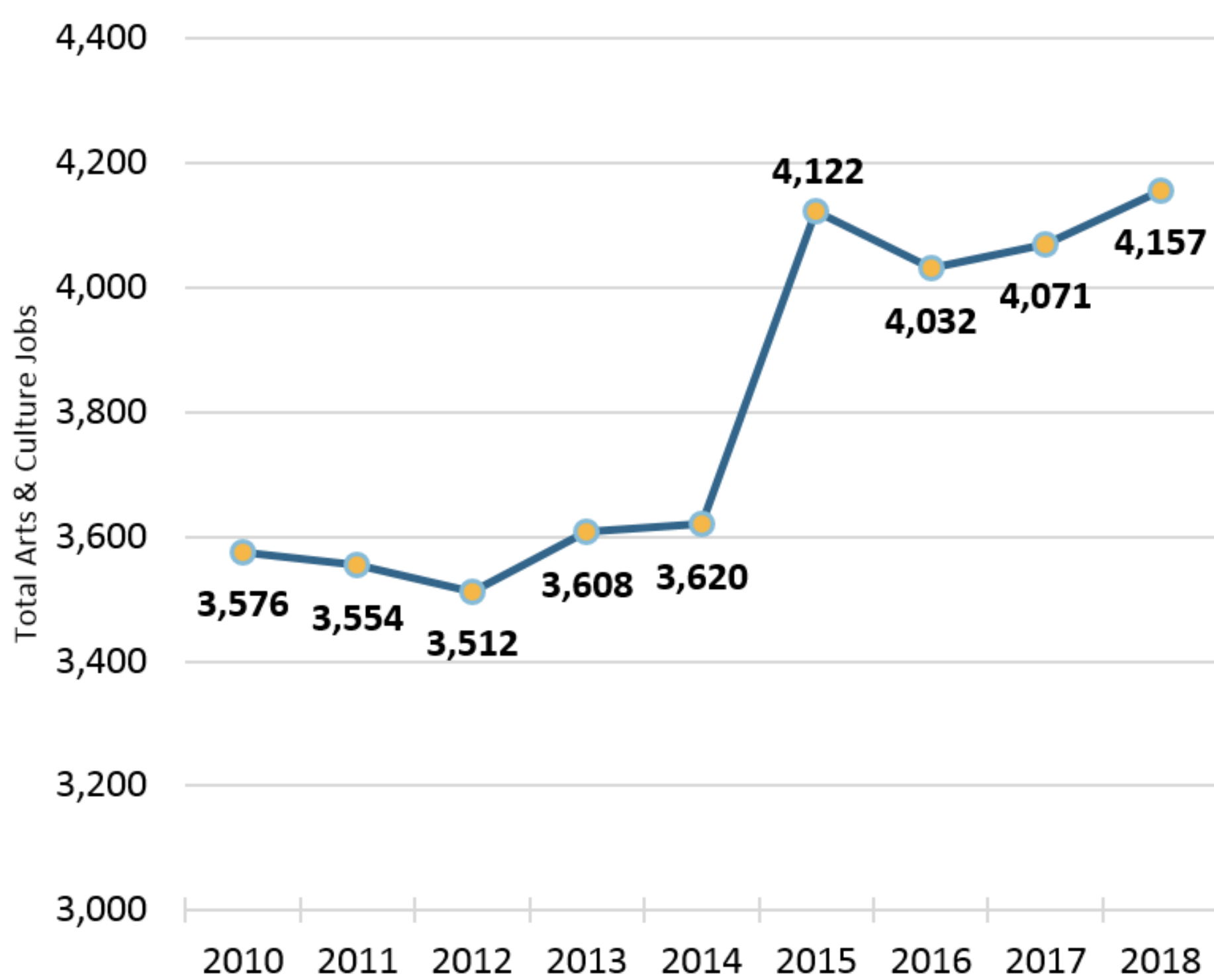
According to the New England Foundation for the Arts, Massachusetts has the largest share of New England's arts and culture workforce.



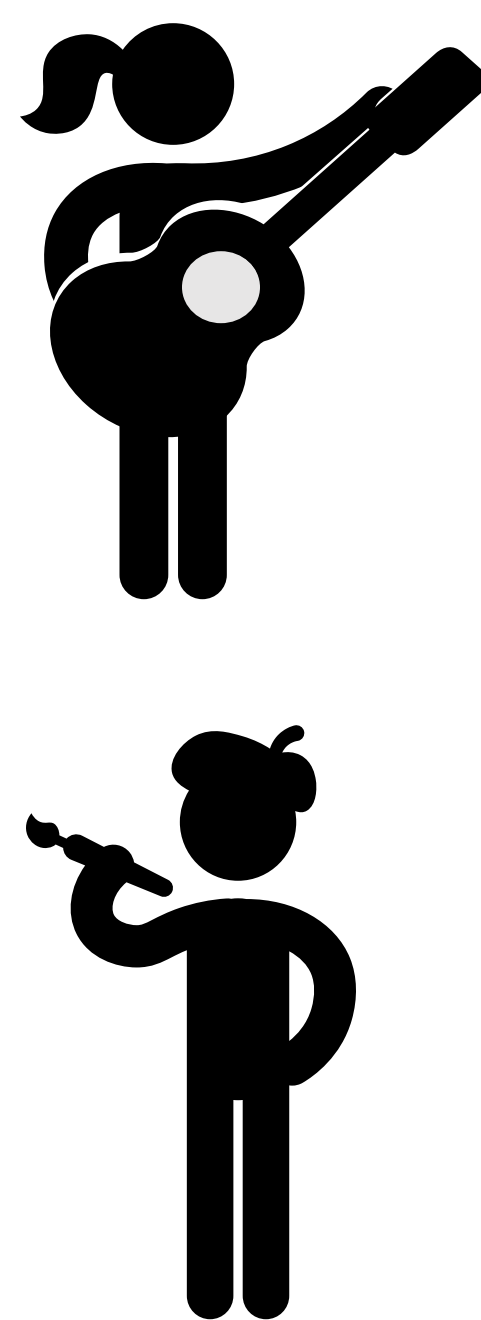
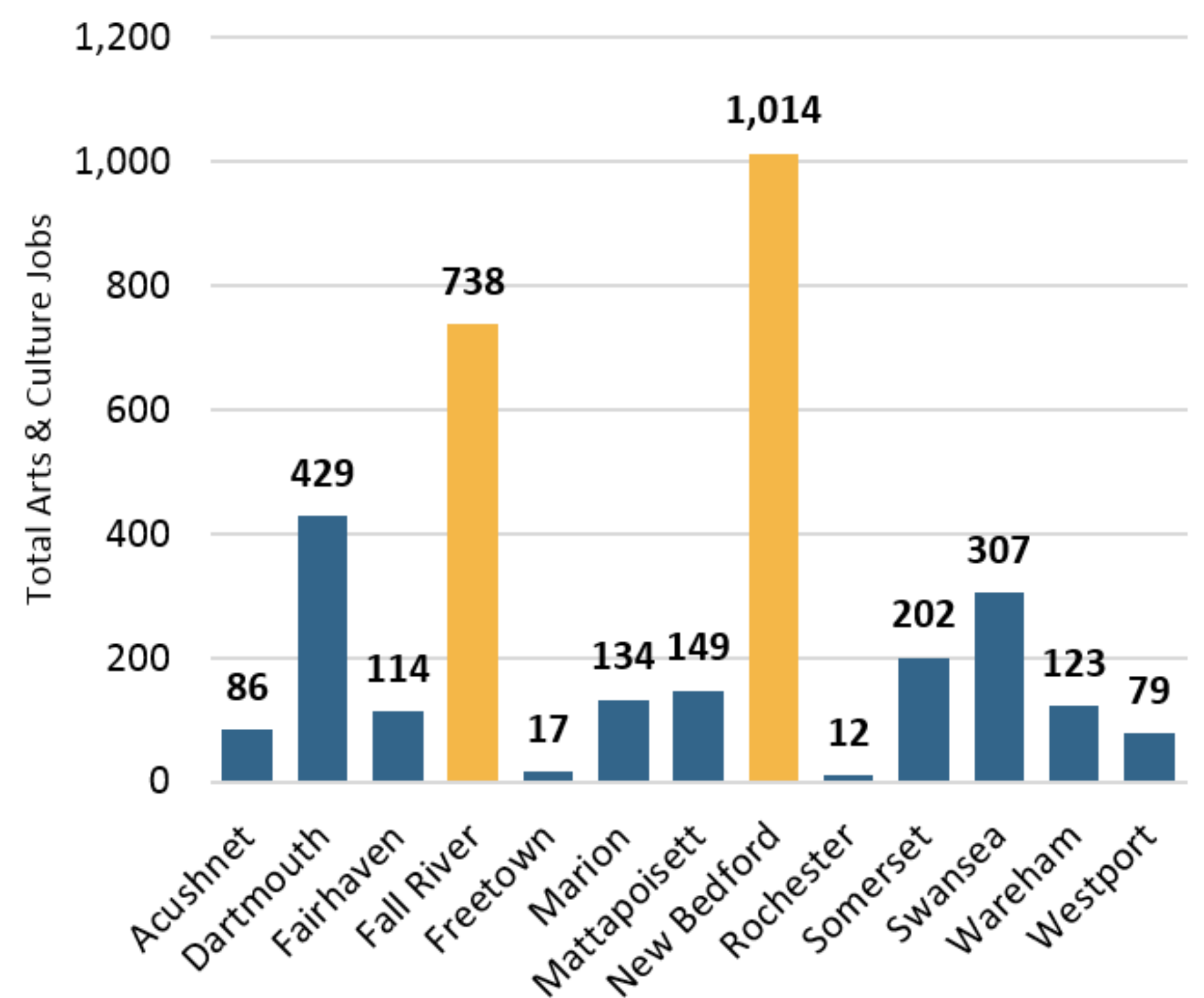
In Massachusetts, the Arts & Culture workforce is less diverse than the overall workforce.



The local Arts & Culture workforce is growing. From 2010 to 2018, the number of people in the SouthCoast working in Arts & Culture occupations increased by nearly 600 jobs.



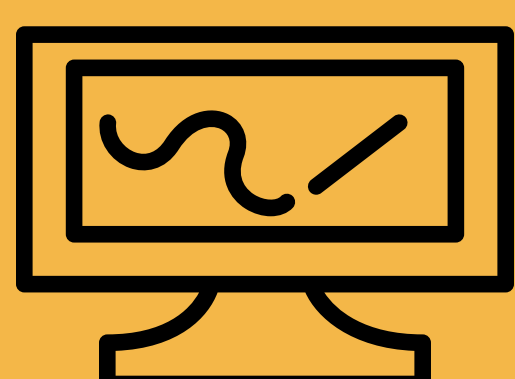
New Bedford and Fall River have the largest concentrations of Arts & Culture workers in the region. In fact, combined employment in the two cities is greater than the remainder of the SouthCoast.



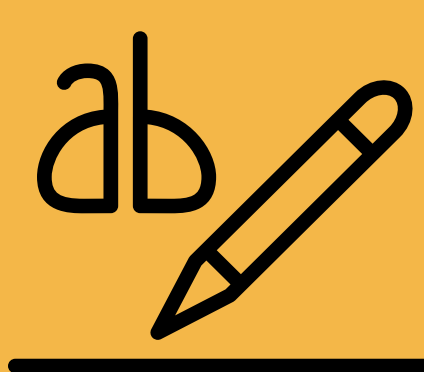
Top Five SouthCoast Arts & Culture Occupations by Number of Workers, 2018



Photographers
942



Graphic Designers
320



Writers and Authors
264



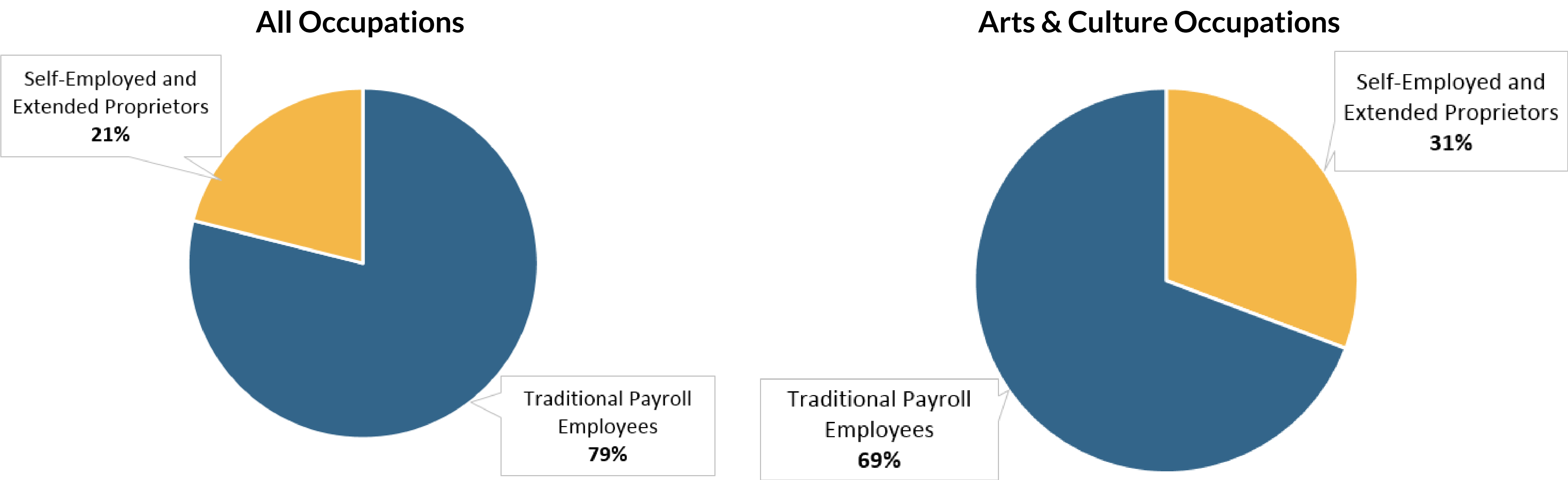
Musicians and Singers
219



Editors
202

Compared to other sectors of the economy, Arts & Culture professionals are more likely to be classified as "self-employed" or "extended proprietors," which are occasional, income-generating jobs that a person does not consider to be their primary occupation. For instance, the drummer of the band you saw at the New Bedford Folk Festival may be paid for their gig, but they also work full-time as an accountant, which would be their primary occupation.

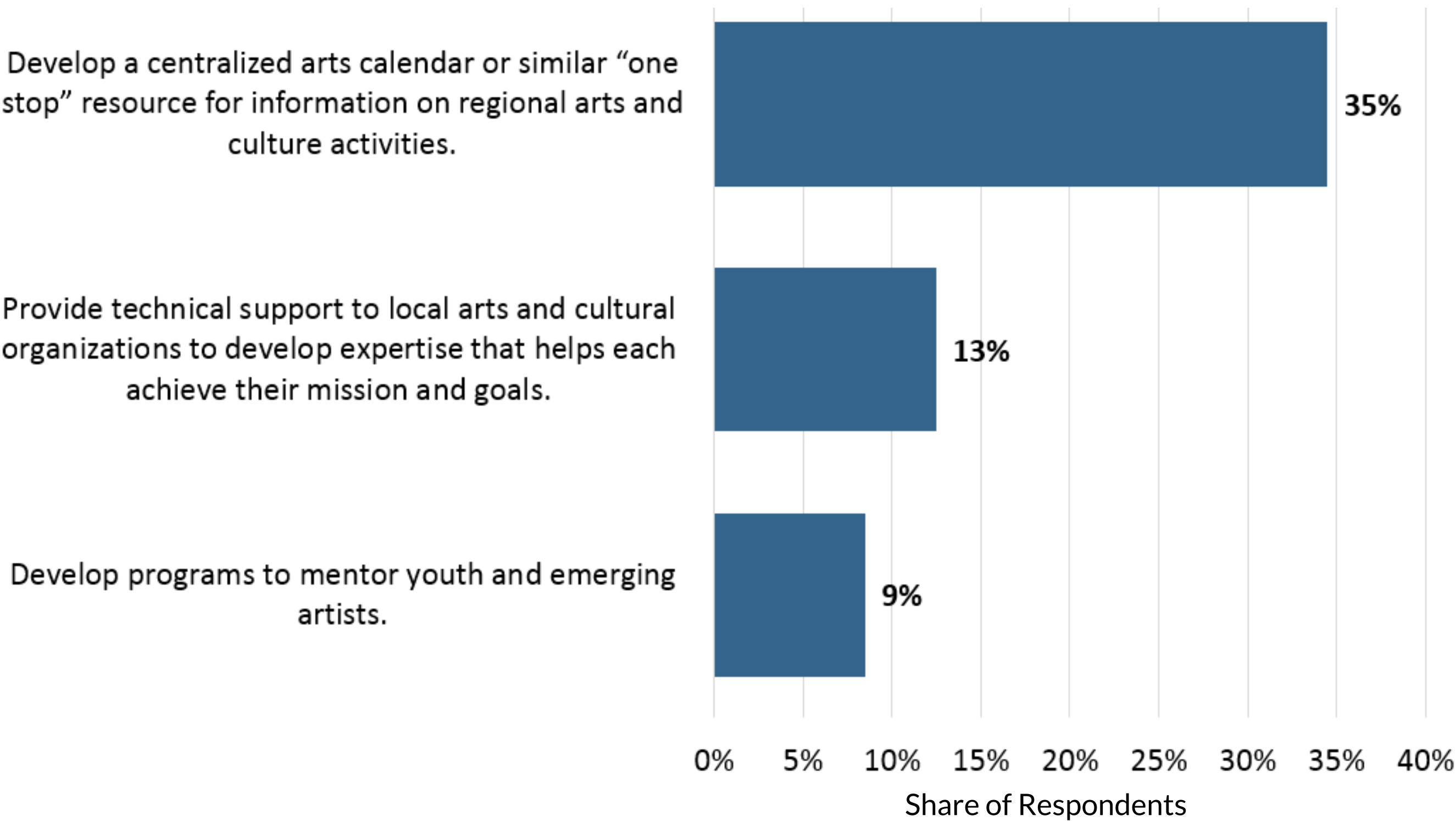
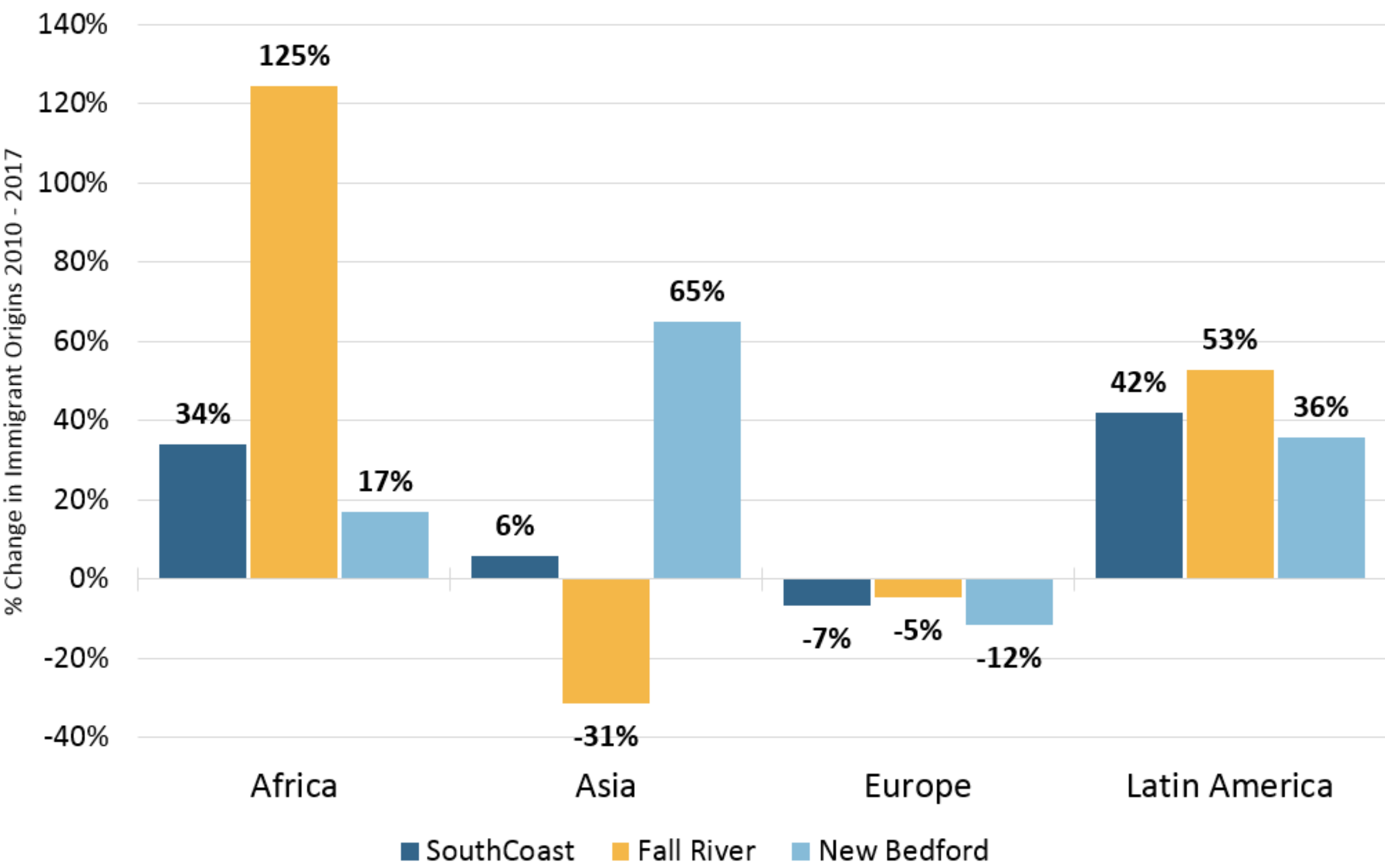
In the SouthCoast, 31% of all Arts & Culture occupations are classified as self-employed or extended proprietors, compared to 21% of all occupations.



As a historical landing place for immigrants, the cultural mix of the SouthCoast is always changing. From 2010 to 2017, the European foreign-born population in the SouthCoast declined by 7%, while the number of foreign-born residents from other parts of the globe increased.

During this time period, the largest numerical increase was among foreign-born residents from Latin America (approx. 3,000 people).

This demographic change should translate into a more diverse artistic and cultural environment in the SouthCoast if new arrivals are given a platform to share their creative output and unique perspectives.



In 2017, the PPC and the Community Foundation surveyed Arts & Culture professionals and consumers across the SouthCoast about their visions for the future. Results show that people involved in the local Arts & Culture scene most want a centralized calendar for events, technical support for local organizations, and programs for youth and emerging artists.

When discussing Arts & Culture as a sector of the regional economy, it is critical to understand two things. First, Arts & Culture employment extends beyond the person holding a paint brush or strumming a guitar. In order for Arts & Culture to be an economic driver, there needs be people who curate shows, maintain important cultural artifacts, edit and publish work, and support other technical aspects of the creative process.

Second, industrial and occupational classification data are not clear cut and prepackaged for Arts & Culture, as they are for other industries like manufacturing or retail. Therefore, when we discuss Arts & Culture occupations here, we are talking only about core workers in the sector and not, for example, the administrative assistant at a design office or the usher at a theater, who are both essential parts of the greater Arts & Culture economy.