

# Roslindale

48° | traffic | transit

home news events discussions search

< Back to front page

Text size - +

ROSLINDALE

## Census data: Roslindale saw population decline

Posted by Matt Rocheleau April 6, 2011 11:00 AM

E-mail | Print | Comments (1)

By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

**Roslindale experienced the highest rate of population decline among Boston's neighborhoods over the past decade, according to Census data recently released by the city.**

### NEIGHBORHOOD NUMBERS

Select a neighborhood below from the dropdown to see a breakdown of Census statistics.

Select a neighborhood

### RELATED STORIES

- Allston population spiked 14 percent over past decade
- African Americans now outnumber whites in Hyde Park
- Back Bay population rose less than one percent from 2000
- Beacon Hill population rose 3.5 percent from 2000
- Brighton population grew 4 percent in past decade
- Dorchester lost most residents among city neighborhoods
- Downtown population soared 46 percent
- Hispanics/Latinos surpass whites in East Boston
- Fenway saw 2nd-highest rate of population growth
- JP's Hispanic, black populations plunged
- Mattapan's population dropped at second-highest rate in city
- North End grew, but kept 'Little Italy' feel over past decade
- Roslindale saw population decline
- Roxbury gained most residents among city neighborhoods
- South Boston population grew 12 percent from 2000
- South End population spiked 12

Between 2000-2010, Roslindale lost 1,671 residents, or 5.5 percent, leaving the neighborhood with 28,680 residents, according to figures the Boston Redevelopment Authority compiled from US Census data. Roslindale was one of four city neighborhoods that saw an overall drop in population.

Roslindale's white population fell by 3,229 residents, or 19.4 percent from a decade ago. In 2000, whites made up 54.8 percent of the neighborhood. Last year, it was 46.7 percent.

Meanwhile, the Hispanic/Latino group increased by 1,107 residents, or 17.6 percent; and the black/African American population grew by 815 residents, or 15.1 percent.

Boston's population grew by 4.8 percent in the past decade to hit 617,594. The Hub remained a "majority-minority" city, with 53 percent of a non-white race/ethnicity while 47 percent are white. Overall, 22.3 percent are Black/African American, 17.5 percent are Hispanic/Latino, and 8.8 percent are Asian.

While Boston gained more than 41,000 people age 18 years and older, the city lost around 13,000 youth residents under 18. The 11-percent drop was among the most notable statistics for research director at Boston think-tank MassINC Benjamin Forman.

"There's no question that family households have been replaced by people without kids," he

Connect to Your Town Roslindale on Facebook



You like **Your Town Roslindale**. · Admin

Page · Insights · **Error**

You and 97 others like this. 97 likes · Sign Up to see

ADVERTISEMENT

### ROSLINDALE REAL ESTATE »

119

Homes for sale

11

Rentals available

20

Open houses this week

0

New listings this week

SPECIAL ADVERTISING DIRECTORY

### CAMP GUIDE »

A camp for every kid!

Adventure, sports, theater, music, arts or technology—find the perfect camp for your child at [boston.com/campguide](http://boston.com/campguide).

ADVERTISEMENT

Ads by Google [what's this?](#)

**Safe Side Chimney Sweep**  
Worcester, Ma

Full Service Chimney Sweep  
[www.Safesidechimneysweep.com](http://www.Safesidechimneysweep.com)

**NetApp® Deduplication**  
Use Less Space & Power w/ NetApp®  
Efficient IT Solutions. Learn More.  
[www.NetApp.com](http://www.NetApp.com)

**Merrill Lynch Webcast**  
Learn How Young Americans Can Plan  
For Retirement. Watch Webcast Now.  
[www.TotalMerrill.com/retirement](http://www.TotalMerrill.com/retirement)

percent over decade  
• West Roxbury's minority populations boomed from 2000

said, adding that a trend of fleeing families can often be a sign of gentrification.

The ratio of total residents 18 years or older grew in all but five neighborhoods; in Roslindale it grew from 75.3 to 77.6 percent. Citywide, that ratio grew from 80 to 83 percent.

The total number of housing units in Roslindale rose over the past 10 years by 2.6 percent to 11,927. But, the housing vacancy rate also climbed from 3.1 to 6.6 of the total housing stock.

Citywide, housing grew by around 25,000 units, or 8 percent, however, vacancies also rose by 60 percent. Around 5 percent of Boston homes were empty in 2000; in 2010, around 7.25 percent of housing was vacant.

Boston's neighborhoods have no officially-defined boundaries, according to the BRA. In order to sort census data by neighborhood, the city department said it used a combination of ZIP codes and zoning boundaries to define each neighborhood's borders.

While the neighborhoods the city has mapped out for census number crunching by-and-large match how most perceive Boston's configuration, the city acknowledged some may dispute how the BRA has defined where neighborhoods begin and end.

"Everyone has their own definition of 'their' neighborhood -- the best part about Boston is there is such pride in the question -- and therefore there are no official boundaries because if there were, we'd have 617,594 different opinions," said spokeswoman Susan Elsbree.

The department plans to release additional maps and is also fielding individual requests to have data provided based on customized neighborhood boundaries.

To simplify city data analyzed for this report, Boston.com grouped, as follows, smaller neighborhoods and districts into other, larger areas creating a total of 18 city subsections: Beacon Hill includes the West End; Downtown includes Chinatown and the Leather District; Roxbury includes Mission Hill and the Longwood Medical Area; South Boston includes the South Boston Waterfront; and the South End includes Bay Village. The Harbor Islands -- with a combined population of 640 and 535 residents during the 2000 and 2010 census, respectively -- were not used in this analysis.

However, raw data is still available here for each smaller neighborhood, district and islands that the BRA defined.

E-mail Matt Rocheleau at [mjrochele@gmail.com](mailto:mjrochele@gmail.com).



◀ Previous entry      Next entry ▶

MORE FROM BOSTON.COM

- Man killed in Conn. woodchipper incident (Local News)
- Missing Belmont teen spotted at

MORE FROM THE WEB

- U.S. EIA forecasts growing domestic natural gas supplies -- and Americans will benefit (ExxonMobil's Perspectives)

Roslindale Headlines »

- Autistic children have new place to play, thanks to Roslindale group (4/1)
- Roslindale farmers' market and MBTA strike a parking deal (3/24)
- Fund-raiser for Irving Middle School in Roslindale nets more than \$15,000 (3/21)

Also From Roslindale

RENEWAL



Main Street model revitalizes Roslindale

PUBLIC HOUSING



Ailing Roslindale block gets a new life

TASTE



El Chavo carries diverse tastes of Mexico

REVIEWS



Find Roslindale restaurants



Local advertising by PaperG

Roslindale On Twitter »

MBTA riders get 1 more year w/o fare increase. But, some red/orange-line improvements deferred - <http://bo.st/ejUPCm> 2 days ago

What, no sodas? -- Boston to ban sugary drinks on city property - <http://bo.st/eq7gTm> 2 days ago

her house *(Your Town)*

Wellesley bicyclist killed in motor vehicle accident, driver charged *(Your Town)*

House tells FCC to drop 'net neutrality' *(Politics)*

Celtics find perfect remedy *(Sports)*

Finally! *(Sports)*

Sellers Compete With Foreclosed Homes *(Fox Business)*

What Recession? California Mansion Sells for \$100M *(Fox Business)*

Is the world running out of oil? *(ExxonMobil's Perspectives)*

When You Can Negotiate an Apartment Lease and When to Walk Away *(MoneyNing)*

DOI's "Use It or Lose It" report: Politics trumps common sense *(ExxonMobil's Perspectives)*

[Sponsored links]

Good news, hungry city dwellers! The Boston City Council approved an ordinance clearing the way for food trucks - <http://bo.st/hAbjeh> 3 days ago

Census data: Roslindale saw population decline - <http://bo.st/quxZnZ> 3 days ago

Follow other Boston.com Tweets | What is Twitter?



READER COMMENTS »

[View reader comments \(1\)](#) » [Comment on this story](#) »

[Home](#) | [News](#) | [Events](#) | [Schools](#) | [Sports](#) | [Discussions](#) | [Marketplace](#)

[Contact Us](#) | [Contact Boston.com](#) | [Contact The Boston Globe](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Your Ad Choices](#) | [Help](#) | [Advertise](#) | © 2011 NY Times Co.