

# **B** LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATIONS ACCESS

## DEMOGRAPHIC DATA REPORT - LANGUAGE

Data Source: 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS), BPDA Research Division Analysis

CITY OF BOSTON

### **640,489 RESIDENTS**

*Total number of City residents ages 5 and up*

### **234,792 RESIDENTS (36.7%)**

*Total number of residents who speak another language at home*

### **LANGUAGE ACCESS ELIGIBLE**

#### **105,924 LOTE RESIDENTS (age 5+) (15.8% of Boston Residents)**

*Persons who do not speak English as their primary language and who have some language access need in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding English*

#### **TOP SPOKEN LANGUAGES**

The following languages constitute the top spoken languages in the City for persons who identify as needing language access:

1. Spanish (Latin American)
2. Haitian Creole
3. Mandarin
4. Vietnamese
5. Cantonese
6. Portuguese (Brazilian)
7. Cabo Verdean Creole
8. Russian
9. French (European)
10. Arabic (Standard)
11. Somali

## CITY OF BOSTON THRESHOLD LANGUAGE STANDARDS

*Providing accommodations for interactions citywide and translation of vital documents*

### **City-Wide Constituent Interactions**

The City will provide a multilingual notice in the following languages, informing constituents that interpretation can be made available upon request for City-wide constituent interactions sponsored by the City. ASL is required for City-Wide events with Vital Information. Departments will work with the Disabilities Commission and LCA to determine these events.

1. *Spanish (Latin American)*
2. *Haitian Creole*
3. *Simplified Chinese*
4. *Traditional Chinese*
5. *Vietnamese*
6. *Portuguese (Brazilian)*
7. *Cabo Verdean Creole*
8. *Russian*
9. *French (European)*
10. *Arabic (Standard)*
11. *Somali*

### **Vital Documents /Information**

The City will have Vital documents and information translated into the following threshold languages listed below. Vital documents that are not yet translated due to a financial constraint, will include a Babel Notice which informs constituents how they can request the translation of the vital document.

1. *Spanish (Latin American)*
2. *Haitian Creole*
3. *Simplified Chinese*
4. *Traditional Chinese*
5. *Vietnamese*
6. *Portuguese (Brazilian)*
7. *Cabo Verdean Creole*
8. *Russian*
9. *French (European)*
10. *Arabic (Standard)*
11. *Somali*



## **LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATIONS ACCESS**

### **CITY OF BOSTON NEIGHBORHOODS: LANGUAGE**

Data Source: 2017-2021 American Community Surveys, BPDA Research Division Analysis

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD ANALYSIS**

The table below lists each City of Boston neighborhood with the total number of residents age 5 and older and the languages that meet the neighborhood threshold for language access services. The City will provide interpretation and translation for City sponsored neighborhood events in the identified languages.

**ALLSTON** (22,819 residents aged 5+)

- Chinese (1,351)

**BACK BAY** (17,093 residents aged 5+)

None

**BEACON HILL** (8,178 residents aged 5+)

None

**BRIGHTON** (48,218 residents aged 5+)

- Chinese (2,291)
- Spanish (1,238)
- Portuguese (1,137)
- Russian (1,017)

**CHARLESTOWN** (18,712 residents aged 5+)

- Chinese (1,027)

**CHINATOWN** (3,897 residents aged 5+)

- Chinese (1,444)

**DORCHESTER** (117,903 residents aged 5+)

- Spanish (9,033)
- Cabo Verdean Creole (5,941)
- Vietnamese (5,291)
- Haitian Creole (5,116)

**DOWNTOWN** (12,090 residents aged 5+)

- Chinese (1,105)

**EAST BOSTON** (42,811 residents aged 5+)

- Spanish (14,300)

**FENWAY** (32,835 residents aged 5+)

- Chinese (1,538)

**HYDE PARK** (36,984 residents aged 5+)

- Spanish (3,548)
- Haitian Creole (3,445)

**JAMAICA PLAIN** (39,338 residents aged 5+)

- Spanish (3,100)

**LONGWOOD** (5,352 residents aged 5+)

None

**MATTAPAN** (25,035 residents aged 5+)

- Haitian Creole (2,130)
- Spanish (1,421)

**MISSION HILL** (15,391 residents aged 5+)

- Spanish (769)

**NORTH END** (9,612 residents aged 5+)

None

**ROSLINDALE** (29,654 residents aged 5+)

- Spanish (2,681)
- Haitian Creole (1,020)

**ROXBURY** (50,933 residents aged 5+)

- Spanish (6,897)
- Cabo Verdean Creole (1,354)
- Haitian Creole (958)

**SOUTH BOSTON** (33,397 residents aged 5+)

- Spanish (1,392)

**SOUTH BOSTON WATERFRONT** (4,412 residents aged 5+)

None

**SOUTH END** (28,743 residents aged 5+)

- Chinese (2,592)
- Spanish (1,678)

**WEST END** (7,135 residents aged 5+)

None

**WEST ROXBURY** (29,942 residents aged 5+)

- Haitian Creole (900)

**DATA NOTE**

Data on languages spoken by language access populations (residents aged 5+ who speak English less than very well) are only available at the neighborhood level for seven specific languages: Spanish, Chinese (Cantonese & Mandarin), French/Haitian Creole, Vietnamese, Arabic, Tagalog, and Korean. For these languages the neighborhood threshold is met with at least 5% of the neighborhood population or 1,000 speakers. Other language needs are identified by looking at data on foreign-born populations and setting a neighborhood threshold of 5% of the neighborhood population or 1,000 neighborhood residents who were born in a country in which the given language is predominantly spoken. Dorchester and Roxbury have significant foreign-born populations from Cabo Verde, while Brighton has significant foreign-born populations from Brazil and Russia.