

Latinos in Worcester: Demographic and Education Profiles

Prepared for



Latino Education Institute Worcester, Massachusetts 01602 by

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Dear Colleague,

Latinos in Worcester: Demographic and Education Profiles is the first in a series of reports detailing the condition of Latinos in Greater Worcester. This report seeks to address the following questions:

- 1. What are the socio-economic characteristics of the Latino population in Worcester?
- 2. What are the enrollment patterns and outcomes of Latino children in Worcester Public Schools?

The information presented is disturbing. The number of Latino students continues to grow. The Worcester Public School District enrolls the fourth highest number of Latinos in the Commonwealth. Latinos represent 36.4% of the overall student population and number over eight thousand. Moreover, the proportion of Latinos in the overall student population is expected to increase given that the proportion of very young persons (ages 0 to 14) is significantly higher (29.5%) than the same age category for the entire population (18.5%).

The combination of high population growth and low academic achievement of Latino students in Worcester Public Schools should be of great concern to policy makers. As detailed in the report, by almost all measures of academic outcomes -- including high school graduation rates and MCAS scores -- Latino students have the lowest rankings and this achievement gap is not closing. Clearly, the revitalization of Worcester sought by civic leaders is not possible absent a coherent and deliberate strategy to improve the educational outcomes of Latino students.

The Latino Education Institute is dedicated to improving educational outcomes for Latinos in Worcester through education programs, civic engagement, and research. It is our hope that this report, and the others to follow, serve as a catalyst to achieving strategies that lift academic achievement for Latino students and the economic prospects of this great city.

Regards,

Mary Jo Marion
Executive Director
Latino Education Institute

Introduction

This report provides a general description of the Latino/a population and students in the City of Worcester, Massachusetts. It includes select population characteristics for Latinos in this city based on census data, estimates, and projections. The report also presents some public school data as reported online. The report is organized into two parts. The first covers select population characteristic for the Latino population in 2000, 2008 (estimates), and 2013 projections. The report utilizes the following tables in Part I of the report:

Latino Population Profile Based on 2000 Census

- 2008 Population Estimates for All Persons and Latino/a Persons
- 2008 Estimated Latino/a Population by Race and Ethnicity
- 2008 Estimated Population by Age, Sex, and Latino Status
- 2013 Projected Population by Age, Sex, and Latino Status
- 2008 Estimated and 2013 Projected Latino Household Income

The maps in this report include:

- Map 1: Distribution and Concentration of Estimated Latino Population by Census Tracts (2008)
- Map 2: Estimated Family Poverty Rates (2008) by Census Tracts in Worcester
- Map 3: Worcester Public Schools by % Latino/a Student Enrollment
- Map 4: Distribution and Concentration of Latino Youth 17 years and Under, Estimated 2008, and by Location of Worcester High Schools

Brief observations and findings are presented after each table or map.

The second part of this report is a summary of facts about Latino students. This data was accessed through the City of Worcester Public School Department and the Massachusetts Department of Education. The data was obtained directly from information presented on the websites of both organizations. The data is presented exactly as how these entities allow the public to access data and information. (http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/reportcard; accessed May 24, 2009).

Part I: Select Demographic Profile of Latino Population in Worcester

Latino Population Profile Based on 2000 Census						
	<u>Latino/a</u>	Total Population				
Total population	26,155	172,648				
Median age (years)	23	33				
Under 5 years	3,044	11,142				
Household population	25,720	161,541				
Group quarters population	435	11,107				
Average Household size	3	2				
Average family size	4	3				
High school graduate or higher	6,057	83,382				
Bachelor's degree or higher	1,083	25,362				
Disability status (pop5+ years)	6,825	38,068				
Foreign born	4,643	25,097				
Speak Lang other than English						
at home (5+ years and over)	19,782	45,425				
In labor force (pop 16+ years)	9,525	82,812				
Med fam income 1999 (dollars)	21,528	42,988				
PCI income in 1999 (dollars)	10,416	18,614				
Families below poverty level	2,349	5,592				
Individuals below poverty level	9,894	29,115				

This source for this first table is, U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 2 (SF 2) and Summary File 4 (SF 4). The table indicates the following:

- The Latino population represented 15.1% (26,155 persons) of Worcester's total population in 2000
- Latinos tend to be relatively young compared to the total population; 11.6% of all Latinos in 2000 were under 5 years of age, compared to 6.4% for the total population
- Latino households tend to be larger than other households in the total population with an average household size of 3, compared to 2 for the total population
- Approximately 17.6% of all Latinos in 2000, or 4,643 persons, were foreign born compared to a figure of 14.5% for the total population in Worcester.
- Approximately 75.6% of the Latino population in 2000 spoke a language other than English at home

On measures of income, including median family income, and poverty, the Latino population is significantly worse off than the total population in Worcester. In 2000, 9,894 Latinos, or 37.8% of all Latinos were officially impoverished compared to a figure of 16.8% for the total population.

2008 Population Estimates for all Persons and Latino/a Persons						
Population						
2013 Projection	176,709					
2008 Estimate	175,093					
2000 Census	172,647					
1990 Census	169,758					
Households						
2013 Projection	69,383					
2008 Estimate	68,513					
2000 Census	67,027					
1990 Census	63,883					
Growth 1990-2000	4.92%					
2008 Estimated Population by Single Race						
Classification	175,093					
White Alone	122,453	69.94%				
Black or African American Alone	16,391	9.36%				
American Indian and Alaska Native Alone	844	0.48%				
Asian Alone	12,655	7.23%				
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone	112	0.06%				
Some Other Race Alone	15,268	8.72%				
Two or More Races	7,370	4.21%				
2008 Estimated Population Latino	175,093					
Latino	32,816	18.74%				
Not or Latino	142,277	81.26%				

- The Latino population was projected at 18.7% of the total projected population of Worcester in 2008
- People of color (Blacks; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and Latinos) were projected to comprise approximately one third of Worcester's total population

2008 Estimated Latino/a Population by Race and Ethnicity Race Worcester city 2008 Estimated Latino by Single Race Classification 32,816 White Alone 14,050 42.81% Black or African American Alone 1,333 4.06% American Indian and Alaska Native Alone 264 0.80%77 Asian Alone 0.23% Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone 60 0.18% Some Other Race Alone 14,444 44.02% Two or More Races 2,588 7.89% **Ethnicity Worcester city** 2008 Population 175,094 Not Latino 142,278 81.2% 32,816 18.7% Latino Latino by Origin 32,816 Mexican 893 2.7% Puerto Rican 21,408 65.2% Cuban 506 0.1% All Other or Latino 10,009 30.5%

- Most Latinos classify themselves as 'Some Other Race Alone' (44%), followed by racial self-classification as White (42.8%), and much fewer as Black (4%)
- Puerto Ricans comprise the largest sector of Latinos; almost two thirds of all Latinos (65.3%) were estimated to be Puerto Rican in 2008

			Worcester c	ity		
	Total Population	%	Male Population	%	Female Population	%
2008 Estimated						
Population by Age	175,093		84,600		90,493	
Age 0 to 4	10,655	6.09%	5,469	6.46%	5,186	5.73%
Age 5 to 9	10,642	6.08%	5,424	6.41%	5,218	5.77%
Age 10 to 14	11,019	6.29%	5,649	6.68%	5,370	5.93%
Age 15 to 17	6,590	3.76%	3,455	4.08%	3,135	3.46%
Age 18 to 20	10,634	6.07%	5,082	6.01%	5,552	6.14%
Age 21 to 24	10,406	5.94%	5,157	6.10%	5,249	5.80%
Age 25 to 34	26,950	15.39%	13,154	15.55%	13,796	15.25%
Age 35 to 44	26,119	14.92%	13,100	15.48%	13,019	14.39%
Age 45 to 49	12,166	6.95%	6,069	7.17%	6,097	6.74%
Age 50 to 54	11,082	6.33%	5,421	6.41%	5,661	6.26%
Age 55 to 59	9,240	5.28%	4,482	5.30%	4,758	5.26%
Age 60 to 64	7,070	4.04%	3,333	3.94%	3,737	4.13%
Age 65 to 74	9,976	5.70%	4,418	5.22%	5,558	6.14%
Age 75 to 84	8,319	4.75%	3,165	3.74%	5,154	5.70%
Age 85 and over	4,226	2.41%	1,222	1.44%	3,004	3.32%
Median Age	35.24		34.21		36.31	
2008 Estimated Latino Population by Age	32,816		16,322		16,494	
		10 0007		10.460/		0.5107
Age 0 to 4	3,280	10.00%	1,707	10.46%	1,573	9.54%
Age 5 to 9	3,253	9.91%	1,652	10.12%	1,601	9.71%
Age 10 to 14	3,146	9.59%	1,658	10.16%	1,488	9.02%
Age 15 to 17	1,673	5.10%	901	5.52%	772	4.68%
Age 18 to 20	1,725	5.26%	855	5.24%	870	5.27%
Age 21 to 24	1,963	5.98%	990	6.07%	973	5.90%
Age 25 to 34	6,020	18.34%	2,895	17.74%	3,125	18.95%
Age 35 to 44	4,776	14.55%	2,317	14.20%	2,459	14.91%
Age 45 to 49	1,772	5.40%	847	5.19%	925	5.61%
Age 50 to 54	1,541	4.70%	730	4.47%	811	4.92%
Age 55 to 59	1,221	3.72%	608	3.73%	613	3.72%
Age 60 to 64	853	2.60%	397	2.43%	456	2.76%
Age 65 to 74	1,048	3.19%	522	3.20%	526	3.19%
Age 75 to 84	430	1.31%	199	1.22%	231	1.40%
Age 85 and over	115	0.35%	44	0.27%	71	0.43%
Median Age	27.27		26.37		28.10	

- Latinos are projected as a much younger population than the total population in 2008. The median age of Latinos is significantly lower (27.3 years), than the total population at 35.2 years
- The 2008 estimated proportion of very young persons, Ages 0 to 14 years of age, is significantly higher (29.5%) than the same age category for the entire population (18.5%).

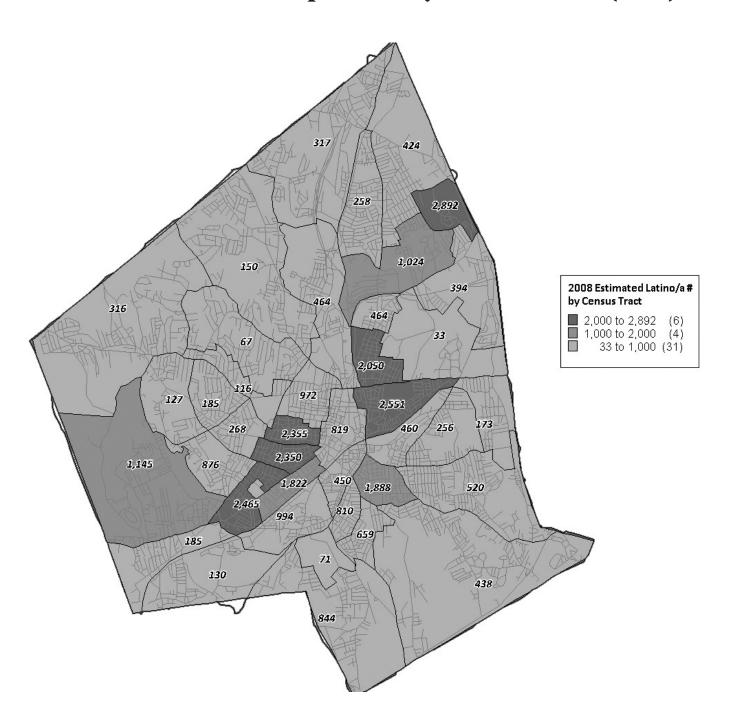
2013 Estimated Population by Age, Sex, and Latino Status						
			Worcester c	ity		
	Total Population	%	Male Population	%	Female Population	%
2013 Projected						
Population by Age	176,709		85,629		91,079	
Age 0 to 4	10,685	6.05%	5,497	6.42%	5,188	5.70%
Age 5 to 9	10,474	5.93%	5,350	6.25%	5,124	5.63%
Age 10 to 14	10,561	5.98%	5,410	6.32%	5,151	5.66%
Age 15 to 17	6,719	3.80%	3,508	4.10%	3,211	3.53%
Age 18 to 20	10,555	5.97%	5,083	5.94%	5,472	6.01%
Age 21 to 24	10,295	5.83%	5,186	6.06%	5,109	5.61%
Age 25 to 34	24,051	13.61%	11,770	13.75%	12,281	13.48%
Age 35 to 44	25,677	14.53%	12,754	14.89%	12,923	14.19%
Age 45 to 49	12,496	7.07%	6,264	7.32%	6,232	6.84%
Age 50 to 54	12,021	6.80%	5,922	6.92%	6,099	6.70%
Age 55 to 59	10,727	6.07%	5,229	6.11%	5,498	6.04%
Age 60 to 64	8,803	4.98%	4,214	4.92%	4,589	5.04%
Age 65 to 74	11,503	6.51%	5,197	6.07%	6,306	6.92%
Age 75 to 84	7,611	4.31%	2,923	3.41%	4,688	5.15%
Age 85 and over	4,532	2.56%	1,323	1.55%	3,209	3.52%
-						
Median Age	36.93		35.79		38.05	
2013 Projected or						
Latino Population by Age	36,922		18,270		18,652	
Age 0 to 4	3,560	9.64%	1,891	10.35%	1,669	8.95%
Age 5 to 9	3,421	9.27%	1,766	9.67%	1,655	8.87%
Age 10 to 14	3,335	9.03%	1,723	9.43%	1,612	8.64%
Age 15 to 17	1,857	5.03%	976	5.34%	881	4.72%
Age 18 to 20	1,953	5.29%	965	5.28%	988	5.30%
Age 21 to 24	2,231	6.04%	1,159	6.34%	1,072	5.75%
Age 25 to 34	6,123	16.58%	2,911	15.93%	3,212	17.22%
Age 35 to 44	5,453	14.77%	2,618	14.33%	2,835	15.20%
Age 45 to 49	2,251	6.10%	1,105	6.05%	1,146	6.14%
Age 50 to 54	1,961	5.31%	914	5.00%	1,047	5.61%
Age 55 to 59	1,620	4.39%	787	4.31%	833	4.47%
Age 60 to 64	1,142	3.09%	523	2.86%	619	3.32%
Age 65 to 74	1,371	3.71%	663	3.63%	708	3.80%
Age 75 to 84	501	1.36%	212	1.16%	289	1.55%
Age 85 and over	143	0.39%	57	0.31%	86	0.46%

- The proportion of the very young (ages 14 and under) among Latino/a persons is projected to decline slightly, from 29.5% to 28% by the year 2013, but still higher than the general population, 18%.
- Latino/a persons will remain a considerably younger population than the total population; only 5.1% of this group is projected to be 65 years + by 2013, compared to a figure of 13.4% for the total population.

		Worcester	city	
	2008 Estimate	%	2013 Projection	%
Latino Household Income	10,385	100.00%	11,955	100.00%
Less than \$15,000	3,480	34%	3,626	30%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	1,614	16%	1,841	15%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	1,369	13%	1,454	12%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	1,387	13%	1,667	14%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	1,331	13%	1,613	13%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	592	6%	806	7%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	302	3%	429	4%
\$150,000 to \$249,999	139	1%	244	2%
\$250,000 to \$499,999	91	1%	152	1%
\$500,000 or more	80	1%	123	1%
Latino Median Household Income	\$25,720		\$28,511	
Non- or Latino Household Income	58,128	100.00%	57,428	100.00%
Less than \$15,000	9,307	16%	8,052	14%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	6,500	11%	5,656	10%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	6,486	11%	5,717	10%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	9,126	16%	8,548	15%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	11,353	20%	10,862	19%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	6,562	11%	7,053	12%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	4,022	7%	4,649	8%
\$150,000 to \$249,999	2,132	4%	2,890	5%
\$250,000 to \$499,999	1,444	2%	2,189	4%
\$500,000 to \$459,599	1,197	2%	1,813	3%
Non- or Latino Median	1,177	270	1,013	3 /0
Household Income	\$46,130		\$51,707	
Occupied Housing Units*	29,850	100.00%	30,342	100.00%
Owner-Occupied				
Not or Latino	28,246	95%	28,369	93%
or Latino	1,604	5%	1,973	7%
Renter-Occupied	38,663	100.00%	39,041	100.00%
Not Latino	29,882	77%	29,059	74%
Latino	8,781	23%	9,982	26%

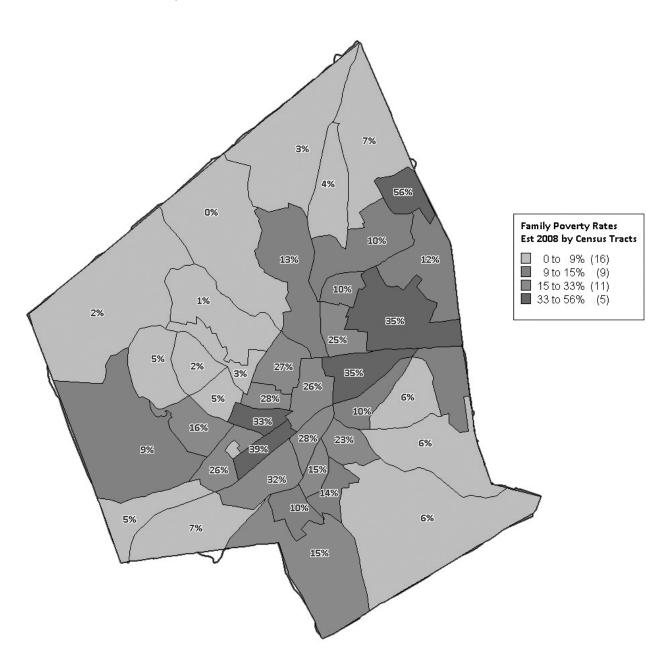
- Latinos tend to have lower projected household incomes than the total population for 2008 and 2013. For 2008, the income level of 50% of all Latino households was estimated at less than \$25,000, compared to proportion of the total population, 27%
- Latino/a persons owning homes or housing units represent but 5.4% of all owner-occupied units in Worcester in 2008; they represent almost 23% of all renters in the city.
- In 2008, there were 1,604 Latinos in owner-occupied units, compared to 8,781 Latino renters; this means that the Latino homeownership rate is 15.4%; the rate for the total population, not counting Latinos, is significantly higher: out of a total 66,910 housing units, 42.2% (or 28,247 housing units), were owner-occupied.

Map 1:
Distribution and Concentration of
Estimated Latino/a Population by Census Tracts (2008)



• There are a few census tracts with relatively high numbers of Latino persons; but the concentration of Latino persons is not contiguous.

Map 2: Estimated Family Poverty Rates (2008) by Census Tracts in Worcester



• Family poverty rates are very high in some census tracts. Many of these census tracts are also heavily populated by Latino persons

Part II: Select Public School Characteristics for Latino Students

Enrollment Patterns

• In 2007, Worcester ranked fourth in the entire state in terms of the number of Latino students enrolled in public schools. Worcester reported 7,931 Latino students enrolled in this year. This compares to Boston at 19,165; Springfield at 12,806; and, Lawrence with a Latino public school enrollment of 10,529 students. (See, Nicole Lavan and Miren Uriarte, Status of Latino Education in Massachusetts: A Report, Mauricio Gaston Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy, University of Massachusetts Boston, 2008)

	Worcester (%)	State (%)
African American	13.6	8.2
Asian	7.9	5.1
Latino	36.4	14.3
Native American	0.4	0.3
White	39.0	69.9
Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander	0	0.1
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic	2.6	2.0

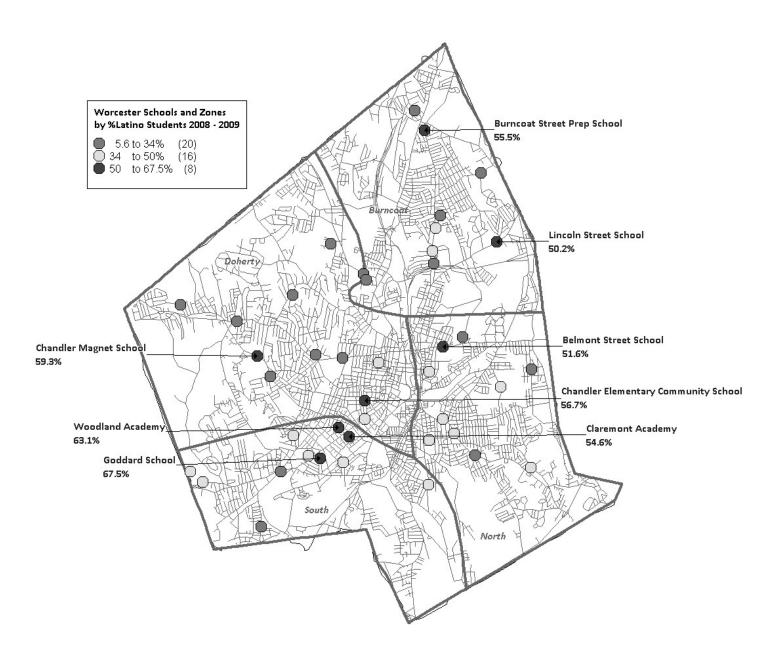
- In the 2008-2009 year, Latinos comprise 36.4% of all students in the school district of Worcester; this compares to 14.3% of Latino students who comprise the entire state of Massachusetts among public school students
- The proportion of White students (39.0 percent) continue to decline in numbers since 2003-2004, when the proportion was 48.2 percent (see, Serafin Melendez, Latino Students in Worcester Public Schools: A Fact Sheet 2003-2004, Latino Education Institute)

Table: Enrollment in Worcester Public Schools by Race and Ethnicity (2008-2009)

			African			
SCHOOL	Address	Zipcode	American	Asian	Latino	White
Goddard School	14 Richards Street	01603	6.2	8.9	67.5	14.5
Woodland Academy	93 Woodland Street	01610	10	10.7	63.1	12.1
Chandler Magnet School	525 Chandler Street	01602	5	6.8	59.3	27.4
Chandler Elementary Community School	114 Chandler Street	01609	15.5	11.6	56.7	11
Burncoat Street Prep School	526 Burncoat Street	01606	14.8	5.1	55.5	23.3
Claremont Academy	15 Claremont Street	01610	10.7	10.9	54.6	20.8
Belmont Street School	170 Belmont Street	01605	18.4	4.6	51.6	18.9
Lincoln Street School	549 Lincoln Street	01605	19.8	5.9	50.2	20.1
Jacob Hiatt School	772 Main street	01610	19.3	3	49.5	24.3
Columbus Park School	75 Lovell Street	01603	10.7	15.9	49.3	20.6
Elm Park Community School	23 North Ashland Street	01609	15.3	7.2	48.9	24.5
City View School	80 Prospect Street	01605	13.1	2.1	48.8	29.4
Union Hill School	1 Chapin Street	01604	19.5	5.5	48.5	19.8
Worcester East Middle School	420 Grafton Street	01604	14.2	6	47.6	30.3
Cantebury Street	129 Cantebury Street	01603	13.3	16.4	44.1	22
South High School	170 Apricot Street	01603	16.4	12.7	40.9	28.7
Grafton Street School	311 Grafton Street	01604	18	9.5	40.8	27.6
Burncoat Middle School	135 Burncoat Street	01606	14.3	4.5	40.3	39.2
North High School	150 Harrington Way	01604	19.6	7.9	40.3	30.3
Universal Park School	12 Freeland Street	01603	7.4	19	40.3	32.5
Sullivan Middle School	140 Apricot Street	01603	13.3	11.7	39.6	34.1
Roosevelt School	1006 Grafton Street	01604	7.7	5.4	37.3	46.4
Vernon Hill School	211 Providence Street	01607	18.1	7.4	37.1	35.3
Burncoat Senior High School	179 Burncoat Street	01606	17	4	35	42.7
Clark Street School	280 Clark Street	01606	14.5	3	33.5	46.6
Quinsigamond School	14 Blackstone River Road	01607	16.4	10.7	33.5	36.1
Worcester Technical High School	1 Skyline Drive	01605	9.5	3	33.5	51.8
Norrback Avenue School	44 Malden Street	01606	11.4	6.2	29.7	50.1
Rice Square School	76 Massasoit Road	01604	11.5	9.1	28.6	47.4
Wawecus Road School	20 Wawecus Road	01605	10.2	5.1	28.5	51.1
Francis J McGrath Elementary School	493 Grove Street	01605	21.6	4.9	28.4	43.1
Doherty Memorial High School	299 Highland Street	01602	14.8	8.5	27.6	47.8
Thorndyke Road School	30 Thorndyke Road	01605	10.2	4.7	25.9	56.7
Forest Grove Middle School	495 Grove Street	01605	14.2	8	24.1	50.4
Gates Lane School	1238 Main Street	01603	15.7	12.5	22.4	44.3
Worcester Arts Magnet School	315 Street Nicholas Avenue	01606	12.2	2.3	22.2	58.5
Lake View School	133 Coburn Avenue	01604	8.8	10.8	18.3	57.6
Tatnuck Magnet School	1083 Pleasant Street	01602	15.5	8.3	17.8	52.4
Heard Street School	200 Heard Street	01603	14.4	14.7	15.8	48.8
May Street School	265 May Street	01602	12.4	12.7	15.2	57.2
West Tatnuck School	300 Mower Street	01602	10.3	7.2	13.1	62.9
Nelson place School	35 Nelson place	01605	7.8	10	12.2	65.2
Flagg Street School	115 Flagg Street	01602	5.8	7.3	9.4	73.9
Midland Street School	18 Midland Street	01602	8.1	2.5	5.6	79.2
State Totals			8.2	5.1	14.3	69.9

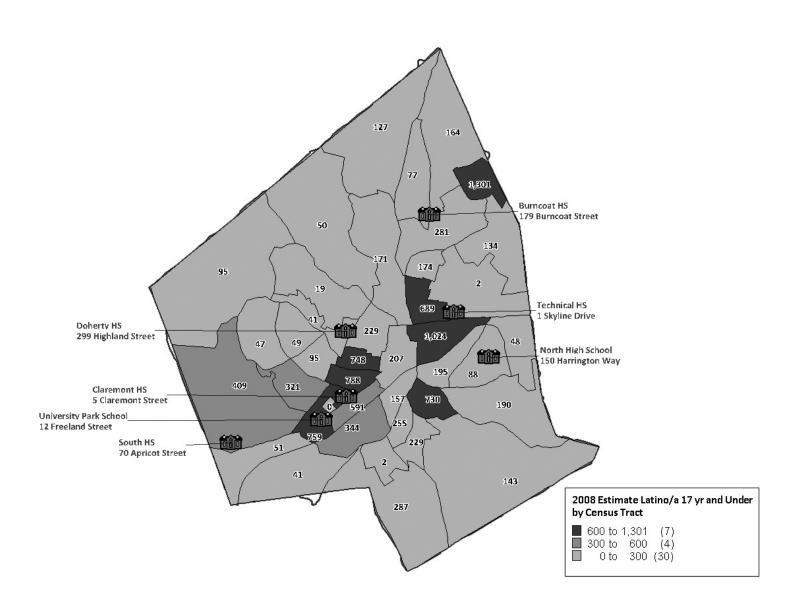
[•] As indicated in the above table there are several public schools where the Latino student enrollment proportion is greater than the overall rate of 34.6% of Latino students in the Worcester school district (Source: 2008-09 Enrollment By Race/Gender Report, http://profiles.doe.mass.edu)

Map 3: Worcester Public Schools by % Latino/a Student Enrollment (2008-2009)



• There are eight schools where the % of Latino/a students enrolled is greater than half the entire student body

Map 4: Distribution and Concentration of Latino Youth 17 yrs and Under, Estimated 2008 by Census Tract and Location of High Schools



• Three high schools (University Park, Claremont, and Technical) are located in areas with relatively high numbers of Latino youth 17 years and under

Academic Achievement

- Compared to the overall state rate in 2008 2009, all students in Worcester reported:
 - a higher proportion of Limited English Proficiency (or to use the most current phrase, "English Language Learners–ELL"), 24.3 percent compared to a state level of 5.9 percent
 - a higher proportion of Low-income students, 65.8 percent compared to a state level of 30.7 percent
 - a much higher proportion of students whose "First Language is Not English", 40.8 percent compared to a state level of 15.4 percent, and,
 - a slightly higher proportion of Special Education designation, than the state level of 17.1 percent.
- Almost two thirds (65.8%) of all students in the Worcester school district receive free, or reduced lunch, compared to 30.7% for the entire state (Massachusetts School and District Profiles Worcester, Selected Populations 2008-09)

The indicators above are found in relatively high proportions among Latino/a students; these factors, ELL status; low-income status; first language not English; and special education status; free or reduced lunch status, have been strongly associated with higher drop-out rates; lower MCAS scores; and higher levels of grade retention.

- In terms of meeting Academic Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2008, Latinos consistently scored lower than the aggregate (66.4%) in the Performance category for English Language Arts (56.6%) in Grades 3-5; the aggregate for Grades 6-8 (77.3%), for Latinos (69.1%); the aggregate for 9-12 (82.6%), for Latinos 76.3%) (Worcester: 2008 AYP Data-English Language Arts by Grade Span)
- In terms of meeting AYP in 2008 in Mathematics under the Performance category, the aggregate score for Grades 3-5 was 65.4%, but for Latinos, (55.3%); for Grades 6-8, the aggregate was 58.6%, and for Latinos 47.1%; for Grades 9-12, the aggregate was 75.3%, and for Latinos 65.9%. (Worcester: 2008 AYP DATA-Mathematics by Grade Span)
- A significant proportion of Latino/a students at all grade levels performed as *Needs Improvement*, or *Warning* on a series of MCAS tests. The following chart shows the combined scores for NI and W based on MCAS testing in 2008 and 2009 (Worcester: 2008 MCAS Results by Subgroup by Grade then Subject; MCAS Tests of Spring 2008 Percent of Students at Each Performance Level for Worcester)

Grade Level 3 Mathematics: 74% of all Latino students

Grade Level 4 Engl LangArts: 87% of all Latino students

Grade Level 4 Mathematics: 80% of all Latino students

Grade Level 5 Engl LangArts: 79% of all Latino students

Grade Level 5 Mathematics: 82% of all Latino students

Grade Level 5 Sci and Tech: 91% of all Latino students

Grade Level 6 Engl LangArts: 61% of all Latino students

Grade Level 6 Mathematics: 72% of all Latino students

Grade Level 7 English Arts: 70% of all Latino students

Grade Level 7 Mathematics: 89% of all Latino students

Grade Level 8 Engl LangArts: 58% of all Latino students

Grade Level 8 Mathematics: 87% of all Latino students

Grade Level 8 Sci and Tech: 92% of all Latino students

Grade Level 10 Engl LangArts: 79% of all Latino students

Grade Level 10 Mathematics: 65% of all Latino students

Grade Level 10 Sci, Tech, Eng: 89% of all Latino students

- Compared to other subgroups of students in the Worcester school district, Latinos reported the lowest 4-Year graduation rate in 2008. The figures for Latinos was reported at 60.1%; Blacks at 71.4%; and Whites at 73% (Massachusetts School and District Profiles, Worcester: Cohort 2008 Graduation Rates, 4-Year Graduation Rate)
- The truancy rate for 2007-08 for all students was reported at 35.9% compared to a state rate of 2.2% (Massachusetts School and District Profiles Worcester, Selected Populations (2008-09)



The Latino Education Institute (LEI) at Worcester State College was founded in 2000 to improve the academic achievement and well-being of Latinos in Worcester. The LEI accomplishes this by:

- (A) Provision of Outcomes-based Development Programs in education, literacy, leadership, civic engagement, and health. Programs are based on innovative models for family-school involvement that highlight the strengths of Latino families, reduce school dropout rates, improve enrollment in higher education, and promote an informed citizenry.
- **(B)** Civic and College Partnerships. The LEI is an active civic partner, serving hundreds of people each year through leadership on various city-wide steering committees, conducting community workshops, convening special events, and providing expertise to the Worcester School Committee and other elected officials. The Institute also actively contributes to the academic and community missions of Worcester State College.
- **(C) Policy Development and Research**. The LEI is committed to system-wide reforms that improve educational outcomes for Latino students. The institute supports research and policy development that lead to innovative educational strategies.

The LEI currently provides core programs which are based on innovative models for family-school involvement. These programs include: Club Education (Club "E") a program that provides intensive English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) classes that enhance English literacy and communication skills and promote acculturation; Innovative Services for Latino Achievers (ISLA) an academic after-school program for grades 3-6 from the city of Worcester; Latina Achievers in Search of Success (LASOS) engages 6th grade Latina girls and their mothers in an educational after school program which focuses on personal development, cultural enrichment, college awareness and career exploration; and Latinos Involved in Discovering Educational Resources (LIDER) an afterschool program engaging families in activities that facilitate access to higher education.

The Latino Education Institute

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