



# The State of Equity in Metro Boston

Rail~Volution

October 17, 2011

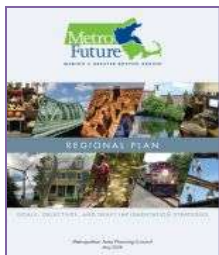




# What is MetroFuture?



**A vision for the region** we want, building on the region's strengths and investing in our residents



**65 goals**, supported by hundreds of objectives, for Greater Boston in the year 2030



**13 implementation strategies**, with hundreds of specific recommendations, designed to help the region achieve its goals



**A constituency of 5,000 “plan builders”** who will work to accomplish the MetroFuture goals

# Between now and 2030, we will:



Be responsible stewards of our resources, passing on an environmentally, financially, and socially sustainable region to our children.



Involve more people in making the decisions that shape their lives.



Build safe, healthy, and welcoming communities.



Ensure that all residents fairly share the costs and benefits of the region's growth.



Give people affordable and convenient options for where they live, work, and play.



Create a world-class region that is vibrant, competitive, and connected.



# Measuring Progress to *MetroFuture*

<b>MetroFuture Goal #29:</b> More workers will graduate from high school and go on to college or career training opportunities.			
<b>Objective:</b> 98% of 25-34 year olds will have a high school diploma or equivalent (up from 91% today, and 89% if Current Trends continue).	<b>Objective:</b> 90% of high school graduates will go on to 2- or 4-year college (up from 79% today).	<b>Objective:</b> Only 10% of graduates from public high schools will need to take remedial courses during their first year of college (down from 37% today).	<b>Objective:</b> 91% of all working-age adults (ages 25-65) will have a high school diploma or equivalent, up from 90% today and 85% if current trends continue.
			<b>Indicator:</b> Educational attainment rates



**Goals** describe the MetroFuture vision in general terms.



**Objectives** support each of the goals. They are more specific and largely numeric.



**Indicators** are tied to as many of the objectives as possible. They are regularly collected data points.



# Regional Indicators Reports

Indicators reports will monitor the region's progress towards achieving the *MetroFuture* goals.

First come “baseline reports” that establish the numbers against which progress will be measured. Future reports will tell us whether we are trending towards our goals - or away from them.

We highlighted equity-related goals first, because meeting them is crucial to achieving the vibrant region envisioned in *MetroFuture*.

# What is “Equity”?



*“Equity means all people have full and equal access to opportunities that enable them to attain their full potential.”*

- King County, Washington developed this definition



# Selected MetroFuture Equity Goals

- #15: There will be less regional segregation as all municipalities increasingly reflect Metro Boston's growing diversity.
- #16: Low-income households will be able to find affordable, adequate, conveniently located housing.
- #24: Residents in all communities and of all incomes will have access to affordable, healthy food.
- #38: More minority and immigrant workers will have opportunities to advance on the career ladder, acquire assets, and build wealth.

All the MetroFuture goals are at [www.metrofuture.org](http://www.metrofuture.org)

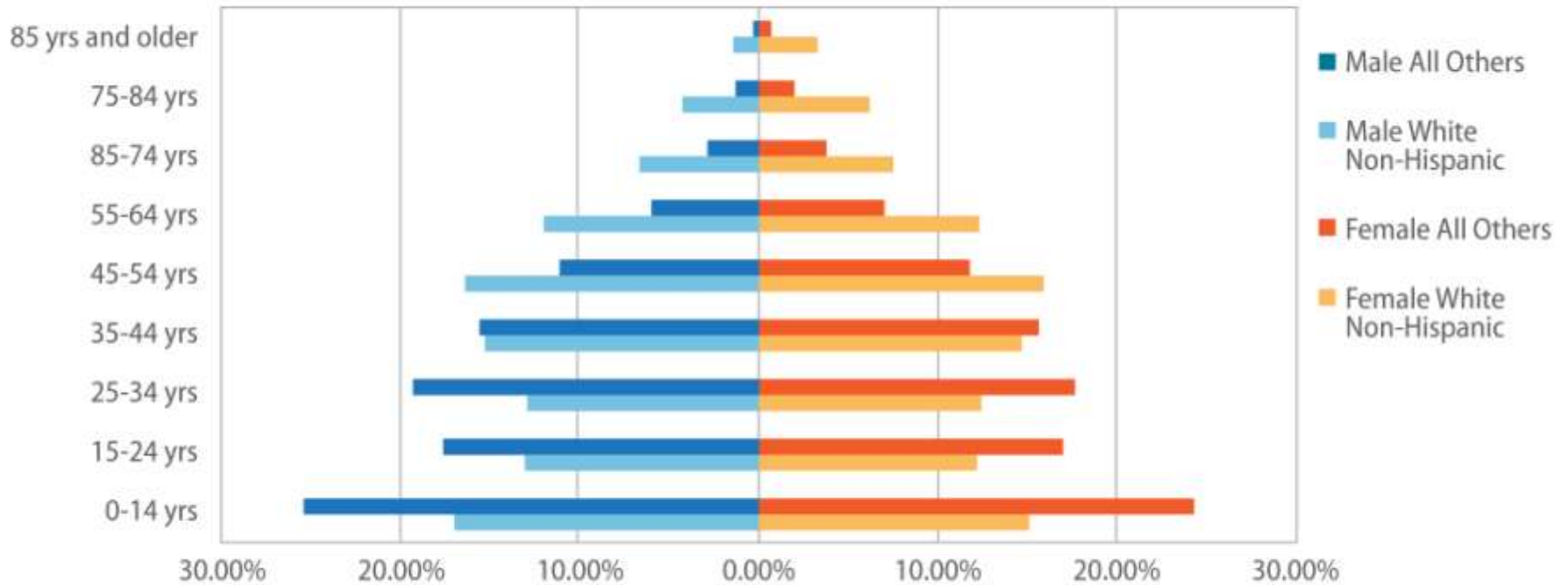
# *The State of Equity in Metro Boston: Key Findings*



# Demography is Destiny



**Metro Boston Population By Race, Age, and Sex, 2009**

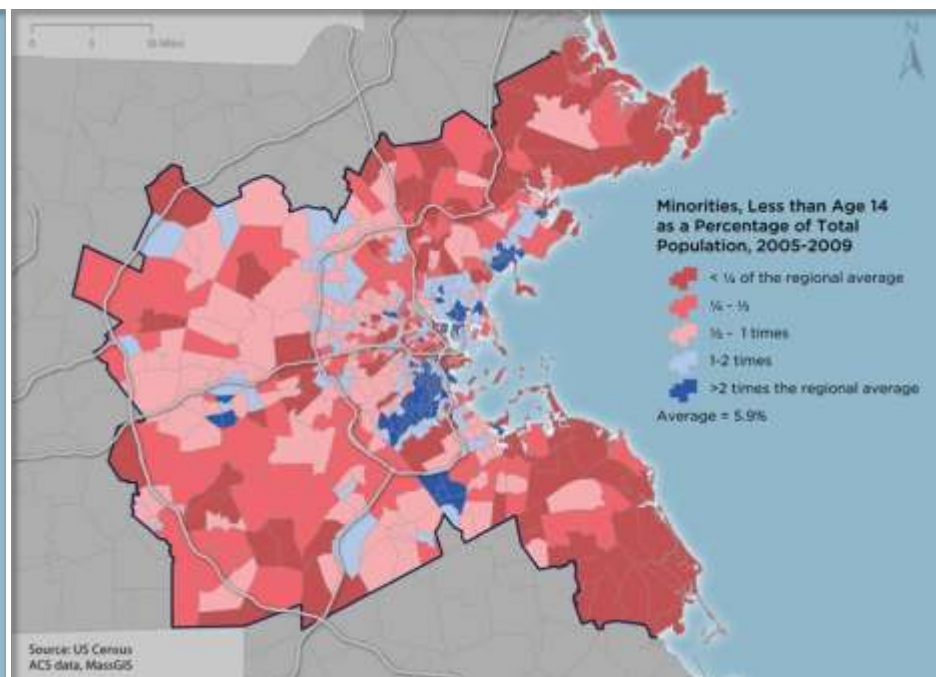
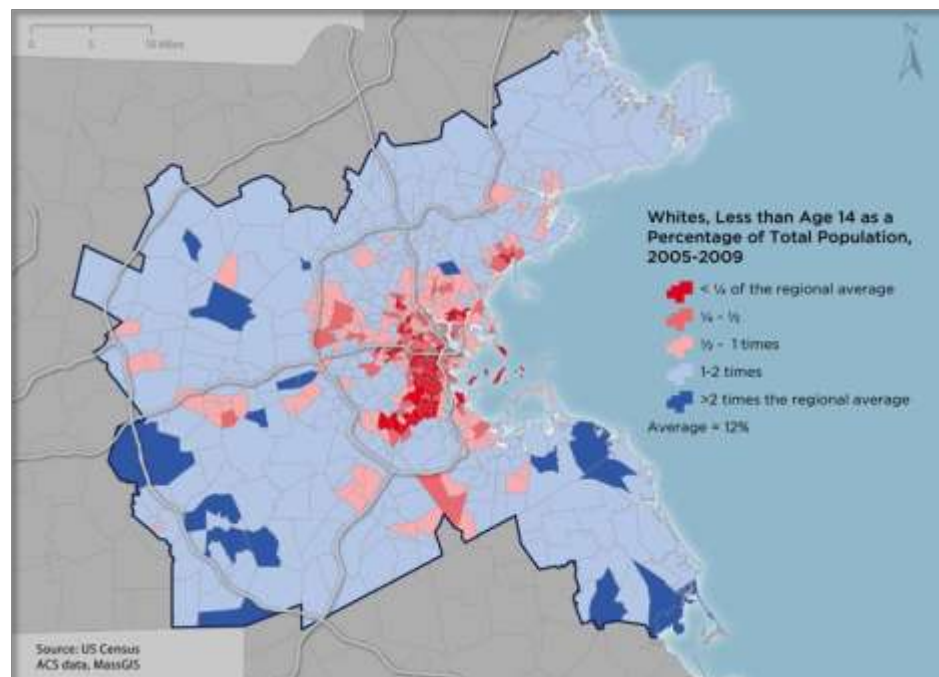


Black bars indicate 90% Confidence Interval.

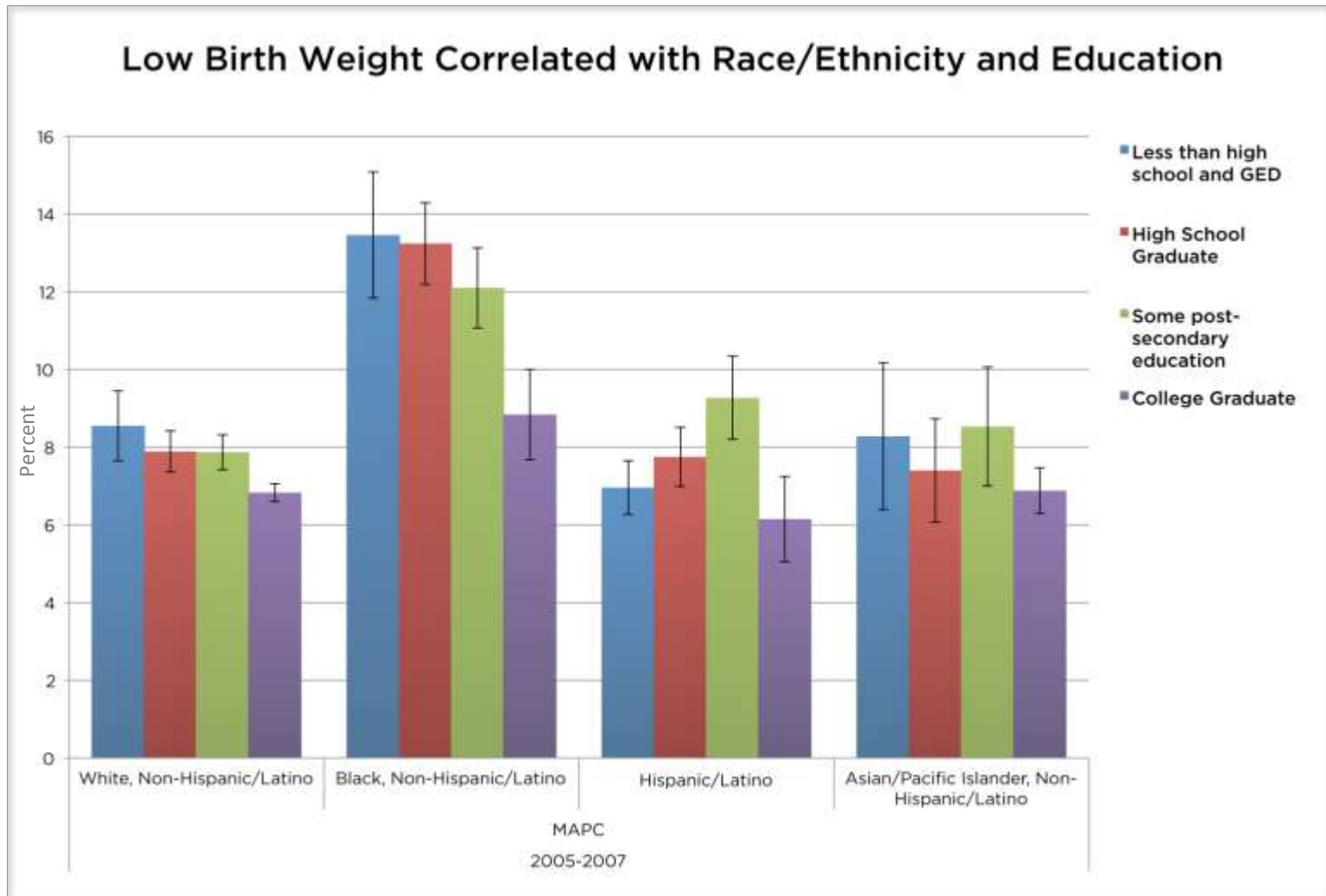
Note: Ages are grouped in 10 year intervals, except for children aged 0-14 years old.

Source: ACS 2009 1-Year Estimates

# Inequity Across the Region



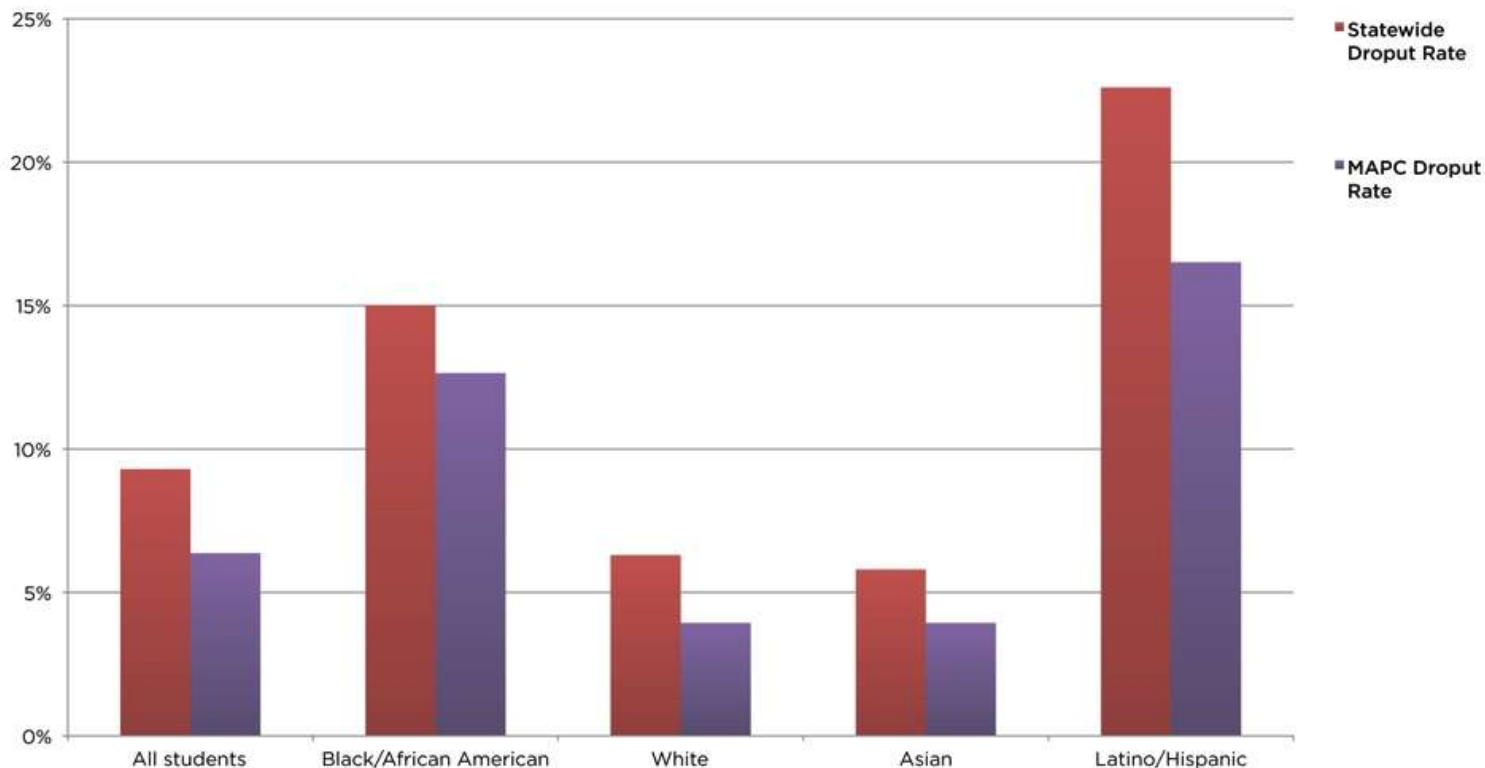
# Inequity Impacts Children



# Inequity Impacts Teens

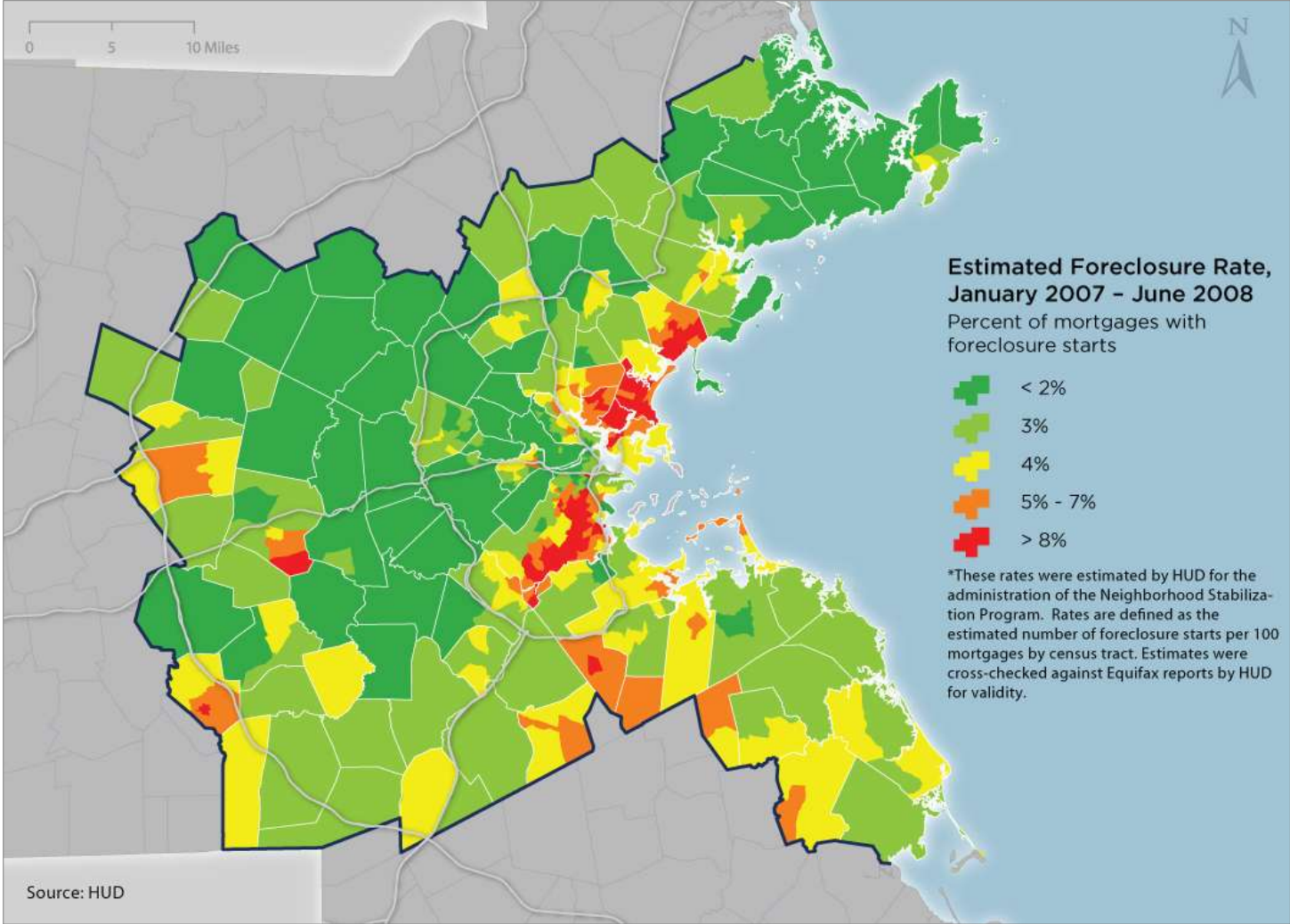


## High School Dropout Rates, 2009



Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2009. Indicates the percentage of students in grades 9-12 who dropped out of school between July 1 and June 30 prior to the listed year and who did not return to school by the following October 1. Dropouts are defined as students who leave school prior to graduation for reasons other than transfer to another school.

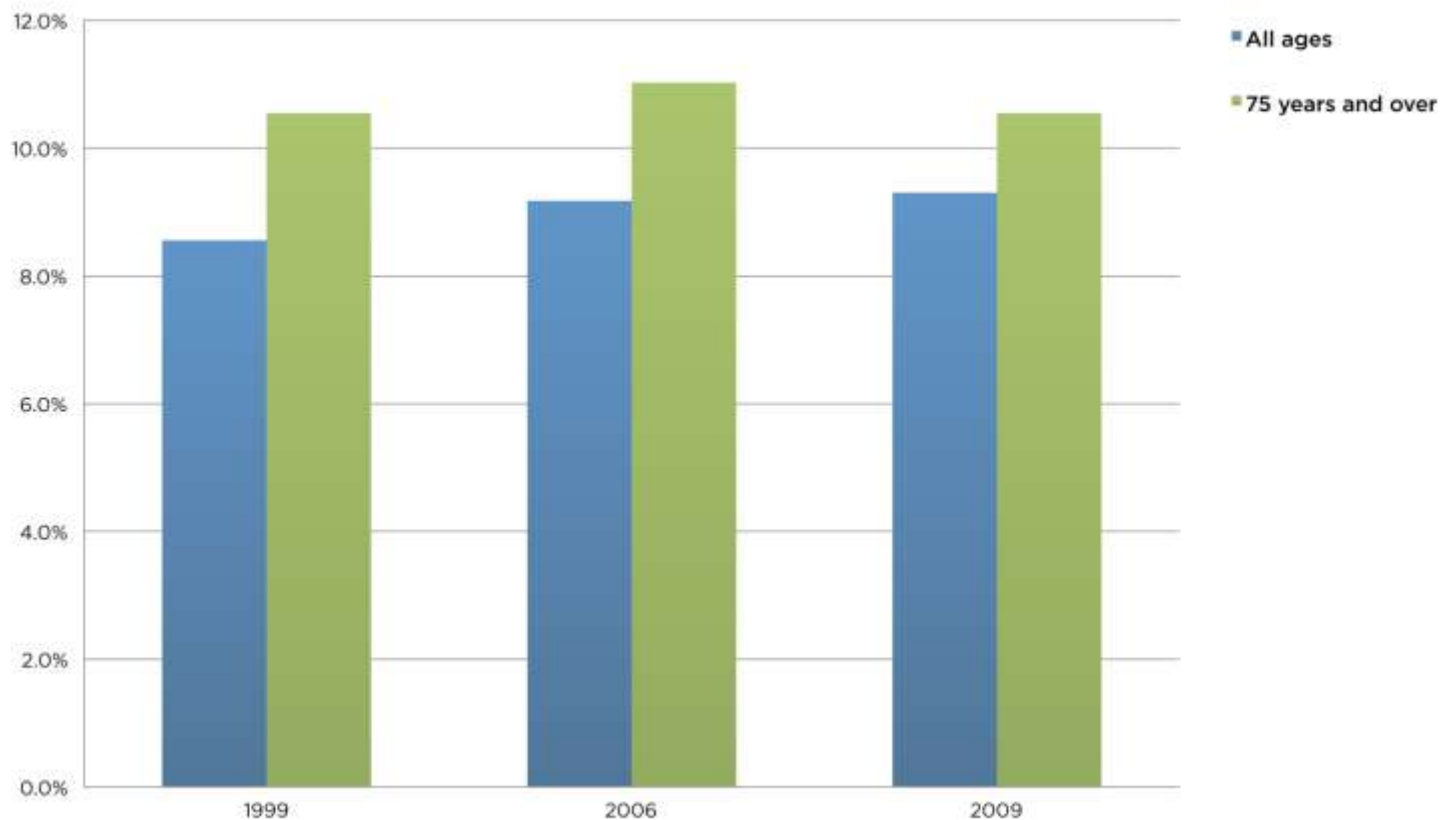
# Inequity Impacts Adults



# Inequity Impacts Seniors



## Greater Boston Poverty Rate by Age



Source: Census 2000, ACS 2006 and 2009. Poverty status by age and household type.

# “State of Equity” Moving Forward



Findings – available at [www.regionalindicators.org](http://www.regionalindicators.org) – are being used by advocates, researchers, and others

State of Equity part 2 will use public engagement to help shape priorities for policy interventions to “bend the trends” towards a more equitable region.

MAPC is undertaking an internal review of agency priorities, practices, and culture.

Equity is increasingly informing agency work in other areas, particularly our implementation of *MetroFuture*.

Questions? Comments?



**Amy A. Cotter**

Director of Regional Plan Implementation  
Metropolitan Area Planning Council

[acotter@mapc.org](mailto:acotter@mapc.org)

617-451-2770 x 2017

