

ANALYSIS OF THE 9TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
MINORITY REPRESENTATION

(Since the 1990 census figures are available but not yet finalized nor analyzed by race, ethnicity, housing units, etc., this analysis will draw from 1980 census data).

In 1980, the 9th Congressional District (9th CD) contained 519,226 persons. Of this total, 16% or 82,873 persons were minority. [Additionally, 5% or 26,218 persons were of Spanish origin].

Roughly 48% of the population of the 9th Congressional District reside in the City of Boston. Within the City of Boston, the 9th CD encompasses Wards 3 (North End); 6 & 7 (South Boston); 13 (Dorchester); 8,9,10,11,12 & 14 (South End); 19 (Jamaica Plain/Roslindale); and 20 (West Roxbury).

In 1980, according to the U.S. Census, the City of Boston, all wards included, consisted of 562,994 persons. Of this total, 22.4% or 126,229 persons were minority. [Additionally, 6.4% or 36,068 persons were of Spanish origin]. The 1990 preliminary census figures for Boston indicate a population of 553,712 persons - a reduction of approximately 1.65% from 1980 levels.

The creation of an all Boston Congressional District, in comparison with the elimination of the non-Boston portions of the 9th Congressional District would result in the adjustment of minority representation within a new district in the following ways. Wards 1,2,4,5,15,16,17,18,21, and 22 would be added to the 9th CD, thus creating an all-Boston district. Since an all-Boston district (using 1980 figures) would consist of 126,229 minorities or 22.4% of the city's total population, the 9th CD's minority population would rise from 16% to 22.4% under the new district scenario - an increase of only 6.4%. The increase in minority representation in the all-Boston District is primarily attributable to the addition of Wards 15,16, & 17 which are presently represented in the 11th Congressional District.

It should be noted, moreover, that assuming the state loses one Congressional seat, each redistricted Congressional District must contain approximately, 592,800 persons. 1990 preliminary census figures indicate a 1990 state population of 5,928,331 persons. Consequently, an all-Boston Congressional District would need an additional 39,000 persons from an area contiguous to Boston to meet the higher threshold. Any added, non-minority persons which may comprise the additional 39,000 persons, may further dilute minority percentages in the "All-Boston" District.

Minority percentage for
city of Boston:

22.4% minority
(1980 census)

1980 Boston population:
562,994

1990 Boston population:
553,712

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