

Russian Orthodox Churches In Massachusetts

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Orthodox Christianity

- A decidedly “Eastern” version of Christianity, which believes to be the original church of Christ.
- Practiced in countries that were part of the Byzantine empire located in Eastern and Southern Europe and Central Asia

Each Nation has its own orthodox church, which conducts sermons in the language of its nation. Nations in which Orthodox Christianity are prevalent include Greece, Russia, Moldova, Belarus, Cyprus, and Georgia.



Orthodox Christianity in the United States

- Most churches were built to accommodate immigrants arriving from Eastern and Southern Europe, where the faith is practiced. Most of these immigrants arrived in the later part of the 19th century and the early 20th century.
- Most prominent in cities that have significant population Russian, Greek, or other orthodox immigrants. Such as Cleveland and Chicago. Or rural areas with many Russian immigrants such as the Prairie Provinces in Western Canada.



Russian Orthodox Churches in Massachusetts

- Where are they located?
- Is immigration an important factor?

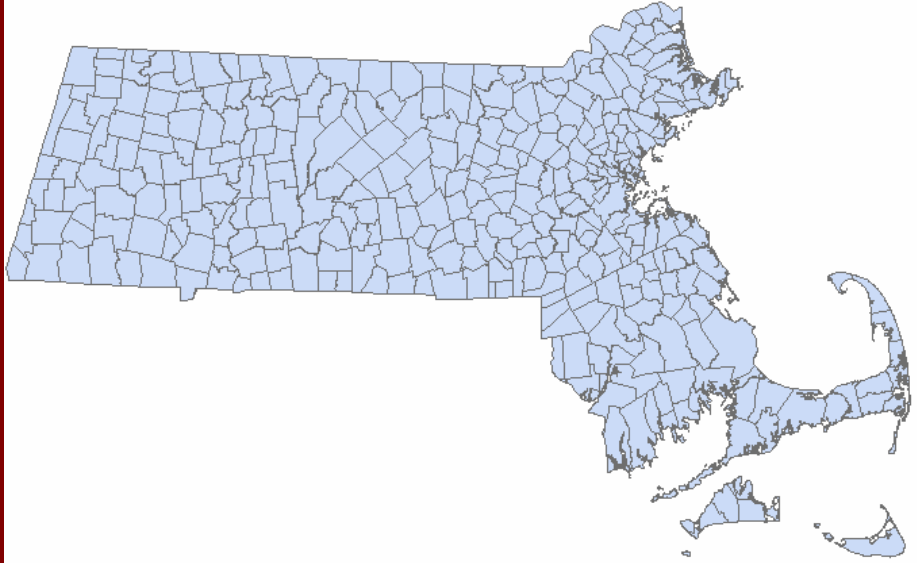
Hypothesis: Orthodox churches will be located in Massachusetts cities that have significant populations of Russian immigrants.

Methodology

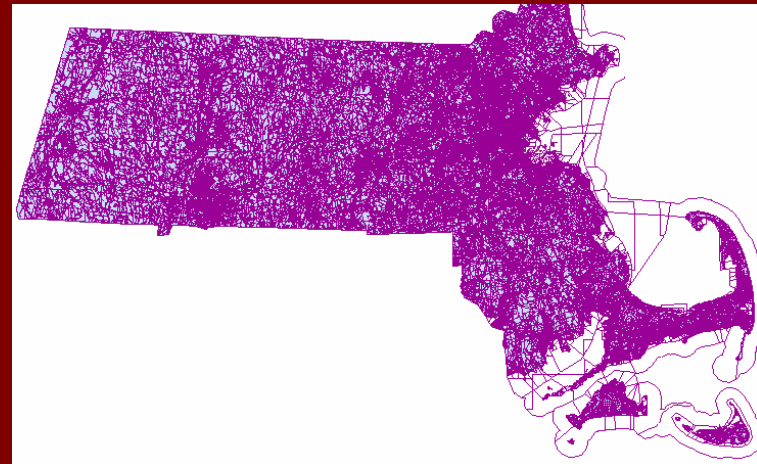
- Acquire layers displaying Massachusetts Geography
- Acquire Immigration Data from US Census
- Obtain Addresses of Orthodox Churches across Massachusetts from Orthodox Church of America
- Geocode church addresses
- Display Immigration Data
- Analyze

Necessary Layers

- Massachusetts Town Boundaries



- Tiger Road Files



Census Immigration Data

- Too Vague: Only breaks immigration down by “Country of Origin” at state or major metropolitan level.
- City data is broken down into general world region (I.e. Europe, Latin America, Africa, etc.)

- New Hypothesis: Russian Orthodox Churches are located in cities with significant numbers of European Immigrants

Table FBP-1. Profile of Selected Demographic and Social Characteristics: 2000

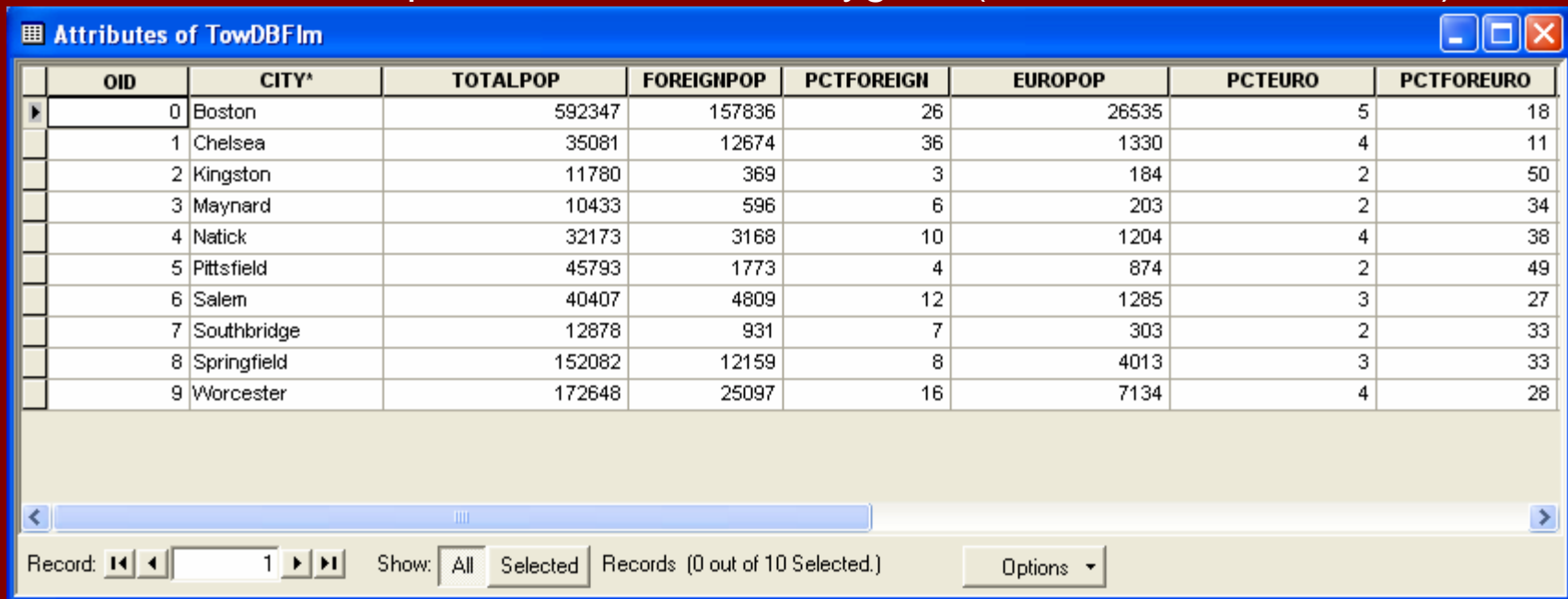
Population Universe: People Born in Europe¹
Geographic Area: UNITED STATES

(For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/3.pdf>)

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND PERIOD OF U.S. ENTRY			SEX AND AGE		
Total population.....	4 915 555	100.0	Total population.....	4 915 555	100.0
Naturalized U.S. citizen.....	2 748 035	55.9	Male.....	2 222 910	45.2
Entered 1990 to 2000.....	291 455	5.9	Female.....	2 692 650	54.8
Entered 1980 to 1989.....	337 695	6.9			
Entered before 1980.....	2 118 885	43.1	Under 5 years.....	60 855	1.0
Not a U.S. citizen.....	2 167 520	44.1	5 to 9 years.....	93 725	1.6
Entered 1990 to 2000.....	1 324 325	26.9	10 to 14 years.....	125 955	2.6
Entered 1980 to 1989.....	345 965	7.0	15 to 19 years.....	150 155	3.1
Entered before 1980.....	497 230	10.1	20 to 24 years.....	206 805	4.2
			25 to 34 years.....	642 910	13.1
RACE			35 to 44 years.....	708 450	16.2
One race.....	4 743 825	96.5	45 to 54 years.....	818 745	16.6
White.....	4 629 060	94.2	55 to 64 years.....	355 205	7.2
Black or African American.....	54 340	1.1	65 to 74 years.....	376 570	7.7
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	2 120	0.0	75 to 84 years.....	641 800	13.1
Asian.....	35 575	0.7	85 years and over.....	436 190	8.9
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1 145	0.0			
Some other race.....	21 585	0.4	Median age (years).....	50.0	(X)
Two or more races.....	171 735	3.5			
HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN			18 years and over.....	4 557 020	92.7
Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	98 405	2.0	Male.....	2 041 680	41.6
Not Hispanic or Latino.....	4 817 150	98.0	Female.....	2 515 240	51.2
White alone.....	4 550 450	92.6	21 years and over.....	4 458 705	90.7
			62 years and over.....	1 520 965	30.9
LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME			65 years and over.....	1 298 185	26.4
Population 5 years and over.....	4 864 700	100.0	Male.....	486 320	10.1
English only.....	1 577 645	32.4	Female.....	798 570	16.5
Language other than English.....	3 287 055	67.6			
Speak English less than "very well".....	1 533 025	31.5	MARITAL STATUS		
Spanish.....	112 100	2.3	Population 15 years and over.....	4 645 025	100.0
Speak English less than "very well".....	48 840	1.0	Never married.....	696 700	15.0
Other Indo-European languages.....	3 028 090	62.3	Now married, excluding separated.....	2 946 460	63.4
Speak English less than "very well".....	1 430 410	29.4	Separated.....	74 245	1.6
Asian and Pacific Island languages.....	17 250	0.4	Widowed.....	543 360	11.7
Speak English less than "very well".....	6 575	0.1	Female.....	457 295	9.8
			Divorced.....	382 170	8.2
RELATIONSHIP			Female.....	234 105	5.0
Total population.....	4 915 555	100.0			
In households.....	4 835 300	98.4	GRANDPARENTS AS CAREGIVERS		
Householder.....	2 355 840	48.1	Grandparent living in household with one or more own grandchildren under 18 years.....	111 760	100.0
Spouse.....	1 465 400	29.8	Grandparent responsible for grandchildren.....	26 505	23.7
Child.....	515 170	10.5			
Own child under 18 years.....	330 620	6.7	SCHOOL ENROLLMENT		
Other relatives.....	235 340	4.8	Population 3 years and over.....	674 405	100.0
Under 18 years.....	14 390	0.3	enrolled in school.....	17 920	2.7
Nonrelatives.....	233 760	4.8	Nursery school, preschool.....	17 410	2.6
Unmarried partner.....	80 060	1.6	Kindergarten.....	187 075	27.7
In group quarters.....	80 250	1.6	Elementary school (grades 1-8).....	136 465	20.2
Institutionalized population.....	40 670	0.8	High school (grades 9-12).....	315 505	46.8
Noninstitutionalized population.....	39 580	0.8	College or graduate school.....		

Data Methodology

- Record total population of city, foreign born population, percentage of foreign born residents, number of European Immigrants, percentage of European immigrants in total population, percentage of European immigrants among foreign born population.
- Create Excel chart of these statistics and convert it to DBF IV
- Join DBF table to Town Polygon Layer
- Problems: Multiple fields for Town Polygons (needed to be dissolved)



Attributes of TowDBFIm

	OID	CITY^	TOTALPOP	FOREIGNPOP	PCTFOREIGN	EUROPOP	PCTEURO	PCTFOREURO
	0	Boston	592347	157836	26	26535	5	18
	1	Chelsea	35081	12674	36	1330	4	11
	2	Kingston	11780	369	3	184	2	50
	3	Maynard	10433	596	6	203	2	34
	4	Natick	32173	3168	10	1204	4	38
	5	Pittsfield	45793	1773	4	874	2	49
	6	Salem	40407	4809	12	1285	3	27
	7	Southbridge	12878	931	7	303	2	33
	8	Springfield	152082	12159	8	4013	3	33
	9	Worcester	172648	25097	16	7134	4	28

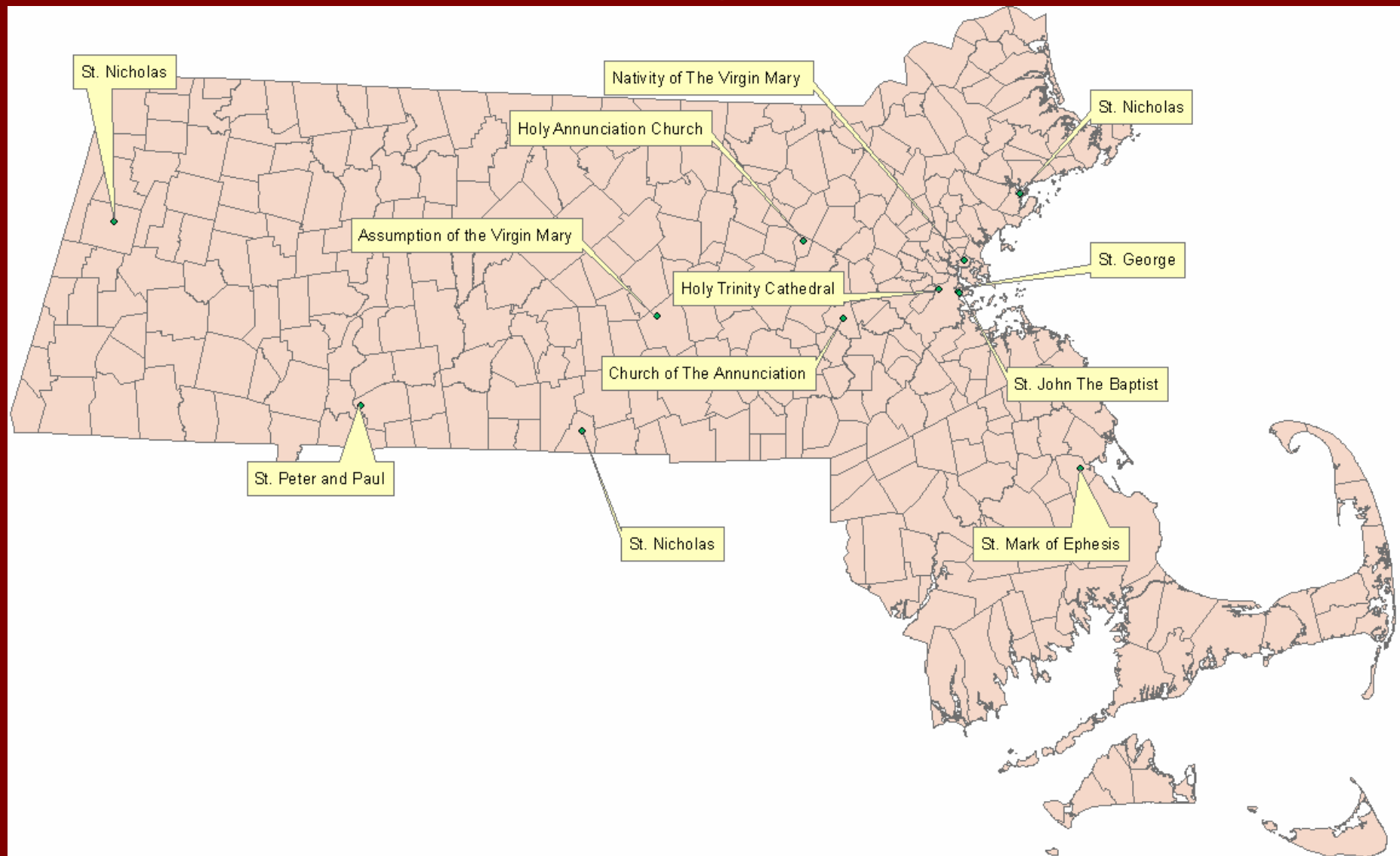
Record: 1 Show: All Selected Records (0 out of 10 Selected.) Options

Geocoding

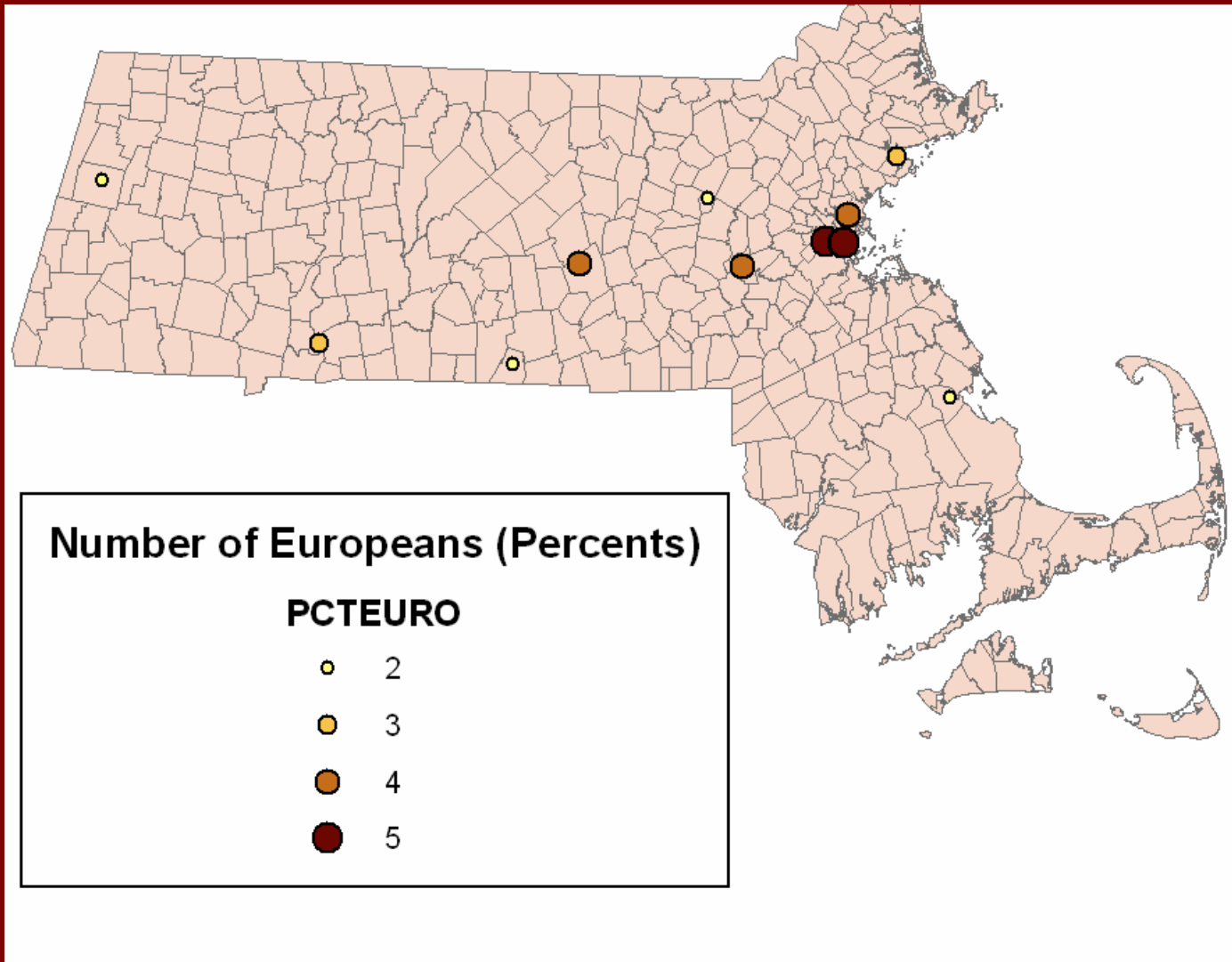
- 14 Russian Orthodox churches located across the state in Boston, Cambridge, Chelsea, Kingston, Maynard, Natick, Pittsfield, Salem, Springfield, Southbridge, West Hyannisport and Worcester
- 2 Churches omitted:
 - Nativity of the Ever Virgin Mary Church in Cambridge (No Address)
 - Our Lady of Kazan in West Hyannisport (No existing polygons or census data for West Hyannisport)

Problem: Capitalized city names in Polygon Towns
(needed to edit the address data table)

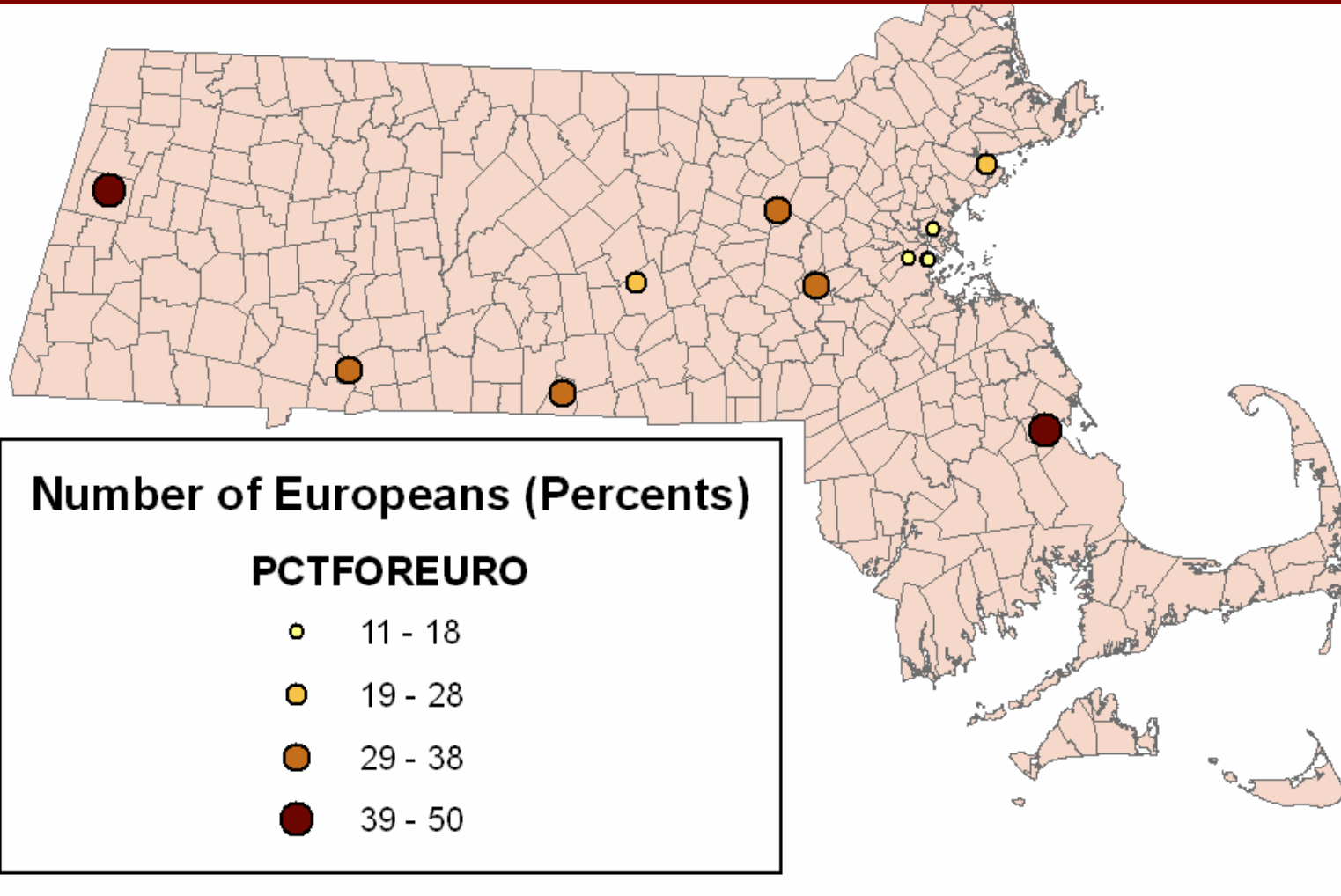
Geocoding Results



European Population Compared to Total Population



European Population Compared To Foreign Born Population



Results

- Orthodox churches are present in cities where:
 - The total population is greater than 10,000
 - Europeans make up 2 to 5 percent of the population (mean: 3.1 percent)
 - Europeans make up 11 to 50 percent of the foreign born population (mean: 32.1 percent)
 - Results do not support the hypothesis

Conclusion

- Results not significant enough to prove correlation between immigration and location of churches
- Reasons:
 - Data is not specific enough
 - Many church parishioners descended from Russian immigrants

Suggestions for future study:

- Find more geographically specific data
- Analyze historic data/ genealogical data