



**Figure1: Types of Programs in Roslindale Offering Sports and Physical Activities to Youth (1999-2000)**

Type of Program	Number in Roslindale	Number in Boston	% in Roslindale
Non-Profit	5	155	3%
For Profit	1	18	6%
Boston Public School	1	35	3%
Non-public School	1	15	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>223</b>	<b>4%</b>

**Play Across Boston (PAB)** is a project of the Harvard Prevention Research Center at the Harvard School of Public Health undertaken in collaboration with Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sport in Society and a broad-based Community Advisory Board. PAB has worked since 1999 to describe youth sports and physical activity programs in Boston. Due to limited documentation of the local challenges to physical activity and sport promotion, **Play Across Boston** conducted a comprehensive community-based assessment of physical activity resources for Boston youth. In addition, we collected data concerning the presence and condition of publicly accessible parks, facilities and playgrounds in 12 Boston neighborhoods<sup>1</sup>. For more detailed information, please refer to the full Play Across Boston Report ([www.hsph.harvard.edu/prc](http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/prc)).

As we work with our partners toward creating greater opportunities, **Play Across Boston** data provide a solid basis upon which to achieve our goals of improving community health and reducing disparities in physical activity access and participation. This **Active Facts** outlines the types of recreational programs and facilities available to **Roslindale** youth.

**Youth Sports and Physical Activities in Roslindale**

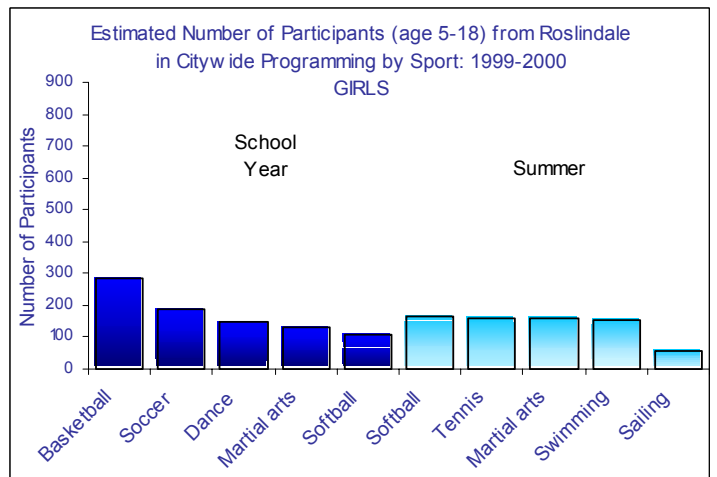
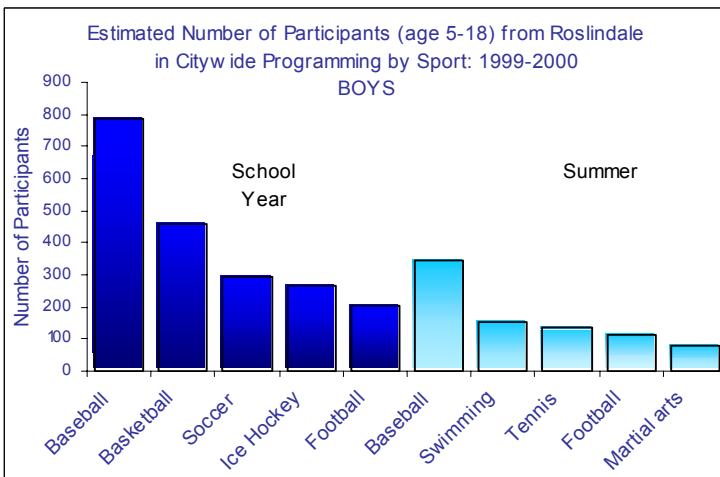
In 1999-2000, 8 different sports and physical activity programs<sup>2</sup> located in Roslindale responded to the **Play Across Boston** survey. Of those 8 programs, many were non-profit and one-quarter of all programs did not charge a participation fee. Of the non-profit programs, most were provided by the Community Centers in Roslindale. Figure 1

describes the types of programs available in Roslindale and Boston overall.

As for participation in citywide programs, Roslindale youth represent about 7% of all youth sports and physical activity participants in Boston and comprise an equivalent 7% of Boston's 95,251 5-18 year olds. This means that youth participation in Roslindale is proportionate to other neighborhoods. Of the many sports and activities offered throughout the city, baseball appears to be the favorite for boys during both the school year and the summer. Girls preferred basketball during the school year and softball during the summer. In Roslindale, boys have a higher level of sports participation than girls.

<sup>1</sup> Data for some Boston neighborhoods were combined for the purposes of the Play Across Boston Report

<sup>2</sup> Includes only those programs who responded to the Play Across Boston Survey



## Parks, Playgrounds and Athletic Facilities in Roslindale

As one of the historically preserved neighborhoods in Boston, Roslindale is filled with many parks, playgrounds and other facilities for youth sports and recreation. In 2000-2001, PAB surveyed 9 different public complexes in Roslindale to document the types of facilities and amenities available. These sites included 3 playgrounds, 1 park, 1 golf course, 1 pool, and 1 field operated by the Parks & Recreation Department and 2 Boston Community Centers. In total, these complexes housed 5 playgrounds, 4 basketball courts, 2 baseball fields, 3 Little League fields, a softball field, 3 tennis courts, 1 pool, 1 golf course and more! In addition, several private facilities in Roslindale host youth sports activities. Assessments of playground quality indicate that Roslindale playgrounds ranked low.

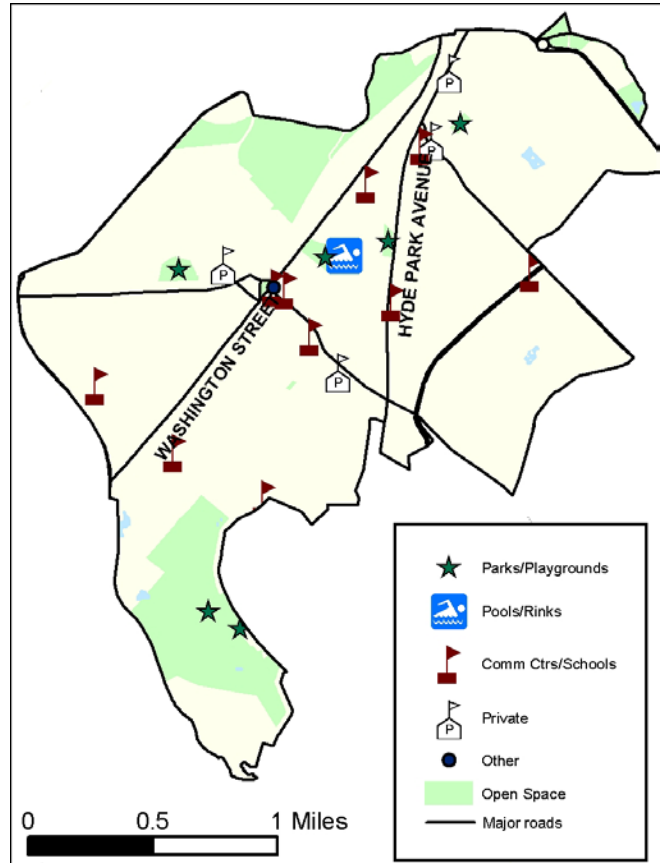
### Roslindale has...

- 5 Playgrounds
- 4 Basketball Courts
- 2 Baseball Fields, 3 Little League Fields, a Softball Field ... and more!

## Public Recreational Facilities in Roslindale

	Roslindale	Boston	% in Roslindale
<b>Overall Recreational Complexes</b>	9	230	4%
<b>Ball Fields</b>			
Baseball	2	36	6%
Softball	1	69	1%
Little League	3	46	7%
Soccer	1	33	3%
Other Field	1	9	11%
<b>Ball Courts</b>			
Tennis	3	92	3%
Basketball (Full)	4	155	3%
Street Hockey	1	17	6%
<b>Other Recreational Facility Types</b>			
Pool	1	28	4%
Golf Course	1	2	50%
Other Recreational Facility	1	35	3%
<b>Playgrounds</b>			
Playgrounds	5	155	3%
Schoolyard Initiative Sites	3	29	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>3%</b>

## Recreational Facilities in Roslindale



## Future Directions in Roslindale

Despite the resources available to its youth, Roslindale ranks low out of the 12 Boston neighborhoods<sup>1</sup> in its facilities per youth ratio, indicating that relative to other neighborhoods in Boston, each facility in Roslindale serves a greater number of youth. Furthermore, Roslindale ranks average in participation rates in sports and physical activity programs. Thus, in the future, to improve the resources available to youth in Roslindale, the greatest area of need appears to be in increasing the number of facilities available. In addition, efforts should be made to increase girls' participation.

Information for this publication was obtained from Play Across Boston, Census 2000, and the City of Boston's website.

For more information on programs available in your neighborhood, please contact:  
 Boston Centers for Youth & Families  
 617-635-4920  
[www.cityofboston/bcyf](http://www.cityofboston/bcyf)  
 or  
 The Mayor's Youthline  
 617-635-2240  
[www.bostonyouthzone.com](http://www.bostonyouthzone.com)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
 HARVARD PREVENTION  
 RESEARCH CENTER  
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