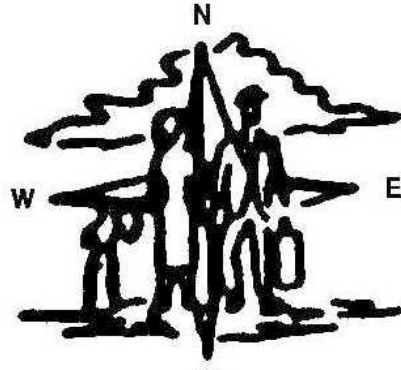


THE PORTUGUESE AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP PROJECT
A NON-PARTISAN INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE CITIZENSHIP AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT



IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE CENTER
NEW BEDFORD, MA

EVALUATION
OF
THE 2010 ELECTIONS

June 1, 2011

SUPPORTED BY THE
LUSO-AMERICAN
FOUNDATION

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KEY STATISTICS

- **Supporters of the Immigrant's Assistance Center: 1,130**
- **Individuals registered to vote in New Bedford: 416**
- **Individuals registered to vote in Bristol County: 475**
- **All Household Members registered to vote in New Bedford: 839**
- **All Household Members registered to vote in Bristol County: 990**
- **Heads of Household voter turnout in September 2010 – 10% (citywide turnout 13%)**
- **Heads of Household voter turnout in November 2010 – 47% (citywide turnout 37%)**

SUMMARY OF WORK

The Immigrant Assistance Center has been an active participant in the Portuguese American Citizenship Project since 2001.

For the 2010 November General elections, postcards in Portuguese and English were sent to every registered Center voter reminding them of the date, polling hours, and location of the assigned polling station for the election. Cards were not sent out for the September 2010 Primary Elections.

RESULTS

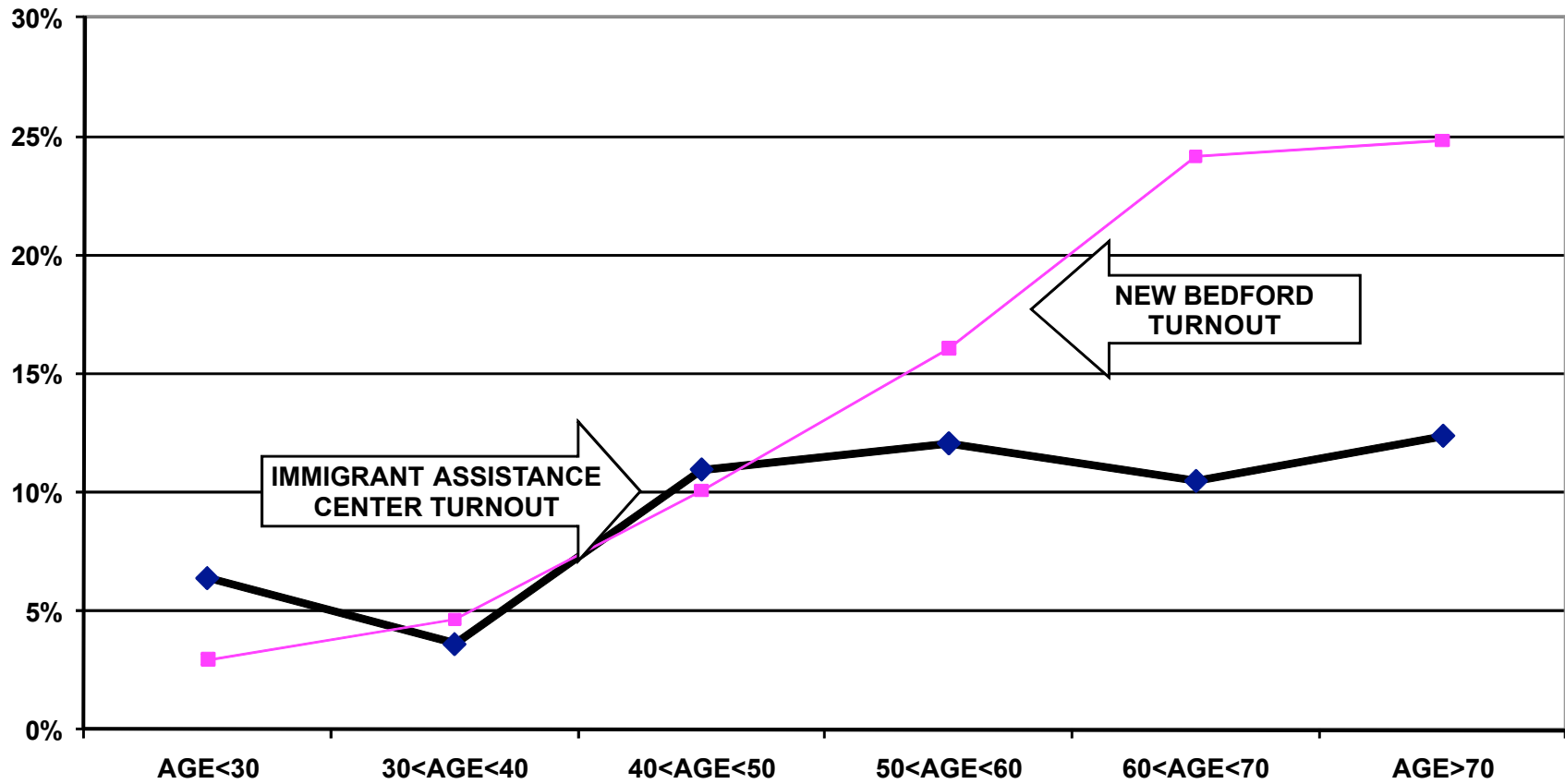
The Immigrant Assistance Center heads of household voter turnout for the September and November 2010 elections had mixed results, having lower turnout in September as compared to the city, yet considerably higher in the November General elections. The Center's heads of household turnout for the September Primary Elections was 10%, as compared to the city turnout of 13%. Heads of household turnout for the November 2010 General Elections was 47%, as compared to the city's turnout of 37%.

Voter turnout is not uniform across age groups. Voters under 30 years of age and even those between 30 and 40 years old had lower turnout rates than the older voters. This is true for the registered voters in the Center and true for the registered voters in the community at large.

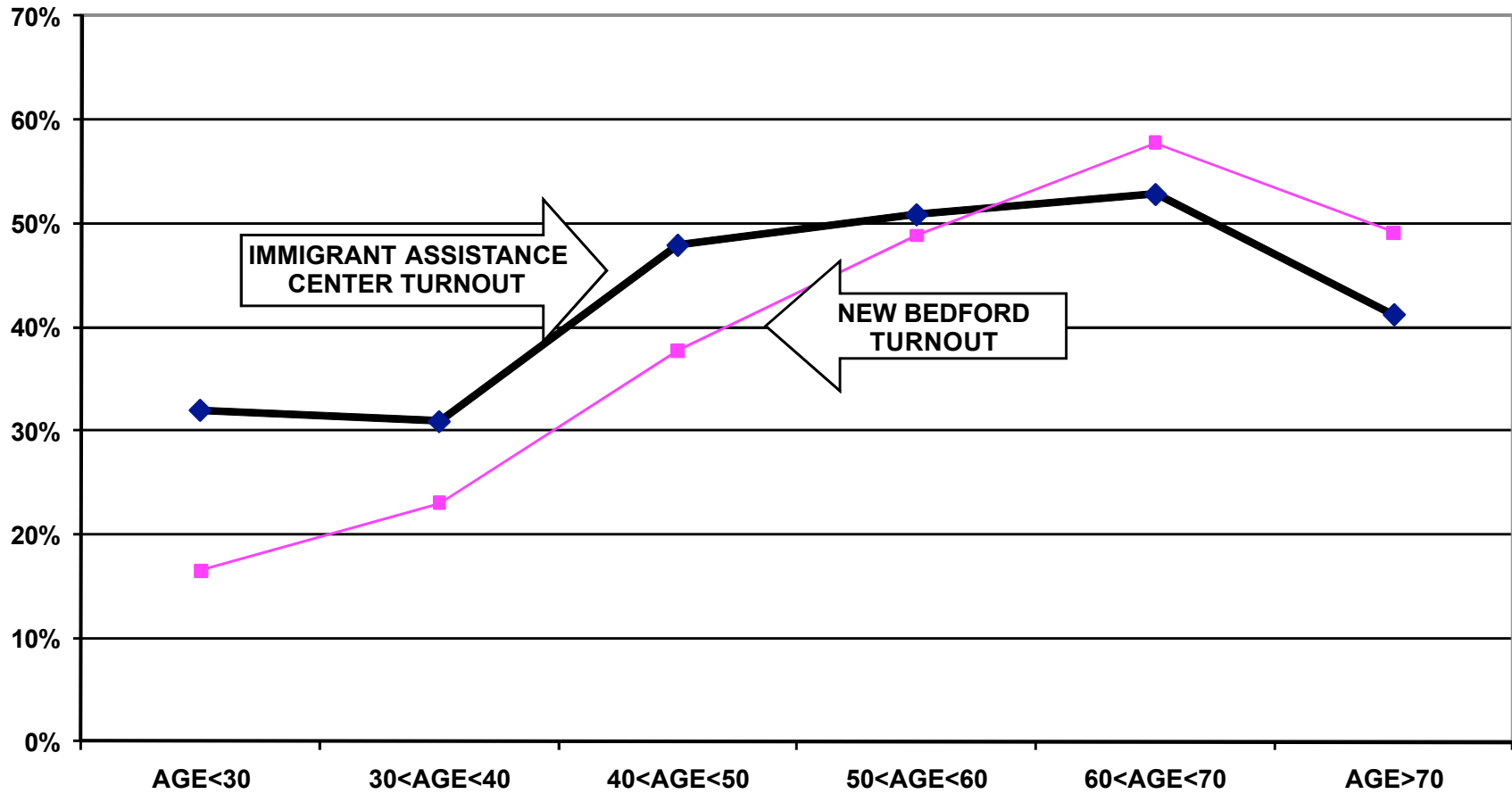
For example, voters for the September elections, the under 30 year old Center associated voters had a 6% turnout rate compared to a 10% turnout rate for voters between 60 and 70 years old. For the November elections, voters under 30 years old associated with the Center had a 32% turnout rate while voters between 60 and 70 years old had a 53% turnout rate.

The following graphs for the September and November 2010 elections, illustrate the relationship between turnout rates and age. These graphs are for all voters associated with the Center, not just the heads of household.

TURNOUT BY AGE SEPTEMBER 2010 IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE CENTER ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS



TURNOUT BY AGE NOVEMBER 2010 IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE CENTER ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS



RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Center must determine if and how it will provide funding for the costs of participation in the Citizenship Project. After 10 years of full financial support for the Project, the Luso American Foundation significantly reduced its funding in 2009. In 2011, the Project will continue to provide data processing and assist in the preparation of voter cards.
- If the Center cannot provide the financial support for this mailing and/or cannot accomplish the logistics of printing and mailing the voter cards, interested members of the community should examine the accomplishments of the past ten years and determine how to build on these achievements using alternative methods of promoting civic participation.

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**HISTORICAL DATA: IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE CENTER
REGISTRATION - VOTING**

MEMBERS 928

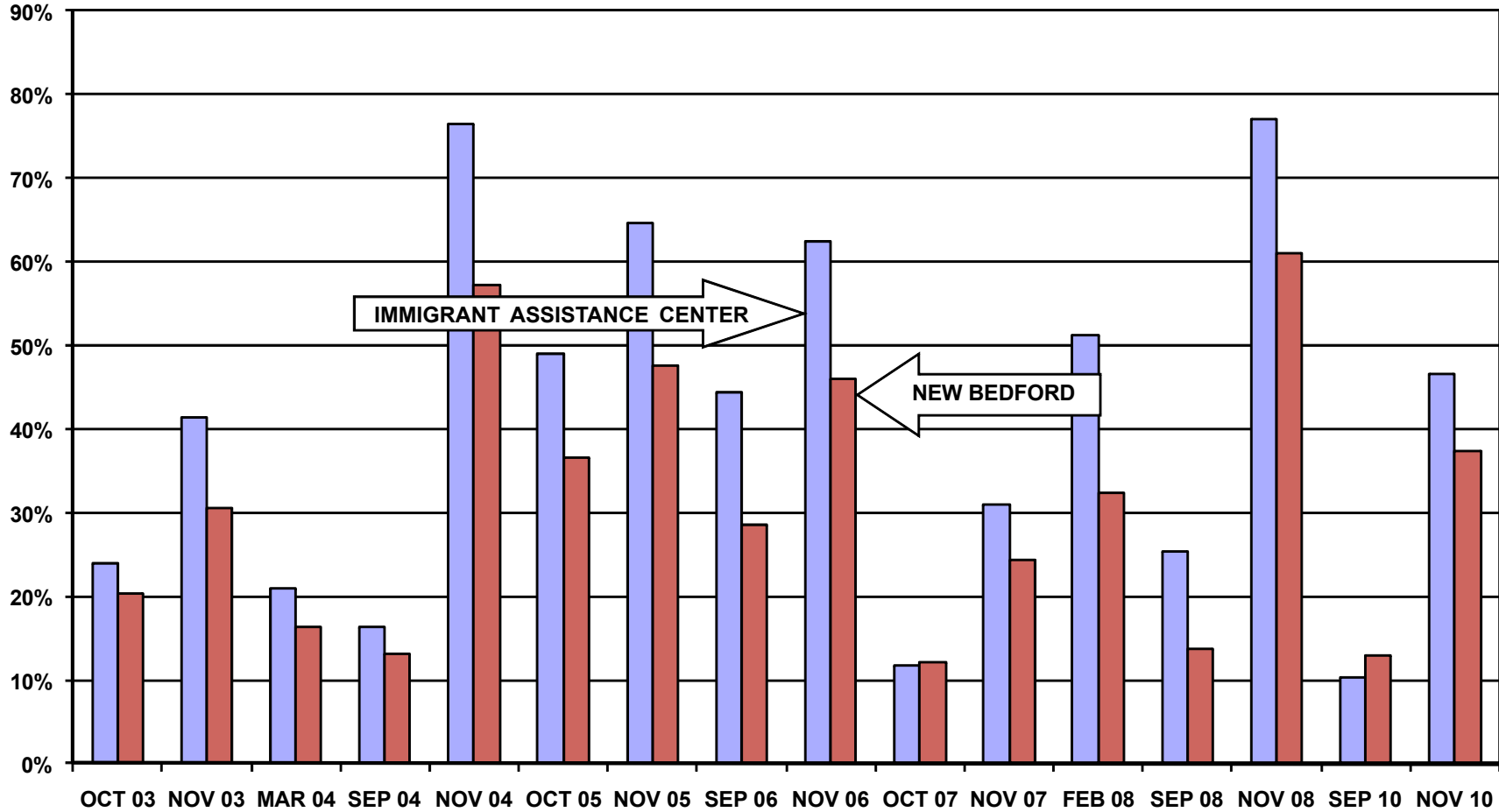
MEMBERS REGISTERED TO VOTE IN NEW BEDFORD 416 HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD

839 ALL FAMILY MEMBERS

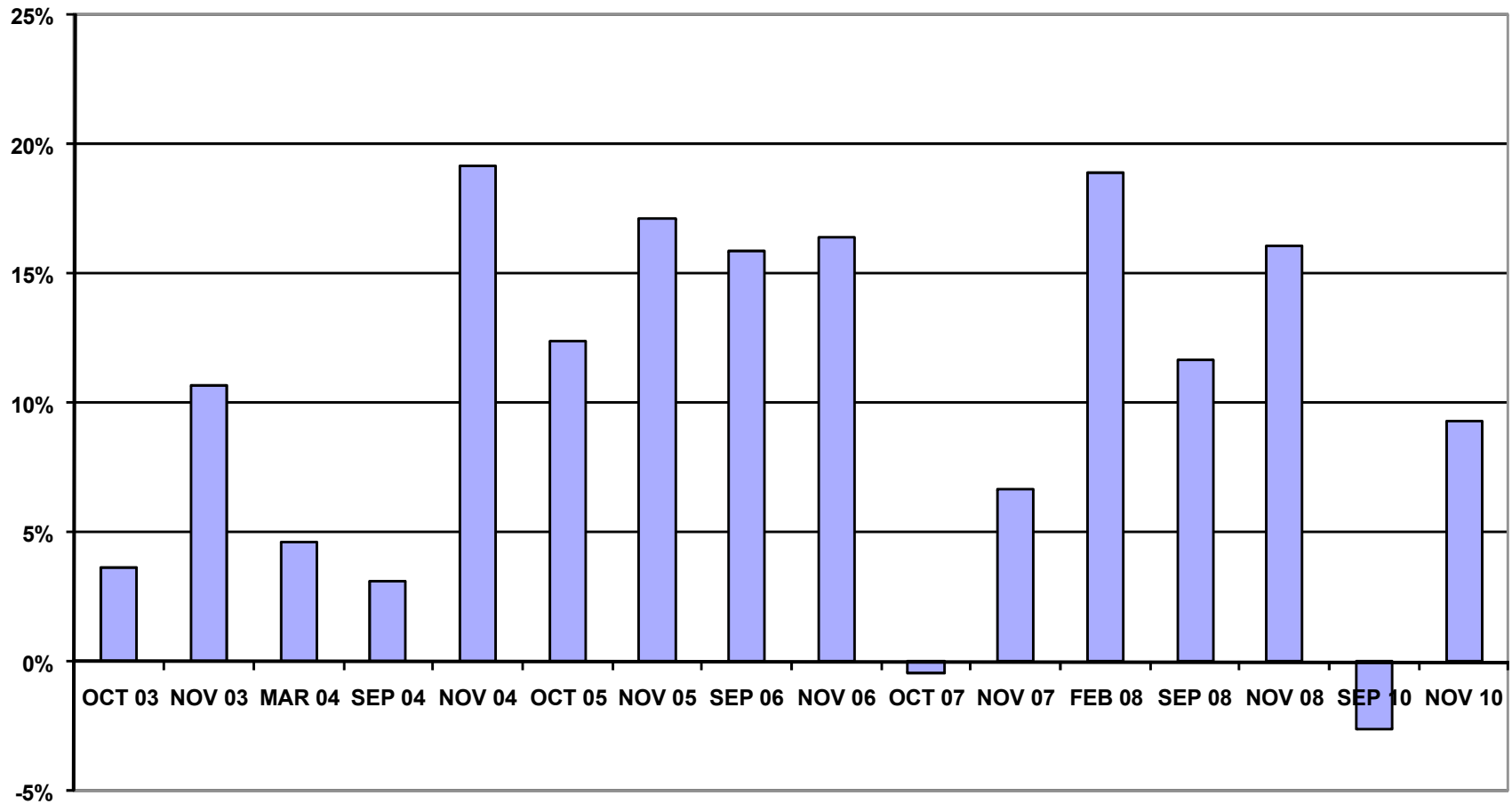
VOTING PERFORMANCE OF NEW BEDFORD RESIDENTS

	LISTED SUPPORTERS WHO VOTED	AS PERCENT OF ALL REGISTERED MEMBERS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE	CITY WIDE VOTING HISTORY AS PERCENT OF ALL REGISTERED VOTERS)
	COMPARABLE STATISTICS		
VOTERS NOV 2003	114	41.3%	30.6%
VOTERS MAR 2004	58	21.0%	16.4%
VOTERS SEP 2004	45	16.3%	13.2%
VOTERS NOV 2004	211	76.4%	57.3%
VOTERS OCT 2005	118	49.0%	36.7%
VOTERS NOV 2005	156	64.7%	47.6%
VOTERS SEP 2006	150	44.4%	28.5%
VOTERS NOV 2006	211	62.4%	46.0%
VOTERS OCT 2007	28	11.7%	12.1%
VOTERS NOV 2007	74	31.0%	24.3%
VOTERS FEB 2008	204	51.3%	32.4%
VOTERS SEP 2008	101	25.4%	13.7%
VOTERS NOV 2008	307	77.1%	61.0%
VOTERS SEP 2010	43	10.3%	13.0%
VOTERS NOV 2010	194	46.6%	37.4%

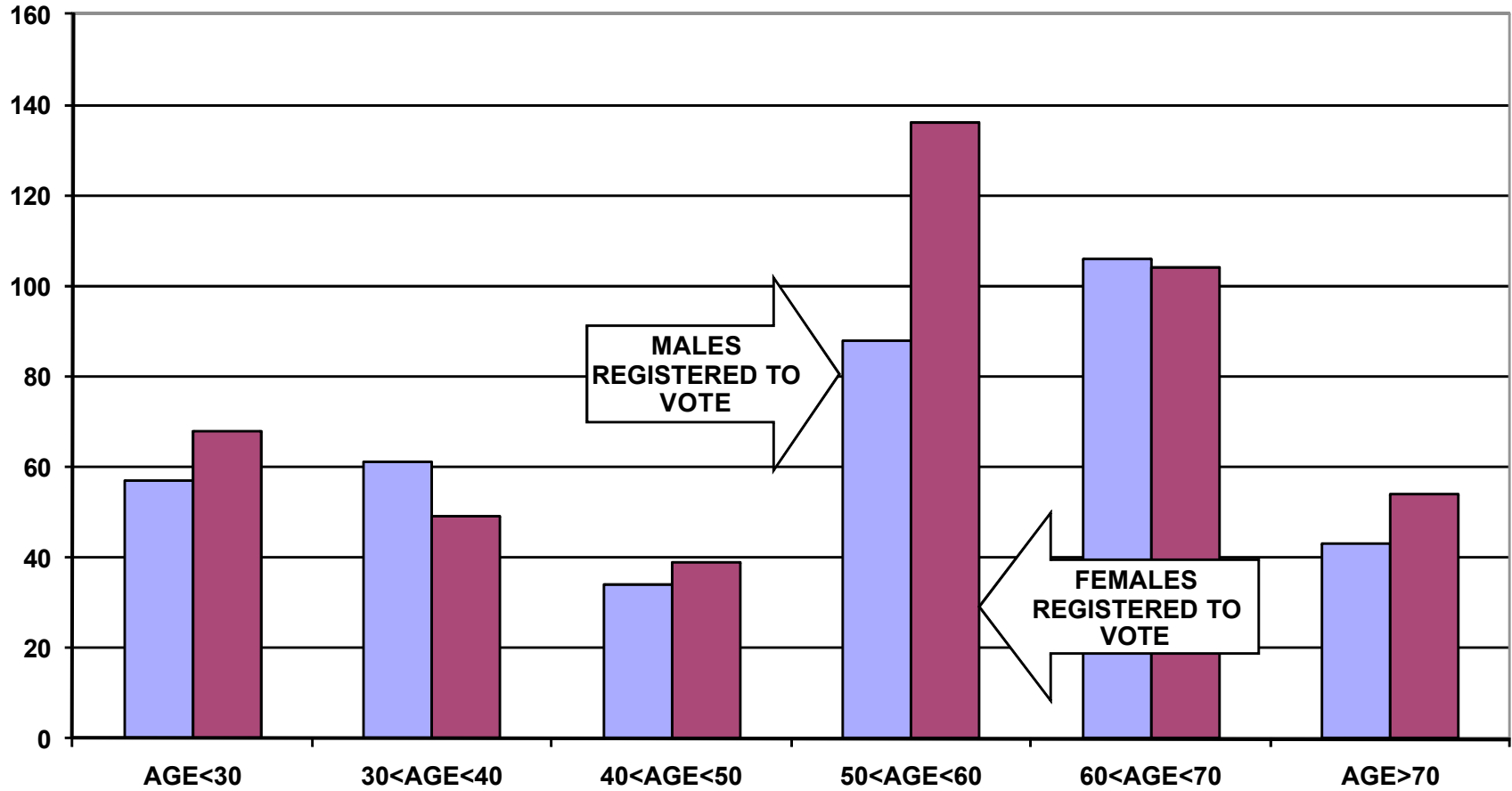
REGISTERED VOTER TURNOUT COMPARISON BETWEEN NEW BEDFORD AND IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE CENTER HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD



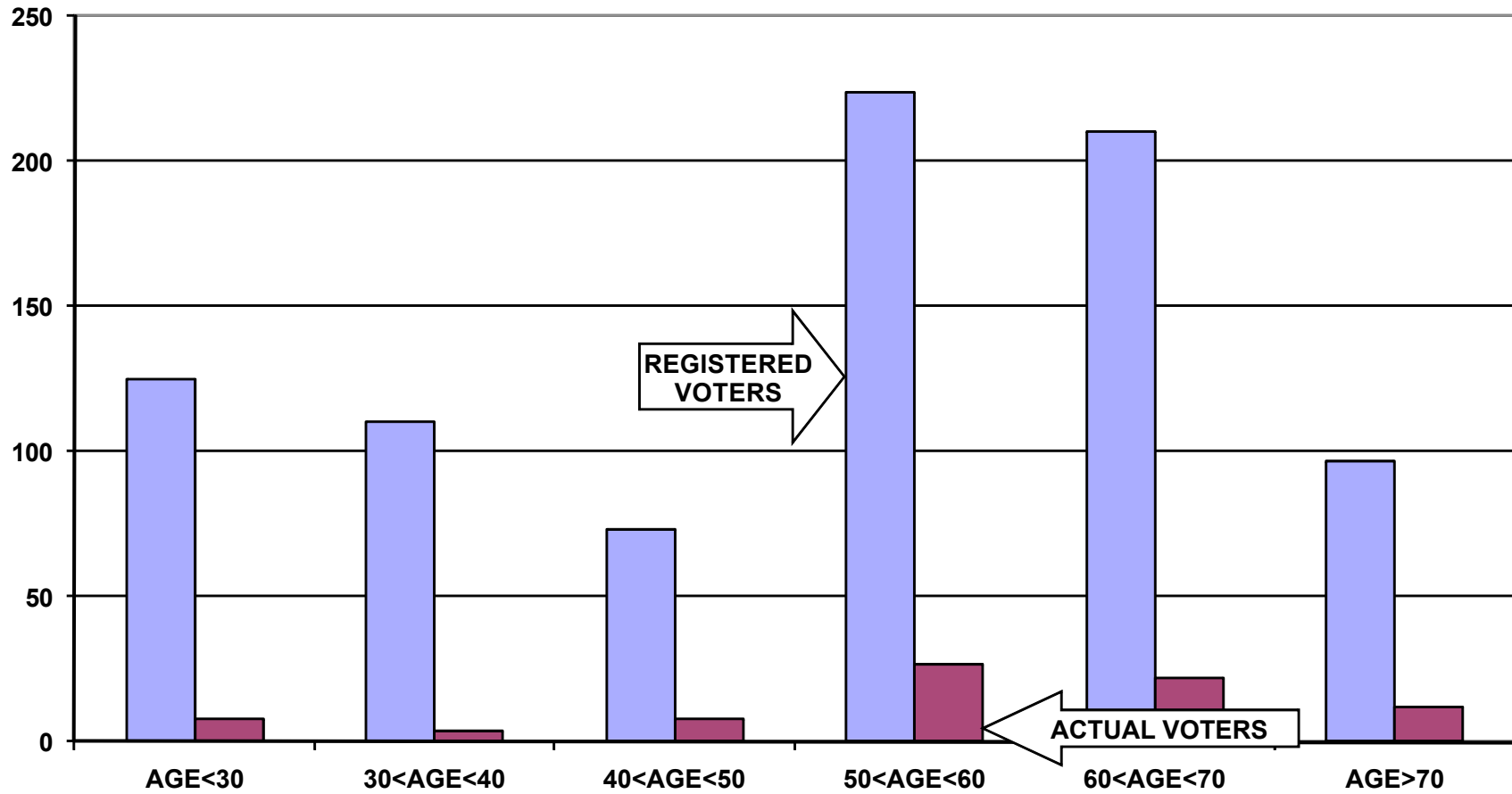
**DIFFERENCE IN VOTER TURNOUT BETWEEN
NEW BEDFORD VOTERS AND IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE CENTER VOTERS
HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD**



VOTER REGISTRATION BY AGE AND GENDER IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE CENTER ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS



**REGISTERED VOTERS VERSUS ACTUAL VOTERS SEPTEMBER 2010
IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE CENTER
ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS**



**REGISTERED VOTERS VERSUS ACTUAL VOTERS NOVEMBER 2010
IMMIGRANT ASSISTANCE CENTER
ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS**

