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#### **ABSTRACT**

Census 2000 counted 281.4 million U.S. residents, of whom 12.5 percent were Hispanic. Mexicans represented 7.3 percent, Puerto Ricans 1.2 percent, Cubans 0.4 percent, and other Hispanics 3.6 percent of the population. Another 3.8 million Hispanics were counted in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The Hispanic population increased by 57.9 percent since 1990. The concept and measurement of Hispanic origin have evolved across several censuses. Other Hispanic origins refer to various identifications. Salvadorans were the largest Central American group. More than three-quarters of Hispanics lived in the west or south. Half of all Hispanics lived in California and Texas. Counties with the highest proportion of Hispanics were along the southwestern U.S. border. Hispanics were present in some counties within nontraditional states. The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico was 98.8 percent Hispanic. In 2000, more than one million Hispanics lived in New York City and Los Angeles. Hispanics in East Los Angeles were 96.8 percent of the population. The Hispanic population in New Mexico is 42.1 percent of the total state population, the highest proportion for any state. The relative youthfulness of the Hispanic population was reflected in its population under age 18 years and its median age. Most, but not all, of the places with the largest specific Hispanic group populations were among the 10 places with the largest Hispanic populations. (SM)



### The Hispanic Population

Census 2000 Brief

2000

Issued May 200

Betsy Guzmán

C2KBR/01-3

In Census 2000, 281.4 million residents were counted in the United States (excluding the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Island Areas¹); of which 35.3 million (or 12.5 percent) were Hispanic. Mexicans represented 7.3 percent, Puerto Ricans 1.2 percent, Cubans 0.4 percent, and other Hispanics 3.6 percent of the total population.² An additional 3.8 million Hispanics were

enumerated in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. This report, part of a series that analyzes population and housing data collected by Census 2000, provides a profile of the Hispanic population in the United States.

# The concept and measurement of Hispanic origin have evolved across several censuses.<sup>3</sup>

In Census 2000, people of Spanish/ Hispanic/Latino origin could identify as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino.<sup>4</sup> The term "Latino" appeared on the census form for

<sup>1</sup> The U.S. Island Areas include U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

<sup>2</sup> The population universe for the size and distribution of the Hispanic population does not include data for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Data for Puerto Rico are shown and discussed separately.

<sup>3</sup> People of Hispanic origin, in particular, were those who indicated that their origin was Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or some other Hispanic origin. For example, people who indicate that they are of Mexican origin may be either born in Mexico or of Mexican heritage. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

4 The terms "Hispanic" and "Latino" may be used interchangeably to reflect the new terminology in the standards issued by the Office of Management and Budget in 1997 that are to be implemented by January 1, 2003.

Figure 1.  Reproduction of the Question on Hispanic Origin From Census 2000	
5. Is this person Spanish/Hispanic/Latino? Mark   "No" box.if not Spanish/Hispanic/Latino  No, not Spanish/Hispanic/Latino  Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano  Yes, Other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino  Print group.	<b>in</b>
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 questionnaire.	

the first time in 2000 (see Figure 1). People who marked "other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino" had additional space to write Hispanic origins, such as Salvadoran or Dominican, a practice started in the 1990 census. The 1990 and 1980 censuses asked people if they were of "Spanish/Hispanic origin or descent" and if so, to choose Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or other Spanish/Hispanic.

The census in 1970 was the first to include a separate question specifically on Hispanic origin, although it was only asked of a 5-percent sample of households. In 1970, respondents were asked to choose whether their origin or descent was Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish. Prior to 1970, Hispanic origin was determined only indirectly; for example, the 1960 and 1950 censuses collected and published data for "persons of Spanish surname" in five southwestern states, whereas the 1940 census identified

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> These states included Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas.

people who reported Spanish as their "mother tongue." Mexican was included as a category within the race question only in the 1930 census.<sup>6</sup>

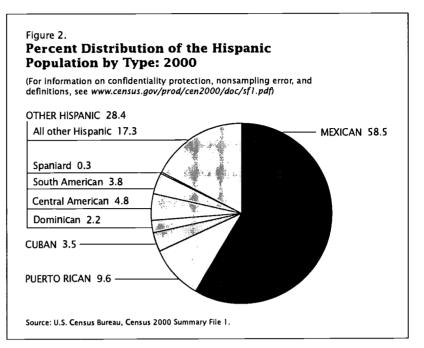
## The Hispanic population increased by more than 50 percent since 1990.

The Hispanic population increased by 57.9 percent, from 22.4 million in 1990 to 35.3 million in 2000, compared with an increase of 13.2 percent for the total U.S. population. Population growth varied by group. Mexicans increased by 52.9 percent, from 13.5 million to 20.6 million. Puerto Ricans increased by 24.9 percent, from 2.7 million to 3.4 million. Cubans increased by 18.9 percent, from 1.0 million to 1.2 million. Hispanics who reported other origins increased by 96.9 percent, from 5.1 million to 10.0 million.

As a result of these different growth rates, the proportionate distribution of Hispanics by type changed between 1990 and 2000. In 2000, Mexicans were 58.5 percent of all Hispanics (down from 60.4 percent in 1990), Puerto Ricans were 9.6 percent (down from 12.2 percent), Cubans were 3.5 percent (down from 4.7 percent), and the remaining 28.4 percent were of other Hispanic origins (up from 22.8 percent) as shown in Figure 2.

### Other Hispanic origins refer to a variety of identifications.

Among the 10.0 million other Hispanics in 2000, 1.7 million were



Central American, 1.4 million were South American, and 765,000 were Dominican.

Most other Hispanics did not specify a detailed Hispanic origin, but either checked the Spanish/Hispanic/Latino box without providing any additional information or wrote in answers such as "Hispanic" or "Latino" or "Spanish" (see Table 1). At 17.3 percent (6.1 million) of the total Hispanic population, Hispanic respondents who did not give a detailed origin answer were second in size only to the Mexican origin group.

### Salvadorans were the largest Central American group.

Central Americans represented 4.8 percent of the total Hispanic population. There were 655,000 Salvadorans (1.9 percent of the total Hispanic population), 372,000 Guatemalans (1.1 percent), and 218,000 Hondurans (0.6 percent).

South Americans represented 3.8 percent of the total Hispanic population. There were 471,000

Colombians (1.3 percent of the total Hispanic population), 261,000 Ecuadorians (0.7 percent), and 234,000 Peruvians (0.7 percent).

#### More than three-quarters of Hispanics lived in the West or South.<sup>8</sup>

In 2000, 43.5 percent of Hispanics lived in the West and 32.8 percent lived in the South. The Northeast and Midwest accounted for 14.9 percent and 8.9 percent, respectively, of the Hispanic population.

Hispanics accounted for 24.3 percent of the population in the West,

2 U.S. Census Bureau



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> For further information on the history of Hispanic origin in the census, see Chapa, Jorge, 2000, "Hispanic/Latino ethnicity and identifiers," in *Encyclopedia of the U.S. Census*, editor Margo J. Anderson, Congressional Quarterly Press, Washington, DC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> This increase may be caused by a change in census coverage, as well as by a change in the question format (the question on Hispanic origin in 2000 did not include examples for the "Other Hispanic" category while the 1990 question did), or by a change in identification among Hispanics and non-Hispanics.

<sup>8</sup> The Northeast region includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont. The Midwest region includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. The South region includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. The West region includes Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Table 1. **Hispanic Population by Type: 2000** 

(For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <a href="https://www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf">www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf</a>)

Subject	Number	Percent
HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN		
Total population	281,421,906	100.0
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	35,305,818	12.5
Not Hispanic or Latino	246,116,088	87.5
HISPANIC OR LATINO BY TYPE		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	35,305,818	100.0
Mexican	20,640,711	58.5
Puerto Rican	3,406,178	9.6
Cuban	1,241,685	3.5
Other Hispanic or Latino	10,017,244	28.4
Dominican (Dominican Republic)	764,945	2.2
Central American (excludes Mexican)	1,686,937	4.8
Costa Rican	68,588	0.2
Guatemalan	372,487	1.1
Honduran	217,569	0.6
Nicaraguan	177,684	0.5
Panamanian	91,723	0.3
Salvadoran	655,165	1.9
Other Central American	103,721	0.3
South American	1,353,562	3.8
Argentinean	100,864	0.3
Bolivian	42,068	0.1
Chilean	68,849	0.2
Colombian	470,684	1.3
Ecuadorian	260,559	0.7
Paraguayan	8,769	0.0
Peruvian	233,926	0.7
Uruguayan	18,804	0.1
Venezuelan	91,507	0.3
Other South American	57,532	0.2
Spaniard	100,135	0.3
All other Hispanic or Latino	6,111,665	17.3
Checkbox only, other Hispanic	1,733,274	4.9
Write-in Spanish	686,004	1.9
Write in Hispanic	2,454,529	7.0
Write-in Latino	450,769	1.3
Not elsewhere classified	787,089	2.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1.

the only region in which Hispanics exceeded the national level of 12.5 percent (see Table 2). Hispanics accounted for 11.6 percent of the population in the South, 9.8 percent in the Northeast, and 4.9 percent in the Midwest.

Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, and Cubans were concentrated in different regions. Among Mexicans, 55.3 percent lived in the West, 31.7 percent in the South, 10.7 percent in the Midwest, and 2.3 percent in the

Northeast. Among Puerto Ricans, 60.9 percent lived in the Northeast, 22.3 percent in the South, 9.6 percent in the Midwest, and 7.2 percent in the West. Among Cubans, 74.2 percent lived in the South, 13.6 percent in the Northeast, 8.5 percent in the West, and 3.6 percent in the Midwest.

## Half of all Hispanics lived in just two states: California and Texas.

In 2000, 27.1 million, or 76.8 percent, of Hispanics lived in the seven

states with Hispanic populations of 1.0 million or more (California, Texas, New York, Florida, Illinois, Arizona, and New Jersey). Hispanics in California accounted for 11.0 million (31.1 percent) of the total Hispanic population, while the Hispanic population in Texas accounted for 6.7 million (18.9 percent). Hispanics numbered between 500,000 and 999,999 in only two states (Colorado and New Mexico). Hispanics in 22 states were between 100,000 and 499,999. Hispanics were less than 100,000 in 19 states and the District of Columbia.

Hispanics in New Mexico were 42.1 percent of the total state population, the highest proportion for any state. Hispanics were 12.5 percent (the national level) or more of the state population in eight other states (California, Texas, Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, Florida, New York, and New Jersey). Mexicans were the largest Hispanic group in five of these states (California, Texas, Arizona, Nevada, and Colorado), while Hispanics of other Hispanic origins were the largest group in the remaining states (New Mexico, Florida, New York, and New Jersey). Hispanics accounted for less than 12.5 percent of the population in 41 states and the District of Columbia.

Hispanic origin groups were concentrated in different states. The largest Mexican populations (more than a million) were in California, Texas, Illinois and Arizona, mostly southwestern states. The largest Puerto Rican populations (more than 250,000) were in New York, Florida, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, mostly northeastern states. About two-thirds of all Cubans were in Florida.



Table 2. Hispanic Population by Type for Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: 1990 and 2000

(For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf)

		1990		2000						
Area		Hispanic p	opulation		Hispanic p	Hispanic population Hispanic type				
	Total population	Number	Percent	Total population	Number	Percent	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Othe Hispanio
United States	248,709,873	22,354,059	9.0	281,421,906	35,305,818	12.5	20,640,711	3,406,178	1,241,685	10,017,244
Region										
Northeast	50,809,229 59,668,632 85,445,930 52,786,082	3,754,389 1,726,509 6,767,021 10,106,140	7.4 2.9 7.9 19.1	53,594,378 64,392,776 100,236,820 63,197,932	5,254,087 3,124,532 11,586,696 15,340,503	9.8 4.9 11.6 24.3	479,169 2,200,196 6,548,081 11,413,265	2,074,574 325,363 759,305 246,936	168,959 45,305 921,427 105,994	2,531,385 553,668 3,357,883 3,574,308
State	02,700,002	10,100,110	10.1	00,107,000			,,			
Alabama	4,040,587	24,629	0.6	4.447.100	75,830	1.7	44,522	6,322	2,354	22,632
Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida	550,043 3,665,228 2,350,725 29,760,021 3,294,394 3,287,116 666,168 606,900 12,937,926	17,803 688,338 19,876 7,687,938 424,302 213,116 15,820 32,710 1,574,143	3.2 18.8 0.8 25.8 12.9 6.5 2.4 5.4	626,932 5,130,632 2,673,400 33,871,648 4,301,261 783,600 572,059 15,982,378	25,852 1,295,617 86,866 10,966,556 735,601 320,323 37,277 44,953 2,682,715	4.1 25.3 3.2 32.4 17.1 9.4 4.8 7.9 16.8	13,334 1,065,578 61,204 8,455,926 450,760 23,464 12,986 5,098 363,925	2,649 17,587 2,473 140,570 12,993 194,443 14,005 2,328 482,027	553 5,272 950 72,286 3,701 7,101 932 1,101 833,120	9,316 207,180 22,239 2,297,774 268,147 95,295 9,354 36,426 1,003,643
Georgia	6,478,216 1,108,229 1,006,749 11,430,602 5,544,159 2,776,755 2,477,574 3,685,296 4,219,973 1,227,928	108,922 81,390 52,927 904,446 98,788 32,647 93,670 21,984 93,044 6,829	1.7 7.3 5.3 7.9 1.8 1.2 3.8 0.6 2.2	8,186,453 1,211,537 1,293,953 12,419,293 6,080,485 2,926,324 2,688,4178 4,041,769 4,468,976 1,274,923	435,227 87,699 101,690 1,530,262 214,536 82,473 188,252 59,939 107,738 9,360	5.3 7.2 7.9 12.3 3.5 2.8 7.0 1.5 2.4 0.7	275,288 19,820 79,324 1,144,390 153,042 61,154 148,270 31,385 32,267 2,756	35,532 30,005 1,509 157,851 19,678 2,690 5,237 6,469 7,670 2,275	12,536 711 408 18,438 2,754 750 1,680 3,516 8,448 478	111,871 37,163 20,449 209,583 39,062 17,879 33,065 18,565 59,353 3,851
Maryland	4,781,468 6,016,425 9,295,297 4,375,099 2,573,216 5,117,073 799,065 1,578,385 1,201,833 1,109,252	125,102 287,549 201,596 53,884 15,931 61,702 12,174 36,969 124,419 11,333	2.6 4.8 2.2 1.2 0.6 1.2 1.5 2.3 10.4	5,296,486 6,349,097 9,938,444 4,919,479 2,844,658 5,595,211 902,195 1,711,263 1,998,257 1,235,786	227,916 428,729 323,877 143,382 39,569 118,592 18,081 94,425 393,970 20,489	4.3 6.8 3.3 2.9 1.4 2.1 2.0 5.5 19.7 1.7	39,900 22,288 220,769 95,613 21,616 77,887 11,735 71,030 285,764 4,590	25,570 199,207 26,941 6,616 2,881 6,677 931 1,993 10,420 6,215	6,754 8,867 7,219 2,527 1,508 3,022 285 859 11,498 785	155,692 198,367 68,948 38,626 13,564 31,006 5,130 20,543 86,288 8,899
New Jersey	7,730,188 1,515,069 17,990,455 6,628,637 638,800 10,647,115 3,145,585 2,642,321 11,881,643 1,003,464	739,861 579,224 2,214,026 76,726 4,665 139,696 86,160 112,707 232,262 45,752	9.6 38.2 12.3 1.2 0.7 1.3 2.7 4.0 2.0 4.6	8,414,350 1,819,046 18,976,457 8,049,313 642,200 11,353,140 3,450,654 3,421,399 12,281,054 1,048,319	1,117,191 765,386 2,867,583 378,963 7,786 217,123 179,304 275,314 394,088 90,820	13.3 42.1 15.1 4.7 1.2 1.9 5.2 8.0 3.2	102,929 330,049 260,889 246,545 4,295 90,663 132,813 214,662 55,178 5,881	366,788 4,488 1,050,293 31,117 507 66,269 8,153 5,092 228,557 25,422	77,337 2,588 62,590 7,389 250 5,152 1,759 3,091 10,363 1,128	570,137 428,261 1,493,811 93,912 2,734 55,039 36,579 52,469 99,990 58,389
South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming		30,551 5,252 32,741 4,339,905 64,597 3,661 160,288 214,570 8,489 93,194 25,751	0.9 0.8 0.7 25.5 4.9 0.7 2.6 4.4 0.5 1.9	4,012,012 754,844 5,689,283 20,851,820 2,233,169 608,827 7,078,515 5,894,121 1,808,344 5,363,675 493,782	95,076 10,903 123,838 6,669,666 201,559 5,504 329,540 441,509 12,279 192,921 31,669	2.4 1.4 2.2 32.0 9.0 0.9 4.7 7.5 0.7 3.6 6.4	52,871 6,364 77,372 5,071,963 136,416 1,174 73,979 329,934 4,347 126,719 19,963	12,211 637 10,303 69,504 3,977 1,374 41,131 16,140 1,609 30,267 575	2,875 163 3,695 25,705 940 310 8,332 4,501 453 2,491 160	27,119 3,739 32,468 1,502,494 60,226 2,646 206,098 90,934 5,870 33,444 10,971
Puerto Rico <sup>1</sup>	3,522,037	(NA)	(NA)	3,808,610	3,762,746	98.8	11,546	3,623,392	19,973	107,835

NA Not available.

4



U.S. Census Bureau

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Census 2000 was the first to ask a separate question on Hispanic origin in Puerto Rico.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1; 1990 Census of Population, General Population Characteristics (CP-1-1).

#### Counties with the highest proportions of Hispanics were along the southwestern border of the United States.

In 2000, the proportion of Hispanics within a county exceeded the national level (12.5 percent) most often in the counties of the South and West, especially in counties along the border with Mexico (see Figure 3).

Hispanics were the majority of the population in 50 counties, accounting for 13.5 percent of the total Hispanic population. Of these counties, 35 are in the South and 15 are in the West. In the South, Hispanics were the majority in 34 counties in Texas and one in Florida. In the West, Hispanics were the majority in nine counties in New Mexico, and two counties in each of the following states: Arizona, California, and Colorado.

Hispanics also were concentrated in groupings of counties outside of the four states bordering Mexico. In particular, Hispanic concentrations occurred in counties within central Washington, in counties within the mountain states of Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado, in counties around Chicago, New York, and the District of Colombia, and in counties within southern Florida.

Hispanics represented more than one-quarter but less than half of the county population in 152 counties. The percent Hispanic exceeded the national level of 12.5 percent but was less than 25.0 percent of the population in 181 counties. The percent Hispanic ranged from 6.0 percent to just under the national level in 311 counties. Hispanics represented less than 6.0 percent of the county's

population in 2,447 counties. Furthermore, Hispanics represented less than 1.0 percent of a county's population in 899 counties.

## Hispanics were also present in some counties within nontraditional states.

While most Hispanics lived in the South or West, some counties in nontraditional Hispanic states such as Georgia and North Carolina had sizable proportions of Hispanic populations. Hispanics within some counties in North Carolina, Georgia, lowa, Arkansas, Minnesota, and Nebraska represented between 6.0 percent and 24.9 percent of the county's total population. The percent Hispanic within these counties exceeded the percent Hispanic (less than 6.0 percent) for these states.

## More than 4 million Hispanics lived in Los Angeles County, California.

In 2000, Hispanics in four counties accounted for 21.9 percent of the total Hispanic population. There were 4.2 million Hispanics in Los Angeles County, California, 1.3 million in Miami-Dade County, Florida, 1.1 million in Harris County, Texas, and 1.1 million in Cook County, Illinois.

Hispanic origin groups were concentrated in different counties. The largest Mexican populations lived in counties that had large Hispanic populations, including Los Angeles County, California (3.0 million), Harris County, Texas (815,000), and Cook County, Illinois (786,000). The two largest Puerto

Rican populations lived in two New York counties: Bronx County (319,000), and Kings County (213,000). More than half (651,000 or 52.4 percent) of all Cubans lived in Miami-Dade County, Florida.

## The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico was 98.8 percent Hispanic. 10

Of all Hispanics in Puerto Rico, 96.3 percent were of Puerto Rican origin. The second largest Hispanic population in Puerto Rico was Dominican, accounting for 1.5 percent of all Hispanics there.

The proportion Hispanic ranges from 97 percent to 99 percent in the four places<sup>11</sup> in Puerto Rico with 100,000 or more population (Ponce, Bayomón, Carolina, and San Juan).

#### In 2000, more than a million Hispanics lived in New York and in Los Angeles.<sup>12</sup>

More than 500,000 Hispanics resided in Chicago, Houston, and San Antonio (see Table 3). Among the ten places<sup>13</sup> with the largest Hispanic populations, Puerto Ricans represented the largest



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> For further discussion of change in the Hispanic population between 1990 and 2000, see Brewer, Cynthia A., and Trudy A. Suchan, 2001, Mapping Census 2000: The Geography of U.S. Diversity, Census 2000 Special Reports, CENSR/01-1, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC.

<sup>10</sup> Census 2000 was the first to ask a separate question on Hispanic origin in Puerto Rico.

<sup>&</sup>quot;For further explanation of geographic entities in Puerto Rico, see Appendix A in U.S. Census Bureau, 1993, Population and Housing Unit Counts: Puerto Rico, 1990 Census of Population and Housing, CPH-2-53, Washington, DC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Three in four (75.3 percent) Hispanics in the state of New York resided in the five boroughs that make up New York City: 645,000 in the Bronx, 557,000 in Queens, 488,000 in Brooklyn, 418,000 in Manhattan, and 54,000 in Staten Island.

<sup>13</sup> In Census 2000, there were 245 places in the United States (excluding the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico) with 100,000 or more population. These included 238 incorporated places (including 4 city-county consolidations) and included 7 census designated places (CDPs) that were not legally incorporated. For a list of places by state, see Table 4 or Table 5 in www.census.gov/population/www.cen2000phc-t6.html.

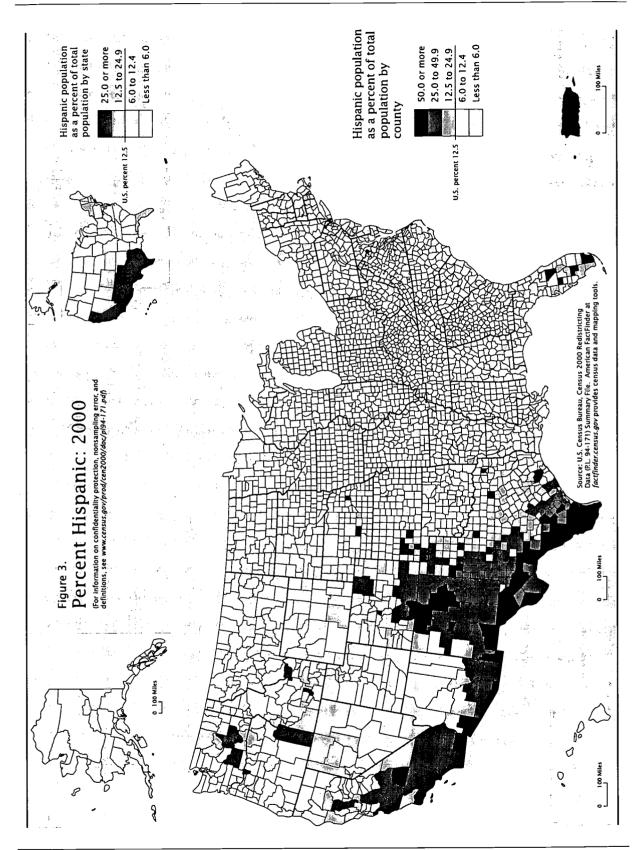


Table 3.
Ten Largest Places in Total Population and in Hispanic Population: 2000

(For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf)

Place and state	Total po	pulation	Hispanic <sub>I</sub>	Percent Hispanic of	
Place and state	Number	Rank	Number	Rank	total population
New York, NY	8,008,278	1	2,160,554	1	27.0
Los Angeles, CA	3,694,820	2	1,719,073	2	46.5
Chicago, IL	2,896,016	3	753,644	3	26.0
Houston, TX	1,953,631	4	730,865	4	37.4
Philadelphia, PA	1,517,550	5	128,928	24	8.5
Phoenix, AZ	1,321,045	6	449,972	6	34.1
San Diego, CA	1,223,400	7	310,752	9	25.4
Dallas, TX	1,188,580	8	422,587	8	35.6
San Antonio, TX	1,144,646	9	671,394	5	58.7
Detroit, MI	951,270	10	47,167	72	5.0
El Paso, TX	563,662	23	431,875	7	76.6
San Jose, CA	894,943	11	269,989	10	30.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1.

Table 4.
Ten Places of 100,000 or More Population With the Highest Percent Hispanic: 2000

(For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf)

Place and state	Total population	Hispanic population	
East Los Angeles, CA*	124,283	120,307	96.8
Laredo, TX	176,576	166,216	94.1
Brownsville, TX	139,722	127,535	91.3
Hialeah, FL	226,419	204,543	90.3
McAllen, TX	106,414	85,427	80.3
El Paso, TX	563,662	431,875	76.6
Santa Ana, CA	337,977	257,097	76.1
El Monte, CA	115,965	83,945	72.4
Oxnard, CA	170,358	112,807	66.2
Miami, FL	362,470	238,351	65.8

\*East Los Angeles, California is a census designated place and is not legally incorporated.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1.

share (36.5 percent) of all Hispanics in New York, while Mexicans represented the largest share (varying from 63.5 percent in Los Angeles to 83.4 percent in San Diego) of all Hispanics in the nine other places.<sup>14</sup>

### ADDITIONAL FINDINGS ON THE HISPANIC POPULATION

## Was the Hispanic population younger than the U.S. population?

The relative youthfulness of the Hispanic population is reflected in its population under age 18 and in its median age. While 25.7 percent of the U.S. population was under 18 years of age in 2000, 35.0 percent of Hispanics were less than

age 18. The median age for Hispanics was 25.9 years while the median age for the entire U.S. population was 35.3 years. Mexicans had a median age of 24.2 years, Puerto Ricans 27.3 years, Central Americans 29.2 years, Dominicans 29.5 years, South Americans 33.1 years, Spaniards 36.4 years, Cubans 40.7 years, and all other Hispanics had a median age of 24.7 years.

### In what places were Hispanics the majority?

Hispanics in East Los Angeles<sup>15</sup> were 96.8 percent (120,000) of the population, the highest for any place outside the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico with 100,000 or more total population (see Table 4). Hispanics were the majority of the population in eighteen other places.<sup>16</sup> Two of the top ten places in terms of numbers of Hispanics, El Paso and San Antonio, also had a majority who were Hispanic (76.6 percent and 58.7 percent, respectively).

# What were the top places for different Hispanic groups, by size?

Most, but not all, of the places with the largest specific Hispanic group populations were among the ten places with the largest Hispanic populations. The largest Mexican populations lived in Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston, San Antonio, and Phoenix. The largest Puerto Rican populations lived in New York, Chicago, and Philadelphia. The largest

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Mexicans accounted for the majority of Hispanics in the remaining seven places (see Table 3): Phoenix (83.4 percent), El Paso (83.3 percent), Dallas (82.9 percent), San Jose (81.9 percent), Houston (72.2 percent), San Antonio (70.5 percent), and Chicago (70.4 percent).

<sup>15</sup> East Los Angeles, California is a census designated place and is not legally incorpo-

rated.

16 Hispanics were the majority of the population in the ten places shown in Table 4 as well as in these nine additional places: Pomona, California (64.5), Salinas, California (64.1 percent), Norwalk, California (62.9 percent), Ontario, California (59.9 percent), San Antonio, Texas (58.7 percent), Downey, California (57.9 percent), Fontana, California (57.7 percent), Corpus Christi, Texas (54.3 percent), and Paterson, New Jersey (50.1 percent).

Cuban populations lived in Hialeah, Miami, New York, Tampa, and Los Angeles.

The largest Central American populations lived in the following places: Los Angeles, New York, Houston, Miami, and San Francisco, while the largest South American populations lived in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Miami.

#### **ABOUT CENSUS 2000**

The Census Bureau is required by federal directive to collect data on Hispanic origin. For additional information on the legal basis for the question on Hispanic origin included in Census 2000, see Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity, Federal Register Notice, October 30, 1997, Volume 62, Number 210. This document is available on the Census Internet site at: www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/race/

All levels of government need information on Hispanic origin to implement and evaluate programs, such as the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, Civil Rights Act, Voting Rights Act, Public Health Act, Healthcare Improvement Act, Job Partnership Training Act, Equal Credit Opportunity Act, Fair Housing Act, Census Redistricting Data Program, and others.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on Hispanic origin in the United States, visit the U.S. Census Bureau's Internet site at www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/hispanic.html.

Data on Hispanic origin from the Census 2000 Summary File 1 are planned for release on a state-by-state basis during June and July of 2001. The Census 2000 Redistricting data are available on the Internet via factfinder.census.gov and for purchase on CD-ROM and later on DVD.

For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, also see

www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/ doc/sf1.pdf or contact our Customer Services Center at 301-457-4100.

For more information on specific ethnic and race groups in the United States, go to www.census.gov and click on "Minority Links." This Web page includes information about Census 2000 and provides links to reports based on past censuses and surveys focusing on social and economic characteristics.

Information on other population and housing topics will be presented in the Census 2000 Brief series, located on the U.S. Census Bureau's Web site at www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/briefs.html. This series will present information about race, Hispanic origin, age, sex, household type, housing tenure, and other social, economic, and housing characteristics.

For more information about Census 2000, including data products, call our Customer Services Center at 301-457-4100 or e-mail webmaster@census.gov.

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