



Fact Sheet

Latinos in the United States

September 2008

Important Facts and Figures

- The current U.S. Latino population totals 44,504,311 people, accounting for 15 percent of the total population. *U.S. Census Bureau, 2007*
- As of 2006, the top five states with the highest population totals of Latinos included California (over 13 million), Texas (8.3 million), Florida (3.6 million), New York (3.1 million), and Illinois (1.8 million). *U.S. Census Bureau, 2005*
- 51.7 percent of the Latino population is male and 48.3 percent is female, with the median age being 27.3 years. *U.S. Census Bureau, 2006*
- The country of origin for the majority of the Latino population is Mexico, at 64 percent. In addition, 9 percent are Puerto Rican, 7.6 percent are Central American, 5.5 percent are South American, 3.4 percent are Cuban, 2.8 percent are Dominican, and 7.7 percent originate from various other Central and South American countries. *U.S. Census Bureau, 2006*

Latinos and Faith Life

- The majority of Latinos in the U.S. are Christian, with 68 percent Catholic and 20 percent Protestant. *Pew Hispanic Center, 2007*
- 84 percent of all U.S. Latinos say that their church/place of worship actively helps members in need of food and clothing. *Pew Hispanic Center, 2007*
- 30 percent of all U.S. Latinos say that their religious beliefs influence their political thinking. *Pew Hispanic Center, 2007*

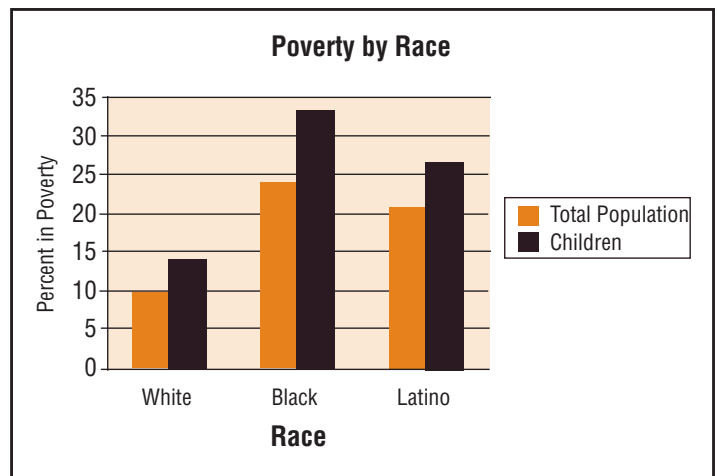
Latinos are an important and growing voting demographic

- The Latino population, already the nation's largest minority group, will triple in size and will account for most of the nation's population growth from 2005 through 2050. Latinos will make up 29 percent of the U.S. population in 2050, compared with 14% percent in 2005. *U.S. Census Bureau, 2008*

- Currently, 39 percent of all Latinos are eligible to vote in the US, representing 8.9 percent of the total US electorate. In contrast, Latinos are over 15 percent of the US population as a whole, and represented nearly half of the total population growth in the US between 2002 and 2006. *Pew Hispanic Center, 2007*

Latinos and immigrants are disproportionately affected by poverty

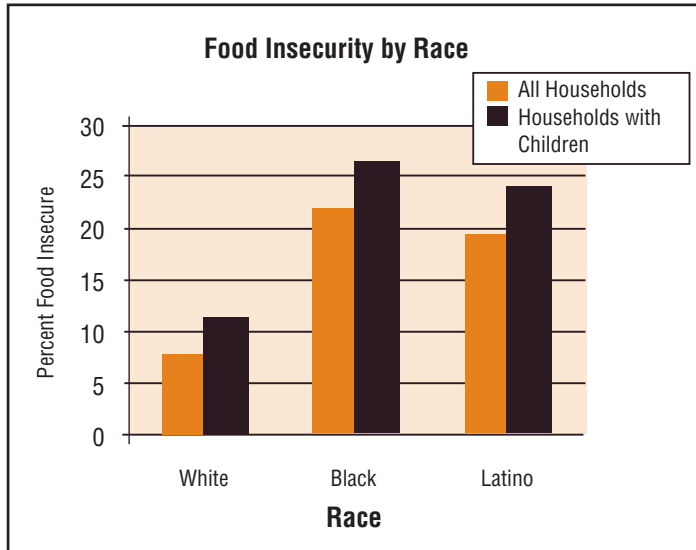
- 21 percent of Latino people live in poverty, compared to 10 percent of white people and 24 percent of black people. *U.S. Census Bureau, 2007*
- 27 percent of Latino children live in poverty, compared to 14 percent of white children and 33 percent of black children. *U.S. Census Bureau, 2007*
- 15 percent of foreign born US residents experience poverty versus 12 percent of native born residents. This number is particularly high among immigrants who have not naturalized, at 19 percent. *U.S. Census Bureau, 2007*



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007

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Hispanics are also disproportionately affected by food insecurity



Source: Economic Research Service, USDA, 2007

- Almost 20 percent of Latino households are food insecure, compared to 8 percent of white households and 20 percent of black households. *Economic Research Service, USDA, 2007*
- 24 percent of Latino households with children are food insecure, compared to 11 percent of white households with children and 22 percent of black households with children. *Economic Research Service, USDA, 2007*
- Despite Latino families allocating more of their budget to food (24 percent) than non-Latino white families (16.4 percent), Latino families still spend 22 percent less per person each week on food. *National Council of La Raza, 2008*

Latinos face challenges with both housing and healthcare

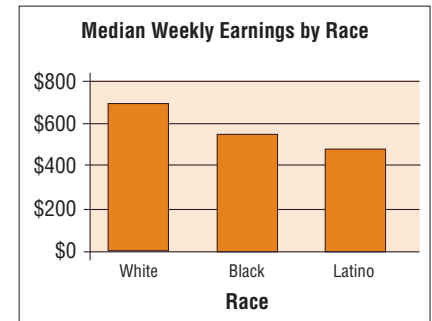
- Latino borrowers, in addition to African American borrowers, face a greater risk of receiving higher-rate sub prime home loans than white borrowers, regardless of the presence of actual risk factors. *Center for Responsible Lending, 2006*
- 49% percent of Latino families do not own a home. *Urban Institute, 2008*
- A typical Latino household holds assets worth about \$60,000, as compared to white, non-Latino households, which typically have \$224,500 in assets. *Urban Institute, 2008*

- Latinos are approximately twice as likely as non-Latino blacks and three times as likely as non-Latino whites to lack a regular health care provider. *Pew Hispanic Center, 2008*

- Latinos under the age of 65 are nearly three times more likely (36 percent) to be uninsured than their non-Latino counterparts (14 percent). *Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 2006*

Educational, Earning, and Occupational Outcomes

- The majority of the Latino population age 25 and older does not hold more than a high school diploma: 38.8 percent have less than a high school diploma, 28.1 percent are high school graduates (or equivalent), 19.8 percent have some college or an associates degree, 8.4 percent have a Bachelor's degree, and only 3.9 percent have a graduate or professional degree. *U.S. Census Bureau, 2006*
- 84 percent of the Latino population is employed in full-time work. They also have the highest employment rate of all races at 65.2 percent, white people at 63.8 percent, and black people at 58.4 percent. *National Council of La Raza, 2006*



Source: National Council of La Raza, 2006

- Despite having the highest employment rate and the majority being employed in full-time work, Latinos have the lowest median weekly income as compared to both white and black households, with Latinos earning median earnings of \$486/week, black households earning \$554/week, and white households earning \$690/week. *National Council of La Raza, 2006*
- Latino males are most likely to be employed in the fields of construction and maintenance (26.8 percent) as well as production and transportation (22.8 percent). Latino females are most likely to be employed in sales/office work (33.8 percent) and the service industry (29.6 percent). *U.S. Census Bureau, 2006*



50 F Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20001
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