



People From Many Nations Form New Jersey's Hispanic Population

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Hispanic residents made up nearly 18 percent of the Garden State's population according to the 2010 Census. They form one of the fastest growing minority populations in the state. While population growth of residents of Hispanic ethnicity has been part of a decades-long trend in the US and in New Jersey, the Hispanic presence in the US dates to the 16th century. The first permanent European settlement in the continental United States was established by Spain in 1565 at St. Augustine, Florida. Since its inception, the United States has continued to attract Hispanic immigrants from many nations who come in pursuit of economic opportunities.

2010 Census data indicate that:

- New Jersey was home to more than 1.5 million Hispanics in 2010
- Hispanics, today, are the state's largest minority group

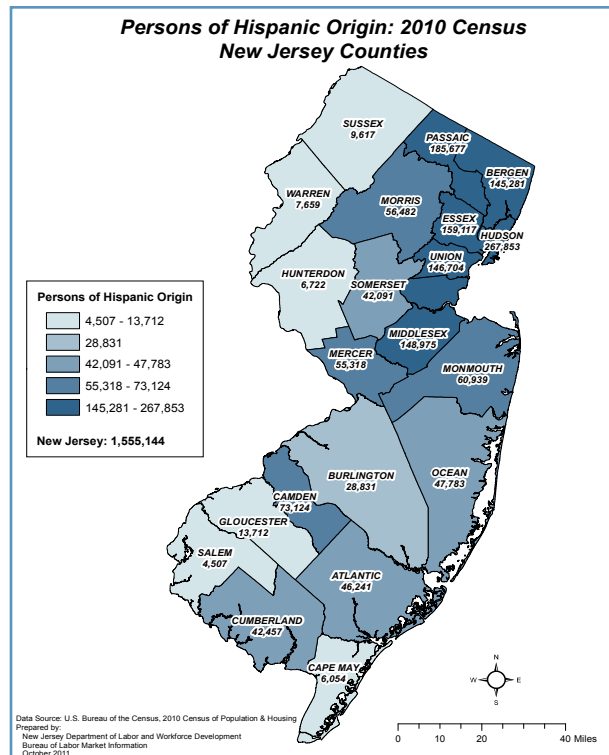
- Hispanics are projected to comprise of 22.2 percent of the state's total population by 2028

According to the 2010 Census, more than 1.5 million New Jersey residents, or 18 percent of the total population, were Hispanic.

Immigration from Spanish-speaking nations to the United States was affected by, and at times limited by, national laws and policies on immigration. However, Hispanic immigrants have continued to flow into this nation in large scale since the *Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965* was enacted. As one of the major magnets of foreign immigrants, New Jersey has experienced substantial growth in its Hispanic population since the 1970s.

Due to an influx of immigrants from Latin America and a higher birth rate among US Hispanic residents¹, the number of persons of Hispanic origin in New Jersey increased since the 1970 Census by 439 percent, rising from a total of 288,488 in 1970 to 1,555,144 in 2010. In 2001, Hispanics surpassed the state's African American population to become the state's largest minority group². Hispanics accounted for 17.7 percent of New Jersey's total residents in 2010, up from 13.3 percent in 2000. That population is projected to comprise 22.2 percent of the state's total population by 2028³.

While New Jersey's net gain of 437,953 Hispanic residents between 2000 and 2010 was larger than in any previous Census, the 39.2 percent growth rate was slower than that in the previous three decades. Hispanic population increased in every county in the state between 2000 and 2010, while Bergen had the largest numeric gain of Hispanics (+53,904), followed by Middlesex (+47,035) and Union (+43,693) counties. Hudson



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and Passaic still had more Hispanic residents than other counties, as of 2010.

According to the 2010 Census, ethnicities in New Jersey with major Hispanic origins (50,000 population or more) include Puerto Rican (434,092), Mexican (217,715), Dominican Republic (197,922), Colombian (101,593), Ecuadorian (100,480), Cuban (83,362), Peruvian (75,869) and Salvadoran (56,532).

Mexicans and Dominicans experienced the largest growth in the recent decade (+114,786 and +95,292, respectively), while the state's net gain of Cubans (+6,025) was small. The growth rate was more than 100 percent for Salvadoran (+124.1%), Ecuadorian (+121.4%), Mexican (+111.5%) and Peruvian (+101.4%) since 2000.

Puerto Rican population increases in all but one county

From 2000 to 2010, the Puerto Rican population increased in every county in New Jersey except Hudson. The growth was led by Camden (+8,931), Bergen (+8,496) and Middlesex (+8,412) counties. The most prominent increases in Puerto Rican population in municipalities came in Vineland (+2,952), Pennsauken (+2,409), Woodbridge (+2,225) and Clifton (+2,046); while Jersey City (-4,100), Newark (-3,657) and Paterson (-2,998) experienced losses.

In 2010, the largest Puerto Rican populations were in Hudson (56,436) and Essex (54,005) counties. Sizeable Puerto Rican population was present only in cities like Newark (35,993), Jersey City (25,677), Camden (23,759), Paterson (21,015), Vineland (16,236), Elizabeth (13,488), Perth Amboy (12,090) and Trenton (9,746).

Passaic County home to the most Mexican residents

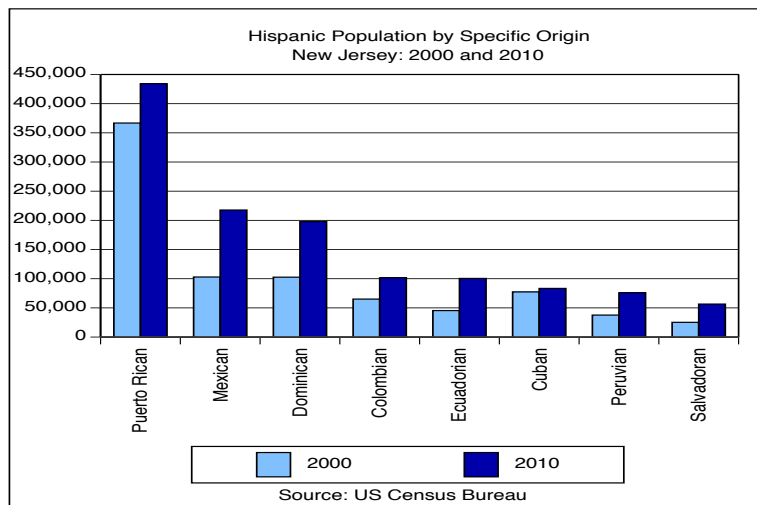
Passaic County had the largest number of Mexicans (34,573) in 2010, followed by Middlesex (27,776) and Monmouth (21,798) counties. The Mexi-

can population more than doubled in 16 counties between 2000 and 2010. The numeric growth of Mexicans between 2000 and 2010 was most substantial in Passaic (+13,714), Middlesex (+13,514), Monmouth (+12,544) and Ocean (+11,581) counties. However, due to its large resident base, the growth rate in Passaic County (65.7%) was the slowest among 21 counties.

Passaic (+7,777), Lakewood (+6,836), New Brunswick (+6,740), and Bridgeton (+4,799) experienced the most hefty growth of Mexican population between 2000 and 2010. Consequently, the state's loci of Mexicans population, as of 2010, included Passaic (21,123), New Brunswick (14,104), Lakewood (9,661), Paterson (8,136) and Bridgeton (8,063). There were 41 municipalities that saw small declines in their Mexican populations.

All counties see a rise in Dominican residents

The Dominican population increased in every county between 2000 and 2010, led by Passaic (+20,479), Bergen (+15,121) and Hudson (+13,465). Dominicans actually more than doubled in 17 counties during the past decade. Hudson's 48.6 percent growth rate was the slowest. Paterson gained more Dominican population (+12,095) than any other municipality, followed by Newark



Hispanic Population in New Jersey: 1970 to 2010

Census	Hispanic Population	Decennial Changes	
		Number	Percent
1970	288,488	N.A.	N.A.
1980	491,883	203,395	70.5%
1990	739,861	247,978	50.4%
2000	1,117,191	377,330	51.0%
2010	1,555,144	437,953	39.2%

Source: 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 & 2010 Census.

(+6,261), Perth Amboy (+5,876) and Jersey City (+4,326). Thirty-five municipalities experienced nominal declines in

Dominican residents from 2000 to 2010.

In 2010, Passaic (47,433) and Hudson (41,174) counties were home to the largest populations of Dominicans, followed by Middlesex and Bergen. Together, these four counties accounted for about 71 percent of the state's total Dominican population. Six cities had more than 10,000 Dominican residents in 2010: Paterson (27,426), Perth Amboy (14,773), Jersey City (13,512), Newark (12,527), Passaic (12,340) and Union City (10,020).

Columbian population more than doubles in eight counties

Bergen (+7,325) and Union (+6,327) gained more Colombian population than any other counties between 2000 and 2010, while the number of Colombians increased in every county and more than doubled in eight counties in New Jersey. Municipalities with the most significant gain of Colombians between 2000 and 2010 include Elizabeth (+2,899), North Bergen (+1,433) and Clifton (+1,392). Among the 56 municipalities with declining Colombian population, Morristown had the largest net loss (-212).

In 2010, Bergen (18,486) and Union (17,750) had the largest Colombian population in the state, followed by Hudson county (16,743). In fact, 52 percent of the state's Colombian population resided in these three counties. The top five municipalities with large number of Colombian residents were Elizabeth (10,692), Paterson (5,204), North Bergen (4,784), Union City (3,224) and West New York (3,077).

Majority of Ecuadorian residents live in four counties

Ecuadorian population increased in every county in New Jersey and more than doubled in 18 counties between 2000 and 2010. Numeric growth was most substantial in Essex (+14,682) and Hudson (+11,254) counties, although the 73 percent growth rate in Hudson was the state's slowest. Newark added more Ecuadorians (+9,236) than any other municipality between 2000 and 2010, followed by Elizabeth (+3,456), North Bergen (+2,430), Hackensack (+2,251), and Union City (+2,151). Together, these five municipalities accounted for 36 percent of the state's total gain of Ecuadorian residents. However, the Ecuadorian population declined in 42 municipalities.

Hudson (26,650) and Essex (25,169) had the largest Ecuadorian population among 21 counties in 2010, followed by Bergen and Union. Together, these four counties accounted for more than three quarters (75.1%) of the state's total Ecuadorian population. Newark led the state's municipalities with the most Ecuadorian population (16,847), followed by Union City (6,135), Jersey City (5,753), Elizabeth (5,591), North Bergen (5,064) and Hackensack (4,291).

Hudson County home to the most Cuban residents

New Jersey's Cuban population declined in the 1990s, but increased moderately in every county except Hudson and Cumberland between 2000 and 2010. Bergen County had the largest gain (+3,327), Hudson had largest loss (-5,249) and Cumberland's Cuban population was virtually unchanged (-3 persons). At the municipal level, Cuban population increased in 420 municipalities between 2000 and 2010, led by Clifton (+244), Ridgefield (+214), Woodbridge (+204) and Cliffside Park (+200). Among the 90 municipalities with declining Cuban populations, Union City (-2,786) and West New York (-1,477) had the largest losses.

More than one-third of the state's Cubans (28,652) were still concentrated in Hudson County, as of 2010, despite the decline of Cuban population in the county. Not surprisingly, the top three municipalities with the largest Cuban population were located in Hudson County – West New York (7,514), Union City (7,510), and North Bergen (7,248). Other cities with substantial Cuban population include Elizabeth (6,570), Newark (2,241) and Jersey City (1,641).

Majority of Peruvian population concentrated in three counties

Between 2000 and 2010, Hudson and Passaic counties had the slowest growth of Peruvian population (+82% and +71%, respectively). However, the numeric gains in these two counties — 8,153 in Passaic and 6,093 in Hudson — were the most substantial. The number of Peruvian residents more than doubled in the other 19 counties. At the municipal level, Paterson (+2,905), Clifton (+2,685) and Elizabeth (+2,589) gained the most Peruvians between 2000 and 2010. Peruvian population also increased substantially in Kearny, Union City and Newark.

Passaic (19,696) and Hudson (13,533) counties remained the homes of the state's largest number of Peruvians in 2010, followed by Union County (9,446). These three counties had more than 56 percent of the state's Peruvian population. Peruvian population was concentrated in municipalities in northern counties including Paterson (9,943), Elizabeth (5,419), Clifton (4,473), Kearny (3,315) and Union City (3,111).

Over half of Salvadoran residents live in two counties

From 2000 to 2010, Salvadoran population grew less than 100 percent in just three counties, Cape May, Hudson, and Salem. Union County had the largest numeric gain of Salvadorans (+7,645), followed by Hudson County (+6,894).

Growth of Salvadoran population was substantial in Elizabeth (+3,846), Plainfield (+2,424), West New York (+2,013), Union City (+1,961), North Bergen (+1,552) and Newark (+1,435).

More than one-half (51%) of the state's Salvadorans resided in Hudson (15,767) and Union (13,179) counties, as of 2010. Municipalities with substantial Salvadoran population were: Elizabeth (7,364), Union City (5,060), West New York (4,504), Plainfield (3,684), and Newark (3,000).

Data Availability

Data presented in this report are from the 2010 Census Summary File 1 (SF1). SF1 provides the most detailed counts available so far from the 2010 Census, including cross-tabulations of age, sex, households, families, relationship to householder, housing units, detailed race and Hispanic or Latino origin groups, and group quarters. The statistics are available for a variety of geographic areas, with most tables available down to the block or census tract level. SF1 data for New Jersey are posted on this web page: http://lwd.dol.state.nj.us/labor/lpa/census/2010/sf1_index.html. For more information, contact New Jersey Department of Labor, Division of Labor Market and Demographic Research, P. O. Box 388, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0388. Telephone: (609) 292-0077, e-mail: sywu@dol.state.nj.us.

Footnotes:

¹According to the 2009 American Community Survey, about 43.6% Hispanics in New Jersey were foreign-born. The other 56.3% were born in the U.S.

²Based on the 2000-2009 Population Estimates, the 2001 Hispanic and non-Hispanic Black population were 1,127,494 and 1,119,142, respectively, in New Jersey. (http://lwd.dol.state.nj.us/labor/lpa/dmograph/est/est_index.html)

³NJ Department of Labor & Workforce Development: "Population and Labor Force Projections for New Jersey, 2008 to 2028" (http://lwd.dol.state.nj.us/labor/lpa/dmograph/lfproj/lfproj_index.html)

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