

www.nclr.org



As the data below show, Hispanics[†] are quickly becoming a population with a national presence. The most dramatic Latino population growth has occurred in "nontraditional" states, and Hispanics are now the largest minority in the country. Given that almost half of Hispanics are under 25 years old, they will constitute a large segment of the future U.S. population, workforce, and electorate.

Arizona Compared to the Nation

- ▼ Arizona is the state with the sixth-largest Latino population.¹
- ▼ Between 1990 and 2000, the growth rate of the Latino population in Arizona ranked 26th in the country.¹
- ▼ Of all states, Arizona has the fourth-largest share of Latinos when compared to the total state population.¹

	Population (2003) ²		Hispanic Percent of	Growth Rate (1990-2000) ¹		Median Age (2003) ²	
	Total	Hispanic	Population ²	Total	Hispanic	Total	Hispanic
U.S.	282,909,885	39,194,837	13.9%	13.2%	57.9%	36.0 years	26.7 years
Arizona	5,470,843	1,525,366	27.9%	40.0%	88.2%	33.9 years	24.5 years

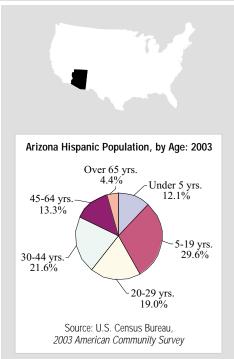
Economic Well-Being

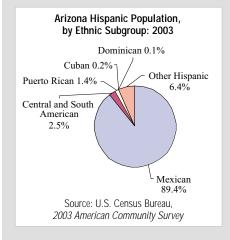
▼ Latinos make a significant contribution to the labor force, representing an increasing share of workers and taxpayers, yet they are overwhelmingly vulnerable to economic downturns and experience high poverty rates, especially among working families with children.

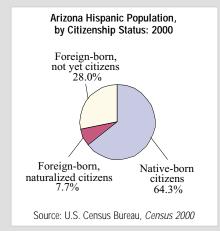
	Total (2003)	Hispanic (2003)	Hispanic Proportion of Total
In Labor Force ³	2,690,000	708,000	26.3%
Participation Rate*	65.1%	67.4%	
Unemployed	151,000	53,000	35.1%
Unemployment Rate	5.6%	7.5%	
Population Below Poverty Level ²	839,106	402,608	48.0%
Percent of Population Below Poverty	15.4%	26.6%	
Population Under 18 (Children) ²	1,481,651	573,118	38.7%
Children Below Poverty Level	313,914	188,017	59.9%
Percent of Children Below Poverty	21.2%	32.8%	

^{*} The Labor Force Participation Rate is calculated using the civilian, noninstitutionalized population, not the total population.

Median Household Income (2003):² \$40,762 Hispanic Median Household Income (2003):² \$31,872







[†] The terms "Hispanic" and "Latino" are used interchangeably by the U.S. Census Bureau and throughout this document to identify persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central and South American, Dominican, and Spanish descent; they may be of any race.

Education

▼ Hispanic children are a growing segment of the public school population. In particular, the state has experienced dramatic growth in the Hispanic student population over the last decade.

	Total (2000)	Growth Rate 1990-2000 (Total Pop.)	Hispanic (2000)	Growth Rate 1990-2000 (Hispanic Pop.)
Population 0-4 years ¹	382,386	40.0%	153,279	88.2%
School-Age Population 5-18 years ¹	1,058,460	42.9%	360,505	86.6%

	Total Children	Hispanic Children	Hispanic Proportion of	
	Enrolled (2003)	Enrolled (2003)	Enrolled Children	
Enrollment, Grades 1-12 ²	981,553	366,460	37.3%	

Health Insurance

 Despite high work participation rates, a significant proportion of the Latino population is uninsured and does not benefit from either private or public insurance.

	Total Nonelderly Uninsured		Hispanic Noneld	Hispanic Proportion	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	of Nonelderly Uninsured
Nonelderly (0-64 years) Uninsured ⁴	931,340	19.5%	477,510	31.0%	51.3%

Homeownership

▼ Although homeownership is at an all-time high, Latinos are still less likely than other Americans to be homeowners.

	Number of Homeowners	Percent of All Householders that are Homeowners	Number of Hispanic Homeowners	Percent of Hispanic Householders that are Homeowners	Hispanic Proportion of Total Homeowners
Owner-Occupied Households ²	1,398,879	68.3%	233,238	56.2%	16.7%

¹ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000. Percentages calculated by the National Council of La Raza.

² Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey. Percentages calculated by the National Council of La Raza.

³ Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics: 2003 Annual Averages.

⁴ Source: Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, www.statehealthfacts.org: 50 State Comparisons.