

# Ohio Hispanic Americans

Ohio's Hispanic community is comprised of more than 250,000 people, accounting for 2.3 percent of the state's total population. According to the 2006 American Community Survey by the U.S. Census Bureau, Ohio's Hispanic population grew by 22.4 percent since 2000 and more than doubled since 1980. For the United States, taken as a whole, the Hispanic population is nearly 44.3 million, or 14.8 percent of the nation's total population. Since 2000, the number of Hispanics within the U.S. has increased by more than 9 million, or 25.6 percent.

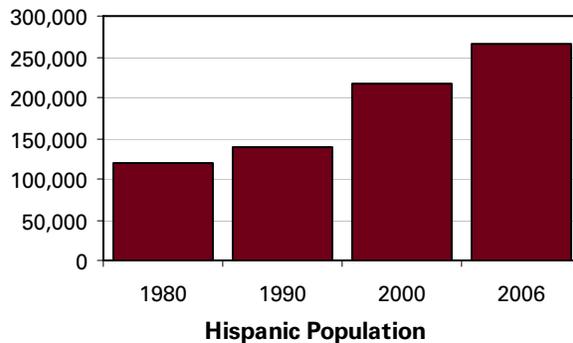
## OVERVIEW

- 265,762 people - 2.3 percent of Ohio's total population
- 22.4 percent increase in population since 2000
- 69,000 were born outside the U.S.
- 51 percent are of Mexican ancestry
- Median age of 27 years compared to 38 years for Ohioans as a whole
- 45,000 enrolled in public schools
- Median household income: \$37,400
- 7,100+ Hispanic-owned businesses with \$1.3 billion in receipts

Note: Hispanic, Latino, and Spanish refers to a person whose origins are from Spain, the Spanish-speaking countries of Central or South America, the Dominican Republic, or people identifying themselves generally as such. Origin can be viewed as the heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person's parents or ancestors before their arrival in the United States. People who identify their origin as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino may be of any race.

**Ohio's Hispanic Population: 265,762**

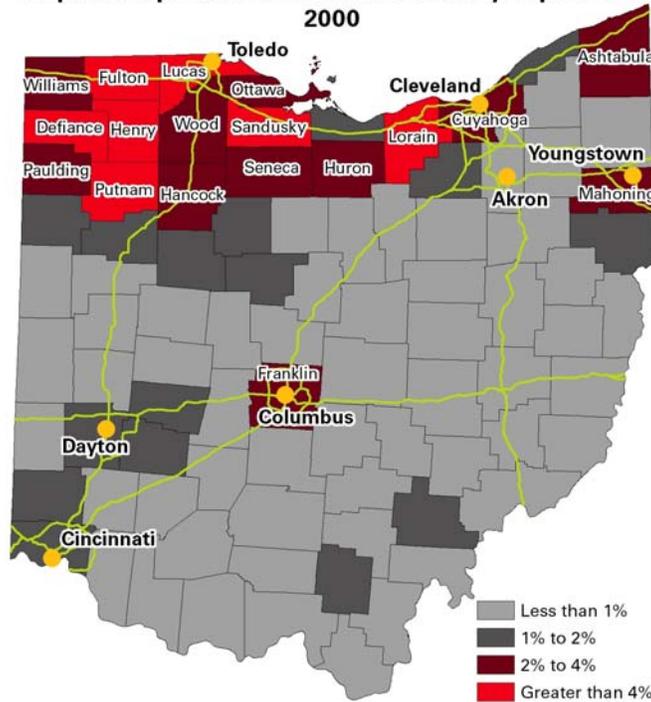
The Hispanic community makes up 2.3 percent of Ohio's total population with significant growth occurring during the last decade. Since 2000 the number of Hispanic Ohioans has increased by 22.4 percent. In 1980 there were less than 120,000 Hispanics in Ohio, making up 1.1 percent of the state's total population.



Total Hispanic Population		Percent of County Population	
Cuyahoga	46,484	Defiance	7.2%
Franklin	24,121	Sandusky	6.8%
Lucas	20,658	Lorain	6.8%
Lorain	19,358	Fulton	5.7%
Hamilton	9,143	Henry	5.6%
Mahoning	7,584	Lucas	4.5%
Montgomery	6,413	Putnam	4.3%
Summit	4,491	Ottawa	3.7%
Butler	4,312	Huron	3.6%
Sandusky	4,205	Seneca	3.4%
Wood	4,047	Wood	3.3%
Lake	3,999	Cuyahoga	3.3%

The majority of Hispanic Ohioans live in urban areas of the state. Three out of every ten Hispanic Ohioans live in one of the three cities of Cleveland, Columbus, or Toledo. In Cleveland there are 33,000 Hispanic residents, in Columbus there are 29,500, and in Toledo there are 18,200 Hispanic residents. Overall, nearly 90 percent of Ohio's Hispanic residents live in urban areas; 76 percent live in or near a large city. However, the Hispanic population makes up a higher proportion of county populations in the north and northwest sections of Ohio, many of which are rural in nature.

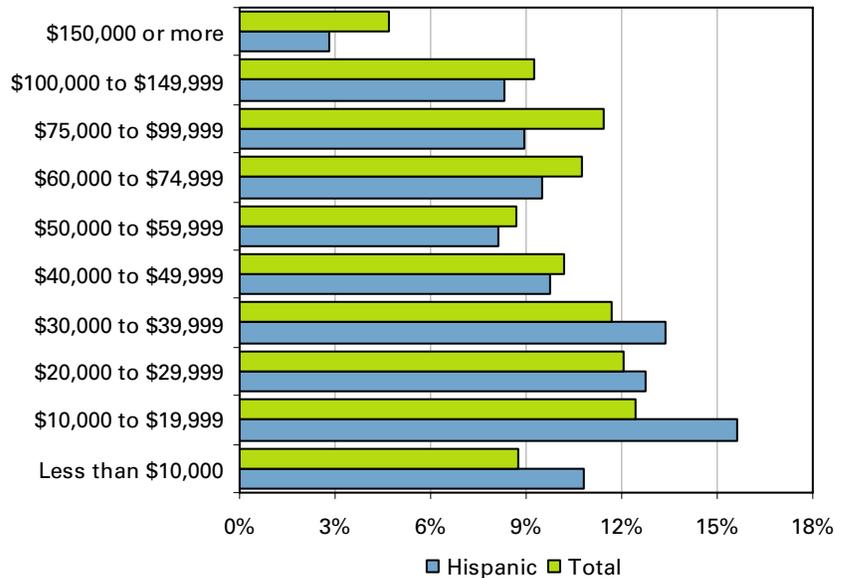
**Hispanic Population as Percent of County Population: 2000**



**Median Household Income: \$37,438**

The median income of Hispanic Ohioans is lower than that of Ohioans taken as a whole. The median household income for Hispanics is under \$37,500; for all Ohio households, the median household income is \$44,500. This figure is influenced by the

latest immigrants to Ohio. The median income for Mexican immigrants, which comprise the majority of recent arrivals, is \$34,700. The income of Hispanics between the ages of 25 and 44 is more than \$10,000 lower than that of Ohio households taken as a whole. Hispanic households led by individuals younger than 25 or older than 45 have an income distribution similar to the state.



**Household Income Distribution**

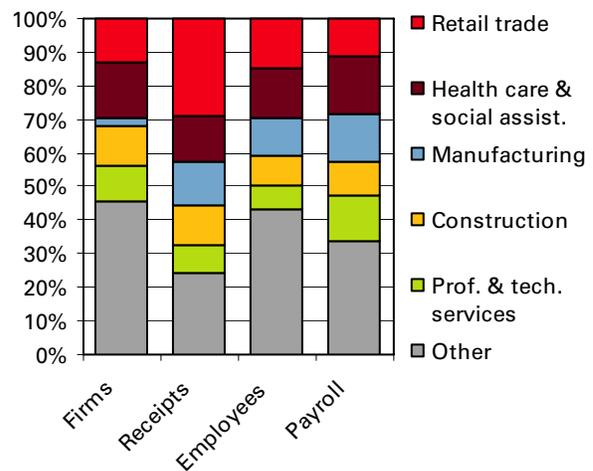
Twenty-two percent of Hispanic Ohioans live below the poverty line. Of Ohio's 57,000 Hispanic family

households, 20 percent live in poverty. More than half of these households have children younger than 5 years of age. Eighteen percent of Hispanic households received Food Stamps within the last 12 months.

There are more than 7,100 Hispanic-owned businesses in Ohio, according to the most recent Survey of Business Owners conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. Of that number, businesses with a payroll total 1,345 and, combined, employ more than 11,300 workers with an annual payroll of more than \$270 million. Receipts for those businesses top \$1 billion with receipts for all Hispanic-run businesses approaching \$1.3 billion.

**Business Receipts:  
\$1.3 billion**

With respect to business sectors, there is not a significant differentiation between Hispanic-owned businesses and businesses owned by Ohioans as a whole, with one exception: the health care and social assistance sector represents 16 percent of all Hispanic businesses compared to 9 percent for the state as a whole. Retail is second coming in at 12 percent.



The distribution of receipts for Hispanic-owned firms by sector varies greatly from that of the state taken as a whole. Nearly 27 percent of receipts, the largest share, comes from the retail sector. Health care/social assistance, manufacturing, and construction are next, accounting for 11 to 12 percent each. For all Ohio businesses, manufacturing brings in more than one-fourth of the receipts; retail accounts for only 14 percent.

**Unemployment  
Rate:  
9.9%**

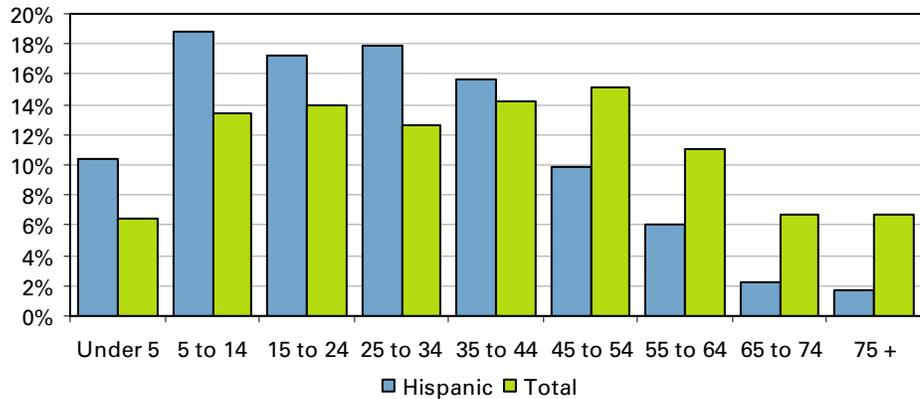
The number of Hispanic Ohioans in the civilian labor force is more than 126,000. Hispanic Ohioans have an unemployment rate of 9.9 percent. Hispanics between the ages of 25 and 64 have an unemployment rate of 8.5 percent while Hispanics between the ages of 20 and 24 have an unemployment rate of 11.9 percent. The Hispanic immigrant community tended to have a lower unemployment rate than the Ohio Hispanic community taken as a whole.

Employed Hispanics are heavily represented in service and production/transportation occupations compared to the state as a whole. Of the nearly 114,000 employed, 25 percent are in service occupations with 12,600 employed in food services. Production and transportation occupations account for 22 percent with 17,000 Hispanic Ohioans involved with production.

**Median Age:  
26.9 years**

Ohio Hispanics have a median age of 26.9 years in part due to an increase in the number of young adult immigrants. For comparison, the median age of Ohioans taken as a whole is 37.6 years.

In Ohio, 34,300 marriages include at least one Hispanic spouse. Of these families, 62 percent have children living at home. For all married couples in Ohio, only 41 percent have children at home. Twenty-two percent of Hispanic families consist of single mothers.



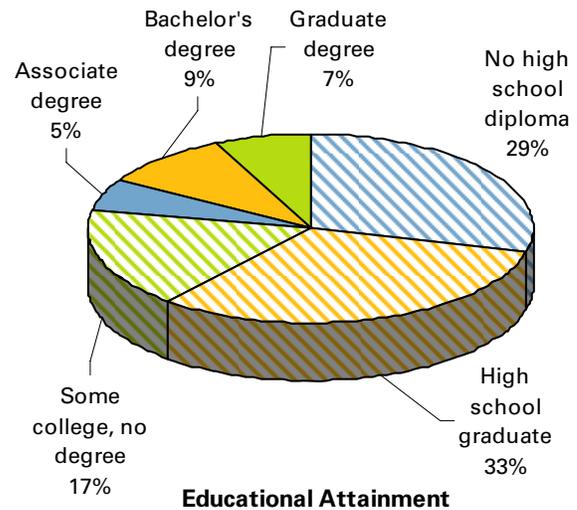
Age Distribution

**Public School Enrollment: 45,000**

The increase in young families with children is reflected in public school enrollment. For the 2006-2007 school year, there were nearly 45,000 Hispanic students enrolled in Ohio's public schools, making up 2.6 percent of Ohio's

total student body. For the 2000-2001 school year, the figure was 1.7 percent. More than one-fourth of current Hispanic students are classified as having limited English proficiency.

The educational attainment level of the Hispanic community lags behind the state as a whole. Twenty-two percent of Hispanic Ohioans have obtained a post-secondary degree compared to 30 percent for Ohioans as a whole. Correspondingly, almost 14 percent of Hispanics have less than a 9<sup>th</sup> grade education compared to 4 percent for the state. The educational attainment of recent Hispanic adult immigrants tends to be lower than the educational attainment of all Ohioans. Educational attainment of the children of Hispanic immigrants generally mirrors that of the general population.



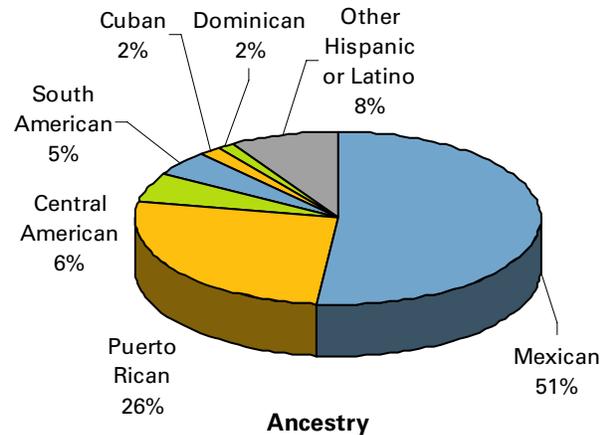
Educational Attainment

**Mexican Heritage: 137,456**

Much of the recent increase in Ohio's Hispanic population has occurred in the Mexican community which grew by more than half since 2000. The number of Hispanic Ohioans with an ancestral link to Mexico is more than 137,000; more than two-thirds of these residents were born in the United States. Recent immigration from Mexico is an important factor in the growth in Ohio's Hispanic community with more than 20,000 people arriving from Mexico since 2000.

While the number of Ohio residents with Puerto Rican heritage has grown in recent decades, its portion of the Hispanic community has held steady, accounting for about one-fourth of Ohio's Hispanic population. One-third of Puerto Ricans in Ohio were born in Puerto Rico.

While Ohio residents with Mexican and Puerto Rican heritage make up a majority of Ohio's Hispanic community, Central America is becoming a more common point of origin. Hispanic Ohioans with ancestors in Central America increased by 124 percent since 2000, with more than 10,000 having ties to Guatemala or El Salvador. Almost 8,000 Guatemalans and Salvadorans in Ohio are immigrants.



One-fourth, or nearly 69,000, of Hispanic Ohioans are foreign born; 7,500 of these residents have arrived in the past year. A large proportion of immigrants from Latin America are young adult men. This is especially true for Mexico and Central America where 70 to 75 percent of migrants are between the ages of 18 and 44 and, in Mexico's case, nearly two-thirds male. Since coming to the United States, about one-fourth of foreign-born Hispanics have become naturalized citizens. The figure for Mexican migrants is slightly lower at 17 percent.

Of the foreign-born Hispanic population, the majority reports speaking Spanish at home. Thirty-five percent states they speak English "very well" while 14 percent reports speaking English "not at all." These figures do not take into account how long the person has lived in the United States. Taken as a whole, 55 percent of Ohio's Hispanic community reports speaking English "very well" while only 8 percent reports speaking English "not at all."

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The statistical source of this profile is the 2000 Census of Population and Housing, with post-2000 data coming from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey. Business data came from the Census Bureau's 2002 Survey of Business Owners. Although the census is the most comprehensive set of socio-economic data available, the estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling error that may result in some over- or under-estimation of actual population characteristics. The source of public school enrollment was the Ohio Department of Education.