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## District of Columbia Hispanic or Latino Population by Nativity: 2005 - 2015

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This report focuses on the Hispanic or Latino population characteristics by nativity during the 2005 to 2015 period in the District of Columbia but with a brief look back beginning in 1980 when data on the Hispanic population in the District was first published by the Census Bureau. The areas of focus include the growth pattern of the foreign-born and native-born Hispanic population and their naturalized or non U.S. citizen status, differences in educational attainment and employment status. The data in this report are from the 2005 through 2015 American Community Survey (ACS), the 2015 Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS), and the 1980 and 2010 Censuses conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau.

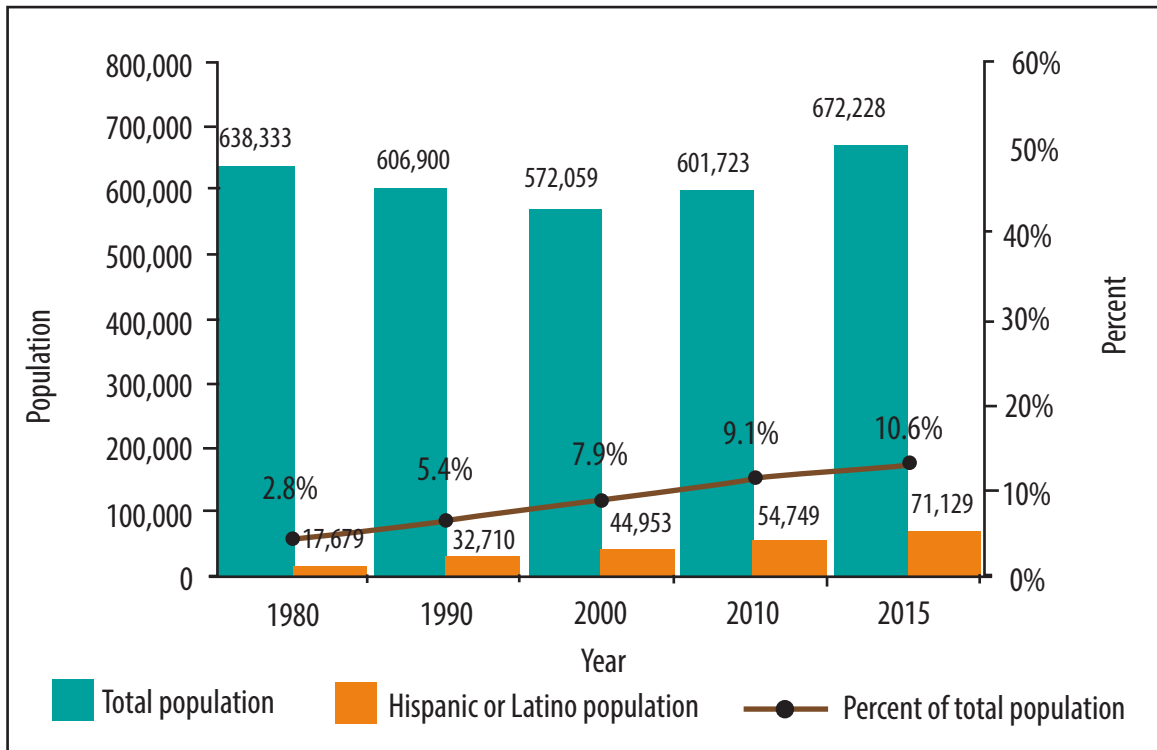
### Highlights

- The Hispanic population in the District has increased from 17,679 in 1980 to 71,129 in 2015, a 300 percent increase over the period.
- As a percent of the District's total population, the Hispanic population has grown from 2.8 percent to 10.6 percent from 1980 to 2015, respectively.
- The proportion of foreign-born Hispanics or Latinos in the District declined from 60.3 percent in 2006 to 43.7 percent in 2015.
- While the District's Hispanic or Latino population continues to grow numerically since 1980, their growth rate has declined from its peak of 6.8 percent between July 1, 2011 and July 1, 2012.
- There was a significant increase in the number of Hispanic noncitizens to become naturalized U.S. citizens from 2005 to 2015.
- The data shows a distinct difference between native and foreign-born Hispanics at the high school graduate level but not at the Bachelor's degree and higher level.
- Labor force participation rate was higher among the foreign-born Hispanic population in the District compared to the native-born Hispanic population.

## Historical Population Trends

The District's Hispanic or Latino population has grown markedly since 1980 both numerically and as a percent of the total District population (Figure 1).

**Figure 1. District Total Population and Hispanic or Latino Population by Number and Percent: 1980 - 2015**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 to 2015 American Community Survey

Census 1980 counted 17,679 Hispanics or Latinos in the District of Columbia, comprising 2.8 percent of the total population. According to the 2015 American Community Survey, there were 71,129 Hispanics or Latinos in the District on July 1, 2015, representing 10.6 percent of the total population (Table 1).

**Table 1. District of Columbia Total Population and Hispanic Population: 1980 - 2015**

Year	Total District	Hispanic or Latino		Change, 1980 to 2015			
				Total		Hispanic	
	Number	Number	% of Total District	Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
2015	672,228	71,129	10.6%	70,505	11.7%	16,380	29.9%
2010	601,723	54,749	9.1%	29,664	5.2%	9,796	21.8%
2000	572,059	44,953	7.9%	-34,841	-5.7%	12,243	37.4%
1990	606,900	32,710	5.4%	-31,433	-4.9%	15,031	85.0%
1980	638,333	17,679	2.8%	NA	NA	NA	NA

NA = Not applicable

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 to 2015 American Community Survey

## Hispanic or Latino Population by Nativity - 2005 to 2015

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, “foreign-born” refers to anyone who is not a U.S. citizen at birth. This includes naturalized U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents (immigrants), temporary migrants (such as foreign students), humanitarian migrants (such as refugees and asylees), and persons illegally present in the United States.

“Native-born” refers to anyone born in the United States, Puerto Rico, a U.S. Island Area (American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, or the U.S. Virgin Islands), or abroad of a U.S. citizen parent or parents.

**Table 2. District of Columbia Hispanic or Latino Population by Nativity:  
July 1, 2005 - July 1, 2015**

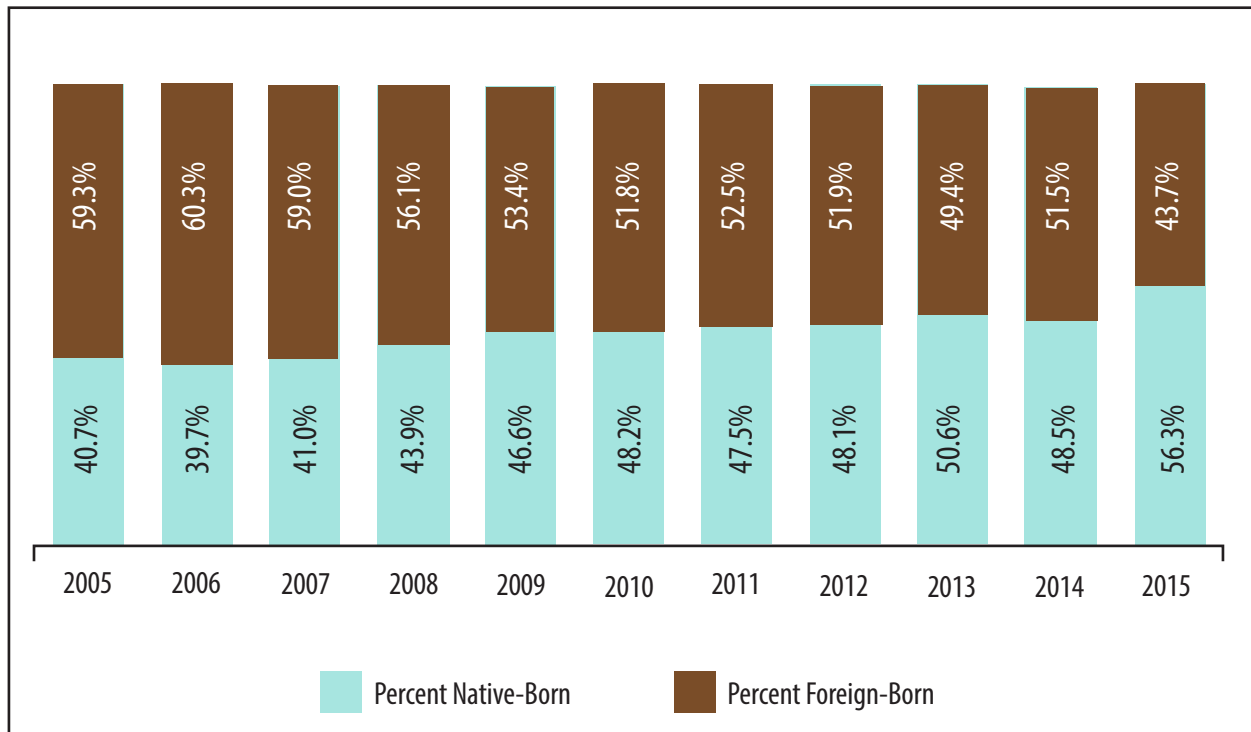
Year (as of July 1)	Total Hispanic or Latino	Native-born Hispanic or Latino		Foreign-born Hispanic or Latino	
	Number	Number	% of Total Hispanic or Latino	Number	% of Total Hispanic or Latino
2015	71,129	40,031	56.3%	31,098	43.7%
2014	68,356	33,136	48.5%	35,220	51.5%
2013	65,560	33,143	50.6%	32,417	49.4%
2012	62,726	30,177	48.1%	32,549	51.9%
2011	58,744	27,924	47.5%	30,820	52.5%
2010	55,256	26,643	48.2%	28,613	51.8%
2009	53,025	24,704	46.6%	28,321	53.4%
2008	51,124	22,460	43.9%	28,664	56.1%
2007	49,016	20,100	41.0%	28,916	59.0%
2006	47,775	18,958	39.7%	28,817	60.3%
2005	45,901	18,703	40.7%	27,198	59.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 to 2015 American Community Survey

According to the 2005 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, there were 45,901 Hispanics or Latinos in the District of Columbia on July 1, 2005. Of the total 45,901 Hispanics or Latinos, 27,198 Hispanics or Latinos or 59.3 percent were foreign-born and 18,703 Hispanics or Latinos or 40.7 percent were native-born (Figure 2). In 2015, of the total 71,129 Hispanics or Latinos in the District, 43.7 percent were foreign-born (down from 60.3 percent in 2006) and 56.3 percent were native-born (up from 39.7 percent in 2006). The significant growth in the native-born Hispanic population in the District is captured by the increase in births to Hispanic mothers from below 1,000 births annually prior to 2005 to an average of 1,400 births annually since 2005.

As demonstrated in Table 2 and Figure 2, the ten years between 2005 and 2015 showed a general increase in the percentage of Hispanics who were native-born and a general decrease in the percentage of Hispanics who were foreign-born, as a share of the total Hispanic population in the District. In addition, while the total number of both native-born and foreign-born Hispanics increased from 2005 to 2015, native-born Hispanics have more than doubled (114 percent) while foreign-born Hispanics grew only 14 percent.

**Figure 2. District of Columbia Hispanic or Latino Population by Nativity: July 1, 2005 - July 1, 2015**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 to 2015 American Community Survey

**Foreign-Born Hispanic or Latino Population by Citizenship Status - 2005 to 2015**

In the ten years between 2005 and 2015, there was a significant increase in the number and percentage of Hispanic noncitizens who became naturalized U.S. citizens. Of the total 27,198 foreign-born Hispanics or Latinos in the District of Columbia in 2005, 19 percent were naturalized U.S. citizens and the majority or 81 percent were noncitizens (Table 3 and Figure 3).

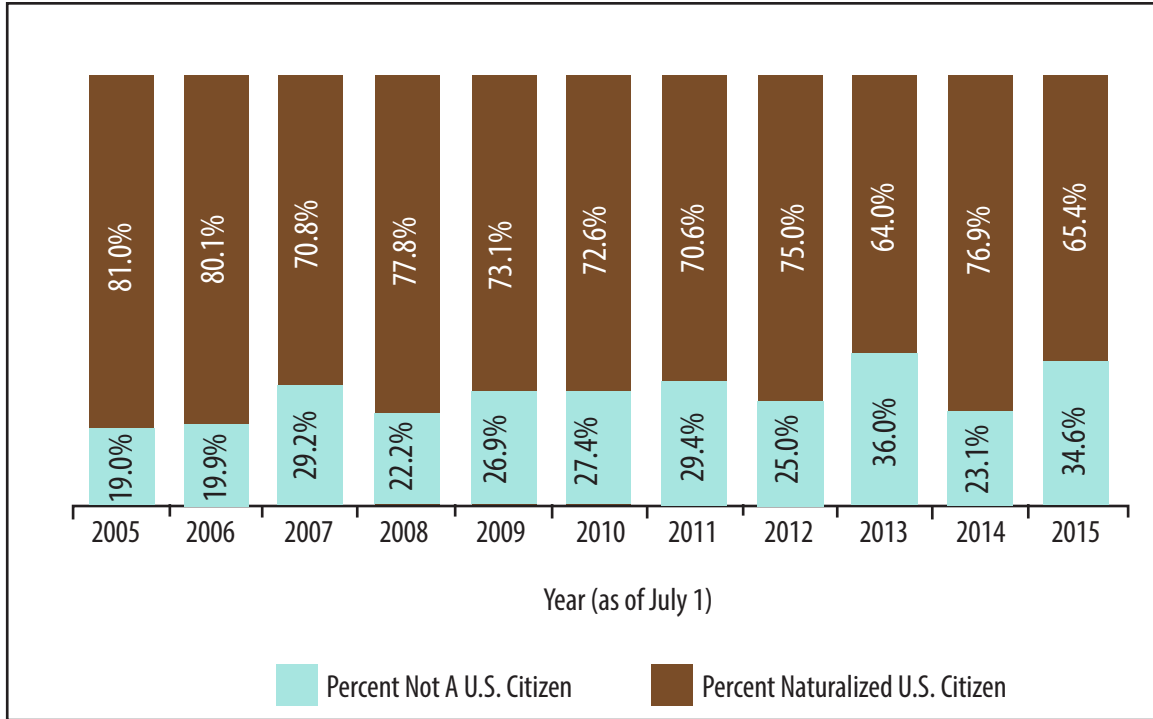
**Table 3. District of Columbia Foreign-Born Hispanic or Latino Population by Citizenship Status: July 1, 2005 - July 1, 2015**

Year (as of July 1)	Foreign Born	Naturalized U.S. citizen		Not a U.S. citizen	
	Number	Number	Percent of total foreign-born Hispanic or Latino	Number	Percent of total foreign-born Hispanic or Latino
2015	31,098	10,771	34.6%	20,327	65.4%
2014	35,220	8,135	23.1%	27,085	76.9%
2013	32,417	11,663	36.0%	20,754	64.0%
2012	32,549	8,143	25.0%	24,406	75.0%
2011	30,820	9,070	29.4%	21,750	70.6%
2010	28,613	7,831	27.4%	20,782	72.6%
2009	28,321	7,632	26.9%	20,689	73.1%
2008	28,664	6,375	22.2%	22,289	77.8%
2007	28,916	8,443	29.2%	20,473	70.8%
2006	28,817	5,731	19.9%	23,086	80.1%
2005	27,198	5,173	19.0%	22,025	81.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 to 2015 American Community Survey

According to the 2015 American Community Survey, of the total 31,098 foreign-born Hispanics or Latinos in the District in 2015, 34.6 percent were naturalized U.S. citizens (up from 19 percent in 2005) and 65.4 percent were noncitizens (down from 81 percent in 2005). The high degree of fluctuation both in number and percent for naturalized citizens and noncitizens may be a reflection of the small sample size throughout the survey period.

**Figure 3. District of Columbia Foreign-Born Hispanic or Latino Population by Citizenship Status: July 1, 2005 - July 1, 2015**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 to 2015 American Community Survey

### Hispanic or Latino Population 3 Years and Over by Nativity and Educational Attainment

Between July 1, 2005 and July 1, 2006, the District’s Hispanic population increased by 4.1 percent or 1,874 people. The annual growth rate of the District’s Hispanic population declined to 2.6 percent between July 1, 2006 and July 1, 2007. Table 4 shows the District of Columbia Hispanic population numeric and percent change during the 2005 to 2015 period.

Table 4. Hispanic or Latino Population 3 Years and Over by Nativity and Educational Attainment: 2015						
Educational Attainment	Total		Native		Foreign-born	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total population 3 years and over	67,134	100	36,800	100	30,334	100
Less than 9th grade	20,012	29.8	11,054	30.0	8,958	29.5
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	6,303	9.4	2,145	5.8	4,158	13.7
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	9,912	14.8	5,075	13.8	4,837	15.9
Some college, no degree	7,859	11.7	5,673	15.4	2,186	7.2
Associate's degree	421	0.6	297	0.8	124	0.4
Bachelor's degree	10,571	15.7	6,182	16.8	4,389	14.5
Graduate or professional degree	12,056	18.0	6,374	17.3	5,682	18.7
High school graduate or higher	40,819	60.8	23,601	64.1	17,218	56.7
Bachelor's degree or higher	22,627	33.7	12,556	34.1	10,071	33.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS).

## Hispanic or Latino Population 16 Years and Over By Nativity and Employment Status

Labor force participation rate was higher among the foreign-born Hispanic population in the District compared to the native-born Hispanic population. In 2015, 79.1 percent of foreign-born Hispanics or Latinos were in civilian labor force, compared with 68 percent of the native-born Hispanics or Latinos. Only 2.3 percent of foreign-born Hispanics or Latinos were unemployed in 2015, compared with 10.1 percent of native-born Hispanics or Latinos (Table 5).

**Table 5. Hispanic or Latino Population 16 Years and Over by Nativity and Employment Status: 2015**

Subject	Total		Native		Foreign-born	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Population 16 years and over	54,410	54,410	24,748	24,748	29,662	29,662
In labor force	43,458	79.9%	19,442	78.6%	24,016	81.0%
Civilian labor force	40,311	74.1%	16,839	68.0%	23,472	79.1%
Civilian employed, at work	39,764	73.1%	16,684	67.4%	23,080	77.8%
Civilian employed, with a job but not at work	547	1.0%	155	0.6%	392	1.3%
Unemployed	2,242	4.1%	1,698	6.9%	544	1.8%
Armed force	905	1.7%	905	3.7%	0	0.0%
Not in labor force	10,952	20.1%	5,306	21.4%	5,646	19.0%
Civilian labor force	40,311	40,311	16,839	16,839	23,472	23,472
Unemployment rate	(x)	5.6%	(x)	10.1%	(x)	2.3%
(x): Not applicable						

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS).