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By
Minwuyelet Azimeraw
Joy Phillips, Ph.D.

This report is based on data produced by the U.S. Census Bureau and may differ from data produced by other entities.

District of Columbia Hispanic or Latino Population 2009

Introduction

This report presents data on the demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics of the Hispanic population in the District of Columbia (District). The data are based on the 2009 American Community Survey (ACS) conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau.

In 2009, Hispanics represented 15.8 percent of the total U.S. population. While Hispanics can be found in every state, almost two-thirds lived in four states. Fourteen million (28 percent) lived in California, followed by Texas with 9.1 million (19 percent), Florida with 4 million (8.2 percent), and New York with 3.2 million (6.8 percent). The District, with a total of 53,025 Hispanics in 2009, accounted for 0.1 percent of the total Hispanic population of the U.S. and 8.8 percent of the District's total population.

Since Census 2000, the Hispanic population of the District has increased by 18 percent, compared with an increase of 3.7 percent for the non-Hispanic population, and 4.8 percent for the total District

population (Table 1). In 2009, 24,704 Hispanics (46.6 percent) in the District were born in the U.S., while the remaining 28,321 Hispanics (53.4 percent) were foreign-born.

Hispanic Population by Age Group and Sex

There were more Hispanic males than females, unlike the gender distribution of the total District population. In 2009, of the 599,657 residents in the District, 281,649 (47 percent) were males and 318,008 (53 percent) were females. Of the 53,025 Hispanic residents, 27,616 (52.1 percent) were males and 25,409 (47.9 percent) were females.

The Hispanic population was a much younger population than the total population of the District. In 2009, 26.3 percent of Hispanics were under the age of 18, compared with 19 percent of the total population. A smaller proportion of Hispanics (67.9 percent) were 18 to 64 years as compared to the total District population (69.4 percent). Persons over 65 years comprised only 5.8 percent of the Hispanic population, compared with 11.7 percent of the total

**Hispanic
represented 8.8%
of the District's
Population in 2009**

**Table 1. Population Change by Hispanic Origin
District of Columbia: 2000-2009**

Hispanic Origin	Population Statistical		Change 2000 – 2009	
Total	599,657	572,059	27,598	4.8
Not Hispanic or Latino	546,632	527,106	19,526	3.7
Hispanic or Latino	53,025	44,953	8,072	18.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey.

**Table 2. Hispanic Population by Age and Sex
District of Columbia: 2009**

Age and Sex	District (Total)		Hispanics	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes	599,657	100.0	53,025	100.0
Under 18 years	113,710	19.0	13,960	26.3
18 to 64 years	415,925	69.4	36,013	67.9
65 years and over	70,022	11.7	3,052	5.8
Male	281,649	100.0	27,616	100.0
Under 18 years	57,205	20.3	7,060	25.6
18 to 64 years	196,841	69.9	19,359	70.1
65 years and over	27,603	9.8	1,197	4.3
Female	318,008	100.0	25,409	100.0
Under 18 years	56,505	17.8	6,900	27.2
18 to 64 years	219,084	68.9	16,654	65.5
65 years and over	42,419	13.3	1,855	7.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

population (Table 2). Hispanics had a lower median age than the total population of the District. In 2009, the median age for Hispanics in the District was 31 years, while the median age for the total population of the District was 35 years.

Hispanic Population by Race

In 2009, more than half (61 percent) of Hispanics in the District indicated that their race was white alone, 30 percent reported some other race alone, 5.9 percent reported Black or African American alone, 2.2 percent reported two or more races, and 0.7 percent reported American Indian and Alaska Native alone (Table 3).

Table 3. Hispanic Population by Race District of Columbia: 2009				
Race	District (Total)		Hispanics	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	599,657	100.0	53,025	100.0
White alone	232,247	38.7	32,349	61.0
Black or African American alone	319,119	53.2	3,151	5.9
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	1,835	0.3	390	0.7
Asian alone	17,268	2.9	0	0.0
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	539	0.1	0	0.0
Some other race alone	17,600	2.9	15,985	30.1
Two or more races:	11,049	1.8	1,150	2.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey.

Hispanic Population by Language Spoken

Table 4 shows language spoken at home by the ability to speak English for the Hispanic population five years and over in the District. In 2009, 37.6 percent spoke only English at home, 62 percent spoke Spanish, and 0.4 percent spoke other languages at home. Seventy-two percent of Hispanics age five years and over spoke English very well and 28 percent spoke English less than very well (Table 4).

Table 4. Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the 5 Years and Over Hispanic Population District of Columbia: 2009		
Language Spoken at Home	Number	Percent
Total	47,174	100.0
Speak only English	17,731	37.6
Speak Spanish	29,235	62.0
Speak English "very well"	16,016	34.0
Speak English less than "very well"	13,219	28.0
Speak other language	208	0.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey.

Hispanic Population by Country of Origin

Hispanics in the District are quite diverse in terms of country of origin. In 2009, while the District's Hispanic population comprised of individuals from different countries, more than half (59.6 percent) were Salvadorans and Mexicans.

Salvadoran represented 46.2 percent and Mexicans 13.4 percent. Other sizable Hispanic origin populations included 6.4 percent of Guatemalan origin, 5.5 percent Puerto Rican origin, 3.2 percent Colombian origin, 3.1 percent Cuban origin, 2.2 percent Dominican Origin, and 2 percent Honduran origin (Table 5).

Most Hispanics in the District (46%) were from El Salvador

Table 5. Hispanic Population by Country of Origin District of Columbia: 2009		
Country of Origin	Number	Percent
Hispanic or Latino	53,025	100.0
Native	24,704	46.6
Foreign Born	28,321	53.4
Salvadoran	24,496	46.2
Mexican	7,079	13.4
Guatemalan	3,418	6.4
Puerto Rican	2,931	5.5
Colombian	1,691	3.2
Cuban	1,638	3.1
Dominican (Dominican Republic)	1,161	2.2
Honduran	1,052	2.0
Argentinean	831	1.6
Nicaraguan	780	1.5
Chilean	718	1.4
Panamanian	705	1.3
Peruvian	652	1.2
Ecuadorian	553	1.0
Other Hispanic or Latino	5,320	9.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

Hispanic Population by Household Type and Marital Status

In 2009, there were 249,280 households in the District of Columbia, of which 17,123 (6.9 percent) were Hispanic households. Forty-nine percent Hispanic households were family households, compared with 43.7 percent of the total District. Nonfamily households made up 50.8 percent of Hispanic households, compared with 56.3 percent of the total District.

Married couple family households made up 25.9 percent of Hispanic households, compared with 22.7 percent of total District. Seventeen percent of Hispanic households were maintained by a female householder with no spouse present, compared with 17.5 percent of total households. Households maintained by a male householder with no spouse present represented 6.9 percent of Hispanic households, compared with 3.5 percent of total households of the District.

While 46.6 percent of all District households were maintained by householder living alone, Hispanic householders living alone comprised 37.9 percent (Table 6).

Hispanics were more likely than the total population of the District to be married. In 2009, 36.8 percent of Hispanics aged 15 years and over were married, compared with 29 percent of the total population of the District (Table 7). Ten percent of Hispanics aged 15 years and over were widowed or divorced, compared with 15.3 percent of the total population and 53.4 percent of Hispanics aged 15 years and over had never married, compared with 55.7 percent of the total population of the District aged 15 years and over.

**About 7%
of Hispanic
households were
maintained by a
male householder
with no spouse
present**

**Table 6. Hispanic Population by Household Type
District of Columbia: 2009**

Household Type	District (Total)		Hispanics	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	249,280	100.0	17,123	100.0
Family households	109,030	43.7	8,429	49.2
Married-couple family	56,695	22.7	4,432	25.9
Other family	52,335	21.0	3,997	23.3
Male householder, no wife present	8,793	3.5	1,179	6.9
Female householder, no husband present	43,542	17.5	2,818	16.5
Nonfamily households	140,250	56.3	8,694	50.8
Householder living alone	116,183	46.6	6,495	37.9
Householder not living alone	24,067	9.7	2,199	12.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

**Hispanics were
more likely to be
married than non
Hispanics**

**Table 7. Hispanic or Latino Population
15 Years and Over by Marital Status
District of Columbia: 2009**

Marital Status	District (Total)		Hispanics	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes	504,809	100.0	40,672	100.0
Never married	281,355	55.7	21,730	53.4
Now married	146,315	29.0	14,987	36.8
Widowed	27,809	5.5	981	2.4
Divorced	49,330	9.8	2,974	7.3
Male	233,036	100.0	21,347	100.0
Never married	133,082	57.1	11,627	54.5
Now married	74,376	31.9	8,351	39.1
Widowed	5,922	2.5	156	0.7
Divorced	19,656	8.4	1,213	5.7
Female	271,773	100.0	19,325	100.0
Never married	148,273	54.6	10,103	52.3
Now married	71,939	26.5	6,636	34.3
Widowed	21,887	8.1	825	4.3
Divorced	29,674	10.9	1,761	9.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

Hispanic Population by Educational Attainment

Hispanics have lower levels of educational attainment compared with the total population of the District. In 2009, 41 percent of Hispanics aged 25 years and over had less than a high school diploma, compared with 12.9 percent of the total population of the District. A smaller proportion (34.6 percent) of Hispanics aged 25 and over had a bachelor's degree or higher education, compared with 48.5 percent of the total population of the District.

In 2009, 63.8 percent of Hispanic women aged 25 years and over were high school graduates or more, compared with 54.8 percent of Hispanic men. A greater proportion (36.9 percent) of Hispanic men aged 25 years and over had a bachelor's degree or higher education, compared with 32 percent of Hispanic women aged 25 years and over (Table 8).

Hispanic Population by Employment Status

The unemployment rate among Hispanics was similar to the total District population with 11.2 percent Hispanics unemployed in 2009. Hispanic men were more likely than Hispanic women to be unemployed. In 2009, 14.6 percent of Hispanic men aged 16 years and over in the civilian labor force were unemployed, compared with only 6.4 percent of Hispanic women (Table 9).

Hispanic Household Income

In 2009, 9.4 percent of Hispanic households reported incomes below \$15,000, compared with 16.3 percent of the total households of the District. A higher proportion of Hispanic households (69.6 percent) reported incomes between \$15,000 and \$99,999, compared with 53.3 percent of the total District households. Twenty-one percent of Hispanic households reported incomes over \$100,000, compared with 30.3 percent of the total District households. In 2009, the median household income of Hispanic households was \$46,821, compared with \$59,290 for all District households (Table 10).

Hispanic Population by Poverty Status

Poverty rate varies by age and sex for the Hispanic population and total population of the District. Children under the age of 18 were more likely than other age groups in the District to live in poverty. The District of Columbia had the second highest child poverty rate (29.4 percent) in the nation in 2009, next to Mississippi at 31 percent. However, Hispanics were less likely than the total population of the District to live in poverty. In 2009, about 10.7 percent of Hispanics were in poverty, compared with 18.4 percent

Table 8: Hispanic Population 25 Years and Over by Sex and Educational Attainment District of Columbia: 2009

Educational Attainment	District (Total)		Hispanics	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes	413,396	100.0	33,040	100.0
Less than high school diploma	53,317	12.9	13,542	41.0
HSG, GED, or alternative	82,834	20.0	4,507	13.6
Some college or associate's degree	76,863	18.6	3,557	10.8
Bachelor's degree or higher	200,382	48.5	11,434	34.6
Male	191,593	100.0	17,540	100.0
Less than high school diploma	23,331	12.2	7,926	45.2
HSG, GED, or alternative	40,260	21.0	2,075	11.8
Some college or associate's degree	32,587	17.0	1,063	6.1
Bachelor's degree or higher	95,415	49.8	6,476	36.9
Female	221,803	100.0	15,500	100.0
Less than high school diploma	29,986	13.5	5,616	36.2
HSG, GED, or alternative	42,574	19.2	2,432	15.7
Some college or associate's degree	44,276	20.0	2,494	16.1
Bachelor's degree or higher	104,967	47.3	4,958	32.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

Table 9. Hispanic Population 16 Years and Over by Sex and Employment Status District of Columbia: 2009

Unemployment Status	District (Total)		Hispanics	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes		100.0	39,986	100.0
In labor force	332,890	66.7	31,008	77.0
In Armed Forces	2,283	0.7	209	0.7
Civilian	330,607	99.3	30,799	99.3
Employed	293,927	88.9	27,352	88.8
Unemployed	36,680	11.1	3,447	11.2
Not in labor force	165,845	33.3	8,978	22.5
Male		100.0	20,898	100.0
In labor force	162,399	70.6	17,976	86.0
In Armed Forces	1,918	1.2	120	0.7
Civilian	160,481	98.8	17,856	99.3
Employed	141,941	88.4	15,243	85.4
Unemployed	18,540	11.6	2,613	14.6
Not in labor force	67,631	29.4	2,922	14.0
Female		100.0	19,088	100.0
In labor force	170,491	63.4	13,032	68.3
In Armed Forces	365	0.2	89	0.7
Civilian	170,126	99.8	12,943	99.3
Employed	151,986	89.3	12,109	93.6
Unemployed	18,140	10.7	834	6.4
Not in labor force	98,214	36.6	6,056	31.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

Poverty Status

The U.S. Census Bureau uses a set of dollar value thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty. If a family's total income is less than the dollar value of the appropriate threshold, then that family and every individual in it are considered to be in poverty. The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated annually to allow for changes in the cost of living (inflation factor) using the Consumer Price Index (CPI). In 2009 for example, the poverty threshold for a single person living alone was \$10,956; for a two-person family, \$13,991; for a family consisting of one adult and two children, it was \$17,285; and for two adults and two children, it was \$21,756. To determine whether someone is in poverty, their total family income is compared with the poverty threshold appropriate for that person's family size and composition. If the total income of the family is less than the threshold, then the person and every member of the family is considered to be in poverty. Poverty status was determined for all people except institutionalized people, people in military group quarters, people in college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years old.

of the total population of the District. Thirteen percent of Hispanics under the age of 18 were in poverty, compared with 29.4 percent of the total population. A smaller proportion Hispanics (9.9 percent) aged 18 to 64 years were in poverty, compared with 15.9 percent of the total population. About 9.4 percent of Hispanics aged 65 years and over were in poverty, compared with 14.6 percent of the total population (Table 11).

Hispanic men were generally less likely than Hispanic women in the District to live in poverty. In 2009, 9.3 percent of Hispanic men were in poverty, compared with 12.2 percent of Hispanic women.

Health Insurance Coverage

According to the 2009 American Community Survey, Hispanics were less likely than the total population of the District to be covered by health insurance. As shown in Table 12 in 2009, 14.6

**Table 10. Hispanic Population by Household Income
District of Columbia: 2009**

Household Income	District (Total) Households		Hispanic Households	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	249,280	100.0	17,123	100.0
Less than \$10,000	28,804	11.6	1,014	5.9
\$10,000 to \$14,999	11,929	4.8	598	3.5
\$15,000 to \$24,999	19,364	7.8	1,788	10.4
\$25,000 to \$34,999	19,707	7.9	2,861	16.7
\$35,000 to \$49,999	28,474	11.4	2,731	15.9
\$50,000 to \$74,999	38,212	15.3	2,920	17.1
\$75,000 to \$99,999	27,231	10.9	1,624	9.5
\$100,000 or more	75,559	30.3	3,587	21.0
Median household income	\$59,290		\$46,821	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

**Table 11. Hispanic Population Poverty Status in the Last 12 Months
by Sex and Age District of Columbia: 2009**

Poverty Status	District Total		Hispanics	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level Both Sexes	104,901	18.4	5,566	10.7
Under 18 years	33,133	29.4	1,796	13.0
18 to 64 years	62,162	15.9	3,486	9.9
65 years and over	9,606	14.6	284	9.4
18 years and over	71,768	15.7	3,770	9.9
Male	42,945	16.0	2,540	9.3
Under 18 years	16,168	28.6	1,082	15.5
18 to 64 years	23,650	12.7	1,232	6.5
65 years and over	3,127	11.8	226	19.3
18 years and over	26,777	12.6	1,458	7.2
Female	61,956	20.6	3,026	12.2
Under 18 years	16,965	30.3	714	10.5
18 to 64 years	38,512	18.7	2,254	13.9
65 years and over	6,479	16.5	58	3.1
18 years and over	44,991	18.3	2,312	12.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

Table 12. Number and Percentage of Persons without Health Insurance by Age District of Columbia: 2009

Health Insurance Status by Age	District Total			Hispanics		
	Total	Uninsured		Total	Uninsured	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
Total civilian non institutionalized population	589,408	41,392	7.0	52,605	7,693	14.6
Age						
Under 18 years	113,710	3,198	2.8	13,960	1,005	7.2
18 to 64 years	409,934	37,704	9.2	35,632	6,605	18.5
65 years and over	65,764	490	0.7	3,013	83	2.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

percent of Hispanics were without health insurance coverage, compared with 7.0 percent of the total population. Health insurance coverage varies by age. In 2009, 7.2 percent of Hispanic children under the age of 18 were without health insurance, compared with 2.8 percent of the total population. For the 18 to 64 years group, 18.5 percent were without health insurance, compared with 9.2 percent of the total population. The 65 years and over age group had 2.8 percent of Hispanics without health insurance, compared with 0.7 percent of the total population.

Hispanic Population by Occupation

The majority of Hispanics in the District worked in service occupations (39.7 percent) and management, professional and related occupations (36.9 percent), with a greater percentage of women than men in both categories (Tables 13 and 14). The other significant occupations for Hispanics were sales and office occupations (12.8 percent), and construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations (9 percent).

Hispanic Population by Housing Tenure

Hispanic householders were less likely than all householders of the District to live in owner occupied housing units than renter occupied housing units. In 2009, 29.6 percent of Hispanic households lived in owner occupied housing units, compared with 44.8 percent of the total households of the District. About 70.4 percent of Hispanic households lived in renter occupied housing units, compared with 55.2 percent of the total households of the District (Table 15).

**Over two-thirds
of Hispanic
householders
lived in renter
occupied units**

Table 13. Occupation for the Civilian Employed Hispanic Population 16 Years and Over District of Columbia: 2009

Occupation	District (Total)		Hispanics	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total		100.0	27,352	100.0
Service occupations	50,686	17.2	10,877	39.8
Management, professional, and related occupations	168,226	57.2	10,081	36.9
Sales and office occupations	55,373	18.8	3,492	12.8
Construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations	8,765	3.0	2,474	9.0
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	10,808	3.7	428	1.6
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	69	0.0	0	0.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

Table 14. Occupation by Sex for Civilian Employed Hispanic Population 16 Years and Over District of Columbia: 2009

Occupation	Hispanics			
	Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	15,243	100.0	12,109	100.0
Service occupations	5,619	36.9	5,258	43.4
Management, professional, and related occupations	5,542	36.4	4,539	37.5
Sales and office occupations	1,384	9.1	2,108	17.4
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	224	1.5	204	1.7
Construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations	2,474	16.2	0	0.0
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	0	0.0	0	0.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

Table 15. Housing Tenure for Occupied Housing Units District of Columbia: 2009

Housing Tenure	District (Total) Householder		Hispanic Householder	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	249,280	100.0	17,123	100.0
Owner occupied	111,618	44.8	5,069	29.6
Renter occupied	137,662	55.2	12,054	70.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

For more information contact:
D.C. Office of Planning State Data Center
1100 4th Street SW, Suite E650, Washington, DC 20024
202.442.7600 ph 202.442.7638 fax
www.planning.dc.gov

