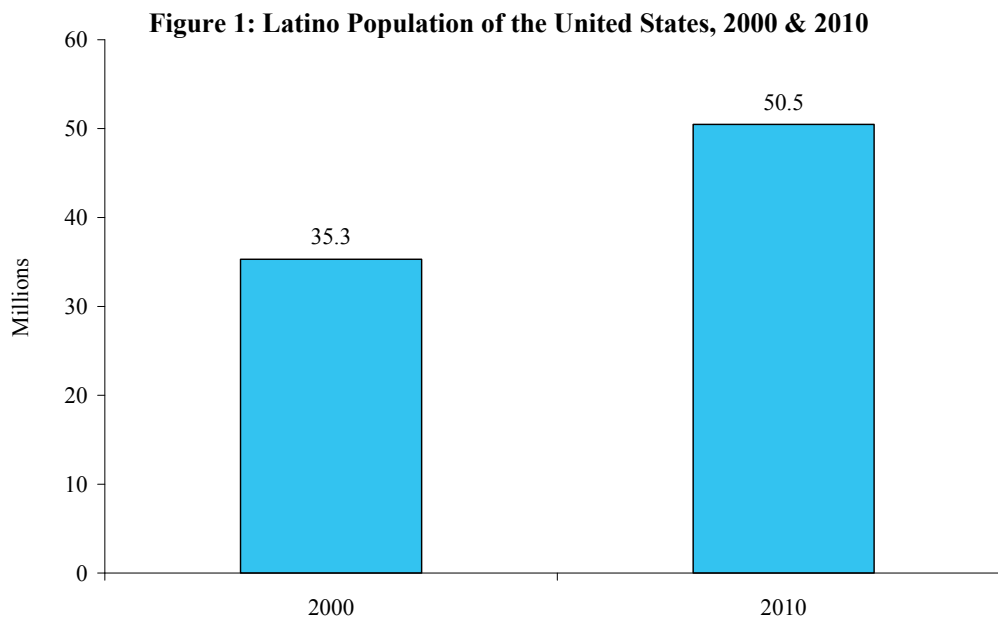


**LATINOS IN AMERICA:  
A Demographic Profile**

Latinos in the United States are a diverse and fast-growing group that is amassing considerable economic and political power. As data from the 2010 Census and other sources demonstrate, Latinos now account for one-sixth of the U.S. population. Most Latinos were born in this country, but over one-third are immigrants. Latinos as a whole (both foreign-born and native-born) are sizeable shares of the population and electorate in New Mexico, California, and Texas, but the fastest growing Latino populations are in South Carolina, Alabama, and Tennessee. The Mexican population is by far the largest in size, but the number of Spaniards is increasing the fastest. Latinos work in a diverse range of occupations, and nearly half of Latino households are owner occupied. Latinos also wield significant economic clout. Latino businesses and consumers sustain millions of jobs and add hundreds of billions of dollars in value to the U.S. economy.

**The Latino population is growing fast and now accounts for one out of every six people.**

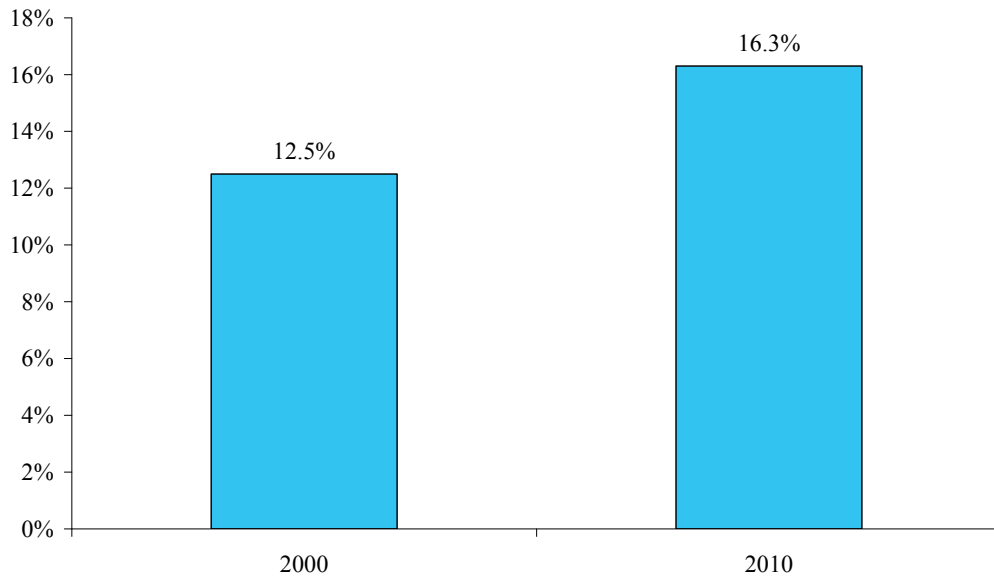
- Between 2000 and 2010, the number of people in the United States who identified themselves as Latino grew from 35.3 million to 50.5 million (an increase of 43%) {Figure 1}.<sup>1</sup>



Source: Sharon R. Ennis, et al., *The Hispanic Population: 2010*, C2010BR-04 (Washington, DC: U.S. Census Bureau, May 2011), pp. 2-3.

- In 2010, Latinos comprised one-sixth (16.3%) of the total U.S. population—up from 12.5% in 2000 {Figure 2}.<sup>2</sup>

**Figure 2: Latino Share of the U.S. Population, 2000 & 2010**

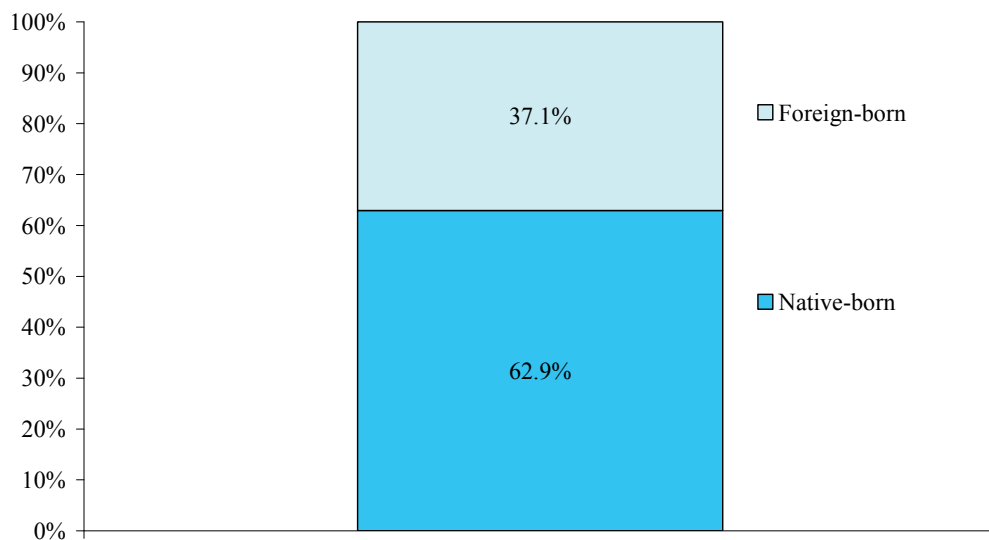


Source: Sharon R. Ennis, et al., *The Hispanic Population: 2010*, C2010BR-04 (Washington, DC: U.S. Census Bureau, May 2011), pp. 2-3.

**Nearly two-thirds of Latinos are native-born.**

- 62.9% of people who identified themselves as Latino were native-born in 2010 {Figure 3}.<sup>3</sup>

**Figure 3: Latino Population by Nativity, 2010**

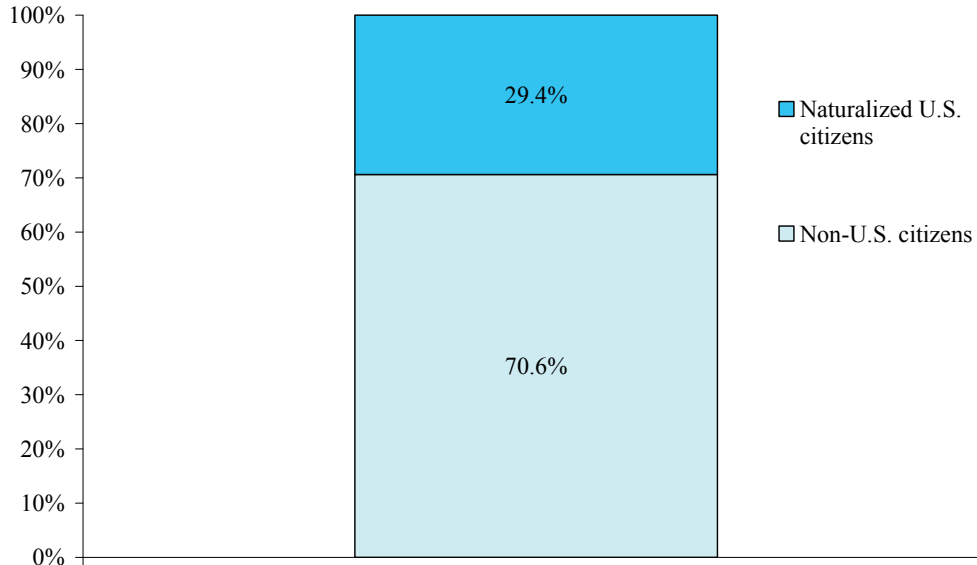


Source: 2010 American Community Survey, Table B05003I: "Sex by Age by Citizenship Status (Hispanic or Latino)."

**More than one-quarter of foreign-born Latinos are naturalized U.S. citizens, but roughly half are unauthorized immigrants.**

- 29.4% of foreign-born Latinos were naturalized U.S. citizens in 2010, meaning that they can vote {Figure 4}.<sup>4</sup>
- Roughly half of foreign-born Latinos were unauthorized immigrants in 2010.<sup>5</sup>

**Figure 4: Foreign-Born Latino Population by Citizenship, 2010**

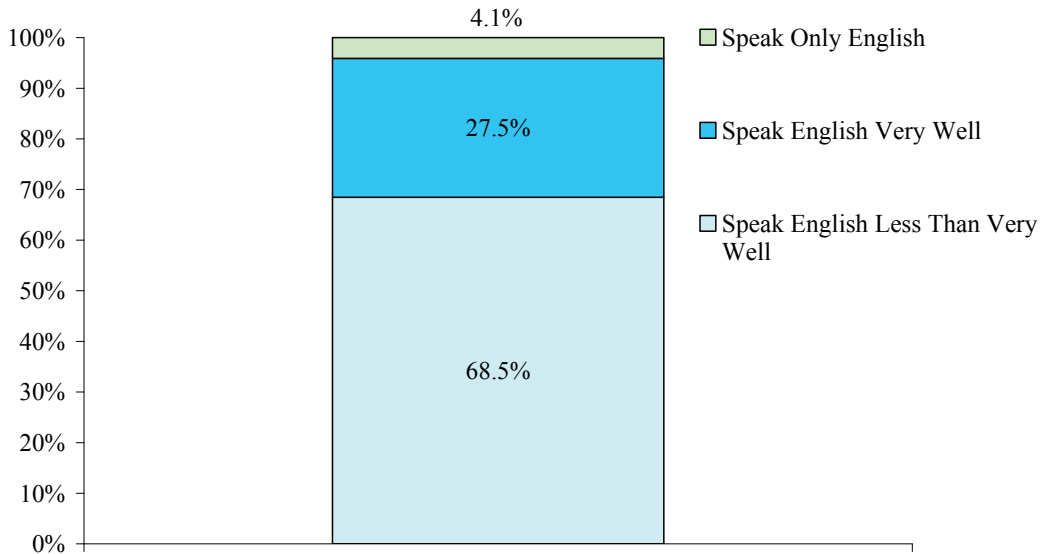


Source: 2010 American Community Survey, Table B050031: "Sex by Age by Citizenship Status (Hispanic or Latino)."

**Just under one-third of foreign-born Latinos speak English “very well” or better.**

- 31.6% of foreign-born Latinos age five and up reported speaking only English or speaking it “very well” in 2010 {Figure 5}.<sup>6</sup>
  - 27.5% of foreign-born Latinos age five and up reported speaking English “very well” in 2010.<sup>7</sup>
  - Another 4.1% of foreign-born Latinos age five and up reported speaking only English in 2010.<sup>8</sup>

**Figure 5: Foreign-Born Latinos by English Language Ability, 2010**

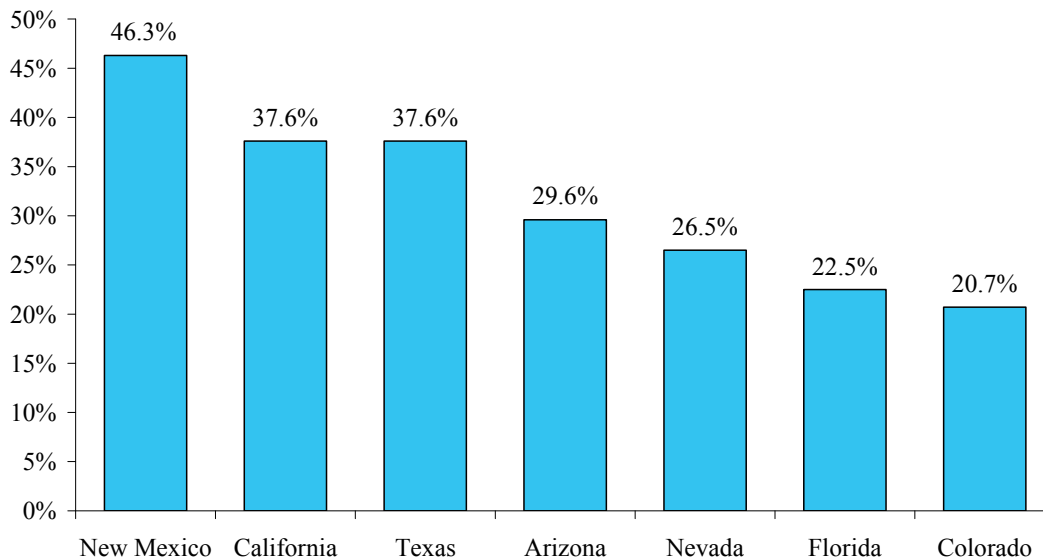


Source: 2010 American Community Survey, Table B160051: "Nativity by Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over (Hispanic or Latino)."

**The states with the largest Latino population shares are New Mexico, California, and Texas, but the fastest growing Latino populations are in South Carolina, Alabama, and Tennessee.**

- As of 2010, Latinos comprised 46.3% of the population in New Mexico, 37.6% in California and Texas, 29.6% in Arizona, 26.5% in Nevada, 22.5% in Florida, and 20.7% in Colorado {Figure 6}.<sup>9</sup>

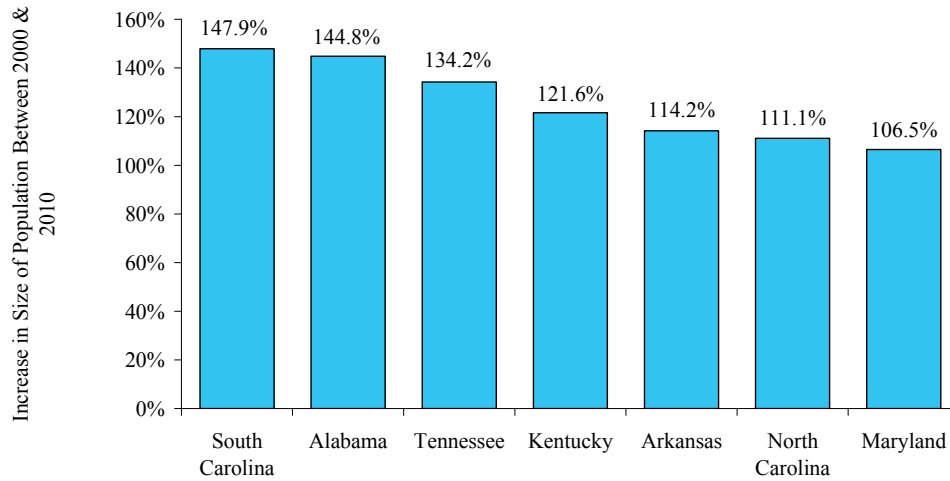
**Figure 6: States With Largest Latino Shares of Total Population, 2010**



Source: Sharon R. Ennis, et al., *The Hispanic Population: 2010*, C2010BR-04 (Washington, DC: U.S. Census Bureau, May 2011), pp. 6, 8.

- Between 2000 and 2010, the Latino population increased in size by 147.9% in South Carolina, 144.8% in Alabama, 134.2% in Tennessee, 121.6% in Kentucky, 114.2% in Arkansas, 111.1% in North Carolina, and 106.5% in Maryland {Figure 7}.<sup>10</sup>

**Figure 7: States With Largest Increases in Latino Populations, 2000-2010**

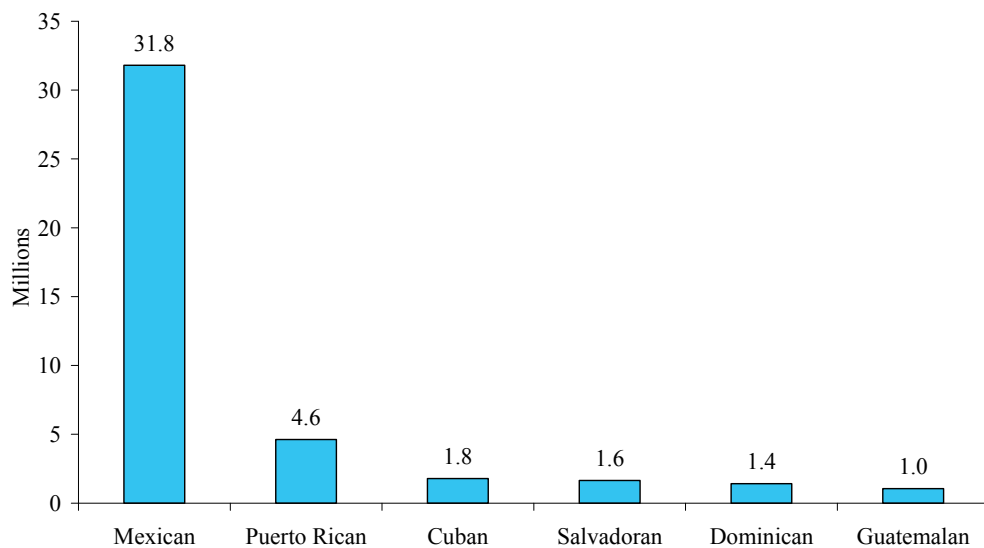


Source: Sharon R. Ennis, et al., *The Hispanic Population: 2010*, C2010BR-04 (Washington, DC: U.S. Census Bureau, May 2011), pp. 6-7.

**Mexicans comprise the largest group of Latinos, but the number of Spaniards is growing the fastest.**

- As of 2010, 31.8 million Latinos identified themselves as being of Mexican origin, 4.6 million Puerto Rican, 1.8 million Cuban, 1.6 million Salvadoran, 1.4 million Dominican, and one million Guatemalan {Figure 8}.<sup>11</sup>

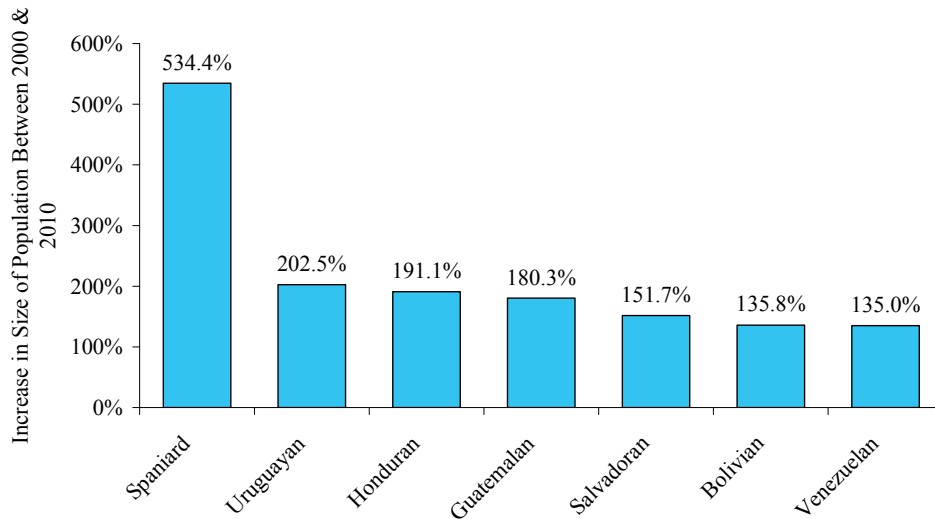
**Figure 8: Latino Population by Origin, 2010**



Source: Sharon R. Ennis, et al., *The Hispanic Population: 2010*, C2010BR-04 (Washington, DC: U.S. Census Bureau, May 2011), p. 3.

- Between 2000 and 2010, the Spanish population grew by 534.4%, the Uruguayan by 202.5%, the Honduran by 191.1%, the Guatemalan by 180.3%, the Salvadoran by 151.7%, the Bolivian by 135.8%, and the Venezuelan by 135% {Figure 9}.<sup>12</sup>

**Figure 9: Growth of Latino Population by Origin, 2000-2010**

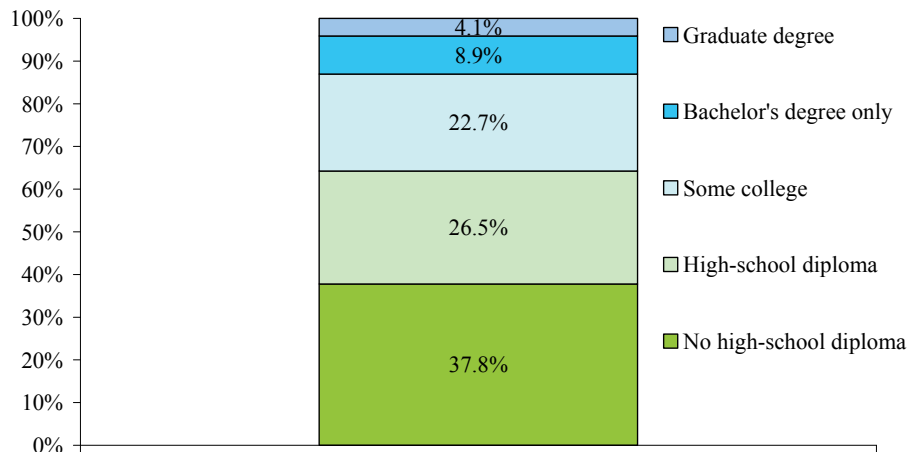


Source: Sharon R. Ennis, et al., The Hispanic Population: 2010, C2010BR-04 (Washington, DC: U.S. Census Bureau, May 2011), p. 3.

**One-eighth of Latinos have a bachelor’s degree or more education.**

- 8.9% of Latinos age 25 and over had a bachelor’s degree only in 2010, while another 4.1% had a graduate degree {Figure 10}.<sup>13</sup> In comparison, 17.7% of the U.S. population as a whole age 25 and over had a bachelor’s degree only in 2010, while 10.4% had a graduate degree.<sup>14</sup>
- More than one-third (37.8%) of Latinos age 25 and over lacked a high-school diploma in 2010 {Figure 10}.<sup>15</sup> In comparison, 14.4% of the U.S. population as a whole age 25 and over lacked a high-school diploma in 2010.<sup>16</sup>

**Figure 10: Educational Attainment of Latino Population Age 25 and Over, 2010**



Source: 2010 American Community Survey, Table B15002D: “Sex By Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Over (Hispanic or Latino).”