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Mexicans in New York City, 1990—2009: A Visual Data Base

Laird Bergad

Center for Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino Studies

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Mexicans in New York City, 1990—2009: A Visual Data Base

Laird W. Bergad
Director, Center for Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino Studies

Note: This report was prepared for the December 6, 2010 meeting of the CUNY Working Task Force on Strengthening Educational Opportunities for Mexicans and Mexican Americans. The term Mexicans in this report refers to all people of Mexican ancestry.
The Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies is a research institute that works for the advancement of the study of Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States in the doctoral programs at the CUNY Graduate Center. One of its major priorities is to provide funding and research opportunities to Latino students at the Ph.D. level.

The Center established and helps administer an interdisciplinary specialization in Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies in the Masters of Arts in Liberal Studies program.

The Latino Data Project was developed with the goal of making information available on the dynamically growing Latino population of the United States and especially New York City through the analysis of extant data available from a variety of sources such as the U.S. Census Bureau, the National Institute for Health, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and state and local-level data sources.

All Latino Data Project reports are available at http://web.gc.cuny.edu/lastudies/

For additional information you may contact the Center at 212-817-8438 or by email at clacls@gc.cuny.edu.

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Introduction

One of the purposes of the Latino Data Project is to make statistical data on the Latino population of New York City available to scholars, researchers, journalists, students, and general information seekers. The analyzed data presented in most reports the Center has released have been derived from raw data released by the U.S. Census Bureau and organized by the University of Minnesota’s, Minnesota Population Center’s IPUMS USA project (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series) which processes the PUMS (Public Use Microdata Sample) information released by the Census Bureau’s American Community Survey each fall, usually in October, for the preceding year.¹

The yearly American Community Survey PUMS data are based on samples of geographical units named Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA) which consist of statistical geographical entities with a threshold of 65,000 persons. They do not cross state lines and may consist of extant counties or other defined areas. PUMAs are determined by each state, not the U.S. Census Bureau. The samples collected by the Census Bureau are projected to the general population using a sophisticated statistical methodology and the Census Bureau publishes estimates of margins of error for the data.

The Census Bureau has also begun releasing 3 year and most recently 5-year data sets (in 2009) which have larger samples and are based on geographical regions with populations of 20,000 people or more.

The advantage of using the PUMS sample data is that the raw data files contain detailed demographic, social, economic, and housing information on a multitude of variables for every race/ethnic group and national origin group in the U.S. While demographic researchers anxiously await the full release of the 2010 census data, the information that has been released as of April 2011 is exclusively related to general characteristics of the population such as sex, age, race, Hispanic origin, and some housing characteristics. As yet there are no data on the socioeconomic indicators which are the main focus of Latino Data Project reports.

CLACLS has published two reports on the Mexican-origin population of New York City: “Mexicans in New York City, 1990—2005” and “Mexicans in New York City, 2007: An Update.” See our website for fully downloadable versions at http://web.gc.cuny.edu/lastudies/pages/latinodataprojectreports.html. All of our reports present a varied array of statistical data in tables and graphs along with an accompanying narrative which summarizes the major data in narrative and analytical form. In this report we are only presenting the data for an interested audience, without the accompanying text. In some ways this is an experiment and we await responses from our readers to determine whether we will incorporate this format into some of our reports.

Laird W. Bergad, Director, CLACLS

Figure 1
Mexican Population of New York City, 1990-2009

- 319,126 (13.5% of all Latinos)
- 187,259 (8.4% of all Latinos)
- 58,410 (3.3% of all Latinos)

- 1990
- 2000
- 2009
Figure 2
Distribution of Mexican Population of New York City by Borough, 1990-2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Bronx</th>
<th>Manhattan</th>
<th>Staten Island</th>
<th>Brooklyn</th>
<th>Queens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>24.0%</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>25.8%</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Bronx**
- **Staten Island**
- **Brooklyn**
- **Queens**
- **Manhattan**
Figure 3
Mexican Population as Percentage of Total Populations of New York City Boroughs, 1990-2009

- Bronx: 1990 = 1.0%, 2000 = 2.7%, 2009 = 5.5%
- Manhattan: 1990 = 0.7%, 2000 = 2.0%, 2009 = 2.8%
- Staten Island: 1990 = 0.5%, 2000 = 1.7%, 2009 = 3.1%
- Brooklyn: 1990 = 0.9%, 2000 = 2.5%, 2009 = 3.9%
- Queens: 1990 = 0.7%, 2000 = 2.4%, 2009 = 3.6%
- Total NYC: 1990 = 0.8%, 2000 = 2.3%, 2009 = 3.8%
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Mexican Population by Nativity, 1990-2009
(in percentages of all Mexicans)

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Mexican Population by Sex and Nativity, 1990-2009
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(in hundreds of males per hundred females)

Figure 7
(in hundreds of males per hundred females)
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Citizenship Status for Mexicans in New York City, 1990 - 2009

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Median Household Income for Mexicans in NYC by Nativity, 1990 - 2009
(in inflation-adjusted 2009 dollars)

Note: These data are for household heads.
Figure 10
Median Household Income for Mexicans in NYC by Sex and Nativity, 1990 - 2009 (in inflation-adjusted 2009 dollars)

Note: DB = Domestic Born; FB = Foreign Born. These data are for household heads.

Figure 11
Percentage of Mexican Households Earning Less than $20,000 and More than $75,000 by Nativity in New York City, 1990 - 2009

Note: These data are in inflation-adjusted 2009 dollars.
Note: These data are in inflation-adjusted 2009 dollars.
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(population ages 25 +)
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(population ages 25 +)

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(population ages 25 +)
Figure 18
Educational Attainment Rates among Mexicans in New York City by Sex and Nativity, 2009
(population ages 25+)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>DB Males</th>
<th>DB Females</th>
<th>FB Males</th>
<th>FB Females</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Did Not Graduate High School</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.A. Degree or Higher</td>
<td>37.8%</td>
<td>42.0%</td>
<td>62.9%</td>
<td>63.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: DB = Domestic Born; FB = Foreign Born.

Figure 19
Employment among Mexicans in New York City, 1990 - 2009
(population ages 16 - 60)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>69.7%</td>
<td>54.8%</td>
<td>53.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not in labor force</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1990 2000 2009
Figure 20
Employment among Mexicans in New York City by Sex, 1990 - 2009
(population ages 16 - 60)

Figure 21
Employment among Mexicans in New York City by Nativity, 1990 - 2009
(population ages 16 - 60)
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Employment among Mexicans in New York City by Sex and Nativity, 2009
(population ages 16 - 60)

Note: DB = Domestic Born; FB = Foreign Born.

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Note: Does not Speak English or does not Speak Well
Speaks only English, well or very well
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Health Insurance Coverage Among Mexicans by Nativity in New York, 2009
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Health Insurance Coverage Among Mexicans by Sex in New York, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Insurance</th>
<th>No Health Insurance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>Females</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49.6%</td>
<td>50.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64.3%</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>