

LATINOS IN IOWA: 2008

In 1968, Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim a week in September as National Hispanic Heritage Week. The observance was expanded in 1988 to a month long celebration (Sept. 15-Oct. 15). During this month, America celebrates the culture and traditions of U.S. residents who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central America, South America and the Caribbean. Sept. 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on Sept. 16 and Sept. 18, respectively.

119,734

The estimated Latino population of Iowa as of July 1, 2007, making people of Latino origin the state's largest race or ethnic minority. Latinos constitute 4.0 percent of the state's total population.

37,261

The numeric change in the Latino population from 2000 to 2007. This is a 45.2 percent increase for the period.

305,900

The projected Latino population of Iowa as of July 1, 2030. According to the 2007 Woods & Pool Economics Inc., Latinos will constitute 9.1 percent of the state's total population on that date.

Families and Children

24,203

The number of Latino families in 2006 who reside in Iowa. Of these families, 73.2 percent include their own children under 18 years of age, compared to 47.8 percent for the state of Iowa.

35.9%

Percentage of Latino grandparents in 2006 who are responsible for their own grandchildren under 18 years of age. This compares to 48.9 percent for the state of Iowa.

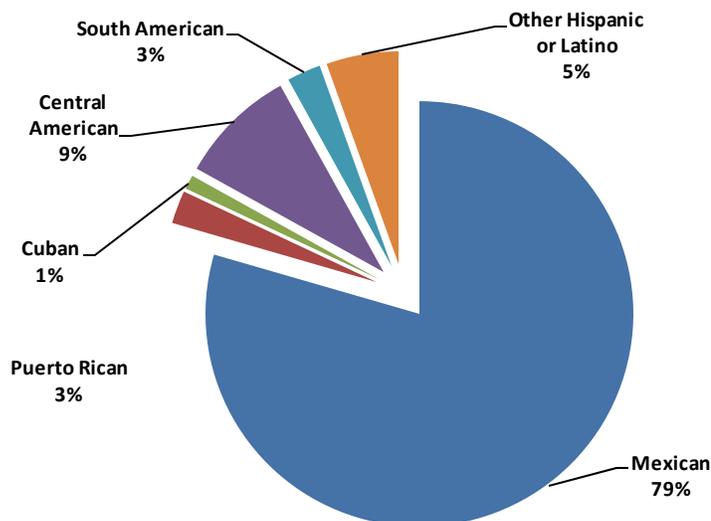
11.5%

Percentage of Latino population under age 5, as of July 1, 2007. Latinos have a higher concentration of preschoolers among the population than any other race or ethnic group.

3.39

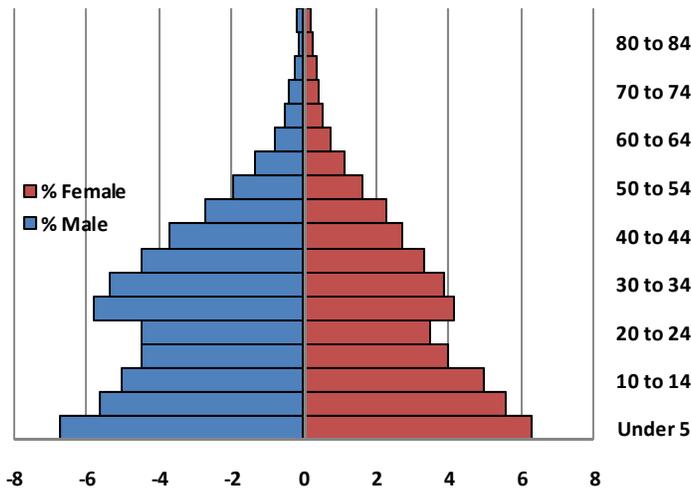
The average family size for the Iowa Latino population in 2006. The average family size in the state of Iowa is 2.92.

Hispanic or Latino Groups in Iowa: 2006

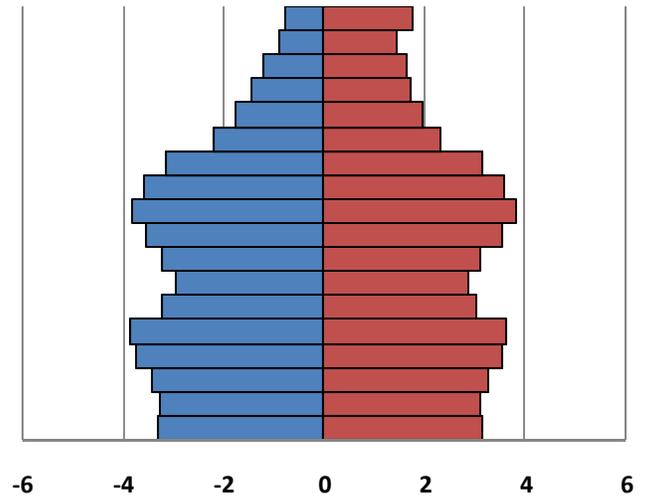


AGE DISTRIBUTION

Iowa Latino Population by Sex and Age: 2007



Iowa Total Population by Sex and Age: 2007



SPANISH LANGUAGE

97,876

The number of Iowa residents age 5 and older in 2006 who speak Spanish at home. Among those who speak Spanish at home, more than half say they speak English "very well."

14,666

The number of Spanish speaking English Language Learners in Iowa's public and non-public schools during the 2007-2008 school year. This represents a 137.0 percent increase from the 1999-2000 school year.

EDUCATION

33,031

The number Latinos enrolled in the state's elementary and high schools during the 2007-2008 school year.

109.3%

Percent increase in Latino enrollment between the 1999-2000 school year and 2007-2008.

Source: Iowa Department of Education

53.4%

The percentage of Iowa Latinos age 25 and over, who had at least a high school education in 2006.

10.2%

The percentage of Iowa Latinos age 25 and over, with a bachelor's degree or higher in 2006.

1,933

Number of Iowa Latinos 25 years and older with an advanced degree in 2006. (e.g., master's, professional, doctorate.)

22.8

The median age of Iowa's Latino population in 2006. The median age for the state of Iowa is 37.8.

Coming to America

38.1%

Percentage in 2006 of Iowa's foreign-born population from Latin America. This amounts to 42,831 people.

33,055

The number of foreign-born Iowans in 2006 who were born in Mexico, by far more than any other Latin American country or any other country in the world for that matter. Other Latin American countries of origin with a large foreign-born population are El Salvador (3,054), Caribbean (1,215), Columbia (758) and Brazil (969).

37.9%

The percent of Iowa Latinos in 2006 who are foreign-born.

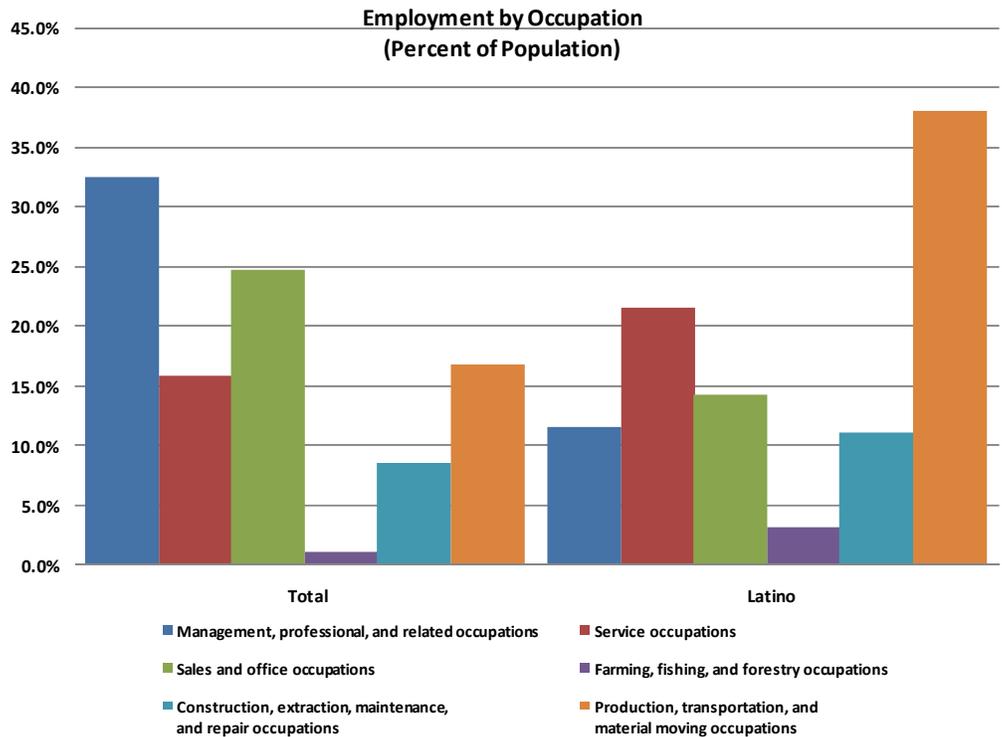
OCCUPATION

38.1%

The percent in 2006 of Iowa Latinos in the production, transportation, and material moving occupations.

5,377

The number of Iowa Latinos in the construction and extraction occupations in 2006. Latinos are represented in a wide variety of occupations. For instance, there are about 3,763 office and administrative support; 1,374 in education, training, and library occupations; 1,511 in farming, fishing, and forestry occupations; and 2687 computer and mathematical occupations.



BUSINESS AND JOBS

1,536

The number of Latino-owned firms in 2002.

87.5%

The percent increase in Latino-owned firms between 1997 and 2002.

7.7%

The unemployment rate for Iowa Latinos in 2005. The Iowa unemployment rate at that time was 5.3%.



INCOME AND POVERTY

\$35,789

The median income of Latino households in 2006. The median household income for the state was \$44,491.

24.5%

The poverty rate for the Latino population in 2006. The corresponding rate for Iowa is 11.0 percent

Serving Our Nation

2,359

The number of Iowa Latino veterans of the U.S. armed forces in 2006.

