
Overview of Hispanic Community in Maryland

**Department of Legislative Services
Office of Policy Analysis
Annapolis, Maryland**

June 2008

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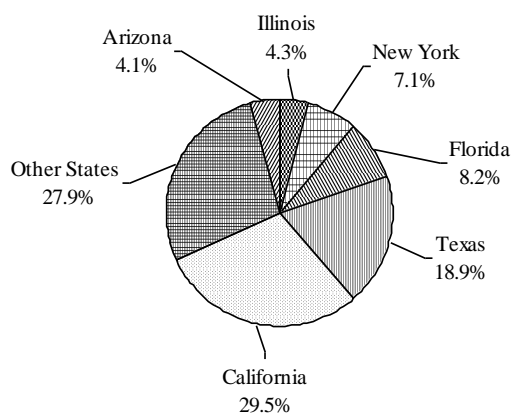
Summary of U.S. Census Data

Geographic Profile

Data compiled from the 2000 Census and the 2006 *American Community Survey* indicates that Hispanics are a diverse and rapidly increasing community both nationally and in Maryland. Hispanics are the nation's largest minority group, accounting for nearly 15 percent of the nation's population and around 50 percent of the nation's population growth. Most of the nation's Hispanics live in six states: California, Texas, Florida, New York, Illinois, and Arizona (**Exhibit 1**). California is home to nearly 30 percent of the nation's Hispanics, with Hispanics accounting for almost 36 percent of the State's population, the second highest percentage in the nation after New Mexico.

The Hispanic community in Maryland is relatively small compared to other states, ranking twentieth in terms of population size and twenty-eighth in terms of share of State population. Hispanics are the second largest minority group in Maryland, representing nearly 350,000 people and accounting for 6.0 percent of the State's population. The Hispanic community in Maryland is centered in Montgomery and Prince George's counties. Over two-thirds of the State's Hispanics live in these two counties. Hispanics account for 13.8 percent of residents in Montgomery County and 11.7 percent of residents in Prince George's County (**Exhibit 2**).

Exhibit 1
Leading States for Hispanic Residents
2006



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Exhibit 2
Hispanic Community in Maryland

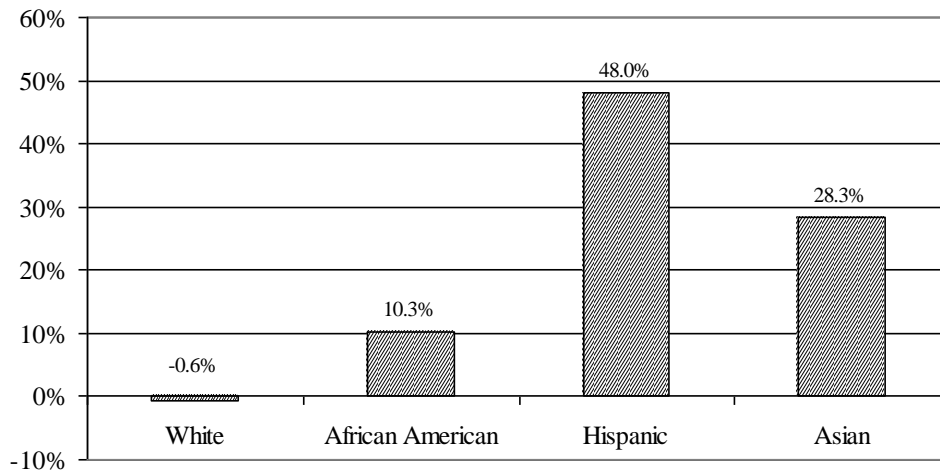
County	Hispanic Population	Total Population	Percent Hispanic	Ranking by Percent Hispanic		Ranking by Share of State Total			
Allegany	685	72,831	0.9%	1.	Montgomery	13.8%	1.	Montgomery	38.1%
Anne Arundel	19,052	509,300	3.7%	2.	Prince George's	11.7%	2.	Prince George's	29.2%
Baltimore City	15,000	631,366	2.4%	3.	Frederick	5.2%	3.	Baltimore	6.2%
Baltimore	21,004	787,384	2.7%	4.	Howard	4.3%	4.	Anne Arundel	5.6%
Calvert	1,905	88,804	2.1%	5.	Caroline	4.1%	5.	Baltimore City	4.4%
Caroline	1,329	32,617	4.1%	6.	Anne Arundel	3.7%	6.	Howard	3.5%
Carroll	2,787	170,260	1.6%	7.	Kent	3.5%	7.	Frederick	3.4%
Cecil	2,060	99,506	2.1%	8.	Charles	3.3%	8.	Harford	1.7%
Charles	4,600	140,416	3.3%	9.	Wicomico	3.1%	9.	Charles	1.4%
Dorchester	593	31,631	1.9%	10.	Talbot	2.7%	10.	Washington	0.9%
Frederick	11,537	222,938	5.2%	11.	Baltimore	2.7%	11.	Wicomico	0.8%
Garrett	144	29,859	0.5%	12.	Harford	2.4%	12.	Carroll	0.8%
Harford	5,902	241,402	2.4%	13.	St. Mary's	2.4%	13.	St. Mary's	0.7%
Howard	11,705	272,452	4.3%	14.	Baltimore City	2.4%	14.	Cecil	0.6%
Kent	707	19,983	3.5%	15.	Calvert	2.1%	15.	Calvert	0.6%
Montgomery	128,365	932,131	13.8%	16.	Washington	2.1%	16.	Caroline	0.4%
Prince George's	98,579	841,315	11.7%	17.	Cecil	2.1%	17.	Worcester	0.3%
Queen Anne's	762	46,241	1.6%	18.	Worcester	2.0%	18.	Talbot	0.3%
St. Mary's	2,402	98,854	2.4%	19.	Somerset	1.9%	19.	Queen Anne's	0.2%
Somerset	484	25,774	1.9%	20.	Dorchester	1.9%	20.	Kent	0.2%
Talbot	966	36,062	2.7%	21.	Queen Anne's	1.6%	21.	Allegany	0.2%
Washington	2,976	143,748	2.1%	22.	Carroll	1.6%	22.	Dorchester	0.2%
Wicomico	2,816	91,987	3.1%	23.	Allegany	0.9%	23.	Somerset	0.1%
Worcester	981	48,866	2.0%	24.	Garrett	0.5%	24.	Garrett	0.0%
Maryland	337,341	5,615,727	6.0%						

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Maryland Department of Planning

Population Growth

Over the last six years, the State’s Hispanic population increased by 48.0 percent. This compares with a 0.6 percent decrease for white residents, 10.3 percent increase for African Americans, and 28.3 percent increase for Asians (**Exhibit 3**). Hispanics accounted for 34.3 percent of the State’s population growth since 2000 compared to 49.8 percent of the nation’s population growth. The growth in the Hispanic population was centered in Prince George’s and Montgomery counties, with the number of Hispanic residents increasing by nearly 42,000 in Prince George’s County and by almost 28,000 in Montgomery County (**Exhibit 4**). Frederick County had the highest growth rate on a percentage basis followed by Washington and Carroll counties. Fifteen counties had a growth rate of over 50 percent during the last six years. Garrett and Allegany counties, both in Western Maryland, had the lowest increase in Hispanic residents.

Exhibit 3
Maryland’s Population Growth by Racial Composition
2000-2006



Source: U. S. Census Bureau

The growth in the Hispanic population is due to both international immigration and additional children being born within the country. Immigration has contributed significantly to the increase in both Hispanic residents and in the overall State population. Between 2000 and 2006, approximately 59 percent of the State’s population growth was due to natural increases, and 41 percent was due to international immigration (**Exhibit 5**). Maryland continues to experience population losses from net internal migration, movement among the states, for the third consecutive year. This decline was offset by a high level of international immigration. Over the last six years, nearly 130,000 foreign born individuals have entered the State, residing primarily in Montgomery and Prince George’s counties. According to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, approximately 28 percent of legal immigrants come from Latin America, with El Salvador being the leading country of origin for these individuals. In addition, El Salvador and Mexico are leading countries of origin for undocumented immigrants.

Exhibit 4
Growth in Hispanic Population by County

County	2000	2006	Population		Highest to Lowest		Highest to Lowest	
			Change	Percent Change	Population Change	Percent Change		
Allegany	571	685	114	20.0%	1. Prince George's	41,522	1. Frederick	147.4%
Anne Arundel	12,902	19,052	6,150	47.7%	2. Montgomery	27,761	2. Washington	89.6%
Baltimore City	11,061	15,000	3,939	35.6%	3. Baltimore	7,230	3. Carroll	87.2%
Baltimore	13,774	21,004	7,230	52.5%	4. Frederick	6,873	4. Prince George's	72.8%
Calvert	1,135	1,905	770	67.8%	5. Anne Arundel	6,150	5. Queen Anne's	71.6%
Caroline	789	1,329	540	68.4%	6. Howard	4,215	6. Charles	69.0%
Carroll	1,489	2,787	1,298	87.2%	7. Baltimore City	3,939	7. Caroline	68.4%
Cecil	1,306	2,060	754	57.7%	8. Charles	1,878	8. Calvert	67.8%
Charles	2,722	4,600	1,878	69.0%	9. Harford	1,733	9. Worcester	64.6%
Dorchester	385	593	208	54.0%	10. Washington	1,406	10. Cecil	57.7%
Frederick	4,664	11,537	6,873	147.4%	11. Carroll	1,298	11. Talbot	57.1%
Garrett	131	144	13	9.9%	12. Wicomico	974	12. Howard	56.3%
Harford	4,169	5,902	1,733	41.6%	13. Calvert	770	13. Dorchester	54.0%
Howard	7,490	11,705	4,215	56.3%	14. Cecil	754	14. Wicomico	52.9%
Kent	546	707	161	29.5%	15. St. Mary's	682	15. Baltimore	52.5%
Montgomery	100,604	128,365	27,761	27.6%	16. Caroline	540	16. Anne Arundel	47.7%
Prince George's	57,057	98,579	41,522	72.8%	17. Worcester	385	17. Somerset	44.9%
Queen Anne's	444	762	318	71.6%	18. Talbot	351	18. Harford	41.6%
St. Mary's	1,720	2,402	682	39.7%	19. Queen Anne's	318	19. St. Mary's	39.7%
Somerset	334	484	150	44.9%	20. Dorchester	208	20. Baltimore City	35.6%
Talbot	615	966	351	57.1%	21. Kent	161	21. Kent	29.5%
Washington	1,570	2,976	1,406	89.6%	22. Somerset	150	22. Montgomery	27.6%
Wicomico	1,842	2,816	974	52.9%	23. Allegany	114	23. Allegany	20.0%
Worcester	596	981	385	64.6%	24. Garrett	13	24. Garrett	9.9%
Maryland	227,916	337,341	109,425	48.0%				

Source: U. S. Census Bureau

Exhibit 5
Components of Maryland's Population Change
2000-2006

Net Natural Increase	189,158	59.3%
Net Migration		
Domestic Migration	-13,017	-4.1%
International Immigration	<u>129,730</u>	<u>40.6%</u>
Subtotal	116,713	36.6%
Residual	13,350	4.2%
Total Increase	319,221	100.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The growth in the Hispanic community is also due to a strong birth rate and a relatively young population. The median age for Hispanics in Maryland is 28.3 years, almost 10 years less than the statewide median age of 37.3 years (**Exhibit 6**). Over 31 percent of Hispanics in Maryland are under the age of 18 compared to 21.4 percent of white residents. In addition, 10.5 percent are under the age of 5, which is significantly higher than both the national and statewide averages. In Maryland, 6.6 percent of individuals are under the age of 5. Whereas, nationwide, 6.8 percent of individuals are under the age of 5.

Exhibit 6
Family Characteristics for Maryland Residents

	<u>Statewide</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>African American</u>	<u>Asian</u>
Average Family Size	3.2	3.8	3.1	3.4	3.4
Average Household Size	2.6	3.6	2.5	2.7	3.0
Median Age	37.3	28.3	41.0	33.9	35.7
Population Under Age 5	6.6%	10.5%	5.5%	7.3%	6.5%
Population Under Age 18	24.3%	31.4%	21.4%	27.3%	22.0%
Population Between Ages 25-54	43.8%	48.1%	42.7%	44.5%	51.0%
Population Age 65 and over	11.5%	3.9%	14.5%	8.2%	8.3%

Source: U. S. Census Bureau

The lower median age among Hispanics helps to explain the community's higher birth rate. Hispanic women have the highest birth rate in the State, with 9.9 percent of women between the ages of 15 to 50 giving birth within the year. This compares to 5.9 percent for all women, 5.3 percent for white women, and 6.1 percent for African American women. Hispanic

households are also more likely to include children and married couples. Nearly 50 percent of Hispanic households in Maryland include children compared to less than one-third of all households statewide. Hispanic families and households are typically larger, averaging 3.6 members per household compared to 2.5 for white residents and 2.7 for African Americans.

National Origins

Collectively, Hispanics are a diverse community representing cultures from many nations and regions including Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean. Nationally, Mexican Americans comprise the largest segment of the Hispanic community, accounting for 64.0 percent of Hispanics living in the United States (**Exhibit 7**). Less than 15 percent of the nation's Hispanics represent a nationality from Central or South America. In Maryland, however, the Hispanic community is more diverse with sizeable communities from Central and South America. Salvadorans represent the largest segment of the State's Hispanic community, accounting for 24.3 percent of Hispanics in Maryland, followed by Mexicans and Puerto Ricans (**Exhibit 8**).

While a majority of Hispanics in Maryland were born in another country, most Hispanics under the age of 18 were born within the United States and are U.S. citizens. Foreign born residents account for 53.6 percent of the State's Hispanic community, with 39.1 percent being non-U.S. citizens. Over one-third of Hispanics have entered the United States since 2000. Over 85 percent of Hispanics under the age of 18 were born within the United States and are, therefore, U.S. citizens, and an additional 2.5 percent are naturalized U.S. citizens. Only 12.0 percent of Hispanics under the age of 18 are not U.S. citizens; whereas, 51.5 percent of Hispanics age 18 and older are not U.S. citizens.

Exhibit 7 Top 10 States for Hispanic Residents

	<u>State</u>	<u>Hispanic Population</u>	<u>Percent Hispanic</u>	<u>Primary National Origin</u>
1.	California	13,074,000	35.9%	Mexican (83%)
2.	Texas	8,385,000	35.7%	Mexican (84%)
3.	Florida	3,646,000	20.2%	Cuban (29%), Puerto Rican (19%)
4.	New York	3,139,000	16.3%	Puerto Rican (34%), Dominican (21%)
5.	Illinois	1,887,000	14.7%	Mexican (79%)
6.	Arizona	1,803,000	29.2%	Mexican (89%)
7.	New Jersey	1,365,000	15.6%	Puerto Rican (29%), South American (22%)
8.	Colorado	934,000	19.7%	Mexican (72%)
9.	New Mexico	861,000	44.0%	Mexican (52%)
10.	Georgia	703,000	7.5%	Mexican (65%)
20.	Maryland	337,000	6.0%	Central American (39%), Mexican (19%)
	United States	44,321,000	14.8%	Mexican (64%), Puerto Rican (9%)

Source: U. S. Census Bureau

Exhibit 8
Hispanic Population – National Origin

	United States		Maryland	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Total Hispanics	44,252,278		336,390	
Mexican	28,339,354	64.0%	64,374	19.1%
Puerto Rican	3,987,947	9.0%	36,592	10.9%
Cuban	1,520,276	3.4%	7,862	2.3%
Dominican	1,217,225	2.8%	9,694	2.9%
Central American:	3,372,090	7.6%	130,760	38.9%
Costa Rican	104,793	0.2%	1,665	0.5%
Guatemalan	874,799	2.0%	23,096	6.9%
Honduran	490,317	1.1%	10,318	3.1%
Nicaraguan	295,059	0.7%	4,757	1.4%
Panamanian	123,631	0.3%	3,790	1.1%
Salvadoran	1,371,666	3.1%	81,877	24.3%
Other Central American	111,825	0.3%	5,257	1.6%
South American:	2,421,297	5.5%	49,574	14.7%
Argentinean	183,427	0.4%	5,354	1.6%
Bolivian	82,322	0.2%	7,259	2.2%
Chilean	104,861	0.2%	3,541	1.1%
Colombian	801,363	1.8%	9,247	2.7%
Ecuadorian	498,705	1.1%	6,028	1.8%
Paraguayan	16,026	0.0%	385	0.1%
Peruvian	435,368	1.0%	11,965	3.6%
Uruguayan	50,538	0.1%	1,231	0.4%
Venezuelan	177,866	0.4%	2,620	0.8%
Other South American	70,821	0.2%	1,944	0.6%
Other Hispanic or Latino	3,394,089	7.7%	37,534	11.2%

Source: 2006 American Survey, U. S. Census Bureau

Economic and Educational Attainment

Economic and financial indicators for Maryland's Hispanic community illustrate two different stories. Compared to the national average, Hispanics in Maryland are better educated and have higher incomes than their counterparts in other states. However, within Maryland, income and educational levels for Hispanics are lower than that for certain racial and ethnic groups, primarily whites and Asians.

Maryland has the highest median household income for Hispanics in the nation (**Exhibit 9**). The median household income for Hispanics is \$58,093 which is 50 percent higher than for Hispanics nationwide (\$38,747). In addition, a smaller proportion of Hispanics in Maryland have lower incomes. For example, in 2006, approximately 31 percent of Hispanic households in the United States had incomes below \$25,000 compared to 15 percent in Maryland. Higher incomes for Hispanics in Maryland may result from the ability to obtain better employment due to increased educational opportunities and a strong State economy.

Educational attainment for Hispanics in Maryland is relatively high compared to other states, ranking second in terms of the percentage of Hispanics with a graduate or professional degree and third in terms of the percentage of Hispanics with at least a Bachelor's degree (**Exhibit 10**). Over 9 percent of Hispanics in Maryland have either a graduate or professional degree, and 21 percent have at least a Bachelor's degree. Nationally, less than 4 percent of Hispanics have a graduate or professional degree, and only 12 percent have at least a Bachelor's degree. In California, which has the nation's largest Hispanic community, only 9 percent of Hispanics have at least a Bachelor's degree while 44 percent have less than a high school education; whereas, in Maryland, only 34 percent of Hispanics have less than a high school education.

Employment opportunities for Hispanics are also higher in Maryland than in most other states, particularly when compared to states in the North East. Income levels for Hispanics living in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island are lower than most states, including many southern states (**Exhibits 11-12**). For example, while Massachusetts has the fifth highest median household income in the nation, Hispanics living in Massachusetts have one of the lowest income levels in the nation at \$30,140 which is approximately 50 percent of the statewide median household income of \$59,683. In Arkansas, Hispanics have a median household income of \$30,704, which is approximately 84 percent of the statewide median household income of \$36,599. Hispanics living in Massachusetts are also confronted with high poverty rates and high unemployment rates, which also exceeds that of southern states. For example, the poverty rate among Hispanics is 27.4 percent in Massachusetts, 18.3 percent in Louisiana, and 10.0 percent in Maryland. The unemployment rate for Hispanics is 6.5 percent in Massachusetts, 3.9 percent in South Carolina, and 4.7 percent in Maryland.

Exhibit 9
Economic Profile of Hispanic Community

State	<u>Median Household Income</u>		<u>Poverty Rate</u>		<u>Unemployment Rate</u>	
	Hispanics	All Residents	Hispanics	All Residents	Hispanics	All Residents
Alabama	\$31,930	\$38,783	27.0%	16.6%	4.9%	4.1%
Alaska	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arizona	37,288	47,265	22.5%	14.2%	3.8%	3.0%
Arkansas	30,704	36,599	27.3%	17.3%	5.5%	4.3%
California	43,805	56,645	19.1%	13.1%	5.2%	4.2%
Colorado	35,941	52,015	23.1%	12.0%	5.4%	3.8%
Connecticut	36,217	63,422	22.9%	8.3%	7.9%	4.2%
Delaware	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
District of Columbia	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Florida	40,510	45,495	16.5%	12.6%	3.6%	3.3%
Georgia	37,692	46,832	22.8%	14.7%	4.3%	4.5%
Hawaii	55,909	61,160	11.2%	9.3%	5.7%	2.7%
Idaho	32,085	42,865	23.4%	12.6%	6.1%	3.4%
Illinois	43,877	52,006	17.6%	12.3%	5.5%	4.8%
Indiana	35,484	45,394	23.8%	12.7%	6.5%	4.5%
Iowa	35,789	44,491	24.5%	11.0%	8.1%	3.4%
Kansas	34,220	45,478	23.7%	12.4%	4.9%	3.6%
Kentucky	36,098	39,372	31.6%	17.0%	5.2%	4.2%
Louisiana	38,776	39,337	18.3%	19.0%	4.7%	4.7%
Maine	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maryland	58,093	65,144	10.0%	7.8%	4.7%	3.6%
Massachusetts	30,140	59,963	27.4%	9.9%	6.5%	3.9%
Michigan	36,372	47,182	23.2%	13.5%	8.0%	6.1%
Minnesota	36,850	54,023	22.2%	9.8%	5.9%	3.7%
Mississippi	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Missouri	36,738	42,841	25.6%	13.6%	5.4%	4.1%
Montana	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nebraska	35,639	45,474	21.1%	11.5%	5.1%	3.4%

Exhibit 9 (cont'd)

State	<u>Median Household Income</u>		<u>Poverty Rate</u>		<u>Unemployment Rate</u>	
	Hispanics	All Residents	Hispanics	All Residents	Hispanics	All Residents
Nevada	45,392	52,998	15.4%	10.3%	3.3%	3.5%
New Hampshire	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Jersey	45,049	64,470	16.5%	8.7%	5.0%	4.1%
New Mexico	33,789	40,629	22.7%	18.5%	4.7%	3.9%
New York	36,147	51,384	25.0%	14.2%	5.5%	4.1%
North Carolina	33,187	42,625	25.5%	14.7%	5.0%	4.2%
North Dakota	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ohio	37,439	44,532	22.2%	13.3%	6.9%	4.6%
Oklahoma	29,838	38,770	29.3%	17.0%	4.6%	3.7%
Oregon	35,744	46,230	25.7%	13.3%	5.3%	4.1%
Pennsylvania	32,454	46,259	28.6%	12.1%	6.2%	3.9%
Rhode Island	30,499	51,814	26.0%	11.1%	6.9%	3.9%
South Carolina	35,313	41,100	22.3%	15.7%	3.9%	4.6%
South Dakota	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tennessee	32,049	40,315	31.4%	16.2%	4.7%	4.6%
Texas	33,354	44,922	25.7%	16.9%	5.2%	4.6%
Utah	37,157	51,309	22.0%	10.6%	4.4%	3.1%
Vermont	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Virginia	54,087	56,277	13.4%	9.6%	3.5%	3.1%
Washington	36,222	52,583	23.9%	11.8%	6.7%	4.2%
West Virginia	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wisconsin	34,332	48,772	26.8%	11.0%	5.5%	3.8%
Wyoming	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
United States	\$38,747	\$48,451	21.5%	13.3%	5.1%	4.1%

Source: U. S. Census Bureau

Exhibit 10
Educational Attainment of Hispanic Community

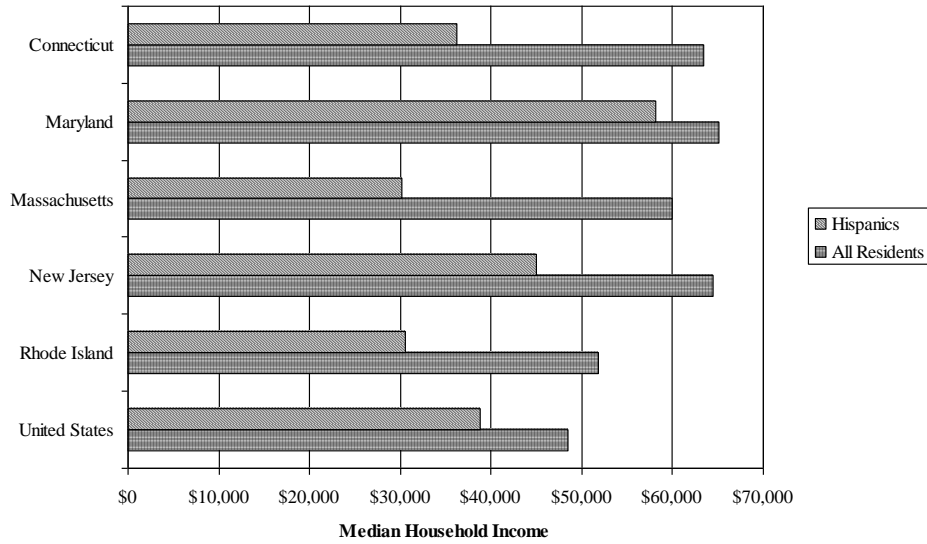
State	<u>Graduate/Professional Degree</u>		<u>Bachelor's Degree or Higher</u>		<u>Less than High School Diploma</u>	
	Hispanics	All Residents	Hispanics	All Residents	Hispanics	All Residents
Alabama	4.7%	7.7%	13.2%	21.1%	41.7%	19.9%
Alaska	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arizona	2.8%	9.2%	9.5%	25.5%	39.4%	16.2%
Arkansas	2.8%	6.2%	7.6%	18.2%	52.0%	19.5%
California	2.7%	10.4%	9.3%	29.0%	44.2%	19.9%
Colorado	3.0%	12.4%	11.1%	34.3%	37.9%	12.0%
Connecticut	5.2%	14.4%	13.0%	33.7%	31.3%	12.0%
Delaware	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
District of Columbia	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Florida	7.0%	8.9%	21.5%	25.3%	26.7%	15.5%
Georgia	4.0%	9.2%	12.1%	26.6%	46.7%	17.8%
Hawaii	5.4%	9.8%	17.0%	29.7%	10.4%	11.0%
Idaho	2.6%	7.1%	8.8%	23.3%	49.1%	12.7%
Illinois	3.0%	10.8%	10.8%	28.9%	41.7%	15.0%
Indiana	3.7%	8.0%	10.9%	21.7%	42.6%	14.8%
Iowa	3.7%	7.4%	10.2%	24.0%	46.6%	11.1%
Kansas	3.4%	9.8%	10.2%	28.6%	43.1%	11.5%
Kentucky	6.1%	8.2%	16.1%	20.0%	38.5%	20.4%
Louisiana	7.5%	6.8%	18.8%	20.3%	28.8%	20.6%
Maine	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maryland	9.2%	15.7%	21.0%	35.1%	34.1%	12.9%
Massachusetts	6.2%	15.6%	16.5%	37.0%	34.1%	12.1%
Michigan	5.0%	9.2%	14.7%	24.5%	33.2%	12.8%
Minnesota	4.2%	9.6%	14.6%	30.4%	39.4%	9.3%
Mississippi	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Missouri	5.8%	8.7%	18.7%	24.3%	32.3%	15.2%
Montana	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nebraska	3.1%	8.4%	10.1%	26.9%	48.0%	10.5%

Exhibit 10 (cont'd)

State	<u>Graduate/Professional Degree</u>		<u>Bachelor's Degree or Higher</u>		<u>Less than High School Diploma</u>	
	Hispanics	All Residents	Hispanics	All Residents	Hispanics	All Residents
Nevada	2.4%	7.2%	7.3%	20.8%	43.3%	16.1%
New Hampshire	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Jersey	4.1%	12.4%	14.7%	33.4%	32.6%	13.9%
New Mexico	4.6%	10.9%	12.1%	25.3%	31.9%	18.5%
New York	5.2%	13.3%	15.0%	31.2%	35.2%	15.9%
North Carolina	3.4%	8.3%	10.4%	24.8%	51.4%	18.0%
North Dakota	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ohio	7.1%	8.3%	16.5%	23.0%	28.8%	13.8%
Oklahoma	2.8%	7.2%	9.4%	22.1%	45.6%	15.7%
Oregon	3.3%	10.0%	9.8%	27.5%	46.4%	12.4%
Pennsylvania	5.2%	9.6%	13.4%	25.4%	36.2%	13.8%
Rhode Island	2.9%	11.3%	13.3%	29.6%	40.7%	17.6%
South Carolina	2.6%	7.9%	11.0%	22.7%	42.1%	18.7%
South Dakota	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tennessee	4.2%	7.5%	10.9%	21.7%	46.8%	19.1%
Texas	2.9%	8.0%	10.3%	24.7%	44.0%	21.4%
Utah	3.0%	9.4%	11.1%	28.6%	38.1%	9.8%
Vermont	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Virginia	9.4%	13.2%	23.3%	32.7%	33.1%	14.6%
Washington	3.7%	10.7%	11.6%	30.5%	43.5%	11.0%
West Virginia	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wisconsin	4.3%	8.4%	10.6%	25.1%	36.3%	11.6%
Wyoming	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
United States	3.9%	9.9%	12.3%	27.0%	39.8%	15.9%

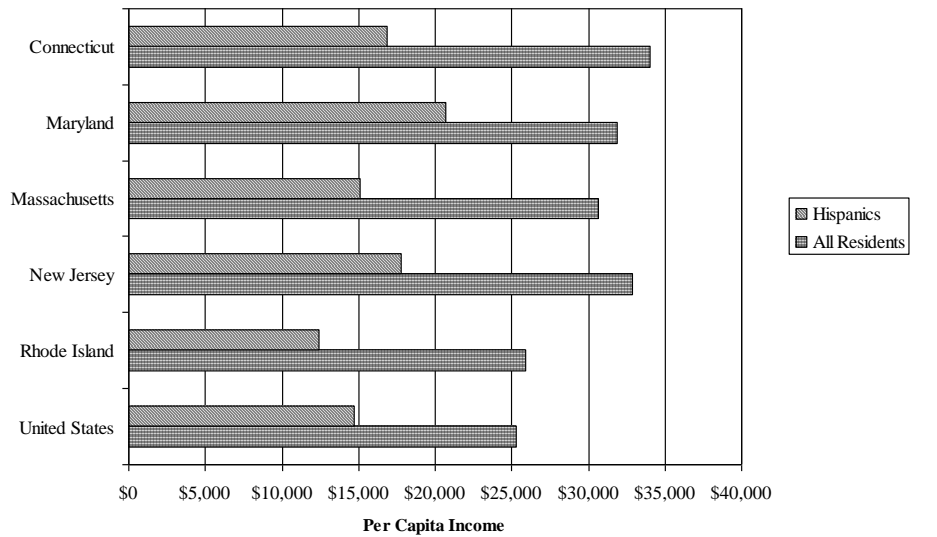
Source: U. S. Census Bureau

Exhibit 11
Median Household Income for Hispanics and All Residents
2006



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

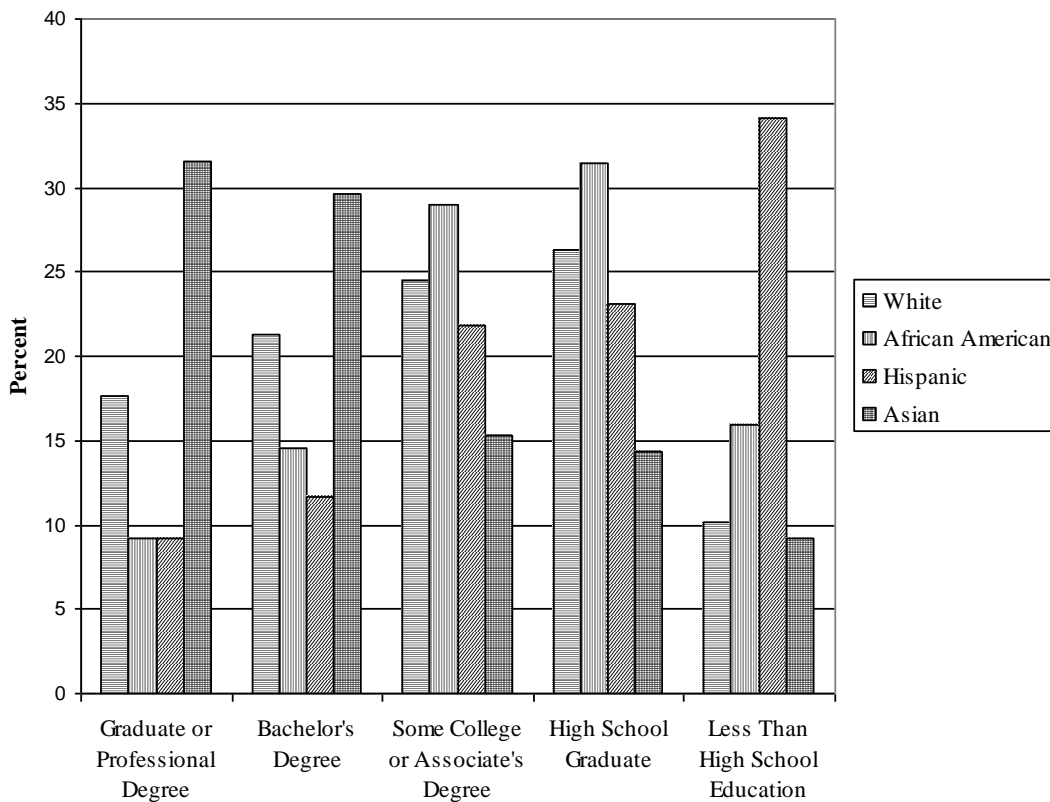
Exhibit 12
Per Capita Income for Hispanics and All Residents
2006



Source: U. S. Census Bureau

While comparatively Hispanics in Maryland are better educated and have higher incomes than Hispanics in most other states, the State’s Hispanic community continues to lag behind other Maryland residents in terms of both income and educational attainment (**Exhibit 13**). The median household income for Hispanics in Maryland was over 12 percent lower than the statewide median of \$65,144. Within Maryland, the median household income for Hispanics is lower than the median household income for whites and Asians but is higher than the income for African Americans. In terms of educational attainment, approximately 60.3 percent of Maryland residents have taken some college courses, and 35.1 percent hold at least a Bachelor’s degree. For white residents, 39.0 percent have at least a Bachelor’s degree, while 23.7 percent of African Americans have at least a Bachelor’s degree.

Exhibit 13
Educational Attainment for Maryland Residents
by Race/Ethnicity in 2006



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The lower educational level for Hispanics is counterbalanced by high labor participation rates and low unemployment rates (**Exhibit 14**). Approximately 77 percent of Hispanics age 16 and older are currently in the civilian labor force compared to less than 69 percent for white

residents and African Americans. Hispanics are more likely to be employed in construction and service-related occupations and less likely to have a management or professional-related occupation (**Exhibit 15**). In addition, while the unemployment rate for Hispanics in Maryland (4.7 percent) is higher than the rate for white residents (2.4 percent), it is lower than the rate for African Americans (6.2 percent).

Exhibit 14
Economic Characteristics for Maryland Residents

	<u>Statewide</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>African American</u>	<u>Asian</u>
Median Household Income	\$65,144	\$58,093	\$71,536	\$51,728	\$82,609
Per Capita Income	\$31,888	\$20,702	\$37,473	\$23,744	\$32,401
Workers Per Household	1.4	2.0	1.3	1.3	1.7
In Civilian Labor Force	68.7%	76.4%	67.9%	68.9%	69.9%
In Armed Forces	0.5%	0.8%	0.6%	0.4%	0.2%
Unemployment Rate	3.6%	4.7%	2.4%	6.2%	2.9%
Poverty Rate	7.8%	10.0%	5.3%	12.9%	5.9%
Receiving Public Assistance	2.0%	1.5%	1.3%	3.7%	0.9%
Receiving Food Stamps	4.8%	4.5%	2.9%	9.7%	2.3%

Source: U. S. Census Bureau

Exhibit 15
Type of Occupations for Maryland Residents

	<u>Statewide</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>African American</u>	<u>Asian</u>
Management/Professional	42.6%	23.9%	46.5%	35.3%	57.1%
Service	15.2%	27.1%	11.9%	20.2%	13.4%
Sales and Office	25.0%	16.2%	24.9%	28.1%	19.6%
Farming/Fishing/Forestry	0.2%	1.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Construction/Maintenance	8.9%	23.2%	9.5%	5.5%	3.9%
Production/Transportation	8.1%	8.5%	7.1%	10.8%	6.0%

Source: U. S. Census Bureau

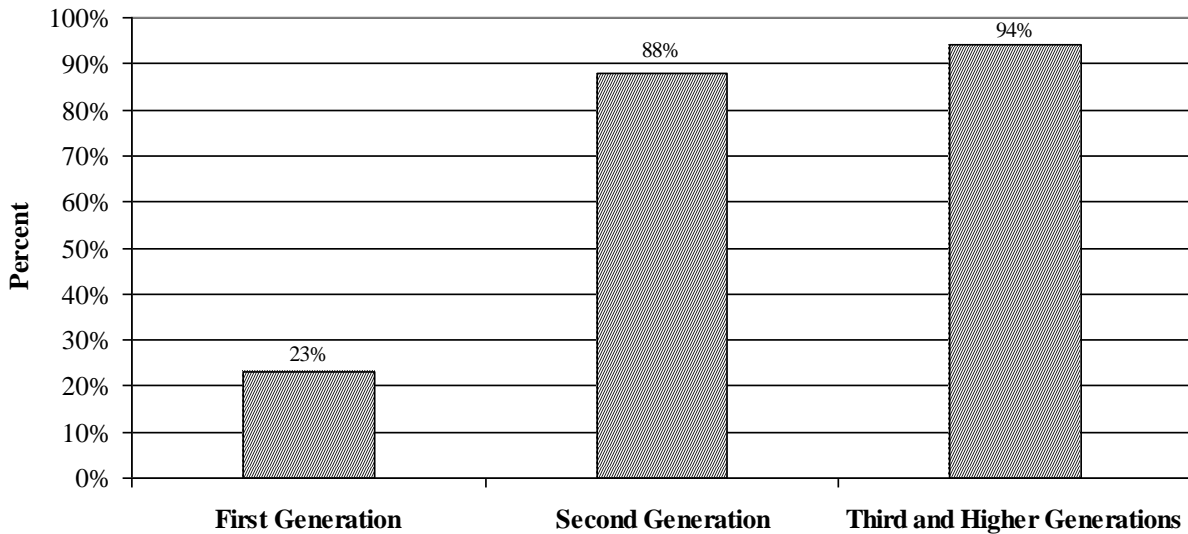
Unfortunately, many immigrants coming to Maryland, including Hispanics, lack a basic command of English which limits their employment opportunities. Over 40 percent of Hispanics in Maryland speak English less than very well and are considered limited English proficient (LEP); whereas, 36.8 percent speak English very well. Consequently, Hispanics in Maryland are more likely to be employed in construction and service-related occupations that tend to have lower annual salaries. Over 50 percent of Hispanics are employed in construction and service-related occupations compared to 24.1 percent of all State residents. Hispanic men dominate the construction sector, while Hispanic females are concentrated in the service industry. However, nearly one-third of Hispanics are employed in management, professional, and sales-related occupations.

Opponents of efforts to accommodate LEP individuals often argue that providing translation for LEP individuals slows integration of LEP individuals into American society. These opponents believe that provision of materials and translation services for languages other than English encourages LEP individuals to remain apart from mainstream American society. Instead, opponents often propose “official English” laws. A common theme of these laws is a mandate that official government functions and documents be conducted and published in English.

Recent studies indicate that immigrants are willing to learn and speak English. A recent report by the Pew Hispanic Center indicates that the fluency in spoken English increases across generations of Hispanic families. For example, while 23 percent of first generation Hispanics are able to speak English very well, the percentage increases to 88 percent of second generation Hispanics and 94 percent of third and higher generation Hispanics (**Exhibit 16**). The study also indicates that the use of Spanish at home by Hispanics declines for each future generation.

- While 52 percent of foreign born Hispanics speak only Spanish at home, the percentage decreases to 11 percent for their adult children and 6 percent for the children of U.S. born Hispanics.
- While half of the adult children of Hispanic immigrants speak some Spanish at home, by the third and future generations, the percentage falls to one in four.

Exhibit 16
English Proficiency Across Hispanic Generations
Percent Who Speak English Very Well

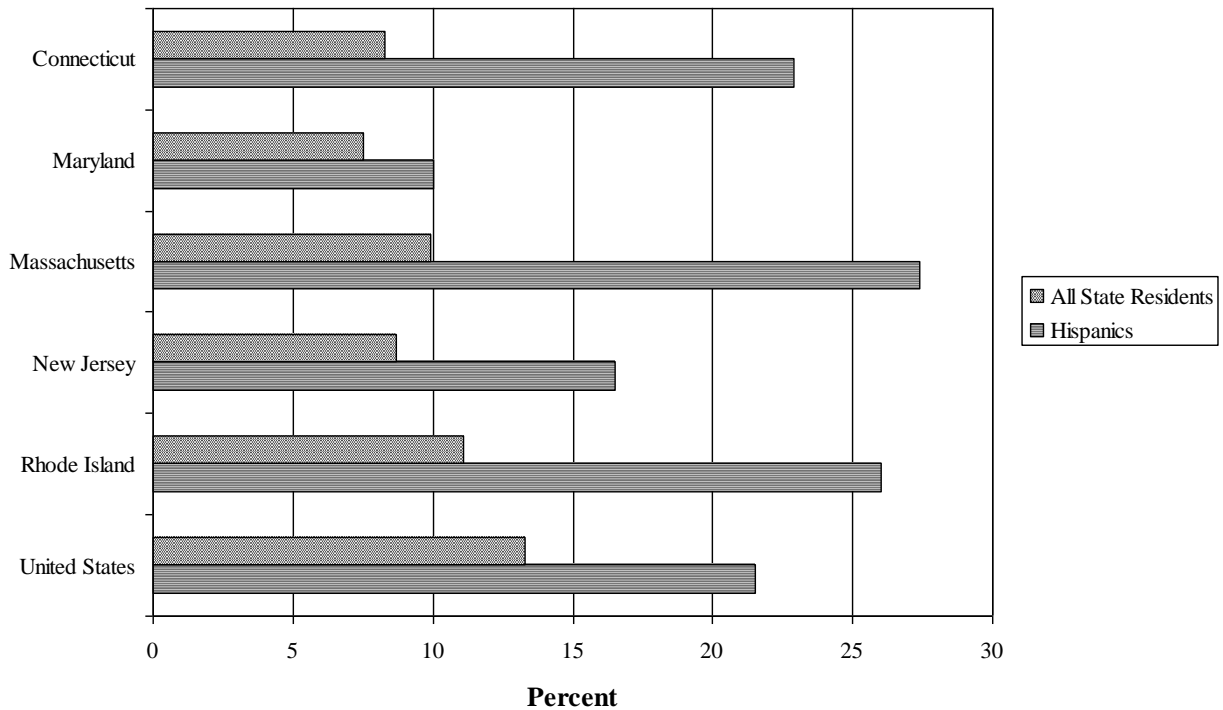


Note: The estimates are derived from a combination of six national surveys of Hispanic adults conducted by the Pew Hispanic Center in 2002-2006.

Source: The Pew Hispanic Center

The high workforce participation of the State’s Hispanic community, better educational skills, and a sound economy has helped to reduce the poverty rate among the State’s Hispanic community relative to other states. The poverty rate among Hispanics is higher at the national level with 21.5 percent of Hispanics living below the poverty level. In Maryland, only 10.0 percent of Hispanics live below the poverty level (**Exhibit 17**). Even with a relatively low poverty level, the impact of poverty falls harder on the young. In Maryland, 34.5 percent of Hispanics living in poverty are children, representing over 11,000 children. Nationally, 43.9 percent of Hispanics living in poverty are children, representing 4.1 million children. Compared to the total population, the poverty rate among Hispanics in America is below the national average but exceeds the State average. In 2006, 13.3 percent of people in the United States were in poverty. In Maryland, 7.8 percent of people in Maryland were in poverty. However, in general, Hispanics in Maryland are less likely to receive public assistance or food stamps and are more likely to receive income through employment.

Exhibit 17
Poverty Status for Hispanics and All Residents
2006



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Educational Programs for Hispanic Students

Approximately 76,000 Hispanic students are enrolled in Maryland's public schools, accounting for 9 percent of total student enrollment (**Exhibit 18**). Over the last eight years, the number of Hispanic students has increased by 106.3 percent even though overall student enrollment decreased slightly. Over two-thirds of Hispanic students attend two local school systems – Montgomery and Prince George's counties. Hispanic students account for 21.5 percent of enrollment in Montgomery County and 17.4 percent in Prince George's County.

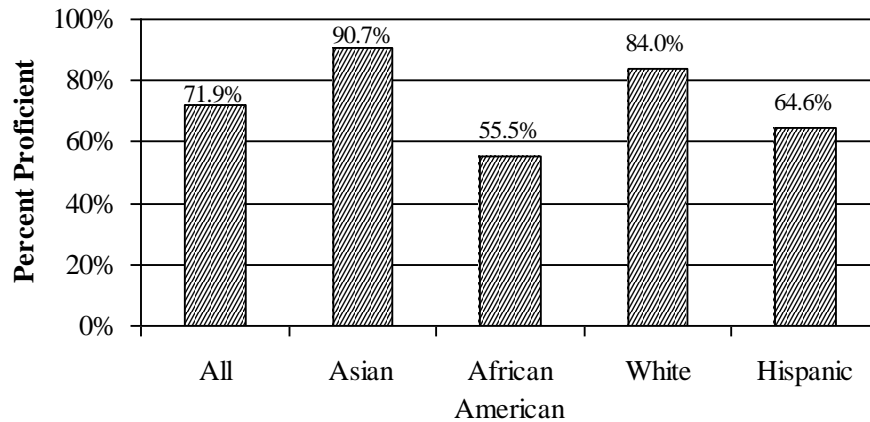
Exhibit 18
Enrollment in Maryland Public Schools by Race/Ethnicity
September 30, 2007

County	Total Students	White		African American		Hispanic		Asian/ Pacific Islander		American Indian/ Alaskan Native	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Allegany	9,436	8,731	92.5	514	5.4	65	0.7	78	0.8	48	0.5
Anne Arundel	73,400	49,226	67.1	16,671	22.7	4,388	6.0	2,778	3.8	337	0.5
Baltimore City	81,284	6,217	7.6	72,295	88.9	1,995	2.5	568	0.7	209	0.3
Baltimore	104,283	51,998	49.9	41,721	40.0	4,451	4.3	5,582	5.4	531	0.5
Calvert	17,394	13,745	79.0	2,955	17.0	349	2.0	289	1.7	56	0.3
Caroline	5,658	4,202	74.3	1,051	18.6	331	5.9	50	0.9	24	0.4
Carroll	28,320	25,933	91.6	1,124	4.0	662	2.3	496	1.8	105	0.4
Cecil	16,290	13,943	85.6	1,599	9.8	499	3.1	200	1.2	49	0.3
Charles	26,676	10,905	40.9	13,754	51.6	924	3.5	868	3.3	225	0.8
Dorchester	4,654	2,593	55.7	1,824	39.2	163	3.5	60	1.3	14	0.3
Frederick	40,487	30,504	75.3	4,841	12.0	3,217	7.9	1,799	4.4	126	0.3
Garrett	4,510	4,451	98.7	26	0.6	13	0.3	18	0.4	2	0.0
Harford	39,172	28,682	73.2	7,777	19.9	1,339	3.4	1,147	2.9	227	0.6
Howard	49,542	29,035	58.6	10,355	20.9	2,643	5.3	7,381	14.9	128	0.3
Kent	2,274	1,564	68.8	567	24.9	121	5.3	13	0.6	9	0.4
Montgomery	137,717	55,223	40.1	31,577	22.9	29,586	21.5	20,926	15.2	405	0.3
Prince George's	129,752	6,615	5.1	96,230	74.2	22,553	17.4	3,804	2.9	550	0.4
Queen Anne's	7,808	6,836	87.6	650	8.3	194	2.5	96	1.2	32	0.4
St. Mary's	16,890	12,348	73.1	3,476	20.6	496	2.9	477	2.8	93	0.6
Somerset	2,910	1,407	48.4	1,322	45.4	151	5.2	25	0.9	5	0.2
Talbot	4,396	3,114	70.8	918	20.9	273	6.2	84	1.9	7	0.2
Washington	21,703	17,544	80.8	2,803	12.9	928	4.3	372	1.7	56	0.3
Wicomico	14,399	7,946	55.2	5,279	36.7	659	4.6	495	3.4	20	0.1
Worcester	6,745	4,797	71.1	1,564	23.2	251	3.7	103	1.5	30	0.4
Total	845,700	397,559	47.0	320,893	37.9	76,251	9.0	47,709	5.6	3,288	0.4

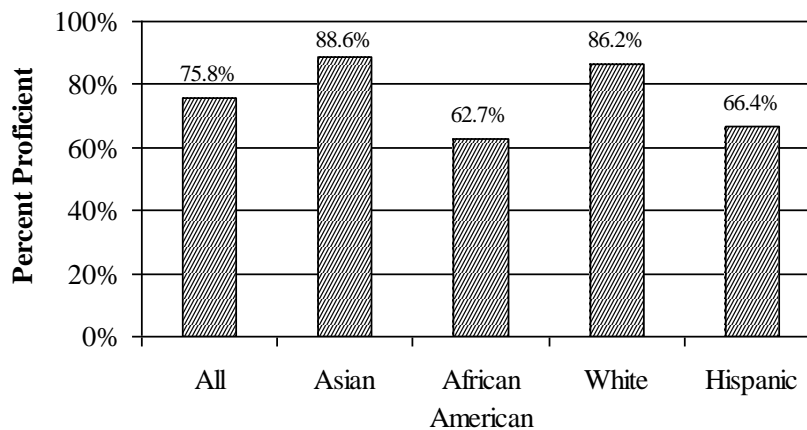
The academic performance for Maryland's Hispanic students indicate that renewed efforts are needed to ensure that each child receives the educational opportunities and skills necessary to meet the future demands of the State's growing and technology driven economy. According to the *2007 Maryland Report Card*, which is prepared by the Maryland State Department of Education, Hispanic students met adequate yearly progress (AYP) in both reading and mathematics proficiency; however, gaps in student performance still remain among Hispanic students when compared to white and Asian students. Hispanic students, however, are performing at a higher level than African American students as illustrated in **Exhibit 19**. Additional concerns confronting Hispanic students include a below average graduation rate and an above average student dropout rate (**Exhibit 20**).

Exhibit 19

2007 AYP Mathematics Proficiency



2007 AYP Reading Proficiency



Source: Maryland State Department of Education

Exhibit 20
Student Graduation and Dropout Rates

<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>	<u>Graduation Rate</u> <u>Grade 12</u>	<u>Dropout Rate</u> <u>Grade 9-12</u>
All Students	85.2%	3.5%
Hispanic	79.7%	5.1%
White	89.8%	2.3%
African American	78.6%	5.1%
Asian	94.5%	1.2%

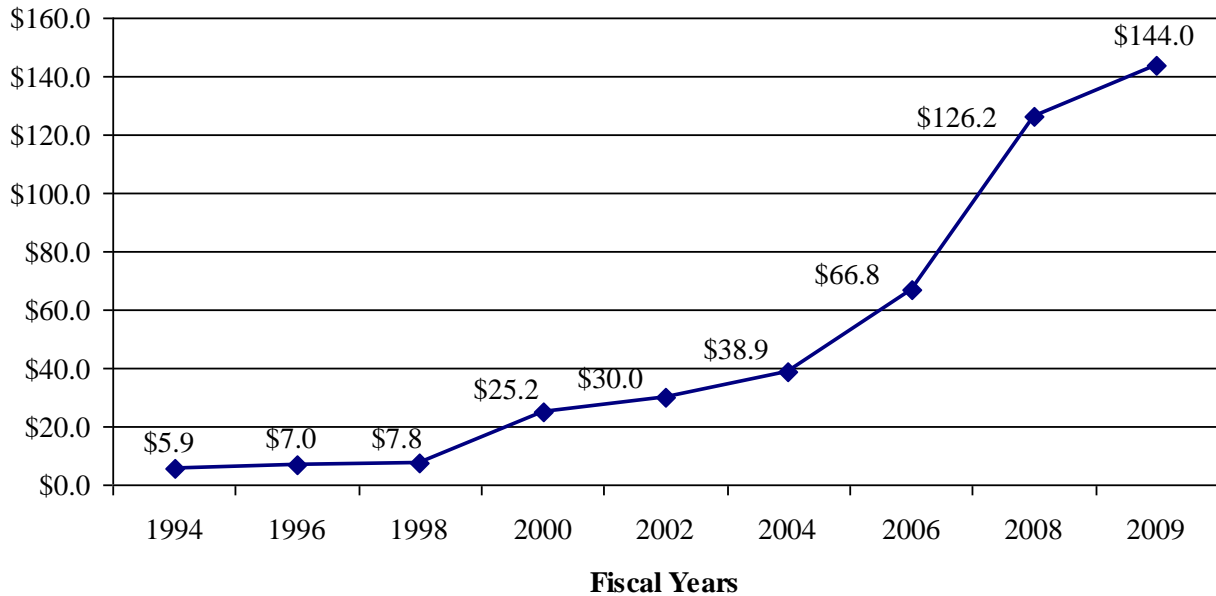
Source: Maryland State Department of Education

State Funding for Public Schools

Educational opportunities provide a key basis for the overall economic health and vitality for a community. Maryland remains a leader in both school finance and accountability. Over the last seven years (fiscal 2002 through 2009), State funding for public schools has increased by almost \$2.5 billion, even though the State government was confronted with major fiscal challenges during most of this period. On a per pupil basis, State funding has increased from \$3,432 in fiscal 2002 to \$6,538 in fiscal 2009, a 90.5 percent increase. Combined with federal and local funding, public schools in Maryland receive over \$13,500 in total funding for each student.

The increased State funding benefits Hispanic students, particularly those from immigrant communities, by enabling local school systems to expand English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) services and after-school programs. State funding for ESOL services will total \$144.0 million in fiscal 2009, a \$17.9 million increase from the prior year. State funding based on the number of LEP students first began in fiscal 1994 when local school systems received \$5.9 million. Since that time, State funding tied to the number of LEP students has increased considerably as shown in **Exhibit 21**.

Exhibit 21
Limited English Proficiency Grants
 (\$ in Millions)



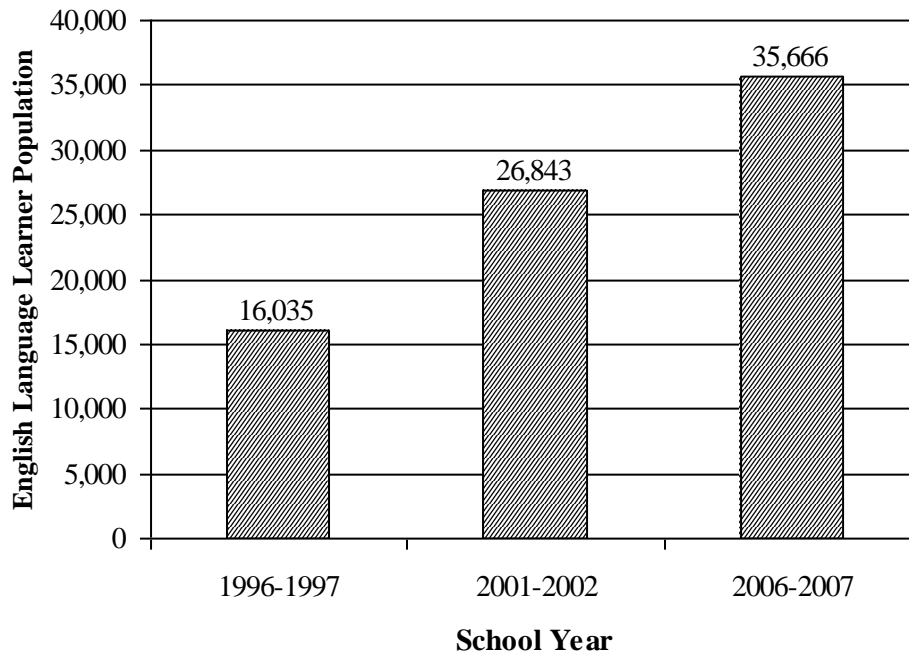
Source: Department of Legislative Services

Funding for this program was established in statute in 1994 with local school systems receiving \$500 per LEP student. The number of LEP students in each county was determined by a count as of May 15 of the second preceding school year, and no student could be included in the count for more than two years. In 1998, the School Accountability Funding for Excellence legislation increased the per student grant to \$1,350, and the two-year limit was removed. In 2002, the Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act (Thornton legislation) established a new funding mechanism that significantly increased funding based on LEP students and local wealth. Local school systems have considerable flexibility in how they expend the funds; however, the funding formula was influenced heavily by an adequacy study, which determined that local school systems needed additional funding to adequately educate a student with LEP. The study concluded that the cost to educate English Language Learners (ELLs) is double the cost to educate students without any special needs. In fiscal 2009, the additional statewide per pupil funding amount needed to meet the estimated costs totaled \$6,627, resulting in a combined State and local cost of \$267.7 million for all LEP students.

Limited English Proficiency Programs in Maryland

Prior to enrollment, local school systems assess the English language proficiency of students who meet certain criteria. Based on the student’s results on the diagnostic test, a student may be referred to ESOL services. If a student is eligible for ESOL services, the parent/guardian receives a notification letter describing the types of ESOL services available to the student and a permission slip for the student to receive the recommended services. Though children with a variety of immigration backgrounds participate in K-12 public education in the United States, not all children enter school with the same needs. In an effort to provide all students with a complete education, public schools have implemented programs to address the unique needs of specific populations. **Exhibit 22** shows the growth in Maryland’s English language learner population over the last 10 years. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Spanish speakers account for over 50 percent of children in Maryland who are limited English proficient.

Exhibit 22
English Language Learner Population in Maryland Public Schools
1997 to 2007



Source: Maryland State Department of Education

Most students identified as LEP attend public schools in Montgomery and Prince George's counties. Montgomery County Public Schools account for 40.2 percent of the students identified as LEP, and Prince George's County Public Schools account for 29.1 percent. In addition, LEP students account for a higher share of the student enrollment in the two school systems; LEP students are 10.6 percent of the total enrollment in Montgomery County and 8.3 percent in Prince George's County. In seven local school systems, LEP students account for less than 1 percent of total enrollment. **Exhibit 23** shows the number of students attending public schools in Maryland who are LEP.

Many local school systems in Maryland are experiencing a significant increase in the number of LEP students. Over a six-year period beginning in 2000, the number of LEP students has grown by more than 49 percent statewide, with five local school systems experiencing growth rates that exceed 100 percent. This growth can have a profound effect on local school communities – resulting in the need for additional resources, such as certified ESOL teachers, bilingual instructional aides, and bilingual office staff.

One local school community that has seen a rapid increase in the number of LEP students is Annapolis in Anne Arundel County. Over the last 10 years, there has been a major demographic shift for schools in the Annapolis attendance area (**Exhibit 24**). For example, in 1996 only 1.8 percent of students attending public schools in the Annapolis area were LEP; however, by 2007, nearly 10.0 percent of students were LEP. At three elementary schools (Germantown, Mills-Parole, and Tyler Heights), almost 20.0 percent of the students are LEP.

Exhibit 23
Student Enrollment – Limited English Proficient Students

Number of LEP Students						Ranking by Number of LEP Students			Ranking by Percent of Enrollment		
County	2000	2005	2006	% Change 2005-2006	% Change 2000-2006	County	2006	County	2006		
Allegany	12	7	14	100.0%	16.7%	1. Montgomery	14,342	1. Montgomery	10.6%		
Anne Arundel	896	1,330	1,485	11.7%	65.7%	2. Prince George's	10,374	2. Prince George's	8.3%		
Baltimore City	877	1,358	1,321	-2.7%	50.6%	3. Baltimore	2,962	3. Talbot	3.9%		
Baltimore	1,848	2,514	2,962	17.8%	60.3%	4. Howard	1,595	4. Howard	3.3%		
Calvert	31	121	135	11.6%	335.5%	5. Anne Arundel	1,485	5. Baltimore	2.9%		
Caroline	109	107	118	10.3%	8.3%	6. Baltimore City	1,321	6. Kent	2.8%		
Carroll	97	128	158	23.4%	62.9%	7. Frederick	1,108	7. Frederick	2.8%		
Cecil	96	110	102	-7.3%	6.3%	8. Harford	395	8. Somerset	2.7%		
Charles	97	133	161	21.1%	66.0%	9. Washington	357	9. Worcester	2.7%		
Dorchester	54	80	81	1.3%	50.0%	10. Wicomico	274	10. Caroline	2.2%		
Frederick	496	893	1,108	24.1%	123.4%	11. Worcester	175	11. Anne Arundel	2.1%		
Garrett	0	0	0	n/a	n/a	12. Talbot	165	12. Wicomico	1.9%		
Harford	277	376	395	5.1%	42.6%	13. Charles	161	13. Dorchester	1.8%		
Howard	1,408	1,499	1,595	6.4%	13.3%	14. Carroll	158	14. Washington	1.7%		
Kent	33	75	63	-16.0%	90.9%	15. Calvert	135	15. Baltimore City	1.6%		
Montgomery	10,290	13,228	14,342	8.4%	39.4%	16. Caroline	118	16. Queen Anne's	1.3%		
Prince George's	6,542	8,303	10,374	24.9%	58.6%	17. St. Mary's	106	17. Harford	1.0%		
Queen Anne's	26	91	99	8.8%	280.8%	18. Cecil	102	18. Calvert	0.8%		
St. Mary's	134	101	106	5.0%	-20.9%	19. Queen Anne's	99	19. St. Mary's	0.7%		
Somerset	54	60	76	26.7%	40.7%	20. Dorchester	81	20. Cecil	0.6%		
Talbot	88	153	165	7.8%	87.5%	21. Somerset	76	21. Charles	0.6%		
Washington	139	270	357	32.2%	156.8%	22. Kent	63	22. Carroll	0.6%		
Wicomico	247	311	274	-11.9%	10.9%	23. Allegany	14	23. Allegany	0.2%		
Worcester	64	181	175	-3.3%	173.4%	24. Garrett	0	24. Garrett	0.0%		
Maryland	23,915	31,429	35,666	13.5%	49.1%			State Average	4.3%		

Source: Maryland State Department of Education

Exhibit 24
Student Enrollment – Annapolis Area Public Schools
Change in Demographic Composition

<u>School</u>	September 1996				September 2007				
	<u>Limited English</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>African American</u>	<u>Latino-Hispanic</u>	<u>Limited English</u>	<u>Meals Program</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>African American</u>	<u>Latino-Hispanic</u>
Annapolis High School	1.3%	50.7%	46.3%	1.3%	10.6%	27.0%	41.3%	42.1%	13.5%
Annapolis Middle School	0.6%	32.2%	65.6%	1.2%	5.2%	47.2%	27.8%	54.7%	13.9%
Eastport Elementary	1.7%	69.3%	28.9%	0.4%	10.9%	74.8%	14.4%	65.1%	19.0%
Georgetown East Elementary	0.2%	42.9%	54.0%	1.6%	5.7%	62.9%	12.4%	74.8%	11.1%
Hillsmere Elementary	0.6%	55.0%	40.3%	2.4%	1.9%	24.3%	61.6%	32.2%	3.5%
Tyler Heights Elementary	3.6%	16.8%	78.1%	3.8%	17.2%	70.0%	4.6%	56.0%	38.3%
Bates Middle School	2.8%	52.3%	43.0%	2.2%	7.5%	45.1%	30.2%	51.1%	15.3%
Annapolis Elementary	5.5%	46.0%	48.4%	3.5%	6.0%	54.7%	38.7%	45.4%	13.9%
Germantown Elementary	0.5%	33.2%	64.6%	1.1%	17.1%	60.4%	20.2%	43.8%	34.1%
Mills-Parole Elementary	7.2%	13.7%	78.4%	6.2%	17.3%	70.2%	3.0%	65.9%	29.1%
Rolling Knolls Elementary	0.0%	53.7%	43.8%	0.3%	5.0%	20.7%	69.7%	17.1%	9.1%
West Annapolis Elementary	0.4%	68.0%	31.2%	0.0%	0.0%	11.6%	74.3%	16.2%	4.5%
Annapolis Feeder System	1.8%	44.5%	52.0%	1.8%	9.9%	44.2%	34.7%	46.1%	16.4%
Anne Arundel County Systemwide	0.6%	78.7%	17.5%	1.4%	2.1%	19.2%	68.4%	22.2%	5.4%

Source: Maryland State Department of Education

Legislative Actions Affecting Hispanic Community

Capital Projects

The General Assembly approved \$2 million in State funding for several capital projects benefiting Hispanic communities across the State, including those in Hyattsville, Riverdale, Rockville, Silver Spring, and Takoma Park. State funding will be used to expand early education programs for children, health care services for adults, and advocacy and employment opportunities.

CASA Multi-Cultural Service Center in Hyattsville

CASA of Maryland will receive \$1 million in State capital funds to renovate the historic McCormick-Goodhart Mansion which will be used as the CASA Multi-Cultural Service Center. The center will provide a variety of services to the State's immigrant community and will be within walking distance of 2,000 households. Construction is scheduled to begin in April with a completion date for April 2009. The mission of CASA of Maryland is to promote equal treatment and full access to resources and opportunities for low-income Hispanics and their families. CASA also works with other low-income immigrant communities and organizations.

Multicultural Use Center in Riverdale

The Latin American Youth Center will receive \$300,000 in State capital funds to renovate a former elementary school located in Riverdale into a multicultural use center. The project will continue the transformation of the Center for Educational Partnership into a full-fledged University-Community Partnership Center. The center provides extended-day instruction and academic enrichment, recreational and cultural programs, parenting support and adult education, and a community technology lab. Construction is scheduled to begin in July with a completion date set for January 2009. The Latin American Youth Center provides multilingual and culturally sensitive programs and opportunities in education, employment, social services, and social enterprises.

Mansfield Kaseman Health Center in Rockville

The Community Ministries of Rockville will receive \$250,000 in State capital funds to build a new facility for the Mansfield Kaseman Health Center. The project will facilitate an expansion of primary care services and is intended to serve individuals who are isolated from adequate health care due to income level, language, and cultural barriers. Construction is scheduled to begin in July 2008 with a completion date set for December 2009. Community Ministries of Rockville provides numerous programs including health care services, case management, and health education support to uninsured adults; basic English and citizenship classes to recent immigrant adults; and academic and recreational services for children.

Centro Familia Child Care and Training Center in Silver Spring

The Institute for Family Development will receive \$175,000 in State capital funds to develop the Centro Familia Child Care and Training Center, a high quality child care center to serve Hispanic immigrant families in the Silver Spring area. Currently, Centro Familia operates a licensed child care program “La Escuelita de Centro Familia” that serves 30 children. The program is subsidized through a contract with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services and has a waiting list of 60 children who have been screened and found to be eligible for the program. Renovation of an existing property to be used as the center is scheduled to begin in July 2008 with a completion date set for September 2008. Centro Familia is a community-based nonprofit organization that develops economic and educational opportunities of low-income women and children living in Hispanic and other immigrant communities. The organization addresses early child care and education as the primary means of breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

CentroNia Facility in Takoma Park

CentroNia will receive \$200,000 in State capital funds to develop an educational and family support center in Takoma Park. CentroNia, a comprehensive education and family support organization, serves 1,500 children and their families throughout the Washington Metropolitan area. In June 2007, the organization opened a site in Montgomery County and is in the process of replicating a bilingual and multicultural educational and family support model beginning with the development of a preschool program. The organization currently provides early childhood programs to approximately 30 children. Once the renovation project is completed, 225 children and adults could be served at the location.

Minority Business Enterprises

Although the General Assembly did not make any changes to the State’s Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) Program, it did seek to expand or maintain the participation of MBEs in State and local contracting. House Bill 1277/Senate Bill 606 (Ch. 601/600) require the State Treasurer, the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund, the Injured Workers’ Insurance Fund, and the State Retirement and Pension System to attempt to use MBE brokerage and investment management firms to the greatest extent feasible and consistent with their fiduciary responsibilities.

Senate Bill 847 (Ch. 463) establishes a Task Force on the MBE Program and Equity Investment Capital to study methods by which Maryland’s MBEs may secure a greater proportion of private equity invested in private firms. The task force’s final report is due to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2009.

House Bill 941 (Ch. 100) extends until September 2013 the authority for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission to administer its own MBE program. The commission’s MBE program was first authorized in 1995 and was scheduled to terminate in

September 2008. It is credited with increasing contract awards to MBEs to their current level of 33.7 percent of the commission's contract spending.

Task Force on the Preservation of Heritage Language

The General Assembly also passed legislation to establish the Task Force on the Preservation of Heritage Language Skills in Maryland and to consider innovative and cost-effective ways to facilitate heritage language learning while encouraging new U.S. citizens to learn and master English. The preamble to Senate Bill 506/House Bill 610 (Ch. 411/Ch. 412) notes that public school students in Maryland speak at least 150 different languages and that the ability to speak and understand foreign languages has become increasingly important for national security and in the global economy. A final report with findings and recommendations is due from the task force by January 1, 2009.

Legislative Action Relating to Immigration Issues

A number of immigration reform bills were introduced in the General Assembly during the 2008 session. House Bill 1602 (Ch. 553) establishes a Commission to Study the Impact of Immigrants in Maryland. The commission, to be staffed with experts from the University of Maryland, College Park, is tasked with studying the impact of immigrants of lawful status as well as undocumented immigrants and reporting its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly by January 1, 2011. Another measure, Senate Bill 52 (failed) would have created a task force to study the fiscal impact of undocumented immigrants on the State.

Four bills, Senate Bill 93 (failed), House Bill 288 (failed), Senate Bill 621 (failed), and House Bill 1046 (withdrawn), would have prohibited the Motor Vehicle Administration from issuing driver's licenses, identification cards, and/or moped operator permits to individuals who could not provide documentation of lawful presence status in the United States. Senate Bill 84 (failed) would have prohibited the State from providing any public benefit or service not otherwise deemed an entitlement under federal law to any undocumented immigrant in Maryland. House Bill 885 (failed) and Senate Bill 421/House Bill 735 (both failed) would have prohibited counties and municipalities from acting as "sanctuaries" by requiring them to fully comply with and support federal immigration law. House Bill 1232 (failed) would have conferred standing upon any registered voter of the State to file a legal complaint against any employee or officer of the State or a local government alleged to have violated federal immigration laws.

Appendix 1
Hispanic Community in the United States

State	Hispanic Population	Total State Population	Percent Hispanic	Ranking	Hispanics within State	Ranking
Alabama	113,890	4,599,030	2.5%	42	0.3%	37
Alaska	37,548	670,053	5.6%	29	0.1%	43
Arizona	1,803,378	6,166,318	29.2%	4	4.1%	6
Arkansas	141,053	2,810,872	5.0%	30	0.3%	31
California	13,074,156	36,457,549	35.9%	2	29.5%	1
Colorado	934,413	4,753,377	19.7%	7	2.1%	8
Connecticut	391,935	3,504,809	11.2%	12	0.9%	18
Delaware	53,835	853,476	6.3%	26	0.1%	40
District of Columbia	47,774	581,530	8.2%	18	0.1%	42
Florida	3,646,499	18,089,888	20.2%	6	8.2%	3
Georgia	703,246	9,363,941	7.5%	21	1.6%	10
Hawaii	99,663	1,285,498	7.8%	20	0.2%	38
Idaho	138,870	1,466,465	9.5%	15	0.3%	32
Illinois	1,886,933	12,831,970	14.7%	10	4.3%	5
Indiana	300,857	6,313,520	4.8%	31	0.7%	21
Iowa	114,700	2,982,085	3.8%	35	0.3%	36

State	Hispanic Population	Total State Population	Percent Hispanic	Ranking	Hispanics within State	Ranking
Kansas	237,426	2,764,075	8.6%	17	0.5%	26
Kentucky	85,938	4,206,074	2.0%	46	0.2%	39
Louisiana	124,481	4,287,768	2.9%	39	0.3%	34
Maine	13,529	1,321,574	1.0%	50	0.0%	49
Maryland	337,341	5,615,727	6.0%	28	0.8%	20
Massachusetts	511,014	6,437,193	7.9%	19	1.2%	15
Michigan	393,281	10,095,643	3.9%	34	0.9%	17
Minnesota	196,135	5,167,101	3.8%	36	0.4%	27
Mississippi	53,381	2,910,540	1.8%	47	0.1%	41
Missouri	164,194	5,842,713	2.8%	40	0.4%	29
Montana	23,818	944,632	2.5%	41	0.1%	46
Nebraska	130,304	1,768,331	7.4%	22	0.3%	33
Nevada	610,052	2,495,529	24.4%	5	1.4%	11
New Hampshire	29,872	1,314,895	2.3%	44	0.1%	45
New Jersey	1,364,696	8,724,560	15.6%	9	3.1%	7
New Mexico	860,688	1,954,599	44.0%	1	1.9%	9
New York	3,139,456	19,306,183	16.3%	8	7.1%	4
North Carolina	593,896	8,856,505	6.7%	25	1.3%	12
North Dakota	10,637	635,867	1.7%	48	0.0%	50
Ohio	267,750	11,478,006	2.3%	43	0.6%	23

State	Hispanic Population	Total State Population	Percent Hispanic	Ranking	Hispanics within State	Ranking
Oklahoma	247,450	3,579,212	6.9%	24	0.6%	25
Oregon	379,038	3,700,758	10.2%	14	0.9%	19
Pennsylvania	526,976	12,440,621	4.2%	33	1.2%	14
Rhode Island	117,701	1,067,610	11.0%	13	0.3%	35
South Carolina	151,289	4,321,249	3.5%	37	0.3%	30
South Dakota	16,773	781,919	2.1%	45	0.0%	47
Tennessee	194,706	6,038,803	3.2%	38	0.4%	28
Texas	8,385,139	23,507,783	35.7%	3	18.9%	2
Utah	286,113	2,550,063	11.2%	11	0.6%	22
Vermont	7,135	623,908	1.1%	49	0.0%	51
Virginia	479,530	7,642,884	6.3%	27	1.1%	16
Washington	581,357	6,395,798	9.1%	16	1.3%	13
West Virginia	16,767	1,818,470	0.9%	51	0.0%	48
Wisconsin	258,696	5,556,506	4.7%	32	0.6%	24
Wyoming	35,729	515,004	6.9%	23	0.1%	44
United States	44,321,038	299,398,484	14.8%		100.0%	