

## Demographic Information of the Latino Community in Georgia

### **Population Growth:**

Georgia had the third-fastest-growing Latino population of any other state in 2004, and now has the 11th-largest Hispanic population in the U.S.

Georgia's Latino community grew almost 300% from 1990 to 2000

Three-fifths (61.9%) of Latinos in Georgia are 29 years old or younger. Five Georgia counties, Gwinnett, Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton, and Clayton, are home to more than 50% of the state's Latino population.

### **Education:**

One in 14 students enrolled in Georgia's public schools in 2005 (7.8%) is Hispanic.

Three in five of these students (61%) were classified as Limited English Proficient as of 2001, and about half (49.6%) graduated from high school in 2004.

### **Economic Status:**

A higher share of Hispanics, compared to others, lives below the poverty line.

Hispanic buying power in the state of Georgia grew faster than any other segment of the state's economy, up 710% to almost \$11 billion in the past 14 years.

And the largest concentration of that buying power, about \$ 8 billion, can be found in Gwinnett, Fulton, Cobb and Dekalb counties (*"Growing Hispanic Community Makes Economic Impact,"* by Bruce Dortin, © Copyright 2003, [WABE](#))

In 2002, Hispanics applied for and received 9,333 of the small business loans granted to firms in Georgia.

Of all Hispanic-owned firms in Georgia, 40-percent or just over 8,000 are owned by women (*"Growing Hispanic Community Makes Economic Impact,"* by Bruce Dortin, © Copyright 2003, [WABE](#)).

### **Health Status:**

More than two in five (43%) no elderly Hispanics in Georgia did not have health insurance, despite their participation in the labor force.

Only 5% of all doctors and only 2% of all nurses in Georgia are Latino.

Unintentional injuries, such as workforce and motor vehicle accidents, are the leading cause of death for Georgia's Hispanics, whereas they are only the third-leading cause of death for Hispanics nationwide.

### **Latino Demographics in the United States**

The United States' Latino population increased 346% between 1970 and 2004.

It is estimated that there were 41.3 million Hispanics in the United States as of July 1, 2004, making people of Hispanic origin the nation's largest race or ethnic minority.

Hispanics constituted 14 percent of the nation's total population. (This estimate does not include the 3.9 million residents of Puerto Rico.)

1 of every two people added to the nation's population between July 1, 2003, and July 1, 2004, were Hispanic.

It is projected that the Hispanic population in the United States will be 102.6 million as of July 1, 2050. According to this projection, Hispanics will constitute 24 % of the nation's total population on that date.

82% of the Latino population is concentrated in 10 states.

Seven of the 10 states reporting largest growth since 1990 are in the South.

There are 234 Latino state legislators.

There are currently 5,205 Latino elected officials in the United States.

Source: National Council of La Raza (NCLR), 10/25/05

The full report, Latinos in Georgia: A Closer Look, can be accessed on the Internet at [www.nclr.org](http://www.nclr.org)