

May 26, 2011

Statistical Profile

---

# Hispanics of Honduran Origin in the United States, 2009

**Daniel Dockterman**, Research Assistant

---

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

1615 L St, N.W., Suite 700

Washington, D.C. 20036

Tel (202) 419-3600

Fax (202) 419-3608

[info@pewhispanic.org](mailto:info@pewhispanic.org)

[www.pewhispanic.org](http://www.pewhispanic.org)

Copyright © 2011

## Hispanics of Honduran Origin in the United States, 2009

An estimated 625,000 Hispanics of Honduran origin resided in the United States in 2009, according to the Census Bureau's American Community Survey. Hondurans in this statistical profile are people who self-identified as Hispanics of Honduran origin; this means either they themselves are Honduran immigrants or they trace their family ancestry to Honduras. Hondurans are the eighth-largest population of Hispanic origin living in the United States, accounting for 1.3% of the U.S. Hispanic population in 2009. Mexicans, the nation's largest Hispanic origin group, constituted 31.7 million, or 65.5%, of the Hispanic population in 2009.<sup>1</sup>

This statistical profile compares the demographic, income and economic characteristics of the Honduran population with the characteristics of all Hispanics and the U.S. population overall. It is based on tabulations from the 2009 American Community Survey by the Pew Hispanic Center, a project of the Pew Research Center.<sup>2</sup> Key facts include:

- **Immigration status.** Seven-in-ten Hondurans (69%) in the United States are foreign born compared with 37% of Hispanics and 13% of the U.S. population overall. Eight-in-ten immigrants from Honduras (78%) arrived in the U.S. in 1990 or later. Two-in-ten Honduran immigrants (20%) are U.S. citizens.
- **Language.** Four-in-ten Hondurans (40%) speak English proficiently.<sup>3</sup> Some 60% of Hondurans ages 5 and older report speaking English less than very well, compared with 37% of all Hispanics.
- **Age.** Hondurans are younger than the U.S. population and similar in age to Hispanics overall. The median age of Hondurans is 28; the median ages of the U.S. population and all Hispanics are 36 and 27, respectively.
- **Marital status.** Hondurans are less likely than Hispanics overall to be married—42% versus 45%.
- **Fertility.** Nearly four-in-ten (37%) of Honduran women ages 15 to 44 who gave birth in the 12 months prior to the survey were unmarried. That was similar to the rate for all Hispanic women—40%—and the rate for U.S. women—35%.

---

<sup>1</sup> Percentages are computed before numbers are rounded.

<sup>2</sup> The 2010 Census did not collect data on most of the characteristics tabulated in this profile.

<sup>3</sup> This includes Hondurans ages 5 and older who report speaking only English at home or speaking English very well.

- **Regional dispersion.** Six-in-ten Hondurans (61%) live in the South, mostly in Florida and Texas. Some one-in-eight Hondurans (13%) live in California and 9% live in New York.
- **Educational attainment.** Hondurans have lower levels of education than the Hispanic population overall. Some 49% of Hondurans ages 25 and older—compared with 39% of all U.S. Hispanics—have not obtained at least a high school diploma.
- **Income.** The median annual personal earnings for Hondurans ages 16 and older were \$17,100 in 2009; the median earnings for all U.S. Hispanics were \$20,000.
- **Poverty status.** The share of Hondurans who live in poverty, 27%, is higher than the rate for the general U.S. population (14%) and the rate for Hispanics overall (23%).
- **Health Insurance.** Half of Hondurans (52%) do not have health insurance compared with 31% of all Hispanics and 15% of the general U.S. population. Additionally, 26% of Hondurans younger than 18 are uninsured.
- **Homeownership.** The rate of Honduran homeownership (32%) is lower than the rate for all Hispanics (48%) and the U.S. population (66%) as a whole.

#### About the Data

This statistical profile of Hispanics of Honduran origin is based on the Census Bureau's 2009 [American Community Survey](#) (ACS). The ACS is the largest household survey in the United States, with a sample of about 3 million addresses. The data used for this statistical profile come from 2009 ACS Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS), representing a 1% sample of the U.S. population.

Like any survey, estimates from the ACS are subject to sampling error and (potentially) measurement error. Information on the ACS sampling strategy and associated error is available at [http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/methodology\\_main/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/methodology_main/). An example of measurement error is that citizenship rates for the foreign born are estimated to be overstated in the Decennial Census and other official surveys, such as the ACS (see Jeffrey Passel, "Growing Share of Immigrants Choosing Naturalization," Pew Hispanic Center, Washington, D.C. (March 28, 2009)). Finally, estimates from the ACS may differ from the Decennial Census or other Census Bureau surveys due to differences in methodology and data collection procedures (see, for example, [http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/methodology/ASA\\_nelson.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/methodology/ASA_nelson.pdf), <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/laborfor/laborfactsheet092209.html> and <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/about/datasources/factsheet.html>).

## Hispanics of Honduran Origin in the United States, 2009

**Table 1**  
**U.S. Population, by Ethnicity and Honduran Origin, 2009**  
*(thousands, unless otherwise noted)*

	All	Hispanics	Hispanics of Honduran Origin
<b>Total</b>	307,007	48,348	625
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	151,373	24,980	338
Female	155,633	23,368	286
<b>Nativity</b>			
Native Born	268,554	30,279	197
Foreign Born	38,453	18,069	428
<b>Age</b>			
Median (in years)	36	27	28
<b>Age Groups</b>			
Younger than 5	21,172	5,436	69
5-17	53,300	11,258	112
18-29	51,995	9,640	148
30-39	40,338	7,786	140
40-49	44,163	6,269	89
50-64	56,546	5,242	52
65 and older	39,492	2,716	15
<b>Marital Status (ages 15 and older)</b>			
Married	120,802	15,492	194
Never married	77,957	13,449	211
Divorced/separated/widowed	46,391	5,109	62
<b>Fertility (women ages 15 to 44)</b>			
Total number of women	62,090	10,784	155
Women who had a birth in the past 12 months	4,271	935	17
Unmarried women <sup>1</sup> who had a birth in the past 12 months	1,500	372	6
<b>School Enrollment (ages 5 to 18)</b>			
K-12	52,293	10,964	109
<b>Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older)</b>			
Less than high school diploma	29,790	10,205	182
High school diploma or equivalent	57,515	6,801	89
Some college	58,319	5,801	62
Bachelor's degree or more	56,375	3,309	37
<b>Median Annual Personal Earnings (in dollars)</b>			
All (ages 16 and older with earnings)	\$28,900	\$20,000	\$17,100
Full-time, year-round workers	\$40,000	\$29,000	\$24,000
<b>Persons in Poverty<sup>2</sup></b>			
Younger than 18	14,516	5,019	61
18-64	24,347	5,515	105
65 and older	3,560	495	3
<b>Health Insurance</b>			
Uninsured, all ages	47,378	15,145	325
Uninsured, younger than 18	6,336	2,638	46
<b>Persons in Households by Type of Household<sup>3</sup></b>			
In family households	250,360	43,137	537
In married-couple households	182,921	27,922	308
In non-family households	48,370	4,295	78
<b>Citizenship</b>			
Citizen	285,366	35,541	284
Non-citizen	21,641	12,807	341
<b>Language (ages 5 and older)</b>			
Speaks only English at home	228,797	10,260	51
Does not speak only English at home	57,037	32,652	505
Speaks English very well	32,487	16,964	173
Speaks English less than very well	24,550	15,688	333
<b>Year of Entry (foreign-born only)</b>			
Before 1990	15,577	6,746	95
1990 to 1999	10,723	5,381	141
2000 or later	12,153	5,943	192
<b>Regional Dispersion</b>			
Northeast	55,284	6,578	101
New York	19,541	3,275	54
Midwest	66,837	4,358	30
South	113,318	17,210	383
Florida	18,538	3,987	116
Texas	24,782	9,151	114
North Carolina	9,381	717	33
West	71,568	20,203	110
California	36,962	13,682	84

<sup>1</sup>Unmarried women includes those who were never married, divorced or widowed. <sup>2</sup>For detailed information on how poverty status is determined, see <http://usa.ipums.org/usa-action/variableDescription.do?memonic=POVERTY>. Due to the way in which the IPUMS assigns poverty values, these data will differ from those that might be provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. <sup>3</sup>The household population excludes persons living in institutions, college dormitories and other group quarters.

Note: Numbers may not sum to the total due to rounding.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2009 ACS (1% IPUMS sample). More information on the source data and sampling error is available at <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/design.shtml> and [http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/methodology\\_main/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/methodology_main/).

## Hispanics of Honduran Origin in the United States, 2009

	All	Hispanics	Hispanics of Honduran Origin
<b>Total (in thousands)</b>			
	113,616	12,728	162
<b>Homeownership (household heads)</b>			
In owner-occupied homes (in thousands)	74,929	6,127	51
In renter-occupied homes (in thousands)	38,687	6,601	110
Homeownership rate (%)	65.9	48.1	31.8
<b>Household Annual Income (in dollars)</b>			
Median	\$50,800	\$40,200	\$36,300
<b>Household Size</b>			
Average number of persons	2.6	3.6	3.8

Note: The household population excludes persons living in institutions, college dormitories and other group quarters. Households are classified by the ethnicity of the household head. Numbers may not sum to the total due to rounding.  
Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2009 ACS (1% IPUMS sample). More information on the source data and sampling error is available at <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/design.shtml> and [http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/methodology\\_main/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/methodology_main/).

	All	Hispanics	Hispanics of Honduran Origin
<b>Employment Status (civilians ages 16 and older)</b>			
Employed	140,638	20,041	300
Unemployed	15,476	2,726	49
Not in labor force	83,600	10,334	110
Unemployment rate (%)	9.9	12.0	14.1
<b>Industries<sup>1</sup></b>			
Construction, agriculture and mining	12,082	2,900	70
Manufacturing	14,783	2,183	30
Trade and transportation	26,147	3,738	42
Information, finance and other services	87,626	11,220	158
<b>Occupations<sup>1</sup></b>			
Management, professional and related occupations	53,576	4,200	36
Services	21,662	4,799	89
Sales and office support	35,421	4,394	44
Construction, extraction and farming	8,580	2,564	70
Maintenance, production, transportation and material moving	21,398	4,082	61

<sup>1</sup>Currently employed civilians ages 16 and older.  
Note: Numbers may not sum to the total due to rounding.  
Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2009 ACS (1% IPUMS sample). More information on the source data and sampling error is available at <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/design.shtml> and [http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/methodology\\_main/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/methodology_main/).