

Hispanics of Honduran Origin in the United States, 2008

A total of 608,000 Hispanics of Honduran origin resided in the United States in 2008, 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 2008. Mexicans constituted 30.7 million, or 65.7%, of the Hispanic population.¹

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 Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2008 American Community Survey. Key facts include:

- **Immigration status.** Seven-in-ten Hondurans (68.6%) in the United States are foreign born compared with 38.1% of Hispanics and 12.5% of the U.S. population overall. Three-in-four immigrants from Honduras (74.0%) arrived in the U.S. in 1990 or later. Two-in-ten Honduran immigrants (21.9%) are U.S. citizens.
- **Language.** Four-in-ten Hondurans (39.7%) speak English proficiently.² Some 60.3% of Hondurans ages 5 and older report speaking English less than very well, compared with 37.3% 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.

¹ Percentages are computed before numbers are rounded.

² Hondurans ages 5 and older who report speaking only English at home or speaking English very well.

- **Marital status.** Hondurans are less likely than Hispanics overall to be married—40.6% versus 46.5%.
- **Fertility.** Four-in-ten (42.5%) of Honduran women ages 15 to 44 who gave birth in the 12 months prior to the survey were unmarried. That was greater than the rate for all Hispanic women—38.8%—and the rate for U.S. women—34.5%.
- **Regional dispersion.** A majority of Hondurans (54.9%) live in the South, mostly in Florida and Texas. Some one-in-eight Hondurans (12.9%) live in California and in New York (12.5%).
- **Educational attainment.** Hondurans have lower levels of education than the Hispanic population overall. Some 50.0% of Hondurans ages 25 and older—compared with 39.2% 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 \$19,349 in 2008; the median earnings for all U.S. Hispanics were \$21,488.
- **Poverty status.** The share of Hondurans who live in poverty, 21.5%, is higher than the rate for the general U.S. population (12.7%) and similar to the rate for Hispanics overall (20.7%).
- **Health Insurance.** One-half of Hondurans (49.3%) do not have health insurance compared with 31.7% of all Hispanics and 15.4% of the general U.S. population. Additionally, 26.4% of Hondurans younger than 18 are uninsured.
- **Homeownership.** The rate of Honduran homeownership (33.9%) is lower than the rate for all Hispanics (49.1%) and the U.S. population (66.6%) as a whole.

About the Data

This statistical profile of Hispanics of Honduran origin is based on the Census Bureau's 2008 [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 2008 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 www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2008.pdf. 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, 2008)). 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/Report10.pdf> and http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/ASA_nelson.pdf).

Table 1
Population Characteristics, 2008
(thousands, unless otherwise noted)

	U.S. Population	All Hispanics	Hispanics of Honduran Origin
Total	304,060	46,822	608
Gender			
Male	149,863	24,214	316
Female	154,196	22,608	292
Nativity			
Native Born	266,044	28,985	191
Foreign Born	38,016	17,837	417
Age			
Median (in years)	36	27	28
Age Groups			
Younger than 5	20,879	5,216	63
5-17	53,012	10,787	105
18-29	51,086	9,344	154
30-39	40,407	7,769	128
40-49	44,673	6,087	87
50-64	55,207	4,989	52
65 and older	38,797	2,631	18
Marital Status (ages 15 and older)			
Married	120,805	15,422	189
Never married	75,960	12,713	218
Divorced/separated/widowed	46,228	5,030	59
Fertility (women ages 15 to 44)			
Total number of women	62,005	10,543	152
Women who had a birth in the past 12 months	4,354	936	17
Unmarried women ¹ who had a birth in the past 12 months	1,503	363	7
School Enrollment (ages 5 to 18)			
K-12	52,068	10,497	100
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older)			
Less than high school diploma	30,050	10,011	181
High school diploma or equivalent	57,016	6,637	81
Some college	57,595	5,601	63
Bachelor's degree or more	55,356	3,302	37
Median Annual Personal Earnings (in dollars)			
All (ages 16 and older with earnings)	\$29,533	\$21,488	\$19,349
Full-time, year-round workers	\$40,736	\$28,820	\$23,423
Persons in Poverty²			
Younger than 18	13,131	4,390	46
18-64	21,919	4,792	82
65 and older	3,648	491	3
Health Insurance			
Uninsured, all ages	46,729	14,852	300
Uninsured, younger than 18	7,354	2,985	44
Persons in Households by Type of Household³			
In family households	247,692	41,549	525
In married-couple households	181,848	27,094	272
In non-family households	48,121	4,379	74
Citizenship			
Citizen	282,374	34,097	282
Non-citizen	21,686	12,726	326
Language (ages 5 and older)			
Speaks only English at home	227,375	9,855	46
Does not speak only English at home	55,806	31,752	499
Speaks English very well	31,376	16,223	170
Speaks English less than very well	24,430	15,529	328
Year of Entry (foreign-born only)			
Before 1990	15,879	6,883	108
1990 to 1999	10,913	5,424	141
2000 or later	11,225	5,530	167
Regional Dispersion			
Northeast	54,925	6,405	141
New York	19,490	3,232	76
New Jersey	8,683	1,424	32
Midwest	66,561	4,252	37
South	111,719	16,441	334
Florida	18,328	3,846	108
Texas	24,327	8,816	78
West	70,855	19,724	97
California	36,757	13,435	78

¹Unmarried women includes those who were never married, divorced or widowed.²For detailed information on how poverty status is determined, see <http://usa.ipums.org/usa-action/variableDescription.do?mnemonic=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.³The 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 2008 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/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2008.pdf>.

Table 2 Household Characteristics, 2008			
	U.S. Population	All Hispanics	Hispanics of Honduran Origin
Total (in thousands)			
	113,101	12,612	157
Homeownership (household heads)			
In owner-occupied homes (in thousands)	75,342	6,188	53
In renter-occupied homes (in thousands)	37,760	6,424	104
Homeownership rate (%)	66.6	49.1	33.9
Household Annual Income (in dollars)			
Median	\$51,938	\$41,754	\$36,662
Household Size			
Average number of persons	2.6	3.5	3.7

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 2008 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/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2008.pdf>.

Table 3 Employment Characteristics, by Industry and Occupation, 2008 <i>(thousands, unless otherwise noted)</i>			
	U.S. Population	All Hispanics	Hispanics of Honduran Origin
Employment Status (civilians ages 16 and older)			
Employed	146,246	20,683	324
Unemployed	9,984	1,678	25
Not in labor force	81,350	9,885	106
Unemployment rate (%)	6.4	7.5	7.0
Industries¹			
Construction, agriculture and mining	13,429	3,229	85
Manufacturing	16,385	2,389	32
Trade and transportation	27,777	3,913	55
Information, finance and other services	88,654	11,151	152
Occupations¹			
Management, professional and related occupations	54,413	4,233	38
Services	21,669	4,614	85
Sales and office support	37,260	4,579	48
Construction, extraction and farming	9,637	2,858	82
Maintenance, production, transportation and material moving	23,268	4,399	71

¹Currently employed civilians ages 16 and older.

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

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2008 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/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2008.pdf>.