

Hispanics of Ecuadorian Origin in the United States, 2007

A total of 523,000 Hispanics of Ecuadorian origin resided in the United States in 2007, according to the Census Bureau's American Community Survey. Ecuadorians in this statistical profile are people who self-identified as Hispanics of Ecuadorian origin; this means either they themselves are Ecuadorian immigrants or they trace their family ancestry to Ecuador. Ecuadorians are the ninth-largest population of Hispanic origin living in the United States, accounting for 1.2% of the U.S. Hispanic population in 2007. Mexicans constituted 29.2 million, or 64.3%, of the Hispanic population.¹

This statistical profile compares the demographic, income and economic characteristics of the Ecuadorian population with the characteristics of all Hispanics and the U.S. population overall. It is based on Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2007 American Community Survey. Key facts include:

- **Immigration status.** Two-thirds of Ecuadorians (67.9%) in the United States are foreign born compared with 39.8% of Hispanics and 12.6% of the U.S. population overall. Two-thirds of immigrants from Ecuador (66.0%) arrived in the U.S. in 1990 or later. Four-in-ten Ecuadorian immigrants (40.6%) are U.S. citizens.
- **Language.** Less than half of Ecuadorians (47.4%) speak English proficiently.² Some 52.6% of Ecuadorians ages 5 and older report speaking English less than very well, compared with 38.8% of all Hispanics.
- **Age.** Ecuadorians are younger than the U.S. population and older than Hispanics overall. The median age of Ecuadorians is 30; 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 Ecuadorians ages 5 and older who report speaking only English at home or speaking English very well.

- **Marital status.** Ecuadorians are more likely than Hispanics overall to be married—51.1% versus 47.3%.
- **Fertility.** One-third (34.5%) of Ecuadorian women ages 15 to 44 who gave birth in the 12 months prior to the survey were unmarried. That was less than the rate for all Hispanic women—38.1%—and similar to the rate for U.S. women—33.4%.
- **Regional dispersion.** Two-thirds of Ecuadorians (66.4%) live in the Northeast, and more than four-in-ten (42.9%) live in New York.
- **Educational attainment.** Ecuadorians have higher levels of education than the Hispanic population overall. Some 18.2% of Ecuadorians ages 25 and older—compared with 12.6% of all U.S. Hispanics—have obtained at least a bachelor’s degree.
- **Income.** The median annual personal earnings for Ecuadorians ages 16 and older were \$21,655 in 2007; the median earnings for all U.S. Hispanics were \$21,048.
- **Poverty status.** The share of Ecuadorians who live in poverty, 14.8%, is higher than the rate for the general U.S. population (11.9%) and below the 19.5% share among all Hispanics.
- **Homeownership.** The rate of Ecuadorian homeownership (41.8%) is lower than the rate for all Hispanics (49.9%) and the U.S. population (67.2%) as a whole.

About the Data

This statistical profile of Hispanics of Ecuadorian origin is based on the Census Bureau's 2007 [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 2007 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/accuracy2007.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, 2007)). 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).

	U.S. Population	All Hispanics	Hispanics of Ecuadorian Origin
Total	301,621	45,379	523
Gender			
Male	148,639	23,455	270
Female	152,982	21,924	253
Nativity			
Native Born	263,573	27,329	168
Foreign Born	38,048	18,050	355
Age			
Median (in years)	36	27	30
Age Groups			
Younger than 5	20,696	4,894	52
5-17	53,217	10,438	85
18-29	50,386	9,328	114
30-39	40,623	7,629	107
40-49	45,132	5,871	71
50-64	53,769	4,737	66
65 and older	37,798	2,481	29
Marital Status (ages 15 and older)			
Married	120,941	15,299	206
Never married	74,061	12,199	135
Divorced/separated/widowed	45,704	4,853	62
Fertility (women ages 15 to 44)			
Total number of women	62,106	10,403	125
Women who had a birth in the past 12 months	4,137	898	10
Unmarried women ¹ who had a birth in the past 12 months	1,382	342	4
School Enrollment (ages 5 to 18)			
K-12	52,022	10,130	82
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older)			
Less than high school diploma	30,594	9,768	93
High school diploma or equivalent	59,707	6,985	106
Some college	53,251	4,931	68
Bachelor's degree or more	54,382	3,116	59
Median Annual Personal Earnings (in dollars)			
All (ages 16 and older with earnings)	\$28,333	\$21,048	\$21,655
Full-time, year-round workers	\$39,464	\$27,321	\$27,321
Persons in Poverty²			
Younger than 18	12,809	4,045	27
18-64	19,856	4,362	46
65 and older	3,248	428	5
Persons in Households by Type of Household³			
In family households	246,339	40,369	473
In married-couple households	181,733	26,497	302
In non-family households	47,161	4,144	46
Citizenship			
Citizen	279,778	32,444	312
Non-citizen	21,844	12,934	211
Language (ages 5 and older)			
Speaks only English at home	225,588	8,931	38
Does not speak only English at home	55,338	31,553	434
Speaks English very well	30,891	15,838	186
Speaks English less than very well	24,446	15,715	248
Year of Entry (foreign-born only)			
Before 1990	16,331	7,122	121
1990 to 1999	11,179	5,578	119
2000 or later	10,539	5,349	115
Regional Dispersion			
Northeast	54,681	6,198	348
New York	19,298	3,147	224
New Jersey	8,686	1,379	83
Midwest	66,389	4,076	40
Illinois	12,853	1,923	28
South	110,455	15,850	95
Florida	18,251	3,751	54
West	70,097	19,256	40
California	36,553	13,219	32

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 2007 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/accuracy2007.pdf>.

	U.S. Population	All Hispanics	Hispanics of Ecuadorian Origin
Total (in thousands)	112,386	12,296	154
Homeownership (household heads)			
In owner-occupied homes (in thousands)	75,523	6,135	65
In renter-occupied homes (in thousands)	36,863	6,161	90
Homeownership rate (%)	67.2	49.9	41.8
Household Annual Income (in dollars)			
Median	\$50,595	\$40,476	\$47,054
Household Size			
Average number of persons	2.6	3.5	3.5

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 2007 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/accuracy2007.pdf>.

	U.S. Population	All Hispanics	Hispanics of Ecuadorian Origin
Employment Status (civilians ages 16 and older)			
Employed	142,634	19,739	271
Unemployed	9,624	1,554	19
Not in labor force	83,170	10,163	107
Unemployment rate (%)	6.3	7.3	6.5
Industries¹			
Construction, agriculture and mining	13,701	3,299	45
Manufacturing	16,097	2,381	33
Trade and transportation	27,055	3,624	55
Information, finance and other services	85,781	10,435	138
Occupations¹			
Management, professional and related occupations	52,452	3,900	50
Services	20,728	4,391	64
Sales and office support	36,491	4,239	54
Construction, extraction and farming	9,867	2,958	43
Maintenance, production, transportation and material moving	23,096	4,252	61

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 2007 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/accuracy2007.pdf>.