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Hispanics of Peruvian Origin in the United States, 2013

Statistical Profile

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
ON THIS REPORT:**

Mark Hugo Lopez, Director of Hispanic Research
Molly Rohal, Communications Manager

202.419.4372

www.pewresearch.org

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BY *Gustavo López*

An estimated 628,000 Hispanics of Peruvian origin resided in the United States in 2013, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of the Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

Peruvians in this statistical profile are people who self-identified as Hispanics of Peruvian origin; this means either they themselves are Peruvian immigrants or they trace their family ancestry to Peru.

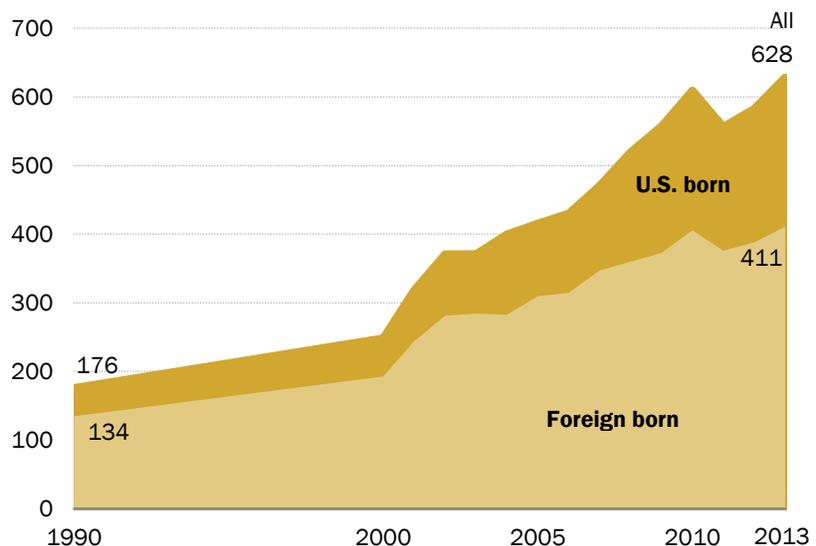
Peruvians are the 11th-largest population of Hispanic origin living in the United States, accounting for 1.2% of the U.S. Hispanic population in 2013. Since 1990, the Peruvian-origin population has more than tripled,

growing from 176,000 to 628,000 over the period. At the same time, the foreign-born population of Peruvian origin living in the U.S. grew by about 206%, up from 134,000 in 1990 to 411,000 in 2013. In comparison, Mexicans, the nation's largest Hispanic origin group, constituted 34.6 million, or 64.1%, of the Hispanic population in 2013.¹

FIGURE 1

Peruvian-Origin Population in the U.S., 1990-2013

In thousands



Note: People in group quarters such as college dormitories or institutions are not included in figures for 2001 to 2005. Changes in the wording of the Hispanic origin question in the 2000 decennial census may have led to an undercount of some Hispanic origin groups in that year. For more, see <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2002/05/09/counting-the-other-hispanics/>.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of 1990 and 2000 censuses (5% IPUMS) and 2001-2013 American Community Surveys (1% IPUMS)

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¹ Percentages are computed before numbers are rounded.

This statistical profile compares the demographic, income and economic characteristics of the Peruvian population with the characteristics of all Hispanics and the U.S. population overall. It is based on Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2013 American Community Survey. Key facts include:

- **Immigration status.** About two-thirds of Peruvians (65%) in the United States are foreign born, compared with 35% of Hispanics and 13% of the U.S. population overall. About four-in-ten immigrants from Peru (39%) have been in the U.S. for over 20 years. Half of Peruvian immigrants are U.S. citizens.
- **Language.** About six-in-ten (61%) Peruvians ages 5 and older speak English proficiently.² Some 39% of Peruvians report speaking English less than very well, compared with 32% of all Hispanics. In addition, 85% of Peruvians ages 5 and older speak Spanish at home.
- **Age.** Peruvians have close to the same median age as the U.S. population but are older than Hispanics overall. The median age of Peruvians is 36; the median ages of the U.S. population and all Hispanics are 37 and 28, respectively. Among Peruvians, the median age of immigrants is 46 years, while it's only 14 years among the U.S. born.
- **Marital status.** Peruvians ages 18 and older are married at a higher rate (50%) than Hispanics overall (46%) but are as likely to be married as the U.S. population overall (50%).
- **Fertility.** About one-in-twenty (6%) Peruvian women ages 15 to 44 gave birth in the 12 months prior to this survey. That was similar to the rate for all Hispanic women (7%) and the same as the overall rate for U.S. women.
- **Regional dispersion.** Peruvians are concentrated in the South (39%), mostly in Florida (20%), and in the Northeast (31%), mostly in New Jersey (13%) and New York (12%). An additional 18% live in California.
- **Educational attainment.** Peruvians have higher levels of education than the U.S. Hispanic population and similar levels to the U.S. population overall. Some 31% of Peruvians ages 25 and older—compared with 14% of all U.S. Hispanics and 30% among the entire U.S. population—have obtained at least a bachelor's degree. Among Peruvians ages

² This includes Peruvians ages 5 and older who speak only English at home or, if they speak a non-English language at home, indicate they can speak English "very well."

25 and older, the U.S. born are more likely to have earned a bachelor's degree or more than foreign-born Peruvians—42% vs. 29%.

- **Income.** The median annual personal earnings for Peruvians ages 16 and older was \$25,000 in the year prior to the survey—more than the median earnings for all U.S. Hispanics (\$21,900) and lower than the median earnings for the U.S. population (\$30,000).
- **Poverty status.** The share of Peruvians who live in poverty, 13%, is lower than the rate for the general U.S. population (16%) and for Hispanics overall (25%).
- **Health insurance.** Roughly one-quarter of Peruvians (26%) do not have health insurance, compared with 29% of all Hispanics and 15% of the general U.S. population. About one-in-ten (9%) Peruvians younger than 18 are uninsured. (These data reflect insurance rates prior to the implementation of the individual insurance mandate of the Affordable Care Act.)
- **Homeownership.** The rate of Peruvian homeownership (47%) is about the same as the rate for all Hispanics (45%) but lower than the U.S. population (64%) as a whole.

About the Data

This statistical profile of Hispanics of Peruvian origin is based on the Census Bureau's 2013 [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 2013 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/. 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 S. Passel, 2007. "[Growing Share of Immigrants Choosing Naturalization](#)." Washington, D.C.: Pew Research Center, March). 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/hhes/www/laborfor/laborfactsheet092209.html> and <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/about/datasources/factsheet.html>).

Table 1
U.S. Population, by Ethnicity and Peruvian Origin, 2013

Thousands, unless otherwise noted

	All	Hispanics	Hispanics of Peruvian Origin		
			All	U.S. born	Foreign born
TOTAL	316,129	53,964	628	217	411
Gender					
Male	155,592	27,377	300	110	190
Female	160,537	26,587	329	108	221
Nativity					
U.S. Born	274,788	34,981	217	217	---
Foreign Born	41,341	18,983	411	---	411
Age					
Median (in years)	37	28	36	14	46
Age Groups					
Younger than 5	19,682	5,053	43	42	1
5-17	53,820	12,635	102	86	16
18-29	53,007	10,923	104	50	54
30-39	40,997	8,454	97	18	78
40-49	42,158	7,039	103	11	92
50-64	61,801	6,560	117	7	110
65 and older	44,663	3,301	63	3	60
Marital Status (ages 18 and older)					
Married	122,043	16,750	243	26	216
Never married	71,957	13,603	142	55	87
Divorced/separated/widowed	48,628	5,924	98	7	91
Fertility (women ages 15 to 44)					
Total number of women	63,071	12,411	146	47	99
Women who had a birth in the past 12 months	3,893	873	9	3	6
Unmarried women ¹ who had a birth in the past 12 mo	1,478	393	***	***	***
School Enrollment (ages 5 to 18)					
K-12	52,794	12,383	101	85	***
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older)					
Less than high school graduate	28,268	10,491	47	5	42
High school graduate ²	58,768	8,037	114	8	106
Two-year degree/Some college	61,501	6,988	131	18	113
Bachelor's degree or more	62,454	4,169	128	22	106
Median Annual Personal Earnings (in dollars)					
All (ages 16 and older with earnings)	\$30,000	\$21,900	\$25,000	\$20,000	\$25,000
Full-time, year-round workers	\$42,000	\$30,000	\$35,000	\$40,000	\$34,000
Persons in Poverty ³					
Younger than 18	16,224	5,739	23	19	4
18-64	28,336	6,693	49	10	39
65 and older	4,155	631	10	<0.5	10
Health Insurance ⁴					
Uninsured, all ages	46,654	15,411	161	27	134
Uninsured, younger than 18	5,245	2,033	12	9	4
Persons in Households by Type of Household ⁵					
In family households	257,066	48,026	555	198	357
In married-couple households	183,952	30,351	380	138	241
In non-family households	51,033	4,944	67	15	51
Citizenship					
Citizen	294,112	41,173	422	217	204
Non-citizen	22,016	12,791	207	---	207
Language (ages 5 and older)					
Speaks only English at home	234,715	12,893	84	63	21
Does not speak only English at home	61,732	36,019	502	113	389
Speaks English very well	36,673	20,287	271	99	173
Speaks English less than very well	25,059	15,732	230	14	216
Years in the U.S. (foreign-born only)					
0 to 5 years	5,959	1,960	36	---	36
6 to 10 years	5,791	2,926	72	---	72
11 to 15 years	7,012	3,811	92	---	92
16 to 20 years	4,915	2,456	50	---	50
Over 20 years	17,664	7,830	160	---	160
Regional Dispersion					
Northeast	55,943	7,537	197	68	128
New Jersey	8,899	1,685	81	27	54
New York	19,651	3,609	73	***	47
Midwest	67,548	4,953	29	12	17
South	118,384	19,724	246	74	172
Florida	19,553	4,620	126	36	90
Virginia	8,260	707	37	***	***
West	74,254	21,749	157	63	93
California	38,333	14,716	116	44	72

¹Unmarried women includes those who were never married, divorced, separated or widowed. ²High school graduate² includes those who have attained a high school diploma or its equivalent, such as a General Education Development (GED) certificate. ³For detailed information on how poverty status is determined, see <http://usa.ipums.org/usa-action/variables/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. ⁴These data reflect insurance coverage prior to the implementation of the individual insurance mandate of the Affordable Care Act. ⁵The household population excludes persons living in institutions, college dormitories and other group quarters.

Note: Numbers may not sum to the total due to rounding. Analysis is based on the following number of observations: all, 3,132,795; Hispanics, 435,427; Hispanics of Peruvian origin, 5,085; U.S.-born Peruvians, 1,784; foreign-born Peruvians, 3,337. The symbol *** indicates insufficient number of observations to provide a reliable estimate.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2013 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS). 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/data_documentation/Accuracy/ACS_Accuracy_of_Data_2013.pdf.

Table 2

Household Characteristics, by Ethnicity and Peruvian Origin, 2013

	All	Hispanics	Hispanics of Peruvian Origin		
			All	U.S. born	Foreign born
Total (in thousands)	116,291	14,246	189	27	162
Homeownership (household heads)					
In owner-occupied homes (in thousands)	73,933	6,452	90	12	78
In renter-occupied homes (in thousands)	42,358	7,794	99	15	85
Homeownership rate (%)	63.6	45.3	47.5	45.3	47.8
Household Annual Income (in dollars)					
Median	\$52,000	\$41,000	\$53,000	\$63,060	\$50,600
Household Size					
Average number of persons	2.6	3.5	3.2	2.7	3.3

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. Analysis is based on the following number of observations: all, 1,211,264; Hispanics, 121,664; Hispanics of Peruvian origin, 1,595; U.S.-born Peruvians, 232; foreign-born, Peruvians 1,363.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2013 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS). 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/data_documentation/Accuracy/ACS_Accuracy_of_Data_2013.pdf.

Table 3

Employment Characteristics, by Ethnicity and Peruvian Origin, 2013

Thousands, unless otherwise noted

	All	Hispanics	Hispanics of Peruvian Origin		
			All	U.S. born	Foreign born
Employment Status (civilians ages 16 and older)					
Employed	145,238	22,948	333	61	273
Unemployed	13,365	2,535	28	7	20
Not in labor force	91,321	12,437	139	33	106
Unemployment rate (%)	8.4	9.9	7.6	11.0	6.9
Industries¹					
Construction, agriculture and mining	11,827	3,116	23	2	21
Manufacturing	15,283	2,383	25	3	21
Trade and transportation	26,636	4,322	67	15	52
Information, finance and other services	91,492	13,127	218	40	178
Occupations					
Management, professional and related occupations	56,566	5,087	100	21	79
Services	22,944	5,522	85	12	73
Sales and office support	35,127	5,037	77	21	56
Construction, extraction and farming	8,287	2,724	20	2	19
Maintenance, production, transportation and material moving	22,314	4,577	51	6	45

¹Currently employed civilians ages 16 and older.

Note: Analysis is based on the following number of observations: all, 2,530,954; Hispanics, 311,328; Hispanics of Peruvian origin, 4,061; U.S.-born Peruvians, 837; foreign-born Peruvians, 3,224.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2013 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS). 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/data_documentation/Accuracy/ACS_Accuracy_of_Data_2013.pdf.