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Statistical Profile

Hispanics of Peruvian Origin in the United States, 2010

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An estimated 609,000 Hispanics of Peruvian origin resided in the United States in 2010, according to 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 10th-largest population of Hispanic origin living in the United States, accounting for 1.2% of the U.S. Hispanic population in 2010. Mexicans, the nation's largest Hispanic origin group, constituted 32.9 million, or 64.9%, of the Hispanic population in 2010.¹

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 tabulations from the 2010 American Community Survey by the Pew Hispanic Center, a project of the Pew Research Center.² Key facts include:

- **Immigration status.** Two-thirds of Peruvians (67%) in the United States are foreign born compared with 37% of Hispanics and 13% of the U.S. population overall. About seven-in-ten immigrants from Peru (69%) arrived in the U.S. in 1990 or later. More than two-in-five Peruvian immigrants (44%) are U.S. citizens.
- **Language.** Nearly three-fifths (59%) of Peruvians ages 5 and older speak English proficiently.³ The other 41% of Peruvians report speaking English less than very well, compared with 35% of all Hispanics.
- **Age.** Peruvians are younger than the U.S. population but older than Hispanics overall. The median age of Peruvians is 34; the median ages of the U.S. population and all Hispanics are 37 and 27, respectively.
- **Marital status.** Peruvians are more likely than Hispanics overall to be married—49% versus 44%.
- **Fertility.** Less than one-in-ten (6%) of Peruvian women ages 15 to 44 gave birth in the 12 months prior to this survey. That was less than the rate for all Hispanic women—8%—and the rate for U.S. women—7%.

¹ Percentages are computed before numbers are rounded.

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

³ This includes Peruvians ages 5 and older who report speaking only English at home or speaking English very well.

- **Regional dispersion.** Peruvians are concentrated in the South (37%), mostly in Florida (17%), and in the Northeast (34%), mostly in New Jersey (15%) and New York (13%). An additional 17% live in California.
- **Educational attainment.** Peruvians have higher levels of education than the Hispanic population overall. Some 30% of Peruvians ages 25 and older—compared with 13% of all U.S. Hispanics—have obtained at least a bachelor’s degree.
- **Income.** The median annual personal earnings for Peruvians ages 16 and older were \$24,000 in 2010; the median earnings for all U.S. Hispanics were \$20,000.
- **Poverty status.** The share of Peruvians who live in poverty, 14%, is about the same as the rate for the general U.S. population (15%) and less than the rate for Hispanics overall (25%).
- **Health Insurance.** Three-in-ten Peruvians (30%) do not have health insurance compared with 31% of all Hispanics and 16% of the general U.S. population. Additionally, 16% of Peruvians younger than 18 are uninsured.
- **Homeownership.** The rate of Peruvian homeownership (49%) is higher than the rate for all Hispanics (47%) but lower than the 65% rate for the U.S. population as a whole.

About the Data

This statistical profile of Hispanics of Peruvian origin is based on the Census Bureau’s 2010 [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 2010 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 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/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 Peruvian Origin in the United States, 2010

	All	Hispanics	Hispanics of Peruvian Origin
Total	309,350	50,730	609
Gender			
Male	152,055	25,723	278
Female	157,294	25,007	332
Nativity			
Native Born	269,433	31,912	204
Foreign Born	39,917	18,817	406
Age			
Median (in years)	37	27	34
Age Groups			
Younger than 5	20,095	5,089	43
5-17	54,037	12,093	105
18-29	51,776	10,471	110
30-39	40,245	8,060	102
40-49	43,723	6,526	104
50-64	59,025	5,681	98
65 and older	40,449	2,810	47
Marital Status (ages 15 and older)			
Married	120,934	16,067	240
Never married	79,570	14,749	167
Divorced/separated/widowed	47,550	5,411	78
Fertility (women ages 15 to 44)			
Total number of women	62,479	11,856	155
Women who had a birth in the past 12 months	4,078	963	10
Unmarried women ¹ who had a birth in the past 12 months	1,557	434	***
School Enrollment (ages 5 to 18)			
K-12	52,994	11,824	106
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older)			
Less than high school diploma	29,433	10,306	44
High school diploma or equivalent	58,212	7,216	106
Some college	59,030	6,226	126
Bachelor's degree or more	57,672	3,589	116
Median Annual Personal Earnings (in dollars)			
All (ages 16 and older with earnings)	\$28,500	\$20,000	\$24,000
Full-time, year-round workers	\$40,000	\$29,000	\$32,000
Persons in Poverty²			
Younger than 18	15,916	5,518	28
18-64	26,672	6,268	49
65 and older	3,535	513	6
Health Insurance			
Uninsured, all ages	48,794	15,828	184
Uninsured, younger than 18	5,971	2,446	24
Persons in Households by Type of Household³			
In family households	252,342	45,437	541
In married-couple households	182,448	28,957	363
In non-family households	49,021	4,360	59
Citizenship			
Citizen	286,889	37,457	381
Non-citizen	22,461	13,272	229
Language (ages 5 and older)			
Speaks only English at home	229,736	11,203	71
Does not speak only English at home	59,519	34,438	495
Speaks English very well	34,308	18,356	260
Speaks English less than very well	25,211	16,082	234
Year of Entry (foreign-born only)			
Before 1990	15,233	6,689	126
1990-1999	10,827	5,403	118
2000 or later	13,857	6,726	162
Regional Dispersion			
Northeast	55,361	7,022	208
New Jersey	19,392	3,434	90
New York	8,802	1,564	79
Midwest	66,976	4,671	32
South	114,866	18,315	226
Florida	18,843	4,253	102
Virginia	8,025	630	34
West	72,147	20,721	143
California	37,349	14,092	101

¹Unmarried women includes those who were never married, divorced, separated or widowed. ²For detailed information on how poverty status is determined, see http://usa.ipums.org/usa-action/variables/POVERTY#description_tab. 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: Analysis is based on the following number of observations: all 3,061,692; Hispanics 416,860; Hispanics of Peruvian origin 4,964. The symbol *** indicates insufficient number of observations to provide a reliable estimate.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2010 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/data_documentation/Accuracy/ACS_Accuracy_of_Data_2010.pdf.

Hispanics of Peruvian Origin in the United States, 2010

	All	Hispanics	Hispanics of Peruvian Origin
Total (in thousands)	114,567	13,269	179
Homeownership (household heads)			
In owner-occupied homes (in thousands)	74,948	6,278	88
In renter-occupied homes (in thousands)	39,620	6,991	91
Homeownership rate (%)	65.4	47.3	49.0
Household Annual Income (in dollars)			
Median	\$49,800	\$40,000	\$48,000
Household Size			
Average number of persons	2.6	3.6	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 1,203,777; Hispanics 115,695; Hispanics of Peruvian origin 1,538. The symbol *** indicates insufficient number of observations to provide a reliable source. Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2010 ACS (1% IPUMS sample). More information on the source data and sampling error is available at <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/design.shtml> and

	All	Hispanics	Hispanics of Peruvian Origin
Employment Status (civilians ages 16 and older)			
Employed	139,103	20,739	315
Unemployed	16,870	3,070	35
Not in labor force	86,814	11,412	126
Unemployment rate (%)	10.8	12.9	10.0
Industries¹			
Construction, agriculture and mining	11,305	2,789	22
Manufacturing	14,432	2,183	24
Trade and transportation	25,761	3,872	63
Information, finance and other services	87,605	11,895	206
Occupations¹			
Management, professional and related occupations	53,511	4,480	88
Services	21,578	4,984	76
Sales and office support	34,768	4,628	83
Construction, extraction and farming	8,075	2,495	20
Maintenance, production, transportation and material moving	21,170	4,154	48

¹Currently employed civilians ages 16 and older.

Note: Analysis is based on the following number of observations: all 2,443,926; Hispanics 291,505; Hispanics of Peruvian origin 3,879. The symbol *** indicates insufficient number of observations to provide a reliable estimate. Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2010 ACS (1% IPUMS sample). More information on the source data and sampling error is available at <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/design.shtml> and