

Hispanics of Cuban Origin in the United States, 2007

A total of 1.6 million Hispanics of Cuban origin resided in the United States in 2007, according to the Census Bureau's American Community Survey. Cubans in this statistical profile are people who self-identified as Hispanics of Cuban origin; this means either they themselves are Cuban immigrants or they trace their family ancestry to Cuba. Cubans are the third-largest population of Hispanic origin living in the United States, accounting for 3.5% of the U.S. Hispanic population in 2007. Mexicans constituted 29.2 million, or 64.3%, and Puerto Ricans 4.1 million, or 9.1%, of the Hispanic population.¹

This statistical profile compares the demographic, income and economic characteristics of the Cuban 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.** Six-in-ten Cubans (60.7%) in the United States are foreign born compared with 39.8% of Hispanics and 12.6% of the U.S. population overall. Most immigrants from Cuba (56.7%) arrived in the U.S. before 1990. Most Cuban immigrants (57.4%) are U.S. citizens.
- **Language.** A majority of Cubans (56.7%) speak English proficiently.² Some 43.3% of Cubans ages 5 and older report speaking English less than very well, compared with 38.8% of all Hispanics.
- **Age.** Cubans are older than the U.S. population and Hispanics overall. The median age of Cubans is 40; the median ages of the U.S. population and all Hispanics are 36 and 27, respectively.
- **Marital status.** Cubans are more likely than Hispanics overall to be married—50.6% versus 47.3%.

¹ Percentages are computed before numbers are rounded.

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

- **Fertility.** One-quarter (25.3%) of Cuban 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 the rate for U.S. women—33.4%.
- **Regional dispersion.** Cubans are the most geographically concentrated Hispanic origin group. Nearly seven-in-ten (68.7%) live in Florida.
- **Educational attainment.** Cubans have higher levels of education than the Hispanic population overall. Twenty-five percent of Cubans 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 Cubans ages 16 and older were \$26,310 in 2007; the median earnings for all U.S. Hispanics were \$21,048.
- **Poverty status.** The share of Cubans who live in poverty, 12.3%, is similar to that of the general U.S. population (11.9%) and below the 19.5% share among all Hispanics.
- **Homeownership.** The rate of Cuban homeownership (61.1%) is higher than the rate for all Hispanics (49.9%) but lower than the 67.2% rate for the U.S. population as a whole.

About the Data

This statistical profile of Hispanics of Cuban 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).

Table 1
Population Characteristics, 2007
(thousands, unless otherwise noted)

	U.S. Population	All Hispanics	Hispanics of Cuban Origin
Total	301,621	45,379	1,609
Gender			
Male	148,639	23,455	809
Female	152,982	21,924	800
Nativity			
Native Born	263,573	27,329	632
Foreign Born	38,048	18,050	977
Age			
Median (in years)	36	27	40
Age Groups			
Younger than 5	20,696	4,894	98
5-17	53,217	10,438	231
18-29	50,386	9,328	225
30-39	40,623	7,629	227
40-49	45,132	5,871	273
50-64	53,769	4,737	264
65 and older	37,798	2,481	292
Marital Status (ages 15 and older)			
Married	120,941	15,299	677
Never married	74,061	12,199	344
Divorced/separated/widowed	45,704	4,853	316
Fertility (women ages 15 to 44)			
Total number of women	62,106	10,403	308
Women who had a birth in the past 12 months	4,137	898	14
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	225
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older)			
Less than high school diploma	30,594	9,768	279
High school diploma or equivalent	59,707	6,985	324
Some college	53,251	4,931	251
Bachelor's degree or more	54,382	3,116	286
Median Annual Personal Earnings (in dollars)			
All (ages 16 and older with earnings)	\$28,333	\$21,048	\$26,310
Full-time, year-round workers	\$39,464	\$27,321	\$34,405
Persons in Poverty²			
Younger than 18	12,809	4,045	41
18-64	19,856	4,362	99
65 and older	3,248	428	57
Persons in Households by Type of Household³			
In family households	246,339	40,369	1,343
In married-couple households	181,733	26,497	976
In non-family households	47,161	4,144	221
Citizenship			
Citizen	279,778	32,444	1,193
Non-citizen	21,844	12,934	416
Language (ages 5 and older)			
Speaks only English at home	225,588	8,931	242
Does not speak only English at home	55,338	31,553	1,269
Speaks English very well	30,891	15,838	615
Speaks English less than very well	24,446	15,715	654
Year of Entry (foreign-born only)			
Before 1990	16,331	7,122	554
1990 to 1999	11,179	5,578	212
2000 or later	10,539	5,349	211
Regional Dispersion			
Northeast	54,681	6,198	181
New Jersey	8,686	1,379	79
New York	19,298	3,147	71
Midwest	66,389	4,076	55
South	110,455	15,850	1,233
Florida	18,251	3,751	1,106
Texas	23,904	8,591	39
West	70,097	19,256	140
California	36,553	13,219	86

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 Cuban Origin
Total (in thousands)			
	112,386	12,296	588
Homeownership (household heads)			
In owner-occupied homes (in thousands)	75,523	6,135	359
In renter-occupied homes (in thousands)	36,863	6,161	229
Homeownership rate (%)	67.2	49.9	61.1
Household Annual Income (in dollars)			
Median	\$50,595	\$40,476	\$44,321
Household Size			
Average number of persons	2.6	3.5	2.7

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 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 Cuban Origin
Employment Status (civilians ages 16 and older)			
Employed	142,634	19,739	761
Unemployed	9,624	1,554	40
Not in labor force	83,170	10,163	515
Unemployment rate (%)	6.3	7.3	5.1
Industries¹			
Construction, agriculture and mining	13,701	3,299	77
Manufacturing	16,097	2,381	65
Trade and transportation	27,055	3,624	169
Information, finance and other services	85,781	10,435	451
Occupations¹			
Management, professional and related occupations	52,452	3,900	256
Services	20,728	4,391	111
Sales and office support	36,491	4,239	210
Construction, extraction and farming	9,867	2,958	56
Maintenance, production, transportation and material moving	23,096	4,252	128

¹Currently employed civilians ages 16 and older.

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

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