

## Hispanics of Dominican Origin in the United States, 2007

A total of 1.2 million Hispanics of Dominican origin resided in the United States in 2007, according to the Census Bureau's American Community Survey. Dominicans in this statistical profile are people who self-identified as Hispanics of Dominican origin; this means either they themselves are Dominican immigrants or they trace their family ancestry to the Dominican Republic. Dominicans are the fifth-largest population of Hispanic origin living in the United States, accounting for 2.6% of the U.S. Hispanic population in 2007. Mexicans constituted 29.2 million, or 64.3%, of the Hispanic population.<sup>1</sup>

This statistical profile compares the demographic, income and economic characteristics of the Dominican 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 of Dominicans (60.1%) 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 the Dominican Republic (56.5%) arrived in the U.S. in 1990 or later. Nearly half of Dominican immigrants (46.3%) are U.S. citizens.
- **Language.** A majority of Dominicans (52.2%) speak English proficiently.<sup>2</sup> Some 47.8% of Dominicans ages 5 and older report speaking English less than very well, compared with 38.8% of all Hispanics.
- **Age.** Dominicans are younger than the U.S. population and older than Hispanics overall. The median age of Dominicans is 29; the median ages of the U.S. population and all Hispanics are 36 and 27, respectively.

<sup>1</sup> Percentages are computed before numbers are rounded.

<sup>2</sup> Dominicans ages 5 and older who report speaking only English at home or speaking English very well.

- **Marital status.** Dominicans are less likely than Hispanics overall to be married—37.5% versus 47.3%.
- **Fertility.** Half (49.9%) of Dominican 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—38.1%—and the rate for U.S. women—33.4%.
- **Regional dispersion.** Eight-in-ten Dominicans (80.3%) live in the Northeast, and more than half (52.4%) live in New York.
- **Educational attainment.** Dominicans have slightly higher levels of education than the Hispanic population overall. Fifteen percent of Dominicans 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 Dominicans ages 16 and older were \$20,238 in 2007; the median earnings for all U.S. Hispanics were \$21,048.
- **Poverty status.** The share of Dominicans who live in poverty, 24.2%, is double the rate for the general U.S. population (11.9%) and higher than the 19.5% share among all Hispanics.
- **Homeownership.** The rate of Dominican homeownership (27.9%) 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 Dominican 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](http://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](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/ASA_nelson.pdf)).

	U.S. Population	All Hispanics	Hispanics of Dominican Origin
<b>Total</b>	301,621	45,379	1,199
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	148,639	23,455	557
Female	152,982	21,924	642
<b>Nativity</b>			
Native Born	263,573	27,329	478
Foreign Born	38,048	18,050	721
<b>Age</b>			
Median (in years)	36	27	29
<b>Age Groups</b>			
Younger than 5	20,696	4,894	102
5-17	53,217	10,438	268
18-29	50,386	9,328	241
30-39	40,623	7,629	181
40-49	45,132	5,871	181
50-64	53,769	4,737	153
65 and older	37,798	2,481	73
<b>Marital Status (ages 15 and older)</b>			
Married	120,941	15,299	337
Never married	74,061	12,199	371
Divorced/separated/widowed	45,704	4,853	191
<b>Fertility (women ages 15 to 44)</b>			
Total number of women	62,106	10,403	314
Women who had a birth in the past 12 months	4,137	898	23
Unmarried women <sup>1</sup> who had a birth in the past 12 months	1,382	342	11
<b>School Enrollment (ages 5 to 18)</b>			
K-12	52,022	10,130	264
<b>Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older)</b>			
Less than high school diploma	30,594	9,768	256
High school diploma or equivalent	59,707	6,985	183
Some college	53,251	4,931	142
Bachelor's degree or more	54,382	3,116	103
<b>Median Annual Personal Earnings (in dollars)</b>			
All (ages 16 and older with earnings)	\$28,333	\$21,048	\$20,238
Full-time, year-round workers	\$39,464	\$27,321	\$26,310
<b>Persons in Poverty<sup>2</sup></b>			
Younger than 18	12,809	4,045	122
18-64	19,856	4,362	146
65 and older	3,248	428	23
<b>Persons in Households by Type of Household<sup>3</sup></b>			
In family households	246,339	40,369	1,078
In married-couple households	181,733	26,497	499
In non-family households	47,161	4,144	99
<b>Citizenship</b>			
Citizen	279,778	32,444	811
Non-citizen	21,844	12,934	388
<b>Language (ages 5 and older)</b>			
Speaks only English at home	225,588	8,931	81
Does not speak only English at home	55,338	31,553	1,015
Speaks English very well	30,891	15,838	491
Speaks English less than very well	24,446	15,715	524
<b>Year of Entry (foreign-born only)</b>			
Before 1990	16,331	7,122	314
1990 to 1999	11,179	5,578	243
2000 or later	10,539	5,349	164
<b>Regional Dispersion</b>			
Northeast	54,681	6,198	963
New York	19,298	3,147	628
New Jersey	8,686	1,379	168
Massachusetts	6,450	519	81
Pennsylvania	12,433	565	34
Midwest	66,389	4,076	11
South	110,455	15,850	196
Florida	18,251	3,751	141
West	70,097	19,256	29

<sup>1</sup>Unmarried women includes those who were never married, divorced or widowed. <sup>2</sup>For 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. <sup>3</sup>The 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 Dominican Origin
<b>Total (in thousands)</b>	112,386	12,296	355
<b>Homeownership (household heads)</b>			
In owner-occupied homes (in thousands)	75,523	6,135	99
In renter-occupied homes (in thousands)	36,863	6,161	256
Homeownership rate (%)	67.2	49.9	27.9
<b>Household Annual Income (in dollars)</b>			
Median	\$50,595	\$40,476	\$33,696
<b>Household Size</b>			
Average number of persons	2.6	3.5	3.4

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 Dominican Origin
<b>Employment Status (civilians ages 16 and older)</b>			
Employed	142,634	19,739	523
Unemployed	9,624	1,554	51
Not in labor force	83,170	10,163	299
Unemployment rate (%)	6.3	7.3	8.8
<b>Industries<sup>1</sup></b>			
Construction, agriculture and mining	13,701	3,299	26
Manufacturing	16,097	2,381	46
Trade and transportation	27,055	3,624	132
Information, finance and other services	85,781	10,435	319
<b>Occupations<sup>1</sup></b>			
Management, professional and related occupations	52,452	3,900	114
Services	20,728	4,391	138
Sales and office support	36,491	4,239	138
Construction, extraction and farming	9,867	2,958	20
Maintenance, production, transportation and material moving	23,096	4,252	114

<sup>1</sup>Currently employed civilians ages 16 and older.  
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