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As the data below show, Hispanics[†] are quickly becoming a population with a national presence. The most dramatic Latino population growth has occurred in "nontraditional" states, and Hispanics are now the largest minority in the country. Given that almost half of Hispanics are under 25 years old, they will constitute a large segment of the future U.S. population, workforce, and electorate.

Georgia Compared to the Nation

- ▼ Georgia is the state with the 11th-largest Latino population.¹
- ▼ Between 1990 and 2000, the growth rate of the Latino population in Georgia ranked third in the country.¹
- ▼ Of all states, Georgia has the 23rd-largest share of Latinos when compared to the total state population.¹

	Population (2003) ²		Hispanic Percent of	Growth Rate (1990-2000) ¹		Median Age (2003) ²	
	Total	Hispanic	Population ²	Total	Hispanic	Total	Hispanic
U.S.	282,909,885	39,194,837	13.9%	13.2%	57.9%	36.0 years	26.2 years
Georgia	8,438,203	530,896	6.3%	26.4%	299.6%	33.8 years	25.6 years

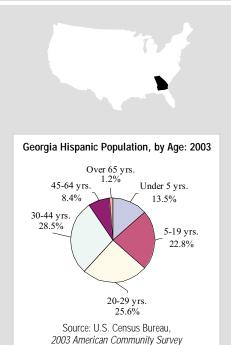
Economic Well-Being

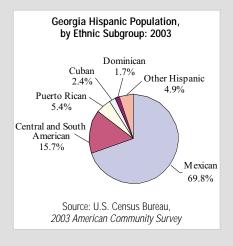
▼ Latinos represent an increasing share of workers and taxpayers, yet they are overwhelmingly vulnerable to economic downturns and experience high poverty rates, especially among working families with children.

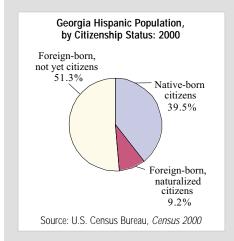
	Total (2003)	Hispanic (2003)	Hispanic Proportion of Total
In Labor Force ³	4,414,000	262,000	5.9%
Participation Rate*	68.6%	75.3%	
Unemployed	207,000	15,000	7.2%
Unemployment Rate	4.7%	5.8%	
Population Below Poverty Level ²	1,125,160	98,930	8.8%
Percent of Population Below Poverty	13.4%	18.8%	
Population Under 18 (Children) ²	2,250,294	174,170	7.8%
Children Below Poverty Level	420,110	41,124	9.8%
Percent of Children Below Poverty	18.7%	23.6%	

^{*} The Labor Force Participation Rate is calculated using the civilian, noninstitutionalized population, not the total population.

Median Household Income (2003):² \$42,742 Hispanic Median Household Income (2003):² \$33,289







[†] The terms "Hispanic" and "Latino" are used interchangeably by the U.S. Census Bureau and throughout this document to identify persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central and South American, Dominican, and Spanish descent; they may be of any race.

Education

▼ Hispanic children are a growing segment of the public school population. In particular, the state has experienced dramatic growth in the Hispanic student population over the last decade.

	Total (2000)	Growth Rate 1990-2000 (Total Pop.)	Hispanic (2000)	Growth Rate 1990-2000 (Hispanic Pop.)
Population 0-4 years ¹	595,150	20.1%	48,968	342.2%
School-Age Population 5-18 years ¹	1,692,955	26.9%	94,476	295.5%

	Total Children	Hispanic Children	Hispanic Proportion of	
	Enrolled (2003)	Enrolled (2003)	Enrolled Children	
Enrollment, Grades 1-12 ²	1,508,393	93,743	6.2%	

Health Insurance

 Despite high work participation rates, a significant proportion of the Latino population is uninsured and does not benefit from either private or public insurance.

	Total Nonelderly Uninsured		Hispanic Noneld	Hispanic Proportion	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	of Nonelderly Uninsured
Nonelderly (0-64 years) Uninsured ⁴	1,375,930	17.9%	190,150	43.0%	13.8%

Homeownership

▼ Although homeownership is at an all-time high, Latinos are still less likely than other Americans to be homeowners.

	Number of Homeowners	Percent of All Householders that are Homeowners	Number of Hispanic Homeowners	Percent of Hispanic Householders that are Homeowners	Hispanic Proportion of Total Homeowners
Owner-Occupied Households ²	2,151,821	68.3%	54,436	40.4%	2.5%

¹ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Census 2000*. Percentages calculated by the National Council of La Raza.

² Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 American Community Survey. Percentages calculated by the National Council of La Raza.

³ Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics: 2003 Annual Averages.

⁴ Source: Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, www.statehealthfacts.org: 50 State Comparisons.