Hispanic or Latino Population

The federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defines "Hispanic or Latino as someone of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race."[1] People of Hispanic or Latino origin can be of any race. The term refers to ethnicity only. The OMB definition of races is "American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and White."

This report provides information about people of Hispanic or Latino origin in Prince George's County. The data come from the U.S. Census Bureau's surveys, including the 2000, 2010, and 2020 Censuses, as well as the American Community Survey (ACS)[2] estimates for 2010 and 2022. The numbers from the Census and the ACS are different because the ACS uses a smaller sample size—only 2.7% of households, or about 3.5 million out of 127 million, are surveyed each year.

---

1   U.S. Census Bureau, https://www.census.gov/acs/www/about/why-we-ask-each-question/ethnicity/#:~:text=OMB%20defines%20%22Hispanic%20or%20Latino,or%20origin%20regardless%20of%20race.
2   U.S. Census Bureau, https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/about/acs-and-census.html.
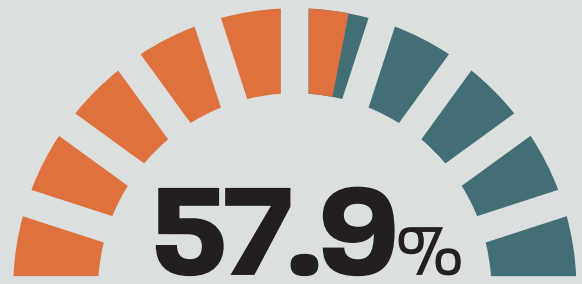
Hispanic or Latino Population

In State Context

The 2020 Census data show that Montgomery and Prince George's Counties had the largest Hispanic or Latino population in Maryland (see Chart 1a). Montgomery County had 217,409 Hispanic or Latino persons, and Prince George's County had 205,463. Together, these two counties accounted for 57.9% of Maryland's Hispanic or Latino population.

In terms of percentage of the total County population, Prince George's County had the highest share at 21.2%, followed by Montgomery County at 20.5%. Statewide, there were 729,745 Hispanic or Latino persons, making up 11.8% of Maryland's total population.

Montgomery County and Prince George's County make up

57.9%

of the total **Maryland** Hispanic or Latino population.

Chart 1a. Hispanic or Latino Population, Maryland Jurisdictions, 2020

Number of Hispanic or Latino Persons

% of Jurisdiction's Total Population
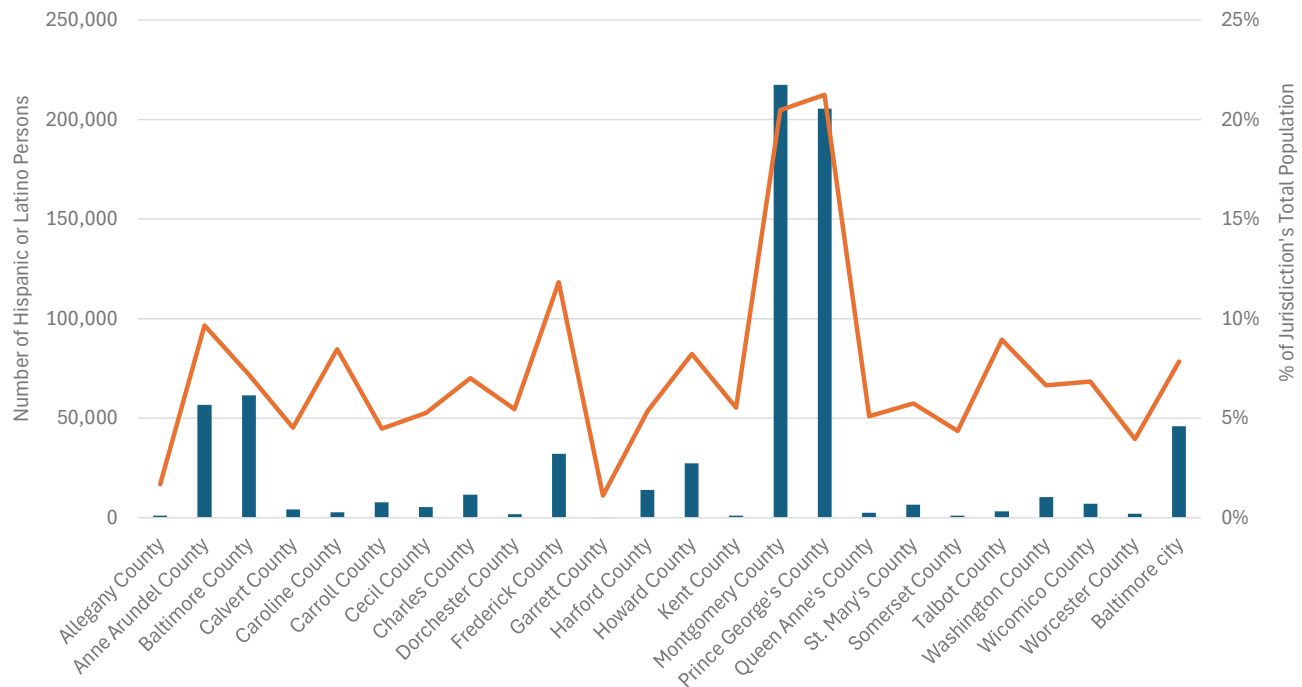
Legend: Hispanic or Latino — Percent Share of Total Population

U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2020.

MARYLAND
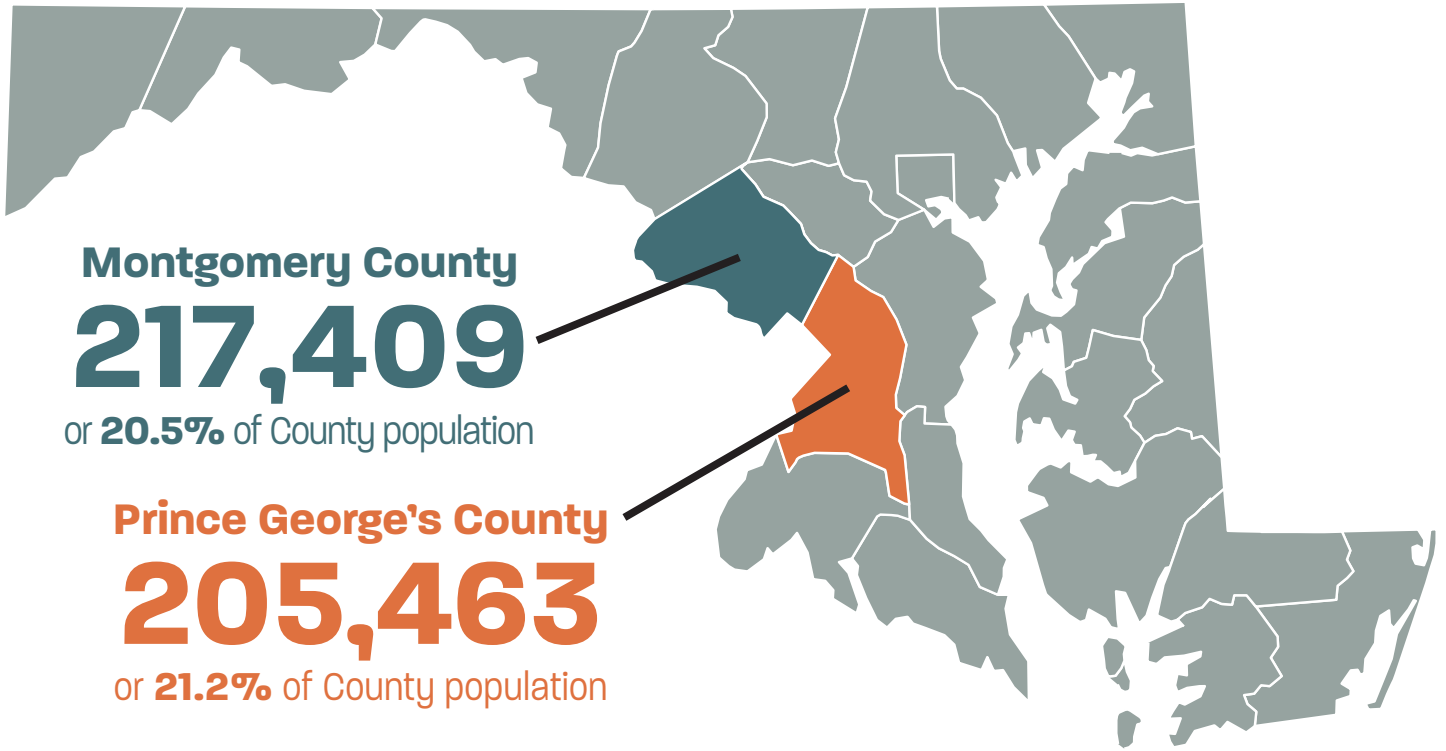
Montgomery County
217,409
or **20.5%** of County population

Prince George's County
205,463
or **21.2%** of County population

Hispanic or Latino Population

General Population Characteristics

In Prince George's County, the Hispanic or Latino population has grown significantly over the past several decades (see Table 1), at a much faster pace than the County's total population growth during this period. The proportion of the Hispanic or Latino population to the total population in Prince George's County has been on the rise between 2000 and 2020 (see Chart 1b), increasing from 7.1% in 2000, 14.9% in 2010, to 21.2% in 2020.
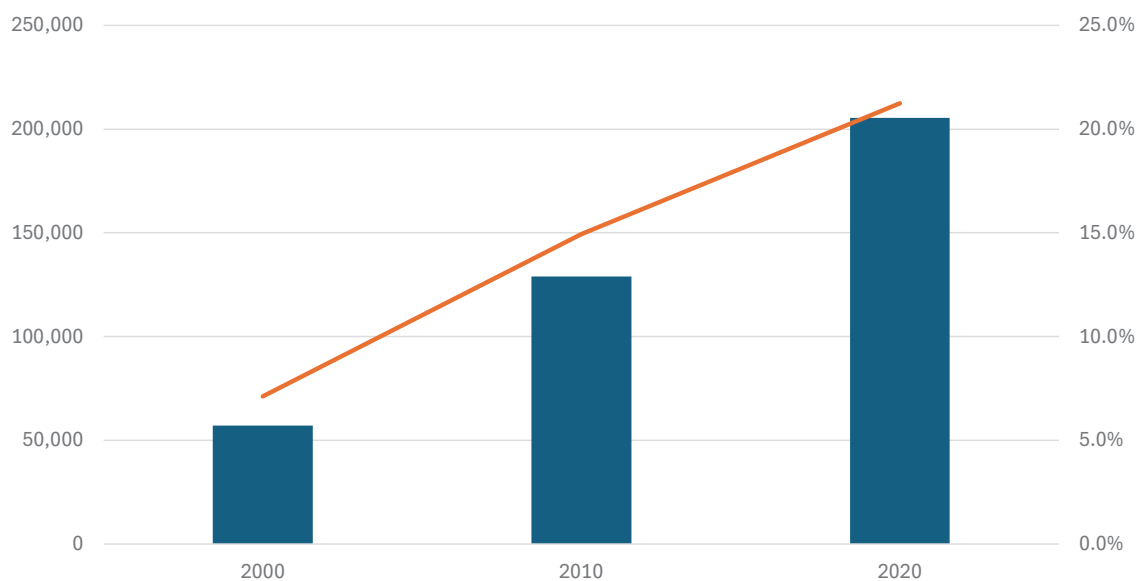
Table 1. Hispanic or Latino Population, 2000-2020

Year	Hispanic or Latino Population	County Population	Hispanic or Latino Population as a Percent Share of County Population
2000	57,057	801,515	7.1%
2010	128,972	863,420	14.9%
2020	205,463	967,201	21.2%

Population Change

Decade	Hispanic or Latino Population		County Population	
	Absolute Change	Growth Rate	Absolute Change	Growth Rate
2000-2010	71,915	126.0%	61,905	7.7%
2010-2020	76,491	59.3%	103,781	12.0%
2000-2020 (Two Decades)	148,406	260.1%	165,686	20.7%

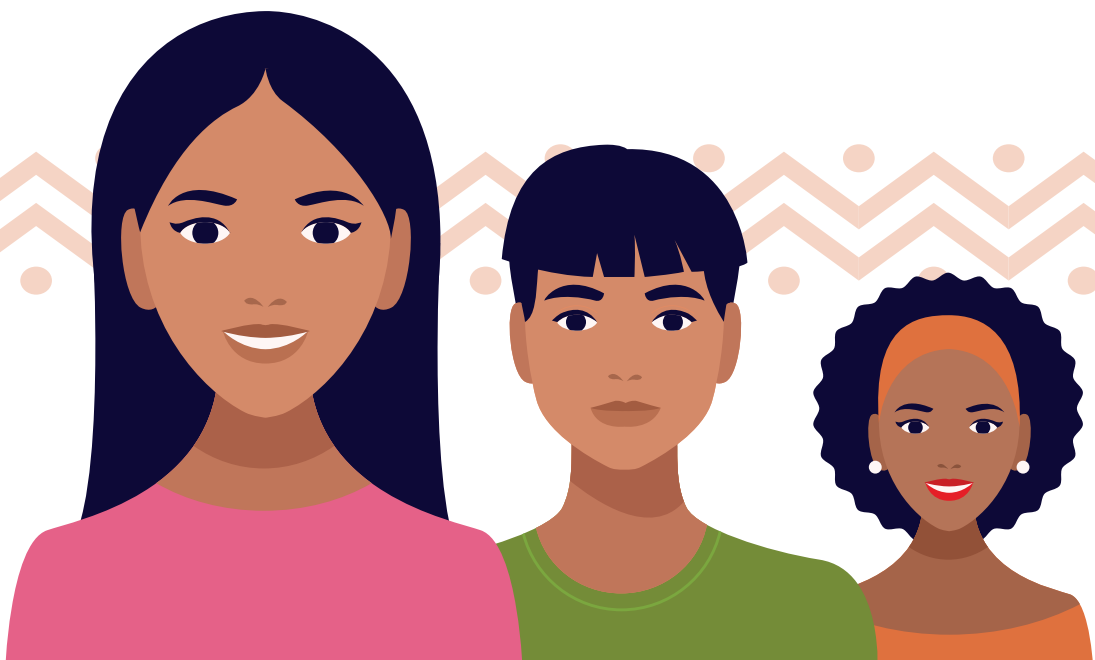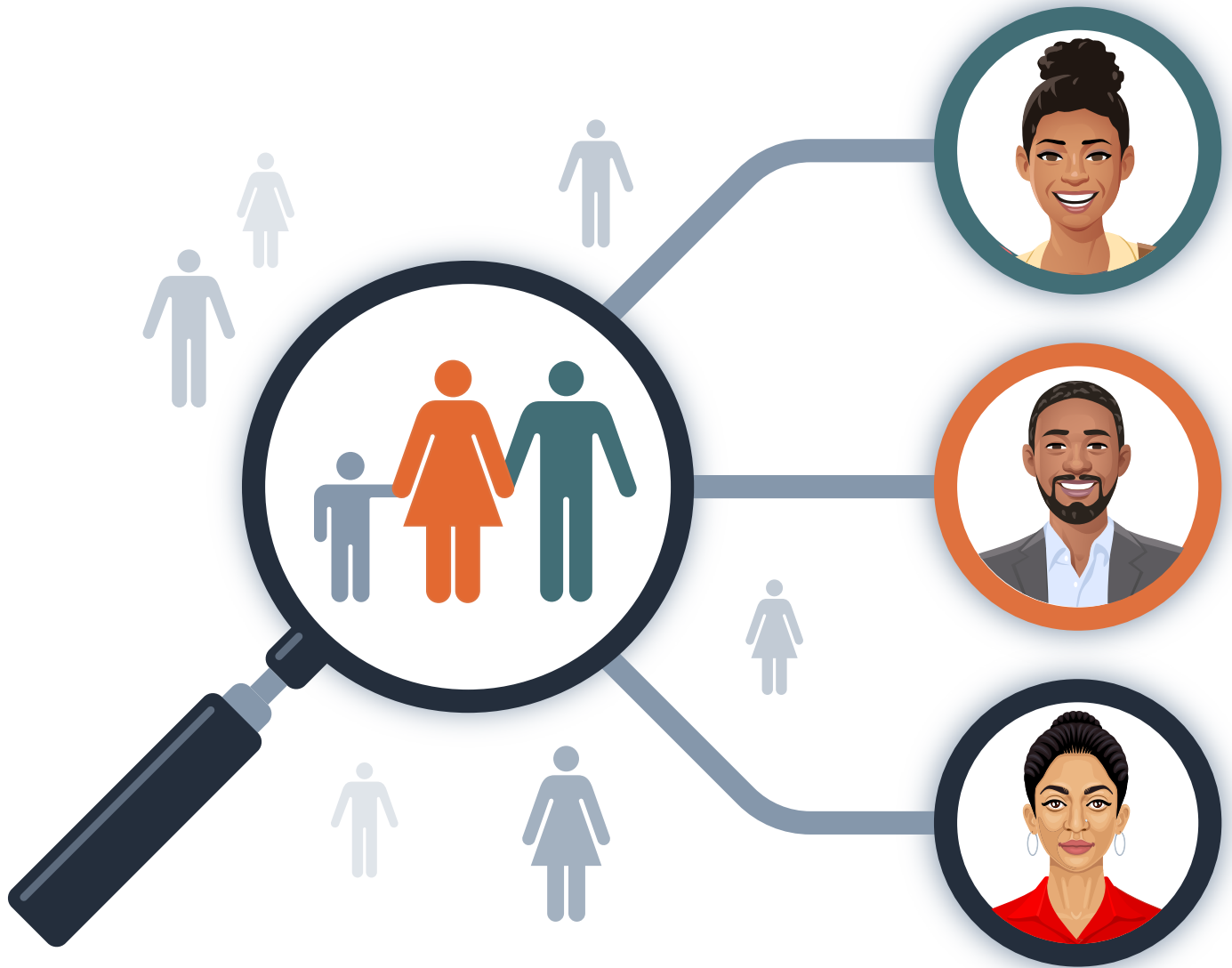U.S. Census Bureau, Censuses 2000, 2010, and 2020.

Chart 1b. Population Growth Trends, 2000-2020

U.S. Census Bureau, Censuses 2000, 2010, and 2020.

Legend: Hispanic/Latino — % County population

Hispanic or Latino Population

Median Age

The median age of the Hispanic or Latino population in the County was younger than the overall population, rising slightly over the past three decennial censuses from 25.8, to 27.3, and then to 28.8 years, respectively. By comparison, the countywide median age increased during the same period from 33.3, to 34.9, and then to 36.7 years, respectively.

Movement In and Out of the County

The 2022 ACS 5-year estimates show that most Hispanic or Latino persons 1 year old and over in Prince George's County stayed in place in the past year (as of 2022), with 88.4% not moving. Of those who did move, 6.4% relocated within the County, 1.5% came from another county in Maryland, 2.5% moved from another state, and 1.2% immigrated from abroad.

Out of the 190,973 Hispanic or Latino persons in the County, 55.9% (106,763 people) were foreign-born. Among these, 74.9% (or 79,929 of 106,763) were not U.S. citizens, and 25.1% were naturalized citizens. The largest share of the County's Hispanic or Latino population lived in the College Park - Langley Park area, followed by New Carrollton - Hyattsville area (see Chart 1c and Map 1).[3]

Chart 1c. Hispanic or Latino Population by Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA)
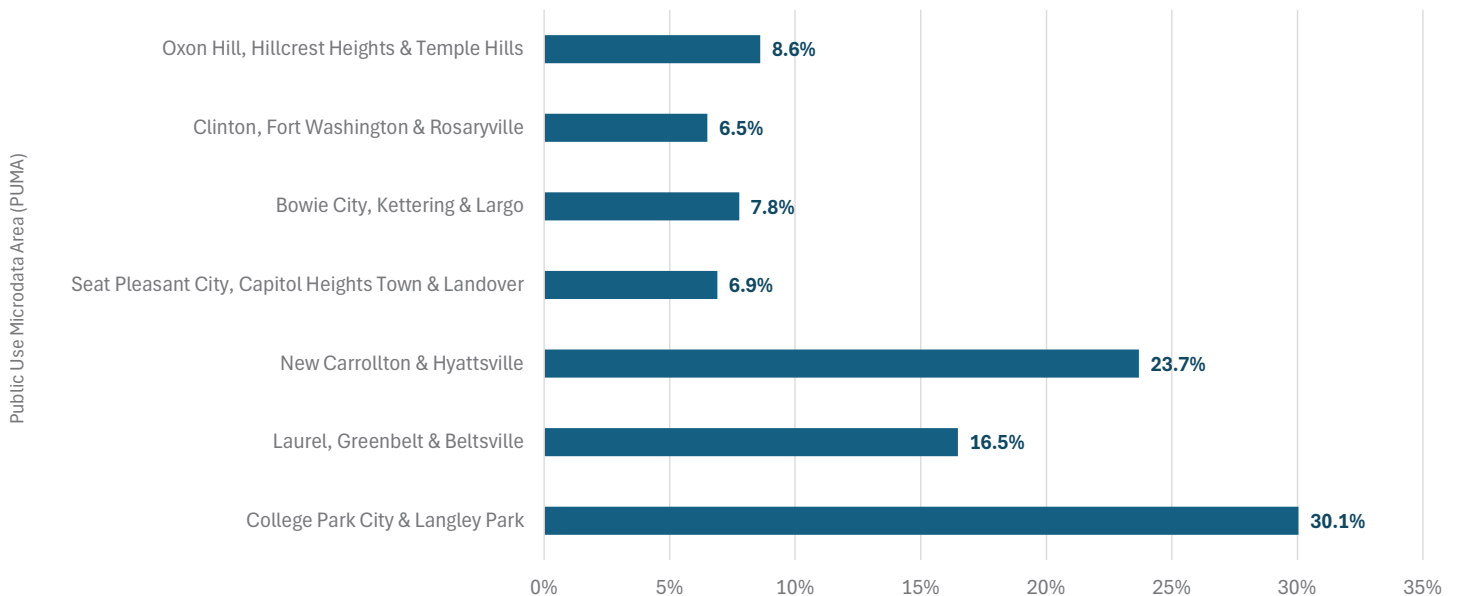
U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 ACS.

---

3   U.S. Census Bureau, https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/pumas.html#:~:text=Public%20Use%20Microdata%20Areas%20(PUMAs)%20are%20non%2Doverlapping%2C,%2C%20Puerto%20Rico%2C%20and%20Guam.

Map 1. Hispanic or Latino Population by Public Use Microdata Area

Legend

Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA)

Hispanic or Latino Population

12,422 - 30,000

30,001 - 40,000

40,001 - 50,000

50,001 - 57,395

Hispanic or Latino Population
Prince George's County

Data Source:
U.S. Census Bureau,
2022 ACS 5-Year Estimates

Map Updated:
9/9/2024 10:25 AM
W. Lescure, Map #4409

Hispanic or Latino Population

Country of Origin and Race

Most of the Hispanic or Latino population (65.3%) came from Central America, with Salvadorans making up 44% of the total Hispanic or Latino population in the County. Mexicans and Guatemalans also represented significant portions (see Table 2). Table 3 illustrates that a majority of the Hispanic or Latino population may self-identified as "some other race." It may be due to responses from the Hispanic or Latino population and how they identified themselves on the decennial census questionnaire or ACS survey questions. (see Table 3).

Table 2. Hispanic or Latino Origin by Specific Origin, 2022

Total Hispanic or Latino	190,973	% Total
Mexican	28,980	15.2%
Puerto Rican	7,657	4.0%
Cuban	1,570	0.8%
Dominican (Dominican Republic)	8,559	4.5%
Central American:	124,621	65.3%
Costa Rican	439	0.2%
Guatemalan	25,160	13.2%
Honduran	10,942	5.7%
Nicaraguan	2,775	1.5%
Panamanian	1,116	0.6%
Salvadoran	83,997	44.0%
Other Central American	192	0.1%
South American:	10,403	5.4%
Argentinean	974	0.5%
Bolivian	2,041	1.1%
Chilean	516	0.3%
Colombian	2,268	1.2%
Ecuadorian	1,090	0.6%
Paraguayan	75	0.0%
Peruvian	2,591	1.4%
Uruguayan	39	0.0%
Venezuelan	770	0.4%
Other South American	39	0.0%
Other Hispanic or Latino:	9,183	4.8%
Spaniard	925	0.5%
Spanish	898	0.5%
Spanish American	33	0.0%
All other Hispanic or Latino	7,327	3.8%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey (ACS), 5-Year Estimates.

Table 3. Hispanic or Latino Origin by Race, 2022

Hispanic or Latino:	190,973	% Total
White alone	22,364	11.7%
Black or African American alone	7,231	3.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	2,223	1.2%
Asian alone	517	0.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	79	0.0%
Some other race alone	135,608	71.0%
Two or more races	22,951	12.0%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey (ACS), 5-Year Estimates.

Occupations of Civilian Employed

Chart 2 shows that among the Hispanic or Latino population 16 years and over, more than a third of the population worked in the "Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations," followed by 26% in "Service Occupations." An estimate 16.8% of the Hispanic or Latino population worked in the "Management, business, science, and arts occupations," which was significantly lower than the County's average (42.4%).

The U.S. Census Bureau describes the intent of their occupation data in the following way: "Data are used to formulate policy and programs for employment, career development and training, and to measure compliance with antidiscrimination policies. Mandated reports for Congress on the labor force rely on the analysis of these characteristics."[4]

The ACS occupation data also help for locating firms or agencies into an area and initiating job training programs. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, "federal agencies use these data in litigation where employment discrimination is alleged. Locally, data are used to estimate the demand for staff in healthcare occupations and their geographic distribution based on these data."

Chart 2. Occupations for Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over, 2022
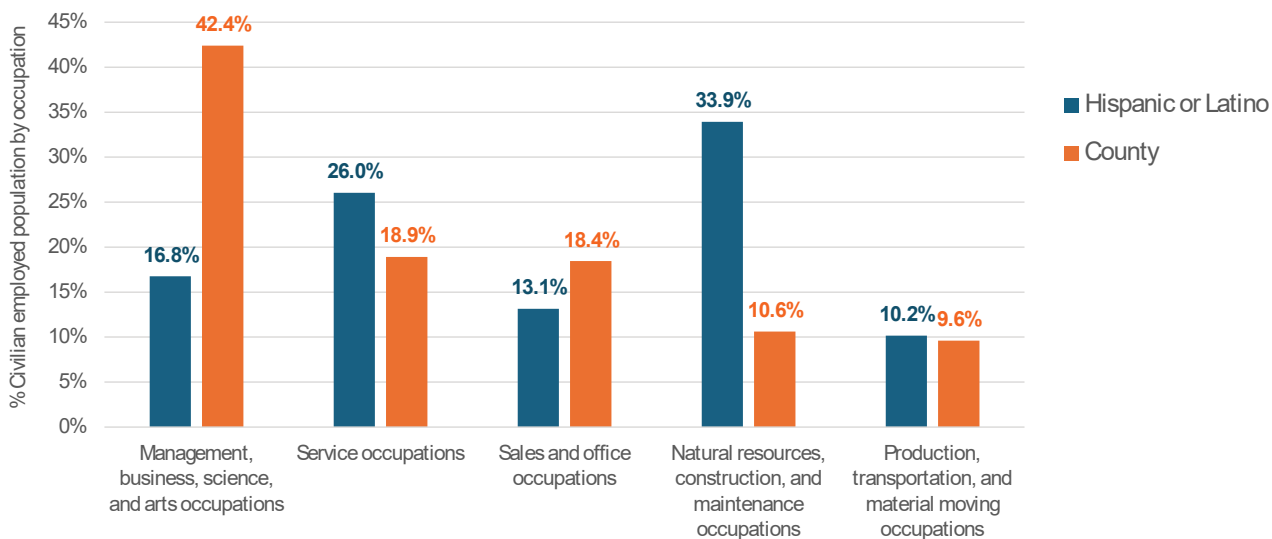

Hispanic or Latino Population

Educational Attainment Among Adults

The ACS data on education highlight challenges faced by the Hispanic or Latino population in Prince George's County in achieving higher levels of education. The key question is: What programs can be created and implemented to help improve educational outcomes for this ethnic group?[5] Key findings include:

- **Educational Attainment:** Chart 3a shows that the percentage of Hispanic or Latino population aged 25 and older with "some college or above" is lower than the overall County average.

- **Growth in High School Graduation:** As the Hispanic or Latino population has grown, so have high school graduation rates, reflecting progress in educational attainment.[6]

- **Trends Over Time:** Chart 3b highlights the steady increase in education levels among Hispanic or Latino adults (25 and older) between 2010 and 2022.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, many Hispanic or Latino individuals in the United States are achieving educational milestones for the first time. In 2021, most Hispanic adults were between 25 and 34 years old, reflecting the group's younger median age compared to other populations.[7]

Chart 3a. Educational Attainment (Population 25 Years and Over), 2022

U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 ACS.

---
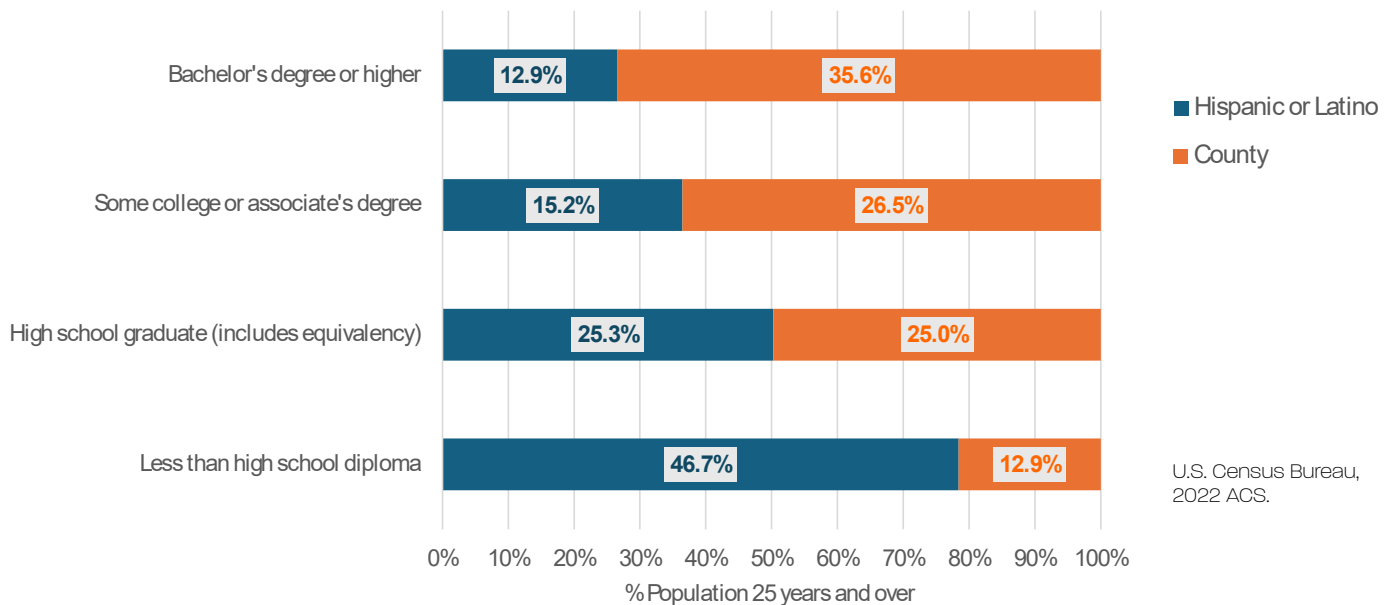
5   Savannah Miller, School of Public Policy, University of Maryland at College Park, August 2024.

6   The U.S. Census Bureau, https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2023/05/significant-educational-strides-young-hispanic-population.html

7   The U.S. Census Bureau, https://www.census.gov/topics/employment/industry-occupation/about/occupation.html

8   Governing Magazine, Hispanics Make Up Nearly Half the Nation's Uninsured (https://www.governing.com)

9   U.S. Census Bureau, https://www.census.gov/topics/population/language-use/about.html

Chart 3b. Educational Attainment (Population 25 Years and Over): Hispanic or Latino, 2010 and 2022

U.S. Census Bureau,

2022 ACS.
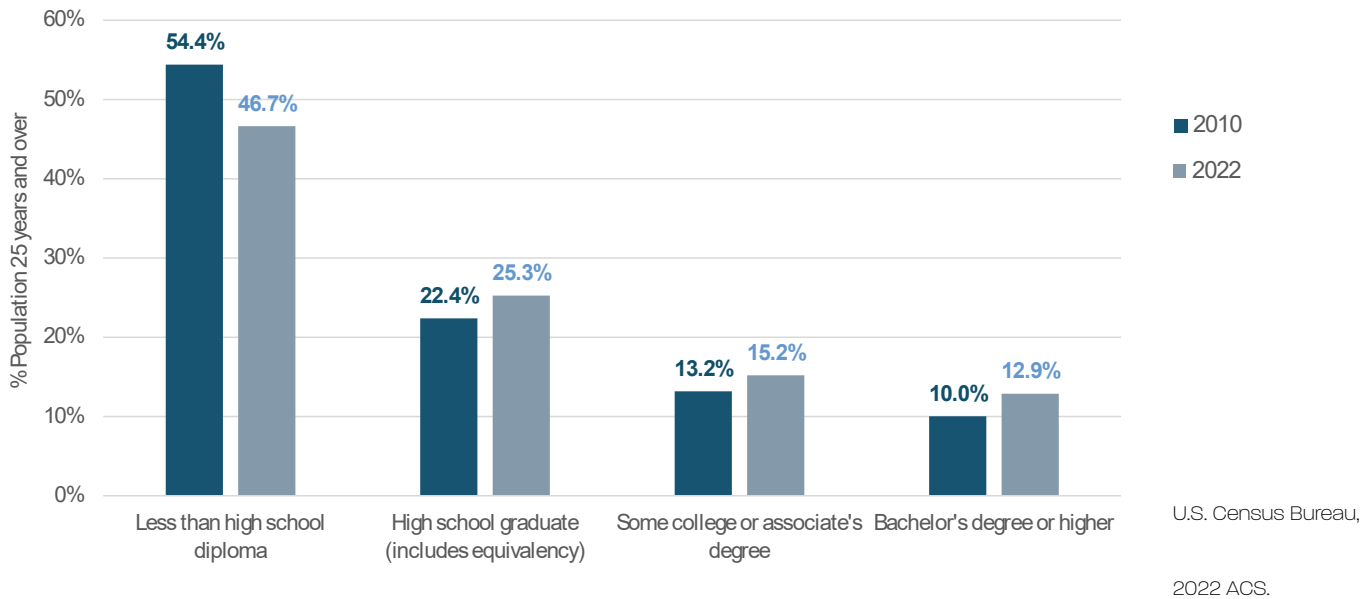
Access to Health Insurance

The ACS data on Health Insurance Coverage Status for the civilian noninstitutionalized population shows that as of 2022, nearly one-third (31.7%) of Hispanic or Latino residents in Prince George's County did not have health insurance. This is much higher than the overall uninsured rate for the civilian noninstitutionalized population in the County, which was 6.3%.

Across the United States, about one in five Hispanic Americans lack health insurance. In Prince George's County, the rate is even higher at 31.7%. According to Governing Magazine,[8] several factors contribute to this, including language barriers, the types of jobs held by Hispanic or Latino workers, and immigration status.

As discussed in the Occupations of Civilian Employed in this Data Journal, Hispanic or Latino civilian employed population was more likely to work "in jobs that are categorized as 'essential' but for which employers aren't likely to provide health insurance benefits. These include construction, cleaning, ground maintenance, food service, truck driving and personal care" (The above quotes are all from the referenced Governing Magazine).

Limited English Proficiency

In Prince George's County in 2022, 20,033 households (5.9% of the County's 341,057 households) were considered Limited English-speaking households. This term is defined in President Clinton's 2000 Executive Order 13166 ("Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency").

Out of the County's total households, 45,573 were Spanish-speaking. Of these, 14,180 (31.13% of Hispanic or Latino households) were Limited English-speaking households. These Spanish-speaking households made up 70.8% of all Limited English-speaking households in the County.

The U.S. Census Bureau's language data helps agencies, governments, and organizations identify where language assistance services are needed and how to provide them effectively.[9]

Hispanic or Latino Population

Median Household Income

To compare income or any dollar amount values from time to time, the data are adjusted using the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics' "Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U. S. city average."[10]

Chart 4a shows that the median income for Hispanic or Latino households has been lower than the County's median, which reflects the national trend as well.[11] This chart also indicates that the median income for Hispanic or Latino households increased between 2000 and 2022 (the study period for this Data Journal).

As indicated in Chart 4b and Map 2, among seven (7) Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs) in Prince George's County, Hispanic or Latino households in Clinton, Fort Washington, and Rosaryville had the highest median household income, followed by the City of Bowie, Kettering, and Largo area, and the Laurel, Greenbelt, and Beltsville area.

Chart 4a. Median Household Income (Inflation Adjusted), 2022

U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 ACS.
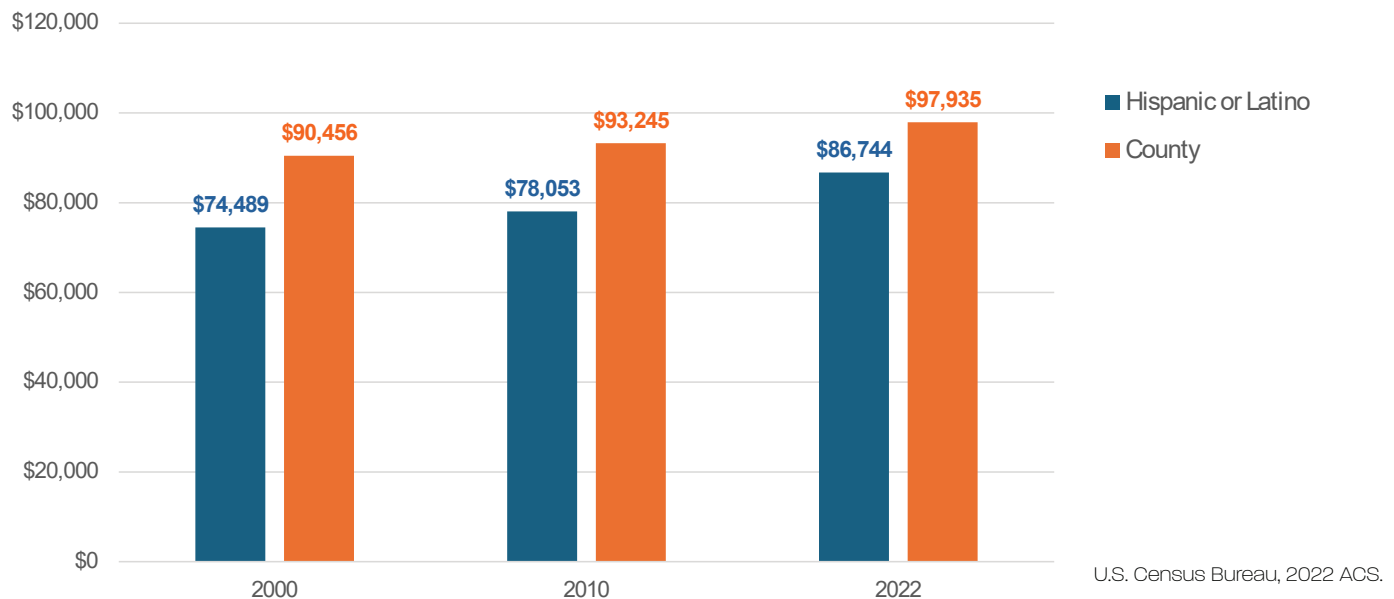
Chart 4b. Median Household Income (Inflation Adjusted) of the Hispanic or Latino Households, 2022

U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 ACS.
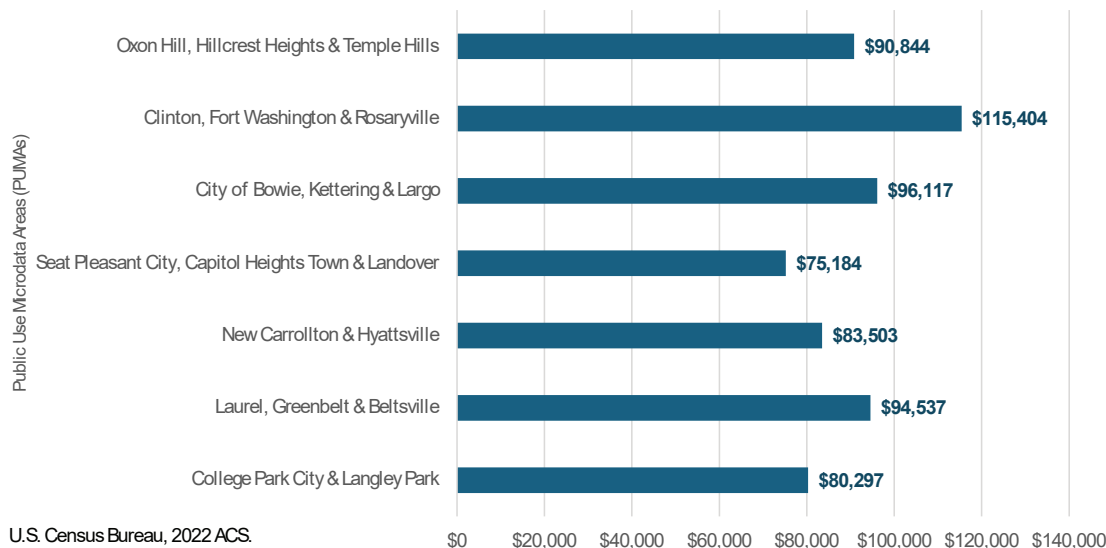
10   U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, https://www.bls.gov/news.release/cpi.t01.htm

11   Peter G. Peterson Foundation, https://www.pgpf.org/blog/2024/05/income-and-wealth-in-the-united-states-an-overview-of-recent-data

Map 2. Median Household Income

**Median Income for Hispanic or Latino Households
Prince George's County**

Legend

⎯⎯ Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA)

Median Household Income ($)

- 75,184 - 80,000
- 80,001 - 85,000
- 85,001 - 95,000
- 95,001 - 105,000
- 105,001 - 115,404

Laurel, Greenbelt & Beltsville

College Park City & Langley Park

New Carrollton & Hyattsville

Seat Pleasant City, Capitol Heights Town & Landover

Bowie City, Kettering & Largo

Oxon Hill, Hillcrest Heights & Temple Hills

Clinton, Fort Washington & Rosaryville

Howard

Montgomery

DC

Arlington

Alexandria

Fairfax

Anne Arundel

Calvert

Charles

Laurel

Beltsville

Greenbelt

College Park

Chillum

New Carrollton

Glenn Dale

Bowie

Landover

Largo

Forestville

Hillcrest Heights

Camp Springs

Clinton

Fort Washington

Brandywine

Upper Marlboro

Aquasco

Data Source:
Prince George's County Planning Department and Census Bureau 2022 5-Year ACS Data

Map Updated:
9/5/2024 12:06 PM
W. Lescure, Map #4409

0   2   4   8   Miles

Hispanic or Latino Population
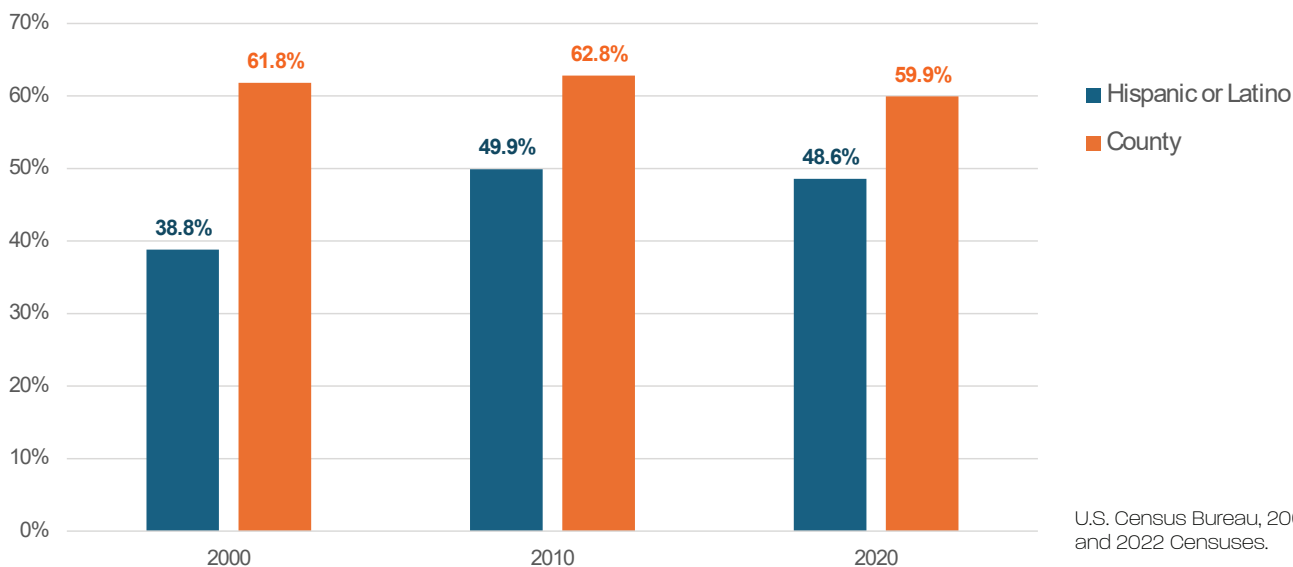
Homeownership and Housing Cost Burden

Chart 5 demonstrates that the homeownership rate among Hispanic or Latino households has been significantly lower than the County's average, although it has increased over time. The National Association of Realtors© writes in February 2024," Black and Hispanic applicants face greater challenges in obtaining a loan. "The impacts of housing affordability and limited inventory are more extreme for minority buyers, because more than half are first-time buyers who must rely on down payment sources beyond gained housing equity."[12]

The relatively low homeownership rate in the Hispanic or Latino community and the associated challenges may pertain to housing cost burden, a measurement or indicator for housing affordability. "Households are considered cost burdened when they spend more than 30% of their income on rent, mortgage and other housing needs."[13]

Hispanic or Latino households have been more likely to suffer housing affordability problems. The data on monthly owner cost or gross rent as a percentage of household income (see Chart 6) reveal that the proportion of the Hispanic or Latino households who were cost-burdened was higher than the share of the County's overall households. This is particularly true for owner-occupied units. By the U.S. Census Bureau's definition, occupied housing units are households.

"Housing affordability has worsened for homeowners and renters," per the Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University. "Black and Hispanic households far more likely" in this challenging condition, and meanwhile, suffer challenges for "food, childcare, or medication, while being unable to build emergency, education, or retirement savings." Hence, "efforts to help cost-burdened households must not only include expanding housing assistance programs, but should include initiatives that reduce the cost of other necessities such as food, healthcare, and transportation."[14]

Chart 5. The Homeownership Rate, 2000-2020

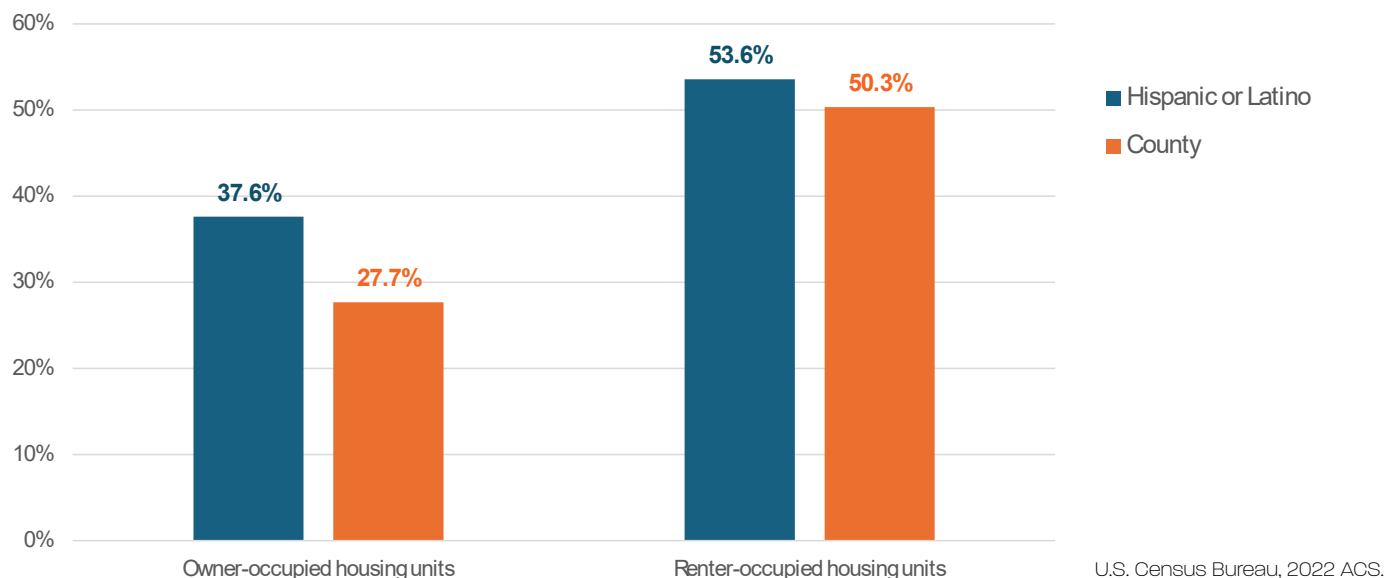
U.S. Census Bureau, 2000, 2010, and 2022 Censuses.

---

12   National Association of Realtors ©, https://www.nar.realtor/newsroom/racial-minority-groups-increased-their-homeownership-rates-while-still-facing-significant-homebuying-challenges

13   The U.S. Census Bureau, https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2022/12/housing-costs-burden.html

14   Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University, https://www.jchs.harvard.edu/blog/more-42-million-us-households-were-cost-burdened-2022

Chart 6. Percent Households with Housing Cost Burden, 2022

U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 ACS.

Conclusion

As a vibrant, integral component of its demographics, people of the Hispanic or Latino community have continued to come to settle, work, raise families, and play in Prince George's County. The Hispanic or Latino population continues to grow in the County. The improvement has been evident in educational attainment, income, job growth, and homeownership, although they lag behind the County's overall levels. This document sheds lights on making sound policies for enhancing equity for the Hispanic or Latino population in the County.

This ethnic group, as relatively newcomers, has been confronted with challenges socioeconomically. Public policies and acts are required to ensure that this ethnic group thrives by enhancing advanced education, workforce training, affordable housing assistance, availability of proper health insurance for quality healthcare, and bilingual services for accessing welfare programs and economic resources.

As the U.S. Senate's Joint Economic Committee (JEC) states in September 2023, "Policies that truly support Hispanics in the U.S. recognize their range of experiences, the contributions they have made, and the challenges many still face in striving for success for themselves, their families, and future generations."[15] They are "increasing their economic success and stability and "face systemic barriers to upward economic mobility" at the same time.

Policy and lawmakers at all levels of governments ought to continue to strive for diminishing and eliminating the barriers via equity planning for this ethnic group. Cultural competence and community engagement are key to promoting "inclusivity and understanding," and ensure that policies and programs are tailored to the Hispanic or Latino community.[16]

---

15   JEC, U.S. Senate, https://www.jec.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/democrats/2023/9/hispanic-heritage-month-celebrating-hispanic-success-and-addressing-barriers-to-opportunity

16   Prince George's County, https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/departments-offices/county-executive/community/office-multicultural-affairs/latino-affairs

Acknowledgments

Prince George's County Planning Department

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
Planning Department

1616 McCormick Drive
Largo, MD 20774

ABOUT THE DATA

The data on the county population and the Hispanic or Latino population enumerated from a decennial census differs from those collected in the American Community Survey (ACS) , a U.S. Census Bureau program for gathering detailed socioeconomic data from communities nationwide with a small sample size of 2.7% (survey 3.5 million addresses out of 127 million yearly).

The Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA) as exhibited on Maps 1 and 2 were delineated by the U.S. Census Bureau and Maryland State Data Center using Census 2020 for smaller census geographies than PUMAs.