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Pulling Open the Sticky Door: Social Mobility among Latinos in Nebraska

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Pulling Open the Sticky Door

Social Mobility among Latinos in Nebraska

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Office of Latino/Latin American Studies (OLLAS)
University of Nebraska at Omaha
Overview

1. Changing Demographics in the U.S.A
2. Nebraska Population Projections
3. Characteristics of Latinos in NE
4. Socioeconomic trends among Latinos in NE
   – Employment
   – Education
The Next America

Percent of the U.S. Total Population by Race and Ethnicity, 1960-2060

Source: Pew Research Center
What explains Latino population growth?
Let’s compare


- Natural Increase: 71%
- Net Migration: 29%
- 9 Million births - 2.5 Million Deaths = 6.5 Million More!
- 2.7 Million immigrants

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, National Projections 2012
The Next Nebraska

Percent of the Nebraska Total Population by Race and Ethnicity, 1980-2050

Source: UNO, Center for Public Affairs Research, June 2013
Latinos will be the future source of growth

Age-Sex Pyramids for Latinos and Non-Hispanic Whites, Nebraska 2012

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey
More visible growth from the youngest age-groups

Percentage of Latinos in Nebraska Population Age Distribution
2010-2050

Source: 2010 US Census, CPAR Projections, June 2013
GROWING HISPANIC POPULATION

HETEROGENEOUS.

ASSIMILATION.

DIVERSITY.

COALESCE.

I WISH YOU PEOPLE WOULD SPEAK A LANGUAGE I COULD UNDERSTAND.
Evolution of Latino/Hispanic-Origin Population in Nebraska by Nativity, 1870-2012

Perpetual foreigners?

Source: Graph produced by OLLAS based on 1850-2012 Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS-USA)

*Data on nativity was not available for years 1960 and 1970
Characteristics of Latinos in Nebraska

**Foreign Born Latinos**
- Median age: 34
- 50% Speaks English well or very well
- 67% of adults 25 years and older have less than high school diploma

**U.S Born Latinos**
- Median age: 13
- Half speak only English. 93% of those who are bilingual speak English well or very well
- 81% of adults 25 years and older have either completed high school or post-secondary degree

Source: OLLAS Calculations based on 2008-2012 ACS-PUMS
Wait, there are Intergenerational ties!

Percentage of U.S. Born Latinos under 17 years-old, by Nativity of their Parents, Nebraska 2008-2012

- Lives with one or two U.S. born parents: 42%
- Lives at least with one foreign born Parent: 58%
- Two foreign born parents: 27%
- One foreign born parent: 19%
- Two parents, one of whom is foreign born: 12%

Source: OLLAS Calculations based on 2008-2012 ACS-PUMS
Latinos in Nebraska, the good life?

Average Household Income by Race/Ethnicity of Head Householder, Nebraska 2001-2012

Source: Graph produced by OLLAS based on 2001-2012 ACS Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS-USA),
Hispanic Immigrant wages taking harder to recover from pre-recession

Annual Gross Wage and Salary Income for Hispanics by Immigration Status, Nebraska, 2000-2012

Source: Graph produced by OLLAS based on 2001-2012 ACS Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS-USA),
Manufacturing
- Employs 30% of the total immigrant Latinos, pays on avg. $25,256 a year
- Employs 10% of total non-immigrant Latinos, pays on avg. $26,477 a year

Construction
- Employs 15% of the total immigrant Latinos, pays on avg. $24,507 a year
- Employs 6% of the total non-immigrant Latinos, pays on avg. $25,672 a year

Accommodation and Food Services
- Employs 10% of total immigrant Latinos, pays on avg. $15,440 a year
- Employs 11% of total non-immigrant Latinos, pays on avg. $11,202 a year

Waste Management
- Employs 7% total immigrant Latinos, pays on avg. $22,975 a year
- Employs 5% total non-immigrant Latinos, pays on avg. $29,930 a year

Health Care and Social Assistance
- Employs 4% of total immigrant Latinos, pays on avg. $21,520 a year
- Employs 11% of total non-immigrant Latinos, pays on avg. $24,735 a year

Source: OLLAS Calculations based on 2008-2012 ACS
Strong growth in Latino Business

Growth rates for the Number of Firms, Sales, Employment and Annual Payroll by Owner Race/Ethnicity, Nebraska, 2002-2007

... but with a lot of challenges

LOWEST SURVIVAL RATE

LOW EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT LEVELS AMONG BUSINESS OWNERS

NOT MUCH EXPERIENCE AS SELF-EMPLOYED

LEAST LIKELY TO EXPAND

DECREASE IN THE PROPORTION OF EMPLOYER FIRMS

YET, the highest job retention rate and hired more employees on average when expanding

Source: OLLAS Report, “Latino Businesses in Nebraska: A Preliminary Look”
Sorry folks... it reads a little differently for you...

They left out the part that reads "And then go back."

Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to work for nearly free.

Migrant workers
## A Persistent Gap in Nebraska

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Socioeconomic Indicators</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Nebraska</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Latinos in Nebraska</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty rates for families</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population with no health insurance coverage</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census 2000 and ACS 2010-2012, Summary Tables available through American Fact Finder
More Latinos Attending College

Latino Population Ages 18 to 24 Attending College, Nebraska 2000-2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2010-2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,583</td>
<td>3,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Born</td>
<td>2,146</td>
<td>1,663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Born</td>
<td>3,437</td>
<td>2,217</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OLLAS calculations based on U.S. Census 2000 and American Community Survey 2010-2012
Latinos Are Much Less Likely to Drop out of High School than Before

But High School Dropouts on the Rise among U.S. born Latinos

Latino High School Dropout Rate by Nativity, Nebraska 2000-2012

Latino High School Dropouts by Nativity, Nebraska 2000-2012

Source: OLLAS calculations based on U.S. Census 2000 and American Community Survey 2010-2012
The achievement gap

Average Score in Mathematics and Reading, Nebraska 2013

Mathematics | Reading
--- | ---
Grade 4 | Grade 8 | Grade 4 | Grade 8
White: 227 | 251 | 207 | 254
Hispanic: 267 | 292 | 250 | 251
Black: 215 | 229 | 202 | 251

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, NAEP State Comparisons, 2013
Latinos, breaking the glass ceiling?