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Latino Population in South Omaha: Main Characteristics

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Quick Facts about the Latino Population

Latino Population in South Omaha: Main Characteristics

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Together, three zip codes, 68105, 68107, and 68108, make up historical South Omaha. In this report zip code 68117 is added to historical South Omaha. This zip code borders zip code 68107 to the east, Harrison St. to the south, 72nd St. to the west, and I-80 to the north. The geographical location of these four zip codes is shown in Map 1 on the following page. Altogether, these four zip codes account for about 91% of the Latino population in Omaha’s Southeast PUMA and 47% of the Latino population in Douglas County. As Table 1 shows, the South Omaha Latino population was 36,521 people in 2022 and represents almost 49% of the total population in South Omaha. Approximately 51% of the South Omaha Latino population lives in 68107, representing a little over 62% of the zip code’s population. Thus, 68107 is the only Latino minority-majority zip code in Omaha. This is also the largest South Omaha zip code in terms of population, with about 40% of the total population of the area.

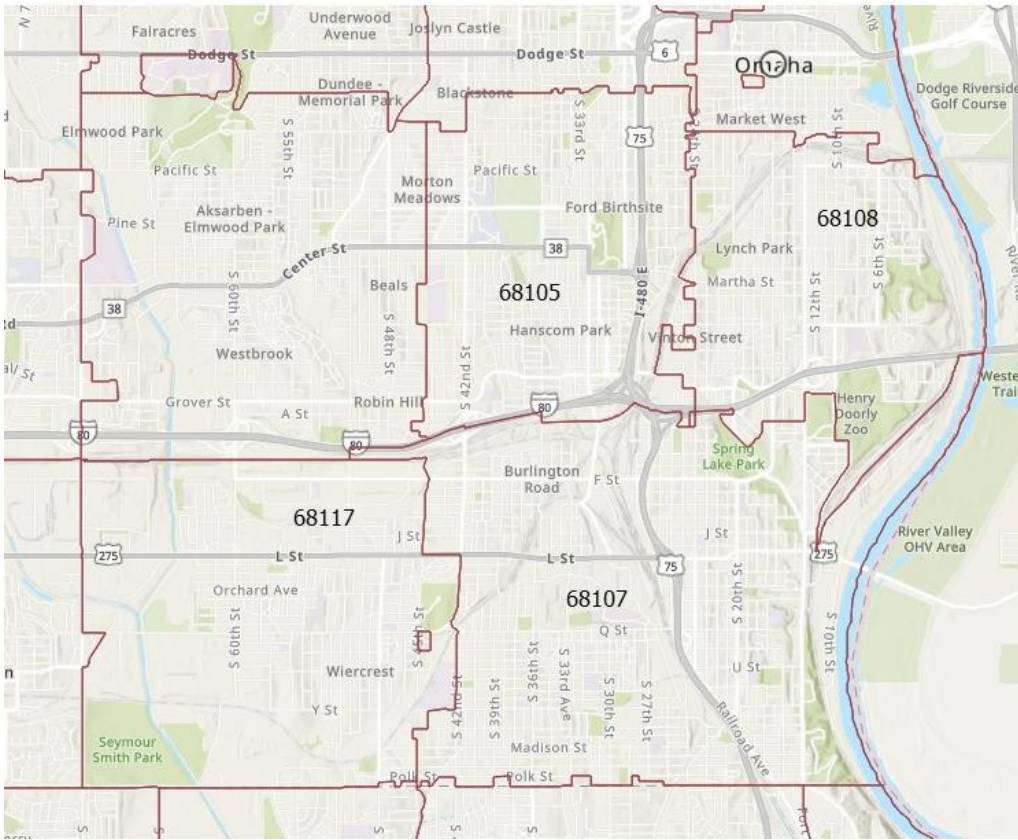
Table 1: Latino Population for South Omaha by Zip Code, 2022

Zip Code	Latino Population	Total Population	Latino Population	Non-Latino Population	%	Total N	
68105	20.0	29.9	32.2	67.8	100.0	22,698	
68107	50.7	39.2	62.1	37.9	100.0	29,779	
68108	19.2	19.6	47.2	52.8	100.0	14,869	
68117	10.1	11.4	42.5	57.5	100.0	8,678	
Total	%	100.0	100.0	48.8	51.2	100.0	76,024
	N	36,521	76,024				

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2022. American Community Survey, ACS-5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables: Table B01001I and Table B01001.

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Map 1: South Omaha Zip Codes, 2022



Source: Prepared by authors using <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.htmlb>

Age and Sex Structure of the Latino Population

In Figures 1 and 2, a comparison of the population under the age of 17 shows that the Latino population (41%) is younger than the total population (28%). At the other end, the proportion of those 65 years and older among the total population (11%) is significantly higher than the same age group in the Latino population (3%). Similarly, the median age comparison highlights that the total population is 16.7 years older than the Latino population.

There are some interesting differences when comparing the median ages by zip code to observe how much younger the Latino population is compared to the total population. The smallest difference between both groups is in zip code 68108 (13.6 years) and the largest in 68107 (19 years). This, however, does not imply that 68107 has the lowest median age. On the contrary, the median age for Latinos in that zip code is the largest (24.3 years) as is that of the total population (43.5 years). While zip code 68105's median ages are similar to 68107, this is not the case for the other two zip codes, which are, in turn, similar to each other. The median ages for Latinos living in zip codes 68108 and 68117 are between three to four years less than for the other two zip codes. The differences are even

more striking for the total population. People in these areas of the city are between four and nine years younger than in the other two zip codes.

Figure 1: Population Pyramid of South Omaha Latino Population, 2022

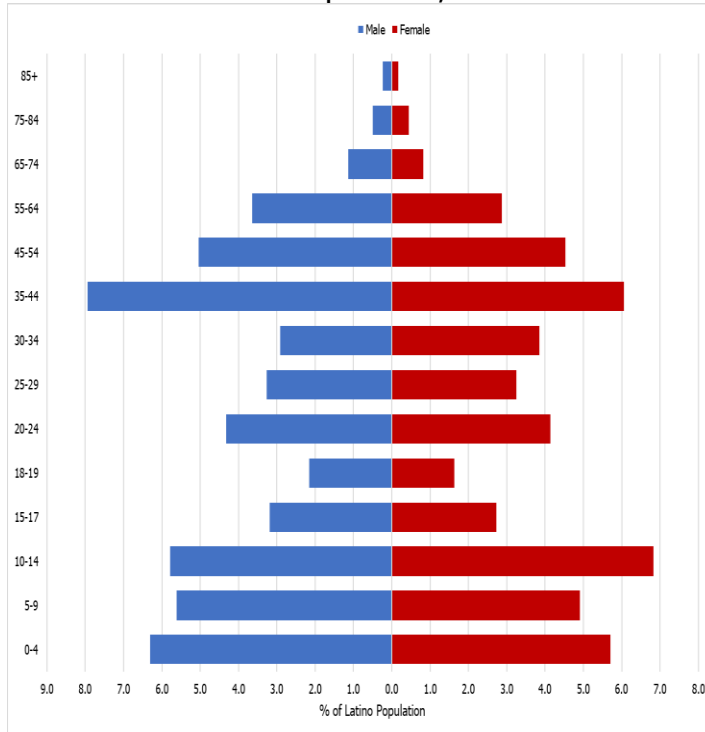
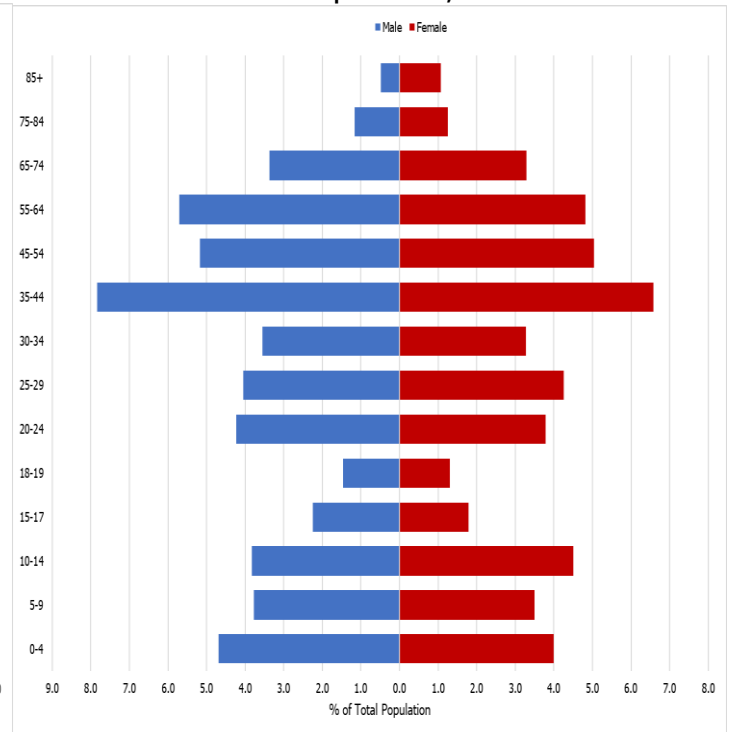


Figure 2: Population Pyramid of South Omaha Total Population, 2022



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2022. American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables: Table B01001I and Table B01001.

Ethnic and Racial Identification of the Latino Population

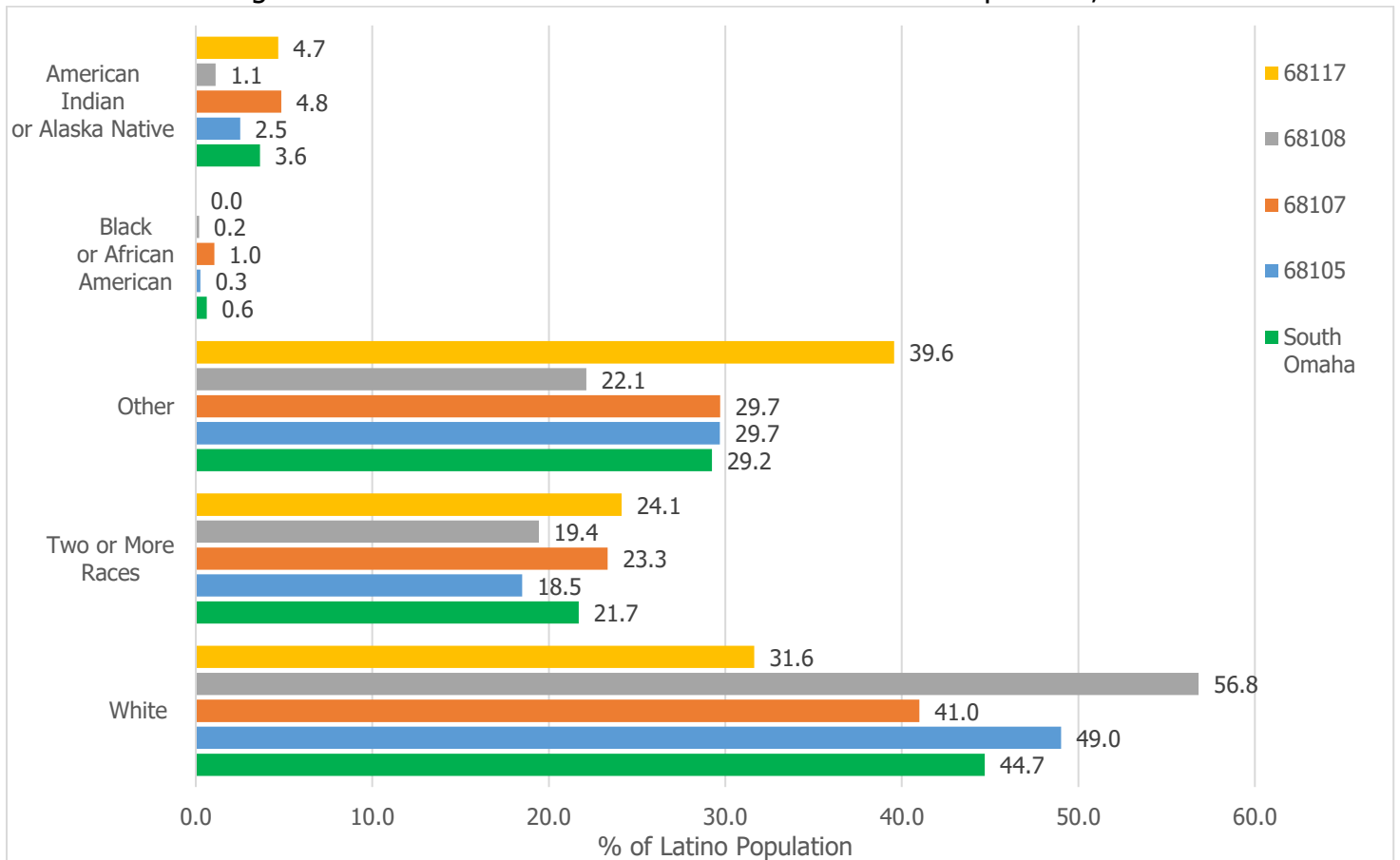
Figures 3 and 4 indicate the racial and ethnic distribution of the Latino population and the total population in South Omaha and among the four zip codes analyzed in this report.¹ Overall, these figures show that the Latino population is more diverse than the total population. In South Omaha, Latinos are less likely to identify as White (close to 45%) than the total population (almost 64%). Latinos are also more likely to identify as “Other Race” (about 29%) and as “Two or More Races” (close to 22%) than the total population (slightly over 14% and 13%, respectively).

While the population that identify as Black or African American and those that identify as American Indian or Alaska Native in South Omaha fall within the margin of error of the American Community Survey (ACS), some relevant observations can be made when looking at the differences and not at the

¹ Asian or Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander not included in Figures 3 and 4 as they represent less than 0.1% of the Latino population in South Omaha and fall within the margin of error of the American Community Survey for this geography. Therefore, the sum of the percentages for each category does not add 100%.

exact percentages. First, the total population of South Omaha is more likely to identify as Black than the Latino population. In contrast, the Latino population is more likely to identify as American Indian or Alaska Native than the total population. This could indicate that some South Omaha Latinos are identifying with indigenous groups in their countries of origin, even if they do not identify with specific U.S. American Indian nations.

Figure 3: Racial Identification of South Omaha Latino Population, 2022

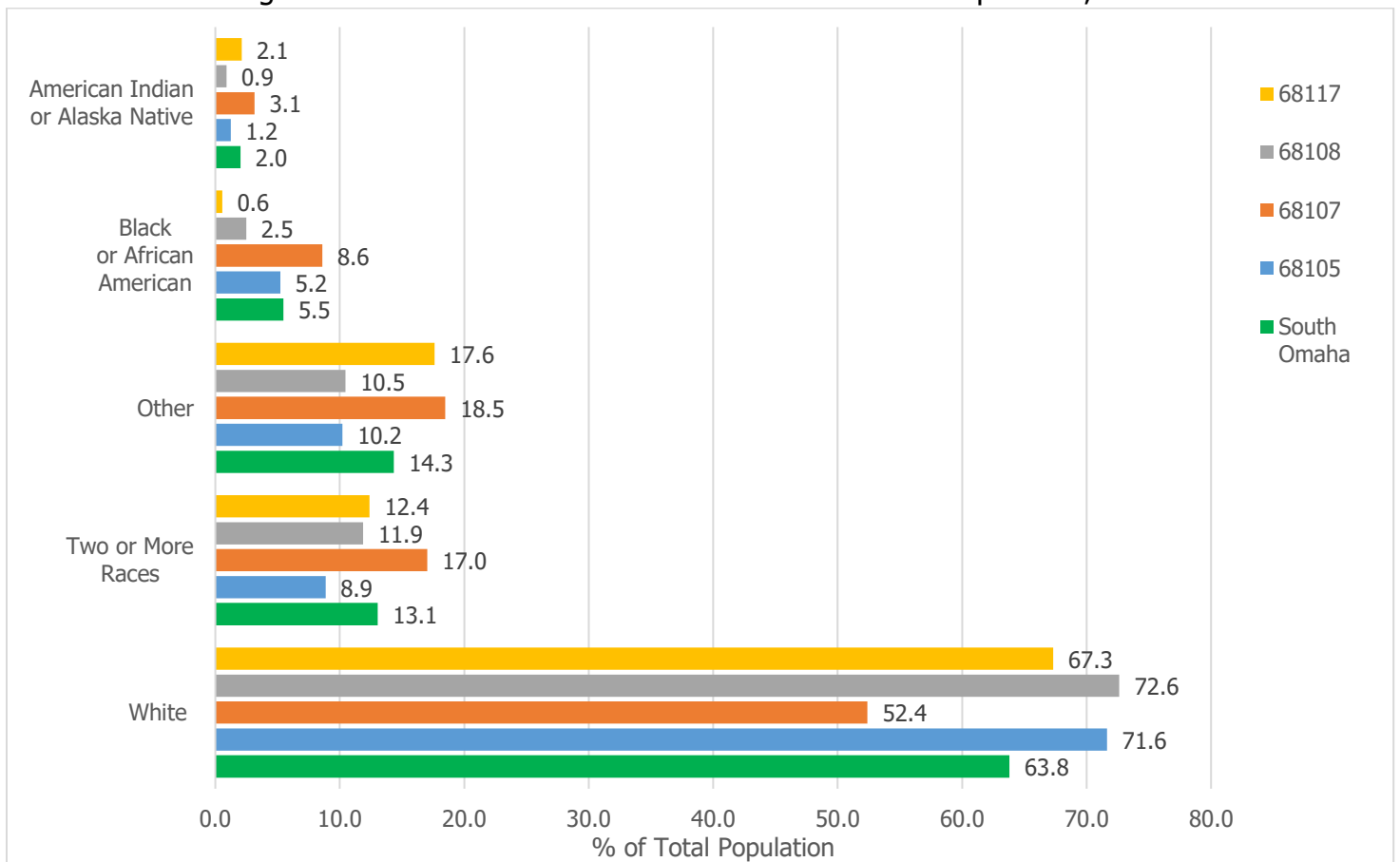


Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2022. American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables: Table B03002

Figure 3 also shows some interesting differences among the zip codes. Zip code 68108 is the only one where a majority of Latinos identify as White—making it the least diverse zip code among the four compared here—although almost half of the Latino population in zip code 68105 also identify as White. The smallest zip code in terms of population and a new addition to “Historical” or Latino South Omaha, 68117, seems to be the most diverse of the four when comparing the Latino population. This zip code has the smallest percentage of Latinos identifying as White (close to 32%) as well as the largest percentage of Latinos identifying as “Other Race” (almost 40%), as “Two or More Races” (about 24%), and as American Indian or Alaska Native (close to 5%). The percentages in these last two cases are almost the same as for zip code 68107.

When comparing the percentages of Latinos identifying with a racial group by zip code with the total population, other interesting differences can be observed. First, more than two-thirds of the total population identify as White in three of the four zip codes (68105, 68108, and 68117). While those identifying as White are also a majority in zip code 68107 (52%), this is the most diverse zip code among these four among the total population. This zip code includes the largest percentage of those identifying as “Other Race” (close to 19%), as “Two or More Races” (17%), as Black or African American (about 9%), and as American Indian or Alaska Native (slightly over 3%).

Figure 4: Racial Identification of South Omaha Total Population, 2022



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2022. American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables: Table B03002

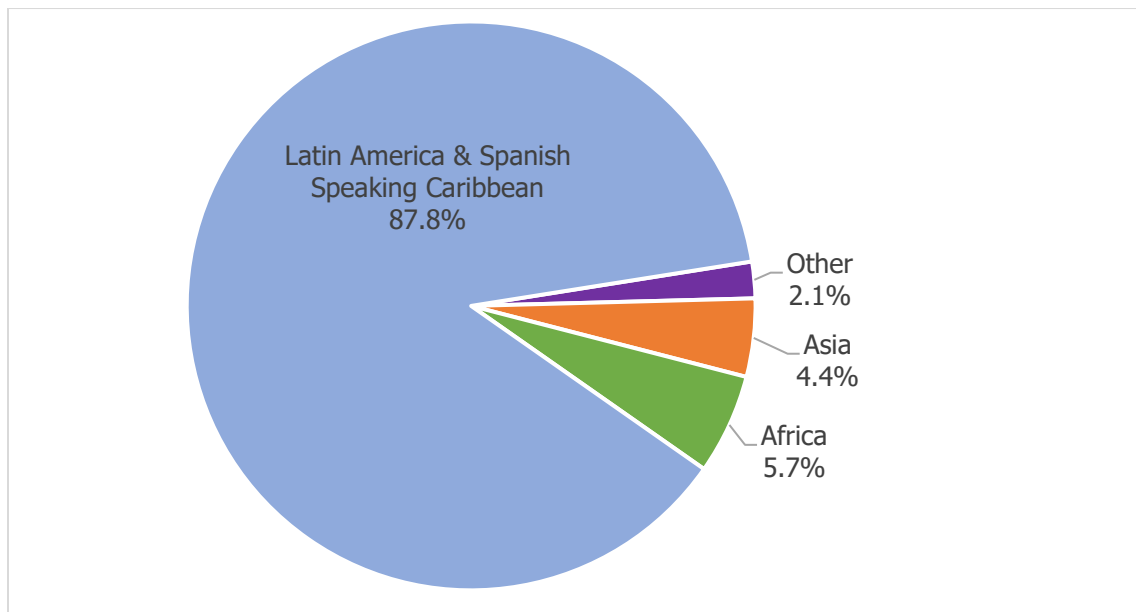
Immigrant Origins of the Latino Population

As Figure 5 shows, a large majority of the foreign-born population of South Omaha was born in a Latin American or Spanish-speaking Caribbean nation. There are also no major differences by zip code as between about 92% and 94% of those born abroad living in zip codes 68107, 68108, and 68117 were born in that region. The only significant difference is zip code 68105, where the percentage is “only” 72%. This is the zip code that also has the largest percentage of those born in Asia (16%) and Africa

(8%). In the other zip codes the proportion of those born in Asia is no higher than 2% and less than 6% for those born in Africa.

Among those born in Latin America or the Spanish-speaking Caribbean, close to 56% live in zip code 68107 and about one-in-five in zip code 68105. As we show above, these are the two largest in terms of population. About 80% of Asians live in 68105 and one-third of those born in Africa. The majority of those born in Africa (54%) live in zip code 68107. However, in the case of these two regions, these populations amount to less than 1,000 people each.

Figure 5: Region of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population, 2022²



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2022. American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates
Detailed Tables: Table B05006

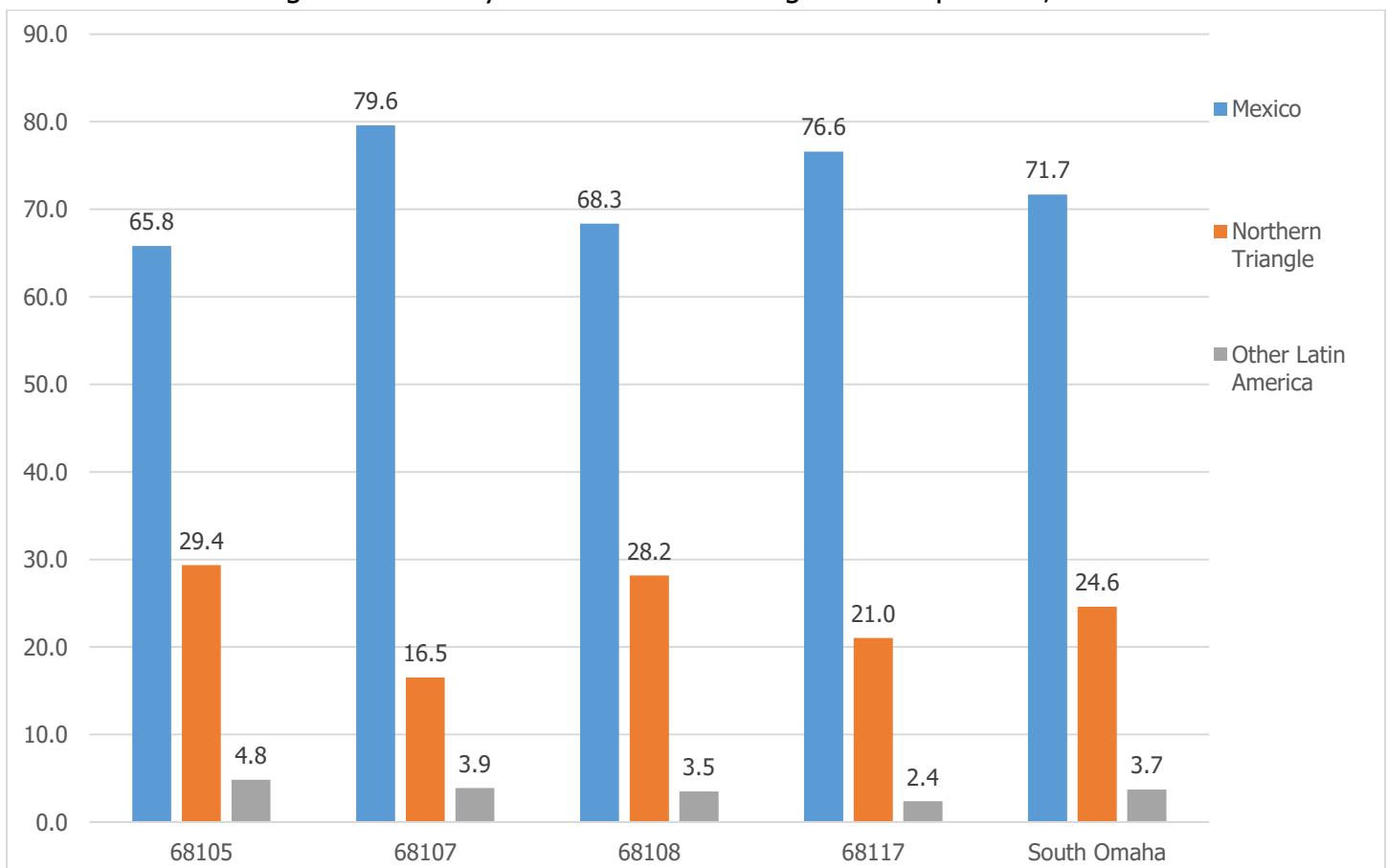
As Figure 6 shows, more than 96% of all foreign-born people born in Latin America and the Spanish-speaking Caribbean and who reside in South Omaha were either born in Mexico (close to 72%) or in Central America's Northern Triangle (close to 25%). This area, which includes El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, are three of the six main countries of origin for Latin American immigrants—the other three are Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and Colombia (see [Migration Policy Institute: U.S. Immigration Trends](#) for U.S. data). It is important to mention two aspects of these immigrants from the Northern Triangle. First, they are overrepresented in South Omaha in relation to the U.S.; while in the entire country these immigrants represent about 16% of the total immigrants from Latin America, the percentage in all but one of the zip codes is significantly larger (between 21% and 29%). The exception

² The category "Other" includes in this case those born in Europe, Oceania, North America, and the non-Spanish speaking Caribbean. This is about 357 people.

is 68107, where they are almost equally represented (about 16%). Second, of the three countries that compose the Northern Triangle, those born in Honduras are the smallest proportion (about 6%).

With percentages ranging over 66% to almost 80%, Mexican-born immigrants in South Omaha are also overrepresented in relation to those in the entire U.S. (about 57%). Additionally, the percentage of those born in any other Latin American country is small and does not exceed 5%, which is significantly smaller than the national and state percentage for those same countries (27% and about 13%, respectively). This speaks to a highly homogenous Latino community in South Omaha that has historical roots, and which has seen an influx of new immigrants in the last two decades.

Figure 6: Country of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population, 2022



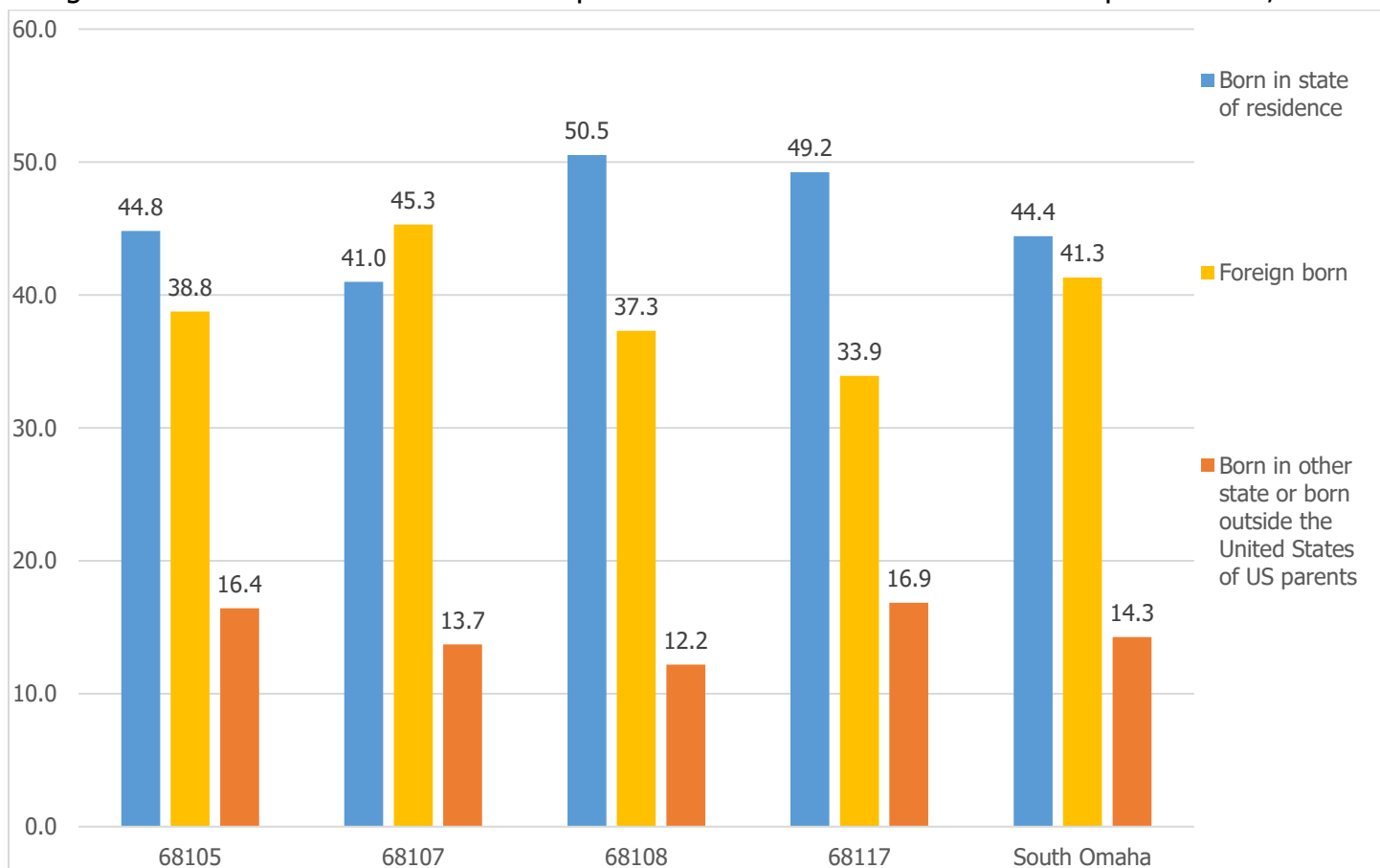
Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2022. American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables: Table B05006

Places of Birth of the Latino Population

As can be observed in Figure 7, the proportion of Latinos born in Nebraska and those born abroad is similar (about 44% and 41%, respectively). However, if we add those born in a different state or born

abroad of U.S. parents, a majority of Latinos in South Omaha are U.S. citizens by birth (about 59%)³. While this is also the case in every zip code, there are some differences that are worth describing. First, in every zip code the sum of those born in Nebraska with those born in another state or abroad of U.S. parents is a majority. This proportion is the largest in zip code 68117 (close to 66%) and the lowest in 68107 (about 55%). When comparing those only born in Nebraska with those born abroad (i.e., immigrants), 68107 is the only zip code where there are more foreign-born Latinos than Nebraska-born Latinos. This also speaks to a new immigration specifically to this zip code, as in the other three, the proportion of foreign-born is about one-third of the Latinos.

Figure 7: Place of Birth of the Latino Population in Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Area, 2022



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2022. American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables: Table B06004I.

Furthermore, Table 2a shows the self-identification of Latinos in South Omaha with a specific origin. As expected, a large majority (about 83%) identify as Mexican, which is consistent with the description of country of birth. There are some small differences by zip code, with 68107 and 68117 having the

³ In this case, the categories of "Born in other state in the United States" and "Native; born outside the United States" have been merged as the second represents only 1.5% (about 507 people) of the population of South Omaha, which is close to the margin of error of the ACS for this group of zip codes.

higher percentages (close to 86%); about seven percentage points higher than the other two zip codes. It is also important to mention that close to 15% of Latinos in zip code 68108 state that their origin is a country within Central America’s Northern Triangle. While those born in Honduras are a small percentage of the total number of Latinos identifying with a specific origin (less than 1%), they represent close to 3% of the total and 19% of those originating in a country in Central America’s Northern Triangle in 68108. This is the only case where Hondurans represent a significant proportion of Latinos in South Omaha. Latinos identifying with a country in Central America’s Northern Triangle also have a small but relevant concentration in zip code 68105 (about 11%), but elsewhere, they represent less than 10% of Latinos.

The other groups represent about 6% of the Latinos in South Omaha and even smaller proportions in the zip codes. Puerto Ricans are a significant percentage in only zip code 68105 (about 2%)⁴, “Other Latin Americans” in 68117 (slightly over 3%), and “Other Hispanic or Latino” in 68105 (close to 5%).

Table 2a: Hispanic or Latino Origin by Specific Origin, 2022

Hispanic or Latino Origin by Specific Origin	Zip codes				South Omaha
	68105	68107	68108	68117	
Mexican	79.0	85.7	79.3	86.1	83.2
Central America's Northern Triangle	11.4	9.2	14.6	8.1	10.6
Puerto Rican	2.1	0.9	0.2	0.3	1.0
Other Latin American	2.8	1.5	2.6	3.4	2.2
Other Hispanic or Latino	4.6	2.6	3.3	2.0	3.1
Total	%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	N	7,308	18,503	7,025	36,521

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2022. American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables: Table B03001.

Lastly, Table 2b shows the comparison between zip codes by specific origin of Latinos. Since zip code 68107 is the largest in terms of population, more than doubling each of the two other larger zip codes 68105 and 68108, it is no surprise that it has the largest concentration of any origin. That said, it is important to note that highest concentration of Latinos of Mexican origin is in 68107 (about 52%). This is one of the two cases where a main country of origin has a clear majority in any of the zip codes. As is explained below, the other case, is Salvadorans.

⁴ While the number of Puerto Ricans in South Omaha is small and falls within the margin of error of the ACS, they are presented here because this category is not reflected among foreign-born Latinos due to Puerto Ricans being considered U.S. born and not international migrants.

Around one-in-four Latinos identifying with a country in Central America's Northern Triangle reside in either 68105 or 68108, with this last zip code having a slightly larger percentage. However, there are some differences within this group that are important to mention. First, a majority of Salvadorans reside in 68107 (about 54%). Second, Guatemalans are more equally distributed between the three larger zip codes, with 37% in 68107, 28% in 68105, and 23% in 68108. Third, there seems to be no Hondurans (or too few to be register by the ACS) residing in zip codes 68105 and 68117.

While zip code 68117 has the smallest population size and therefore is expected to have the lowest percentages, "Other Latin Americans" have a significant concentration (close to 16%) in that zip code. However, this is equivalent to only about 125 people and falls within the margin of error of the ACS. The only other origins that have more than a 10% of their population in 68117 are Guatemalans (12%) and Mexicans (10%).

Table 2b: Hispanic or Latino Origin by Specific Origin, 2022

Hispanic or Latino Origin by Specific Origin	Zip codes				South Omaha	
	68105	68107	68108	68117	N.	%
Mexican	19.0	52.2	18.3	10.4	100.0	30,383
Central America's Northern Triangle	21.7	44.1	26.5	7.7	100.0	3,860
Puerto Rican	44.5	48.6	3.4	3.4	100.0	348
Other Latin American	25.8	35.2	23.4	15.7	100.0	796
Other Hispanic or Latino	29.9	43.0	20.5	6.6	100.0	1,134
Total	20.0	50.7	19.2	10.1	100.0	36,521

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2022. American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables: Table B03001.