

Community College Research Center

Fact Sheet:

Access and Achievement of Hispanics and Hispanic Immigrants in the Colleges of the City University of New York

Derived from: *Access and Achievement of Hispanics and Hispanic Immigrants in the Colleges of the City University of New York* by D. Timothy Leinbach and Thomas R. Bailey, Community College Research Center, Teachers College, Columbia University (April 2006).

FACT SHEET

HISPANICS IN THE U.S. AND NEW YORK CITY

- In 1970, 19.4% of the foreign-born population in the United States was from Latin America. In 2000, 51% were from Latin America.
- Between 1990 and 2000, the Hispanic population in New York City grew by 21.1%—more than twice the rate of growth for the city as a whole.
- Over 55% of the 2.2 million Hispanics in New York City are foreign-born.

EDUCATION STATUS OF HISPANIC IMMIGRANTS TO THE U.S.

Immigrants from Latin American countries have the lowest rate of educational attainment of all continents. Fewer than half (49.6%) have a high school diploma. These figures vary by country of origin:

- Only 33.8% of foreign-born residents from Mexico have a high school diploma or more.
- Only 37.3% of foreign-born residents from Central America have a high school diploma or more.
- However, 68.1% of foreign-born residents from Caribbean countries (excluding Puerto Rico) and 79.7% of foreign-born residents from South America have a high school diploma or more.

HISPANICS AT CUNY

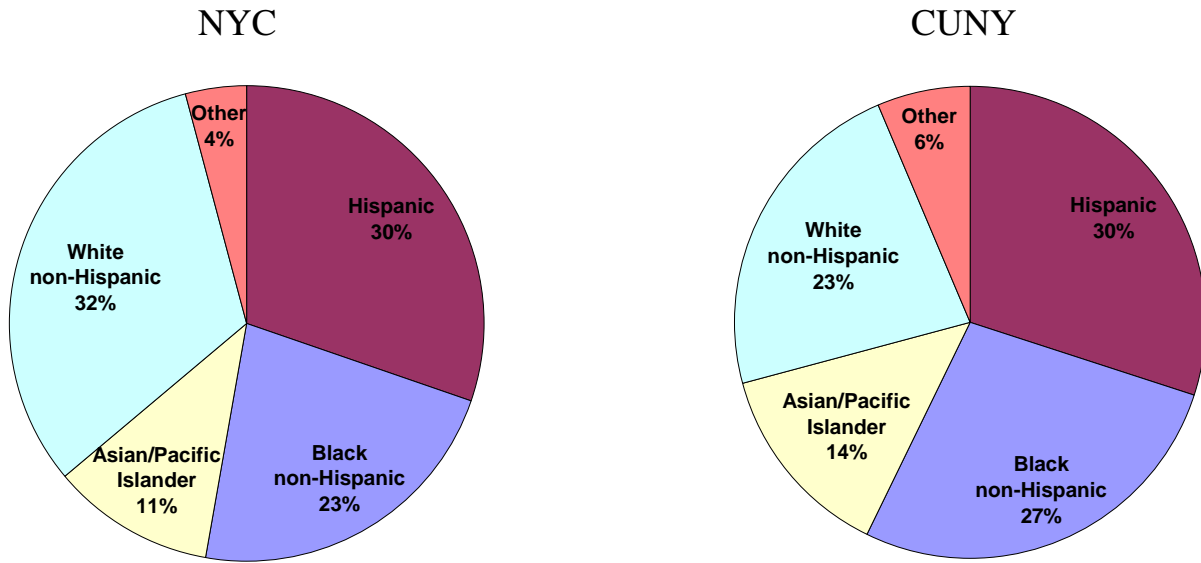
- In 2000, Hispanics represented 30.1% of all first-time CUNY students and 35.5% of first-time CUNY community college students.
- Native-born Hispanics attend CUNY in greater proportion to their city population than do foreign-born Hispanics. In 2000, native-born Hispanics represented 40.7% of the 18-35-year-old Hispanic population in New York City and 55.1% of first-time freshmen at CUNY. Conversely, Hispanic immigrants comprised 59.3% of the city's 18-35-year-old population, but only 44.9% of the first-time freshman population.
- While Hispanics represent 40.6% of the city's 18-35-year-old foreign-born population, they represent only 27.8% of the foreign-born, first-time freshmen at CUNY. Other immigrant minority populations exhibit much stronger representation at CUNY.

REPRESENTATION OF HISPANICS AT CUNY BY NATIONAL ORIGIN

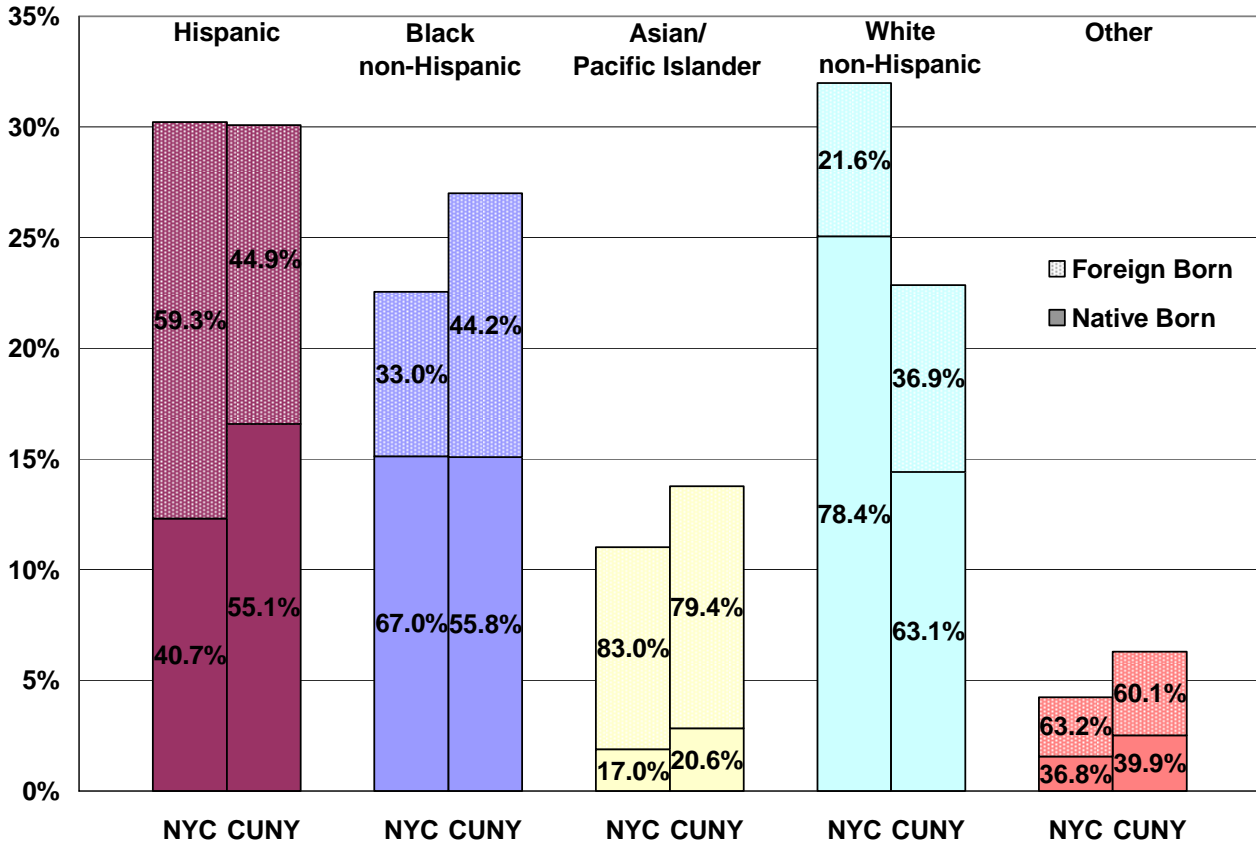
- Dominicans and Central and South American students attend CUNY in greater numbers relative to their city population, while Puerto Ricans and Mexicans are under-represented relative to their presence in the city.
- While Dominicans represent 20% of city's 18-35 Hispanic population, they comprise 34.7% of CUNY Hispanic students.
- Though Puerto Ricans represent 59.5% of the native-born Hispanic population in the city, Puerto Ricans are only 44.3% of this population at CUNY. And among foreign-born Hispanics, Puerto Ricans are only 8.6% of the CUNY population, compared to 12.9% citywide.
- Among native-born Hispanics, both Dominicans (28.4%) and Central and South Americans (22%) are more strongly represented in bachelor's degree programs relative to their overall representation in senior colleges than other native-born Hispanics.

For more information, read the report at: <http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/Publication.asp?UID=381>

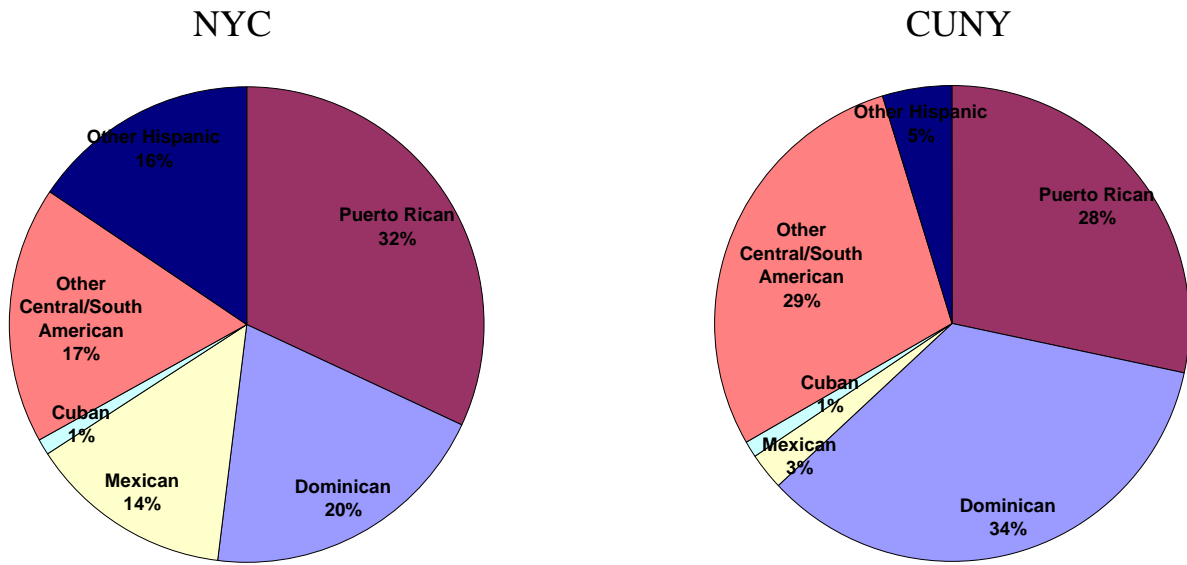
Proportion of NYC 18-35 year old population and CUNY first-time freshmen by race/ethnicity, 2000.



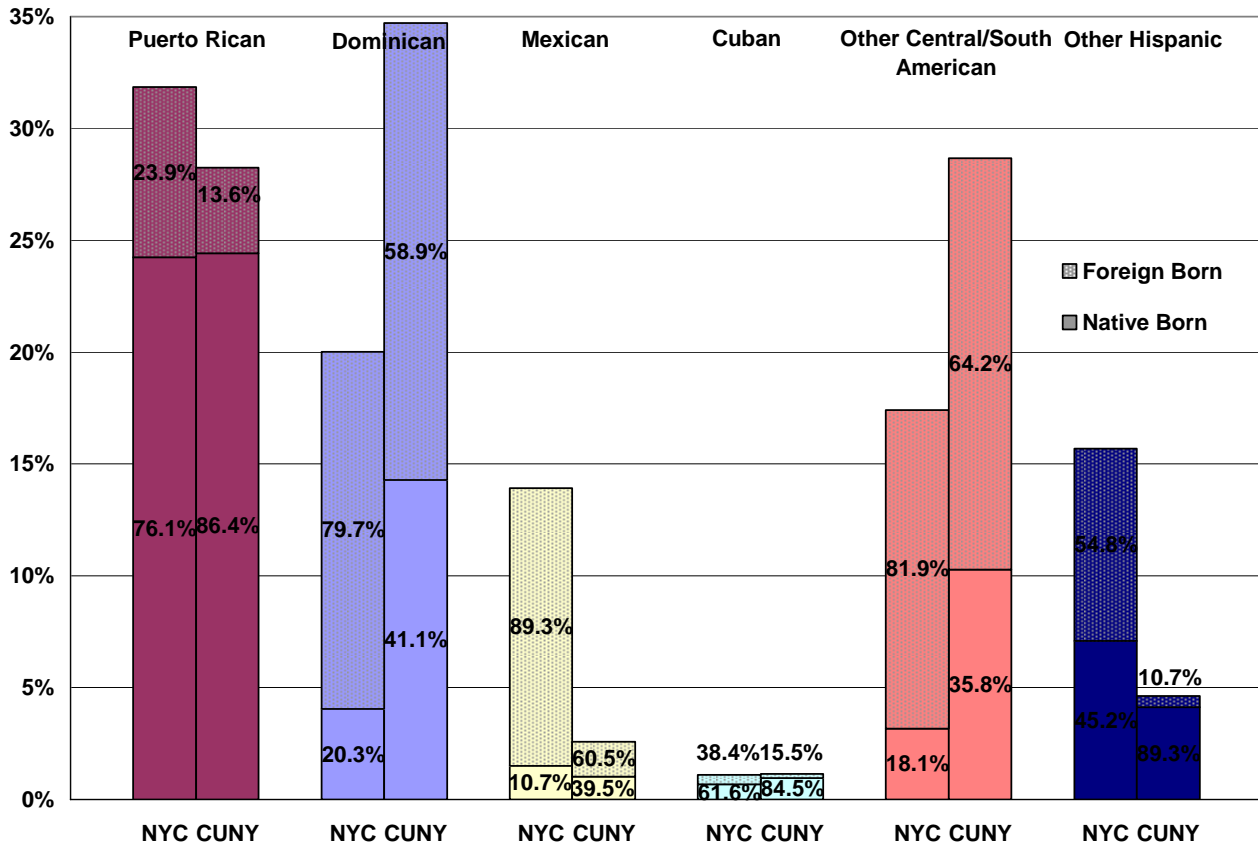
Proportion of foreign-born and native-born NYC 18-35 year old population and CUNY first-time freshmen by race/ethnicity, 2000. Bar heights correspond to pie slices above. Percents within bars indicate the distribution between native born and foreign born within each race/ethnic group.



Proportion of NYC 18-35 year old Hispanics and CUNY first-time Hispanic freshmen, by national identity, 2000.



Proportion of foreign-born and native-born NYC 18-35 year old Hispanics and CUNY first-time Hispanic freshmen, by national identity, 2000. Bar heights correspond to pie slices above. Percents within bars indicate the distribution between native born and foreign born within each nationality.



CUNY First-Time Freshmen, Fall 1990.
Mean Values of Student Characteristics by Student Type and Nativity.

	All Students	Non-Hispanic Students		Hispanic Students	
	(n=5,449) ¹	Native Born	Foreign Born	Native Born	Foreign Born
		(n=2,499)	(n=1,412)	(n=987)	(n=551)
Native born	67.2%	100.0%		100.0%	
Parents native born	44.5%	78.9%		26.5%	
Parents foreign born	22.7%	21.1%		73.5%	
Foreign born	32.8%		100.0%		100.0%
Attended U.S. high school	25.7%		75.8%		86.4%
Attended foreign high school	7.1%		24.2%		13.6%
Hispanic	24.4%			100.0%	100.0%
Puerto Rican				64.9%	30.1%
Dominican				12.9%	29.9%
Cuban				1.2%	1.1%
Central/South American				14.1%	35.8%
Other Hispanic				6.9%	3.1%
Black, non-Hispanic	30.7%	40.6%	40.8%		
Asian/Pacific Islander	9.9%	3.3%	33.6%		
White, non-Hispanic	31.1%	52.5%	17.4%		
Other race/ethnicity	3.8%	3.6%	8.2%		
Female	58.0%	59.5%	53.9%	58.8%	59.6%
Male	42.0%	40.5%	46.1%	41.2%	40.4%
Age	21.1	20.7	22.3	19.8	22.3
<i>Household Income</i>					
\$30,000 or more	26.9%	35.9%	19.6%	18.8%	9.6%
\$15,000 - \$29,999	23.4%	21.2%	28.0%	24.6%	21.0%
Less than \$15,000	26.9%	17.6%	32.1%	37.5%	47.0%
Missing	22.8%	25.3%	20.3%	19.1%	22.3%
<i>Parents Highest Level of Education</i>					
High school or less	57.5%	51.3%	56.9%	70.0%	73.2%
Some college	18.5%	23.4%	11.5%	17.8%	10.0%
College degree or more	24.0%	25.2%	31.7%	12.2%	16.8%
Supporting child(ren)	13.8%	12.5%	17.3%	10.1%	19.2%
<i>Working During First PSE Year</i>					
Full-Time	16.3%	15.8%	18.1%	12.5%	21.8%
Part-Time	53.9%	59.2%	49.5%	49.4%	42.4%
Not Working	29.8%	25.0%	32.4%	38.0%	35.9%
GED	14.7%	12.9%	16.0%	14.2%	22.5%
Bachelor's Degree Aspirations	82.2%	82.4%	84.1%	81.3%	77.8%
<i>Assessment Test Scores</i>					
Math (range 1 to 40)	23.8	23.8	26.4	21.9	19.6
Reading (range 1 to 45)	28.3	30.6	25.0	28.5	23.2
Writing (range 1 to 12)	6.6	7.1	5.7	6.6	5.3
<i>Initial Program and Institution</i>					
Associate in Community College	41.9%	39.8%	41.1%	44.4%	52.8%
Associate in Senior College	18.5%	21.5%	17.0%	15.0%	11.7%
Bachelor's in Senior College	39.5%	38.8%	41.8%	40.6%	35.5%
Took Remediation in First Year	35.9%	28.0%	41.4%	43.0%	53.7%
<i>Twelve Year Enrollment/Outcomes</i>					
Ever part-time (except summer)	60.4%	63.4%	57.4%	59.0%	53.4%
Ever interrupted (except summer)	41.6%	41.2%	38.4%	45.9%	45.0%
Total credits earned	60.4	58.1	71.6	53.7	54.3
Earned Associate	16.6%	14.7%	20.0%	15.5%	19.6%
Transferred to Senior College	13.0%	12.0%	15.1%	12.7%	13.8%
Earned Bachelor's	22.8%	22.8%	28.0%	18.2%	16.0%

1. Fall 1990 freshmen survey respondents. Cell percents are weighted to represent the total 1990 freshmen cohort.