



Center for Latin American, Caribbean & Latino Studies

Demographic, Economic, and Social Transformations in Bronx Community District 9: Parkchester, Unionport, Soundview, Castle Hill, and Clason Point, 1990 - 2006

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This report analyzes changes among the current top five Latino nationality groups during 1990-2006 in the NYC Community District 9 of the borough of the Bronx, which comprises the neighborhoods of Parkchester, Unionport, Soundview, Castle Hill, and Clason Point. A profile of demographic and socioeconomic characteristics including population distribution, age, homeownership, income, educational attainment, employment, and citizenship is provided. These characteristics are compared, whenever appropriate, with those of the other major racial/ethnic components of the population -- non-Hispanic Whites, non-Hispanic Blacks, and Asians.¹

Demographic Indicators

Hispanics are becoming an increasingly larger percentage of the population in the United States. The Hispanic population has tripled during the last 26 years to over 44 million at the national level. (See Table 1). Over 75% of Hispanics live within seven states including California (29.5%), Texas (18.9%), Florida (8.2%), New York (7.1%), Illinois (4.3%), Arizona (4.1%), and New Jersey (3.1%). It is projected that by 2050, Hispanics will become over 24% of the total population.²

Table 1
Hispanics as a Percent of the Total Population, 1980-2006

	1980	1990	2000	2006
U.S.A.				
Hispanics	14,608,673	22,354,059	35,305,818	44,321,038
Total Population	226,545,805	248,709,873	281,421,906	299,398,484
% Hispanic	6.4%	9.0%	12.5%	14.8%
New York State				
Hispanics	1,660,901	2,214,026	2,867,583	3,139,456
Total Population	17,558,072	17,990,445	18,976,457	19,306,183
% Hispanic	9.5%	12.3%	15.1%	16.3%

New York is the state with the fourth largest Hispanic population in the nation, with over 70% of its Hispanic population residing in the New York City Metropolitan area. Within the Bronx, the neighborhoods considered here have the second highest concentration of Latinos in the borough. Since 1990, the Latino population in this particular community district has increased by almost 25%. As indicated in Figure 1, in 1990, Latinos accounted for 51.9% of the total population in this

¹ The findings reported here are based on data collected by the Census Bureau IPUMS (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series), available at <http://www.usa.ipums.org> for the corresponding years. This report analyzes data from PUMAS 05007 (1990) and 03709 (2000/2006) in the Bronx.

² U.S. Census Bureau, May 2004. U.S. Interim Projections by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin. Table 1a. Projected Population of the United States, by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2000 to 2050. Retrieved from <http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/usinterimproj/>

³ For a profile of the neighborhoods with the highest concentrations of Latinos in the Bronx, refer to [http://web.gc.cuny.edu/lastudies/Demographic, %20Economic, %20and %20Social %20Transformations %20in %20the %20South %20Bronx, %201990-2005.pdf](http://web.gc.cuny.edu/lastudies/Demographic,%20Economic,%20and%20Social%20Transformations%20in%20the%20South%20Bronx,%201990-2005.pdf)

district, 57.6% in 2000, and 59.9% in 2006. The number of Asians also increased over the 16-year period examined, comprising 3.1% of the total population in 1990, 4.6% in 2000, and 5.4% in 2006. On the other hand, the percentage of the population who are non-Hispanic Whites and non-Hispanic Blacks steadily decreased from 11.1% and 33.9% in 1990 to 2.7% and 32% in 2006, respectively.

During the years 1990-2006, there were major changes in the relative distribution of the five Latino subgroups identified in this report. (See figures 2 and 3). For example, since 1990 the number of Mexicans and Guatemalans in this community district has grown approximately eight-fold. In 1990, Guatemalans accounted for less than 1% of the Latino population, increasing to 2% in 2006; while Mexicans accounted for 2% of the population in 1990 and 10% in 2006. Likewise, the number of Ecuadorians and Dominicans more than doubled over the 16-year period. As of 2006, there was approximately three times the number of Ecuadorians as in 1990, comprising 3% of the Latino population in 1990, and 8% in 2006. Dominicans represented the second major Latino subgroup comprising 11% of the Latino population in 1990; by 2000, they constituted 17% of the total Latino population; and 21% in 2006. Although Puerto Ricans represented the majority Latino subgroup in this district, the number of Puerto Ricans in this community district has decreased. In 1990, Puerto Ricans made up 75% of the total Latino population, but in 2006 only 53% of the population was of Puerto Rican descent.

Figure 1
Racial/Ethnic Groups in the Bronx Community District 9
as a Percentage of the Total Population, 1990-2006

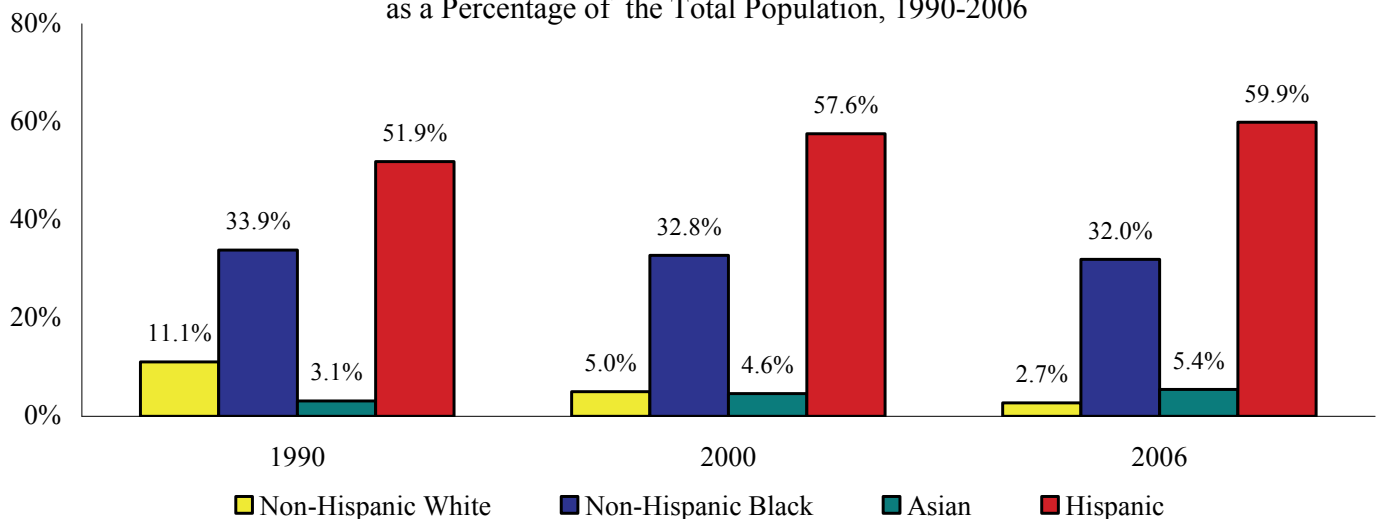


Figure 2
Total Population, Total Latinos, and Latino Nationalities
in the Bronx Community District 9, 1990-2006

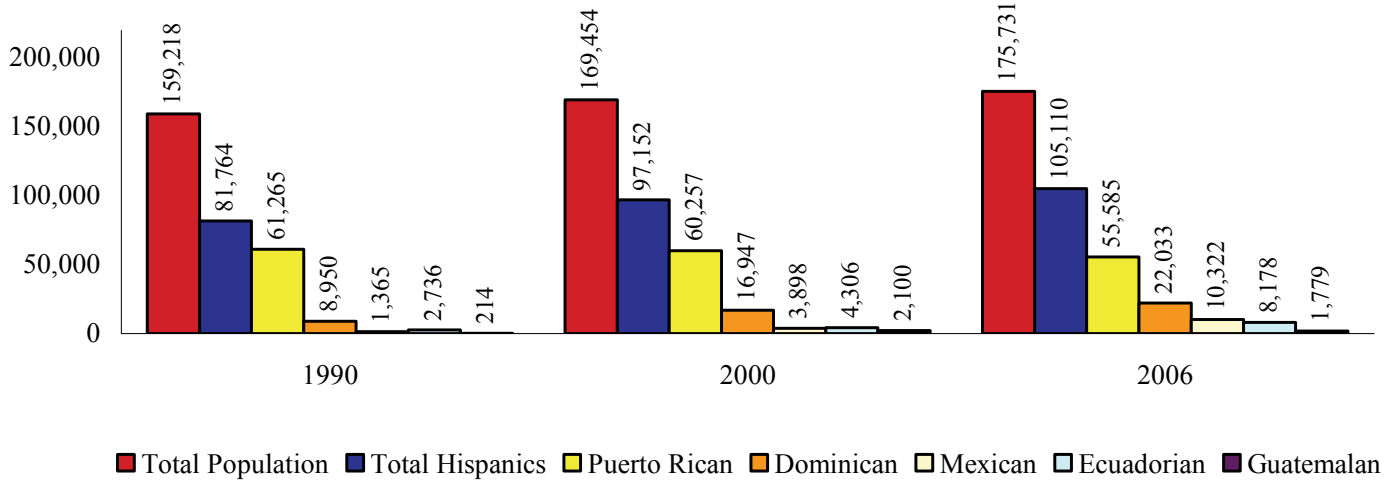


Figure 3
Latino Nationalities in the Bronx Community District 9 as
a Percentage of the Total Latino Population, 1990-2006

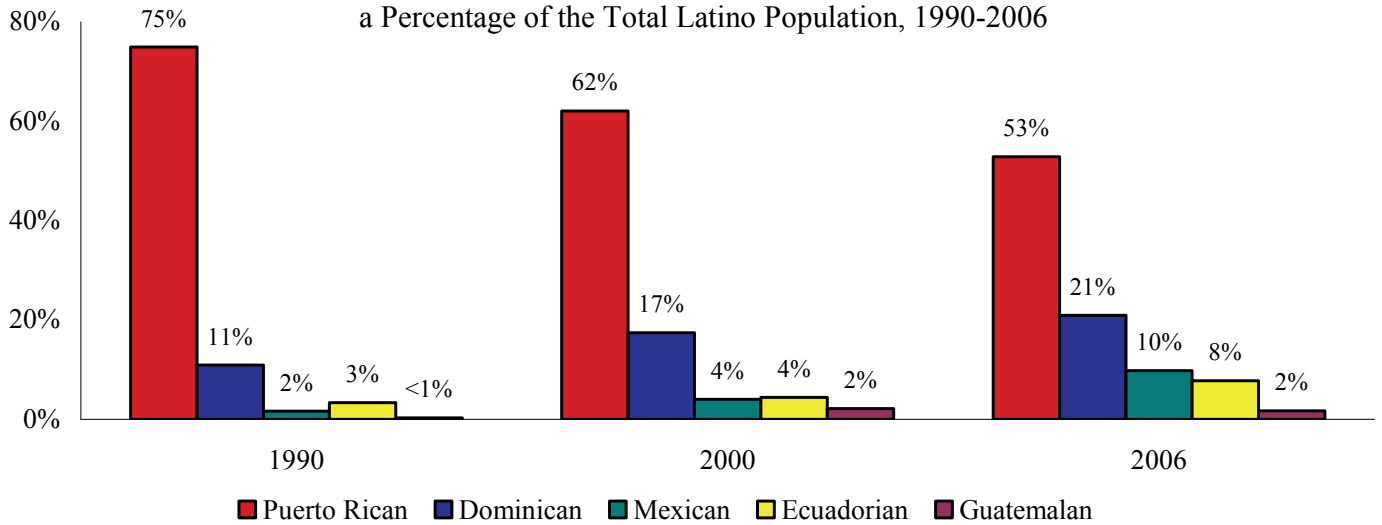
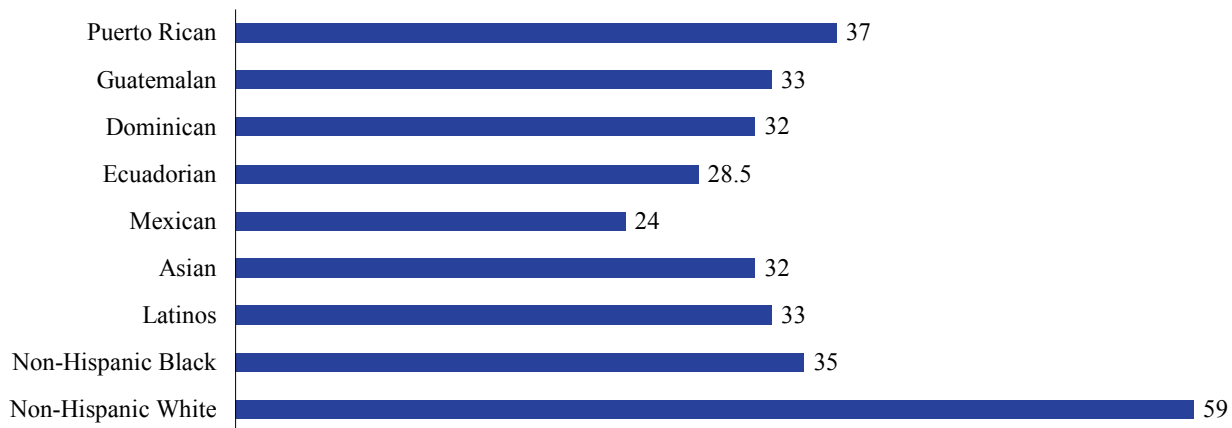


Figure 4
Median Age of Population in the Bronx Community District 9
by Latino Nationality and Racial/Ethnic Group, 2006

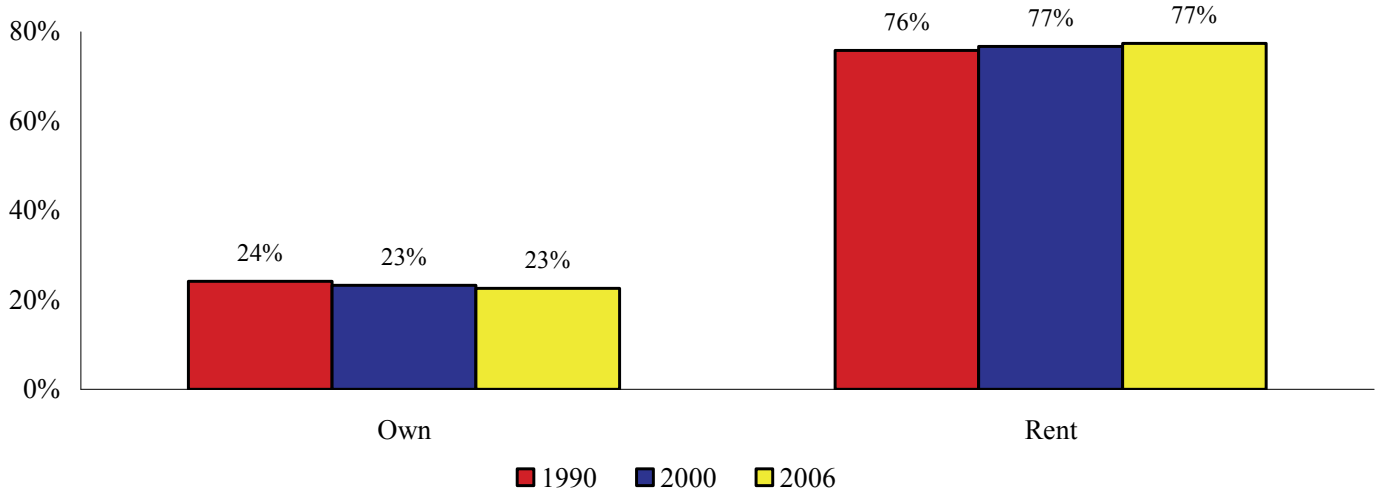


Latinos in the Bronx Community District 9 had a median age of 33 in 2006. (See Figure 4). As a group, Latinos tend to be younger than non-Hispanic Blacks and non-Hispanic Whites. Among Latinos, Puerto Ricans and Guatemalans tend to be older than other Latinos, while Mexicans represented the youngest Latino subgroup.

Homeownership

The majority of the population in the Bronx Community District 9 lived in rented houses or apartments, and the percentage of people that owned their homes remained relatively constant in the years 1990-2006. Home ownership patterns for the Latino population reflect those of the total population. (See figures 5, 6, and 7).

Figure 5
Homeownership and Rental Rates in the Bronx Community District 9
for the Total Population, 1990-2006



The figures below reveal that the percentage of Latinos who owned their homes is lower in comparison to other racial/ethnic groups, except when compared to non-Hispanic Blacks. In 2006, 22% of the Latino population owned their homes compared to 25% of the non-Hispanic White population, 17% of the non-Hispanic Black population, and 55% of the Asian population.

Figure 6
Homeownership in the Bronx Community District 9 by Racial/Ethnic Group, 1990-2006

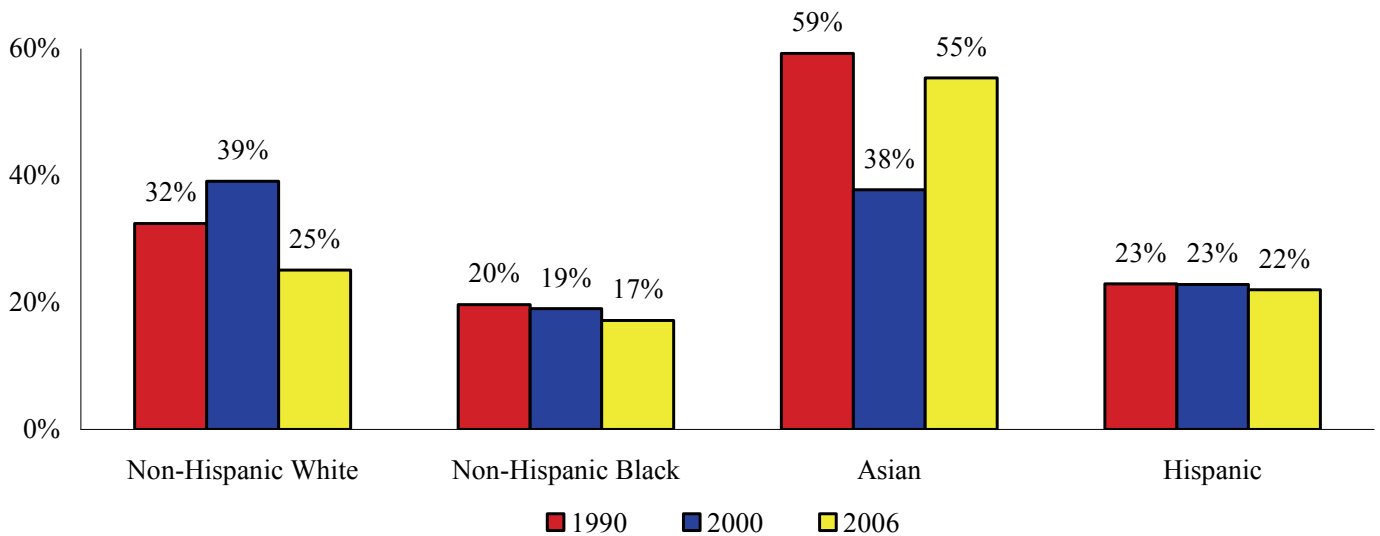


Figure 7
Rental Rates in the Bronx Community District 9 by Racial/Ethnic Group, 1990-2006

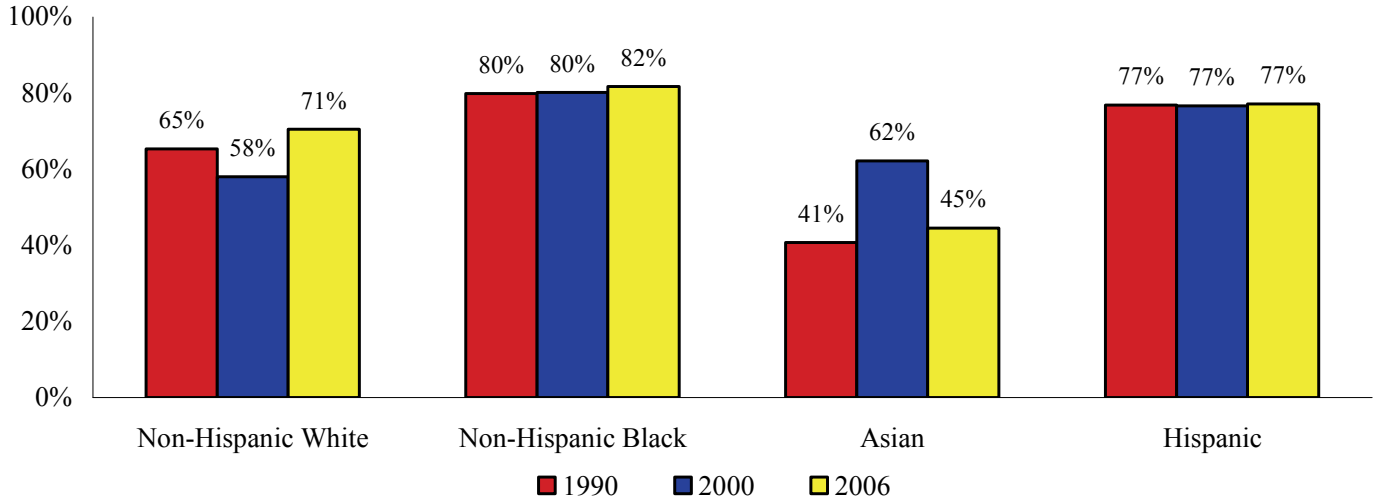
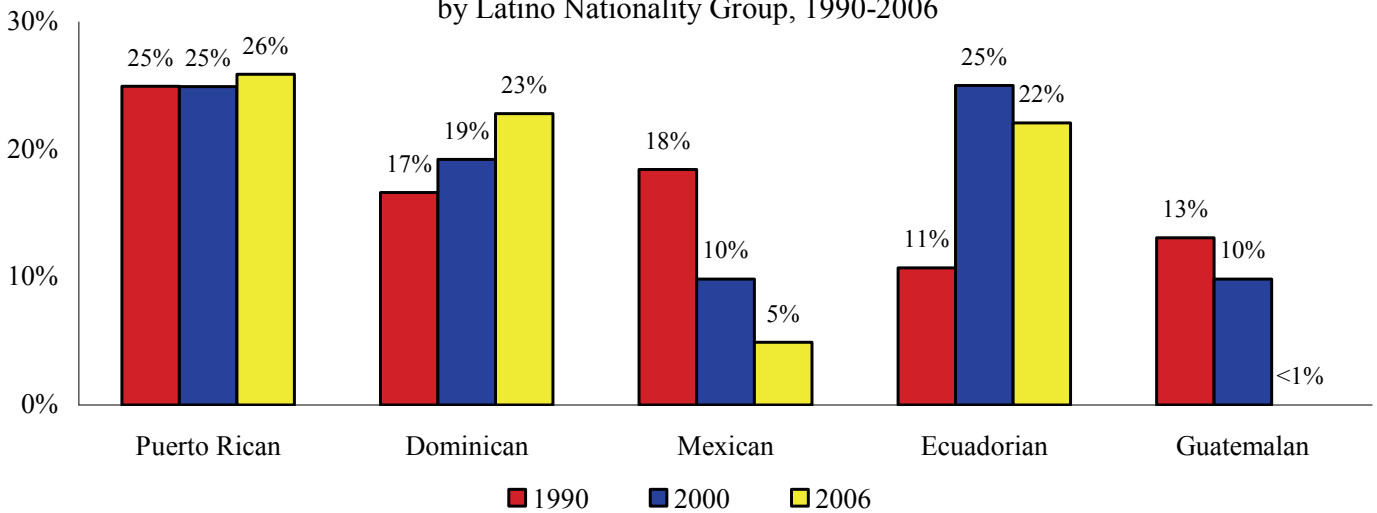
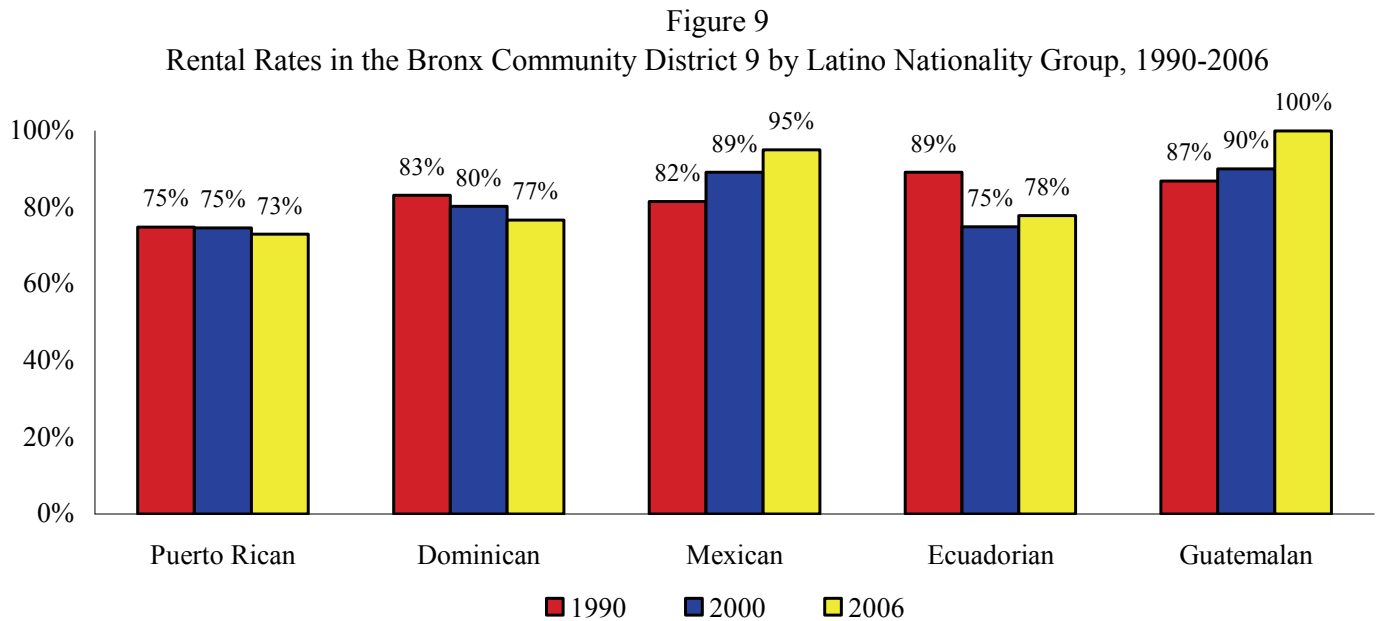


Figure 8
Homeownership in the Bronx Community District 9
by Latino Nationality Group, 1990-2006



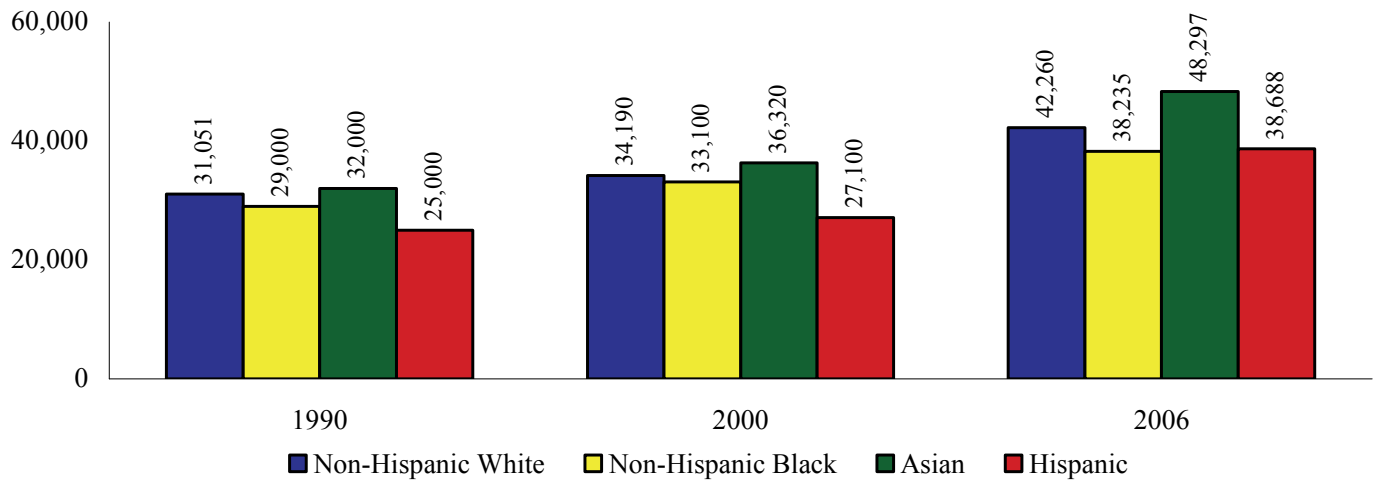
Figures 8 and 9 indicate that among Latinos, Puerto Ricans had the highest rate of homeownership in 2006 (26%), followed by Dominicans (23%), Ecuadorians (22%), Mexicans (5%), and lastly Guatemalans (less than 1%). The precise reasons for the disparities in homeownership across 1990-2006 are unknown and not revealed by the data analyzed.



Economic Characteristics

As indicated in Figure 10, the annual median family income among all major racial/ethnic groups in the Bronx Community District 9 increased from 1990 to 2006, ranging from \$48,297 to \$38,235 in 2006. These data also show that Asians had the highest median household income since 1990 followed by non-Hispanic Whites, while Latinos had always had the lowest median family income, although the difference in median family income among Latinos and non-Hispanic Blacks in 2006 was not significant.

Figure 10
Median Family Income in the Bronx Community District 9
by Racial/Ethnic Group, 1990-2006



Median family income data for the top Latino subgroups are indicated in Figure 11. The data indicate that Puerto Ricans, Dominicans, and Ecuadorians experienced a constant increase in median family income from 1990 to 2006 with a yearly growth rate of 3% between 1990 and 2000; 3% between 2000 and 2006; and 6% overall between 1990 and 2006. In 2006, Ecuadorians' median family income was \$54,334, representing the highest-earning Latino subgroup. Although the median family income of Guatemalans decreased during 1990 and 2000, by 2006 they represented the second highest earning group (\$48,297), followed by Puerto Ricans (\$42,260), Dominicans (\$36,424), and Mexicans (\$18,413). It is important to note that even though Puerto Ricans, Dominicans, and Mexicans represented the largest Latino subgroups, respectively, they had the lowest family median incomes. Moreover, the median family income reported for Mexicans decreased from 2000 to 2006. This suggests that poorer families have settled in these neighborhoods and/or that families with higher incomes have moved out since 2000.

Figure 11
 Median Family Income in the Bronx Community District 9
 by Latino Nationality Group, 1990-2006

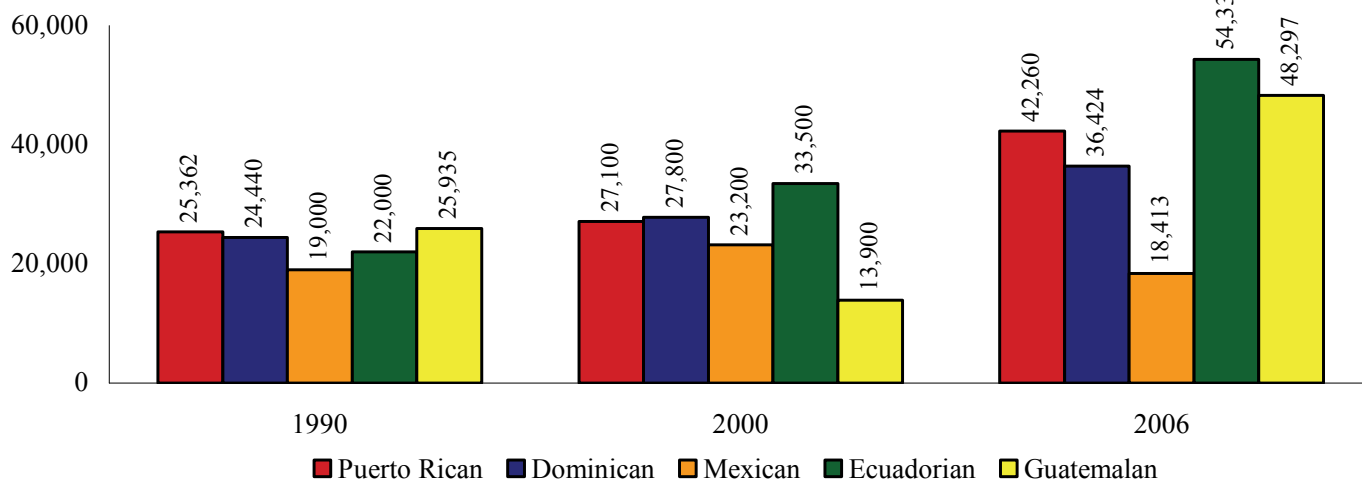
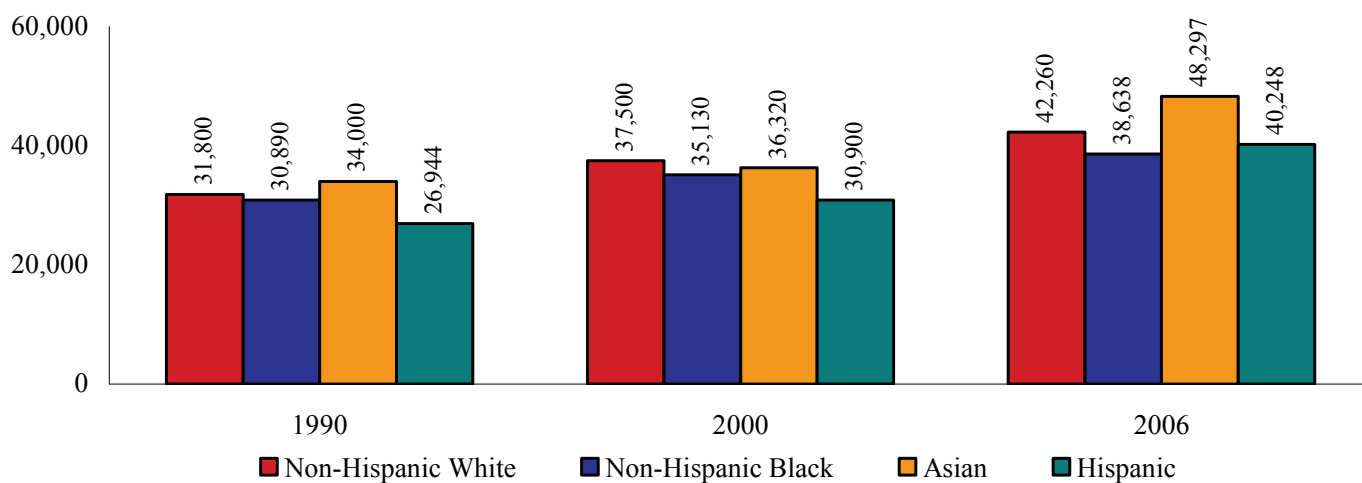


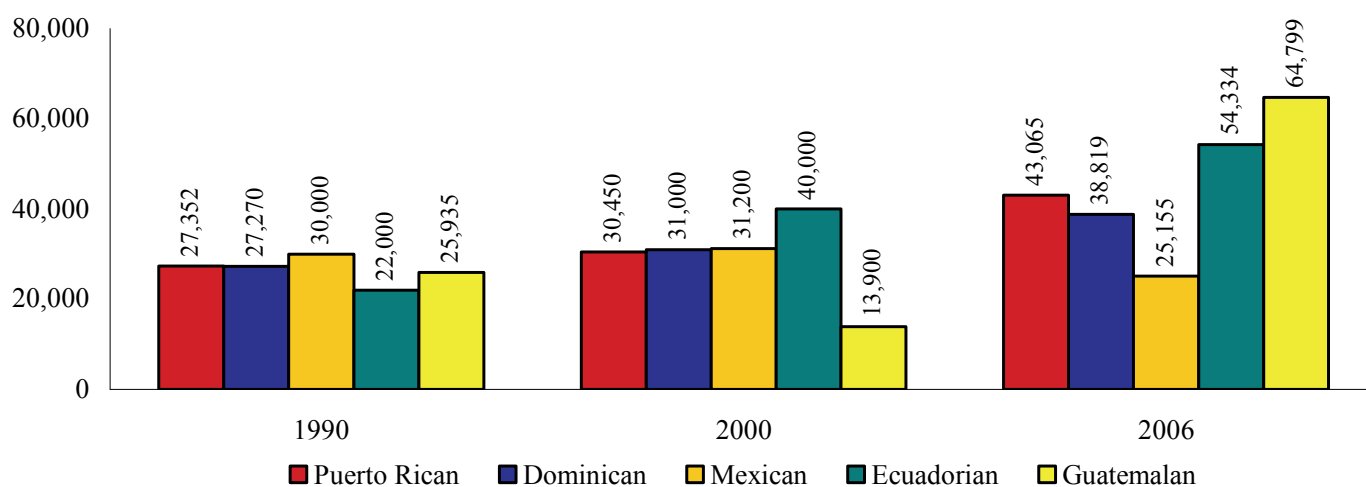
Figure 12 shows the median household income among the various racial/ethnic groups from 1990 to 2006. Similar to median family income, the annual median household income among all major racial/ethnic groups in the Bronx Community District 9 increased from 1990 to 2006. In 2006, Asians had the highest median household income (\$48,297), followed by Non-Hispanic Whites (\$42,260), Latinos (\$40,248), and non-Hispanic Blacks (\$38,638).

Figure 12
 Median Household Income in the Bronx Community District 9
 by Racial/Ethnic Group, 1990-2006



Fluctuations in median household income among Latino nationality groups from 1990 to 2006 were more pronounced than those for median family income. (See figure 13). Again, although Guatemalans represented the smallest segment of the Latino community in the district, constituting only 2% of the population, they had the highest median household income (\$64,799), experiencing a considerable increase in income since 2000. The same can be said for Ecuadorians whose median household income increased to \$54,334 in 2006 from \$40,000 in 2000. In 2006, Puerto Ricans had the third largest median household income (\$43,065), followed by Dominicans (\$38,819), and Mexicans (\$25,155).

Figure 13
Median Household Income in the Bronx Community District 9
by Latino Nationality Group, 1990-2006



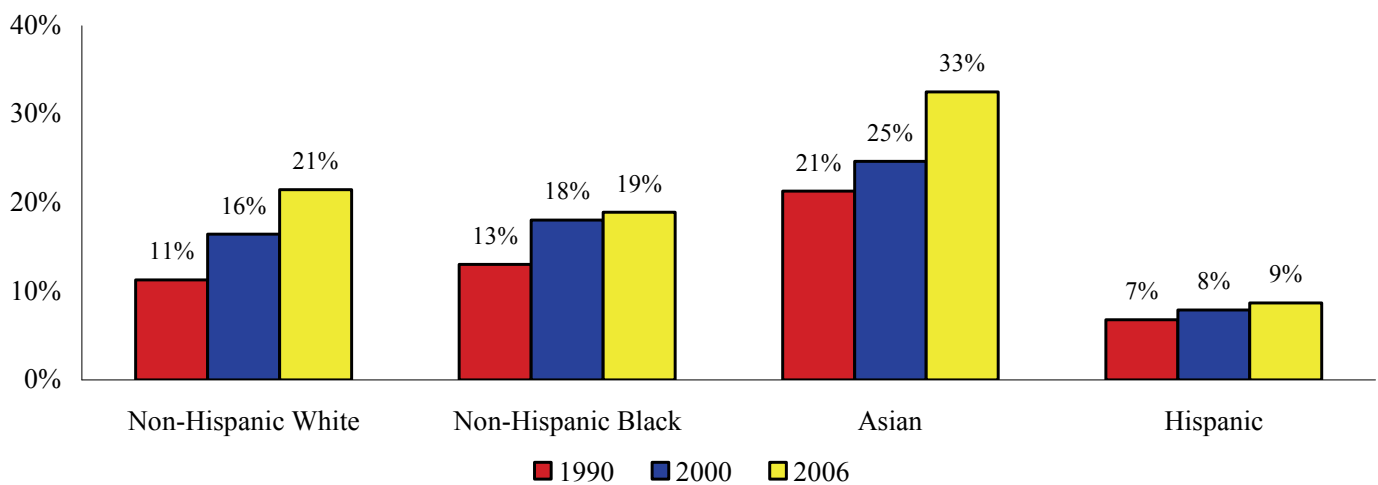
Social Characteristics

Education

Figure 14 indicates that educational attainment levels increased among all racial/ethnic groups in the Bronx Community District 9 since 1990. Among non-Hispanic Whites, 11% of the population age 25 and over had attained a Bachelor's degree or higher in 1990 and this increased significantly to 21% in 2006. Among non-Hispanic Blacks, the percentage of population attaining a B.A. or higher degree rose from 13% in 1990 to 19% in 2006. Among Asians, the percentage of its population attaining a B.A. or higher degree increased from 21% in 1990 to 33% in 2006. Latinos had the lowest percentage of individuals 25 years of age and older who had attained a Bachelor's or higher degree of education, with only 7% of its total population age 25 and over acquiring a B.A. or higher degree in 1990, and 9% in 2006.

There was considerable variation in educational attainment levels among Latino nationalities. Dominicans had the highest percentage of individuals 25 years of age and over who had attained a B.A. or higher degree in 2006 (10%), followed by Puerto Ricans (9%), Ecuadorians (8%), Mexicans (3%) and Guatemalans (less than 1%). As noted before, Guatemalans had the highest median household income and second highest median family income. The precise reasons for the disparities in educational attainment and income across 1990-2006 are unknown and not revealed by the data analyzed.

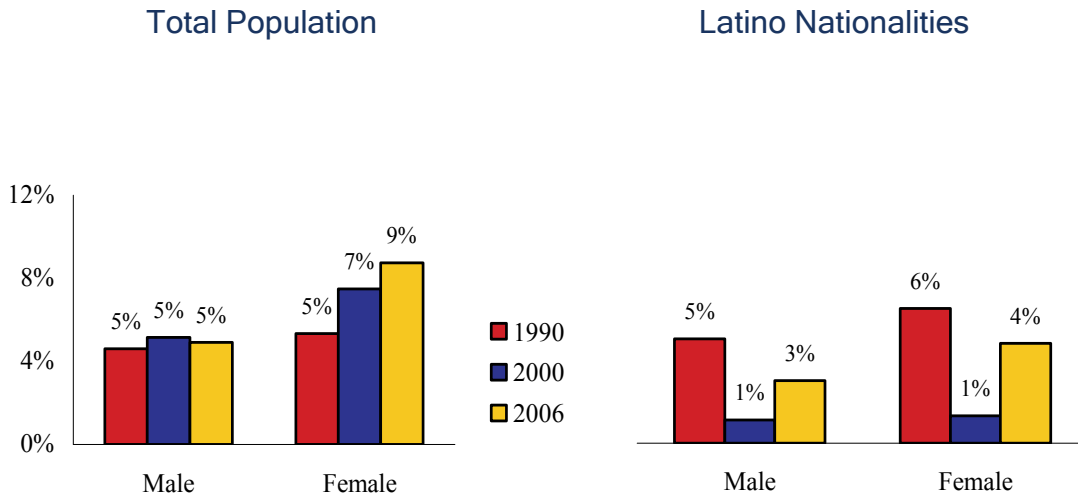
Figure 14
Percentage of the Population in the Bronx Community District 9 Age 25 and Older with a B.A. or Higher Degree by Racial/Ethnic Group, 1990-2006



There were also noticeable differences in educational attainment levels between males and females. In the years between 1990 and 2006, the percentage of females attaining higher levels of education increased, while the percentage of males attaining higher levels of education remained constant. (See figure 15). Specifically, in 1990, 5% of all males and females in the general population age 25 and older had a B.A. or higher degree. In 2000, the percentage of males in the general population with similar educational achievement levels remained constant at 5%, while the percentage of females attaining a B.A. or higher degree decreased to 7%. In 2006, 9% of all females in the total population attained a B.A. or beyond, compared to 5% of all males.

Among Latinos, the percentage of Latino males and females at or above age 25 who had a Bachelor's or higher degree in 1990 was comparable to that for the general population. In 2000, the percentage of males and females 25-years of age and older achieving a B.A. or higher degree decreased significantly to 1%. By 2006, the percentage of males and females 25-years of age and older achieving a B.A. or higher degree was 3% and 4%, respectively.

Figure 15
 Percentage of the Population in the Bronx Community District 9 Age 25 and over with a B.A. or Higher Degree by Sex across Total Population and Latino Nationalities, 1990-2006



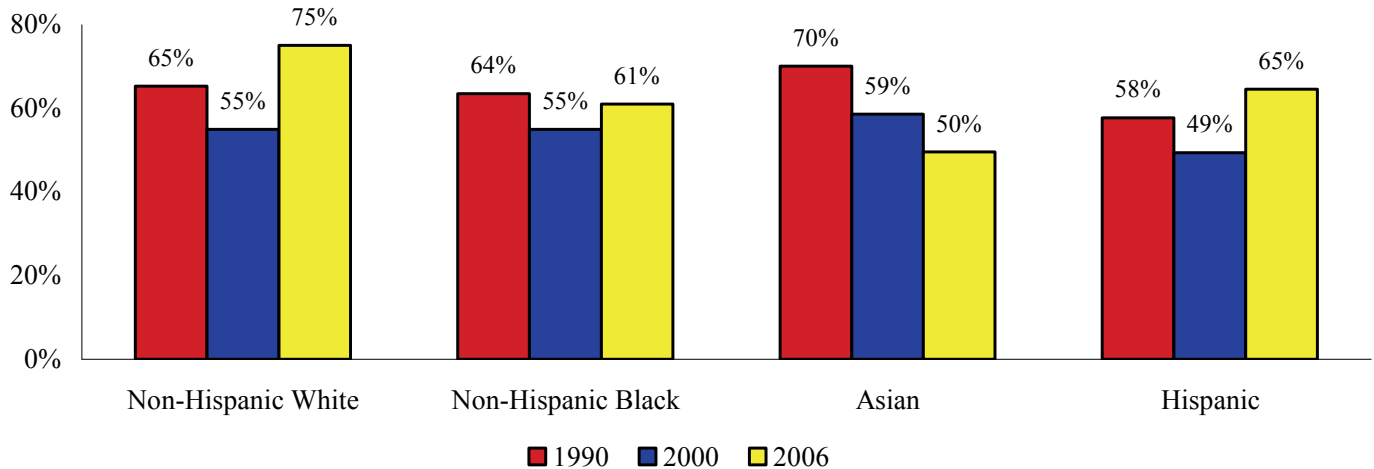
Employment

Employment data for the total population revealed fluctuations in the number of people between 16 and 60 years of age who were employed during 1990 and 2006. Figure 16 indicates that during 2000 and 2006 the percentage of people in the total population employed increased from 52% to 63%, while the percentage of people unemployed or not in the labor force decreased. No specific reasons are given for those “not in the labor force”. Reasons could range from debilitating illnesses to people who have chosen, for whatever motive, not to seek work.

Figure 16
 Employment Status in the Bronx Community District 9 among the Total Population Age 16-60, 1990-2006



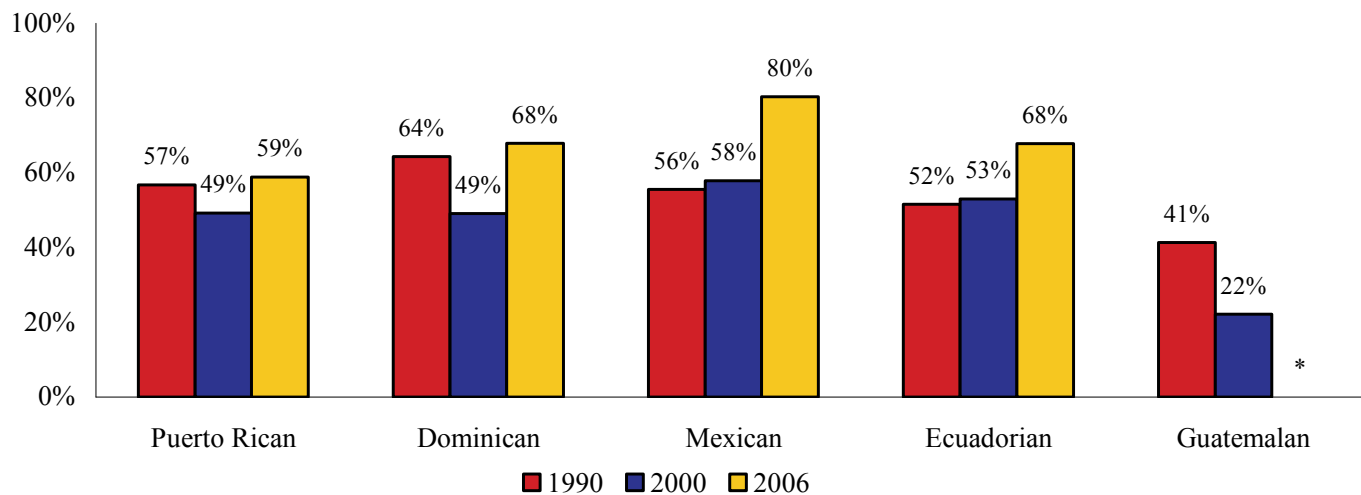
Figure 17
Percentage of the Population Employed in the Bronx Community District 9
Age 16-60 by Racial/Ethnic Group, 1990-2006



Overall, the percentage of the population who were employed within each major racial/ethnic group was approximately above 50% across the 16-year period examined here; although the percentage of the population who were employed within some of the major racial/ethnic groups decreased since 1990. (See figure 17). For example, Asians experienced a decrease in the percentage of individuals employed, from 70% in 1990 to 50% in 2006 -- experiencing the greatest decrease in rate of employment and becoming the group with the lowest employment rate in 2006. Similarly, among non-Hispanic Blacks the percentage of individuals employed decreased from 64% in 1990 to 61% in 2006. On the other hand, 75% of non-Hispanic Whites and 65% of all Latinos were employed in 2006 compared to 65% and 58% in 1990, respectively.

The trends in employment status among the Latino subgroups were comparable to those from the total population. Overall, the percentage of the population who were employed within each Latino nationality group was approximately above 50% across the 16-year period examined here, with the exception of Guatemalans. (see Figure 18). Likewise, the percentage of the population who were employed within each Latino subgroup increased compared to figures in 1990. Figure 18 shows that Mexicans had the highest percentage of people age 16 to 60 employed in 2006 -- 80%, followed by 68% of all Dominicans and Ecuadorians, and 59% of all Puerto Ricans. As indicated before, Guatemalans had the highest median household income (\$64,799) and second highest median family income (\$48,297) in 2006.

Figure 18
 Percentage of the Population Employed in the Bronx Community District 9
 Ages 16-60 by Latino Nationality Group, 1990-2006



* Unavailable Data

Foreign and Domestic-Born Latinos

Overall, the percentage of foreign-born Latinos increased since 1990. (See figure 19). In 2006, 30% of all Latinos in the Bronx Community District 9 were foreign-born.

Figure 19
 Percentage of Domestic-Born and Foreign-Born Latinos
 in the Bronx Community District 9, 1990-2006

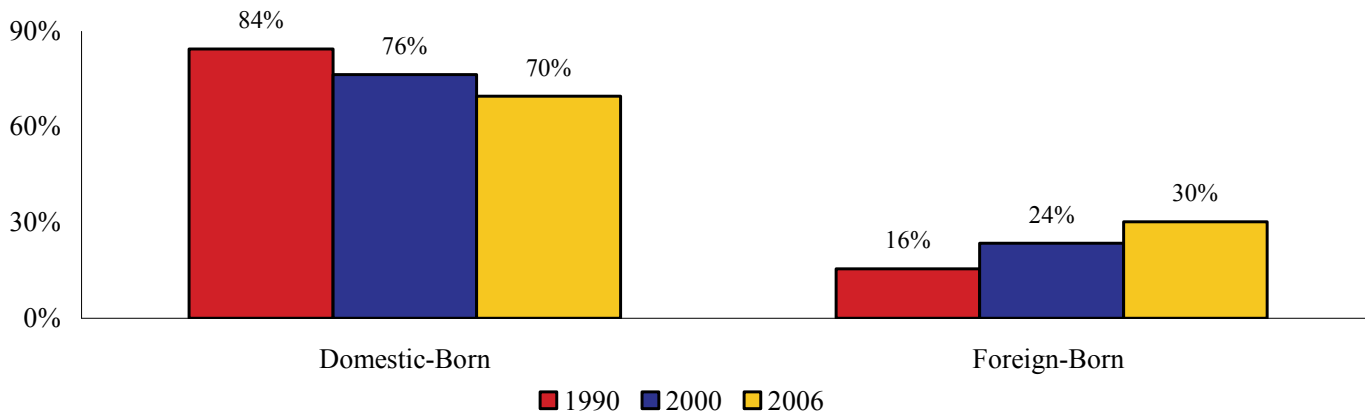
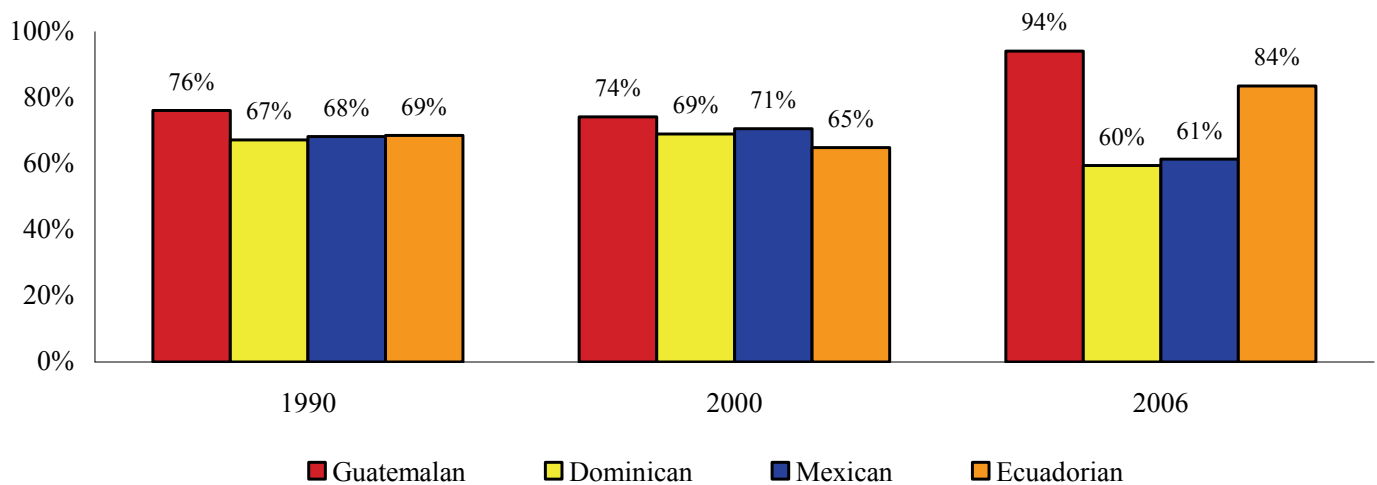


Figure 20
Percentage of Foreign-Born Latinos in the Bronx Community District 9, 1990-2006

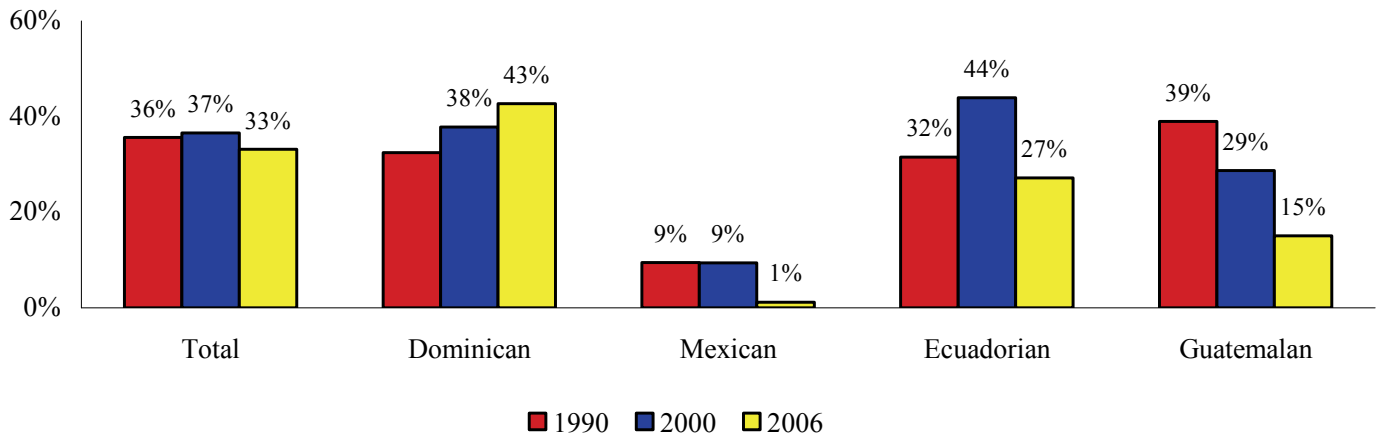


As indicated in Figure 20, the percentage of foreign-born has declined among Dominicans and Mexicans, but has increased dramatically among Ecuadorians and Guatemalans. For example, over 76% of the Guatemalan population in 1990 was foreign-born, whereas in 2006 the percentage of foreign-born Guatemalans increased significantly to over 94%. This suggests that the growth in the Guatemalan population in this community district, which almost grew eight times since 1990, has resulted mainly from foreign-born Guatemalans migrating to Community District 9. The same can be said for Ecuadorians for whom in 2006 approximately 84% of its population was foreign-born compared to 69% in 1990, and whose population tripled over the 16-year period examined. On the other hand, approximately 68% of the Mexican population in 1990 was foreign-born, whereas in 2006 the percentage of foreign-born Mexicans decreased to 61% although the number of Mexicans in this district grew eight-fold during 1990 and 2006, suggesting that the increase in the Mexican population resulted mainly from domestic-born Mexicans migrating from other districts and/or domestic births.

Citizenship

The percentage of foreign-born naturalized citizens age 18 and older among the various Latino subgroups in this community district, with the exception of Dominicans, decreased since 1990, with 33% of all foreign-born Latinos age 18 and older becoming naturalized citizens by 2006. (See Figure 21). Naturalized citizens have all the rights of American citizenship -- except that of becoming President of the United States -- including the right to vote. The percentage of foreign-born naturalized citizens in 2006 among the various Latino subgroups differed significantly. In 2006, Dominicans had the largest percentage of foreign-born naturalized citizens (43%), followed by Ecuadorians (27%), Guatemalans (15%), and Mexicans (1%).

Figure 21
Percentage of Foreign-Born Naturalized Citizens Age 18 and Over in the Bronx Community District 9 among the Latino Population, 1990-2006



Concluding Highlights

The data reviewed in this report allow the following conclusions:

- Puerto Ricans are the largest Latino subgroup in the Bronx Community District 9, accounting for over 32% of the total population and 75% of the Latino population in the district.
- Latinos in the Bronx Community District 9, as a group, tend to be younger than non-Hispanic Whites and non-Hispanic Blacks.
- Among the major racial/ethnic groups, Latinos have the second lowest homeownership rate in the district after non-Hispanic Blacks.
- The annual median incomes of the majority of the residents in the Bronx Community District 9 have increased since 1990. Asians and Non-Hispanic Whites had the largest median incomes even though they represent the smallest segments of the total population in the district. Among Latinos, Ecuadorians and Guatemalans also had the largest median incomes even though they represented the smallest segments of the Latino population in Community District 9.
- Educational attainment levels differed significantly among the major racial/ethnic groups, with Asians achieving significantly higher educational attainment levels over Latinos, which had the lowest percentage of individuals with a Bachelor's or higher degree. Among Latinos, Dominicans and Puerto Ricans had the highest percentage of people 25 years and older who had a B.A. or higher degree.