

# *LATINO DATA PROJECT*

## NEW YORK CITY'S LATINO POPULATION IN 2006

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The most recent data released by the U.S. Census Bureau for 2006 indicate that New York City's Latino population increased by 2.6% between 2005 and 2006.<sup>1</sup> Puerto Ricans remained the largest national group among all Latinos (771,984) and 33.8% of the total Hispanic population of the City, although they declined by 2.4% from 2005. Dominicans continued as New York's second largest national group (609,885) and 25.7% of all Latinos, increasing by 6.9% from 2005. Mexicans continued to be the fastest growing of the Latino nationalities increasing by an extraordinary 15.8% between 2005 and 2006. By 2006 the City's Mexican population stood at 263,811 and 10.3% of the total Hispanic population. Mexicans in New York City have increased by 43.5% since 2000. (See Table 1).

Table 1  
New York City's Latino Population by Selected Nationalities, 2006

| Nationality          | 2000             | 2005             | 2006             | % of Total Hispanic Population in 2005 | % of Total Hispanic Population in 2006 | % Change 2000 - 2006 | % Change 2005- 2006 | Yearly Rate of Increase 2000 - 2006 |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--|--|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Puerto Rican         | 799,558          | 790,609          | 771,984          | 35.6%                                  | 33.8%                                  | -3.4%                | -2.4%               | -0.6%                               |
| Dominican            | 532,647          | 570,641          | 609,885          | 25.7%                                  | 26.7%                                  | 14.5%                | 6.9%                | 2.3%                                |
| Mexican              | 183,792          | 227,842          | 263,811          | 10.3%                                  | 11.6%                                  | 43.5%                | 15.8%               | 6.2%                                |
| Ecuadorian           | 146,200          | 172,791          | 186,469          | 7.8%                                   | 8.2%                                   | 27.5%                | 7.9%                | 4.1%                                |
| Colombian            | 105,471          | 112,992          | 107,712          | 5.1%                                   | 4.7%                                   | 2.1%                 | -4.7%               | 0.4%                                |
| Other Nationalities  | 389,262          | 347,766          | 341,312          | 15.6%                                  | 15.0%                                  | -12.3%               | -1.9%               | -2.2%                               |
| <b>Total Latinos</b> | <b>2,156,930</b> | <b>2,222,641</b> | <b>2,281,173</b> | <b>100.0%</b>                          | <b>100.0%</b>                          | <b>5.8%</b>          | <b>2.6%</b>         | <b>0.9%</b>                         |

<sup>1</sup> All data in this report were derived from the U.S. Census Bureau 2000 Census and American Community Surveys 2005-2006 data from Steven Ruggles, Matthew Sobek, Trent Alexander, Catherine A. Fitch, Ronald Goeken, Patricia Kelly Hall, Miriam King, and Chad Ronnander. Integrated Public Use Microdata Series: Version 3.0 [Machine-readable database]. Minneapolis, MN: Minnesota Population Center [producer and distributor], 2004 found at <http://usa.ipums.org/usa>. Since these data were derived from samples, there is an unknown margin of error that the Census Bureau estimates at +/- 10%. Data derived from the ACS 2006 American FactFinder on the Census Bureau web site (<http://www.census.gov>) indicate that the margin of error for Puerto Ricans was +/- 6%; for Dominicans +/- 8%; and +/- 15% for Mexicans, Ecuadorians, and Colombians.

The sharp rise in the Mexican-origin population between 2005 and 2006 was due in large part to continued migration to New York City. Mexicans increased by some 36,000 people from 2005 to 2006 and about 74% of these were foreign-born. Among Dominicans, population growth over the same period was also linked to immigration from the Dominican Republic, a process which was thought to have slowed considerably after 2000. Between 2005 and 2006 New York's Dominican-origin population rose by about 39,000 people and 64% were foreign born. By way of contrast only 28% of Ecuadorian population growth over the same time period was composed of foreign-born Ecuadorians. (See table 2 for the foreign-born/domestic born components of population growth between 2000 and 2006).

Table 2  
Foreign and Domestic-Born Components of New York City's Mexican, Dominican, and Ecuadorian Populations by Borough, 2000 - 2006

| Nationality | Borough       | 2000          |              |         | 2005          |              |         | 2006          |              |         | % of Population Increase 2000 - 2006 Foreign Born | % of Population Increase 2005 - 2006 Foreign Born |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------|---------------|--------------|---------|---------------|--------------|---------|---|---|
|             |               | Domestic Born | Foreign Born | Total   | Domestic Born | Foreign Born | Total   | Domestic Born | Foreign Born | Total   |   |   |
| Mexican     | Bronx         | 11,419        | 23,780       | 35,199  | 17,148        | 38,066       | 55,214  | 24,553        | 43,211       | 67,764  | 59.7%   | 41.0%   |
|             | Manhattan     | 10,602        | 19,510       | 30,112  | 14,257        | 16,423       | 30,680  | 13,376        | 19,125       | 32,501  | 0.0%  | 148.4%  |
|             | Staten Island | 2,353         | 4,888        | 7,241   | 1,726         | 6,664        | 8,390   | 2,645         | 8,212        | 10,857  | 91.9%   | 62.7%   |
|             | Brooklyn      | 18,461        | 41,345       | 59,806  | 28,571        | 40,870       | 69,441  | 29,759        | 46,484       | 76,243  | 31.3%   | 82.5%   |
|             | Queens        | 14,415        | 37,019       | 51,434  | 21,654        | 42,463       | 64,117  | 22,522        | 53,924       | 76,446  | 67.6%   | 93.0%   |
|             | Total         | 57,250        | 126,542      | 183,792 | 83,356        | 144,486      | 227,842 | 92,855        | 170,956      | 263,811 | 55.5%   | 73.6%   |
| Dominican   | Bronx         | 51,308        | 127,090      | 178,398 | 85,220        | 127,406      | 212,626 | 92,977        | 147,377      | 240,354 | 32.7%   | 72.0%   |
|             | Manhattan     | 55,258        | 127,463      | 182,721 | 59,216        | 108,635      | 167,851 | 69,193        | 114,504      | 183,697 | 0.0%  | 37.0%   |
|             | Staten Island | 818           | 1,126        | 1,944   | 1,976         | 1,701        | 3,677   | 2,245         | 2,425        | 4,670   | 47.7%   | 72.9%   |
|             | Brooklyn      | 24,610        | 56,855       | 81,465  | 40,287        | 53,702       | 93,989  | 38,120        | 56,179       | 94,299  | 0.0%  | 0.0%  |
|             | Queens        | 29,233        | 58,886       | 88,119  | 35,645        | 56,853       | 92,498  | 33,893        | 52,972       | 86,865  | 0.0%  | 0.0%  |
|             | Total         | 161,227       | 371,420      | 532,647 | 222,344       | 348,297      | 570,641 | 236,428       | 373,457      | 609,885 | 2.6%  | 64.1%   |
| Ecuadorian  | Bronx         | 5,542         | 14,985       | 20,527  | 9,490         | 16,502       | 25,992  | 8,489         | 15,857       | 24,346  | 22.8%   | 0.0%  |
|             | Manhattan     | 4,716         | 12,221       | 16,937  | 4,503         | 13,633       | 18,136  | 4,845         | 8,821        | 13,666  | 0.0%  | 0.0%  |
|             | Staten Island | 583           | 901          | 1,484   | 2,341         | 2,708        | 5,049   | 1,572         | 2,020        | 3,592   | 53.1%   | 0.0%  |
|             | Brooklyn      | 6,951         | 19,807       | 26,758  | 6,886         | 18,834       | 25,720  | 9,826         | 22,594       | 32,420  | 49.2%   | 56.1%   |
|             | Queens        | 17,359        | 63,135       | 80,494  | 24,098        | 73,796       | 97,894  | 32,503        | 79,942       | 112,445 | 52.6%   | 42.2%   |
|             | Total         | 35,151        | 111,049      | 146,200 | 47,318        | 125,473      | 172,791 | 57,235        | 129,234      | 186,469 | 45.2%   | 27.5%   |

If population growth continues at the yearly rates found between 2000 and 2006 Dominicans will surpass Puerto Ricans and become the largest sector of the City's Latino population in 2015, that is in only 8 years; Mexicans will surpass Puerto Ricans to become the second largest Latino national group behind Dominicans in 2023, eight years later; and Mexicans will surpass Dominicans to become New York City's most numerous Latino nationality in 2029, in slightly over two decades.<sup>2</sup> (See Table 3 and Figure 1).

In 2006 Latinos comprised nearly 28% of the City's total population. In the Bronx over 50% of all residents were Latinos; 27% in Queens; 25.6% in Manhattan; nearly 20% in Brooklyn, and only 2% in Staten Island. (See Table 4).

The spatial distribution of New York City's Hispanics has remained about the same between 2000 and 2006 with about 30% of all Latinos living in the Bronx; about 22% residing in Brooklyn; 27% in Queens in 2006; 18% in Manhattan in 2006, a slight decline from the nearly 20% of all Hispanics found in 2000; and 3% in Staten Island in 2006. (See Table 5 and Figure 2).

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<sup>2</sup> It ought to be noted that there is no way to be certain that the yearly rates of growth found between 2000 and 2006 will continue among any of the Latino nationalities.

Table 3  
Hypothetical Population Projections Among Selected New York City Latino Nationalities  
Using Annual Population Growth Rates between 2000 and 2006  
2006 - 2050

| Year | Puerto Ricans | Dominicans | Mexicans  | Ecuadorians | Colombians |
|------|---------------|------------|-----------|-------------|------------|
| 2006 | 771,984       | 609,885    | 263,811   | 186,469     | 107,712    |
| 2007 | 767,482       | 623,806    | 280,191   | 194,185     | 108,090    |
| 2008 | 763,006       | 638,044    | 297,588   | 202,221     | 108,470    |
| 2009 | 758,556       | 652,608    | 316,065   | 210,589     | 108,850    |
| 2010 | 754,132       | 667,504    | 335,689   | 219,304     | 109,232    |
| 2011 | 749,733       | 682,739    | 356,532   | 228,379     | 109,616    |
| 2012 | 745,361       | 698,323    | 378,669   | 237,830     | 110,001    |
| 2013 | 741,014       | 714,262    | 402,180   | 247,671     | 110,387    |
| 2014 | 736,692       | 730,566    | 427,151   | 257,920     | 110,774    |
| 2015 | 732,396       | 747,241    | 453,672   | 268,594     | 111,163    |
| 2016 | 728,124       | 764,297    | 481,841   | 279,708     | 111,553    |
| 2017 | 723,878       | 781,742    | 511,758   | 291,283     | 111,945    |
| 2018 | 719,656       | 799,585    | 543,532   | 303,337     | 112,338    |
| 2019 | 715,459       | 817,836    | 577,280   | 315,889     | 112,732    |
| 2020 | 711,286       | 836,503    | 613,123   | 328,961     | 113,128    |
| 2021 | 707,138       | 855,597    | 651,191   | 342,574     | 113,525    |
| 2022 | 703,014       | 875,126    | 691,623   | 356,751     | 113,924    |
| 2023 | 698,914       | 895,101    | 734,566   | 371,513     | 114,323    |
| 2024 | 694,838       | 915,532    | 780,175   | 386,887     | 114,725    |
| 2025 | 690,785       | 936,429    | 828,615   | 402,897     | 115,127    |
| 2026 | 686,756       | 957,803    | 880,063   | 419,570     | 115,532    |
| 2027 | 682,751       | 979,665    | 934,706   | 436,932     | 115,937    |
| 2028 | 678,769       | 1,002,026  | 992,741   | 455,013     | 116,344    |
| 2029 | 674,811       | 1,024,897  | 1,054,380 | 473,842     | 116,753    |
| 2030 | 670,875       | 1,048,291  | 1,119,845 | 493,451     | 117,162    |
| 2031 | 666,962       | 1,072,218  | 1,189,376 | 513,870     | 117,574    |
| 2032 | 663,073       | 1,096,692  | 1,263,223 | 535,135     | 117,986    |
| 2033 | 659,205       | 1,121,724  | 1,341,656 | 557,280     | 118,401    |
| 2034 | 655,361       | 1,147,328  | 1,424,959 | 580,341     | 118,816    |
| 2035 | 651,539       | 1,173,516  | 1,513,433 | 604,356     | 119,233    |
| 2036 | 647,739       | 1,200,301  | 1,607,402 | 629,366     | 119,652    |
| 2037 | 643,961       | 1,227,698  | 1,707,204 | 655,410     | 120,072    |
| 2038 | 640,205       | 1,255,721  | 1,813,203 | 682,532     | 120,493    |
| 2039 | 636,472       | 1,284,383  | 1,925,784 | 710,776     | 120,916    |
| 2040 | 632,760       | 1,313,699  | 2,045,354 | 740,189     | 121,341    |
| 2041 | 629,069       | 1,343,685  | 2,172,349 | 770,819     | 121,767    |
| 2042 | 625,401       | 1,374,354  | 2,307,229 | 802,717     | 122,194    |
| 2043 | 621,753       | 1,405,724  | 2,450,483 | 835,934     | 122,623    |
| 2044 | 618,127       | 1,437,810  | 2,602,632 | 870,527     | 123,053    |
| 2045 | 614,522       | 1,470,629  | 2,764,228 | 906,550     | 123,485    |
| 2046 | 610,938       | 1,504,196  | 2,935,857 | 944,065     | 123,919    |
| 2047 | 607,375       | 1,538,529  | 3,118,142 | 983,132     | 124,354    |
| 2048 | 603,833       | 1,573,647  | 3,311,746 | 1,023,815   | 124,790    |
| 2049 | 600,311       | 1,609,565  | 3,517,370 | 1,066,182   | 125,228    |
| 2050 | 596,810       | 1,646,304  | 3,735,761 | 1,110,302   | 125,668    |

Figure 1  
Hypothetical Population Projections Among Puerto Ricans, Dominicans, and Mexicans in New York City  
Using Annual Population Growth Rates between 2000 and 2006

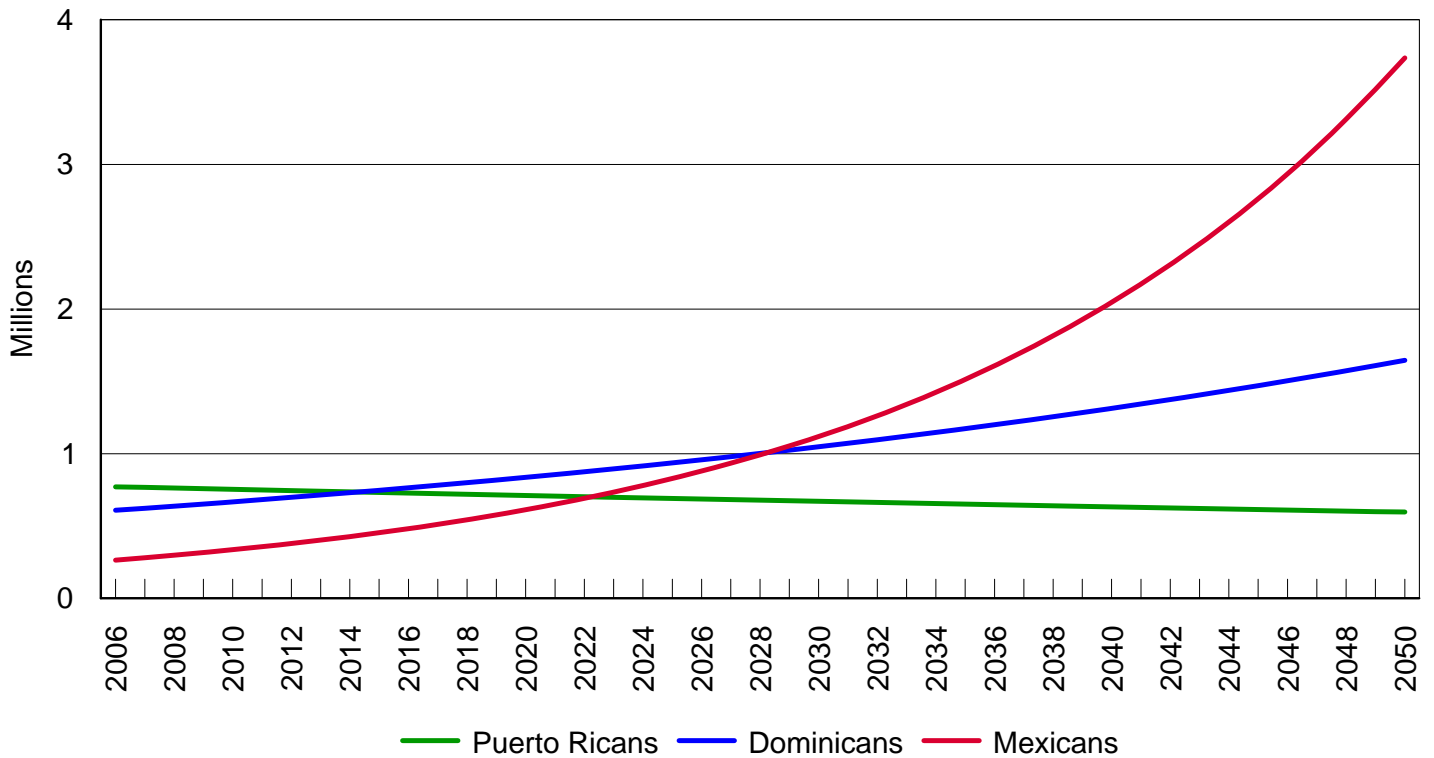


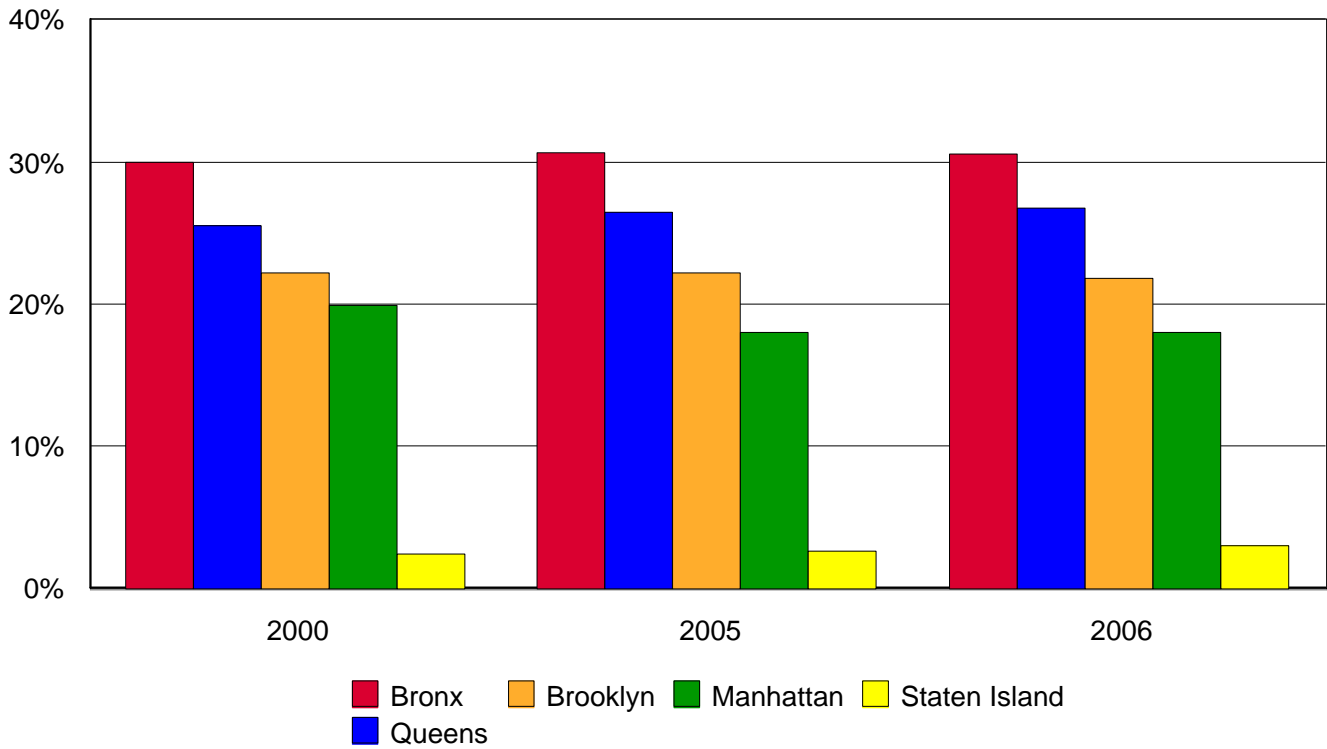
Table 4  
New York City Population by Race/Ethnicity by Borough, 2006

| Race/Ethnicity     | Bronx     | % of Total | Brooklyn  | % of Total | Manhattan | % of Total | Queens    | % of Total | Staten Island | % of Total | New York City | % of Total |
|--------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| Non-Hispanic White | 174,703   | 12.8%      | 898,790   | 35.8%      | 774,425   | 48.1%      | 688,124   | 30.5%      | 318,694       | 66.8%      | 2,854,736     | 34.8%      |
| Non-Hispanic Black | 421,699   | 31.0%      | 836,903   | 33.4%      | 228,487   | 14.2%      | 414,691   | 18.4%      | 45,608        | 9.6%       | 1,947,388     | 23.7%      |
| Asian              | 45,132    | 3.3%       | 229,810   | 9.2%       | 172,931   | 10.7%      | 472,960   | 21.0%      | 36,883        | 7.7%       | 957,716       | 11.7%      |
| Latinos            | 695,262   | 51.1%      | 497,139   | 19.8%      | 411,578   | 25.6%      | 608,417   | 27.0%      | 68,777        | 14.4%      | 2,281,173     | 27.8%      |
| Others             | 24,656    | 1.8%       | 46,560    | 1.8%       | 23,330    | 1.8%       | 70,546    | 1.8%       | 7,473         | 1.8%       | 172,565       | 1.8%       |
| Total Population   | 1,361,452 | 100.0%     | 2,509,202 | 100.0%     | 1,610,751 | 100.0%     | 2,254,738 | 100.0%     | 477,435       | 100.0%     | 8,213,578     | 100.0%     |

Table 5  
Distribution of New York City's Latino Population by Borough, 2000-2006

| Borough       | Latinos<br>2000  | % of<br>Total | Latinos<br>2005  | % of<br>Total | Latinos<br>2006  | % of<br>Total |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| Bronx         | 646,384          | 30.0%         | 680,736          | 30.6%         | 695,262          | 30.5%         |
| Manhattan     | 430,270          | 19.9%         | 400,725          | 18.0%         | 411,578          | 18.0%         |
| Staten Island | 52,025           | 2.4%          | 58,768           | 2.6%          | 68,777           | 3.0%          |
| Brooklyn      | 478,836          | 22.2%         | 493,289          | 22.2%         | 497,139          | 21.8%         |
| Queens        | 549,415          | 25.5%         | 589,123          | 26.5%         | 608,417          | 26.7%         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>2,156,930</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>2,222,641</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>2,281,173</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

Figure 2  
Distribution of Latino Population by Borough, 2000- 2006



If we examine the borough residential patterns of New York City's largest Latino national groups in 2006 we find the following patterns (See Table 6 and Figure 3):

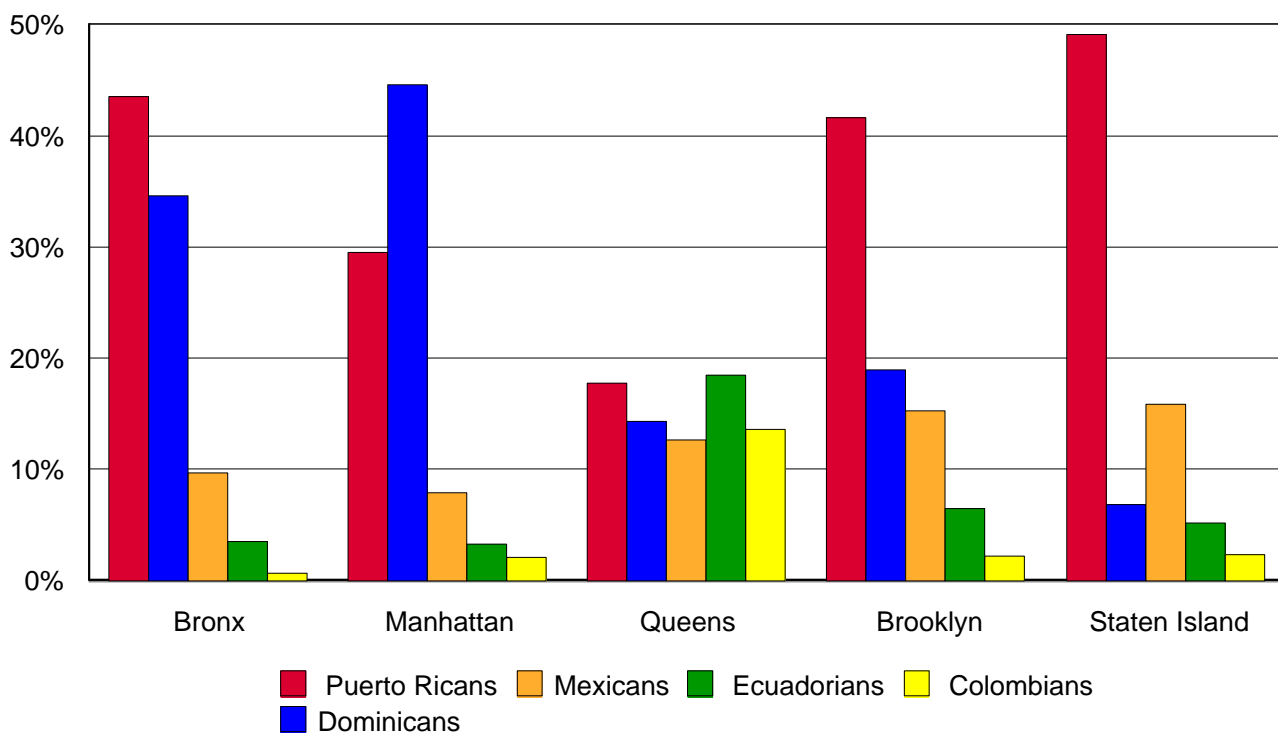
- **Bronx:** Puerto Ricans (43.5%) and Dominicans (34.6%) accounted for 78% of the Bronx's Latino population.
- **Manhattan:** Dominicans made up 44.6% of all Manhattan Latinos; Puerto Ricans were 29.5% and together they were 74.1% of all Latinos in the borough.
- **Brooklyn:** 41.6% of all Latinos in Brooklyn were Puerto Ricans; 19% Dominicans; and 15.3% were Mexicans.
- **Queens:** Queens had the most equitable distribution of Latino national groups and no one nationality was predominant in 2006. Ecuadorians at 18.5% were the largest nationality, but only by a small margin over Puerto Ricans at 17.8% of the borough's Latino population. Dominicans were 14.3% of all Queens Latinos; Colombians 13.6%; and Mexicans made up 12.6% of the Latino population of Queens.
- **Staten Island:** Only 3% of the City's Latino population resided in Staten Island. Puerto Ricans at 49.1% of all Latinos were the borough's largest nationality followed by Mexicans at 15.8%.



Table 6  
 Percentage of Total Latino Population of Each Borough  
 by Largest Latino Nationalities, 2006

| Nationality          | Bronx         | Manhattan     | Staten Island | Brooklyn      | Queens        | NYC Total     |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Puerto Ricans        | 43.5%         | 29.5%         | 49.1%         | 41.6%         | 17.8%         | 33.8%         |
| Dominicans           | 34.6%         | 44.6%         | 6.8%          | 19.0%         | 14.3%         | 26.7%         |
| Mexicans             | 9.7%          | 7.9%          | 15.8%         | 15.3%         | 12.6%         | 11.6%         |
| Ecuadorians          | 3.5%          | 3.3%          | 5.2%          | 6.5%          | 18.5%         | 8.2%          |
| Colombians           | 0.6%          | 2.1%          | 2.3%          | 2.2%          | 13.6%         | 4.7%          |
| Others               | 8.1%          | 12.6%         | 20.9%         | 15.4%         | 23.4%         | 15.0%         |
| <b>Total Latinos</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

Figure 3  
 Percentage of Total Latino Population of Each Borough by Largest Latino Nationalities, 2006



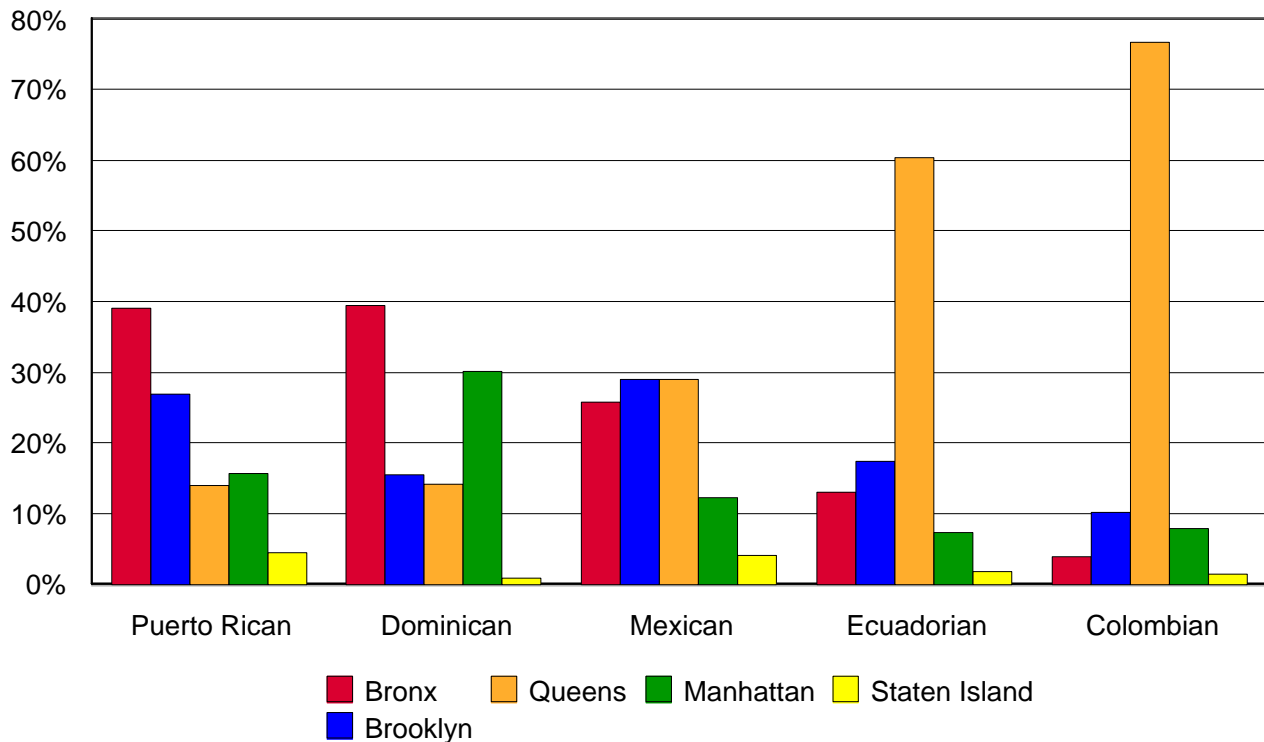
If we examine the residential patterns of New York City's largest Latino national groups in 2006 by the boroughs in which they lived we find the following patterns (See Table 7 and Figure 4):

- **Puerto Ricans:** Nearly two-thirds of the City's Puerto Rican population lived in the Bronx (39.1%) and Brooklyn (26.8%) while 15.7% of all Puerto Ricans lived in Manhattan, and 14% in Queens.
- **Dominicans:** The matrix of Dominican settlement continues to move to the Bronx where 39.4% of the City's Dominican population lived in 2006 compared with 30.1% in Manhattan, 15.5% in Brooklyn, and 14.2% in Queens.
- **Mexicans:** 83.6% of the City's Mexican population lived in Queens (29%), Brooklyn (28.9%), and the Bronx (25.7%). Only 12.3% of all NYC Mexicans lived in Manhattan.
- **Ecuadorians:** Unlike Puerto Ricans, Dominicans, and Mexicans, Ecuadorians were heavily concentrated in one borough – Queens – where 60.3% lived in 2006. 17.4% of all Ecuadorians lived in Brooklyn, and 13.1% in the Bronx.
- **Colombians:** Like Ecuadorians, Colombians were concentrated in Queens where 76.6% of the City's Colombian population lived in 2006. Another 10.6% lived in Brooklyn and 7.9% in Manhattan.

Table 7  
 Percentage of Largest Latino National Populations Living in Each Borough, 2006

| Borough       | Puerto Ricans | Dominicans | Mexicans | Ecuadorians | Colombians |
|---------------|---------------|------------|----------|-------------|------------|
| Bronx         | 39.1%         | 39.4%      | 25.7%    | 13.1%       | 3.9%       |
| Manhattan     | 15.7%         | 30.1%      | 12.3%    | 7.3%        | 7.9%       |
| Staten Island | 4.4%          | 0.8%       | 4.1%     | 1.9%        | 1.5%       |
| Brooklyn      | 26.8%         | 15.5%      | 28.9%    | 17.4%       | 10.1%      |
| Queens        | 14.0%         | 14.2%      | 29.0%    | 60.3%       | 76.6%      |
| NYC Total     | 100.0%        | 100.0%     | 100.0%   | 100.0%      | 100.0%     |

Figure 4  
 Percentage of Largest Latino National Populations Living in Each Borough, 2006



The 2006 data underscore the significant transformations that have been occurring within the Latino population of New York City since the end of large-scale

Puerto Rican migration in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Dominicans arrived in increasing numbers from 1980 onward and are poised to become the City's largest Latino nationality within the next 10 years as the Puerto Rican population continues to decline. While migration from the Dominican Republic slowed after 2000 there is evidence of a possible renewed migratory flow to the city since the number of foreign-born Dominicans rose significantly from 2005 to 2006. Among Dominicans there has been a shift away from the previous matrix of Dominican settlement in Washington Heights toward the Bronx where the majority of Dominicans now reside.

The City's Mexican population continues its extraordinary expansion both because of high fertility rates and the arrival of large numbers of foreign-born Mexicans. If these trends continue into the future Mexicans will become the largest of the Latino sub-groups within the next two decades.

Ecuadorians continue to increase in significant numbers but the role of migration in the expansion of the City's Ecuadorian population has slowed considerably as the foreign-born account for a, significant, yet continually decreasing portion of population growth.

For the first time since the arrival of large numbers of Colombians in the 1980s, the Colombian population of the city declined between 2005 and 2006. It is clear that migration from Colombia has slowed to near insignificance statistically, and that the Colombian-origin population of the city in the future will be increasingly composed of domestic-born Colombians. It will be interesting to see if this trend of population contraction among Colombians and Puerto Ricans continues when the 2007 data are released next year.