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The Mauricio Gastón Institute
for Latino Community Development
and Public Policy

Latinos in Haverhill | Massachusetts

by Daniel W. Vasquez, Research Associate

The Mauricio Gastón Institute of the University of Massachusetts Boston conducts research on and for the Latino population. A goal is to generate the kind of information and analysis necessary to develop sound public policy, and to improve Latino participation in the policy making process. In an effort to present vital information about Latinos to diverse audiences, the Gastón Institute has produced a series of basic demographic profiles for the states and selected cities of New England, based on the United States Census 2000.

Census 2000 data include changes in the way people were counted. The most significant change is to allow persons to select more than one race, creating a new multiracial category of “two or more races,” but meaning people may not be included in the race with which they most identify. There was, however, no way to choose more than one ethnicity; one must choose either Latino or not. Throughout this profile, numbers reflect Latinos of all races, or non-Latinos by race, with persons of two or more races counted separately. All categorizations are based solely on self-identification. All of this complicates comparisons between 1990 and 2000 data. However, the concepts are similar enough to make trends and patterns clear.

In Haverhill, the general population changes from 1990 to 2000 were similar to national and state trends. The population of people of color — African Americans, Asians, Latinos, Native Americans, and Pacific Islanders — grew at a higher rate than did the population of non-Hispanic Whites, which actually shrank in percentage points (see table 1). The total population of Haverhill increased by 14.7%, but its composition changed substantially. After Whites, Latinos had a larger numerical growth than any other group, increasing by 2,460 or 90.6%, although both “some other race” and Asians had a higher percent increase. Latinos now represent 8.8% of the population, an increase of 3.5 percentage points and the largest gain of any group. Haverhill has the 15th largest population of Latinos in Massachusetts and the 29th largest in the New England states. As a percentage of the total population, the Latino population in Haverhill ranks 16th in the state.

Table 1

Haverhill - Growth by Ethnicity							
	2000		1990		Growth		Change in Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Hispanic or Latino	5,174	8.8	2,714	5.3	2,460	90.6	3.5
White	50,912	86.3	47,405	92.2	3,507	7.4	-5.9
Black or African American	1,110	1.9	757	1.5	353	46.6	0.4
American Indian and Alaska Native	88	0.1	78	0.2	10	12.8	0.0
Asian ^a	788	1.3	414	0.8	383	92.5	0.5
Pacific Islander ^a	9	0.0					
Some other race	100	0.2	50	0.1	50	100.0	0.1
Two or more races ^b	788	1.3					
Total	58,969		51,418		7,551	14.7	

Sources: Census Bureau: 2000, 1990(a).

Note: Growth figures will not balance due to the new multiracial category.

^a 'Asian and Pacific Islander' was split for the 2000 census. Growth and changes reflect combined total.

^b There was no equivalent category in the 1990 census.

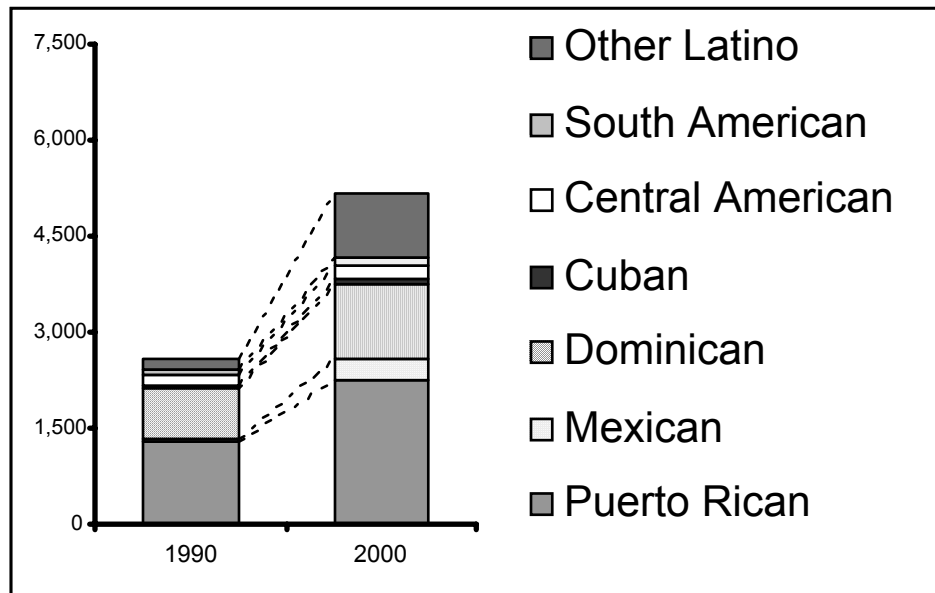
Table 2

Haverhill - National Origin of Latinos						
	2000		1990 ^a		Growth	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Hispanic or Latino	5,174		2,564		2,610	101.8
Mexican	340	6.6	74	2.9	266	359.5
Puerto Rican	2,242	43.3	1,276	49.8	966	75.7
Cuban	84	1.6	43	1.7	41	95.3
Dominican Republic	1,179	22.8	766	29.9	413	53.9
Guatemalan	93	1.8	80	3.1	13	16.3
Other Central American	96	1.9	80	3.1	16	20.0
Other South American	114	2.2	83	3.2	31	37.3
Other Hispanic or Latino	1,026	19.8	162	6.3	864	533.3

Sources: Census Bureau: 2000, 1990(b).

^a 1990 figures for nationality are from sample data only and differ from population counts.¹

Figure 1
Haverhill - Growth and Change of the Latino Population



Sources: Census Bureau: 2000, 1990(a).

All Latino national-origin groups grew significantly between 1990¹ and 2000. The largest group in Haverhill is Puerto Rican, at 43.3%, followed by Dominicans and “Other” Latinos. “Other” Latinos were the fastest-growing population, growing by 533%, a trend seen across the U.S. (see table 2 and figure 1). A person is counted as “Other” if they write in “Spanish” or give an answer that can't be assigned to a particular nationality (such as “Latino”), or if they identify more than one origin, or leave the answer blank. Future scholarly studies may better describe the composition of this category. The detailed breakdown of Central and South Americans is available at the Census Bureau’s American Fact Finder service, online at: factfinder.census.gov.

Table 3

Haverhill - Households by Tenure							
Latino Headed Households	2000		1990		Growth		Change in Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total Households	1,405		732		673	91.9	
Owners	345	24.6	133	18.2	212	159.4	6.4
Renters	1,060	75.4	599	81.8	461	77.0	

Sources: Census Bureau: 2000, 1990(a).

Latino-headed households are much more likely to rent than to own their home, 75.4% versus 24.6%, although there has been a 6.4% increase in home ownership since 1990 (see table 3). Still, this is much lower than the state average of 61.7%. Although there

has been a small growth in the proportion of non-family households, it is still true that most Latinos, 79%, live in family households (see table 4). Married couples with children represent 32.1% of Latino-headed households, more than the Massachusetts average of 23.3%. Families made up of a single female with children account for 25.8% of Latino households, which is greater than the state average of 7.5%, but less than it was in 1990.

Table 4

Haverhill - Family Structure						
	2000		1990		Growth Percent	Change in Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Latino Headed Households						
Families:	1,110	79.0	598	81.7	85.6	-2.7
with related children ^a :						
Married Couple, with children	451	32.1	226	30.9	99.6	1.2
Female Head, with children	363	25.8	225	30.7	61.3	-4.9
Male Head, with children	57	4.1	22	3.0	159.1	1.1
without related children:						
Married Couple, no children	127	9.0	92	12.6	38.0	-3.5
Single, no children	112	8.0	33	4.5	239.4	3.5
Non-Family Household	295	21.0	134	18.3	120.1	2.7
Total Households	1,405		732		91.9	

Sources: Census Bureau: 2000, 1990(a).

^a Own or related children under 18 only.

Data Sources:

All available at American Fact Finder [online service]: <http://factfinder.census.gov/>

U.S. Census Bureau:

2000: Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF1) 100% Data.

1990(a): 1990 Census Summary Tape File 1 (STF1) 100% Data.

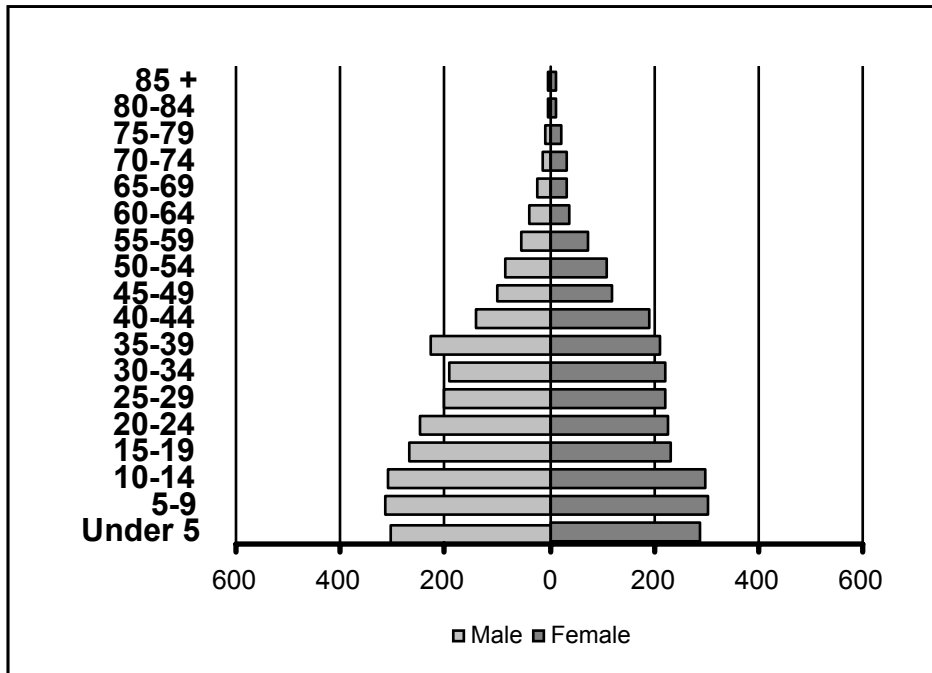
1990(b): 1990 Census Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Sample Data.

1992: 1990 Census of Population: General Population Characteristics. Washington DC: GPO.

Notes:

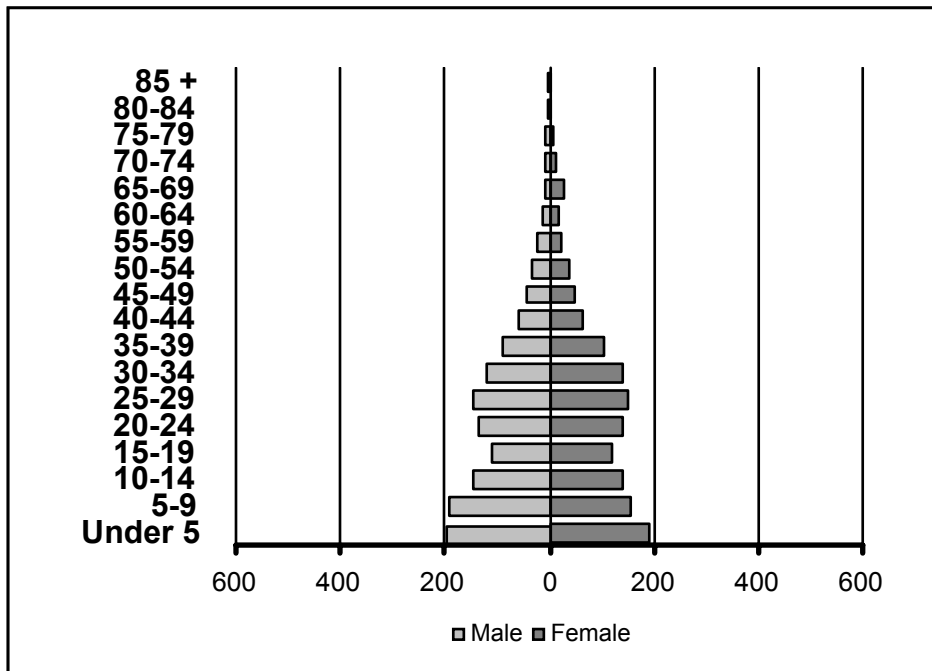
¹ Sample data from 1990 are based on the “Long Form” files. About one person or household in six receives the Long Form Census. The estimates from there do not match the enumerations in the 100% or “Short Form” data. For example there is a 4.5% difference in the total number of Latinos in Massachusetts. There are sources of error in any census or survey, however the estimates here are accurate enough to note trends and patterns.

Figure 2
Haverhill - Age Profile 2000



Sources: Census Bureau: 2000, 1990(a), 1992.

Figure 3
Haverhill - Age Profile 1990



Sources: Census Bureau: 2000, 1990(a), 1992.

The age composition of Latinos in Haverhill has changed. There has been an increase among all age groups, but especially among those in the middle years. Even though there are many more children, the overall Latino population is maturing (see figures 2 and 3).

While the Latino population in Haverhill and in the rest of the country remains relatively young, it is older than it was in 1990. In 2000, 44.9% of Latinos were younger than 20, just slightly fewer than the 46.2% in 1990 (see table 5). The Latino median age of 22.7 is much younger than the overall Massachusetts median age of 36.5. Women still tend to be older than men, but the gap closed during the 1990s. In addition to becoming relatively older, both Latinos and Latinas became less concentrated in the 20-29 age group (see tables 6 and 7).

Table 5

Haverhill - Latinos by Age					
	2000		1990		Growth Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Under 10 years	1,217	23.5	737	27.2	65.1
10-19	1,108	21.4	515	19.0	115.1
20-29	901	17.4	570	21.0	58.1
30-39	851	16.4	451	16.6	88.7
40-49	544	10.5	218	8.0	149.5
50-59	319	6.2	113	4.2	182.3
60-69	129	2.5	64	2.4	101.6
70 and over	105	2.0	46	1.7	128.3
Total	5,174		2,714		90.6
Median Age	22.7		22.1		

Sources: Census Bureau: 2000, 1990(a), 1992.

Table 6

Haverhill - Latino Males by Age					
	2000		1990		Growth Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Under 10 years	625	24.7	392	29.5	59.4
10-19	576	22.8	255	19.2	125.9
20-29	451	17.9	278	20.9	62.2
30-39	416	16.5	206	5.5	101.9
40-49	237	9.4	103	7.8	130.1
50-59	136	5.4	53	4.0	156.6
60-69	57	2.3	21	1.6	171.4
70 and over	28	1.1	21	1.6	33.3
Total	2,526		1,329		90.1
Median Age	21.3		20.6		

Sources: Census Bureau: 2000, 1990(a), 1992.

Table 7

Haverhill - Latina Females by Age					
	2000		1990		Growth Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Under 10 years	592	22.4	345	24.9	71.6
10-19	532	20.1	260	18.8	104.6
20-29	450	17.0	292	21.1	54.1
30-39	435	16.4	245	17.7	77.6
40-49	307	11.6	115	8.3	167.0
50-59	183	6.9	60	4.3	205.0
60-69	72	2.7	43	3.1	67.4
70 and over	77	2.9	25	1.8	208.0
Total	2,648		1,385		91.2
Median Age	24.2		23.4		

Sources: Census Bureau: 2000, 1990(a), 1992.