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The Mauricio Gastón Institute
for Latino Community Development
and Public Policy

Latinos in Stamford | Connecticut

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 Stamford, 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 (see table 1). The total population of Stamford increased by 8.4%, but its composition changed substantially. Latinos had a larger numerical growth than any other group, increasing by 9,073 or 85.9%, although Asians and “some other race” had a higher percent increase. Latinos now represent 16.8% of the population, an increase of 7.0 percentage points and the largest gain of any group. Stamford has the fifth largest population of Latinos in Connecticut and the tenth largest in the New England states. As a percentage of the total population, the Latino population in Stamford ranks ninth in the state.

Table 1

Stamford - Growth by Ethnicity								
	2000		1990		Growth		Change in Percent	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Hispanic or Latino	19,635	16.8	10,562	9.8	9,073	85.9	7.0	
White	71,610	61.2	76,315	70.6	-4,705	-6.2	-9.5	
Black or African American	17,421	14.9	18,249	16.9	-828	-4.5	-2.0	
American Indian and Alaska Native	120	0.1	99	0.1	21	21.2	0.0	
Asian ^a	5,818	5.0	2,683	2.5	3,161	117.8	2.5	
Pacific Islander ^a	26	0.0						
Some other race	291	0.2	148	0.1	143	96.6	0.1	
Two or more races ^b	2,162	1.8						
Total	117,083		108,056		9,027	8.4		

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.

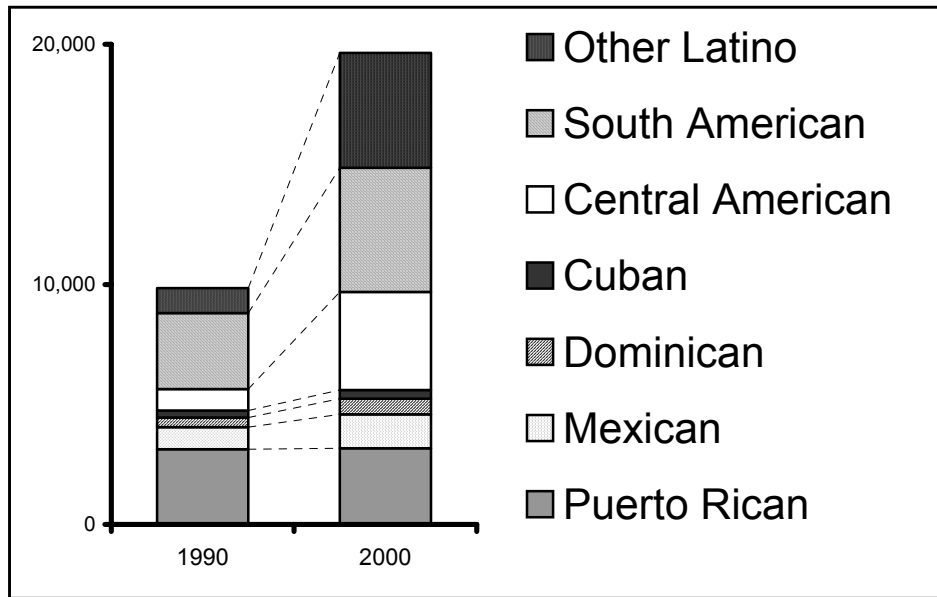
Table 2

Stamford - National Origin of Latinos						
	2000		1990 ^a		Growth	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Hispanic or Latino	19,635		9,845		9,790	99.4
Mexican	1,414	7.2	912	9.3	502	55.0
Puerto Rican	3,167	16.1	3,137	31.9	30	1.0
Cuban	358	1.8	304	3.1	54	17.8
Dominican Republic	656	3.3	396	4.0	260	65.7
Other Central American	4,097	20.9	891	9.1	3,206	359.8
Other South American	5,160	26.3	3,162	32.1	1,998	63.2
Other Hispanic or Latino	4,783	24.4	1,043	10.6	3,740	358.6

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

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

Figure 1
Stamford - 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 Stamford is "Other South American", at 26.3%, followed by "Other" Latinos. "Other" Latinos were among the fastest-growing population - slightly behind Other Central Americans, growing by 358.6%, 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

Stamford - Households by Tenure							
Latino Headed Households	2000		1990		Growth		Change in Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total Households	5,254		3,091		2,163	70.0	
Owners	1,476	28.1	803	26.0	673	83.8	2.1
Renters	3,778	71.9	2,288	74.0	1,490	65.1	

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

Latino-headed households are much more likely to rent than to own their home, 71.9% versus 28.1%, although there has been a 2.1% increase in home ownership since 1990 (see table 3). Still, this is much lower than the state average of 66.8%. Although there has been a small growth in the proportion of non-family households, it is still true that most

Latinos, 78.0%, live in family households (see table 4). Married couples with children represent 34.8% of Latino-headed households, more than the Connecticut average of 24.5%. Families made up of a single female with children account for 13.1% of Latino households, which is greater than the state average of 7.9%, but less than it was in 1990.

Table 4

Stamford - Family Structure						
Latino Headed Households	2000		1990		Growth Percent	Change in Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Families:	4,099	78.0	2,377	76.9	72.4	1.1
with related children ^a :						
Married Couple, with children	1,828	34.8	900	29.1	103.1	5.7
Female Head, with children	687	13.1	470	15.2	46.2	-2.1
Male Head, with children	252	4.8	129	4.2	95.3	0.6
without related children:						
Married Couple, no children	865	16.5	540	17.5	60.2	-1.0
Single, no children	467	8.9	338	10.9	38.2	-2.0
Non-Family Household	1,155	22.0	714	23.1	61.8	-1.1
Total Households	5,254		3,091		70.0	

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.

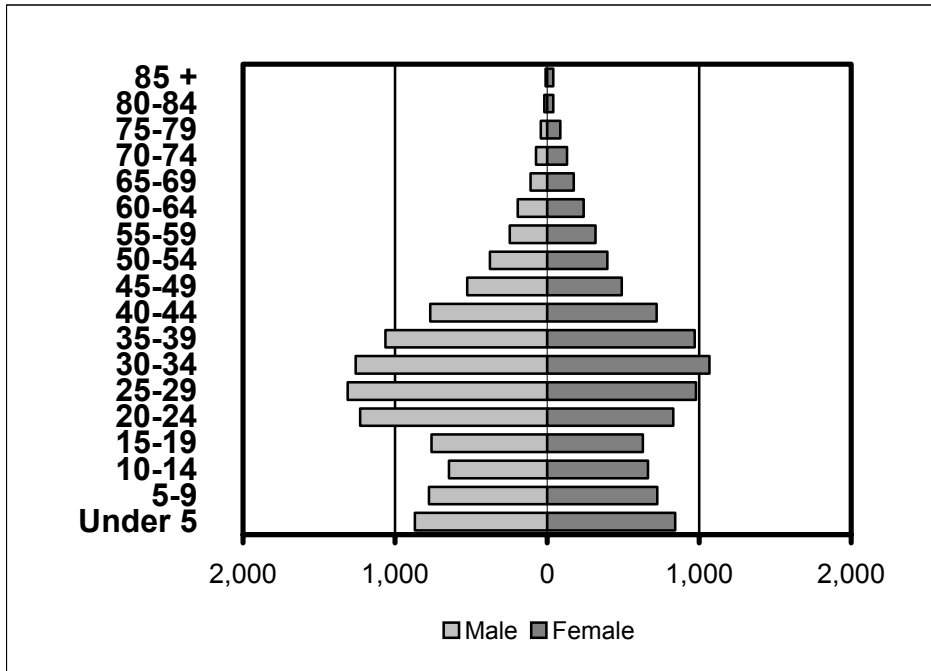
1990(b): 1990 Census Summary Tape File 3 (STF3) Sample Data.

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

Notes:

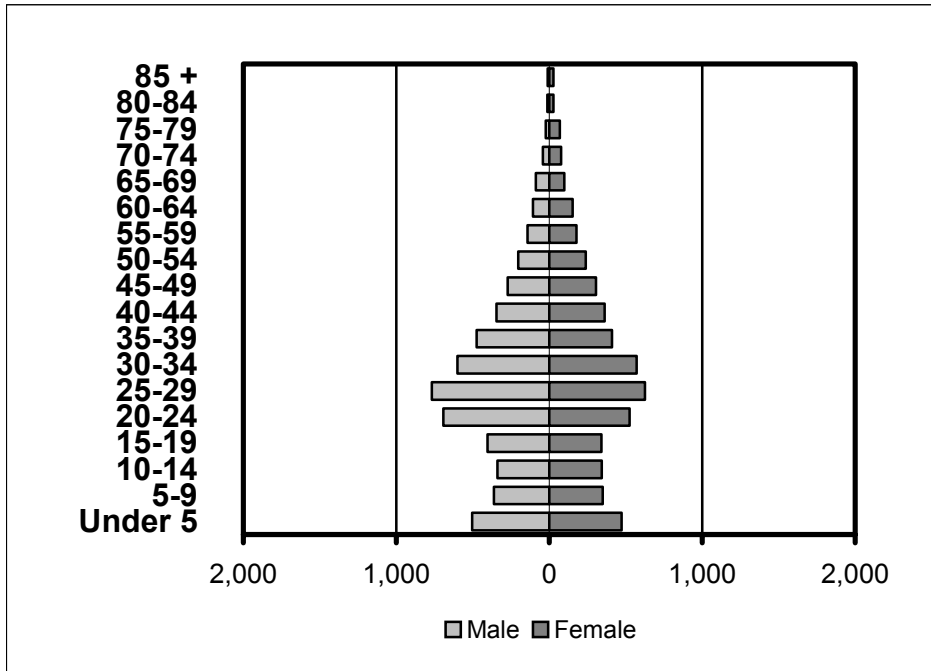
¹ Sample data from 1990 are based on the “Long Form” files. About one person or household in six receives the Long Form Census. The estimates from there do not match the enumerations in the 100% or “Short Form” data. There are sources of error in any census or survey; however the estimates here are accurate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

Figure 2
Stamford - Age Profile 2000



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

Figure 3
Stamford - Age Profile 1990



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

The age composition of Latinos in Stamford 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 Stamford and in the rest of the country remains relatively young, it is older than it was in 1990. In 2000, 30.2% of Latinos were younger than 20, just slightly greater than the 29.5% in 1990 (see table 5). The Latino median age of 29.2 is much younger than the overall Connecticut median age of 37.4. 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

Stamford - Latinos by Age					
	2000		1990		Growth Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Under 10 years	3,214	16.4	1,690	16.0	90.2
10-19	2,701	13.8	1,426	13.5	89.4
20-29	4,350	22.2	2,611	24.7	66.6
30-39	4,362	22.2	2,055	19.5	112.3
40-49	2,505	12.8	1,284	12.2	95.1
50-59	1,337	6.8	761	7.2	75.7
60-69	720	3.7	445	4.2	61.8
70 and over	446	2.3	290	2.7	53.8
Total	19,635		10,562		85.9
Median Age	29.0		28.3		

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

Table 6

Stamford - Latino Males by Age					
	2000		1990		Growth Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Under 10 years	1,647	16.0	867	16.1	90.0
10-19	1,408	13.7	742	13.8	89.8
20-29	2,542	24.7	1,460	27.1	74.1
30-39	2,323	22.6	1,075	20.0	116.1
40-49	1,294	12.6	616	11.4	110.1
50-59	624	6.1	344	6.4	81.4
60-69	304	3.0	194	3.6	56.7
70 and over	146	1.4	89	1.7	64.0
Total	10,288		5,387		91.0
Median Age	28.2		27.4		

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

Table 7

Stamford - Latina Females by Age					
	2000		1990		Growth Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Under 10 years	1,567	16.8	823	15.9	90.4
10-19	1,293	13.8	684	13.2	89.0
20-29	1,808	19.3	1,151	22.2	57.1
30-39	2,039	21.8	980	18.9	108.1
40-49	1,211	13.0	668	12.9	81.3
50-59	713	7.6	417	8.1	71.0
60-69	416	4.5	251	4.9	65.7
70 and over	300	3.2	201	3.9	49.3
Total	9,347		5,175		80.6
Median Age	30.0		29.4		

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