

Hispanics: An Overview January 2016, Vol. 7, No. 2

Highlights

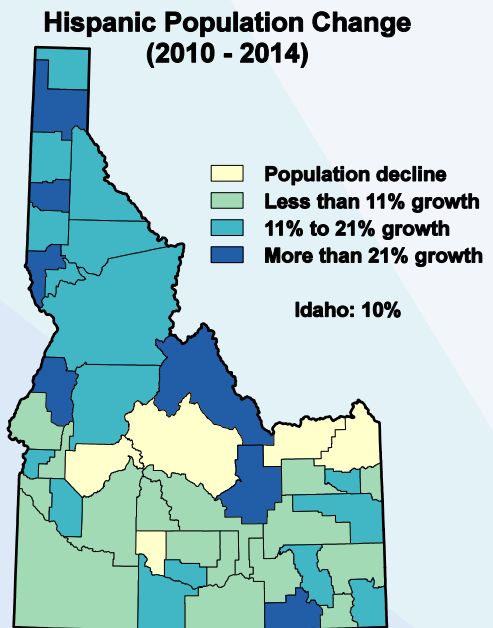
Like the rest of the nation, Idaho is becoming more diverse, mainly because of its growing Hispanic population.

- ◆ In 2014, Idaho had nearly 200,000 Hispanic residents. They made up roughly 12% of the state's total population, compared to 17% of the nation as a whole.^a
- ◆ In terms of the share of Hispanics today, Idaho is roughly where the U.S. was in 2000, when 13% of U.S. residents were Hispanic.^a
- ◆ Most of Idaho's Hispanics (70%) were born in the U.S., and most (79%) are U.S. citizens.^b
- ◆ Immigrants who came to the U.S. since 2010 make up only 2% of Idaho's Hispanic population.^b
- ◆ The median age among Idaho's Hispanics was 24 in 2014, compared to 38 among non-Hispanics.^a

This is the first of three updated reports on Idaho's Hispanic population. The next two reports will focus on education and the labor force.

Hispanics make up a large share of Idaho's growth

- ◆ Idaho was the 13th fastest growing state between 2010 and 2014. Hispanics accounted for 31% of Idaho's overall population growth during this period.^a
- ◆ During this same period, Idaho's Hispanic population grew 12%, while the non-Hispanic population grew 3%.^a
- ◆ In 2013, there were 9.5 births for every death among Idaho Hispanics, but 1.6 births for every death among non-Hispanic whites. The difference in birth-to-death ratios has important long-term implications for growth rates among the two groups.^c



SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU^a

The University of Idaho's *James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research* was founded in 2007. The Center's approach to addressing society's complex issues sustains Senator McClure's legacy of thoughtfully pursuing bipartisan collaboration and sound public policy.

View the full series of *Idaho at a Glance* policy briefs at www.uidaho.edu/IdahoataGlance

Almost all Idaho Hispanics live in southern Idaho

In 2014:

- ◆ 74% of Idaho’s Hispanics lived in nine counties (Ada, Bannock, Bingham, Bonneville, Canyon, Cassia, Jerome, Minidoka, and Twin Falls), all in southern Idaho.^a
- ◆ Canyon County had the largest number of Hispanics (50,000), followed by Ada (33,000), Bonneville (13,600), and Twin Falls (12,300) counties.^a
- ◆ Idaho counties with the highest proportion of Hispanics (greater than 20%) have economies that rely on agriculture and food processing.^{a,d}

Parts of rural Idaho would be losing population if not for Hispanic growth

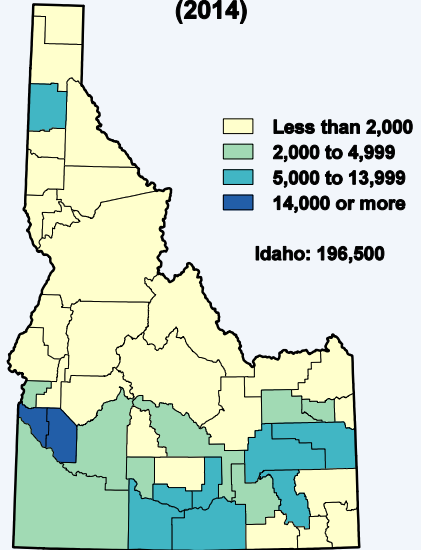
In Idaho, Hispanics are more likely than non-Hispanics to live in rural counties: 39% of Hispanics, compared to 33% of non-Hispanics.^a

Across the country, Hispanic growth is offsetting rural population decline.^e Research from Idaho indicates Hispanic growth is revitalizing local economies.^f

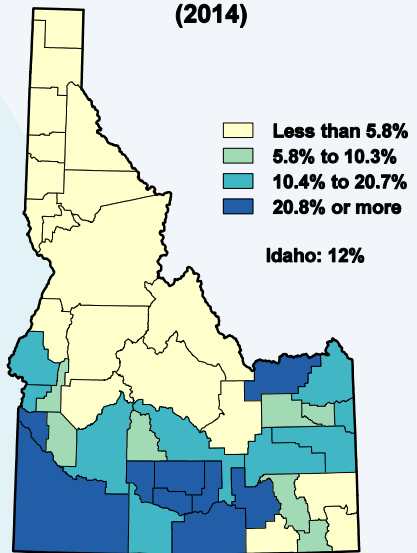
From 2010 to 2014:

- ◆ Rural Idaho’s Hispanic population grew by 9%, while its non-Hispanic population decreased by 1%.^a
- ◆ Eight rural counties would have lost population if not for Hispanic growth (Bannock, Blaine, Boundary, Jerome, Lewis, Lincoln, Minidoka, and Payette).^a
- ◆ Nonetheless, Idaho’s Hispanic population grew faster in urban areas: 14% growth in urban Idaho compared to 9% in rural Idaho.^a

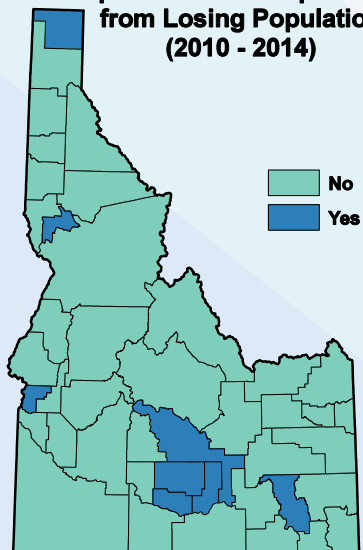
Number of Hispanics (2014)



Percent Hispanic (2014)



Hispanic Growth Kept County from Losing Population (2010 - 2014)

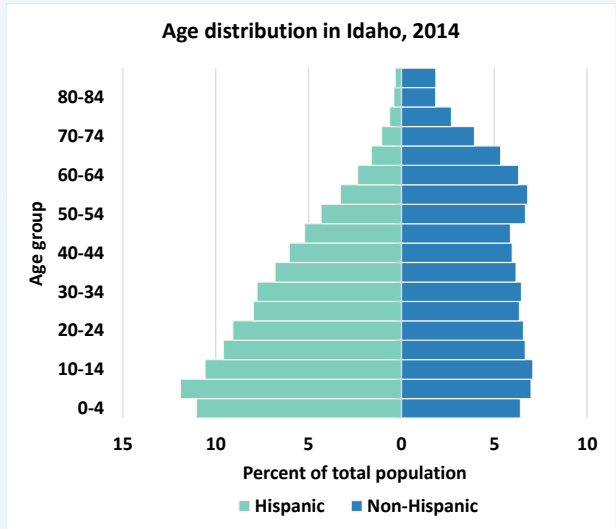


SOURCE FOR ALL MAPS: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU ^a

Hispanics tend to be younger than other Idahoans

A large portion of Idaho's Hispanic population is made up of children and young adults, with only a small portion of people over age 65. This is in stark contrast to the non-Hispanic population, which has a more even distribution of people across age groups.^a In Idaho:

- ◆ In 2014, the median age among Hispanics was 24 years old, meaning one-half of Hispanics were younger and one half were older than 24. This is younger than the median age of 27 among Hispanics at the national level. The median age among Idaho's non-Hispanics was 38.^a
- ◆ In 2014, 43% of Hispanics were under age 20, compared to 27% among non-Hispanics. In contrast, only 4% of Hispanics were over age 65, compared to 16% of non-Hispanics.^a
- ◆ The Hispanic school-age population (ages 5-17) grew 11% between 2010 and 2014, compared to 2% growth among the non-Hispanic school-age population.^a

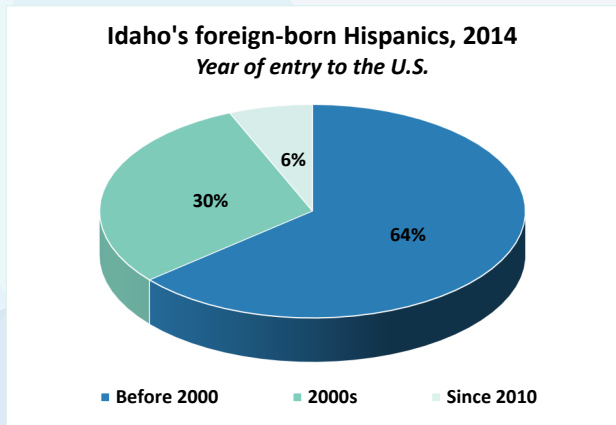


SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU ^a

Most Idaho Hispanics were born in the U.S. and are U.S. citizens

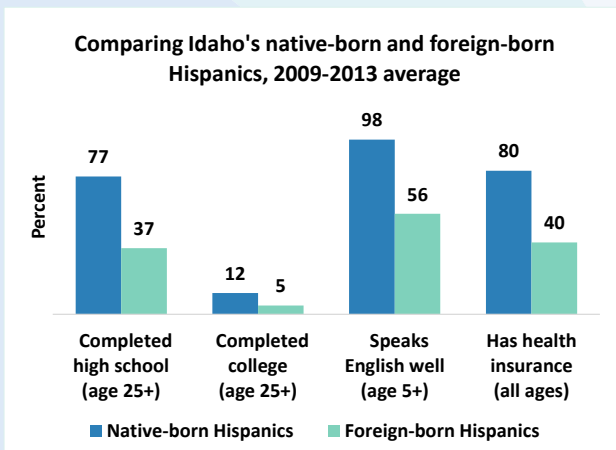
As of 2014:

- ◆ 70% of Idaho's Hispanics were born in the U.S., compared to 65% of the nation's Hispanics.^b
- ◆ 79% of Idaho's Hispanics were U.S. citizens, meaning they were born in the U.S. or became naturalized citizens.^b
- ◆ 64% of Idaho's 58,900 foreign-born Hispanics arrived in the U.S. before 2000. Another 30% arrived during the 2000s, and only 6% arrived in 2010 or later.^b



SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU ^b

Idaho's native-born Hispanics are more likely than foreign-born Hispanics to graduate from high school, attain a four-year college degree, speak English well, and have health insurance.^c



SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU ^c

Selected social and economic indicators	IDAHO		
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	Total
POPULATION ^a			
Total, 1990	52,927	953,822	1,006,749
Total, 2000	101,690	1,192,263	1,293,953
Total, 2010	175,901	1,391,681	1,567,582
Total, 2014	196,502	1,437,962	1,634,464
Population change, 1990-2000 (%)	92	25	29
Population change, 2000-2010 (%)	73	17	21
Population change, 2010-2014 (%)	12	3	4
AGE ^a			
Children under age 18, 2014 (% of population)	39	25	26
Adults age 65 and older, 2014 (% of population)	4	16	14
Median age, 2014	24	38	36
HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION ^b			
High school graduate, 2014 (% of population age 25+)	58	93	90
Bachelor's degree or higher, 2014 (% of population age 25+)	8	27	25
NATIVITY & CITIZENSHIP ^b			
Foreign born, 2014 (%)	30	3	6
Native born, 2014 (%)	70	97	94
US citizen, native-born and naturalized, 2014 (%)	79	99	96
INCOME & POVERTY ^b			
Median household income, 2014 (\$)	39,070	49,536	47,861
Per capita income, 2014 (\$)	12,720	26,064	23,938
Poverty rate, 2014 (%)	25	13	15
Households receiving food stamp benefits, 2014 (%)	19	11	12
MISCELLANEOUS ^b			
Speaks English only or speaks English "very well," 2014 (% of population age 5+)	73	99	96

SPECIAL THANKS: Margie Gonzalez (Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs), Janell Hyer (Idaho Department of Labor), Rebecca De León (Community Council of Idaho), María González Mabbutt (Boise State University), and Paul Lewin (University of Idaho). **MAPS CREATED BY ERINN CRUZ (UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO).**

HISPANIC: An ethnicity that refers to those who identify themselves as "Spanish," of "Hispanic origin," or "Latino." Hispanics may be of any race.

RURAL: Counties classified as nonmetropolitan by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Includes counties with no urbanized area of at least 50,000 people and no link to such an area through commuting patterns.

SOURCES:

- a—U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program.
- b—U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.
- c—Idaho Department of Health & Welfare, Vital Statistics.
- d—U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System.
- e—Cromartie, 2011. *Hispanics Contribute to Increasing Diversity in Rural America*, USDA Economic Research Service.
- f—Salant, P., J. Wulffhorst, and S. Kane with C. Dearien. 2009. *Community Level Impacts of Idaho's Changing Dairy Industry*, University of Idaho.
- g—U.S. Census Bureau, DataFerrett, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, 5-year estimates.

REPORT AUTHORS:

Christy Dearien, Research Associate
Priscilla Salant, Director

**McClure Center for
Public Policy Research**

mcclurecenter@uidaho.edu

