



A Statistical Profile of Older Hispanics

INTRODUCTION

In 2011, there were almost 41.4 million Americans aged 65 and over and 5.7 million aged 85 and over. Over the next 50 years, the number of people aged 65 and older is expected to more than double to 92 million and the number of people aged 85 and older is expected to triple to 18 million. Among the population age 65 and over, there are 131 women for every 100 men. At age 85 and over this ratio increases to 174 women for every 100 men.

NOW AND THE FUTURE

The Hispanic older population was almost 3 million in 2011 and is projected to grow to 19.5 million by 2060. In 2011, Hispanic persons made up 7 percent of the older population. By 2060, the percentage of the older population that is Hispanic is projected to be 21 percent.

CENTENARIANS

In 2010, there were 3,089 Hispanics age 100 years and over. They comprised 6 percent of all centenarians. Among this group, 67 percent lived with others in household, 17 percent lived alone, 14 percent lived in a nursing home, and 2 percent lived in other group quarters.

RESIDENCE

In 2011, almost 70 percent (2,087,706) of older Hispanics lived in just four states: California (796,681), Texas (568,119), Florida (458,403), and New York (264,503).

EDUCATIONAL LEVEL

The past decade has seen a significant increase in educational attainment among older Americans, including Hispanics. In 2011, 47 percent of the Hispanic population aged 65 and older had finished high school and 11 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher. In 1998, only 29 percent of Hispanic elderly were high school graduates and 5 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher. Nonetheless, there are still educational differences among racial and ethnic groups. In 2011, almost 81 percent of all older persons were high school graduates and 23 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher.

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

In 2010, 62 percent of older Hispanic men lived with their spouses, 17 percent lived with other relatives, 5 percent lived with non-relatives, and 15 percent lived alone. For older Hispanic women, 39 percent lived with their spouses, 36 percent lived with other relatives, 2 percent lived with non-relatives, and 23 percent lived alone. The percentage of Hispanic older women living with other relatives (36 percent) is twice that of all older women (18 percent) living with other relatives.

INCOME AND POVERTY

Households containing families headed by Hispanic persons age 65 and over reported a median income in 2011 of \$33,809. The comparable figure for all older households was \$48,538. The median personal income for older Hispanic men was \$17,049 and

\$11,308 for older Hispanic women. The comparable figures for all older persons were \$27,707 for men and \$15,362 for women. The poverty rate in 2011 for Hispanic persons age 65 and over was 18.7 percent which is more than double the rate for all older Americans (8.7 percent).

SELF-RATED HEALTH STATUS

During 2008-2010, 63 percent of older Hispanic men and 61 percent of older Hispanic women reported good, very good, or excellent health. Among older non-Hispanic whites, this figure was 78 percent for men and 79 percent for women. Positive health evaluations decline with age. Among Hispanic men ages 65-74, 67 percent reported good, very good, or excellent health, compared with 55 percent among those aged 85 or older. Similarly, among Hispanic women, this rate declined from 64 percent at ages 65-74 to 50 percent at age 85 or older.

CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Most older persons have at least one chronic condition and many have multiple conditions. Some of the most frequently occurring conditions among older Hispanics in 2008-2010 were: hypertension (74 percent), diagnosed arthritis (44 percent), all types of heart disease (21 percent), diagnosed diabetes (26 percent), and cancer (11 percent). The comparable figures for all older persons were: hypertension (72 percent), diagnosed arthritis (52 percent), all types of heart disease (30 percent), diagnosed diabetes (20 percent), and cancer (24 percent).

ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE

In 2011, 24 percent of older Hispanics had both Medicare and supplementary private health insurance and 23 percent were covered

by both Medicare and Medicaid. In comparison, 53 percent of all older adults had both Medicare and supplementary private health insurance and 9 percent were covered by both Medicare and Medicaid.

PARTICIPATION IN OLDER AMERICAN ACT (OAA) PROGRAMS

In 2010, State and Area Agencies on Aging provided services to a total of 10.5 million persons aged 60 and older. Consistent with the targeting requirements of the OAA, state and area agencies on aging placed considerable emphasis on services to persons with the greatest social and economic need, including members of racial and ethnic minority groups, especially those who are poor. Among the older persons who received Title III OAA home and community-based registered services, 7 percent were Hispanic.

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