

Hispanic **N**ew Yorkers On **N**ueva York

Hispanic Federation's 13th Annual Survey

2005 Summary of Findings

Prepared by the Hispanic Federation
Released: July 2005



The Federation is pleased to share the results of its 13th Annual Survey, which directly informs its annual public policy agenda.

The Hispanic Federation is a service-oriented membership organization that works with 86 Latino health and human services agencies to advance the quality of life for Latinos in the tri-state region and beyond. The Federation seeks to educate elected officials, policymakers, the media and funders about the needs and contributions of Latinos, and serves as a public policy advocate for the Latino community on the issues of civic participation, health care, immigration, education, economic development, media coverage and more. The Federation's annual survey provides key stakeholders, including the media, policymakers and elected officials, with a broad understanding of the issues, opinions and concerns of the City's Latino community.

Executive Summary

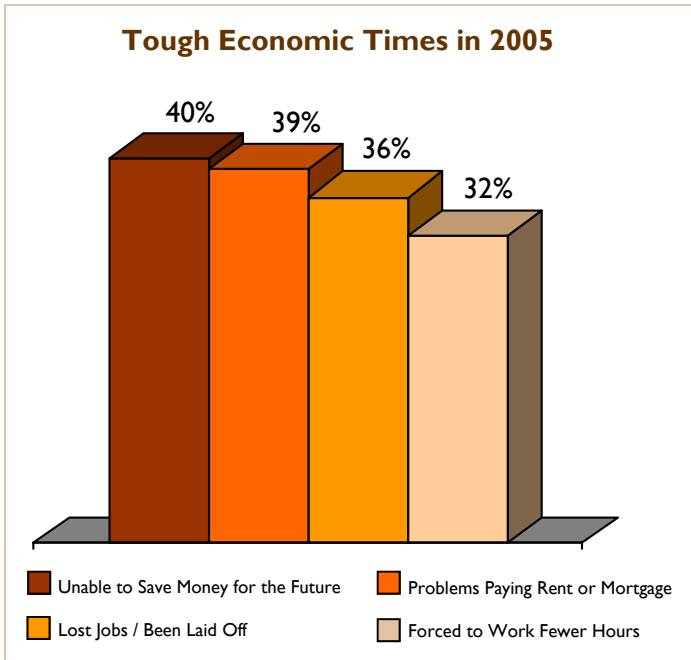
The hopes and aspirations of Latino New Yorkers are quite universal. Like Americans all over the country, they want improvements in education, increased opportunities for income and wealth creation, wider access to health care, affordable housing and fair treatment. However, the 2005 Hispanic New Yorkers on Nueva York survey shows that while Latinos living in the City continue to work hard and are eager to succeed, the American Dream continues to elude a great many of them. Hispanic New Yorkers find themselves preoccupied with such basics as their jobs and their standard of living. In fact, jobs and the economy ranks among the two most important problems confronting Latinos living in the City, according to 38% of those surveyed. Schools/education is named by 34% as a top two problem, housing by 21%, and discrimination/racism by 14%. These findings coincide remarkably with those of 2004, when 39% (same as 2003) named jobs/economy, 33% cited schools/education, 15% said discrimination/racism, and 14% housing.

Latino New Yorkers believe that similar problems confront Latinos throughout the country, with 25% citing jobs/economy, 22% naming schools/education, and 12% noting discrimination/racism as the “one or two most important issues or problems facing Hispanics nationally today.” Latino New Yorkers view immigration as a more serious issue for Latinos in other states: 11% name immigration as a top two national issue vs. 6% who say it’s a top problem for New York City Hispanics.

The findings outlined in the following pages shed considerable light on the issues, values, beliefs and experiences of New York City’s largest and fastest growing ethnic group. Among the encouraging news that it reveals is that there has been an impressive engagement in the political process among Latino New Yorkers. Three out of four Latinos in the City report that they are registered to vote, and 87% of the City’s Latino electorate indicates that they are likely to vote in this year’s Mayoral elections. Overall, the survey seems to suggest that although Latino New Yorkers in 2004 continue to face serious social and economic challenges, they are optimistic that a better future lies ahead.

NYC Hispanics Continue Struggling Financially but Faring Less Badly

Clearly, Latinos living in New York City continue to experience financial hardships. For the fourth year in a row, Hispanics report that the main problem for Latinos in the City is the lack of jobs/unemployment. The summer of 2005 finds sizeable numbers of New York Latinos in precarious economic conditions, although fewer than in 2004.

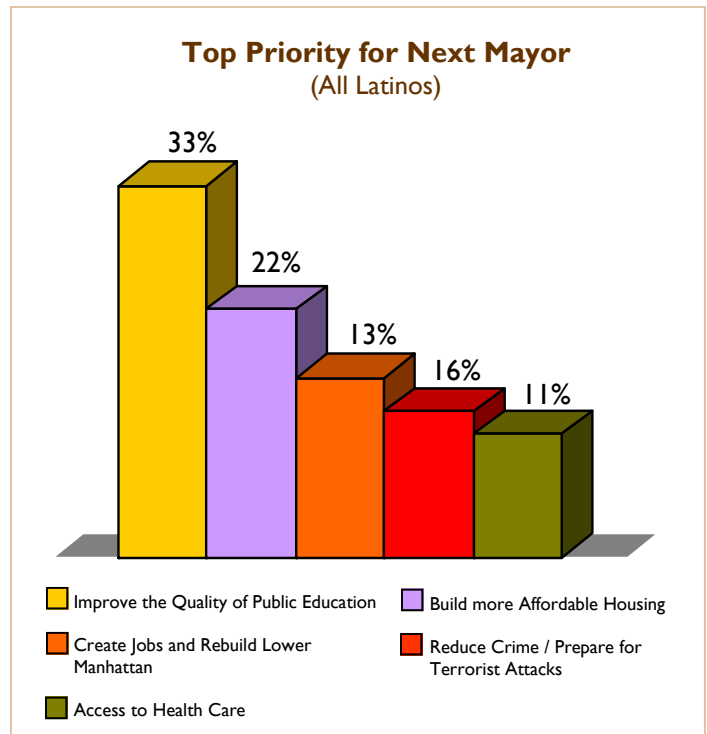


Over the past year, a disconcerting number of Latinos revealed that either they or an immediate family member have had serious financial hardships: 36% have lost their job/been laid off (45% in 2004); 32% have been forced to work fewer hours because of cutbacks (41% in 2004); 39% have experienced problems paying the rent or mortgage (42% in 2004); and 40% have been unable to save money for the future (65% in 2004).

Top Priority for Next Mayor

A major road block to increasing the economic mobility of Latinos is the wide academic achievement gap that persists between Latinos and other groups in the City. Not surprisingly, the plurality of those surveyed (33%) said that improving the quality of public school education should be the “top priority” for the next mayor.

Housing is also a serious challenge that is emerging as a critical policy issue for Latino New Yorkers. It is the third most mentioned “number one or two” problem facing them (behind



jobs/economy and schools/education) and the second most selected top priority. Twenty-two percent say that expanding the availability of quality, affordable housing should be the priority of the City’s next chief executive officer. When asked whether the “construction of more affordable housing” or “commercial development and attracting new businesses” should be more of a priority for the next mayor, 71% chose affordable housing, while only 17% chose commercial development - a margin of better than 4 to 1 in favor of housing.

Sixteen percent of Latino New Yorkers want more jobs created and lower Manhattan rebuilt, 13% prefer that the Mayor “reduce crime and prepare for any possible future terrorist attacks,” and 11% want to “make sure New Yorkers have access to health care.”

City on Right Track Say a Plurality

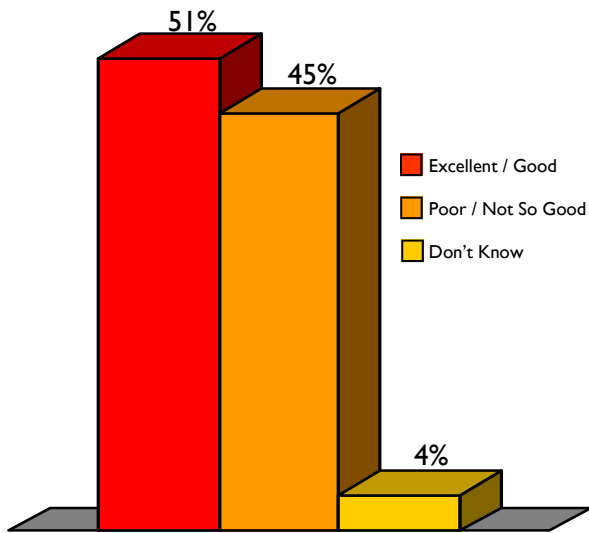
The Latino population has had a profound and lasting influence on the history, values, culture and economic vitality of New York City. Today, the more than two million Latinos that reside in the City’s five boroughs represents a growing community that is deeply invested in creating a better future for New York City. What direction do Latino New Yorkers feel the City is heading in? According to a near majority of Hispanic New Yorkers (47%), the City is headed in the right direction in summer 2005. More than a third (35%) of Latino New Yorkers believes New York is on the wrong track.

BLOOMBERG, PATAKI. HOW ARE THEY DOING?

Bloomberg's Overall Job Performance: Slightly Positive, Much Better

New York City Latinos are divided over how Michael Bloomberg is doing as Mayor of New York City, with half calling his overall performance either good (43%) or excellent (8%), and 45% assessing his work as Mayor as not so good (29%) or poor (16%). This represents a substantial turnaround for the Mayor compared to last year when 62% rated him negatively and 33% positively, and a still more dramatic change from 2003 when 82% gave him a thumbs down on his overall handling of his job.

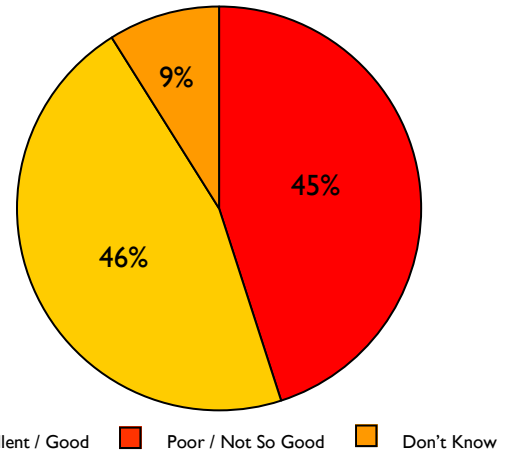
Bloomberg's Job Approval Ratings as Mayor



Still Doing a Poor Job for Hispanics but Better

New York City Latinos continue to fault Mayor Bloomberg on his service to the Latino community: a majority say the mayor is doing a poor (18%) or not so good (38%) job serving the Hispanic community, while a third deem his work on behalf of Hispanics to be good (31%) or excellent (5%). But again, this is a significant improvement over last year when 70% described his efforts on behalf of Latinos unfavorably, with only 23% giving him positive grades. In 2003, the mayor did even worse with 82% characterizing his service to Latino New Yorkers unfavorably.

Pataki's Job Approval Rating as Governor



Pataki's Service to Latinos: Evenly Divided

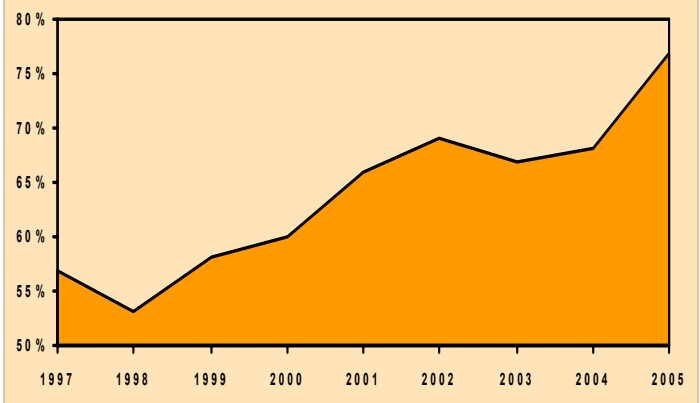
Latino New Yorkers are evenly divided in their evaluation of Governor George Pataki's service to the Latino community, with 45% favorable (41% good; 4% excellent) and 46% unfavorable (27% not so good; 19% poor). Similarly, last year 47% of New York City Latinos gave Pataki positive grades and 43% rated him negatively.

POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

Voter Registration Continues to Grow

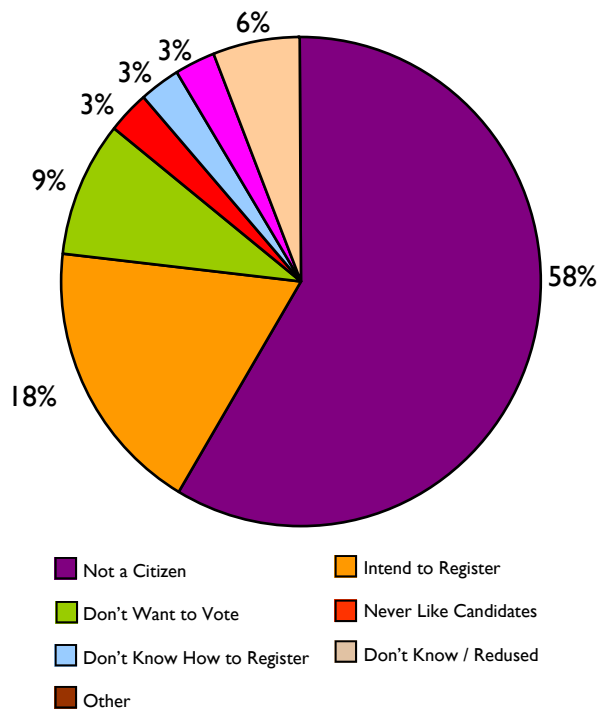
The political fortune of the Hispanic community is tied to its ability to engage in the civic life of the City. As Hispanics engage in the political process, they move policymakers and legislators to be more responsive to their needs and aspirations. This year's survey findings point to a promising political future for Hispanic New Yorkers. Three quarters

New York City Hispanic Voter Registration 1997-2005



(77%) of New York City Latinos report being registered to vote. This figure is up nine points from 2004 and twenty-six points (a 51% increase) over the last ten years.

Reasons Latinos are not Registered to Vote



For a variety of reasons, 23% of Latinos surveyed are unable to vote. By far the most widely noted reason for not being registered to vote, cited by 56%, is that they are not citizens. Another 16% said they intended to register but had not yet while 3% reported that they did not know how to register. About one in ten express disenchantment about voting – 9% say their vote doesn't matter and 3% never like the candidates on the ballot.

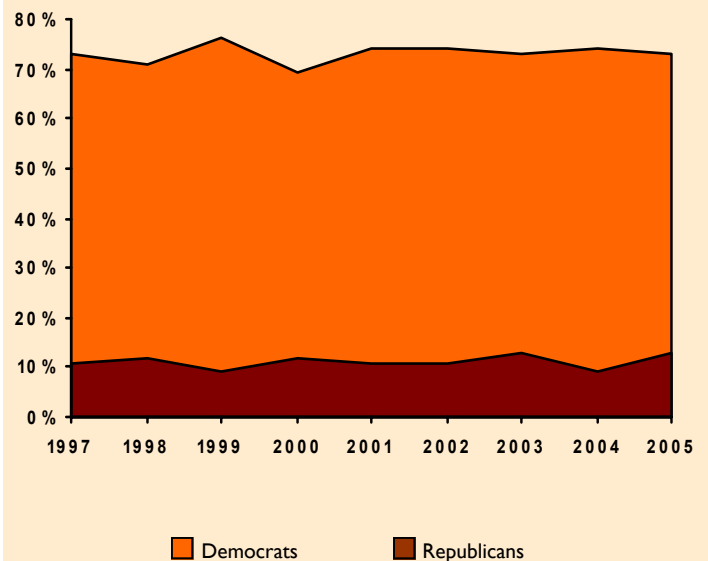
Remain Overwhelmingly Democrats

Latino New Yorkers continue to exhibit a long-standing pattern of Democratic partisanship. The 2005 Hispanic Federation survey reflects that Latinos remain solidly Democratic: 73% vs. only 13% who reported being registered Republicans – better than a 5 to 1 ratio. As the chart on the right indicates, the partisan affiliation of Hispanic New Yorkers has remained remarkably consistent over a decade of Hispanic Federation surveys.

A "Swing" Vote

Though overwhelmingly Democratic in registration, Latinos cross party lines. Issues or candidates may arise and drive Latinos to or away from one of our nation's political parties. Fully two-thirds of Hispanics pull the lever for candidates from a different party: 40% "sometimes," 9% "usually," and 18% "always." Only about a quarter (27%) are party loyalists who never vote for a candidate not of their party.

NYC Hispanics and Party Registration 1997-2004



2005 MAYORAL HORSERACES

Democratic Primary: Likely to Vote

Latino New Yorkers represent a crucial voting bloc that is increasingly committed to participating in public policy debates and voting in local, state and national elections. The result is a growing and more influential Latino community in New York City. An overwhelming majority (87%) of New York City Hispanics registered to vote say they are at least somewhat likely to vote in the upcoming Democratic primaries. Three-quarters of those registered voters, say they are either extremely (50%) or very (25%) likely to vote in the September primary. Another 12% say they are somewhat likely to vote. Two in ten say they are either very unlikely (15%) or somewhat unlikely (3%) to vote in September.

Why are registered Hispanic Democrats planning on voting in the primary? Among those at least somewhat likely to vote, 36% say they will vote to “support the issues [they] believe in,” 28% to “make [their] voice heard,” 17% to “improve [their] economic future,” and 13% to “support [their] favorite political candidate.” Another 12% say that they will vote for all of the above reasons.

Why aren't other Hispanics who are registered Democrats planning to vote? Many eligible voters don't like the candidates on the ballot (22%), while others believe that the candidates are not focusing on issues of importance to them or their families (15%). For 2 in 10, their reasons for not voting are more basic: 9% never vote, 7% don't believe their vote matters, and 4% don't have time to vote.

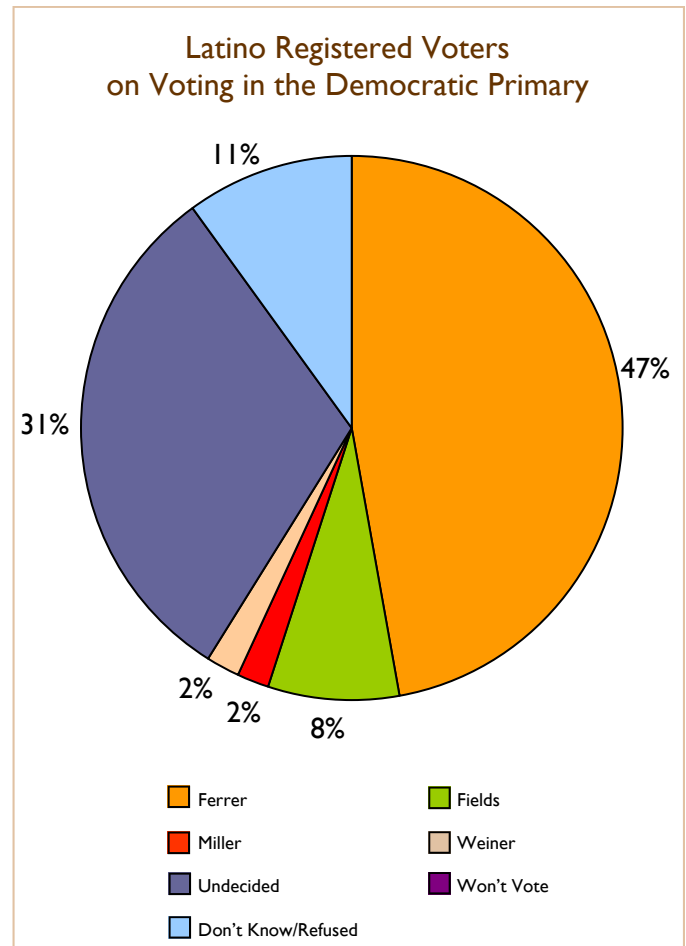
Most Important Voting Issue

Schools/education is the most important issue in deciding for whom to vote for Mayor, according to 30% of Latino New Yorkers. Schools/education is followed by the economy/jobs/unemployment, which is mentioned by 21% of Latinos as the most important voting issue. Affordable housing is mentioned by 8%, crime and drugs by 6%, and health care/hospitals by 4%.

2005 Mayoral Horseraces: Ferrer Sí

If the Democratic primary had been held when participants were surveyed, 47% of registered Latino Democrats say they would have voted for former Bronx Borough President and 2001 mayoral contender, Fernando Ferrer – 4 to 1 over his three opponents. Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields received 8% of the Latino vote, while City Council Speaker Gifford Miller obtained 3% and Brooklyn Congressman Anthony Weiner received 2%. Nearly one-third (31%) said they were undecided at the time they were surveyed.

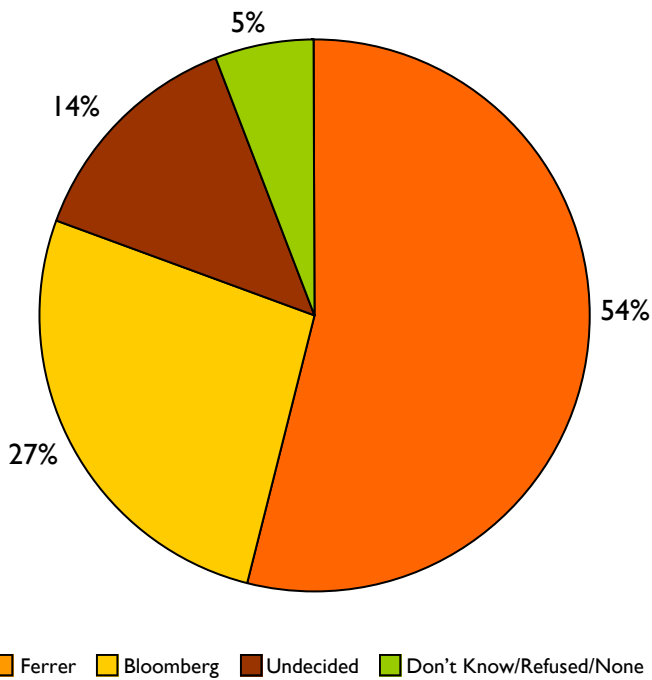
In June 2001, Ferrer was the choice of 63% of Latino New Yorkers in a hypothetical primary horserace, with his three opponents getting a combined 19%, while 17 percent were undecided. (Among Latino voters, Ferrer got 72% in the original primary and 82% in the runoff against Mark Green.)



General Election: Ferrer Wins

Fernando Ferrer beats Michael Bloomberg 54% to 27% among New York City Hispanics registered to vote, with 14% undecided and 2% saying they won't vote for mayor in November. In last year's survey, Ferrer beat Bloomberg 66% to 14% or by better than 4 to 1 among Hispanic New Yorkers registered to vote. These numbers indicate that although Ferrer remains the clear choice for Mayor in 2005 among Hispanic New Yorkers, Bloomberg has gained ground among the Latino electorate over the past year.

Ferrer vs. Bloomberg
(among Latino Registered Voters)



Ferrer By Far Most Influential Latino in New York

Not surprisingly, Fernando Ferrer is by far the "most influential Latino," as he has been for several years, according to 39% of Hispanic New Yorkers. He is followed by Adolfo Carrión, Congressman José Serrano, Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez, and Herman Badillo with 5% each. When the Hispanic Federation began surveying in 1993, Ferrer was named by 13% as a top influential Hispanic. Over the past 12 years, then, he has tripled his standing among Latino New Yorkers.

EDUCATION/PUBLIC SCHOOLS

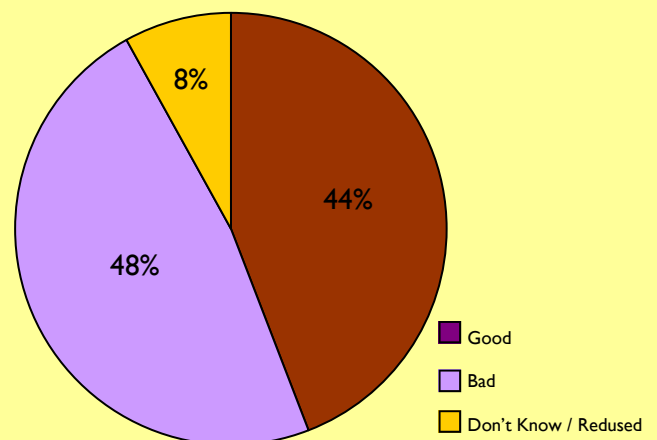
Public School Grades: Still Low but Improving

Latinos across New York City and our nation embrace the notion that education is the key to achieving the American Dream. Latino families are eager for their youth to embrace the challenges of academic life and desperately want their kids to have greater educational opportunities. Unfortunately, a significant percentage of the Latino community feels that Hispanic students in New York City are not being provided a quality education. New York City public schools continue to receive bad grades from nearly half of adult Hispanic residents: 22% rate the public schools in their neighborhood as poor, and another 26% characterize their local public schools as "not so good."

A sizeable minority gives its neighborhood public schools passing grades (37% good, 7% excellent). Last year's grades were worse, with 58% of Hispanics giving their local public schools bad grades and 36% giving the schools marks of good or excellent.

Among Latino parents with children under 18, 61% send their children to public school, 15% to a private or parochial school, and 7% have children attending both public and private/parochial schools.

How Latinos Rate the Quality of Public Schools in NYC



Problems Facing Latino Schoolchildren

Latino New Yorkers identified numerous problems facing Latino schoolchildren in this year's survey. Latinos believe that the schools do not have enough access to needed educational programming, are too violent, lack resources and have an insufficient number of qualified teachers to provide Latino students a quality education. Thirty-one percent of those surveyed cited issues around access to educational programming as the first or second most important problem facing Latino schoolchildren, with 11% stating the absence of quality after-school programming, 10% the lack of quality early childhood education, and 10% the insufficient number of bilingual education programs.

Latinos also acknowledge that parents are not as involved in their children's education as they should be. Twenty-four percent of Latino New Yorkers say lack of parental involvement is the first or second most important problem facing Latino youth. School violence is cited by 16%. Other "top two" problems include the high dropout rates among Latinos (11%); unqualified or under-qualified teachers (11%); and lack of resources (10%). Having low expectations of Latino children is named by 8% and lack of standards and accountability by 6%. One in 10 Latinos (10%) says that all of these issues or problems are serious challenges facing Latino students. Hispanics have continuously identified the issues highlighted in this section as the major problems plaguing New York City public schools.

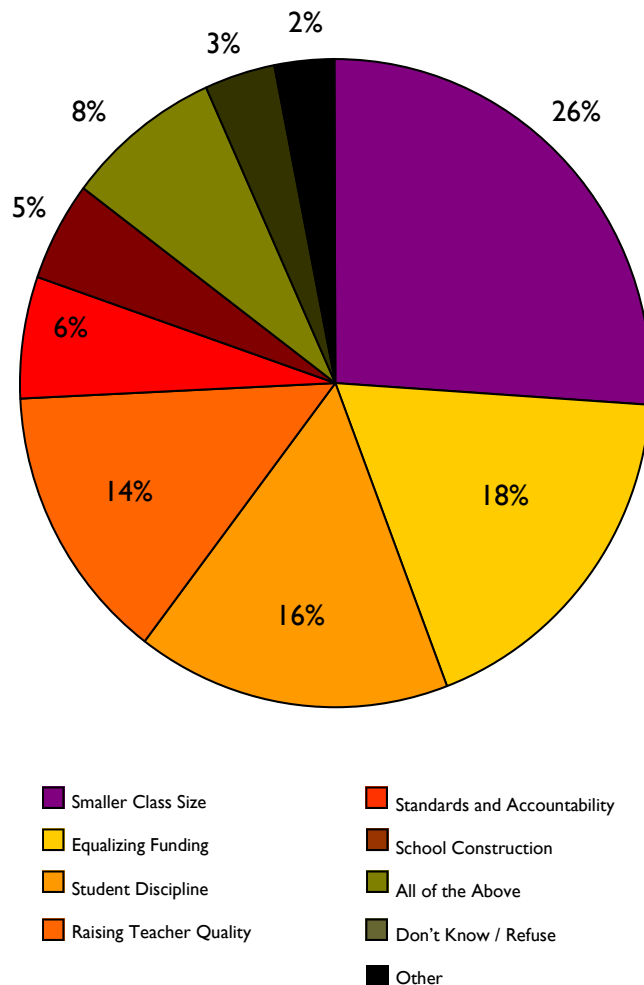
Education Priorities: Class Size Reduction

The most important priorities for improving the New York City public schools are reducing class sizes (26%), equalizing funding between rich and poor schools (18%), addressing problems with student discipline (16%), improving the quality of teachers (14%), raising standards and accountability (6%), and encouraging school construction (5%). Again, the ranking and level of emphasis placed on these priorities are almost identical to those of last year.

City Schools Not Involving Parents; Slightly Worse This Year

Preventing school failure begins with the creation of school climates that foster and achieve meaningful parental involvement. Regrettably, previous Hispanic Federation surveys indicate that Latino parents are often ignored by schools and

Top Priorities for Improving Public Schools in New York City



school systems and are effectively denied meaningful interaction with teachers and school officials. What kind of job are the New York City public schools doing in 2005 to involve parents in the educational process? Hispanic New Yorkers increasingly find that the public schools are failing to adequately involve parents in their children's education. A majority—52% (49% last year)—say the public schools' efforts to involve parents are deficient, with 19% describing the efforts as poor and 33% as not so good. About 4 in 10 (39%, same as last year) believe that the schools are doing a good (34%) or an excellent (5%) job.

But More Welcoming Than Four Years Ago

Latino parents and a majority of Latinos overall (51% and 52% respectively) find efforts at involving parents in the education process inadequate. However, Latino public school parents (54%) find the public schools more welcoming to them than four years ago: 33% say they are “much more” welcome and 21% feel “somewhat more” welcome. That’s about four times the number of people who feel less welcome (8% somewhat less welcome; 5% much less welcome). About one in 10 (12%) feel neither more or less welcome in the public schools than four years ago.

How are Latino parents involved in their children’s schooling? Thirty-seven percent show involvement by helping their children with homework and another 33% regularly meet or speak with their children’s teachers or school administrators. Other ways of being involved include attending PTA meetings on a regular basis (24%), volunteering in their children’s schools (15%), working with administrators and teachers to determine school policy (11%), and mentoring or tutoring other children (8%). An additional 8% of Latinos report that they perform all six of these activities, while 9% say they do none of the above.

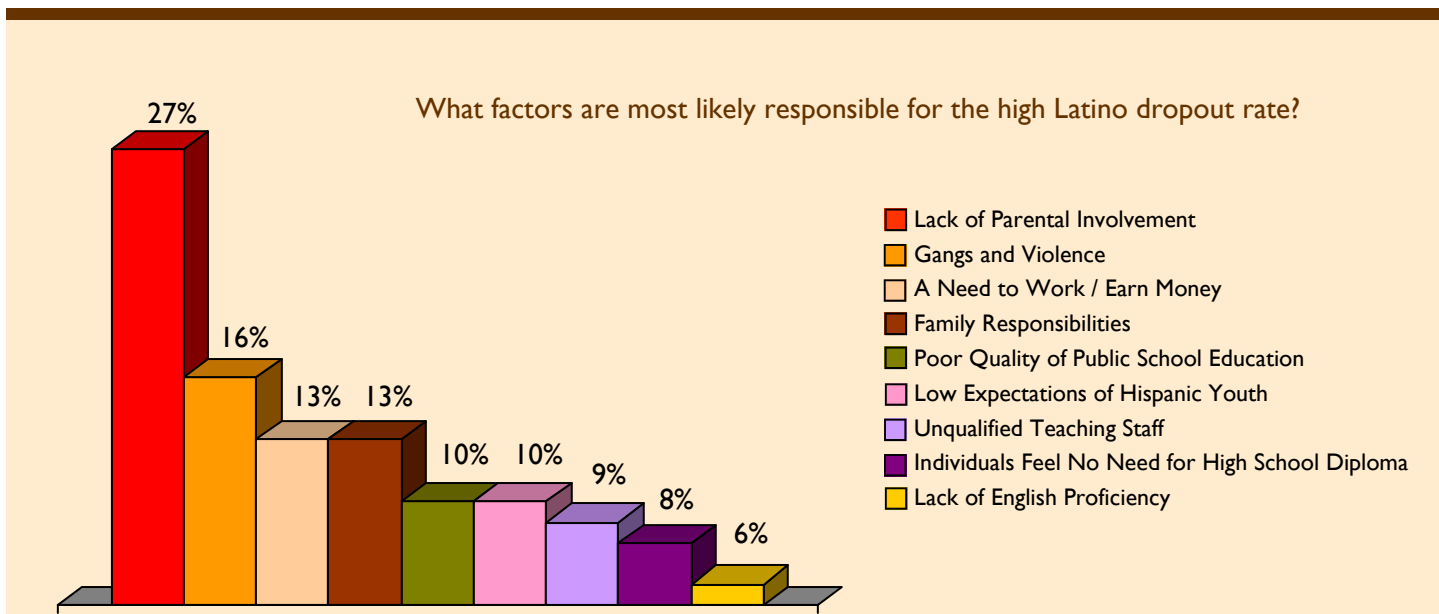
Dropping Out/Barriers to College

The Latino dropout rate conveys an urgency to act. A staggering 26% of all Hispanic students in the City drop out of high school. Multiple factors contribute to the high Latino dropout rate, including the fact that a disproportionate number of Latino students attend schools with overcrowded

classes, low-level curriculum instruction, dilapidated facilities, poor parental involvement, and an insufficient number of qualified teachers and administrators. Not surprisingly, Latinos identified several causes for the high Latino dropout rate.

Lack of parental involvement is the most widely named factor responsible for the high dropout rate among Hispanic public high school students, say 27% of Latinos surveyed. Gangs/violence is named by 16%, while the need to work and earn money and family responsibilities are each cited by 13%. These reasons are followed by the poor quality of a public school education and low expectations of Hispanic children or youth (10% each), unqualified or under-qualified teaching staff (9%), and the belief that a high school diploma is not necessary for success and lack of proficiency in English (8% each). One in ten (10%) feels that all the listed factors are responsible for the high dropout rate among Hispanics.

Inability to pay for a college education is a prime factor preventing college-age Hispanics from either attending college or obtaining a four-year college degree, according to 43% of New York Hispanics surveyed. A need to work and earn money was named by 25%. Other reasons include: lack of information regarding the application process (12%), family responsibilities (11%), poor K-12 education (9%), discrimination and the belief that a college degree is not necessary for success (7% each), and lack of proficiency in English (5%).



Want Universal Pre-K and After-School Programs, Mandated Class Size and Taxes to Pay for Them

Latino New Yorkers overwhelmingly support public school reforms to establish universal pre-K, after-school programs and legally mandated class size limits. They also widely and strongly support two proposals for school funding – a tax on those making more than \$500,000 per year and a half-cent stock transfer tax.

About 9 in 10 Latino New Yorkers (91%) favor “establishing voluntary, state-funded after-school programs for all school-age children,” with 76% strongly in support of this. An overwhelming majority (88%) also favors “limiting by law the size of elementary, middle, and high school classes to a maximum of 18 to 22 students per class,” with 72% strongly supporting legally mandated class size limits. Similarly, 88% favor “establishing voluntary, state-funded pre-school education programs for all children between the ages of two and five,” with 70% strongly in favor. The levels and intensity of support for these three proposed reforms mirror the findings from last year.

How will these reforms be paid for? Eighty-two percent of Hispanic New Yorkers endorse “charg[ing] an additional tax on . . . those who make over \$500,000 a year” and earmarking all those funds for the public schools, with 67% strongly in favor of such a measure. Seventy-seven percent support “charg[ing] a half a penny per stock transfer to fully fund educational needs that our school system faces,” with 55% strongly in favor.

Bilingual Education

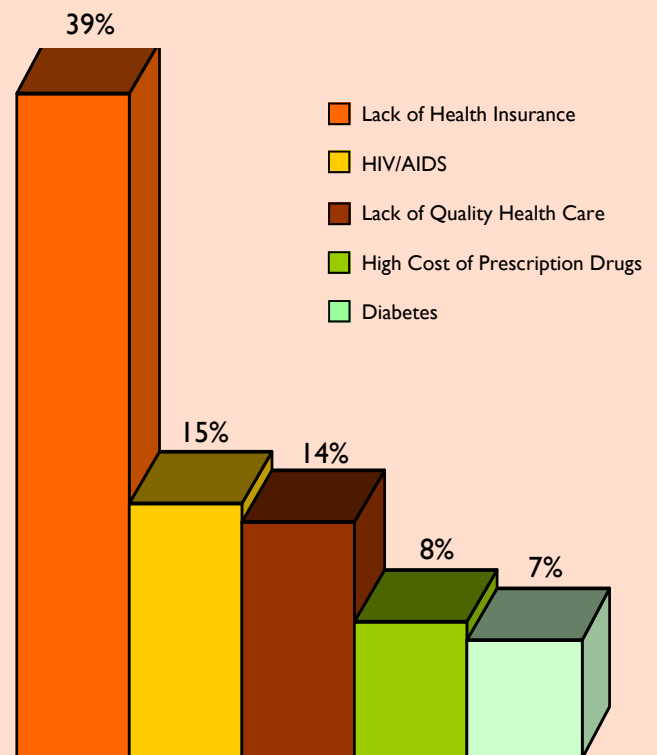
Hispanic children should be taught in English and Spanish in equal measure according to 34% of Hispanic New Yorkers. Another 16% want Latino children taught first in Spanish, with English gradually incorporated into the teaching. Thus, about half of Latino New Yorkers prefer some form of bilingual instruction, while 26% favor immersion in English with no Spanish used and 21% believe that the language of instruction should depend on the proficiency of the child in the given language.

HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE

Most Important Health Issues

Lack of health insurance is by far the top health issue facing the Latino community today, according to 39% of those surveyed. HIV/AIDS is seen by 15% as the top health problem, followed by 13% who cite a lack of quality health care. Diabetes is mentioned by 7%, the high cost of prescription drugs and asthma by 6%, and too few Spanish-speaking doctors by 5%.

Top Health Issues Affecting the Hispanic Community



Many Still Uninsured but Percentage Down; Costs Too High

Lack of health care coverage continues to be a major problem for New York City Latinos: 14% (down 5 points from last year) report being without any public or private health care plan or insurance. This year 84% report some form of health care coverage: 44% have health insurance provided through their union or employer, 9% have privately-purchased health

insurance, 21% are Medicaid-eligible, and 10% are covered by Medicare.

Why don't Latinos have health insurance? Twenty-one percent find it simply too expensive. Another 13% have lost health insurance coverage or are unemployed or between jobs. Eight percent are unable to obtain insurance or have been refused insurance due to poor health, illness, or age; and other Hispanics are either undocumented or have never had insurance (6% each).

Postponing Health Care

One in four New York Hispanics (25%) reports that in the previous 12 months, they or someone else in their household postponed seeking health care they believed they needed. Why? For 52%, the high cost was the main factor. For 15%, lack of time or the inability to take time off from work were the reasons. The rest did not know where to go for care (4%) or lacked nearby healthcare facilities, had family commitments, or could not find Spanish-speaking doctors (2% each).

HIV/AIDS

A Very Serious Problem for Latinos

The HIV/AIDS epidemic poses an incredible health threat to the Latino community. As of 2002, the CDC estimates that there have been over 155,000 cumulative Latino AIDS cases, representing 19% of the total AIDS cases in the United States. Not surprisingly, the spread of HIV/AIDS is deemed a grave problem within the Latino community by 95% of Latino New Yorkers (up 4 points from 2004), with 78% saying it is a very serious problem and 17% considering it to be a somewhat serious problem. HIV/AIDS is named as the top health issue confronting Latinos today by 12% of those surveyed.

Nearly two-thirds (64%) of New York Latinos are very concerned that someone they love, "including a son, a daughter, or other immediate family member will become infected with HIV." Another 15% are somewhat concerned, while about 2 in 10 are either not too concerned (10%) or not concerned at all (8%).

Changing Sexual Behaviors/Testing

Latino New Yorkers have changed their sexual behavior in response to HIV/AIDS, say a majority (52%), while 41% indicate that they have not changed their sex practices. About two-thirds (65%, down 4 points from 2004) of New York

Latinos report having been tested for HIV, while 33% have not been tested. Previous Hispanic Federation polls have found HIV testing among Hispanic New Yorkers to be increasing; in 1994, for example, only 43% reported having been tested.

The two most significant reasons why individuals do not get tested for HIV is the fear that someone will learn that they were tested (named by 36%) and the belief that they are not at risk for getting HIV (31%).

AIDS IQ Still Too Low

Misconceptions about HIV transmission are still prevalent among a significant number of Latino New Yorkers. Latinos were asked if kissing, sharing a drinking glass, touching a toilet seat, sharing an IV needle, having unprotected oral sex, having unprotected sex, or all of these are ways a person can become infected by HIV.

Having unprotected sex is cited by 77% of Latinos as being a source of HIV infection, while sharing an IV needle is cited by 64%. Thus, a quarter of all adult Latino New Yorkers are not aware that unprotected sex can lead to HIV infection and a third do not know that sharing an IV needle can also lead to infection. Worse still, 57% are unaware that unprotected oral sex can transmit HIV, and 89% are unaware that blood transfusions can transmit HIV.

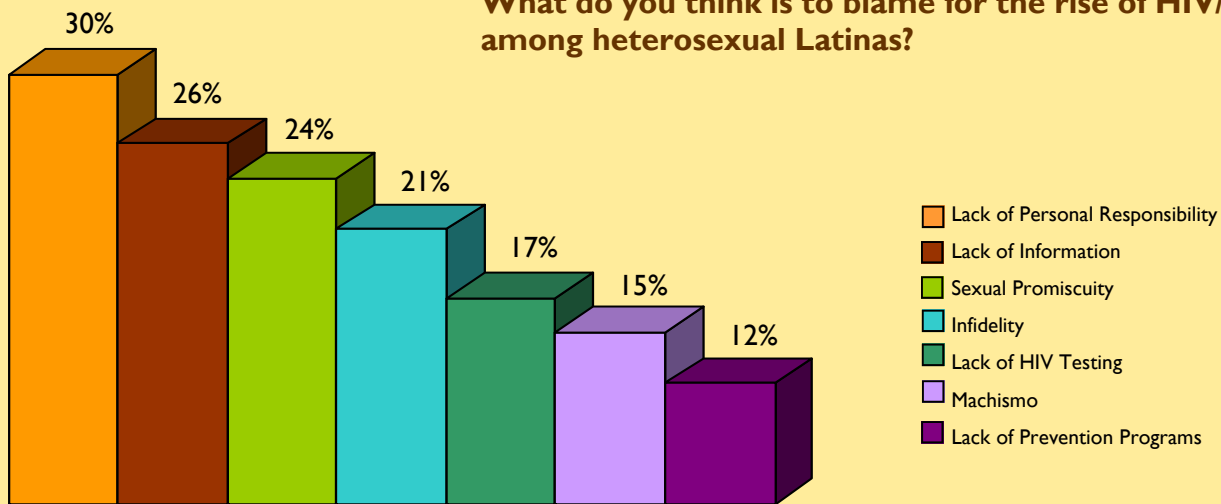
Want AIDS Information

Three-quarters of New York Hispanics say that when it comes to HIV/AIDS, they need more information about the following: how to talk with their children about HIV/AIDS (24%), where to get tested for HIV (13%), how to talk to their partners about HIV/AIDS (10%), what kinds of HIV tests are available (9%), and how to talk with their doctor or health care provider about HIV/AIDS (8%).

Why Increases among Heterosexual Latinas?

Today, far more Latinas are being infected through heterosexual contact (65%) as compared to injection drug use (32%). Where do New York Hispanics place the blame for the dramatic increase of AIDS among heterosexual Latinas? By and large they place it on the individuals involved. Thirty percent lay the blame on lack of personal responsibility, 24% on sexual promiscuity and 21% on infidelity. Fifteen percent believe machismo to be the main culprit.

What do you think is to blame for the rise of HIV/AIDS among heterosexual Latinas?



External reasons are also cited. Lack of information is seen by 26% as a reason for the HIV/AIDS increase among heterosexual Latinas, lack of HIV testing by 17%, lack of prevention programs by 12%, lack of reproductive health and planning services by 7%, and lack of quality health care by 6%. One in ten Latinos (10%) believes that all these reasons have led to increases of HIV/AIDS in heterosexual Hispanic women.

Recommended Public Responses to HIV/AIDS

The most important means of addressing this epidemic in the Latino community is to provide more HIV/AIDS education in the public schools, according to 34% of Latino New Yorkers. Sixteen percent cite the need for increased funding for HIV/AIDS prevention programs. More AIDS research is cited by 9%, increased funding for health services for persons living with HIV/AIDS by 8%, and increased news media coverage and more information on how and where to get tested for HIV are each cited by 6%.

ABORTION

Personal Attitudes on Abortion Remain Closely Split

New York City Latinos remain closely split on abortion: 48% hold “pro-choice” and 48% “pro-life” positions. On the pro-choice side, 28% believe that “abortion should be legal and generally available,” and 20% state that “regulation of abortion may sometimes be appropriate, although it should remain legal in most circumstances.” On the pro-life side,

35% agree that “abortion should be legal only in the most extreme cases such as to save the life of the woman and in the cases of rape and incest,” and 13% believe that “all abortions should be made illegal.”

IMMIGRATION

Strong Support for Immigration Reform Involving Undocumented Immigrants

Immigration remains one of our nation’s most heated public policy issues. Currently, the U.S. Congress is considering a bill which would allow undocumented immigrants to apply for temporary work permits and eventual citizenship. To qualify for work permits, individuals would have to clear a criminal background check, pass an English language test, and pay a \$2,000 fee. Work permits would last for six years, after which time, individuals could apply for permanent resident status. The vast majority of New York Latinos favor this proposal to allow undocumented immigrants to apply for temporary work permits and eventual citizenship: 68% favor the proposal, while 25% oppose it.

Let Legal Immigrants Vote

All documented immigrants, whether they are citizens or not, should be allowed to vote in New York, say 71% of Latino New Yorkers, with 53% strongly favoring non-citizen voting. One in four Latino New Yorkers (25%) are opposed to non-citizen voting, with 18% strongly opposed.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Social Security: No on Privatization

Social Security has long served as one of the most important financial safety nets for millions of Latino retirees, disabled workers and families both nationwide and in New York State. Over the past year, the Bush administration has been strongly advocating for the creation of personal accounts that would allow younger workers to divert a portion of their payroll taxes away from Social Security and into individual accounts they would manage. Nearly six in ten (57%) Latino New Yorkers oppose allowing individuals to invest a portion of their Social Security taxes in the stock market, with 15% somewhat opposing and 42% strongly opposing. Nearly 34% favor the proposal, with 17% strongly favoring and 17% somewhat favoring.

MEDIA

TV, By Far, Top News Source: Univision is Favored

Television is the preferred news source for Latino New Yorkers. Eight in ten New York City Latinos get the bulk of their “news about the issues of the day” from either network news shows (44%) or local television news (35%).

Newspapers provide an important news source for 36% of New York City Hispanics.

Internet usage has increased substantially among Hispanics, resulting in a greater number of Latinos—18%, up from 12% in summer 2004—relying on the Web as a principal news source.

While radio is a popular medium among Hispanics both locally and nationally, it is the principal source of news for only 16% of Hispanic New Yorkers.

While no station dominates adult Hispanic New Yorkers’ television viewing, WXTV/Channel 41/Univisión is the preferred television choice of Latino New Yorkers. Sixteen percent of Latinos (up from 7% last year) name Univision as the television channel they most often watch. Spanish-language viewership is up in general with 10% of Latinos (up from 5%) reporting WNJU/Channel 47/Telemundo as their preferred viewing destination. City Latinos further divide their TV viewing among WABC-TV/Channel 7 (10%), WYNY/Channel 5, NY1 and WNBC/Channel 4 (7% each); WPIX/WB11 (6%); CBS/Channel 2 (5%); and CNN (4%).

Daily News Still Tops

In New York City, the *Daily News* remains the most widely read newspaper by Hispanic New Yorkers, with 41% (like last year) naming the News as the newspaper they read most often. This percentage is close to the equivalent of all other New York City dailies combined. The *New York Times* is read by 18% of Latino New Yorkers. *El Diario-La Prensa* is the most popular Spanish-language newspaper in the City, read by one in ten Latinos (9%). The *New York Post* is read by 8%, *Hoy* by 2%, and *AM New York*, *Newsday*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Metro*, and the *Staten Island Advance* by 1% of Latino New Yorkers.

Radio: A Latin Beat

Perhaps not surprisingly, the Hispanic radio audience in New York listens to Spanish-language stations: Mega 97.9 tops the list with 11% (down from 18% last year); Hot 97.1/WQHT and Latino Mix/La Kalle 105.9 are each the preferred stations of 6% of Hispanics. Amor 93.1 and WADO, other Spanish-format stations, are most often listened to by 4%. Thus, 3 in 10 City Hispanics most often listen to Spanish-language radio.

The top English-language radio station in the region is WINS, most often tuned in to by 11% of Latino New Yorkers. No other English-language radio broadcast commands the attention of more than 4% of Latinos.

WHO ARE WE: HISPANICS? LATINOS? SOMETHING ELSE?

The Hispanic/Latino community is a wonderful and rich mosaic of different national origins, united by a common language culture and historic affinity. However, descendants of Latin America and the Spanish-speaking world that reside in the United States, are closely divided on how they wish to be called. (This report has used the term Hispanic and Latino interchangeably).

Twenty four percent prefer to be identified by their country of origin or ancestry, 23% favor the term “Latino,” while 22% wish to be called “Hispanic.” Another 9% express that they want to be called “American.” Another 9% does not wish to be identified by any of these terms.

Methodology

Miram Global conducted this study among 802 Hispanic adults in New York City metro area between June 16th and July 7th, 2005.

The margin of error for the sample is +/- 3.5%

Douglas Muzzio, Ph.D of the Baruch College Survey Research Unit, assisted in the development of the questionnaire and the analysis of the data.

Demographics

Of all the Latino New Yorkers surveyed, 39% were Puerto Rican, 25% were Dominican, 8% were Mexican, 7% were Colombian and the remaining 21% represented other Hispanic origins. Of the respondents, 47% were male and 53% were female. More than three-fourths (81%) identified themselves as citizens, 12% identified themselves as permanent residents and small percentages were non-permanent residents (3%) or undocumented (2%). In terms of educational attainment, 27% completed high school, 24% completed some college and 20% said they were college graduates. Income levels were \$20,000 or less (28%), 20,000-30,000 (14%), 30,000-40,000 (12%) and over 40,000 (29%). Latinos born in the U.S. accounted for 47%, those born in Puerto Rico (18%) and those born outside of the U.S. (34%).

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