

# The Hispanic

## Population in Alabama

Yanyi K. Djamba • Theresa C. Davidson • Terance L. Winemiller



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### **Yanyi K. Djamba**

Director, Center for Demographic Research

Professor of Sociology

Auburn University at Montgomery

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Center for Demographic Research, Auburn University at Montgomery, P.O. Box 244023, Montgomery, Alabama 36124-4023, voice 334-244-3463 (TDD 334-244-3800), fax: 334-244-3443, [cdr@aum.edu](mailto:cdr@aum.edu), [www.demographics.aum.edu](http://www.demographics.aum.edu).

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Alabama's Hispanic population has grown by 145 percent in the last 10 years, placing the state in the second position just behind South Carolina (148%). Despite this growth, Hispanics still represent just 3.9% of the state population, and their socio-demographic and health profiles are markedly different from those of non-Hispanics.

### **Alabama's Hispanic population grew faster than the non-Hispanic population**

- The size of the state's Hispanic population more than doubled from 75,830 in 2000 to 185,602 in 2010.
- This change represents a growth rate of 144.8 percent, compared to a 5.1 percent growth rate in the non-Hispanic population.
- Still, Hispanics represent only 3.9 percent of Alabama's population.

### **Alabama's Hispanics are of different origins and they mostly live in urban areas**

- Alabama's Hispanics are originally from more than 15 countries, but more than half (66.2%) are of Mexican origin.
- People of Hispanic origin live primarily in urban areas in Alabama. In fact, 69.7 percent of Hispanic population growth between 2000 and 2010 occurred in the state's cities.

### **Alabama's Hispanics are more socio-economically disadvantaged than non-Hispanics**

- Nearly half (46.5%) of the state's Hispanics do not have a high school diploma, compared to 15.7 percent for non-Hispanic Whites, and 22.0 percent for non-Hispanic Blacks.
- In 2009, Hispanics had a lower unemployment rate (12.9%) than non-Hispanic Blacks (17.2%). Non-Hispanic Whites had the lowest unemployment rate (9.0%).
- Yet, Hispanics were more like to be in poverty than both non-Hispanic Whites and non-Hispanic Blacks.
- Hispanics had limited access to health care compared to non-Hispanics:
  - 38.3 percent of Hispanics did not have health insurance in 2009, compared to 11.4 percent of non-Hispanic Whites and 18.7 percent of non-Hispanic Blacks.
  - 46.9 percent of live births among Hispanic mothers were associated with late or no prenatal care, compared to 10.0 percent for non-Hispanic white mothers and 24.5 percent for non-Hispanic black mothers.
- Nonetheless, Alabama Hispanics were in more stable marital unions and they lived in larger households than their non-Hispanic counterparts.