

2021 POPULATION PROFILE OF PUERTO RICANS IN THE FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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Representative Jim Himes (D-CT)

Fairfield County – Bridgeport, Darien, Easton, Fairfield, Greenwich, Monroe, New Canaan, Norwalk, Redding, Ridgefield, Shelton (part), Stamford, Trumbull, Weston, Westport, and Wilton. **New Haven County** – Oxford.

POPULATION COUNT

- In 2021, the Fourth Congressional District had the largest population in the state, with a population size of 745,946. At least 21% of Connecticut’s overall population resided in the Fourth Congressional District.
- In 2021, there were 44,544 Puerto Ricans and comprised 6% of the Congressional District’s overall population.

RACE/ETHNICITY

- About two-thirds of the Puerto Rican population (60%) identified with one race followed by 38% who identified with two races, and 2% as three or more races.

HISPANIC/LATINO ORIGIN

- At least 15% of the Puerto Ricans population resided in the Fourth Congressional District in 2021.
- About 29% of the Hispanic/Latino population were Puerto Ricans followed by South Americans (25%), Central Americans (18%), Mexicans (13%), Dominicans (8%), Other Hispanic or Latino (5%), and Cubans (3%).

Puerto Rican	29%
South American	25%
Central American	18%
Mexican	13%
Dominican	8%
Other Hispanic or Latino	5%
Cuban	3%

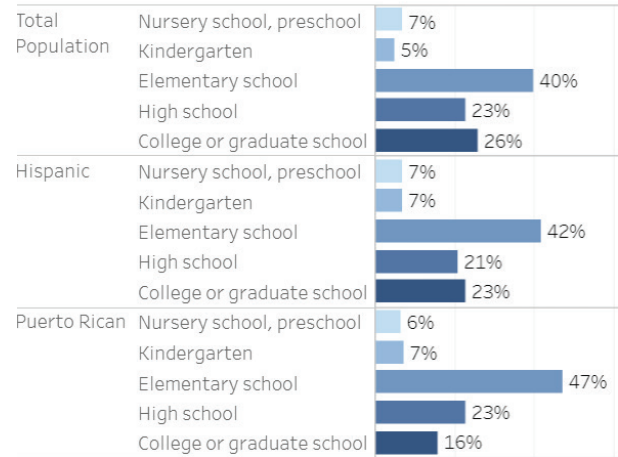
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

- Puerto Ricans had the lowest educational attainments across the board in the Fourth Congressional District.
- Puerto Ricans (45%) had the highest rates of those with ‘less than a high school education,’ higher than Hispanics/Latinos (29%) and the total population (10%) in this district.
- Puerto Ricans (27%) and Hispanics/Latinos (28%) in Fourth Congressional District had similar rates of those with a ‘high school education.’
- Puerto Ricans (19%) in this district had lower rates of those with ‘some college degree’ relative to Hispanics/Latinos (26%) and the total population (28%).
- More than half of the overall population (52%) had a Bachelor’s degree or more. On the other hand, Puerto Ricans (10%) followed by the Hispanic/Latino (21%) populations had the lowest educational attainment rates.

Group	Less than H.S.	H.S.	Some College	BA or more
Total Population	10%	20%	19%	52%
Hispanic	29%	28%	22%	21%
Puerto Rican	45%	27%	19%	10%

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

- In 2021, Puerto Ricans had the highest enrollment in K-12 grades and the lowest enrollment in College (16%).



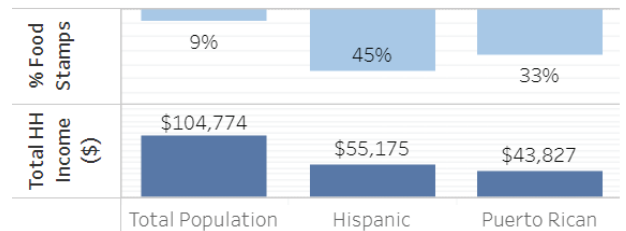
POVERTY STATUS

- Overall, Puerto Ricans (30%) were more likely than Hispanics/Latino (18%) and the total population (10%) to live in poverty in the Fourth Congressional District.
- Poverty rate was three times higher among Puerto Ricans (30%) relative to the total population (10%) in this district. On other hand, Hispanics/Latinos (18%) had lower poverty rates compared to the Puerto Rican population in this district.
- At least 36% of Puerto Rican children (under 18) live in poverty, this is slightly lower than Hispanic/Latino children (39%). However, both Puerto Rican and Hispanic/Latino children were three times more likely to live below poverty compared to all children under 18 (13%).
- In 2021, Puerto Rican (53%) and Hispanic/Latina (51%) female-headed households with children under 18 lived in poverty. This was a higher rate than the the total population (30%) in this district.

	All People	Child (under 18)	Female HH w/ Children (Unde..
Total Popul..	10%	13%	30%
Hispanic	18%	39%	51%
Puerto Rican	30%	36%	53%

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME/ FOOD STAMPS

- In 2021, Puerto Ricans' (33%) reliance on food stamps was more than four times higher than that of the total population (9%) and lower than that of Hispanics (45%) living in the Fourth Congressional District.
- The median household income for Puerto Ricans (\$43,827) living in the fourth Congressional District was lower than Hispanics/Latinos (\$55,175) and significantly lower than that of the total population (\$104,774).



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

- Puerto Ricans (42%) had slightly higher homeownership rates than Hispanics/Latinos (39%), but lower compared to the overall population (65%) in the Fourth Congressional District.
- Puerto Ricans (40%) had comparable mortgage burden rates, those who pay at least 30% or more of their income towards mortgage payments, to the Hispanic/Latinos (39%) and total population (35%) in this district.
- The median monthly mortgage payment was also comparable among the three groups: \$2,081 among total population, \$2,060 among Hispanics/Latinos, and \$2,045 among Puerto Ricans (\$2,182) in this district.
- In 2021, 61% of the Hispanic/Latino population in the Fourth Congressional District were renters, similar rates to that of Puerto Rican population (58%), but two times higher than the total population (35%).
- Rent burden, also known as tenants paying at least 30% or more of their incomes towards rents, was slightly higher among Hispanics/Latinos (56%) followed by Puerto Ricans (54%) and total population (51%).
- The median rent was higher among the total population (\$1,650) compared to Hispanics/Latinos (\$1,271) and Puerto Ricans (\$1,096) in this district.

	Total Popula..	Hispanic	Puerto Rican
Renters	35%	61%	58%
Median Rent	\$1,650	\$1,271	\$1,096
Rent Burden	51%	56%	54%
Owners	65%	39%	42%
Median Mortgage	\$2,081	\$2,060	\$2,045
Mortgage Burden	35%	39%	40%

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

- Unemployment of Puerto Ricans (7%) was slightly higher compared to Hispanic/Latinos (6%) and the total population (4%).
- About 59% of the Puerto Rican population in this district were employed, this was lower compared to Hispanics/Latinos (65%) and total population (63%) in this district.
- Hispanics/Latinos (71%) had the highest labor force participation rates compared to the total (67%) and Puerto Rican (65%) populations.

	Total Popula..	Hispanic	Puerto Rican
In Labor Force	67%	71%	65%
Not in Labor Force	33%	29%	35%
Unemployed	4%	6%	7%
Employed	63%	65%	59%

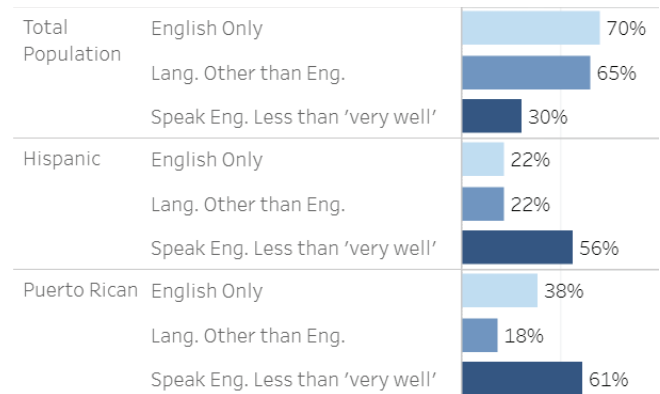
HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

- Puerto Ricans (48%) were more likely to rely on public health coverage compared to total (39%) and Hispanics/Latinos (32%) populations in the Fourth Congressional District.
- Hispanics/Latinos (19%) had higher rates of uninsured health coverage compared to total (8%) and Puerto Ricans (7%) populations in this district.

Total Population	No health insurance	8%
	Private insurance	71%
	Public Coverage	32%
Hispanic	No health insurance	19%
	Private insurance	48%
	Public Coverage	39%
Puerto Rican	No health insurance	7%
	Private insurance	51%
	Public Coverage	48%

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME

- A majority of Puerto Ricans residing in the Fourth Congressional District speak a language other than English in their households.



WHERE DID WE GET THIS INFORMATION FROM?

We use macrodata and microdata from the American Community Survey for the period 2006-2021. First, we use macrodata estimated by the U.S. Census Bureau to analyze the general dynamics of the Puerto Rican and Hispanic/Latino population and the Latin American population born outside the United States. Second, we use microdata harmonized by IPUMS USA to estimate the Puerto Rican and Latin American immigration statistics per country in the state of Connecticut.

ABOUT OUR FUNDING

The Puerto Rican Studies Initiative is funded by an American Rescue Plan Act grant awarded by the Connecticut General Assembly.

The Puerto Rican Studies Initiative for Community Engagement and Public Policy (PRSI) is a research initiative that can help document and support the Puerto Ricans' vital economic, intellectual, and cultural contributions to Connecticut and provide research-based support for the development of public policies addressing the needs of Puerto Ricans in the State of Connecticut.

This initiative is part of a collaboration between El Instituto (CLAS, UConn Storrs), the Puerto Rican and Latin@ Studies Project (School of Social Work, UConn Hartford), and the Hispanic Health Council.

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