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Trends in Poverty Rates among Latinos in New York City and the United States, 1990 - 2011

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The Center established and helps administer an interdisciplinary specialization in Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies in the Masters of Arts in Liberal Studies program.

The Latino Data Project was developed with the goal of making information available on the dynamically growing Latino population of the United States and especially New York City through the analysis of extant data available from a variety of sources such as the U.S. Census Bureau, the National Institute for Health, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and state and local-level data sources.

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Table of Contents

Guide to Tables 4

Guide to Figures 5

Executive Summary 7

Trends in Poverty Rates by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011 10

Trends in Poverty Rates by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011 23

Conclusion 33

Statistical Appendix 34

Methodological Appendix 36

Guide to Tables

Table 1: Poverty Rates in the United States, by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011	10
Table 2: Poverty Rates in New York City by Race/Ethnicity in the Five Boroughs, 1990 - 2011.....	14
Table 3: Poverty Rates in the United States by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011.....	24
Table 4: Poverty Rates in New York City Among Largest Latino Nationalities by the Five Boroughs, 1990 - 2011	27
Table 5: Poverty Rates in the Bronx Among Largest Latino Nationalities, 1990 - 2011	34
Table 6: Poverty Rates in Manhattan Among Largest Latino Nationalities, 1990 - 2011	34
Table 7: Poverty Rates in Staten Island Among Largest Latino Nationalities, 1990 - 2011	34
Table 8: Poverty Rates in Brooklyn Among Largest Latino Nationalities, 1990 - 2011	35
Table 9: Poverty Rates in Queens Among Largest Latino Nationalities, 1990 - 2011	35

Guide to Figures

Figure 1: Poverty Rates in the United States Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011	11
Figure 2: Poverty Rates in the United States by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011	11
Figure 3: Poverty Rates in the United States by Race/Ethnicity, 2005 - 2011	12
Figure 4: Poverty Rates in the United States by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011	12
Figure 5: Poverty Rates in New York City Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011	13
Figure 6: Poverty Rates in New York City by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011	15
Figure 7: Poverty Rates in New York City by Race/Ethnicity, 2005 - 2011	15
Figure 8: Poverty Rates in New York City Among Latinos by Five Boroughs, 1990 - 2011	17
Figure 9: Poverty Rates in New York City Among Latinos by Five Boroughs, 1990 - 2011	17
Figure 10: Poverty Rates in New York City Among Latinos by Five Boroughs, 1990 - 2011	18
Figure 11: Poverty Rates in the Bronx Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011	18
Figure 12: Poverty Rates in Manhattan Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011	19
Figure 13: Poverty Rates in Brooklyn Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011	19
Figure 14: Poverty Rates in Staten Island Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011.....	20
Figure 15: Poverty Rates in Queens Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011	20
Figure 16: Poverty Rates in Manhattan by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011.....	21
Figure 17: Poverty Rates in Staten Island by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011.....	21
Figure 18: Poverty Rates in the Bronx by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011	22
Figure 19: Poverty Rates in Brooklyn by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011.....	22
Figure 20: Poverty Rates in Queens by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011	23
Figure 21: Poverty Rates in the United States by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011.....	24

Figure 22: Poverty Rates in the United States by Latino Nationality, 2005 - 2011..... 25

Figure 23: Poverty Rates in the United States by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011..... 25

Figure 24: Poverty Rates in New York City by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011 28

Figure 25: Poverty Rates in New York City by Latino Nationality, 2005 - 2011..... 28

Figure 26: Poverty Rates in New York City by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011 29

Figure 27: Poverty Rates in the Bronx by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011..... 30

Figure 28: Poverty Rates in Manhattan by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011 31

Figure 29: Poverty Rates in Staten Island by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011 31

Figure 30: Poverty Rates in Brooklyn by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011 32

Figure 31: Poverty Rates in Queens by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011 32

Executive Summary

A United States Census Bureau report released in September 2013 indicted that poverty rates among the U.S. population have remained stagnant or increased 2000 to 2012. The report suggested that the national poverty rate rose in response to the economic crisis in the United States, which began in late 2007, and that despite the official end of the recession in June 2009, these rates have not declined.¹

This report explores trends in poverty from 1990 to 2011 within New York City and the United States with special emphasis on Latinos in comparative perspective with poverty among other race/ethnic groups. Changing poverty rates among Latino nationalities are also examined.²

The analyzed data indicate that the poverty rate among the national population over the last two decades increased. However, there were nuanced and complex trends within both New York City and the United States when race/ethnicity and Latino nationalities are examined separately and compared.

Among Latinos in the United States, poverty rates in 2011 were identical to what they had been in 1990, suggesting that the 2007-2009 recession was less important than long-term trends. However, the recession did result in increasing poverty among Latinos in the short-term.

¹ See Carmen DeNavas-Walt, Bernadette D. Proctor, Jessica C. Smith, "Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2012" (U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration, U.S. Census Bureau, September 2013) available on the internet at <http://www.census.gov/prod/2013pubs/p60-245.pdf>.

See the article in the New York Times of September 17, 2013 "Household Incomes Remain Flat Despite Improving Economy" available on the internet at http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/18/us/median-income-and-poverty-rate-hold-steady-census-bureau-finds.html?pagewanted=1&_r=1.

² This study uses the American Community Survey PUMS (Public Use Microdata Series) data for all years considered here released by the Census Bureau and reorganized for public use by the Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota, IPUMSusa, (<https://usa.ipums.org/usa/index.shtml>). See Public Use Microdata Series Steven Ruggles, J. Trent Alexander, Katie Genadek, Ronald Goeken, Matthew B. Schroeder, and Matthew Sobek. Integrated Public Use Microdata Series: Version 5.0 [Machine-readable database]. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 2010.

These data are different from those used by the Census Bureau in its report which was based on data from the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. (See methodological appendix for an explanation). While the poverty rates presented here differ from the Census Bureau's report, the trends are similar.

Poverty rates are calculated by the Census Bureau. Detailed information about the calculation of poverty reports can be found at <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/about/datasources/factsheet.html> and <http://camerondcampbell.me/blog/2011/11/using-comparison-of-means-to-calculate-proportions-at-ipums-usa/>

In contrast to nation-wide trends, Latinos in New York City experienced a long-term decline in poverty rates between 1990 and 2011, despite the fact that there was a clear increase in these rates as a result of the economic crisis of 2007 - 2009.

It is apparent that at the national level Latinos may have been more impacted by the 2007 economic downturn than other race/ethnic groups. Poverty among the nation's Latino population began to increase in 2008, while Asians and non-Hispanic blacks did not see increases until 2009. Latino poverty rates have also increased more dramatically than Asians and non-Hispanic whites in the wake of the crisis. No race/ethnic group has recovered to their pre-recession poverty rates.

In New York City, Latinos experienced increases in poverty rates in 2009, later than among non-Hispanic whites, non-Hispanic blacks, and Asians, whose rates increased in 2008. This was somewhat different than the timing found throughout the country.

While nationally the poverty rate among Latinos was lower than among non-Hispanic blacks, Latinos had the highest poverty rates in New York City and within each borough but Staten Island. The disparities in poverty levels between the City's race/ethnic groups were stable between 1990 and 2011, and this was the case throughout the U.S. The poverty rates among all race/ethnic groups in the City increased because of the 2007 economic crisis and none have recovered to their pre-recession poverty rates.

There were different poverty rates among the nation's major Latino nationalities and the way these rates changed in response to the 2007 - 2009 recession. Throughout the nation, Mexican and Ecuadorian poverty rates were higher in 2011 than in 1990 and 2000. Among Puerto Ricans and Dominicans, poverty rates were higher in 2011 than in 2000 but lower than in 1990. However, the poverty rate among Colombians was actually lower in 2011 than in 1990 or 2000.

Yet, among all five Latino nationalities, national poverty rates increased following the economic crisis. Mexicans were the first to see rises in poverty rates, in 2008; the other groups saw increases beginning in 2009. The disparities between Latino nationalities were stable. Colombians consistently had the lowest poverty rates, and Mexicans and Dominicans had the highest poverty rates of the Latino national subgroups in the U.S.

In New York City, poverty rates among the five largest Latino nationalities rose in response to the 2007 - 2009 economic crisis. Poverty rates among Mexicans and Dominicans in 2011 were higher than in 2000; and Mexicans were the first to experience a rise in the poverty rate, beginning in 2008. Colombians and Ecuadorians did not experience increases in poverty rates until 2010. Additionally, poverty among Colombians and Puerto Ricans actually declined between 2000 and 2011. This indicates that the recession did not have a long-term impact on poverty levels among

Colombians and Puerto Ricans in the City, although the precise reasons are not clear from the data examined for this study.

One striking conclusion when the Latino nationalities are examined separately and compared is that Mexicans and Dominicans clearly had higher poverty rates in both the U.S. and New York City than Puerto Ricans, Colombians, and Ecuadorians. In New York City and the U.S., Mexicans and Dominicans may also have fared worse in response to the economic crisis. These findings may be partly attributed to migration patterns. The influx of foreign-born Mexican migrants with poorer skill levels and lower educational attainment profiles may have contributed to higher poverty rates and a greater reaction to the 2007 - 2009 economic downturn. This may have been the case among New York City's Dominicans as well, who continued to arrive in significant numbers after 2000.

Trends in Poverty Rates by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 to 2011

Latinos in the United States

Poverty rates in the United States were stagnant and increased slightly from 1990 to 2011. Among the national population, there was a slight decline from 1990 to 2007, but rates then rose from 2008 to 2011. Trends in poverty among Latinos in the U.S. followed the same pattern. Latinos saw a decline in poverty rates from 1990 to 2007, and then an increase from 2008 to 2011. The Latino poverty rate in 2011 was higher than any year after 2000. However, their poverty rate in 2011 was the same poverty rate as in 1990 (approximately 25.5%). These patterns suggest that although the Latino population was impacted by the 2007 economic crisis and recession, over the long-term the poverty rate was stable among Latinos. These trends also indicate that Latinos have not seen recovery in the wake of the 2007 economic crisis. (See table 1 and figure 1).

The United States by Race/Ethnicity

Poverty rates among each race/ethnic group in the United States had more nuanced patterns than aggregate U.S. population data indicate. Non-Hispanic whites saw increasing poverty rates from 1990 to 2011. While the non-Hispanic black population did experience an increase in poverty from 2000 to 2011, their 2011 poverty rate was actually lower than it had been in 1990. The Asian population had nearly equivalent poverty rates in 1990, 2000, and 2011.

All groups were detectably impacted by the recession that began in 2007. However, Latinos may have been the most impacted by the economic crisis. Following the economic crisis, Latinos (and non-Hispanic whites) saw increases in poverty beginning in 2008, but poverty among non-Hispanic blacks and Asians did not rise until 2009. Latinos (and non-Hispanic blacks) saw steeper increases in poverty rates after the economic crisis compared to non-Hispanic whites and Asians. (See table 1). From 1990 to 2011, disparities in poverty rates between race/ethnic groups in the United States were stable. Non-Hispanic blacks had the highest poverty rate followed in descending order by Latinos, Asians, and non-Hispanic whites. (See figures 2 through 4).

Table 1
Poverty Rates in the United States, by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011

	1990	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Non-Hispanic White	9.3%	8.5%	8.2%	8.3%	8.0%	8.4%	8.9%	9.7%	10.6%
Non-Hispanic Black	30.3%	25.5%	24.4%	24.0%	23.3%	22.9%	24.3%	26.0%	28.9%
Asian	13.3%	12.5%	10.4%	9.7%	9.5%	9.4%	10.4%	11.5%	12.6%
Latino	25.6%	22.9%	20.9%	20.2%	19.5%	19.9%	21.8%	23.2%	25.5%
United States	13.1%	12.5%	11.6%	11.6%	11.2%	11.5%	12.4%	13.6%	15.1%

Figure 1
Poverty Rates in the United States Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011

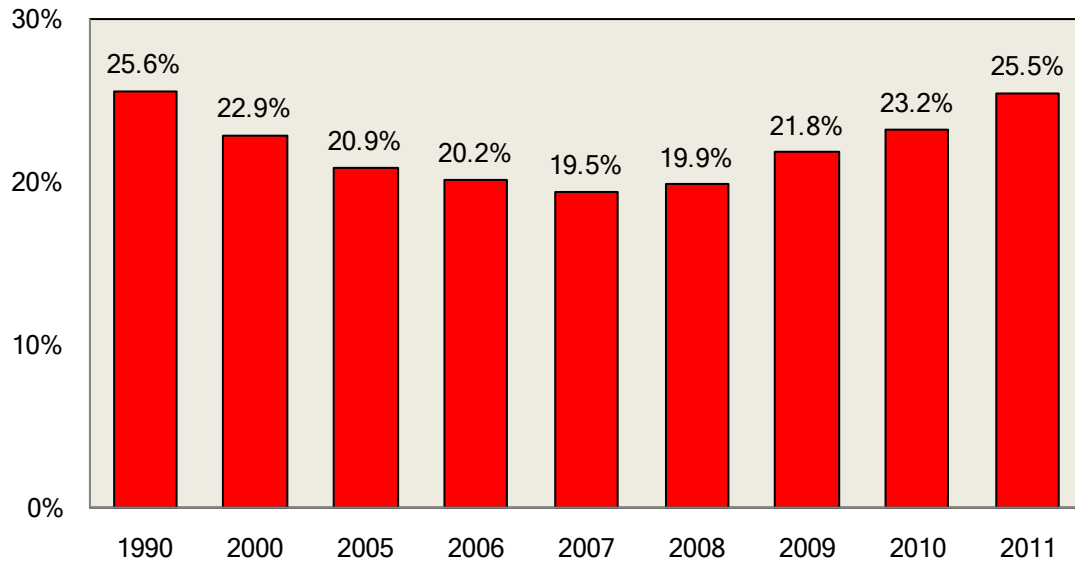


Figure 2
Poverty Rates in the United States by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011

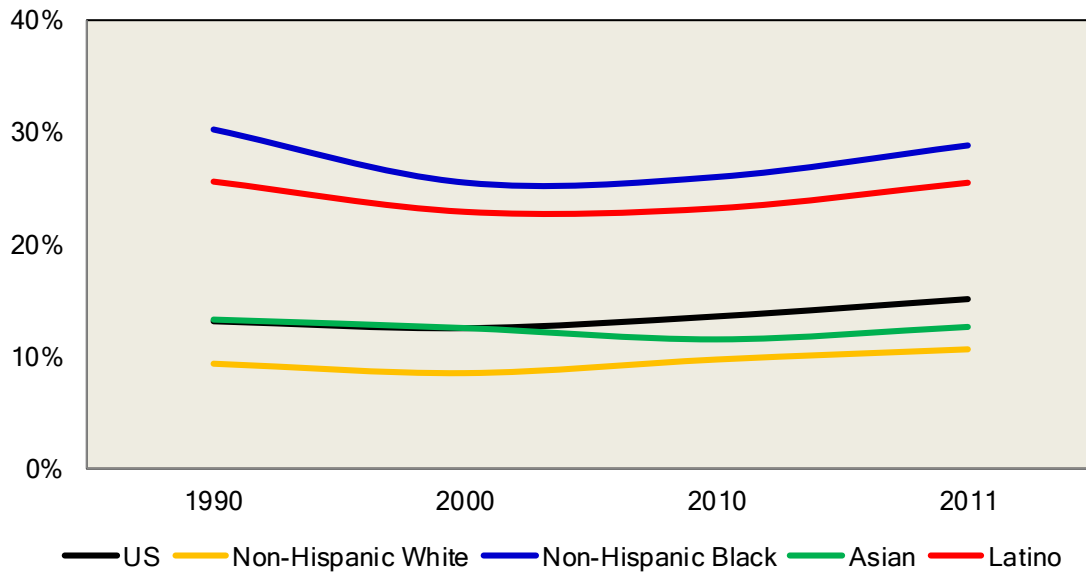


Figure 3
Poverty Rates in the United States by Race/Ethnicity, 2005 - 2011

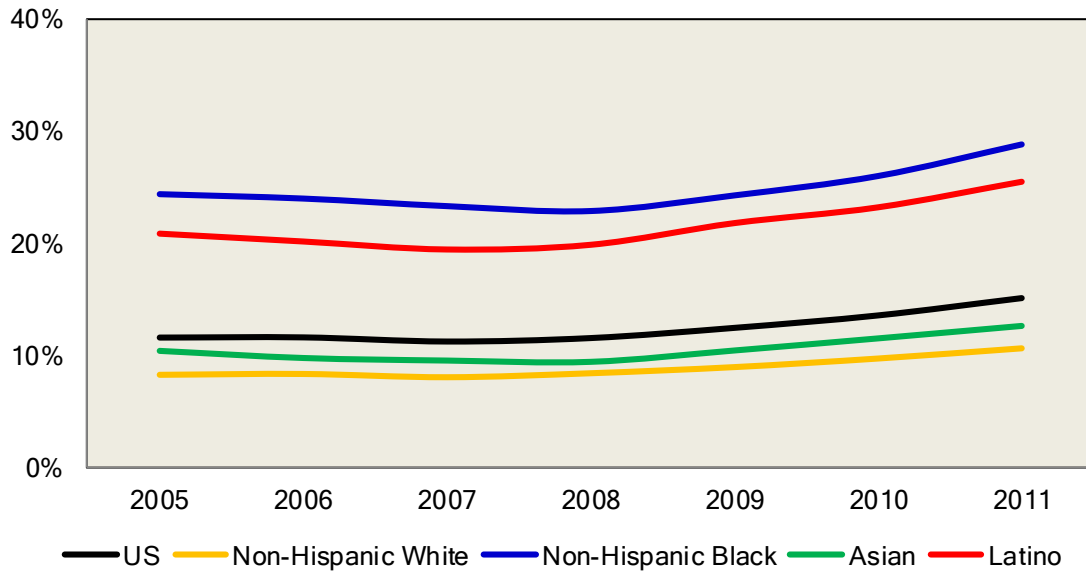
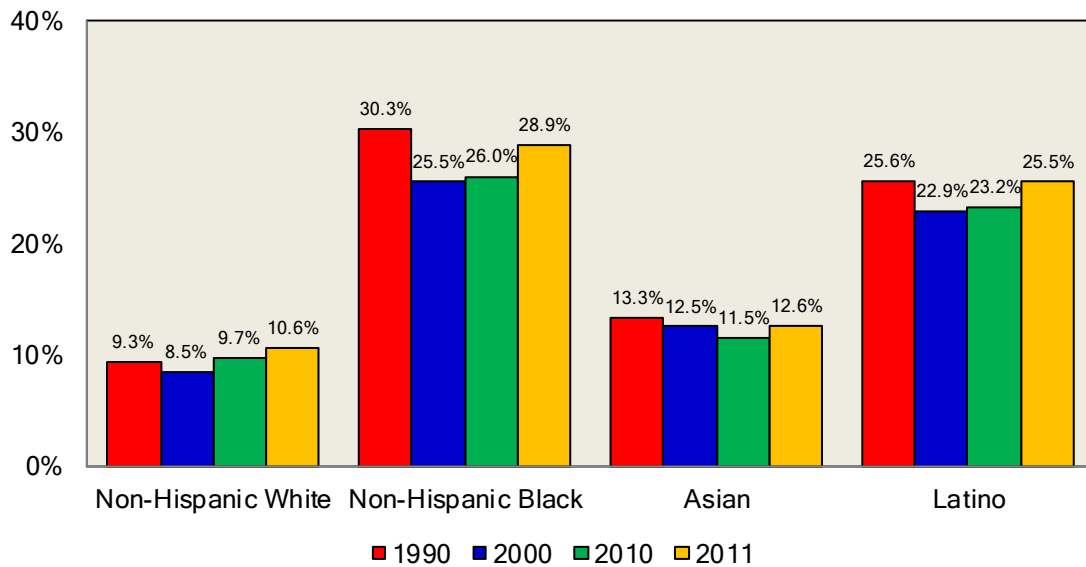


Figure 4
Poverty Rates in the United States by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011



Latinos in New York City

Poverty rates among Latinos in New York City declined in 2011 (30.4%), relative to both 1990 (32.6%) and 2000 (31.2%) rates. This is in contrast to the trend for Latinos nationally, who saw stagnant poverty rates from 1990 to 2011, and a slightly increased rate from 2000 to 2011. Consistent with the U.S. trend, Latinos' poverty rates began to increase in the City in 2009 and had not recovered by 2011. (See figure 5 and table 2).

New York City by Race/Ethnicity

In contrast to national trends, Latinos were the last race/ethnic group to see increases in poverty rates following the economic crisis. Non-Hispanic whites, non-Hispanic blacks, and Asians' poverty rates increased beginning in 2008, while Latinos' poverty rate in New York City did not increase until 2009. Whereas nationally non-Hispanic blacks consistently had the highest poverty rates from 1990 to 2011, in New York City, Latinos had the highest poverty rates. (See table 2). Non-Hispanic whites had the lowest poverty rates, followed in ascending order by Asians, non-Hispanic blacks, and Latinos. The disparities between race/ethnic groups were stable in New York City between 1990 and 2011. (See figures 6 and 7).

Figure 5
Poverty Rates in New York City Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011

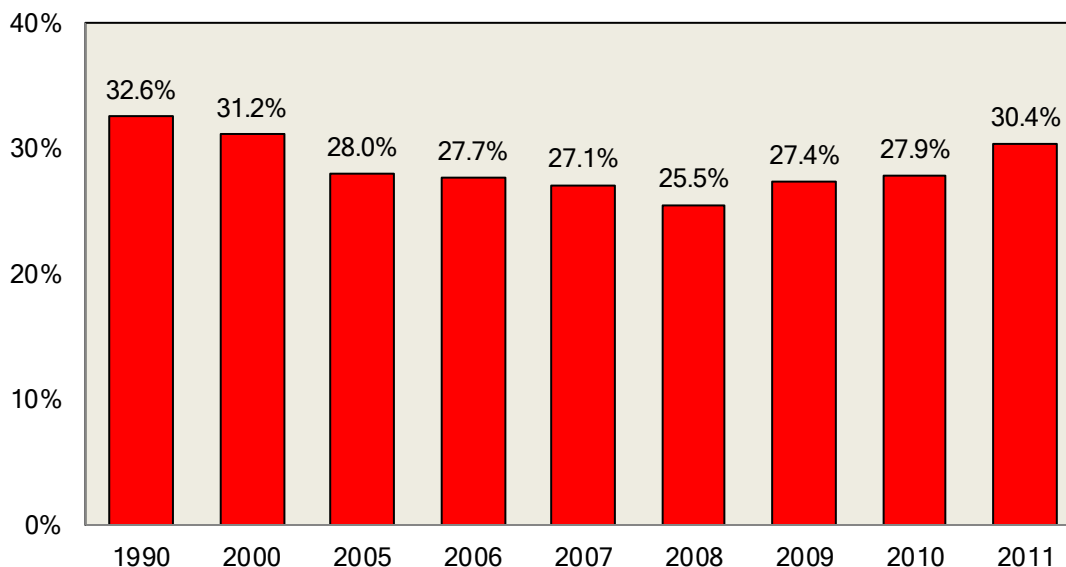


Table 2
Poverty Rates in New York City by Race/Ethnicity in the Five Boroughs, 1990 - 2011

Year	Race/Ethnicity	Bronx	Manhattan	Staten Island	Brooklyn	Queens	New York City
1990	Non-Hispanic White	10.5%	7.4%	5.2%	13.7%	6.8%	9.2%
	Non-Hispanic Black	26.7%	33.2%	29.3%	24.8%	13.0%	23.7%
	Asian	21.1%	21.8%	7.9%	18.3%	11.9%	15.6%
	Latino	41.1%	35.5%	18.3%	36.4%	16.1%	32.6%
2000	Non-Hispanic White	13.2%	7.1%	6.3%	18.6%	9.5%	11.7%
	Non-Hispanic Black	28.8%	31.8%	26.3%	26.6%	15.4%	25.0%
	Asian	18.9%	22.9%	8.9%	25.8%	14.8%	18.9%
	Latino	38.5%	34.2%	23.6%	33.0%	19.9%	31.2%
2005	Non-Hispanic White	11.3%	6.4%	6.5%	17.1%	7.6%	10.4%
	Non-Hispanic Black	26.0%	27.7%	23.9%	20.5%	11.5%	20.4%
	Asian	29.4%	20.8%	5.6%	24.1%	11.8%	16.7%
	Latino	35.4%	32.0%	15.2%	30.5%	16.5%	28.0%
2006	Non-Hispanic White	8.3%	7.0%	6.2%	17.7%	8.3%	10.8%
	Non-Hispanic Black	26.5%	31.4%	24.5%	23.5%	10.9%	21.9%
	Asian	21.0%	21.5%	5.9%	22.3%	15.6%	18.1%
	Latino	35.2%	31.6%	15.2%	30.3%	16.1%	27.7%
2007	Non-Hispanic White	12.1%	6.7%	6.2%	17.7%	7.9%	10.9%
	Non-Hispanic Black	23.6%	28.4%	25.9%	20.1%	10.2%	19.5%
	Asian	16.1%	21.1%	8.7%	20.9%	12.5%	15.9%
	Latino	34.8%	31.8%	14.6%	29.7%	15.2%	27.1%
2008	Non-Hispanic White	10.9%	7.0%	5.2%	18.1%	8.3%	11.1%
	Non-Hispanic Black	24.3%	26.5%	25.3%	21.8%	11.8%	20.6%
	Asian	22.1%	20.7%	5.9%	19.3%	13.9%	16.5%
	Latino	33.8%	26.5%	19.5%	26.3%	15.2%	25.5%
2009	Non-Hispanic White	12.1%	7.1%	6.0%	17.6%	8.7%	11.3%
	Non-Hispanic Black	24.3%	23.3%	24.1%	21.4%	10.0%	19.8%
	Asian	16.8%	20.9%	17.3%	22.7%	14.0%	17.7%
	Latino	35.1%	29.6%	22.6%	29.8%	15.7%	27.4%
2010	Non-Hispanic White	11.0%	7.6%	5.6%	18.8%	8.9%	11.7%
	Non-Hispanic Black	26.3%	26.6%	22.0%	21.8%	14.2%	21.5%
	Asian	24.4%	19.6%	12.6%	23.7%	16.2%	19.0%
	Latino	36.2%	25.8%	18.4%	29.3%	19.4%	27.9%
2011	Non-Hispanic White	16.2%	9.1%	7.4%	19.2%	9.7%	13.6%
	Non-Hispanic Black	26.6%	33.1%	18.5%	23.8%	12.1%	22.1%
	Asian	22.1%	23.8%	14.4%	20.9%	18.1%	19.6%
	Latino	38.6%	30.7%	21.0%	33.0%	20.3%	30.4%

Figure 6
Poverty Rates in New York City by Race/Ethnicity,
1990 - 2011

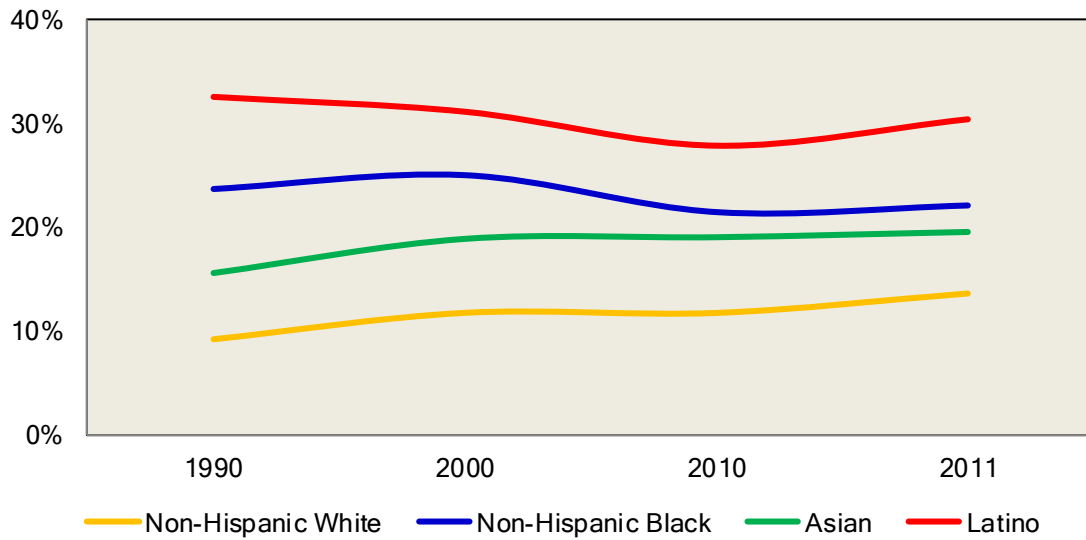
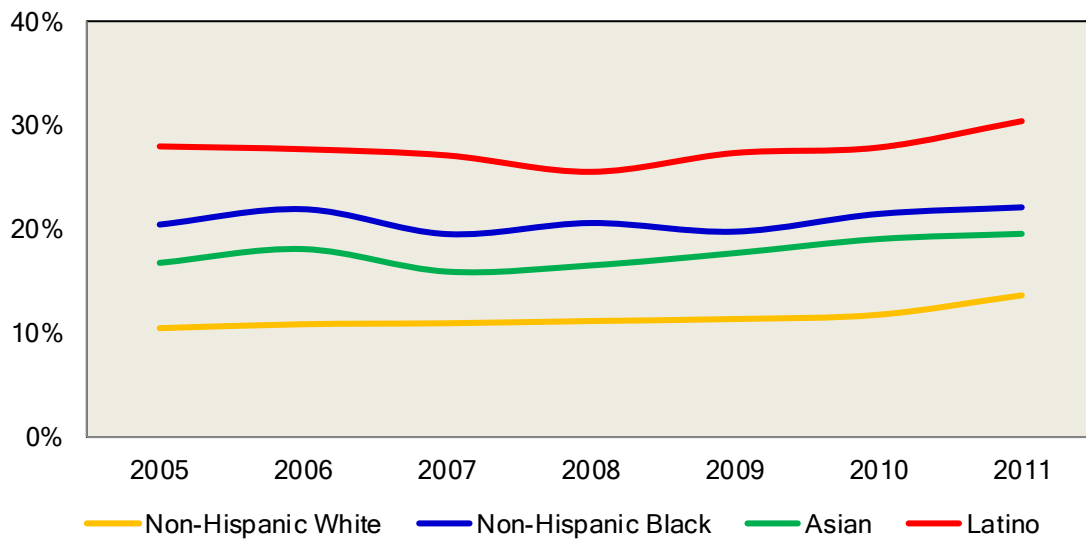


Figure 7
Poverty Rates in New York City by Race/Ethnicity,
2005 - 2011



Latinos in the Five New York City Boroughs

From 1990 to 2011, there were some differences in poverty rates between each of the five New York City boroughs among Latinos. (See figures 8 through 10).

Latinos in the Bronx had the highest poverty rates compared to Latinos residing in the other four boroughs. Although poverty rates increased after the onset of the recession in 2007, Latinos in the Bronx had lower poverty rates in 2011 than in 1990. (See figure 11).

Latinos had relatively similar poverty rates from 1990 to 2011 in Manhattan and Brooklyn. Although poverty rates increased in response to the 2007 crisis among Latinos in the Manhattan and Brooklyn, the two groups had lower poverty rates in 2011 than in 1990. (See figures 12 and 13).

Poverty rates among Latinos in Staten Island and Queens fluctuated between 1990 and 2011. In 2011, poverty rates among Latinos in both boroughs were higher than in 1990 and nearly identical to rates in 2000. (See figures 14 and 15).

Poverty rates began to increase in 2008 within each of the five boroughs, consistent with national and City-wide trends. At the same time, the data indicate that across New York City's boroughs, Latinos have not experienced a substantial recovery from the economic crisis.

The Five New York City Boroughs by Race/Ethnicity

In Manhattan, Latinos had the highest poverty rates of all race/ethnic groups from 1990 to 2009. Yet, in both 2010 and 2011 the Latino poverty rate dropped below that of non-Hispanic blacks. (See figure 16). In Staten Island, Latinos had the second highest poverty rate from 1990 until 2010; however, in 2011 Latinos' poverty rate increased, and they had the highest poverty rate of all groups. (See figure 17). Within the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Queens, Latinos had the highest poverty rates of all major race/ethnic groups from 1990 from 2011. (See figures 18 through 20). While within each of the five boroughs there were some small differences from the City-wide trends between 1990 and 2011, Latinos still tended to have higher poverty rates than other groups.

Figure 8
Poverty Rates in New York City Among Latinos by Five Boroughs,
1990 - 2011

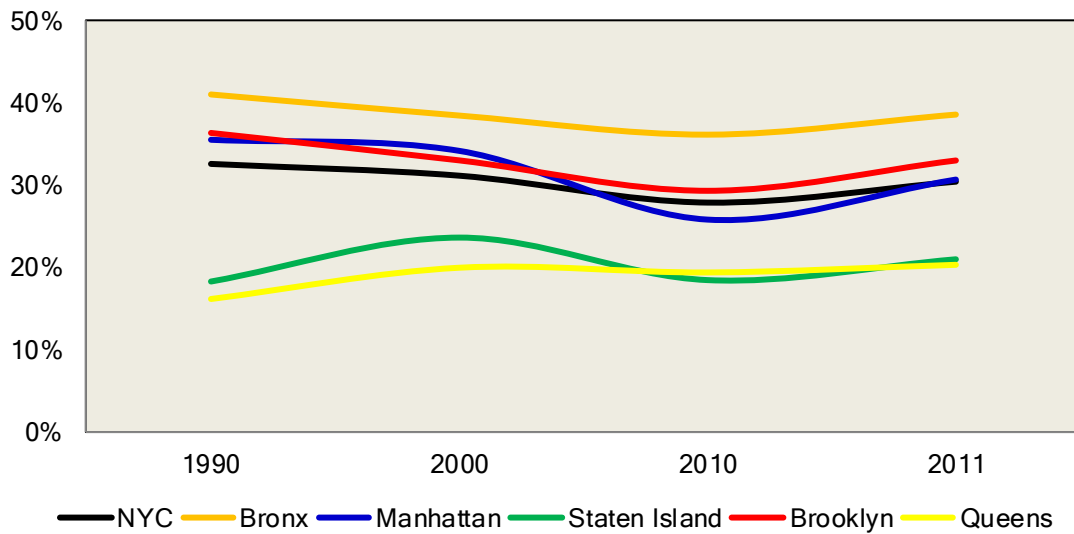


Figure 9
Poverty Rates in New York City Among Latinos by Five Boroughs,
2005 - 2011

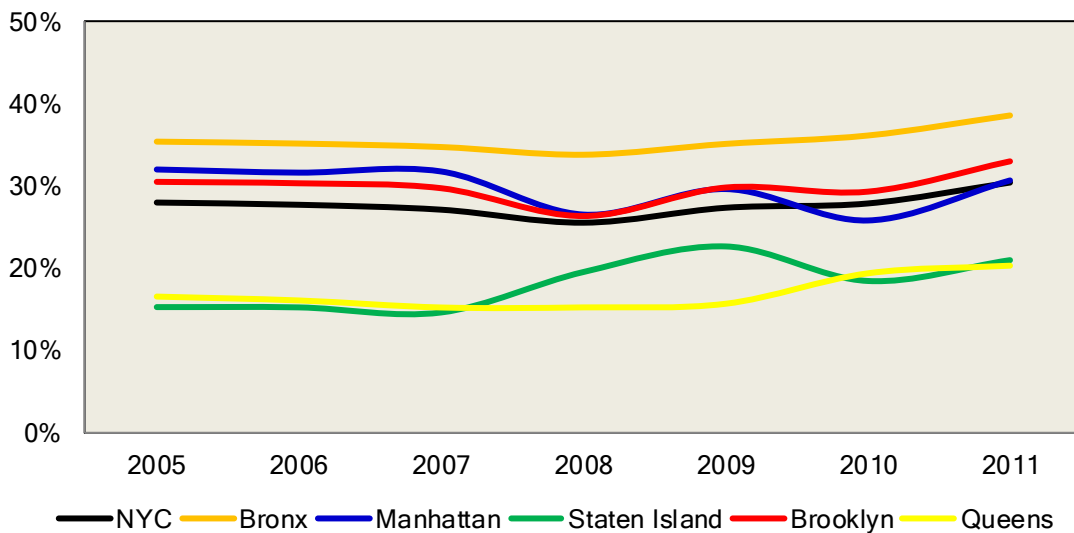


Figure 10
Poverty Rates in New York City Among Latinos by Five Boroughs, 1990 - 2011

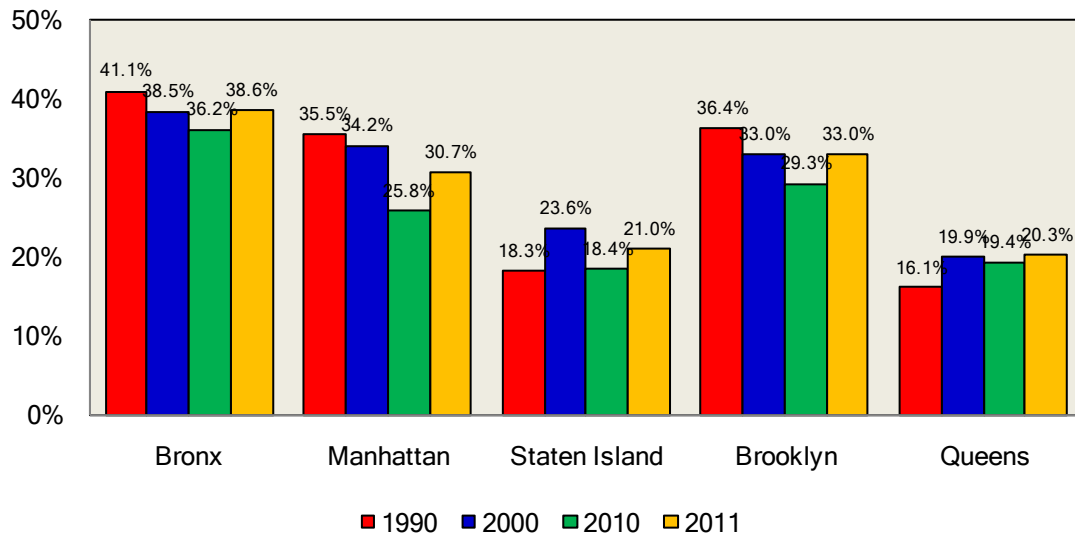


Figure 11
Poverty Rates in the Bronx Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011

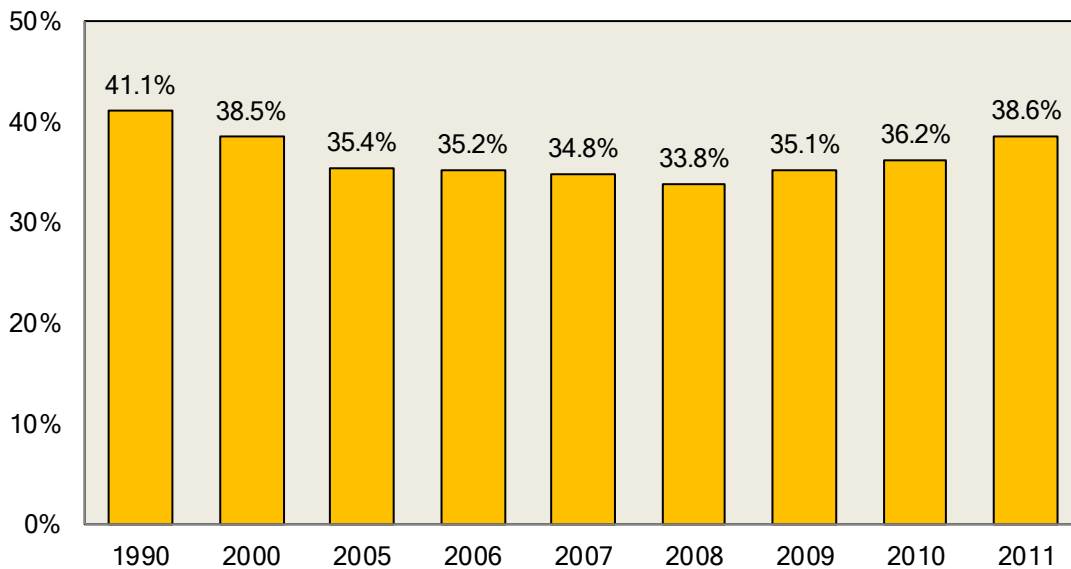


Figure 12
Poverty Rates in Manhattan Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011

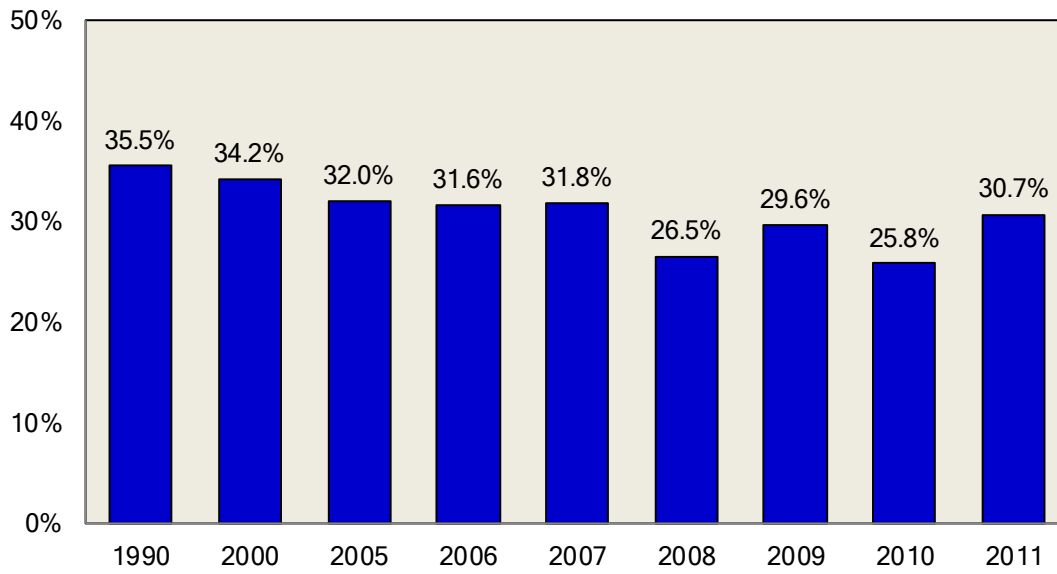


Figure 13
Poverty Rates in Brooklyn Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011

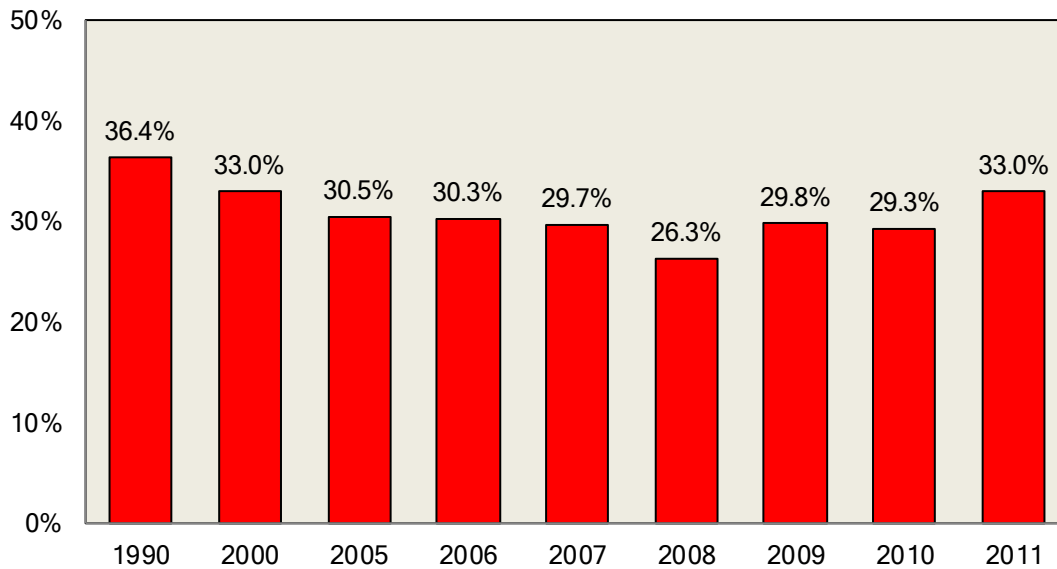


Figure 14
Poverty Rates in Staten Island Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011

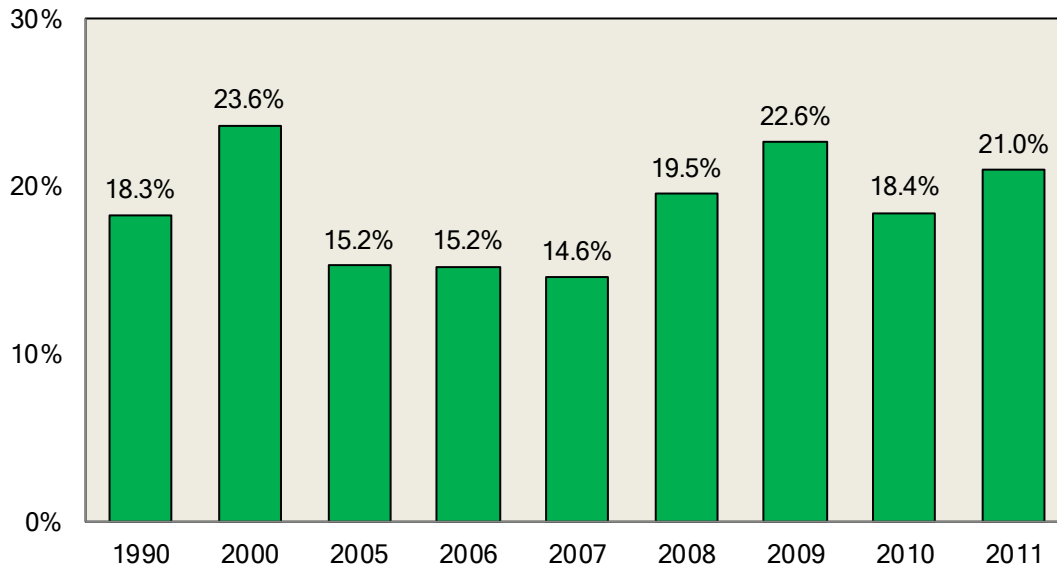


Figure 15
Poverty Rates in Queens Among Latinos, 1990 - 2011

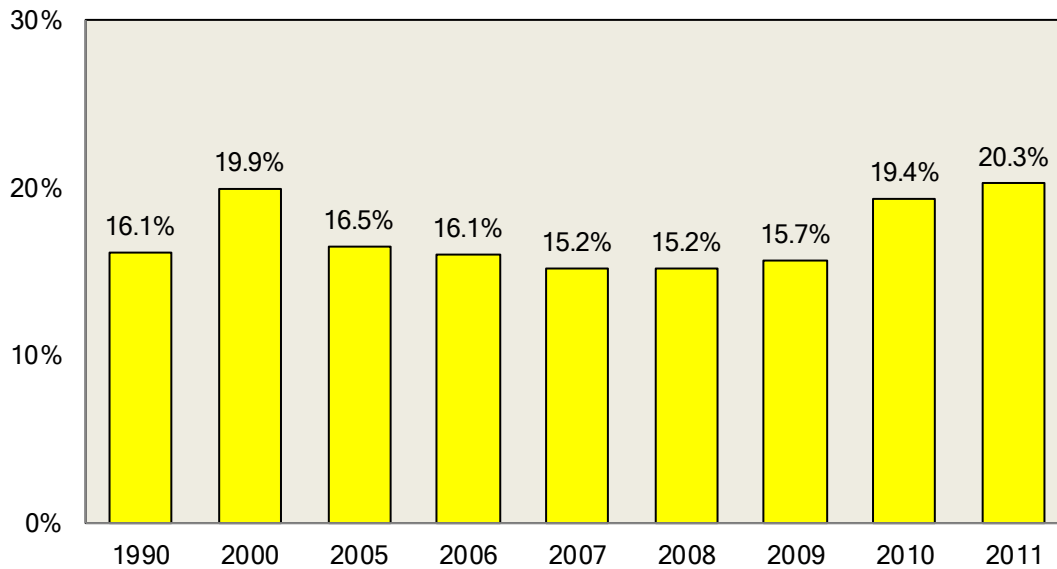


Figure 16
Poverty Rates in Manhattan by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011

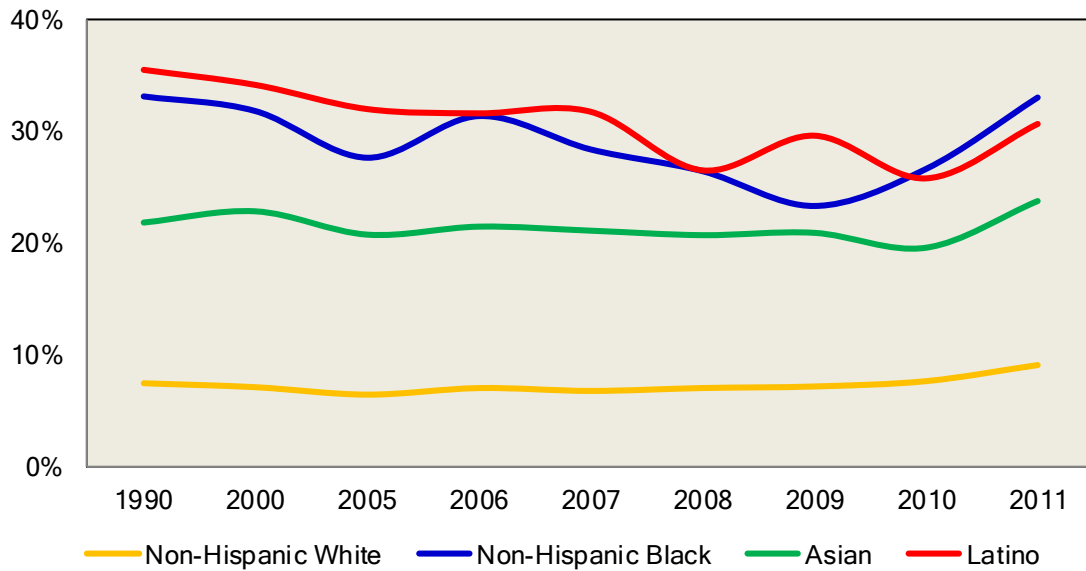


Figure 17
Poverty Rates in Staten Island by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011

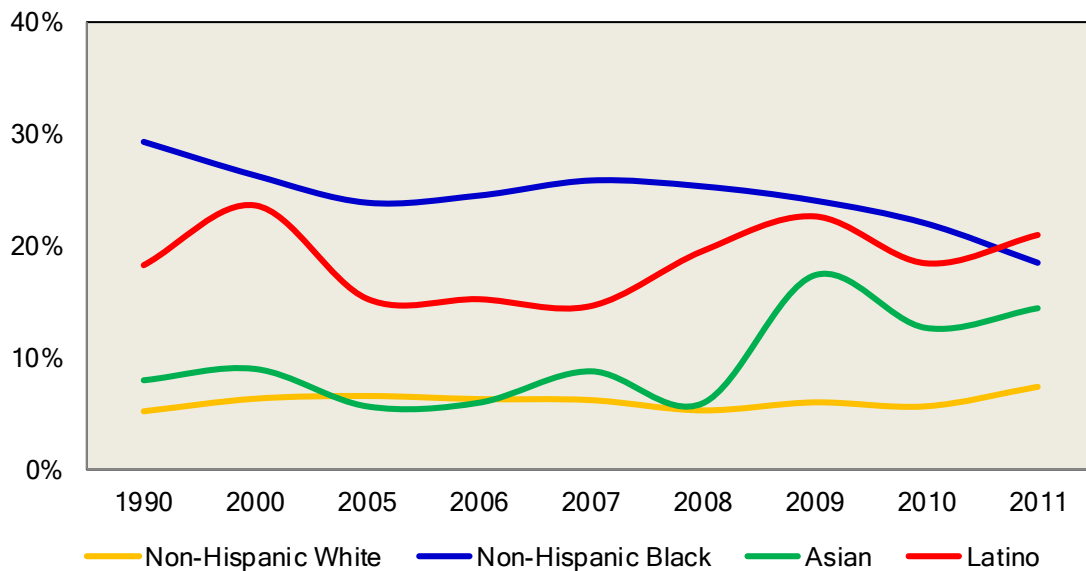


Figure 18
Poverty Rates in the Bronx by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011

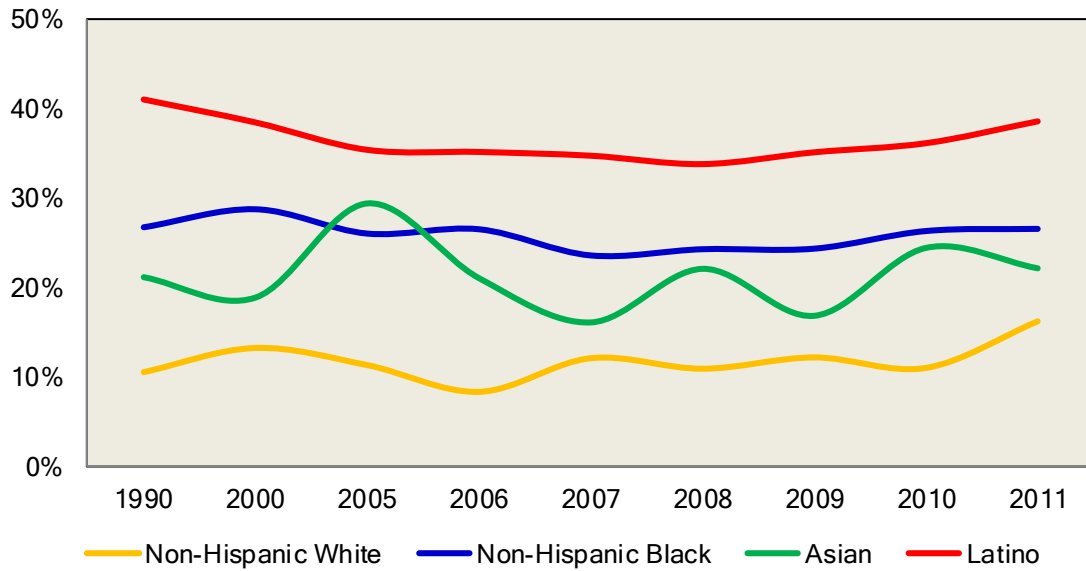


Figure 19
Poverty Rates in Brooklyn by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011

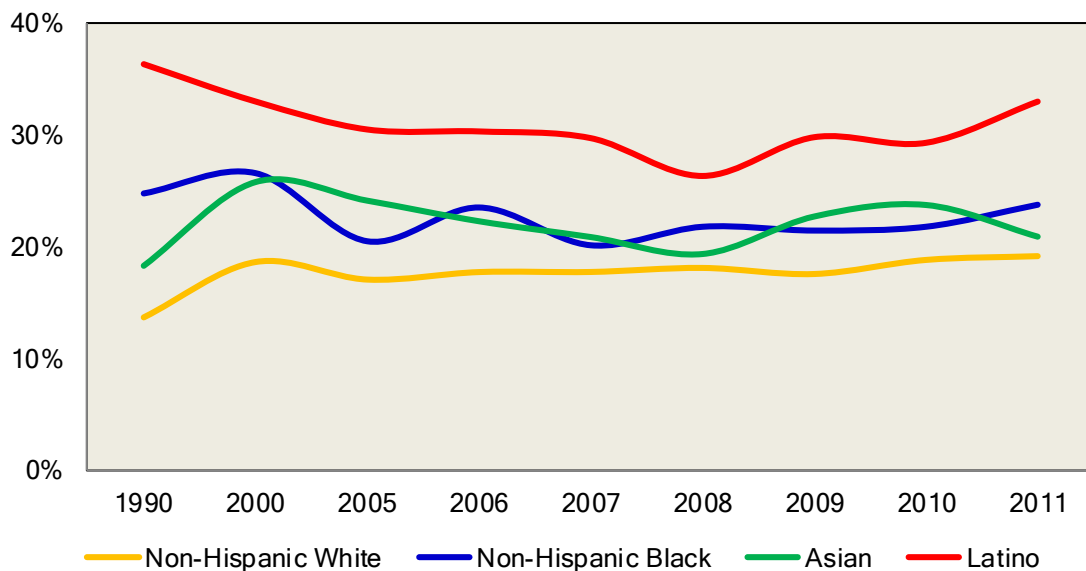
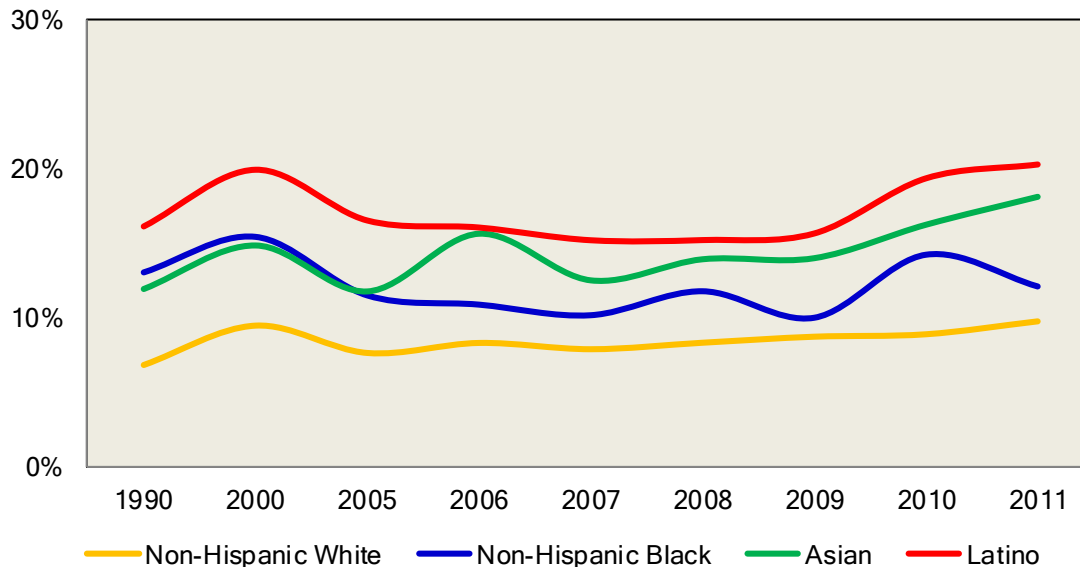


Figure 20
Poverty Rates in Queens by Race/Ethnicity, 1990 - 2011



Trends in Poverty Rates by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011

The United States by Latino Nationality

Trends among Latinos in the United States by national group are complex and varied. Among all Latinos in the U.S. poverty rates were greater in 2011 than 2000, but stagnant from 1990 to 2011. However, this was not the case within all Latino nationalities. Among Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Ecuadorians, and Dominicans, poverty rates were greater in 2011 than in 2000. However, only Mexicans and Ecuadorians had higher poverty rates in 2011 than in 1990. Poverty rates among Colombians, which were already significantly lower than the other Latino groups, were lower in 2011 than in 1990 or 2000. This indicates Colombians in the United States may have fared better than the other four Latino nationalities in reaction to the recession of 2007 - 2009. (See table 3 and figures 21 through 23).

Within all five major Latino nationalities, poverty rates decreased from 1990 to 2007 and 2008, but then rose from 2008 and 2009 until 2011. Among Mexicans, poverty rates increased from 2008 to 2011. Among Puerto Ricans, Colombians, Ecuadorians, and Dominicans, poverty rates began to increase in 2009. This suggests Mexicans may have been the first group to be impacted by the 2007 recession in the U.S. This was likely due to the increase in the foreign-born Mexican population from 1990 to 2011 because of migration. Nationally, no group seems to have recovered from the economic crisis.

The disparities between each of the five Latino nationalities were stable between 1990 and 2011. Colombians consistently had the lowest poverty rates of all other groups from 1990 to 2011, and their rates were significantly lower than Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, and Dominicans. From 2005 to 2011, Colombians' poverty rates in the United States were as low as poverty rates among Asians in the U.S. From 1990 to 2011, Ecuadorians had the second lowest poverty rates of all groups, followed in ascending order by Puerto Ricans, Mexicans, and Dominicans. (See figures 21 and 22).

Table 3
Poverty Rates in the United States by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011

	1990	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Mexican	26.8%	23.7%	22.6%	21.9%	21.0%	21.6%	23.5%	25.0%	27.2%
Puerto Rican	30.2%	25.2%	22.1%	22.6%	21.9%	21.4%	23.1%	24.7%	27.3%
Colombian	14.5%	16.1%	11.6%	10.7%	10.3%	10.2%	11.1%	11.8%	12.6%
Ecuadorian	15.6%	15.9%	13.5%	14.0%	13.2%	13.1%	14.2%	16.7%	17.5%
Dominican	32.1%	27.5%	26.7%	24.7%	24.6%	22.2%	25.1%	25.1%	28.6%
All Latino	25.6%	22.6%	20.9%	20.2%	19.5%	19.9%	21.8%	23.2%	25.5%

Figure 21
Poverty Rates in the United States by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011

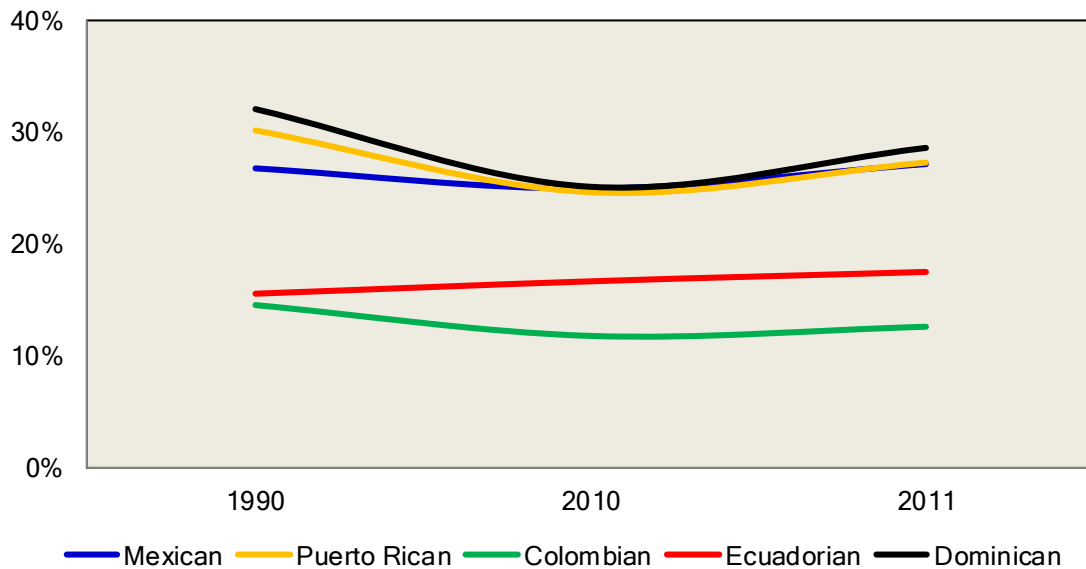


Figure 22
Poverty Rates in the United States by Latino Nationality, 2005 - 2011

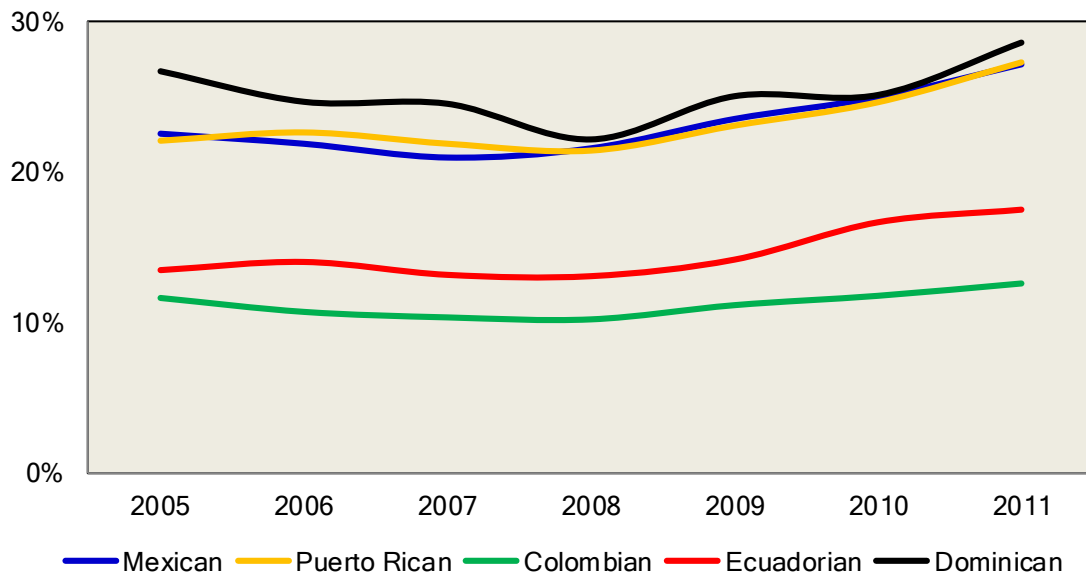
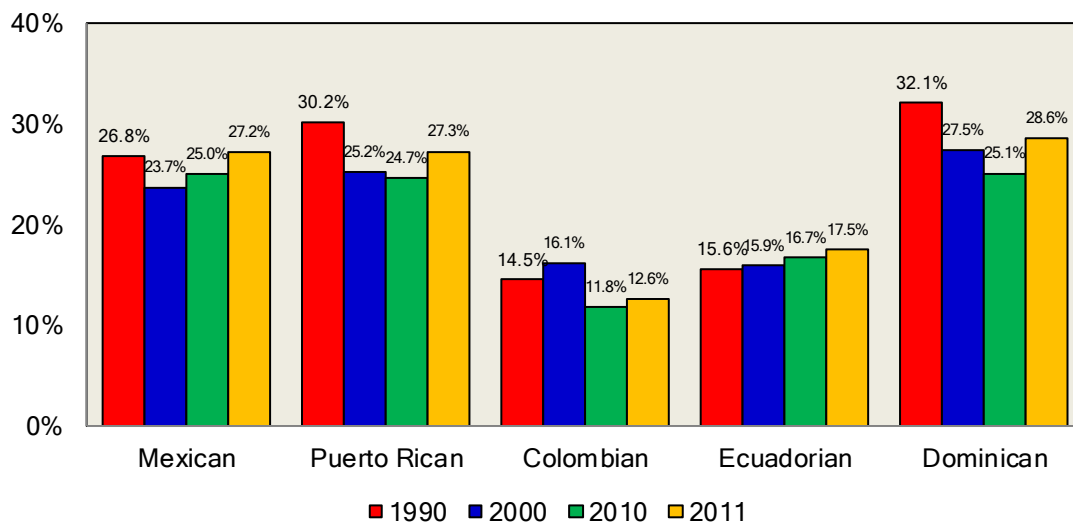


Figure 23
Poverty Rates in the United States by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011



New York City by Latino Nationality

In New York City, there was some variation from the national trends in poverty rates among the five Latino nationalities examined in this report. Similar to the national trends, poverty rates dropped from 2000 to approximately 2008, but then rose among all five groups until 2011. This was clearly a reaction to the economic crisis in 2007. Similar to national trends, Mexicans were the first to see rises in poverty rates, beginning in 2008. Poverty rates among Puerto Ricans and Dominicans began to increase in 2009. Colombians and Ecuadorians did not see increases in poverty rates until 2010. This suggests Mexicans were the first to be impacted by the 2007 recession in New York City. This may be attributed to the rising foreign-born Mexican population from 1990 to 2011, which may already have had lower incomes and educational levels. (See table 4).

Mexicans and Dominicans in New York City may have experienced a more detectable impact of the economic crisis in 2007: poverty rates among these two Latino national subgroups in 2011 were higher than in 2000. Among Ecuadorians, the poverty rate in 2011 was the same as 2000. In contrast to the national trend, poverty among Puerto Ricans in the City declined from 2000 to 2011. Consistent with the U.S. trend, Colombians in the City fared better than the other four Latino nationalities: poverty declined from 2000 to 2011. (See figures 24 through 26).

Unlike national patterns, New York City trends in poverty rates had more complex patterns. Mexicans and possibly Dominicans in New York City seem to have felt the impact of the 2007 recession to a greater extent than the other groups. With decreasing poverty rates over the past decade, Colombians and Puerto Ricans in New York City seem to have fared better.

Notably, poverty rates among all Latinos in New York City were higher than poverty rates among Latinos in the United States. In addition, poverty rates within each Latino group in New York City were higher than the correspondent national poverty rates for each group. For example, poverty rates among Colombians in New York City were consistently higher than poverty rates among Colombians in the U.S.

Table 4

Poverty Rates in New York City Among Largest Latino Nationalities by the Five Boroughs, 1990 - 2011

Year	Race/Ethnicity	Bronx	Manhattan	Staten Island	Brooklyn	Queens	New York City
1990	Mexican	29.3%	24.0%	6.8%	27.1%	13.6%	23.3%
	Puerto Rican	42.7%	38.6%	22.4%	42.2%	16.5%	38.3%
	Colombian	22.7%	22.8%	1.6%	23.7%	14.5%	16.3%
	Ecuadorian	28.8%	33.0%	16.0%	22.6%	14.0%	20.8%
	Dominican	45.1%	39.8%	20.4%	37.4%	22.8%	37.8%
2000	Mexican	39.7%	30.7%	37.2%	35.2%	27.6%	33.4%
	Puerto Rican	40.0%	40.1%	24.0%	36.5%	18.3%	35.4%
	Colombian	26.6%	24.1%	14.8%	24.4%	19.1%	20.2%
	Ecuadorian	29.1%	31.4%	12.9%	25.9%	17.7%	22.3%
	Dominican	37.7%	34.2%	29.1%	32.9%	22.6%	33.1%
2005	Mexican	38.8%	24.4%	20.8%	34.6%	27.8%	31.8%
	Puerto Rican	36.4%	35.5%	16.2%	33.3%	13.6%	31.2%
	Colombian	16.7%	23.0%	5.0%	10.7%	18.6%	18.0%
	Ecuadorian	22.0%	30.2%	2.6%	21.0%	13.5%	17.1%
	Dominican	37.4%	37.2%	29.6%	34.6%	20.8%	33.9%
2006	Mexican	48.1%	36.1%	36.4%	28.4%	22.3%	33.1%
	Puerto Rican	35.5%	33.8%	11.9%	35.0%	17.1%	31.4%
	Colombian	23.5%	19.7%	N/A	17.3%	16.4%	16.7%
	Ecuadorian	22.9%	24.7%	N/A	23.4%	16.8%	19.0%
	Dominican	34.0%	35.5%	30.8%	33.1%	15.6%	31.3%
	All Latino	35.2%	31.6%	15.2%	30.3%	16.1%	27.7%
2007	Mexican	34.4%	24.5%	25.0%	31.8%	17.2%	27.3%
	Puerto Rican	36.0%	31.9%	8.7%	36.6%	17.2%	31.4%
	Colombian	9.1%	20.0%	9.5%	22.2%	12.6%	14.1%
	Ecuadorian	26.5%	21.3%	14.8%	21.6%	16.6%	19.1%
	Dominican	37.0%	39.8%	26.1%	28.9%	16.3%	32.8%
2008	Mexican	45.5%	30.2%	61.0%	29.4%	19.6%	32.2%
	Puerto Rican	35.6%	33.7%	10.0%	30.0%	15.0%	29.6%
	Colombian	33.3%	14.9%	18.8%	9.9%	12.6%	13.7%
	Ecuadorian	15.0%	9.7%	17.9%	18.5%	20.0%	18.1%
	Dominican	33.7%	28.3%	27.6%	28.1%	14.4%	28.1%
2009	Mexican	34.2%	21.1%	61.4%	31.7%	27.7%	31.2%
	Puerto Rican	37.1%	33.7%	18.3%	34.7%	15.8%	31.5%
	Colombian	18.8%	11.8%	9.1%	18.8%	11.9%	13.1%
	Ecuadorian	14.0%	28.8%	6.3%	30.6%	13.5%	17.1%
	Dominican	37.4%	33.3%	20.0%	32.3%	18.3%	32.6%
2010	Mexican	41.0%	20.1%	29.0%	32.5%	29.7%	32.2%
	Puerto Rican	40.7%	33.9%	19.0%	33.6%	22.6%	34.0%
	Colombian	13.0%	18.8%	N/A	18.2%	16.7%	16.3%
	Ecuadorian	18.3%	13.2%	32.3%	31.3%	17.2%	20.4%
	Dominican	33.6%	26.0%	11.1%	26.6%	18.5%	27.9%
2011	Mexican	39.5%	24.8%	28.7%	43.9%	28.5%	35.4%
	Puerto Rican	38.2%	36.3%	23.1%	35.0%	20.0%	33.3%
	Colombian	33.3%	25.5%	N/A	4.8%	16.3%	16.1%
	Ecuadorian	18.6%	30.5%	8.8%	25.4%	21.7%	22.5%
	Dominican	41.7%	33.8%	6.3%	37.6%	20.8%	35.3%

N/A indicates there is no data available.

Figure 24
Poverty Rates in New York City by Latino Nationality,
1990 - 2011

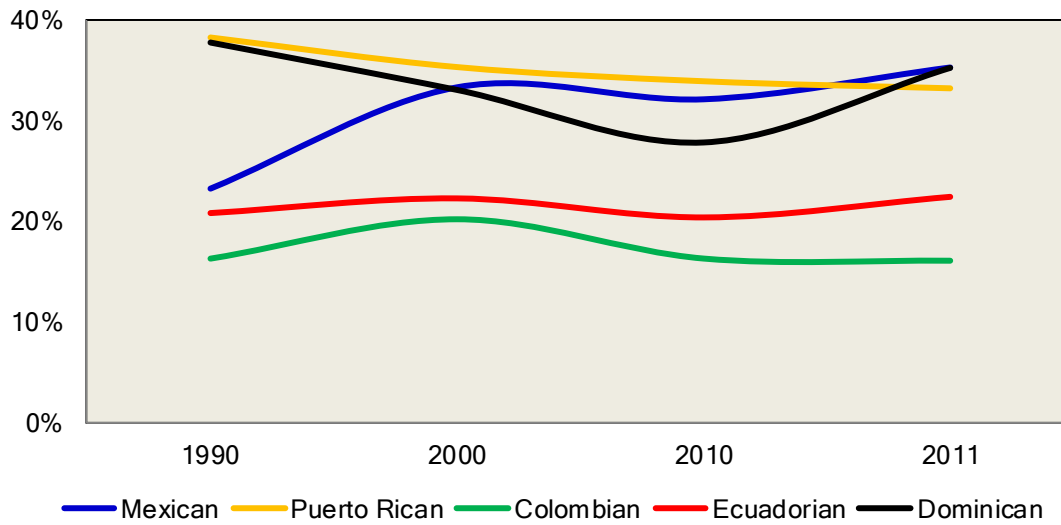


Figure 25
Poverty Rates in New York City by Latino Nationality,
2005 - 2011

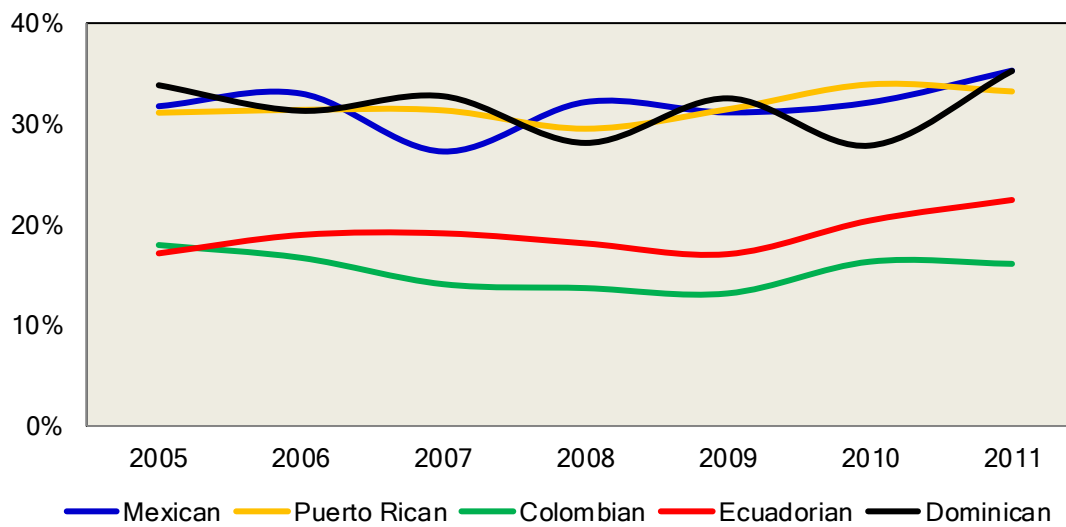
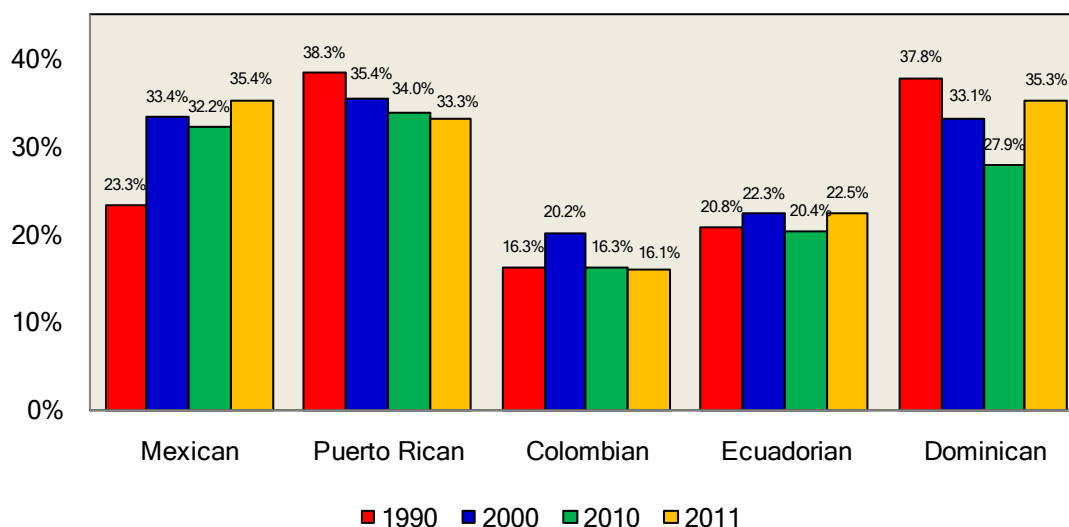


Figure 26
Poverty Rates in New York City by Latino Nationality,
1990 - 2011



The Five New York City Boroughs by Latino Nationality

Among Latinos in New York City, there was much variation in poverty rates within each borough and across the five Latino nationalities examined in this report from 1990 to 2011.³

In the Bronx, Colombians and Ecuadorians had lower poverty rates compared with Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, and Dominicans. By 2011, approximately 40% of Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, and Dominicans in the Bronx were in poverty. These findings are similar to national and City-wide trends, where Colombians and then Ecuadorians fared better than the other three Latino groups. (See figure 27).

Among Latinos in Manhattan, there was a great deal of fluctuation in poverty rates from 1990 to 2011. There was some stability in the disparities in poverty rates between the Latino nationalities across the census years. Consistent with national and U.S. trends, Colombians had relatively low poverty rates. Strikingly, in contrast to most other trends among Mexicans nationally and in the City, Mexicans in Manhattan had relatively low poverty levels. In 2000, Puerto Ricans consistently had the highest poverty rates of all five groups in Manhattan, followed by Dominicans. (See figure 28).

³ For additional data on poverty rates by Latino nationalities in each New York City borough see the statistical appendix to this report.

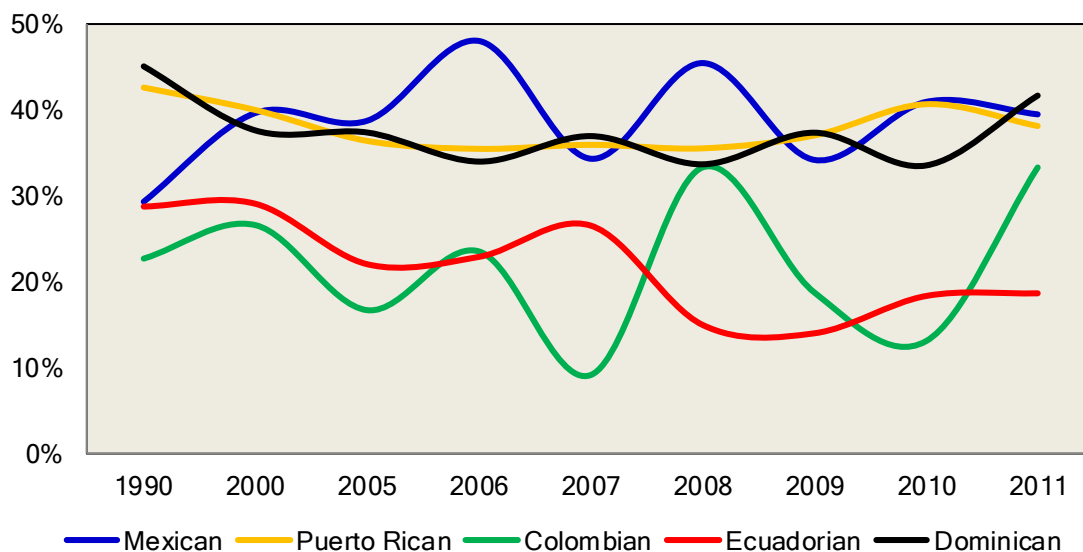
In Staten Island poverty rates varied among the Latino nationalities. The most noticeable finding may be Mexicans' relatively high poverty rates, especially in 2008 and 2009. Unlike national and City-wide trends, Colombians and Ecuadorians did not have consistently low poverty rates, relative to the other three Latino nationalities.⁴ (See figure 29).

In Brooklyn, trends in poverty rates from 1990 to 2011 were similar to patterns in New York City and the U.S. Among all groups, poverty rates rose in the wake of the 2007 economic crisis. However, Colombians and Ecuadorians were less impacted by the 2007 recession than the other three groups. (See figure 30).

Trends in poverty rates in Queens from 1990 to 2010 were similar to patterns in New York City and the United States. Among Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, and Dominicans, poverty rates dropped from 2000 to 2007, but then rose in 2008. Among Colombians and Ecuadorians, poverty rates did not begin to rise until 2009. This again suggests Colombians and Ecuadorians were less impacted by the 2007 recession than the other three groups. (See figure 31).

Because there is so much variation in poverty rates from 1990 to 2011, within each borough across the five Latino nationalities, disparities between the five Latino nationalities are less marked than national and City-wide trends.

Figure 27
Poverty Rates in the Bronx by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011



⁴ Census data for Latinos in Staten Island has missing data and relatively small sample sizes, and thus percentages and trends should be interpreted cautiously.

Figure 28
Poverty Rates in Manhattan by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011

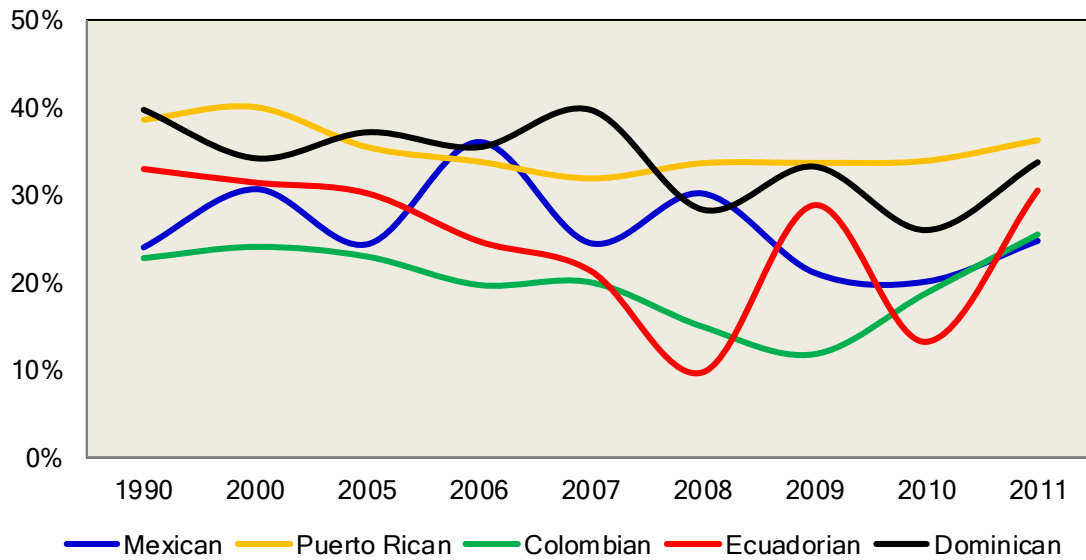
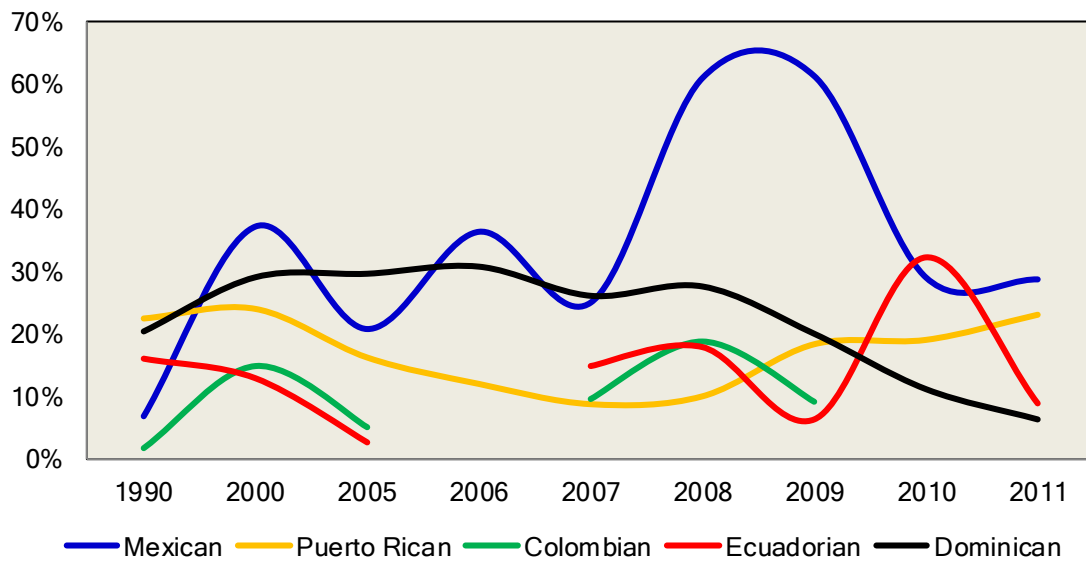


Figure 29
Poverty Rates in Staten Island by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011



Note: There is no data available for Colombians in 2006, 2010, and 2011; and Ecuadorians in 2006.

Figure 30
Poverty Rates in Brooklyn by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011

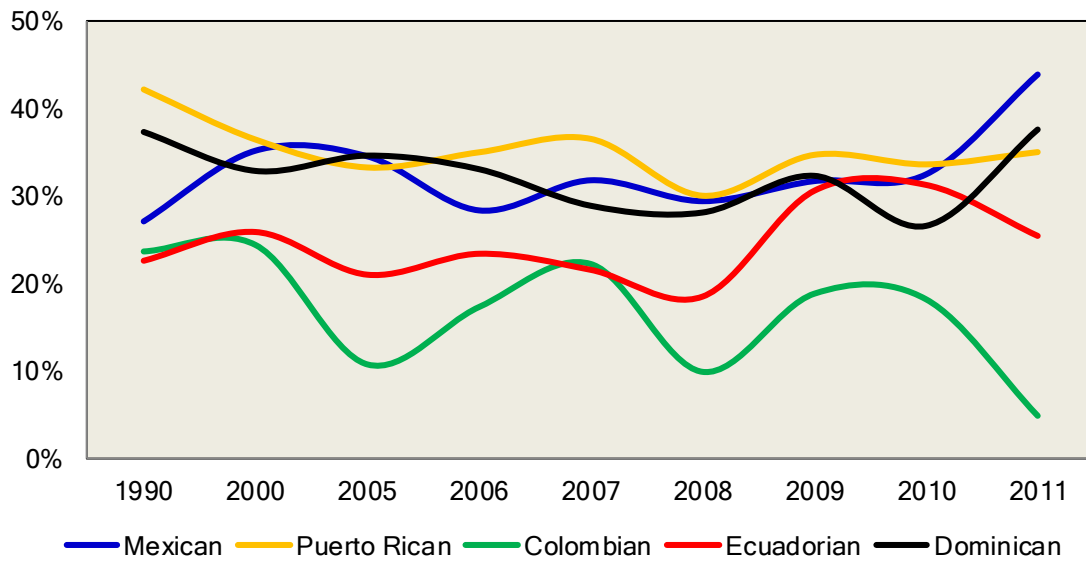
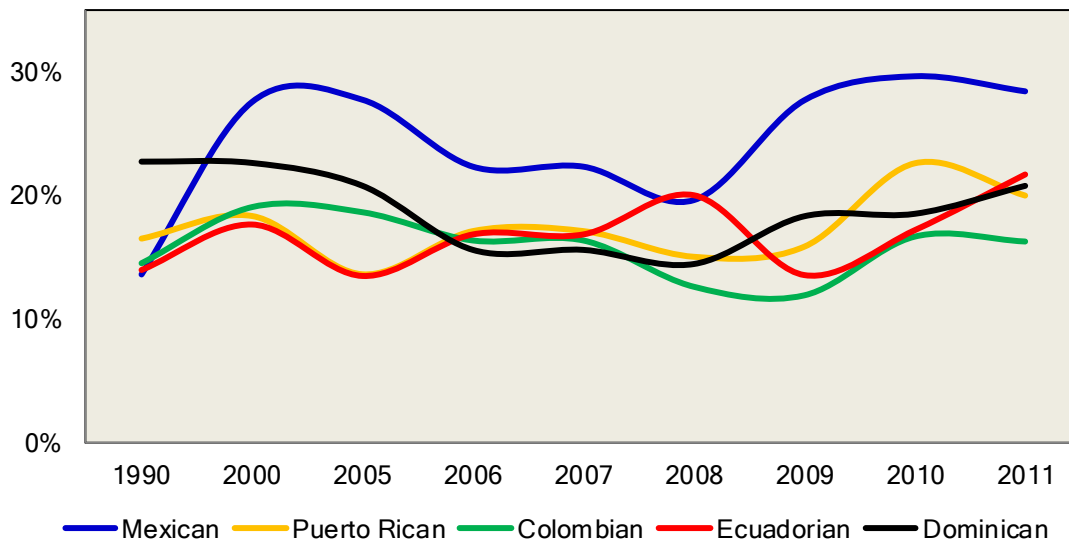


Figure 31
Poverty Rates in Queens by Latino Nationality, 1990 - 2011



Conclusion

The poverty rate data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau indicate nuanced and complex patterns in New York City and the United States. Poverty rates were stagnant and increased slightly from 1990 to 2011 and have not recovered from the 2007 - 2009 economic crisis.

While poverty increased among Latinos in the United States from 2000 to 2010, Latinos in New York City saw a decline in poverty rates by 2011, relative to poverty rates in both 1990 and 2000. In the U.S. and New York City, the poverty rate among all Latinos did not recover from the 2007 - 2009 economic crisis. However, there were some instances of slight recovery within two Latino nationalities: Puerto Ricans and Colombians in New York City saw declining or stagnant poverty rates by 2011.

One striking finding is the disparity between Latino national subgroups. Mexicans, and to a lesser degree Dominicans, in New York City and the U.S. fared worse over the long-term and after the economic crisis that began in 2007. Colombians had consistently lower poverty rates than the other groups over the long-term, and fared better in terms of recovery from the economic crisis. These findings may be attributed to migration patterns. The influx of lesser skilled and educated foreign-born Mexicans may have contributed to their higher poverty rates because of the economic downturn. Pre-existing differences in levels of education and income may also have determined which groups fared better through the crisis.

While the national population experienced an increase in poverty rates following the 2007 - 2009 economic crisis, race and ethnicity were important determinants of the impact of the crisis on poverty rates. Latinos may have been more affected nationally by the 2007 economic downturn; they saw increases in poverty after the onset of the crisis sooner and to a greater degree than other race/ethnic groups. Yet, in the U.S. and New York City, all race/ethnic groups were detectably impacted by the economic crisis and none have recovered to their pre-recession poverty rates.

Statistical Appendix

Table 5

Poverty Rates in the Bronx Among Largest Latino Nationalities, 1990 - 2011

	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Colombian	Ecuadorian	Dominican	Latino
1990	29.3%	42.7%	22.7%	28.8%	45.1%	41.1%
2000	39.7%	40.0%	26.6%	29.1%	37.7%	38.5%
2005	38.8%	36.4%	16.7%	22.0%	37.4%	35.4%
2006	48.1%	35.5%	23.5%	22.9%	34.0%	35.2%
2007	34.4%	36.0%	9.1%	26.5%	37.0%	34.8%
2008	45.5%	35.6%	33.3%	15.0%	33.7%	33.8%
2009	34.2%	37.1%	18.8%	14.0%	37.4%	35.1%
2010	41.0%	40.7%	13.0%	18.3%	33.6%	36.2%
2011	39.5%	38.2%	33.3%	18.6%	41.7%	38.6%

Table 6

Poverty Rates in Manhattan Among Largest Latino Nationalities, 1990 - 2011

	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Colombian	Ecuadorian	Dominican	Latino
1990	24.0%	38.6%	22.8%	33.0%	39.8%	35.5%
2000	30.7%	40.1%	24.1%	31.4%	34.2%	34.2%
2005	24.4%	35.5%	23.0%	30.2%	37.2%	32.0%
2006	36.1%	33.8%	19.7%	24.7%	35.5%	31.6%
2007	24.5%	31.9%	20.0%	21.3%	39.8%	31.8%
2008	30.2%	33.7%	14.9%	9.7%	28.3%	26.5%
2009	21.1%	33.7%	11.8%	28.8%	33.3%	29.6%
2010	20.1%	33.9%	18.8%	13.2%	26.0%	25.8%
2011	24.8%	36.3%	25.5%	30.5%	33.8%	30.7%

Table 7

Poverty Rates in Staten Island Among Largest Latino Nationalities, 1990 - 2011

	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Colombian	Ecuadorian	Dominican	Latino
1990	6.8%	22.4%	1.6%	16.0%	20.4%	18.3%
2000	37.2%	24.0%	14.8%	12.9%	29.1%	23.6%
2005	20.8%	16.2%	5.0%	2.6%	29.6%	15.2%
2006	36.4%	11.9%	N/A	N/A	30.8%	15.2%
2007	25.0%	8.7%	9.5%	14.8%	26.1%	14.6%
2008	61.0%	10.0%	18.8%	17.9%	27.6%	19.5%
2009	61.4%	18.3%	9.1%	6.3%	20.0%	22.6%
2010	29.0%	19.0%	N/A	32.3%	11.1%	18.4%
2011	28.7%	23.1%	N/A	8.8%	6.3%	21.0%

N/A indicates there is no data available.

Table 8

Poverty Rates in Brooklyn Among Largest Latino Nationalities, 1990 - 2011

	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Colombian	Ecuadorian	Dominican	Latino
1990	27.1%	42.2%	23.7%	22.6%	37.4%	36.4%
2000	35.2%	36.5%	24.4%	25.9%	32.9%	33.0%
2005	34.6%	33.3%	10.7%	21.0%	34.6%	30.5%
2006	28.4%	35.0%	17.3%	23.4%	33.1%	30.3%
2007	31.8%	36.6%	22.2%	21.6%	28.9%	29.7%
2008	29.4%	30.0%	9.9%	18.5%	28.1%	26.3%
2009	31.7%	34.7%	18.8%	30.6%	32.3%	29.8%
2010	32.5%	33.6%	18.2%	31.3%	26.6%	29.3%
2011	43.9%	35.0%	4.8%	25.4%	37.6%	33.0%

Table 9

Poverty Rates in Queens Among Largest Latino Nationalities, 1990 - 2011

	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Colombian	Ecuadorian	Dominican	Latino
1990	13.6%	16.5%	14.5%	14.0%	22.8%	16.1%
2000	27.6%	18.3%	19.1%	17.7%	22.6%	19.9%
2005	27.8%	13.6%	18.6%	13.5%	20.8%	16.5%
2006	22.3%	17.1%	16.4%	16.8%	15.6%	16.1%
2007	17.2%	17.2%	12.6%	16.6%	16.3%	15.2%
2008	19.6%	15.0%	12.6%	20.0%	14.4%	15.2%
2009	27.7%	15.8%	11.9%	13.5%	18.3%	15.7%
2010	29.7%	22.6%	16.7%	17.2%	18.5%	19.4%
2011	28.5%	20.0%	16.3%	21.7%	20.8%	20.3%

Methodological Appendix

The report issued by the U.S. Census Bureau, Carmen DeNavas-Walt, Bernadette D. Proctor, Jessica C. Smith, “Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2012” (U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration, U.S. Census Bureau, September 2013), utilizes data from the Current Population Survey (CPS). This report uses data from the American Community Survey (ACS).

One major difference in the two data sets is the size of the sample. The CPS collects data over the course of a year from about 100,000 ‘addresses’ across the United States. The ACS collects data on about 3,000,000 ‘addresses’ in the same time frame.

The CPS is conducted by telephone and personal-visit interviews, asks a detailed series of questions on income, and is voluntary. The ACS is mandatory and includes responses obtained by mail, telephone, and personal-visit interviews. (See “Fact Sheet - Differences Between CPS ASEC and ACS” at:

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/about/datasources/factsheet.html>

Because of the larger sample size the ACS was used as the raw data for this report. This is especially important because the samples from New York City are significantly larger, and the ACS permits an analysis of the City’s major Latino nationalities which the CPS does not because of its small sample size.

The raw data from the ACS were analyzed using IBM SPSS Statistics (formerly SPSS, Statistical Package for the Social Sciences).

For the purposes of this report a larger time frame has been utilized so that trends may be established for both longer (1990 - 2011) and shorter (2005 - 2011) time periods. The former establishes long-term trends and the latter more clearly depicts the impact of the post-2007 recession.

This report ends in 2011 because the ACS data for 2012 were not released by IPUMS as of the writing of this report.

All poverty rates are calculated by the Census Bureau. Detailed information about the calculation of poverty reports can be found at <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/about/datasources/factsheet.html> and <http://camerondcampbell.me/blog/2011/11/using-comparison-of-means-to-calculate-proportions-at-ipums-usa>