

2021 POPULATION PROFILE OF PUERTO RICANS IN THE FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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Representative John Larson (D-CT)

Hartford County: Berlin, Bloomfield, Bristol, East Granby, East Hartford, East Windsor, Glastonbury (part), Granby, Hartford, Hartland, Manchester, Newington, Rocky Hill, Southington, South Windsor, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor, and Windsor Locks. Litchfield County: Barkhamsted, Colebrook, New Hartford, Torrington (part), and Winchester. Middlesex County: Cromwell, Middletown (part), and Portland.

POPULATION COUNT

- In 2021, the First Congressional District had the fourth largest population in the state, with a population size of 715,324. At least 20% of Connecticut’s overall population reside in the First Congressional District.
- In 2021, there were 82,712 Puerto Ricans and comprised 12% of the Congressional District’s overall population.

RACE/ETHNICITY

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

HISPANIC/LATINO ORIGIN

- At least 28% of the Puerto Ricans population resided in the First Congressional District.
- About 65% of the Hispanic/Latino population residing in the First Congressional District were Puerto Ricans followed by South Americans (12%), Dominicans (6%), Mexicans (5%), Central Americans (5%), Other Hispanic or Latino (4%), and Cubans (3%).

Puerto Rican	65%
South American	12%
Dominican	6%
Mexican	5%
Central American	5%
Other Hispanic or Latino	4%
Cuban	3%

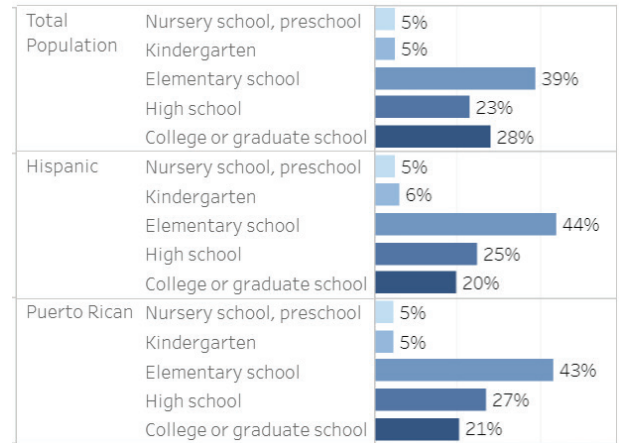
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

- Hispanic/Latino (27%) and Puerto Rican (23%) populations had higher rates of those with ‘less than a high school education’ than the overall population (10%) in the First Congressional District.
- Puerto Ricans and Hispanics/Latinos had similar rates of those with a ‘high school education’ (35% for Puerto Ricans and 35% for Hispanics/Latinos) and ‘some college education’ (26% for Puerto Ricans and 25% for Hispanics/Latinos).
- In 2021, Puerto Ricans (13%) had the lowest rates of those with a ‘bachelor’s degree or more’ compared to Hispanics/Latinos (17%) and the total population (39%) in this district.

Population Group	Less than H.S.	H.S.	Some College	BA or more
Total Population	10%	26%	25%	39%
Hispanic	27%	32%	25%	17%
Puerto Rican	23%	37%	27%	13%

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

- School enrollment of Puerto Ricans was consistent with the school enrollment of the total and Hispanic populations of the district.



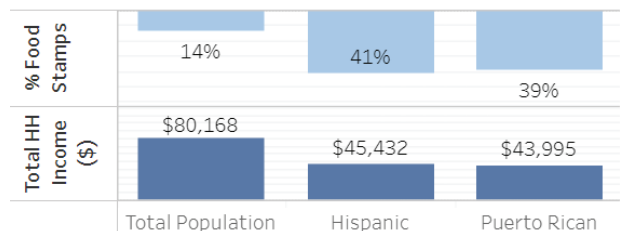
POVERTY STATUS

- At least a quarter of the Puerto Rican population (24%) lived below poverty in the First Congressional District in 2021.
- The poverty rate of Puerto Ricans (24%) and Hispanics/Latinos (20%) was two times higher than that of the total population (11%) in this district.
- At least 33% of Puerto Rican children (under 18) lived in poverty, this was slightly lower than the rate of Hispanic/Latino children (38%). However, both Puerto Rican and Hispanic/Latino children were two times more likely to live below poverty compared to the total population count (14%) of children under 18 in this district.
- In 2021, three in four Hispanic/Latina female headed households with children under 18 (60%) lived below poverty followed by Puerto Ricans (36%) and total population (28%) in this district.

	All People	Child (under 18)	Female HH w/ Children (Unde..
Total Popul..	11%	14%	28%
Hispanic	20%	38%	60%
Puerto Rican	24%	33%	36%

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME/ FOOD STAMPS

- In 2021, Puerto Ricans' (39%) reliance on food stamps was almost three times higher than that of the total population (14%) but slightly lower than that of Hispanic/Latinos (41%) living in the First Congressional District.
- The median household income for Puerto Ricans (\$43,995) living in the First Congressional District was lower than Hispanics/Latinos (\$45,432) and almost half of that of the total population (\$80,168).



EMPLOYMENT STATUS

- The employment status of Puerto Ricans (63%) was fairly consistent with that of the Hispanic/Latino (67%) and total population (66%) in the First Congressional District.
- Unemployment was slightly higher among Puerto Ricans (7%) compared to Hispanics/Latinos (6%) and the total population (4%) in the First Congressional District.

	Total Popula..	Hispanic	Puerto Rican
In Labor Force	66%	67%	63%
Not in Labor Force	34%	33%	37%
Unemployed	4%	6%	7%
Employed	62%	61%	57%

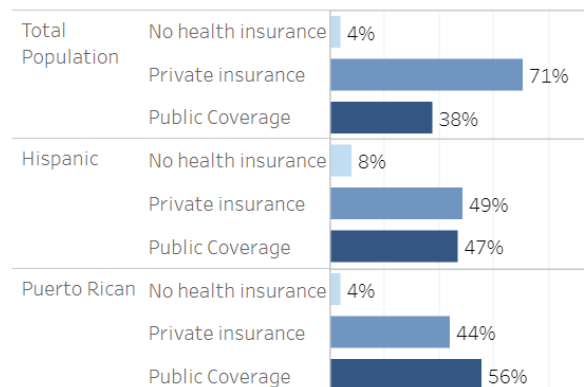
HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

- Homeownership rates between Hispanics/Latinos (33%) and Puerto Ricans (35%) was two times lower compared to the overall population (65%) in the First Congressional District in 2021.
- Puerto Ricans (34%) and Hispanic/Latinos (34%) paid at least 30% or more of their income towards mortgage payments compared to the overall population (28%) residing in the First Congressional District.
- The median monthly mortgage payment was higher among Hispanics/Latinos (\$1,905) followed by Puerto Ricans (\$1,574) and total population (\$1,422) in this district.
- At least 68% of the Puerto Rican population in the First Congressional District were renters, this was higher compared to Hispanics/Latinos (60%) and total population (48%).
- Rent burden, also known as tenants paying at least 30% or more of their incomes towards rents, was the highest for Puerto Ricans (68%) followed by Hispanics/Latinos (60%) and total population (48%).
- The median rent was slightly higher among the total population (\$1,220) compared to Hispanics/Latinos (\$1,187) and Puerto Ricans (\$1,138) in this district.

	Total Popula..	Hispanic	Puerto Rican
Renters	35%	67%	65%
Median Rent	\$1,220	\$1,187	\$1,138
Rent Burden	48%	60%	68%
Owners	65%	33%	35%
Median Mortgage	\$1,422	\$1,905	\$1,574
Mortgage Burden	28%	34%	34%

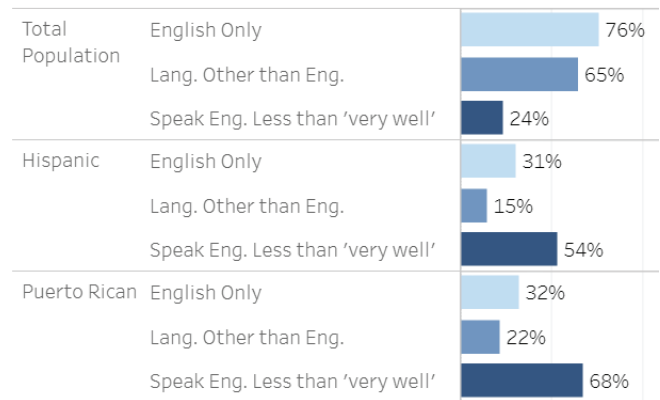
HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

- In 2021, Puerto Ricans (56%) were more likely to rely on public health coverage compared to Hispanics/Latinos (47%) and the total population (38%) in the First Congressional District.
- Hispanics/Latinos (8%) were two times more likely to not have any health insurance coverage compared to Puerto Ricans (4%) and total (4%) populations in this district.



LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME

- A majority of Puerto Ricans (68%) residing in the First Congressional District spoke a language other than English in their households.



WHERE DID WE GET THIS INFORMATION FROM?

We employ the 2021 Census Bureau's American Community Survey (1-year estimates) to examine the general trends of the entire population, including Puerto Rican and Hispanic/Latino communities. Additionally, in geographies with unavailable data, we estimate the Puerto Rican population using the harmonized 2006-2021 microdata provided by IPUMS USA (5-year estimates).

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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