

2021 POPULATION PROFILE OF PUERTO RICANS IN THE SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CT Dashboard/CD-2-2021 | July 2023

Representative Joe Courtney (D-CT)

Hartford County – Enfield, Glastonbury (part), Marlborough, and Suffield. Middlesex County – Chester, Clinton, Deep River, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Old Saybrook, and Westbrook. New Haven County – Madison. New London County – Bozrah, Colchester, East Lyme, Franklin, Griswold, Groton, Lebanon, Ledyard, Lisbon, Lyme, Montville, New London, North Stonington, Norwich, Old Lyme, Preston, Salem, Sprague, Stonington, Voluntown, and Waterford. Tolland County – Andover, Bolton, Columbia, Coventry, Ellington, Hebron, Mansfield, Somers, Stafford, Tolland, Union, Vernon, and Willington. Windham County – Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Scotland, Sterling, Thompson, Windham, and Woodstock.

POPULATION COUNT

- In 2021, the Second Congressional District had the lowest population in the state, with a population size of 702,074. At least 19% of Connecticut’s overall population resided in this district.
- In 2021, there were 34,898 Puerto Ricans, which comprised 5% of the Second Congressional District’s overall population.

RACE/ETHNICITY

- About half of the Puerto Rican population (52%) self-identified as one race and the remaining 46% reported ‘two races’ and 2% reported 3 races.

HISPANIC/LATINO ORIGIN

- At least 12% of the Puerto Ricans population resided in the Second Congressional District.
- Puerto Ricans accounted for more than half, or about 53% of the Hispanic/Latino population of the district followed by Mexicans (14%), South Americans (12%), Other Hispanic/Latinos (7%), Dominicans (6%), Central Americans (6%), and Cubans (2%).

Puerto Rican	53%
Mexican	14%
South American	12%
Other Hispanic or Latino	7%
Dominican	6%
Central American	6%
Cuban	2%

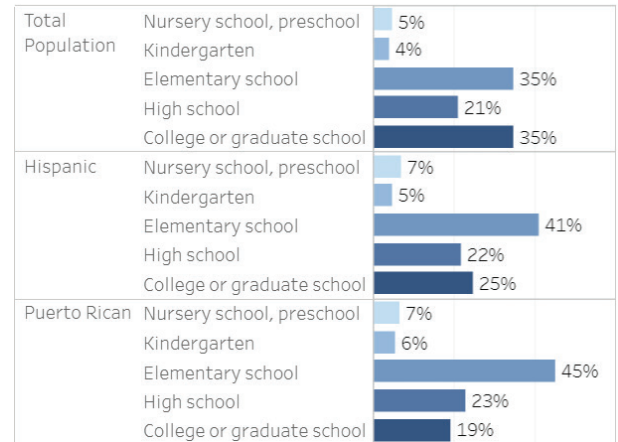
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

- In 2021, Puerto Ricans (45%) had the highest rates of those with less than a high school education in the Second Congressional District. This is twice as much as the percentage of Hispanics/Latinos (22%), and six times higher than the total population (7%).
- Puerto Ricans in the Second 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 total population (28%).
- Bachelor’s degree or more is the lowest educational attainment among Puerto Ricans (9%) compared to the Hispanic/Latino (18%) and the total (37%) populations of this district.

Total Population	Less than H.S.	7%
	H.S.	28%
	Some College	28%
	BA or more	37%
Hispanic	Less than H.S.	22%
	H.S.	35%
	Some College	26%
	BA or more	18%
Puerto Rican	Less than H.S.	45%
	H.S.	27%
	Some College	19%
	BA or more	9%

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

- Puerto Ricans (45%) and Hispanics/Latinos (41%) had comparable rates of elementary school enrollment.
- Puerto Ricans (23%), Hispanics/Latinos (22%), and total population (21%) had comparable rates of high school enrollment.
- In 2021, Puerto Ricans were less likely to enroll in college or graduate school (19%) than Hispanics/Latinos (25%) and the total populations (35%) of the Second Congressional District.



POVERTY STATUS

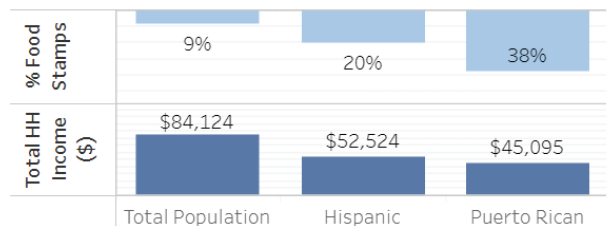
- At least 22% of the Puerto Rican population lived below poverty in the Second Congressional District in 2021.
- The poverty rate was two times higher among Puerto Ricans (22%) and Hispanics/Latinos (21%) relative to the total population (9%) in this district.
- At least 28% of Puerto Rican children (under 18) lived in poverty. This was lower than Hispanic/Latino children (40%). However, both Puerto Rican and Hispanic/Latino children were two times more likely to live below poverty compared to the total population (11%) counts of children under 18 in this district.
- Three in four Hispanic/Latina female headed households with children under 18 (67%) lived below poverty followed by Puerto Ricans (27%) and total population (27%) in this district.

	All People	Child (under 18)	Female HH w/ Children (Unde..
Total Popul..	9%	11%	27%
Hispanic	21%	40%	67%
Puerto Rican	22%	28%	27%

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME/

FOOD STAMPS

- Puerto Ricans (38%) were four times as likely than the total population (9%) to rely on food stamps in the Second Congressional District.
- The median household income of Puerto Ricans (\$45,095) was almost half of the median income of the total population (\$84,124) and significantly lower than that of other Hispanics/Latinos (\$52,524) in the Second Congressional District.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

- In 2021, Homeownership rates of Puerto Ricans (41%) and Hispanics/Latinos (38%) were lower compared to the rates of the total population (72%) in the Second Congressional District.
- The Puerto Rican (31%) mortgage burden, those who pay at least 30% or more of their income towards mortgage payments, was higher than that of Hispanic/Latinos (27%) and the total population (27%) in this district.
- The median monthly mortgage payment was higher for Hispanics/Latinos (\$2,147) followed by Puerto Ricans (\$1,873) and total population (\$1,427) in this district.
- At least 59% of the Puerto Rican population in Second Congressional District were renters, this was slightly lower than the rate of Hispanics/Latinos (62%), but higher than the total population (28%).
- Rent burden, also known as tenants paying at least 30% or more of their incomes towards rents, was higher for Hispanics/Latinos (59%) followed by Puerto Ricans (56%) and total population (45%).
- The median rent was higher for the Hispanic/Latino population (\$1,314) compared to Puerto Ricans (\$1,293) and total population (\$1,177) in this district.

	Total Popula..	Hispanic	Puerto Rican
Renters	28%	62%	59%
Median Rent	\$1,177	\$1,314	\$1,293
Rent Burden	45%	59%	56%
Owners	72%	38%	41%
Median Mortgage	\$1,427	\$2,147	\$1,873
Mortgage Burden	27%	27%	31%

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

- In 2021, Puerto Ricans (63%) participation in the labor force was fairly consistent with the labor participation of Hispanics/Latinos (68%) and the total population (65%) of the Second Congressional District.
- The employment status of Puerto Ricans (57%) was fairly consistent with that of the Hispanic/Latino (60%) and total population (60%) in the Second Congressional District.
- Unemployment was slightly higher among Puerto Ricans (6%) compared to Hispanics/Latinos (5%) and the total population (3%) in this district.

	Total Popula..	Hispanic	Puerto Rican
In Labor Force	65%	68%	63%
Not in Labor Force	35%	32%	37%
Unemployed	3%	5%	6%
Employed	60%	60%	57%

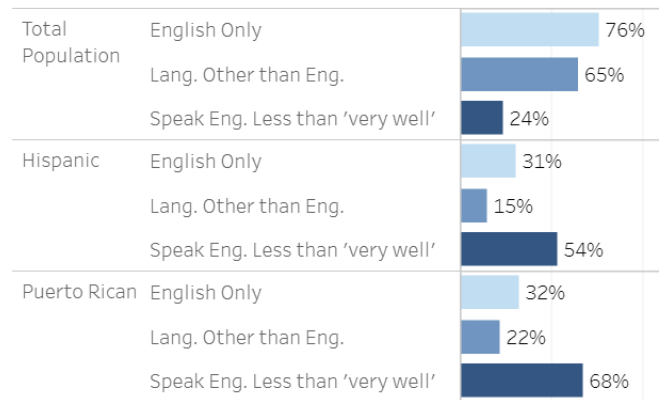
HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

- Puerto Ricans (49%) were more likely to rely on public health coverage compared to Hispanics/Latinos (38%) and total population (35%) in the Second Congressional District.
- In 2021, Hispanics/Latinos (10%) had higher rates of uninsured health coverage compared to Puerto Ricans (7%) and the total population (4%) in this district.

Population Group	Health Insurance Type	Percentage
Total Population	No health insurance	4%
	Private insurance	75%
	Public Coverage	35%
Hispanic	No health insurance	10%
	Private insurance	50%
	Public Coverage	38%
Puerto Rican	No health insurance	7%
	Private insurance	48%
	Public Coverage	49%

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME

- Puerto Ricans (40%) were less likely to speak English at home than the total population (89%) in the Second Congressional District.



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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