

# Latinos in Indiana

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# Executive Summary

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## Demographics

- In 2007 there were 315,000 Latinos in Indiana, constituting 5 percent of the state's population.
- About 40 percent of Indiana Latinos are foreign born.
- The Latino population of Indiana is growing at a faster pace than other racial and ethnic groups and tends to be concentrated in urban areas.
- Latinos are offsetting the decrease in population in many areas in the state of Indiana.
- Latinos are coming to Indiana mostly from other US states, but rural migrants are more likely to come from abroad than urban migrants.
- Latinos have a higher fertility rate than other groups and the fertility rate is increasing.
- The migration and fertility patterns imply a younger population than non-Latinos with the largest proportion of Latinos in the working and youngest ages.

## Education

- Latinos have higher dropout rates, lower educational attainment, and lower performance than Whites.
- Foreign-born Latinos fare worse than US-born Latinos in education.
- Latinos in Indiana have higher dropout rates and lower grade completion than Blacks; their performance is higher than Blacks in reading and mathematics, but still worse than Whites.

## **Health**

- Even though Latinos generally have lower socioeconomic status than the rest of the Indiana population, the differences in health status between Latinos and other race and ethnicity groups are not significant (the “Hispanic Health Paradox”).
- The main causes of death for Indiana Latinos are the same for the overall population: chronic diseases, such as heart diseases and cancer.
- Obesity and other lifestyle risk factors for chronic diseases are present in Latinos as much as in other groups in Indiana. The main health risk for Latinos is *overweight*.
- A lower percentage of adult Latinos engage in physical activity than Whites, outside of work.
- A lower percentage of Latinos are everyday smokers than Whites are, but more Latinos are occasional smokers.

## **Employment and Income**

- Latinos have lower median income than Whites and are concentrated at the bottom of the income distribution.
- While the income of Whites has grown steadily since 1990, the income of Latinos has fluctuated and has in fact decreased in recent years.
- The percentage of Latinos in the bottom quartile of the income distribution has increased significantly in the past few years.
- Despite the fact that the working hours for Latinos are as high as for Whites, both as individuals and as families, their income from wages and salaries lags behind.
- The wage gap between Latinos and non-Latinos within industries is large.

- Latino's health insurance coverage from employers has decreased significantly since 2002, although the situation for Whites and Blacks is not much better.

# Demographic Profile

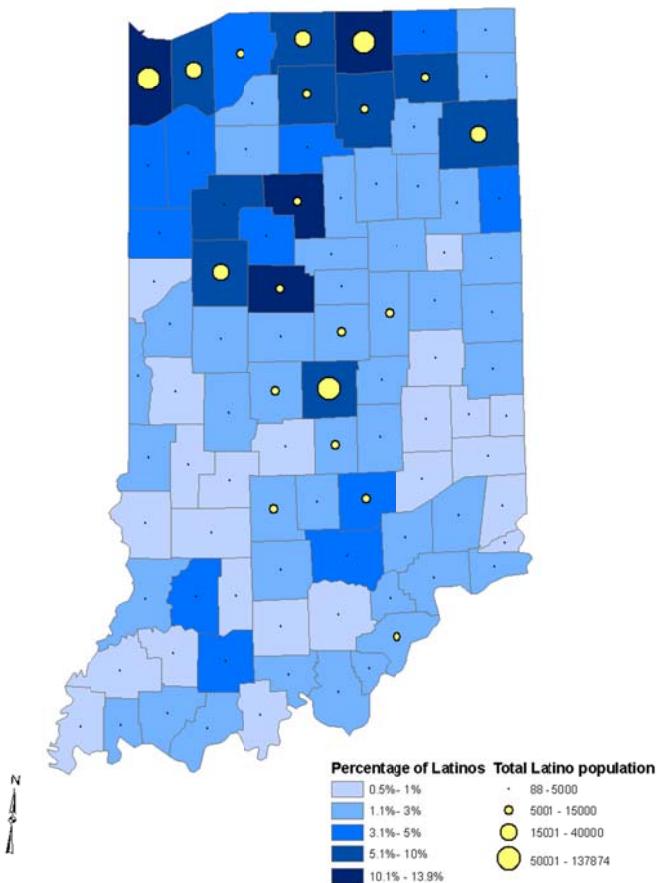
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The Latino population of Indiana is growing at a faster pace than other racial and ethnic groups, but Latinos tend to be concentrated in urban areas and in a few counties. Although the number of Latinos in a rural area might be small, they could represent the largest minority group in an area. This section explores the demographic distribution of Latinos in Indiana, place of origin, age structure, and fertility.

## **Distribution and Growth of the Latino Population in Indiana**

Latinos in Indiana represent no more than 5 percent of the population. However, they can represent up to 14 percent in a given county or up to 50 percent in a given town. Map 1 shows, by county, both Latinos as a percentage of the total population and the total number of Latinos. Some counties have high percentages of Latinos but low total Latino populations. Map 1 helps identify the most significant concentrations of Latinos in Indiana by distinguishing between high- and low-population counties. For example, the percentages of Latinos in Lake and Elkhart counties are 14 and 13 percent respectively, and these counties also have the highest number of Latinos. In contrast, Cass and Clinton counties have a high percentage of Latinos, but in total numbers no more than 8,500 Latinos. From this map it is clear that Latinos are concentrated in the northern counties, in Marion and nearby counties, and in the counties around White County.

**Map 1. Geographic Distribution of Latinos by County: Indiana, 2006**



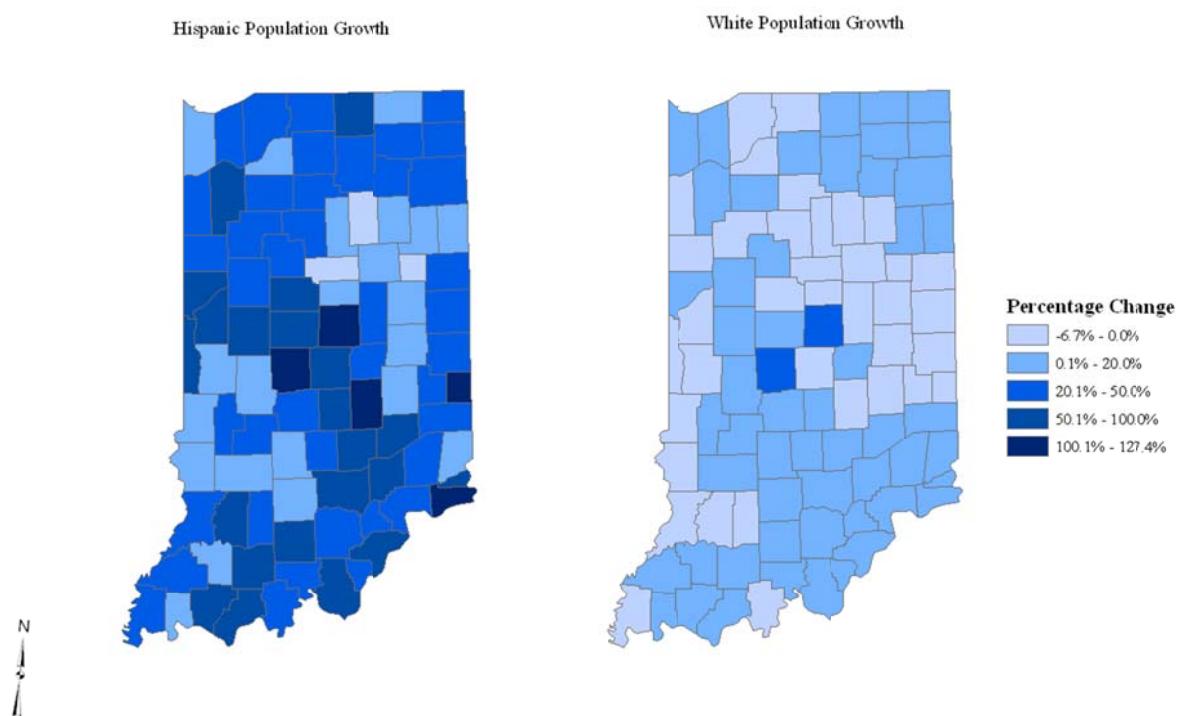
Source: US Census Bureau, Population Division. Population Estimates. [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov). Retrieved January, 2008.

While the presence of Latinos in Indiana dates back to the 1800s,<sup>1</sup> the rapid increase in the last 15 years has taken some localities by surprise. As Map 2 shows, between 2000 and 2006 the Latino population grew more than 20 percent in the majority of counties. The Latino population has increased in all counties except in Blackford, Howard, and Wabash. The highest growth in

<sup>1</sup> Eileen Diaz McConnell, “Latinos in the Rural Midwest: the Twentieth-Century Historical Context Leading to Contemporary Challenges,” in *Apple Pie and Enchiladas: Latino Newcomers in the Rural Midwest*, eds. Ann V. Millard and Jorge Chapa (Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 2004).

counties with larger total populations has occurred in Hamilton and Hendricks counties, which reflects the expansion of Indianapolis. Shelby, Union, and Switzerland counties have also experienced high growth rates, but their total number of Latinos remains very low.

**Map 2. Percent Change of the Latino and White Populations by County: Indiana, 2000–2006**



Source: US Census Bureau, Population Estimates. [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov). Retrieved January, 2008.

Increases in the number of Latinos have occurred simultaneously with decreases or relatively small increases in the White population. In the same period (2000–2006) 37 counties experienced a decrease in their White population, while the rest have seen increases of less than

20 percent, with the exception of Hamilton and Hendricks Counties, which grew 34 and 23 percent respectively.

## **Demographic Factors in Latino Growth: Fertility and Migration**

### **Fertility**

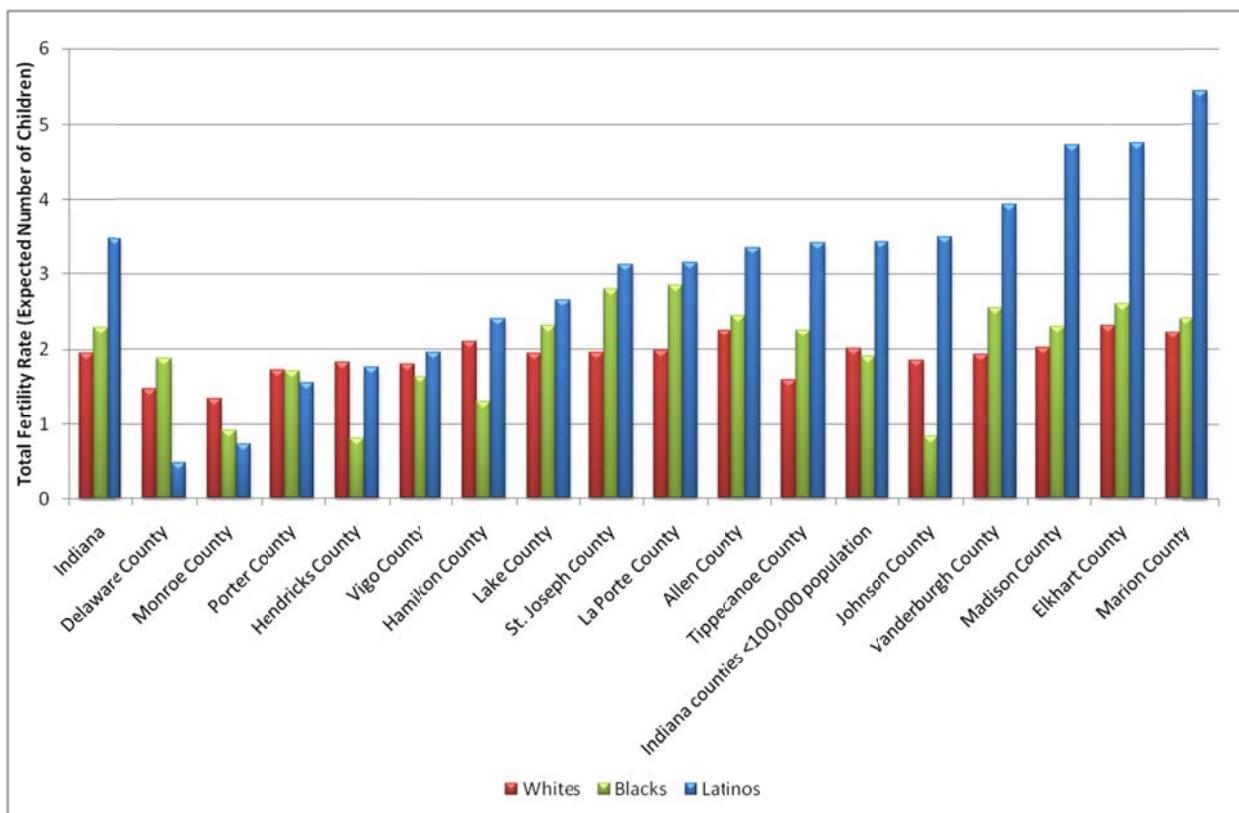
Fertility accounts for much of this difference in Latino and White population growth. In 2005 births accounted for 54 percent of the increase in the Latino population.<sup>2</sup> Over the course of their reproductive lives, Latinas in Indiana are expected to have 3.5 children, while Black and White women are expected to have about 2.3 and 2 children respectively.

Figure 1 shows how fertility rates vary by county. In counties with small total populations the fertility rate for Latino is 70 and 80 percent higher than that of White and African American populations. In some counties (Delaware, Monroe, Porter) the fertility rates for Latinos are lower than those of the other two groups, but in the majority of counties the Latino fertility rate is higher than that of any other group, up to 140 percent higher than that of Whites (Marion) and 320 percent higher than that of Blacks (Johnson). In the counties with the largest Latino populations (Allen, Elkhart, Lake, Marion, and St. Joseph) the fertility rate is again higher for Latinos than for Blacks or Whites. In Marion and Elkhart counties the Latino fertility rate is more than twice that of Whites and Blacks. In the other counties with large Latino populations the fertility rate for Latinos is on average 50 percent higher than that of Whites.

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<sup>2</sup> The difference between the population estimates in 2006 and 2005 yields an increase of 14,998 Latinos. The NCHS reports 8,039 births to Latinos.

**Figure 1. Fertility rates by county and race and ethnicity: Indiana, 2005**



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics. VitalStats.

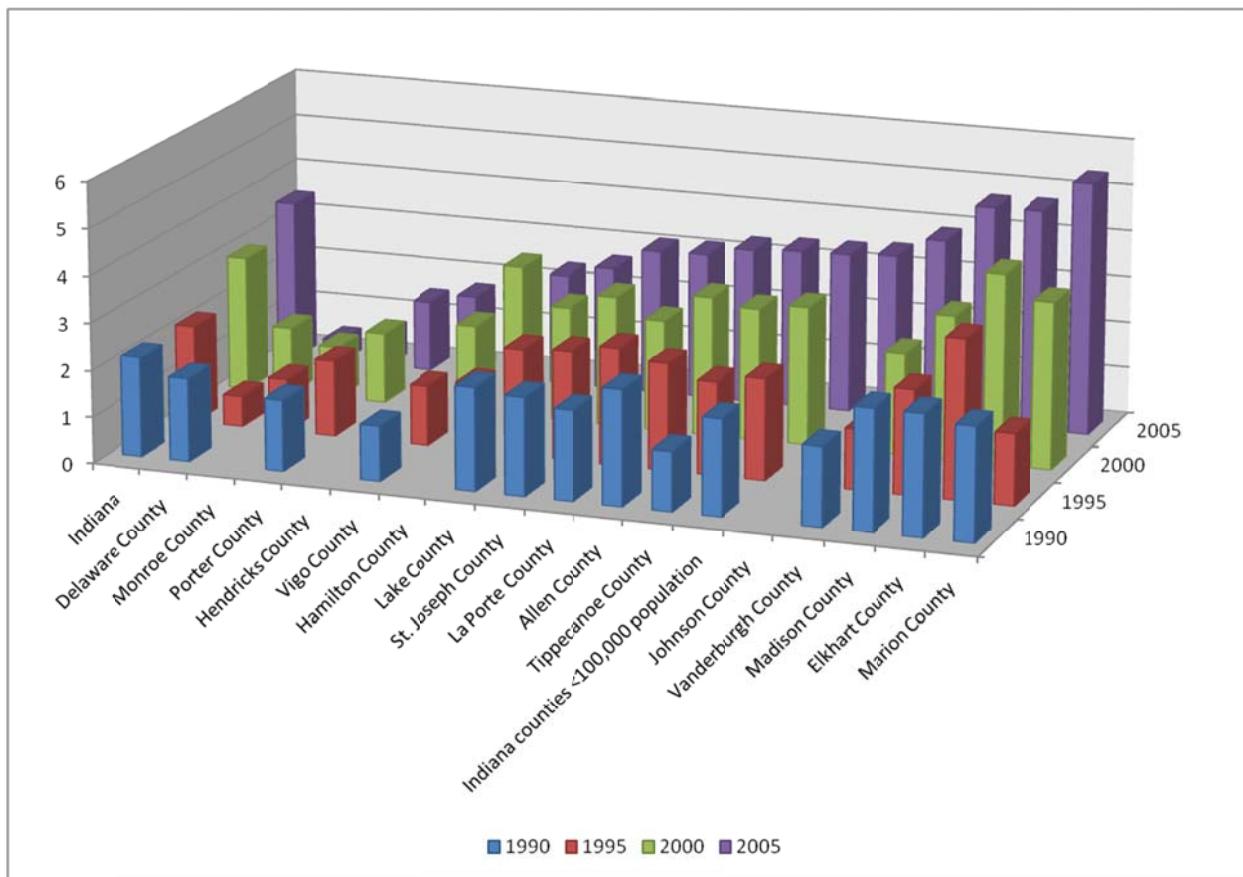
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/vitalstats.htm>. Retrieved March, 2008.

US Census Bureau, Population Division. Population Estimates. [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov). Retrieved January, 2008.

Although fertility rates are stable for the White and Black populations, the Latino fertility rate has increased in the past two decades, rising from 2.1 in 1990 to 3.5 in 2005. This 64 percent increase is not evenly distributed throughout the state. It has decreased significantly in Delaware County, and other counties experienced only a small increase (Porter, Marion). Small counties, on the other hand, experienced a larger than average increase of 68 percent in Latino's fertility rate, from 2.0 to 3.4 children. In the counties with the largest Latino populations, the fertility rates for Latinos have increased significantly since 1990. In Elkhart and Marion Counties, the total fertility rates have increased the most, from 2.5 to 5.1. In the other counties with large

Latino populations (Allen, Lake, and St. Joseph) the total fertility rate increased from 2.2 to 3 children per woman. Given the large Latino populations in these counties, these fertility rate increases are quite significant.

**Figure 2. Latino total fertility rate by county: Indiana, 1990, 1995, 2000, and 2005**



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics. VitalStats.

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/vitalstats.htm>. Retrieved March, 2008.

US Census Bureau, Population Division. Population Estimates. [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov). Retrieved January, 2008.

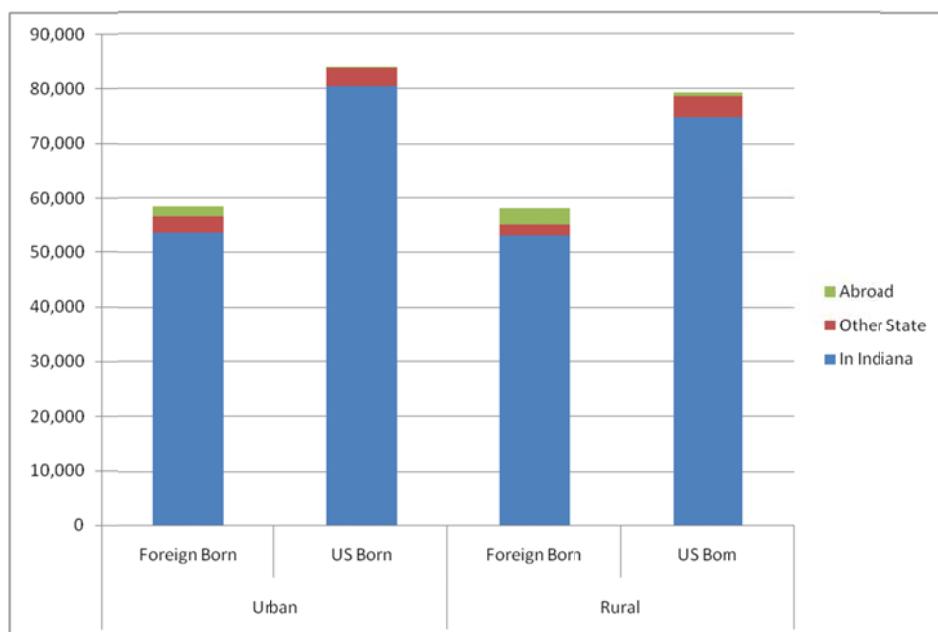
## Migration

The influx of migrant Latinos to Indiana is another factor in the Latino population increase.

There are two sources of migration: migration within the United States and migration from

abroad. Unfortunately, the two main sources of information about migration within the United States by race are not compatible. The 2000 US Census asks about the place of residence five years prior to the interview, while the American Community Survey asks about the place of residence one year prior to the interview. This difference in the reference period makes comparison of these sources of information invalid. Figure 3 shows that recent migration to Indiana between 2005 and 2006 added about 18,000 people to the state. Most of these came from other states and fewer directly from abroad. Migration from abroad is more common in rural areas than in urban areas.

**Figure 3. Residence of Latinos in the previous year by place of origin: Indiana, 2005–2006**



Note: To increase reliability of the estimates, the Public Use Microdata Samples from the 2005 and 2006 American Community Surveys were combined and their weights halved.

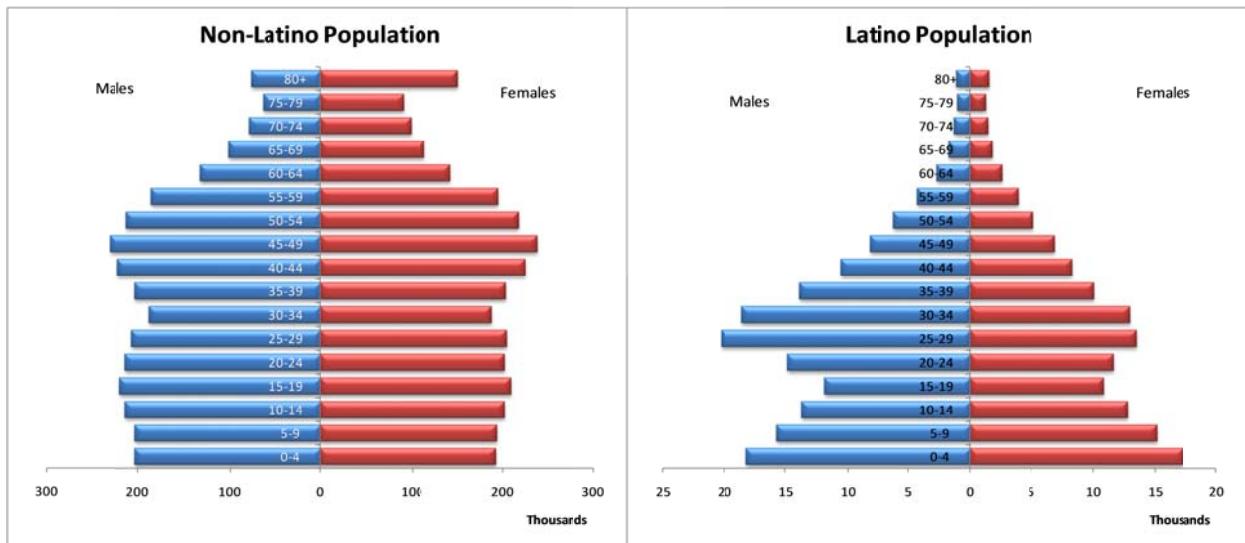
Source: Author's calculations based on US Census Bureau. Public Use Microdata Sample. American Community Surveys 2001–2006. [www.census.gov/acs](http://www.census.gov/acs). Retrieved January, 2008.

## **Demographic Consequences of Migration and Fertility Trends**

The higher fertility rate and migration among Latinos have demographic consequences for Indiana. Two consequences are a younger and growing population and an increase in the male-to-female ratio.

The shapes of the age pyramids for Latinos and non-Latinos result from the aging of the baby-boom generation and slow population growth for non-Latinos, in contrast to the influx of migrants and high fertility rates for Latinos. The age pyramid for non-Latinos shows that the baby-boom generation is going to start moving to retirement age in the next few years (Figure 4). The square-shaped base of the pyramid is also evidence of the slow population growth. In contrast, the age pyramid for Latinos has a triangular shape, because it is a rapidly growing population. In addition, there is a high concentration of Latinos in the 25 to 35 age group, especially males, which is a consequence of the migration influx and the demand for labor. The size of the base of pyramid reflects the high fertility rate.

**Figure 4. Age pyramid by sex and ethnicity: Indiana, 2006**

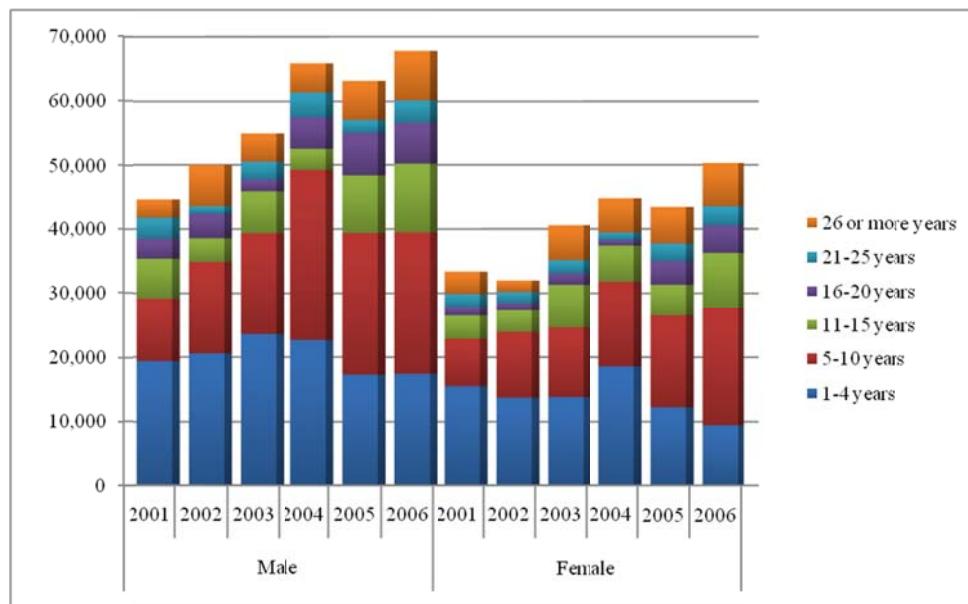


Source: US Census Bureau, Population Division. Population Estimates. [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov). Retrieved January, 2008.

Figure 5 shows several facts about the foreign-born Latinos:

- Their number has increased in the last six years. Latinos are increasing as a proportion of the foreign born. The number of foreign born in Indiana has gone from 225,000 to 293,000 between 2001 and 2006. The percentage of foreign-born Latinos among that population increased from 37 to 42 percent.
- Among foreign-born Latinos, the ratio of men to women is four to three, i.e., Latino men are immigrating in larger numbers than Latino women.
- Those have been in the state for 5 to 10 years constitute the largest proportion of foreign born Latinos, which means that they arrived mostly during the mid- to late 1990s.

**Figure 5. Number of foreign-born Latinos by years in the United States: Indiana, 2001-2006**



Source: Author's calculations based on US Census Bureau. Public Use Microdata Sample. American Community Surveys 2001-2006. [www.census.gov/acs](http://www.census.gov/acs). Retrieved January, 2008.

# Education

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Latinos and Blacks in Indiana are lagging behind Whites in all education indicators. Nationally, Latinos have lower enrollment rates, lower educational attainment, and lower performance than Whites, and this is no less true in Indiana. This lag is often explained by pointing to the number of immigrants, especially from Spanish-speaking countries, among the Latino population. However, this only partially explains education outcomes for Latinos, since the majority of Latinos enrolled in school are US born. This section will examine three education indicators: attainment, dropout rates, and performance. Whenever possible, according to availability of the data, US-born and foreign-born Latinos in Indiana are disaggregated for the above-mentioned indicators, which reveals that foreign-born Latinos are disadvantaged relative to US-born Latinos who, in turn, are disadvantaged compared to Whites.

## Attainment

As an indicator of educational attainment we analyzed the proportion of people in a specific age group who had completed different levels of education in 2006. Latinos show considerably lower educational attainment than both Blacks and Whites in Indiana. This lower attainment is concentrated among foreign-born Latinos, though US-born Latinos also have lower attainment than Blacks and Whites. Lower attainment may prompt Latinos to enter the labor force early, disengaging them from the school and college track.

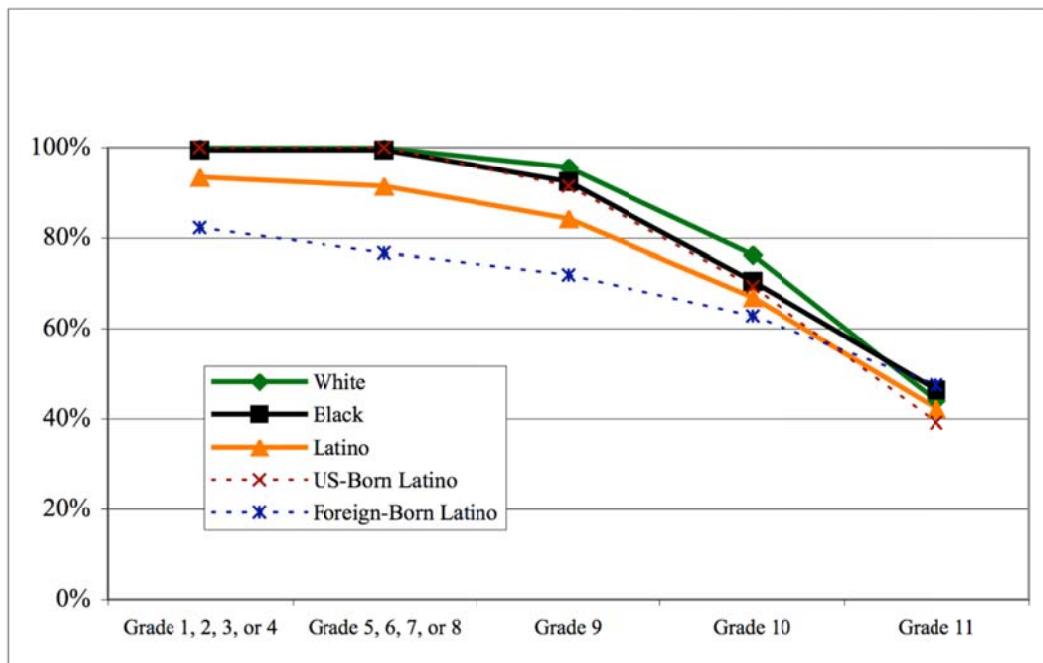
These figures show the proportion of individuals aged of 16–18, 19–21, and 22–25 who have completed each of the specified grades.

## **Age 16–18 Cohort: Early School Years Attainment**

The gaps among Whites, Blacks, and Latinos in the primary grades are very small. In 2006 all of the 16- to 18-year-old White population in Indiana had completed at least first grade, compared to 99 percent of Blacks and 94 percent of Latinos. At higher grade levels, however, the differences among race and ethnicity groups worsen. Note, for example, that 76 percent of Whites completed at least tenth grade compared to 70 percent of Blacks and 67 percent of Latinos (Figure 6).

It is important to note that large differences in school achievement exist between foreign-born and US-born Latinos aged 16 to 18: 82 percent of foreign-born Latinos had completed first grade or higher, meaning that 18 percent had never attended school or failed to complete even one year of schooling. This contrasts with the US-born Latino population, all of whom had completed first grade or higher. The gap prevails in the fifth to eighth grade category, and for those who completed eighth grade the gap narrows at higher grade levels mainly as a result of positive selection and attrition.

**Figure 6. Proportion of 16- to 18-year-olds who have completed each level of education: Indiana, 2006**

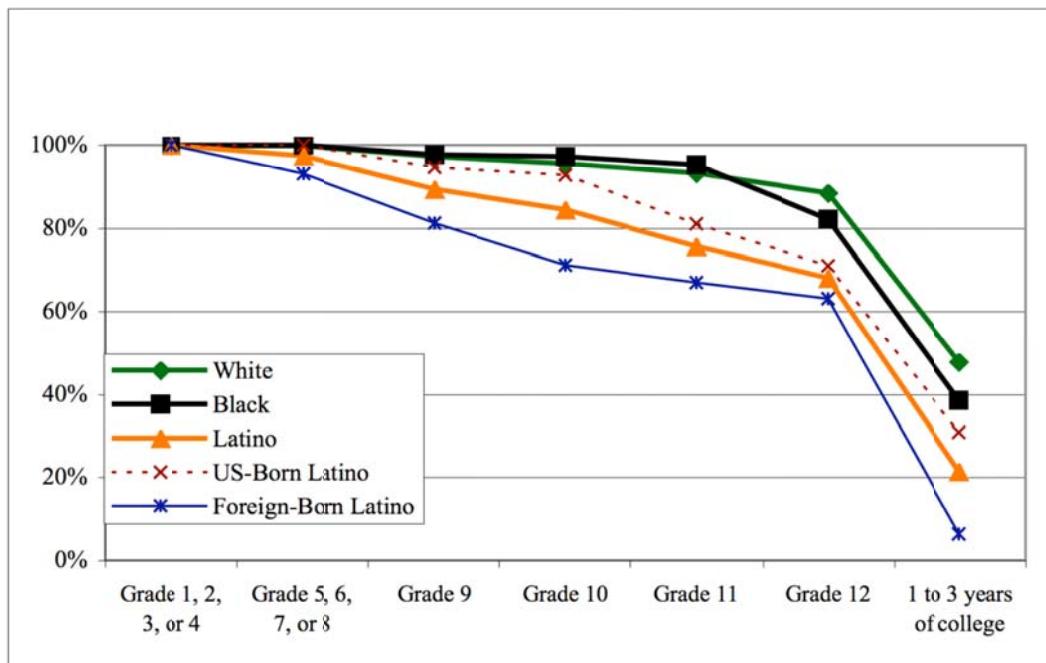


Source: ACS 2006.

### Age 19– 21 Cohort: High School Attainment

Among 19- to 21-year-olds the differences in school attainment in the most advanced grades are notable among the different racial and ethnic groups. While 88 percent of the Whites and 82 percent of Blacks completed twelfth grade, only 68 percent of Latinos graduated from high school (Figure 7).

**Figure 7. Proportion of 19- to 21-year-olds who have completed each level of education: Indiana, 2006**



Source: ACS 2006.

### Age 22–25 Cohort: College Attainment

Within the 22–25 age group in Indiana during 2006 differences by race and ethnicity in college attainment were notably larger than those for high school attainment. Only 23 percent of Latinos aged 22–25 had completed some college, compared to 57 percent of Whites and 52 percent of Blacks in the same age group (Figure 8).

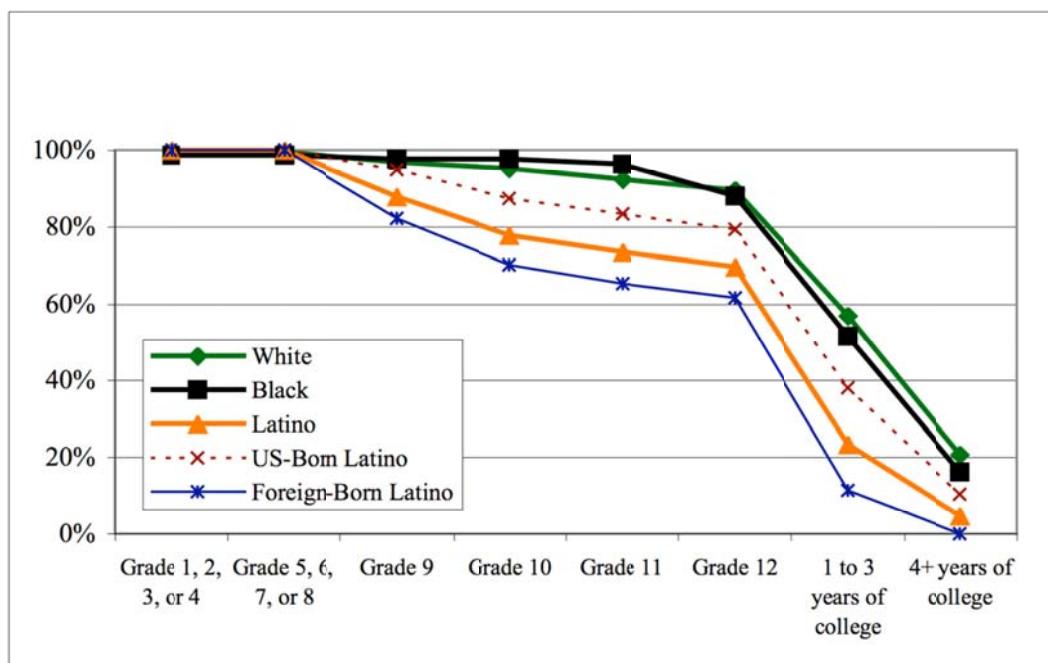
For those who completed at least four years of post-secondary education the gap among race and ethnic groups narrowed, mainly because of the considerably lower likelihood of anyone among all racial and ethnic groups completing four years of college. Twenty-one percent of Whites had at least four years of post-secondary education in the 22–25 age group, followed by Blacks with 16 percent. Latinos had the lowest college attainment percentage of all race and ethnic groups

analyzed, with only 5 percent of their 22–25-year-old population having completed the equivalent of a BA degree.

It is important to consider the composition of the age groups when interpreting these results: the fact that a 22-year-old has not graduated from college does not mean he will not in the next few years. Furthermore, the low levels of Latino college attainment are in part explained by cumulative disadvantages (lower probability of finishing high school so even lower probability to attend college), by higher grade repetition rates among Latinos (delaying their entrance to college), or possibly, low expectations of a return on investment in college.

Considerable differences exist between the US-born and foreign-born Latino population: while 38 percent of the US-born Latinos in this age groups had completed at least some college compared to only 11 percent of foreign-born Latinos (Figure 8).

**Figure 8. Proportion of 22- to 25-year-olds who have completed each level of education: Indiana, 2006**



Source: ACS 2006.

## **Performance<sup>3</sup>**

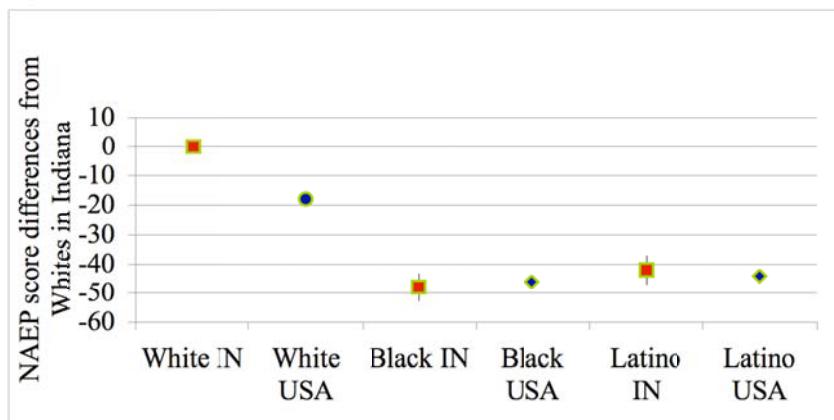
To gauge levels of performance, we analyzed scores in the latest National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) reading, mathematics, and science tests, comparing the national scores to Indiana scores. Both in Indiana and in the US, Latinos exhibited considerably lower performance than Whites in all tests, but scored higher than Blacks in all tests. In both science and mathematics the differences between Latinos and Whites are large at the fourth grade level and grow larger by the eighth grade. In reading, however, the difference in scores in the fourth grade is large, but decreases by the eighth. Indiana Latinos perform at comparable levels to Latinos in the nation at large.

Among fourth-graders in 2007 Whites in Indiana attained better average results in NAEP's reading test than any other observed groups. There were no differences between Latinos and Blacks in Indiana, and both groups had poorer results than Indiana's Whites. On average, Latinos scored 42 points lower than Whites and Blacks 48 points lower. This performance gap is larger in Indiana than for the nation at large as a result of the marked difference between Whites in Indiana and in the rest of the country (Figure 9). Among eighth graders, the performance gap among race and ethnic groups in the Reading test persisted but diminished (as compared to the fourth grade gap).

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<sup>3</sup> For space considerations, this sections shows only one graph that illustrates the most dramatic differences found. To obtain additional data please contact the authors.

**Figure 9. Fourth grade reading performance**



NOTE: Squares and diamonds represent the score averages for Indiana and the United States, respectively, and lines the confidence interval. We used the latest available data to create these tables. Results for Whites in Indiana are used as the comparison group, such that the figures represent the difference in each NAEP subject average score between Whites in Indiana and the other groups.

Source: NAEP data (Reading: 2007).

## Dropout Rates<sup>4</sup>

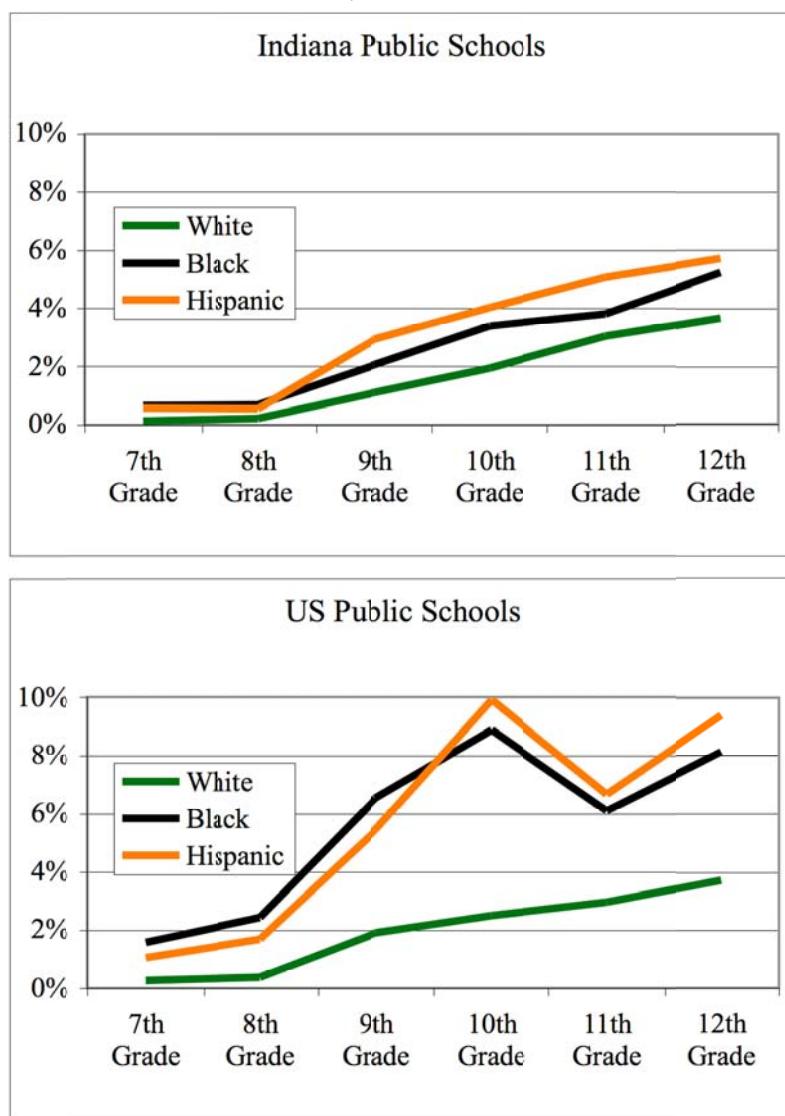
Figure 10 shows the dropout rates by grade in public schools in Indiana and the United States by race and ethnicity in 2004–2005, using data from the Common Core of Data (CCD). Indiana fares better than the nation as a whole in that the gap between Whites and other groups is narrower in Indiana, even though the White dropout rate in Indiana is similar to the national rate. The Black and Latino dropout rate is larger in the general US population than in Indiana, and the dropout rate among Latinos is lower than that among Blacks between seventh and tenth grade.

High school dropout rates among Latinos in Indiana are higher than those for Blacks or Whites. Nationally, dropout rates before 10<sup>th</sup> grade are higher for Blacks than Latinos, but the inverse is

<sup>4</sup> According to the Common Core of Data (CCD), a dropout event takes place when someone was enrolled in school at some time during the previous school year and was not enrolled on October of the current school year and does not meet any of the following exclusionary conditions: transfer to another public school district, private school, or state; temporary school-recognized absence due to suspension, illness, or death.

true by the end of high school. In the seventh and eighth grades, dropout rates are similar by race and ethnic groups, although whites show a small advantage. After ninth grade, the gap widens suddenly and remains relatively constant up to high school. This trend shows that the transition from middle school to high school is particularly troublesome for Latino dropout rates in Indiana.

**Figure 10. Dropout rates in public schools by grade level: Indiana and US, 2004–2005**



Source: Common Core of Data (CCD), 2004–2005.

# HEALTH

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Research has shown that social and economic factors are important influences on health.

Evidence suggests, for example, that economically disadvantaged people have shorter life expectancies and more illnesses than the more affluent.<sup>5</sup> However, even though Latinos generally have lower socioeconomic status relative to the rest of the US population, they typically have better health and lower mortality rates than Whites. This apparently contradictory situation has been referred to as the “Hispanic Health Paradox” and has been consistently confirmed by research.<sup>6</sup> This section looks at mortality rates and some lifestyle-related risk factors among Latinos and other groups in Indiana. As the “Hispanic Health Paradox” would predict, Latinos in Indiana fare relatively well compared to other racial and ethnic groups, despite a relatively low socioeconomic status.

## Mortality

Chronic diseases (for example, heart disease, cancer, and diabetes) account for the most deaths both among Indiana’s population as a whole and Latinos in particular (Table 1). Heart disease<sup>7</sup> is Indiana’s number one killer: 231.1 out of every 100,000 people die of heart disease per annum. It is also the leading cause of death among Latinos in Indiana, with a mortality rate of 114.7 per 100,000 in 2006.

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<sup>5</sup> World Health Organization, *The Solid Facts*, eds. R. Wilkinson and M. Marmot (n. d.). Available at <http://www.euro.who.int/document/e81384.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> L. Franzini, J. Ribble, A. Keddie, “Understanding the Hispanic Paradox,” *Ethnicity and Disease* 11, no. 3 (2001): 496–518.

<sup>7</sup> The broad term “heart disease” includes several more specific heart conditions including, but not limited to, coronary heart disease, heart attack, and heart failure.

The leading causes of death that Latinos share with the population at large—cancer, chronic lower respiratory disease, cerebrovascular disease, accidents, diabetes and nephritis—produced lower mortality rates among Latinos. Among the top ten causes of death for Latinos are several that they do not share with the general population. These—homicide, perinatal period, and congenital abnormalities—killed mostly young people and are considered premature deaths.

**Table 1. Leading causes of death: Indiana, 2006**

<i>Total Population</i>			<i>Latinos</i>		
	<i>Cause of death</i>	<i>Rate</i>		<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Rate</i>
1	Heart disease	231.9	1	Heart disease	114.7
2	Cancer	204.0	2	Cancer	81.5
3	Chronic lower respiratory disease	55.3	3	Diabetes	27.2
4	Cerebrovascular disease	52.6	4	Accidents	25.5
5	Accidents	39.5	5	Cerebrovascular disease	24.6
6	Diabetes	27.4	6	Chronic lower respiratory disease	19.5
7	Alzheimer's disease	26.3	7	Nephritis	12.4
8	Influenza and pneumonia	21.0	8	Homicide	9.42
9	Nephritis	20.5	9	Perinatal period	7.4
10	Septicemia	13.2	10	Congenital abnormalities	3.7

Note: Rates adjusted by age, US 2000 standard population. Rates per 100,000 persons.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), National Vital Statistics System.

## Life-Style Risk Factors

Chronic diseases such as heart disease are among the most prevalent, costly health problems—but also the most preventable since they are tied to behavior patterns.<sup>8</sup> Some behaviors known to be risk factors for developing heart disease include tobacco use, excessive alcohol use, poor diet,

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<sup>8</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “Chronic Diseases: The Leading Causes of Death.” Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/publications/factsheets/ChronicDisease/indiana.htm>.

obesity, and physical inactivity.<sup>9</sup> Conversely, adopting healthy behaviors such as eating nutritious foods, being physically active, and avoiding tobacco use can prevent or control the devastating effects of these diseases.<sup>10</sup>

### ***Obesity<sup>11</sup>***

Indiana ranked among the top 10 states for prevalence of obesity.<sup>12</sup> This problem affected the Black population more than others in 2006. Although differences were observed in the prevalence of obesity among Latinos and Whites, these differences were not significant. However, notice that 21 percent of the Latino population in Indiana was obese in 2006 (Table 2) and, if the trends in Indiana are similar to those of Latinos in the whole country, this percentage will increase.

**Table 2. Weight classification by Body Mass Index (BMI) by race and ethnicity: Indiana, 2006**

Race and ethnicity		Neither overweight nor obese (BMI < 25)	Overweight (25 ≤ BMI < 30)	Obese (30 ≤ BMI < 100)
White	percent	37.6	34.9	27.6
	CI	(35.9–39.3)	(33.3–36.5)	(26.1–29.1)
Black	percent	30.1	33.2	36.7
	CI	(24.5–35.7)	(28.0–38.4)	(31.5–41.9)
Latino	percent	34.0	45.6	20.5
	CI	(25.6–42.4)	(36.9–54.3)	(14.0–27.0)

Note: Percentages adjusted by age, US 2000 standard population.

Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance, 2006.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “Chronic Disease Prevention.” Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdpHP/>.

<sup>11</sup> Both overweight and obesity will be defined using the Body Mass Index (BMI). An individual is neither overweight nor obese if his/her BMI is less than 24.9, is overweight with a BMI that falls between 25 and 29.9, and is considered obese with a BMI that falls between 30 and 99.8.

<sup>12</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “Chronic Disease Prevention.” Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdpHP/>.

For Latinos in Indiana overweight is more of a problem than obesity. Forty-six percent of the Latino population in Indiana was overweight in 2006 (Table 2). Being overweight is one of the most reliable predictors of future obesity and also a risk factor for many other diseases and causes of death (heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, asthma, arthritis, apnea, and endometrial, breast, prostate, and colon cancers).<sup>13</sup> Overweight is affected by lifestyle conditions such as physical activity, diet, smoking habits, among others.<sup>14</sup>

### ***Physical Activity***

Latinos in the United States lead a more sedentary lifestyle than Whites, not taking into account work.<sup>15</sup> Physical activity is closely linked to well-being and reducing several risk factors for serious conditions. In Indiana, Latinos are the least physically active group (Table 3). Only a 69 percent declare engaging in 30 or more minutes of moderate physical activity for five or more days per week, or 20 or more minutes of physical activity for three or more days a week. Latinos are less active than Blacks and Whites, of whom 70 percent and 77 percent of adults engage in physical activity respectively.

**Table 3. Percentage of adults physically active\* by race and ethnicity:  
Indiana, 2005**

<i>Race</i>		<i>Physically Active</i>	<i>Not Physically Active</i>
White	percent	76.9	23.1
	CI	(75.3-78.5)	(21.5-24.7)
Black	percent	70.2	29.8
	CI	(64.7-75.7)	(24.3-35.3)
Latino	percent	68.7	31.3
	CI	(59.5-77.9)	(22.1-40.5)

\*Adults with 30+ minutes of moderate physical activity five or more days per week, or

<sup>13</sup> H. Mokdad, E. Ford, B. Bowman, W. Dietz,F. Vinicor, V. Bales, J. Marks, "Prevalence of Obesity, Diabetes, and Obesity-Related Health Risk Factors," *Journal of American Medical Association* 289 (2001): 76-79.

<sup>14</sup> S. Wyatt, K. Winters, P. Dubbert, "Overweight and Obesity: Prevalence, Consequences, and Causes of a Growing Public Health Problem," *American Journal of the Medical Sciences* 331(4), April 2006:166-174.

<sup>15</sup> Morales, et al, "Socioeconomic, Cultural, and Behavioral Factors Affecting Hispanic Health Outcomes." *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved* 13(4), November 2002:477-503.

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vigorous physical activity for 20+ minutes three or more days per week.  
Note: Percentages adjusted by age, with 2000 standard population.  
Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2006.

### Tobacco Use

Tobacco kills up to half of those who use it, and most of tobacco's damage to health does not become evident until years or even decades after the onset of use.<sup>16</sup> Smokers have markedly increased risks of multiple cancers, particularly lung cancer, and are at far greater risk of heart disease, strokes, emphysema, and many other fatal and non-fatal diseases.<sup>17</sup>

In Indiana the percentage of Latinos who smoke every day was smaller than that of Whites in 2007 (Table 4). While 19 percent of Whites smoked every day, only 9 percent of Latinos smoked daily. On the other hand, more Latinos are occasional smokers than Whites: 16 percent of Latinos, but only 5 percent of Whites. Occasional smokers, however, are at much greater risk to become everyday smokers than to become former smokers.

**Table 4. Percentage of adults by level smoking status and race and ethnicity: Indiana, 2007**

Race and ethnicity		Smoke every day	Smoke some days	Former smoker	Never smoked
White	percent	18.8	5.2	24.0	51.9
	CI	(17.2–20.4)	(4.2–6.2)	(22.4–25.6)	(49.9–53.9)
Black	percent	16.6	6.2	17.0	60.1
	CI	(11.7–21.5)	(3.7–8.7)	(12.5–21.5)	(53.4–66.8)
Latino	percent	8.6	16.5	14.3	N/A*
	CI	(3.7–13.5)	(7.9–25.1)	(7.4–21.2)	

\* Not available if the unweighted sample size for the denominator was < 50 or the CI half width was > 10 for any cell.

Note: Percentages are weighted to population characteristics.

Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance, 2006.

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<sup>16</sup> World Health Organization, *Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic* (2008). Available at <http://www.who.int/tobacco/mpower/qanda/en/index.html>.

<sup>17</sup> World Health Organization, "Health Risks." Available at <http://www.who.int/tobacco/en/atlas9.pdf>.

# Employment and Income

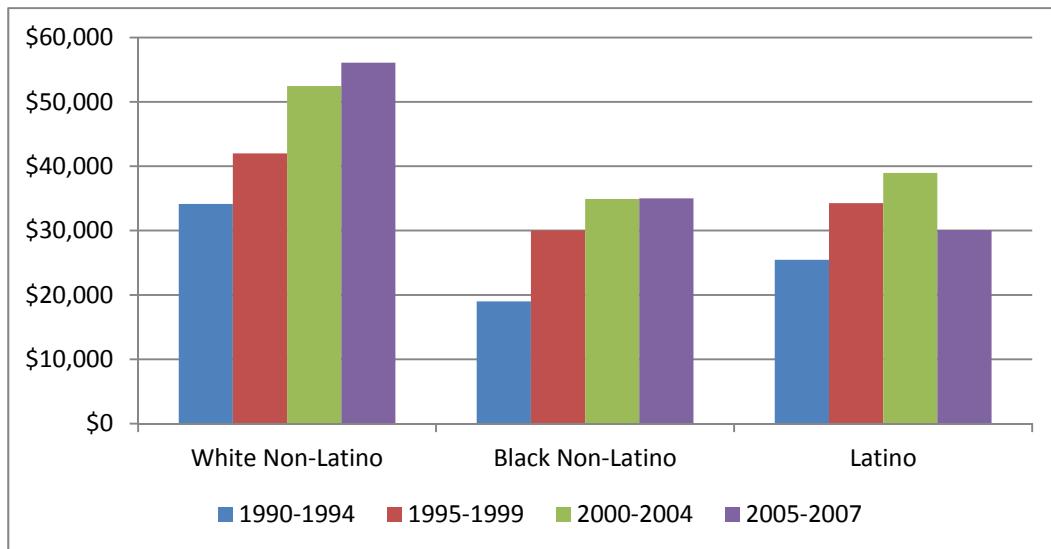
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Latinos in Indiana participate in the workforce as much as other groups, but their income levels are among the lowest and they face the worst work environment. This section shows that Latinos work as many hours as Whites and more than Blacks, but in recent years their income level and health coverage have decreased, and income disparities have increased.

## Income

Income is one of the best indicators to measure economic well-being. Because working families use income to meet their needs, to invest, and to save, income inequality can translate into marked differences in quality of life.

**Figure 11. Median income by race and ethnicity: Indiana, 1990–2007**

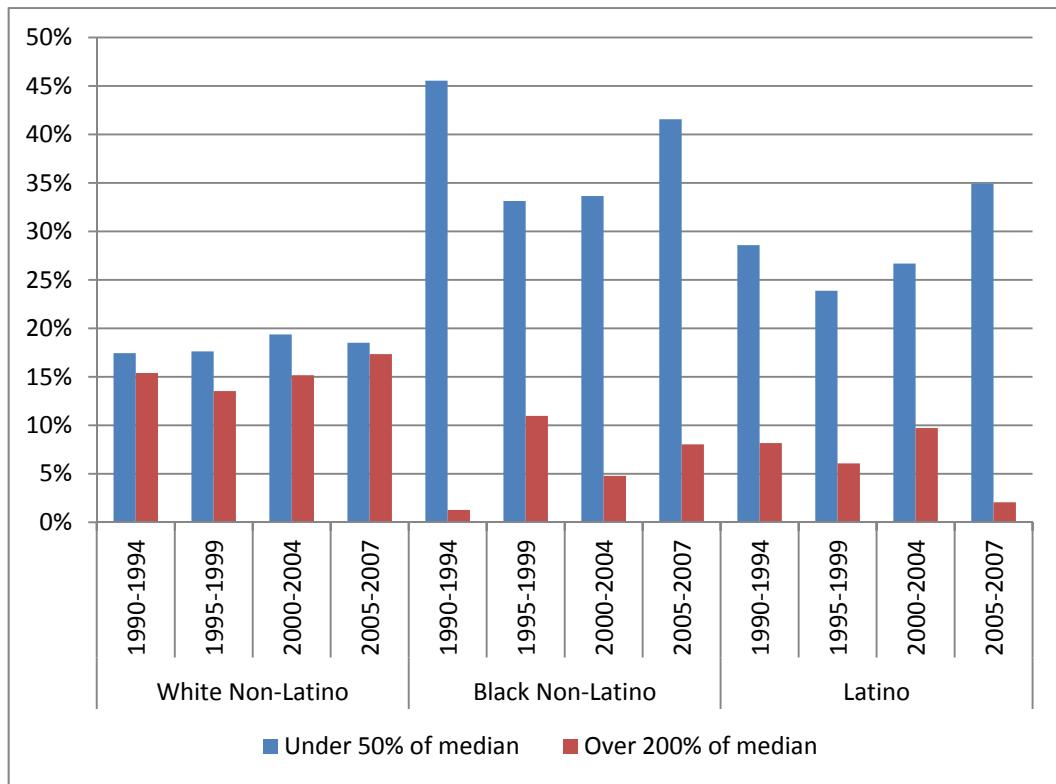


Source: Author's calculation using CPS.

The median family income for Whites in Indiana is much higher than that of Latinos and Blacks. While median income for Whites was around \$56,000 between 2005 and 2007, for Latinos it was around \$30,000, and for Blacks around \$35,000. This means that the median family income for Whites was about 1.8 times than that of Latinos and 1.6 times larger than that of Blacks (Figure 11). In the last three years the median family income for Blacks has stalled, and for Latinos it has decreased, while at the same time increasing for Whites. Thus, the median family income gap between Whites and Latinos is larger than it was in the early 1990s.

Looking at the lower- and upper-end of the family income distribution in Indiana, we see that Blacks and Latinos are overrepresented at the bottom of the distribution and underrepresented at the upper end. Figure 12 shows the composition by race and ethnicity of people whose income is *half* as much as the median family income for Indiana and *twice* as much as the median family income. Between 1990 and 2007, the proportion of Whites at the lower and upper ends of the distribution has not changed much, remaining at around 15 percent. The proportion of Blacks at the lower end of the distribution decreased between 1995 and 2004 but increased again in 2005 to 2007 to around 40 percent. In the meantime, the proportion of Latinos at the lower end of the distribution has increased steadily since 1995, while neither Blacks nor Latinos have increased their proportion in the upper end of distribution above 10 percent.

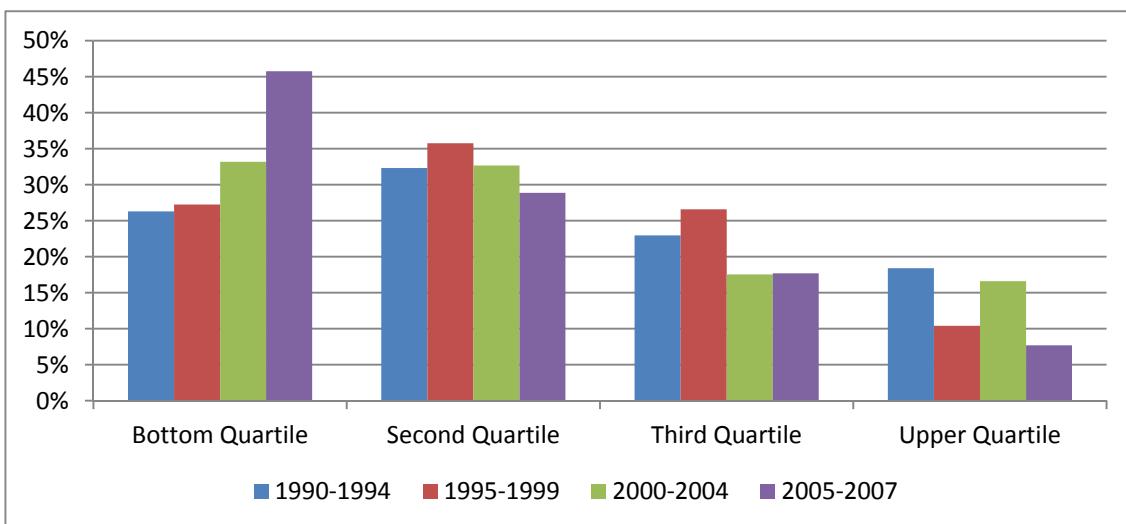
**Figure 12. Distribution by race and ethnicity and income level: Indiana, 1990–2007**



Source: Author's calculation using CPS.

Income inequality among Latinos in Indiana has worsened during the 2000s. The income distribution for Latinos has shifted over the years. Until 1999 Latinos were concentrated in the second quartile of the income distribution. By 2007 over 45 percent of Latinos were in the bottom quartile of distribution (Figure 13).

**Figure 13. Distribution of Latinos by family income quartiles: Indiana, 1990–2007**



Source: Author's calculation using CPS.

## Hours of Work

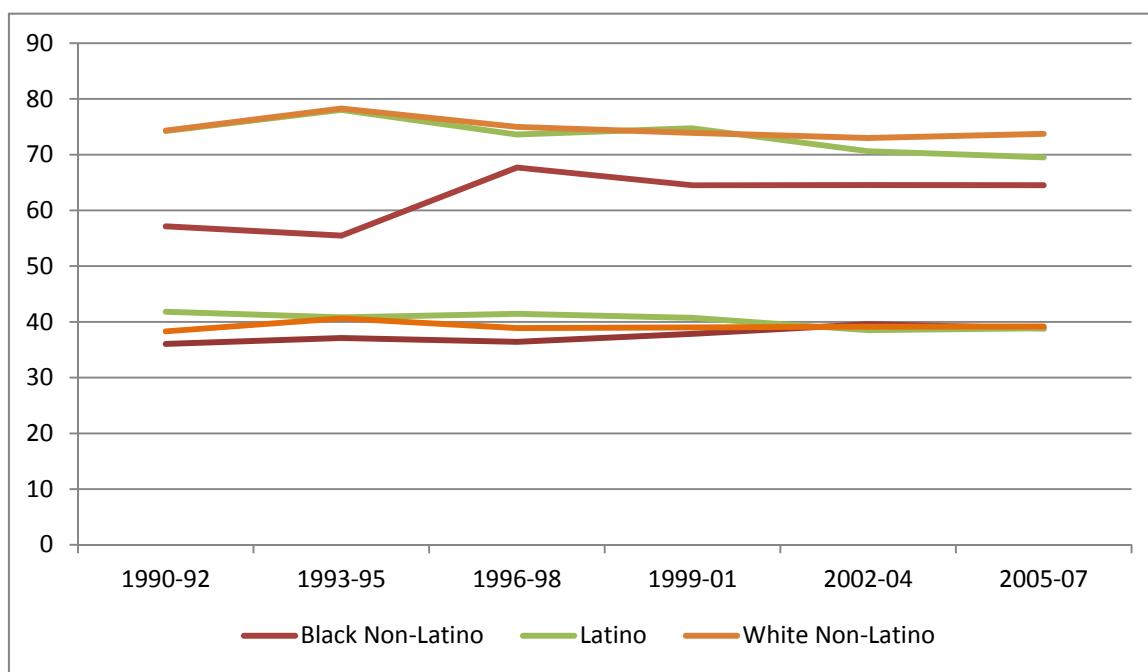
Although the average working week for individual Hoosiers has remained at around 40 hours, families are working twice that number of hours. The accumulation of working hours among all members in a household may translate into less time together, which in turn reduces the quality of life.<sup>18</sup>

There are no significant differences between Whites and minorities in the average hours of work per week (Figure 14). Although there were small differences at the beginning of the 1990s, when Latinos worked longer hours than Whites and they in turn more than Blacks, those differences had disappeared by 2007. However, differences emerge among the three groups in terms of family work hours. The total number of hours that family members work has increased

<sup>18</sup> L. Mishel, J. Bernstein, S. Allegretto, *The State of Working America 2006/2007* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2007).

significantly for Blacks but remains higher for Whites and Latinos. For the latter, the family work hours have shown a small decrease, but they still remain higher than those of Blacks.

**Figure 14. Average individual weekly work hours compared to family work hours, Indiana: 1990–2007**



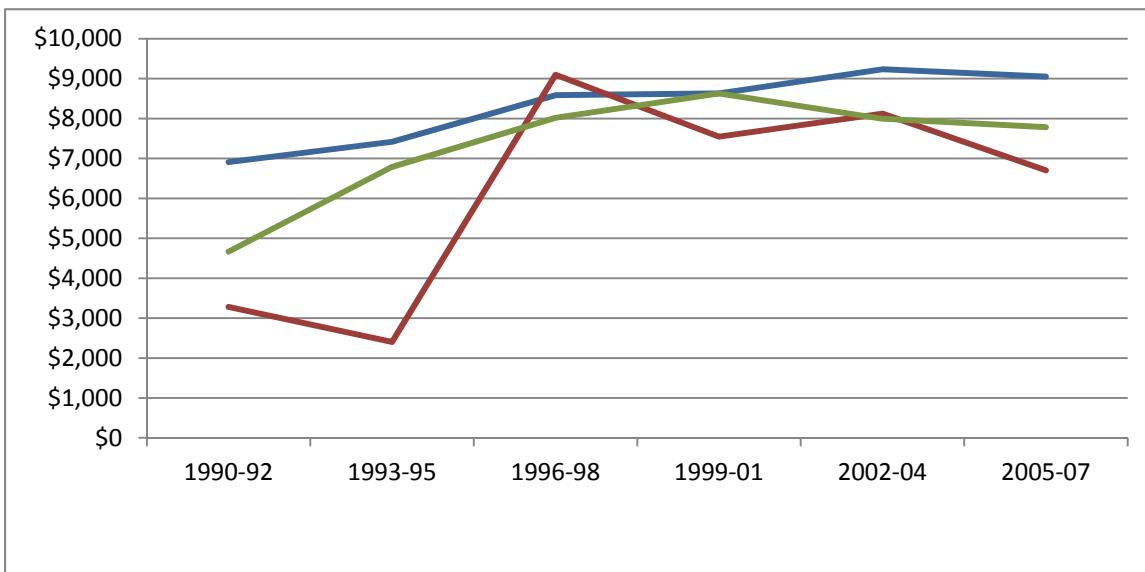
Source: Author's calculation using CPS.

## Wages

Because wages and salaries make up, on average, roughly three-fourths of total family income, wage trends are the driving force behind income growth and income inequality trends. The major development in the labor market in recent years has been the stunning disparity between the improving pay for Whites and the stunted pay growth for others. In Indiana the gap in income from wages between Whites and other minority groups such as Latinos and Blacks has not improved in the last 18 years. In the early 1990s the median income of Indiana Whites from

salary and wages was 48 percent higher than that of Latinos and 111 percent higher than that of Blacks. Between 1993 and 2001 the gap between Whites and Latinos closed, while the gap between Whites and Blacks fluctuated, coming to 14 percent in the 1999–2001 period. But the gains in income from salaries and wages achieved during the 1990s have almost disappeared in the last seven years for Latinos and Blacks. After 2001 there was a decline in the median wages for Blacks and Latinos (Figure 15). In other words, income inequality is rising in Indiana, given that Latinos and Blacks have to work more but earn less. Although income from wages and salaries factors into the quality of life of working families, differences in that income might be affected by the number of hours worked. For example, the increase in income from salaries and wages observed in the previous graph for Blacks might be the result of the increase in the number of family working hours after 1996. To gain a complete picture of the value of labor we must examine the hourly wage independent of the number of hours worked.

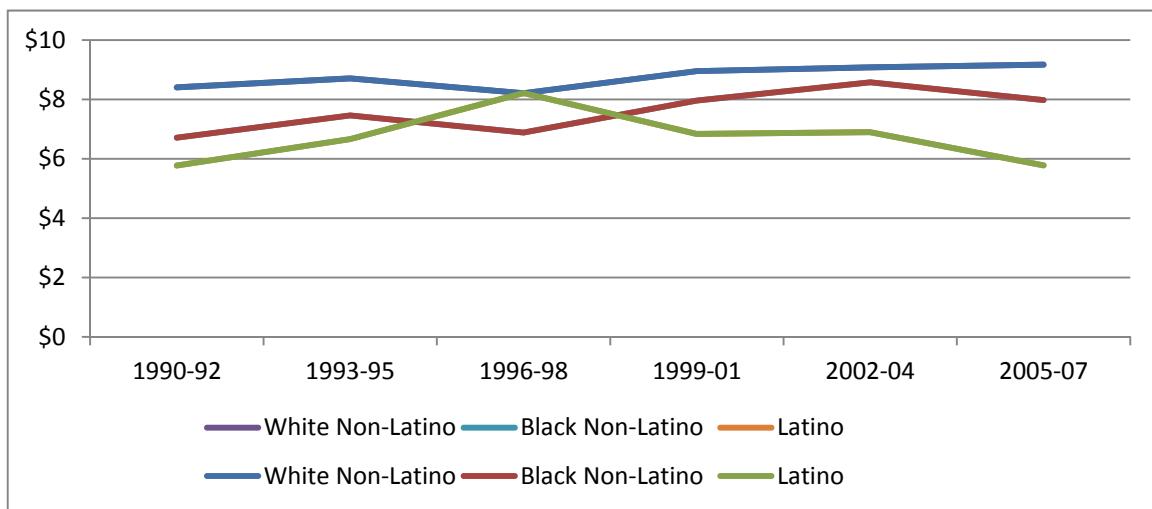
**Figure 15. Median income from salaries and wages by race and ethnicity: Indiana, 1990–2007 (1990 dollars)**



Source: Author's calculation using CPS.

The trends in hourly wage show a different picture from the ones for income from salaries and wages, especially for Latinos in Indiana. Comparing Figures 15 and 16 we see that in the early 1990s the gap in income between Whites and Blacks was 43 percent, while the gap in hourly wage was 25 percent; the gap between Whites and Latinos in income from wages and salaries was only 16 percent, but the gap in hourly wage was 46 percent. However, while the gap between Whites and Blacks hourly wage has narrowed since 1996, the hourly wage gap between Whites and Latinos has increased in the same period.

**Figure 16. Hourly wage by race and ethnicity: Indiana, 1990–2007 (1990 dollars)**



Source: Author's calculation using CPS.

The concentration of Latinos in certain industries explains the decrease in their hourly wages in Indiana. Not only do Latinos concentrate in industries that have low pay, but there is also a considerable gap in wages between Latinos and non-Latinos within industries. There are three

“traditional” sectors where Latinos have worked since 1990: manufacturing, retail trade, and services. Latino participation in these sectors has fluctuated, but the trend has been upwards. Since 2002 Latinos have started to work in construction and agriculture, sectors that have been heavily impacted recently by downturns in the economy (Table 5).

**Table 5. Percentage share of Latinos within major industries and hourly wage: Indiana, 1990–2007**

	Latino share of employment						Avg. hourly wage 2005-2007	
	1990-92	1993-95	1996-98	1999-01	2002-04	2005-07	Non Latino	Latino
Agriculture	—	—	—	—	3.6%	5.7%	—	—
Construction	—	—	—	3.0%	3.6%	10.9%	12.6	4.3
Manufacturing	3.3%	1.5%	3.5%	3.6%	4.4%	5.1%	13.8	6.4
Trans., utilities	—	—	—	—	2.1%	2.4%	14.0	—
Wholesale trade	—	—	—	5.7%	—	3.7%	9.2	—
Retail trade	0.9%	2.7%	2.1%	1.8%	3.3%	5.2%	7.1	2.6
Fin., ins., real estate	—	—	2.2%	3.4%	—	—	10.5	—
Services	0.7%	2.0%	1.6%	1.6%	1.8%	2.3%	9.8	1.2
Federal	—	—	—	—	2.9%	—	14.5	—
State and local	—	—	—	—	—	5.4%	10.9	—
Total	1.4%	1.7%	2.0%	2.4%	2.8%	4.1%	10.65	3.79

— Not enough cases to report wages (minimum five unweighted cases)

Source: Author's calculation using CPS.

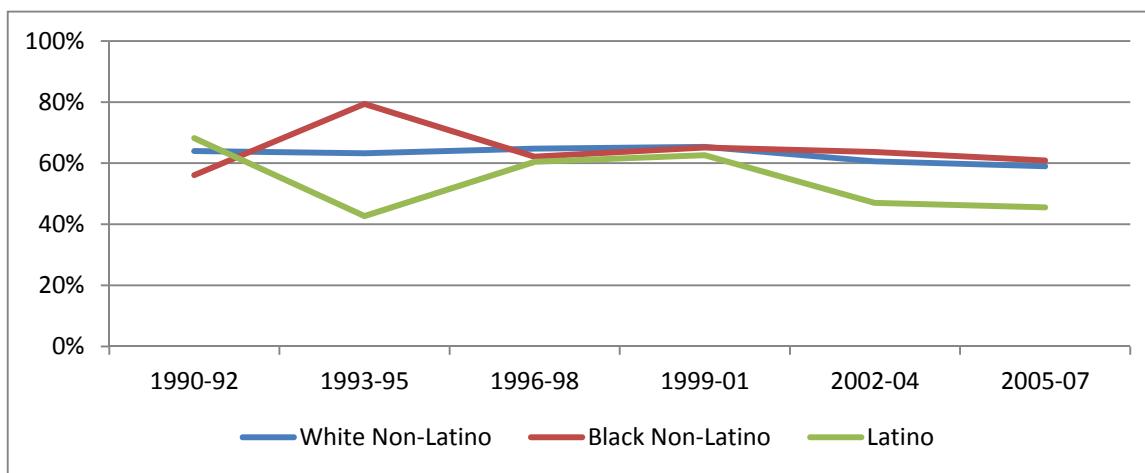
On average, non-Latinos are earning 2.8 times the wage that Latinos earn across industries. The largest difference is found in construction, where non-Latinos earn 2.9 times the wage of Latinos.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>19</sup> Although it seems that in the services sector non-Latinos are getting more than nine times the wage of Latinos, this could result from the likelihood that a large proportion of income for Latinos working in the services sector comes from gratuities. This is corroborated by the fact that the income from salaries and wages (including gratuities) for non-Latinos is on average just 1.3 times the wage of Latinos in the services sector (data not shown).

## Health Insurance Coverage

Another factor that contributes to job quality is health insurance coverage. Latinos have less coverage by employer-provided health insurance than either Blacks or Whites. Between 1996 and 2001, there were no significant differences between the different racial or ethnic groups; however, since then the percentage of Latinos covered by health insurance has dropped below 50 percent, while the other two groups have remained at around 60 percent.

**Figure 17. Percentage of employer-provided health insurance coverage: Indiana, 1990–2007**



Source: Author's calculation using CPS.