

HISPANIC REALITIES IN HOUSTON

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Reality # 1

Houston is becoming a Hispanic city. 33% of its population is Hispanic and the 67% are Anglo, African American, Asians, and Arabs.

- About 70% of the Hispanic population is Mexican.
- About 30% of the Hispanic population is from Central & South America.
- There are other Hispanic countries, but figures are very small.

Reality # 2

Hispanics are the fastest growing population of Houston:

- From 2,000 to 2,006 the Anglo population grew 13.5%
- From 2,000 to 2,006 the Hispanic population grew 18.8%
- In the next two or three years the Hispanic population will become the majority.

Reality # 3

Hispanics are a very young population:

- Millennium generation has a population of 505,045
- Generation X population is 453,748
- Boomers are 186,191

Reality # 4

Hispanic Americans are the group with the largest percentage of children and youth:

- 14% of the Hispanic population in USA is under five years.
- 5.7% of the Anglo population is under five years.
- 50% of Hispanics are under 27 years old.

Reality #5

Houston's future depends as never before on the quality of education skills we provide to Hispanic kids:

- Because they are the fastest growing population.
- Because they have the largest percentage of children and youth.

Reality #6

Spanish is the second most spoken language in Houston.

- English 1, 040, 605.00
- Spanish 712, 534.00

Reality #7

Hispanics have much in common with one another, but there is significant diversity among them.

- Spain is the cultural base.
- Spanish is the common language.
- There are Hispanics from different ethnics, countries, economic levels, climates, and generations.
- Time, reason, and way of emigration make a big contribution to the diversity. For example, the way a Puerto Rican, or Cuban comes here is different than a Mexican did.

- Hispanics can be classified in three generation: **First**, adult and youth people who grew up in a Spanish country. **Second and third**, people who grew up here, in USA.

Reality # 8

Hispanics are a growing economic power, and because of its growth they could be a political power in the future.

- There is 9 million of Hispanics in the greater Houston area.
- Their buying power is \$ 27 billion.

Reality # 9

Houston is a door of many Hispanics immigrants.

- Because it is a big city near to the Mexican border many immigrants come here looking to stay, or to pass to another city.
- Because of its growing Hispanic population, Houston is attractive to Hispanics looking to work and live in USA.

Reality # 10

First generation of Hispanics have a different world view than the second.

- First generation speaks only Spanish; many of them do not feel 100% Americans and maintain connections with their relatives and home town.
- Second and third generation speaks English fluently. Third generation could understand Spanish, but they do not speak it. Both generations consider themselves Americans and they are practically disconnected from the country of their parents.