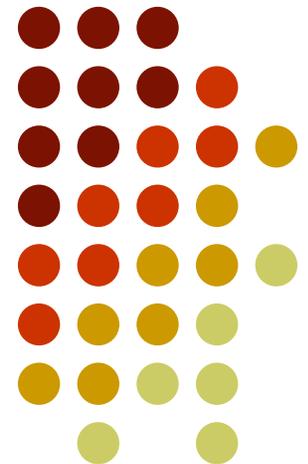


# Economic and Labor Market Implications of the Growing Latino Population in South Carolina

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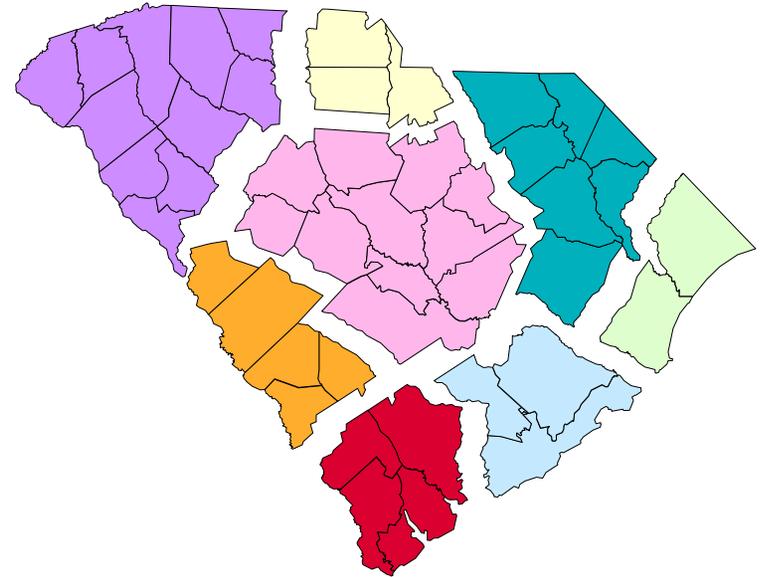


CERN, Washington 2007

# South Carolina and Immigration



- South Carolina is a new receiving area
- Immigrant labor growing rapidly
- Little understood effects on the economy





# The Economic Forces

- Pulling force: Employment opportunities in U.S and South Carolina.
- Pushing force: Declining opportunities in Latin America
- Sustaining forces
  - Highly productive and profitable
  - Ample supply

# What are the implications of the Latino Population?



- Demography
- Housing
- Education
- Health Care
- Employee Benefits
- Economy
  - Wages
  - Employment



# The Data Sources

- Census and American Community Survey
  - **Published data**
  - **Unpublished data computed from microdata sets**
- USC Survey of Latinos in South Carolina
  - **Interviews conducted by Spanish-speaking individuals**
  - **Interviews were conducted anonymously**



# The USC Survey

- conducted in the fall of 2006
- participants were given a 10 dollar Wal-Mart card
- had a total of 52 questions
- The teams consisted of Graduate level business students proficient in Spanish
- conducted at the Mexican consulates as well as other areas like the flea market and a healthcare Latino conference



# The Survey Questions:

- You and your family
  - Gender, age, marital status, schooling, etc
- Your employment
  - Earnings, type, amount of work, injuries, etc
- Your spending
  - Remittances, savings, banking, driving, etc
- Your household
  - Type, composition, etc
- Health issues and other services
  - Status, insurance, food stamps, etc.

# Growing Latino Population in South Carolina



- **Latino Population**
  - **U.S. Census estimates 135,000 for 2005 (3.2% of total population)**
  - **Increased 350% from 2000 to 2005 (87% in the nation as a whole)**
  - **Current growth rates would increase Latino population to 400,000 by 2009**
  - **The Census numbers are probably underestimating the actual values**

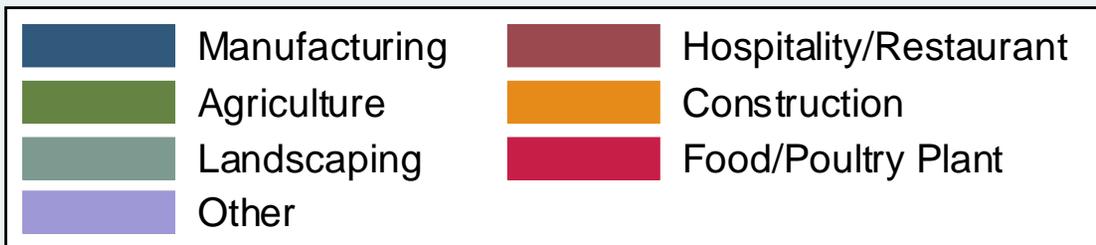
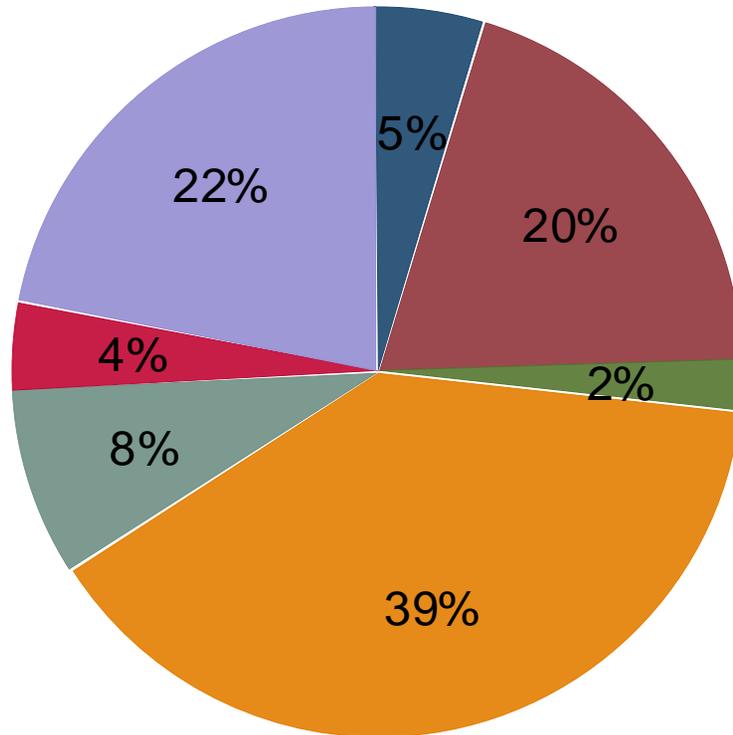
# Characteristics of the South Carolina Latino Population



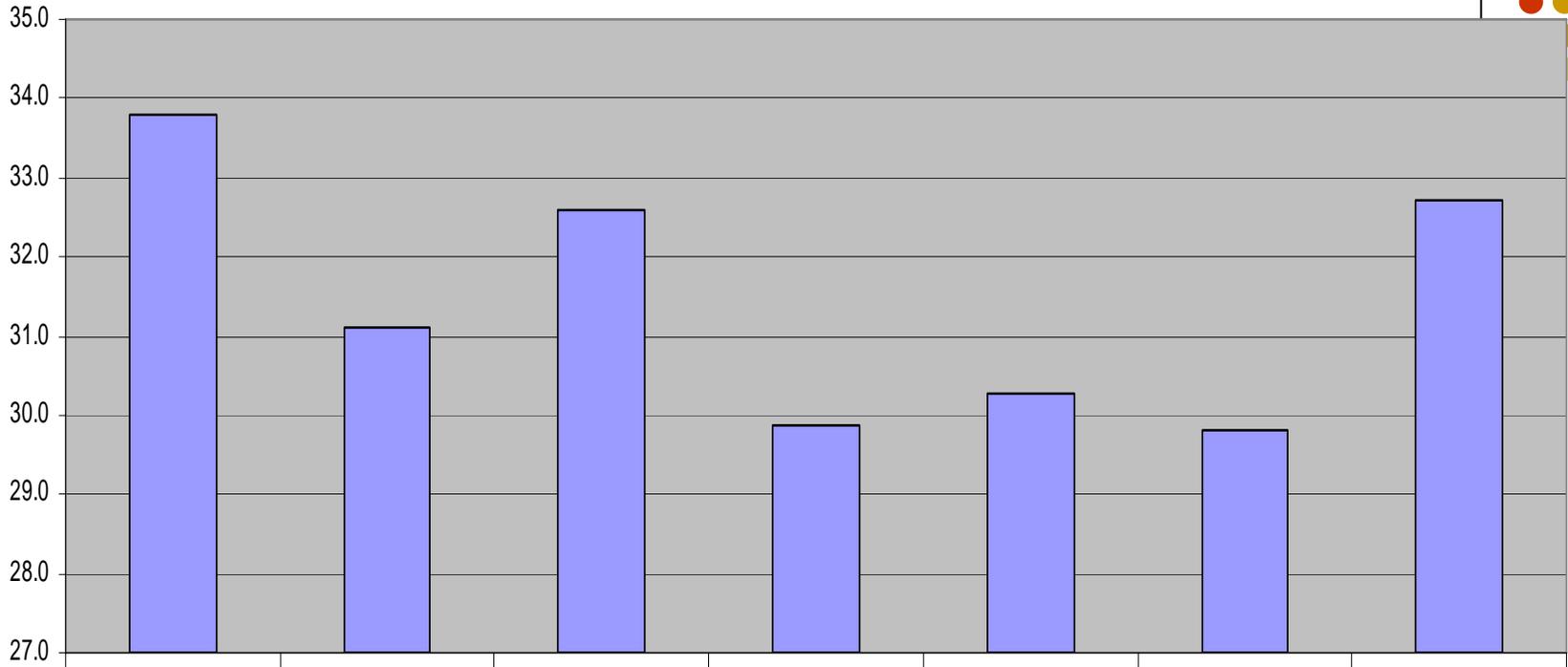
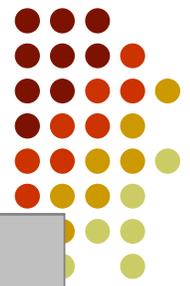
- 62% are Mexican
- males 56% (ACS) vs 65% (Survey)
- Average stay: 7.9 yrs (US) vs 4.8 yrs (SC)
- 68% live with non-immediate family
- 41 percent shared a residence with a roommate, acquaintance or friend
- household size averaged 5.1
- Foreign born: 57% (ACS) vs 97% (Survey)
- Do not speak English: 37% (ACS) vs (50%+25%) (Survey)



## Distribution of Mexican Workers



# Average Age by Industry



Manufacturin  
Hospitality/Restaur~  
Agricultur~  
Constructio~  
Landscapin  
Food/Poultry Pla~  
Other

# Median Earnings in South Carolina (Full-Time, Year-Round Workers)



	Nominal			2005	
	2000	2005	Percentage Growth	Deflated to 2000	Percentage Growth
Hispanic	\$20,672	\$21,199	2.6%	\$18,692	-9.6%
Black	\$22,739	\$25,480	12.1%	\$22,467	-1.2%
White	\$31,008	\$35,672	15.0%	\$31,454	1.4%
All	\$28,941	\$31,799	9.9%	\$28,039	-3.1%

# A Tale of Three Industries in South Carolina



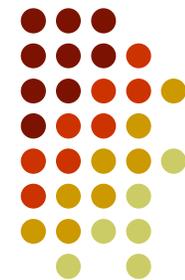
- **Construction**
- **Food processing**
- **Landscaping**

# Employment and Earnings in the Construction Industry



		2000	2005	Percentage Growth	Deflated to 2000	Real Growth
<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>Earnings</b>	<b>\$18,605</b>	<b>\$18,549</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>\$16,356</b>	<b>-12.1%</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>5,131</b>	<b>14,422</b>	<b>181.1%</b>		
<b>Black</b>	<b>Earnings</b>	<b>\$22,739</b>	<b>\$25,174</b>	<b>14.4%</b>	<b>\$22,197</b>	<b>-2.4%</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>18,625</b>	<b>14,213</b>	<b>-23.7%</b>		
<b>White</b>	<b>Earnings</b>	<b>\$31,008</b>	<b>\$31,799</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>\$28,039</b>	<b>-9.6%</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>91,112</b>	<b>95,005</b>	<b>4.3%</b>		
<b>All</b>	<b>Earnings</b>	<b>\$28,424</b>	<b>\$30,576</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>\$26,960</b>	<b>-5.1%</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>114,319</b>	<b>117,559</b>	<b>2.8%</b>		

# Employment and Earnings in the Manufacturing-Animal Slaughtering



		2000	2005	Percentage Growth	Deflated to 2000	Real Growth
Hispanic	Earnings	\$15,504	\$14,269	-8.0%	\$12,582	-18.9%
	Number	994	1,119	12.6%		
Black	Earnings	\$17,571	\$22,830	29.9%	\$20,130	14.6%
	Number	3,335	1,886	-43.4%		
White	Earnings	\$25,840	\$37,200	44.0%	\$32,802	26.9%
	Number	2,093	1,111	-46.9%		
All	Earnings	\$19,638	\$22,422	14.2%	\$19,771	0.7%
	Number	6,061	3,999	-34.0%		

# Employment and Earnings in the Landscaping Services



		2000	2005	Percentage Growth	Deflated to 2000	Real Growth
<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>Earnings</b>	<b>\$16,331</b>	<b>\$15,899</b>	<b>-2.6%</b>	<b>\$14,019</b>	<b>-14.2%</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>1,004</b>	<b>1,674</b>	<b>66.7%</b>		
<b>Black</b>	<b>Earnings</b>	<b>\$18,088</b>	<b>\$18,549</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>\$16,356</b>	<b>-9.6%</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>1,409</b>	<b>3,722</b>	<b>164.2%</b>		
<b>White</b>	<b>Earnings</b>	<b>\$23,773</b>	<b>\$25,480</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>\$22,467</b>	<b>-5.5%</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>6,643</b>	<b>6,542</b>	<b>-1.5%</b>		
<b>All</b>	<b>Earnings</b>	<b>\$20,672</b>	<b>\$19,588</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>	<b>\$17,255</b>	<b>-16.5%</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>8,859</b>	<b>11,126</b>	<b>25.6%</b>		

# Employment and Earnings in the Motor Vehicles and Motor Vehicle Equipment



		2000	2005	Percentage Growth	Deflated to 2000	Real Growth
Hispanic	Earnings	\$25,600	\$25,000	-2.3%	\$21,368	-16.5%
	Number	236	215	-8.9%		
Black	Earnings	\$25,000	\$40,000	60.0%	\$34,188	36.8%
	Number	6,414	10,463	63.1%		
White	Earnings	\$34,900	\$45,000	28.9%	\$38,462	10.2%
	Number	14,762	16,106	9.1%		



# Employee Benefits

- only 46.8 percent said the employer offered health insurance to the worker
- of those offered coverage only 58.3 percent opted to take the group insurance.
- 29 percent reported being offered other benefits (65 percent opted to take the benefit)
- 42 percent of Latino respondents received workplace safety information in Spanish.
- About 15 percent of respondents reported being injured on the job
- About 70 percent said that the employer paid for workplace injury medical expenses, and 61 percent reported that the employer paid lost wages for time missed as well.

# South Carolina Poverty Status (Percentage Below Poverty level)



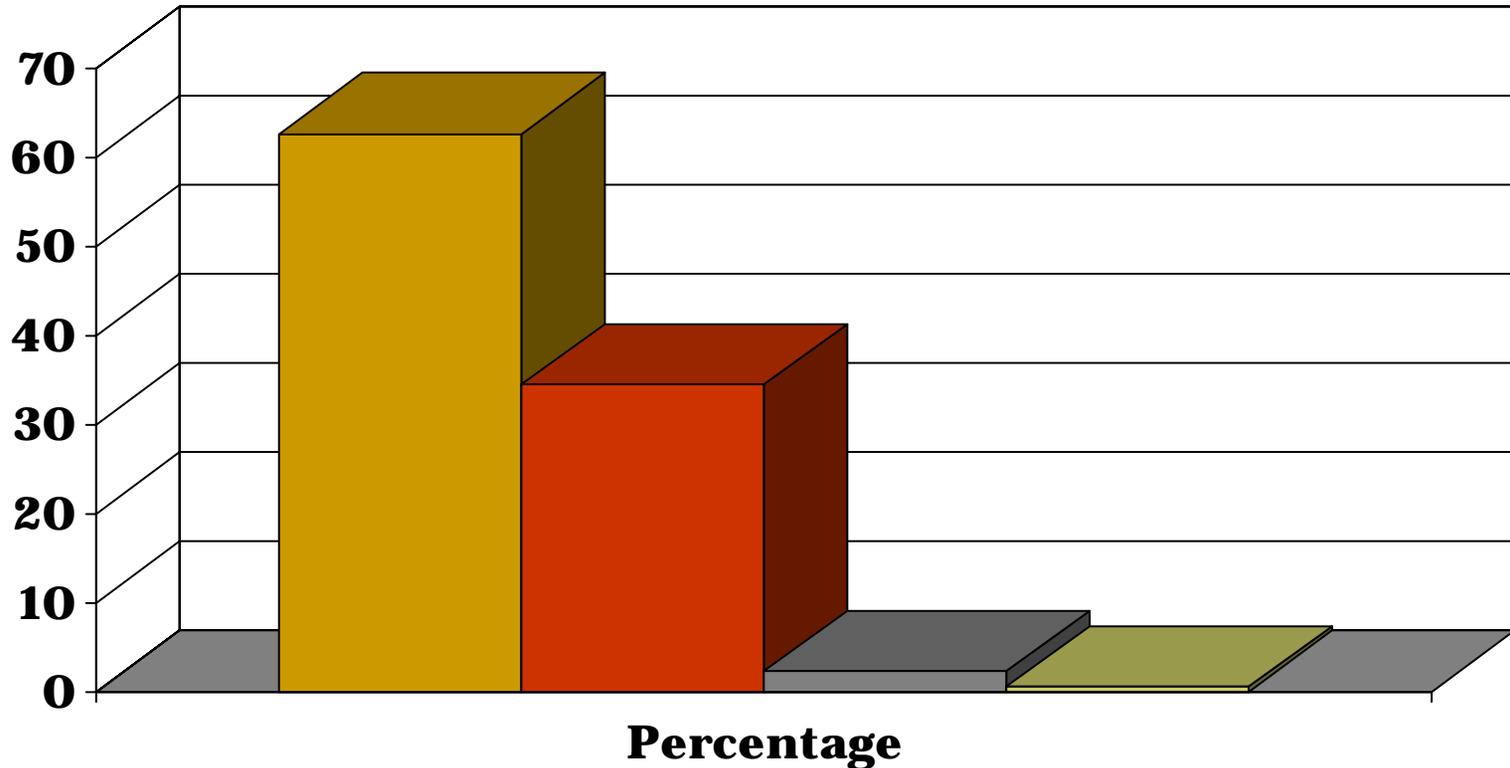
	2000	2005
Hispanic	24.8%	25.7%
Blacks	26.2%	25.1%
Whites	8.6%	9.3%
Noncitizens	24.9%	22.6%
Hispanic & Noncitizen	33.8%	27.5%
All	14.1%	14.3%

# South Carolina: Poverty Status 2006 (American Community Survey)



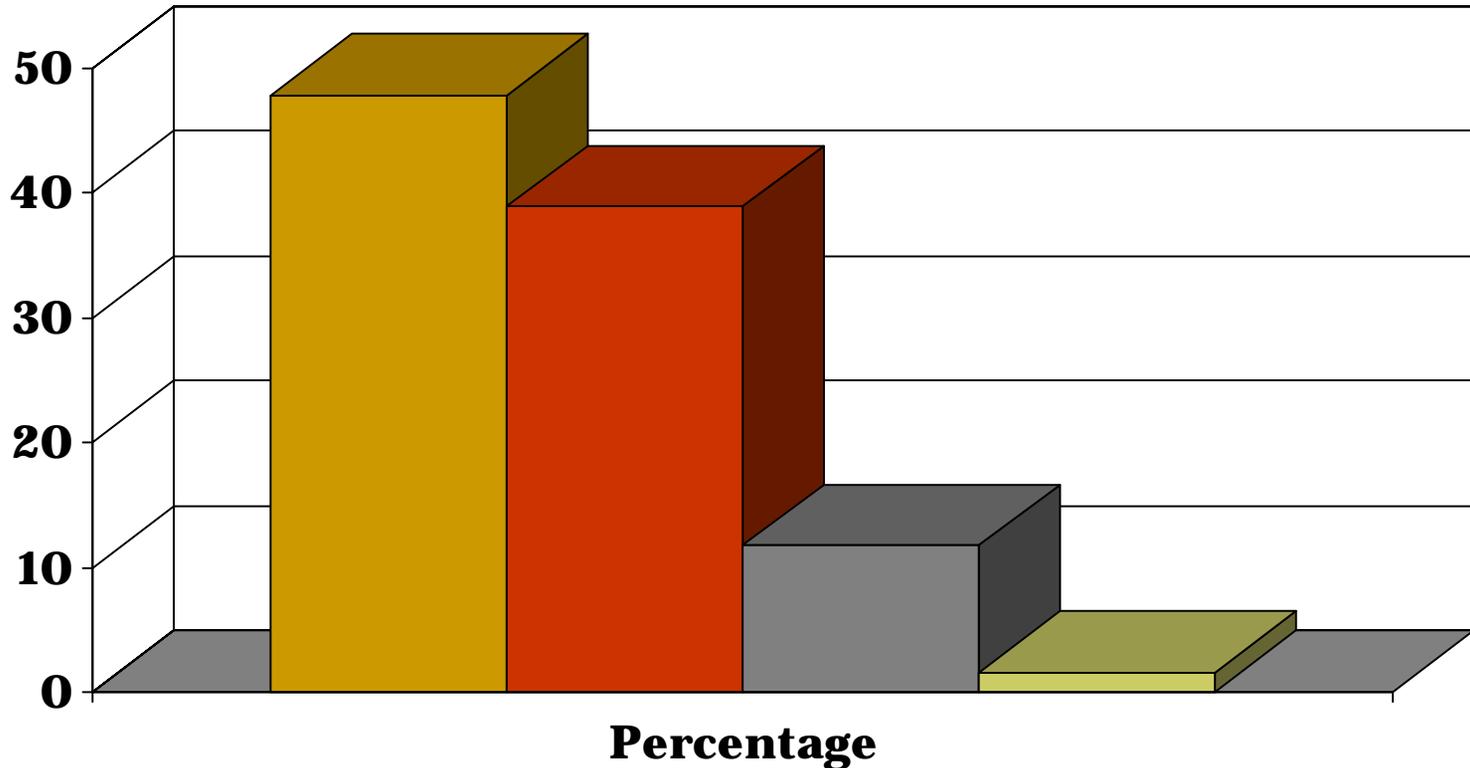
- All Citizens: Percent below poverty level:
  - 15.6 percent (2005)
  - 15.7 percent (2006)
- White
  - 10.2 percent (2005)
  - 10.0 percent (2006)
- Black
  - 26.9 percent (2005)
  - 28.9 percent (2006)
- Hispanic
  - 29.0 percent (2005)
  - 22.3 percent (2006)

# South Carolina Percentage of Food Stamp Recipients by Race/Ethnicity, May 2007



**African American** **White** **Hispanic/Latino** **Other**

# S.C. Percentage of Recipients of Women, Infant and Children (WIC) Services by Race/Ethnicity, FY 06 (7/1/05-6/30/06)



**■ African American ■ White ■ Hispanic/Latino ■ Other**

# What did we learn about the South Carolina Latino Population?



- This a diverse and hard to stereotype population
- Most are young and male
- Most are low skilled, low-educated and low-income
- Attracted to employment opportunities and family networks
- Most do not have health-care but they do not seem to be burdening the health care system
- Poverty rate for Latinos is similar to that of African-Americans
- For each of the three largest sectors with a Latino work force in South Carolina, African-Americans either lost jobs, saw earnings decline, or both.
- Industries with increased presence of Latinos had real wage declines.