

Factors that Influence Change in Hispanic Identification: Evidence from Linked Decennial Census and American Community Survey Data

Leticia Fernandez, Sonya R. Porter, Renuka Bhaskar & Sharon Ennis
Center for Administrative Records Research and Applications

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This presentation is released to inform interested parties of ongoing research and to encourage discussion of work in progress. The views expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the U.S. Census Bureau.

Motivation

- *Fluidity (blurred ethnic boundaries)* - Racial and ethnic identification may change over time, with personal circumstances, or depending on social context.
- *Attrition (crossed ethnic boundaries)* - Some studies find that through intermarriage and socioeconomic mobility, individuals may no longer identify as Hispanic.
- Hispanics are a heterogeneous population in terms of racial identification, socioeconomic status, and immigration trajectories. Do these factors influence change in Hispanic identification?

Research Questions

Among individuals who have ever reported as Hispanic or having Hispanic ancestry:

- What are the factors associated with consistently reporting as Hispanic, changing between Hispanic and non-Hispanic, and consistently reporting as non-Hispanic?

Background

- Previous research has found an association between change in Hispanic identification and...
 - **Nativity and country of origin** –Native Hispanics and those reporting pan-ethnic labels
 - **Ancestry** – Mixed Hispanic and non-Hispanic ancestry
 - **Race** – May discourage formation of a Hispanic identity
 - **Neighborhood** – Ethnic composition in school and neighborhood, exposure to culture
 - **Changes in Hispanic origin question wording**

Data

- Linked data across Census 2000, 2010 Census, and the 5-year American Community Survey (ACS) 2006-2010.
 - Use of probability record linkage techniques to assign a unique Protected Identification Key (PIK)
- Sample limited to PIKed individuals who could be linked across Census and ACS. Not representative of the Hispanic population in the U.S.
 - Unedited ('as reported') Hispanic origin, race, sex and age as provided by a household member ('no proxy')
 - Ever reporting as Hispanic or of Hispanic ancestry in Census or ACS files
 - Age 25 and older in ACS
 - Unweighted sample size 628,802; ACS-weighted sample size 11.9 million

Consistency of Hispanic Origin Reporting Across Census 2000, ACS 2006-2010 and 2010 Census, by Question Wording±

Group	Census 2000	ACS 2006-2007	ACS 2008-2010	2010 Census	Weighted Percent
	"Is this person Spanish/ Hispanic/ Latino?"		"Is this person of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?"		
1	Hispanic	Hispanic		Hispanic	33.8%
2	Hispanic	Hispanic		Non-Hispanic	0.5%
3	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic		Hispanic	0.8%
4	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic		Non-Hispanic	0.7%
5	Non-Hispanic	Hispanic		Hispanic	0.9%
6	Non-Hispanic	Hispanic		Non-Hispanic	0.7%
7	Non-Hispanic	Non-Hispanic		Hispanic	0.8%
8	Non-Hispanic	Non-Hispanic		Non-Hispanic	1.1%
9	Hispanic		Hispanic	Hispanic	52.4%
10	Hispanic		Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	0.8%
11	Hispanic		Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	1.0%
12	Hispanic		Non-Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	1.1%
13	Non-Hispanic		Hispanic	Hispanic	1.8%
14	Non-Hispanic		Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	1.3%
15	Non-Hispanic		Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	1.0%
16	Non-Hispanic		Non-Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	1.5%
Weighted Percent		39.2%	60.8%		

± Excludes proxy and allocated/edited responses to Hispanic origin, race, age and sex items, as well as individuals who reported Two or More Races with SOR in Census 2000.

Source: Census 2000, 2010 Census and 2006-2010 ACS 5-year data.

Wording has Small but Statistically Significant Effect on Hispanic Origin Response±

<i>I. Census 2000 & ACS 2006-2007: "Is this person Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?"</i>	Weighted Percent
Hispanic in both	87.5%
Hispanic in Census 2000, non-Hispanic in ACS 2006-2007	3.8%
Non-Hispanic in Census 2000, Hispanic in ACS 2006-2007	3.9%
Non-Hispanic in both^	4.8%
Total	100.0%
<i>II. ACS 2008-2010 & 2010 Census: "Is this person of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?"</i>	Weighted Percent
Hispanic in both	89.0%
Hispanic in ACS 2008-2010, non-Hispanic in 2010 Census	3.4%
Non-Hispanic in ACS 2008-2010, Hispanic in 2010 Census	3.3%
Non-Hispanic in both^	4.3%
Total	100.0%
<i>III. Census 2000 & 2010 Census: "Is this person Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?" vs "Is this person of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?"</i>	Weighted Percent
Hispanic in both	88.0%
Hispanic in Census 2000, non-Hispanic in 2010 Census	* 3.1%
Non-Hispanic in Census 2000, Hispanic in 2010 Census	* 4.4%
Non-Hispanic in both^	4.6%
Total	100.0%

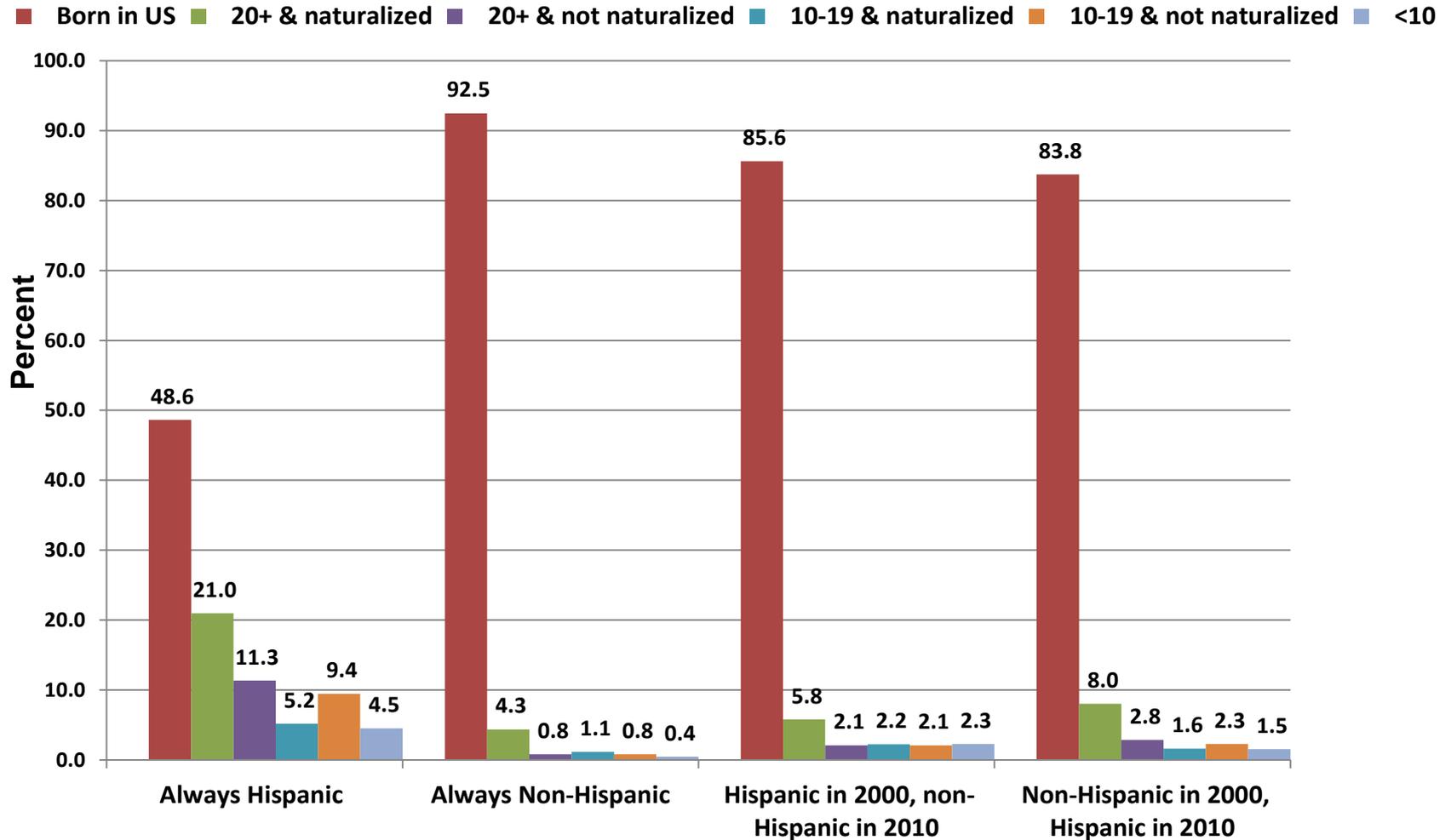
* Estimates are statistically significantly different at $p \leq .05$ between the groups compared.

± Excludes proxy and allocated/edited responses to the Hispanic origin questions and individuals who reported Two or More Races with SOR in Census 2000.

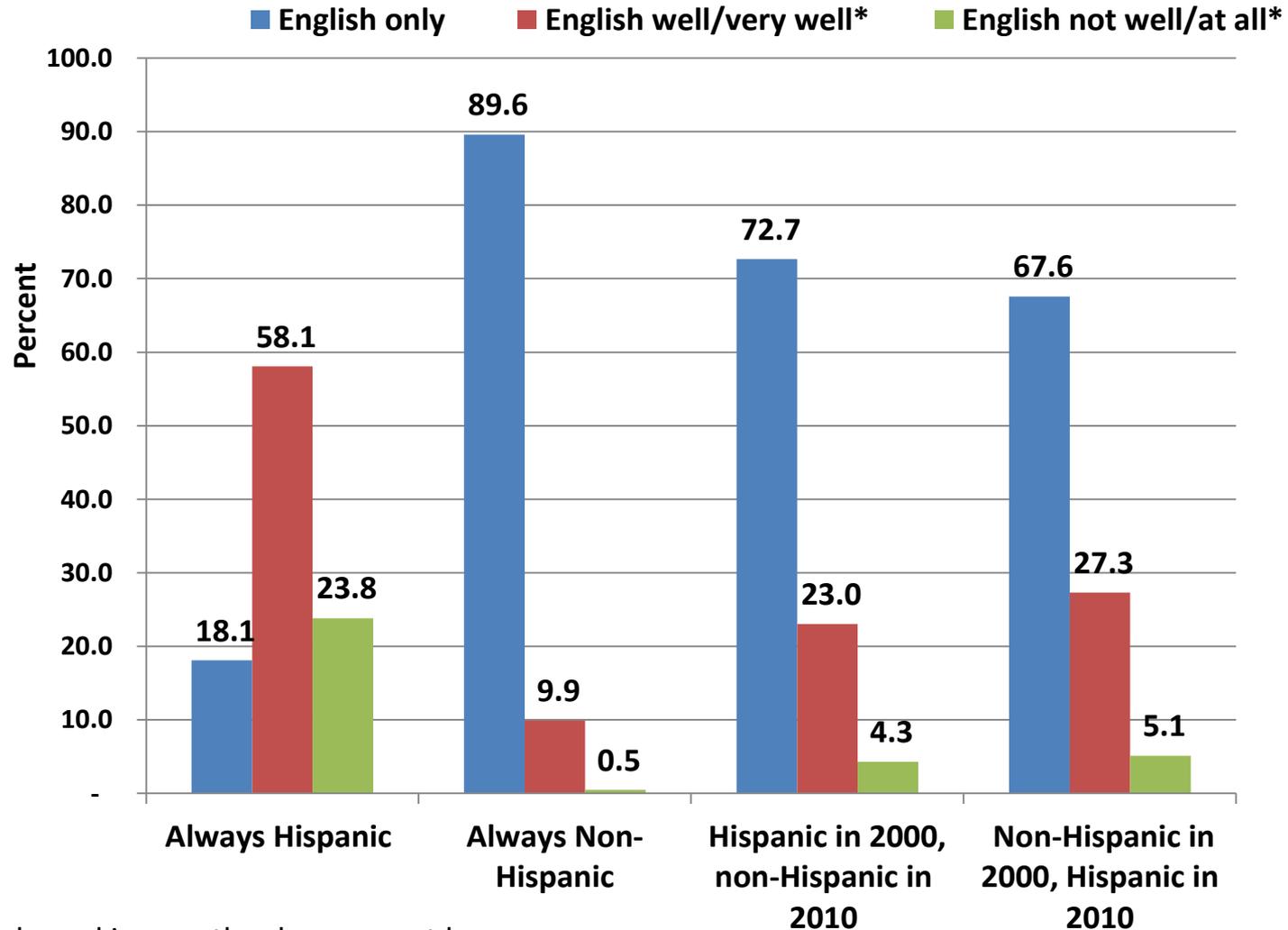
^ Included in the sample because they reported Hispanic ancestry: 25 percent reported only Hispanic ancestry, 75 percent reported mixed Hispanic and non-Hispanic ancestry.

Source: Census 2000, 2010 Census and 5-year ACS data for 2006-2010.

Differences in Nativity/Years in the US (%) by Consistency in Hispanic Response, Census 2000-2010 Census

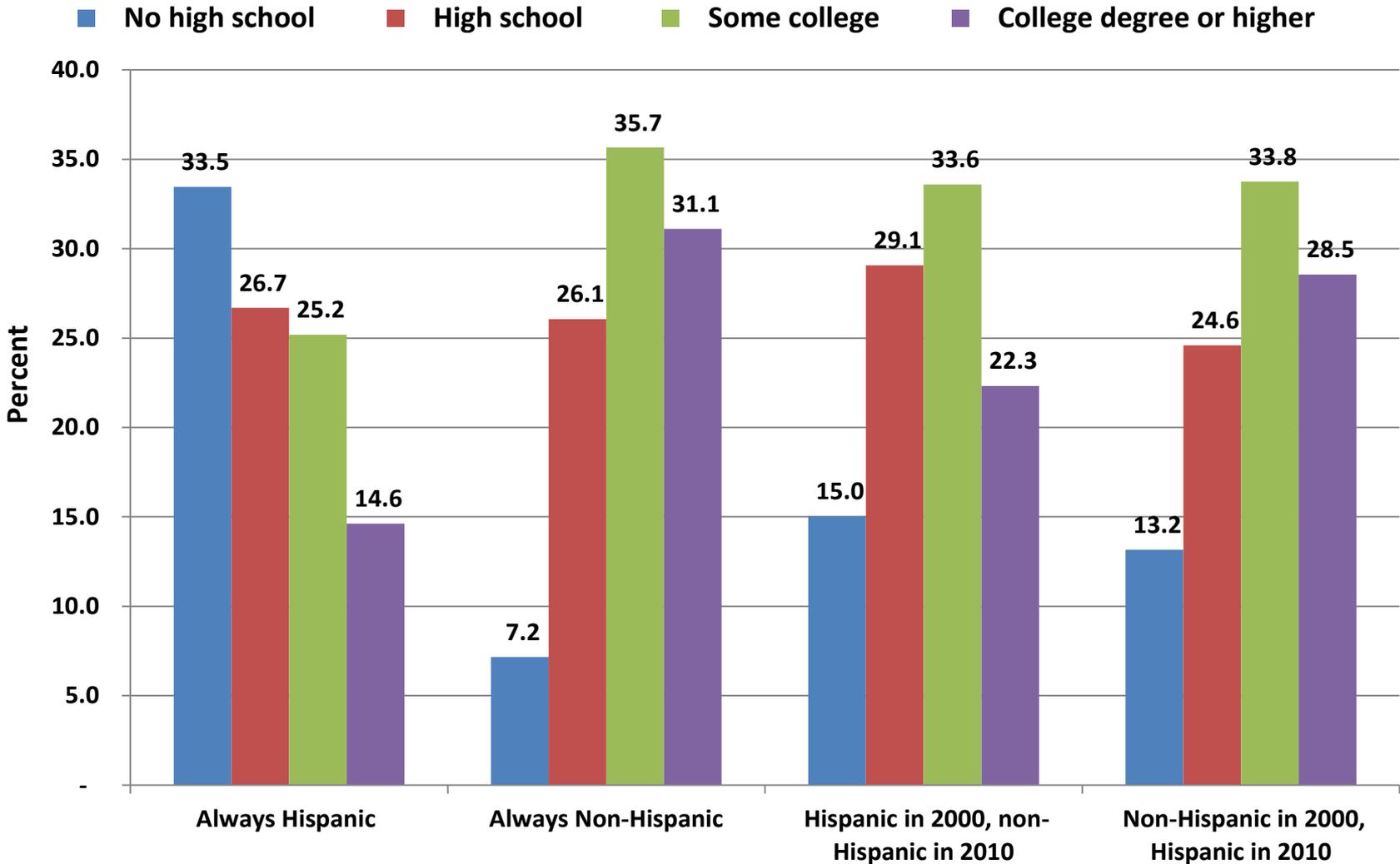


Differences in English Proficiency (%) by Consistency in Hispanic Response, Census 2000-2010 Census

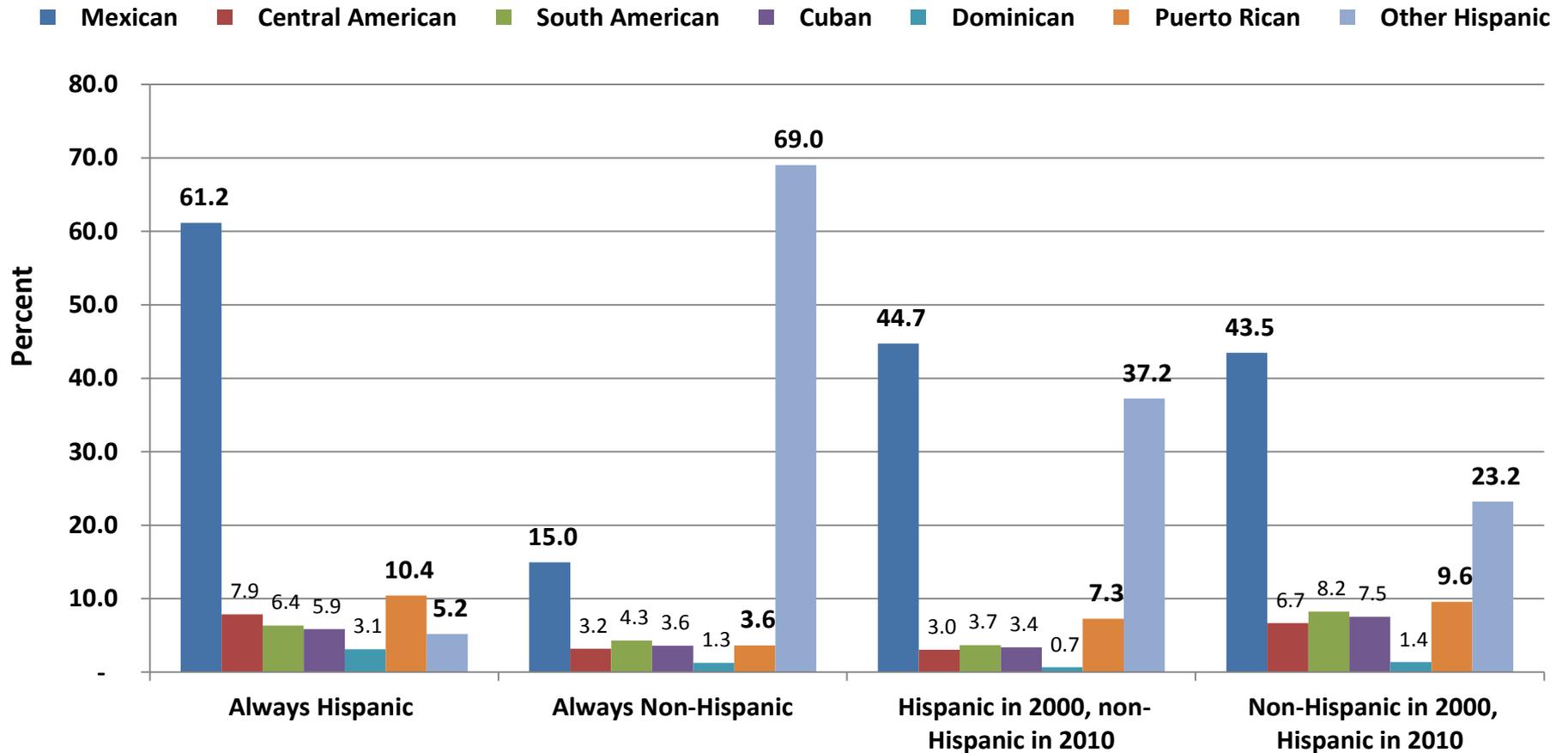


* Reported speaking another language at home

Differences in Education (%) by Consistency in Hispanic Response, Census 2000-2010

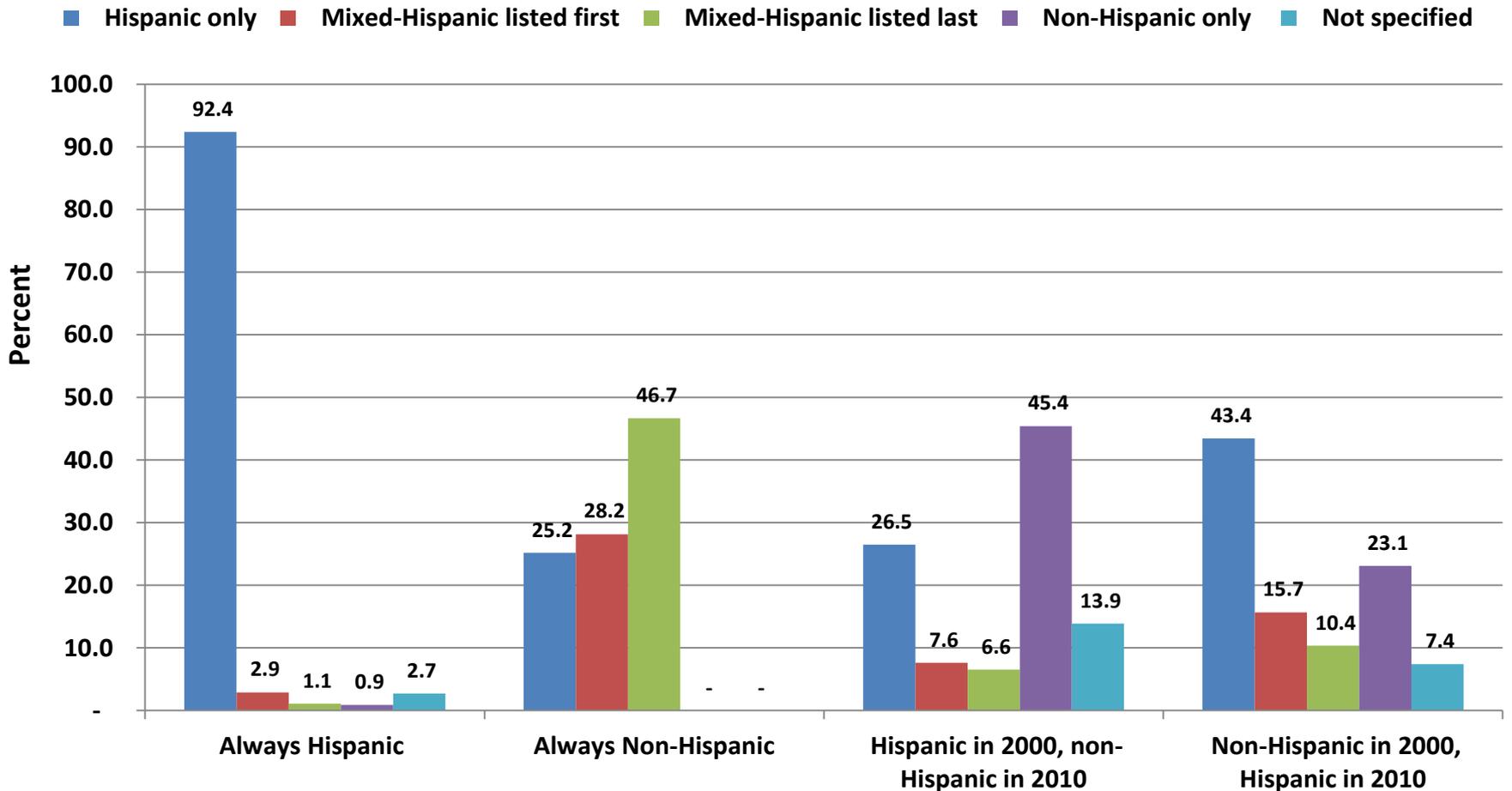


Differences in Detailed Hispanic Background by Consistency in Hispanic Response, Census 2000-2010



Other Hispanic=Spanish Basque, Spanish/Spaniard, Andalusian, Asturian, Castillian, Catalanian, Balearic Islander, Gallego, Valencian, Canary Islander, Latin American, Latin, Latino, Hispanic, Californio, Tejano, Nuevo Mexicano, Spanish American.

Differences in Ancestry Reported by Consistency in Hispanic Response, Census 2000-2010



Note: Of those reporting only non-Hispanic ancestries, 18 percent reported as Hispanic in Census 2000, 2010 Census and ACS; and 82 percent reported as Hispanic in at least one of these sources.

Multiple Logistic Regression Models

- Models comparing responses between Census 2000 and ACS 2006-2010, and between ACS 2006-2010 and 2010 Census
- Dependent variable with three categories:
 - Reporting as Hispanic in both (reference);
 - changing from Hispanic to non-Hispanic; and
 - changing from non-Hispanic to Hispanic
- Explanatory variables: Demographic & socioeconomic characteristics, assimilation/integration indicators, contextual factors, question wording, and data collection elements

Findings: Factors Associated with Changes in Hispanic Origin Response

- **Time in the U.S. and language** – U.S. born and English monolingual
- **Hispanic origin background** – Central & South Americans, Cubans and Other Hispanics, compared to Mexican and Puerto Rican
- **Ancestry** – Mixed ancestries, non-Hispanic ancestries or not providing an ancestry response
- **Race** – Black alone or Asian/Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (NHPI) alone , compared to Some Other race alone

Findings: Factors Associated with Changes in Hispanic Origin Response

- **Relationship to primary respondent** – Non-nuclear relatives and unrelated household members less likely to report consistently
- **Hispanic origin question wording** – Term ‘origin’ - more likely to report as Hispanic
- **Tract & Region** – West region and higher percent Hispanic in the tract – more likely to report consistently
- **Mode of data collection** – Mail-out mail-back mode – more likely to report consistently

Conclusions

- Most of the individuals in our sample (86 percent) identified consistently as Hispanic.
- Individuals who changed from Hispanic to non-Hispanic are similar to those who changed in the opposite direction.
- Propensity to change Hispanic response varies by race and country of origin/background, and is higher for individuals with mixed ancestries and for English-only speakers.

Thank You!

leticia.esther.fernandez@census.gov

sonya.rastogi.porter@census.gov

renuka.bhaskar@census.gov

sharon.r.ennis@census.gov