

Nebraska's Foreign-Born and Hispanic/Latino Population

Demographic Trends, 1990-2008

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Office of Latino/Latin American Studies (OLLAS)
University of Nebraska – Omaha



INTRODUCTION

This is the first report in a data series to be published by OLLAS titled “Demographic and Socio-Economic Trends.” The data series will focus on the Latino and Foreign-born population in Nebraska and across borders. This particular report documents the demographic changes experienced by Nebraska’s foreign-born population as a whole and the Hispanic/Latino population in particular, since at least 1990. It utilizes data from the U.S. decennial censuses, going back to 1860 in the case of one table. However, the bulk of the report is based on OLLAS tabulations gleaned from the 2008 American Community Survey. We hope this serves as a useful reference tool for community organizations, policy-makers, students and scholars seeking to understand these demographic trends. Much of the data in this report will be updated as new releases from the American Community Survey become available. Key facts found in this report include:

- Nebraska’s foreign-born population reached 25% in 1870 and remained at levels higher than today’s until the onset of World War II. In 2008, only 5.5% of Nebraska’s population was foreign born.
- Nebraska represents a ‘new gateway’ destination for immigrants hailing primarily from Latin America (57%), Asia (22%) and Africa (8%). Nebraska experienced the highest foreign-born population growth rate among all Midwestern states between 1990 and 2000. However, Missouri and Indiana experienced higher rates than Nebraska between 2000 and 2008.
- Underscoring the newness of this latest migration wave is the fact that more than half of Nebraska’s foreign-born residents (67%) are not yet U.S. citizens. However, naturalization rates have been increasing since the mid-1990s. More than 27% of all Nebraska’s naturalized citizens counted in 2008 acquired citizenship between 2001 and 2005, compared to less than 10% (8.4%) who acquired their citizenship in the early 1990s.
- While the proportion of native-born women (50.8%) edges out that of native-born men (49.2%) in Nebraska, the reverse is true for foreign-born residents (45.5% and 54.5% for women and men respectively). This gender imbalance among the foreign born is a direct result of factors such as local labor markets biased toward low-wage, male-dominated, occupations such as meatpacking and construction as well as immigration policies and practices that exacerbate family separation.
- The overwhelming majority of foreign-born residents (75.3%) are of working age, while less than half of native-born residents (49.2%) are in that age bracket. Conversely, the proportion of the native born who are 55 years or older is practically double that of the foreign born (25% v. 13%).
- Foreign-born residents are more likely than the native born to live in intact families (10.7 v. 12% respectively).
- The majority of Latinos in Nebraska were born in the U.S (60.6%).
- Douglas County’s Latino population increased by nearly 59% between 2000 and 2008. U.S. born Latinos, largely the children of immigrants, contributed to the majority of that growth (73.4%).
- Citizenship rates are lower among the Nebraska Latino foreign-born population (23.8%) when compared to the state’s total foreign-born population (32.9%). As expected, those foreign-born Latinos who are older, and have presumably spent more time in the U.S., have higher rates of citizenship than those who are under 18 years of age (24.7% and 16.2% respectively).
- While the Latino population continues to make up for the loss of population in a number of metropolitan and, especially, non-metropolitan Nebraska counties, their growth between 2000 and 2008 is not as impressive as in the previous decade.

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About the Data

The report "Nebraska's Foreign-Born and Hispanic/Latino Population: *Demographic Trends, 1990-2008*," is based on the Census Bureau's 2008 American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS is based on a sample of about three million addresses and it is produced every year. The ACS will replace the U.S. Census 'long form,' starting with the 2010 Census. In addition to the ACS, the report includes data from the 1990 and 2000 U.S. decennial censuses and the 2006-2008 American Community Survey 3-year Estimates. OLLAS' "Demographic and Socio-Economic Trends" data series may be found at the OLLAS website: <http://www.unomaha.edu/ollas>

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Foreign-Born Population in Midwest States, from 1990 to 2008

Table 1. Foreign-Born Population in Midwest States, 1990-2000

Rank	State	Number of foreign-born (FB) 1990	Number of foreign-born (FB) 2000	FB as % of total population 1990	FB as % of total population 2000	Percentage change in number of Foreign born 1990-2000
	United States	19,767,316	31,107,889	7.9	11.1	57.4
1	Nebraska	28,198	74,638	1.8	4.4	164.7
2	Minnesota	113,039	260,463	2.6	5.3	130.4
3	Kansas	62,840	134,735	2.5	5.0	114.4
4	Iowa	43,316	91,085	1.6	3.1	110.3
5	Indiana	94,263	186,534	1.7	3.1	97.9
6	Missouri	83,633	151,196	1.6	2.7	80.8
7	South Dakota	7,731	13,495	1.1	1.8	74.6
8	Illinois	952,272	1,529,058	8.3	12.3	60.6
9	Wisconsin	121,547	193,751	2.5	3.6	59.4
10	Michigan	355,393	523,589	3.8	5.3	47.3
11	Ohio	259,673	339,279	2.4	3.0	30.7
12	North Dakota	9,388	12,114	1.5	1.9	29.0

Source: OLLAS calculations based on U.S. Census. Census 1990 and 2000.

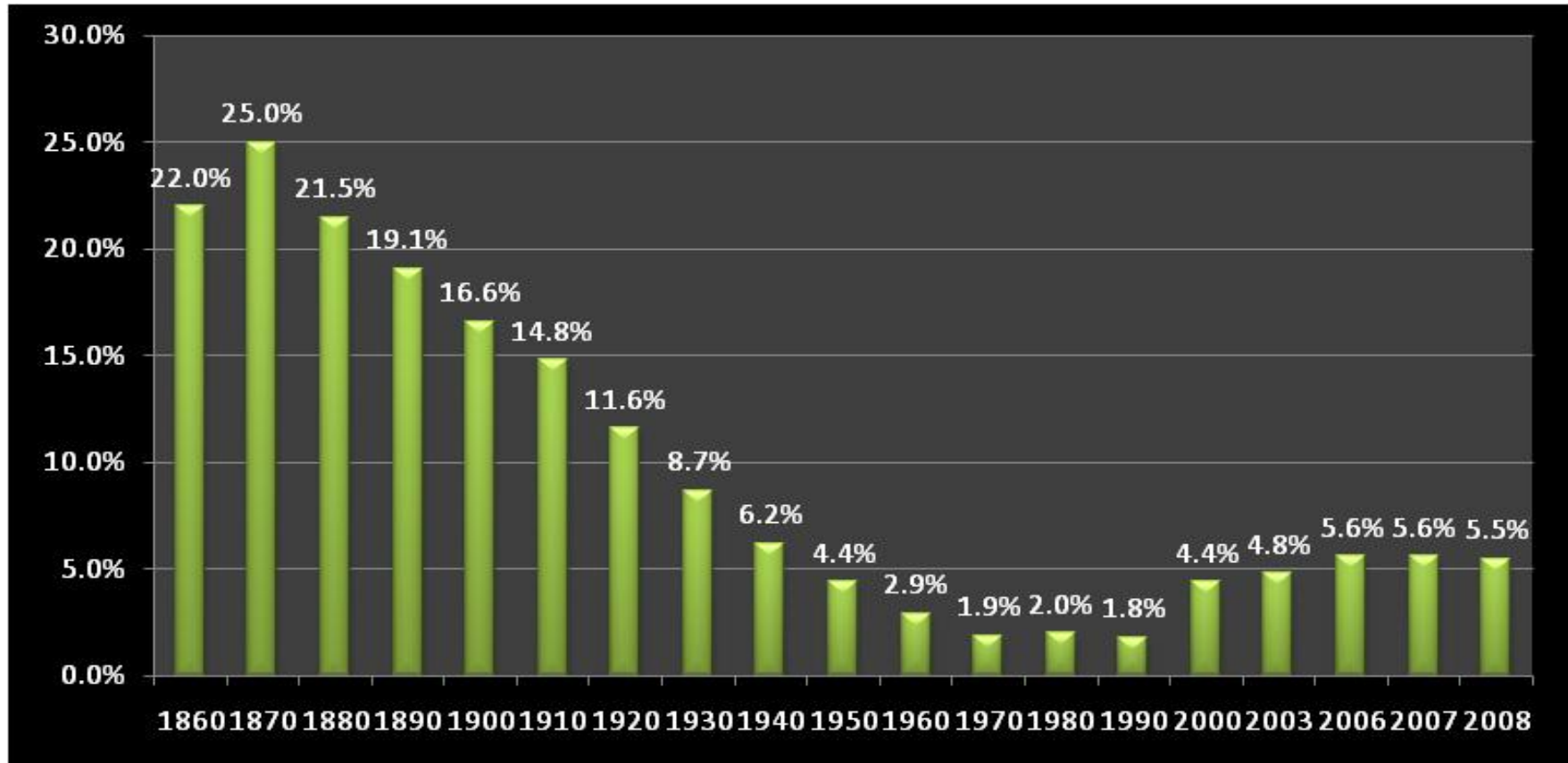
Table 2. Foreign-Born Population in Midwest States, 2000-2008

Rank	State	Number of foreign-born (FB) 2000	Number of foreign-born (FB) 2008	FB as % of total population 2000	FB as % of total population 2008	Percentage Change in number of Foreign born 2000-2008
	United States	31,107,889	37,960,935	11.1	12.5	22.0
1	Missouri	151,196	215,214	2.7	3.6	42.3
2	Indiana	186,534	256,125	3.1	4.0	37.3
3	Nebraska	74,638	97,815	4.4	5.5	31.1
4	Minnesota	260,463	340,657	5.3	6.5	30.8
5	Wisconsin	193,751	247,649	3.6	4.4	27.8
6	Ohio	339,279	427,040	3.0	3.7	25.9
7	North Dakota	12,114	15,013	1.9	2.3	23.9
8	Iowa	91,085	112,289	3.1	3.7	23.3
9	Kansas	134,735	164,118	5.0	5.9	21.8
10	Illinois	1,529,058	1,782,423	12.3	13.8	16.6
11	Michigan	523,589	582,742	5.3	5.8	11.3
12	South Dakota	13,495	14,894	1.8	1.9	10.4

Source: OLLAS calculations based on U.S. Census. Census 2000 and 2008 American Community Survey.

Foreign-Born Population in Nebraska, from 1860 to 2008

Figure 1. Historical Trends of Foreign-Born Population in Nebraska, 1860-2008



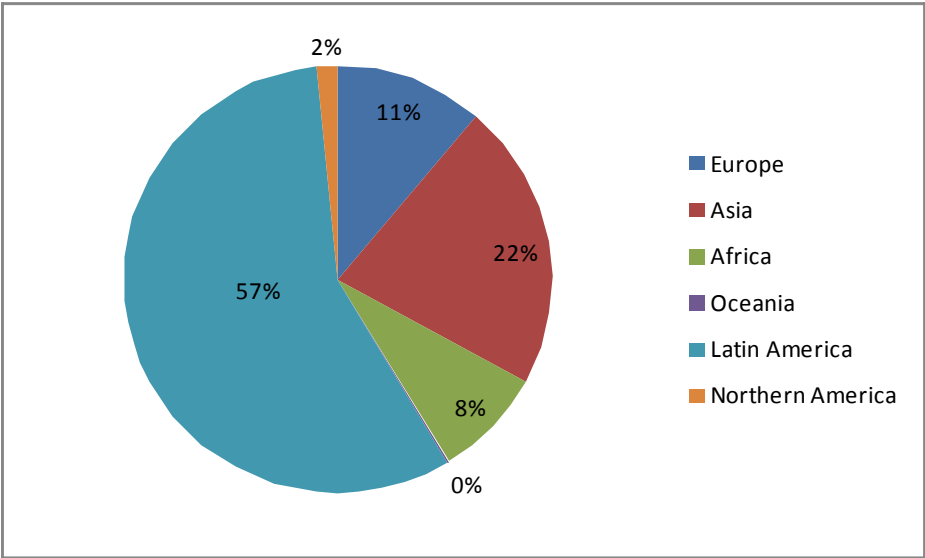
Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Table 13. Nativity of the Population, for Regions, Divisions, and States: 1850-1990, Census 2000, and American Community Survey. Retrieved October 12, 2009. (<http://www.census.gov/population/www/documentation/twps0029/tab13.html>)

Table 3. Foreign Born by Region of Origin in Nebraska (1990, 2000, 2008)

	1990		2000		2008		Percentage Change from 2000 to 2008
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Foreign-Born Population of Nebraska	27,472	100.0	74,638	100.0	97,815	100.0	31.1
Europe	10,554	38.4	10,837	14.5	11,017	11.3	1.7
Asia	8,538	31.1	19,202	25.7	21,226	21.7	10.5
Africa	795	2.9	2,649	3.5	8,121	8.3	206.6
Oceania	221	0.8	347	0.5	156	0.2	-55.0
Latin America	6,035	22.0	39,991	53.6	55,708	57.0	39.3
Northern America	1,329	4.8	1,612	2.2	1,587	1.6	-1.6

Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census 1990, 2000, and 2008 American Community Survey.

Figure 2. World Region of Birth of Foreign-Born Population in Nebraska, 2008



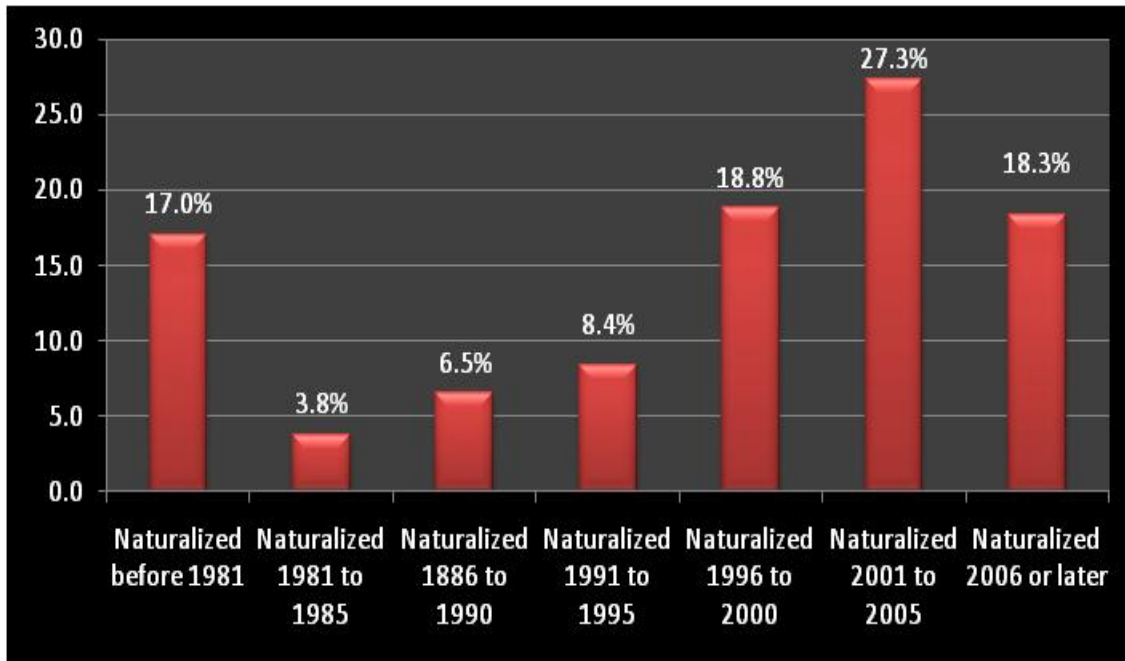
Source: Graph made with OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census, 2008 American Community Survey.

Table 4. Citizenship Status of Foreign-Born Population in Nebraska (1990, 2000, 2008)

	1990		2000		2008		Percentage Change from 2000 to 2008
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Foreign Born	28,198	100.0	74,638	100.0	97,815	100.0	31.1
U.S. citizen	15,312	54.3	23,918	32.0	32,181	32.9	34.5
Not a U.S. citizen	12,886	45.7	50,720	68.0	65,634	67.1	29.4

Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census 1990, 2000, and 2008 American Community Survey.

Figure 3. Period of Naturalization of Foreign-Born Population in Nebraska, 2008



Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census, 2008 American Community Survey.

Comparison of Native-Born and Foreign-Born Population in Nebraska, from 1990 to 2008

Table 5. Native-Born and Foreign-Born Population in Nebraska (1990, 2000, 2008)

	1990		2000		2008		Percentage Change 2000 to 2008
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total Nebraska Population	1,578,385	100.0	1,711,263	100.0	1,783,432	100.0	4.2
Native born	1,550,187	98.2	1,636,625	95.6	1,685,617	94.5	3.0
Foreign born	28,198	1.8	74,638	4.4	97,815	5.5	31.1

Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census 1990 and 2000, and 2008 American Community Survey.

Table 6. Domestic and International Mobility of the Native-Born and Foreign-Born Population in Nebraska, 2008

	Total	Same house 1 year ago		Moved within same county		Moved from different county within same state		Moved from different state		Moved from abroad	
		Number	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Total Population	1,757,923	1,460,894	83.1	172,547	9.8	67,295	3.8	50,101	2.9	7,086	0.4
Total Native-Born Pop.	1,660,108	1,385,316	83.4	161,113	9.7	65,073	3.9	45,651	2.7	2,955	0.2
Total Foreign-Born Pop.	97,815	75,578	77.3	11,434	11.7	2,222	2.3	4,450	4.5	4,131	4.2
U.S. citizen	32,181	28,776	89.4	2,503	7.8	446	1.4	405	1.2	51	0.2
Not a U.S. citizen	65,634	46,802	71.3	8,931	13.6	1,776	2.7	4,045	6.2	4,080	6.2

Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey

Table 7. Comparison of Native Born and Foreign Born by Gender in Nebraska, 2000-2008

	2000		2008		Percentage Change 2000 to 2008
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Native Born	1,636,625	100.0	1,685,617	100.0	3.0
Male	803,171	49.1	829,746	49.2	3.3
Female	833,454	50.9	855,871	50.8	2.7
Foreign Born	74,638	100.0	97,815	100.0	31.1
Male	39,941	53.5	53,305	54.5	33.5
Female	34,697	46.5	44,510	45.5	28.3

Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey

Table 8. Comparison of Native Born and Foreign Born by Age in Nebraska, 2008

Age	Total Population		Native Born		Foreign Born	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Minors (under 5 to 17)	446,533	25.0	435,058	25.8	11,475	11.7
Working age (18-54)	902,459	50.6	828,812	49.2	73,647	75.3
55 and older	434,440	24.4	421,747	25.0	12,693	13.0
Total	1,783,432	100.0	1,685,617	100.0	97,815	100.0

Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey

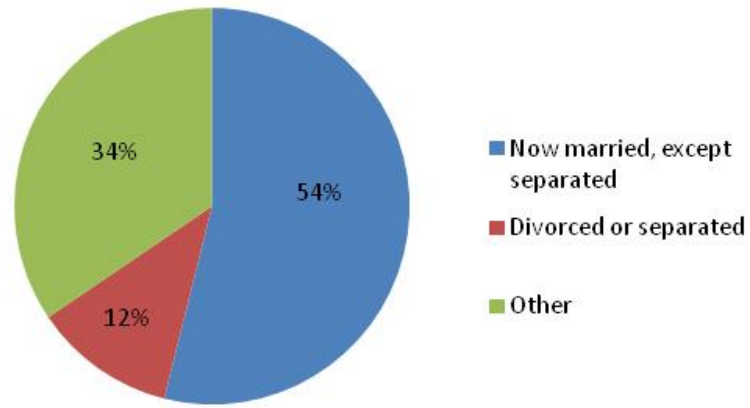
Table 9. Comparison of Native Born and Foreign Born by Marital Status in Nebraska, 2008

	2008	
	Number	Percent
Total Native-Born Age 15 or older	1,361,195	100.0
Never married	387,177	28.4
Now married, except separated	760,592	55.9
Divorced or separated	163,617	12.0
Widowed	88,098	6.5
Total Foreign-Born Age 15 or older	89,908	100.0
Never married	26,197	29.1
Now married, except separated	51,000	56.7
Divorced or separated	9,647	10.7
Widowed	3,064	3.4

Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey

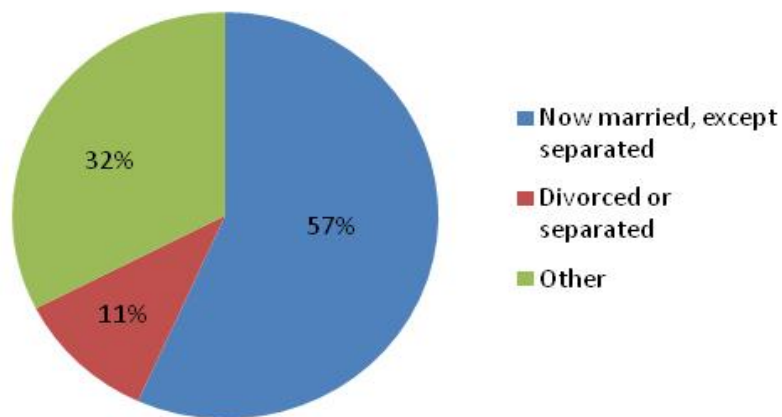
Comparison of Native Born and Foreign Born by Selected Marital Status in Nebraska, 2008

Figure 4.1. Native-Born Population by Marital Status in Nebraska, 2008



Source: Graph made with OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census, 2008 American Community Survey.

Figure 4.2. Foreign-Born Population by Marital Status in Nebraska, 2008



Source: Graph made with OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census, 2008 American Community Survey.

The Foreign-Born and U.S. Born Population from Latin America, from 2000 to 2008

Table 10. Latino Foreign-Born and U.S. Born Population in Selected Great Plains States, 2000-2008

State	2000			2008			Latino U.S. Born Percentage change from 2000 to 2008	Latino Foreign-Born Percentage change from 2000 to 2008
	Total Latino	Latino U.S. Born	Latino Foreign Born	Total Latino	Latino U.S. born	Latino Foreign Born		
Kansas	186,299	114,987	71,312	254,297	164,984	89,313	43.5	25.2
Missouri	116,373	80,406	35,967	186,829	122,679	64,150	52.6	78.4
Nebraska	93,872	54,920	38,952	139,771	84,700	55,071	54.2	41.4
Iowa	81,501	49,637	31,864	123,895	79,050	44,845	59.3	40.7
South Dakota	10,386	8,047	2,339	18,945	14,753	4,192	83.3	79.2

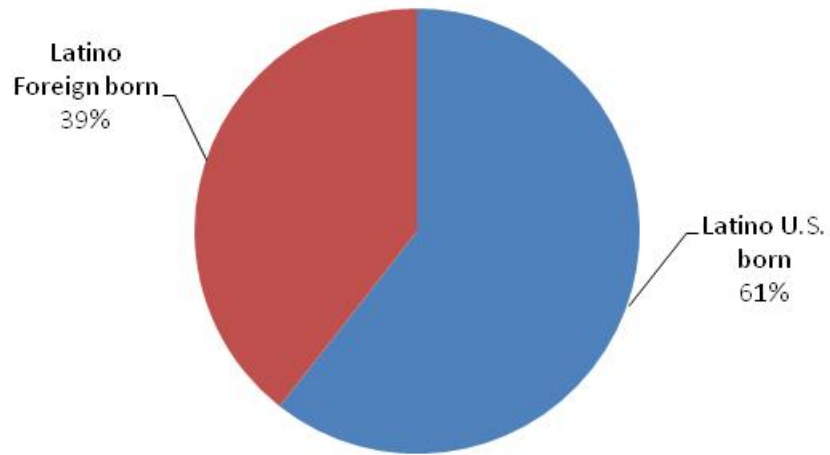
Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census Bureau. Census 2000 and 2008 American Community Survey.

Table 11. Latino Foreign-Born and U.S. Born Population in Nebraska 2000 and 2008

	2000		2008	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Nebraska Population	1,711,263	100.0	1,783,432	100.0
Total Latino Population	93,872	5.5	139,771	7.8
Latino U.S. Born	54,920	58.5	84,700	60.6
Latino Foreign Born	38,952	41.5	55,071	39.4

Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census Bureau. Census 2000 and 2008 American Community Survey.

Figure 5. Latino Foreign-Born and U.S. Born Population in Nebraska, 2008



Source: Graph created by OLLAS based on the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey.

Table 12. Latino Foreign-Born and U.S. Born Population in Douglas County and Omaha, 2000-2008

	2000				2008				Percent of Total Latino Population in 2000	Percent of Total Latino Population in 2008	Latino U.S. born Percentage change from 2000 to 2008	Latino Foreign-Born Percentage change from 2000 to 2008
	Total Population	Total Latino Population	Latino U.S. born	Latino Foreign born	Total Population	Total Latino Population	Latino U.S. born	Latino Foreign born				
Douglas County	463,585	30,928	16,465	14,463	502,032	49,105	29,812	19,293	6.7	9.8	81.1	33.4
Omaha	390,007	29,397	15,365	14,032	388,874	45,156	26,962	18,194	7.5	11.6	75.5	29.7

Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census Bureau. Census 2000 and 2008 American Community Survey.

Comparison of Non-Latino and Latino Population in Nebraska, from 2000 to 2008

Table 13. Comparison of Non-Latino and Latino Population by Age and Native and Foreign born in Nebraska, 2008

	White non-Latino Population	Percent	Latino Population	Percent
Total Population	1,501,319	100.0	139,771	100.0
Total Native Born	1,485,002	98.9	84,700	60.6
Native-Born under 18 years	336,718	22.7	51,010	60.2
Native-Born 18 years and over	1,148,284	77.3	33,690	39.8
Total Foreign Born	16,317	1.1	55,071	39.4
Foreign born under 18 years	1,847	11.3	5,644	10.2
Foreign born 18 years and over	14,470	88.7	49,427	89.8

Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census Bureau. Census 2000 and 2008 American Community Survey.

Table 14. Latino Foreign-Born Population by Citizenship Status in Nebraska, 2008

	Latino Population	Percent
Total Latino Foreign Born	55,071	100.0
U.S. Citizen	13,103	23.8
Not a U.S. Citizen	41,968	76.2
Latino Foreign born under 18 years	5,644	10.2
U.S. Citizen	913	16.2
Not a U.S. Citizen	4,731	83.8
Latino Foreign born 18 years and over	49,427	89.8
U.S. Citizen	12,190	24.7
Not a U.S. Citizen	37,237	75.3

Source: OLLAS calculations based on the U.S. Census Bureau. Census 2000 and 2008 American Community Survey.

Table 15. Comparison of Non-Latino and Latino Population by Selected Nebraska Counties, 2000-2008

County	Total County Population		White non-Latino		Latino		Percent of the White non-Latino Population		Percent of the Latino Population		Percentage Change in the White non-Latino Population 2000-2008	Percentage change in the Latino Population 2000-2008
	2000	2008	2000	2008	2000	2008	2000	2008	2000	2008		
Adams	31,151	33,238	28,755	29,563	1,428	2,282	92.3	88.9	4.6	6.9	2.8	59.8
Buffalo	42,259	45,354	39,383	41,576	1,970	2,556	93.2	91.7	4.7	5.6	5.6	29.7
Colfax	10,441	9,989	7,633	6,009	2,732	3,869	73.1	60.2	26.2	38.7	-21.3	41.6
Dakota	20,253	20,174	14,388	12,340	4,581	6,172	71.0	61.2	22.6	30.6	-14.2	34.7
Dawson	24,365	24,665	17,765	16,241	6,178	7,687	72.9	65.8	25.4	31.2	-8.6	24.4
Dodge	36,160	35,872	34,132	32,596	1,421	2,449	94.4	90.9	3.9	6.8	-4.5	72.3
Douglas	463,585	502,032	363,253	372,911	30,928	49,105	78.4	74.3	6.7	9.8	2.7	58.8
Hall	53,534	56,401	44,891	43,003	7,497	11,132	83.9	76.2	14	19.7	-4.2	48.5
Lancaster	250,291	278,728	222,964	241,483	8,437	13,535	89.1	86.6	3.4	4.9	8.3	60.4
Lincoln	34,632	35,582	32,099	32,465	1,880	2,160	92.7	91.2	5.4	6.1	1.1	14.9
Madison	35,226	34,020	31,145	29,288	3,042	3,757	88.4	86.1	8.6	11.0	-6.0	23.5
Platte	31,662	32,072	29,155	28,025	2,072	3,431	92.1	87.4	6.5	10.7	-3.9	65.6
Saline	13,843	13,771	12,518	11,132	911	2,156	90.4	80.8	6.6	15.7	-11.1	136.7
Sarpy	122,595	150,467	107,054	129,567	5,358	9,044	87.3	86.1	4.4	6.0	21.0	68.8
Scottsbluff	36,951	36,554	29,508	28,339	6,352	6,966	79.9	77.5	17.2	19.1	-4.0	9.7

Source: OLLAS calculations based on the Annual Estimates of the Population, Sex, and Race for Counties, U.S. Census.