



## Maine's Hispanic Population Growth 2000 – 2007

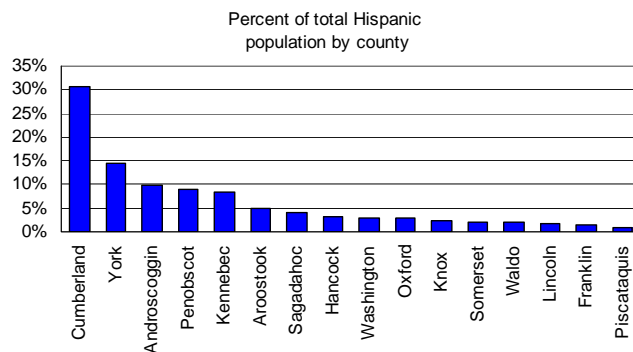
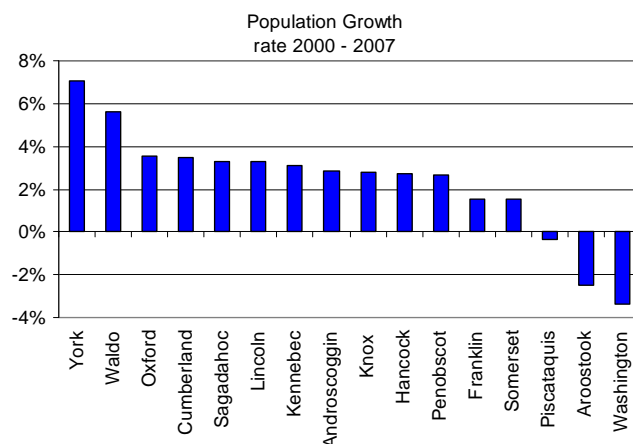
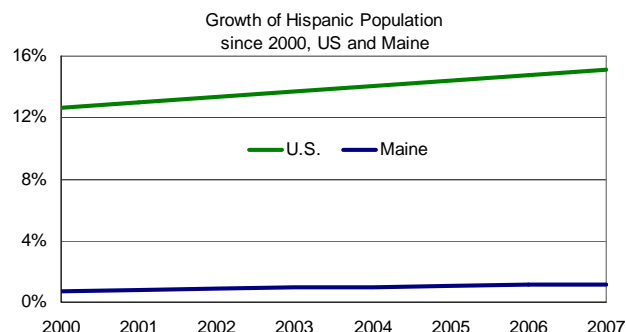
In Maine Hispanics account for 1.2 percent of the total population, this is an increase from the 2000 level of .7 percent. We lag far behind the nation where Hispanics account for roughly 15 percent, up from 12.6 percent in 2000, of the total population (Graph 1). Since 2000 the Hispanic population has accounted for more than half of the population growth in the U.S.

The largest concentrations of immigrants found in the most urbanized counties in Maine.

From 2000 to 2007 Maine's population grew by 3.1 percent. Individual counties grew from a high of 7.1 percent in York to a low of -3.4 percent in Washington (Graph 2). The Hispanic population grew by 65 percent for the same period and accounted for 15 percent of the entire population growth in the state. Nationally, the U.S. grew by 6.9 percent, with Hispanics growing by 27.6 percent. Maine's Hispanic population grew over twice as fast as the nation.

Between 2000 and 2007:

- ◆ The fastest rates of growth were Cumberland (85 percent), York (75 percent), and Aroostook counties (70 percent) (Graph 3)
- ◆ The slowest rates were in Somerset (39 percent), Franklin (43 percent), and Waldo counties (44 percent).
- ◆ 55 percent of the population is located between York, Cumberland and Androscoggin counties with Cumberland alone accounting for over 30 percent of the Hispanic population (Graph 4)
- ◆ The smallest percentages of Hispanics are located in Piscataquis (8 percent), Franklin counties (14 percent), and Lincoln (16 percent)



- ◆ Aroostook, Piscataquis and Washington counties all experienced declines in overall populations however the losses would have been greater if not for the influx of Hispanic immigrants.
- ◆ Growth in the Hispanic population in Aroostook and Washington counties are most likely due to immigrant workers resettling in state after their work contract is completed.

