

AAMC Workforce Studies DATA SNAPSHOT

September 2021

Diversity among Hispanic/Latinx US Physicians

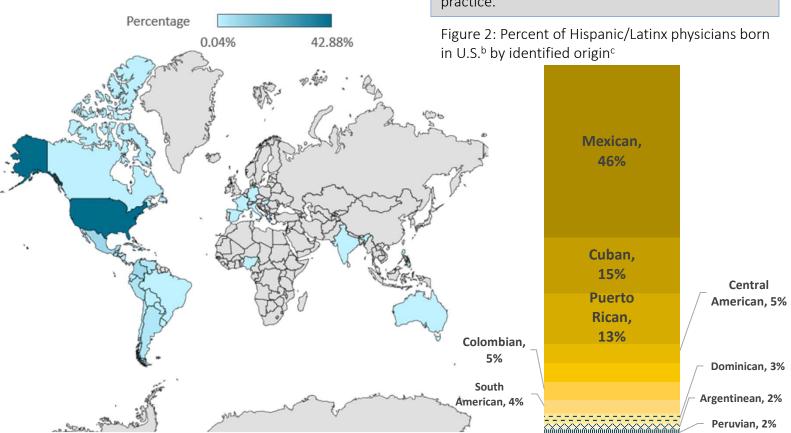
Sources: American Community Survey (ACS), 2015-2019; AAMC Student Record System 2015-2019

Percentage of US practicing Hispanic/Latinx physicians differed significantly by birthplace and identified origin

About 6% of US practicing physicians identify as Hispanic/Latinx^a. They are often grouped together, belying their significant within-group diversity. About 43% of Hispanic/Latinx physicians were born in the U.S.^b, 21% in South America, 9% in Puerto Rico, 9% in Cuba, 8% in Mexico, and 5% in the rest of Central America (Fig. 1).

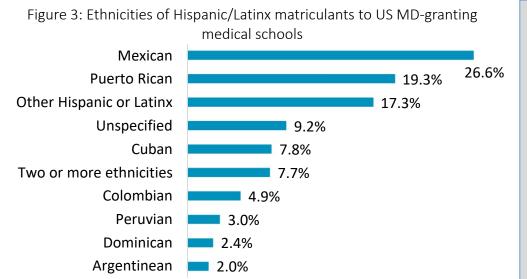
Figure 1: Percent of US practicing Hispanic/Latinx physicians by birthplace

Even within Hispanic/Latinx physicians born in the U.S.^b, differences exist (Fig. 2), reflecting the range of cultural experiences physicians may bring into practice.



Significant diversity was also found within US born students^d of Hispanic/Latinx origin.

Among the 11% of matriculants^d to MD-granting US medical schools who identified as Hispanic/Latinx between 2015 and 2019, diversity also abounds - with the largest percentage identifying as Mexican (26.6%) (Figure 3).



Although typically grouped into a single category, data show substantial diversity among Hispanic/Latinx physicians and medical students, which can influence their perspectives about, and engagement in, medical education, research and practice, as well as their interactions with peers and patients. This underscores the importance of disaggregating data to better understand the complexity of the Hispanic/Latinx community in the U.S.

^{a.} Individuals identifying as Spaniard were excluded. ^{b.} Born in the U.S. defined as in the 50 States and D.C. ^c Origin is defined by the Census bureau as ancestry, lineage, heritage, nationality group or country of birth. ^{d.} For matriculant data, race/ethnicity data are only available for US Citizens and permanent residents.