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Latino Milwaukee: A Statistical Portrait Study Highlights

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Latino Milwaukee: A Statistical Portrait

Study Highlights

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Greater Milwaukee
F O U N D A T I O N
greater together

This study provides the first comprehensive statistical portrait of metropolitan Milwaukee’s Latino community. Using the best and most recent available data, from a wide variety of sources, this study examines key areas such as population growth, immigration, language use, residential segregation, income, poverty, employment, earnings, housing, social assistance, health insurance, health indicators, business ownership, educational attainment, K-12 enrollments, school segregation, incarceration, political behavior, and more. With over 190 charts and tables, the study offers a thorough, systematic overview of key data, analysis of trends, and an unprecedented look at Latino Milwaukee in comparative and recent historical perspective.

Although it is impossible to summarize, in a short overview, the rich array of data and analysis in the full *Latino Milwaukee* study, the following are key highlights:

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS:

Rapid population growth:

- Metro Milwaukee’s Latino population increased by 213 percent between 1990 and 2014 – the 30th highest growth rate among the nation’s 50 largest metropolitan areas. The Latino share of metro Milwaukee’s population grew from 3.6 to 10.2 percent between 1990 and 2014.
- Latinos have accounted for over 90 percent of the net population growth in metro Milwaukee and *all* of the net population growth in the city of Milwaukee since 2000. Without the surge in Latino population since 1990, the city’s population would have declined by over 16 percent between 1990 and 2014.

A growing “cultural generation gap”:

- Metro Milwaukee exhibits one of the widest “cultural generation gaps” in the country. In 2014, white non-Hispanics made up 85.3 percent of Milwaukee’s “over 65” population, but only 53.3 percent of the region’s “under 18” population; conversely, Latinos constituted 16.3 percent of the “under 18” population but only 2.9 percent of the “over 65” demographic. White non-Hispanics are now a minority (49 percent) of metro Milwaukee residents younger than 5 years old; Latinos make up 16 percent of the “under 5” demographic.

Immigration Trends:

- Although Latino immigration to Milwaukee has accelerated since the 1990s, the pace has been less explosive than in many metropolises; consequently, Latino Milwaukee contains a higher proportion of native-born citizens (almost 73 percent) than is the case in Hispanic communities in most other large metropolitan areas.
- Non-citizens make up 20 percent of Milwaukee's Latino population, a lower share than in most large metropolitan areas.
- 55.4 percent of Milwaukee County's foreign-born Latino population is estimated to be unauthorized immigrants. This represents the 11th highest percentage among the 25 large urban counties for which we were able to assemble data.

Residential Segregation:

- Although Latino-White segregation is not as pervasive as Black-White segregation in Milwaukee, the rate of Latino-White segregation is high here and has not declined over the past twenty years.
- The level of Latino-White segregation in Milwaukee ranks 7th highest among the nation's 50 largest metropolitan areas.
- Milwaukee has one of the lowest rates of Latino suburbanization among the nation's largest metro areas. Less than one-third of the region's Latinos live in the suburbs, the fourth lowest rate of Latino suburbanization among the nation's 50 largest metropolitan areas.

Language Use

- Growing English proficiency: approximately one-third of metro Milwaukee Latinos speak "only English" in their homes.
- Among Milwaukee Latinos who speak Spanish at home, almost three-quarters speak English "very well" or "well." This level of bilingualism places Milwaukee 21st among the nation's 50 largest metropolitan areas.

- 6.3 percent of Milwaukee Latinos speak Spanish at home and speak English “not at all.” Compare to most large metro areas, this is a very low rate of Spanish unilingualism.

INCOME, POVERTY, AND HOUSING

Shrinking Income

- Latino median household income in Milwaukee fell by 24.7 percent between 1999 and 2014 (adjusted for inflation), the 8th worst decline among large metro areas. In 2014, Milwaukee Latino median household income ranked 43rd among the nation’s 50 largest metropolitan areas.
- Latino median household income in Milwaukee is only 57.1 percent of white non-Hispanic income, the 11th worst metro area disparity in the country (and much lower than the disparity nationally). Since 1999, the income gap has grown in Milwaukee, whereas it has remained stable nationally.
- 33 percent of Latino Milwaukee households reported income under \$25,000 a year in 2014, among the highest rates of low-income households among large metros. Conversely, the percentage of Latino Milwaukee households reporting annual income above \$100,000 was lower than in most metro areas.

Concentrated Poverty

- The poverty rate for Latinos in Milwaukee (28.6 percent) ranked 16th worst among the nation’s 50 largest metropolitan areas in 2014.
- The disparity between Latino and White non-Hispanic poverty rates in Milwaukee is among the widest in the nation.
- 41.8 percent of Milwaukee’s poor Latinos live in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty (where 40 percent or more of the total population is poor). 27.5 percent of *all* Milwaukee Latinos –whether or not they are poor—live in concentrated poverty neighborhoods. This is the 2nd highest rate among the nation’s 50 largest metropolitan areas.
- A sign of Milwaukee’s intense segregation: an affluent Latino household in metro Milwaukee, with annual income over \$100,000, is likelier to live in a

concentrated poverty neighborhood than a poor white non-Hispanic household with annual income under \$10,000.

Low Homeownership and High Housing Costs

- 38.2 of Milwaukee Latinos were homeowners in 2014, a relatively low rate of homeownership ranking 38th among the nation's 50 largest metros.
- Milwaukee Latinos face high rent burdens: 45.3 percent paid gross rent exceeding 30 percent of their household income in 2014, a level that ranked as the 18th worst "high rent burden" for Latinos among the nation's 50 largest metropolitan areas.

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

Relatively Low Non-Employment Rates

- In 2014, for both young adults (ages 20-24) and prime working-age adults (ages 25-54), the rate of "non-employment" (unemployed plus "not in the labor force") for Milwaukee's Latino males was comparable to the rate for white non-Hispanics, and substantially lower than the rates for black males. 37.0 of black "prime age" males in metro Milwaukee were not employed in 2014, compared to 13.7 percent of Latino prime-age males.
- The Latino Milwaukee male "prime age" non-employment percentage ranks in the middle of rates for comparable Latinos among the nation's 50 largest metros.
- In Milwaukee, the Latino female "prime age" non-employment rate (32.2 percent) is comparable to the black rate (33.5 percent) and much higher than the white non-Hispanic rate (18.1 percent).

The "Latinoisation" of Urban Labor Markets

- In all metro areas, for both genders and for both the young adult and prime age cohorts, the growth in Latino employment between 1990 and 2014 far outstripped the growth of non-Hispanic employment.
- In metro Milwaukee, because the total number of employed non-Hispanics has declined for both gender and age cohorts, Latino workers account for all of the net employment growth in the metropolitan area since 1990.

A Cultural Division of Labor?

- Across U.S. metropolitan areas, Latino males and females are highly concentrated in certain occupations. These include:
- For Latino males: building and grounds cleaning and maintenance; construction and extraction; production, and materials moving.
- For Latino females: food preparation and service; building and grounds cleaning and maintenance; and personal care services.
- Compared to Latino males across the country, Milwaukee Latinos are especially concentrated in production occupations, ranking highest among the 50 largest metros in the index of concentration for this occupational category.
- By contrast, compared to Latino males across the country, Milwaukee Latinos are “underrepresented” in construction jobs, ranking next to lowest among the 50 largest metros in the index of concentration for this occupational category.

Low Earnings

- Latinos in Milwaukee are disproportionately concentrated in low-wage occupations (such as building cleaning and personal care services) and in the low-wage segments of higher wage occupations (such as production jobs).
- Among both males and females, the earnings distribution for Latino *citizens* in Milwaukee is comparable to that of African Americans, with comparable percentages earning under \$25,000 annually, for example. (The white non-Hispanic percentage of low-wage earners is much lower).
- Among Latino *non-citizens*, however, the earnings distribution is skewed strongly to the lower end: 62.5 percent of non-citizen male Latinos and 82.6 percent of non-citizen female Latinos in Milwaukee earn under \$25,000 a year.

BUSINESS OWNERSHIP

- The number of Hispanic-owned businesses in metro Milwaukee grew from 2,296 to 4,185 between 2007-2012. This 82.3 percent increase represents the 10th highest rate of growth in Latino business ownership among the nation’s 50 largest metropolitan areas.

- Controlled for the size of the metro area’s Latino population, however, Milwaukee continued to rank last among the nation’s 50 largest metropolitan areas in the rate of Hispanic business ownership in 2012. The national hotbeds of Latino business development remain established centers: Miami, Tampa, Houston, Los Angeles, San Antonio, and Dallas. But even newer, “emerging gateway” metropolises such as Orlando, Atlanta, Jacksonville, and Richmond have rates of Hispanic-business ownership at least twice as high as Milwaukee’s.
- Hispanic-owned businesses represent only 3.6 percent of metro Milwaukee businesses, and only 1.1 percent of metro Milwaukee’s private sector employment is found in Hispanic-owned businesses.

HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE

Gains in Health Insurance

- Despite considerable gains in coverage since 2009, the percentage of Milwaukee Latinos without health insurance remains much higher than for other groups. Almost 30 percent of Milwaukee Latinos between the ages of 18-64 lacked health insurance in 2014, compared to 6.9 percent for non-Hispanic whites and 18.0 for blacks.
- Between 2009 and 2014, the percentage of uninsured Milwaukee Latinos dropped from 39.0 to 29.6 percent.

Health Indicators

- Latino Milwaukee ranks towards the middle (27th among the nation’s 50 largest metros) on mortality rates from heart disease. In Milwaukee itself, the Latino mortality rate is substantially lower than black or non-Hispanic white rates.
- The infant mortality rate of Latinos in Milwaukee County ranks 13th among the central counties of the nation’s 50 largest metropolitan areas.
- Metro Milwaukee ranks 15th worst among the nation’s 50 largest metropolitan areas in the percentage of all births among Latinos to teenage mothers.
- However, the rate of Latino births to teenage mothers in Milwaukee has declined markedly since 2009 (as it has for all groups).

- The rate of percentage of birthweight babies for Milwaukee Latinos is comparable to non-Hispanic whites, and half the percentage for African Americans.

EDUCATION AND SCHOOLING

Disparities in Educational Attainment

- Milwaukee Latinos lag significantly, especially behind the white non-Hispanic population, in educational attainment. Fewer than two-thirds of Latino Milwaukeeans over age 25 hold at least a high school degree, compared to 95 percent of white –non-Hispanics and 80 percent of African Americans. Similar disparities exist in college graduation rates.
- Notwithstanding these low rates and wide disparities, the educational attainment of Milwaukee Latinos has been increasing since 2000. Between 2000 and 2014, for example, the percentage of adult Milwaukee Latinos with at least a high school degree increased from 52.3 to 66.4 percent, the 10th highest rate of increase among the nation’s 50 largest metropolitan areas during this period.

The Latinoisation of K-12 School Enrollments

- Since 2000, the growth in the number of Latino schoolchildren in Milwaukee accounts for all of the net growth in K-12 enrollments in the region.
- Between 1997 and 2014, total non-Hispanic enrollment in metro Milwaukee schools declined by 32,000, while Latino enrollment grew by almost 22,000.
- The upshot of these trends has been a dramatic “Latinoisation” of school enrollments in all of the major metro Milwaukee school jurisdictions over the past thirty years. Between 1987 and 2016, the Latino share of total K-12 enrollments in the city of Milwaukee grew from 8.0 to 25.3 percent; in the Milwaukee County suburbs the Latino percentage grew from 1.8 to 13.6 percent; and in the WOW counties, the Latino share grew from 1.4 to 7.3 percent.

High Latino Segregation in Metro Milwaukee Schools

- 41.8 percent of metro Milwaukee Latino K-12 students attend “hypersegregated” schools (in which 90 percent or more of the students are minorities).

- Milwaukee ranks 12th among the nation's 50 largest metropolitan areas in the percentage of Latino students attending hypersegregated schools.
- In the city of Milwaukee, a high percentage of Latino students attend segregated schools in all types of institutions; but the level of hypersegregation is highest in the city's non-MPS networks (non-district charters and MPCP schools).

The Privatization of Latino Schooling in Milwaukee

- 16.8 percent of all metro Milwaukee Latino students attended private schools in 2011-12, the most recent data available. This is the highest percentage, among the nation's 50 largest metros, of Latino K-12 students attending private schools.

INCARCERATION RATES

- Mass incarceration has become a major issue in the United States. Although comparative metro area incarceration data are not available, state-level data show that in 2010 that 1.9 percent of Latino males in Wisconsin were incarcerated, which ranked 34th highest among the 50 states (a far cry from the 1st in the nation ranking for black male incarceration).
- Latino male incarceration rates in Wisconsin grew rapidly between 1980 and 1990, but have declined since then.
- In 2013, 6.6 percent of Wisconsin Latino males between the ages of 30-34 were either in prison or under the supervision of the state Department of Corrections. This compared to 4.8 percent of whites and 33.5 percent of blacks in this age cohort.

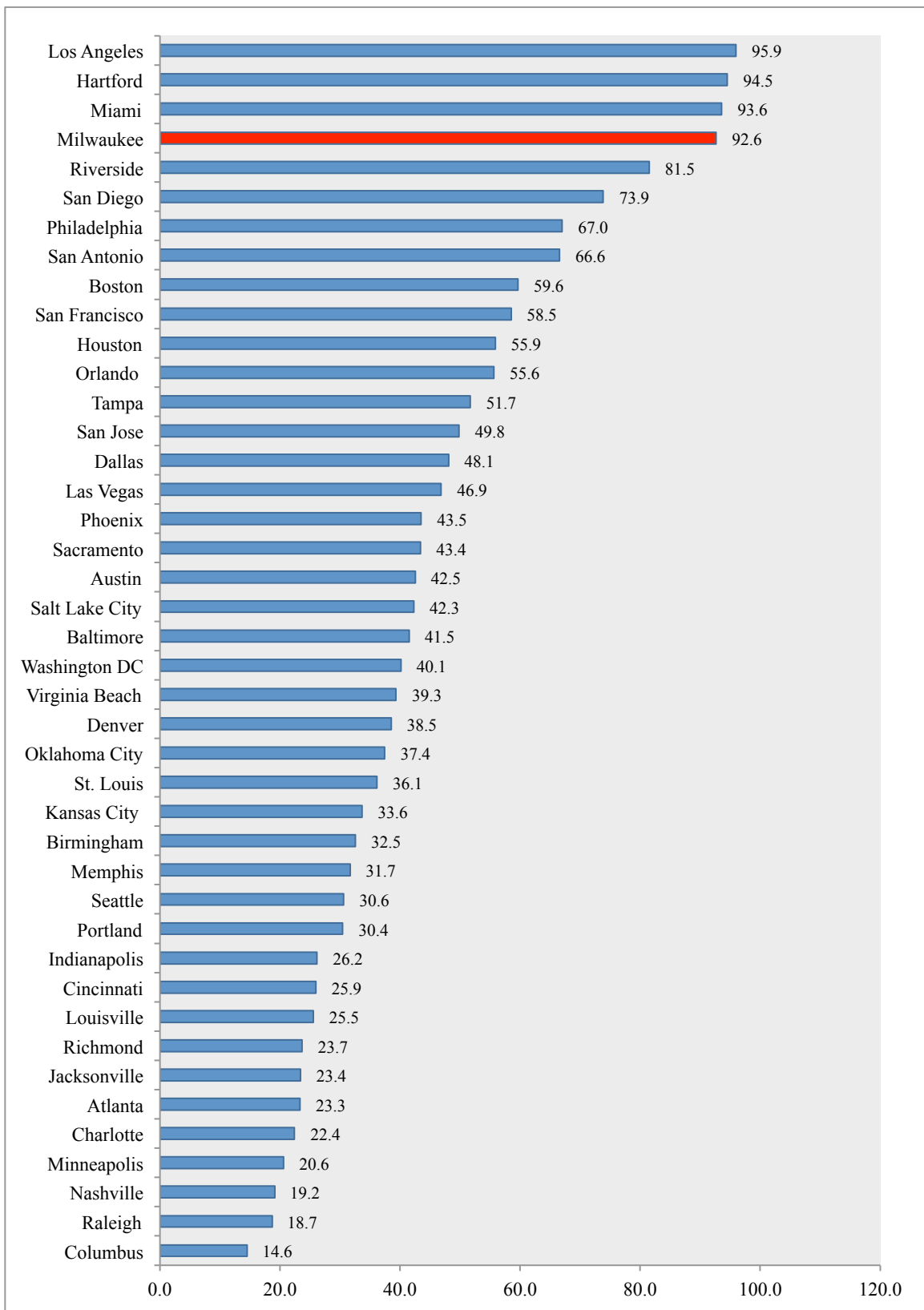
POLITICS

- Estimates are that 98 percent of Milwaukee Latinos are registered as Democrats, tied with Minneapolis for the highest rate in the country among the 50 largest metros.
- An estimated 56 percent of registered Milwaukee Latinos voted in the 2012 presidential, ranking Milwaukee 28th in Latino political participation among the 50 large urban areas analyzed here.
- Despite growing a demographic presence in Milwaukee, Latinos represent a relatively small share (9 percent) of the Milwaukee city electorate.

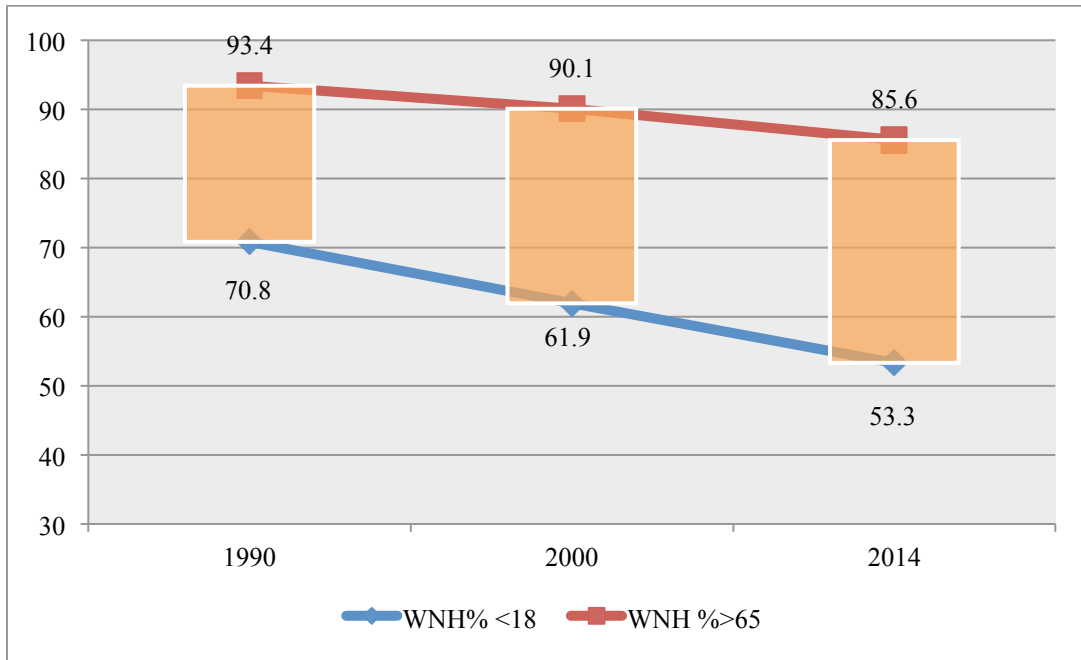
KEY CHARTS FROM:

Latino Milwaukee: A Statistical Portrait

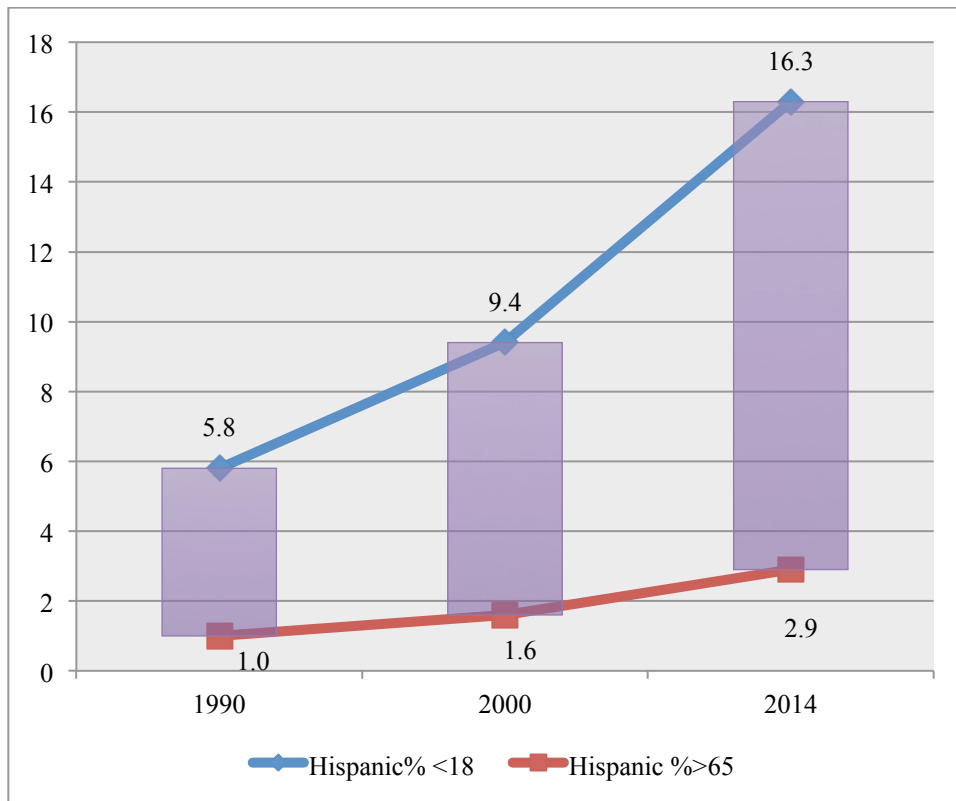
Latino Share of Net Population Growth in Largest U.S. Metropolitan Areas: 2000-2014



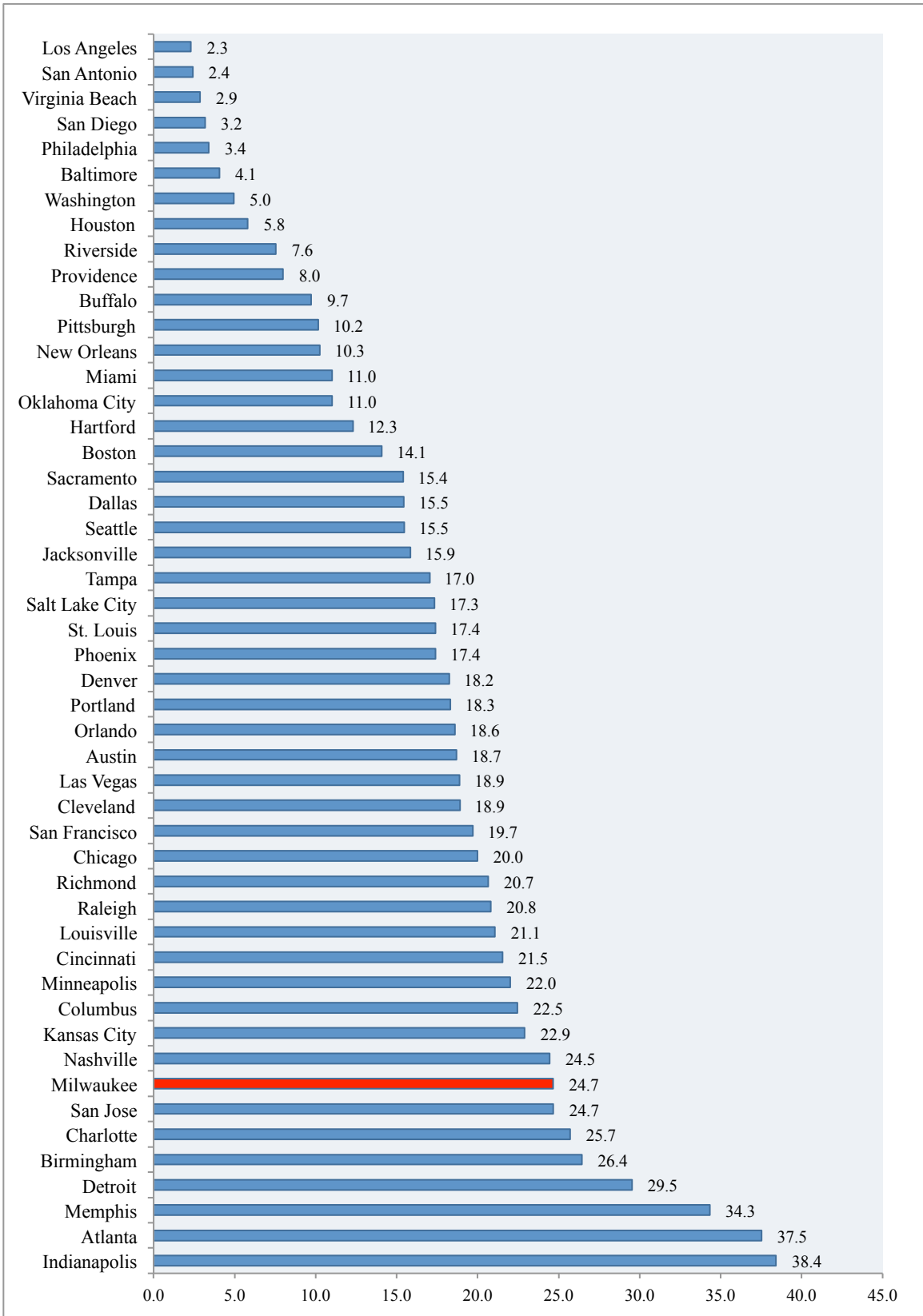
The Growing Cultural Generation Gap in Milwaukee: 1990-2014
 White Non-Hispanic Share of the “Over 65” and “Under 18” Population



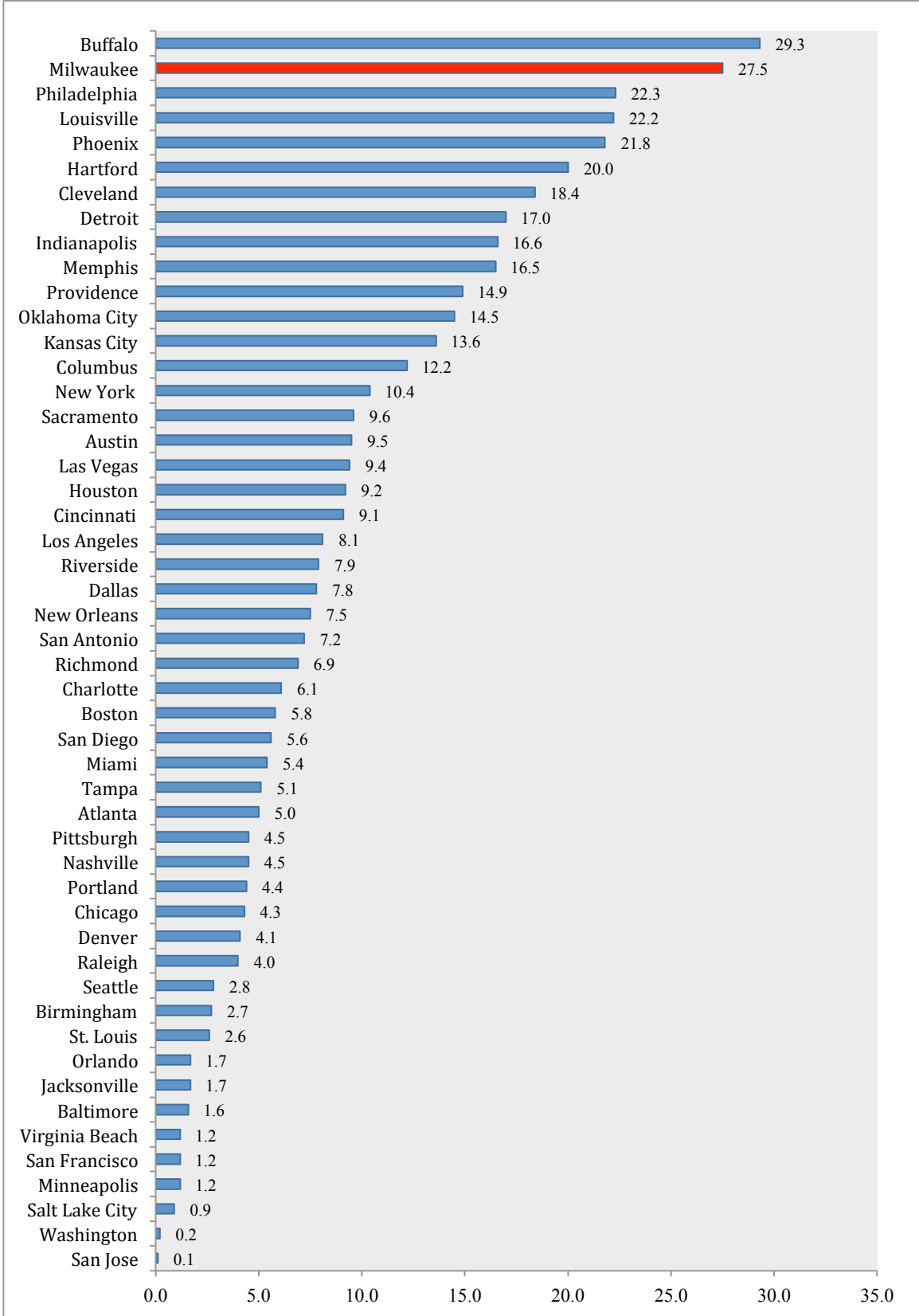
The Growing Cultural Generation Gap in Milwaukee: 1990-2014
 Latino Share of the “Over 65” and “Under 18” Population



Percent Decline in Real Household Income for Hispanics: 1999-2014



Percentage of Metropolitan Area Latinos Living in Concentrated Poverty Neighborhoods: 2010-2014

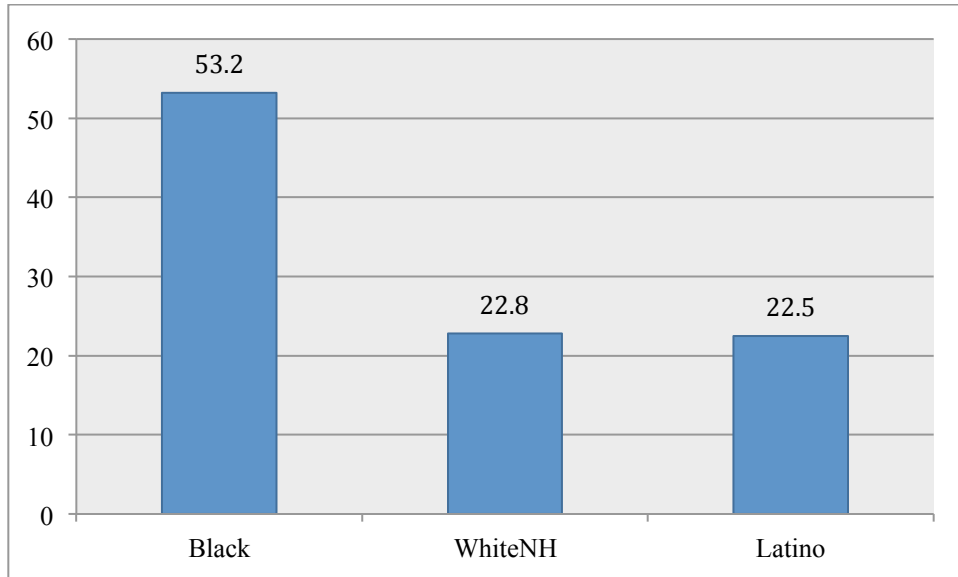


Latino-White Household Income, and Concentrated Poverty in
Metropolitan Milwaukee: 2010-2014

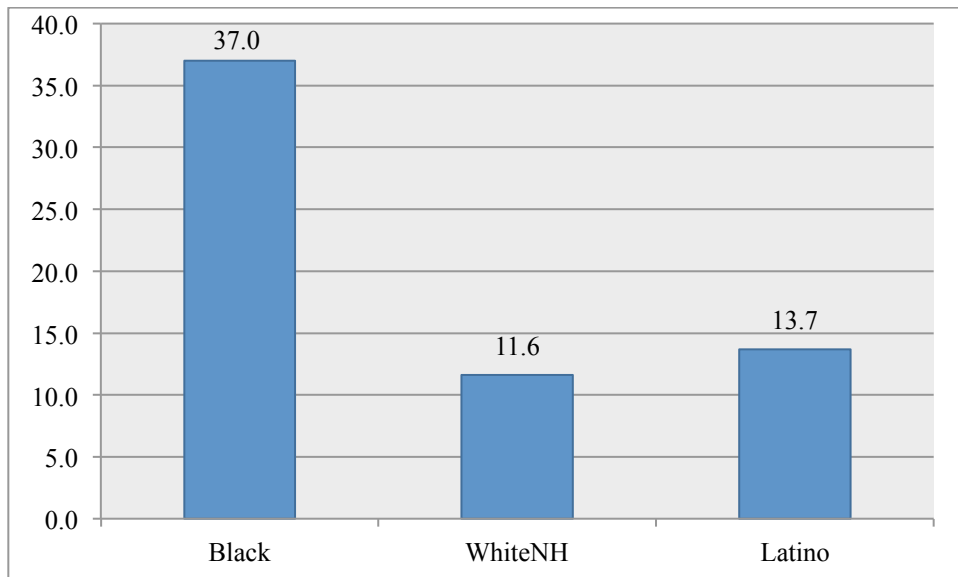
% of households in income class living in concentrated poverty neighborhoods

Annual Income Class (in 2014\$)	White	Hispanic
Under \$10,000	9.7	44.1
\$10,000-\$24,999	5.0	36.3
\$25,000-\$49,999	2.3	28.1
\$50,000-\$99,999	1.0	17.7
\$100,000-\$199,000	0.5	11.1
\$200,000+	0.2	5.4

Non-employment Rates, By Race, for Young Adult Males in
Metropolitan Milwaukee: 2014
% of males, ages 20-24, unemployed or not in the labor force



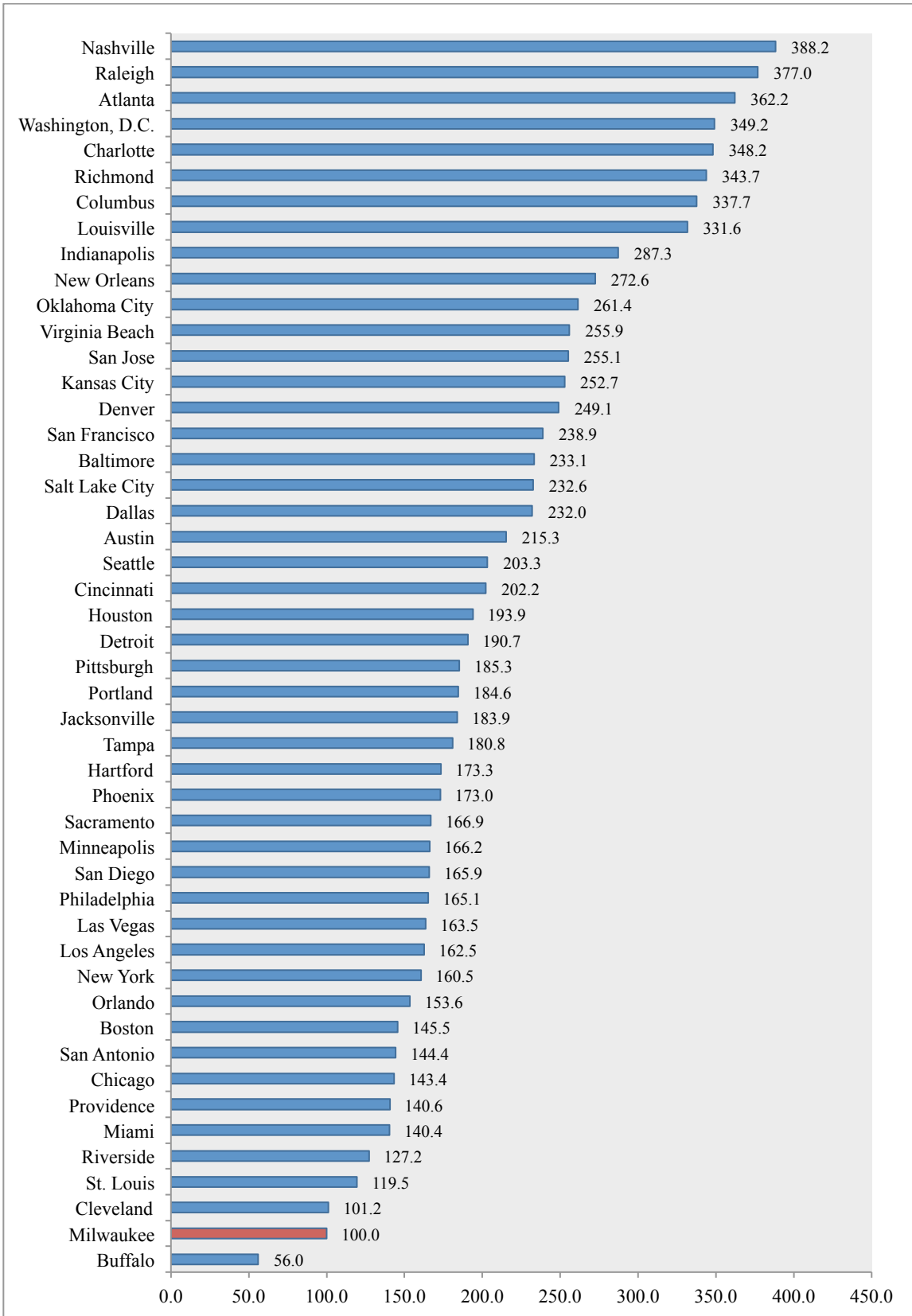
Non-employment Rates, By Race, for Prime Working Years Males
in Metropolitan Milwaukee: 2014
% of males, ages 25-54, unemployed or not in the labor force



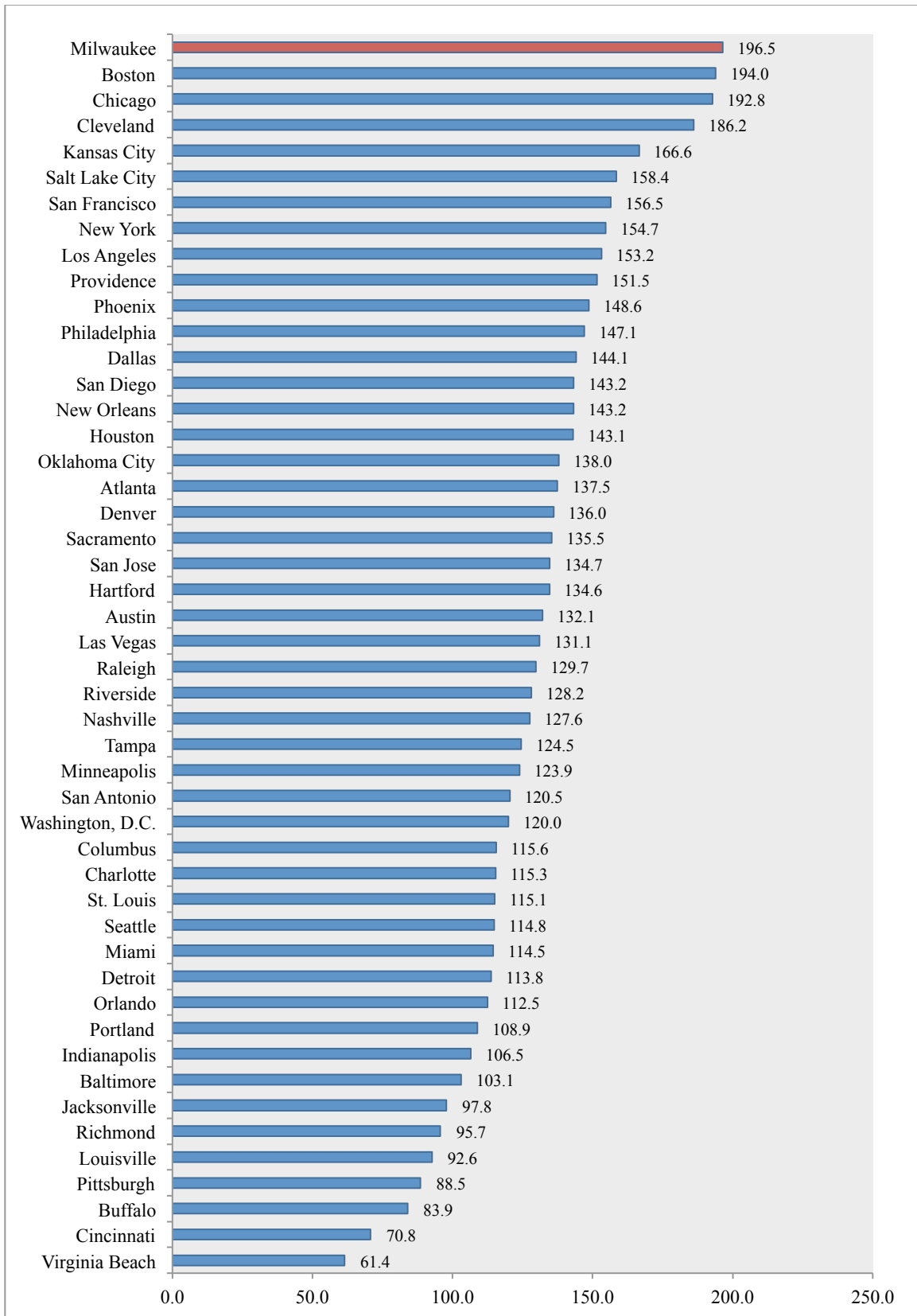
The Latinoisation of Prime Working Years Male Employment in Urban America
Employed 25-54 year old males in selected metropolitan areas: 1990-2014

Metropolitan Area	1990	2014	Change 1990-2014
Atlanta			
Total Employed	602,948	968,434	+365,486
Latino Employed	12,872	128,653	+115,781
Latino Share of Net Employment Gain			31.7%
Charlotte			
Total Employed	234,738	413,157	+178,419
Latino Employed	2,306	48,575	+46,269
Latino Share of Net Employment Gain			25.9%
Dallas			
Total Employed	821,064	1,272,866	+451,802
Latino Employed	102,285	384,516	+282,231
Latino Share of Net Employment Gain			62.5%
Denver			
Total Employed	347,480	537,729	+190,249
Latino Employed	36,505	116,564	+80,059
Latino Share of Net Employment Gain			42.1%
Houston			
Total Employed	687,668	1,200,508	+512,840
Latino Employed	137,161	475,166	+338,005
Latino Share of Net Employment Gain			65.9%
Indianapolis			
Total Employed	244,142	328,729	+84,587
Latino Employed	2,224	25,426	+23,202
Latino Share of Net Employment Gain			27.4%
Kansas City			
Total Employed	297,830	357,318	+59,488
Latino Employed	7,802	33,285	+25,483
Latino Share of Net Employment Gain			42.8%
Las Vegas			
Total Employed	147,543	355,274	+207,731
Latino Employed	16,701	116,014	+99,313
Latino Share of Net Employment Gain			47.8%
Milwaukee			
Total Employed	264,776	260,813	-3,963
Latino Employed	7,281	29,629	+22,348
Latino Share of Net Employment Gain			All
Minneapolis			
Total Employed	519,694	650,714	+131,020
Latino Employed	5,838	38,457	+32,619
Latino Share of Net Employment Gain			24.9%
Nashville			
Total Employed	195,148	318,833	+123,685
Latino Employed	1,436	26,471	25,035
Latino Share of Net Employment Gain			20.2%
Oklahoma City			
Total Employed	174,068	219,213	+45,145
Latino Employed	5,843	30,199	+24,356
Latino Share of Net Employment Gain			54.0%
Orlando			
Total Employed	215,981	390,978	+174,997
Latino Employed	17,322	116,471	+99,149
Latino Share of Net Employment Gain			56.7%

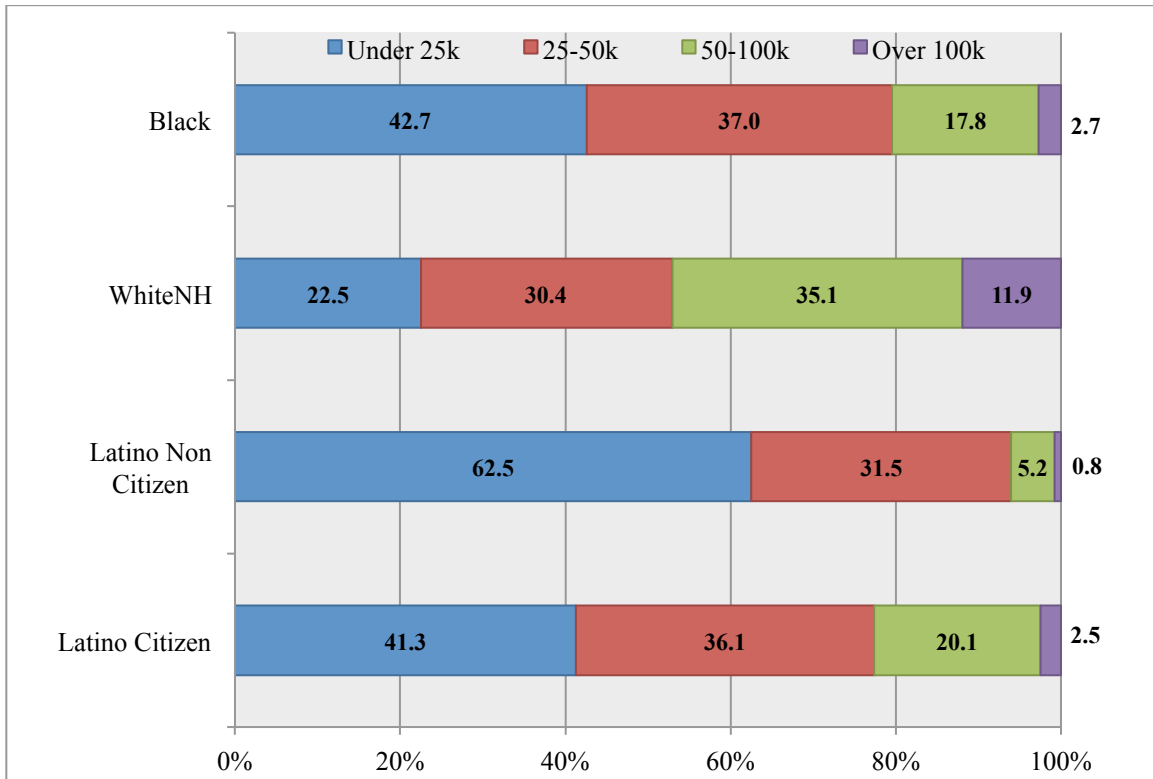
Index of Labor Market Concentration for Latino Males: 2014
Construction and Extraction Occupations



Index of Labor Market Concentration for Latino Males: 2014 Production Occupations



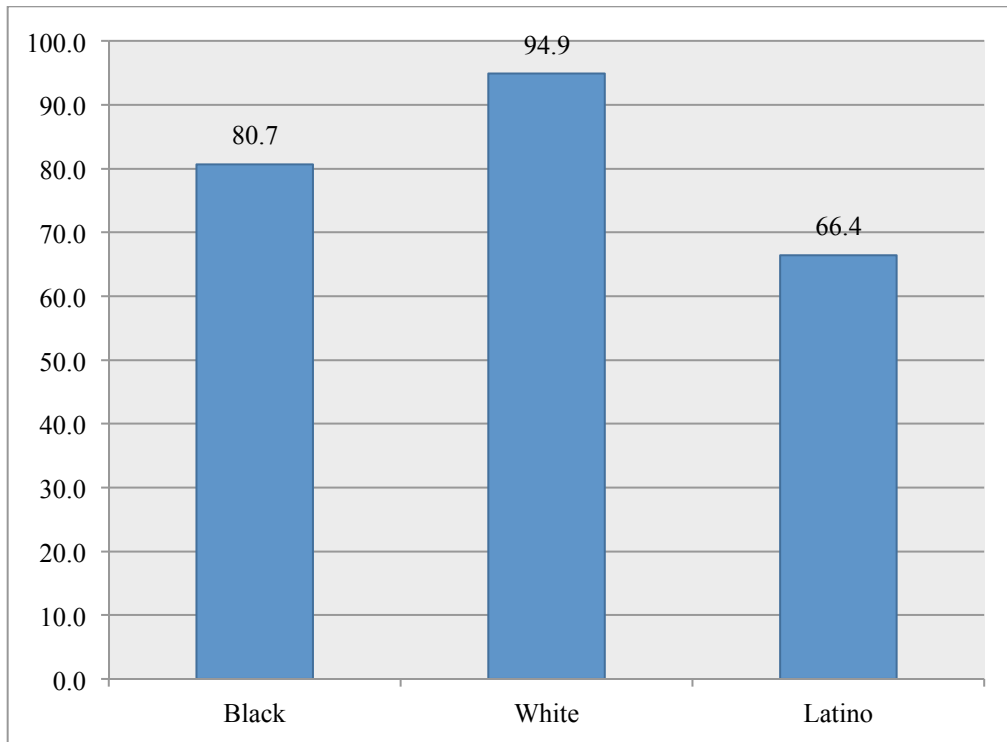
Earnings Distribution By Race, Ethnicity, and Citizenship for
Male Workers in Metro Milwaukee: 2006-2010
% of workers in each group in selected annual earnings classes



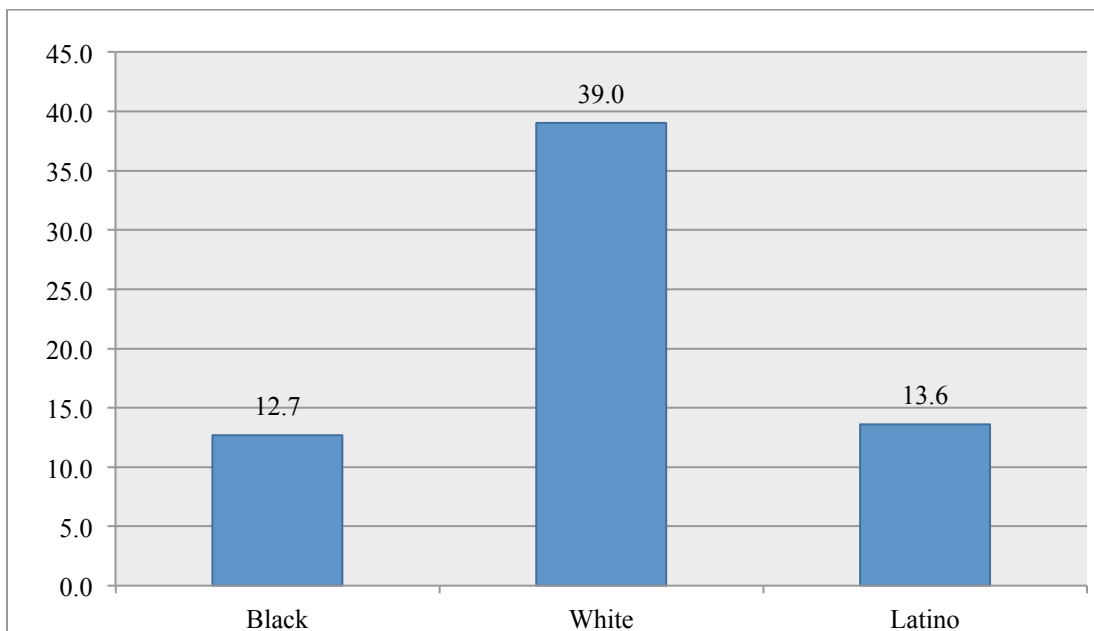
Change in Percentage of Population, By Race and Age, Without
Health Insurance Coverage: Metropolitan Milwaukee, 2009-2014

	2009	2014
Under 18		
Black	4.3	3.0
White Not Hispanic	2.7	1.8
Hispanic	12.1	5.8
Ages 18-64		
Black	19.3	18.0
White Not Hispanic	9.6	6.9
Hispanic	39.0	29.6
Under 65		
Black	13.4	12.8
White Not Hispanic	7.9	5.7
Hispanic	28.2	20.0

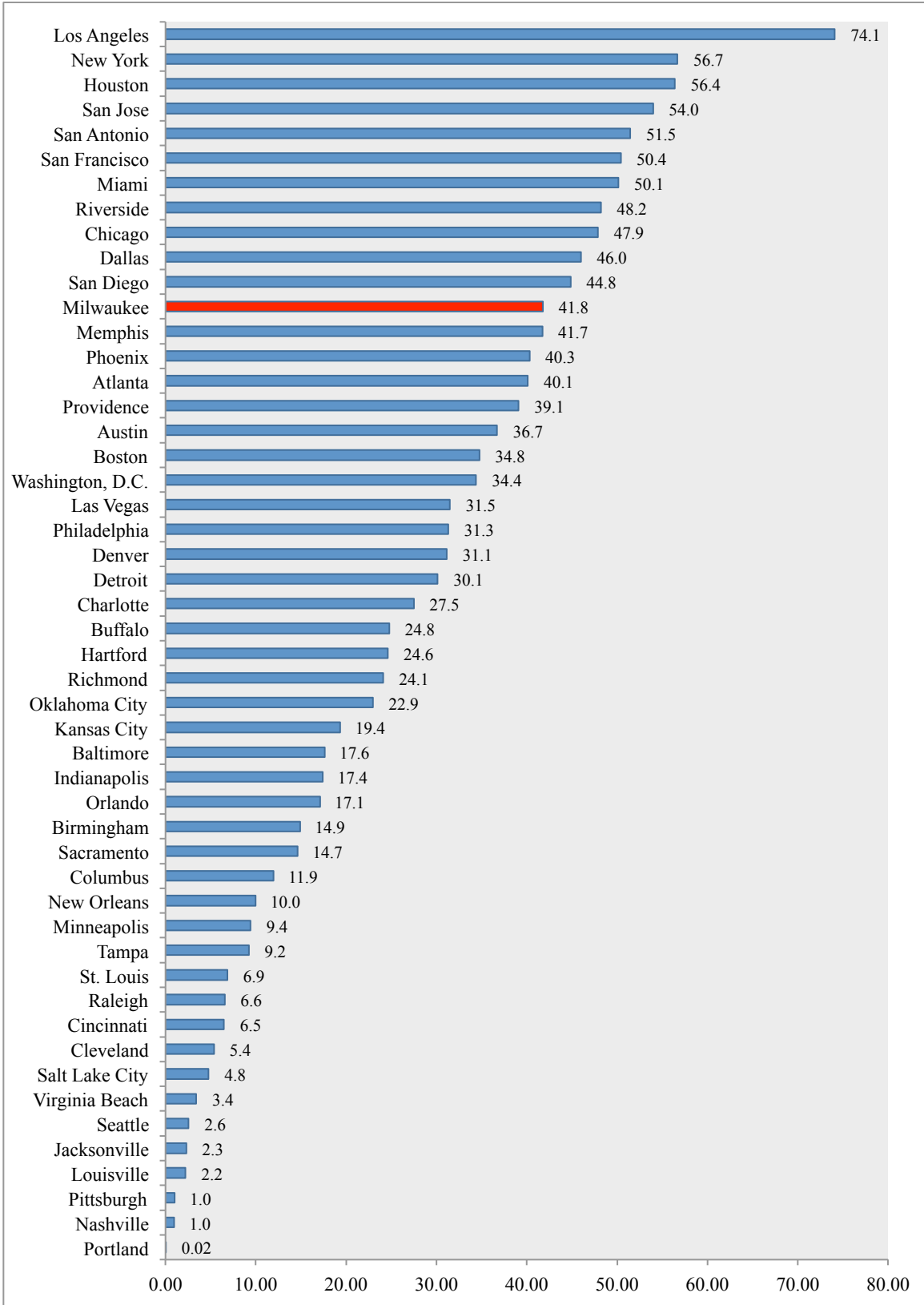
Percentage of Population Over 25 Years Old With At Least a High School Degree, By Race
Metropolitan Milwaukee: 2014



Percentage of Population Over 25 Years Old With At Least a Bachelor's Degree, By Race
Metropolitan Milwaukee: 2014

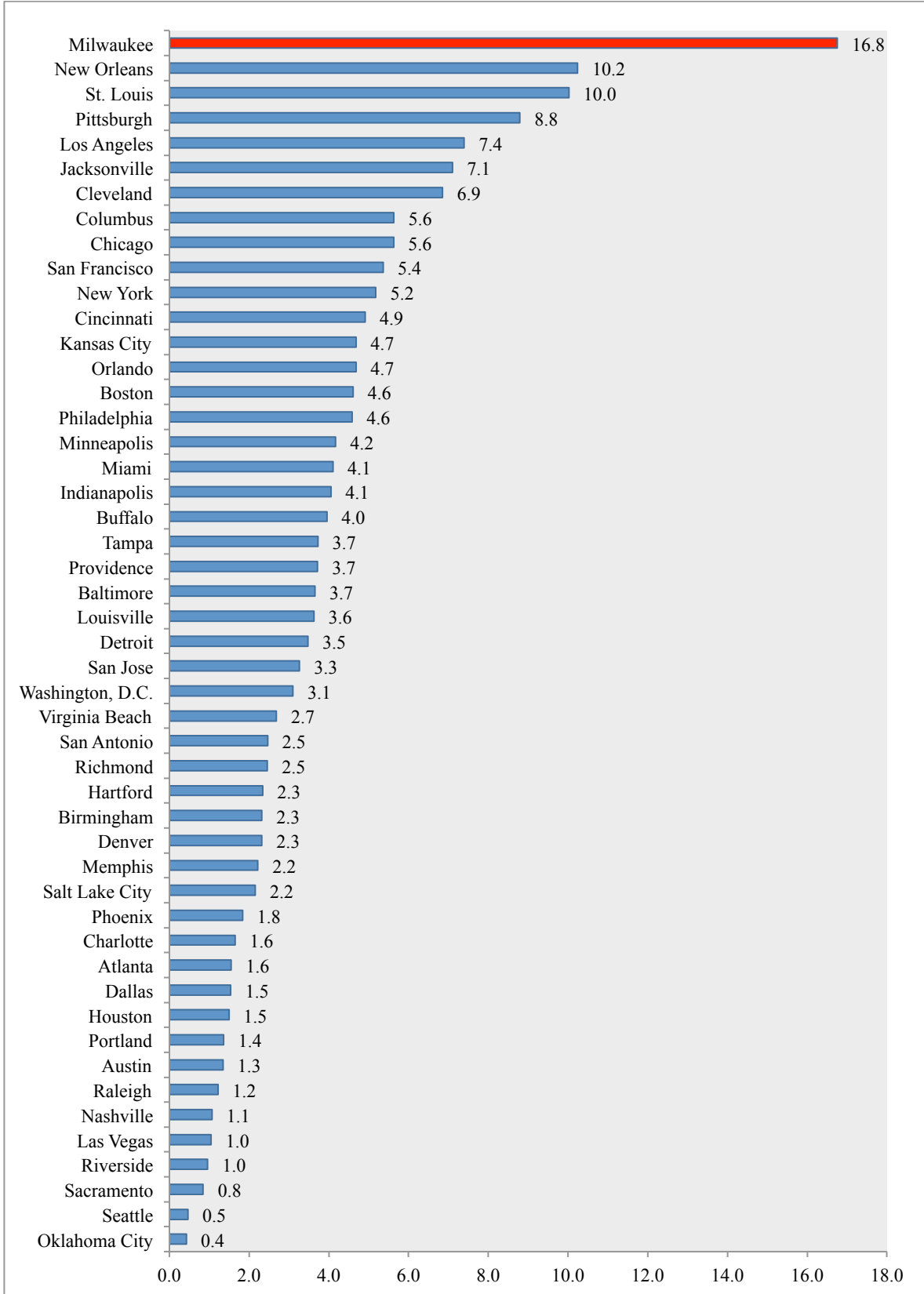


Latino Schoolchildren Attending Hypersegregated Schools: 2013-14
 % of Latino students attending 90% minority schools



*Note: Public school enrollment data for Miami, Nashville, Oklahoma City, Philadelphia, Portland, Riverside, San Diego, and Seattle is from 2012-13. Private school data for all metros is from 2011-12.

Percentage of Latino Schoolchildren Enrolled in Private Schools in
The Nation's Largest Metropolitan Areas: 2011-12



Percentage of Wisconsin Males, By Age and Race, In Prison
Or Under Supervision of the Department of Corrections: 2013

Age Cohort	Black	White	Latino
18-24	17.2	2.6	2.8
25-29	31.0	5.1	5.6
30-34	33.5	4.8	6.6
35-44	25.6	3.2	7.1
45-54	17.2	2.2	5.3
55+	7.9	0.8	3.1