

### ***Population***

- Hispanic representation in the early childhood population is larger than all other minority groups combined. In 2006, Hispanics represented 23% of the population under five years of age, while blacks, Asian, and Native Americans combined equaled 19% of the population. [Digest of Education Statistics, 2007, NCES, 2008, Table 16]
- By 2020, Hispanics are projected to represent 27% of the U.S. population under five years of age. Their representation is expected to continue increasing. [U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. 2008. Table 20. *Projections of the Hispanic Population (Any Race) by Age and Sex for the United States: 2010 to 2050* (NP2008-T20) and Table 2. *Projections of the Population by Selected Age Groups and Sex for the United States: 2010 to 2050*]

### ***Enrollment***

- In 2005-06, Hispanic children were more likely to be cared for by their parents or family members (27%) than white (18%), black (16%), or Asian (18%) children under 5 years of age. [The Condition of Education, 2008, Indicator 2]
- Hispanic children under age five were less likely to be enrolled in early childhood education programs than other groups. In 2005-06, about half of Hispanic children under five (49%) were in a center-based setting as their primary type of early education and care, compared to 60% or more of their white, black, Asian, or American Indian/Alaska Native peers. [The Condition of Education, 2008, Indicator 2]
- Almost 20% of Hispanic children were in Head Start as their primary type of early education and care in 2005-06, compared to 25% of black 31%, of American Indian, 7% of white, and 5% of Asian children. [The Condition of Education, 2008, Indicator 2, Table 2-1]

### ***School Readiness***

- At about two years of age, Hispanic children were less likely than their peers to demonstrate receptive and expressive vocabulary skills. In 2003-04, 78% of Hispanic children two years of age demonstrated receptive vocabulary skills, compared to 89% of their white peers. Fifty-four percent of Hispanic children demonstrated expressive vocabulary skills, compared to 71% of their white peers. [Digest of Education Statistics, 2007, NCES, 2008, Table 109]
- Hispanic children 4 to 5 years of age had lower average scores in language knowledge and skills than white, black, or Asian children in 2005-06. [Preschool: First Findings from the Third Follow-up of the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Birth Cohort (ECLS-B), 2008, NCES, Table 3]
- Hispanic children 4 to 5 years of age had lower average scores in mathematics knowledge and skills than white, black, or Asian children in 2005-06. [Preschool: First Findings from the Third Follow-up of the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Birth Cohort (ECLS-B), 2008, NCES, Table 5]
- While initially lower, the percentage of Hispanic children receiving special education increased by grade. The percentage of Hispanic students receiving special education increased from 3% in kindergarten to 11% in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade for the 1998-99 kindergarten cohort. [U.S. Department of Education, Issue brief, *Demographic and School Characteristics of Students Receiving Special Education in the Elementary Grades* (NCES 2007-005), July 2007]