

## White children nearly a minority in USA

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Statistics recently released from the USA's Census Bureau have shown how demographics in the U.S. are changing. The figures show that white children in the

country are set to become a minority within the next year or two. It was revealed that currently, 49.9% of American children under the age of five are from non-white backgrounds. Asians and Hispanics will soon become the new majority ethnic groups in the country. The Bureau gave two main reasons for this trend. One is that birth rates among minority populations are growing faster than those in the white community, especially in the Hispanic community. The second is the steady number of immigrants arriving in America.

The Bureau also reported that for the first time ever, deaths outnumbered births among whites, in the period between July 2011 and July 2012. During this time, the Hispanic population grew by 2.2 per cent and the number of Asians rose by 2.9 per cent. Mark Hugo Lopez from the Pew Hispanic Center says the changes in the makeup of the U.S. population will have a global impact. He said: "The U.S. Hispanic population is second only to Mexico's." He noted that the current U.S. Latino population is larger than those in Peru, Colombia and Spain. He added: "That's something which has an incredible implication not only in the U.S., but as part of a larger Hispanic world."

Sources: NBC Latino / Latino Times

### Writing

*It doesn't matter what the racial make-up of a country is. Discuss.*

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

statistics / demographics / minority / backgrounds / ethnic groups / immigrants / outnumbered / births / population / global impact / Colombia / incredible / implication

### True / False

- a) A census predicts white kids in the U.S. will be a minority in 20 years. T / F
- b) 49.9% of American kids under five are from non-white backgrounds. T / F
- c) Afro-Americans will soon become the new majority ethnic group. T / F
- d) Immigration has little to do with the changing demographics. T / F
- e) More whites died than were born in the year to July 2012. T / F
- f) The Asian population in the U.S. grew faster than the Hispanic one. T / F
- g) The Latino population in the USA outnumbers that in Spain. T / F
- h) A man said the US's Hispanic population won't impact the wider world. T / F

### Synonym Match

- |                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1. released     | a. presently        |
| 2. within       | b. consequence      |
| 3. currently    | c. in history       |
| 4. trend        | d. issued           |
| 5. steady       | e. effect           |
| 6. ever         | f. swing            |
| 7. during       | g. pointed out      |
| 8. impact       | h. inside           |
| 9. noted        | i. in the course of |
| 10. implication | j. consistent       |

### Discussion – Student A

- a) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'minority'?
- b) What do you think of an America in which whites are the minority?
- c) How has being the race you are affected you?
- d) Will we all look like the same race in the future?
- e) How have the demographics of your country changed?
- f) What is your country's policy toward immigration?
- g) What do ethnic groups add to the country in which they live?
- h) Is multiculturalism the thing all countries should aim for?

## Phrase Match

- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. statistics            | a. groups                    |
| 2. set to                | b. an incredible implication |
| 3. ethnic                | c. immigrants arriving       |
| 4. minority populations  | d. time ever                 |
| 5. the steady number of  | e. outnumbered births        |
| 6. for the first         | f. recently released         |
| 7. deaths                | g. only to Mexico's          |
| 8. changes in the makeup | h. are growing faster        |
| 9. second                | i. become a minority         |
| 10. something which has  | j. of the U.S. population    |

## Discussion – Student B

- Is America a good example of how different races live together?
- What problems do minorities have in your country?
- What global impact might a more Hispanic USA have?
- Do minorities need to change their ways to fit into the wider culture?
- Why are minorities sometimes worse off economically?
- Are there any advantages in being a minority?
- Are homogenous race societies at any disadvantage in today's world?
- What questions would you like to ask Mark Hugo Lopez?

## Spelling

- stscittais recently released
- mrehcsaodpig in the U.S. are changing
- it was edrveale...
- the new jmartoiy ethnic groups
- the aubreu gave two main reasons for this
- mmtrisanig arriving in America
- deaths omutdunrbee births
- the redopi between July 2011 and July 2012
- rnuidg this time
- the ekpamu of the U.S. population
- the rtnurec U.S. Latino population
- an incredible iaimcpilont

## Role Play

### Role A – 100% homogenous

You think it is better to live in a country where everyone is the same race. Tell the others three reasons why.

### Role B – 50-50

You think it is better to live in a country where there are two races with even numbers between them. Tell the others three reasons why.

### Role C – 80-20

You think it is better to live in a country where around four-fifths of the country makes up the predominant race, with the remaining 20% being a minority. Tell the others three reasons why.

### Role D – Perfectly multicultural

You think it is better to live in a country where there are people from all over the world in equal numbers. Tell the others three reasons why.

## Speaking - statistics

Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the most important at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |                       |                              |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| • sports statistics   | • energy statistics          |
| • crime statistics    | • statistics about marriage  |
| • gym performance     | • statistics about nutrition |
| • economic statistics | • Internet statistics        |

### Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	F	e	T	f	T	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. d	2. h	3. a	4. f	5. j
6. c	7. i	8. e	9. g	10. b