

PUERTO RICO



State's Rank by Arab American Population: **46**
 Census Estimated Arab American Population: **2,428***

Growth Trends

The population who identified as having Arabic-speaking ancestry in the U.S. Census decreased by approximately 8% between 2000 and 2010. It is estimated that the total population, adjusting for under-reporting*, is close to 7,284.

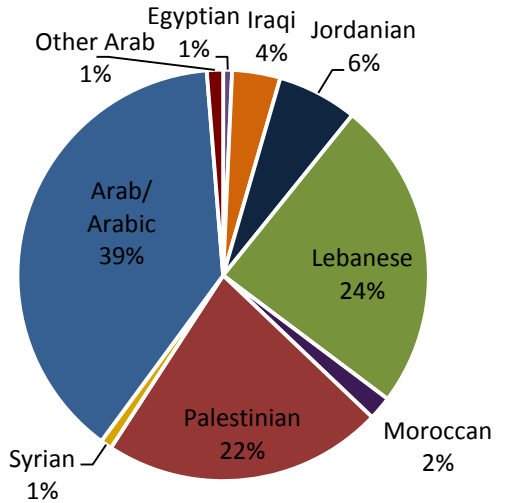
Immigration

The largest number of new Arab immigrants to Puerto Rico came from Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq.

How do Arab Americans Identify Themselves?

Primary Ethnic Identification is derived from responses to the ancestry question on the long (sample) form of the 2010 U.S. Census. Census data on "Arabs" include the responses Lebanese, Syrian, Egyptian, Iraqi, Jordanian, Palestinian, Moroccan, Arab or Arabic, and the following countries collapsed as "Other Arab": Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Kuwait, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

We also include Arabic-speaking persons who identify as Assyrian/Chaldean, Somali or Sudanese, identities which are not aggregated as Arab in Census reports. In Puerto Rico, according to the 2010 Census, roughly 47% of Arab Americans have Lebanese or Palestinian roots. Since 1990, significant increases appear in the number of Puerto Ricans who are of Jordanian and Iraqi descent. Roughly 39% of ancestry respondents chose the generic identity of "Arab/Arabic."

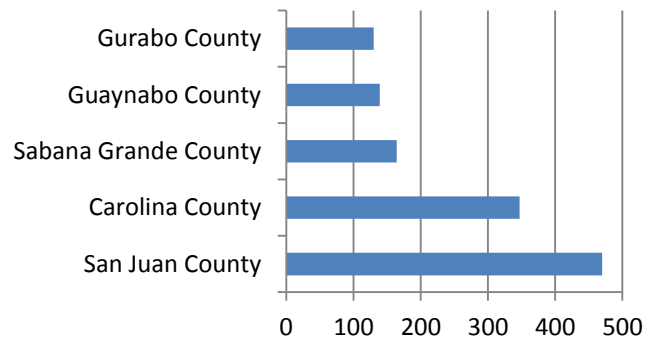


Immigrants by Country of Origin

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Jordan | 209 |
| Lebanon | 80 |
| Iraq | 53 |
| Syria | 16 |
| Saudi Arabia | 12 |

Where do Puerto Rican Arab Americans Live?

Arab Americans reside in 33 of the 78 counties in the Puerto Rico.



**Research by AAI and Zogby International suggest that the number above is likely significantly lower than the actual number of Arab Americans in the state. The decennial Census identifies only a portion of the Arab population through a question on "ancestry" on the census long form. Reasons for the undercount include the placement of and limit of the ancestry question (as distinct from race and ethnicity); the effect of the sample methodology on small, unevenly distributed ethnic groups; high levels of out-marriage among the third and fourth generations; and distrust/misunderstanding of government surveys among recent immigrants.*

Source: 2005-2009 American Community Survey Rolling 5-Year Average – U.S. Census Bureau