

HISPANIC ADMINISTRATORS IN KENTUCKY

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Introduction

The purpose of this research was to survey Kentucky school districts (175) to collect information about Hispanic school administrators. The information was compiled from data collected from Kentucky school superintendents. This research was a follow-up study to the research by Ballestero and Wright (2007). The collected data will add to the information available to the Commonwealth, universities, school districts, administrators, teachers, and the public concerning Hispanic school administrators.

Objectives:

1. To add to the knowledge concerning Hispanic administrators in Kentucky;
2. To share this data with the Commonwealth, universities, school districts, administrators, teachers, and the public;
3. To add to the information on Hispanics obtained from our previous Hispanic research.

Methods/Research Design:

Each Kentucky school Superintendent or their designee was asked to complete and return a survey to Morehead State's Department of Professional Programs in Education. The survey was developed, mailed, and the results were compiled and analyzed by Dr. Victor Ballestero and Dr. Sam Wright. The first survey was mailed on April 21, 2008 and was to be returned by May 12, 2008. The first mailing resulted in 127 surveys returned. A follow-up survey was mailed on May 19, 2008. The follow-up survey was to be returned by June 2, 2008. The follow-up survey resulted in 26 additional surveys being returned for a total of 153 returns. This provided an

87.4% percent return for the survey. A copy of the survey and informational letters are included as Appendix A, B, and C respectively.

Survey Results:

The analyses of the data for this study on Hispanic administrators was based on the 153 Kentucky school districts that responded to the survey.

Question 1.

Are there Hispanic administrators in your school district?

There were 148 school districts (97%) that indicated they have no Hispanic school administrators. There were five school districts (3%) that reported having Hispanic school administrators.

Question 2.

How many Hispanic building administrators do you have in your school district?

Men
Women
Total

Only five Kentucky school districts responded they have Hispanic building administrators. The five school districts listed 5 men and 3 women for a total of 8 Hispanic building level administrators. The five building level Hispanic administrators were from Whitley, Warren, Jefferson, Hardin, and Fayette Counties. Jefferson County has 3 of the 8 Hispanic building administrators in Kentucky.

Question 3.

Identify the number of Hispanic building administrators at each grade level?

Elementary Administrators	Men	Women	Total
Middle-Junior High Administrators	Men	Women	Total
High School Administrators	Men	Women	Total

No Hispanic men elementary administrators were identified by the school districts. Fayette County indicated they have one woman who is an elementary school administrator. No Hispanic men or women middle-junior high school administrators were identified by the school districts. Four high school Hispanic men administrators were identified from Hardin County, Jefferson County, Warren County, and Whitley County. One high school Hispanic woman administrator was identified from Jefferson County. The total number of Hispanic building administrators identified for all building levels was six (4 men and 2 women).

Question 4.

Identify your school district as either rural, small town, or urban?

Since a majority of the school districts checked they had no Hispanic administrators and returned the survey leaving the rest of the questions blank we decided to focus on the five districts that have Hispanic administrators. The school districts with Hispanic administrators were Whitley County (Rural), Warren County (Urban), Jefferson County (Urban), Hardin County (Small Town), and Fayette County (Urban). The totals were one school district that identified itself as rural, one school district that identified itself as small town, and three school districts that identified themselves as urban.

Question 5.

Identify your school district in terms of wealth?

- Wealthy
- Average
- Poor

Since a majority of the school districts checked they had no Hispanic administrators and returned the survey leaving the rest of the questions blank we decided to focus on the five districts that have Hispanic administrators. Whitley County identified themselves as a poor school district. Warren County, Jefferson County, Hardin County, and Fayette County identified themselves as being average in terms of wealth. The totals for school districts with Hispanic school administrators were one poor school district and four average in wealth school districts.

Question 6.

How many Hispanic central office administrators do you have in your school district?

- Superintendent:
- Men
 - Women

- Assistant Superintendent:
- Men
 - Women

- Other Central Office Duties:
- Men
 - Women

There were no Hispanic men or women school superintendents or assistant superintendents identified by the school districts. There were two Hispanic men administrators (Jefferson County and Fayette County) that were identified as working in other central office duties. There were two Hispanic women administrators that

were found working in other central office duties (Harrodsburg Independent and Harlan County).

Conclusions:

- 1. There are few Hispanic school administrators in Kentucky.**
- 2. There are six Hispanic men and three Hispanic women currently working as Kentucky school administrators.**
- 3. Only five Kentucky school districts currently have Hispanic administrators.**
- 4. Three of these Kentucky school districts are urban, one is small town, and one is rural.**
- 5. Four of the Kentucky school districts view themselves as average in wealth and one as poor.**

Recommended for Further Study:

1. Are there Hispanic school board members in Kentucky? Where are they located? Are they men or women? How long have they served as board members?
2. How many Hispanic school counselors are there in the Commonwealth of Kentucky? Are they elementary, middle, or high school counselors?
3. Which subject areas are Hispanic teachers certified to teach in Kentucky?

References

Ballesteros, V. & Wright, S. (2008). The State of Hispanic Education in Kentucky School Districts. Morehead State University (ERIC Document No. ED 501 233).

Appendix A:

HISPANIC ADMINISTRATOR SURVEY

1. Are there Hispanic administrators in your school district?

Yes _____

No _____ (Please return the survey in the enclosed envelope if you answered No)

2. How many Hispanic building administrators do you have in your school district?

Men _____

Women _____

Total _____

3. Identify the number of Hispanic building administrators at each grade level?

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Total</u>
Elementary Administrators	_____	_____	_____
Middle-Junior High Administrators	_____	_____	_____
High School Administrators	_____	_____	_____

4. Identify your school district as either rural, small town, or urban? (Select One)

Rural _____

Small Town _____

Urban _____

5. Identify your school district in terms of wealth? (Select One)

Wealthy _____

Average _____

Poor _____

6. How many Hispanic central office administrators do you have in your school district?

Superintendent:

Men _____

Women _____

Assistant Superintendent(s):

Men _____

Women _____

Other Central Office Duties:

Men _____

Women _____

Appendix B:

April 21, 2008

Dear Superintendent:

The enclosed survey has been designed to collect information about Hispanic school administrators from Kentucky School Superintendents. This is information that we plan to collect as a follow-up to the Hispanic data we compiled last year. The information from our last survey was presented to Kentucky School Board Members in February and will be presented at the annual KASA meeting in July. Your help has been excellent!

Please give us a few minutes of your valuable time to complete this short survey on Hispanic school administrators. A self-addressed, stamped envelope has been enclosed for your convenience in returning the survey. Please assist us by returning your survey by May 12. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Victor Ballesteros
Associate Professor

Dr. Sam Wright
Assistant Professor

Appendix C:

May 19, 2008

Dear Superintendent:

The enclosed survey is a follow-up to the one sent to you a few weeks ago. If you have not returned the survey to date, please take a few minutes to complete the questions. The information gathered from the survey will be shared with Kentucky schools. Your valuable help is greatly appreciated. This survey is intended to gather information about Hispanic administrators from Kentucky School Superintendents. Once tabulated, this research will add to the information available concerning Hispanic education in the Commonwealth.

A self-addressed, stamped envelope has been enclosed for your convenience in returning the survey. Please assist us by returning your survey by June 2nd. Thank you in advance for your valuable assistance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Victor Ballestero
Associate Professor

Dr. Sam Wright
Assistant Professor

