

The Impact of Racism, Inequality and COVID-19 on the Health of Latinos



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HEALTH SCIENCES
TRANSDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH
EQUITY AND ENGAGEMENT CENTER

NIMHD Grant # U54 MD004811-09

Transdisciplinary Research, Equity and Engagement Center for Advancing Behavioral Health

The Transdisciplinary Research, Equity and Engagement Center for Advancing Behavioral Health is among twelve research centers of excellence funded by the **National Institute of Minority Health & Health Disparities**.



The TREE Center cultivates the collective passion and responsibility among local state, tribal and national stakeholders to create opportunities for transformative impact to:

1. Improve behavioral health equity among diverse communities;
2. Nurture community/academic ways of knowing; and
3. Prepare the next generation for conducting transdisciplinary multi-level intervention research.



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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoiBLFaaV-pyzq8UHYhJqWg>

Latinos make up 18.5 percent of the U.S. population yet they account for 34 percent of all coronavirus cases.

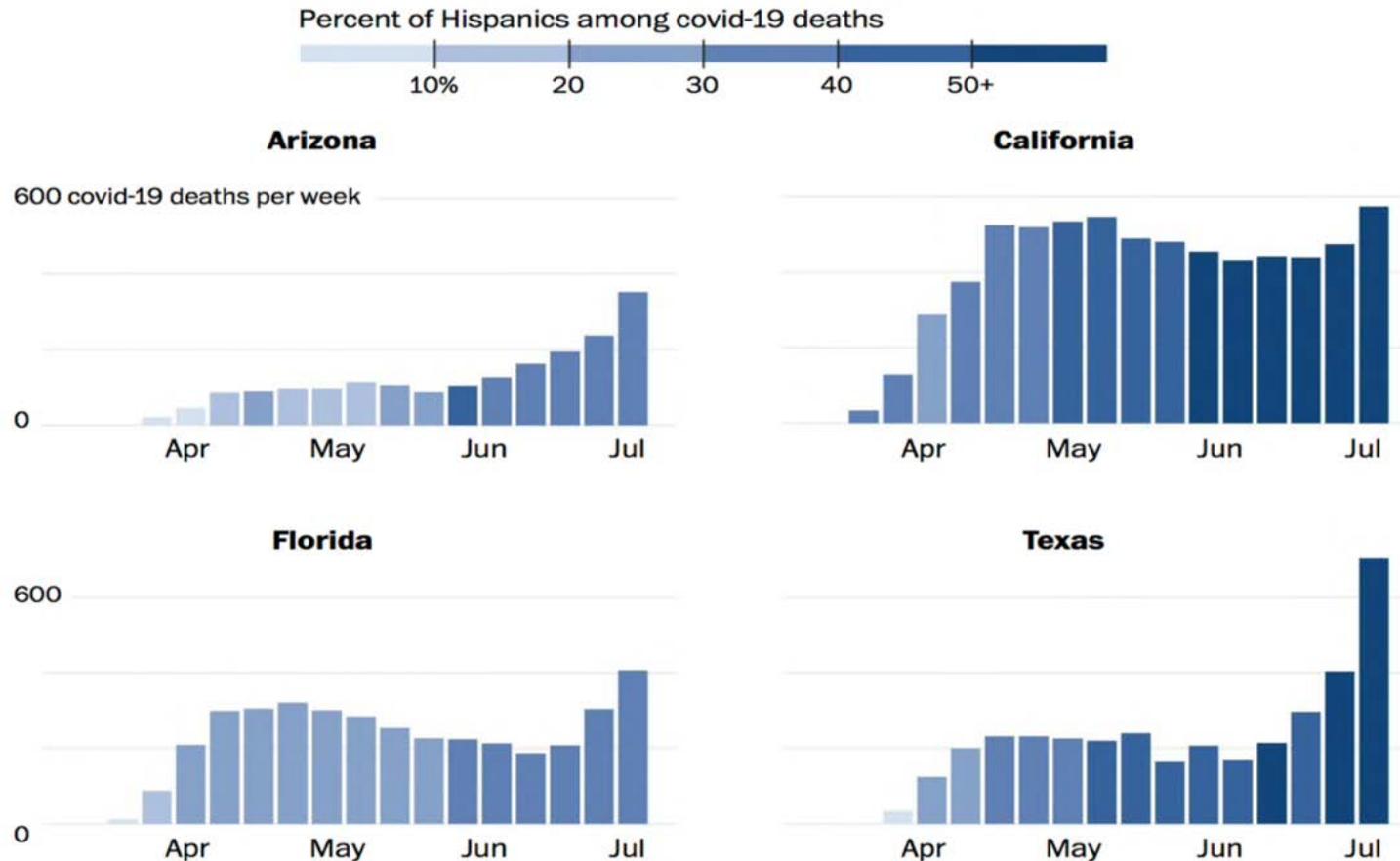
Source: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/26/us/corona-virus-latinos.html>

Many Latinos Couldn't Stay Home. Now Virus Cases Are Soaring in Their Communities.

Rates of coronavirus infection among Latinos have risen rapidly across the United States.



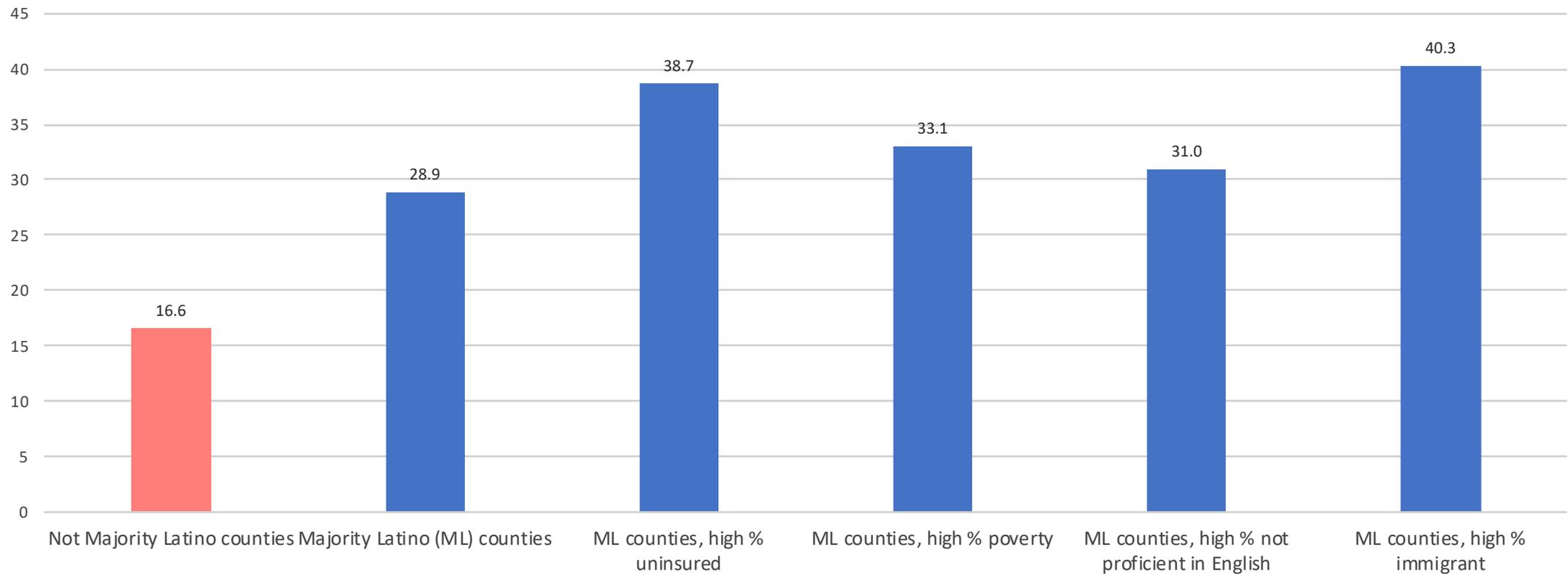
Latinos make up an increasing portion of COVID-19 deaths in state-hot spots.



Note: Data from March 8 to July 4, as of July 29
Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National Center for Health Statistics

Obesity, uninsurance, unemployment, percent of immigrant population and Limited English Proficiency were the strongest predictors of COVID-19 cases.

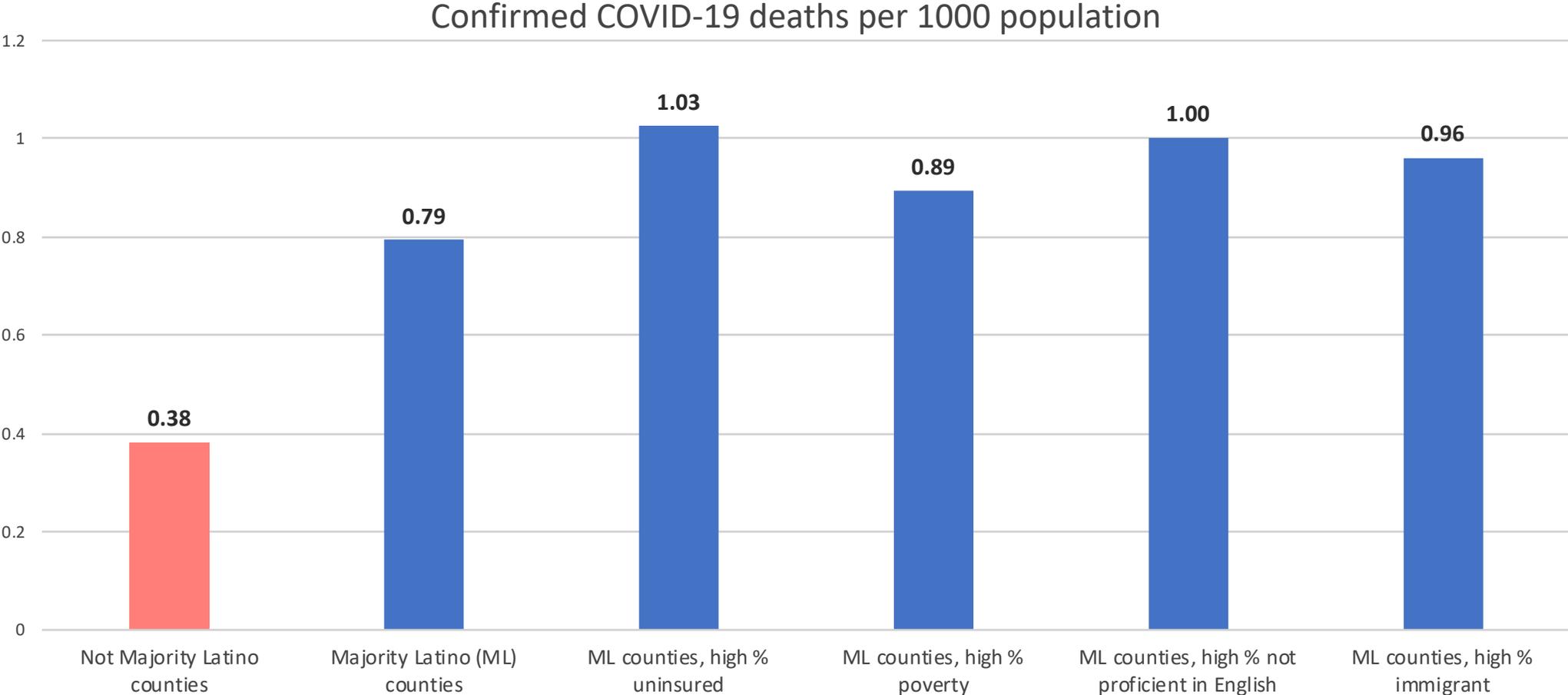
Confirmed COVID-19 cases per 1000 population



Sources: B. Boursaw (TREE Center) analysis of COVID-19 data from John Hopkins (September 2020).

Note: At the county level only thing being released is case counts, confirmed cases and numbers of death. Not being disaggregated. Almost all states giving breakdowns by race/ethnicity.

Poverty, uninsurance, Limited English Proficiency & high percent immigrant were the strongest predictors of Latino COVID-19 death rates.



Sources: B. Boursaw (TREE Center) analysis of COVID-19 data from John Hopkins (September 2020).

COVID-19 data John Hopkins.

Note: At the county level only thing being released is case counts, confirmed cases and numbers of death. Not being disaggregated. Almost all states giving breakdowns by race/ethnicity.

Latinos in three of the four states in the US/Mexico border region had percentage of COVID-19 cases and deaths in well in excess of their proportion in state populations.



Arizona

Latino Pop:
32%



California

Latino Pop:
39%



Texas

Latino Pop:
40%

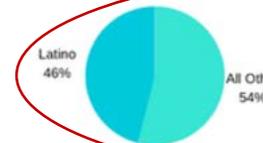


New Mexico

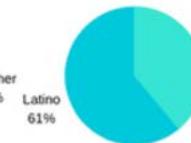
Latino Pop:
49%

Percent of current COVID-19 Latino cases by state

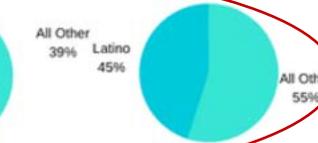
Cases:
65,180



Cases:
323,301



Cases:
20,402

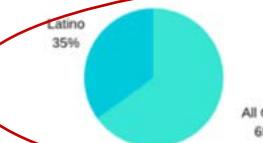


Cases:
12,250

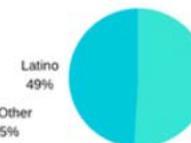


Percentage of fatalities by state among Latino COVID-19

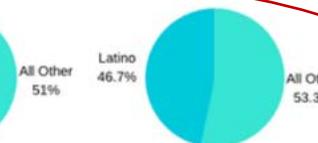
Deaths:
1668



Deaths:
7011



Deaths:
8156



Source: Cacari Stone, L., Boursaw, B., Linares, C. & Ortiz, K. (Sept 2020) Variable State and Local COVID-19 Policy Impacts on Structural Racism and Health in the U.S.-Mexico Border Region:

Data sources: Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center and the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps Project

*The percentages of confirmed cases and deaths in this infographic are among those of known race/ethnicity only.

Why are Latinos so disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 ?



Intergenerational
Health,
Safety &
Well-being

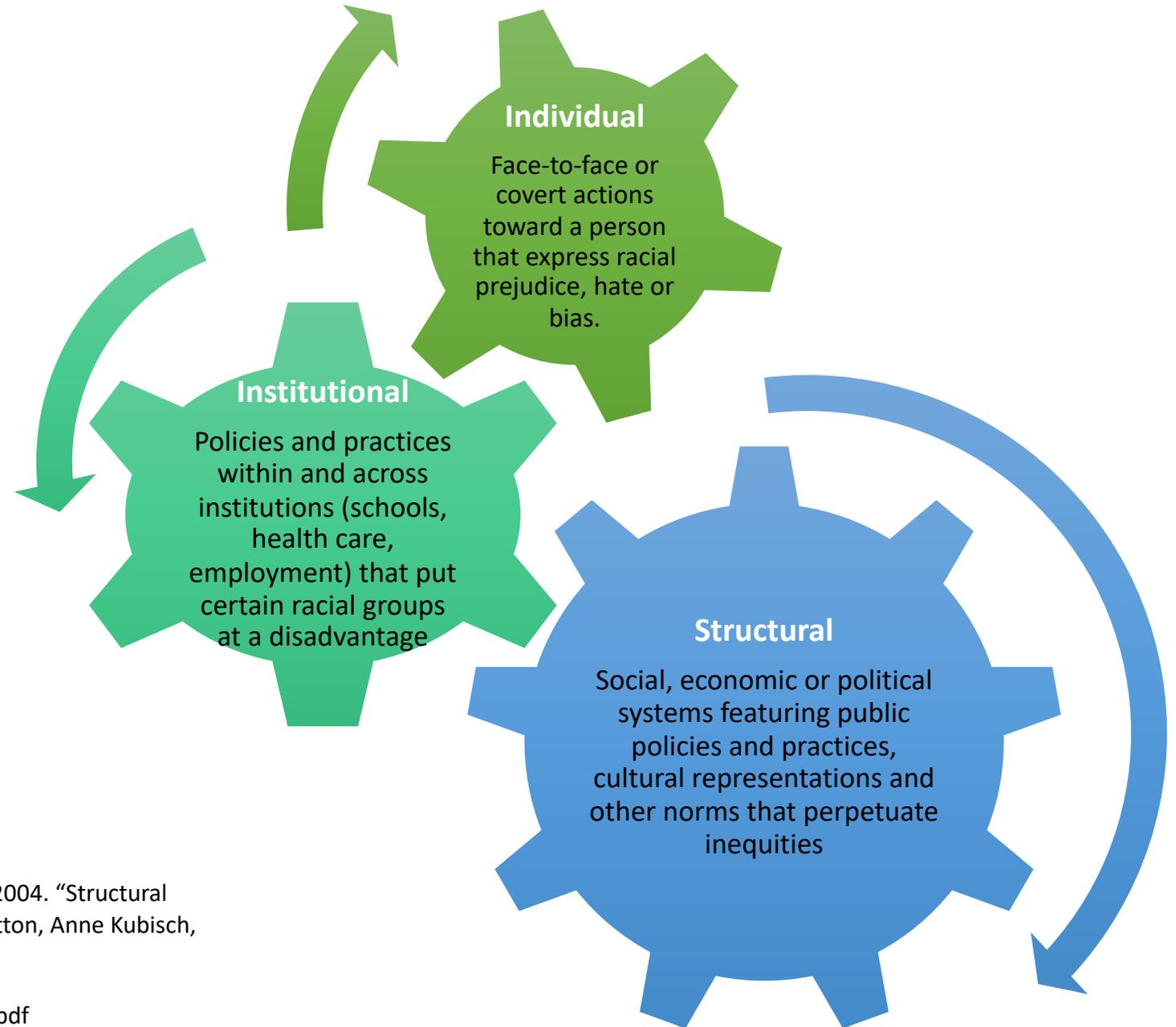


“Disparate impacts of COVID-19 mirror and compound existing racial and ethnic inequities

in health and health care that are driven by broader underlying structural and systemic barriers, including racism and discrimination.”

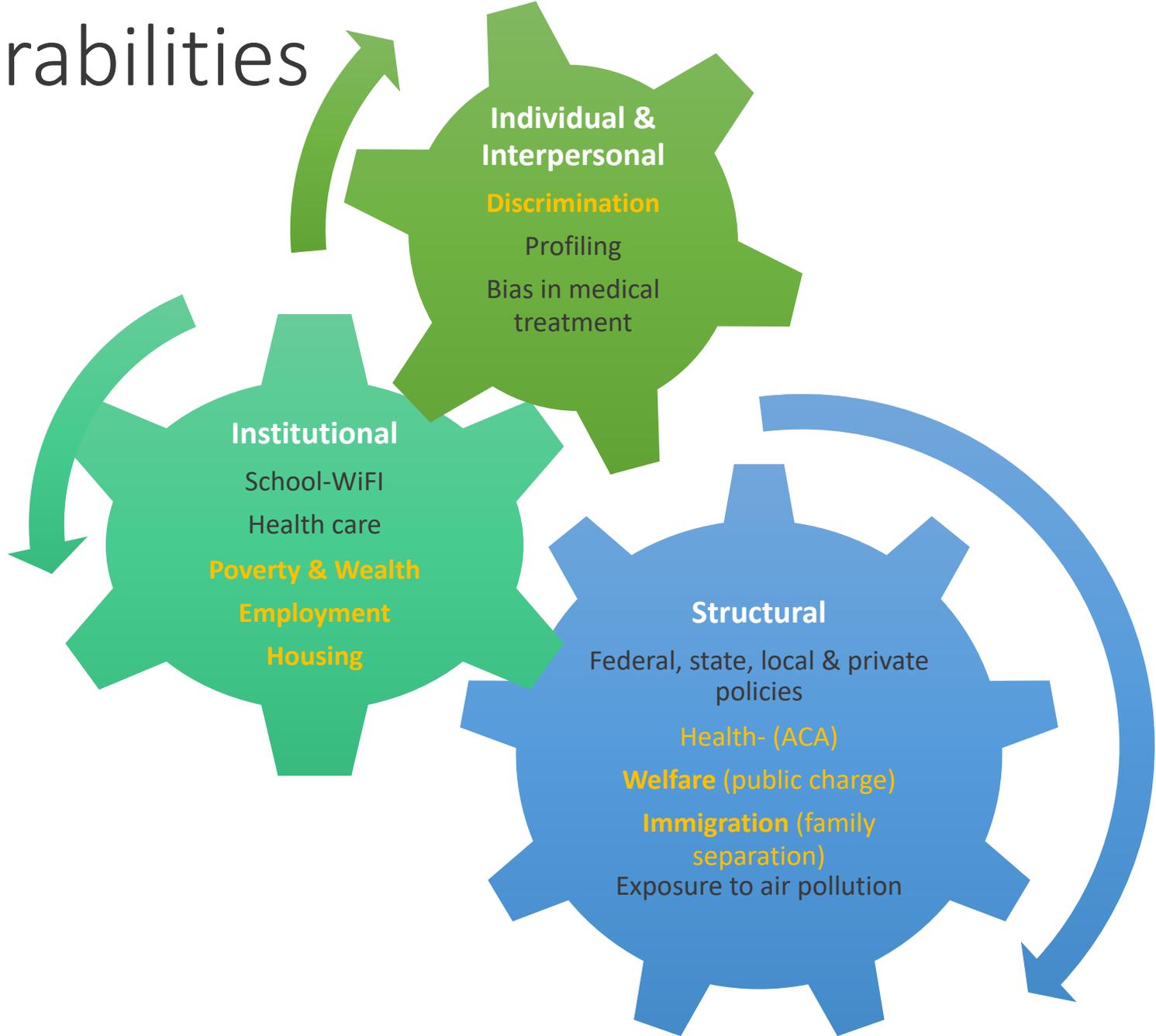
Sources: <https://www.kff.org/policy-watch/health-disparities-symptom-broader-social-economic-inequities/>
<https://www.keepinspiring.me/martin-luther-king-jr-quotes/>

Types of Racism

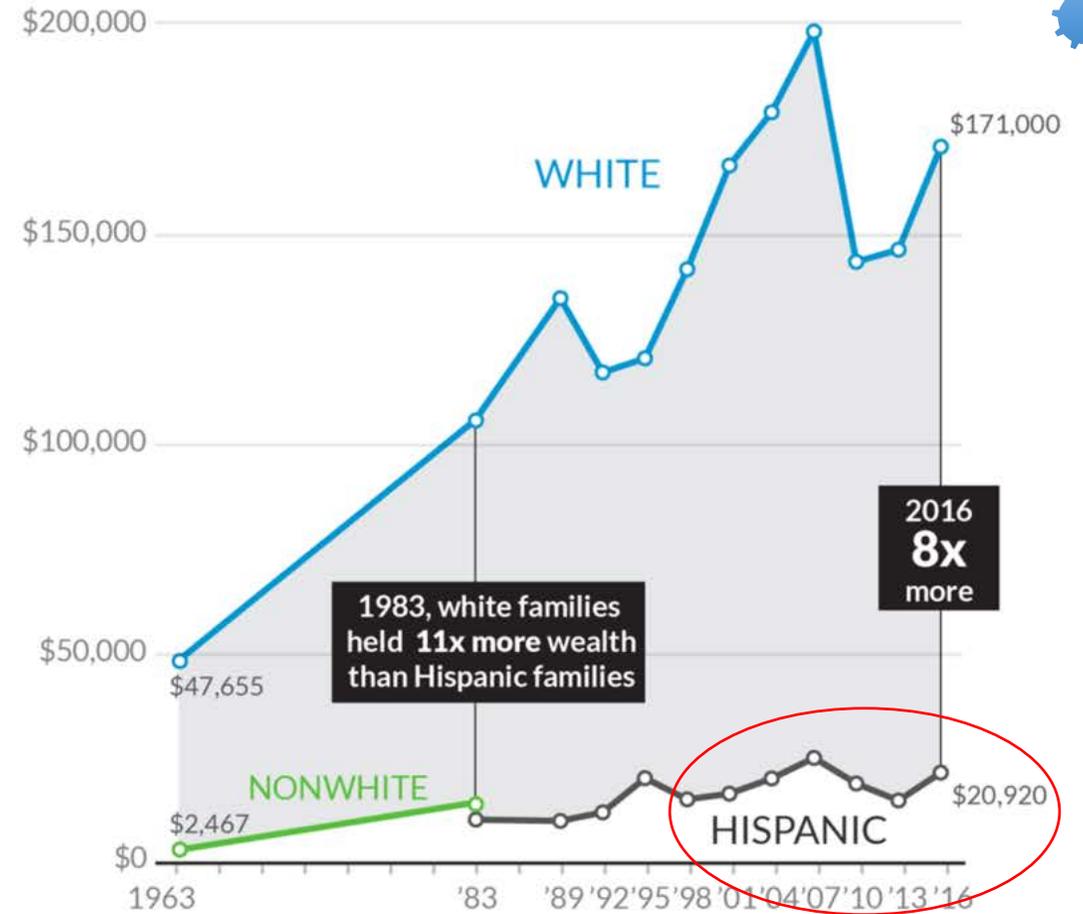
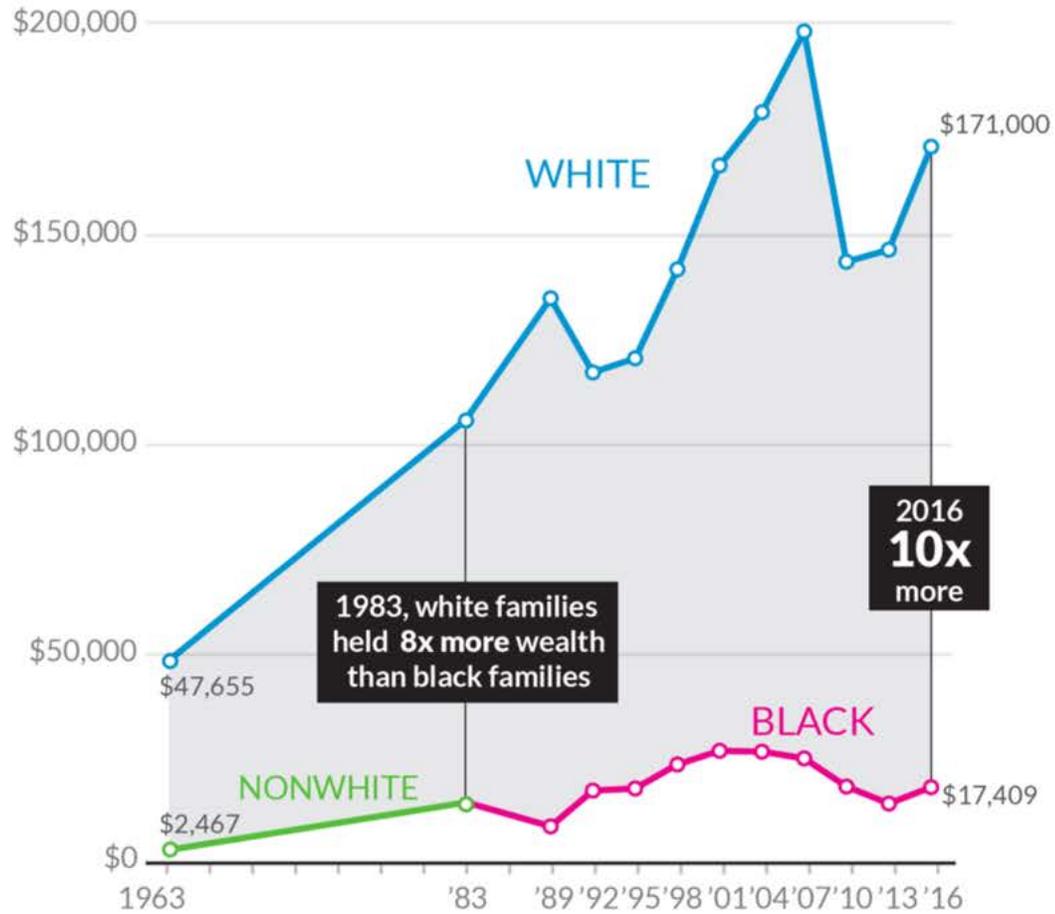


Source: Aspen Institute Roundtable on Community Change. 2004. "Structural Racism and Community Building." Keith Lawrence, Stacey Sutton, Anne Kubisch, Gretchen Susi and Karen Fulbright-Anderson, authors. Washington, D.C.: The Aspen Institute. See: <https://www.racialequitytools.org/resourcefiles/aspeninst3.pdf>

Intersectional Vulnerabilities



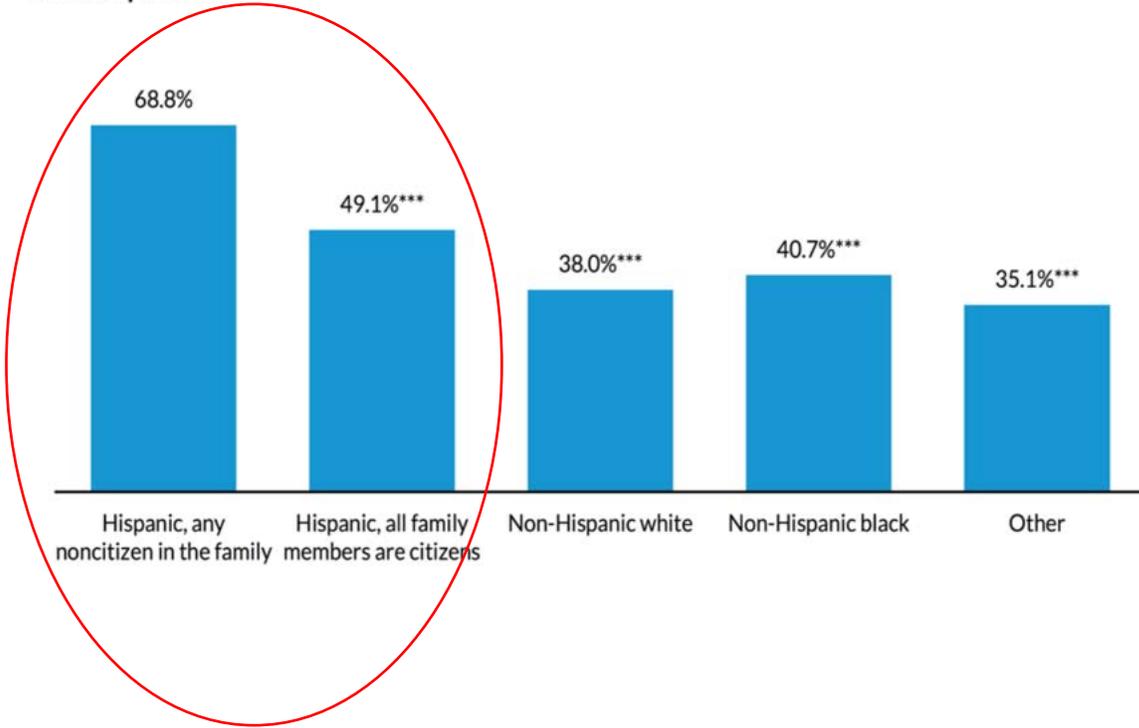
Median Family Wealth by Race/Ethnicity, 1963–2016



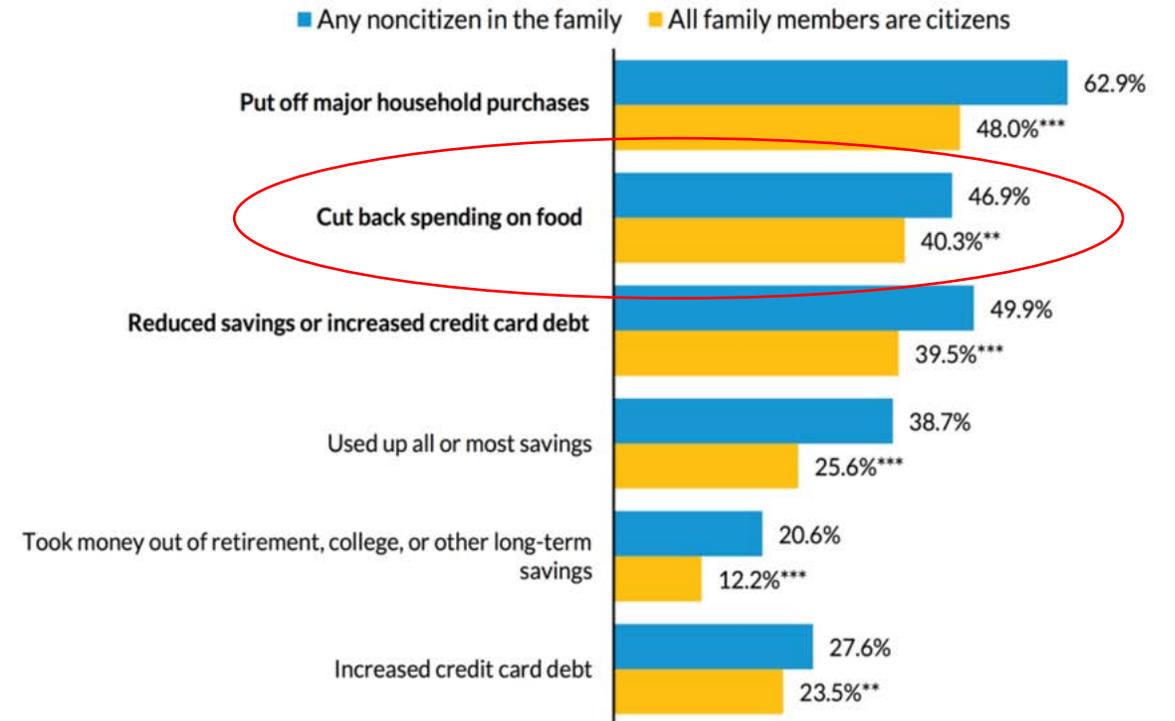
Source: Urban Institute calculations from Survey of Financial Characteristics of Consumers 1962 (December 31), Survey of Changes in Family Finances 1963, and Survey of Consumer Finances 1983–2016.

Notes: 2016 dollars. No comparable data are available between 1963 and 1983. Black/Hispanic distinction within nonwhite population available only in 1983 and later.

Share of Adults Ages 18 to 64 Whose Families Lost Jobs, Work Hours, or Work-Related Income Because of the Coronavirus Outbreak, by Family Citizenship Status and Race/Ethnicity, March/April 2020



Impact of the Coronavirus Outbreak on Family Financial Decisions among Hispanic Adults Ages 18 to 64, by Family Citizenship Status, March/April 2020



Source: <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/hispanic-adults-families-noncitizens-disproportionately-feel-economic-fallout-covid-19>

Latinos work in frontline jobs: grocery stores, waste management, cleaning and sanitation services, and food delivery, putting them at constant exposure to people or materials that may be infected with COVID-19



- 21 State Study: among 9,919 workers (animal slaughtering & processing) with COVID-19 with race/ ethnicity reported, approximately 56% were Hispanic, 19% were black, 13% were white, and 12% were Asian



Sources: Waltenburg M.A., Victoroff T., Rose C.E., Butterfield M., Jervis R.H., Fedak K.M., Gabel J.A., Feldpausch A., Dunne E.M., Austin C., et al. COVID-19 Response Team. Update: COVID-19 among workers in meat and poultry processing facilities-United States, April–May 2020. *MMWR Morb. Mortal. Wkly. Rep.* 2020;69:887–892. doi: 10.15585/mmwr.mm6927e2.

Quandt SA, LaMonto NJ, Mora DC, Talton JW, Laurienti PJ, Arcury TA. COVID-19 Pandemic among Latinx Farmworker and Nonfarmworker Families in North Carolina: Knowledge, Risk Perceptions, and Preventive Behaviors. *Int J Environ Res Public Health.* 2020;17(16):5786. Published 2020 Aug 10. doi:10.3390/ijerph17165786

June 25, 2020. See: https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2020/20_0165.htm

<https://www.urban.org/research/publication/hispanic-adults-families-noncitizens-disproportionately-feel-economic-fallout-covid-19>



Crowded and substandard housing conditions exacerbate COVID-19 rates

- A quarter of Latino people live in multigenerational households (compared with only 15% of non-Hispanic white people)
 - Challenging to take precautions to protect older family members or to isolate those who are sick if space in the household is limited
- Border Colonias
 - Crowded and poor housing conditions
 - Inadequate water, heating/air and sewage
- ICE detention centers
 - cramped, unsanitary conditions make them dangerous incubators for COVID-19



Sources:

Pew Research Center (US Census)

American Community Survey: October 2012

<https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/2012/acs/acsbr11-03.pdf>

June 25, 2020. See: https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2020/20_0165.ht

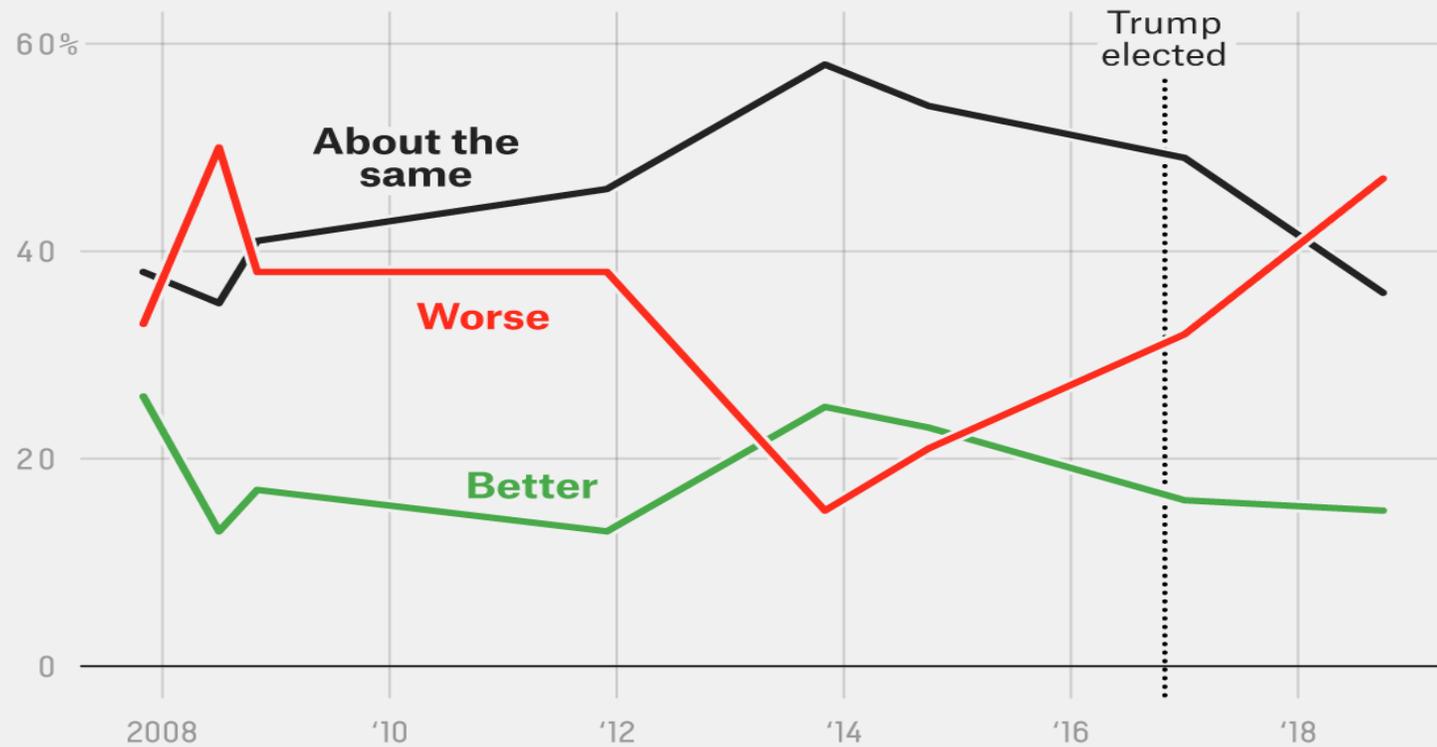
<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hblog20200616.357449/full/>



*'It Feels Like Being Hunted':
Latinos Across U.S. in Fear
After El Paso Massacre*

Latinos say their situation has grown worse

Share of Latinos who say their situation has gotten better, gotten worse or stayed about the same compared with one year ago



FiveThirtyEight

SOURCE: PEW RESEARCH CENTER



New York Times, August 6, 2019



Time Magazine, Migrants are gathered inside the fence of a makeshift detention center in El Paso, Texas on Wed. March 27, 2019.



Discrimination, hate crimes/violence, financial stressors, depression, anxiety & barriers to accessing mental health resources magnifies a sense of catastrophe



Street-Race is linked to health inequities among Latinx:

- Men reporting their street race as Latinx & Arab were associated with higher odds of reporting worse **mental health outcomes**.
- Among women, those reporting their street race as Mexican were associated with lower odds of reporting optimal **physical health**.

2020 Survey found:

- Over 20% of Latinos say they are suffering anxiety.
- 15.7% say they suffer from increased stress.
- 12% of Latinos say they have gained weight.
- 33% of Latinos say they “fear what the future may hold.”

SaludAmerica: <https://salud-america.org/coronavirus-job-loss-stress-latinos/>

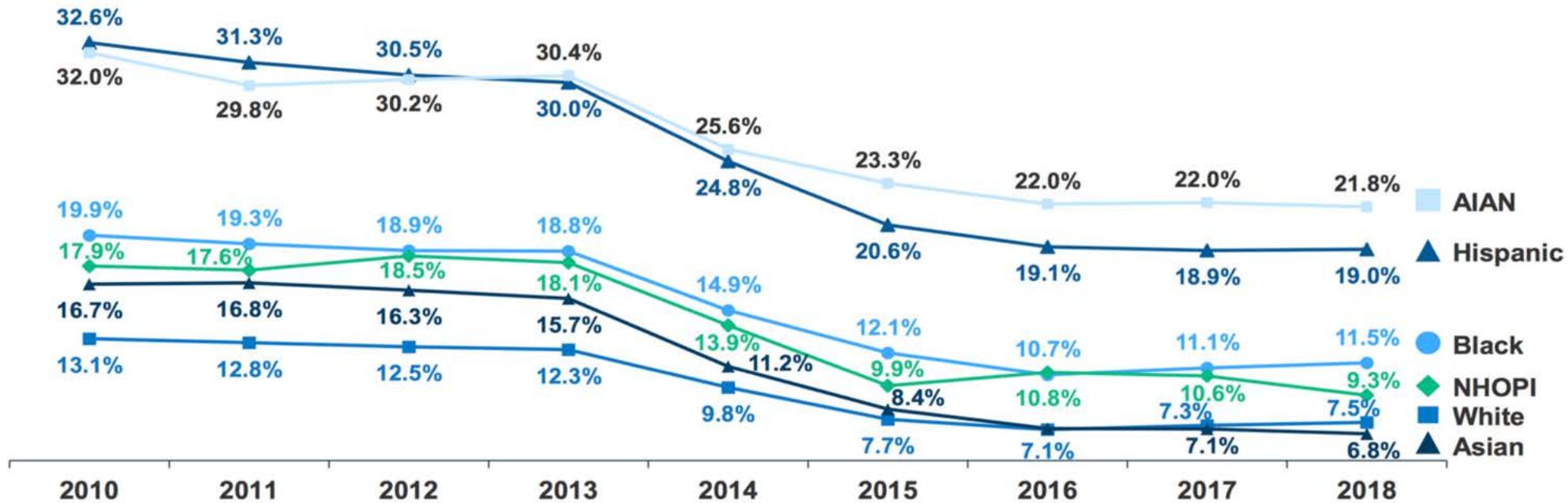
Lopez, N., Vargas, E.D., Juárez, M., **Cacari Stone, L.** & S. Bettez (2017). What’s Your Street Race Contextualizing Racialization for Measuring Health Inequities Among Latinas and Latinos in the U.S. *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*. Volume: 4 issue: 1, page(s): 49-66.

<https://doi.org/10.1177/2332649217708798>

Policy Matters: There were large coverage gains for Latinos under the Affordable Care Act (ACA)



Uninsured Rates for the Nonelderly Population by Race and Ethnicity, 2010-2018

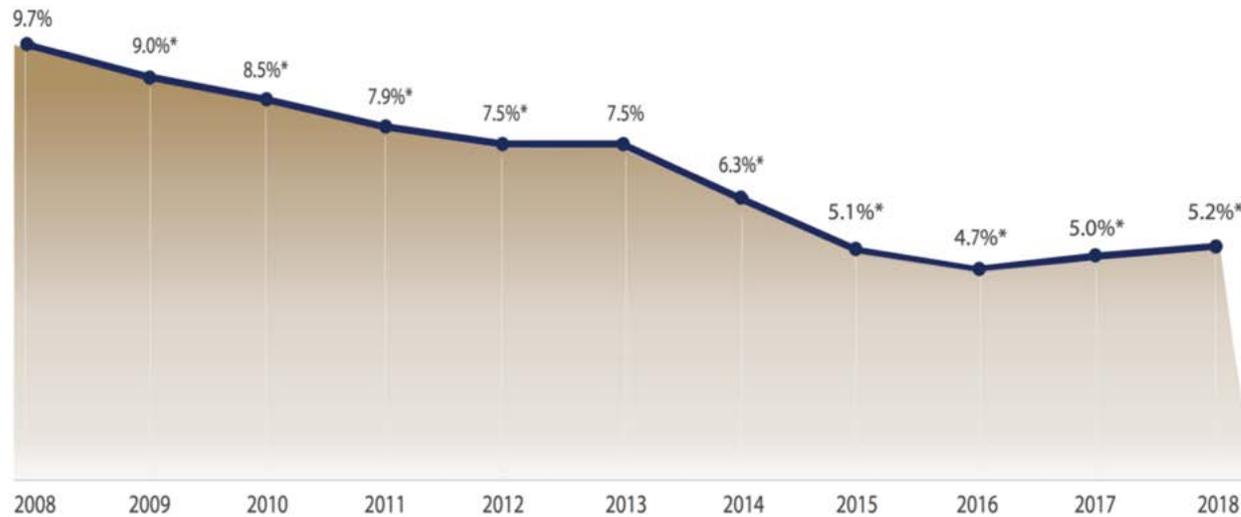


NOTE: Includes individuals ages 0 to 64. AIAN refers to American Indians and Alaska Natives, NHOPI refers to Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders.
 SOURCE: KFF analysis of the 2010-2018 American Community Survey.

Policy Matters: The number of uninsured children now exceeds 4 million— wiping out a sizable share of the gains in coverage made following the implementation of ACA



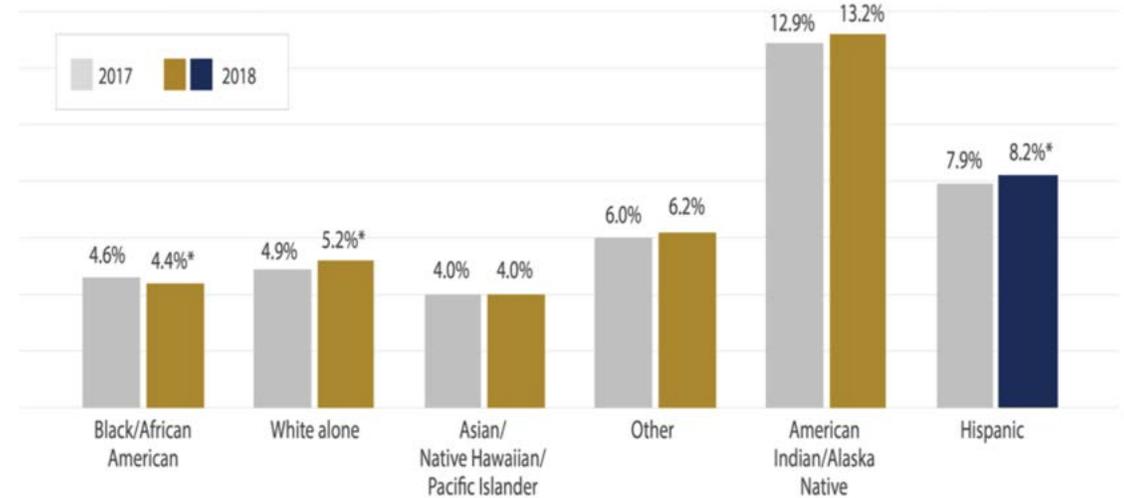
Figure 2. Rate of Uninsured Children, 2008-2018



Source: Georgetown University Center for Children and Families analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) Table HIC-5, Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage by State - Children Under 19: 2008 to 2018, Health Insurance Historical Tables.

*Change is significant at the 90% confidence level and is significant relative to the prior year indicated.

Figure 5. Children's Uninsured Rate by Race and Ethnicity, 2017-2018

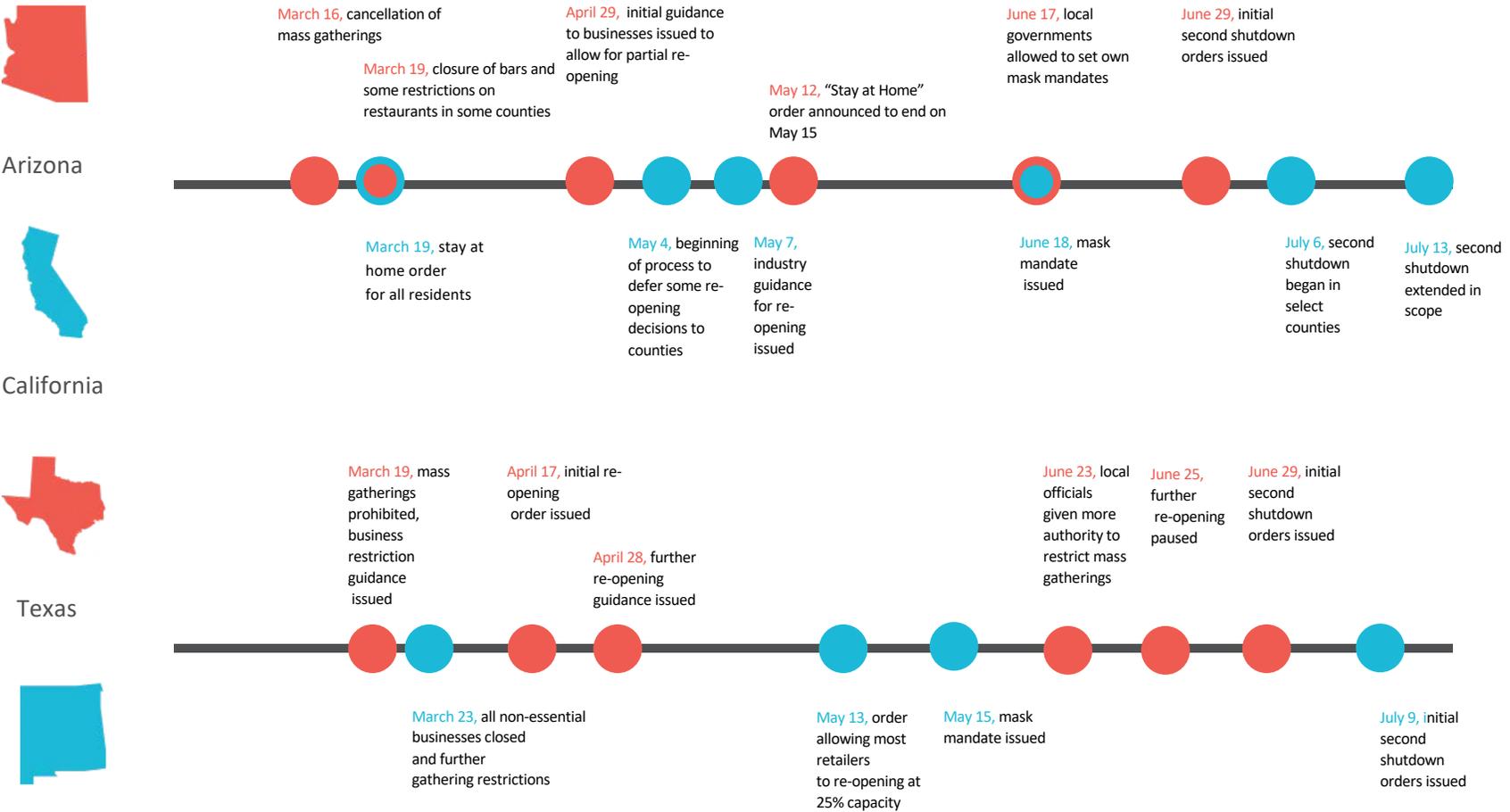


Source: Georgetown University Center for Children and Families analysis of the U.S. Census 2017-2018 American Community Survey (ACS) data using 1-year estimates from Data.Census.Gov (C27001A-1).

*Change is significant at the 90% confidence level relative to the prior year.

Note: Hispanic refers to a person's ethnicity, therefore Hispanic individuals may be of any race.

Policy Matters: Of the 4 border states, **New Mexico** had the most consistent and **comprehensive mitigation actions**



COVID-19 cases per 1000 population in border states by date.

	JULY 31	AUG 15	AUG 31	SEP 15
Arizona	23.9	26.5	27.8	28.7
California	12.7	15.6	18.1	19.4
Texas	15.1	18.8	22.0	23.9
New Mexico	9.8	11.1	12.1	12.8

New Mexico also had notably lower COVID-19 cases rates per population from July 31 to September 15. Arizona had the highest cases rates over this same time period. If Arizona had been able to experience New Mexico's case rates it would have had 93,458 cases on September 15 instead of 209,209 cases.

Latinos in three of the four states in the US/Mexico border region also had percentage of COVID-19 cases and deaths in well in excess of their proportion in state populations.

New Mexico Source: Cacari Stone, L., Boursaw, B., Linares, C. & Ortiz, K. (Sept 2020) Variable State and Local COVID-19 Policy Impacts on Structural Racism and Health in the U.S.-Mexico Border Region. Data sources: Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center, <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/data/state-timeline>. Population Estimates Program AZ,CA,TX, NM State Health Department

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Policies Matter: Public Charge, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, Section 1557 Language (ACA)



- Emotional and financial stress of lacking health insurance
- Being treated differently, indifferently or discriminated against for speaking Spanish.
- Fear of exposing one's immigration status to a healthcare institution
- Dependence on community health clinics (hospitals as the last resort)
- Presence of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (Migra) has characterized the lives of border communities, influencing their individual decisions concerning health, employment, and household decisions.



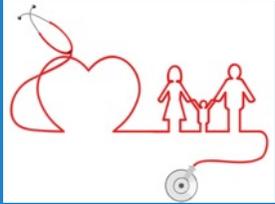
INSTITUTO MEXICANO DEL SEGURO SOCIAL



Sources:

Cacari Stone, L, Flores-Padilla, L, Pichardo-Delacour, E, Sierra, S, Trejo Franco, J, Canchola, A & Ivan Gomez, D. Gender, Migration and Access to Health Care in the U.S.-Mexico Border Region: Implications for Social. Under review.
Navarro y Luna, J. Chavez, T., Vences-Ortiz, S., Irazoqui-Ruizet, Y. al (2019). Undocuhealth. Under Review.
<https://www.nilc.org/issues/economic-support/pubcharge/changes-to-public-charge-analysis-and-faq/>

Solutions to Advance Latino Health Equity



- Guarantee **Universal** coverage of **ALL** children
- Medicaid buy-in for All
- Protect the ACA & Medicaid coverage expansions
- Rescind the public charge rule
- Assure protection of DACA



- Tackle Implicit Bias Anti-discrimination
- Expand services for LEP's
- Mobile access points for mental health resources
- Invest in patient navigators & CHW's



- Data on racial disparities in COVID-19
- State & local mitigation policies
- Assure equitable federal assistance dispersment (SDH)
- Communication, Health Literacy, and Public Awareness
- Make testing and care readily accessible



- Community-Centered Solutions
- Intersectoral partnerships
- Promote safety & belonging for **ALL**



- Housing Development & Home-ownership models
- Establish automatic savings in retirement plans
- Non-discrimination laws



“Economic and racial justice as the unfinished business of the Civil Rights Movement.”

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Legendary activist and workers' rights icon Dolores Huerta talked with CBS News' Mireya Villarreal about how Latinos and Latinas can be politically proactive during the pandemic, ahead of the 2020 elections.