

# **A Statistical Picture of Latinos in California 2017 Update**

**Prepared for the Latino Legislative Caucus**

**California Senate Office of Research  
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# **A Statistical Picture of Latinos in California**

## **2017 Update**

### **Summary**

In 2014, the Senate Office of Research (SOR) issued a statistical picture of Latinos in California across a range of demographic and other significant characteristics. This report provides an update in these areas based on recent data and includes new sections on public health and environmental pollution. Altogether, the topics covered in this report include:

- Population growth and age distribution
- Households and families
- Place of birth and citizenship status
- Home language and English proficiency level
- Income and poverty
- Receipt of public assistance
- Educational attainment and postsecondary education
- Achievement in elementary and secondary education (K–12)
- Labor force participation and employment
- Health care coverage and access
- Public health
- Environmental pollution
- Homeownership and housing costs

Data sources for this report are similar to those referenced in 2014, with more recent data and some additional sources. Specifically, the report presents population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS) covering the five-year period 2010–14 (based on a representative sample of California’s population); population growth, and age distribution projections by the California Department of Finance (DOF); health data from the 2014 California Health Interview Survey; education data from the California Department of Education (CDE); environmental data from the 2017 California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen 3.0); and other sources as specified.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Figures in the report are rounded to the nearest whole number, except for household and family size estimates. The data in the appendix is rounded to the nearest tenth.

For each area examined, the report provides comparisons between Latinos and non-Latinos (all other racial/ethnic groups combined) to identify where Latinos differ from the rest of California’s population. The comparisons are made on a statewide basis and, in all but a few of the areas, also on a county-level basis considering the following three subgroups of California counties: (1) large urban counties, (2) suburbs and medium metropolitan (metro) counties, and (3) small metro and rural counties.<sup>2</sup> Using the statewide data, comparisons also are presented for four Latino subgroups—Mexicans, Salvadorans, Guatemalans, and other Latinos—where notable differences between these groups were detected.<sup>3</sup>

This methodology differs from our first report in 2014, which compared Latinos with the state’s general population, of which Latinos comprise a large share. For this update, SOR showed a more direct comparison of Latinos with non-Latinos and included supplemental detail for Latino subgroups. SOR also reexamined the ACS population estimates for 2006–10 (a key data source for the 2014 report)—but this time with data breakouts for Latinos and non-Latinos—to identify any observable differences compared with the ACS population estimates for 2010–14. Where we detected notable differences, particularly for Latinos, they are referenced in this report, primarily in footnotes.<sup>4</sup>

It is important to note that SOR didn’t determine the statistical significance of differences in estimates shown throughout the report—between Latinos and non-Latinos, among the Latino subgroups, and for Latinos between 2006–10 and 2010–14. That is, we didn’t test whether these differences are true differences (i.e., statistically significant) or else occurred by chance. Because we recognize such computations would add value to this work, we would seek to include them in any future update of the report.

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<sup>2</sup> The public health and environmental pollution sections present statewide data without the three county subgroups.

<sup>3</sup> Other Latinos includes all Latino subgroups excluding Mexican, Salvadoran, and Guatemalan.

<sup>4</sup> According to the U.S. Census Bureau, comparisons of estimates from two multiyear periods ideally should determine whether observed differences between estimates are statistically significant and also should be based on nonoverlapping periods. The comparison of two estimates for different but overlapping periods is challenging since the difference is driven by the nonoverlapping years. In the case of this analysis, data for 2010 is included in both the 2006–10 and 2010–14 estimates, and typically, the 2010 contribution would be subtracted out as part of a statistical calculation of difference. For any future analysis, it would be preferable to compare two nonoverlapping five-year periods. The ACS data for 2011–15 is currently available, but it wasn’t available at the time data was extracted for this report. For more information about benefits and challenges of using ACS data, see U.S. Census Bureau, “A Compass for Understanding and Using American Community Survey Data: What General Data Users Need to Know,” U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 2008.

Here are the major findings:

### **Population Growth and Age Distribution**

- The Latino population in California is growing at a much faster rate than the state's non-Latino population. Latinos will make up nearly half of all Californians by 2060.
  - According to DOF, as of 2015, 39.1 million people lived in the state, including 15.2 million Latinos (39 percent). The department's models project that between 2016 and 2030, the state's general population will increase by 4.8 million people, including 3.6 million Latinos. Between 2030 and 2060, the general population is expected to increase by another 7.6 million people, including 6.5 million Latinos.
  - It is projected Latinos will comprise 43 percent of California's population by 2030, increasing to 49 percent by 2060. The largest relative increase in the Latino population is projected to occur in small metro and rural counties, where it is expected the Latino population will more than double by 2060, although the overwhelming majority of Latinos will continue to live in more urban areas.
- The Latino population tends to be younger than the state's non-Latino population, but the age difference between Latinos and the rest of the population will narrow in the next few decades.
  - Currently, 34 percent of Latinos are younger than 20, while 21 percent of the non-Latino population is younger than 20. Only 7 percent of the Latino population is older than 64, while 18 percent of the non-Latino population is older than 64.
  - As California's population ages, the larger proportion of seniors in the population will increase the demand for certain public services. Nearly one-quarter of California's population and one-fifth of the Latino population will be older than 64 by 2060.

## **Households and Families**

- From 2010 to 2014, Latino households in California tended to be slightly larger and were more likely to contain children and other related family members, compared with non-Latino households. Of the 12.6 million households in the state, 3.5 million were Latino households. Sixty-four percent of non-Latino households were family households, while 82 percent of Latino households were family households. In addition, 26 percent of non-Latino households contained children, compared with 49 percent of Latino households. Similar patterns exist for the population in each of the three county subgroups.
- The average non-Latino household contained 2.5 people, and the average non-Latino family contained 3.2 people. In contrast, the average Latino household contained 4.1 people, and the average Latino family contained 4.6 people. Latino families and households were, on average, larger than those of the non-Latino population in each of the three county subgroups.

## **Place of Birth and Citizenship Status**

- From 2010 to 2014, Latinos were more likely than non-Latinos to be foreign-born, and foreign-born Latinos were less likely than other foreign-born people to be U.S. citizens. For example, statewide, 37 percent of Latinos were foreign-born, compared with 21 percent of non-Latinos. Similarly, 25 percent of foreign-born Latinos were not U.S. citizens, compared with 8 percent of other foreign-born Californians. The category of noncitizens includes those who are undocumented, as well as those lawfully present in the United States but not U.S. citizens—for example, people living in the United States with a visa or green card.
- That pattern generally is consistent in the three county subgroups. However, compared with non-Latinos, the disparity in the population of foreign-born Latinos and the citizenship of that population is most pronounced in small metro and rural counties.
  - In large urban counties, 39 percent of Latinos were foreign-born, compared with 26 percent of non-Latinos, and 26 percent of foreign-born Latinos were noncitizens, compared with 9 percent of other foreign-born Californians.
  - In suburbs and medium metro counties, 34 percent of Latinos were foreign-born, compared with 14 percent of non-Latinos, and 24 percent of

foreign-born Latinos were noncitizens, compared with 5 percent of other foreign-born Californians.

- But in small metro and rural counties, 34 percent of Latinos were foreign-born, compared with 6 percent of non-Latinos, and 23 percent of foreign-born Latinos were noncitizens, compared with only 2 percent of other foreign-born Californians.

### **Home Language and English Proficiency Level**

- From 2010 to 2014, Latinos were much more likely than non-Latinos to speak a language other than English at home. Latinos also were more likely to self-identify as speaking English less than “very well.” For example, 75 percent of Latinos spoke a language other than English at home, while 26 percent of non-Latinos spoke a language other than English at home. Furthermore, 34 percent of Latinos self-identified as speaking English less than “very well,” compared with 11 percent of non-Latinos.
- These patterns generally are consistent for Latinos in each of the three county subgroups. However, the disparity between Latinos and non-Latinos, in terms of speaking English at home and their English proficiency level, is more pronounced in small metro and rural counties. Specifically, Latinos in large urban counties were more than twice as likely as non-Latinos to speak a language other than English at home and self-identify as speaking English less than “very well,” compared with three times as likely in suburbs and medium metro counties. In small metro and rural counties, Latinos were more than eight times as likely as the non-Latino population to speak a language other than English at home and self-identify as speaking English less than “very well.”

### **Income and Poverty**

- From 2010 to 2014, Latinos tended to earn less than non-Latinos and were underrepresented among higher income brackets, overrepresented at lower income brackets, and more likely to live in poverty. For example, Latinos had a median household income of \$47,200, compared with a median household income of \$69,606 for non-Latinos. Similarly, while 12 percent of non-Latinos lived in poverty, 23 percent of Latinos lived in poverty.
- The income data shows consistent patterns for Latinos in each of the three county subgroups. For example, Latinos in large urban counties had a median household

income of \$48,373, compared with a median household income of \$72,146 for non-Latinos. Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties had a median household income of \$46,097, compared with a median household income of \$70,137 for non-Latinos. Latinos in small metro and rural counties had a median household income of \$39,840, compared with a median household income of \$48,897 for non-Latinos.

- Across the three county subgroups, Latino poverty rates were about 8 percentage points to 12 percentage points higher than the poverty rates of non-Latinos. Poverty rates were lowest in large urban counties, where about one in five Latinos lived in poverty. In other counties, about one in four Latinos lived in poverty.

### **Receipt of Public Assistance**

- From 2010 to 2014, Latinos in California tended to receive food stamps (known as CalFresh in California and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) at the federal level) and public assistance at higher rates than non-Latinos. Six percent of non-Latino households received food stamps, compared with 16 percent of Latino households. Both Latinos and non-Latinos in small metro and rural counties tended to have larger food stamp usage rates, compared with their counterparts in other counties, likely because income tends to fall as one moves away from the city and into more rural areas, where poverty rates typically are higher.
- Patterns of public assistance (California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) and General Assistance) are consistent with patterns of food stamp assistance. Latino households had slightly higher usage rates of public assistance (6 percent) than non-Latinos (3 percent). Again, rates of public assistance receipt for both Latinos and non-Latinos were highest in small metro and rural counties.
- While Latinos used public assistance at slightly higher rates than non-Latinos, they also tended to receive lower average benefit amounts. Statewide, non-Latino households received an average of \$309 more in annual benefits than Latino households. Latinos received higher average benefit amounts than non-Latinos only in small metro and rural counties.

## **Educational Attainment and Postsecondary Education**

- From 2010 to 2014, Latinos age 25 and older were much more likely to report they had not completed high school or college, compared with non-Latinos in that age group. More than one-third of Latinos (41 percent) had less than a high school education, compared with 8 percent of non-Latinos. Conversely, 59 percent of Latinos and 92 percent of non-Latinos had at least a high school diploma or its equivalent. These figures largely are mirrored in the population data for large urban counties and suburbs and medium metro counties. In small metro and rural counties, however, Latinos were somewhat less likely to have completed at least high school (56 percent) than Latinos in other counties.
- More than one-third of the non-Latino population age 25 and older (40 percent) had a bachelor's degree or higher, but only one in 10 Latinos in that age group (11 percent) had at least a bachelor's degree. A similar gap between Latinos and non-Latinos is apparent to varying degrees for the county subgroups. A larger proportion of Latinos in large urban counties had a bachelor's degree or higher, compared with Latinos in other counties, yet the gap between Latinos and non-Latinos was larger in large urban counties, where the population tended to have more education. Likewise, the smallest gap between Latinos and non-Latinos was in small metro and rural counties, where the population tended to have less education than in other counties.
- Other reports also show Latinos lagging behind in postsecondary education, though they have made progress in recent decades:
  - In 2013, about 815,000 first-time Latino undergraduates enrolled in a California college or university, up from 370,000 in 2004. The majority (65 percent) enrolled in the state's 113 community colleges, approximately 16 percent enrolled in the California State University (CSU) system, and fewer than 6 percent enrolled at a University of California (UC) campus. Latinos are underrepresented in each of the systems, considering their large share of California's population.
  - At the community colleges, 85 percent of Latino students are placed in precollege-level courses, taking at least one developmental course in math, English, or both. Among these students, approximately two-thirds will not earn an award or transfer to a four-year college or university within six years.

- Among Latinos who enroll as freshmen at CSU, 10 percent graduate within four years and 45 percent within six years. Among Latinos who transfer to CSU, 23 percent graduate within two years and 67 percent within four years.
- In comparison, Latino graduation rates at UC are higher. Among Latinos who enter UC as freshmen, 46 percent graduate within four years and 75 percent within six years. Among those who transfer to UC, 49 percent graduate within two years and 84 percent within four years.

### **Achievement in Elementary and Secondary Education (K–12)**

- As of 2016, there is a substantial achievement gap for Latino students in the state’s K–12 public school system, as evident from grade three, grade eight, and grade 11 student results on the 2016 statewide assessments in English-language arts and math.
  - Statewide, in 2016, 30 percent of Latino students in grade three earned scores that met or exceeded state standards in English-language arts, compared with 59 percent of non-Latino students, a gap of 29 percentage points. In grade eight, 37 percent of Latinos scored at or above the state standards in English-language arts, compared with 61 percent of non-Latino students—a gap of 24 percentage points. In grade 11, the achievement gap narrowed to 19 points, with half of Latino students meeting or exceeding the standards, compared with 69 percent of non-Latino students.
  - The gap between Latinos and non-Latinos with scores that met or exceeded standards on the math assessment was generally higher than the gap on the English-language arts assessment, except for grade three, wherein 34 percent of Latinos met or exceeded standards, compared with 61 percent of non-Latinos—a gap of 27 percentage points. In grade eight, 23 percent of Latinos scored at or above standards, compared with 51 percent of non-Latinos—a gap of 28 percentage points. Finally, in grade 11, only 20 percent of Latino students scored at or above standards, compared with 52 percent of non-Latino students—the largest achievement gap for the grades analyzed in this report at 32 percentage points.
  - The achievement gap was somewhat smaller for Latinos in suburban and medium metro counties, as well as small metro and rural counties, compared with Latinos in large urban counties. However, this smaller gap is not due to

higher achievement levels of Latinos, but rather to lower overall achievement levels of the rest of the student population.

- In 2014–15, Latino students were less likely to graduate from public high school in four years than other students. Statewide, the high school graduation rate was 79 percent for Latinos and 86 percent for non-Latinos. Both student groups had similar high school graduation rates in the three county subgroups, with the highest graduation rates in the suburban and medium metro counties.

### **Labor Force Participation and Employment**

- From 2010 to 2014, among Californians of working age, Latinos were slightly more likely than non-Latinos to be in the labor force and more likely to be employed. Sixty-seven percent of Latinos age 16 and older were part of the labor force, compared with 62 percent of the non-Latino population age 16 and older. Similarly, 58 percent of Latinos age 16 and older were employed, compared with 55 percent of non-Latinos. While Latinos had slightly higher labor force participation rates and higher rates of employment among the working-age population, they also had slightly higher unemployment rates. Specifically, 13 percent of Latinos age 16 and older who were part of the labor force were unemployed, compared with 10 percent unemployment for the non-Latino labor force.
- Latinos were more likely than non-Latinos to work in blue-collar occupations: manufacturing, construction, maintenance, and services. Latinos were less likely to work in white-collar occupations: management, business, science, and arts. As a result, Latinos tended to be disproportionately overrepresented in the manufacturing, agriculture, construction, services, and food services sectors, and underrepresented in the information, finance, insurance, education, professional, scientific, and management sectors.
- These patterns are substantially similar across the three county subgroups, except for an underrepresentation of Latinos in the construction and service sectors in the small metro and rural counties.

## **Health Care Coverage and Access**

- In 2014, Latinos were less likely than non-Latinos to have health insurance or, if they had insurance, they were more likely to be covered by a publicly funded health coverage program such as Medi-Cal. They also were more likely to report they did not have a usual source of health care and were more likely to report a less-than-optimal health status. For example, 19 percent of Latinos were uninsured, compared with 7 percent of non-Latinos.
- While these patterns are consistent for Latinos in each of the three county subgroups, the gap between Latinos and non-Latinos is smaller in small metro and rural counties than in other counties.
  - In large urban counties, 20 percent of Latinos were uninsured, compared with 7 percent of non-Latinos. In suburbs and medium metro counties, 18 percent of Latinos were uninsured, compared with 7 percent of non-Latinos. In small metro and rural counties, 16 percent of Latinos were uninsured, compared with 9 percent of non-Latinos.
  - The population in small metro and rural counties, regardless of ethnicity, also was more likely to be covered by publicly funded insurance programs and less likely to have employer-based health care coverage than the population in more urban counties. That suggests there is greater eligibility for and use of publicly funded insurance by individuals living in the rural areas.

## **Public Health**

- In 2014, Latinos were more likely to be obese and diabetic than non-Latinos but had lower rates of hypertension. Latinos also had slightly lower adult and teen asthma rates than non-Latinos but the same rate of child asthma.
- In addition, Latinos had lower binge drinking and smoking rates than non-Latinos. Thirty-six percent of Latinos reported to abstain from binge drinking, compared with 31 percent of non-Latinos. Ten percent of Latinos reported being current smokers, compared with 13 percent of non-Latinos.
- Latinos were more likely to be food insecure than non-Latinos. Twenty-five percent of Latinos reported being food-insecure, compared with 9 percent of non-Latinos.

- Latinos were less likely than non-Latinos to report always having access to fresh fruits and vegetables in their neighborhoods. Further, Latinos reported consuming fast food and soda more often than non-Latinos. Forty-eight percent of Latinos consumed fast food two or more times per week, compared with 34 percent of non-Latinos. Sixteen percent of Latinos drank one or more sodas per day, compared with 7 percent of non-Latinos.
- Regarding dental care, adult Latinos were more likely than non-Latinos to go longer between or delay dental visits, but Latino children visited the dentist more frequently than non-Latino children.

### **Environmental Pollution**

- Latinos are more likely than non-Latinos to live in communities that have highly concerning levels of environmental pollution exposure and vulnerability. According to state data released in January 2017, 50 percent of Latinos and 19 percent of non-Latinos live in such communities. Considering air pollution specifically, 44 percent of Latinos live in communities with highly concerning levels of poor air quality, compared with 24 percent of non-Latinos.

### **Homeownership and Housing Costs**

- From 2010 to 2014, Latinos were less likely than non-Latinos to own their home. A clear majority of non-Latino households—59 percent—were owner-occupied, but only 43 percent of Latino households were owned by the occupant. Overall, Latinos made up slightly more than one-quarter of all households in the state, but they represented just over one-fifth of all homeowners. Among homeowners and renters, Latinos had lower overall housing costs, compared with non-Latinos.
- The gap between Latino and non-Latino home-ownership rates persists across all three county subgroups, but the gap is slightly more pronounced in small metro and rural counties. In large urban counties, 54 percent of non-Latino households were owned by the occupant, compared with only 44 percent for Latino households. In suburbs and medium metro counties, the homeownership rates were substantially higher—63 percent for non-Latinos and 52 percent for Latinos. While the homeownership rate for non-Latinos was approximately the same in small metro and rural counties (63 percent), Latino homeownership in these counties was much lower (49 percent).

## About the Data and Statistical Comparisons

This report provides a recent statistical picture of Latinos in California, including demographic, income, educational, health, and other characteristics. Various data sources were used, a primary one being the U.S. Census Bureau's ACS. The report presents ACS population estimates derived from pooled data over the five-year period of 2010–14. Other data sources are specified throughout the report.

Across a range of characteristics, Latinos are compared with non-Latinos to identify any major differences between these groups. Such comparisons are made using statewide data, as well as breakdowns of the data by county subgroups. Using the statewide data, comparisons also are presented for four Latino subgroups—Mexicans, Salvadorans, Guatemalans, and other Latinos—where notable differences between these groups were detected.<sup>5</sup>

### County-Level Breakdowns

Comparisons are made between Latinos and non-Latinos living in each of the following three subgroups of California counties: (1) large urban counties, (2) suburbs and medium metropolitan (metro) counties, and (3) small metro and rural counties.

The subgroups are modeled on the six aggregate county categories used by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), which recognizes differences between counties across the United States. NCHS classifies counties into a schema of six categories, largely based on the degree of urbanization and population density (e.g., large central counties, large fringe counties/suburbs, medium-size metropolitan counties, small metropolitan counties, micropolitan counties, and noncore counties).<sup>6</sup> For simplification, we collapsed the six categories into three county subgroups.

In this report, the large urban counties subgroup includes the counties of Alameda, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, and Santa Clara. According to DOF's population estimates, almost two-thirds of Californians and nearly two-thirds of the state's Latinos (40 percent) lived in these eight counties combined in 2016. Of the estimated 24.9 million people who lived in these counties, 9.8 million were Latino (40 percent). (This subgroup represents the NCHS category of large central counties.)

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<sup>5</sup> Other Latinos includes all Latino subgroups reported in the ACS survey, excluding Mexican, Salvadoran, and Guatemalan.

<sup>6</sup> For more information on the county categories, see U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "NCHS Urban–Rural Classification Scheme for Counties," *Vital and Health Statistics*, series 2, no. 154, January 2012.

The suburbs and medium metropolitan (metro) counties subgroup includes the counties of Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Kern, Marin, Monterey, Placer, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tulare, Ventura, and Yolo. According to DOF population estimates, nearly one-third of Californians and one-third of Latinos in California lived in these 20 counties combined in 2016. Of the estimated 12 million people who lived in these counties, 4.9 million were Latino (41 percent). (This subgroup includes the NCHS categories of large fringe counties/suburbs and medium-size metropolitan counties.)

The small metropolitan (metro) and rural counties subgroup includes the counties of Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Imperial, Inyo, Kings, Lake, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Mono, Napa, Nevada, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tuolumne, and Yuba. According to DOF population estimates, about 6 percent of Californians and 5 percent of Latinos in California lived in these 30 counties combined in 2016. Of the estimated 2.4 million people who lived in those counties, 787,000 were Latino (33 percent). (This subgroup includes the NCHS categories of small metropolitan counties, micropolitan counties, and noncore counties.)

## Data Sources

The population and age distribution projections for 2016, 2030, and 2060 are from DOF's 2013 population projections, unless otherwise specified.<sup>7</sup> Most of the estimates for population characteristics (e.g., income, public assistance, employment, housing, and other demographics) are from the U.S. Census Bureau's ACS five-year estimates for 2010–14. ACS is part of the Census Bureau's Decennial Census Program.<sup>8</sup> ACS is an ongoing survey of the nation's population that produces estimates for population characteristics at the national, state, and community levels. More than 3.5 million households nationwide are requested to participate in the survey annually. Survey responses are submitted online or by mail. Five-year ACS estimates are provided for purposes of statistical reliability. At the time SOR obtained data for this analysis, the pooled data for 2010–14 was the most recent available for making statistically reliable comparisons between the Latino population and the non-Latino population at the county level. DOF compiled and provided ACS data to SOR.

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<sup>7</sup> California Department of Finance Population Forecasts, January 2017, <http://www.dof.ca.gov/Forecasting/Demographics/Projections/>.

<sup>8</sup> For more information about ACS, see the American Community Survey Information Guide available at [www.census.gov/acs/www/about\\_the\\_survey/acs\\_information\\_guide/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/about_the_survey/acs_information_guide/).

The education data includes educational attainment data from ACS and other sources. K–12 student test result data is from CDE’s online California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) database. Using this database, SOR obtained 2016 results for all students in grades three, eight, and 11 who were tested in English-language arts and math. SOR analyzed results by county and ethnicity to compile data for the three county subgroups.<sup>9</sup> Public high school graduation rates for 2014–15 are from CDE’s DataQuest website (<http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest>). DataQuest allows users to generate reports of data from the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS), California’s K–12 education data system. Finally, the education section also cites various postsecondary education data reported by other researchers.

Health data was obtained from the California Health Interview Survey, the largest state health survey of its kind. The survey is conducted via a random-dial telephone interview of a scientific sampling of more than 50,000 Californians—including adults, teenagers, and children—from all 58 counties in California. The survey is conducted on a continuous basis and covers a variety of health and demographic topics, including questions about specific health conditions, health insurance coverage, and race/ethnicity. The survey is conducted in multiple languages by the UC Los Angeles Center for Health Policy Research, in collaboration with the California departments of Public Health and Health Care Services. Survey data is released in annual and biennial formats.

The environmental pollution data presented in this report was extracted by SOR from CalEnviroScreen 3.0.<sup>10</sup> The CalEnviroScreen 3.0 database contains demographic profiles that we segregated by Latino and non-Latino demographics for this report. The CalEnviroScreen model is composed of two components representing data related to pollution burdens and population characteristics. The overall CalEnviroScreen score is computed by combining both of these components.

The pollution burden component of the CalEnviroScreen score is made up of various exposure and environmental effect indicators, which are weighted and combined to create a pollution burden score. Exposure indicators use data related to pollution sources such as particulate matter concentrations in air, drinking water contaminants,

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<sup>9</sup> As noted later in the K–12 education section, CDE does not report test results for a group of students unless the number of students in the group meets or exceeds a minimum threshold to maintain privacy of student records. For this reason, the CAASPP data and high school graduation data reported by CDE does not include information for Latino students in some small/rural counties. The data tables displayed later in the report reference these exclusions.

<sup>10</sup> See <http://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-30>.

and toxic releases from facilities. Environmental effect indicators include data that measure adverse environmental conditions caused by pollution such as toxic and solid waste sites.

The population characteristics component of the CalEnviroScreen score includes both sensitivity and socioeconomic indicators. Sensitivity indicators utilize health data such as asthma or cardiovascular disease to reveal increased vulnerability to pollution. Socioeconomic indicators also reveal increased vulnerability to pollution by using data such as educational levels and poverty.

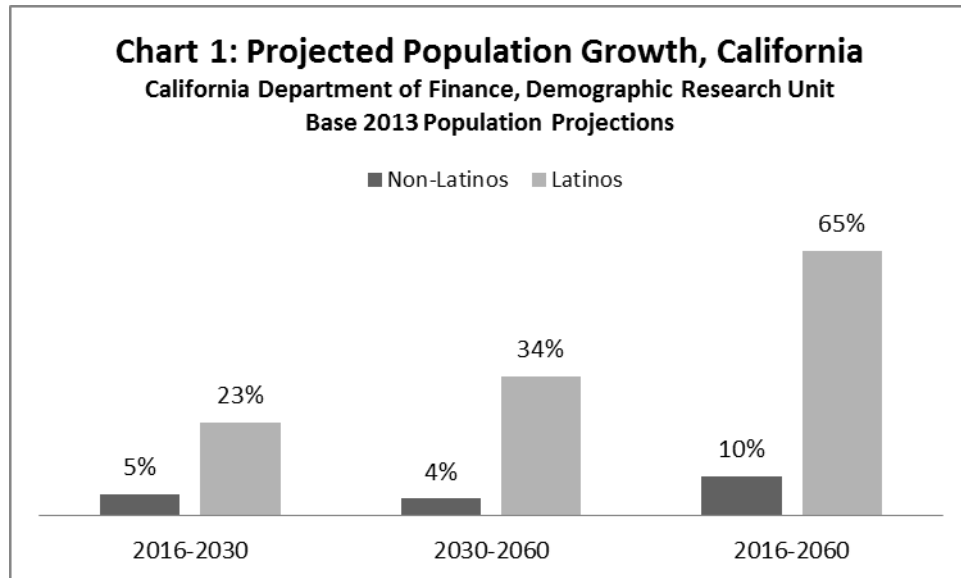
The data appendix contains the following data sets analyzed for this report: ACS population estimates (pooled data for the two five-year periods: 2006–10 and 2010–14), 2014 California Health Interview Survey health data, 2016 CAASP test results, 2014–15 public high school graduation rates, and CalEnviroScreen 3.0. While figures in the report are rounded to the nearest whole number, the data in the appendix is rounded to the nearest tenth.

## **Population Growth and Age Distribution**

The Latino population in California is growing at a much faster rate than the state's non-Latino population. Latinos will make up nearly half of all Californians by 2060.

According to the most recent population estimates from DOF, as of 2015, 39.1 million people lived in the state, including 15.2 million Latinos (39 percent). The department's models project that between 2016 and 2030, the state's general population will increase by 4.8 million, including 3.6 million Latinos. Between 2030 and 2060, the general population is expected to increase by another 7.6 million, including 6.5 million Latinos. It is anticipated Latinos will make up 43 percent of California's population by 2030, increasing to 49 percent by 2060.

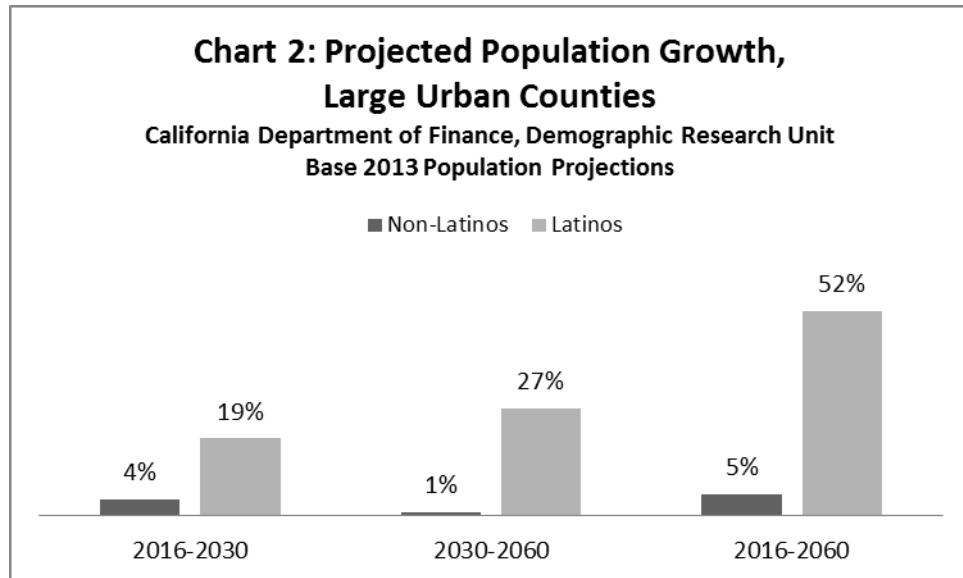
Chart 1 on the next page shows population growth projections for three time spans: 2016 to 2030, 2030 to 2060, and the entire span of 2016 to 2060. As the chart illustrates, from 2016 to 2060 the growth rate of the Latino population (65 percent) is projected to be more than six times the growth rate of the non-Latino population (10 percent).



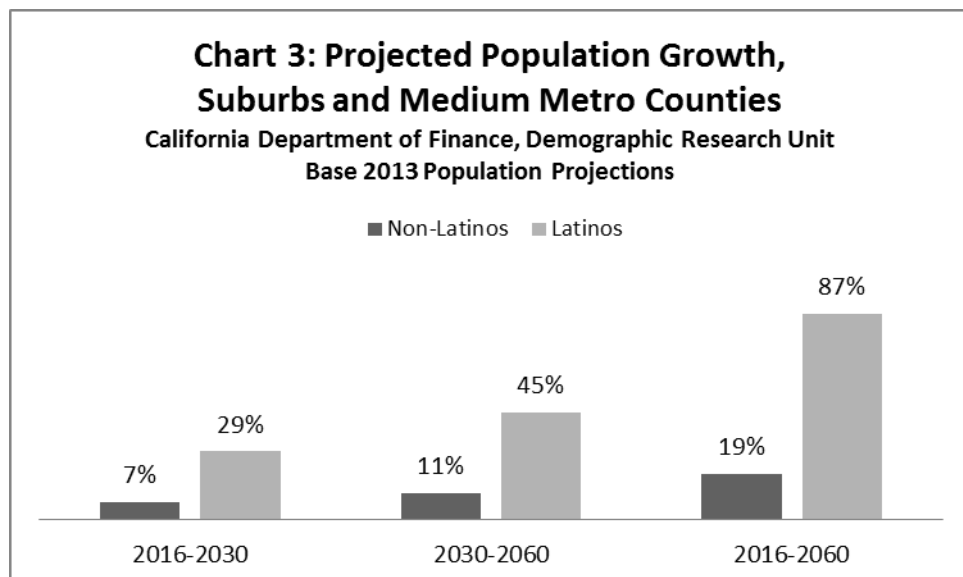
### **Population Growth by County Subgroup**

From 2016 to 2060, small metro and rural counties will experience a higher rate of population growth than other counties, mostly due to growth trends for the Latino population. As discussed in more detail below, the Latino population in small metro and rural counties is expected to more than double by 2060. At the same time, the Latino population is anticipated to increase by 87 percent in suburbs and medium metro counties and increase by 52 percent in large urban counties. Still, by 2060, the overwhelming majority of Latinos will continue to live in more urban areas.

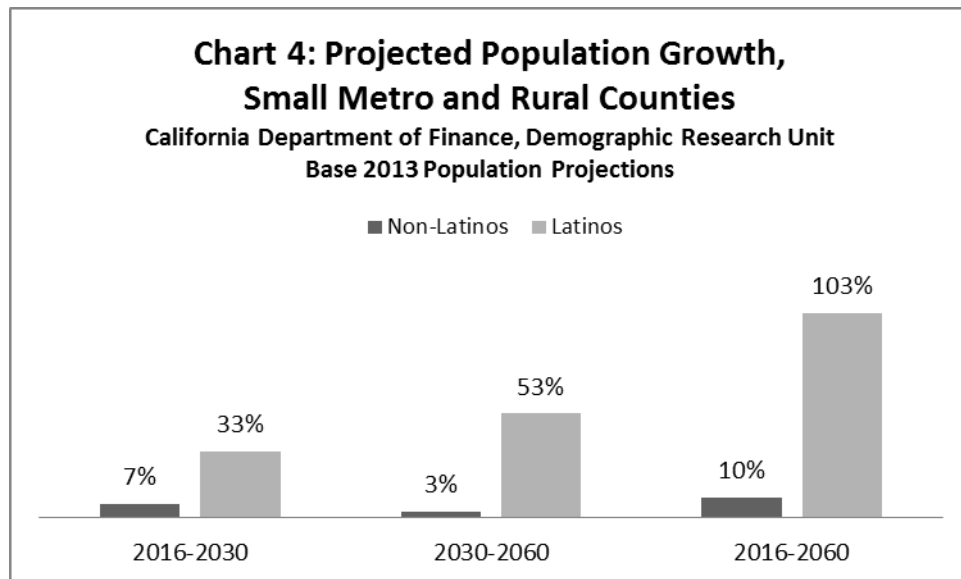
An estimated 24.9 million people lived in large urban counties in 2016, including 9.8 million Latinos (40 percent). As Chart 2 on the next page shows, the Latino population is expected to increase much more rapidly than the non-Latino population in large urban counties. By 2060, the Latino population is expected to be 52 percent larger than it is today, while the non-Latino population is projected to be only 5 percent larger. In 2060, Latinos will make up 48 percent of the population living in large urban counties.



An estimated 12 million people lived in suburbs and medium metro counties in 2016, including 4.9 million Latinos (41 percent). As Chart 3 shows, the Latino population is expected to increase at a substantially faster rate than the non-Latino population in suburbs and medium metro counties. By 2060, the Latino population is expected to be 87 percent larger than it is today, while the non-Latino population is projected to be 19 percent larger. In 2060, Latinos will make up 52 percent of the population in suburbs and medium metro counties.

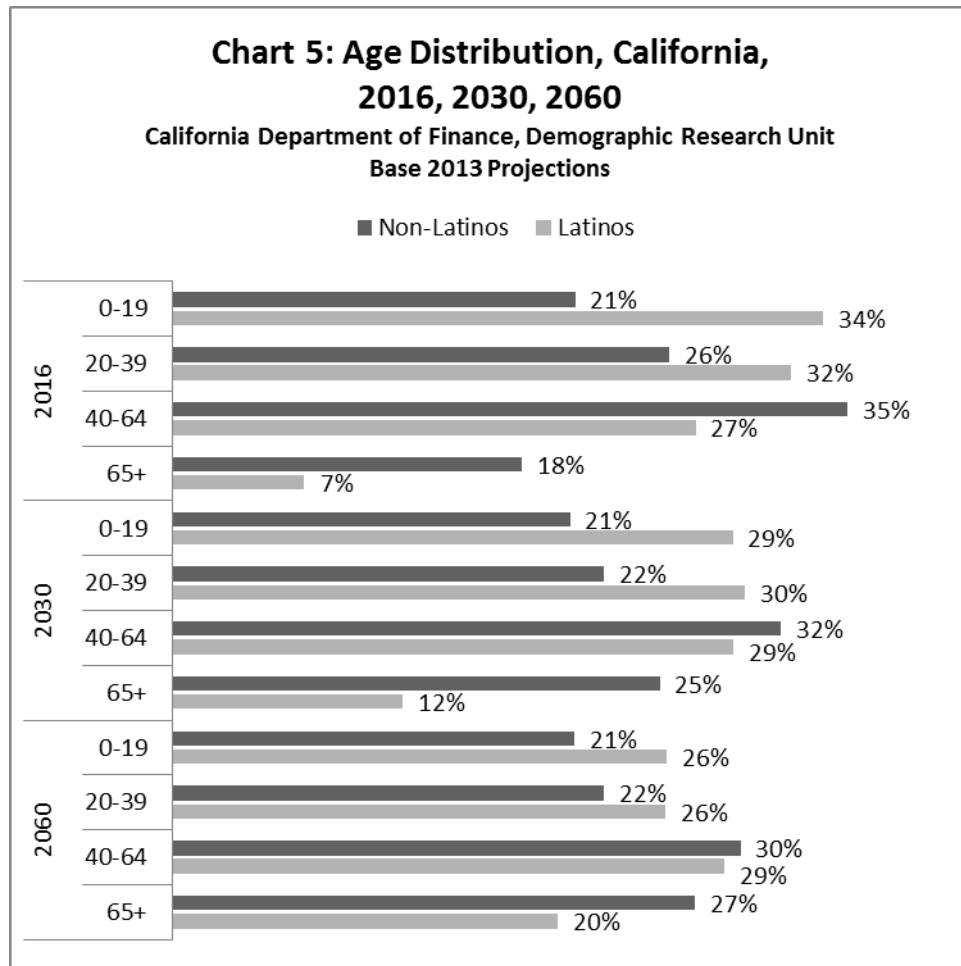


An estimated 2.4 million people lived in small metro and rural counties in 2016, including 787,000 Latinos (33 percent). As Chart 4 shows, the Latino population is expected to increase at a substantially faster rate than the non-Latino population in small metro and rural counties. By 2060, the Latino population is expected to be 103 percent larger than it is today, while the non-Latino population is projected to be 10 percent larger. In 2060, Latinos are projected to make up 48 percent of the population in small metro and rural counties.



### Age Distribution

Chart 5 on the next page shows the population data for 2016, 2030, and 2060 disaggregated by age groups (birth–19, 20–39, 40–64, and 65-plus). The age distribution reveals a few trends. Currently, the state’s Latino population is younger than the non-Latino population. Thirty-four percent of Latinos are younger than 20, while 21 percent of the non-Latino population is younger than 20. Conversely, only 7 percent of the Latino population is older than 64, while 18 percent of the non-Latino population is older than 64.



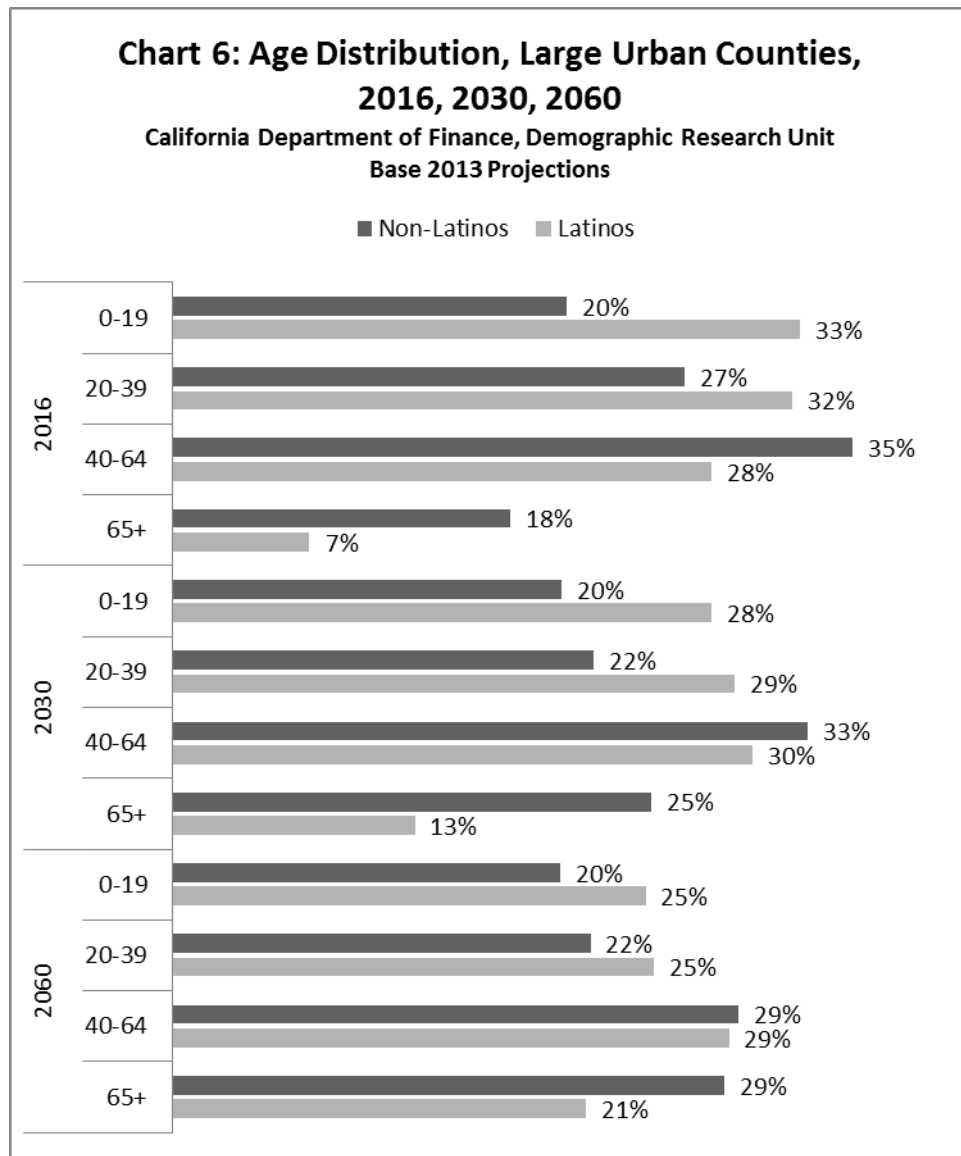
While the Latino population now includes a larger percentage of young people and a smaller percentage of seniors, compared with the non-Latino population, those differences are expected to narrow over time. By 2060, one-quarter of California's non-Latino population and one-fifth of the Latino population will be older than 64. As California's population ages, the larger proportion of seniors in the population will increase the demand for certain public services.

### **Age Distribution by County Subgroup**

A similar trend is evident for the county subgroups (Charts 6, 7, and 8 on pages 22, 23, and 24, respectively). As shown in Chart 6, in large urban counties the proportion of Latinos over age 64 is projected to grow from 7 percent in 2016 to 13 percent in 2030, and increase to 21 percent in 2060. The proportion of seniors in the non-Latino population steadily increases from 18 percent in 2016, to 25 percent in 2030, and 29 percent in 2060.

As shown in Chart 7, in suburbs and medium metro counties the proportion of Latinos older than 64 increases from 6 percent in 2016 to 11 percent in 2030 and 18 percent in 2060. For the non-Latino population, however, the 65-plus subgroup initially increases, from 19 percent in 2016 to 25 percent in 2030, before decreasing to 24 percent in 2060.

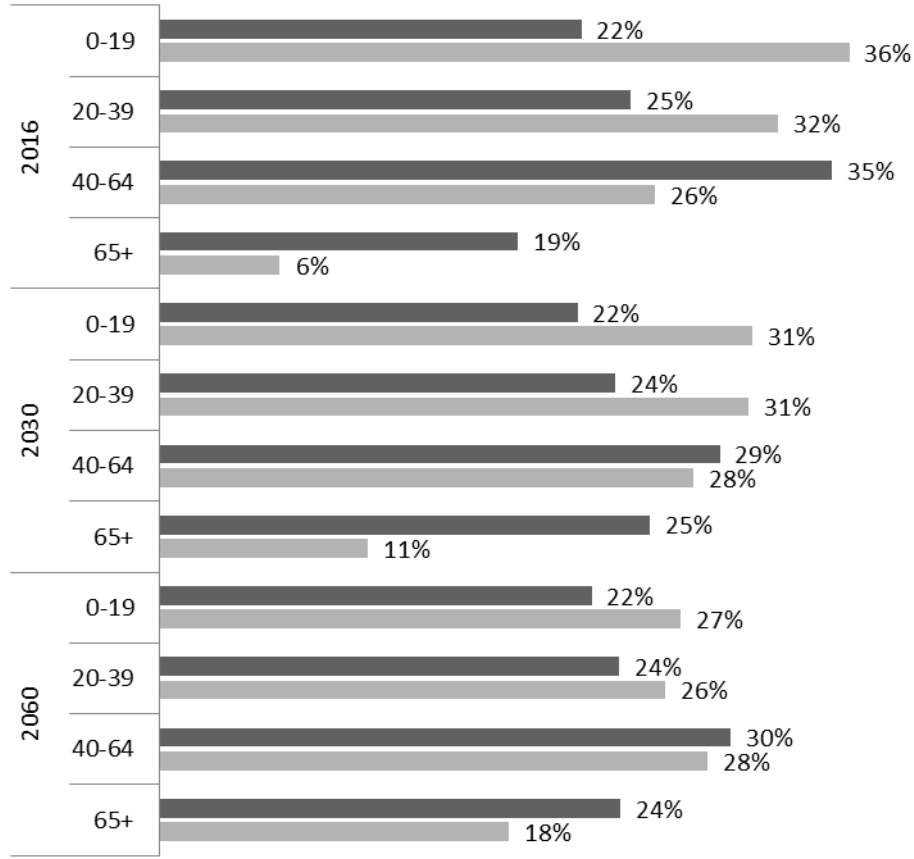
Chart 8 shows that in small metro and rural counties the proportion of Latinos older than 64 increases from 7 percent in 2016 to 11 percent in 2030 and 17 percent in 2060. For the non-Latino population, the 65-plus subgroup increases from 22 percent in 2016 to 29 percent in 2030, and holds steady at 29 percent in 2060.



### Chart 7: Age Distribution, Suburbs and Medium Metro Counties, 2016, 2030, 2060

California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit  
Base 2013 Projections

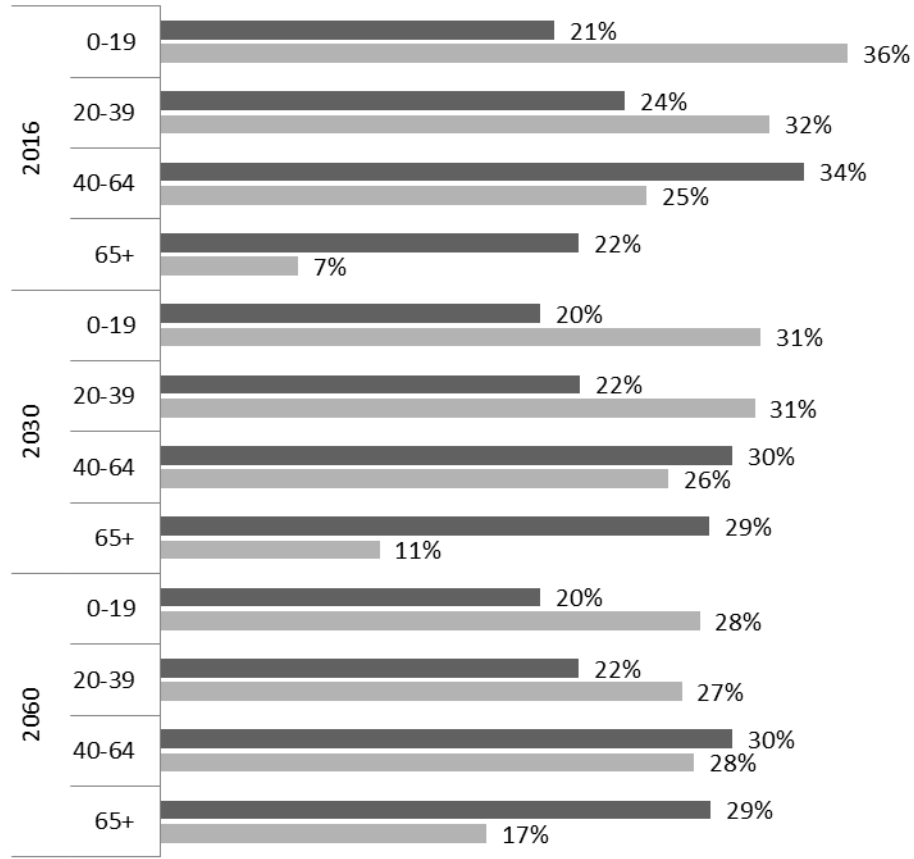
■ Non-Latinos ■ Latinos



# **Chart 8: Age Distribution, Small Metro and Rural Counties, 2016, 2030, 2060**

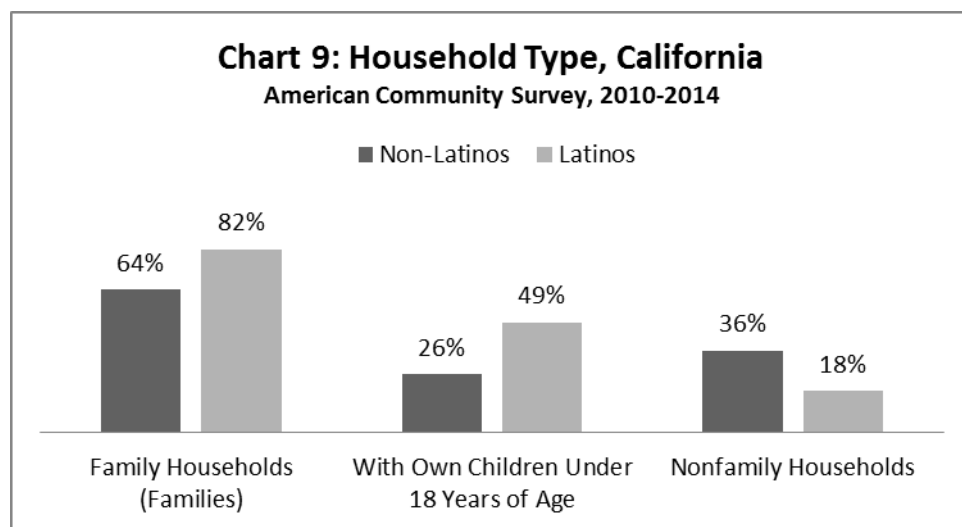
California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit  
Base 2013 Projections

■ Non-Latinos ■ Latinos



## Households and Families

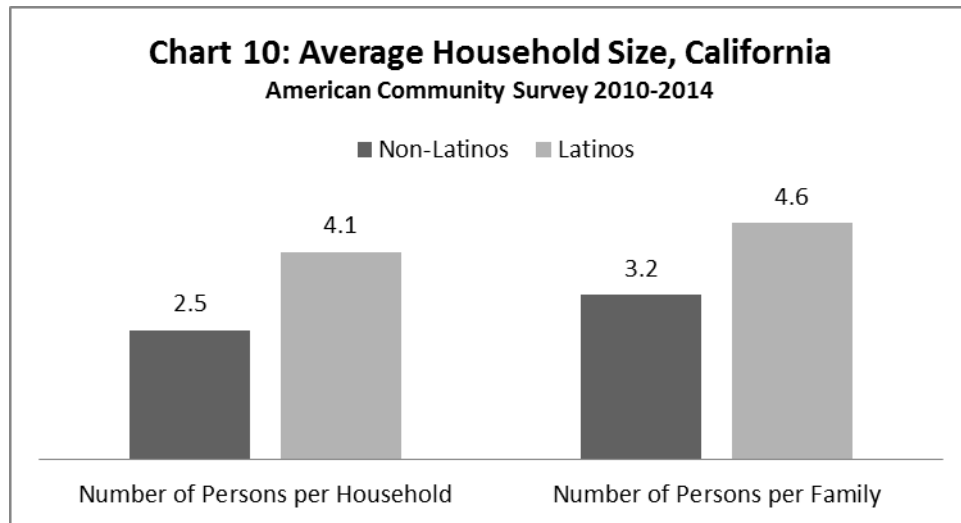
According to the ACS five-year population estimates for 2010–14, Latino households in California tended to be slightly larger and were more likely to contain children and other related family members, compared with non-Latino households. Of the 12.6 million households in the state, 3.5 million were Latino households and 9.1 million were non-Latino households. As Chart 9 shows, 64 percent of non-Latino households were family households, while 82 percent of Latino households were family households. In addition, 26 percent of non-Latino households contained children, compared with 49 percent of Latino households.<sup>11</sup>



As Chart 10 on the next page indicates, the average non-Latino household contained 2.5 people, and the average non-Latino family contained 3.2 people. In contrast, the average Latino household contained 4.1 people, and the average Latino family contained 4.6 people.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>11</sup> This is slightly lower compared with 2006–10, when 52 percent of Latino households contained children.

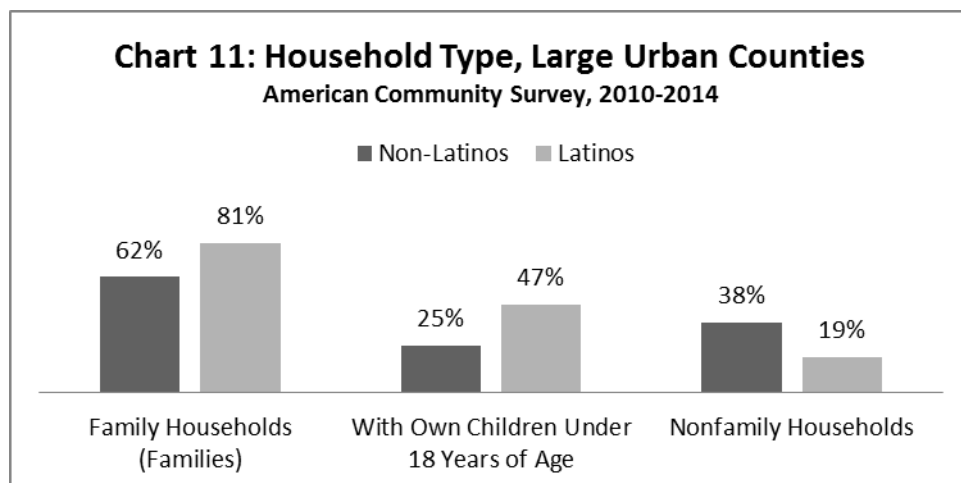
<sup>12</sup> These numbers are higher compared with 2006–10, when the average Latino household and family contained 3.9 people and 4.4 people, respectively. Data for the three county subgroups show a similar pattern between these two periods.



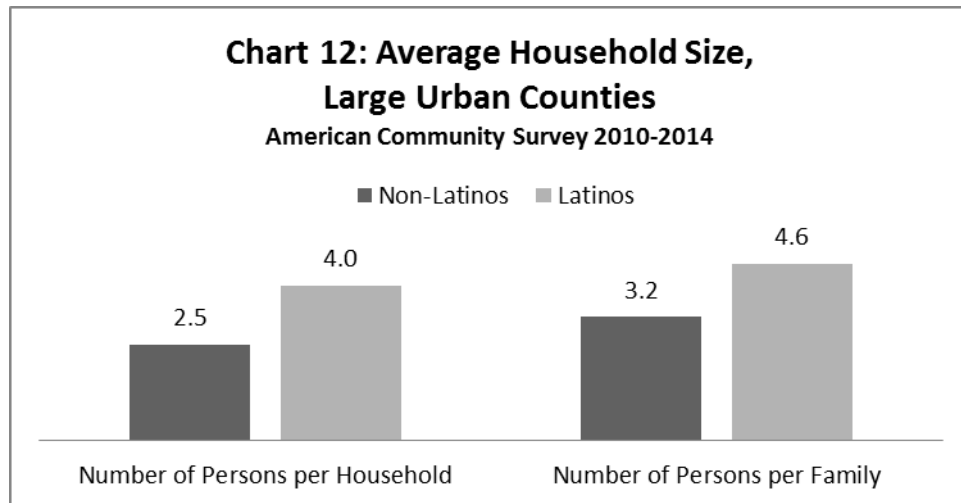
Latino families and households were, on average, larger than non-Latino families and households in each of the three county subgroups.

### **Large Urban Counties**

From 2010 to 2014, there were 8.1 million households in large urban counties, including more than 2.3 million Latino households. As Chart 11 shows, 62 percent of non-Latino households in these counties were family households, compared with 81 percent of Latino households. In addition, 25 percent of non-Latino households in these counties contained children, compared with 47 percent of Latino households.

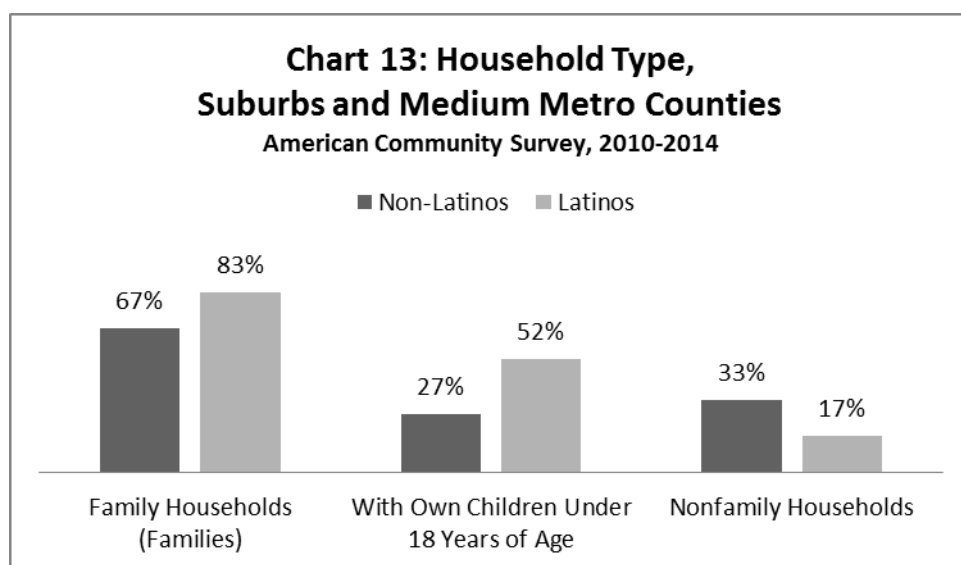


As shown in Chart 12, from 2010 to 2014 the average non-Latino household in large urban counties contained 2.5 people, and the average non-Latino family contained 3.2 people. The average Latino household in these counties contained 4.0 people, and the average Latino family contained 4.6 people.

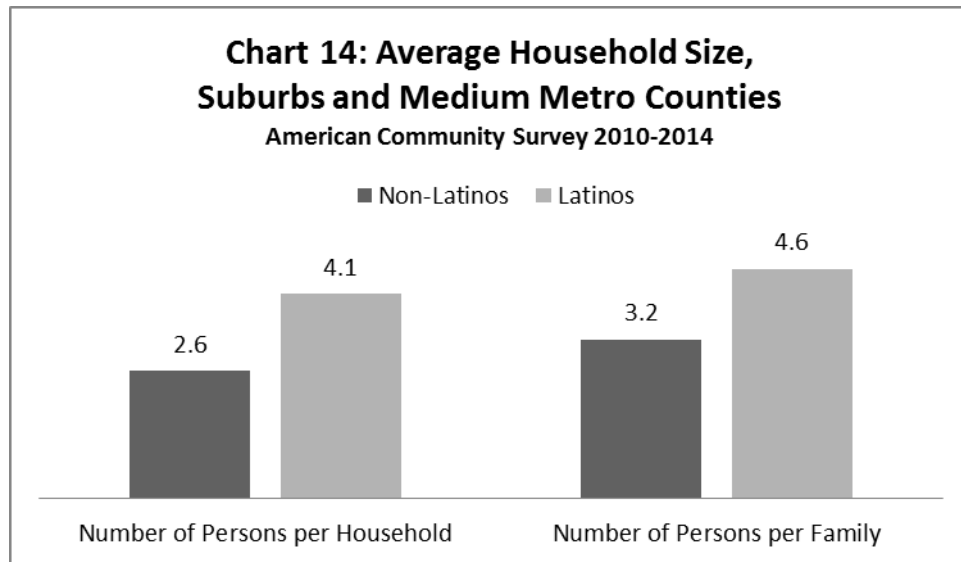


### **Suburbs and Medium Metro Counties**

From 2010 to 2014, there were 3.8 million households in suburbs and medium metro counties, including 1.1 million Latino households. As Chart 13 shows, 67 percent of the non-Latino households in these counties were family households, compared with 83 percent of Latino households. In addition, 27 percent of the non-Latino households in these counties contained children, compared with 52 percent of Latino households.

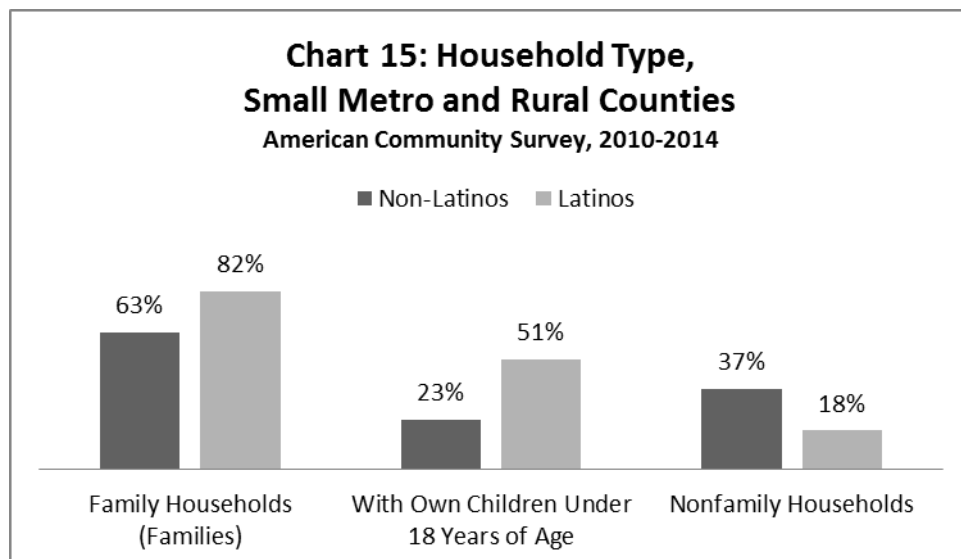


As Chart 14 indicates, the average non-Latino household in suburbs and medium metro counties contained 2.6 people, and the average non-Latino family contained 3.2 people. The average Latino household in these counties contained 4.1 people, and the average Latino family contained 4.6 people.

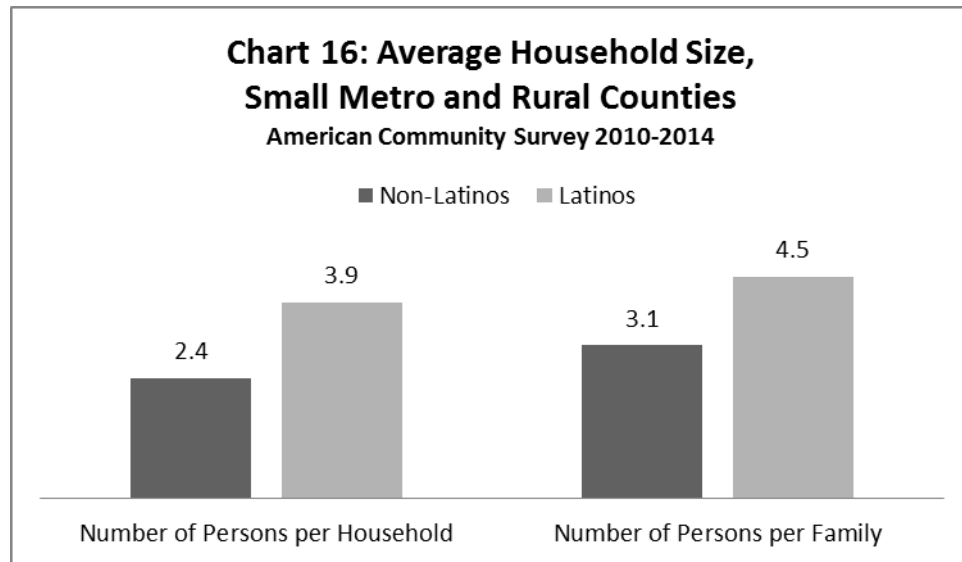


### **Small Metro and Rural Counties**

From 2010 to 2014, there were 795,000 households in small metro and rural counties, including 178,000 Latino households. As Chart 15 shows, 63 percent of the non-Latino households in these counties were family households, compared with 82 percent of Latino households. In addition, 23 percent of the non-Latino households in these counties contained children, compared with 51 percent of Latino households. Finally, 37 percent of non-Latino households were nonfamily households, compared with 18 percent of Latino households.



As Chart 16 indicates, the average non-Latino household in small metro and rural counties contained 2.4 people, and the average non-Latino family contained 3.1 people. The average Latino household in these counties contained 3.9 people, and the average Latino family contained 4.5 people.

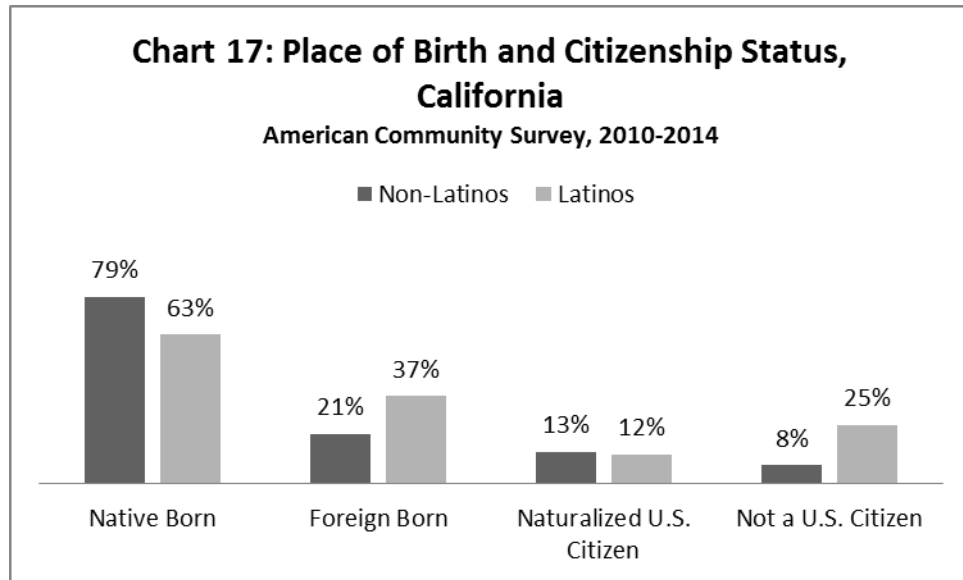


## Place of Birth and Citizenship Status

According to the ACS five-year population estimates for 2010–14, Latinos were more likely than non-Latinos to be foreign-born, and foreign-born Latinos were less likely than other foreign-born persons to be U.S. citizens. The foreign-born made up 21 percent of the non-Latino population and 37 percent of Latinos.<sup>13</sup> This data is illustrated in Chart 17 on the next page. The category of noncitizens includes those who were undocumented, as well as those lawfully present in the United States but who were not U.S. citizens—for example, people living in the United States with a visa or green card.

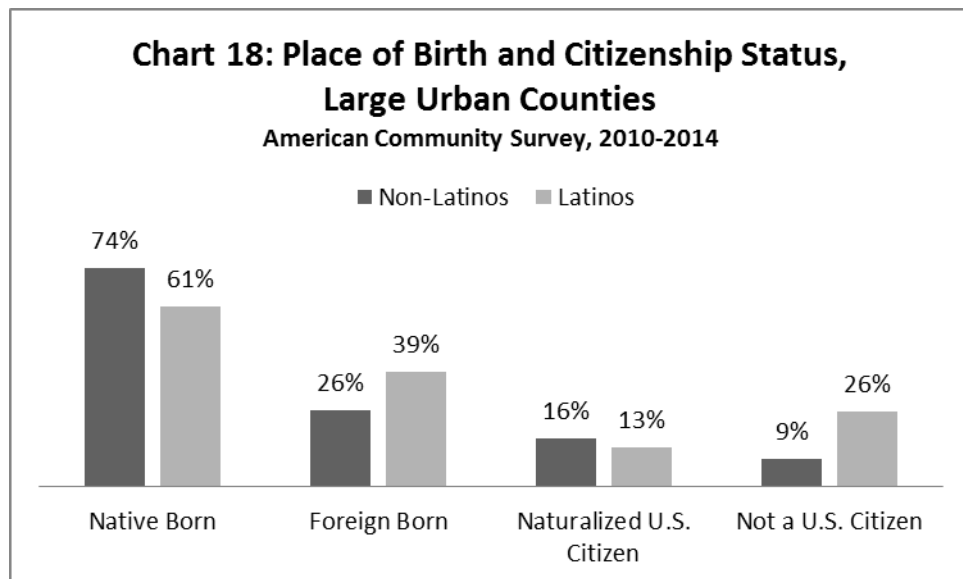
Among the Latino subgroups, the percentage of Mexicans and other Latinos who were foreign-born (approximately 35 percent) was much less than that of Salvadorans and Guatemalans (approximately 60 percent). These patterns in the data are fairly consistent for Latinos in large urban counties and suburbs and medium metro counties. When comparing Latinos to the rest of the population, the largest discrepancy for citizenship status and place of birth exists in small metro and rural counties.

<sup>13</sup> The 2010–14 statewide data for Latinos shows a larger percentage of native-born Latinos and a smaller percentage of foreign-born Latinos, compared with the 2006–10 data (60 percent native-born Latinos and 40 percent foreign born). A similar pattern is seen in the three county subgroups.



### Large Urban Counties

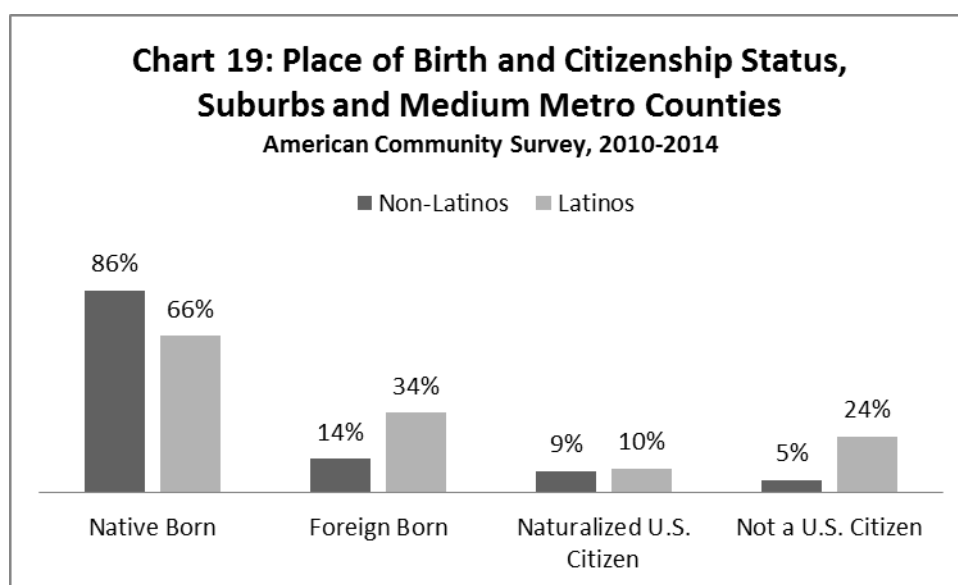
From 2010 to 2014, 39 percent of Latinos in large urban counties were foreign-born, while the foreign-born made up 26 percent of the non-Latino population in these counties. This data is illustrated in Chart 18. Both percentages are slightly higher than the statewide data.



Foreign-born Latinos in these counties, as well as the foreign-born non-Latino population, were noncitizens at rates slightly higher than in the statewide data.

### **Suburbs and Medium Metro Counties**

From 2010 to 2014, 34 percent of Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties were foreign-born, while the foreign-born made up 14 percent of the non-Latino population in these counties. This data is illustrated in Chart 19. Both percentages are somewhat lower than the statewide data.



Foreign-born Latinos in these counties, as well as the foreign-born in the non-Latino population, were noncitizens at rates slightly lower than in statewide data.

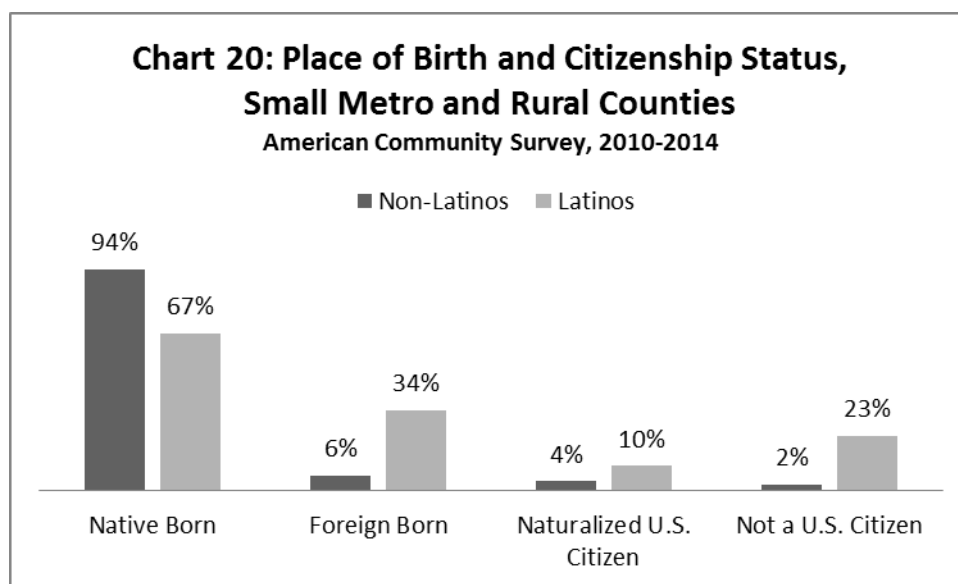
### **Small Metro and Rural Counties**

From 2010 to 2014, 34 percent of Latinos in small metro and rural counties were foreign-born, while the foreign-born made up only 6 percent of the non-Latino population in these counties. While the percentage of foreign born Latinos is comparable to statewide trends, the percentage of foreign-born in the non-Latino population in these counties is substantially lower—almost 15 percentage points lower—than the non-Latino population numbers statewide.

Following statewide trends, foreign-born Latinos in these counties were noncitizens at higher rates than the rest of the foreign-born population of these counties. While 23 percent of the foreign-born Latinos were noncitizens, only 2 percent of foreign-born non-Latinos were noncitizens.

While naturalization rates for Latinos and non-Latinos are relatively equal in the figures for the state, large urban counties, and suburbs and medium metro counties,

foreign-born Latinos in small metro and rural counties were more likely to be naturalized U.S. citizens—10 percent—than the non-Latino foreign born population—4 percent. This is mostly a function of there being fewer foreign born non-Latinos in these counties. This data is illustrated in Chart 20.

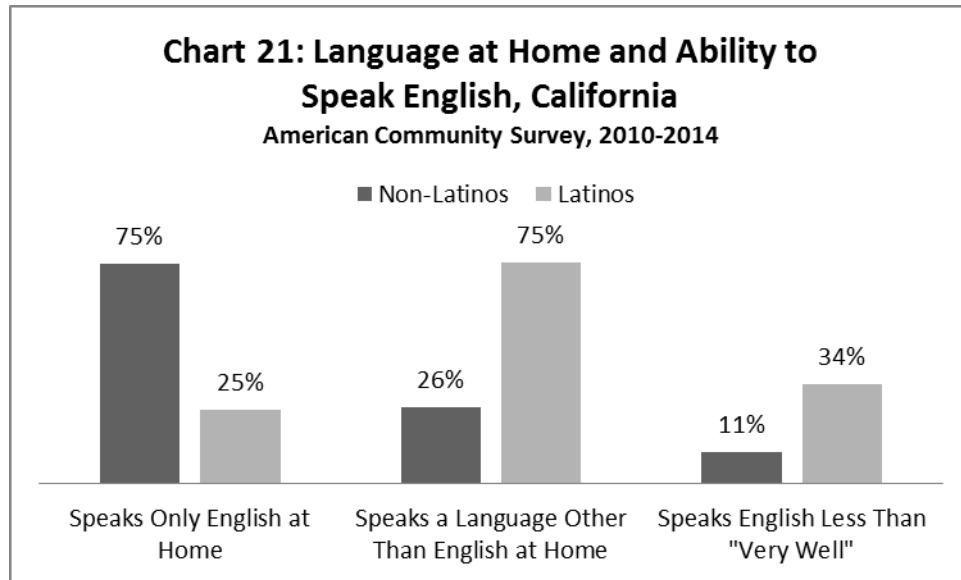


## Home Language and English Proficiency Level

This section addresses the home language and English proficiency level of Californians age 5 and older.

According to the ACS five-year population estimates for 2010–14, Latinos were more likely than non-Latinos to speak a language other than English at home, and were more likely to self-identify as speaking English less than “very well.” For example, 75 percent of Latinos spoke a language other than English at home, compared with 26 percent of the non-Latino population. Thirty-four percent of Latinos self-identified as speaking English less than “very well,” compared with 11 percent of the non-Latino population. This data is illustrated in Chart 21 on the next page.<sup>14</sup>

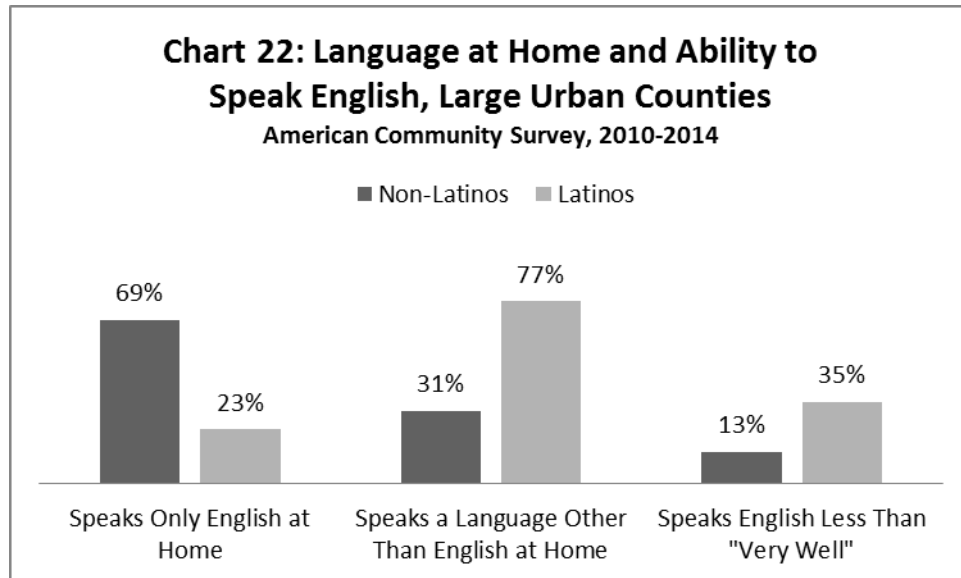
<sup>14</sup> In 2006–10, the percentages for Latinos statewide were as follows: Latinos who speak a language other than English at home (77 percent), Latinos who speak English less than very well (38 percent).



These patterns are fairly consistent in large urban counties and suburbs and medium metro counties, but are most pronounced in small metro and rural counties.

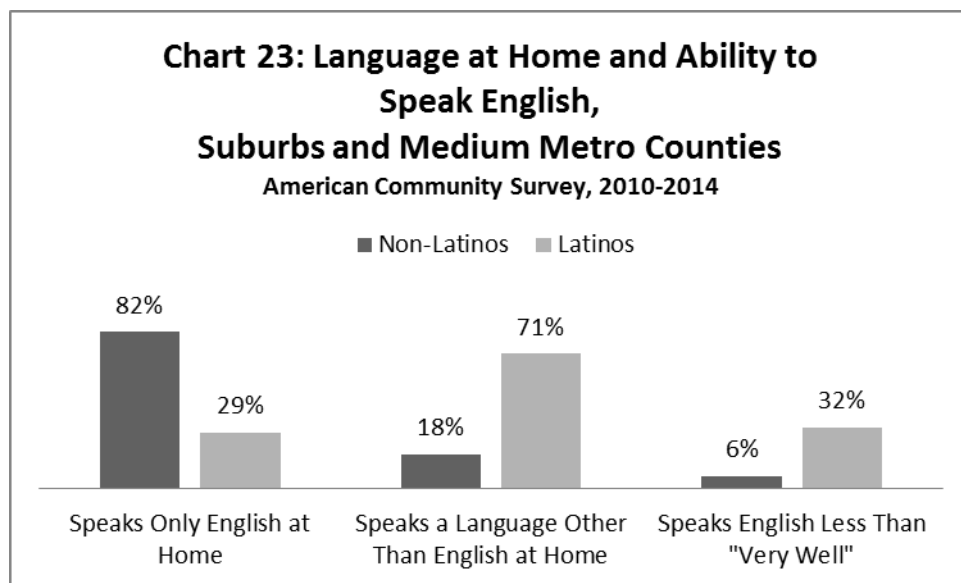
### **Large Urban Counties**

From 2010 to 2014, 77 percent of Latinos in large urban counties spoke a language other than English at home, while 31 percent of the non-Latino population in these counties spoke a language other than English at home. Thirty-five percent of Latinos self-identified as speaking English less than “very well,” compared with 13 percent of the non-Latino population. This data is illustrated in Chart 22 on the next page. These figures are comparable to, but slightly higher than, the statewide figures for both groups.



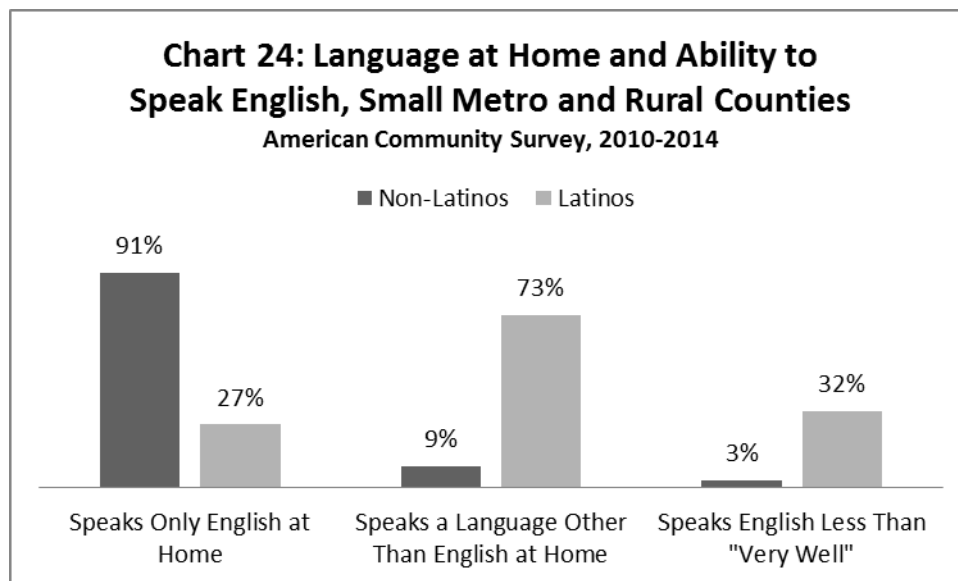
### Suburbs and Medium Metro Counties

From 2010 to 2014, 71 percent of Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties spoke a language other than English at home, while 18 percent of the non-Latino population in these counties spoke a language other than English at home. Also, 32 percent of Latinos self-identified as speaking English less than “very well,” compared with 6 percent of non-Latinos. This data is illustrated in Chart 23. These figures are comparable with, but slightly lower than, the statewide figures for both groups.



## Small Metro and Rural Counties

From 2010 to 2014, 73 percent of Latinos in small metro and rural counties spoke a language other than English at home, while 9 percent of non-Latinos in these counties spoke a language other than English at home. In addition, 32 percent of Latinos self-identified as speaking English less than “very well,” compared with 3 percent of the non-Latino population. This data is illustrated in Chart 24.



## **Income and Poverty**

According to the ACS five-year population estimates for 2010–14, Latinos tended to earn less than non-Latinos and were underrepresented among higher income brackets, overrepresented at lower income brackets, and more likely to live in poverty.

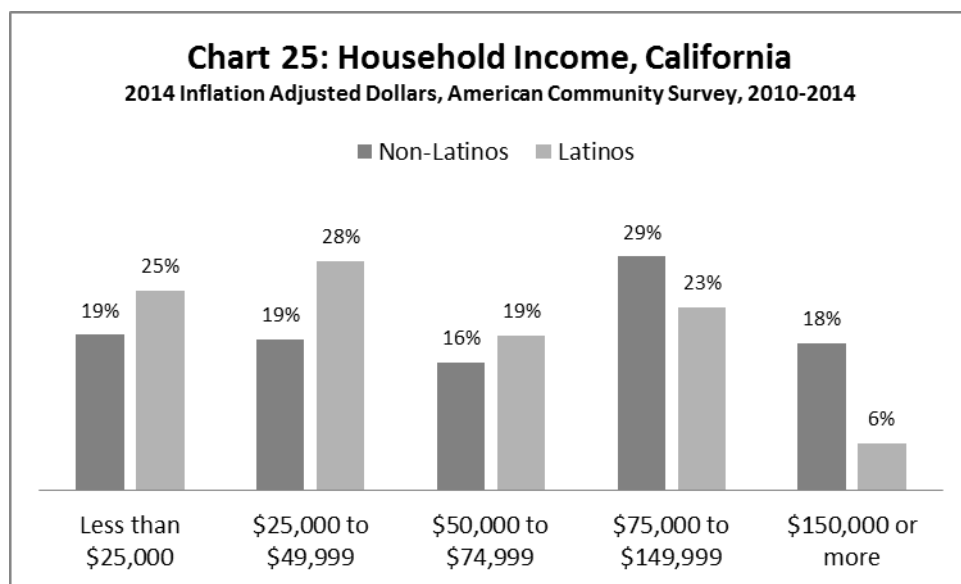
Latinos had a median household income of \$47,200, compared with a median household income of \$69,606 for non-Latinos.<sup>15</sup> Similarly, Latinos households earned an average of \$60,537 from salaries, wages, and self-employment, compared with \$98,769 for non-Latinos.

<sup>15</sup> Median household income is the “middle” income level at which 50 percent of households have higher incomes and 50 percent of households have lower incomes. Median household income may be a better indicator than average household income, since the average may be affected by very high and low values. Median household income includes income in the past 12 months from wages or salaries; self-employment; interest, dividends, or rental property; Social Security; retirement; public assistance; and food stamp benefits.

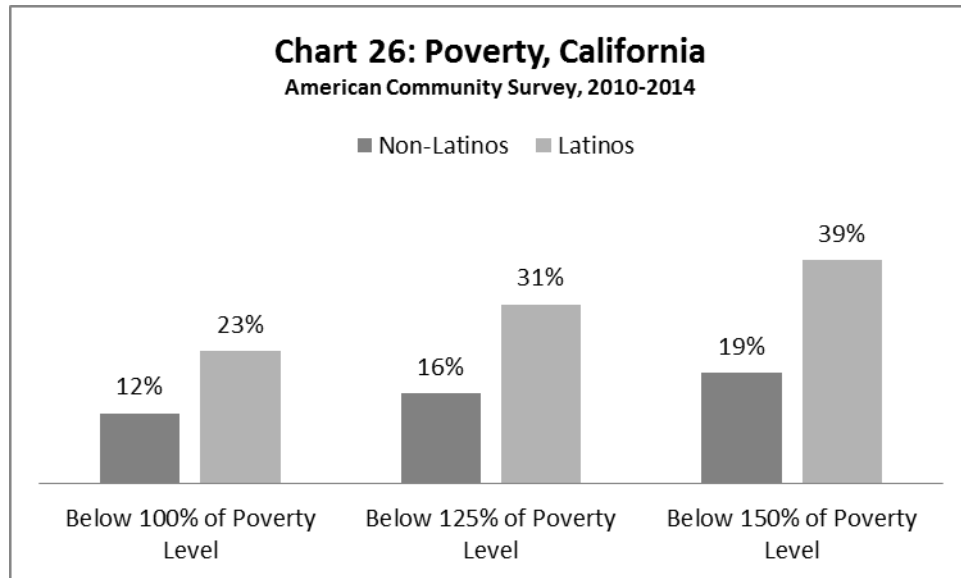
The substantially lower average income from salaries, wages and self-employment for Latinos relative to non-Latinos reflects the underrepresentation of Latinos in upper income brackets. For example, 18 percent of non-Latinos had a household income of \$150,000 or more, compared with only 6 percent of Latino households.

Although Latinos were underrepresented in upper income brackets, they were overrepresented in lower income brackets and were more likely to live in poverty than non-Latinos. Twelve percent of non-Latinos lived in poverty from 2010 to 2014, while 23 percent of Latinos lived in poverty during that period.<sup>16</sup> Also notable, data for the Latino subgroups shows that Guatemalans were slightly more likely to live in poverty (26 percent) than Mexicans (24 percent) and Salvadorans (21 percent).

Chart 25 provides an overview of the percentage of non-Latinos and Latinos whose household income fell in the income categories specified in the chart. Chart 26 on the next page provides data on poverty rates and related income categories.



<sup>16</sup> The poverty rates for 2010–14 are slightly higher than the 2006–10 rates: 10 percent for non-Latinos and 20 percent for Latinos. A similar pattern is seen in the three county subgroups.

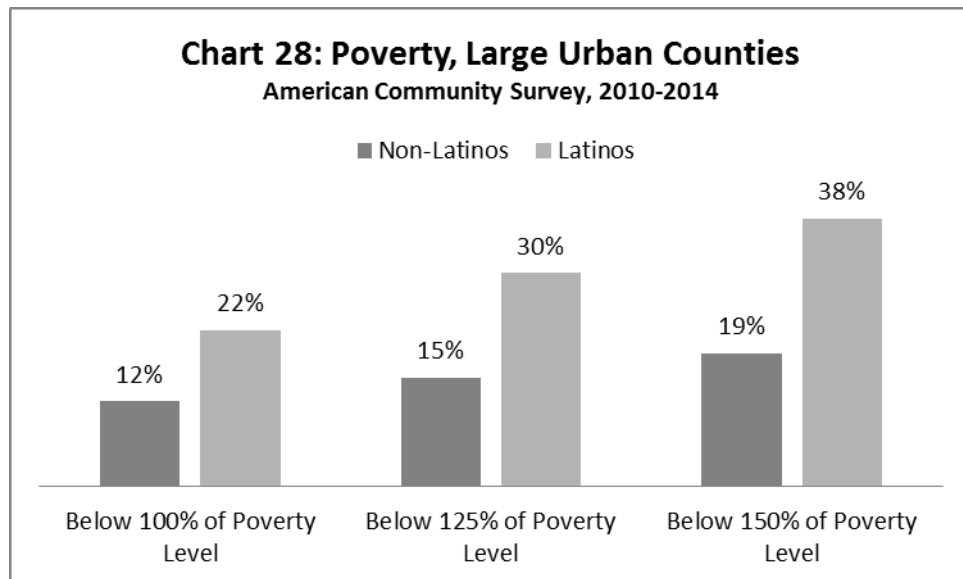
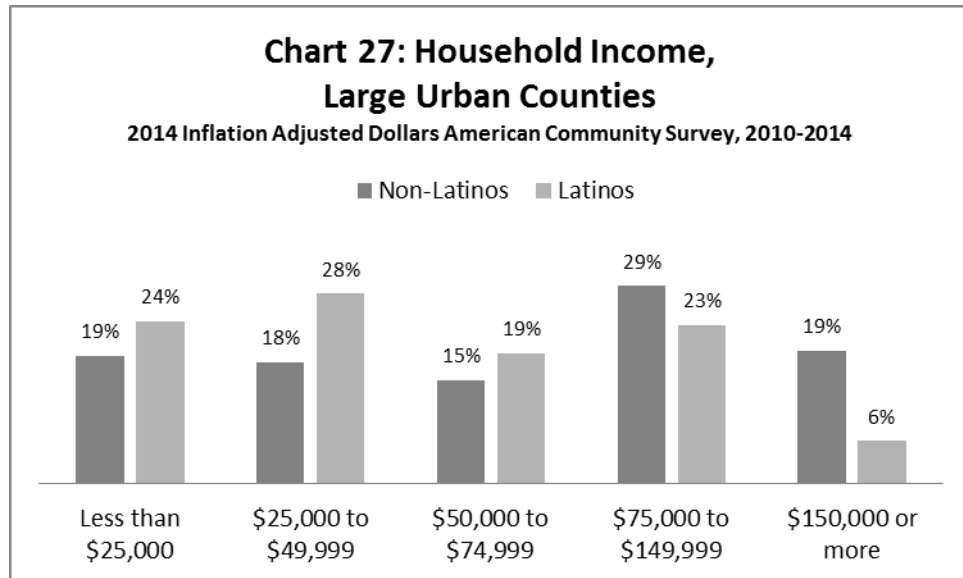


These patterns in the data are consistent for Latinos in large urban counties, suburbs and medium metro counties, and small metro and rural counties.

### **Large Urban Counties**

From 2010 to 2014, Latinos in large urban counties had a median household income of \$48,373, compared with a median household income of \$72,146 for the non-Latino population. Similarly, Latinos in these counties had an average household income of \$62,277 from salaries, wages and self-employment, compared with an average of \$102,810 for the non-Latino population.

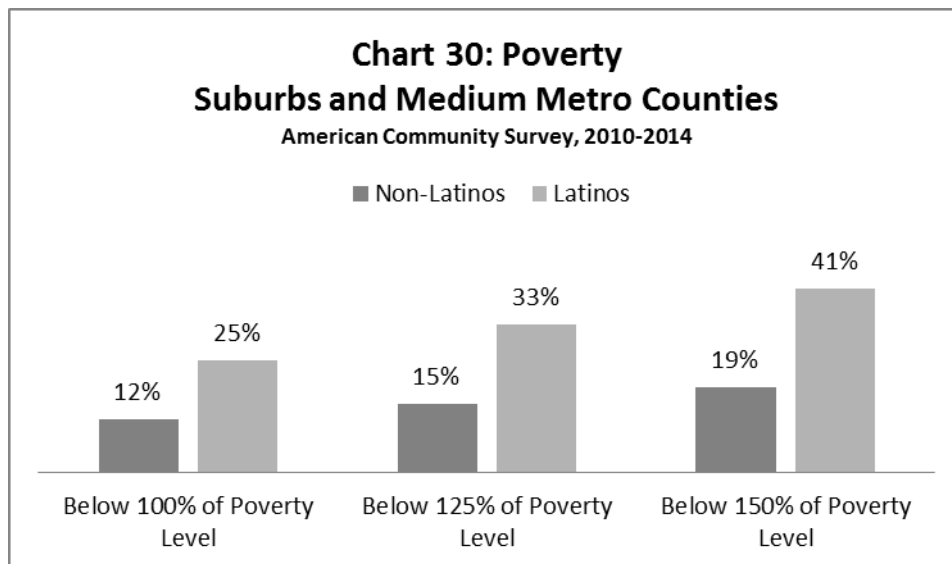
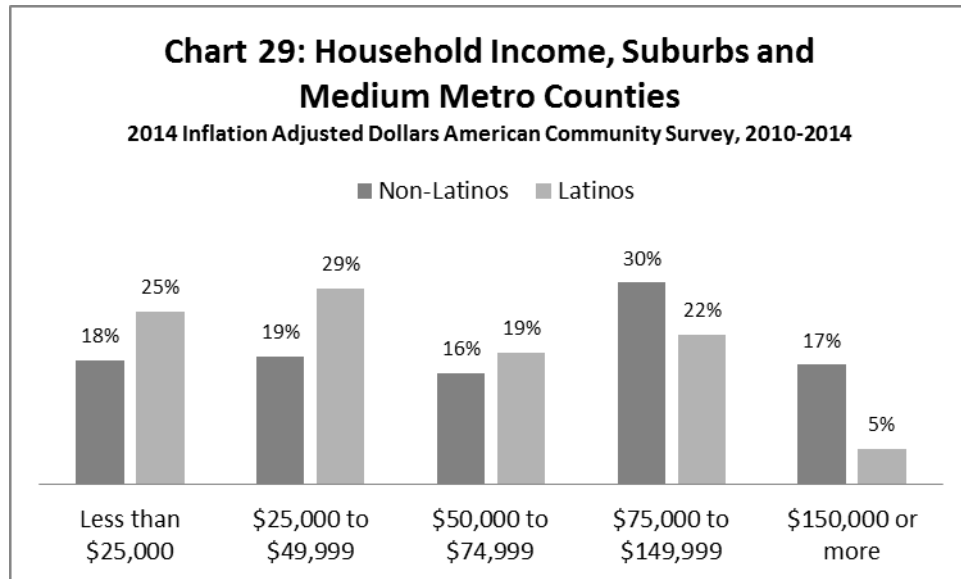
Overall, Latinos in these counties tended to earn less than the non-Latino population and were underrepresented among higher income brackets, overrepresented at lower income brackets, and more likely to live in poverty. Charts 27 and 28 on the next page illustrate these patterns. Chart 27 provides an overview of the percentage of Latinos and non-Latinos in large urban counties whose household income fell into the specified income categories. Chart 28 provides data on poverty rates and related income categories for both populations in these counties.



### **Suburbs and Medium Metro Counties**

From 2010 to 2014 Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties had a median household income of \$46,097, compared with a median household income of \$70,137 for the non-Latino population. Similarly, Latinos in these counties had an average household income from salaries, wages and self-employment of \$58,468, compared with an average of \$96,405 for the non-Latino population.

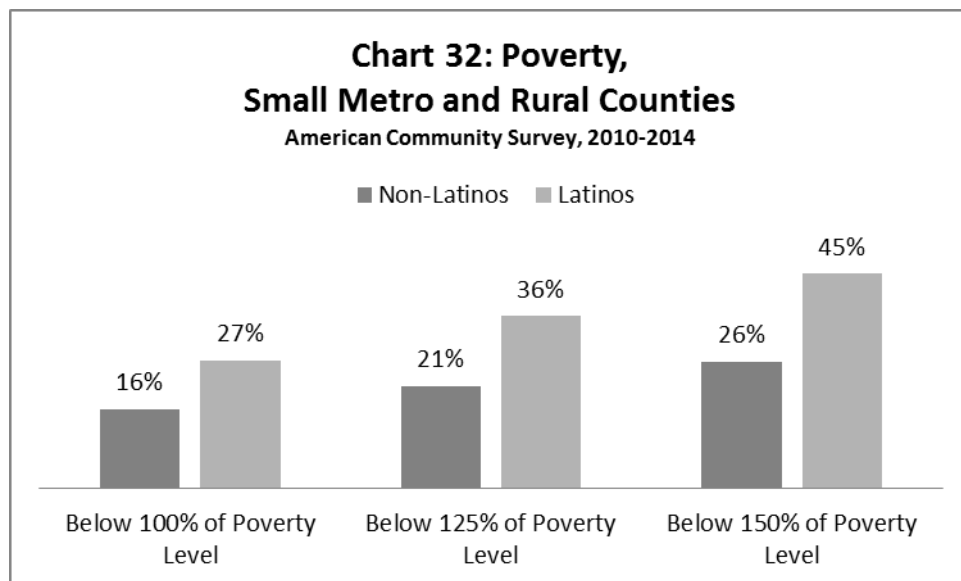
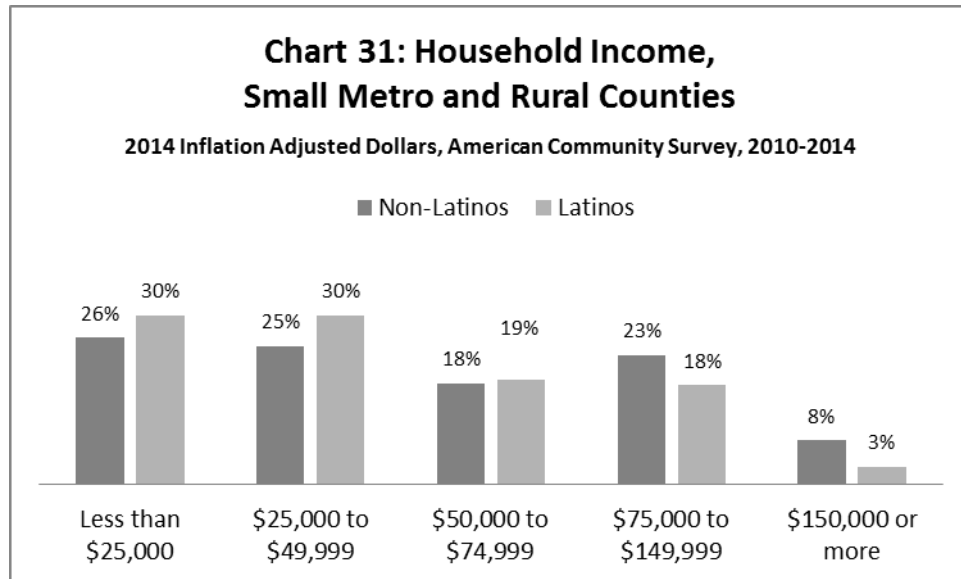
Overall, Latinos in these counties tended to earn less than non-Latinos and were underrepresented among higher income brackets, overrepresented at lower income brackets, and more likely to live in poverty. Charts 29 and 30 illustrate these patterns.



### **Small Metro and Rural Counties**

From 2010 to 2014, Latinos in small metro and rural counties had a median household income of \$39,840, compared with a median household income of \$48,897 for the non-Latino population. Similarly, Latinos in these counties had an average household income from salaries, wages, and self-employment of \$50,488, compared with an average of \$66,769 for non-Latinos.

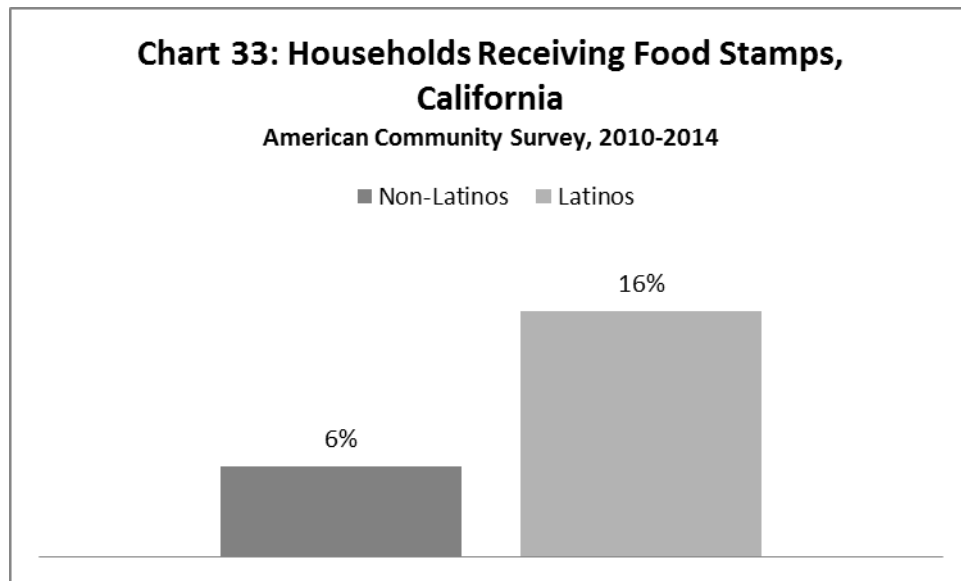
Overall, Latinos in these counties tended to earn less than non-Latinos and were underrepresented among higher income brackets, overrepresented at lower income brackets, and more likely to live in poverty. Charts 31 and 32 illustrate these patterns.



## Receipt of Public Assistance

As discussed earlier in this report, from 2010 to 2014, Latinos tended to have higher rates of poverty than non-Latinos. During that period, Latinos also tended to receive food stamps and cash assistance at higher rates, according to the ACS five-year population estimates for 2010–14.

CalFresh is California's food stamp program; at the federal level, the food stamp program is SNAP. As shown in Chart 33, 6 percent of the state's non-Latino households received food stamps, compared with 16 percent of California's Latino households.<sup>17</sup> Both non-Latinos and Latinos tended to have larger food-stamp usage rates in small metro and rural counties than in more urban counties.

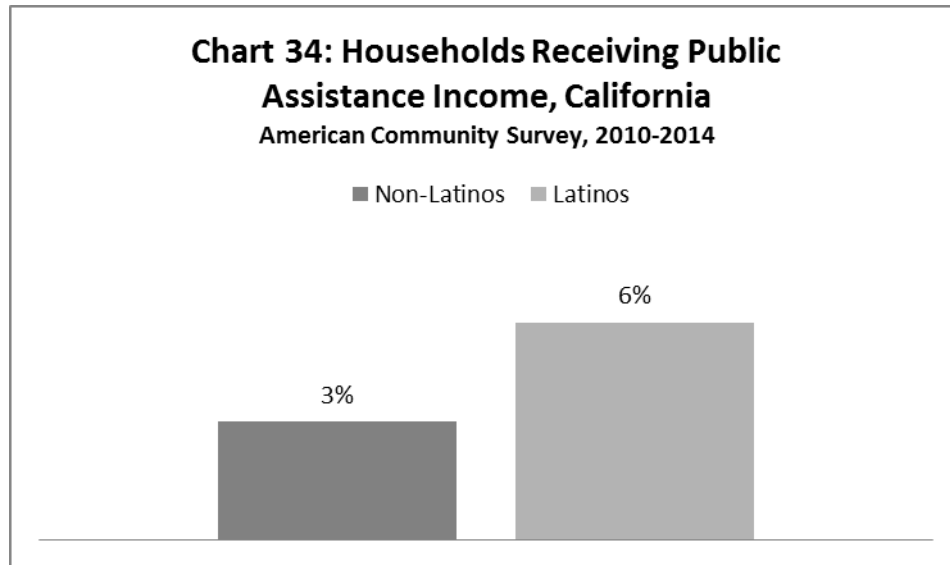


From 2010 to 2014, patterns of public assistance receipt were consistent with patterns of food stamp assistance. In California, public assistance is provided through the county General Assistance program and the state CalWORKs program. CalWORKs operates under the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

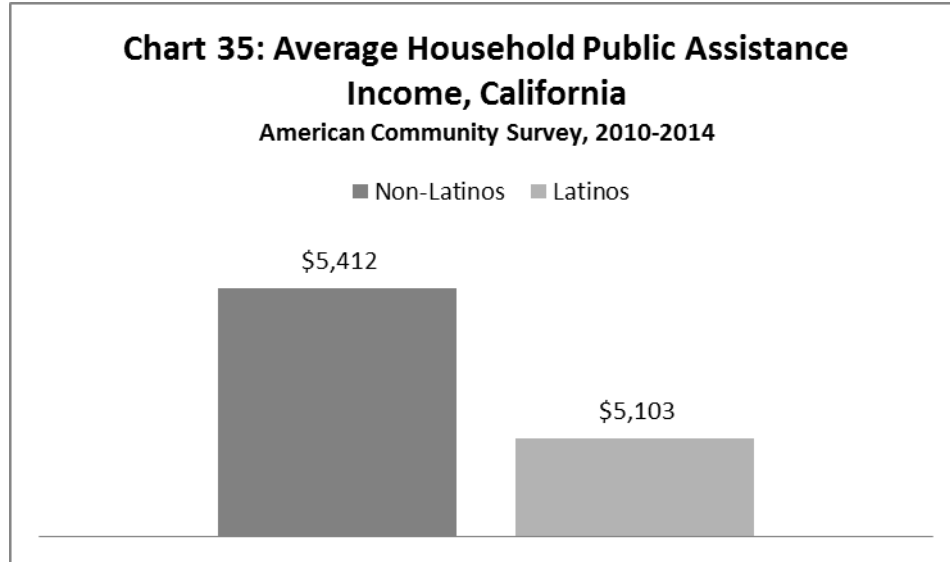
As Chart 34 on the next page shows, Latino households had a slightly higher rate of public assistance receipt (6 percent) than non-Latino households (3 percent). Rates of public assistance receipt for both populations were the highest in small and rural counties, likely because income tends to fall as one moves away from the city and into more rural areas, where poverty rates typically are higher.

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<sup>17</sup> In 2006–10, a lower percentage (10 percent) of Latino households statewide received food stamps. A similar pattern is seen in the three county subgroups. In contrast, there is little difference in the percentage of Latinos who received public assistance income in 2006–10 and 2010–14.



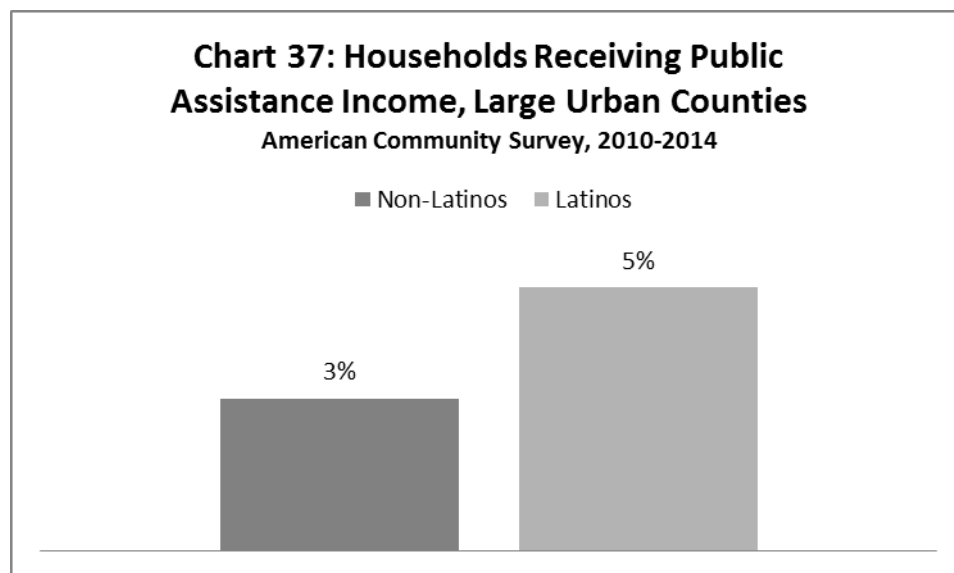
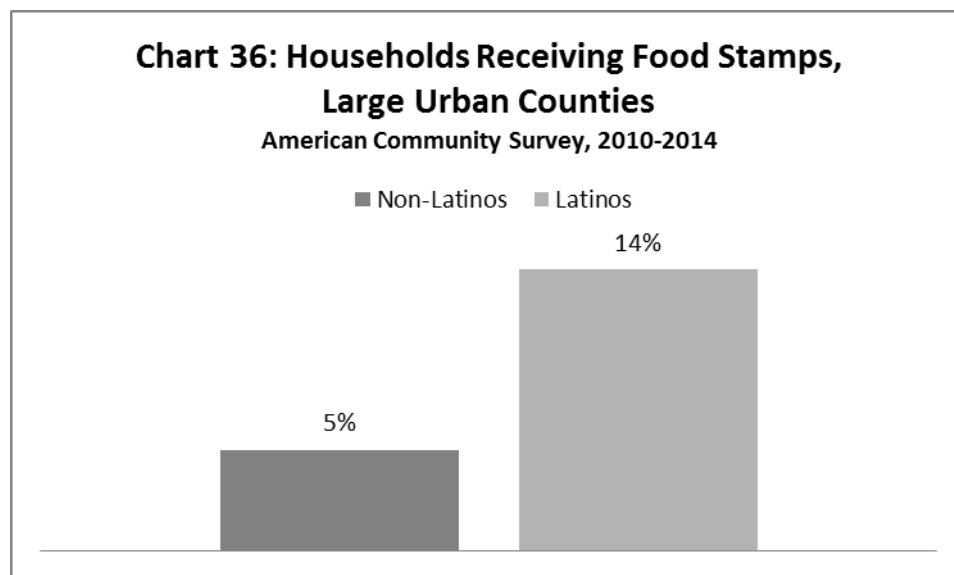
While Latinos received public assistance at slightly higher rates than non-Latinos, they also tended to receive lower average amounts of benefits. As Chart 35 indicates, non-Latino households received an average of \$309 more in annual benefits than Latino households in California. Latinos received higher average amounts of benefits than non-Latinos only in small metro and rural counties.

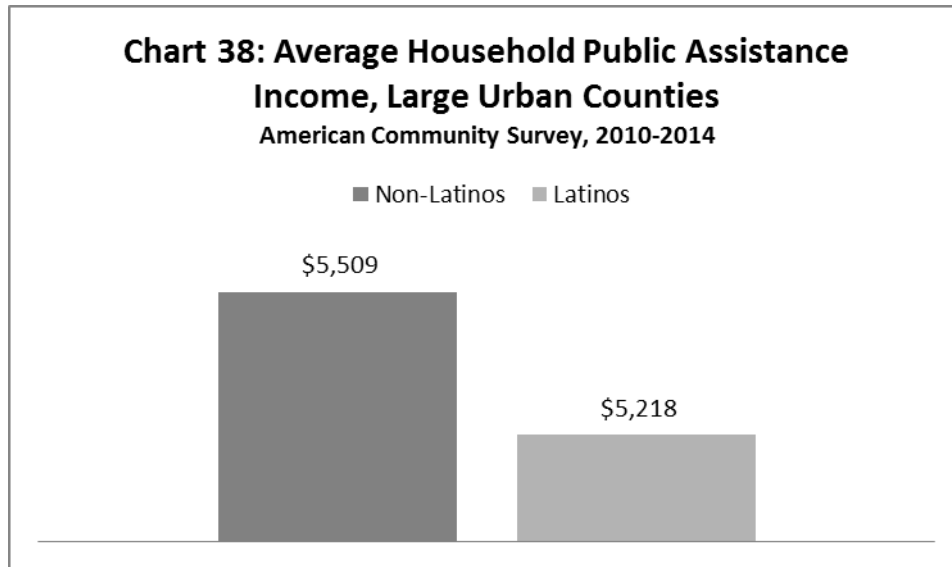


## Large Urban Counties

In large urban counties, 5 percent of non-Latino households received food stamps, compared with 14 percent of Latino households, as shown in Chart 36.

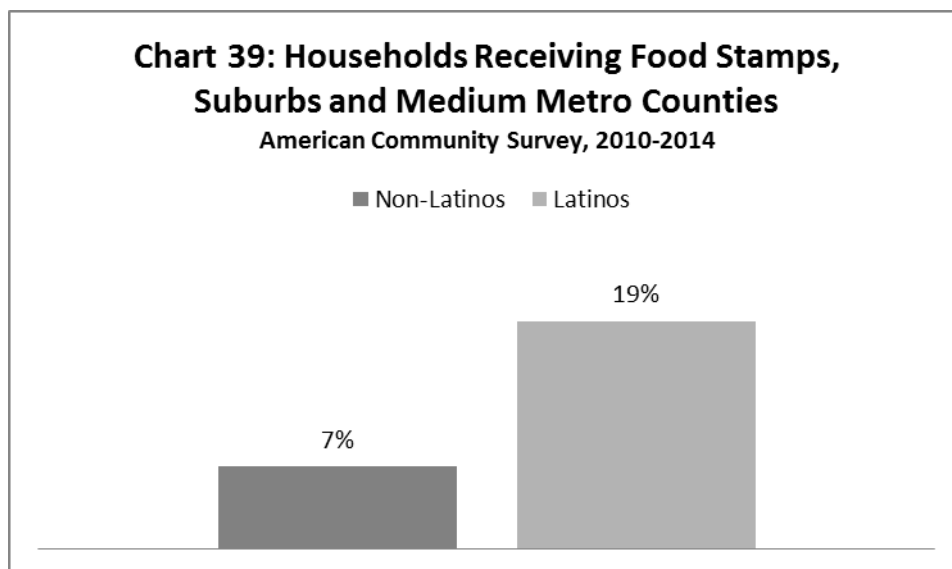
Furthermore, 3 percent of non-Latino households in large urban counties received General Assistance and/or CalWORKs benefits, compared with 5 percent of Latino households, as shown in Chart 37. As depicted in Chart 38 on the next page, Latino households received an average of \$291 less in annual benefits, compared with non-Latino households.



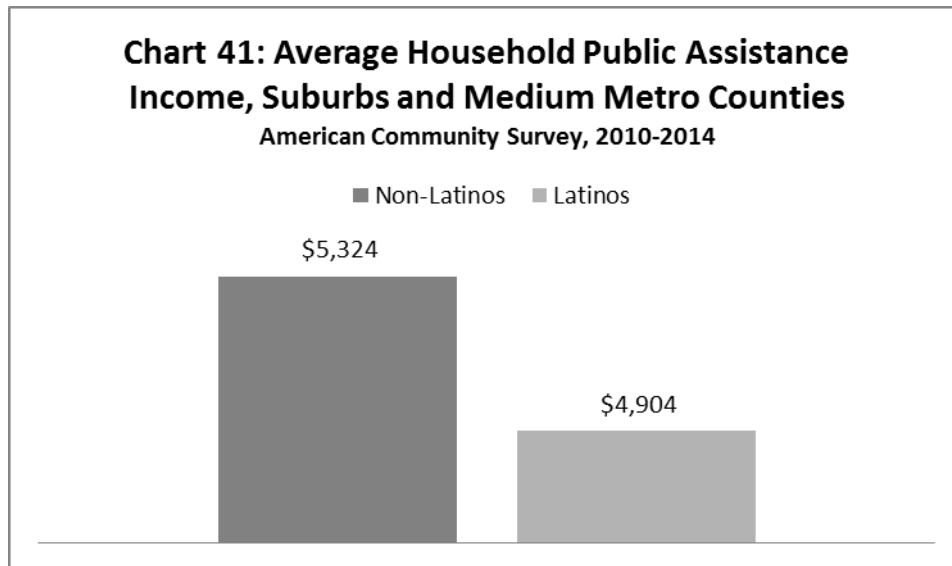
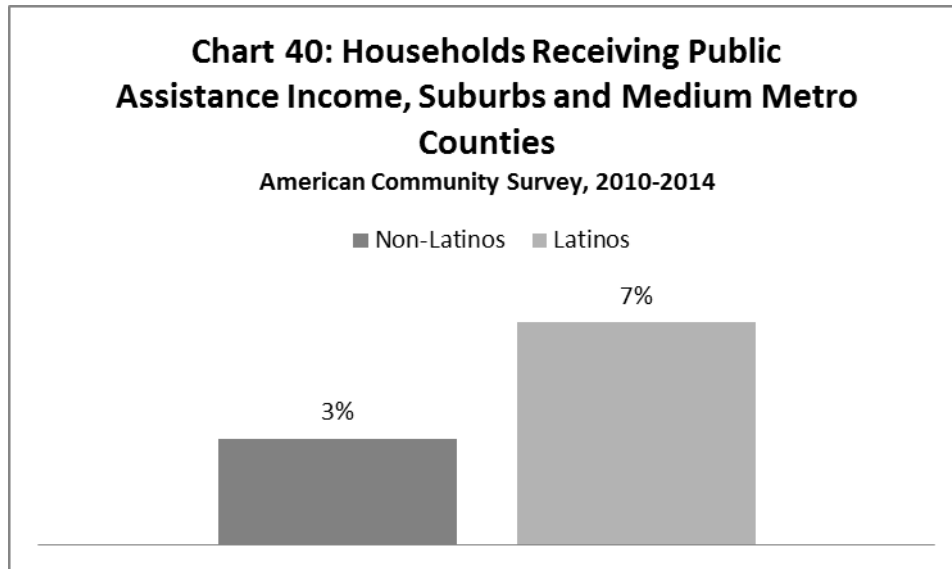


### Suburbs and Medium Metro Counties

In suburbs and medium metro counties, 7 percent of non-Latino households received food stamps, compared with 19 percent of Latino households, as shown in Chart 39.



Three percent of non-Latino households in suburbs and medium metro counties received General Assistance and/or CalWORKs benefits, compared with 7 percent of Latino households, as shown in Chart 40. At the same time, in these counties, Latino households on average received \$420 less in annual benefits than non-Latino households, as shown in Chart 41.



### Small Metro and Rural Counties

In small metro and rural counties, 10 percent of non-Latino households received food stamps, compared with 20 percent of Latino households, as shown in Chart 42.

In small metro and rural counties, 4 percent of non-Latino households received General Assistance and/or CalWORKs benefits, compared with 7 percent of Latino households, as shown in Chart 43.

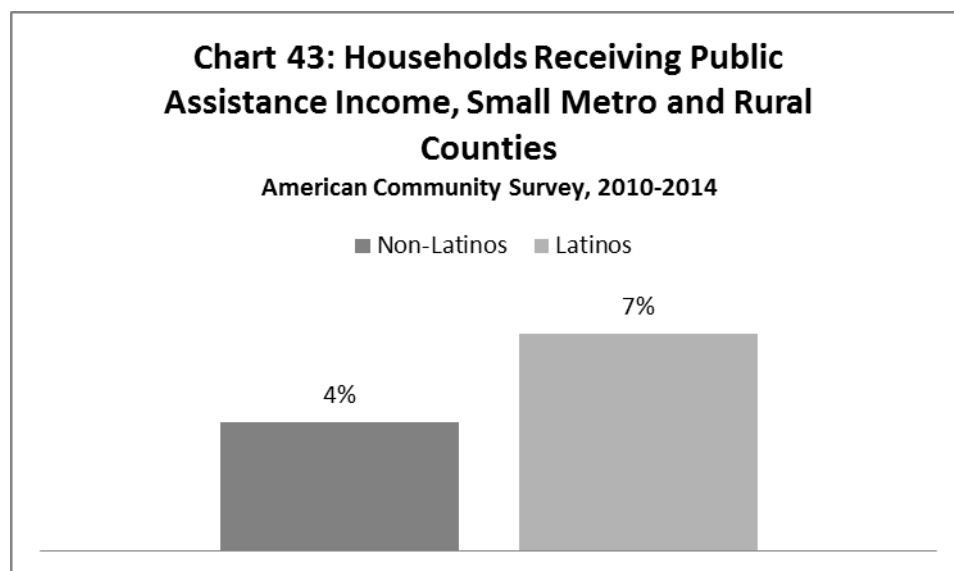
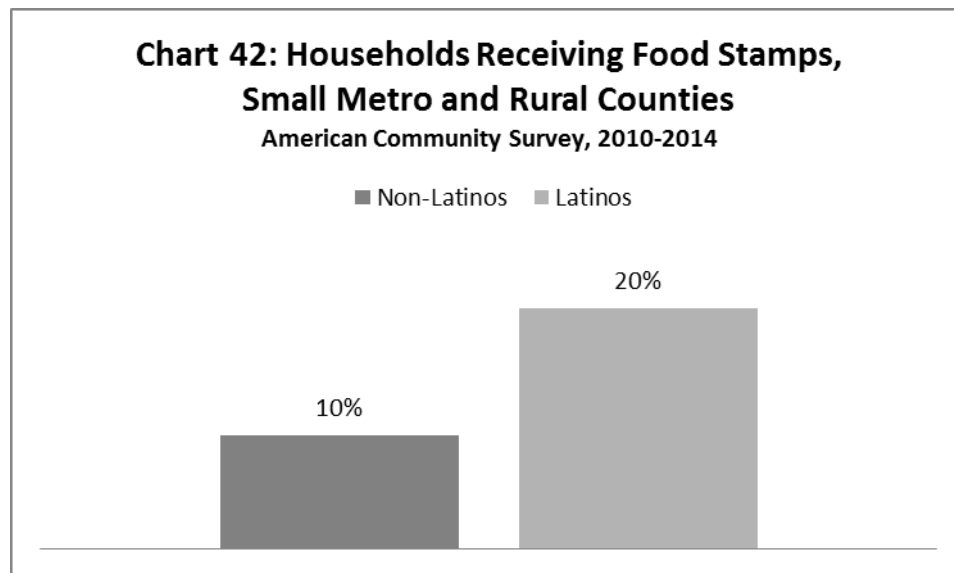
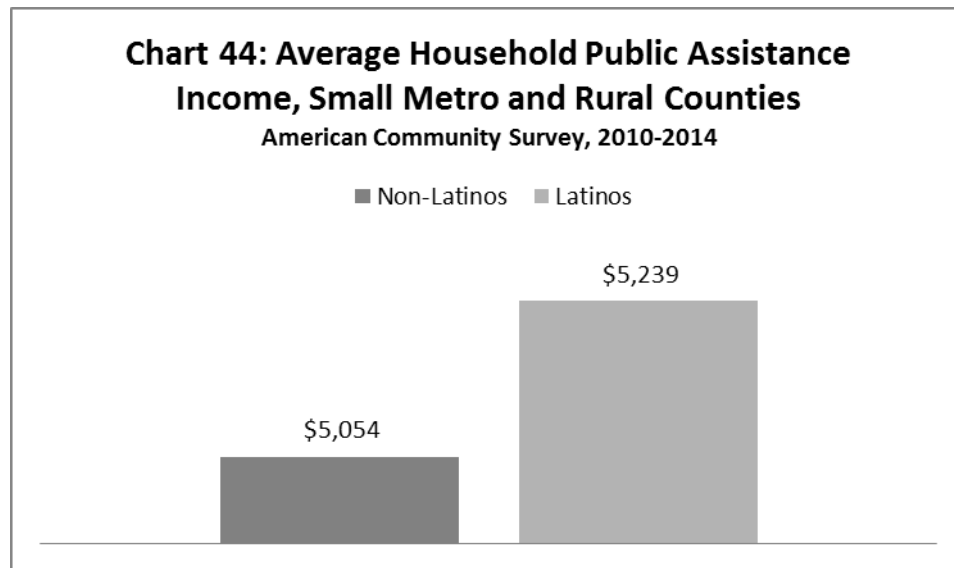


Chart 44 shows Latino households in small metro and rural counties on average received \$185 more in annual benefits than non-Latino households in these counties. The small metro and rural counties subgroup is the only county grouping examined in this report in which Latinos, on average, received more public assistance benefits than non-Latinos.



## Educational Attainment and Postsecondary Education

Educational attainment, which is the highest level of education a person achieves, typically is related to an individual's economic success in the labor market. Higher educational attainment generally is associated with higher earnings.

Charts 45 through 48 on pages 49, 50, and 51 show the educational attainment of California's population age 25 and older, comparing Latinos and non-Latinos, based on the ACS's five-year population estimates for 2010–14. The charts show the statewide data, as well as breakdowns for the three county subgroups.<sup>18</sup> In each case, Latinos lag behind non-Latinos in overall educational attainment.

Five categories of educational attainment are shown in the charts: less than a high school education; high school graduate, which includes receiving a high school diploma or the equivalent; some college (but no degree) or an associate degree; bachelor's

<sup>18</sup> From 2010 to 2014, 24.9 million people age 25 and older lived in California, and 32 percent were Latino. In large urban counties, there were 16 million people age 25 and older, and Latinos made up 32 percent. Of the 7.4 million people age 25 and older who lived in suburbs and medium metro counties, 33 percent were Latino. In small metro and rural counties, there were 1.5 million people age 25 and older, and Latinos made up 26 percent.

degree; and graduate or professional degree. In retrospect, it would have been preferable to separate the data between “some college” and “associate degree,” rather than combining the two into a single category; those statuses are quite different, and it is difficult to make clear conclusions from them when they are combined. For instance, an associate degree reflects the completion of a degree program at a community college, whereas some college would indicate enrollment in courses at a community college or a four-year postsecondary institution without completion of a degree program. However, SOR requested data with the two statuses merged. Nonetheless, the combined category for “some college or associate degree” is shown to denote a level of college attainment that is less than a bachelor’s degree.

### **High School Completion**

From 2010 to 2014, more than one-third (41 percent) of Latinos age 25 and older in California reported they had less than a high school education, as shown in Chart 45. That is more than five times the share of non-Latinos in that age group (8 percent) who reported having less than a high school education. Conversely, 59 percent of Latinos and 92 percent of non-Latinos age 25 and older had at least a high school diploma or its equivalent.<sup>19,20</sup>

Those figures are largely mirrored in the population data for three county subgroups (Charts 46, 47, and 48). Of these, the largest gap between Latinos and non-Latinos was in the small metro and rural counties where 56 percent of Latinos had at least a high school education, compared with 90 percent of non-Latinos (Chart 48).

### **College Attainment**

From 2010 to 2014, more than one-third of California’s non-Latino population (40 percent) reported they had a bachelor’s degree or higher, but only one in 10 Latinos (11 percent) indicated they had at least a bachelor’s degree or higher (Chart 45). A similar gap between Latinos and non-Latinos is apparent to varying degrees in the county data.

A larger proportion of Latinos in large urban counties had a bachelor’s degree or higher compared with Latinos in the other counties, yet the gap between Latinos and non-Latinos was greater in large urban counties, where the population tended to have

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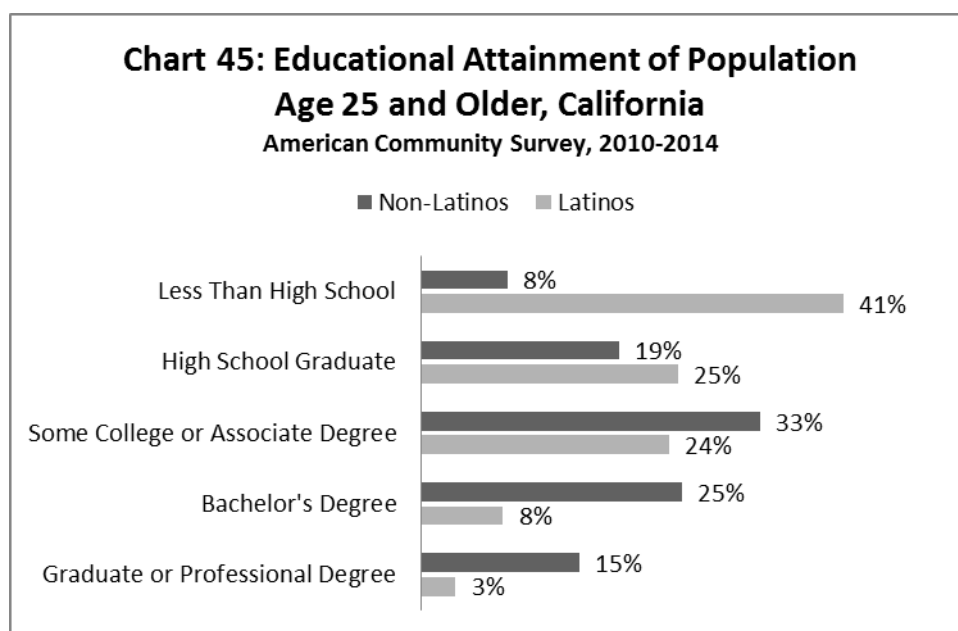
<sup>19</sup> Statewide in 2006–10, 43 percent of Latinos had less than a high school education, and 57 percent had at least a high school diploma or its equivalent.

<sup>20</sup> These two figures are not directly shown on the chart are the sum of percentages for all four of the categories equivalent to high school graduate or above.

more education. Likewise, the smallest gap between Latinos and non-Latinos was in small metro and rural counties, where the population tended to have less education than in other counties.

Specifically, in large urban counties, 44 percent of non-Latinos and 13 percent of Latinos had a bachelor's degree or higher (Chart 46). In suburbs and medium metro counties, 36 percent of non-Latinos and 10 percent of Latinos had a bachelor's degree or higher (Chart 47). In small metro and rural counties, 24 percent of non-Latinos and 8 percent of Latinos had a bachelor's degree or higher (Chart 48).

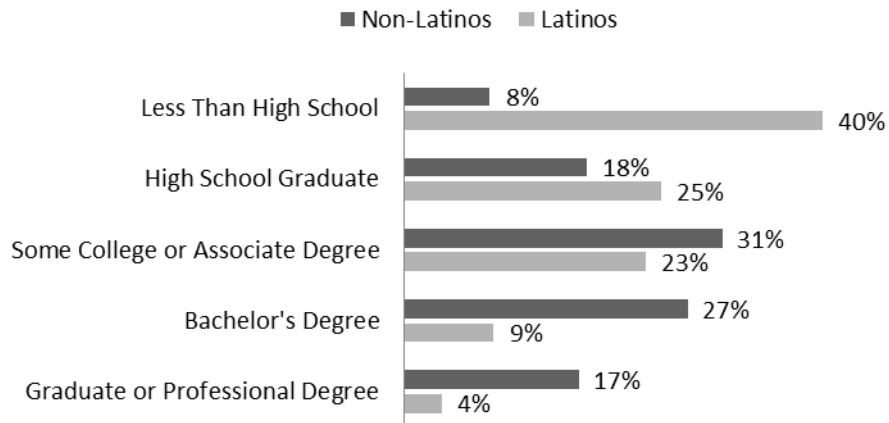
Statewide, nearly the same proportion of non-Latinos had some college or an associate degree (33 percent) as those who had a bachelor's or higher degree (40 percent) (Chart 45). In contrast, Latinos across the state were more than twice as likely to have some college or an associate degree (24 percent) than a bachelor's degree or higher (11 percent).



At the county level, the percentage of Latinos who attained some college or an associate degree does not vary much between the three county groups. Latinos in large urban counties were slightly less likely to have some college or an associate degree (23 percent) than Latinos in suburbs and medium metros and Latinos in small metro and rural counties (25 percent) (Charts 46, 47, and 48). This is not because Latinos in large urban counties had less education than Latinos in the other counties; rather, it reflects the fact that Latinos in large urban counties were slightly more likely to attain a bachelor's degree or higher, compared with Latinos in other counties.

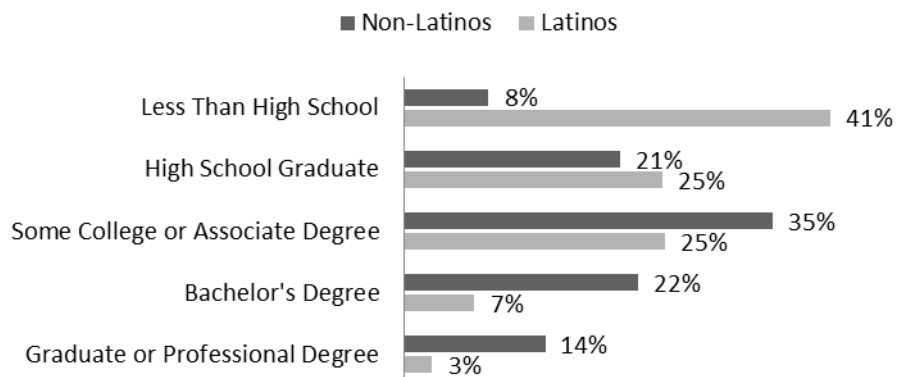
**Chart 46: Educational Attainment of Population  
Age 25 and Older, Large Urban Counties**

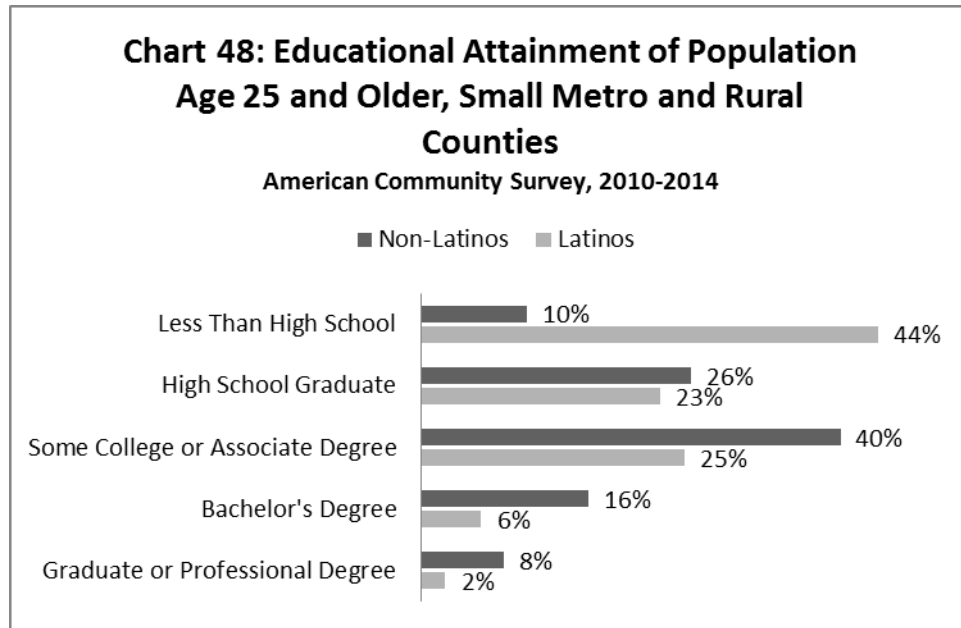
American Community Survey, 2010-2014



**Chart 47: Educational Attainment of Population  
Age 25 and Older, Suburbs and Medium Metro  
Counties**

American Community Survey, 2010-2014





### **Postsecondary Education Indicators From Other Data Sources**

This section presents additional indicators of postsecondary education from other data sources. From this information, there are indications that Latino youth have made strides against the educational attainment gap over the past two decades. Specifically, young Latinos have increased their college enrollment, especially at community colleges; however, their college completion rates remain low.

### **National Data**

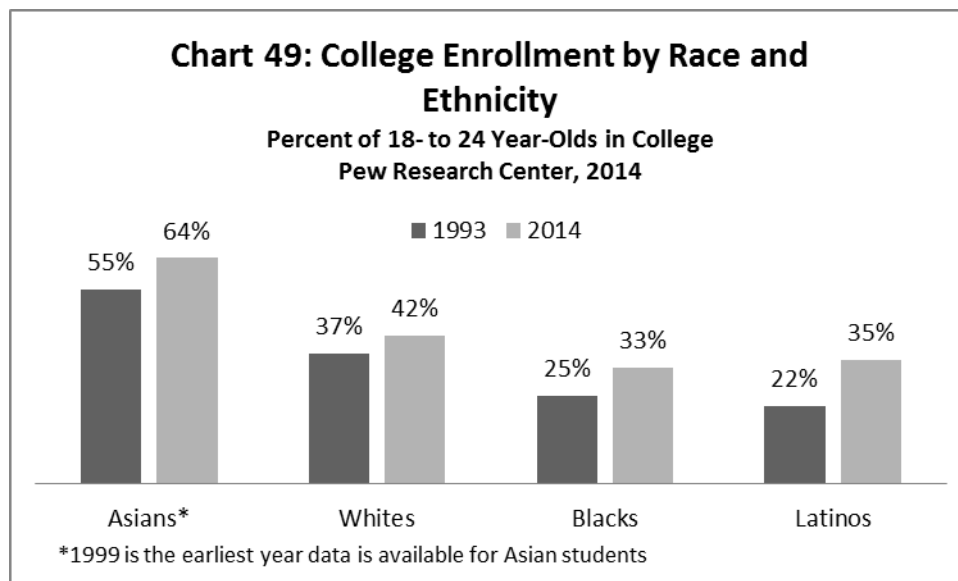
In 2016, the Pew Research Center reported that nationwide 86 percent of Hispanic parents with children younger than 18 said it is either extremely or very important that their children earn a college degree; in comparison, 67 percent of white parents said the same.<sup>21</sup> Additionally, a 2011 survey by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) found 73 percent of the state's Latinos believe a college education is necessary for upward social and economic mobility.<sup>22</sup>

Today, Latinos are graduating from high school and enrolling in college at substantially increased rates. The high school dropout rate for Latinos ages 18 to 24 dropped from

<sup>21</sup> Renee Stepler, "Hispanic, Black Parents See College Degree as Key for Children's Success," Pew Research Center, February 24, 2016. This report cites as its data source the Pew Research Center Survey September–October 2015.

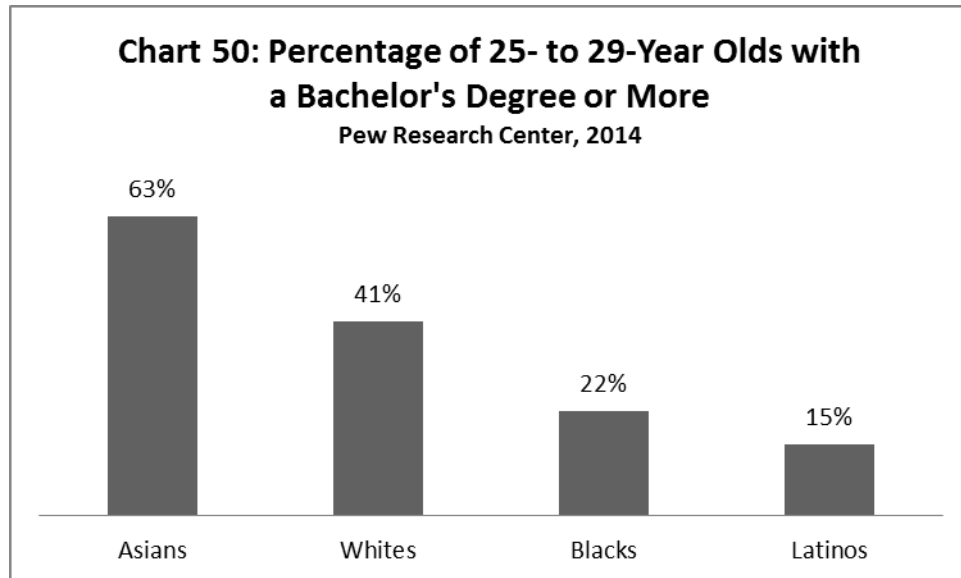
<sup>22</sup> "Increasing Equity and Diversity," Public Policy Institute of California Higher Education Center, April 2016.

32 percent in 2000 to 12 percent in 2014. Also in 2014, 35 percent of Latinos ages 18 to 24 were enrolled in college (two- or four-year colleges), up from 22 percent in 1993, as shown in Chart 49. During the same time frame, enrollment among blacks increased from 25 percent in 1993 to 33 percent in 2014, and enrollment by whites increased from 37 percent in 1993 to 42 percent. Sixty-four percent of Asians were enrolled in college in 2014, up from 55 percent in 1999 (the earliest year data is available for Asians).<sup>23</sup>



While more Latinos are getting a postsecondary education than previously, Latinos still lag behind other groups in obtaining a four-year degree; Latinos are less likely to enroll in a four-year college, enroll full time, or attend a selective academic college or university. Among Latinos ages 25 to 29 in 2014, just 15 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher, as shown in Chart 50 on the next page. Among the same age group, 41 percent of whites had a bachelor's degree or higher, as did 22 percent of blacks and 63 percent of Asians. Much of the growth in young Latino college enrollment has been at community colleges. Nearly half of Latinos who go to college attend a public two-year school or a community college, a higher percentage than any other racial/ethnic group.

<sup>23</sup> Jens Manuel Krogstad, "5 Facts about Latinos and Education," Pew Research Center, July 28, 2016.



### **California Data**

Several reports indicate that California is facing a growing skills gap, with a higher education system that is failing to keep pace with the changing economy. According to PPIC, by 2030, 38 percent of jobs will require at least a bachelor's degree, while population and education trends suggest that only 33 percent of working adults will have a bachelor's degree—a shortfall of more than 1 million college graduates.<sup>24</sup> Groups traditionally underrepresented in higher education—those who are low income, the first in their families to go to college, Latinos, African Americans, and American Indians—will comprise a solid majority of California's future college-age population.

California's robust system of financial aid makes college possible for many low-income students, including many Latinos. According to the Campaign for College Opportunity, more than twice as many Latinos enroll in a California college or university compared with a decade ago—815,000 students in 2013, up from 370,000 in 2004. Yet today, Latinos are still underrepresented within each of the state's three public higher education systems relative to their representation in the overall population, as shown in Chart 51 on the next page.

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<sup>24</sup> "Higher Education: California's Future," Public Policy Institute of California, January 2017.

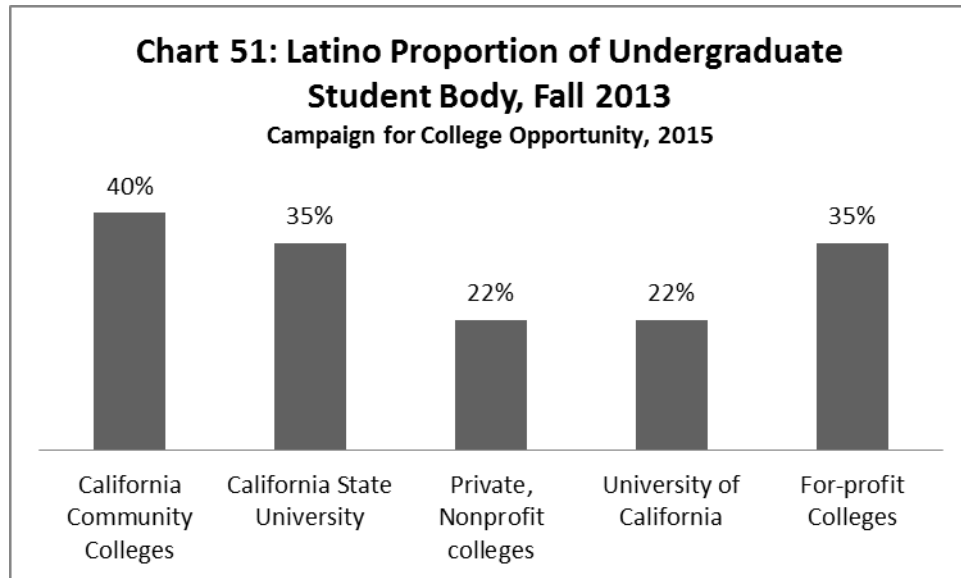
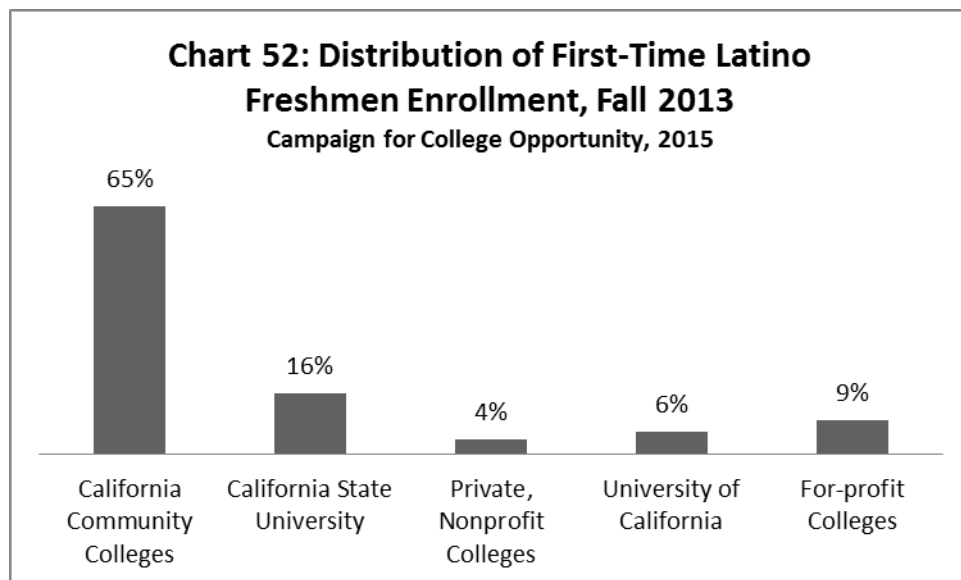


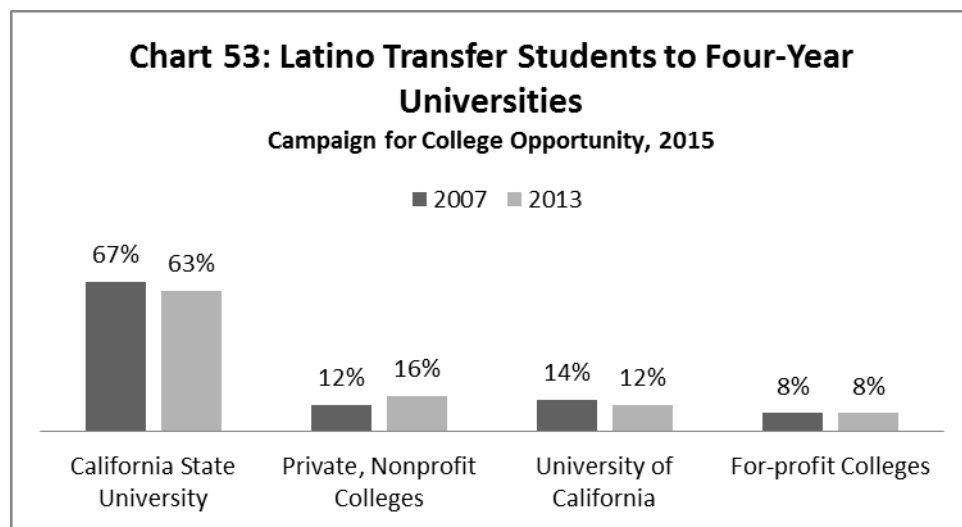
Chart 52 shows the majority of Latino first-time freshmen (65 percent, or about 529,000 students) enroll in the state's 113 community colleges, 16 percent (130,000 students) enroll in the CSU system, and 6 percent (49,000 students) enroll at a UC campus. Among private colleges and universities, nonprofit schools enroll 4 percent of first-time Latino freshmen, while the for-profit schools enroll 9 percent.<sup>25,26</sup>



<sup>25</sup> "State of Higher Education in California: Latinos," Campaign for College Opportunity, April 2015.

<sup>26</sup> In 2012, 43 percent of Latino high school graduates enrolled directly in one of the state's three public higher education systems, compared with 53 percent of all high school graduates. For Latino high school graduates, this figure peaked at 50 percent in 2007. Latinos and other groups experienced similar drops in enrollment after that, likely associated with higher education's budget cuts in 2009. Colleen Moore, C. Tan, and N. Shulock, "Average Won't Do," California State University, Sacramento, Institute for Higher Education Leadership and Policy, January 2014.

Opportunities for students to transfer from a community college to a four-year university in California are particularly important for Latinos, who are more likely than any other racial/ethnic group to attend college in this state. According to the Campaign for College Opportunity, about 15 percent of Latino students transfer to out-of-state universities, compared with 42 percent of black students, 32 percent of white students, and 17 percent of Asian and Pacific Islander students.<sup>27</sup> In 2013, approximately 98,000 students transferred to a four-year university in California, and Latinos made up 28 percent of these students. Among the Latinos who transferred to a four-year university, 63 percent (17,500 students) transferred to CSU, and 12 percent (3,500 students) transferred to UC, as shown in Chart 53.



### College Completion

Among Latino students at California's community colleges, 85 percent are placed in precollege-level courses, taking at least one developmental course in math, English, or both. Of the students taking these courses, approximately two-thirds will not earn an award or transfer to a four-year college or university within six years.<sup>28</sup>

A PPIC report finds developmental education may be one of the largest impediments to success at the community colleges. Latino, African American, and low-income students are overrepresented in developmental courses where sequences can be lengthy and delay students' college careers. Moreover, attrition is high for those who take these courses, and students who start lower in the sequence are more likely to drop out. Only

<sup>27</sup> "State of Higher Education in California: Latinos," Campaign for College Opportunity, April 2015.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

16 percent of students in developmental education courses earn a certificate or associate degree with six years, while 24 percent succeed in transferring to four-year colleges.<sup>29</sup>

Latino students also face challenges completing their coursework at CSU and UC. While CSU has slowly improved its graduation rates in the past decade, its four-year graduation rates are low for all groups, with fewer than 20 percent of freshmen graduating within the traditional four-year time frame. Among Latino students, 10 percent graduate within four years and 45 percent graduate within six years.<sup>30</sup> CSU graduation rates for transfer students have improved in the past decade. Twenty-five percent of California community college students who transferred to CSU in 2009–10 graduated in two years, and 69 percent graduated within four years. Latinos in that cohort of students had similar results, with 23 percent and 67 percent graduating within two and four years, respectively.

UC also has made strides over the past decade in improving its four-year and six-year graduation rates for all freshmen. Sixty percent of UC freshmen who enrolled in 2007–08 graduated within four years and 83 percent within six years. Latino freshmen graduation rates are lower, however, with 46 percent and 75 percent graduating within four and six years, respectively. The gap between Latinos and Asians, the group with the highest four-year graduation rates, has increased from 11.6 points for the cohort enrolling in 1998–99 to 16.2 points for the cohort enrolling in 2007–08; the six-year graduation gap has increased from 10 points to 12 points for the cohorts enrolling in 1998–99 and 2007–08, respectively.

More than half (53 percent) of UC transfer students enrolled in 2009–10 graduated within two years, and 86 percent graduated within four years. Latino transfer students graduated from UC at rates slightly lower than the average, at 49 percent and 84 percent within two and four years, respectively. The two-year graduation gap between Asian and Latino transfer students decreased from 3.6 points for the cohort enrolling in 2000–01 to 1.3 points for the cohort enrolling in 2009–10; the four-year gap graduation decreased from 6.6 points to 1.5 points.

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<sup>29</sup> Marisol Cuellar Mejia, O. Rodriguez, and H. Johnson, “Preparing Students for Success in California’s Community Colleges,” Public Policy Institute of California, November 2016.

<sup>30</sup> “State of Higher Education in California: Latinos,” Campaign for College Opportunity, April 2015.

## **Undocumented Students**

California has taken significant steps to provide college financial aid to undocumented students. Under AB 540 (Firebaugh), Chapter 814, Statutes of 2001, undocumented students at the three public systems can pay resident tuition if they meet specific eligibility requirements. About a decade later, AB 130 and AB 131 (Cedillo), Chapters 93 and 604, Statutes of 2011, established the California DREAM Act, which allows undocumented students who meet AB 540 criteria to receive state-funded financial aid (such as Cal Grants and the Community Colleges Board of Governors fee waivers), institutional grants, and non-state-sponsored scholarships for public colleges and universities.

The DREAM Act was first implemented for Cal Grants in 2013–14, administered by the California Student Aid Commission. More than 75,000 DREAM Act applications were received for the academic years 2013–14 and 2014–15.<sup>31</sup> Of those who received DREAM Act Cal Grant awards, half were students enrolled in the community colleges, one-third attended CSU, and 14 percent were enrolled in UC. Community college students were awarded the most offers, but in comparison with CSU and UC, they received the lowest paid rate. The overall paid rate for the program was 66 percent in 2014–15 and 30 percent in 2015–16, according to the California Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee.

Notably, new and renewal applications for DREAM Act aid dropped significantly this year, according to a report by EdSource. Almost 19,000 applications were filed over the five-month application period in 2016–17, compared with about 33,000 applications received over a two-month application period the previous year. Observers believe the decline is a response to President Trump’s executive actions and statements about his intent to aggressively enforce the nation’s immigration laws. Reportedly, undocumented students are concerned about the potential for their personal information to be used for deportation purposes, and they may misunderstand the separation between California’s DREAM Act program and federal immigration enforcement. Responding to these concerns, the DREAM Act program website indicates the program “has not now, or in the past, shared any information which would indicate a student’s immigration status, either documented or undocumented.”<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> California Student Aid Commission, Exhibit 19: Update on DREAM Act, February 9, 2015.

<sup>32</sup> Larry Gordon, “Deportation Fears Depress California DREAM Act College Aid Applications,” EdSource, February 14, 2017.

## **Achievement in Elementary and Secondary Education (K–12)**

More than 6.2 million students were enrolled in California’s K–12 public school system in 2015, and more than half (3.3 million) were Latinos. About 20 percent of all students (1.4 million) were English learners, with the majority of those (84 percent) being Spanish speakers.

Studies have long shown an academic achievement gap between the overall student population and various educationally disadvantaged student groups due to factors such as poverty, lack of English language proficiency, and disability.

This section of the report uses data from CDE to compare the achievements of Latino students with all other student groups combined (non-Latino students) on two key academic measures: (1) student results on the 2016 statewide standards tests in English-language arts and math and (2) public high school graduation rates for 2014–15. Both measures demonstrate an achievement gap for Latinos statewide, as well as for Latinos in all three county subgroups.

### **Statewide Standards Tests**

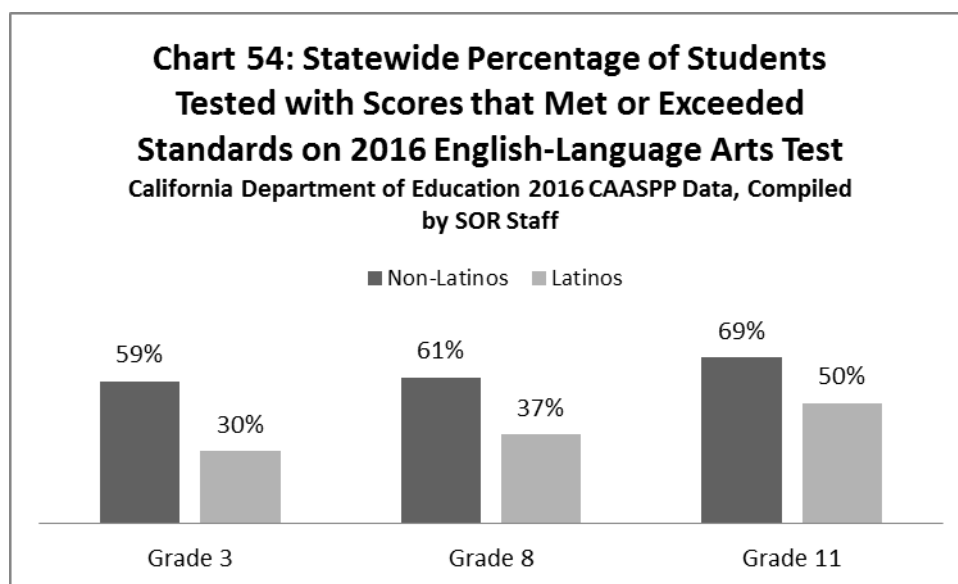
In January 2014, the state established the CAASPP system, replacing the previously used Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) program.<sup>33</sup> Included in the CAASPP system are the Smarter Balanced Assessments for English-language arts and math, which are aligned to the Common Core State Standards (adopted in 2010), and are a measure of college and career readiness. 2016 was the second year that these tests were administered to students. All students in grades three through eight and grade 11 take these assessments, except students who have an individualized education program that designates the use of an alternate assessment.

Student scores fall into one of four achievement levels based on the standards set for each grade: standard exceeded (level 4), standard met (level 3), standard nearly met (level 2), and standard not met (level 1). For this report, SOR examined the percentages of students in grades three, eight, and 11 with valid scores on the English-language arts and math assessments that met or exceeded the grade standard.

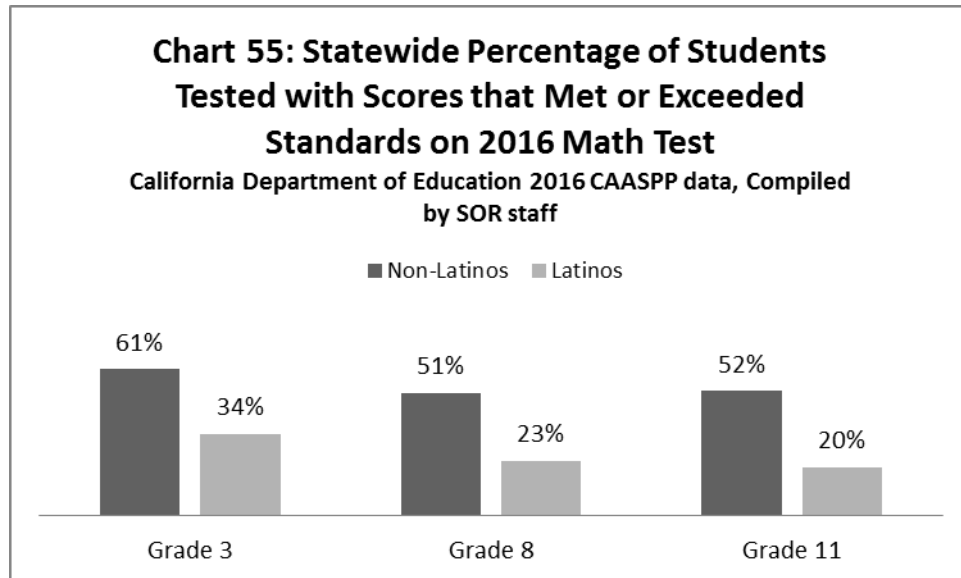
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<sup>33</sup> The CAASPP test results should not be compared with the previous results for STAR reported in SOR’s 2014 report because of differences between the assessments, including the academic standards measured, the types of questions used, and different achievement levels for scoring results.

As illustrated in Chart 54, the gap between the statewide percentages of Latino students and non-Latino students with scores meeting or exceeding standards on the 2016 test in English-language arts was considerable, though that gap narrowed in the higher grade levels. For grade three, 30 percent of Latinos scored at or above grade standards, while 59 percent of non-Latino students met or exceeded standards—a sizable gap of 29 percentage points. In grade eight, 37 percent of Latino students met or exceeded standards, compared with 61 percent of non-Latino students—a slightly smaller gap of 24 percentage points. Finally, in grade 11, 50 percent of Latino students met or exceeded standards, compared with 69 percent of non-Latino students—a difference of 19 percentage points, the smallest achievement gap for the grades analyzed.



As seen in Chart 55 on the next page, there also was a gap between the percentages of Latino students and non-Latino students with scores that met or exceeded standards on the 2016 test in math; however, unlike the English-language arts test, the gap was smallest in grade three and highest in grade 11. Specifically, in grade three, 34 percent of Latino students scored at or above grade standards, compared with 61 percent of non-Latinos—a gap of 27 percentage points. For grade eight, 23 percent of Latino students scored at or above the grade standards, compared with 51 percent of non-Latino students—a difference of 28 percentage points. In grade 11, only 20 percent of Latino students had scores that met or exceeded standards, compared with 52 percent of non-Latino students—a gap of 32 percent.



### County Subgroups

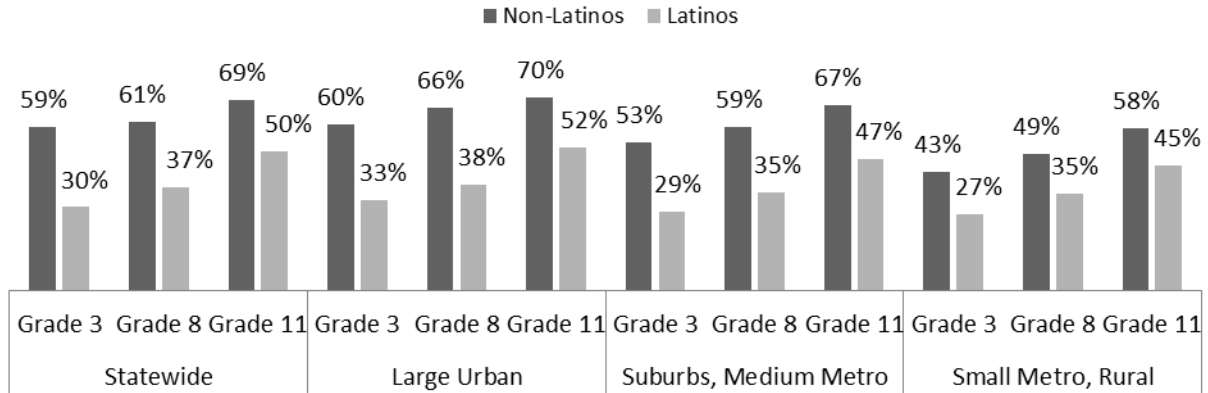
Differences for Latino students in each of the three county subgroups also were examined using the 2016 test results in English-language arts and math for students in grades three, eight, and 11. Charts 56 and 57 on the next page show, for each of the county subgroups and the state, the percentages of Latino students and non-Latino students with scores that met or exceeded standards on the tests.<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> In charts 56 and 57, totals do not include results from Alpine, Sierra, and Trinity counties due to a lack of available data on the test results of Latino students in these counties. The lack of available data is due to the small numbers of Latino students in these counties. CDE does not report test results for a group if the number of students in the group is 10 or fewer due to concerns about the privacy of student records. The number of students excluded from the total analysis represents 0.034 percent of all students tested in this group of counties in third grade, 0.028 percent in eighth grade, and 0.025 percent in 11th grade.

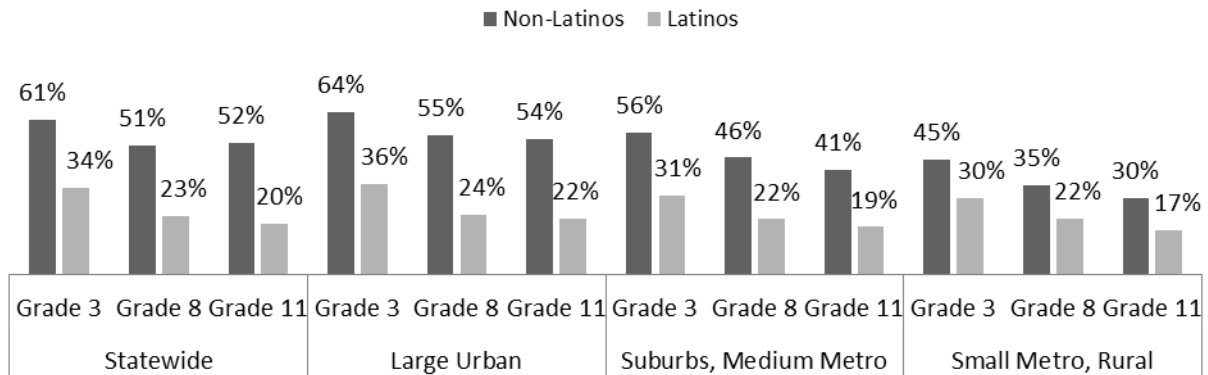
**Chart 56: Percentage of Students Tested with Scores that Met or Exceeded Standards on 2016 English-Language Arts Test**

California Department of Education 2016 CAASPP Data, Compiled by SOR Staff



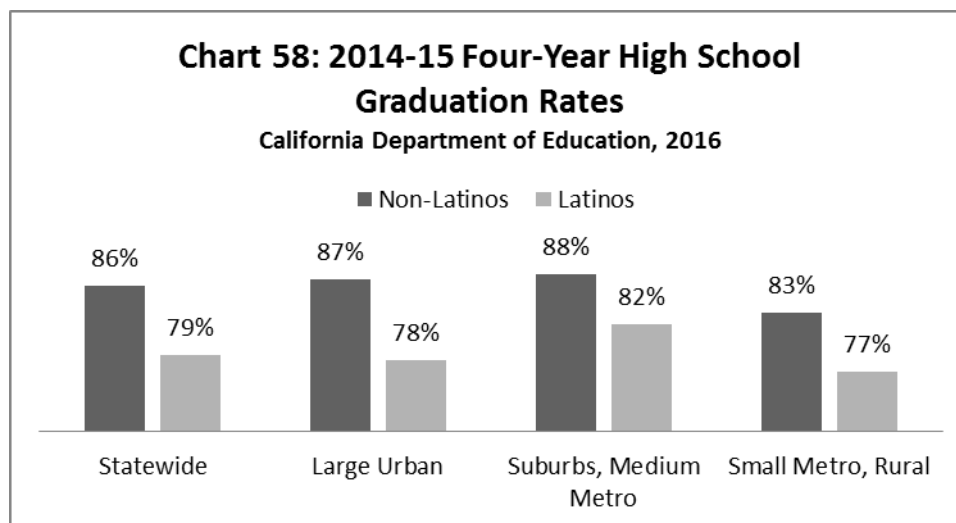
**Chart 57: Percentage of Students Tested with Scores that Met or Exceeded Standards on 2016 Math Test**

California Department of Education 2016 CAASPP Data, Compiled by SOR Staff



## High School Graduation Rates

Chart 58 shows the 2014–15 public high school graduation rates for students statewide and in each of the county subgroups.<sup>35</sup> Statewide, the 2014–15 high school graduation rate was 86 percent for non-Latinos and 79 percent for Latinos.<sup>36</sup>



## Large Urban Counties

Achievement levels for Latinos in large urban counties mirror those of the state and reflect significant achievement gaps between Latino and non-Latino students.

As shown in Chart 56, on the 2016 Smarter Balanced Assessments in English-language arts for grade three, 33 percent of Latino students in these counties scored at grade standards or above, compared with 60 percent of non-Latinos—a difference of 27 percentage points. In grade eight, 38 percent of Latino students scored at or above

<sup>35</sup> Chart 58: CDE classifies a certain type of student exit within the statewide totals but not within county totals. Thus, the statewide totals as reported by CDE do not match the sum of the county totals. For consistency, SOR added the matriculation exit totals in the analysis, so the statewide graduation rates are slightly lower than those at the county levels. Also, since CDE does not report numbers for students in categories with 10 or fewer students, SOR was unable to attribute the totals for students who did not report ethnicity in several counties. Further, Alpine and Sierra counties did not have reportable data for Latinos based on having fewer than 10 students. The characteristics for these counties were estimated as the difference between the statewide data and the sum of available counties and were added to the counts for “Small Metro Counties and Rural Counties.”

<sup>36</sup> Statewide, the high school graduation rate has been improving for students overall, as well as for Latino students. In 2014, SOR reported the 2011–12 high school graduation rate for Latinos statewide was 73 percent. Comparing the graduation rates for 2011–12 and 2014–15 shows Latino students improved in all three county subgroups.

grade standards, compared with 66 percent of non-Latinos—a gap of 28 percentage points. In grade 11, 52 percent of Latino students earned scores that met or exceeded standards, whereas 70 percent of non-Latino students met or exceeded standards—a difference of 18 points. Chart 56 shows that both Latino and non-Latino student scores in English-language arts were better in the higher grade levels. This trend is reflected at the statewide level and also is seen in the other two county groups.

Chart 57 presents results for the 2016 Smarter Balanced Assessments in math and shows that the percent of students with scores that met or exceeded standards dropped in the higher grade levels—a trend reflected in the statewide totals, as well as in each county group. For example, in grade three in large urban counties, 36 percent of Latinos in these counties earned scores meeting or exceeding standards, compared with 64 percent of non-Latinos—a gap of 28 percentage points. For grade eight, 24 percent of Latino students in these counties scored at or above grade standards, compared with 55 percent of non-Latino students—a gap of 31 percentage points. The highest achievement gap is seen at grade 11 wherein 22 percent of Latino students had scores meeting or exceeded standards, compared with 54 percent of non-Latino students—a gap of 32 percentage points.

Additionally, the gap between Latino and non-Latino test scores appears slightly higher in math than in English-language arts. However, it is important to note that 2016 was only the second time the Smarter Balanced Assessments were administered, and these assessments are considered too fundamentally different from the old statewide exams to make any reliable comparison to the former tests. Based on trial runs of these assessments, CDE expected that most students would need to make significant progress toward reaching the grade standards. Thus, it appears likely that these scores will improve over time as students adapt to the new tests. In fact, for both the English language-arts and math tests, the statewide percentages of Latino students in grades three, eight, and 11 with scores that met or exceeded standards did improve in the second year of the tests in 2016.

The 2014–15 public high school graduation rates for students in the large urban counties are similar to the statewide figures. In these counties, the graduation rate was 87 percent for non-Latino students and 78 percent for Latino students.<sup>37</sup>

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<sup>37</sup> For Latino students, this is a 6 percentage-point increase over their 2011–12 graduation rate of 72 percent.

## **Suburbs and Medium Metro Counties**

The gap in the 2016 Smarter Balanced math assessment scores between Latino students and non-Latino students is smaller in suburban and medium metro counties than in large urban counties. That is, the gap between these students is as much as 10 points closer in grade 11 math scores and is moderately smaller in grades three and eight. However, much of this difference can be explained by the lower achievement levels of non-Latino students. In other words, the smaller achievement gap is not due to higher achievement rates of Latinos, but rather due to slightly lower achievement levels among non-Latinos, as compared with their counterparts in large urban counties. The performance gap between Latino and non-Latino student scores on the English-language arts test in suburban and medium metro counties is relatively similar to those in large urban counties. However, in the suburban and medium metro counties, both student groups had lower overall percentages of students with scores meeting or exceeding standards than the large urban counties.

On the other hand, the 2014–15 public high school graduation rates for Latino and non-Latino students in suburban and medium metro counties were higher than those in the state and in large urban counties. In suburbs and medium metro counties, the graduation rate was 88 percent for non-Latino students and 82 percent for Latino students.<sup>38</sup>

## **Small Metro and Rural Counties**

Regarding the 2016 results of Smarter Balanced Assessments in English-language arts and math, differences between Latino student and non-Latino student scores are much smaller in small metro and rural counties than in other counties. However, as in the case of suburbs and medium metro counties, the smaller achievement gap does not appear to be due to higher achievement levels of Latino students, but rather due to slightly lower achievement levels of non-Latino students, as compared with their counterparts in other counties. In fact, the percent of both Latino and non-Latino students earning scores that met or exceeded standards was the lowest among the county groups analyzed. The 2014–15 public high school graduation rates for Latino and non-Latino students in small metro and rural counties are slightly lower than those in the other counties. In small metro and rural counties, the graduation rate is 83 percent for non-Latino students and 77 percent for Latino students.<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> For Latinos, this is a 7 percentage-point increase over their 2011–12 graduation rate of 75 percent.

<sup>39</sup> For Latinos, this is a 3 percentage-point increase over their 2011–12 graduation rate of 74 percent.

## **Poverty and the Achievement Gap**

Much of the achievement gap between Latinos and non-Latinos may be explained by economic disadvantages experienced by many Latino students.

Students that are not economically disadvantaged performed substantially better than those classified as economically disadvantaged on the 2016 Smarter Balanced Assessments in both English-language arts and math. For example, 32 percent of all Latino economically disadvantaged students scored at or above the grade standard in English-language arts, compared with 55 percent of Latino students not economically disadvantaged. Additionally, on the 2016 math assessments, only 20 percent of Latino economically disadvantaged students earned scores that met or exceeded standards, whereas 38 percent of Latino not economically disadvantaged students met or exceeded standards. Similarly, 43 percent of non-Latino students statewide who also are economically disadvantaged met or exceeded standards on the English-language arts assessment and 31 percent on the math assessment. In comparison, 73 percent and 63 percent of non-Latino students not economically disadvantaged met or exceeded standards on the English-language arts and math assessments, respectively.

While this trend is not unique to Latino students, Latino students attending K–12 schools in California have much higher rates of poverty than the overall student population, which could explain the persistent achievement gap seen between Latino and non-Latino student subgroups. Specifically, about 80 percent of Latino students who took the Smarter Balanced Assessments in 2016 (a good proxy of the overall Latino population enrolled in public K–12 schools statewide) were classified as economically disadvantaged, whereas 60 percent of the overall student population and 37 percent of non-Latino students taking those assessments were classified as economically disadvantaged.

Education research has long established a connection between poverty and lower educational achievement. That is, lower socioeconomic status and lower parental education levels have been associated with lower academic achievement. The reasons for this connection are complicated, but the association is well established in academic research. Thus, the greater proportion of Latino students designated as economically disadvantaged may explain why a smaller proportion of Latino students meet the state's performance expectations on statewide standardized tests.

## Labor Force Participation and Employment

As context for this section, it is important to note that the labor force is made up of people who are working and those who are actively seeking employment but do not have a job. The labor force excludes all those who are of working age but who do not have a job and are not seeking employment. The unemployment rate is defined as the share of the labor force that does not have a job but is seeking employment.

According to the ACS five-year population estimates for 2010–14, Latinos of working age were slightly more likely to be in the labor force, and more likely to be employed, than non-Latinos of the working-age population, as shown in Chart 59 on the next page. For example, 67 percent of Latinos age 16 and older were part of the labor force, compared with 62 percent of non-Latinos age 16 and older. Similarly, 58 percent of Latinos age 16 and older were employed, compared with 55 percent of non-Latinos age 16 and older.

While Latinos had slightly higher labor force participation rates and higher rates of employment among the working-age population, they also had slightly higher unemployment rates. From 2010 to 2014, 13 percent of Latinos age 16 and older who also were part of the labor force were unemployed, compared with 10 percent unemployment for non-Latinos age 16 and older in the labor force. (Note: Because a larger share of Latinos were in the labor force—either employed or looking for work—there were a larger number of Latinos who potentially could have been unemployed.)

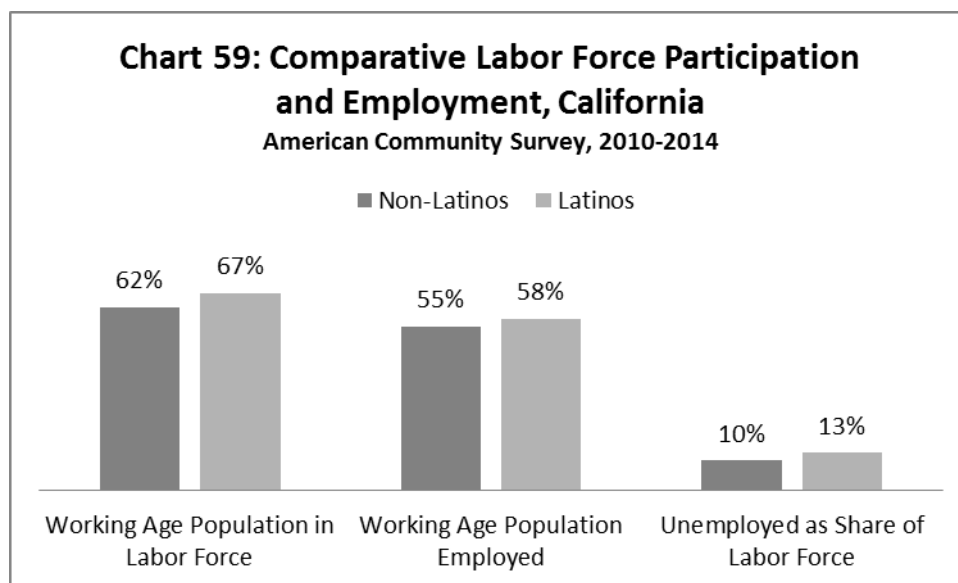
Higher labor force participation rates for Latinos may reflect the fact that the Latino population tends to be younger than the non-Latino population. Higher labor force participation rates for Latinos also may imply other socioeconomic and demographic characteristics for Latinos. For instance:

- Latinos may be more dependent on wage income, deriving a larger share of their income through employment and a smaller share of their income from business income, dividends, or other types of investments. Further examination of household income data substantiates that this has been the case; from 2010 to 2014, Latinos derived 87 percent of their income from wages or salary, while non-Latinos derived 74 percent of their income from wages or salary.
- Latinos may enter the labor market at an earlier age than non-Latinos, either because Latinos spend less time in school or because other circumstances cause them to work at an earlier age. As this report indicates in the educational

attainment section, from 2010 to 2014, Latinos were less likely than non-Latinos to graduate from high school and attend or complete college.

- Other recent research suggests that labor force participation rates for younger Latinos are dropping as more Latinos are staying in school for a longer period.<sup>40</sup>

Chart 59 shows Latino labor force participation rates, working age population employment rates, and labor force unemployment rates, compared with those rates for non-Latinos.



### Occupational and Industry Sector Profile

From 2010 to 2014, Latinos were more likely than non-Latinos to work in blue-collar occupations: manufacturing, construction, maintenance, and services. Latinos also were less likely to work in white-collar occupations: management, business, science, and arts. As a result, Latinos tended to be disproportionately overrepresented in the manufacturing, agriculture, construction, services, and food services sectors, and underrepresented in the information, finance, insurance, education, professional, scientific, and management sectors, compared with non-Latinos.

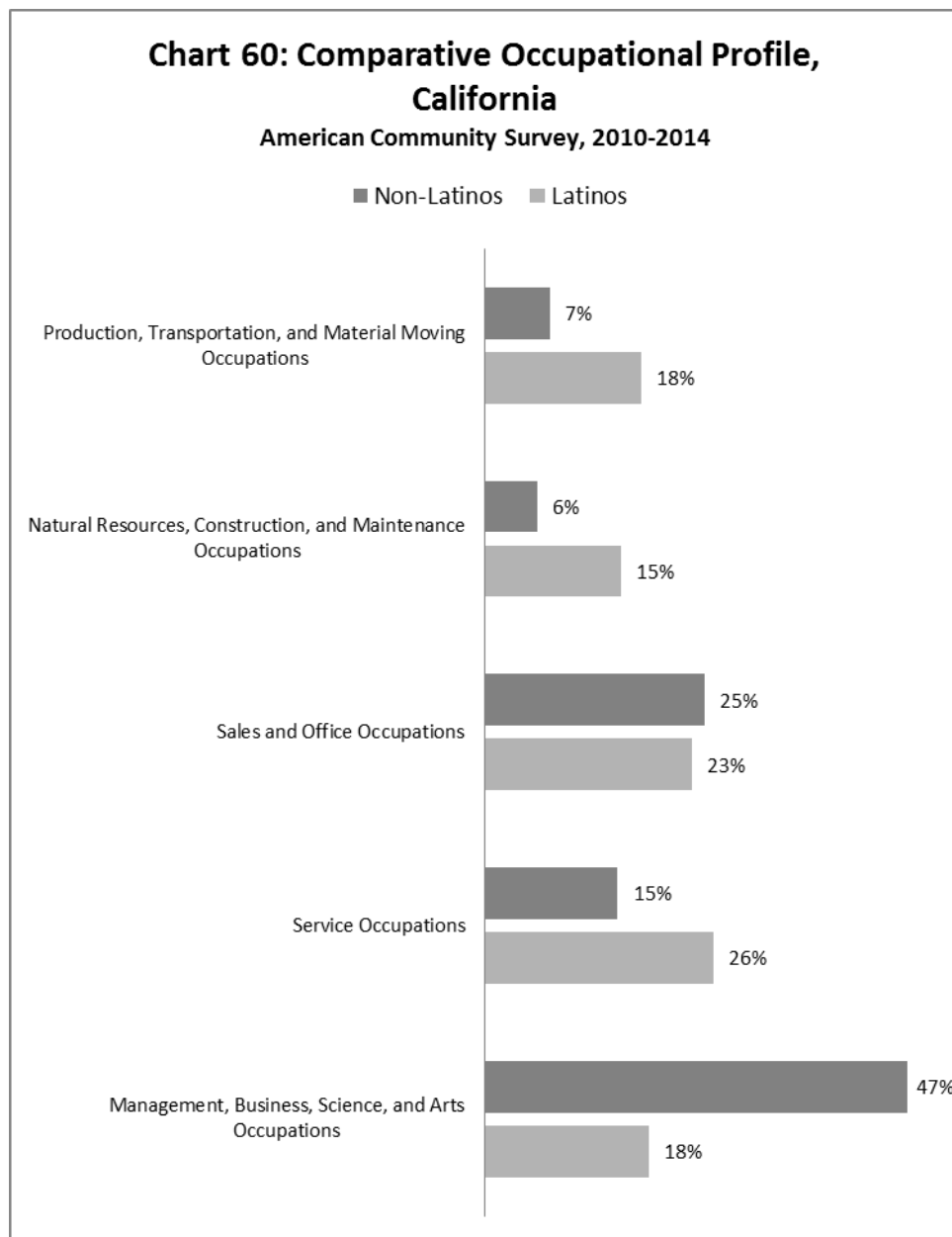
Among the Latino subgroups, other Latinos were disproportionately overrepresented in the white-collar occupations: management, business, science, and arts. Thirty-four percent of other Latinos were employed in these occupations, compared with 18 percent for the total Latino population.

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<sup>40</sup> "The Latino Labor Force at a Glance," U.S. Department of Labor, April 5, 2012, p. 4.

Compared with non-Latinos, Latinos were more likely to work in the private sector and less likely to be self-employed or work for government.

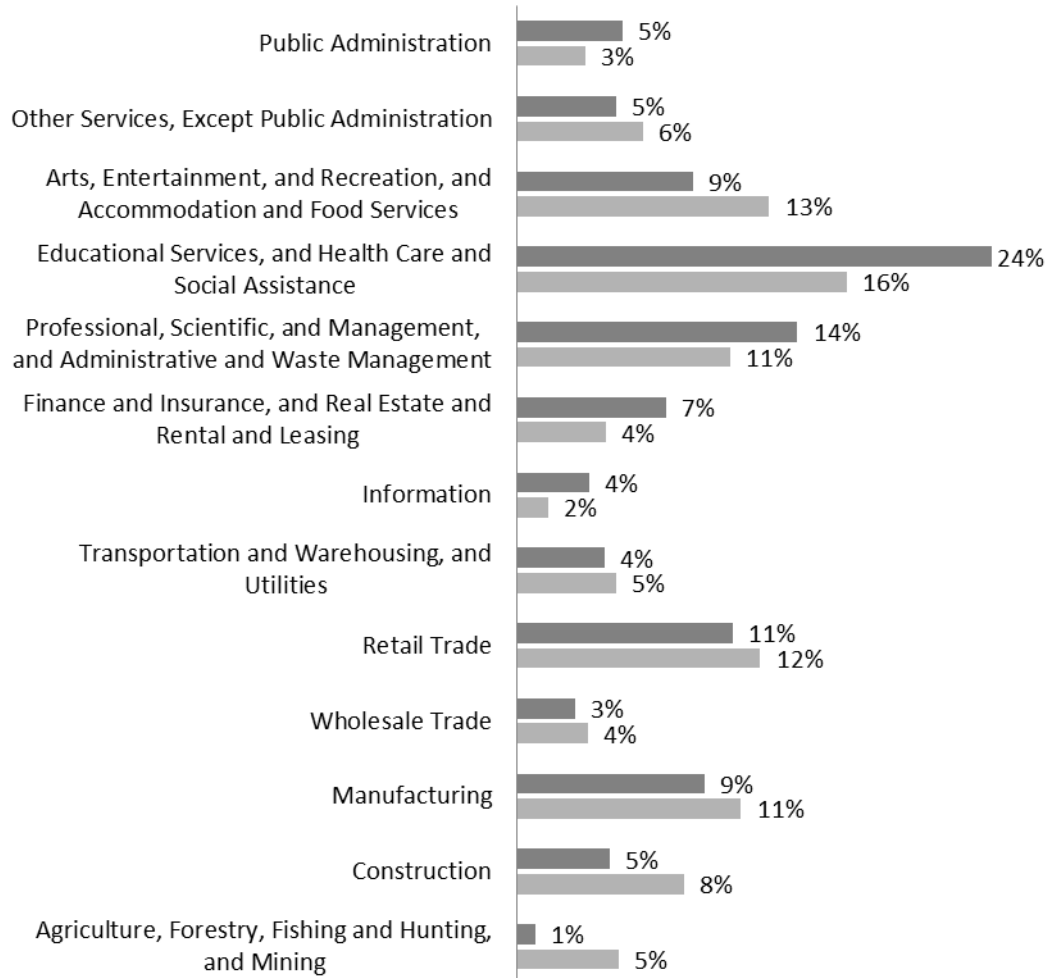
Charts 60, 61, and 62 on pages 68, 69, and 70 provide comparative data for Latinos and non-Latinos, with respect to their relative presence across occupational groupings, industry sectors, and in both the public and private sectors respectively.

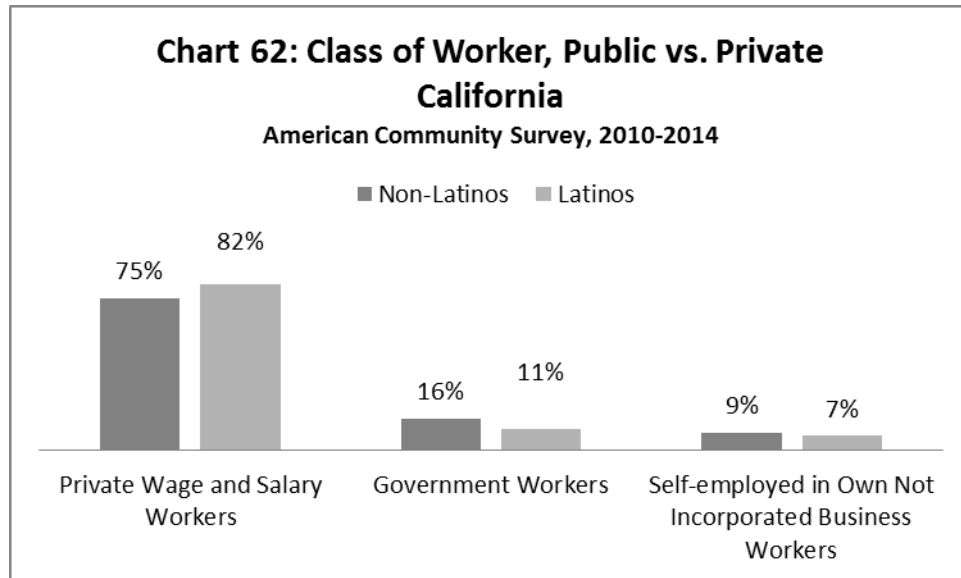


## Chart 61: Comparative Industry Profile, California

American Community Survey, 2010-2014

■ Non-Latinos ■ Latinos





### Large Urban Counties

From 2010 to 2014, in large urban counties, the relative distribution of Latinos across occupational groupings, industry sectors, and in the public and private sectors was not substantially different than the relative distribution of Latinos across the statewide workforce as a whole (previously illustrated in charts 60, 61, and 62). The only substantial difference concerned employment in the agricultural, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining industry sectors. One percent of Latinos from large urban counties were employed in those sectors, while statewide, 5 percent of Latinos were employed in those sectors.

As was evident in the statewide data, Latinos in large urban counties also were more likely to work in blue-collar manufacturing, construction, maintenance, and service-sector occupations and less likely to work in white-collar management, business, science, and arts occupations, compared with non-Latinos. As a result, Latinos tended to be disproportionately overrepresented in the manufacturing, agriculture, construction, services, and food services sectors, and underrepresented in the information, finance, insurance, education, professional, scientific, and management sectors than non-Latinos. Furthermore, Latinos in large urban counties were less likely to work in government jobs and more likely to work in the private sector.

### **Suburbs and Medium Metro Counties**

From 2010 to 2014, in suburbs and medium metro counties, the relative distribution of Latinos across occupational groupings, industry sectors, and in the public and private sectors was not substantially different than the relative distribution of Latinos across the statewide workforce as a whole, with one notable exception: Latinos in these counties were more than twice as likely to work in the agricultural, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining sectors than were Latinos statewide. Eleven percent of Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties worked in these sectors, while statewide, only 5 percent of Latinos worked in these sectors.

Latinos were more likely to work in blue-collar occupations and less likely to work in white-collar occupations than working-age non-Latinos in the suburbs and medium metro counties. As a result, Latinos tended to be disproportionately overrepresented in the manufacturing, agriculture, construction, services and food services sectors, and underrepresented in the information, finance, insurance, education, professional, scientific, and management sectors than non-Latinos in these counties.

### **Small Metro and Rural Counties**

In the small metro and rural counties, from 2010 to 2014, Latinos were far more likely to be employed in agricultural, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining sectors than were Latinos statewide. Eighteen percent of Latinos in small metro and rural counties worked in these sectors, while statewide, only 5 percent of Latinos worked in these sectors. The other notable difference concerns Latinos in professional, scientific, and management services sectors: Latinos in small metro and rural counties were about half as likely as Latinos statewide to work in these sectors. Seven percent of Latinos in these counties worked in these sectors, while statewide, 11 percent of Latinos worked in these sectors.

## Health Care Coverage and Access

The following data from the 2014 California Health Interview Survey compares Latinos and non-Latinos regarding their health care coverage and access, both on a statewide basis and for the three county subgroups. However, this section doesn't include Latino subgroup data.

In 2014, Latinos were more likely than non-Latinos to have no health insurance or, if they had insurance, they were more likely to be covered by a publicly funded health coverage program such as Medi-Cal.<sup>41,42</sup> Latinos also were more likely to report they did not have a usual source of health care and were more likely to report a less-than-optimal health status.

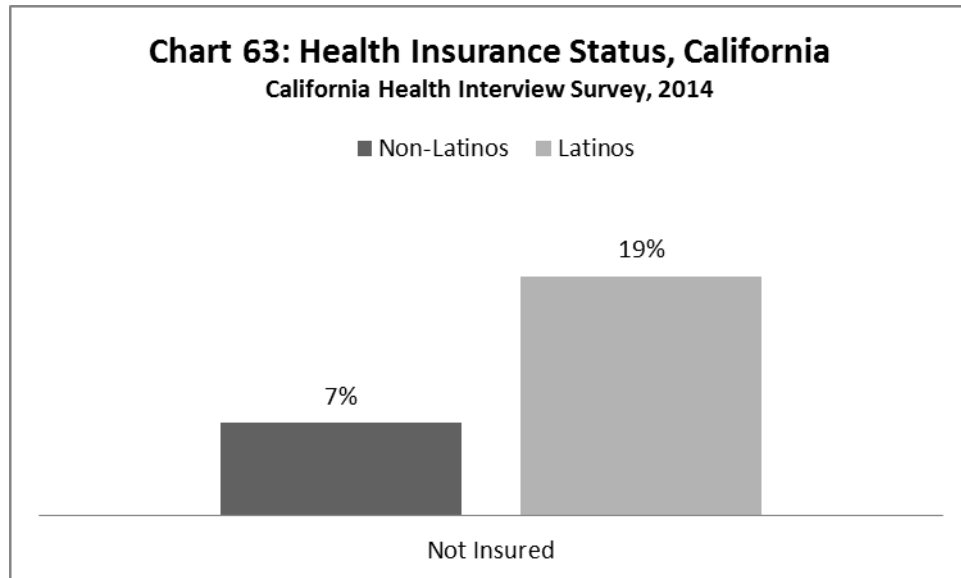
As shown in Chart 63 on the next page, 19 percent of Latinos in California were uninsured, compared with 7 percent of non-Latinos.<sup>43</sup>

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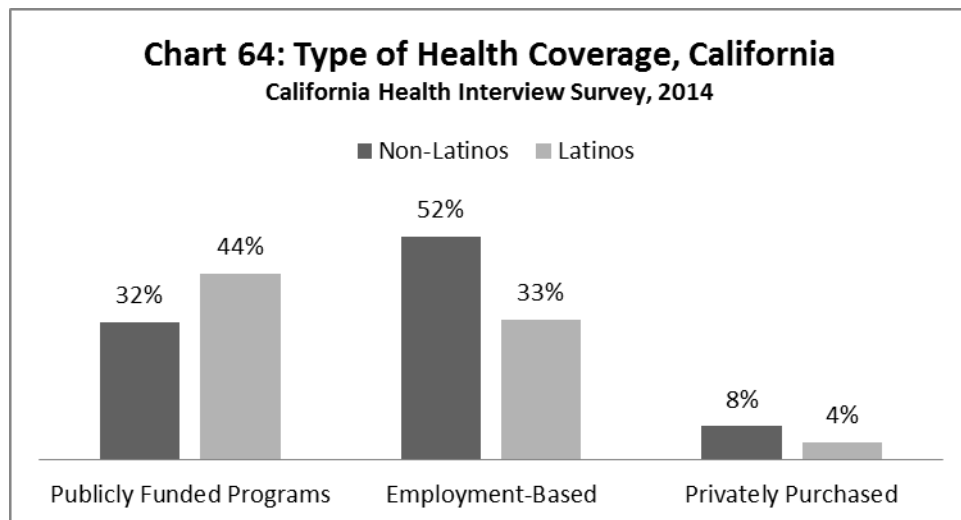
<sup>41</sup> The data on health care coverage and access is for Latinos and non-Latinos of all ages. Publicly funded health insurance programs include the categories of Medicare or Medicare Advantage plans including those who have an additional source of either private—such as Medigap; public—any public program or employer-based coverage; Medicaid; and other public programs. Some examples of other programs include several military-related programs such as Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services/Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; TRI-CARE (a health care program serving Uniformed Service members, retirees, and their families worldwide); Veterans Affairs medical benefits; Access for Infants and Mothers; Family Planning, Access, Care, and Treatment Program; and other government coverage. Source: Holly Hreha, MPH, Data Access Center Coordinator, California Health Interview Survey, e-mails to Kim Flores, Principal Consultant, Senate Office of Research, California State Senate, December 2016.

<sup>42</sup> Medi-Cal is California's version of the federal Medicaid program. It is free or low-cost health insurance for California residents who qualify.

<sup>43</sup> In 2014, SOR reported that 22 percent of Latinos in California were uninsured, according to the 2011–12 California Health Interview Survey.

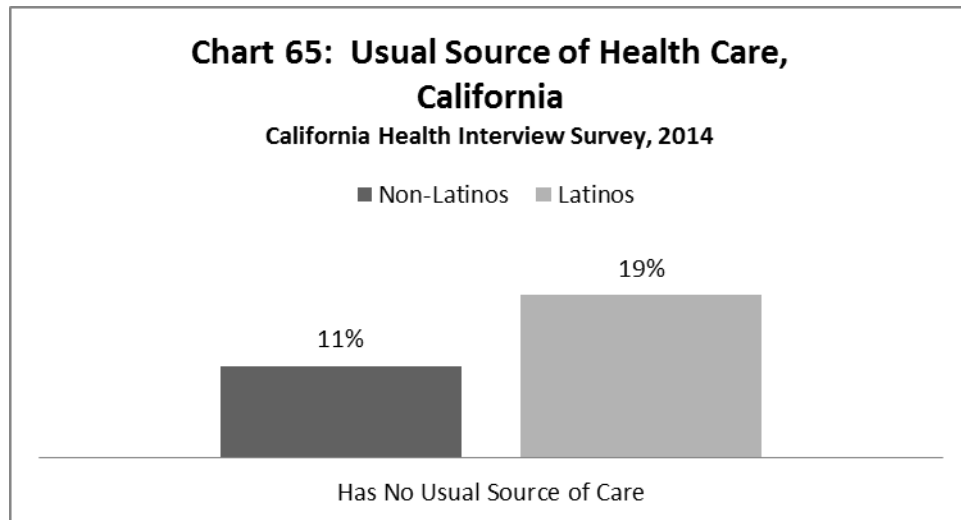


As shown in Chart 64, 44 percent of Latinos were covered by publicly funded programs such as Medi-Cal, compared with 32 percent of non-Latinos. Employer-based insurance covered 33 percent of Latinos, compared with 52 percent of non-Latinos. Privately purchased insurance covered 4 percent of Latinos, compared with 8 percent of non-Latinos.<sup>44</sup>



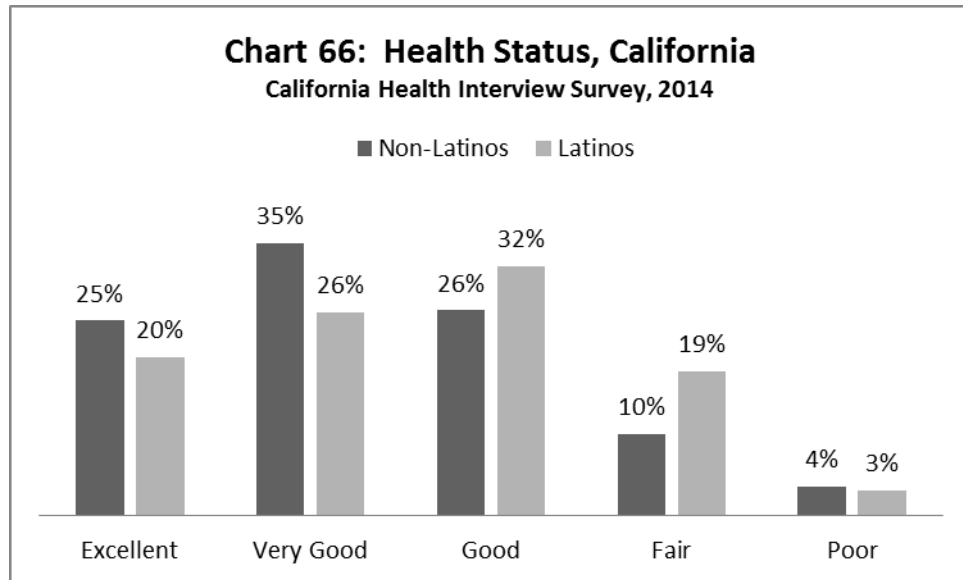
<sup>44</sup> In 2014, SOR reported data from the 2011–12 California Health Interview Survey that showed 41 percent of Latinos had health coverage through publicly funded health programs, while employer-based insurance covered 35 percent of Latinos, and privately purchased insurance covered 3 percent.

In 2014, Latinos were more likely than non-Latinos to report they did not have a usual source of care or a place to go when sick or in need of health advice. Overall, 19 percent of Latinos reported they did not have a usual source of health care, compared with 11 percent of non-Latinos. This is shown in Chart 65.



Latinos were less likely to report they had excellent or very good health and more likely to report their health was good or fair, compared with non-Latinos statewide, as shown in Chart 66 on the next page. Twenty-five percent of non-Latinos reported they had “excellent” health, compared with 20 percent of Latinos. A plurality of non-Latinos, 35 percent, reported they were in “very good” health, compared with 26 percent of Latinos.

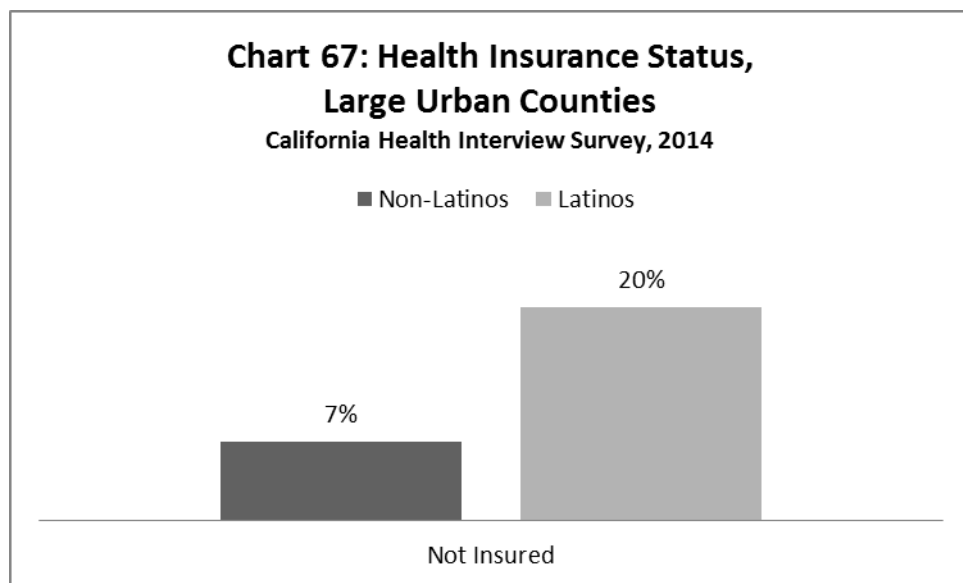
In contrast, a plurality of Latinos, 32 percent, reported they were in “good” health compared with 26 percent of non-Latinos. Nineteen percent of Latinos reported having “fair” health, compared with 10 percent of non-Latinos. However, the percentage of Latinos reporting their health as “poor” was only 3 percent, compared with 4 percent of non-Latinos.



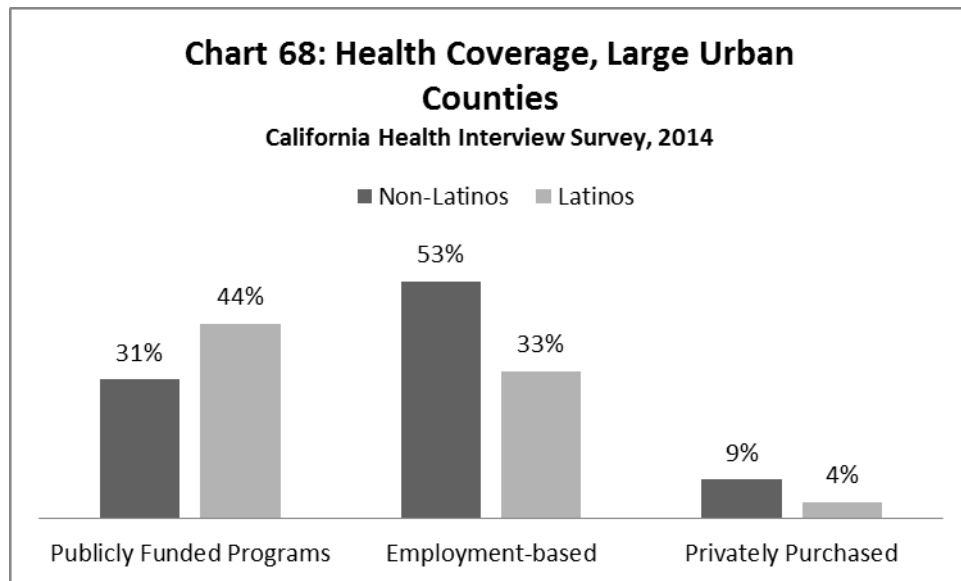
These statewide patterns for health care coverage, access, and health status are consistent for Latinos living in each of the three county subgroups.

### Large Urban Counties

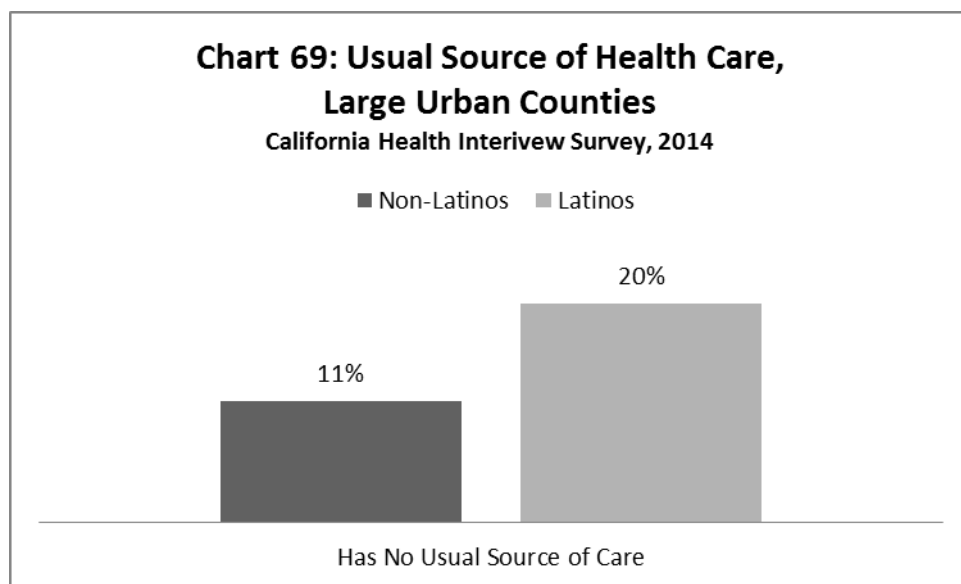
In 2014, Latinos in large urban counties were more likely to be uninsured than non-Latinos: Twenty percent of Latinos were uninsured, compared with 7 percent of non-Latinos, as shown in Chart 67.



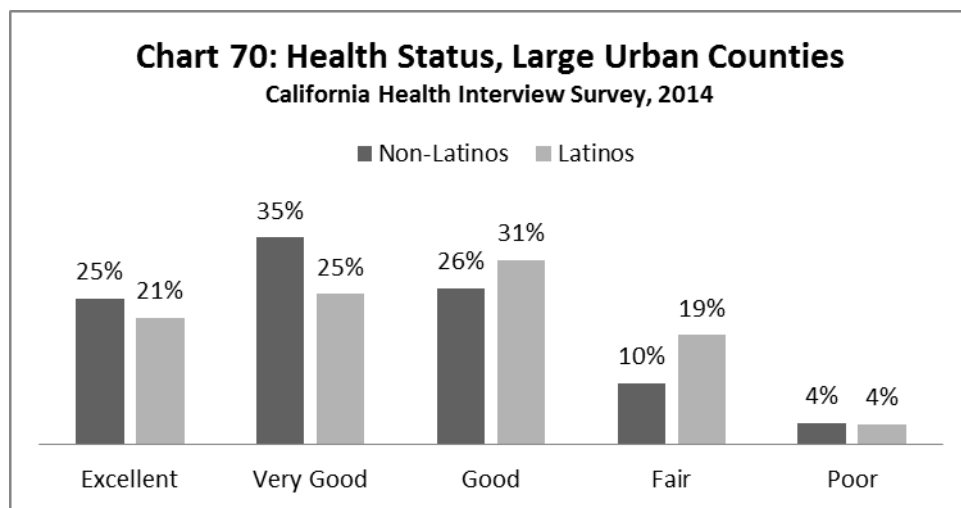
Of those living in large urban counties, 44 percent of Latinos were covered by publicly funded programs such as Medi-Cal, compared with 31 percent of non-Latinos. Employer-based insurance covered 33 percent of Latinos, compared with 53 percent of non-Latinos. Privately purchased insurance covered 4 percent of Latinos, compared with 9 percent of non-Latinos. These patterns are illustrated in Chart 68.



Latinos in large urban counties were more likely than non-Latinos to report they did not have a usual source of health care or a place to go when sick or in need of health advice. Twenty percent of Latinos reported not having a usual source of care, compared with 11 percent of non-Latinos. This is shown in Chart 69.

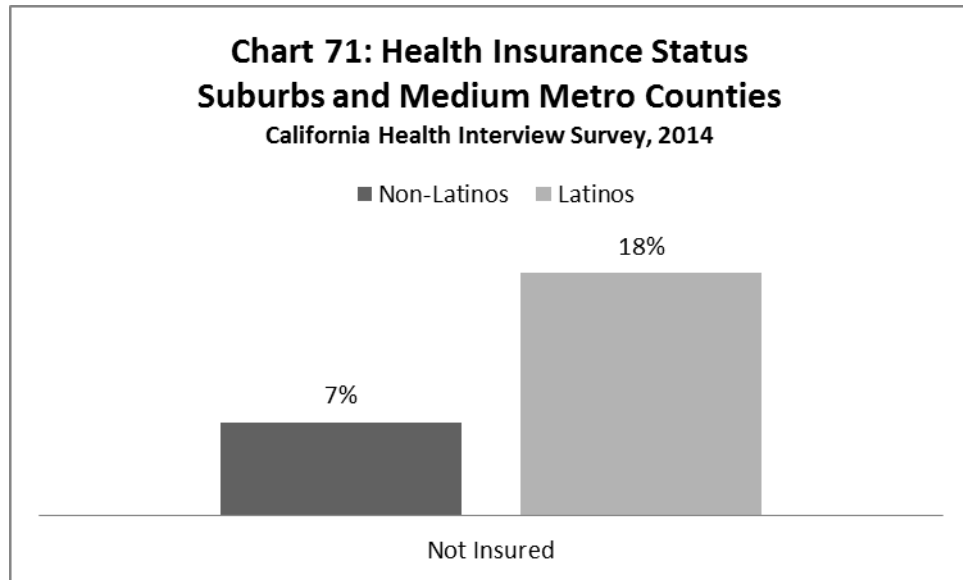


Latinos in large urban counties were less likely to report excellent or very good health and more likely to report good or fair health, compared with non-Latinos. As shown in Chart 70, 25 percent of non-Latinos in large urban counties reported “excellent” health, compared with 21 percent of Latinos. A plurality of non-Latinos in large urban counties—35 percent— reported “very good” health, compared with 25 percent of Latinos. In contrast, a plurality of Latinos in large urban counties—31 percent— reported “good” health, compared with 26 percent of non-Latinos. Nineteen percent of Latinos in large urban counties reported having “fair” health, compared with 10 percent of non-Latinos. The same percentages of Latinos and non-Latinos reported “poor” health—4 percent each.

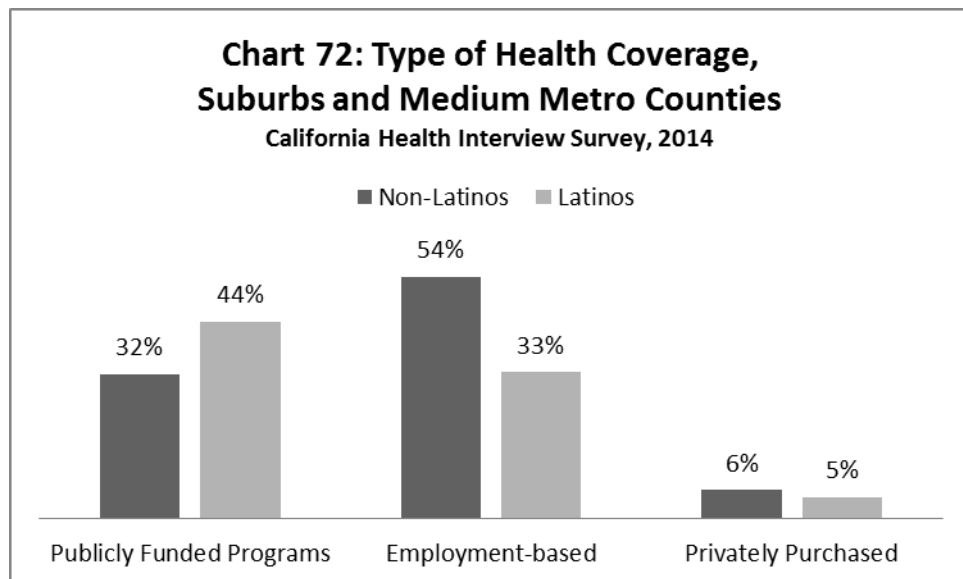


### **Suburbs and Medium Metro Counties**

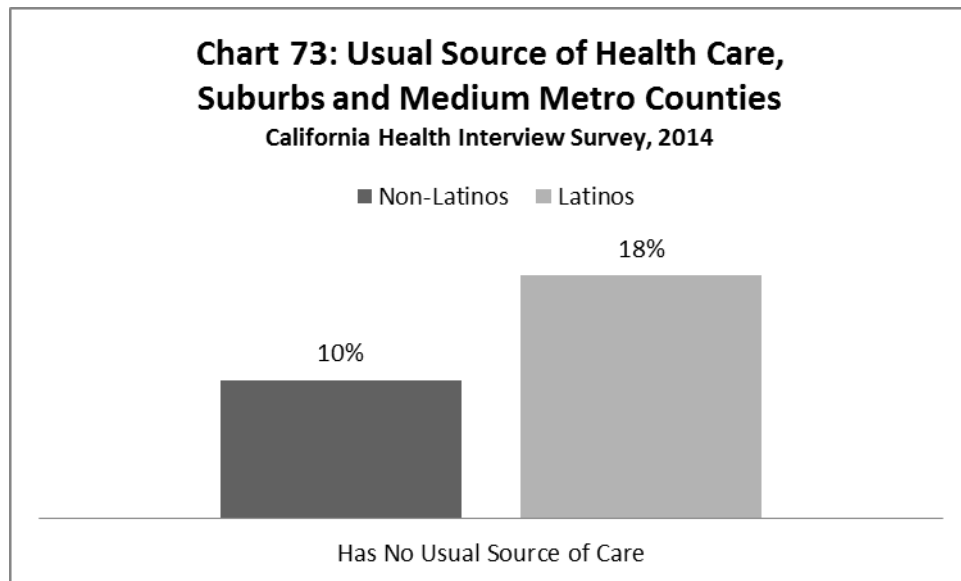
In 2014, Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties were more likely to be uninsured than non-Latinos. This pattern is similar to the statewide pattern and the pattern for large urban counties. In suburbs and medium metro counties, 18 percent of Latinos were uninsured, compared with 7 percent of non-Latinos. Eighty-two percent of Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties indicated they were insured at the time of the survey, compared with 93 percent of non-Latinos. Chart 71 on the next page illustrates the percentages of Latinos and non-Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties who indicated they were uninsured.



Of those living in suburbs and medium metro counties, 44 percent of Latinos indicated they were covered by publicly funded programs such as Medi-Cal, compared with 32 percent of non-Latinos. Employer-based insurance covered 33 percent of Latinos, compared with 54 percent of non-Latinos. Privately purchased insurance covered 5 percent of Latinos, compared with 6 percent of non-Latinos. These patterns are illustrated in Chart 72.

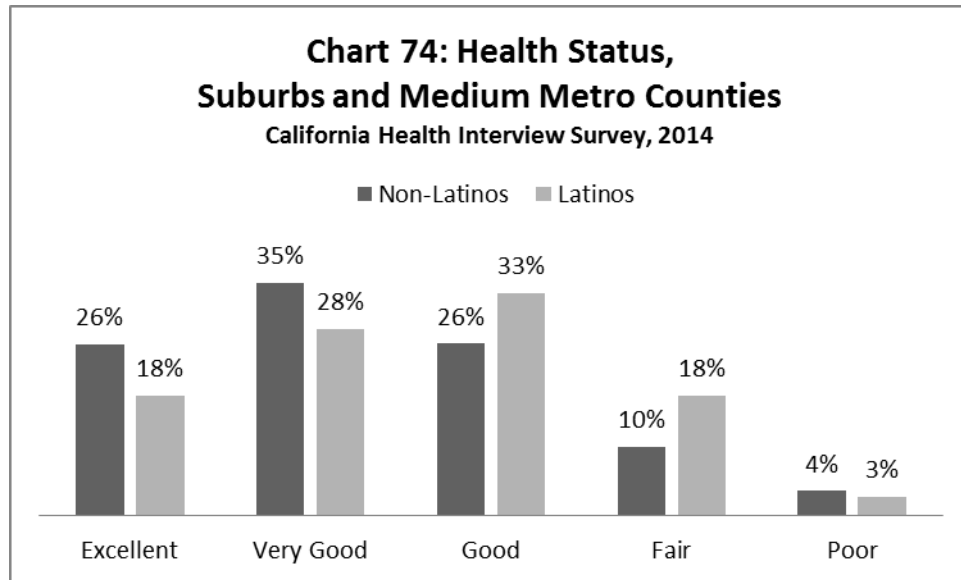


In 2014, Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties were more likely than non-Latinos to report they did not have a usual source of health care or a place to go when sick or in need of health advice. As shown in Chart 73, 18 percent of Latinos in the suburbs and medium metro counties reported they did not have a usual source of health care, compared with 10 percent of non-Latinos.



Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties were less likely to report excellent or very good health and more likely to report good or fair health compared with non-Latinos. As shown in Chart 74 on the next page, 26 percent of non-Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties reported “excellent” health, compared with 18 percent of Latinos. A plurality of non-Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties—35 percent—reported “very good” health, compared with 28 percent of Latinos. In contrast, a plurality of Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties—33 percent—reported “good” health, compared with 26 percent of non-Latinos.

Eighteen percent of Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties reported having “fair” health, compared with 10 percent of non-Latinos. The percentages of respondents reporting “poor” health were comparable between non-Latinos and Latinos, at 4 percent and 3 percent, respectively.

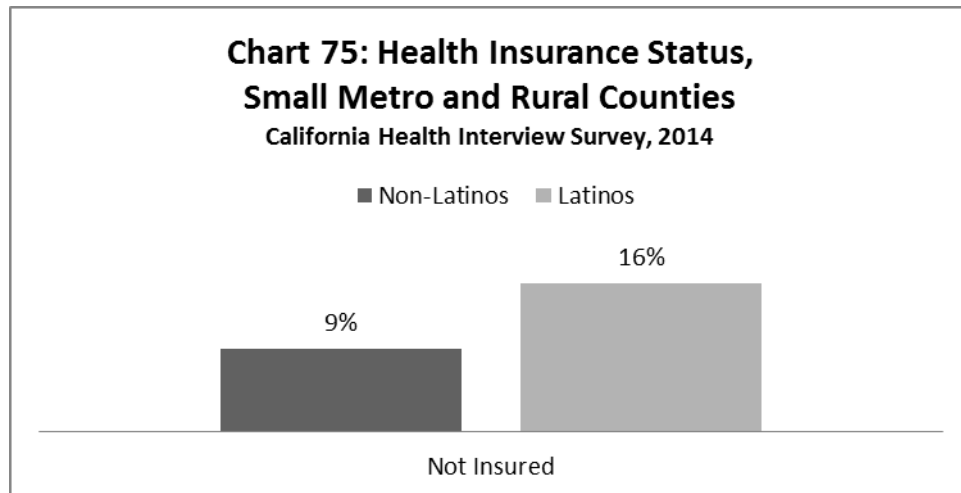


### **Small Metro and Rural Counties**

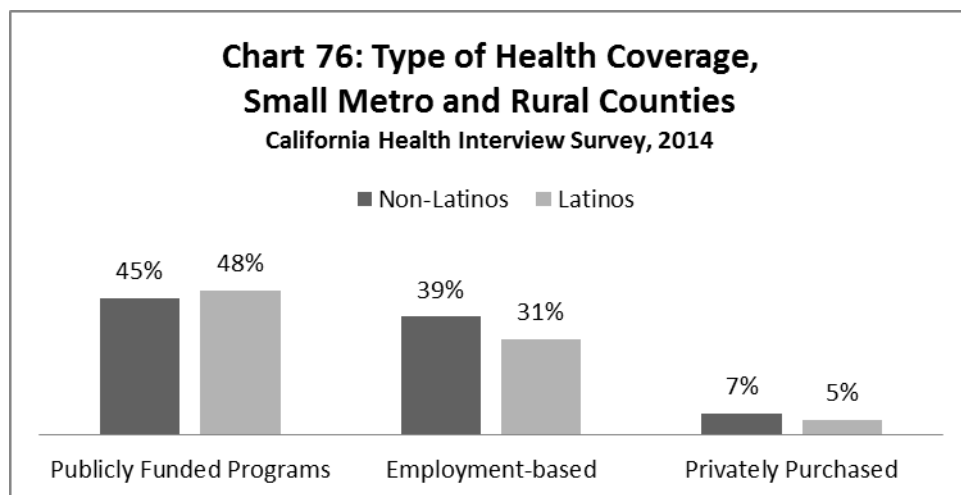
As in other areas of the state, Latinos in small metro and rural counties were more likely to be uninsured than non-Latinos in 2014. However, the gap (7 percent) is less in these counties than the gap statewide (12 percent), in large urban counties (13 percent), and in suburbs and medium metro counties (11 percent). This relative difference may be related to rural poverty rates.

Compared with more urban areas, in small metro and rural counties, a higher percentage of individuals were covered by publicly funded programs such as Medi-Cal, and a lower percentage of individuals were covered by employer-based coverage, regardless of ethnicity. These observations suggest that in smaller and more rural areas, there have been fewer job opportunities with employer-based health coverage, leading to greater use of publicly funded insurance.

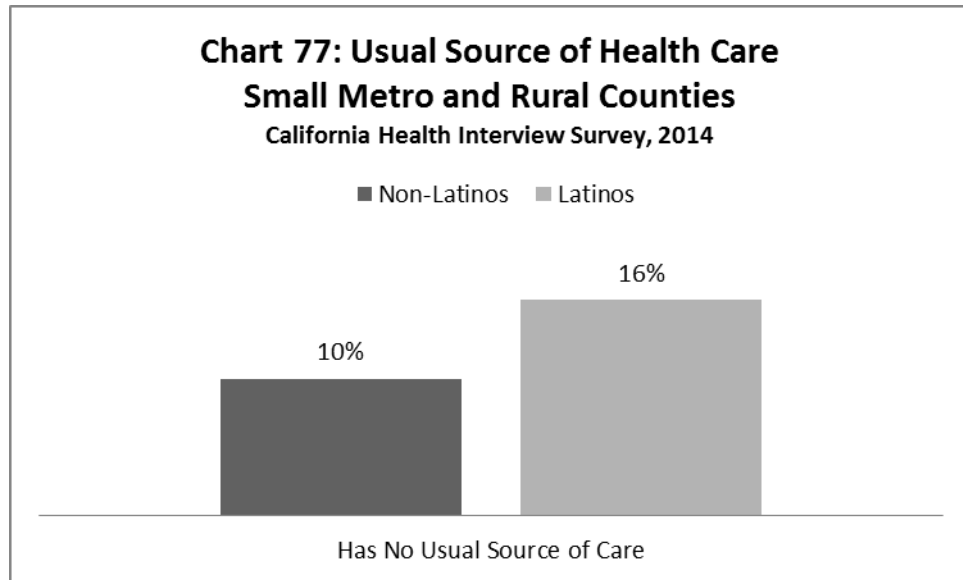
In 2014, 16 percent of Latinos in small metro and rural counties were uninsured, compared with 9 percent of non-Latinos. This is shown in Chart 75 on the next page.



Of those living in small metro and rural counties, 48 percent of Latinos reported they were covered by publicly funded programs such as Medi-Cal, compared with 45 percent of non-Latinos. Employer-based insurance covered 31 percent of Latinos in small metro and rural counties, compared with 39 percent of non-Latinos. Privately purchased insurance covered 5 percent of Latinos in small metro and rural counties, compared with 7 percent of non-Latinos. These patterns are illustrated in Chart 76.

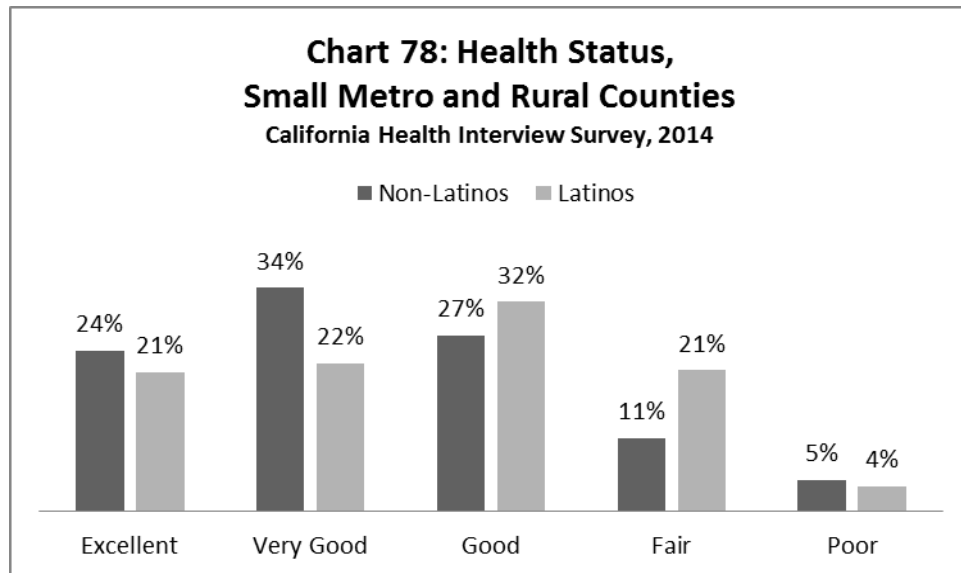


In 2014, Latinos in small metro and rural counties were more likely than non-Latinos to report that they did not have a usual source of care or a place to go when sick or in need of health advice. As shown in Chart 77 on the next page, 16 percent of Latinos in small metro and rural counties reported not having a usual source of care, compared with 10 percent of non-Latinos.



In 2014, Latinos in small metro and rural counties were less likely to report “excellent” or “very good” health and more likely to report “good” or “fair” health, compared with non-Latinos. This data is shown in Chart 78 on the next page.

While 24 percent of non-Latinos in small metro and rural counties reported “excellent” health, only 21 percent of Latinos did. A plurality of non-Latinos in the small metro and rural counties—34 percent—reported “very good” health compared with 22 percent of Latinos. In contrast, a plurality of Latinos in small metro and rural counties—32 percent—reported “good” health, compared with 27 percent of non-Latinos. While 21 percent of Latinos in small metro and rural counties reported having “fair” health, only 11 percent of non-Latinos did. The percentages of Latinos and non-Latinos reporting “poor” health were comparable, at 5 percent and 4 percent, respectively.



### **Implications of the Federal Affordable Care Act**

Beginning January 1, 2014, under the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA), California expanded health care coverage through Medi-Cal, California’s Medicaid program, and with the establishment of Covered California, the state’s health marketplace exchange. As a result, the overall percentage of uninsured individuals in California decreased from 15 percent in 2011–12 to 12 percent in 2014. However, the ACA prohibits undocumented persons from purchasing health insurance on the exchanges, and undocumented persons are eligible for only limited services in Medi-Cal, such as emergency services.<sup>45</sup>

As of this writing, President Trump and the Republican-led Congress are seeking to repeal and replace the ACA. The demographics of the population enrolled in the Medi-Cal expansion and Covered California suggest millions of Californians—Latinos and non-Latinos alike—will lose health care coverage if the ACA is repealed. In July 2016, 3.7 million Californians were enrolled in Medi-Cal in the ACA adult expansion. Of new enrollees who identified their race or ethnicity, 42 percent identified as Hispanic. In June 2016, 1.2 million Californians were enrolled and receiving subsidies

<sup>45</sup> Undocumented persons are primarily eligible for emergency services, pregnancy-related services, and long-term care under Medi-Cal. California HealthCare Foundation, “California Health Care Almanac Medi-Cal Facts and Figures: A Program Transforms,” May 2013. Available at <http://www.chcf.org/~media/MEDIA%20LIBRARY%20Files/PDF/PDF%20M/PDF%20MediCalFactsAndFigures2013.pdf>. Beginning on May 16, 2016, California expanded Medi-Cal full-scope eligibility to undocumented children (SB 75 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review), Chapter 18, Statutes of 2015).

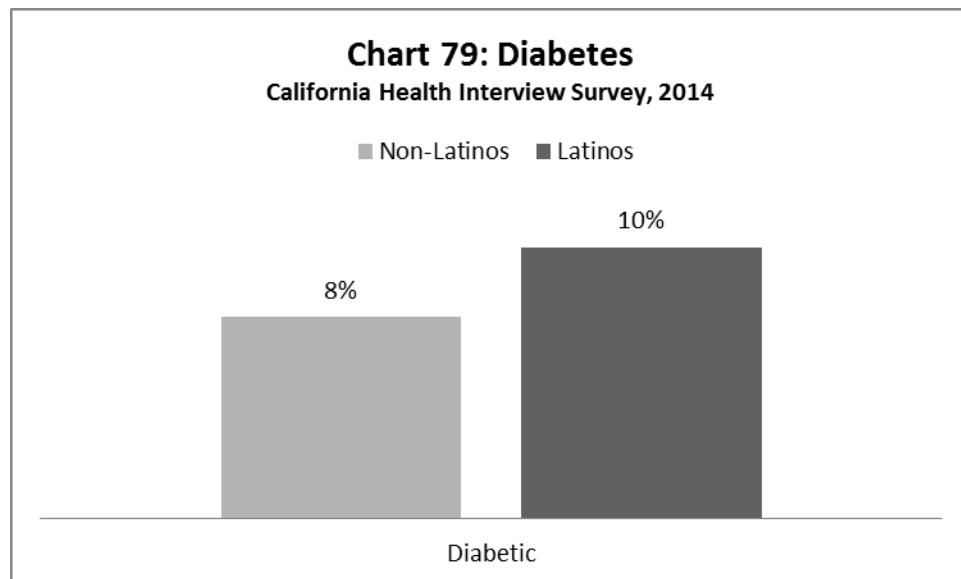
through Covered California. Of those who responded to the race/ethnicity question, 29 percent were Latinos.<sup>46</sup>

## Public Health

The following data from the 2014 California Health Interview Survey compares Latinos and non-Latinos statewide on the following issues: chronic diseases and conditions, lifestyles, nutrition and food access, mental health, and dental visits. The Latino data also is broken down into the following Latino subgroups: Mexicans, Salvadorans, Guatemalans, and those identified as other Latino. However, data for the three county subgroups isn't included in this section.

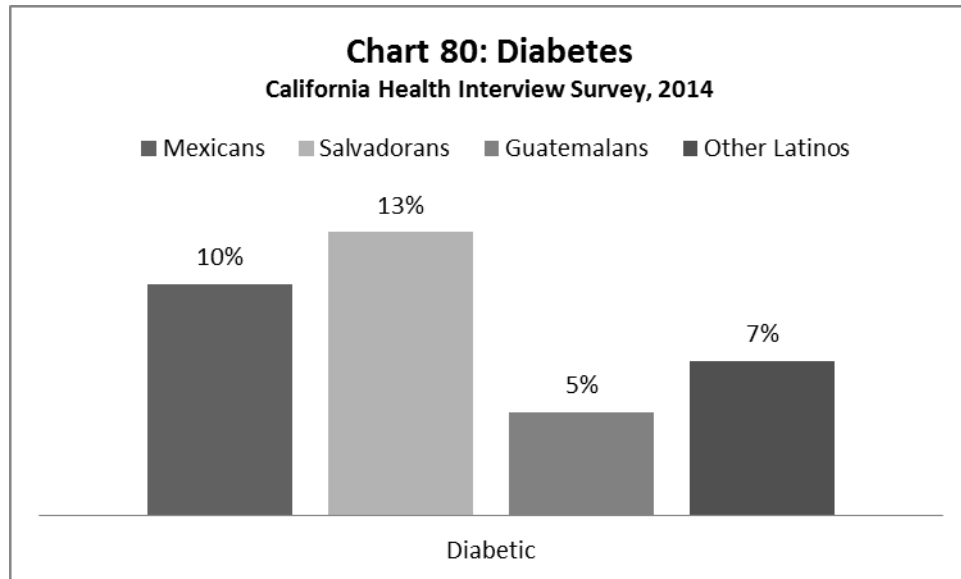
### Chronic Diseases and Conditions

In 2014, Latinos reported having higher incidences of diabetes than non-Latinos. Ten percent of Latinos reported being diabetic, compared with 8 percent of non-Latinos, as shown in Chart 79.

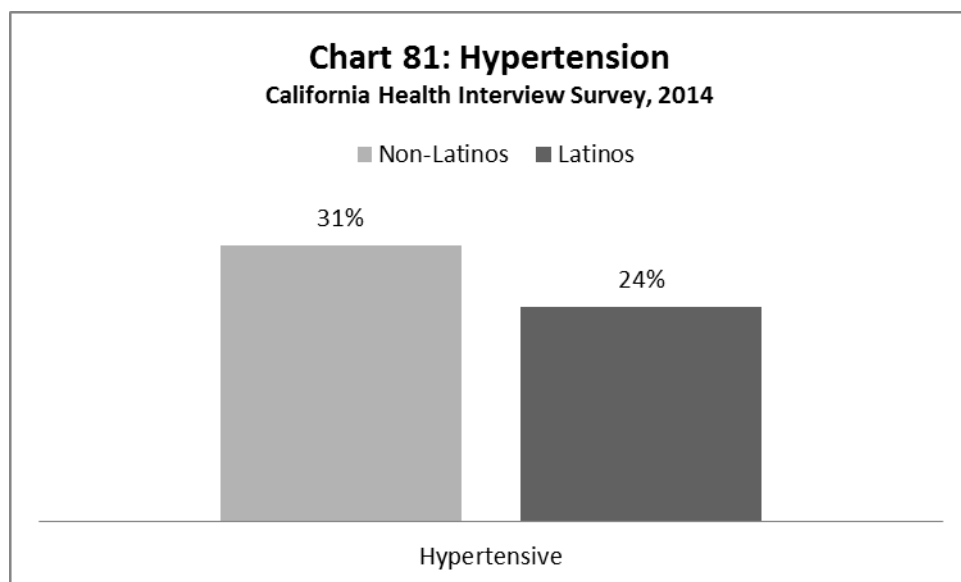


<sup>46</sup> Miranda Dietz, L. Lucia, G.F. Kominiski, et al., "ACA Repeal in California: Who Stands to Lose?" data brief prepared by UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education and UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, December 2016. <http://laborcenter.berkeley.edu/pdf/2016/ACA-Repeal-in-California.pdf>.

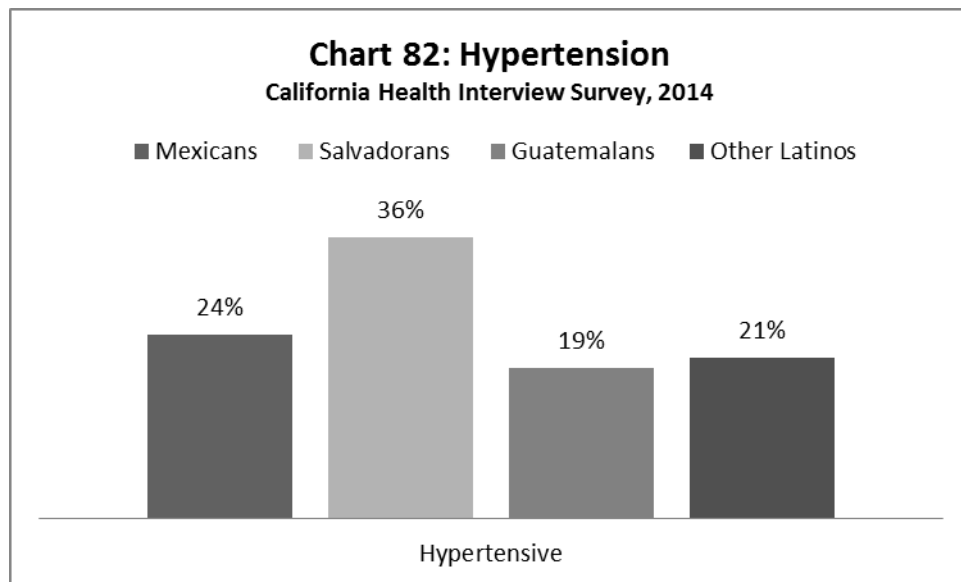
Among Latino subgroups, 13 percent of Salvadorans reported having diabetes, followed by 10 percent of Mexicans, and 5 percent of Guatemalans. About 7 percent of survey participants who identified as other Latino reported having diabetes. This information is shown in Chart 80.



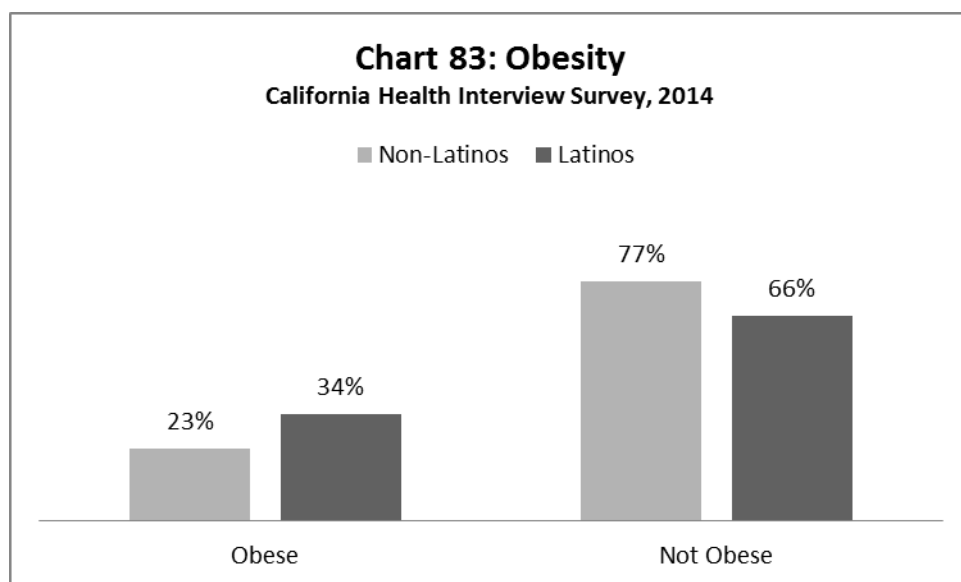
In 2014, Latinos reported having lower incidences of high blood pressure than non-Latinos. Twenty-four percent of Latinos reported being hypertensive, compared with 31 percent of non-Latinos, as shown in Chart 81.



Among Latino subgroups, 36 percent of Salvadorans reported having high blood pressure, the largest percentage compared with all other Latino groups. Behind Salvadorans, 24 percent of Mexicans reported having high blood pressure, followed by 19 percent of Guatemalans, and 21 percent of other Latinos. This is shown in Chart 82.

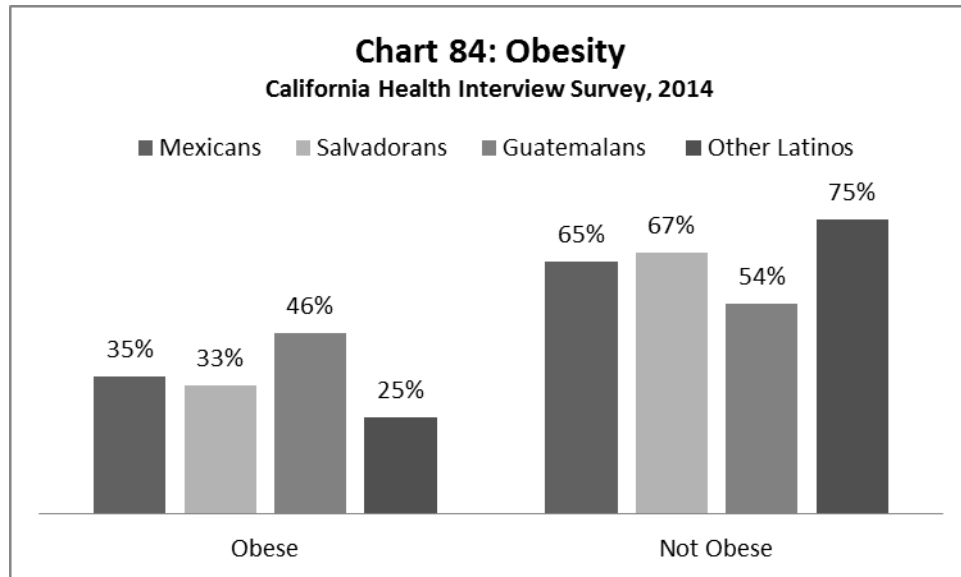


In 2014, Latinos reported higher incidences of obesity than non-Latinos. Thirty-four percent of Latinos reported being obese, compared with 23 percent of non-Latinos, as shown in Chart 83.<sup>47</sup>

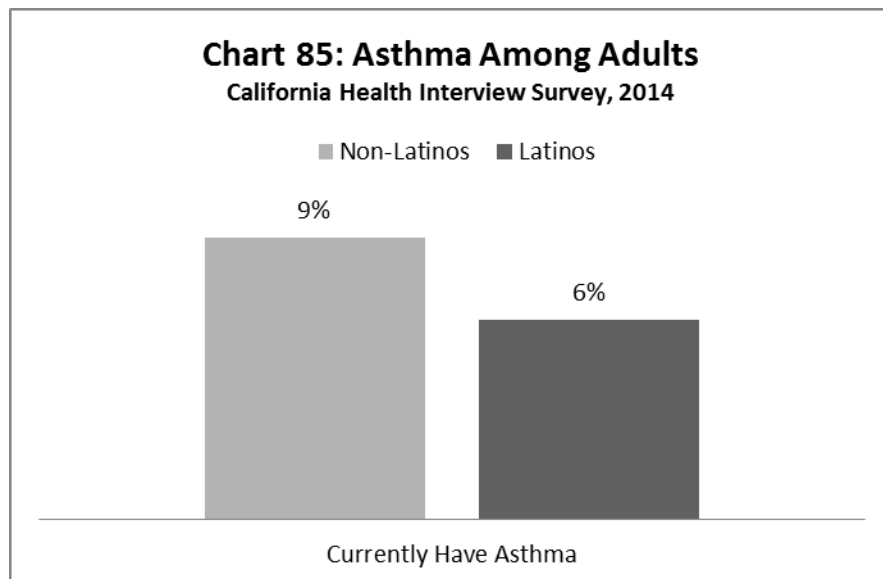


<sup>47</sup> The 2014 California Health Interview Survey defines “obese” as having a body mass index (BMI) greater than or equal to 30 for both men and women. BMI is calculated by dividing a person’s weight in kilograms by the square of the person’s height in meters.

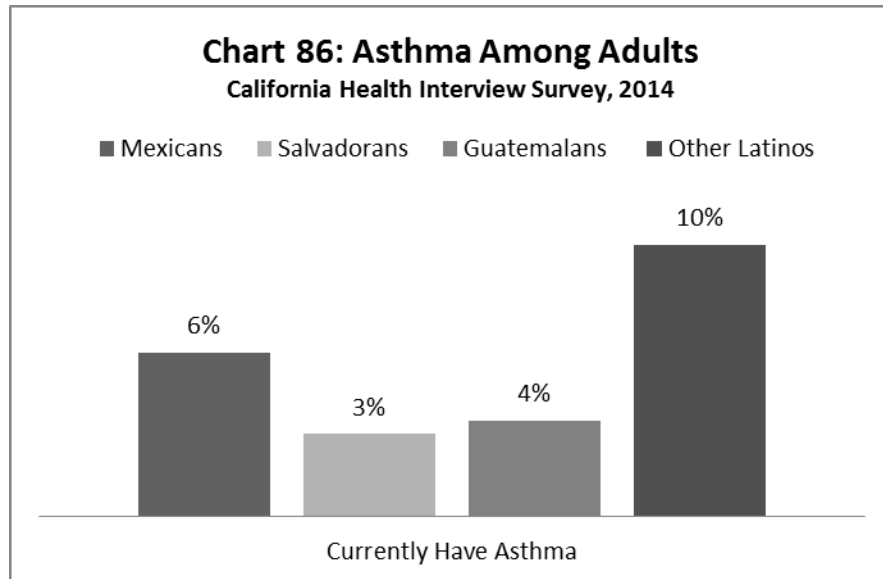
Among Latino subgroups, 46 percent of Guatemalans reported being obese, followed by 35 percent of Mexicans, 33 percent of Salvadorans, and 25 percent of those identifying as other Latino. This information is shown in Chart 84.



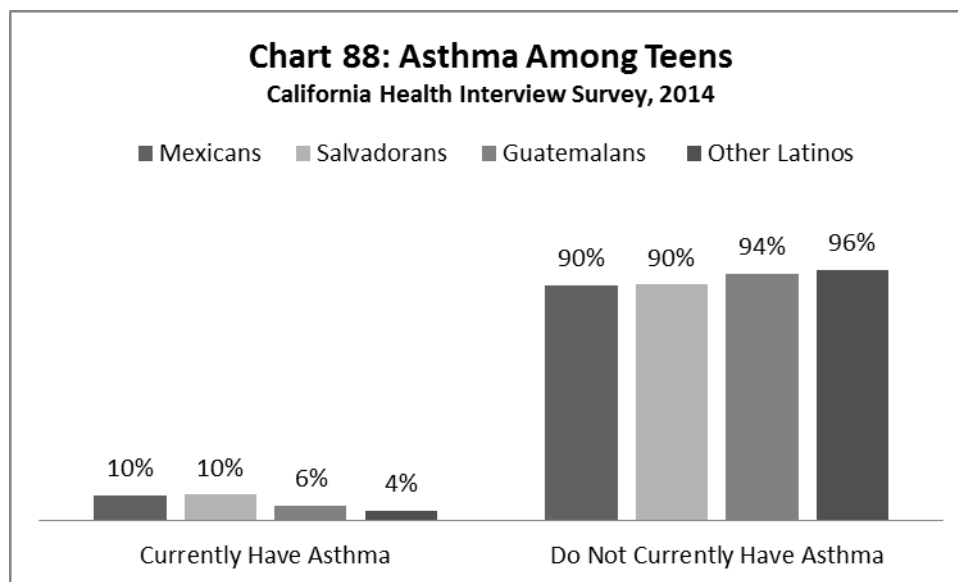
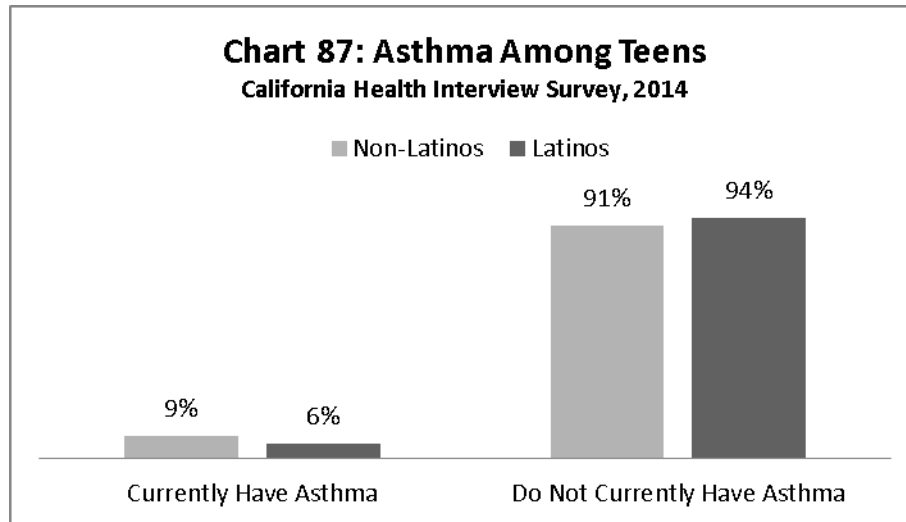
In 2014, adult Latinos reported having lower rates of asthma than adult non-Latinos. Six percent of adult Latinos reported having asthma, compared with 9 percent of adult non-Latinos, as shown in Chart 85.



Looking at the adult Latino subgroups, 10 percent of those that identified as other Latino reported having asthma, compared with 6 percent of Mexicans, 4 percent of Guatemalans, and 3 percent of Salvadorans. This information is shown in Chart 86.



In 2014, teenage Latinos reported having lower rates of asthma than teenage non-Latinos. Six percent of teenage Latinos reported having asthma, compared with 9 percent of adult non-Latinos, as shown in Chart 87 on the next page. (These are the same asthma rates reported by adult Latinos and non-Latinos). Looking at the teenage Latino subgroups, 10 percent of Mexicans and Salvadorans reported having asthma, compared with 6 percent of Guatemalans and 4 percent of those who identified as other Latino. This information is shown in Chart 88 on the next page.



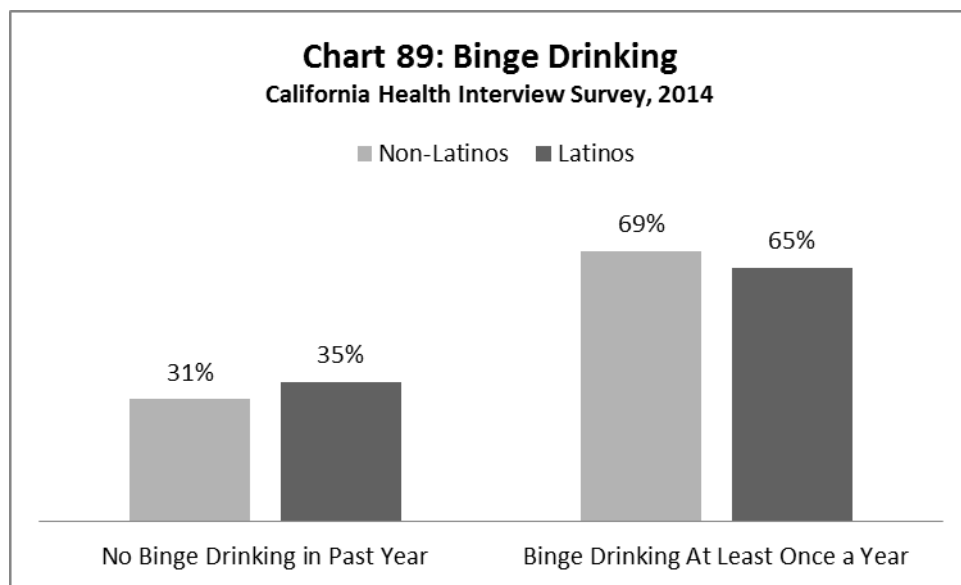
In 2014, Latino children were reported as having the same asthma rates as non-Latino children (7 percent).

## **Lifestyle**

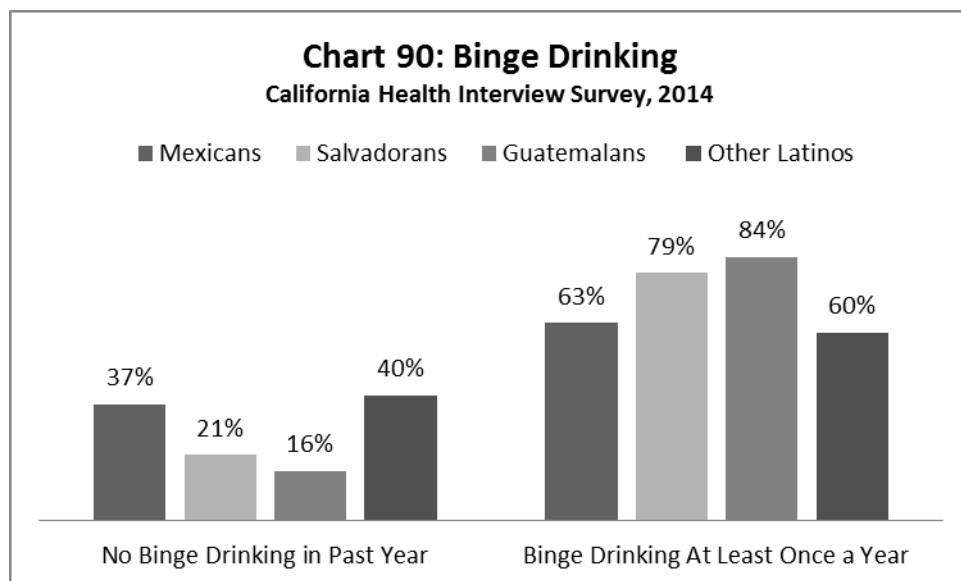
In 2014, Latinos were more likely than non-Latinos to report abstaining from binge drinking.<sup>48</sup> Thirty-six percent of Latinos reported abstaining from binge drinking, compared with 31 percent of non-Latinos. Chart 89 on the next page shows the

<sup>48</sup> The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines binge drinking as a pattern of drinking that brings a person's blood alcohol concentration to 0.08 grams percent or above, which is about five or more drinks for men and about four or more drinks for women in a two-hour time span. The serving size for one standard drink contains about 14 grams of pure alcohol.

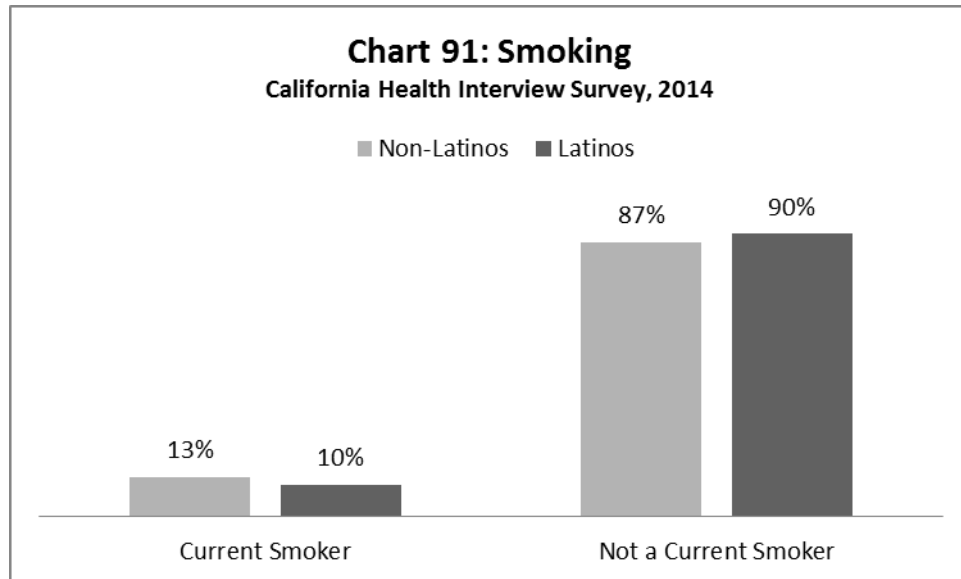
percentages of survey respondents who abstained from binge drinking or partook in binge drinking at least once in 2014.



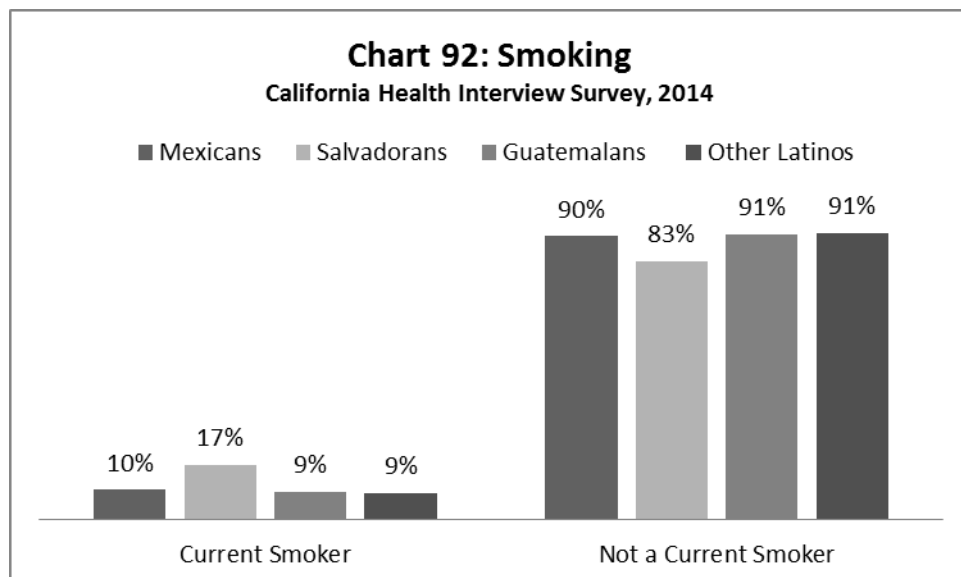
Among the Latino subgroups, 37 percent of Mexicans, 21 percent of Salvadorans, 16 percent of Guatemalans, and 40 percent of those identifying as other Latino abstained from binge drinking. This information is shown in Chart 90.



Latinos surveyed in 2014 had lower rates of smoking than non-Latinos. Ten percent of Latinos identified as current smokers, compared with 13 percent of non-Latinos.<sup>49</sup> This information is shown in Chart 91.

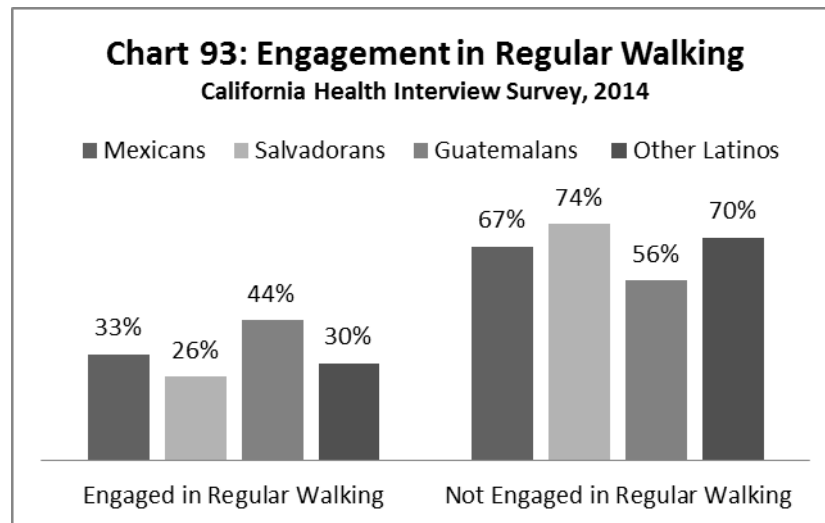


Among the Latino subgroups, 10 percent of Mexicans, 17 percent of Salvadorans, 9 percent of Guatemalans, and 9 percent of those identifying as other Latinos reported being current smokers, as shown in Chart 92.



<sup>49</sup> The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines a current smoker as an adult who has smoked 100 cigarettes in his or her lifetime and who currently smokes cigarettes.

Latinos and non-Latinos surveyed in 2014 were about equally engaged in regular walking, with both groups reporting at 33 percent.<sup>50</sup> Among the Latino subgroups, 33 percent of Mexicans, 26 percent of Salvadorans, 44 percent of Guatemalans, and 30 percent of those identifying as other Latino reported engaging in regular walking, as shown in Chart 93.

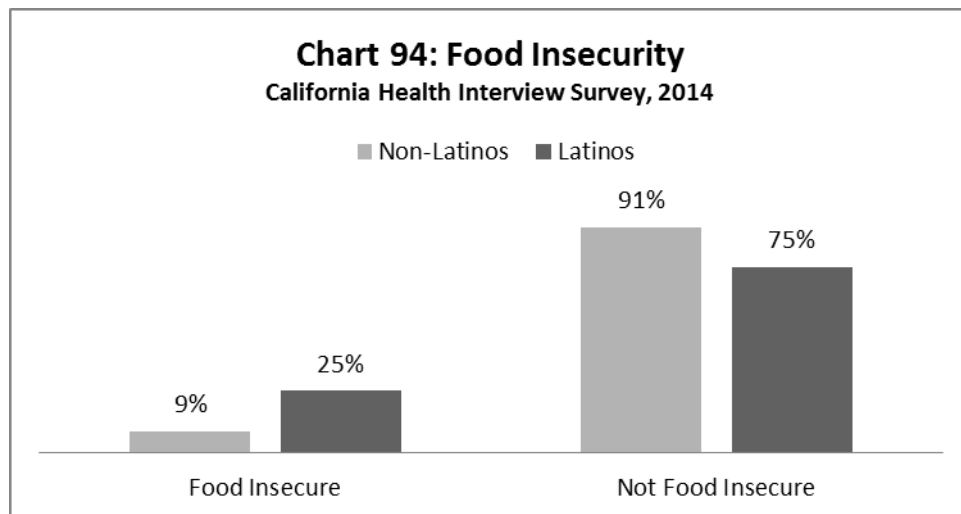


### **Nutrition and Food Access**

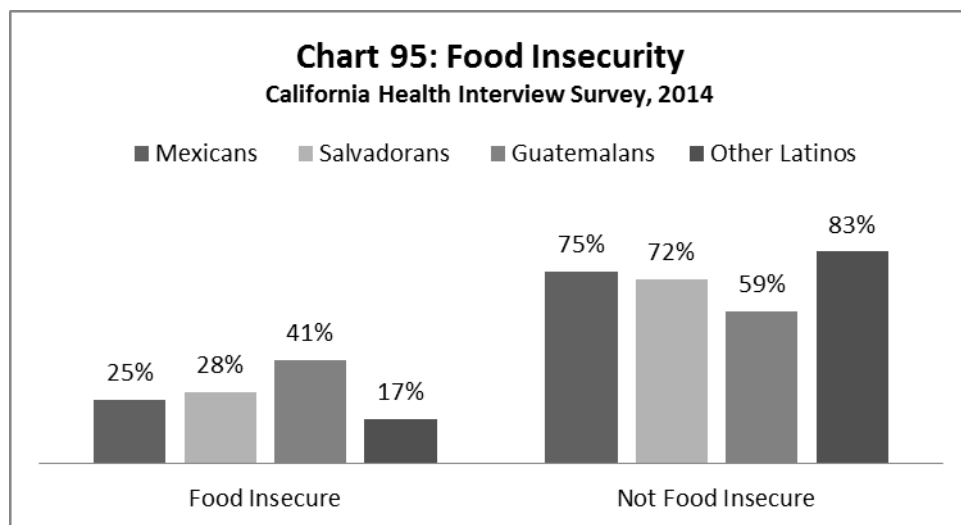
In 2014, Latinos had higher rates of food insecurity than non-Latinos.<sup>51</sup> Twenty-five percent of Latinos identified as being food-insecure, compared with 9 percent of non-Latinos, as shown in Chart 94 on the next page.

<sup>50</sup> The American Heart Association defines regular walking as moderate to brisk walking (2 to 3 miles per hour) sustained over 10- to 30-minute intervals per day.

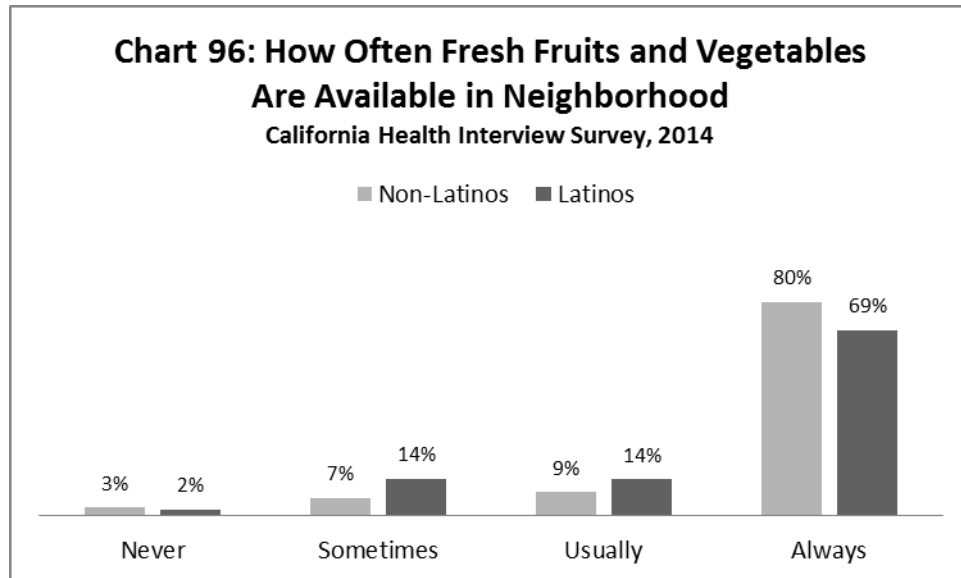
<sup>51</sup> The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food security as the ability of people to access, at all times, enough food for an active, healthy life. USDA defines food insecurity as the lack of reliable access to sufficient quantities of affordable, nutritious, or desirable food which can lead to reduced food and nutritional intake.



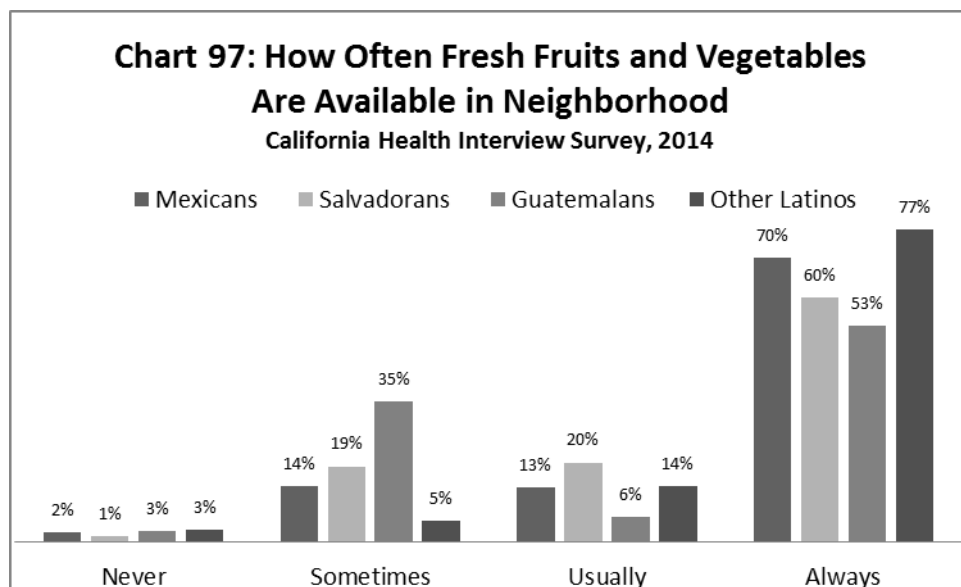
Among Latino subgroups surveyed, 41 percent of Guatemalans, 28 percent of Salvadorans, 25 percent of Mexicans, and 17 percent of individuals identifying as other Latino reported food insecurity. This information is shown in Chart 95.



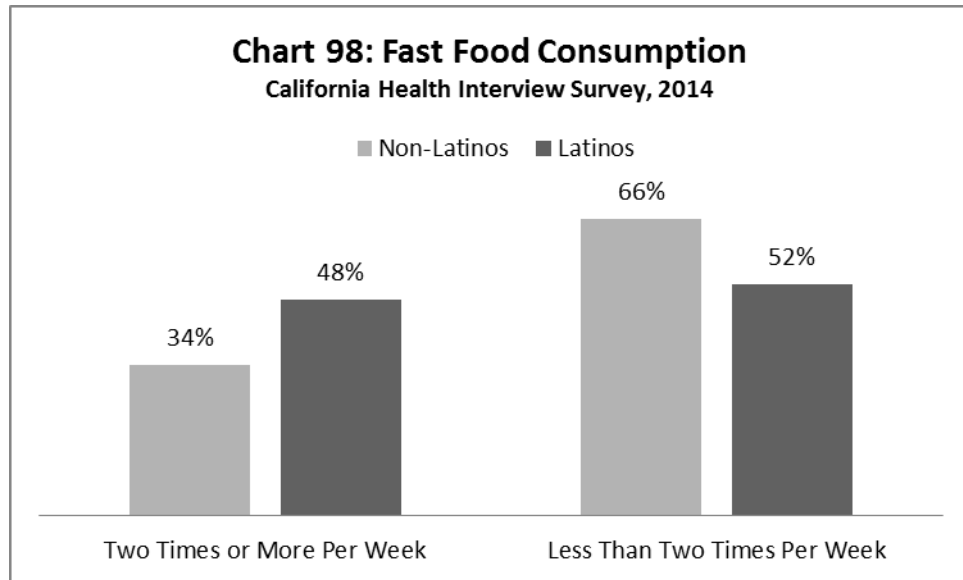
Latinos surveyed in 2014 were less likely than non-Latinos to always find fresh fruits and vegetables in their neighborhoods. Latinos were more likely to sometimes or usually find fresh fruits and vegetables in their neighborhoods. Chart 96 on the next page illustrates general food availability and the percentages of survey respondents that never, sometimes, usually, or always were able to find fresh fruits and vegetables in their neighborhoods.



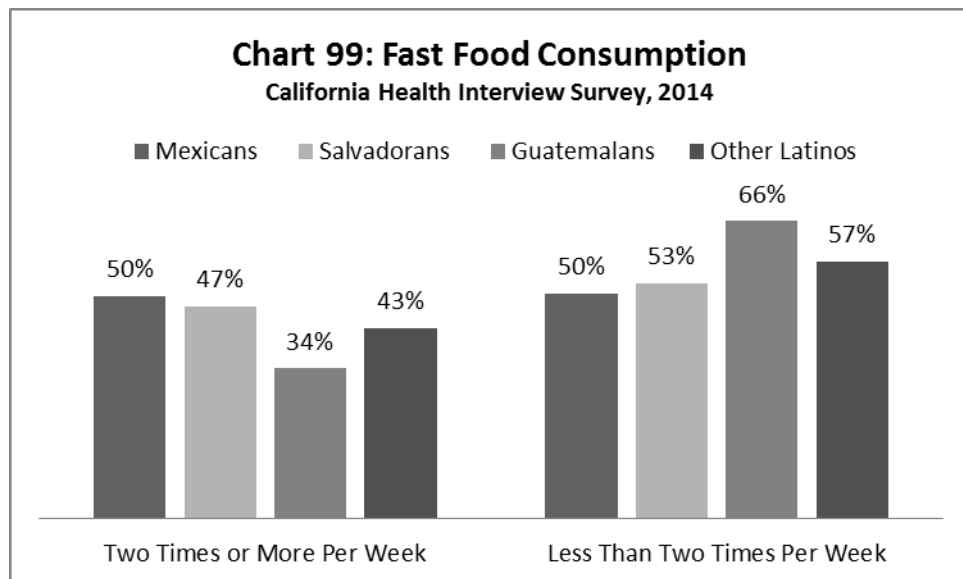
Among Latino subgroups, Guatemalans were the least likely to always find fresh fruits and vegetables in their neighborhoods, compared with Mexicans, Salvadorans, and other Latinos. Chart 97 gives a breakdown of nutritional food availability for these Latino subgroups.



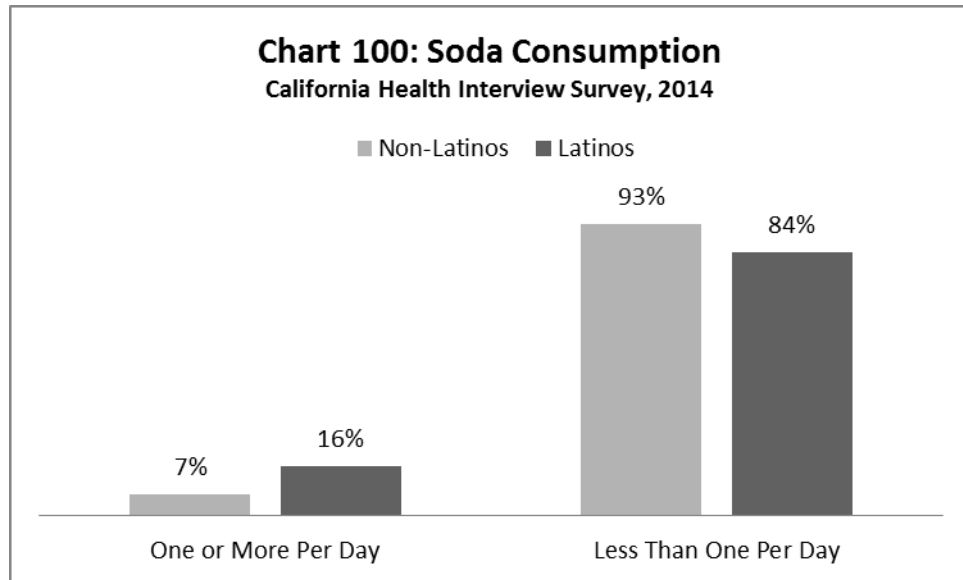
Latinos surveyed in 2014 consumed fast food more often than non-Latinos, as shown in Chart 98 on the next page. Forty-eight percent of Latinos consumed fast food two times or more per week, compared with 34 percent of non-Latinos. Sixty-six percent of non-Latinos consumed fast food less than two times per week, compared with 52 percent of Latinos.



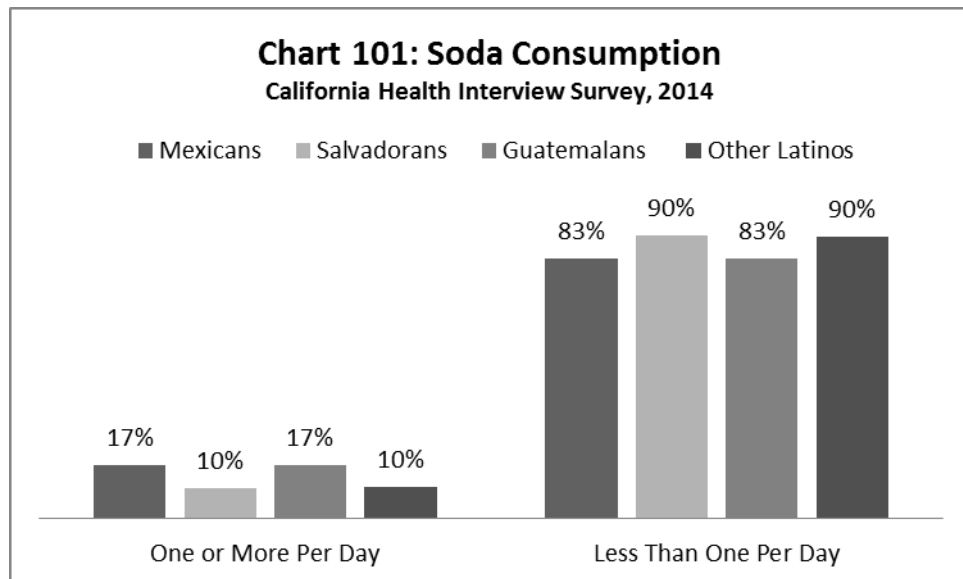
Among Latino subgroups, 50 percent of Mexicans, 47 percent of Salvadorans, 43 percent of other Latinos, and 34 percent of Guatemalans reported to consume fast food two or more times per week. This information is shown in Chart 99.



Latinos surveyed in 2014 consumed soda more often than non-Latinos, as shown in Chart 100 on the next page. Sixteen percent of Latinos consumed soda one or more times per day, compared with 7 percent of non-Latinos. Ninety-three percent of non-Latinos surveyed in 2014 consumed soda less than one time per day, compared with 84 percent of Latinos.

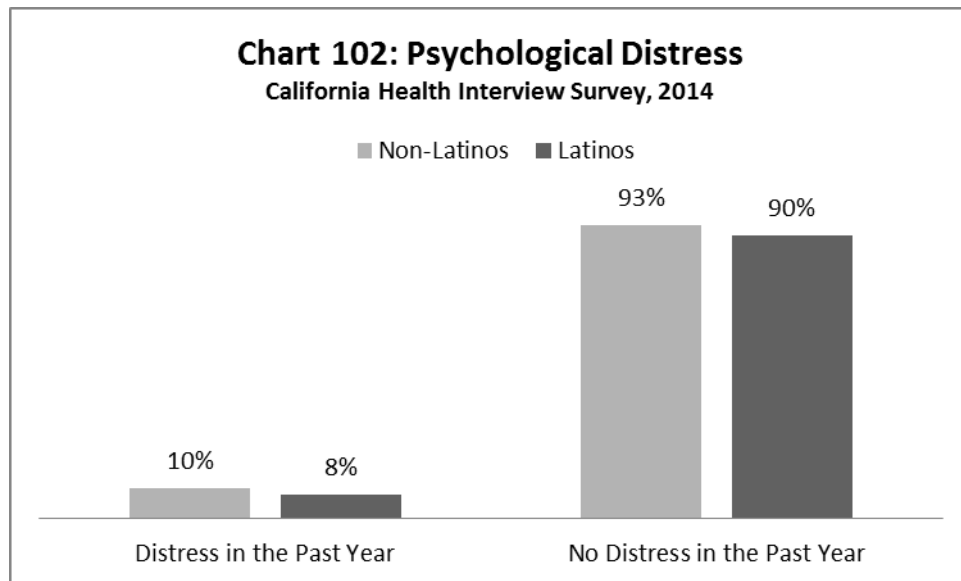


Among Latino subgroups, 17 percent of Mexicans, 17 percent of Salvadorans, 10 percent of other Latinos, and 10 percent of Guatemalans reported to consume one or more sodas per day. This information is shown in Chart 101.

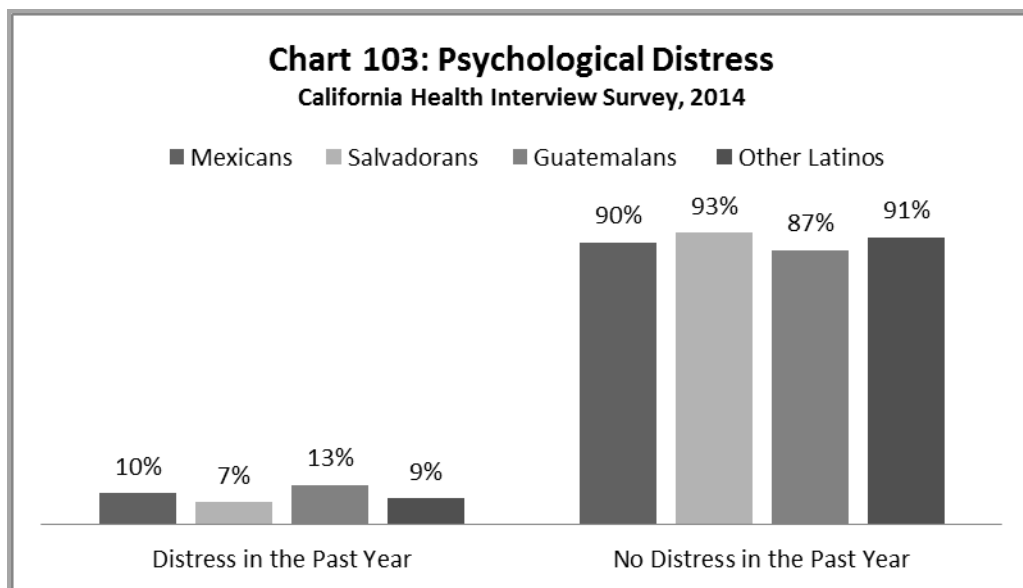


## Mental Health

Latinos surveyed in 2014 reported slightly lower rates of psychological distress than non-Latinos, as shown in Chart 102. Eight percent of Latinos reported psychological distress in 2014, compared with 10 percent of non-Latinos.

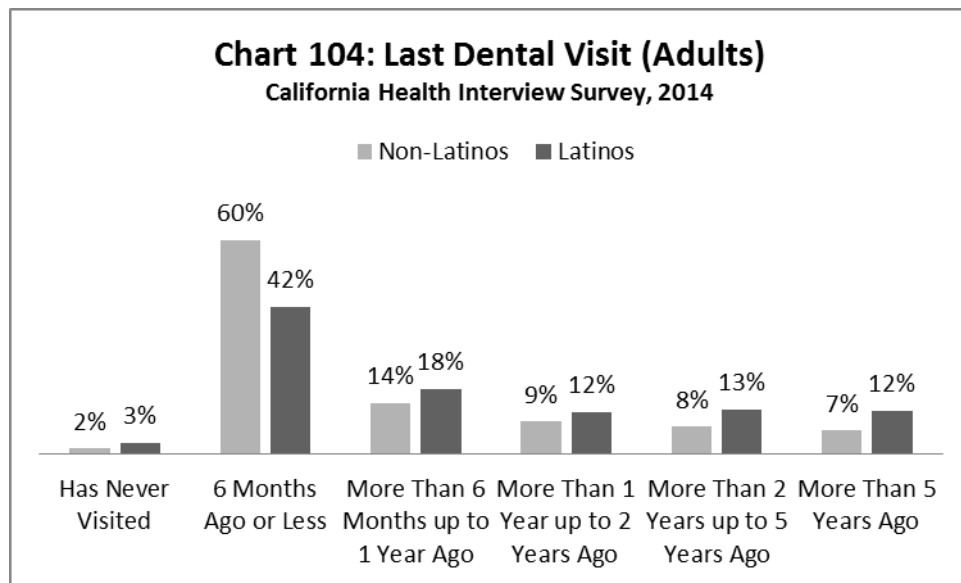


Among Latino subgroups, 13 percent of Guatemalans, 10 percent of Mexicans, 9 percent of other Latinos, and 7 percent of Salvadorans reported psychological distress in 2014. This information is shown in Chart 103.

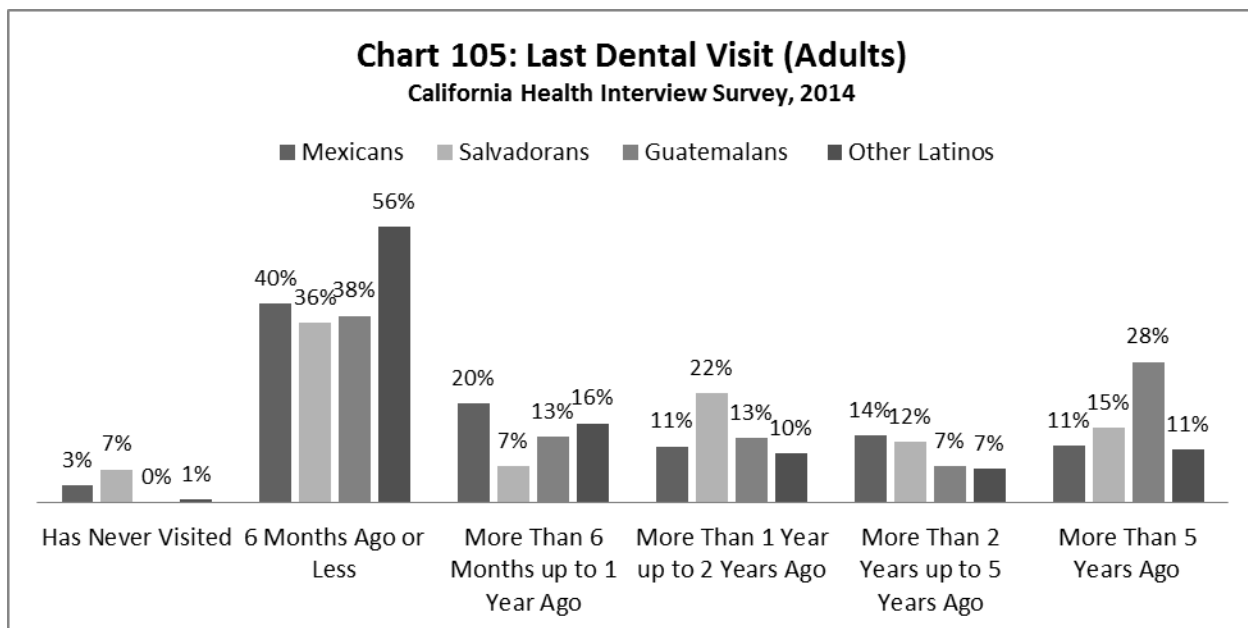


## Oral Health

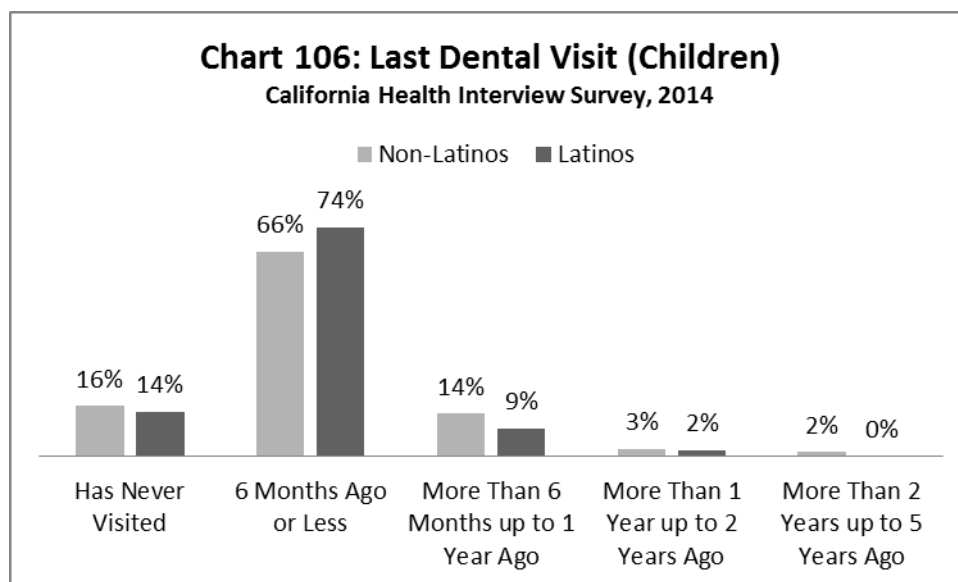
Adult Latinos surveyed in 2014 were more likely to go longer between or delay dental visits than adult non-Latinos, as shown in Chart 104. Forty-two percent of adult Latinos reported having visited the dentist six months ago or less, compared with 60 percent of adult non-Latinos.



Among Latino subgroups, adult Guatemalans were the most likely to have gone five years or longer without seeing a dentist. Those identifying as other Latinos were the most likely to have seen a dentist within six months or less. Chart 105 on the next page gives a breakdown of the percentages of dental visit frequency for adult Mexicans, Salvadorans, Guatemalans, and other Latinos.



In 2014, Latino children visited the dentist more frequently than non-Latino children, as shown in Chart 106. Seventy-four percent of Latino children visited the dentist six months ago or less, compared with 66 percent of non-Latino children.

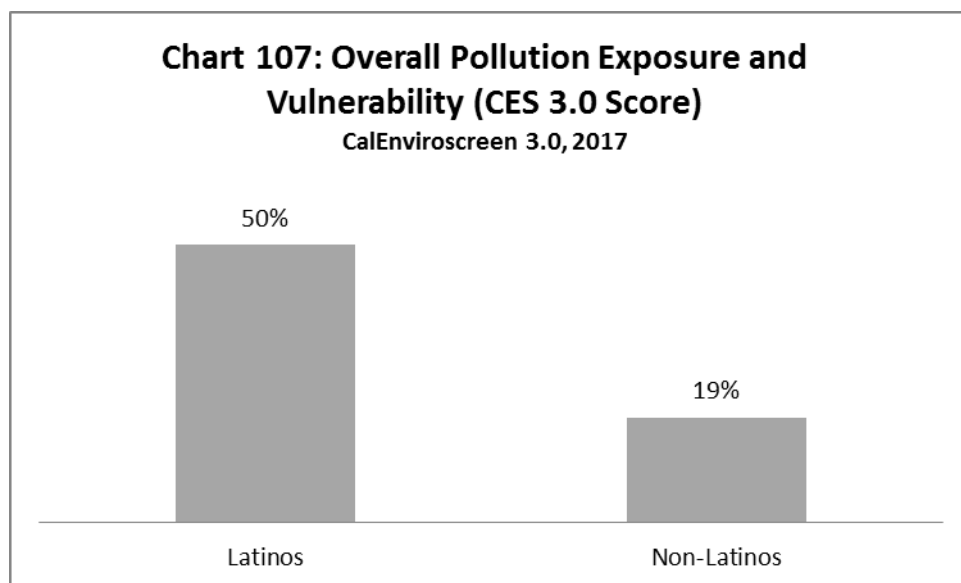


## Environmental Pollution

Using CalEnviroScreen 3.0, released in January 2017, the following charts compare the proportion of Latinos with non-Latinos statewide living in communities with highly concerning levels of exposure and vulnerability to environmental pollution. Each chart shows the proportion of the population that is living in a location having a respective score in the 70th percentile or above. This cutoff was chosen because it is the closest the data could be aligned with the level the California Environmental Protection Agency typically uses (75th percentile and above) to determine highly concerning levels of exposure and vulnerability to environmental pollution.

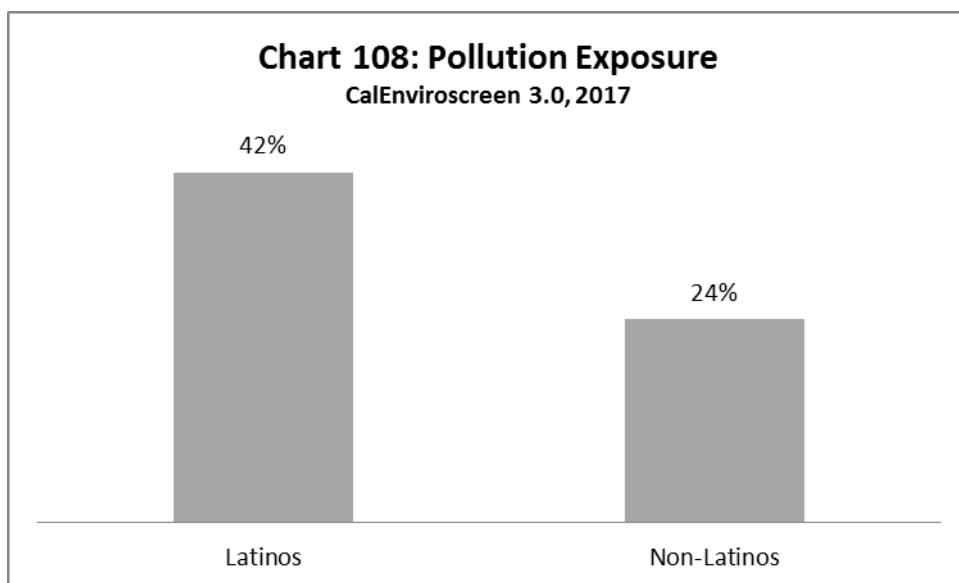
### Overall Pollution Exposure and Vulnerability

Chart 107 uses the composite CalEnviroScreen 3.0 (CES 3.0) score that combines indicators for pollution burden and population vulnerability. The chart shows that Latinos are more likely than non-Latinos to live in communities with highly concerning levels of environmental pollution exposure and vulnerability. Fifty percent of Latinos and 19 percent of non-Latinos live in communities that have highly concerning levels of pollution exposure and vulnerability.



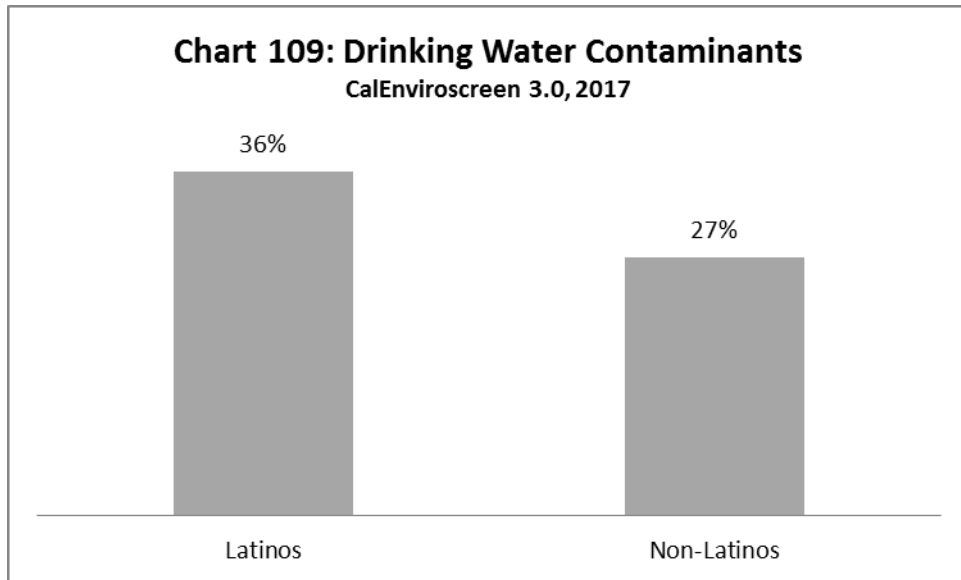
## **Pollution Exposure**

After separating out the pollution burden portion of the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 score, Chart 108 shows that Latinos are more likely than non-Latinos to live in communities with higher levels of pollution exposure. Specifically, 42 percent of Latinos and 24 percent of non-Latinos live in communities with a highly concerning level of pollution exposure. The pollution burden score is composed of 12 exposure and environmental effect indicators, such as air pollution, water pollution, and pesticide use, among others.



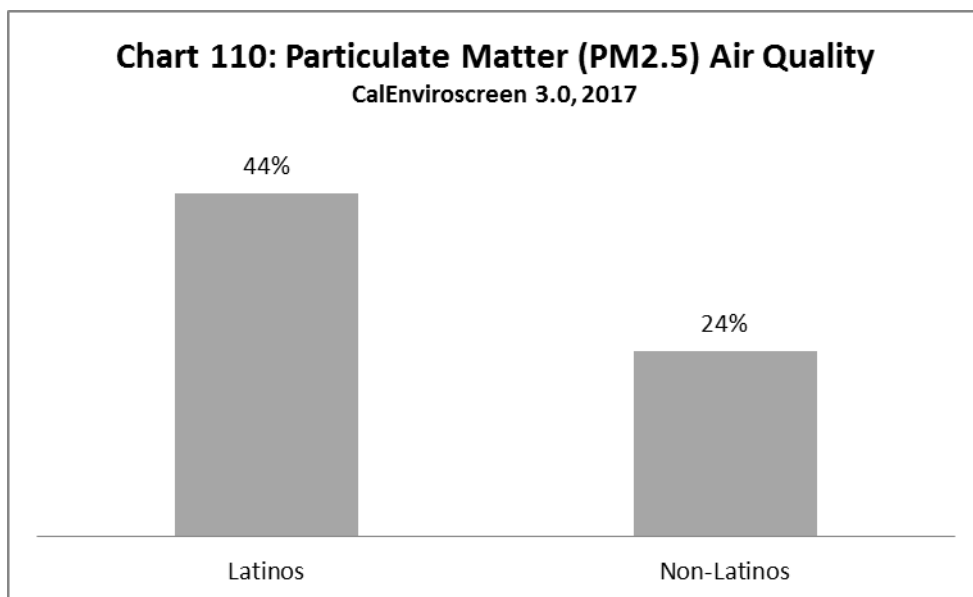
## **Drinking Water Contaminants**

Chart 109 on the next page shows that Latinos are more likely than non-Latinos to be exposed to various drinking water contaminants. Thirty-six percent of Latinos and 27 percent of non-Latinos live in communities with highly concerning levels of drinking water contaminants. Nitrate and arsenic groundwater contamination can cause public health concerns such as birth defects and cancer. Low-income and rural communities that rely on groundwater for drinking are more susceptible to these contaminants.



### **Particulate Matter Air Pollution**

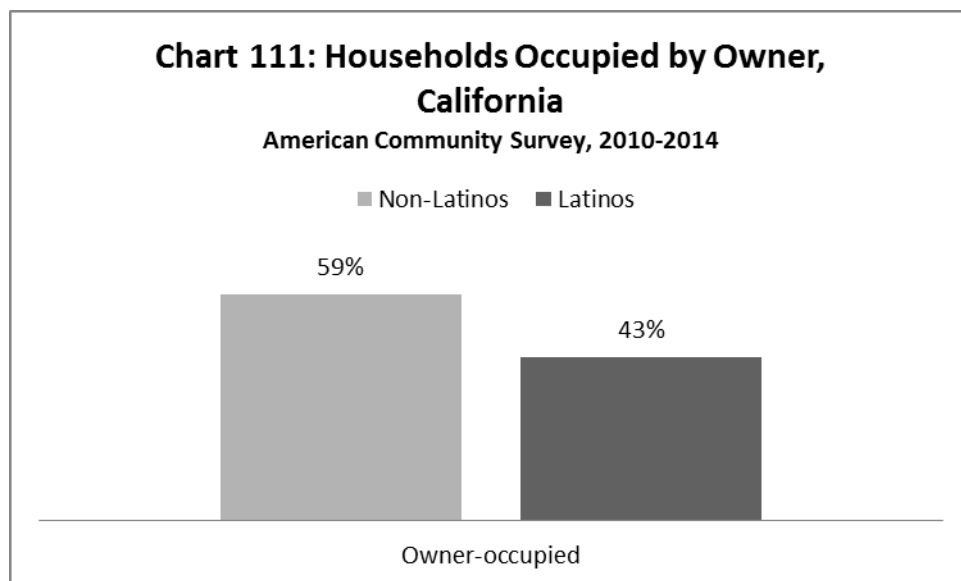
Small-diameter particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) can have detrimental public health effects on the heart and lungs when inhaled. Sources of PM<sub>2.5</sub> are diverse and include vehicles, industrial processes, and wildfires. Chart 110 shows Latinos are more likely than non-Latinos to be exposed to PM<sub>2.5</sub> contaminants. Forty-four percent of Latinos and 24 percent of non-Latinos live in communities with highly concerning levels of PM 2.5 in the air.



## Homeownership and Housing Costs

According to the ACS five-year population estimates for 2010–14, Latinos were less likely to own their homes (either with or without a mortgage) and more likely to rent, compared with non-Latinos. Among Californians who owned a home, Latinos were more likely than non-Latinos to have a mortgage on their property. In addition, Latinos had slightly lower overall housing costs than the rest of the population. In this analysis, housing costs for homeowners include mortgage payments and fees, taxes, insurance, utilities, and required fees (i.e., homeowner association dues). For renters, housing costs include rent and estimated utilities.

Chart 111 illustrates the relative shares of owner-occupied vs. renter-occupied households for Latinos and non-Latinos statewide. Fewer than half—43 percent—of Latino households were owner-occupied. In comparison, 59 percent of non-Latino households were owner-occupied.<sup>52</sup> Among Latino subgroups, Mexican households were more likely to be owner-occupied (43 percent) than Salvadoran and Guatemalan households (34 percent and 28 percent, respectively).

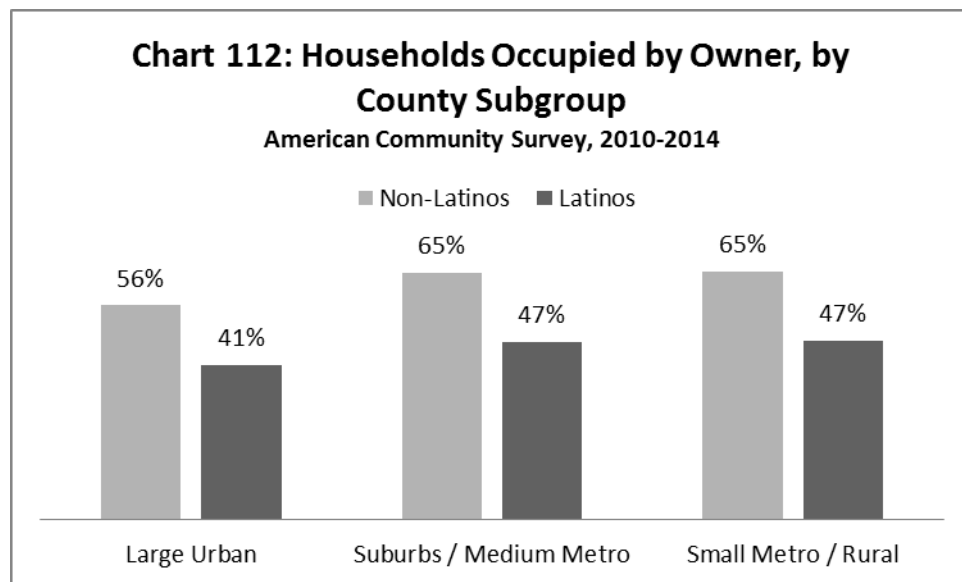


Latinos composed 28 percent of all California households but made up slightly less (22 percent) of all homeowners. Latinos had lower overall housing costs than did non-Latinos, roughly 20 percent less among homeowners and 15 percent among renters.

<sup>52</sup> For both groups, the 2010 to 2014 owner-occupancy rates are slightly lower than what is seen in the 2006 to 2010 data, namely percentages of 46 percent and 61 percent for Latinos and non-Latinos, respectively.

## County Subgroups

The homeownership and housing cost patterns for Latinos in each of the three county subgroups largely were consistent with the statewide data. Chart 112 illustrates the percentages of Latino and non-Latino households that were owner-occupied in each county subgroup from 2010 to 2014.



From 2010 to 2014, in large urban counties, the rate of homeownership was approximately 41 percent for Latinos, compared with a rate of 56 percent for non-Latinos (Chart 112). These rates are a bit lower than the statewide homeownership rates for Latinos and non-Latinos. Yet the gap between Latino and non-Latino homeownership was about the same in these counties as it was in the state as a whole.

In large urban counties, Latinos represented 28 percent of all households, but they made up only 22 percent of all homeowners, which was similar to the statewide data. Average housing costs in these counties were slightly higher than the statewide average; however, the difference in housing costs between Latinos and non-Latino homeowners was approximately 20 percent, the same as the statewide average.<sup>53</sup>

In suburbs and medium metro counties, the rate of homeownership for Latinos was 47 percent, compared with 65 percent for non-Latinos (Chart 112), a slightly greater disparity than in the state as a whole.

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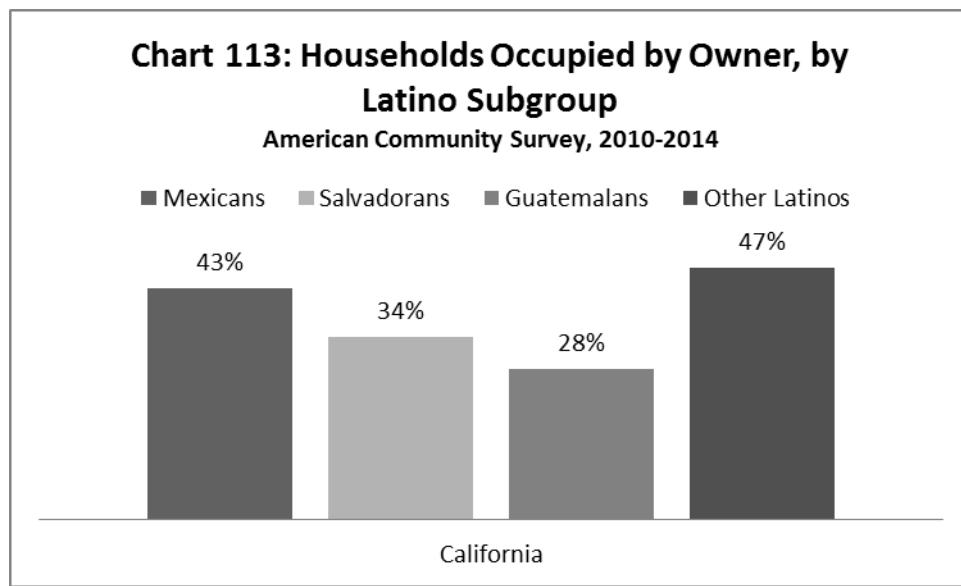
<sup>53</sup> This finding is not surprising given that Latinos make up about the same share of the population statewide and in the large urban county subgroup. DOF estimates 39 percent of California's population and 39 percent of the population in large urban counties is Latino.

Latinos in suburbs and medium metro counties made up 29 percent of all households, but they represented only 23 percent of all homeowners in these counties. Average housing costs in these counties were lower than the statewide average, and the disparity in costs between Latinos and non-Latinos was much more pronounced than in the statewide or large urban county data. Latino homeowners in these counties spent an average of 24 percent less on housing than their non-Latino counterparts. Among renters, the gap was narrower, at 16 percent.

In small metro and rural counties, the homeownership rates for both Latino and non-Latino households were virtually identical to the rates in the suburbs and medium metro counties, 47 percent (Chart 112) for Latinos and 65 percent for non-Latinos. Latino households made up a smaller share of total households in this county subgroup than in others. In small metro and rural counties, Latino households made up 23 percent of all households, and Latinos represented only 17 percent of all homeowners. Again, average housing costs for Latinos in this group were lower than for non-Latinos, approximately 12 percent lower among homeowners and 10 percent among renters.

### **Latino Subgroups**

Statewide, among Latino subgroups, Guatemalans were least likely to be homeowners across all of the county subgroups. Conversely, those who identified as other Latinos were the most likely to own the home they lived in. The homeownership rates for the Latino subgroups are summarized in Chart 113.



## Data Appendix

This appendix contains the following data sets that SOR analyzed for this report:

- Demographics and other significant population characteristics from the U.S. Census Bureau's ACS five-year estimates for 2010–14 (for comparison, the five-year estimates for 2006–10 also are provided in the data appendix)<sup>54,55</sup>
- Health data from the 2014 California Health Interview Survey
- Student test results for the 2016 CAASPP in English-language arts and math
- The 2014–15 public high school graduation rates from the DataQuest website
- Environmental pollution data from CalEnviroScreen 3.0

As previously noted, data was analyzed for the statewide population and the population in each of three county subgroups: (1) large urban counties, (2) suburbs and medium metropolitan (metro) counties, and (3) small metro and rural counties. The large urban counties subgroup includes the counties of Alameda, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, and Santa Clara. The suburbs and medium metropolitan counties subgroup includes the counties of Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Kern, Marin, Monterey, Placer, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tulare, Ventura, and Yolo. The small metro and rural counties subgroup includes the counties of Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Imperial, Inyo, Kings, Lake, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Mono, Napa, Nevada, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tuolumne, and Yuba.

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<sup>54</sup> According to the U.S. Census Bureau, comparisons of estimates from two multiyear periods ideally should determine whether observed differences between estimates are statistically significant and also should be based on nonoverlapping periods. The comparison of two estimates for different but overlapping periods is challenging since the difference is driven by the nonoverlapping years. In the case of this analysis, data for 2010 is included in both the 2006–10 and 2010–14 estimates, and typically, the 2010 contribution would be subtracted out as part of a statistical calculation of difference. For any future analysis, it would be preferable to compare two nonoverlapping five-year periods. The ACS data for 2011–15 is currently available, but it wasn't available at the time data was extracted for this report. For more information about benefits and challenges of using ACS data, see U.S. Census Bureau, "A Compass for Understanding and Using American Community Survey Data: What General Data Users Need to Know," U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 2008.

<sup>55</sup> Comparisons based on dollar amounts from the 2006–10 and 2010–14 data should be made with caution (i.e., household and family income distributions) since the 2006–10 ACS income data is in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars, while the 2010–14 ACS income data is in 2014 inflation-adjusted dollars.