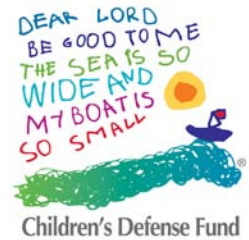


January 27, 2014



## The State of Hispanic Children in America

Of the 73.7 million children in the United States in 2012, 17.6 million — 24 percent — were Hispanic, while 38.9 million — 53 percent — were White and 10.2 million — 14 percent — were Black.

### Hispanic children and households are more likely to be poor.

- A Hispanic baby is born into poverty every 75 seconds and into extreme poverty every two-and-a-half minutes.<sup>1</sup>
- Each day, 1,153 Hispanic babies are born into poverty, and 595 into extreme poverty.
- Hispanic children make up the largest group of poor children (5.8 million) followed by White children (5.2 million).
- One in 3 Hispanic children was poor in 2012, compared to nearly 1 in 7 White children.
- Nearly 1 in 7 Hispanic children was extremely poor in 2012, compared to nearly 1 in 18 White children.
- Hispanic households with children were nearly twice as likely as White households to have food insecure children (14.6 percent vs. 7.4 percent).

### Hispanic households own and earn less.

- The average wealth of White households in 2011 (\$110,500) was 14 times that of Hispanic households (\$7,683).
- Hispanic families' median annual income in 2012 was \$36,949, less than half of White families' median income (\$75,448).

### Hispanic children are less likely to live in traditional two-parent families.

- Nearly 1 in 3 Hispanic children lived with only one parent, compared to 1 in 5 White children. Among children of all races, those in single-parent families were nearly four times more likely to be poor than those in married-couple families.
- Each day, 1,330 Hispanic babies are born to unmarried mothers and 285 to teen mothers.
- A Hispanic child is born to an unmarried mother every minute and to a teen mother every five minutes.

### Hispanic children suffer worse health outcomes.

- Each day, 13 Hispanic babies die before their first birthday.
- A Hispanic baby is born at low birthweight every eight-and-a-half minutes.
- Hispanic children were more than twice as likely to be uninsured as White children. In 2012, 1 in 7 Hispanic children under 19 were uninsured, compared to 1 in 15 White children.
- Each day, 408 Hispanic babies are born without health insurance.

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<sup>1</sup> Poverty is defined as living on less than \$23,492 a year, \$1,958 a month, \$452 a week, or \$64 a day for a family of four. Extreme poverty is living on less than half the poverty level: less than \$11,746 per year or \$32 a day for a family of four.

- Ninety-one percent of parents of White children rated their child's health as excellent or very good compared to only 70 percent of parents of Hispanic children.
- Each day, one Hispanic child commits suicide and four Hispanic children or teens die from accidents.

### **Hispanic students fall behind early on and do not catch up.**

- Almost three-quarters or more of fourth and eighth grade Hispanic public school students could not read or compute at grade level in 2013, compared to less than 57 percent White students and less than 51 percent Asian students.
- Nearly 3 in 10 Hispanic public school students did not graduate from high school in four years in 2010, compared to fewer than 2 in 10 White students and less than 1 in 10 Asian students.
- Only 14 percent of tested Hispanic students were college ready in 2013 according to the ACT<sup>®</sup> test, compared to 33 percent of White students and 43 percent of Asian students.

### **Hispanic children suffer from child abuse and neglect but are slightly underrepresented in foster care.**

- A Hispanic child is confirmed abused or neglected every three-and-a-half minutes. Every day, one Hispanic child is dies from abuse or neglect.
- Hispanic children were 24 percent of the child population but 21 percent of children in foster care in 2012.

### **Hispanic children are at a greater risk of being funneled into the prison pipeline.**

- A Hispanic public school student is suspended every 7 seconds, resulting in 3,453 suspended Hispanic students every school day.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2009-2010, Hispanic students were 55 percent more likely to be suspended than White students and nearly four times more likely than Asian students.
- Every 30 seconds a Hispanic public high school student drops out, totaling 834 every school day.<sup>2</sup>
- Hispanic children were 80 percent more likely than White children to be in residential placement within the juvenile justice system in 2011, and more than four times more likely than Asian children.

### **Hispanic children and teens are at high risk of gun violence.**

- Gun violence disproportionately affects Hispanic children. In 2010, Hispanic children and teens were more than three times more likely to be killed by guns than White children and teens.
- One Hispanic child or teen is killed by guns every day.

For sources and additional data please refer to *The State of America's Children 2014* report available at [www.childrensdefense.org/SOAC](http://www.childrensdefense.org/SOAC).

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<sup>2</sup> Based on 180 school days a year.