LATINO COMMUNITIES AND THE HEALTH SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

This research project is to give an insight into the relationship between Latinos in both careers and lifestyle. There are thousands of graduates each year into the medical field; yet the percentage of those of Latino descent is below average. This research paper will show the involvement of Latino communities within the medical field. The reasons why the percentage of those in the field is lower than that of any other ethnicity. Surveys of Latino culture would suggest that many feel that the Healthcare system doesn’t satisfy their needs and institution rates of Latino medical graduates is significantly lower. This is of big significance due to Latinos being 17% of the United States population and will continue to rise. Throughout the project the struggle Latino medical students will be noticed and the healthcare system that these communities are involved with will become apparent.
Latinx students: graduation rates

◦ "688,000 physicians practicing medicine in 2012, more than 9% were from an underrepresented minority, including 5.2% who were Hispanic" (Johnson)

◦ “16,800 medical school students who graduated in 2012, 7.4% were Hispanic” (Johnson)

◦ Statistically students show that they lack drive to complete higher education
Latinx students: society struggles

- Economic status
- Lack of knowledge or resources
- Schools
Health providers

- Latino communities lack of representation
- Reasons for lack of medical treatment
  1. Language barriers
  2. Lack of U.S. citizenship
  3. Newly immigrated
  4. Uneducated
  5. Uninsured
  6. Financial status
“83 percent report obtaining at least some information about health and health care from television, radio, newspapers, magazines or the Internet in the past year.”

Majority gain health information through media rather than professionals
Number of undergraduate students enrolled in the United States from 1976 to 2016, by ethnicity (in 1,000)
"In 1980, there were 135 Latino physicians for every 100,000 Latinos in the U.S.; by 2010, that figure had dropped to just 105 per 100,000. Meanwhile, the national rate of non-Hispanic white physicians increased from 211 for every 100,000 non-Hispanic whites to 315 per 100,000." (Rivero)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
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</tbody>
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Distribution of Medical School Graduates by Race/Ethnicity
Resources


