COVID-19’s Impacts on Latino Students and the Future of California

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CALIFORNIA NEEDS MORE COLLEGE GRADUATES

1.1 MILLION

Deficit of college graduates in CA to meet economic demand in 2030

Source: Public Policy Institute of California, Meeting California’s Need for College Graduates, June 2017.
LATINOS ARE THE LARGEST GROUP OF POTENTIAL COLLEGE GRADUATES

Only 13% of Latinos had a BA or more compared to the state average of 34%.

Figure 1: Percent of Adults 25 or Older With a Bachelor’s Degree by Race or Ethnicity, 2019

Source: LPPI analysis of the American Community Survey 5-year sample, 2019.
LATINOS ARE THE LARGEST GROUP OF POTENTIAL COLLEGE GRADUATES

Latinos represent more than half of all students enrolled in 12th grade in the current academic year.

Source: LPPI Analysis of Data from the California Department of Education Data Reporting Office, 2021-2022 Academic Year.
COVID-19 INTERRUPTED THE EDUCATION PLANS OF LATINO HIGHER-ED STUDENTS MORE THAN OTHERS

Almost 11% of Latino students planned to cancel all their classes in the fall of 2021 before vaccines were available, the highest of any group.

WHY: LATINO STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES FACE UNIQUE AND INTERSECTING DISADVANTAGES

Latino students are more likely than white students to:

- be **first-generation** college students
- **live at home** while enrolled in college
- come from **low-income** families
- be in **mixed-status** families
- use income to support family

Sources: UNIDOS-US, "Following Their Dreams in an Inequitable System: Latino Students Share Their College Experience", 2020
The Campaign for College Opportunity, "California Higher-Education Report Card", 2018
LATINO STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES WERE LEFT OUT OF FEDERAL COVID RELIEF

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)

$367 per resident in Latino neighborhoods

$666 in white neighborhoods.

CARES ACT of 2020

More than 4 million Californians excluded
CONSEQUENCES FOR STUDENTS

Lower chances to complete their degree

Lower lifetime earnings

Lower purchasing power

Sources: Josipa Roksa and Melissa Velez, “A Late Start: Delayed Entry, Life Course Transitions and Bachelor’s Degree Completion,” Social Forces, 2012
CONSEQUENCES FOR HIGHER-ED INSTITUTIONS

For the first time in 20 years, the number of HSIs decreased in 2021.

Reaching the threshold of at least 25 percent Latino enrollment allow institutions to apply for Department of Education funds designated for HSIs.

Source: Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU), “New data shows decrease in the number of Hispanic-Serving Institutions for the first time in 20 Years, but significant increase in emerging HSIs”, March 2022.
CONSEQUENCES FOR THE ECONOMY

Deficit of college graduates in CA to meet economic demand in 2030

1.1 MILLION

Source: Public Policy Institute of California, Meeting California’s Need for College Graduates, June 2017.
WHAT TO DO? HOLISTIC SUPPORT OF LATINO STUDENTS

Increase financial assistance and fill gaps in financial aid (AB-1746)

Support students to **cover other expenses**, such as housing (AB-1602)

Provide emergency grants for students to resume school and complete degrees
THERE IS NO AMERICAN AGENDA WITHOUT A LATINO AGENDA