



WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE
on EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE *for* HISPANICS
25 Years of Fulfilling America's Future

Webinar on Latinas
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The White House Council on Women and Girls

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**[https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/
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Fulfilling America's Future: Latinas 2015

COMMISSIONER PATRICIA GANDARA

**CIVIL RIGHTS PROJECT/PROYECTO
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THE CIVIL RIGHTS PROJECT

“The mission of the Civil Rights Project/Proyecto Derechos Civiles is to help renew the civil rights movement by bridging the worlds of ideas and action, to be a preeminent source of intellectual capital within that movement, and to deepen the understanding of the issues that must be resolved to achieve racial and ethnic equity as society moves through the great transformation of the 21st century.”

Topics Covered in this Report

- Population Demographics for Latinas
- Education
- Labor Force Participation and Earnings
- Latinas in the Professions
- Latinas and Small Business
- Housing
- Latina Single Parent Heads of Household
- Health
- Political Representation

Demographics

- ⦿ Latinas are 17% of the female population
- ⦿ But they are more than 50% of the school age population in 3 states (TX, NM, CA), and ¼ of school age nationally
- ⦿ By 2060, they will be one-third of all U.S. women
- ⦿ Major strides in high school graduation: 14 percentage point increase in last decade
- ⦿ Yet are least likely to complete college (18%), compared to 23% of black, 43% of white, and 64% of Asian women

Poverty and Low Income

- Poverty and education are related to every other aspect of Latinas' well being:
 - 1/3 of Latinas live below the poverty line
 - Over half live near poverty (200% of poverty)
- More than 50% of Latino babies are born to single mothers &
- Nearly 50% of all children of Latina single mothers live in poverty
- If they go to college, Latinas go disproportionately to 2 year colleges, in good part because of costs of higher education
- Average college debt for Latinas in 2012 was \$22,000

Latinas in the Workforce

- In 2011, Latinas earned only 55 cents for every dollar earned by white men
- 16% of Latinas worked full time but still fell below the poverty line

BUT

- Between 2004 and 2014 Latinas made greater progress in earnings than all women
- The higher their education, the more Latinas are represented in the workforce

More good news!

- Over the last decade Latinas have increased their numbers as M.D.s by 40% and as Managers by about 30%.
- They have made greater gains in the professions than other women
- Latinas are making major inroads in small businesses: Total receipts for Latina owned businesses in 2007 were \$55.7 billion.

Latinas are on the Move!

- In spite of a myriad of barriers, Latinas have made great progress in high school graduation and steady progress in higher education and the professions.
- We must capture this momentum and provide the supports necessary for these women to build on these successes.

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