Survey of Cooperative Extension Educators: On Serving Latino Populations in Michigan

Rubén Martinez, Jean Kayitsinga
Research Report No. 56
November 2016

ABSTRACT
This study presents findings from a sub-sample of the survey of Extension educators in the North Central Regional. This study was conducted by the Julian Samora Research Institute on behalf of the North Central Extension Research Institute Activity (NCERA). Results show that almost half of respondents in Michigan do not regularly interact with Latino communities, but the majority of respondents are interested in collaborating with Latino-serving organizations in their areas to reach the Latino population. A majority of respondents indicated that there is lack of Extension programs tailored for and the capacity to serve Latino populations. A majority of respondents also indicated that residents trust Latinos and that they contribute to the economic health of their communities. Further, a majority believe that more resources should be allocated by Extension units to better serve Latino communities, including hiring more bilingual, bicultural educators.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Rubén Martinez is professor of sociology and director of the Julian Samora Research Institute at Michigan State University.
Jean Kayitsinga is an assistant professor at the Julian Samora Research Institute at Michigan State University.