

# LATINOS 2025:

## A Needs Assessment of Latino Communities in Southeast Michigan

*June 2015*

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

University Outreach  
and Engagement  
Julian Samora Research Institute



Julian Samora Research Institute



Rubén Martínez, Ph.D  
Pilar Horner, Ph.D

Jean Kayitsinga, Ph.D  
Daniel Vélez Ortiz, Ph.D

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The Julian Samora Research Institute is committed to the generation, transmission, and application of knowledge to serve the needs of Latino communities in Michigan, the Midwest, and the nation.

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...Nos pararon el progreso...

*Focus Group Respondent*

...habrá que buscar un sendero mejor  
y caminarlo...

*Joaquín Sabina*

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## Preface

The status of Latinos in this country, in the Midwest, in Michigan, and in Southeast Michigan is multidimensional, diverse, and complicated by many factors, not the least of which are class, race, gender, immigration, and intergroup dynamics. Latinos have been in Michigan for more than a century. Latinos have been in Detroit and Southeast Michigan since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, albeit in relatively small numbers, increasing after the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Detroit, with its agricultural and auto manufacturing industries, attracted and employed workers from across the country. Today Latinos comprise 4.7% of Michigan's population, and their numbers are steadily growing. Latino children comprise the fastest growing segment of Michigan's children, increasing by 17.3% in recent years, while the number of non-Hispanic White and African American children decreased by comparison.

Decades of economic restructuring, population out-migration, and the impact of the Great Recession of 2007-09 have wreaked havoc on Detroit's economy, but the metropolitan economy has held together despite major challenges, positioning the regional economy to remain a crucial component of the national economy. Southeast Michigan is home to the legacy of an auto industry that led the nation in the social democratic compromise of capital and labor. Auto manufacturing corporate agreements with organized labor in the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century produced one of the highest paid segments of blue-collar workers in the nation and the world. Latinos were a small segment of the auto manufacturing workforce and ultimately became, through a small number of Latino manufacturing firms, part of the auto supply chain.

Today the situation is vastly different from what it was when a social democratic order prevailed. A major shift toward free market fundamentalism and its attendant policies have transformed the political economic context across the globe, the nation, and the state. Latinos are today situated in a political economic context organized on three principles: 1) radical individualism, 2) limited government, and 3) flexible labor. Radical individualism emphasizes self-sufficiency and taking care of one's family on one's own, with little support from government social programs. Limited government emphasizes deregulation of the economy, reduced taxes, especially for corporations, and privatization of government functions. Finally, flexible labor emphasizes employer freedom in determining the terms and conditions of employment with limited protections for workers. It is in this context that this report presents a detailed profile of the multidimensional aspects of Latino communities in Southeast Michigan in both quantitative and qualitative terms. Analyses of official data from the Census Bureau and other sources and from 15 focus groups conducted in the region during 2014 and early 2015 constitute the basis for the report.

Current economic challenges and the new political environment constitute the general context in which the populations, from Southeast Michigan to the national level, find themselves. These are expressed in analyses of existing data and the statements by participants in focus groups conducted in Southwest Detroit, Pontiac and Auburn Hills, and several of the Downriver communities, namely Lincoln Park, Allen Park, Melvindale, and Taylor, where sizeable Latino communities can be found. The lives of Latinos in these communities reflect the multidimensional features of the status of Latinos in Southeast Michigan. The objective of the report is to shed light on the needs of Latinos in this region of the state. It provides recommendations to improve the well-being of Latino communities in the region. In general, the status of Latinos is not equal to that of non-Latino Whites, but neither are all of them leading lives of poverty. Readers should keep in mind that the report focuses on needs, and that needs are always greatest among the poor. The report is titled *Latinos 2025* in the belief that by then, through proactive measures that address the needs of Latino communities, Michigan will be positioned for a stronger and brighter future.

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## **Acknowledgements**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY<sup>1</sup>

The Latino population has increased significantly for several years across the United States and is projected to reach 29 percent of the total U.S. population by 2060. In 2013, Latinos comprised 4.2 percent of the population in Michigan. Almost two-fifths of Latinos in the state live in Southeast Michigan, which in our study is comprised of seven counties: Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw, Monroe, St Clair, and Livingston. Detroit alone accounts for 11 percent of Latinos in Michigan. This report uses various secondary sources and primary data collected through focus groups of young adults, adults, seniors, and local community and business leaders to assess the well-being of Latinos in Michigan and Southeast Michigan. The report draws on data from the U.S. Census American Community Surveys (ACS), the 2010 Decennial Population Census, the U.S. Census Population Estimations and Projections, Current Population Survey (CPS) Supplements (December and November), the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), the American College Testing Program, ACT National Scores Report, the College Board, College-Bound Seniors, the Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS), the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data, and the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). It also uses information from various studies on Latino community needs to provide a portrait of Latino communities in Southeast Michigan.

The primary objective of this report is to assess the well-being of Latinos in Michigan and Southeast Michigan by identifying community issues that impact their daily lives in particular and in common with other populations. The analyses in this report address the following research questions: 1) How does the well-being of the Latino population compare to other demographic groups? and 2) What are the critical needs of the Latino communities in Southeast Michigan? Moreover, the analyses highlight findings about needs that go unmet and lead to recommendations to address them in order to improve the well-being of Latinos in Southeast Michigan. The recommendations, we believe, have relevance for other Latino communities in Michigan, and in many cases apply to Latinos in other communities in the Midwest and the nation.

Latinos contribute to the economy of Michigan as business owners and entrepreneurs, workers in agriculture, construction, services, and other critical sectors of the economy, and as consumers. However, they also face social, economic, and political challenges. In this report, we look at how Latinos compare to other demographic groups in Southeast Michigan and across the state of Michigan on six important areas: education, economic well-being, health and health behaviors, civic engagement, community well-being and immigration. We examine indicators in these areas by race/ethnicity and, whenever possible, by county in Southeast Michigan. A profile of selected cities in Southeast Michigan where focus groups were conducted is provided in Appendix 4. In general, focus group participants spoke well of the opportunities afforded by the industries and service organizations in Southeast Michigan. They also spoke of the challenges confronted in daily life.

### Demographics

In 2013, the Latino population was estimated at 436,358, or 4.2 percent of the total Michigan population. The distribution of other population groups was 77 percent non-Hispanic Whites, 13.7 percent African Americans, 2.4 percent Asians, 0.7 percent American Indians or Alaska Natives, and 2 percent Other or two or more races. In Southeast Michigan, Latinos reside in each of the seven counties but are most numerous in three counties: 1) Wayne County, especially in Detroit; 2) Oakland County, especially in Pontiac; 3) and Macomb County.

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<sup>1</sup> In this study we use the terms Latinos and Hispanics interchangeably, but the primary concept used is Latinos, with the term Hispanics used when quoting other sources. Additionally, the terms Blacks and African Americans will also be used interchangeably.

Latinos are increasingly shaping the demographic composition of Michigan's populations. While the total population in Michigan has been decreasing since 1990, the Latino population increased every year between 1990 and 2013. Southeast Michigan experienced Latino population growth of about 40 percent between 2000 and 2013, while there was a total population decline of almost 3 percent, mostly due to out-migration of non-Hispanic White and Black/African American populations. Detroit, in particular, had a Latino population growth of almost 11 percent between 2000 and 2013, but also had a loss in its overall population of almost 27 percent. The Latino population is likely to continue to grow more than non-Latino populations in the coming decades, mostly due to a combination of demographic processes including a higher fertility rate, lower mortality rate, and an immigration rate lower than previous years from Mexico and other Latin American countries.

The Latino population is relatively young as compared to the non-Hispanic White population. For example, there are about seven times as many children under 15 years of age as there are persons 65 years of age and older among Latinos. By contrast, the non-Hispanic White population has a lower proportion of children and a greater proportion of older population (65 years and older). In addition, Latinos have a larger proportion of the population of childbearing ages (15-44 years) as compared to the non-Hispanic White population.

The Latino population is very diverse and includes peoples from different Spanish-speaking countries in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Spain. The majority of Latinos in Michigan are of Mexican origin, accounting for 74 percent of Latinos in 2011-2013. The remaining Latino population groups are from Puerto Rico (9%), Central America (5%), South America (3%), Cuba (2%), Dominican Republic (1%), and other Latin American countries (5%).

Regarding marital status, 42 percent of Latinos in Michigan in 2011-2013 were married, 43 percent never married, 10 percent divorced, 3 percent separated, and 3 percent widowed. About 46 percent of Latino households were married-couple families, 19 percent female-headed families without the presence of a spouse, 8 percent male-headed families without a spouse present, and 27 percent were non-family households. Latino households tend to be larger than non-Latino households. In 2010, the average household size of Latino households was estimated at 3.23 compared to 2.44 in non-Hispanic White households.

## **Education**

Perhaps the most important indicator of the ability of Latinos to navigate American society and in critical need of improvement is their human capital (i.e., the skills and knowledge that are associated with upward socio-economic mobility). The educational attainment of Latinos in Michigan mirrors that of the United States. In 2011-2013, about 16 percent of Latinos (25 years of age and older) in Michigan had at least a Bachelor's degree. This is significantly lower than the educational attainment among non-Hispanic Whites (27%) and Asians (31%). The proportion of Latinos with at least a Bachelor's degree is highest in Livingston County (about 33%), followed by Oakland (31%) and Washtenaw Counties (30%), and Monroe County (10%), and is lowest in Detroit (4%).

The academic achievement of Latino children in K-12 is one of the most powerful predictors of whether they will develop their potential human capital and become better able to take advantage of and, in some cases, create opportunities in society throughout their adult lives. We find substantial race/ethnic variations in children's reading and mathematics achievement levels in 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Asian and non-Hispanic White students score at higher rates at or above proficient levels in reading and mathematics than Latino and African American students.

Latino youths (16- to 24-year olds) are more likely to drop out of school than other race/ethnic youths in Michigan. Using the status dropout rate<sup>2</sup>, the percentage of 16- to 24- year-olds in 2009-2013 who

<sup>2</sup> That is, the percentage of 16- to 24-year old civilians living in housing units or non-institutionalized group quarters who are not enrolled in school and have not earned a high school diploma or equivalency such a General Education Development (GED)

were high school dropouts was almost 7 percent in Michigan. The status dropout rate was higher among Latinos (15%) than African Americans (10.4%), American Indians/Alaska Natives (9%), non-Hispanic Whites (5.2%), and Asian/Pacific Islanders (3.4%). Using the cohort dropout rate<sup>3</sup>, almost 10 percent of all high school students (4-year 2014 graduation cohort) in school year 2013-2014 in Michigan dropped out before graduation. African American students had the highest cohort dropout rate in the state (17.1%), followed by Latino (15.2%), American Indian (14.3%), Native Hawaiian (11.4%), non-Hispanic White (7.3%), and Asian (5.1%) students.

In school year 2013-14, 79 percent of high school students in Michigan (4-year 2014 graduation cohort) graduated on time with a regular diploma. Among all high school students in Michigan (4-year 2014 graduation cohort) in 2013-2014 school-year, Asians/Pacific Islanders had the highest graduation rate (88.7%), followed by non-Hispanic Whites (82.9%), Latinos (68.8%), American Indians/Alaska Natives (64.8%) and African Americans (64.5%).

Our results also indicate that Latino, along with African American and American Indian/Alaska Native, youth were less likely than non-Hispanic White and Asian youths to be enrolled in colleges and universities. We find that between 2009-2013, 49.2 percent of non-Hispanic White and 72.3 percent of Asian/Pacific Islander 18 to 24-year olds were enrolled in 2- to 4-year colleges or universities. By comparison, only 36.7 percent of Latino, 35.1 percent of African American, and 37.1 percent of American Indian/Alaska Native 18- to 24-year olds were enrolled in 2- to 4-year colleges or universities.

### Focus Group Findings - Education

Focus group participants spoke well of the opportunities afforded by the industries and service organizations in Southeast Michigan. They also spoke of the many obstacles that residents confront and seek to overcome in daily life. In the area of education they highlighted the low expectations set for Latino students by school personnel and the absence of bilingual/bicultural personnel in schools. They pointed to the “warehousing” of students in Detroit public schools, where students are expected to perform poorly. Also, they noted that families, especially immigrant families, are not well equipped to guide their children successfully in navigating the education system. As a result of all of these factors, Latino students drop out of school in high numbers and become potential victims of the school-to-prison pipeline.

## Economic Well-Being

### Income and Poverty

An important area in need of attention for improving the well-being of Latinos in Southeast Michigan and Michigan is their economic status. The median household income in Michigan in 2009-2013 was estimated at \$47,793 (in 2013 inflation-adjusted dollars), compared to \$36,702 for Latinos, which was much lower than the state average. In the Southeast area, the highest median household income was in Livingston County (\$72,918), followed by Oakland (\$64,917), and the lowest median household income was in Wayne County (\$40,160). For Latino households, the highest median household income was in Livingston County (\$75,143) and the lowest median household income was in Wayne County (\$36,123). Detroit had a median household income of \$24,970. Latinos in Detroit had a median household income of \$29,419.

In 2009-2013, approximately 30 percent of the Latino population in Michigan was in poverty. This was significantly higher than the overall poverty rate of 17 percent in Michigan. By comparison, the poverty rate for non-Hispanic Whites was 12.6 percent; 14.4 percent for Asians, 25.4 percent for Native Americans; and 34.9 percent for African Americans. Among the counties in Southeast Michigan, Latinos

certificate.

<sup>3</sup> The percentage of public high school students who, after beginning the ninth grade four years ago, dropped out of school.

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in Wayne County had the highest poverty rate at 29 percent. The lowest Latino poverty rate was in Livingston County at 14 percent. Latinos in Detroit had a poverty rate of 41 percent.

In 2009-2013, nearly 24 percent of children in Michigan were living in poverty. In Southeast Michigan, poverty was more prevalent among children in Wayne County (35.8%) than in any other county. More alarming, a majority of children (55.1%) in Detroit live in poverty. The lowest poverty rate among children was in Livingston County (7.4%). In terms of race/ethnicity, African American children (48.4%) had the highest poverty rate, followed by Latino children (35.5%), American Indian or Alaska Native children (32.3%), non-Hispanic White (16.4%) and Asian and Pacific Islander children (14.2%). The historical race/ethnic minority groups all had twice the poverty rate of non-Hispanic Whites.

### Employment and Unemployment

Latinos in Michigan have higher labor force participation than other race/ethnic groups. The labor force participation rate for Latinos 16 years and above in 2011-2013 was 67.4 percent, compared to 61.8 percent for non-Hispanic Whites; 56.3 percent for African Americans; 57.4 percent for Native Americans; and 63.7 percent for Asians. Among the counties in Southeast Michigan, Latinos in Macomb and Oakland Counties had the highest labor force participation rate (71%). In contrast, Latinos in St. Clair (65%), Wayne (66%), and Monroe (65%) Counties had the lowest labor force participation rates, but were still higher than the other groups at the state level. The labor force participation rate for Latinos in Detroit was estimated at 63 percent.

In 2011-2013, the unemployment rate in Michigan was 14 percent. The unemployment rate for Latinos was estimated at 15.8 percent, compared to 9.3 percent for non-Hispanic Whites, 23.2 percent for African Americans, 15.7 percent for Native Americans, and 6.6 percent for Asians. Among the counties in Southeast Michigan, Latinos in Wayne County had the highest unemployment rate (18%), followed by those in St. Clair County (16.6%). Latinos in Livingston County had the lowest unemployment rate (6.3%). Detroit had an overall unemployment rate of 28.5 percent and Latinos in Detroit had an unemployment rate of 22.3 percent.

In 2009-2013, Latinos were more likely than other population groups to work in farm-related occupations (5%). About 25 percent of Latinos worked in service occupations, 23 percent worked in production, transportation, and material moving occupations, 19 percent were in management and professional occupations, 19 percent in sales and office occupations, and 9 percent in construction and maintenance/repair. Native Americans (11%), followed by Latinos (9%) and non-Hispanic Whites (9%), were more likely than African Americans (5%) and Asians (2%) to work in construction, extraction, and maintenance/repair occupations. Latinos (23%), followed by African Americans (20%) were more likely than non-Hispanic Whites (15%), Native Americans (14%), and Asians (12%) to work in production, transportation, and material moving occupations. At the level of industry, Latinos were more likely than other population groups to work in extractive (agriculture, fishing and hunting, forestry, and mining) (6%), construction (7%), and non-durable manufacturing industries (7%).

### Focus Group Findings - Economic Well-Being

Leaders perceived Latino communities as doing poorly in contexts in which there are very limited resources for service providers and more intense competition for those resources. Participants recognized poverty as a major factor in the lives of Latino families and communities. Poverty impacts education, health, civic engagement, and community well-being. Just as important is the “poverty of information” that pervades the lives of the poor, making it difficult to access the services and programs that could assist them. Latino and Latina seniors spoke of the negative impacts of fixed incomes and the costs of daily living, sometimes having to decide between food and daily medications. Young adults spoke of the limited opportunities to obtain good-paying jobs and some spoke of the racial dynamics that prevail at work-

places and the lack of respect paid to them by employers and other employees. Business leaders noted that access to capital remains a barrier for current and aspiring Latino businesspersons.

## Health

The general health status of a population depends on the prevalence of related specific health problems and serves as a robust predictor of future health status. Using the Current Population Surveys (CPS) merged file 2008-2013 data in our analysis, about 14.8 percent of Michigan adults (18 years and older) reported being in fair or poor health.<sup>4</sup> As expected, self-assessment of health varies by race/ethnicity. About 9.4 percent of Latinos indicated that they had fair or poor health compared with 13.7 percent of non-Hispanic Whites, 23.9 percent African Americans, 12.5 percent Asians, and 14.4 percent Other races. Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data from Michigan from 2012 show higher rates of fair or poor health among Latinos (24.2%) than non-Hispanic Whites (15.1%).

In the Detroit-Warren-Livonia metropolitan area, according to CPS data, 15 percent of adults indicated that they had fair or poor health. About 9.2 percent of Latinos in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia metropolitan area indicated that they had fair or poor health, compared with 13.3 percent of non-Hispanic Whites, 21.9 percent of African Americans, 13.2 percent of Asians, and 15.9 percent of Other races in the same area.

In 2009-2011, 14.6 percent of Michigan residents (non-elderly) did not have health insurance. Michigan adults are much more likely than children to be uninsured. In 2009-2011, 18.4 percent of adults (19 – 64 years) were uninsured compared to 5.5 percent of children (0 – 18 years). Latinos and African Americans in Michigan were more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to be uninsured. In 2009-2011, 19.3 percent of Latinos were uninsured, followed by 17.2 percent of African Americans, while 13.7 percent of non-Hispanic Whites were uninsured.

In 2012, 31.1 percent of Michigan adults were considered obese [i.e., their body mass index (BMI) was greater than or equal to 30.0]. African Americans (37.8%), followed closely by Latinos (37.0%), reported higher prevalence of obesity than non-Hispanic Whites (29.9%).

In 2012, 12.3 percent of Michigan adults reported having been told by a doctor that they had cancer (skin or any other type of cancer). Non-Hispanic Whites (13.9%) reported a significant higher prevalence of cancer (of any type) than Latinos (4.8%) and African Americans (6.5%). In 2012, an estimated 9.9 percent of Michigan adults were told that they had some form of cardiovascular disease (i.e., had a heart attack, coronary heart disease, or a stroke). African Americans (12.1%) reported a higher prevalence of cardiovascular disease than non-Hispanic Whites (9.6%) and Latinos (7.3%).

## Food Insecurity

In 2010-2012, 13.5 percent (over 0.5 million) of Michigan's 3.8 million households were considered food insecure and 5.3 percent of households (slightly over 200,000 households) were very low food insecure<sup>5</sup>. Rates of food insecurity in Michigan vary by race/ethnicity. Food insecurity was highest among Native American households (40.5%), followed by Latino (23.6%) and African American (20.4%) households, all of which had higher rates than non-Hispanic White (11.8%) and Asian/Pacific Islander households (5.3%).

## Focus Group Findings - Health

Access to healthcare in general and high risk behaviors (substance misuse and unprotected sex)

<sup>4</sup> The categories used for self-reported health are: Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair, or Poor.

<sup>5</sup> Very low food insecurity is defined as ... "the food intake of one or more household members was reduced and their eating patterns were disrupted at times because the household lacked money and other sources for food" (Coleman-Jensen, Nord, and Singh, 2013: vi).

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among teens in particular emerged as critical concerns in the focus groups. Further, undocumented immigrants, because of their status, are least likely to seek medical care for fear of being discovered as undocumented, relying instead on traditional remedies to treat ailments. Decreased funding for social programs that promote access to healthcare opportunities were of concern to many participants, as was the lack of bilingual healthcare providers.

## **Civic Engagement**

### **Reported Voting and Registration**

In Michigan, voter registration and voting behavior patterns tend to mirror those in the nation, except among Latinos. About 78 percent of adult citizens were registered to vote and 67 percent of them indicated they voted in the 2012 presidential elections. Voting patterns in Michigan differed by race/ethnicity. About 86 percent of Latino citizens reported that they were registered to vote and 70 percent of them reported voting in the 2012 presidential election. In comparison, 80 percent and 68 percent of non-Hispanic Whites; 69 percent and 64 percent of non-Hispanic African Americans; and 59 percent and 52 percent of Asians were registered and voted, respectively.

In the Detroit-Warren-Livonia metropolitan area, 78 percent of adult citizens were registered to vote and 69 percent of them indicated that they voted in the 2012 presidential elections. About 87 percent of Latino citizens reported that they were registered to vote and 76 percent of them voted in the 2012 presidential elections. By comparison, 81 percent and 70 percent of non-Hispanic Whites; 72 percent and 67 percent of African Americans; and 59 percent and 55 percent of Asians were registered and voted, respectively.

### **Participation in Community Organizations**

The results show that Latinos in Michigan and in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia metro area are less likely than other race/ethnic groups to be involved in community civic activities/organizations. In 2011, about 12 percent of Latinos in Michigan reported being involved in community civic activities/organizations. By comparison, 40 percent of White, 23 percent of African American, and 22 percent of Asian adults in Michigan were involved in community civic activities/organizations.

### **Focus Group Findings - Civic Engagement**

Participants understood civic engagement as multi-dimensional, ranging from community upkeep to voting. Poor Latinos take pride in the few possessions they have in life, maintaining their homes and working together to clean up and beautify their neighborhoods. Latino leaders articulated representational issues such as lack of Latino leadership in public offices as a concern. In general, Latinos do not participate in organizations in the broader community, with most staying within the orbit of their cultural group, and in many instances, within their neighborhoods.

## **Community Well Being**

In 2012, the arrest rate in Michigan was 3,390 per 100,000 population. About 123 per 100,000 population were arrested for violent crimes and 355 per 100,000 population were arrested for property crimes. In Southeast Michigan, the highest arrest rate was in Wayne County (3,856 per 100,000 population), especially in Detroit (4,821 per 100,000 population), and the lowest arrest rate was in Livingston County with a rate of 1,392 per 100,000 population. In 2012, the crime rate was estimated at 6,037 crimes per 100,000

population. The violent crime rate was estimated at 410 crimes per 100,000 population and property crimes at 2,524 crimes per 100,000 population. The crime rates vary significantly in Southeast Michigan, with the highest crime rate occurring in Wayne County (9,087 per 100,000 population), especially in Detroit (13,594 per 100,000 population), and the lowest crime rate occurring in Livingston County (2,718 per 100,000 population).

### **Focus Group Findings - Community Well Being**

Participants thoughtfully expressed the importance of cultural celebration and family and community well-being as important aspects of Latino culture. They noted the importance of healthy community spaces as vital for their youth and families. Principal concerns among participants with regard to community well-being included poor public transportation, relations with police, crime, and relative lack of community centers and public gathering places for youth. Young adults spoke about peer pressures to engage in high risk behaviors as a problem.

### **Immigration**

In 2010-2012, approximately 23 percent of Latinos in Michigan were foreign-born, compared with six percent of the total population. Nearly 50% of the foreign-born population in Michigan is from Asia.<sup>6</sup> In Southeast Michigan, 16 percent of Latinos living in St. Clair County were foreign-born, compared with 29 percent of Latinos in Washtenaw County, which had the highest rate. In Detroit, 36 percent of Latinos were foreign-born.

### **Focus Group Findings - Immigration**

Latino immigrants, especially undocumented immigrants, lead lives of fear and great difficulties. Collective community agitation and anxiety arise around issues of deportation, exploitation by employers, vulnerability to crime, and uncertain futures. Yet, they weather these obstacles with hope and conviction, pursuing better lives for themselves and their children. They yearn for intelligent and comprehensive immigration reform and the opportunity to lead successful and contributing lives in which they can drive to work or drop off their children at school, free of fear and intimidation, as they seek to support their families and communities.

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<sup>6</sup> See State Immigration Data Profiles, Migration Policy Institute available at: <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/data/state-profiles/state/demographics/MI>

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

The futures of Southeast Michigan, Michigan, the Midwest, and the nation are bound up with Latinos and the degree to which they are incorporated into the core institutions of our communities, including education, the economy, health services, and community organizations. The following recommendations are provided as critical guides to improving the well-being of Latino communities in Southeast Michigan and throughout the state. That improvement, however, can only occur by more fully incorporating Latinos into community and societal institutions.

### Education

1. Create school resources in different formats in Spanish to reach out to Latino families to promote awareness and understanding of policies, practices, and expectations of local public school systems.
2. Work with Latino students and their families to engage with college preparedness programs, including information on standardized testing, financial aid, college visitations, application processes, and integration into college environments.
3. Provide after-school curricular activities, including support with homework and tutoring, and engaging parents through adult education programs. This may require transportation assistance for some students.
4. Provide bilingual and bicultural instruction within an integrated educational plan, starting in elementary grades.
5. Provide cultural awareness and competence training to key staff members in educational counseling, vocational, and regular education courses.
6. Design and implement programs to increase opportunities for Latino students to take advanced courses in technical and vocational colleges and in four-year universities.
7. Create integrated mentorship programs for both students and their parents together to prevent dropping out of school and to promote educational achievement. For example, create partnerships among school, church, and community organizations to deliver educational support programs.

### Economic Well-Being

8. Reduce income inequality, which is the most formidable barrier to social interaction and economic development, to allow a true form of local solidarity to grow and generate effective community actions that improve the well-being of residents.
9. Engage local business leaders to develop a Latino economic framework that links business development and community development.
10. Promote the development of Latino business corridors that strengthen firms and their capacity to succeed.
11. Provide one-stop services that support Latino start-up businesses across a range of needs and which increase understanding of the legal and regulatory contexts in which businesses operate.
12. Enhance opportunities for Latino businesses to access capital both at the point of start-up and at the point of expansion.
13. Improve employment opportunities for undocumented Latinos, allow driving permits, and provide safeguards against employment exploitation.
14. Promote jobs creation – good jobs that provide steady incomes and livable wages and benefits – so that all residents in Michigan can benefit from improvements in the economy.
15. Provide community educational programs and services to support neighborhoods with high concen-



trations of poor minority and other impoverished residents.

16. Promote local leadership programs to develop leaders who can accomplish community development goals that are centered on improving the well-being of Latinos and other residents in Southeast Michigan.

### **Health and health behaviors**

17. Recruit, hire, and retain more bilingual and culturally competent healthcare providers that at the very least speak Spanish but ideally have knowledge of the cultural and social realities of Latino communities.

18. Provide home health care visits for Latino elderly and disabled persons who are home-bound or impeded by transportation or mobility issues.

19. Ensure access to affordable quality health care for Latinos.

20. Promote safe and walkable communities where children and elders alike can engage in physical activities.

21. Provide language-appropriate nutrition education and materials in community centers, schools, and in medical offices.

22. Ensure the availability of affordable, healthy foods in poor communities.

23. Promote community wellness programs with Spanish-speaking health professionals who deliver healthy lifestyle education programs.

24. Provide health screening and health literacy services for Latino adults and older adults, especially in the area of mental health among elders.

25. Promote drug and alcohol abuse screening in Spanish and provide referrals as needed.

### **Civic Engagement**

26. Develop partnerships across civic, business and political leaders, groups and organizations to engage residents in the pursuit of community goals.

27. Increase the number of Latinos serving in committees and decision-making activities of government, community and service organizations.

28. Collaborate with local law enforcement agencies to improve and strengthen positive police/community relations and improve response times to poor communities.

29. Follow recent Presidential Executive Actions (EA) to demarcate local police from ICE. Follow recent EA to rid local law enforcement units of secure community programs that link local law enforcement with immigration.

30. Use pre-existing gathering spaces (churches, soccer, and cultural festivals) to promote awareness of community needs and pathways for residents to engage civically.

31. Encourage Latinos to exercise their voting rights and participate in local, state, and national elections.

32. Promote Latino involvement in and linkages to community networks of local groups and services so they can express their interests and concerns in order to get their specific needs addressed.

33. Design and implement interventions to enhance multicultural capacity among formal institutions in communities (i.e., schools, community centers, city planning, etc.) to better serve Spanish-speaking Latinos.

### **Community Well-Being**

34. Improve police/community relations, police response times, and the respect shown to residents by police officers.

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35. Engage local law enforcement agencies with small sections of neighborhoods to develop neighborhood watch programs that promote public safety and security.
  36. Promote community discussions of the school-to-prison pipeline to increase awareness of the punitive model of criminal justice that pervades communities and negatively impacts Latino youth.
  37. Make available to the public official statistics by standard categories of race/ethnicity, particularly with regard to the incarceration of juveniles and adults.
  38. Recruit more local Latino leaders for political office, for law enforcement positions, and for educational employment (teachers, school districts, etc.).
  39. Develop community economic development plans that ensure the security of residents and improve access to essential services.
  40. Foster a safe climate for Latinos to participate in community activities without fear of hostility.
  41. Incorporate the needs of Latinos in the priorities to be addressed and discussed by service delivery organizations.

### **Immigration**

42. Enhance key aspects of immigrant integration (health, employment, safety, and education) through partnerships with existing community-based organizations to better address the needs of Latino immigrants and develop and implement plans for effective intervention (i.e. toolkits for sharing information and resources within Latino communities).
43. Provide driving permits to undocumented immigrants so that they are able to drive to work and continue contributing to the local economy.
44. Adopt and implement DREAM (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) policies that allow all of undocumented youth who obtain a diploma from a Michigan high school to enroll in and pay in-state tuition rates at all of Michigan's public colleges and universities.
45. Promote immigrant-friendly communities by engaging local business, police, and education leaders in educating the public on critical immigration issues.
46. Provide community workshops or venues that facilitate community integration and interaction.
47. Enhance access to legal counseling and family services for Latino immigrants.

## INTRODUCTION

### Purpose

The purpose of this study is to assess the well-being of Latino communities in Southeast Michigan and through that process identify their needs. The last major study of the well-being of Latinos in Michigan is from 1992, conducted by the Michigan Commission on Spanish Speaking Affairs, Michigan Department of Civil Rights. That report was based on public hearings conducted during the summer of 1990 in nine cities in Michigan<sup>7</sup> and on information from various print sources. Many of the findings from that report are similar to those presented in this one. Additionally, a plan for action from that report covered similar issues addressed here as well. A major difference between the two reports is that this one frames the issues within the context of the policies that promote free market fundamentalism. That is, within the context of the political movement of the past forty years that has reshaped the nation through a political perspective that presents the market as the principal model for organizing society. The movement has reshaped the hierarchy of social values in society, placing individual freedom and individual responsibility at the apex, and diminishing the influence of social democracy and its social programs. Attending this shift has been a substantial increase in social inequality in society (Povich, Roberts, & Mather, 2014-15), although there is emerging optimism among the nation's and Michigan's households that the economy is improving (Federal Reserve Board, 2015; Ballard, 2015) since the Great Recession of 2007-2009.

The ideas of free market fundamentalism rippled through our nation's institutions and through state governments over the past forty years, gaining considerable momentum during the decade of the 1990s. At its core free market fundamentalism is based on the notion of economic freedom, which posits individuals as pursuing their interests in the economy free of government regulation. It emphasizes radical individualism, with individuals expected to take care of themselves and their families without depending on government for assistance; limited government, which is achieved through limited taxation, especially on corporations, deregulation, and privatization of government functions; and flexible labor, which seeks to maximize the capacity of firms to determine the terms and conditions of employment. Labor is flexible in the sense that workers can have their employment terminated so that firms can maximize their capacity to minimize the negative impact of economic downturns.

In Michigan, the principal impact of free market fundamentalism on state government occurred under the leadership of Governor John Engler (1991-2002). This was a period during which conservatism had a major impact across the nation. The effects of free market fundamentalist policies are not only felt today throughout Michigan, the nation, and the globe, conservative legislators continue to pass legislation to fully institutionalize the principles of free market fundamentalism. Indeed, on April 9, 2011, after a decade in office, the *Detroit News* held that "Gov. John Engler has had more impact on the lives of Michiganders over the past decade than any other single person, and his deep imprint will be evident well into the new century."<sup>8</sup> Clearly, Gov. Engler was a proponent of free market fundamentalist policies but, like President Reagan at the national level, in Michigan he was merely the face of a broader political movement that opposed the ideas of social democracy. Just what impact Gov. Engler had on the lives of Michiganders remains to be assessed systematically, and readers can make their own decision after having read this report. Whatever stand one takes in relation to the principles of free market fundamentalism, it is imperative that efforts to improve the well-being of communities be understood and discussed relative to those principles rather than allowing their continued promotion in stealth mode. That is, making clear that notions of "freedom" and "public choice" are core ideological concepts of free market fundamentalism and as such have specific meanings that are used to gain support for conservative legislative initiatives without letting it be known that is what is going on.

<sup>7</sup> A hearing was conducted in each of the following cities: Lansing, Kalamazoo, Saginaw, Pontiac, Port Huron, Detroit, Adrian, Flint, and Grand Rapids.

<sup>8</sup> This quote is taken from the State's webpage on Former Governors, which can be accessed here: <http://www.michigan.gov/formergovernors/0,4584,7-212-31303-2273--,00.html>

Related to the principles of free market fundamentalism and constituting significant changes in the political and legal contexts were passage of Proposal 2, Michigan Civil Rights Initiative, in 2006 and the Right to Work legislation signed into law by Governor Rick Snyder in December 2012. Proposal 2 prohibited “public institutions from using affirmative action programs that give preferential treatment to groups or individuals based on their race, gender, color, ethnicity or national origin for public employment, education[al] or contracting purposes.”<sup>9</sup> Public institutions covered by this constitutional amendment include state government, local governments, public colleges and universities, community colleges and school districts. The amendment also prohibits public institutions from discriminating against groups or individuals on the basis of their gender, ethnicity, race, color or national origin, even as the state constitution already prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin.

Right to Work legislation covering both private and public sector employment was signed into law on December 12, 2012, making Michigan the 24<sup>th</sup> state to enact such legislation. The bills were passed via a fast track in the legislature on December 6, 2012, after having lain dormant in the Committee of the Whole since December 1, 2011. Among other things, Michigan’s right-to-work law prohibits requiring an individual, “as a condition of obtaining or continuing employment, to do any of the following:

- Join or support a labor organization.
- Engage in, or refrain from, collective bargaining activities.
- Pay dues, fees, assessments or other charges or expenses of any kind or amount, or provide anything of value to a labor organization.
- Pay to any charitable organization or third party any amount in lieu of or equivalent to full or partial dues, fees, assessments or other charges or expenses required of members.” (Blum, 2013: 4).

Exempted from the right-to-work law were police and firefighter unions, supposedly on the basis that they were already prohibited by law from engaging in labor strikes. These are a few of the major changes that have occurred in the political and legal environment of the state since the report by the Michigan Commission on Spanish Speaking Affairs was issued in 1992.

The Commission’s report provided recommendations under four goals: 1) “Meet the urgent needs of the Hispanic population,” (eight specific action steps); 2) “Increase the number of bilingual, bicultural Hispanic professionals,” (four specific action steps); 3) “Provide detailed information on the status of Michigan’s Hispanics,” (two specific action steps); and 4) “Monitor trends of the quality of life for Hispanic’s and update the plan” (four specific action steps). Many of these action steps are similar to those included in an action plan developed in 2011 following a statewide summit on Latinos in Michigan<sup>10</sup>. Perhaps the greatest difference between the two plans is that the public stereotype of Latinos shifted from being “lazy and ignorant” to being “hardworking.” To be sure, in Michigan’s agricultural, construction, and service sectors, employers know Latinos to be reliable, hardworking employees, even as some persons promote the image of them as criminals (Tanton & Lutton, 1993).<sup>11</sup>

Today, Latinos are a growing population in Michigan and a critical component of its social, cultural, and economic fabric. They have a long history in Michigan (Salas & Salas, 1974; Baba & Malvina Hauk, 1979; Alvarado & Alvarado, 2003; Badillo, 2003; Martinez, Palma Ramirez & Horner, 2011;), and contribute to the economy of Michigan as business owners and entrepreneurs, as workers in agriculture, construction, services, and other critical sectors of the economy, and as consumers. Indeed, a 2013 report by Alice Larson estimated that 4,600 migrant and seasonal workers are needed in the agricultural sector of

<sup>9</sup> Michigan Department of State. (2006). Notice State Proposals, November 7, 2006, General Election. Available on-line: [http://web.archive.org/web/20080720173002/http://www.michigan.gov/documents/sos/ED-138\\_State\\_Prop\\_11-06\\_174276\\_7.pdf](http://web.archive.org/web/20080720173002/http://www.michigan.gov/documents/sos/ED-138_State_Prop_11-06_174276_7.pdf).

<sup>10</sup> This plan is available here: <http://www.jsri.msu.edu/recent-reports>.

<sup>11</sup> Recently, Donald Trump, in announcing his bid for the presidency of the U.S. characterized Latino immigrants as criminals, rapists, drug peddlers, and disease-carrying persons who bring their problems to this country.

the seven counties.<sup>12</sup> A 2010 report by the Julian Samora Research Institute at Michigan State University stated the following:

Approximately 154,797 Latino workers contribute \$25.2 billion in state output. However, these jobs generate additional jobs that impact Latino and non-Latino households alike. In addition to the direct jobs occupied by Latino workers, an additional 162,554 jobs are generated for a total state-wide employment impact of 317,351 Michigan jobs. Taking into consideration secondary impacts, the Latino workforce contributes approximately \$48.4 billion to total state output (Miller, Martinez & Fuan, 2010: vi.).

Similarly, for Southeast Michigan, a report commissioned by the Hispanic Business Alliance (2008) before the full force of the Great Recession was felt showed the following:

...[T]hat the economic activity of... Hispanic residents supports 181,053 total jobs in Southeast Michigan, a multiplier of 1.95. This estimated multiplier value means that for every employed Hispanic, the intermediate goods purchased by the businesses that employ them and their spending of their wages and salaries generate almost one additional job in Southeast Michigan. Though Hispanics are substantially represented in every major job category in Southeastern Michigan, their employment is concentrated in manufacturing. This is consequential because manufacturing jobs have the largest multiplier of any basic job category in Southeast Michigan.

While most people focus on jobs, there are several other noteworthy metrics of the Hispanic contribution to economic activity in Southeast Michigan. The earnings of Hispanics and the spin-off jobs they support amounted to \$10.2 billion in 2006, with economic activity adding \$14.5 billion to the Gross Regional Product (2006) in Southeast Michigan. In sum, Hispanic economic activity, including spin-off jobs, accounted for 6.5% of total employment, 6.4% of total earnings, and 6.2% of output in Southeast Michigan in 2006, while representing only 3.5% of the total population. Furthermore, this economic activity generated \$727 million in state government tax revenue in 2006 (p. 7).

As consumers, according to the American Immigration Council (2015), the purchasing power of Latinos in Michigan is estimated at \$9.8 billion.

While Latinos contribute substantially to the regional and state economy, at the same time they continue to face social, economic, and political challenges. Despite the historical legacy of Detroit and Southeast Michigan in terms of the diversity of ethnic groups, for example, the primary dynamic of intergroup relations is framed in terms of White/Black relations to the detriment of all other groups. The nature of these challenges is a major focus of this assessment. The analyses in this report address the following two questions: 1) How does the well-being of the Latino population compare to other demographic groups?; and 2) What are the critical needs of Latino communities in Southeast Michigan? Moreover, the analyses highlight findings about needs that go unmet and lead to recommendations to address them in order to improve the well-being of Latinos in Southeast Michigan, with implications for other Latino communities in Michigan and the Midwest.

To accomplish this we examine how Latinos compare to other demographic groups in Southeast Michigan and across the state of Michigan on seven important areas: 1) population characteristics, 2) education, 3) economic well-being, 4) health and health behaviors, 5) civic engagement, 6) community well-being and 7) immigration. Following the demographic overview we examine indicators in the remaining areas by race/ethnicity and, whenever possible, by county and city within Southeast Michigan.

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<sup>12</sup> A report on the conditions of migrant and seasonal workers in Michigan is available on-line: [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdcr/MSFW-Conditions2010\\_318275\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdcr/MSFW-Conditions2010_318275_7.pdf).

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## Methods

In this study we focus on Latino communities in Southeast Michigan, which for our purposes is comprised of the following seven counties: Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw, Monroe, St Clair, and Livingston. This report uses various secondary sources and primary data collected through focus groups of young adults, adults, seniors, and local community and business leaders to assess the well-being of Latinos in Michigan and Southeast Michigan. It also draws on data from the U.S. Census American Community Surveys (ACS), the 2010 Decennial Population Census, the U.S. Census Population Estimations and Projections, Current Population Surveys (CPS) Supplements (December and November), the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), the American College Testing Program, ACT National Scores Report, the College Board, College-Bound Seniors, the Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS), the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data, and the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS).<sup>13</sup> Finally, it uses information from various studies on Latino community needs to provide a portrait of Latino communities in Southeast Michigan.

The 15 focus groups that were conducted between March 2014 and March 2015 included three with young adults (18 to 24 years of age); three with adults (25 to 65 years of age); three with seniors (66 years of age and older), three with local leaders, two with business persons, and one with immigrants. We targeted three areas of the region in which to conduct the focus groups: Southwest Detroit, Pontiac and Auburn Hills, and the downriver communities of Allen Park, Lincoln Park, Melvindale and Taylor. A set of four focus groups was conducted in each of the areas, which were selected on the basis of the size of the Latino population, with the purpose of including both urban and suburban settings.

Findings from the quantitative data are presented first to identify the general patterns in the population and among the major race/ethnic groups in the state and in the Southeast region. We then present findings from the focus groups to give deeper meaning to the general patterns derived from the quantitative data.

## Identification of Key Themes

The well-being of any community is multi-dimensional. Our work has been guided primarily by a focus on socio-economic and incorporation issues. As such, the principal dimensions and themes of the study are as follows: demographics, education, economic well-being, health, civic engagement, community well-being, and immigration. All of these are critical issues among Latinos in Michigan and in Southeast Michigan.

## Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, we provide a series of recommendations in each of the thematic areas which policymakers, service providers, Latino non-profit organizations, and the Latino community can use to address the many challenges facing Latino communities in Michigan.

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<sup>13</sup> We relied on the use of official data from the Federal Government because the State of Michigan provides very limited official data by standard categories of race/ethnicity. For instance, one cannot provide incarceration rates for juveniles and adults by race/ethnicity for Michigan, especially over time, using official statistics available to the public.

## I. DEMOGRAPHICS

### A. Total Latino Population

According to U.S. Census population estimates the U.S. population in 2013 numbered approximately 309 million (Table 1). Latinos are the second largest ethnic population in the U.S., next to Whites. With almost 50.5 million or 16.3 percent of the total population (Table 1), they are also the largest ethnic minority group in the country. The African American or Black population represented 12.3 percent of the total population, whereas the Asian population represented 4.9 percent of the total population. Non-Hispanic Whites are the majority and dominant population in the U.S., representing 63.9 percent of the total population (Table 1). In Michigan, the total population was estimated at 10.3 million in 2013. The Latino population was estimated at 436,358, or 4.2 percent of the total population. About 13.7 percent of the total population in Michigan was African American and 2.4 percent Asian. Non-Hispanic Whites are also the majority and dominant population in Michigan, representing 77 percent of the total population (Table 1).

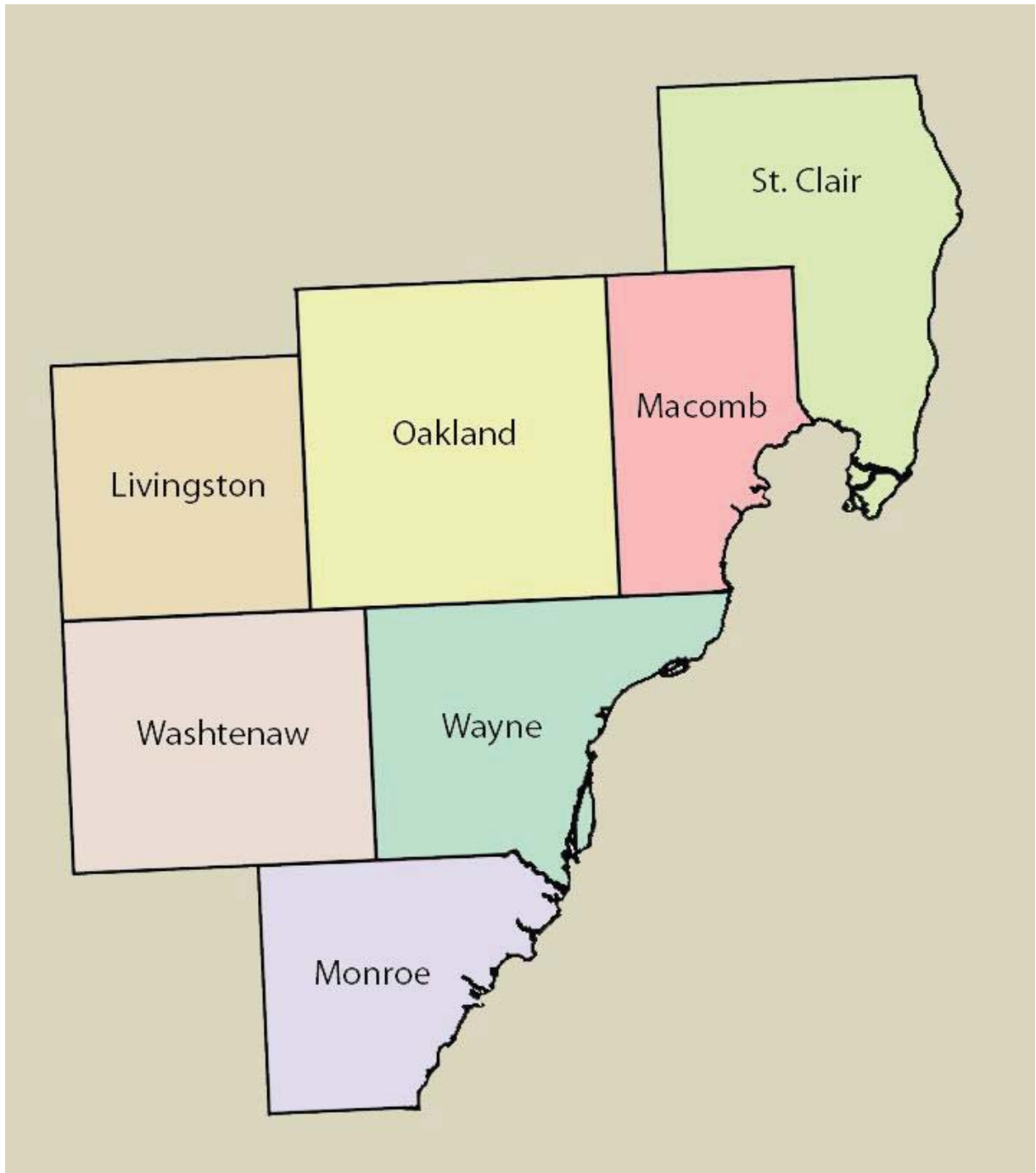
**Table 1. Population Estimates by Race/Ethnicity, United States and Michigan, 2013**

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>United States</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Michigan</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Non-Hispanic White	197,318,956	63.9	7,949,497	77.0
Black or African American	37,922,522	12.3	4,416,067	13.7
American Indian and Alaska Native	2,263,258	0.7	68,396	0.7
Asian or Pacific Islanders	15,158,732	4.9	246,504	2.4
Two or more races	5,604,476	1.8	203,176	2.0
<b><i>Hispanic/Latino</i></b>	<b><i>50,477,594</i></b>	<b><i>16.3</i></b>	<b><i>436,358</i></b>	<b><i>4.2</i></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>308,745,538</b>	<b>10,319,998</b>	<b>10,319,998</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States, States, and Counties, July 1, 2013.

Southeast Michigan (see Map 1 below) had an estimated total population of 4.7 million (as of July 1, 2013), or nearly half of the state's population. Latinos in Southeast Michigan represented approximately 4.1 percent of the total population and 41.7 percent of the Latino population in Michigan. Latinos are more concentrated in Wayne County (21.1%), followed by Oakland (9.8%), and Macomb (4.5%) Counties, than in other counties in Southeast Michigan. Detroit alone has an estimated Latino population of 53,300, representing about 7.7 percent of the total population in the city and approximately 11.4 percent of the Latino population in Michigan (Table 2).

**Map 1. Counties in Southeast Michigan**



Source: Wayne State University, Center for Urban Studies. Available on-line: <http://www.econdev.cus.wayne.edu/Menu/LocalEd.aspx>



**Table 2. Total and Percent Latino Population in Michigan and Southeast Michigan, 2010-2013**

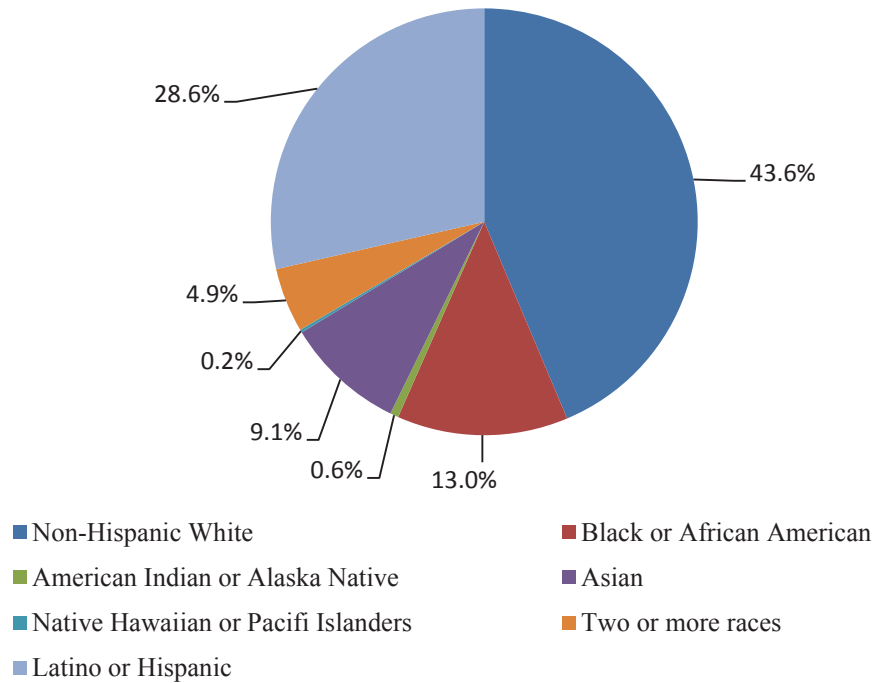
Geographical Area	Population		Percent of Latinos in each Area	Percent of Total Latino Population in MI
	Total	Latino		
Michigan	9,895,622	466,594	4.72	100.00
Southeast Michigan	4,711,210	194,521	4.13	41.69
Livingston	184,443	3,968	2.15	0.85
Macomb	854,769	20,841	2.44	4.47
Monroe	150,376	4,981	3.31	1.07
Oakland	1,231,640	45,757	3.72	9.81
St. Clair	160,469	4,951	3.09	1.06
Washtenaw	354,240	15,434	4.36	3.31
Wayne	1,775,273	98,589	5.55	21.13
City of Detroit	688,740	53,300	7.74	11.42

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States, States, and Counties: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2013; U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey

### **B. Population Change**

Latinos and Asians are increasingly shaping the demographic composition of the U.S. population. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, the U.S. population will increase to about 417 million by 2060 (Appendix, Table A1). The Latino population in the U.S. is projected to reach 119 million, about 2.4 times its current size, representing about 29 percent of the total population by 2060 (Figure 1). The Asian population is also expected to grow significantly and is projected to reach almost 38 million, or about 2.6 times its current size, representing about 8 percent of the total population (Figure 2). By comparison, the non-Hispanic White population is projected to decline from its current size of 197 million (63.9%) (Table 1) to 182 million in 2060 (43.6%) (Appendix, Table A1; Figure 1). The African American population is projected to increase from its current number of 37.9 million (12.3%) (Table 1) to 54 million (13%) (Appendix, Table A1; Figure 1). The American Indian and Alaska Native population is projected to increase from its current size of 2.3 million (0.7%) (Table 1) to 2.6 million (0.6%, note the relative decline) and the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders population is projected to increase from its current estimate of 497,000 (0.2%) (Table 1) to 900,000 (0.2%) (Appendix, Table A1; Figure 2).

**Figure 1. Projections of the U.S. Population by Race/Ethnicity, 2060**



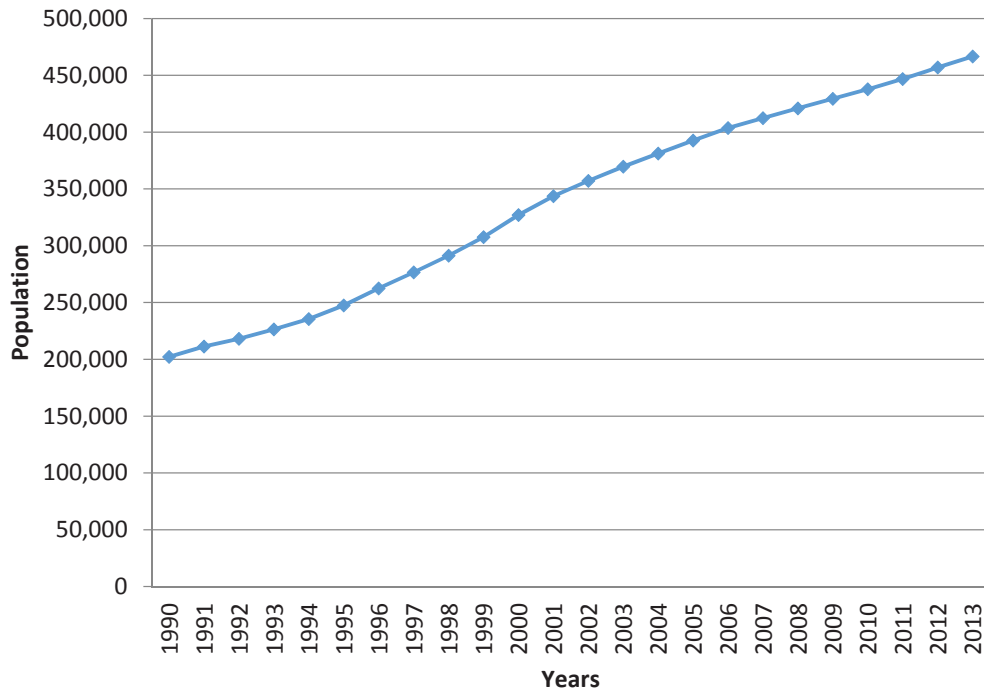
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Table 4. Projections of the Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: 2015 to 2060 (NP2014-T10)

In Michigan, while the overall population increased by 6.3 percent between 1990 and 2013, the size of the Latino population in Michigan in 2013 (466,594) was more than twice what it was in 1990 (202,246) (Appendix, Table A2). The percentage of Latinos in Michigan increased from 2.17 percent in 1990 to 4.72 in 2013, reflecting a 117.1 percent increase (Appendix, Table A2). While the total population in Michigan has been decreasing since 1990 and experienced a continuous decrease between 2004 and 2010 (Figure 2), the Latino population increased every year between 1990 and 2013 (Figure 3). The annual growth rate of the Latino population was higher in the 1990s (Table 3) than in the first decade and a half of this century, a period of intense nativism<sup>14</sup> in the state and across the country. The highest annual Latino growth rate was between 1999 and 2000 (6.3%). Since 2000, the Latino growth rate declined each year and remained at around two percent from 2006 to 2013 (Table 3). The Latino population is likely to continue to grow faster than the non-Latino population in the coming decades, mostly due to a combination of demographic processes including higher fertility and lower mortality rates than Whites, and higher levels of immigration from Mexico and other Latin American countries than from other countries. In terms of the foreign-born population in Michigan, of the 6.2 percent that immigrants comprise of Michigan’s total population, approximately 49.1 percent are from Asian countries, while 18.4% are from Latin America.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Nativism is a cultural reactionary movement characterized by anti-immigration sentiments and xenophobia as it seeks to protect and/or restore an idealistic view of American culture and institutions. During this period, the targets of nativism have been Latinos.

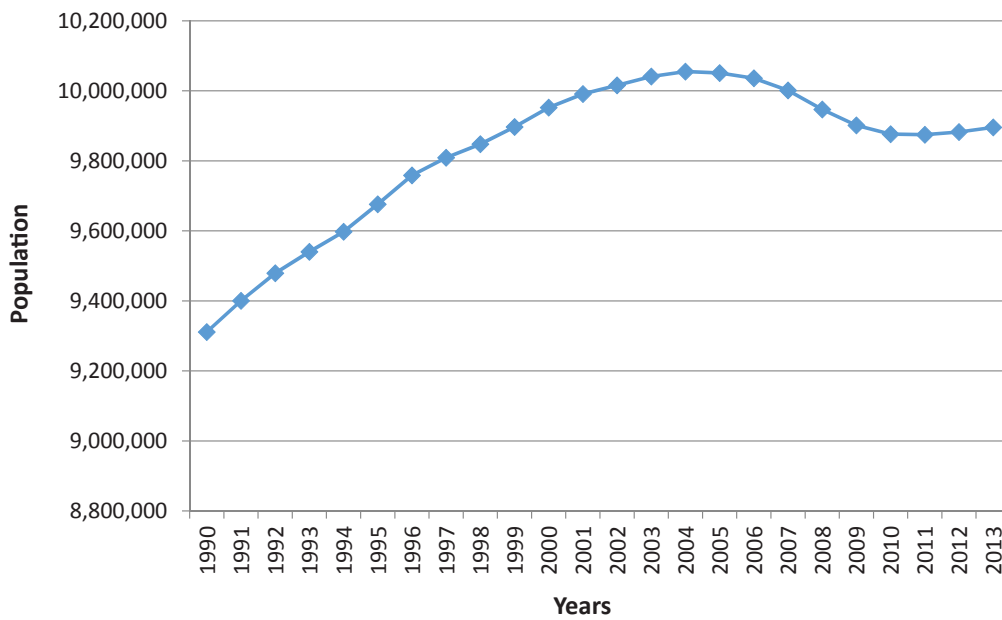
<sup>15</sup> See the figures provided for Michigan by Migration Policy Institute, State Demographic Data Profiles available at: <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/data/state-profiles/state/demographics/MI>

**Figure 2. Michigan Latino Population Growth Trend, 1990-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States, States, and Counties: April 1, 1990 to July 1, 2013

**Figure 3. Michigan Total Population Growth Trend, 1990-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States, States, and Counties: April 1, 1990 to July 1, 2013

**Table 3. Annual Percentage Change of Michigan Total and Latino Populations, 1990-2013**

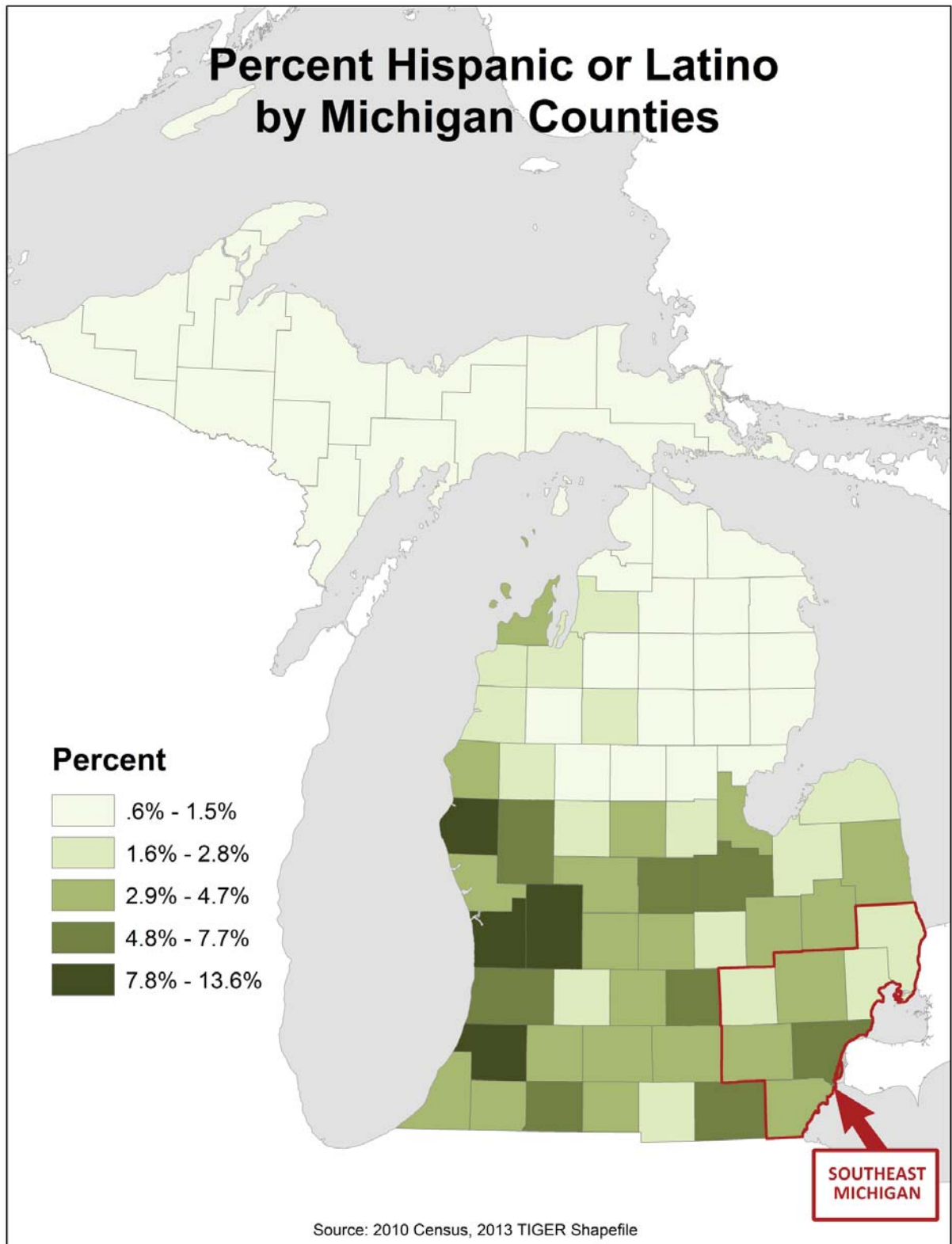
Years	Annual Percent Population Change	
	Total	Latino
1990-1991	0.96	4.48
1991-1992	0.84	3.23
1992-1993	0.64	3.80
1993-1994	0.60	4.00
1994-1995	0.82	5.11
1995-1996	0.85	6.04
1996-1997	0.52	5.35
1997-1998	0.40	5.35
1998-1999	0.50	5.61
1999-2000	0.56	6.30
2000-2001	0.39	5.07
2001-2002	0.25	3.93
2002-2003	0.25	3.48
2003-2004	0.14	3.13
2004-2005	-0.04	3.03
2005-2006	-0.15	2.79
2006-2007	-0.35	2.16
2007-2008	-0.54	2.07
2008-2009	-0.46	2.02
2009-2010	-0.26	1.94
2010-2011	-0.02	2.07
2011-2012	0.08	2.27
2012-2013	0.13	2.12

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States, States, and Counties: April 1, 1990 to July 1, 2013.

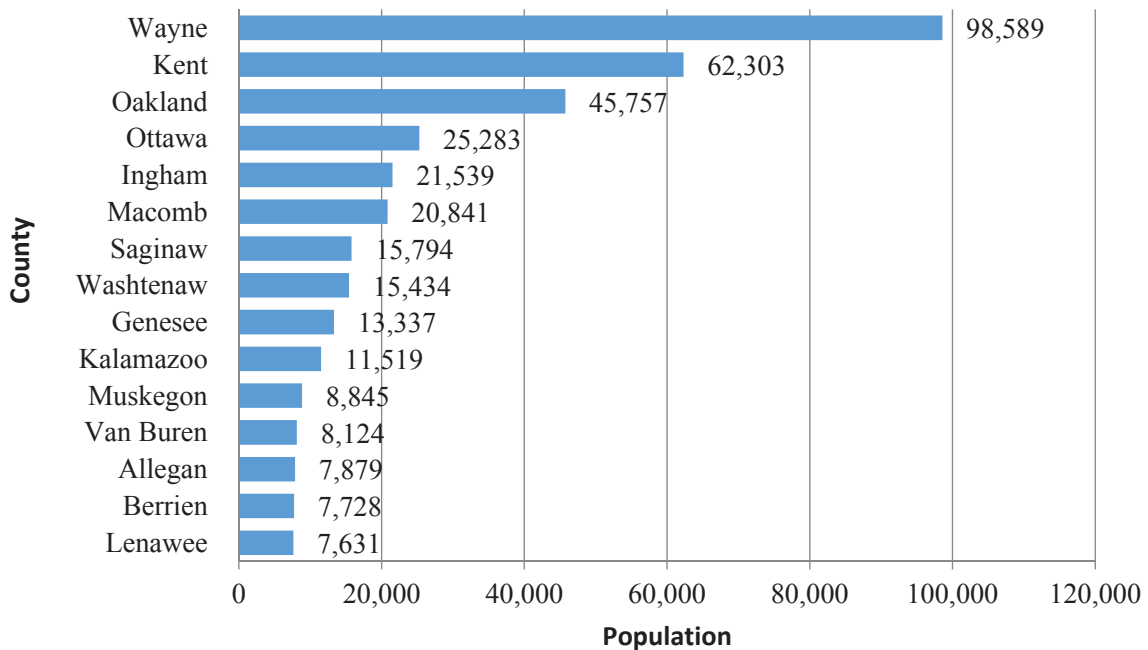
### **C. Geographical Concentration and Dispersion**

While there has been an increasing dispersion of the Latino population across the United States, Latinos in Michigan tend to be clustered in certain counties (see Map 2), although they can be found across the entire state. According to the U.S. Census, 41 percent of Latinos resided in the West and 36 percent resided in the South regions of the United States. The Northeast and Midwest accounted for 14 percent and 9 percent, respectively, of the Latino population (Ennis, Rios-Vargas, and Albert, 2011). In Michigan, Latinos are concentrated in the Southeast region of the state, especially in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, and Washtenaw Counties, and in the West and Southwest areas of the state, especially in Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon, Kalamazoo, and Van Buren Counties. Other counties with sizeable concentrations of Latinos include Ingham, Saginaw, Genesee, Allegan, Berrien, and Lenawee counties (Figure 4; Appendix, Table A3).

Map 2. Percent of Hispanic or Latino (of any race) in Michigan by County, 2010



**Figure 4. Top 15 Counties with Highest Concentrations of Hispanics, 2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States, States, and Counties, July 1, 2013.

Table 4 presents the total and Latino population changes in Michigan and Southeast Michigan between the 2000 and the 2010 decennial censuses and between 2010 and 2013. While the total population in Michigan declined between 2000 and 2013 (-0.69%), the Latino population increased by almost 40 percent. Between 2010 and 2013, the total population increased by less than one percent, while the Latino population increased by 4 percent. In Southeast Michigan, the Latino population increased by about 40 percent between 2000 and 2013 (Table 4).

Although all counties in Southeast Michigan experienced growth in the Latino population, Livingston (96.0%) (which has the highest standard of living), followed by Washtenaw and Macomb Counties, had the highest Latino population growth rates (70.2% and 62.6%, respectively). In Wayne and Oakland Counties, which have the highest numbers of Latinos, the Latino population grew by 26 percent and 53 percent, respectively, between 2000 and 2013. Detroit had a Latino population growth of 7.4 percent between 2000 and 2013. While Southeast Michigan experienced an overall growth in the Latino population, the total population declined by 2.6 percent, mostly due to out-migration of other population groups, particularly non-Hispanic White and African American populations. Detroit, in particular, decreased by 254,348 persons between 2000 and 2013, almost 27 percent of the city's population. All counties in Southeast Michigan, except Wayne and St. Clair Counties, gained population between 2000 and 2013 (Table 4).

**Table 4. United States, Michigan, and Southeast Michigan Populations and Latino Population Change, 2000-2013**

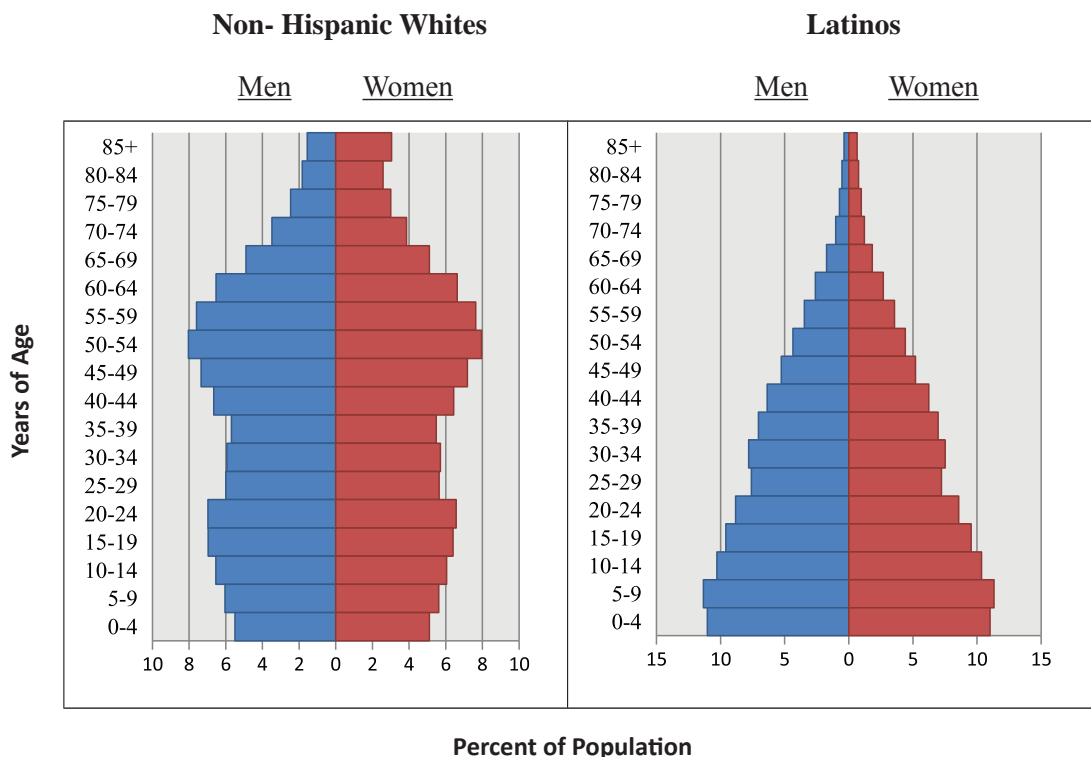
Geographic Unit	Number			% change		
	2000	2010	2013	2000-2010	2010-2013	2000-2013
<b>United States</b>						
<b>Total</b>	281,421,906	308,745,538	313,861,723	9.71	1.66	11.53
Latino	35,305,818	50,477,594	52,952,497	42.97	4.90	49.98
<b>Michigan</b>						
Total	9,952,450	9,877,574	9,884,242	-0.75	0.07	-0.69
Latino	327,050	438,551	456,558	34.09	4.11	39.60
<b>Southeast Michigan</b>						
<b>Total</b>	4,833,493	4,704,743	4,705,853	-2.66	0.02	-2.64
Latino	136,136	182,970	190,783	34.40	4.27	40.14
<u>Livingston</u>						
Total	156,951	180,967	183,309	15.30	1.29	16.79
Latino	1,953	3,460	3,828	77.16	10.64	96.01
<u>Macomb</u>						
Total	788,149	840,978	848,455	6.70	0.89	7.65
Latino	12,435	19,095	20,213	53.56	5.85	62.55
<u>Monroe</u>						
Total	145,945	152,021	150,944	4.16	-0.71	3.43
Latino	3,110	4,667	4,889	50.06	4.76	57.20
<u>Oakland</u>						
Total	1,194,156	1,202,362	1,221,103	0.69	1.56	2.26
Latino	28,999	41,920	44,464	44.56	6.07	53.33
<u>St. Clair</u>						
Total	164,235	163,040	160,878	-0.73	-1.33	-2.04
Latino	3,593	4,708	4,864	31.03	3.31	35.37
<u>Washtenaw</u>						
Total	322,895	344,791	351,345	6.78	1.90	8.81
Latino	8,839	13,860	15,040	56.81	8.51	70.15
<u>Wayne</u>						
Total	2,061,162	1,820,584	1,789,819	-11.67	-1.69	-13.16
Latino	77,207	95,260	97,485	23.38	2.34	26.26
<u>City of Detroit</u>						
Total	951,270	713,777	696,922	-24.97	-2.36	-26.74
Latino	47,167	48,679	52,298	3.21	7.43	10.88

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Censuses (Summary Files 1, 2000 and 2010), 2011-2013 3-Year American Community Survey.

### D. Age-Sex Population Composition

Figure 5 presents population pyramids of Latino and non-Hispanic White populations in Michigan for the years 2011 to 2013. The shapes of the pyramids indicate a much younger Latino population compared to the non-Hispanic White population. The Latino population pyramid shows larger proportions at younger ages and progressively smaller proportions at older ages. The wider base of the pyramid reflects a relatively higher proportion of young Latinos in the population. In contrast, the pyramid for non-Hispanic Whites has a much more rectangular shape, which indicates an older population. The base of the pyramid for non-Hispanic Whites is narrower, reflecting relatively fewer young people. The pyramid for non-Hispanic Whites also shows a larger proportion of older age groups. The pyramid for Latinos, by contrast, shows a larger proportion of individuals in the age range from 15 to 44 years. This is likely to be the result of continued migration to the state and immigration to the United States. The pyramid for non-Hispanic Whites shows the aging of the baby-boom generation (age 45 to 64 years). The pyramids also reveal a much greater proportion of older population segments (65 years and older) among non-Hispanic Whites than among Latinos.

**Figure 5. Age-Sex Pyramids for Non-Hispanic Whites and Latinos in Michigan, 2011-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates, 2011-2013.

These population pyramids show how young the Latino population in Michigan is in comparison to the aging non-Hispanic White population. There are about seven times as many children under 15 years of age as there are persons 65 years and older among Latinos. In contrast, there are more or less equal shares of children and elderly in the non-Hispanic White population. Thus, among Latinos, there is a large portion of the population that is or will be of childbearing ages (ages 15 - 44 years) and a large share

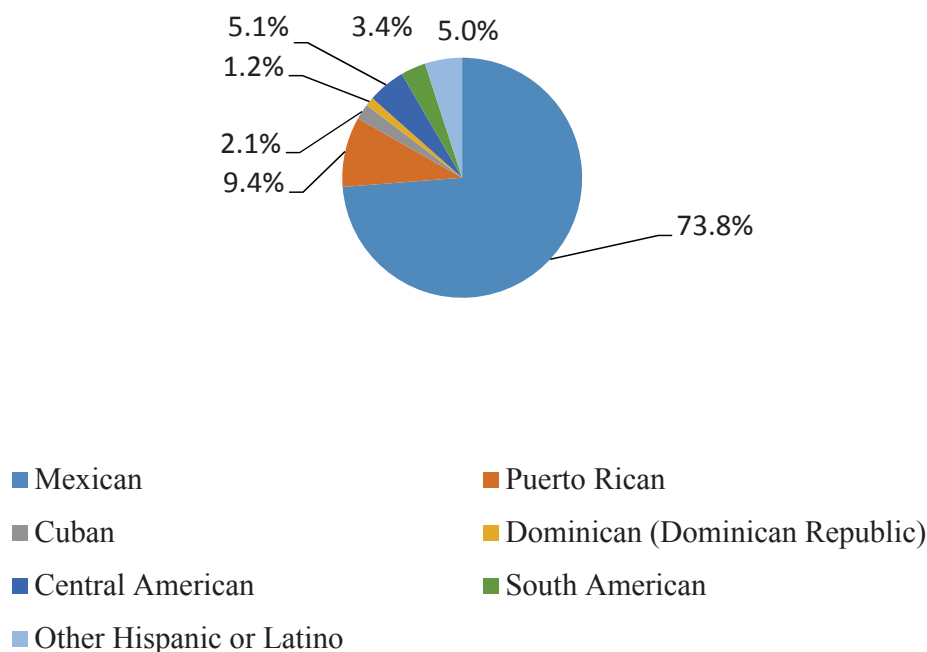


that is young and therefore will likely have lower mortality rates. Given that immigrants tend to be relatively young, they also contribute to the youthfulness of the Latino population in Michigan.

### 1. Origins of the Latino Population

The Latino population is very diverse and has segments from different Spanish-speaking countries in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Spain. The majority of Latinos in Michigan are of Mexican American and Mexican origin, accounting for 74 percent of Latinos in 2011-2013 (Figure 6). The remaining population segments of Latinos in Michigan are of Puerto Rican (9.4%), Central American (5.1%), South American (3.4%), Cuban (2.1%), Dominican (1.2%), and Other Latino (5%) origins (e.g., Spain) (Figure 6). In Southeast Michigan, Mexican American and Mexican-origin Latinos are also the largest segment of the Latino population, accounting for 71.1 percent of Latinos between 2009 and 2013. The other segments of the Latino population in Southeast Michigan include Puerto Rican (11%), Cuban (2%), and Other Latinos (16%) (Table 4). A greater number of Puerto Ricans are in Wayne (over 10,000) and Oakland (6,741) Counties, representing 11 percent and 16 percent of the Latino population, respectively (Table 5). Detroit has nearly 6,200 Puerto Ricans, or about 12 percent of its Latino population. The Other Latino segments include Salvadorans, Dominicans, Guatemalans, Colombians, Hondurans, Ecuadorans, other Central Americans and South Americans, and Spaniards. Just over 11,000 Other Latinos were in Wayne County between 2009-2013 (11.5%), close to 8,000 were in Oakland County (18.4%), and nearly 5,000 were in Washtenaw County (33.4%) (Table 5).

**Figure 6. Michigan Latino Populations by Specific Origin, 2010-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2013 3 -Year American Community Survey

**Table 5. Southeast Michigan Counties Latino Population by Specific Origin, 2009-2013**

Geographical Units		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Other Latino
Southeast Michigan	N	187,694	133,540	21,420	3,221	29,512
	%	100.0	71.1	11.4	1.7	15.7
Livingston	N	3,676	2,488	274	109	805
	%	100.0	67.7	7.5	3.0	21.9
Macomb	N	19,720	14,194	1,638	370	3518
	%	100.0	72.0	8.3	1.9	17.8
Monroe	N	4,789	3,617	636	157	379
	%	100.0	75.5	13.3	3.3	7.9
Oakland	N	43,264	27,827	6,761	734	7,942
	%	100.0	64.3	15.6	1.7	18.4
St. Clair	N	4,799	3,653	287	20	839
	%	100.0	76.1	6.0	0.4	17.5
Washtenaw	N	14,532	7,951	1,285	442	4,854
	%	100.0	54.7	8.8	3.0	33.4
Wayne	N	96,314	73,400	10,480	1,376	11,058
	%	100.0	76.2	10.9	1.4	11.5
Detroit city	N	50,161	38,670	6,177	476	4,838
	%	100.0	77.1	12.3	0.9	9.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5 -Year American Community Survey.

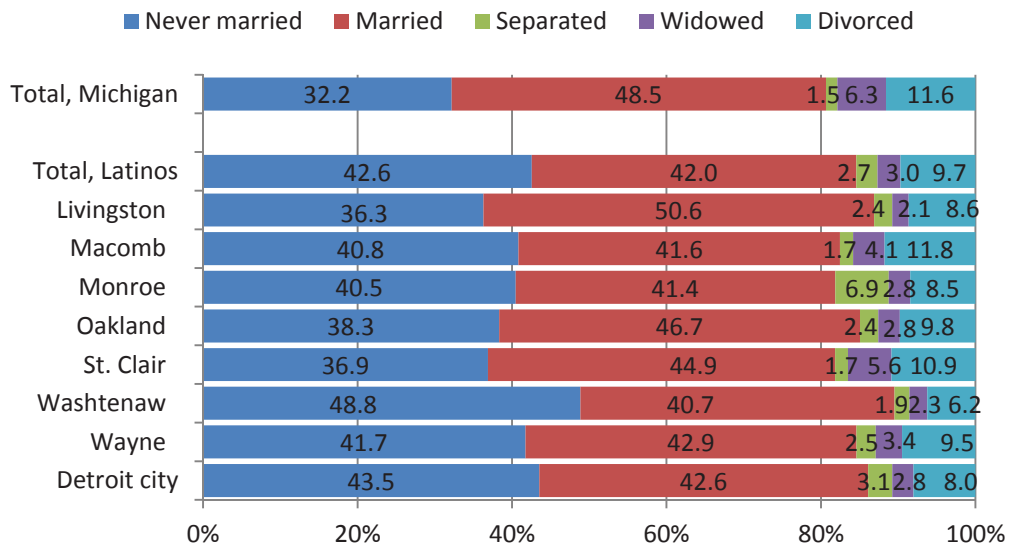
## 2. Marital Status and Household Structure

In 2011-2013, almost half (48.5%) of the total population in Michigan was married, nearly one-third was never married (32.2%), nearly one-tenth was divorced (12%), 1.5 percent was separated, and 6.3 percent was widowed (Figure 7). In comparison, 42.0 percent of Latinos in Michigan were married, 42.6 percent never married, 11.6 percent divorced, 2.7 percent separated, and 3 percent widowed (Figure 7). Livingston County had a greater proportion of married Latinos (51%) compared to other counties in the Southeast region. Washtenaw County had a greater proportion of never-married Latinos (49%) (Figure 7).

In 2011-2013, 48 percent of households in Michigan were married-couple families, 13 percent were female-headed families, five percent were male-headed families, and 35 percent were non-family households (Figure 8). By comparison, 46 percent of Latino households were married-couple families, 19 percent were female-headed families, 8 percent male-headed families, and 27 percent were non-family households (Figure 8).

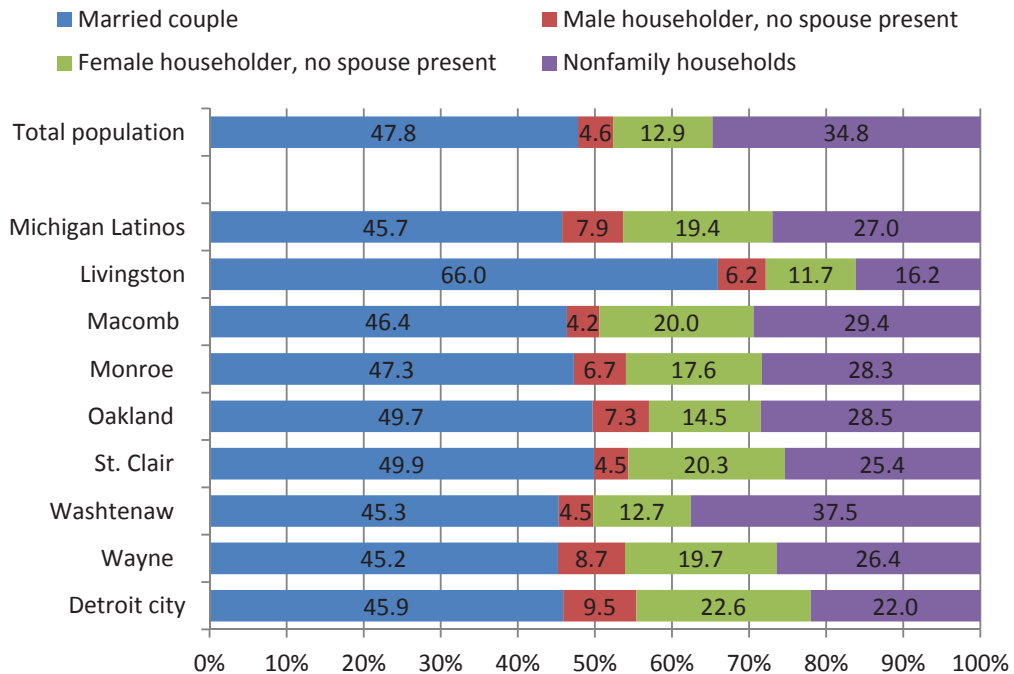
Close to two-thirds of Latino households in Livingston County were married-couple families (66%). Almost half of the Latino households in Oakland and St. Clair counties were married-families. About one fifth of Latino households in Wayne, Macomb, and St. Clair counties were female-headed families. About 23 percent of Latino households in Detroit were female-headed, while 10 percent of the Latino households were male-headed. The largest proportion of non-family households among Latinos was in Washtenaw County (38%) (Figure 8).

**Figure 7. Latino Population by Marital Status in Michigan and Southeast Michigan, 2011–2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2011-2013.

**Figure 8. Latino Household Structure, 2011–2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2011-2013.

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## II. EDUCATION

### A. Educational Attainment

In 2011-2013, about 26 percent of adults (25 years of age and older) in Michigan had at least a Bachelor's degree, 11 percent had less than a high school education, 30 percent a high school education, and 33 percent some college education (Table 6). By comparison, about 31 percent of Asian/Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander adults had at least a Bachelor's degree, compared to 27 percent of non-Hispanic Whites, 16 percent of African Americans, 16 percent of Latinos, and 14 percent of American Indian/Alaska Natives (Table 6). About 31 percent of Latinos in Michigan had less than a high school education as compared to 9 percent of non-Hispanic Whites (Table 6).

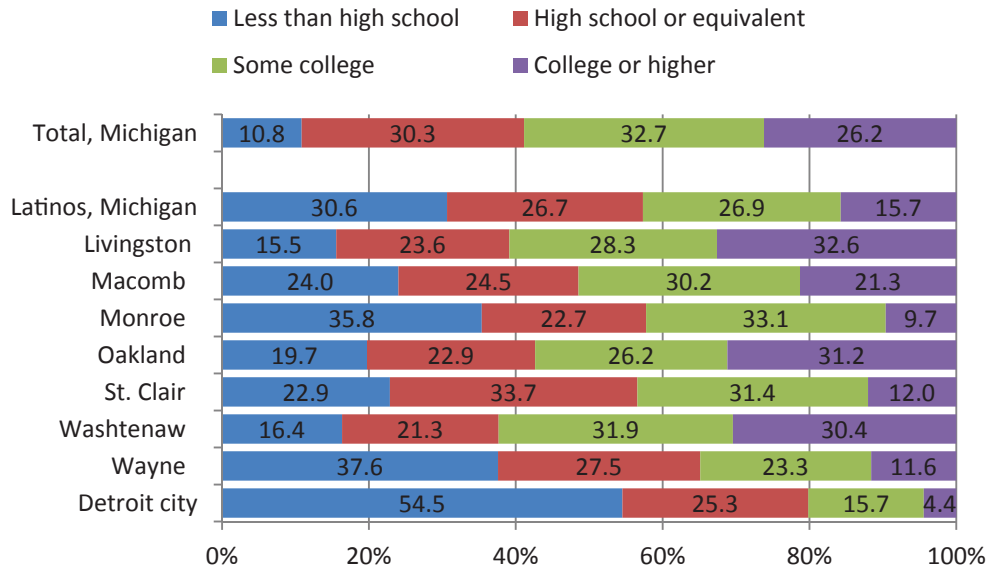
**Table 6. Educational Attainment among Persons 25 years and Older by Race and Ethnicity in Michigan, 2011-2013**

<b>Educational Attainment</b>	<b>Non-Hispanic White</b>	<b>Black/African American</b>	<b>Latino/Hispanic</b>	<b>Asian Alone/Pacific Islanders</b>	<b>American Indian/Alaska Native</b>	<b>All Adults</b>
Less than High School	9.0	16.5	30.6	13.7	15.2	10.8
High School or Equivalent	31.0	31.1	26.7	27.5	32.9	30.3
Some College	32.7	36.4	26.9	28.3	38.2	32.7
Bachelor's degree or higher	27.3	16.1	15.7	30.5	13.7	26.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2013 3 -Year American Community Survey.

Figure 9 displays the educational attainment of Latino adults (25 years and older) in Southeast Michigan. For comparison, the educational attainment of all adults 25 years and older in Michigan is also provided. In 2011-2013, Detroit had the lowest percentage of Latinos with at least a high school education (45%); this includes all with a high school diploma and higher degrees. Overall in Wayne County, about 62 percent of Latinos had completed at least a high school education. In Washtenaw, Livingston, and Oakland Counties at least 80 percent of Latinos had at least a high school education. The percentage of Latinos with at least a Bachelor's degree is highest in Livingston County (33%), followed by Oakland (31%) and Washtenaw Counties (30%), and then Monroe County (10%) (Figure 9). Detroit has the lowest percent of Latinos with at least a Bachelor's degree (4%).

**Figure 9. Latino Educational Attainment (25 years and older), 2011-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2013 3-Year American Community Survey

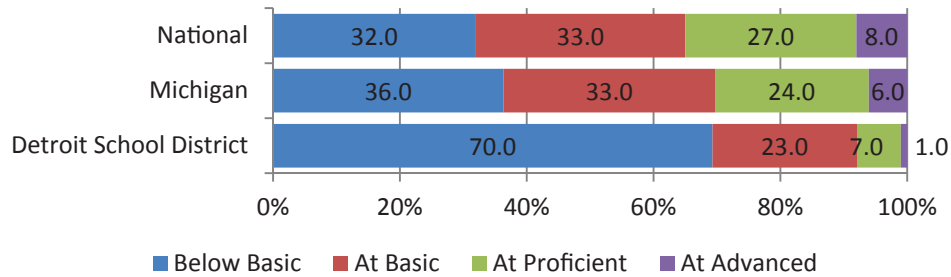
## B. Academic Achievement

Figures 10 through 12 display reading achievement levels of 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> graders from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in the United States, Michigan, and the Detroit Public School District. The NAEP results presented below are the percentage of students performing at or above four competency levels: *Below Basic*, *Basic*, *Proficient*, and *Advanced*. These achievement levels are performance standards reflecting what students should know and be able to master at some level. *Basic* level denotes partial mastery of knowledge and skills that are fundamental for proficient performance at a given grade. *Below basic* level, therefore, denotes less than the basic level of performance. *Proficient* level denotes solid academic performance. Students reaching this level have demonstrated competency over challenging subject matter. *Advanced* level signifies superior performance (Aud, Fox, and KewalRani, 2010).

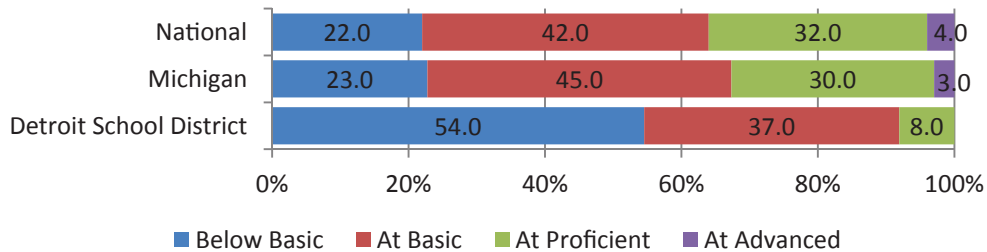
### 1. Reading Achievement

In 2013, about 35 percent of 4<sup>th</sup>-graders in the United States scored at or above Proficient level in reading. In Michigan, 30 percent of 4<sup>th</sup>-graders scored at or above Proficient levels in reading. In the Detroit Public School District, only eight percent of 4<sup>th</sup>-graders scored at or above Proficient levels in reading (Figure 10). At the 8<sup>th</sup>-grade level, 36 percent of students scored at or above Proficient levels in reading. In Michigan, 33 percent of 8<sup>th</sup>-graders scored at or above Proficient levels in reading. In the Detroit Public School District, only eight percent of 8<sup>th</sup>-graders scored at or above Proficient levels in reading (Figure 11). At the 12<sup>th</sup>-grade level, 37 percent of students in the United States and in Michigan scored at or above Proficient levels in reading (Figure 12).

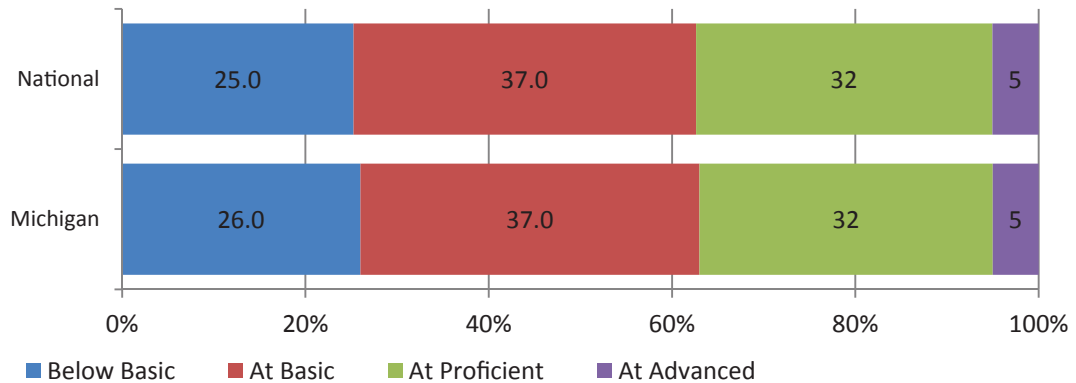
**Figure 10. Percentage Distribution of 4th-Grade Students at National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Reading Achievement Levels in U.S., Michigan, and Detroit City School District, 2013**



**Figure 11. Percentage Distribution of 8th-Grade Students at National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Reading Achievement Levels in U.S., Michigan, and Detroit City School District, 2013**

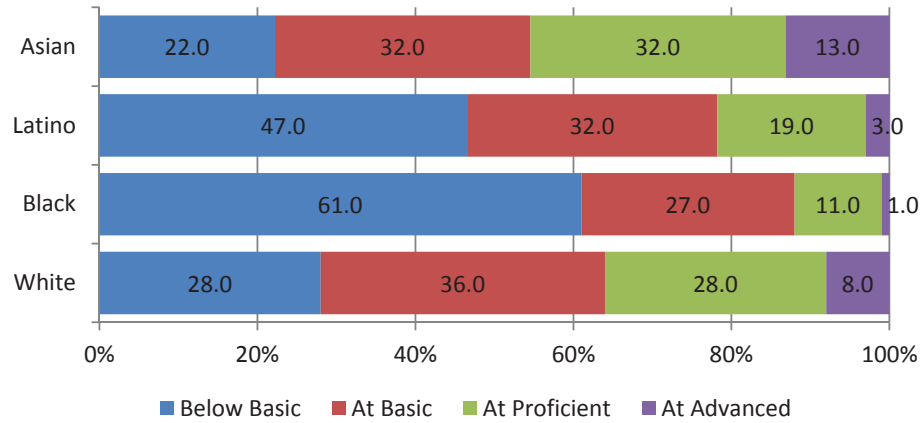


**Figure 12. Percentage Distribution of 12th-Grade Students at National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Reading Achievement Levels in U.S., Michigan, and Detroit City School District, 2013**

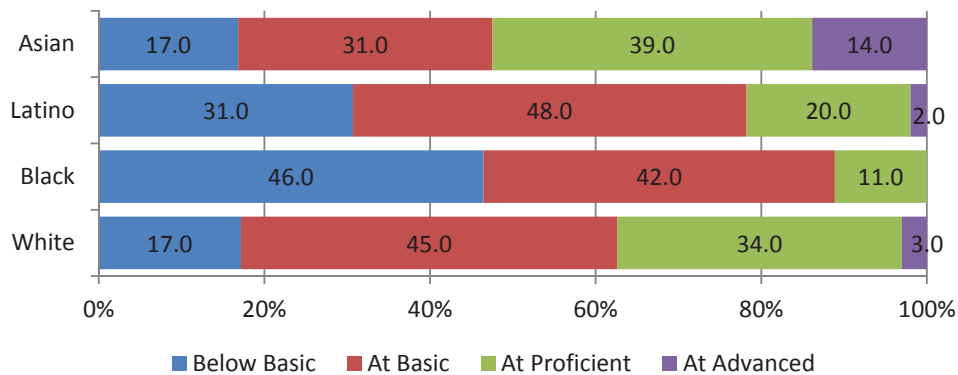


Figures 13 through 15 display reading test achievements of 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>-graders from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in Michigan by race/ethnicity. At the 4<sup>th</sup>-grade level in Michigan, higher percentages of Asian (45%) and non-Hispanic White (36%) students scored at or above Proficient levels in reading than Latino (22%) and African American (12%) students (Figure 13). At the 8<sup>th</sup>-grade level in Michigan, higher percentages of Asian (53%) and non-Hispanic White (37%) students scored at or above Proficient levels in reading than Latino (22%) and African American (11%) students (Figure 14). At the 12<sup>th</sup>-grade level in Michigan, higher percentages of Asian (53%) and non-Hispanic White (42%) students scored at or above Proficient levels in reading than Latino (23%) and African American (12%) students (Figure 15).

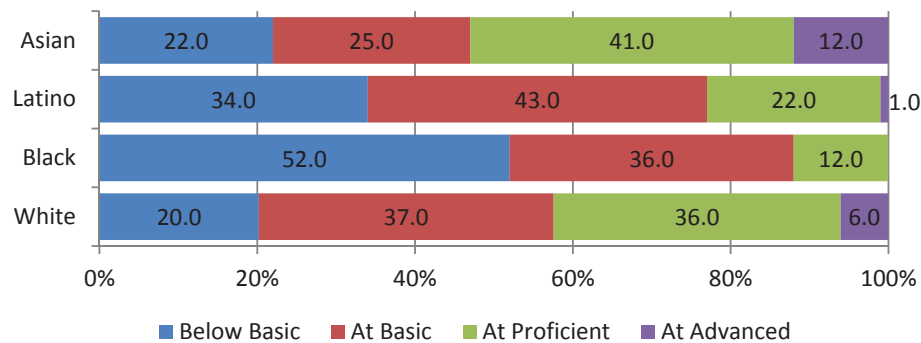
**Figure 13. Percentage Distribution of 4th-Grade Students at National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Reading Achievement Levels in Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2013**



**Figure 14. Percentage Distribution of 8th-Grade Students at National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Reading Achievement Levels in Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2013**



**Figure 15. Percentage Distribution of 12th-Grade Students at National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Reading Achievement Levels in Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2013**



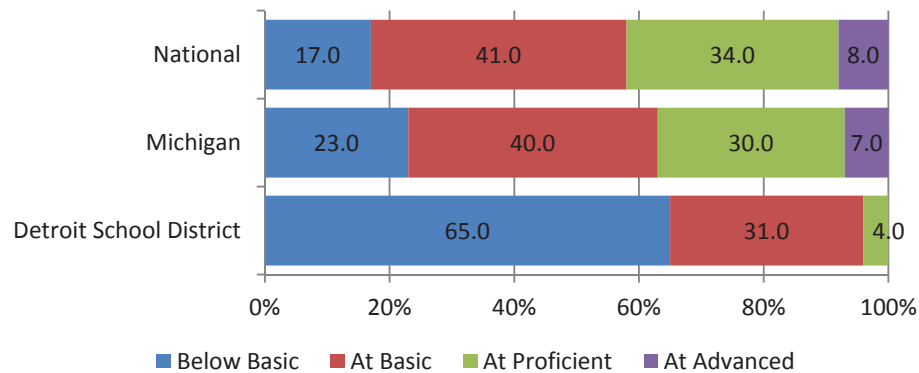


## 2. Mathematics Achievement

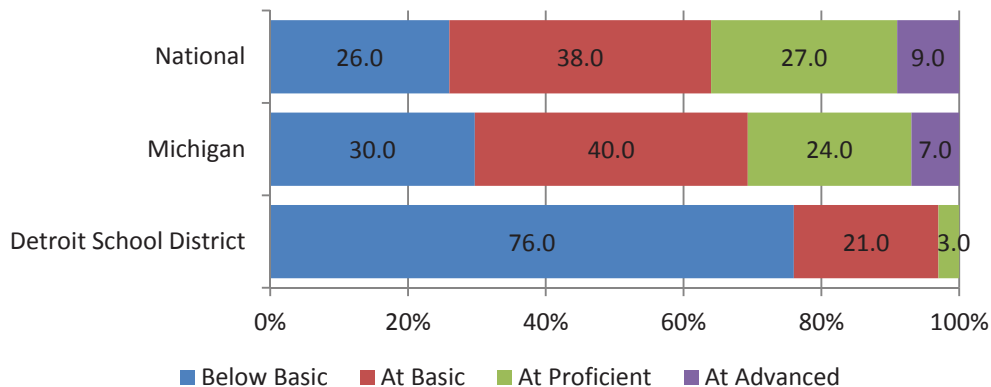
Figures 16 through 18 display mathematics test achievement levels of 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>-graders from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in the United States, Michigan, and Detroit Public School District. The NAEP mathematics assessment measures students' abilities in five content areas: 1) number sense, properties, and operations; 2) measurement; 3) geometry and spatial sense; 4) data analysis, statistics, and probabilities; and 5) algebra and functions.

In 2013, 42 percent of 4<sup>th</sup>-graders in the United States scored at or above the Proficient levels. In Michigan, 37 percent of 4<sup>th</sup>-graders scored at or above the Proficient levels. In the Detroit Public School District, 35 percent of 4<sup>th</sup>-graders scored at or above the Proficient levels (Figure 16). In the 8<sup>th</sup>-grade, 36 percent of students in the United States scored at or above the Proficient levels. In Michigan, 31 percent of 8<sup>th</sup>-graders scored at or above the Proficient levels. In the Detroit Public School District, 24 percent of 8<sup>th</sup>-graders scored at or above the Proficient levels (Figure 17). In the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, 26 percent of students in the United States and Michigan scored at or above the Proficient levels (Figure 18). As is evident, the proportion of students performing at Proficient levels decreases as one moves up the grade levels.

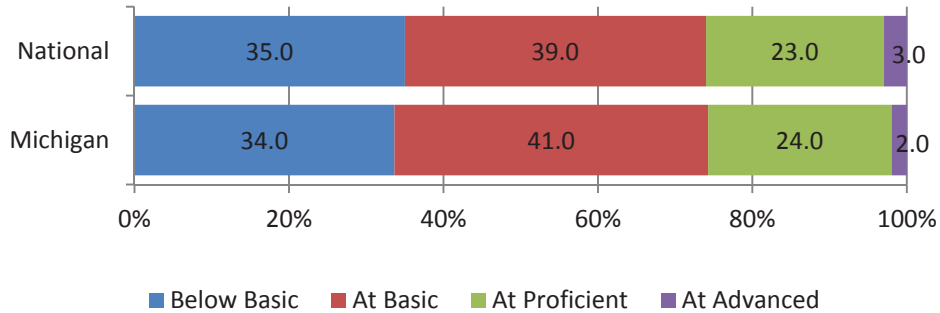
**Figure 16. Percentage Distribution of 4th-Grade Students at National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Mathematics Achievement Levels in U.S., Michigan, and Detroit City School District, 2013**



**Figure 17. Percentage Distribution of 8th-Grade Students at National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Mathematics Achievement Levels in U.S., Michigan, and Detroit City School District, 2013**

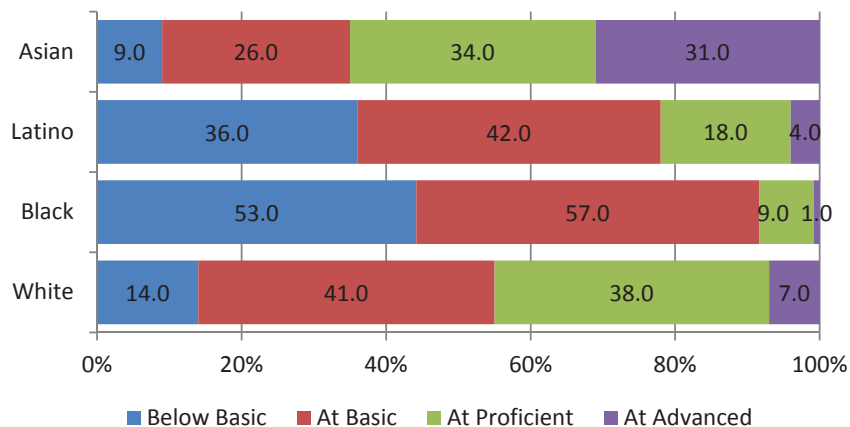


**Figure 18. Percentage Distribution of 12th-Grade Students at National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Mathematics Achievement Levels in U.S., Michigan, and a Detroit City School District, 2013**

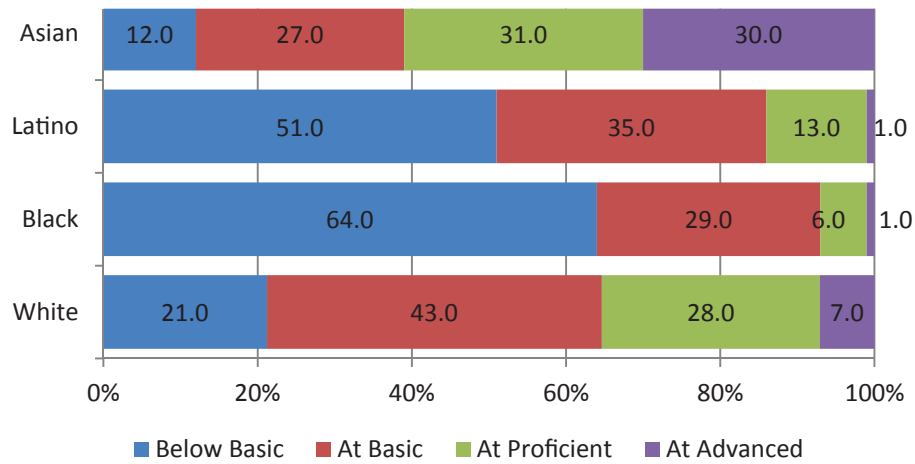


Figures 19 through 21 display mathematics test achievement levels of 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>-graders from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in Michigan by race/ethnicity. Mathematics achievement in 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades varies by race/ethnicity. In Michigan, higher percentages of Asian (65%) and non-Hispanic White (45%) 4<sup>th</sup>-graders scored at or above Proficient levels in mathematics than their Latino (22%) and African American (10%) counterparts (Figure 19). At the 8<sup>th</sup>-grade level, higher percentages of Asian (61%) and non-Hispanic White (35%) students scored at or above Proficient levels in mathematics than Latino (14%) and African American (7%) students (Figure 20). At the 12<sup>th</sup> grade level, higher percentages of Asian (42%) and non-Hispanic White (30%) students scored at or above Proficient levels in mathematics than Latino (9%) and African American (4%) students (Figure 21). The proportion of Latino and African American students performing below Proficient levels in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade is alarming and raises a red flag that historically has and continues to demand attention.

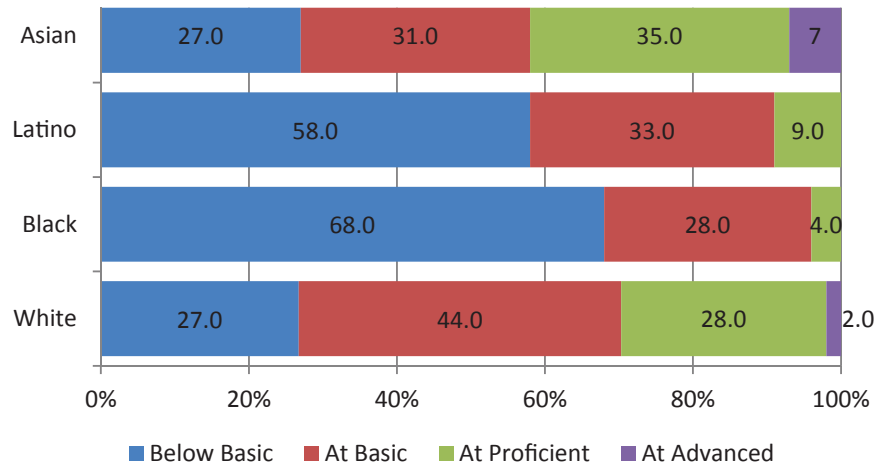
**Figure 19. Percentage Distribution of 4th-Grade Students at National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Mathematics Achievement Levels in Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2013**



**Figure 20. Percentage Distribution of 8th-Grade Students at National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Mathematics Achievement Levels in Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2013**



**Figure 21. Percentage Distribution of 12th-Grade Students at National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Mathematics Achievement Levels in Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2013**



### 3. SAT

Many colleges and universities require SAT and ACT scores for admission, and scores are submitted to the respective companies which, among other things, analyze the scores and publicize the results.<sup>16</sup> Scores for the different parts of the respective tests range from 200 to 800 points. Tables 7 and 8 present percentage distributions for 12<sup>th</sup> grade SAT-testing populations in 2013 in the United States and Michigan by race/ethnicity. As the population of SAT test takers becomes more diverse, differences remain across race/ethnic groups in SAT results. In 2013, Latino students in U.S. represented 18 percent of high school test takers compared to 50 percent Whites (Table 7). The percentage of test takers was 13 percent for African Americans, 12 percent for Asian or Pacific Islanders, and one percent American Indian or Alaska Natives (Table 7).

<sup>16</sup> Beginning in the Spring of 2016, Michigan will use the SAT rather than the ACT to assess the academic skills of high school students, with the state awarding a \$17.1-million, three-year contract to SAT to assess high school students.

**Table 7. Average SAT Scores for the 12<sup>th</sup> – Grade SAT Test Taking Population by Race/Ethnicity in the United States, 2013**

Race/ Ethnicity	SAT Test Takers		Critical Reading		Mathematics		Writing	
	Number	Percent	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Non-Hispanic White	834,933	50	527	103	534	104	515	104
Black or African American	210,151	13	431	99	429	99	418	95
Mexican or Mexican American	114,506	7	449	98	464	98	442	92
Puerto Rican	27,871	2	456	104	453	104	445	101
Other Latino/ Hispanic	141,884	9	450	106	461	106	443	102
Asian or Pacific Islander	196,030	12	521	126	597	125	527	129
American Indian or Alaska Native	9,818	1	480	107	486	106	461	102
Other	62,251	4	492	123	519	121	490	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,660,047</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>114</b>

Source: The College Board, *College-Bound Seniors*, 2013

The SAT includes a critical reading section, a mathematics section, and a writing section. Nationally, in 2013, the average score for critical reading was 496, with non-Hispanic White students having the highest average (527) of the different race/ethnic groups. Asian/Pacific Islander students had the second highest average critical reading score (521), followed by American Indian/Alaska Native (480), Puerto Rican (456), Other Latino (450), Mexican American (449), and African American students (431) (Table 7). Latinos had an average that is approximately 46 points below the national average, and approximately 77 below that of White students.

The overall average score on the mathematics section was 514 in 2013. Asian/Pacific Islander students had the highest mathematics average (597), which was higher than the averages of Whites (534), American Indian/Alaska Native (486), Mexican American (464), Other Latino (461), Puerto Rican (453), and African American students (429) (Table 7). On average, Latinos scored approximately 55 points below the national average and 138 points below Asian/Pacific Islander students.

The overall average score on the writing section was 488 in 2013. Asian/Pacific Islander students had the highest writing average score (527), which was higher than the averages of non-Hispanic Whites (515), American Indian/Alaska Native (461), Puerto Rican (445), Other Latino (443), Mexican American (442), and African American students (418) (Table 7). On average, Latinos score approximately 45 points below the national average, and 84 points below Asian/Pacific Islander students, who scored higher than non-Hispanic White students.

In 2013, non-Hispanic White students in Michigan represented 61 percent of high school test takers (Table 8). By comparison, the percentage of test takers was 21 percent for Asian or Pacific Islanders, eight percent for African Americans, and three percent for Latinos (Table 7). In 2013, the average score for critical reading in Michigan was 590, with Other Latino students having the highest average of any race/ethnic groups (606). Non-Hispanic White and American Indian/Alaska Native students had the second highest average critical reading score (601), followed by Asian/Pacific Islander (585), Mexican American (557), Puerto Rican (550), and African American students (519) (Table 8). Mexican American and Puerto Ricans, who are the largest Latino subgroups in Michigan, had scores approximately 36 points

below the state average, and 52 points below Other Latinos. These scores point to important test score differences that exist among the Latino subgroups and which merit some investigative interest.

**Table 8. Average SAT Scores for the 12<sup>th</sup> – Grade SAT Test Taking Population by Race/Ethnicity in Michigan, 2013**

Race/ Ethnicity	SAT Test Takers		Critical Reading		Mathematics		Writing	
	Number	Percent	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Non-Hispanic White	2,622	61	601	101	602	103	587	99
Black or African American	337	8	519	119	509	107	505	109
Mexican or Mexican American	49	1	557	81	568	83	550	92
Puerto Rican	8	0	550	-----	496	-----	524	-----
Other Latino/Hispanic	70	2	606	99	576	105	583	108
Asian or Pacific Islander	916	21	585	135	680	93	597	130
American Indian or Alaska Native	18	0	601	-----	579	-----	577	-----
Other	140	3	583	114	582	102	565	108
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>110</b>

Source: The College Board, *College-Bound Seniors*, 2013

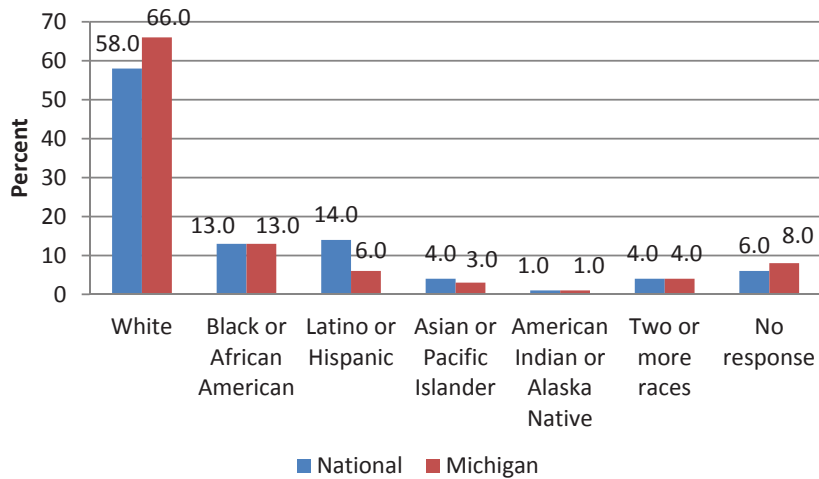
The overall average score on the mathematics section in Michigan was 610 in 2013. Asian/Pacific Islander students in Michigan had the highest mathematics average (680), which was higher than the averages of non-Hispanic Whites (602), American Indian/Alaska Native (579), Other Latino (576), Mexican American (568), African American (509), and Puerto Rican students (496) (Table 8). Latinos tended to score more than forty points below the state average and, Puerto Ricans scored substantially lower (approximately 114 points below the state average). Generally, Latinos scored more than 110 points below Asian/Pacific Islander students.

The overall average score on the writing section in Michigan was 582 in 2013. Asian/Pacific Islander students had the highest average score in writing (597), which was higher than the averages of non-Hispanic Whites (587), Other Latino (583), American Indian/Alaska Native (577), Mexican American (550), Puerto Rican (524), and African American students (509) (Table 8). Mexican American and Puerto Rican students, on average, scored more than 30 points below the state average, and more than 47 points below the average of Asian/Pacific Islander students.

#### 4. ACT

The ACT consists of English, mathematics, reading, and science sections. Scores for each section range from 0 to 36. Figure 22 displays the percentage distribution of ACT test-taking population by race/ethnicity in Michigan and U.S. in 2013. The majority of the ACT test-taking population was non-Hispanic White students in the U.S. (58%) and in Michigan (66%). Latino students represented 14 percent of the test-taking population in the U.S. in 2013. In Michigan, Latino students represented 6 percent of the test-taking population in 2013. African American students represented 13 percent of the test-taking population in U.S. and Michigan in 2013. In 2013, Asian/Pacific Islander students represented four percent of the test-taking population in the U.S. and three percent in Michigan (Figure 22). In general more Latino students in Michigan take the ACT than take the SAT.

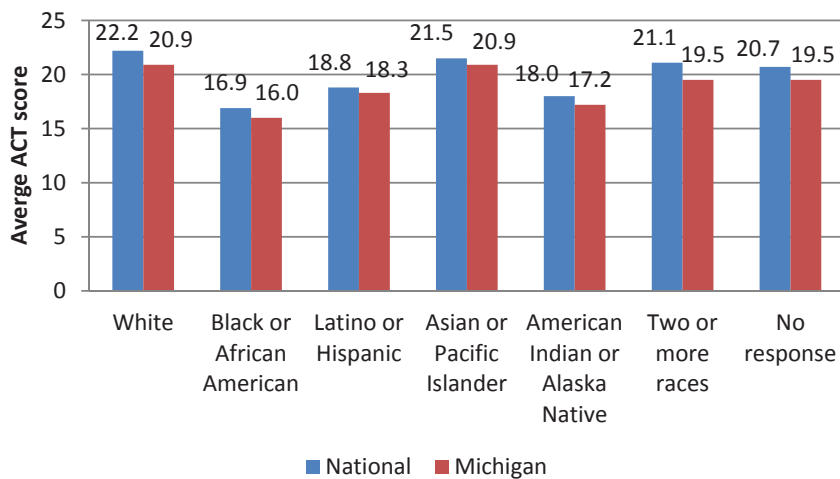
**Figure 22. Percentage Distribution of ACT Test-Taking Population the U.S. and Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2013**



Source: The American College Testing Program, ACT National Scores Report, 2013.

As with all other educational achievement indicators, the overall average composite ACT score varies by race/ethnicity. The average ACT score in the U.S. was about 22 for non-Hispanic White and Asian students, higher than those of Latino (19), African American (17), and American Indian/Alaska Native (18) students (Figure 23). In Michigan, the average ACT score was about 21 for non-Hispanic White and Asian students, higher than those of Latino (18), African American (16), and American Indian/Alaska Native (17), students (Figure 23). Across all the groups, Michigan students had lower average scores than the national average scores. This finding alone should raise some concern in Michigan regarding its public education systems.

**Figure 23. Average ACT Composite Scores in the U.S. and Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2013**



Source: The American College Testing Program, ACT National Scores Report, 2013.

Table 9 displays the average composite ACT scores in English, mathematics, reading, and science by race/ethnicity in U.S. and Michigan in 2013. The average ACT score in English in the U.S. was about 20, with a score of 23 for Asian students and 22 for non-Hispanic White students, both higher than those of Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander (19), Latino (18), American Indian/Alaska Native (17), and African American (16) students (Table 9). In Michigan, the average ACT score in English was 19.1, with an average score of 22 for Asian students and 20 for non-Hispanic White students, both higher than those of Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander (18), Latino (17), American Indian/Alaska Native (16), and African American (15) students (Table 9).

**Table 9. Average ACT Scores in English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science by Race/Ethnicity, U.S. and Michigan, 2013**

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Science</b>
<b>National</b>				
Non-Hispanic White	21.8	21.9	22.6	22.0
Black or African American	15.7	17.2	17.0	16.9
<b><i>Latino/Hispanic</i></b>	<b><i>17.7</i></b>	<b><i>19.3</i></b>	<b><i>18.9</i></b>	<b><i>18.8</i></b>
Asian	22.5	25.0	22.9	23.1
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	18.6	20.1	19.5	19.5
American Indian or Alaska Native	16.6	18.2	18.3	18.3
Two or more races	20.6	20.9	21.6	20.9
No response	20.0	20.8	21.0	20.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>20.7</b>
<b>Michigan</b>				
Non-Hispanic White	20.2	20.7	21.0	21.1
Black or African American	14.8	16.3	15.9	16.5
<b><i>Latino/Hispanic</i></b>	<b><i>17.2</i></b>	<b><i>18.4</i></b>	<b><i>18.3</i></b>	<b><i>18.7</i></b>
Asian	22.0	24.6	22.1	23.0
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	17.9	18.5	19.2	18.7
American Indian or Alaska Native	15.8	17.5	17.3	17.9
Two or more races	18.7	19.2	19.7	19.8
No response	18.4	19.4	19.4	19.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>20.2</b>

Source: The American College Testing Program, ACT National Scores Report, 2013.

In mathematics, the average ACT score in the U.S. was 20.9, with an average score of 25 for Asian students and 22 for non-Hispanic White students, both higher than those of Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander (20), Latino (19), American Indian/Alaska Native (18), and African American (17) students (Table 9). In Michigan, the average ACT score in mathematics of 19.9 was just below that of the U.S., with an average score of 25 for Asian students and 21 for non-Hispanic White students, both higher than those

of Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander (19), Latino (18), American Indian/Alaska Native (18), and African American (16), students (Table 9).

In reading, the average ACT score in the U.S. was 21.1, with an average score of 23 for both Asian and non-Hispanic White students, and higher than those of Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander (20), Latino (19), American Indian/Alaska Native (18), and African American (17) students (Table 9). In Michigan, the average ACT score in reading was 22 for Asian students and 21 for non-Hispanic White students, again, both higher than those of Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander (19), Latino (18), American Indian/Alaska Native (17), and African American (16) students (Table 9).

In science, the average ACT score in the U.S. was 20.7, with an average score of 23 for Asian students, 22 for non-Hispanic White students, both higher than those of Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander (20), Latino (19), American Indian/Alaska Native (18), and African American (17) students (Table 9). In Michigan, the average ACT score in science was 20.2, with an average score of 23 for Asian students and 21 for non-Hispanic White students, both higher than those of Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander (19), Latino (19), American Indian/Alaska Native (18), and African American (17) students (Table 9).

The ACT benchmarking scores provide insight as to the college preparedness of high school seniors who took the ACT.<sup>17</sup> For each subject area, benchmarking scores reflect the average score associated with a 50 percent likelihood of obtaining a “B”, or a 75 percent likelihood of obtaining a “C” in a corresponding college course. In 2013, 26 percent of the ACT test takers in the U.S. met the college readiness benchmark in all four subjects (Table 10). In Michigan, 21 percent of the ACT test takers met the college readiness benchmark in all four subject areas (Table 10).

Asian and non-Hispanic White ACT test takers are more likely than other race/ethnic groups to meet the benchmarks in all four subjects. In the U.S., about 43 percent of Asian and 33 percent of non-Hispanic White ACT test takers met all four benchmarks, compared to 19 percent of Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander test takers, 14 percent of Latino, 10 percent of Native American, and 5 percent of African American students (Table 10). In Michigan, 41 percent of Asian and 26 percent of non-Hispanic White ACT test takers met all four benchmarks, compared to 17 percent of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 12 percent of Latino, 7 percent of Native American, and 3 percent of African American students.

The highest college readiness percentage of test takers in the U.S. in 2013 was in English and the lowest was in science (64 percent and 36 percent, respectively). In Michigan, the highest college readiness rate was also in English and the lowest was in science (57 percent and 33 percent, respectively). In all four subjects, African American test takers in the U.S. had the lowest readiness rates (5%), followed by Latinos (14%). In the U.S., non-Hispanic White and Asian test takers had the highest readiness rates in English (75% and 74%, respectively) and reading (54% and 55%, respectively). Asian test takers had the highest readiness rates in mathematics and science (71 percent and 53 percent, respectively). Nationally, 48 percent of Latino test takers met college readiness in English, 30 percent in mathematics, 29 percent in reading, and 21 percent in science (Table 10). In Michigan, 44 percent of Latino test takers met college readiness in English, 23 percent in mathematics, 25 percent in reading, and 21 percent in science (Table 10). Only in science were Latino readiness rates similar at the national and state levels. In the other areas, Latinos had lower readiness rates in Michigan than in the U.S. In Michigan, Asian test takers had the highest readiness rates in English, mathematics, reading, and science (68 percent, 64 percent, 50 percent, and 53 percent, respectively) (Table 10). African American test takers had the lowest readiness rates across all four areas.

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<sup>17</sup> Percent of students meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores in each content area. A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit bearing college courses, which include English composition, Algebra, Social Science, and Biology. These scores were empirically derived based on the actual performance of students in college. The College Readiness Benchmark Scores in 2013 were 18 for English composition, 22 for Algebra, 22 for reading, and 23 for science (The American College Testing Program, ACT National Scores Report, 2013).



**Table 10. Percentage of ACT-Test-Taking Population Meeting College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity, U.S. and Michigan, 2013**

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>All Four</b>	<b>English</b> (benchmark score: 18)	<b>Mathematics</b> (benchmark score: 22)	<b>Reading</b> (benchmark score: 22)	<b>Science</b> (benchmark score: 22)
<b>National</b>					
Non-Hispanic White	33	75	53	54	45
Black or African American	5	34	14	16	10
<b><i>Latino/Hispanic</i></b>	<b>14</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>21</b>
Asian	43	74	71	55	53
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	19	55	37	33	27
American Indian or Alaska Native	10	41	22	26	18
Two or more races	26	67	43	47	37
<b>Total</b>	26	64	44	44	36
<b>Michigan</b>					
Non-Hispanic White	26	65	41	43	40
Black or African American	3	26	8	11	7
<b><i>Latino/Hispanic</i></b>	<b>12</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>21</b>
Asian	41	68	64	50	53
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	17	46	23	32	22
American Indian or Alaska Native	7	35	13	20	16
Two or more races	18	55	29	35	29
<b>Total</b>	21	57	35	37	33

Source: The American College Testing Program, ACT National Scores Report, 2013.

## 5. Dropout Rates

In this report, we first use the status dropout rate at the national level then we use the 4-year cohort dropout rate for Michigan to examine this aspect of Latino educational achievement. The status dropout rate is defined as the percentage of 16- to 24-year old civilians living in housing units or non-institutionalized group quarters who are not enrolled in school and have not earned a high school diploma or equivalency such as a General Education Development (GED) certificate. In 2009-2013, the percentage of 16- to 24-year olds who were dropouts was estimated at approximately 7 percent (Table 11). Nationally, the status dropout rate was highest among Latinos (15%) and lowest among Asians/Pacific Islanders (3.4%) (Table 11).

**Table 11. Status Dropout Rates in the U.S. by Race/Ethnicity, 2009-2013**

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Number of Dropouts</b>	<b>Dropout rate (Percent)</b>
<b>Total</b>	1,252,083	83,765	6.7
Non-Hispanic White	895,927	47,025	5.2
Black or African American	206,985	21,437	10.4
<i><b>Latino or Hispanic</b></i>	68,653	10,218	14.9
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	36,759	1,250	3.4
American Indian or Alaska Native	6,480	610	9.4
Other Races	37,279	3,225	8.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2013.

The 4-year cohort dropout rate is defined as the percentage of public high school students in Michigan who, after beginning the ninth grade four years previous, dropped out of school without completing the requirements for a diploma. The cohort method is useful because it helps track high school students who did not stay in school in the four-year period after they enrolled in the ninth grade. In Michigan, almost 10 percent of all high school students (4-year 2014 graduation cohort) in the 2013-2014 school year dropped out before completing the requirements to graduate. African American students had the highest cohort dropout rate in Michigan (17.1%), followed by Latino (15.2%), American Indian/Alaskan Native (14.3%), Other races (11.0%), non-Hispanic White (7.3%), and Asian/Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (5.1%) students (Table 12). While the two types of rates are not directly comparable, both indicate problems in the education of Latino students.

**Table 12. Graduation Cohort Dropout Rate by Race/Ethnicity, Michigan, 2013-2014**

<b>Race/ Ethnicity</b>	<b>Total Cohort</b>	<b>Number of Dropouts</b>	<b>Dropout rate (Percent)</b>
<b>Total</b>	124,279	11,943	9.6
Non-Hispanic White	88,026	6,437	7.3
Black or African American	22,829	3,911	17.1
<i><b>Latino or Hispanic</b></i>	6,638	1,009	15.2
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	3,448	185	5.4
American Indian or Alaska Native	1,015	145	14.3
Other Races	2,323	256	11.0

Source: <https://www.mischooldata.org/DistrictSchoolProfiles/StudentInformation/GraduationDropoutRate2.aspx>.

## **6. Graduation Rates**

In school year 2013 – 14, approximately 79 percent of high school students in Michigan (4-year 2014 graduation cohort) graduated on time with a regular diploma. Among all high school students in Michigan (4-year 2014 graduation cohort) in 2013-2014 school-year, Asian/Pacific Islanders had the highest graduation rate (88.7%), followed by non-Hispanic Whites (82.9%), Latinos (68.8%), American Indians/ Alaska Natives (64.8%) and African Americans (64.5%) (Table 13). Approximately seven of ten Latino students who began the 9<sup>th</sup> grade in Michigan schools graduated four years later, a rate that remains problematic.

**Table 13. Michigan 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate by Race/Ethnicity, 2013-2014**

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Number of Graduates</b>	<b>4-year Graduation rate (Percent)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>124,279</b>	<b>97,664</b>	<b>78.6</b>
Non-Hispanic White	88,026	72,941	82.9
Black or African American	22,829	14,715	64.5
<b><i>Latino or Hispanic</i></b>	<b>6,638</b>	<b>4,568</b>	<b>68.8</b>
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	3,448	3,059	88.7
American Indian or Alaska Native	1,015	658	64.8
Other Races	2,323	1,723	74.2

Source: <https://www.mischooldata.org/DistrictSchoolProfiles/StudentInformation/GraduationDropoutRate2.aspx>.

### **C. Post-Secondary Education**

#### **1. Immediate College Enrollment Rate**

The immediate college enrollment rate is defined as the percentage of 16- to 24-year old high school completers (living in housing units or non-institutionalized group quarters) who were enrolled in 2- or 4-year colleges. In 2009-2013, this rate was about 54 percent in Michigan (Table 14). The immediate college enrollment rate varies by race/ethnicity. It was estimated for Asian/Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander high school completers in Michigan at 78 percent, 55 percent for non-Hispanic White high school completers, 49 percent for Latino high school completers, 44 percent for African American high school completers, and 44 percent for Native Americans (Table 14).

**Table 14. College Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, Michigan, 2009-2013**

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Number (enrolled in a 2- or 4-year college)</b>	<b>Percent (enrolled in a 2- or 4-year college)</b>
<b>Total, Michigan</b>	851,381	457,759	53.8
Non-Hispanic White	628,434	345,482	55.0
Black or African American	127,772	56,724	44.4
<b><i>Latino or Hispanic</i></b>	<b>39,807</b>	<b>19,292</b>	<b>48.5</b>
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	28,267	21,910	77.5
American Indian or Alaska Native	4,210	1,842	43.8
Other Races	22,891	12,509	54.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2013

#### **2. College Attending Rate**

The college attending rate is measured by the percentage of all 18- to 24-year olds (living in housing units or non-institutionalized group quarters) enrolled in 2-year or 4-year colleges and universities, including both undergraduate and graduate students. In Michigan, 46.8 percent of 18 – 24 year olds in 2013 were enrolled in degree-granting postsecondary institutions. Among all 18 – 24 year olds in Michigan who were enrolled in degree-granting postsecondary institutions, Asians/Pacific Islanders had the highest

enrollment rate (72.3%), followed by non-Hispanic Whites (49.2%), American Indians/Alaska Natives (37.1%), Latinos (36.7%), and African Americans (35.1%) (Table 15).

**Table 15. Number and Percentage of 18 - to 24 - Year Olds Enrolled in 2- or 4-Year Colleges by Race/Ethnicity, Michigan, 2009-2013**

<b>Race/ Ethnicity</b>	<b>Population (18- to 24- year olds)</b>	<b>Number (Attending 2- or 4-year college)</b>	<b>Percent (Attending 2- or 4-year college)</b>
<b>Total, Michigan</b>	972,691	455,162	46.8
Non-Hispanic White	697,793	343,368	49.2
Black or African American	160,003	56,227	35.1
<i>Latino or Hispanic</i>	52,804	19,388	36.7
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	30,376	21,950	72.3
American Indian or Alaska Native	4,968	1,841	37.1
Other Races	26,747	12,388	46.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2013

#### **D. Focus Group Findings on Education**

Education has, for decades, been a major concern among Latinos not only in Michigan but nationally as well. A statewide summit on Latinos held at Michigan State University by the Julian Samora Research Institute in 2009 identified education as *the* major challenge confronting Latino communities. In the focus groups conducted in 2014-2015 in Southeast Michigan, education was a core topic discussed by participants.

Educational needs and barriers were a primary concern throughout the various communities in which focus groups were conducted. The communities encountered various needs in terms of access to quality education at all levels. Leaders in Southwest Detroit quickly outlined the major issues regarding Latino youth and educational outcomes:

We have the highest dropout rate. It's better than it used to be, it used to be as high as 87%. A lot of those kids are not even counted in the dropout [rate] because they drop out in middle school. Because of language, for whatever reason, they are held behind and they become over 16 years old and [still] in the 7th grade. They are really getting pushed out. We see kids that are 18 in high school that are getting pushed out because they are too old to be in the schools. So we still have the highest dropout rate. It's probably in the high 60 percentile now, like 65-67%, but at least it's not 87% percent, and you know now with DACA<sup>18</sup>, hopefully some of the kids will be able to have a little more hope and stay in school and go on to college, but still not everyone is eligible for DACA...And actually the dropout rate is higher for second and third generation kids than it is for new immigrant children for a number of different reasons. But that's where the dropout rate is higher and involvement in the criminal justice system is also higher, so it's been a lot rougher on kids that have been here and families that have been here longer.

In order to address these issues, participants outlined some difficulties that these communities have in

<sup>18</sup> DACA refers to the executive action by President Obama granting temporary administrative relief from deportation or deferred action for childhood arrivals. That is, undocumented immigrants meeting the criteria for DACA status can be granted legal presence under the "color of law" and can apply for employment authorization.

terms of successful student outcomes. Of particular concern were the disconnections between parental education levels and their children's needs:

I work at a high school. I see that education begins at home. I see that a lot of the parents come here because they are escaping [conditions from their country of origin], which usually means they don't have a high school or college education. So that means they aren't passing on certain knowledge that their children need in high school; they [the children] come in not knowing their own language, which would be Spanish, very well. They don't know how to read, write, or speak it very well because their parents don't correct them and then they try to learn English and they don't speak that very well. It is sort of like they are bilingual but they don't know [either language very well]...It is not only not getting a quality education but it is also about what education they are receiving at home. I see a lot of kids have parents that work so they go home to an empty house and nobody wants to go home to an empty house as that brings your morale down (Downriver Adults).

In other words, parents from this community do not have the educational background to meet the needs of their children in order to best guide them so they can progress in school. In addition, this participant emphasizes that parents at times are working long hours and these added stressors impede student success.

In addition, participants remarked on the facilities and environment that fail to meet the needs of their students:

In terms of education, the school where I work at, there aren't enough classrooms. They don't have their own [sports] fields, they don't have a lot of extracurricular activities, and they don't have a lot of elective classes, so they need those types of things [for students to succeed]. I feel that in our school we need a bigger building, we need more teachers, and the teachers will feel better about coming into work and the kids will feel better about coming to school (Downriver Adults).

Still others remarked that the structural issues of poverty played the most defining role in student success or lack thereof:

At the end of the day it does come down to poverty. Money is a huge factor because what happens is that the inner city continuously performs less or below average consistently over and over, year after year. Why? Because there doesn't exist a culture [of success] at home or school, like you [another participant] said, their parents barely graduated. For example, if you graduated high school, of course you're always going to expect your kids to do that and rise above you. My parents finished middle school, so it is kind of like as long as you finish high school [there's progress]. They look at it like something more that they didn't do. Now let's look at somebody that grew up in a community where everything is set and nobody is worried. You can focus on your kids, the parents can focus on their kids. They are financially set and then when the kids get home the parents are home and they can ask what the children have for homework. They are actually interested. *¿Que saben los papás Mexicanos de la escuela?* [What do Mexican parents know about school?] They don't even know about their own school, so they don't know what to expect. The kid can lie, [saying] "We don't have homework today." *Hacen a los papás tontos muy fácil* [They fool their parents very easily] because they [parents] don't know themselves, so that is a huge factor. Also, the education is dumbed down because they have to dumb it down. Not because the people are dumb but because they are not prepared; that is what it is, the [poor] preparation. It doesn't mean that they are less intelligent (Downriver Adults).

In addition to poverty, and highly correlated, is the issue of health. One participant mentioned their

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recent survey that surprised the community:

So you know, there are a lot of structural issues that are causing barriers for the kids. A lot of the classrooms are full and overcrowded. The kids don't feel the education is related to real life, so they get frustrated, they get disinterested and bored and they don't see that they can go on to college because they don't have the means. Their parents have never gone, so I think, there are a whole number of different issues that impact the kids. We recently did a survey with several people from other organizations... What were the top issues that stopped kids from attending school? It was health. Health issues... kept kids from going to school... [Kids] live in a community that has all these environmental challenges and high levels of asthma untreated all the time. Those are structural issues around the built environment that people don't even think about as related to education but as kids miss so many days of school they fall behind (SW Detroit Leaders).

On a more micro level, participants also mentioned that the educational system could be helped by providing students with support services:

I feel like some tutoring is available for kids but if there were more tutoring centers after school that the kids could go to and not have to pay, they would have somewhere safe to go after they leave school because a lot of them, I guess, have to go home to an empty house (Downriver Adults).

However, the educational system itself is riddled with complex issues. Education is perceived to be unequal based on geographical location. Options for charter school may offer alternative opportunities for some families, but are not necessarily better educational settings, and do not revitalize or reform educational systems. In addition, a lack of cross-cultural unity among minority groups in the public school systems creates a concern for most parents sending their children to public schools. Racial tensions between African-American and Latino students create stress and anxiety and a toxic environment for staff, teachers, and administration. Latino parents and adults have had to negotiate overcrowded schools and classrooms, the lack of bilingual student services, and divisions among the dominant English-speaking African-American students, teachers, and administration. In general, schools are struggling to keep students focused and motivated. Latino families in SW Detroit and other communities also face the fear of immigration authorities, and this impedes integration within the schools: "You're going to school, taking your child to get an education and you can't leave the school because immigration [authorities] are waiting and circling and circling" (SW Detroit Adults). Thus the education system lacks the linguistic and cultural skills necessary to communicate, alleviate, and elevate community members from the socio-economic issues plaguing the community.

Young adults themselves remarked on these issues. They noted that they are fully aware of the effects that the lack of school resources and increased surveillance have on their lives:

The school to prison pipeline, I don't know if you have ever heard about it, but it's kind of like schools, like Western [High School], as soon as you step in you get the feeling like, [you have] a steel door, metal detector going in, you have security guards; it resembles a prison. That's what they [those in positions of power] want, they know. When I switched to Dearborn Heights, when I walked in the school, they didn't have a metal detector; it was a totally different atmosphere. The school-to-prison pipeline, they're building it. By the time we start kindergarten or pre-school, they already know what kids are going to prison. They already know based off of your family history or your background, and they already know who is going to fall into that life (SW Detroit).<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> There is much ado about predicting the demand for prisons based on 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading scores. The logic is that those with low scores are likely to drop out of school and more likely to be incarcerated than they are to graduate from college. While there may

And another young adult succinctly noted:

They've already got a cell ready for you, waiting to see, waiting for the opportunity to get you in there. That's why schools are uncomfortable places, it's uncomfortable being there, to be honest. It's not really like a school. You're supposed to be happy to be in school, be proud to be in school (SW Detroit).

In addition, a young adult that did go on to college adeptly noted that their high school education was not adequate in preparing them to perform the academic work in higher education. Students who did reasonably well are being coddled and dismissed if they merely perform at an adequate level:

...[W]e did get babied a lot in high school because, for example, our school had a thing, if you did really good in the class and you had less than 3 absences, I believe above a C in the class, you could skip your final. You didn't have to take your final, I mean most of us pretty much, all of us actually, were really good students. We actually did good so we didn't have to take finals. At the moment we were excited about it because "Hey, no finals!", but then when I got to college and in my first semester I was like "Whoa, I don't know how to study for this!" It's like professors pretty much cover in a week what you cover in a month of high school, so I was like "How do I get all this material for an exam? What do I study for? How do I do it?" It's my second semester in my second year in college and I feel more prepared but I had to mess up to learn about it, you know? (Downriver Young Adults).

In sum, in the K-12 educational system many schools and specific school districts lack culturally competent administrators, educators, and professional staff members. Educational outreach programs and services are failing to provide adequate support services to Latino students, and presumably students from other groups. There is a clear lack of substantive relationships between schools and families, so that parents who lack the knowledge of U.S. educational systems are unable to support and motivate their children. The schooling experience doesn't challenge students who show potential. And administrative leaders in the schools are not meeting the needs of Latino students, and cannot without some Latino representation in key positions. Even as Latinos increase in number in this area of Michigan, issues pertaining to strategic community educational advancement and structural reinvestments have largely been ignored and resulted in educational stagnation.

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be some empirical support for this view, one cannot predict that a specific person will end up in prison based on aggregate data. Moreover, this pattern may be more evident in a punitive society like the U.S., which has made incarceration of the poor a profit-making enterprise, than in other types of social orders. What is troubling is the fatalism that is induced in those youth targeted by the school-to-prison pipeline.

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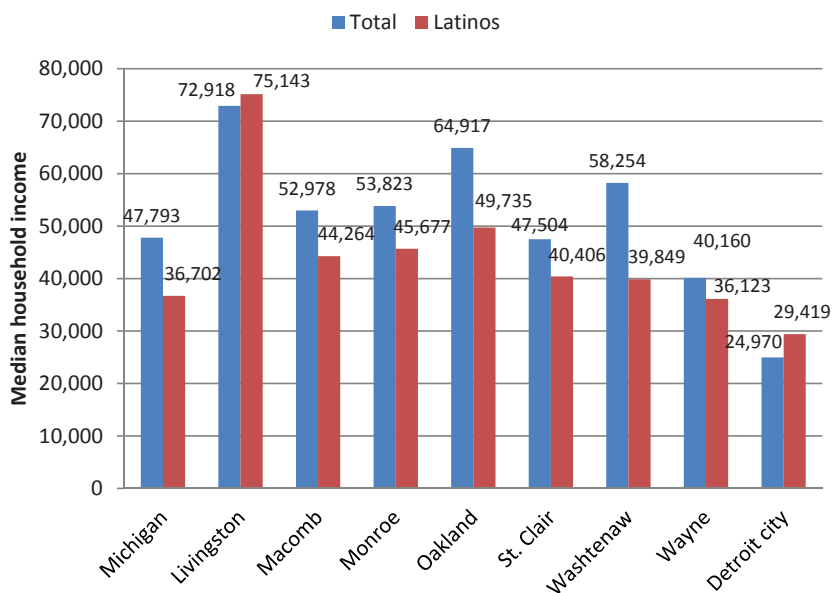
### III. ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

#### A. Poverty and Income

##### 1. Household Income

In 2011-2013, the median household income in Michigan was estimated at \$47,793 (in 2013 inflation-adjusted dollars), compared to \$36,702 median household income for Latinos (Figure 24). The median household income also varies by county in the Southeast region. The highest median household income was in Livingston County (\$72,918), followed by Oakland (\$64,917), and the lowest median household income was in Wayne County (\$40,160). Detroit had a median household income of \$24,970. Latino households in Livingston County also had the highest median household income (\$75,143), followed by those in Oakland County (\$49,735), with Latinos in Wayne County having the lowest median household income (\$36,123). Latinos in Detroit had a median household income of \$29,419 (Figure 24).

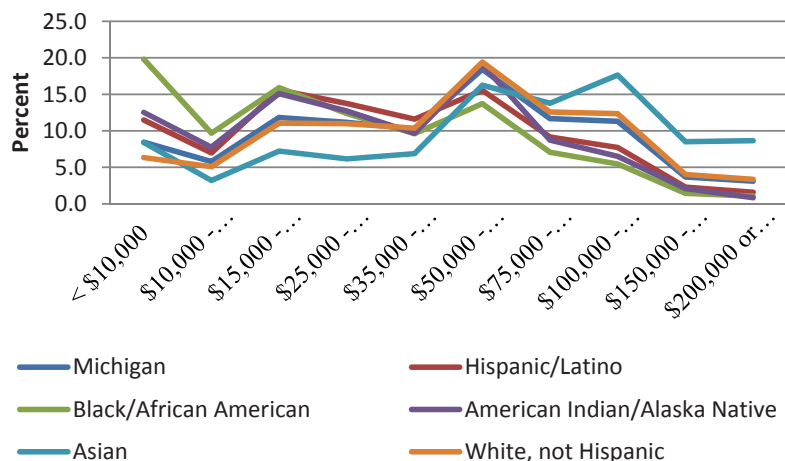
**Figure 24. Median Household Income, Michigan and Southeast Michigan, 2011-2013 (Total and Latino households)**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2013 3 -Year American Community Survey.

Figure 25 displays the distribution of household income by race/ethnicity in Michigan. A greater proportion of Latino households, as well as African American and Native American households, are concentrated in low-income brackets as compared to non-Hispanic White and Asian households. In contrast, Asian households are well above the statewide average, while non-Hispanic White households meet the statewide average. Latino, African American, and Native American households are all below the statewide average (Figure 25).

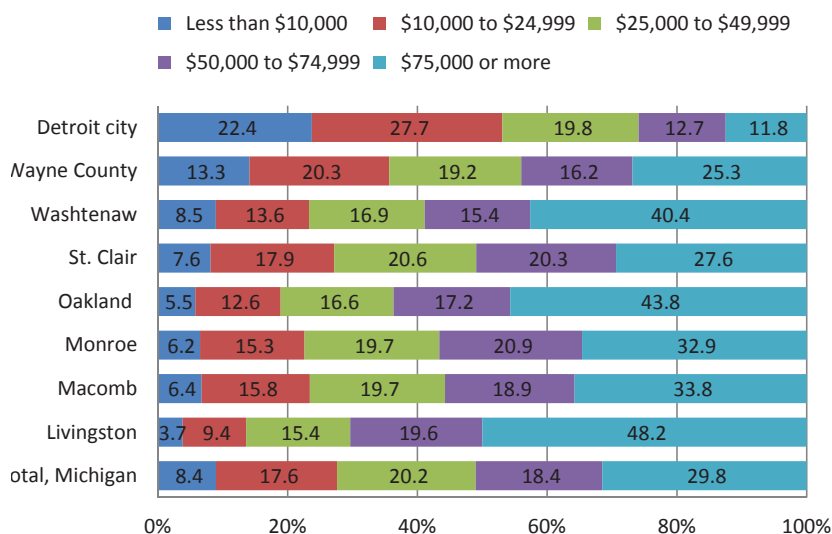
**Figure 25. Michigan Household Income by Race/Ethnicity, 2011-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2013 3 -Year American Community Survey

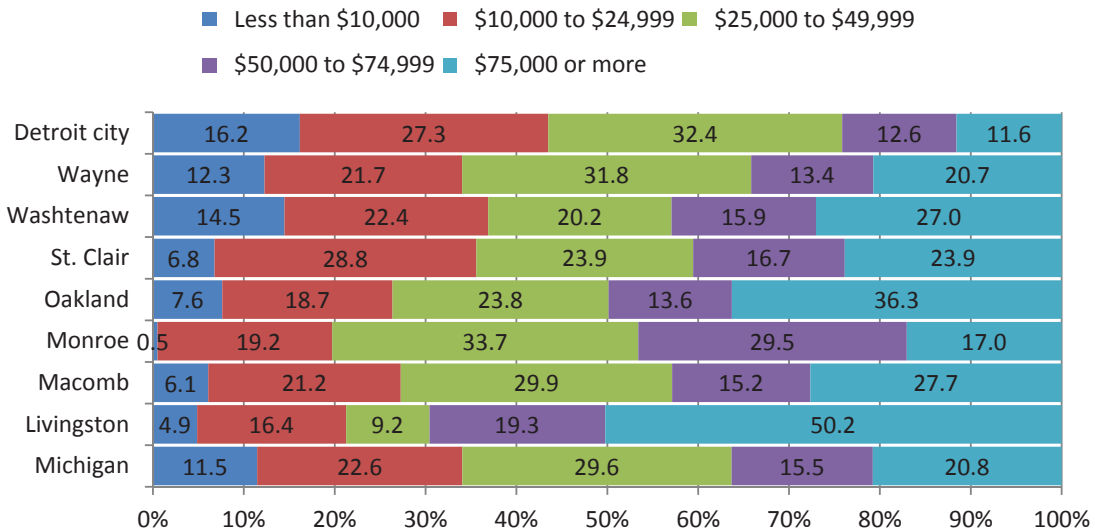
Figures 26 and 27 show the frequency distributions of household income for all households and Latino households in Michigan and Southeast Michigan. In 2011-2013, the proportion of households with incomes over \$50,000 in Michigan was 48 percent (Figure 26). By comparison, the proportion of Latino households with incomes over \$50,000 in Michigan was 36 percent (Figure 27). In Southeast Michigan the proportion of households with incomes over \$50,000 in Wayne County was 41 percent, compared with 66 percent in Livingston, 60 percent in Oakland, 56 percent in Washtenaw, 53 percent in Monroe, 52 percent in Macomb, and 46 percent in St. Clair County (Figure 26). In comparison, the proportion of Latino households with incomes over \$50,000 in Wayne County was 38 percent, compared with 59 percent in Livingston, 51 percent in Washtenaw, 49 percent in Monroe, 47 percent in Oakland, 45 percent in Macomb, and 32 percent in St. Clair County (Figure 27). In Detroit, the proportion of households with incomes over \$50,000 was about 25 percent. About one half of Detroit’s households had incomes below \$25,000, compared to 44 percent of Latino households (Figures 26 and 27).

**Figure 26. Percentage of All Households by Income Categories, Michigan and Southeast Michigan, 2011-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2013 3 -Year American Community Survey

**Figure 27. Percentage of Latino Households by Income Categories, 2011-2013**

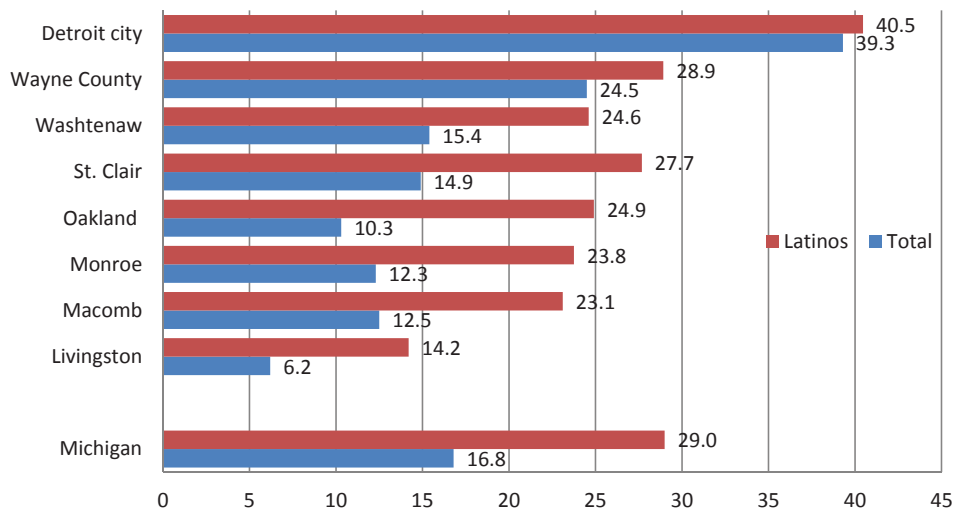


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2013 3-Year American Community Survey

## 2. Poverty Status

In 2009-2013, 17 percent of the total population in Michigan was in poverty, compared to 30 percent of the Latino population (Figure 28), the latter having almost twice the rate of the former.<sup>20</sup> Among the different counties in Southeast Michigan, Latinos in Wayne County had the highest poverty rate at 29 percent. The lowest Latino poverty rate was in Livingston at 14 percent, but still more than twice the 6.2 rate for the county. Latinos in Detroit had a poverty rate of 41 percent (Figure 28). In 2009-2013, about 29 percent of Latinos in Michigan were living in poverty. African Americans in Michigan had the highest poverty rate (35%) and Asians had the lowest poverty rate (14%) (Figure 29).

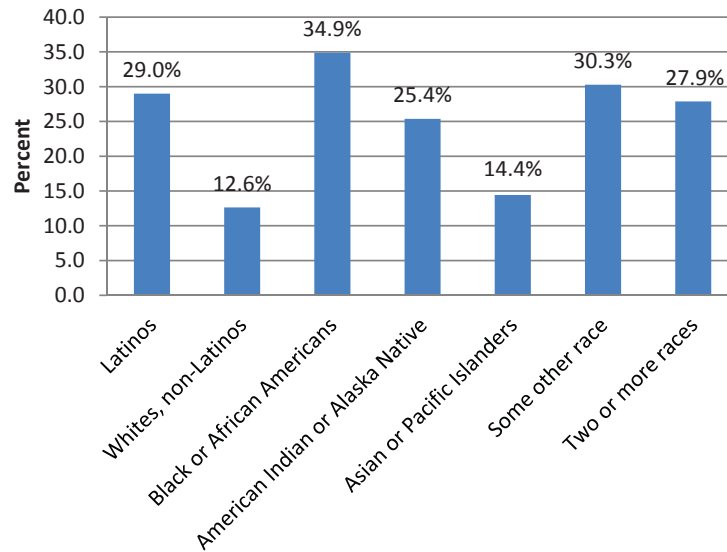
**Figure 28. Percent in Poverty, Michigan and Southeast Michigan, 2009-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

<sup>20</sup> Poverty has increased in Michigan steadily, although more slowly in some years than others, over the past fifteen years. For some rates over time see Library of Michigan (2004) and Michigan Department of Community Health (2011).

**Figure 29. Poverty Rate in Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2009-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year 2009-2013 American Community Survey

The poverty rate in Michigan increased by six percent from 10.5 percent in 2000 to 16.8 percent in 2009-2013 (Table 16). Counties in Southeast Michigan also experienced an increase in poverty from 2000 to 2009-2013. The highest increase in the poverty rate occurred in Wayne County (+8.1 percentage points), which increased from 16.4 percent in 2000 to 24.5 percent in 2009-2013. The smallest increase in the poverty rate was in Livingston County (+2.8) which changed from 3.4 percent in 2000 to 6.2 percent in 2009-2013. Detroit experienced an increase in the poverty rate of 13.2 percent from 26.1 percent in 2000 to 39.3 percent in 2009-2013 (Table 16).

**Table 16. Poverty Rate Changes between 2000 and 2009-2013 in Michigan and Southeast Michigan**

Geo-Units	2000 <sup>a</sup>	2009-13 <sup>b</sup>	Change	% Change
<b>Michigan</b>	10.5	16.8	6.3	60.0
Livingston	3.4	6.2	2.8	82.4
Macomb	5.6	12.5	6.9	123.2
Monroe	7.0	12.3	5.3	75.7
Oakland	5.5	10.3	4.8	87.3
St. Clair	7.8	14.9	7.1	91.0
Washtenaw	11.1	15.4	4.3	38.7
Wayne	16.4	24.5	8.1	49.4
Detroit	26.1	39.3	13.2	50.6

Sources: a. 2000 U.S. Decennial Census (Summary Tape Files);  
b. 2009-2013 American Community Survey

### a. Child Poverty

According to the U.S. Census, nearly 24 percent of children in Michigan live in poverty (Table 17). In Southeast Michigan, poverty was more prevalent among children in Wayne County (35.8%) than in any other county. The lowest poverty rate among children was in Livingston County (7.4%). More alarming is that more than half of the children (55.1%) in Detroit live in poverty (Table 17).

**Table 17. Child Poverty in Michigan and Southeast Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2009-2013**

Geo-Units	All Children 0-17 years	Latinos or Hispanics	Non-Hispanic Whites	Black/African Americans	Asian	American Indian/Alaska Native	Some other races	Two or more races
Michigan	23.6	35.5	16.4	48.4	14.2	32.3	37.2	31.3
Livingston	7.4	17.6	6.9	0.0	7.3	4.3	45.3	12.3
Macomb	18.0	30.2	13.5	38.4	16.1	15.6	37.3	24.1
Monroe	17.7	33.7	15.4	53.9	0.0	0.0	47.4	31.8
Oakland	13.8	33.0	9.7	27.0	6.1	9.1	29.8	21.7
St. Clair	21.4	33.9	18.4	58.5	11.4	82.8	18.5	43.6
Washtenaw	15.5	24.9	8.0	40.9	9.2	26.3	44.3	24.7
Wayne	35.8	37.4	20.2	51.7	25.1	55.4	40.8	36.8
Detroit	55.1	52.1	62.9	54.6	86.4	75.0	50.9	50.8

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey.

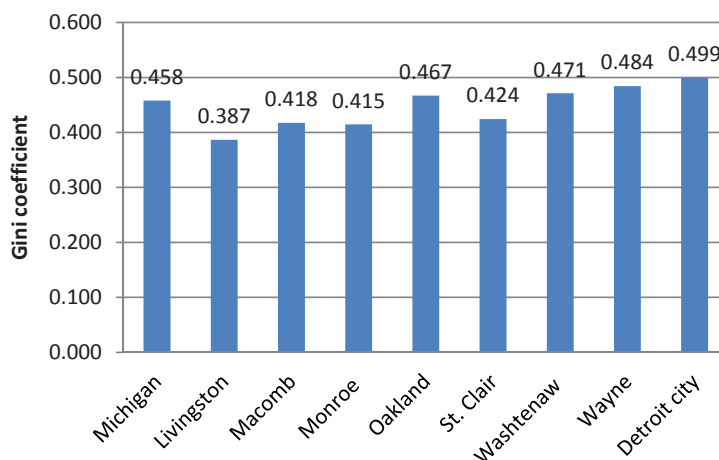
### 3. Income Inequality

The widely used measure of income inequality, especially by economists, is the Gini coefficient. The Gini coefficient varies from 0 (perfect equality) to 1 (perfect inequality), neither of which is likely to occur. The mid-point is 0.5, and may express the maximum inequality at the mid-point, with movement pointing either toward greater equality or greater inequality. As a frame of reference it is noted that the Gini coefficient based on household income for the U.S. was .38 in 1968<sup>21</sup>, when it reached the lowest point for the century, and indicating a tilt toward equality. Since then the coefficient has risen to .463, moving in the direction of greater inequality.

In 2009-2013, the Gini index for Michigan was estimated at 0.458. In Southeast Michigan the highest Gini coefficient was in Wayne County (0.485) and the lowest was in Livingston County (0.385). Detroit had a Gini coefficient of 0.499 (Figure 30).

<sup>21</sup> *Chartbook of Economic Inequality*, accessed on May 25, 2015 at: <http://www.chartbookofeconomicinequality.com/inequality-by-country/usa/>.

**Figure 30. Gini Coefficients for Household Income, 2009-2013**

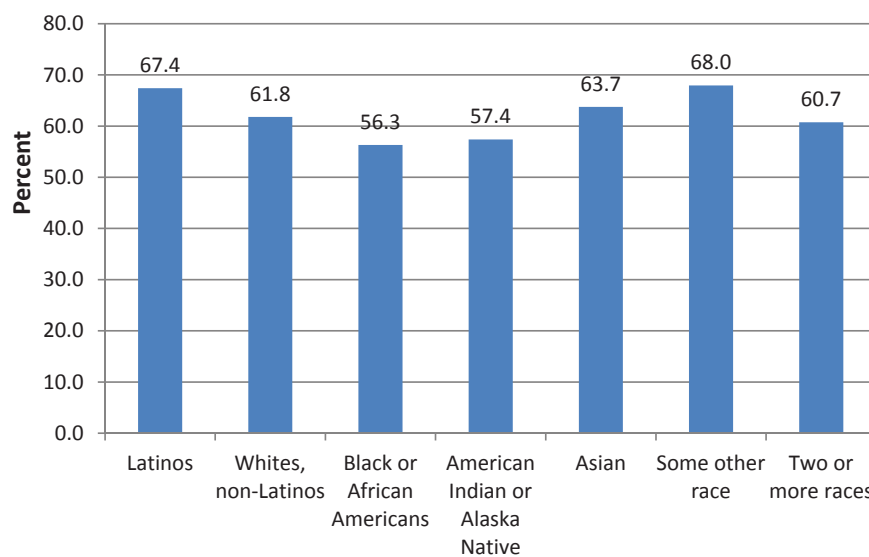


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2013.

#### 4. Employment and Unemployment

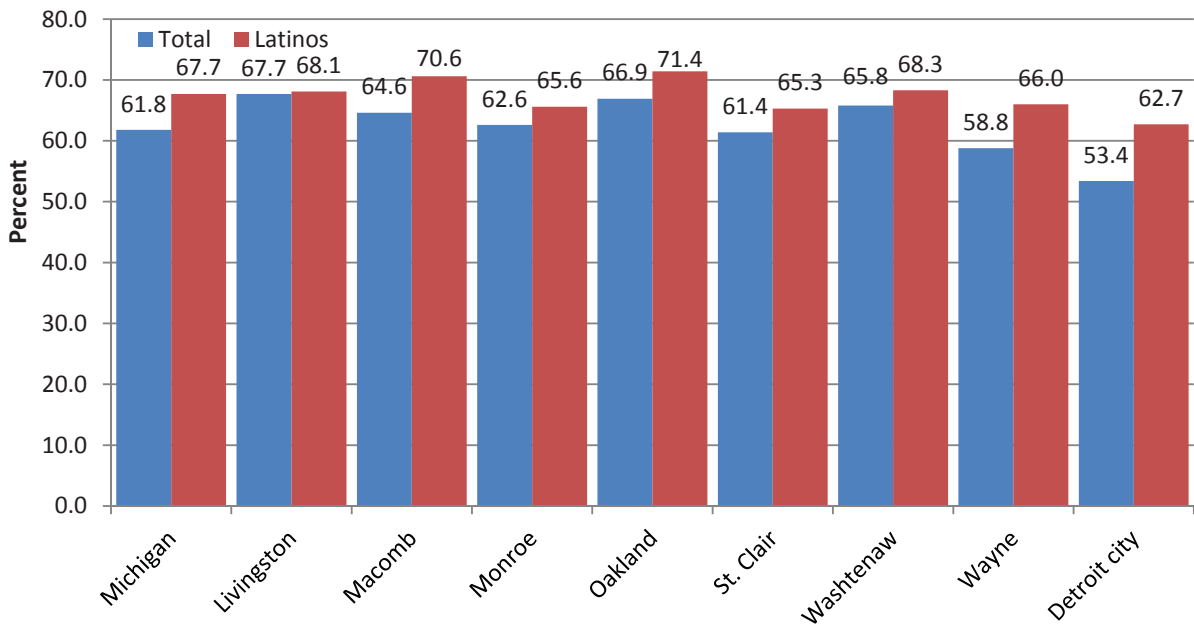
In 2011-2013, over two-thirds of Latinos (67%) were in the labor force, compared to 62 percent of non-Hispanic Whites 16 years of age and older (Figure 31). African Americans had the lowest labor force participation rate (56%) (Figure 31). Among the counties in the Southeast region, Latinos in Macomb and Oakland Counties (71%) had the highest labor force participation rate. In contrast, Latinos in Wayne (66%), Monroe (66%) and St. Clair (65%) Counties had the lowest labor force participation rates. The labor force participation rate for Latinos in Detroit was estimated at 63 percent (Figure 32). Overall, Latinos have the highest labor force participation rates among all the groups.

**Figure 31. Labor Force Participation Rate in Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2011-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 3-Year American Community Survey, 2011-2013.

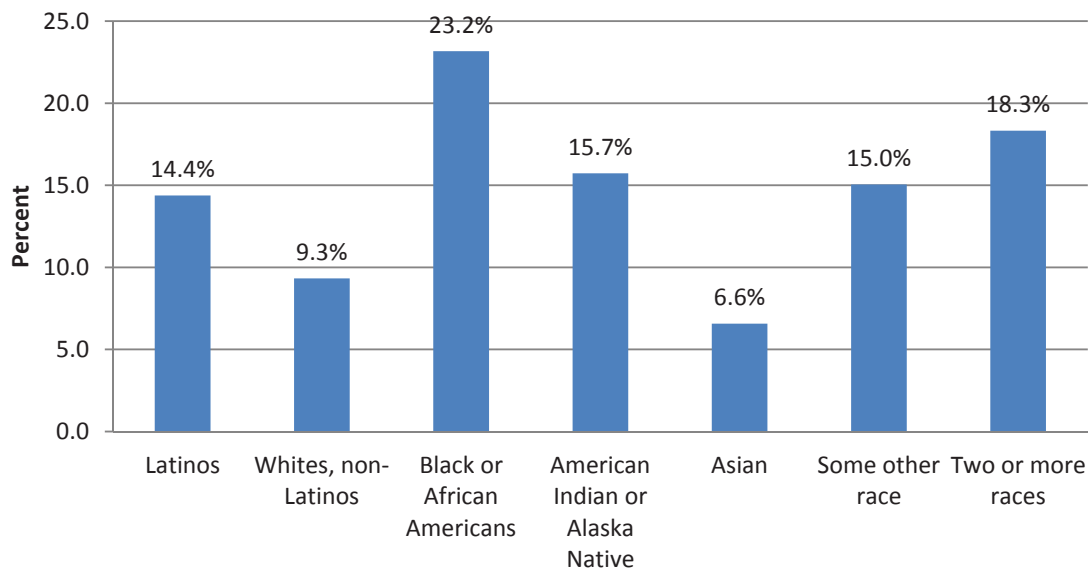
**Figure 32. Labor Force Participation Rate, Southeast, Michigan 2009-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2013.

In 2011-2013 period, the unemployment rate in Michigan for Latinos was estimated at 14 percent, compared to 9 percent for non-Hispanic Whites (Figure 33). African Americans had the highest unemployment rate (23%), while Asians had the lowest unemployment rate (7%) (Figure 33).

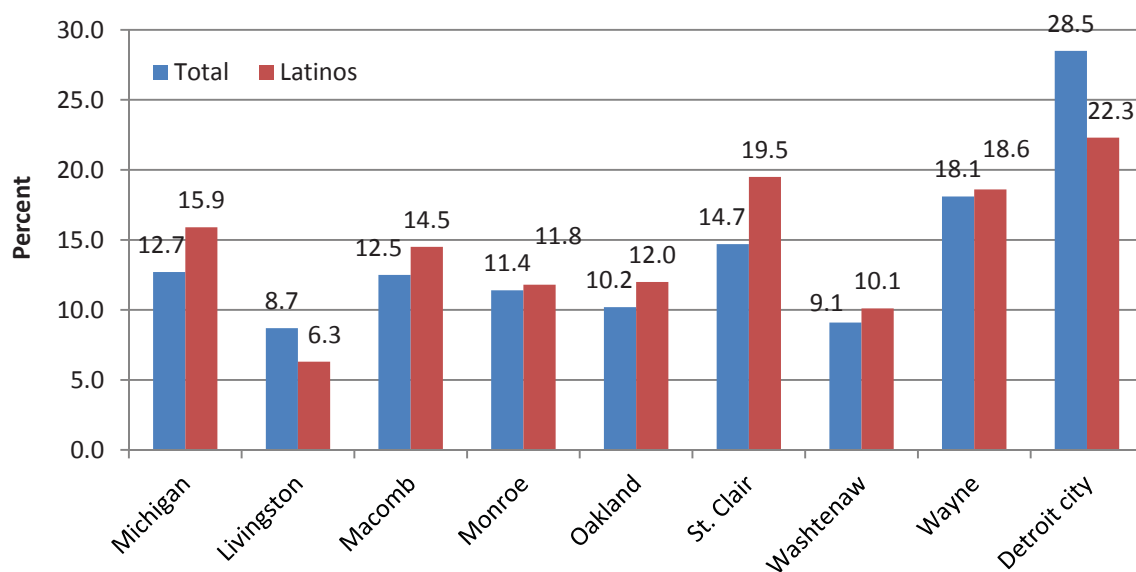
**Figure 33. Michigan Unemployment Rate by Race/Ethnicity, 2011-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 3-Year American Community Survey, 2011-2013.

Among the counties in the Southeast region, Latinos in St. Clair County (20%), followed by those in Wayne County (19%), had the highest unemployment rates (Figure 34). Latinos in Livingston County had the lowest unemployment rate, estimated at about 6 percent, and lower than the overall rate for the county. Latinos in Detroit had an unemployment rate of 22 percent. The total Detroit population had an unemployment rate of 29 percent (Figure 34).

**Figure 34. Unemployment Rate in Southeast Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2009-2013**  
(Percent civilian labor force 16 years and over unemployed)



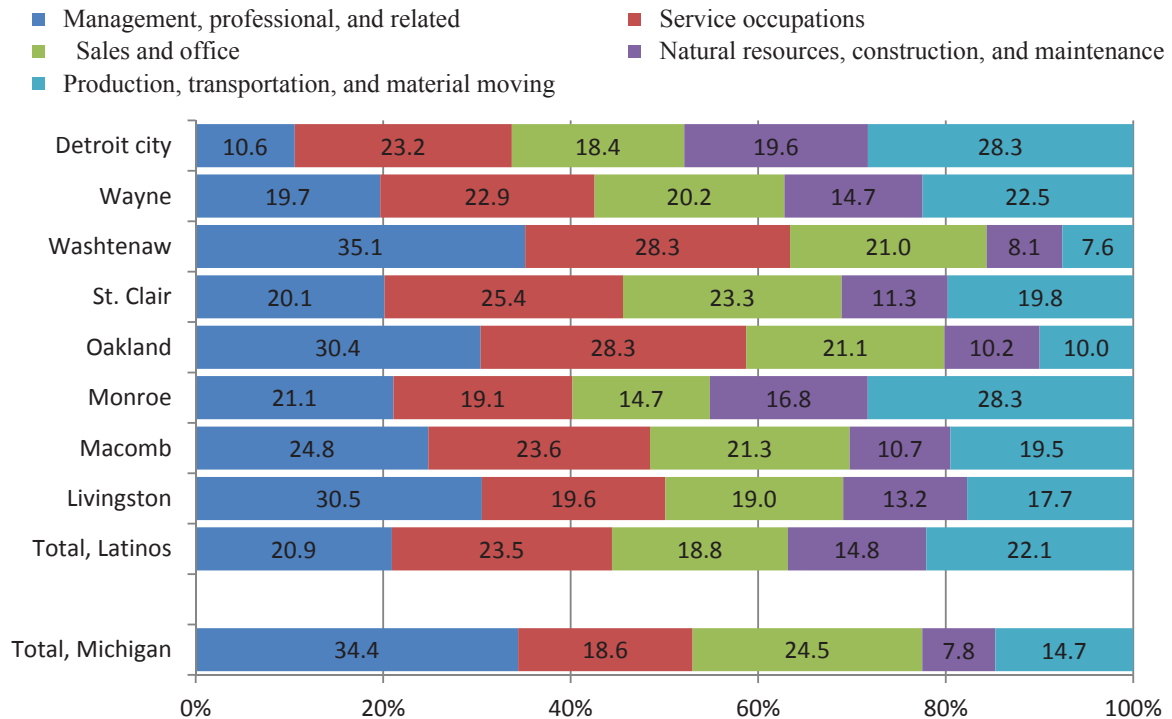
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2013.

## 5. Occupation

In 2009-2013, Latinos in Michigan were more likely to hold jobs in service occupations (22.1%) than the total population in Michigan (18.6%) (Figure 35). Latinos were also more likely than the total population to work in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations (14.8% vs. 7.8%, respectively), and in production, transportation, and material moving occupations (22.1% vs 14.7%). In contrast, Latinos were less likely than the total population to work in managerial and professional and related occupations (20.9% vs. 34.4%) and in sales and office (18.84% vs. 24.5%) (Figure 35). Among the counties in the Southeast region, the highest percentage of Latinos (35%) working in managerial and professional occupational jobs was in Washtenaw County and the lowest was in Wayne and St. Clair Counties (20%). Detroit had the lowest percentage of Latinos working in managerial and professional occupations (11%). About 28 percent of Latinos in Washtenaw and St. Clair Counties worked in service occupation jobs. Nearly 17 percent of Latinos in Monroe County worked in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations (Figure 35). Generally, Latinos are more likely to be in blue-collar than in white-collar occupations.



**Figure 35. Occupational Distributions for Latinos in Michigan and Southeast Michigan, 2009-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2013.

Table 18 displays occupation distributions in Michigan by race/ethnicity for the period 2009-2013. Latinos (5%) were more likely than other population groups to work in farming, fishing and hunting, and forestry occupations (Table 18). Non-Hispanic Whites (13%) were more likely than other population groups to work in management, business, and finance occupations. Asians (19%) were more likely than other population groups to work in computer, engineering, and science occupations. Asians (23%), followed by non-Hispanic Whites (15%), were more likely than other population groups to work in other professional occupations, including education, legal, community service, arts, media, and health care and technical occupations. Latinos (10%) were least likely to work in other professional occupations. Native Americans (32%), followed by African Americans (25%) and Latinos (25%), were more likely than non-Hispanic Whites (18%) and Asians (15%) to work in service occupations. Native Americans (11%), followed by Latinos (9%) and Whites (8%), were more likely than African Americans (5%) and Asians (2%) to work in construction, extraction, and maintenance/repair occupations. Latinos (22%), followed by African Americans (20%), were more likely than non-Hispanic Whites (15%), Native Americans (14%), and Asians (12%) to work in production, transportation, and material moving occupations (Table 18).

**Table 18. Occupation by Race/Ethnicity, Michigan, 2009-2013**

<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Latinos/ Hispanics</b>	<b>Non-Hispanic Whites</b>	<b>Black/African Americans</b>	<b>Asians</b>	<b>Native Americans</b>	<b>Other Races</b>	<b>Total</b>
Farming, fishing and hunting, and Forestry	4.9	0.6	0.2	0.0	1.2	0.7	0.7
Management, business, and finance	6.6	12.6	7.8	6.6	9.1	7.9	11.7
Computer, engineering, and science	2.7	4.8	2.3	18.7	2.3	4.7	4.7
Other professional occupations <sup>22</sup>	9.9	15.0	11.4	23.3	10.1	13.3	14.6
Service	25.0	18.3	28.4	15.6	32.0	26.3	19.9
Sales and office	19.3	25.0	24.8	17.2	20.7	26.4	24.6
Construction, extraction, and maintenance/repair	8.8	8.5	5.0	1.5	10.8	5.9	7.9
Production, transportation, and material moving	22.6	15.1	20.1	11.5	13.8	14.2	15.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2013.

### **a. Industry of Employment**

Table 19 displays the distributions of employment in different labor industries in Michigan by race/ethnicity in 2009-2013. Latinos (6%) were more likely than other population groups to work in extractive (agriculture, fishing and hunting, forestry, and mining) industries. Latinos and Native Americans (7%), followed by Whites (6%), were also more likely than African Americans (3%) and Asians (1%) to work in construction. Latinos (7%), compared with other population groups, were more likely to work in non-durable manufacturing industries.<sup>23</sup> Asians (19%) were more likely than other population groups to work in durable manufacturing industries. Asians (48%) were also more likely than other population groups to work in high-wage services. Native Americans (38%) were more likely than other population groups to work in consumer services (Table 19).

<sup>22</sup> Education, legal, community service, arts, and media occupations; and health care practitioners and technical occupations.

<sup>23</sup> Non-durable manufacturing refers to the production of goods that do not last long and are consumed in a short time, whereas as durable goods last longer.

**Table 19. Industry of Employment by Race/Ethnicity, Michigan, 2009-2013**

Industry	Latinos/ Hispanics	Non- Hispanic Whites	Black/African Americans	Asians	Native Americans	Other races	Total
Extractive <sup>24</sup>	5.5	1.4	0.2	0.1	1.8	1.1	1.4
Construction	6.8	6.0	2.9	0.8	6.8	4.6	5.5
Nondurable manufacturing	6.7	3.7	3.4	3.7	2.6	1.8	3.7
Durable manufacturing	13.2	13.3	11.9	18.9	6.8	9.5	13.2
Distributive services <sup>25</sup>	5.5	6.5	6.3	3.4	6.5	4.7	6.3
High-wage services <sup>26</sup>	31.2	38.3	44.1	47.7	29.6	37.1	38.9
Consumer services <sup>27</sup>	28.3	27.3	26.0	23.7	38.0	36.6	27.3
Public administration	2.7	3.5	5.2	1.7	7.8	3.5	3.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2013.

### 6. Self-employment/Business Ownership

In 2009-2013, 10.5 percent of Michigan residents (16 years and older) were self-employed. That is, they indicated that they had a household self-employment income (loss or gain) or worked as either self-employed in their own incorporated business or owned a not-incorporated business (Figure 36). This includes households with mixed incomes, both business and employee earnings from outside employers. Among the areas in Southeast Michigan, self-employment rates were higher in Livingston (12.4%), Oakland (12.3%), and Washtenaw (11.5%) Counties than in Macomb (9.0%), St. Clair (10.0), Monroe (8.7%), and Wayne (7.8%) Counties. Latinos in Livingston County (13.4%), followed by those in Macomb County (9.0%) and those in Washtenaw County (8.0%), had higher self-employment rates than those in Oakland (6.2%), Wayne (5.9%), Monroe (4.2%), and St. Clair (3.2%) Counties. Latinos in Detroit had a self-employment rate of 4.5 percent (Figure 36). Non-Hispanic Whites (11.4%) and Asians (11.1%) had higher self-employment rates than Latinos (6.2%), African Americans (6.2), and Native Americans (8.8%) (Figure 37). Generally, one in ten persons in Michigan is a business person, while one in 16 Latinos is a business person. In Detroit, only one in 22 Latinos is a business person.

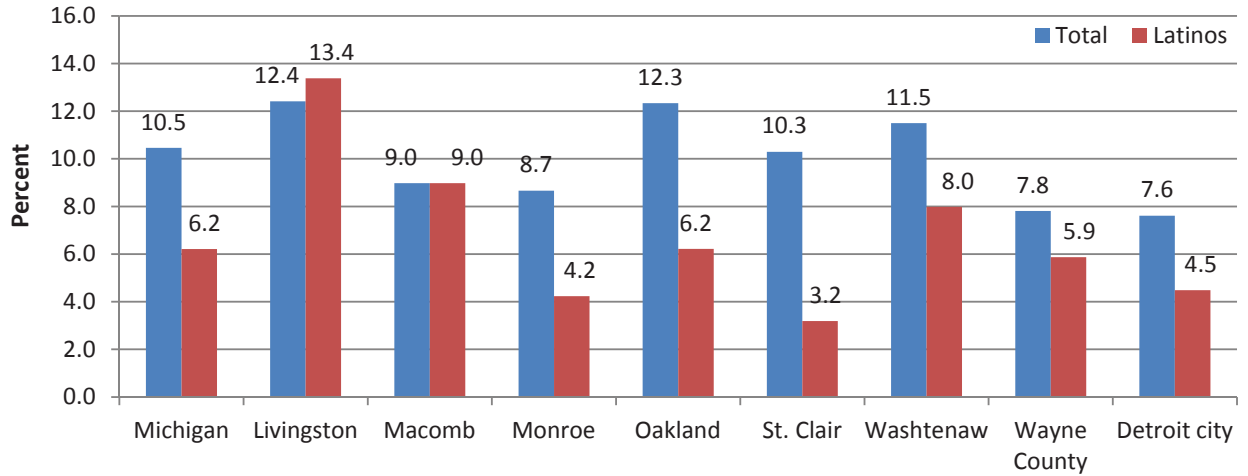
<sup>24</sup> Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining.

<sup>25</sup> Wholesale trade, transportation and warehousing, and utilities.

<sup>26</sup> Information; finance, insurance, and real estate, and rental and leasing; professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services; education services, health care, and social assistance.

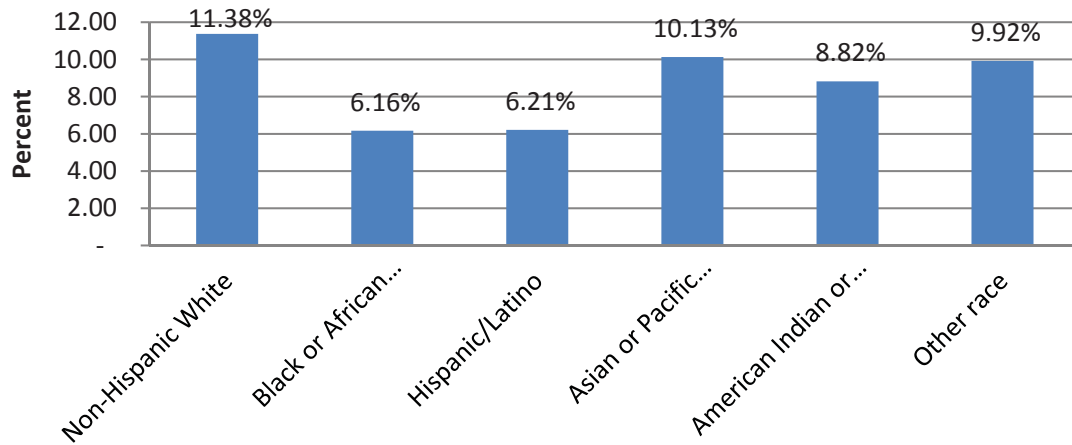
<sup>27</sup> Retail trade; Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services; and other services.

**Figure 36. Latino Self-employment Rates (%) in Michigan and Southeast Michigan, 2009-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2013.

**Figure 37. Self-employment by Race/Ethnicity, 2009-2013**

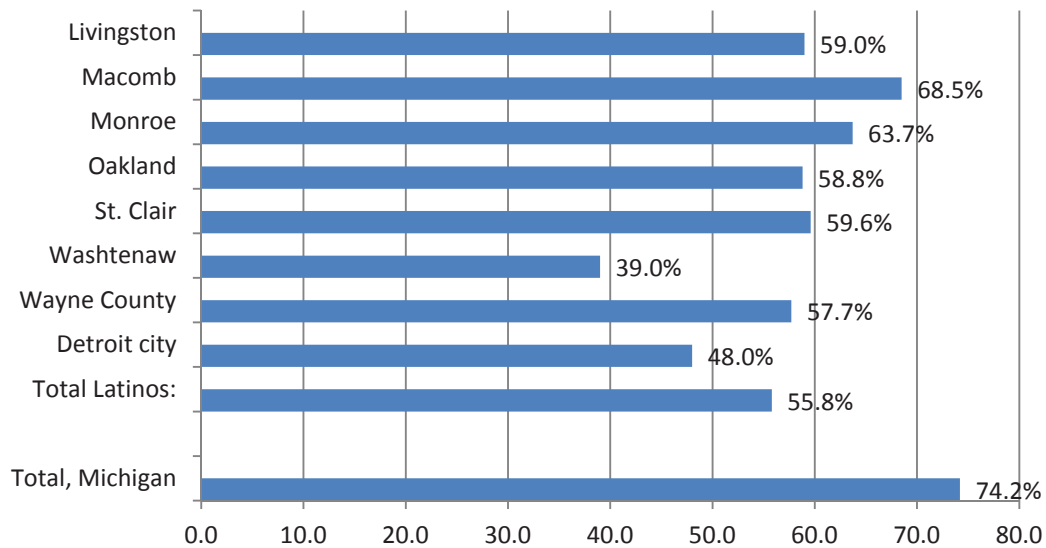


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2013.

## 7. Home Ownership

In 2011-2013, 74 percent of occupied housing units in Michigan were owner-occupied, a measure we use as a home-ownership rate. Among Latinos, the home-ownership rate was about 56 percent. Latinos in Macomb County had the highest home-ownership rate (69%). The lowest Latino home-ownership rate was in Washtenaw County (39%). Over half of the occupied housing units with a Latino householder in Detroit were renter-occupied (52%) (Figure 38). In general, Latinos are less likely to be homeowners both in Michigan and Southeast Michigan, with rates below the state average in each of the seven counties.

**Figure 38. Latino Home Ownership in Michigan and Southeast Michigan, 2009-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2013.

### **Focus Group Findings on Economic Well-Being**

Participants acknowledged that Latinos understand the complexity and importance of economic issues in today's society. They noted that poverty, income inequality, and difficulties in employment are mired within the context of social and racial disparities. Lack of affordable housing and difficulty in securing reasonable credit keep this community in a state of continued economic stress.

Among seniors, the issue of fixed incomes was a major concern in the context of increasing costs of living, especially for medications and medical care. One respondent stated the following:

Someone who lived well, worked their entire life, and if you have saved a cent... If you have one [cent] more than allowed, you are not eligible for assistance. And I say, if you saved before you got old, it's because you knew how to save, and you have it for your old age so that when you die you can be given a decent burial, and all that. There should be assistance provided (SW Detroit).

Quite directly, this respondent points to the limitations of means-based social programs as a problem which limits and makes their lives more difficult. Living from month to month, they fear unanticipated costs that might arise, as they would not be able to afford them. Indeed, some may go without adequate heating and air conditioning levels in their homes due to their inability to cover the higher utility costs.

Further, the frustration of community members stems from seeing hardworking men and women confronting structural barriers that impede their progress. One participant framed the situation this way:

I feel like Latinos, the immigrants that come to this part [region] are just not, or just not this part but the United States, what I've noticed is that they are highly entrepreneurial people. A lot of them, because they want to stay under the radar because they don't have a social security [number], they are kind of poor. That makes them want to survive and they'll do whatever. They'll put their *panaderia* [bakery], *taqueria* [taco stand], they will put their little *puestos* [stands], they will sell *paletas* [popsicles] and, you know, that's another conversation, but the struggle makes them hard workers. People are, like Mexicans, are such hard workers, well it is not that every single Mexican is a hard worker, but in [such] circumstances, to survive you have to be a

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hard worker. That's the type of job, that's the type of circumstances you're in and you have to work to survive. One has to stick with the struggle out of sheer courage. *Si quieres sobrevivir le tienes que atorar* [If you want to survive you have to jam ahead] (Downriver Adults).

These sentiments are coupled with pervasive irritation at what residents perceive to be a manipulation, if not exploitation, of their city and communities:

It's a shame, it is the same thing that happened in Detroit, in that people are coming into the city, they are so proud of it, and then they are taking the money out and going out 30 or 40 miles. And the same thing is happening at U.S. Steel [Corporation]. You have all these people driving an hour to work, working, making big money, like \$30 an hour, and exiting. And it looks like the sister city of Berlin, Germany [that is, White workers]. And it's the cities that allow it. Detroit allows it, everyone is allowing it. The people are taking the money and they are leaving (Downriver Adults).

Participants also noted that finding work and stabilizing their home lives were very important. However, finding work, especially with an undocumented status, was a major impediment.

Regarding social security among those who came as undocumented [immigrants], we had good jobs and, for starters, we did not even ask for Medicaid because the jobs offered insurance. What happened? The day that they completed the review for social security numbers, we had to start asking for food stamps and all that because our husbands can't work in any factory where they ask for papers. And that affected us a lot. It affected us a lot because we don't even have the luxury of going to seek a job anywhere (SW Detroit Adults).

In addition, participants noted that among Latinos there is a constant fear of being taken advantage of by employers. Undocumented Latinos have little recourse or ability to seek assistance or remediation if they experience inequities in the workplace.

Even then, those that have jobs, what happens is that the bosses take advantage of them. At the place where my husband worked there were five people but later only two, and to those two people the boss would say, "I don't care what you have to do, [keep working]" (SW Detroit Adults).

This participant goes on to point out the hazardous and abusive working conditions endured by her husband, who is a painter of cars, including the use of the threat of deportation by some employers to exploit undocumented workers:

There was, for example, a toxic gas leak and they didn't evacuate them. That is, there are many areas where things are done to Latinos, and if they don't like it, they can leave. Just about the majority of persons there were undocumented. Their [paid] work hours are deducted 15 minutes for lunch. I believe that it should not be that way. They pay them by check, and since they don't have a bank that will cash their check, they negotiate with a [local merchant] who charges them a certain amount for cashing the check. Latinos are subjected to many abuses (SW Detroit Adults).

They (employers) already know the place where we can be deported, and because we can be deported, then to work it is because they know the situation of not having documents. Apart from that, they take up to a month to pay and there is no recourse. Do you know what that's like and all the needs that arise? It's always the Latinos, just because they are Latinos, are seen as hardworking, the Latino has the strength of a donkey to work, the Latino endures more, and the Latino does the work of two persons, is bilingual and is paid less! (SW Detroit Adults).

A different participant added:

Many of them [employers] don't pay them overtime [wages]. The boss is charged with finding a way... What's that saying, "Who makes the law sets the trap?" (SW Detroit Adults).

Another resident noted similar concerns while also emphasizing how different racial and ethnic minorities have different outcomes due to their documented status:

There are people who I think take advantage of the situations that [other] people are in, especially for this community when you have individuals who are undocumented. There's no validity if something happens to that person when it comes to worker's compensation. So, they are at a disadvantage. Then you're marked down as ok, [but] you are just going to be replaced [on the job]. Sometimes they think that for the individual who is facing that... what can you do because the repercussion may be that the person reports you? So then, to me, that puts people at a very disturbing disadvantage aside from the economics because then some companies may feel that they don't have to pay you or provide insurance or any of the things that would normally take place. And, anytime there is resistance, [at least] sometimes, there is a price to pay for that. I think, in certain respects, that there is a disadvantage, and sometimes, to me, it seems as if other cultures are able to receive more assistance and it is not looked down upon as if they are taking jobs from other people. When you look at the [Asian] Indians that come to be doctors nobody questions that. When you have a large Arabic community... nobody questions that as much as they do when it comes to the Latino population, as if we're stealing jobs from people and that's not even the case. We are always looked upon as "the bad" when it comes to the job market. Look at big companies like Chrysler and Google and whatever; not Google but maybe some of the credit card companies when they outsource jobs to India. Nobody is questioning those things, but it seems when it comes to the Latino population there is always that question [about us taking American jobs], and there is so much publicity put on it (SW Detroit Adults).

The pressure and stress of employment and economic insecurity impact this community regardless of how work is valued. Participants noted that their communities do indeed have a strong work ethic and attempt to improve their lives, the lives of their families, and their communities; however, racial and economic pressures coupled with structural inequalities impede their progress. One respondent noted: "Unfortunately, racism still exists here even if some say there isn't. They always commit something ugly against us."

Young adults spoke of their early workplaces in Detroit and the racism that colored their lives. One respondent recalled his experience as follows:

You know, growing up, at 15 or 16, I go get a job. It's a racial thing, you know, a White man owns the place. They call me spic, beaner, all kinds of stuff, and at work. I am young at that age looking at them like, "Ahh, man!" They expect you to know how to cut grass and things like that. Yeah, that's a funny joke okay. You know, I don't know how to do landscaping, I am not going to do landscaping. I like to work on cars, that's my thing, but growing up, that [experience] affected me a lot... It affected our mindset a lot, so there's a big problem with that. Now that I look at it, like how many other teens are going through the same things I went through. It's difficult because a young Latino gets looked upon in a racial way (SW Detroit Young Adults).

Another concern that arose among participants of the focus groups was the decline in social services across a broad range of life areas. In response to the relative lack of services for Latino entrepreneurs, members from the business community are attempting to provide education programs tailored for Latinos. In creating these programs, one business representative noted the importance of addressing cultural issues

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to reach Latinos, and the need to ensure that the programs were, at the very least, in Spanish.

We were doing it at the Chamber. We were doing a program where we decided to tap into the entrepreneurial segment, and there's two economies out there. There's the mom and pop businesses and there's people on the street, people working from home, the more informal economy, you know, selling Avon and jewelry, whatever, and guys that would walk the streets and you didn't know if the stuff was legitimate or not, but they were... So, we decided to have some sessions for entrepreneurs, taking it from building a business plan to legal and financial tax systems... First one we did was, we had 80 people, and we did it in Spanish so it was very well received because everybody speaks English, but when you do it, you know, like at the high school level of Spanish as opposed to having them forcibly talk in grade school English [it's better]. And it also builds a sense of community because you feel more comfortable, that's your first language so you feel a little more comfortable. That's what was spoken at home so you are automatically like, "Oh, okay! I know these people!" even though you may not know them personally (Detroit Business).

These workshops appear to be a vital stepping stone for Latino entrepreneurs who have the drive to run their own business but lack fundamental business strategies and knowledge of the requirements by government agencies. One Latino business owner emphasized the importance of fundamental business strategies, such as creating a business plan, but the younger Latino business owners also noted that they were interested in learning newer strategies such as how to incorporate technology and social media in their business plans:

...[L]earning how to do business plans, learning, okay, but how do I get more capital, I want to grow – I just don't know how to make connections...cause a lot of the business owners that we see now are about middle aged, they don't go into the hole. Well, maybe you should, you know, try Facebook and that whole thing... I can also use the Internet, and I can use this that wasn't there before...how about we try a website, how about we try this and that? (Detroit Business).

These young professionals have the desire and will to lead their businesses, but they have limited resources for promoting and enhancing their companies within the new technological realities. Seeking advice from older business Latinos in their communities is valuable, they noted, but limited given the current economic context, as they strive to enhance their businesses.

In addition, participants commented that a cultural lag has existed for Latinos in truly extending their presence in business ownership. This is an interesting factor that has kept Latinos mostly marginalized.

I think, you know, at least from my experience here in Michigan, Southwest Detroit, you know, we just had generations of people that came here to work in the automotive industry, work construction, you know, so many people know how to hang drywall, you know, we're ready to do the labor part of everything, but it hasn't been engrained in us to say we can own it, you know, we – yeah, it takes a different attitude to own it (Detroit Business).

This somewhat explains the informal economies that continue to spring up throughout the Latino community and provide additional income and work opportunities for individuals who are outside of the mainstream business workplace:

Well, I mean, you have them, they buy products, they buy, you know, shirts, soccer balls. They sell, you know, the jerseys, the soccer balls, they sell, sometimes, you know, blankets. When it starts getting colder they're out there selling the blankets. They're starting to learn, "Okay, I have to have you know..." They're starting to get educated and have the health issues taken care of. All that stuff, you know. You start to get into the legit aspects, starting to move the busi-



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ness into the legit [areas]. I mean, it's just, they're always out there, and they're out there early. And they're out there working hard, and they're making their own money. You have the families. The family, I think, is a huge difference for the Latino culture as opposed to other cultures. We're very much like the Arabic cultures, they're the same way as well. I've noticed with some of them you, know, that the family base really helps you want to like, learn and expand your business and keep doing that (Detroit Business).

As these business persons seek to move their businesses from the informal to the formal economy they are confronted with a lack of information for doing business in the formal sector.

Another concern that arose with regard to Latinos businesses is the lack of effort to promote a Latino economic sector in which Latino businesses seek to support each other. The view was expressed that for Latino businesses to progress as a group they have to intentionally conduct more business with each other.

In sum, the economic well-being of Latinos is not marred by lack of work ethic and ambition but rather by systemic discriminatory forces that impede success, and thus, progress. Participants noted that their fellow community members want to work and want to work hard. Many are seeking opportunities to extend their businesses. However, in many cases, structural inequalities continue to impede their success, including the lack of mutual support among them.

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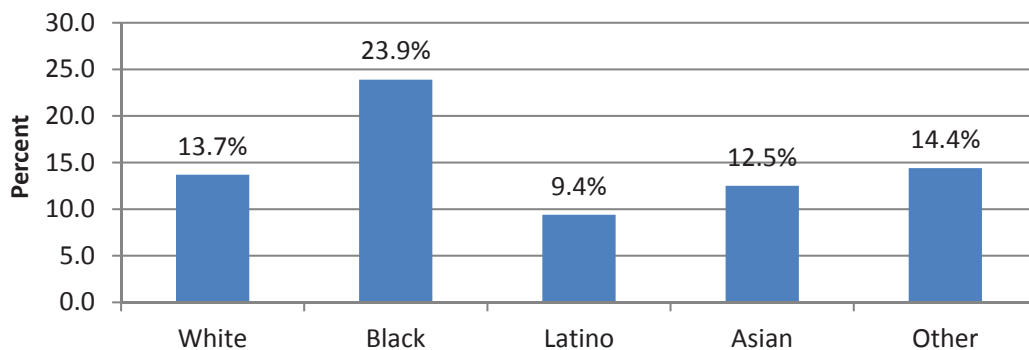
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## IV. HEALTH

### A. Self-Reported Health

In 2008-2013, about 14.8 percent of Michigan adults (18 years and older) reported that their general health was either fair or poor. In terms of race/ethnicity, about 9.4 percent of Latinos indicated that they had fair or poor health (as opposed to good or excellent health), compared with 13.7 percent of non-Hispanic Whites, 23.9 percent African Americans, 12.5 percent Asians, and 14.4 percent Other races (Figure 39). This finding is consistent with what is known as the “Hispanic Paradox,” which points to the unexpected outcome that Latinos are healthier than would be expected by their levels of poverty.

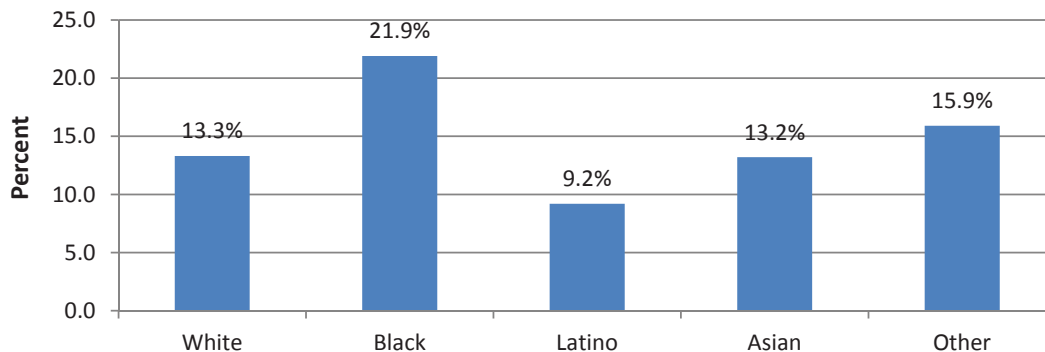
**Figure 39. Percent Fair or Poor Health among Adults (18 years and older) in Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2008-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Surveys (CPS), merged file 2009-2013.

In the Detroit-Warren-Livonia metropolitan area, 15 percent of adults indicated that they had fair or poor health. About 9.2 percent of Latinos in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia metropolitan area indicated that they had fair or poor health, compared with 13.3 percent of non-Hispanic Whites, 21.9 percent of African Americans, 13.2 percent of Asians, and 15.9 percent of other races in the same geographical area (Figure 40).

**Figure 40. Percent Fair or Poor Health among Adults (18 years and older) in Detroit-Warren-Livonia Metropolitan Area by Race/Ethnicity, 2008-2013**

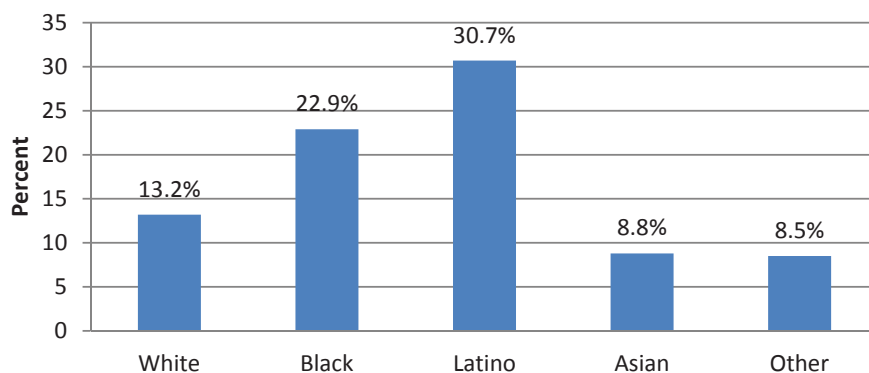


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Surveys (CPS), merged file 2008-2013.

## B. Health Insurance Coverage

In 2008-2013 (before implementation of the Affordable Care Act), approximately 15 percent of non-elderly adults in Michigan were uninsured in terms of health coverage. This rate is lower than the rate of “not having insurance” in the U.S. (20.0%). About 31 percent of Latinos in Michigan indicated that they did not have any health insurance coverage, compared to 13 percent of non-Hispanic Whites (Figure 41). For other population groups, about 23 percent of non-elderly African Americans and 9 percent of Asians were uninsured (Figure 41).

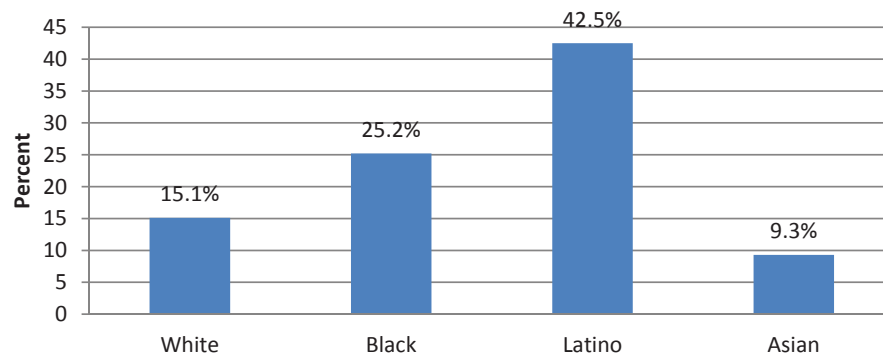
**Figure 41. Percentages of Non-Elderly Adult (18 -64 years) Uninsured in Michigan, 2008-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Surveys (CPS), merged file 2008-2013.

In the Detroit-Warren-Livonia metropolitan area in 2009-2013, 43 percent of Latinos reported that they did not have any health insurance coverage, compared to 15 percent of non-Hispanic Whites in that geographical area (Figure 42). About 25 percent of non-elderly African Americans and 9 percent of Asians in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia metropolitan area were uninsured (Figure 42).

**Figure 42. Percentages of Non-Elderly Adult (18 -64 years) Uninsured in Detroit-Warren-Livonia Metropolitan Area, 2009-2013**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Surveys (CPS), merged file 2008-2013.

## C. Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

Table 20 presents selected behavioral risk factors and health characteristics of adults (18 years or older) in Michigan for 2012. These statistics were drawn from tables on prevalence estimates for risk factors and health indicators by race/ethnicity compiled by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) from the 2012 Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS). In 2012, about 17.1 percent of Michigan

adults indicated that their general health was either fair or poor. African Americans (26.0%), followed by Latinos (24.2%), indicated a higher prevalence of fair or poor health than non-Hispanic White adults (15.1%). These figures for Latinos are inconsistent with those derived from CPS data.

In 2012, 16.6 percent of Michigan adults aged 18-64 years indicated that they had no health insurance coverage. African Americans (24.3%), followed by Latinos (18.4%), reported a significant higher prevalence of no health insurance coverage than non-Hispanic Whites (15.1%).

In 2012, 31.1 percent of Michigan adults were considered obese (i.e., their body mass index or BMI was greater than or equal to 30.0). African Americans (37.8%) and Latinos (37.0%) reported higher prevalence of obesity than non-Hispanic Whites (29.9%). In 2012, approximately 23.3% of Michigan adults reported no “leisure-time physical activity” within the past month. Non-Latino Whites (21.2%) reported a significantly lower prevalence of no leisure-time physical activity than African Americans (33.8%) and Latinos (29.5%).

In 2012, about 23.3 percent of Michigan adults indicated that they currently smoked cigarettes either every day or on some days. The prevalence of current smoking was 27.7 percent for Latinos, 26.6 percent for African Americans, and 22.4 percent for non-Hispanic Whites. With regard to drinking behaviors, 6.1 percent of Michigan adults reported heavy drinking in the past month (i.e., they consumed on average more than two alcoholic beverages for men and more than one alcoholic beverage for women per day). The prevalence of heavy drinking was 10.3 percent for Latinos, 6.3 percent for non-Hispanic Whites, and 3.7 percent for African Americans. In terms of binge drinking, 19.2 percent of Michigan adults reported binge drinking (i.e., they have consumed five or more drinks) on at least one occasion in the previous month. The prevalence of binge drinking was 27.5 percent for Latinos, 19.3 percent for non-Hispanic Whites, and 15.3 percent for African Americans.

In 2012, 12.3 percent of Michigan adults were told by a doctor that they had cancer (skin or any other type of cancer). Non-Hispanic Whites (13.9%) reported a significantly higher prevalence of cancer (of any type) than Latinos (4.8%) and African Americans (6.5%). In terms of screenings, 76.6 percent of Michigan women 40 years and older reported that they had a mammogram within the past two years and 50.4 percent reported that they had both a clinical breast exam and a mammogram within the past year. Breast cancer screening rates among Latinas were slightly higher than for non-Hispanic Whites. For cervical cancer, 92.1 percent of Michigan women ages 18 years and older reported ever having a Pap test and 79.4 percent reported having had a Pap test within the past three years. The prevalence of cervical screening was similar by race/ethnicity. For prostate cancer screening, 46.9 percent of Michigan men aged 50 years and older reported having had a Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) test within the past year. Non-Hispanic Whites (49.0%) reported higher test rates than African Americans (40.4%) and other non-Latinos (28.0%). There were not enough cases to display the rates for prostate cancer screening for Latinos. For colorectal cancer, 69.4 percent of Michigan adults aged 50 years and older reported having a sigmoidoscopy within the past five years or a colonoscopy within the past ten years.

In 2012, an estimated 9.9 percent of Michigan adults were told that they had some form of cardiovascular disease (i.e., had a heart attack, coronary heart disease, or a stroke). African Americans (12.1%) reported a higher prevalence of cardiovascular disease than non-Hispanic Whites (9.6%) and Latinos (7.3%). About 5.2 percent of Michigan adults reported ever been told by a doctor that they had a heart attack; 5.1 percent had ever been told that they had angina or coronary heart disease; and 3.5 percent had ever been told that they had a stroke. African Americans (5.2%) reported a higher prevalence of stroke than non-Hispanic Whites (3.1%) and Latinos (2.7%). Latinos (3.0%) reported lower prevalence of angina or coronary heart disease than non-Hispanic Whites (5.2%). Latinos (3.9%) also reported lower prevalence of heart attack than non-Hispanic Whites (5.2%).

In 2012, 10.5 percent of Michigan adults reported ever being told by a doctor that they had diabetes. Diabetes prevalence was significantly lower for non-Hispanic Whites (9.6%) than African Americans (13.4%). The prevalence of diabetes for Latinos (13.9%) was somewhat higher than that of non-Hispanic Whites (9.6%).

**Table 20. Michigan Selected Adult Behavioral Risk and Health Factors by Race/Ethnicity, 2012 [Percent (CI)]**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>White, Non-Hispanic</b>	<b>Black, African American</b>	<b>Other/ Multiracial, Non-Hispanic</b>	<b>Latino/ Hispanic</b>
Fair or Poor General Health <sup>28</sup>	17.1 (16.1, 18.1)	15.1 (14.1, 16.2)	26.0 (22.5, 29.9)	18.2 (14.0, 23.3)	24.2 (16.7, 33.8)
No Health Care Coverage among Adults Aged 18-64 Years <sup>29</sup>	16.6 (15.4, 17.8)	15.1 (13.8, 16.4)	24.3 (20.5, 28.6)	13.8 (9.9, 18.8)	18.4 (12.1, 27.2)
Obesity <sup>30</sup>	31.1 (29.8, 32.3)	29.9 (28.6, 31.2)	37.8 (33.9, 41.9)	27.6 (22.4, 33.5)	37.0 (28.6, 46.2)
No Leisure-Time Physical Activity <sup>31</sup>	23.3 (22.2, 24.5)	21.2 (20.1, 22.5)	33.8 (30.0, 37.9)	21.4 (17.1, 26.4)	29.5 (21.9, 38.4)
Current Smoking <sup>32</sup>	23.3 (22.1, 24.6)	22.4 (21.1, 23.8)	26.6 (22.9, 30.8)	28.4 (22.8, 34.7)	27.7 (19.8, 37.2)
Heavy Drinking <sup>33</sup>	6.1 (5.4, 6.8)	6.3 (5.6, 7.1)	3.7 (2.5, 5.4)	5.3 (3.4, 8.0)	10.3 (5.4, 18.5)
Binge Drinking <sup>34</sup>	19.2 (18.1, 20.3)	19.3 (18.2, 20.6)	15.3 (12.2, 19.1)	20.8 (15.8, 27.0)	27.5 (19.9, 36.7)
Ever Told Cancer <sup>35</sup>	12.3 (11.6, 13.0)	13.9 (13.0, 14.7)	6.5 (5.0, 8.5)	7.5 (5.1, 11.0)	4.8 (2.6, 8.6)
Had Mammogram <sup>36</sup>	76.6 (75.0, 78.1)	76.2 (74.5, 77.9)	77.9 (73.0, 82.1)	75.5 (67.1, 82.3)	83.9 (72.5, 91.2)
Had Clinical Breast Exam and Mammogram <sup>37</sup>	50.4 (48.6, 52.2)	50.3 (48.3, 52.2)	48.4 (43.0, 53.8)	49.2 (39.2, 59.2)	64.4 (50.1, 76.5)
Cervical Cancer Test <sup>38</sup>	79.4 (77.6, 81.1)	78.9 (76.9, 80.8)	84.5 (79.7, 88.3)	74.6 (64.3, 82.7)	77.3 (62.8, 87.3)
Prostate Cancer Test <sup>39</sup>	46.9 (44.4, 49.5)	49.0 (46.4, 51.7)	40.4 (31.0, 50.6)	28.0 (18.6, 39.8)	---
Colorectal Cancer Exam <sup>41</sup>	67.3 (65.8, 68.9)	68.7 (67.1, 70.3)	61.1 (55.1, 66.9)	58.5 (50.0, 66.5)	58.4 (44.1, 71.4)
Ever Told Any Cardiovascular Disease <sup>42</sup>	9.9 (9.2, 10.6)	9.6 (8.9, 10.4)	12.1 (9.7, 14.9)	9.3 (6.6, 12.9)	7.3 (4.3, 12.1)
Heart Attack	5.2 (4.7, 5.8)	5.2 (4.7, 5.8)	5.8 (4.1, 8.2)	5.0 (3.0, 8.2)	3.9 (2.0, 7.6)
Angina or Coronary Heart Disease (CHD)	5.1 (4.6, 5.6)	5.2 (4.7, 5.8)	4.5 (3.3, 6.0)	5.9 (3.7, 9.3)	3.0 (1.4, 6.5)
Stroke	3.5 (3.1, 3.9)	3.1 (2.7, 3.6)	5.2 (3.7, 7.1)	4.5 (2.9, 7.0)	2.7 (1.1, 6.5)
Ever Told Diabetes <sup>43</sup>	10.5 (9.7, 11.2)	9.6 (8.9, 10.4)	13.8 (11.4, 16.7)	11.0 (7.9, 15.0)	13.9 (8.4, 22.1)
Ever Told Depression <sup>44</sup>	20.6 (19.5, 21.7)	20.6 (19.5, 21.8)	17.5 (14.6, 21.0)	21.7 (17.1, 27.2)	30.9 (22.8, 40.4)
Lifetime Asthma <sup>45</sup>	15.5 (14.6, 16.6)	14.4 (13.4, 15.5)	20.6 (17.5, 24.0)	18.2 (14.1, 23.3)	19.0 (12.6, 27.6)
Current Asthma <sup>46</sup>	10.5 (9.7, 11.4)	9.3 (8.5, 10.2)	15.4 (12.7, 18.5)	14.4 (10.6, 19.2)	14.1 (8.5, 22.4)

Source: 2012 Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH).

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- <sup>28</sup> The proportion who reported that their health, in general, was either fair or poor.
- <sup>29</sup> The proportion who reported having no health care coverage, including health insurance, prepaid plans such as HMOs, or government plans, such as Medicare or Indian Health Services.
- <sup>30</sup> The proportion of respondents whose BMI was greater than or equal to 30.0. BMI, body mass index, is defined as weight (in kilograms) divided by height (in meters) squared [weight in kg/(height in meters)<sup>2</sup>]. Weight and height were self-reported. Pregnant women were excluded in the calculation of BMI.
- <sup>31</sup> The proportion who reported not participating in any leisure-time physical activities or exercises such as running, calisthenics, golf, gardening, or walking for exercise in the past month.
- <sup>32</sup> The proportion who reported that they had ever smoked at least 100 cigarettes (5 packs) in their life and that they smoke cigarettes now, either every day or on some days.
- <sup>33</sup> The proportion who reported consuming on average more than two alcoholic beverages per day for men or more than one per day for women in the previous month.
- <sup>34</sup> The proportion who reported consuming five or more drinks per occasion at least once in the previous month.
- <sup>35</sup> The proportion who reported ever being told by a doctor that they had skin cancer or any other type of cancer.
- <sup>36</sup> The proportion of women 40 years and older who had a mammogram in the past two years.
- <sup>37</sup> The proportion of women 40 years and older who had both a clinical exam and a mammogram in the past two years.
- <sup>38</sup> The proportion of women aged 18 years and older who had a Pap test within the previous three years.
- <sup>39</sup> The proportion of men aged 50 years and older who reported having a PSA test in the past year.
- <sup>40</sup> Cell < 50 cases.
- <sup>41</sup> The proportion of adults aged 50 years and older who had a sigmoidoscopy within the past five years or a colonoscopy within the past ten years.
- <sup>42</sup> The proportion who had ever been told by a doctor that they had a heart attack, coronary heart disease or a stroke.
- <sup>43</sup> The proportion who reported that they were ever told by a doctor that they had diabetes. Adults who had been told they have prediabetes and women who had diabetes only during pregnancy were classified as not having been diagnosed.
- <sup>44</sup> The proportion who reported ever being told by a doctor that they had a depressive disorder including depression, major depression, dysthymia, or minor depression.
- <sup>45</sup> The proportion who reported that they were told by a doctor, nurse, or other health care professional that they had asthma.
- <sup>46</sup> The proportion who reported that they still had asthma.

In 2012, approximately 20.6% of Michigan adults reported that they had ever been told by a doctor that they had a depressive disorder, including depression, major depression, dysthymia, or minor depression. Non-Hispanic Whites (20.6%) reported a significant lower prevalence of depression than Latinos (30.9%).

In 2012, 15.5 percent of Michigan adults reported that they were ever diagnosed with asthma and 10.5 percent reported that they currently have asthma. African Americans reported the highest prevalence of lifetime asthma (20.6%), with Latinos (19.0%) close behind. Non-Hispanic Whites reported a rate of 14.4%. African Americans also reported higher prevalence of current asthma (15.4%) than Latinos (14.1%) and non-Hispanic Whites (9.3%).

#### **D. Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBSS)**

Table 21 presents selected youth health-risk behaviors by race/ethnicity and gender in Michigan in 2013. Data were drawn online from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS). The YRBSS monitors six categories of priority health-risk behaviors among youth and young adults, including: 1) behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence; 2) tobacco use; 3) alcohol and other drug use; 4) sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infections; 5) unhealthy dietary behaviors; and 6) physical inactivity. In addition, the YRBSS monitors the prevalence of obesity and asthma. The YRBSS is based on a national representative sample of students in grades 9-12 who attend public and private schools.

#### **E. Unintentional Injuries and Violence**

In Michigan in 2013, 15.5 percent of students reported that they had carried a weapon (e.g., gun, knife, or club) on at least one day during the 30 days before the survey (Table 21). The prevalence of carrying a weapon is higher among Latinos (21%) than non-Hispanic Whites (16%) and is significantly lower for African Americans (10%) and Asians (7%). Overall, the prevalence of carrying a weapon is significantly higher among males (25%) than females (6%). Survey results also show that Latino males (33%) were more likely than non-Hispanic White (27%) and African American males (13%) to carry a weapon at least one day in the last days before the survey.

About 21.6 percent of students in Michigan reported that they had been in a physical fight one or more times during the 12 months before the survey (Table 21). The prevalence of having been in a physical fight was higher among males (28.1%) than females (15.0%). The prevalence of having been in a physical fight was higher among Latino (29.6%) and African American (28.9%) than non-Hispanic White (18.5%) and Asian (11.5%) students. Among male students, the prevalence of having been in a fight was higher among Latino (39.7%) and African American (33.7%) than White (25.1%) students. Among females, the prevalence of having been in a fight was higher among African American female (24.2%) and Latina (18.2%) than non-Hispanic White female (11.9%) students.

In Michigan, 25.3 percent of students indicated that they had been bullied on school property during the 12 months before the survey (Table 21). The prevalence of having been bullied on school property was higher among female (28.8%) than male (21.9%) students. The prevalence of having been bullied on school property was higher among non-Hispanic White (26.3%) and Latino (25.0%) than African American (21.1%) and Asian (16.6%) students. The prevalence of having been bullied on school property was higher among non-Hispanic White female (30.6%) and Latina (29.6%) than African American female (19.7%) students.

In Michigan, 8.7 percent of students reported that they had been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to (Table 21). The prevalence of having been forced to have sexual intercourse was higher among female (11.0%) than male (6.3%) students. The prevalence of having been forced to have sexual intercourse was higher among Latino (16.7%), African American (10.9%),



and Asian (10.0%) than non-Hispanic White (7.1%) students. The prevalence of having been forced to have sexual intercourse was higher among Latina (20.4%) and African American female (11.4%) students than non-Hispanic White female (9.7%) students. The prevalence of having been forced to have sexual intercourse was higher among Latino male (12.2%) and African American male (10.5%) students than non-Hispanic White male (4.6%) students.

In Michigan, an alarming 8.9 percent of students reported that they had attempted suicide one or more times during the 12 months before the survey (Table 21). The prevalence of having attempted suicide was higher among female (10.5%) than male (7.3%) students. The prevalence of having attempted suicide was higher among Latino (14.2%), African American (10.7%), and Asian (9.6%) students than non-Hispanic White (7.5%) students. The prevalence of having attempted suicide was higher among Latino male (14.8%), Latina (13.8%), African American female (13.4%), and non-Hispanic White female (8.6%) students than African American male (7.6%), and non-Hispanic White male (6.5%) students.

#### **F. Tobacco Use**

In Michigan in 2013, 11.8% of students reported currently smoking cigarettes (Table 21). The prevalence of current cigarette use was higher among male (13.0%) than female (10.6%) students. The prevalence of current cigarette use was higher among Latino (15.9%) and non-Hispanic White (13.2%) students than among Asian (7.4%) and African American (3.8%) students. The prevalence of current cigarette use was higher among Latino male (16.3%), Latina (15.7%), non-Hispanic White male (14.3%), and non-Hispanic White female (12.1%) students than African American male (4.1%) and African American female (3.5%) students (Table 21).

In Michigan, 7.1% of students reported ever having smoked at least one cigarette every day for 30 days (i.e., ever smoked cigarettes daily). The prevalence of having ever smoked cigarettes daily was higher among male (8.6%) than female (5.6%) students. The prevalence of having ever smoked cigarettes daily was higher among Latino (8.9%), non-Hispanic White (8.0%) and Asian (5.3%) students than African American (2.0%) students. The prevalence of having ever smoked cigarettes daily was higher among Latino male (11.3%), non-Hispanic White male (9.6%), Latina (6.6%) and non-Hispanic White female (6.4%) students than African American male (2.2%) and African American female (1.9%) students (Table 21).

#### **G. Alcohol Use**

In Michigan in 2013, about 28.3% of students had consumed at least one drink of alcohol on at least one day during the 30 days before the survey (i.e., current alcohol use). The prevalence of current alcohol use was higher among Latino (31.2%), non-Hispanic White (29.7%) and African American (20.6%) students than Asian (12.8%) students. The prevalence of current alcohol use was higher among Latina (32.5%), Latino male (30.6%), non-Hispanic White male (29.8%), non-Hispanic White female (29.5%) than African American female (23.1%) and African American male (17.8%) students (Table 21).

In Michigan, 16.7% of students had consumed five or more drinks of alcohol in a row within a couple of hours on at least one day during the 30 days before the survey. The prevalence of having five or more drinks of alcohol in a row was higher among male (18.1%) than female (15.4%) students. The prevalence of having five or more drinks of alcohol in a row was also higher among Latino (20.1%) and non-Hispanic White (17.8%) than African American (10.4%) and Asian (7.1%) students. The prevalence of having five or more drinks of alcohol in a row was higher among Latino male (20.7%), Latina (19.8%), non-Hispanic White male (19.6%) and non-Hispanic White female (16.1%) students than among African American female (10.7%) and African American male (10.0%) students.

**Table 21. High School Youth Risk Behavior Characteristics by Race/Ethnicity and Gender, Michigan, 2013 [Percent, (CD)]**

	Total	Asian	Black	Latino	White
<b>Unintentional Injuries and Violence</b>					
Carried a weapon					
Total	15.5 (13.4, 17.8)	7.0 (3.1, 15.1)	9.5 (6.3, 14.0)	21.0 (15.3, 28.2)	16.3 (14.6, 18.2)
Male	24.6 (21.3, 28.3)	----- <sup>a</sup>	13.3 (8.7, 19.8)	32.8 (23.9, 43.2)	26.8 (24.0, 29.8)
Female	6.3 (5.5, 7.8)	----- <sup>a</sup>	6.0 (4.1, 8.8)	8.9 (5.0, 15.2)	6.0 (5.0, 7.1)
Were in a physical fight					
Total	21.6 (19.9, 23.5)	11.5 (5.5, 22.2)	28.9 (22.2, 36.6)	29.6 (23.9, 36.0)	18.5 (16.6, 20.6)
Male	28.1 (25.5, 30.9)	----- <sup>a</sup>	33.7 (24.5, 44.3)	39.7 (30.8, 49.2)	25.1 (22.3, 28.2)
Female	15.0 (13.1, 17.0)	----- <sup>a</sup>	24.2 (19.1, 30.1)	18.2 (14.2, 23.2)	11.9 (9.9, 14.3)
Were bullied on school property					
Total	25.3 (22.4, 28.5)	16.6 (10.3, 25.6)	21.1 (15.2, 28.7)	25.0 (19.7, 31.1)	26.3 (23.0, 29.9)
Male	21.9 (19.3, 24.8)	----- <sup>a</sup>	22.4 (17.5, 28.1)	19.6 (12.8, 28.7)	22.3 (19.1, 25.7)
Female	28.8 (24.5, 33.5)	----- <sup>a</sup>	19.7 (11.2, 32.3)	29.6 (22.8, 37.4)	30.6 (26.3, 35.2)
Were ever physically forced to have sexual intercourse					
Total	8.7 (7.7, 9.8)	10.0 (5.9, 16.3)	10.9 (9.3, 12.8)	16.7 (11.0, 24.7)	7.1 (6.3, 8.1)
Male	6.3 (4.8, 8.4)	----- <sup>a</sup>	10.5 (6.2, 17.2)	12.2 (6.9, 20.9)	4.6 (3.6, 5.9)
Female	11.0 (9.4, 12.8)	----- <sup>a</sup>	11.4 (6.8, 18.6)	20.4 (9.7, 30.7)	9.7 (8.5, 11.1)
Attempted suicide					
Total	8.9 (7.3, 10.7)	9.6 (5.3, 16.9)	10.7 (6.8, 16.3)	14.2 (9.3, 21.0)	7.5 (6.1, 9.3)
Male	7.3 (5.7, 9.3)	----- <sup>a</sup>	7.6 (4.3, 13.1)	14.8 (8.9, 23.5)	6.5 (4.9, 8.5)
Female	10.5 (8.6, 12.7)	----- <sup>a</sup>	13.4 (8.3, 21.0)	13.8 (8.2, 22.2)	8.6 (6.9, 10.6)
<b>Tobacco Use</b>					
Currently smoked cigarettes					
Total	11.8 (8.9, 15.5)	7.4 (3.7, 14.2)	3.8 (1.6, 8.6)	15.9 (10.3, 23.7)	13.2 (10.7, 16.0)
Male	13.0 (9.9, 16.9)	----- <sup>a</sup>	4.1 (1.5, 10.4)	16.3 (9.8, 25.9)	14.3 (11.6, 17.5)
Female	10.6 (7.8, 14.4)	----- <sup>a</sup>	3.5 (1.5, 7.9)	15.7 (9.6, 24.7)	12.1 (9.5, 15.1)
Ever smoked at least one cigarette every day for 30 days					
Total	7.1 (5.3, 9.4)	5.3 (2.1, 12.6)	2.0 (1.3, 3.1)	8.9 (5.5, 14.1)	8.0 (6.4, 9.9)
Male	8.6 (6.4, 11.6)	----- <sup>a</sup>	2.2 (0.9, 5.3)	11.3 (6.4, 19.1)	9.6 (7.5, 12.2)

**Table 21 (cont'd)**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Asian</b>	<b>Black</b>	<b>Latino</b>	<b>White</b>
Female	5.6 (4.1, 7.6)	----- <sup>a</sup>	1.9 (1.1, 3.2)	6.6 (3.1, 13.6)	6.4 (4.9, 8.7)
<b>Alcohol and Other Drug Use</b>					
Currently drank alcohol					
Total	28.3 (24.7, 32.2)	12.8 (6.4, 23.8)	20.6 (16.1, 25.9)	31.2 (24.1, 39.4)	29.7 (26.8, 32.7)
Male	28.0 (24.0, 32.5)	----- <sup>a</sup>	17.8 (11.7, 26.1)	30.6 (20.8, 42.5)	29.8 (27.2, 32.6)
Female	28.6 (24.8, 32.7)	----- <sup>a</sup>	23.1 (19.8, 26.7)	32.5 (25.5, 40.3)	29.5 (25.5, 34.0)
Had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row					
Total	16.7 (14.2, 19.7)	7.1 (2.8, 16.6)	10.4 (7.3, 14.7)	20.1 (12.9, 29.8)	17.8 (15.6, 20.3)
Male	18.1 (15.0, 21.6)	----- <sup>a</sup>	10.0 (5.3, 18.1)	20.7 (12.2, 32.8)	19.6 (17.4, 22.1)
Female	15.4 (12.8, 18.5)	----- <sup>a</sup>	10.7 (8.8, 12.9)	19.8 (12.2, 30.4)	16.1 (13.1, 19.6)
Ever used marijuana					
Total	33.0 (30.5, 35.5)	13.4 (7.7, 22.3)	37.6 (28.4, 47.8)	41.1 (33.9, 48.7)	31.4 (28.9, 34.1)
Male	34.4 (31.1, 37.8)	----- <sup>a</sup>	35.3 (22.8, 50.3)	42.1 (32.9, 51.9)	33.8 (31.2, 36.5)
Female	31.4 (28.6, 34.4)	----- <sup>a</sup>	39.7 (33.3, 46.4)	39.8 (32.3, 47.9)	29.0 (25.9, 32.4)
Ever used cocaine					
Total	4.0 (2.8, 5.7)	4.1 (1.5, 10.9)	2.8 (1.3, 5.7)	11.4 (6.6, 18.9)	3.5 (2.5, 4.9)
Male	5.6 (3.8, 8.0)	----- <sup>a</sup>	4.8 (2.4, 9.6)	15.8 (8.4, 27.6)	4.8 (3.2, 7.0)
Female	2.4 (1.6, 3.7)	----- <sup>a</sup>	0.9 (0.3, 2.6)	6.3 (3.1, 12.7)	2.2 (1.4, 3.3)
<b>Sexual Behaviors</b>					
Ever had sexual intercourse					
Total	38.1 (34.0, 42.4)	12.8 (6.7, 22.9)	40.0 (27.8, 53.7)	47.0 (39.8, 54.4)	37.5 (32.8, 42.3)
Male	40.5 (36.2, 45.1)	----- <sup>a</sup>	47.9 (32.4, 63.8)	51.9 (41.6, 62.1)	38.6 (34.0, 43.4)
Female	35.8 (31.6, 40.1)	----- <sup>a</sup>	33.3 (23.7 (44.5)	42.4 (34.2, 51.0)	36.3 (31.3, 41.7)
Were currently sexually active					
Total	26.9 (23.6, 30.5)	5.8 (2.1, 15.1)	28.2 (17.9, 41.4)	33.1 (27.2, 39.7)	26.6 (22.8, 30.7)
Male	27.0 (23.5, 30.9)	----- <sup>a</sup>	34.8 (20.7, 52.2)	35.5 (26.9, 45.3)	25.2 (21.5, 29.3)
Female	26.8 (23.2, 30.8)	----- <sup>a</sup>	22.4 (15.9, 30.6)	31.2 (24.1, 39.4)	28.0 (23.6, 32.8)
<b>Dietary Behaviors</b>					
Did not eat fruit or drink 100% fruit juices					
Total	5.7 (5.0, 6.6)	6.2 (2.8, 13.1)	7.9 (6.3, 10.0)	5.0 (2.36, 9.5)	5.2 (4.3, 6.4)
Male	7.8 (6.6, 9.3)	----- <sup>a</sup>	10.0 (7.0, 14.1)	5.7 (2.7, 11.5)	7.6 (6.0, 9.5)

**Table 21 (cont'd)**

	Total	Asian	Black	Latino	White
Female	3.5 (2.7, 4.7)	----- <sup>a</sup>	6.1 (4.7, 8.0)	4.4 (1.9, 10.1)	2.8 (2.0, 3.8)
Did not eat vegetables					
Total	5.6 (4.8, 6.5)	5.0 (2.0, 11.7)	11.3 (9.3, 13.6)	8.1 (5.3, 12.1)	4.0 (3.0, 5.2)
Male	7.0 (5.7, 8.6)	----- <sup>a</sup>	12.2 (8.7, 16.8)	8.2 (4.9, 13.3)	5.6 (4.0, 7.8)
Female	4.2 (2.9, 6.0)	----- <sup>a</sup>	10.6 (8.4, 13.3)	8.2 (4.7, 13.7)	2.4 (1.6, 3.6)
<b>Physical/Leisure Activity</b>					
Did not participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on at least 1 day					
Total	15.2 (13.8, 16.8)	20.2 (12.8, 30.4)	20.3 (16.9, 24.2)	18.7 (15.1, 22.9)	13.5 (11.7, 15.5)
Male	12.8 (11.5, 14.3)	----- <sup>a</sup>	16.2 (13.0, 20.0)	16.2 (10.9, 23.4)	11.6 (9.6, 13.9)
Female	17.7 (15.3, 20.4)	----- <sup>a</sup>	24.1, 20.1, 28.7)	21.5 (14.9, 30.1)	15.4 (13.0, 18.2)
Did not participate in at least 60 minutes per day of physically activity on 5 or more days					
Total	50.3 (46.1, 54.5)	66.5 (59.1, 73.2)	63.3 (53.2, 72.3)	54.8 (46.7, 62.6)	46.3 (43.2, 49.5)
Male	45.1 (44.1, 49.1)	----- <sup>a</sup>	57.1 (46.2, 67.2)	49.0 (37.1, 61.1)	41.5 (38.2, 44.8)
Female	55.7 (51.0, 60.4)	----- <sup>a</sup>	69.4 (59.5, 77.8)	60.9 (53.1, 68.1)	51.3 (47.2, 55.5)
<b>Obesity/Overweight</b>					
Were obese					
Total	13.0 (11.4, 14.9)	5.3 (2.3, 12.0)	18.5 (15.4, 22.0)	17.1 (13.1, 22.0)	11.5 (9.9, 13.4)
Male	17.3 (14.9, 20.0)	----- <sup>a</sup>	24.6 (19.8, 30.1)	23.6 (17.8, 30.7)	15.4 (13.1 (18.1)
Female	8.7 (7.2, 10.4)	----- <sup>a</sup>	12.9 (9.7, 16.9)	10.3 (5.1, 19.7)	7.6 (6.2, 9.3)
Were overweight					
Total	15.5 (14.2, 16.8)	10.8 (5.9, 18.8)	18.3 (14.6, 22.7)	12.8 (9.9, 16.5)	15.0 (13.6, 16.6)
Male	15.7 (13.7, 17.9)	----- <sup>a</sup>	13.7 (9.1, 20.1)	12.5 (8.1, 19.0)	16.2 (13.8, 18.8)
Female	15.3 (13.1, 17.8)	----- <sup>a</sup>	22.5 (18.7, 26.9)	13.2 (9.1, 18.7)	13.9 (11.7, 16.3)
<b>Other Health Topics</b>					
Asthma					
Total	22.3 (20.8, 24.0)	13.0 (9.0, 18.4)	24.5 (21.0, 28.3)	17.9 (14.6, 21.7)	22.2 (20.3, 24.1)
Male	22.2 (20.3, 24.2)	----- <sup>a</sup>	24.7 (19.7, 30.6)	17.6 (13.4, 22.7)	22.0 (19.6, 24.6)
Female	22.4 (20.1, 25.0)	----- <sup>a</sup>	24.4 (21.3, 27.8)	17.6 (11.3, 26.4)	22.3 (19.6, 25.2)

Source: Michigan, High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2013

Note: a. < 100 respondents for the subgroup.

## H. Drug Use

In Michigan in 2013, about 33.0% of students had used marijuana one or more times during their life (i.e., ever used marijuana). The prevalence of having ever used marijuana was higher among male (34.4%) than female (31.4%) students. The prevalence of having ever used marijuana was higher among Latino (41.1%) and African American (37.6%) than non-Hispanic White (31.4%) and Asian (13.4%) students. The prevalence of having ever used marijuana was higher among Latino (42.1%), Latina (39.8%), African American female (39.7%), African American male (35.3%) and non-Hispanic White male (33.8%) students than non-Hispanic White female (29.0%) students.

In Michigan, 4.0% of students had used some form of cocaine (e.g., powder, crack<sup>47</sup>, or free-base<sup>48</sup>) one or more times during their life (i.e., ever used cocaine). The prevalence of ever used cocaine was higher among male (5.6%) than female (2.4%) students. The prevalence of ever used cocaine was higher among Latino (11.4%) than Asian (4.1%), non-Hispanic White (3.5%), and African American (2.8%) students. The prevalence of ever used cocaine was substantially higher among Latino male (15.8%) students than Latina (6.3%), non-Hispanic White male (4.8%), African American male (4.8%), non-Hispanic White female (2.2%), and African American female (0.9%) students.

## I. Sexual Behaviors

In Michigan in 2013, about 38.1% of students reported they had ever had sexual intercourse. The prevalence of having ever had sexual intercourse was higher among male (40.5%) than female (35.8%) students. The prevalence of having ever had sexual intercourse was also higher among Latino (47.0%), African American (40.0%), and non-Hispanic White (37.5%) students than Asian (12.8%) students. The prevalence of having ever had sexual intercourse was higher among Latino male (51.9%), African American male (47.9%), and Latina (42.4%) students than non-Hispanic White male (37.9%), non-Hispanic White female (36.3%) and African American female (33.3%) students.

In Michigan, 26.9% of students had sexual intercourse with at least one person during the three months before the survey (i.e., currently sexually active). The prevalence was higher among males (27.0%) than females (26.8%), although the rates are quite similar. The prevalence of being currently sexually active was highest among Latino (33.1%), African American (28.2%) and non-Hispanic White students than Asian (5.8%) students. Prevalence was highest among Latino males (35.5%), African American male (34.8%), Latina (31.2%), and non-Hispanic White female (28.0%) students than non-Hispanic White male (25.2%) and African American female students (22.4%) students.

## J. Dietary Behaviors

In Michigan in 2013, about 5.7% of students had not eaten fruit or drunk 100% juices during the seven days before the survey. The prevalence of not having eaten fruit or drunk 100% juices was higher among male (7.8%) than female (3.5%) students. The prevalence of not having eaten fruit or drunk 100% juices was higher among African American (7.9%) and Asian (6.2%) students than non-Hispanic White (5.2%) and Latino (5.0%) students. The prevalence of not having eaten fruit or drunk 100% juices was higher among African American male (10.0%), non-Hispanic White male (7.6%), African American female (6.1%), and Latino male (5.7%) students than among Latina (4.4%) and non-Hispanic White female (2.8%) students.

In Michigan, 5.6% of students had not eaten vegetables<sup>49</sup> during the seven days before the survey. The prevalence of not having eaten vegetables was higher among male (7.0%) than female (4.2%) students. The prevalence of not having eaten vegetables was higher among African American

<sup>47</sup> Pellet-sized pieces of highly purified cocaine.

<sup>48</sup> A process in which cocaine is dissolved in ether or sodium hydroxide and the precipitate is filtered off.

<sup>49</sup> Green salad, potatoes (excluding French fries, fried potatoes, or potato chips), carrots, or other vegetables.

(11.3%) and Latino (8.1%) students than among Asian (5.0%) and non-Hispanic White (4.0%) students. The prevalence of not having eaten vegetables was higher among African American male (12.2%) and female (10.6%) than Latino male (8.2%) and Latina (8.2%), non-Hispanic White male (5.6%) and non-Hispanic White female (2.4%) students.

### **K. Physical/Leisure Activity**

In Michigan in 2013, 15.2% of students had not participated in physical activity for at least 60 minutes of any kind of physical activity that increased their heart rate and made them breathe hard some of the time on at least one day during the seven days prior to the survey (i.e., did not participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on at least one day). The prevalence of not having participated in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on at least one day was higher among female (17.7%) than male (12.8%) students. The prevalence of not having participated in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on at least one day was higher among African American (20.3%), Asian (20.2%), and Latino (18.7%) students than non-Hispanic White (13.5%) students. The prevalence of not having participated in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on at least one day was higher among African American female (24.1%) and Latina (21.5%) students than African American (16.2%) and Latino (16.2%) male, non-Hispanic White female (15.4%) and non-Hispanic White male (11.6%) students.

In Michigan, 50.3% of students had not participated in physical activity of any kind for at least 60 minutes per day on five or more days that increased their heart rate and made them breathe hard some of the time during the seven days before the survey (i.e., not physically active at least 60 minutes per day on 5 or more days). The prevalence of not being physically active at least 60 minutes per day on five or more days was higher among female (55.7%) than male students (45.1%). In terms of race/ethnicity, prevalence of inactivity was higher among Asian (66.5%), African American (63.3%) and Latino (54.8%) students than non-Hispanic White (46.3%) students. The prevalence of not being physically active at least 60 minutes per day on five or more days was higher among African American female (69.4%), Latina (60.9%), and African American male (57.1%) students than among non-Hispanic White female (51.3%), Latino male (49.0%) and non-Hispanic White male (41.5%) students.

### **L. Obesity**

In Michigan, 13.0% of students in 2013 described themselves as obese<sup>50</sup>. The prevalence of obesity was higher among male (17.3%) than female (8.7%) students. The prevalence of reported obesity was higher among African American (18.5%) and Latino (17.1%) than non-Hispanic White (11.5%) and Asian (5.3%) students. The prevalence of obesity was highest among African American male (24.6%) and Latino male (23.6%) students, followed by non-Hispanic White male (15.4%), African American female (12.9%), Latina (10.3%), and non-Hispanic White female (7.6%) students. In Michigan, 15.5% of students described themselves as overweight<sup>51</sup>. The prevalence of reported overweight was higher among African American (18.3%) than non-Hispanic White (15.0%), Latino (12.8%), and Asian (10.8) students. The prevalence of obesity was highest among African American female (22.5%) students, followed by non-Hispanic White male (16.2%), non-Hispanic White female (13.9%), African American male (13.7%), and Latina (13.2%) and Latino male (12.5%) students (Table 21).

### **M. Asthma**

In Michigan, 22.3% of students in 2013 had ever been told by a doctor or nurse that they had asthma (i.e., ever had asthma) (Table 21). The prevalence of having ever had asthma was higher among

<sup>50</sup> Body Mass Index  $\geq$  95th percentile, based on sex- and age-specific reference data from the 2000 CDC growth charts.

<sup>51</sup> Body Mass Index  $\geq$  85th percentile but  $<$ 95th percentile for body mass index, based on sex- and age-specific reference data from the 2000 CDC growth charts.

African American (24.5%) than non-Hispanic White (22.2%), Latino (17.9%), and Asian (13.0%) students. The prevalence of having ever had asthma was highest among African American male (24.7%) and African American female (24.4%) students, followed by non-Hispanic White female (22.3%), non-Hispanic White male (22.0%), Latino male (17.6%) and Latina (17.6%) students.

### N. Food Security<sup>52</sup>

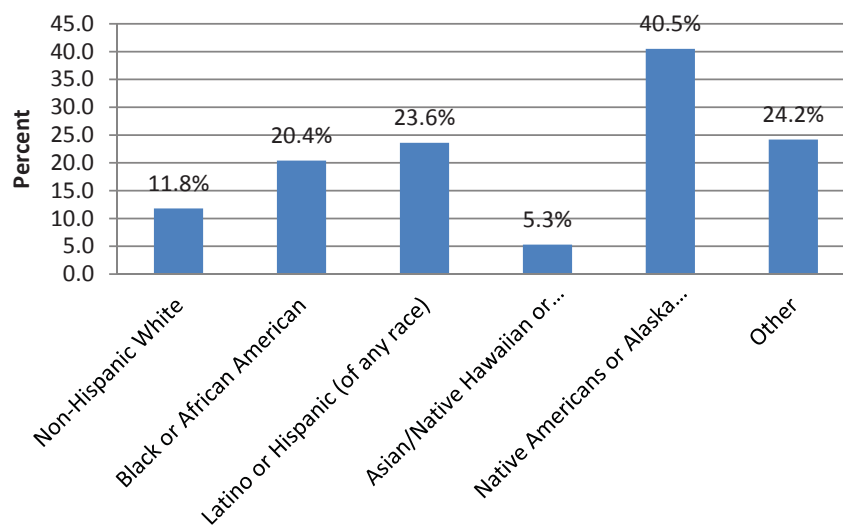
In 2012, 14.5 percent (17.6 million households) of U.S. households were food insecure at least some time during the year, including 5.7 percent with very low food security - meaning that the “food intake of one or more household members was reduced and their eating patterns were disrupted at times because the household lacked money and other sources for food” (Coleman-Jensen, Nord, and Singh, 2013: vi).

In 2012, rates of food insecurity were higher than the national average for all households with children (20%); households with children under 6 years of age (20.5%); households with children headed by a single woman (35.4%) or a single man (23.6%); other households with children (24.5%); African American, non-Hispanic households (24.6%); Latino households (23.3%); low-income households with incomes below 185 percent of the poverty threshold (34.3%) (Coleman-Jensen, Nord, and Singh 2013).

Very low food security was more prevalent than the national average (5.7%) for all households with children (10%); households with children headed by a single woman (12.7%); women living alone (7.5%); African American, non-Hispanic households (10.4 %); Latino households (7.4%); and households with incomes below 185 percent of the poverty threshold (14.5%); and households located in principal cities of metropolitan areas (6.7%) (Coleman-Jensen, Nord and Singh 2013).

In Michigan, of the approximately 3,823,280 households, 13.5 percent (average for 2010-2012) were food insecure and 5.3 percent were very low food insecure. Rates of food insecurity in Michigan vary by race/ethnicity. They were highest among Native American or Alaska Native households (40.5%), followed by Latino households (23.6%); African American households (20.4%); non-Hispanic White households (11.8%), and Asian/Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander households (5.3%) (Figure 43).

**Figure 43. Household Food Insecurity in Michigan by Race/Ethnicity, 2010-2012**

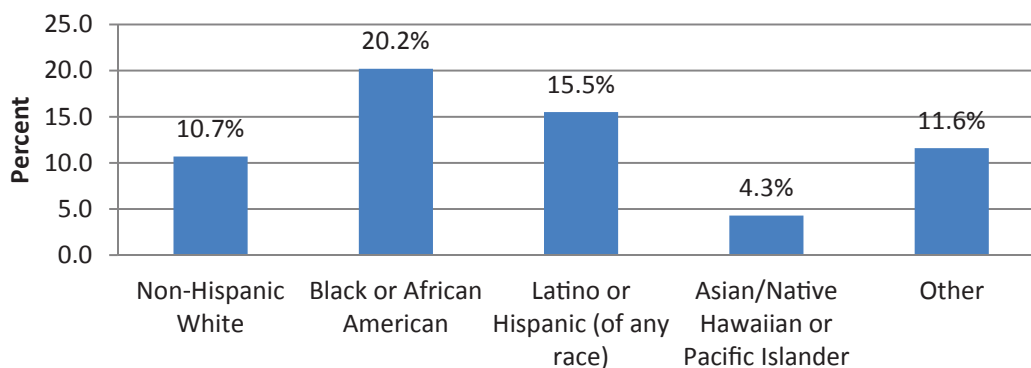


Source: 2010-2012 Current Population Survey, December Supplement.

<sup>52</sup> This section could just as easily have been included in the section on Economic Well-Being. It is included here because chronic food insecurity can have negative health outcomes across and at different points in the life cycle.

In the Detroit-Warren-Livonia metropolitan area (Southeast Michigan), 12.8 percent of households were considered food insecure and 5 percent of households were considered very low food insecure. Considering rates of food insecurity by race/ethnicity, African American households (20.2%) had the highest rate, followed by Latino (15.5%), Other (11.6%), non-Hispanic White (10.7%); and Asian/ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander households (4.3%) (Figure 44).

**Figure 44. Household Food Insecurity and Race/Ethnicity in Detroit-Warren-Livonia Metropolitan Area, 2010-2012**



Source: 2010-2012 Current Population Survey, December Supplement.

### Focus Group Findings on Health

Overall, health issues and access to affordable quality health care remain important issues for Latinos. Participants acknowledged that diabetes, obesity, asthma, cancer, and hypertension were health concerns which were mediated by lack of access to affordable and available fresh fruits and produce. As one participant noted:

I am just going to start that off; the transportation system here in Detroit sucks. We don't walk anywhere. So if we are obese that can be part of the reasons. Another reason is how we get our food—not locally. There are only a few places that are getting their food from the Eastern Market. It is easier to get drunk than to get good food [around here] (Downriver Adults).

Many participants acknowledged that food choices are an individual matter, and that people themselves need to become better educated about food and cooking choices. However, many also recognized that structural barriers to eating well exist. One participant noted that there seems to be a system in place that makes healthy lifestyles difficult, including transportation access, food stamps, high cost of quality foods (at Whole Foods, for example), and the availability of cheap affordable fast food.

That opens up a can of worms like when people ask “Why is there so much obesity in this area?” It is the fast food restaurants. Well, does the food make you eat it? Well, no, but then again, it is enabling you. That goes back to the point where a lot of people are falling through the cracks of the education system, but if you push them [out], you might [actually] help them. It's the same with the food. If they used all the money they put towards food stamps and actually put in a garden, like set it up into a business that is set for Detroit, and actually put a farm out there and have people work it. You know what I am saying? They are just throwing money... (Downriver Adults).



Still, residents would need considerable support to sustain urban farms at meaningful scales and throughout the year. Other participants noted how income inequalities and poverty contribute to difficulties in maintaining local health care systems for Latinos. In particular, participants pointed out that one of the major barriers is the lack of qualified healthcare providers who are culturally competent to work with Latinos. Providers who speak Spanish, they noted, are often lured away from community positions by larger healthcare systems that compete with them for qualified Latino care providers, as noted by one participant:

Lack of access, lack of available wellness programming, lack of bilingual providers, bilingual-bicultural providers, whether they be physicians, PAs, nurse practitioners, social workers, nutritionists, bilingual nutritionists... You can't find them, and if you find one pretty soon she is gone, or already he is gone. So, you know, we can't compete with the hospitals that are paying nutritionists 60 to 70 grand a year. We can't do it... [It's a matter of] having only mainstream professionals, the lack of the access piece, not having enough facilities, not just in the area, but tri-county, within the tri-county area, as well as outside the state... (SW Detroit Leaders).

This participant goes on to discuss the potential effects of, what was then, the upcoming Affordable Care Act (ACA), and the impact it would have on Latino health:

They are required to see everyone whether they have insurance or don't have insurance and I think that probably the biggest issue that is at the forefront for us is the Affordable Care Act, which is probably going to isolate the undocumented folks in the country for not being able to receive anything, not that they do now, but it is going to isolate them even more because they are not eligible for the Affordable Care Act, and at least before they were in the same pool for the uninsured, so nobody asked a bunch of questions about it. Now it is clear there is going to be a separate entity within the uninsured that are going to raise eyebrows (SW Detroit Leaders).

This aspect of the health care system remains a serious concern for many who are attempting to provide services for the undocumented community. While the ACA is considered to be an advantage for low-income communities, Latinos are disproportionately affected by this due to the lack of provisions for undocumented communities. This, participants acknowledge, simply "creates more disparity."

For youth, health concerns are linked more closely with risky behaviors including unprotected sex, heavy drinking and tobacco and substance use. Youth participants noted a lack of quality sex education information and classes, and little preparation for the world of sexual activity. Further, when tied to drinking and peer pressures, several felt that multiple forms of pressures impeded their ability to navigate toward healthy successful futures:

I think that part of it is not always fun, sometimes people need to escape, you know, they need to feel some type of way so they are not thinking about real life. So I think it is about exposure, and it is easy to get drugs here or whatever. You call up your friend and he knows everybody that sells anything you want, you know what I am saying? Some drugs are expensive, but if you are cool friends with whomever, they are going to front it to you. Drugs are easy to get, so is alcohol. The stores around here will sell anyone alcohol (laughter). I'll bet you that if my sister walked into the store they would sell her whatever she wanted; it's like they don't care. She is 15 years old, if she looks grown up, they aren't going to ID her. Even if they know you are not of age they are going to sell it to you because they are making money off of it. Partially, people need to understand that when you do cocaine or when you get drunk you might feel this way for a couple hours, but in 8 years, when you look back, you are sitting in a cell or you are in some rehab place, or you don't have teeth, or whatever. What could have prevented that? I think people just have to understand that, more things that show people, we have to be there. This is sounding all emotional and stuff but people go through stuff in life and a lot of people do run

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drugs and alcohol. Especially in the communities that we live in there are a lot of people who are drunks, people are alcoholics and they don't even know it. They are so used to drinking all day and all night and feeling whatever kind of way, you know, [they're] not paying attention to their kids, barely making it to work and stuff, because they are trying to let go of whatever pain that they have... I know some of my friends don't drink to have fun, they drink because they need to, they have a hard life at home. You know when they are drunk they don't care about anything. They are being free, they don't feel anything, their minds are in another place... [T]hat's good because that's when they feel like themselves... You know what I am saying? When you go to that place, and you feel like no one can touch you, that's what you are going to do (SW Detroit Youth).

This participant discusses very clearly the multiple factors that Latino youth face in Detroit. First, an environment with easy access and little likelihood of getting caught enables underage youth to purchase alcohol and drugs easily. In such environments, youth are likely to normalize these feelings and behaviors. In addition, this quote shows that youth do not have access to protective and other support services that could help them deal with their pain and issues. Young adults do not mention healthcare or counseling services. They do not mention mental health services at schools or in their communities. The effects of the lack of healthcare, along with persistent poverty and extremely easily accessible drugs and alcohol, coupled with an environment that sanctions high-risk behaviors, negatively impacts the lives of youth and young adults.

Not having a health insurance plan detrimentally affects the well-being of Latinos. Medical costs for a regular checkup are often prohibitively high. Many choose to wait until they have to go to the emergency room in order to have their healthcare needs met. Thus, emergency rooms become the primary healthcare provider for many Latinos.<sup>53</sup> Still, Latinos with different medical issues are not getting the necessary medical attention as they should due to inability to pay. Families within undocumented status are negatively impacted by access to health care providers as well, and cannot access important services. Still, many Latinos are unaware of services they can receive. Sadly, many of these services are not easily accessible. Though there are many barriers (including lack of transportation, lack of affordable healthy food), one of the main sources of frustrations dealt with the paucity of health care providers that spoke Spanish. These were not just physicians, but social workers, nurse practitioners, physicians' assistants and so on. There are few incentives for qualified bilingual health care providers to stay in these communities and as such programs, services, and outreach efforts are limited and relatively ineffective.

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<sup>53</sup> Some of these focus groups occurred as the Affordable Care Act was in the initial phase of being implemented and exchanges were enrolling individuals and their families.

## V. CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

### A. Reported Voting and Registration

In Michigan in 2012, the registration and voting behavior patterns in general mirrored those of the nation. About 78 percent of adult citizens were registered to vote and 67 percent indicated that they voted in the 2012 presidential elections (Tables 23 and 24). However, the voter registration pattern for Latinos in Michigan is quite different from that at the national level. While at the national level approximately 50 percent of Latinos<sup>54</sup> are registered to vote, in Michigan that figure is 86 percent, followed by non-Hispanic Whites (79.6%), African Americans (68.5%), Asians (59.3%) and Other (65.8%)<sup>55</sup>. Voting patterns in Michigan also differed by race/ethnicity. About 70 percent of Latinos reported having voted in the 2012 presidential elections, compared to the 48 percent at the national level (File, 2013). By comparison, 80 percent and 68 percent of non-Hispanic Whites; 69 percent and 64 percent of African Americans; and 59 percent and 52 percent of Asians were registered and voted, respectively.

In the Detroit-Warren-Livonia metropolitan area, 78 percent of adult citizens were registered to vote and 69 percent of them indicated that they voted in the 2012 presidential elections (Table 25 and Table 26). About 87 percent of Latino citizens reported that they were registered to vote and 76 percent of them reported voting in the 2012 presidential elections. By comparison, 81 percent and 70 percent of non-Hispanic Whites; 72 percent and 67 percent of non-Hispanic African Americans; and 59 percent and 55 percent of Asians were registered and voted, respectively. As a growing population segment, and given their high rate of voter registration and voting rate, Latinos will increasingly become a critical voting segment in Michigan and across the nation (See Sanchez, 2015).

### B. Civic Engagement

Civic engagement is measured as the average of community action and participation in community organizations. For the chart below, if the civic engagement index is above the median, it was considered to be an indicator of civic engagement (1=yes, 0=no). Community action is defined as the sum of the following indicators (1=yes, 0=no): Voted in local elections, contacted or visited a local official, bought or boycotted a certain product or service, expressed opinions about political or community issues, and discussed politics with family or friends ( $\alpha = 0.61$ ). Participation in community organizations is defined as the sum of the following indicators (1=yes, 0=no): A school group, neighborhood, or community association such as PTA or neighborhood watch, a service or civic organization such as American Legion or Lions club, a sports or recreation organization such as soccer club or tennis club, a church, synagogue, mosque, or other religions institution or organization, any other type of organization, and serving on a committee or as an officer of any group or organization ( $\alpha = 0.58$ ).

The results show that Latinos in Michigan and in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia metro area are less likely than other race/ethnic groups to be involved in community civic activities/organizations. In 2011, about 12 percent of Latinos in Michigan were involved in community civic activities/organizations. By comparison, 40 percent of non-Hispanic White, 23 percent of African American, and 22 percent of Asian adults in Michigan were involved in community civic activities/organizations (Figure 45).

<sup>54</sup> See Gallup, In U.S. Voter Registration Lags Among Hispanics and Asians, available on-line: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/165752/voter-registration-lags-among-hispanics-asians.aspx>

<sup>55</sup> This anomaly requires more attention to explain what produces the higher rates of participation among Latinos.

**Table 22. Reported Registration by Race/Ethnicity for Michigan, November, 2012**

Race/Ethnicity	Total Adult Population	Total Citizens	Registered		Not Registered		No Response		Percent Adult Population Registered
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	7,495,884	7,227,583	5,619,902	77.8	676,940	9.4	930,739	12.9	75.0
Latinos	285,018	224,802	193,410	86.0	13,125	5.8	18,266	8.1	67.9
Non-Hispanic Whites	5,918,388	5,815,978	4,628,852	79.6	564,282	9.7	622,843	10.7	78.2
Blacks	955,360	948,279	649,875	68.5	58,833	6.2	239,572	25.3	68.0
Asians	239,705	141,111	83,641	59.3	30,906	21.9	26,564	18.8	34.9
Other	97,413	97,413	64,124	65.8	9,794	10.1	23,494	24.1	65.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, November 2012.

**Table 23. Reported Voting by Race/Ethnicity for Michigan, November, 2012**

Race/Ethnicity	Total Adult Population	Total Citizens	Voted		Not Voted		No Response		Percent Adult Population Voted
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	7,495,884	7,227,583	4,831,617	66.8	1,560,327	21.6	835,640	11.6	64.5
Latinos	285,018	224,802	157,974	70.3	48,562	21.6	18,266	8.1	55.4
Non-Hispanic Whites	5,918,388	5,815,978	3,951,065	67.9	1,307,007	22.5	557,906	9.6	66.8
Blacks	955,360	948,279	605,249	63.8	114,215	12.0	228,816	24.1	63.4
Asians	239,705	141,111	72,868	51.6	53,752	38.1	14,492	10.3	30.4
Other	97,413	97,413	44,461	45.6	36,791	37.8	16,160	16.6	45.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, November 2012.

**Table 24. Reported Registration by Race/Ethnicity for Detroit-Warren-Livonia Metropolitan, November, 2012**

Race/Ethnicity	Total Adult Population	Total Citizens	Registered		Not Registered		No Response		Percent Adult Population Registered
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
<b>Total</b>	3,309,862	3,084,985	2,414,256	78.3	213,399	6.9	457,330	14.8	72.9
Latinos	136,549	95,880	83,231	86.8	3,651	3.8	8,998	9.4	61.0
Non-Hispanic Whites	2,247,883	2,148,486	1,742,436	81.1	162,213	7.6	243,837	11.3	77.5
Blacks	687,984	680,904	489,826	71.9	24,214	3.6	166,863	24.5	71.2
Asians	184,058	106,327	62,492	58.8	20,039	18.8	23,797	22.4	34.0
Other	53,388	53,388	36,271	67.9	3,282	6.1	13,835	25.9	67.9

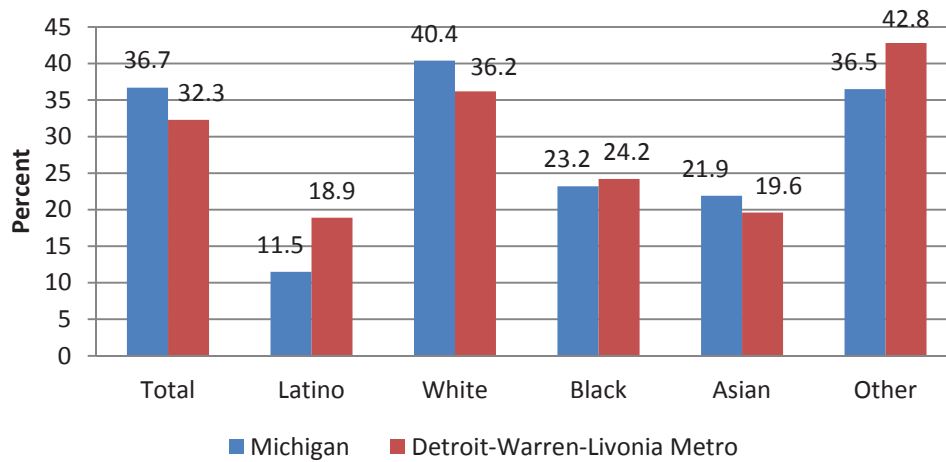
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, November 2012.

**Table 25. Reported Voting by Race/Ethnicity for Detroit-Warren-Livonia Metropolitan, November, 2012**

Race/Ethnicity	Total Adult Population	Total Citizens	Voted		Not Voted		No Response		Percent Adult Population Voted
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
<b>Total</b>	3,309,862	3,084,985	2,122,382	68.8	565,112	18.3	397,491	12.9	64.1
Latinos	136,549	95,880	73,136	76.3	13,746	14.3	8,998	9.4	53.6
Non-Hispanic Whites	2,247,883	2,148,486	1,510,973	70.3	426,813	19.9	210,700	9.8	67.2
Blacks	687,984	680,904	456,325	67.0	64,538	9.5	160,041	23.5	66.3
Asians	184,058	106,327	58,605	55.1	33,231	31.3	14,492	13.6	31.8
Other	53,388	53,388	23,343	43.7	26,784	50.2	3,260	6.1	43.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, November 2012.

**Figure 45. Civic Engagement in Michigan and Detroit-Warren-Livonia Metropolitan Area by Race/Ethnicity, November, 2011**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, November 2011.

### Focus Group Findings on Civic Engagement

Civic engagement for Latinos increases a sense of well-being among participants but also leads to discussions of barriers to community trust and integration. A few of the major themes that emerged through the focus groups include the need for increased collaboration and communication among the various population segments within the Latino community, strategic community planning and decision-making that includes Latinos, and lack of culturally competent professionals and services.

In general, participants believe that the Latino population is growing in size but not in civic engagement, that it lacks adequate representation in professional roles, and needs more leadership positions of broad influence in the communities. Latinos are not only underrepresented in various communities of influence but also have a tendency to be engaged in limited and segmented roles that lack broad influence. Not only is there a lack of Latino leaders in critical positions in the larger community but there is a limited range in the roles they fulfill within the community.

Limitations and barriers mentioned disenfranchise many Latinos as the voice of the community is not comprehensive and effective in creating meaningful solutions. The perspective of Latinos in many crucial ways is limited and community members lack adequate access to resources and information in comparison to other populations.

Latino prosperity is asymmetric, disproportionate, and varies across the population segments within communities based on varied levels of English-language proficiency, the quality and level of education, transportation reliability, and fear associated with navigating community spaces. Latino prosperity and success exists in the area but is not representative of the growth in population. When analyzing the community as a whole, the diverse perspectives and value systems create varied decision-making processes that produce dissimilar effects on socio-economic status within the Latino community.

One respondent noted that community members are often at risk from being taken advantage of by private sector firms:

I've seen the towing company robbing illegal immigrants. First of all her car was stolen, no insurance because she can't afford it. Somebody ran it into a pole. [The car is a] total loss. They said pay us for towing it or we are going to sue you. She is so scared she is going to go back to Mexico she gives them the money. I am telling her in Spanish don't pay them nothing.

I got into an argument with the guy saying, “You are robbing this woman. You already have her car now you want her to pay?” (Downriver Adults).

In discussing barriers, respondents articulated a keen need for engagement to begin at early stages and multiple levels:

...[E]ngagement is being involved in schools, being involved in advocating for policy changes, that needs to happen at many levels, so even people who can't vote can write letters, make phone calls, can protest, can organize, can have a voice, mobilizing people who are dealing with so many challenges and issues, they are living in the shadows and it is a difficult thing. It has been particularly difficult to mobilize people in Detroit right when our elected officials have no power. So to convince people, we, the Latino community, this community in Detroit has the lowest voter turnout in the state of Michigan, in the entire state of Michigan. We were able to increase it a little bit this past presidential election because CHA [Consortium of Hispanic Agencies] got involved in doing a lot of voter mobilization, going door to door, getting more people registered to vote but still it is a heck of a challenge when people know that the vote really doesn't mean a whole lot in many cases. Again, politicians respond to votes or money and when we don't vote, again, there is another vicious cycle we create. People get, people feel so disenfranchised, that even those of us that can vote, for instance, the Puerto Rican community rarely votes, they rarely vote. That's one of the areas that we have been really pushing, like the Puerto Rican club, to get more people engaged, which is really ironic to me because when you go to Puerto Rico the people are very passionate [about voting] (SW Detroit Leaders).

Civic engagement also means different things to different age groups. The elderly fear political gatherings or social events that enhance engagement due to their fear of being robbed and their vulnerability at such events. In contrast, young adults felt quite passionately about the disparate approaches:

I think that part of it too is that the adults don't, they were raised differently than us. I was raised that you have to do what you have to do, you have to say what you have to say, motivate other people. We are the future; my mom is not the future. Her time has passed. She is not the kind of person that is going to wake up and be like “I am going to change something today, I will make a difference today, I am going to make one kid smile, or make a mom happy.” You know what I am saying, she is just like “I'm going to wake up and I am going to do what I have to do, I am going to go to sleep, I am going to do it again tomorrow.” To me, every day is something new, and every day, that is, you can impact someone's life, hopefully in a positive way. If I accidentally do it in a negative way, then that sucks, but you know what I am saying. Adults now, they don't think [like that]. It's not too late even though you are 35-40 years old. You are still young, you are 35-40 years old, you aren't 95 years old about to fall in the grave. You are good (laughter). They just don't think to do stuff. They are so used to their routine and they are so used to doing what they are doing, that is just their life, and they don't think to change it (SW Detroit Youth).

These quotes show adroitly how differing age groups understand the work of civic engagement and demonstrate clearly the wide rifts between perceptions of the risks and rewards of such activities. Yet, when addressing potential avenues for further engagement respondents were hopeful:

I will say it is happening right now and it will continue to happen. What can we do? The only thing we can talk about is what can we do to speed up the process? Eventually it is going to happen. We live right next to each other. There will be this intertwining of the people but it is going to take a little bit longer. Yes we segregate ourselves but even when I was young there wasn't

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much melding between the American and Mexican cultures.<sup>56</sup> Like skateboarding is more of an American thing but there's a lot of Latino skater kids now. They are starting to mingle. I go back to where you start to pick up more vocabulary. For them to network with people that are going to help them in their future. I am not saying you have to mingle with the White people but regardless of color, you hang out with people that are successful so that they teach you to be successful (Downriver Adults).

With few opportunities to integrate due to de facto social-economic class and race segregation that prevails, community organizations participating in outreach and engagement initiatives are ways by which Latinos seek to overcome barriers to full integration into mainstream society. Language barriers that once were seen as detrimental to one's social upward mobility have become a catalyst for growth for Latino youth. Fears of discrimination, alienation, and disenfranchisement begin to diminish as the need for a bilingual workforce increases. The fears associated with embracing one's linguistic skills, cultural identity, and transnational experience have now become a significant asset for young adults operating in transcultural environments. For the elderly, however, the fears and realities of discrimination and their vulnerable social status are impediments to civic engagement. Latino leaders and adults noted that structural barriers must be overcome so that more Latino representation can lead the next generation to integrated communities that enhance overall well-being.

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<sup>56</sup> Detroit has historically been one of the most racially segregated cities in the country.



## VI. COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

### A. Crime and Violence

In 2012, the arrest rate in Michigan was 3,390 per 100,000 population (Table 26). About 123 per 100,000 population were arrested for violent crimes (i.e., murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) and 355 per 100,000 population were arrested for property crimes (offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson). In Southeast Michigan, the highest arrest rate was in Wayne County (3,856 per 100,000 population), especially in Detroit (4,821 per 100,000 population), and the lowest arrest rate was in Livingston County (1,392 per 100,000 population) (Table 26).

**Table 26. Number and Rates of Arrests in Michigan and Southeast Michigan Counties, 2012**

County	Population Estimates	Number			Rates (per 100,000 population)		
		Total Arrests	Violent Crimes	Property Crimes	Total Arrests	Violent Crimes	Property Crimes
<b>Michigan, Total</b>	<b>9,882,519</b>	<b>335,013</b>	<b>12,157</b>	<b>35,074</b>	<b>3,390.0</b>	<b>123.0</b>	<b>354.9</b>
Livingston	183,095	2,548	69	243	1,391.6	37.7	132.7
Macomb	847,710	22,755	990	2,958	2,684.3	116.8	348.9
Monroe	150,923	2,982	114	254	1,975.8	75.5	168.3
Oakland	1,220,623	30,849	927	4,216	2,527.3	75.9	345.4
St. Clair	160,657	5,330	187	565	3,317.6	116.4	351.7
Washtenaw	351,146	9,336	361	1,011	2,658.7	102.8	287.9
Wayne	1,792,496	69,110	3,728	8,409	3,855.5	208.0	469.1
Detroit	698,582	33,677	2,680	4,963	4,820.8	383.6	710.4

Sources: Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Arrests by Age, Sex, and Race, Summarized Yearly, 2012

U.S. Census Population Estimates, July 1st, 2012

Note: The number of Hispanics arrested in Michigan was zero, suggesting that the county/agency did not record these numbers in 2012 using standard categories of race/ethnicity.

In 2012, the crime rate was estimated at 6,037 crimes per 100,000 population in Michigan (Table 27). Violent crime rate was estimated at 410 crimes per 100,000 population and property crimes at 2,524 crimes per 100,000 population (Table 27). The crime rates vary significantly in Southeast Michigan, with the highest crime rate being in Wayne county (9,087 per 100,000 population), especially in Detroit (13,594 per 100,000 population) and the lowest crime rate in Livingston county (2,718 per 100,000 population) (Table 27).

**Table 27. Number and Rates of Crimes in Michigan and Southeast Michigan Counties, 2012**

County	Population Estimates	Number			Rates (per 100,000 population)		
		Total Offenses	Violent Crimes	Property Crimes	Total Offenses	Violent Crimes	Property Crimes
<b>Michigan, Total</b>	9,882,519	596,618	40,522	249,470	6,037.1	410.0	2,524.4
Livingston	183,095	4,977	140	2,138	2,718.3	76.5	1,167.7
Macomb	847,710	45,558	1,821	18,842	5,374.2	214.8	2,222.7
Monroe	150,923	8,383	299	3,901	5,554.5	198.1	2,584.8
Oakland	1,220,623	54,062	1,699	22,826	4,429.0	139.2	1,870.0
St. Clair	160,657	9,745	323	3,451	6,065.7	201.0	2,148.1
Washtenaw	351,146	18,928	794	8,838	5,390.4	226.1	2,516.9
Wayne	1,792,496	162,884	11,429	70,981	9,087.0	637.6	3,959.9
Detroit	698,582	94,968	13,853	41,730	13,594.4	1,983.0	5,973.5

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: National Incident-Based Reporting System, 2012

Note: Violent crime is composed of four offenses: murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault; Property crime includes the offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

In 2012 in Michigan, the arrest rate for African Americans (3,788 per 100,000 population) was more than 3.5 times higher than that of non-Hispanic Whites (1,069 per 100,000 population). The arrest rate for Latinos (495 per 100,000 population) was significantly lower compared to that of non-Hispanic Whites. It is important to point out that the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) data on crimes and arrests are submitted voluntarily by city, county and state law enforcement agencies and may not use standard categories of race/ethnicity. Consequently, there are great variations on how race and ethnic data are collected, especially in a period of tremendous polarization in the current political climate. A note of caution in the interpretation is that the number of arrestees by race and ethnicity in Table 28 may be underestimated, especially for Latinos.

**Table 28. Number and Rates of Arrestees by Race/Ethnicity in Michigan, 2012**

Race/Ethnicity	Population Estimates	Number	Rate (per 100,000 population)
Hispanic or Latino	456,919	2262	495.1
Non-Hispanic White	7,921,404	84680	1069.0
Black or African American	1,413,425	53534	3787.5
Non-Hispanic Asian	260,363	489	187.8
Native Americans or Alaska Native	69,824	437	625.9
Unknown	-----	3010	-----
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,882,519</b>	<b>144412</b>	<b>1461.3</b>

Sources: Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Arrests by Age, Sex, and Race, Summarized Yearly, 2012 U.S. Census Population Estimates, July 1st, 2012

## Focus Group Findings

Participants noted that Latinos love to gather at events, even as community well-being is a concern. They get together to clean up their neighborhoods, and their communities thrive on social activities. Food, music, celebration are vital to their culture and their well-being. Sports, such as soccer, are focal points of community gatherings and entertainment and build rapport and social ties. Respondents noted that celebrations such as Cinco de Mayo and similar events enhance feelings of goodwill and strengthen community bonds. Many Latinos who came from Mexico and Central America long for this sense of community as they find themselves in a new environment with a drastically different climate and social order from their communities in their countries of origin. Among the many concerns raised by focus group respondents about community well-being was public safety, while limited public spaces for gathering was a concern for young adults.

Public safety was a continuing point of concern for seniors, especially in Detroit. One respondent noted:

I find it very frustrating going out on the street and having fear of being mugged. One is in danger. They have tried to run me over when I go on my bicycle. People scream at me. They make gang signals at me. I have had many confrontations. I go on the street and someone doesn't like you for whatever reason; we are always in tension (SW Detroit Seniors).

Several senior citizens related an account of being assaulted, some had their purses stolen, others were robbed on public transportation buses, their homes were burglarized, and other instances of victimization. The targeting of seniors in Latino communities was startlingly frequent with little support from local law enforcement and little fear of law enforcement to protect them.

While some community members felt the lack of police involvement when needed, other community members such as young adults, felt the presence of police in excess. When attempting to gather in public places, many youth expressed concern that police were targeting their gatherings and felt there were few public spaces for them to get together beyond bars, churches and limited sports activities. In Pontiac some complained of the closure of a community center where they would go for social and recreational activities.

Where once they would get together at the community center, respondents stated that young Latinos no longer have a place where they can go for social activities with persons their age except for bars. When they gather at public parks the police arrive and run them off: "They don't want Hispanics in some of the parks; they don't want them around, so the police show up and give them the boot" (Young Adults). Pushed out of one park, young Latinos go to another park, until police arrive and push them out. It is expected that this will continue until they run out of parks. This dynamic angers young Latinos, who believe that such police actions are unjust.

There is at best an ambivalent relationship with local law enforcement; however, most stories reveal frustration with the lack of enforcement in Detroit:

I have a small business in Detroit. What it was, the stealing was nonstop, I mean you are talking about you can't find insurance, you can't get your stuff insured; you're very brave if you invest to start your own business in Detroit. I mean if it is a service business, it's okay but if you have a property that is just sitting there you are not going to do well. I have a real estate business. The police... I've noticed some people came to the point where they wouldn't call the police because nothing was being done (Downriver Adults).

In addition, the porous relationships between different law enforcement agencies affect Latino populations differently. Immigrants, for example, are targets of interest across a broad range of law enforcement agencies:

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I think the key to what makes it so serious is that there are so many officers, there are so many different law enforcement agencies that are involved. It is not just border patrol, it's the sheriff, maybe the state police, because they are on the highways, and you have Detroit Police. Even though they say that they don't, that they are not involved [in apprehending immigrants], they are. If they get somebody that doesn't speak English and the officer doesn't speak Spanish, they will call Border Patrol to translate (SW Detroit Leaders).

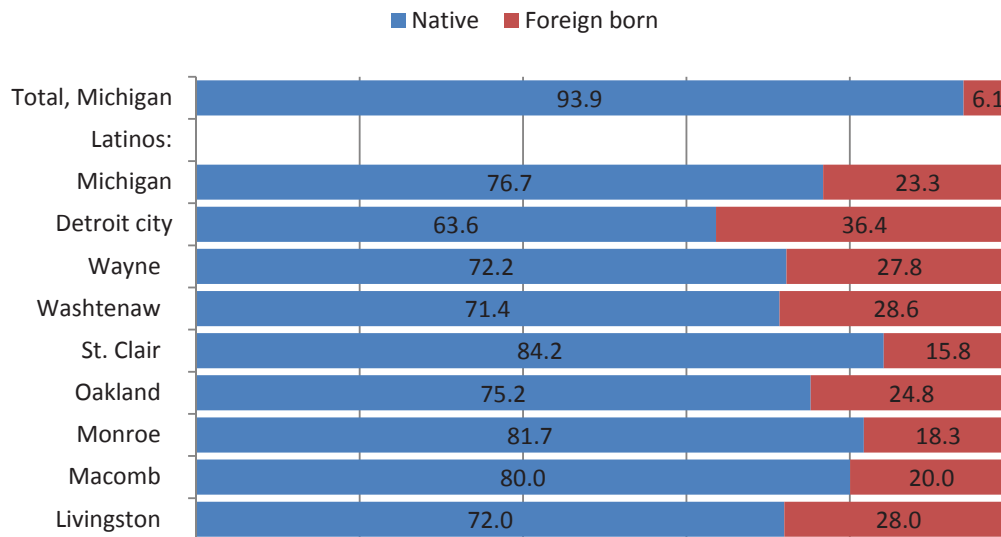
This respondent noted that structural issues within law enforcement agencies themselves create confusion and distrust within the Latino community. If Latinos are worried about immigration issues they are less likely to work with local law enforcement for fear of their own or their family's deportation.

Transportation also affected every aspect of Latinos' lives. Lack of affordable and reliable public transportation plagued many in terms of seeking and maintaining employment, access to health care services, shopping, purchasing fresh foods of good quality, and so on. Public transportation was mostly unreliable and, as previously mentioned, potentially dangerous for assault and robberies.

## VII. IMMIGRATION

In 2010-2012, approximately 23 percent of Latinos in Michigan were foreign born, compared with six percent of the total population (Figure 46). In the Southeast region, 84 percent of Latinos living in St. Clair County were native-born, compared with 77 percent of Latinos in Michigan. In Detroit city, 36 percent of Latinos were foreign-born (Figure 46). According to the American Immigration Council (2015), nearly 95% of Latino children in Michigan are citizens.

**Figure 46. Nativity Status for Latinos in Michigan and Southeast Michigan, 2010 – 2012**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2010-2012.

Note: Foreign-born population includes naturalized U.S. citizens and those who are not U.S. citizens.

With regard to the undocumented, it is estimated that there are approximately 100,000 to 150,000 persons in Michigan. It is further estimated that approximately 42,000 are eligible for DAPA (Deferred Action for Parents of Americans) and DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) (Migration Policy Institute, 2014).

### Focus Group Findings Immigration

Detroit provides many opportunities to find good food and rich Latino culture. Immigrant residents noted several positive aspects to living in Southwest Detroit, among which were employment opportunities, living with other Latinos, and the feeling of belonging and caring for their families. Still, Latinos see themselves as located lower in socioeconomic status (SES) than other groups. One of the major issues with regard to lower SES is the cost of living, specifically home ownership and the disproportionately expensive auto and house insurance rates paid in Detroit. In addition, public safety units such as the police are slow to respond to community calls.

Respondents felt that police take a long time to respond to theft and rarely communicate findings to the victims. This continues to plague residents as theft occurs often (even in broad daylight) and there is little recourse for them. Gang proliferation and gang violence disturb community residents and their sense of well-being. Residents stated that few programs are offered to their children by way of education and gang prevention. Immigrants in Detroit also reported a desire for increased public security in order to safeguard their homes and their children who often like to play out in the open. In addition, residents

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commented that there is widespread fear and community withdrawal when the threat of Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE) and local police arises. The following quote speaks to the issue of ICE detentions and deportation actions:

It creates a whole atmosphere of fear when people disappear all the time. A lot of times you don't even know, they won't find out where their relative is until months later because they will move them from place to place. We have had lawyers talk about trying to track people down. They [ICE] will move them from Brownstown and then they will move them downtown and then they will move them to the jail and they don't have to tell you where they are... When we have had those periods where something like this might happen the word spreads around in the community that this is happening, so the families start keeping their kids home from school (SW Detroit Leaders).

This shows that the community experiences widespread fear during raids that result in the detainment of family members. Community members keep their families locked down in their homes and fear going out. This impedes their children's attendance in school and creates a state of anxiety and mistrust.

Civic and social engagement does occur, however, despite the external pressures. Latinos participate in community events such as church, soccer, cleaning the neighborhood, helping at their children's schools and in service activities such as feeding the homeless:

Religion is a huge common ground. For example, if I wanted to meet [someone] outside my race, if I had a Puerto Rican girl that I like, some common ground that would be between our cultures, okay we are both Catholics, okay we both speak Spanish. That is a huge easy in. The language isn't a barrier between us (Downriver Youth).

An example discussing a local community festival that celebrated and included immigrants by attending to issues such as language and culture is provided below:

All Latino focused. We invite the broader community. In fact one of the challenges was that the Whites, they did everything, were very upset at the beginning that "Why can't you just assimilate, why can't we just all come together?" Well because they don't have the language. Many of these people are recent immigrant people and they don't speak the language well enough. They've always opened it up. This was the first time, the festival, it just happened that Latinos were a big part of the organizing of the festival. Always it's the White people and I couldn't believe they [Latinos] brought a big *banda* from Mexico. That is the classic example that they are united and they are celebrating. The same thing with that church Downriver on Ford, they have big things and the people organize around the church activities. That's what I've seen (Downriver Leaders).

Despite external forces and structural inequalities facing immigrants, there are still ways in which the community finds celebration and community.

Work and job security continue to be issues with immigrants. Discrimination in the working environment still exists. Many Latino immigrants work overtime hours and do not get paid for it. For this reason, respondents believed that education is vital for younger generations to become hard workers and develop a strong foundation of work skills. Latinos have grown in establishing businesses but more information should be provided to Hispanics about what is needed to establish a successful business. As a local business leader noted, the issue with immigration and recent immigrants can also be complex community issues. Some members feel that limited resources are going to newly arrived immigrants without attention to 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> generation Latinos:

...There's a lot of emphasis on what immigrants mean to the economy, but they're neglecting

the second or third generation of immigrants that are already here. It's very frustrating because I hear that a lot, you know "What about us?" and that's not only the African American community who have been here for generations, but us, the Latino community. Because it seems, at least they perceive, that there are programs and loans and, you know, efforts out there that help the newly arrived become successful in business. So, and everyone has gotten on board, there's so many non-profits talking about, you know, job creation and entrepreneurial activities. We run a high school program in Detroit, they had one at the Chamber, there's lots of entrepreneurial programs out there. If you look, they're not necessarily ones that are established, are not necessarily [for] people of color. Then the ones that are catering to immigrants, you'll find, that's its actually, you know, Indian and Asian people that they're talking about (Detroit Business Leaders).

Not having proper health insurance is a big issue. Medical costs for a regular check-up are very high. Most people wait until they have to go to the emergency room as a last resort. There are many people with different medical issues that are not getting the necessary medical attention as they should be due to inability to pay. Jobs that offer medical insurance to immigrants are not common. Access remains a critical issue for immigrants:

Access to services, they are not going to have access under the Affordable Care Act but they will have access depending on where they go. If they go to a private provider they will only have access to whatever it is that provider provides. But if they come to a federally qualified health center, like ours, then they have all of these other kinds of things they are able to take advantage of. I think that there is such a [mess], this is my soapbox, the public health community hasn't been able to do [much] for anybody for years. They are the ones that have been responsible, supposed to be responsible, for communicable diseases, provision of care, all of them, you name it, the ones supposed to be doing it, and over the last 20 years they have done nothing. They can't even control their own funds for themselves, the City of Detroit no longer has a health department for all practical purposes (SW Detroit Leaders).

Access to quality, affordable care remains an issue for Latinos, but for immigrants in particular the barriers continue to be excessively high.

Immigrants in Detroit are hoping there will be comprehensive immigration reform soon. One of the highest priorities from respondents centers on the desire to get a permit to work legally. Having a work permit will allow them to progress in their working environment and provide some much needed safety nets for them and for their dependents. Respondents expressed frustration with the arduous process that exists:

Why is it so difficult? I don't understand why we wouldn't want to have people who are undocumented become citizens. It would help the economy, it would help everything if people who are undocumented became citizens. They make it so difficult [for them], and they are always going to be in that state, in that situation, for years and years. You know there is an attitude where people go [for assistance] and they are treated so terribly. There is this attitude among the workers who are in the immigration offices that is so negative towards people who are trying to become citizens. The last time I went down there, you are treated like cattle. You stand in line, you wait for hours, and "You should be grateful" is the way they make you feel. You don't know that you are even going to see somebody. We would never put up with that, it would be rude behavior that we just wouldn't put up with, yet people in our community are forced to and it's a very negative situation (SW Detroit Leaders).

Perhaps the most telling statement made in one of the focus groups was this: "Nos pararon el progreso" (They halted our progress). Immigrants come to this country in pursuit of a better life, often pushed out of their country of origin by economic crises (some created by trade policies), widespread violence,

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and other push factors. American hostility, especially its demand for enforcement and deportation, halts not only the progress of immigrants and their families it also halts economic and social progress more generally.

In sum, immigrants and immigration issues remain important concerns for Latinos. Although the majority of Latinos are native-born citizens, with most of the remaining being naturalized citizens, there is still great alarm among some members of the dominant group regarding the small percentage of undocumented Latinos in the state. However, the overall picture is more complex than simply the documented versus undocumented debate. Respondents noted the rich cultural heritage and community strength of ties to their home countries and to each other. They expressed concerns over the lack of positive police integration in their communities and access to affordable healthcare. Though there was much pride in their communities, there is still much work to be done to improve the current political context that targets Latino immigrants in Southeast Michigan and Michigan generally.



## **VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The futures of a strong and prosperous Southeast Michigan, Michigan, and the nation are bound up with those of Latinos and the degree to which they are incorporated into the core institutions of our communities. The following recommendations provide essential guides to improve the well-being of Latino communities in Southeast Michigan and throughout the state. They are intended equally for Latino and non-Latino agencies.

### **Education**

Latinos lag behind non-Hispanic Whites in terms of the overall educational attainment and academic achievement at elementary, middle, and high school levels. They also experience higher high school dropout rates, lower high school graduation rates, and lower college/university enrollment rates than non-Hispanic Whites. Education for Latino students should target barriers and enhance opportunities that improve academic performance throughout the PreK - 16 continuum. The following recommendations are intended to dramatically improve Latino students' knowledge, skills and performance in public education.

1. Create school resources in different formats in Spanish to reach out to Latino families to promote awareness and understanding of policies, practices, and expectations of local public school systems.
2. Work with Latino students and their families to engage with college preparedness programs, including information on standardized testing, financial aid, college visitations, application processes, and integration into college environments.
3. Provide after-school curricular activities, including support with homework and tutoring, and engaging parents through adult education programs. This may require transportation assistance for some students.
4. Provide bilingual and bicultural instruction within an integrated educational plan, starting in elementary grades.
5. Provide cultural awareness and competence training to key staff members in educational counseling, vocational, and regular education courses.
6. Design and implement programs to increase opportunities for Latino students to take advanced courses in technical and vocational colleges and in four-year universities.
7. Create integrated mentorship programs for both students and their parents together to prevent dropping out of school and to promote educational achievement. For example, create partnerships among school, church, and community organizations to deliver educational support programs.

### **Economic Well-Being**

Latinos in Michigan, Wayne County, and in Detroit in particular have significantly lower median household income, higher rates of poverty, especially among children, food insecurity, and unemployment than non-Hispanic Whites despite their higher labor force participation. The disadvantaged economic position of Latinos is shared by African Americans and Native Americans and reflects a long history of intergroup relations that limit opportunities for these population groups.

8. Reduce income inequality, which is the most formidable barrier to social interaction and economic development, to allow a true form of local solidarity to grow and generate effective community actions that improve the well-being of residents.
9. Engage local business leaders to develop a Latino economic framework that links business development and community development.

10. Promote the development of Latino business corridors that strengthen firms and their capacity to succeed.
11. Provide one-stop services that support Latino start-up businesses across a range of needs and which increase understanding of the legal and regulatory contexts in which businesses operate.
12. Enhance opportunities for Latino businesses to access capital both at the point of start-up and at the point of expansion.
13. Improve employment opportunities for undocumented Latinos, allow driving permits, and provide safeguards against employment exploitation.
14. Promote jobs creation – good jobs that provide steady incomes and livable wages and benefits – so that all residents in Michigan can benefit from improvements in the economy.
15. Provide community educational programs and services to support neighborhoods with high concentrations of poor minority and other impoverished residents.
16. Promote local leadership programs to develop leaders who can accomplish community development goals that are centered on improving the well-being of Latinos and other residents in Southeast Michigan.

### **Health and health behaviors**

Latinos in Michigan are at greater risk than non-Hispanic Whites to be uninsured, smoke tobacco products, drink alcoholic beverages more heavily, and report higher prevalence of obesity, diabetes, depression, and asthma. A higher proportion of Latinos indicated that they had fair or poor health but fewer were told by a doctor that they had cancer or cardiovascular disease than non-Hispanic Whites. Improving the health of Latinos is a major objective of the following recommendations.

17. Recruit, hire, and retain more bilingual and culturally competent health care providers that at the very least speak Spanish but ideally have knowledge of the cultural and social realities of Latino communities.
18. Provide home health care visits for Latino elderly and disabled persons who are home-bound or impeded by transportation or mobility issues.
19. Ensure access to affordable quality health care for Latinos.
20. Promote safe and walkable communities where children and elders alike can engage in physical activities.
21. Provide language-appropriate nutrition education and materials in community centers, schools, and in medical offices.
22. Ensure the availability of affordable, healthy foods in the community,
23. Promote community wellness programs with Spanish-speaking health professionals who deliver healthy lifestyle education programs.
24. Provide screening and health literacy services for Latino adults and older adults, especially in the area of mental health among elders.
25. Promote drug and alcohol abuse screening in Spanish and provide referrals as needed.

### **Civic Engagement**

Latinos in Michigan, particularly in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia metropolitan area, participated in the 2012 presidential elections at relatively higher rates than non-Hispanic Whites. However, Latinos are less likely than other population groups to be involved in civic activities and organizations in their communities.

26. Develop partnerships across civic, business and political leaders, groups and organizations to engage residents in the pursuit of community goals.
27. Increase the number of Latinos serving in committees and decision-making activities of community and service organizations.
28. Collaborate with local law enforcement agencies to improve and strengthen positive police/community relations and improve response times to poor communities.
29. Follow recent Presidential Executive Actions (EA) to demarcate local police from ICE. Follow recent EA to rid local law enforcement of secure community programs that link local law enforcement with immigration.
30. Use pre-existing gathering spaces (churches, soccer, and cultural festivals) to promote awareness of community needs and pathways to engage civically.
31. Encourage Latinos to exercise their voting rights and participate in local, state, and national elections.
32. Promote Latino involvement in and linkages to community networks of local groups and services to address express their interests and concerns in order to get their specific needs addressed.
33. Design and implement interventions to enhance multicultural capacity among formal institutions in communities (i.e., schools, community centers, city planning, etc.) to better serve Spanish-speaking Latinos.

### **Community Well-Being**

Public safety remains one of the main concerns of Latinos in Southeast Michigan. In some places such as in Wayne County and Detroit, the arrest and crime rates persist at alarmingly high rates. The distrust and poor relationships between residents and law enforcement are a small piece of a larger structural problem. Many of these communities are in a state of economic and social distress, confronting unstable and distressing conditions and upheavals that are beyond the control of local law enforcement or residents themselves. The following recommendations are provided to improve communities so residents can enjoy life in their neighborhoods.

34. Improve police/community relations, police response times, and the respect shown to residents by police officers.
35. Engage local law enforcement agencies with small sections of neighborhoods to develop neighborhood watch programs that promote public safety and security.
36. Promote community discussions of the school-to-prison pipeline to increase awareness of the punitive model of criminal justice that pervades communities and negatively impacts Latino youth.
37. Make available to the public official statistics by standard categories of race/ethnicity, particularly with regard to the incarceration of juveniles and adults.
38. Recruit more local Latino leaders for political office, for police positions, and for educational employment (teachers, school boards, etc.)
39. Develop community economic development plans that ensure the security of residents and improve access to essential services,
40. Foster a safe climate for Latinos to participate in community activities without fear of hostility.
41. Incorporate the needs of Latinos in the priorities to be addressed and discussed by service delivery organizations.

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## **Immigration**

Immigration issues remain a main concern for Latinos. Latinos bring with them a rich cultural heritage, solidarity, and strong ties to their roots and to themselves. Often lacking is the linkage between Latino and larger community networks, including access to institutions in their communities. The following recommendations are provided to address the critical issues facing Latino immigrants.

42. Enhance key aspects of immigrant integration (health, employment, safety, and education) through partnerships with existing community-based organizations to better address the needs of Latino immigrants and organize plans for effective intervention (i.e. toolkits for sharing information and resources within Latino communities).
43. Provide driving permits to undocumented immigrants so that they are able to drive to work and continue contributing to the local economy.
44. Adopt and implement DREAM (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) policies that allow undocumented youth who obtain a diploma from a Michigan high school to enroll in and pay in-state tuition rates at Michigan's public colleges and universities.
45. Promote immigrant-friendly communities by engaging local business, police, and education leaders in educating the public on critical immigration issues.
46. Provide community workshops or venues that facilitate community integration and interaction.
47. Enhance access to legal counseling and family services for Latino immigrants.

## CONCLUSION

The promotion of free market fundamentalism occurred at many levels and in many ways. In the 1990s consultants and organizational leaders repeated one of the many examples used as a “tip” for adapting to the many societal changes stemming from this conservative movement. The example, repeated like a refrain in a poem, went something like this: “The definition of insanity is doing something over and over under the same conditions and expecting different results.” The refrain was usually followed by a discussion of the changing dimensions of society and how leaders must learn to adapt to them as they seek to promote the survival of the organizations they lead. The changes to which one must adapt were presented as inevitable, as if nothing could be done to shape them. The fact of the matter is that the changes, primarily economic changes that were transforming communities, were primarily policy-driven, policies promoting free market fundamentalism. Today, we propose a different refrain:

*Progress can only occur by addressing directly the features of free market fundamentalist policies that have produced the social and economic problems that hinder human and societal progress.*

To seek to address the social problems in our communities today without viewing them as induced by free market fundamentalism is akin to engaging in a Sisyphean task: rolling a boulder up a hill only to have it roll down again as one reaches the top. We have provided recommendations for improving the well-being of Latinos based on the belief that they will benefit communities as a whole if implemented. Indeed, it is not only Latinos who confront the many problems identified in this report; segments from all groups face many of the same problems, except perhaps the fervor of anti-immigration sentiments that specifically target Latinos. The recommendations are provided with the understanding that their implementation will require a shift away from free market fundamentalism to one which places human and social progress at the center. This requires a greater vision of human progress than that offered by free market fundamentalism. It requires a vision of a Good Society, one based on the full incorporation of Latinos and all other population segments into societal institutions. Such a vision must be based on the view that all people will benefit and that the aim is achieving the “greatest good for the greatest number.”

Perhaps Martin Luther King, Jr. stated the matter most clearly when he held that the nation must undergo a “revolution of values.” Speaking in New York City in 1967, he stated: “We must rapidly begin the shift from a ‘thing-oriented’ society to a ‘person-oriented’ society.” In his first presidential campaign President Obama set in motion a contemporary revolution of values by emphasizing the need to engage people in community life, in the alleviation of poverty, and in the pursuit of a vision for a better nation. Today there is evidence that the political pendulum has begun to swing away from the policies of free market fundamentalism. One hears it in the willingness of conservative political candidates to highlight issues of poverty and inequality in society.

Latinos are a growing population in Michigan. Improving their status in Southeast Michigan and in Michigan as a whole will require changes on the part of both Latinos and leaders of the dominant group. Latinos must proactively seek participation in the economic, political and social institutions of the larger communities in which they live, and leaders of institutions and organizations must build capacity to incorporate Latinos by transforming exclusionary processes into inclusive multicultural practices. A starting point is replacing the White/Black binary that structures existing intergroup relations with one that includes all other race/ethnic groups in a vision of a non-racial social order. More concretely, it means accepting that the futures of Southeast Michigan, Michigan, the Midwest, and the nation are bound up with Latinos, and the greater the degree to which they are incorporated into the core institutions of our communities, the more progress is made toward a better society.

In times of scarce resources, inclusion and innovation become investments in the renewal of communities. Latinos are already part of Michigan’s communities and have made numerous contributions. However, growth cannot lead to a vibrant future if there are disengaged, under-educated, and

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economically deprived segments of the population. Investing and constructively intervening in the Latino community involves a refusal to accept singling out Latinos as a target of public hostility and excluding them from community and economic development initiatives.

This report represents a first step in making the contemporary needs of Latino communities more visible and tangible. It is recognized that achieving inclusion for Latinos will require a concerted effort at various levels, from the grassroots to the highest levels of political leadership. It is imperative that investments in time and resources are dedicated to providing opportunities for Latinos to integrate into a recovering economy and democratic order. If efforts begin now, demonstrable positive results can be shown by the year 2025.

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## APPENDICES

- Appendix 1.** Table 1. Projections of the U.S. Population (Thousands) by Race/Ethnicity, 2060
- Appendix 2.** Table 1. Michigan Total and Latino Population, 1990-2013
- Appendix 3.** Table 1. Michigan Latino Population by County, 2010
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## Appendix 1

**A1. Table 1. Projections of the U.S. Population (Thousands) by Race/Ethnicity, 2060**

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Non-Hispanic White	181,930	43.6
Black or African American	54,028	13.0
American Indian or Alaska Native	2,637	0.6
Asian	37,879	9.1
Two or more races	20,376	4.9
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islanders	900	0.2
<i>Latino or Hispanic</i>	<i>119,044</i>	<i>28.6</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>416,794</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Table 4. Projections of the Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: 2015 to 2060 (NP2014-T10)

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## Appendix 2

**A2. Table 1. Michigan Total and Latino Population, 1990-2013**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Latino</b>	<b>Percent Latino</b>
1990	9,311,319	202,246	2.17
1991	9,400,446	211,302	2.25
1992	9,479,065	218,133	2.30
1993	9,540,114	226,421	2.37
1994	9,597,737	235,489	2.45
1995	9,676,211	247,532	2.56
1996	9,758,645	262,484	2.69
1997	9,809,051	276,535	2.82
1998	9,847,942	291,317	2.96
1999	9,897,116	307,670	3.11
2000	9,952,450	327,050	3.29
2001	9,991,120	343,617	3.44
2002	10,015,710	357,136	3.57
2003	10,041,152	369,577	3.68
2004	10,055,315	381,150	3.79
2005	10,051,137	392,685	3.91
2006	10,036,081	403,658	4.02
2007	10,001,284	412,393	4.12
2008	9,946,889	420,926	4.23
2009	9,901,591	429,423	4.34
2010	9,876,149	437,736	4.43
2011	9,874,589	446,797	4.52
2012	9,882,519	456,919	4.62
2013	9,895,622	466,594	4.72

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States, States, and Counties: April 1, 1990 to July 1, 2013.

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### Appendix 3

**A3. Table 1. Michigan Latino Population by County, 2010**

<b>County</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Latino Population</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Alcona	10,942	124	1.13
Alger	9,601	114	1.19
Allegan	111,408	7,454	6.69
Alpena	29,598	304	1.03
Antrim	23,580	404	1.71
Arenac	15,899	225	1.42
Baraga	8,860	86	0.97
Barry	59,173	1,336	2.26
Bay	107,771	5,093	4.73
Benzie	17,525	302	1.72
Berrien	156,813	7,054	4.50
Branch	45,248	1,804	3.99
Calhoun	136,146	6,177	4.54
Cass	52,293	1,570	3.00
Charlevoix	25,949	359	1.38
Cheboygan	26,152	211	0.81
Chippewa	38,520	480	1.25
Clare	30,926	464	1.50
Clinton	75,382	2,947	3.91
Crawford	14,074	182	1.29
Delta	37,069	318	0.86
Dickinson	26,168	270	1.03
Eaton	107,759	5,101	4.73
Emmet	32,694	429	1.31
Genesee	425,790	12,983	3.05
Gladwin	25,692	310	1.21
Gogebic	16,427	142	0.86
Grand Traverse	86,986	1,874	2.15
Gratiot	42,476	2,301	5.42
Hillsdale	46,688	826	1.77
Houghton	36,628	415	1.13
Huron	33,118	657	1.98
Ingham	280,895	20,526	7.31
Ionia	63,905	2,791	4.37
Iosco	25,887	403	1.56
Iron	11,817	161	1.36

**A3. Table 1. (cont'd)**

<b>County</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Latino Population</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Isabella	70,311	2,197	3.12
Jackson	160,248	4,837	3.02
Kalamazoo	250,331	9,959	3.98
Kalkaska	17,153	214	1.25
Kent	602,622	58,437	9.70
Keweenaw	2,156	15	0.70
Lake	11,539	243	2.11
Lapeer	88,319	3,622	4.10
Leelanau	21,708	794	3.66
Lenawee	99,892	7,614	7.62
Livingston	180,967	3,460	1.91
Luce	6,631	82	1.24
Mackinac	11,113	126	1.13
Macomb	840,978	19,095	2.27
Manistee	24,733	634	2.56
Marquette	67,077	767	1.14
Mason	28,705	1,150	4.01
Mecosta	42,798	731	1.71
Menominee	24,029	278	1.16
Midland	83,629	1,704	2.04
Missaukee	14,849	306	2.06
Monroe	152,021	4,667	3.07
Montcalm	63,342	1,932	3.05
Montmorency	9,765	96	0.98
Muskegon	172,188	8,261	4.80
Newaygo	48,460	2,663	5.50
Oakland	1,202,362	41,920	3.49
Oceana	26,570	3,629	13.66
Ogemaw	21,699	309	1.42
Ontonagon	6,780	64	0.94
Osceola	23,528	344	1.46
Oscoda	8,640	79	0.91
Otsego	24,164	299	1.24
Ottawa	263,801	22,761	8.63
Presque Isle	13,376	116	0.87
Roscommon	24,449	275	1.12
Saginaw	200,169	15,573	7.78



**A3. Table 1. (cont'd)**

<b>County</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Latino Population</b>	<b>Percent</b>
St. Clair	163,040	4,708	2.89
St. Joseph	61,295	4,034	6.58
Sanilac	43,114	1,439	3.34
Schoolcraft	8,485	64	0.75
Shiawassee	70,648	1,695	2.40
Tuscola	55,729	1,571	2.82
Van Buren	76,258	7,758	10.17
Washtenaw	344,791	13,860	4.02
Wayne	1,820,584	95,260	5.23
Wexford	32,735	519	1.59

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census

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## Appendix 4

### Profile of Selected Communities

#### A. Race/Ethnic Composition

The Latino population distribution in southeast Michigan was a major criterion in the selection of the communities described in this appendix. Table 1 shows the racial/ethnic composition of the top 15 selected communities with at least 4.0 percent Latinos and at least 800 Latino persons. Detroit has more than 50 thousand Latinos, representing about 7.1 percent of its population. Over 9 thousand Latinos reside in Pontiac, representing about 15.8 percent of Pontiac's population. The other communities with a greater proportion of Latinos are Melvindale (17.7%), Lincoln Park (15.0%), Ecorse (13.9%), Auburn Hills (11.9%), River Rouge (10.6%), and Allen Park (8.1%) (Table 1). Detroit is predominantly populated by African Americans (81.4%). Eight communities are predominantly populated by Whites ( $\geq 75.0\%$ ), including Wixom (76.8%), Allen Park (88.2%), Dearborn Heights (81.8%), Lincoln Park (77.6%), Riverview (87.1%), Southgate (84.2%), Wyandotte (89.3%), and Port Huron (80.3%). The six remaining communities have a greater mix of populations, including Melvindale ( $\geq 15\%$  Latino and  $\geq 15\%$  White), Auburn Hills, Ecorse, River Rouge, and Taylor ( $\geq 15\%$  African American and  $\geq 15\%$  White), and Pontiac ( $\geq 15\%$  Latino,  $\geq 15\%$  African American, and  $\geq 15\%$  White) (Table 1).

**A4. Table 1. Top 15 Latino Communities<sup>1</sup> in Southeast Michigan: Race/Ethnicity, 2009-2013**

County\Place	Total Population	Total Latino Population	Latino or Hispanic	Non-Hispanic White	Black/African American	Asian/Pacific Islander	Some other race
			Percent				
<b>Total Population</b>							
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>9,886,095</b>	<b>447,594</b>	<b>4.53</b>	<b>76.34</b>	<b>13.86</b>	<b>2.55</b>	<b>2.73</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>4,707,345</b>	<b>187,094</b>	<b>3.97</b>	<b>68.28</b>	<b>21.46</b>	<b>3.80</b>	<b>2.49</b>
Oakland county							
Auburn Hills	18,633	2,216	11.89	58.84	17.28	9.17	2.43
Pontiac	59,581	9,434	15.83	26.35	50.50	2.65	4.48
Wixom	13,581	924	6.80	76.83	10.64	3.74	1.91
Wayne County							
Allen Park	22,465	1,828	8.14	88.19	2.09	0.25	1.00
Dearborn Heights	57,291	2,396	4.18	81.81	8.27	2.39	2.66
Detroit	706,663	50,161	7.10	8.21	81.35	1.24	1.85
Ecorse	9,457	1,310	13.85	35.81	45.02	1.68	2.82
Lincoln Park	37,819	5,687	15.04	77.55	5.04	0.16	1.75
Melvindale	10,612	1,874	17.66	64.47	11.55	0.41	5.27
River Rouge	7,857	833	10.60	31.39	55.11	0.48	2.42
Riverview	12,400	812	6.55	87.09	3.54	0.68	1.94
Southgate	29,800	1,725	5.79	84.19	5.70	1.84	2.12

<sup>1</sup>In this appendix, communities in the southeast Michigan are defined as census designated places and are selected if the proportion of Latinos is at least four percent and have a total Latino population of at least 800 people.

**A4. Table 1. (cont'd)**

County\Place	Total Population	Total Latino Population	Latino or Hispanic	Non-Hispanic White	Black/African American	Asian/Pacific Islander	Some other race
Taylor	62,592	3,387	5.41	73.48	16.90	1.06	2.80
Wyandotte	16,307	1,173	7.19	89.29	1.79	0.40	0.92
St. Clair County							
Port Huron	26,768	1,122	4.19	80.27	9.93	0.67	4.67

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey.

**B. Age Composition**

Table 2 displays the age composition of the total and Latino populations in the selected communities. All selected communities had a greater proportion of Latinos less than 18 years of age as compared to the proportion of the total population in the same age group. In almost of all selected counties with the exception of Wixom, Ecorse, and Riverview had a greater proportion of Latinos between 18 and 24 years of age as compared to the proportion of the total population of the communities in that age group. All selected communities had a lower proportion of Latinos between 25 and 64 years and Latinos who were 65 years and older as compared to the proportion of the total populations in those age groups (Table 2). These findings are consistent with previous age composition analysis (population pyramids on p. 14) which reflects a younger Latino population and an aging population of other population groups in the Southeast Michigan. Overall, Riverview community has a greater proportion of elderly persons (65 years and older) (21.6%) than other communities. Riverview also has a greater proportion of Latinos less than 18 years of age (53.7%) than other communities. Wyandotte community, as compared to the other selected communities, has the highest proportion of Latinos between 18-24 years of age (25.2%), followed by Taylor (24.6%), and River Rouge (23.8%).

**A4. Table 2. Age Composition in the Top 15 Latino Communities in Southeast Michigan, 2009-2013**

County\Place	< 18 Years	18-24 years	25-64 years	65 years and older
<b>Total Population</b>				
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>23.30</b>	<b>9.99</b>	<b>52.49</b>	<b>14.21</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>23.60</b>	<b>9.44</b>	<b>53.57</b>	<b>13.39</b>
Oakland county				
Auburn Hills	21.96	11.66	56.24	10.14
Pontiac	26.34	11.94	51.50	10.22
Wixom	24.98	13.07	55.96	5.99
Wayne County				
Allen Park	22.10	8.15	53.10	16.65
Dearborn Heights	24.95	8.53	50.47	16.05
Detroit	26.09	11.70	50.38	11.83

**A4. Table 2. (cont'd)**

<b>County\Place</b>	<b>&lt; 18 Years</b>	<b>18-24 years</b>	<b>25-64 years</b>	<b>65 years and older</b>
Ecorse	26.33	10.06	49.35	14.26
Lincoln Park	24.50	8.30	56.18	11.02
Melvindale	25.88	9.19	52.90	12.03
River Rouge	26.03	10.75	51.79	11.43
Riverview	22.10	7.23	49.10	21.56
Southgate	19.41	9.91	54.48	16.20
Taylor	24.01	10.11	52.37	13.52
Wyandotte	20.86	9.60	56.94	12.59
<b>St. Clair County</b>				
Port Huron	25.10	10.21	51.99	12.70
<b>Latino Population</b>				
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>38.71</b>	<b>12.46</b>	<b>44.11</b>	<b>4.71</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>37.04</b>	<b>11.69</b>	<b>46.28</b>	<b>4.99</b>
<b>Oakland County</b>				
Auburn Hills	35.15	16.11	51.08	3.66
Pontiac	39.43	15.82	44.86	3.12
Wixom	45.45	11.58	46.65	0.00
<b>Wayne County</b>				
Allen Park	37.47	11.27	44.80	8.53
Dearborn Heights	42.11	11.39	40.57	8.56
Detroit	39.33	16.23	44.65	4.11
Ecorse	46.49	8.70	45.73	5.04
Lincoln Park	35.70	18.69	49.92	3.36
Melvindale	37.94	16.97	39.22	7.31
River Rouge	36.25	23.77	49.22	2.40
Riverview	53.69	3.94	41.01	1.35
Southgate	31.48	14.78	47.48	9.45
Taylor	29.97	24.62	42.81	8.15
Wyandotte	27.28	25.15	47.83	4.43
<b>St. Clair County</b>				
Port Huron	40.46	13.19	47.86	5.26

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5 - Year American Community Survey.

**C. Educational Attainment (25 Years and Older)**

Table 3 displays the educational attainment (25 years and older) in the selected communities. In most of these communities, with the exception of Riverview, a greater proportion of Latinos had less than a high school education as compared to the overall population. In contrast, the proportion of Latinos with

a high school diploma was lower than the overall proportion of all residents with a high school diploma in these communities. With the exception of Riverview and Ecorse, the proportion of Latinos with some college education was lower than the proportion of all residents with some college in the selected communities. In these communities, the proportion of Latinos with college or higher education was lower than that of all residents (Table 3). The proportion of Latinos with a college education or higher was highest in Wixom community (26.9%), followed by Dearborn Heights (16.9%), and Auburn Hills (15.9%) and was lowest in Ecorse (0.0%) (Table 3). The proportion of all residents with a college or higher education was highest in Auburn Hills (40.5%), followed by Wixom (38.6%) and was lowest in River Rouge (6.7%) (Table 3).

**A4. Table 3. Educational Attainment in Top 15 Latino Communities in Southeast Michigan, 2009-2013**

County\Place	Less than High School	High School	Some College	College or More
	Percent			
<b>Total Population</b>				
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>11.08</b>	<b>30.42</b>	<b>32.57</b>	<b>25.93</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>11.44</b>	<b>27.23</b>	<b>31.79</b>	<b>29.55</b>
Oakland county				
Auburn Hills	9.87	19.99	29.59	40.54
Pontiac	23.63	32.61	31.91	11.84
Wixom	7.17	18.68	35.58	38.57
Wayne County				
Allen Park	10.06	33.99	34.23	21.72
Dearborn Heights	14.80	34.36	30.98	19.87
Detroit	22.40	32.27	32.58	12.74
Ecorse	27.91	36.47	24.05	11.57
Lincoln Park	19.61	40.66	31.67	8.05
Melvindale	23.25	34.25	30.85	11.65
River Rouge	26.01	42.72	24.56	6.70
Riverview	13.26	31.26	32.27	23.21
Southgate	11.57	36.35	35.50	16.58
Taylor	17.68	38.98	33.63	9.72
Wyandotte	14.14	41.43	29.93	14.50
St. Clair County				
Port Huron	14.83	35.71	36.26	13.20
<b>Latino Population</b>				
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>30.64</b>	<b>26.69</b>	<b>26.93</b>	<b>15.74</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>29.43</b>	<b>25.56</b>	<b>25.89</b>	<b>19.13</b>
Oakland County				

**A4. Table 3. (cont'd)**

County\Place	Less than High School	High School	Some College	College or More
	Percent			
Auburn Hills	51.28	16.82	15.99	15.91
Pontiac	45.49	27.33	21.25	5.92
Wixom	38.52	5.34	29.23	26.91
Wayne County				
Allen Park	26.26	26.36	35.18	12.21
Dearborn Heights	28.46	22.77	31.86	16.91
Detroit	54.42	24.92	15.73	4.93
Ecorse	42.56	30.68	26.77	0.00
Lincoln Park	30.00	32.38	31.88	5.74
Melvindale	39.56	25.92	28.90	5.62
River Rouge	45.58	30.70	19.53	4.19
Riverview	1.74	20.93	70.64	6.69
Southgate	28.51	18.84	37.07	15.58
Taylor	26.48	34.24	31.05	8.23
Wyandotte	39.31	33.77	23.33	3.59
St. Clair County				
Port Huron	13.76	31.88	42.79	11.58

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5 - Year American Community Survey

## **D. Socio-Economic Well-Being**

### **1. Income**

One important indicator of community well-being is the distribution of household income. Table 4 displays the distribution of income for the selected communities in Southeast Michigan. As expected, there is greater variation in household income of residents in these selected communities. A greater proportion of affluent or upper class residents (i.e., with household income of \$75,000 or higher) were in Allen Park (37.4%), followed by Wixom (34.0%), Auburn Hills (32.6%), Riverview (30.6%), and Southgate (29.7%). A lower proportion of affluent residents were in River Rouge (11.2%), Detroit (12.6%), and Pontiac (13.3%). About one fifth of residents in Auburn Hills (19.9%), Allen Park (21.4%), Lincoln Park (21.9%), Taylor (20.5%), and Wyandotte (20.4%) were in upper-middle class (i.e., between \$50,000 and less than \$75,000). At least 15 percent of residents in Wixom (15.5%), Dearborn Heights (15.0%), Ecorse (16.0%), Lincoln Park (15.6%), Riverview (15.4%), Southgate (17.0%), Taylor (18.4%), and Port Huron (17.0%) were in the lower-middle class (i.e., between \$35,000 and less than \$50,000). At the lower end of the household income spectrum, a greater proportion of very low-income residents (i.e., household income less than \$10,000) were in River Rouge (21.8%), followed by Detroit (21.2%), Pontiac (18.6%), Ecorse (15.9%), and Melvindale (13.4%). More than a quarter of residents in Pontiac (27.4%), Detroit (26.8%), Ecorse (27.5%), Melvindale (25.5%), River Rouge (25.3%), and Port Huron (28.8%) had household income between \$10,000 and less than \$25,000. About 65 percent of residents in River Rouge, 61 percent in Detroit, 60 percent in Pontiac, 59 percent in Ecorse, and 53 percent in Melvindale and Port Huron had household incomes below \$35,000 (Table 4).

There is also greater variation in household income for Latino residents in these communities. Almost one third of Latino residents in Allen Park (33.1%) and Southgate (32.8%) were affluent or upper class (i.e., with a household income of \$75,000 or higher). More than one fifth of Latino residents in Wixom (22.3%), Lincoln Park (22.5%), and Taylor (21.2%) were affluent. About 35.2 percent of Latino residents in Auburn Hills, 23.7 percent in Dearborn Heights, 24.6 percent in Melvindale, 19.9 percent in Wyandotte, 18.1 percent in Taylor, and 16.9 percent in Lincoln park were in upper-middle class (i.e., between \$50,000 and less than \$75,000). At least 15 percent of Latino residents in Allen Park (35.2%), Dearborn Heights (17.0%), Detroit (16.0%), Ecorse (19.1%), Lincoln Park (22.8%), Melvindale (16.4%), Southgate (16.1%), Taylor (25.7%), and Port Huron (17.5%) were in the lower-middle class (i.e., between \$35,000 and less than \$50,000). At the other end of the household income spectrum, 27.3 percent of Latino residents in Ecorse, 25.7 percent in Melvindale, 21.7 percent in River Rouge, 16.2 percent in Detroit, and 15.4 percent in Pontiac had household incomes below \$10,000. Over half of residents in Wixom (51.3%), 42.7 percent in Port Huron, 36.5 percent in Pontiac, 34.0 percent in Ecorse, 26.8 percent in Detroit, 25.6 percent in Wyandotte, and 23.1 percent in Riverview had household income between \$10,000 and less than \$25,000. At least 60 percent of Latino residents in Pontiac (65.5%), Wixom (63.9%), Ecorse (61.3%), River Rouge (67.1%), Riverview (62.9%), and Port Huron (64.5%) had household incomes below \$35,000. Almost 60 percent of Latino residents in Detroit (58.8%) and half of Latino residents in Wyandotte had household incomes below \$35,000 (Table 4).

**A4. Table 4. Household Income for the Top 15 Latino Communities in Southeast Michigan, 2009-2013**

County\Place	Household Income					
	<\$10,000	\$10,000 – \$24,999	\$25,000 – \$34,999	\$35,000 – \$49,999	\$50,000 – \$74,999	\$75,000 or More
<b>Total Population</b>						
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>8.18</b>	<b>17.47</b>	<b>11.16</b>	<b>14.58</b>	<b>18.42</b>	<b>30.18</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>8.37</b>	<b>16.09</b>	<b>10.19</b>	<b>13.37</b>	<b>17.40</b>	<b>34.58</b>
Oakland county						
Auburn Hills	5.17	16.57	12.76	12.92	19.94	32.64
Pontiac	18.61	27.44	13.41	13.19	14.08	13.27
Wixom	6.75	20.48	10.06	15.48	13.19	34.03
Wayne County						
Allen Park	2.94	16.24	8.12	13.95	21.35	37.38
Dearborn Heights	8.45	19.67	13.06	14.95	18.94	24.93
Detroit	21.22	26.81	12.68	13.73	12.97	12.59
Ecorse	15.87	27.52	15.98	15.98	8.98	15.67
Lincoln Park	8.52	20.50	14.83	15.56	21.88	18.72
Melvindale	13.38	25.46	13.89	14.59	17.10	15.57
River Rouge	21.83	25.27	18.11	7.76	15.80	11.23
Riverview	6.12	18.33	11.95	15.44	17.59	30.57
Southgate	5.72	17.16	11.91	16.98	18.50	29.73
Taylor	9.95	18.54	12.23	18.37	20.45	20.46
Wyandotte	8.04	20.33	12.91	10.29	20.42	28.00



**A4. Table 4. (cont'd)**

County\Place	Household Income					
	<\$10,000	\$10,000 – \$24,999	\$25,000 – \$34,999	\$35,000 – \$49,999	\$50,000 – \$74,999	\$75,000 or More
St. Clair						
Port Huron	12.07	28.79	11.67	16.98	15.84	14.66
<b>Latino Population</b>						
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>10.77</b>	<b>22.62</b>	<b>13.50</b>	<b>15.62</b>	<b>16.24</b>	<b>21.26</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>9.58</b>	<b>21.28</b>	<b>12.48</b>	<b>14.43</b>	<b>15.62</b>	<b>26.61</b>
Oakland county						
Auburn Hills	7.73	29.21	7.73	4.48	35.24	15.61
Pontiac	15.43	36.53	13.56	10.33	13.56	10.59
Wixom	7.62	51.32	4.99	13.78	0.00	22.29
Wayne County						
Allen Park	0.00	17.27	0.00	35.18	14.50	33.05
Dearborn Heights	8.21	18.84	14.29	17.02	23.71	17.93
Detroit	16.18	26.77	15.85	16.03	13.57	11.60
Ecorse	27.32	33.95	0.00	19.10	7.16	12.47
Lincoln Park	5.74	16.32	15.68	22.84	16.90	22.52
Melvindale	25.68	4.16	15.19	18.44	24.59	11.93
River Rouge	21.65	0.00	45.45	1.73	18.61	12.55
Riverview	12.93	23.13	26.87	10.54	7.14	19.39
Southgate	3.37	17.02	17.20	16.13	13.48	32.80
Taylor	7.82	14.99	12.21	25.70	18.09	21.20
Wyandotte	0.00	25.55	24.57	14.00	19.90	15.97
St. Clair County						
Port Huron	14.14	42.67	7.71	17.48	12.08	5.91

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5 - Year American Community Survey.

## 2. Poverty

Another important community well-being indicator is the concentration of poverty as measured by the proportion of residents in the community that are living in poverty<sup>2</sup>. Table 5 displays poverty rates of the selected communities by race/ethnicity. Detroit had the highest poverty rate (39.3%), followed by River Rouge (38.5%), Pontiac (36.7%), and Ecorse (32.5%). Over 20 percent of residents in Port Huron (29.2%), Melvindale (22.8%), and Taylor (21.2%) were living in poverty. The lowest poverty rate was in Allen Park (8.0%) (Table 5).

As expected, the concentration of poverty in the selected communities varies by race/ethnicity. Higher concentrations of poverty for Latinos were in Wixom (52.6%), followed by Pontiac (48.5%), Port Huron (42.7%), Detroit (40.5%), Auburn Hills (33.7%), and Ecorse (31.2%). For non-Hispanic Whites, higher

<sup>2</sup> People are considered living in poverty if their family income is below the official poverty threshold appropriate for the size and type of their family. For example, the poverty threshold for a family of four with two children was \$24,421 in 2013.

poverty rates were in Detroit (38.8%), Ecorse (33.4%), Pontiac (29.1%), River Rouge (27.1%), and Port Huron (26.6%). For African Americans, higher concentrations of poverty of at least 30 percent were in Pontiac (35.9%), Wixom (35.0%), Dearborn Heights (31.6%), Detroit (38.9%), Ecorse (32.4%), Lincoln Park (36.9%), River Rouge (47.7%), Riverview (44.1%), Taylor (50.7%), Wyandotte (51.5%), and Port Huron (35.2%) (Table 5).

**A4. Table 5. Top 15 Latino Communities in Southeast Michigan: Poverty by Race/Ethnicity, 2009-2013**

County\Place	Poverty Rates						
	All	Latino or Hispanic	Non-Hispanic White	Black or African American	Asian/Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaska Native	Some other race
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>16.82</b>	<b>28.99</b>	<b>12.63</b>	<b>34.88</b>	<b>14.43</b>	<b>25.38</b>	<b>28.62</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>16.57</b>	<b>26.60</b>	<b>10.72</b>	<b>33.12</b>	<b>12.90</b>	<b>25.95</b>	<b>27.37</b>
Oakland county							
Auburn Hills	13.60	33.70	9.90	19.62	7.69	2.86	32.91
Pontiac	36.67	48.46	29.06	35.86	38.12	25.38	52.17
Wixom	14.47	52.60	7.91	34.95	100.00	13.98	53.52
Wayne County							
Allen Park	8.00	9.49	7.31	24.39	31.08	0.00	13.95
Dearborn Heights	18.96	16.98	18.08	31.62	16.83	7.19	16.37
Detroit	39.33	40.46	38.76	38.91	58.14	61.46	41.70
Ecorse	32.47	31.15	33.42	32.37	100.00	0.63	31.84
Lincoln Park	18.31	21.25	16.39	36.91	21.29	14.29	24.89
Melvindale	22.82	19.96	21.68	18.35	0.00	0.00	35.85
River Rouge	38.48	21.13	27.05	47.68	100.00	10.53	38.59
Riverview	12.13	20.85	10.79	44.14	0.00	0.00	14.43
Southgate	10.52	12.14	8.82	28.57	8.94	4.56	30.67
Taylor	21.15	16.00	13.68	50.72	22.22	37.10	30.62
Wyandotte	14.47	14.15	13.44	51.53	0.00	12.31	53.18
St. Clair County							
Port Huron	29.20	42.70	26.57	35.18	62.79	53.51	45.95

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5 - Year American Community Survey.

### 3. Median Household Income

Table 6 displays the median household income, the per-capita income, rates of home ownership, and public assistance for the selected communities. Six communities have a median household income higher than the Michigan median household income of \$48,411 in 2009-2013: Auburn Hills (\$52,190), Wixom (\$59,839), Allen Park (\$59,528), Riverview (\$49,530), Southgate (\$49,200), and Wyandotte (\$48,972) (Table 6). For Latinos, the highest median household income was in Auburn Hills (\$52,065) and the low-

est was in Ecorse (\$19,205). In seven communities, Latinos have a median household income above the state Latino median household income of \$36,702: Auburn Hills (\$52,065), Allen Park (\$44,783), Dearborn Heights (\$39,398), Lincoln Park (\$42,179), Melvindale (\$38,932), Southgate (\$47,614), and Wyandotte (\$38,690) (Table 6).

#### **4. Per-Capita Income**

The per-capita income in Michigan in 2009-2013 was estimated at \$25,681. Only four of the selected communities had per-capita incomes above the state per-capita income of \$25,681: Auburn Hills (\$26,843), Wixom (\$30,447), Allen Park (\$27,082), and Southgate (\$25,903) (Table 6). The lowest per-capita income was in River Rouge (\$13,819), followed by Detroit (\$14,870), Ecorse (\$15,564), and Pontiac (\$15,906) (Table 6).

The per-capita income in Michigan for Latinos was estimated at \$14,764. Nine communities have per-capita incomes above the Latino per-capita income: Auburn Hills (\$15,491), Allen Park (\$18,383), Dearborn Heights (\$15,383), Melvindale (\$14,813), Riverview (\$15,180), Southgate (\$20,985), Taylor (\$16,233), and Wyandotte (\$15,531). However, none of the selected communities had a Latino per-capita income above the state per-capita income (Table 6).

#### **5. Home Ownership**

About 74 percent of housing units were owned in 2009-2013 by those who owned them. Housing ownership in only two of the selected communities is above the state housing ownership: Allen Park (85.1%) and Dearborn Heights (75.5%). The lowest housing ownership was in Pontiac (48.9%), followed by Detroit (51.9%). The Latino state housing ownership was 56 percent in 2009-2013. Housing ownership in only two of the selected communities is above the state housing ownership rate: Allen Park (78.0%) and Lincoln Park (75.0%). Seven communities had a Latino housing ownership rate above the state Latino housing ownership rate of 55.8 percent: Allen Park (78.0%), Dearborn Heights (63.2%), Ecorse (65.8), Lincoln Park (75.0%), Melvindale (61.8%), River Rouge (71.4%), and Taylor (59.6%). The lowest housing ownership for Latinos was in Wixom (18.5%) (Table 6).

#### **6. Public Assistance (Food Stamps/SNAP)**

In Michigan, 16.7 percent of households received food stamps or supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) benefits in 2009-2013. About 40.8 percent of households in River Rouge, 40.3 percent in Detroit, 37.6 percent in Pontiac, 37.3 percent in Ecorse, 35.1 percent in Port Huron, 25.4 percent in Melvindale, 23.9 percent in Taylor and 22.1 percent in Lincoln Park received food stamps/SNAP in 2009-2013 (Table 6). The assistance rates in these communities were all higher than the statewide rate.

In 2009-2013, 28.7 percent of Latino households in Michigan received food stamps/SNAP benefits in 2009-2013. Five of the selected communities received food stamps/SNAP at rates higher than the rate of Latino households in Michigan: Pontiac (38.1%), Wixom (45.2%), Detroit (41.3%), Ecorse (39.0%), and Port Huron (54.0%). Four selected communities received food stamps/SNAP at rates higher than the state household food stamps/SNAP rate: Auburn Hills (22.4%), Lincoln Park (24.7%), River Rouge (22.1%), and Taylor (19.8%), but below the Latino statewide rate (Table 6).

**A4. Table 6. Other Socioeconomic Measures in the Top 15 Latino Communities in Southeast Michigan, 2009-2013**

<b>County\Place</b>	<b>Median Household Income (2013 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars)</b>	<b>Per Capita Income (2013 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars)</b>	<b>Home Ownership</b>	<b>Public Assistance<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>Total Population</b>				
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>48,411</b>	<b>25,681</b>	<b>72.11</b>	<b>16.71</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>53,972</b>	<b>28,739</b>	<b>69.88</b>	<b>16.35</b>
Oakland county				
Auburn Hills	52,190	26,843	49.39	10.16
Pontiac	29,742	15,906	48.86	37.63
Wixom	59,839	30,447	50.41	12.41
Wayne County				
Allen Park	59,528	27,082	85.14	8.35
Dearborn Heights	43,169	21,433	75.49	15.68
Detroit	28,728	14,870	51.88	40.27
Ecorse	26,662	15,564	57.46	37.25
Lincoln Park	42,369	19,385	72.08	22.07
Melvindale	33,070	18,171	61.90	25.37
River Rouge	34,838	13,819	56.52	40.82
Riverview	49,530	24,982	64.83	10.88
Southgate	49,200	25,903	66.96	10.27
Taylor	46,137	20,101	65.95	23.87
Wyandotte	48,972	25,287	64.38	12.97
St. Clair				
Port Huron	34,838	18,209	56.26	35.09
<b>Latino Population</b>				
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>37,640</b>	<b>14,764</b>	<b>55.78</b>	<b>28.70</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>47,132</b>	<b>17,591</b>	<b>57.78</b>	<b>24.19</b>
Oakland county				
Auburn Hills	52,065	15,491	38.18	22.41
Pontiac	24,126	10,398	52.77	38.11
Wixom	20,878	15,570	18.48	45.16
Wayne County				
Allen Park	44,783	18,383	78.04	12.37
Dearborn Heights	39,398	15,383	63.22	13.22
Detroit	29,589	10,485	47.97	41.26

**A4. Table 6. (cont'd)**

<b>County\Place</b>	<b>Median Household Income (2013 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars)</b>	<b>Per Capita Income (2013 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars)</b>	<b>Home Ownership</b>	<b>Public Assistance<sup>1</sup></b>
Ecorse	19,205	8,625	65.78	38.99
Lincoln Park	42,179	14,173	74.97	24.65
Melvindale	38,932	14,813	61.84	14.47
River Rouge	30,797	13,081	71.43	22.08
Riverview	26,737	15,180	35.71	15.65
Southgate	47,614	20,985	50.53	5.67
Taylor	44,697	16,233	59.64	19.81
Wyandotte	38,690	15,531	54.05	10.57
<b>St. Clair County</b>				
Port Huron	21,208	14,678	47.04	53.98

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5 - Year American Community Survey.

### **7. Household Structure and Marital Status**

In 2009-2013, 48.5 percent of households in Michigan were married-couple families. Only one of the selected communities had a proportion of married-couple families higher than the state proportion of married-couple families: Allen Park (49.8%) (Table 7). The most disadvantaged communities in terms of poverty and income have greater proportions of female-headed families: River Rouge (35.3%), Detroit (29.4%), Ecorse (25.6%), Pontiac (25.5%), Taylor (20.0%), Port Huron (19.3%), and Melvindale (18.3%).

In 2009-2013, 45.7 percent of Latino households in Michigan were married-couple families. Seven out of 15 selected communities had a higher proportion of Latino married-couple families than the state proportion of Latino married-couple families: Auburn Hills (53.5%), Wixom (59.8%), Allen Park (52.5%), Dearborn Heights (46.5%), Lincoln Park (60.7%), River Rouge (46.3%), and Melvindale (56.5%). Six communities had a greater proportion of Latino female-headed families than the state proportion of Latino female-headed families (19.4%): Pontiac (20.6%), Detroit (21.0%), Melvindale (37.6%), Riverview (32.3%), Taylor (20.9%), and Port Huron (48.3%). About 23.0 percent of Latino households in Melvindale were male-headed families. Relatively high rates of Latino male-headed families were also in Pontiac (13.6%), Wyandotte (10.6%), and Dearborn Heights (9.9%) and Detroit (9.9%).

**A4. Table 7. Household Structure in the Top 15 Latino Communities in Southeast Michigan, 2009-2013 (Percent)**

<b>County\Place</b>	<b>Married-Couple Families</b>	<b>Male-Headed Families</b>	<b>Female-Headed Families</b>	<b>Non-Family Households</b>
<b>Total Population</b>				
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>48.47</b>	<b>4.44</b>	<b>12.76</b>	<b>34.32</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>46.07</b>	<b>4.64</b>	<b>14.26</b>	<b>35.03</b>
Oakland county				
Auburn Hills	44.24	2.53	13.59	39.64
Pontiac	25.56	7.28	25.45	41.71
Wixom	41.80	2.41	11.87	43.92
Wayne County				
Allen Park	49.78	6.21	11.66	32.35
Dearborn Heights	47.88	4.84	13.45	33.84
Detroit	21.61	6.98	29.40	42.01
Ecorse	25.94	9.00	25.55	39.50
Lincoln Park	40.29	7.48	16.76	35.47
Melvindale	33.93	7.84	18.25	39.98
River Rouge	23.60	4.04	35.33	37.03
Riverview	46.50	3.65	17.41	32.44
Southgate	41.47	6.47	11.67	40.40
Taylor	41.41	6.21	19.97	32.40
Wyandotte	42.14	6.54	10.23	41.08
St. Clair County				
Port Huron	36.21	6.11	19.32	38.37
<b>Latino Population</b>				
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>45.99</b>	<b>7.91</b>	<b>19.34</b>	<b>26.76</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>47.06</b>	<b>7.82</b>	<b>17.49</b>	<b>27.62</b>
Oakland county				
Auburn Hills	53.48	8.04	12.36	26.12
Pontiac	39.61	13.56	20.59	26.24
Wixom	59.82	0.00	13.78	26.39
Wayne County				
Allen Park	52.45	8.53	11.94	27.08
Dearborn Heights	44.38	9.88	13.53	32.22
Detroit	46.46	9.39	20.99	23.16
Ecorse	41.91	0.00	16.71	41.38

**A4. Table 7. (cont'd)**

<b>County\Place</b>	<b>Married-Couple Families</b>	<b>Male-Headed Families</b>	<b>Female-Headed Families</b>	<b>Non-Family Households</b>
Lincoln Park	60.71	8.71	15.94	14.65
Melvindale	22.24	22.97	37.61	17.18
River Rouge	46.32	0.00	12.12	41.56
Riverview	27.21	0.00	32.31	40.48
Southgate	43.09	4.96	16.49	35.46
Taylor	44.75	3.96	20.88	30.41
Wyandotte	56.51	10.57	2.46	30.47
<b>St. Clair County</b>				
Port Huron	26.22	2.31	48.33	23.14

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5 - Year American Community Survey.

Table 8 displays the marital status for individuals 15 years and older in the 15 selected communities. At least half of the total population was married in Auburn Hills (52.2%), Allen Park (51.7%), and Dearborn Heights (51.8%). With the exception of Allen Park (11.2%) and Dearborn Heights (11.0%), all the other communities had a divorce rate above the state divorce rate of 11.6 percent. A significantly greater proportion of never-married individuals were in Pontiac (47.5%), Detroit (53.2%), and River Rouge (50.1%) as compared to other selected communities.

The rate of marriage among Latinos was highest in Auburn Hills (60.1%) and Wixom (65.2%) communities. Seven additional communities had a Latino marriage rate above the Latino marriage rate in Michigan (42.0%): Allen Park (45.4%), Detroit (42.9%), Ecorse (45.0%), Lincoln Park (47.7%), River Rouge (49.3%), and Wyandotte (43.0%). Three communities had a Latino divorce rate above 10.0 percent: Wixom (12.4%), Dearborn Heights (10.9%), and Wyandotte (10.5%). Nine of the 15 communities had a proportion of never-married Latinos above 40 percent: Pontiac (40.2%), Dearborn Heights (41.2%), Detroit (42.6%), Lincoln Park (44.6%), River Rouge (42.9%), Southgate (43.0%), Taylor (43.0%), Wyandotte (44.1%), and Port Huron (42.6%) (Table 8).

**A4. Table 8. Marital Status (15 Years and Older) in the Top 15 Latino Communities in Southeast Michigan, 2009-2013 (Percent)**

<b>County\Place</b>	<b>Married</b>	<b>Divorced</b>	<b>Separated</b>	<b>Widowed</b>	<b>Never Married</b>
<b>Total Population</b>					
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>48.84</b>	<b>11.46</b>	<b>1.46</b>	<b>6.24</b>	<b>32.09</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>46.75</b>	<b>11.24</b>	<b>1.56</b>	<b>6.36</b>	<b>34.09</b>
<b>Oakland county</b>					
Auburn Hills	52.22	12.19	0.90	4.55	33.69
Pontiac	33.85	14.53	2.48	6.67	47.47
Wixom	49.93	11.48	0.98	3.01	36.09

A4. Table 8. (cont'd)

County\Place	Married	Divorced	Separated	Widowed	Never Married
Wayne County					
Allen Park	51.72	11.16	0.60	10.21	28.30
Dearborn Heights	51.80	10.95	1.60	7.98	31.04
Detroit	29.69	12.27	3.72	7.47	53.20
Ecorse	37.46	15.45	4.07	9.62	41.26
Lincoln Park	46.02	14.72	2.21	7.06	34.27
Melvindale	45.63	14.14	2.77	6.11	36.23
River Rouge	29.68	16.05	2.58	6.82	50.11
Riverview	49.00	14.21	1.68	11.18	26.92
Southgate	46.09	14.17	1.62	7.81	33.22
Taylor	46.83	13.90	1.85	6.55	35.40
Wyandotte	48.08	14.60	1.59	6.84	32.11
St. Clair County					
Port Huron	44.19	16.16	2.04	6.98	35.01
<b>Latino Population</b>					
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>43.02</b>	<b>9.54</b>	<b>2.54</b>	<b>2.95</b>	<b>41.96</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>44.34</b>	<b>9.21</b>	<b>2.52</b>	<b>3.26</b>	<b>40.67</b>
Oakland county					
Auburn Hills	60.14	3.1	0.53	3.10	32.94
Pontiac	42.16	8.93	3.29	8.93	40.24
Wixom	65.16	12.4	0.00	12.40	15.35
Wayne County					
Allen Park	45.39	8.02	0.00	8.02	32.00
Dearborn Heights	39.14	10.86	3.35	10.86	41.22
Detroit	42.87	5.61	3.54	5.61	42.62
Ecorse	44.95	2.83	6.73	2.83	35.13
Lincoln Park	47.68	3.45	1.53	3.45	44.56
Melvindale	39.95	8.34	6.75	8.34	37.23
River Rouge	49.29	1.96	1.79	1.96	42.86
Riverview	30.90	5.11	0.00	5.11	39.17
Southgate	38.00	7.19	4.04	7.19	43.01
Taylor	39.15	8.78	1.81	8.78	41.44
Wyandotte	43.01	10.51	0.00	10.51	44.10
St. Clair County					
Port Huron	35.89	9.92	3.63	9.92	42.60

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5 - Year American Community Survey.



## **8. Employment and Jobs (Civilian Population 16 Years and Older)**

In 2009-2013, 61.8 percent of the civilian population in Michigan was in the labor force. Four communities had a civilian labor force participation rate above the state rate: Auburn Hills (71.0%), Wixom (78.6%), Southgate (62.0%), and Wyandotte (63.8%). The unemployment rate for civilians 16 years of age and older in Michigan was estimated at 12.7 percent in 2009-2013 and 13.5 percent for Southeast Michigan. With the exception of Wixom and Auburn Hills, all of the other communities had unemployment rates above the state unemployment rate. Over one third of residents in Detroit (36.3%), Ecorse (35.1%), and River Rouge (36.8%) were unemployed. About 29 percent of civilian residents 16 years of age and older in Pontiac (29.5%) and Port Huron (29.1%) communities were unemployed.

The Latino unemployment rate in Michigan was estimated at 15.9 percent in 2009-2013 and 15.5 percent in Southeast Michigan. The highest Latino unemployment rates were in River Rouge (38.2%), Dearborn Heights (29.2%), Ecorse (28.2%), Detroit (22.3%), Wyandotte (22.2%) and Pontiac (21.5%). Overall, Latinos had higher unemployment rates than the state rate in most of the communities.

In 2009-2013, over one third of Michigan residents were employed in managerial and professional occupations (34.4%). Comparatively, only two communities had a higher rate than that: Auburn Hills (43.8%) and Wixom (37.6%). Three other communities had a proportion of managerial and professional occupations above 30 percent: Allen Park (31.7%), Dearborn Heights (31.5%), and Riverview (31.6%) communities. At least 18 percent of civilian residents in the selected communities were employed in the service sector. About 31.2 percent of civilian labor force 16 years of age and older in Pontiac, 29.7 percent in River Rouge, 28.9 percent in Detroit, and 26.1 percent in Melvindale were employed in the service sector. Most of these communities also rely on sales and office jobs. With the exception of Melvindale (18.1%), at least one fifth of civilians 16 years and older in all the other communities were employed in sales and office jobs.

In 2009-2013, 67.7 percent of civilian Latino population in Michigan was in the labor force. Comparatively, the civilian labor force participation of Latinos was higher than that rate in 9 out of 15 communities: Auburn Hills (73.5%), Pontiac (72.1%), Lincoln Park (69.7%), Melvindale (73.6%), River Rouge (68.0%), Riverview (78.6%), Southgate (72.5%), and Taylor (71.4%) (Table 9). The Latino unemployment rate in Michigan was estimated at 15.9 percent in 2009-2013. The unemployment rate for Latinos was in Auburn Hills, 29.2 percent in Dearborn Heights, 22.3 percent in Detroit, 28.2 percent in Ecorse, 38.3 percent in River Rouge, and 22.2 percent in Wyandotte (Table 9).

In 2009-2013, almost 20.9 percent of Latino civilians 16 years and older in Michigan were employed in managerial and professional occupations. Latinos in five of the 15 selected communities were employed in managerial and professional occupations at about that rate or higher: Wixom (25.1%), Dearborn Heights (24.6%), Melvindale (25.1%), River Rouge (22.5%), and Taylor (20.9%). Latinos in 10 of the 15 communities were employed in service jobs at a rate of 25 percent or higher: Riverview (48.8%), Wyandotte (43.7%), Wixom (42.4%), Auburn Hills (37.9%), Pontiac (32.7%), Port Huron (31.3%), Ecorse (28.3%), Lincoln Park (30.9%), and Southgate (28.2%). In sales and service Southgate (31.5%), Allen Park (31.4%), Wyandotte (29.1%), Taylor (27.9%) had the highest Latino rates. About 26.5 percent of Latinos in Melvindale were in natural resources, construction, and maintenance and repair occupations. At least one fourth of Latinos were in production, transportation, and material moving occupations in Detroit (28.3%), Ecorse (50.3%), River Rouge (44.6%), and in Taylor (27.8%) communities (Table 9).

## **9. Industry of Employment**

Table 10 displays the labor market structure in the selected communities. In 2009-2013, 1.4 percent of the civilian population 16 years and older was employed in extractive industries (agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining), 4.8 percent in construction, 16.9 percent in manufacturing, 6.6 percent in distributive services (whole sale trade, transportation and warehousing, and utilities), 16.3 percent in

A4. Table 9. Labor Force Participation, Unemployment, and Occupation in the Top 15 Latino Communities in Southeast Michigan, 2009-2013

County\Place	Civilian Labor Force Participation	Civilian Unemployed	Occupations				
			Managerial & Professional	Service	Sales & Office	Natural resources, construction, maintenance and repair	Production, transportation, and material moving
<b>Total Population</b>							
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>61.78</b>	<b>12.69</b>	<b>34.42</b>	<b>18.59</b>	<b>24.51</b>	<b>7.80</b>	<b>14.68</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>63.01</b>	<b>13.47</b>	<b>37.78</b>	<b>17.99</b>	<b>24.83</b>	<b>6.59</b>	<b>12.81</b>
Oakland county							
Auburn Hills	71.03	16.87	43.81	18.56	22.23	5.52	9.88
Pontiac	60.30	29.47	17.79	31.16	25.96	9.16	15.94
Wixom	78.57	11.40	37.55	18.26	29.91	4.89	9.39
Wayne County							
Allen Park	61.62	18.57	31.70	18.13	25.47	9.66	15.04
Dearborn Heights	57.02	21.80	31.47	19.26	26.90	6.45	15.92
Detroit	53.37	36.27	22.68	28.87	24.72	6.32	17.41
Ecorse	52.31	35.09	17.49	24.04	24.12	11.20	23.15
Lincoln Park	59.62	22.97	19.78	22.07	27.23	10.21	20.70
Melvindale	57.45	24.67	22.53	26.16	18.13	11.29	21.89
River Rouge	53.64	36.79	16.35	29.68	20.25	7.89	25.82
Riverview	57.10	18.85	31.63	22.82	26.31	5.69	13.56
Southgate	61.97	16.57	29.60	17.79	28.15	9.44	15.02
Taylor	61.22	25.07	20.51	21.59	26.59	9.88	21.42
Wyandotte	63.75	18.16	26.04	23.50	24.96	9.34	16.16
St. Clair County							
Port Huron	61.52	29.07	19.57	27.52	26.13	6.46	20.32

A4. Table 9. (cont'd)

County Place	Civilian Labor Force Participation	Civilian Unemployed	Managerial & Professional	Service	Sales & Office	Occupations		
						Natural resources, construction, maintenance and repair	Production, transportation, and material moving	
<b>Latino Population</b>								
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>67.66</b>	<b>15.89</b>	<b>20.93</b>	<b>23.47</b>	<b>18.78</b>	<b>14.75</b>		<b>22.08</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>67.83</b>	<b>15.45</b>	<b>24.63</b>	<b>24.70</b>	<b>20.56</b>	<b>12.48</b>		<b>17.63</b>
Oakland county								
Auburn Hills	73.51	9.01	15.96	37.88	11.21	18.38		16.57
Pontiac	72.07	21.50	11.22	32.66	23.29	17.11		15.73
Wixom	81.30	7.51	25.13	42.41	8.12	12.30		12.04
Wayne County								
Allen Park	66.16	18.80	9.77	17.89	31.43	16.09		24.81
Dearborn Heights	58.40	29.21	24.60	23.65	15.71	12.54		23.49
Detroit	62.72	22.27	10.57	23.16	18.39	19.58		28.30
Ecorse	62.99	28.21	29.60	28.27	17.86	2.98		50.30
Lincoln Park	69.74	12.84	18.29	30.93	18.98	8.86		22.94
Melvindale	73.60	14.99	25.06	30.86	4.53	26.45		13.10
River Rouge	68.00	38.24	22.51	20.35	8.66	3.90		44.59
Riverview	78.59	11.76	11.93	48.77	8.42	11.23		19.65
Southgate	72.51	13.71	15.22	28.17	31.51	6.94		18.16
Taylor	71.38	13.09	20.93	14.73	27.93	8.60		27.80
Wyandotte	66.95	22.15	6.10	43.70	29.07	13.01		8.13
St. Clair County								
Port Huron	67.04	12.24	13.70	31.25	23.80	10.34		20.91

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5 - Year American Community Survey.

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high wage services (information, finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing, and professional education services, and health care and social assistance, 25.9 percent in consumer services (i.e., retail trade, arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services, and other services, except public administration), and 3.8 percent in public administrative, respectively.

Comparatively, at least 17.0 percent of the civilian labor force 16 years and old was employed in manufacturing industries in six of the 15 communities: Auburn Hills (20.6%), Taylor (18.8%), Port Huron (18.8%), Wixom (18.0%), Lincoln Park (17.8%), and Allen Park (17.7%). The lowest rate of manufacturing employment was in Detroit (12.3%), followed by Pontiac (12.7%). Consumer service is the predominant source of employment. At least one fourth of the civilian labor force 16 years and old was employed in consumer services in Pontiac (34.7%), Port Huron (33.4%), Melvindale (32.0%), River Rouge (31.2%), Wyandotte (30.3%), Dearborn Heights (30.6%), Wixom (30.3%), Taylor (28.7%), Detroit (27.2%), Ecorse (28.5%), Auburn Hills (25.4%), and Allen Park (25.3%). Educational services, health care and social assistance is another important source of employment in the selected communities. At least one fifth of the civilian labor force 16 years and old was employed in educational services, health care and social assistance services in Detroit (26.1%), Riverview (25.5%), Allen Park (24.2%), Pontiac (23.6%), Port Huron (23.3%), Dearborn Heights (23.0%), Melvindale (23.0%), Southgate (21.4%), River Rouge (20.6%), Ecorse (20.3%), and Wyandotte (20.0%) (Table 10).

#### **10. Commuting Time to Work**

Table 11 displays the frequency distribution of commuting time to work in minutes for the selected communities. In 2009-2013, the average commuting time to work for workers age 16 years of age and older was 24 minutes. At least 60 percent of workers age 16 years and older in the selected communities commute for less than 30 minutes and at least 80 percent of workers age 16 years and older commute to work for less than 45 minutes (Table 11).

A4. Table 10. Industry of Employment in the Top 15 Latino Communities in Southeast Michigan, 2009-2013

County/Place	Extractive	Construction	Manufacturing	Distributive services	High wage services	Educational services, Health Care, and Social Assistance	Consumer Services	Public Administration
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>1.35</b>	<b>4.76</b>	<b>16.94</b>	<b>6.62</b>	<b>16.37</b>	<b>24.20</b>	<b>25.90</b>	<b>3.85</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>0.37</b>	<b>4.21</b>	<b>16.80</b>	<b>6.67</b>	<b>19.06</b>	<b>24.35</b>	<b>25.02</b>	<b>3.52</b>
Oakland County								
Auburn Hills	0.35	3.65	20.60	3.80	9.00	19.14	25.42	2.15
Pontiac	0.18	5.79	12.71	4.71	6.47	23.60	34.69	3.13
Wixom	0.00	3.11	17.98	6.36	9.76	16.09	30.25	3.36
Wayne County								
Allen Park	0.31	4.84	17.68	9.95	7.77	24.19	25.25	2.32
Dearborn Heights	0.30	3.41	15.05	8.82	6.11	23.03	30.61	2.97
Detroit	0.42	3.36	12.32	7.53	7.01	26.06	27.17	5.40
Ecorse	0.00	7.74	15.26	8.11	8.22	20.32	28.47	4.09
Lincoln Park	0.05	6.05	17.78	10.83	5.38	18.19	31.97	1.92
Melvindale	0.00	4.04	14.90	9.85	5.25	23.03	31.21	1.46
River Rouge	0.00	5.00	15.30	16.53	4.08	20.60	24.55	1.14
Riverview	0.20	3.57	16.07	8.30	10.18	25.47	22.51	4.75
Southgate	0.40	4.14	16.62	12.14	8.01	21.45	24.69	3.19
Taylor	0.17	4.79	18.79	12.63	5.73	18.28	28.74	2.31
Wyandotte	0.26	5.09	15.21	7.37	6.59	20.03	30.25	3.64
St. Clair County								
Port Huron	0.83	3.08	18.82	5.65	5.73	23.30	33.40	3.89

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5 - Year American Community Survey.

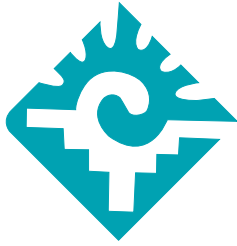
**A4. Table 11. Commuting Time to Work (minutes) in the Top 15 Latino Communities in Southeast Michigan, 2009-2013**

<b>County\Place</b>	<b>Less than 15 minutes</b>	<b>15 – 29 minutes</b>	<b>30 – 44 minutes</b>	<b>45 – 59 minutes</b>	<b>60- 89 minutes</b>	<b>90 minutes or more</b>
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>29.62</b>	<b>38.38</b>	<b>19.19</b>	<b>6.91</b>	<b>4.03</b>	<b>1.86</b>
<b>SE Michigan</b>	<b>23.19</b>	<b>38.41</b>	<b>23.67</b>	<b>8.54</b>	<b>4.52</b>	<b>1.66</b>
Oakland county						
Auburn Hills	30.61	37.04	18.37	7.54	3.70	2.75
Pontiac	32.48	41.71	16.41	4.00	4.40	0.99
Wixom	25.18	37.12	21.61	12.13	2.45	1.50
Wayne County						
Allen Park	27.53	47.43	15.54	4.87	3.22	1.40
Dearborn Heights	24.94	44.88	19.09	7.14	2.40	1.55
Detroit	19.17	43.40	23.37	6.39	4.72	2.95
Ecorse	18.81	60.91	16.36	1.42	1.23	1.26
Lincoln Park	25.15	47.26	17.60	5.33	2.56	2.09
Melvindale	35.19	41.09	18.54	3.69	0.76	0.74
River Rouge	21.65	42.66	20.59	10.78	3.39	0.93
Riverview	35.90	30.02	17.38	9.77	6.29	0.64
Southgate	26.96	40.20	19.39	8.08	3.95	1.43
Taylor	27.95	42.92	19.62	5.48	2.69	1.35
Wyandotte	29.29	37.19	21.99	8.97	2.18	0.39
St. Clair County						
Port Huron	48.77	31.06	8.55	4.22	5.79	1.62

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5 - Year American Community Survey.

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For More Information

Contact: (517) 432-1317 | [jsamorai@msu.edu](mailto:jsamorai@msu.edu)