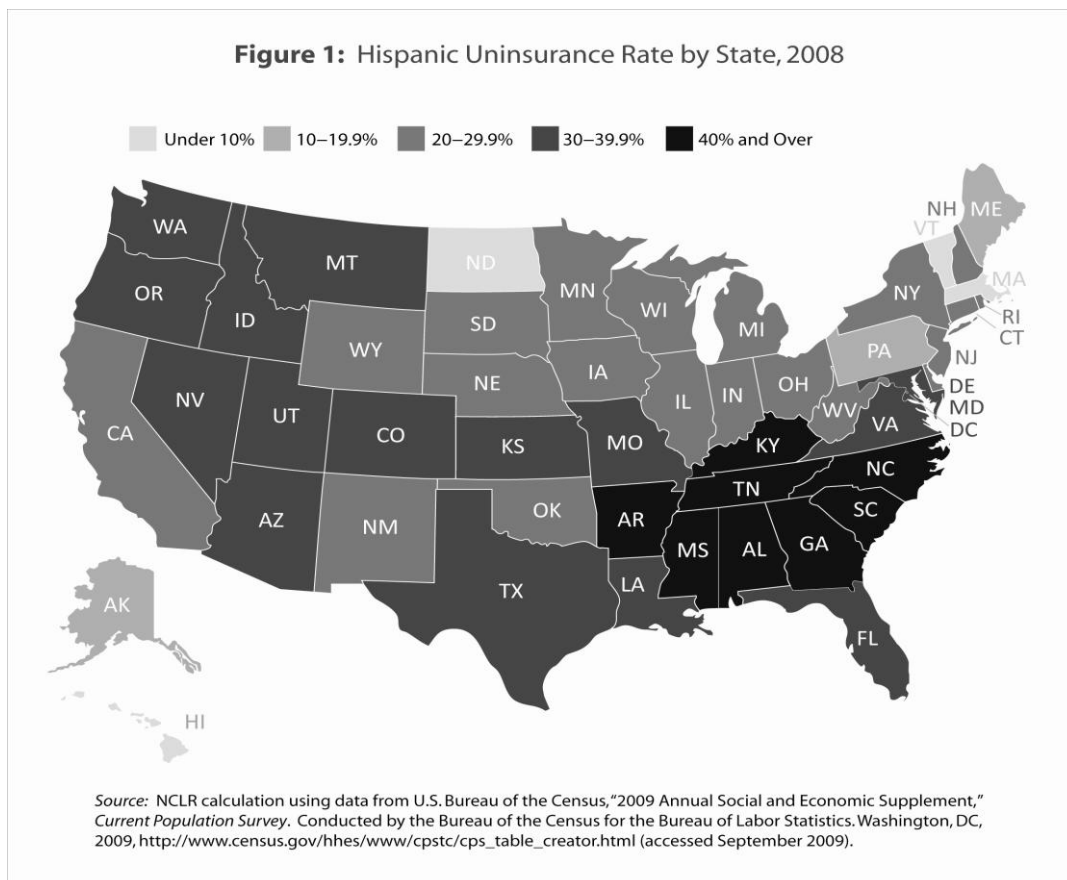


## Latinos and Health Coverage: Illinois by the Numbers

Latinos<sup>1</sup> are more likely to be uninsured than any other racial or ethnic group in the U.S. However, Hispanic families' access to health insurance varies by state (see Figure 1). In Illinois:

- ❖ Latinos have inadequate access to the current health coverage system. In 2008, only about one-half (51%) of all Latinos living in Illinois had employer-sponsored health insurance, and more than one-fifth (22.4%) were covered by Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program.<sup>2</sup>
- ❖ As a result, Latino families are at risk for uninsurance. That year, nearly one in four (24.6%) Latinos in Illinois were uninsured, and one in ten (10%) Latino children under age 18 had no form of health coverage.<sup>3</sup>
- ❖ Latinos are overrepresented among the uninsured. Although Hispanics made up nearly one-eighth (13.5%) of the total state population in 2008, they represented about one-quarter (25.8%) of Illinois's uninsured.<sup>4</sup>



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<sup>1</sup> The terms "Hispanic" and "Latino" are used interchangeably by the U.S. Census Bureau and throughout this document to refer to persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central and South American, Dominican, Spanish, and other Hispanic descent; they may be of any race. Furthermore, unless otherwise noted, estimates in this document do not include the 3.9 million residents of Puerto Rico.

<sup>2</sup> NCLR calculation using data for the U.S. Bureau of the Census, "2009 Annual Social and Economic Supplement," *Current Population Survey*. Conducted by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Washington, DC, 2009, [http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/cpstc/cps\\_table\\_creator.html](http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/cpstc/cps_table_creator.html).

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.