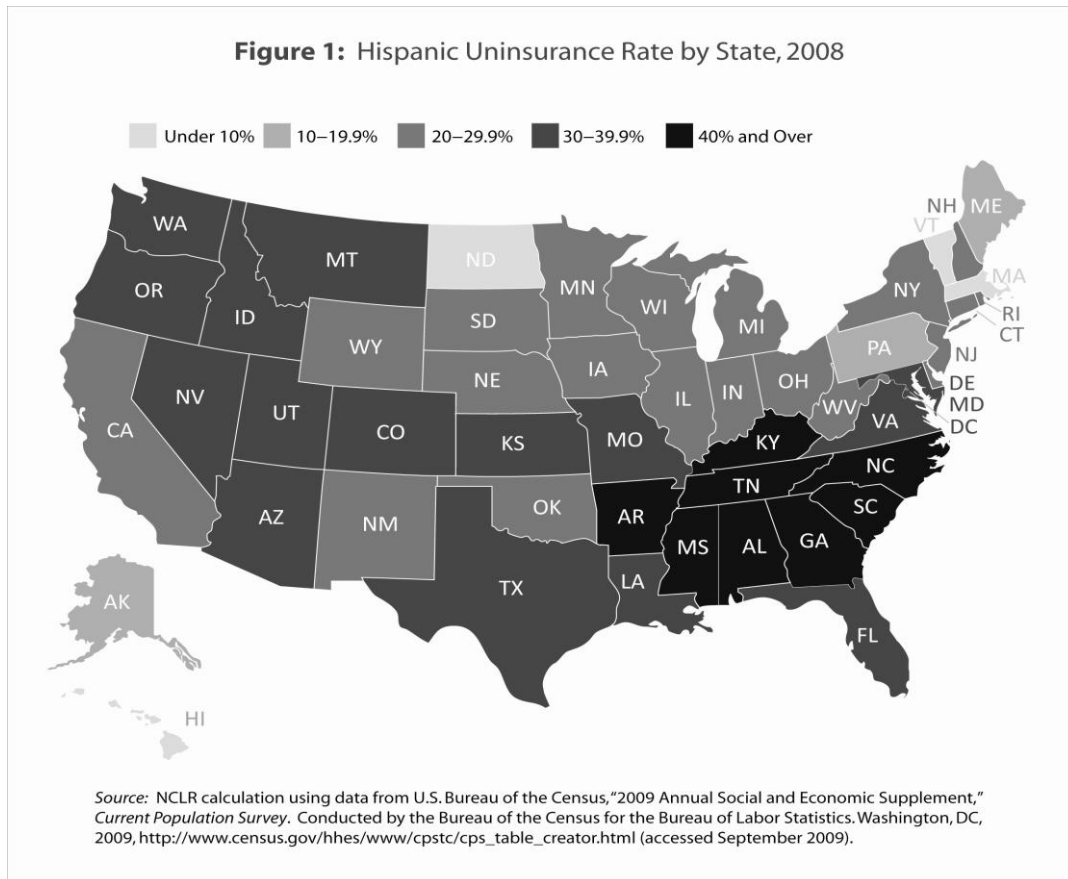


## Latinos and Health Coverage: West Virginia by the Numbers

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 West Virginia:

- ❖ Latinos have inadequate access to the current health coverage system. In 2008, only about one-half (55.4%) of all Latinos living in West Virginia had employer-sponsored health insurance, and less than one-sixth (15.1%) 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, more nearly one in four (23.1%) Latinos in West Virginia were uninsured, and about one in ten (10.4%) Latino children under age 18 had no form of health coverage.<sup>3</sup>
- ❖ Latinos are a small but critical share of the uninsured. Hispanics made up 1.5% of the total state population in 2008 and represented 2.3% of West Virginia'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.