

# An Economic Profile of the Latino Community in Long Beach



Photo by AdamTaylorPhotos.com

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LONG BEACH



**Sponsored by the California Department of Social Services**

# INTRODUCTION



We are pleased to present to you, a summary presentation of “An Economic Profile of the Latino Community in Long Beach.” – a project sponsored by the California Department of Social Services.

The context for this report came about through a series of mutually inspired CSULB-community conversations among different stakeholder groups that focused on the lack of a comprehensive economic “profile” of Latinos in Long Beach. Thus, came the idea of developing a demographic “snapshot” of Latinos in Long Beach with a socio-economic framing.

This resulted in a series of follow-up, strategic and conceptual conversations about producing a “Latino Economic Report for Long Beach.” About a year ago, Jessica Quintana, Executive Director at Centro CHA, and I spoke about the scope of what a project like this could potentially entail. With Centro CHA well-positioned to lead this effort, we immediately thought about inviting Seiji Steimetz, Professor and Chair of Economics at CSULB, who enthusiastically jumped on board.

We proceeded to embark on a campus-community, multi-stakeholder approach to further develop a plan and scope which included:

1. Additional conceptual/planning meetings;
2. Establishing a “working group” for feedback, input, and consultation;
3. Expanding to include a broader range of stakeholders (including, but not limited to, the Port of Long Beach, the City of Long Beach and its Economic Development Department, the County of Los Angeles, and the non-profit sector for participation in additional planning meetings); and
4. Collecting, producing, and presenting our data-driven findings. (Dr. Steimetz oversaw the team in all steps of this process.)

Through this effort, Randal Hernandez, Chair of the Long Beach Economic Development Commission, and Sergio Ramirez, Deputy Director of Economic and Property Development for the City of Long Beach, have also taken on key, strategic partnership roles.

This first-iteration, summary report serves as a starting point to better understand, analyze and address key economic, health, and educational issues affecting Latinos in Long Beach. The approach emphasizes:

- Campus-Community Partnership development (leveraging institutional resources)
- A multi-stakeholder, community-engagement strategy for planning, development and dissemination
- Focusing on key, community-identified needs
- Examining data through policy lenses and systems frameworks
- Presenting an initial snapshot with plans on producing on-going, future iterations

In short, this report and summary serve as a first, initial step to: (i) share in community settings; (ii) spark conversations around key policy considerations and implications; (iii) serve as a mechanism for updates, on-going work, further development, and dissemination; and (iv) help to inform future research and decision-making in these areas.

# POPULATION

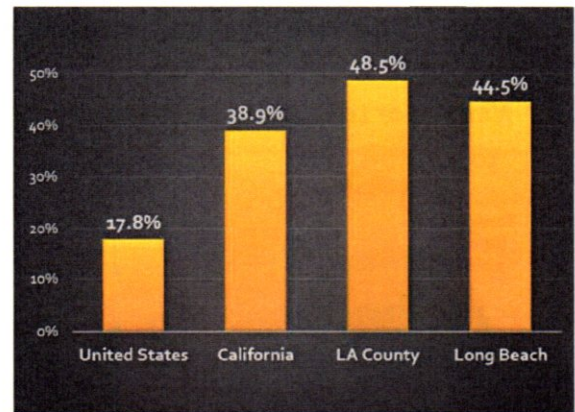


- Over **209,000** Latinos live in Long Beach, accounting for **44.5%** of the city's population.

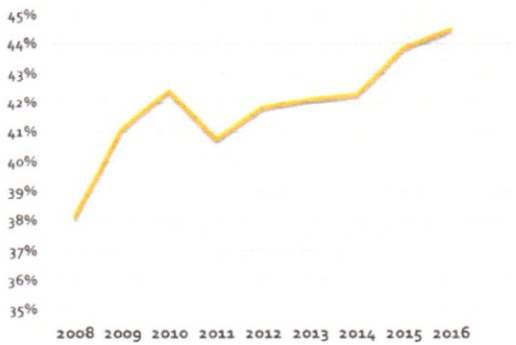
Latinos account for 48.5% of Los Angeles County's population, 38.9% of California's population, and 17.8% of the nation's population.

- 20%** of Long Beach's Veteran and active duty population is Latino.

**LATINO PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION**



**LATINO PERCENTAGE OF LONG BEACH POPULATION**



- The Latino share of Long Beach's population has increased by **12.5%** over the last decade, as compared to 4.5% growth in Los Angeles County.

- Most of Long Beach's Latino population is concentrated in the north, northwest, and southwest areas of the city.

**LATINO NEIGHBORHOODS IN LONG BEACH**



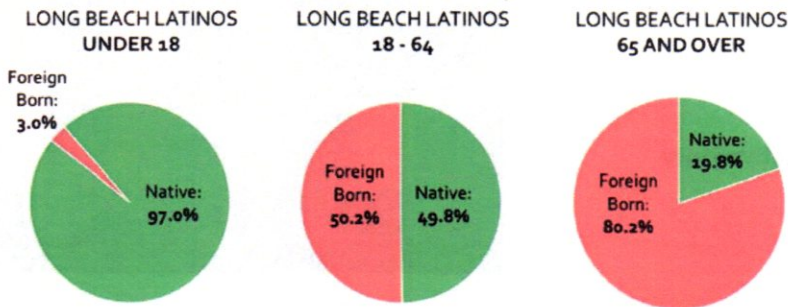
# POPULATION



- ◆ **83.6%** of Long Beach Latinos are of Mexican heritage.

**12.4%** are of heritage from Central American or South American countries.

## NATIVITY OF LONG BEACH LATINOS



- ◆ **37%** of all Long Beach Latinos are foreign born

**3%** of Long Beach Latinos under the age of 18 are foreign born.

- ◆ **99%** of Long Beach Latinos speak at least some English.

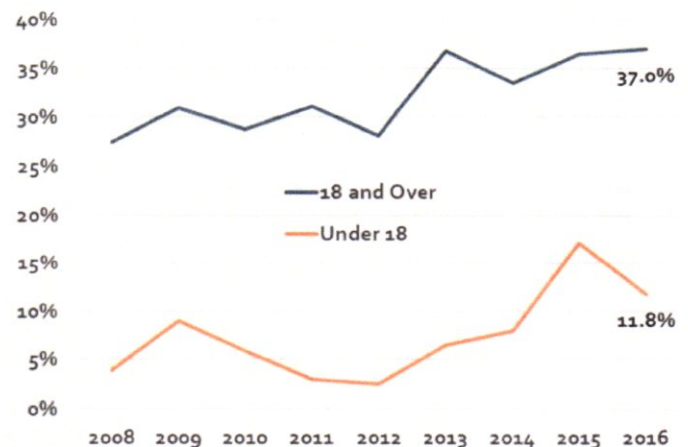
- ◆ **11.8%** of Long Beach foreign-born Latinos under the age of 18 are naturalized citizens.

This citizenship rate has **more than doubled** over the last decade.

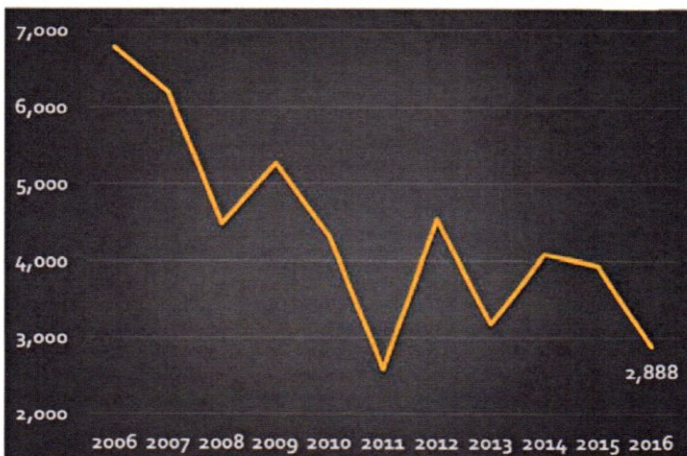
- ◆ **37%** of Long Beach foreign-born Latinos aged 18 and over are naturalized citizens.

This citizenship rate has increased by **35%** over the last decade.

## CITIZENSHIP OF FOREIGN BORN LATINOS IN LONG BEACH



## LONG BEACH POPULATION OF FOREIGN BORN CHILDREN



- ◆ There are **2,888** foreign-born Latinos under the age of 18 in Long Beach.

About **2,547** of them are not U.S. Citizens

- ◆ The population of foreign-born Latino children in Long Beach has declined by **57.4%** over the last decade

# EDUCATION

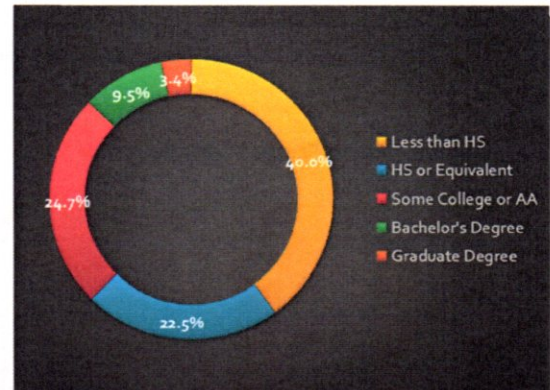


- ◆ **60%** of Long Beach Latinos aged 25 and over have at least a high school diploma or equivalent, as compared to 91% of all other Long Beach residents in that age group.

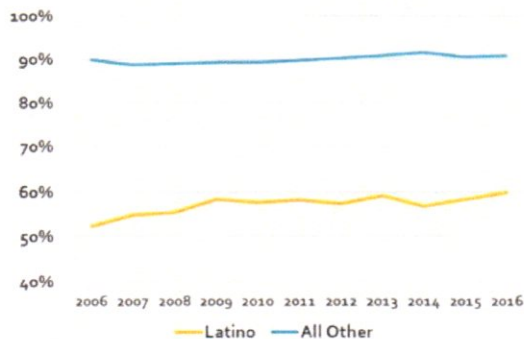
**87.3%** of **native** Long Beach Latinos aged 25 and over have at least a high school diploma, as compared to 94% of all other native residents.

**42.7%** of **foreign-born** Long Beach Latinos aged 25 and over have at least a high school diploma.

**EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF LONG BEACH LATINOS AGED 25 AND OVER**

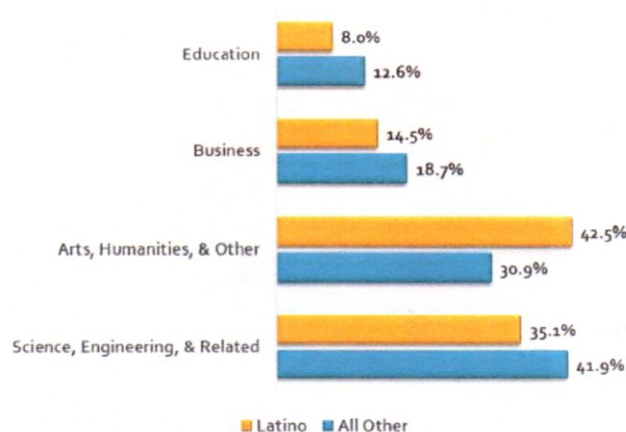


**LONG BEACH RESIDENTS WITH AT LEAST A HS DIPLOMA (AGE 25+)**



- ◆ The share of Latinos aged 25 and over with at least a high school diploma has increased by **15.4%** over the last decade, as compared to an increase of 2.6% among all other Long Beach residents in that age group.

- ◆ **43,000** Latino children are enrolled in Kindergarten through High School, accounting for **58%** of Long Beach's K-12 residents.
- ◆ **17,000** Latinos are enrolled in college, accounting for **44%** of Long Beach's collegiate residents.



- ◆ **13.9%** of Long Beach Latinos aged 25 and over have a bachelor's degree or higher.

**24.3%** of **native** Long Beach Latinos in that age group have at least a bachelor's degree.

**6.9%** of **foreign-born** Long Beach Latinos have at least a bachelor's degree.

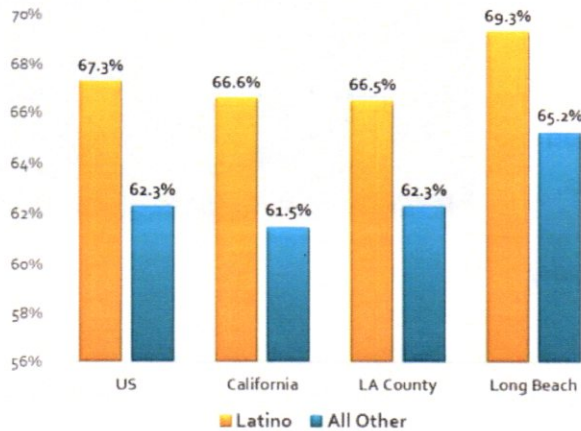
- ◆ "Arts, Humanities, and Other" is the most popular bachelor's degree category among Long Beach Latino college graduates.

# EMPLOYMENT



- ◆ **105,000** Long Beach Latinos participate in the region’s labor force, representing **42%** of Long Beach’s working population aged 16 and over.
- ◆ The Latino share of Long Beach’s working population has grown by **18.8%** over the last decade.

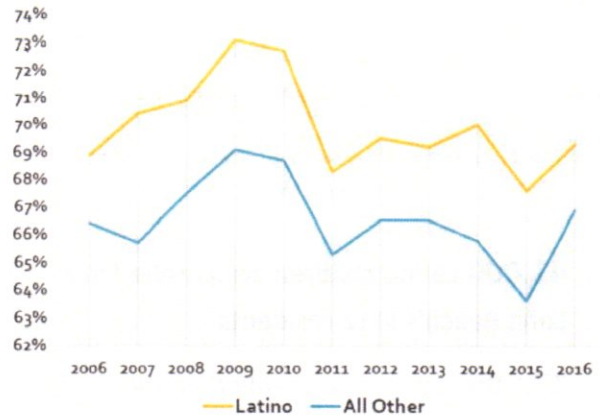
## LATINO LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION



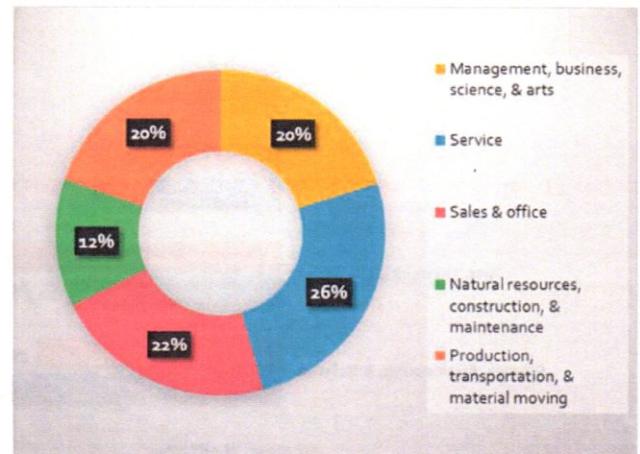
- ◆ During difficult economic periods, labor force participation growth is more pronounced among Latinos than it is among all other Long Beach residents.

- ◆ The labor force participation rate among Long Beach Latinos is **69.3%**, as compared to 65.2% among all other working-age Long Beach residents.
- ◆ Labor force participation among Latinos is also substantially higher across the county, state, and nation, possibly due to a preponderance of multi-worker households.

## LONG BEACH LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION



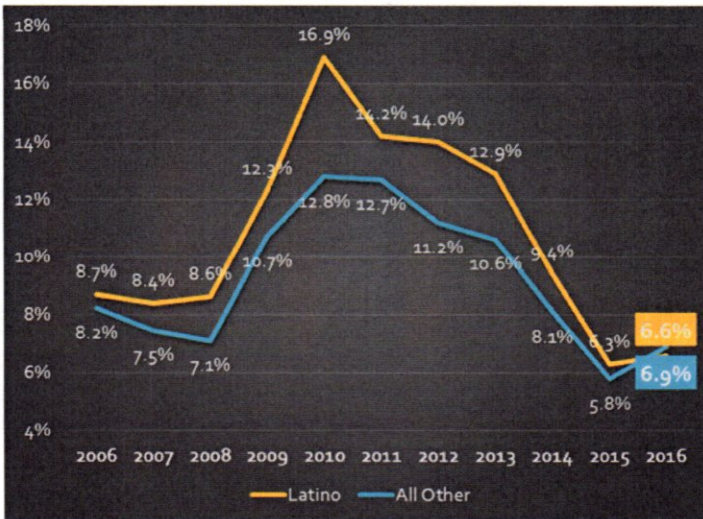
- ◆ **26%** of employed Long Beach Latinos work in the “Service” sector, compared to 17% of all other employed residents.
- ◆ **32%** of Long Beach Latinos work in the “Natural Resources, Construction, & Maintenance” or “Production, Transportation, & Material Moving” sectors, as compared to 13% of all others.
- ◆ **20%** of employed Long Beach Latinos work in the “management, business, science, & arts” sector, as compared to 48% of all others.



# EMPLOYMENT



## LONG BEACH UNEMPLOYMENT

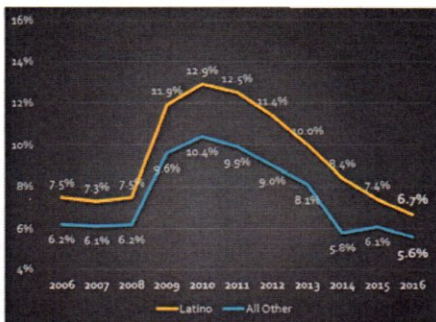


- ◆ In 2016, the unemployment rate among Long Beach Latinos was **6.6%**, compared to a 6.9% unemployment rate for all other Long Beach residents in the labor force.
- ◆ During difficult economic periods, however, unemployment rates among Long Beach Latinos were substantially greater than for all other Long Beach residents.

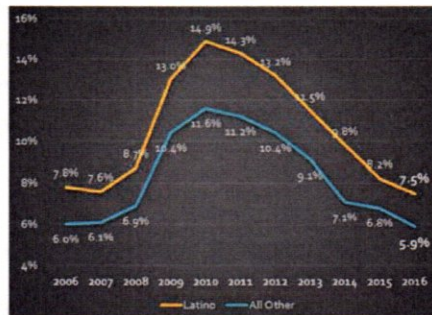
- ◆ A similar pattern exists in county, state, and national unemployment rates. During difficult economic periods, rising unemployment is more drastic for Latinos than for all others in the labor force.

This helps to explain why Latino labor force participation rates increase dramatically during difficult economic periods.

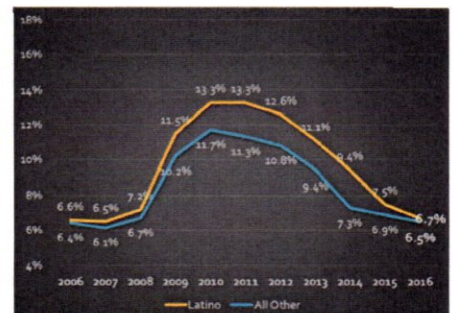
## U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT



## CALIFORNIA UNEMPLOYMENT



## L.A. COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT



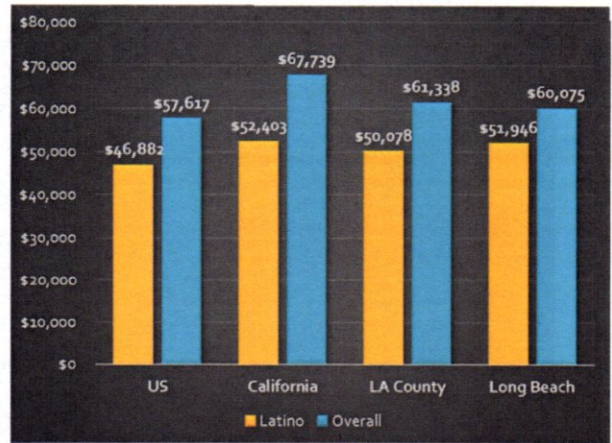
# INCOME



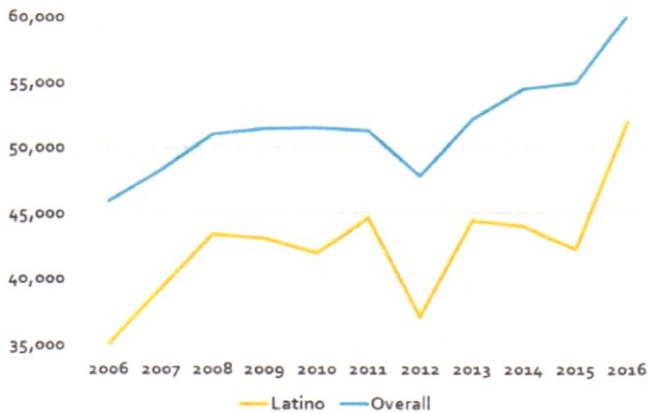
- ◆ There are **61,428** Latino households in Long Beach, accounting for **37%** of all Long Beach households.
- ◆ The median annual income of Latino households in Long Beach is **\$52,000**, which is 13.3% lower than the overall median of \$60,000.

The median income of all other households in Long Beach is \$66,000, which is 27% greater than for Latino households.

**MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME**



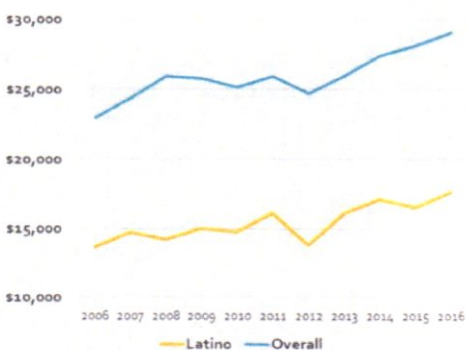
**LONG BEACH MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME**



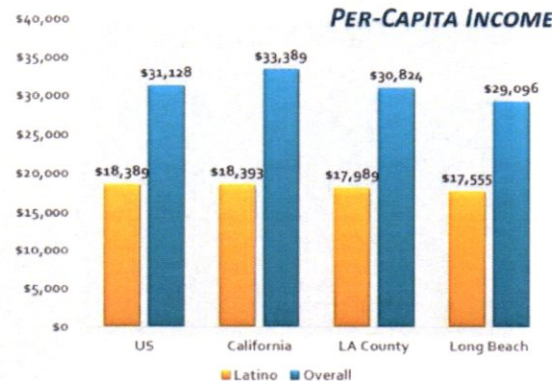
- ◆ Long Beach Latino household incomes have increased by **48.3%** over the last decade, but have remained systematically lower than overall household incomes.
- ◆ When household incomes fall, they fall more drastically for Latino households.

- ◆ Per-capita income for Long Beach Latinos is **\$17,555**, which is 40% lower than Long Beach's overall per-capita income of \$29,096.

**LONG BEACH PER-CAPITA INCOME**



**PER-CAPITA INCOME**



- ◆ Latino per-capita income has increased by **28.3%** over the last decade, but has remained systematically lower than Long Beach's overall per-capita income.

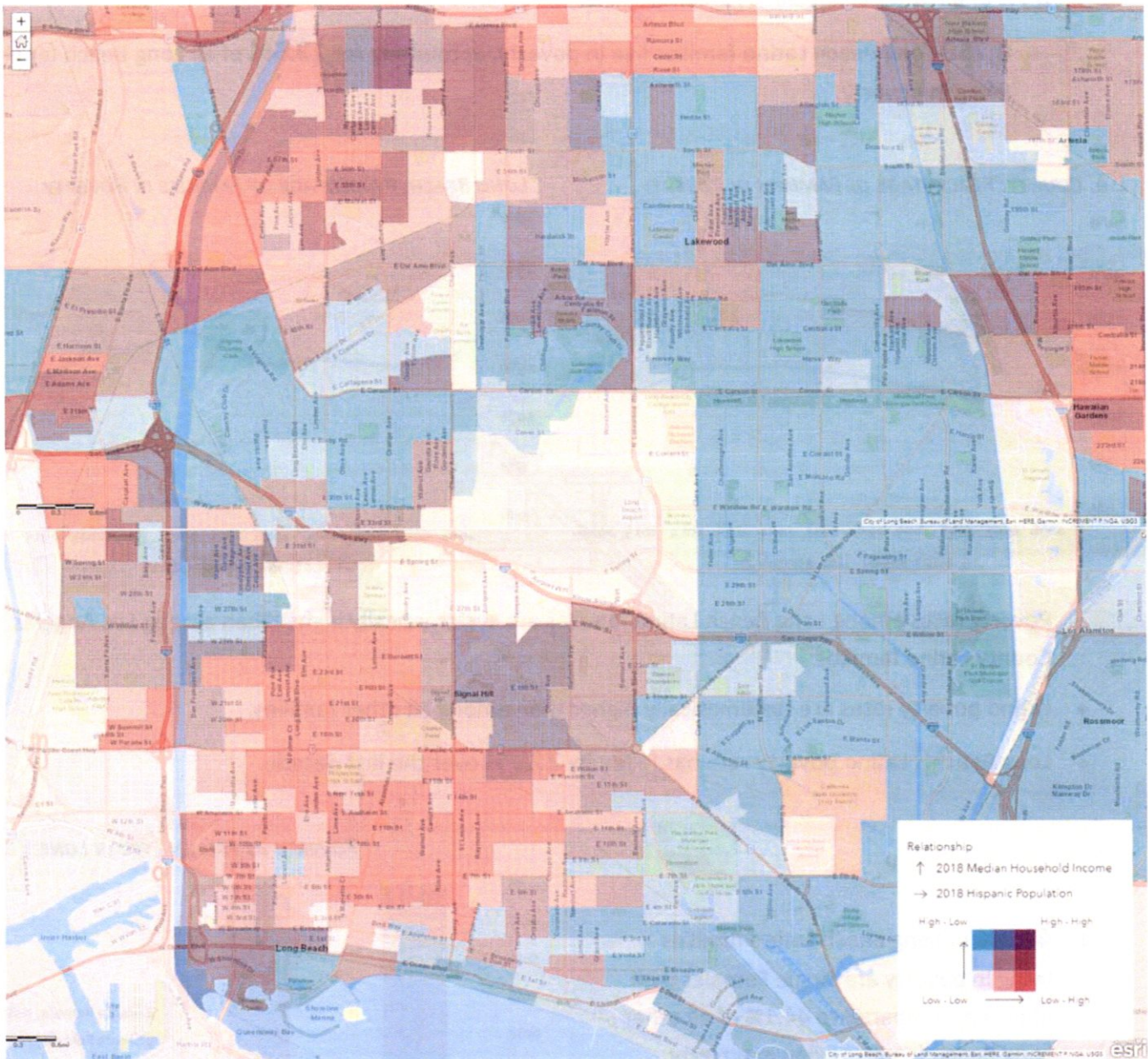


# INCOME



## LONG BEACH LATINO NEIGHBORHOODS AND HOUSEHOLD INCOMES

(Red areas have larger Latino populations combined with lower median household incomes)



- ◆ The southwest region of Long Beach has a high concentration of Latino neighborhoods with low median household incomes.
- ◆ The north and northwest regions of the city also include several Latino neighborhoods with low median household incomes.

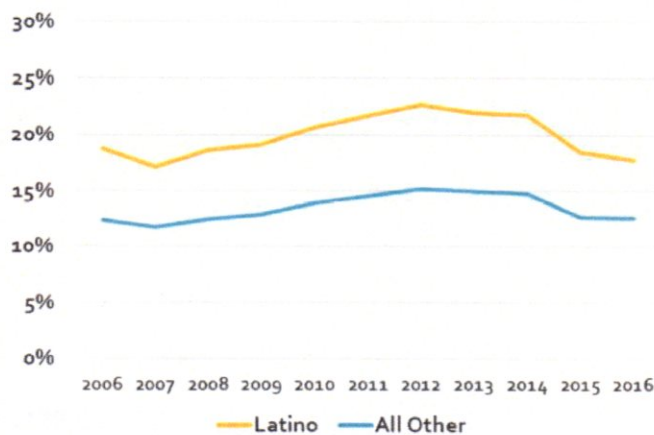
# POVERTY



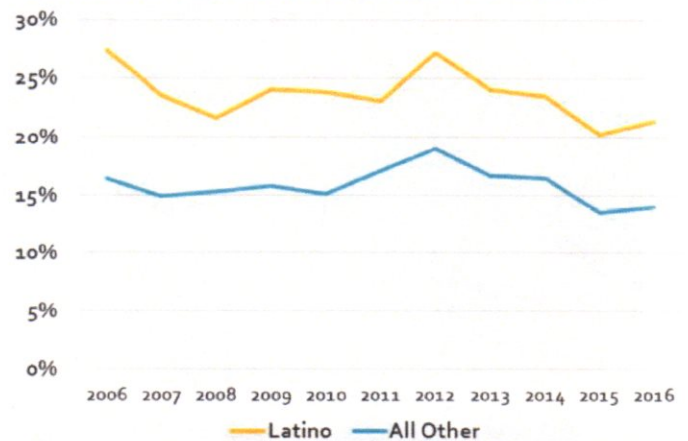
- ◆ There are **40,889** Latino families in Long Beach, representing **42%** of Long Beach's 97,554 families.
- ◆ **More than one out of every five** Long Beach Latino families live in poverty (21%), compared to 8.7% of all other Long Beach Families.

**8,750** Long Beach Latino families live in poverty, accounting for **29.5%** of all Long Beach families living in poverty.

**L.A. COUNTY: PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES IN POVERTY**



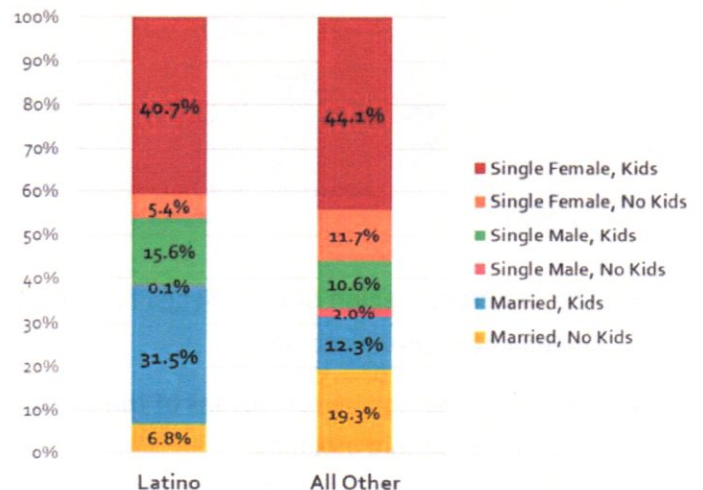
**LONG BEACH: PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES IN POVERTY**



- ◆ Poverty rates among Long Beach Latino families are systematically higher than among Los Angeles County Latino families.
- ◆ Latino poverty rates are systematically higher than among all other families.
- ◆ Long Beach's Latino poverty rate has fallen by **21.7%** over the last decade.

- ◆ **40.7%** of Long Beach Latino families living in poverty are Single Females with Children, compared to 44.1% of all other Long Beach families living in poverty.
- ◆ **31.5%** of Long Beach Latino families living in poverty are Married Couples with Children, compared to 12.3% of all other Long Beach families living in poverty.

**POVERTY BY FAMILY TYPE IN LONG BEACH**

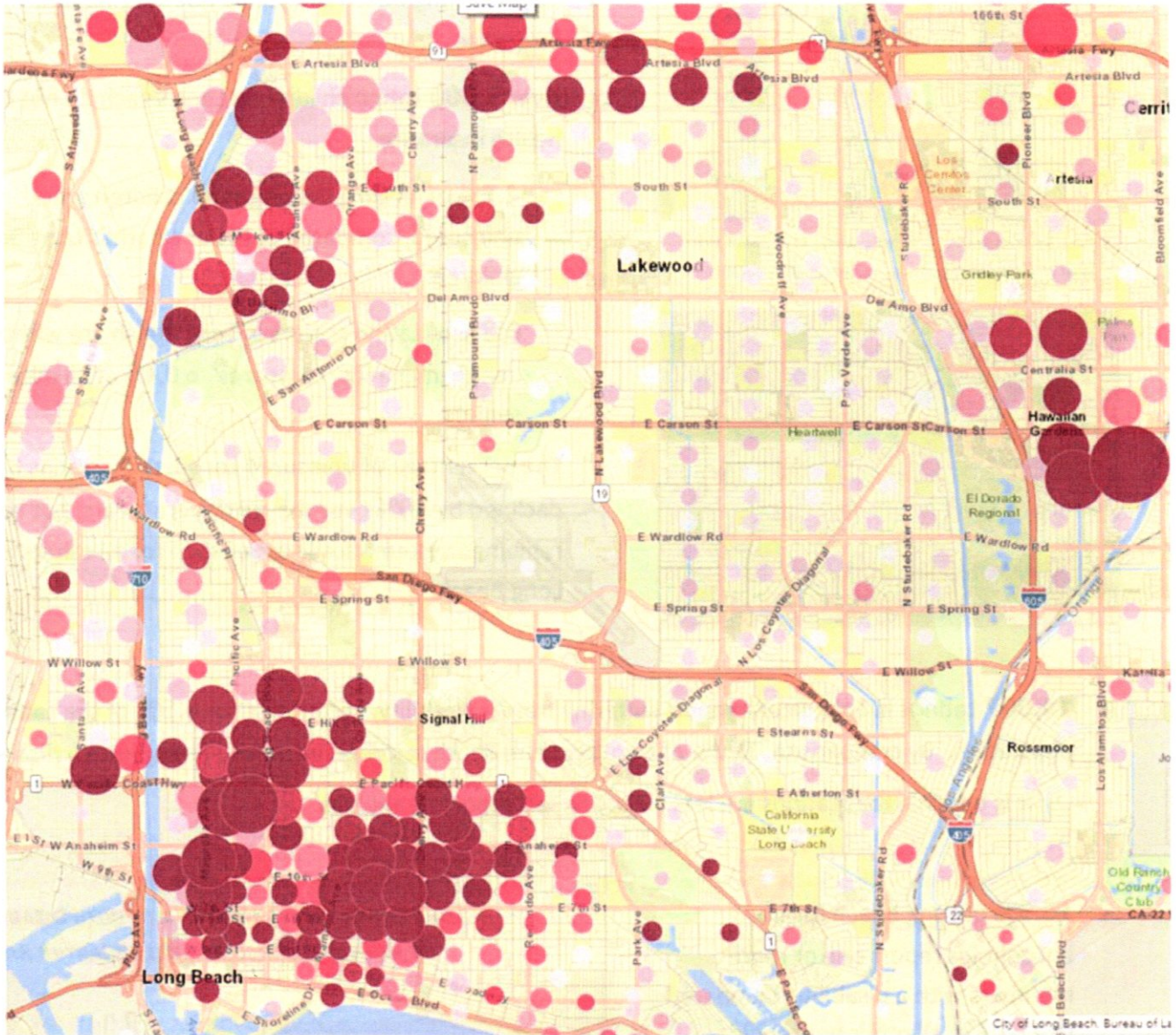


# POVERTY

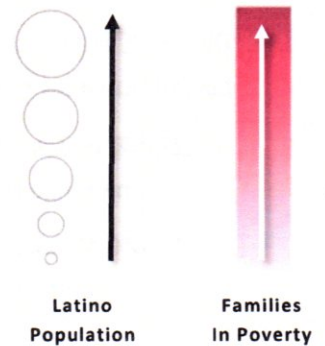


## POVERTY AND LATINO NEIGHBORHOODS IN LONG BEACH

(Larger circles represent larger Latino populations. Darker red represents more families in poverty.)



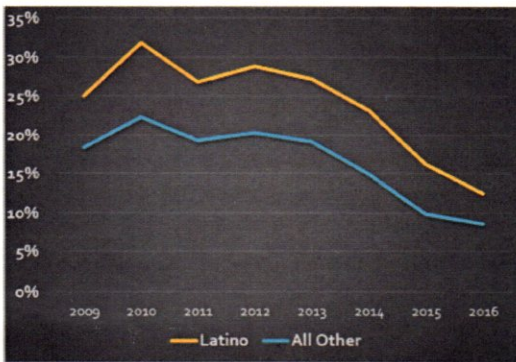
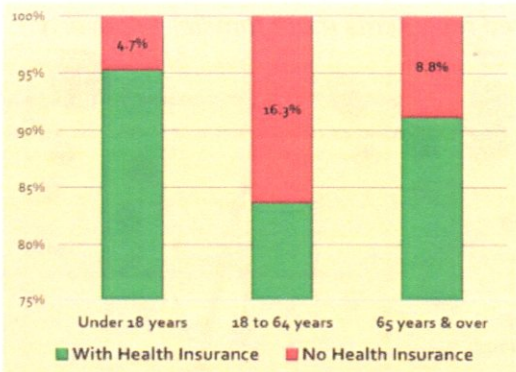
- ◆ Long Beach neighborhoods with larger Latino populations also tend to have greater concentrations of families living in poverty.
- ◆ Poverty-stricken neighborhoods are clustered in the southwest, northwest, and northern areas of the city.



# HEALTH



## HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE OF LONG BEACH LATINOS



- ◆ **23,000** Long Beach Latinos do not have health insurance.
- ◆ Over **3,000** Latino children in Long Beach do not have health insurance.

**4.7%** of all Long Beach Latino children are uninsured, compared to 2% of all other Long Beach children.

**8.8%** of Latino seniors in Long Beach are without health insurance, compared to 0.4% of all other seniors.

- ◆ The percentage of uninsured Long Beach Latinos has declined by **50%** over the last several years, but has remained systematically larger than for all others in Long Beach.

- ◆ **14,007** Latinos in Long Beach report suffering from a disability, accounting for **6.5%** of the Latino population. By comparison, 12.2% of all other Long Beach residents report suffering from a disability.

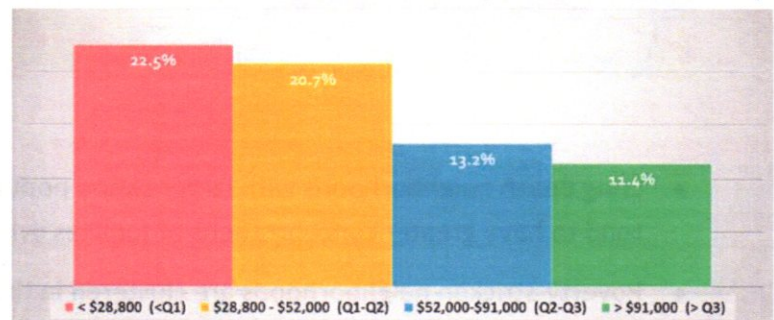
It is possible that Latinos are less willing to self-report disabilities.

- ◆ **16.9%** of Long Beach Latino households report one or more members with a disability, compared to 21.1% of all other households.
- ◆ Disability is associated with lower Latino household incomes

**22.5%** of households in the lowest income range report a disability

**11.4%** of households in the highest income range report a disability

## LONG BEACH LATINO HOUSEHOLDS WITH DISABILITIES BY HOUSEHOLD INCOME (INTERQUARTILE RANGES)





## DATA SOURCES

Esri ArcGIS

<https://www.arcgis.com/>

Long Beach openLB

<http://www.longbeach.gov/openlb/>

United States Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2006–2016

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs>

United States Census Bureau Public Use Microdata Sample, 2016

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/pums.html>

## SPECIAL THANKS TO

Randall Hernandez, Chairman, City of Long Beach Economic Development Commission

Sergio Ramirez, Deputy Director, City of Long Beach Economic Development Department

... and many more .... including our **September 20 Roundtable Meeting Participants!**

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

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