



Invest in the Future: Support Latino Youth
Updated September 10, 2013

Latino children are our nation’s future workers, taxpayers, and voters. Latino children now make up [almost one in four students](#) enrolled in public schools.¹ By 2050, one in three American workers and taxpayers will be Latino.²

Sequestration is damaging the prospects of Latino youth. Thousands of Latino youth have lost access to meaningful investments in health and education as a result of the cuts mandated by the Budget Control Act (BCA) in 2011. Meanwhile, the deficit continues to drop dramatically with the improving economy—[it fell by 38% in 2013](#)—so the rationale for more spending cuts makes less and less sense.³

**Effect of Sequestration Cuts in Terms of
 People Losing Access to Programs and Services**

Federal Budget Items	Importance to Latinos	Effects of Automatic Cuts⁴ (5.1% cut across the board on March 1, 2013)
Head Start	37% of all Head Start preschoolers are Latino—over 300,000 ⁵	57,000 fewer children served, including 21,000 Latino kids ⁶
Child Care Development Block Grant	20% of children who receive a child care subsidy are Latino ⁷	30,000 fewer children served nationwide, including 6,000 Latino children
WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Nutrition Assistance	42% of WIC participants—low-income pregnant women, infants, and children—are Latino ⁸	No participants have been cut in 2013, but cuts affecting programs have occurred. ⁹ In 2014 approximately 600,000 participants could lose access to WIC. ¹⁰
Title I Education (Funding for Low-Income Schools)	42% of Latino elementary school children attend high-poverty schools ¹¹	1.2 million fewer low-income public school children receive reading and math help due to cuts in Title I funding
Job Training	32% of all youth enrolled in federal job training programs are Latino ¹²	290,936 fewer adults and youth receive job training and employment services ¹³
Rental Assistance	15% of people receiving federal rental subsidies are Latino ¹⁴	125,000 households lose tenant-based rental assistance, including 18,000 Latino families

Affordable Care Act*	30% of Latinos now lack health insurance; ¹⁵ six million Latinos gain access to care through the Affordable Care Act ¹⁶	Community health centers cut; options for newly insured scaled back; ACA exchange grants cut. ¹⁷ <i>ACA repeal eyed for larger budget deal.</i>
Social Security Benefits	53% of Latino seniors rely on Social Security for almost all of their income ¹⁸	<i>Exempt from automatic cuts but could be subject to cuts in a larger deficit reduction deal.</i> ¹⁹
Medicaid	Half of Latino children and one-quarter of Latino adults are insured by Medicaid. ²⁰	<i>Exempt from automatic cuts but could be subject to cuts in a larger deficit reduction deal.</i> ²¹

The investments we make in today’s youth will ensure future prosperity for all Americans. Our nation must invest in children and new workers by funding—not slashing—education, health care, workforce development, housing, and tax credits that help hardworking families such as the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit. Cuts to Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid which affect future beneficiaries mean that today’s diverse youth will be dealt a double hit: cuts to programs they need today and cuts to their safety net in old age. Congress should produce a fair and responsible long-term budget plan that grows the economy, invests in the future, protects vulnerable people, and reduces the deficit by raising revenue and reducing tax loopholes that benefit the top 2% and wealthy corporations.

Notes

¹ National Council of La Raza, “Latino Kids Data Explorer,” <http://www.nclr.org/index.php/latinokidsdata> (accessed September 2013).

² Catherine Singley, *Fractures in the Foundation: The Latino Worker’s Experience in an Era of Declining Job Quality* (Washington, DC: National Council of La Raza, 2009), http://www.nclr.org/index.php/publications/fractures_in_the_foundation_the_latino_workers_experience_in_an_era_of_declining_job_quality/#sthash.R0syQA1p.dpuf (accessed September 2013).

³ Congressional Budget Office, *Monthly Budget Review for July 2013*, Washington, DC, Government Printing Office, 2013, <http://www.cbo.gov/publication/44495> (accessed September 2013).

⁴ Unless otherwise specified, all data in this column are from White House Office of the Press Secretary, “Fact Sheet: Examples of How the Sequester Would Impact Middle Class Families, Jobs and Economic Security,” February 8, 2013, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/02/08/fact-sheet-examples-how-sequester-would-impact-middle-class-families-job> (accessed September 2013).

⁵ L. K. Hulsey et al., *Head Start Children, Families, and Programs: Present and Past Data from FACES* (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2011), http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/mr/opre/present_past.pdf (accessed August 2012).

⁶ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, “The Numbers Are In: Sequestration Cuts 57,000 Kids from Head Start,” <http://www.hhs.gov/secretary/about/blogs/head-start-numbers.html> (accessed September 2013).

⁷ Hannah Matthews and Emily Firgens, *Child Care and Development Block Grant Participation in 2010* (Washington DC: Center for Law and Social Policy, April 2012), http://www.clasp.org/admin/site/publications/files/ccdbg-10-participation_final.pdf (accessed August 2013).

⁸ National Council of La Raza, *Profiles of Latino Health: A Closer Look at Latino Child Nutrition* (Washington, DC: National Council of La Raza, 2010), http://www.nclr.org/images/uploads/pages/Jan12_Profiles_Issue_9.pdf (accessed September 2013).

⁹ Email from Martelle Esposito, National WIC Association, to Zoila Sanchez, National Council of La Raza, August 20, 2013.

¹⁰ NCLR calculation using White House Office of the Press Secretary, “Fact Sheet: Examples of How the Sequester Would Impact Middle Class Families, Jobs and Economic Security.” Estimate based on original cut in 2013 before the Senate reduced the cut to WIC participants.

* Medicare and health clinics are cut by 2% in sequestration. This cut is to provider payments, not to services. In total this is a \$12 billion cut.

¹¹ Elizabeth Dabney, *State ESEA Title I Participation Information for 2003-04* (Rockville, MD: U.S. Department of Education, 2007), <http://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/disadv/participation-2003-04/finalreport.pdf> (accessed September 2013).

¹² Employment and Training Administration, *Workforce Investment Act Performance Highlights, Program Years 2006-2008* (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Labor, 2010), http://www.doleta.gov/performance/results/pdf/WIA_Exiters_Snapshots_PY2006_2008_WEB_Version_1227010.pdf (accessed September 2013).

¹³ National Skills Coalition, *Disinvesting in the Skills of America's Workforce: The Potential Impact of Sequestration on Key Federal Employment and Training Programs* (Washington DC: National Skills Coalition, February 2013), <http://www.nationalskillscoalition.org/resources/reports/federal-reports/disinvesting-in-the-skills-of.html>. Total includes WIA Title I Adult, Youth, and Dislocated Worker State Grants.

¹⁴ U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, "Picture of Subsidized Households," HUD USER Database, <http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/picture/yearlydata.html> (accessed September 2013).

¹⁵ National Council of La Raza, *Fast Facts: Latinos and Healthcare* (Washington, DC: National Council of La Raza, 2011), http://www.nclr.org/images/uploads/publications/FastFacts_LatinosandHealthCare2012.pdf (accessed September 2013).

¹⁶ National Council of La Raza, *A Profile of Latino Health Insurance Gains Under the Affordable Care Act* (Washington, DC: National Council of La Raza, 2011), <http://www.nclr.org/images/uploads/publications/profilelatinoinsurancegains.pdf> (accessed September 2013).

¹⁷ Executive Office of the President of the United States, *OMB Report Pursuant to the Sequestration Transparency Act of 2012 (P. L. 112-155)*.

¹⁸ Social Security Administration, "Income of the Population 55 or Older, 2010," Table 9.A1 and A3, http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/income_pop55 (accessed September 2013).

¹⁹ Richard Kogan, *How the Across-the-Board Cuts in the Budget Control Act Will Work* (Washington, DC: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2013), <http://www.cbpp.org/cms/?fa=view&id=3635> (accessed September 2013).

²⁰ National Council of La Raza, *The Meaning of Medicaid* (Washington, DC: National Council of La Raza, 2011) http://www.nclr.org/index.php/publications/the_meaning_of_medicaid_a_state-by-state_breakdown (accessed September 2013).

²¹ Richard Kogan, *How the Across-the-Board Cuts in the Budget Control Act Will Work*.