Latinos 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 Virginia:

- Latinos have inadequate access to the current health coverage system. In 2008, less than one-half (46.4%) of all Latinos living in Virginia had employer-sponsored health insurance, and only about one-twelfth (8.2%) were covered by Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program.

- As a result, Latino families are at risk for uninsurance. That year, nearly two in five (37.8%) Latinos in Virginia were uninsured, and about one in five (19.4%) Latino children under age 18 had no form of health coverage.

- Latinos are overrepresented among the uninsured. Although Hispanics made up 6.1% of the total state population in 2008, they represented 18.4% of Virginia’s uninsured.

Figure 1: Hispanic Uninsurance Rate by State, 2008

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.


Ibid.

Ibid.