



Trump's Failed Coronavirus Response Has Taken A Devastating Toll On Hispanic Communities Nationwide

PROTECT
OUR CARE

October 2020



Trump's Failed Coronavirus Response Has Taken A Devastating Toll On Hispanic Communities Nationwide

With nearly 200,000 Americans dead and more than 60 million people filing for unemployment, President Trump and his allies have utterly failed to protect America from the coronavirus. Trump is continuing to downplay the danger of the virus, ignoring the recommendations from experts urging him to ramp up testing and rushing states and schools to reopen regardless of whether it's safe to do so. Six months into the pandemic, it has become overwhelmingly clear that Trump's actions have disproportionately hurt America's most vulnerable residents, including communities of color, immigrants, and older adults and seniors.

Years of structural racism have left Hispanic people especially vulnerable to the devastating impact of the coronavirus crisis. Hispanics communities are [far more likely](#) to suffer from chronic illnesses and face barriers to accessing health care, putting them at higher risk for developing serious complications if they contract the coronavirus. These groups are also on the [frontlines](#) of responding to the crisis as health care workers, farmworkers, and other essential roles and are therefore more likely to be exposed to the coronavirus.

HEALTH IMPACT

- Hispanic patients are more than [two and a half times](#) more likely to test positive for covid-19 compared to white patients.
- Hispanic patients face hospitalization rates more than [four times higher](#) than white patients.
- Nationwide, Hispanic or Latino people are dying at a rate [1.5 times](#) higher than white people. By July, coronavirus accounted for [one out of every five](#) deaths among Hispanics.

- Hispanic children [are eight times](#) as likely to be hospitalized for COVID-19 as white children, while Black children are five times as likely.
- Hispanic children are also more likely to die from the virus. Of the 121 deaths among people under the age of 21 recorded from February to July, [45 percent](#) were Hispanic -- more than any other race or ethnicity.
- As of August, Hispanic And Latina mothers made up [nearly half](#) of coronavirus cases among pregnant women nationally.
- A June [survey](#) found that more than a quarter Latino adults across the country said they know someone who has died from coronavirus -- three times more likely than white adults.
- A recent survey conducted by the CDC found that Hispanics are being [hit harder](#) by the mental stress of the pandemic, with higher prevalence of depression, suicidal thoughts and anxiety.



ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Hispanic unemployment peaked at 18.9 percent in April, and remains high at [10.5 percent](#), compared to roughly 4 percent before the pandemic.
- [63 percent](#) of Latinos report they have lost household income during the pandemic, according to a recent NPR poll. [72 percent](#) of Latinos reported “serious financial problems” during the crisis -- more than any other racial or ethnic group.
- A recent analysis found that [3 million Hispanic people](#) are likely to lose their employer-sponsored health insurance in 2020 as a result of the pandemic.

- In May, [46 percent](#) of Latinos reported problems paying for housing, food, utilities, credit card bills or medical costs as a result of the coronavirus compared to 23 percent of white Americans. The same survey found that [39 percent](#) of Latinos reported either skipping meals or relying on charity or government food programs such as SNAP during the pandemic -- compared to 18 percent of white adults.
- An [analysis](#) of recent Census data revealed that nearly 64 percent of Latinas reported a loss of income since March, compared to 45 percent of white, non-Hispanic men and 46 percent of white, non-Hispanic women. More than 44 percent of Latinas faced housing insecurity in mid-July compared to roughly 15 percent of white, non-Hispanic men. More than one in five Latinas reported food insecurity during the week they were surveyed.



Health Care Coverage For Hispanic Communities Is At Risk

Health care coverage is especially important during the coronavirus pandemic. Hispanics already face severe barriers to accessing health care. They are the least likely demographic to have health insurance and are [more likely](#) to live in states that have refused Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The latest Census data [reveals](#) that Hispanic people experienced the largest spike in uninsured rates between 2018 and 2019: growing from 17.9 percent in 2018 to 18.7 percent in 2019.

President Trump is currently supporting a lawsuit that would overturn the ACA as the nation is still reeling from the pandemic. Without the ACA, Hispanic patients would lose critical protections and face even higher costs for care. If the Trump lawsuit is successful, it will [strip coverage](#) from 23 million Americans, raise premiums, end protections for people with pre-existing conditions, put insurance companies back in charge, and force seniors to pay more for prescription drugs.

If The Affordable Care Act Is Overturned, 5.4 Million Latinos Would Lose Coverage

Coverage losses incurred by overturning the ACA would be especially devastating for the Hispanic community and reverse the significant gains in health care access made by the law.

Vox: Overturning The ACA Would Cause “A Dramatic Spike” In Uninsurance Among Hispanic People.

“Everything would go: protections for preexisting conditions, subsidies that help people purchase insurance, the Medicaid expansion...States that expanded Medicaid would get the worst of it: Urban projected their uninsured rates would nearly double if the law were overturned. The uninsured rate for black Americans would increase from 11 percent today to 20 percent without Obamacare; there would also be a dramatic spike in uninsurance among Hispanics.” [Vox, [3/2/20](#)]

5.4 Million Latinos Would Lose Coverage If The ACA Is Overturned. “Plaintiffs in Texas v. United States are asking the courts to overturn the Affordable Care Act (ACA). A judicial repeal of this significant domestic policy legislation would cause tremendous harm, including the loss of health insurance for millions of Latinos. As the ethnic group most likely to work in jobs without health benefits, Latinos experienced enormous coverage gains under the ACA’s expansion of Medicaid and creation of premium tax credits (PTCs) for private coverage...According to the Urban Institute, if Texas v. United States leads to the ACA’s repeal, 5.4 million Latinos would lose their health insurance.” [Families USA, [June 2019](#)]