

COLORADO LATINO POLICY AGENDA

FALL 2021



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Colorado Latino Policy Agenda is an annual report that provides insight for elected officials, community leaders, media, and others into the demographic makeup and views of Latinos in Colorado on pressing political, policy, and other issues in the state.

Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR), Voces Unidas de las Montañas, Colorado Democratic Latino Caucus, and Protégete of Conservation Colorado are the leading organizations publishing this annual report. Other partners include the Political Science Department at Metropolitan State University of Denver and BSP Research.

Intended for use by lawmakers and other officials in the year ahead and as a baseline for future efforts, the 2021 Colorado Latino Policy Agenda was informed by three research tools:

- A statewide poll of 1,000 Latino adults conducted via phone from August 16 - September 1, 2021;

- Responses from 168 Latino community leaders in an online survey from in September and October 2021; and
- In-person listening sessions held in Greeley (August), Glenwood Springs (September), and Pueblo (October).

In the statewide poll, respondents' top priorities revolved around economic and environmental concerns (see Figure 1 "Top 5 Policy Issues Among Latino Adults"). Generally, the research showed Latino adults in Colorado support public policies that expand access to services and resources to a wider segment of the state's population. This includes: high support for expanding access to health insurance for Colorado residents, ensuring state residents have access to safe abortion and reproductive health, and ensuring all state residents have access to high-speed internet.

In the online leaders survey, respondents' top priorities revolved around economic and environmental concerns, but also focused on expanding health insurance access,

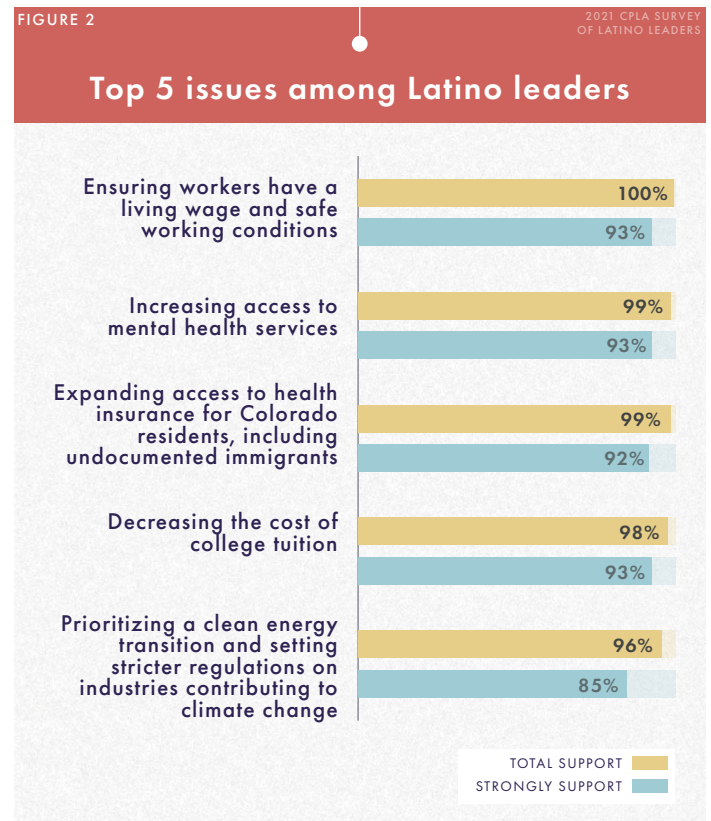
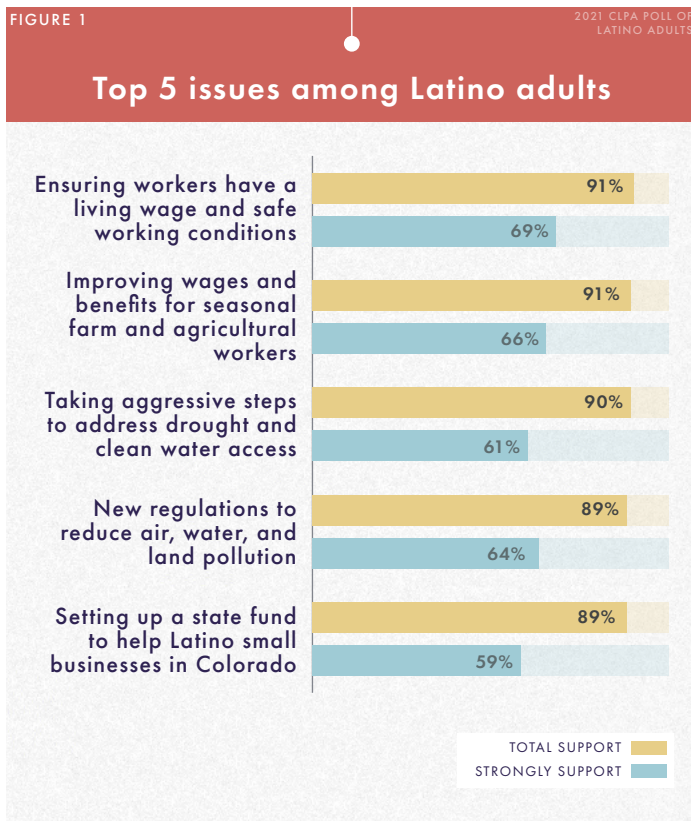
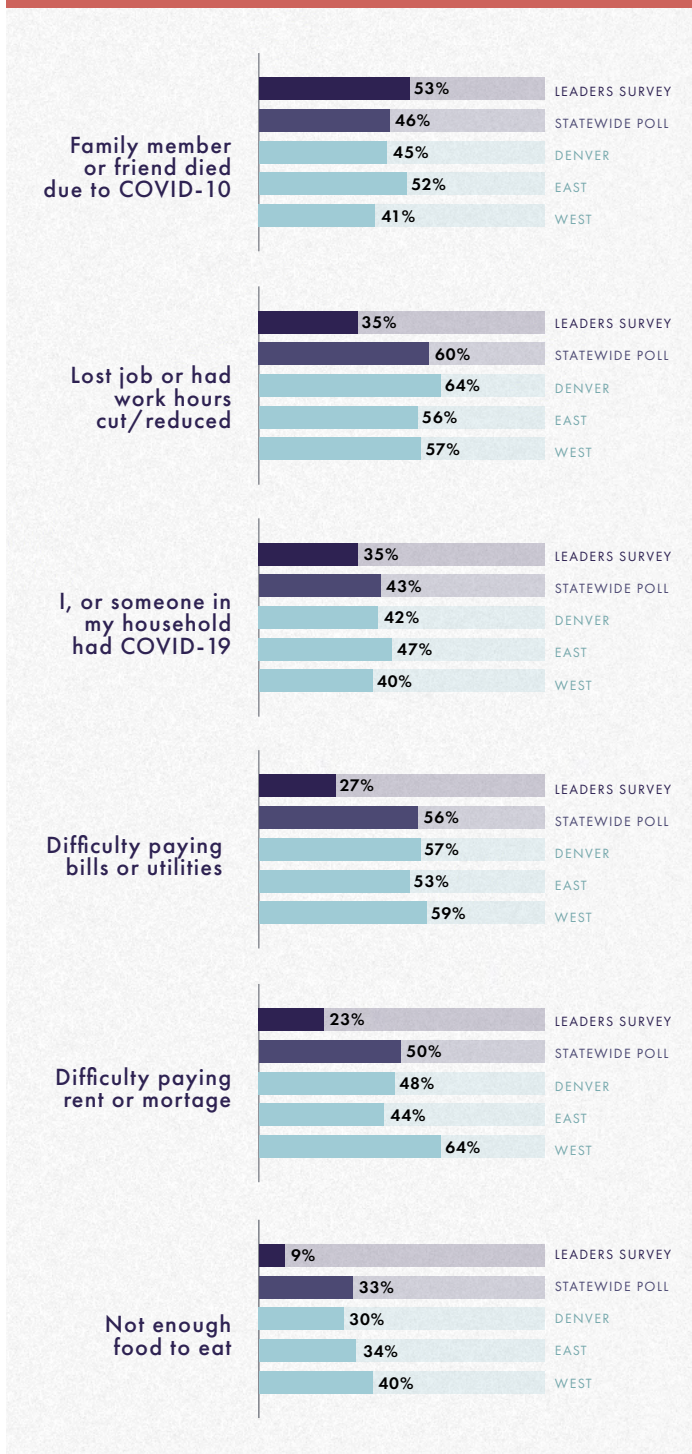


FIGURE 3

2021 CLPA POLL OF
LATINO ADULTS/
2021 CPLA SURVEY
OF LATINO LEADERS

Effects of COVID-19 on Latino community in Colorado

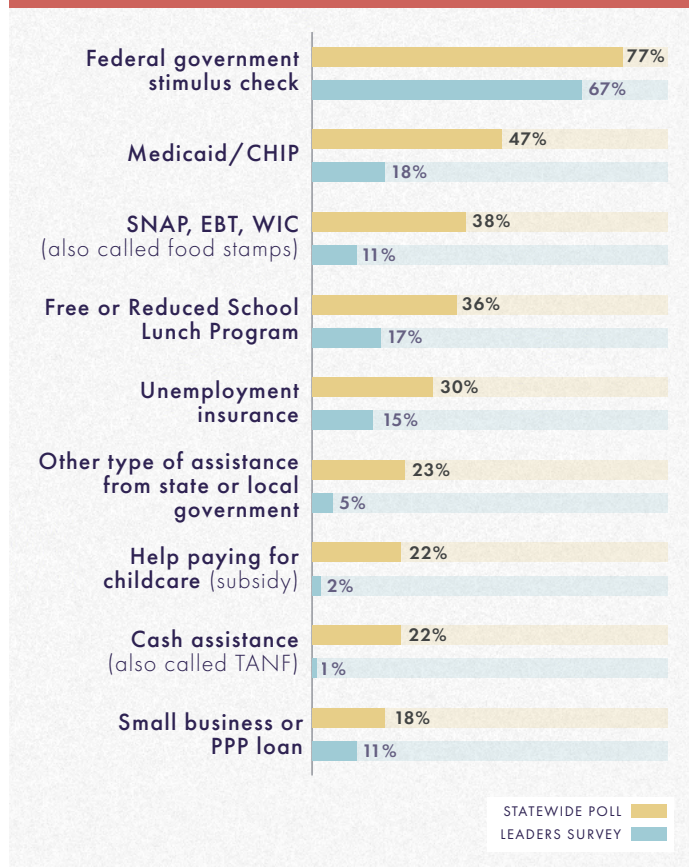


including to undocumented immigrants (see Figure 2 “Top 5 Policy Issues Among Latino Leaders”). In general, these Latino community leaders also support public policies that expand access to services and

FIGURE 4

2021 CLPA POLL OF
LATINO ADULTS/
2021 CPLA SURVEY
OF LATINO LEADERS

Percentage of households which received assistance during the pandemic from...



resources to a wider segment of the state’s population. This includes high support for expanding access to health insurance for Colorado residents, ensuring state residents have access to safe abortion and reproductive health, and ensuring all state residents have access to high-speed internet.

Latino residents and community leaders are also very concerned with climate change and strongly support policies that will transition the state toward clean energy production.

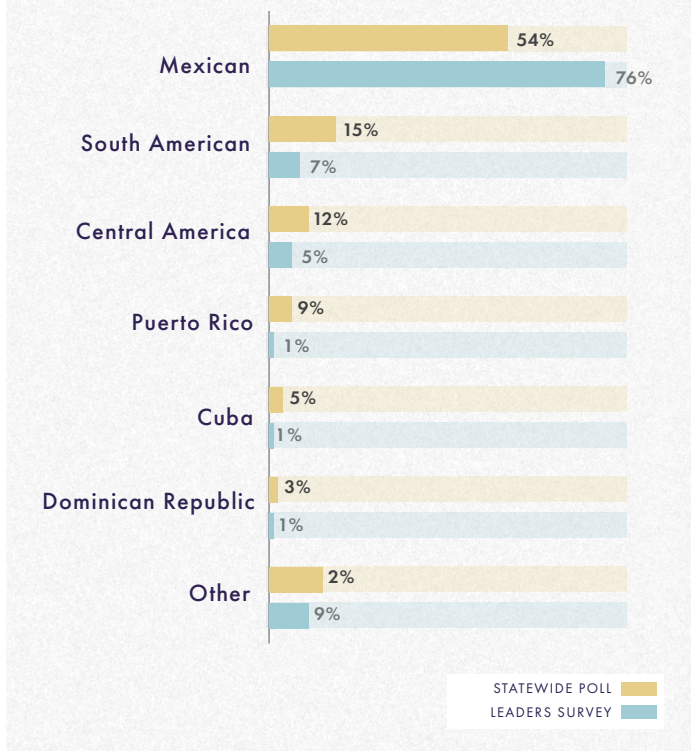
As highlighted in a separate release¹ in October, the research makes clear that the COVID-19 pandemic has been devastating to Colorado’s Latino community. Nearly half of all respondents to the statewide poll of Latino adults and the survey of 168 Latino leaders across the state reported that they lost a friend

1 <http://onsightpublicaffairs.com/2021/10/colorado-latino-poll-oct-2021>

FIGURE 5

2021 CLPA POLL OF
LATINO ADULTS /
2021 CLPA SURVEY
OF LATINO LEADERS

National origin



or family to COVID-19. (See Figure 3, “Effects of COVID-19 on Latino community in Colorado.”)

The survey research also provides insights regarding the economic challenges that the Latino community in the state has faced and continues to face during the

pandemic. (See Figure 4, “Percentage of households which received assistance during the pandemic from.”)

The most common national origin identified by Latinos in Colorado is Mexico at 52%, with Spain coming in a distant second at 10%, according to the survey. (See Figure 5, “Country of Origin.”) In regard to nativity, 18% of respondents reported that they were born in a country other than the United States. There is a close personal connection to the undocumented population between Latinos in Colorado, regardless of their immigration status. Roughly half of the respondents reported that they know someone in their close personal network who is undocumented, including 20% who have a family member who is undocumented.

Policymakers should rely on the Colorado Latino Policy Agenda’s findings and look for mechanisms to more directly engage the Latino community in policy decisions, as the research makes clear that Latinos are highly interested in being more engaged in the political process but often feel that the voice of the Latino community is excluded from important political decisions.

That engagement was made evident in the listening

Top Issues Greeley	Top Issues Glenwood	Top Issues Pueblo
Healthcare: Urgent need for bilingual/bicultural staff that understands Latinos	Housing: Prioritize homeownership to local workforce not outside investors	Environment: Include workers in identifying solutions and impacts
Criminal Justice: Undocumented individuals do not have access to legal assistance	Education: Improve graduation rates, reduce dropout rates - especial for Latino men	Education: Latino students deserve higher-quality education. Invest in programs like migrant ed, Gear Up, Trio
Environment: Concerned about residential fracking	Economic Justice: Issues related to resort community wages vs. cost of living	Immigration: No access to health care for undocumented residents
Immigration: Improving process and accessibility to get ID/License	Immigration: No access to health care for undocumented residents	

sessions held this summer and fall in Greeley, Glenwood Springs, and Pueblo. These qualitative results demonstrated that issues pertaining to undocumented immigrants existed across communities. Participants in Glenwood Springs and Pueblo also identified education issues among their top selections, while environmental issues were among the top selections in Pueblo and Greeley. Top issues for each of the communities are outlined in the table below.

In closing, we believe the Colorado Latino Policy Agenda will be of high value to federal elected officials, local community leaders, and state lawmakers, including members of the newly formed Economic Recovery and Relief Task Force of the State Legislature who will oversee the distribution of federal American Rescue Plan Act funds to state residents.

While there is considerable overlap in the views uncovered in each of the research methods, differences of opinion are not unexpected. The poll itself is intended to provide a representative snapshot of views of registered Latino voters, while the survey of Latino leaders and the listening sessions were designed to help understand the intersectionality of issues overall and to provide community-specific input.

This Colorado Latino Policy Agenda offers an opportunity for elected officials and community leaders to explore areas of agreement, work to meet the diverse needs of Latinos in the different regions of the state, and design and deliver appropriate and timely policy solutions for the state’s growing Latino population.



Respondents to the statewide poll are classified throughout this report as being from the regions above:

West:			Denver:	East:		
• La Plata	• Jackson			• Teller	• Sedgwick	
• Moffat	• San Juan	• Grand	• Gilpin	• Larimer	• El Paso	• Phillips
• Rio Blanco	• Ouray	• Summit	• Clear Creek	• Boulder	• Pueblo	• Yuma
• Garfield	• Routt	• Lake	• Jefferson	• Park	• Logan	• Kit Carson
• Mesa	• Eagle	• Chaffee	• Douglas	• Fremont	• Morgan	• Cheyenne
• Delta	• Pitkin	• Saguache	• Adams	• Custer	• Elbert	• Kiowa
• Montrose	• Gunnison	• Rio Grande	• Denver	• Huerfano	• Lincoln	• Prowers
• San Miguel	• Hinsdale	• Alamosa	• Arapahoe	• Las Animas	• Crowley	• Baca
• Dolores	• Archuleta	• Conejas		• Weld	• Otero	• Bent
• Montezuma	• Mineral	• Costilla		• Broomfield	• Washington	

LATINO ADULTS POLLING SUMMARY

In analyzing the statewide poll, we identified:

- Issue Priorities of the Latino Community in Colorado
- Policy Preferences of the Latino Community in Colorado
- Impact of COVID-19 on Latinos in Colorado
- Attitudes Toward the Political Process and Motivations for Civic Engagement
- And a Socio-Demographic Profile of the Latino Community in Colorado

THE POLICY ISSUE PRIORITIES OF THE LATINO COMMUNITY IN COLORADO

One of the primary goals of the 1,000-adult poll was to help identify a policy agenda for the Latino community. The survey, therefore, asked respondents to identify the most important issues facing the Latino community in two separate items, one focused on issues that Congress and the President should address, and the second on issues that local Colorado elected officials should address. In both cases, respondents were able to select up to three issues.

As reflected in Figure 6 (*"Most important issues facing Latino community for Federal officials to address"*), at the federal level, immigration reform and creating more jobs, and addressing the economy were the top two issue areas for the Latino community in the state of Colorado. The high salience on economic well-being to the Latino community is reinforced by the importance of the rising cost of living, health care costs, and affordable housing all emerging among the top 10 issue priorities. Discrimination and the need for racial justice is also an important priority, with 1 in 5 Latinos in the state indicating this was one of their top priorities at the federal level.

ABOUT

BSP Research fielded a statewide survey of 1,000 Latino adults in Colorado. The survey focused on the issue priorities, policy preferences, and political values of the Latino community. The poll fielded from Aug. 16 to Sept. 1, 2021, was conducted in both English and Spanish, and was designed to provide the opportunity to compare results across the main geographical regions of the state.

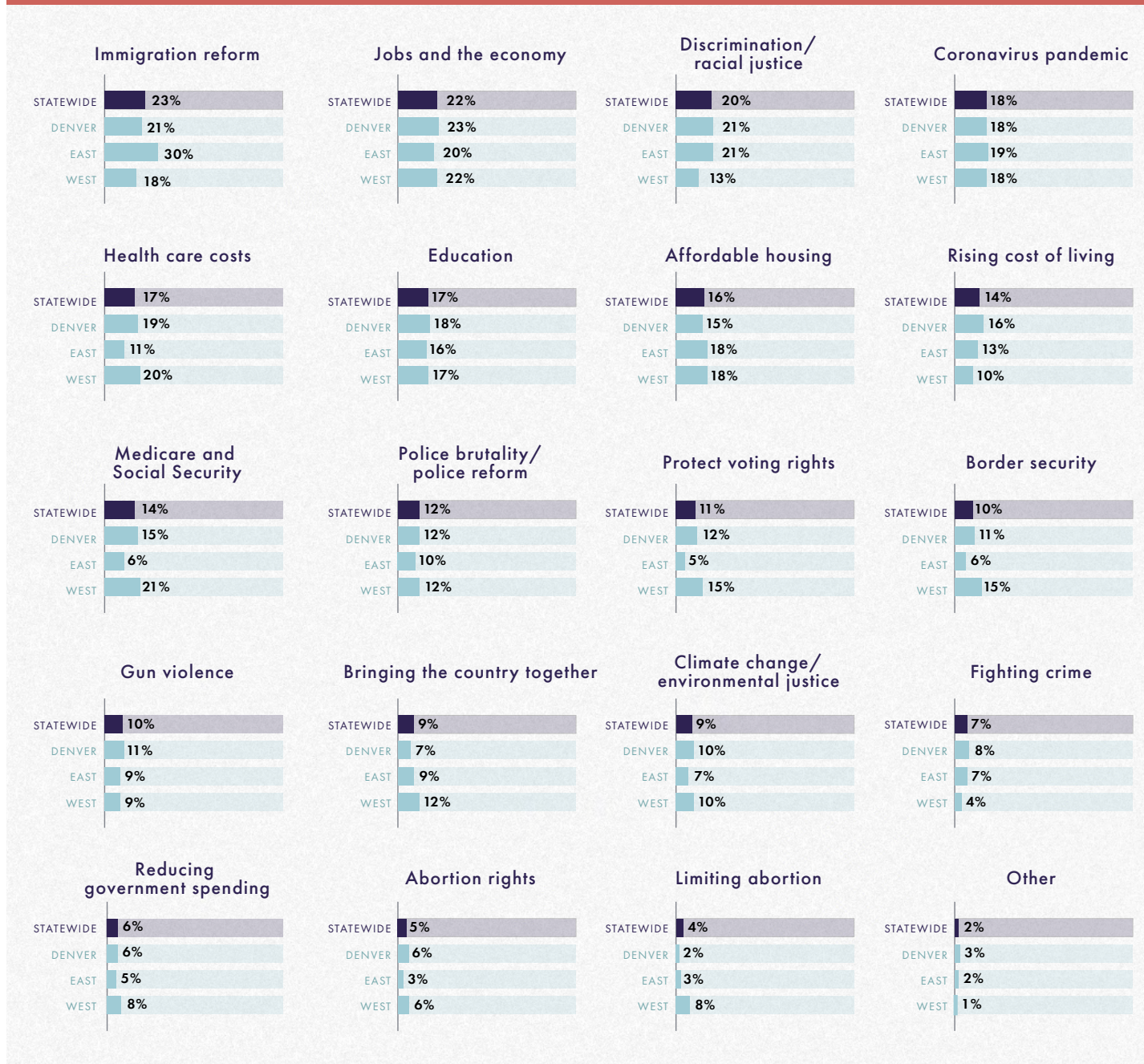
Given that the survey was conducted as the Delta variant began spreading across the nation, it is not surprising that addressing the pandemic or keeping us safe from the Coronavirus were top-issue priorities for both federal and local officials to address. It's worth noting that the survey was conducted prior to Texas' controversial six-week abortion ban becoming law and making national headlines, which likely would lead to higher support for abortion rights were the survey conducted today.

There is some overlap in issue salience when respondents were cued to think about policy issues for local Colorado officials to address (see Figure 7, *"Most important issues facing Latino community for Colorado officials to address"*). For example, affordable housing and the rising cost of living also emerged as key priorities for local officials to address. Reinforcing the importance of the rising cost of living, only 37% of Latinos in Colorado are "very confident" that they can pay for basic living expenses, such as food, housing, and utilities (see Figure 8, *"Expressed level of confidence in paying for monthly basic living expenses"*). Confidence in being able to afford basic living expenses is lower among Latinos who are under the age of 30 and those who lack a college degree.

FIGURE 6

2021 CLPA POLL OF
LATINO ADULTS

Most important issues facing Latino community for Federal officials to address



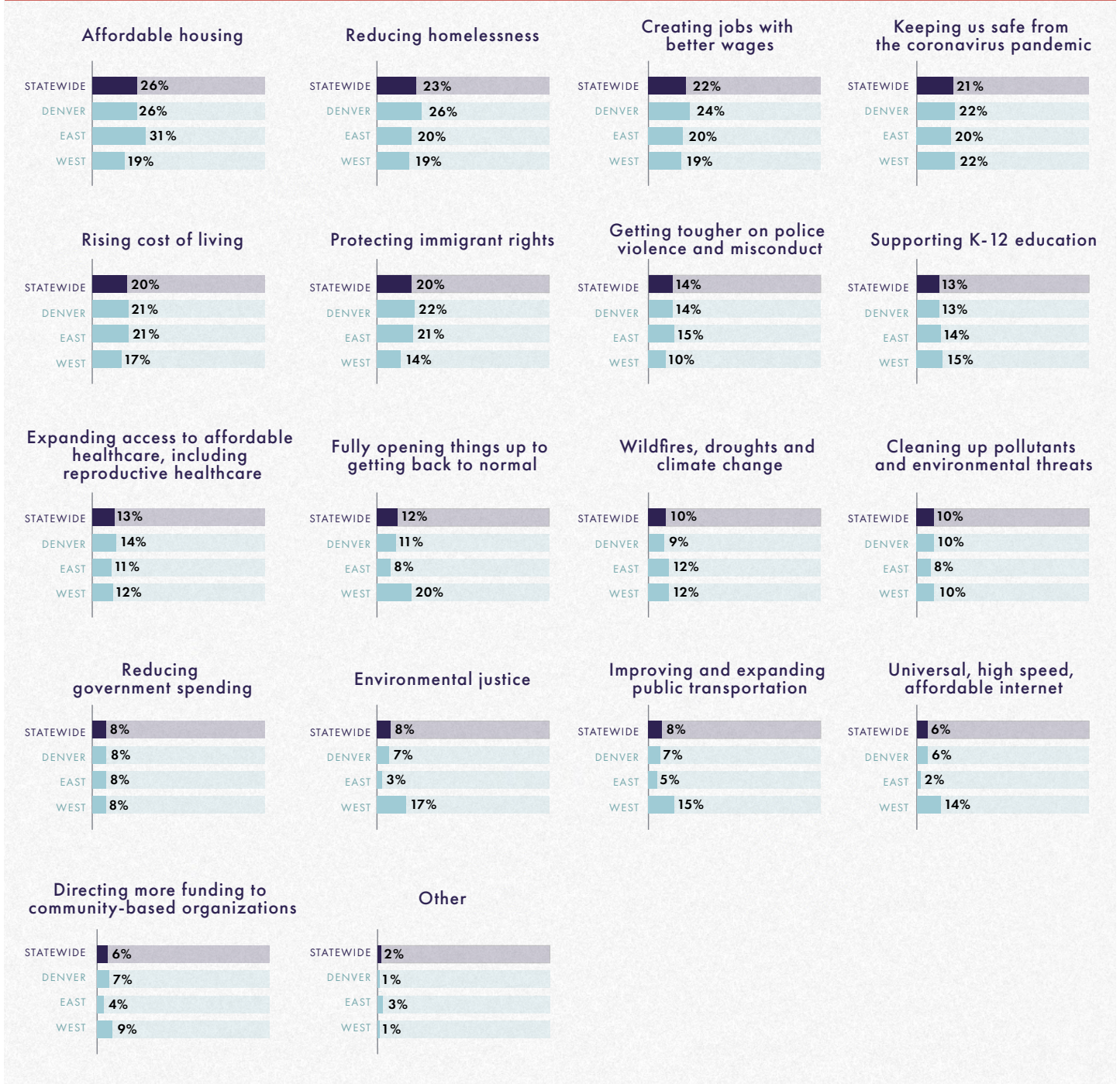
Among other issues that Latino adults said should be top of mind for local Colorado officials to consider, creating jobs with better wages was also high on the priority agenda, reinforcing the importance of economic factors to the Latino community in Colorado. And 1 in 5 respondents also identified

protecting immigrants' rights as one of their top priorities for local officials to address. One of the local issues that was not mentioned among federal policy issues is reducing homelessness which was identified by 23% of respondents as a top priority for local Colorado officials to address.

FIGURE 7

2021 CLPA POLL OF
LATINO ADULTS

Most important issues facing Latino community for Colorado officials to address



POLICY PREFERENCES OF THE LATINO COMMUNITY IN COLORADO

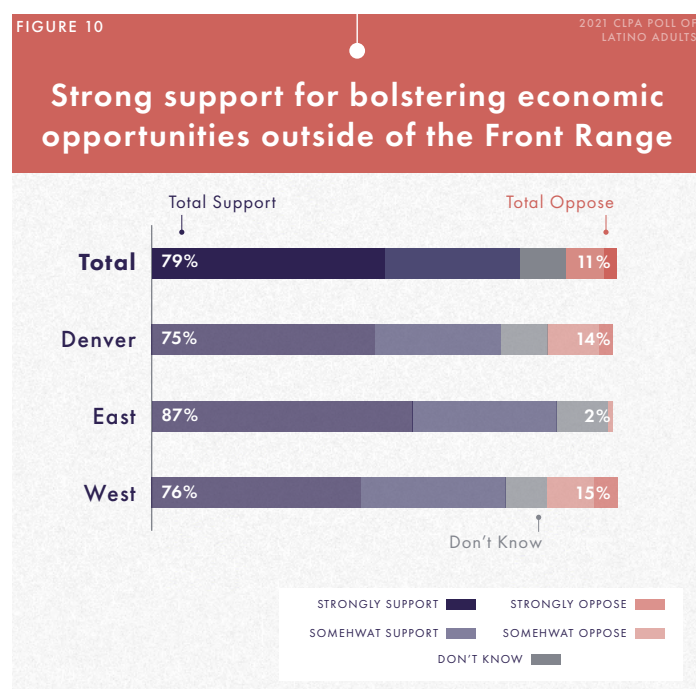
The statewide poll aimed at providing a comprehensive overview of the policy preferences and attitudes of the Latino community in Colorado so that policymakers and advocates have a clear sense of the policy agenda of this key population. There were therefore a large number of questions focused on public policies summarized in this section of the report.

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Given the high concern the Latino community in Colorado has for the rising cost of living it is not surprising that this population would like to see legislation to address this issue. This includes nearly all respondents in the statewide Latino poll indicating that it is important that the State Legislature do all that they can to ensure that employers across the state provide Latinos with living wages and fair and safe working environments. The rising cost of housing was already a major issue in the state prior to the pandemic but increased in salience over the past two years. This has resulted in nearly all (88%) Latinos in Colorado supporting new housing requirements that developers must include affordable housing (See "Figure 9" "Support for requirement for housing developers to include affordable housing").

Small businesses have been hit particularly hard by the pandemic and Latino Americans are disproportionately likely to be employed by small businesses which helps explain the high support (88%) identified in the survey to set up a state fund to help Latino-owned small businesses in the state. (See "Figure 10" "Strong support for bolstering economic opportunities outside of the Front Range").

In general, Latinos in Colorado support public



policies that expand access to services and resources to a wider segment of the state's population. This includes high support (83%) for expanding access to health insurance for Colorado residents, including undocumented immigrants. Latinos in Colorado also

strongly support (91% overall support/66% strongly support) improving wages and benefits for seasonal farm and agricultural workers. There is also high support (83%) to increase Spanish language access for local and state government programs.

FIGURE 11

2021 CLPA POLL OF
LATINO ADULTS

Expressed support for public policies being debated in Colorado



The pandemic has made clear how vital access to high-speed internet is for all aspects of life, including working and educating our children. This helps explain the near-universal support (86%) Latinos in Colorado have to provide high-speed internet access to all Coloradans. There is also a recognition that access to high-speed internet and other infrastructure must extend to residents of rural areas of the state. For example, 79% of the sample supports bolstering economic opportunities outside of the Front Range.

(Figure 11: “Expressed support for public policies being debated in Colorado” shows the top 5 issues overall)

EDUCATION

There is high support (85%) for increasing funding for the K-12 public schools in the state, with 62% strongly supporting the expansion of funding for the public schools in the state. Support is even higher (87%) for decreasing the cost of college tuition for Colorado residents. Respondents were also asked to provide their views on the value of higher education to help guide the curriculum and overall mission of the state’s higher education system. The majority (57%) of Latinos in Colorado believe that higher education’s value is a combination of setting students up for success in their careers and broadening the perspectives of students and helping them become more informed citizens (see Figure 12, “Strong support for education funding”).

Nearly half of Latinos in Colorado are parents of children under the age of 18. These parents were asked a few questions specific to their children’s education. Latino parents place a tremendous value on higher education, as 73% of Latino parents think that obtaining a college education is very important (another 19% important) to their children’s long-term ability to get a good job and pay their bills without struggling to make ends meet. However, only 33% of parents are very confident that if their child pursues college, they will have enough money to afford to pay all the costs associated with going to college.

ENVIRONMENT

The statewide poll included multiple questions focused on environmental policies including those intended to curb climate change. This includes strong support (86%) for setting strict caps on emissions for all businesses in the state whose operations impact the air quality, including the construction, transportation, oil and gas, and electricity generation industries. This includes 84% of Latino Republicans who support setting strict caps on emissions, a strong indicator that for Latinos in the state protection of air quality is not a partisan issue (see Figure 13, “Strong support for stricter caps on emissions for all businesses whose operations impact the air quality”).

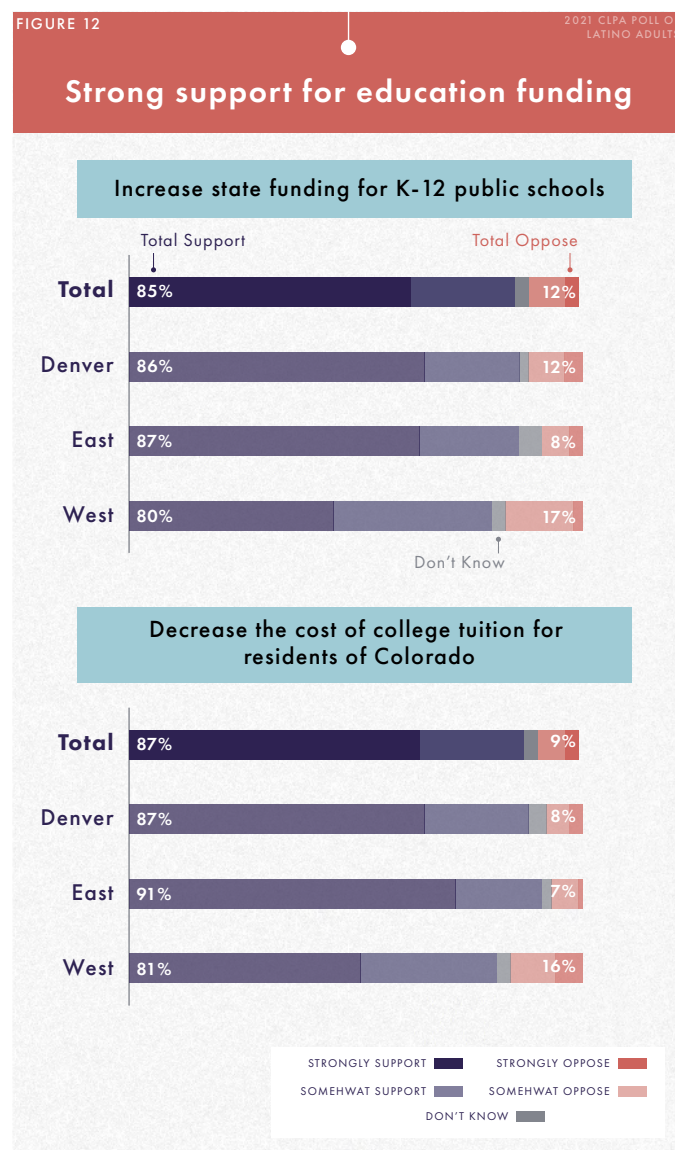
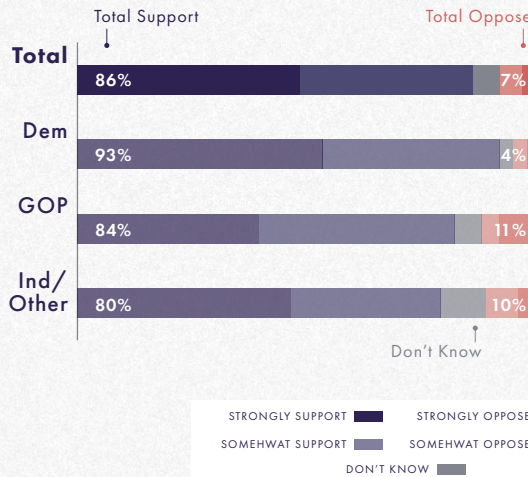


FIGURE 13

2021 CLPA POLL OF
LATINO ADULTS

Strong support for stricter caps on emissions for all businesses whose operations impact the air quality



There is similarly high support (86%) for providing information and resources to ensure that Latinos and other communities disproportionately impacted by the effects of climate change are included in decisions made to address climate change and to promote environmental justice, and access to business opportunities in this transitioning economy and job preparation for careers in clean energy industries (88%). There is also near-universal support (90%) for policies in Colorado that will address drought and clean water access, as well as new regulations to reduce air, water, and land pollution. Finally, 84% of the Latino community in Colorado supports prioritizing a clean energy transition that includes stricter regulations on industries contributing to climate change.

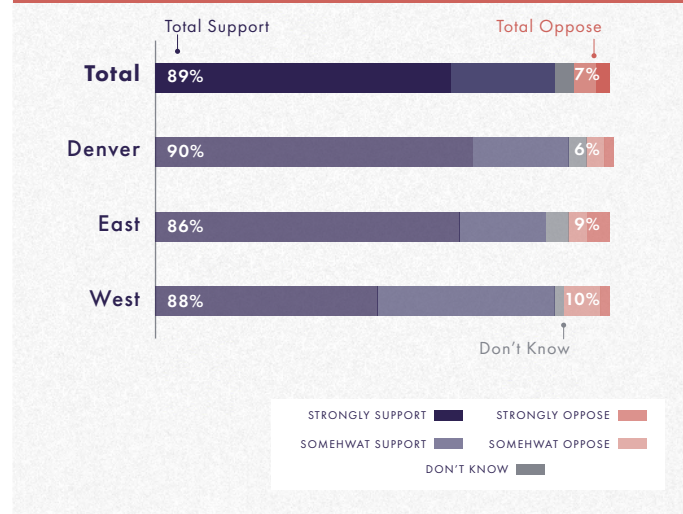
HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The statewide poll also asked respondents for their opinions on a number of health-focused policies beyond COVID-19. The survey identifies that almost all (89%) of Latino adults in Colorado support increased access to mental health services for state residents (see Figure 14, “Strong support for increased access to mental health services”).

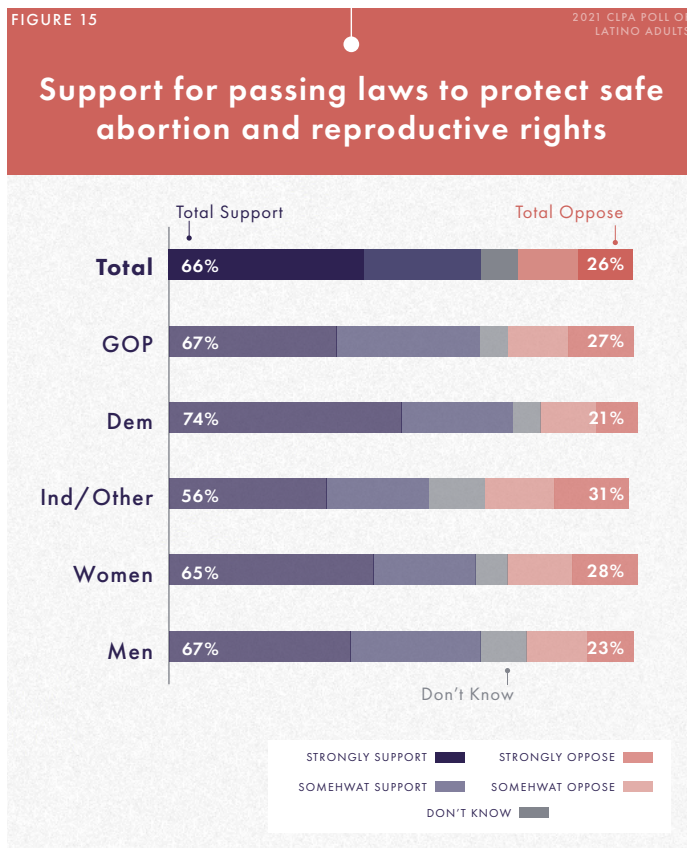
FIGURE 14

2021 CLPA POLL OF
LATINO ADULTS

Strong support for increased access to mental health services



A strong majority (66%) of respondents also support passing laws to protect access to safe abortions and reproductive rights for state residents. While Democrats are more likely to support access to safe abortions (74%), it is important to note that 67% of Latino Republicans do as well. Non-partisans or independents are the least supportive among Latinos (56%), but this is still a solid majority. Latino registered voters in Colorado are more likely to support access to safe abortions and reproductive rights than un-registered voters. Support for laws that will protect access to safe abortions and reproductive rights is particularly high for Latinos between the ages of 18 and 39 and among college-educated Latinos who are more likely (+23%) to support these laws than Latinos with less than a college degree. There is a similar pattern based on income, as Latinos in Colorado who make \$80,000 or more annually in income express higher support (82%) for access to safe abortions than Latinos at lower income levels (see Figure 15, “Support for passing laws to protect safe abortion and reproductive rights”).



IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON LATINOS IN COLORADO

It is hard to overstate the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the Latino community in Colorado. Latino adults in Colorado have been infected at higher rates than non-Latinos, are more likely have been hospitalized, and more likely to have lost their life to the virus. The poll — as noted in a separate press release sent Oct. 19, 2021¹ — reinforces just how devastating the pandemic has been for Colorado's Latino population. Just over a third (43%) of poll respondents had someone in their household who has had COVID-19, and 46% had a family member or friend die due to COVID-19.

The survey also provides an opportunity to evaluate the economic vulnerability of many Latino residents of Colorado who the survey reveals have been hit hard by the economic recession caused by COVID-19. Here are some of the sobering data points that illustrate just how severe the virus has been on the

economic well-being of Latino families across the state.

- 60% have had their work hours or pay cut, or had someone in their household lose their job.
- 56% of Latinos in Colorado have had difficulty paying their bills or utilities.
- 50% of Latinos in Colorado have had difficulty paying their rent or mortgage.
- 33% of Latinos in Colorado have not had enough food to eat.

The economic stress associated with the pandemic has been worse for some segments of the Latino community in Colorado relative to others. For example, young adults between the ages of 18 and 29 are more likely than Latinos from older age groups to report experience with all of the economic stress outcomes included in the survey, including being more likely than the overall sample to have difficulty paying rent or mortgage (+12%) and to be able to pay bills or utilities (+10%). Latinos without a college degree are more likely to have faced all of the economic stress indicators than Latinos in Colorado with a college degree or greater.

There is also meaningful variation based on the region of the state in which the respondent lives. For example, Latinos who live in the West region of the state are more likely to not have enough food to eat (40%) and have difficulties paying for their rent or mortgage (64%) than Latinos who live in other areas of the state. However, Latinos who live in the Denver area are the most likely to have had their work hours cut or reduced (64%).

The economic vulnerability of the Latino community is best reflected in the limited safety net most respondents in our representative sample have available to lean on during this difficult time. An alarming 42% of Colorado's Latino population has only \$1,000 or less in savings for financial emergencies, 20% with an astonishing \$100 or less.

¹ <http://onsightpublicaffairs.com/2021/10/colorado-latino-poll-oct-2021/>

Latino residents in Colorado have had to make tough decisions in order to manage the financial situation of their households during the pandemic. This includes nearly 34% who have used up all or most of their savings to pay for their expenses and 29% who have borrowed money from friends and family. Another 19% of Latino Colorado residents have had to skip a monthly car, rent, or mortgage payment, and 20% postponed or cut back on health-related expenses. The pandemic has had a significant impact on the housing stability of the Latino community, with 14% of the sample indicating that they have had to move or change their housing situation due to the pandemic.

One of the more troubling findings from the poll is that 11% of vulnerable Latino residents in the state have turned to payday or easy-loan companies that charge a high interest rate. The use of payday or easy-loan companies is particularly high in the Western region of the state where 19% of Latinos have turned to this option to address their financial challenges. This is further evidence that the state's regulations on these businesses that are often predatory in their marketing and interest rate escalation should be enhanced to ensure that families facing dire economic consequences due to the public health crisis do not find themselves in financial ruin due to taking out a high-interest rate loan.

ATTITUDES TOWARD THE POLITICAL PROCESS AND MOTIVATIONS FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

VOTING AND ENGAGEMENT

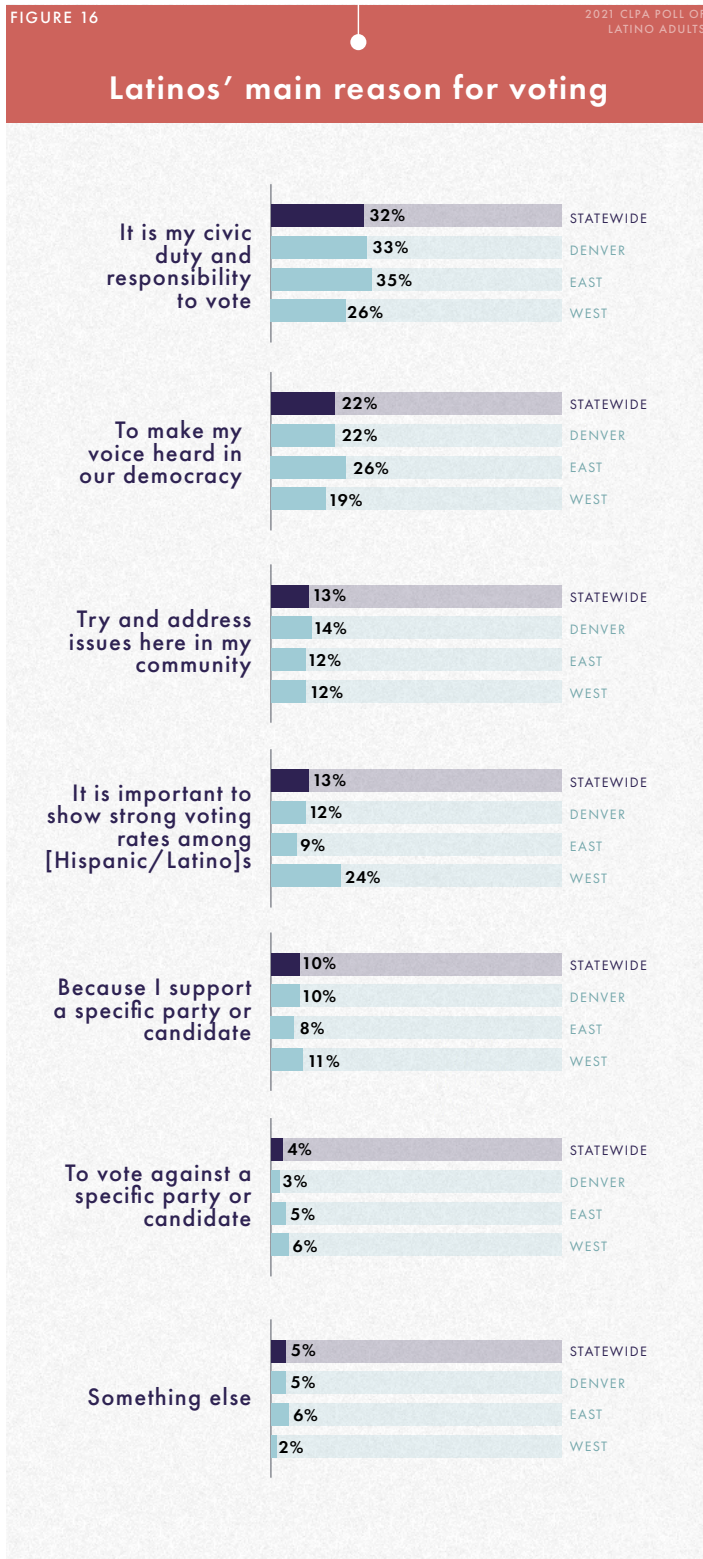
The statewide poll aimed to provide non-profits, civic organizations, and others interested in mobilizing the Latino community with insights on the underlying motivations that drive Latino's interest in engaging in the political process and strategies to increase political participation for this important sub-group of the state's population.

Respondents who have voted in the past were asked what their primary motivations are to become involved in the political process through voting. The top reason provided was that it is "my civic duty and responsibility to vote", with "to make sure my voice is heard in our democracy" coming in second (see Figure 16, "*Main reason for voting*").

Furthermore, nearly 78% of registered voters in the sample believe that if Latinos in Colorado turnout to vote at high rates, they can influence the way decisions are made and what policies are considered. There is therefore a high level of efficacy among the Latino community in the state. However, when we drill deeper into the perceived influence of the Latino community a more complex picture emerges. For example, there is wide variation in views regarding how often Latinos have a say in how the government handles important issues in the state of Colorado. There are nearly as many Latinos in the state who feel that Latinos have influence in state government decisions "All the Time" (16%) as "Rarely" or "Never" (18% and 4%, respectively), with the majority of respondents in the middle categories of "Most of the time" (33%) or "About half of the time" (29%). (see Figure 17, "*Percentage who believe Latinos have a say in statewide governmental issues*")

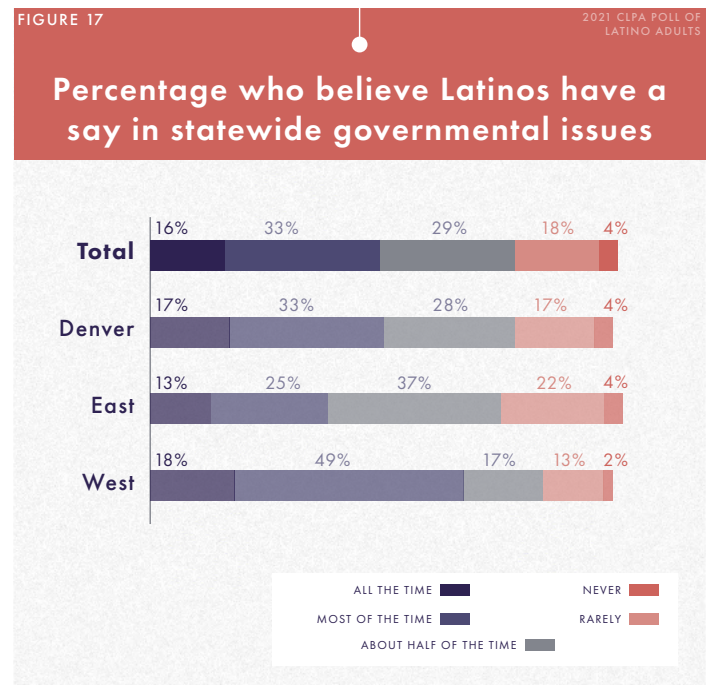
Similarly, while 60% of Latinos in Colorado believe that Latinos like themselves can influence the outcomes of elections in the state either "a great deal" or "a lot," the other 40% have less confidence in the collective influence of the Latino community.

The statewide poll suggests that this lack of perceived influence may be due to a recognition that there are significant obstacles undercutting the voting power of the Latino electorate. This includes 76% of registered voters who believe that false information is spread to confuse voters, and 48% who think that voters are kept away from the polls and voting locations through intimidation or violence. The Latino community feels strongly that there should be efforts made to address these barriers to voting. In fact, nearly all (94%) of respondents believe it is important (65%



very important) that the state of Colorado continues to make voting easier, and not harder, for the Latino/Latino community in the state.

Furthermore, the overwhelming majority (84%) of Latinos in Colorado believe that “rich people have



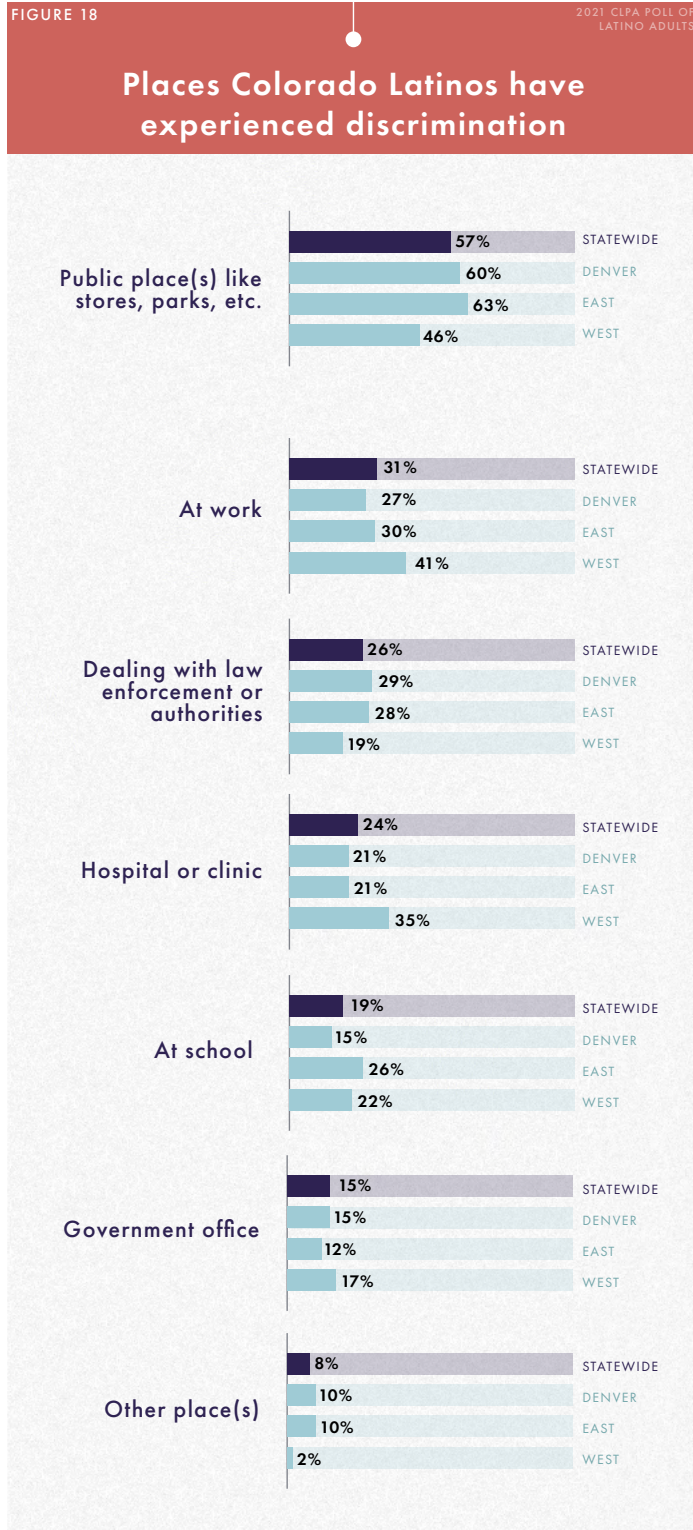
too much influence in elections”, which obviously influences perceptions that the Latino community can influence governmental decisions.

The survey tested some messaging themes that can be used to help increase a desire to vote among the Latino community to amplify their collective political influence. The strongest performing message is “if you don’t vote and take part in democracy nothing will ever change. The only way we can change things for the better is to vote.” Nearly all Latinos in the sample agree with this statement. Another strong-performing message acknowledges the structural factors that limit Latino’s influence on the policy system, but stresses the ability to overcome those challenges by turning out in high numbers. Overall, 82% of respondents agree with this statement that makes this point: “politicians usually ignore the Latino/Hispanic community in Colorado. But when we show up to vote in big numbers, that’s when things change and they listen to us.”

The poll identifies the important role that a sense of ethnic identity plays in the political behavior of Latinos in Colorado. For example, 78% of respondents indicate that it is important (46% very important) to them that a candidate they vote for is Latino. Similarly, 73% of respondents who voted in 2020 indicated that showing solidarity and support for the Latino

community motivated them to vote either “a great deal” or “a lot”. An overwhelming majority (69%) of respondents indicated that they consider whether the party or candidate they are considering supporting cares about the Latino community either all or most of the time.

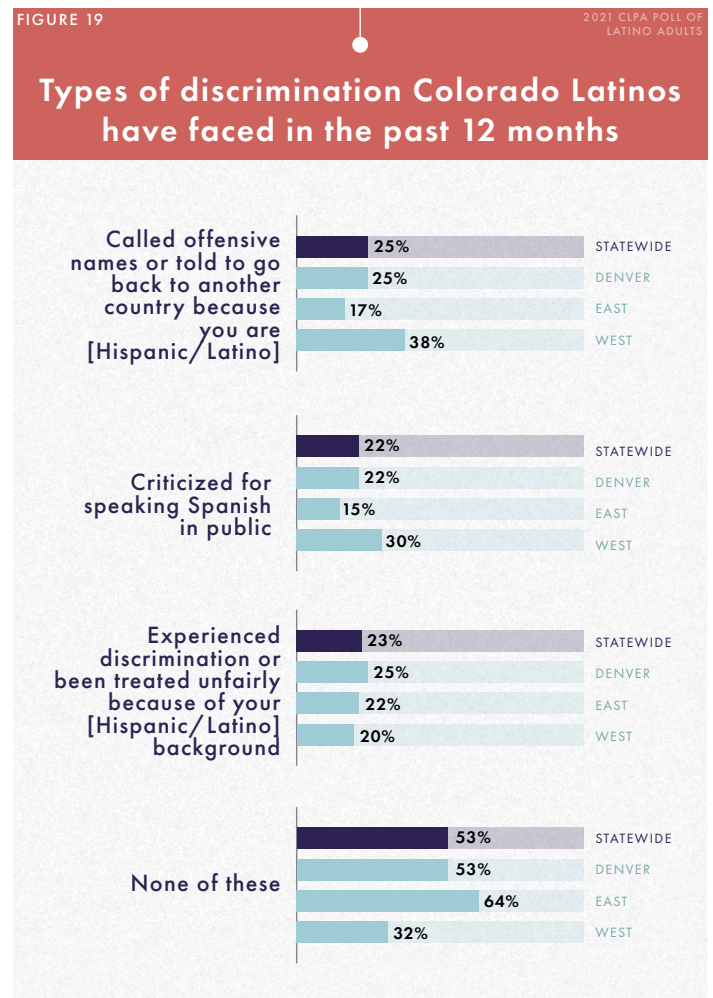
There has been a rise in Latinos elected to political office across the state of Colorado over the last decade and the survey provides an opportunity to evaluate how the Latino electorate feels about this rise in descriptive representation. The majority of Latinos across the state believe that Latinos or Latinos elected to office can make changes for other Latinos in Colorado either all (18%) or “most of the time” (38%).



DISCRIMINATION

Unfortunately, many members of the Latino community in Colorado have experienced discrimination as a result of their ethnicity. Although a slim majority (53%) of respondents did not report any experiences of discrimination, nearly half had at least one of the following negative experiences over the past year:

- 25% have been called an offensive name or told to go back to another country because they are Latino or Latino.



- 23% have experienced some form of discrimination or been treated unfairly because of their ethnic background.
- 22% have been criticized for speaking Spanish in public.

(see Figure 18, “Places Colorado Latinos have experienced discrimination” and Figure 19, “Types of discrimination Colorado Latinos have faced in the past 12 months.”)

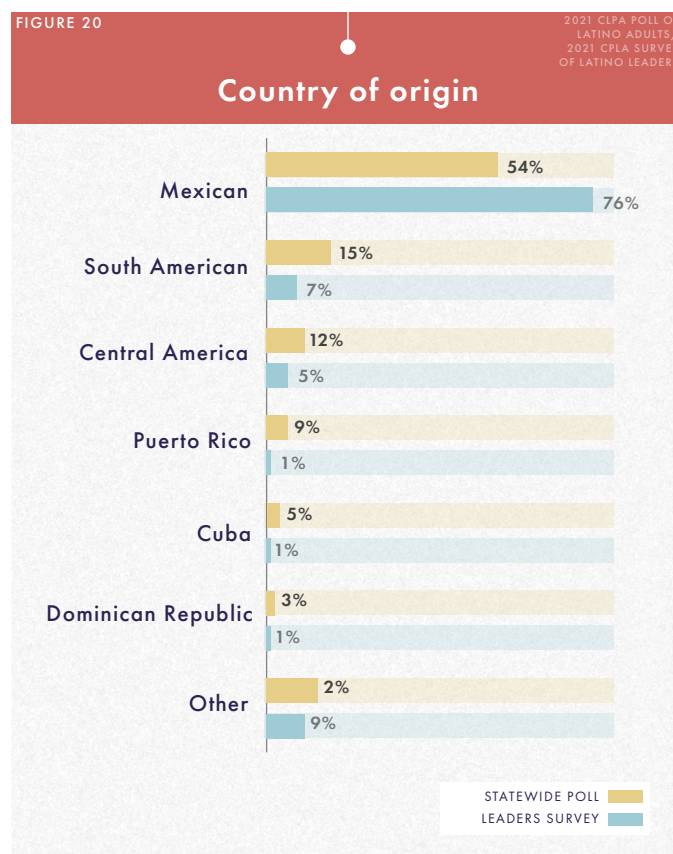
The statewide poll reveals that the Latino community strongly desires policies that can address racial discrimination directed at Latinos and other communities of color in the state. For example, a robust 84% of the sample supports policy proposals that will “get tougher on white supremacist and racist groups,” 62% strongly support.

With redistricting taking place this year and the legislature creating political districts that will define the political context for the state for the next decade, the poll closed with content focused on Latino’s views about the redistricting process in Colorado. A robust 94% of Latinos in Colorado believe that it is important that Latinos in Colorado are included in the process, and that the districts created during redistricting are created to maximize the political influence or power of Latinos in Colorado (89%).

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF THE LATINO COMMUNITY IN COLORADO

The most common national origin identified by Latinos in Colorado is Mexico at 52%, with Spain coming in a distant second at 10%, according to the poll. There is also a substantial Colombian (7%) and Puerto Rican (6%) presence in the state (see Figure 20, “Country of Origin.”). In regard to nativity, 18% of respondents reported that they were born in a country other than the United States (6% reported being born in Puerto Rico).

There is a close personal connection to the undocumented population between Latinos in

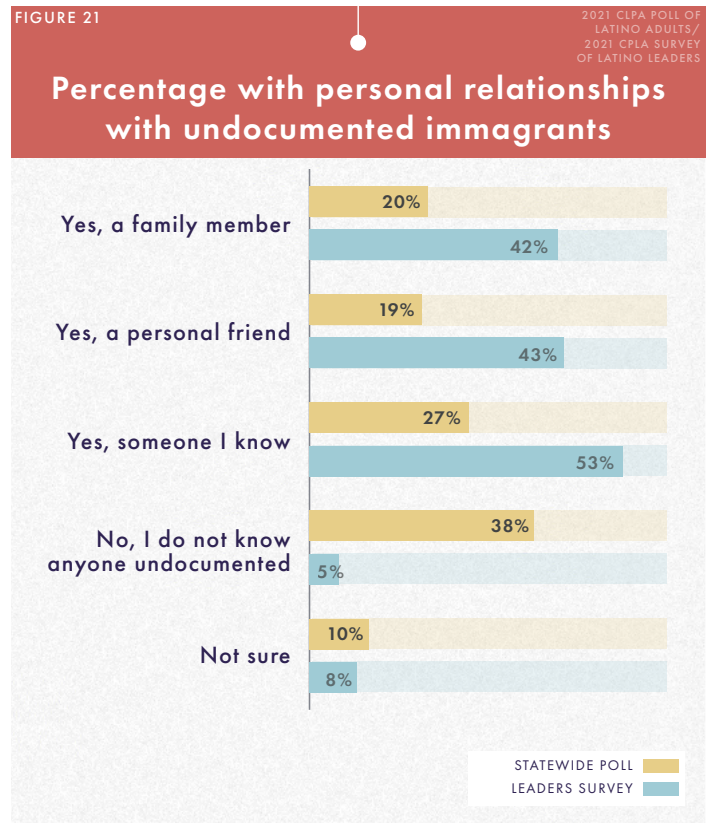


Colorado, regardless of their immigration status. Roughly half of the respondents reported that they know someone in their close personal network who is undocumented, including 20% who have a family member who is undocumented. Among those with undocumented family members, 46% indicate that this family member lives with them (see Figure 21, “Percentage with personal relationships with undocumented immigrants”).

It will also be important for political leaders and organizations interested in communicating with the Latino community in Colorado to do so bilingually. Overall, 17% of respondents in the representative sample preferred to conduct the survey in Spanish, and 30% of respondents reported that they prefer to receive information about politics in both English and Spanish, with 16% reporting Spanish as their preferred language for political information. The need to communicate with Latino adults bilingually spans the entire state, with 30% of respondents in the Denver area, 26% of respondents in the Eastern region, and 35% in the Western region preferring to have

information about politics made available in both English and Spanish.

And, although Colorado has experienced significant population growth driven highly by Latino immigrants moving to the state, 51% of Latinos in the state have lived in the state for more than 20 years, and another 30% between 10 and 20 years. Among those who have lived in the state for at least 10 years, 72% report that they are from families who have lived in the state for many generations. In regard to religious affiliation, 44% of the sample identified as Catholic which is the most common religion among Latinos in Colorado followed by Christian at 26%. Atheist or non-religious was the third most common response at 16%.



Methodology Statement: The survey of 1,000 total completed interviews with Latino adults in the state of Colorado resulted in an overall margin of error of +/- 3.1%. Survey respondents were randomly selected in a blended approach including web-based and telephone interviews (both landlines and cell phones) and were available in both English and Spanish at the respondent's discretion. Respondents were recruited with up to 5 contacts to improve the representativeness of the sample. Data were compared to the best-known estimates of the U.S. Census Current Population Survey (CPS) for the demographic profiles of Colorado adults and post-stratification weights were applied to bring the data into direct balance with Census estimates. The poll was led by Dr. Gabriel Sanchez and Dr. Matt Barreto from BSP Research, LLC.

Socio-demographic profile. Polling responses also help to provide a Socio-demographic profile of the Latino community in Colorado

LATINO LEADERS ONLINE SURVEY SUMMARY

THE POLICY ISSUE PRIORITIES OF LATINO LEADERS IN COLORADO

In analyzing the Latino Leaders survey, we identified:

- The Policy Issue Priorities of Latino Leaders in Colorado
- Policy Preferences of Latino Leaders in Colorado
- Impact of COVID-19 on Latino Leaders in Colorado
- Latino Leaders' Attitudes Toward Political Process and Motivations for Civic Engagement
- And a Socio-Demographic Profile of Latino Leaders in Colorado.

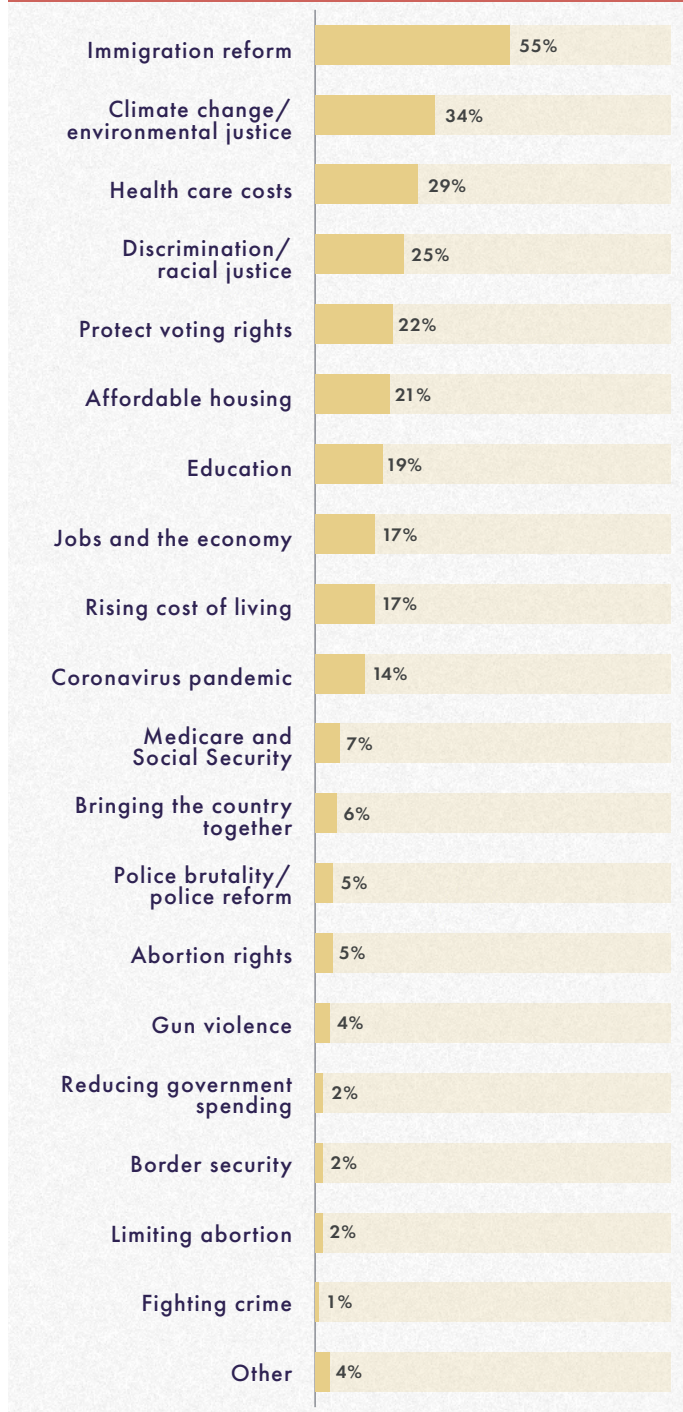
ABOUT

Results of the online Leaders Survey were compiled from 168 total completed interviews with Latino leaders in the state of Colorado. Survey respondents could take the survey in either English or Spanish at the respondent's discretion. The most commonly identified type of work reported by leaders in the survey that they are engaged in were: local or regional issue advocacy (not Latino specific) (25%), and business or private sector, followed by local or regional Latino advocacy. Immigration reform and immigrant rights is the issue area most commonly identified among issue areas that leaders organizations are working in (35%), followed by health care (32%), and environment and climate change.

FIGURE 22

2021 CPLA SURVEY OF LATINO LEADERS

Most important issues facing the Latino Community at the Federal level



One of the primary goals of this online survey was to identify the policy agenda of the leaders who work on behalf of the Latino community in the state. The survey, therefore, asked respondents to identify the most important issues facing the Latino community in two separate items, one focused on issues that Congress and the President should address, and the second on

issues that local Colorado elected officials should address. In both cases, respondents were able to select up to three issues.

At the federal level, (see Figure 22, “Most important issues facing the Latino Community at the Federal level”) immigration reform is by far the top issue area for leaders in the Latino community in the state of Colorado with 55% of the leader survey participants having this as one of their top priorities. This is 22% higher than the overall Latino population in the state of Colorado. The second most commonly cited issue area among leaders is climate change (34%), which is also much more salient than what we found in the statewide poll (9% among all Latinos). Discrimination and the need for racial justice is also an important priority for leaders and the general Latino community, with one in four Latino leaders in the state indicating this was one of their top priorities at the federal level,

FIGURE 23 2021 CPLA SURVEY OF LATINO LEADERS

Most important issues facing Latino Community at the local Colorado level

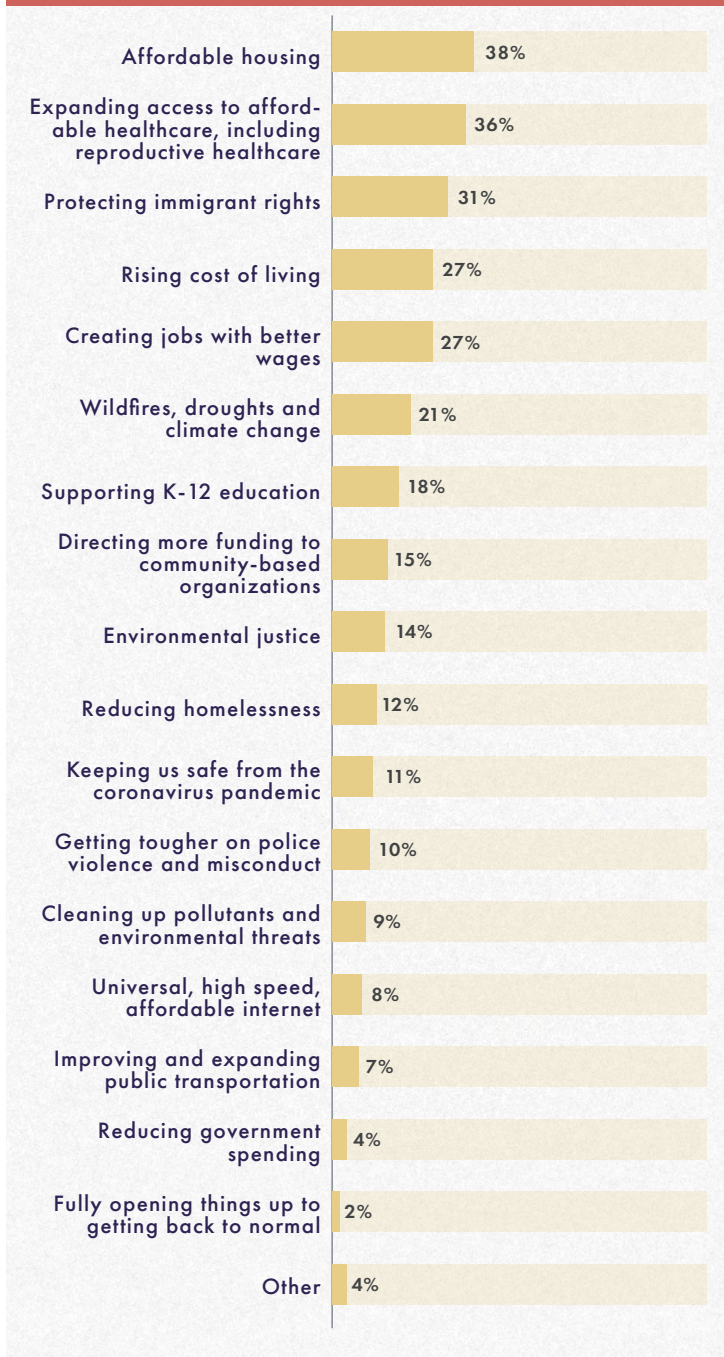


FIGURE 24 2021 CPLA SURVEY OF LATINO LEADERS

Top 5 issues driving policy preferences for Latino Leaders

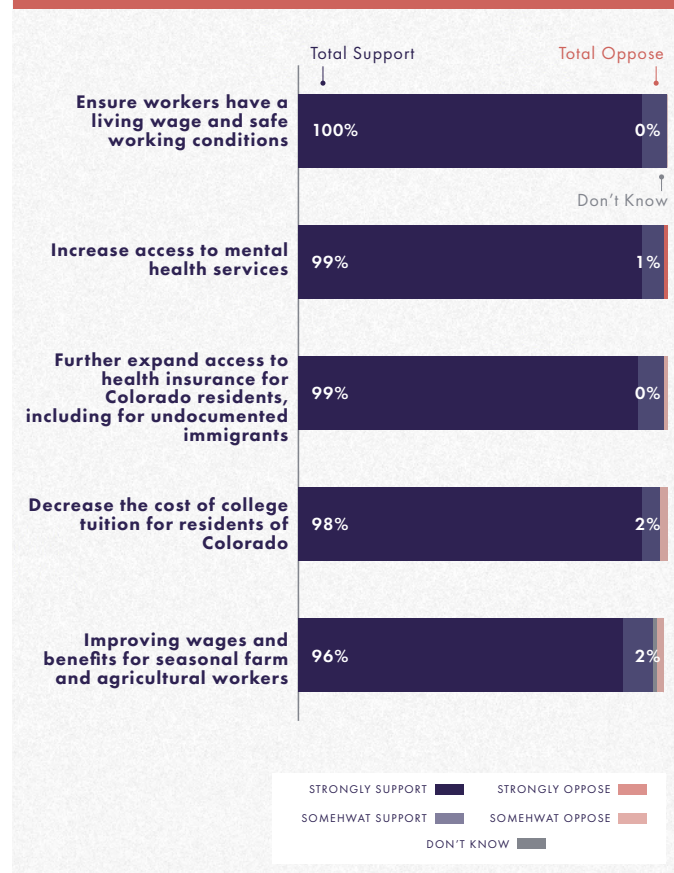
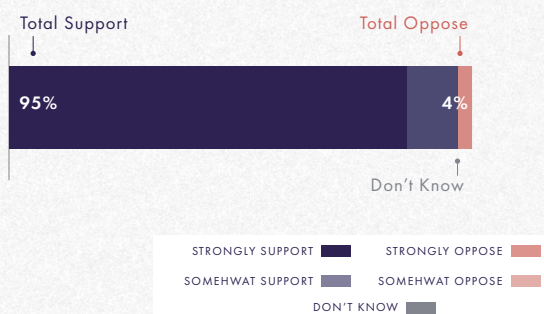


FIGURE 25

2021 CPLA SURVEY
OF LATINO LEADERS

Support for requirement for housing developers to include affordable housing



slightly higher than the 20% for Latinos overall in the statewide poll. (see Figure 23, “Most important issues facing the Latino Community at the local Colorado level”)

When cued to think about policy issues at the state and local level, 38% of leaders identified affordable housing as their most important policy priority — this was also high among all Latinos from the statewide poll. Protecting immigrant rights was highly important to Latino leaders at 31%, followed by expanding access to affordable health care, including reproductive healthcare (36%).

POLICY PREFERENCES OF LEADERS FROM THE LATINO COMMUNITY IN COLORADO

The online leaders survey aimed to provide a comprehensive overview of the policy preferences and attitudes of the Latino community in Colorado. A large number of questions, therefore, focused on public policies summarized in this section of the report. (see Figure 24, “Top 5 issues driving policy preferences for Latino leaders.”)

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Given the high concern the Latino community in Colorado has for the rising cost of living in the state it is not surprising that that Latino leaders would like to see legislation to address this issue. This includes

nearly all respondents in the leader survey indicating that it is important that the State Legislature do all that they can to ensure that employers across the state provide Latinos with living wages and fair and safe working environments. The rising cost of housing was already a major issue in the state prior to the pandemic but increased in salience over the past two years. This has resulted in nearly all (95%) Latino leaders in Colorado supporting new housing requirements that developers must include affordable housing. (see Figure 25, “Support for requirement for housing developers to include affordable housing.”)

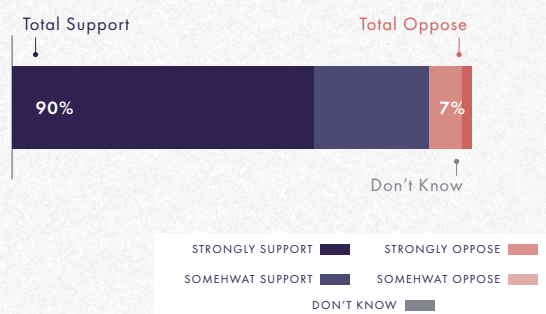
Small businesses have been hit particularly hard by the pandemic and Latino Americans are disproportionately likely to be employed by small businesses which helps explain the high support identified in the leader survey to set up a state fund to help Latino owned small businesses in the state – 96% of leaders support the fund, 65% strongly support. (see Figure 26, “Support to set up a state fund for Latino small businesses.”)

In general, and consistent with the overall state-wide poll, Latino leaders in Colorado support public policies that expand access to services and resources to a wider segment of the state’s population. This includes high support (99%) for expanding access to health insurance for Colorado residents, including undocumented immigrants. Latino leaders in Colorado also strongly support (96% overall support/88% strongly support) improving wages and benefits for

FIGURE 26

2021 CPLA SURVEY
OF LATINO LEADERS

Support to set up a state fund for Latino small businesses



seasonal farm and agricultural workers. There is also high support (95%) among respondents to the leader survey to increase Spanish language access for local and state government programs.

The pandemic has made clear how vital access to high-speed internet is for all aspects of life, including working and educating our children. This helps explain the near-universal support (96%) by Latino leaders in Colorado have to provide high-speed internet access to all Coloradans. There is also a recognition that access to high-speed internet and other infrastructure must extend to residents of rural areas of the state. For example, 88% of Latino leaders support bolstering economic opportunities outside of the Front Range.

EDUCATION

There is high support (93%) for increasing funding for the K-12 public schools among Latino leaders, with 80% strongly supporting the expansion of funding for the public schools in the state. Support is even higher (98%) for decreasing the cost of college tuition for Colorado residents. Respondents were also asked to provide their views on the value of higher education to help guide the curriculum and overall mission of the state's higher education system. The majority (74%) of Latino leaders in Colorado believe that higher education's value is a combination of setting students up for success in their careers and broadening the perspectives of students and helping them become

more informed citizens (see Figure 27, "Views of higher education.").

ENVIRONMENT

The survey included multiple questions focused on environmental policies including those intended to curb climate change. This includes strong support (91%) among leaders for setting strict caps on emissions for all businesses in the state whose operations impact the air quality, including the construction, transportation, oil and gas, and electricity generation industries. (see Figure 28, "Support for stricter environmental practices.")

There is similarly high support (93%) for providing information and resources to ensure that Latinos and other communities disproportionately impacted by the effects of climate change are included in decisions made to address climate change and to promote environmental justice, and access to business opportunities in this transitioning economy and job preparation for careers in clean energy industries. There is also near-universal support (96%) among leaders for policies in Colorado that will address drought and clean water access, as well as new regulations to reduce air, water, and land pollution. Finally, 94% of leaders from the Latino community in Colorado support prioritizing a clean energy transition that includes stricter regulations on industries contributing to climate change.

FIGURE 27

2021 CPLA SURVEY
OF LATINO LEADERS

Views of higher education

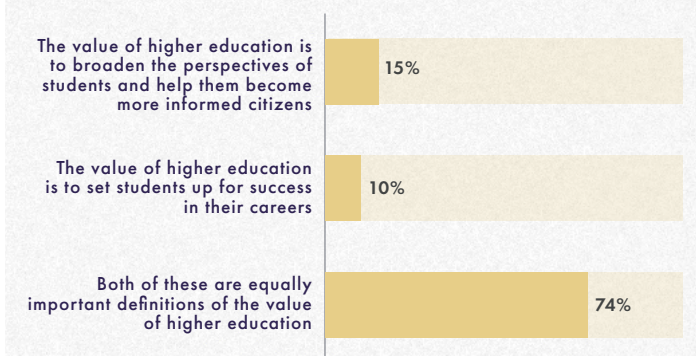
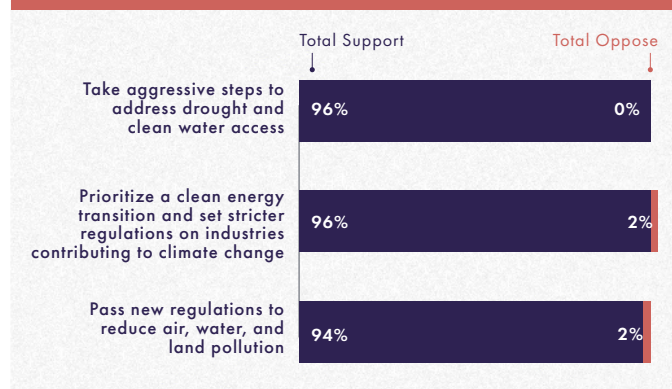


FIGURE 28

2021 CPLA SURVEY
OF LATINO LEADERS

Support for stricter environmental policies



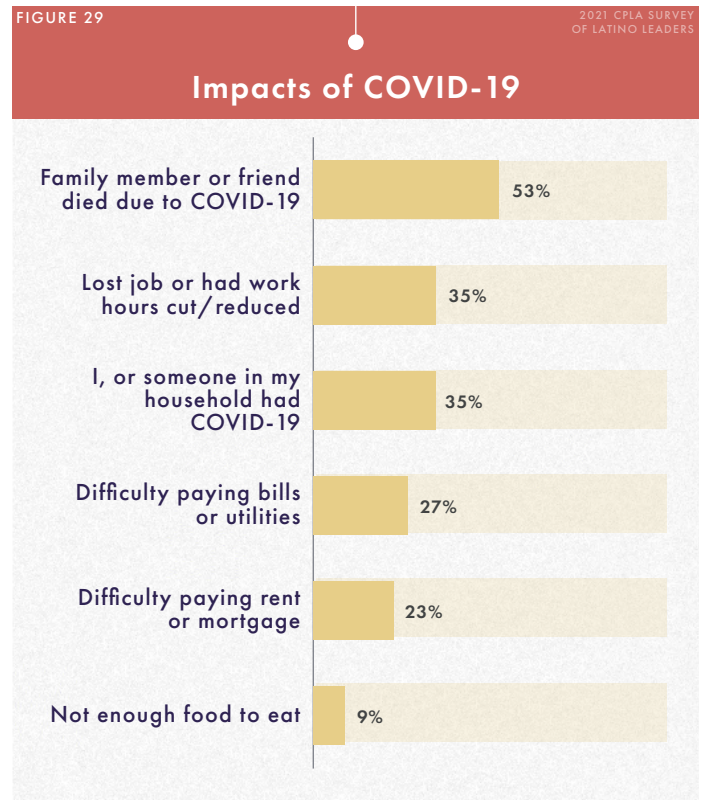
HEALTHCARE

The survey also asked respondents for their opinions on a number of health-focused policies beyond COVID-19. The survey identifies that almost all (99%) of Latino leaders in Colorado support increased access to mental health services for state residents. A strong majority (85%) of Latino leaders also support passing laws to protect access to safe abortions and reproductive rights for state residents.

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON LATINO LEADERS IN COLORADO

It is hard to overstate the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the Latino community in Colorado. Latino adults in Colorado have been infected at higher rates than non-Latinos, more likely to be hospitalized, and more likely to lose their life to the virus.¹ The leader survey reinforces just how devastating the pandemic has been for the Latino population in the state. Roughly a third (35%) of Latino leaders had someone in their household who has had COVID-19, and over half (53%) have had a family member or friend die due to COVID-19. (see Figure 29, "Impacts of COVID-19.")

The online survey also provides an opportunity to evaluate the economic vulnerability of Latino leaders as a result the recession caused by COVID-19. Below are some of the sobering data points that illustrate just how severe the virus has been on the economic well-being of Latino families across the state. Latino leaders across the state are faring better than the overall Latino population across the economic stress indicators. (see Figure 30, "How Latinos managed their finances during the COVID pandemic.") However, the fact that so many Latino professionals are facing similar challenges to the communities in which they work to support is telling of how devastating the economic stress associated with the pandemic has been for the Latino community in Colorado.



- 60% have had their work hours or pay cut, or had someone in their household lose their job/35% among Latino leaders.
- 56% of Latinos in Colorado have had difficulty paying their bills or utilities/27% among Latino leaders.
- 50% of Latinos in Colorado have had difficulty paying their rent or mortgage/23% among Latino leaders.
- 33% of Latinos in Colorado have not had enough food to eat/9% among Latino leaders.

The economic vulnerability of the Latino community is best reflected in the limited safety net most respondents in the statewide poll have available to lean on during this difficult time. An alarming 42% of Colorado's Latino population have only \$1,000 or less in savings for financial emergencies, 20% with an astonishing \$100 or less. Though not as extreme as the statewide Latino population, over a fourth (27%) of Latino leaders have \$1,000 or less to lean on during these challenging times in emergency funds.

Latino residents in Colorado have had to make several tough decisions in order to manage the

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6948a3.htm>

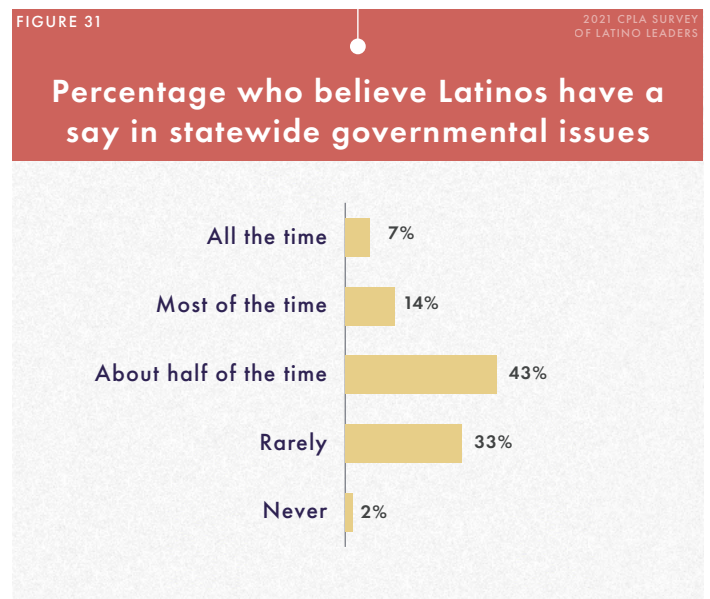
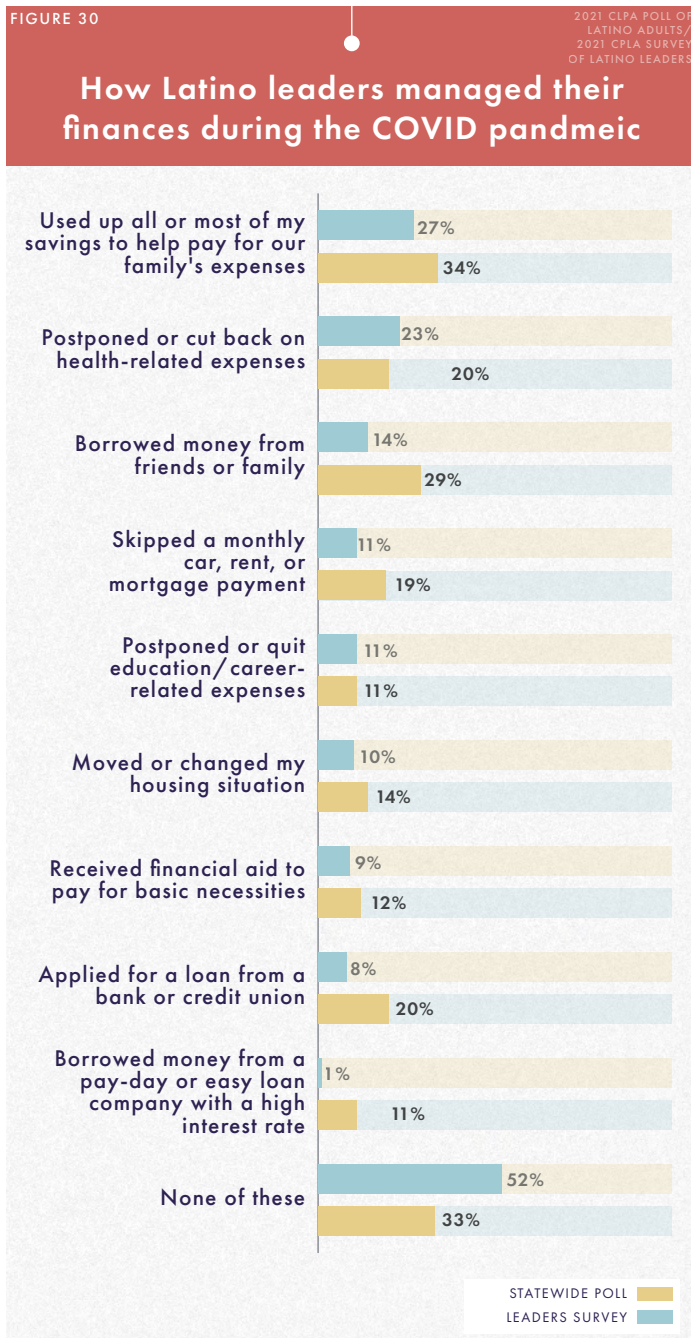
financial situation of their households during the pandemic, including Latino leaders. This includes 27% of Latino leaders who used up all or most of their savings to pay for their expenses and 14% who have borrowed money from friends and family. Another 11% of Latino leaders have had to skip a monthly car, rent, or mortgage payment, and 23% postponed or cut back on health-related expenses. The pandemic has had a significant impact on the housing stability of leaders from the Latino community, with 10% of the sample indicating that they have had to move or

change their housing situation due to the pandemic.

LATINO LEADERS' ATTITUDES TOWARD POLITICAL PROCESS AND MOTIVATIONS FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Latino leaders overwhelmingly (90%) believe that if Latinos in Colorado turn out to vote at high rates, they can influence the way decisions are made and what policies are considered. There is therefore a high level of efficacy among the leaders in the Latino community in the state.

However, when drilling deeper into the perceived influence of the Latino community, a more complex picture emerges. For example, there is wide variation among leaders in views regarding how often Latinos have a say in how the government handles important issues in the state of Colorado. There are far fewer leaders in the state who feel that Latinos have influence in state government decisions "All the time" (7%) vs. "Rarely" or "Never" (35%), with the majority of respondents in the middle categories of "about half of the time" or "most of the time." It is important to note that Latino leaders in Colorado are much more likely to believe that Latinos rarely have a say in how the government handles important issues in Colorado than the general Latino population. (see Figure 31,

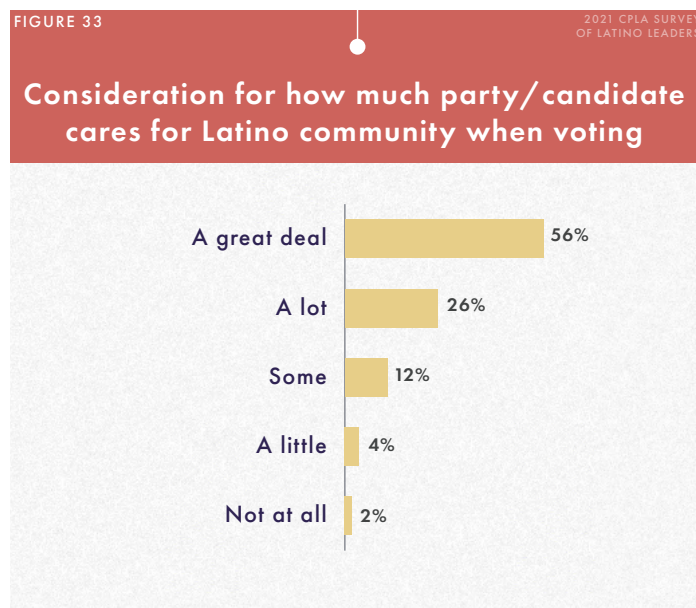
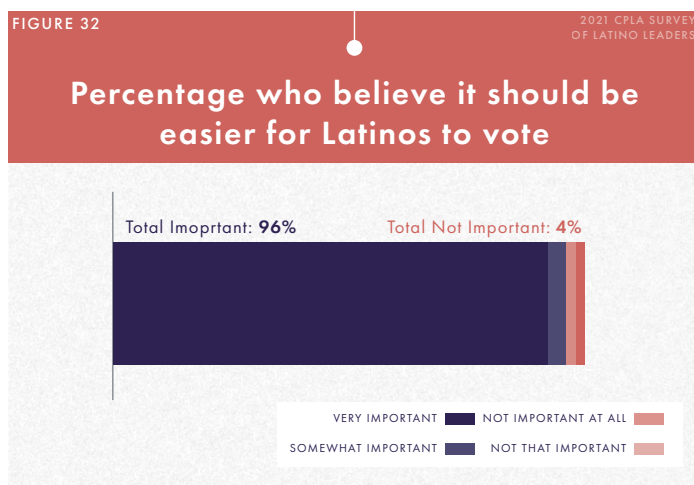


"Percentage who believe Latinos have a say in statewide governmental issues.")

Similarly, while 60% of Latino leaders in Colorado believe that Latinos like themselves can influence the outcomes of elections in the state either a great deal or a lot, the other 40% have less confidence in the collective influence of the Latino community. This is identical to what we found in the statewide survey of all Latino adults.

The survey suggests that this lack of perceived influence may be due to a recognition that there are significant obstacles undercutting the voting power of the Latino electorate. This includes 82% of Latino leaders who believe that false information is spread to confuse voters, and 31% who think that voters are kept away from the polls and voting locations through intimidation or violence. The Latino community feels strongly that there should be efforts made to address these barriers to voting. In fact, nearly all (96%) Latino leaders believe it is important (93% very important) that the state of Colorado continues to make voting easier, and not harder, for the Latino community in the state. (See Figure 32, *"Percentage who believe it should be easier for Latinos to vote."*)

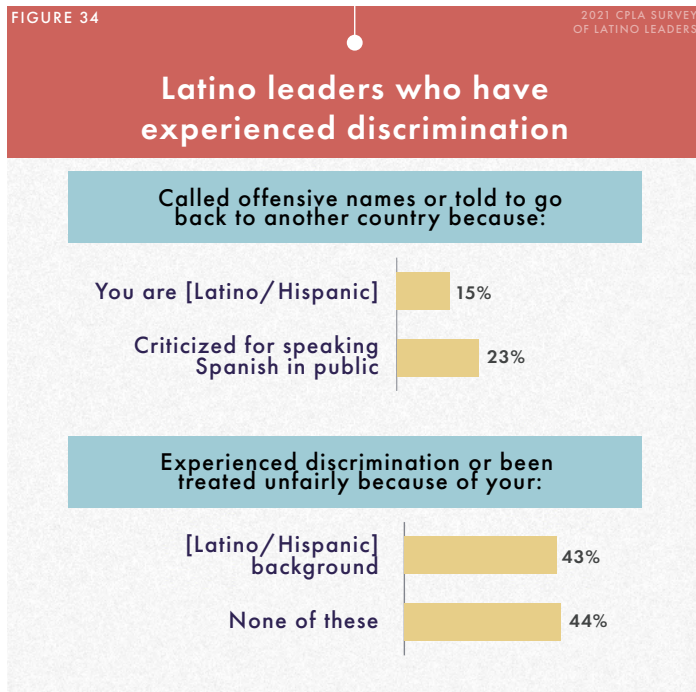
Furthermore, the overwhelming majority (90%) of Latino leaders in Colorado believe that "rich people have too much influence in elections," which obviously influences perceptions that the Latino community can influence governmental decisions.



The survey identifies the important role that a sense of ethnic identity plays in the political behavior of Latinos in Colorado. For example, 89% of the leader survey's respondents indicate that it is important (41% very important) to them that a candidate they vote for is Latino. Similarly, 70% of leader survey respondents who voted in 2020 indicated that showing solidarity and support for the Latino/Latino community motivated them to vote either "a great deal" or "a lot". An overwhelming majority (82%) of Latino leaders indicated that they consider whether the party or candidate they are considering supporting cares about the Latino community either all or most of the time. (See Figure 33, *"Consideration for how much party/candidate cares for Latino community when voting."*)

There has been a rise in Latinos elected to political office across the state of Colorado over the last decade and the survey provides an opportunity to evaluate how the Latino leadership across the state feels about this rise in descriptive representation. Among Latino leaders, 43% across the state believe that Latinos elected to office can make changes for other Latinos in Colorado either "all" (8%) or "most of the time" (35%).

Unfortunately, many members of the Latino leadership community in Colorado have experienced

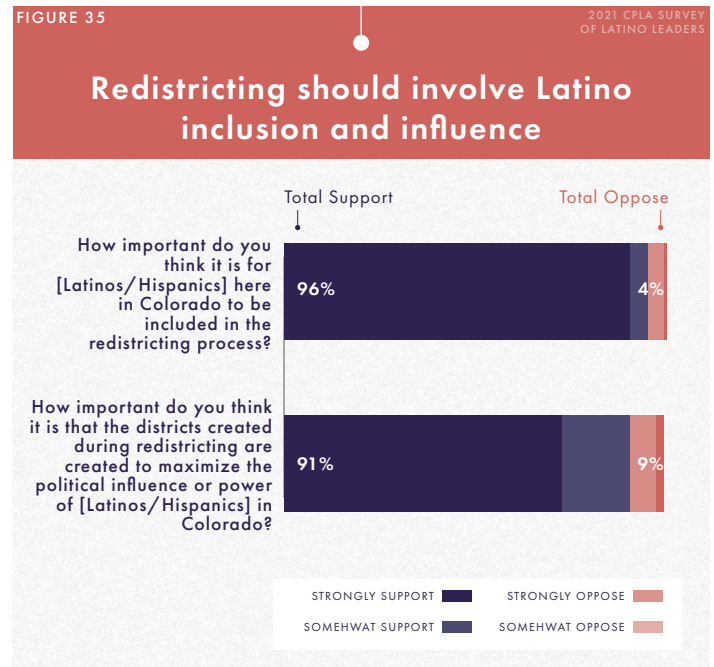


discrimination as a result of their ethnicity. Although 44% of respondents did not report any experiences of discrimination, nearly half had at least one of the following negative experiences over the past year:

- 43% have experienced some form of discrimination or been treated unfairly because of their ethnic background.
- 23% have been criticized for speaking Spanish in public.
- 15% have been called an offensive name or told to go back to another country because they are Latino.

(See Figure 34, “Latino leaders who have experienced discrimination.”)

The online survey reveals that the Latino leadership community strongly desires policies that can address racial discrimination directed at Latinos and other



communities of color in the state. For example, a robust 93% of Latino leaders support policy proposals that will “get tougher on white supremacist and racist groups,” 87% strongly support.

With redistricting taking place this year and the legislature creating political districts that will define the political context for the state for the next decade, the survey closed with content focused on Latino’s views about the redistricting process in Colorado. A robust 96% of Latino leaders in Colorado believe that it is important that Latinos in Colorado are included in the process, and 91% believe it’s important that the districts created during redistricting are created to maximize the political influence or power of Latinos in Colorado. (See Figure 35, “Redistricting should involve Latino inclusion and influence.”)

Methodology Statement: The memo draws from a survey of 168 total completed interviews with Latino leaders in the state of Colorado. Survey respondents could take the survey in either English or Spanish at respondent’s discretion. The most commonly identified type of work reported by leaders in the survey that they are engaged in were: local or regional issue advocacy (not Latino specific) (25%), and business or private sector, followed by local or regional Latino advocacy. Immigration reform and immigrant rights is the issue area most commonly identified among issue areas that leaders organizations are working in (35%, followed by health care (32%), and environment and climate change. The poll was led by Dr. Gabriel Sanchez and Dr. Matt Barreto from BSP Research, LLC.

COLORADO LATINO POLICY LISTENING TOUR SUMMARY

The Latinos who call Colorado home have rich, unique, and remarkable backgrounds. Some have been here for generations dating all the way back to before Colorado was even a state. Others have immigrated here more recently, forming communities across the state. While we share many aspects of our culture and history, the truth is that Latinos are not a monolith.

Latinos in Colorado have different needs based on a variety of factors including geography, history, economics, and more.

From August-October of 2021, COLOR – along with Colorado Democratic Latino Caucus and other partner organizations – set out on a Colorado Latino Policy Listening Tour to elevate Latino priorities in state and federal decision-making processes.

The mission was to engage Latino community partners and caucus members across Colorado to help develop a comprehensive Latino Policy Platform to elevate Latino voices in policymaking and democratic processes. In an effort to intentionally, strategically, and authentically, engage communities where they are, the tour included stops in the communities of Greeley, Glenwood Springs, and Pueblo to meet with

community members in their own backyards.

Because Latino voices are often ignored or disregarded in politics, this effort created space for community members to speak directly to the Latino Caucus.

Each event was structured in a way that allowed the free flow of conversation. As a starting point, participants were asked to weigh in on issues that have been priorities for the caucus in years past.

- Criminal Justice
 - Housing Justice
 - Immigration Justice
 - Environmental Justice
- Education Justice
 - Economic Justice and Jobs
 - Health and Reproductive Justice

Through facilitated conversations with one or more elected officials, participants discussed and identified a variety of ideas.

These qualitative results demonstrated that issues pertaining to undocumented immigrants existed in each communities. Participants in Glenwood Springs and Pueblo also identified education issues among their top selections, while environmental issues were among the top selections in Pueblo and Greeley. Top issues for each of the communities are outlined below:

Top Issues Greeley	Top Issues Glenwood	Top Issues Pueblo
Healthcare: Urgent need for bilingual/bicultural staff that understands Latinos	Housing: Prioritize homeownership to local workforce not outside investors	Environment: Include workers in identifying solutions and impacts
Criminal Justice: Undocumented individuals do not have access to legal assistance	Education: Improve graduation rates, reduce dropout rates - especial for Latino men	Education: Latino students deserve higher-quality education. Invest in programs like migrant ed, Gear Up, Trio
Environment: Concerned about residential fracking	Economic Justice: Issues related to resort community wages vs. cost of living	Immigration: No access to health care for undocumented residents
Immigration: Improving process and accessibility to get ID/License	Immigration: No access to health care for undocumented residents	

The listening sessions provided community-specific issues across each of the seven policy areas that

will be insightful for elected officials and community leaders moving forward:

GREELEY



IMMIGRATION JUSTICE

- Improving process and accessibility to get ID/ license
- Access to affordable legal representation of all types, information of trustworthy lawyers (list of lawyers)
- Transportation for immigrants to ICE/ISAP/ Biometrics check-ins and appointments
- Bar deportation of veterans & their family
- Resolve issues with SB21-251 (immigrant driver's license bill)



CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- Undocumented do not have access to legal assistance; if arrested by ICE and confront deportation, create fund for legal assistance for this population
- Eliminate Private Prisons, Corrections/Detention Centers
- Jobs that pay well are part of prevention and keeping families out of the system (need more options other than entering the military, no jobs in Greeley)
- Police shooting of Latinos "we heard he was armed"/Police state of mind when assessing a situation
- Cash bail system, bail money is very disproportionate between Latinos and whites, there may be an assumption of flight
- Judicial system in northern CO is mostly white (no judges of color)
- End Drug War





ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- Residential fracking
- Protect water and lands
- Health issues due to pollution
- Equity on environment and clean energy
- Air quality, dealing with bad smell in the air
- Water quality and quantity/storing in Colorado



EDUCATION JUSTICE

- Bi/multilingual education through the school district
- Lack of funding for public schools — students are moving to charters, and not many Latinos in charter schools
- Within Greeley school districts are divided in 3 — all run differently



ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND JOBS

- Need for normalizing bilingual/multilingual events to provide access
- No public transportation to Greeley (throughout Greeley metro-area, and Tri-Town area)
- Labor rights for agricultural workers
- Growth of Greeley/gentrification and affordability: there is more growth in South Weld (Tri-Town area)
- JBS Plant + housing



HEALTH AND REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

- Urgent need for hiring and retention of bilingual/bicultural staff that understands Latino/immigrant families
- Program development for preventative care for immigrants over 65 under medicaid to at least have 1 yr physicals: undocumented seniors don't have previous medicaid credits, need for denture accessibility, and old age pension
- Public assistance
- Implicit bias of ppl of color from therapist who are not Latino/a
- Covid/vaccine

GLENWOOD SPRINGS



CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- Mental health & being in prison/jail
- Training for the police department to identify and treat people with special needs (autism) with dignity
- Preventive Resources for kids/youth
- Bilingual training for police department
- Costs of activities in the area is high
- Restorative justice resources
- Police in schools



HOUSING JUSTICE

- Prioritize homeownership to local workforce not outside investors
- Finance opportunities for irregular status families, ITIN #
- Regulations on mobile home park owners asking for legal status, abuse, scare tactics
- Expensive testing to be accepted into mobile home parks
- Priority for rentals for local workforce/larger, multi-generational families.
- Many mobile homes don't have safe heating systems





IMMIGRATION JUSTICE

- There isn't any healthcare
- Recognize trauma, provide aide
- Empowerment
- People with many years in this country pay their taxes and do not have rights
- Educate against fear
- Suffering from discrimination



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- Battery waste and producer responsibility
- Workers not living where they work
- Community farming & green spaces
- Build local leadership
- Incentivize local farms to sell to local markets
- Mobile home water quality and sources



HEALTH AND REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

- In big cities certain hospitals have "care coordinators" that many times are bilingual/bicultural (like social workers). How do we provide that sort of program in rural communities?
- Latinos lack access to providers (not enough bilingual/bicultural providers)
- Create inclusive programming
- Mental health/behavioral health
- High co-payscost/access
- Lack of multilingual services more support for new moms (physical, mental, emotional, social)
- Discrimination from providers



EDUCATION JUSTICE

- Graduation rates: Hispanic men, drop out rates
- Language access
- Colleges don't have support for monolingual students
- Education quality
- 3 years of high school - mandatory
- Limitations with technology
- Child care is a problem



ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND JOBS

- Tourist location impact on wages vs the cost of living prices are getting rough
- Many Latinos contracted COVID-19 and weren't able to get time off/still had to work with virus
- Mental health (more training w/experience multilingual, cultural competence -broad single mom depression)
- COVID-19 stipends
- No activities, people are forgotten, want available activities
- Individuals face a lot of requirements to access it
- Senior citizen services

PUEBLO



CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- When we have Latinx communities that are disproportionately impacted by criminal justice we have to think at different avenues such as having an option to de-prioritize folks with criminal records after a set amount of time, after "x" years having something off the record
- Racial profiling in policing continues to be an issue
- There was a bill passed at the state legislature that would expunge lower level crimes
- Code-enforcement as warrants are a huge issue/ crimes of poverty
- More social services in foster care system are needed



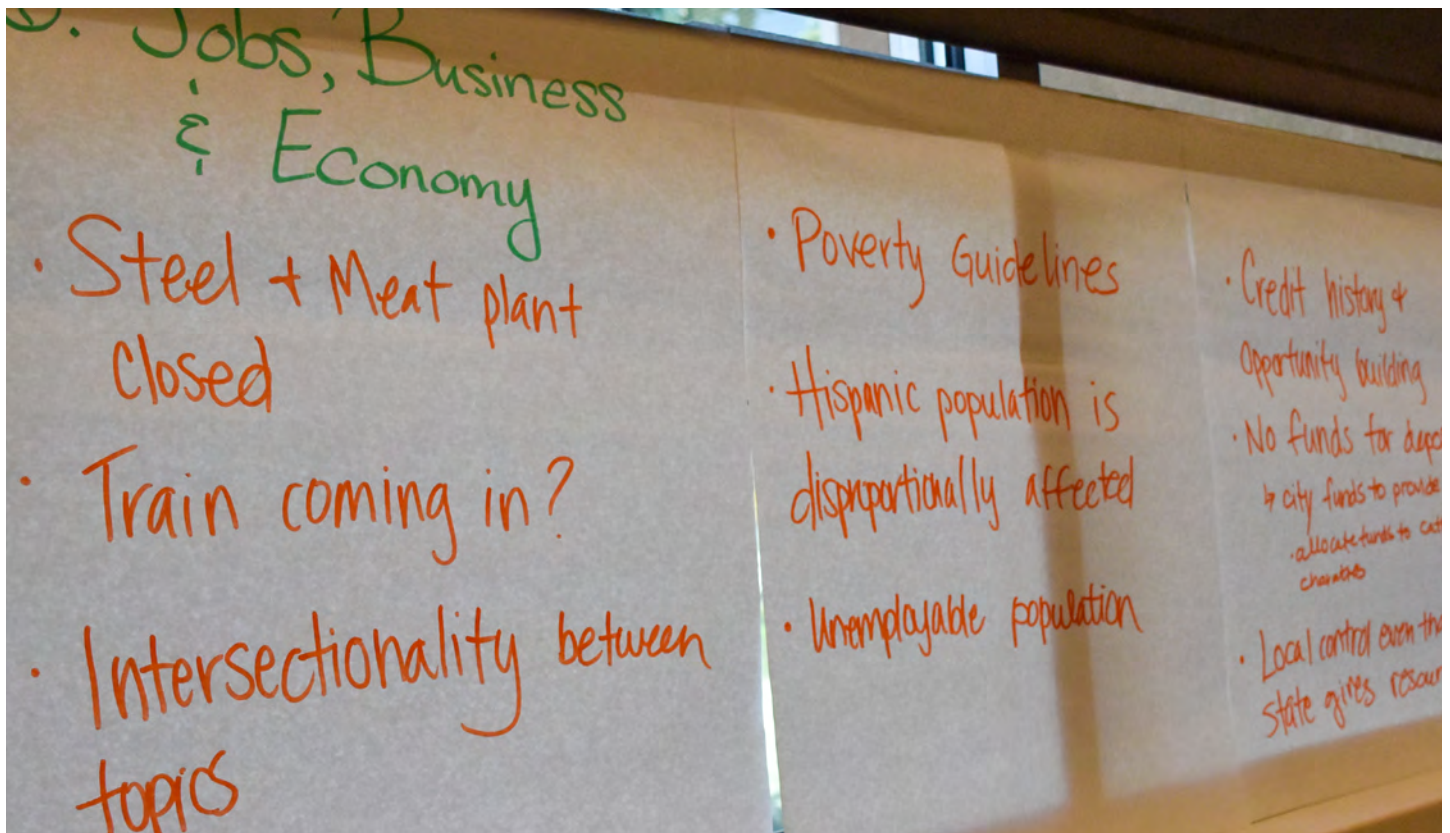
HOUSING JUSTICE

- Latinos disproportionately impacted to enter housing with criminal backgrounds
- Lack of credit history



IMMIGRATION JUSTICE

- Healthcare
- Law enforcement education in communities
- We need to be honest/transparent with communities about the length of this fight





ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- Include workers in these convos
- Brown folks not always at the table not indicative of how much we care



EDUCATION JUSTICE

- Tourist location impact on wages vs. the cost of living prices
- Who is entitled to education? Investment in programs (migrant ed, Gear up, TRIO)
- Trade school capacity
- Cost and options of daycare — 4-day school week
- Equity and inclusion — only 3 Black teachers in District 60
- Who can afford to become a teacher? Lack of funding — no encouragement to go into profession



ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND JOBS

- Non-competitive bidding
- Poverty guidelines
- More opportunities in green economy
- Lack of access to water/regenerative farming
- Gang prevention program
- Credit history and opportunity building



HEALTH AND REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

- LARC was not a “success” in the Latinx populations
- Quantitative research is not unbiased
- Health should not be for profit

Q1: On the whole, what are the most important issues facing the [Latino/Hispanic] community that you think Congress and the President should address?

	Statewide	Leader
Coronavirus pandemic	18%	14%
Health care costs	17%	29%
Jobs and the economy	22%	17%
Immigration reform	23%	55%
Rising cost of living	14%	17%
Reducing government spending	6%	2%
Bringing the country together	9%	6%
Affordable housing	16%	21%
Border security	10%	2%
Police brutality/police reform	12%	5%
Education	17%	19%
Medicare and Social Security	14%	7%
Discrimination/racial justice	20%	25%
Climate change/environmental justice	9%	34%
Gun violence	10%	4%
Abortion rights	5%	5%
Limiting abortion	4%	2%
Protect voting rights	11%	22%
Fighting crime	7%	1%
Other	2%	4%

Q2: What about here in Colorado? What are the most important issues that you want local Colorado officials to address?

	Statewide	Leader
Keeping us safe from the coronavirus pandemic	21%	11%
Affordable housing	26%	38%
Reducing homelessness	23%	12%
Wildfires, droughts and climate change	10%	21%
Universal, high speed, affordable internet	6%	8%
Cleaning up pollutants and environmental threats	10%	9%
Rising cost of living	20%	27%
Reducing government spending	8%	4%
Environmental justice	8%	14%
Getting tougher on police violence and misconduct	14%	10%
Supporting K-12 education	13%	18%
Protecting immigrant rights	20%	31%
Improving and expanding public transportation	8%	7%
Creating jobs with better wages	22%	27%
Expanding access to affordable healthcare, including reproductive healthcare	13%	36%
Fully opening things up to getting back to normal	12%	2%
Directing more funding to community-based organizations	6%	15%
Other	2%	4%

Q3: Thinking ahead to the November 2022 election for Congress and Colorado state offices what are the chances you will vote - are you almost certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or do you not think you will vote?

	Statewide	Leader
Almost certain	69%	92%
Probably	18%	4%
50-50	9%	2%
Will not vote	3%	2%

Q4: How much do you trust each of the following to act in the public's best interest? Rate each on a scale of 0 to 10 where 0 means "not at all" and 10 means "completely trust"?

	Statewide	Leader
Local school districts where you live	7.7	5.8
Local colleges and universities	7.7	5.8
Government programs that help people such as unemployment insurance and food stamps	7.6	5.7
The health care system	7.5	4.6
The courts and judicial system	7.1	4.7
U.S. Congress	6.8	4.3
The Colorado state legislature	7.2	5.8
My local county government	7.3	5.3
My local city government	7.3	5.6

Q5: During the coronavirus pandemic, did your household experience any of the following? (% yes)

	Statewide	Leader
Not enough food to eat	33%	9%
Difficulty paying bills or utilities	56%	27%
Difficulty paying rent or mortgage	50%	23%
Lost job or had work hours cut/reduced	60%	35%
I, or someone in my household had COVID-19	43%	35%
Family member or friend died due to COVID-19	46%	53%

Q6: Have you done any of the following to manage your financial situation during the pandemic?

	Statewide	Leader
Borrowed money from friends or family	29%	14%
Applied for a loan from a bank or credit union	20%	8%
Borrowed money from a pay-day or easy loan company with a high interest rate	11%	1%
Used up all or most of my savings to help pay for our family's expenses	34%	27%
Skipped a monthly car, rent, or mortgage payment	19%	11%
Postponed or cut back on health-related expenses	20%	23%
Postponed or quit education/career-related expenses	11%	11%
Moved or changed my housing situation	14%	10%
Received financial aid to pay for basic necessities	12%	9%
None of these	33%	52%

Q7: For each of the following government programs, please indicate whether you or someone in your household received any help since the start of the pandemic. Remember that this survey is anonymous and confidential.

	Statewide	Leader
Unemployment insurance	30%	15%
Federal government stimulus check	77%	67%
Small business or PPP loan	18%	11%
Medicaid/CHIP	47%	18%
SNAP, EBT, WIC (also called food stamps)	38%	11%
Cash assistance (also called TANF)	22%	1%
Help paying for childcare (subsidy)	22%	2%
Other type of assistance from state or local government	23%	5%
Free or Reduced School Lunch Program	36%	17%

9a. Further expand access to health insurance for Colorado residents, including for undocumented immigrants

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	57%	92%
Somewhat support	26%	7%
Somewhat oppose	8%	0%
Strongly oppose	6%	0%
Don't know	4%	1%
TOTAL SUPPORT	83%	99%
TOTAL OPPOSE	14%	0%

9b. Get tougher on white supremacist and racist groups

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	62%	87%
Somewhat support	22%	6%
Somewhat oppose	4%	0%
Strongly oppose	4%	2%
Don't know	8%	5%
TOTAL SUPPORT	84%	93%
TOTAL OPPOSE	8%	2%

9c. Provide high speed internet access to all Coloradoans

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	57%	77%
Somewhat support	29%	19%
Somewhat oppose	7%	0%
Strongly oppose	3%	1%
Don't know	4%	2%
TOTAL SUPPORT	86%	96%
TOTAL OPPOSE	10%	1%

9d. Prioritize a clean energy transition and set stricter regulations on industries contributing to climate change

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	57%	85%
Somewhat support	27%	12%
Somewhat oppose	7%	0%
Strongly oppose	5%	2%
Don't know	5%	1%
TOTAL SUPPORT	84%	96%
TOTAL OPPOSE	11%	2%

9e. Increase state funding for K-12 public schools

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	62%	80%
Somewhat support	23%	13%
Somewhat oppose	8%	2%
Strongly oppose	3%	1%
Don't know	3%	4%
TOTAL SUPPORT	85%	93%
TOTAL OPPOSE	12%	4%

9f. Decrease the cost of college tuition for residents of Colorado

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	64%	93%
Somewhat support	23%	5%
Somewhat oppose	6%	2%
Strongly oppose	3%	0%
Don't know	3%	0%
TOTAL SUPPORT	87%	98%
TOTAL OPPOSE	9%	2%

9g. Revise the state's gun laws so residents cannot purchase automatic weapons in Colorado

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	46%	74%
Somewhat support	26%	14%
Somewhat oppose	11%	4%
Strongly oppose	12%	4%
Don't know	5%	5%
TOTAL SUPPORT	72%	88%
TOTAL OPPOSE	23%	7%

9h. Pass new regulations to reduce air, water, and land pollution

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	64%	87%
Somewhat support	25%	7%
Somewhat oppose	4%	0%
Strongly oppose	3%	2%
Don't know	3%	4%
TOTAL SUPPORT	90%	94%
TOTAL OPPOSE	7%	2%

9i. Set new housing requirements that developers must include affordable housing

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	64%	85%
Somewhat support	24%	11%
Somewhat oppose	5%	2%
Strongly oppose	3%	1%
Don't know	4%	1%
TOTAL SUPPORT	88%	95%
TOTAL OPPOSE	8%	4%

9j. Improving transportation infrastructure such as roads and bridges

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	58%	77%
Somewhat support	31%	19%
Somewhat oppose	5%	0%
Strongly oppose	2%	0%
Don't know	4%	4%
TOTAL SUPPORT	89%	96%
TOTAL OPPOSE	7%	0%

9k. Increase access to mental health services

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	65%	93%
Somewhat support	23%	6%
Somewhat oppose	5%	0%
Strongly oppose	3%	1%
Don't know	4%	0%
TOTAL SUPPORT	89%	99%
TOTAL OPPOSE	7%	1%

9I. Passing laws to protect access to safe abortion and reproductive rights

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	42%	73%
Somewhat support	25%	12%
Somewhat oppose	13%	5%
Strongly oppose	12%	4%
Don't know	8%	7%
TOTAL SUPPORT	66%	85%
TOTAL OPPOSE	26%	8%

Q10: Do you currently have children under the age of 25?

	Statewide	Leader
Yes	48%	46%
No	52%	54%

Q11: Thinking about your child's future, how important is obtaining a college education for their long-term ability to get a good job and pay their bills without struggling to make ends meet?

	Statewide	Leader
Very important	73%	88%
Important	19%	9%
Somewhat important	6%	3%
Not at all important	1%	0%
Don't know	0%	0%

Q12: If your child does pursue college, are you confident or not confident that you will have enough money to afford to pay all the costs associated with going to college?

	Statewide	Leader
Very confident	33%	6%
Somewhat confident	41%	32%
Not too confident	18%	35%
Not at all confident	7%	23%
Don't know	1%	4%

Q13: Which of the following do you agree with more?

	Statewide	Leader
The value of higher education is to set students up for success in their careers	27%	10%
The value of higher education is to broaden the perspectives of students and help them become more informed citizens	15%	15%
Both of these are equally important definitions of the value of higher education	57%	74%

Q14: Thinking about your current household income and expenses, how confident are you that you can pay your basic living expenses, such as food, housing and medical expenses every month?

	Statewide	Leader
Very confident	37%	40%
Somewhat confident	46%	44%
Not too confident	11%	14%
Not at all confident	4%	1%
Don't know	2%	1%

Q15: Which of the following two statements do you agree with more:

	Statewide	Leader
If [Latinos/Hispanics] here in Colorado turnout to vote at high rates, we can influence the way decisions are made and what policies are considered.	78%	90%
It doesn't really matter how many [Latinos/Hispanics] in Colorado vote, nothing is ever going to really change.	22%	10%

Q16: Here is another list of public policies being debated here in Colorado. Please indicate whether you support or oppose each proposal.

16a. Take aggressive steps to address drought and clean water access

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	61%	81%
Somewhat support	29%	15%
Somewhat oppose	4%	0%
Strongly oppose	2%	0%
Don't know	5%	4%
TOTAL SUPPORT	90%	96%
TOTAL OPPOSE	6%	0%

16b. Set up a state fund to help [Latino/Hispanic] small businesses in Colorado

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	59%	65%
Somewhat support	30%	25%
Somewhat oppose	5%	6%
Strongly oppose	3%	1%
Don't know	4%	2%
TOTAL SUPPORT	88%	90%
TOTAL OPPOSE	8%	7%

16c. Ensure workers have a living wage and safe working conditions

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	69%	93%
Somewhat support	22%	7%
Somewhat oppose	3%	0%
Strongly oppose	3%	0%
Don't know	3%	0%
TOTAL SUPPORT	91%	100%
TOTAL OPPOSE	6%	0%

16d. Reducing traffic congestion on Colorado's roads and highways

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	56%	62%
Somewhat support	34%	30%
Somewhat oppose	6%	2%
Strongly oppose	1%	0%
Don't know	3%	6%
TOTAL SUPPORT	90%	92%
TOTAL OPPOSE	7%	2%

16e. Bolstering economic opportunities outside of the Front Range

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	50%	65%
Somewhat support	29%	23%
Somewhat oppose	8%	2%
Strongly oppose	3%	0%
Don't know	10%	10%
TOTAL SUPPORT	79%	88%
TOTAL OPPOSE	11%	2%

16f. Address drug dependency and increase access to drug treatment

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	56%	60%
Somewhat support	30%	30%
Somewhat oppose	7%	4%
Strongly oppose	1%	1%
Don't know	5%	6%
TOTAL SUPPORT	86%	89%
TOTAL OPPOSE	8%	5%

16g. Increase Spanish language access for local and state government programs

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	54%	75%
Somewhat support	29%	20%
Somewhat oppose	8%	4%
Strongly oppose	5%	0%
Don't know	5%	1%
TOTAL SUPPORT	83%	95%
TOTAL OPPOSE	13%	4%

16h. Improving wages and benefits for seasonal farm and agricultural workers

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	66%	88%
Somewhat support	25%	8%
Somewhat oppose	4%	2%
Strongly oppose	2%	0%
Don't know	3%	1%
TOTAL SUPPORT	91%	96%
TOTAL OPPOSE	6%	2%

Q17: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

17a. If you don't vote and take part in democracy nothing will ever change. The only way we can change things for the better is to vote.

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly agree	58%	54%
Somewhat agree	29%	35%
Somewhat disagree	7%	10%
Strongly disagree	3%	2%
Don't know	3%	0%
TOTAL AGREE	87%	88%
TOTAL DISAGREE	10%	12%

17b. Politicians usually ignore the [Latino/Hispanic] community in Colorado. But when we show up to vote in big numbers, that's when things change and they listen to us.

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly agree	44%	54%
Somewhat agree	38%	33%
Somewhat disagree	8%	8%
Strongly disagree	4%	0%
Don't know	6%	5%
TOTAL AGREE	82%	87%
TOTAL DISAGREE	12%	8%

Q18: Thinking about previous elections in Colorado, how often would you say the following things occur?

18a. Votes are counted fairly

	Statewide	Leader
Very often	36%	60%
Somewhat often	34%	18%
Not too often	14%	9%
Never	5%	1%
Don't know enough to say	10%	12%
TOTAL OFTEN	70%	79%
TOTAL NOT OFTEN	20%	10%

18b. Everyone has an equal chance for their voice to be heard

	Statewide	Leader
Very often	30%	14%
Somewhat often	32%	23%
Not too often	23%	51%
Never	9%	7%
Don't know enough to say	6%	7%
TOTAL OFTEN	62%	36%
TOTAL NOT OFTEN	32%	57%

18c. Rich people have too much influence in elections

	Statewide	Leader
Very often	55%	68%
Somewhat often	29%	21%
Not too often	8%	3%
Never	2%	1%
Don't know enough to say	7%	6%
TOTAL OFTEN	84%	90%
TOTAL NOT OFTEN	9%	4%

18d. The candidates who run for office are good representatives

	Statewide	Leader
Very often	21%	3%
Somewhat often	39%	46%
Not too often	25%	43%
Never	6%	1%
Don't know enough to say	8%	8%
TOTAL OFTEN	61%	49%
TOTAL NOT OFTEN	32%	43%

18e. Voters are kept away from the polls/voting locations through intimidation or violence

	Statewide	Leader
Very often	20%	9%
Somewhat often	28%	22%
Not too often	21%	33%
Never	17%	16%
Don't know enough to say	14%	20%
TOTAL OFTEN	48%	31%
TOTAL NOT OFTEN	38%	49%

18f. False information is spread to confuse voters

	Statewide	Leader
Very often	43%	54%
Somewhat often	33%	29%
Not too often	11%	7%
Never	5%	1%
Don't know enough to say	7%	11%
TOTAL OFTEN	76%	82%
TOTAL NOT OFTEN	17%	7%

Q19: When you do vote, what is the main reason why you vote?

	Statewide	Leader
To make my voice heard in our democracy	22%	29%
Because I support a specific party or candidate	10%	3%
To vote against a specific party or candidate	4%	6%
It is my civic duty and responsibility to vote	32%	40%
It is important to show strong voting rates among [Latinos/Hispanic]	13%	4%
Try and address issues here in my community	13%	18%
Something else	5%	0%

Q21: People prefer candidates for different reasons. How important is it for you, that a candidate is [Latino/Hispanic]?

	Statewide	Leader
Very Important	46%	41%
Somewhat Important	32%	47%
Not Important at all	22%	12%

Q22: In deciding whether or not to vote in the 2020 presidential election, how much were you motivated by wanting to show solidarity and support for the [Latino/Hispanic] community?

	Statewide	Leader
A great deal	38%	46%
A lot	35%	24%
Some	15%	17%
A little	4%	4%
Not at all	8%	9%

Q23: How often would you say [Latinos/Hispanics] elected to office can make changes for other [Latinos/Hispanics] here in Colorado?

	Statewide	Leader
All the time	18%	8%
Most of the time	38%	35%
About half of the time	31%	42%
Rarely	10%	13%
Never	3%	2%

Q24: In thinking about which political parties and candidates to support, how much do you consider whether the party or candidate cares about the [Latino/Hispanic] community?

	Statewide	Leader
A great deal	33%	56%
A lot	36%	26%
Some	20%	12%
A little	7%	4%
Not at all	4%	2%

Q25: How much can [Latinos/Hispanics] like you influence the outcome of elections?

	Statewide	Leader
A great deal	26%	36%
A lot	34%	24%
Some	25%	26%
A little	11%	10%
Not at all	4%	4%

Q26: How often would you say [Latinos/Hispanics] have a say in how government handles important issues here in Colorado?

	Statewide	Leader
All the time	16%	7%
Most of the time	33%	14%
About half of the time	29%	43%
Rarely	18%	33%
Never	4%	2%

Q27: As you may know, many states are passing laws that will make it harder for [Latinos/Hispanics] to register to vote and to cast their ballots. How important do you think it is for the state of Colorado to ensure that the state continues to make voting easier, and not harder, for [Latinos/Hispanics] in the state?

	Statewide	Leader
Very important	65%	93%
Somewhat important	29%	4%
Not that important	3%	2%
Not important at all	3%	2%
TOTAL IMPORTANT	94%	96%
TOTAL UNIMPORTANT	6%	4%

Q28: Every 10 years, following the census, states redraw district lines for seats including Congress and the State Legislature in a process called redistricting. How important do you think it is for [Latinos/Hispanics] here in Colorado to be included in the redistricting process?

	Statewide	Leader
Very important	60%	91%
Somewhat important	33%	5%
Not that important	4%	4%
Not important at all	2%	1%
TOTAL IMPORTANT	94%	96%
TOTAL UNIMPORTANT	6%	4%

Q29: How important do you think it is that the districts created during redistricting are created to maximize the political influence or power of [Latinos/Hispanics] in Colorado?

	Statewide	Leader
Very important	50%	73%
Somewhat important	39%	18%
Not that important	7%	7%
Not important at all	4%	2%
TOTAL IMPORTANT	89%	91%
TOTAL UNIMPORTANT	11%	9%

Q30: How important is it to you that the state legislature do all that they can to ensure that employers across the state provide [Latinos/Hispanics] with living wages and fair and safe working environments?

	Statewide	Leader
Very important	66%	93%
Somewhat important	29%	4%
Not that important	4%	2%
Not important at all	2%	1%
TOTAL IMPORTANT	95%	97%
TOTAL UNIMPORTANT	5%	3%

Q31: Have you experienced any of the following in the past 12 months?

31a. Called offensive names or told to go back to another country because:

	Statewide	Leader
You are [Latino/Hispanic]	25%	15%
Criticized for speaking Spanish in public	22%	23%

31b. Experienced discrimination or been treated unfairly because of your:

	Statewide	Leader
[Latino/Hispanic] background	23%	43%
None of these	53%	44%

Q32: Where have you experienced discrimination?

	Statewide	Leader
At work	31%	44%
At school	19%	17%
Public place(s) like stores, parks, etc.	57%	71%
Hospital or clinic	24%	19%
Government office	15%	17%
Dealing with law enforcement or authorities	26%	23%
Other place(s)	8%	20%

Q33: Do you support or oppose: Setting strict caps on emissions for all businesses in the state whose operations impact the air quality in the state. This would include the construction, transportation, oil and gas, and electricity generation industries.

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	49%	70%
Somewhat support	38%	21%
Somewhat oppose	5%	2%
Strongly oppose	2%	1%
Not sure	6%	6%
TOTAL SUPPORT	86%	91%
TOTAL OPPOSE	7%	3%

Q34: Do you support or oppose: Providing information and resources to ensure that [Latinos/Hispanics] and other communities disproportionately impacted by the effects of climate change are included in decisions made to address climate change and to promote environmental justice.

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	54%	84%
Somewhat support	33%	9%
Somewhat oppose	6%	1%
Strongly oppose	3%	1%
Not sure	5%	5%
TOTAL SUPPORT	86%	93%
TOTAL OPPOSE	8%	2%

Q35: Do you support or oppose: Providing resources to ensure that [Latinos/Hispanics] and other communities disproportionately impacted by climate change are provided with access to business opportunities in this transitioning economy and job preparation for careers in clean energy industries.

	Statewide	Leader
Strongly support	55%	83%
Somewhat support	33%	11%
Somewhat oppose	5%	1%
Strongly oppose	3%	1%
Not sure	5%	4%
TOTAL SUPPORT	88%	94%
TOTAL OPPOSE	7%	2%

Q36: Which language(s) would you prefer to receive information about politics?

	Statewide	Leader
English	55%	48%
Spanish	16%	13%
Both English and Spanish	30%	39%

DEMOGRAPHICS

D1. Survey language

	Statewide	Leader
English	82%	79%
Spanish	18%	21%

D2. [Preferred ethnic identifier] The most frequently used terms to describe persons of Latin American descent living in the United States are Hispanic, Latina or Latino and Latinx. Of these, which do you prefer?

	Statewide	Leader
Hispanic	67%	13%
Latina/Latino	22%	54%
Latinx	1%	11%
Any of these are acceptable	7%	14%
Don't care	2%	8%

D3. Gender

	Statewide	Leader
Male	48%	31%
Female	52%	67%
Identify another way		2%

D4. Age

	Statewide	Leader
18-29	28%	11%
30-39	25%	31%
40-54	25%	38%
55+	22%	20%

D5. Educational attainment

	Statewide	Leader
Grades 1 - 8	5%	1%
Some high school	12%	5%
High School graduate	23%	7%
Some College/Technical school	24%	18%
College graduate	25%	35%
Post-graduate education	10%	35%

D6. Nativity

	Statewide	Leader
United States	76%	57%
Puerto Rico	6%	
Another country	18%	43%

D7. Hispanic/Latino Origin

	Statewide	Leader
Mexican	54%	76%
South American	15%	7%
Other	12%	9%
Central America	9%	5%
Puerto Rico	5%	1%
Cuba	3%	1%
Dominican Republic	2%	1%

D8. Colorado region

	Statewide	Leader
Denver	56%	46%
East	28%	23%
West	16%	32%

D9. Years respondent has lived in Colorado

	Statewide	Leader
Less than 10 years	18%	15%
10-20 years	30%	21%
More than 20 years	52%	63%

D10. Has your family lived in Colorado for many generations?

	Statewide	Leader
Yes	72%	43%
No	26%	57%
Don't know	2%	

D11. Party identification

	Statewide	Leader
Republican	17%	2%
Democrat	46%	60%
Independent/unaffiliated	30%	30%
Other party	1%	1%
Don't know	6%	8%

D12. Household income 2020

	Statewide	Leader
Less than \$20,000	12%	5%
\$20,000 to \$39,999	18%	13%
\$40,000 to \$59,999	14%	17%
\$60,000 to \$79,999	16%	15%
\$80,000 to \$99,999	13%	11%
\$100,000 to \$150,000	11%	20%
More than \$150,000	7%	14%
Prefer not to say	8%	6%

D13. Current emergency savings

	Statewide	Leader
Less than \$100	20%	10%
Between \$100 and \$500	10%	10%
Between \$500 and \$1000	12%	7%
Between \$1000 and \$3000	18%	19%
Between \$3000 and \$5000	13%	10%
Between \$5000 and \$10,000	9%	13%
More than \$10,000	19%	32%
Prefer not to say	2%	

D14. Health insurance coverage all household members

	Statewide	Leader
Everyone has health insurance	70%	70%
Some have it, some do not	25%	24%
No one in my household has health insurance	5%	7%

D15. Martial Status

	Statewide	Leader
Married	59%	53%
Not married	39%	39%
Prefer not to say	2%	8%

D16. How many children age 18 or younger do you have?

	Statewide	Leader
None	56%	64%
One	31%	15%
Two	10%	15%
Three	3%	5%
Four or more	1%	0%

D17. Religious affiliation

	Statewide	Leader
Catholic	44%	37%
Protestant	3%	1%
Christian	26%	10%
Jewish	2%	0%
Atheist or agnostic	3%	10%
Buddhist	2%	0%
Other	5%	6%
None	16%	37%

D18. Personal relationships with undocumented immigrants

	Statewide	Leader
Yes, a family member	20%	42%
Yes, a personal friend	19%	43%
Yes, someone I know	27%	53%
No, I do not know anyone undocumented	38%	5%
Not sure	10%	8%

D19. [If D18=yes, family] Does this family member live with you in your home?

	Statewide	Leader
Yes	46%	23%
No	47%	62%
Prefer not to say	7%	15%

D20. Registered Voter

	Statewide	Leader
Yes, registered	91%	74%
Not registered	6%	3%
Not eligible to register	3%	23%
Not sure	1%	1%

Leader Survey Organization Work:

Which of the following best describes the organization you represent or the type of work you are engaged in?

	Leader
State or Local government agency (general, not specific to Latinos)	23%
Colorado statewide issue advocacy	18%
Colorado statewide Latino advocacy	20%
Local/regional issue advocacy (general, not Latino-specific)	25%
Local / regional Latino advocacy	24%
Business / private sector	25%
Research / University (non-advocacy) focused on Latinos	6%

Leader Survey Issue Focus:

Which of the following issues do you/your organization focus on most?

	Leader
Affordable housing	23%
Criminal justice reform	10%
Education - higher ed access, debt	27%
Education - K-12 public education	27%
Environment - climate, pollution	27%
Environment - conservation, public lands	20%
Health care - access, affordable insurance	32%
Immigration reform / immigrant rights	35%
Labor - jobs, wages, protections	28%
LGBTQ rights	15%
Public transportation or infrastructure	11%
Reproductive rights	17%
Voter mobilization/GOTV	15%
Voting rights	17%



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Colorado Latinos faced tremendous challenges in pandemic; look to elected officials to address jobs, housing costs

by OnSight | Oct 2021 | Polling



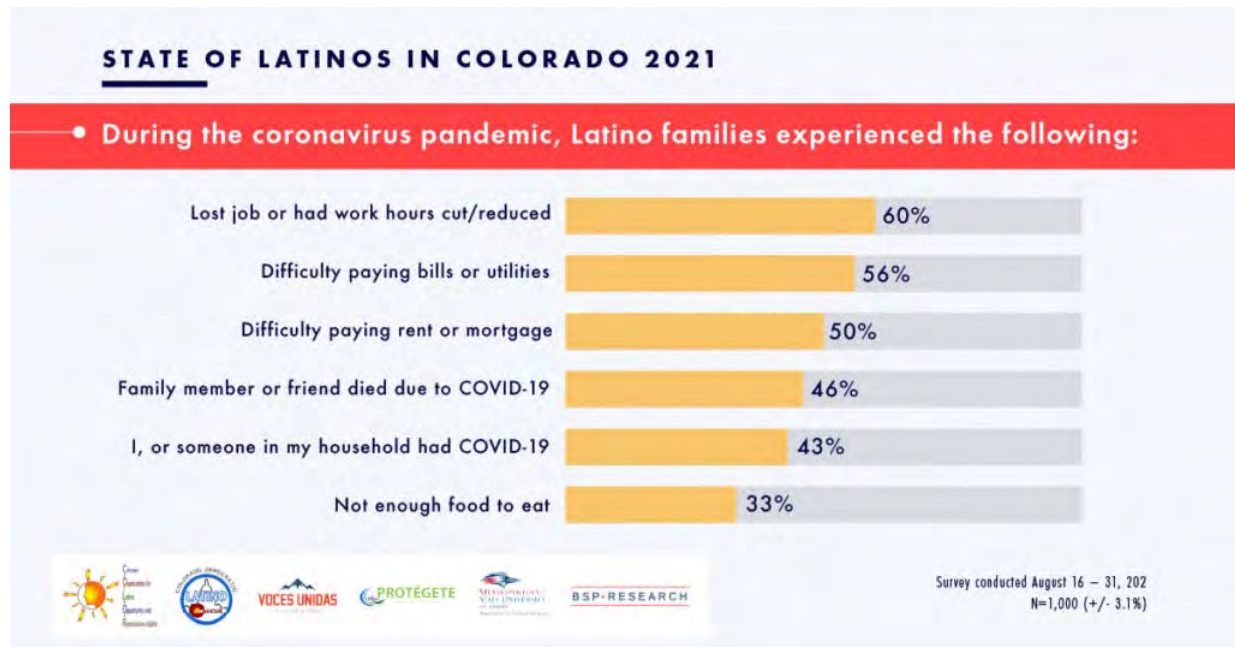
Sixty percent of respondents in Latino survey had hours, pay cut or had someone in household lose job during pandemic; 56% had difficulty paying bills or utilities

DENVER – The COVID-19 pandemic took a significant toll on the economic well-being of Latino families across Colorado who are now looking to elected officials to bolster opportunities for jobs and affordable housing and to address escalating cost-of-living, among other issues, according to results of a statewide survey of 1,000 Latino adults.

Key findings on how the pandemic impacted Latino families include:

- 60% had their work hours or pay cut, or had someone in their household lose their job;
- 56% had difficulty paying their bills or utilities;
- 50% had difficulty paying their rent or mortgage;
- 33% have not had enough food to eat.

"It is almost impossible to overstate the pandemic's impact on the Latino community in Colorado," said **Alex Sánchez, executive director of Voces Unidas de las Montañas**. "When it comes to basic economic indicators like having the money to pay bills in order to keep a roof over their heads and put food on the table, the survey provides a sobering glimpse at how hard the economic recession caused by the pandemic has been for the state's largest ethnic minority."



Added **Dusti Gurule, executive director of Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)**: “Latinos across the state were faced with difficult and sometimes dire decisions during the pandemic. Now, they are looking to officials at the state and federal levels to deliver policies to improve the outlook for jobs and the economy as well as to address costs associated with necessities like housing, health care, and internet access.”

The poll of 1,000 Latino adults in Colorado was conducted Aug. 16-31 by BSP Research on behalf of the Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR), with additional funding from the Political Science Department at Metropolitan State University of Denver, the Colorado Democratic Latino Caucus, Voces Unidas de las Montañas, and Protégete of Conservation Colorado. Complete results will be released next month as part of the organizations' plans to research and highlight the issues facing Colorado's Latino community.

Other findings from today's release include: Latinos on the Western Slope were more likely to not have enough food to eat (40%) and have difficulties paying for their rent or mortgage (64%) than those in other areas of the state. Latinos who live in the Denver metro area were the most likely to have had their work hours cut or reduced (64%).

Latinos also made tough decisions in order to manage household finances during the pandemic. This includes nearly 34% who used up all or most of their savings to pay for their expenses; 19% who had to skip a monthly car, rent, or mortgage payment; and 20% who postponed or cut back on health-related expenses. The pandemic had a significant impact on housing stability, with 14% of respondents reporting they moved or changed their housing situation as a result.

An alarming 42% of Colorado's Latino population had \$1,000 or less in savings for financial emergencies — and a stunning 20% had \$100 or less in savings. Furthermore, only 37% of Latinos in Colorado are “very confident” that they can pay for basic living expenses, such as food, housing, and utilities.

STATE OF LATINOS IN COLORADO 2021

• Average emergency saving for Latino households in Colorado



One of the more troubling findings from the survey is that 11% of Latino residents in the state have turned to pay-day or easy loan companies that charge high interest rates. The use of pay-day or easy loan companies is particularly high on the Western Slope, where nearly 1 in 5, (19%) said they had turned to this option.

STATE OF LATINOS IN COLORADO 2021

• During the coronavirus pandemic, Latino families managed their finances by:



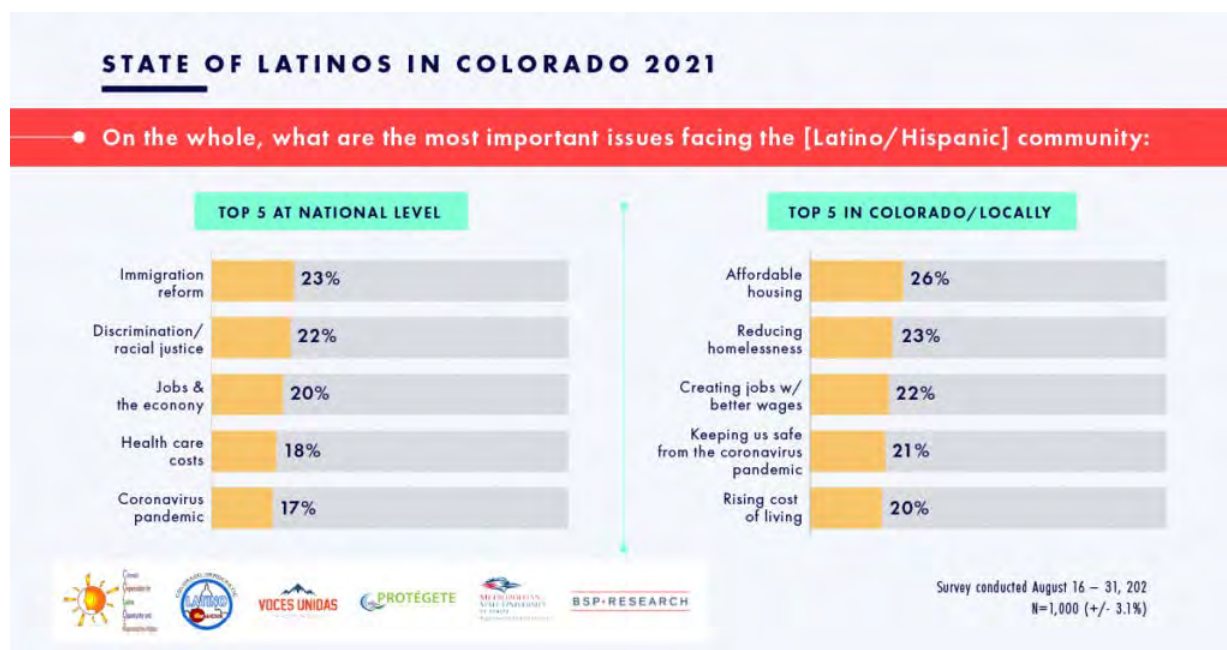
Policy Priorities of the Latino Community in Colorado

Respondents were also asked to identify the most important policy issues the state and federal government should address. At the federal level, creating more jobs and addressing the economy were at the top of the list. The high salience on economic well-being to the Latino community is reinforced by "addressing affordable housing" and "the rising cost of living" emerging as key issues INAL for Latinos at the state and local level.

Small businesses were hit particularly hard by the pandemic, and Latinos are disproportionately likely to be employed by small businesses, which helps explain the high support (88%) to set up a state fund to help Latino-owned small businesses.

The rising cost of housing was already a major issue in the state prior to the pandemic, but increased in salience over the past two years. This resulted in nearly all (88%) Latinos in Colorado supporting new housing requirements that developers must include affordable housing.

The pandemic also made clear how vital access to high-speed internet is for all aspects of life, including working and educating our children. Latinos overwhelmingly support (86%) the state providing high-speed internet access to all Coloradoans. There is also a recognition that access to high-speed internet and other infrastructure must extend to residents of rural areas of the state. For example, 79% of the sample supports bolstering economic opportunities outside of the Front Range.



This report draws from a statewide survey of Latino adults across the state of Colorado during a critical period in the state's history. The survey makes clear that the COVID-19 pandemic has been devastating to the Latino community. This information should be of high value to the Legislature's three newly-formed task forces on Economic Recovery and Relief, Affordable Housing, and Behavioral Health which will oversee the distribution of federal American Rescue Plan Act funds to Coloradans. Additional issue priorities, policy preferences, and political values of the Latino community in Colorado will be included in the release of full survey results next month.

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Survey Methodology: The survey of 1,000 total completed interviews with Latino adults in the state of Colorado resulted in an overall margin of error of +/- 3.1%. Survey respondents were randomly selected in a blended approach including web-based and telephone interviews (both landlines and cell phones) and was available in both English and Spanish at the respondent's discretion. Respondents were recruited with up to 5 contacts to improve the representativeness of the sample. Data were compared to the best-known estimates of the U.S. Census Current

Population Survey (CPS) for the demographic profiles of Colorado adults and post-stratification weights were applied to bring the data into direct balance with Census estimates. The poll was led by Dr. Gabriel Sanchez and Dr. Matt Barreto from BSP Research, LLC.

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