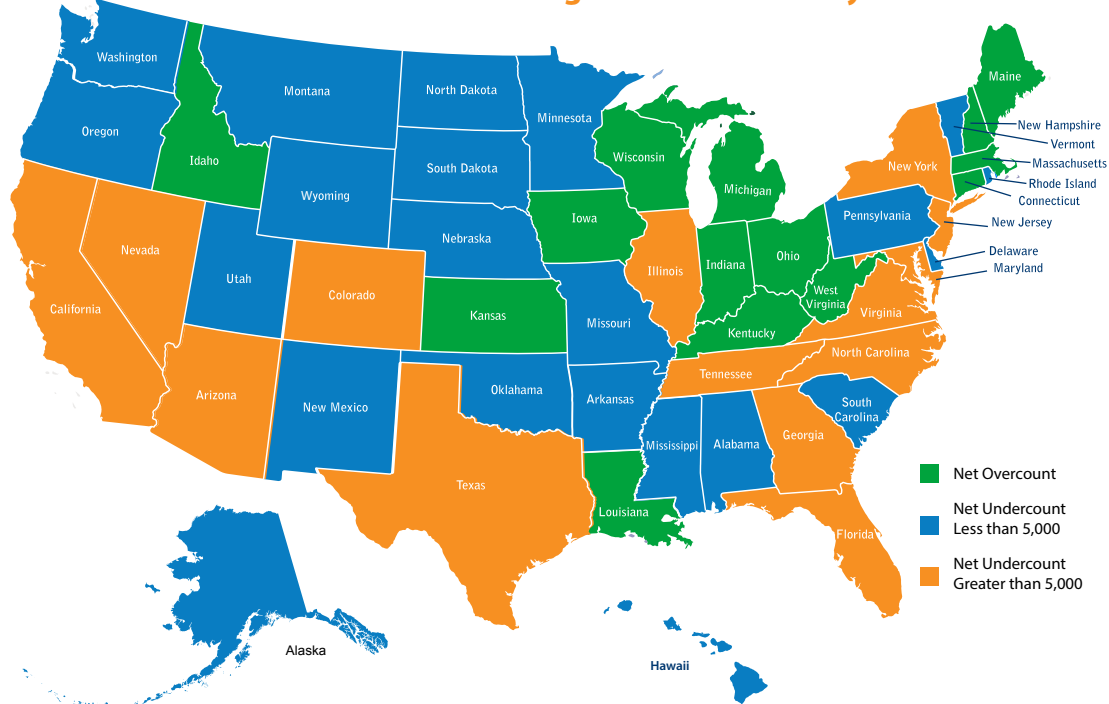


The Invisible Ones: How Latino Children Are Left Out of Our Nation's Census Count

Report findings

- Approximately 400,000 young Latino children ages 0 to 4 were left uncaptured by the 2010 Census.
- The net undercount rate for young Latino children was 7.1 percent, compared to 4.3 percent for non-Latinos.
- Five states—California, Texas, Florida, Arizona, and New York—accounted for 72 percent of the national net undercount of young Latinos.

Net Undercount of Young Latino Children by State



Counties with highest net undercount of Latino children

- Los Angeles (CA) – 47,000
- Maricopa (AZ) – 27,000
- Miami-Dade (FL) – 18,000
- Dallas (TX) – 17,000
- Orange (CA) – 15,000
- San Diego (CA) – 12,000
- Cook (IL) – 11,000
- Harris (TX) – 9,000
- Kings & New York (NY) – 6,000
- Riverside (CA) – 6,000
- Clark (NV) – 6,000
- Broward (FL) – 6,000

Why does this happen?

- Latinos are more likely than non-Latinos to live in hard-to-count places: for example, areas with multi-unit buildings and a high proportion of renters.
- Latinos are more likely than non-Latinos to live in hard-to-count families and households, such as multigenerational and highly mobile families, and households with complex relationships.
- Latino adults are more likely than non-Latino adults to believe that young children do not need to be reported on the census form.

Implications

- The undercount of Latino children reduces potential federal funding for state programs serving low-income families.
- Four federal assistance programs—Head Start; the Special Supplemental Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC); the Child Care and Development Block Grant; and the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant—distribute \$20 billion annually to states and localities based, at least in part, on census counts of the population under age 5.
- Yet 62 percent of young Latino children—more than 11 million boys and girls—currently live in or near poverty.



Recommendations for the 2020 Census

- **Education.** Alert stakeholders to the potential implications of a high undercount among young Latino children. All relevant stakeholders—including Latino families and communities, and state and local policymakers—should understand the negative consequences of this undercount.
- **Engagement.** Improve targeted outreach to those areas with the largest number of undercounted children.
- **Partnerships.** Develop more relationships with vested stakeholders, such as civic organizations and early childhood education organizations that will be able to reach households with young children.
- **Research.** Examine who the undercounted young children are and what neighborhoods they live in. Test language used in Census instructions with low-income Latino parents to gauge clarity.

Reference

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