



Para nuestros niños

National Task Force on Early Childhood Education for Hispanics

La Comisión Nacional para la Educación de la Niñez Hispana

NATIONAL TASK FORCE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FOR HISPANICS

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January 8, 2007 - The National Task Force on Early Childhood Education for Hispanics today released *Para Nuestros Niños: A Demographic Portrait of Young Hispanics in the United States*.

The growth of the Hispanic community in the United States has received a considerable amount of media recognition. This is due to the profound effects that Hispanics are likely to have on important aspects of the wellbeing of the country, such as economic outcomes, civic participation, educational attainment, and competitiveness with other industrialized nations.

Overall, the growth and widespread dispersion of Hispanics across the country can be attributed to rapid immigration and also to births, particularly among immigrants. Significantly, this growth is correlated to a growing number of Hispanics living in poverty and with low levels of parental educational attainment. Given these circumstances, it is not difficult to see that the Hispanic community's future in the United States is intricately related to the future of America.

The brief presents a demographic profile of Hispanic children including information on factors correlated with Hispanic children's academic achievement in school. Some of the major findings are:

- Over 20% of the children ages 0-8 are Hispanic.
- Although many Hispanic children are from immigrant families, close to 90% are United States citizens.
- White children are over three times more likely to have a mother who is a college graduate than Hispanic children while Hispanic children are close to five times more likely to have a mother who did not graduate from high school. On the other hand, the maternal education patterns of some Hispanic subgroups – Cubans and South Americans – resemble those of Whites.
- Hispanic children are over twice as likely as Whites to come from low income families.
- At the start of Kindergarten, one third of Hispanic children are not proficient enough in English to be assessed in English. Most of these children are from low socioeconomic circumstances.
- Hispanic children with immigrant parents have a single parent family rate that is similar to that of Whites, but Hispanic children in native families are twice as likely to live in a single parent home as White children.

About the Task Force

The National Task Force on Early Childhood Education for Hispanics was established in May 2004 for the purpose of identifying major educational challenges facing Hispanic children by analyzing demographic and achievement patterns of different Hispanic subpopulations and school reform strategies in order to make recommendations for action. The Task Force will release a series of briefs and main report in late February. Please subscribe at www.ecehispanic.org to receive more information.