



Latin@ Children and Youth Exposed to Domestic Violence

Emerging research is capturing the complex realities experienced by Latin@ children and youth exposed to domestic violence (DV). This factsheet presents research on the status of Latin@ children and youth in the United States, general facts on the prevalence and consequences of witnessing DV, unique factors that are present for Latin@ children and youth, and resiliency of Latin@ children and youth who witness DV.

Latin@ Children and Youth in the U.S.

- Nearly 1 in 4 children and youth under the age of 18 in the United States are Latin@ ^[29].
- Latin@ children and youth are the largest and fastest growing ethnic minority group in the US and by 2050 are expected to make up 1 in 3 youth in the United States ^[29].
- Many Latin@ children and youth live in mixed status families, that is in which one member of the family lacks the legal authorization to live and work in the United States ^[29].
- Although 90% of Latin@ children and youth are United States born citizens, about half have a parent who immigrated to the United States and 1 in 4 have a parent who is unauthorized ^[29].
- Latin@ children and youth's well-being is uniquely influenced by a political environment including for example anti-immigrant rhetoric and aggressive immigration policies ^[2] that undermines the safety, and stability of families.
- Latin@ children and youth are also disproportionality impacted by larger structural inequities (e.g., systemic discrimination, residential and school segregation) which puts them at higher risk for poorer social, educational, economic, and health outcomes ^[1, 13] as well as a greater number of adverse childhood experiences ^[35]. One ACE that Latin@ children and youth are commonly exposed to is domestic violence.

Esperanza United has chosen to use “@” in place of the masculine “o” when referring to people or things that are either gender neutral or both masculine and feminine in make-up. This decision reflects our commitment to gender inclusion and recognizes the important contributions that both men and women make to our communities.