



# The Association Between Immigration Status, Medical Insurance, and Perception of Health Among Hispanic/Latinx in Long Beach

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## Background

## Methods

## Conclusion

### Hispanic/Latinx and COVID-19

- Hispanic/Latinx are 3 times more likely to get COVID-19 compared to other racial groups (Piedra et al., 2022).
- COVID-19 fear and anxiety was worse among undocumented Hispanic/Latinx (Ormiston et al., 2023).
- Immigration status diminished health care access among Hispanic/Latinx (Ormiston et al., 2023).

### Overall Health

- Hispanic/Latinx living in the U.S experienced worse overall well-being compared to non-Hispanic/Latinx individuals (Baxter et al., 2023).

### Mental Health

- Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, U.S Hispanic/Latinx adults underwent notably higher levels of anxiety and depressive symptoms compared to non-Hispanic whites (Baxter et al., 2023).
- COVID-19 inequities such as limited healthcare access, and undocumented status worsened mental health among Hispanic/Latinx (Garcini et al., 2021).

### Design

- Cross sectional, needs assessment data from participants of *Mi Vida Cuenta*, COVID-19 Latinx Health Initiative, City of Long Beach.

### Participants (n=135)

- Self-identify as Latinx/Latino or Hispanic
- Adults ages 18 or older
- Residents of Long Beach, CA.

### Procedures

- Self-reported community member survey

### Measures

- Medical Insurance**
  - "Do you have medical insurance?"
    - Response options: 1= Yes, through my job, 2= Yes, through my spouse/partner's job, 3= Yes, through my parent's employment, 4= Yes, through the government (e.g. Medical), 5= Other (e.g. My Health LA), 6= I do not have medical insurance, 7=, I prefer not to state
    - Recoded: 1-5= Yes, medical insurance (1), 6= No, medical insurance (0), 7= Missing

### Measures Continued

- Immigration Status**
  - "What is your immigration status?"
    - Response options: 1= Natural-born citizen, 2= Naturalized citizen, 3= Legal permanent resident, 4= Undocumented, 5= Prefer not to state, 6= Other (specify)
    - Recoded: 1, 2, 3, 6= Legal right to work (1), 4= No legal right to work (0), 5= Missing
- Overall Health**
  - "Overall, do you feel more healthy, less healthy, or about the same as you did before the pandemic?"
    - Responses: less (0), same (1), more (2)
- Mental Health**
  - "Thinking about your mental health, do you feel better, worse, or about the same as you did before the pandemic?"
    - Responses: worse (0), same (1), better (2)

### Analysis

- Descriptive statistics
- Chi square independence test
- SPSS v27, P <.05

- Findings supports H<sub>1</sub> and align with existing literature about how undocumented status leads to challenges to accessing healthcare among Hispanic/Latinx.
- Findings do not support H<sub>2</sub> which may be due to the resilience the Hispanic/Latinx community embodies, and support services offered in the community.
- Hispanic/Latinx individuals' immigration status and medical insurance may not significantly impact their overall and mental health due to their cultural coping mechanisms, including faith and familismo.
- No significant association between immigration status, medical insurance, and perception of mental health among Hispanic/Latinx may be due to the cultural stigma surrounding mental health, leading to misreporting.

### LIMITATIONS

- Small sample size
- Cross-sectional design
- Self-report survey responses

## Objective / Hypothesis

## Results

## Acknowledgements

Examine the association between immigration status and access to medical insurance, and the perception of overall and mental health among Hispanic/Latinx Long Beach residents.

H<sub>1</sub>: There will be a positive association between immigration status and medical insurance.

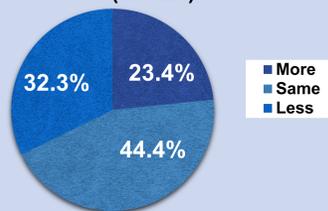
H<sub>2</sub>: There will be a positive association between medical insurance, and the perception of overall and mental health.

**Table 1. Demographic Characteristics (N=135)**

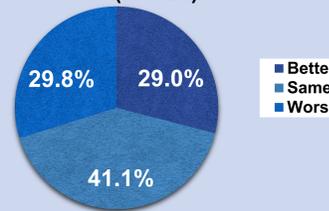
Variable	N (%)	M (SD)
Age		41(14.3)
Gender - Female	91 (67.4)	
Medical Insurance	96 (74.4)	
No legal right to work	41 (36.0)	

Age: 9 missing; Medical Insurance: 6 missing; Immigration: 21 missing

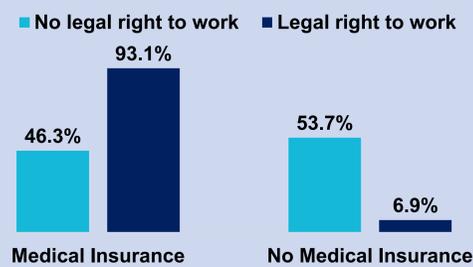
**Figure 2. Overall Health (N=124)**



**Figure 3. Mental Health (N=124)**



**Figure 1. Immigration Status and Medical Insurance (N=113)**



$\chi^2(1, N=113) = 31.35, p < .001$

**Table 2. Chi-square Analysis Between Medical Insurance and Overall and Mental Health (N=121)**

	Overall Health			p-value
	More	Same	Less	
Yes, medical insurance	86.2%	73.1%	67.5%	.20
No, medical insurance	13.8%	26.9%	32.5%	
	Mental Health			p-value
	Better	Same	Worse	
Yes, medical insurance	69.4%	75.0%	75.7%	.79
No, medical insurance	30.6%	25.0%	24.3%	

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## References

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