



NUESTRO FUTURO: CLIMATE CHANGE AND U.S. LATINOS

Nuestro Futuro: Climate Change and U.S. Latinos, a new report from the Natural Resources Defense Council and Voces Verdes, uses the latest demographic data, public opinion research, and climate and health science to illustrate the dangers of climate change to U.S. Latinos. The report also discusses how Latino engagement can foster healthier lives and greater prosperity for all Americans.

LATINOS ARE GROWING IN NUMBERS AND INFLUENCE IN THE UNITED STATES

- There are more than 56 million Latinos living in the United States today. Experts expect Latinos to make up 29 percent of the U.S. population by 2060, up from nearly 18 percent in 2015.
- Latinos are assuming greater leadership in business, government, technology, academics, and the arts.

U.S. LATINOS ARE DIVERSE, BUT UNITED WHEN IT COMES TO ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

- Despite great racial, cultural, economic, and occupational diversity, U.S. Latinos share a commitment and sense of duty to care for the environment.
- Opinion research has repeatedly shown that most U.S. Latinos want government action to limit carbon pollution and are inclined to favor members of Congress who also support action. Notably, their level of concern about climate is second only to their backing of immigration reform.

U.S. LATINOS ARE PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TO CLIMATE-RELATED THREATS

- More than 60 percent of Latinos live in four states that are extremely vulnerable to climate-related threats like severe heat, air pollution, and flooding: California, Texas, Florida, and New York. Hispanics are also more likely than non-Hispanic whites to live in the hottest areas of cities.
- More than 24 million Latinos live in the 15 U.S. cities most heavily polluted by ozone smog. In Florida, Hispanics make up about 40 percent of the population of 8 cities that will almost certainly flood during future high tides.
- U.S. Latinos made up more than 48 percent of agricultural workers and more than 28 percent of construction workers in 2015. These workers are highly vulnerable to heat. U.S. Latinos are three times more likely to die on the job from heat-related causes than non-Hispanic whites.
- Latinos are less likely to have health insurance than non-Hispanics—even if employed. Language barriers also make access to care challenging and immigration status renders many ineligible for disaster assistance.

U.S. LATINOS—AND ALL AMERICANS—STAND TO BENEFIT FROM ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

- Climate action will help address current health challenges, create economic opportunities, and make communities more resilient to weather disasters.
- To address the heightened climate risks faced by millions of Latinos, we must fully implement the Clean Power Plan, ensure the United States meets its international commitments to fight climate change, demand a cleaner transportation system and strong energy efficiency programs for homes and businesses, and provide Latinos with the training to advance in the clean energy economy.
- We can do this. ¡Si se puede! Let's raise our voices, call on our leaders and demand action. Por Nuestro Futuro.