



# Serving Latino Students —Information and Resources

## AWSL Programs Serving Latino Students

- [¡La Chispa! Middle Level One Day Workshops](#)
- [La Cima Bilingual Leadership Camps](#)
- [Custom Workshops and Trainings for students and staff](#)

## What percent of students in your school district are Hispanic and what is your current graduation rate for Hispanic students?

- [Hispanic student population by school district](#): 2012-13 OSPI Report
- [Graduation rates of Hispanic students by district](#): 2012-13 OSPI Report:

## Terms and Concepts Related to Latino Students

- **Latino/a**: People of Latin American descent (El Salvadorians, Guatemalans, Hondurans, Mexicans, etc.) This is the predicated-to-be preferred term when referring to this demographic.
- **Hispanics**: Of or pertaining to Spain. Term used in the Western U.S. but not used as much in the Eastern U.S. Term used on the U.S. census.
- **Chicanos**: A person born in the United States of Mexican ancestry. Also a political term used widely on university campuses.
- **Bicultural**: Relating to or containing two cultures.
- **Acculturation**: A change in the cultural behavior and thinking of a person or group of people through contact with another culture while still maintaining parts of a native culture (salad bowl metaphor).
- **Assimilation**: The process in which one group takes on the cultural values and other traits of a larger group (melting pot metaphor)
- **1079 Student**: Washington States House Bill 1079 allows undocumented students who have lived in the state of Washington for three or more years to attend state colleges and universities as “residents” for purposes of paying fees.
- **Real Hope Act**: A new Washington state law that has expanded eligibility for the Washington State Need Grant to low-income, non-citizen students who meet the program’s eligibility requirements.
- **Dream Act**: The Dream Act is legislation on a national level advocating for access to higher education and pathways to citizenship for undocumented youth.
- **DACA: Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals**: A national presidential order that allows undocumented youth who qualify to live and work in the U.S. for a period of two years; after two years, they may re-apply for additional two-year periods.
- **Pew Research Center's Hispanic Trends Project**: Seeking to improve public understanding of the diverse Hispanic population in the United States and to chronicle Latinos' growing impact on the nation.
- **Web site**: <http://www.pewhispanic.org/>
- **Statistical Portrait of Hispanics in the United States, 2012**  
These profiles focus on the demographic and economic characteristics of Hispanics and the foreign born in the U.S. Topics covered include racial self-identification, age, geographic dispersion, nativity, citizenship, origin, language proficiency, living arrangements, marital status, fertility, schooling, health insurance coverage, earnings, poverty and other labor market outcomes.

Comparisons with the white, black and total populations are also available.

<http://www.pewhispanic.org/2014/04/29/statistical-portrait-of-hispanics-in-the-united-states-2012/>

- [PDF of All Tables from 2012 Report](#)
- **Snapshot of Data:**
  - What percent of the U.S. population in 2012 were Hispanic? **16.9%**
  - Of the 32 million people added to the U.S. Population between 2000-2012, what percent of the growth was Hispanic? **50.4%**
  - Can you name 20 countries that categorize Hispanic origin? **Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, El Salvador, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Columbia, Honduras, Spain, Ecuador, Peru, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Argentina, Panama, Costa Rica, Chile, Bolivia, Uruguay, Paraguay, Other Central and South American groups/countries.**
  - Based on highest Hispanic population by state, what rank is Washington? **12th**
  - Of the more than 300,000 people added to Washington's population between 2000-2012, what percent was Hispanic? **81.7%**
  - In 2012, what % of Hispanics ages 5 to 17 only spoke English in their homes (**36%**) and what % of Hispanics ages 5 to 17 spoke English "less than very well" in their homes? **13.1%**
  - In 2012, what percent of Hispanics 25 or older are college graduates? **13.9%**
  - The high school dropout rate for Hispanics decreased dramatically from 2000 to 2012.. What was the dropout rate in 2000 (**21.3%**) and 2012 (**6.7%**)?
  - In 2012, what % of Hispanics 18-24 enrolled in college? **34.7%**
  - What percent of Hispanics 18 years or younger in 2012 lived in poverty? **33.8%**

### Scholarship Opportunities for Latino Students

- [The Wash Board](#)
- [College Success Foundation](#)
- [My College Dollars](#)
- [Hispanic Scholarship Fund Latino College Dollars](#)
- [Act Six Leadership and Scholarship Initiative](#)
- [The Alliance Scholars Fund - Ciencia Hispanic Scholars Program](#)
- [Great Minds in STEM](#)
- [Sea Mar Community Health Centers - Farm Worker Scholarship](#)
- [Washington State Scholarship Foundation](#)

### Resources for Latino Students and School Staffs

- **HB1079.org** was created to help 1079 (undocumented) students understand the law that enables them to pay resident tuition and to learn the importance and benefits of a college education. It was also created to help adults and institutions support and advocate for students.  
<http://www.hb1079.org/>
- **Realhopewa.org** is a website explaining the new state law to provide financial assistance to undocumented students. <http://www.realhopewa.org>
- **The Latino/a Educational Achievement Project (LEAP)** was founded in 1998 to improve academic achievement for Latino/a students in Washington state. LEAP hosts an annual Education and Legislative Day Conference for Latino youth. The 2015 conference is

February 26-28 in Tacoma. <http://www.leapwa.org/>

- **Ready Set Grad** helps students earn their high school and postsecondary diplomas. They are a resource to find, pay for and complete the education path that's right for each student. Ready Set Grad is a project of the Washington Student Achievement Council, created through the federally funded Washington GEAR UP program. <http://www.readysetgrad.org/wasfa>

### **Working with Latino Students and Families**

Every Latino family is different in regards to the degree they embrace a bicultural existence in the United States. For some Latino students, they are the first generation immigrants; for other Latino students, their families have lived in the United States for more than 500 years! Though each family is different, a majority of Latino students will be experiencing a part of the immigrant experience.

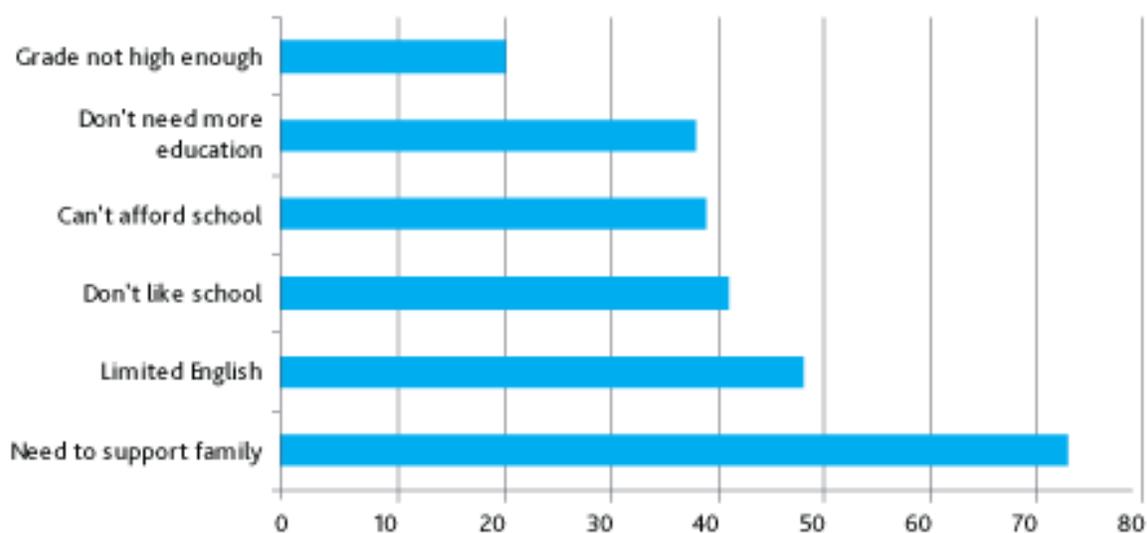
Research is full of data documenting the stress on both the child and parent. Each generation in the process—first, second or third—experience slightly different stressors. For the parents, an often quoted feeling is that they are "losing their children" to another culture. For many kids, they feel like they do not fit anywhere; they are removed from the culture of their parent's homeland yet they don't feel like they fit into their new American culture.

A school can help develop a support network for both students and parents. Working with HB 1079 students involves building a safe environment based on trust, understanding and positive thinking. Each HB 1079 student has a unique story and set of challenges and opportunities. At the same time, they also share a common need – a space where they can freely express, learn and grow without fear of exclusion or retribution. Teachers and principals must constantly give thought to the question of how they will engage the parents of Latino students. Often, they need a little more help in learning what the school is offering their children.

Listed on the following page are a few ideas to facilitate parent engagement:

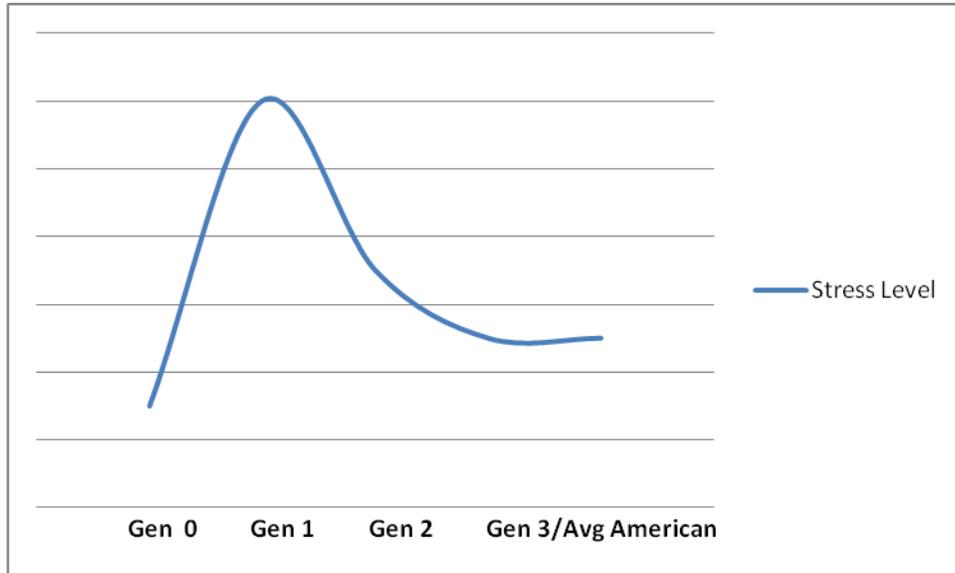
- Always consider offering child care service when inviting parents to participate in an event at the school.
- Saturday mornings are often the only times some Latino parents have the ability to participate in an event because of work demands.
- Consider offering a "family meal" around 6:00 p.m. for any evening events.
- Create the expectation that the students are responsible for talking to their parents about what they are learning and doing at school. A standard opening question to help make this a practice for students is to ask: "What did your parents say about what we are doing in school?"
- Student empathy for their parent's experience and parent empathy for their student's experience can foster better communication. This can lead to improved student success and more parental support. Facilitating opportunities for parents and children to share their stories of success and failure, can help build empathy.

## The Reasons all Young U.S. Hispanics Give For Not Continuing Their Educations



Source: *Pew Hispanic Center 2009 National Survey of Latinos*

## Stress Level for Immigrant Populations



**Generation 0:** The parents who have immigrated have some level of stress from economic challenges, but are secure in their cultural beliefs.

**Generation 1:** Stress levels skyrocket as first generation children of immigrants often don't fit into either the culture in their homes and the culture being taught at school. Often these children are the translators for their households and the connection to the U.S. Anglo world for all social, economic, medical, legal and educational issues.

**Generation 1.5:** Refers to students who immigrate to a new country before or during their early teens. They earn the label the "1.5 generation" because they bring with them characteristics from their home country but continue their socialization in the new country, thus being "halfway" between the 1st generation and the 2nd generation.

**Generation 2 & 3:** Stress levels of third generation children of immigrants are on par with the stress levels of the average American kid.

**For more information** on how the Association of Student Leaders can help you serve your Latino students, contact:

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