THE HEALTH OF LATINOS IN BALTIMORE CITY 2011

Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
MAYOR

Oxiris Barbot, M.D.
COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

A PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PLANNING AT THE BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT 1001 E. FAYETTE STREET BALTIMORE, MD 21202
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Introduction

Latinos comprise the fastest growing racial or ethnic group in Baltimore City and nationwide. By mid-century, Latinos will constitute nearly one third of the nation’s population. In Baltimore City, the Latino community represents a diverse and heterogeneous group, with many different cultural heritages (Mexican, Central American, South American, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Dominican, and other Hispanic/Latino backgrounds). The community also differs widely on Language fluency, immigration status, and time and generations living in the U.S.

The Latino health status report is a comprehensive review of available health data for Baltimore City’s Latino residents. It describes how the health of Baltimore Latinos, as characterized by a variety of health indicators, has changed since the early part of this decade and how Latinos living in Baltimore City compare to city residents as a whole, and Latinos statewide and nationwide. The data presented here reflect good news about the health of Baltimore City Latinos as well as the challenges facing this community. Challenges include: poor access to primary health care and prenatal care, a high burden of homicide and unintentional injury related deaths, and high rates of alcohol use among Latino men. Compared to city residents as a whole and Latinos nationwide, however, Baltimore City Latinos have lower mortality rates for the leading causes of death (heart disease and cancer) and better birth outcomes such as lower rates of infant mortality and low birth weight births. In bringing together data about Latino health, this report can serve as a tool for public health efforts to advance the health of the Baltimore City Latino community. We offer special thanks to those whose hard work made this report possible and to those who will use it to contribute to a Healthy Baltimore.

A NOTE ON LATINO ETHNICITY AND TERMINOLOGY:
Definition of Hispanic/Latino Ethnicity from the U.S. Census Bureau:
The terms "Hispanic" or "Latino" refer to persons who trace their origin or descent to Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Spanish speaking Central and South American countries, and other Spanish cultures. Origin can be considered as the heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of the person or the person’s parents or ancestors before their arrival in the United States. People who identify their origin as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race.

The many terms used to refer to the Hispanic/Latino community reflect the rich diversity of this group. Often, the terms, “Latino” and “Hispanic,” are used interchangeably, however in Baltimore City we are seeing more regular use of the term “Latino.” As a result, we use the term “Latino” throughout the narrative of this report. In the data tables and graphs, the community may be referred to as “Hispanic/Latino” to reflect the fact that the term “Hispanic” is often used in data collection.
Executive Summary

- Latinos are the fastest growing ethnic or race group in Baltimore City. Between 1990 and 2008, the overall population of the city declined by 13%; however, the Latino population increased by more than 50%.

- Baltimore City Latinos are younger and more likely to be male compared to residents citywide. In 2007, the median age of a Baltimore City Latino resident was 28 years compared to 35 years for all residents.

- In 2007, almost half of Baltimore City Latinos were of Mexican background (47%). Another 17% were of Central American background, 14% South American, 11% Puerto Rican, 4% Cuban, 1% Dominican, and 6% were of some other Hispanic of Latino origin.

- Forty-three percent of Baltimore City Latinos 25 and older had at least a high school education in 2007 (compared to 75% of residents 25 and older citywide).

- Thirty-seven percent of Baltimore City Latino residents who were 5 and older spoke mostly Spanish at home in 2007, 41% spoke Spanish at home but also spoke English “well” or “very well.”

- Among adult Latino respondents living in Southeast Baltimore communities where more than 15% of all residents were Latino:
  - 84% of respondents to the ProVision survey reported that they spoke only or mostly Spanish.
  - 6% of respondents to the ProVision survey reported that they could not read, 68% reported that they could read only in Spanish, and 20% reported that it was easier to read in Spanish.

- In 2007, the poverty rate among Baltimore City Latino residents was 17% (compared to 20% among all residents citywide and 22% of Latinos nationwide).

- According to the 2000 Census, the neighborhoods of Southeast Baltimore have the largest Latino populations; these include the communities of Fells Point, Patterson Park, Highlandtown, Canton, Orangeville/E. Highlandtown, and Southeastern Baltimore.

- Among adult Latino respondents living in Southeast Baltimore communities where more than 15% of all residents were Latino:
  - Almost three-quarters of respondents to the ProVision survey reported that they did not have health care coverage during any part of the previous 12 months.
  - Among ProVision respondents who needed medical care during the past year, 20% did not receive the care they needed.
  - 40% reported that they had a place to go for routine care.
  - The majority of ProVision respondents felt that Baltimore City Latinos faced barriers to receiving health care. The top four reasons cited included: Costs are too high (46%), Legal status issues or fear (43%), providers do not speak Spanish (41%), and lack of health insurance or insurance doesn’t cover care (32%).
Executive Summary

- In 2008, 634 babies were born to Baltimore City Latina mothers, accounting for 6.4% of all births citywide. Since 2000, the proportion of Baltimore City births occurring among Latinas has tripled as the overall Latino population has increased.

- In 2008, 67% of Latina mothers received first-trimester prenatal care compared to 74% of mothers citywide. Despite being less likely to receive first trimester prenatal care, Latina mothers had better birth outcomes compared to mothers citywide. In 2008, 7% of births to Latina mothers were low birthweight and 8% were preterm. Among mothers of all ethnicities citywide, 13% of births were low birthweight and 13% were preterm.

- During 2000-2007, the infant mortality rate among Baltimore City Latinos was less than one-third the rate among infants citywide.

- In 2007, 2% of the newly diagnosed HIV cases in Baltimore City occurred among Latino residents. The majority (79%) of these cases occurred among males and 42% of cases were among persons 20-29 year old. Among cases for which risk factor data were available: 42% of newly diagnosed HIV cases among Latinos were associated with the male-to-male sexual contact transmission category and 33% were associated with the heterosexual contact transmission category.

- Among adult Latino respondents living in Southeast Baltimore communities where more than 15% of all residents were Latino:
  - 16% reported that they smoked currently (5% of Latina women and 25% of Latino men).
  - 40% of men reported binge drinking (having 5 or more drinks on one occasion at least once in the previous 30 days), 5% of women reported binge drinking (having 4 or more drinks on one occasion at least once in the previous 30 days).
  - 6% reported having been told by a doctor or a health care professional that they had diabetes.

- On average during 2000-2007, Baltimore City Latinos had an age-adjusted mortality rate that was one-quarter the rate among Baltimore City residents as a whole and less than half the 2000-2006 average rate among U.S. Latinos.

On average during 2005-2007:
  - Baltimore City Latino men had an age-adjusted all cause mortality rate that was almost two times higher compared to Baltimore City Latina women. Among all city residents, the mortality rate among men was 1.6 times higher compared to women.
  - Accidents were the third leading cause of death among Baltimore City Latinos, comprising almost 11% of deaths compared to 2% of all resident deaths citywide in 2006.
  - Six percent of deaths among Baltimore City Latinos were alcohol-induced compared to 2.1% of deaths among Latinos nationwide and 0.9% of all residents citywide and nationwide.
Several data challenges limit our ability to characterize the health of Latinos in Baltimore City. They include:

- Underestimated counts of the Baltimore City Latino population
- Missing data on Hispanic/Latino ethnicity in health event reports
- A small number of health events

These challenges may limit our ability to estimate the magnitude of certain health outcomes in the population, detect trends in time, and make comparisons with other populations. Throughout the report, a yellow “caution” symbol will alert the reader to use caution when interpreting data that may be affected by one of these issues.

**Latino Population in Baltimore City**

The official estimate of the number of Latinos living in Baltimore City is 17,014 persons. Current birth rates among Baltimore City Latinos as well as estimates from community groups that work closely with Latinos suggest that the count is more likely between 25-35,000. Some reasons for the underestimate of the official count include: language or cultural barriers experienced by immigrant populations when participating in official counts, higher mobility of these populations, and fears related to undocumented status. A study looking at the 2000 Census found that Latinos nationwide were undercounted by 1.3%*. Underestimated Latino population counts used in calculations of health event rates would result in rates that were higher than expected.

**Missing Data on Ethnicity**

Characterizing the health of Latinos relies on the accurate assignment of ethnicity in health records. The completeness of ethnicity information varies greatly for different health events. For example, recording of ethnicity on birth or death certificates is likely to be fairly complete (approximately 85% of Baltimore City mothers with surnames that were likely to be associated with Hispanic/Latino ethnicity were coded as being of Hispanic ethnicity on birth certificates). However, ethnicity data for other health events (such as lab reports describing a positive test for a sexually transmitted disease) may be less complete. Health event rates calculated using underreported ethnicity information would be lower than expected.

**Small Numbers**

While the community is growing, Latinos still comprise a relatively small proportion of the overall city population and the number of health events among Baltimore City Latinos is relatively small each year (e.g. there were 28 deaths among Latinos in 2007). Rates based on small numbers can jump around quite a bit from year to year, making the interpretation of time trends more difficult.

Using Data to Characterize the Health of Latinos in Baltimore City

In this report, we use three primary sources of data to characterize the health of Baltimore City Latinos:

- The Maryland Vital Statistics Administration (birth and death certificate information)
- The Provision Survey

For more information on data sources, see the technical notes on page 41. The two surveys used in this report are described below.

The ProVision Survey is a valuable source of information on the demographics, health care access characteristics, health behaviors and risk factors of Baltimore City Latinos. The ProVision survey was administered by the Dana Center for Preventive Ophthalmology at Johns Hopkins. Latino survey participants (21 years of age and older) were identified from a random sample of households in Baltimore City neighborhoods where the 2000 Census or key informants provided information that Latinos comprised more than 15% of the population. The neighborhoods in Baltimore City identified with the highest proportion of Latinos were in Southeast Baltimore, and included the Fells Point Patterson Park, Highlandtown, and Greektown neighborhoods (see the map on page 15). There were 364 persons interviewed in the second survey, which took place in 2008. The results from this survey are presented throughout this report and are accompanied by a box containing the logo and a brief description of the survey.

This report also presents demographic data for Baltimore City Latinos from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS). The results from this survey are presented throughout this report and are accompanied by a box containing the logo and a brief description of the survey. As noted in the descriptions of the ProVision Survey and the ACS, it is likely the ProVision survey is more representative of the recent immigrant, adult Latino population living in in Southeastern Baltimore City whereas the ACS more likely represents a cross section of Latinos living throughout Baltimore City. These differences which arise from different methods of administration are important to keep in mind when interpreting the data from these two surveys.
According to the U.S. Census, there were just over 17,000 Latinos living in Baltimore City in 2008, however, informal estimates suggest the population is closer to 25,000-35,000.

Over the past two decades, the Latino population in Baltimore City has more than doubled according to estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau—from 7,602 in 1990 to 17,014 in 2008. During this time period, the overall population of Baltimore City decreased by approximately 13%.

Comparing 1990 to 2008, the proportion of the Baltimore City population that was of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity has almost tripled—Latinos comprised 1% of the population in 1990 and just under 3% in 2008.

The number of Latinos currently living in Baltimore City is probably greater than 17,000 since it is likely that Census estimates understate the size of immigrant populations. Using estimates from community organizations that work with Baltimore City Latinos and estimates from birth data, the true size of the Baltimore City Latino population is more likely between 25,000 and 35,000.

The population denominators used for calculating rates presented in this report are derived from Census estimates. As a result, rates may be artificially high if population estimates undercount the number of Latinos living in Baltimore City.

- 46.9 million persons (or 15% of the total U.S. population) in 2008
- More than 1 of every two people added to the nation’s population between 2007 and 2008 was Hispanic/Latino
- The U.S. Census Bureau projects that by 2050, 30% of the total U.S. population will be of Hispanic/Latino decent.

From the U.S. Census Bureau’s: Facts for Features Hispanic Heritage Month, 2009
Demographics

Baltimore City Latinos were more likely to be male and younger on average compared to all Baltimore City residents in 2007

Sex of the Population by Ethnicity, Baltimore City and U.S. 2007

- Similar to the Latino population nationwide, men comprise a larger proportion of the total Baltimore City Latino population than women (in 2007, there were 129 Latino males per every 100 Latino females). Among Baltimore City residents overall, however, women outnumber men (citywide there were 88 males per every 100 females in 2007).
- In 2007, Latino residents of Baltimore City were younger on average compared to all Baltimore City residents. In 2007, the median age of a Latino Baltimore City resident was 28.2 years; the median age of a Baltimore City resident was 35.4 years. Nationwide, the median age of Latinos in 2007 was 27.5 years; the median age of all U.S. residents was 36.7 years.

Age Distribution of the Population by Ethnicity, Baltimore City, 2007

Demographics

In 2007, three-quarters Baltimore City Latinos were white. Nearly half reported Mexico as their country of origin.

- People of Hispanic/Latino origin may be of any race. In 2007, three quarters of Baltimore City Latinos were white and 19% were black. Nationwide, 93% of Latinos were white and 4% were black.
- In 2007, just under half of Baltimore City Latinos were of Mexican descent, compared to almost two-thirds of Latinos nationwide. Latinos of Central and South American descent made up another 17 and 14%, respectively, of the total Baltimore City Latino population (compared to 8 and 6% nationwide).

*Other Hispanic or Latino* category includes persons who identify as "Spainard," "Spanish," "Spanish American," and also includes all other Hispanic/Latino origins not captured in the defined categories.
Demographics

In 2007, compared to Latinos nationwide, Baltimore City Latinos were more likely to be born outside of the U.S.

Nativity and Citizenship Status for the Hispanic/Latino Population by Current Age, Baltimore City, Maryland, and U.S., 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore City</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau’s 2007 American Community Survey. The native population includes people born in the United States, Puerto Rico, or U.S. Island Areas; as well as those born in a foreign country who had at least one parent who was a U.S. citizen. The foreign born population includes people who are not U.S. citizens at birth.

- According to the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2007 American Community Survey, approximately half of Baltimore City Latino residents were foreign born as compared to 40% nationwide.
- Nearly all adult Latino respondents to the 2008 ProVision survey reported that they were born outside of the U.S. More than half reported that they had lived in Baltimore City less than 5 years.

Data Source: 2008 ProVision Survey (see pg. 7 for a description of survey); Respondent was asked the following question: "How long have you lived in Baltimore?"

The Health of Latinos in Baltimore City, 2011
Demographics

In 2007, compared to Latinos nationwide, Baltimore City Latinos were more likely to speak mostly Spanish.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2007 American Community Survey, nearly 40% of Baltimore City Latino residents speak mostly Spanish as compared to 24% nationwide.

According to the 2008 ProVision Survey, 84% of Baltimore City Latino respondents speak only or mostly Spanish; 92% prefer to speak Spanish.
In 2007, compared to Latinos nationwide, Baltimore City Latinos were less likely to have a high school education or more.

Educational Attainment, Hispanic/Latino Population 25 years and over, Baltimore City, Maryland, and U.S., 2007

- Forty-three percent of Baltimore City Latino residents who were older than 25 years in 2007, reported having a high school education or more in 2007 compared to 61% of Latinos nationwide.
- Among adult Latino respondents to the 2008 ProVision survey, the majority reported that they read only in Spanish or that it was easier to read in Spanish (88%). Only 6% reported that they read only in English or read Spanish and English the same.

Reading Comprehension among Adult Latino Respondents to the ProVision Survey, Baltimore City, 2008

Data Source: 2008 ProVision Survey (see pg. 7 for a description of survey); Reading Comprehension: respondent was asked the following questions: “Do you know how to read?” those who answered “yes” were asked a second question: “If you read a letter or newspaper, do you understand it easily, with difficulty, or not at all?” those who answered “easily” or “with difficulty” were asked “Can you read Spanish? For example can you read a newspaper in Spanish?” and “Can you read English? For example, can you read a newspaper in English?” those who answered that they could read in both Spanish and English were asked “is it easier for you to read in Spanish or English?”
Demographics

In 2007, the poverty rate among Baltimore City Latino residents was 17% (compared to 20% among all residents citywide and 22% among Latinos nationwide).

In 2007, Baltimore City Latinos had a lower poverty rate compared to black residents (17% vs. 24%), but a higher poverty rate compared to white and Asian residents (13% and 15%, respectively).

The 2007 median household income in Baltimore City for all races was $36,949. Among Hispanic households, the median income was $33,890.

In 2007, a family of four with two adults and two children under 18 years would be considered “below poverty” if their annual income was less than $21,027. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Poverty Threshold—see technical notes for more information).

In 2007, the poverty rate among Baltimore City Latino residents was 17% (compared to 20% among all residents citywide and 22% among Latinos nationwide)

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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey. See technical notes for more information on how the Poverty threshold is determined and for more information about the ACS.

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- In 2007, Baltimore City Latinos had a lower poverty rate compared to black residents (17% vs. 24%), but a higher poverty rate compared to white and Asian residents (13% and 15%, respectively).

- The 2007 median household income in Baltimore City for all races was $36,949. Among Hispanic households, the median income was $33,890.

In 2007, a family of four with two adults and two children under 18 years would be considered “below poverty” if their annual income was less than $21,027. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Poverty Threshold—see technical notes for more information).

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### 2007 Median Household Income by Race/Ethnicity in the Past 12 months (in 2007 Inflation Adjusted Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Baltimore City</th>
<th>Maryland</th>
<th>U.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Estimate</td>
<td>Margin of Error*</td>
<td>Estimate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Households</td>
<td>36,949</td>
<td>+/-896</td>
<td>68,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American Alone</td>
<td>32,023</td>
<td>+/-1,276</td>
<td>53,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Alone</td>
<td>51,584</td>
<td>+/-2,805</td>
<td>75,368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Alone</td>
<td>48,689</td>
<td>+/-11,504</td>
<td>83,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone</td>
<td>61,711</td>
<td>+/-1,486</td>
<td>85,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or More Races</td>
<td>34,860</td>
<td>+/-6,279</td>
<td>66,837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>33,890</td>
<td>+/-5,883</td>
<td>60,968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Alone, Not Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>52,638</td>
<td>+/-3,624</td>
<td>75,737</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey (ACS) *See technical notes for information about data from the ACS.

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The Health of Latinos in Baltimore City, 2011 14
Demographics

According to the 2000 Census, the neighborhoods of Southeast Baltimore have the highest proportion of Latino residents.

Hispanic and Latino Population, by Community Statistical Area, Baltimore City, 2000

Legend

Community Statistical Area (CSA)
Percentage Hispanic or Latino

- 0.5% - 3.5%
- 3.6% - 6.5%
- 6.6% - 9.4%
- 9.5% - 12.4%
- 12.5% - 15.4%

Baltimore City Health Department analysis using data from the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2000 Census. Community Statistical Areas (CSAs) - Clusters of Baltimore neighborhoods that were created along census tract boundaries to form 55 CSA’s.
Nearly three-quarters of adult Latino respondents to the 2008 Pro-Vision Survey did not have health care coverage during any part of the previous 12 months.

- A 2004 health assessment survey of Baltimore City Latinos conducted at a community health center and at the Latino Festival found that 69-90% of Latinos in Baltimore did not have health insurance at the time of the interview. *
- According to the Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 17% of Baltimore City respondents of all races and ethnicities reported being uninsured in 2007 at the time of the interview.

Latinos in the U.S.
- According to the U.S. Census Bureau, approximately one-third (32%) of U.S. Latinos did not have health insurance during 2007 (compared to 15% of all U.S. residents).


Willingness to Pay for an Individual or Family Health Insurance Plan among Latino Respondants to the 2008 Provision Survey, Baltimore City

- Among ProVision respondents without health insurance, 74% would be interested in a health insurance plan with no legal requirements that covered most of the health care costs needed for themselves; 60% would be interested in such a plan for their families.
- Approximately two-thirds of the ProVision respondents who were interested in a health insurance plan with no legal requirements that covered most of the health care costs needed for themselves would be willing to pay $0-99/month for such a plan. A similar proportion would be willing to pay $99-100/month for such a plan for their fami-
Among ProVision respondents who needed medical care during the past year, 20% did not receive the care they needed. Medical costs, legal status issues/fear, and language barriers were the top three cited reasons for not getting needed medical care.

- Just under half of Baltimore City Latino respondents to the ProVision survey reported needing medical care during the previous year. Twenty percent of these respondents did not get the medical care that they needed.
- Sixty-one percent of ProVision survey respondents felt that, in general, Baltimore City Latinos faced barriers to getting needed medical care.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reported Barriers to Accessing Medical Care for Latinos in Baltimore</th>
<th>Percentage of Respondents (n=239)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Costs are too high</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal status prevents getting care, Fear, or Providers cannot be trusted</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providers do not speak Spanish</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No health insurance or Insurance does not cover care</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discrimination or Providers do not respect</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know where to go</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office hours not convenient</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointment too far in future</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No transportation or Facility too far away</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: 2008 ProVision Survey. Respondents were asked the following questions: “During the last year, was there a time when you needed medical care from a health professional?” and “Did you get the medical care that you needed?”

- The most common barrier to medical care cited by respondents was high cost (46%). A similar number (43%) felt that issues with legal status, fear, or mistrust of providers posed a barrier to care for Latinos. Forty-one percent of respondents felt that language barriers may prevent Latinos from getting needed medical care and almost one-third of respondents thought that insurance coverage was an issue.
Health Care Access

Fewer than half of Baltimore City Latino adult respondents to the ProVision Survey reported having a place to go for routine health care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place reported for routine care</th>
<th>% of respondents with a routine source of care (n=147)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highlandtown Clinic (Baltimore Medical Systems)</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayview (Johns Hopkins)</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline Street Clinic (BCHD)</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Apostolate (now the Esperanza Center)</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johns Hopkins</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People's Community</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matilda Koval Medical Center</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercy</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ProVision Survey, 2008. Question: “Do you go anywhere for routine care?” and if respondent answered “yes” they were asked: “Is there a particular clinic, health center, doctor’s office, or other place where you usually go for routine care or if you are sick?”

- Fewer than half of ProVision survey respondents (40%) reported that they had a place to go to for routine care or if they were sick. Among those who did have a source of routine care, the place reported most often was the Highlandtown Clinic.

- The Caroline Street Clinic provides primary health care to uninsured adults who live in specific zip codes in East Baltimore. Over half (57%), of respondents to the ProVision survey knew or had heard of the Caroline St. Clinic (“La Carolina”). Among these respondents, 28% of men and 64% of women knew that there were Spanish speaking staff at the Caroline St. Clinic.

- Almost three-quarters of survey respondents (73%) reported that they had ever talked to a doctor, nurse, or pharmacist about their health. Among these respondents, 20% had last discussed their health with a doctor, nurse, or pharmacist two years or more prior to the survey.

- When asked about where they usually received information about health, one in three respondents mentioned “Clinics,” 18% mentioned the “Hispanic Apostolate,” and 12% mentioned “Community Center” as a source.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Health Information</th>
<th>% of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinics</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Apostolate (now the Esperanza Center)</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community center</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical doctors</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books, brochures</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From work place</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacies</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No where</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: 2008 ProVision Survey. Question: “Where do you usually get information about health?” (respondent could name multiple sources)
Health Status

Three out of five Baltimore City Latino respondents to the 2008 Pro-Vision survey reported their health status as “good,” “very good,” or “excellent.”

Latino respondents to the ProVision survey were two times more likely to report having “fair” or “poor” health compared to Baltimore City respondents of all ethnicities (40% vs. 20%).

According to the 2007 Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System telephone survey, four out of five Baltimore City residents reported their health status as “good,” “very good,” or “excellent.”
Maternal and Infant Health

In 2008, 634 babies were born to Baltimore City Hispanic/Latina mothers, accounting for 6.4% of all births citywide.

- Since 2000, the number and proportion of all city births occurring among Latina mothers has more than tripled as the overall Latino population has increased.

- A general fertility rate is expressed as the number of births per 1,000 females age 15-44 years and can be used to compare the fertility of different populations. Underestimated counts of the Latino population in Baltimore City make it difficult to compare fertility rates for this group with rates for other groups in Baltimore City or with Latinos nationwide (see page 6 for more information).

- The general fertility rate for Latinas in Baltimore City calculated using Census and community population estimates is in the range of 73 to 162 births per 1,000 females age 15-44 years.

- The fertility rate among Hispanic women nationwide was 102 per 1,000 women age 15-44 in 2007 which is almost 50% greater than the overall fertility rate for women of all races/ethnicities in the U.S. (69.5 per 1,000).

The Health of Latinos in Baltimore City, 2011  20
The peak age at which Baltimore City Latina mothers gave birth in 2008 was between 20-24 years, similar to the peak age among all Baltimore City mothers who gave birth that year.

Since 2000, the percentage of births to mothers under 20 years of age has declined among women of all ethnicities in Baltimore City, Maryland, and the U.S. In 2007, 12.5% of births to Baltimore City Latinas were to mothers who were less than 20 years of age, lower than the rate among all mothers city-wide (17.6%) and among Latinas nationwide (14.2%).

Baltimore City Latina mothers were less likely to receive first trimester prenatal care and more likely to receive late or no prenatal care compared to all mothers citywide and Latina mothers nationwide.

First Trimester Care: Initial visit within first three months of pregnancy

Importance: Early prenatal care promotes healthy pregnancy and good birth outcomes (prevention of birth defects, preterm birth, etc.)

National statistic: In 2006, 83% of mothers received first trimester care

Healthy People 2010 goal: 90%

Prenatal Care among Latinas in the U.S., 2006
- 77% of Latina mothers received first trimester prenatal care
- 5% received late or no prenatal care

Data from states using the 1989 revision (unrevised version) of the birth certificate.

National Center for Health Statistics—Births: Final Data for 2006, table II.

Data Alert: Small #’s
Maternal and Infant Health

Low Birth Weight: Babies weighing less than 2,500 grams (approximately 5 pounds, 8 ounces) at birth

Importance: Birth weight is the most important factor affecting neonatal mortality and is a significant determinant of post-neonatal mortality; with a low birth weight, babies are at higher risk for developmental disabilities and respiratory problems.

National statistic: In 2006, 8.3% of babies were born low birth weight Healthy People 2010 goal: 5.0%

In 2008, Baltimore City Latina mothers were nearly half as likely to experience a low birthweight birth or preterm birth compared to mothers citywide.

- Despite being less likely to receive first trimester prenatal care, Latina mothers had better birth outcomes compared to mothers citywide. In 2008, 7% of births to Latina mothers were low birthweight and 8% were preterm; among mothers of all ethnicities, 13% of births were low birthweight and 13% were preterm.
During 2000-2007, the Baltimore City Latino infant mortality rate was more than three times lower compared to the rate citywide.

On average during 2000-2007, The infant mortality rate among Baltimore City Latinos (3.4 per 1,000 live births) was less than one-third the mortality rate among Baltimore City infants of all races and ethnicities. The average infant mortality rate citywide during 2000-2007 was 11.9 per 1,000 live births.

The trend over time in Latino infant mortality rates must be interpreted with caution as the rate can increase and decrease quite a bit from year to year due to the small number of infant deaths occurring in the Latino population.

Infant Mortality

Infant Mortality: Death of an infant less than one year of age (Infant Mortality Rate: the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births)

Importance: Considered one of the most sensitive health indicators of a population

National statistic: 6.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2006. Healthy People 2010 goal: 4.5 per 1,000 live births
Infant Mortality

During 2000-2007, congenital abnormalities were the leading cause of death among Baltimore City Latino infants.

Data Alert: Small #’s

### Leading Causes of Infant Death in Baltimore City and U.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Causes</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>28384</td>
<td>5537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disorders relating to short gestation and unspecified low birth weight</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4698</td>
<td>892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudden Infant Death Syndrome</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>2234</td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congenital Abnormalities</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5571</td>
<td>1373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newborn affected by maternal complications of pregnancy</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1769</td>
<td>299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bacterial sepsis</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1095</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newborn affected by maternal complications of placenta, cord and membranes</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1095</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidents</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1095</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Baltimore City data - Baltimore City Health Department analysis of data from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Vital Statistics Administration.

- During 2000-2007, congenital anomalies was the leading cause of death among Latino infants in Baltimore City and the U.S.. This was also the leading cause of infant death among U.S. infants of all ethnicities and was the third leading cause in 2006 among Baltimore City infants. Disorders related to low birth weight and short gestational age led to the second largest number of deaths (20% of all deaths) among Latino infants.
Infectious Diseases

The number of Latino individuals living with HIV or AIDS in Baltimore City has more than tripled since 1997.

HIV/AIDS among Latinos in Baltimore City:

- New cases of HIV diagnosed in 2007: 24
- Latinos living with HIV/AIDS: 175
- 1.3% of city residents living with HIV/AIDS in 2007 were Latino
- Baltimore City Latinos comprised 19% of Maryland Latinos living with HIV/AIDS:

Newly Diagnosed Cases of HIV by Race/Ethnicity, Baltimore City, 2007

- In 2007, Latino residents accounted for 2% of the newly diagnosed HIV cases in Baltimore City.
- In 2007, 42% of the newly diagnosed HIV cases among Baltimore City Latinos were associated with the male-to-male sexual contact transmission category and one third were associated with the heterosexual contact transmission category (%’s are among cases for which risk factor data were available).

New HIV infections among Latinos in the U.S., 2006

- Estimated 9,730 new HIV infections among Latinos nationwide (rate of 29.4 per 100,000)
- 17% of the estimated total new HIV infections occurring in the U.S. in 2006
- 72% of new infections were associated with male-to-male sexual contact transmission among U.S. Latino males and U.S. males overall
- High-risk heterosexual contact was the predominant transmission category (83%) among U.S. Latino females similar to U.S. females overall (80%)

Among Baltimore City Latinos who had a new case of HIV diagnosed during 2004-2007, the highest proportion of cases occurred among 40-49 year olds (37%). (Taking data from 2007 alone, the highest proportion of new HIV cases occurred among 20-29 year olds (42%), however this proportion must be interpreted with caution as the number of events among Latinos in one year is small and can lead to proportions that fluctuate substantially from year to year).

In 2006, the highest proportion of new HIV infections in U.S. Latinos and U.S. residents as a whole occurred among persons 13-29 years of age (40% and 34% respectively).

In 2007, the majority of Baltimore City Latinos diagnosed with a new case of HIV were male (79%), similar to the proportion of estimated new HIV infections among Latinos nationwide in 2006 (76%). Citywide, males comprised 63% of new HIV cases diagnosed in 2007 compared to 73% of estimated new infections nationwide in 2006.


Data Alert: Small #'s

Age Group of Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases among Latinos, Baltimore City, 2004-2007

Data Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene AIDS Administration; Hispanic/Latino HIV Cases Diagnosed in 2004-2007 as Reported through 12/31/2008
Since reaching a peak in 1993, the rate of AIDS diagnoses among Baltimore City residents has decreased steadily. Over the past two decades, the rate among Latinos has remained lower than the rate among residents citywide, however, in 2007 the rates were comparable*.

The age-adjusted rate of death for which HIV/AIDS was the underlying cause has decreased by almost 30% among Baltimore City residents overall since 2000. The rate among Baltimore City Latinos was, on average, about 75% lower compared to the rate among all residents during 2000-2007*. (*Rates for Latinos are based on a small number of events; therefore interpretation of trends and comparisons of rates with other groups should be made with caution).
On average during 2004-2008, rates of primary and secondary syphilis among Baltimore City Latinos were comparable to rates among residents citywide.

Syphilis

- Importance: Highly infectious; if untreated, can cause fatal organ, neurological, and cardiovascular damage. Infection during pregnancy increases a mother’s risk of a still-birth or giving birth to a baby who dies shortly after birth. Untreated, an infant with congenital syphilis is a risk for developmental delays, seizures, or death.
- National statistic: In 2007, rate of 3.8 per 100,000
- Healthy People 2010 goal: 0.2 per 100,000 (Primary & Secondary)

Data Alert: Population

Primary & Secondary Syphilis Incidence Rates (by year reported), Baltimore City and U.S. 2004-2008

- Since 2004, there have been, on average, about 180 cases of primary & secondary (P&S) syphilis per year among all Baltimore City residents and fewer than 5 cases per year among Baltimore City Latino residents (in 2004, there was an outbreak among Latinos in Baltimore City).
- In 2008, compared to the previous year, incidence rates of P&S syphilis increased by 34% citywide and decreased by 30% among Baltimore City Latinos.
- On average, during 2004-2008 Baltimore City Latinos had a rate of P&S syphilis that was similar to the rate among all Baltimore City residents (28.5 vs. 28.0 per 100,000). During 2004-2007, Baltimore City Latinos had a rate that was just under 9 times higher than the rate among Latinos nationwide (31.3 vs. 3.5 per 100,000).

Gonorrhea

- Importance: Major cause of pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) among women in U.S. PID can lead to infertility, ectopic pregnancy, and chronic pelvic pain.
- National statistic: In 2007, rate of 118.9 per 100,000
- Healthy People 2010 goal: 19 new cases per 100,000

Data Alert: Population, Ethnicity

Gonorrhea Incidence Rates (by year reported), Baltimore City and U.S. 2004-2008

- Ethnicity information is likely not captured completely in reports of gonorrhea and chlamydia cases in Baltimore City. As a result, rates among Latinos may be underestimated.
- Since 2004, there have been, on average, about 3,400 cases of gonorrhea per year among all Baltimore City residents and just under 20 cases per year among Latino residents.
- In 2008, compared to the previous year, incidence rates of gonorrhea increased by 6% citywide and by 22% among Baltimore City Latinos.

- On average during 2004-2008 Baltimore City Latinos had a rate of gonorrhea that was approximately one-fourth the rate among all Baltimore City residents (123.6 vs. 531.8 per 100,000). During 2004-2007, Baltimore City Latinos had a rate that was just under 2 times higher compared to Latinos nationwide (123.7 vs. 71.3 per 100,000).
Infectious Diseases

Chlamydia

**Importance:** Chlamydia is the most frequently reported bacterial sexually transmitted infection in the U.S. Untreated infection can progress to serious reproductive and other health problems such as Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID).

**National statistic:** In 2007, 370.2 cases per 100,000

**Healthy People 2010 goal:** 3.0% for males and females age 15-24 attending STD or family planning clinics

Data Alert: Population, Ethnicity

Ethnicity information is likely not captured completely in reports of gonorrhea and chlamydia cases in Baltimore City. As a result, rates among Latinos may be underestimated.

- Since 2004, there have been, on average, about 7,000 cases of chlamydia per year among all Baltimore City residents and 80 cases per year among Baltimore City Latino residents.
- In 2008, compared to the previous year, incidence rates of chlamydia increased by 14% citywide and have more than doubled among Baltimore City Latinos (this increase since 2007 may be attributed to increased testing among Latinos in Baltimore City).

- On average, during 2004-2008 Baltimore City Latinos had a rate of chlamydia that was approximately half the rate among all Baltimore City residents (504.9 vs. 1100.6 per 100,000). During 2004-2007, Baltimore City Latinos had a rate that was comparable to Latinos nationwide (425.4 vs. 449.6 per 100,000).

**Tuberculosis**

**Importance:** Tuberculosis (TB) is a chronic lung infection that, if not treated properly, can be fatal.

**National statistic:** In 2007, 4.4 cases reported per 100,000

**Healthy People 2010 goal:** 1.0 new case per 100,000

- While Latinos made up less than 3% of Baltimore City’s population in 2006 (according to Census data), they comprised 8% of new tuberculosis cases during this year.
- In 2007 there were 47 new cases of tuberculosis diagnosed among all Baltimore City residents, approximately 9% (or 4 cases) occurred among Baltimore City Latino residents.
Among adult Latino respondents to the ProVision survey, 16% reported that they smoked currently; men were five times as likely to report current smoking compared to women (25% vs. 5%)

- Among the 16% of adult Baltimore City Latinos who reported current smoking in the ProVision survey, half reported smoking every day (8%).
- Only 5% of Latina women reported current smoking compared to 25% of Latino men. Reported current smoking increased with age among Latino respondents.

- According to the 2007 National Health Interview Survey, approximately 20% of all U.S. adults and 13% of U.S. Latino adults reported current smoking (15% of U.S. adults and 8% of U.S. Latino adults reported every day smoking). Baltimore City-wide, 28% of adults (31% of men and 25% of women) reported current smoking according to the Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

Data Source: 2008 ProVision Survey (see pg. 7 for a description of survey); Questions about smoking: “Have you smoked more than 20 cigarettes in your lifetime?”, “Are you a current cigarette smoker?”, “Do you smoke cigarettes every day or some days?”

Smoking categories: Non-smoker (smoked <20 cigarettes in lifetime), Former smoker (smoked >20 cigarettes in lifetime, but not a current smoker), Current smoker (smoked >20 cigarettes in lifetime and either smokes some days currently or every day currently).
Alcohol Use

Importance: Binge drinking corresponds approximately to 5 or more drinks on a single occasion for men or 4 or more drinks on a single occasion for women, generally within about 2 hours. Binge drinking is associated with many health problems, including: unintentional and intentional injuries, alcohol poisoning, sexually transmitted diseases, unintended pregnancy, children born with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, and chronic disease (including liver and cardiovascular disease).

National statistic: In 2006, approximately 16% of adults reported binge drinking Healthy People 2010 goal: 6% of adults

Among adult Latino respondents to the ProVision survey, 24% reported binge drinking; men were over seven times as likely to report binge drinking compared to women (40% vs. 5%)
Among adult Latino respondents to the ProVision survey, 6% reported having been told by a doctor or a health care professional that they had diabetes.

Data Source: 2008 ProVision Survey (see pg. 7 for a description of survey); error bars represent 95% confidence intervals around the estimate. Diabetes question: “Has a doctor or other health care professional ever told you that you have diabetes, sugar diabetes, sugar in your blood, or sugar?”

- In 2007, 10% of adult Baltimore City residents of all race and ethnicities surveyed by the Maryland BRFSS reported having been told they had diabetes (excluding diagnoses of diabetes among pregnant women).

- According to results from January through September of the 2008 National Health Interview survey, 8% of U.S. adult respondents and 11% of U.S. Latino adult respondents reported having been told they had diabetes (excluding diagnoses of diabetes among pregnant women).

- Diabetic eye disease could be a consequence of unmanaged or untreated diabetes. The ProVision survey assessed the need of eye care and barriers to receiving eye care among Baltimore City Latinos.

- One quarter of ProVision respondents reported that they needed or wanted eye care service during the previous twelve months. Among these respondents almost half (47%) did not get needed care. Among the reasons given for not receiving eye care, the most common (45%) was that the respondent could not afford eye care. Almost one-third (31%) did not know where to go for eye care.

### Latinos in the U.S.

- According to results from January through September of the 2008 National Health Interview survey, 8% of U.S. adult respondents and 11% of U.S. Latino adult respondents reported having been told they had diabetes (excluding diagnoses of diabetes among pregnant women).

### Reasons for Not Getting Needed Eye Care among Baltimore City Latino Respondents to the 2008 Provision Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Could not afford eye care</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did not know where to go for eye care</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No insurance for eye care</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provider did not understand Spanish</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wait was too long</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours were not convenient</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too hard to get appointment</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not trust or believe providers</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not get to eye care facility</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eye problem not serious enough</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data source: 2008 ProVision Survey (see pg. 7 for a description of survey). Respondents could choose more than one answer, so percentages will not add to 100%.
Mortality is an important indicator of population health—mortality trends describe what people are dying from and the age at which they are dying. Baltimore City Latinos have lower age-adjusted rates of mortality from all causes compared to Baltimore City residents as a whole and Latinos nationwide.

Data Alert: Population, Ethnicity info Small #'s

Latinos in Baltimore and the U.S.

- **Baltimore City 2007:**
  - 28 deaths
  - 266.1 per 100,000 (0.5% of total city deaths)

- **U.S., 2006:**
  - 133,004 deaths
  - 564.0 per 100,000 (5.5% of total U.S. deaths)

On average during 2000-2007, Baltimore City Latinos had an age-adjusted mortality rate that was one-quarter the rate among Baltimore City residents as a whole and less than half the 2000-2006 average rate among U.S. Latinos. U.S. Latinos had an age-adjusted mortality rate that was three-quarters the rate among U.S. residents as a whole.

According to the National Center for Health Statistics, the mortality difference between Latinos and non-Latino populations in the U.S. is due in part to U.S. Latino’s lower age-specific death rates, particularly at older ages. U.S. communities comprised predominantly of new Latino immigrants despite having on average lower incomes and more stressful lives, tend to suffer lower rates of chronic and mental illness compared to the average native-born American (this is often referred to as the “Latino paradox”). Several possible explanations for this paradox include: 1) immigrants who come to a country with the hope of building a better world for themselves and their children may be less likely to engage in risky behaviors such as smoking, poor diet and exercise behaviors, or risky sexual behavior or 2) immigrant communities tend to be based on strong support systems and are socially connected; two factors that contribute to health. [Iton, A. (Interviewee). (2007). *Health and Hope in Latino Communities* [Interview transcript]. Retrieved from Unnatural Causes Website at: http://www.unnaturalcauses.org/assets/uploads/file/anthony_iton.pdf].

Underestimated Latino population counts would result in age-adjusted mortality rates that were higher than expected. On the other hand, if ethnicity information on death certificates was underreported, mortality rates would be lower than expected. When the number of deaths is small, mortality rates can be unstable and the interpretation of trends over time must be made with caution. (See page 6 for more information).
Similar to the trend among residents of all ethnicities, among Baltimore City Latinos, women had lower age-adjusted mortality rates compared to men.

- On average during 2005-2007, Baltimore City Latino men had an age-adjusted mortality rate that was almost two times higher compared to Baltimore City Latina women. Among all city residents, the mortality rate among men was 1.6 times higher compared to women.
- During 2006, U.S. Latino men had an age-adjusted mortality rate that was 1.4 times higher compared to U.S. Latina women, similar to the difference among male and female U.S. residents of all ethnicities.
- On average during 2005-2007, Latinos had the lowest age adjusted mortality rates compared to Baltimore City residents of other races and ethnicities.
Mortality

In 2005-2007, Accidents were the third leading cause of death among Baltimore City Latinos compared to the fifth leading cause among all residents citywide. Six percent of deaths among Baltimore City Latinos were alcohol-induced.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Leading Causes of Death*</th>
<th>Number of Deaths (for three year period)</th>
<th>Percent of Total Deaths</th>
<th>Age-Adjusted Rate per 100,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>All Causes</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>542.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
<td>75.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Diseases of the Heart</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
<td>73.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Accidents (Unintentional Injunctures)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>29.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Suicide</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>22.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Other Internal Diseases</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>13.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Diseases of the Heart</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>12.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Other External Causes</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Other External Causes</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Other External Causes</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2005-2007, Accidents were the third leading cause of death among Baltimore City Latinos compared to the fifth leading cause among all residents citywide. Six percent of deaths among Baltimore City Latinos were alcohol-induced.

*Leading causes of death are ranked according to number of deaths and do not take into account the age structure of a population (age-adjusted rates are more comparable across different years and places). The median age of Baltimore City Latinos in 2007 was seven years younger compared to all Baltimore city residents which should be taken into account when comparing the leading cause of death ranking among Baltimore City Latinos to the rankings among other groups.

- During 2005-2007, cancer was the leading cause of death among Baltimore City Latinos, comprising 18% of all deaths. This was lower compared to the proportion of cancer deaths in 2006 among all Baltimore City residents (21%), U.S. Latinos (20%), and all U.S. residents (23%).
- Accidents were the third leading cause of death among Baltimore City Latinos in 2005-2007 and among U.S. Latinos in 2006 (compared to the 10th leading cause among city residents of all ethnicities and the 5th leading cause among all U.S. residents).
- During 2005-2007, 6% of deaths among Baltimore City Latinos were alcohol-induced compared to 2.1% of deaths among Latinos nationwide and 0.9% of all residents citywide and nationwide. (See technical notes for more information on how alcohol-induced and drug-induced deaths were classified.)
During 2005-2007, cancer was the leading cause of death among Baltimore City Latinos, however Latinos’ age-adjusted cancer mortality rate was still lower compared to all city residents and Latinos nationwide.

Data Alert: Population, Ethnicity info, Small #'s

- On average during 2000-2007, Baltimore City Latinos had an age-adjusted cancer mortality rate that was one-fifth of the rate among Baltimore City residents as a whole and just over one-third the average rate among U.S. Latinos (2000-2006).
- While the number of cancer deaths among Latinos is small, the rate of cancer mortality among Baltimore City Latinos appears to be increasing.

- On average during 2005-2007, Baltimore City Latino men had an age-adjusted cancer mortality rate that was 1.4 times higher compared to Baltimore City Latina women. Among all city residents, the cancer mortality rate among men was 1.6 times higher compared to women.

During 2005-2007, heart disease was the second leading cause of death among Baltimore City Latinos

Importance: Leading cause of death and major cause of disability in U.S., accounted for 26% of all deaths in 2006.
National statistic: In 2006, 11% of non-institutionalized adults had diagnosed heart disease
Healthy People 2010 goal: 166 coronary heart disease deaths per 100,000 population

On average during 2000-2007, Baltimore City Latinos had an age-adjusted heart disease mortality rate that was less than one-fourth the rate among Baltimore City residents as a whole and less than half the average rate among U.S. Latinos (2000-2006).

Data Alert: Population, Ethnicity info, Small #’s


On average during 2005-2007, Baltimore City Latino men had an age-adjusted heart disease mortality rate that was 3.5 times higher compared to Baltimore City Latina women. Among all city residents, the heart disease mortality rate among men was 1.6 times higher compared to women.
During 2005-2007, accidents were the third leading cause of death among Baltimore City Latinos, comprising almost 11% of deaths compared to 2% of all resident deaths citywide in 2006.

Importance: Unintentional injury was the leading cause of death among U.S. residents age 1 to 44 years in 2006. National statistic: 39.8 per 100,000 (age-adjusted mortality rate in 2006) Healthy People 2010 goal: 17.5 per 100,000

On average during 2000-2007, Baltimore City Latinos had an age-adjusted accident mortality rate that was two-thirds the rate among Baltimore City residents as a whole and three-fifths the average rate among U.S. Latinos (2000-2006).

On average during 2005-2007, Baltimore City Latino men had an age-adjusted accident mortality rate that was 8 times higher compared to Baltimore City Latina women. Among all city residents, the accident mortality rate among men was 2.4 times higher compared to women.

While age-adjusted rates of accident-related mortality are lower for Baltimore City Latinos compared to city residents as a whole, this cause of death accounts for a larger proportion of deaths among Latino residents (10.5% of total deaths compared to 2.3% of total deaths among residents as a whole). The younger population median age of Baltimore City Latinos likely explains some of this difference in burden. The type of occupation held by Latino residents may also play a role. Latinos, both in Baltimore City and nationwide, are more likely to work in the construction related industry—According to the Census’ 2005-2007 American Community Survey, in Baltimore City and the U.S., 43% and 27%, of Latino males (respectively) worked in “construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations” compared to 15% and 18% of residents citywide and nationwide respectively.

Accident (Unintentional Injury) Mortality

During 2005-2007, accidents were the third leading cause of death among Baltimore City Latinos, comprising almost 11% of deaths compared to 2% of all resident deaths citywide in 2006.

On average during 2005-2007, Baltimore City Latino men had an age-adjusted accident mortality rate that was 8 times higher compared to Baltimore City Latina women. Among all city residents, the accident mortality rate among men was 2.4 times higher compared to women.

While age-adjusted rates of accident-related mortality are lower for Baltimore City Latinos compared to city residents as a whole, this cause of death accounts for a larger proportion of deaths among Latino residents (10.5% of total deaths compared to 2.3% of total deaths among residents as a whole). The younger population median age of Baltimore City Latinos likely explains some of this difference in burden. The type of occupation held by Latino residents may also play a role. Latinos, both in Baltimore City and nationwide, are more likely to work in the construction related industry—According to the Census’ 2005-2007 American Community Survey, in Baltimore City and the U.S., 43% and 27%, of Latino males (respectively) worked in “construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations” compared to 15% and 18% of residents citywide and nationwide respectively.

On average during 2005-2007, Baltimore City Latino men had an age-adjusted accident mortality rate that was 8 times higher compared to Baltimore City Latina women. Among all city residents, the accident mortality rate among men was 2.4 times higher compared to women.

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During 2005-2007, accidents were the third leading cause of death among Baltimore City Latinos, comprising almost 11% of deaths compared to 2% of all resident deaths citywide in 2006.

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During 2005-2007, Homicide was the fifth leading cause of death among residents citywide and the fourth leading cause among Baltimore City Latinos

**Importance:** Second leading cause of death among young adults age 15-24 years nationwide in 2006 (Accidents were the leading cause of death in this age group). Leading cause of death among Baltimore City residents age 15-34 years in 2007.

**National statistic:** 6.2 per 100,000 (age-adjusted mortality rate in 2006)  
**Healthy People 2010 goal:** 3.0 per 100,000

- Homicide was the fourth leading cause of death among Baltimore City Latinos in 2005-2007 and the seventh leading cause of death among U.S. Latinos in 2006.

- On average during 2005-2007, homicide mortality among Baltimore City Latino residents was 40% lower compared to residents citywide and three times higher than the rate among Latinos nationwide in 2006.

- On average during 2005-2007, Baltimore City Latino men had an age-adjusted homicide mortality rate that was twice the rate among Baltimore City Latina women. Among all city residents, the homicide mortality rate among men was nearly 10 times higher compared to women.

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**Technical Notes and Data Source Information**

**Demographic Data and Population Denominators**
Data describing the demographic characteristics of Baltimore City residents (including the population denominators used to calculate rates in this report) are derived from several U.S. Census Bureau sources listed below.

Demographic and economic data on Baltimore City residents for the years 1990 and 2000 are from the United States Census Bureau’s Decennial Census.

Data in this report describing the age and race of Baltimore City residents for years between 2001 and 2008 are from the U.S. Census Bureau’s Population Estimates Program.
For more information see: [http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php](http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php)

Population based rates are calculated using the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) and U.S. Census Bureau’s July 1st Vintage 2007 bridged-race population estimates.
For more information see: [http://wonder.cdc.gov/wonder/help/bridged-race.html](http://wonder.cdc.gov/wonder/help/bridged-race.html)

Data describing the economic characteristics of Baltimore City residents in 2007 are from the American Community Survey (ACS).
For more information see: [http://www.census.gov/acs/www/index.html](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/index.html)

**Poverty Status**
In 2007, the poverty threshold for a family of 4 with 2 children under the age of 18 years, the poverty threshold was $21,027. For more information see: [http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/poverty.html](http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/poverty.html)

**Age-Adjusted Rates**
Age-adjustment is a methodology used to compare rates among populations with differing age distributions. Age-adjusted rates in this report were calculated using the direct method of age-adjustment (with 10 year age-groups) and were standardized to the projected 2000 U.S. population.

**Leading Causes of Death**
Leading Cause categories (i.e. “Diseases of the Heart”) are based on International Classification of Death, 10th revision (ICD-10) codes. These codes represent the underlying cause of death. The “Drug-Induced Deaths of Undetermined Manner or Intent” (ICD-10 Codes Y10-Y14) category was created to represent drug-induced deaths not included in the categories for accidents, suicides, or homicides.

**Confidence Intervals for Survey Data**
Surveys do not reach every resident of Baltimore City. As a result, the survey results are only estimates of the true population values. Each estimate is presented with error bars representing the 95% confidence interval around the estimate. The length of the confidence interval quantifies the precision of the estimate.
Technical Notes and Data Source Information

Data Sources and Links:


Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS): www.marylandbrfss.org

Maryland DHMH AIDS Administration: http://dhmh.state.md.us/AIDS/HIV_index.html

CDC National Health Interview Survey: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm

CDC National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS): http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/

Healthy People 2010 Goals: http://phpartners.org/hp/

Subpopulation Estimates from the HIV Incidence Surveillance System - United States, 2006. MMWR, September 12, 2008 / 57(36);985-989