

# REGION VIII –

Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota



# V ENCUENTRO

*Missionary Disciples:  
Witnesses of God's Love*



**Regional Encuentro  
Alexandria, MN**

**April 13-14, 2018**



# Regional Working Document

## Part I: Regional Information

<b>REGION</b>	Región Episcopal VIII
<b>Date of Regional Encuentro</b>	April 13 and 14, 2018
<b>Location of Regional Encuentro</b>	
<b>City/State</b>	ALEXANDRIA, MINNESOTA
<b>Name of Facility</b>	ARROWWOD RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER

### 1. Briefly describe the Region:

The Episcopal Region VII is made up of the Dioceses of Bismarck, Crookston, Duluth, Fargo, New Ulm, Rapid City, Sioux Falls, St. Cloud, St. Paul & Minneapolis, and Winona. To highlight that Region VIII has been and is Mission territory. Six Dioceses are Missionary Dioceses: The diocese of Bismarck, Fargo, Rapid City, Crookston, New Ulm, and Duluth, who house missionaries who support in the different ministerial areas. The dioceses that are not mission territory have missions in Latin American countries like Venezuela, which are funded and subsidized by these Dioceses. We can identify ourselves as a region of missions, in missions and for the mission where welcoming communities have been created for the Latino and immigrant people.

The Episcopal Region VII encompasses the territory of the States of North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota, with a geographical area of 236,372 square miles (608,532 square kilometers). From Minnesota, "The 10,000 lakes State", North Dakota with its rural landscape and long winter days to South Dakota named as historical territory by the Sioux Native American tribes.

The population is estimated at 7,143,359 inhabitants, of which 1,649,000 are catholic who represent a 23.1% of the total population. The Latino population is estimated at 340,423 of which 181,000 are Hispanic Catholics, representing 53.2% of the Latino population.<sup>1</sup>

The Latino/Hispanic Pastoral Ministry in the episcopal Region VII consists of 63 parishes serving the Latino/Hispanic community which offers 70 weekly masses in the Spanish language and 14 monthly masses with a total of 18,506 people attending the Sunday celebrations.<sup>2</sup>

The Catholic schools in the episcopal Region VIII serve 44,550 children in primary schools of which 1,986 are Latino/Hispanic children and in preparatory schools they serve 12,189 youth of which 930 are Latino/Hispanic youth.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Region VIII Statistics compiled from the information sent by the dioceses to the Office of Statistics of the VEncuentro.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

The Hispanic/Latino ecclesiastical ministers who serve in Region VIII are 18 active priests of which 18 are immigrants and one is retired. In addition to 25 religious, 6 deacons, and 45 lay ecclesial ministers.<sup>4</sup>

The prevalent language spoken in Hispanic/Latino youth is Spanish and English as the second language, even though about 50% of parents experience difficulty in communicating due to not mastering the English language, especially adults between the ages of 30 and 65 years of age, thus creating, new challenges and difficulties for the Latino/Hispanic population in the process of adaptation and incorporation to the US culture. Here it is easy to see emerge a new generation and identity for the Latino/Hispanic people in this *Kairos* of our local churches. Our episcopal region fully participates in this process through the call of the V Encuentro of the Hispanic/Latino Pastoral Ministry.

In the economic aspect the median income in Hispanic/Latino homes is of \$54,000 and the average size of a family is 4.2. This numbers places Hispanic/Latino homes in the percentages of the poverty rate according to the public data of the *American Community Survey (ACS) of the Office of the United States Census Bureau* for the territory of the dioceses of Region VIII.

The nationality of origin of the Latino residents in 2016 was, in order of percentages: 65% Mexican, 15 % Ecuadorian, Puerto Rican, Guatemalan, Salvadorian, Spanish, Columbian, Dominican, countries of Central America and South America. So, we find an ample cultural diversity and each one of them contributes its gifts and talents to the local parishes in our Region.

**2. Regional Team:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Generation</b>
Sr. Brenda Hernández	Diocese of Bismarck, North Dakota	Mexican	Immigrant
Sr. Lucy Pérez Calixto	Diocese of Crookston, Minnesota	Mexican	Immigrant
Fr. Raúl Pérez Cobo	Diocese of Crookston, Minnesota	Colombian	Immigrant
Fr. Tim Schroeder	Diocese of Fargo, North Dakota	German/Irish	4 <sup>th</sup> Generation
Karla Cross	Diocese of New Ulm, Minnesota	German	4 <sup>th</sup> Generation
Fr. Janusz Korban	Diocese of Rapid City, South Dakota	Polish	Immigrant

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

Mayuli Bales	Diocese of St. Cloud, Minnesota	Mexican	Immigrant
Fr. Oswaldo Roche	Diocese of St. Cloud, Minnesota	Venezuelan	Immigrant
Luz Zagal	Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis	Mexican American	1 <sup>st</sup> Generation
Teresa Edali Méndez	Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis, Minnesota	Mexican	Inmigrante
Estela Villagrán Manancero	Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis, Minnesota	Uruguayan	Inmigrante
Fr. Raúl Silva	Diocese of Winona-Rochester, Minnesota	Peruvian	1 <sup>a</sup> Generación

**Part II: The Voice of the Hispanic/Latino People in the Peripheries**

3. **Summarize the highlights and common themes regarding the obstacles, needs and situations that require our attention and that prevents Hispanics/Latinos living in the periphery from reaching their full potential in American society:**

*Need to work and shortage of time*

They identified the need to have no other option than to work on Sundays and this is seen as a big problem in their community.

Sundays are the only day that families must rest, meet with family and friends, do their errands, fulfill housework and just do nothing.

*Transport problems*

The difficulty of finding a way to get to Mass due to the geographical characteristics of some areas of the region.

Some do not have cars, others worry about driving outside their town and others do not know how to drive or do not have a driver's license.

#### *Lack of documents and the resulting insecurity*

The effect of irregular migration status of many people causes fear and concern to many people. They are afraid of going too far and there is a concern that they will end up being discovered or exposed publicly.

They have a great fear of being separated from their families and losing everything they have sacrificed over the years.

Poor and undocumented families are helped by other immigrant families or relatives until they can find economic stability. Many families suffer the separation of their members, because they have been deported, always the solidarity comes from the same Hispanic community. In most cases there is still no organized / formal help from the parish or diocese.

The diocese is also beginning to provide more and more services in Spanish (in immigration and health) and is also beginning to help poor or low-income people through "Catholic Charities".

#### *Problems with the Language*

Some reported that the lack of speaking English and the limited ability to celebrate in Spanish is a problem. Others reported that the loss of Spanish, customs and culture among young people who are trying to integrate into the dominant culture causes problems in participating in the community.

#### *Isolation and Feeling Alone*

Several reported that going to Mass or another celebration without meeting other people can be difficult in some cases. Others report that they feel like they do not have friends or relatives with whom to share their experiences of God and the celebration of their faith.

#### *The effect of missionaries in rural communities*

Most parishes and organizations are happy that the diocese has brought Hispanic priests to work in the diocese especially with Hispanic ministry. The parishes with a significant presence of Hispanic immigrants are being served by Hispanic priests.

#### *Inclusion of Hispanics / Latinos in the Pastoral Area*

In some parishes, Hispanic parishioners are already beginning to be part of the pastoral or financial council of the parish. They are still very few, but we are already seeing a beginning of this.

#### *Economic poverty in the Hispanic / Latino population*

Speaking generally and at the local level, the response to the list of needs is somewhat poor or weak. The most that most parishes do is help defray some utility bills, such as gas, energy and electricity, to unemployed families. In some cases, they are helped with the rent.

In some areas the rents are very high, which makes several people come together to rent an apartment and this limits privacy.

#### *Resources for health*

There are communities where Hispanic ministry has been present much longer and is more established, providing free medical services to low-income people. There are free clinics for the immigrant.

#### *Current diagnosis of evangelization*

Prayer groups and charisms such as small communities or the Neocatechumenal Way are the people that most involve the activities of the parish, especially in the area of evangelization. These charisms and parish groups are the people who most reach or offer help to people living in the peripheries. After reaching those people who are still far from the communion of the Church, they offer them welcome and material and spiritual help, nourishing them in the Catholic faith.

#### *Specific needs*

1. Availability of more masses in Spanish, more confession opportunities in Spanish.
2. Liturgical training for readers (diction, fluency, tone of voice, punctuation).
3. Urgent matter: train the music ministry and / or get a music director in Spanish (workshops or courses for the music ministry).
4. Groups of lay people organized to visit the sick, pray with the sick.
5. Spiritual support for the relatives of the sick.
6. Material in Spanish available as prayer books, spirituality books, subscription to magazines and Catholic materials in Spanish such as Magnificat, the bread of the word.
7. Religious didactic material for families that facilitate evangelization within the home.
8. Newsletters in Spanish with tips for parents, material to take home that includes activities, stories, traditions, rites, devotions and their explanations.
9. "Cursillo" in Spanish for men and women.
10. Events for adults of spiritual formation, retreats, praise, prayer of healing.
11. Give more promotion to programs, parish and diocesan events in Spanish.
12. Information in Spanish about the Catholic school and financial assistance available to low-income families.
13. Activities for young people, retreats, motivational talks, Catholic music, spiritual exercises.
14. Youth ministry
15. Recreational activities for all ages as a way of coexistence and unity.

16. Community aid programs for families and quality of life.

*Other Challenges*

- Losing the understanding and importance of the family in your life
- Drugs and alcohol
- The education
- Too much attention to social networks
- The struggle to find a home
- Mental health
- Lack of interest in God
- Ignorance of the faith (inability to explain or understand the faith)
- Illiteracy

4. Summarize the highlights and common themes in terms of their most significant aspirations and dreams and the gifts and talents they could offer the Catholic Church, and to the common good of society:

*Aspirations, dreams*

1. To be able to provide for the basic needs for their families.
2. Hope for a better life for their children.
3. Have God present at every moment.
4. Fix their immigration status.
5. Be educated.
6. Be part of the Church.
7. That the Catholic Church continues to be at the forefront of immigration and a safe place for people to turn to the resources available in dioceses and parishes.
8. Energy in the young adult population: willing to serve, get involved and help in the community.
9. Relationship of the Latino ministry and Catholic schools, making schools more accessible.
10. Diaconate training program in Spanish to prepare deacons to serve the Hispanic / Latino population.

11. Family Ministry / Joint Ministry: Involve parents, involve children. With a spiritual focus, deepening the personal relationship with God and the strengthening of families.
12. Formation of missionary teams to carry out the missionary outreach.
13. Build an active Hispanic community, true brothers who support and help each other in physical and spiritual needs.
14. We wish to foster a culture of the Encuentro, Christian communities, which joyfully invite others to be part of the body of Christ who is their Church.
15. We are professionals who want to put our experience at the service of our community.

### *Gifts and Talents*

1. A lot of leadership
2. Generosity and availability
3. Youth (many young families)
4. Joy
5. Energy
6. Solidarity
7. Faith
8. Hope
9. Love of God, family and their country
10. Respect
11. Opening
12. Reliability, honesty
13. Enthusiasm
14. Participation
15. Art
16. Creativity
17. Closeness
18. Committed
19. Willingness
20. Willing to take risks
21. Very hardworking

**Part III: Voices from Parishes and Participating Organizations**

5. **Make a list of some successful ways that parishes / organizations in the region are already responding to the obstacles, challenges and needs they have identified, as well as how they are affirming the presence and contributions of Hispanics / Latinos in the peripheries:**

*SUCCESSFUL WAYS*

1. Knock on doors, invite and meet people in a particular way.
2. Hand out flyers in main stores advertising services for Hispanics offered by the church.
3. Masses in Spanish and confessions.
4. Celebration of sacraments in Spanish.
5. Family catechesis in parish and outside the parish.
6. Group of women (human formation and personal improvement for them).
7. Sacramental preparation according to the schedules and possibilities of the adults
8. Family reunions
9. Banquets for economic fundraising
10. Rescue some Mexican customs
  - a. Altar of the Dead
  - b. December 12th
  - c. Posadas
  - d. *Rosca de reyes*
  - e. Lift the child Jesus
11. Biblical study and rosary in homes.
12. Leadership training.
13. Bilingual materials and resources.
14. Have spaces and times available for the apostolate to Hispanics.
15. The presence of the religious sisters and the accompaniment they give to Hispanics.

16. Priests who are studying the language, strive for the pastoral care of Hispanics.
17. **Formation is the basis of all evangelization; our lay people need catechesis by levels so that can emerge as leaders and catechists of their own communities.**
18. **The parishes need to involve more Hispanic people to be part of the pastoral and financial councils of the parish. The contribution of the vision and experience of a Hispanic person can help a lot in the pastoral and evangelization decisions of the parish.**
19. The groups and charisms already present in the parishes are the ones that carry out the most evangelizing activities in the community. It would be good for the parish priests to promote more and help these charisms more to be more productive.
20. **It tries to keep young people interested in the Church through music, organizing youth groups, taking them to trips or retreats of young people.**
21. **Being open and available**, through the sessions of the V Encuentro we have been approached by people with doubts and specific questions, this did not happen before.
22. Continue / create a Hispanic Committee, which meets regularly to plan activities and discuss needs in the community.
23. Annually offer a picnic and Mass in the field in Spanish and invite other communities, such as the English-speaking community.
24. Plan more activities where English-speaking and Hispanic communities participate together and get to know each other.
25. Ministry to the imprisoned.
26. Serving the elderly.
27. Offer a roof to those who need it.
28. Create / form small groups in the church.

#### **In rural communities specifically**

It will be necessary to identify leaders to be able to create small support groups. These leading groups will be the link between the diocese and the Hispanic people that is in our territory.

The monthly Mass in Spanish (for rural communities) allows the Church to be better connected with parishioners to develop a relationship and trust.

**6. Make a list of the best ideas and successful ways that parishes and organizations in the Region have offered to welcome and accompany Hispanics / Latinos in their communities, especially regarding: family ministry, youth ministry, accompaniment of those who have turned away from faith or those who live in situations of risk:**

*This is an area in which we must work hard. Parishes do not have an established way to identify or welcome Hispanics. In fact, parishes do not even know today how many Hispanics they have in their parishes.*

*It is our wish that because of the V Encuentro we can approach the parishes to propose ways in which Hispanics can be identified and welcome them wherever they are.*

1. Catechesis for children, adolescents and adults simultaneously.
2. Group for women with human-Christian formation
3. Biblical study and prayer of the Rosary in the houses, especially with the families that do not get involved in the activities of the parishes.
4. Personalized invitations through Facebook and WhatsApp
5. Celebration of the festivities of popular piety in our culture.
6. Spaces of healthy coexistence and relaxation have been created.
7. Catechesis is sought to be attractive, festive and cheerful.
8. Families are frequently visited, called, listened to and supported as much as possible.
9. There are parishes that have economic solvency to help those who need paying rent, return to their countries, etc.
10. Family retreat and school for parents
11. Group of young people and coexistence with them
12. People are channeled to competent people according to their needs.
13. Leadership training.
14. Frequent promotion of services in the parish
15. The parish has a welcoming committee
16. Communications and invitations to parish events.

17. Improve communication between Anglos and Hispanics: interpreters / translators / writers are needed.
18. Promote the RCIA process.
19. Keep personal relationships active and doors always open.

**7. What are the most successful practices of dioceses in the Region to promote and accompany Hispanic / Latino leaders? What else is needed to increase ecclesial vocations (priesthood, diaconate, religious life, lay ecclesial ministry) among Hispanics / Latinos?**

*BEST PRACTICES*

1. Leadership training has been provided on pastoral leadership, human, moral and doctrinal formation.
2. Online courses to accompany the leaders.
3. Create / train / support Hispanic / Latino Ministry Committees.
4. The importance of the participation and opening of American parish priests in this process of accompaniment and formation in the faith was reiterated.
5. That money be invested in the formation of Hispanic leaders or that they be used more and more in the parishes.
6. Raising awareness among parish priests and all leaders that the Hispanic pastoral involves time and dedication, becoming one with them, only then will we understand that faith manifests itself in many ways depending on their culture ...
7. Several mentioned that bringing religious sisters who wear the habit helps or draws attention to young people. This sign makes them think or consider their vocation.
8. We need to help, train and protect families who are vulnerable through divorce and abortion situations. Those who are also threatened by the secular world in matters of gender ideology, fornication, adultery, pornography, etc.
9. Motivate families to dialogue with their children regarding their vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life.

10. To foster a culture of vocations within our Hispanic / Latino community it is necessary to offer programs and activities for families, children and young people that make them feel an integral and important part of our Church. Not only religious activities but also activities that promote community life.
11. More spiritual formation is needed for parents, children and young people to help explain our faith and sow in the hearts of our youth the missionary spirit that we are called to live as Catholics.

**8. What are the notable perceptions and recommendations that have emerged from dioceses throughout this process, especially those that have not been mentioned yet?**

Human formation is the basis of all formation. We must begin by strengthening their dreams and hopes and making this country a place where they can continue to cultivate their faith.

When the family is strengthened, many leaders can emerge who want to work for an evangelized and evangelizing community.

The vocational campaign is very important, the information must be given in Spanish, they will feel more committed, because they see the needs of their community, since they participate in all the activities together with their family.

Evangelize schools and colleges. Very little is done to reach the students (mostly Catholics) who are studying but who do not come to the Church or in the schools do not talk about God for almost nothing.

Some noted that it is important for people working in parishes as secretaries to be more sensitive or open to people coming from the peripheries. Many times, they come to the Church for a funeral, marriage, or *quinceañera* alone or asking for some other sacrament and several times they are not treated well because they are not known or are required many things. It would be good to train those who work in the parishes to take advantage of all the opportunities of evangelization to attract more people and not scare them...

Some dioceses still do not have a Hispanic / Latino Ministry; it would be good to be in solidarity with these dioceses and offer our resources and available support.

Through this consultation of the V Encuentro, new and better methods of evangelization, catechesis and pastoral work will emerge, as well as new means of communication and support among the communities.

This sharing among communities, parishes and dioceses in the region has made us realize the needs of our most vulnerable brothers in the peripheries.

We have realized that the scarcity of pastoral, economic and social resources is a common factor, and this is reflected in the way people perceive their faith, the church, the family and themselves.



We must realize that we have almost nothing in the vocational area for the Hispanic / Latino people, it is an urgent need to foster vocations to the religious life, the priesthood and the laity consecrated to the service of our local churches.

It will be necessary to approach parishes, dioceses and communities with a plan to identify Hispanics, offer them contact persons to reach them and begin to serve them. Only in this way can we know what their perceptions are and what would be the most appropriate ways to receive them.

Highlight the need for bilingual priests.

Offer marriage counseling.

Provide information about their rights as people.

**Part IV: Regional Strategies for the Pastoral Care and Accompaniment of Hispanic/Latino Catholics**

<b>Ministerial Area #1: Leadership Development and Pastoral Training</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> Create/continue with the formation institutes in the different ministerial areas for lay ministers in different phases and/or level of formation.
<b>Strategy #2:</b> Formation and/or identification of lay preachers, this formation should include the discernment of their gifts/charisms to help them give fruit to the gifts they have received from God.
<b>Strategy #3:</b> More spaces available/access to formation programs in Catholic Universities for the formation of lay professionals for the purpose of supporting their Diocese, parishes, and communities.
<b>Strategy #4:</b> The emergence of a School of Evangelization for the formation of missionary disciples.
<b>Strategy #5:</b> The emergence of a School of Prayer in Spanish for the spiritual formation of leaders.
<b>Strategy #6:</b> A focus on the formation of lay ministers in Liturgy and Social Justice.
<b>Ministerial Area #2: Pastoral Ministry for Families</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> Formation of mentor couples to help in parishes with marriages in crisis.
<b>Strategy #2:</b> Conferences, Congresses, Retreats for families with topics and activities that involve the whole family.
<b>Strategy #3:</b> More programs for dating couples and more marriage-prep retreats.
<b>Strategy #4:</b> Family catechesis with a focus on the call to the family to be a domestic church, cell of the parish, diocese, community, and society. Called to live the joy of the Gospel and give witness to the presence of God in the church and the world.
<b>Strategy #5:</b> Evangelization programs and activities for families.
<b>Strategy #6:</b> Resources and programs for the education of children of Latino parents who are growing up in the culture of the United States. School for parents.
<b>Strategy #7:</b> Develop Pro-Life programs that help families to value human life as a precious gift from God. The faith lived in the family is the most impactful form of evangelization that children receive.
<b>Strategy #8:</b> Connect Pastoral Ministry to Families with catholic schools so that Latino families have access to a catholic education as base for the integral formation of their children.
<b>Strategy #9:</b> Theology of the Body formation for families. Natural Family Planning for families.



# V ENCUENTRO

DISCÍPULOS MISIONEROS: TESTIGOS DEL AMOR DE DIOS  
MISSIONARY DISCIPLES: WITNESSES OF GOD'S LOVE

<p><b>Strategy #10:</b> Programs for families of single or divorced parents in consideration to the challenges and difficulties they face in a social, political, educational, and religious setting.</p>
<p><b>Strategy #11:</b> Develop a ministry that gives formation and accompanies families with children or parents with different needs or disabilities, as well as the development of inclusive programs in our parish and diocesan communities.</p>
<p><b>Strategy #12:</b> Develop, implement and subsidize programs to tend to families going through a crisis or difficult situation, with a parish or diocesan base. Count with a directory of professional psychologists and/or therapy.</p>
<p><b>Ministerial Area #3: Pastoral Ministry for Youth/Young Adults</b></p>
<p><b>Strategy #1:</b> Develop, implement, and evaluate programs for the Pastoral Juvenil distinguishing between Pastoral Ministry for Youth and Pastoral Ministry for Young Adults, as well as Pastoral Ministry for Universities.</p>
<p><b>Strategy #2:</b> More resources for Pastoral Juvenil, that each parish and diocese can count with an imperative budget set aside to create a Pastoral Juvenil and/or hire ministers to tend to the youth.</p>
<p><b>Strategy #3:</b> That in existing diocesan programs the Latino/Hispanic youth be more involved.</p>
<p><b>Strategy #4:</b> Hispanic/Latino Pastoral Juvenil Encounters at a parish, diocesan, and regional level, with a focus on the specific needs of our youth.</p>
<p><b>Strategy #5:</b> Support, promote, and diffuse the participation of young ministers in parish, diocesan, regional, and national liturgies.</p>
<p><b>Strategy #6:</b> Spiritual retreats for youth, as well as follow-up programs, and parish growth with parish and diocesan base.</p>
<p><b>Strategy #7:</b> Accompany youth who are going through difficult situations, especially with problems like immigration, addictions, or social problems.</p>
<p><b>Strategy #8:</b> Promote vocations among the youth, especially to inspire them to be missionary disciples.</p>
<p><b>Strategy #9:</b> Formation of advisors/mentors and lay trainers who can animate the Pastoral Juvenil at a parish, diocesan, and regional level.</p>
<p><b>Strategy #10:</b> Create radio and television programs for youth.</p>
<p><b>Strategy #11:</b> Create/implement diagnostic methods and planning at a parish and diocesan level.</p>
<p><b>Strategy #12:</b> Formation in the Church's Social Justice teaching so that youth can be present in the world by contributing their Christian values to society.</p>

<b>Ministerial Area #4: Evangelization and Mission</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> Promote the creation of a new ministry of evangelization in parishes and the diocese.
<b>Strategy #2:</b> Formation of missionary disciples for the evangelization of all social circles and peripheries. Especially inviting to this formation those who have already lived an encounter with Christ, and as a result have experienced a process of spiritual conversion.
<b>Strategy #3:</b> Animate the missionary spirit and the Encounter in the parish communities. That the dioceses offer their help, support, and resources to foster the culture of Encounter in the different communities, so as to create welcoming communities, communities of missionary disciples witnesses of the love of God.
<b>Strategy #4:</b> Annual celebration at a parish, diocesan, and regional level to share the fruits of evangelization. That all parishes be invited and participate, even if they are not going out to evangelize and in this way motivate them and invite them to share their gifts and talents and so, as a result all communities produce abundant fruits. For example: parishes who have formed missionary disciples can share them with parishes that find themselves in the initial state of evangelization and formation of missionary disciples.
<b>Strategy #5:</b> Promote and organize missionary activities in parish and diocesan communities.
<b>Ministerial Area #5: Faith Formation and Catechesis</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> Count with bilingual Faith Formation Directors in parishes who can attend the needs of Hispanic/Latino families.
<b>Strategy #2:</b> Create faith formation programs and catechesis that involves parents, since they are the first catechists and educators of their children. That parents can also receive formation in their faith and catechesis. Children and youth are both better prepared when their parents accompany them in the process of their formation in the faith.
<b>Strategy #3:</b> Count with materials for faith formation that are adequate and adapt for the reality of the Hispanic/Latino family immersed in the United States culture, that these resources be bilingual.
<b>Strategy #4:</b> Develop, implement, and evaluate programs that offer continual faith formation, from preschool to adulthood, with a parish and diocesan base. Including the youngest in this formation and catechesis will better prepare future generations.
<b>Strategy #5:</b> That faith formation and catechesis have a solid doctrinal base, offering continual training to catechists and pastoral agents.
<b>Strategy #6:</b> Offer spaces and adequate installations that promote learning and an encounter with Christ during formation of faith of Hispanic/Latino people in the diocese and parishes.
<b>Strategy #7:</b> Develop educational materials that are centered on the reality of the Hispanic/Latino people and serve as guide for the orientation of communities, parishes, and dioceses.

<b>Ministerial Area #6: Liturgy and Spirituality</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> That a “School of Prayer” in Spanish emerge for Hispanic/Latino leaders.
<b>Strategy #2:</b> Form, guide, train, and offer direction to prayer group leaders and participants. That they too can count on ecclesial pastors to guide and direct them.
<b>Strategy #3:</b> Identify spaces for retreats that are central and accessible for Hispanics/Latinos.
<b>Strategy #4:</b> Form lay pastoral agents who can support the liturgical ministry in their communities, parishes, and dioceses; supporting ecclesial ministers.
<b>Strategy #5:</b> More liturgical education for the Hispanic/Latino people, through the development of educational programs, by preference interactive programs, so that everyone can have access to this education, especially people with different capacities or little education.
<b>Strategy #6:</b> Train/form pastoral agents in the area of discernment and spiritual direction.
<b>Ministerial Area #7: Justice and Peace</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> Form Pastoral Social Ministries at a parish, diocesan, and regional level that tend to the needs of Hispanic/Latino families.
<b>Strategy #2:</b> Support the organized work of the Asamblea de Derechos Civiles (Assembly of Civil Rights) and other local and national organizations with respect to the matter of “Secure Economic Living” and “Home Displacement”.
<b>Strategy #3:</b> Fight for Immigration issues: Dream Act for all dreamers, access to driver licenses for everyone. Pastorally tend to families in crisis due to abrupt separations because of the latent issue within our community.
<b>Strategy #4:</b> Work to eliminate massive incarcerations and the expansion of prisons. Pastorally, create a ministry for those who are incarcerated or detained, and for the accompaniment of families who are left without a loved one.
<b>Strategy #5:</b> Create a Ministry of Consolation, with a parish base and diocesan support to accompany the families who have experienced so much loss.
<b>Strategy #6:</b> Create an Institute of Formation for the Church’s Social Doctrine that trains leaders and ministers to serve in their parishes, dioceses, and communities in the ministerial area of Justice and Peace.
<b>Strategy #7:</b> Have a parish and diocesan directory of programs and services to help the material, physical, and spiritual needs of communities and in that way, provide them with immediate professional help.
<b>Additional Ministerial Area A: Immigration</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> Help families that have been separated by the immigration department, spiritually, etc ...

<b>Strategy #2:</b> Homilies about immigrants: Who is my neighbor? Cultural sensitivity for English speakers.
<b>Strategy #3:</b> Continue to offer presentations and forums about what to do when immigration comes (ICE).
<b>Additional Ministerial Area B: Solidarity</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> Share resources and leaders among the parishes and among the dioceses of the region.
<b>Additional Ministerial Area C: Ministry with the Incarcerated and Detained</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> Formation to begin these ministries at parish level.
<b>Additional Ministerial Area D: Catholic Education (K-12)</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> Offering training and information to the families about the benefits of catholic education.
<b>Strategy #2:</b> Have appointed lay ministers to introduce new families to Catholic Schools.
<b>Strategy #3:</b> More information about the resources, programs and assistance offered by Catholic School to the Latino families.
<b>Additional Ministerial Area E: Vocations</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> Create a diocesan ministry for discernment of priestly and religious vocations for Hispanic Ministry.
<b>Strategy #2:</b> Promote vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life within the parishes.
<b>Additional Ministerial Area F: Ministry among People with Disabilities</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> Formation to begin these ministries at parish level.
<b>Additional Ministerial Area G: Consolation Ministry</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> Formation to begin these ministries at parish level.
<b>Additional Ministerial Area H: Support for ministry to the Elderly</b>
<b>Strategy #1:</b> Formation to begin these ministries at parish level.

**Appendix 1: Statistical Summary of the V Encuentro Implementation in the Region**

1. Participation of Parishes and Organizations*					
Type of Organization	How many sent teams for training?	How many completed the five sessions?	How many did a Parish or Group Encuentro?	How many sent in their final report?	How many sent delegates to the Diocesan Encuentro?
A. Parishes	13	19	14	12	20
B. Elementary & High Schools					
C. Colleges & Universities					
D. Movements & Organizations			5		
E. Dioceses That Did Not Report	4	4	4	4	4

\* The numbers in the table represent numbers of parishes or organizations, not individual participants.

**2. If any movements or organizations participated, please list them here—even if their members collaborated in their Parish Encuentros instead of doing it on their own.**

Movement of Charismatic Renewal, Koinonia, Cursillo, St. Thomas University

**3. Briefly describe the participants of the five sessions and consultation process.**

- A. Overall no. of participants: 820
- B. No. of youth or young adults: 175
- C. Ethnicities: Hispanic/Latino: X      Black/Afr: \_\_\_\_\_      White/Eur: \_\_\_\_\_  
                                  Native American: \_\_\_\_\_      Asian: \_\_\_\_\_      Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Language Preference: English: 13      Spanish: X  
                                  Both: 57      Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Dioceses that did not provide this information: Duluth, Fargo, and Sioux Falls

**4. Briefly describe the Hispanics/Latinos encountered in the peripheries.**

- A. Who they are:  
                                  How many people were reached overall in the three missionary actions? \_\_\_\_\_  
                                  Young adults: 99      Adults: 535      Families: 260
- B. Locations: (Do not list all—just organize them into categories, and identify the most common.)



# V ENCUENTRO

DISCÍPULOS MISIONEROS: TESTIGOS DEL AMOR DE DIOS  
MISSIONARY DISCIPLES: WITNESSES OF GOD'S LOVE

C. Gender: How many men? 90 How many women? 380

D. Language Pref.: English: \_\_\_\_\_ Spanish: X  
Both: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

E. Religious identity: Catholic: X Non-Catholic: \_\_\_\_\_

F. Countries of origin: (List the top 5, and give an estimate of the percentage for each. It does not have to add up to 100%.)

1. Mexico 60%
2. Guatemala 30%
3. USA (Texas) 20%
4. Salvador 15%
5. Colombia 10%

G. Dioceses that did not provide this information: Duluth, Fargo, and Sioux Fal

## 5. How welcome do Hispanics/Latinos on the periphery feel by the Catholic Church?

Very welcome: 50% Welcome: 10%

Somewhat: 35% Not welcome: 5%

## 6. Parish or Organizational Encuentro participants:

Total male participants: \_\_\_\_\_ Average % over age 30: 70%

Total female participants: \_\_\_\_\_ Average % ages 18-29: 15%

Participated in 5 sessions: 180 Average % under 18: 10%

Part. in some sessions: 175 Average % from movements: %

Invited guests: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of parishes that did not report Parish Encuentro registration data: 6

Number of parishes that did not provide estimates by age or movements: 8

Dioceses that did not provide this information: Bismarck, Duluth, Fargo, Sioux Falls

## 7. Diocesan Encuentro participants:

Total male participants: 240 Average % over age 30: 64%

Total female participants: 350 Average % ages 18-29: 9%

**Total participation:** 597 Average % under 18: 27%

Average % from movements: 80%

Dioceses that did not provide this information: Bismarck, Duluth, Fargo, Sioux Falls



**8. How many potential new leaders have emerged in your (Arch)Diocese, ready to serve the Hispanic/Latino community and our diverse local communities and ministries?**

Dioceses that did not provide this information: Approximately around 300 emerging leaders

Diocese that did not provide this information: Duluth, Fargo, Sioux Falls

**9. Evaluation data:**

Total number of evaluations received: 120

Number of dioceses that did not report Diocesan Encuentro evaluation data: \_\_\_\_\_

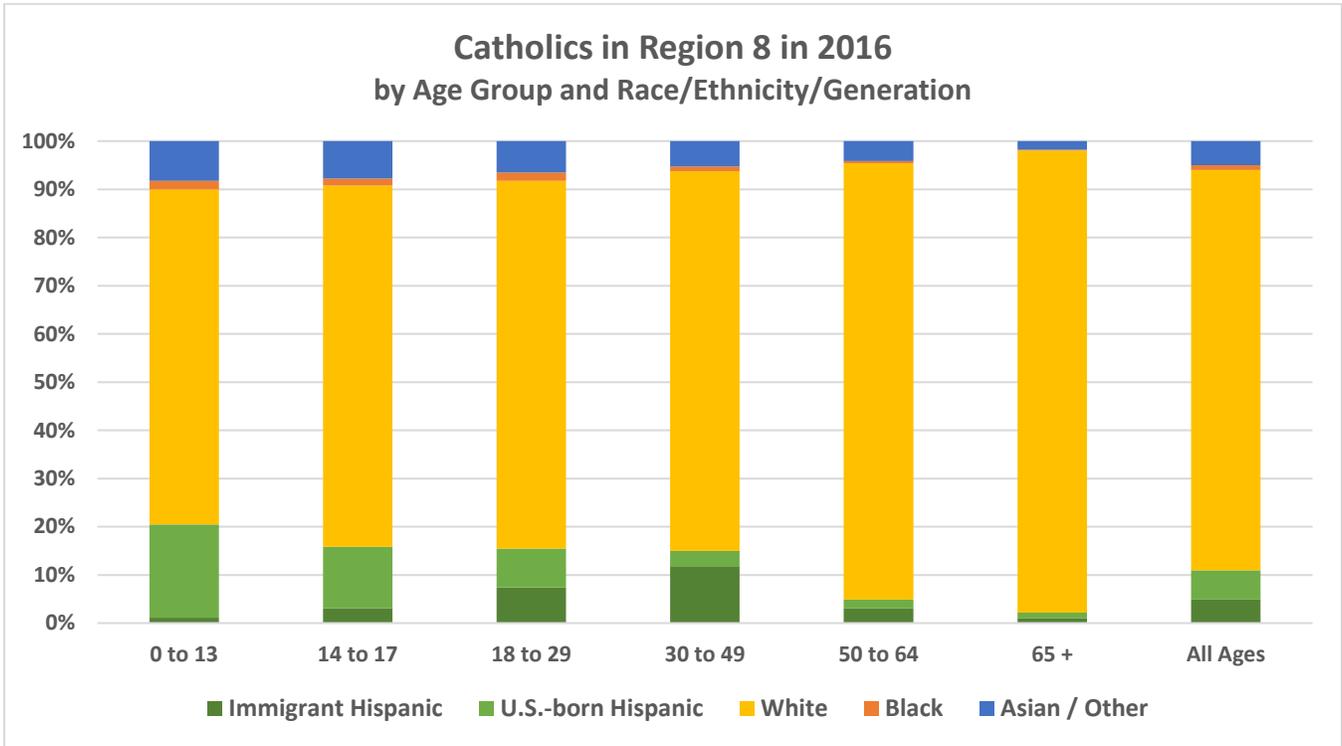
Average ratings from the Evaluations:

Introduction and Opening Prayer	<u>3.8</u>
Moment 1 (Taking the First Step)	<u>3.8</u>
Moment 2 (Getting Involved)	<u>3.8</u>
Moment 3 (Accompanying)	<u>3.8</u>
Moment 4 (Being Fruitful)	<u>3.8</u>
Moment 5 (Celebrating)	<u>3.9</u>
My voice / ideas were respected	<u>3.8</u>
The Diocesan Encuentro met its goals	<u>4</u>

Dioceses that did not provide this information: Duluth, Fargo, Sioux Falls

Highlights and common themes from the "Summary of comments":

## Appendix 2: Key Demographic, Social, and Religious Statistics for the Dioceses of Region 8



Total Population and Catholic Population in Region 8, by Race/Ethnicity					
Racial/Ethnic Groups in the Dioceses of Region 8	Total Population in 2000	Total Population in 2016	% Change	Estimated Catholics in 2016	% Catholic
White	5,590,877	5,803,256	4%	1,369,000	23.6%
Hispanic	162,071	340,423	110%	181,000	53.2%
Black	180,332	432,755	140%	15,500	3.6%
Asian/Other	383,243	566,925	48%	83,000	14.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,316,523</b>	<b>7,143,359</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>1,649,000</b>	<b>23.1%</b>

Hispanic/Latino Population in Region 8, by Diocese					
(Arch)Diocese	Hispanic/Latino Population in 2000	Hispanic/Latino Population in 2016	% Change	Estimated Hispanic Catholics in 2016	% Catholic
Bismarck	2,708	10,699	295%	5,000	46%
Crookston	5,107	7,702	51%	4,000	54%
Duluth	3,467	7,809	125%	3,400	43%
Fargo	5,078	13,671	169%	6,000	43%
New Ulm	9,903	16,678	68%	9,500	56%
Rapid City	4,541	10,872	139%	5,000	47%

(Arch)Diocese	Hispanic/Latino Population in 2000	Hispanic/Latino Population in 2016	% Change	Estimated Hispanic Catholics in 2016	% Catholic
Sioux Falls	6,362	21,377	236%	10,500	49%
St. Cloud	5,740	14,879	159%	7,500	51%
St. Paul & Minneapolis	101,956	199,370	96%	111,000	56%
Winona-Rochester	17,209	37,366	117%	19,500	52%
<b>Total</b>	<b>162,071</b>	<b>340,423</b>	<b>110%</b>	<b>181,000</b>	<b>53.2%</b>

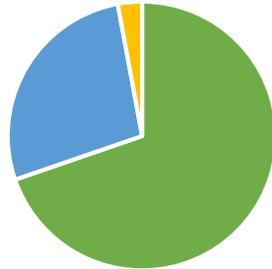
**Note:** Numbers highlighted below in **yellow** are estimates. Data that were not provided are highlighted in **blue**.

Hispanic Ministry in the Parishes and Catholic Schools of Region 8, by Diocese						
(Arch)Diocese	# of Parishes with Hispanic/Latino Ministry	# of Weekly Masses in Spanish	# of Monthly Masses in Spanish	Total Attendance	# of Latino/a Students (K-8)	# of Latino/a Students (high school)
Bismarck	4	1	3	355	47/2,123	13/577
Crookston	2	1	2	255	5/1,310	N/A/89
Duluth	0	0	0	0	24/1,474	0/0
Fargo	2	1	1	155	10/1,783	3/330
New Ulm	7	5	2	710	29/1,524	11/279
Rapid City	1	1	0	80	43/1,012	10/500
Sioux Falls	5	5	3	1,000	134/2,566	21/933
St. Cloud	9	7	2	1,080	121/4,129	37/919
St. Paul & Minneapolis	24	32	0	12,016	1,491/25,244	831/7,633
Winona-Rochester	12	17	1	3,055	82/3,385	4/929
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18,706</b>	<b>1,986/44,550</b>	<b>930/12,189</b>

Number of Hispanic/Latino Ecclesial Ministers in the Dioceses of Region 8						
(Arch)Diocese	Priests			Religious (men and women)	Deacons	Lay Ecclesial Ministers
	Active	Retired	Foreign-born			
Bismarck	0	0	0	4	0	1
Crookston	2	1	3	1	N/A	N/A
Duluth	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fargo	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Ulm	1	0	1	2	0	2
Rapid City	1	0	1	0	1	1
Sioux Falls	1	0	0	11	0	0
St. Cloud	2	0	2	0	1	1
St. Paul & Minneapolis	5	0	5	4	3	36
Winona-Rochester	6	0	6	3	1	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>45</b>

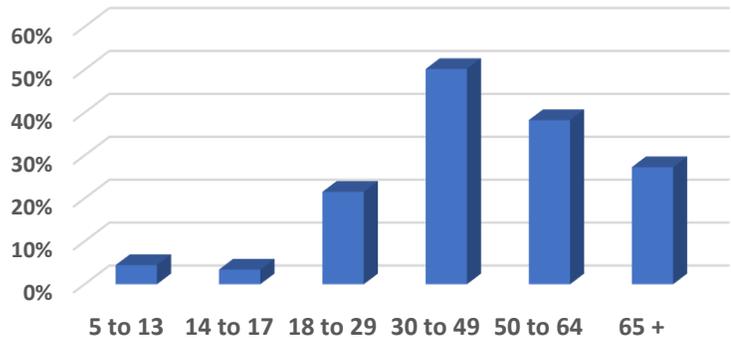
## Public Data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey for the Geographic Territory Covered by the Dioceses of Region 8

**Hispanic/Latino Household Language in 2016**

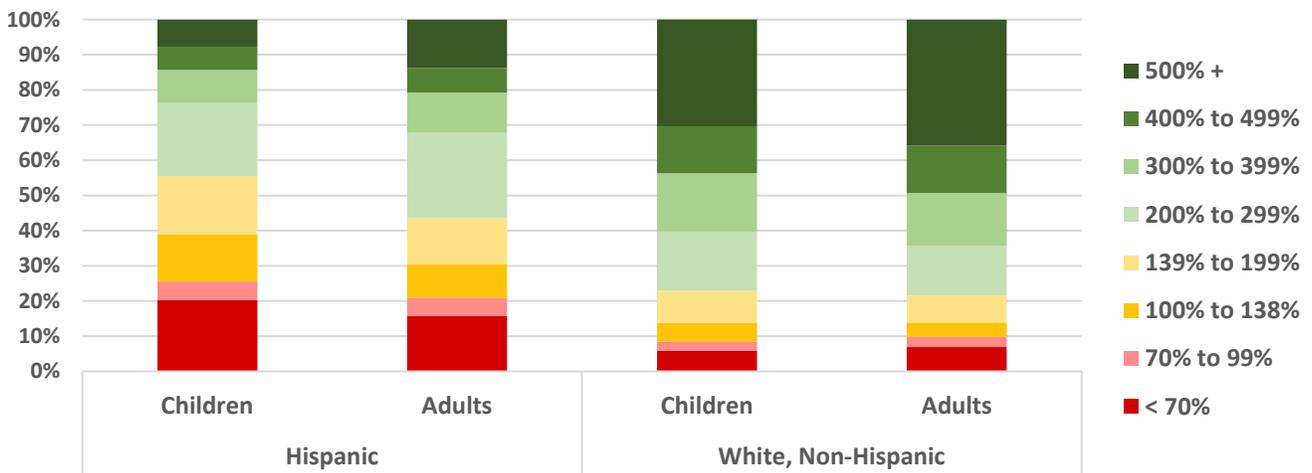


■ Spanish ■ English ■ Other

**Hispanics/Latinos Who Do Not Speak English "Very Well" in 2016, by Age**



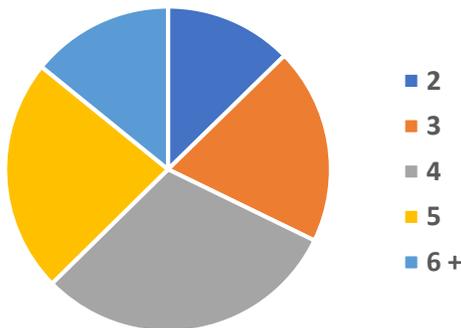
**Household Income as a Percentage of Poverty Level in 2016**



Median Hispanic Household Income: **\$54,000**

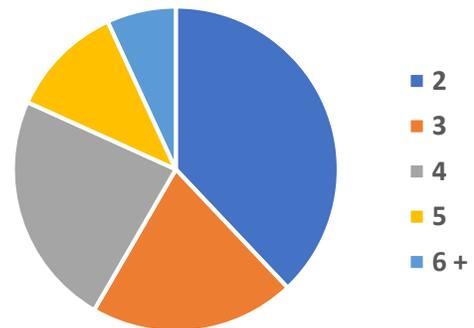
Median White Household Income: **\$81,500**

**Hispanic Family Size in 2016**



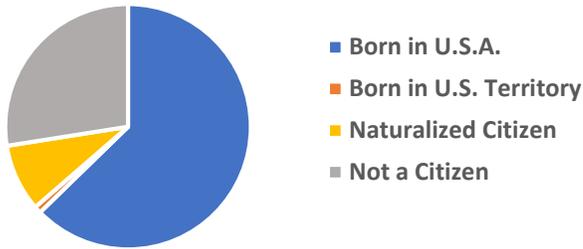
Average Family Size: **4.2**

**White, Non-Hispanic Family Size**

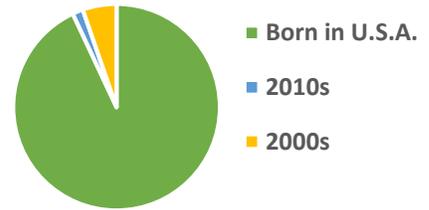


Average Family Size: **3.3**

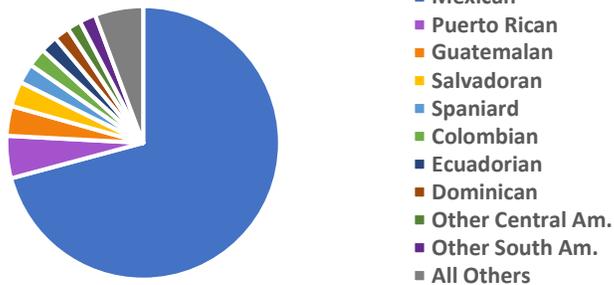
**Citizenship of Hispanic Residents in 2016**



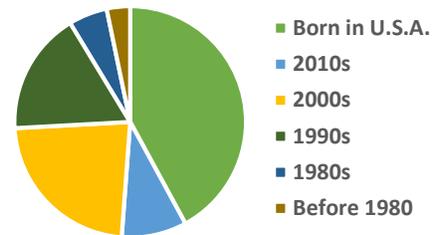
**Decade of Entry for Hispanic Children**



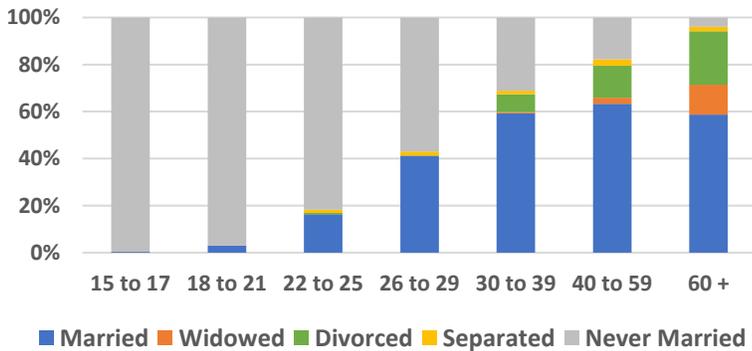
**National Heritage of Hispanic Residents in 2016**



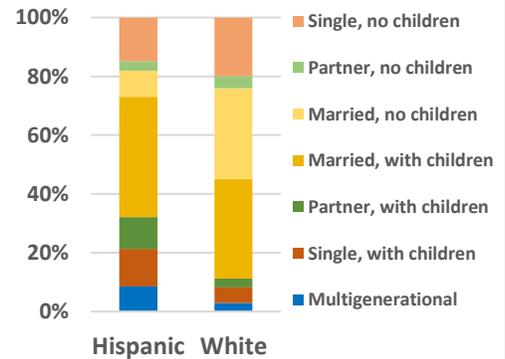
**Decade of Entry for Hispanic Adults**



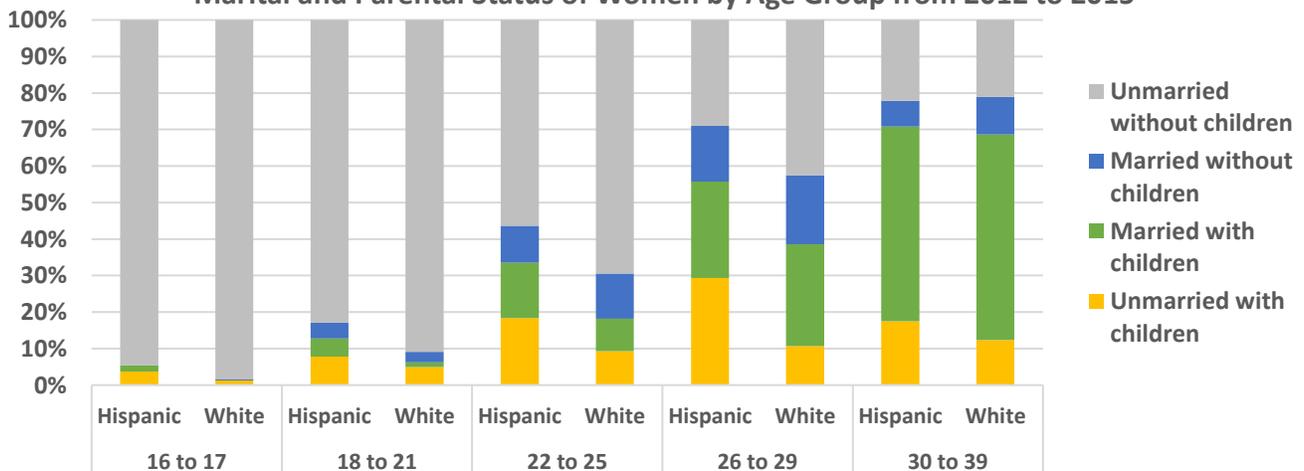
**Hispanic Marital Status by Age in 2016**



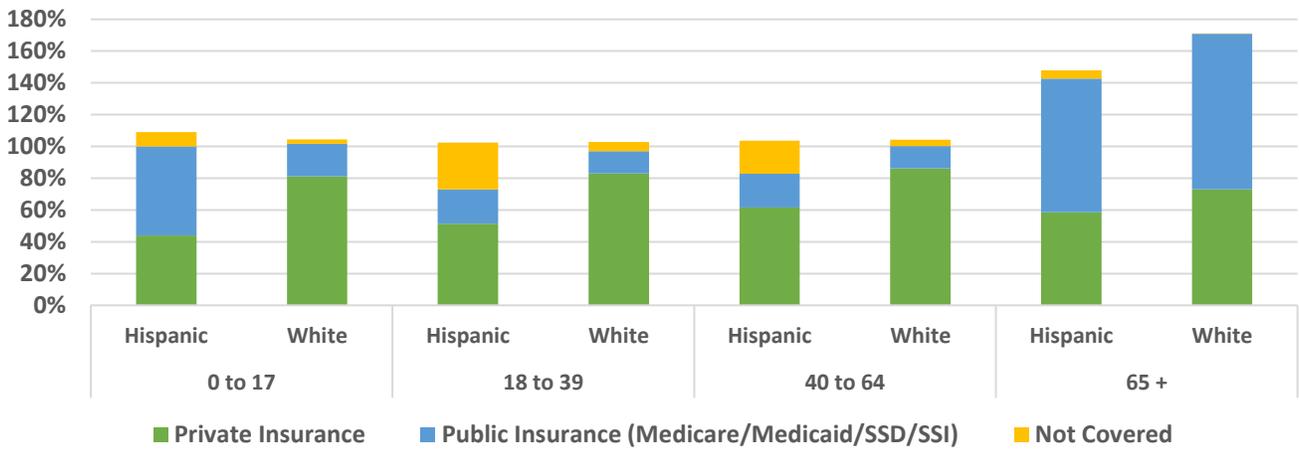
**Household Type, 2012 to 2015**



**Marital and Parental Status of Women by Age Group from 2012 to 2015**

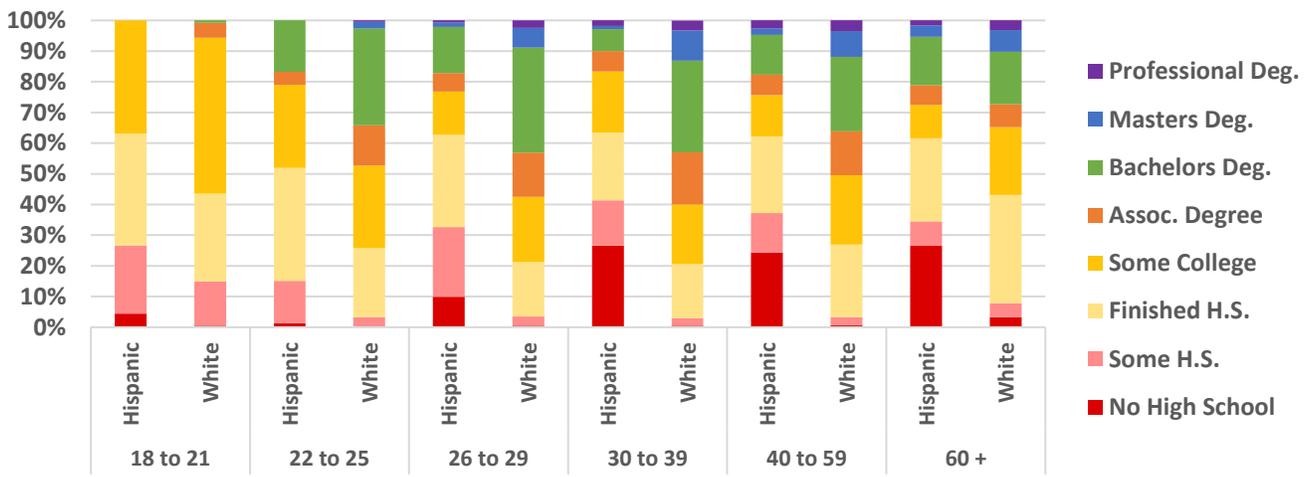


### Health Insurance Coverage by Age Group in 2016\*

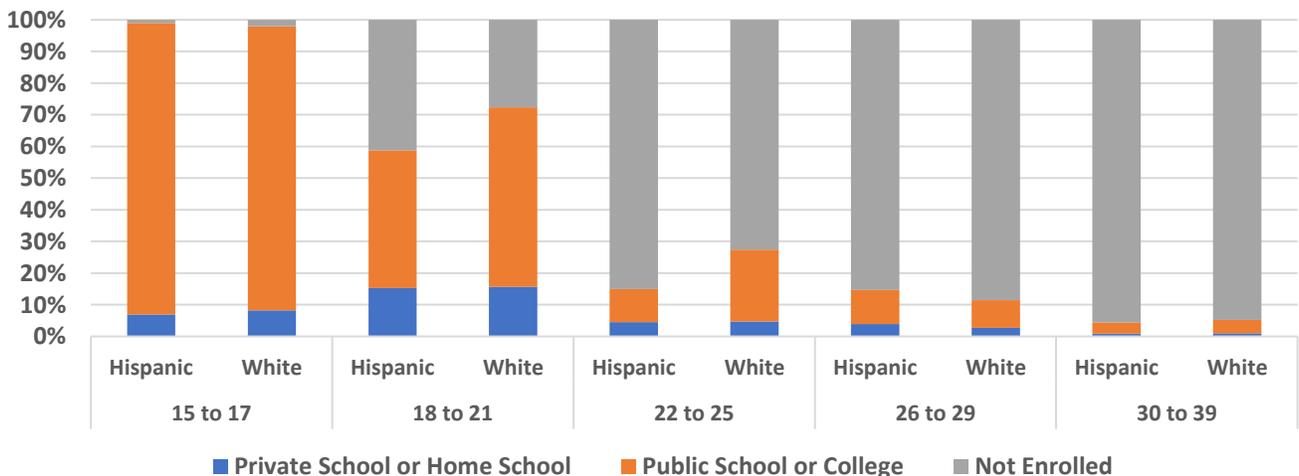


\* Numbers may exceed 100% because some individuals may have a combination of public and private insurance.

### Educational Attainment by Age Group in 2016



### School Enrollment Status by Age Group in 2016



## Download the Mobile App of the V Encuentro



**Visit our website:**

<https://vencuentro.org/>

**Follow us on social media**

Facebook - ENAVE

Twitter & Instagram - @ENAHVE

YouTube - ENAVE