Latinos are Underrepresented in California Government at Every Level

By any measure, Latinos are under-represented in every level of government in California. Without a significant change in the current trend, California’s largest ethnic group will be underrepresented for the foreseeable future.

Poor Latino Communities Do Not Foster Elected Leadership

Poverty has long been one of the key indicators for diminished civic engagement and voter turnout regardless of race and ethnicity. This problem disproportionately affects Latino communities in California and is manifesting itself in alarmingly low voter turnout and rates of representation.

No One Indicator Ensures Latino Prosperity

Each county has unique strengths and challenges and no county scores in the top—or bottom—third across all indicators in the index. For example, top ranking Ventura County is strong in all areas except its high school dropout rate, whereas Yuba County, at the bottom of the Index, struggles in several areas, but has relatively strong homeownership numbers.

Latino Majority Counties Fare Worse Than Their Counterparts

Eleven California counties hold Latino majority populations. These counties hold an average rank of 21 in the index, and only Monterey, Imperial and San Benito figure in the top 10.

See the Full Index at: www.LeadershipCaliforniaInstitute.org