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Study Design

Retaining Hispanics: Lessons From the Hispanic Community Health Study/ Study of Latinos initially submitted July 1, 2019; accepted for publication January 7

Abstract

Objective: To describe the retention of Hispanics/Latinos in the Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos (HCHS/SOL) and to identify factors associated with retention.

Results: Of 16,415 participants enrolled in 2008–2011, 10,415 (63.5%) were retained in 2012–2015. The retention rate was 63.5% (95% CI, 62.5%–64.5%).

In 2016, the US Hispanic/Latino population reached 58 million—18% of the US population (1). Their participation in research is essential to ensure that US population health data accurately reflect their lives and experiences. The Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos (HCHS/SOL) is the most comprehensive study of Hispanic/Latino health in the United States carried out to date (2). HCHS/SOL provides a rare opportunity to understand what motivates Hispanic adults to participate in large prospective cohort studies and the strategies that can be used to successfully promote their retention.

Noting the relative lack of studies pertaining to the recruitment and retention of Hispanics/Latinos, authors of recent systematic reviews have highlighted several common barriers

Table 2. Baseline characteristics of the full sample (2008–2011), the full sample (2014–2015), the full sample (2009–2016), and the PFO subsample (2009–2016).

Characteristic	Full Sample (Visit 1) (n = 16,243)			Persistent Participants (n = 10,706)			PFO Subsample (Visit 2) (n = 5,227)		
	Mean	%	95% CI	Mean	%	95% CI	Mean	%	95% CI
Age (years)	41.0	52.2	51.1, 53.2	43.4	55.5	54.2, 56.7	43.0	53.8	51.9, 55.7
Female			40.5, 41.5			42.8, 43.9			42.2, 43.8

Table 4. ... 2014–2015

Characteristic	Field Center														
	Bronx, New York (= 1,051)			Chicago, Illinois (= 1,372)			Miami, Florida (= 1,385)			San Diego, California (= 1,419)			All Centers (= 5,227)		
	Mean	%	95% CI	Mean	%	95% CI	Mean	%	95% CI	Mean	%	95% CI	Mean	%	95% CI
(A) 1-5	74.6	74.6	70.3, 78.4	78.2	78.2	74.6, 81.3	89.7	89.7	87.0, 91.9	80.8	80.8	76.3, 84.7	81.8	81.8	79.8, 83.6
2	68.9	68.9	68.3, 69.5	72.4	72.4	71.8, 73.0	67.0	67.0	66.4, 67.6	72.0	72.0	71.2, 72.7	69.7	69.7	69.2, 70.1
A 1-5	4.7	4.7	4.5, 5.0	5.1	5.1	4.9, 5.3	3.3	3.3	3.1, 3.5	5.8	5.8	5.4, 6.3	4.6	4.6	4.4, 4.8
A 1-5	87.3	87.3	83.7, 90.2	96.7	96.7	94.9, 97.9	74.3	74.3	70.8, 77.6	97.2	97.2	95.7, 98.2	87.3	87.3	85.4, 89.0
A 1-5	92.0	92.0	89.8, 93.8	97.1	97.1	95.6, 98.1	78.0	78.0	74.7, 81.0	94.3	94.3	92.5, 95.7	88.9	88.9	87.4, 90.2
A 1-5	78.8	78.8	74.9, 82.3	94.0	94.0	92.1, 95.4	45.6	45.6	41.9, 49.3	86.0	86.0	82.5, 88.8	72.4	72.4	69.8, 74.8
A 1-5	66.9	66.9	61.8, 71.6	90.3	90.3	87.1, 92.8	59.5	59.5	56.2, 62.7	75.4	75.4	71.3, 79.1	70.6	70.6	68.5, 72.7
A 1-5	38.0	38.0	33.7, 42.4	48.8	48.8	44.8, 52.9	33.3	33.3	29.2, 37.5	49.1	49.1	44.1, 54.0	41.2	41.2	38.9, 43.5
A 1-5	57.4	57.4	53.3, 61.3	52.1	52.1	48.1, 56.2	72.6	72.6	68.8, 76.0	59.3	59.3	55.6, 62.8	62.0	62.0	59.8, 64.1
A 1-5	50.0	50.0	45.7, 54.2	50.7	50.7	46.9, 54.5	22.8	22.8	19.7, 26.3	38.9	38.9	35.0, 43.0	38.3	38.3	36.1, 40.6
A 1-5	25.1	25.1	21.5, 29.1	20.0	20.0	17.0, 23.3	4.1	4.1	3.1, 5.6	14.0	14.0	11.0, 17.7	14.5	14.5	12.9, 16.3
A 1-5	23.9	23.9	20.1, 28.1	28.5	28.5	25.5, 31.8	12.2	12.2	9.6, 15.3	20.4	20.4	16.8, 24.6	19.9	19.9	18.1, 21.9
A 1-5	15.9	15.9	12.9, 19.5	4.5	4.5	3.2, 6.3	1.6	1.6	0.9, 2.7	8.6	8.6	6.0, 12.2	7.4	7.4	6.3, 8.8
A 1-5	17.8	17.8	14.1, 22.2	24.6	24.6	21.1, 28.4	11.8	11.8	9.2, 15.0	11.8	11.8	8.6, 16.0	15.4	15.4	13.6, 17.3
A 1-5	4.1	4.1	2.6, 6.4	0.2	0.2	0.1, 0.9	0.6	0.6	0.3, 1.1	2.0	2.0	1.1, 3.6	1.7	1.7	1.2, 2.4
A 1-5	2.0	2.0	1.0, 3.8	0.9	0.9	0.4, 2.2	0.7	0.7	0.4, 1.3	1.0	1.0	0.5, 2.1	1.2	1.2	0.8, 1.7

Table continues

Table 5. Associations between characteristics and outcomes among participants in the 2014–2015 survey (A) and the 2009–2016 survey (B). OR, Odds Ratio; CI, Confidence Interval.

Characteristic	Persistent Participation (n = 15,930)		Being Very Motivated (n = 5,227)		Being Very Satisfied (n = 5,227)	
	OR	95% CI	OR	95% CI	OR	95% CI
Age (years)	1.47	1.34, 1.62	1.23	1.00, 1.51	1.44	1.19, 1.75
Gender	1.03	1.03, 1.04	1.01	1.00, 1.02	1.01	1.00, 1.02
Education (years)	1.01	0.78, 1.30	1.20	0.72, 2.01	1.17	0.72, 1.89
Income (A)	0.90	0.70, 1.17	1.46	0.93, 2.29	1.72	1.10, 2.68
Income (B)	0.80	0.60, 1.07	1.48	0.87, 2.52	1.32	0.82, 2.12
Health status	0.96	0.74, 1.25	1.74	1.09, 2.78	2.00	1.24, 3.23
Health insurance (A)	0.93	0.71, 1.20	1.02	0.62, 1.68	0.89	0.58, 1.35
Health insurance (B)	0.94	0.69, 1.30	1.71	0.95, 3.08	1.53	0.81, 2.88
Marital status (A)	1.40	1.12, 1.75	1.37	0.96, 1.94	1.17	0.79, 1.72
Marital status (B)	1.32	1.07, 1.63	1.32	0.96, 1.83	1.56	1.07, 2.29
Number of children (A)	1.25	1.01, 1.54	1.22	0.86, 1.72	1.41	0.99, 2.01
Number of children (B)	1.24	1.11, 1.39	1.07	0.89, 1.28	1.08	0.89, 1.32
Household size (A)	0.98	0.85, 1.14	1.01	0.79, 1.29	0.89	0.69, 1.14
Household size (B)	1.16	1.00, 1.34	1.06	0.82, 1.36	0.97	0.76, 1.23
Annual income (A)	0.97	0.81, 1.17	1.03	0.75, 1.42	0.87	0.63, 1.19
Annual income (B)	1.29	1.14, 1.45	1.04	0.86, 1.24	0.98	0.79, 1.20
Health insurance (A)	1.17	1.05, 1.32	1.11	0.92, 1.33	1.18	0.98, 1.43
Health insurance (B)	1.21	1.03, 1.42	0.99	0.74, 1.32	0.94	0.72, 1.23
Health status (A)	1.10	1.04, 1.17	0.94	0.85, 1.05	0.97	0.88, 1.07
Health status (B)	0.99	0.94, 1.05	0.98	0.88, 1.08	1.02	0.93, 1.13
Health insurance (A)	1.01	0.86, 1.18	0.69	0.51, 0.92	1.08	0.79, 1.48
Health insurance (B)	0.22	0.11, 0.44	1.69	0.50, 5.69	4.77	1.43, 15.86
Number of children (A)	0.92	0.77, 1.10	1.23	0.91, 1.65	0.94	0.69, 1.27
Number of children (B)	2.60	2.30, 2.94	1.16	0.97, 1.40	1.12	0.92, 1.36
Health insurance (A)	0.60	0.46, 0.79	0.69	0.44, 1.09	0.42	0.28, 0.65
Health insurance (B)	1.00	0.82, 1.22	0.70	0.54, 0.91	0.46	0.35, 0.59
Health status (A)	1.53	1.12, 2.10	1.31	0.79, 2.16	1.16	0.74, 1.83

A: n = 15,930; B: n = 5,227. OR, Odds Ratio; CI, Confidence Interval. Health insurance: A, health insurance; B, health insurance. Health status: A, health status; B, health status. Number of children: A, number of children; B, number of children. Household size: A, household size; B, household size. Annual income: A, annual income; B, annual income.

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