

Factsheet

A Spotlight on Challenges facing New York's Latino Community



Housing Hardship

Latinos in New York continue to experience elevated levels of housing discrimination and insecurity, including struggling with making payments while enduring rampant housing quality issues.



New Yorkers (74%), including Latinos (79%), expressed overwhelming support for bills to upgrade public housing access. Similar levels of support seen among New Yorkers (80%) and Latinos (81%) for building more social housing.

	NYS	Latinos Statewide	NYC	Latinos Citywide
Experienced issues with their housing such as delays in making repairs or lack of heat or hot water.	37%	45%	42%	44%
Have had their rents increased.	55%	56%	54%	53%
Behind on their housing payments.	15%	23%	16%	21%
Landlord try to evict them last year.	13%	18%	10%	11%
Experienced housing discrimination.	9%	13%	11%	18%



Economic Hardship

Latinos in New York reported disproportionately high rates of economic hardship, including struggles with putting food on the table and difficulties affording essential household items. Many are forced to reduce spending on necessities, and encounter obstacles in maintaining vital services such as telephone, internet, and utilities due to financial constraints.

	NYS	Latinos Statewide	NYC	Latinos Citywide
Had to either skip meals or receive free food from a pantry or soup kitchen.	22%	28%	24%	31%
Cut back on buying necessary household items	25%	29%	24%	28%
Unable to afford telephone or internet.	10%	13%	9%	12%
Had a utility turned off due to nonpayment.	8%	10%	7%	9%



Financial Insecurity

Latino households in New York were more likely to be financially stressed, continuously worried about making ends meet and having no savings.

✓ The survey also reveals that a higher share of Latinos in New York state (23%) do not have access to traditional banking institutions. Almost two-thirds expressed support for a public bank, exceeding the statewide support at 54%¹.

	NYS	Latinos Statewide	NYC	Latinos Citywide
Worry 'all or most' of the time about making ends meet.	34%	46%	39%	49%
No money in savings.	18%	24%	16%	27%
Lack of access to traditional banking institutions,	14%	23%	16%	25%
Support for cities to create their own public banks.	54%	64%	58%	58%



Transit

- While New York City’s Fair Fares program has been a game-changer for many low-income New Yorkers, including Latinos, the program is yet to achieve its potential with only **35% of eligible Latinos reporting enrollment in the program.**
- Across the state, **10% of New Yorkers, and 15% of Latinos reported struggling to afford transportation,** including unable to keep with public transit costs, car upkeep costs and making lease payments on vehicles.
- Even among moderate income Latino households², one-in-five reported unable to afford transportation.



Health Hardship

Two-thirds of Latino New Yorkers reported experiencing health hardship, a slightly higher share than the statewide rate of 62%.

	NYS	Latinos Statewide	NYC	Latinos Citywide
Have experienced healthcare hardship in the past year, including:	62%	66%		
Not filling, or only partially filling, prescriptions	5%	6%		
Delayed medical care	8%	8%		
Not having health insurance	7%	10%		
Believe the state should fund a program to help New Yorkers understand their health insurance and resolve bills.	69%	70%	73%	74%



Work

Latino workers faced slightly higher rates of workplace discrimination, and many reported they had to miss work due to childcare responsibilities. Access to benefits like paid family leave was also less prevalent among Latinos in both New York State and New York City.

	NYS	Latinos Statewide	NYC	Latinos Citywide
Experienced workplace discrimination.	16%	19%	16%	17%
Forgone work in some way due to childcare responsibilities (with children under 14)	48%	47%	48%	46%
Paid family leave to care for a new baby or seriously ill family member	24%	22%	23%	15%

Endnotes

- 1 The New York Public Banking Act would empower localities to form local, democratically governed public banks, which would partner with mission driven financial institutions to expand their services to marginalized communities across the state.
- 2 Moderate income households have resources between 200 and 300% of the Federal Poverty Line (FPL). The FPL for a 2-adult, 2-children family in 2024 is \$31,200.

About the Survey

The 2024 CSS Annual Survey of Housing and Economic Security was conducted of 4,789 New York state adult residents reached by online panel, cell phones, landlines, text to online, digital targeting, and in-person intercepts from August 16th through October 17th, 2024. It was designed by Community Service Society in collaboration with Seven Letter Insight. Interviews were conducted in English, Spanish, Chinese, Haitian Creole, and Russian. Oversamples of low-income residents, public housing residents and residents of New York City, Long Island, Buffalo, Albany, Yonkers, and Syracuse were also conducted.

The margin of error for the entire survey is +/- 1.42 percent, at the 95% confidence interval. The margin of error among those making Under 200% of the FPL statewide is +/- 2.53 percent at the 95% confidence interval. The margin of error within New York City is +/- 1.96 percent at the 95% confidence interval. The margin of error outside New York City is +/- 1.96 percent at the 95% confidence interval.

