

THE MASSACHUSETTS FUNDING GAP ACROSS DISTRICTS

THE CHALLENGE

Latino students in MA are receiving much less funding than they deserve.

WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

Only 30%

of Latino 3rd graders are reading at grade level

Only 44%

of 3 and 4 year old Latinos are enrolled in preschool

Only 33%

of Latino high school students score at the college-ready level on the SAT

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?

The state unevenly distributes funds across districts. Some earn more per student than others.

Massachusetts boasts having the highest quality of education of any state in the country. Why, then, are Latino students not performing as well as they should be? If we are number one in the USA, then our Latino students should also be succeeding at high rates, too.

We need to ensure our lawmakers distribute funds equitably across all school districts in Massachusetts. Right now, school districts in wealthier communities are receiving more money per student than school districts in lower-income and middle class areas.

This disparity negatively impacts Latino students. Latino students are more likely to attend schools that receive less funding, meaning there are fewer resources and support systems for our students to succeed.

English Language Learners (ELL)



Our students are more likely to be bilingual, but sometimes this means they need extra support to be proficient in both languages. ELL students are more likely to have larger class sizes, with the average 75:1 student-teacher ratio in the state.

Graduation and College Readiness



Latino families know the value of an education. Attending a university is a goal many parents have for their children. But, 1 out of 7 Latino students are dropping out of high school. Also, Latino students are less likely to be adequately prepared for college.

Secure Funding for Quality Support Services



We need to ensure we have funds allocated for support services that work for our students such as counseling, tutoring, and other community-based approaches.

TAKE ACTION

Write a letter to the Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Education to voice your concerns. Share your story and your ideas about what should be considered when creating an equitable funding formula. You can download and use this template.

Letters should be sent to both Jason.Lewis@masenate.gov and Alice.Peischema@house.gov