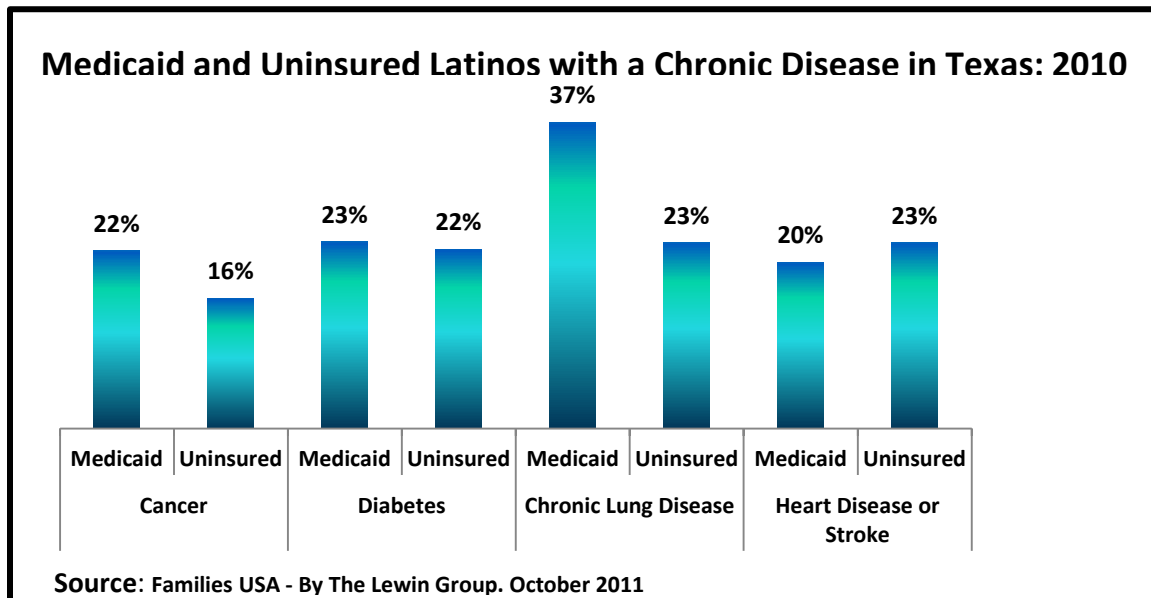


MEDICAID AND MEDICARE CUTS: LATINO HEALTH WILL WILL WORSEN AS HEALTHCARE LIFELINES CUT

Latinos were among the hardest hit by the current recession¹, and state-level fiscal crisis response may further widen income inequality² – lower incomes and losing their homes, and further limiting their access to health insurance. Sixty (60) percent of all uninsured Texan’s is Latino. The Super Budget Deficit Committee or other congressional proposals to cut Medicaid and Medicare will only:

- Increase Poor Health And Costs, Particularly Among Individuals With A Chronic Health Disease (Cancer, Diabetes, Heart/Stroke, And Lung Disease)
- Increase children health risks and Put Limits On Their Future Opportunities
- Damage the preventive primary care safety net of community health centers
- Increase Health Care Inequalities
- Shifts Health Care Costs—It Doesn’t Reduce Them
- Increase Lost Worker Productivity
- Push Families Into Debt and Hurt Communities Economies

Numerous reports indicate the value of Medicaid and Medicare in providing health care access and improving health at lower costs.³ Funding cuts will have devastating poor health consequences and higher costs impacts for thousands of Texans with disabilities, seniors, and children. Latinos with chronic disease will experience even greater health and life-threatening risks from the cuts.



¹ Wealth Gap Rise To Record High Between Whites, and Blacks and Hispanics, PEW Research Center, July 2011; and Toll of the Great Recession: Childhood Poverty Among Hispanics Sets Record, Leads Nation, PEW Hispanic Center, September 28, 2011.

² How the State Fiscal Crisis Efforts May Widen Racial/Ethnic Income Inequality, National Council de la Raza, Economic Snapshot, 2009.

³ The Oregon Health Insurance Experiment: Evidence From The First Year, National Bureau of Economic Research, July 2011; and Medicaid Beneficiaries and Access to Care, Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, April 2010.