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Latino Policy Forum and the Brookings Institution Release Report Exploring the Latino Wealth Gap

Chicago, October 25, 2023 — Yesterday, the Latino Policy Forum, in partnership with the Brookings Institution, released [*Closing the Latino wealth gap: Exploring regional differences and lived experiences*](#), a report that explores Latino wealth in six different states, Illinois, California, Florida, North Carolina, Texas, and New York, and puts a spotlight on the experiences of Latinos who describe their aspirations and challenges to building wealth.

Among other insights, the report found that in comparison to the other six states, Illinois had the smallest wealth gap between Latino and White households, with White households holding 1.9 times the wealth of Latino households.

“Illinois is a welcoming state and Chicago is a welcoming city, and local policies have helped improve access to higher education for Latino students and have provided housing assistance to people who are not citizens or who are undocumented,” said **Sylvia Puente, President and CEO of the Latino Policy Forum**. “That’s not to say that there still isn’t work to be done or that Latinos in Illinois don’t face significant barriers to building wealth, but these local differences help begin to explain how the local policy environment can contribute to a more equitable society.”

The Brookings Institution hosted a panel with Tonantzin Carmona, David M. Rubenstein Fellow at Brookings Metro, Noel Poyo, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community Economic Development, U.S. Department of Treasury, Joe Scantlebury, President and Chief Executive Officer, Living Cities, and Sylvia Puente of the Latino Policy Forum.

To watch the panel discussion, click [HERE](#).

To read the report, click [HERE](#).

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About the Latino Policy Forum

The Latino Policy Forum is the only organization in the Chicago area that facilitates the involvement of Latinos at all levels of public decision-making. The Forum conducts analysis to inform, influence and lead. Its goals are to improve education outcomes, advocate for affordable housing, promote just immigration policies, and engage diverse sectors of the community, with an understanding that advancing Latinos advances a shared future. For more information, visit www.latinopolicyforum.org.