Access to Healthcare and Outcomes along the U.S.-Mexico Border

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Background & Rationale
Hispanic immigrants in the border region

Half of the population on the U.S. side in the border region are Hispanic[1]

Differences in health between Hispanics and non-Hispanic whites are mixed, but some disparities in socio-economic factors and health conditions (particularly pronounced in the borderlands)

- Hypertension, diabetes, tuberculosis, cervical cancer, work-related injuries[2-5]
- Health insurance, income, utilization of health care services[6-9]

Immigrants without citizenship more likely to be poor, have greater difficulty accessing health insurance and public assistance, due to residency requirements, language difficulties, unfamiliarity with the system, or immigration-related concerns[9-14]

With length of U.S. residence, better access to care but worsening of health and health behaviors[15,16]

Research Question & Learning Objectives (LO)

What is the relationship between socio-economic factors and access to health care and health outcomes among Hispanics in the U.S.–Mexico border region and how do associations vary by residence status and level of acculturation?

LO1: Identify associations between socio-economic factors, health outcomes and health care utilization

LO2: Examine impact of residence status and level of acculturation on health outcomes and health care utilization
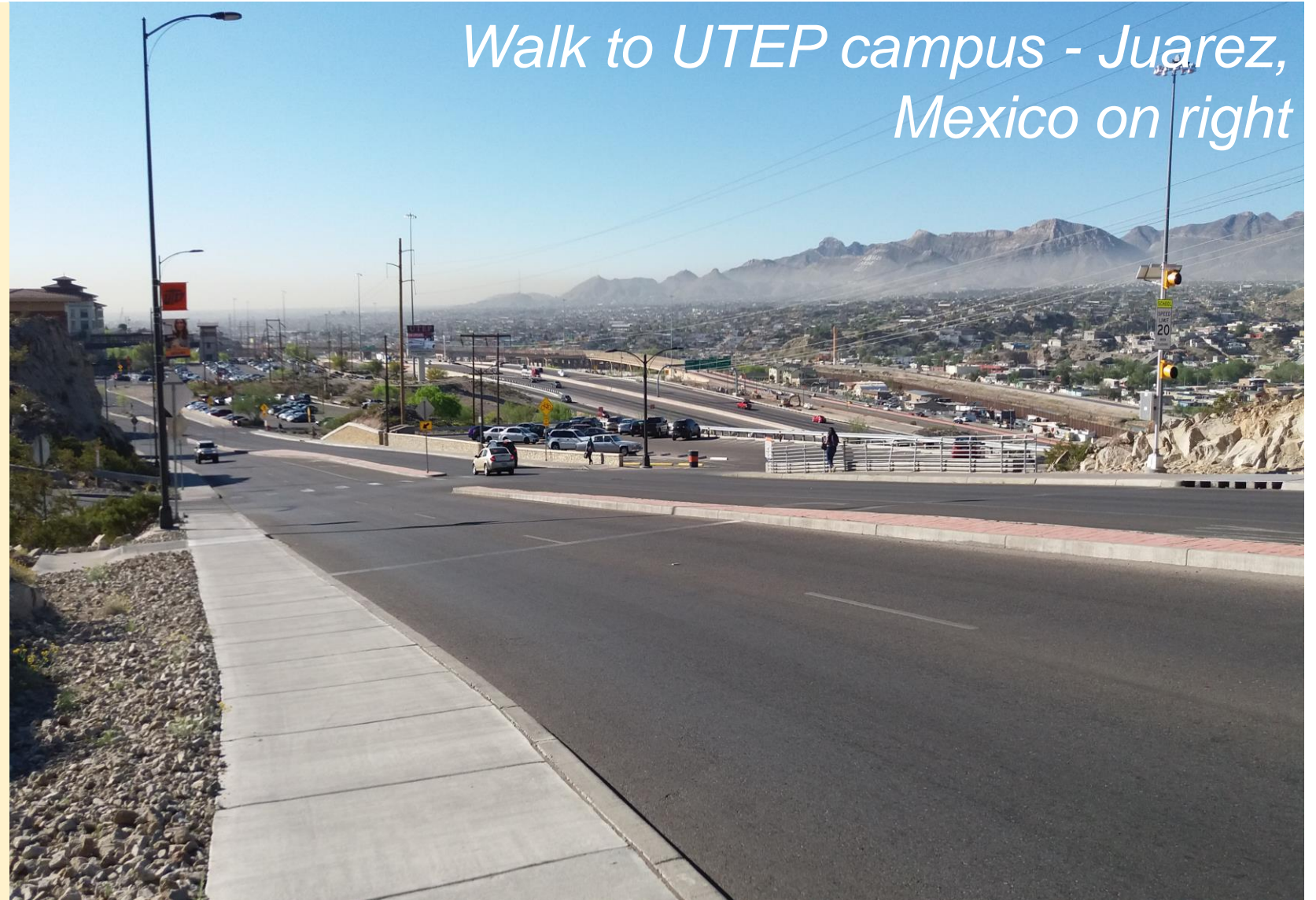
Methodology: Secondary analysis of 2 studies

1. Hispanic Health Disparities Research Center Data (HHDRC Data)
2. Evidence-based Screening Program for Obesity, Cardiorespiratory Disease, & Environmental Exposures in Low-income El Paso Households Data (Screening Program Data)

Overview of Study Methodologies

	HHDRC Data	Screening Program Data
Location	El Paso County, Texas	El Paso County, Texas
Design	Cross-sectional quantitative bilingual survey	Cross-sectional quantitative bilingual survey
Study population	N=1002, aged 18+, self-identified as Hispanic	N=1678, aged 18+, self-identified as Hispanic, uninsured
Timing of data collection	2009-2010	2015-2017

Study I

Hispanic Health Disparities Research Center Data, 2009-2010

Walk to UTEP campus - Juarez, Mexico on right

Study I
Statistical analysis

Descriptive statistics and bivariate associations
- *Outcome variables*: Health and health care utilization
- *Independent variables*: Socio-economic and residence/acculturation

Stepwise multiple logistic regression
- *Model I*: Socio-economic
- *Model II*: Socio-economic and residence/acculturation
- *Control variables: sex, age, marital status*
- *Regression diagnostics*: Overall p-value and p-value for improvement of model fit by adding residence/acculturation variables in model II

Separate analysis (*descriptive & bivariate*): Among respondents who provided information on whether they are a legal permanent/ temporary U.S. resident

Study I
Outcome variables

Variable	Coding	*Corresponding survey question/variable label*
Physical health problems	No=0 Yes, any=1	*Have you ever been told by a health care provider that you have: diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, asthma, heart attack/ stroke, cancer, kidney disease, colitis/chronic bowel disease...?*
Mental health problems	No=0 Yes, either=1	*Have you ever been told by a health care provider that you have depression or anxiety?*
Regular source of care	No=0 Yes=1	*In general, when you become ill or want advice about your health, is there one person or place where you go most of the time?*
Medical checks	No=0 Yes, all=1	*Have you had your blood pressure, blood sugar, and cholesterol checked in last 3 years?*
Mexico for care	Never/do not go there=0 Often/ sometimes=1	*In the past 3 years, have you gone to Mexico for medical care?*
Mexico for medications		*In the past 3 years, have you gone to Mexico for pharmaceutical medicine?*

Study I
Independent variables

Variable	Coding/ Units (Range)	*Corresponding survey question/variable label*
Household income	<$20,000=0 >=$20,000=1	*What is your approximate household income?*
Receipt of government assistance	No=0 Yes=1	*Do you receive Lone Star, Temporary Aid to Needy Families, or other public assistance?*
Health insurance status	No=0, Yes=1	*Do you have health insurance?*
Economic concerns	No=0 Yes=1	*In the past 3 years, have economic concerns kept you from seeking health care within the U.S.?*
Place of birth	0=Mexico, 1=U.S.	*In which country were your born?*
Length of U.S. residence	Years (87)	*How many years have you lived in the U.S.?*
Languages spoken	Only/mostly Spanish=0 Bilingual=1 Only/mostly English=2	*In general, what language(s) do you speak?*

Study I: Descriptive statistics among Hispanics in El Paso (N=1,002)

Variable	N	Freq (%) | Mean (SD)
Physical health problems	1002	518 (51.7%)
Mental health problems	1002	155 (15.5%)
No regular source of care	981	254 (25.9%)
No blood pressure/sugar/cholesterol checks in past 3 years	962	658 (68.4%)
Often/sometimes went to Mexico for care in past 3 years	979	226 (23.1%)
Often/sometimes went to Mexico for drugs in past 3 years	924	245 (26.5%)
Household income <$20,000	905	400 (44.2%)
No receipt of government assistance	932	714 (76.6%)
No health insurance	986	386 (39.1%)
Did not seek care in U.S. due to economic concerns in past 3 years	993	307 (30.9%)
Born in Mexico	992	427 (43.0%)
Length of U.S. residence	983	34.2 (17.9)
Only/mostly Spanish speaking	984	374 (38.0%)
Female gender	1000	657 (65.7%)
Age (in years)	980	45.7 (16.9)

Study I: Bivariate associations between health, health care utilization, socio-economic and residedency/acculturation variables among El Paso county (N=1,002)

	Physical health problems		p-value (<.05*)	Mental health problems		p-value (<.05*)	Regular source of care		p-value (<.05*)	3 Medical checks in past 3 years		p-value (<.05*)	Mexico for care in past 3 years		p-value (<.05*)	Mexico for meds in past 3 years		p-value (<.05*)
	No	Yes		No	Yes		No	Yes		No	Yes		No	Often/sometimes		No	Often/sometimes	
Household Income																		
<$20,000	174 (43.5%)	226 (56.5%)	.012*	328 (82.0%)	72 (18.0%)	0.149	112 (28.6%)	280 (71.4%)	0.079	136 (35.1%)	251 (64.9%)	.012*	286 (72.8%)	107 (27.2%)	.007*	259 (69.4%)	114 (30.6%)	.026*
>=$20,000	262 (51.9%)	243 (48.1%)		432 (85.5%)	73 (14.5%)		116 (23.4%)	380 (76.6%)		133 (27.3%)	355 (72.7%)		396 (80.5%)	96 (19.5%)		357 (76.3%)	111 (23.7%)	
Receipt of government assistance																		
No	342 (47.9%)	372 (52.1%)	0.945	608 (85.2%)	106 (14.8%)	0.085	185 (26.4%)	517 (73.6%)	0.481	213 (30.7%)	480 (69.3%)	0.428	535 (76.3%)	166 (23.7%)	0.969	483 (73.0%)	179 (27.0%)	0.873
Yes	105 (48.2%)	113 (51.8%)		175 (80.3%)	43 (19.7%)		51 (23.9%)	162 (76.1%)		69 (33.7%)	136 (66.3%)		160 (76.2%)	50 (23.8%)		150 (73.5%)	54 (26.5%)	
Health insurance status																		
No	247 (64.0%)	139 (36.0%)	<.001*	344 (89.1%)	42 (10.9%)	.001*	163 (42.8%)	218 (57.2%)	<.001*	184 (49.7%)	186 (50.3%)	<.001*	226 (60.4%)	148 (39.6%)	<.001*	200 (56.2%)	156 (43.8%)	<.001*
Yes	229 (38.2%)	371 (61.8%)		488 (81.3%)	112 (18.7%)		86 (14.7%)	500 (85.3%)		116 (20.0%)	463 (80.0%)		517 (87.5%)	74 (12.5%)		470 (84.7%)	85 (15.3%)	
Did not seek care in U.S. due to economic concerns in past 3 years																		
No	324 (47.2%)	362 (52.8%)	0.393	596 (86.9%)	90 (13.1%)	.003*	151 (22.3%)	525 (77.7%)	<.001*	177 (26.9%)	482 (73.1%)	<.001*	575 (84.9%)	102 (15.1%)	<.001*	528 (82.1%)	115 (17.9%)	<.001*
Yes	154 (50.2%)	153 (49.8%)		244 (79.5%)	63 (20.5%)		101 (33.8%)	198 (66.2%)		123 (41.6%)	173 (58.4%)		174 (59.0%)	121 (41.0%)		147 (53.6%)	127 (46.4%)	
Place of birth																		
Mexico	180 (42.2%)	247 (57.8%)	.001*	353 (82.7%)	74 (17.3%)	0.172	107 (25.5%)	312 (74.5%)	0.872	107 (26.2%)	301 (73.8%)	.002*	269 (65.1%)	144 (34.9%)	<.001*	243 (61.5%)	152 (38.5%)	<.001*
U.S.	299 (52.9%)	266 (47.1%)		485 (85.8%)	80 (14.2%)		144 (26.0%)	410 (74.0%)		196 (35.8%)	351 (64.2%)		479 (85.8%)	79 (14.2%)		432 (82.8%)	90 (17.2%)	
Length of U.S. residency *(years)*																		
Mean (SD)	28.3 (14.5)	39.7 (19.0)	<.001*	33.7 (17.8)	36.6 (18.1)	0.064	26.2 (13.6)	36.9 (18.5)	<.001*	26.4 (13.5)	37.9 (18.5)	<.001*	37.3 (17.8)	24.2 (14.4)	<.001*	37.2 (17.9)	25.0 (15.0)	<.001*
Languages spoken																		
Only/mostly Spanish	143 (38.2%)	231 (61.8%)	<.001*	304 (81.3%)	70 (18.7%)	0.098	97 (26.4%)	271 (73.6%)	0.31	92 (25.7%)	266 (74.3%)	<.001*	223 (61.4%)	140 (38.6%)	<.001*	206 (59.2%)	142 (40.8%)	<.001*
Bilingual	171 (53.1%)	151 (46.9%)		275 (85.4%)	47 (14.6%)		73 (23.2%)	242 (76.8%)		95 (30.3%)	219 (69.7%)		250 (79.1%)	66 (20.9%)		224 (74.4%)	77 (25.6%)	
Only/mostly English	161 (55.9%)	127 (44.1%)		251 (87.2%)	37 (12.8%)		81 (28.6%)	202 (71.4%)		111 (40.2%)	165 (59.8%)		266 (93.7%)	18 (6.3%)		241 (91.3%)	23 (8.7%)	

Study I: Factors independently associated with health outcomes and health care utilization using Multiple Logistic Regression, adjusting for sex, age and marital status, among Hispanic residents in El Paso county (*N=1,002*)

Independent Variables	Physical health problems		Mental health problems		No regular source of care		No 3 medical checks		Mexico for care		Mexico for medication	
	OR (95% CI)		OR (95% CI)		OR (95% CI)		OR (95% CI)		OR (95% CI)		OR (95% CI)	
	Model 1	Model 2	Model 1	Model 2	Model 1	Model 2	Model 1	Model 2	Model 1	Model 2	Model 1	Model 2
Income <$20,000	1.4 (1.0, 2.1)	1.4 (1.0, 2.1)	1.0 (0.6, 1.5)	0.9 (0.6, 1.4)	1.3 (0.9, 1.9)	1.2 (0.8, 1.8)	1.4 (1.0, 2.1)	1.4 (1.0, 2.2)	1.2 (0.8, 1.8)	0.8 (0.5, 1.3)	1.1 (0.8, 1.7)	0.8 (0.6, 1.3)
No government assistance	1.0 (0.7, 1.6)	1.1 (0.7, 1.6)	0.8 (0.5, 1.3)	0.8 (0.5, 1.3)	*2.1* (1.3, 3.3)*	*2.1* (1.3, 3.3)*	1.4 (0.8, 2.2)	1.4 (0.9, 2.2)	*1.6* (1.0, 2.6)*	*1.8* (1.1, 3.0)*	*1.8* (1.1, 2.8)*	*1.9* (1.2, 3.1)*
No insurance	*0.4* (0.3, 0.6)*	*0.4* (0.3, 0.6)*	*0.4* (0.2, 0.6)*	*0.4* (0.2, 0.6)*	*3.4* (2.3, 5.1)*	*3.3* (2.2, 5.0)*	*2.5* (1.7, 3.8)*	*2.7* (1.8, 4.0)*	*3.3* (2.2, 5.0)*	*2.2* (1.4, 3.4)*	*3.1* (2.1, 4.7)*	*2.2* (1.4, 3.3)*
Economic concerns	*1.7* (1.2, 2.6)*	*1.8* (1.2, 2.6)*	*2.7* (1.7, 4.2)*	*2.7* (1.7, 4.4)*	1.2 (0.8, 1.8)	1.2 (0.8, 1.7)	1.2 (0.8, 1.8)	1.2 (0.8, 1.8)	*2.7* (1.8, 4.0)*	*3.0* (2.0, 4.6)*	*2.6* (1.8, 3.9)*	*2.8* (1.8, 4.2)*
Born in Mexico	--	1.0 (0.6, 1.6)	--	0.7 (0.4, 1.3)	--	1.1 (0.6, 1.9)	--	1.0 (0.6, 1.7)	--	0.8 (0.4, 1.4)	--	0.9 (0.5, 1.6)
Length U.S. residence	--	1.0 (1.0, 1.1)	--	1.0 (1.0, 1.1)	--	1.0 (0.9, 1.0)	--	1.0 (0.9, 1.0)	--	*0.9* (0.9, 0.9)*	--	*0.9* (0.9, 0.9)*
Only/mostly Spanish speaking	--	*2.0* (1.1, 3.6)*	--	1.9 (1.0, 4.0)	--	0.8 (0.4, 1.5)	--	0.8 (0.4, 1.6)	--	*7.0* (3.2, 15.5)*	--	*4.8* (2.3, 10.0)*
Bilingual	--	1.2 (0.8, 1.9)	--	1.2 (0.7, 2.1)	--	*0.6* (0.4, 0.9)*	--	*0.6* (0.4, 1.0)*	--	*4.5* (2.3, 8.7)*	--	*3.7* (2.0, 6.7)*
% correctly predicted	71.4%	71.4%	83.9%	83.8%	75.7%	76.3%	76.6%	76.3%	76.9%	80.2%	74.1%	77.3%
Overall p/ p change	*<.001**	0.214	*<.001**	0.426	*<.001**	0.126	*<.001**	0.326	*<.001**	*<.001**	*<.001**	*<.001**

Adjusted for age, sex, marital status; p*<0.05

Study I: Among respondents born outside the U.S. (*N=427*) who provided information on whether they are a legal permanent/temporary U.S. resident (*N=351*)

Variable	Coding	Survey question/label	N	Freq (%)
USLegalResident	Yes=0 No=1	Are you a U.S. legal permanent resident?/Do you have temporary residence status in the U.S.?	*311* *40*	88.6% 11.4%

	Income <$20,000	No government assistance	No health insurance	Did not seek care due to economic concerns
Legal status	167 (58.2%)	206 (70.1%)	147 (47.6%)	119 (38.8%)
No legal status	26 (78.8%)	25 (62.5%)	32 (80.0%)	19 (47.5%)
Chi-square p-value	*0.022**	.331	*<.001**	.288

	Physical health problems	Mental health problems	No regular source of care	No 3 medical checks	Mexico for care often/sometimes	Mexico for meds often/sometimes
Legal status	183 (58.8%)	60 (19.3%)	74 (24.2%)	72 (23.8%)	105 (34.8%)	113 (38.2%)
No legal status	15 (37.5%)	5 (12.5%)	17 (43.6%)	16 (44.4%)	16 (41.0%)	16 (44.4%)
Chi-square p-value	*0.010**	.298	*0.010**	*0.008**	.442	.466

Study II

Evidence-based screening Program Data, 2015 - 2017

Chamizal National Park, El Paso, across from Juarez

Study II
Statistical analysis

Descriptive statistics and bivariate associations
- *Outcome variables*: Health, health care utilization
- *Independent variables*: Socio-economic factors and residence/acculturation

Stepwise multiple logistic regression
- *Model I*: Socio-economic factors
- *Model II*: Socio-economic factors and residence/acculturation
- *Regression diagnostics*: Overall p-value and p-value for additional explanation of variance in outcomes between Model I and II

Control variables (*for both models*)
- Sex, age, marital status, education

Study II
Outcome variables

Variable	Coding	*Corresponding survey question/variable label*
Self-rated health	Excellent/ very good/ good=0 Fair/poor=1	*In general, would you say your health is…*
Medical checkup in past 12 months	Yes=0 No=1	*Have you had a medical checkup in the past 12 months?*
Ever been diagnosed with high blood pressure (BP)	No=0 Yes=1	*Have you ever been told by a health professional that you have high blood pressure?*
Among those diagnosed with high BP, ever received treatment	Yes=0 No=1	*If yes, did you receive treatment for your high blood pressure?*
Among women, received mammogram in past 2 years and/or cervical cancer screening in past 3 years	Yes, either/both=0 No=1	*If you are female, have you had a mammogram in the past 2 years/cervical cancer screening in the past 3 years?*

Study II
Independent variables

Variable	Coding/ Units (Range)	*Corresponding survey question/variable label*
Household income	<$20,000=0 >=$20,000=1	*What is your yearly household income in US dollars?*
Receipt of government assistance	No=0 Yes=1	*In the past 12 months, has anyone in your household received any governmental assistance? (SNAP/Food stamps, Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) benefits…)*
Whether any household member has a form of health insurance	No=0 Yes=1	*Does any member of your household currently have any form of health insurance?*
Place of birth	Mexico/other=0 U.S.=1	*Birth place*
Length of U.S. residence	Years (86)	*How many years have you been living in the USA?*
Languages spoken at home	Spanish=0 English/both=1	*What language(s) do you usually speak in your home?*

Study II: Descriptive statistics among uninsured Hispanics in El Paso (*N=1,678*)

Variable	N	Freq (%) | *Mean* (SD)
Fair/poor self-rated health	1667	658 (39.5%)
No medical checkup in past 12 months	1665	1030 (61.9%)
Ever been diagnosed with high blood pressure (BP)	1671	549 (32.9%)
Among diagnosed, ever received treatment for high BP	535	197 (36.8%)
Among women, received mammogram/cervical cancer screening	1327	527 (39.7%)
Household income <$20,000	1636	1324 (80.9%)
No receipt of government assistance	1671	893 (53.4%)
No household member has a form of health insurance	1663	932 (56.0%)
Born outside the U.S. (Mexico/other)	1642	1345 (81.9%)
Only Spanish spoken at home	1673	1234 (73.8%)
Length of U.S. residency	1652	19.4 (14.4)
Female gender	1678	1381 (82.3%)
Age	1678	46.2 (13.1)
Highest level of education below high school diploma	1647	964 (58.5%)

Study II: Bivariate associations between health, health care utilization, socio-economic and residedency/acculturation variables among uninsured Hispanic residents in El Paso county (*N=1,678*)
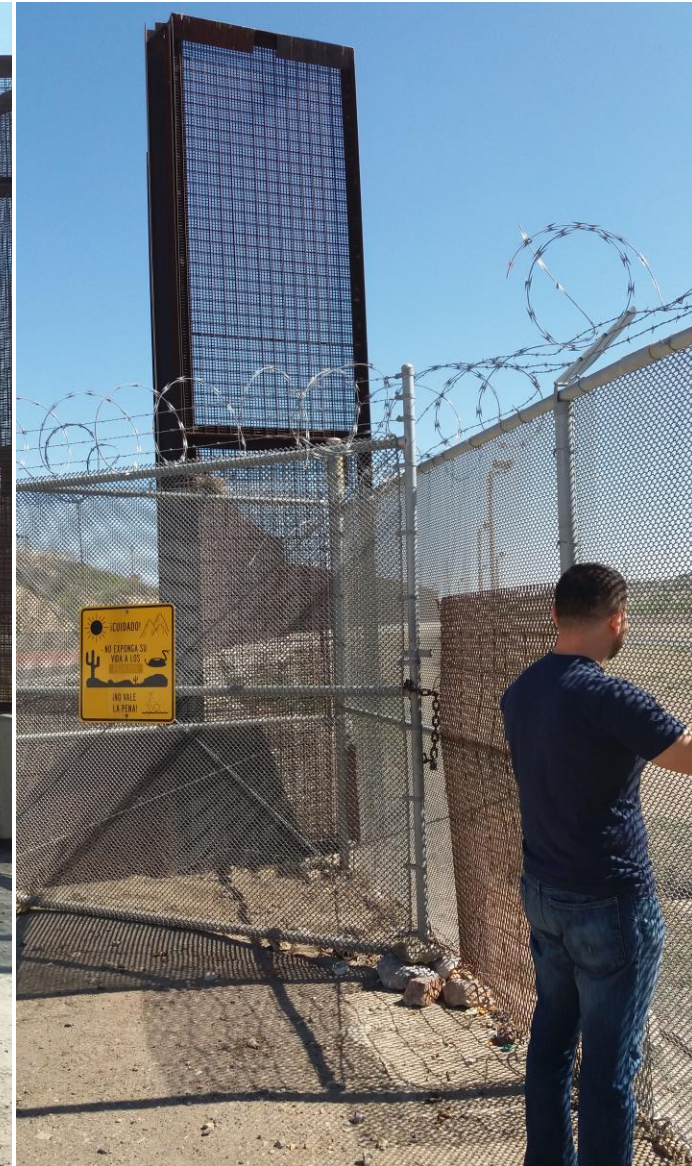
	Self-rated health		p-value (<.05*)	Medical checkups in past 12 months		p-value (<.05*)	Ever been diagnosed with high blood pressure		p-value (<.05*)	Ever received treatment for high BP (among diagnosed)		p-value (<.05*)	Received mammogram/cervical cancer screening in past 2-3 years (among women)		p-value (<.05*)
	Fair/poor	Excellent/very good/good		No	Yes		No	Yes		No	Yes		No	Often/sometimes	
Receipt of government assistance															
No	328 (36.9%)	561 (63.1%)	0.019*	536 (60.4%)	351 (39.6%)	0.194	576 (64.8%)	313 (35.2%)	.027*	97 (31.5%)	211 (68.5%)	.003*	260 (39.2%)	404 (60.8%)	0.670
Yes	330 (43.5%)	446 (57.5%)		493 (63.5%)	283 (36.5%)		543 (69.9%)	234 (30.1%)		99 (44.0%)	126 (56.0%)		266 (40.3%)	394 (59.7%)	
Whether any member of the household has a form of health insurance															
No	371 (39.8%)	561 (60.2%)	0.768	585 (63.0%)	344 (37.0%)	0.287	588 (63.4%)	339 (36.6%)	<.001*	107 (32.4%)	223 (67.6%)	.011*	276 (39.9%)	416 (60.1%)	0.996
Yes	285 (39.1%)	444 (60.9%)		441 (60.4%)	289 (39.6%)		528 (72.2%)	203 (27.8%)		86 (43.4%)	112 (56.6%)		250 (39.9%)	377 (60.1%)	
Household income															
<$20,000	557 (42.3%)	761 (57.5%)	<.001*	821 (62.4%)	495 (37.6%)	0.436	850 (64.4%)	469 (35.6%)	<.001*	162 (35.5%)	294 (64.5%)	0.186	427 (39.9%)	644 (60.1%)	0.891
>=$20,000	87 (28.1%)	223 (71.9%)		186 (60.0%)	124 (40.0%)		241 (77.2%)	71 (22.8%)		31 (43.7%)	40 (56.3%)		89 (39.4%	137 (60.6%)	
Place of birth															
Mexico/other	528 (39.5%)	808 (60.5%)	0.621	825 (61.8%)	510 (38.2%)	0.941	888 (66.3%)	452 (33.7%)	.034*	158 (35.7%)	284 (64.3%)	0.499	430 (39.4%)	662 (60.6%)	0.508
U.S.	112 (38.0%)	183 (62.0%)		181 (61.6%)	113 (38.4%)		215 (72.6%)	81 (27.4%)		31 (39.7%)	47 (60.3%)		87 (41.8%)	121 (58.2%)	
Length of U.S. residency *(years)*															
Mean (SD)	20.9 (14.8)	18.5 (14.2)	.001*	18.6 (14.3)	20.8 (14.7)	.003*	18.6 (13.8)	21.0 (15.5)	.002*	19.6 (14.8)	21.7 (15.8)	0.134	18.3 (13.8)	19.3 (13.8)	0.198
Languages spoken															
Spanish	489 (39.9%)	736 (60.1%)	0.566	767 (62.7%)	457 (37.3%)	0.242	827 (67.3%)	402 (32.7%)	0.834	138 (35.4%)	252 (64.6%)	0.298	392 (39.8%)	594 (60.2%)	0.971
English/both	168 (38.4%)	270 (61.6%)		260 (59.5%)	177 (40.5%)		293 (66.7%)	146 (33.3%)		58 (40.3%)	86 (59.7%)		134 (39.6%)	204 (60.4%)	

Study II: Factors independently associated with health outcomes and health care utilization using Multiple Logistic Regression, adjusting for sex, age, marital status, and education, among uninsured Hispanic residents in El Paso county (*N=1,678*)

Independent Variables	Self-rated health fair/poor		No medical checkups in past 12 months		Ever been diagnosed with high BP		Ever received treatment for high BP	
	OR (95% CI)		OR (95% CI)		OR (95% CI)		OR (95% CI)	
	Model 1	**Model 2**	**Model 1**	**Model 2**	**Model 1**	**Model 2**	**Model 1**	**Model 2**
Income <$20,000	**1.5*** *(1.1, 2.0)*	**1.5*** *(1.1, 2.1)*	1.1 (0.9, 1.5)	1.1 (0.8, 1.5)	**1.6*** *(1.2, 2.3)*	**1.7*** *(1.2, 2.3)*	1.0 (0.7, 1.3)	1.0 (0.7, 1.3)
No government assistance	**0.7*** *(0.6, 0.9)*	**0.7*** *(0.6, 0.9)*	0.9 (0.8, 1.2)	0.9 (0.7, 1.2)	1.0 (0.8, 1.3)	1.0 (0.8, 1.3)	1.0 (0.8, 1.3)	1.0 (0.8, 1.3)
No insurance of household member	1.0 (0.8, 1.2)	1.0 (0.8, 1.3)	**1.4*** *(1.1, 1.8)*	**1.4*** *(1.1, 1.8)*	1.1 (0.9, 1.4)	1.1 (0.9, 1.4)	1.1 (0.8, 1.4)	1.1 (0.8, 1.4)
Born in Mexico/other	--	0.9 (0.6, 1.2)	--	1.2 (0.9, 1.7)	--	0.9 (0.6, 1.3)	--	1.0 (0.7, 1.4)
Length of U.S. residence *(years)*	--	1.0 (1.0, 1.0)	--	1.0 (1.0, 1.0)	--	1.0 (1.0, 1.0)	--	1.0 (0.9, 1.0)
Spanish speaking only	--	1.1 (0.8, 1.4)	--	1.1 (0.9, 1.4)	--	0.8 (0.5, 1.3)	--	1.0 (0.8, 1.3)
% correctly predicted	62.5%	63.2%	62.3%	62.5%	68.8%	69.0%	61.2%	61.0%
Overall p/ p change	**<.001***	0.121	**<.001***	0.215	**<.001***	0.316	**0.005***	0.933

Adjusted for age, sex, marital status education; p*<0.05

Discussion & Conclusion

Along the U.S.-Mexico border, El Paso, Paisano Drive

Comparison of Studies I&II Findings
Socio-economic factors

Low household income (<$20,000)
- Fair/poor health *(OR=1.5*)*, high BP diagnosis *(OR=1.7*) [Study II]*

Lack of care-seeking in the U.S. due to economic concerns
- Physical health problems *(OR=1.8*)*, mental health problems *(OR=2.7*)*, going to Mexico for care *(OR=3.0*)* and drugs *(OR=2.8*) [Study I]*

No receipt of government assistance
- No regular source of care *(OR=2.1*)*, going to Mexico for care *(OR=1.8*)* and drugs *(OR=1.9*) [Study I]*, fair/poor health *(OR=0.7*) [Study II]*

Lack of insurance (self- study I / household member – study II)
- Physical health problems *(OR=0.4*)*, mental health problems *(OR=0.4*)*, no regular source of care *(OR=3.3*)*, no medical checks *(OR=2.7*)*, going to Mexico for care *(OR=2.2*)* and drugs *(OR=2.2) [study I]*, no medical checkup *(OR=1.4*) [study II]*

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Comparison of Studies I&II Findings
Residence/acculturation factors

Being born in Mexico/outside the U.S.
- Only significant associations at bivariate level

Length of U.S. residence
- Lower likelihood of seeking care/drugs in Mexico *(OR=0.9*) [study I]*

Language use
- Only/mostly Spanish -- greater likelihood of physical health problems *(OR=2.0*)*, going to Mexico for care *(OR=7.0*)* and drugs *(OR=4.8*)[Study I]*
- Bilingualism -- lower likelihood of not having a regular source of care *(OR=0.6*)*, no medical checks *(OR=0.6*)*, and greater likelihood of going to Mexico for care *(OR=4.5*)* and drugs *(OR=3.7*) [Study I]*

No legal residence status *(bivariate findings)*
- Low income, lack of insurance, regular source of care/medical checks

Study limitations

Differences in study methodologies
- Sample (e.g., uninsured respondents in one study only)
- Years of data collection and border region conditions
- Survey measures (e.g., going to Mexico for care/drugs in one study only)

Cross-sectional data -- no causality assessment

Generalizability of findings -- uniqueness of the border region

Limited measures of legal residence status/low N

No objective health measures

As secondary data analyst, no involvement in data collection and potential caveats

Concluding Remarks & Areas for Future Research

1. ***SES matters for health and health care access in the border***

- Low income/skipping care due to economic concerns related to poorer health outcomes and care-seeking in Mexico

- Lack of insurance related to poorer access to care/care-seeking in Mexico

2. ***Residence/acculturation mostly linked to care-seeking in Mexico***

- Bilingualism related to better access to care

- At bivariate level, indication that lack of legal status is related to low income, lack of insurance, no regular source of care and medical checks

Areas for future research

- Accessible health services for uninsured individuals in the border region

- Impacts of recent immigration enforcement regulations (e.g., Executive orders, Texas Senate Bill 4) on health care utilization in the border *(especially among residents without legal status/mixed-status families)*

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Acknowledgements

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Thank you for your time and attention!

Any questions?