

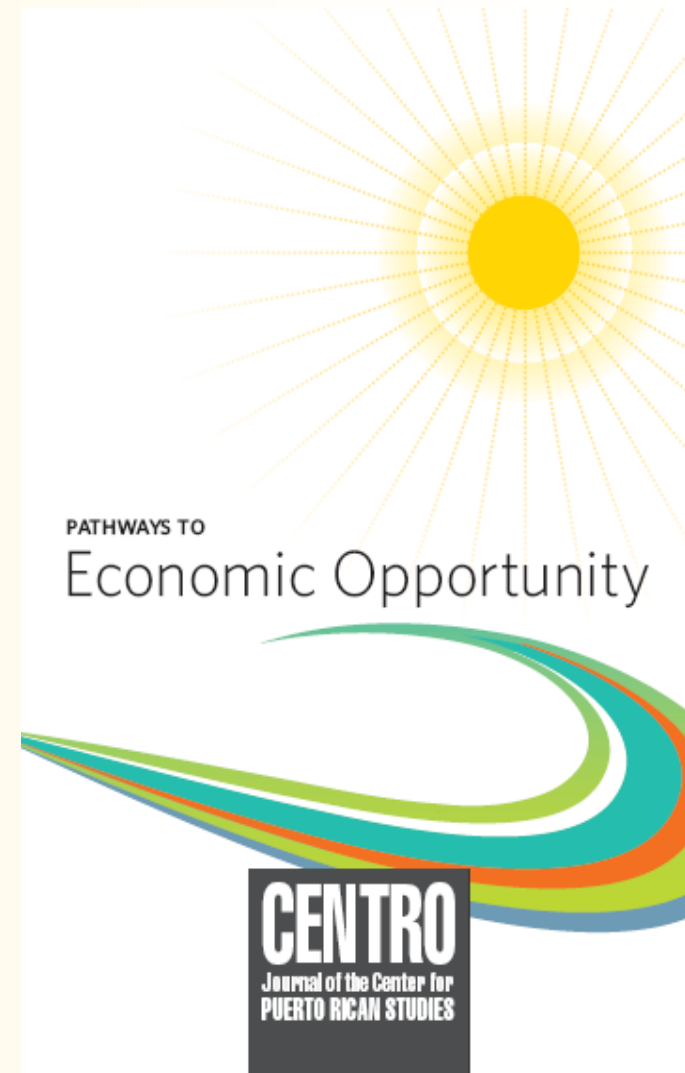
The *CENTRO Journal* is a bi-annual, peer-reviewed publication of The Center for Puerto Rican Studies (Centro), a research institute dedicated solely to the study of the Puerto Rican diaspora. Centro supports and publishes research in the field of Puerto Rican studies and collects, preserves, and disseminates information on the history of the diaspora in its renowned Library & Archives. Centro also presents panels, performances, lectures, and other educational and cultural events, and advances the field of Puerto Rican studies.

Center for Puerto Rican Studies
At Hunter College
The City University of New York
695 Park Avenue, E1429
New York, N.Y. 10065

<http://centropr.hunter.cuny.edu>

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A Special Issue of

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The Bi-annual Journal

Of The Center for Puerto Rican Studies

Hunter College, City University of New York

About one in three jobs in the U.S. are considered low wage, and the probability is that it is ten times more likely that those employed in these jobs will represent a minority group. Puerto Ricans are concentrated within this category. They also experience higher rates of unemployment and poverty than other Latino subgroups. Given this conundrum, eight established researchers have scrutinized the low-wage sector and explored the pathways of Puerto Ricans into this sector – and possible pathways out of it. This research is highlighted in the Fall 2011 edition of the *CENTRO Journal*.

In seven reports, a conclusion, and related commentaries, the researchers investigate such issues as the profile of migrants moving into the low-wage sector stateside; migration flows; public workforce development and the role of community-based organizations in the development of employment opportunities; an analysis of the pathways of Puerto Ricans transitioning into post-secondary education; and investigations into potential employment of Puerto Ricans in the energy-efficiency sector and into the fields of teaching and social work.

The authors of this special issue of the *CENTRO Journal* acknowledge the financial support of the **Ford Foundation** to the Center for Puerto Rican Studies for commissioning the research and conducting the studies.

CENTRO

Journal of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies

Volume XXIII Number II Fall 2011

PATHWAYS TO ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Guest Editor: Edwin Meléndez

Puerto Ricans in the U.S. Low-Wage Labor Market:

Introduction to the Issues, Trends, and Policies

M. Anne Visser and Edwin Meléndez

Transitions to Wage Labor and Postsecondary Education Among Puerto Rican Youth

William Vélez and Pat Rubio Goldsmith

Low-Wage Labor, Markets and Skills Selectivity

Among Puerto Ricans Migrants

Edwin Meléndez and M. Anne Visser

Stateside Puerto Ricans and the Public Workforce

Development System: New York City, Hartford, Springfield/Holyoke

Ramón Borges-Méndez

Puerto Ricans and the Green Jobs Gap in

New York City

Víctor M. Torres-Vélez

Successful Pathways to the Teaching Profession for Puerto Ricans

Carmen I. Mercado

Abriendo Caminos: An Analysis of Three Social Work

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