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Latinos in the 2014 Election: Nebraska

Factsheet

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
ON THIS REPORT:**

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Latinos in the 2014 Election: Nebraska

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This profile provides key demographic information on Latino eligible voters¹ and other major groups of eligible voters in Nebraska.² All demographic data are based on Pew Research Center tabulations of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2012 American Community Survey.³

Hispanics in Nebraska's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Nebraska is the 35th largest in the nation. About 179,000 Hispanics reside in Nebraska, 0.3% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Nebraska's population is 10% Hispanic, the 20th largest Hispanic statewide population share nationally.

TABLE 1

Population and Electorate in the United States and Nebraska, 2012

	U.S.	Nebraska	Nebraska state rank
Total population (all ages)			
All (thousands)	313,914	1,856	37
Hispanics (thousands)	52,932	179	35
Percent Hispanic	16.9	9.6	20
Eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)			
All (thousands)	220,111	1,323	38
Hispanics (thousands)	23,632	63	34
Percent Hispanic	10.7	4.7	23
Eligibility of Hispanic population			
Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote	44.6	35.0	42

Note: Percentages calculated before rounding.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2012 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

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¹ Eligible voters are defined as U.S. citizens ages 18 and older. Eligible voters are not the same as registered voters. To cast a vote, in all states except North Dakota, an eligible voter must first register to vote.

² The terms "Hispanic" and "Latino" are used interchangeably. References to other races and ethnicities are to the non-Hispanic components of those populations.

³ This statistical profile of eligible voters is based on the Census Bureau's 2012 [American Community Survey](#) (ACS). The ACS is the largest household survey in the United States, with a sample of about 3 million addresses. The data used for this statistical profile come from the 2012 ACS Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS), representing a 1% sample of the U.S. population. Like any survey, estimates from the ACS are subject to sampling error and (potentially) measurement error. More information is available on [ACS sampling strategy](#) and [associated error](#).

- There are 63,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Nebraska—the 34th largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 6.4 million.
- Some 5% of Nebraska eligible voters are Hispanic, the 23rd largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 40%.
- Some 35% of Hispanics in Nebraska are eligible to vote, ranking Nebraska 42nd nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. By contrast, 78% of the state’s white population is eligible to vote.

Characteristics of Eligible Voters

- **Age.** About four-in-ten Hispanic eligible voters in Nebraska (38%) are ages 18 to 29, higher than the share of all Latino eligible voters nationwide (33%) and the share of all Nebraska eligible voters and of all U.S. eligible voters (both 22%) in that age range.
- **Citizenship and Nativity.** Among Hispanic eligible voters in Nebraska, 26% are naturalized U.S. citizens. This compares with 25% of Hispanic eligible voters in the U.S., but just 3% of all eligible voters in Nebraska and 8% of eligible voters in the U.S. overall.
- **Hispanic Origin.** Hispanic eligible voters in Nebraska have a different Hispanic origin profile from Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Some 79% of Hispanic eligible voters in Nebraska are of Mexican origin, 6% are of Puerto Rican origin, and

TABLE 2

Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Nebraska and the United States, 2012

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

	U.S.		Nebraska	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
Total population (thousands)	313,914	52,932	1,856	179
Eligible voter population (thousands)	220,111	23,632	1,323	63
Age				
18-29	21.6	33.1	21.7	38.2
30-44	24.3	29.1	24.1	29.1
45-54	18.5	16.2	18.2	15.9
55-64	16.7	11.1	16.8	10.5
65 and older	18.9	10.5	19.3	6.4
Gender				
Male	48.4	48.9	48.9	47.9
Female	51.6	51.1	51.1	52.1
Type of citizen				
Citizen by birth	91.8	75.2	97.0	74.0
Naturalized citizen	8.2	24.8	3.0	26.0
Language				
Speaks only English at home	85.6	31.5	93.8	40.6
Does not speak only English at home	14.4	68.5	6.2	59.4
Educational attainment				
Less than high school graduate	11.5	23.0	7.3	25.1
High school graduate	28.6	28.5	27.4	27.0
Two-year degree/Some college	32.8	33.6	37.6	34.7
Bachelor's degree or more	27.2	15.0	27.7	13.2
Marital status				
Married	50.0	42.9	55.6	49.2
Never married	29.1	39.1	25.3	33.2
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.9	18.0	19.1	17.6
With child younger than 18 in home	24.2	29.9	26.6	40.2
Homeownership rate				
	67.5	56.0	69.8	56.1
Hispanic origin				
Mexican	-	58.9	-	79.4
Puerto Rican	-	14.0	-	5.9
Cuban	-	4.8	-	0.9
Salvadoran	-	2.6	-	3.4
Dominican	-	3.2	-	0.1
Other	-	16.5	-	10.2
Household income				
Less than \$30,000	22.2	25.1	20.2	23.4
\$30,000-\$49,999	17.9	20.2	20.3	32.4
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.1	20.5	21.1	21.6
\$75,000-\$99,999	13.8	13.6	15.5	14.0
\$100,000 or more	26.9	20.6	22.9	8.7

Note: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. High school graduate includes GEDs or equivalent.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2012 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

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15% claim other Hispanic origin. Among all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide, 59% are Mexican, 14% are Puerto Rican, and 27% are of some other Hispanic origin.

- **Educational Attainment.** One-quarter of Latino eligible voters in Nebraska have not completed high school, more than triple the 7% of all Nebraska eligible voters who have not completed high school and about the same as the 23% of Hispanics nationwide who have not completed high school.
- **Homeownership.** About six-in-ten Hispanic eligible voters in Nebraska (56%) live in owner-occupied homes, the same as the share of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Greater shares of all eligible voters in Nebraska (70%) and eligible voters nationwide (67%) live in owner-occupied homes.

Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Nebraska, by Race and Ethnicity

- **Number of Eligible Voters.** White eligible voters outnumber Hispanic eligible voters in Nebraska by 19 to 1. There are more Hispanic eligible voters (63,000) than black eligible voters (54,000).

- **Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than white and black eligible voters in Nebraska. Some 38% of Latinos are ages 18 to 29, compared with 20% of white and 25% of black eligible voters.

- **Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters have lower levels of education than do white and black eligible voters in Nebraska. Some 25% of Hispanic eligible voters have not obtained a high school diploma, compared with 6% of white eligible voters and 18% of black eligible voters.

- **Homeownership.** Hispanic eligible voters (56%) are more likely than black eligible voters (39%) but less likely than white eligible voters (72%) to live in owner-occupied homes in Nebraska.

TABLE 3

Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Nebraska and the United States, by Race and Ethnicity, 2012

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

	Hispanic	White	Black
Total population (thousands)	179	1,509	86
Eligible voter population (thousands)	63	1,173	54
Age			
18-29	38.2	20.4	25.3
30-44	29.1	23.1	32.5
45-54	15.9	18.4	19.7
55-64	10.5	17.5	10.8
65 and older	6.4	20.7	11.6
Gender			
Male	47.9	48.9	52.5
Female	52.1	51.1	47.5
Type of citizen			
Citizen by birth	74.0	99.2	93.4
Naturalized citizen	26.0	0.8	6.6
Language			
Speaks only English at home	40.6	97.8	89.0
Does not speak only English at home	59.4	2.2	11.0
Educational attainment			
Less than high school graduate	25.1	5.8	17.8
High school graduate	27.0	27.6	24.9
Two-year degree/Some college	34.7	37.6	41.2
Bachelor's degree or more	13.2	29.1	16.1
Marital status			
Married	49.2	57.2	30.8
Never married	33.2	23.3	52.8
Divorced/separated/widowed	17.6	19.5	16.4
With child younger than 18 in home	40.2	25.7	26.4
Homeownership rate	56.1	72.3	39.1
Household income			
Less than \$30,000	23.4	19.1	42.6
\$30,000-\$49,999	32.4	19.4	27.2
\$50,000-\$74,999	21.6	21.4	11.0
\$75,000-\$99,999	14.0	15.9	7.1
\$100,000 or more	8.7	24.2	12.1

Note: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. High school graduate includes GEDs or equivalent. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics. Hispanics are of any race.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2012 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

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