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Factsheet

Latinos in the 2012 Election: Connecticut

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Latinos in the 2012 Election: Connecticut

This profile provides key demographic information on Latino eligible voters¹ and other major groups of eligible voters in Connecticut.² All demographic data are based on Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2010 American Community Survey.³

Hispanics in Connecticut's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Connecticut is the 17th largest in the nation.⁴ About 482,000 Hispanics reside in Connecticut, 0.9% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Connecticut's population is 13% Hispanic, the 11th highest Hispanic population share nationally.
- There are 239,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Connecticut—the 14th largest Hispanic eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 5.9

Table 1

Population and Electorate in the United States and Connecticut, 2010

	U.S.	Connecticut	Connecticut state rank
Total population (all ages)			
All (thousands)	309,350	3,577	29
Hispanics (thousands)	50,730	482	17
Percent Hispanic	16.4	13.5	11
Total eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)			
All (thousands)	214,972	2,536	29
Hispanics (thousands)	21,509	239	14
Percent Hispanic	10.0	9.4	10
Eligibility of Hispanic population			
Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote	42.4	49.7	7*

Notes: Percentages calculated before rounding. *Rankings for "Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote" are based on the District of Columbia and the 46 states whose Hispanic samples in the 2010 American Community Survey (ACS) are large enough to generate reliable estimates. All other rankings are based on the District of Columbia and the 50 states.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2010 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 2010 [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 2010 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](#).

⁴ Rankings for "Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote" are based on the District of Columbia and the 46 states whose Hispanic samples in the 2010 ACS are large enough to generate reliable estimates. All other rankings are based on the District of Columbia and the 50 states.

million.

- Less than one-in-ten (9%) Connecticut eligible voters are Hispanic, the 10th largest Hispanic eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 39%.
- About half of Hispanics in Connecticut are eligible to vote, ranking Connecticut seventh nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. By contrast, more than three-quarters (78%) of the state's white population is eligible to vote.

Characteristics of Eligible Voters

- Age.** One-third of Hispanic eligible voters in Connecticut (31%) are ages 18 to 29, similar to the share of all Latino eligible voters nationwide (33%) in that age range. By contrast, only 19% of all Connecticut eligible voters and 22% of all U.S. eligible voters are ages 18 to 29.
- Citizenship and Nativity.** Among Hispanic eligible voters in Connecticut, 16% are naturalized U.S. citizens. This compares with 25% of Hispanic eligible voters in the U.S., but just 8% of all eligible voters in Connecticut and in the U.S overall.
- Hispanic Origin.** Hispanic eligible voters in Connecticut have a different Hispanic origin profile from Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Only 5% of Hispanic eligible voters in Connecticut are of Mexican origin, 70% are of Puerto Rican origin,

Table 2
Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Connecticut and the United States, 2010

(% of eligible voters, unless otherwise noted)

	U.S.		Connecticut	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
Total population (thousands)	309,350	50,730	3,577	482
Total eligible voter population (thousands)	214,972	21,509	2,536	239
Age				
18-29	21.6	32.8	19.0	31.0
30-44	24.6	29.3	23.6	33.4
45-54	19.4	16.7	21.3	17.5
55-64	16.3	10.9	16.7	10.1
65 and older	18.2	10.4	19.4	7.9
Gender				
Male	48.2	48.3	47.5	46.8
Female	51.8	51.7	52.5	53.2
Type of citizen				
Citizen by birth	92.2	74.9	91.6	84.3
Naturalized citizen	7.8	25.1	8.4	15.7
Language				
Speaks only English at home	86.2	30.7	84.5	22.4
Does not speak only English at home	13.8	69.3	15.5	77.6
Educational attainment				
Less than high school diploma	12.3	24.7	10.2	29.5
High school diploma or equivalent	29.1	28.6	28.3	32.4
Some college	32.4	32.5	28.2	26.3
Bachelor's degree or more	26.3	14.3	33.3	11.9
Marital status				
Married	50.9	44.7	50.7	39.6
Never married	28.1	37.4	29.3	43.7
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.9	17.9	20.0	16.7
With child younger than 18 in home	25.0	31.1	25.4	34.9
Homeownership rate	68.8	58.2	71.5	43.0
Hispanic origin				
Mexican	---	59.1	---	4.8
Puerto Rican	---	14.4	---	70.4
Cuban	---	4.8	---	3.2
Salvadoran	---	2.4	---	1.3
Dominican	---	3.1	---	4.0
Other	---	16.2	---	16.3
Household income				
Less than \$30,000	22.9	25.3	16.4	31.7
\$30,000-\$49,999	18.6	20.7	14.5	20.6
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.6	21.0	16.8	17.4
\$75,000-\$99,999	13.8	13.3	14.9	12.9
\$100,000 or more	25.1	19.7	37.5	17.5

Notes: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2010 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

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and one-quarter (25%) claim other Hispanic origin. Among all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide, six-in-ten (59%) are Mexican, only 14% are Puerto Rican, and about one-quarter (26%) are of some other Hispanic origin.

- ***Educational Attainment.*** Three-in-ten Latino eligible voters in Connecticut (30%) have not completed high school, triple the 10% of all Connecticut eligible voters who have not completed high school.
- ***Homeownership.*** More than four-in-ten Hispanic eligible voters in Connecticut (43%) live in owner-occupied homes, compared with 58% of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Greater shares of all eligible voters in Connecticut (71%) and all eligible voters nationwide (69%) live in owner-occupied homes.

Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Connecticut, by Race and Ethnicity

- Number of Eligible Voters.** White eligible voters outnumber Hispanic eligible voters in Colorado by more than 8 to 1. There are a similar number of Hispanic (239,000) and black (218,000) eligible voters in Colorado. Hispanic eligible voters outnumber Asian eligible voters by more than 4 to 1.
- Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than black, Asian and white eligible voters in Connecticut. Some 31% of Latinos are ages 18 to 29, compared with 26% of black eligible voters, 24% of Asian eligible voters and 16% of white eligible voters.
- Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters have lower levels of education than do black, Asian and white eligible voters in Connecticut. Some 30% of Hispanic eligible voters have not obtained a high school diploma, compared with 16% of black eligible voters, 9% of Asian eligible voters and 7% of white eligible voters.

Table 3

Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Connecticut, by Race and Ethnicity, 2010

(% of eligible voters, unless otherwise noted)

	Hispanic	White	Black	Asian
Total population (thousands)				
	482	2,541	335	132
Total eligible voter population (thousands)				
	239	1,982	218	54
Age				
18-29	31.0	16.3	26.1	24.5
30-44	33.4	21.7	27.9	32.2
45-54	17.5	21.9	19.7	23.3
55-64	10.1	18.1	13.3	11.8
65 and older	7.9	22.0	12.9	8.2
Gender				
Male	46.8	47.8	46.7	46.3
Female	53.2	52.2	53.3	53.7
Type of citizen				
Citizen by birth	84.3	95.1	86.3	23.4
Naturalized citizen	15.7	4.9	13.7	76.6
Language				
Speaks only English at home	22.4	92.7	92.1	29.5
Does not speak only English at home	77.6	7.3	7.9	70.5
Educational attainment				
Less than high school diploma	29.5	7.3	16.1	8.8
High school diploma or equivalent	32.4	27.3	35.3	18.8
Some college	26.3	27.9	33.2	25.3
Bachelor's degree or more	11.9	37.5	15.4	47.1
Marital Status				
Married	39.6	54.4	30.0	60.3
Never married	43.7	25.0	48.9	28.3
Divorced/separated/widowed	16.7	20.6	21.1	11.3
With child younger than 18 in home				
	34.9	24.0	24.2	41.4
Homeownership rate				
	43.0	78.4	44.0	67.5
Household income				
Less than \$30,000	31.7	13.2	29.2	10.0
\$30,000-\$49,999	20.6	13.4	16.4	14.5
\$50,000-\$74,999	17.4	16.5	18.7	21.1
\$75,000-\$99,999	12.9	15.3	13.3	14.4
\$100,000 or more	17.5	41.5	22.4	39.9

Notes: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. Hispanics are of any race. Whites, blacks and Asians include only non-Hispanics.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2010 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

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- **Homeownership.** Hispanic eligible voters (43%) are about as likely to live in owner-occupied homes as black eligible voters (44%) in Connecticut, but they are less likely to do so than Asian (67%) or white (78%) Connecticut eligible voters.