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Factsheet

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## Latinos in the 2012 Election: Maryland

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## Latinos in the 2012 Election: Maryland

This profile provides key demographic information on Latino eligible voters<sup>1</sup> and other major groups of eligible voters in Maryland.<sup>2</sup> All demographic data are based on Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2010 American Community Survey.<sup>3</sup>

### Hispanics in Maryland's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Maryland is the 18th largest in the nation.<sup>4</sup> About 474,000 Hispanics reside in Maryland, 0.9% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Maryland's population is 8% Hispanic, ranking 27th in Hispanic population share nationally.
- There are 150,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Maryland—the 20th largest Hispanic eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 5.9

Table 1

#### Population and Electorate in the United States and Maryland, 2010

	U.S.	Maryland	Maryland state rank
<b>Total population (all ages)</b>			
All (thousands)	309,350	5,786	19
Hispanics (thousands)	50,730	474	18
Percent Hispanic	16.4	8.2	27
<b>Total eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)</b>			
All (thousands)	214,972	4,040	20
Hispanics (thousands)	21,509	150	20
Percent Hispanic	10.0	3.7	27
<b>Eligibility of Hispanic population</b>			
Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote	42.4	31.6	40*

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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<sup>1</sup> 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.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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](#).

<sup>4</sup> 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.

- Some 4% of Maryland eligible voters are Hispanic, ranking 27th in Hispanic eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 39%.
- About one-third (32%) of Hispanics in Maryland are eligible to vote, ranking Maryland 40th nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. By contrast, nearly eight-in-ten (79%) of the state's white population is eligible to vote.

## Characteristics of Eligible Voters

- Age.** More than one-third of Hispanic eligible voters in Maryland (36%) are ages 18 to 29, slightly more than the share of all Latino eligible voters nationwide (33%) in that age range. By contrast, only 21% of all Maryland eligible voters and 22% of all U.S. eligible voters are ages 18 to 29.
- Citizenship and Nativity.** Among Hispanic eligible voters in Maryland, 42% are naturalized U.S. citizens. This compares with 25% of Hispanic eligible voters in the U.S. and just 9% of all eligible voters in Maryland and 8% of eligible voters in the U.S. overall.
- Hispanic Origin.** Hispanic eligible voters in Maryland have a different Hispanic origin profile from Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. More than two-in-ten (22%) Hispanic eligible voters in Maryland are of Salvadoran origin, 19% are of Puerto Rican origin, 15% are of

Table 2

### Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Maryland and the United States, 2010

(% of eligible voters, unless otherwise noted)

	U.S.		Maryland	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
<b>Total population (thousands)</b>	309,350	50,730	5,786	474
<b>Total eligible voter population (thousands)</b>	214,972	21,509	4,040	150
<b>Age</b>				
18-29	21.6	32.8	21.1	36.2
30-44	24.6	29.3	24.4	29.5
45-54	19.4	16.7	20.8	16.4
55-64	16.3	10.9	16.6	9.9
65 and older	18.2	10.4	17.1	8.0
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	48.2	48.3	47.1	46.3
Female	51.8	51.7	52.9	53.7
<b>Type of citizen</b>				
Citizen by birth	92.2	74.9	91.4	57.9
Naturalized citizen	7.8	25.1	8.6	42.1
<b>Language</b>				
Speaks only English at home	86.2	30.7	89.6	34.2
Does not speak only English at home	13.8	69.3	10.4	65.8
<b>Educational attainment</b>				
Less than high school diploma	12.3	24.7	10.5	18.6
High school diploma or equivalent	29.1	28.6	26.9	23.9
Some college	32.4	32.5	29.2	34.2
Bachelor's degree or more	26.3	14.3	33.3	23.3
<b>Marital status</b>				
Married	50.9	44.7	49.5	48.8
Never married	28.1	37.4	30.8	37.0
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.9	17.9	19.7	14.3
<b>With child younger than 18 in home</b>	25.0	31.1	25.5	35.1
<b>Homeownership rate</b>	68.8	58.2	70.7	64.9
<b>Hispanic origin</b>				
Mexican	---	59.1	---	14.6
Puerto Rican	---	14.4	---	18.6
Cuban	---	4.8	---	4.4
Salvadoran	---	2.4	---	21.9
Dominican	---	3.1	---	4.5
Other	---	16.2	---	35.9
<b>Household income</b>				
Less than \$30,000	22.9	25.3	15.0	14.0
\$30,000-\$49,999	18.6	20.7	13.4	12.5
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.6	21.0	17.4	19.9
\$75,000-\$99,999	13.8	13.3	14.4	14.2
\$100,000 or more	25.1	19.7	39.8	39.4

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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Mexican origin, and 45% claim other Hispanic origin. Among all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide, only 2% are Salvadoran, 14% are Puerto Rican, 59% are Mexican, and 24% are of some other Hispanic origin.

- **Educational Attainment.** Nearly two-in-ten Latino eligible voters in Maryland (19%) have not completed high school, more than the 11% of all Maryland eligible voters who have not completed high school.
- **Homeownership.** More than six-in-ten Hispanic eligible voters in Maryland (65%) live in owner-occupied homes, more than the share of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide (58%). Slightly greater shares of all eligible voters in Maryland (71%) and all eligible voters nationwide (69%) live in owner-occupied homes.

## Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Maryland, by Race and Ethnicity

- Number of Eligible Voters.** White eligible voters outnumber Hispanic eligible voters in Maryland by nearly 17 to 1, and black eligible voters outnumber Hispanics by almost 8 to 1. There is a similar number of Hispanic (150,000) and Asian (153,000) eligible voters in Maryland.
- Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than black, Asian and white eligible voters in Maryland. Some 36% of Latinos are ages 18 to 29, compared with 24% of black eligible voters, 21% of Asian eligible voters and 18% of white eligible voters.
- Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters have lower levels of high school education than do black, white and Asian eligible voters in Maryland. Some 19% of Hispanic eligible voters have not obtained a high school diploma, compared with 14% of

Table 3

### Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Maryland, by Race and Ethnicity, 2010

(% of eligible voters, unless otherwise noted)

	Hispanic	White	Black	Asian
<b>Total population (thousands)</b>	474	3,159	1,685	319
<b>Total eligible voter population (thousands)</b>	150	2,491	1,170	153
<b>Age</b>				
18-29	36.2	18.4	23.9	21.3
30-44	29.5	22.5	27.2	26.5
45-54	16.4	21.1	21.1	21.2
55-64	9.9	17.9	15.1	16.3
65 and older	8.0	20.1	12.7	14.8
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	46.3	48.4	44.6	46.7
Female	53.7	51.6	55.4	53.3
<b>Type of citizen</b>				
Citizen by birth	57.9	96.6	93.8	22.0
Naturalized citizen	42.1	3.4	6.2	78.0
<b>Language</b>				
Speaks only English at home	34.2	95.1	94.1	21.5
Does not speak only English at home	65.8	4.9	5.9	78.5
<b>Educational attainment</b>				
Less than high school diploma	18.6	8.6	14.0	8.5
High school diploma or equivalent	23.9	26.2	31.3	12.3
Some college	34.2	27.4	33.0	21.6
Bachelor's degree or more	23.3	37.8	21.7	57.6
<b>Marital Status</b>				
Married	48.8	56.7	32.9	64.3
Never married	37.0	24.3	43.7	25.8
Divorced/separated/widowed	14.3	18.9	23.4	9.9
<b>With child younger than 18 in home</b>	35.1	25.0	24.6	30.8
<b>Homeownership rate</b>	64.9	78.2	54.7	79.1
<b>Household income</b>				
Less than \$30,000	14.0	12.8	20.5	10.1
\$30,000-\$49,999	12.5	12.2	16.9	7.8
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.9	16.5	19.3	14.0
\$75,000-\$99,999	14.2	14.7	14.0	13.7
\$100,000 or more	39.4	43.8	29.3	54.4

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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black eligible voters and 9% of both white and Asian eligible voters. A similar share of Hispanic (23%) and black (22%) eligible voters have a bachelor's degree or more, compared with 58% of Asians and 38% of whites.

- **Homeownership.** Hispanic eligible voters (65%) are more likely to live in owner-occupied homes than black (55%) eligible voters in Maryland, but they are less likely to do so than Asian (79%) or white (78%) eligible voters in Maryland.