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Factsheet

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## Latinos in the 2012 Election: Missouri

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## Latinos in the 2012 Election: Missouri

This profile provides key demographic information on Latino eligible voters<sup>1</sup> and other major groups of eligible voters in Missouri.<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 Missouri's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Missouri ranks 30th in the nation.<sup>4</sup> About 212,000 Hispanics reside in Missouri, 0.4% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Missouri's population is 4% Hispanic, ranking 41st in Hispanic population share nationally.
- There are 87,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Missouri—ranking 27th in Hispanic eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 5.9

Table 1

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

	U.S.	Missouri	Missouri state rank
<b>Total population (all ages)</b>			
All (thousands)	309,350	5,996	18
Hispanics (thousands)	50,730	212	30
Percent Hispanic	16.4	3.5	41
<b>Total eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)</b>			
All (thousands)	214,972	4,458	17
Hispanics (thousands)	21,509	87	27
Percent Hispanic	10.0	2.0	39
<b>Eligibility of Hispanic population</b>			
Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote	42.4	41.2	22*

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 2% of Missouri eligible voters are Hispanic, ranking 39th in Hispanic eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 39%.
- About four-in-ten (41%) of Hispanics in Missouri are eligible to vote, ranking Missouri 22nd nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. By contrast, nearly eight-in-ten (78%) of the state's white population is eligible to vote.

## Characteristics of Eligible Voters

- Age.** One-third of Hispanic eligible voters in Missouri are ages 18 to 29, the same as the share of Latino eligible voters nationwide (both 33%) in that age range. By contrast, only 21% of all Missouri eligible voters and 22% of all U.S. eligible voters are ages 18 to 29.
- Citizenship and Nativity.** Among Hispanic eligible voters in Missouri, 14% are naturalized U.S. citizens. This compares with 25% of Hispanic eligible voters in the U.S., but just 2% of all eligible voters in Missouri and 8% of eligible voters in the U.S overall.
- Hispanic Origin.** Hispanic eligible voters in Missouri have a somewhat different Hispanic origin profile from Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Seven-in-ten (70%) Hispanic eligible voters in Missouri are of Mexican origin, 5% of Puerto Rican origin and a quarter (25%) claim

Table 2

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

(% of eligible voters, unless otherwise noted)

	U.S.		Missouri	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
<b>Total population (thousands)</b>	309,350	50,730	5,996	212
<b>Total eligible voter population (thousands)</b>	214,972	21,509	4,458	87
<b>Age</b>				
18-29	21.6	32.8	21.4	33.1
30-44	24.6	29.3	24.2	31.0
45-54	19.4	16.7	19.5	16.8
55-64	16.3	10.9	16.1	9.4
65 and older	18.2	10.4	18.8	9.8
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	48.2	48.3	48.1	47.1
Female	51.8	51.7	51.9	52.9
<b>Type of citizen</b>				
Citizen by birth	92.2	74.9	98.0	85.8
Naturalized citizen	7.8	25.1	2.0	14.2
<b>Language</b>				
Speaks only English at home	86.2	30.7	96.2	64.0
Does not speak only English at home	13.8	69.3	3.8	36.0
<b>Educational attainment</b>				
Less than high school diploma	12.3	24.7	13.2	20.4
High school diploma or equivalent	29.1	28.6	32.2	29.8
Some college	32.4	32.5	31.4	31.2
Bachelor's degree or more	26.3	14.3	23.1	18.6
<b>Marital status</b>				
Married	50.9	44.7	52.6	45.2
Never married	28.1	37.4	25.2	36.4
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.9	17.9	22.2	18.4
<b>With child younger than 18 in home</b>	25.0	31.1	25.0	30.9
<b>Homeownership rate</b>	68.8	58.2	70.9	56.2
<b>Hispanic origin</b>				
Mexican	---	59.1	---	69.8
Puerto Rican	---	14.4	---	5.2
Cuban	---	4.8	---	3.0
Salvadoran	---	2.4	---	1.5
Dominican	---	3.1	---	0.5
Other	---	16.2	---	19.9
<b>Household income</b>				
Less than \$30,000	22.9	25.3	26.5	31.0
\$30,000-\$49,999	18.6	20.7	20.6	21.2
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.6	21.0	20.6	17.3
\$75,000-\$99,999	13.8	13.3	13.3	14.2
\$100,000 or more	25.1	19.7	19.0	16.3

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

- ***Educational Attainment.*** Two-in-ten Latino eligible voters in Missouri (20%) have not completed high school, more than the 13% of all Missouri eligible voters who have not completed high school.
- ***Homeownership.*** Fewer than six-in-ten Hispanic eligible voters in Missouri (56%) live in owner-occupied homes, similar to the share of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide (58%). Greater shares of all eligible voters in Missouri (71%) and all eligible voters nationwide (69%) live in owner-occupied homes.

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

- Number of Eligible Voters.** White eligible voters outnumber Hispanic eligible voters in Missouri by 43 to 1, and blacks outnumber Hispanics by more than 5 to 1. There are about twice as many Hispanic (87,000) as Asian (42,000) eligible voters.
- Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than Asian, black and white eligible voters in Missouri. Some 33% of Latinos are ages 18 to 29 compared with 27% of Asian eligible voters, 26% of black eligible voters and 20% of white eligible voters.
- Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters have lower levels of education than do Asian and white eligible voters in Missouri. Some 20% of Hispanic eligible voters have not obtained a high school diploma, compared with 10% of Asian eligible voters and 12% of white eligible

Table 3

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

(% of eligible voters, unless otherwise noted)

	Hispanic	White	Black	Asian
<b>Total population (thousands)</b>	212	4,856	696	95
<b>Total eligible voter population (thousands)</b>	87	3,767	484	42
<b>Age</b>				
18-29	33.1	20.2	26.3	26.8
30-44	31.0	23.5	27.1	31.8
45-54	16.8	19.6	20.1	15.4
55-64	9.4	16.7	13.0	13.4
65 and older	9.8	20.0	13.4	12.6
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	47.1	48.5	45.2	43.4
Female	52.9	51.5	54.8	56.6
<b>Type of citizen</b>				
Citizen by birth	85.8	99.0	98.6	28.6
Naturalized citizen	14.2	1.0	1.4	71.4
<b>Language</b>				
Speaks only English at home	64.0	97.6	97.9	25.9
Does not speak only English at home	36.0	2.4	2.1	74.1
<b>Educational attainment</b>				
Less than high school diploma	20.4	12.1	20.0	10.1
High school diploma or equivalent	29.8	32.4	33.1	25.6
Some college	31.2	31.1	33.2	22.7
Bachelor's degree or more	18.6	24.4	13.6	41.5
<b>Marital Status</b>				
Married	45.2	56.1	28.9	56.7
Never married	36.4	22.1	45.6	30.6
Divorced/separated/widowed	18.4	21.8	25.5	12.7
<b>With child younger than 18 in home</b>	30.9	25.1	23.0	30.6
<b>Homeownership rate</b>	56.2	74.7	45.6	77.3
<b>Household income</b>				
Less than \$30,000	31.0	24.3	42.1	12.4
\$30,000-\$49,999	21.2	20.7	20.1	16.8
\$50,000-\$74,999	17.3	21.1	17.8	15.9
\$75,000-\$99,999	14.2	13.8	9.0	13.6
\$100,000 or more	16.3	20.0	11.0	41.3

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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voters. An equal share of Hispanic and black eligible voters have no high school diploma (20%), but a slightly larger share of Hispanics have a bachelor's degree or more (19% vs. 14%).

- **Homeownership.** Hispanic eligible voters (56%) are more likely to live in owner-occupied homes than black (46%) eligible voters, but they are less likely to live in owner-occupied homes than Asian (77%) and white (75%) eligible voters in Missouri.