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# Latinos in the 2014 Election: Colorado

## *Factsheet*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
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# Latinos in the 2014 Election: Colorado

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This profile provides key demographic information on Latino eligible voters<sup>1</sup> and other major groups of eligible voters in Colorado.<sup>2</sup> All demographic data are based on Pew Research Center tabulations of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2012 American Community Survey.<sup>3</sup>

## Hispanics in Colorado's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Colorado is the eighth largest in the nation. About 1.1 million Hispanics reside in Colorado, 2.1% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Colorado's population is 21% Hispanic, the seventh largest Hispanic statewide population share nationally.

TABLE 1

### Population and Electorate in the United States and Colorado, 2012

	U.S.	Colorado	Colorado state rank
<b>Total population (all ages)</b>			
All (thousands)	313,914	5,188	22
Hispanics (thousands)	52,932	1,088	8
Percent Hispanic	16.9	21.0	7
<b>Eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)</b>			
All (thousands)	220,111	3,680	22
Hispanics (thousands)	23,632	524	9
Percent Hispanic	10.7	14.2	7
<b>Eligibility of Hispanic population</b>			
Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote	44.6	48.2	17

Note: Percentages calculated before rounding.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2012 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 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 524,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Colorado—the ninth largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 6.4 million.
- Some 14% of Colorado eligible voters are Hispanic, the seventh largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 40%.
- Some 48% of Hispanics in Colorado are eligible to vote, ranking Colorado 17th nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. By contrast, 79% of the state’s white population is eligible to vote.

## Characteristics of Eligible Voters

- **Age.** About one-third of Hispanic eligible voters in Colorado (32%) are ages 18 to 29, about the same as the share of all Latino eligible voters nationwide (33%) in that age range. By contrast, only 22% of all Colorado eligible voters and all U.S. eligible voters are ages 18 to 29.
- **Citizenship and Nativity.** Among Hispanic eligible voters in Colorado, 11% are naturalized U.S. citizens. This is less than the 25% of Hispanic eligible voters in the U.S., but just 5% of all eligible voters in Colorado and 8% of eligible voters in the U.S. overall are naturalized U.S. citizens.
- **Hispanic Origin.** Hispanic eligible voters in Colorado have a different Hispanic origin profile from Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. About seven-in-ten (68%) Hispanic eligible voters in Colorado are of Mexican

TABLE 2

### Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Colorado and the United States, 2012

*% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)*

	U.S.		Colorado	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
<b>Total population (thousands)</b>	313,914	52,932	5,188	1,088
<b>Eligible voter population (thousands)</b>	220,111	23,632	3,680	524
<b>Age</b>				
18-29	21.6	33.1	22.2	32.2
30-44	24.3	29.1	26.4	30.3
45-54	18.5	16.2	18.5	16.2
55-64	16.7	11.1	16.8	11.1
65 and older	18.9	10.5	16.2	10.2
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	48.4	48.9	49.7	49.3
Female	51.6	51.1	50.3	50.7
<b>Type of citizen</b>				
Citizen by birth	91.8	75.2	94.8	88.6
Naturalized citizen	8.2	24.8	5.2	11.4
<b>Language</b>				
Speaks only English at home	85.6	31.5	89.0	58.6
Does not speak only English at home	14.4	68.5	11.0	41.4
<b>Educational attainment</b>				
Less than high school graduate	11.5	23.0	7.7	21.8
High school graduate	28.6	28.5	22.5	30.4
Two-year degree/Some college	32.8	33.6	34.3	34.7
Bachelor's degree or more	27.2	15.0	35.5	13.2
<b>Marital status</b>				
Married	50.0	42.9	52.7	45.6
Never married	29.1	39.1	27.5	35.7
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.9	18.0	19.8	18.7
<b>With child younger than 18 in home</b>	24.2	29.9	25.8	30.4
<b>Homeownership rate</b>				
	67.5	56.0	66.7	55.0
<b>Hispanic origin</b>				
Mexican	-	58.9	-	68.2
Puerto Rican	-	14.0	-	3.8
Cuban	-	4.8	-	1.0
Salvadoran	-	2.6	-	0.9
Dominican	-	3.2	-	0.4
Other	-	16.5	-	25.8
<b>Household income</b>				
Less than \$30,000	22.2	25.1	18.5	27.3
\$30,000-\$49,999	17.9	20.2	17.3	20.3
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.1	20.5	18.9	20.2
\$75,000-\$99,999	13.8	13.6	15.5	14.9
\$100,000 or more	26.9	20.6	29.8	17.4

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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origin, 4% are of Puerto Rican origin, and 28% 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.** About two-in-ten Latino eligible voters in Colorado (22%) have not completed high school, almost triple the 8% of all Colorado 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.** Over half of Hispanic eligible voters in Colorado (55%) live in owner-occupied homes, similar to the share of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide (56%). Greater shares of all eligible voters in Colorado and all eligible voters nationwide (both 67%) live in owner-occupied homes.

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

- **Number of Eligible Voters.** White eligible voters outnumber Hispanic eligible voters in Colorado by more than 5 to 1. Hispanic eligible voters outnumber black eligible voters by almost 4 to 1 and Asian eligible voters by about 7 to 1.
- **Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than white, Asian and black eligible voters in Colorado. Some 32% of Latinos are ages 18 to 29, compared with 20% of white eligible voters, 27% of black eligible voters and 17% of Asian eligible voters.
- **Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters have lower levels of education than do white, black and Asian eligible voters in Colorado. Some 22% of Hispanic eligible voters have not obtained a high school diploma, compared with 5% of white eligible voters and 11% of both Asian and black eligible voters.

TABLE 3

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

*% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)*

	Hispanic	White	Black	Asian
<b>Total population (thousands)</b>	1,088	3,602	203	148
<b>Eligible voter population (thousands)</b>	524	2,854	134	79
<b>Age</b>				
18-29	32.2	19.9	26.8	17.4
30-44	30.3	25.1	28.3	35.1
45-54	16.2	18.8	19.5	21.3
55-64	11.1	18.2	14.5	14.2
65 and older	10.2	17.9	10.9	11.9
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	49.3	49.6	54.3	44.7
Female	50.7	50.4	45.7	55.3
<b>Type of citizen</b>				
Citizen by birth	88.6	97.8	90.0	35.7
Naturalized citizen	11.4	2.2	10.0	64.3
<b>Language</b>				
Speaks only English at home	58.6	96.2	89.5	34.5
Does not speak only English at home	41.4	3.8	10.5	65.5
<b>Educational attainment</b>				
Less than high school graduate	21.8	4.8	11.2	11.2
High school graduate	30.4	21.0	25.0	17.8
Two-year degree/Some college	34.7	34.1	41.1	23.9
Bachelor's degree or more	13.2	40.0	22.6	47.1
<b>Marital status</b>				
Married	45.6	55.1	34.1	57.4
Never married	35.7	25.1	41.2	25.5
Divorced/separated/widowed	18.7	19.8	24.6	17.1
<b>With child younger than 18 in home</b>	30.4	24.8	24.5	35.0
<b>Homeownership rate</b>	55.0	70.3	39.0	78.7
<b>Household income</b>				
Less than \$30,000	27.3	16.4	29.6	14.2
\$30,000-\$49,999	20.3	16.7	20.5	14.0
\$50,000-\$74,999	20.2	18.6	18.4	18.9
\$75,000-\$99,999	14.9	15.8	13.6	14.1
\$100,000 or more	17.4	32.5	18.0	38.9

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, blacks and Asians 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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- **Homeownership.** Hispanic eligible voters (55%) are more likely to live in owner-occupied homes than black eligible voters (39%) in Colorado, but are less likely to live in owner-occupied homes than white (70%) or Asian (79%) eligible voters.