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Latinos in the 2014 Election: Delaware

Factsheet

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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Latinos in the 2014 Election: Delaware

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This profile provides key demographic information on Latino eligible voters¹ and other major groups of eligible voters in Delaware.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 Delaware's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Delaware is the 40th largest in the nation. About 79,000 Hispanics reside in Delaware, 0.1% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Delaware's population is 9% Hispanic, the 27th largest Hispanic statewide population share nationally.

TABLE 1

Population and Electorate in the United States and Delaware, 2012

	U.S.	Delaware	Delaware state rank
Total population (all ages)			
All (thousands)	313,914	917	45
Hispanics (thousands)	52,932	79	40
Percent Hispanic	16.9	8.6	27
Eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)			
All (thousands)	220,111	675	45
Hispanics (thousands)	23,632	30	42
Percent Hispanic	10.7	4.5	26
Eligibility of Hispanic population			
Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote	44.6	38.5	34

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 30,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Delaware—the 42nd largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 6.4 million.
- Some 4% of Delaware eligible voters are Hispanic, the 26th largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 40%.
- Some 39% of Hispanics in Delaware are eligible to vote, ranking Delaware 34th nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. By contrast, 81% of the state’s white population is eligible to vote.

Characteristics of Eligible Voters

- **Age.** One-third of Hispanic eligible voters in Delaware are ages 18 to 29, the same as the share of all Latino eligible voters nationwide in that age range. By contrast, only 21% of all Delaware eligible voters and 22% of all U.S. eligible voters are ages 18 to 29.
- **Citizenship and Nativity.** Among Hispanic eligible voters in Delaware, 19% 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 Delaware and 8% of eligible voters in the U.S. overall are naturalized U.S. citizens.
- **Hispanic Origin.** Unlike in the overall U.S., Hispanic eligible voters in Delaware are most likely of Puerto Rican origin. Some 55% of Hispanic eligible voters in the state are Puerto Rican, while Mexicans make up 20% of

TABLE 2

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

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

	U.S.		Delaware	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
Total population (thousands)	313,914	52,932	917	79
Eligible voter population (thousands)	220,111	23,632	675	30
Age				
18-29	21.6	33.1	20.9	33.5
30-44	24.3	29.1	22.4	30.5
45-54	18.5	16.2	19.3	19.5
55-64	16.7	11.1	17.0	7.8
65 and older	18.9	10.5	20.5	8.8
Gender				
Male	48.4	48.9	47.7	56.3
Female	51.6	51.1	52.3	43.7
Type of citizen				
Citizen by birth	91.8	75.2	94.6	81.3
Naturalized citizen	8.2	24.8	5.4	18.7
Language				
Speaks only English at home	85.6	31.5	91.1	34.4
Does not speak only English at home	14.4	68.5	8.9	65.6
Educational attainment				
Less than high school graduate	11.5	23.0	11.3	21.3
High school graduate	28.6	28.5	31.9	30.6
Two-year degree/Some college	32.8	33.6	29.6	26.5
Bachelor's degree or more	27.2	15.0	27.2	21.6
Marital status				
Married	50.0	42.9	48.5	44.2
Never married	29.1	39.1	29.5	41.4
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.9	18.0	21.9	14.4
With child younger than 18 in home	24.2	29.9	22.2	30.9
Homeownership rate	67.5	56.0	72.0	58.4
Hispanic origin				
Mexican	-	58.9	-	19.5
Puerto Rican	-	14.0	-	54.6
Cuban	-	4.8	-	4.1
Salvadoran	-	2.6	-	2.1
Dominican	-	3.2	-	3.2
Other	-	16.5	-	16.5
Household income				
Less than \$30,000	22.2	25.1	18.1	12.8
\$30,000-\$49,999	17.9	20.2	17.1	16.9
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.1	20.5	19.7	29.5
\$75,000-\$99,999	13.8	13.6	15.9	16.0
\$100,000 or more	26.9	20.6	29.3	24.8

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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the total and another 26% claim other Hispanic origin. Among Hispanic eligible voters nationwide, six-in-ten (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 Delaware (21%) have not completed high school, twice the 11% of all Delaware 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 (58%) in Delaware live in owner-occupied homes, similar to the 56% of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Greater shares of all eligible voters in Delaware (72%) and eligible voters nationwide (67%) live in owner-occupied homes.

Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Delaware, by Race and Ethnicity

- **Number of Eligible Voters.** White eligible voters outnumber Hispanic eligible voters in Delaware by 16 to 1.

Hispanics are outnumbered by blacks by more than 4 to 1 among eligible voters.

- **Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than white and black eligible voters in Delaware. Some 33% of Latinos are ages 18 to 29, compared with 18% of white eligible voters and 25% of black eligible voters.

- **Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters have lower levels of high school education than do white and black eligible voters in Delaware. Some 21% of Hispanic eligible voters have not obtained a high school diploma, compared with 10% of white eligible voters and 14% of black eligible voters. Hispanic eligible voters are less likely to have at least a bachelor's degree (22%) than white eligible voters (30%) and have similar college completion rates as black eligible voters (18%).

TABLE 3

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

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

	Hispanic	White	Black
Total population (thousands)	79	590	191
Eligible voter population (thousands)	30	481	136
Age			
18-29	33.5	18.5	25.1
30-44	30.5	20.7	26.1
45-54	19.5	18.8	20.8
55-64	7.8	18.3	14.6
65 and older	8.8	23.7	13.4
Gender			
Male	56.3	48.0	45.8
Female	43.7	52.0	54.2
Type of citizen			
Citizen by birth	81.3	98.3	92.6
Naturalized citizen	18.7	1.7	7.4
Language			
Speaks only English at home	34.4	96.3	93.1
Does not speak only English at home	65.6	3.7	6.9
Educational attainment			
Less than high school graduate	21.3	9.8	14.5
High school graduate	30.6	31.9	34.3
Two-year degree/Some college	26.5	28.7	33.5
Bachelor's degree or more	21.6	29.7	17.7
Marital status			
Married	44.2	53.4	31.6
Never married	41.4	24.2	44.9
Divorced/separated/widowed	14.4	22.4	23.6
With child younger than 18 in home	30.9	21.6	22.0
Homeownership rate	58.4	78.2	53.1
Household income			
Less than \$30,000	12.8	16.6	24.4
\$30,000-\$49,999	16.9	16.8	18.8
\$50,000-\$74,999	29.5	18.5	20.2
\$75,000-\$99,999	16.0	16.5	14.5
\$100,000 or more	24.8	31.6	22.1

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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- **Homeownership.** Hispanic eligible voters (58%) are equally likely to live in owner-occupied homes as black eligible voters (53%) in Delaware, but are less likely to live in owner-occupied homes than white eligible voters (78%).