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Latinos in the 2014 Election: Idaho

Factsheet

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

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

- The Hispanic population in Idaho ranks 34th in the nation. About 184,000 Hispanics reside in Idaho, 0.3% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Idaho's population is 12% Hispanic, the 16th largest Hispanic statewide population share nationally.
- There are 73,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Idaho—ranking 33rd in Hispanic statewide eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 6.4 million.

TABLE 1

Population and Electorate in the United States and Idaho, 2012

	U.S.	Idaho	Idaho state rank
Total population (all ages)			
All (thousands)	313,914	1,596	39
Hispanics (thousands)	52,932	184	34
Percent Hispanic	16.9	11.5	16
Eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)			
All (thousands)	220,111	1,120	39
Hispanics (thousands)	23,632	73	33
Percent Hispanic	10.7	6.5	17
Eligibility of Hispanic population			
Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote	44.6	39.5	30

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](#).

- Some 6% of Idaho eligible voters are Hispanic, the 17th largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 40%.
- Some 39% of Hispanics in Idaho are eligible to vote, ranking Idaho 30th nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. By contrast, three-quarters of the state's white population and 77% of the state's Native American population is eligible to vote.

Characteristics of Eligible Voters

- **Age.** Some four-in-ten Hispanic eligible voters in Idaho are ages 18 to 29, higher than the share of all Latino eligible voters nationwide (33%) and the share of all Idaho eligible voters and of all U.S. eligible voters (both 22%) in that age range.
- **Citizenship and Nativity.** Among Hispanic eligible voters in Idaho, 22% are naturalized U.S. citizens. This compares with 25% of Hispanic eligible voters in the U.S., but just 3% of all eligible voters in Idaho and 8% of eligible voters in the U.S. overall.
- **Hispanic Origin.** Hispanic eligible voters in Idaho have a different Hispanic origin profile from Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. More than eight-in-ten (83%) Hispanic eligible voters in Idaho are of Mexican origin, 1% of Puerto Rican origin and 16% claim other

TABLE 2

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

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

	U.S.		Idaho	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
Total population (thousands)	313,914	52,932	1,596	184
Eligible voter population (thousands)	220,111	23,632	1,120	73
Age				
18-29	21.6	33.1	22.0	39.5
30-44	24.3	29.1	24.9	30.2
45-54	18.5	16.2	17.4	14.6
55-64	16.7	11.1	17.0	10.1
65 and older	18.9	10.5	18.6	5.5
Gender				
Male	48.4	48.9	49.4	50.6
Female	51.6	51.1	50.6	49.4
Type of citizen				
Citizen by birth	91.8	75.2	96.7	78.5
Naturalized citizen	8.2	24.8	3.3	21.5
Language				
Speaks only English at home	85.6	31.5	93.5	48.8
Does not speak only English at home	14.4	68.5	6.5	51.2
Educational attainment				
Less than high school graduate	11.5	23.0	8.8	24.4
High school graduate	28.6	28.5	28.9	31.2
Two-year degree/Some college	32.8	33.6	38.6	34.4
Bachelor's degree or more	27.2	15.0	23.7	10.0
Marital status				
Married	50.0	42.9	57.9	44.1
Never married	29.1	39.1	21.3	37.3
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.9	18.0	20.8	18.5
With child younger than 18 in home	24.2	29.9	28.1	35.7
Homeownership rate	67.5	56.0	70.6	59.0
Hispanic origin				
Mexican	-	58.9	-	82.7
Puerto Rican	-	14.0	-	1.4
Cuban	-	4.8	-	0.3
Salvadoran	-	2.6	-	0.6
Dominican	-	3.2	-	0.3
Other	-	16.5	-	14.7
Household income				
Less than \$30,000	22.2	25.1	23.9	30.5
\$30,000-\$49,999	17.9	20.2	22.3	23.0
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.1	20.5	22.1	22.5
\$75,000-\$99,999	13.8	13.6	13.5	14.4
\$100,000 or more	26.9	20.6	18.3	9.6

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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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 one-quarter of Latino eligible voters in Idaho (24%) have not completed high school, about triple the 9% of all Idaho eligible voters who have not completed high school and about the same as the 23% of Hispanics nationwide who have not completed high school. Just one-in-ten Hispanic eligible voters in Idaho have at least a bachelor's degree, compared with 15% of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide and 24% of all Idaho eligible voters.
- **Homeownership.** About six-in-ten Hispanic eligible voters in Idaho (59%) live in owner-occupied homes, compared with 56% of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Greater shares of all eligible voters in Idaho (71%) and all eligible voters nationwide (67%) live in owner-occupied homes.

Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Idaho, by Race and Ethnicity

- **Number of Eligible Voters.** White eligible voters outnumber Hispanic eligible voters in Idaho by about 14 to 1. There are about six times as many Hispanic eligible voters (73,000) than Native American eligible voters (12,000) in Idaho.
- **Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than white and Native American eligible voters in Idaho. Some 40% of Latinos are ages 18 to 29, compared with 20% of white eligible voters and 32% of Native American eligible voters.
- **Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters have lower levels of high school education than do white and Native American eligible voters in Idaho. Some 24% of Hispanic eligible voters have not obtained a high school diploma, compared with 8% of white eligible voters and 12% of Native

TABLE 3

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

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

	Hispanic	White	Native American
Total population (thousands)	184	1,331	15
Eligible voter population (thousands)	73	999	12
Age			
18-29	39.5	20.4	32.0
30-44	30.2	24.4	23.1
45-54	14.6	17.6	17.3
55-64	10.1	17.6	16.6
65 and older	5.5	20.0	10.9
Gender			
Male	50.6	49.2	48.7
Female	49.4	50.8	51.3
Type of citizen			
Citizen by birth	78.5	98.7	100.0
Naturalized citizen	21.5	1.3	<0.05
Language			
Speaks only English at home	48.8	97.4	87.1
Does not speak only English at home	51.2	2.6	12.9
Educational attainment			
Less than high school graduate	24.4	7.6	11.9
High school graduate	31.2	28.9	34.9
Two-year degree/Some college	34.4	38.7	41.4
Bachelor's degree or more	10.0	24.9	11.8
Marital status			
Married	44.1	59.4	33.2
Never married	37.3	19.6	45.5
Divorced/separated/widowed	18.5	21.0	21.3
With child younger than 18 in home	35.7	27.5	25.1
Homeownership rate	59.0	71.8	53.5
Household income			
Less than \$30,000	30.5	23.5	34.5
\$30,000-\$49,999	23.0	22.2	23.6
\$50,000-\$74,999	22.5	21.9	19.5
\$75,000-\$99,999	14.4	13.4	11.0
\$100,000 or more	9.6	19.0	11.4

Note: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. High school graduate includes GEDs or equivalent. Whites and Native Americans 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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American eligible voters. But similar shares of Hispanic (10%) and Native American (12%) eligible voters have a bachelor's degree or more, compared with a higher share (25%) among white eligible voters.

- **Homeownership.** Hispanic eligible voters (59%) are similarly likely live in owner-occupied homes as Native American eligible voters (53%) in Idaho, but are less likely to live in owner-occupied homes than white eligible voters (72%).