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# Latinos in the 2014 Election: Maryland

## *Factsheet*

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

BY Anna Brown AND Eileen Patten

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 Research Center tabulations of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2012 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. About 510,000 Hispanics reside in Maryland, 1% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Maryland's population is 9% Hispanic, the 25th largest Hispanic statewide population share nationally.

TABLE 1

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

	U.S.	Maryland	Maryland state rank
<b>Total population (all ages)</b>			
All (thousands)	313,914	5,885	19
Hispanics (thousands)	52,932	510	18
Percent Hispanic	16.9	8.7	25
<b>Eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)</b>			
All (thousands)	220,111	4,137	20
Hispanics (thousands)	23,632	165	21
Percent Hispanic	10.7	4.0	28
<b>Eligibility of Hispanic population</b>			
Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote	44.6	32.3	45

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 165,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Maryland—the 21st largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 6.4 million.
- Some 4% of Maryland eligible voters are Hispanic, the 28th largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 40%.
- Some 32% of Hispanics in Maryland are eligible to vote, ranking Maryland 45th 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 three-in-ten Hispanic eligible voters in Maryland (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 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, 39% are naturalized U.S. citizens. This is higher than the 25% of Hispanic eligible voters in the U.S. Just 9% of all eligible voters in Maryland and 8% of eligible voters in the U.S. overall are naturalized U.S. citizens.
- **Hispanic Origin.** Hispanic eligible voters in Maryland have a different Hispanic origin profile from Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Some two-in-ten Hispanic eligible voters in Maryland

TABLE 2

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

*% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)*

	U.S.		Maryland	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
<b>Total population (thousands)</b>	313,914	52,932	5,885	510
<b>Eligible voter population (thousands)</b>	220,111	23,632	4,137	165
<b>Age</b>				
18-29	21.6	33.1	20.8	32.0
30-44	24.3	29.1	24.0	29.5
45-54	18.5	16.2	20.1	18.7
55-64	16.7	11.1	17.1	12.0
65 and older	18.9	10.5	17.9	7.8
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	48.4	48.9	47.4	47.9
Female	51.6	51.1	52.6	52.1
<b>Type of citizen</b>				
Citizen by birth	91.8	75.2	91.1	61.1
Naturalized citizen	8.2	24.8	8.9	38.9
<b>Language</b>				
Speaks only English at home	85.6	31.5	89.6	38.6
Does not speak only English at home	14.4	68.5	10.4	61.4
<b>Educational attainment</b>				
Less than high school graduate	11.5	23.0	9.0	14.9
High school graduate	28.6	28.5	27.0	22.0
Two-year degree/Some college	32.8	33.6	29.5	32.7
Bachelor's degree or more	27.2	15.0	34.5	30.4
<b>Marital status</b>				
Married	50.0	42.9	48.7	48.4
Never married	29.1	39.1	31.0	33.2
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.9	18.0	20.3	18.4
<b>With child younger than 18 in home</b>	24.2	29.9	24.3	33.1
<b>Homeownership rate</b>	67.5	56.0	70.8	66.3
<b>Hispanic origin</b>				
Mexican	-	58.9	-	18.8
Puerto Rican	-	14.0	-	16.3
Cuban	-	4.8	-	4.5
Salvadoran	-	2.6	-	20.4
Dominican	-	3.2	-	4.2
Other	-	16.5	-	35.8
<b>Household income</b>				
Less than \$30,000	22.2	25.1	14.0	9.2
\$30,000-\$49,999	17.9	20.2	13.0	10.3
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.1	20.5	16.5	20.4
\$75,000-\$99,999	13.8	13.6	14.0	17.1
\$100,000 or more	26.9	20.6	42.4	43.0

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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are of Salvadoran origin, 19% are of Mexican origin, 16% are of Puerto Rican origin, and 44% claim other Hispanic origin. Among all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide, only 3% are Salvadoran, 59% are Mexican, 14% are Puerto Rican and 25% are of some other Hispanic origin.

- **Educational Attainment.** Some 15% of Latino eligible voters in Maryland have not completed high school, more than the 9% of all Maryland eligible voters who have not completed high school and less than the 23% of Hispanics nationwide who have not completed high school.
  
- **Homeownership.** About two-thirds of Hispanic eligible voters in Maryland (66%) live in owner-occupied homes, compared with 56% of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Greater shares of all eligible voters in Maryland (71%) and roughly equal shares of eligible voters nationwide (67%) 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 about 15 to 1, and black eligible voters outnumber Hispanics by 7 to 1. There are similar numbers of Hispanic (165,000) and Asian (174,000) eligible voters in Maryland.

- **Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than white, black and Asian eligible voters in Maryland. Some 32% of Latinos are ages 18 to 29, compared with 19% of white eligible voters, 23% of black eligible voters and 19% of Asian eligible voters.

- **Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters have lower levels of high school education than do white, black and Asian eligible voters in Maryland. Some 15% of Hispanic eligible voters have not obtained a high school diploma,

compared with 7% of white eligible voters, 12% of black eligible voters and 8% of Asian eligible voters. A higher share of Hispanic eligible voters (30%) has a bachelor's degree or more

TABLE 3

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

*% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)*

	Hispanic	White	Black	Asian
<b>Total population (thousands)</b>	510	3,165	1,696	335
<b>Eligible voter population (thousands)</b>	165	2,514	1,194	174
<b>Age</b>				
18-29	32.0	18.6	23.2	19.2
30-44	29.5	21.9	26.7	28.3
45-54	18.7	20.1	20.6	20.8
55-64	12.0	18.3	15.8	16.7
65 and older	7.8	21.2	13.7	15.1
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	47.9	48.4	45.3	47.3
Female	52.1	51.6	54.7	52.7
<b>Type of citizen</b>				
Citizen by birth	61.1	96.9	92.9	24.0
Naturalized citizen	38.9	3.1	7.1	76.0
<b>Language</b>				
Speaks only English at home	38.6	95.2	94.6	24.5
Does not speak only English at home	61.4	4.8	5.4	75.5
<b>Educational attainment</b>				
Less than high school graduate	14.9	7.3	12.0	7.6
High school graduate	22.0	26.3	31.3	14.3
Two-year degree/Some college	32.7	27.4	33.8	21.0
Bachelor's degree or more	30.4	38.9	22.9	57.1
<b>Marital status</b>				
Married	48.4	55.8	32.5	65.3
Never married	33.2	24.8	43.8	24.0
Divorced/separated/widowed	18.4	19.5	23.7	10.8
<b>With child younger than 18 in home</b>	33.1	23.5	22.9	34.9
<b>Homeownership rate</b>	66.3	77.8	55.7	81.7
<b>Household income</b>				
Less than \$30,000	9.2	11.7	20.2	10.1
\$30,000-\$49,999	10.3	11.7	16.5	10.0
\$50,000-\$74,999	20.4	15.7	18.4	13.1
\$75,000-\$99,999	17.1	14.2	13.6	11.1
\$100,000 or more	43.0	46.8	31.3	55.8

Note: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. High school graduate includes GEDs or equivalent. 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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compared with black eligible voters (23%), but white (39%) and Asian (57%) eligible voters are more likely to hold at least a bachelor's degree.

- **Homeownership.** Hispanic eligible voters (66%) are more likely to live in owner-occupied homes than black eligible voters (56%) in Maryland, but are less likely to live in owner-occupied homes than white (78%) or Asian (82%) eligible voters.