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Latinos in the 2014 Election: Minnesota

Factsheet

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
ON THIS REPORT:**

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Latinos in the 2014 Election: Minnesota

BY Anna Brown AND Eileen Patten

This profile provides key demographic information on Latino eligible voters¹ and other major groups of eligible voters in

Minnesota.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 Minnesota's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Minnesota is the 28th largest in the nation. About 263,000 Hispanics reside in Minnesota, 0.5% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Minnesota's population is 5% Hispanic, the 36th largest Hispanic statewide population share nationally.

TABLE 1

Population and Electorate in the United States and Minnesota, 2012

| | U.S. | Minnesota | Minnesota state rank |
|--|---------|-----------|----------------------|
| Total population (all ages) | | | |
| All (thousands) | 313,914 | 5,379 | 21 |
| Hispanics (thousands) | 52,932 | 263 | 28 |
| Percent Hispanic | 16.9 | 4.9 | 36 |
| Eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older) | | | |
| All (thousands) | 220,111 | 3,922 | 21 |
| Hispanics (thousands) | 23,632 | 84 | 30 |
| Percent Hispanic | 10.7 | 2.1 | 40 |
| Eligibility of Hispanic population | | | |
| Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote | 44.6 | 31.8 | 48 |

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 84,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Minnesota—the 30th largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 6.4 million.
- Some 2% of Minnesota eligible voters are Hispanic, the 40th largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 40%.
- Some 32% of Hispanics in Minnesota are eligible to vote, ranking Minnesota 48th 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 Minnesota (31%) 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 Minnesota eligible voters and 22% of all U.S. eligible voters are ages 18 to 29.
- **Citizenship and Nativity.** Among Hispanic eligible voters in Minnesota, 20% 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 Minnesota and 8% of eligible voters in the U.S. overall are naturalized U.S. citizens.
- **Hispanic Origin.** Hispanic eligible voters in Minnesota have a different Hispanic origin profile from Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Some 64% of Hispanic eligible voters in Minnesota are of

TABLE 2

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

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

| | U.S. | | Minnesota | |
|--|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | All | Hispanics | All | Hispanics |
| Total population (thousands) | 313,914 | 52,932 | 5,379 | 263 |
| Eligible voter population (thousands) | 220,111 | 23,632 | 3,922 | 84 |
| Age | | | | |
| 18-29 | 21.6 | 33.1 | 20.6 | 30.9 |
| 30-44 | 24.3 | 29.1 | 24.6 | 36.2 |
| 45-54 | 18.5 | 16.2 | 19.3 | 14.6 |
| 55-64 | 16.7 | 11.1 | 17.2 | 12.1 |
| 65 and older | 18.9 | 10.5 | 18.3 | 6.2 |
| Gender | | | | |
| Male | 48.4 | 48.9 | 49.2 | 55.6 |
| Female | 51.6 | 51.1 | 50.8 | 44.4 |
| Type of citizen | | | | |
| Citizen by birth | 91.8 | 75.2 | 95.5 | 80.1 |
| Naturalized citizen | 8.2 | 24.8 | 4.5 | 19.9 |
| Language | | | | |
| Speaks only English at home | 85.6 | 31.5 | 93.3 | 55.2 |
| Does not speak only English at home | 14.4 | 68.5 | 6.7 | 44.8 |
| Educational attainment | | | | |
| Less than high school graduate | 11.5 | 23.0 | 7.2 | 20.6 |
| High school graduate | 28.6 | 28.5 | 26.6 | 24.5 |
| Two-year degree/Some college | 32.8 | 33.6 | 36.0 | 35.0 |
| Bachelor's degree or more | 27.2 | 15.0 | 30.3 | 19.9 |
| Marital status | | | | |
| Married | 50.0 | 42.9 | 55.1 | 46.7 |
| Never married | 29.1 | 39.1 | 27.6 | 37.6 |
| Divorced/separated/widowed | 20.9 | 18.0 | 17.3 | 15.8 |
| With child younger than 18 in home | 24.2 | 29.9 | 26.2 | 34.4 |
| Homeownership rate | 67.5 | 56.0 | 74.5 | 59.0 |
| Hispanic origin | | | | |
| Mexican | - | 58.9 | - | 63.9 |
| Puerto Rican | - | 14.0 | - | 10.1 |
| Cuban | - | 4.8 | - | 3.1 |
| Salvadoran | - | 2.6 | - | 0.2 |
| Dominican | - | 3.2 | - | 0.6 |
| Other | - | 16.5 | - | 22.1 |
| Household income | | | | |
| Less than \$30,000 | 22.2 | 25.1 | 17.6 | 20.8 |
| \$30,000-\$49,999 | 17.9 | 20.2 | 16.7 | 15.4 |
| \$50,000-\$74,999 | 19.1 | 20.5 | 19.5 | 22.2 |
| \$75,000-\$99,999 | 13.8 | 13.6 | 16.4 | 14.7 |
| \$100,000 or more | 26.9 | 20.6 | 29.8 | 26.8 |

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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Mexican origin, 10% are of Puerto Rican origin, and 26% 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 Minnesota (21%) have not completed high school, triple the 7% of all Minnesota 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.** About six-in-ten Hispanic eligible voters in Minnesota (59%) live in owner-occupied homes, compared with 56% of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Greater shares of all eligible voters in Minnesota (74%) and eligible voters nationwide (67%) live in owner-occupied homes.

Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Minnesota, by Race and Ethnicity

- **Number of Eligible Voters.** White eligible voters outnumber Hispanic eligible voters in Minnesota by 42 to 1. There are about twice as many black eligible voters (163,000) as Hispanic eligible voters. Asian eligible voters (104,000) also outnumber Hispanic eligible voters (84,000) in Minnesota.

TABLE 3

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

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

| | Hispanic | White | Black | Asian |
|--|----------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total population (thousands) | 263 | 4,427 | 280 | 225 |
| Eligible voter population (thousands) | 84 | 3,477 | 163 | 104 |
| Age | | | | |
| 18-29 | 30.9 | 19.2 | 30.1 | 30.6 |
| 30-44 | 36.2 | 23.4 | 33.2 | 35.1 |
| 45-54 | 14.6 | 19.8 | 16.5 | 14.1 |
| 55-64 | 12.1 | 17.8 | 13.6 | 12.0 |
| 65 and older | 6.2 | 19.8 | 6.6 | 8.2 |
| Gender | | | | |
| Male | 55.6 | 49.0 | 49.2 | 49.3 |
| Female | 44.4 | 51.0 | 50.8 | 50.7 |
| Type of citizen | | | | |
| Citizen by birth | 80.1 | 98.8 | 77.6 | 27.0 |
| Naturalized citizen | 19.9 | 1.2 | 22.4 | 73.0 |
| Language | | | | |
| Speaks only English at home | 55.2 | 97.2 | 76.6 | 25.6 |
| Does not speak only English at home | 44.8 | 2.8 | 23.4 | 74.4 |
| Educational attainment | | | | |
| Less than high school graduate | 20.6 | 5.6 | 22.0 | 17.5 |
| High school graduate | 24.5 | 26.8 | 24.6 | 18.4 |
| Two-year degree/Some college | 35.0 | 36.1 | 36.9 | 31.1 |
| Bachelor's degree or more | 19.9 | 31.4 | 16.6 | 33.0 |
| Marital status | | | | |
| Married | 46.7 | 57.1 | 30.6 | 51.8 |
| Never married | 37.6 | 25.4 | 52.0 | 36.4 |
| Divorced/separated/widowed | 15.8 | 17.5 | 17.4 | 11.8 |
| With child younger than 18 in home | 34.4 | 25.4 | 32.7 | 36.9 |
| Homeownership rate | 59.0 | 77.9 | 24.9 | 71.0 |
| Household income | | | | |
| Less than \$30,000 | 20.8 | 16.0 | 43.6 | 16.2 |
| \$30,000-\$49,999 | 15.4 | 16.6 | 19.5 | 16.8 |
| \$50,000-\$74,999 | 22.2 | 19.9 | 16.1 | 11.1 |
| \$75,000-\$99,999 | 14.7 | 16.7 | 10.8 | 16.3 |
| \$100,000 or more | 26.8 | 30.8 | 9.9 | 39.4 |

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, 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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- **Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than white eligible voters in Minnesota. Some 31% of Latinos are ages 18 to 29, compared with 19% of white eligible voters. Black and Asian eligible voters are about equally as young as Latino eligible voters—30% of black eligible voters and 31% of Asian eligible voters are ages 18 to 29.
- **Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters have lower levels of high school education than do white eligible voters in Minnesota. Some 21% of Hispanic eligible voters have not obtained a high school diploma, compared with 6% of white eligible voters. Comparable shares of black and Asian eligible

voters—22% and 18%, respectively—have not obtained a high school diploma. Asian (33%) and white (31%) eligible voters are more likely than Hispanic (20%) and black (17%) eligible voters to have at least a bachelor's degree.

- **Homeownership.** Hispanic eligible voters (59%) are more likely to live in owner-occupied homes than black eligible voters (25%) in Minnesota, but are less likely to live in owner-occupied homes than white (78%) or Asian (71%) eligible voters.