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Latinos in the 2014 Election: Oregon

Factsheet

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
ON THIS REPORT:**

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Latinos in the 2014 Election: Oregon

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

Oregon.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 Oregon's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Oregon is the 19th largest in the nation. About 473,000 Hispanics reside in Oregon, 0.9% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Oregon's population is 12% Hispanic, the 14th largest Hispanic statewide population share nationally.

TABLE 1

Population and Electorate in the United States and Oregon, 2012

| | U.S. | Oregon | Oregon state rank |
|--|---------|--------|-------------------|
| Total population (all ages) | | | |
| All (thousands) | 313,914 | 3,899 | 27 |
| Hispanics (thousands) | 52,932 | 473 | 19 |
| Percent Hispanic | 16.9 | 12.1 | 14 |
| Eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older) | | | |
| All (thousands) | 220,111 | 2,839 | 27 |
| Hispanics (thousands) | 23,632 | 168 | 20 |
| Percent Hispanic | 10.7 | 5.9 | 20 |
| Eligibility of Hispanic population | | | |
| Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote | 44.6 | 35.6 | 41 |

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 168,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Oregon—the 20th largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 6.4 million.
- Some 6% of Oregon eligible voters are Hispanic, the 20th largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 40%.
- Some 36% of Hispanics in Oregon are eligible to vote, ranking Oregon 41st nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. By contrast, 80% of the state’s white population is eligible to vote.

Characteristics of Eligible Voters

- **Age.** About four-in-ten Hispanic eligible voters in Oregon (39%) are ages 18 to 29, higher than the share of all Latino eligible voters nationwide (33%) and the share of all Oregon eligible voters (20%) and of all U.S. eligible voters (22%) in that age range.
- **Citizenship and Nativity.** Among Hispanic eligible voters in Oregon, 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 Oregon and 8% of eligible voters in the U.S. overall are naturalized U.S. citizens.
- **Hispanic Origin.** Hispanic eligible voters in Oregon have a different Hispanic origin profile from Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Some 73% of Hispanic eligible voters in Oregon are of Mexican origin, 5% are of Puerto Rican origin, and

TABLE 2

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

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

| | U.S. | | Oregon | |
|--|---------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| | All | Hispanics | All | Hispanics |
| Total population (thousands) | 313,914 | 52,932 | 3,899 | 473 |
| Eligible voter population (thousands) | 220,111 | 23,632 | 2,839 | 168 |
| Age | | | | |
| 18-29 | 21.6 | 33.1 | 20.1 | 39.0 |
| 30-44 | 24.3 | 29.1 | 24.5 | 29.8 |
| 45-54 | 18.5 | 16.2 | 17.2 | 14.7 |
| 55-64 | 16.7 | 11.1 | 18.1 | 8.8 |
| 65 and older | 18.9 | 10.5 | 20.1 | 7.7 |
| Gender | | | | |
| Male | 48.4 | 48.9 | 48.7 | 50.8 |
| Female | 51.6 | 51.1 | 51.3 | 49.2 |
| Type of citizen | | | | |
| Citizen by birth | 91.8 | 75.2 | 95.0 | 81.0 |
| Naturalized citizen | 8.2 | 24.8 | 5.0 | 19.0 |
| Language | | | | |
| Speaks only English at home | 85.6 | 31.5 | 91.7 | 51.4 |
| Does not speak only English at home | 14.4 | 68.5 | 8.3 | 48.6 |
| Educational attainment | | | | |
| Less than high school graduate | 11.5 | 23.0 | 8.2 | 19.2 |
| High school graduate | 28.6 | 28.5 | 26.0 | 27.1 |
| Two-year degree/Some college | 32.8 | 33.6 | 37.9 | 38.4 |
| Bachelor's degree or more | 27.2 | 15.0 | 27.9 | 15.3 |
| Marital status | | | | |
| Married | 50.0 | 42.9 | 50.9 | 42.2 |
| Never married | 29.1 | 39.1 | 26.5 | 40.7 |
| Divorced/separated/widowed | 20.9 | 18.0 | 22.6 | 17.1 |
| With child younger than 18 in home | 24.2 | 29.9 | 22.5 | 32.5 |
| Homeownership rate | 67.5 | 56.0 | 63.9 | 49.0 |
| Hispanic origin | | | | |
| Mexican | - | 58.9 | - | 72.9 |
| Puerto Rican | - | 14.0 | - | 5.3 |
| Cuban | - | 4.8 | - | 1.1 |
| Salvadoran | - | 2.6 | - | 1.9 |
| Dominican | - | 3.2 | - | 0.5 |
| Other | - | 16.5 | - | 18.4 |
| Household income | | | | |
| Less than \$30,000 | 22.2 | 25.1 | 23.7 | 26.3 |
| \$30,000-\$49,999 | 17.9 | 20.2 | 19.4 | 19.1 |
| \$50,000-\$74,999 | 19.1 | 20.5 | 20.3 | 23.7 |
| \$75,000-\$99,999 | 13.8 | 13.6 | 14.1 | 13.1 |
| \$100,000 or more | 26.9 | 20.6 | 22.5 | 17.8 |

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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22% 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 Oregon (19%) have not completed high school, more than twice the 8% of all Oregon eligible voters who have not completed high school and less than the 23% of Hispanics nationwide who have not completed high school.
- **Homeownership.** About half of Hispanic eligible voters in Oregon (49%) live in owner-occupied homes, less than the 56% of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Greater shares of all eligible voters in Oregon (64%) and eligible voters nationwide (67%) live in owner-occupied homes.

Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Oregon, by Race and Ethnicity

- **Number of Eligible Voters.** White eligible voters outnumber Hispanic eligible voters in Oregon by more than 14 to 1. Hispanic eligible voters outnumber Asian eligible voters by about 2 to 1 and black eligible voters by about 4 to 1.
- **Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than white, Asian and black eligible voters in Oregon. Some 39% of Latinos are ages 18 to 29, compared with 18% of white eligible voters, 22% of Asian eligible voters and 32% of black eligible voters.
- **Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters have lower levels of high school education than do white, Asian and black eligible voters in Oregon. Some 19% of Hispanic eligible voters have not obtained a high school diploma, compared with 7% of white eligible voters, 11% of

TABLE 3

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

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

| | Hispanic | White | Asian | Black |
|--|----------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total population (thousands) | 473 | 3,028 | 148 | 66 |
| Eligible voter population (thousands) | 168 | 2,429 | 86 | 46 |
| Age | | | | |
| 18-29 | 39.0 | 18.2 | 22.2 | 31.8 |
| 30-44 | 29.8 | 23.4 | 31.7 | 28.1 |
| 45-54 | 14.7 | 17.4 | 19.8 | 16.0 |
| 55-64 | 8.8 | 19.2 | 12.8 | 14.4 |
| 65 and older | 7.7 | 21.7 | 13.5 | 9.8 |
| Gender | | | | |
| Male | 50.8 | 48.6 | 42.7 | 55.0 |
| Female | 49.2 | 51.4 | 57.3 | 45.0 |
| Type of citizen | | | | |
| Citizen by birth | 81.0 | 98.0 | 36.4 | 92.1 |
| Naturalized citizen | 19.0 | 2.0 | 63.6 | 7.9 |
| Language | | | | |
| Speaks only English at home | 51.4 | 96.7 | 36.2 | 89.6 |
| Does not speak only English at home | 48.6 | 3.3 | 63.8 | 10.4 |
| Educational attainment | | | | |
| Less than high school graduate | 19.2 | 7.1 | 10.6 | 8.4 |
| High school graduate | 27.1 | 26.2 | 16.4 | 25.6 |
| Two-year degree/Some college | 38.4 | 37.6 | 34.2 | 51.7 |
| Bachelor's degree or more | 15.3 | 29.2 | 38.8 | 14.3 |
| Marital status | | | | |
| Married | 42.2 | 52.2 | 56.4 | 26.5 |
| Never married | 40.7 | 24.6 | 29.0 | 49.5 |
| Divorced/separated/widowed | 17.1 | 23.2 | 14.6 | 24.0 |
| With child younger than 18 in home | 32.5 | 21.1 | 32.0 | 20.8 |
| Homeownership rate | 49.0 | 65.8 | 68.9 | 35.4 |
| Household income | | | | |
| Less than \$30,000 | 26.3 | 23.2 | 17.0 | 39.7 |
| \$30,000-\$49,999 | 19.1 | 19.3 | 16.5 | 22.7 |
| \$50,000-\$74,999 | 23.7 | 20.2 | 21.1 | 11.5 |
| \$75,000-\$99,999 | 13.1 | 14.2 | 18.3 | 11.2 |
| \$100,000 or more | 17.8 | 23.1 | 27.1 | 14.9 |

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, Asians 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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Asian eligible voters and 8% of black eligible voters. About equal shares of Hispanic (15%) and black (14%) eligible voters have at least a bachelor's degree, compared with 29% of white and 39% of Asian eligible voters.

- **Homeownership.** Hispanic eligible voters (49%) are more likely to live in owner-occupied homes than black eligible voters (35%) in Oregon, but are less likely to live in owner-occupied homes than white (66%) or Asian (69%) eligible voters.