

FOR RELEASE JANUARY 19, 2016

Latinos in the 2016 Election: Alabama

Factsheet

BY *Gustavo López and Anna Brown*

FOR MEDIA OR OTHER INQUIRIES:

Gustavo López, Research Assistant
Anna Brown, Research Assistant
Molly Rohal, Communications Manager

202.419.4372

www.pewresearch.org

Latinos in the 2016 Election: Alabama

This profile provides key demographic information on Latino eligible voters¹ and other major groups of eligible voters in Alabama.² All demographic data are based on Pew Research Center tabulations of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2014 American Community Survey.³

Alabama Voter Registration Statistics

According to the [Alabama Secretary of State Elections Division](#), voter registration statistics as of January 2016 show that 21,000 Latinos are registered to vote statewide. Overall, Latinos make up 0.7% of the state's 3 million

registered voters. The majority of voters in Alabama are white—there are 2.1 million white registered voters, representing 69.8% of all registered voters in Alabama. Additionally, about a quarter of registered voters in Alabama are black (27.3%), with about 824,000 statewide. Asians represent a slightly smaller share of registered voters than Hispanics, with 15,000 registered statewide (0.5% of all registered voters in Alabama).

Registered Voters in Alabama, by Race and Ethnicity, 2008-2016

In thousands

	Hispanic		White		Black		Asian		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
2016*	21	0.7	2,110	69.8	824	27.3	15	0.5	3,023	100.0
2014	19	0.6	2,091	69.9	815	27.3	14	0.5	2,991	100.0
2012	18	0.6	2,234	70.5	847	26.8	14	0.5	3,167	100.0
2010	13	0.4	2,124	71.6	772	26.0	11	0.4	2,967	100.0
2008	12	0.4	2,164	71.8	778	25.8	11	0.4	3,013	100.0

Note: *Data for 2016 as of January. For all other years, data reflect the November numbers. Percentages calculated before rounding. Total includes some groups not shown separately (e.g., Native Americans). Information on party registration by race and ethnicity is not available.

Source: Alabama Secretary of State Elections Division

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

The numbers and shares of Hispanics and other minorities among registered voters in Alabama have grown slightly since the presidential election in November 2008. There are about 9,000 more Hispanic registered voters today, and their share has risen from 0.4% of all registered voters in the

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 2014 [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 2014 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](#).

state to 0.7%. In 2008, whites made up 71.8% of registered voters in the state, slightly larger than their share today (69.8%).

Hispanics in Alabama's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Alabama ranks 34th in the nation. About 190,000 Hispanics reside in Alabama, 0.3% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Alabama's population is 4% Hispanic, ranking 40th in Hispanic statewide population share nationally.

- There are 67,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Alabama – ranking 37th in Hispanic statewide eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 6.9 million.

- Some 2% of Alabama eligible voters are Hispanic, ranking 46th in Hispanic statewide eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 40%.

- Some 35% of Hispanics in Alabama are eligible to vote, ranking Alabama 44th 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.

Population and Electorate in the United States and Alabama, 2014

	U.S.	Alabama	Alabama state rank
Total population (all ages)			
All (thousands)	318,857	4,849	23
Hispanics (thousands)	55,251	190	34
Percent Hispanic	17.3	3.9	40
Eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)			
All (thousands)	224,963	3,649	23
Hispanics (thousands)	25,486	67	37
Percent Hispanic	11.3	1.8	46
Eligibility of Hispanic population			
Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote	46.1	35.0	44

Note: Percentages calculated before rounding.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2014 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Alabama and the United States, 2014

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

	U.S.		Alabama	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
Total population (thousands)	318,857	55,251	4,849	190
Eligible voter population (thousands)	224,963	25,486	3,649	67
Age				
18-29	21.6	32.9	20.9	32.1
30-44	24.0	28.6	24.1	29.9
45-54	17.6	15.9	17.5	14.8
55-64	16.9	11.6	17.1	14.0
65 and older	19.8	11.0	20.4	9.2
Millennial (ages 18-33)	28.2	41.4	27.3	43.0
Gender				
Male	48.4	48.9	47.4	50.6
Female	51.6	51.1	52.6	49.4
Type of citizen				
Citizen by birth	91.4	75.2	98.7	78.9
Naturalized citizen	8.6	24.8	1.3	21.1
Language				
Speaks only English at home	85.2	31.7	97.4	44.9
Does not speak only English at home	14.8	68.3	2.6	55.1
Speaks Spanish at home	8.5	67.8	1.6	53.9
Educational attainment				
Less than high school graduate	10.9	22.0	14.8	24.2
High school graduate	28.4	29.0	32.1	25.4
Two-year degree/Some college	32.7	33.5	32.2	30.1
Bachelor's degree or more	28.1	15.6	20.9	20.3
Marital status				
Married	49.6	42.5	49.7	52.3
Never married	29.9	40.1	26.7	33.9
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.6	17.4	23.6	13.8
With child younger than 18 in home	23.5	28.7	22.5	29.3
Homeownership rate	66.7	55.2	69.8	59.1
Hispanic origin				
Mexican	-	59.2	-	44.8
Puerto Rican	-	14.1	-	19.9
Cuban	-	4.6	-	6.5
Salvadoran	-	2.6	-	3.0
Dominican	-	3.4	-	1.5
Other	-	16.1	-	24.4
Household income (in 2014 \$)				
Less than \$30,000	20.7	22.8	28.5	30.7
\$30,000-\$49,999	17.2	19.6	19.8	17.7
\$50,000-\$74,999	18.7	20.1	18.4	16.7
\$75,000-\$99,999	14.0	14.4	12.3	8.5
\$100,000 or more	29.5	23.1	20.9	26.4

Note: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. High school graduate includes GEDs or equivalent. Homeownership rate and household income excludes persons living in institutions, college dormitories and other group quarters.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2014 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Alabama, by Race and Ethnicity, 2014

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

	Hispanic	White	Black	Asian
Total population (thousands)	190	3,205	1,291	56
Eligible voter population (thousands)	67	2,543	956	23
Age				
18-29	32.1	18.7	25.4	21.5
30-44	29.9	22.9	27.1	29.2
45-54	14.8	17.8	17.1	16.8
55-64	14.0	17.6	16.0	15.8
65 and older	9.2	23.0	14.5	16.8
Millennial (ages 18-33)	43.0	24.5	32.8	27.1
Gender				
Male	50.6	48.3	44.9	41.2
Female	49.4	51.7	55.1	58.8
Type of citizen				
Citizen by birth	78.9	99.4	99.7	33.0
Naturalized citizen	21.1	0.6	0.3	67.0
Language				
Speaks only English at home	44.9	98.7	99.2	37.2
Does not speak only English at home	55.1	1.3	0.8	62.8
Speaks Spanish at home	53.9	0.7	0.4	0.1
Educational attainment				
Less than high school graduate	24.2	12.8	19.8	10.6
High school graduate	25.4	31.4	34.8	20.0
Two-year degree/Some college	30.1	32.1	32.3	26.1
Bachelor's degree or more	20.3	23.7	13.1	43.3
Marital status				
Married	52.3	57.4	29.2	58.4
Never married	33.9	19.7	44.2	24.8
Divorced/separated/widowed	13.8	22.9	26.6	16.8
With child younger than 18 in home	29.3	22.5	22.1	26.8
Homeownership rate	59.1	76.1	53.8	73.8
Household income (in 2014 \$)				
Less than \$30,000	30.7	23.3	42.7	17.2
\$30,000-\$49,999	17.7	19.1	21.7	17.5
\$50,000-\$74,999	16.7	19.4	16.2	21.5
\$75,000-\$99,999	8.5	13.5	9.4	10.2
\$100,000 or more	26.4	24.6	10.1	33.6

Note: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. High school graduate includes GEDs or equivalent. Whites, blacks and Asians include only non-Hispanics. Hispanics are of any race. Homeownership rate and household income excludes persons living in institutions, college dormitories and other group quarters.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2014 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER