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Latinos in the 2016 Election: Kentucky

Factsheet

BY *Gustavo López and Renee Stepler*

FOR MEDIA OR OTHER INQUIRIES:

Gustavo López, Research Assistant
Renee Stepler, Research Assistant
Molly Rohal, Communications Manager

202.419.4372

www.pewresearch.org

Latinos in the 2016 Election: Kentucky

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

Hispanics in Kentucky's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Kentucky is the 38th largest in the nation. About 145,000 Hispanics reside in Kentucky, 0.3% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Kentucky's population is 3% Hispanic, the 45th largest Hispanic statewide population share nationally.
- There are 49,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Kentucky—the 39th largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 6.9 million.

Population and Electorate in the United States and Kentucky, 2014

	U.S.	Kentucky	Kentucky state rank
Total population (all ages)			
All (thousands)	318,857	4,413	26
Hispanics (thousands)	55,251	145	38
Percent Hispanic	17.3	3.3	45
Eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)			
All (thousands)	224,963	3,310	26
Hispanics (thousands)	25,486	49	39
Percent Hispanic	11.3	1.5	47
Eligibility of Hispanic population			
Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote	46.1	33.6	47

Note: Percentages calculated before rounding.

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

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- Some 1% of Kentucky eligible voters are Hispanic, the 47th largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 40%.

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](#).

- Some 34% of Hispanics in Kentucky are eligible to vote, ranking Kentucky 47th nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. By contrast, 78% of the state's white population is eligible to vote.

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

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

	U.S.		Kentucky	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
Total population (thousands)	318,857	55,251	4,413	145
Eligible voter population (thousands)	224,963	25,486	3,310	49
Age				
18-29	21.6	32.9	20.4	35.1
30-44	24.0	28.6	24.4	33.5
45-54	17.6	15.9	18.3	15.1
55-64	16.9	11.6	17.3	6.6
65 and older	19.8	11.0	19.6	9.8
Millennial (ages 18-33)	28.2	41.4	27.0	45.0
Gender				
Male	48.4	48.9	48.5	56.6
Female	51.6	51.1	51.5	43.4
Type of citizen				
Citizen by birth	91.4	75.2	98.4	76.2
Naturalized citizen	8.6	24.8	1.6	23.8
Language				
Speaks only English at home	85.2	31.7	97.3	49.2
Does not speak only English at home	14.8	68.3	2.7	50.8
Speaks Spanish at home	8.5	67.8	1.2	50.0
Educational attainment				
Less than high school graduate	10.9	22.0	14.8	19.3
High school graduate	28.4	29.0	33.4	27.8
Two-year degree/Some college	32.7	33.5	31.0	32.5
Bachelor's degree or more	28.1	15.6	20.8	20.4
Marital status				
Married	49.6	42.5	52.5	41.6
Never married	29.9	40.1	24.1	37.8
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.6	17.4	23.4	20.6
With child younger than 18 in home	23.5	28.7	24.8	29.7
Homeownership rate	66.7	55.2	68.0	45.2
Hispanic origin				
Mexican	-	59.2	-	52.2
Puerto Rican	-	14.1	-	17.1
Cuban	-	4.6	-	9.5
Salvadoran	-	2.6	-	1.3
Dominican	-	3.4	-	1.5
Other	-	16.1	-	18.4
Household income (in 2014 \$)				
Less than \$30,000	20.7	22.8	28.0	32.5
\$30,000-\$49,999	17.2	19.6	19.8	20.7
\$50,000-\$74,999	18.7	20.1	19.3	17.2
\$75,000-\$99,999	14.0	14.4	12.7	14.3
\$100,000 or more	29.5	23.1	20.1	15.3

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)

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

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

	Hispanic	White	Black	Asian
Total population (thousands)	145	3,769	342	53
Eligible voter population (thousands)	49	2,946	250	20
Age				
18-29	35.1	19.6	25.0	18.2
30-44	33.5	24.0	25.4	32.8
45-54	15.1	18.2	20.2	26.1
55-64	6.6	17.6	16.3	9.2
65 and older	9.8	20.5	13.1	13.6
Millennial (ages 18-33)	45.0	26.0	32.3	25.6
Gender				
Male	56.6	48.4	48.7	42.2
Female	43.4	51.6	51.3	57.8
Type of citizen				
Citizen by birth	76.2	99.5	97.8	17.8
Naturalized citizen	23.8	0.5	2.2	82.2
Language				
Speaks only English at home	49.2	98.6	97.4	23.6
Does not speak only English at home	50.8	1.4	2.6	76.4
Speaks Spanish at home	50.0	0.5	0.9	<0.05
Educational attainment				
Less than high school graduate	19.3	14.9	13.4	12.0
High school graduate	27.8	33.5	36.1	14.7
Two-year degree/Some college	32.5	30.3	37.5	23.3
Bachelor's degree or more	20.4	21.3	12.9	49.9
Marital status				
Married	41.6	54.9	28.1	60.1
Never married	37.8	21.8	45.9	19.4
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.6	23.3	26.0	20.5
With child younger than 18 in home	29.7	25.0	20.9	32.5
Homeownership rate	45.2	71.1	39.3	70.8
Household income (in 2014 \$)				
Less than \$30,000	32.5	26.7	43.0	18.5
\$30,000-\$49,999	20.7	19.8	20.4	12.4
\$50,000-\$74,999	17.2	19.5	17.1	11.9
\$75,000-\$99,999	14.3	12.9	10.3	20.9
\$100,000 or more	15.3	21.1	9.3	36.3

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)

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